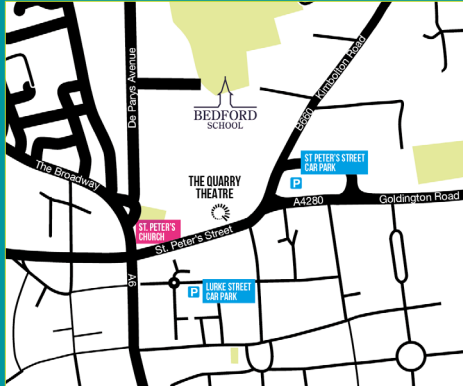


THE
**QUARRY
THEATRE**
AT ST. LUKE'S

**THE
DIARY
SPRING
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

 [quarrytheatreatstlukes](https://www.facebook.com/quarrytheatreatstlukes)
 [@quarryatstlukes](https://www.instagram.com/quarryatstlukes)
 [quarrytheatre](https://twitter.com/quarrytheatre)

Karl Laidler
Technical Manager

David Baxter
Front of House Manager

SPRING HIGHLIGHTS



SOMETHING FUNNY...

Aurie Styla: The Aurator Tour

Award-winning comedian Aurie Styla is back on tour with his biggest show to date. Join him as he talks about this wild world, and his journey to make sense of it, in The Aurator!



SOMETHING FOR THE KIDS...

Spot's Birthday Party

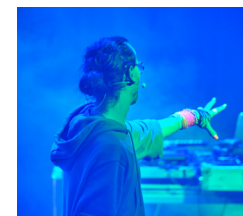
Spot is having a very special birthday party and you're invited! With party hats, songs, dancing and lots of interactive party games, this is going to be the best birthday party ever!



SOMETHING DIFFERENT...

The Brick People

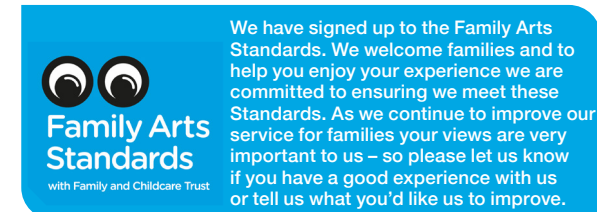
Join us for a day of various LEGO® activities, including self-building challenges and timed speed builds, as well as a selection of amazing LEGO® creations by The BRICK People.



SOMETHING SPECIAL...

The Breathe Academy

A pilot youth project empowering marginalised young people to harness creativity and unite against suicide, launched in partnership with CALM by beatboxing star SK Shlomo.



WELCOME

Happy New Year and welcome to our 2024 Spring season.

The next four months will be our busiest spring to date with almost 50 events booked in for you to enjoy. I have tried to keep it nice and varied so hopefully there is something for everyone. You will see some return shows, such as The Bubble Show, the sensational Swinging at The Cotton Club and the Thinking Drinkers Pub Quiz (albeit a new quiz!).

National Theatre Live are back offering screenings to venues. We have booked all their new content including matinee screenings as well as the traditional evenings. Some more may have been added by the time we went to print with this booklet.

One of my theatre highlights is a show I saw in Edinburgh many years ago which we programme each year and present to the students of the school (a morning show). I thought it was about time we programmed it in for an evening performance so you all get the chance to see it. The show is called Labels and is 'a funny, moving and honest story about dual heritage and immigration'. It comes to us on Tuesday 16 January, 7.30pm.

Many thanks for your continued support.

James Pharaoh MBE
Director of Theatre



THE QUARRY THEATRE PRESENTS

THE QUARRY THEATRE SPRING LAUNCH 2024

Where
Main auditorium

Ticket price
Free

Running time
120 minutes

Age suitability
All ages

SATURDAY 13 JANUARY, 2.00PM



Join us at the theatre to help us launch our 2024 Spring programme. During your visit you can enjoy discounts at the bar, a flash sale on selected events, a presentation about how the theatre came to be and explore areas of the theatre that most people don't get to see! The theatre presentation will start at 2.30pm

Meet the artist. Simon Wriggley is exhibiting in our gallery space during January. He will be in the building this afternoon to answer any questions you might have about his beautiful paintings.

"Terrific and really thoughtful"
LYN GARDNER
(THE GUARDIAN)

WORKLIGHT THEATRE PRESENTS

LABELS

Where
Main Auditorium

Ticket price
£15.00 (£13.00 concessions)

Running time
60 minutes

Age suitability
13yrs+

TUESDAY 16 JANUARY, 7.30PM



Labels is a funny, moving and honest story about dual heritage and immigration. Contrasting Joe's childhood in Devon in the '90s, with his Dad's experience of migrating from Uganda to Cheltenham in the '70s, the story navigates shifting political landscapes, a global refugee crisis and everyday life in multicultural Britain, using comedy, storytelling and spoken word. Expect paper planes, racist romances and lots of sticky labels!

"Powerful, important and funny"
EMMA THOMPSON

★★★★★
BRITISH
THEATRE GUIDE

★★★★★
THREE WEEKS

RBM COMEDY PRESENTS

MARK SIMMONS: QUIP OFF THE MARK

FRIDAY 19 JANUARY, 7.30PM



As seen on *Mock The Week*, BT Sport and ITV, 'Master of one-liners' MARK SIMMONS brings his brand-new show on the road.

This isn't your average one-liner show as there is the running theme throughout. This year Mark's parents have sold the house he grew up in and he has to collect his box of stuff from the loft. Come discover what's in the box in this top-level one-liner show structured in a way you've never seen before.

Mark recently joined Dara O'Brian and Hugh Dennis on BBC2's *Mock The Week* as a semi-regular on the show and now brings you his hotly-anticipated show *Quip Off The Mark*. He's also been appearing on BT Sport's *DIY pundit* and *The Rugby's On*.

