

Gulbenkian Arts Centre

SPRING 2026

Large Print

LIVE MUSIC
THEATRE & DANCE
FAMILY
COMEDY

University of
Kent | **icci**
Institute of Cultural
and Creative Industries



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**ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND**

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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 back...

one and all, to the second half of the season!



UK premieres, exclusives, new names, legends, innovators, across all art forms: over the coming months it's all here at the Gulb... and here in this programme!

Our outstanding Associate Artists, Stan's Cafe, present their internationally renowned performance installation *Of All The People In All The World* and from Italy, the exclusive UK debut of Claudia Castellucci, choreographer and co-founder of the hugely influential Societas Raffaello Sanzio, here with Mòra Company presenting the ethereal *Sahara*. A new addition to the performance programme is the groundbreaking *Second Trimester*, a bold, experimental work from Battersea Arts Centre.

Front and centre of our music programme is *You Are Here*, a groundbreaking

new collaborative festival produced and curated by a consortium of leading Kent promoters, plus music legends Colin Blunstone, Ute Lemper, and the music of Nick Drake performed by Keith James.

Our reputation as the go-to destination for families continues to be very well-deserved with a smorgasboard of the finest work for kids and their grown-ups, and don't miss the best stand-up series in Kent.

A handwritten signature in white ink, appearing to read 'David Sefton', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

David Sefton | Director
Institute of Cultural and
Creative Industries
University of Kent

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.



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 returning in spring with their most well known work - Of All The People In All The World.



Image © Andrea Macchia

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. JV2 come to us in April with a brand new showcase.



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.

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

AΦΕ

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.



Image © Graeme Braidwood

ASSOCIATE ARTIST - Stan's Cafe
Of All The People In All The World
INSTALLATION

For this beautifully simple performance Stan's Cafe are bringing 1 tonne of rice to Gulbenkian, a grain for everyone in the country. Over the course of five days, a vast array of human statistics will be carefully weighed out in rice and arranged beside each other in labelled piles.

By doing no more than making abstract statistics tangible and placing them in careful relation to each other, Stan's Cafe create a powerful work of art. It is politically engaged, subtly witty, diverting, shocking, humane and ultimately, deeply moving.

When

25 – 28 Mar, 1-7pm

Where

Colyer Fergusson
Hall

Tickets

Drop in (Pay
What You Decide)



Fishville

by Afsaneh Gray

Fishville is a gripping mystery based in a crumbling seaside town.

The story starts when Jared walks into the sea and never comes back. Days later, a severed foot washes up—and weird messages from “Jared” start appearing online. As a myth about an underwater community starts gaining traction, two girls team up to uncover the truth before anyone else is lost to a vengeful ocean.

Directed by Emma Willatts and performed by Gulbenkian Young Company as part of NT Connections.

When

Sun 15 & Mon 16
Mar, 7.30pm

Venue

Gulbenkian
Theatre

Tickets

£5



Image © Bill Knight

**ASSOCIATE ARTIST - Jasmin
Vardimon Company presents
JV2: Triple Bill**

An explosive young ensemble of 16 international dancers showcasing an exciting and energetic mix of inventive choreography and exceptional new talent.

This vibrant triple bill of new works by Jasmin Vardimon Company associates Yunkyung Song & Vivian Triantafyllopoulou culminates with choreography by multi-award-winning Jasmin Vardimon MBE.

“Energy levels were high, frenetic, compelling, unrelenting and so vigorous” – *Bachtrack*

When

Thu 2 Apr, 7.30pm

Venue

Gulbenkian
Theatre

Tickets

£10 (Concessions
Available)


 Member discount

ASSOCIATE ARTIST - Mòra Company
Directed by Claudia Castellucci
Sahara

Since co-founding of the groundbreaking theatre company Società 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



Frozen Light The Ancient Oak of Baldor

The Ancient Oak stands strong in the Forest of Baldor. It has stood for millennia, rooted deeply to both the land and people of the forest. On this day at the cusp of winter, the people of Baldor are celebrating The Great Cracking of the Ancient Oak.

A multi-sensory experience for audiences with profound and multiple learning disabilities and their companions, offering the chance to gather and experience the collective power of shared stories.

Designed with ages 13+ in mind.

When

Fri 27 – Sun
29 Mar, 11am
& 1.30pm

Venue

Jarman Building
(on campus)

Tickets

£10 (free for carer)



NT Connections Festival 2026

Connections is the National Theatre's annual, nationwide youth theatre festival. Every year, Connections commissions new plays for young people to perform. The programme brings together some of the UK's most exciting writers with the theatre-makers of tomorrow.

