PaperXclips

QUEER BOOKS ▼ QUEER HAIRCUTS ▼ QUEER COFFEE

162 NORTH STREET, BELFAST

OUTBURST

Queer Arts Festival



Festival Team

Ruth McCarthy	**Artistic Director / Programmer**
Caleb Robers	**Producer / Programmer**
Ben Lindsay	**Volunteer & Events Manager**
So Mayer	**Associate Programmer**
Rachel Kennedy	**Festival Event Producer**
Mandy Horton	**Design**
Ellen Blair	**Festival Photography**

With farewell and thanks to Kathy Young
for her eight years in the gang.

Over 20 volunteers complete our festival team. Thank you!

Outburst Arts Board

David Codling	**Chairperson**
Kim McAleese	**Vice Chair**
Fidelma Carolan	**Secretary**
Eoin Dara	**Director**
Emma Campbell	**Director**

Outburst Arts support vital spaces 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, partners or others in the programme.

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

MIX
Paper from responsible sources
FSC® C015417

Supported by

PRINCIPAL FUNDER

Event & Venue Partners

Book Partner

Hotel Partner

Thank you!

Outburst Queer Arts Festival is brought to life through collaboration, conversation and the shared passion of many contributors, big and small. Thank you to everyone who passed our way and left something with us this year.

Special thanks to

Colette Norwood / Sarah Bagshaw / Sonia Mehta at Paul Hamlyn Foundation / Matt Beavers / Cian Smyth / Dan Gorman & Will Forrester at English Pen / Ross McDade at Brian Friel Theatre / Kathryn, Jess, Neil & gang at Black Box / Neave & Edel at University of Atypical / Kim McAleese at Edinburgh Art Festival / Monica Pearl / Ciara King & the coffee slingers of Hustle / Michael Staley and team at QFT / Jules at the MAC / Emma & Ceardha / Fern & Ren at Paperxclips / Conor, Andrew & whole gang at Belfast Ensemble / Clodagh Assata Boyce / Emmett Scanlon / Matty Kennedy / Maria-Adriana Deiana / Siobhán Molloy at ACNI / David at No Alibis / Jamie Kerr / Natalia Mallo / Natasha Bueno / Nataly Lebouleux.

Introduction

We need to talk.

And there's nowhere better to do that than in Belfast and no better way than through the brilliant, energetic, complex, messy, open and feral language of art.

I remember a friend from faraway shores once saying about this place something like: "*You can't even go to the pub here and it turns into a heated philosophical argument but with moments in the heat of it all of laughing out loud together until it hurts. It's the queerest place there is*".

It's true, and it's in that spirit that we bring you the programme for the 19th Outburst Queer Arts Festival: a space to be with each other in the heat of it all and with incredible artists and writers and thinkers who open new doors with new possibilities, inviting us through and beyond the noise and stuckness of things.

This year's programme is a real collaborative adventure in creative ideas, provocations and generous invitations to exchange, at a time when we need to be tenacious about centring the humanity that can be lacking in public and political discourses around gender and sexuality. As a festival, Outburst is always the cumulative energy of the artists, audiences, friends and strangers who eagerly gather for - and sometimes serendipitously stumble into - incredible new queer performances, mind-expanding cinema, hands-on workshops and eye-opening conversations. As we look towards our twentieth birthday next year, our 2025 programme is in many ways a sharing and dreaming space around what comes next, with a special focus on books, ideas and learning from each other.

We welcome you to come and play, laugh, talk, listen and make something ferociously kinder.

Love and solidarity

Ruth McCarthy
Artistic Director, Outburst Arts

Chairperson's Welcome

You couldn't make it up. Much of what we see and read in the daily news would seem improbable or far-fetched if it were the stuff of satirical or dystopian fiction. We need spaces to breathe, think, listen, dream, laugh and lovingly argue. Outburst has always aspired to be that: it is a proudly and unmistakably Belfast space but also one engaged in a worldwide conversation which explores the transformative, healing and positively disruptive power of queer arts.

On behalf of the board of trustees, I offer deepest thanks to the artists, partners, funders, allies and audiences who make possible the Outburst Queer Arts Festival and our work throughout the year both here at home and internationally. I congratulate the Outburst Arts team on this brilliant Festival programme which illustrates the depth and breadth of Outburst's creative curiosity, and its unswerving commitment to nurturing and celebrating artistic excellence.

Welcome, all!

David Codling
Chairperson, Outburst Arts

Arts Council NI Foreword

For almost 20 years, Outburst has played a vital role in using art to stimulate new thinking and to create space for often complex conversations. Collaboration and innovation are two key themes of the Arts Council's current draft strategy and as the festival's principal funder, with game-changing investment from The National Lottery, we are delighted to see both so vibrantly illustrated throughout this year's programme. From opera and circus to architecture and nature, Outburst 2025 promises a lively cocktail of ideas and exploration.

In unprecedented times, international exchange and collaboration between artists and arts organisations are particularly important. We welcome the inclusion of artists from Finland, Taiwan, Lebanon, Turkey and other countries, who will celebrate their talents at this year's festival alongside the essential showcase of LGBTQI+ talent from Northern Ireland.

I congratulate the team at Outburst on their stellar work and eagerly await the upcoming festival which will no doubt offer vital new perspectives, opportunities for artists, advocacy, profile and significant in-person and community connection to NI LGBTQ+ artists and audiences.

Roisín McDonough
Chief Executive,
Arts Council of Northern Ireland

Festival Information

Box Office

Visit our website to book tickets and register for events.

www.outburstarts.com

Most tickets are available to book in one checkout via our online box office.

Our films at QFT require booking online through the venue and will also be linked through our website.

After you make a booking, you'll receive an email ticket.

Make sure to read all of the details on your confirmation email, as there may be important information relating to your specific event.

Contact Us

General Festival, Box Office & Ticketing queries
hello@outburstarts.com

For festival updates and news, join us on socials. Tag us in your photos and posts about events!

#outburst25

Ticket Pricing

We want to make sure that ticket prices are not a barrier to you enjoying as many events as you'd like to come along to at the festival. 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. As a charity, Outburst relies on ticket sales as part of our income, so we have a tiered ticketing system to make it work for everyone.

Our **Regular Ticket** has the standard price. If you are on a low-wage, we have a £5 **Access Ticket** that you can book for most events. If that's still a stretch for you, we also offer a **Free Ticket** for those who really need one. Use promo code **catnip** to access these.

If you have a bit extra to spare, please consider buying a **Supporter Ticket**, adding an extra few pounds on top of the regular ticket price to help us to make vital queer arts events more accessible to everyone.

Access

All Outburst venues have access for wheelchair users. Free tickets are available for personal assistants supporting those with access needs and these are available in the booking options.

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

We work with artists to find out as much as possible about how their events run, so if there are things like flashing lights or sudden loud noises, we'll let you know in the content information.

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 event durations on each event page.

Live events may vary by a few minutes either way, as some are being performed for the first time and some conversational events may stretch longer where there's space. So please allow for small changes when planning your visit.

We offer content information on event pages where possible, so you can make an informed decision about attending events before booking. If you have any specific questions, get in touch.

We offer age recommendations for most Outburst events, based on venue regulations and suitability of content. Under 18s are strictly not permitted after 8pm in any venues that serve alcohol. You'll see age guidance like this **16+**, **18+** on event pages.

Festival Venues

Black Box & The Green Room
18 – 22 Hill Street, BT1 2LA

The MAC
10 Exchange St. West, BT1 2NJ

Queen's Film Theatre (QFT)
20 University Square, BT7 1PA

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

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

Queen's University Belfast (Main Building)
University Road, BT7 1NN

PaperxClips Bookshop
162 North Street, BT1 1QS

PS2 Gallery
11 Rosemary St, BT1 1QA

Ulster Presents Gallery
Ulster University, Ground Floor
York Street, BT15 1ED

No Alibis Bookshop
83 Botanic Avenue, BT7 1JL



Photo: Eslam Abd El Salam

ARTIST IN RESIDENCE
PHILLIP MCCRILLY

We're delighted to welcome Belfast-based artist Phillip McCrilly as Artist in Residence for Outburst 2025. With a practice that operates at the intersection of food, performance, and queer relationality, his work investigates how culinary practices such as cooking, eating, and fermentation can function as sites of care, intimacy, and collective memory.

Phillip's training in food production in the Gramounce's inaugural Alternative MA in Art and Food Studies, including roles as a pasta maker, cheesemonger, and development chef, is embedded within his artistic practice. His previous projects, including commissions by EVA International and Belfast 2024, involved co-designed communal dinners, cruising and foraging walks, scripted massage performances and the production of hedgerow wines that explore how marginal or liminal spaces can become fertile ground for queer world-making.

With his current research addressing questions of property, land access, and rurality through a queer lens, he reclaims the hedgerow as a space of resistance and connection. **(see page 54: The Rosehip Collectors Club)**

During his Outburst residency, Phillip will collaborate with a number of queer food practitioners through a public programme of workshops, tastings, and discursive events, with the aims of generating cross-disciplinary dialogue and fostering community engagement.

Follow us on socials for details of events as they cook and ferment.

FEED THE KITTY

Outburst has made space for brilliantly risk-taking queer art and creative ideas in Belfast and beyond for almost two decades.



From ambitious new opera productions to mentored spaces for incredible local talent, we can only do what we do because of the continued enthusiasm and generosity of our supporters and audiences. As a registered charity, every single donation to Outburst, big or small, helps us to support artists to make and share vital new work.

So if you have something to spare...

- Consider buying a Supporter Ticket when you book an event, or add an extra pound or two when you check out your ticket basket.
- Click the Support Us button on our website and make a donation
- Scan the QR code at festival events to make a direct donation
- Consider a regular donation through a Direct Debit or work-based giving scheme Email us at hello@outburstarts.com for a chat!

THANK YOU (purrrr)



DAMN EVERY-THING BUT THE CIRCUS

get in the ring with
new queer performance



The Belfast Ensemble presents Conor Mitchell's

DUBLIN JACK: IN CONCERT

In a scandalous new queer opera, Conor Mitchell & The Belfast Ensemble take us into the seedy underbelly of Victorian London...

Dublin Jack – real life Irishman Jack Saul – ran a roaring trade as a rent boy working in Victorian London, using his sexual currency to cash in on aristocratic desire. A self described 'professional Mary Ann', Jack's commitment to his work and exuberant lack of discretion eventually led to his arrest.

His outrageous trial sparked a moral panic that swept across the British Empire, bringing about a new wave of homophobic attitudes and brutal anti-sodomy laws, which still reverberate around the world today.

This darkly comic work unpacks the messy powerplays of agency, class, and colonialism tied up in queer Anglo-Irish identity.

Following concert presentations this autumn at Dublin Theatre Festival and Southbank Centre, join us for an intimate, stripped back, and energetic one-off concert experience at Outburst Queer Arts Festival 2025, as The Belfast Ensemble presents the pure, musical content of a dynamic new opera, live on stage for the very first time.

Includes an introduction to the piece by composer / director Conor Mitchell.

