
WHAT'S ON

AUTUMN 2019



PROTEUS

Image: Alex and Eliza

WELCOME

A warm welcome to our 'We Are Family' season. As the nights draw in, join us for a season of amazing performances; some about families and some made for families!

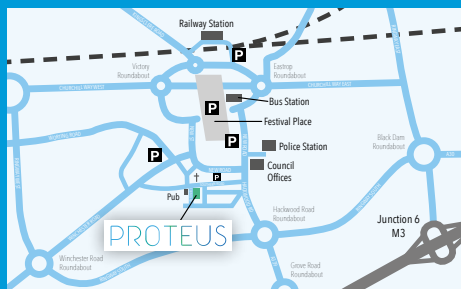
First up is the incredible Lucy Gamsby-Frost with *Prison Factory Cult Circus*, the unbelievable true story of an upbringing that led her to master the most dangerous old-school circus skills. Experience knife throwing, lasso and walking on broken glass! We welcome back Proteus regular Umar Butt – last seen as Banquo in our production of *Macbeth* - with his own written and directed show, *Alex and Eliza*, also starring Proteus alumni Danny Charles (*Macbeth*, *Magical Christmas Toyshop*). Another true story, this show follows the extraordinary experiences of Umar's own grandparents in an epic, sweeping tale of love and loss set against the backdrop of the 1947 Partition of India and Pakistan.

We have plenty for children too – Resident artists Scratch Built present *A Christmas Knight*; a tale of jousting and dragons, full of beautifully created puppets! Our incredibly popular Halloween Fun Day returns in half term and the highlight of our children's season is the return of our wildly popular interactive, sensory experience for the very, very young; *Father Christmas's Christmas Workshop* promises to be as magical as ever - tickets sell out fast!

Also our lovely café will be coming alive for evening events, ranging from quizzes to balloon modelling. Why not join us for cocktails and late night fun?

Come and be part of the Proteus family this Autumn!

Mary Swan



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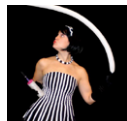










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SEASON AT A GLANCE

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Lucy Gamsby-Frost presents

PRISON FACTORY CULT CIRCUS

Thursday 26th September, 7.30pm

Tickets: £10, £8 concessions

Four siblings. Four extreme lives.

Between prison escapes, daredevil stunts, eloping to the other side of the world and that business with 'the cult', it's hard to pick the real black sheep of this family.

Prison Factory Cult Circus is raw, biting honest, and often surreal. Through circus, live music, storytelling and the soundtrack of life in the North of England, Lucy dissects her past and delves into her family's long-term relationship with risk.

A tour-de-force of seldom seen circus acts from knife throwing and lasso, to musical saw. What better way to search for a sense of belonging before starting a family of her own?

SHORTLISTED FOR BEST CIRCUS

- Melbourne Fringe 2018

♥ You'll like this if you enjoy: Kate Tempest, I, Daniel Blake, contemporary circus, and Northern indie-music from the likes of Pulp, Arctic Monkeys.

Tickets available from www.proteustheatre.com/tickets

INFLATE 'TIL LATE!

Friday 4th October, bar opens at 7pm, the fun begins at 8pm

Tickets: £6

Balloons aren't just for kids, especially when accompanied by a cheeky cocktail or 5!!

A brand new event to add to our programme of cafe nights. These are fun and frivolous evenings to enjoy with friends in the intimate surroundings of our cafe-bar.

Your host for the evening will be Balloonatic Becky, who is on a one-woman mission to take balloon art to the next level.

With twists, turns and a bit of Balloonatic magic, Becky will guide you through some balloon-art basics so you can create some fantastic elastic sculptures of your own. Balloonatic urge you to think beyond the balloon dog...

Peppered with plenty of fun and games, this night is guaranteed to give you the best #selfie opportunity EVER!

Strictly over 18s only.

**“FULL OF
EXCITEMENT...
AND KEPT THE
PARTY GOING!”**

– Betfair on a Balloonatic event



Tickets available from www.proteustheatre.com/tickets

An ARC Stockton Production

ALEX AND ELIZA

Written and directed by Umar Butt

Thursday 16th October, 7.30pm

Tickets: £10, £8 concessions

As a girl she lived through the death and destruction of the 1947 partition between India and Pakistan, but now Zubair's grandmother is like everyone else's grandmother. Old and wrinkly, slow in speech and speed. The separation, isolation and loss of that time are a distant memory. Now she makes her own olive oil and mango pickle and butter. Sits in the afternoon sun brushing her grandchildren's hair. Knits sweater for the winter and makes cakes.

