

# Annual Report 2020



## 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 and literary 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.



Light it Red

## Honorary Patron

John Lloyd CBE (2018 - 2022)

## Honorary Life Members

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

Pat Dubras  
Peter Hunt  
Denise Ibbotson  
Rod McLoughlin  
Michael Munz-Jones

Billie Newey  
Busick Pemberton  
George Ritchie  
Ian Thomas  
Robert Tilling, MBE, RI

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## Jersey Arts Centre Association ANNUAL REPORT 2020

The Management Committee 22 May 2019 - 27 May 2020 (extended to: 9 September 2020 due to COVID-19)

Chairman	Deanne Bratch, BA (Hons), MA, FCMA
Treasurer	Dawn O'Reilly, FCCA, MBA
Secretary	Jacqueline Mézec, MA (Cantab), FCCA
Members	Valentine Aitken, Richard Pedley, Dorothy Perks, Tina Risebrow

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, Deborah Morris-Monro, Dorothy Perks

### Exhibitions Sub-committee

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

### Jersey Arts Centre Staff

Director	Daniel Austin
Deputy Director (Administration & Marketing)	Graeme Humphries
Deputy Director (Stage & Events)	Steven Laffoley-Edwards
Finance Assistant	Nick Poingdestre
Administrative Assistant	Sarah Tompkins (January - March)
Marketing Manager	Nick Carver
Press and Marketing Assistant	Nicole Twinam
Distribution	Mac Galvin (January - March)
Exhibitions Coordinator	Alison Ward (January - March)
Exhibitions Coordinator	Wayne Stewart (February - Present)
Education and Outreach Coordinator	Hettie Duncan
Box Office Coordinator	Jordi Sunier
Box Office Coordinator	Jackie Jordan (January)
Deputy Stage Manager	Jason Kenyon
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 2020 programme.



# 2020 in Summary

Jersey Arts Centre delivered the following events, activities and experiences throughout 2020:

- 56 ticketed performances with 8,582 attendances in the spring
- 1,009 activities + 842 social media posts = 1,851 communications over 25 weeks during lockdown\*
- 50 ticketed performances with 1,273 attendances (with a capacity of 40 then 20) in the autumn
- 3 exhibitions in the Berni Gallery in the spring + 5 exhibitions in the Berni in the autumn
- 3 exhibitions in the Bar Gallery in the spring + 5 exhibitions in the Bar in the autumn
- 6 public courses and workshops with 37 participants in the spring
- 4 public courses and workshops with 26 participants in the autumn
- 10 workshops in 9 schools for Holocaust Memorial Day with 263 participants
- 9 workshops in 8 schools for World Book Day with 216 participants
- 20 Arts in Health Care concerts across 20 of the Island's care settings
- 1 youththeatre production: *Beasts and Beauties* filmed and placed on-line in 8 parts in lockdown
- 1 ACT project in the autumn, staged as a radio play to ensure physical distancing: *Lust Actually*
- Our 18th consecutive year of readings with the youththeatre at Holocaust Memorial Day ceremony
- The 7th Polish Film Festival
- The 16th Human Rights Festival (LGBTQ+ theme)
- The hosting of 2 Project Trident students in the spring
- JAC's 6 theatre companies all ran in the spring and autumn including the Brighter Futures Company
- JAC Advent Calendar and 'Festive! Flash! Fiction!' on-line in December
- Our 5th Community Christmas Production: our 2007 adaptation of Gerald Durrell's *My Family and Other Animals* with 349 attendances over 18 ticketed performances with two teams of 7 actors
- 23 workshops in 14 schools with 590 participants exploring Durrell's story and Conservation

\* Between Monday 23 March and Friday 11 September 2020, and for 25 weeks during lockdown, JAC presented:

- 625 Daily Recommendations
- 108 featured images in Off the Wall
- 22 Composite videos of the Off the Wall entries (665 works submitted by 194 photographers!)
- 6 extracts from Simon MacDonald's *Going Underground*
- 61 Flash! Fiction! featured stories from 45 writers
- 81 JAC-anories
- 18 songs from Bertrand et Véronique
- 17 Liberation 75 poems
- 17 ACT Monologues
- 8 instalments of the youththeatre production
- 2 Shakespeare Shorts

There were a total of 1,009 activities and experiences, plus a further 842 communications, across our digital platforms – Grand Total: 1,851.

JAC also planned for a number of other events that were cancelled due to the coronavirus pandemic including: residencies, a Junior Drama and youththeatre production and Liberation Day and VE Day celebrations. There were also 23 advertised performances from 10 companies postponed or cancelled in late March and April. Our thanks extend to everyone for their support, enthusiasm and social and cultural engagement...



Chris Mould Exhibition



# Chairman's Report

This set of financial statements relates to Jersey Arts Centre's (JAC) operation in 2020 and the performance of the team during the year - and what a year it was! The emerging situation related to COVID-19 and its impacts on the JAC began in earnest in late March with the switch from our normal programming to online events which did not end until September. During this time the JAC team proved themselves to be adaptable and capable of managing in a storm of uncertainty.

The priority for the Management Committee has been to ensure that there was a continuation of the provision of arts and culture during the periods of lockdown and this resulted in the creation of on-line activities together with regular social media postings. This enabled the JAC team to continue to work during the period and provide some welcome relief from the worry caused by the impact of the pandemic. The Management Committee and the JAC team were conscious of their role in the well-being of Islanders and the need to provide some light relief from the distressing situation.

The normal dialogue with Government on funding during the year essentially centred on the receipt of the regular grant and the JAC has been pleased with the continuing constructive nature of the relationship given the challenges that Government has faced themselves.

One of the concerns highlighted in my previous reports has been the requirement to update and improve Phillips Street and the need to resolve the uncertainty of the office space that Daniel and his team occupy. Condition surveys completed by Government articulated the work required at Phillips Street and a Government-led application for Fiscal Stimulus funds have resulted in funding being awarded for works to start in 2021. A lease has now been agreed for the JAC offices in Charles Street and this certainty allows the team to progress with what will be a busy year. There is a cultural strategic review underway and this should enable all arts organisations to understand more fully the direction of travel for both venues and management of arts provision in Jersey.

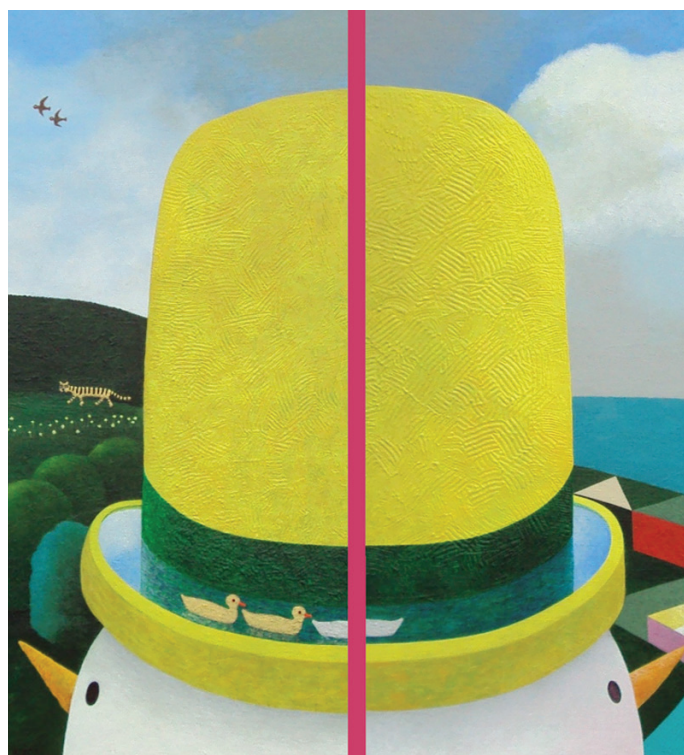
I said last year that the JAC is special and that the work of the team is amazing given the resources that are available to them. This has been proven time and again in 2020 and I cannot congratulate the team enough for navigating such a difficult path.

