

Annual Report 2021



Our Purpose

Jersey Arts Centre exists to foster the development and celebration of the arts Islandwide and beyond.

Our Aims

- To enrich the quality of life for all residents and visitors
- To encourage participation in the performing, visual, literary and digital arts
- To educate, inspire and encourage debate

This is achieved by providing exciting, innovative, wide ranging, challenging, professional and community arts in welcoming, high quality and accessible environments.



Jonny Labey + Guests: *Feeling Good*

Honorary Patron

John Lloyd CBE (2018 - 2022)

Honorary Life Members

Valentine Aitken
Sir Philip Bailhache
Ray Banks, FRSA
Mark Blanchard
Tony Carter
Pat Dubras

James Horsfall
Peter Hunt
Denise Ibbotson
Rod McLoughlin
Jacqueline Mézec

Michael Munz-Jones
Billie Newey
Busick Pemberton
George Ritchie
Ian Thomas
Robert Tilling, MBE, RI

Contents

Summary	4	youtheatre and Junior Drama	16
Reports	5	Our Commissions	17
Performances	8	Our Residencies	18
Statistics	10	Christmas Production	19
Exhibitions	12	Liberation Day & Island Animations	20
Courses & Workshops	13	Eco-Active	20
Education & Outreach	13	Human Rights / Polish Film Festivals	21
Partnerschaft (Twinning)	14	Arts in Health Care Trust	22
ACT	15	Partnerships and Thanks	23

Jersey Arts Centre Association ANNUAL REPORT 2021

The Management Committee 9 September 2020 - 26 May 2021

Chairman	Deanne Bratch, BA (Hons), MA, FCMA
Treasurer	Dawn O'Reilly, FCCA, MBA
Secretary	Caro Tomlinson
Members	Valentine Aitken, Annie Lezala, Shafi Malik, Devorah Morris-Monro, Dorothy Perks

The Management Committee 26 May 2021 - 18 May 2022

Chairman	Deanne Bratch, BA (Hons), MA, FCMA
Treasurer	Dawn O'Reilly, FCCA, MBA
Secretary	Caro Tomlinson
Members	Valentine Aitken, Annie Lezala, Shafi Malik, Devorah Morris-Monro, Jacqui Patton

Exhibitions Sub-committee

Chairman	Mark Blanchard
Members	Valentine Aitken, Daniel Austin, Jackie Monticelli, Wayne Stewart

Jersey Arts Centre Staff

Director	Daniel Austin
Deputy Director (Administration & Marketing)	Graeme Humphries
Deputy Director (Stage & Events)	Steven Laffoley-Edwards
Deputy Stage Manager	Jason Kenyon
Finance Assistant	Nick Poingdestre
Marketing Manager	Nick Carver
Press and Marketing Assistant	Nicole Twinam
Exhibitions Coordinator	Wayne Stewart
Education and Outreach Coordinator	Hettie Duncan
Education and Outreach Assistant	Jessica Myhill (August - December)
Administrative Assistant	<i>Vacant</i>
Box Office and Assistant Stage Manager	Jordi Sunier
Box Office Assistants	Taisie Humphries + Betsy Amy-Vogt
Assistant Stage Manager (Apprentice)	Finlay Ormsby
Cleaner	Maria da Silva

In August 2016, the duties of the Finance Manager were outsourced to Grant Thornton. The post of Caretaker is temporarily frozen.

Front Cover: Images from Jersey Arts Centre's 2021 programme.

2021 in Summary

Jersey Arts Centre delivered the following events, activities and experiences throughout 2021:

- 168 ticketed performances with 9,759 attendances between April - December
- 572 activities + 1,430 social media posts = 2,002 communications over 15 weeks during lockdown*
- 13 exhibitions in the Berni Gallery
- 18 exhibitions in the Bar Gallery
- 7 public courses and workshops (40 sessions) with 85 participants
- 16 workshops in 14 schools for Liberation Day with 389 participants
- 1 youtheatre production: *My Father, Odysseus*
- 2 ACT projects: *Sherlock's Women + Fruit Basket*
- Our 19th consecutive year of assisting with the Holocaust Memorial Day ceremony
- The 8th Polish Film Festival
- The 17th Human Rights Festival (BLM theme)
- The hosting of 7 Project Trident students
- JAC's 5 community theatre companies ran including the Brighter Futures Company
- Our first Oddsocks Summer School in Coronation Park with 37 participants
- JAC Advent Calendar online in December
- Our 6th Community Christmas Production: Helen Edmundson's adaptation of Arthur Ransome's *Swallows & Amazons* with 1,281 attendances over 13 ticketed performances with two teams of actors
- 21 workshops in 15 schools with 511 participants exploring the *Swallows & Amazons* story

* Between Friday 8 January and Friday 23 April 2021, and for 15 weeks during the second lockdown, JAC presented:

- 355 Daily Recommendations
- 66 featured images in *Off the Wall*
- 73 JAC-anories
- 46 *Scenes from a...* from 9 Jersey writers
- 20 Flash! Fiction! featured stories
- 10 *Bathtime for Britain* songs from Dr. Adam Perchard
- 1 *Andy Makes Puppets* video tutorial from Andy Heath
- 1 *Nelly Draws* for the Durrell Virtual Exhibition

There were a total of 572 activities and experiences, plus a further 1,430 communications, across our digital platforms – Grand Total: 2,002

Online Participants:

- Website Visits: 69,715
- Page Views: 258, 619
- Unique Users: 44,743

JAC also planned for a number of other events that were either cancelled or postponed due to the coronavirus pandemic including: residencies, a Junior Drama and youtheatre production and Liberation Day.

Our thanks extend to everyone for their support, enthusiasm and social and cultural engagement...



Little Black Dress in Concert

Chairman's Report

What another unusual and challenging year for Jersey Arts Centre (JAC). Whilst the pandemic continued to impact much of Jersey life there was a continuing desire to keep the JAC open as much as possible and to engage with the community as widely as possible.

It is my view that the position the team took in 2021 reflected those ambitions whilst maintaining a suitable eye on the risks to our team, our audiences and our volunteers. The JAC moved gradually towards limited audience opening during the year and was even able to put on a Christmas show despite the significant uptick in COVID-19 cases at that time.

The financial outcomes for 2021 reflect the prudent management of the organisation and the team's emphasis on providing a venue for local people and local artists.

One of the consistent challenges the JAC has faced has been the ability to finance and maintain its main premises at Phillips Street. Unfortunately, this matter has been a source of consistent worry during the year and there has been a delay in receiving the right assurances from Government regarding the ability to fund this necessary work. The situation needs to be resolved as a matter of urgency if the JAC is to continue to operate in a safe and compliant space. The JAC is not just its premises but occupying this Government building means it needs the Government to act as a responsible landlord because the regular grant received does not enable the Management Committee to complete all of the necessary works.

During the year myself and the Director have actively participated in the process for getting a final Arts Strategy for Jersey. We have tried our best to be open and open-minded to the process, but it is fair to say that we have found it a challenging process with the outcomes not always clear to us. In particular, we were hoping to have a definitive view on venues and clarity on how the additional funding will be awarded. It is important the JAC is not simply left behind in any of these discussions and I will be using my remaining year of Chairmanship ensuring that this is not the case.

I would like to thank my Management Committee for all of their hard work this year in very difficult circumstances. And the willingness of people to give up their time to help the JAC to continue to be a vital part of the arts and culture landscape of Jersey. I would like to thank our representatives in the Government of Jersey for their hard work in keeping us informed of changes and working with us in a constructive manner.

**DEANNE BRATCH BA (Hons), MA, FCMA
HONORARY CHAIRMAN**



Exhibition: *Family*



Dr. Adam Perchard:
Bathtime for Britain

Financial Report

2021 Treasurer's Report

The application for Jersey Arts Centre's fiscal stimulus fund of £2,959,516 was successful in 2021 and as per the agreement, the Association was due to receive the first phase of funding of £2,071,105 in July 2021, and the second tranche of £888,411 in November 2021. The actual amount received was £2,071,105 in November 2021.

One of the main conditions of this grant was that the works would be completed by 31 December 2021 (or mutually agreed extended period of no later than 31 March 2022 and then 30 June 2022). Unfortunately, due to circumstances beyond our control, it became evident that the dates of achieving the projected works could not be met. Based on this knowledge, Jersey Arts Centre repaid the full £2,071,105 back to Government in March 2022.

Key Highlights

- Cash Balance: £2,400,625 versus £196,814 in 2020 (though if we exclude the Fiscal Stimulus fund, the cash balance would have been: £329,520 in 2021)

In real terms the cash balance has increased by £132,706. This is mainly due to the increase in creditors of £77,583 (which is just a timing issue) and a slight decrease in debtors versus the previous year. There was also less money spent on capital items in 2021, which impacted cash flow.

- Creditors: £2,256,003 versus £107,315 in 2020 (though if we exclude the Fiscal Stimulus deferred income, the creditors would have been: £184,898 in 2021)
- Operational surplus: £32,683 versus £25,090 surplus in 2020

There was an operational surplus improvement of £7,593 versus 2020. This was mainly due to good management of expenditure and some restrictions on spending due to COVID-19. Administration costs increased year on year mainly due to much needed upgrades on Computer Software and Bank Interest and Charges increased due to increased booking costs in 2021 compared to 2020.

