



The HopBarn

centre for music and creative performance

Issue: 11
January
2018

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.



Farewell 2017... its been event full!

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

The HopBarn Hockerwood Lane Upton Road Southwell Notts NG25 0PZ

From a more personal perspectivereflecting back on 2017

It's been an eclectic year in many respects, one that has witnessed a number of new and original artistic creations in music, theatre and dance sitting alongside more established works that have been presented to open audiences. From the politically motivated such as Bushra Laskar's *Sanguine Night* which undertook a week's residency in June prior to its debut performance at RADA Fest; to technological gadgetry via Xavier Velastin's *Me and My Whale*, which received development funds from the Arts Council of England to further explore the artistic concept.

There has also been the odd night of craziness too thanks to Reel Good Times who presented an evening of Celidh Music and Dance in April, allowing for a more relaxed approach to The HopBarn's programming offer. A fun and energetic evening that enabled audience members to get involved and join in.

It can be hard to define any specific highlights for 2017 as everything that has featured at The HopBarn, whether for public viewing, or for private and personal development has introduced something unique and different to the venue. Our regular programming of music featured a number of artists who played at The HopBarn for the first time, although we were also delighted that a number of returning artists expressed joy at coming back and playing in such a unique and intimate environment.

In conjunction with visiting artists there has also been the enthusiasm of a number of young musicians living and residing in the local area and who have provided much needed support sets prior to the main acts. This has got us thinking towards how we can support and connect young musicians to



Cast of *Sanguine Night* by Bushra Laskar.



Digital Sound Artist - Xavier Velastin
Me and My Whakle

professional artists. There is already a clear progression root and pathway for classical musicians, but what about those playing roots, blues and more mainstream sets; how do they break into the music sector? When listening to artists such as Luke Jackson and Sam Carter describe their musical journey, it is not always clearly defined and the knowledge and experience they have received, would without question be invaluable to young musicians who wish to follow such pathways.



Musician - Sam Carter

For Sam Carter, his journey hasn't always been that easy and this is reflected in his work, allowing the audience or listener to get a small but important glimpse of what it is like trying to establish yourself as a musician in one of the most competitive cities in the world. On youtube there is a short film depicting his life in London whilst he works on the album *How the City Sings*. Although short in length, Sam's honesty towards his struggle to find a place for his work can in many ways speak volumes for all musicians and artists. Having lived with a musician in the mid 90's (prior to youtube and social media) and who was given funds to record a new album, I saw first hand the ruthless nature of the industry when on completion of the album he was told it would not be released. He came home one night and promptly dumped the entire box of CD's into the bin. I cannot begin to understand the depth of feeling he must have had after months of work writing, composing and producing the work; only to be told at the very end that it was not going to be commercially released. All that effort, time and investment just simply brushed aside and this I am sure, is just one example.

But crucially, and many would argue that such experiences as highlighted above define a musician and their work. Only through struggle can the integrity of the music and the songs come through and speak with poignancy to the listeners. In Sam's case, I believe that his experience of living and working in London is conveyed with absolute honesty, and this is a defining feature within the work he produces.

Whilst in Sam and Luke's case, they are now

well established and both receive the right kind of support and exposure needed in order to sustain their practice. But we have also hosted artists who have only just been given a seed of an idea and need time and space in order to nurture it and allow it to grow. Crucially, The HopBarn can provide that much needed space and in all residency cases, the artists and companies that have undertaken a research and development period with us have all expressed how valuable the time has been away from their normal daily routines.

The HopBarn pulls people together, enabling them (albeit for a short period) to live and work under one roof, experiment and try new ideas whilst crucially allowing failure to direct them on a different trajectory. The process of artistic creation when taking a seed of an idea and fostering it so that it germinates into something more tangible, requires such freedom. I believe that artistic failure is a huge part of the creative process and in many cases it is only through experimentation, when collective and collaborative working is instigated, that the final outcome is refined and becomes a true representation of the original concept.

We've been fortunate however, as we have been able to gain additional exposure with a number of other arts practitioners and organisations who have connected their own artistic offer to ours. Through Derby Theatre and In Good Company we have been able to provide much needed rehearsal time to a number of emerging artists and theatre companies. Our relationship with Southwell Music Festival has also initiated further concerts and music events at The HopBarn whilst also connecting us to national music organisations. Without the support of Vince Ion and True Blue Music, our regular music offer would be severely affected.

Such working relationships and partnership building is and will continue to be critical to The HopBarn's programming offer. We are hopeful therefore that as 2018 emerges, we can continue to offer something of an intrinsic value to the emergence of artistic creation and practice as well as provide a viable venue for small scale concerts and performances.

Plug In Tune Up

The HopBarn Centre for Music and Creative performance is offering a fantastic performance opportunity for young musicians.

The HopBarn will host a special event for young musicians to come and perform their favourite pieces to an open audience.

Whether as a solo artist or as a group, this call out opportunity aims to bring young musicians together to share their musical expertise in a relaxed performance setting.

