# **13–29 October** 2023





# Welcome

### to the 2023 Scottish International Storytelling Festival.

Join us as we explore, question and celebrate the Right To Be Human. This year, on the 75th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, we consider the many challenges we face, from human health and wellbeing to the health and future of our planet. However, there is also a worldwide movement to meet these challenges, and to exist imaginatively, fairly and in community with the whole diversity of life.

Storytelling has embraced these

values from the dawn of culture and stories today can help us be more connected to the world around us, as well as our rights, showing us how to be more alive and creative as humans

### The Festival Team

The Scottish International Storytelling Festival is organised by TRACS (Traditional Arts & Culture Scotland), which brings together the Traditional Music Forum, Scottish Storytelling Forum and Traditional Dance Forum of Scotland, from its base at the Scottish Storytelling Centre. TRACS showcases Scotland's traditional arts in a contemporary world, making them more accessible to all.

Supported through Scottish Government's Festivals Expo Fund, Creative Scotland, City of Edinburgh Council, Festivals Edinburgh, Digital Expo. We acknowledge the support of the Norwegian Honorary Consulate General and Bòrd na Gàidhlig.



















# **About the Programme**

Our event categories ensure your storytelling experience is exactly what you are looking for, be it the magic of live storytelling or the occasion for professional development and networking with the best in the field.

### How to book



www.sisf.org.uk



+44 (0)131 556 9579



43-45 High Street, Edinburgh EHI ISR

All other partner venues and regional events have their own booking outlets, apart from the Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh events.

### Accessibility

A full **Access Statement** is available on our website. A full list of how to engage with our accessible events will be available at **sisf.org.uk**.

# **Event Types**

### Live | Indoor

Live storytelling events in festival venues.

### **Live | Outdoor**

Live storytelling events in outdoor locations.

### **Live | Workshops**

Workshops and presentations held in the Scottish Storytelling Centre.

### Online | Workshops

Online workshops and presentations broadcast live from the Scottish Storytelling Centre, with online audience participation.

# **Festival Pass**

We have striven to keep ticket prices as affordable as possible throughout the programme. If you plan to attend multiple events, please take advantage of our Festival Pass!

- Discounted tickets to many live festival events at the Scottish Storytelling Centre, not including live workshops
- Discounted tickets to many online festival workshops
- 10% discount at the Storytelling Centre's bookshop
- 10% discount in the Haggis Box's Storytelling Café



Look for the
Festival Pass prices
in the listings
marked as ★

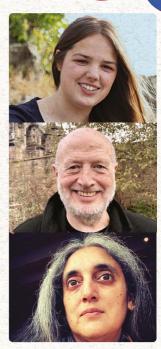


# **Another Story**

A Scottish Storytelling Podcast

Another Story is a new podcast series exploring some of the themes featured in this year's Festival. Tune in to hear some wonderful storytellers share their favourite tales and chat about storytelling in Scotland and beyond. So, settle down, or speed on up, to join us for another story...

Available wherever you get your podcasts, including Spotify, Apple, Google and Amazon. Follow us by liking and subscribing so you don't miss an episode!



# Festival Exhibitions



### **SAT 7 - SUN 29 OCT**

### TALK.

Scottish Storytelling Centre Mon - Sun: 10am - 9pm Free SCOTTISH
MENTAL HEALTH
ARTS FEST!VAL

TALK. is an ongoing portraiture project by Edinburgh-based photographer **Graham Williams**, exploring the subject of men's mental health, where the portraits are made after a conversation between photographer and sitter about their own experiences. The project aims to start a wider conversation about a subject which is still relatively under-discussed and to encourage anyone who may be struggling to reach out for help. It's time to TALK.

Part of Scottish Mental Health Arts Festival.

www.talkportraits.co.uk Instagram: @talk.portraits









TALK.

### **UNTIL 20 APR 2024**

### Sgeul | Story: Folktales from the Scottish Highlands

Discover the magical Gaelic folktales collected by John Francis Campbell of Islay (1821-1885)

National Library of Scotland Mon, Tue, Thu: 9.30am – 7pm Wed: 10am – 7pm Fri, Sat: 9.30am – 5pm Free

Scotland is rich in stories but, once upon a time, Scottish Gaelic folktales were almost



**'Black House'** painting by John Francis Campbell. Photo courtesy by National Library of Scotland.

unknown beyond the Highlands. In 1859, folklorist John Francis Campbell, together with a team of helpers, began to collect Scottish Gaelic folktales. He found a treasure trove.