Between Tue 22 and Sun 26 April we will be hosting 10 companies from across Kent and welcome them to perform new plays commissioned by the National Theatre on the Gulbenkian stage.

When

Wed 22 to Sun
26 April, 7.30pm

Venue

Gulbenkian
Theatre

Tickets

£5



Image © Jordon Rossi & Emily Drake

Battersea Arts Centre Second Trimester

An ambitious new show exploring multi-generational pregnancy stories and untold family histories, ultimately asking: how well can you ever really know your family? Trans performance artist, Krishna Isthā, and their mother, Geetha Menon, confront pregnancy, loss, gender and the weight of inherited memories in this cinematic Bollywood inspired epic family saga.

The anticipated second show in a trilogy of work, following the critically acclaimed 'First Trimester'

When

Fri 8 May, 7.30pm

Where

Gulbenkian
Theatre

Tickets

£18 (£10 Student)



Bobak Champion: I'm Muslim Don't Panic

A hilarious and heart-felt story of one man's journey to Iran to discover his cultural heritage. Featuring a captivating mixture of live music, spoken word, break-dancing and comedy.

Whilst the media frequently portray the Middle East as a frightening and dangerous place, Bobak shows us the positivity, joy, family and community that we rarely get to see.

This is a beautiful story that will have you laughing-out-loud and leave you feeling full of hope.

When

Thu 14 May,
7.30pm

Venue

Gulbenkian
Theatre

Tickets

£15 (£10 Student)



Ella Al Shamahi: Becoming Human

Host of BBC landmark show 'Human', Ella Al-Shamahi, palaeoanthropologist, TV presenter, explorer and stand-up presents a talk on our remarkable origin story.

Ella Al-Shamahi started studying evolution as a creationist and so she interweaves her own story demonstrating the power of tribalism not just in the past, but also in the present. Expect a talk that draws on the latest discoveries, heart, humour and wild expedition stories.

When

Sun 7 Jun, 7.30pm

Venue

Gulbenkian
Theatre

Tickets

£20

Age

14+



New Regency Orchestra

New Regency Orchestra has created a storm in the last four years with its mighty twelve-piece horn section, lock-tight five-piece rhythm section and the NRO dancers bringing new energy and arrangements to the golden age of Latin jazz and salsa.

One of London's most electrifying acts, the 18-piece Afro-Cuban jazz big band, inspired by the musical melting pot of NYC in the 1950s, but with the contemporary punch and power of a whole host of London's best Latin and jazz musicians.

When

Fri 20 Feb, 7.30pm

Venue

Colyer-Fergusson Hall

Tickets

£20 (£5 Student & Under 25)



Keith James - The Songs of Nick Drake

Nick Drake is one of the most revered and loved of all this country's acoustic Singer-Songwriters. He has given us timeless songs that shed all the tears of life within their fragile yet perfect lines.

Singer/Guitarist Keith James is the foremost artist devoted to performing Nick's music in its pure live acoustic form. Over the past 20 years, Keith has performed over 1000 highly acclaimed concerts in venues across the UK and Europe.

Keith will be joined by flautist Richie Cotterill.

When

Sat 21 Feb, 7.30pm

Venue

Colyer-
Fergusson Hall

Tickets

£15 (£10 Student/
Under 25)

YOU ARE HERE

**You Are Here is a new, wildly eclectic,
independent music festival in East Kent.**

You Are Here

You Are Here is a new, wildly eclectic, independent music festival in East Kent, brought to you by brought to you by: Free Range, Gulbenkian Arts Centre, Smugglers, The Hot Tin, Daylight Music, The Crash of Moons Club, Coastal Electronauts, Deep Listen, The Rockstar Experience & Big Cheese Arts.

See website for latest information and tickets.

When

Fri 27 Feb -
Sun 1 Mar

Venue

Colyer-
Fergusson Hall

Tickets

£40 (day tickets
also available)



Ute Lemper Sings Kurt Weill

To celebrate the 125th birthday of Kurt Weill; Ute Lemper performs her world renowned interpretations of his classic repertoire.

Since 1985 Ute has told the story of Weill and his songs when her first recording Ute Lemper Sings Kurt Weill for Decca Records initiated a worldwide revival of his work and Ute inspired new generations of artists with her astonishing stage presence, powerful repertoire and unparalleled readings of this classic material.

Ute will perform songs from the years of Weimar Berlin including selections from 'The Threepenny Opera', 'Mahoganny Songspiel', 'The French Exile' and material from Weill's classic American Songbook.

