

Annual Report 2022

jersey arts centre



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.

Honorary Patron (2018 - 2022)
John Lloyd CBE

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

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Jersey Arts Centre Association

ANNUAL REPORT 2022

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

The Management Committee 18 May 2022 - 24 May 2023

Chairman	Deanne Bratch, BA (Hons), MA, FCMA
Treasurer	Callum Webb, BSc (Hons)
Secretary	Richard Pedley
Members	Annie Lezala, Devorah Morris-Monro, Jacqui Patton, Dorothy Perks

Exhibitions Sub-committee

Chairman	Mark Blanchard
Members	Valentine Aitken, Daniel Austin, Sara Job, 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	Mac Galvin (September - November)
Administrative Assistant	<i>Vacant</i>
Box Office and Assistant Stage Manager	Jordi Sunier
Box Office Assistants	Taisie Humphries, Betsy Amy-Vogt, Esther Corfield
Assistant Stage Manager (Apprentice)	Finlay Ormsby (January - July)
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 Image: *Alice in Wonderland and Through the Looking-Glass*
This page: Dr Adam Perchard: *Ballads from Bunker Island*

2022 in Summary

Jersey Arts Centre delivered the following events, activities and experiences throughout 2022:

- 236 ticketed performances with 24,572 attendances
- 13 exhibitions in the Berni Gallery
- 15 exhibitions in the Bar Gallery
- 26 public courses and workshops (67 sessions) with 114 participants
- 12 workshops in 10 schools for World Book Day with 317 participants
- 16 workshops in 13 schools for Liberation Day with 438 participants
- 2 youththeatre productions: *The Changing Room + Skellig*
- 2 ACT projects: *Five Children and It + Hatched, Matched & Dispatched*
- 1 Junior Drama project: *Grimm's Fairy Tales*
- 4 Residencies: *Pinkeze Up!, Chrome Yellow, SHELL + Ballads from Bunker Island*
- 2 Commissions: *Jersey and the Crown* (Berni Gallery) + *CAHUN – a retrospective* by Jacqueline Mézec
- Our 20th consecutive year of assisting with the Holocaust Memorial Day ceremony
- youththeatre readings at the Former Internees 77th Liberation Day Anniversary at the War Tunnels
- 4 youththeatre historical dramas before their Royal Highnesses, the Earl and Countess of Wessex
- 1 youththeatre reading at the Liberation Day Ceremony
- 1 youththeatre reading at the Deportees Plaque at the Albert Quay for the Bad Wurzach delegation
- 15 events at Coronation Park in August
- The animation of C.I. Pride at People's Park with 8 acts incorporating 27 artists
- The 9th Polish Film Festival
- The 18th Human Rights Festival
- The hosting of 7 Project Trident students
- JAC's 5 community theatre companies ran including the Brighter Futures Company
- Our second Oddsocks Summer School with 20 participants
- 53 Arts in Health Care Trust concerts across 31 Island care settings
- JAC Advent Calendar online in December
- Our 7th Community Christmas Production: Adrian Mitchell's adaptation of Lewis Carroll's *Alice in Wonderland & Through the Looking Glass* with 2,321 attendances over 18 ticketed performances
- 27 workshops in 17 schools with 659 participants exploring the *Alice in Wonderland* story

Online Participants:

- Website Visits: 119,609
- Page Views: 283,243
- Unique Users: 79,928

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

Image: Amici Artium: Jean-Efflam Bavouzet

Chairman's Report

This year has seen a return to full audiences and a more stable programming environment although this has not been without challenges as the wider world began to recover from the impact of COVID-19. Working with valued partners particularly from Jersey, France and the United Kingdom has enabled Jersey Arts Centre to fulfil its core responsibility for a broad and diverse programme that can accommodate the needs of our community. This has been driven by our ability to work with the grant given to us from the Government of Jersey and our ability to raise funds ourselves. This has resulted in another solid and stable financial outcome for 2022.

The management of the financial aspects of Jersey Arts Centre is an important part of the work of the Management Committee and there is ongoing discussion about the quantum of the grant and how this reflects the ambitions of the Jersey Arts Centre team. During our discussions with Government, we have been very clear that the team have a proven track record of delivery and excellence whilst working collaboratively within the wider cultural sector in Jersey. It is certainly my belief that Government could call on Jersey Arts Centre to do more if there were a different level of funding although I appreciate that there are many calls on a very tight budget overall. One of the initiatives for 2024 and onwards will be our proposed Children's Festival and this funding is a direct result of those discussions with Government.

The issues at Phillips Street are not resolved and it has been a disappointing year in that regard. As I stated last year, this is a government building which is occupied by Jersey Arts Centre and there is a duty 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 2022 we secured some monies to conduct a more up to date condition survey and to commence with some immediate remedial repairs and these projects will be completed in 2023. It is my firm belief that the Government must include the overall sums of money required for the wider project in the Government Plan for 2024.

This is my final report as Chairman of Jersey Arts Centre and it is with a great deal of emotion that I say it has been an absolute privilege to work with the team and with the various members of the Management Committees over the years. I leave knowing that Jersey Arts Centre is in a solid position with the most wonderful people to continue to guide it forward. I will continue to be a regular visitor in the audience, and I look forward to seeing what happens next.

Thank you everyone.

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



Image: Luke Wright: *Luke Wright*

Financial Report

The beginning of the year was met with some disappointment for Jersey Arts Centre, in the form of the Fiscal Stimulus grant earmarked for refurbishment. Due to circumstances outside of Jersey Arts Centre's control, the time constraints for the grant could not be met and £2,071,105 had to be repaid in March.

There has nonetheless been continual effort from the Director to ensure refurbishment money is obtained. Budget of £150,000 for a feasibility study has been secured, with the Minister approving our Director's request to use £70,000 for vital refurbishment works. The finances indicate that the effects of COVID-19 have gradually made less of an impact on operations. With only two cancelled performances for the Christmas Production in 2022, the box office takings were twice as great than for 2021. Inflows and outflows for promotions similarly doubled.