- Total income: £802,756 versus £656,862 in 2020

The total income is mainly due to an increase in the OCE/ED revenue grant of £91,500 and improvement on operations income of £4,497 compared to the previous year. COVID-19 restrictions in 2020 had a huge impact on income, and although there was a slow start in the first part of 2021, this improved as the restrictions started to ease throughout the year.

The Future

I have now completed four years as Honorary Treasurer for Jersey Arts Centre, and it has been my privilege to work with these wonderful, committed, and talented people. I wish you all good luck for the future and look forward to reading about how the planned works for Jersey Arts Centre are progressing.



Acknowledgments

My thanks to the Director of Jersey Arts Centre, Daniel Austin, our Chairman, Deanne Bratch, all employees, members, and all volunteers of the Association for their commitment and continued support. I would also like to thank the Office of the Chief Executive / Department for the Economy (OCE/ED) for their support with on-going work to secure funds for essential maintenance works.

DAWN O'REILLY, FCCA, MBA
HONORARY TREASURER

Director's Report

The challenges throughout 2021 were similar to those of 2020 for Jersey Arts Centre as we once again navigated the pandemic with a second lockdown. The year can be divided into three very distinct zones and experiences.

- the spring lockdown and our digital offerings
- the summer season with a reduced capacity of 40
- the autumn season with an increasing but reduced capacity of 80 then 125

Despite the Phillips Street building being only partly open from Friday 8 February, with a full closure from the beginning of the year, and with many staff still working from home until April, the priorities of 2020 remained for 2021:

- to be safe and well
- delivering an online (and live) programme for social and cultural engagement for the community
- supporting our staff and keeping them active

It was another extraordinary 15 week period from 8 January through to 23 April during which we created 572 online activities together with a further 1,430 social media communications across our digital platforms. That's a total of 2,002 experiences!

Performances re-started at Jersey Arts Centre on Monday 19 April, just one week after we were legally allowed to do so, having been anticipating this moment since the start of the year! We continued to update our COVID-19 Risk Assessment each time legislation and guidelines changed.

Jersey Arts Centre's Covid Response Team physically met for the first time on 1 June 2020. It remains active and comprises: the Director, Graeme Humphries, Steven Laffoley-Edwards and Jordi Sunier. It has reported regularly to the JAC Management Committee, through the Director, and it has been supported by the Committee every step of the way.

Director's Report (cont.)

I would like to express my sincere thanks to both the Management Committee and the Covid Response Team for their perseverance, tenacity and administrative industriousness these past two years! Jersey Arts Centre continued to be supported by Public Health with all the mitigating measures it should consider, and put in place, for our audiences. Lisette Jones and Sophie Huelin continued to support with advice and guidance.

As throughout 2020, we received tremendous support from our Members, audiences, volunteers and staff – both during the spring lockdown and after we more fully re-opened again in April. It was also incredible that despite everything – including the severely reduced capacity of 40 – that from 19 April 2021 we presented: 168 ticketed performances with 9,759 attendances between April – December; 572 activities + 1,430 social media posts = 2,002 communications over 15 weeks during lockdown; 13 exhibitions in the Berni Gallery; 18 exhibitions in the Bar Gallery; 7 public courses and workshops (40 sessions) with 85 participants; 16 workshops in 14 schools for Liberation Day with 389 participants; 1 youtheatre production: *My Father, Odysseus*; 2 ACT projects: *Sherlock's Women + Fruit Basket*; our 19th consecutive year of assisting with the Holocaust Memorial Day ceremony; the 8th Polish Film Festival; the 17th Human Rights Festival (BLM theme); the hosting of 7 Project Trident students; JAC's 5 community theatre companies ran including the Brighter Futures Company; our first Oddsocks Summer School in Coronation Park with 37 participants; the JAC Advent Calendar online in December; our 6th Community Christmas Production: Helen Edmundson's adaptation of Arthur Ransome's *Swallows & Amazons* with 1,281 attendances over 13 ticketed performances with two teams of actors; and 21 workshops in 15 schools with 511 participants exploring Ransome's story.

Between Friday 8 January and Friday 23 April 2021, and for 15 weeks during the second lockdown, JAC presented: 355 Daily Recommendations; 66 featured images in *Off the Wall*; 73 JAC-anories; 46 'Scenes from a...' from 9 Jersey writers; 20 Flash! Fiction! featured stories; 10 *Bathtime for Britain* songs from Dr. Adam Perchard; 1 *Andy Makes Puppets* video tutorial from Andy Heath; 1 *Nelly Draws* for Durrell's Virtual Exhibition.

And all physically distanced, sanitised and, where necessary, masked...

The highlight of the year was being able to deliver 13 of the 18 scheduled performances of Helen Edmundson's adaptation of Arthur Ransome's *Swallows & Amazons* in December for Christmas. Our 13 actors once again embraced the COVID-19 challenge knowing that at any time it might all come to a halt and, as with our Christmas show in 2020, it did, after 13 performances, disappointing over 600 people! However, the company's commitment, energy, imagination, great sense of humour, physical distancing and hand sanitising made for a fun rehearsal process and some very exciting performances in bringing Arthur Ransome's characters and adventure to life.

I am, as ever, indebted to each and every member of the cast and company for their enthusiasm and commitment, and now hope that we will be able to complete a full run of the 2022 Christmas production – and for it not to be interrupted by positive tests and isolation! We certainly look forward to the joy of it all and the story-telling excitement...

We navigated 2021 with the knowledge that the vaccine brought stability, greater health, and the ability to be with, and close to, those we love amongst our wider family and friends.

Finlay Ormsby began his one year's Assistant Stage Manager's apprenticeship in July 2021, alongside his studies at Highlands, and will continue in post until July 2022. Betsy Amy-Vogt started working part-time alongside Taisie Humphries and Jordi Sunier in the Box Office from September 2021.

We would like to thank both Stuart Fox, Managing Director, and Sandrine Frojd, Stuart's PA, at Fox International for over 38 years' support of the Fox Open Art Competition. It was so very rewarding to be able to have delivered the Fox again in 2021.

The Management Committee continued to monitor the operational challenges of the ongoing pandemic throughout the year, and the unparalleled offering made by staff and the wider community, and for which it was a privilege and a pleasure to have been responsible.

As reported over the past 20 years, this Annual Report is a testament to all that has been achieved in, with and for the community during the past 38+ years by the many volunteers, tutors, staff, committee members, individuals and sponsors who have made the Centre their home. In fact, if we go back to 1970 when Jersey Arts Council was formed, our work now spans 50+ years!

We always look forward with great optimism, amidst the many challenges - both financial and logistical - knowing that the vision, energy and commitment that will be required to sustain us through the continued global economic and the social challenges, and the coronavirus pandemic, will need to be great also. As always, our sincerest thanks to one and all for their commitment, support and energy which will continue to make Jersey Arts Centre an innovative, dynamic and enjoyable place to be. Thank you all so very much for your continued support.

Here's wishing our members, and indeed all our audiences, a creative time throughout 2022, having now returned to full capacity performances (on 25 April 2022) and for us celebrate all areas of the performing, visual, literary and digital arts at both Phillips Street and beyond.

Everyone, including politicians, the medical profession, carers and educators – indeed all of us – will have learnt a great deal throughout 2020 and 2021 and we hope that those learning experiences will be put into practice and used for the future good of the environment and for our health and education systems. Here's wishing everyone a safe and peaceful but adventurous 2022.

DANIEL AUSTIN, BA (Hons), MA, ACA / DIRECTOR



Performances

As with 2020, 2021 was a unique year at Jersey Arts Centre, with the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic continuing to affect programming, audience capacities and front-of-house operations. Despite the many changes and machinations, from April to December, two seasons of live performances were still able to be offered to the community of Jersey with an online season between January and April.

The Online Spring Season

Echoing the events of March 2020, 2021 began with a familiar online season of events and participatory opportunities, following the reintroduction of lockdown rules in December 2020. Having already successfully presented over 1,000 activities in the spring and summer of 2020, Jersey Arts Centre reintroduced some of these online experiences for the local community to enjoy, as well as commissioning a number of projects involving local creatives.

Between Friday 8 January and Friday 23 April 2021 (15 weeks), Jersey Arts Centre presented 572 activities and experiences, plus a further 1,430 communications, across our digital platforms, combining to create a grand total of: 2,002.

During this period Jersey Arts Centre presented:

- 355 Daily Recommendations
- 66 featured images in *Off the Wall*
- 73 JAC-anories
- 46 *Scenes from a...* from 9 Jersey writers
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The Summer Season

From Monday 19 April through to Wednesday 18 August, Jersey Arts Centre was able to offer a programme of live events, with an initial capacity of 40 audience members per performance (not including alfresco events which were reduced from the usual 400 to a 200 capacity).

This amalgamated season began with a series of film screenings that continued throughout the summer months. An eclectic selection of films was offered, ranging from cult classics such as *The Outsiders*, *The Goonies* and *Labyrinth*, to more modern movies such as *The Girl on the Train*, *Moulin Rouge!* and *Argo*. Over 15 film screenings, 204 cinema fans were able to watch some movie magic on the big screen! Two Monday Matinée screenings were also offered during this season: *Barefoot in the Park* starring Robert Redford and Jane Fonda, and *Murder Most Foul* starring the inimitable Margaret Rutherford as Miss Marple. 21 audience members enjoyed these two afternoon film screenings. The Polish Film Festival also returned to its usual summer slot in 2021 - more detailed information about the films screened can be found on page 21.