She has lived in the same house on the same street for 40 years of her life. Nothing out of the ordinary. Until she gets on a plane to visit Zubair seven seas afar...

Alex and Eliza is a deeply personal story from writer Umar Butt, the story of his own grandmother, the story of a young couple fleeing their country, their religion and their lives, for love and for freedom.

Recommended age 12+

"AN EPIC STORY OF A FAMILY'S JOURNEY LOOKING TO IT'S PAST TO UNDERSTAND ITS PRESENT, WITH UNIVERSAL THEMES OF LOVE, SELFLESSNESS AND ACCEPTANCE. FULL OF MUSIC, HUMOUR AND FIRST-CLASS STORYTELLING, IT LEAVES YOU THINKING ABOUT YOUR FAMILY AND THE STORIES YOU DON'T KNOW ABOUT YOUR PAST"

– Northern Stage

♥ You'll love this if you enjoy the TV series *Beecham House* or the book *The Kite Runner*

Tickets available from www.proteustheatre.com/tickets

The Proteans present Terry Pratchett's

WYRD SISTERS

Friday 25th October, 7.30pm


Tickets: £7, £5 concessions

Our adult theatre workshop group the Proteans bring best-selling novelist Terry Pratchett's most famous characters to life in this hilarious and fast-paced adventure heavily inspired by Shakespeare's Macbeth!

Something is rotten and really quite stinks in the Kingdom of Lancre. The King is dead, Long Live the King! Well actually no, because the New King, the evil Duke Felmet, murdered the previous King and will stop at nothing until the whole Kingdom is under his iron hand. The only person who could take the throne would be the missing infant Prince. Hunted by the Duke's men the baby finds

safety under the protection of three local witches, Granny Weatherwax, Nanny Ogg and Magrat Garlick. The witches have a rule never to interfere but with the life of a child at stake and the fate of the Kingdom at hand, Granny has a saying about rules, if you're going to break them "Break them good and hard!"

Adapted for the stage by Stephen Briggs, in this tale there is a wicked duke and duchess, a ghost of a murdered king, dim soldiers, strolling players, and a land in peril. But it is three witches who stand between the Kingdom and destruction.



The Proteans are the adult drama workshop group affiliated with Proteus. A friendly and sociable group, they undertake performances regularly; the ethos is to explore creativity, performance and, above all, for the sheer enjoyment of making, performing and experiencing live theatre. To find out more please visit www.proteustheatre.com/take-part/proteans

Tickets available from www.proteustheatre.com/tickets

HALLOWEEN FAMILY FUN DAY

Thursday 31st October, from 10am

Tickets: £5 per child

After the sell-out success of last year's Day of The Dead fun day, this year the Creation Space will be hosting a Halloween themed day of craft and activities to keep the little ones amused this half term.

Featuring spooky stories and movement –
decorate a trick-or-treat basket – cookie decorating
– mask-making

The day will be rounded off with the ever-popular
spooky kids disco to burn off all that energy,
followed by a screening of a Halloween-themed
child-friendly film to chill out to.

Children must be accompanied by an adult –
this is a STAY AND PLAY.

Most activities are suitable for children between
the ages 3-8, younger or older siblings are
welcome but a ticket must be purchased for every
child attending. (Children under 1 year do not
require a ticket)

**“THANK YOU FOR A
BRILLIANT DAY, WE
ALL HAD A GREAT
TIME (ADULTS AS
WELL AS KIDS)!”**

– Mum who attended 2018 fun day with 4 children



Tickets available from www.proteustheatre.com/tickets

COCKTA-DOODLE-DOO

Friday 1st November, bar opens at 7pm, the fun begins at 8pm

Tickets: £6

Life drawing with a (Halloween) twist!

A strictly adults-only evening of spooky sketching fun hosted by Late Night Assembly's very own Becky Boobala as your MC. There will be a suitably creepy cabaret/burlesque performer for you to draw, and a selection of cocktails to choose from to keep the creative juices flowing!!

The drawing will mostly be based on games and challenges, so no skill is required; just the willingness to have a go and get creative!

Life drawing just got interesting.....

We are thoroughly encouraging people to dress up, and, if your outfit is up to scratch, you might even get selected to be the 'subject' during one of the fast-paced sketch challenges!

In amongst the sketching fun will be plenty of games (some might even have prizes!) and the opportunity to get involved with a bit of Café-oke!

Strictly over 18s only.



“THANK YOU SO MUCH...WHAT A NIGHT. BRILLIANT, BRILLIANT!”