Key Highlights

- Cash Balance: £472,486 at the end of 2022 vs £329,520 at the end 2021 (excluding the Fiscal Stimulus cash that was in the bank at the end of 2021 before being returned)

In real terms, there is an increase of £142,966. This is in part due to an increase in the creditor's balance of £158,182 - that includes Grant prepayments with a slight increase of £15,733. The increase in creditors was a timing issue one when prepayments for grant income could be recognised in 2023 and trade creditors, the majority of which represented an example of Jersey Arts Centre acting as an agent for handling ticket sales in support of other arts and culture organisations. Cash at the end of year was benefitted for a suggestion from the Finance Assistant and Director to transfer excess funds into short-term savings to benefit from interest. Although minor, it indicates how maintaining the funds for ongoing success are taken seriously.

- Creditors: £267,751 at the end of 2022 vs £184,898 at the end 2021 (once the Fiscal Stimulus fund liability is removed)
This figure is made up of deferred income and prepayments, largely consisting of grant income received that relates to 2023 (£139,340). Trade creditors (£128,411) of this total figure in 2022.

As noted above, this sum includes funds owed to other arts and culture organisations for which Jersey Arts Centre has acted as an agent for handling ticket sales – 71% of trade creditors relating to one organisation's Christmas production. This represents Jersey Arts Centre's ongoing support of Jersey's cultural sector, offering these services at an incredibly competitive price, whilst enabling another source of revenue income.

- Total Income: £927,811 at the end of 2022 vs £802,756 at the end 2021

The income increases of £125,055 is only partially attributable to an increase in the Economic Development, Sport, Culture & Tourism grant to Jersey Arts Centre, having increased by £41,300. The rest of the increase is a result of maintaining a busy schedule of performances and an effective working relationship with other cultural organisations.

- Operational surplus: £59,213 at the end of 2022 vs £32,683 at the end 2021

The operational surplus has notably improved. Although the greatest net inflow of cash was associated with the receipt of an increased level of grant, keeping control of costs has been important in ensuring this resulted in a comfortable end of year position. The additional income noted above reflects more than just an improvement on inflows. It illustrates the level of activity undertaken by the organisation. The increase in both income and expenditure from hirings and promotions in particular show how Jersey Arts Centre is actively engaging with Islanders, bringing value to them.

The Future

As we have gradually moved towards living with COVID-19, the plans for 2023 appear to be back to business-as-usual concerning ambition, with the Director ensuring a full schedule brings not just income to the organisation but crucially brings in people to Jersey Arts Centre.

The staff at Jersey Arts Centre bring unmatched value. They allow the organisation to achieve its aims. The flexibility, passion and enthusiasm of staff is evident in all activities and events. Economic pressures have hit many individuals recently, so salaries have been increased this year to match the local inflationary pressures and limit its impact. The future of Jersey Arts Centre appears strong operationally. The Director continues to nurture relationships with outside parties to result in great collaborations, with a prime example being a recent performance with ARTcomedia to celebrate a 10-year long working relationship.

There is also a persistent passion from the Director to ensure that Jersey Arts Centre gets the capital investment needed to match its strong presence in the arts and culture sector. Whilst the outgoing Chairperson has appeared unrivalled in their fervour for the organisation, the current nominee presents themselves as strong, endearing and excited to aid in securing Jersey Arts Centre's future.



Image: Ida: A Classical Crossover

Director's Report

The Statistics and Key Performance Indicators

Jersey Arts Centre (JAC) has a Partnership Agreement (January 2022 – December 2023) with the Government of Jersey's Department for the Economy (ED) within which are key performance indicators (KPIs). As you will see from the summary on page 4, and on pages 10+11, of this Annual Report our achievements were wide-ranging. JAC exceeded its 220 target for ticketed performances by 7% and its target of 90 for hirings by 19%. The latter was in part due to the industrious activity of our local groups and societies. There were 51 weeks of exhibitions in both the Berni and Bar Galleries (target: 48) and we exceeded the target of 45 for courses and workshops by 91%, bringing the total for both public and schools to 86. Our membership target, whilst being set at 720 (with 1,280 individual members) was partly achieved with a total of 630 memberships (with 1,302 individual members).

Governance

JAC is governed by its Constitution (available on the Membership page of our website) which protects its independence and autonomy. Its Management Committee (MC) met nine times in 2022 to guide and monitor both the artistic, operational and financial challenges of our busy community Arts Centre. The Annual General Meeting (AGM) was held on 18 May 2022 to discuss, propose and adopt the Financial Statements and the Annual Report for 2021. JAC also has a Strategic Plan: 2020-2026, which was updated in November 2022, and a Register of Interests of the MC, which is updated after the AGM. The Director and the Chairperson report to ED on a quarterly basis and minutes, management accounts and quarterly KPIs are shared at this time. JAC also completes the Government of Jersey's Governance Checklist, updated in March 2022 and February 2023, and within which we outline our Safeguarding Policy. This policy is updated in August each year and can be found on the policies page of our website (at the foot of the home page), and on all relevant participatory pages.

Risk Management

JAC also updates its Risk Management Framework, dated February 2022 and February 2023, yearly. This document is shared with ED and GoJ, is available on request, and identifies nine risk categories: property, process, technology, people, data protection, COVID-19, financial, business change and strategic. Our principle high risk area, in terms of likelihood, is in relation to property and this is now made more acute with the withdrawal of the Fiscal Stimulus £2.9 million and the risk of infrastructure failure. This is currently mitigated by a grant of £150,000, secured from ED and GoJ in October 2022, to enable a new feasibility study with £70,000 of this grant being used for immediate works to prevent any failure.

COVID-19

Throughout 2022, Jersey Arts Centre continued to follow all Government of Jersey advice and legislation with regard to the coronavirus. A return to the full 250 audience capacity, from half capacity at the start of the year, was achieved on Monday 25 April. There were various mitigating measures adhered to throughout the year, including room capacities, cleaning regimes, and the cancellation of the last performance of the Christmas production due to an initial positive case within the cast to prevent any further spread. Due to the ever-changing programme caused by COVID-19, from postponements to cancellations, JAC did not print a spring or summer season brochure but instead published this on-line and changed it accordingly and variously. However, an autumn 2022 brochure was printed and was received with delight!

