

News and Events

Welcome to the The HopBarn's newsletter, which provides information and insights into The HopBarn, as well as offering further notification of up coming events and performances.

We hope that such information proves to be useful and informative to our readers, but if you would like to offer feedback and suggestions as to what to include or what to focus on, please feel free to e-mail or write in with your suggestions and we will try to accommodate them where best we can.

It all took place in July

Departure Lounge Festival – Package Holiday 2017

Vanessa Macauley – recipient of Derby Theatre's Departure Lounge Festival – Package Holiday 2017 was in residence at The Hopbarn from Monday 10th to Saturday 15th July working on her one women creation *How to Make an Enticement Machine*.

This is a work that does not hold back and offers a rather ugly and somewhat disturbing portrayal of how the female black body is depicted in popular culture. From music videos to Youtube tutorials that give make up tips and the outlandish fashion often associated with both, Vanessa's work is satirical in its delivery but offers a dark and tragic undertone of how far people must go in order to conform and fit in with popular expectations.

Not only is Vanessa drawing our attention to the fashion and sub-cultural image that is often associated with this subject matter, but she also highlights the extremely provocative lyrics and pop videos that are also a feature of this cultural genre.



For Vanessa, the association of the female black body as the embodiment of erotic desire is central to the main theme of her work and it is here that she focuses all of her energy, peppering the audience with the reality of what she is dealing with. This includes a lengthy and rather cringing recital of popular lyrics. Highly sexualised in nature, using crude and grotesque language, the sudden impact of the barrage of such lyrics jolts the audience members into paying attention. As time passes and the lyrics continue to be read followed by the scrunching and throwing away of the paper they were written on, we become somewhat desensitized by what we hear. In such and to draw parallels to the popular culture that Vanessa is focussing our attention on, we begin to accept this as the norm and feel less and less embarrassed by what we are hearing.

www.thehopbarn.org.uk / info@thehopbarn.org.uk / 07880973365

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How to Make an Enticement Machine tackles head on the acceptance of conforming to such sub-culture and embracing its popularity even if it means adopting highly sexualised mannerisms and a iron clad immunity to the misogynist depiction of black women. It is a work that focus's primarily on young black women in today's society, although there are also connotations for all ethnic groups especially those that are also required to adopt a specific image in order to fit in with the crowd.

The work which featured as part of Derby Theatre's Departure Lounge Festival has the potential to go further (if audience members can stomach its content) and Vanessa offers both a brave and courageous performance.

Summer Blues, Roots & Jazz

The HopYards with support by Gee Lablance Sat 22nd July 2017

Performing to a packed audience, The HopYards re-launched themselves for a night dedicated to the unique sounds of blues, roots and Jazz.

Joining existing band members, Stuart Poole and Mike Mellor, Singer Leona Ashley along with Saxophonist Pino Delgado and Drummer Kip Hodgekinson added a new and dynamic range to the pre-existing set pieces.

The band members offered a superb fresh start to this new make up, which promises to project the music they play to new heights.

Clearly enjoying her debut, Leona captivated the audience and the other band members with her distinct voice. Pino's exceptional sax and clarinet brought subtlety and prowess to the group, one that provided a much needed musical element to the set pieces. Not to be surpassed, new drummer Kip matched the other musicians with an extremely empathetic drumming technique; often the drumming either drowns out the other band members or fails to be heard himself. With Kip, the balance was perfect, again a testament to his ability and expertise as a drummer.



The night was supported by Gee Lablance – a fantastic introduction from a well established musician.

The HopBarn would like to thank all who supported the night and helped to ensure that it was a successful and enjoyable evening for all.

Our August Feature

Boilerroom Theatre Company *Sanguine Night* by Bushra Laskar

Following their residency at The HopBarn in June, Boilerroom Theatre Company premiered *Sanguine Night* by Bushra Laskar as part of RADA Festival in early July.



The HopBarn was delighted to be able to support this production and here is what the playwright Bushra Laskar said about the experience the company had whilst in residence at The HopBarn.



London, and though we are very grateful for the support we have been offered, it has been a piecemeal rehearsal process. The Hopbarn experience has given us the continuity we so needed. It is a place full of light and opportunity for getting fresh air - a God send when you spend your days working on a piece which immerses you in such a dark and heavy subject as the death and exploitation of thousands of people at the hand of corporate negligence.

Sanguine Night is a timely new play about the Bhopal Union Carbide disaster of 1984 that killed over 3000 People. Developed by Boileroom Theatre Company and produced to coincide with the 70th Anniversary of the Partition of India, this bold multimedia production asks: how can we make up for so much tragedy.



