

EVENTS PROGRAMME
BELFAST 22nd Nov - 1st Dec 2007

OUTBURST
a queer arts festival



www.outburstarts.com

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OUTBURST
a queer arts festival



Thursday 22nd November
Event: Opening Night & Exhibition
Venue: The Black Box
Time: 20:00
Price: Free Admission (Continuing throughout the festival until Dec. 1st)

Introduction

Welcome to the historic first year of **OUTBURST**, a queer arts festival for Northern Ireland!

OUTBURST is run by a collective of queer artists and performers living in Northern Ireland and is dedicated to celebrating and highlighting lesbian, gay, bi and transgender creativity. We are delighted to bring you 10 days of great queer film, theatre, workshops, literature, performance, visual art, music and discussion.

There has been an amazing change of climate for LGBT people here in the past number of years. Positive leaps in legislative change and a growing social acceptance and respect for LGBT people have made the possibility of things like a queer arts festival a wonderful reality.

There is still much work to be done though and we see **OUTBURST** as part of that continuing exploration of the issues and stories that affect and reflect our diverse lives, posing the question "where to next?"

From the exploration of mental health issues in Pig Tales to the challenging dissection of gay lifestyles from avant garde provocateur David Hoyle, we hope that many of our events inspire debate and discussion on the issues that affect us most. And not just in the LGBT community but in wider circles, which is why we extend a warm welcome to people of all identities to our festival events.

OUTBURST is at heart a celebration of community creativity, so we hope that you find something in our programme to entertain, inspire and encourage your own creative expression, big or small.

From Little Acorns...

"Mighty oaks from little acorns grow."

As the old proverb goes, all great things start out small. So **OUTBURST** asked queer identified artists to submit small works on the theme of "beginnings" for our first visual art exhibition, which you can see throughout the festival at Black Box.

We invite you to come along on the opening night of the festival to preview the work and raise a glass to the beginning of a great ten days of arts and entertainment!



The **OUTBURST** collective are Martin Bowles, Melony Connor, Niall Gillespie, Natalie Johnston, Ken Moffat, Ruth McCarthy, Mairead McCafferty, Nuala McLroy, Patrick Sanders, Shannon Sickels, Geraldine Telford, Sally Young.

A standing ovation to... Awards for All, Belfast Film Festival, our sponsors, all at Black Box, New Belfast Community Arts Initiative, Lesbian Line.

A show-stopping finale of thanks to our volunteers, crews, performers, friends, families, partners and supporters.

outburst queer arts festival 2007



LICK
LESBIAN NITE

BELFAST
DUBARRYS
1ST FRIDAY

Alternative, pop, chart & dance
The Seduction Lounge
Gresham Street, Belfast
9.30pm Til 3.00am, Entry £5
(first friday of every month)

PLEASE CHECK OUR WEBSITE, BEBO, AND MYSPACE PAGE FOR MONTHLY UPDATES
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Life might
be gay
but work
can be
hard

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THEATRE

Friday 23rd November & Saturday 24th November

Event: Pig Tales

Venue: The Black Box

Time: 20:00

Price: £10 / £8 Tickets available from The Belfast Welcome Centre

Pig Tales *by Julie McNamara*

A people dispossessed make it up as they go along...

Written and performed by Julie McNamara, *PIG TALES* is the extraordinary story of a female child raised as a boy in a warring Liverpool Irish family, haunted by the rigid teachings of the church, disappointed with their lot and disconnected from their roots. Unfolding through raw comedy, compassion and barefaced cheek, Pig's tale is one of life on the edge, of tenderness in unexpected places and of the resilience of the human spirit.

Asking "What would you do in Pig's trotters", *PIG TALES* is a funny and deliberately disturbing one woman play that appeals for acceptance in a world which fears and shuns people who do not fit our definition of 'normality'.

Pig Tales was commissioned by Jackson's Lane Theatre and Oval House Theatre in London, as the flagship of the Xposure Festival of Disability Arts in 2002. Since then it has travelled from the Edinburgh Festival to Australia and New Zealand, picking up "Critics Choice" from The Times and The Sunday Telegraph on its journey.

