

Gulbenkian Arts Centre

SEASON 25/26



LIVE MUSIC | THEATRE & DANCE | FAMILY | COMEDY

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Gulbenkian Arts Centre is run by the Institute of Cultural and Creative Industries (iCCi) at the University of Kent. Each year around 100,000 people attend our events, including students, our University colleagues, members of our local community and beyond.

We hope you can join us this year.

Gulbenkian Membership

Save 40%
on selected theatre

Save 20%
on all films

Save 10%
in the Gulbenkian Café

4 FREE
cinema tickets when you join

+ PLUS no booking fees!
AND your discounts apply to you and 5 guests each booking!

In the brochure and on the website look for the red button to see where members save.



Welcome to the Gulbenkian 25/26 Season

Welcome back to the regulars, supporters and friends, students, staff, donors and patrons - and a big hello to the first-timers.

I guarantee we're all in for a wonderful time and you've come to the right place.

It's going to be a big, bold year of music, theatre, dance, film, comedy - thought-provoking, entertaining and life-enhancing.

And it's a big year as the University of Kent turns 60 - an anniversary we mark in several ways.

Firstly we celebrate the long and proud history of activism, protest and free speech here, beginning with a very special visit by the nation's most active activists, **Led By Donkeys** (27 Nov).

Look out for further dates in the second half of the year.

And for an announcement of a special series of anniversary podcasts hosted by our fabulous new Chancellor **YolanDa Brown**.

And we welcome new Associate Artists **Stan's Cafe**: internationally celebrated, impossible to categorise and brilliantly inspired.

In their first year as Associates they remount two of their signature shows for the Gulbenkian: the typically super-smart, witty and mind-bending **Time Critical** (16 & 17 Oct) and the poignant comic genius of **The Cardinals**. (30 Apr - 2 May)

And from our existing international associates, the extended **Societàs** family, comes a UK premiere appearance from the incredible choreographer **Claudia Castellucci & Mora Company** - see her at the Gulbenkian for the very first appearances of her work in the UK. A major event for the UK dance calendar. (10 & 11 Apr)

Amongst the big changes afoot at the Arts Centre are a positive shift in the film programme mix with the addition of a hand-picked selection of 'First Run' features - so see the very best new films as they come out from the day they come out - a subtle but significant shift for Canterbury's Independent Cinema.

And many major events across our year in music: from the rare chance to hear the **Complete Shostakovich string quartet cycle** performed by the wonderful **Brotsky Quartet** (10-12 Oct) to a full-on star-studded **Medway Takeover** celebrating the Medway Sound curated by the great **James Taylor**. (21 & 22 Nov)

And in the second half of the year look-out for our amazing new festival **'You Are Here'** - a historic gathering of many of the finest independent music presenters and producers festivals and venues from across Kent working together to create a weekend of extraordinary range and adventurous listening. (27 Feb - 1 Mar)

And there's barely space to mention the best comedy series in Kent, the finest folk series money can buy from Folk in the Barn and the finest classical series in the county from Canterbury Music Club, the very best family series for miles around....not to mention the campest Christmas in Canterbury.

And do please consider becoming a Member - it's a genuinely good deal for you and it helps us enormously into the bargain.

So much going on. So much to see and do. So what are you waiting for?

It's all in here... please join us for a fabulous year!

We'll see you at the Gulb.

Warmest wishes,

David Sefton

Artistic Director, Gulbenkian Arts Centre
Director, Culture & Creative Projects, iCCi

Associate Artist Programme

Our Associate Artist programme draws on a diverse pool of extraordinary artists to work with our campus and community in a range of different ways.

From student and community engagement to commissioning and co-producing, this ground-breaking initiative showcases the connections between our artistic programme and the University through a number of bold, new projects.

— Stan's Cafe

Stan's Cafe is a group of artists from a variety of disciplines, but mostly theatre makers, working under the artistic direction of James Yarker. The company consists of an evolving team of long-term collaborators and associated artists, the lineup changes according to the project being worked upon.

Stan's Cafe are performing two of their most famous works, Time Critical and The Cardinals as part of our 25/26 season.



Societas: Claudia Castellucci and Mòra Company

Societas, formerly Societas Raffaello Sanzio, is one of the most celebrated, acclaimed and significant contemporary theatre companies in Europe, arguably the world.

In April 2026 we will host the UK premiere of Sahara by renowned choreographer Claudia Castellucci, one of the founding members of Societas.

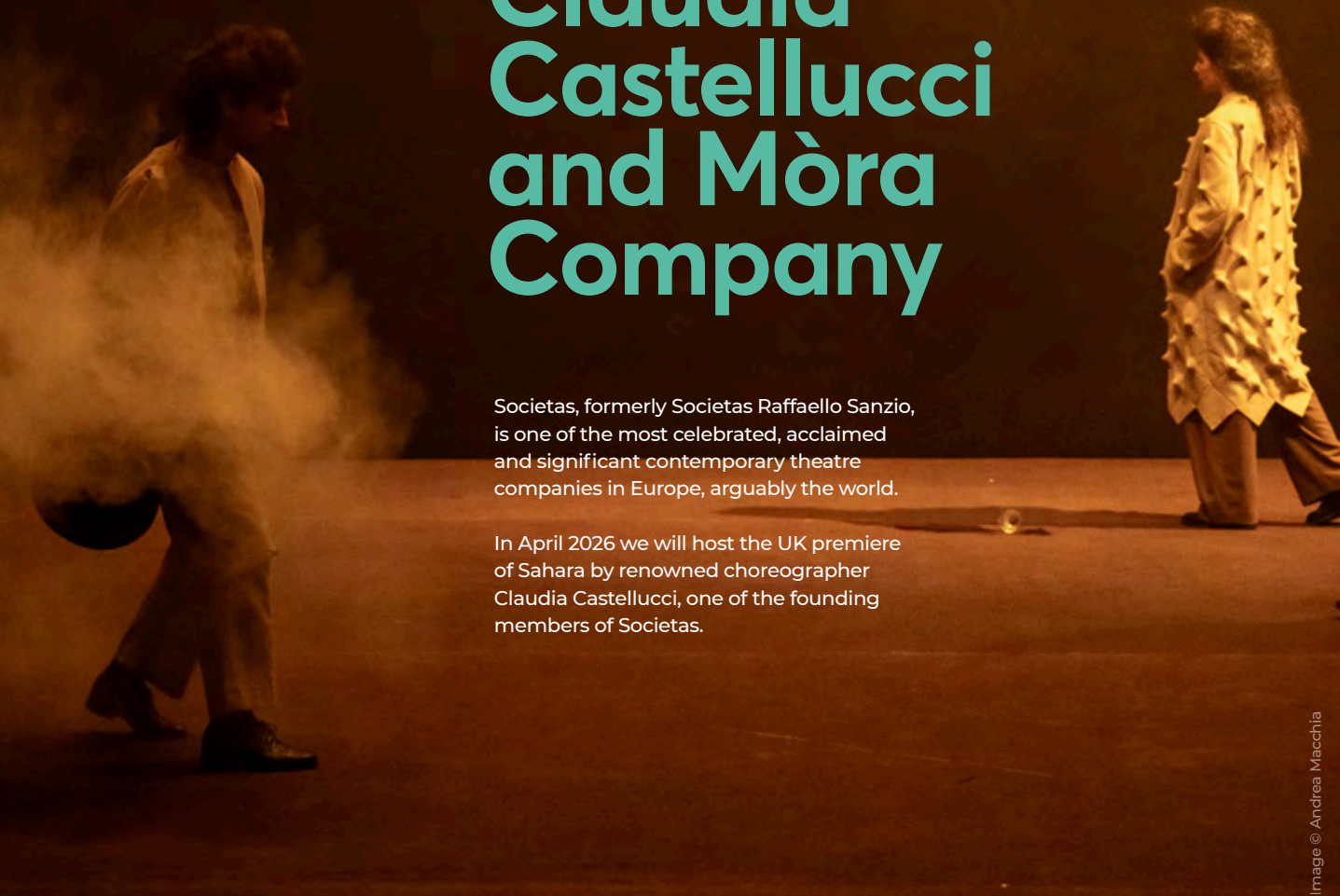


Image © Andrea Macchia

Associate artists not involved in our 25/26 season, but will be back with us in future...

Jasmin Vardimon

A leading force in British dance theatre for twenty five years, Jasmin Vardimon has built a reputation for challenging, exciting and visually stunning dance.

AΦE

Since 2021, Aoi & Esteban have been the Gulbenkian Arts Centre's Digital Artists in Residence, working closely with our team on the development of our Digital arts programming.

1927

1927 is a multi-award winning company based in Margate & London that specialises in combining performance and live music with animation to create magical filmic productions.

Improbable

Pioneering improvisers, theatre makers, conversation facilitators and winners of Producer of the Year in The Stage Awards 2023.

Opening Weekend

Martin Stephenson & The Daintees Boat to Bolivia

'Boat To Bolivia' was the debut album by Martin Stephenson & The Daintees.