Content Information: *strong sexually explicit language; discussion of suicide.*

Dublin Jack is funded by Arts Council of Northern Ireland, The Arts Council/An Chomhairle Ealaíon, Belfast City Council, and The Vaughan Williams Foundation.

Developed with support from Southbank Centre and from Outburst Queer Arts Festival through the Paul Hamlyn Foundation Art Fund.

WHEN: Friday 14 November **WHERE:** Black Box
TIME: 19:30 (doors 19:00) **TICKETS:** £18 / £15 / £5
DURATION: 120 mins **AGE GUIDANCE:** 18+



Photo © Lily Schlinker

ITCH

Christopher has an itch that just won't go away. And he's going to scratch it.

Growing up queer in the post-conflict streets of North Belfast can be tough, with unswayable notions of manliness and, to make matters worse, chronic eczema.

So, do you try all the cures for your physical and emotional monsters? Or is there another way, naked and vulnerable, 20 feet off the ground?

Produced by Circusful in co-production with Outburst Arts, ITCH is a visually delightful, funny and moving performance by acclaimed circus artist Christopher McAuley, that looks at the ways we impose expectations and norms on our bodies and how we live joyfully in spite of it. Mixing theatre, trapeze, visuals and a conversation with his dad, this beautiful and deeply personal show will take you on an adventure in radical self-acceptance like you've never experienced before.

Content Information: *nudity; discussion of gay sex and mental health; images of eczema.*

Written and performed by **Christopher McAuley**
Consultant Director **Laura Murphy**
Executive Producer **Flora Herberich**
Counterweighter / Stage Manager **Emmen Jude Donnelly**
Sound Designer **Marty Byrne**
Lighting Designer **Adrian Wall**
Photo **Lily Schlinker**

Funded by The Arts Council / An Chomhairle Ealaíon & Arts Council Northern Ireland.
Produced by Circusful Co-produced by Outburst Arts
Developed at Scene+Heard.
Supported by Circus Factory, Cork, Dublin Fringe Festival, IACC; Jacksons Lane, Korzo NL Motion Chapel.

WHEN: Saturday 15 & Sunday 16 November **WHERE:** Brian Friel Theatre
TIME: Sat 18:30 (doors 18:15) / Sun 18:00 (doors 17:45) **TICKETS:** £15 / £5
DURATION: 50 mins **AGE GUIDANCE:** 18+



DYKE SYSTEMS LTD

Selected as part of *The Stage*'s 'Fringe Five: theatre-makers who made the biggest impact', this Edinburgh Fringe 2025 sell-out hit is one of Outburst's favourite shows this year!

Sally and Susan aren't your average 1990s suburban women. They're business women. And you're invited to the most prestigious seminar of the year that could help you get filthy rich!

Step into the glittery, unhinged world of multi-level marketing mayhem with Fag Packet, Kheski Kobler and Holly Wilson-Guy, the award-winning cabaret and theatre double act. Equal parts corporate seminar and queer fever dream, *DYKE Systems Ltd* is a sharp, subversive takedown of pyramid schemes, ruthless heteronormativity and corporate feminism.

On the hunt for new recruits for their 'very lucrative business opportunity' and diving deeper into the world of multi-level marketing, cracks begin to appear, unravelling corruption and unspoken desires as the lies they've built everything on start to catch up with them. Blending Fag Packet's signature cocktail of comedy and physical theatre *DYKE Systems Ltd* explores how the forces of greed and conformity threaten us in a capitalist nightmare that's coming for us all.

Bring your wallets and your carabiner and get ready to find your inner (D)ynamic! (Y)oung! (K)nowledgeable! (E)ntrepreneur!

Content Information: *strong language; scenes of a sexual nature; flashing lights.*

Writers, Performers and Creators: **Kheski Kobler & Holly Wilson-Guy**
Directed and Co-Written with: **Lucy Allan**
Movement Director: **Barry Fitzgerald**
Set Design: **Shahaf Beer**
Sound Design: **Brid Addison-Child**
Lighting Designer: **Benny Goodman**
Producer: **Beth Sitek**

★★★★★ *The Stage*
An exceptional Edinburgh Fringe debut... with whip-smart precision

★★★★★ *The Skinny*
Razor sharp...hysterically funny satire of pink washing, capitalist greed and corporate absurdity

★★★★ *The Scotsman*
An anarchic delight

WHEN: Friday 21 November **WHERE:** Black Box **TIME:** 20:40 (doors 20:10)
TICKETS: £15 / £5 **DURATION:** 60 mins **AGE GUIDANCE:** 18+

catflap








catflap #5 LAUNCH

The hottest publication in queer lit is back, as we launch the fifth edition of *catflap*, Outburst's annual journal of smart queer writing with a disco heart!

Distributed globally and featuring local and international writers and artists, issue #5 of *catflap* is bursting with fresh conversations, poetry, and essays exploring the currents of queer ruminations, edited by author So Mayer and beautifully coalesced with design by Other Office.

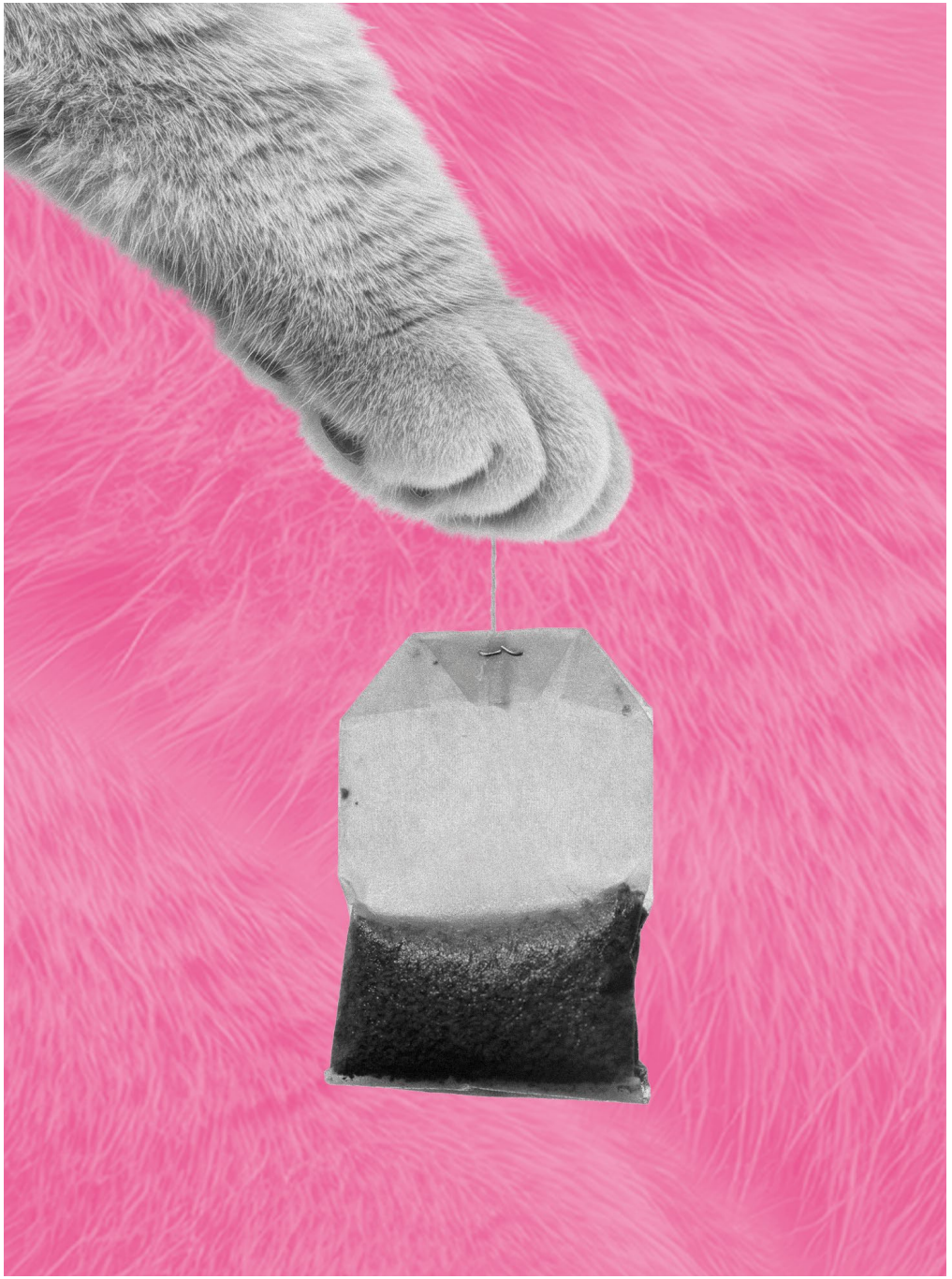
To celebrate the launch, we'll be taking over the Black Box for a vivid evening of poetry, readings, and special performances from *catflap* contributors and invited guests, including Cat Brogan (NI), Dayna Ash (Lebanon), Sam Furlong (ROI), Leandro Reyes (Phillipines) and a very special words and music performance from poet CAConrad (USA) with banjo player Jacken Elswyth.

***catflap* will be available to purchase on the night, throughout the festival, and beyond.**

Event supported by

BRITISH COUNCIL

WHEN: Saturday 15 November **WHERE:** The Black Box
TIME: 20:30 (doors 20:00) **TICKETS:** £16 with copy of *catflap*, £10 without / £5
DURATION: 90 mins **AGE GUIDANCE:** 18+



BREWING

We love to create space at Outburst for artists to try out new ideas or experiment with something they've been working on. Now a much-loved annual event at the festival, the *Brewing* showcase is just that, presenting four emerging local artists with up to 15 minutes each to share extracts of new works-in-progress across comedy, theatre and performance.

With a big vibe of support and encouraging queer critique, the audience is as vital a part of *Brewing* as the artists, with a relaxed opportunity to ask the artist questions and share your thoughts after the performances.



Cat Brogan *Making Myself a Mother*

An autobiographical exploration of queer fertility, family and the pursuit of parenthood in hostile systems around the world.



Alex McMillan 'Céilí Rae Minogue'
Emotional Rollercoaster

At several points in her life, Céilí travels to Orlando with her Aunt, trying (and failing) to muster the courage to ride the Hulk Rollercoaster at Universal Studios.



Heather Martin *As We Drift*

Exploring insomnia and our thoughts as we lie awake at night, this absurdist comedy tries to make sense of the trivial movements in life.



Kit Rees *Why Am I Like This?*

Born of the curiosity to find out what scientific building blocks make up queer people, this stand-up TED Talk invites us to take a seat in the classroom.

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

WHEN: Sunday 16 November **WHERE:** Brian Friel Theatre **TIME:** 14:00
TICKETS: £8/£5 **DURATION:** 110 mins **AGE GUIDANCE:** 18+



DE-PRODUCTION

The first time I saw ALIEN I didn't get to watch the opening unfold, or the body horror middle bit, the part that's full of holes, I was thrust directly to the final girl movie part, the abject traumatised lesbian body part, the anti-mother trans survival dyke part.