Jersey Arts Centre's film screenings were once again complemented by the programming by the Jersey Film Society, who made the Benjamin Meaker Theatre their home for this shorter season. Five films were offered, with ten screenings in total, beginning with *Peanut Butter Falcon* in April, and ending with *Honeyland* in June. Overall, 214 attendees enjoyed these varied cinematic offerings.

Jersey Arts Centre's live performance programme began with a celebration of local talent, as Jonny Labey presented three performances of *Feeling Good* (a co-promotion with Jersey Arts Centre). This popular variety performance saw 118 audience members come together again to experience live performance. Dr Adam Perchard, whose *Bathtime for Britain* videos provided much entertainment online during 2020, was commissioned by Jersey Arts Centre to create a live show based on this online offering. May saw four extraordinary performances of this cabaret-style show, that both entertained and enchanted 134 audience members. *My Family and Other Animals* returned to the stage in May Half Term, having been cut short due to the reintroduction of lockdown restrictions in December 2020. With audience capacities having doubled since its last outing, Jersey Arts Centre's Christmas Company were excited to be able to return to Corfu and to be able to have more audience members travel along with them! 14 shows were performed in total and were enjoyed by 556 attendees. Two of Jersey Arts Centre's in-house theatre companies were also able to present performances in the summer season. The [youtheatre](#) presented four performances of Timberlake Wertenbaker's *My Father, Odysseus* in June, and ArtsCentreTheatre presented eight performances of *Sherlock's Women* in July. More information about these productions, as well as those presented in the autumn season, can be found on pages 15/16.

Jersey Arts Centre was very excited to be able to welcome back Oddssocks to Coronation Park in August. Having missed out on their annual Shakespearean offering in 2020, audiences were keen to grab their picnic baskets and blankets, and head down to the outdoor stage for their summer production of *The Comedy of Errors*. Nine performances of this classic comedy were performed in total, with 1,768 picnickers enjoying the alfresco extravaganza!

Aside from its drama presentations, Jersey Arts Centre also offered a popular live music programme during the summer, with August seeing Coronation Park turn into an alfresco concert venue! The music events began in May, when local band Retro Gramophone took to the stage for four performances with a vintage twist. 149 music enthusiasts enjoyed this feast of contemporary tunes with a jazz and swing slant. More jazz was on the menu in June, as local outfit *Tony Gardiner and the Kings of Swing* made two appearances on the Benjamin Meaker stage. 83 jazz fans were able to enjoy these glitzy and glamorous evenings! Local classical music talent was also represented, as pianist James Horsfall returned for a recital in June. This concert was attended by 42 audience members.



Performances (cont.)

Jersey Arts Centre then made Coronation Park its home in August for a series of live music concerts in the sunshine! This celebration of local talent featured concerts from *Little Black Dress*, *Sister Disco*, *Songwriters' Society* and there was an evening jazz and blues night and an afternoon of movie soundtracks to enjoy! Over four concerts, 806 people brought picnics and blankets and contributed to a series of wonderful evenings.

Local societies once again made Jersey Arts Centre their home between April and August. In May, the JADC presented six performances of Dennis Potter's classic play, *Blue Remembered Hills*. 224 theatre fans came along to enjoy this iconic piece of drama. Drama Lab also presented three different productions throughout the season: two on the stage and one on the Oddsocks stage at Coronation Park. Drama Lab presented three performances of *Blackout*, two performances of *The Mobile Phone Show*, and two performances of *The Children of Eden*. These productions were attended by 270 audience members.

The Autumn Season

Jersey Arts Centre was given the green light to increase its capacity to 80 audience members for the autumn season (increasing to 125 from 1 October), which allowed even more members of the community of Jersey to enjoy its creative offerings.

As with the summer season, Jersey Arts Centre's autumn programme began with a series of film screenings, that ranged from musicals such as *Rent* to modern romantic comedies such as *Crazy Rich Asians*. Over three screenings, 41 audience members enjoyed this varied mixture of cinematic entertainment. The popular Monday Matinée film series also returned for four screenings from September, beginning with *The Inn of the Sixth Happiness* and finishing in December with *Lost Horizon*. 41 afternoon movie-goers enjoyed these vintage screenings. A première was also held in the Benjamin Meaker Theatre in October, as Martha MacDonald's short film *Hiding Place* was screened having been commissioned by Jersey Arts Centre. More information about this event, and other commissions can be discovered on page 17. Jersey Arts Centre's film programme also featured the return of the Human Rights Festival, now in its 17th year. More information about the films can be found on page 21.

Jersey Film Society presented six screenings throughout the autumn, beginning with *The Perfect Candidate* in September, and ending with *Minari* in December. These six screenings, providing film fans with an intriguing variety of cinematic genres, were enjoyed by 341 audience members.

Jersey Arts Centre's live performance programme continued to celebrate local talent at the beginning of the season, with two productions from Dr Adam Perchard. Rescheduled from its original summer dates, Dr Perchard's *The Thirteenth Fish* was performed four times over two days at Faldouet Dolmen in September. With a limited audience capacity at each performance in order to ensure the protection of the ancient site, 112 attendees were able to experience this extraordinary hour of theatrical ritual, magic and song. *Bathtime for Britain* also returned to the stage in September, which enticed a further 99 audience members over two performances. The second programmed professional production from outside the Island

arrived in October, after the Summer Oddsocks show, was the much-awaited return of Tavaziva Dance. *Boy's Khaya*, a stunning piece of contemporary dance inspired by political persecution, slavery and modern colonialism, brought 96 audience members to this one-night-only performance.

Local societies also made the Benjamin Meaker Theatre their home in the autumn season, providing enlightening talks, comedy, theatre and more. Highlights included: St Martin's Musical Society's production of *Those Were the Days* which saw 446 attendees over four performances; the JADC's presentation of their *Comedy Double Bill* which saw 219 attendees over four performances; Jersey Gilbert and Sullivan Society's *All Hale, Great Judge* which saw 238 attendees over two performances; and TC Productions' *Present Laughter* which saw 348 attendees over five performances. Jersey Arts Centre was also delighted to be the host of the Jersey Eisteddfod's Drama Section in November, after its absence in 2020.

Despite ongoing COVID-19 restrictions, Jersey Arts Centre was again able to present 13 out of 18 performances of the 2021 Christmas Production: Helen Edmundson's adaptation of Arthur Ransome's children's classic, *Swallows & Amazons*. The Christmas production also saw the return of Jersey Arts Centre's collaboration with Bertrand Larmet and Veronique Martinez from Art'Comedia, who served as Musical Director and Vocal Coach for this production. Performed between 10 and 19 December, using two casts of 8 performers (The Wildcats and The Cormorants), 1,281 audience members were transported back to their childhoods in this nostalgic and whimsical family adventure. For more information about the Christmas production of *Swallows & Amazons*, please see page 19 of this Annual Report.

Once again, Jersey Arts Centre would like to extend its thanks to all those who visited our venue, enjoyed an alfresco performance at Coronation Park, engaged with our online programme and supported our work throughout another extraordinary year.

Tavaziva Dance:
Boy's Khaya



Statistics

Promotions at Jersey Arts Centre could be broken down by art form as follows:

	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Drama	21	22	19	20	23	17	22	16	34	18	27
Classical Music	16	22	14	13	17	17	22	16	13	13	4
Jazz + World Music	20	14.5	14	15	17	10	13	20	14	13	31
Dance	5	7	4	3	2	3	-	6	-	-	4
Comedy	5	7	7	3	-	2	5	2	2	4	-
Literature / Lectures	8	4	7	6	6	14	5	4	4	9	-
youthatre + ACT + Junior Drama	12	9	9	12	11	9	9	12	9	4	19
Other	13	14.5	26	28	24	28	24	24	24	39	15

The Monday Matinéés from 2012, and other music events, which do not fit into classical, jazz or world music genres have diversified the programme. Jersey Arts Centre's youthatre, ArtsCentreTheatre (ACT), Junior Drama, the Human Rights Festival and the Polish Film Festival have also produced a broader programme. The pandemic reduced conventional activity during 2020 and 2021.

The following capacity figures give a broad guide to predicting future box office revenues:

	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Drama	75	56	46	63	65	56	62	68	54	N/A	N/A
Classical Music	28	33	26	28	33	30	33	26	39	N/A	N/A
Jazz + World Music	47	58	35	41	32	32	43	31	34	N/A	N/A
Dance	26	45	16	19	41	34	-	22	-	N/A	N/A
Comedy	53	50	56	29	-	46	26	99	99	N/A	N/A

Looking at the number of ticketed performances for promotions and hirings, and between the Benjamin Meaker Theatre, St. James or the Old Magistrate's Court, the statistics are thus:

	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Number of Promotions	108	110	102	126	116	109	112	116	114	55	110
Number of Hirings	162	131	122	116	100	110	114	98	118	51	58
School Performances / AI fresco*	-	-	21	27	2	31	-	-	-	-	-
Total Ticketed Performances	270	241	245	269	218	250	226	214	232	106	168

	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Performances at BMT	208	196	197	209	192	198	210	195	216	106	150
Performances at St James or OMC	40	29	11	13	8	-	-	-	-	-	-
Performances at Other Spaces	22	16	16	20	16	21	16	19	16	-	18
Performances in Schools/AI fresco	-	-	21	27	2	31	-	-	-	-	-
Total Ticketed Performances	270	241	245	269	218	250	226	214	232	106	168
Total Tickets Sold	34,331	27,836	27,927	31,169	21,252	26,549	25,291	25,553	25,242	9,855	9,759*
Average Audience	127	116	114	116	98	106	112	119	109	93	58*

Statistics (cont.)

