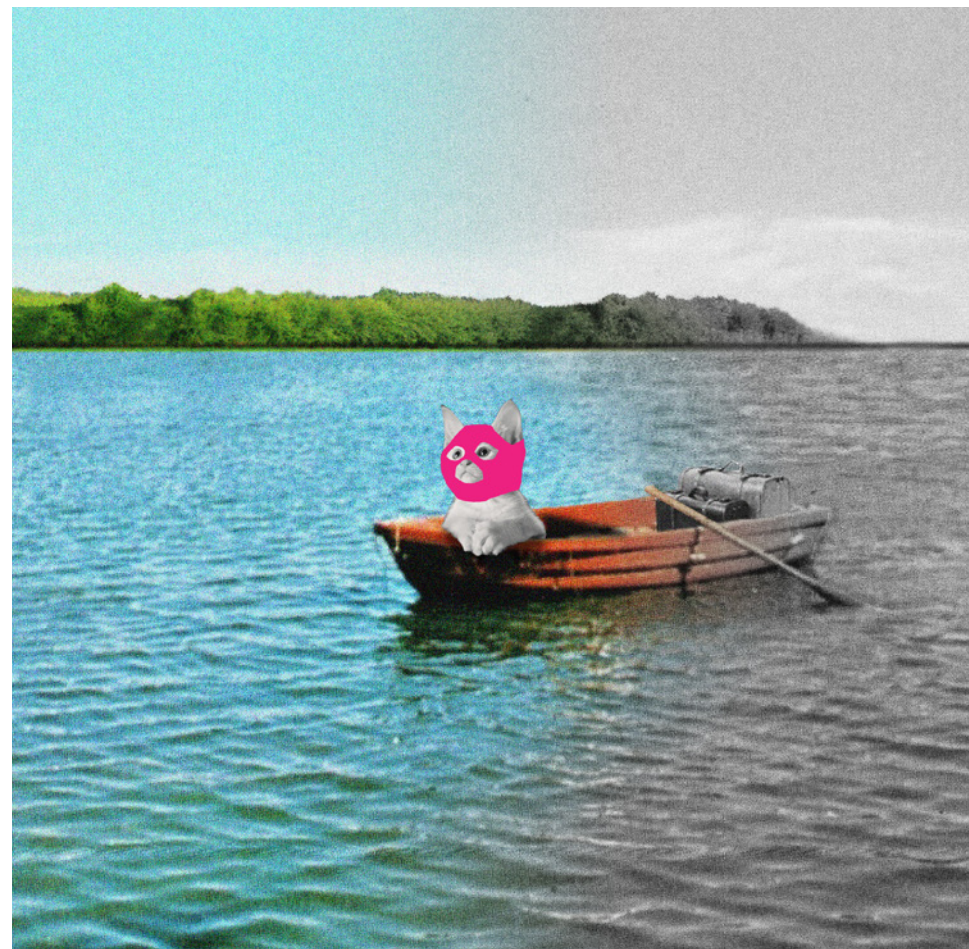


**SUNFLOWER**

PUBLIC HOUSE AND LIVE MUSIC

# OUTBURST



**QUEER ARTS FESTIVAL**

Belfast  
15 - 23  
November 2024

# FESTIVAL TEAM

Ruth McCarthy	<b>Artistic Director / Programmer</b>
Caleb Roberts	<b>Producer / Programmer</b>
Kathy Young	<b>Admin &amp; Operations Manager</b>
Mandy Horton	<b>Design</b>

# OUTBURST ARTS BOARD

David Codling	<b>Chairperson</b>
Kim McAleese	<b>Vice Chair</b>
Mark Eaglesham	<b>Treasurer</b>
Fidelma Carolan	<b>Secretary</b>
Cathy McCusker	<b>Director</b>
Emma Campbell	<b>Director</b>
Eoin Dara	<b>Director</b>

Outburst Arts 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.

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



# SUPPORTED BY



# EVENT & VENUE PARTNERS



# BOOK PARTNER



# BAR PARTNER



# HOTEL PARTNER



# THANK YOU!

Outburst Queer Arts Festival is the result of generous collaborations and open conversations and would not be possible without the kindness, encouragement and support of so many people in Belfast and beyond. Whether you've donated, shared event details with your gang or helped us find that random prop, THANK YOU! Extra special thanks to...

Cian Smyth / Michael Staley at QFT / Ren and Fern at Paperclips / Ross McDade / Kurt Taroff / Gawain Morrison / Bob & Ricky at Sunflower Bar / James Hall / Michael at Third Source / Pedro Donald / Ula Tornau / Sarah Williams / Caroline & the team at Bullitt / Kathryn, Jacquesy and all the gang at Black Box / Jules at the MAC / Damien at CQ Bid / Colette Norwood and Sarah Bagshaw at British Council / Sarah Jones at NI Science Festival / Erika, Bronagh & John at Belfast 2024 / Davy & Jane at PS2 / all the gang at Household / Sinéad at Cultúrlann / Neave and all at University of Atypical / Siobhan and all at ACNI / Emma & Cearda / Yi at Queer East / Bullhouse Brewery / Helena at Kaalo 101 / Monica Pearl / Natalia Mallo / Sarah and gang at Festival Transform!

A HUGE thank you to all of the amazing Outburst festival volunteers and to all the volunteers who supported Paperxclips with their move.

# FESTIVAL INFORMATION

## BOX OFFICE

Visit our website to book tickets or register for events.

**www.outburststarts.com**

Planning on coming to multiple Outburst events?

Most tickets are available to book in one checkout via our online box office. A few events, including films at QFT, require booking online through the venue. These will also be linked through our website.

After you book, you'll receive an email ticket. Make sure to read all of the details on your confirmation email, as there may be important access information relating to your specific event.

## CONTACT US

General Festival, Box Office & Ticketing queries to

**hello@outburststarts.com**

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

**#outburst24**



## TICKET PRICING

Art is for everyone and all are welcome at Outburst. Money shouldn't be a barrier to enjoying queer art, so we have some free events and always keep our ticket prices as low as possible, while also ensuring that artists and workers are paid fairly.

Low on dosh? We have a number of £5 access tickets you can book. If that's still a stretch, we also offer a number of free event tickets for those who need them. Just use promo code **hairball** to access one on the usual booking links.

If you have a bit extra to spare, we've introduced a **Supporter Ticket** this year, where you can pay an extra few pounds on top of the regular ticket price to help us to make the festival accessible to others.

## ACCESS

All Outburst venues have access for wheelchair users. Free tickets are available for personal assistants and friends supporting those with access needs.

Please contact **hello@outburststarts.com** to make arrangements if you have other specific access needs that we can support you with.

We aim to keep our shows as relaxed as possible, so that 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 clearly signposted in our festival venues.

## TIMINGS, CONTENT ADVICE & AGE GUIDANCE

Where the information is available to us, you'll find approximate event durations on event pages. Live shows may vary by a few minutes either way, as many of them are brand new and being performed for the first time. So please allow for small changes.

We offer content information on event pages where possible, so that you can make an informed choice about attending events 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 (for example, no under 18s are allowed after 8pm in venues serving alcohol), suitability of content and sometimes just on whether or not the event is likely to hold the attention of a younger audience.

You'll see age guidance like this **16+**

## FESTIVAL VENUES

**Black Box**  
18 – 22 Hill Street, BT1 2LA

**the MAC**  
10 Exchange St. West, BT1 2NJ

**Queens Film Theatre (QFT)**  
20 University Square, BT7 1PA

**Brian Friel Theatre (QFT Building)**  
20 University Square, BT7 1PA

**Sunflower Bar & Brink!**  
Union Street, BT1 2JG

**PaperxClips**  
162 North Street, BT1 1QS

**Cultúrlann McAdam Ó Fiaich**  
216 Falls Road, BT12 6AH

**Portview Trade Centre**  
310 Newtownards Road, BT4 1HE

**PS2**  
11 Rosemary St, BT1 1QA

**Ulster Presents Gallery at Ulster University**  
York Street, BT1 1QB

**Ledger Studio, University of Atypical**  
Ground Floor, 109 – 113 Royal Ave, BT1 1FF

**Hustle**  
37-39 Rosemary St, BT1 1QB

**Ulster Museum**  
Botanic Gardens (Stanmillis Entrance), BT9 5AB

# INTRODUCTION

Outburst Queer Arts Festival is 18 and we're serving queer art realness for troubled times.

Over the past two decades, queer artists at Outburst have redefined and reimagined representation, form and queer possibility in ways that have rippled far beyond the creative playground we have built together in community.

This year's programme continues to centre the queer alchemy of togetherness, with visual art, writing, films and performances that go beyond queer representation to explore the depth and breadth of queer ideas as much needed catalysts for change.

Gemma Hutton's *mOTHER* gets real about family, while Kabosh's *Suspect Device* travels in time to explore trans experiences in Belfast, making space to collectively imagine thriving trans futures at a time when our decision-makers are failing to deliver basic trans healthcare. Phil Collins' vital visual fusions of pop and politics refuse to leave injustices go unnamed and Stacey Gregg's poetic celebration of lesbian nightlife in *Disco Dykes* reminds us of the power in finding and spending time with our people.

And when demands, injustices, violence and misinformation can feel relentless, gathering in community is a relief and a medicine in ways that we sometimes forget: *You feel that way TOO?* Outburst is a space for creative play and joyful subversion (putting the disco back into *discombobulation*) and also a space to talk and share, to take a breath together in the ways that art enables so generously. To sing, to dance, to clear outworn ideas and make space for the new ideas we need now.

Thank you to the artists, audiences and supporters who bring that energy and that passion to the festival every single year and who, in the face of adversity, defiantly dream us to a better place.

Love and solidarity,

**RUTH MCCARTHY**

ARTISTIC DIRECTOR / OUTBURST ARTS

# CHAIRPERSON'S WELCOME

Connections between queer artists in shared experiment, questioning and celebration have always been at the core of Outburst's work, year round. Those connections have strengthened and multiplied over the years, here at home in Belfast as well as in many different cultural settings and multiple languages. The 18th Outburst Queer Arts Festival reveals how urgently needed those connections are, despite all the challenges, obstacles and threats.

On behalf of the board of trustees, I thank all the artists, partners, funders, allies and audiences who make our work possible and I congratulate our Outburst Arts team on an exciting 18th festival programme. A programme which I'm sure will also start fresh connections for a new generation of queer artists, activists and audiences both here in Belfast and worldwide.

**DAVID CODLING** CHAIRPERSON / OUTBURST ARTS

# ARTS COUNCIL NI FOREWARD

As Outburst celebrates its 18th birthday, we have an opportunity to reflect on just how instrumental this organisation and this annual festival have been to the development of Queer Arts and LGBTQIA+ representation. Outburst has, quite simply, transformed the narrative, here and far beyond our own shores. It has matured into one of our widest-reaching arts festivals, a 'Champion', now recognised as an international frontrunner.

The Arts Council is delighted to provide the principal support for the Outburst Festival, with game-changing investment from The National Lottery. The 2024 programme reflects many of the core values of the Arts Council's own strategic plan, Championing the Arts 2024-34, particularly in the support it shows for experimentation, innovation, international commissioning and cutting-edge collaboration.