I would also like to particularly mention the members of this Management Committee who have supported the efforts of the JAC throughout the year in an entirely voluntary capacity.

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



*Oddsocks: The Adventures of Pinocchio*



*Martin McDowell: Surveyor's (Interim) Report*

# Financial Report

## 2020 Treasurer's Report

At the end of 2019, Government undertook two condition surveys which were used as the basis for the fiscal stimulus application which was submitted on behalf of Jersey Arts Centre by the Office of the Chief Executive (OCE). The Treasurer and the Director assisted Chris Kelleher from this department in both the initial Expression of Interest in December 2020 and for the final bid in February 2021. I am pleased to report that we were informed on 15 April 2021 that the application for £2,959,516 was successful. The Government of Jersey is currently carrying out a further review of this application as part of scrutiny and corporate governance, but we are hopeful that money will be released to the OCE soon so that the essential programme of works can begin.

As mentioned at the last AGM, in September 2020, the coronavirus has had a huge impact on Jersey Arts Centre and other Arts and Cultural venues. However, due to some inventive and careful planning, Daniel and his team were able to deliver some wonderful on-line activities.

### Key Highlights

- Cash Balance of: £196,814 versus £153,286 in 2019

The cash balance has increased by £43,528 on the previous year. This is mainly due to a £60,000 grant received for the TIE production, scheduled to take place in 2020. However, due to the lockdown restrictions we were unable to deliver this project. It was therefore agreed that the TIE show would be delayed until 2021 (possibly 2022) and the grant would be retained within Jersey Arts Centre's cash balance.

- Operational surplus: £25,090 versus £8,679 deficit in 2019

The operational surplus for 2020 is based on lack of spending due to COVID-19 restrictions, which impacted on promotions. Administration costs are down due to some vacancies that we have not actively pursued due to the current situation. Establishment costs increased year on year, mainly due to some essential health and safety works that were carried out throughout 2020 (i.e. electrical inspection and legionella assessment.)

- Total income: £656,862 versus £812,506 in 2019

Income has dropped significantly in Hirings and Promotions due to the pandemic and the fact that Jersey Arts Centre was unable to open from March to September 2020. Membership subscriptions decreased year on year and this is something we hope to remedy in 2021 once things are back up and running at full capacity.

### The Future

Although some of the grants originally secured for the 2020 programme had to be either 'delayed' or 'returned', the 2020 grant from OCE did increase by £36,700 which is more in line with inflation and should enable Jersey Arts Centre to manage in-year cash flow challenges. The management and employees at Jersey Arts Centre continued throughout the pandemic to provide various alternative programmes and activities during the lockdown period and they have shown true community spirit and imagination.



As always, we look for ways to improve the way we work and this has been evident in the past year due to the challenge of the pandemic. I'm happy to report we now have on-line banking and in due course this will be rolled out for all payments (where possible).

### Acknowledgments

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Director of Jersey Arts Centre, Daniel Austin, and the OCE for all their work in assisting with the Fiscal Stimulus application and we look forward to working with them in 2021 to enable the programme roll out for much needed work on refurbishment and replacement of vital Mechanical, Electrical and other building works.

I would also like to thank our Chairman, Deanne Bratch, all employees, members and volunteers of Jersey Arts Centre for their commitment and continued support in this challenging time. Hopefully, we will get back to doing what we do best and deliver an exceptional 2021 programme of events.

**DAWN O'REILLY, FCCA, MBA**  
**HONORARY TREASURER**

## Director's Report

It was a huge challenge for Jersey Arts Centre navigating throughout 2020 and the year, for us, can be divided into four very distinct zones and experiences.

- the spring season - almost business as usual!
- the lockdown and our digital offerings
- the risk assessments and re-opening
- the autumn season with 40 - then 20 - in the audience!

We spent the first 10 weeks of the year delivering a packed and diverse programme with audiences at 56 ticketed events totalling 8,582; 19 workshops in 17 schools with 479 participants relating to Holocaust Memorial Day and World Book Day; 3 exhibitions in the Berni Gallery and 3 in the Bar Gallery; rehearsals with four of our six theatre companies; and much more besides.

But the Phillips Street building closed on Monday 23 March with us having spent the previous two weeks machinating cancellations and postponements from our professional, overseas companies and local societies and hirers. We then bedded down with three priorities:

- to be safe and well
- delivering an on-line programme for social and cultural engagement with and for the community
- supporting our staff and keeping them active

It was an extraordinary 25 weeks from 23 March through to 11 September during which we created 1,009 on-line activities together with a further 842 social media communications across our digital platforms. That's a total of 1,851 experiences!



# Director's Report (cont.)

However, at the beginning of June – and concurrently with the above – some Jersey Arts Centre staff were back in the building developing risk assessments and analysis and planning for the time when we could open again and deliver live events. Our '7 Stage Plan for Opening' enabled us to carefully and methodically navigate through all the guidelines and advice and remain as safe as the knowledge allowed. It also enabled us to communicate with our Members, volunteers and audiences as this no doubt gave hope as we progressed through the stages to 'Stage 7' and 'Performance Opening'. This was achieved, in part, on 9 September on our (postponed from May) AGM day. We nonetheless had to wait another couple of weeks until just after our Pilot Performance for an invited audience, of the 2005 movie *Little Miss Sunshine*, on Friday 9 October when advice was given by Public Health as to all the mitigating measures we should consider and put in place for our audiences. We were hugely impressed with the knowledge and expertise of both Lisette Jones and Sophie Huelin and for their advice in making our autumn season possible: and we thank them for this.

We received tremendous support from our Members, audiences, volunteers and staff - both during lockdown and after we re-opened in September. It was also incredible that despite everything - including the severely reduced capacity of 40 and then 20 - that for 14 weeks between 9 September and 17 December, we presented: 18 film screenings; 14 live theatre and music events; 18 performances of Gerald Durrell's *My Family and Other Animals* with 48 rehearsals, two casts, 150 rehearsal hours and 23 workshops in 14 primary schools with 590 attendances; 5 major exhibitions in the Berni Gallery including the Fox Open Art Competition with 188 entries from 114 Jersey Artists; 5 exhibitions in the Bar Gallery; 4 Courses & Workshops with 20 sessions on offer; 19 ACT rehearsals for *Lust Actually*; 9 youtheatre workshops; 9 Junior Drama workshops; 10 Brighter Futures workshops; our Festive! Flash! Fiction!; the Christmas Advent Calendar; and our AGM. And all physically distanced, sanitised and latterly masked... it was a wonder!

