



THE
**QUARRY
THEATRE**
AT ST. LUKE'S

**THE
DIARY
SUMMER
2024**

USEFUL INFORMATION



FINDING US

The Quarry Theatre at St. Luke's
26 St. Peter's Street, Bedford MK40 2NN

The entrance to The Quarry Theatre is on St. Peter's Street. If you are travelling by car, please use MK40 2NN for Sat Nav systems.

PARKING

Apart from a limited amount of disabled parking (please call ahead to book) there is no on-site parking. Nearby car parks are indicated on the map above. Please note the Lurke Street Car Park (MK40 3HZ) is open 24 hours and is free after 6pm. St Peter's Street Car Park is also open 24 hours and is free after 6pm. Parking on De Parys Avenue is free after 6pm. All car parks are free on Sunday.

*Note that the programme is subject to change.
Visit our website for the latest shows and news.*

QUARRYTHEATRE.ORG.UK

TICKETS

You can order tickets online at quarrytheatre.org.uk or over the phone on 01234 362337.

BOX OFFICE

You can also buy tickets in person at our box office, which is just inside the main entrance on St. Peter's Street. On days when we have performances in the theatre, the box office is open for one hour before curtain up. Please visit quarrytheatre.org.uk for details.

SCHOOL GROUP BOOKINGS

To enquire about our special discounts for school groups and to book tickets, please call 01234 362337 or email boxoffice@quarrytheatre.org.uk

FAMILY TICKETS



Family tickets are available on shows featuring this symbol.

CONTACT US

We are always happy to hear from you with comments, suggestions and enquiries. You call us at 01234 362269 or email boxoffice@quarrytheatre.org.uk



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[@quarryatstlukes](https://www.instagram.com/quarryatstlukes)



[quarrytheatre](https://twitter.com/quarrytheatre)

Karl Laidler
Technical Manager

David Baxter
Front of House Manager

SUMMER HIGHLIGHTS



SOMETHING FUNNY...

Daliso Chabonda: Feed This Black Man Again

The comic revisits the themes of his mediocre debut show from 20 years ago with a new perspective.



SOMETHING FOR THE KIDS...

Claytime

A play with clay, where the audience are invited to participate. Made with and for 3 to 6 year olds.



SOMETHING DIFFERENT...

Greg Byron: Stand-Up Poet

Greg Byron delivers verses inspired by modern day and social comment performed with a twinkle, a laugh, and a wry pointy finger!



SOMETHING SPECIAL...

The Syd Lawrence Orchestra

A dynamite blend of great soloists and vocalists, faultless section work and a swinging rhythm section will transport you back to the 1940s.

WELCOME

Summer is here once again at The Quarry Theatre. As we head towards our 9th birthday (26 June), we have almost 30 events programmed into our space (not including Bedfringe of course) making this the busiest summer to date.

Look out for events such as Guy Masterson's incredible *Under Milk Wood*, one of the first shows I programmed for Bedford which is now in its 30th anniversary year. The following night hosts an interesting show recommended to me by Gag Reflex Management (*Adam Kaye, The Boy With Tape On His Face*) titled *Bowjangles Dracula In Space*. Multiple five-star reviews for this one so we are expecting good things!

We continue to programme NT Live events and are excited to be screening *The Motive and the Cue* and *Nye* in early June. You may have noticed we are now screening matinees which are proving to be popular.

Finally, we finish the summer with the Bedford Festival Fringe (18-28 July) which will host a massive 144 events!

Many thanks for your continued support.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J Pharaoh'.

James Pharaoh MBE
Director of Theatre



Family Arts Standards

with Family and Childcare Trust

We have signed up to the Family Arts Standards. We welcome families and to help you enjoy your experience we are committed to ensuring we meet these Standards. As we continue to improve our service for families your views are very important to us – so please let us know if you have a good experience with us or tell us what you'd like us to improve.



The Quarry Theatre is part of Bedford School, which is part of the Harpur Trust

“Utterly captivating”

★★★★★

STAGEWHISPERS

SMOKESCREEN PRODUCTIONS PRESENT

APPRAISAL

Where

Main Auditorium

Ticket price

£15.50 (£13.50

concessions)

Running time

60 minutes

Age suitability

13yrs+

THURSDAY 2 MAY, 7.30PM

“A battle of wits
- engrossing”

★★★★★

REVIEWSHUB

“A classically
structured
two-hander that
captures the
unjustifiable”

★★★★★

THE SCOTSMAN

“A masterclass of
gaslighting and
a masterpiece of
manipulation.”

★★★★★

EVERYTHING
THEATRE



An annual work review that goes horribly wrong.

Head of Department Nicky wants to get on with her job, her boss Jo has other ideas. He has a plan and thinks she is going to like it...