Our congratulations to the team on another inspirational programme, and our thanks to all the wonderful contributing artists, who make Outburst consistently one of the year's most original and influential arts events.

Enjoy the festival!

**ROISÍN MCDONOUGH**

CHIEF EXECUTIVE / ARTS COUNCIL OF NORTHERN IRELAND





## ARTIST IN RESIDENCE

### RAPHAËL AMAHL KHOURI

Each year at the festival we welcome a local or international queer artist for the duration of the programme, to share some of their work, make connections and develop new ideas in residency. This year we warmly welcome Jordanian trans playwright, performer and writer Raphaël Amahl Khouri, who will be showcasing new writing across the Belfast 2024 Project *Are You On The Bus?*, as well as participating in talks and performing the completed version of his 2023 Outburst-commissioned work *It Was Paradise, Unfortunately*.

Originally visiting Outburst as a British Council festival delegate in 2018, Raphaël is one of the most influential Arab queer writers, having written the first openly queer and trans works in the Arab world, including *No Matter Where I Go* (2014) and *She He Me* (2019). Currently based in Berlin, his work connects trans experience with traditional mythologies, the healing power of plants and reclaiming erased histories.

# ADOPT US

**Outburst is a safe space for beautifully dangerous ideas in art and we need that now more than ever.**

**We support artists locally and internationally to make and share queer work that takes risks in form and content.**

**Outburst Arts is a registered charity and we can only keep doing what we do thanks to the generous support of donors, funders and you, our incredible audiences and community.**

**If you're in a position to donate**

- Click the **Support Us** button on our website and make a payment
- Scan the **Support Us QR code** at festival events
- When you buy tickets online, consider adding a little extra

**Interested in becoming a regular donor or developing a partnership? We'd love that!**

**Email us at  
[hello@outburstarts.com](mailto:hello@outburstarts.com)**





KABOSH

Paperxclips

# ARE YOU ON THE BUS?

Outburst Arts, Kabosh and Paperxclips join in a Belfast 2024 commissioned interactive triptych of happenings, time-travelling through Belfast's queer past to imagine our queer futures.

Bringing together local and international queer writers and artists and drawing inspiration from city transport and lost histories and, *Are You On The Bus?* takes its name from a playful euphemism used in Belfast's 1980s gay and lesbian circles to ask if someone was gay. Anchored in real queer Belfast moments in time, the project is a catalyst for interconnected happenings, performances, conversations and Tails of the City, a new series of essay pamphlets that reflect on queerness and The City. Our "Bus Stop" is queer-run bookshop, barbers and creative community hub Paperxclips, which is moving to Belfast City Centre in tandem with the project.

As the project unfolds, we invite our queer communities to consider not only where we've been but, more importantly, where we want to go, through creating a new queer manifesto for the city.







Illustration: Ezra Pinkerton

**KABOSH PRESENTS**

## **SUSPECT DEVICE**

Let us take you on a journey.  
We're not actually going anywhere.  
We *are* on a bus though. Wilma's bus.

Wilma was one of the first publicly trans women in Belfast. In the 1970s, she drove the Bangor to Belfast Ulsterbus, navigating bomb-scares and bigotry, amongst the other troubles of her life. In 1980, she battled to access the healthcare she needed, fighting a medical system designed by and for cis men.

Now, in 2024, her spirit returns to Belfast, and she's taking a few old friends and some unlikely allies on a long-awaited journey. She'd like to revisit her old haunts, get back behind the wheel, and take a look through the rearview mirror to see just how much has changed. The city is safer in some ways for sure, but listen closely. You can still hear the thunderous voice of Rev. Doctor Paisley echoing down Royal Avenue. You can still feel the icy grip of the patriarchy in the November air....

*Suspect Device* is a thoughtful and disruptive exploration of the impacts of a patriarchal system, and the explosive potential of queer people and women to dismantle it.

Performances will take place in a secret location in Belfast at various times between **14 November – 01 December**.  
Booking and full details will be available on the website from late October.

**Written by** Raphaël Amahl Khouri

**Directed by** Paula McFetridge

**Produced by** Kabosh

*A Belfast 2024 Commission by Kabosh.*





# DISCO DYKES

*If you're lucky, you'll catch a conspiratorial twinkle: the queer on the till at Dunnes, the wee butch working in the garage on Ards Main Street, that high femme languages assistant over from Germany where they get away with all sorts of things. A look exchanged in Gay, held a microsecond longer than an ordinary look, but long enough to tell all: see you there, see you in the dark on the dancefloor where you shed your Day Skin and are transformed.*

Outburst is excited to present an audio time travelogue by Belfast-born screenwriter, film director and playwright Stacey Gregg (*Mary & George*, *Bad Sisters*, *Scorch*), that playfully and poetically invokes grassroots lesbian socialising in Belfast over the last 40 years.

Based on real experiences, these six intersecting fictional monologues bring to life hidden highs and lows of romancing, dancing and travelling to the City to find your chosen family, holding a mirror(ball) up to the resilience of Belfast dyke life.

Accessed using QR codes, *DISCO DYKES* will be available to experience for two weeks only from **Friday 15 to Saturday 30 November**, via the Outburst website and QR codes around the city centre.

Written & Directed by Stacey Gregg

Produced by Caleb Roberts & Ruth McCarthy

## DYKE DISCO

In the spirit of *Disco Dykes*, let's dance old school style!

Since the 70s and 80s, lesbian discos in Belfast have typically been self-organised within community and often hosted in cafes, community halls and sometimes unlikely spaces. To celebrate the launch of *Disco Dykes*, we bring back the grassroots lesbian disco experience for one night only featuring sapphic DJs past and present. BYO drinks and flirt like you mean it!

**Friday 15 Nov / Hustle Cafe / 21:00 / £7 / Strictly 18+**

A Belfast 2024 Commission by Outburst Arts.





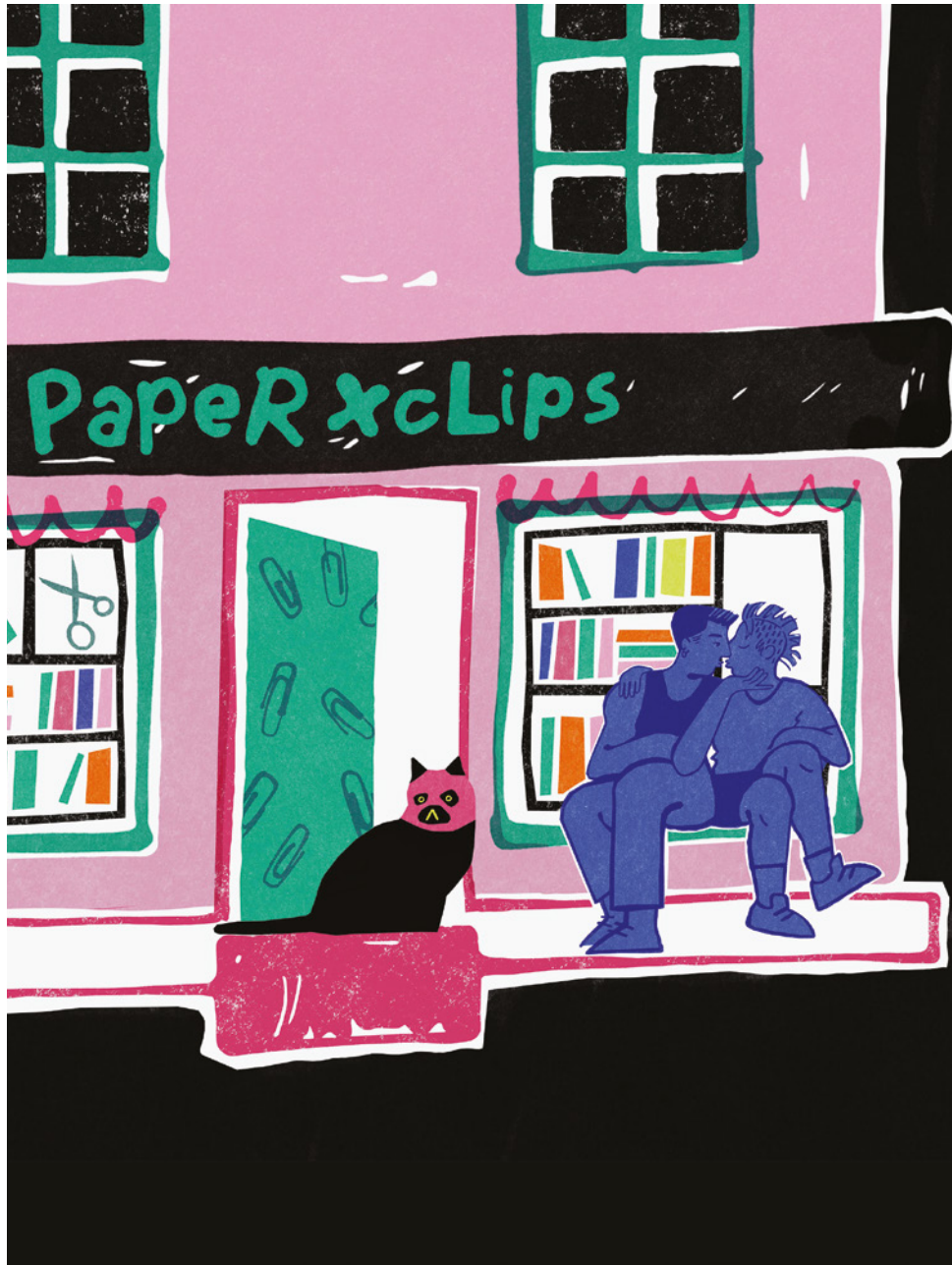


Illustration: Ezra Pinkerton

## KISS & TELL

Get ready to spread the love– literally!

Showing affection to each other openly in the city as queer people hasn't always been easy. So as part of *Are You On the Bus?* we invite you to leave your mark in the most overt and romantic way possible.

Where did you have your first queer kiss in Belfast, or your best queer kiss, or your most memorable? Was it on the dancefloor at the Kremlin? Out the bakka Boots? Curtin' in Castlecourt? Behind a book in Paperxclips? At a kiss-in protest on the steps of Stormont?

We invite you to Kiss and Tell your story– mark your spot on our map and help us smooch the town pink!

*Kiss and Tell* will be launched on **Friday 15 November**, the opening night of the festival, serenaded by Quire - Belfast's LGBTQ+ choir.

All will be revealed closer to the festival, so keep your eyes peeled on social media, and your lips at ready. Maybe your best kiss has yet to happen...

## TAILS OF THE CITY



Our Tails of the City series of essay pamphlets offers new perspectives on queer experiences of The City from writers, scientists and historians including Valerie J Gouldie, Dónall Mac Giolla Chóill, Raphaël Amahl Khouri and Queer NI - Sexuality Before Liberation. Each pamphlet will be launched with a related discussion at Paperxclips Bookshop in the run up to, during, and after the festival, with a final event to gather all your ideas for a new queer manifesto for the future of Belfast.

See individual pages throughout the programme for Tails of the City events and pick up your copies of the publications at Paperxclips and online.