– Sue, Audience member via Facebook

Tickets available from www.proteustheatre.com/tickets

Pied Piper Theatre present

STAR IN THE JAR

Saturday 16th November, 10am, 11.30am

Tickets: £10, £8 under 16s and concessions

When a little boy stumbles across a special star, he puts it in a jar and takes it on adventures.

But the poor star misses its home... Can the little boy and his big sister find a way to send the star safely back?

A warm-hearted story, with music, that perfectly captures the friendship between two siblings; the lovely set design taking the action from park to school, and back home.

A brand-new theatre production created with the Arts Council National Lottery Project Grants Fund.

Written by Sam Hay and Adapted and Directed for the stage by Tina Williams
Designed by Catherine Chapman
Music by Julian Butler
Movement by Angela Gasparetto
Illustrations by Sarah Massini

All adults and children require a ticket.
Infants under 12 months go free.

"The story of Star in the Jar was inspired by my own son and daughter, so I'm utterly thrilled that it is to be adapted for the stage by the wonderful Pied Piper Theatre Company, to be shared with youngsters across the country. As a writer, it is a dream come true to have your work interpreted in different ways"

– Sam Hay, author

**"A LITTLE GEM
OF CHILDREN'S
THEATRE"**

– The Stage on My BIG little Sister

Tickets available from www.proteustheatre.com/tickets



Scratch Built Productions in association with Proteus present

A CHRISTMAS KNIGHT

Friday 29th November, 6.30pm

Saturday 30th November, 10am, 12pm, 2.30pm

Tickets: £10, £8 under 16s and concessions

From the makers of 2018's brilliant Hansel and Gretel we bring you a preview of A Christmas Knight before it embarks on a tour of Hampshire!

Every year at Christmas, in the kingdom of Bravely, they hold the Knight Trials. A contest to find folk in the land that have what it takes to become a knight – and who wouldn't want to become a knight?

What do you do if you're face to face with a dragon? Is jousting as painful as it looks?

Join Jack as he spends his Christmas Day finding out the hard way in this magical new puppet show for children and their families. There's enough festive adventures for everyone and you might even see a dragon or two!

This brand-new show, by Scratch Built Productions in association with Proteus, is magical fun for children and their families aged 4 and up!

Recommended for children 4+ due to mild peril, younger children are welcome. All adults and children require a ticket. Infants under 12 months go free.

“LIKE A CHILDREN'S TV SHOW BUT FOR A LIVE AUDIENCE”

– Three Weeks on Knight Time



Tickets available from www.proteustheatre.com/tickets

POP GOES THE MUSIC AT THE MOVIES QUIZ

Friday 6th December, bar opens at 7pm and the fun begins at 8pm

Tickets: £6

Our popular music quiz returns to the Creation Space Café this December with a twist of movie madness!

Resident composer and certified music buff, Paul 'High-Fidelity' Wild will be joined by Proteus' very own Mary 'The Boss' Swan who may or may not play 'good cop' to Paul's 'bad cop' fiendishly tricky questions. Like all the great duos, could this be the start (or the end!) of a beautiful working relationship?

With more than just a passing passion for the flicks, don't expect this movie-themed music quiz to be asking; "Which blockbuster did Celine Dion famously write her No.1 selling track My Heart Will Go On for?"*

You need to know your Scorsese's from your Spielberg's and your Lynch's from your Leigh's!

Why not gather a team of friends, colleagues or family members and prepare to do battle and, as Christmas is only a few weeks away, it's the perfect alternative to the office Christmas party!



Tickets available from www.proteustheatre.com/tickets

*It was Titanic by the way!

7 Artists + present

SUMMER EXHIBITION 2019

Monday 19th – Friday 23rd August, weekdays 10am-5.30pm

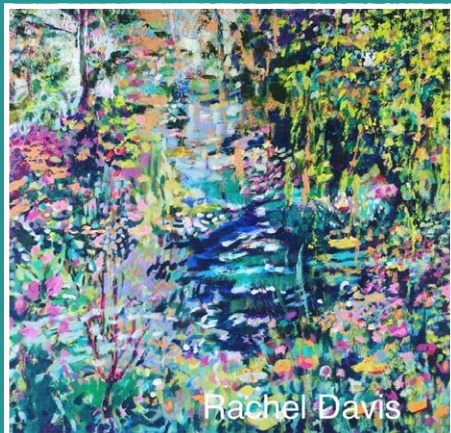
A group of Hampshire based artists and designer makers (including artist-in-residence ceramicist Katie Smith) who have come together to present a unique, colourful and vibrant collection of work. Part of Hampshire Open Studios 2019.

Bringing together contemporary art and craft in one exhibition.