A two-hander dark comedy, *Appraisal* achieved 5* reviews and sold out performances at Edinburgh Festival and Adelaide Fringe, where it also won a Best Theatre Award. The 2023 Edinburgh run garnered wins for Best Actor & Best Actress at the Dark Chat Edfringe Awards 2023!

Appraisal is the latest play by Tim Marriott (*Watson: The Final Problem* and BBC1's *The Brittas Empire*), and features Tim alongside Angela Bull (*Coronation Street*, *DI Ray*)

DAVID ALNWICK PRESENTS

THE MYSTERY OF DRACULA

FRIDAY 3 MAY, 7.30PM



Occult Illusionist David Alnwick investigates the supernatural folklore of Bram Stoker's acclaimed novel. Expect a fast paced, twist-filled narrative told using magic.

"Alnwick skilfully cranks up the suspense and intrigue as he delves deeper into the darker side of magic" NOW THEN MAGAZINE

★★★★★
THREEWEEKS

★★★★★
THE SPHINX

Where

Main Auditorium

Ticket price

£15.50 (£13.50 concessions)

Running time

70 minutes

Age suitability

14yrs+

"Like seemingly everything that Alnwick produces, the magic itself is flawless, and the storytelling aspect is equally perfectly performed"

★★★★★

WORLD MAGIC
REVIEW

"Really well done... thoroughly enjoyed it... Really impressive work"

ANDY NYMAN
(Derren Brown's director and writer of West-End hit 'Ghost Stories')

JBA CONCERTS PRESENT

AN EVENING WITH JACQUI DANKWORTH: IN CONCERT

"One of our finest singers, regardless of category"

THE SUNDAY TIMES

Where

Main Auditorium

Ticket price

£18.00

Running time

2x45 minutes
(+15min interval)

Age suitability

14yrs+

"Had I not been sitting about three feet away from the action, I would have suspected some kind of electronic trickery because the arrangement was so complex, the timing so nifty and Ms Dankworth's vocal control so exquisite"

THE OBSERVER

"Jacqui Dankworth doesn't confine herself to singing jazz... But in all her incarnations, she exhibits a subtle control of dynamics and a voluptuous tonal richness that seems to make almost any material sound special"

THE GUARDIAN

SATURDAY 4 MAY, 7.30PM



Jacqui Dankworth - the imaginative and moving, award-winning vocalist, appears in concert, for one night only, at The Quarry Theatre.

In this very special and intimate concert, audiences will be treated to a sparkling collection of songs drawn from her highly praised studio albums – including music from her much anticipated new album, due for release in Spring 2024 - alongside tracks that have inspired her incredible career.

Firmly established as one the country's leading jazz vocalists, Jacqui's live concerts showcase her unique versatility and effortless mastery of a wide spectrum of genres, drawing on jazz, folk, soul and blues, as well as her acute sensibility as a songwriter and lyricist.

THEATRE TOURS INTERNATIONAL PRESENT

UNDER MILK WOOD

THURSDAY 9 MAY, 7.30PM



It has to be seen to be believed!

Celebrating its 70th anniversary, Olivier Award winner Guy Masterson celebrates his own 30th anniversary with Dylan Thomas' enduring masterpiece - *Under Milk Wood: a day in the life of 'Llareggub'* - a fictional sea-town somewhere in Wales...

In an amazing feat of memory and physical virtuosity, Masterson recreates all 69 of Dylan Thomas' wonderfully ebullient inhabitants entirely on his own!

Complemented by a stunning original soundscape by Matt Clifford, this unique solo interpretation makes the words sing! It's bawdy and beautiful, sad and sensual and, through the music of language, leaves indelible, unforgettable images of humanity. The beauty of Thomas's wordplay and Masterson's virtuosity will leave you breathless!

Where

Main Auditorium

Ticket price

£18.00 (£16.00 concessions)

Running time

100 minutes (+15min interval)

Age suitability

14yrs+

"If you've never seen Under Milk Wood before, this is perhaps the ultimate rendition. Don't miss it!"

★★★★★

THE TIMES

"It's a feat of multiple characterisation, impeccable timing, vocal dexterity and precise physical control, performed with tremendous sensitivity and panache!"

★★★★★

THE GUARDIAN

SOMETHING FOR THE WEEKEND PRESENTS

BOWJANGLES: DRACULA IN SPACE

"Impossible not to have a great time"

★★★★★

BRITISH THEATRE
GUIDE

Where

Main Auditorium

Ticket price

£24.00 (£22.00
concessions)

Running time

80 minutes
(+15min interval)

Age suitability

12yrs+

*"Completely
original"*

★★★★★

BROADWAY BABY

FRIDAY 10 MAY, 7.30PM



Bowjangles are an irreverent, anarchic group of genre-spanners, bringing music, theatre and comedy together in a way you've never seen before.

With over 15 years of performing under their belts, they have performed all over the world from rural village halls to concert halls, festivals and the occasional prison.

