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www.artsalive.co.uk



September–December 2023

Live show across Shropshire & Herefordshire

Arts Alive Autumn Season

Hello, everyone!

We're thrilled to introduce you to – our brand-new brochure of live music and theatre events coming to your local areas this Autumn and Spring. It's all about bringing the arts right to your doorstep, and we can't wait to share these experiences with you.

First off, a thank you to all the familiar faces in our audiences who have been a part of our journey. Your presence at our shows has brought life to local venues, and your support over the years has been nothing short of incredible. Thank you for making every event a special one. You've helped create a real sense of community, and we can't wait to see you again.

Now, if you're new to our shows, let us extend the warmest welcome. This brochure is a peek into the world of live music and theatre – a world that's all about stories, emotions, and shared moments. You might be wondering if these events are for you, and the answer is a resounding yes! There's something truly magical about experiencing a performance up close, surrounded by friends, family, and fellow community members.

What's in store, you ask? Well, we've got an eclectic mix lined up – from toe-tapping tunes that'll have you humming along, to stories that'll make you laugh, think, and maybe even shed a tear. Our local venues are like cozy hubs of culture, waiting to welcome you. The best part? You don't need to be an art aficionado to enjoy. Just come with an open mind and a willingness to explore something new.

None of this would be possible without the incredible support from our funders. They believe in the power of culture to bring people together and enrich lives. So, a huge thank you to them for making all of this happen.

As the leaves change and the seasons shift, we invite you to mark your calendars, gather your favorite people, and join us in creating unforgettable moments. Let's make this Autumn and Spring a time of shared experiences!

So, flip through the pages, find something that piques your interest, and book to come along.

Hannah Prior, Artistic Director

Cover photo: The Bobby Kennedy Experience – Russell Lucas : photographer – Steve Ullathorne



Arts Alive Autumn Season

Before you browse, here are some handy hints on using this brochure.

On each page, venues are indicated by the county colour, as below.

You'll find a programme summary table, by county, on pages 18 and 19.

A map of venues listed in this brochure is on page 20, so you can see which are nearest to you.

Ticket prices are normally £12 adults, £6 children and £30 family, but some shows may be more, others less. Please contact the venue or check our website for ticket prices as well as details of the child ticket age and family group size limits.

These details should be available by clicking on the  button for the venue tickets listing.

Our venues look forward to giving you a warm welcome!

Shropshire

Herefordshire



To join our mailing list, please visit
www.artsalive.co.uk

Just some of the shows coming this season



Arts Alive is a registered charity and supported by



www.artsalive.co.uk



(c) Karl Andre



(c) Karl Andre

Yorkshire Kernel / The Land Girl

Bad Apple Co Ltd

Inventive, Engaging, Uplifting

"Yorkshire Kernel" by James Mellor is a witty, fast-paced, comic and nostalgic tale. James's Grandad is at death's door, but he has one last mission: to find a tree. Many trees in fact, scattered around the country in memory of his Second World War comrades. And James needs just one acorn to plant where his Grandad wishes to be laid to rest. A "bonkers" tale of Yorkshire wit and grit through one man's determination to leave a long-lasting legacy.

Inspired by real stories of Yorkshire Land Army "Girls", Kate Bramley's new one-woman performance showcases some of the highs and lows of working on the land during wartime. From ration books to rat-catching, acres of onions to American Air Base dances, tap your feet and laugh along to songs and stories that capture the "can-do" spirit of the ladies who kept Britain fed during the hardships of World War II.

'If you get chance to see this show do, for it is an engaging and uplifting experience' – York Press

Audience Suitability: 12+

[Click here to watch trailer](#)

Cawley Hall, Eye

Thu 28 Sep 7.30pm 01568 615836

Talbot Theatre, Whitchurch

Fri 29 Sep 7.30pm 01948 660660

Buy tickets online at www.artsalive.co.uk



An Evening with The 309s

The 309s

Classic swing jive

Bringing you the roots of rock and roll ... swing jazz, jump blues, jive and rockabilly. The 309s play their pick of songs mostly from the southern States of America, 1925 to 1955. From Western Swing ("jazz with a cowboy hat") right through to Rock 'n' Roll's early days in Memphis, Tennessee., and including country boogie and jump blues songs, such as "Shake Rattle and Roll". Their own songs complete the mix, created to sound like classics from the 40s and 50s - you'll be hard pressed to know which is old and which is new.