Where
Main Auditorium

Ticket price
£17.00

Running time
80 minutes
(+15min interval)

Age suitability
14yrs+

"One of the UK's pre-eminent pun merchants...the quickest quipster in showbusiness."
EVENING
STANDARD

"Master of one-liners...his (show) consist(s) of literally one liner after one liner, with one or two breaks for the audience to catch their breath before another assault on the laughter and muscles with the next segment."
★★★★★
ONE4REVIEW

"Carey Mulligan gives a performance of extraordinarily contained power"
★★★★
THE INDEPENDENT

NATIONAL THEATRE LIVE PRESENTS SKYLIGHT

Where
Main Auditorium

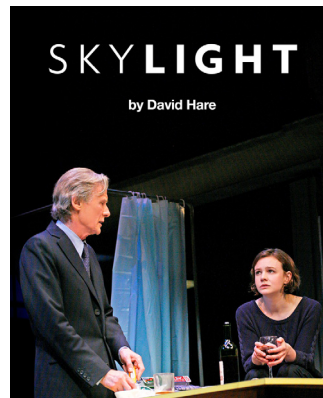
Ticket price
£15.00

Running time
163 minutes
(+15min interval)

Age suitability
15yrs+

"Moving picture of politics and love"
★★★★★
THE GUARDIAN

SATURDAY 20 JANUARY, 7.00PM AND SUNDAY 21 JANUARY, 2.00PM



Returning to the big screen, Bill Nighy (*Living*) and Carey Mulligan (*Promising Young Woman*) feature in the critically acclaimed revival of David Hare's play, directed by Stephen Daldry (*The Audience*).

On a bitterly cold London evening, schoolteacher Kyra receives an unexpected visit from her former lover. As the evening progresses, they attempt to rekindle their once passionate relationship only to find themselves locked in a dangerous battle of opposing ideologies and mutual desires.

Captured live from Wyndham's Theatre in London's West End in 2014.

SPLENDID PRODUCTIONS PRESENTS

THE GOVERNMENT INSPECTOR

"Frankly brilliant"
★★★★★
THREE WEEKS

Where
Main Auditorium

Ticket price
£14.50 (£12.50 concessions)

Running time
60 minutes

Age suitability
13yrs+

THURSDAY 25 JANUARY, 4.30PM AND 7.00PM



A new creative adaptation of 'The Government Inspector', an 1836 comedy written by Ukrainian playwright Nikolai Gogol.

The play is a satirical prod at power, privilege, corruption and classism set in a small provincial town whose public servants - including the untrustworthy Mayor - are told they are to be assessed by an anonymous official: The Government Inspector.

At the same time, an idiotic aristocratic stranger arrives in town, setting the stage for an escalating masterclass in political farce.

THE RONNIE SCOTT'S ALL STARS PRESENT THE RONNIE SCOTT'S STORY

FRIDAY 26 JANUARY, 7.30PM



Direct from London's world-famous jazz club and combining world class live jazz, narration and rare archive photos and video footage, The Ronnie Scott's All Stars return to the Quarry Theatre with a brand new programme of music celebrating 'The Ronnie Scott's Story'.

Set amongst the dive bars and jazz jook joints of London's Soho, we hear about the desperate hand-to-mouth finances of the early years and the frequent police raids. We hear how Ronnie's became neutral ground within rife gang territory and their scrapes with gangsters including the Krays who were rumoured to have taken Ronnie and Pete "for a little drive"! Life at Ronnie's is evocatively reimagined through tales of the club's past visitors, from pop stars, film stars and politicians to comedians and royalty, but above all, the musicians...

Mixing classic music from the jazz greats who have performed at Ronnie Scott's over its incredible 60+ year history, alongside tales of old Soho, miscreant musicians and police raids, this is a unique evening celebrating one of the world's most famous jazz venues, its music, and history.

"Outstanding players. For poise, balance and swing they're a joy to listen to"
THE OBSERVER

Where
Main Auditorium

Ticket price
£25.00

Running time
100 minutes
(+15min interval)

Age suitability
13yrs+

"Full-on brilliance"
THE GUARDIAN

"Marrying vision and sound comes *The Ronnie Scott's Story*, recounting the blazing trajectory of the legendary jazz shrine with a creative combo of live band action, natty narratives and rare archival footage"
JAZZWISE
MAGAZINE

NATIONAL THEATRE LIVE PRESENTS

DEAR ENGLAND

Where
Main Auditorium

Ticket price
£15.00

Running time
160 minutes (inc
15min interval)

Age suitability
15yrs+

SUNDAY 28 JANUARY, 2.00PM & THURSDAY 15 FEBRUARY, 7.00PM



Joseph Fiennes (*The Handmaid's Tale*) plays Gareth Southgate in James Graham's (*Sherwood*) gripping examination of nation and game.

The country that gave the world football has since delivered a painful pattern of loss. Why can't England's men win at their own game?

With the worst track record for penalties in the world, Gareth Southgate knows he needs to open his mind and face up to the years of hurt, to take team and country back to the promised land.

Filmed live on stage at the National Theatre, Rupert Goold (*Judy*) directs this spectacular new play.

MAKIN PROJECTS LTD PRESENTS

BUMPER BLYTON: THE IMPROVISED ADVENTURE

SATURDAY 3 FEBRUARY, 7.30PM



A riotous improvised parody chock full of puns and innuendo, in the style of the nation's favourite author, Enid Blyton. Come and delight in lashings of ginger beer, grab a cheeky tongue sandwich or wrap your lips around a nice spotted dick!

A cast of the UK's best-known and award-winning improvisers (as seen in: *Austentatious*, *Showstoppers!* and TV's *Doctor Who*) invent an hilarious improvised adventure live on the hoof based on audience suggestions.

Where
Main Auditorium

Ticket price
£18.50 (£16.50
concessions)

Running time
100 minutes
(+15min interval)

Age suitability
14yrs+

VOICES OF THE HOLOCAUST PRESENT

KINDNESS: A LEGACY OF THE HOLOCAUST

THURSDAY 8 FEBRUARY, 7.30PM



Kindness is largely a verbatim play based on the testimony of Hungarian survivor Susan Pollack OBE, aged only 13 when she was sent to the notorious Auschwitz-Birkenau in the summer of 1944.

Interwoven are a number of complementary narratives, including that of Mala Zimetbaum and Edek Galinski whose stunning love story and spiritual resistance is painted across a backdrop of one of the darkest periods in human history.

Kindness has been described as "beautiful and empowering" and "compelling and emotive". It promises that Susan's legacy of the Holocaust stays with you for a very long time.

Where
Main Auditorium

Ticket price
£15.00 (£13.00
concessions)

Running time
60 minutes

Age suitability
11yrs+

Including a post-performance discussion with a specially invited guest.

"The Bubble Show:
flawlessly simple
and full of wonder

★★★★★

DEADLINE NEWS,
EDINBURGH

THE HIGHLAND JOKER PRESENTS

THE BUBBLE SHOW

Where

Main Auditorium

Ticket price

£13.50 (£12.50
concessions)

Running time

60 mins

Age suitability

3-12yrs

"Engaging
showmanship from
bubble maestro"

★★★★★

THE LIST

SATURDAY 10 FEBRUARY, 2.00PM



Join Mr. Bubbles with his extraordinary soap bubbles in all shapes and sizes!