De-production is a solo performance that weaves personal history with reflections on class, gender and alien monstrosity within the Irish single mother family. Drawing from popular culture and body horror tropes in science fiction, *De-production* troubles the idea of a 'productive' body through queer, trans and crip lenses, leaning into practices of submission and domination to conjure a form of collective exorcism.

Lyónn Wolf is an artist and writer based in Belfast and Berlin, currently engaged with de-productive trans & class poetics. His work unfolds a desire for structures of being away from the logics of reproductive colonial time, towards the collective reimagining of political futures centred on pleasure & interdependence for queer, trans & crip social bodies.

De-production was supported through its research phase with a fellowship from The Berlin Artistic Research Programme 2022/23 and as part of EVA International's Platform Commissions 2025.

Written and Performed by **Lyónn Wolf**
Sound design **Theresa Stroetges**
Audio recorded commands **scripted and read by Jamie/Transboydom**
3D animation **Makode Linde**
Dramaturgical support **Sofia Apostolidou**

WHEN: Saturday 22 November **WHERE:** Brian Friel Theatre **TIME:** 19:00
TICKETS: £5 **DURATION:** 30 mins **AGE GUIDANCE:** 18+

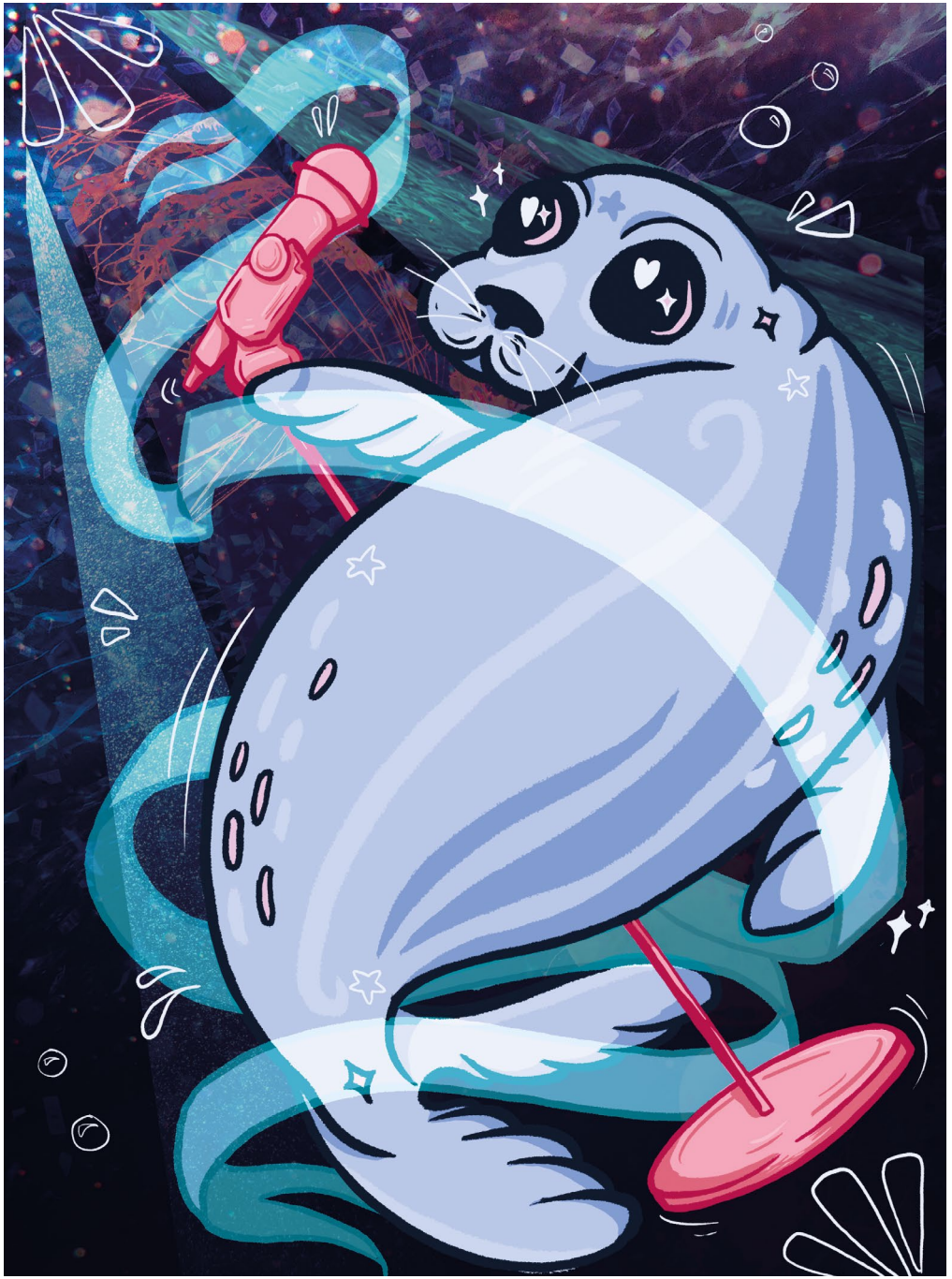


Image: Ben Lindsay

Festival Closing Party:
Outburst X Array Collective

Under Seaveillance Queereoke

Hosted by Sting Ray and The Selkies (Array Collective) and the Absolutely Crabulous Countess of Karaoke Ceardha Morgan.

Near, far, wherever you are, join us in the Black Box for Outburst's cathartic closing ritual, in collaboration with Array Collective for a wild, sea-soaked night of performance, QUEEREOKE and late night dancing with music from DJ Katie Eeem.

Let's go off the scales with songs to pelt your heart out to.
Your voice, your presence, your skin.

Selkies can sometimes be seen dancing together on the shore in their human form. In the water, these Selkies look like seals but to come ashore, they must first shed their sealskin or tail. If that skin is taken, the Selkie is trapped as a human and can never return to the sea until it is found.

As we join the merry dance of neo-capitalism, deep crevices form in our sense of community and self; like the Selkies we are trying to steal back our social skin, to reclaim our sense of belonging from the tide of digital sea-veillance and the endless alienated grind.

Take them all back.

Come dressed in your queerest sea-themed protest apparel. Deep-sea digital disguises and anti-seaveillance face dazzle encouraged. Urchins of the deep; sirens of the streets; pearls of the proletariat; everyone is welcome!

WHEN: Saturday 22 November **WHERE:** Black Box **TIME:** 21:00 (doors 20:30)
TICKETS: £10 / £5 **DURATION:** Until 01:00 **AGE GUIDANCE:** 18+



IT'S ONLY NATURAL

animal instincts
& tender bodies



Photo: Brian Hartley

KIRSTIN HALLIDAY
DESERT GRASSLAND WHIPTAIL LIZARDS: ACT 1

Desert Grassland Whiptail Lizards are an all-female species that live in the deserts of New Mexico. Notably, they reproduce without fertilisation, but still stimulate each other to bring on ovulation. Near the laying period, one lizard will mount another. This has earned the species the reputation of "lesbian lizards."

Dance Artist Kirstin Halliday's *Desert Grassland Whiptail Lizards: Act 1* is a dance-drama, that reimagines this species as an all-lesbian fantasy world.

Co-choreographed by Aniela Piasecka and combining absurdist choreography with documentary style storytelling, *Desert Grassland Whiptail Lizards: Act 1* is the first segment of a body of work that will culminate in a triptych, exploring the fetishization of lesbians and the active reconfiguration of the cisheteronormative male gaze.

Content Information: *scenes of a sexual nature.*

Director + Choreographer: **Kirstin Halliday**
Co-choreographer: **Aniela Piasecka**
Producers: **Amy Lawrence + Kirstin Halliday**
Costume + Make-up: **Sgàire Wood**
Sound: **Char Bickley**
Set: **Molly M. Whawell**
Dramaturge: **Emma Lewis-Jones**
PR Associate: **Joy Parkinson**
Mentorship: **Eve Stainton and Lucy Suggate**

Supported by Creative Scotland, Take Me Somewhere and The Work Room

WHEN: Saturday 15 November **WHERE:** Upstairs at the MAC
TIME: 16:00 (doors 15:45) **DURATION:** 30 minutes
TICKETS: £8 / £5 **AGE GUIDANCE:** 18+



RUFF KNOWLEDGE

As part of Outburst's artistic programme at T*RAI we're delighted to welcome Finnish artist, writer and performer Camille Auer with an avian performance lecture like you have never seen before!

Homosexual behavior and gender diversity are common phenomena in nature, yet they receive very little visibility in media about nature. The ruff (*Calidris pugnax*) is perhaps the most diverse wild vertebrate species. During the breeding season, male ruffs all look strikingly different from each other while also resembling females in some cases. Ruffs have several distinct morphs that have different sexual behaviours and strategies, yet these birds are generally categorized into two sexes and their behavior is assumed to be motivated by heterosexual reproduction.

Humans tend to make circular arguments when observing nature, interpreting natural observations through their values, then using this version of nature to justify what's "natural". *Ruff Knowledge* asks, how do we know about birds? What do birds want? How do they experience sex and sexuality? Can we know what it's like to be a bird? Would that knowledge change our relationship with birds and the world? What happens in humans when observing birds? And what happens in the birds being observed and observing us back?

Text, video, audio, performance: **Camille Auer**
Dramaturg: **Emil Santtu Uuttu** / Costume: **Johanna Porola**
Filming assistant: **Nea Alasaari** / Artistic dialogue: **Teo Ala-Ruona**
Bird dialogue: **Elliot Lundegård ja Helinä Ääri**

In partnership with

FINNISH INSTITUTE UK+IRELAND

WHEN: Friday 21 November **WHERE:** Brian Friel Theatre
TIME: 19:15 (doors 19:00) **DURATION:** 60 minutes **TICKETS:** £12 / £5
AGE GUIDANCE: 18+

CLUB DES FEMMES presents

DYKETACTICS: 50 YEARS OF LESBIONIC CINEMA



Image Courtesy of the Estate of Barbara Hammer, New York and Electronic Arts Intermix (EAI), New York.

We're excited to welcome the brilliant Club Des Femmes to Belfast for the first time, to ask: what are dyketactics? What is a lesbionic cinema of queer desire and transformation? Featuring circus tricks, hot looks, secret spaces, and cruising of all kinds, DYKETACTICS brings together multiple generations of filmmakers queering the gaze.

Interspersing Barbara Hammer's 1970s films *Dyketactics* and *Double Strength*, two of her powerful short films about making art out of life and sex, we'll screen two of our favourite films by artists that she inspired and supported. In their films *Untitled (Dyketactics Revisited)* and *Lucid Noon, Sunset Blush*, contemporary artists Liz aka Riv Rosenfeld and Alli Logout playfully and differently pay tribute to Hammer's lesbian classics while expanding her gaze on intersectional queer community and reinventing its sexy aesthetics for the twenty-first century.

With an introduction from Club Des Femmes' Selina Robertson, join us on a cruise through US queer cinema's transformative practices that speak to the question: how and where do we make time to dream and desire when the world is burning?