The highlight of the year was undoubtedly being able to deliver 16 of the 24 scheduled performances of our adaptation of Gerald Durrell's *My Family and Other Animals* in December together with two open dress rehearsals for families of the cast. The piece first performed to 5,796 people over 62 shows throughout 2007 in Jersey, Guernsey, Sark and the Ionian island of Corfu as part of our professional, Theatre-in-Education Company. The 14 actors this time around - in two teams of seven - embraced the coronavirus challenge knowing that at any time it might all come to a halt. But their commitment, energy, imaginations, great sense of humour, physical distancing and hand sanitising made for a superb rehearsal process and some very exciting performances bringing Gerald Durrell's exquisite set of characters and dialogue to life.

It was a joyous 14 weeks working with everyone and made the pandemic momentarily disappear in the throes of physically distanced laughter and storytelling. One of the most poignant moments was when, back on 15 November, the two casts said farewell to one another and then remained in wholly separate bubbles to ensure the survival of the show - and for this I will be forever indebted to them. We now hope that the forthcoming reviving during May Half Term 2021 will bring as much joy and story-telling excitement... We now navigate 2021 with a certainty that the vaccine will bring stability, greater health, and the ability to be with, and close to, those we love amongst

our wider family and friends.

At the end of January 2020, Jackie Jordan retired as our Box Office Coordinator and Jordi Sunier took up this 30 hour a week post whilst also working 7.5 hours a week in our Stage Department - Jordi is a former Assistant Stage Manager (Apprentice). And, having resigned from their posts to move onto pastures new in January 2020, both Alison Ward (Exhibitions Coordinator) and Sarah Tompkins (Administrative Assistant) departed in March and we wish them well and success in their new work.

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 a phenomenal feat to have delivered the Fox in 2020.

The Management Committee continued to monitor the operational challenges of the 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 19+ 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 global economic and 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 2021 as we restart performances again and celebrate all areas of the performing, 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 from 2020 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 2021.

**DANIEL AUSTIN, BA (Hons), MA, ACA**



The Outside Track



# Performances

2020 was a year unlike any other at Jersey Arts Centre. However, despite the many challenges that the COVID-19 pandemic posed, two seasons of live performances were still offered to the community of Jersey. A third - online - season was offered between March and September.

## The Spring Season

From January to March, Jersey Arts Centre presented a professional programme of diverse and engaging work, complemented by offerings from local organisations and community groups. Performances ranged from traditional pantomime, drama, music, dance, comedy and much more.

The 2020 programme began in usual style in January with the JADC's pantomime, *Beauty and the Beast*, which ran for 11 performances. This family-friendly show was enjoyed by 2,016 panto-goers!

Two local dance and performing arts schools also made Jersey Arts Centre their home in the spring season, providing performance opportunities for dancers both at the beginning of their training and those more advanced. Emma Jane Dance Academy was the first school to perform in January and February, as they presented five performances of *Everybody Dance Now*. 971 family members, friends and dance fans attended these performances. March saw Central School of Dance return to Jersey Arts Centre, as they entertained 343 audience members over three performances of *Spring Fever*. Also, from Friday 28 February to Sunday 2 March, the Benjamin Meaker Theatre was home to the Jersey Dance Awards for the first time. Over this weekend, seven sessions of dance competition and one Gala performance saw 1,755 audience members attend from dancing schools in both Jersey and Guernsey.

*The Cool Science Show* arrived on stage in February, astounding audiences with the 'magic' of science! Over two performances 488 science fans enjoyed seeing these outlandish experiments. March then saw Jersey Arts Centre host a production of *Grease* from St Michael's Preparatory School. This fun and much-loved musical was enjoyed by 436 audience members over two performances.

Jersey Arts Centre's professional music programme, featuring world-renowned musicians from various genres, began in style with a performance from Trio Isimsiz in January. Kindly supported by Amici Artium, this classical concert was enjoyed by 107 attendees. Amici Artium's classical programme continued in February with a concert from the Castalian Quartet, which had 95 attendances. Folk music was also represented in the spring season, beginning with the return of The Outside Track in January. This lively and popular band entertained 170 music fans. Folk duo Lucy Farrell and Andrew Waite performed for the first time at Jersey Arts Centre in February, with 49 attendances, whilst Danish duo Andreas Tophøj and Rune Barslund, who performed in March, drew 73 music fans to their concert.

The professional drama season began with the return of Oddsocks Productions and their new production of *Pinocchio*. This classic folk tale was performed over five nights in January, which delighted and entertained 760 theatre fans! January also saw a performance of *Edmund/Edgar* by Jonny Liron and Jeremy Hardingham, with 44 attendances. Presented as part of Jersey Arts Centre's Residency programme (more information about this can be found on page 17), the performance was conceived over a week's residency in the theatre.

Performer and poet Luke Wright returned to Jersey Arts Centre in February with a performance of his new show, *The Remains of Logan Dankworth*. Looking at trust and privilege in the age of Brexit, this third instalment of Wright's political trilogy was enjoyed by 33 attendees. Simon MacDonald's *Going Underground*, inspired by the photography of Bob Mazzer, returned for a second instalment in March. Over two performances 174 audience members were entertained by this series of eclectic scenes.

Film was represented in the spring season by Jersey Arts Centre's Monday Matinée series, and the ever-popular programme from the Jersey Film Society. The Monday Matinée screenings consisted of: *Hush, Hush, Sweet Charlotte* (January) with 26 attendances, a double bill of *Paddington* and *Paddington 2* (February) with 20 and 16 attendances respectively, and *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf* (March) with 25 attendances. Jersey Film Society began their season in January with the Japanese film *Shoplifters*, and their final screening of the spring season was the rite-of-passage drama, *Girl*, in March.

Unbeknownst to all, the final public performance to take place at Jersey Arts Centre in the spring 2020 season was Flo and Joan's *Before the Screaming Starts*. Over two nights the comedy duo delighted 481 attendees with their unique brand of musical whimsy.

Although due to be performed between 19 and 21 March, youtheatre's production of Carol Ann Duffy's *Beasts and Beauties* had to be cancelled due to increasing coronavirus restrictions. Turn to page 16 of this Annual Report to discover how the youtheatre adapted to this last-minute change!



Flo + Joan: *Before the Screaming Starts*

# Performances (cont.)

## The Online Lockdown Season

After two very productive meetings, combining the staff bases' various ideas, Jersey Arts Centre began to offer an online programme beginning on Monday 23 March. From then, until Friday 11 September, Jersey Arts Centre utilised its website, social media platforms, staff talents, and members of our local artistic community to create a series of recommendations, performances, community projects, audio storytelling and much more. Jersey Arts Centre extends its huge gratitude to its Members, audiences, volunteers and staff for their incredible and unparalleled support over these 25 weeks, and for engaging so thoroughly and enthusiastically with our new online content.

In summary, and between Monday 23 March and Friday 11 September 2020, Jersey Arts Centre presented:

- 625 Daily Recommendations
- 108 featured images in Off the Wall
- 22 Composite videos of the Off the Wall entries (with 665 works submitted by 194 photographers!)
- 81 JAC-anories
- 61 Flash! Fiction! featured stories from 45 writers
- 18 songs from Bertrand et Véronique
- 17 Liberation 75 poems
- 17 ACT Monologues
- 8 instalments of the youththeatre production
- 6 extracts from Simon MacDonald's *Going Underground*
- 2 Shakespeare Shorts

There were a total of 1,009 activities and experiences, plus a further 842 communications, across our digital platforms, combining to create a grand total of: 1,851. Incredible!

