Sept – Dec 2019

Solstice Arts Centre
solsticeartscentre.ie
# September

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# October

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The Miami Showband Story

Are you ready to revisit 1960s Ireland in the company of the legendary Miami Showband and all their fantastic hits? Who remembers Simple Simon Says, From The Candy Store or Clap Your Hands, Stomp Your Feet? Told through the eyes of two best friends and Miami songwriters, Fran O'Toole and Des Lee, this incredible must-see new musical weaves us through the amazing roller coaster story of the iconic showband, from the joyous dancehall days of the 1960s to the tragedy in 1975.

Mary Black

Mary Black performs Solstice for the first time ever this September for one night only. Please ensure to sign up to our email newsletters or like us on Facebook, Twitter or Instagram (@solsticearts) for all the latest news and show announcements.

Culture Night 2019 – In Tandem

To celebrate Culture Night 2019 Solstice presents In Tandem, an extraordinary traditional music performance of toe-tingling dance songs that will have your feet twitching and lips humming. Veteran traditional music innovators Lorcán Mac Mathúna and Daire Bracken combine with sean nós dancers Liam Scanlon and Caolmhe Ní Mhaolagáin to create a mesmerising conversation of rhythm between voice, fiddle, and traditional dance.
**Weighing In**

*Weighing In* is a fast-paced comedy play about life, love and the modern obsession with dieting. Set in an Easi-Slim clinic, we meet the highly driven Pam and the motherly Breda - they both attend the weekly clinic for the weigh-in and strike up a rather unlikely friendship. While the voice of conscience booms from on high, the Easi-Slim instructor reigns over all. Isobel Mahon (*Glenroe, The Clinic*) and Rose Henderson (*Fair City, Father Ted*) explore how we all need to adjust the scales to find the right balance!

**Acorn Players present**

**Loophole**

On the surface it seems that miserable farmers Paidi and Cass are best friends, but time will tell. Paidi has been given just six months left to live and decides to leave the land to Cass. Paidi’s no good brother Rooster is likely to cause problems but hopefully local solicitor Miss Murphy will sort everything out, with the help of the two nosy neighbours Mairead and Molly. This hilariously funny 3 act play is written and performed by the Leitrim based Acorn Players.

**Aiken Promotions present**

**Now That’s What I Call Country – The Roadshow**

Featuring 20 songs from the hit compilation album *'Now That's What I Call Country Music'* with six-piece virtuoso country band The Wagon Wheelers, this roadshow is a journey through the last 100 years of country music where the audience get to pick the songs using a giant wagon wheel of fortune! This is a laugh-out-loud, feel-good gig which will leave audiences dancing in the aisles, shedding a tear in tender moments, and leaving with a song in their hearts.
Finghin Collins in Concert

Embarking on a major 17 venue tour to celebrate the 20th anniversary of receiving first prize in the Clara Haskil International Piano Competition in Switzerland, Irish pianist Finghin Collins will perform Mozart’s ‘Alla Turca’ sonata and Schubert’s A major Sonata D.959, as well as extracts from the Ros Tapestry Suite. Finghin is the outstanding Irish pianist of his generation enjoying a flourishing worldwide career and is a regular guest at festivals and concert seasons all year round.

The Fureys

Legends of Irish music & song The Fureys, renowned for their hit songs I Will Love You, When You Were Sweet Sixteen, The Green Fields of France, The Old Man, Red Rose Café, and many more, have been entertaining audiences worldwide for 41 years. Their impressive catalogue of much-loved songs stir many emotions - tears and laughter, sadness and joy.
Patrick Talbot Productions present

Wet Paint by Shane Casey

Written by and featuring Shane Casey of *The Young Offenders*, *Wet Paint* brings us back to 2005 - the country is booming, Jambons are priced at an all-time high, that blind opera singer is coming to Cork and tickets are impossible to find. Tony has a fresh tan from the Canaries; Pa is wondering how Liverpool will get on in the Champion’s League and Barry’s got a secret. Casey’s hilarious play depicts a day-in-the-life of two painter/decorators and their boss during the Celtic Tiger era, when anything was possible - at least inside your head.

Theatre
Saturday 12 October, 8:00pm
€20 / €18 (conc)

Fr. Eugene O'Grownwey Appreciation Night

A celebration in words, traditional music, song and dance of the spirit of Athboy-native Eoghan O'Gramhnaigh, Professor of Irish at Maynooth and a key national figure in the Gaelic revival. Performers include Ráth Chairn singer Sibéal (Ní Chasaide) and writer & Gaeilgeoir Manchán Magan and special guests.