Dracula in Space is a hilarious and original musical comedy that sees the award-winning foursome blasting into outer space to meet a mysterious benefactor whose proposition seems a little too good to be true...

JBA CONCERTS PRESENT

ELAINE DELMAR: A CELEBRATION OF THE MUSIC OF GEORGE GERSHWIN & COLE PORTER

Where

Main Auditorium

Ticket price

£18.00

Running time

90 minutes
(+15min interval)

Age suitability

13yrs+

*"Elaine Delmar
has it all... she's a
national treasure"*

JAZZWISE

SATURDAY 11 MAY, 7.30PM



Elaine Delmar has long been established as a singer of the very highest calibre. A British Jazz legend with the voice, looks and personality that have captivated world-wide audiences through her many stage and television appearances – including work on Broadway and The West End, as well as the UK's finest concert venues, including The Barbican and The Royal Albert Hall.

In this very special concert, Elaine explores the incredible library of music composed by George Gershwin and Cole Porter, featuring a sparkling collection of their best known compositions, lesser-known gems and reworkings of classic arrangements.

SMOKESCREEN PRODUCTIONS PRESENT

JACK'S ASHES

THURSDAY 16 MAY, 7.30PM



"163 to win in twenty overs, we've got this - come on!"

Former professional cricketer Jack gives his team talk, but as wickets fall like a ticking time bomb the anecdotes from the ashes of his career prove less than inspirational...

As Jack pads up to be the last man in to go out and save the day, *Jack's Ashes* offers a humorous insight into the mental frailties that can cloud the mind and the distractions that can lead to ruin.

"Heartfelt and compelling. Must be seen to be appreciated"

★★★★★

ADELAIDE REVIEW

Where

Main Auditorium

Ticket price

£15.50 (£13.50 concessions)

Running time

65 minutes

Age suitability

12yrs+

STRADA MUSIC PRESENTS

THE JIVE ACES: KEEPING THE SHOW ON THE ROAD TOUR

FRIDAY 17 MAY, 7.30PM



Together for over 25 years, The Jive Aces have become renowned worldwide for their high-energy live show having toured in over 40 countries. The band aim to spread smiles and cheer with their swingin' music and classic vintage style from crooning smooth ballads to blasting honking rhythm & blues. Having played for Her Majesty the Queen, selling out the Royal Albert Hall, becoming the first band to reach the finals of Britain's Got Talent or just entertaining at one of their 250 live shows a year, they continuously showcase why they are the UK's No.1 Jive & Swing band!

"True showmanship!"

DAILY

TELEGRAPH

Where

Main Auditorium

Ticket price

£24.00 (£22.00 concessions)

Running time

90 minutes
(+15min interval)

Age suitability

13yrs+

"Brilliantly committed"

DAILY MIRROR



IMPATIENT PRODUCTIONS LTD PRESENT

DALISO CHAPONDA: FEED THIS BLACK MAN AGAIN

Where

Main Auditorium

Ticket price

£16.00

Running time

90 minutes
(+15min interval)

Age suitability

14yrs+

FRIDAY 24 MAY, 7.30PM

*"Brilliantly bold,
thoroughly
engaging and
provocative"*
WEE REVIEW

*"Gets laughs out
of topics other
comedians shun"*
THE GUARDIAN



Daliso did his first show *Feed This Black Man* 20 years ago. The jokes were mediocre, there was a rap about poverty in the middle (which was as offensive as you might imagine) and the big finale involved a sandwich on stage.

20 years later, Daliso has done the *Royal Variety Performance*, written and performed four series of *Citizen of Nowhere* on BBC Radio 4, been a *Britain's Got Talent* finalist, toured nationwide and abroad... all sorts of things the 22-year-old Chaponda would never have imagined possible.

So, *Feed This Black Man Again* is a do-over, as the now widely-loved comic revisits the themes of that ancient debut show with the considerably enhanced comic talents that two decades' experience brings you. Along the way he'll examine the huge differences between the way you think life will be at twenty, and the reality. Probably no sandwich at the end this time.



CHRIS DEAN PRESENTS

THE SYD LAWRENCE ORCHESTRA: THE MAGIC OF GLENN MILLER

SATURDAY 25 MAY, 7.30PM



Where

Main Auditorium

Ticket price

£25.00

Running time

100 minutes
(+15min interval)

Age suitability

13yrs+

Directed by Chris Dean, The Syd Lawrence Orchestra recreates the sound that brightened those dark days of the 1940s.

Celebrating the music of Major Glenn Miller, bringing memories of the war years back to life with precision and a youthful exuberance.

A dynamite blend of great soloists and vocalists, faultless section work and a hard swinging rhythm section will transport you back in time to a musical era that boasted such hits as *Moonlight Serenade*, *In The Mood*, *String of Pearls*, and many more of your Big Band favourites!