## The Autumn Season

Jersey Arts Centre was given the green light to host public performances again, with a reduced capacity of 40 audience members, in October 2020 and, in fitting reflection of the beginning of the spring 2020 season, the autumn season began with a pilot performance of the 2006 movie: *Little Miss Sunshine* and for which Jersey Arts Centre was given a special dispensation for 80 attendees. In fact, there were 65 attendances at which representatives from Public Health were also present to assess our coronavirus mitigations after which a series of one-act plays was presented by the JADC. These three short plays, given the umbrella title of *Choices*, performed over six nights, and was received with great joy by the 212 attendees.

The JADC was not the only local group who were able to make Jersey Arts Centre their home in this new season. DramaLab presented their production of *Hamlet* in November. Over two performances 74 family members, friends and drama fans were able to enjoy this classic Shakespearean tragedy.

Jersey Film Society returned with a series of four film screenings between October and November, starting with *The Lighthouse*, starring Willem Dafoe and Robert Pattinson, and ending with the documentary *Stories We Tell*.

Jersey Arts Centre was also able to offer a season of film, performances and music, making use of the wealth of local

talent available on the Island in lieu of a touring programme. The Polish Film Festival, having been rescheduled from its original summer date, was presented over two weekends in October and November. More information about the 2020 Festival can be found on page 20. Jersey Arts Centre's in-house adult theatre company, ArtsCentreTheatre, presented their production of *Lust Actually* in October over three nights. 111 audience members thoroughly enjoyed this radio play version of an ancient Greek classic. You can find out more about ACT's production on page 15. The 16th Human Rights Festival was able to remain in its usual November slot, with four films being screened from 3 November. Highlighting LGBTQ+ Human Rights issues around the world, 57 audience members were able to view these important films. More information about each Human Rights Festival film is available to read on page 20.

Classical music was well represented in November, as local pianist James Horsfall presented an evening of Bach, Beethoven and more. 37 music fans were able to spend an evening enjoying this concert.

November also saw Simon MacDonald return with a new one-man show, *In Receipt*, for two performances. Inspired by the storytelling potential of receipts, this entertaining and sometimes moving piece was attended by 74 audience members.

The popular Monday Matinée film screenings also returned for this slightly shorter autumn season. The films shown were: *Hidden Figures* (October) with 20 attendances and *Baz Luhrman's Romeo + Juliet* (November) with 21 attendances.

Despite the numerous COVID-19 restrictions, an audience capacity of 40 (then 20 in December) and the need for extra precautionary measures, Jersey Arts Centre was still able to present 16 out of 24 performances of the 2020 Christmas Production: a revival of Daniel Austin's adaptation of Gerald Durrell's *My Family and Other Animals* from 2007. Performed between 2 and 17 December (as well as two open Dress Rehearsals on 30 November and 1 December for family members), using two casts of 7 performers (the Daffodil Yellows and the Strawberry Pinks), 349 audience members were transported to the Ionian Island of Corfu to spend some time with Gerry Durrell and his eccentric family. For more information about the Christmas production of *My Family and Other Animals*, please see page 18 of this Annual Report.

Once again, Jersey Arts Centre would like to extend its gratitude to all those who engaged with our programme, whether in person, or online, throughout this extraordinary year!



Amici Artium: Trio Isimsiz

# Statistics

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

	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Drama	24	21	22	19	20	23	17	22	16	34	18
Classical Music	27	16	22	14	13	17	17	22	16	13	13
Jazz + World Music	17	20	14.5	14	15	17	10	13	20	14	13
Dance	6	5	7	4	3	2	3	-	6	-	-
Comedy	-	5	7	7	3	-	2	5	2	2	4
Literature / Lectures	8	8	4	7	6	6	14	5	4	4	9
youth theatre + ACT + Junior Drama	9	12	9	9	12	11	9	9	12	9	4
Other	9	13	14.5	26	28	24	28	24	24	24	39

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 youth theatre, 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.

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

	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Drama	61	75	56	46	63	65	56	62	68	54	N/A
Classical Music	47	28	33	26	28	33	30	33	26	39	N/A
Jazz + World Music	50	47	58	35	41	32	32	43	31	34	N/A
Dance	44	26	45	16	19	41	34	-	22	-	N/A
Comedy	-	53	50	56	29	-	46	26	99	99	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:

	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Number of Promotions	110	108	110	102	126	116	109	112	116	114	55
Number of Hirings	126	162	131	122	116	100	110	114	98	118	51
School Performances / AI fresco*	-	-	-	21	27	2	31	-	-	-	-
Total Ticketed Performances	236	270	241	245	269	218	250	226	214	232	106

	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Performances at BMT	185	208	196	197	209	192	198	210	195	216	106
Performances at St James or OMC	39	40	29	11	13	8	-	-	-	-	-
Performances at Other Spaces	12	22	16	16	20	16	21	16	19	16	-
Performances in Schools/AI fresco	-	-	-	21	27	2	31	-	-	-	-
Total Ticketed Performances	236	270	241	245	269	218	250	226	214	232	106
Total Tickets Sold	29,264	34,331	27,836	27,927	31,169	21,252	26,549	25,291	25,553	25,242	9,855
Average Audience	124	127	116	114	116	98	106	112	119	109	93



## Statistics (cont.)

Due to COVID-19, Jersey Arts Centre closed its doors on Monday 23 March and presented 25 weeks of an online digital programme, details of which can be found on page 4 and page 9. Whilst the Berni Gallery presented exhibitions again from 25 September, the first performance was the pilot performance on Friday 9 October. See pages 4 and 9 for the online programme.

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.



Luke Wright: *The Remains of Logan Dankworth*

### Benjamin Meaker Utilisation:

	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Benjamin Meaker Promotions	35	34	43	40	44	47	46	45	49	48	52
Benjamin Meaker Hirings	65	66	57	60	56	53	54	55	51	52	48

Between Monday 23 March and Friday 11 September 2020, and for 25 weeks during lockdown, Jersey Arts Centre presented a total of 1,009 activities and experiences, plus a further 842 communications, across our digital platforms - Grand Total: 1,851.

It's a wonder!

During 2020 there were a further 8 non-ticketed hirings - comprising rehearsals, seminars and workshops - at Jersey Arts Centre.

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.



Andreas Tophøj + Rune Barslund

# Exhibitions

Jersey Arts Centre's gallery spaces played host to 16 exhibitions in 2020: 8 in the Berni Gallery and 8 in the Bar Gallery.

The year began with the continuation of *Good Work, JCG!*, which celebrated the work of GCSE Art students from 2019. This exhibition, which showcased a variety of artistic styles, ran in the Berni Gallery until 11 January. Next, Island collections were displayed from 13 January – 15 February in *from across the island*. Featuring works from the private collections of members of Jersey Arts Centre's Exhibitions Sub-committee, this diverse assortment of artworks provided an insight into the tastes of the Sub-committee and made for an exciting and eclectic exhibition.

Jersey Arts Centre's Berni Gallery was made unrecognisable from 22 February, as the latest 'drawing-on-the-walls' exhibition - *liberation* - was created by four local artists in just 36 hours. Chantal Venton, Jacques Le Breton, Rob Allen and PJ Thompson created pieces straight onto the gallery walls inspired by the idea of freedom.