The unique 309s sound will get your feet jumping and promise to give you a good, good, good, good time!

'You rock, you swing with jubilation all the way through .. tracks from the 40s and 50s... A group worth checking out as quickly as possible!' - Cri Du Coyote, France

Audience Suitability: 7+

[Click here to watch trailer](#)

Chapel Lawn Village Hall
Sat 30 Sep 7.30pm 07964 710983

Buy tickets online at www.artsalive.co.uk



(c) Mark Dean

Mountain Music

Little Bulb Theatre and Farnham Maltings

Original, heart-warming, entertaining

When settlers from the British Isles arrived in the Appalachian Mountains, they brought the invisible baggage of songs and reels.

Olivier Award-winning company and seasoned community tourers, Little Bulb, create an unforgettable tapestry of culture, migration and history, exploring the roots of Americana and its impact on popular music today.

A theatrical feast of tales and songs, featuring sumptuous three-part harmonies and a foot-stomping five-piece string band, storytelling, an interval and second act 'gig'.

'Each number effortlessly outdoes the previous one in overall effect, building to a captivating finale' - The Stage

Audience Suitability: 11+
(contains reference to alcohol/moonshine)

[Click here to watch trailer](#)

Wem Town Hall
Tue 3 Oct 7.30pm 01939 232299

SpArC Theatre, Bishops Castle
Fri 6 Oct 7.30pm 01588 638038

Whitchurch Rugby Club
Wed 4 Oct 7.30pm 07773 047744



Buy tickets online at www.artsalive.co.uk



(c).stephenhodgettsphotography.com

Much Ado About Jazz

Much Ado About Jazz

Jazz for all

Much Ado is something a bit different: a unique two-man show aimed at people who like jazz – as well as those who don't necessarily think they do!

An irresistible combination of classic jazz (think Gershwin and Brubeck) and dry humour, incorporating plenty of audience interaction.

After years on the road they lost track of the number of concert-goers complaining that much jazz is aloof, self-indulgent and lacking in any real melodic content. So they revisit some much-loved (mostly) jazz classics and present them with a lot of energy so that the audience not only feel more involved, but also gain an insight into how jazz musicians work on stage. If you add to that a dose of dry humour you'll start to get a feel for what their performance is all about.

'Jazz fans relished in the exciting renditions of the different standards and yet the non-jazz fans were still completely engaged in the music' – Tetbury Goods Shed

Audience Suitability: 12+

[Click here to watch trailer](#)

Goodrich Village Hall

Sat 7 Oct 7.30pm 07805 633686

Buy tickets online at www.artsalive.co.uk



(c) Steve Ullathorne

The Bobby Kennedy Experience

Russell Lucas

Political, historical, relevant

The Bobby Kennedy Experience studies the life of the most famous man never to become President.

Robert Francis Kennedy was the younger brother of the US President: John F. Kennedy (JFK). Often referred to as the 'runt' of the Kennedy litter, Bobby would go on to prove himself to be a formidable force in America, as not only did he pick up the Kennedy project after his brother was murdered, he emerged out of the wilderness and crusaded for civil rights, climate change, alternative fuels and, finally, for the American Presidency itself.

But fate had a cruel plan for Bobby..

'I got somewhat lost in the piece and almost felt like I was watching the real RFK.' -
Cambridge Independent

Audience Suitability: 12+

[Click here to watch trailer](#)

Whitchurch Cricket Club

Thu 12 Oct 7.30pm 07506 724572

Wem Town Hall

Sat 14 Oct 7.30pm 01939 232299

Habberley Village Hall

Fri 13 Oct 7.30pm 01743 790179

Buy tickets online at www.artsalive.co.uk



Nikipedia - Confessions of a Former Teletubby

Nikky Smedley

Interactive. Honest. Intriguing.