The Bubble Show is a unique blend of magic, storytelling and bubble art! Enjoy bouncy bubbles, bubbles inside bubbles, smoke bubbles, square bubbles, giant bubbles and even fire bubbles!

Actor, storyteller, and Guinness World Record holder, The Highland Joker, is one of the top bubble artists in the world, bringing you an interactive, fun, award-winning bubble extravaganza!

CASTLE COMEDY LTD PRESENTS

CASTLE COMEDY VALENTINE'S SPECIAL

Where

Main Auditorium

Ticket price

£16.00

Running time

120 minutes
(+2x15min
intervals)

Age suitability

16yrs+

WEDNESDAY 14 FEBRUARY, 8.00PM (DOORS OPEN 7.30PM)



Castle Comedy is back at The Quarry Theatre for Valentine's Day.

In 2021 there was a marriage proposal at this show, thankfully she said yes! What will happen at this show? Who knows! We can promise star names, Roses chocolates and loads of laughs.

Castle Comedy favourite Paul Revill will host the show.

AVALON UK PRESENTS

MATT FORDE: INSIDE NO 10

SATURDAY 17 FEBRUARY, 7.30PM



Host of hit political podcast *The Political Party*, Matt Forde (*Spitting Image*, *Have I Got News For You*, *The British Scandal*, *The Last Leg*, *The Royal Variety Performance*) explores the dark comedy horror that is British politics, ahead of the next election. Plus silly voices.

"Our foremost
satirical stand-up...
whatever your
politics, you'll find
excellence here"

★★★★★

THE SUNDAY
TIMES

Where

Main auditorium

Ticket price

£17.50

Running time

110 minutes (inc
15min interval)

Age suitability

14yrs+

"Possibly the best
political comedy
show on the Fringe"

★★★★★

THE TELEGRAPH

THE QUARRY THEATRE PRESENTS

BRING YOUR OWN BABY COMEDY

TUESDAY 20 FEBRUARY, 12.30PM



Bring Your Own Baby Comedy is the award-winning lunchtime comedy show for parents... and you can bring your baby!

These shows feature the funniest comedians from TV and the circuit telling their grown-up jokes in a totally baby-friendly environment.

These shows are all about you - the parents! But don't worry, we also make sure our younger guests are well looked after. We provide buggy parking, baby changing, and helping hands so that your baby is happy and you can relax.

Where

Main auditorium

Ticket price

£12.00 (£17.00
standard ticket
+ single serve
prosecco)

Running time

75 minutes (inc
15min interval)

Age limit (for little
laughers)

15 months

NB: This is not a
children's comedy
club, there will be
adult language and
themes!

NATIONAL THEATRE LIVE PRESENTS
VANYA

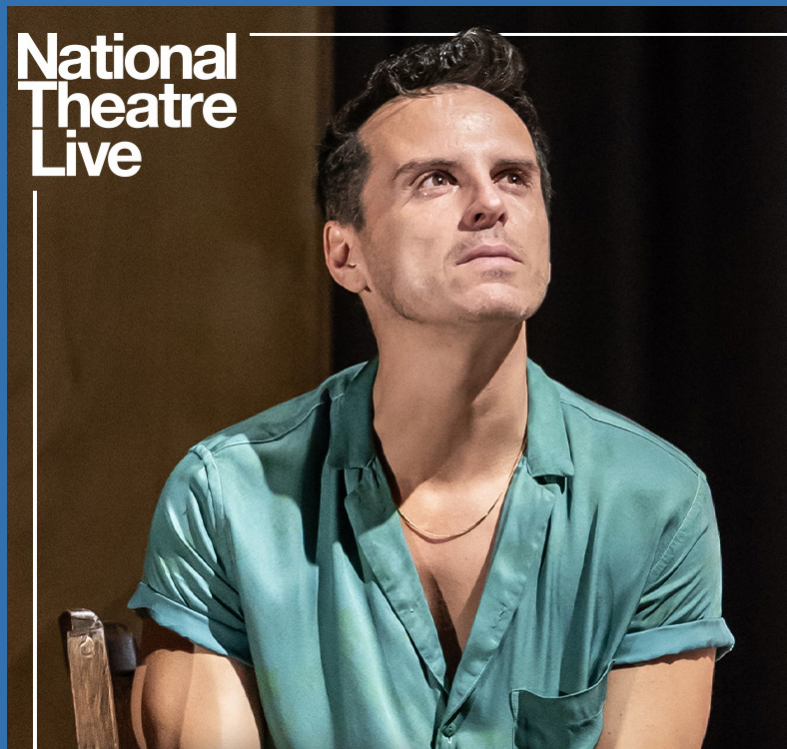
Where
Main Auditorium

Ticket price
£15.00

Running time
110 minutes (no
interval)

Age suitability
15yrs+

THURSDAY 22 FEBRUARY, 7.00PM



Adapted by Simon Stephens, after Anton Chekhov
Directed by Sam Yates
Designed by Rosanna Vize

Andrew Scott (*Fleabag*) brings multiple characters to life in Simon Stephens' (*The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time*) radical new version of Chekhov's *Uncle Vanya*.

Hopes, dreams, and regrets are thrust into sharp focus in this one-man adaptation which explores the complexities of human emotions.

Filmed live during its sold-out run in London's West End, *Vanya* will be playing exclusively in cinemas in 2024.

JBA CONCERTS PRESENT

SWINGING AT THE COTTON CLUB

SATURDAY 24 FEBRUARY, 7.30PM



Where
Main Auditorium

Ticket price
£24.00

Running time
90 minutes
(+15min interval)

Age suitability
14yrs+

Swinging at the Cotton Club return to The Quarry Theatre with their spectacular showcase of dance and music, inspired by New York's most celebrated nightclub of the 1920s: The Cotton Club!

A visual and musical feast, the show pays homage to the iconic Harlem hot spot, where legends like Duke Ellington, Ella Fitzgerald, and Count Basie had the crowd swinging, whilst dancers such as Bojangles Robinson and the Nicholas Brothers lit-up the stage with their breathtaking routines.

Featuring a dynamic ensemble from the The Lindy Hop Dance Company, alongside the 10-piece Harry Strutters Hot Rhythm Orchestra, *Swinging at the Cotton Club* showcases the true essence of The Cotton Club. With impeccable choreography, dazzling costumes and an irresistible soundtrack of swinging classics from the orchestra, this production guarantees an unforgettable evening of entertainment.