Due to COVID-19, Jersey Arts Centre was fully closed from the beginning of the year until 8 February 2021, when the Berni Gallery and café/jac opened to the public. We presented 15 weeks of an online digital programme, details of which can be found on page 4 and page 8.

It should be noted that there were Theatre-in-Education performances in 2004, 2005, 2007, 2013, 2014 and 2016 together with the Durrell storytelling project in 2009.

It is important to note that up until September 2013 and July 2016, St. James and the Old Magistrate's Court, respectively, were used for: Theatre-in-Education rehearsals; one, two and three week residencies; a week each for the February and October Half Term Drama Schools and the Summer Drama Schools; various Courses and Workshops; and that the Jersey Arts Centre's youth theatre, ArtsCentreTheatre (ACT) and Junior Drama were based at both St. James and the OMC with more than 140 rehearsals taking place at various times in each year.

Jersey Arts Centre moved out of St. James and the Vicarage in September 2013 to offices at Charles House, Charles Street, and to the Old Magistrate's Court at St. Helier Town Hall. From October 2016, Jersey Arts Centre no longer had use of the Old Magistrate's Court and moved offices to 3 Charles Street.

Exhibition: Chris Mould



Benjamin Meaker Utilisation:

	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Benjamin Meaker Promotions	34	43	40	44	47	46	45	49	48	52	61
Benjamin Meaker Hirings	66	57	60	56	53	54	55	51	52	48	39

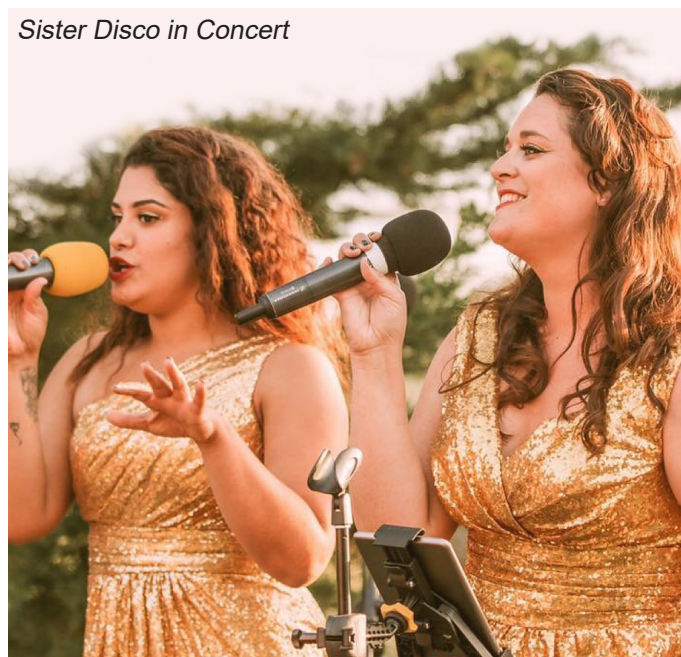
Between Friday 8 January and Friday 23 April 2021, and for 15 weeks during lockdown, Jersey Arts Centre presented a total of 572 activities and experiences, plus a further 1,430 communications, across our digital platforms - Grand Total: 2,002.

During 2021 there were a further 9 non-ticketed hirings - comprising rehearsals, seminars and workshops - at Jersey Arts Centre. A further 2,687 tickets were sold for Samares Players and Jersey Green Room Theatre Company for performances at other venues.

As stated in previous reports, there are inherent dangers in viewing figures as percentages because some of the smaller events attracting what seems like a relatively low percentage turnout may be extremely successful in their own right. However, once again, a broad overview is achieved with the above figures.

* The capacity of the Benjamin Meaker Theatre was 40 between April and August; 80 for September; and rose to 50% capacity of 125 between October and December 2021. The alfresco events at Coronation Park in August were reduced from 400 to 200.

Sister Disco in Concert



Exhibitions

Jersey Arts Centre's gallery spaces played host to 13 exhibitions in the Berni Gallery and 18 exhibitions in the Bar Gallery throughout 2021.

Whilst our galleries remained closed during the first month of the year, to comply with restrictions during the Island's second lockdown period, the spaces were open to the public from Friday 8 February.

We re-opened with an array of work from students from Hautlieu School with *All Too Human* (8 February - 13 March) and then between 22 March and 24 April there was a celebration of many of the selected works from both our first and second lockdown, online community project: *Off the Wall* – though this time the 70+ photographs from Islanders were on-the-wall!

Postponed from 2020, due to the pandemic, one of our much appreciated and lauded word exhibitions, of commissioned poems for *Liberation 75*, finally found their place on the walls of the Berni for the 2021 Liberation period so that all could appreciate the scale, depth and poignancy of the literary and creative skills of 17 of our Island poets.

Love & Rebellion (24 May - 12 June) followed, which featured films, photobooks, newspaper and prints produced by A-level photography students from Hautlieu School. The work explored issues of youth, gender, race, equality, climate change and the pandemic.

On the Wild Side (14 June - 3 July), from Kathy Rondel and Michele Snape, beautifully explored the Island's natural flora and fauna, with all its sumptuous colour which was inspired by their many Island walks and their own gardens.

The Ramparts Collective (5 - 24 July) exhibition, from John Lewis, Carlo Zen, Melissa Rodrigues, and Jacques Le Breton explored self-expression, imagination and the true self through a range of media.

Highlands College then showcased their *Bright Young Things* (26 July - 18 September) from the School of Art UAL students. Themes included: the environment, mental health, feminism, economics and even laundry!

Two Fox exhibitions were next presented in the Berni Gallery: the Judge's exhibition by Chris Mould and then the *39th Fox Open Art Competition Exhibition*. Chris Mould judged the Fox for the second time in 2021, having not been able to be physically present in 2020, so it was wonderful for him to finally visit. His own exhibition (20 September - 9 October) showcased his illustrations in children's publishing, cartoons for major newspapers, theatre and animated film. 37 pieces of work were selected by Chris Mould for the latter exhibition (11 October - 6 November) with Maja Jeromkian winning First Prize with *Lovers Quarrel* and Eleanor Chambers winning the Jock Russell Award for 12-18 years with *Burnt Out*. 5 pieces were also awarded: Highly Commended.

Family exhibited next (8 - 20 November) in conjunction with the Human Right's Festival where we presented a collection of photography celebrating diversity within families. Our thanks extend to Deborah Morris-Monro, Wayne Stewart and to those who participated.

The *Motherhood* photography exhibition (22 November - 11 December), previously delayed due to the pandemic, celebrated the beauty of the post-partum body. This photography campaign, created by Midwife May Bourne (from Positive Birth Jersey) and photographer Sophie Darwin included phenomenal images of 25 mothers and their babies.

The year finished in the Berni with *Jersey Architecture* (13 - 31 December) which looked at 60 years of architecture across the Island between 1960 and 2020.

Jersey Arts Centre's Bar Galley hosted 18 exhibitions throughout 2021, including ceramics, glasswork, digital work, illustrations, oil paintings, macrame and more represented in the space. This exhibition area, which is free to hire, ensures that Jersey Arts Centre's exhibition programme remains wholly accessible and available for Jersey's artistic community.

We would like to thank all those people without whose help the Berni Gallery's exhibitions could not take place. From Jason and Steven, whose technical and practical support bring each exhibition to realisation; to Wayne, whose secretarial and liaison skills meld artists, sponsors and the Exhibitions Sub-committee into one coordinated team; to the sponsors, big and small, whose financial commitment ensures that the artists only have to worry about the work itself; and, finally, but just as importantly, you the members of the Jersey Arts Centre whose presence at these exhibitions, and the purchase of the work itself, makes the job worthwhile.

Our very special thanks extend to the Exhibitions Sub-committee Chair, Mark Blanchard, and to Val Aitken, Jackie Monticelli and Wayne Stewart for their incredible work in programming and hanging the exhibitions throughout the year... and without whom...