After appearances on Channel 4's 'The Tube' and BBC2's 'Whistle Test' the album went on to become one of the essential releases of 1986, with The Observer declaring that 'Boat To Bolivia' was "...the most striking debut since Dexys Midnight Runners".

Martin Stephenson & The Daintees will be performing the 'Boat To Bolivia' album in full and in sequence along with other favourites from their extensive career.

When
Sat 4 Oct, 7.30pm

Venue
Colyer-Fergusson Hall

Tickets
£22.50

Paul Booth's love of the iconic Beach Boys album Pet Sounds led him to transcribe the original album in its entirety, and then arrange it for his Big Band 'Bansangu', with sell out shows at Ronnie Scott's in 2024. This year Pet Sounds Reimagined has expanded to include the Festival Chamber Orchestra, exploring the music of the Beach Boys in yet more exciting and innovative ways.

Alongside this 'Bird with Strings' uses the wonderfully lush orchestral arrangements which feature on the album 'Charlie Parker with Strings' which he recorded in the late 1940's and early 50's.

Both albums are seen as classics in their own right and the new versions performed this evening, present a wonderful fusion of Classical and Jazz with a wonderful tapestry of musical styles and colours.

When
Sun 5 Oct, 7.30pm

Venue
Colyer-Fergusson Hall

Tickets
£30 Full / £15 Student &
Under25

Pet Sounds Reimagined & Bird With Strings

Paul Booth & The Bansangu Ensemble The Festival Chamber Orchestra

Paul Booth - Saxophones
Ian Shaw - Vocals
Liane Carrol - Vocals
Natalie Duncan - Vocals
John Harle - Conductor



The Brodsky Quartet: Shostakovich Cycle

All 15 of Shostakovich's string quartets across one incredible weekend.

A rare opportunity to journey through the extraordinary musical and emotional landscape of Shostakovich's quartets, delivered by one of the world's leading chamber ensembles. From the delicate innocence of the early quartets to the haunting intensity of the later works, Shostakovich's quartets represent an unmatched journey through personal, political, and artistic turmoil. This is a unique opportunity to experience them as they were meant to be heard—as a cohesive, immersive body of work.

Weekend Pass Offer:

Get tickets for a single concert, buy a day pass, or join us for all 5 concerts with our Weekend Pass.

Shostakovich String Quartet Cycle

Fri 10 – Sun 12 Oct

Fri 7pm Numbers 1, 2 & 3

Sat 4pm Numbers 6, 4 & 5
7pm Numbers 7, 8 & 9

Sun 11.30am Numbers 11, 12, 13 & 14
4pm Numbers 10 & 15

Venue
Colyer-Fergusson Hall

Tickets
£10 Student /
£20 Single Concert /
£30 Day Ticket /
£75 Full Series



Beth Nielsen Chapman + Judie Tzuke

Join two of the most revered female singer-songwriters for an evening of unparalleled music. Appearing together on stage for the first time to perform songs such as Stay With Me Till Dawn, Sand and Water, Bring The Rain, This Kiss and their stunning collaboration, Safe. Alongside their musicians, this is set to be a beautiful night of lyric, song and harmony.

When
Sat 25 Oct, 7.30pm

Venue
Colyer-Fergusson Hall

Tickets
£40 Full / £30 Balcony
/£20 Student



The Unthanks at 20

As part of 20th year celebrations, The Unthanks scale back for some intimate shows, supporting today's best small venues and including memorable ones from their early days. The shows will draw from all parts of their repertoire.

BBC 6 Music regulars, but equally to be found on Radios 2, 3 and 4, the Tyneside band are like magpies, picking up undiscovered jewels, reframing history and drawing on the worlds of folk, jazz, orchestral, electronica and art-rock to create their own unique truth and beauty.



When
Sat 8 Nov, 7.30pm

Venue
Colyer-Fergusson Hall

Tickets
£30 Full / £15 Student

Image © Kit Haigh

When
Sun 16 Nov, 7.30pm

Venue
Colyer-Fergusson Hall

Tickets
£25 Full / £15 Student & Under25

Terje Isungset Ice Quartet

The ice music pioneer, Terje Isungset, returns to the UK with his exquisite quartet featuring voice, ice harp, ice horn, iceophone, ice percussion and ice bass.

This ice concert is a tribute to the most important thing in the whole world - nature - and is based on music from his albums Winter Songs and Beauty of Winter, alongside new material from their Ice Quartet album released in November 2024.

The instruments are made during Isungset's annual Ice Music Festival in Norway. They are carved and crafted using only natural frozen ice from the lakes.

Prepare to be transported by the extraordinary, beautiful and ethereal sounds of ice.



Image © Scott Suchman

Medway Takeover

A Celebration of the Medway Sound

James Taylor Quartet
Wild Billy Childish & CTMF
Lord Rochester
Masonics

Image © Rikard Österlund

Curated by James Taylor

A celebration of music from Medway, this two day Festival is the brainchild of musician James Taylor of JTQ, who headline the Saturday night.

"When I was offered a show at Gulbenkian in my own right, it occurred to me that it might be exciting to bring together all these people and get them all together again on the same bill.

Quite a bit of persuasion followed and with some persistence, hey, it's happening! The originators and inventors of the Medway Scene all together again after 40 years and sounding better than ever.

Not to be missed."

When Fri 21 Nov, 7.30pm
 Wild Billy Childish & CTMF
 + Lord Rochester

When Sat 22 Nov, 7.30pm
 James Taylor Quartet
 + Masonics

Venue Colyer-Fergusson Hall

Tickets £25 Event / £40 Weekend



Free Range presents Ensemble Nist-Nah

Adventurous Gamelan orchestra with two drummers plays mesmeric dance music.

Ensemble Nist-Nah is an eight-piece hybrid Gamelan / percussion group led by Nantes-based Australian drummer and percussionist Will Guthrie. Their music is influenced by traditional music from Indonesia but takes this in adventurous new directions.

In June 2025 Ensemble Nist-Nah released their third album entitled SPILLA on Black Truffle Records.

When
Tue 18 Nov, 7.30pm

Venue
Colyer-Fergusson Hall

Tickets
£5



YOU
ARE
HERE

You Are Here is a three-day music festival with a unique twist.

Hosted by Gulbenkian Arts Centre the Festival has been curated collaboratively by music promoters from across East Kent including Smugglers Festival, Where Else?, Free Range, Daylight Music, Coastal Electronauts, Compass Music, The Big Cheese Co., The Hot Tin, Crash of Moons Club, Deep Listen, and Dawn Chorus Recordings.

Music promoters tend to work independently, with their own communities of artists and audiences. But for this very special festival they will be working together for the first time, taking over the Gulbenkian Arts Centre for a three-day celebration of the vitality and diversity of East Kent's extraordinary music scenes.

Join us for an incredible weekend of live music.

Fri 27 Feb to Sun 1 Mar

Tickets will be on sale later in 2025. Sign up to Gulbenkian Arts Centre newsletter for updates.

Coastal
Electronauts



THE
BIG
CHEESE
CO.



WHERE
ELSE



FREE
RANGE



DEEP LISTEN
INFINITE VIBES OF AMBIENT, MINIMAL AND EXPERIMENTAL MUSIC
BASED IN CANTERBURY, KENT



Gong + Henge:

When
Fri 20 Mar, 7.30pm

Venue
Colyer-Fergusson Hall

Tickets
£28 Full / £15 Student &
Under25

Image © Layla Burrows

Sounds of the Cosmos

Prepare for a night of pure Psychedelia as Gong are back on the road, and this time they are joined by Henge! HENGE and GONG are sharing equal billing across all dates. To keep things exciting, the order of performance will alternate from show to show.