Films (63 mins 30 total) All films are screened on digital.

Dyketactics
Dir Barbara Hammer / 1974 / 4 mins / 16mm on video

Untitled (Dyketactics Revisited)
Dir Riv Rosenfeld / 2005 / 12 mins / Digital

Double Strength
Dir Barbara Hammer / 1978 / 14 mins / 16mm on HD video

Lucid Noon, Sunset Blush
Dir Alli Logout / 2015 / 32 mins / 4K Digital

Club Des Femmes is a queer feminist collective set up by Selina Robertson and Sarah Wood in 2007. We curate film screenings and events around the UK and internationally. Our mission is to offer a freed up space for the re-examination of ideas through art.

Selina Robertson is a curator and researcher. She is an Associate Lecturer at Birkbeck and a film programmer at the Independent Cinema Office.

QFT Queen's Film Theatre

Club Des Femmes

WHEN: Monday 17 November **WHERE:** Queen's Film Theatre (QFT)
TIME: 18:15 **TICKETS:** £9.80 / £6.50 / £6 **DURATION:** 120 mins
AGE GUIDANCE: 18+



Photo: *Sabah* by Holly Revell

Holly Revell: People Like Us
Photographing trans bodies

Join us for an intimate in-conversation with artist photographer Holly Revell, whose collaborative portrait work has become a vital archive of queer lives and bodies. Holly has made a significant contribution to the documentation of queer performance icons in London, creating a record of a specific movement and the community surrounding it, archived at Bishopsgate Institute.

They self-published their most recent photobook *People Like Us*, a seven year project exploring transmasculine, non-binary and gender non-conforming identities, experiences and perspectives. To celebrate her first launch in Belfast, we are excited to have Holly talking about the book with filmmaker Caleb J. Roberts.

Exploring this radically emotive work, Holly will share their approach to capturing moments of mundanity, intimacy and the quiet power of trans bodies – offering a fresh perspective that is not sensationalised or objectified, but simply present, grounded and in motion. Through images that breathe, *People Like Us* challenges the pressures of representation, instead holding space for pleasure, change and fluidity.

Audiences are invited to arrive from 5:30pm to experience audio and visual archive material captured alongside *People Like Us*. Signed copies of the book and accompanying zine will be available to purchase at the event.



In partnership with Paperxclips

WHEN: Friday 21 November **WHERE:** Ledger Studio, University of Atypical
TIME: Start 18:00 (Doors from 17:30) **DURATION:** 60 minutes
TICKETS: £8 / £5 **AGE GUIDANCE:** 18+



Photo: Ellen Blair

PUREBRED

Dir. Caleb J. Roberts / 2025 / Ireland-UK / 15 mins

Executive Produced by Outburst Arts and shot on location in the Queen's University Quarter, this stunning new short film from Belfast-based writer and director Caleb J. Roberts exposes our preconceived notions about what a gay relationship can look like.

During a heatwave in Belfast, transgender man Owen cycles to the flat of his on-off-again lover after taking a pregnancy test in a public men's bathroom.

Refusing tropes and labels around trans masculinity, desire and what's unsaid, this beautifully filmed work is intimate, gritty and tender.

After the screening we welcome you to join a conversation with the director about authored transness on screen, the "new wave" of trans cinema and the gap in transmasculine narratives around sex, pleasure and desire.

Content Information: *sex, partial nudity and discussion of pregnancy.*

Produced by Jon Beer & Callum Harrison for Out of Orbit.
Funded by Northern Ireland Screen

WHEN: Saturday 22 November **WHERE:** Queen's Film Theatre (QFT)
TIME: 14:15 **TICKETS:** £9.80 / £6.50 / £6 **DURATION:** 60 mins
AGE GUIDANCE: 18+



QUEERS IN SPACE

places, spaces & making worlds



Image: *The Fool*, Dykeland

DYKELAND Volume II
Sarah-Joy Ford
with Jane Campbell

Dykeland presents a body of work created by the artist Sarah-Joy Ford that explores dyke, lesbian and queer relationships to land, placemaking, rurality and ecological activism.

Through quilting, fragments of historical texts and archival material are drawn into intimate relationships with memory, gossip and pure lesbian feminist fantasy.

Each of the quilts in this exhibition are femmages to a poem from Jane Campbell's forthcoming poetry collection, *Dykeland and Other Secret Islands*, chronicling her experiences living on a Dykeland for nearly 25 years. Accompanying the quilts are Campbell's original poems, and two animated short films. These works are an intimate archive of an inter-generational dyke friendship, and convivial artistic practices between Campbell and Ford. This is an interdisciplinary love letter to the relationship between dyke poetry and dyke visual art, and how we take care of each other, and the earth, in troubled times.

In partnership with Ulster University | ULSTER PRESENTS

Dykeland Volume II: Special Outburst 2025 Opening Event
18:00 Friday 14 November, Ulster presents... Gallery (60mins)

Dykeland Volume II is a living exhibition. We are delighted to open this year's festival with a performance ritual featuring a new live collaboration between artists Sarah-Joy Ford and Roma Havers and poet Jane Campbell.

The first in a series of collaborative works exploring the lives of the inhabitants of Dykeland and using traditional tarot storytelling traditions, each monologue takes us deeper into the world and legacy of Dykeland. We find The Fool in the midst of a heatwave in Dykeland, where all is not as it seems, and the bog might just hold the answer. The Fool asks *How do we tend to this place? Will it be preserved in the bog, or are we the last of our kind?*

We ask that you come to the space with openness and a listening ear. In advance of the event we ask you to consider the question: *How do we want to be together?*

WHEN: Exhibition runs from Oct 29 to 22 Nov / Opening event 18:00 Fri 14 Nov
WHERE: Ulster Presents **TIME:** Gallery Open *09:30-17:30* Mon- Sat
TICKETS: FREE admission. Opening free but ticketed **AGE GUIDANCE:** 16+



Image: Clodagh Assata Boyce

HOW WE GET FREE
QUEER BODIES IN RESISTANCE

How We Get Free invites global majority artists from the Island of Ireland and beyond to engage with Black Feminist theory and practices in the context of performance art. Including two new Outburst Arts commissions, PS² hosts artists working across performance, photography and film, engaging with and unpacking ideas around refusal and marginalisation posed by Black, queer, feminist artists in the late 20th century.

This Black and Brown and Queer jubilation celebrates personal and political acts of resistance to the state and to binaries. Artists interrogate systems of oppression and strive towards community making. It's not who you do, it's what you do!

This night begins with insurgent films empowered by sex and sexuality, followed by an autobiographical performance from Diana Bamimeke on being a young Black artist in Ireland and Fiona Fitwi delivering spoken and culinary delights at the end of the night. These happenings will be documented by Belfast based visual artist Macy Stewart, employing a Black gaze to gather moments between audience and artists.

Films:

Vanilla Sex Dir Cheryl Dunye / 1992 / USA / 5 mins

Kink Retrograde Basyma Saad / 2022 / Lebanon / 20 mins

Build or Destroy Rashaad Newsome 2021 / USA / 6 mins

Please note that this space has free admission and advance ticketing priority for Black and Brown people. All are welcome to remaining tickets, which will go on sale two weeks before the event.

Curated by **Clodagh Assata Boyce**

Content Information: *sexual imagery and nudity.*

Project funded by Esmée Mitchell Commissions by Outburst Arts through the Paul Hamlyn Foundation Art Fund

PS² is supported by The National Lottery through Arts Council of Northern Ireland, Belfast City Council's Artists' Studio and Makerspace Organisational Grant, and Arts & Business NI's Blueprint Investment Grant.

WHEN: Sunday 16 November **WHERE:** PS² **TIME:** 19:00
DURATION: 150 mins **TICKETS**: £10/£5 **AGE GUIDANCE:** 18+



Royal Vauxhall Tavern, aerial view of location, digital scan produced courtesy of The Royal Vauxhall Tavern as part of the Humanities in the European Research Area (HERA) funded project *NITE: Night-spaces, Migration, Culture and Integration in Europe*. Scan team: Ben Campkin, Lo Marshall, Lucca Farrarese, James White, Thomas Kendall. UCL Urban Laboratory, 2020.

IRISH ARCHITECTURE FOUNDATION presents

STORIES FROM THE CITY, STORIES FROM THE SEA

Ben Campkin

Outburst joins the Irish Architecture Foundation (IAF) for this very special event as part of *Stories from the City, Stories from the Sea*, a series of all-island conversations with IAF and cultural partners.

Ben Campkin is an urbanist who has written extensively on LGBTQIA+ spaces, especially in relation to urban change. His 2023 book *Queer Premises: LGBTQ+ Venues in London Since the 1980s* (Bloomsbury) offers fascinating evidence for how London's diverse LGBTQ+ populations have embedded themselves into space, systems and resources and how bars, cafés, nightclubs, pubs, community centres have been imagined, created and sustained, what challenges they face and why they close down.

At a time when gentrification, rising costs, virtual migration and cultural fragmentation are impacting heavily on the shape of our cities, this timely conversation poses vital questions on the impacts and importance of queer spaces for urban centres and communities alike.

Ben Campkin is Professor of Urbanism and Urban History at The Bartlett School of Architecture, University College London, and Vice-Dean Public and City Engagement for The Bartlett Faculty of the Built Environment. In addition to *Queer Premises* he is also the author of *Remaking London: Decline and Regeneration in Urban Culture* (I.B. Tauris, 2013). He was UK principal investigator on the EU-funded project *Night Spaces: Migration, Culture and Integration in Europe* (2019–23) and is currently completing a project on night work in London in collaboration with the Greater London Authority and UCL Social Data Institute.



In partnership with

Irish Architecture Foundation

WHEN: Thursday 20 November **WHERE:** Black Box **TIME:** 19:00 (doors 18:30)
DURATION: 120 mins **TICKETS:** £10 / £5 **AGE GUIDANCE:** 18+





IT'S THE END OF THE WORLD (& WE FEEL FINE)

Why We Love Queer Dystopian Fiction

We often talk of queer utopias and idyllic queer spaces and places, but can dystopias offer a more fertile starting point for imagining and building better?

Join writers Chi Ta-Wei and Hande Ortaç and host So Mayer, as we boldly go into the dark.

Chi's novel *The Membranes* (translated by Ari Heinrich) and Ortaç's novel *Sakinler (Residents)* are dynamic portraits of queer characters encountering themselves in constrained societies, re-understanding their memories through technological devices. Why as queer readers and writers are we drawn to imaginative genres to explore our lived experiences? And why – given the challenges we confront in real life – do we want it darker? What are the joys, pleasures and resistance offered by dystopian fiction? And how do we imagine ourselves queerly into dystopias – and out of them?

Chi Ta-wei is a queer writer and scholar from Taiwan and a leading voice in Chinese-language LGBTQ+ literature. His widely translated modern classic novel, *The Membranes* (1995/1996) blends cyberpunk with explorations of transgender identity, memory, and the boundaries between humans and AI. Chi is currently writing its sequel. His major scholarly work, *A Queer Invention in Taiwan: A History of Tongzhi Literature* (2017), is being translated into Japanese and English. He teaches at National Chengchi University in Taipei.