Exhibition: *Motherhood*



Courses & Workshops

Summer Season: 51 attendances

Insight Meditation
Oddsocks Summer School
History of Art

Tutor

Teodora Pacurar
Oddsocks Productions
Lisa Oxenden-Wray

Autumn Season: 34 attendances

Behind-the-Scenes
Drawing for Enjoyment
Yoga 1
Yoga 2

Tutor

Christmas Production Team
Chris Mould
Karen Le Mottee
Karen Le Mottee

Total Number of attendances: 85

Total Number of sessions: 40

Total Number of different tutors: 14

Due to continuing challenges with COVID-19, many of the planned 2021 workshops were unable to go ahead. During the spring lockdown we were unable to provide almost a whole season of courses in person which affected both our public and schools' workshop offerings. The summer and autumn seasons



were both reduced. However, we were able to introduce some new course and workshop opportunities during the year. In August 2021, Oddsocks Productions ran a 6-day course in Coronation Park, after their performance run of *The Comedy of Errors*. Over the 6 day period, 37 participants ranging from age 8-19 years took part in learning theatre, circus and performance skills culminating in a performance of their own *Comedy of Errors* at the end of the week, to family and friends. It was a thoroughly enjoyable week for the participants and we look forward to welcoming Oddsocks back in the summer of 2022 for another year of the Summer School.

In September, Jersey Arts Centre organised a workshop opportunity for participants to work with the 2021 Fox Judge Chris Mould. Chris held a two hour masterclass on illustration for both children and adults to enjoy. Each participant got the opportunity to develop their skills as drawers and to hear how Chris had developed his illustration throughout his career. We hope to work with future Fox Judges in order to offer a range of workshop opportunities for aspiring artists.

Other new course offerings this year included our Yoga courses with Karen Le Mottee which were met with significant interest and will be something we continue to offer in 2022. In addition to this was our Behind-the-Scenes 3-day children's course which enabled participants to learn about the production elements behind putting on a Jersey Arts Centre Christmas production. Despite our public Courses and Workshops output being reduced in 2021, we were pleased to be able to offer some new opportunities and this is something we are looking forward to expanding moving forward.

In addition to this, we also delivered 37 schools workshops with 898 attendances taking our combined workshop session total to 77 with 983 attendances.

Education & Outreach

Throughout 2021, despite adhering to ongoing COVID-19 restrictions, Jersey Arts Centre continued Education and Outreach opportunities with and for the community.

Due to the spring lockdown we were unable to deliver our usual Holocaust Memorial Day and World Book Day workshops in schools. However, at the start of the summer season we were able to launch a new set of schools' workshops aimed at Year 6 students, exploring the themes and history of Liberation Day. Over 3 weeks we delivered 16 workshops in 14 schools with 387 participants. The workshops explored: the context of World War II, the Occupation of the Island and The Jersey 21. The workshops were very well received and it is an initiative we will be continuing in 2022.

Since 2017, Jersey Arts Centre, as part of the Christmas Show outreach programme, has delivered annual workshops in schools and 2021 was no different. This year we ran workshops based on Arthur Ransome's *Swallows & Amazons*.

Throughout November 2021 we delivered 21 workshops in 15 schools with 511 participants. The main aspects of these workshops were working on 3 key Jersey Arts Centre theatre principles of: communication, commitment and concentration.

In addition, the workshops engaged students with the story of *Swallows & Amazons* through a range of activities including costume design, freeze frames and animating the text.

There were a total of 37 workshops with 898 attendances as part of our Education and Outreach programme.

Jersey Arts Centre also hosted 7 Project Trident students during 2021.



The Learning Centre Mural by Glen Fox

Partnerschaft (Twinning) with Bad Wurzach

Jersey Arts Centre has been organising cultural exchanges with St Helier's twin town of Bad Wurzach since 2003 as part of the peace, reconciliation and friendship initiative that began with the official twinning in 2002.

Since this time we have toured seven youththeatre productions to the Kurhaus in Bad Wurzach and performed both a schools and a public evening show on each occasion. Two of our Theatre-in-Education productions have also toured to the Realschule and to schools in Biberach and Kisslegg.

On each occasion, members of both the youththeatre and Theatre-in-Education companies have been hosted by German families and enjoyed unparalleled hospitality during their stay and delivered practical drama workshops on concentration, communication and commitment at each school.

Members of the youththeatre have also now reciprocated on seven separate occasions when they have hosted groups in 2005, 2008, 2010, 2013, 2015, 2017 and 2019. On each occasion c.15 young people have travelled to the Island.

In 2005, and for the Liberation 60 Celebrations, ex-internees, youththeatre members and young people from Bad Wurzach performed the *Opportunity Drama* for Her Majesty The Queen in Liberation Square on Liberation Day. The Berni Gallery also hosted an exhibition of the work of Sepp Mahler from Bad Wurzach between 10-21 May with the assistance of both Egon and Gisela Rothenhäusler of the Leprosy House in Bad Wurzach, where Sepp Mahler's work is housed – 20 of his pieces were brought to the Island over the Liberation Day Celebrations. At the preview, Hermann Bilgeri was presented with the Silver Seal of the Island by the then Deputy Bailiff. In the December of 2005 our second Theatre-in-Education project, *Secret Weapons*, performed at the Realschule and the Salvatorkolleg, and in Biberach, with the company delivering a number of practical workshops.

In January 2015, our fifth Theatre-in-Education project, *The Great Warrior*, performed back at the Realschule and also at a school in Kisslegg. There were a total of 262 attendances at these three performances with the company also delivering two practical workshops introducing the themes and issues in the play.

On each tour, the St. Helier Partnerschaft Committee has contributed a grant towards the cost of Jersey Arts Centre's van travelling with set, costume, lighting and sound and for this we are hugely grateful.

On each exchange, youththeatre and Theatre-in-Education members are chaperoned by parents without whom the journeys would not be possible.

Jersey Arts Centre's stage team has also allowed for the professional delivery of these productions, in style, with Steven Laffoley-Edwards playing an instrumental part in the success of the tours.

Our thanks also extend to the former Head Teacher at the Realschule: Frau Blaschko, who has made these exchanges possible, and seven of her teaching staff who, over the years, have been instrumental in machining the details of the exchanges: Ingeborg Ege, Volker Jedelhauser, Heidi Maier, Franziska Gsteu, Ralph Schulz, Stefanie Henkel-Hagman and Franziska Matischok. Danke schön.

However, Hermann Bilgeri is the one person over the years who has believed in the Partnerschaft initiative and ensured our well-being, safety and itineraries and thus facilitated the phenomenal success of these adventures. Hermann: Danke schön.

Jersey Arts Centre's commitment to these cultural youth exchanges these past 18 years has been pioneering and unparalleled in terms of cultural diplomacy and in cementing peace, reconciliation and friendship.

The Tours

2003: *Romeo and Juliet* by William Shakespeare

2005: *The Last Voyage of Philip D'Auvergne* by Simon Crowcroft

2005: *Secret Weapons* by Daniel Austin

2008: *The Women of Troy* by Euripides

2010: *Life of Galileo* by Bertolt Brecht

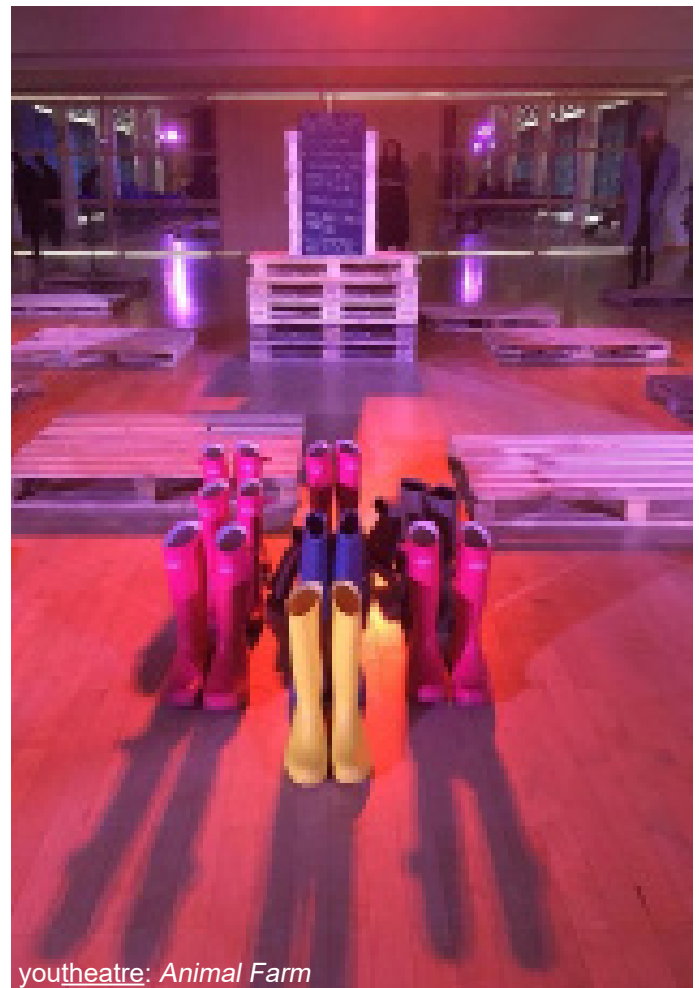
2012: *The Conversation* by youththeatre members

2015: *The Great Warrior* by Daniel Austin

2016: *Matchbox Theatre* by Michael Frayn

2018: *Animal Farm* by George Orwell, adapted by Ian Wooldridge

Unfortunately, the tour of the youththeatre production of *Beasts and Beauties*, planned for March 2020, was cancelled due to COVID-19, and we were unable to reschedule a tour for 2021.



youththeatre: *Animal Farm*

ArtsCentreTheatre

Despite the continuing pandemic, 2021 saw ACT bring two productions to the stage of the Benjamin Meaker Theatre.