Whether you're a seasoned dance and music aficionado, or simply looking for a night of pure entertainment, *Swinging at the Cotton Club* is a show that will leave you tapping your toes, clapping your hands and longing for more.

"One-person
music festival"
THE TIMES

SK SHLOMO PRESENTS

BREATHE ACADEMY

Where
Main Auditorium

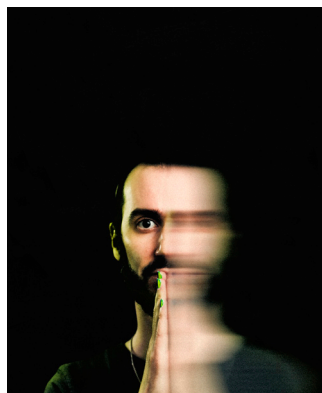
Ticket price
£14.00 (£12.00
concessions)

Running time
135 minutes (inc
15min interval)

Age suitability
12yrs+

"Absolutely Superb"
★★★★★
BBC FIVE LIVE

THURSDAY 29 FEBRUARY, 7.30PM



International non-binary beatboxing star SK Shlomo returns with award-winning new solo show *BREATHE*.

With rave reviews after premiering at the Royal Albert Hall, and winning a Fringe Award in Edinburgh, *BREATHE* is a thrilling mix of cutting-edge music tech, heartwarming personal storytelling, and the breathtaking virtuosity that makes SK Shlomo a main-stage festival favourite, a world-champion beatboxer, and collaborator of choice for megastar acts like Ed Sheeran, Bjork and Gorillaz.

LIVE NATION IN ASSOCIATION WITH EBDON MANAGEMENT PRESENTS

AURIE STYLA: THE AURATOR TOUR

Where
Main auditorium

Ticket price
£15.00

Running time
90 minutes (inc
15min interval)

Age suitability
16yrs+

FRIDAY 1 MARCH, 8.00PM (DOORS OPEN 7.30PM)



After a year of performing worldwide, award-winning comedian Aurie Styla is back on tour, with his biggest one to date. Join him as he talks about this wild world, and his journey to make sense of it, in *The Aurator*!

As seen on *Deep Fake Neighbour Wars* (ITVX), *Comedy Central Live*, *Jonathan Ross' Comedy Club* (ITV), *Life's A Pitch* (Sky), *Don't Hate The Playaz* (ITV), *The Stand-Up Sketch Show* (ITV2), *Mo Gilligan's Black British & Funny* (C4) & more.

MAKIN PROJECTS LTD PRESENT

COMEDY CLUB 4 KIDS

SATURDAY 2 MARCH, 2.00PM



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!?"

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

Where
Main auditorium

Ticket price
£10.00 (£8.00
concessions)

Running time
60 minutes

Age suitability
6yrs+

LEE MARTIN FOR GAG REFLEX PRESENTS

THINKING DRINKERS PUB QUIZ

SATURDAY 2 MARCH, 7.30PM



After a 2022 sell-out run, the world's funniest alcohol experts are back in quizness with a brand new show that serves up FIVE DISCERNING DRINKS for everyone.

A comedy quiz & illuminating tasting, it's funny, fascinating, you'll laugh a lot, learn loads and enjoy five first-class drinks.

Drinks experts on Channel 4's *Sunday Brunch* & ITV's *This Morning*.

"Pioneers of Drinks
Based Comedy"
THE TIMES

Where
Main auditorium

Ticket price
£19.50

Running time
90 minutes
(+15min interval)

Age suitability
18yrs+

"A welcome
antidote to the
pretentiousness
of wine buffs,
real ale fans and
spirits snobs"
CHORTLE

"As wise, funny
and endearingly
virtuosic as
anything he
has done"

★★★★

THE TIMES

Where
Main Auditorium

Ticket price
£16.00

Running time
65 minutes

Age suitability
16yrs+

★★★★★
MAIL ON SUNDAY
★★★★★
BROADWAY
WORLD

BERK'S NEST IN ASSOCIATION WITH UNITED AGENTS PRESENT

KIERAN HODGSON: BIG IN SCOTLAND

THURSDAY 7 MARCH, 7.30PM



Fresh from a sold-out Edinburgh Fringe run, Kieran Hodgson takes his brand new show on tour across the UK!

In 2020, the world changed forever, as Kieran Hodgson moved to Scotland. Now he's travelling around the still-just-about United Kingdom to tell you how it's working out. For him and for the Scots.

You might remember Kieran as that guy from the BBC's *Two Doors Down*, the *Bad TV Impressions* viral videos and three Channel 4 specials. If you don't remember him, no worries. We all have busy lives.

FROZEN LIGHT PRESENT

THE BAR AT THE EDGE OF TIME

FRIDAY 8 AND SATURDAY 9 MARCH, 11.00AM AND 1.30PM



The glasses are polished, the lights are down low, and time will be hopping.

The Bar at the Edge of Time waits only for you, so what are you waiting for?

Leave the hours, minutes, and seconds behind, step across the threshold and meet the bar's maestro mixologists, crooners, and hosts. But a mystery lies at the heart of this place, a mystery hidden even from them. One that can only be solved when we spend our time together.

A multi-sensory spectacular for audiences with profound and multiple learning disabilities (PMLD).

TIN CAT ENTERTAINMENT PRESENTS

JO CAULFIELD: HERE COMES TROUBLE

SUNDAY 10 MARCH, 7.30PM



Voted 'Comedians' Comedian of The Year 2022', Jo Caulfield is "quite simply, a damn funny woman." (*The Guardian*)

Here Comes Trouble is 90 minutes of razor-sharp observations and scandalous one-liners, as Jo gets her claws into everything (and everyone) that annoys her.

From stories about arguing with strangers on trains to dealing with over-enthusiastic supermarket staff to "helping" organise her newly divorced friend's dating life, this is pure stand-up, delivered with nothing more than a microphone and a bad attitude.

"One of the finest
female comedians
at work"

★★★★★

THE OBSERVER

Where
Main auditorium

Ticket price
£18.00

Running time
85 minutes
(+15min interval)

Age suitability
16yrs+

"An evening of
perfect comedy"

★★★★★

THE METRO

THE QUARRY THEATRE PRESENTS

ALYSSA KYRIA: THE FUNNY MUMMY

THURSDAY 14 MARCH, 7.30PM



'Mummy, I love your boobies...they're so long!'

Join the Funny Mummy for this hilarious one woman comedy show, all about the bonkers world of parenting. From pregnancy to playdates, WhatsApp groups to school runs – if you're a parent, and you need a laugh, then this show is for you!