Founded in 1967 by trumpeter and arranger Syd Lawrence, The fabulous SYD LAWRENCE ORCHESTRA has been thrilling audiences in concert halls, theatres, TV shows and music festivals all over Great Britain and continental Europe for over 50 years. Renowned for its exciting blend of high octane Big Band Swing, the Orchestra's repertoire features the very finest in big band swing. In fact, Count Basie himself described the Syd Lawrence Orchestra as "So good it should be BANNED!".

INDEFINITE ARTICLES PRESENT

CLAYTIME

★★★★

TIME OUT

Where

Main Auditorium

Ticket price

£15.00 (£13.00 concessions, £52.00 family ticket)

Running time

55 minutes (+20min play with clay)

Age suitability

3-6yrs+



SUNDAY 26 MAY, 11.00AM & 2.00PM



"...an out-of-the-ordinary theatrical experience"

LYN GARDNER,
THE GUARDIAN

"...a masterclass in clowning and visual improvisation"

TOTAL THEATRE
MAGAZINE

The award-winning Indefinite Articles present their work for the very young: *Claytime*, a play with clay, where the audience are invited to participate.

Come to a place where the earth's natural material meets with children's imaginations: a world of fabulous forms, amazing animals and morphing monsters.

Each *Claytime* is totally unique - creating its own world, its own characters and its own stories drawn directly from its young audience. Truly, interactive theatre at its most engaging.

This show is made with and for 3 to 6 year olds.

THE HANDLEBARDS PRESENT

THE COMEDY OF ERRORS

THURSDAY 30 MAY, 7.00PM



Pedalling from venue to venue with all of their set, props and costumes on the back of their bikes, the HandleBards are a four-strong troupe of actors who are spending the summer bringing environmentally sustainable Shakespeare to venues across the UK.

Join the troupe at The Quarry Theatre for a bicycle-powered production of Shakespeare's *The Comedy of Errors* like you've never seen before.

When two sets of estranged twins are brought together on the same island, this classic comedy takes hold, with mistaken identity, music and manic costume changes a plenty.

We are going indoors for this show so no need to bring chairs, blankets and picnics!

Where

Main Auditorium

Ticket price

£18.00 (£11.00 21 and under, £3.50 12 and under)

Running time

120 minutes
(+15min interval)

Age suitability

All ages

"Explodes with energy and is a genuine treat from start to finish"

★★★★★

THE STAGE
(ON THE
HANDLEBARDS'
TWELFTH NIGHT)

"Byron is a masterful performer with a hypnotic delivery"
REVIEWS HUB

COMPANY GAVIN ROBERTSON PRESENTS

GREG BYRON: STAND-UP POET

Where
Quarry Theatre
Bar

Ticket price
£15.00

Running time
55 minutes
(+10min interval)

Age suitability
14yrs+

"Like watching John Cooper Clarke snog John Hegley while Pam Ayres watches"
BBC RADIO

FRIDAY 31 MAY, 7.30PM



Writer/Performer of original spoken word and host of the #StandUpPoet podcast on iTunes, Spotify etc...

Funny, witty, outraged, plain silly, sometimes just poignant or cathartic, but always "keeps you constantly engaged" (*Kansas City Star*, USA) delivering verses on life, the universe and everything (ish)... Verses inspired by modern day and social comment performed with a twinkle, a laugh, and a wry pointy finger! Plus sporadic anecdotes, wit, and his unique 55-word stories.

MAKIN PROJECTS LTD PRESENT

COMEDY CLUB 4 KIDS

Where
Main Auditorium

Ticket price
£10.00 (£8.00 concessions)

Running time
60 minutes

Age suitability
6yrs+

SATURDAY 1 JUNE, 2.00PM



Babes in arms don't need to buy a ticket for this show if they are sitting on their grown-up's lap!

Since 2005, the Comedy Club 4 Kids has been getting the best stand-ups and sketch acts from the international circuit to do their thing for an audience of children and their families... but without the rude bits! It's just like a normal comedy club, but it's on in the day, kids are allowed in, and thus there is a higher than usual chance of heckles like "why is that your face!?"

NATIONAL THEATRE LIVE PRESENTS

THE MOTIVE AND THE CUE

SATURDAY 1 JUNE, 7.00PM & SUNDAY 2 JUNE, 2.00PM



Sam Mendes (*The Lehman Trilogy*) directs Mark Gatiss as John Gielgud and Johnny Flynn as Richard Burton in this fierce and funny new play.

1964: Richard Burton is to play the title role in an experimental new Broadway production of *Hamlet* under John Gielgud's exacting direction. But as rehearsals progress, two ages of theatre collide and the collaboration between actor and director soon threatens to unravel.

Written by Jack Thorne (*Harry Potter and the Cursed Child*) and designed by Es Devlin (*The Crucible*), the Evening Standard award-winning best new play was filmed live during a sold-out run at the National Theatre.