This exhibition displays the manuscript diaries kept by Campbell and the watercolours he painted. Read and listen to some of the folktales he gathered in Gaelic and English, and watch a film about what stories mean to Gaelic speakers of all ages.

Right
To Be
Human

Scottish Storytelling Centre

Live | Indoor

All events are £10 (£8) ★£6 unless stated

On the occasion of the 75th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, creatives within and beyond the storytelling community celebrate and explore aspects of our common humanity. The series includes new shows specially-commissioned for this year's Festival.





### FRI 13 OCT

# Tales of Exile and Sanctuary

### 6pm (1hr)

Following her work with refugees and long-term migrants to the UK, storyteller Gauri Raje shares a tapestry of stories woven together from Afghanistan, Iraq, Iran, India and the Horn of Africa. In her beautiful storytelling style, Gauri questions the beauty and horrors of exile and what can be nourished through sanctuary.

### **SAT 14 OCT**

# The Town Mouse and the Country Mouse

### 11am (1hr) | £5 per child

Come along on a multisensory adventure with artist/ illustrator **Kate Leiper** and storyteller **Ailie Finlay**. Explore this well-loved tale, handling cosy props, soft quilts, crunchy leaves, snug nests and (watch out!) tinkling cat-bells. Then create an artwork inspired by the story, dipping into Kate's wonderful art box and have fun with colours, textures and tactile materials.

Fun for everyone but particularly suitable for children with additional needs and their families and friends.

### **Wave Riders**

### 8pm (1hr)

Three women, three ships, three voyages. Journey back in time with storyteller Jan Bee Brown and musician Renzo Spiteri as they share a series of saga-driven sonic stories of Viking pioneers Unn the Deep-minded, Gudrid the Far-traveller and Melkorka the Silent. Setting sail in small boats, our heroines forged better ways to live in peace with rights, freedoms and respect, standing shoulder to shoulder.

### **SUN 15 OCT**

### Letters to Jackie

### 8pm (1hr)

60 years ago, in Dundee, DC Thomson's Jackie magazine was a bestseller for the teenage market and young readers flocked to Jackie's 'agony aunts' Cathy and Clare with their problems. But where can we seek answers to our present-day dilemmas and challenges? Sgàthach Storvtellers Bea Ferguson, Heather Yule and Maria Whatton bring the power of the old tales to answer the problems of today. Come and join them as agony aunts in an interactive session of story and music!

If you plan
to attend multiple
events, remember
to take advantage
of our Festival
Pass!

### **MON 16 OCT**

### Joyfully Grimm: Reimagining a Queer Adolescence

### 8pm (1hr)

1988. One boy is growing up in myth and magic, unaware that Section 28, a 'prohibition on promoting homosexuality', is moving to silence his tale and those of anyone like him. LGBTOIA+ people have always existed iovfully - in stories and real life - and the fabulous eventually wins. Combining traditional fairy tales and original poetry, storyteller James Stedman - and a grumpy frog - will guide you through a heartfelt, slightly irreverent look at our history. towards a hopeful future. Directed by Molly Navlor.

### **TUE 17 OCT**

### The Voice Shall Always Remain

### 8pm (1hr)

Iranian storyteller Zahra Afsah and Syrian storyteller Khloud Ereksousi use the traditional technique of pardeh-khani (narration through curtains) to interweave an ancient Persian tale with modern day stories. A slave girl humbles the King of Persia and escapes from imprisonment in a tower through her own efforts. As the story unfolds, we explore how many Iranian women are trapped in 'towers' nowadays and how the key to their freedom lies in their own voices and talents. Directed by Jackie Ross.

### WED 18 OCT

### Don Quixote Rides Again

### 8pm (1hr)

Prepare yourself for a spellbinding experience as Spanish storyteller Inés Álvarez Villa and flamenco musician Danielo Olivera bring the iconic adventures of Don Quixote to life, transporting you to the heart of Spanish culture. While Cervantes' timeless masterpiece continues to entertain, enlighten and inspire us, this comical vet poignant show explores our right to be human: challenging prejudice, showing compassion, and having the strength to embrace our true selves. Directed by Jelena Bašić.

### SAT 21 OCT

### Odin's Eye and the Art of Seeing

### 6pm (1hr)

'When a proton beam of radio therapy fires into my eve. ultraviolet auroras appear in my vision. An unexpected moment of beauty in a cancer treatment centre in the Wirral opens the doorway to a world of Æsir and Vanir gods, and their epic quests in the pursuit of seeing.' Storyteller Alice Fernbank shares a personal story of ill-health and healing, threaded through the Norse tales of Odin, Gullveig, and Mimir. Directed by Kath Burlinson.