Staffing

There are the equivalent of ten full-time members of staff at Jersey Arts Centre with a further five on contracts of less than 18 hours a week. In expanding the capacity of our Education and Outreach Department, and the Learning Centre, we were able to employ, for two short periods, two Education and Outreach Assistants in 2022. However, we were finally able to secure the full-time (but term-time only) skills of dancer, choreographer and teacher, Victoria Gordon, in spring 2023. Victoria's disciplines will complement those of our Education and Outreach Coordinator, Hettie Duncan. JAC also enjoyed the work of Fynn Ormsby as Assistant Stage Manager (Apprentice) from July 2021 to July 2022, but despite being unable to appoint a successor, we do have someone starting in this role in June 2023.

Jersey Arts Centre is also a member of the Creative Island Partnership (CIP) which formed as a result of the Creative Island Arts Strategy, developed throughout 2021.

This Annual Report is a testament to all that has been achieved in, with and for the community during the past 39+ years by the many volunteers, tutors, staff, committee members, individuals and sponsors who have made Jersey Arts Centre their home. In fact, if we go back to 1970 when the Jersey Arts Council was formed, our work now spans 50+ years! Thank you all so very much for your continued support.

Here's wishing everyone a safe, peaceful but adventurous 2023.

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

Image: Shea + KINGSY Pinkeze Up!

Performances

Although for the first part of 2022 audience numbers were still capped at 125 due to ongoing coronavirus restrictions, 29 April saw the Benjamin Meaker Theatre finally return to its full capacity. This allowed even more members of the Island's community to enjoy Jersey Arts Centre's creative offerings throughout the year!

The professional programme began to grow from strength to strength, despite lingering logistical challenges due to the pandemic. Throughout the year, Jersey Arts Centre hosted and commissioned work from local and international professional performers from both theatrical and musical spheres.

Oddsocks made their usual winter return in January with a double bill of Shakespeare in their *Bard's Best Bits* performances of *Macbeth* and *Much Ado About Nothing*. Over six fun-filled performances, 599 audience members were thoroughly entertained. Summer saw Oddsocks make Coronation Park their home with their new production of *Hamlet the Comedy*. Over nine performances, 2,304 fans enjoyed the company's inimitable style of Shakespeare! Celebrated poet Luke Wright also returned in the spring for a one-night-only performance of his new collection; these deliciously funny poems set against a backdrop of the endless, droning, culture war was enjoyed by 77 audience members. Dr Adam Perchard presented the remarkable *The Thirteenth Fish* for a second time, a site-specific piece performed at Faldouet Dolmen, which was originally scheduled to be performed in March but was rescheduled for April. This alfresco offering, first performed in September 2021, explored theatrical magic, ritual and song and was experienced by 81 attendees over four performances. Dr Adam Perchard, along with violinist Alexander Lee-Briard, then presented two versions of *Ballads from Bunker Island* in the summer and autumn seasons. The first incarnation of the show was performed at the M132 Underground Command Bunker at Noirmont Point in June, whilst the second was performed on stage in the Benjamin Meaker Theatre in September/October. Overall, 186 audience members saw this exploration of the stories of forced workers during Jersey's occupation.

Jersey Festival of Words also delivered 16 events at Jersey Arts Centre over two days with 526 attendances.

2022's professional music programme was just as diverse, with performances from a wide variety of genres taking place throughout the year. Classical music was strongly represented, due in part to the generous sponsorship of Amici Artium, with concerts from Jean-Efflam Bavouzet and the Pavel Haas Quartet with Boris Giltburg. 246 attendees enjoyed these two world-class concerts. Other classical concerts on offer throughout the year's programme included recitals from the Marmen Quartet (68 attendances) and the Dudok Quartet Amsterdam (124 attendances). Other genres of music were represented also, with folk group The Outside Track (129 attendances) returning to the Island in the summer and blues guitarist Roy Bookbinder (67 attendances) playing in the autumn as part of the Robert Tilling Series. Bertrand Larmet and Véronique Martinez from ARTcomedia returned in the spring season to present another concert of musical theatre numbers featuring performances from members of Jersey Arts Centre's Christmas Company. This enchanting concert was enjoyed by 59 audience members and contributed to the long-running creative partnership between the company and Jersey Arts Centre.



Image: Hamish Brodie: *Hamish Brodie and Friends*

Local professional musicians were also highlighted in the programme, with performances from Shea and KINGSY (see page 18 for more details), Hamish Brodie and The Kings of Swing. When Jersey Arts Centre made Coronation Park its home in the summer, Music Managed presented six alfresco concerts showcasing the strength of local musical talent, with *Party in the Park*, *The Songwriter's Society*, *Blues in the Park*, *Family Picnic in the Park*, *Jazz in the Park* and *A Classical Crossover*. Over five days, 1,333 concert-goers enjoyed great weather and fabulous music!

Jersey Arts Centre's cinematic output was, as always, diverse, and entertaining. A full season of Monday Matinée screenings were offered, beginning with *What We Did On Our Holiday* in January, and concluding with *Legends of the Fall* in November. Overall, 15 Monday Matinée movies were shown, with 646 attendances. The Polish Film Festival and Human Rights Festival also returned in 2022; more detailed information about the films screened can be found on page 21. Jersey Arts Centre's film screenings were complemented by the programming by the Jersey Film Society, who made the Benjamin Meaker Theatre their home. Seventeen films were offered in total, beginning with *First Cow* in January and ending with *Yuli: The Carlos Acosta Story* in November. Overall, 906 attendees enjoyed these varied screenings. The 13th Parish International Film Festival also delivered 15 events over four days with 371 attendances.

Jersey Arts Centre also produced eight in-house productions during 2022 (including the annual Christmas production). ArtsCentreTheatre and youththeatre presented two productions each (more about these performances can be found on pages 16 and 17), and Junior Drama presented two performances of Philip Pullman's *Grimms' Tales* (121 attendances). The Brighter Futures Theatre Company performed their own piece, *there's something happening* in February, directed by Daniel Austin. This special one-off performance was seen by 104 audience members. The world première of Jacqueline Mézec's *CAHUN – a retrospective* was also performed at Jersey Arts Centre in July; more about this commissioned piece can be found on page 19.