*"Immaculately directed
by Sam Mendes"*

★★★★★

TIMES

Where

Main Auditorium

Ticket price

£15.00

Running time

180 minutes (inc

15min interval)

Age suitability

15yrs+

*"A witty, deft,
touching evocation
of a fascinating,
fraught encounter"*

★★★★★

TELEGRAPH

NATIONAL THEATRE LIVE PRESENTS

NYE

THURSDAY 6 JUNE, 7.00PM & SUNDAY 9 JUNE, 2.00PM



Michael Sheen plays Nye Bevan in a surreal and spectacular journey through the life and legacy of the man who transformed Britain's welfare state and created the NHS.

Confronted with death, Aneurin 'Nye' Bevan's deepest memories lead him on a mind-bending journey back through his life; from childhood to mining underground, Parliament and fights with Churchill.

Written by Tim Price and directed by Rufus Norris (*Small Island*), this epic new Welsh fantasia was recorded live from the National Theatre and is presented as an 'Encore' performance.

Where

Main Auditorium

Ticket price

£15.00

Running time

160 minutes (inc

15 min interval)

Age suitability

12A



"This play will reawaken your love for the man. Highly recommended"

★★★★★
QUEER GURU

THE QUARRY THEATRE PRESENTS

JARMAN

Where

Main Auditorium

Ticket price

£15.50 (£13.50 concessions)

Running time

80 minutes

Age suitability

14yrs+

"A gripping solo show"

★★★★★
THE STAGE

"Jarman admonishes us to 'be astonishing'. And that's exactly what Mark Farrelly is. Fabulous, thought-provoking stuff"

★★★★★
BUM ON A SEAT

"Farrelly is a remarkable actor. He brings an extraordinary, glittering edge and sense of danger to everything he does"

★★★★★
SARDINES
MAGAZINE

FRIDAY 7 JUNE, 7.30PM



A mighty spirit is about to reawaken. Yours.

Derek Jarman: film-maker, painter, gardener at Prospect Cottage, gay rights activist, writer...his influence remains as strong as it was on the day AIDS killed him in 1994. But his story, one of the most extraordinary lives ever lived, has never been told. Until now.

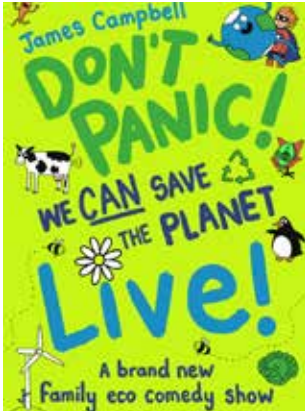
This vibrant solo play from Mark Farrelly (*Quentin Crisp: Naked Hope, Howard's End*) brings Derek back into being for a passionate, daring reminder of the courage it takes to truly live while you're alive. A journey from Dungeness to deepest, brightest Soho and into the heart of one of our most iconoclastic artists.

Jarman's works include taboo-breaking films like *Sebastiane*, *Jubilee* and *Caravaggio*, pop videos for the Pet Shop Boys (*It's A Sin* and *Rent*), his extraordinary borderless garden in Dungeness, his shocking last paintings, and his unforgettable final film *Blue*, consisting of a single continuous frame of blue and chronicling what it's like to lose your sight...but never your artistic vision.

LONG ROAD TALENT PRESENTS

JAMES CAMPBELL - DON'T PANIC! WE CAN SAVE THE PLANET

SATURDAY 8 JUNE, 2.30PM



A new live comedy show that's perfect for any child who wants to swap being an Eco Worrier for being an Eco Warrior.

Based around his new book, children's comedian and author James Campbell presents a positive, funny, life affirming comedy show which will inspire children to feel confident that they can do something on their own terms to help in the fight against climate change.

"I should have given him six stars - just too brilliant"

★★★★★

THE SUNDAY
HERALD

Where

Main Auditorium

Ticket price

£10.00 (£8.00 concessions, £32.00 family ticket)

Running time

60 minutes

Age suitability

6yrs+



CASTLE COMEDY LTD PRESENTS

CASTLE COMEDY

THURSDAY 13 JUNE, 8.00PM



A classic mixed bill of TV names and rising stars.

PAUL McCAFFREY - Star of *Live at the Apollo*, *Impractical Jokers* and *Stand up Central* on Comedy Central. He is a regular on the radio and co-hosts the hit *What's bothering you now?* podcast with Seann Walsh.

ESTHER MANITO - An Arab Essex girl who will challenge every single preconception of what that means. As seen on *Live At The Apollo*, *The Stand Up Sketch Show* and *Hypothetical*.

JACK HESTER - A British Comedian of the Year 2023 Finalist, he is a high-energy Irish comic and one of the rising stars of the UK circuit.