Alyssa Kyria, aka The Funny Mummy, is the co-creator of *Bring Your Own Baby Comedy* and performs comedy to audiences across the country. Her comedy, music videos and sketches have gone viral on Netmums and Facebook and she has starred on BBC, ITV and SKY.

Where
Main auditorium

Ticket price
£12.00

Running time
80 minutes
(+15min interval)

Age suitability
14yrs+

"Hysterical!"
NETMUMS

"Sensational!"
THE MIRROR

"...ingenious..."

★★★★

THE STAGE

Where

Main Auditorium

Ticket price

£14.00 (£12.00
concessions)

Running time

55 minutes

Age suitability

3yrs+



BOX TALE SOUP PRESENTS

ALICE'S ADVENTURES IN WONDERLAND

SATURDAY 16 MARCH, 2.00PM



Drawing on the wealth of peculiar episodes from both Adventures in Wonderland and Through the Looking Glass, Box Tale Soup invite you down the rabbit hole into a timeless world of wondrous fantasy.

Carroll's Wonderland floods onto the stage in a whirl of strange contraptions and curious characters. No matter how young or old, everyone will find their own moment of magic in Wonderland and make it safely home again – the only danger is, you may not want to leave!

ATILA ENTERTAINMENTS (C/O JBA CONCERTS) PRESENTS

KING FOR A DAY: THE NAT KING COLE STORY

SUNDAY 17 MARCH, 5.00PM



Featuring world-class live music from acclaimed vocalist, Atila, and a world-class group of musicians, alongside narration and projected archive images and footage, this is the unique concert celebrating one of the greatest vocalists and entertainers of the Twentieth Century: Nat 'King' Cole.

Take a fresh look at the life and work of the timeless Nat 'King' Cole, whose vocal styling in songs such as Nature Boy, Unforgettable and When I Fall in Love defined a golden era of music and earned him a place in the history of American music as one of the most iconic vocalists of all time.

DYAD PRODUCTIONS PRESENT

AUSTEN'S WOMEN: LADY SUSAN

FRIDAY 22 MARCH, 7.30PM



From the award-winning creators of *Austen's Women*, *A Christmas Carol*, *I, Elizabeth*, *Female Gothic*, *Christmas Gothic* and *A Room of One's Own*.

Austen's Women are back - in a brand-new show! Devil-may-care Lady Susan, the coquettish black widow, hunting down not one, but two, fortunes; oppressed, rebellious daughter Frederica; long-suffering sister-in-law Catherine; family matriarch Mrs De Courcy; and insouciant best friend, Alicia.

Return to the Regency (or rather, Georgian) in this darkly comic tale of society and the women trapped within it; their struggles, their desires, their temptations and manipulations - and at the vanguard, Lady Susan: charming, scheming, witty, and powerful; taking on society and making it her own. But has she met her match?

Based on Jane Austen's first full-length work from 1794, and created entirely from letters, the piece is performed by Rebecca Vaughan and directed by Andrew Margerison.

"Towering...
luscious...
assured...rich"

★★★★★

THE SCOTSMAN

Where

Main Auditorium

Ticket price

£16.50 (£14.50
concessions)

Running time

70 minutes

Age suitability

14yrs+

"Vaughan is simply
sublime"

HUFFINGTON
POST

"If you haven't seen
Dyad Productions'
work before, you
simply must"

★★★★★

BRITISH THEATRE
GUIDE

"Some of the
most electrifying
character work
available, up to and
including Berkoff"
FRINGE REVIEW



The 2pm show on Sunday will have BSL interpretation.

Where
Main auditorium

Ticket price
£16.00 (£14.00 concessions)

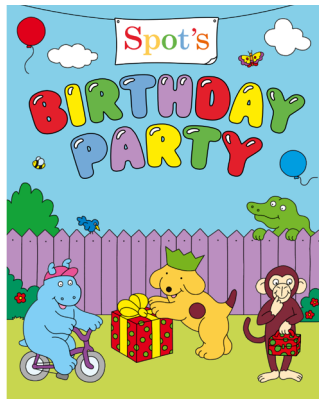
Running time
50 minutes

Age suitability
2yrs+

SAM BRADSHAW PRODUCTIONS PRESENTS

SPOT'S BIRTHDAY PARTY

SATURDAY 23 MARCH, 2.00PM & 5.00PM & SUNDAY 24 MARCH 11.00AM & 2.00PM



Spot is having a very special birthday party and you're invited! With party hats, songs, dancing and lots of interactive party games, this is going to be the best birthday party ever!

Based on the beloved Eric Hill classics *Where is Spot?* and *Happy Birthday Spot*, this brand-new adaptation brings your favourite pup and his friends to life in an interactive and accessible show suitable for ages two plus and their grown-ups.

MAKIN PROJECTS LTD PRESENT

THE BRICK PEOPLE

FRIDAY 29 MARCH, 10.00AM, 11.30AM, 1.00PM, 2.30PM & 4.00PM



We're delighted to be welcoming The Brick People to The Quarry Theatre, who'll be offering a wide range of LEGO® related activities.

Events consist of various LEGO® activity tables, some containing self-building activities such as Mosaics and Raceway and other tables featuring monitored activities such as a timed speed or tower build, where names of the builders are entered onto a leader board for the day for all to see. There are also a selection of amazing official and unofficial LEGO® creations by The BRICK People and the wider LEGO® hobbyist community.

SPECTACULARS PRESENT

RISE OF THE EMPRESS

THURSDAY 4 APRIL, 7.00PM



Step into a world of thought-provoking discussion and captivating storytelling with our groundbreaking play, *Rise of the Empress*. Immerse yourself in an engaging narrative of discovery that digs deep into the lives, experiences and perspectives of two Black women navigating the world as they know it and the world they would like to see.

We invite you to question preconceived ideas, challenge stereotypes and broaden your understanding of the diverse narratives that make up the tapestry of Black British life.

MARCEL LUCONT PRESENTS

LES ENFANTS TERRIBLES - A GAMESHOW FOR AWFUL CHILDREN

SATURDAY 6 APRIL, 2.00PM (DOORS OPEN 1.45PM)



The UK's favourite Frenchman channels his acerbic humour and quickfire wit into a family gameshow, pitting children against adults and each other to try and find the most awful child.

Come and experience what happens when international insouciance meets infantile exuberance, as children get to experience being politicians, pests and petomanes to win this badge of dishonour.