Local societies once again made Jersey Arts Centre their home in 2022. The JADC presented three productions throughout the year: their traditional family pantomime *The Snow Queen* (1,279 attendances) in the spring, *Barbed Wire and Teddy Bears* (381 attendances) in the summer season, and *The Addams Family* musical (2,407 attendances) in the autumn. Jersey Green Room Theatre Company also performed in 2022, presenting *An Evening of Sondheim in September*. This musical revue was enjoyed by 409 audience members over three performances. Feisty Goat Theatre Company produced two productions: *Contractions* in the spring season (140 attendances) and *Much Ado About Shakespeare* in the autumn season (97 attendances). And The Curtain Up Theatre Group presented *The Vicar of Dibley* in the summer season which was seen by 988 theatregoers.

Young performers also had their chance to shine, as several schools and clubs took to Jersey Arts Centre's stage. Love Theatre presented *Memories of the Mind* (244 attendances), Jersey Youth Performing Arts showed their singing talents in *Romeo and Juliet the Musical* (674 attendances), Etoile Studios danced *On Broadway* (469 attendances) and Beaulieu Convent School presented two productions: *Annie Jr* (442 attendances) and *Grease – School Edition* (970 attendances).

To round off the year, Jersey Arts Centre presented its seventh Community Christmas Production: Adrian Mitchell's adaptation of Lewis Carroll's *Alice in Wonderland and Through the Looking Glass*. This production once again saw the company collaborate with Bertrand Larmet and Véronique Martinez from ARTcomedia, who served as Musical Director and Vocal Coach. Performed between 9 and 21 December, 2,321 audience members were transported to the whimsical and eccentric world of Wonderland! For more information, please see page 20 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 concert at Coronation Park or indeed elsewhere, engaged with our performance programme and supported our work throughout another wonderful year.



Image: The Outside Track

Statistics

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

	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Drama	22	19	20	23	17	22	16	34	18	27	18
Classical Music	22	14	13	17	17	22	16	13	13	4	6
Jazz + World Music	14.5	14	15	17	10	13	20	14	13	31	26
Dance	7	4	3	2	3	-	6	-	-	4	-
Comedy	7	7	3	-	2	5	2	2	4	-	2
Literature / Lectures	4	7	6	6	14	5	4	4	9	-	6
youthatre + ACT + Junior Drama	9	9	12	11	9	9	12	9	4	19	10
Other	14.5	26	28	24	28	24	24	24	39	15	32

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:

	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Drama	56	46	63	65	56	62	68	54	N/A	N/A	N/A
Classical Music	33	26	28	33	30	33	26	39	N/A	N/A	N/A
Jazz + World Music	58	35	41	32	32	43	31	34	N/A	N/A	N/A
Dance	45	16	19	41	34	-	22	-	N/A	N/A	N/A
Comedy	50	56	29	-	46	26	99	99	N/A	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:

	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Number of Promotions	110	102	126	116	109	112	116	114	55	110	129
Number of Hirings	131	122	116	100	110	114	98	118	51	58	107
School Performances / AI fresco*	-	21	27	2	31	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Ticketed Performances	241	245	269	218	250	226	214	232	106	168	236

	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Performances at BMT	196	197	209	192	198	210	195	216	106	150	207
Performances at St James or OMC	29	11	13	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Performances at Other Spaces	16	16	20	16	21	16	19	16	-	18	29
Performances in Schools/AI fresco	-	21	27	2	31	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Ticketed Performances	241	245	269	218	250	226	214	232	106	168	236
Total Tickets Sold	27,836	27,927	31,169	21,252	26,549	25,291	25,553	25,242	9,855	9,759	24,572
Average Audience	116	114	116	98	106	112	119	109	93	58	104

Due to COVID-19, Jersey Arts Centre faced closures, restrictions and reduced capacities at various times throughout 2020, 2021 and 2022. The capacity of the Benjamin Meaker Theatre was 125 (50%) between 1 January and 29 April 2022.

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 youththeatre, 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.

Benjamin Meaker Utilisation:

	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Benjamin Meaker Promotions	43	40	44	47	46	45	49	48	52	61	55
Benjamin Meaker Hirings	57	60	56	53	54	55	51	52	48	39	45

During 2022 there were a further 15 non-ticketed hirings - comprising rehearsals, seminars and workshops - at Jersey Arts Centre.

A further 8,681 tickets were sold for Samarès Players, Jersey Gilbert & Sullivan Society and for two Jersey Green Room Theatre Company productions 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.



Exhibitions

2022 saw Jersey Arts Centre's Berni Gallery once again host a varied and exciting programme of exhibitions. The year began with *ORANJERSEY*; a presentation of art and design from the Netherlands by Jersey-born artist and filmmaker Leslie Lawrence in collaboration with artist and designer Sophia Simensky. This programme, and exhibition, aims to bring exciting young artists to the Island in order to present their work, with the help of Jersey Arts Centre.

Art teachers from JCG were next to exhibit in *Model Teaching*. With different mediums and techniques on display, this exhibition was inspiring and thought-provoking, showcasing the talent of local artists. Chantal Venton and Peter John Thomson, both art tutors at Highlands College, were next to present their work in the spring season. This eclectic collection of ceramics, print, painting and textiles reflected themes of landscape and diversity whilst also highlighting the talents of two celebrated artists.

The summer exhibition programme began with a still life photographic collection from Ukrainian artist Sergei Sogokon. Speaking about his own work, Sergei stated that "this wonderment that I chose to present to the viewer is being viciously challenged by what is happening in my homeland, Ukraine." All proceeds from the sale of his work were donated to Ukrainian relief charities.

To celebrate HM The Queen's Platinum Jubilee, and Jersey's unique relationship with the Crown, Jersey Arts Centre produced its ninth time-constrained exhibition from 23 May to 18 June. Featuring work from Amber Hahn, Eleanor Chambers, Francesca Monticelli, Eliza Raine and Michelle Le Cornu, the artists had just 36 hours over 4 days to create their work straight onto the walls of the Berni Gallery.

Jill – a retrospective was next up in the summer programme; an exhibition celebrating the life and work of Jill Crowcroft. This varied exhibition showed Jill's passion for exploring many genres and techniques, reflecting her extensive travels.



The summer programme concluded with the 2022 *Original Student Art Exhibition*. This competition, won by Ella Averty, showcased the work of three local student artists: Ella Averty, Molly Bree and Gabriella Warner. With mediums ranging from textiles to illustration, this exhibition showed exciting work from three young artists currently studying at degree level in the UK.