The HopBarn is seeking Expressions of Interest (EOI) from young musicians aged 12 to 21 and who are not in professional music training to come and perform.

Dates:

Plug In Tune Up will take place on:

Sunday 18th February 2017 / 7pm

Please note that whilst the performance times state 7pm, applicants may need to be available during the day for scheduled rehearsals and sound checks

How to Apply

The HopBarn welcomes EOI from young musicians who would like the opportunity to perform as part of a collective evening event alongside other young musicians. It is an opportunity to share musical expertise, gain further performance experience and celebrate the richness in musical diversity.

The HopBarn is keen to receive applications from musicians who write, compose and perform their own work

Application Deadline:

EOI forms must be received no later than **Friday 5th January 2018**

To find out more and complete an Expression of Interest Form (EOI) visit:

www.thehopbarn.org.uk/news

Application Deadline Extended

Plug In Tune Up

Performance opportunities for young people aged 12 - 21 years

Sunday 18th February 2017

The HopBarn Centre for Music and Creative performance is offering a fantastic performance opportunity for young musicians.

Whether as a solo artist or as a group, this call out opportunity aims to bring young musicians together to share their musical expertise in a relaxed performance setting.

Following the initial call out for Expressions of Interest (EOI) from young Musicians, The HopBarn has extended the EOI Submission Deadline in order to provide additional time for interested applicants to apply.

EOI can now be submitted up to and including:
Friday 5th January 2018

To find out more about this opportunity and how to apply log on to
thehopbarn.org.uk/news

The HopBarn

Coming to The HopBarn in 2018

An Evening of Comic Songs and Humour
In Support of Awards for Young Musicians
Saturday 3 Feb 2018
£12.50 (+booking fee)

Guy Turner, with accompaniment by Ed Turner (no relation) present an evening of Comic Songs, including several of Guy's own, and a selection by the inimitable Flanders and Swann.

To give Ed the odd rest here and there, there will also be some readings from humorous writers such as Jerome K Jerome, Terry Pratchett and Bill Bryson.

Take a glass of wine, pull up a chair in the beautiful HopBarn and be ready to meet Gasmen, Armadillos, Pigeons, Floods, Pizzas, Horns, Hangovers, Trains and Pillar Boxes!

Proceeds in Support of:



www.a-y-m.org.uk

Ray Cooper - A True Blue Music Event
Saturday 10 Feb 2018
7.30pm / £14



'Palace of Tears' – a mighty sounding record'
fRoots, 2014.

Tickets: eventbrite.co.uk
thehopbarn.org.uk



Tickets: eventbrite.co.uk
thehopbarn.org.uk

This is a rare opportunity to see award-winning folk /rock musician and Oyster Band former member. Ray Cooper appears at the beautiful Hopbarn Southwell for an intimate evening with you all.

His first solo album 'Tales of Love War and Death by Hanging' (2010) has a strongly historical theme. The sound is simple but at times evokes a much bigger scale. Citing influences such as T-Bone Burnett, Ennio Morricone, Johnny Cash and June Tabor, Ray plays cello, guitar, harmonium, mandolin, mandola, harmonica and the Finnish kantele to accompany his songs.

His second album, 'Palace Of Tears' was released in September 22nd 2014 and is more of a singer/songwriter album but, due to his adopted home now being Sweden, retaining a distinct Nordic flavour with the inclusion of the Swedish kantele and fiddles.



The HopBarn is extremely excited to invite back Mimika Theatre and their enchanting production **Landscapes**, an award winning 50 minute theatre experience.

Originally created for children aged 6 to 9 Mimika Theatre soon discovered that there were in fact no real upper or lower age limits.

The non verbal base and the narrative accessibility also means that the work is appropriate for children where English is not their first language and for children with moderate and severe learning difficulties.


The HopBarn

It is theatre for all!

Mimika Theatre
Landscapes

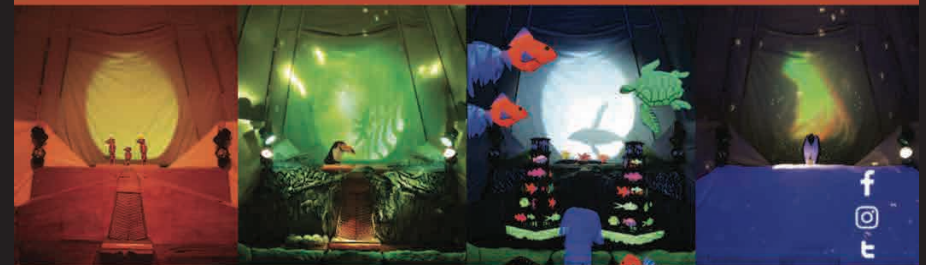
Sunday 4th March 2018
11am / 12.30pm / 2pm / 3.30pm

*The Sun rises over a buzzing desert,
a chick hatches.*

*The Eagle leaves the nest
in search of food.*

*Below,
the Meerkats
are alert,*

The journey begins.



Tickets £8 (adults) £6 Children by contacting 07880 973 365 or info@thehopbarn.org.uk

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