# Shadow Walking

### 8pm (1hr)

Storytellers Ruth Kirkpatrick and Peter Chand seek to excavate stories that are not often told, out of the shadows and onto centre stage. Are you sitting comfortably? Well, you may not for long, as these tales touch on uncomfortable, dark themes of jealousy, destruction and vanity. A happy-ever-after is not guaranteed! Accompanied by an amazing, unique jazz score from musician Tom Lyne on double bass.

### **SUN 22 OCT**

### **Orpheus | Orfeo**

### 8pm (1hr)

The story of Orpheus and Eurydice gets a Scottish twist in this dark and dangerous telling of the famous Greek myth. For this first time ever, the Shetland ballad of King Orfeo is swirled into the murky depths of Hades' underworld. Storyteller Daniel Serridge, singer Heather Cartwright and harpist Neil Wood explore grief and loss, inspired by the words of people who live and work most closely with it. They will take you deep below the earth and back again, pushing you forward, dragging you home and demanding that you don't look back!

### **MON 23 OCT**

### In the Hartwood

### 6pm (1hr)

Join storytellers Jane Mather and Heather Yule on a journey in tribute to those interred in pauper's graves at the now derelict Hartwood Hospital, and the friends who tend the cemetery and make it a tranquil oasis. Let stories and harp music guide you into the faerie realm where dreams are powerful and nature spirits abound.

### **TUE 24 OCT**

### **Rickle O Stanes**

### 8pm (1hr)

This is a show about Scotland's land: about its rocks and mud, what it's grown, what lives it's sustained, how it's been bought, fought for and wounded. Through powerful and playful storytelling and traditional song, Shona Cowie, Neil Sutcliffe and dramaturg Liam Hurley explore the layers of history on which we stand today, piling up to create a performance as radical as it is entertaining.



### **THU 26 OCT**

### Arise!

### 6pm (1hr)

The 'Breadagogues', Marie Louise Cochrane, Suzanne Houston and Andrew Whitley share stories and songs of bread, one of the oldest and most well-loved foods in human history. An extraordinary tale of adulteration, exploitation and mendacious marketing, seen through the eyes of a country baker who took on the system, determined to bake a better future. With an amusing narrative and catchy songs, we are invited to take this vital food into our own hands. Scottish flour. recipes and real bread will be available post-show.

# Fire from the Woods

### 8pm (1hr)

Sometimes fathers are silent while children grow up without stories. How can the children of these fathers release their trapped lips? We humans have the right to know our ancestors' stories. By reimagining old tales from Lithuania and around the world, storyteller Daiva Ivanauskaitė and musician Gaynor Barradell explore the silence between generations. Let them take you to the deep dark woods and meet the old man with the wire beard. always hungry for unheard stories.

Directed by Lauren Bianchi. Supported by The Village Storytelling Centre.

### SAT 28 OCT

### Once Upon a Time There Was a War

### 8pm (1hr)

The harsh reality of war meets the magic of love songs and art, as Danish storyteller **Svend-Erik Engh** shares stories from real-life soldiers gathered in a decade of research, whilst musician **Mairi Campbell** sings songs of peace and love, from the canon of Scottish traditional song and her own writings. Danish artist **Tea Bendix** illustrates words and music, bringing another dimension to the stories.

# **Open Hearths** & Special **Events**

Scottish Storytelling Centre unless stated

Live | Indoor

All events are £10 (£8) ★£6 unless stated

Our **Open Hearth** sessions gather together storytellers and musicians for a relaxed evening of stories and music in the Netherbow Theatre. As the darkness closes in and minds glow with pictures in the symbolic fire, this is the perfect way to end your day!



### FRI 13 OCT

### **Open Hearth**

8pm (1hr 30)

Featuring Fiona Herbert, **Douglas Mackay, Tim Porteus** and musician Rachel Newton.

### WED 25 OCT

### **Open Hearth**

8pm (1hr 30)

Featuring Beverley Bryant, Marion Kenny, John Nicol and musician Ryan Young.

### **SUN 29 OCT**

### **Open Hearth**

8pm (1hr 30)

Featuring Anna Conomos-Wedlock, Berit Alette Mienna, Owen Pilgrim and musicians Øistein Hanssen and Rebecca Vučetić.