Autumn saw the return of the *Fox Open Art Competition* and the Fox Judge's Exhibition: *Industry, Landscape and Fighters*. This year, the competition was judged by Jane Stanton, whose collection of drawings and paintings from the 1980s and 90s were a fantastic insight into the work of the 2022 Judge. Forty pieces were selected for The Fox Open Art Competition, which also celebrated its 40th year in 2022, and was won by Peter John Thomson. Jane Stanton described Thomson's winning piece as having "tremendous strength and graphic power". Jersey Arts Centre whole-heartedly thanks Fox International Ltd. for its continued sponsorship of this important competition and exhibition.

The final two exhibitions of the year highlighted the strength of local artist talent. The RampArts Collective showed work from four Jersey artists: Chris Corfield, Aaron McMullen, Danielle Mullins and Will Bertram, with various mediums on display including resin and block printing. Beaulieu School then ended the year's programme with *Sequence*, which featured work from Art, Photography and Textile students currently studying at GCSE and A Level.

The Bar Gallery was wonderfully busy in 2022, with 14 exhibitions on display throughout the year. These included work from both Island schools and local artists, and presented many mediums including illustration, resin sculpture and printmaking.

Jersey Arts Centre extends its thanks to its Exhibition Sub-Committee: Mark Blanchard (Chairman), Valentine Aitken, Daniel Austin, Sara Job, Jackie Monticelli and Wayne Stewart, for all their industriousness and commitment in making the 2022 exhibitions programme come to life.

Courses & Workshops

Spring Season: 50 attendances

Introduction to Yoga	<i>Tutor</i>
Yoga 1:	Karen Le Mottee
Yoga 2:	Karen Le Mottee
Vocal Masterclass 1	ARTcomedia
Vocal Masterclass 2	ARTcomedia
Oddsocks Workshop	Oddsocks Productions
History of Art	Lisa Oxenden-Wray

Summer Season: 43 attendances

Beginners Yoga	<i>Tutor</i>
Intermediate Yoga	Karen Le Mottee
Oddsocks Summer School	Karen Le Mottee
Liberation Poetry	Oddsocks Productions
Travel Poetry	Juliette Hart
	Juliette Hart

Autumn Season: 21 attendances

Family Poetry	<i>Tutor</i>
Yoga 1	Juliette Hart
Yoga 2	Karen Le Mottee
	Karen Le Mottee

Total Number of attendances: 114
Total Number of sessions: 67
Total Number of different tutors: 9

In 2022, we were able to resume a spring season of courses and workshops after being unable to offer it in 2021 due to covid restrictions. Though the courses and workshops programme has been building up after the previous year's challenges, the output is still slightly reduced in 2022. However, we were pleased to be able to offer some new opportunities for participants to enjoy and this is something which has been expanded for 2023.

In our spring season, we offered two Masterclasses with vocal coach Véronique Martinez from ARTcomedia for the public. We offered these to both teenagers and adults and had very enthusiastic feedback from participants who felt they were able to develop their vocal techniques in just a short time. Another new offering in our spring season was a workshop for adults with Oddsocks Productions, which again was very well attended and thoroughly enjoyed by participants. We also had local poet Juliette Hart provide poetry workshops which received excellent feedback. We look forward to continuing to work with all of these artists and tutors in the future.

We also had some returning courses which were very popular this year. Karen Le Mottee continued to hold sell-out yoga courses on several occasions throughout 2022, welcoming new and returning participants who thoroughly enjoyed learning the peaceful art of yoga. We will continue these successful courses moving forward. We also welcomed back the Oddsocks team who, after the success of their 2021 Summer School, had 20 participants aged 8 - 19 years old join them for six days to explore learning theatre, circus and performance skills. This course culminated in a performance of their own *Hamlet* at the end of the week to an audience of family and friends.

In addition to this public offering we also had 55 schools workshops with 1,414 attendances taking our combined workshop session total to 122 with 1,528 attendances.

Education & Outreach

In 2022, we were able to resurrect some of our previous Education & Outreach workshops and provide exciting opportunities for the community.

This year we saw the return of our popular World Book Day workshops in schools. Over a two-week period we delivered 12 workshops in 10 schools to 317 participants. These workshops focussed on exploring literature with Year 5 students, discussing texts, stories and getting them involved with animations of their favourite books.

In addition, we were able to offer our Liberation Day workshops, launched in 2021. Over 2 weeks we delivered 16 workshops in 13 schools with 438 participants. The workshop worked with Year 6 students exploring: the context of World War II, the Occupation of the Island and The Jersey 21.

Throughout November 2022 we were also able to offer our 6th year of Christmas Show workshops. This year we ran workshops based on Lewis Carroll's *Alice in Wonderland*. The Education & Outreach Team delivered 27 workshops in 17 schools with 659 participants. The workshops engaged students with the story of *Alice in Wonderland* through a range of activities including costume design, freeze frames and animating text. They also explored the 3 key Jersey Arts Centre theatre principles of: communication, commitment and concentration.

There were a total of 55 workshops with 1,414 attendances as part of our Education & Outreach programme. We look forward to continuing our initiatives and developing more in 2023.

Jersey Arts Centre also hosted seven Project Trident students during 2022.



Image: Vocal Masterclass with Véronique Martinez

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 machinating 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 19 years has been pioneering and unparalleled in terms of cultural diplomacy and in cementing peace, reconciliation and friendship. We hope to return to Bad Wurzach in 2024.

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



Arts in Health Care Trust Island Animations

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. Three tours were achieved in the summer/autumn of 2022.

In May, Margaret Ferguson (on vocals) and Rachael Steadman (on piano) toured 17 care settings; in September, Adesté (accordion, violin and vocals) toured 18 care settings; and in November, and by popular demand, Hedley Kay (Guitar and vocals) toured 18 care settings.

It is worth noting that there were:

- 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
- 53 concerts in 2022



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 2017 due to funding and not possible in 2021 due to the ongoing pandemic.