Though originally scheduled from Tuesday 7 April, Jersey Arts Centre's latest word exhibition, *seventy-five years*, was unable to be physically displayed due to the closure of the Phillips Street building. However, from 1 May, all 17 poems were shared virtually as part of Jersey Arts Centre's online programme.

When the Berni Gallery was able to re-open in September 2020, the first exhibition on show from 25 September featured work from the Fox Open Art Competition 2020 Judge, Chris Mould. Mould's exhibition featured illustrations from various children's book titles, as well as a few personal pieces. This exhibition segued into the Fox Open Art Competition Exhibition 2020, which ran from 12 October – 7 November. Highlighting the talent of local artists, and celebrating a wide range of mediums, the competition was won by Martin McDowell and his piece *Cherchez La Femme, La Dame et le Mouton*. Martin also exhibited a selection of solo works in his exhibition *Surveyor's (Interim) Report* from 23 November.

Artist Russell Layton returned to the Berni Gallery in November with his new collection of limited edition prints entitled *How We Live Now (Comme je vivons achteau)*. This exhibition placed our modern selves within scenes captured by historic Jersey photographs.

The final exhibition in the Berni Gallery in 2020 was presented in conjunction with Jersey Zoo and Jersey Arts Centre's Christmas production of Gerald Durrell's *My Family and Other Animals*. *Nelly Draws for Durrell* saw the walls of the gallery adorned with Nelly's 100 drawings of animals, highlighting the conservation work of the Zoo and the environmental plight of wildlife around the world.

Jersey Arts Centre's Bar Gallery hosted 8 exhibitions throughout 2020, with cross-stitch, sketches, painting, arts and crafts 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 to use.

We would like to thank all those people without whose help the Berni Gallery's exhibitions would 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 must extend to the Exhibitions Sub-committee Chair, Mark Blanchard, and to Val Aitken and Jackie Monticelli for their incredible work in programming and hanging the exhibitions throughout the year... and without whom...



Russell Layton Exhibition: *How We Live Now (Comme je vivons achteau)*



# Courses and Workshops

## Spring Season: 37 Attendances

Tai Chi 1

Tai Chi 2

Holocaust Memorial Poetry

Speak-in-a-Week Spanish

Speak-in-a-Week Latin

Healing Meditation

### Tutor

Richard Matthews

Richard Matthews

Juliette Hart

Elena Fiodoruk

Diana Mezei

Yvonne Heavey

## Autumn Season: 26 Attendances

Introduction to Tai Chi

History of Art

Tomte Nisse 1

Tomte Nisse 2

### Tutor

Richard Matthews

Lisa Oxenden-Wray

Kerry Jane Warner

Kerry Jane Warner

**Total Number of Participants: 63**

**Total Number of Courses: 10**

**Total Number of Different Tutors: 7**

There were a further 1,069 attendances at 42 workshops in schools. Please see below for further details.

In 2020 many of the planned courses and workshops were unable to go ahead due to COVID-19 restrictions. Unfortunately, we missed out on being able to provide an entire summer season and both the spring and autumn seasons were either cut short or reduced.

However, we were grateful to our course tutors who were very patient and provided some wonderful courses for our community to enjoy.

Our previously sold out course, Tai Chi, returned in both seasons with great success. We look forward to seeing how these courses develop and expand in future years.

We also expanded our Tomte Nisse offering from one workshop to two and, as in previous years, we were sold out and had a waiting list.

Despite the lower than normal statistics, we are confident that when restrictions are fully lifted and Jersey Arts Centre is able to resume its pre-COVID-19 operation we will be able to offer a full range of courses with new and exciting opportunities for our community to engage with.



Tomte Nisse Workshop

# Education and Outreach

Despite circumstances, throughout 2020, Jersey Arts Centre continued Education and Outreach opportunities with and for the community.

This year we continued with our workshop programme based around Holocaust Memorial Day. Over 5 days we ran 10 workshops in 9 schools with 263 attendances. The workshops explored 3 key aspects of the Holocaust: the context of World War II, the Occupation of the Island and The Jersey 21. The workshops were positively received and it is an initiative we hope to continue in the future.

We were just in time to be able to bring back our previous initiative of World Book Day workshops, just a couple of weeks before the Island faced lockdown. Over 5 days, we ran 9 workshops in 8 schools with 216 attendances. Janette Froud, who is part of Jersey Arts Centre's Theatre-in-Education Company, ran these workshops which explored words and their meaning along with activities based around students' favourite books and stories.

After the success of the Christmas Show outreach programme held since 2017, Jersey Arts Centre also ran workshops based on Gerald Durrell's *My Family and Other Animals* throughout November 2020. Over the course of 3 weeks, we delivered 23 workshops in 14 schools with 590 attendances. The main aspects of this workshop were the 3 key Jersey Arts Centre theatre disciplines of: communication, concentration and commitment.

Along with this, students gained an understanding of the story of *My Family and Other Animals* through freeze frame and characterisation exercises. The workshops also had a focus on conservation with which the students were hugely engaged.

There were a total of 42 workshops in schools with 1,069 attendances as part of our Education and Outreach programme.

Jersey Arts Centre also hosted two Project trident students during the spring season in 2020.



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 at 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

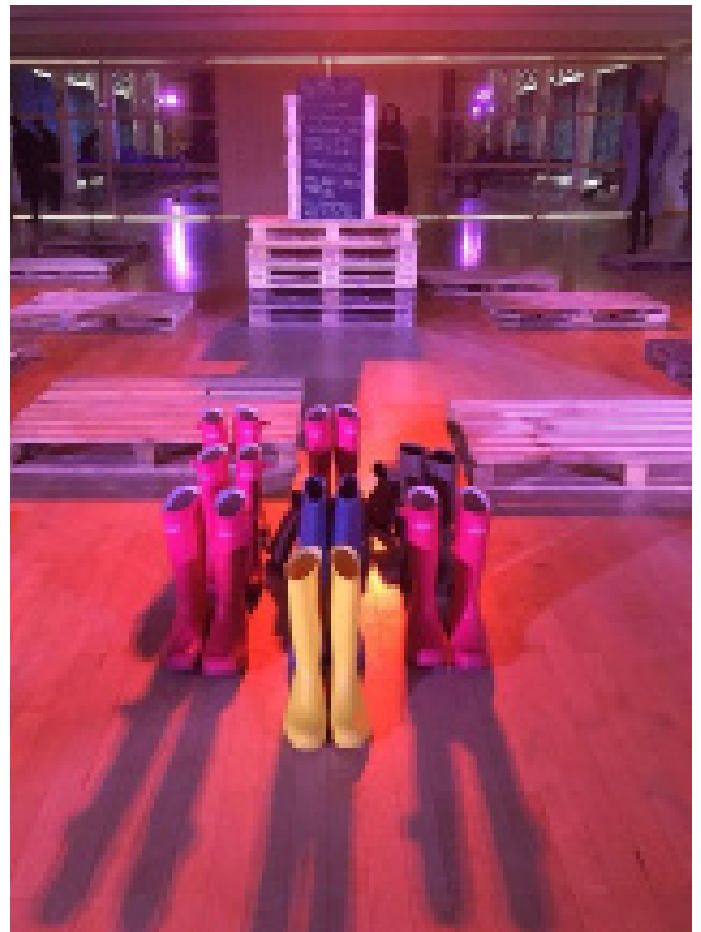
2012: *The Conversation* by youththeatre members

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.



youththeatre: *Animal Farm*

# ArtsCentreTheatre

The clouds of the coronavirus were barely a blip on the radar as ArtsCentreTheatre commenced the workshops, in late November of 2019, that were the first stage of the production process of its 30th project. A landmark for any theatre group, it was to be marked with a new adaptation of Aristophanes' *Lysistrata* – the classic ancient Greek anti-war sex comedy that had been ACT's very first production.