Hande Ortaç is an author from Türkiye whose work examines life's challenges through an eco-feminist lens, foregrounding queer experiences and women's narratives and weaving everyday realities with dystopian landscapes, environmental crises, and visions of the post-human. Her work includes award-winning short story collections *Kankurutan* (2011), *Uc İki Bir Kayit* (2014), and *Daha Iyi Misin?* (2021) and the novel *Sakinler* (2023), which was shortlisted for the Duygu Asena Novel Prize 2024.

In partnership with

BRITISH COUNCIL

WHEN: Saturday 15 November **WHERE:** Ledger Studio, University of Atypical
TIME: 13:00 **DURATION:** 60 mins **TICKETS:** £8 / £5 **AGE GUIDANCE:** 16+



QUEER SPECTRUM FILM FESTIVAL presents

Founded by Dublin activist/artist Pradeep Mahadeshwar, Queer Spectrum Film Festival (QSFF) is Ireland's first film festival dedicated to LGBTQIA+ people of colour and immigrant voices. Celebrating queer stories in motion, amplifying narratives shaped by migration, nostalgia for lands and languages left behind, and transformation in new places, these are stories too often pushed to the margins, yet essential to the collective queer imagination. This showcase of queer shorts explores the spectrum of queer identities and expressions in flux, from trans journeys of selfhood to queer migrants leaving homeland, confronting racism in our own communities and the glittering future not yet written.

An in-person conversation with Pradeep Mahadeshwar and Taiwanese film writer Tang-mo Tan will follow the screening.

FILMS

Atmospheric Arrivals
Dir Ayo Tsalithaba / 2023 / Canada / 6 mins

Moved
Dir Sarah Griffin / 2025 / Ireland / 13 mins

Everybody's Gotta Love Sometimes
Dir. Sein Lyan Tun / France / 2023 / 15 mins

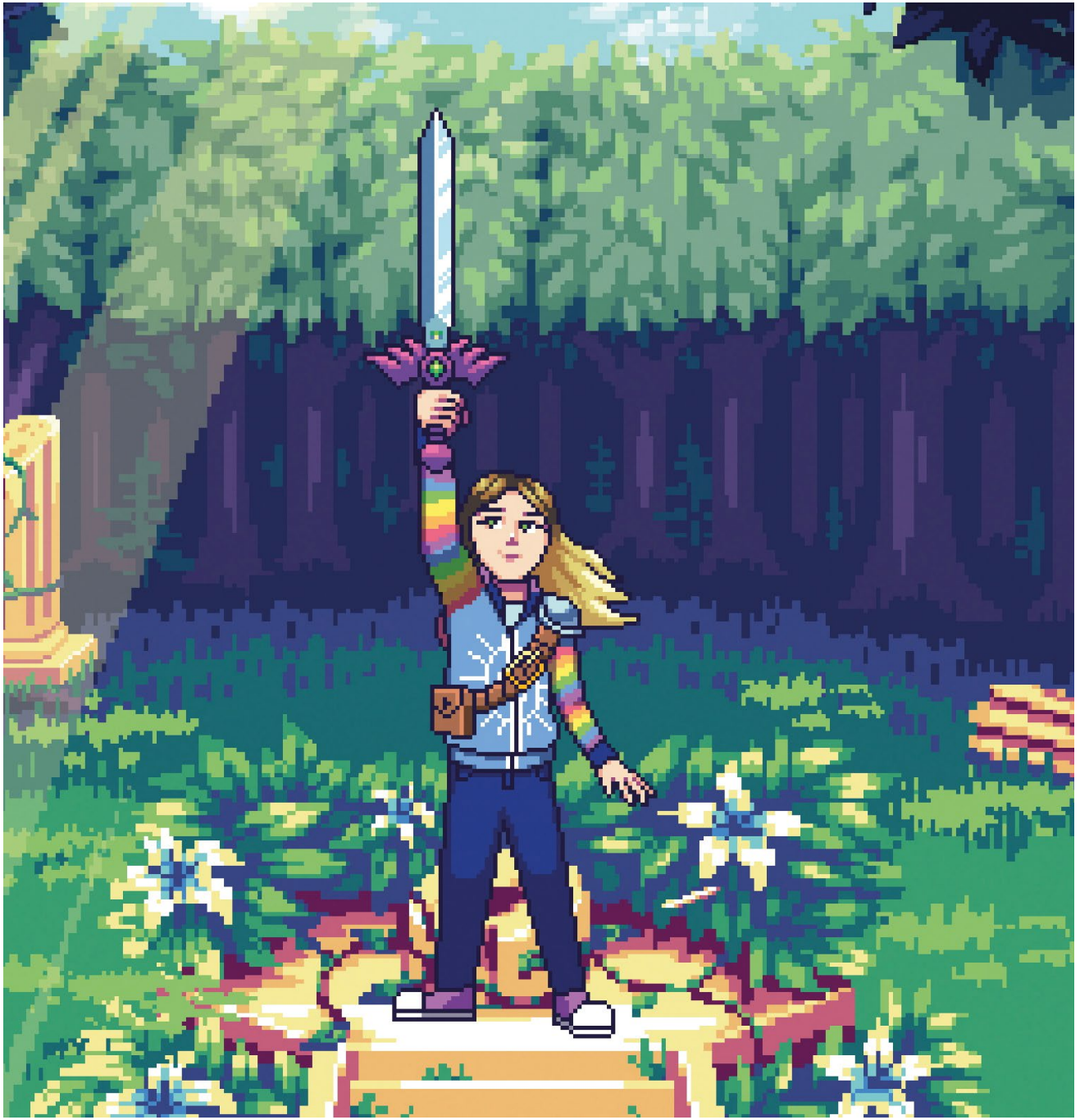
Journey
Dir Luis Noguera / Ireland / 2024 / 4 mins

We Clap for Airballs
Dir Sai Selvarajan / United States / 2023 / 12 mins

Skin to Skin Talks Gay Men of Colour and the Racial Politics of Exclusion
Dir Pradeep Mahadeshwar / Ireland / 2023 / 12 mins

Visit our website for full film details.

WHEN: Sunday 16 November **WHERE:** Ledger Studio, University of Atypical
TIME: 17:00 **DURATION:** 90 mins **TICKETS:** £8 / £5



BREAK THE GAME

Dir. Jane M. Wagner / 2023 / USA / 73 mins

What happens when your favourite streamer rewrites the rules of the game?

When world-record holding gamer Narcissa Wright comes out as a trans woman, her online community turns volatile overnight. Once celebrated for her achievements, she suddenly finds herself fighting not just for digital glory, but for reconnection and belonging.

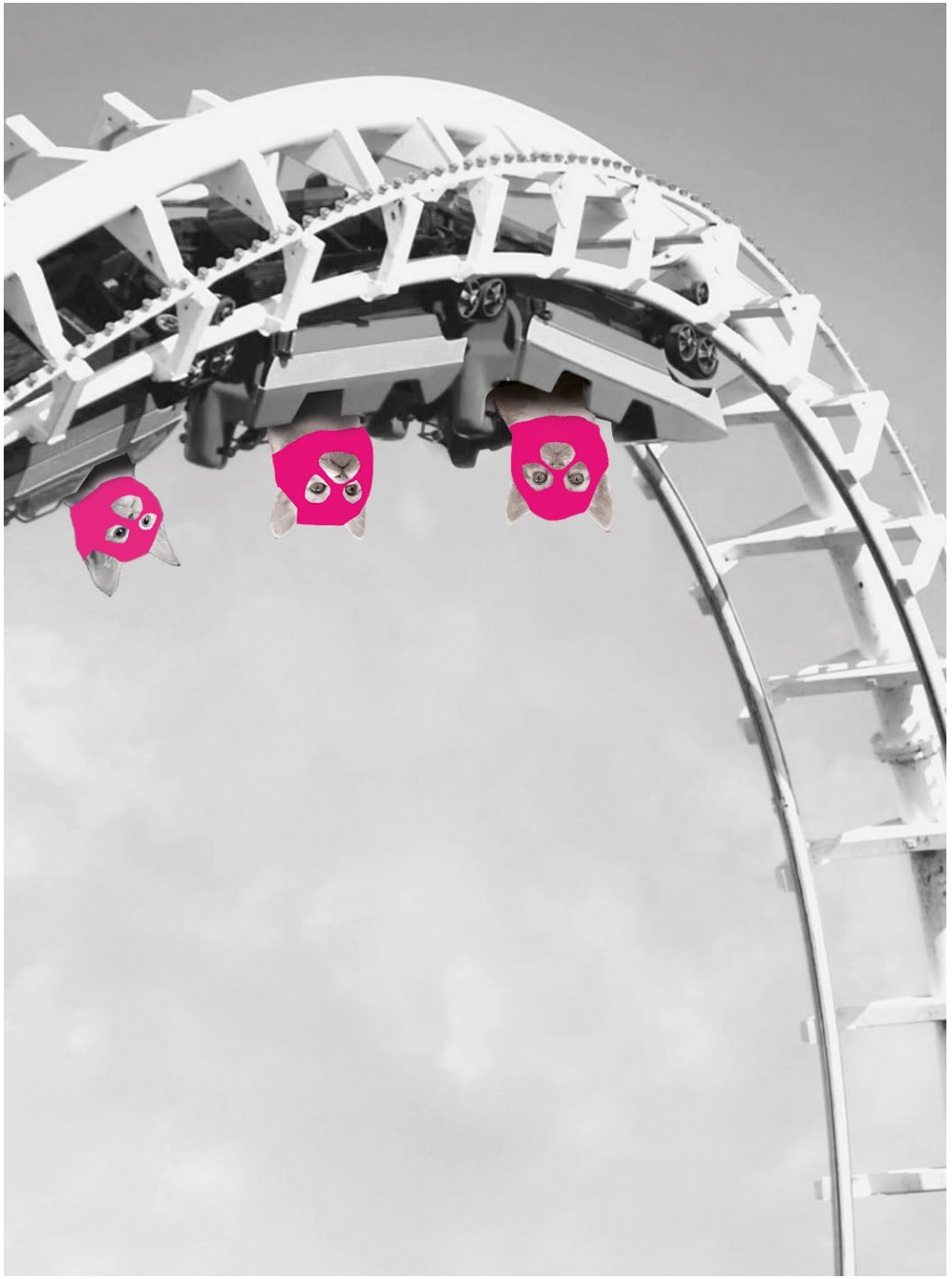
Director Jane M. Wagner crafts a deeply human portrait of resilience at the intersection of modern technology, queerness and performance, as we watch Narcissa attempt to set a new world record in *The Legend of Zelda: Breath of the Wild*, in an attempt to win back her fanbase by livestreaming every minute of her quest.

Part livestream confessional, part hero's journey, *Break the Game* asks urgent questions about identity, hyper-visibility and the costs of living authentically in a parasocially connected age. Drawing from an archive of more than 3,000 hours of Narcissa's livestreams, intimate verite and 8-bit animation, this documentary is a moving exploration of gamer culture and the toxic realities of online harassment.