Local Arts
Thursday 17 October, 8:00pm
€16 / €14 (conc)
Irish National Opera present

Griselda by
Antonio Vivaldi

Vivaldi is one of the world’s best-loved composers, celebrated for having written The Four Seasons. Irish National Opera’s Griselda will be the first ever production of any of his operas in Ireland.

Peter Whelan, conductor, says that Griselda is “one of Vivaldi’s greatest masterpieces: feel-good music that bursts with Italianate primary colours” and that it is also surprising for “the touching, heart-on-sleeve pathos of some of the slow arias”.

Peter will conduct the Irish Baroque Orchestra in what promises to be a riveting production of an opera that features some of the most demanding vocal music of the 18th century.
« an exciting political and romantic thriller, full of passion, longing, betrayal and deceit. »

Tom Creed, Director
Dirtbirds’ Self-Help Tour

If making the school lunches, doing the jaysus homework and dodging the guards because your NCT is out by two years is sending you over the edge, you are not alone! Come and join the Dirtbirds as they navigate the stresses and strains of modern life. This rip roaring two hours of comedy gold is a unique blend of hilarious sketch comedy and stand up.

The Bon Jovi Story

The Bon Jovi Story is a musical and theatrical extravaganza detailing the band’s history from their breakthrough album Slippery When Wet up to their present day inclusion into the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame. The story is told through a series of video montages, various costume and stage setting changes which replicate the band’s ten most notorious gigs, and of course live performances of 29 of their most iconic and poignant songs, grabbing the audience’s attention from its dramatic opening right up to the explosive finale… Slane native and Solstice regular Kevin Fagan leads this national tour.

Declan O’Rourke

Nominated for best singer, winner of the first ever award for Best Original Song at the inaugural RTÉ Folk Awards 2018 for his latest work, and fresh from re-releasing his classic debut ‘Since Kyabram’ late last year, O’Rourke is not standing still and continues to forge his unique brand of original songs, drawing on influences both rich and diverse. This artist delivers stories and music with epic performances that keep his audiences coming back year after year for more.
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Eggsistentialism

Joanne Ryan's internationally acclaimed, multi award-winning show is a funny, tender and moving exploration of reproduction in 21st Century Ireland. Looking down the barrel of her final fertile years, one modern Irish woman goes on a comical quest to uncover the ifs, hows and crucially the whys of reproducing her genes.

Mixing animation with stand-up, monologue and hilarious recorded interjections from Ryan's mother, Eggsistentialism takes a light-hearted but unflinching look at one of life's most compelling dilemmas: should making a life for oneself involve making another?

Winner of The Lustrum Award, The Melbourne Fringe Tour Ready Award, Sydney Fringe's Critics' Pick Award, Best Storytelling Bouquet at Edinburgh Festival and nominated for Best Performance at Melbourne Fringe.

Parent Friendly Performance: As part of the tour of EGGSISTENTIALISM, Joanne Ryan is offering a parent friendly performance. This is open to everyone, but especially for babes-in-arms to be brought into the auditorium by parents/carers. Solstice will also provide a designated safe area for buggies, bottle warming facilities, ticket price will include 1 seat for adult and the adjacent seat for bags & coats, and audiences can come and go during the performance.

Funded by The Strollers Network Touring Production Award. Supported by Limerick Culture and Arts Department, Limerick City and County Council.
« Close to a masterpiece; intelligent, thoughtful, wry, funny and above all loving. »

— The Sunday Independent
Dance Force Academy present

Back To The Future

Take a journey with Dance Force Academy through the years from the 1950s to the present day, enjoying all your favourite songs that bring back wonderful memories of youth, with fabulous young dancers tapping, hip hopping and jazzing their way through these magical tunes!

Class

A parent-teacher meeting goes very wrong in CLASS – an explosive triple confrontation over learning difficulties, love and entitlement. Brian and Donna’s son is nine years old, and he’s struggling. That’s what his teacher says. Says he should see a psychologist. But Brian and Donna – recently separated – never liked school, never liked teachers. So are they going to trust this one? And should they? CLASS by Iseult Golden and David Horan was the hit of the Dublin Theatre Festival 2017 and went on to play the Abbey Theatre before transferring to the Galway International Arts Festival and the Edinburgh Fringe. Funny, heartbreaking and beautifully observed with rave reviews, CLASS is new Irish writing at its finest.