Kayhan Kalhor

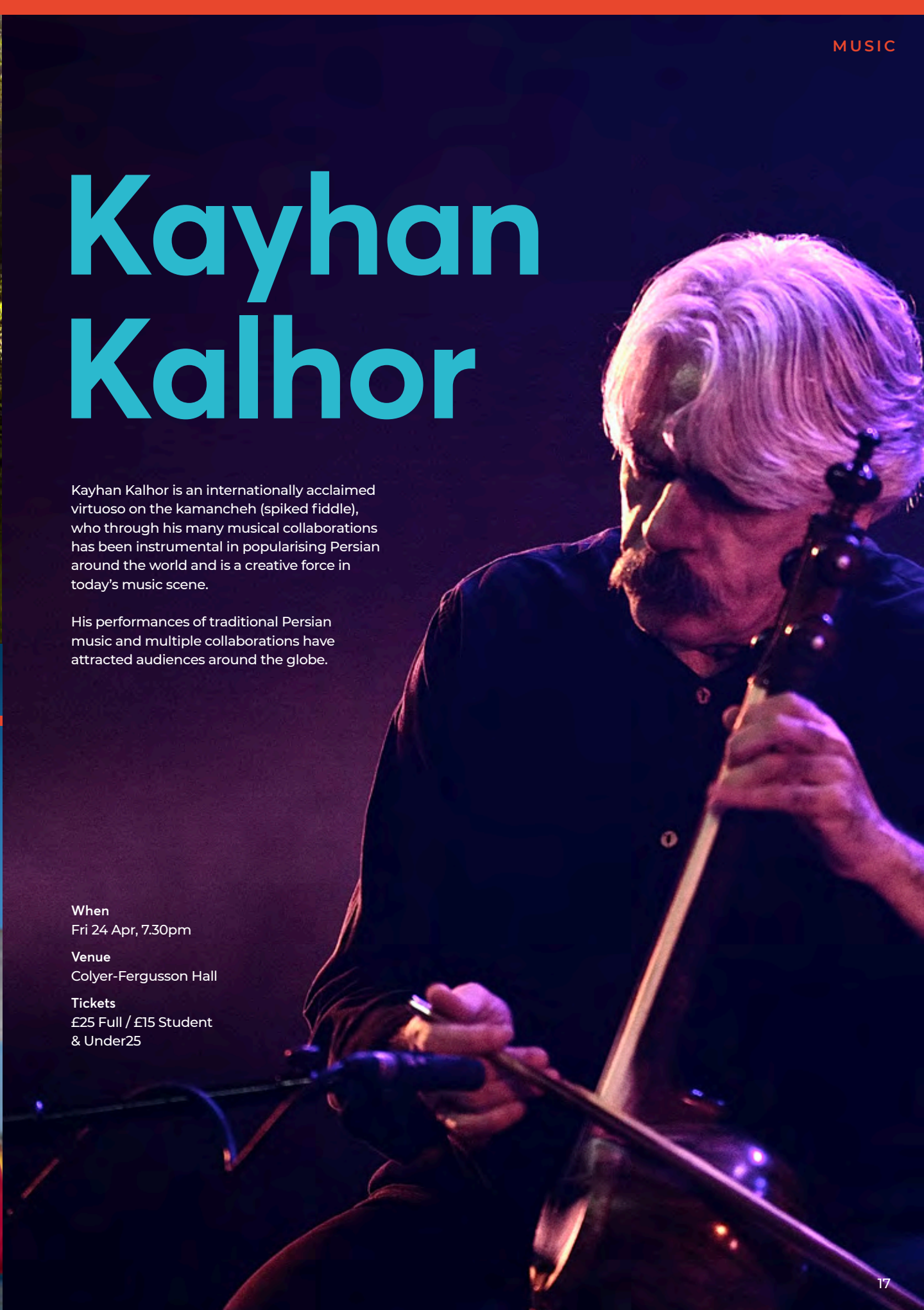
Kayhan Kalhor is an internationally acclaimed virtuoso on the kamancheh (spiked fiddle), who through his many musical collaborations has been instrumental in popularising Persian around the world and is a creative force in today's music scene.

His performances of traditional Persian music and multiple collaborations have attracted audiences around the globe.

When
Fri 24 Apr, 7.30pm

Venue
Colyer-Fergusson Hall

Tickets
£25 Full / £15 Student
& Under25



—Drone Day 2026—

Whitstable based Coastal Electronauts present International Drone Day 2026 – an evening of tone clusters, electronic music and live immersive visuals.

Following the success of previous years, Coastal Electronauts are back with their 4th annual celebration of drone, community, and experimental sounds.

When
Sat 16 May, times TBC

Venue
Gulbenkian Theatre

Tickets
On sale nearer the date

Coastalw
Electronauts

International
Drone Day

An evening of Electronic Music,
Tone Clusters & Immersive Live Visuals

In Association with Folk in the Barn

Cara Dillon - Duo



Cara Dillon, an extraordinary, multiple award-winning Irish folk singer, and acclaimed musician and producer Sam Lakeman, will captivate listeners once again with their exquisite and enthralling live performance.

When Sat 20 Sep, 7.30pm	Tickets £25 Full / £12 Student & Under25
Venue Colyer-Fergusson Hall	

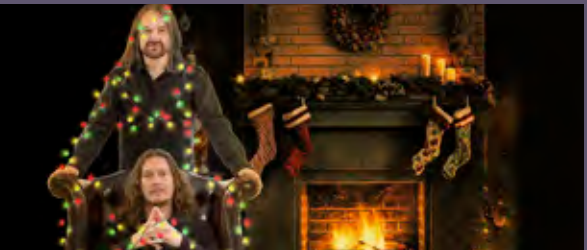
Martha Tilston



With a pure silken voice and lyrics that inspire and captivate, Martha Tilston has developed a successful musical career with a large and loyal following. She has performed on some of the world's most prestigious stages and festivals, recorded and released several critically acclaimed albums.

When Fri 7 Nov, 7.30pm	Tickets £20 Full / £10 Student & Under25
Venue Colyer-Fergusson Hall	

Wilson Wakeman Christmas Show



Adam & Damian have put together this special Xmas Show, to spread the good will, good music and a few good laughs in the lead-up to Christmas.

When Sun 16 Nov, 7.30pm	Tickets £22 Full / £11 Student & Under25
Venue Gulbenkian Theatre	

Police Dog Hogan



Since coming together in 2010, Police Dog Hogan have fused their country-roots-Americana sound to a wholly British sensibility.

When Sat 22 Nov, 7.30pm	Tickets £20 Full / £10 Student & Under25
Venue Gulbenkian Theatre	

Albion Christmas Band



The band return for this heart-warming, festive show - an unmissable annual tradition.

When Sat 20 Dec, 7.30pm	Tickets £25 Full / £12 Student & Under25
Venue Gulbenkian Theatre	

Prof. Richard Smith & Dr. Isabel Quiroga Giraldez The Gift of Life: The First UK Womb Transplant

In February 2025, the UK's first baby was born to a mother who had received a womb transplant from a living donor. This life changing procedure was more than 25 years in the making. In this show, the two surgeons at the heart of this story offer extraordinary insights into the long and winding road they have walked.

When
Tue 14 Oct, 7.30pm

Tickets
£25

Venue
Gulbenkian Theatre



The Linda Smith Lecture

The Linda Smith Lecture was established in 2015 as an annual event to celebrate the much-missed comedian's life and work, and to reflect on the comedy business. Previous speakers include Mark Thomas, Barry Cryer, Jo Brand, Robin Ince (pictured) and Jan Ravens – making serious points while also being extremely funny.

Watch this space to find out who will be giving the lecture in 2025!

When
Mon 3 Nov, 5pm

Venue
Gulbenkian Theatre

Tickets
£7 Full / £5 Student



Image © The Cosmic Shambles Network and Steve Best

ASSOCIATE ARTIST

Stan's Cafe Time Critical

Two competing actors, tyrannised by a chess clock, struggle to compress 34 years of global vs personal history into an allocation of just one minute each per year.

This "hilarious and thought provoking" show accelerates through re-enactments of landmark moments in recent history and fragments of past Stan's Cafe productions towards an exhilarating finale.

The show explores the editing of history and how we live our lives in relation to the world around us.

When
Thu 16 & Fri 17 Oct

Venue
Gulbenkian Theatre

Tickets
£18 Full / £10 Student & Under25

Member
discount



Image © Graeme Braddywood

Paper Cinema Short Tales From Other Worlds

Member
discount

Presented in partnership with Canterbury Festival.

Short tales of other worlds; ghosts, dreams and the supernatural

Fascinating and imaginative storytellers, The Paper Cinema, create extraordinary, magical worlds with vivid pen and ink drawings, puppetry, and a treasure trove of acoustic and electronic sounds.

This show gathers favourite short stories, including the dream-like Night Flyer, humorous Devil in Cornwall, spooky Wanderer and Edgar Allan Poe's King Pest.

Performed by two puppeteers and a multi-instrumentalist, The Paper Cinema return to their 'out-of-a suitcase' origins to delight you with atmospheric tales of ghosts, dreams and the supernatural.

When
Fri 24 & Sat 25 Oct, 7.30pm
Venue
Gulbenkian Theatre
Tickets
£18 Full / £10 Student & Under 25

Member
discount

When
Fri 31 Oct, 7.30pm
Sat 1 Nov, 2.30 & 7.30pm
Venue
Gulbenkian Theatre
Tickets
£18 Full / £10 Student & Under25

David Westhead Krapp's Last Tape

Directed by Stockard Channing
With David Westhead as "Krapp"

Revel in Samuel Beckett's classic play, as audiences are invited into Krapp's world of solitude, memories, dreams, elation, and despair.

Brought to life in disused function rooms, underground vaults, former jails, and dusty factories, we are transported to a land of joy, sadness, lost ambition, love, madness, and hope.

This production, directed by Academy Award nominee Stockard Channing and starring David Westhead, tours globally throughout 2025.