When

Sat 7 Mar, 7.30pm

Venue

Colyer-
Fergusson Hall

Tickets

£30 (£15 Student)

Image © Layla Burrows



Gong + Henge: Sounds of the Cosmos

Prepare for a night of pure Psychedelia!
Gong are back on the road, and this time they are joined by Henge!

More a mythology than a band in the conventional sense Gong established itself as one of the most unique, innovative and experimental rock groups of the seventies. Extra-terrestrial joymongers – HENGE – have been delighting audiences in the UK and Europe since they landed on Planet Earth ten years ago.

This is a standing gig.

When

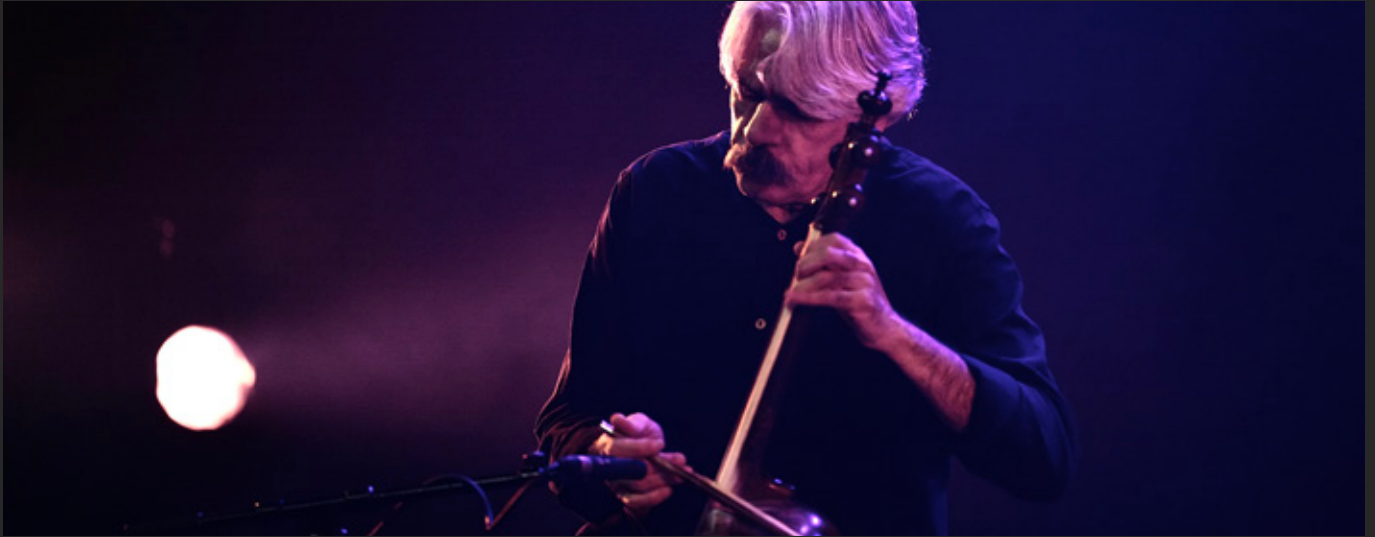
Fri 20 Mar, 7.30pm

Venue

Colyer-
Fergusson Hall

Tickets

£28 (£15 Student)



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 music 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



Colin Blunstone: Believe in Miracles

Support: Jesse Lynn Madera

Colin Blunstone, lead singer of The Zombies and acclaimed Solo Artist, returns to UK stages with the “Believe In Miracles” Tour, his first national solo outing in 7 years.

The tour title is a nod to Blunstone’s 1972 hit “I Don’t Believe In Miracles”, but is also a reflection on his remarkable 7-decade career. His career-spanning show will feature classics from The Zombies, favourites from his solo releases and collaborations, and debut new material from his forthcoming studio album.

When

Fri 8 May, 8pm

Venue

Colyer-Fergusson Hall

Tickets

£30 (£15 Student & Under25)



Kentronica

Coastal Electronauts' International Drone Day expanded into a whole day of synths, sound and sonic adventures.

Featuring: Anna Phoebe, Kingston University Stylophone Orchestra, Kieko Shimizu, Sophie Sirota, Shape Navigator and @diz_qo.

This is a day for sonic adventurers and curious listeners alike.

When

Sat 16 May

Venue

Multiple venues

Tickets

£30 Day Pass (£10 individual events)

Gulbenkian
Arts Centre

Membership

**Amazing savings
when you become
a member:**

**Just £40 for 12 months
Uni Staff £10 / Student £5**

40% off selected theatre

20% off all films

10% off in Gulbenkian Café

PLUS – no booking fees!