Where

Main Auditorium

Ticket price

£16.00

Running time

160 minutes

Age suitability

16yrs+

"His storytelling is utterly unique, never anything less than gut-bustlingly hilarious"

GQ MAGAZINE
ABOUT PAUL
MCCAFFREY

NIGHT OWL SHOWS PRESENT

THE CAROLE KING & JAMES TAYLOR STORY

"Masterly"

★★★★

BROADWAYBABY

Where

Main Auditorium

Ticket price

£20.00

Running time

90 minutes

(+15min interval)

Age suitability

14yrs+

FRIDAY 14 JUNE, 7.30PM



"Every minute is diamond"

★★★★★

THE UPSIDE NEWS

"Folk picked pearls"

★★★★

MOJO

"A very sincere performance"

★★★★

THE CLOTHESLINE

The friendship between James Taylor and Carole King played a vital part in both of their incredible careers. We delve into the music that came out of this relationship producing genre defining hits such as I Feel The Earth Move, Natural Woman, So Far Away, It's Too Late, Up On The Roof, Tapestry, You've Got A Friend, Fire And Rain, Sweet Baby James, Something In The Way She Moves and many more.

Journey through the music and lives of two undisputed legends of music in this show about nostalgia, musical brilliance and the power of friendship.

Performed by the award-winning Night Owl Shows who have toured this show with sell out Edinburgh, Adelaide and Brighton Fringe runs as well as high profile sell-out shows in the U.S.

PAUL KERENSA PRESENTS

AN EVENING OF (VERY) OLD RADIO

SATURDAY 15 JUNE, 7.30PM



*"Top comic,
top writer"*
LEE MACK

Where

Main Auditorium

Ticket price

£15.50 (£13.50
concessions)

Running time

80 minutes
(+15min interval)

Age suitability

13yrs+

On this day 104 years ago, the first advertised public radio broadcast took place... Are you sitting comfortably? Then we'll begin...

The BBC is 100 years not out – just – but with no recordings from its first decade, comedian/writer Paul Kerensa (BBC's *Miranda*, *Not Going Out*, *Top Gear*) retells and recreates its first broadcasts.

Experience the first drama (starring Father Christmas), comedy (cockney character 'Our Lizzie'), sport (horse-racing), children's (starring Susan the blue cat with yellow spots) and much more.

Expect century-old gramophone players, radios and jokes, plus rare clips and live re-enactments, from drunken opera to the forgotten first DJ.

This fascinating true tale of Auntie Beeb's baby steps informs, educates but above all entertains.

*"As effortless a
writer as he is
a performer"*
THE STAGE

THE COMEDY OF ERRORS

**BEDFORD
PREPARATORY**

Bedford Prep School's Y6-Y8 perform an abridged version of William Shakespeare's play with a modern twist!

**THURSDAY 27 & FRIDAY 28 JUNE
6.00PM
QUARRY THEATRE
£7.00 ADULTS, £5.00 CHILDREN**

#TWINLIFE

#SHAKESPEARE



BEDFORD SCHOOL DRAMA PRESENTS

Clue

PRESENTED BY SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT WITH
BROADWAY LICENSING, LLC, SERVING THE
DRAMATISTS PLAY SERVICE COLLECTION

WE NEED PLAYERS!

**WEDNESDAY 3 JULY | 7.30PM
TICKETS £10.00 (£8.00 CONCESSIONS)**

**BEDFORD
SCHOOL**





Bedford School/Heppar of The Signpost Trust

The Creative Arts thrive at Bedford School

Generous scholarships are available to talented artists, actors and musicians. Families can also apply for additional funding through our means-tested bursary scheme.

Please contact our Admissions Team at admissions@bedfordschool.org.uk for more information and an informal discussion.



bedfordschool.org.uk

Explore an
award-winning
education for your son.

Join us at our open morning on
Saturday 18 May
or book a personal visit for your family
by emailing
admissions@bedfordschool.org.uk.



Boarding and day for boys aged 7-18



CREATIVE

arts

FESTIVAL 2024

MONDAY 1 -
FRIDAY 5 JULY

Join Bedford School and the local community in a wonderful celebration of Art, Music and Drama at their very best.



"Sketch comedy for kids ... Shelf pull it off with brio"

★★★★

THE GUARDIAN

IMPATIENT PRODUCTIONS LTD PRESENT

SHELF: THE KIDS' SHOW

Where

Main Auditorium

Ticket price

£12.00 (£10.00 concessions, £40.00 family ticket)

Running time

60 minutes

Age suitability

3yrs+

SATURDAY 6 JULY, 2.00PM



Join best friends Rachel and Ruby for a kids' comedy show that's fun for all the family!

Full of sketches, songs, pranks and silliness. Rachel and Ruby use physical comedy and silly characters to bring sketch comedy to children of all ages – a fun way to explore emotions, friendship and shyness.