OUTBURST is delighted to bring Julie's "illuminating and challenging" play to Belfast audiences for the first time.

"As an actress she gives her all... as a writer she is brutally honest. As a person she is out there putting two fingers up to anyone who doesn't want to hear the truth... (Southwark News)"

WORKSHOP

Saturday 24th November

Event: Drag Workshops

Venue: The Black Box

Time: 13:30 - 15:30

Price: Free Admission (registration required)

Drag Workshops

"Honey, you're born naked. Everything else is drag."

Break out those cha-cha heels and hang on to your hair trimmings for mustache material, your inner diva / drag king is waiting to be unleashed!

If you've ever wanted to dress up and play with a new persona, or even develop your own drag act, then here's a great opportunity. Gender-blenders **Trudy Scrumptious** and **Julie McNamara** (aka *Taking the Michael*) are your hosts for an afternoon of make-up tips, advice on finding and naming your very own character and plenty of fascinating drag history to boot. We'll even have a photographer on hand to capture your new fabulous self (it will make a great Christmas card for your auntie...).

The drag workshops are open to people of all genders and sexual orientations. Please note that there will be limited costuming/props available on the day, so we ask that you bring your own make-up and any extra clothing or props that may be useful in realising your full drag potential!

Participation is free of charge but numbers are limited, so please register for this event by emailing info@outburstarts.com or call 079 7270 7084

Saturday 24th November

Event: Writing Workshop

Venue: The White Box

Time: 16:00 - 18:00

Price: Free Admission (registration required)

Writing Workshops

Whether you're writing your first play, working on some new poems or just playing around with some fun ideas for cabaret sketches, this workshop will help you to move on to the next level with your creative writing project.

Facilitated by award winning poet, playwright and educator, **Brenda Murphy** (see biog pg 7), this session is for budding writers of all ages and abilities, who want to share and develop their ideas in a supportive and positive space. Who knows? Maybe you might even come up with something to be performed at next year's festival...

To ensure plenty of quality one-on-one time for participants, places for this workshop are limited to eight. For further details and to register for the session please email info@outburstarts.com or call 079 7270 7084



DEBATE

Sunday 25th November

Event: Queer + Art = Political?

Venue: The White Box

Time: 15:00

Price: Free Admission

Queer + Art = Political?

Is work created or performed by a queer "artiste" necessarily "queer art"? Does sexual identity actually mean anything to creativity at all? And why in the name of Warhol do we, in 2007, even need a queer arts festival?

Come share your thoughts on sex, politics and jazz hands, as award winning BBC journalist and broadcaster William Crawley chairs a lively afternoon panel debate on the nature of queer creativity.

PANEL

Brenda Murphy is an award winning poet and playwright, whose work has been staged in Berlin and New York as well as in her hometown of Belfast. Her plays to date include *The Binlids*, *Working Class Heroes* and *Forced Upon Us*. She won a NESTA fellowship award for her work in 2002 and also received a 4Front award in London for her most recent play, *Hold On*. She is currently working on her first novel.

Billy Cowan is a writer and joint artistic director of Truant Company, a queer theatre company based in Manchester. His plays include *Heart is a Lonely Hunter*, *Stigmata* and *Smilin' Through*, which was nominated for Best New Play of the Year 2005 by the Manchester Evening News and won the Writing Out Award for Best New Gay/Lesbian play. *Smilin' Through* is being revived this November at The Drill Hall in London as part of their 30th Anniversary celebrations. Billy is from Northern Ireland.

Caglar Kimyonu is a digital and video artist, mentor and curator. A co-founder and former coordinator of the London Disability Film Festival, Caglar has traveled extensively to collaborate with other artists as well as serving on arts related panels, juries and committees. He is currently touring with Julie McNamara's *Pig Tales* (see pg 5) and also producing/directing a number of films, including his own short *IMC*, an exploration of sexual power dynamics within institutional settings.