This Is How We Fly with special guest Iarla Ó Lionáird

Caoimhín Ó Raghallaigh | Nic Gareiss | Seán MacErlaine | Petter Berndalen.

In the third full concert of their special residency at Solstice, contemporary folk band This Is How We Fly present a magical night of kinship and music making in which new music will unfold and new collaborations revealed. On this night, we will get to hear Petter’s new fumed oak wood drums designed by local furniture maker John Lee, commissioned by Solstice Arts Centre. We also welcome Iarla Ó Lionáird, (The Gloaming) whose voice, Time Out, New York described will astound you. It soars - and it’s as profound, simple and beautiful as wild horses...
Dinner Theatre
Friday 22 & 29 November, 7:30pm
Conyngham Arms Hotel, Slane

Sunday 24 November &
1 December, 7:30pm –
The Knightsbrook, Trim
€50 (Includes 3-course meal)

Faulty Towers
The Dining Experience
Chaos greets audiences as soon as they walk through the door! In this fully immersive experience the audience become diners in the infamous ‘Faulty’ restaurant and are served a 3-course meal by Basil, Sybil and Manuel. This globetrotting show is truly legendary, selling out in places like the Edinburgh Fringe and Sydney Opera House, so be warned: early booking is essential!

ABBA Forever
It’s always party time when ABBA are about, but when it’s the Christmas Show, then that’s a real excuse for a party! This happy sing-along extravaganza celebrates with a loud and proud fanfare and stunning audio visuals of seminal ABBA moments. Join the biggest party in town with dazzling performances of ABBA’s most iconic hits, including Waterloo, Dancing Queen, Mamma Mia, S.O.S, Money Money Money, The Winner Takes It All, Gimme Gimme Gimme and many more!

Music
Saturday 23 November, 8:00pm
€22 / €20 (conc)
Local Arts
Wednesday 27 – Saturday 30 November, 8:00pm
€18 (€15 on Wed 27 Nov only)

Navan Theatre Group present

The Chastitute
by John B. Keane

In a world before Tinder, John Bosco McLaine is a bachelor farmer in search of love! Will he succeed when he has to contend with the intervention of the local matchmaker, lothario, parish priest, and even his aunt? Navan Theatre Group is proud to bring John B Keane’s great play to Solstice almost forty years after its first production. It remains as relevant as ever and is funny, sad and thoughtful in equal measure. *The Chastitute* is directed by Séamus McMenamin.

Eimear Quinn

Following consistent sell-out shows year after year, Solstice favourite Eimear Quinn is back for her annual Winter concert. Featuring the Mamisa String Quartet and Robbie Overson on guitar, the concert will include seasonal favourites and new material from Eimear’s latest release. Uplifting and spiritual, this music is a balm for the soul to keep you calm through the Christmas season.

Music
Sunday 1 December,
8:00pm €20 / €18 (conc)

Navan School of Ballet present

Cinderella

Navan School of Ballet proudly present a spellbinding performance of the magical classic *Cinderella*. Join Cinderella as she escapes her evil stepmother and ugly stepsisters to become the princess that she was born to be. Experience the excitement of pumpkin carriages, magical mice and glass slippers in an enchanted world of fun and happily ever afters!

Local Arts
Saturday 7 December,
6:30pm & Sunday 8 December, 2:30pm
€16 / €14 (conc) / €55 (Family of 4)
Ballet Ireland present
Swan Lake

Swan Lake, one of the great love stories of classical ballet, combines romantic themes, classical technique and ethereal imagery with Tchaikovsky’s majestic score, to ensure this masterpiece’s immortality. Swan Lake tells the story of Odette, a beautiful princess who turns into a swan by day only to regain her human form at night by the magic of evil sorcerer Von Rothbart. Out hunting by the lakeside, Prince Siegfried encounters her and falls madly in love. But will he be able to break Von Rothbart’s spell...?

