

THE
AMERICAN
BAR

№65 DOCK STREET

outburst

Queer Arts Festival

November 11-19
2022

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Sarah Williams	Executive Director
Kathy Young	Admin & Operations Manager
Marc Gregg	Assistant Producer
Holly Hamill	Digital Content
Claire Hall	Volunteer & Events Coordinator
Mícheál McCann	Literature Development / Catflap
Pea Dinneen	Transforming Stages
Accidental Theatre	Digital Partners
Mandy Horton	Programme Design

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Outburst Arts Festival is a Limited Company (NI603571) and a Northern Ireland Registered Charity (NIC102016).

Outburst creates vital space for risk taking creativity and free expression for artists. The ideas and viewpoints expressed through festival events are not necessarily shared or endorsed by funders and partners.



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Thank you!

Outburst is brought to life through generous exchanges, ideas sparked over coffees and pints, inspiration from the incredible artists and folks in our community and kindness from friends and allies at home and around the world. For the practical advice, insightful arguments, the connections and encouragement to keep it real, we thank everyone who played a part. Special thanks to:

Colette Norwood at British Council NI / Pedro Donald / Margaret Middleton / all at the Black Box / Triona and Kim at NMNI / Julie at The MAC / Michael at QFT / Neil Webb / Niamh & Chris at Bullitt and Caroline at Beannchor / Adam, Brona, Maeve & Mary at Arts & Business NI / Chris, Erika, Christine and all in BCC Arts & Culture / Jon & Lilli at Jerwood Arts / Francis at Goethe Institut / Sonya & team at Arts Council NI / Kurt Taroff and Trish McTighe / Regis Cochefert / Kate Tyndall / Natalia Mallo / Lisa Kerner / Violeta Uman / Erich and Jonathan Wilgenbus-Lamb / Rosa Perez / Tetyana Filevska / Beki Bateson / Monica Pearl / Kris Reid and QHCN

Big shout out to Rachael Cambell Palmer, Steven Brett and Lizzie Devlin for all the years of support. Extra special thanks to Fran Cavanagh for the craic and commitment above and beyond.

Introduction

Outburst is sixteen this year, though we've been far too busy to be sullen and broody and writing bad poetry in our bedrooms.

We've been growing Outburst as "a safe space for dangerous ideas" for two decades, though in increasingly dangerous times, dangerous ideas are perhaps less about taking risks and more about necessity.

This sixteenth edition invites us all to play, think and share: beyond flags, borders, binaries, specially designated days and identities that have, arguably, become so commodified and co-opted, instagrammed and individualised that we forget the inherent power that "queer" has to *transform*. And isn't that where art always brings us back to: the limitless potential we have to envision and change *everything*?

The incredible artists in this year's programme all challenge us in their own ways to reflect and reimagine, remember and regroup. From the beautiful sparky energy of emerging voices to the timeless wisdom of creative elders, we hope that Outburst 2022 offers space to lift your hearts and minds in treacherous times: through shared laughter, righteous rage and remembering the power of our collective queer magic.

Ruth McCarthy
ARTISTIC DIRECTOR
OUTBURST ARTS

Chairperson's Welcome

Welcome to this sweet and sharp edition of Outburst Queer Arts Festival, where many different voices both local and international will be heard, questions raised, ideas tested, and delights shared here in Belfast for our sixteenth birthday. The 2022 Festival programme combines defiant fun and rigorous thinking. Laughter and gaiety are powerful for healing and resistance in dangerous times and there can be no doubt that the times are dangerous. We aim to be objective and open in creative debate. How objective might be arguable, but we seek objectivity not neutrality and to avoid any confusion between the two.

This Festival is the high point of year-round collaboration and research here at home, linked to exchanges with artists and activists working in many different cultural and political contexts. On behalf of the Board of Trustees, I warmly congratulate the Outburst team on the programme and I sincerely thank all our funders, partners and supporters who make it possible. Heartfelt thanks and congratulations also to the artists who are its lifeblood, and to our audiences ... sweet and sharp.

David Codling
CHAIRPERSON
OUTBURST ARTS

Festival information

Box Office

Visit our website to book tickets for all events.

www.outburststarts.com

Coming to multiple Outburst shows? Most festival events are available to book all in one basket via our online box office. A few events, including QFT films, require booking online through the venue. These will also be linked through our website.

After you book you will receive an email ticket. Please read all of the details on your confirmation email, as there may be more information relating to your specific event.

Contact Us

General Festival queries

hello@outburststarts.com

Box Office & Ticketing queries

boxoffice@outburststarts.com

Media

media@outburststarts.com

For festival updates and news, join us on socials. Share your thoughts and images from events and tag us!

#outburst22



Ticket Pricing:

Queer art is about opening doors. We have lots of free events and always keep our ticket prices as low as we can, while ensuring artists and workers are paid fairly.

We know that lack of cash can make it hard to get to events, now more than ever. So, if you're low on funds, for whatever reason, we have a number of £5 access tickets available. And if you really want to go to something but just don't have any money, there are limited free tickets for each event, use promocode **queer kitty** to access these where available.

Access

All Outburst venues have access for wheelchair users. Braille programme information, audio description, and BSL/ISL translation are available on request for some events. Advance booking for these services is essential. Please contact hello@outburststarts.com to arrange and let us know as far in advance as possible.

Please contact us at boxoffice@outburststarts.com directly if you'd like to book a personal assistant ticket or if you have specific event access needs that we can support you with.

We aim to keep our shows as relaxed as possible, so you can use the loo or stretch your body as you need to. If there's a specific seating arrangement that will help you be more comfortable in terms of access, let us know and we'll do our best to help.

We work closely with our partners to ensure that there are all-gender toilets signposted in our festival venues.