Buy now:
thegulbenkian.co.uk/members

University of
Kent | Institute of Cultural
and Creative Industries
icci

In Association with Folk in the Barn



Ainsley Hamill: A Concert to Celebrate Burns Night

Ainsley Hamill is one of Scotland's most compelling singers, known for her remarkable voice and emotive style.

When

Sun 25 Jan, 7.30pm

Venue

Colyer-Fergusson Hall

Tickets

£18 (£9 Under 25)



Fairport Convention

2026 will see Fairport Convention celebrate 59 years in business. With more than half a century's back catalogue to choose from, every show is a tour de force of British folk rock.

When

Thu 2 Apr, 7.30pm

Venue

Colyer-Fergusson Hall

Tickets

£35 (£17 Under 25)



Tony Christie: The Great Farewell

The legendary crooner continues to entertain audiences around the world with incredible showmanship, an unmistakable powerful vocal that has captivated generation after generation and a set list that packs a punch.

When

Sat 2 May, 7.30pm

Venue

Gulbenkian Theatre

Tickets

£30 (£15 Under25) PLUS
£80 Meet & Greet



Beat the Drum – The Runrig Experience

Get ready to embark on a powerful journey through the legendary anthems of Scotland's most iconic band with The Runrig.

When

Sun 14 Jun, 7.30pm

Venue

Colyer-Fergusson Hall

Tickets

£28 (£14 Under 25)

Our Music Department



Choral Evensong

The University Cecilian Choir and alumni choral singers come together for the service of choral evensong as part of the University's 60th anniversary celebrations.

When

Fri 20 Feb, 5.30pm

Venue

Canterbury Cathedral Quire

Tickets

Free

The Colyer-Fergusson Concert

University Chorus
and Orchestra
Dan Harding conductor

Mozart Coronation Mass
Beethoven Symphony no.8

When

Sat 14 Mar, 7.30pm

Venue

Colyer-Fergusson Hall

Tickets

£15 (£8 Students)



Spring Gala Concert

University Concert
Band and Big Band
Ian Swatman conductor

Fauré in a Day!

A special performance from scratch of Fauré's sublime Requiem: open to everyone! Alumni musicians especially welcome, as part of the University's 60th anniversary celebrations.

When

Wed 18 Mar, 7.30pm

Venue

Colyer-Fergusson Hall

Tickets

£15 (£8 Students)

When

Sat 25 Apr, 5pm

Venue

Colyer-Fergusson Hall

Tickets

Free

Canterbury Symphony Orchestra 2025/26



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.

Freddy Kempf

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

Sun 29 Mar, 6pm

Venue

Colyer-Fergusson Hall

Tickets

£15 Full / £5 Student &
Under 18 / Under 11 Free

When

Sun 28 Jun, 6pm

Venue

Colyer-Fergusson Hall

Tickets

£15 Full / £5 Student &
Under 18 / Under 11 Free

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

Canterbury Music Club

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



Tamesis String Quartet

A very exciting young international string quartet formed when postgraduate students at The Guildhall School of Music. They will play music by Britten, Mendelssohn and Beethoven.

When

Sun 18 Jan, 3pm

Venue

Colyer-Fergusson Hall

Tickets

£25 (25 & under - Free)



Rose and Tilbrook

Matthew Rose in a recital of Schubert including the posthumously published collection of songs known as “Schwangesang” – accompanied by pianist Anna Tilbrook.

When

Sun 22 Feb, 3pm

Venue

Colyer-Fergusson Hall

Tickets

£25 (25 & under - Free)



The Kentish Clarinet Trio

Fiona Cross (clarinet), Helen Crayford (piano) and Julia Vohralick (cello), playing “La Speranza” by Sylvie Bodorova and Clarinet Trios by Beethoven, Glinka’s Pathetique and Brahms in A minor.

When

Sun 22 Mar, 3pm

Venue

Colyer-Fergusson Hall

Tickets

£25 (25 & under - FREE)



Kosmos Ensemble

Described by Richard Morrison (The Times) as having “telepathic rapport, dazzling virtuosity, serious scholarship, intellectual curiosity and impeccable musicianship”, Kosmos return to bring an eclectic programme of music from around the world.

When

Sun 19 Apr, 3pm

Venue

Colyer-Fergusson Hall

Tickets

£25 (25 & under - Free)



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

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.