Member
discount

Ekleido Splice & Rorschach

Featuring original score
by Floating Points

An exhilarating new double bill by choreographic duo Ekleido, Hannah Ekholm and Faye Stoeser, who are known for their work in contemporary dance and underground club dance scenes, features two new original scores by world-renowned electronic musician Floating Points. This double bill includes their critically acclaimed work Splice in which two dancers find the balance between limitation and possibility to solve a physical puzzle and a new piece Rorschach, with a trio of dancers become moving adaptations of the Rorschach inkblot test.

When
Thu 13 & Fri 14 Nov, 7.30pm

Venue
Gulbenkian Theatre

Tickets
£18 Full / £10 Student & Under25

Image © Jack Thompson

Member
discount

An audience with... Led by Donkeys

From the Brexit chaos of 2019 to the machinations of Musk and Trump in 2025, Led By Donkeys have developed innovative, creative and sometimes funny ways to hold the powerful to account and advance progressive ideas.

Join us as we go behind the scenes to discuss how they develop and deliver their ideas and look ahead to explore how activism and participation can help us prepare for the big social and political challenges we face.

When
Thu 27 Nov, 7.30pm

Venue
Gulbenkian Theatre

Tickets
£16 Full / £10 Student & Under25



Member
discount

— Charles Dickens' A Christmas Carol —

Adapted and performed by Vincent Franklin

Directed by Audrey Cooke

Designed by Eve Oakley

When
Tue 16 & Wed 17 Dec, 7.30pm

Venue
Gulbenkian Theatre

Tickets
£18 Full / £10 Student & Under 25

A ghost story for a winter's night.

Vincent Franklin (The Thick Of It, Happy Valley, Cucumber) brings to life the world's most infamous miser, four ghosts and more than twenty other extraordinary characters in this much-loved seasonal tale.

This new adaptation of Dickens' own performance script will leave audiences with their blood chilled and their hearts warmed. It's the perfect way to get into the Christmas spirit – past, present and future.

Member
discount

— FB Pocket Orchestra Scrooge Live —

Celebrate the festive period with this unique and immersive experience.

Scrooge Live is a live musical performance of the beloved 1951 Alastair Sim film Scrooge.

Featuring a reimagined score and live sound effects performed by the acclaimed FB Pocket Orchestra, this production seamlessly blends classic cinema with the energy of live music.

When
Thu 18 Dec, 7.30pm

Venue
Gulbenkian Theatre

Tickets
£20 Full / £15 Student & Under 25

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Kent | Institute of Cultural
and Creative Industries
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Image: The Phoenix Scheme

THEATRE & DANCE

CHRISTMAS PRODUCTION

The LipSinkers

We've Got Christmas Knits

Member
discount

KitchenSink experimentalism, Choreographed Comedy, Pathos in a Posing pouch, fags, drags & carrier bags - while mouthing the words.

Catastrophic punk ethos performance, and chilling communist drag discourse from your friendly neighbourhood hoofers and goofers.

Described as the "beating spleen of East London's cabaret autopsy", The LipSinkers (hope to) reach a milestone twentieth anniversary in 2026 and mark the end of the teenage dream, facing an uncertain future, with some Christmas knits.

When
Fri 19 Dec, 7.30pm

Venue
Gulbenkian Theatre

Tickets
£18 Full / £10 Student
& Under25



UK PREMIERE
ASSOCIATE ARTIST

Member
discount

Mòra Company

Directed by Claudia Castellucci

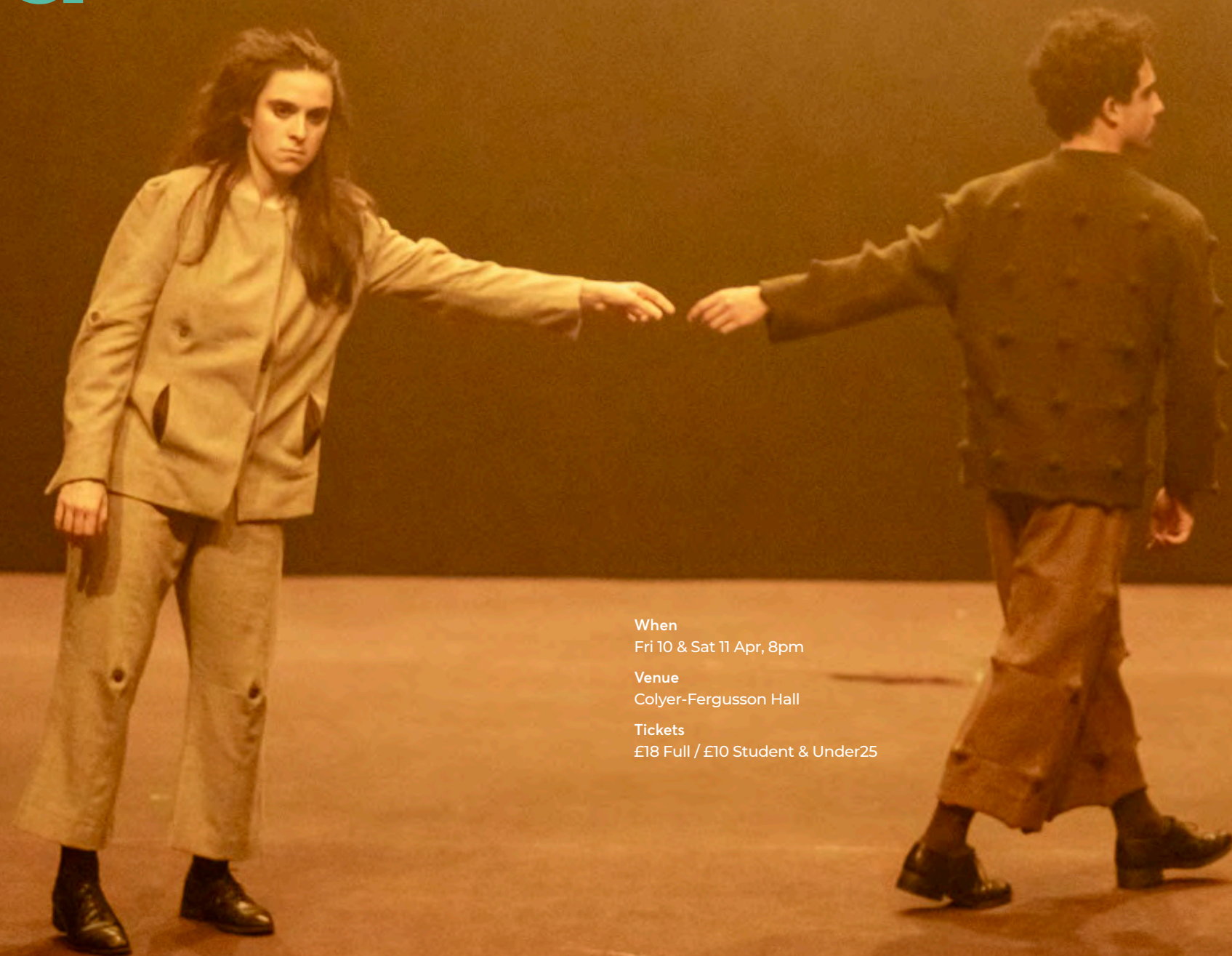
Sahara

Since co-founding of the groundbreaking theatre company Societas Raffaello Sanzio in 1981, Claudia Castellucci has revolutionized contemporary performance art through her innovative exploration of rhythm and movement.

This is the first time her work has ever been presented in the United Kingdom.

In Sahara, she takes inspiration from the desert. Its extreme monotony in time and space offers us the backdrop against which to imagine and inhabit another world.

This is dance in its purest form with the dancers encouraged toward extreme simplicity. Like the desert, they have only themselves as raw material.



When
Fri 10 & Sat 11 Apr, 8pm

Venue
Colyer-Fergusson Hall

Tickets
£18 Full / £10 Student & Under25

ASSOCIATE ARTIST

— Stan's Cafe The Cardinals

Three cardinals set-out to deliver a puppet show to explain the history of religion.

The premise is preposterous and the outcome chaotic, poignant and hilarious.

Long before 'The Play That Went Wrong' and in the tradition of the National Theatre of Brent, The Cardinals is a beautiful, comic masterpiece.

Associate Artists Stan's Cafe have a long and storied career; The Cardinals is their most-requested work and has toured the world to huge acclaim.

Remounted for Gulbenkian as a part of their Associate Artist residency, this is a rare chance to see a legendary piece of comic theatre.

Absolutely not to be missed. Swear to God

Member
discount

When
Thu 30 Apr, plus
Fri 1 & Sat 2 May, 7.30pm

Venue
Gulbenkian Theatre

Tickets
£18 Full / £10 Student &
Under25





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Burgess Hodgson is delighted to have joined **The Directors Circle**, supporting high-quality arts in Kent.




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Freckle Productions' Stick Man

Touching, funny and utterly original, Freckle Productions' delightful adaptation of Julia Donaldson and Axel Scheffler's Stick Man is back on stage!

