



PRESS RELEASE

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Over ten acts in eight venues over six days: Back To Ours returns to Hull

Award-winning aerial acrobatics, stand-up comedy, poetry, interactive theatre, live music and sing along films are coming to the heart of Hull's neighbourhoods for the second in a series of ground-breaking festivals.

Hull UK City of Culture 2017 has today announced the line-up of the hotly anticipated May half term **Back To Ours** (30 May to 4 June) ahead of the tickets going on sale next Thursday (27 April).

This follows the success of sell-out shows such as *The Pigeon Detectives*, Mark Thomas and Ceri Dupree in February half term.

Once again, Kingswood Academy, North Point Shopping Centre, Winifred Holtby Academy, The Freedom Centre, Archbishop Sentamu Academy, William Gemmell Club, Hymers College and Sirius Academy West will open their doors to welcome world class performers alongside local talent.

Tipping Point, which combines circus and visual theatre, promises to be one of the highlights of the programme. Performed by the UK's leading aerial theatre company Ockham's Razor, the show draws the audience close to the action, which veers from catastrophe to mastery.

Word on the Street, which premiered at Freedom Festival last year, will feature local poets alongside the likes of *Thick Richard*, who has performed at Glastonbury Festival, and poetry slam champ *Vanessa Kissule*, whose appearances include BBC Radio 1 and 4.

The Boy Who Bit Picasso and **Yvette** are two very different theatre shows based on true stories. The former, inspired by the book with the same name, is an interactive show for children from the age of three, which tells the story of a young boy who became friends with the greatest artist who ever lived. The latter is a one-woman show for over 14s with original music about a stolen childhood and growing up with a secret.

A stand-up show for children over six, **The Funny Thing About** sees James Campbell make fun of everything from couscous to penguins. Founder of Comedy 4 Kids, author of *Boyface* and as seen on Blue Peter (CBBC), James' jokes are written and performed to get children and parents laughing out loud.

Music comes in the form of local bands **Life**, who are performing ahead of their appearances at Reading and Leeds festival, and **Black Delta Movement** and **Audio Subscene**, who recently performed at the P&O Ferries' *Made in Hull* mini cruise.

Following the feast of Roald Dahl films at February's Back To Ours, **Picture House**, will return. Sing along to Hakuna Matata and Circle of Life during **The Lion King** or You're the

One That I Want and Greased Lightning at **Grease**. Prior to the screenings, expect to meet your favourite characters, vocal warm-ups and of course a hand-jive competition. Fancy dress is encouraged.

Louise Yates, Back To Ours Artistic Director at Hull 2017, said: "The success of our first festival in February shows there is a real appetite for this kind of stuff so once again we are inviting people from all corners of the city Back To Ours.

"While it's important that the city centre has loads on offer, we are committed to ensuring that everybody has the chance to participate in the year, regardless of accessibility needs or financial circumstances. With this in mind, Back To Ours delivers an eclectic mix of low-cost, quality entertainment practically on your doorstep."

Tickets for the festival start from as little as £2.50 up to a maximum of £7.50 and will be available from www.hull2017.co.uk/back-to-ours from 10am next Thursday (27 April).

The festival is supported by Arts Council England, Hull Clinical Commissioning Group, The British Film Institute and Spirit of 2012. The programme has been developed in partnership with China Plate, Leeds International Film Festival, Film Hub North and Revolver.

Pete Massey, Director, North, Arts Council England said: "Following the success of the first festival earlier this year, I'm delighted the Arts Council is continuing to support Back To Ours. We believe that everyone should have access to great art and culture, regardless of where they live. Back To Ours is a fantastic example of this - bringing world-class entertainment at an affordable price to every corner of Hull, meaning residents from across the city can enjoy and take part in this exciting year."

ENDS

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NOTES TO EDITORS

OCKHAM'S RAZOR

TIPPING POINT

Ages 6+

£2.50 CHILD / £7.50 ADULT

You'll be amazed by this award-winning performance from Ockham's Razor, an aerial theatre company who combine circus and visual theatre to create stories based on the vulnerability, trust and reliance between people in the air.

In Tipping Point the audience are drawn close to the action as the five performers are enclosed within the circle of the stage. Together they face a series of challenges as poles are balanced on fingertips, hung from the roof, swung, lashed, climbed up and clung to, as the action veers from catastrophe to mastery.

A FIRM OF POETS, IN COLLABORATION WITH WORDLIFE AND FREEDOM FESTIVAL

WORD ON THE STREET

Ages 14+

£2.50 CHILD / £5.00 ADULT

Spoken word is poetry at its most striking, most fun and most colourful. Less scarfs and berets and more noise and belly laughs. Watch the country's best live poets tell tales.