MishMash Productions Ruby's Worry

Ruby has always been happy, perfectly happy.... until one day.... she discovers a worry. 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

Venue

Colyer-Fergusson Hall

Tickets

£8 (£6.50 Group 4+)

Age

3+



LAStheatre The Littlest Yak

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

Venue

Gulbenkian Theatre

Tickets

£8 (£6.50 Group 4+)

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.

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

7 Mar - BSL/Relaxed
performance

When

Thu 5 Mar – Sat 7 Mar,
times vary

Venue

Gulbenkian Theatre

Tickets

£14 Adult / £12 child
/ £44 family

Age

3+



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. 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.

When

Sat 10 May, 11am & 2pm

Venue

Gulbenkian Theatre

Tickets

£8 (£6.50 Group 4+)

Age

5-12



Image © Marie Von Krogh

Playground Festival presents Dybwikdans: Wonder

Enter a colourful world of dance and wonder with beautiful, knitted sculptures and creatures.

Wonder is part of Playground Festival (22-31 May 2026); an exciting new festival for babies and young children

Visit playgroundkent.co.uk to find out more.

When

Sun 24 – Thu 28 May, times vary

Venue

Gulbenkian Theatre

Tickets

Pay what you can

Age

6-18 months



Watershed Productions The Singing Mermaid

One day the singing mermaid is tempted away from all of her sea-creature friends to join a travelling circus.

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.

When

Sat 30 – Sun 31 May, times vary

Venue

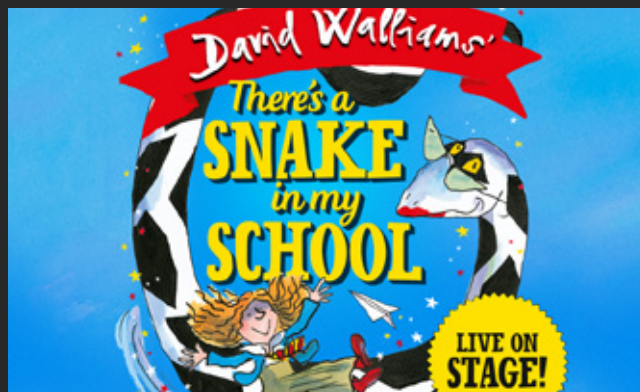
Gulbenkian Theatre

Tickets

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

Age

3+



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.

When

Tue 23 – Thu 25 Jun, times vary

Venue

Gulbenkian Theatre

Tickets

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

Age

3+



Vittorio Angelone: you can't Say Nothing any more

One of the fastest-rising names in comedy, Vittorio has built a loyal and attractive following with stand-up clips and podcasts racking up millions of views.

When
Wed 4 Feb, 7.30pm

Where
Gulbenkian
Theatre

Tickets
£24 / £21
concessions

Age
14+



Matt Forde: Defying Calamity

In his biggest live tour to date leading political comedian Matt Forde finds positivity in life despite all the evidence to the contrary in politics and his own health.

When
Thu 26 Feb,
7.30pm

Where
Gulbenkian
Theatre

Tickets
£25

Age
16+



Joel Dommett: Happy Idiot

Joel returns to his stand-up roots with a brand-new show, with glamorous tales from behind the camera and less glamorous anecdotes of first-time fatherhood.

When
Wed 4 Mar, 7.30pm

Where
Gulbenkian
Theatre

Tickets
£25

Age
14+



Alasdair Beckett-King: King of Crumbs

ABK is the crumbliest comedian in the game: a multi-award-winning stand-up comic and (occasionally) an internet sensation.

When

Wed 18 Mar,
7.30pm

Where

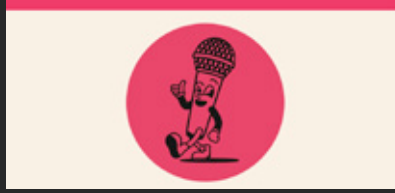
Gulbenkian
Theatre

Tickets

£20

Age

14+



Chumps 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.

When

Wed 1 Apr, 7.30pm

Where

Gulbenkian
Theatre

Tickets

£19 / £12

Age

16+



Mark Simmons: Jest to Impress

WINNER Dave's Funniest Joke of the Fringe 2024. Mark returns to his hometown of Canterbury as part of his huge 2025/26 tour.

When

Tue 7 & Wed 8 Apr,
8pm

Where

Gulbenkian
Theatre

Tickets

£20

Age

14+



Kane Brown: Crowd Work King

Renowned for his fast wit, commanding stage presence, and razor-sharp improvisational skills, Kane Brown brings audiences an entirely new kind of comedy experience.