**ADDITIONAL TEAM ACROSS ARE YOU ON THE BUS?**

**Creative Director** Dominic Montague

**Producer (Kabosh)** Andrew Hume

**Illustration** Ezra Pinkerton

**Operations** Kathy Young





# OUT FROM UNDER THE COVERS

let's talk about sex





Photo: Alex Beckett

## YOUR SEXTS ARE SHIT : OLDER BETTER LETTERS

We are so excited to welcome award-winning theatre-maker Rachel Mars to Outburst for the first time, with a gloriously rude show that unearths the hot-as-hell letters that make sexts blush.

Before sexts there were hand-written letters. And loads of them were proper filthy. With the help of the internet, friends and two sexologists, Rachel has unearthed missives dating back centuries. Triangulating these sex and love letters of long dead artists and writers with contemporary sexts and a meditation on the construction of the queer female body, the show is a tender and surprising hour that asks - how do we write ourselves and for whom?

Come! Take pleasure in James Joyce's passion for arse, find out who sneaked her gay lover into the White House, hear from Frida Kahlo, Georgia O'Keeffe, Mozart and bear witness to the best/worst sexts ever sent.

This delightfully intimate, very funny and surprisingly moving show is an erotic archive shot through with Rachel's personal ventures in contemporary Queer kink.

*Content Information: Explicit sexual references*



A triumphant show... dripping with  
uninhibited desire.

*The Guardian*

**Written and Performed by** Rachel Mars

**Sound** Dinah Mullen

**Lights** Alex Fernandes

**Dramaturgy** Wendy Hubbard and nat tarrab

**Additional Letter written/**

**performed by** Lesley Ewen

**Production Manager** Lincoln Campbell

Originally developed at The Yard Theatre

**Design** UandnonU

**WHEN** Saturday 16 Nov

**WHERE** Upstairs at The MAC

**TIME** 19:00

**TICKETS** £12 / £5

**DURATION** 60 mins

**AGE GUIDANCE** 18+

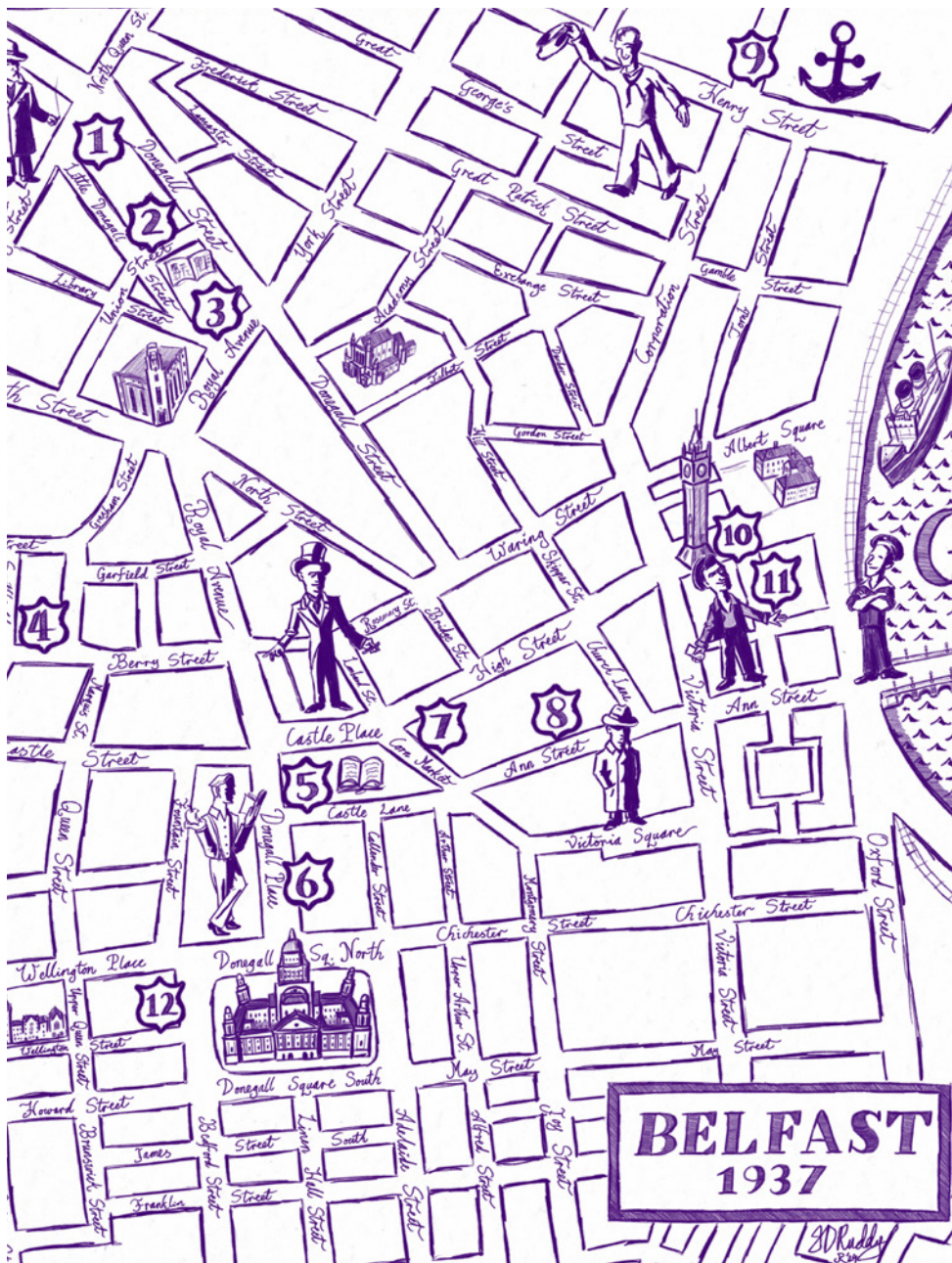


Illustration: John D Ruddy



## DEVIANCY AND DESIRE IN THE ATHENS OF THE NORTH

We join with partners Queer NI - Sexuality Before Liberation to find out what's behind their exciting new publication *The Athens of the North*, part of our *Tails of the City* pamphlet series for Belfast 2024.

A guide to queer Belfast from the thirties, an elaborate spoof - or something in-between?

The year is 1937. A Royal Ulster Constabulary officer stumbles upon an unusual booklet: a guide to "criminal deviancy" in Belfast. Inspired by a euphemistic guide to public lavatories that circulated in London, this booklet provides a route-map to queer liaisons in Belfast.

Join Queen's University Belfast historians Tom Hulme and Maurice Casey as they explore the real queer history and unveil the fascinating true story behind this pamphlet.

Admission includes a copy of *The Athens of the North*, which will also be on sale from Paperxclips and our website.

Queer Northern Ireland: Sexuality before Liberation at Queen's University Belfast and Ulster University is generously funded by the Arts and Humanities Research Council under the grant AH/V008404/1.

For more on the project, you can visit [queerhistoryni.com](http://queerhistoryni.com)

The *Tails of the City* series is part of *Are You On the Bus?* a Belfast 2024 commission in partnership with Outburst Arts, Kabosh & Paperxclips.



**WHEN** Saturday 23 Nov  
**WHERE** Paperxclips Bookshop  
**TIME** 16:30  
**TICKETS** £5  
**DURATION** 60mins  
**AGE GUIDANCE** 18+





## RED UMBRELLA PRESENTS

Red Umbrella Film Festival is organised by current and former sex workers in Dublin, creating conversation and community around the issues faced by sex workers in Ireland and internationally through the medium of film. Outburst warmly welcomes the collective to Belfast to present their curated short film programme by established filmmaking talent and DIY producers, films made by, featuring, and championing sex workers on screen.

After the film programme there will be an in-person discussion with the Red Umbrella team, focusing on the intersections of sexuality, gender and sex work and exploring the importance of creating space for sex workers' stories that challenge stigma and shame, advocate for sex workers' safety and self-determination, and build towards a decriminalised future.

### **Last Rescue in Siam** / Thailand / 2012 / 10 mins

EMPOWER Thailand presents their short film made by sex workers, exposing the impact of law and law enforcement, raids and rescues used against sex workers in Thailand and around the world.

### **Roxanne** / UK / 2015 / 14 mins

Paul Frankl's award-winning short film follows an isolated transgender sex worker who takes in a young girl abandoned by her mother, throwing her life into question.

### **House of Whoreship** / Australia / 2023 / 15 mins

A recently heartbroken brothel worker returns to work post break-up to find her ex-girlfriend hustling the same shift. In this debut short, Holly Bates explores the choice between avoidance and vulnerability in order to make a month's rent.

*Content info: Explicit sexual references. Nudity.*

**WHEN** Saturday 16 November

**WHERE:** Ledger Studio, University of Atypical

**TIME** 15:30 -17:30 / **TICKETS** £5 / **AGE GUIDANCE** 18+





## PONYBOI

DIR. ESTEBAN ARANGO / 2023 / USA / 103 MINS

Neon lights, drug busts, cowboy hats and a sleazy Dylan O'Brien – what's not to love?

Unfolding over the course of Valentine's Day in New Jersey, an intersex sex worker runs from the mob after a drug deal goes sideways.

Intersecting identity crises culminate in this fast-paced queer thriller, revelatory in its intersex representation and a critically acclaimed performance by writer and star, River Gallo, as the enonyomus Ponyboi.

Beautifully grounded in sense of place, space and reality, and with a gorgeous turn from gay fave Murray Bartlett (*The Last of Us*, *The White Lotus*), *Ponyboi* indulges fans of the thriller-comedy while also exploring the reluctant catharsis of confronting a haunted past.

A UK and Ireland premiere here at Outburst Queer Arts Festival, this highly anticipated sophomore feature, adapted from the award-winning short film of the same name, revels in its stylised, ambitious queering of the neo-noir, leading to a highly entertaining 24 hours on the East Coast.