Where
Main Auditorium

Ticket price
£15.00 (£13.00 concessions)

Running time
120 minutes (inc 15min interval)

Age suitability
12yrs+

"Fresh, accessible and hilarious"
THE GUARDIAN

Where
Main Auditorium

Ticket price
£12.50 (£10.50 concessions)

Running time
60 minutes

Age suitability
6yrs+

"An absolute gem... If you don't have kids, borrow someone else's"

★★★★★
EDINBURGH
FESTIVALS
MAGAZINE

STRADA MUSIC PRESENTS

BOB HARRIS & COLIN HALL: THE SONGS THE BEATLES GAVE AWAY

Where
Main Auditorium
Ticket price
£20.00
Running time
90 minutes
(+15min interval)
Age suitability
13yrs+

SATURDAY 6 APRIL, 7.30PM



BBC's Bob Harris and author/music journalist Colin Hall present an intimate speaking tour based around their mutual love and appreciation of The Beatles, including rare archive from Harris' collection of interviews with Lennon & McCartney. By 1963 the pair had written so many songs they simply couldn't all be accommodated on just their own Beatles releases, so it made artistic and economic good sense to be offered to other artists for recording and the Merseybeat boom of 1963 & 1964 gave them a tailor-made outlet in artists such as Cilla Black, Billy J. Kramer and Tommy Quickly. This is the story behind those songs, the hits, the misses and the demos that the group never released.

'Whispering' Bob Harris, OBE has been at the very heart of the UK music scene for the best part of fifty years. He has established a worldwide reputation as one of the most trusted and influential broadcasters of his generation – described by Radio Times as "...one of the greats of British contemporary music broadcasting".

For the past 20 years Colin Hall has been the custodian at John Lennon's childhood home 'Mendips' (guiding the likes of Bob Dylan, Yoko Ono and James Taylor around the property), he's written two books on The Fab Four and presented a BBC Radio 4 documentary with Alexei Sayle titled 'The Lennon Visitors'. Colin was incredibly in the audience at the Village Fete where John was first introduced to Paul..!

"Bob Harris is a straight-up legend"
CHRIS MARTIN,
COLDPLAY

"Colin (Hall) is perhaps the world's greatest Beatle authority"
BOB HARRIS

CASTLE COMEDY LTD PRESENTS

CASTLE COMEDY BIRTHDAY SPECIAL

THURSDAY 11 APRIL, 8.00PM



Castle Comedy celebrates its 12th Birthday at the Quarry Theatre.

Over the years Castle Comedy has featured some of the biggest acts and hottest rising stars in UK comedy. They include James Acaster, Katherine Ryan, Joel Dommett, Paul Sinha & Henning Wehn. This Birthday Special will celebrate that tradition..... expect star names, birthday cake and big laughs.

Castle Comedy favourite Paul Revill will host the show.

Where
Main auditorium
Ticket price
£16.00
Running time
120 minutes
(+2x15min intervals)
Age suitability
16yrs+

MENAGERIE PRESENTS

TOY STORIES

SATURDAY 13 APRIL, 2.30PM & 7.30PM



Meet Chris. Chris is a 54-year-old artist financially trapped in the house where he grew up. The garden shed has become his studio, where he tries to create works of art that will allow him to come to terms with the absurdities of modern living - or else to escape his daily life entirely.

Part stand-up comedy, part performance lecture, Toy Stories takes the audience on an irreverent adventure through art, contemporary politics and twentieth-century history.

HIGHLY
RECOMMENDED
SHOW - FRINGE
REVIEW 2023

Where
Main auditorium
Ticket price
£12.50
Running time
70 minutes
Age suitability
16yrs+

"Live art in all its glory"
★★★★★
THREE WEEKS
(REVIEW OF
PAST WORK)

WORBEY & FARRELL PRESENT

HAPPY 100TH BIRTHDAY RHAPSODY IN BLUE!

Where

Main Auditorium

Ticket price

£16.50 (£14.50
concessions)

Running time

90 minutes
(+15min interval)

Age suitability

13yrs+

FRIDAY 19 APRIL, 7.30PM



*"Extremely
virtuosic and
beyond dazzling"*
SEAN RAFFERTY,
BBC RADIO 3

*"An astonishing
ability to convey the
joy and fun inherent
in making music"*
BARRY
WORDSWORTH
(CONDUCTOR)

Worby & Farrell are internationally acclaimed concert pianists with a wicked sense of humour. They are accredited Steinway artists, regulars on television and BBC Radio 3 and have entertained all over the globe with their blend of sparky comedy and sensational piano playing. They are known throughout the capital as 'The high-society pianists'.

In this exuberant show, suitable for all ages and musical tastes, they bring their unique touch to the world's greatest music. Prepare to be moved, delighted, and amazed at the sight of the piano keys on a giant screen. But above all prepare to laugh with joy at the sheer ingenuity and style of these masters of the piano. You've never seen a piano played like this before!

Programme to include a performance of Gershwin's iconic *Rhapsody in Blue* - to celebrate its 100th birthday, Prokofiev's *Peter and the Wolf* and Litolff's famous *Scherzo* amongst many others.

MAKIN PROJECTS LTD PRESENTS

THE NOISE NEXT DOOR: THE ADVENTURE ACADEMY... FOR ADVENTURERS!

SATURDAY 20 APRIL, 2.00PM



Enrol at the world's most reckless and ridiculous school with comedy legends The Noise Next Door. Where will your adventure take you? Dangerous deserts? Treacherous tundras? Volatile volcanoes? It's all up to you in this side-splitting, globe-trotting hour of entertainment that is fun for all ages.

The Noise Next Door are twelve-time sell-out veterans of The Edinburgh Fringe and have appeared on *The One Show* (BBC One) and *Britain's Got Talent* (ITV1). They have also appeared alongside the likes of Michael McIntyre, Katherine Ryan, Romesh Ranganathan and Harry Hill.

*"World-class
comedy"*
★★★★★
USA WEEKLY

Where

Main auditorium

Ticket price

£12.50 (£10.50
concessions)

Running time

60 minutes

Age suitability

5yrs+

*"Comedy
masterpiece"*
★★★★★

THREEWEEKS

MAKIN PROJECTS LTD PRESENTS

THE NOISE NEXT DOOR: FREEWHEELING

SATURDAY 20 APRIL, 7.30PM



Buckle up... You're in for a hell of a ride! The quickest wits in comedy are here to take you on a totally improvised tour around YOUR weirdest and wildest ideas.