When

Wed 13 May, 8pm

Where

Gulbenkian
Theatre

Tickets

£17.50 / £32.50 for
VIP with meet
and greet

Age

16+



Danny Bhoy: Dear World

Danny Bhoy brings his sellout London, Edinburgh & Montreal Comedy Festival 2025 show, Dear World, to venues across the UK.

When

Tue 9 Jun, 8pm

Where

Gulbenkian
Theatre

Tickets

£24.50

Age

14+



John Kearns: Tilting at Windmills

Tilting at Windmills is the brand-new stand-up show from Taskmaster alumni and double Edinburgh Comedy Award Winner, John Kearns.

When

Wed 16 Sep,
7.30pm

Where

Gulbenkian
Theatre

Tickets

£25

Age

16+



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

Michael Odewale & Elaine Fellows

When: Fri 20 Feb **Venue:** The Platform

MIGRANT SPECIAL

Tony Law & Muhsin Yesilada

When: Fri 20 Mar **Venue:** The Platform

Esther Manito & Prakash Jirjadhun

When: Fri 17 Apr **Venue:** The Platform

Steve Bugejya & Ingrid Dahle

When: Fri 22 May **Venue:** The Platform

All events

Tickets:

£7 / £6 / £5

Time:

8pm

Age:

16+

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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.

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



tick, tick... BOOM!

tick... tick... BOOM! was originally produced off-Broadway in June, 2001. This amateur production is presented by arrangement with Music Theatre International.

When
Th 29 – Sa 31 Jan, 7.30pm (plus 2.30pm Sat)
Venue
Gulbenkian Theatre
Tickets
£19.50 / £17.50 for students



The Doors: An Evening with Laurel Canyon

Music from Neil Young, James Taylor, Joni Mitchell and other Laurel Canyon residents, plus the entire 1967 debut album of The Doors.

When
Fri 6 Feb, 7.30pm
Venue
Gulbenkian Theatre
Tickets
£22.50



ELO Encounter: Face the Music

Roll over Beethoven, because the greatest tribute to Jeff Lynne's Electric Light Orchestra is here! In an all live show featuring soaring strings, striking vocal harmonies and playing all the much loved songs.

When
Sat 7 Feb, 7.30pm

Venue
Gulbenkian
Theatre

Tickets
£23



DS:UK... 50 Years of Fender

Join us for this astounding 2 hour rock n roll rollercoaster of amazing music, a charismatic band and fascinating stories of how the Fender Stratocaster became a music making icon.

When
Fri 13 Feb, 7.30pm

Venue
Gulbenkian
Theatre

Tickets
£25



G2 Definitive Genesis

With a repertoire extending from the 1970 Trespass album to 1980's Duke, G2 faithfully recreate some of the finest progressive rock ever written.

When
Sat 7 Mar, 7.30pm

Venue
Gulbenkian
Theatre

Tickets
£27 (£24
concessions)



T24: Romeo & Juliet

The tragic tale of star-crossed lovers with a gothic spirit.

When

Thu 12 & Fri 13 Mar, 7.30pm

Venue

Gulbenkian Theatre

Tickets

£7.50 (£5 Student)



Gloria – Canterbury Chamber Choir

A thrilling musical celebration, as Canterbury Chamber Choir and friends unite with the dazzling Cantia Quorum Brass for an unforgettable evening of powerful music for brass and voices.

When

Sun 15 Mar, 7pm

Venue

Colyer-Fergusson Hall

Tickets

£17.50 (£10 Student/Under 16)



Canterbury Cantata

Bach St Matthew Passion

For their first ever performance of Bach's St Matthew Passion, Canterbury Cantata Choir will be joined by Canterbury Camerata Orchestra and superb soloists to present this celebrated oratorio.

When

Sat 21 Mar, 6.30pm

Venue

Colyer-Fergusson Hall

Tickets

£15 / Free under 18s



Murder at the Manor

After four sell-out performances at the 2025 Brighton Fringe, Murders Anonymous present this original slapstick farcical comedy play-written, produced, and directed by two University of Kent alumni.

When

Fri 17 Apr, 8pm

Venue

Gulbenkian Theatre

Tickets

£12 (£10 Concessions)



Canterbury Choral Society: Carmina Burana

An hour of high entertainment, this concert will also feature songs by the CCS Youth Choir and other short items.

When

Fri 26 Apr, 5.30pm

Venue

Colyer-Fergusson Hall

Tickets

£23.75 (£3.75 Student & Under18)



Kendal Mountain Festival 2026

Experience the best of the world's stunning landscapes through a curated selection of Kendal Mountain festival award-winning short adventure films.