**WHEN** Wednesday 20 November

**WHERE** Queen's Film Theatre

**TIME** 21:00

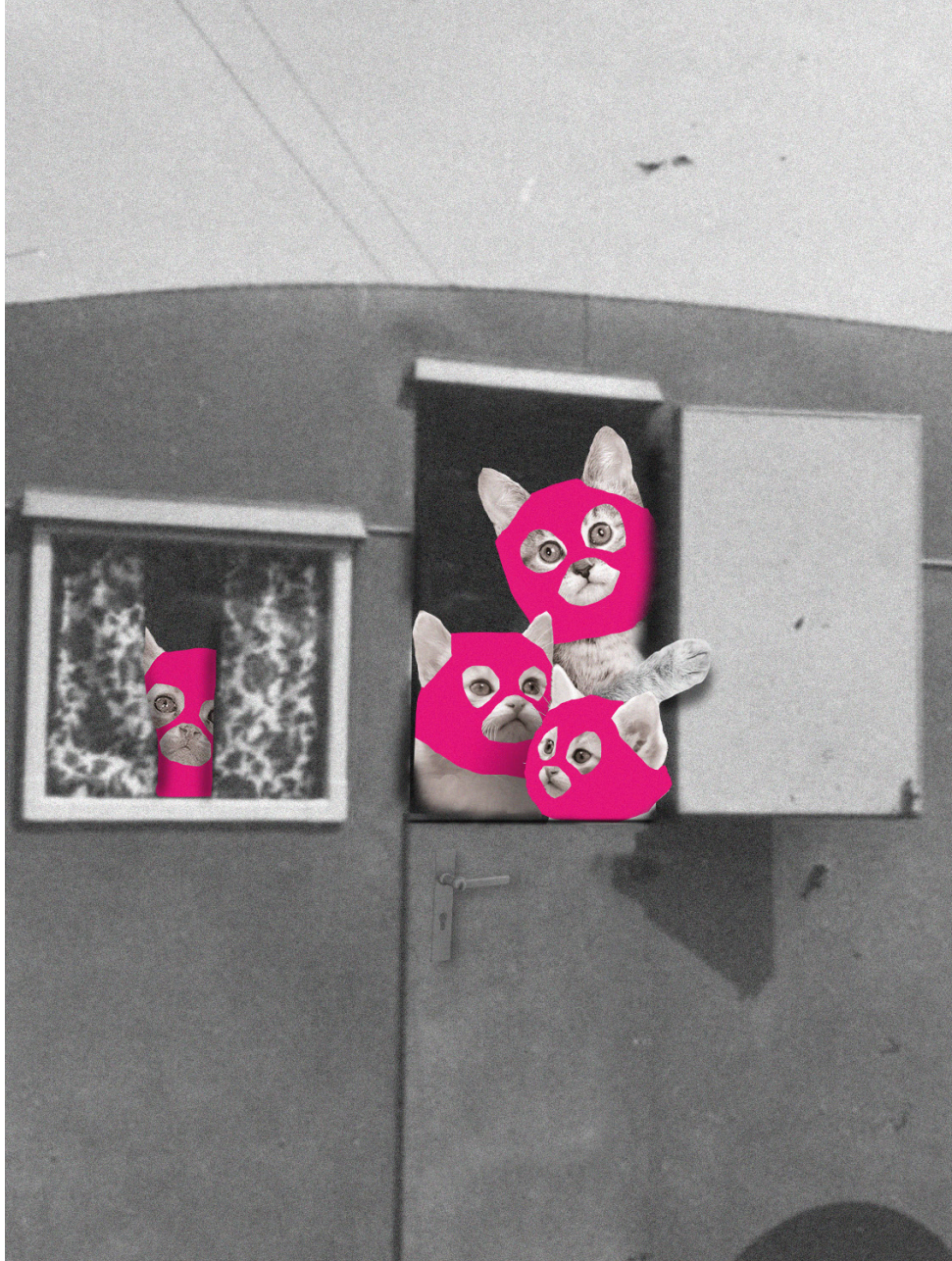
**TICKETS** £8.90 / £7.50 / £5

**AGE GUIDANCE** 18+

*Screened in  
partnership with*







# TOGETHER -NESSES

queer kinship  
& imperfect solidarities



Photo: Katy McClean

## mOTHER

It might seem like the most normcore thing in the world but parenthood is queer as f\*\*k.

From the gloriously tired and tested mind of comedian and cabaret artist Gemma Hutton, *mOTHER* is a show that's been four years in the making, which is how long it takes when you're a busy AlphaDyke Ma navigating the school-run dressed like a hitman with sick fade.

Taking in queer community research and interviews, *mOTHER* is a delightful mash up of theatre, sardonic comedy and personal storytelling that explores kinship, care and convention and the systems we have to navigate to find our tribes. And box wine.

Commissioned by Outburst Arts and based on a short video work developed by Gemma during the Covid lockdowns, *mOTHER* reflects on the queerness of the working-class mothering she experienced herself and the kind of motherhood she's now experiencing with her own daughter. As warm, intimate and moving as it is sharp and hilarious in its observations, *mOTHER* is a one woman show that is as profoundly relatable as it is personal.

*Content Information: References to sexual violence, mental health, addiction and loss. Contains some non-compulsory audience participation.*

Commissioned by Outburst Arts with support from the Arts Council of Northern Ireland Commissioning Fund.



**WHEN** Friday 15 Nov 19:30 & Saturday 16 Nov 14:00 (matinee)

**WHERE** Black Box

**TICKETS** £12 / £5

**DURATION** 70 mins

**AGE GUIDANCE** 18+





Photo: Ellen Blair

# HOMEMADE UNDERCUTS: HAIR, IDENTITY AND COMMUNITY

*Homemade Undercuts* is a candid, tender and intimate new body of photographic work from Ellen Blair, celebrating hair as a canvas for queer expression and a potent symbol of kinship and queer care.

Across generations, styles, cuts, shaves, tints and experiments have been a vital part of how queer people have formed and subverted cultural, political and gender identities, in celebration and defiance, revealing our queer selves to each other and to the wider world.

Especially for those who don't align with the gender binary at a time when gender-affirming healthcare can involve waiting times of up to four years, a haircut can take on an even deeper significance while waiting for that crucial appointment. So cuts and styles done at home, in the homes of friends or in caring community-led spaces are commonplace and become a joyful revolutionary act of solidarity.

*Homemade Undercuts* celebrates queer community born from a desire to create ourselves in our own image and on our own terms. A tribute to the enduring spirit of queer kinship, the show also includes work by local poets and writers, Suzanne Magee, Heather Fleming, Mícheál McCann, Benjamin Lindsay, Eva Eisherwood-Wallace, Fern Fitzpatrick & Alice Linehan.

*Special launch preview on **Thursday 14th November**, with **FREE** haircuts by Fern (Paperxclips) in the gallery from 16:00 - 21:00 on a first-come-first-served basis. Join us at 18:30 for the official opening.*

*See page 48 for details of the launch of the exhibition book by Ellen Blair.*

Project supported by Belfast 2024  
Exhibition in partnership with PS2.



**WHERE** Fri 15 Nov - Sat 9 Dec  
**WHEN** PS2 Gallery  
**TIME** Tues to Sat 12:00-17:00  
**TICKETS** FREE Admission  
**AGE GUIDANCE** 14+



# LYÓNN WOLF IN CONVERSATION WITH SOPHIE LEWIS

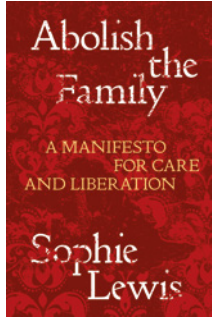
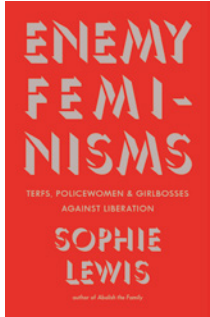
Household and Outburst present a special In Conversation event between artist Lyónn Wolf and writer Sophie Lewis, one of the most vital and exciting voices in non-fiction over the last decade.

An ex-academic and now independent scholar, Lewis is the author of *Full Surrogacy Now* and *Abolish the Family: A Manifesto for Care and Liberation*, both of which brilliantly challenge us to reimagine possibilities of family, parenthood and community and advocate for a communisation of care. Her third book *Enemy Feminisms: TERFS, Policewomen, and Girlbosses Against Liberation* will be launched in early 2025.

For this live event in the Black Box Green Room, Sophie will join via Zoom and the event will also be live streamed.

**Lyónn Wolf** is a trans, working class, visual artist, educator & writer based in Berlin, Dublin and Belfast. Recent solo exhibitions include De Appel, Amsterdam (2022), Project Arts Centre, Dublin (2021), and Grazer Kunstverein (2020).

**Sophie Lewis** lives in Philadelphia and teaches short courses on critical theory online at the Brooklyn Institute for Social Research. You can find her essays at [lasophielle.org](http://lasophielle.org).



*In partnership with*

**HOUSEHOLD**

**WHEN** Tuesday 19 November  
**WHERE** Black Box Green Room  
**TIME** 19:00  
**TICKETS** £5  
**DURATION** 60 mins  
**AGE GUIDANCE** 16+





## LESVIA

DIR. TZELI HADJIDIMITRIOU / 2023 / GREECE / 77 MINS

Since the 1970s, lesbians from all over the world have been drawn to the Greek island of Lesbos. Finding paradise in the small village of Eressos, the birthplace of Sappho, they carve out their own utopia. But while the lesbian-run bars, restaurants and hotels offer an economic boost to the village, tensions simmer with local residents.

Filmmaker Tzeli Hadjidimitriou—a native and lesbian herself—is caught in the middle and chronicles both the vibrant 40+ year history of lesbian community on the island and the conflict (and eventual resolution) between the native Lesbian islanders and the newly settled women.

Using archival films and photographs as well as personal testimonies from both the natives and the lesbians who come to live and love on the island, Hadjidimitriou brings a personal and lyrical touch to this insightful and frequently moving documentary that offers a very real exploration of the joys and challenges of community making and place sharing.

**WHEN** Sunday 17 November  
**WHERE** Queen's Film Theatre  
**TIME** 12:45 (Matinee)  
**TICKETS** £8.90 / £7.50 / £5  
**AGE GUIDANCE** 16+

*Screened in  
partnership with*





## REAS

**DIR. LOLA ARIAS / 2024 / ARGENTINA, GERMANY, SWITZERLAND / 82 MINS**

Directed by acclaimed Argentinian artist, writer and theatre maker Lola Arias, who plays with the overlap between reality and fiction, *REAS* is one of the most inventive and surprising queer films you'll see this year.

Yoseli has a tattoo of the Eiffel Tower on her back and has always wanted to travel, but was arrested at the airport for drug trafficking. Nacho is a trans man who was caught swindling and started a rock band in jail. What started as a drama workshop for the incarcerated as a way of reimagining their futures, transforms into a multi-genre hybrid-performance film, using song and dance as a means of liberation from past trauma and a vehicle for radical change in the lives of those on screen.

Shot by Arias on location in a disenfranchised Buenos Aires prison, *REAS* embodies a collective work that transcends the restrictions of any one genre, allowing its subjects to re-interpret their past as fiction and inventing, through fantasy, a possible future for themselves together. Funny, awkwardly charming and raw, *REAS* is a cathartic reframing of queer solidarity, kinship and mutual emancipation.

**WHEN** Monday 18 November

**WHERE** Queen's Film Theatre

**TIME** 18:15

**TICKETS** £8.90 / £7.50 / £5

**AGE GUIDANCE** 16+

Screened in  
partnership with



## STRESS POSITIONS

**DIR. THEDA HAMMEL / 2024 / USA / 95 MINS**

Terry Goon is keeping a strict Covid quarantine in his ex-husband's Brooklyn home while caring for his nephew Bahul, a 19-year-old model from Morocco, bedridden after an electric scooter accident. Unfortunately for Terry, everyone in his life wants to meet The Model.

Descending on the dilapidated house, breaking Terry's cherished lockdown rules and putting his barely-formed political convictions to the test, this electric debut from writer, director and star Theda Hammel cements itself as comedic cesspool of queer, Covid and Millennial anxieties.

A sharp, borderline offensive satire with an imperfect pseudo-documentary flare, *Stress Positions* holds up the mirror to the claustrophobic, introspective moments of the COVID-19 pandemic, allowing us to look at our queer connections and laugh at relationships sometimes forged more out of convenience and need for community than from choice.