The Noise Next Door are going hell for leather in this brand new show as they race through a priceless parade of off-the-cuff gags, scenes and songs, all based on your suggestions.

The Noise Next Door are twelve-time sell-out veterans of The Edinburgh Fringe and have appeared on *The One Show* (BBC One), *Britain's Got Talent* (ITV1), and *Roast Battle* (Comedy Central).

*"Hilarious... A
superior kind of
chaos"*
THE TELEGRAPH

Where

Main auditorium

Ticket price

£16.00 (£14.00
concessions)

Running time

90 minutes
(+15min interval)

Age suitability

14yrs+

*"21st century
comedy at its finest
and funniest"*
THE STAGE

BELLA CIAO! FESTIVAL & BEDFORD MUSIC CLUB PRESENT

DUO PETTI

Where
Main Auditorium

Ticket price
£20.00
(accompanied
under 18s free)

Running time
120 minutes
(+15min interval)

Age suitability
All ages

SUNDAY 21 APRIL, 2.00PM



Erika Petti is well known for her live performances across Italy as a solo artist, songwriter and collaborator with various bands. Trained as a jazz singer, she also has interests in funk, blues and soul from which her Hard Times Blues Band was born.

Manuel Petti took up the accordion fisarmonica at the age of six and is now also one of Italy's leading composers and arrangers for the instrument as testified by his latest album, *Courage*.

BELLA CIAO! FESTIVAL & BEDFORD MUSIC CLUB PRESENT

BELLA CIAO, SONG OF REBELLION

BEST FEATURE
DOCUMENTARY,
FLORENCE FILM
AWARDS 2021

Where
Main Auditorium

Ticket price
£5.00

Running time
90 minutes

Age suitability
18yrs+

Italian with
English subtitles

SUNDAY 21 APRIL, 4.30PM



A documentary film about the roots and rise of the most popular revolutionary song in the world. *Bella Ciao* has a long history rooted in popular culture and, like all folk songs, touches deep emotions of ordinary people.

In all its versions, *Bella Ciao* has always been loved, never taken too seriously and with its many different versions, been a source of fun and public participation. With more than 20 interviews on three continents, this historic documentary traces the cultural history of the song and investigates its international success, using archival film and performances of its different expressions.

THE QUARRY THEATRE PRESENTS

PRIORITÉ À GAUCHE

FRIDAY 26 APRIL, 7.30PM



Back in Bedford by popular demand, *Priorité à Gauche* - France's premier acoustic pop/rap/rock sensation - make ANOTHER one-off special appearance here in Bedford.

The hugely popular Perrier award-winning spoof French musical duo bring you sixty magnifique minutes crammed with all the hits that made them into the stars they think they are today.

Where
Main Auditorium

Ticket price
£15.00

Running time
70 minutes
(+15min interval)

Age suitability
14yrs+

"The music is
fabulous, the
comedy divine"
INDEPENDENT

"Painfully funny"
THE TIMES

"It is sheer delight
to spend an hour
with them"
THE SCOTSMAN

STIPE PRESENTS

R.E.M. BY STIPE (UNPLUGGED)

Where

Main auditorium

Ticket price

£12.00 (£25.00 for evening and unplugged session)

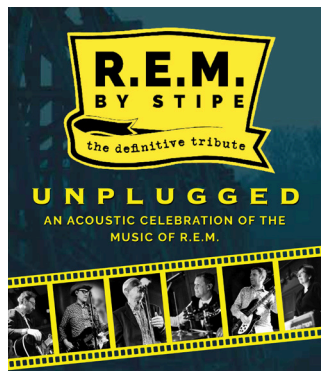
Running time

90 minutes
(+15min interval)

Age suitability

15yrs+

SATURDAY 27 APRIL, 2.00PM



An acoustic celebration of the music of R.E.M.

Two Unplugged Acoustic sessions for MTV set the scene for R.E.M.'s songs being stripped back to show beautiful melodies, clever lyricism, and arrangements in acoustic form. Stipe continue this tradition bringing these songs to life in their Unplugged Acoustic sessions.

"These guys are awesome"

MIKE STIPE,
R.E.M.

STIPE PRESENTS

R.E.M. BY STIPE

SATURDAY 27 APRIL, 7.30PM



The definitive R.E.M. tribute is back!

R.E.M. remain one of the world's most enigmatic bands. With a string of peerless albums; one eye on the underground and one eye on the soaring chorus; it's safe to say we will never see their like again. From The One I Love through to The End of the World and more besides.

Whether it's playing major festivals or appearing on the One Show, performing for Michael Stipe himself, Stipe are the definitive R.E.M. tribute – a complete band, and encyclopaedic knowledge of the back catalogue.

The boys from Athens' legacy is in good hands.



Creative Arts Scholarships

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.



Where

Main Auditorium

Ticket price

£15.50 (£25.00 for evening and unplugged session)

Running time

90 minutes
(+15min interval)

Age suitability

13yrs+



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.



bedfordschool.org.uk

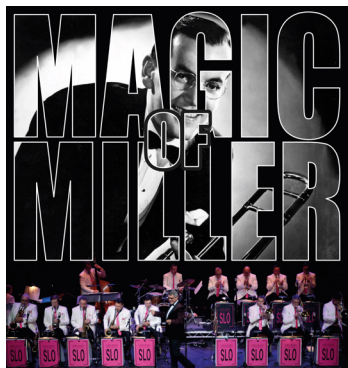
AUTUMN 2024 PREVIEWS



APPRAISAL

THURSDAY 2 MAY, 7.30PM

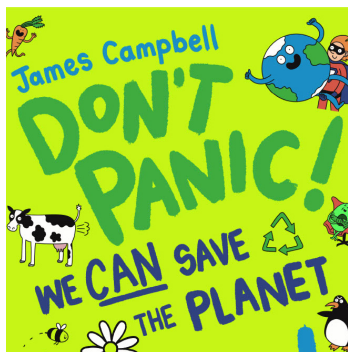
An annual work review that goes horribly wrong. Head of Department Nicky wants to get on with her job, her boss Jo has other ideas. He has a plan and thinks she is going to like it... A two-hander dark comedy, Appraisal achieved 5* reviews and Sold Out performances at Edinburgh Festival and Adelaide Fringe, where it also won a Best Theatre Award.



THE SYD LAWRENCE ORCHESTRA: THE MAGIC OF GLENN MILLER

SATURDAY 25 MAY, 7.30PM

The Syd Lawrence Orchestra celebrates the music of Major Glenn Miller, bringing memories of the 1940s 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 the Big Band era!



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. 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.

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.