The Lost Brothers

Oisin Leech and Mark McCausland, two established songwriters and artists in their own right, together make The Lost Brothers. Twelve years on the road and several acclaimed albums into their career they have become one of Ireland’s very finest bands. Extensive touring has seen them sell out theatres both at home, in the US and Australia. Shortlisted for Best Band and Best Album at the RTE Radio 1 Folk Awards, they’ve crafted a live show that is not to be missed. Their annual Winter homecoming concerts at Solstice have become a highlight of the musical calendar. With a new album forthcoming and very special guests always a feature, these festive shows are not to be missed. Early booking is advised as these events sell out each year.

eCOMM Community Gala

Solstice presents an evening of festive cheer as we celebrate the season with some of the most regular users of our centre. These groups are the lifeblood of Solstice. Many children and young people attend classes here every week including drama, dance, art and music. We are delighted to invite these fantastic groups to showcase some of their creative output from 2019. Joining in the celebrations will be some surprise special guests on the evening.
Papi Chulo

After a newly-single TV weatherman (Matt Bomer) is put on leave following an on-air meltdown, he directs his energy into home improvement and hires a middle-aged Latino day labourer named Ernesto (Alejandro Patiño) to help. Despite a language barrier and having nothing in common, the two men develop an unexpected but profound friendship in this darkly comedic reflection on class, ethnicity, and companionship in contemporary Los Angeles.

“Papi Chulo sneaks up on you and seals the deal: It’s not going where you might expect, or even want, it to go, but you will believe it when it gets there.” - Variety

Gloria Bell

Gloria (Julianne Moore) is a free-spirited divorcée who spends her days at a straight-laced office job and her nights on the dance floor, joyfully letting loose at clubs around Los Angeles. After meeting Arnold (John Turturro) on a night out, she finds herself thrust into an unexpected new romance, filled with both the joys of budding love and the complications of dating, identity, and family. Gloria Bell is a sophisticated romantic comedy that shows love can strike at any time, relationships are never simple, and nothing can get you down as long as you keep dancing.

“Moore’s performance means that we are with Gloria every step of the way, sharing in the little victories and the jolting setbacks. Her hard won belief in herself and undimmed appetite for life make for a joyous finale that is impossible to resist.” - Screen International
Blinded by the Light

1987. When music fanatic Javed discovers the illustrious back catalogue of The Boss, his world is turned upside down; already a creative soul, his passion for music and writing is set alight by the songs of the working-class poet, whose lyrics feel all too familiar to the aspirational teenager. Yearning to escape his rundown hometown and the rules of his traditional Pakistani household, Javed finds himself caught in between two worlds and must discover if he too is Born to Run...

“The feel-good movie of the year” – New York Post

Float Like a Butterfly

Frances is a young Traveller who idolises Muhammad Ali in 1960s rural Ireland. Her life is turned upside down when her father, recently released from prison, decides to take his family on the road again. Amidst this upheaval, Frances must fight against patriarchal traditional values whilst also protecting her family. Warm and celebratory, Carmel Winters has crafted a crowd-pleasing delight.

“Float Like A Butterfly shows the multiple, interconnecting ways that bigotry can box people in, leaving them no choice but to fight their way out” – Hotpress
Transit

As fascism spreads, German refugee Georg flees to Marseille and assumes the identity of the dead writer whose transit papers he is carrying. Living among refugees from around the world, Georg falls for a mysterious woman searching for her husband - the man whose identity he has stolen. Adapted from Anna Seghers’s 1942 novel, Transit transposes the original story to the present, blurring periods to create a timeless exploration of the plight of displaced people.

“An existential thriller about loss, trauma, statelessness and historical amnesia... By turns intimate and expansive, Transit is a thrilling, at times harrowing labyrinth of a movie.” – The New York Times

Wednesday 6 November, 7:30pm
German / French | Germany / France | 102 mins | Cert: 12A |
Dir: Gurinder Chadha (2019)

Once Upon a Time in Hollywood

Quentin Tarantino’s Once Upon a Time... in Hollywood visits 1969 Los Angeles where everything is changing as TV star Rick Dalton (Leonardo DiCaprio) and his longtime stunt double Cliff Booth (Brad Pitt) make their way around an industry they hardly recognize anymore. The ninth film from the writer-director features a large ensemble cast and multiple storylines in a tribute to the final moments of Hollywood’s golden age.

“The film's ultra-sixties soundtrack sets the tone” – Cannes Film Festival 2019

Wednesday 20 November, 7:30pm
English | UK/USA
165 mins | Cert: 18
Dir: Quentin Tarantino (2019)
Downton Abbey

You are cordially invited to return to Downton Abbey, the television series that followed the lives of the Crawley family and the servants who worked for them at the turn of the 20th century in an Edwardian English country house. Over 6 seasons the series garnered 3 Golden Globe Awards, 15 Primetime Emmy Awards and 69 Emmy nominations in total, making Downton Abbey the most nominated non-US television show in the history of the Emmys.