**WHEN** Thursday 21 November

**WHERE** Queen's Film Theatre

**TIME** 20:45

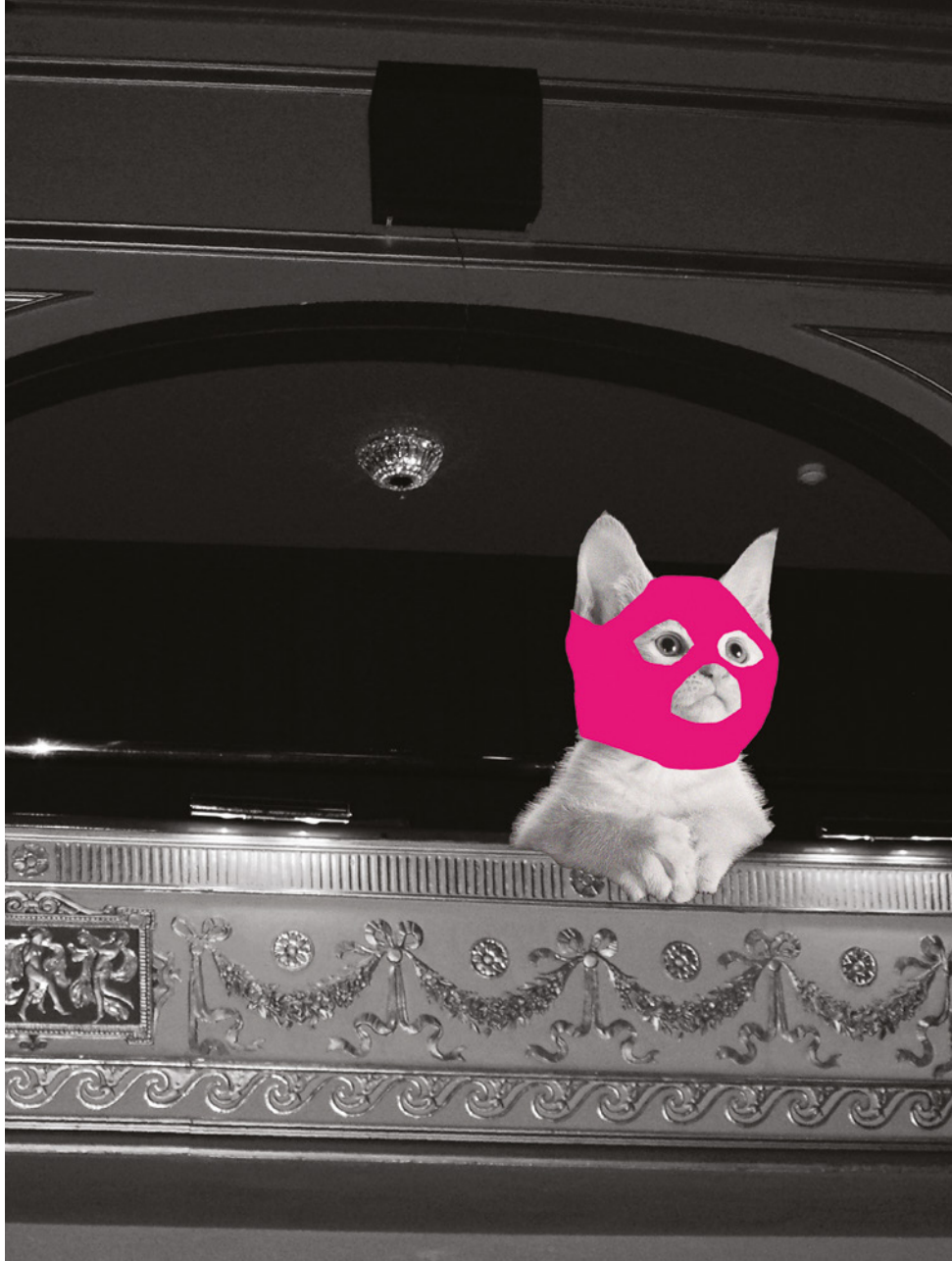
**TICKETS** £8.90 / £7.50 / £5

**AGE GUIDANCE** 16+

Screened in  
partnership with







# **DRAMATIC PAWS**

**new queer performance**



Photo: Pato Cassinoni

## IT WAS PARADISE, UNFORTUNATELY

*Nowadays theatres talk about including trans people. You can't include us in your theatre because you stole it from us. You stripped it of all its magic and meaning and function and holiness...*

...It's time for us to take it back

Several times a year, the entire Western world and beyond would come together to celebrate Dionysos, the transgender god of theatre. Thousands of people gathered for these week-long celebrations which saw patriarchal norms turned on their head. Enslaved people were emancipated, women were liberated, and the citizens fiercely competed in tragedies and comedies. It was a radical social intervention, and the birth of western theatre.

So where did it all go wrong?

Using his training as a journalist, Raphaël Amahl Khouri makes an extraordinary, ground-breaking discovery, offering a bold and inclusive new vision for theatre artists and audiences in the 21st century.

Commissioned by Outburst Arts and first shared as research-in-development in the 2023 festival, *It Was Paradise, Unfortunately* combines autobiographical performance, live scenography, and action figures. Brilliantly developed as a full stage production by Dublin's The Collective, this daring and surprisingly moving work goes beyond representation to situate queer ideas as key to liberation for all.

★★★★★ **Stunningly clever** *The Irish Times*

**Written by** Raphaël Amahl Khouri

**Performed by**

Raphaël Amahl Khouri & Myrto Stampoulou

**Directed by** Aisling Ormonde & Jocelyn Clarke

**Stage & Costume Design by**

Myrto Stampoulou

**Produced by** Aisling Ormonde

**WHEN** Saturday 23 Nov

**WHERE** Brian Friel Theatre

**TIME** 18:30

**TICKETS** £12 / £5

**AGE GUIDANCE** 16+





Photo: James Ward

## SHAME SHOW

Honey, you've got a big storm coming.

For your safety, please follow this pair of prancing poofs to *SHAME SHOW*, a sketchy comedy of catastrophic proportions from SkelpieLimmer, the creators of *Scaredy Fat* and *Two Fingers Up*.

Adam and Stevie are stuck inside. Storm Seamus is about to strike. The rural fixer-upper they've inherited can't hack it - and neither can their relationship.

But through the static of Aunt Mary's old TV comes an offer of salvation asking: Have you been mis-sold big gay shame? Wouldn't it all be better in a different, sunnier, more progressive place? Will Northern Ireland ever progress if all the progressives leave? Is there really no place like home?

Channel-hopping their way through programmes of poofy-past, the couple confront home, happiness and heteronormativity as they battle the storm and each other's beliefs.

A worthy First Fortnight Award winner at Dublin Fringe 2024, Colm McCready & Fergus Wachala-Kelly's hugely entertaining and poignant *SHAME SHOW* disempowers the negativity that shaped us and the fear we've been force-fed, shaking off the shackles of shame for the climb ahead.

Developed at MAKE, HATCH at The MAC Belfast, and Incubate at Tinderbox Theatre Company.

**Content information:** Loud noise, strobe lighting, references to mental health and homophobia.

**WHEN** Fri 22 & Sat 23 November

**WHERE** Upstairs at The MAC

**TIME** 19:00

**TICKETS** £12 / £5

**AGE GUIDANCE** 16+



## ÉIRÍ AMACH SA GPO 1983 (TEENAGE REBEL IN THE GPO 1983)

Acclaimed storyteller and *homoseanchaí* Richard O'Leary returns to Outburst with a brilliant new 30-minute Irish language storytelling performance, with opening support from Rainbow Reels, the LGBTQIA+ community Trad Music Group

*Please note that English translation will not be provided for Richard's performance.*

Scéal na rún oifigiúil agus faoin ngrá faoi cheilt san Ard Oifig an Phoist i mBaile Átha Cliath. Scéal faoi shuimeanna móra airgid, rianta páipéir agus ghlaonna gutháin. Bhí mé ann agus tá an fhianaise fhisiciúil agam le taispeáint daoibh. Scéal dochreidte, cosúil le síscéal Éireannach ach is fíorscéal atá ann. Is homoseanchaí é Risteard Ó Laoghaire a bhí le feiceáil sa *Druthaib's Ball* leis an Array Collective a bhuaigh Duais Turner i 2021. Is é cruthaitheoir na seónna aonair scéalaíochta *There's a Bishop in my Bedroom* agus *Border Fairies*.

A tale of official secrets and hidden love in the General Post Office in Dublin. A tale of vast sums of money, paper trails and telephone calls. Richard O'Leary was there and has the physical evidence to show you. An incredible story, like an Irish fairy tale but this one is true...

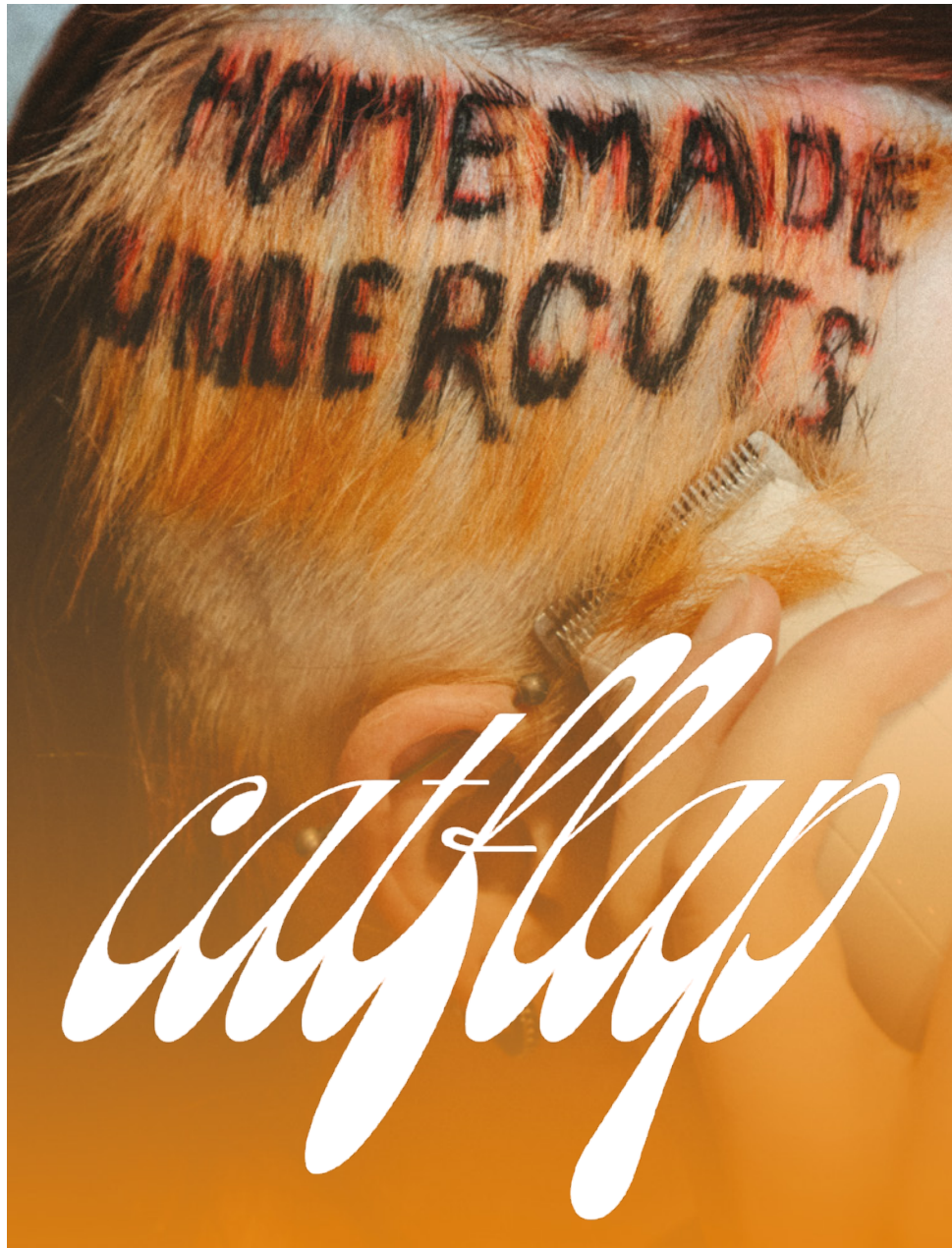
Richard's previous storytelling work includes Array Collective's *The Druthaib's Ball*, their Turner Prize winning work in 2021, and the solo storytelling shows *There's a Bishop in my Bedroom* and *Border Fairies*.