It's time to meet Laa Laa! Sit tight for a whirlwind tour through the worlds of music, dance, the early days of alternative comedy, the rough end of 1980's London and the fun of 1990's Teletubbyland.

Nikky Smedley has lived through it all - and the audience get to choose what brutally honest tales she tells. Some are funny, some are touching, some are tragic and some absurd, reminding us that all our lives are full of such stories.

Where Wikipedia is shared knowledge; Nikipedia is shared histories. The audience become part of one woman's crusade to connect us through stories extraordinary and everyday.

'Stories told by an expert storyteller..through her fascinating career' - Live & Local

Audience Suitability: 18+
(may contain mild swearing)

[Click here to watch trailer](#)

Clungunford Village Hall
Fri 13 Oct 7.30pm 01588 660152

Buy tickets online at www.artsalive.co.uk



(c) Simon Richardson

Roshni

Sonia Sabri Company

Expressive, accessible, powerful

Roshni is a beautifully intimate crafting of dance and live music, uplifting the audience on a journey of joy.

This soul-stirring performance is a captivating combination of Kathak dance, with live music from a global palette. The sumptuous music from different lands features kaval and violin led by the bold rhythms of Tabla percussion.

Roshni brings together Sonia's distinctive style of dance, rooted in the traditions of Kathak from Northern India, yet reimagined in the context of her lived British experience, with diverse musical genres, from South Asia, Middle East and Europe and celebrates the rich diversity of our global community

'I can't believe the energy and at the same time the intricacy and detail of the dance and music coming together' - Belfast Mela

Audience Suitability: All ages

[Click here to watch trailer](#)

Steiner Academy

Fri 13 Oct 7.30pm 01981 540221

Buy tickets online at www.artsalive.co.uk



The Greatest Robot Ever

Hawk Dance Theatre & The Knotted Project

Fun, Energetic, Captivating

Glitch the little Robot doesn't feel special like all the other amazing Robots living in the Junk Yard. With the help of their best friend, Shift, they go on a quest to find the pieces to make them stand out! Full of fun, adventure and self discovery; Will Glitch find what they were searching for all along?

The Greatest Robot Ever is a brand new, rhyming story created by The Knotted Project and Hawk Dance Theatre. Using projection, dance and storytelling, children interact with the performers throughout the show and take part in an engaging workshop exploring resilience, friendship and wellbeing.

This show is delivered in partnership with Arts Alive and has subsidised tickets to enable first time theatre experiences for young children living in Shropshire. The show contains captions and has lots of sensory elements making it an inclusive experience for lots of young children and their families.

Audience Suitability: 3-8 and families

Theatre Severn , Shrewsbury

Weds 25 Oct 2.00pm & 4.30pm

01743 281281 & www.theatresevern.co.uk

Buy tickets online at www.artsalive.co.uk



(c) Andrew Lawson

A Night in Buenos Aires

Tango Calor

Energetic, romantic, exotic

Tango Calor is one of the most exciting tango bands in the UK.

The trio have performed for tango dances and festivals around the country including WOMAD and special shows at La Ghironda festival, Italy. Often invited to accompany visiting Argentine artists, they have also collaborated with orchestras staging concerts of the music of Astor Piazzolla.

An evening of wonderful songs & stories from sensational Latin vocalist Indira Roman (Salsa UK, Roberto Pla), Mirek Salmon (Welsh National Opera, Moscow Drug Club & one of the few bandoneon players in the UK) and acclaimed acoustic guitarist Daryl Kellie.

'Such great musicianship and connection with the audience' – Chew Valley Arts

Audience Suitability: All ages

[Click here to watch trailer](#)

Silvester Horne Institute
Fri 27 Oct 7.30pm 01694 720132

Beckbury Village Hall
Sat 28 Oct 7.00pm
heathert806@gmail.com

Buy tickets online at www.artsalive.co.uk



(c) David Lindsay

Thumbelina

Rachel Dean Dance and The Rural Touring Dance Initiative

Magical, interactive dance

Thumbelina is an enchanting tale of a miniature girl trying to find her place in the world, brought to life through live music, dance and song.

Children and their adults play an active role in helping Thumbelina escape from a hungry toad, build a shelter from sticks and through their play, give her the strength to carry on and make it safely home.