Featuring Manchester's *Thick Richard* whose cynical, lyrical, jet-black humour has earned him support slots for Kate Tempest and BBC 6 Music. Poetry Slam champ *Vanessa Kissule* as heard on the BBC, Radio 1&4 and 'Don't Flop'.

Each show will also feature live music and support slots from local poets.

UNTIED ARTISTS

THE BOY WHO BIT PICASSO

Ages 3+

£2.50 CHILD / £5.00 ADULT

Come and play down on the farm with Tony and Picasso.

We'll have loads of fun, make crazy pictures and tell the true story of how a young boy became friends with one of the greatest artists who ever lived.

An interactive theatre show with storytelling, music and chances to make your own art, this hands-on and hilarious family show introduces one of the 20th century's most influential artists through the eyes of a young boy.

Originally co-produced with Oxford Playhouse.

Inspired by Antony Penrose's book, "The Boy Who Bit Picasso".

CHINA PLATE

YVETTE

by Urielle Klein-Mekongo

Ages 14+

£2.50 CHILD / £5.00 ADULT

Evie is thirteen and lives in North London with her Mum.

She wants to tell us about something... her crush on Lewis, trying to be a woman, friends, virginity, garage remixes, hello kitty underwear... and an 'Uncle' who lurks in the corners of her story. She wants to tell us something, but first she must face it for herself.

Based a true story, Yvette is a one woman show with original music about a stolen childhood and growing up with a secret.

Winner, Young Harts Writing Fest Audience Favourite 2017, Kings Head Theatre Stella Wilkie Award 2017, The East15 Pulse Award 2017.

Commissioned by Bernie Grant Arts Centre and supported by Hull 2017 *Back To Ours* Festival.

JAMES CAMPBELL

THE FUNNY THING ABOUT

Ages 6+

£2.50 CHILD / £5.00 ADULT

Well, we promised you belly-laughs and here it is... James Campbell's stand up for kids will knock your socks off.

Making fun of everything from your pets to your parents, you'll fall off your seat laughing.

Founder of Comedy 4 Kids, author of *Boyface* and as seen on Blue Peter (CBBC), James' jokes are written and performed to get children and parents laughing out loud.

LEEDS YOUNG FILM FESTIVAL IN ASSOCIATION WITH SNEAKY EXPERIENCE

PICTURE HOUSE

Ages 0+

£2.50 PER FILM

THE LION KING (1994, U, 88mins)

We bring one of the most beloved animated features of all time to life in this musical extravaganza.

Packed with classic songs and memorable melodies, creatures come alive in a hosted pre-show, featuring theatrics and enchanting guests, young and old.

We don't do quiet, shh cinema; instead get up and join these magical creatures and help them tell their story in this exciting musical experience. Sing loudly to Hukuna Matata and the Circle of Life; and of course tap your toes and clap your hands to I Just Can't Wait to be King.

Don't forget, dressing up is encouraged, let us hear you ROARRRRR!

GREASE SING-A-LONG (1978, PG, 110mins)

Join the kids from Rydell High for a sing-a-long screening of this, dare we say it.... 'musical masterpiece'.

Our 50s characters will sweet talk and sing their way into our audience full of groovers and pink ladies.

Prior to the film, we'll have a vocal warm up and of course, there will be a hand-jive competition too.

Our *Picture House* will be filled with more kitsch than anyone could hope for; impromptu dances and singing, gearing up to favourites such as You're the One That I Want, Look at Me, I'm Sandra Dee, We Go Together, Greased Lightning and more.

Fancy dress is encouraged, so grab your biker jackets or think pink! Altogether now... 'Those Summer Niiiiiiiiights'.

LISTINGS

www.hull2017.co.uk/backtoours

	Tues 30 May	Weds 31 May	Thurs 1 Jun	Fri 2 Jun	Sat 3 Jun	Sun 4 Jun
Hymers College	Picture House	Yvette			The Boy Who Bit Picasso	
Sirius Academy West	The Funny Thing About		Life Black Delta Movement	Band	Tipping Point	Tipping point
William Gemmell Social Club	The Secret Gig		Word on the Street			
Winifred Holtby Academy	The Funny Thing About Tipping Point	Tipping Point	Picture House			
North Point Shopping Centre		Word on the Street			Audio Subscene	
Kingswood Academy			Yvette	The Boy Who Bit Picasso		
Freedom Centre	Word on the Street			Special guests and their guitars	Picture House	The Boy Who Bit Picasso
Archbishop Sentamu Academy		The Funny Thing About		Yvette		