*In partnership with  
Cultúrlann McAdam Ó Fiaich*



**WHEN** Monday 18 November  
**WHERE** Cultúrlann McAdam Ó Fiaich  
**TIME** 19:00  
**TICKETS** £8  
**DURATION** 60 minutes  
**AGE GUIDANCE** All ages





## CATFLAP #4 FEATURING HOMEMADE UNDERCUTS

Outburst's in-house journal of new queer writing is back!

We invite you to join us as we celebrate the launch of catflap #4, our annual publication of smart queer writing with a disco heart.

With stunning design from long-time catflap collaborators Other Office, issue four is brimming with new essays, poetry and conversations, edited by poet Mícheál McCann.

This year, we're excited to launch alongside another publication, photographer Ellen Blair's *Homemade Undercuts: Hair, Identity and Community*, a photobook of work from her festival exhibition of the same name (*see page 32 for full details of the show*).

We'll be taking over the Black Box for an evening of poetry, readings and performances from contributors and guests across both publications, taking in artists from Belfast, France, Finland, Lebanon and more.

*Publications will be on sale on the night and throughout the festival.*

Performances in partnership with  
British Council, Festival Transform! &  
Finnish Institute UK + Ireland.



Homemade Undercuts is  
supported by Belfast 2024.



**WHEN** Saturday 16 November

**WHERE** Black Box

**TIME** 20:30

**TICKETS** £8 / £5

**DURATION** 90 mins

**AGE GUIDANCE** 18+



## BREWING

Making space for artists to try out new ideas at the festival is one of our Very Favourite Things. And the Brewing showcase is just that, with five piping hot artists showcasing short extracts of new works-in-progress across theatre, performance, sound and storytelling.

Each performance lasts between 10-20 minutes, with all artists coming together at the end for an informal chat and feedback session with you, the audience. The emphasis of Brewing is support and queer critique, creating space for queer artists to get constructive feedback while still making a work, or exploring responses to a certain element of the work. So the audience is as much a part of the event as the artists (participation is not essential, you can just watch.) There will be a short break between each performance. A relaxed and popular event each year, Brewing is always full of surprises and brilliant ideas, highlighting the depth and creativity of new and established queer talent in the North and beyond. This year we are excited to make space for:

**Caitlin Magnall-Kearns** / *body fine* : Two women, one fat, one formerly fat, attempt to navigate their relationship with each other and with their own bodies in a world desperate for them to shrink.

**Christopher McAuley** / *Itch* : A tender, autobiographical exploration of life with a chronic skin condition

**Husk Bennett** / *(QU) [AV] {OUR}\** : An experimental audio visual project that renegotiates ongoing strands of research into contemporary outputs of labour, value and nostalgia.

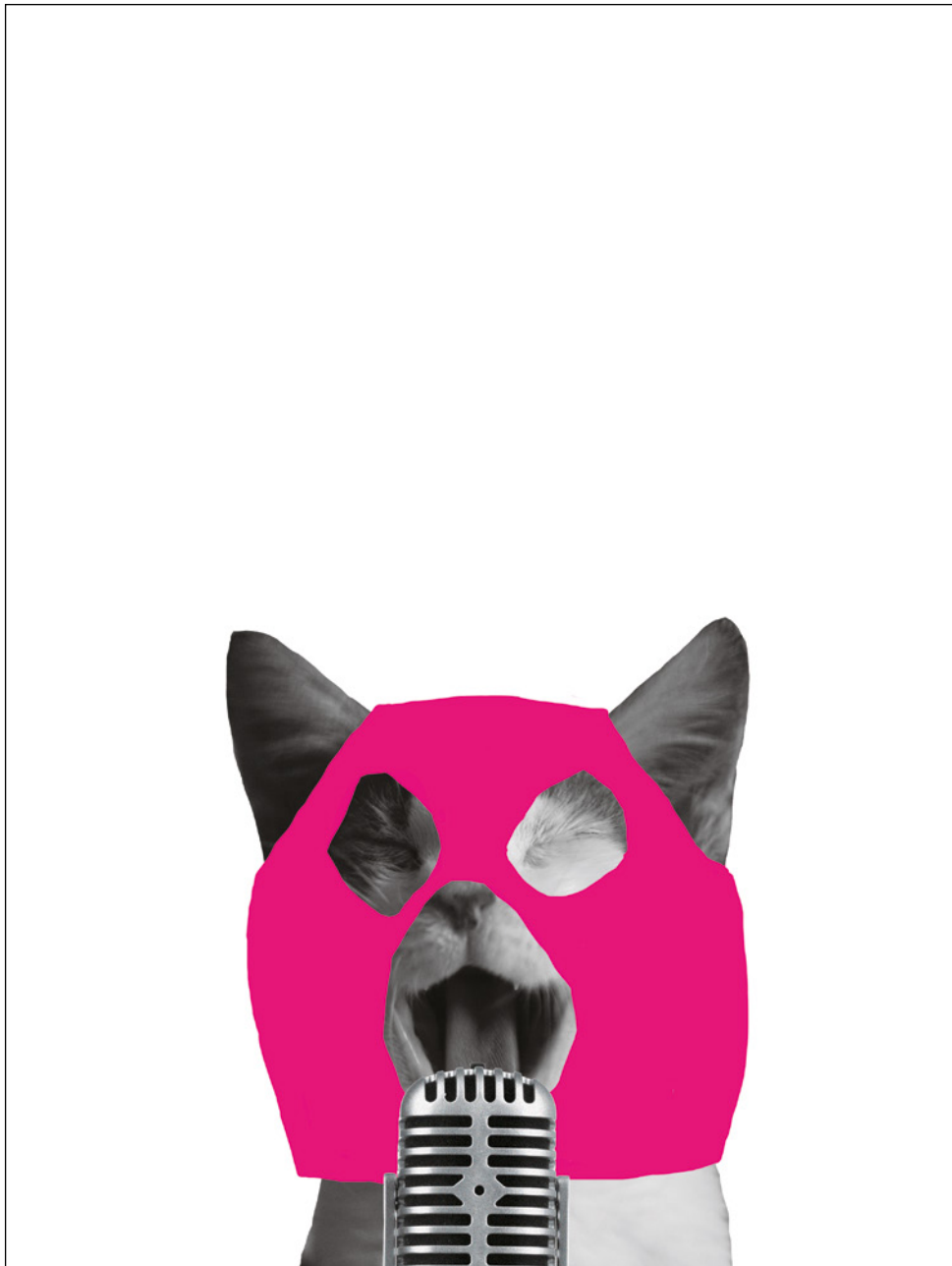
**Rory Jones** / *Shuttlecock* : Commander Linus Faldo has lost contact with Earth, amongst other things. A sci-fi comedy of revelations that are as much about pasts as the future.

**Sian Ní Mhuirí** / *ÉIRIC (BLOOD FINE)* : *The Sons of Tuireann* is an ancient, Bardic tale about the first murder ever committed in Ireland, and the blood fine (or Éiric) that was set by Lugh Lámfhada as reparation for it.

*Content Information: As the works are still in development, up-to-date content info will be available on our website in the run up to the event and on the day.*

**WHEN** Sunday 17 Nov / **WHERE** Brian Friel Theatre / **TIME** 14:30  
**TICKETS** £8 / £5 / **DURATION** 120 mins / **AGE GUIDANCE** 16+





## QUEEREOKE

Let's end on a high note! And who better to sing out the 2024 festival and our Belfast 2024 project than YOU, the Outburst gang.

From Chappell Roan and Billie Eilish to Lil Nas X and Sam Smith, pop has never been so homolicious. So we're celebrating our 18th birthday with a night of queer bangers only at our spiritual home, the Black Box, who are also celebrating their 18th birthday this year.

Join our hosts with the most, our cheerleaders with the earbleeders, Yacht Rock Karaoke, for QUEEREOKE, a queer themed karaoke party with performances and dancing til late.

Go old school with Dusty Springfield or George Michael! Go rock n'roll with Joan Jett! Go broody with Girl in Red! Go dirty with Janelle Monae!

In the words of Celine Dion, *I'll sing again, OH YES... I'll sing again...*



**WHEN** Saturday 23 November  
**WHERE** Black Box  
**TIME** 21:00 til late  
**TICKETS** £8 /£5  
**AGE GUIDANCE** Strictly 18+



# **SOUND & VISION**

**visual art, live art  
& moving image.**



# PHIL COLLINS MIXTAPE #1

Outburst Queer Arts Festival and Ulster Presents at Ulster University mark the 175th Anniversary of the Belfast School of Art in a collaboration with one of its most acclaimed graduates, featuring two vital works in the festival programme.

This long-term collaboration with Outburst Arts on a new project, which foregrounds questions about queer love and the violent histories of British colonialism, begins by looking back. The Ulster University Art Gallery will host the UK and Ireland premiere of *Mixtape #1*, an unorthodox overview of Collins' work in moving image over twenty-five years. Drawing its title and concept from the 'mixtape' – a devotional form of music compilation – this genre-bending compendium brings together a heady blend of episodes, excerpts, 'wild' footage, and ephemeral scenes from his extensive filmography. The mixtape pulls into focus interactions between form and feeling, and underlines proximities between giver and receiver. Such connections have long characterised Collins' practice and are revealed here as a sustained mode of production.

Phil Collins is a visual artist, filmmaker, community organiser, and educator who lives in Berlin and Wuppertal. He is internationally renowned for a socially engaged practice that addresses the intersections of art, politics and popular culture. Across geographies, ethnicities, languages, genders, sexualities, and social classes, Collins' approach is guided by an ethos of connection and a sustained engagement with the local context.

*In partnership with Ulster Presents  
for the 175th Anniversary of the Belfast School of Art.*



**WHEN** Thurs 31 October - Thurs 5 December

**WHERE** Ulster University Art Gallery

**TIME** 10:00 – 18.00 Mon to Sat

**TICKETS** FREE admission

**AGE GUIDANCE 16+**

Phil Collins, Mixtape #1, 2024 Courtesy Shady Lane Productions, Berlin



Photo: Erika Z. Figabomba

## PHIL COLLINS THEY SHOOT HORSES

Outburst invites you to join us for a special twentieth anniversary presentation of the newly restored and remastered video installation *they shoot horses*, one of the most widely acclaimed works from Phil Collins' multifaceted practice which traverses the turbulent territories between performance and moving image.