Timings, Content Advice & Age Guidance

You'll find approximate event durations on event pages where this information is available to us. Live shows may vary by a few minutes either way, as many of them are brand spanking new and being performed for the first time.

We offer content advice on event pages on our website for shows where we've been advised by artists of violent, sexually explicit, or mental health related content, so you can make an informed decision about attending before booking.

While some events don't have official age guidance ratings, we offer recommendations for most Outburst events. This is based on venue's own regulations, suitability of event content and sometimes just on whether or not the event is likely to hold the attention of a younger audience. All venues serving alcohol are 18+ after 8pm.

You'll see age guidance like this

16+

Festival Venues

BLACK BOX

18-22 Hill St. BT1 2LA

Tel: 028 9024 4400

QUEEN'S FILM THEATRE (QFT) & BRIAN FRIEL THEATRE

20 University Sq. BT7 1PA

Tel: 028 9097 1097 (QFT only)

THE MAC

10 Exchange St. West BT1 2NJ

Tel: 028 9023 5053

SUNFLOWER BAR

65 Union Street, Belfast, BT1 2JG

Tel: 028 9023 2474

THE AMERICAN BAR

65-65A Dock Street, BT15 3AF

ST. JOSEPH'S CHURCH

9 Princes Dock Street, BT1 3AA

(Near The American Bar)

CATALYST ARTS

6 Joys Entry, BT1 4DR

THE CRESCENT ARTS CENTRE

2-4 University Rd, Belfast BT7 1NH

Tel: 028 9024 2338

ULSTER MUSEUM

Botanic Gardens (Stranmillis entrance), BT9 5AB

Tel: 028 9044 0000

BULLITT HOTEL

40A Church Lane, BT1 4QN

Tel: 028 9590 0600

PAPERXCLIPS

Blackstaff Mill, 81 Springfield Rd, BT12 7AE



Image credit: Christa Holka

ELDERS IN RESIDENCE

Split Britches: Lois Weaver & Peggy Shaw

In celebration of our 16th birthday and the power of queer generations united in creative solidarity, our Artists in Residence this year are Elders in Residence: iconic performance duo Split Britches. We honour the incredible creative legacies and vital ongoing contributions of our queer elders and extend a big Outburst welcome to Lois Weaver and Peggy Shaw.

For over 40 years Split Britches projects have spanned theatre, solo performance, live art, workshops, digital media, models for public conversation, and written work. Founded in New York by Lois, Peggy and Deb Margolin, Split Britches 'is about a community of outsiders, queers, eccentrics – feminist because it encourages the imaginative potential in everyone, and lesbian because it takes the presence of a lesbian on stage as a given.' Lois Weaver is also a professor of Contemporary Performance at Queen Mary University in London. Peggy Shaw is a performer, writer, and teacher. Their work is rooted in the experimental, downtown NY theatre scene and a strong DIY ethos.

Lois and Peggy will be present throughout the festival, sharing their most recent work, *Last Gasp*, on closing night and meeting with artists and activists to make all-generation queer space for conversation. The latter will be through their now legendary "Porch Sittings", relaxed space for the things we wonder about rather than the things we know. Participants are free to muse out loud, observe silently, or reflect upon our collective future. You can come and go as you like. The "porch" is a space to sit, think, dream or get involved in the ongoing conversation.

Full details of sittings and other events on our website.

Workshops and sittings presented in partnership with Queen's University School of Arts, English & Languages





Prophets & Poets

Queer performance,
tender transgressions,
dangerous delights



The Piper's Grip

We're excited to welcome acclaimed Irish artist Eimear Walshe to open Outburst 2022 with *The Piper's Grip*, a tender and reverent account of the homoerotics of an Irish music session. A live reading featuring a live soundtrack, in the tradition of Irish musical bawdry, this story portrays a man's ecstatic reconnection with his culture, and in turn with himself.

Presented in the Black Box Green Room following intimate performances in IMMA, Dublin and All Together Now, Waterford.

Original essay commissioned by Mirror Lamp Press

Eimear Walshe is an artist and writer from Longford. Their practice is based on research in fiscal and sexual economies and histories, working to reconcile the aesthetics, values and tastes of their queer and rural subjectivity. Incisive, personal, and charged, Walshe's writing reflects on how social history resonates in the sexual mores of the present time.

when Friday 11th Nov 6.30pm

where Black Box Green Room

tickets FREE (No booking required)

duration 20mins

age guidance 16+



Image credit: Camilla Greenwell

Lesbians Are Touching Mohair Berets

How can fabrics be intertwined with ideologies and ways of thinking?

Alka Nauman's research started from the discovery that the founder of Futurism and active supporter of Italian fascism, Filippo Tommaso Marinetti, had an obsession with touching sensual fabrics. The connection between fascism and lukewarm textiles reminded her of the mohair beret, which in Poland is worn by elderly women who identify with the Catholic far-right.

Mohair beret - fluffy, delicate, lukewarm, funny, soft, sensual, in a way very queer. It is a reminder of home, ambiguity, and of violence.

Lesbians Are Touching Mohair Berets is a short performance by Alka that tries to intercept the mohair beret in an anti-fascist, erotic gesture and use it to talk about her experience of living as a lesbian woman in Poland.

Alka Nauman is a queer interdisciplinary artist who works across dance, visual arts and theatre. She creates performances, installations, videos and dance protests. In her practice she is interested in the use of the absurd, humour, excess and daily grotesques as strategies in the fight against the patriarchal-fascist-heteromatrix. She lives and works between London and Warsaw.