Monday 9 December, 7:30pm
English | UK | 122 mins
Cert: TBC
Dir: Michael Engler

Solstice Café
Breakfast, lunch, coffee & cakes. All food prepared on site daily. Children's menu and play table. Vegetarian, vegan and gluten free options
Open Monday-Saturday, 9:00am-4:00pm
046 909 2312
info@solsticeartscentre.ie
Apollo 11

Crafted from a newly discovered trove of 70mm footage and more than 11,000 hours of uncatalogued audio recordings, Apollo 11 takes us straight to the heart of NASA’s most celebrated mission—the one that first put men on the moon, and forever made Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin into household names. Immersed in the perspectives of the astronauts, the team in Mission Control, and the millions of spectators on the ground, we vividly experience those momentous days and hours in 1969 when humankind took a giant leap into the future.

The most perfect movie that will ever be made about its subject" - The Guardian

The Man Who Wanted to Fly

Bobby Coote left school at 13 and says his reading and writing isn't great. He fixes clocks and spends a lot of time in his back shed making violins from old furniture, but he's never lost sight of a lifelong dream to fly. His neighbour Sean has also caught the bug. Setting aside their own field of dreams they have cut out a runway and even built a hangar in a small rural border community. And now Bobby has used all his savings to buy a plane! He'll get no encouragement from his brother Ernie. Ernie thinks the whole thing is mad, but Bobby says he'll make this happen ... even if it's the last thing he does.

"A joyful five stars for a life-affirming, jubilant fantasy come true" – Evening Echo

Thursday 3 October, 7:30pm
English | Ireland | 86 mins
Cert: 12A | Dir: Frank Shouldice
(2018)
Pavarotti

From the filmmaking team behind the highly-acclaimed documentary The Beatles: Eight Days A Week, Pavarotti is a riveting film that lifts the curtain on the icon who brought opera to the people. Academy Award winner Ron Howard puts audiences front row centre for an exploration of The Voice...The Man...The Legend. Luciano Pavarotti gave his life to the music and a voice to the world. This cinematic event features history-making performances and intimate interviews, including never-before-seen footage. Pavarotti will include the latest Dolby Atmos audio technology, allowing theatrical audiences to experience the late Pavarotti’s extraordinary voice once more in a unique and spine-tingling way.

“Magnificent. High on emotion and filled with glorious music.” – Deadline.

Friday 4 October, 7:30pm
English | USA | 116 mins move
Cert: 12A | Dir: Ron Howard (2019)

Navan Rotary Club Fundraising Cinema Night

On the Basis of Sex

The Rotary Club of Navan hold their 30th Anniversary fundraising cinema night, this year in aid of Navan Meals on Wheels, and very much look forward to seeing you there. The evening includes a pre-screening reception to meet old and new friends and enjoy prosecco, wine and finger food before the film commences.

On the Basis of Sex tells the inspiring and spirited true story of young lawyer Ruth Bader Ginsburg as she teams with her husband Marty to bring a groundbreaking case before the U.S. Court of Appeals and overturn a century of gender discrimination.

“brisk and ambitious biopic... On the Basis of Sex is unlucky not to have earned a few Oscar nominations” – Irish Independent

Thursday 21 November,
Doors 7:30pm, screening 8:30pm | Tickets: €25
English | USA | 120 mins move
Cert: 12A | Dir: Mimi Leder (2018)
Family Workshop
(Suitable for 6 - 10 years)
Fridays from 13 September, 3.30pm
(no class on Friday 11 October)
Fridays from 1 November, 3.30pm
€60 for 6 weeks

Children’s 6-Week Craft Classes

Our children’s craft classes continue with prop maker, crafter and artist Trisha from Creative Genle. Children will learn a broad range of creative skills, producing artwork from seasonal to general crafts over a 6-week period. Places are limited to ensure maximum attention; all materials will be supplied. Under 6’s can attend with a guardian to help.

Claymation - Creating Characters, Telling Stories

Amazing animation company Paper Panther lead an experience in animation production that includes brainstorming, storyboarding, character and background design, and animating under the camera. Participants will create their own short film which will be edited by the team and available to view online. This workshop explores the themes and mediums within our gallery exhibition Dissolving by the Worm Moon and encourages children to develop skills in design, modelling and story-telling.