What starts off as a morning jog becomes quite the misadventure for Stick Man: a dog wants to play fetch with him, a swan builds a nest with him, and he even ends up on a fire! How will Stick Man ever get back to the family tree in time for Christmas?

When
Tue 30 Sep – Thu 2 Oct, times vary

Venue
Gulbenkian Theatre

Tickets
£15 Adult / £13 Child / £10 Group

Age
All ages





Member discount

Shlomo's Beatbox Adventure for Kids

Join record-breaking beatboxer SK Shlomo who makes amazing music with just a mouth and a mic.

Become one of this sonic superhero's sidekicks in a world of funny sounds, brilliant noises, and cool music, whether you're 1 or 101!

When
Sun 19 Oct, 1.30 & 3.30pm

Tickets
£8 (£6.50 Group 4+)

Venue
Gulbenkian Theatre

Age
All Ages



Member discount

Anna Harriott and Iona Johnson Stories in the Dust

The sun beats down on two travellers, journeying across a mysterious land in a contraption they've built themselves. They sing, play games, and tell stories inspired by a collection of precious things they've gathered from a time gone by.

With live music and puppetry, Stories in the Dust is a funny, heartfelt and hopeful eco-fable that takes you to another world.

Followed by a Junk Model Puppet Making Workshop.

Stories in the Dust was originally created with support from MAST Mayflower Studios and shared at their Emergency Festival. It was developed thanks to public funding from the National Lottery through Arts Council England in partnership with Pound Arts and Wiltshire Creative.

When
Thu 30 Oct, 11am & 2pm

Tickets
£8 (£6.50 Group 4+)

Venue
Gulbenkian Theatre

Age
5-12

CHRISTMAS 2025

Dear Santa

By Rod Campbell

Santa is determined to deliver the most fantastic Christmas present to Sarah, but he doesn't get it right straight away! With the help of his cheeky Elf, he finally settles on something 'perfect', just in time for Christmas Eve.

The Christmas cheer continues, with the opportunity to meet Santa in his grotto after the show, where every child will receive an extra special gift! Sure to be one Christmas present children and parents alike will never forget.

The perfect family show that will be enjoyed by all this festive season.

When
Sat 6 – Sat 13 Dec, times vary

Venue
Gulbenkian Theatre

Tickets
£15 Adult / £13 Child / £12 Group 4+ / £10 Group 10+ group

Age
2+





Member discount

MishMash Productions Ruby's Worry

Ruby has always been happy, perfectly happy.... until one day.... she discovers a worry. She meets a boy who has a worry too. Together they discover that everyone has worries, and that if you talk about them, they never hang around for long!

Told through live music, song, puppetry and physical theatre, Ruby's Worry takes the audience on a delightful musical adventure.

Based on the book Ruby's Worry, written and illustrated by Tom Percival and published by Bloomsbury.

When
Sat 7 Feb, 11.30am & 2pm

Tickets
£8 (£6.50 Group 4+)

Venue
Colyer-Fergusson Hall

Age
3+



Member discount

LAStheatre The Littlest Yak

Gertie is great at being THE LITTLEST YAK, with the CURLIEST, WHIRLIEST wool and the GRIPPIEST of hooves for clip-clopping up cliffs. Only, Gertie doesn't want to be LITTLE she wants to grow UP!

LAStheatre's adaptation of the award-winning children's book will delight audiences young and old with beautiful puppets, catchy tunes and an uplifting tale of self-acceptance.

Nominated for a YAKTASTIC four OffWestEnd Awards!

When
Tue 17 & Wed 18 Feb, times vary

Tickets
£8 (£6.50 Group 4+)

Venue
Culbenkian Theatre

Age
3+

Tall Stories The Gruffalo's Child



Follow the Gruffalo's Child on her adventurous mission in Tall Stories' enchanting adaptation of the much-loved picture book by Julia Donaldson and Axel Scheffler.

One wild and windy night the Gruffalo's Child ignores her father's warnings about the Big Bad Mouse and tiptoes out into the deep dark wood. She follows snowy tracks and encounters mysterious creatures – but the Big Bad Mouse doesn't really exist... does he?

The Gruffalo's Child © Julia Donaldson and Axel Scheffler 2004 – Macmillan Children's Books.

Sat 7 Mar, 11am show is Relaxed, with integrated BSL.

When
Thu 5 Mar – Sat 7 Mar, times vary

Tickets
£14 Adult / £12 Child / £44 Family

Venue
Gulbenkian Theatre

Age
3+

Watershed Productions

The Singing Mermaid

When
Fri 29 – Sun 31 May, times vary

Venue
Gulbenkian Theatre

Tickets
£14 Full / £12 Child (Family and school discounts available)

Age
3+

One day the singing mermaid is tempted away from all of her sea-creature friends to join a travelling circus. The audiences love to hear her sing but the poor mermaid was tricked! Instead of the swimming pool she was promised, she is kept in a small fish tank by the wicked circus ringmaster, Sam Sly.

The Singing Mermaid by Julia Donaldson and Lydia Monks is adapted for the stage by Barb Jungr and Samantha Lane with music and songs by Barb Jungr.



Playground Early Years Festival

This innovative and exciting new festival taking place across Kent in May 2026, celebrating the creativity of babies, young children and their families, featuring Playground Artists as well as some of the most inspiring national and international work created for early years.

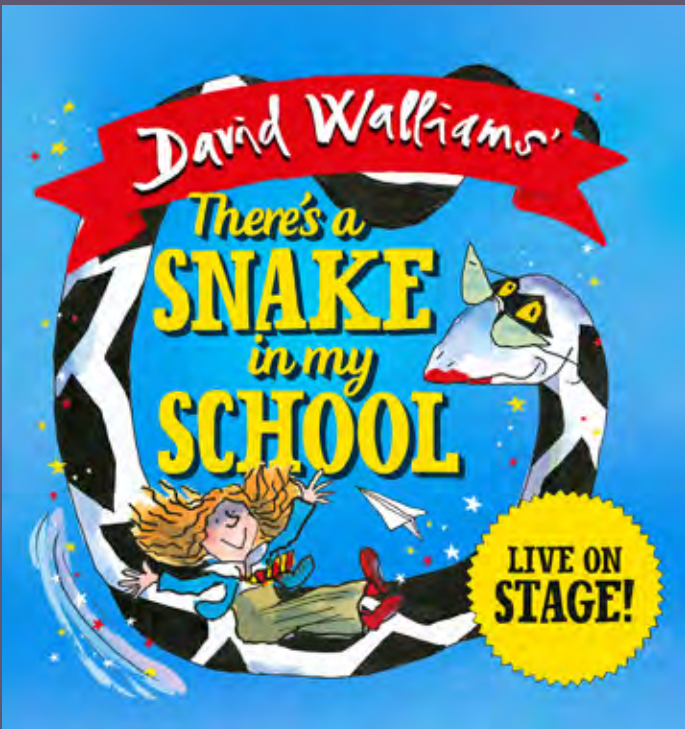
More detail on the programme and how to book will be available on our website later this summer!

For more information on Playground go to www.playgroundkent.co.uk

Playground is supported by Arts Council England and Kent County Council.

Save the date
Fri 29 May

Tickets
On sale nearer the time



Sam Bradshaw Productions

There's a Snake in my School!

A ssssspectacularly funny new musical, full of mischief, mayhem and songsssss, based on the number one bestselling book by David Walliams.

Miranda loves to be different, and on Bring-Your-Pet-To-School Day she introduces everyone to her VERY ssssspecial pet – Penelope The Snake.

Miss Bloat the headmistress doesn't think snakes should be allowed in school. But Penelope has other ideasssss...

When
Tue 23 - Thu 25 Jun, times vary

Venue
Gulbenkian Theatre

Tickets
£15 Full / £13 Child / £12 Family / £10 Schools

Age
3+

Our
Music
Department

Based at the award-winning Colyer-Fergusson Hall on the Canterbury campus, our Extra-Curricular Music Department presents a vibrant programme of music-making, open to all students and staff at the University, and to the local community, throughout the academic year. From orchestral works to big band swing, choral concerts, Musical Theatre, chamber opera and more, from our outstanding concert-hall to Canterbury Cathedral and Deal Memorial Bandstand, there are plenty of opportunities to rehearse and perform, whatever you study.

Music Performance Scholarships are also open to talented instrumentalists and singers, offering a cash bursary and the opportunity to continue with instrumental or singing lessons, as part of being involved in University musical life. Practice-rooms are available for use throughout the year, including a dedicated band-room for amplified instruments.

For details about our Extra-Curricular Music Department activities and Music Performance Scholarships, please visit kent.ac.uk/music

A Christmas Cornucopia!

University Chorus, Orchestra, Concert Band and String Sinfonia celebrate the festive season in two nights of music, including Vivaldi’s popular Gloria and the Cinderella Suite by Ernest Tomlinson.

When	Tickets
Fri 5 & Sat 6 Dec, 7.30pm	£15 Full / £8 Students

Venue
Colyer-Fergusson Hall

Christmas Swingalong 25

The University Big Band returns with its annual festive cracker of a Christmas gig, featuring seasonal classics and big band swing.