Winner: Best Kids' Show, 2023 Leicester Comedy Festival.

Over one million views on BBC Three.



PETER DAVIS & FRIENDS PRESENT

A MIDSUMMER DAY'S DREAM

SATURDAY 6 JULY, 5.00PM



Where

Main Auditorium

Ticket price

£15.00

Running time

2x45 minutes
(+15min interval)

Age suitability

14yrs+

A charity event, inspired by the Bard, aided by the songs of Bizet, Gilbert and Sullivan, Rogers and Hammerstein and many others. An afternoon of song and humour and more song, from the golden age of yesteryear.

Themes of love, sadness, times gone by; connect with the unfathomableness of the fundamental truths of human experience through art.

Quotes that you didn't know that you knew from Shakespeare's *Dream* trigger some of Bedford's most experienced and talented performers, who will flesh out an afternoon with comedy, jocularly and the ludicrous to entertain. Cheer and sing along to some of your parents and grandparents' favourites, bringing back your memories of them.

Ponder the meaning of life and how we see it from a post-Victorian perspective, an age when life was shorter, harsher, more intense, but full of fun. Be moved from the summits of the Alps to the depths of the ocean. Appreciate the meaning of life from a bygone age.

All profits will go to the Tibbs Dementia Foundation

SCOOT THEATRE PRESENTS

MRS ARMITAGE ON WHEELS

Where

Quarry Theatre
Garden

Ticket price

£14.50 (£12.50
concessions,
£10.00 early bird
ticket)

Running time

45 minutes

Age suitability

3yrs+

SATURDAY 13 JULY, 11.00AM & 1.30PM



If you could change anything on your bicycle, what would it be? A comfy new saddle? An ice cream maker? Rocket boosters?!

When Mrs Armitage goes out for a ride with her trusty dog Breakspear, she decides her bicycle needs improvement. With a new horn, a picnic hamper... and a sail, will Mrs Armitage manage to keep her bicycle in one piece or will her crazy contraption prove too much to handle?

Adapted from Quentin Blake's classic tale, Scoot Theatre present a 40-minute interactive, energetic show, celebrating the joy of getting outdoors and being active. Featuring live music, puppetry and physical comedy, we celebrate the power of imagination and the importance of resilience.

Mrs Armitage on Wheels has recently been adapted for the BBC. Watch the animated special and others from *Quentin Blake's Box of Treasures* on BBC iPlayer.

BEDFORD FESTIVAL

FRINGE

**BINGE THE
FRINGE!**



CHILDREN'S THEATRE | COMEDY
THEATRE | DANCE & PHYSICAL THEATRE
POETRY & SPOKEN WORD | MUSIC | FILM

18TH – 28TH JULY 2024

**OVER 140 EVENTS
ACROSS 4 VENUES**

Bedford Festival Fringe 2024
supports

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if you are interested in sponsoring
this year's festival: admin@bedfringe.com

AUTUMN 2024 PREVIEWS



MACBETH

THURSDAY 3 OCTOBER, 7.30PM

Flabbergast's *Macbeth* fuses a rigorous and respectful approach to text and storytelling to bring a magical, lucid interpretation of Shakespeare's blood-soaked tragedy to life. Puppetry, clown, ensemble, physical theatre, and exhilarating live music, combine in a powerful and provocative interpretation.



MURDER FOR TWO

FRIDAY 25 & SATURDAY 26 OCTOBER, 7.30PM

An anarchic murder mystery with a twist: one actor investigates the crime, whilst the other plays all the suspects! And they both play the piano throughout! When the body of an acclaimed novelist is discovered at his birthday party, all the guests fall under suspicion. Can local beat-cop Officer Marcus solve the mystery before the experts arrive?



SOUNDS LIKE THE 80S

SATURDAY 2 NOVEMBER, 7.30PM

"Oh yes it's 80s Night!!" Just like that old school disco, you will be singing the night way in proper 80s fashion, remembering the music from a decade that brought us the birth of MTV, chunky mobile phones, and the Rubik's cube, plus blockbuster movies like *ET* and *Dirty Dancing*.

HOUSEKEEPING

BOX OFFICE OPENING TIMES

The Box Office is open on show dates one hour before curtain up (and 20 minutes after curtain up). If you would like to take a look around the theatre outside of these times, please do get in contact with us.

PAYMENTS

Cash: The theatre box office and bar both take cash payments.

Cards: We accept Credit and Debit card payments at the theatre box office and bar.

RESERVATIONS

We are happy to reserve tickets for you. These will be held for five working days, or until 15 minutes before the performance. Unpaid reservations may be cancelled without prior notice after this time.

RETURNS, EXCHANGES & REFUNDS

Tickets once purchased are non-refundable or exchangeable. Only in the event of a show being cancelled or rescheduled will we refund your ticket.