Concept, choreography, performance, editing **Alka Nauman**

Photos **Mendel Grossman, Reginald Kenneg, Julien Bryan, Stef Rassalski, Josephine Tomaszewska**

Video **Thomas Rafa, Michal Szymanderski-Pastryl, Uwaga Babcia Gotuje, Alka Nauman**

when Friday 11th Nov 7.15pm

where Black Box

tickets FREE (Booking required)

duration 20mins

age guidance 16+



Image credit: Lee Baxter

David Hoyle: Ten Commandments

Beloved Outburst patron saint and avant guardian David Hoyle makes a prophetic return to Belfast with his new theatre show *Ten Commandments*, combining captivating stage performance with lacerating social commentary.

Rioting the wrongs of contemporary Britain, *Ten Commandments* promises to rebalance all the inequities and injustices that surround us.

In a lighthearted antidote to the rat-infested dystopia in which we currently find ourselves, David returns the Garden of Eden to its natural state free from nuclear weapons, landfills and perpetual burning forests.

We welcome you, the congregation, to liberate yourselves and others in a thermonuclear explosion of love and also hope for what remains of the 21st century.

Please note that this is a seated theatre show, so there will be no late admissions.

Director Mark Whitelaw

Producer & Dramaturg Jayne Compton

Visuals & Photography Lee Baxter

Music Richard Torry

Costume John Krausa & Rick Owens

when Friday 11th Nov 9pm (Doors 8.30pm)

where Black Box

tickets £15

duration 90mins

age guidance 18+



LOB

We're thrilled to welcome one of the most exciting new queer voices in performance to Outburst with her debut show, *LOB*, a tennis and poetry bonanza about moving through sporting spaces as a queer body.

It's the year 2000 and my grandmother, dreaming of Wimbledon glory, is devastated by my lack of prowess.

Having been obsessed with this memory for twenty years, now, with her trusty swingball set, poet and theatremaker Roma Havers once again attempts to serve a LOB. Egged on by locker room banter, a Victorian ghost for a doubles partner and a masked ball that just won't go to plan, at its heart this dance and poetry show prioritises the rearticulation of failure and shame and what it could mean to move as queer bodies in sporting spaces, even if you'll never reach Centre Court.

Written and Performed by Roma Havers

With Original Music by Donna Loman, Movement Direction from Christopher Brown and Swingball from Nico's balcony.

Supported by:



when Saturday 12th Nov 7pm / Sunday 13 Nov 3.30pm

where MAC The Factory

tickets £10

duration 45mins

age guidance 14+



Josephian Masculinities

Patron Saint of fathers, workers, and a happy death, St. Joseph gets no word of speech in the bible, only his actions are recorded.

Alka Nauman and Eimear Walshe met at Outburst in 2021, and found a crossover of interests in relation to national and religious material culture in Ireland and Poland. They are also both working on projects which relate to dance and nationhood, and research in local histories of sexuality.

Performing their individual works elsewhere in the Outburst programme, we are delighted to support this special collaborative performance by Alka and Eimear in St Joseph's church in Sailortown, a deconsecrated space maintained through community organising.

Alka Nauman is a queer artist working between choreography, dance and visual art. She is interested in the bodily use of the absurd, excess and daily grotesques as strategies in the fight against the patriarchal-fascist-heteromatrix.

Eimear Walshe is an artist from Co Longford. Their practice in video, sculpture, writing, and performance is based on research in fiscal and sexual economies and histories, working to reconcile the aesthetics, values and tastes of their queer and rural subjectivity.

Project development supported by
the British Council Bespoke Brokers research grant.

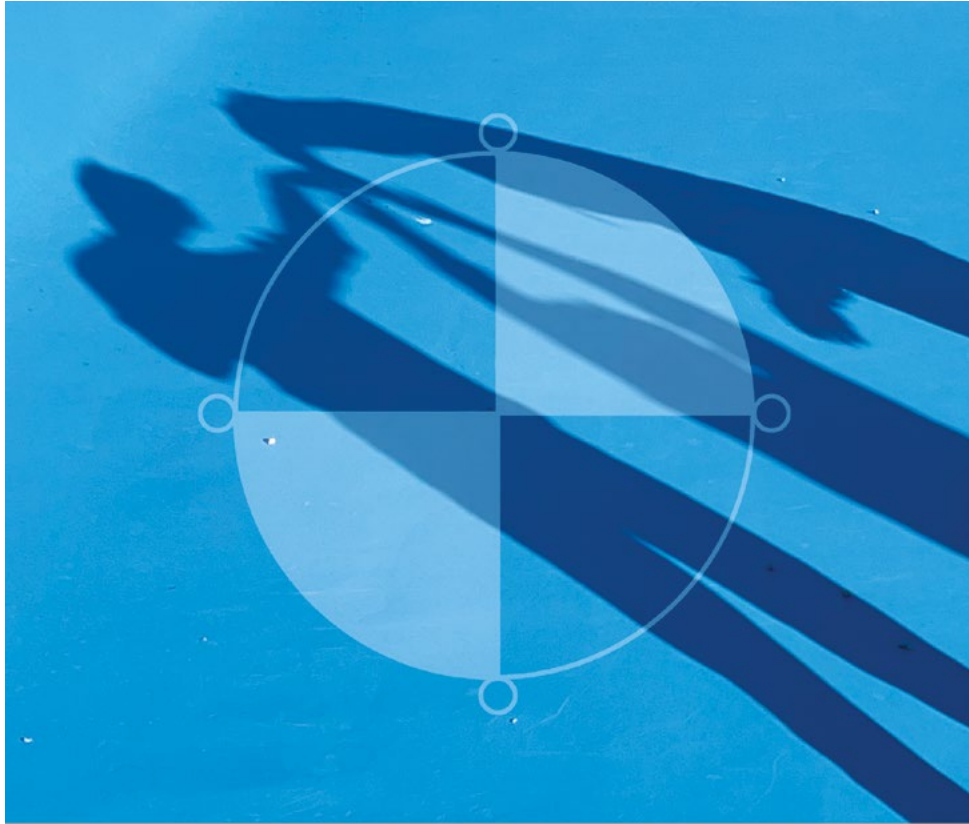


when Sat 12th Nov 1pm

where St. Joseph's Church

tickets FREE (Booking required)