Referencing the 1935 novel *They Shoot Horses, Don't They?*, which tells the story of gruelling dance competitions as a form of entertainment during the Great Depression, *they shoot horses* was a disco dance marathon organised in 2004 with a group of young people in Ramallah, Palestine during the Second Intifada. Filmed in real time over the course of eight hours, the dancers pass through unfolding stages of elation, joy, fatigue, exhaustion, and endurance to a soundtrack of pop, rock and dance hits from the 1960's on. In today's image-saturated society, the trajectory between the pain of others and its globalised consumption has been infinitely streamlined – from the utter devastation of an entire lifeworld in Gaza direct to one's smartphone in a matter of seconds. Against such dehumanisation of Palestinian lives, the dancers in *they shoot horses* appear both as young people anywhere on a night out and distinctly individual.

Speaking to both the hardships and the resilience of living under the decades-long illegal occupation by the state of Israel, *they shoot horses* centres dancing as an act of resistance in the face of the daily atrocities, and as a fragile yet inextinguishable anticipation of liberation to come.

We invite you to the Black Box to dance, talk, gather, and experience the full eight hours of this vital work, showing in Northern Ireland for the first time, or come join us at any stage of the event to dance and share in resistance and hope.

Remastering of *they shoot horses* has been made possible through support from BAK basis voor actuele kunst, Utrecht.

*Donations welcome at the event for alQaws for Sexual & Gender Diversity in Palestinian Society, a grassroots Palestinian LGBTQ+ community group.*

**WHEN** Friday 22 November

**WHERE** Black Box

**TIME** 15:30 - 23:30

**TICKETS** FREE admission

**AGE GUIDANCE** All ages before 20:00, strictly 18+ after







## BYE BYE LOVE

DIR. ISAO FUJISAWA / 1974 / JAPAN / 85 MINS

Isao Fujisawa's *Bye Bye Love* was considered to be lost until 2018, when a film negative was discovered hidden in a warehouse. A newly restored print presented in collaboration with Queer East and Normal Cinema Club offers a rare chance to experience this radical and stray piece of queer cinema in its 50th anniversary year.

Romantic love and desire transcends gender, sexuality and the physical body in Fujisawa's mesmerizingly doomed summer road trip through Japan, reflecting on the dissipating promise of the 60's counterculture and free love. Achieving increasingly radical strides against traditionalist notions heteronormative relationships (both platonic and otherwise), Fujisawa's explicit portrayal of gender fluidity and the complexity of experiences beyond the binary make for a seductive, ill-fated 'love on the run' adventure.

*Bye Bye Love* will be preceded by experimental gay short film *Dream A40* (Reckford, 1965) curated by Normal Cinema Club, and a pre-recorded intro from director Isao Fujisawa.

*Presented in collaboration with Queer East and Normal Cinema Club and screened in partnership with QFT.*



**WHEN** Tuesday 19 November

**WHERE** Queen's Film Theatre

**TIME** 18:00

**TICKETS** £8.90 / £7.50 / £5

**AGE GUIDANCE** 18+



Photo: David Copeland

## IT'S TURNED OUT NICE AGAIN

Situated within the historic Portview Trade Centre on the Newtownards Road and using the mill's architecture as a backdrop, Belfast based artist Thomas Wells creates a love letter to his working class Mancunian roots, exploring familial relationships, gestures of affection and the influence of pop culture. Taking its title from the 1941 song by Northern English actor and singer George Formby (a title that would become synonymous with him and the North West of England) *It's Turned Out Nice Again* is a fixed installation on view to the public throughout the duration of the festival, with a live performance by Thomas on Wednesday 20th November.

Thomas Wells (he/they) is an artist and curator from Manchester. Living and working in Belfast since 2017, their work is based in socially engaged practice involving LGBTQ+ spaces of collective experience. Their most recent work includes *Mantle* (2024) as part of the Catalyst Arts 30th Anniversary, *Never getting much use out of a chair* (2024) The MAC, Belfast, and *Neverlandz* (2023) Outburst Queer Arts Festival. Thomas is founder of Queer Arts publication *SAM'S EDEN*, and a member of Turner Prize Winners Array Collective.

*This new work has been made possible with the support of the Outburst Arts / Jerwood Arts Artist Development Programme, Portview Trading Estate and the Arts Council of Northern Ireland as part of the the Artist Career Enhancement Scheme 2024.*



**WHEN** Installation open Thursday 14 - Sunday 17 November 12:00 -17:00  
Wednesday 20 - Saturday 23 November 12:00 -17:00  
with performance Wednesday 20 November 18:00- 20:00

**WHERE** Portview Trade Centre

**TICKETS** FREE admission

**AGE GUIDANCE:** 16+





Photo: Tomo Petreikio

## QUEER ART IN LITHUANIA: FROM VERONIKA ŠLEIVYTĖ TO AGNĖ JOKŠĖ

Over the past two years, Outburst has been connecting with queer artists from Lithuania, a Baltic country with a fascinating and unique queer history and a rich arts and cultural scene, from the Soviet era to independence and beyond.

We warmly welcome art critic, curator, artist and writer Laima Kreivytė for a short history of queer art, censorship and curatorial interventions in Lithuania followed by a conversation with artist Agnė Jokšė and a reading of *Lezbynai*.

*Lezbynai* is an erotic story about lesbian love in the background of the Lazdynai district of Vilnius where the artist grew up. The residential houses lined up in front of each other in this neighbourhood create a kind of panopticon, where everyone watches everyone, so any intimate gesture becomes both private and public at the same time. In *Lezbynai*, this situation becomes a medium for spreading a sexual, unbridled fantasy, which, unfolding within the artist's relationship with her lovers, paints the seemingly silent concrete walls of the district's buildings and penetrates the lives and thoughts of the people living there.

Agnė Jokšė (b. 1993) is an artist and writer, currently based in Vilnius. Using the tools characteristic to autoethnography, Jokšė tells stories in which personal experiences and past events related to contemplations of love, intimacy, relations and friendship intertwine with imaginative reflections. Works in mediums like video, and performative text, investigate questions concerning parallel histories, compassion, entangled relations, queerness and language.

Supported by Lithuanian Cultural Institute



**WHEN** Saturday 23 November

**WHERE** Ledger Studio,  
University of Atypical

**TIME** 12:00

**TICKETS** £5

**DURATION** 90 mins

# LITTLE DID I KNOW



Photo: Eslam Abd El Salam

How would you describe the familiar? The strange? Do we build our homes or do we find them?

*Little Did I Know* is a visual dialogue where many bridges are burned between time and intuition, land and identity, serendipity and fate, family and domesticities.

Eslam Abd El Salam is a visual artist based in Belfast, Northern Ireland. His work focuses on walking as a pedagogical practice and is centered around the body: the body in motion, in contact with nature and in the presence of other bodies.

Through the mediums of analogue photography, polaroids, text and mixed media, Eslam considers notions of synchronicity, specifically in relation to friendship and serendipitous encounters with others. Eslam's photography often takes place in domestic settings, spaces in which playfulness and vulnerability combine. Deeply embedded in spirituality, Eslam's work expands on what it means to surrender to the present moment, with others and in nature, and with intuition as a guiding principle.

Embracing naivety in all its forms, Eslam's work views openness as a means of creating mutual recognition.

**WHEN** Thursday 7 - Saturday 30 November

**WHERE** Black Box Green Room

**TIME** Various Opening Hours

**TICKETS** FREE admission





# DIVE IN

**Workshops, discussions &  
gathering spaces for  
listening, learning & sharing.**

## CONVERSATION



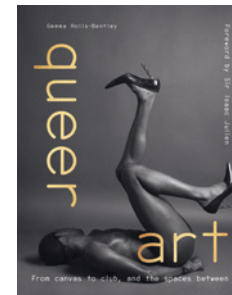
# GEMMA ROLLS-BENTLEY IN CONVERSATION WITH KIM MCALEESE

Gemma Rolls-Bentley has been at the forefront of contemporary art for almost two decades, working passionately to amplify the work of queer artists and curating exhibitions and art collections internationally. A visiting lecturer at the Royal College of Art, she curated the group exhibition *Dreaming of Home* at Leslie Lohman Museum of Art in New York, the Tom of Finland Art & Culture Festival in London and the Brighton Beacon Collection, the largest permanent display of queer art in the UK.

To celebrate the publication of her stunning art book *QUEER ART From Canvas to Club, and the Spaces Between*, we're excited to host a conversation between Gemma and Kim McAleese.

Kim is a curator originally from Belfast, now based in Scotland. She is currently Director of Edinburgh Art Festival, and was previously Programme Director of Grand Union, Birmingham. Her practice is centred around sharing, listening, supporting, caring, conversing and exchanging. She is co-founder of Household, a collective of curators who organise public art projects in Northern Ireland, and a previous co-director of Catalyst Arts. She was an Associate Lecturer at University of Birmingham, and is Vice-Chair of Outburst Arts. Kim was a member of the 2021 Turner Prize jury, and on the selection jury for the British Pavilion at Venice, 2024.

*QUEER ART From Canvas to Club, and the Spaces Between* mixes gallery stalwarts with Instagram stars. From Frances Bacon, Tom of Finland and Derek Jarman to contemporary artists Sin Wai Kin, Ajamu X and Zanele Muholi, the book explores over 150 works across thematic chapters, offering a fascinating overview of the power and shifts in queer art globally across years of activism, community building and the ongoing fight for liberation.



In partnership with Paperxclips

**Paperxclips**

**WHEN** Thursday 21 November

**WHERE** 18:30

**VENUE** Paperxclips Bookshop

**TICKETS** £7

**DURATION** 60 mins





WORKSHOP

# TAKING IT TO THE FRINGE

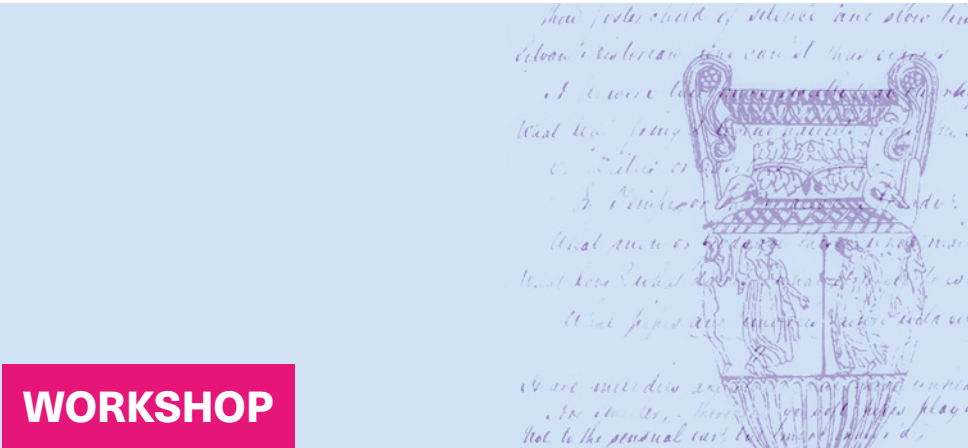
The Edinburgh Festival Fringe is one of the greatest celebrations of arts and culture on the planet and the world's biggest open access arts festival. For artists, not least marginalised and queer artists, it offers an unparalleled space for work to be discovered by international arts programmers, potential partners and media, and of course by an enthusiastic audience of Fringe superfans.