CONCESSIONS

Concessionary tickets are available to students (NUS or similar ID required), under 18s, unemployed, disabled, senior citizens and, for some selected shows, employees of Bedford School.

LATE ARRIVALS

If you arrive late to a performance you may not be able to enter the auditorium until the interval or a convenient break in the performance. With some shows, a performance relay will be set up on the bar TV.

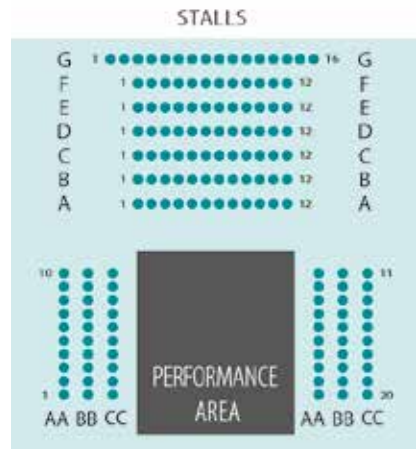
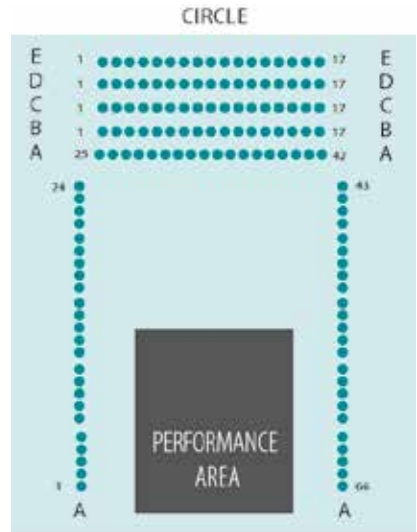
PHOTOGRAPHY

The unauthorised use of cameras/video photography or any other sort of recording equipment is strictly forbidden.

DISABLED ACCESS

The Quarry Theatre aims to make all its facilities accessible to all members of the community. Both the main auditorium and studio theatre have wheel chair access. The main auditorium is also installed with an induction loop. The theatre forecourt has provision for disabled parking. We advise you call ahead of your visit to book a space.

AUDITORIUM SEATING



SUMMER 2024

WHAT'S ON



MAY

Thu 2	APPRAISAL	£15.50 (£13.50 concessions)	04
Fri 3	THE MYSTERY OF DRACULA	£15.50 (£13.50 concessions)	05
Sat 4	AN EVENING WITH JACQUI DANKWORTH: IN CONCERT	£18.00	06
Thu 9	UNDER MILK WOOD	£18.00 (£16.00 concessions)	07
Fri 10	BOWJANGLES: DRACULA IN SPACE	£24.00 (£22.00 concessions)	08
Sat 11	ELAINE DELMAR: A CELEBRATION OF THE MUSIC OF GEORGE GERSHWIN & COLE PORTER	£18.00	08
Thu 16	JACK'S ASHES	£15.50 (£13.50 concessions)	09
Fri 17	THE JIVE ACES: KEEPING THE SHOW ON THE ROAD TOUR	£24.00 (£22.00 concessions)	09
Fri 24	DALISO CHAPONDA: FEED THIS BLACK MAN AGAIN	£16.00	10
Sat 25	THE SYD LAWRENCE ORCHESTRA: THE MAGIC OF GLENN MILLER	£25.00	11
Sun 26	CLAYTIME	£15.00 (£13.00 concessions)	12
Thu 30	THE COMEDY OF ERRORS	£18.00 (£11.00 21 & under, £3.50 12 & under)	13
Fri 31	GREG BYRON: STAND-UP POET	£15.00	14

JUN

Sat 1	COMEDY CLUB 4 KIDS	£10.00 (£8.00 concessions)	14
Sat 1 & Sun 2	NT LIVE: THE MOTIVE AND THE CUE	£15.00	15
Thu 6 & Sun 9	NT LIVE: NYE	£15.00	15
Fri 7	JARMAN	£15.50 (£13.50 concessions)	16
Sat 8	JAMES CAMPBELL- DON'T PANIC! WE CAN SAVE THE PLANET	£10.00 (£8.00 concessions)	17
Thu 13	CASTLE COMEDY	£16.00	17
Fri 14	THE CAROLE KING & JAMES TAYLOR STORY	£20.00	18
Sat 15	AN EVENING OF (VERY) OLD RADIO	£15.50 (£13.50 concessions)	19

JUL

Fri 5	JAZZ EVENING WITH BEDFORD SCHOOL JAZZ ORCHESTRA	£60.00 for a table of 6	22
Sat 6	SHELF: THE KIDS' SHOW	£12.00 (£10.00 concessions)	22
Sat 6	A MID SUMMER'S DAY DREAM	£15.00	23
Sat 13	MRS ARMITAGE ON WHEELS	£14.50 (£12.50 concessions)	24