age guidance 16+



T-Kuir

Since the lockdown of 2020, Outburst has been working in partnership with two vital queer arts festivals, FAQ in Buenos Aires and Risco in São Paulo, to deep dive into what queer solidarity and creative exchange can mean across languages and borders. After an incredible online project that saw queer artists, activists, thinkers and visionaries from Northern Ireland, Argentina and Brazil come together for conversations, we produced *Translating Kuir*, a publication about radical queer potential in troubling times.

Taking their inspiration from these conversations, our festivals invited three queer artists to come together for creative residencies to explore how we might communicate about change, mutuality and queer possibility. The result is an ongoing work of ritual intent, where music, words, languages and voices from the past bend notions of time and dance to a new beat, reminding us that revolutionary change is made by all of us, together, now.

Join us for this first sharing of a very special work during the final residency in Belfast.

Dani Nega is an actress, poet and musician of great relevance in the São Paulo scene. Closely linked to the new black Brazilian theatre, she has also produced music that speaks to the experience of black and lesbian women in Brazil.

Analia Couceyro is an award-winning actress, playwright and director in the Argentine film and theatre scene. Her research combines literary material with unconventional spaces.

Donalín Nic Fhearchair is a musician and writer from the Armagh / Monaghan border, best known for her acclaimed folk music project, Dani Larkin.

Producers:
Natalia Mallo (Risco), Violeta Uman (FAQ), Lisa Kerner (FAQ), Ruth McCarthy (Outburst)



This project was developed through support from the British Council International Collaboration Fund.

when Mon 14th Nov 7pm

where Black Box

tickets FREE (Booking required)



Queers at Queen's: Podcast with the Seamus Heaney Centre

It's been an incredible few years for our queer poets.

Last year's launch of the ground-breaking *Queering the Green* anthology, edited by Paul Maddern, has put the spotlight on the vibrant LGBTQ+ poetry scene in Ireland and 2022 has seen the publication of new pamphlets by local queer poets Toby Buckley (*Milk Snake*) and Mícheál McCann (*Keeper*). Padraig Regan's first collection, *Some Integrity*, has been shortlisted for the prestigious Forward Prize and Dawn Watson has signed with Granta for her eagerly awaited debut collection, *We Play Here*, which will be published in spring 2023.

We partner with Seamus Heaney Centre at Queen's University Belfast for a conversation with Paul, Toby, Mícheál, Padraig, and Dawn, hosted by the Centre's publishing fellow, Hilary McCollum.

The event will celebrate the launch of the Seamus Heaney Centre's newest podcast series, *Queers at Queen's*, which features all five poets talking about poetry, life, and Nigella Lawson. The event will double as a live recording of the final episode of the podcast's first season.

Free event, advance booking required.

In partnership with



THE SEAMUS HEANEY
CENTRE

when Tuesday 15th Nov 7pm

where Crescent Arts Centre

tickets FREE (Booking required)

duration 60mins



Image credit: Peter Fingleton

Tim Whitehead presents

Bourgeois & Maurice Pleasure Seekers

Cult cabaret superstars Bourgeois & Maurice are back with a spectacular new show that puts the FUN back into our fundamentally pointless existence!

Packed with whip-smart songs, jaw-dropping outfits, and an 8ft piñata, *Pleasure Seekers* sees the sinister singing siblings at their hilarious best in a new theatre show where they attempt to dedicate their lives to optimism, hedonism and non-stop pleasure. How could they possibly fail?

Gloriously unhinged yet bizarrely life-affirming, join B&M as they bellyflop head-first into a joy jacuzzi, with the hilariously savage wit and unique brand of pop-satire that's made them one of the UK's most subversive and original musical acts. Please note that this is a seated theatre show, so there will be no late admissions.



"A machine gun of quips, honed to the bone"
North West End



"A riotous technicolor jolly"
Londonist

Creatives

Director Jude Christian
Writers Liv Morris and George Heyworth
Set Designer Emma Bailey
Costume Designer Julian Smith
Lighting Designer Marty Langthorne

Musical director & producer Victoria Falconer
Musical director & producer Jarrad Payne
Producer Beckie Darlington
Choreographer Will Tuckett
Sound and Music Assistant Jonathan Kitching

when Saturday 19th Nov 9pm

where Black Box

tickets £15

duration 75mins

age guidance 18+

Supported using public funding by





Image credit: Christa Holka

Split Britches: Last Gasp

How to survive a loss. First you recalibrate...

In early 2020 Lois Weaver and Peggy Shaw set out to present *Last Gasp*, a live performance questioning demise: of ageing bodies, of civil conversation, of a sustainable planet. The pandemic arrived and knocked the breath out of all of us, as did a period of civil unrest that marched under the banner of 'I can't breathe.' The ironies were not lost as the duo locked down and continued their investigations, resulting in a digital performance, *Last Gasp WFH*.

Two years later, after runs at London's Barbican and New York's La Mama, *Last Gasp: A Recalibration* gathers us in the same room but not as the same people. Returning to the physical stage, Shaw and Weaver re-evaluate what it means to be together in a theatre and what it means to perform in the aftermath of a foundation shattering crisis. With episodes entitled *The Trump in Me*, *How to Set a Table in an Emergency*, and *How to Survive a Loss*, the legendary performance duo brings us together to recalibrate - not only facing demise but considering strategies for moving on.