Content Information: *online harassment; strong language; transphobia; discussions of mental health/ suicidal ideation.*

QFT Queen's Film Theatre

WHEN: Tuesday 18 November **WHERE:** Queen's Film Theatre (QFT)
TIME: 18:00 **DURATION:** 73 mins **TICKETS:** £9.80 / £6.50 / £6
AGE GUIDANCE: 18+



JOIN THE RIDE

making it together:
art and ideas in community



THE ROSEHIP COLLECTORS CLUB

Join artist and chef Phillip McCrilly as he introduces his 2025 residency with Outburst through a hands-on, collective celebration of foraging, memory, and queer kinship.

Inspired by the original Rosehip Collectors Clubs of the 1950s and 60s — grassroots efforts that saw communities gather to harvest rosehips for public health during times of austerity — this contemporary reimagining invites participants to pick rosehips together and co-produce a series of dishes and drinks grounded in care, resourcefulness, and shared experience.

Spaces are free but limited, and participants should be able to commit to attending a session in late October and a follow-up session during this year's festival.

For further information, dates and to register please email rosehipcollectorsclub@gmail.com by 5pm, Friday 17 October 2025.

Access & Practical Info:

This event will include outdoor foraging on uneven terrain, so may not be suitable for all. Participants will be advised to wear appropriate waterproof and warm clothing, including footwear suitable for wet or muddy ground. For further information please contact **rosehipcollectorsclub@gmail.com**



IF I DIE IT WILL BE OF JOY

Dir. Alexis Taillant / 2024 / France / 86 mins

Micheline is 81 and dreams of orgasms.

Francis is 70 and a seasoned activist.

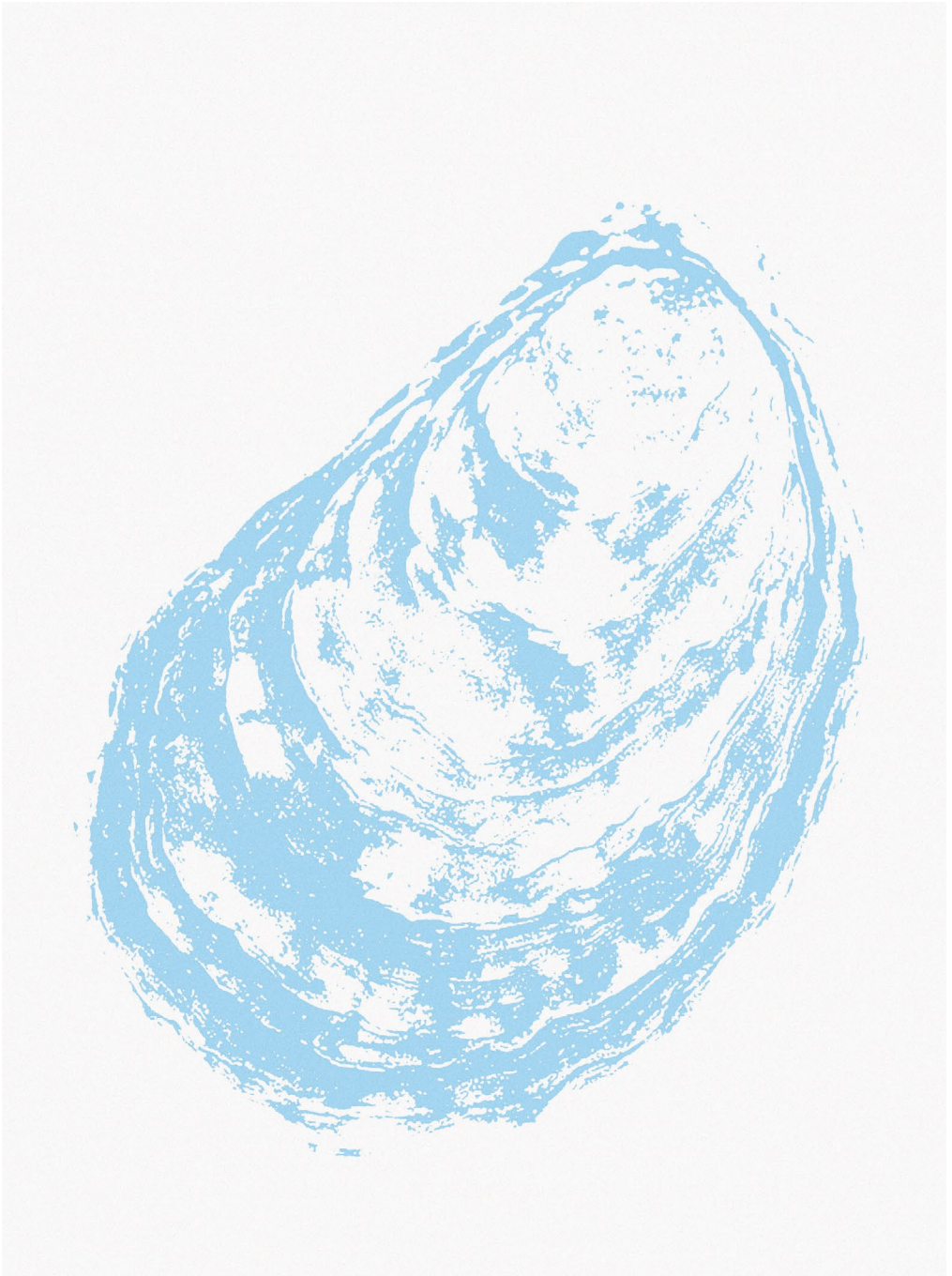
Yves is 68 and struggles with loneliness.

Members of GreyPRIDE, a French organisation targeting ageism in the queer community, they lead a bold and tender journey to reclaim desire, intimacy and self worth. Through activism, theatre, longing and laughter, *If I Die It Will Be Of Joy* reframes old age within queer life as a time rich with fierceness and love. A mediation on the often fraught relationship between sexuality and aging that is an essential intergenerational viewing for queer people.

Director Alexis Tailant gives space to these queer elders, each defying invisibility and societal expectations by asserting that aging does not mean silence, solitude or shame. Beautifully filmed and emotionally courageous, this documentary reminds us that joy is not just something youthful, it's a practice, a statement and a right.

QFT Queen's Film Theatre

WHEN: Wed 19 November **WHERE:** Queen's Film Theatre (QFT)
TIME: 18:00 **DURATION:** 90 mins **TICKETS:** £9.80 / £6.50 / £6
AGE GUIDANCE: 18+



THE TRANS* RESEARCH ASSOCIATION OF IRELAND'S SECOND ANNUAL SYMPOSIUM

Towards an Irish Trans Studies: Crossings & Thresholds; or the Formation of a Field

Friday 21 & Saturday 22 November, Queen's University Belfast

Over the past two decades, trans studies has become fertile ground for interdisciplinary work that explores the diversity of gender, sex, sexuality, embodiment, and identity.

Outburst is honoured to partner with The Trans* Research Association of Ireland (T*RAI) and the Centre for Gender in Politics at Queen's University Belfast for this groundbreaking two-day T*RAI symposium that brings together international scholars, artists and activists, with an Outburst-curated programme of trans focused arts events that weave through and around the vital talks, panels and creative presentations.

This gathering is a space for critical thought, organising, play, flirtation, collaboration, and solidarity in order to strengthen our shared critical ideas and meet difficult questions head on with compassion, generosity, and curiosity.

We ask that you join us in the formation of this field.

T*RAI symposium registration is free and available on the day, with advance registration and the full schedule of talks and panels available from mid-October via the Outburst website.

Look for the oyster symbol on event pages for T*RAI connected arts events in the festival.

Outburst events are tickets, see individual event pages for full details.

CENTRE for GENDER in POLITICS

TRANS* RESEARCH ASSOCIATION OF IRELAND



Belfast Zine Fair presents

QUEERZINE FAIR

Hold on to your gluesticks! Having hit the ground running with a thriving fair this summer, Belfast Zine Fair is BACK and bringing a Queer Special Edition to the Black Box for Outburst!

Queerzines – small photocopied or self-published booklets with a limited, self-distributed run – have been one of the most vital and unrepentant forms of grassroots queer connection and counter-cultural creativity for decades. From queer punk music to academic rants to confessional comix, zines are an uncensored, independent platform for the queer ideas and expression we all need to hear right now.

This is a mostly cash-only event, so dust off that piggy bank and join us for Queerzine shopping, swapping, and making, with queer zinesters from Belfast and beyond. Explore the stalls, radicalise your personal zine library, and most of all, support your local makers – and stop by the craft table to make your own queerzine to trade or keep.

WHEN: Saturday 15 November **WHERE:** Black Box
TIME: 11:00 – 15:30 **TICKETS:** FREE admission **AGE GUIDANCE:** All Ages

FROM THE SAME NIGHT
A zine workshop on club documentation

Zines have long been used to share ideas, document communities and circulate stories outside of mainstream channels, echoing the same spirit of resourcefulness and collaboration that has shaped Irish dancefloors.

From The Same Night is a hands-on workshop and a DIY ephemera-making toolkit, designed as part of *club [construction]*, an ongoing research project by Reuben Brown. Each toolkit comes in a stamped paper record sleeve, containing a curated selection of hand-made reproduced club-culture artefacts; flyers pulled from walls, archival photographs, floor plans, press clippings and other traces of nightlife. Participants are invited to work directly with the materials to create their own zines, engaging with the club histories and narratives embedded in the source material.

The workshop is free but with limited spaces, so booking is essential.

This is a relaxed event and participants can spend their preferred amount of time on their zine across the three hours, with a minimum of 30 mins recommended.



WHEN: Saturday 15 November **WHERE:** Black Box Green Room
TIME: 12:00 - 15:00 **TICKETS:** FREE Admission with booking
AGE GUIDANCE: 18+

HANDBOUND BOOK WORKSHOP

If you're suddenly overcome with the urge to craft while you're checking out the brilliant queer art market happening next door, join us in the Black Box Green Room for a relaxed drop-in bookbinding workshop with Ó'Reilly's Bindings.