Ruth McCarthy is a writer, cartoonist, creative facilitator and queer activist. She has organised alternative queer events and gigs in Belfast as part of the HOWL collective, written for comics, queer zines and the music press, played in bands and is a former television programme maker with BBC NI. She is the coordinator for **OUTBURST** and is working on her first graphic novel.

William Crawley is a journalist and broadcaster who presents a range of current affairs, ethical debate and arts programmes for BBC NI, BBC Radio 3 and Radio 4. His most recent television series *William Crawley Meets...* saw him interviewing leading thinkers and social reformers, from scientist/writer Richard Dawkins to gay bishop Gene Robinson. He is currently filming *Blueprint*, a new natural history series for BBC One.



PERFORMANCE

Sunday 25th November
Event: David Hoyle's S.O.S.
Venue: The Black Box
Time: 20:00

Price: £10 / £8 Tickets available from The Belfast Welcome Centre



David Hoyle's S.O.S.

In the late 90s, **David Hoyle**, a.k.a. *The Divine David*, took the queer, "anti-gay" and performance scene by storm with a series of notorious shows in gay pubs and clubs. Following two Channel 4 series and finding himself on the brink of mainstream success, he took the shock decision to retire, stating that "the world needs another gurning celebrity like it needs a hole in the head". His final farewell performance was *The Divine David On Ice* - an extraordinary ice-skating spectacular at Streatham Ice Rink in summer 2000.

To much glee in the alternative queer world, David Hoyle returned to the stage in 2006 with his SOS show at London's Soho Theatre and a performance this year at Sydney Opera House. Describing the gay scene as 'the biggest suicide cult in history', the performance popster now takes a sojourn from Manchester to Belfast to visit his queer brethren.

Exploring the underlying issues of loneliness, depression, addiction and mental health - through comedy, tapdancing, showbiz spectacle, and dance-drama, David asks the Belfast barebackers, "Is being gay a waste of time?"

Part of the infamous Duckie collective, David is a huge phenomenon on the post-gay London underground scene drawing large audiences and critical acclaim. This one man performance is for homosexual refuseniks, bored clubbers, arty rock'n'roll girls and those with mild gender dysphoria.

"Quite the scariest, funniest, smartest, truest, noblest thing you can see." The Guardian
"A Genius" Time Out London

Dur: 90mins approx

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Monday 26th November
 Event: Four Minutes
 Venue: The Baby Grand, Grand Opera House
 Time: 20:00
 Price: £5.50 / £5 Tickets available from www.belfastfilmfestival.org

Four Minutes



Director: Chris Kraus
 114 Minutes, 2006

Four Minutes is a multi award winning film about two women. A rapturous and enthralling piece of cinema, it won the Best German film of the year 2007, and is a *Shine* for the LGBT community.

Krüger teaches piano to inmates in a women's penitentiary. Jenny has killed a man, and is discovered to be an accomplished musician. As national competition gives their prison a chance of favourable press, Krüger and Jenny must come together to fight prison authority, a haunted past and each other. Both women, with lives shaped by violent history find comfort and love in each other's arms. From the deafening opener to an electrifying finalé, there are few moments that don't overwhelm one way or another.



Tuesday 27th November
 Event: This Filthy World
 Venue: The Baby Grand, Grand Opera House
 Time: 20:00
 Price: £5.50 / £5 Tickets available from www.belfastfilmfestival.org

This Filthy World



Director: Jeff Garlin
 86 Minutes, 2006

John Waters' one-man show celebrates the film career and tastes of the man William Burroughs once called "The Pope of Trash."

In this film portrait, the high priest of bad taste grants us something of a private audience. Everything you ever wanted to know about the director of *Hairspray* and *Polyester* but never dared ask is answered here in a highly entertaining, extremely professional one-man show - for John Waters is a tried and tested stage performer. Bouncing from cultural observations (picture *Michael Jackson in the burn ward*) to sage advice (how college students can be more filthy), Waters' best bits are nostalgic, as he remembers his late friend and frequent collaborator Divine. Part memoir, part lecture, *This Filthy World* reaffirms what most of us already know from *The Wire*: In a town full of delightful misfits, Waters may be Baltimore's sanest citizen.