Created in collaboration with
Lois Weaver, Peggy Shaw, Nao Nagai, Vivian Stoll and Morgan Thorson
Writers and Performers Lois Weaver and Peggy Shaw

Director Lois Weaver
Lighting Design Nao Nagai Visual
Music Design Vivian Stoll Sound

Choreography Morgan Thorson
Costumes Susan Young
Design Consultation Matt Delbridge

when Saturday 19th Nov 7pm

where Upstairs at The MAC

tickets £15

duration 70mins

age guidance 16+



New Voices

Emerging queer joys for
discombobulating times



Bi Spy

Calling all International Bisexuals of Mystery, both shaken & stirred!
As bisexuals in the field, you're used to hiding in plain sight, like a darkened silhouette underneath a singular lit lamp post in a black and white movie, but no more! We're activating you - yes you, the agent reading this - to use your bisexual, pansexual and other binary blasting secret service powers to craft the future of the B.I.6. organisation!

Join Calum McElwee, our spymaster general for proceedings, for this Outburst-commissioned work about navigating bisexuality in spaces where you're kept to the fringes, and what to do when you're on the run from prejudices that just won't lose your tail.

Written and Performed by Calum McElwee

when Sun 13th Nov 7pm

where Brian Friel Theatre

tickets £8

duration 60mins

age guidance 14+

FJÜCK



Transforming Stages: FJÜCK

"Here at *FJÜCK*, we care deeply about selling our flatpack furniture to queers just wanting some stability in their lives. Whether it's a giant brown bear who makes you feel like a small, fragile milf, or a chest of drawers to compartmentalise away the remnants of your shattered self-worth, *FJÜCK* has it all! *FJÜCK*, don't say your feelings - buy them!"

Celebrating the end of year two of Outburst's Transforming Stages, we present *FJÜCK*, a performance written in collaboration between the four participants in the programme. A smart, funny and moving work in development, *FJÜCK* imagines what new planes of queer domesticity can look like when all that's available to you is cheap flatpack furniture. Can you build a found family, or even yourself, as easily as a bookshelf?

Transforming Stages is a creative development programme for trans and non binary writers for stage, supporting better trans and non binary visibility in theatre and professional development opportunities for emerging trans and non binary writers.

Writers & performers

Rose Coogan
Aoife O'Connor
Isaac Quinn
Kit Rees

Programme Director Pea Dinneen
Programme Producer Marc Gregg

Programme
supported by:



when Thurs 17th Nov 7pm

where Black Box

tickets £6

duration 50mins

age guidance 16+



He's Perfect

Dion can't find the perfect man, so he's going to create his own.

But with The Rules of manliness colliding with how he experiences life, how can he figure it all out in a world of binaries and increasingly loud alt-right voices?

A funny and cautionary debut from Belfast's Conor Cupples, *He's Perfect* is a timely love letter to femme queers asking questions about what it means to be a man in an era of creeping fascism.

Development supported by the Arts Council of Northern Ireland SIAP programme.



when Friday 18th Nov 7pm

where Brian Friel Theatre

tickets £8

duration 50mins

age guidance 16+



Sound & Vision

Visual Disruptions and
In The Dark Pleasures



Image credit: Anton Shebetko, from 'Simeiz'

Anton Shebetko

Outburst is excited to present a selection of works from Ukrainian artist Anton Shebetko, in partnership with Catalyst Arts.

An artist and photographer from Kyiv, currently living in Amsterdam, Shebetko works closely with LGBTQ + topics, themes of memory, loss of identity, plurality of history and the role that photography can play in revealing these stories.

His extensive research is devoted to the forgotten queer history of Ukraine, with projects ranging from installations and interventions dedicated to old cruising spots and underground gay resorts in Crimea to more relevant topics such as Ukrainian LGBTQ + soldiers.

This exhibition is part of the UK/Ukraine Season of Culture devised jointly by the British Council and the Ukrainian Institute.



BRITISH
COUNCIL

ukrainian
institute



when Fri 11 - Sat 19 Nov

where Catalyst Arts

tickets FREE (No booking required)

open Tues to Sat 11am-5pm



Emma Wolf-Haugh

UPHOLD: Outburst Editions

UPHOLD is a not-for-profit online platform that supports and sells the work of artists living or working in Northern Ireland. Created and run by Belfast arts collective Household, Uphold has commissioned two artists to create special limited-edition artworks for this year's festival in response to *Translating Kuir*, an ongoing collaboration between Outburst and international partners FAQ and Risco that explores how we build creative queer solidarity across different languages and "kuir" experiences.

Jennifer Mehigan's work is currently focused on suppressed Irish lesbian historical figures and their graves as horticultural sites, uncovering queer strategies for surviving our crises of kinship and climate. *BETRAY OR BE BETRAYED* (after *Cruise or Be Cruised*) is a series of printed mugs that map her investigation into practices of Irish otherness, worlds of networked desire, abstraction as a method of remaining unknowable, and the body as an animal.

Artist, educator and writer **Emma Wolf-Haugh's** work is shaped by economic necessity, using forms of recycling, thrift and ephemera. They have created *Clothes for queer cruisers - Trans - Later*, an edition of three embroidered denim jackets sourced in Belfast that nod to the creative processes involved when gender, sexuality, identity and cultural signifiers are woven together on our own terms. *Trans - Later* marks the body as a site of constant change, where we can re-write ourselves at any time.

These new editions will be available to buy via upholdart.co.uk and you can see them in an exhibition of work by artists featured in Uphold, at 35DP, 35 Donegall Place Belfast.

3rd - 20th Nov 10am-4pm, Wednesday to Sunday.

Further details on Outburst and Uphold websites.