A gentle and playful experience with the beauty of the natural world at its heart.

“I absolutely can’t recommend this enough! It’s a beautiful interactive performance piece for kids that’s been devised in such a mindful way. Gentle, creative, and collaborative – such a special show!” – Audience Feedback

Audience Suitability: 3–8

[Click here to watch trailer](#)

**Leintwardine Community Centre
Wed 1 Nov 2.00pm
pjames37@btinternet.com**

Buy tickets online at www.artsalive.co.uk



(c) Sarah Elise Bauman

Basset

Basset

Folk, roots, Americana

Toronto-based folk duo, Basset, are full of timeless heart. Acoustic songwriters Sam Clark and Yasmine Shelton will take you through city streets in the hours before the world has woken, or to a corrugated steel home north of the treeline.

Basset bring a deep love of the natural world to their gorgeously meditative and assured debut album, *In The Clay* (2022). *In The Clay* explores themes of life in change, Shelton and Clark's travels around Northern Ontario, the prairies, their lives in Toronto, and the many characters who have crossed their paths.

With comparisons to The Milk Carton Kids, Hozier, and Bon Iver, their inventiveness shines on fiddle and intricate harmonies, with Shelton and Clark's voices wrapping around each other like twin flames in a warm fire.

'If you're a lover of like great close harmonies, like Simon and Garfunkel, or Gillian Welch and David Rawlings, I think you're going to love this' - CBC Radio

Audience Suitability: 14+

[Click here to watch trailer](#)

Escleyside Hall

Wed 15 Nov 7.30pm 01981 510116

Priest Weston Village Hall

Fri 17 Nov 7.30pm 07773 026441

Quatt Village Hall

Thu 16 Nov 7.30pm 01746 781214

Buy tickets online at www.artsalive.co.uk



(c) Laura Doddington

Gertrude Lawrence: A Lovely Way To Spend An Evening

Whattalife Productions / Lucy Stevens

Sophisticated, warm, atmospheric

Gertrude Lawrence was one of Britain's brightest theatrical stars during the first half of the 20th Century. A charismatic stage presence who excelled in sophisticated musical comedy. This show with music tells her story; funny, revealing and full of songs from London's variety theatre and hits written for Gertie by Noel Coward, Gershwin, Kurt Weill and Rodgers & Hammerstein.

Lucy as an academic studies her subjects in great detail offering an interesting insight into the life and work of each featured artist. This show is accessible to anyone who enjoys a jolly good evening out

'From Music hall to sophisticated cabaret and show songs, a stunning voice, achingly beautiful ballads had the audience spellbound.' – Stamford Arts Centre

Audience Suitability: 12+

[Click here to watch trailer](#)

Cawley Hall, Eye

Thu 16 Nov 7.30pm 01568 615836

Market Theatre, Ledbury

Fri 17 Nov 7.30pm 07967 517125

www.themarkettheatre.com

Linton Village Hall

Sat 18 Nov 7.00pm

LVH@lintonvillage.com

Buy tickets online at www.artsalive.co.uk



DRIFTWOOD

A new play by Tim Foley

Driftwood

Pentabus

Exuberant, funny, moving

Shropshire theatre company, Pentabus, bring you their current production.

These are the shores of Vikings, Victorians, van drivers and visions. The tide is out but the chips are hot. Two brothers go for walks along the beach at Seaton Carew. Their Dad is dying, and their town is crumbling. Family rifts and political divides try to pull them apart, and a figure made of driftwood stalks the shore at night...

An inspiring, expansive story about hope, love, belonging and the tides within us. Pentabus and Thickskin present this mystical new play by award-winning writer Tim Foley in a distinctive physical and cinematic production.

Audience Suitability: 12+
(contains references to
death and dying)

Trailer: No trailer available for this show

Farlow and Oretton
Fri 17 Nov 7.30pm 01746 718642

Yarpole Parish Hall
Sat 18 Nov 7.00pm 01568 780849



Support your Local Library! A Gothic/Pub Rock Opera

Black Liver

Funny, satirical and energetic

'Support Your Local Library! A Gothic Pub Rock Opera' is a musical comedy thriller with a cast of Hollywood superstars and rock god legends celebrating a British institution... all performed by two people.