Wednesday 28th November
 Event: Lulu Gets A Facelift
 Venue: Belfast Film Festival Studio Cinema, 23 Donegall Street
 Time: 19:00
 Price: £3 Tickets available from www.belfastfilmfestival.org or both films for £5

Lulu Gets A Facelift



Directed by Marc Huestis
 60 Minutes, 2006

Meet Lulu, performer extraordinaire, and a "mid-life crisis in action" as he decides to get a facelift.

Funny, fabulous, touching and tragic this "reality" comedy is extreme makeover meets queer eye, with a dash of pink flamingos and ab fab thrown in. Lulu is one of San Francisco's most colorful drag artistes, an actual winner of the *Gong Show*, and a survivor of the legendary *Cockettes*.

The film captures his singular personality in the week before the procedure, through the days following the surgery, and climaxes with the final fabulous "reveal" performance at San Francisco's infamous *Trannyshack*.

Lulu Gets A Facelift is sometimes hysterical, sometimes bittersweet, but always entertaining. Underneath the camp facade lies a real vulnerability, and the film addresses what it is like to get older for both gay men and citizens at large in a youth obsessed society.



Wednesday 28th November
 Event: Red Without Blue
 Venue: Belfast Film Festival Studio Cinema, 23 Donegall Street
 Time: 20:30
 Price: £3 Tickets available from www.belfastfilmfestival.org or both films for £5

Red Without Blue



Director: Brooke Sebold, Benita Sills, Todd Sills
 77 Minutes, 2006

Red Without Blue is a groundbreaking artistic portrayal of gender, identity, and the unswerving bond of twinship despite transformation.

Red Without Blue looks at the changing relationship between two identical gay twin brothers after one decides to become a female.

An honest portrayal of a family in turmoil captured over a period of three years, the film documents the twins and their parents, examining the Farley's struggle to redefine their family. Through its portrayal of these articulate and independent twins, each haunted by the painful experiences of their adolescence, the film questions normative standards of gender and identity - as Mark and Clair reassert their indescribable bond as identical twins. Through the power of the Farley's voices, we hear the story of a family's redemption from a dark past, and ultimately, its revival to the present.

Tickets for all films available from www.belfastfilmfestival.org or Tel: 028 9032 5913 or pay on the door.



WORDS

Thursday 29th November
Event: Wine, Women & Words
Venue: The Black Box
Time: 20:00
Price: £3 / £2 on door

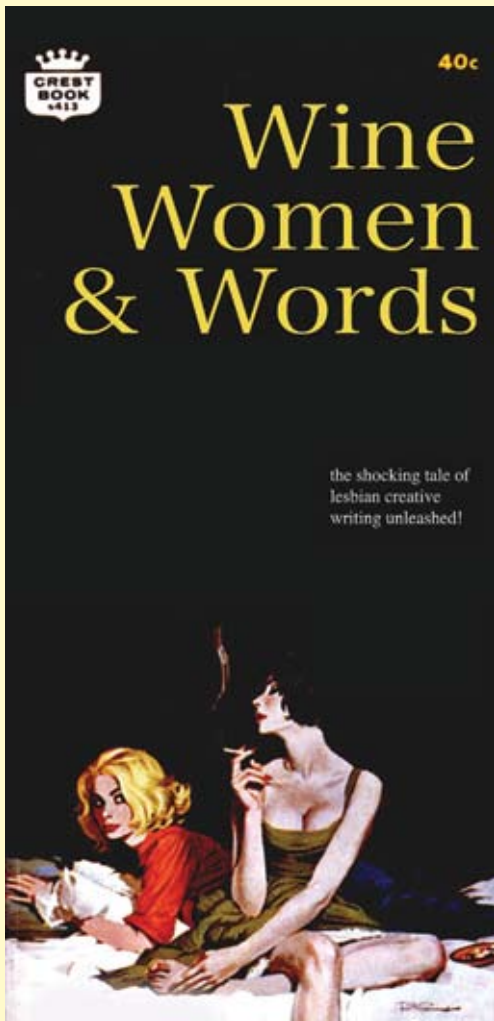
Wine, Women & Words

For the past few years Lesbian Line in Belfast has hosted the fabulous Wine Women & Words showcase; a colourful celebration of local and international women's writing and music in an accessible chilled-out cabaret style. But for this year's festival they are pulling out all the stops for an extra special evening's entertainment!