We aim for five to six tours being 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 2022 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

Holocaust Memorial Day Ceremony / 27 January

The Director of Jersey Arts Centre acted as MC during the Holocaust Memorial Day Ceremony with five youthatre members delivering readings, and the keynote speech being delivered by Michael Cashman.

Ex-internees Ceremony at Jersey War Tunnels / 1 May

Three youthatre members delivered readings for the Ex-internees Ceremony at the War Tunnels.

Royal Visit / 8 May

The Director scripted four dramas for the visit of their Royal Highnesses, The Earl & Countess of Wessex. Four youthatre members rehearsed and performed in the four Royal Dramas between 18 April and 8 May which were about *Charles II and The Royal Mace*, *The Battle of Jersey*, *The Occupation* and *The Land, the Sea and the People*.

Liberation Day Ceremony / 9 May

One youthatre member delivered a reading at the formal proceedings in Liberation Square.

Partnerschaft Ceremony / 2 June

One youthatre member delivered a reading at the Partnerschaft Ceremony for the delegation from Bad Wurzach at the Deportees Plaque at Albert Quay.

C.I. Pride (Liberate) / 10 September

Jersey Arts Centre programmed and coordinated the main stage for Jersey Pride with eight acts incorporating 27 artists.



Image: Arts in Health Care Trust Tour: Margaret Ferguson

youth^{theatre}

For the first time since 2019, Jersey Arts Centre youth^{theatre} was able to return to their regular performance schedule in 2022, presenting two performances to audiences in March and June.

The youth^{theatre}'s spring production was David Almond's adaptation of his own award-winning children's novel *Skellig* which performed from Wednesday 23 – Saturday 26 March. This touching fantastical tale followed Michael and his friend Mina and their discovery of a mysterious creature in Michael's garage. Although the theatre's audience capacity was still limited to 125 seats, a cast of 11 young actors performed this sometimes funny, sometimes touching story to 325 audience members over four nights. This included a schools' audience on Friday 25 March.

Next up in the summer season was a production of Chris Bush's *The Changing Room*. This modern piece, set in and around a swimming pool, followed a group of teenagers existing on the cusp of adulthood and all the inevitable questions that come along with maturing. Featuring chorus work, poetry and even pieces of choreography, this important and confronting piece was performed by 14 cast members. *The Changing Room* was seen by 126 audience members over three performances. In addition to the productions, the youth^{theatre} began a season of workshops from September 2022 in order to prepare for their March 2023 production of Rona Munro's adaptation of Mary Shelley's *Frankenstein*. There were 12 regular participants during the workshop period.

The youth^{theatre} was able to resume their usual programme of Island animations in 2022, with members of the company providing readings at the Holocaust Memorial Day Ceremony in January, the Bad Wurzach Liberation Ceremony in April, Liberation Day in May and the Deportation Memorial Ceremony at Albert Quay in June. Four members of the youth^{theatre} were also invited to perform four short dramas, written by Daniel Austin, at the State Dinner for Their Royal Highnesses The Earl and Countess of Wessex in May which was a great success. The youth^{theatre} hopes to be able to continue to animate these important Island events for the foreseeable future!

youth^{theatre} are currently in rehearsal for their summer 2023 project of Laura Lomas' *Chaos* – we hope to see you there!

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

Image: youth^{theatre}: *The Changing Room*

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 youth^{theatre} taking participants through the disciplines of communication, concentration and commitment.

Since that time, 17 former members of the youth^{theatre} 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 and was joined by Mac Galvin throughout the 2022 autumn season.

Between September 2021 and June 2022, 11 young people explored and rehearsed Philip Pullman's adaptation of *Grimm's Fairy Tales*, performing to an audience of 121 members across two shows.

Over the past 16 years the group has presented 13 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), *this untitled thing* (2018) which was again created by the group, and *The Art of War* (2019). The group has also worked on Bertolt Brecht texts, devised and improvised along the way, and made presentations of short pieces.

JORDI SUNIER
JUNIOR DRAMA DIRECTOR



ArtsCentreTheatre

2022 saw ArtsCentreTheatre take the stage with their first children's show since 2016's Roald Dahl's *Revolting Rhymes*. *Five Children and It* was adapted by ACT Director Jason Kenyon from the children's classic by E. Nesbit, the author of *The Railway Children*.

Like Nesbit's best-known book, it features a group of children who find themselves shipped off to the countryside and have adventures there, but in this case those adventures are of a more fantastical nature as, while they are exploring, the children discover a Psammead – also known as a Sand fairy – living in an abandoned Quarry who agrees to grant them a wish a day. Borrowing from Dennis Potter's *Blue Remembered Hills*, the children were played by adults for this production (including the baby who was played with scene stealing relish by Derek Allen in a bright pink onesie and booties). Credit should also be given to Fi Marchant who not only played the curmudgeonly Psammead but created the costume (see image below). There were 14 participants in *Five Children and It*.

The Autumn production was a trilogy of one act plays: *Hatched, Matched & Dispatched*, written by Jason Kenyon who also directed the third piece, whilst the other two were directed by ACT members Stacey Hansford and Derek Allen. Best described as Dramadies, the plays featured members of the same family and their friends and neighbours at three significant moments in any family's history: a birth, a marriage and a death. Originally intended for inclusion in the 2022 Jersey Eisteddfod, the individual plays proved too long and set-specific in the end.

However, ACT members did, once again, enter the Eisteddfod's Stage Management Trophy, taking on the fiendish tests devised by Jersey Arts Centre's Steven Laffoley-Edwards, and achieved Platinum Certificates. There were 17 participants in the production of *Hatched, Matched & Dispatched*, and 7 participants in the Eisteddfod.

JASON KENYON
ACT DIRECTOR



Image: ACT: *Five Children and It*

Our Residencies

2022 saw Jersey Arts Centre continue to support the work of local creatives with its residency programme. Residencies allow theatre companies, performers, musicians, artists, writers, comedians and more, the opportunity and space to create, innovate, explore, and be inspired. By hosting these residencies, Jersey Arts Centre has been able to complement its artistic offerings with new work, bringing diverse and forward-thinking stories to the Island.