The first, written by ACT's director Jason Kenyon, was borne from his audio efforts on behalf of Jersey Arts Centre's JAC-anory initiative of its online output. He had recorded a number of Conan Doyle's Sherlock Holmes stories and realised there was a way to adapt them into a largely covid-proof production. Thus: *Sherlock's Women* was born.

The premise was simple: Holmes and Watson find themselves in an apparently deserted theatre in the company of Inspector Lestrade and the infamous James Moriarty. The Professor instigates a drumhead trial with the intention of discrediting Holmes and, by extension, all the evidence against him that the Detective had gathered. His witnesses: six women from the stories ranging from Mrs Hudson to Irene Adler, each with a tale to tell.

The courtroom setting allowed for physical distancing on stage, and the theatrical nature of the play's setting meant that set budget was modest with the lion's share of the production's budget being spent, to great effect and to the joy of the cast, on costume.

The play was also double cast, so that should one of the participants be forced to self-isolate, their place could be taken by their opposite number. The number of performances was increased from the usual four to six so that each cast would have more opportunity to demonstrate their acting skills. Both the script and the performances garnered considerable critical acclaim, as a result of which the production was granted a further two performances a few weeks later when another show was postponed due to COVID-19.

The second production of the year saw the return to the stage of ACT's comic creation, the Society of Amateur Dramatics, aka SAD: the theatrical embodiment of Murphy's Law. *Fruit Basket*, SAD's fifth outing, comprised two loosely connected one-act pieces inspired, in no small part, by actual events. *If It's Not In The Minutes* was an irreverent insight into the political manoeuvring and Machiavellian machinations that can occur at a committee meeting of such an organisation. *It's Not Over Till The Fat Lady Bows* was a graphic illustration of the chaos that can ensue when the avant-garde comes into conflict with the old guard; in this case when a new director decides, to the horror of their cast, that their performance will not end with a curtain call.

To round the year off, members of ACT once again participated in the Jersey Eisteddfod, but not on this occasion as performers. Forming two teams they competed in the Stage Management Class undertaking tasks that were set and judged by Jersey Arts Centre's Stage Manager and Deputy Director, Steven Laffoley-Edwards. The participants later said that the ten minutes they spent attempting to complete those tasks were the most nerve-wracking of their theatrical careers.

During the year ACT presented 10 performances. 20 members took part in ACT's two productions, 15 of them participating in both, with 400 members of the public watching their efforts!

Sherlock's Women



youtheatre

2021 was another extraordinary year for Jersey Arts Centre's youtheatre as they navigated the challenges still present due to COVID-19 restrictions. After a successful workshop period in the autumn of 2020, with 15 regular participants, the youtheatre were planning to begin rehearsals for Timberlake Wertenbaker's *My Father, Odysseus* ready to perform in March 2021.

However, due to the spring 2021 lockdown the rehearsals for this production were postponed and recommenced in March 2021 to prepare to perform in June 2021. Luckily, these performances were able to go ahead and the cast enjoyed performing over three evenings to 111 audience members, with the JEP review describing it as: "thoroughly engaging."

Although the delay in rehearsals meant that the youtheatre were only able to produce one production this year, instead of our usual two, we were still all grateful the company were able, in the end, to have the opportunity to perform to a live audience. In addition to the production, the youtheatre were able to begin workshops in autumn 2021 in order to prepare for their March 2022 production of David Almond's *Skellig*. There were 12 regular participants during the workshop period.

Jersey Arts Centre's youtheatre also unfortunately missed out on animation opportunities during the year due to COVID-19 restrictions. The usual ceremonies for Holocaust Memorial Day and for the Liberation of Jersey's Internees were both not

able to be presented in their usual formats due to restrictions meaning that readings by the youtheatre were not required. However, the youtheatre has been asked to resume both animations - plus others - during 2022.

We hope to see audiences at our next production in the summer of 2022 which is currently in rehearsal.

NICOLE TWINAM, BA (Hons), MA
HETTIE DUNCAN, BA (Hons)
CO-DIRECTORS



Junior Drama

Our Junior Drama group for 8-13 year olds has now been running for 16 years, having started in January 2006 with two senior members of our youtheatre taking participants through the disciplines of communication, concentration and commitment.

Since that time, 16 former members of the youtheatre have taught Junior Drama: Francesca Duncan, Jonny Liron, Jack Speckleton, Andrew Oliveira, Jenny McCarthy, Jacqui Wagner, Sheri Burt, William Howell-Jackson, Hettie Duncan, Craig Hamilton, Raoul Crosby, Ellie Donohoe, Joss MacDonald, Lucy Abraham, Peter Jones and Fynn Mason. Daniel Austin returned as Director of the company in September 2015 and has since co-directed with Fiona Marchant (2015/16), Peter Jones (2016/17), Fynn Mason (2018/20) and Hettie Duncan (2020-21). Jordi Sunier is now the lead Junior Drama tutor.

In June 2019, fourteen young actors performed *The Art of War* by Sun Tzu in a translation by John Minford and we were reminded in fifteen chapters of the consequences and futility of war, the skills and tactics necessary to outwit opponents and the discipline of offensives and espionage. The maturity in which the group approached this challenging piece was remarkable and skilful. However, our 2020 and 2021 productions were cancelled due to COVID-19.

Over the past 15 years the group has presented 12 productions, including: David Holman's *Whale* (2006), Lynne Reid Banks's *The Travels of Yoshi and the Tea Kettle* (2009), an adaptation of

The Jungle Book (2010), Nigel Williams's adaptation of William Golding's *Lord of the Flies* (2011), *Granny Big Pants* – created by the group (2012), the ancient classic *The Odyssey* (2013), *Gargling with Jelly* (2015), *something theatre* (2016), Roald Dahl's *James and the Giant Peach* (2017) and *this untitled thing* (2018) which was again created by the group. The group has also worked on Bertolt Brecht texts, devised and improvised along the way, and made presentations of short pieces.



Our Commissions

Jersey Arts Centre has been committed to commissioning new work since 2002, with the creation of its inaugural Theatre-in-Education production of Brendan Murray's *Once Upon An Island...*

Since then, and over the past 20 years, new work has been produced on the Benjamin Meaker stage, on the walls of the Berni Gallery, poetry has been written and films made, all with and for our Island community. Crucially, these commissions culminate in public performances, or exhibitions, for all to experience and be inspired by.

The Berni Gallery has hosted eight time-constrained exhibitions – involving over 40 Jersey artists: *5x4* (2006), *Self Portrait* (2011), *Conflict* (2014), *Sporting Bodies* (2015), *woman/man* (2016), *Art 35* (2018), *the dance* (2019) and *liberation* (2020). These exhibitions were commissioned to celebrate events such as the Island Games, Liberation 75 and Jersey Arts Centre's 35th birthday!

Aside from the visual arts, Jersey Arts Centre also remains committed to commissioning new work from the performing and literary arts, allowing companies, individual artists, writers and musicians the chance to explore, compose, create, discover, and be inspired by their own creative process and challenges. Creating and supporting this new work has allowed creatives the space to experiment with new ideas, and realise original and forward-thinking work in and for the Island, enhancing Jersey Arts Centre's professional, dynamic programme.



Martha MacDonald: *Hiding Place*

Jersey Arts Centre Commissions have included:

- ***Once Upon An Island...*** by Brendan Murray
September 2002 - 2004
- A further seven **Theatre-in-Education** projects
2004 onwards
- ***stage directions*** by Jacqueline Mézec / Celebrating 25 Years
January 2008
- ***Echo Wood*** by Sir Andrew Motion / Festival 30
January 2013
- 15 poems for ***100 Poems*** and the 2014 - 2018
WW1 Commemorations / 2014 - 2016
- ***#35 [insert title with meaning / in celebration]***
by Nicky Mesch / Festival 35 / January 2018
- Music from Art'Comedia for our adaptation of
A Christmas Carol / July - December 2019
- 17 poems for the ***Liberation 75*** Celebrations
May 2020 - May 2021

Despite disruptions to Jersey Arts Centre's usual programming and performance schedule, 2021 saw three projects commissioned that enhanced our online and live offerings throughout the year.

From January through to March, 9 Island writers were commissioned to create five scenes each, which were published on a daily basis on both Jersey Arts Centre's social media platforms and website. These local writers were: Andrew Davey, Martha MacDonald, Dr Adam Perchard, Colin Scott, Traci O'Dea, Richard Pedley, Simon MacDonald, Ben Evans and Jacqueline Mézec.

Following on from this original commission, one of Martha MacDonald's scenes, *Scenes from a... Hiding Place* was turned into a short film in April 2021, and premièred at Jersey Arts Centre in October. Directed by Lucy Abraham, and starring Rebecca Eve and Joss MacDonald, *Hiding Place* is now planning to be entered into short film festivals.

Bathtime for Britain was commissioned in 2020 and opened in 2021, both online and on stage, as Dr. Adam Perchard presented two runs of this popular show, as well as special videos online in both the first half and latter half of the year. *Bathtime for Britain* will also enjoy a short tour of UK theatres in 2022!

Jersey Arts Centre is excited to continue to commission exciting and innovative work for the Island to enjoy. 2022 is sure to bring more opportunities for creation and exploration!