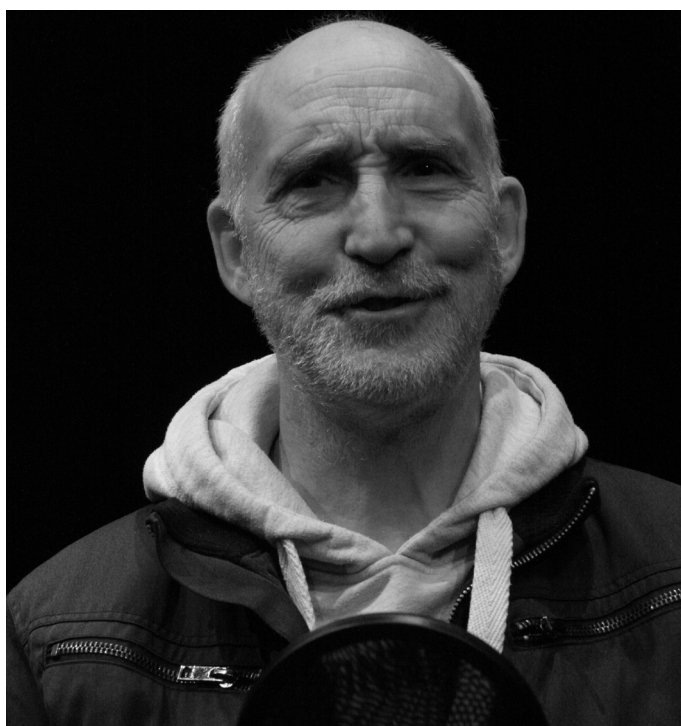
When lockdown became inevitable the project was halted in its tracks with a script completed by Director Jason Kenyon. Actors were cast and desperate to rehearse with all the plans for costume, set, props, lighting and sound in place and ready to be realised...

However, Jason decided that by hook or by crook the project would be completed before the end of the year. The best option to ensure this was to re-adapt his new adaptation, now officially entitled *Lust Actually*, and transform it into an audio comedy to

be recorded in front of a live audience (three live audiences in fact) for subsequent release on CD. The project would introduce the cast to new disciplines and their Director could realise a long held ambition and present his homage to the legendary radio shows that he had listened to in his youth, such as: *The Goon Show*, *Hancock's Half Hour* and *Round The Horne*.

But the members of ACT did not simply sit around waiting for Jersey Arts Centre to reopen and rehearsals to resume. To fill the time, many of them recorded new audio performances of monologues from ACT's Eisteddfod Projects of previous years thereby providing additional content for Jersey Arts Centre's digital output during the lockdown while simultaneously developing some of the skills that would make *Lust Actually* a rip-roaring and riotous success.

There were 16 members of the ACT company in *Lust Actually* with 111 attendances at the three sold-out shows.



ACT: *Lust Actually*



# youtheatre

In 2020, Jersey Art Centre's youtheatre was, of course, presented with a challenge - though the work was still exciting. In Spring 2020 the 15-strong youtheatre cast rehearsed Carol Ann Duffy's *Beasts and Beauties* with the intention of performing to audiences over three evenings in March followed by the bi-annual trip to St Helier's Twin Town of Bad Wurzach in southern Germany. Unfortunately, due to COVID-19 restrictions coming into place at the dress rehearsal of *Beasts and Beauties*, the company had to re-think how to perform due to audiences not being permitted in the theatre. This led to the exciting opportunity to film the dress rehearsal and post it over an 8-week period as part of Jersey Arts Centre's online programme. Despite not performing to a live audience, as usual, the process still allowed the cast to showcase the three disciplines of youtheatre: commitment, concentration and communication.

Due to travel restrictions our planned trip to Bad Wurzach was unable to go ahead, but we look forward to resuming our cultural exchange in the near future.

Again, due to the Island-wide lockdown youtheatre were unable to rehearse and perform the usual second play of the year, however, luckily by September, restrictions had lifted enough that we were able to safely resume workshops and begin preparing for the spring 2021 production.

As well as this, 7 members of the youtheatre were involved in readings for Holocaust Memorial Day on 27 January at the Occupation Tapestry Gallery at the Maritime Museum.

Jersey Arts Centre youtheatre always enjoys the opportunity to animate Island events and we hope to resume this as soon as it is feasible. We hope to see audiences at our next production in the summer of 2021 which is currently in rehearsal.

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



youtheatre: *Beasts and Beauties*

## Junior Drama

Our Junior Drama group for 8-13 year olds has now been running for 15 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).

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 production was 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.



Junior Drama member in our Christmas Show...



# Residencies

2020 saw Jersey Arts Centre cancel two of its planned residencies due to COVID-19 but we remain committed to hosting residencies throughout the year, allowing theatre companies and individuals the chance to create, discover, write and be inspired by their surroundings.

Residencies have allowed creatives, both from Jersey and further afield, the space to experiment with new performances and bring interesting and forward-thinking work to Jersey, enhancing Jersey Arts Centre's professional programme.

However, we did manage to present one of the planned residencies in January...

## **Edmund/Edgar**

Two actors prepare. In a production of 'King Lear', they have been cast as the brothers Edmund and Edgar, sons of Gloucester. As in Shakespeare's day, they have been given only their own parts to learn. However, on the night of the performance, none of the other actors had turned up. A truly experimental and improvised performance, actors Jeremy Hardingham and Jonny Liron met for the first time on stage having learnt their lines but never rehearsed, and attempted to get through one of Shakespeare's most riveting plays with none of the other actors to help them. It could have been brilliant, it could have been terrible. The only way to have found out was to have turned up!

*'The time will bring it out.'* - Edmund

Jersey Arts Centre has now hosted 34 residences since 2010 for one, two and three week periods, in various Island spaces: St. James Church, the Assembly Room at St. Helier's Town Hall, The Old Magistrate's Court and the Benjamin Meaker Theatre. They have all aided the promotion of creative work in dance, music, drama and multidisciplinary processes that have been an invaluable asset to the programme of Jersey Arts Centre. We hope to be able to continue to support these residencies in the years to come.