Behind the show is the fictional story of Black Liver; desperate to escape the living hell that is the tribute act circuit, they are making a bid for the West End with this musical...it's their last chance for success before the bell tolls last orders.

This show will not save the world, but it will make you laugh and hopefully nip into your local library and see what's inside.

' Laughed out loud from start to finish." Audience member

Audience Suitability: 12+

[Click here to watch trailer](#)

**Stoke St Milborough Village Hall
Fri 17 Nov 7.30pm 01584 823791**

Buy tickets online at www.artsalive.co.uk



Filkin's Drift

Filkin's Drift

Original, contemporary folk

Filkin's Drift combine the traditional and the contemporary through their blend of fiddle, guitar, and close vocal harmonies. Weaving together folklore from their homes, Wales and Gloucestershire, their performances are "utterly mesmerising" (Bristol 24/7).

Set-up around a single microphone, Seth and Chris entertain audiences with original tunes, traditional songs, and stories of life as a musician. The pair have toured the British Isles and Europe, with performances including Glastonbury Festival and the Commonwealth Games opening ceremony live on BBC1.

'Fantastic fiddle-driven energy' – BBC Radio Glos.

'Beautifully varied timbres, real virtuosity' – British & International Federation of Festivals

Audience Suitability: 14+

[Click here to watch trailer](#)

Chelmarsh Village Hall

Fri 24 Nov 7.30pm 01746 862850

Welshampton Parish Hall

Sun 26 Nov 7.30pm 01948 710586

Bitterley Village Hall

Sat 25 Nov 7.30pm 07968 771670

Buy tickets online at www.artsalive.co.uk

Shows At a Glance

HEREFORDSHIRE					
Date	Show	Venue	Time	Box Office	Postcode
Thu 28 Sep	Yorkshire Kernel	Cawley Hall, Eye	7.30pm	01568 615836	HR6 ODS
Sat 7 Oct	Much Ado About Jazz	Goodrich Village Hall	7.30pm	07805633686	HR9 6HX
Fri 13 Oct	Roshni	Steiner Academy	7.30pm	01981 540221	HR2 8DL
Wed 1 Nov	Thumbelina	Leintwardine Community Centre	2.00pm	pjames37@ btinternet.com	SY7 OLB
Wed 15 Nov	Basset	Escleyside Hall	7.30pm	01981 510116	HR2 OPT
Thu 16 Nov	Gertrude Lawrence	Cawley Hall, Eye	7.30pm	01568 615836	HR6 ODS
Fri 17 Nov	Gertude Lawrence	Market Theatre, Ledbury	7.30pm	07967 517125	HR8 2AQ
Sat 18 Nov	Driftwood	Yarpole Parish Hall	7.00pm	01568 780849	HR6 OBE
Sat 18 Nov	Gertrude Lawrence	Linton Village Hall	7.00pm	LVH@linton village.com	HR9 7RX

BOOKINGS

Bookings can be made by the contact box office number or email address provided. To book online please visit www.artsalive.co.uk.

Tickets for performances typically cost between £12 - £15 for adults and some venues offer child and family tickets.

DISABILITY ACCESS

All venues are accessible and full details of each venue can be found on our website.