This work was made possible with the kind support of the Arts Council of Northern Ireland, Belfast City Council and Esther Haller-Clarke at HallerClarke.



UPHOLD

The best in new and classic
queer cinema in partnership with



Chrissy Judy

Dir. Todd Flaherty | 2022 | USA | 96 min

Everyone has that one friend who “can’t get their act together”, but you can’t help but love them to pieces anyway. For thirty-something Chrissy, it’s his bestie, Judy, an endearing but perpetually messy ride-or-die. After hustling for years together in the New York City bar scene, Judy is convinced that their two-queen drag act will finally get its big break. That is, until Chrissy’s priorities suddenly shift, forcing a disillusioned Judy to closely examine his trajectory as a drag artiste and rediscover his true self in the process.

A surprising and bittersweet comedy, *CHRISSEY JUDY* sets us up for the standard snappy gay party story, before knowingly exploring the struggles gay men face in the pursuit of sex, “success”, romance, and belonging that will be recognisable to so many of us.

when Monday 14 Nov 6.15pm

where QFT

tickets £8.40 / £7 & £4.50 concessions

age 16+



Queen Christina

Dir. Rouben Mamoulian | 1933 | USA | 124 min

“Spoils, glory, flags and trumpets!...I tell you, I want no more of it. I want for my people security and happiness. I want to cultivate the arts of peace, the arts of life. I want peace and peace I will have!”

We love big screen classics revisited with a modern queer eye and if you haven’t seen this one, you’re in for a glorious treat! Made in 1933 and screened here in 35mm, *Queen Christina* is one of early cinema’s most sophisticated examinations of gender and identity, with screen legend Greta Garbo perfectly cast as the arts loving, peace-seeking, bisexual Swedish monarch who was raised from birth as a boy and continued to present “as a man” throughout her reign. Garbo, who was also bisexual (she had documented dalliances with Tallulah Bankhead, Cecil Beaton, Billie Holiday and Louise Brooks to name but a few) was never more thrilling than in this quintessential screen portrayal that captures her graceful allure and enigmatic persona in one of her finest films.

Presented as part of Cinema Rediscovered on Tour, a watershed project in collaboration with Park Circus. With support from BFI awarding funds from The National Lottery and MUBI.



when Tuesday 15 Nov 8.45pm

where QFT

tickets £8.40 / £7 & £4.50

concessions



Loving Highsmith

Dir. Eva Vitija | 2021 | Switzerland, Germany | 84 min

Patricia Highsmith wrote some of the most exciting thrillers and classics ever to have been adapted for screen: *Strangers on a Train*, *The Talented Mr. Ripley* and of course *Carol*, a partly autobiographic novel and first lesbian story with a happy ending to be published in 1950s America. A reclusive and difficult character in later life, she has frequently been cast as “a mean, cruel, hard, unlovable, unloving human being”, a bitter eccentric who preferred the company of her pet snail.

Loving Highsmith offers a fascinating counterpoint to the established Highsmith legend. Using her diaries and notebooks and the intimate reflections of her lovers, friends and family, it offers a deep dive into an enigmatic character who was forced to lead a double life and hide her vibrant love affairs with women but who also partied with Bowie and indulged enthusiastically in the burgeoning queer scene in 1960s France. Excerpts from her diaries voiced by Gwendoline Christie (*Game of Thrones*, *Top of the Lake*), beautifully interwoven with archive material of her and her most famous novel adaptations, create a vivid portrait of one of the most fascinating writers of the 20th century.

“As multi-layered as one of the author’s own plots”

The Hollywood Reporter

“A compelling portrait of underground life in the mid 20th century”

The Wrap

when Thurs 17 Nov 6.15pm

where QFT

tickets £8.40 / £7 & £4.50 concessions





Shall I Compare You To A Summer's Day?

Dir. Mohammad Shawky Hassan | 2022 | Egypt, Lebanon, Germany | 66 min

A glance leads to a smile, a smile to a rendezvous: every love story begins the same way.

In this sensual visual and musical essay by Mohammad Shawky Hassan, Arab folktales, animation, Egyptian pop and the filmmaker's personal love diary form stories that playfully unfold through conversations between Scheherazade, a narrator who never comes into view, and ghosts of former lovers. Heteronormativity is challenged: lovers ask each other about threesomes, Grindr contacts and past dates. Pop clichés are twisted, heartache permeates the men's singing, and poems by Wadih Saadeh are read out while a lover's dirty laundry is aired.

Outburst is proud to have contributed development support to this deeply original queer work that goes beyond conventional film narrative to create a fresh, erotic and beautifully playful portrayal of gay male relationships and connection.

Mohammad Shawky Hassan is an Egyptian filmmaker and video artist living and working in Berlin. His last film *And on a Different Note* was acquired by the Museum of Modern Art (MoMA) in New York as part of its permanent collection.

when Wednesday 16 Nov 6.30pm **where** QFT
tickets £8.40 / £7 & £4.50 concessions **age** 18+



Pink Flamingos 50th Anniversary Screening

Dir. John Waters | 1972 | USA | 137min

We celebrate the filthiest jubilee of them all, as John Waters' cult classic turns 50!

As brilliantly transgressive and hilarious now as it was on its release in 1972, Waters and his merry band of Dreamlanders leave no taboo unsmashed in this gleefully subversive ode to outsiderhood. Legendary drag terrorist Divine is iconic as a wanted criminal hiding out with her family of degenerates in a trailer outside Baltimore while revelling in her tabloid notoriety as the "Filthiest Person Alive." But when a pair of sociopaths (Mink Stole, David Lochary) attempt to challenge her title, Divine resolves to show them and the world the true meaning of the word filthy.

when Friday 18 Nov 9.15pm

where QFT

tickets £8.40 / £7

& £4.50 concessions

age 18+





Gathering & Sharing

Support artists.
Imagine queer futures.
Say it out loud.
Make beautiful trouble.