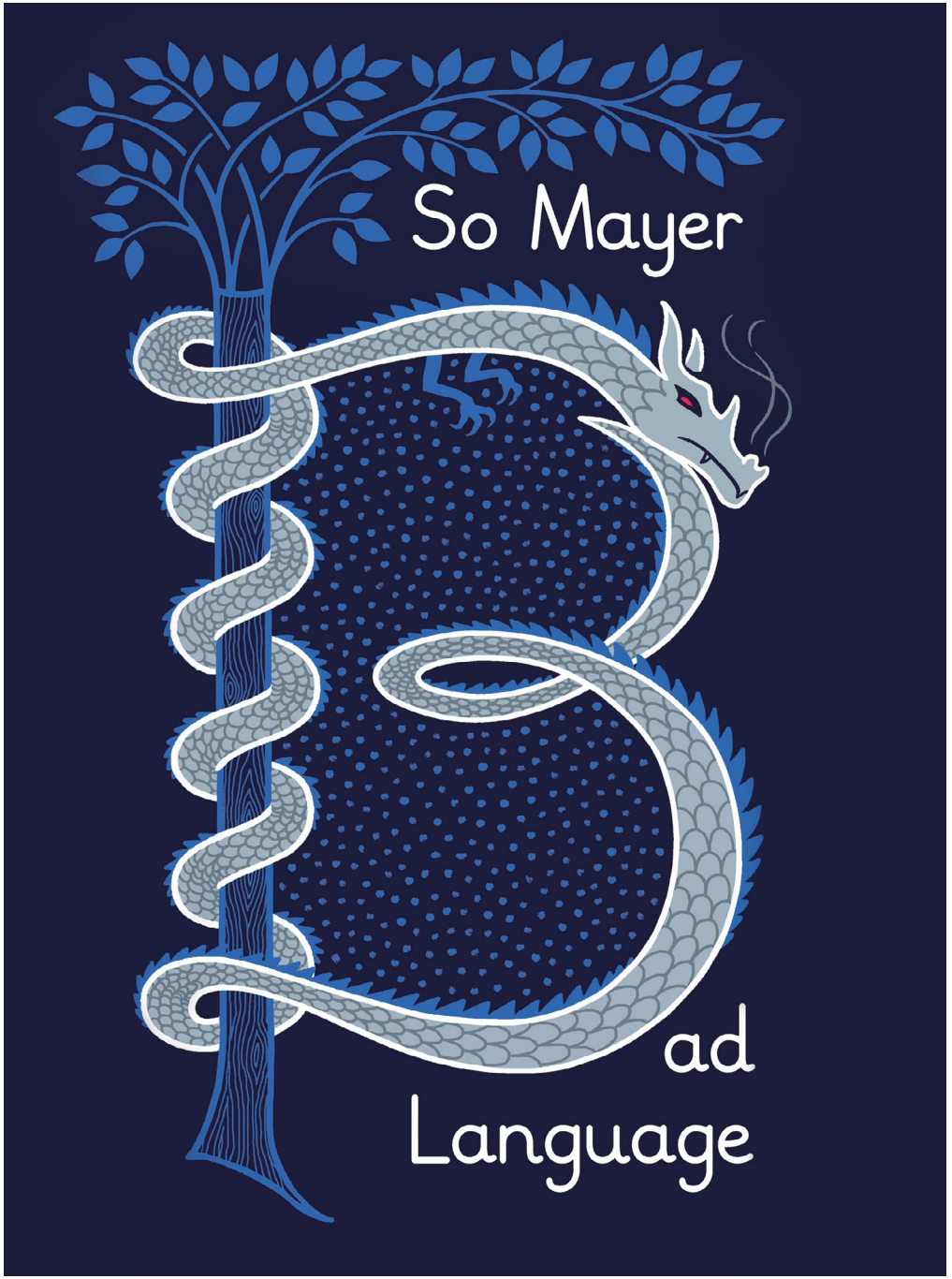
Make or decorate your own chainstitch writing or drawing book, using everything from magazine pages and product packaging to letter stamps and old maps.

And handbound books also make great personalised presents!

Some materials will be provided on the day but you're encouraged to bring your own items - anything made of paper or card - if you want to create a specific look or add images to your book cover.



WHEN: Saturday 22 November **WHERE:** Black Box Green Room
TIME: 12:00 - 14:00 drop in **TICKETS:** FREE admission
AGE GUIDANCE: All Ages



SO MAYER
BAD LANGUAGE

There is no such thing as a safe word

In *Bad Language*, So Mayer blends memoir and manifesto as they explore the politics of speech, while looking at how language has been used – and abused – in their own life. What is the relationship between language and sexual violence? And how can we 'make ourselves up' in language when words themselves are encoded by a dominant culture that insists we see ourselves as powerless listeners rather than active speakers?

Examining the semantic traps of their multi-lingual childhood – and taking in texts from the Torah to Grimms' fairy tales, from protest bust cards to the works of Ursula K. Le Guin – Mayer asks who gets to speak, and who is forced into silence. *Bad Language* calls out the harm that words can do, while searching for crafty ways through which we can collectively reclaim language for protest and pleasure.

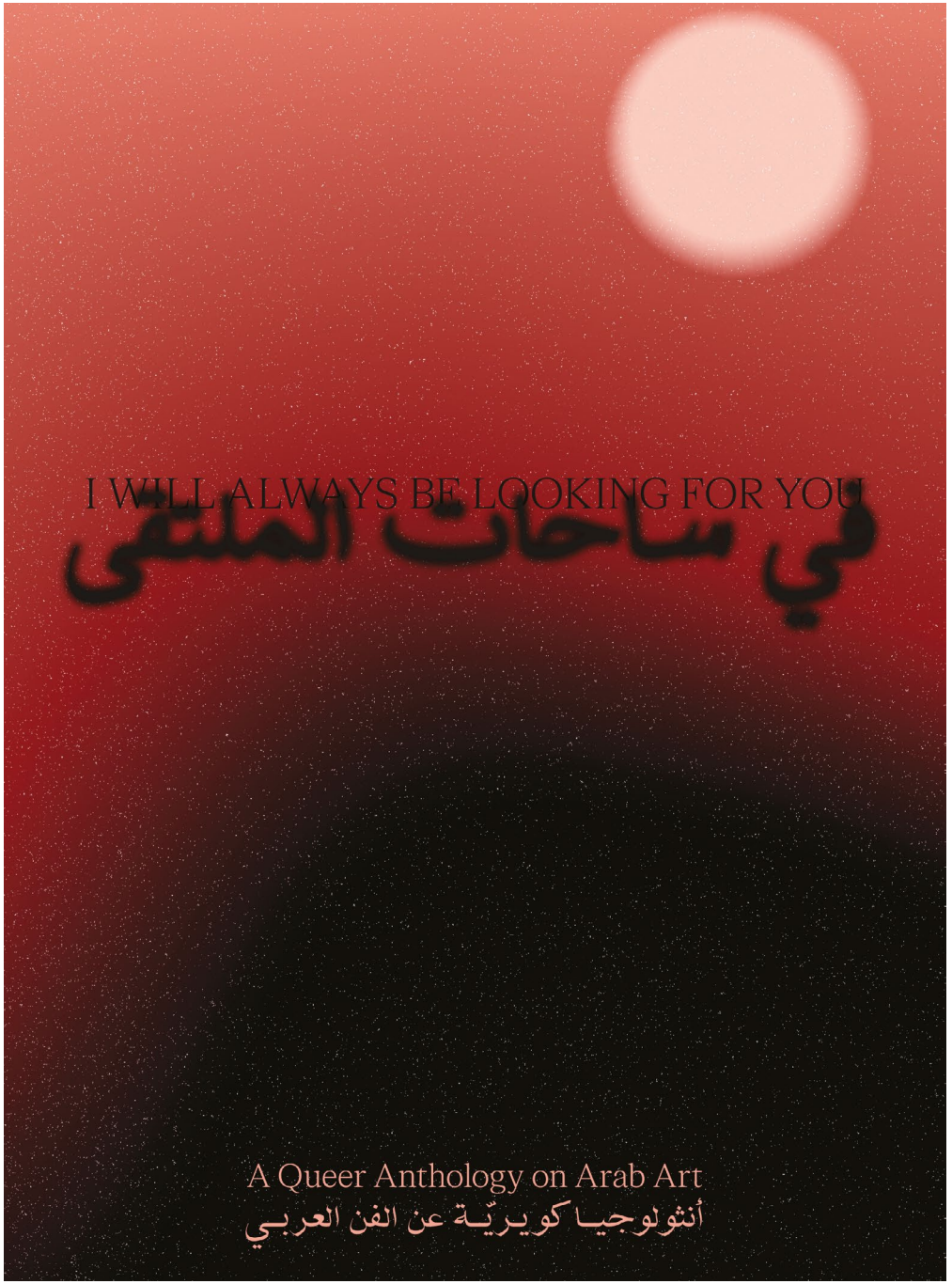
Outburst and No Alibis invite you to join So Mayer and screenwriter / director Stacey Gregg to celebrate the launch of the book and share ideas in conversation.

So Mayer is a writer, editor, bookseller and organiser. *Truth & Dare*, their first collection of speculative fiction, was longlisted for the Republic of Consciousness and Edge Hill Short Story prizes. With Sarah Shin, they co-edited Ursula K. Le Guin, *Space Crone*, winner of the 2024 Locus Award for non-fiction. *Bad Language* is their second book for Peninsula, after *A Nazi Word for a Nazi Thing*.



Mayer's writing is generous, astute and sincere... the task of 'making ourselves up' is another way of asking, what kind of world do we want to live in? – Lola Olufemi

WHEN: Tuesday 18 November **WHERE:** No Alibis **TIME:** 18:15
DURATION: 75 mins **TICKETS:** £5 **AGE GUIDANCE:** 16+



I WILL ALWAYS BE LOOKING FOR YOU

A Queer Anthology on Arab Art

Gathering the works of 31 artists from 13 Arabic-speaking countries, *I Will Always Be Looking For You: A Queer Anthology on Arab Art* is a stunning new book from Haven for Artists, a cultural feminist organisation based in Beirut, Lebanon.

With literary contributions by 24 commissioned writers from across the region and its diaspora, each in direct dialogue with the visual artwork it accompanies, the bilingual Arabic/English anthology represents the first intentional gathering of intergenerational artistic voices in one volume, expanding the definition of queerness in the Arab world – not as a fixed identity, but as a generative force, a method, a rupture, and a refusal.

Outburst is delighted to welcome co-editors Yasmine Rifaii and Nadim Choufi, with project lead Dayna Ash, to Belfast, to reflect on the five-year journey behind the anthology and on how the book was shaped as a cultural creative means of resistance to erasure.

In partnership with

BRITISH COUNCIL

WHEN: Saturday 22 November **WHERE:** Ledger Studio
TIME: 12:00 **DURATION:** 60 mins **TICKETS:** £5 **AGE GUIDANCE:** 16+



Image: Ben Lindsay

QUEER ART MARKET

Belfast's queerest independent- artist art market is back for its 5th year!

To celebrate - and because there are only so many times you can tempt fate with November weather - we're moving indoors to the Black Box, where you'll have the chance to peruse the finest queer wares Belfast has to offer.

This year's Outburst Queer Art Market showcases some of our best established and emerging queer visual artists, photographers, sculptors, knitters, printers, and crafters.

So shake the spare pennies out of those cast-off jeans, root through your car's cup

holders for stray notes, and get yourself down to the market to load up on queer treats and treasures, just in time for the h*liday seas*n! (Or to treat yourself. You deserve it, after all.)

As well as being a buyer this year, you can go DIY to make your own goodies!