To join our mailing list, please visit
www.artsalive.co.uk

Shows At a Glance

SHROPSHIRE					
Date	Show	Venue	Time	Box Office	Postcode
Fri 29 Sep	Yorkshire Kernel	Talbot Theatre, Whitchurch	7.30pm	01948 660660	SY13 2BY
Sat 30 Sep	The 309s	Chapel Lawn Village Hall	7.30pm	07964 710983	SY7 OBW
Tue 3 Oct	Mountain Music	Wem Town Hall	7.30pm	01939 232299	SY4 5DG
Wed 4 Oct	Mountain Music	Whitchurch Rugby Club	7.30pm	07773 047744	SY13 1EU
Fri 6 Oct	Mountain Music	SpArC, Bishops Castle	7.30pm	01588 638038	SY9 5AY
Thu 12 Oct	Bobby Kennedy	Whitchurch Cricket Club	7.30pm	07506 724572	SY13 3JG
Fri 13 Oct	Bobby Kennedy	Habberley Village Hall	7.30pm	01743 790179	SY5 OTP
Fri 13 Oct	Nikipedia	Clungunford Village Hall	7.30pm	01588 660152	SY7 OPP
Sat 14 Oct	Bobby Kennedy	Wem Town Hall	7.30pm	01939 232299	SY4 5DG
Wed 25 Oct	Greatest Robot	Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury	2.00 & 4.30pm	01743 281281	SY3 8FT
Fri 27 Oct	Tango Calor	Silvester Horne, Church Stretton	7.30pm	01694 720132	SY6 6BY
Sat 28 Oct	Tango Calor	Beckbury Village Hall	7.00pm	heathert806@gmail.com	TF11 9DG
Thu 16 Nov	Basset	Quatt Village Hall	7.30pm	01746 781214	WV15 6QN
Fri 17 Nov	Basset	Priest Weston Village Hall	7.30pm	07773026441	SY15 6DE
Fri 17 Nov	Driftwood	Farlow & Oretton Village Hall	7.30pm	01746 718642	DY14 OTP
Fri 17 Nov	Support Your Library!	Stoke St Milborough Village Hall	7.30pm	01584 823791	SY8 2EQ
Fri 24 Nov	Filkin's Drift	Chelmarsh Parish Hall	7.30pm	01746 862850	WV16 6BA
Sat 25 Nov	Filkin's Drift	Bitterley Village Hall	7.30pm	07968 771670	SY8 3HQ
Sun 26 Nov	Filkin's Drift	Welshampton Parish Hall	7.30pm	01948 710586	SY12 OPH



Enterprise House, Station Street,
Bishops Castle, Shropshire, SY9 5AQ
01588 620883 (Opt 1)
info@artsalive.co.uk
Registered charity no 1182373

Counties are colour-coded throughout the brochure to correspond with this map.

Towns shown in capitals are for locational reference and do not have performances in this brochure

Shropshire



Herefordshire



www.artsalive.co.uk

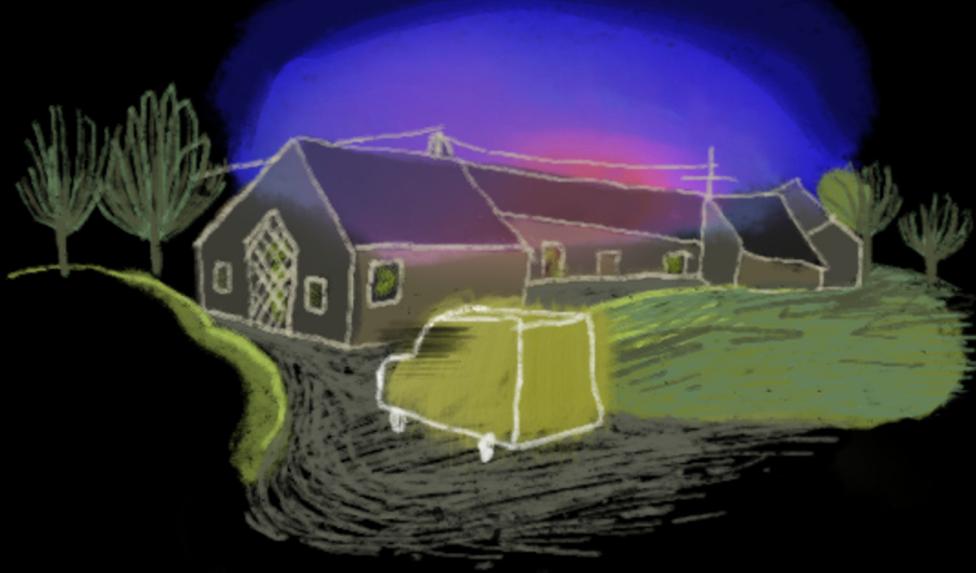


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**Interested in becoming
a promoter or performer?**

Contact Us

The Live Team

01588 620883 (option 1)

www.artsalive.co.uk

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ENGLAND**