Queer Possibility In The Museum

Queer Possibility in the Museum is a creative collaboration between Outburst and queer museum designer **Margaret Middleton**, that not only considers LGBTQ+ historical artifacts but also asks "what can our diverse queer lived experiences, knowledge and potential bring to a museum experience?"

To mark the launch of Margaret's handbook *Finding Queer Possibility in the Museum*, we welcome you to a very special after hours event at Ulster Museum where you are invited to celebrate queer imagination: past, present, and future and see the museum through your own personal queer lens.

Taking your own pace and time through the space, you'll make your own queer discoveries. Along the way you'll see specially commissioned short performances by local artists **Ross Anderson-Doherty**, **Maoilíosa NicÉadaoin** and **Carl Hartt**, taking queer inspiration from museum objects on display.

Attendees will get a copy of the newly published handbook and you'll be encouraged to share your own ideas.

In partnership
with:



This event has been made possible in part thanks to the Queer Heritage and Collections Network, supported by National Lottery Heritage Fund.

when Sun 13th Nov 5-7pm

where Ulster Museum

tickets £5



Image credit: Ellen Blair

Queer Art Market

Last year's Queer Art Market at the Sunflower Bar was a massive hit, so we're doubling up across BOTH Saturdays of the festival this year to give you even more time to support brilliant local queer artists and get your paws on all the queer treats.

There'll be queer photographers, printers, designers, knitters, painters, and makers of all kinds setting up their stalls in the Sunflower garden, so you can find some of those early Chr*stm*s / Solstice presents for those special homosapians and other animals in your life.

No tickets or entry fee required to cruise the wares but it will be **CASH ONLY**, so make sure you shake out your piggy bank and check between the sofa cushions.

The market will be outdoors, so please wrap up well for whatever the weather is like!

when Saturday 12th & Saturday 19th Nov 10am-2pm

where Sunflower Bar Garden

tickets FREE (No booking required)



Catflap #2 Launch: Sounds Queer

After a sold out edition #1 of Outburst's new queer writing periodical, *Catflap* is back with a packed second issue full of queer ideas, poetry and essays, edited by poet Micheál McCann. To celebrate the launch we're excited to welcome three incredible queer sound artists and performers who are making waves in experimental ambient, digital music and political pop. Join us for a very special sonic evening in the beautiful old St. Joseph's Church in Sailortown.

CHIPZEL, aka Niamh Houston, is one of the most iconic performers in the chiptune scene, and master of an unlikely instrument: the Nintendo Gameboy. Chiptune brings together solar punk, video game hardware and nostalgia, making music using affordable devices. The Strabane-born artist has played squats in Milan, the V&A Museum, on a German u-boat and at home here in NI, making beeps, boops, and bangers for over a decade.

CYBELE is a musical, electronic, psychedelic project by Ukrainian artist Anatoly Belov. A multi-discipline artists across video, design, music and performance, he was a member of Lyudska Podoba, the first queer pop band in Ukraine. Since 2018, this project has been dedicated to the Phrygian goddess Cybele, the mother of all gods, whose queer history Anatoly reinterprets by giving Cybele new powers as the protector of all LGBTQ+ people.

BASHAR MURAD is a Palestinian singer/songwriter, producing globally influenced pop music rooted in Palestinian spirit. His music highlights issues facing Palestinian youth, including life under the occupation, gender equality, and LGBTQ+ rights. Dubbed the Palestinian Lady Gaga and "a mild-mannered Arabic provocateur", Bashar's infectious tunes and subversive visuals make him one of the most potent and vital artists in the Arab world.

when Saturday 12th Nov 8pm

where St. Joseph's Church,

tickets £12 with copy of
Catflap / £5 general

age 18+

In partnership with British Council.

Cybele appears as part of the UK/Ukraine
Season of Culture devised jointly by the British
Council and the Ukrainian Institute.



**ukrainian
institute**





Workshop: Pitch Shifting

Sound is amazing. The possible combination of sounds is infinite. Yet what we hear every day is usually restricted by expectations of what sounds familiar, conventional or... nice.

So, what happens in a queer playground for your spoken sounds?

Pitch Shifting is a collaboration between improvising vocalist rit. and Peter O'Doherty of Northern Lights Project. Over the next year, they'll be creating an immersive sound installation that will premiere at Outburst Queer Arts Festival in 2023 before touring.

This 90-minute workshop is the first stop along the way - an *exploratorium* where you're encouraged to expand your ears beyond usual expectations. Get curious about the surprising, different and usually discarded sounds and transform them through different ways of listening. Your voices will form the basis of the final soundscape composition.

In these fun, experimental workshops over two festival weekends, we'll swap nice for interesting. As a participant you'll be invited to think creatively, speak, listen, read, write, sit and move (walking or wheelchair). Standing is optional and you can input as much or as little as you fancy.

Participation is FREE but booking a place is essential via Outburst's website.

rit. (they/them) is a vocalist and composer who is also nonbinary and autistic. They use their voice to make sounds, and sometimes their teeth. With a background ranging from traditional folk music, industrial cyberpunk, musical theatre and medical simulation, rit. may even surprise you with a song.

Peter O'Doherty is Artistic Director of *Northern Lights Project*, a Derry-based organisation that creates, produces and promotes cutting-edge new music and adventurous interdisciplinary arts events.