The line up includes a theatrical romp through the history of Sapphic literature, a reading from new work by playwright Shannon Yee, luscious lesbian linguistics from stand-up comedian Fidelma Carolan and, very possibly, many more words beginning with L.

Please note that this is a women only event.

Check our website for programme updates.
www.outburstarts.com



Quire's One Night Stand

An Evening of Music

Put on your glad rags and prepare yourself for an evening of aural pleasure, as we bring you a queer musical double bill that will have you chair-dancing from start to finish!

First up, Belfast's own LGBT singers **Quire**, host an eclectic programme of musical delights on the theme of Love.

Quire's lively multi-genre performances have been entertaining audiences since their debut during Pride in 2005. More recently they have taken to the stage for Anti Homophobia Week and National Holocaust Memorial Day, as well as performing alongside Dublin's LGB choir Gloria at the Waterfront Hall and the National Concert Hall in Dublin.

One Night Stand promises to be their most special performance yet, as they fill the Black Box with pop, traditional and classical sounds and introduce some special guest performers to the stage.

www.quire.org.uk



MUSIC

Friday 30th November
Event: Quire's One Night Stand & The Greeters
Venue: The Black Box
Time: 20:00
Price: £6 / £5 Tickets available from The Belfast Welcome Centre

And after you've refueled at the bar...

Happily described as "the love children of Julie Andrews and James Brown", funk pop sensations **The Greeters** hold court for the second part of our musical marathon.

Boasting some of the finest musicians, sharpest lyrics and bizarre musical use of stuffed toys this side of (off) Broadway, **The Greeters** are a smorgasbord of jangly pop, calypso, disco and bossa nova. With maybe a little bit of Bacharach & David added for flavour.

Expect some brilliant interpretations of familiar favourites, from easy listening to disco, as well as original numbers that will keep the dance floor busy well into the evening.

www.myspace.com/thegreeters



Saturday 1st December
 Event: The Last Hurrah! (Closing Night Party)
 Venue: Dubarrys, 10 - 14 Gresham St, Belfast
 Time: 21:00
 Price: Free Admission

Outburst is funded & supported by



The Last Hurrah!

In true **OUTBURST** style, our closing party will titillate, stimulate, and invigorate! Come celebrate the finale of **OUTBURST's** historic first year with DJs, divas and decadence, where you'll get one last chance to snag that snog with the cutie you've rnto at every event during the past 10 days..

Sign up to our mailing list at www.outburststarts.com for updates and special offers! or our bebo page at www.bebo.com/outburst2007

For media and all other enquiries, please contact info@outburststarts.com or call us on 079 7270 7084.



- 1 **Dubarry's Bar**
 10 - 12 Gresham St, Belfast
 T 028 9032 3590
www.dubarrysbar.co.uk
- 2 **Black Box / White Box**
 18 - 22 Hill Street,
 Cathedral Quarter, Belfast
 T 028 9024 4400
www.blackboxbelfast.com
- 3 **Belfast Film Festival Studio Cinema**, 23 Donegall Street
 T 028 9032 5913
www.belfastfilmfestival.org
- 4 **Belfast Welcome Centre**
 47 Donegal Place, Belfast
 T 028 9024 6609
www.gotobelfast.co.uk
- 5 **The Baby Grand**
 The Grand Opera House
 Great Victoria Street
 Belfast
 T 02890 240411
www.goh.co.uk



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lesbian line

promoting equality & human rights

www.lesbianlinebelfast.org.uk

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