The collective will also be hosting a series of workshops throughout the week; for more information visit their facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/7Artistsplus/>

Contact 7+ Artists directly on sevenartists77@yahoo.com



PIE IN THE SKY

Friday 6th – Friday 13th September, weekdays 10am-5.30pm

'Pie in the sky' is a term defined as an empty wish or promise derived from a song written in 1911, *The Preacher and the Slave*, by songwriter and labour activist Joe Hill. The show intends to touch on the philosophies of space and human behaviour, focussing primarily on the social construct and utopian ideals within a domestic space, explored through identity and the intimacy of human relationships. *Pie in the Sky* hopes to encourage a discussion around these themes as something relational to everyday life and existence.

A collective of 4 contemporary artists hailing from in and around Farnham; Catherine McCaw-Aldworth, Eleanor McLean, Robert Last and Abi Braley.



**“ABSOLUTELY AMAZING,
THREE GENERATIONS OF OUR
FAMILY GOT CAUGHT UP IN
THE MAGIC!”**

- Audience feedback from The Magical Christmas Toy Shop, 2018



Scratch Built Productions in association with Proteus present

FATHER CHRISTMAS'S CHRISTMAS WORKSHOP

Saturday 14th December - Tuesday 24th December

Weekdays 11am, 2.30pm and 4.30pm

Weekends 11am, 12.30pm and 2.30pm

Show length approximately 45mins

Tickets: £10

After five previous sell-out Christmas shows, Scratch Built Productions in association with Proteus bring their new show to the Creation Space this Christmas, an enchanting and interactive festive show for pre-school children and their families.

Have you ever wondered how the elves have all the toys ready in time for Father Christmas's Christmas Eve deliveries? Join our newly-recruited elf on his first day working in the workshop as he learns the ropes and finds out what this Christmas's must-have toy will be.

Audiences can expect to enjoy Scratch Built's trademark mix of interactive storytelling, puppetry, music and sensory elements, all with a generous dusting of festive magic!

Created specifically to be enjoyed by the youngest members of the family, and as something a little different from a traditional Christmas show, the Creation Space will be transformed into a walkthrough adventure where children are encouraged to explore, play, create and interact with the enchanting surroundings and colourful characters that they meet along the way.

All adults and children require a ticket. Infants under 12 months go free. Although the show is predominantly aimed at children 5 and under, older siblings are very welcome and those that have enjoyed the show in previous years!

Relaxed performances with reduced capacity and suitable for those with additional needs will take place on Monday 16th December.



Tickets available from www.proteustheatre.com/tickets

ABOUT THE CREATION SPACE

CAFÉ/BAR

Our cosy café offers Fairtrade coffee, teas, light lunches and treats! Open 10am - 2.30pm weekdays, perfect for a meeting or catch-up with friends. It's also open during evening performances as a fully licenced bar for a pre-show drink.



ADULT COMMUNITY THEATRE

The Proteans are an adult community theatre workshop company whose ethos is to explore creativity, performance and above all, for the sheer enjoyment of making, performing and experiencing live theatre.

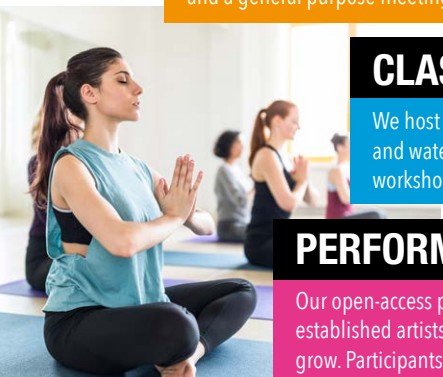
YOUTH THEATRE

With groups that cater for ages 6-21, our youth theatre groups will help boost your child's creativity, confidence and collaboration, working with professionals from the performing arts industry.



HIRE OUR SPACES

You can hire the Creation Space for your function, exhibition, meeting or event. This beautiful Victorian building offers a variety of spaces, including a light and spacious gallery, multi-functional performance space/dance studio, art rooms and a general purpose meeting room. Free WiFi and on-site parking.



CLASSES AND WORKSHOPS

We host a varied programme of regular classes and workshops, from ceramics and watercolour painting through to yoga and children's art classes, and workshops for under-5's.

PERFORMANCE LAB

Our open-access performing arts development programme, supporting both well established artists and those starting out to explore new directions, take risks and grow. Participants receive free rehearsal space, artistic and professional development support and the opportunity to share ideas in front of a live audience.

VISITING US

The Creation Space is a dynamic, creative hub in the heart of Basingstoke, based in a beautiful Victorian building on the corner of Southern Road and Council Road. On-site parking is available for visitors.

www.proteustheatre.com