When

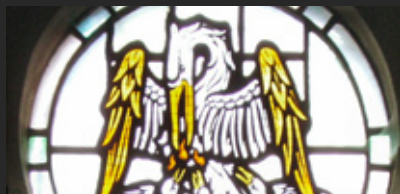
Wed 29 Apr, 7.30pm

Venue

Gulbenkian Cinema

Tickets

£19 (£14 Concessions)



Ashford Choral Society

Finzi - Duruflé
- Rutter
Sacrifice -
Memory - Glory



Steeleye Span

The band who have changed the face of folk music over their fifty six years together, Steeleye Span return to the stage in support of the latest album *Conflict*.

“Don’t miss them...”
- The Independent



The Puppini Sisters: The Birthday Party

Close harmonies, corsets and clever covers. Fabulous frocks, festival stages, platinum records and famous fans from Michael Bublé and Cyndi Lauper to Robbie Williams, and even King Charles.

When
Sat 2 May, 7.30pm

Venue
Colyer-
Fergusson Hall

Tickets
£23- £17

When
Sun 3 May, 7.30pm

Venue
Colyer-
Fergusson Hall

Tickets
£33.75 / £28.25
for balcony

When
Fri 22 May, 7.30pm

Venue
Gulbenkian
Theatre

Tickets
£35



RARE Productions: Addams Family

In the kooky, upside-down world of the Addams Family, to be sad is to be happy, to feel pain is to feel joy, and death and suffering are the stuff of their dreams.

When

Thu 18 to Sat 20 Jun, times vary

Venue

Gulbenkian Theatre

Tickets

From £14



Canterbury Cantata Trust: Caring Through Singing

This uplifting event is an opportunity to celebrate the amazing work of Canterbury Cantata Trust by bringing all of their singing groups together for a mass performance.

When

Sat 20 Jun, 3pm

Venue

Colyer-Fergusson Hall

Tickets

£20/£10 Student
Children Free



Next Generation Dance Studio: Illuminate

Join the pupils of Next Generation Dance Studio for an enchanting showcase, 'Illuminate', where music, movement, and creativity blend into a dazzling world of light and colour.

When

Sat 11 Jul, 1pm & 4.30pm

Venue

Gulbenkian Theatre

Tickets

£21 / £10 for under 5s



Adipat Viridi Presents: I Am, Other - Devika's Honour

An immersive experience that pulls you inside a family shattered by honour-based violence. You begin by watching a gripping drama before stepping into fractured memories, spaces frozen in time, where you uncover evidence, traditions and secrets that shaped their fate. Moving across theatre, installation and collective decision-making, you shift from witness to investigator and, in the final act, to juror, carrying the ethical weight of deciding their guilt or innocence. Your perspective, lived experience and judgement ultimately define the truth you choose to see.

When

Thu 2 & Fri 3 Jul,
1pm & 7.30pm

Venue

Gulbenkian Theatre

Tickets

£20/£10 Students

About Your Visit

Gulbenkian, University of Kent,
Canterbury, CT2 7NB

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during opening hours only

Tickets: thegulbenkian.co.uk

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How to find us
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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.

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.

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

Spring 2026 Calendar

**Details of events are correct at time of print (November 25).
Please check thegulbenkian.co.uk for latest
events and details.**

January

Sa	17	[G]	Square Pegs Singers: All Around the World (p.46)
Su	18	[G]	CMC: Tamesis String Quartet (p.31)
Su	25	[M]	(Folk in the Barn) Ainsley Hamil: A Concert to Celebrate Burns Night (p.24)
Th-Sa	29-31	[G]	tick, tick... BOOM! (p.46)

February

We	4	[C]	Vittorio Angelone: you can't Say Nothing any more (p.38)
Fr	6	[G]	The Doors: An Evening with Laurel Canyon (p.46)
Sa	7	[F]	MishMash Productions: Ruby's Worry (p.34)
Sa	7	[G]	EOL Encounter: Face the Music p.47)
Fr	13	[G]	DS:UK... 50 Years of Fender (p.47)
Tu&We	17&18	[F]	LAStheatre: The Littlest Yak (p.34)
Fr	20	[C]	Funny Rabbit Comedy Club (p.40)
Fr	20	[M]	New Regency Orchestra (p.15)
Sa	21	[M]	Keith James - The Songs of Nick Drake (p.16)
Su	22	[G]	CMC: Rose and Tilbrook (p.30)
Th	26	[C]	Matt Forde: Defying Calamity (p.38)
27 Feb - 1 March		[M]	You Are here (p.17)