Our Residencies

2021 saw Jersey Arts Centre continue to support the work of local artists and creatives with its Residency programme.

Residencies allow theatre companies, performers, musicians, artists, writers and more, the opportunity and space to create, discover, explore and be inspired. By hosting these Residencies, Jersey Arts Centre has been able to complement its artistic offerings with new work, bringing new and forward-thinking stories to the Island.

Originally planned to be performed in July, but postponed until September, 2021 saw Jersey Arts Centre team up with Dr Adam Perchard and Société Jersiaise to present four extraordinary performances of *The Thirteenth Fish* at Faldouet Dolmen. Flitting between drama, opera, comedy and academia, this hour-long performance combined theatrical ritual, magic and song to take audiences on a journey through Jersey's history. 112 audience members were enchanted by these atmospheric and intimate performances.

Jersey Arts Centre has hosted 35 residences since 2010 for one, two and three week periods, in various Island spaces including: St. James Church, the Assembly Room at St. Helier's Town Hall, The Old Magistrate's Court, the Benjamin Meaker Theatre and now Faldouet Dolmen! They have all aided the creation of work in dance, music, drama and multidisciplinary processes that have been an invaluable aspect of the work of Jersey Arts Centre.

With at least four more Residencies planned for 2022, we are excited to continue to present these works that educate, inspire and encourage debate.



Dr. Adam Perchard: *The Thirteenth Fish*

Jersey Arts Centre Residencies have included:

Free Time Radical

by Frequency D'ici / January 2010

Spaceman

by Dudendance / October 2010

13.7

by curious directive / May 2011

Big Voices, Big Noises

by Simon MacDonald Prods. / October 2011

Magda

by Sarah Kewley Hyde / April 2012

Interventions

by Sheri Burt and Company / June 2012

Archipelago

by Melvil's Diary / November 2012

Infinite landscapes: Poetic Origami

by Art'Comedia / October 2013

FREEZE!

by Nick Steur / June 2014

et si / and if

by Théâtre du Champ Exquis / July 2014

Flesh! Lights! Camera! Action!

by The Brewing Company / March 2015

Laura Newey (on piano)

July 2017

The Boiling Sea v1.2 (coal in the rivers)

by wolf kid theatre / July 2017

Exploring Beckett

by The Story in Motion Project / October 2017

Overdrive

by Linda Marlowe / July 2018

Going Underground

by Simon MacDonald / October 2018

Magpies and Mischief

by Yada Yada Productions / March 2019

The Boiling Sea v1.3 (children of the rabbit god)

by wolf kid theatre / April 2019

Happy Hour

by Cristian Ceresoli / July 2019

Edmund/Edgar

by Jeremy Hardingham and Jonny Liron / January 2020

The Thirteenth Fish

by Dr Adam Perchard / September 2021

Christmas Production

Although there were still restrictions in place, including audience capacities, Jersey Arts Centre was excited to be able to present its sixth Christmas show: Helen Edmundson's musical adaptation of Arthur Ransome's children's classic, *Swallows & Amazons*.

Originally scheduled to run from Friday 10 to Wednesday 22 December, challenges due to COVID-19 meant that the run finished on Sunday 19 December. Despite this unforeseen early closure, 13 performances were still delivered by the Community Christmas Company to 1,281 audience members. Two separate casts of young actors: The Wildcats and The Cormorants were joined by four adult performers, with the piece being directed by Daniel Austin, the set and lighting designed by Graeme Humphries and costumes designed by Nick Carver.

The Jersey Arts Centre team were especially delighted to welcome back Bertrand Larmet (Musical Director) and Veronique Martinez (Vocal Coach) from French theatre company Art'Comedia. Having last worked with them for 2019's *A Christmas Carol*, *Swallows & Amazons* provided the perfect opportunity to welcome them back to the Island. Neil Hannon's original music was beautifully brought to life by Bertrand's unsurpassable musicianship, and the cast's singing abilities were enhanced by Veronique's excellent vocal techniques.

Christmas Company member Jordi Sunier also leant her choreographic talent to the production with a fun and catchy Amazon dance!

Rehearsals began in September, including read-throughs of the script and singing weeks. There were two evening rehearsals a week, together with all day on Sundays.

Swallows & Amazons' childhood nostalgia, sense of adventure and swashbuckling action made for a fantastically charming and entertaining Christmas theatrical experience for the whole family!

Rod McLoughlin, in his Jersey Evening Post review on 14 December, enjoyed the slick staging and polished production:

"... thanks to the seamless direction of the piece, there are no moments of languor as the action moves swiftly ahead. So engrossing has the experience been that it comes as quite a shock at the end to be reminded of that real world beyond the auditorium doors."



Once again, sincerest thanks go to the creative team mentioned above and the two extraordinary companies of committed, concentrated and skilled actors, which drew from our youthreathre group, together with four adult actors:

The Cormorant Team: [Ollie Bloor](#), [Hettie Duncan](#), [Tamsin Hollyman](#), [Libby Mair](#), [Jenny McCarthy](#), [Alice Posner](#), [Joshua Scott](#), [Nicole Twinam](#)

The Wildcat Team: [Maywa Ballu](#), [Tess Barnes](#), [Hettie Duncan](#), [James Edey](#), [Jack Humphries](#), [Jenny McCarthy](#), [Kate Meadows](#), [Nicole Twinam](#)

Jersey Arts Centre's Director, Daniel Austin, would also like to thank the Management Committee for their continued support throughout this initiative and for their commitment to this area of our work.

Also, for four weeks in November, Hettie Duncan developed a schools' workshop programme introducing children from Island primary schools to the world of *Swallows & Amazons*. More information about this outreach project can be found on page 13.

We certainly hope that Jersey Arts Centre's Community Christmas show continues to be a festive tradition in Jersey for many years to come – it is already a very special part of our programme!



Liberation Day & Island Animations

Holocaust Memorial Day – 27 January

Jersey Arts Centre's youthreatre would have normally animated the Holocaust Memorial Day ceremony at the Occupation Tapestry Gallery on this day.

Due to restrictions being in place for events and gatherings during the Island's second lockdown period in the spring, there was instead a simplified ceremony, and Daniel Austin, Director, read the roll call for the wreath-laying, and members of the Holocaust Memorial Day Committee laid the roses for the Jersey 21.

Liberation 76 – 9 May

Due to the on-going challenges of the coronavirus pandemic, the live events for this important celebration of freedom, reconciliation and friendship were once again cancelled.

In 2020, Jersey Arts Centre commissioned 17 Island poets for a Liberation 75 word exhibition in the Berni Gallery. Initially, the commissions were shared digitally between 1 - 25 May 2020 with the exhibition finally being installed in the Berni Gallery between 27 April and 22 May 2021 for Liberation 76. Opposite is one of the poems: Traci O'Dea's *Substitution*.

Substitution

"Islanders became expert at producing substitutes: parsnip, barley and acorn provided the basis for ersatz coffee."
-The British Channel Islands under German Occupation, 1940 - 1945, Paul Sanders

"Coffee," Dad yells. A metal bang on wood.
It's also been: "Tobacco." "Porridge." "Lard."
He barks for things his mind can't comprehend
that we don't have. I stir the foraged brew,
abubble on the fire, turn back. His chair
is bare. I find him standing in the yard,
sunlit and bordered with barbed wire. He snacks
on honeysuckle stems, his brain content.

Coffee's on every corner now. That scent—
a cedar-chocolate-charcoal-walnut-wax.
I take a sip of how he liked it, black,
it burns and tastes of granite, bleach and rust,
dried blood, a dentist's drill and tooth sawdust,
a wire fence, a metal bang on wood.

Traci O'Dea

Eco-Active

We have had another great 'Green Year' during 2021! With the building being semi-closed from January - April 2021, the use of water, oil and electricity for the year was again reduced, as too was the need for sea and air travel for visiting performers as travel restrictions remained in place, reducing the number of touring companies able to come to the Island. However, we carried on with our digital platforms with a focus on: 'educating, inspiring and encouraging debate' which was achieved until the theatre officially opened again on 19 April with our first performance.

Staff continued to work but reduced their travel by working from home where possible during the first quarter - although, even before lockdown, staff travelled to work on foot, on the bus or by bike.

There is still little point in reviewing figures like-for-like with 2019/2020 and 2021. Instead, the Green Team has been actively looking at ways it can continue to adapt to unexpected changes within the operation as Jersey Arts Centre gradually moves back to full capacity in the theatre.

In 2020, with limited performances, we held over the monies raised by our one pence per ticket carbon-offsetting-project to combine it with the funds raised during 2021. This meant that we were able to purchase and plant 100 trees as part of the Trees for Life initiative for the Mourier Valley reforestation on 14 December - see adjacent photograph!

For our future, the Green Team is working with Marketing to achieve a 70% reduction in printed material by the end of 2022/3. The introduction of QR code technology for ticket sales has already led to a reduction in the printing of tickets at Box Office, with patrons using their phones to access performances. In addition, the growth of our online presence and the subsequent increase in online bookings, may lead to a smaller print run of the Jersey Arts Centre brochure, once production is resumed. In addition, the Green Team continues to look at the options for the installation of photovoltaic cells (solar panels) on the roof of Jersey Arts Centre.