Pitch Shifting has been made possible by generous support from the Arts Council of Northern Ireland.

when Sunday 13th Nov 3.30pm / Saturday 19th Nov 1pm

where The Good Room: Bullitt Hotel

duration 120mins

tickets FREE (Booking required)



Image credit: Studio Prokopiou

In Conversation: Lauren John Joseph

Outburst Book Group Festival Special

Books are hot and there were few hotter this year than *At Certain Points We Touch*, the stunning debut novel from Lauren John Joseph.

In this Outburst Book Group festival special, we're excited to welcome Lauren to Belfast for the first time to talk about the book and thrilled to present the event in partnership with PaperXClips, Belfast's grassroots queer bookshop/hairstylists / coffee shop. You can pick up a copy of the book from the shop to read in advance, or just come along to listen on the day.

At Certain Points We Touch is a deeply moving and relatably messy story of first love, doomed connections and last rites, conjured against a vivid backdrop of London, San Francisco and New York – a riotous, razor-sharp coming-of-age story that will have your heart pining for the protagonists as soon as you turn the final page.

A “stone-cold masterpiece by a shocking new talent” Olivia Laing

I haven't read a book that so powerfully evokes what it's like to be a wild young artist among other wild young artists since the *Bright Young Things*
Torrey Peters, author of *Detransition, Baby*

Lauren John Joseph is an artist and writer, working across the page, the stage and the screen. Their debut novel is published by Bloomsbury.

In partnership with **PaperXClips**

when Sun 13th Nov 2pm

where PaperXClips bookshop

tickets £5

duration 80mins

age guidance 16+



Eldering: **A live streamed Town Hall and social** **in partnership with GCN**

For the first time in our communal experiences as LGBTQ+ people we have living “generations”, people decades apart in age who have lived and are living openly queer lives, often in very different circumstances. But there are few LGBTQ+ spaces that support multi-generational connections...sharing, listening, caring, learning from each other and building a liveable future for ourselves that we all want and that we need now in challenging times.

Taking our cue from *Elders in Residence*, *Split Britches*, we hand the second Friday night of *Outburst* over to an exploration and celebration of queer generations and ask what role art and artists can play in imagining a better kind of “queer eldering” and solidarity building across all age groups and identities.

We would love to involve as many queer people and artists as possible - older and younger - in this conversation. A hybrid in-person and online event, it will be live streamed for those who cannot attend in person. The viewing link will be available on our website. We're delighted to present *Eldering* partnership with GCN magazine, Ireland's longest running LGBTQ+ community publication, who will have a special feature on Older Queer people in their bumper December Issue.

Come join us for chat, ideas and dancing!

In partnership with GCN



when Friday 18th Nov 8pm

where Black Box

tickets FREE (Booking required)

age 18+



Outburst Podcasts Be a queer arts reviewer!

Throughout Outburst we'll be recording interviews, discussions and talks with many of the artists, activists and producers from Belfast and further afield who have helped shape this year's festival. Some podcasts will be recorded live and others will be recorded for sharing at a later date via our website.

Reviews of queer arts events are critical for artist development, as well as ensuring that queer voices are heard on our own culture and experience. So as part of our 2022 podcast series we want to encourage new queer reviewers and for you to share your thoughts about events in the festival programme. You'll receive free tickets to specific events, as well as a small fee, and we'll record your feedback either in discussion or solo. You don't need any previous experience, just a love of arts, a willingness to chat and plenty of open, informed opinions!

Interested?

Send us an email about yourself, why you'd like to be an Outburst reviewer and what event you'd like to review. Emails to participate@outburststarts.com with **REVIEWS** in the email subject line.

Deadline for emails is **Friday 4th November**.

**SUPPORT
OUR WORK**

Outburst supports hundreds of LGBTQI+ artists, writers, performers and thinkers to create cutting-edge art, share ideas and start the conversations that matter now.

As a charity, we rely on the generosity of funders and supporters to bring our arts education programmes and risk-taking new queer work to life for people at home and all over the world.

Join the gang and support us to create safe spaces for dangerous ideas at the annual festival and beyond!

To make a donation of any size – a one off gift or something regular – click on the Support Us button on our website, or get in touch with Sarah to explore possibilities to support and connect with our work.

Email: sarah@outburststarts.com



Events at a glance

Friday 11th Nov	The Piper's Grip	6.30pm	p12
	Lesbians Are Touching Mohair Berets	7.15pm	p14
	David Hoyle: Ten Commandments	9pm	p16
Saturday 12th Nov	Queer Art Market	10am-2pm	p54
	Josephian Masculinities	1pm	p20
	LOB	7pm	p18
	Catflap Launch: Sounds Queer	8pm	p56
Sunday 13th Nov	Lauren John Joseph	2pm	p60
	Workshop: Pitch Shifting	3.30pm	p58
	LOB	3.30pm	p18
	Queer museum	5pm-7pm	p52
	Bi Spy	7pm	p32
Monday 14th Nov	FILM: Chrissy Judy	6.15pm	p43
	T-Kuir	7pm	p22
Tuesday 15th Nov	SHC Queer Poets Love Podcast	7pm	p24
	FILM: Queen Christina	8.45pm	p44
Wednesday 16th Nov	FILM: Shall I Compare You	6.30pm	p47
Thursday 17th Nov	FJÜCK	7pm	p34
	FILM: Loving Highsmith	6.15pm	p46
Friday 18th Nov	He's Perfect	7pm	p36
	GCN Town Hall: Eldering	8pm	p62
	FILM: Pink Flamingos	9.15pm	p48
Saturday 19th Nov	Queer Art Market	10am-2pm	p54
	Workshop: Pitch Shifting	1pm	p58
	Split Britches: Last Gasp	7pm	p28
	Bourgeois & Maurice: Pleasure Seekers	9pm	p26
Throughout Festival	Anton Shebetko Exhibition	11am-5pm	p40
	Uphold Exhibition	10am-4pm	p42

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