Jersey Arts Centre produced four exciting residencies in 2022. First was *Pinkeze Up!* on Saturday 23 April, presented by local musicians Shea and KINGSY. Joined on stage by talented local dancers, the electronic pop duo provided the 58 audience members with an evening of high-energy choreography, stunning visuals and intimate vocal performances of both covers and original material. The residency programme continued with two performances of Wayne Stewart's solo show, *Chrome Yellow* on Friday 27 May. This heart-warming and moving piece followed the story of Wayne's solo walk across France in the summer of 2021 and the profound impact that this journey had. 44 audience members were charmed by this honest and thought-provoking performance. The third residency of 2022 was *SHELL*, presented by local writer, performer and comedian Martha MacDonald. This one-woman show was a whirligig of stand-up comedy, poetry and heavily tortoise-themed therapy and was thoroughly enjoyed by 183 audience members on Saturday 11 June. The final residency of the year was provided by Dr Adam Perchard and musician Alexander Lee-Briard. *Ballads from Bunker Island* was performed at the M132 Underground Command Bunker at Noirmont Point, and was an exploration, through music, of the stories and folk songs of the thousands of people brought to Jersey as slave and forced workers during World War II. This stunning and atmospheric performance was presented to 104 audience members over five shows on its first outing.

Jersey Arts Centre has hosted 43 residencies 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, Faldouet Dolmen and now Noirmont bunkers! They have all aided the production of work in dance, music, drama and multidisciplinary processes that have been an invaluable aspect of the work of Jersey Arts Centre. With more residencies planned for 2023 we are excited to continue to present these works that educate, inspire and encourage debate.

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 ARTcomedia / 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

Pinkeze Up! by Shea and KINGSY / April 2022

Chrome Yellow by Wayne Stewart / May 2022

SHELL by Martha MacDonald / June 2022

Ballads from Bunker Island by Dr Adam Perchard with Alexander Lee-Briard / June 2022



Image: Martha MacDonald: *SHELL*

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 nine 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), *liberation* (2020), and *Jersey and the Crown* (2022). 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.

In 2021, Jersey Arts Centre commissioned local playwright Jacqueline Mézec to create *CAHUN - a retrospective*. This new piece of writing was performed on stage in the Benjamin Meaker Theatre between 14 – 17 July 2022 and was directed by Daniel Austin with set and lighting design by Graeme Humphries. The piece combined theatre, poetry, movement and song to tell the fascinating story of Claude Cahun, Marcel Moore and their personal and political lives in France, Jersey and during the Island's occupation during the Second World War. It was performed with nine actors/storytellers: Ollie Bloor, Hettie Duncan, James Edey, Rebecca Eve, Mac Galvin, Fynn Mason, Kate Meadows, Kaye Nicholson-Horn and Ben O'Shea. Over four performances, including a special gala performance on 14 July, 307 audience members were introduced to this poetic and moving story of two extraordinary artists and revolutionaries. Jersey Arts Centre is excited to continue to commission exciting and innovative work for the Island to enjoy. 2023 is sure to bring more opportunities for creation and exploration.

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 ARTcomedia for our adaptation of
A Christmas Carol / July - December 2019
- 17 poems for the **Liberation 75** Celebrations
May 2020 - May 2021
- *Scenes from a...* / 46 scenes from 9 Island writers /
January-March 2021
- *Hiding Place* by Martha MacDonald /
Directed by Lucy Abraham / April-October 2021
- *Bathtime for Britain* by Dr Adam Perchard /
August 2020 - April 2021
- **CAHUN – a retrospective** by Jacqueline Mézec / July 2022

Image: *CAHUN - a retrospective*

Christmas Production

With a full audience capacity for the first time in two years, Jersey Arts Centre was delighted to be able to transport audiences to the extraordinary world of Wonderland in its seventh Christmas show: Adrian Mitchell's musical adaptation of Lewis Carroll's *Alice in Wonderland and Through the Looking Glass*.

Originally scheduled to run from Friday 9 to Thursday 22 December, challenges due to COVID-19 meant that the run finished one day early on Wednesday 21 December. Despite this unforeseen early closure, 18 performances were still delivered by the Community Christmas Company to 2,321 audience members, including a BSL interpreted performance on 14 December. Jersey Arts Centre also allocated 100 complimentary tickets to three local charities in order for more families to enjoy a festive treat.

The creative team for this production remained the same as previous years, with the piece being directed by Daniel Austin, the set and lighting designed by Graeme Humphries, choreography from Victoria Gordon and costumes designed by Nick Carver with costume making by Denise Renouf. This year, the team was joined by work experience student Darcey Lancaster-Adlam who put her Scenic Artist skills to work creating set, costumes and props.

The Jersey Arts Centre team were thrilled to welcome back Bertrand Larmet (Musical Director) and Véronique Martinez (Vocal Coach) from French theatre company ARTcomedia. Bertrand's incomparable musicianship, and Véronique's masterful and patient vocal coaching, allowed the cast to learn, explore their abilities and perform with confidence in this musically demanding production.

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

With iconic characters portrayed including The Queen of Hearts, The White Rabbit, The Mad Hatter and The Cheshire Cat, this madcap and wonderfully eccentric production brought Lewis Carroll's wonderful world to life, with song, dance, and the odd riddle or two. Graeme Humphries' atmospheric library based-set and Nick Carver's larger-than-life costume design ensured that audiences were truly treated to a visual feast!

Once again, sincerest thanks go to the creative team mentioned above and our company of committed, concentrated and skilled actors, which drew from our Junior Drama and youth theatre groups, together with eight adult actors:

Maywa Ballu, Nick Carver, Hettie Duncan, James Edey, Victoria Gordon, Jenny McCarthy, Kate Meadows, Liam Menard, Ben O'Shea, Alice Posner, Nina Socrates, Wayne Stewart, Jordi Sunier and 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 dedication to this area of our programme.

Also, for four weeks in November, Hettie Duncan developed a schools' workshop programme introducing children from Island primary schools to the world of *Alice in Wonderland and Through the Looking Glass*. These workshops were facilitated by Hettie Duncan and Mac Galvin; information about this outreach project can be found on page 13.

Now in its seventh year, Jersey Arts Centre's Community Christmas show has become an important festive tradition for Islanders – look out for the next production in 2023!