Children’s Workshop
(Suitable for 9 – 12 years)
Saturday 28 September, 1:00pm – 4:30pm
€25
Primary School Workshop  
(Suitable for 4th – 6th class)  
Thursday 3 October,  
10:00am & 12:15pm  
€3 per student

Character Concepts – Sculpture Workshop

Artist Bassam Al-Sabah will guide students through his exhibition *Dissolving by the Worm Moon* and facilitate a 3D workshop using plasticine, clay, and wire to create small movable figures based on the ideas in his show. Students will draw their designs and mould colourful materials to create characters that embody ideas, feelings, and tell stories. This workshop is curriculum linked and engages skills in drawing, construction, and model making. Duration 90 mins.

Material Memories

During this practical 3D workshop, students will explore the themes and ideas in Bassam Al-Sabah’s exhibition *Dissolving by the Worm Moon*, including how our memories are formed, childhood, and domesticity. Following a ‘Visual Thinking Strategies’ tour of the exhibition, students will engage in hand building clay techniques to question these ideas through making. This workshop is curriculum linked and promotes skills in clay, sculpture, and design and is facilitated by artist and educator Jane Fogarty. Duration 120 mins.

Secondary School Workshop  
(Suitable for 1st – 6th year)  
Wednesday 9 October,  
9:30am & 12:00pm  
€3 per student
Family Workshop  
(Suitable for 6 - 10 years)  
Saturdays 19 & 26 October,  
2:00pm – 4:00pm  
€45

Freaky Fashion – Halloween Costume Workshop

Make a Halloween costume with a difference! Craftswoman and prop maker Trisha of Creative Genie leads a fun workshop on how to design and make your very own unique costume that will definitely stand out from the crowd. Please contact Trisha in advance of this course with basic information regarding choice of costume so she can source relevant materials. Emails should be sent to Trisha on asktrisha@creativegenie.ie by 5 October. One booking includes workshops over two weekends.

The Dig

All his life Mac has wanted to be an Archaeologist, to be an expert in finding things and working out what they mean. If only he could stick to the facts and not get carried away with his highfalutin’ stories. But in a world where facts and figures mean so much more than fairy tale and fantasy, Mac has to dig deeper to prove what he finds is what he thinks it is. THE DIG from performer and writer Paul Curley spins a classic yarn into a brand new light that will delight and charm audiences young and old. Duration 45 mins.

Supported by The Arts Council Theatre Touring Award, Irish Theatre Institute and Roscommon Arts Centre.

Creepy Crafts Halloween Camp

Join Trisha from Creative Genie to create some spooky crafts to add that scare factor to your Halloween displays. Learn lots of new skills over three days of crafting fun, painting, sculpting, weaving and more. Places are limited to ensure maximum attention; all materials will be supplied. Old clothes and a small snack are advisable. Under 6’s can attend with a guardian to help.
School Theatre
(Suitable for 4yrs +)
Thursday 14 November
10:00am & 11:45am
€6 (Teachers go free)

Barnstorm Theatre Company present
The Bockety World of Henry and Bucket

This delightful play looks at friendship through a day in the life of two friends who live in a bockety world of discarded objects. How do friends reconcile when they’ve had their battles, got on each other’s nerves, and even stooped to telling lies? Through Henry and Bucket’s relationship we can examine what friendship is, what happens if it goes wrong, and how you fix it. Written and directed by Sarah Argent, in collaboration with Barnstorm, The Bockety World of Henry & Bucket is humorous and rich in visual antics. Duration 45 mins.

Festive Fun – Children’s Craft Workshop

Handmade Christmas gifts and cards are always the most precious! This special one-hour crafting session allows children to create unique gifts and cards for their loved ones. Craftswoman and prop maker Trisha from Creative Genie will teach the children how to turn materials into precious gifts and make beautifully personalised cards. Places are limited to ensure maximum attention; all materials will be supplied. Old clothes and a small snack are advisable. Under 6’s can attend with a guardian to help.

Family Workshop
(Age 6 – 10 years)
Saturdays 23 & 30 November, 2:00pm – 3:00pm, €15

Baby’s First Xmas

Baby’s First Xmas is a gentle magical wonderland of gorgeous harmony singing, little lights and enticing textures. Created for babies under one-year-old by Anna Newell and David Goodall, whose work for Early Years audiences has been seen on five continents, this Christmas show promises to delight and entrance the very tiniest of audience members. Each baby can bring one adult guest with them and, to make this a very special experience, audience capacity is very limited so please book early to avoid disappointment.