March

We	4	[C]	Joel Dommet: Happy Idiot (p.38)
Th-Sa	5-7	[F]	Tall Stories: The Gruffalo's Child (p.35)
Sa	7	[M]	Ute Lemper Sings Kurt Weil (p.18)
Sa	7	[G]	G2 Definitive Genesis (p.47)
Th&Fr	12&13	[G]	T24: Romeo and Juliet (p.48)
Sa	14	[M]	University Chorus and Orchestra: The Colyer-Fergusson Concert (p.27)
Su	15	[G]	Canterbury Chamber Choir: Gloria (p.48)
Su&Mo	15&16	[T]	NTConnections: Fishville by Afsaneh Gray (p.7)
We	18	[M]	University Concert Band and Big Band: Spring Gala Concert (p.28)
We	18	[C]	Alasdair Beckett-King: King of Crumbs (p.39)
Fr	20	[M]	Gong + Henge: Sounds of the Cosmos (p.19)
Fr	20	[C]	Funny Rabbit Comedy Club (p.41)
Sa	21	[G]	Canterbury Cantata present: Bach St. Matthew Passion (p.48)
Su	22	[G]	CMC: The Kentish Clarinet Trio (p.31)
We-Sa	25-28	[T]	Stan's Cafe: Of All The People In All The World (p.6)
Fr-Su	27-29	[T]	Frozen Light: The Ancient Oak of Baldor (p.10)
Su	29	[G]	Canterbury Symphony Orchestra: Holst's The Planet (p.28)

April

We	1	[C] Chumps Comedy Club (p.39)
Th	2	[M] (Folk in the Barn) Fairport Convention (p.24)
Th	2	[T] JV2: Triple Bill (p.8)
Tu&We	7&8	[C] Mark Simmons: Jest to Impress (p.39)
Fr&Sa	10&11	[T] Mòra Company: Sahara (p.9)
Fr	17	[C] Funny Rabbit Comedy Club (p.41)
Fr	17	[G] Murders Anonymous: Murder at the Manor (p.49)
Su	19	[G] CMC: Kosmos Ensemble (p.31)
We-Sa	22-26	[T] NT Connections Partner Festival (p.11)
Fr	24	[M] Kayhan Kalhor (p.20)
Sa	25	[M] University Music Department: Fauré in a Day! (p.27)
Fr	26	[G] Canterbury Choral Society: Carmina Burana (p.49)
We	29	[G] Kendal Mountain Festival '26 (p.49)

May

Sa	2	[M] (Folk in the Barn) Tony Christie: The Great Farewell (p.25)
Sa	2	[G] Ashford Choral Society (p.50)
Su	3	[G] Steeleye Span (p.50)
Fr	8	[M] Colin Bluntstone: Believe in Miracles (p.21)
Fr	8	[T] Battersea Arts Centre: Second Trimester (p.12)
Su	10	[F] Anna Harriott and Iona Johnson: Stories in the Dust (p.35)
We	13	[C] Kane Brown: Crowd Work King (p.40)
Th	14	[T] Bobak Champion: I'm Muslimic Don't Panik (p.13)

May cont/d

Sa	16	[M] Kentronica (p.22)
Fr	22	[G] The Puppini Sisters: The Birthday Party (p.50)
Fr	22	[C] Funny Rabbit Comedy Club (p.41)
Su-Th	24-28	[F] Playground Festival presents: dybwikdans Wonder (p.36)
Sa&Su	30&31	[F] Watershed Productions: The Singing Mermaid (p.36)

June

Su	7	[Ta] Ella Al Shamahi: Becoming Human (p.14)
Tu	9	[C] Danny Bhoy: Dear World... (p.40)
Su	14	[M] (Folk in the Barn) Beat the Drum - The Runrig Experience (p.25)
Th-Sa	18-20	[G] RARE Productions: Addams Family (p.51)
Sa	20	[G] Canterbury Cantata Trust: Caring Through Singing (p.51)
Tu-Th	23-25	[F] Sam Bradshaw Productions: There's a Snake in my School! (p.37)
Su	28	[G] Canterbury Symphony Orchestra: Freddy Kempf (p.28)

July

Th&Fr	2&3	[G] I am, Other: Devika's Honour (p.52)
Sa	11	[G] Next Generation Dance Studio: Illuminate (p.51)

Key

[T] Theatre & Dance

[M] Music

[C] Comedy

[F] Family

[G] Guestlist

[Ta] Talk



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