Image: *Alice in Wonderland & Through the Looking-Glass*

18th Human Rights Festival

In October 2022, Jersey Arts Centre presented the 18th Human Rights Film Festival. The four films presented highlighted human rights issues from four countries around the World: Bangladesh, Myanmar, Russia, and China. Though there was not an explicit theme for the 2022 Festival, each of the films showed subjects facing adversity and fighting for their own rights and beliefs.

The first film, screened on 4 October was the inspiring documentary *Bangla Surf Girls*. Directed by Elizabeth D. Costa, the film followed three teenage girls from Bangladesh who make history as the first female surfers to compete for their country internationally. Finding freedom in the waves, the brave teenagers, along with the help of their coach, are determined to be the architects of their own futures against a backdrop of oppression. 16 audience members attended this screening. The next documentary screened, on 5 October, was the astonishing *Myanmar Diaries*. Comprising video diaries from young activists, this film, which was seen by 9 audience members, was both journalistic and raw, expressing strong voices of political resistance and a hope for a better future.

The penultimate film of the festival was *The New Greatness Case* on 6 October. This remarkable documentary followed young political prisoners in Russia caught in the crossfire of bureaucracy. Using hidden camera footage, director Anna Shishova showcased the oppression of present-day Russia, and how young free-thinking people are seen as threats. This hard-hitting piece was watched by 15 audience members. The final film in the series was the beautiful *Eternal Spring*. This animated piece, made by award-winning filmmaker Jason Loftas and celebrated comic book artist Daxiong, told the story of the fight for religious freedom in modern day China. This stunning film was watched by 5 audience members.

Overall, 45 audience members were able to watch these eye-opening documentary films that carried an important message.

Unfortunately, Jersey Arts Centre was once again unable to host schools' visits to this year's Human Rights Festival screenings, but hopes to be able to resume this offering in 2023.

9th Polish Film Festival

The Polish Film Festival returned to Jersey Arts Centre's summer programme on 18 and 20 July. Now in its ninth year, the Polish Film Festival continues to be an important part of Jersey Arts Centre's yearly offering, showcasing excellence in Polish screenwriting, cinematography, directing and acting, and provides an opportunity for those in Jersey's Polish community to watch films in their native language on the big screen, whilst also introducing new fans to the world of Polish cinema.

Whilst four films were originally programmed, only two films were able to be screened as part of the 2022 Festival due to licensing issues.

The first film, shown on Monday 18 July, was *Other People (Inni Ludzie)*. This 2021 award-winning 'rap opera', adapted from a popular Polish novel by Dorota Maslowska, follows two characters who are seemingly worlds apart. Iwona, a married but bored and unhappy housewife, and Kamil, an aspiring rapper. When their paths cross, everything changes.

The second and final film screened was *Silent Land (Cicha Ziemia)* on Wednesday 20 July. This drama, directed by Agnieszka Woszczyńska, tells the story of a young couple who arrive at their holiday villa on an Italian island, only to discover that their swimming pool is empty. Adam and Anna are distraught when the worker sent to fix it suffers a deadly poolside incident. However a disturbing chain of events are set off by this accident that shake the moral foundations of the couple.

Over the two screenings, eight audience members were able to enjoy genre-defying and modern Polish cinema.



Eco-Active

As we moved back to full use of the building from April 2022, travel requirements remained reduced due to the on-going re-establishment of our professional programme, and the lifting of COVID-19 restrictions and our audience capacity.

However, we have maintained our commitment to offsetting our carbon footprint. This is normally funding a local project by one pence of each ticket sold, regardless of whether it was a promotion or a hire. To celebrate our 40th Anniversary in January 2023 our staff at Jersey Arts Centre joined with Jersey Trees for Life in planting even more hedgerows from the 1p donation for each ticket sold throughout 2022. This project was started 15 years ago and provides shelter, wind breaks, prevents water evaporation, and encourages biodiversity in Jersey as well as carbon-locking.

With many of the 'simple' quick wins achieved over the years, but always under review, such as recycling and responsible purchasing, it is becoming more challenging to make improvements without specific funding. We have managed to convert the building to LED lighting, but the £14,000 required to make a headway in converting more of the theatre lighting stock was lost with the withdrawal of the £2.9m Fiscal Stimulus funding in 2022. Much has been discussed about providing photovoltaic panels on the building roof, something that would feed directly into our electricity usage during the day, but again this needs additional funding before it can become a reality.

We have managed to reduce our paper consumption by requesting members to use the internet rather than a printed brochure, although we still produce limited copies for those not comfortable with the internet. We also request that theatre goers now use the QR code on their mobile phones to enter the theatre, where possible, reducing the requirement of printing tickets at home or using the thermal printed tickets from box office. We have found that sometimes the smaller change, like this, can have the greatest impact.

Steven Laffoley-Edwards has chaired the Green Team since Jersey Arts Centre first obtained its Eco-Active status in 2009, but as things continue to evolve, we will be disbanding our Green Team in 2023. This is not due to lack of commitment by the staff at Jersey Arts Centre, on the contrary, this is out of recognition that we ALL need be part of the Green Team. Therefore, all staff will have the opportunity to discuss, and find resolutions to, Green Issues as part of our fortnightly staff meetings.

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

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



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 International Film Festival
ArtHouse Jersey
ARTcomedia, L'Hermitage, Brittany
Arts in Health Care Trust
Bailiwick Express
Brighter Futures
BBC Radio Jersey
CEYS
C.I. Liberate
Creative Island Partnership
Jersey Zoo
Holocaust Memorial Day Committee
Jersey Evening Post
Jersey Festival of Words
Jersey Film Society
Jersey Heritage
Jersey Library
Jersey Opera House
Mind Jersey
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:

Department for the Economy (ED) - Government of Jersey

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 (1,302 - incorporating 630 memberships at December 2022), including our Patrons and Benefactors, who give their time so willingly to assist in the smooth running of the operation.

For the Government of Jersey:

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

OUR THANKS

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

Channel Island Occupation Society
Alison Goguelin
Mike Greenwood
JADC
Jersey Green Room Theatre Company
Darcey Lancaster-Adlam
Fynn Mason
Jane Mason
Denise Renouf
Dr Trish Tumelty
Wayne Stewart

Jersey Arts Centre would also like to thank Brian Mann and Chris Morris at The Collective for their support during the development of our new website which launched on 14 February 2022.





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