When	Tickets
Wed 10 Dec, 5.15pm	£5

Venue
Colyer-Fergusson Hall

University Chorus and Orchestra
cond. Dan Harding

Beethoven Symphony no.8
Mozart Coronation Mass

When	Tickets
Sat 14 Mar, 7.30pm	£22 Full / £8 Student

Venue
Colyer-Fergusson Hall





Follow @art31kent on Instagram for updates.



ART31 is a creative revolution built by young people, for young people!

We started with a simple belief: every 13-25 year old in Kent deserves to dive headfirst into incredible arts and culture. Not as an afterthought, but as their right.

At ART31, young people aren't just participants. They're the co-creators, decision-makers, and Creative Directors. Young People are the driving force behind everything we do.

Based at Gulbenkian Arts Centre and coming to Docking Station in Medway, we're funded by Arts Council England and Kent County Council to make this vision real.

So, whether you want to try something for the first time or turn your creative passion into a profession, every workshop, every project, every connection is designed to put you in control of your own creative journey.

To get involved:

Follow @ART31KENT on Instagram

Email creativeengagement@kent.ac.uk to sign up

"We all felt incredibly welcomed and appreciated being treated as equals and professionals, not like just some kids putting on a play."

NT Connections performer

All images © @misterEB



What's happening at Gulbenkian Arts Centre?
(All completely FREE)

YOUTH THEATRE – Because mid-week needs more drama! Our two groups for 13-15 and 16-18 year olds meet on Wednesdays in term time.

GULBENKIAN YOUNG COMPANY – The National Theatre, but on your doorstep! Audition for our 13-19s company creating original work for the National Theatre Connections Festival.

GULBENKIAN THEATRE MAKERS – Monday nights are for the 18-25s! 2 hours of games, skills, theatre-making and performance opportunities.

GENERATE – Your platform to express, create & connect. Providing workshops, support, and performance opportunities across a range of creative interests, Generate is where creativity gives voice to young perspectives.

KRAN FAM – Drama group with Kent Refugee Action Network members. Because everyone's story matters.

TECH31 – Learn the technical wizardry that makes theatre happen. Ages 13-25, all skill levels welcome.

SCREEN31 – Filmmaking workshops where your ideas become the next viral sensation, cult classic, or box-office hit.

FACILITATOR TRAINING – professional development workshops to inspire the next generation of creative facilitators who share our ART31 ethos.

SQUARE PEGS ARTS – Weekly drama for 16-25s with learning disabilities, autism, or anyone who feels they don't quite fit in with mainstream activities. Plus monthly singing (14+) and Relaxed film screenings.

ART31 MEDWAY – Watch this space for digital arts and filmmaking events coming to Medway ahead of the opening of the Docking Station soon.

Ready to jump in? Find out how to follow, subscribe and say hello on the page opposite.

All activity is free to access, thanks to ART31 funders Arts Council England and Kent County Council.

Email creativeengagement@kent.ac.uk to find out more or register interest in any of these groups.



Josh Berry: Best Man

It's clear what toxic masculinity is, but what on earth does positive masculinity mean? Josh Berry intends to provide some sort of answer to this question, through a narrative about being made his best friend's best man earlier this year.

When	Tickets
Thu 11 Sep, 8pm	£16.50
Venue	Age
Gulbenkian Theatre	18+



Nick Helm: No One Gets Out Alive

Are you ready to have the best damn night of your effing life? Well don't worry - the man with the golden larynx is back!

When	Tickets
Sun 14 Sep, 8pm	£18.50 / £16 Student
Venue	Age
Gulbenkian Theatre	16+



Suzi Ruffell: The Juggle

The Juggle is a brand new tour from confessional multi-award winning comedian Suzi Ruffell.

When	Tickets
Sat 20 Sep, 7.30pm	£17 / £15 Student
Venue	Age
Gulbenkian Theatre	14+



Jason Byrne: Head in the Clouds

Where does he get it all from? A common phrase heard outside Jason Byrne's show as the crowd leave with utter joy in their hearts. Jason literally has his Head In the Clouds most of the time, but thankfully, mainly when he's on stage!

When	Tickets
Sun 5 Oct, 7.30pm	£28.50
Venue	Age
Gulbenkian Theatre	14+



Rosie Jones: I Can't Tell What She's Saying

Join self-professed prick and star of Taskmaster Rosie Jones as she heads back out on the road with her brand-new stand-up show. She's talking about the big stuff: being single, the pressures of representing huge sections of the population, and gravy.

When	Tickets
Wed 15 Oct, 7.30pm	£18
Venue	Age
Gulbenkian Theatre	14+



Scummy Mummies: Hot Mess

MUMS' NIGHT OUT! Helen and Ellie are BACK with a brand new comedy show that will have you laughing till you wee.

When	Tickets
Tue 21 Oct, 7.30pm	£22
Venue	Age
Gulbenkian Theatre	18+



Gulbenkian's monthy comedy club – radical and exciting, but also warm and snuggly as a bunny rabbit

Kate Butch & Blank Peng

When: Fri 10 Oct Venue: Gulbenkian Theatre

All events	Tickets:	Time:	Age:
	£7 / £6 / £5	8pm	16+

Sooz Kempner & Laura Quinn Goh

When: Fri 31 Oct Venue: Gulbenkian Cafe

Morgan Rees & Sam See

When: Fri 28 Nov Venue: Gulbenkian Cafe

Mark Thomas

When: Fri 12 Dec Venue: Gulbenkian Theatre



Babatunde Aléshe: High Expectations

Join the multi-award-winning comedian as he guides us through family life, his new found fame and the joys of Costco in this hilarious new stand up show. As seen on Taskmaster (C4), Live at the Apollo (BBC), Celebrity Gogglebox (C4), Would I Lie to You (BBC) and The Last Leg (C4).

When	Tickets
Thu 23 Oct, 8pm	£17.50
Venue	Age
Gulbenkian Theatre	16+



Marcus Brigstocke: Vitruvian Mango

Most heavy things can be lifted by machines and most problems can be solved by computers and most puddles can be crossed without us gallantly draping our capes over them – so are we fellas of any use at all?

When	Tickets
Wed 29 Oct, 7.30pm	£18
Venue	Age
Gulbenkian Theatre	14+



Emmanuel Sonubi: Life After Near Death

Edinburgh Comedy Award Best Newcomer nominee and Best Show nominee, Emmanuel Sonubi is back on tour after sold-out performances at the Edinburgh Fringe, his European Tour, and his hit New York Soho Theatre run.

When	Tickets
Sun 9 Nov, 7.30pm	£20 Full / £18 Concessions
Venue	Age
Gulbenkian Theatre	14+



Tom Houghton: Deep

After a phenomenal, sold-out, international tour. Plus, a second round of supporting Milton Jones. Tom Houghton returns to the Gulbenkian stage!

When	Tickets
Wed 12 Nov, 8pm	£20 Full / £17 Student
Venue	Age
Gulbenkian Theatre	14+



Andy Parsons: Please #@\$ off to Mars

Life is hard. Come and have a laugh about it. After his nationwide critical-smash sellout 2023/24 Tour, Andy is back with a brand-new show.

When	Tickets
Wed 26 Nov, 8pm	£19 Full / £17 Concessions
Venue	Age
Gulbenkian Theatre	14+



Chump's Comedy Club

Chump's burst onto the comedy scene in 2023, earning a reputation as one of the UK's most exciting and diverse nights of live comedy. Known for attracting top-tier talent and fresh new acts, Chump's has thrilled buzzing, sold-out audiences across the country.

When	Tickets
Sat 29 Nov, 7.30pm	£16 Full / £12 Student
Venue	Age
Gulbenkian Theatre	16+



Mark Steel: The Leopard in My House

Join multi award-winning, BAFTA-nominated writer and comedian Mark Steel for his new tour 'The Leopard in My House'. The topic? His battle with throat cancer. A battle he is winning (thankfully) and which only his rapier wit could fashion a comedy tour show out of.

When	Tickets
Wed 3 Dec, 7.30pm	£18
Venue	Age
Gulbenkian Theatre	14+



Fearlessly Taylor

This all-new multi-format show starring Ashleigh Stevens has been dazzling audiences with its faithful tribute to the musical 'Eras' of Taylor's albums.

When	Tickets
Thu 7 Aug, 7pm	£22
Venue	
Gulbenkian Theatre	



Sound & Vision David Bowie Tribute Show

Sound & Vision, the ultimate seven piece Bowie tribute band, will take you through two hours of iconic songs like "Ziggy Stardust," "Life on Mars," many more.