Our aim is always to: REDUCE, RE-USE, RECYCLE - as every little helps our planet.

THE GREEN TEAM: STEVEN LAFFOLEY-EDWARDS, HETTIE DUNCAN, JORDI SUNIER



17th Human Rights Festival

In November 2021, Jersey Arts Centre once again offered film screenings that highlighted a particular Human Rights issue, and in 2021, the Festival's 17th year, the two films screened centred around racial discrimination and the Black Lives Matter movement. On 10 and 12 November, two feature films were shown that followed characters who experienced discrimination and violence due to their race and highlighted the struggles of black communities in the United States.

The first film, screened on 10 November, was *Blindspotting*, starring Daveed Diggs and Rafael Casal. Written by, produced by and starring the two aforementioned childhood friends, this provocative comedy-drama told the story of Collin, a man recently released from prison who has three days left on his parole. When Collin and his friend Miles witness a violent, racist crime, the two friends struggle to come to terms with what they have seen. 18 audience members attended this screening.

The second film on offer, screened on 12 November, was the visually stunning *The Last Black Man in San Francisco*. This clever and thought-provoking drama centred around Jimmie, a young black man living in San Francisco who struggles to let go of his childhood home, an impressive house in a gentrified area of the city. Exploring ideas of gentrification, family and expectations, 11 attendees enjoyed this beautifully shot film.

Overall, 29 audience members were able to watch these important and eye-opening feature films that carried an essential message.

Unfortunately, Jersey Arts Centre was unable to host schools' visits to this year's Human Rights Festival screenings due to ongoing COVID-19 restrictions, but hopes to resume this offering in 2022.

Jersey Arts Centre extends its thanks to Shafi Malik for his programming suggestions for the 2021 Festival.



The Last Black Man in San Francisco

8th Polish Film Festival

The Polish Film Festival returned to its regular summer slot in 2021, with four films being screened at the beginning of June. Now in its 8th year, the Polish Film Festival showcases excellence in Polish screenwriting, cinematography, directing and acting, and allows those in Jersey's Polish community to watch films in their native language, whilst also introducing new fans to the world of Polish cinema.

The first screening of the 2021 festival took place on Monday 7 June with *Corpus Christi (Boze Ciało)*; an absorbing drama directed by Jan Komasa. The film centred around a young Polish man named Daniel, who, after being imprisoned in a juvenile detention centre, experiences a spiritual awakening. Barred from applying to the local seminary due to his criminal record, Daniel decides to pursue his dream anyway and starts to minister to a small-town parish. 14 audience members enjoyed this award-winning film.

The Festival continued on Tuesday 8 June with a screening of *Reverse (Rewers)*. Set in the present day and in the 1950s, this 2009 film followed the central character of Sabina, a young woman who lives with her mother and ailing grandmother. When a new suitor enters her life, the usually quiet Sabina begins to come out of her shell and a darker side to her personality emerges. 14 attendees saw this quirky and dark comedy-drama.

A film based on an inspiring true story was next to be shown on Wednesday 9 June. *Gods (Bogowie)* followed the tale of Polish cardiac surgeon Zbigniew Religa and his campaign to perform the country's first heart transplant. Set in 1987 and directed by Lukasz Palkowski, this celebrated and inspiring biopic was watched by 20 audience members.

The 8th Polish Film Festival came to a close on Thursday 10 June with a funny and heartwarming romantic comedy. *Their Lucky Stars (Cale Szczesle)* centred around the character of Robert, a single father and classical musician. Though looking after his ten-year-old son Filip brings him joy, it is not until famous fitness instructor Marta arrives in their lives that things look to be changing for the better. However, things are not always what they seem! This charming and whimsical story was enjoyed by 17 film fans.

The 8th Polish Film Festival at Jersey Arts Centre saw an eclectic and impressive selection of award-winning Polish cinema screened over four days. Overall, 65 attendees came to enjoy this week of films ranging from inspirational biopics to quirky dark comedies. Jersey Arts Centre looks forward to programming the 9th Polish Film Festival in 2022!

Arts in Health Care Trust

Jersey Arts In Health Care Trust is a charitable organisation. Its purpose is to improve the quality of life for adults and children with all kinds of illness and disability, life limiting conditions, mental health issues and physical and learning disabilities, together with creating happy memories for families and health care staff, through the joy and therapeutic benefits of professionally-performed live music and artistic displays. Professional musicians tour the residential and care homes, day-care centres and hospitals in Jersey and, in some cases, perform by the bedsides of individuals too ill to be moved.

The Trust was established to offer the benefits of the arts in their widest sense to those in a variety of health care settings both in the community and within the health service. It takes an holistic view of the healing process while concentrating its efforts, at any one time, in a number of key areas:

Provision of performances, under the aegis of Music in Hospitals, to residential homes (private and public), day-care centres and hospital wards.

Displays of the visual arts in local hospitals.

Encouragement of local performers within the health care system.

Dissemination of information on the wider benefits of the arts through residencies, workshops, training sessions and talks.

Advocacy of the value of the arts therapies, including the provision of public workshops and pilot projects.

Support for organisations and initiatives with common values or objectives.

**Arts in Health Care Trust received
The Queen's Award for Voluntary Service in 2012**

www.artsinhealthcare.je

Stuart Barbour



MUSIC IN HOSPITALS TOURS

Due to funding cuts, Jersey Arts Centre was unable to programme any music tours on behalf of the Arts In Health Care Trust in 2017. However, two tours were achieved in the autumn of 2019, after the small success of one tour in 2018, with Adesté (accordion, violin and vocals) and The Totties (piano and vocals) touring to 29 of the Island's care settings. Due to COVID-19, only 20 concerts were possible in spring 2020, by singer and guitarist Stuart Barbour.

It is worth noting that there were:

- 182 concerts in 2013
- 153 concerts in 2014
- 188 concerts in 2015
- 156 concerts in 2016
- No concerts in 2017
- 22 concerts in 2018
- 37 concerts in 2019
- 20 concerts in 2020
- No concerts in 2021

The activities in 2019 and 2020 were made possible thanks to grants from the Association of Jersey Charities, the Roy Overland Trust and the Greville Bathe Fund to the Arts in Health Care Trust. Concerts were not possible throughout 2021 due to the ongoing pandemic although three concert tours are planned for 2022.

Historically, five to six tours are programmed in each year, lasting 10 to 13 days, visiting in excess of 40 care settings, with musicians performing two or three concerts per day.

Membership of the Board in 2021 comprised:

- **Rod McLoughlin** – Honorary Chairperson
- **Val Aitken** – Honorary Vice-Chairperson
- **Vacant** – Honorary Secretary
- **David Pett** – Honorary Treasurer
- **Fiona Speller**
- **Tom Dingle** representing ArtHouse Jersey
- **Daniel Austin** representing Jersey Arts Centre's Management Committee



**The Queen's Award
for Voluntary Service**

The MBE for volunteer groups

Partnerships and Thanks

Jersey Arts Centre Association is grateful to the many organisations that gave assistance in the form of sponsorship or grants during the year, members of the Business Partners Scheme, or who gave their support in kind.

Community Partners

13th Parish Festival
Art'Comedia, L'Hermitage, Brittany
Arts in Health Care Trust
Bailiwick Express
BBC Radio Jersey
Jersey Zoo
Holocaust Memorial Day Committee
Jersey Arts Trust / ArtHouse Jersey
Jersey Evening Post
Jersey Festival of Words
Jersey Film Society
Jersey Heritage
Jersey Library
Jersey Opera House
National Trust for Jersey
Société Jersiaise
St. Helier / Bad Wurzach Partnerschaft Committee

Sponsors

Amici Artium
J. J. Fox International (Jersey) Ltd.

We received Grants from:

Office of the Chief Executive / Department for the Economy
(Government of Jersey)

The Bailiff's Chambers

Staff, Volunteers and Members

The Management Committee would once again like to express its gratitude to the committed team of professional staff who work at Jersey Arts Centre and to the many volunteers (100+) and Members (1,103 - incorporating 566 memberships at December 2021), including our Patrons and Benefactors, who give their time so willingly to assist in the smooth running of the operation.

OUR THANKS

Thanks are due to many organisations and individuals for their assistance during the course of the year, including:

Carpets For You
Jersey Green Room Theatre Company
Modern Hotels
Denise Renouf
Wayne Stewart

And to the following individuals and organisations for their contributions and support during the coronavirus pandemic:

Sophie Huelin + Lisette Jones at Public Health

Deanne Bratch
Steve Carver
Andrew Davey
Serena Edwards
Juliette Hart
Liz Kenyon
Jamie Laffoley-Edwards
Jacqueline Mézec
Linda Rose Parkes
Dorothy Perks
Debbie Taylor

For the Government of Jersey:

Steve Cartwright and The Bailiff's Chambers
Deputy Kirsten Morel, Assistant Minister for Culture, OCE / ED
Connétable of St Helier Simon Crowcroft
Parish of St Helier and the Town Hall
Planning and Environment Department
Property Holdings
Paul Millbank, OCE / ED
Chris Kelleher, OCE / ED
Rebecca Miller, OCE / ED

My Family and Other Animals





Jersey Arts Centre

twitter



@jsyartscentre

Jersey Arts Centre is supported by
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