Early Years Theatre (Age 0 – 12 months)
Wednesday 27 November,
10:00am, 11:00am & 12:00pm
€10 for adult & baby.
One adult per baby only
Eastwick Productions present

Merry Christmas 2019

Eastwick Productions present a festive collection of your favourite Christmas carols and songs, performed by leading school choirs from around the county. Performance dates of participant schools & classes will be available on solsticeartscentre.ie closer to the event.

Lyngo Theatre present

Heart of Winter

Christmas is coming and Sally can't sleep - it's too hot! The weather has gone topsy-turvy. No-one can remember the last time it snowed, or even rained, and her father can't sell any of his umbrellas. Will a snowy bedtime story from Dad help? That night Sally has a dream that changes everything - a mysterious silver spark turns her bedroom into a glistening white field where she meets the glowing Heart of Winter. In this new musical show Lyngo warmly celebrates family, friendship and the good fortune of finding the winter we really need and want...with the precious festive offering of lots of fluffy snow!! Duration 60 mins.
St. Mary’s Musical Society present

Aladdin – The Panto

Follow the antics of Aladdin as he makes his journey from the ‘diamond in the rough’ to the prince he longs to be in this hilarious new pantomime from St. Mary’s Musical Society. Including all the well-known characters we’ve grown to love: the beautiful princess Jasmine, her lovable father The Emperor, the evil Jafar and his co-conspirator Ping Pong, the Genie of the lamp and the lesser known Genie of the ring, the hilarious Widow Twanky, as well as the local constable Willy Wee Wee. There may even be a ghost lurking around here and there! Who will win when evil struggles for power and good fights for what they believe in? Love, laughter and plenty of silliness in a show not to be missed!

Local Arts
€17 / €60
(Family of 4)

December
Thursday 19 & Friday 20, 7:30pm
Saturday 21, 2:30pm & 7:30pm
Sunday 22, 2:30pm & 6:30pm

January
Thursday 2 & Friday 3, 7:30pm
Saturday 4, 2:30pm & 7:30pm
Sunday 5, 2:30pm
Dissolving by the Worm Moon
Bassam Al-Sabah

Bassam Al-Sabah’s exhibition *Dissolving by the Worm Moon* will present new and existing works that convey visions of war, resistance, and perseverance. Using video, painting, and sculpture, Al-Sabah’s installations are concerned with how the past is constantly reviewed to meet the present. Examining the agendas and effects of children’s broadcasting in Iraq between 1970 to the present day, scenes of war and destruction are shown in parallel with fantasy and reality, the hero and the everyday, the make-believe and fact. As the juvenile fantasy breaks down into the veracity of adulthood, the links between violence, representation, and preservation are deconstructed.

Bassam Al-Sabah is a recent graduate from IADT’s BA Visual Art Practice in 2016 and was awarded the RHA Graduate Studio Award (2016–2017) and the Temple Bar Gallery + Studios Graduate Residency Award (2018–2019). Recent exhibitions include *A Fiction Close to Reality* (IMMA), *Futures - Series 3 Episode 2* (RHA) and *Syntonic State: TULCA 2018*. Solo exhibitions of his work have been held at Eight (2017) and Dublin City Council’s The LAB (2018).

**Curator’s Talk**
Saturday 31 August, 2:30pm
Admission free, no booking required.

To mark the opening of the exhibition, join Bassam for an informal chat to discuss the ideas behind his work.
Solstice Arts Centre invites artists living in or from County Meath to submit works of all disciplines for inclusion in our eighth SURVEYOR open exhibition. SURVEYOR serves to support, value and encourage Meath artists in the development of their practices and creative careers. The exhibition presents an overview of contemporary visual arts practice throughout the county.

This year will also see the continuation of the Solstice Visual Arts Award, with a new increased value of €2,000. This will be awarded to a work of distinction in any medium.

Submission deadline Friday 4 October – download an application form at www.solsticeartscentre.ie or collect from Box Office.

Exhibition opening and announcement of winner
Saturday 9 November, 2.30pm
Admission free, no booking required.
**Learning & Participation**

**Silver Swans Over 55s Ballet**

Silver Swans classes have been specifically designed for the over 55s. Whether you’ve never danced before or want to get back into the swing of it, Silver Swans classes have something for everyone. Classes are taught by RAD and Silver Swans licensed teacher Caroline Kennedy.

**Artist Talk with Bassam Al-Sabah**

Join Bassam Al-Sabah for an in depth exploration into his artwork and solo show *Dissolving by the Worm Moon* at Solstice. This one-off event provides an insight into the ideas and processes behind Bassam’s work and is an opportunity for audiences to meet the artist and understand the artworks further.