Join O'Reilly Bindings in the Green Room from 12:00 - 14:00 for a drop-in workshop making chainstitch books.
(Full details on page 62)

WHEN: Saturday 22 November **WHERE:** Black Box
TIME: 11:00 - 15:00 **TICKETS:** FREE admission **AGE GUIDANCE:** All Ages

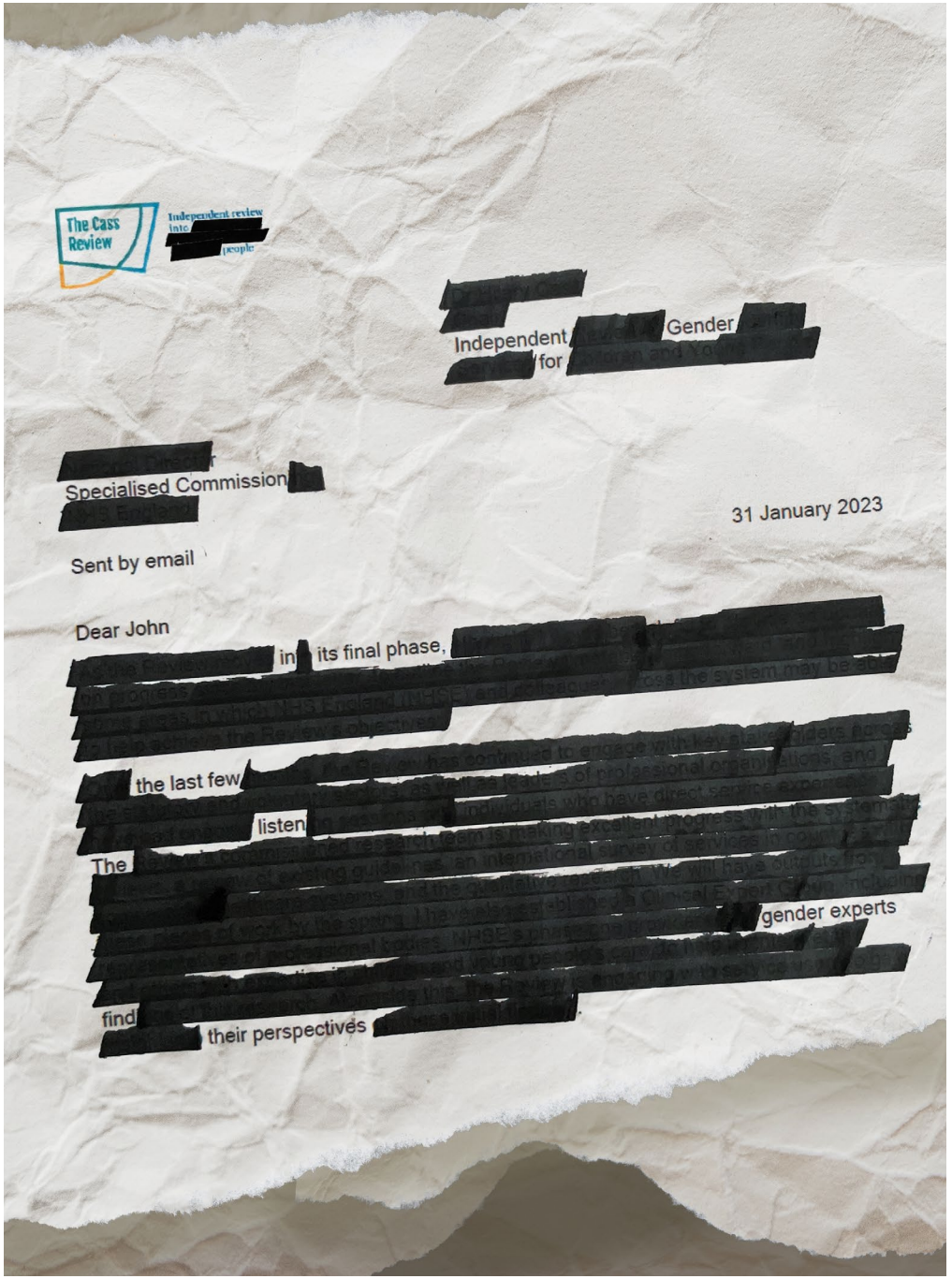


Image: Ben Lindsay

CASS-T ASIDE
THE CASS REVIEW
ERASURE POETRY WORKSHOP

The personal impacts of the 2024 Cass Review on transgender people have been immense. While many professionals, including academics and doctors, have opposed and critiqued the report findings, methodology, and biases (particularly around the politicised context for transgender healthcare), this review into gender affirming care for under-18s influenced the banning of puberty blockers by the NHS in Scotland, England and Wales and the NI Executive, leading to the commissioning of an upcoming review by Baroness Cass of Northern Ireland's only gender clinic.

Facilitated by Derry poet Alex Cregan, the *Cass-t Aside* workshop offers a creative space to process and protest the impacts of the review via Erasure poetry. Also known as Blackout poetry and with roots in political poetry and activism, Erasure poetry is made by redacting and rearranging words from a base text to make a new text.

This drop-in workshop in Paperxclips will take place across the afternoon, allowing you to spend as long as you'd like building something beautiful from the rubble. Emphasis will be given to trans voices, but anyone who feels cass-t aside by the Cass Review is welcome to come along.

Content Information: *transphobia, transmedicalism and further sensitive content is present in the base text used in this workshop.*

WHEN: Saturday 22 November **WHERE:** Paperxclips
TIME: 12:00 - 15:00 drop in **TICKETS:** FREE admission **AGE GUIDANCE:** 16+









OUTBURST X **T*RAI** X **ENGLISH PEN**
& **IRISH PEN** / **PEN NA hÉIREANN** present

THE OUTBURST BIG TALK 2025

Trans Formations: Writers on Making Art & Making Change

Chair: **Eris Young** With **Juliet Jacques, Matty Kennedy** and **Nat Raha**

Reflecting on themes from across T*RAI's symposium and Outburst programme, this year's Big Talk asks: what do writers and artists bring to the formation of the field where trans culture, trans studies and trans activism cross paths? Three writers join our panel to share what they see happening in their field of writing, publishing and the media – where there are new transformations, and where there are challenges to face. What tactics and frameworks do we have to hand? Can organisations in our field be transformed? As a community and with our allies, how do we get what we need to make art and make change right now, and – crucially – to imagine a trans future to come?

Juliet Jacques is a London based writer, filmmaker, broadcaster and academic Her books include *Trans: A Memoir* (2015), *Variations* (2021), *Front Lines: Trans Journalism 2007-2021* (2022), and a novella, *Monaco* (2023).

Dr Matty Kennedy is a writer, educator and co-chair for the Trans* Research Association of Ireland. His writing can be found in *The Bulletin of Applied Transgender Studies*, *Irish University Review*, and *Poetry Ireland*.

Nat Raha is a poet and activist-scholar. Her poetry books include *apparitions (nines)* (Nightboat Books, 2024) and she is co-author of *Trans Femme Futures: Abolitionist Ethics for Transfeminist Worlds* (Pluto Press, 2024).

Eris Young is a transgender writer of fiction and nonfiction, with books including *They/Them/Their* and *Ace Voices* (Jessica Kingsley). They are fiction editor at *Shoreline of Infinity* sci fi magazine.

Big Talk is presented in partnership with

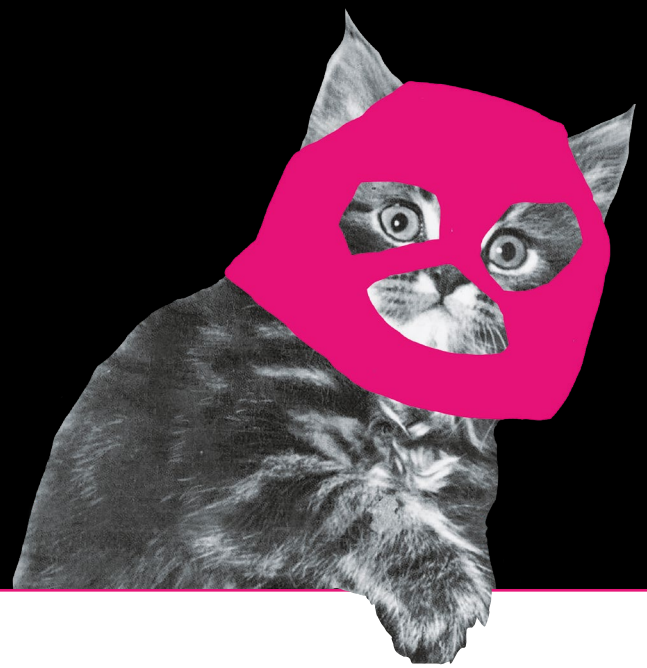
ENGLISH PEN FREEDOM TO WRITE FREEDOM TO READ

Irish PEN/PEN na hÉireann
Defending the right to responsible Freedom of Expression

WHEN: Saturday 22 November **WHERE:** Brian Friel Theatre **TIME:** 16:30
DURATION: 60 mins **TICKETS:** FREE admission with booking **AGE GUIDANCE:** 18+

EVENTS AT A GLANCE

Friday 14 Nov	Dykeland Volume II Opening Event	18:00	p40
	Dublin Jack	19:30	p12
Saturday 15 Nov	Queerzine Fair	11:00	p60
	From the Same Night Zine Workshop	12:00	p61
	It's The End of the World Panel Discussion	13:00	p46
	Desert Grassland Whiptail Lizards: Act 1	16:00	p28
	ITCH	18:15	p14
	catflap #5 Launch	20:30	p18
Sunday 16 Nov	Brewing	14:00	p20
	Queer Spectrum Film Fest Presents	17:00	p48
	ITCH	18:30	p14
	How We Get Free	19:00	p42
Monday 17 Nov	FILM: Club Des Femmes presents: Dyketactics	18:15	p32
Tuesday 18 Nov	FILM: Break the Game	18:00	p50
	So Mayer Book Launch: *Bad Language*	18:15	p64
Wednesday 19 Nov	FILM: If I Die It'll Be Of Joy	18:00	p56
Thursday 20 Nov	Irish Architecture Foundation Presents: Stories from the City, Stories from the Sea	19:00	p44
Friday 21 Nov	T*RAI Symposium **(all day event)**	09:30	p58
	People Like Us: Holly Revell	18:00	p34
	Ruff Knowledge	19:15	p30
	DYKE Systems Ltd	20:40	p16
Saturday 22 Nov	T*RAI Symposium **(all day event)**	09:30	p58
	Queer Art Market	11:00	p68
	I Will Always Be Looking For You	12:00	p66
	Cass-T Aside: Erasure Poetry	12:00	p70
	FILM: Purebred	14:15	p36
	Big Talk: Trans Writers	16:30	p72
	Lyónn Wolf: De-production	19:00	p22
	CLOSING PARTY: Under Seaveillance Queereoke	21:00	p24



...and also in OUTBURST 2025

Sarah-Joy Ford's DYKELAND Volume II

exhibition runs October 29 - November 22

See **page 40** for details and gallery opening hours

ROSEHIP COLLECTORS CLUB

with Artist in Residence **Phillip McCrilly** will take place in October and continue throughout the festival. Join us on socials for updates on his pop up food-related events in festival week.