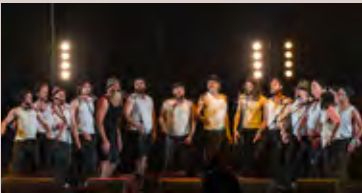
When	Tickets
Sat 30 Aug, 7.30pm	£24
Venue	
Gulbenkian Theatre	



Cloudbusting: The Music of Kate Bush

Featuring material from across Kate's hugely successful catalogue of albums, the show includes classic hits such as Wuthering Heights, Babooshka and Hounds of Love – as well as Running Up That Hill

When	Tickets
Sat 6 Sep, 7.30pm	£26
Venue	
Gulbenkian Theatre	



Spooky Men's Chorale

The Spooky Men's Chorale carves out new territories of mighty sounds, exquisite tenderness, and charming stupidity. They are just a bunch of blokes, but where they take you will blow your mind.

When	Tickets
Sat 6 Sep, 7.30pm	£27.50
Venue	
Colyer-Fergusson Hall	



Oasiz Unplugged 1996 Recaptured

Imagine it's 1996 and you are about to watch Oasis unplugged. But there's something different this time... Liam has turned up! For one night only, experience this legendary set the way it was meant to be.

When	Tickets
Fri 12 Sep, 8pm	£18
Venue	
Gulbenkian Theatre	



DS:UK... in tribute to Dire Straits

DS: UK are back with one of their most popular tours - "Brothers in '85", celebrating the year when Dire Straits were at their peak as one of the biggest touring bands in the world.

When	Tickets
Fri 19 Sep, 7.30pm	£25
Venue	
Gulbenkian Theatre	



Canterbury Musical Theatre Society
Kiss Me, Kate

With romance, comedy, sophistication, and behind-the-scenes high jinks, Kiss Me, Kate combines the irreverent humour of four brilliant writers: Sam and Bella Spewack, Cole Porter and William Shakespeare.

When	Venue
Thu 25 to Sat 27 Sep, 7.30pm (plus Sat 2.30pm)	Gulbenkian Theatre
	Tickets £20



Lewes Music Group
Fleetwood Mac: The Greatest Hits

Join us for an evening as our live 8-piece band performs all of Fleetwood Mac's greatest hits covering hits from the Peter Green era to songs from the albums Fleetwood Mac, Rumours, Tusk, Mirage and Tango in the Night and everything in between!

When	Tickets
Sun 26 Oct, 7.30pm	£20
Venue	Gulbenkian Theatre



Langton Girls' Grammar School
Show Stoppers!

From classic show tunes to modern Broadway favourites, this concert promises a magical journey through the songs that have captured hearts on stage for generations. Don't miss this celebration of music, talent, and theatrical flair!

When	Tickets
Fri 14 Nov, 7pm	£9.50
Venue	Colyer-Fergusson Hall



Unity Arts
The Guy Who Didn't Like Musicals

Everything in Hatchetfield seemed normal until people began singing... Then, they began dancing... And now, a musical pandemic is sweeping the entire city.

When	Tickets
Sun 14 & Mon 15 Dec, 7.30pm (plus Mon 2.30pm)	£12
Venue	Gulbenkian Theatre



Friends of The Vox
Come and Sing Carols with Orchestra

Sponsored by Kent-based Friends of the Vox, this unique event brings together keen singers to rehearse and perform standard, well-loved favourites alongside fresh, new settings of beloved carols arranged for choir and orchestra.

See www.friendsofthevox.org if you would like to join the workshop at 1.30pm.

When	Tickets
Sat 20 Dec, 6pm	£15 (Under 18 free)
Venue	Colyer-Fergusson Hall



Square Pegs Singers
All Around the World

The Square Pegs Singers return with another eclectic concert of songs, with a mixture of ensemble, solo and instrumental performances it's guaranteed to be a heartwarming, entertaining and uplifting experience.

Square Pegs Arts delivers high quality arts and music projects with learning disabled, autistic or neurodivergent people of all ages.

When	Tickets
Sat 17 Jan, 5pm	Free
Venue	Colyer-Fergusson Hall



UK Soul Choirs
Candlelit Soul

Join East Kent Soul Choirs for a night of festive inspired soul and pop classics by candlelight!

When	Tickets
Fri 28 Nov, 7.30pm	£18 Full / £15 Student & Under25
Venue	Colyer-Fergusson Hall



Echoes of Floyd: The Ultimate Pink Floyd Experience

Echoes of Floyd is an unforgettable journey through the legendary soundscapes of one of rock's greatest bands.

On Thin Ice bring Pink Floyd's iconic songs to life with passion and precision.

When	Tickets
Sat 6 Dec, 7.30pm	£22
Venue	Gulbenkian Theatre



Langton Music
Christmas Choir Festival

Join us for a night of magical music and uplifting voices, performed by over 150 local primary school pupils and the Simon Langton Brass Band.

This is our 20th Year celebration, so expect even more fun, laughter and Christmas spirit.

When	Tickets
Tue 9 Dec, 7pm	£7
Venue	Colyer-Fergusson Hall

Canterbury Symphony Orchestra

Join the Canterbury Symphony Orchestra for a powerful season of music at the Gulbenkian, journeying from rising stars to iconic masterpieces.



This Heavenly Life
featuring the Canterbury Young Musician of the Year

Clarinetist Krish Parthiban, winner of Canterbury Festival Young Musician of the Year will perform alongside the full orchestra in an evening of fresh talent and vibrant sound, which concludes with the sublime Mahler 4th Symphony.

When	Tickets
Sun 23 Nov, 6pm	£15 Full / £5 Student & Under 18
Venue	Colyer-Fergusson Hall

Holst's The Planets

The season continues with Holst's The Planets, an awe-inspiring journey through the cosmos. Don't miss this spectacular evening of galactic music which also features Hans Zimmer, Earth.

When	Tickets
Sun 29 Mar, 6pm	£15 Full / £5 Student & Under 18
Venue	Colyer-Fergusson Hall

Freddy Kempf, Rachmaninov piano concerto No. 2

CSO's season concludes on June 28th 2026 when we welcome our Patron, internationally acclaimed pianist Freddy Kempf who will be playing the Rachmaninov 2nd Piano Concerto.

When	Tickets
Sun 28 Jun, 6pm	£15 Full / £5 Student & Under 18
Venue	Colyer-Fergusson Hall

Canterbury Music Club

The Gulbenkian Arts Centre are delighted to welcome Canterbury Music Club back for their 84th Season of chamber music concerts.

They mix artists with established reputations with the best of those building their careers and aim to attract a wider audience than their membership itself.

CMC Tickets for people 25 & Under are available FREE as part of CMC's commitment to taking classical chamber music to students and all young people.



"Vienna and the New World"

Piano duetists Marianne Kelly and Heather Sargeson present a programme of classic music for four hands at one piano by Mozart and Schubert and new classics by Barber and Gershwin. Fresh from Buxton Festival the players have enjoyed a distinguished career of performing duets on a single piano.

When	Tickets
Sun 28 Sep, 3pm	£25 (25 & under - Free)
Venue	
Colyer-Fergusson Hall	



Tamesis String Quartet

An exciting young international string quartet formed when postgraduate students at The Guildhall School of Music.

Recently winning First Prize in the 2025 CAVATINA award competition, they will play music by Hayden, Beethoven and Caroline Shaw.

When	Tickets
Sun 18 Jan, 3pm	£25 (25 & under - Free)
Venue	
Colyer-Fergusson Hall	



"A Journey to the Edge of Reason"

Lisete da Silva Bull – Baroque flute
Robin Walker – harpsichord

Trace the shift between the Baroque era and the Enlightenment with music by J.S.Bach, Kirnberger, Quantz, Frederic the Great and C.P.E. Bach - a wonderful contribution to Canterbury at Festival time.

When	Tickets
Sun 19 Oct, 3pm	£25 (25 & under - Free)
Venue	
Colyer-Fergusson Hall	



Rose and Matthewman

Matthew Rose continues to develop his wonderful relationship with Canterbury in a recital of Schubert lieder including the posthumously published collection of songs known as "Schwangesang" – accompanied by his long term colleague Gary Matthewman.

When	Tickets
Sun 22 Feb, 3pm	£25 (25 & under - Free)
Venue	
Colyer-Fergusson Hall	



Haydn "Creation" Parts 1 & 2

Amici Chorus & Orchestra
Grenville Hancox – director
Tamar File – soprano
Greg Tassell – tenor
Matthew Rose - bass

The Amici Chorus and Orchestra join international artists in a performance of this glorious oratorio, directed by Grenville Hancox.

When	Tickets
Sun 9 Nov, 3pm	£25 (25 & under - Free)
Venue	
Colyer-Fergusson Hall	



The Kentish Piano Trio

Kathy Shave - violin
Julia Vohralik - cello
Helen Crayford - piano

We are so fortunate to have a trio of such distinguished players on our doorstep – with a programme of music by Suk, Smetana and Dvorak.

When	Tickets
Sun 22 Mar, 3pm	£25 (25 & under - Free)
Venue	
Colyer-Fergusson Hall	



"Old Christmas Returned" - Music, Words and Song for Christmas

A selection of carols, ballads, consort music, lute songs, dance melodies and readings – in a seasonal programme following the calendar from Advent to Candlemas and showing "how Christmas was celebrated, banned and restored in 17th Century England".