**Harvest Market**

SATURDAYS 10am-3pm

Solstice Arts Centre

LoveNavan.ie
All Wrapped Up – Adult Craft Workshop

Add that WOW factor to your Christmas gifts by learning how to make your wrapping look simply stunning, create proper bows and trimmings, and learn how to make beautiful gift tags and cards to make your Christmas messages extra special. Why not get a group of friends together to have a Christmas night out with a difference, relax over a glass or two of wine, enjoy some tasty festive treats and get crafty with Trisha from Creative Genie!

Friday 22 November, 7:30pm – 9:30pm
€25

Designing Decorations – Adult Craft Workshop

Organise a crafty Christmas party night with Trisha from Creative Genie to celebrate the season with a glass or two of vino and some tasty festive treats while you craft your very own Christmas decorations. Learn how to make baubles, paper wreaths and tree ornaments to give your Christmas tree that personal touch!

Monday 9 December
7:30pm – 9:30pm
€25
Regular Classes & Activities

Children’s Speech & Drama with Penelope Moorhead

Penelope Moorhead is an experienced speech, drama and communication teacher whose classes offer an encouraging, fun and inclusive approach to speech & drama. Suitable for Junior Infants to 6th class.

Mondays 3:00pm – 5:30pm
Bookings: 087 289 9404

Act Out - Youth Theatre @ Solstice

ACT OUT is Meath’s premiere youth theatre company established in partnership with Solstice under the Artistic Direction of Anthony Kinahan. It is a forum for young people of secondary school age in Meath to learn more about theatre and performance through fun and engaging workshops. ACT OUT is a not-for-profit organisation supported by Meath Arts Office and affiliated with Youth Theatre Ireland.

Tuesdays 6:00pm – 9:00pm
Enquiries: 083 065 1635
ActOutMeath@gmail.com

Lámha Beag Parent & Toddler Group

A friendly and supportive parent & toddler group suitable for ages 0 - 4 years. €4 First Child, €2 Siblings

Tuesdays 10:00am –12:00pm
Enquiries: 086 849 5302

Children’s Musical Theatre Classes

Caithriona Mongey and Aisling Rountree lead professional coaching in singing, dancing and acting for stage. Participants work on performance technique and develop understanding of the varied aspects of musical theatre to help develop confidence and creativity in a fun environment. Classes are split into age appropriate groups from 5 – 18 years.

Tuesdays 3:30pm – 6:30pm
Bookings: 087 965 8850 / cmcmongey@gmail.com

Ballet Classes with Butterfly Ballet School

Classical ballet classes for children age 4+ covering the internationally recognised Royal Academy of Dance (RAD) syllabus with teacher Caroline Kennedy. Children prepare for RAD examinations and take part in local events and performances.

Wednesdays 2:45pm – 4:15pm,
Saturdays 10:00am – 12:00pm
Bookings: 086 807 0691
Tickets
Tickets can be purchased in person, over the phone or online at solsticeartscentre.ie. Call our box office on 046 909 2300 or send an email to info@solsticeartscentre.ie.

Box Office Opening Hours: 11:00am – 4:00pm, Monday to Saturday and 1 hour before performances.

All card transactions are subject to a €1 fee (for in person and phone booking). All online bookings are subject to a €1 booking fee per ticket. Concessions are often available for seniors, students & children. Please visit our website for further details.

Access
The Solstice box office/café/bar is fully accessible with 6 wheelchair spaces in row X of the auditorium which is fully accessible from the foyer, and has an accessible lift to specially adapted toilet facilities. Please contact the box office with your specific requirements.

There is an Induction Loop system in place for hearing aid users. To use, please turn your device to the ‘T’ setting. Guide Dogs are welcome at Solstice. Please let the Box Office know when booking your ticket so that we can arrange an aisle seat.

Where to Find Us
Parking is available at the Fairgreen Car Park off Circular Road or in the old County Council / new LMETB grounds, Railway street, Please note that you may be required to pay for parking.

PARKING IS PROHIBITED IN THE RESIDENTIAL AREA OF ST FINIAN’S TERRACE BESIDE THE CENTRE. PLEASE NOTE THAT GARDAÍ WILL BE ADVISED OF ILLEGALLY PARKED CARS.

Stay In Touch
For all the latest news, updates and new event announcements, sign up to our email list and follow us on social media at:
@solsticearts

Contact Us
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Registered in Ireland No. 387393
Charity No. CHY 97588

Supported by