But where do you even start if you want to take your work there and how does it all work for artists generally? We're delighted to welcome Chris Snow, the Fringe Society's Head of Artist Services, to Outburst for an informal talk that offers advice and discussion on all aspects of bringing work to the Fringe. Bring your questions, your show ideas and more, and connect with fellow artists interested in presenting shows in Edinburgh.

Admission is **FREE** with advance registration.

All artists and producers warmly welcomed.

**WHEN** Saturday 16 November  
**WHERE** Ledger Studio  
**WHEN** 12:00  
**DURATION** 60 mins  
**AGE GUIDANCE** 16+



WORKSHOP

# QUEER LOOKING IN THE MUSEUM

Join poet and scholar Eva Isherwood Wallace, museum designer Margaret Middleton, and curator Anna Liesching at Ulster Museum to explore queer ekphrasis. Ekphrasis is a responsive writing technique used to engage with art in new and unexpected ways. Use your queer imagination to give voice to marginalised subjects, explore new forms, inhabit an artist's point of view, or imagine what lies beyond the frame. After the workshop, selected work will be published in a commemorative pamphlet.

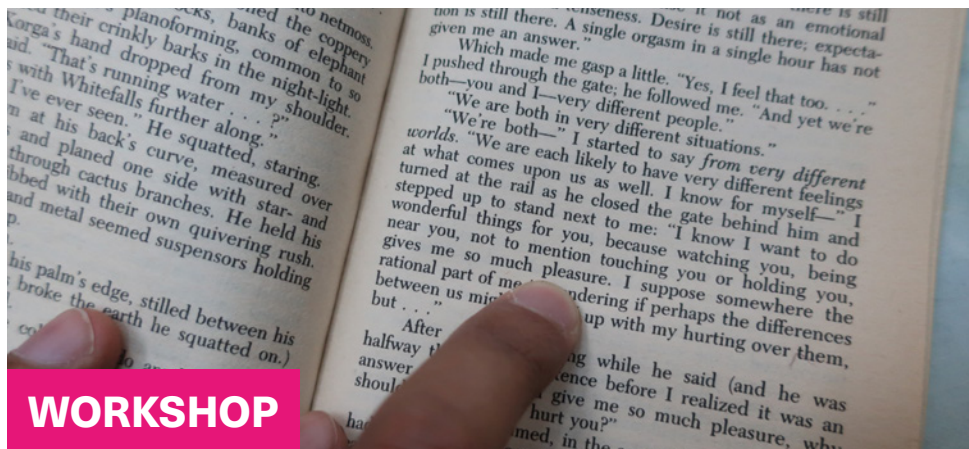
No prior experience with ekphrasis necessary. This workshop will be a supportive environment for creativity and play for writers of all levels.

Admission is **FREE** with advance registration.  
 Please note as places are limited registration by November 8th is essential.

In partnership with Ulster Museum.



**WHEN** Saturday 16 November  
**WHERE** Ulster Museum  
**TIME** 11:00 - 16:00  
**AGE GUIDANCE** 16+



## WORKSHOP

# THE READING TROUPE #15

## DE-PRODUCTION FIRST TRIMESTER - ABOLISH THE FAMILY

Household present a workshop designed and facilitated by artist Lyónn Wolf as part of their project *De-production*, focusing questions of time and trans temporality and thinking about how the collapse of ecosystems brought about by colonial logics shapes our understandings of reproduction, ageing and work.

THE READING TROUPE is a nomadic and mutating practice of performative reading techniques developed by Wolf. Incorporating improvisation, collage, speculative writing, and collective cut-ups, this collaborative practice is an attempt to collectively enter the body of a text through play, somatic response and political theatre tools as alternatives to academic language. For this session readings include *Abolish the Family* by Sophie Lewis and *Trans Care* by Hil Malatino.

Admission is **FREE** with advance registration.

Presented in partnership with Household  
Belfast and supported by Arts Council of  
Northern Ireland and Belfast City Council.



**WHEN** Sunday 17 November  
**WHERE** Paperxclips Bookshop  
**TIME** 17:00  
**DURATION** 120 mins  
**AGE GUIDANCE** 8+

## CONVERSATION



# FIND ANOTHER CITY BETTER THAN THIS ONE

In his pamphlet essay for our Tails of the City series, Jordanian trans writer and Outburst 2024 Artist in Residence Raphaël Amahl Khouri reflects on his time living in San Francisco, Amman, Beirut and Berlin and asks *if not the Emerald City, where is our queer utopia now?* Are cities still the beacon of freedom for queer people that they once were? Can we still be in cities when affordable housing is limited? And in the face of war, displacement and existential threat how do we collectively build sanctuaries for our queer futures?

Join Raphaël and Rainbow Refugees (Belfast) for a reading and discussion running parallel to *they shoot horses* (see page 58).

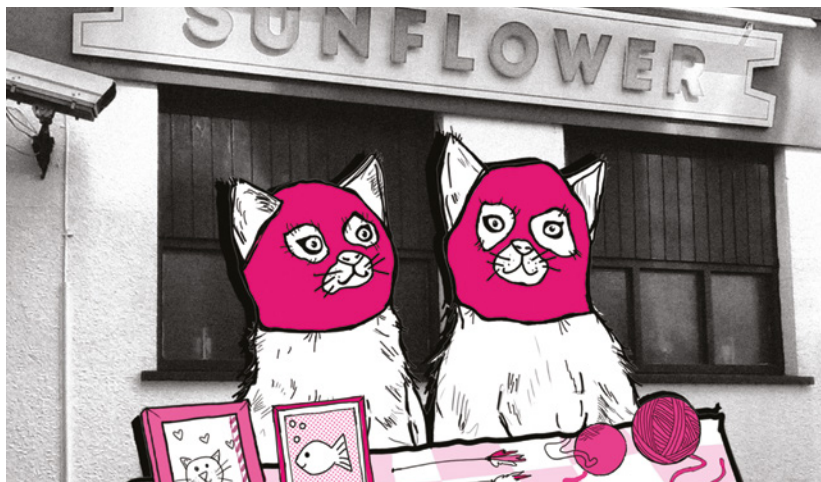
Admission includes a copy of the pamphlet. Proceeds to Rainbow Refugees.

The Tails of the City series is part of  
*Are You On the Bus?* a Belfast 2024  
commission in partnership with Outburst Arts,  
Kabosh & Paperxclips.



**WHEN** Friday 22 November  
**WHERE** Paperxclips Bookshop  
**TIME** 18:00  
**TICKETS** £5  
**DURATION** 60 mins  
**AGE GUIDANCE** 16+





## QUEER ART MARKET

The 4th annual Outburst Queer Art Market is back in town for one day and one day only! Over the last four years, the market has continued to grow, with a record number of sellers and loads of you hunting for treasures out the back of the Sunflower Bar. This year, we're expanding beyond the beer garden into the Brink! Belfast Stories site (right across the road from Sunflower) to take over a little section of Union Street, bringing together the largest lineup yet of artists selling their work.

The Outburst Queer Art Market hosts some of the best established and emerging queer makers, photographers, painters, sculptures, knitters, crafters and everything in between. Whether you're treating yourself or others in the run up to winter Hell-o-days, make sure to shake out the sofa for change as this is a mostly cash-only event. The Market is outside, so be sure to wrap up warm and grab a hot drink from Official Queer Caffiene Enablers **Happy Out Coffee**.

**WHEN** Saturday 23 November

**WHERE** Sunflower Bar & Brink! Belfast Stories Site

**TIME** 11:00 - 15:00

**TICKETS** FREE admission

**AGE GUIDANCE** All Ages



## CONVERSATION



## BIG TALK

### QUEER ART, PERMISSION & CENSORSHIP NOW

Queer artists have always been at the forefront of creatively challenging taboos and sharing ideas that take on structural inequities to reimagine new possibilities. At a time when LGBTQ+ representation is increasing on our screens and stages yet established human rights are being questioned or rolled back and intersectional issues are often sidelined, what are the challenges facing queer artists, screenwriters, playwrights and others as they navigate funding, institutions and decision makers to bring their work to life?

What can we say and not say? Who decides what sees the light of day? And how do we navigate the self-editing and censorship that can feel necessary to get work supported and out there?

Join Outburst and special guest artists, writers and curators for a Big Talk on the final day of the festival, that gives us food for thought and ideas for changemaking in turbulent times for the arts and for freedom of expression.

Part of the **Our Stories** festival, supported by Belfast 2024.



**WHEN** Saturday 23 November

**WHERE** Upstairs at The MAC

**TIME** 15:00

**TICKETS** FREE with registration

**DURATION** 60 mins

**AGE GUIDANCE** 16+

# EVENTS AT A GLANCE

<b>THURSDAY 14 Nov</b>	Preview & haircuts Homemade Undercuts Preview Suspect Device	16:00 Various	p32 p12
<b>FRIDAY 15 Nov</b>	Kiss & Tell Launch with Quire Disco Dykes mOTHER Dyke Disco	TBA Online 19:30 21:00	p16 p14 p30 p14
<b>SATURDAY 16 Nov</b>	Queer Looking in the Museum Workshop: Take it to the Fringe mOTHER Red Umbrella presents Your Sexts are Shit: Older Better Letters Catflap #4 / Homemade Undercuts Launch	11:00 12:00 14:00 15:30 19:00 20:30	p72 p71 p30 p24 p20 p48
<b>SUNDAY 17 Nov</b>	FILM: Lesvia Brewing The Reading Troupe with Lyónn Wolf	12:45 14:30 17:00	p36 p50 p73
<b>MONDAY 18 Nov</b>	FILM: Reas Éirí Amach sa GPO	18:15 19:00	p37 p46
<b>TUESDAY 19 Nov</b>	FILM: Bye Bye Love Sophie Lewis & Lyónn Wolf in Conversation	18:00 19:00	p60 p34
<b>WEDNESDAY 20 Nov</b>	It's Turned Out Nice Again performance FILM: Ponyboi	18:00 21:00	p62 p26
<b>THURSDAY 21 Nov</b>	Gemma Rolls Bentley & Kim McAleese in Conversation FILM: Stress Positions	18:30 20:45	p70 p38

<b>FRIDAY 22 Nov</b>	they shoot horses ( <i>8 hour durational, come and go</i> ) Find Another City Better Than This One discussion Shame Show	15:30 18:00 19:00	p58 p74 p44
<b>SATURDAY 23 Nov</b>	Queer Art Market Lithuanian Queer Art Performance and Talk Big Talk: Queer Art & Censorship Deviancy and Desire in the Athens of the North It was Paradise, Unfortunately Shame Show Queereoke	11:00 12:00 15:00 16:30 18:30 19:00 21:00	p75 p64 p76 p22 p42 p44 p52
<b>Throughout Festival &amp; Beyond</b>	Mixtape #1 Homemade Undercuts Suspect Device Little Did I Know Disco Dykes It's Turned Out Nice Again		p56 p32 p12 p66 p14 p62