The 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**

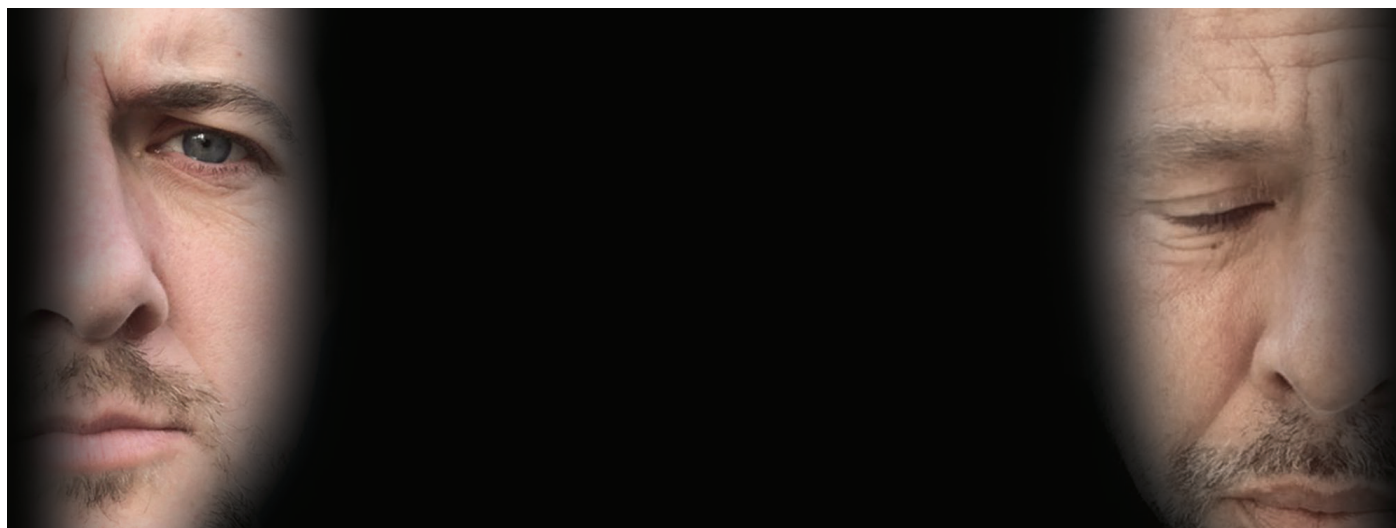
by Yada Yada Productions, March 2019

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

by wolf kid theatre, April 2019

## **Happy Hour**

by Cristian Ceresoli, July 2019



Jonny Liron + Jeremy Hardingham: *Edmund/Edgar*

# Christmas Production

Despite closures, reduced audience capacities and travel restrictions, Jersey Arts Centre was delighted to be able to present its fifth Community Christmas show: Gerald Durrell's *My Family and Other Animals* from Wednesday 2 December 2020. Originally scheduled to run until 22 December, escalating COVID-19 restrictions meant that the final performance took place on Thursday 17 December. Two separate casts of seven actors: the Daffodil Yellows and the Strawberry Pinks performed the adaptation, originally written by Daniel Austin in 2007. Once again, as in previous years, Graeme Humphries agreed to the set and lighting design, and Nick Carver took on board the costume design, with help from Denise Renouf.

Victoria Hermitage was again brought in to bring some dance moments to the production. This time, a traditional Greek Kalamatiano was choreographed, complete with handkerchiefs and 'Hoys'!

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

There were 349 attendances at the 18 performances, including two Dress Rehearsals attended by family members of the casts.

Although *My Family and Other Animals* was a departure from Jersey Arts Centre's usual musical Christmas offering, the adventures of the eccentric Durrells, the languid and peaceful atmosphere of Corfu, the whimsical animal life and the strong conservation message of the piece all contributed to a charming evening of theatre and fun!

Rod McLoughlin, in his Jersey Evening Post review on 8 December, enjoyed the imaginative and triumphant production:

*"... there are times when you marvel at the way in which one scene morphs into another like the transformation of the bumpy ride on arrival in Corfu to the hotel reception area... at other times you respond to the magic of the moment - the uncovering of the boat for example... this production is an achievement and one which emphasises the contribution which live theatre - like live performance in general - makes to our lives even when we share it with only a handful of people..."*



Sincerest thanks go to the creative team mentioned above and the two extraordinary companies of committed, concentrated and skilled actors, which drew from both our Junior Drama and youththeatre groups, together with five adult actors:

## **Daffodil Yellow Team:**

**Lily-Mae Fry, Mac Galvin, Kate Meadows, Flo Camacho, Joshua Scott, Wayne Stewart, Nicole Twinam**

## **Strawberry Pink Team:**

**Oliver Bloor, Nick Carver, James Edey, Tanya Mackay, Jenny McCarthy, Jules Lawrence, Dante Nardone**

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 three weeks in November, Hettie Duncan and Wayne Stewart developed a schools' workshop programme introducing children from Island primary schools to the world of *My Family and Other Animals* and the work of Gerald Durrell. More information about this outreach project can be found on page 13.

We certainly hope that Jersey Arts Centre's Christmas show continues to be a yuletide tradition in Jersey for many years to come – it is already a highlight of our year!





# Liberation Day + Island Animations

## Holocaust Memorial Day – 27 January

On 27 January 2020, Jersey Arts Centre's youththeatre provided readings for the Holocaust Memorial Day ceremony at the Occupation Tapestry Gallery. 7 members of the youththeatre chose readings based on the Holocaust Memorial Day theme 'Stand Together'.

After performing the readings, the 7 members were invited to lay roses to commemorate the Jersey 21, who were deportees to Nazi prisons and camps. This was the youththeatre's 18th animation of the ceremony.

## V.E. Day - 8 May / Liberation 75 - 9 May

Jersey Arts Centre was once again delighted to be asked to plan for and organise the afternoon entertainment for Liberation Day, and also the commemorations for V.E. Day. However, these important celebrations of freedom, reconciliation and friendship were cancelled due to COVID-19.

As Jersey Arts Centre had already commissioned 17 Island poets for a Liberation 75 word exhibition in the Berni Gallery, the commissions were instead shared digitally between 1 - 25 May. Opposite is one of the poems: Judy Mantle's *Time Traveller*.

### Time traveller

She's ninety-one,  
the woman in the next bed  
an expert in time travel  
who without warning flies away

to the family farm in a country parish  
where, aged ten, she milks twenty cows  
before school, helps her mother in the kitchen  
loves learning the piano and singing.

She time travels back to the hospital ward  
and sleep, wakes in the night to sing  
"Que sera sera, whatever will be will be  
the future's not ours to see..." In the past again

the Germans have arrived, changing everything  
making rules, setting curfews, missing their children  
crying for home and peace. "Come on my lovely,  
my darling, shhh my sweetheart, poppet shhhh"

whispers the nurse who strokes the white hair  
of the traveller who has been so far, seen so much  
and now calls out to her mum and dad  
"I'm coming, I'm coming, I'm coming, wait for me!"

**Judy Mantle**

## Eco-Active

What an amazing 'Green Year' 2020 was! With the enforced closure of the building, and no public events during the lockdown period, it was to be expected the use of water, oil and electricity for the year would be greatly reduced, as too was the need for sea and air travel for visiting performers.

However, as you can see from all our other reports it has not stopped Jersey Arts Centre from fulfilling its declared aims, to: Educate, Inspire and Encourage Debate, which was achieved with our move to a digital output. Staff continued to work but reduced their travel on island by working from home. (Although, even before lockdown staff travelled to work by walking, on the bus or by bike whenever possible!).

A huge achievement for the year was to be able to re-stage *My Family and Other Animals* with the permission of the Estate of Gerald Durrell in December. Not only were there the regulations to adhere to for rehearsals and performances, but an opportunity to meet the highest green credentials for the production and thus respect the underlying message of the story. To this end we used set from *Arabian Nights*, *A Christmas Carol* and even from the original production of *My Family and Other Animals* in 2007. Costumes were mainly re-purposed from our previous productions with many props being borrowed from friends and family where we could. Much of the lighting was achieved using the increasing stock of LED theatre lights which in total makes the 2020 Christmas Production our greenest show to date – we hope Gerry Durrell would have been proud of our efforts.