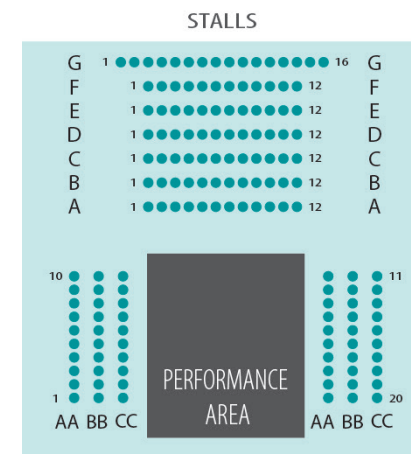
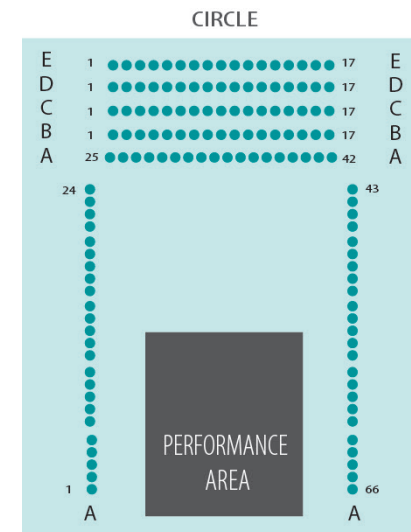
PHOTOGRAPHY

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



SPRING 2024

WHAT'S ON



JANUARY

| | | | |
|-----------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|----|
| Sat 13 | QUARRY THEATRE SPRING LAUNCH | Admission free | 04 |
| Tue 16 | LABELS | £15.00 (£13.00 concessions) | 05 |
| Fri 19 | MARK SIMMONS: QUIP OFF THE MARK | £17.00 | 04 |
| Sat 20 & Sun 21 | NT LIVE: SKYLIGHT | £15.00 | 06 |
| Thu 25 | THE GOVERNMENT INSPECTOR | £14.50 (£12.50 concessions) | 06 |
| Fri 26 | THE RONNIE SCOTT'S STORY | £25.00 | 07 |
| Sun 28 | NT LIVE: DEAR ENGLAND | £15.00 | 08 |

FEBRUARY

| | | | |
|--------|--|-----------------------------------|----|
| Sat 3 | BIUMPER BLYTON: THE IMPROVISED ADVENTURE | £18.50 (£16.50 concessions) | 09 |
| Thu 8 | KINDNESS: A LEGACY OF THE HOLOCAUST | £15.00 (£13.00) | 09 |
| Sat 10 | THE BUBBLE SHOW | £13.50 (£12.50 concessions) | 10 |
| Wed 14 | CASTLE COMEDY VALENTINE SPECIAL | £16.00 | 10 |
| Thu 15 | NT LIVE: DEAR ENGLAND | £15.00 | 08 |
| Sat 17 | MATT FORDE: INSIDE NO 10 | £17.50 | 11 |
| Tue 20 | BRING YOUR OWN BABY COMEDY | £12.00 (£17.00 ticket + prosecco) | 11 |
| Thu 22 | NT LIVE: VANYA | £15.00 | 12 |
| Sat 24 | SWINGING AT THE COTTON CLUB | £24.00 | 13 |
| Thu 29 | BREATHE ACADEMY | £14.00 (£12.00 concessions) | 14 |

MARCH

| | | | |
|-----------------|--|-----------------------------|----|
| Fri 1 | AURIE STYLA: THE AURATOR TOUR | £15.00 | 14 |
| Sat 2 | COMEDY CLUB 4 KIDS | £10.00 (£8.00 concessions) | 15 |
| Sat 2 | THE THINKING DRINKING PUB QUIZ: FANCY ANOTHER ROUND? | £19.50 | 15 |
| Thu 7 | KIERAN HODGSON: BIG IN SCOTLAND | £16.00 | 16 |
| Fri 8 & Sat 9 | THE BAR AT THE EDGE OF TIME | £10.00 | 16 |
| Sun 10 | JO CAULFIELD: HERE COMES TROUBLE | £18.00 | 17 |
| Thu 14 | ALYSSA KYRIA: THE FUNNY MUMMY | £12.00 | 17 |
| Sat 16 | ALICE'S ADVENTURES IN WONDERLAND | £14.00 (£12.00 concessions) | 18 |
| Sun 17 | KING FOR A DAY: THE NAT KING COLE STORY | £24.00 | 18 |
| Fri 22 | AUSTEN'S WOMEN: LADY SUSAN | £16.50 (£14.50 concessions) | 19 |
| Sat 23 & Sun 24 | SPOT'S BIRTHDAY PARTY | £16.00 (£14.00 concessions) | 20 |
| Fri 29 | THE BRICK PEOPLE | £5.00 | 20 |

APRIL

| | | | |
|--------|--|-------------------------------------|----|
| Thu 4 | RISE OF THE EMPRESS | £15.00 (£13.00 concessions) | 21 |
| Sat 6 | LES ENFANTS TERRIBLES - A GAMESHOW FOR AWFUL CHILDREN | £12.50 (£10.50 concessions) | 21 |
| Sat 6 | BOB HARRIS & COLIN HALL: THE SONGS THE BEATLES GAVE AWAY | £20.00 | 22 |
| Thu 11 | CASTLE COMEDY BIRTHDAY SPECIAL | £16.00 | 23 |
| Sat 13 | TOY STORIES | £12.50 | 23 |
| Fri 19 | HAPPY 100TH BIRTHDAY RHAPSODY IN BLUE! | £16.50 (£14.50 concessions) | 24 |
| Sat 20 | THE NOISE NEXT DOOR: THE ADVENTURE ACADEMY... FOR ADVENTURERS! | £12.50 (£10.50 concessions) | 25 |
| Sat 20 | THE NOISE NEXT DOOR: FREEWHEELING | £16.00 (£14.00 concessions) | 25 |
| Sun 21 | DUO PETTI | £20.00 | 26 |
| Sun 21 | BELLA CIAO, SONG OF REBELLION | £5.00 | 26 |
| Fri 26 | PRIORITE A GAUCHE | £15.00 | 27 |
| Sat 27 | REM: STIPE (UNPLUGGED) | £12.00 (£25.00 Unplugged + Concert) | 28 |
| Sat 27 | REM: STIPE FULL CONCERT | £15.50 (£25.00 Unplugged + Concert) | 28 |

BOX OFFICE: 01234 362337

WWW.QUARRYTHEATRE.ORG.UK