When	Tickets
14 Dec, 3pm	£25 (25 & under - Free)
Venue	
Colyer-Fergusson Hall	



Kosmos Ensemble

Described by Richard Morrison (The Times) as having "telepathic rapport, dazzling virtuosity, serious scholarship, intellectual curiosity and impeccable musicianship, I defy you not to be mesmerised", Kosmos return to bring an eclectic programme of music from around the world.

When	Tickets
Sun 19 Apr, 3pm	£25 (25 & under - Free)
Venue	
Colyer-Fergusson Hall	

Gulbenkian

Arts Centre | Film

Canterbury's independent cinema,
Gulbenkian shows Kent's most diverse
mix of film, from blockbuster to art
house and international releases.

Join our mailing list to get regular updates:

thegulbenkian.co.uk
boxoffice@kent.ac.uk



About Your Visit

Gulbenkian, University of Kent,
Canterbury, CT2 7NB

Tel: 01227 769 075 during opening hours only

Tickets: thegulbenkian.co.uk

Email: Boxoffice@kent.ac.uk

Ticket Office Opening Hours (vary with programme)

Monday to Friday 5-8pm
Saturday & Sunday 1-8pm

Discounts

Concessions

Where advertised apply to children aged under 12, young people aged 12-25, full and part time students, registered unemployed, senior citizens, disabled person and a companion. Proof of status may be required.

Schools

Gulbenkian offers creative engagement opportunities for school students and staff, including discounted tickets for specific events. Please contact creativeengagement@kent.ac.uk for more information.

Family shows

Gulbenkian welcomes children with a valid ticket and accompanied by an adult at all times. Age ranges are provided as a guide and we ask you to consider whether the show is suitable for your child. Baby-on-lap-tickets - £1 tickets for age 0-18 months are available on selected family shows.

Access

We now have a dedicated Access Membership Scheme, with members able to book access, wheelchair spaces and carer tickets for free online (when available). We offer an infrared audio system in the cinema for audiences, wheelchair spaces in all our venues (booking essential), dedicated parking spaces, level access through automatic doors to the theatre, foyer and bar, disabled accessible toilet.

Assistance dogs are welcome.
We offer an infrared audio system for audience members who are hard of hearing. Headsets available from the Ticket & Information office.

More access information on our website.

Booking Fee

We charge a booking fee of £1.25 per ticket across most events. This is for tickets purchased online, by phone or in person at the Box Office.

How to find us

<http://www.thegulbenkian.co.uk/your-visit>

Parking

Free parking is available to Gulbenkian customers after 5pm on weekdays and all day at weekends in any University car park.

For Gulbenkian customers attending events between Monday and Friday 8am to 5pm please park in the Visitor Pay and Display car parks on Campus. The nearest Visitor Pay and Display is the Central Visitor Car Park.

When attending events we strongly recommend customers to allow extra time to find your space and park in designated parking spaces only. Please be advised that yellow lines on campus are enforced and we advise customers to park in designated car parking spaces.

Coach/Mini bus parking

Safe, convenient drop off points are available close to the Gulbenkian. Please contact the Tickets & Information team boxoffice@kent.ac.uk and let us know in advance how many vehicles/coaches and what size they are so that we can make the necessary arrangements.

Bus Service

A regular bus service operates from Canterbury City centre to the University.
Please see www.stagecoachbus.com




If you would like a text copy of this brochure in large type please email boxoffice@kent.ac.uk

All information and dates correct at time of printing, but due to the nature of our programme we strongly recommend checking the website for the latest information before attending.












25/26 Season Calendar

Details of events are correct at time of print (June 24).
Please check thegulbenkian.co.uk for latest events and details.




















August

Th 7	 Fearlessly Taylor
Sa 24 & Su 25	 bOing! International Family Festival
Sa 30	 Sound & Vision: David Bowie

September

Sa 6	 Cloudbusting: The Music of Kate Bush
Sa 6	 Spooky Men's Chorale
Th 11	 Josh Berry - Best Man
Fr 12	 Oasis: Unplugged 1996 Recaptured
Su 14	 Nick Helm: No One Gets Out Alive
Fr 19	 DS:UK... in tribute to Dire Straits
Sa 20	 Cara Dillon: Duo
Sa 20	 Suzi Ruffell
Th 25 – Sa 27	 Kiss Me Kate
Su 28	 CMC - Vienna and the New World
Tu 30 – Th 2 Oct	 Stick Man

October

Sa 4	 Martin Stephenson & The Daintees
Su 5	 Jason Byrne
Su 5	 Pet Sounds Reimagined
Fr 10	 Funny Rabbit Comedy Club
Fr 10 – Sun 12	 Brodsky Quartet: Shostakovitch Cycle
Tu 14	 The Gift of Life
We 15	 Rosie Jones: I Can't Tell What She's Saying
Th 16 & Fr 17	 Stan's Cafe: Time Critical
Su 19	 Shlomo's Beatbox Adventure for Kids
Su 19	 CMC "A Journey to the Edge of Reason"
Tu 21	 Scummy Mummies: Hot Mess
Th 23	 Babatunde Aléshé: High Expectations
Fr 24 & Sa 25	 Paper Cinema – Short Tales From Other Worlds
Sa 25	 Beth Nielsen Chapman + Judie Tzuke
Su 26	 Fleetwood Mac - Lewes Music Group
We 29	 Marcus Brigstocke: Vitruvian Mango
Th 30	 Stories in the Dust
Fr 31 & Sa 1 Nov	 David Westhead: Krapp's Last Tape
Fr 31	 Funny Rabbit Comedy Club



November

Mo 3	 The Linda Smith Lecture
Fr 7	 Martha Tilson
Sa 8	 The Unthanks
Su 9	 Emmanuel Sonubi: Life After Near Death
Su 9	 CMC Haydn "Creation" Parts 1 & 2
We 12	 Tom Houghton: Deep
Th 13 & Fr 14	 Ekleido: Splice & Rorschach
Fr 14	 Show Stoppers!
Su 16	 Terje Isungset Ice Quartet
Su 16	 Wilson Wakeman Christmas Show
Tu 18	 Free Range: Ensemble Nist-Nah
Tu 18	 Free Range
Fr 21	 Wild Billy Childish & CTMF + Lord Rochester
Sa 22	 James Taylor Quartet + Masonics
Sa 22	 Police Dog Hogan
Su 23	 CSO: This Heavenly Life
We 26	 Andy Parsons: Please #@!\$ off to Mars
Th 27	 Led by Donkeys
Fr 28	 Funny Rabbit Comedy Club
Fr 28	 UK Soul Choirs - Candlelit Soul 2025
Sa 29	 Chump's Comedy Club

December

We 3	 Mark Steel: The Leopard In My House
Fr 5 & Sa 6	 A Christmas Cornucopia
Sa 6	 Echoes of Floyd
Sa 06 - Sa 13	 Dear Santa
Tu 9	 Rural Schools Christmas Concert
We 10	 Christmas Swingalong
Fr 12	 Funny Rabbit Comedy Club
Su 14	 CMC "Old Christmas Returned"
Su 14 & Mo 15	 The Guy Who Didn't Like Musicals
Tu 16 & We 17	 A Christmas Carol
Thu 18	 Scrooge Live
Fr 19	 The LipSinkers
Sa 20	 Come and Sing Carols with Orchestra
Sa 20	 Albion Christmas Band






January

Sa 17	 Square Pegs Singers : All Around the World
Su 18	 CMC Tamesis String Quartet


February

Sa 7	 Ruby's Worry
Tu 17 & We 18	 The Littlest Yak
Su 22	 CMC Rose and Matthewman
Fr 27 – Su 1 Mar	 You Are Here




March

Th 5 – Sa 7	 The Gruffalo's Child
Sa 14	 University Chorus and Orchestra
Fr 20	 Gong + Henge
Su 22	 CMC The Kentish Piano Trio
Su 29	 CSO: Holst's The Planets



April










Fr 10 & Sa 11	 Mòra Company: Sahara
Su 19	 CMC: Kosmos Ensemble
Fr 24	 Kayhan Kalhor
Th 30 - Sa 2 May	 Stan's Cafe: The Cardinals

May

Sa 16	 International Drone Day
Fr 29	 Playground Early Years Festival
Fr 29 – Su 31	 The Singing Mermaid

June

Mo 23 – We 25	 There's a Snake in my School!
Su 28	 Freddy Kempf, Rachmaninov piano concerto No. 2

- KEY
-  Theatre & Dance
 -  Music /  Music & Film
 -  Comedy
 -  Family /  Family Live
 -  Guestlist
 -  Festival
 -  Talk

CHRISTMAS 2025

Dear Santa

By Rod Campbell

Sat 6 – Sat 13 Dec, times vary

Gulbenkian Theatre

For ages 2+