There is little point in reviewing figures 'like-for-like' with 2019, so instead the Green Team will be actively looking at ways

we can continue or adopt these unexpected changes into our operation as we move back to live productions, exhibitions and room hirings throughout 2021. One example being the possibility to continue with the virtual brochure thus reducing the number of physical copies.

One of the goals for 2021 is to look back at the criteria for joining Eco-Active, of which we have been a member for over 10 years now, and re-appraise all aspects of our operation to see if improvements can still be made for the sake of the planet.

After all, in the words of Gerald Durrell: "*We hope that there will still be the extraordinary varieties of creatures sharing the land of the planet with you to enchant you and enrich your lives as they have done for us.*"

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



*My Family and Other Animals*

# 16th Human Rights Festival

In November 2020 Jersey Arts Centre continued offering documentary and feature filmmaking, highlighting Human Rights issues from around the world. This year marked our 16th Human Rights Festival which focused on telling LGBTQ+ stories. The festival ran from Tuesday 3 November - Friday 6 November and showcased three documentary films and one feature film.

The films began on Tuesday 3 November with a screening of the documentary film *Disclosure*. Despite capacity restrictions we had 12 audience members for this film. *Disclosure* is an unprecedented eye-opening look at transgender depictions in television and film by Director Sam Feder. It reveals how Hollywood simultaneously reflects and manufactures our deepest anxieties about gender.

*A Worm In the Heart* followed on Wednesday 4 November and was viewed by 17 audience members. Irish film Director Paul Rice and his boyfriend shot in six cities along the trans Siberian railway, going undercover to meet the many heroic members of the LGBTQ+ community who risk their lives living authentically under oppressive laws and prejudices.

We continued the week on Thursday 5 November with *Gay Chorus Deep South*, an uplifting yet poignant documentary following the San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus and their journey across the American Deep South. It beautifully shows how the things that can divide us (faith, politics and sexual identity) can be set aside by the power of music. This film was enjoyed by 10 audience members.

We ended the powerful week of films with a feature film, *Jose*, which was enjoyed by our largest audience of the week with 18 audience members. Director Li Cheng presented the story of 19-year-old Jose's life in Guatemala and the struggles of being gay in a fraught cultural environment. His life begins routine and aimless until he meets a Caribbean migrant and in the relationship he finds passion, pain and self-reflection.

Although the 16th Human Rights Festival had audience capacity restrictions, it brought 57 audience members over 4 screenings and we hope in the future to resume our schools' visits to the festival when our larger capacities have resumed. We hope to present this important festival in the years to come.



Human Rights Festival: *Gay Chorus, Deep South*

## 7th Polish Film Festival

The 7th Polish Film Festival, originally scheduled to take place in the 2020 summer season at Jersey Arts Centre, was instead postponed until the 2020 autumn season when the capacity in the auditorium was 40. Screened over two weekends in October, the festival took inspiration from 'Women in Polish Cinema': celebrating the work of female performers, directors and cinematographers that have helped to shape the excellent reputation that Polish cinema enjoys worldwide.

The first two screenings of the festival took place on Saturday 24 October with *Wild Roses (Dzikie Rose)*. This family drama, directed by Anna Jadowska, centres on the character of Ewa, who returns to a small Polish village after a short stay in hospital. Burdened by a secret, Ewa struggles when her husband returns from working away, and finds difficulty in adapting to family life. Honest and emotional, *Wild Roses* tackles the struggle against a dominant patriarchal culture. *Wild Roses* was screened at 4pm and had 17 attendees.

The opening weekend of the festival concluded with an 8pm screening of *Ida*. This critically acclaimed film, shot in black and white, followed the story of Anna, a novice nun about to take her vows in 1962. When Anna uncovers a family secret concerning her heritage, her Mother Superior convinces her to visit her Aunt Wanda, which in turn reveals more and more about her family's tragic story. Beautifully filmed and with a stunning script, *Ida* was enjoyed by 23 audience members.

The Festival continued on Saturday 31 October with another double bill of Polish films.

The day began with an afternoon screening at 4pm of *Women's Day (Dzien Kobiet)*. Directed by Maria Sadowska, and based on a true story, the film followed the character of Halina Radwan: a supermarket employee and single mother to a teenage daughter. Offered a promotion, Halina at first enjoys her new status, but when the dark side of her new-found success emerges she begins to fight back against the corporate machine. Dramatic, yet ultimately uplifting, *Women's Day* was seen by 8 matinée movie-goers.

The final film in the 7th Polish Film Festival was *In Darkness (W Ciemnosci)* which was screened at 8pm. Directed by Angieszka Holland, this film centred around Leopold Socha, a sewer worker and petty thief living in Nazi-occupied Poland during the Second World War. When Socha encounters Jewish people using the sewers to flee persecution, he begins to accept payment in return for their safety. 17 audience members enjoyed this extraordinary tale of survival, again based on a true story.

Overall, 65 attendees experienced four enlightening Polish films over two days at Jersey Arts Centre.



# 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](http://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

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.

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 2020 comprised:

- **Rod McLoughlin** – Honorary Chairperson
- **Val Aitken** – Honorary Vice-Chairperson
- **Vacant** – Honorary Secretary
- **David Pett** – Honorary Treasurer
- **Fiona Speller**
- **Tom Dingle** representing ArtHouse Jersey
- **Agnetta Nerac** representing the Ministry for Health and Social Services
- **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 give assistance in the form of sponsorship or grants during the year, members of the Business Partners Scheme, or who gave 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 (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 (1,222 - incorporating 669 memberships at December 2020), including our Patrons and Benefactors, who give their time so willingly to assist in the smooth running of the operation.



Amici Artium: Castalian Quartet

## OUR THANKS

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

Janet Copp  
Stefanie Henkel-Hagman  
JADC  
Jersey Green Room Club  
Les Quennevais School  
Modern Hotels  
Denise Renouf  
Gisela Rothenhäusler  
Wayne Stewart

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Sophie Huelin + Lisette Jones at Public Health

Val Aitken	Jane Mason
Mark Blanchard	Kate Meadows
Deanne Bratch	Xander Meadows
Jennifer Bridge	Jacqueline Mézec
Chris Bright	Nathalie Nardone
Florence Camacho	Kaye Nicholson-Horn
Gabriel Carter	Kevin Pamplin
Andrew Davey	Michelle Parker
Janette Froud	Richard Pedley
Andrew Goodyear	Dorothy Perks
Juliette Hart	George Robertson
Jack Humphries	Catherine Saker
Matt Keywood	Debbie Taylor
Pippa Le Quesne	Paula Thelwell
Simon MacDonald	Ryan Williams
Fynn Mason	

## ACT (ArtsCentreTheatre)

Katie Hayes	Kaye Nicholson-Horn
Nicole Duhamel	Sara Monticelli
Fi Marchant	Sarah Michael
Christine Haggart	Rosie Barclay
Stefan Gough	Mike Monticelli

## For the Government of Jersey:

Steve Cartwright and The Bailiff's Chambers  
Senator Lyndon Farnham, Minister for EDTSC  
Deputy Montfort Tadier, Assistant Minister for Culture, EDTSC  
Connétable of St Helier Simon Crowcroft  
Parish of St Helier and the Town Hall  
Planning and Environment Department  
Property Holdings  
Dan Houseago & Rick Horsley, Df GHE  
Chris Kelleher, OCE



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