"A week in a working farm wasn't a setting any of us had imagined for the development of Sanguine Night, but for the team of actors and creatives it was a rewarding alternative to the London scene, and completely removed all the stress of commuting, punctuality and city life.

The HopBarn is a beautiful place, a studio with the space to focus and create, while the bucolic surrounds and animal neighbours were a delightful distraction, especially the gorgeous dog, who was always willing to play!

Having the HopBarn as a space to call home while we negotiated a complex and evolving play was a huge gift to its development. Up until recently we have been snatching bits of time and space around various theatres and rehearsal venues around



As we are working towards the first fully staged work in progress performances of Sanguine Night early next month, it's hugely important that we consolidate all of the hard work the team have brought to the table over the past several weeks before we present to an audience. The HopBarn was a chance for us to really get stuck in and focus, as well as for the all female ensemble to live as a family on a large and isolated estate, much like the characters in the play itself. The actors play three generations of women in a grand but deteriorating mansion in central India and the HopBarn gave them a chance to build personal and working bonds with their fellow cast members in a relaxed and inspiring setting. It also meant we could spend our down time discussing the themes of the play and addressing questions without an eye on the clock. They loved being able to share evening meals and walks around the grounds - it was a real luxury that all emerging theatre companies could do with".

Bushra Laskar, Playwright, and Vanessa-Faye Stanley, Director, Boileroom Theatre Company

Whats on August & September

Concerts and performances are not scheduled in August so that the priority can be given to the harvest.

August Residencies



Southwell Music Festival returns this August from the Thursday 24th to Monday 28th.

The 2017 festival programme follows a strong French theme, incorporating a whole programme of chamber music, a late night performance of Poulenc's *Figure Humaine*, and a family concert featuring the setting of Babar the Elephant.

The centrepiece of the festival will be the all-Mozart concert (26th August, 7.30pm) featuring multi-award winning pianist James Baillieu.

For more information visit www.southwellmusicfestival.com

Daisy Howell and Brink Dance Company in Residence

Daisy Howell and Brink Dance Company return to The HopBarn from the 30th August to 3rd September creating a new work for a performance in Leeds.

For this new work, the company will be collaborating with animation film company Howl Creative. The work is being supported by the company's recent acceptance to SHINE Programme which supports emerging artists and companies in the development of new work.

AUDITION CALL OUT

Howl Creative and Brink Dance Company are seeking a highly skilled contemporary dancer to join them in the creation of "Howl" - a live performance and animation installation to be exhibited at Light Night Leeds 2017 and Lightwaves Festival, Salford Quays

Application Deadline: **Sunday 6th August 2017, 5pm**
 Audition Workshop: **18th August 2017, Leeds**
 Shortlisted applicants will receive further information of time/venue

To apply for the audition workshop please send a copy of your CV, and showreel/footage to howlbrink@outlook.com
 Successful applicants will be notified by Friday 11th August

Applicants must be available to work in Manchester and Leeds and be available for the following dates:
 30th August 2017 - 3rd September 2017
 16th - 17th / 23rd - 24th / 30th September 2017
 1st / 8th - 9th October 2017
 9th - 10th / 15th - 17th December 2017

This is a paid opportunity

September Performances

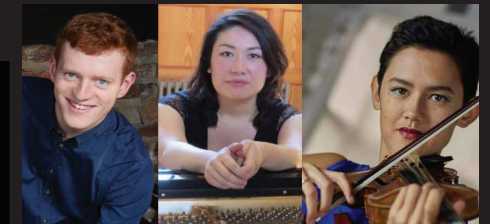
Luke Jackson
Fri 8th Sept / 7pm

Luke Jackson returns to The HopBarn in September

Luke is a young Roots Singer/Songwriter from Canterbury, Kent, who in 2013 was nominated in the BBC Radio 2 Folk Awards for both the Horizon Award for Best Emerging Talent and The Young Folk Category.

With a bold, distinctive voice and a sweet, percussive guitar style, Luke is a confident and captivating live performer. He was also winner of Fatea's "Male Artist of the Year 2014"

This is a True Blue Music Event



Late Summer Recitals
Ajac Trio & Hannah Barnett

Sat 9th Sept / 7.30pm

Due to their overwhelming concert performance in September 2016, Ajac Trio will return to The HopBarn to perform works by Alban Berg, Darius Milhaud and Paul Schoenfield.

Ajac Trio is comprised of Matt Glendening (Clarinet) Stephanie Childress (Violin) and Kumi Matsuo (Piano).

Joining Ajac Trio is Hannah Barnett, a young Harpist from Nottingham who will perform works by John Thomas, Louis Concone, Handel, A. Hasselmann, John Parry.

Tickets from: eventbrite.co.uk
thehopbarn.org.uk
 Woodlanders, 14 King Street, Southwell, 01636 815172