### **THU 19 OCT**

### Red Aphrodite by Amy Murray Presented by Deaf Action

8pm (1hr) | 18+

Amy Murray wants to break down all the taboos about womanhood, expressing some hilarious, tragic and cringy experiences in her life. Red Aphrodite is all about lust, periods, dating and sex – a funny and relatable look at femininity! Originally performed at Edinburgh Deaf Festival, this piece is performed in British Sign Language, with a BSL interpreter providing a voiceover in English.

# FRI 20 & FRI 27 OCT

### **Guid Crack**

Waverley Bar 7.30pm (2hrs 30) By donation | 18+

Two festival specials of Edinburgh's long-running storytelling night, featuring a guest storytellers **Grace Banks** (Fri 20) and **Claire McNicol** (Fri 27). With an open-floor section to share a tale of your own.

### FRI 20 OCT

### Alba & Èirinn: Òrain & Sgeulachdan na Fèinne

8f (1hr)

San tachartas seo, thèid na laoidhean is sgeulachdan gaisgeil mu dheidhinn Fionn MacCumhnaill agus na Fèinne a thaisbeanadh as ùr. Le Màrtainn Mac an t-Saoir, Màiri NicIlleMhaoil, Mhairi Hall, Gráinne Holland agus Éamon Doorley.

Thèid a chumail tro mheadhan na Gàidhlig is na Gaeilge (le mìneachadh sa Bheurla).

Le taic bho Bhòrd na Gàidhlig agus sgeama Colmcille.

### Scotland & Ireland: Songs & Stories of the Fianna

8pm (1hr)

Join us for an eloquent blend of story, ballad and music, exploring the tales of Fionn MacCumhnaill and the Fianna. Featuring Martin MacIntyre, Mairi MacMillan, Mhairi Hall, Gráinne Holland and Éamon Doorley.

This performance will be held in Gaelic, but will be accessible to English speaking audiences.

Supported by Bòrd na Gàidhlig's Colmcille fund.

### **SUN 22 OCT**

### SMHAF Writing Awards

2pm (2hrs) | Free, ticketed

Join us for the Scottish Mental Health Arts Festival's 10th annual Writing Awards, an opportunity to celebrate new writing exploring mental health and the SMHAF theme of 'Revolution'.

### MON 23 OCT

### The Displaced Heart

8pm (1hr)

The displaced heart can be unrequited love, longing for your homeland, or feeling lost in a cold world. The displaced

heart is a hungry heart!
An exquisite storytelling and music performance, combining English, Punjabi, and Irish, plus beautiful songs accompanied by guitar and sitar. Performed by Peter Chand, Gráinne Holland, Eamon Mcholm and Alec Cooper.

### FRI 27 OCT

### The Promise

8pm (1hr)

Two seven-vear-old best friends, one Greek and one Turkish, live on the outskirts of Smyrna. In 1923, while war and destruction change everything around them, a promise they make to each other will unite them forever. On the 100-year anniversary of those tragic events, storvteller Anna Conomos-Wedlock presents a powerful story inspired by the oral testimonies of Asia Minor refugees, drawing on the meaning of homeland, displacement, memory and friendship. Featuring evocative songs and music by Rebecca Vučetić.

### **SUN 29 OCT**

### **Human Library**

12pm (4hrs) Free, drop-in | 16+

Unjudge someone. The Human Library is a library of people. An event where readers can borrow human beings serving as open books, and have conversations they would not normally have access to. Every human book from the bookshelf, represents a group in our society that is often subjected to prejudice, stigmatization or discrimination because of their lifestyle, diagnosis, belief, disability, social status, ethnic origin etc.

# **Collective Treasures** Live | Indoor All events are £8 (£6) ★£4 unless stated Storytelling is a store of collective memories, experiences and values. Relax, and delve into those treasures in the genial company of the festival's storytellers, as they celebrate our common humanity. Øistein Hanssen Box office: 0131 556 9579

### SAT 14 OCT

### The Iron Hag and Other Tales

### 6pm (1hr)

Antrim storyteller and singer Colin Urwin dips into the renowned Sam Henry Collection. Join him as he pulls out some treasures of song and story that were gathered in Rathlin Island, and the north coasts and glens of Ireland.

### **SUN 15 OCT**

# Where the Feather Falls

### 6pm (1hr)

Storyteller Jess Smith and musician Joss Cameron share stories and ballads from the fullness of the Traveller's Kist, a treasure of songs and tales that flow like the clear waters of a Highland burn.

### **MON 16 OCT**

### Calvino 100

### 6pm (1hr)

Join storytellers Anne Hunter, Donald Smith and Simone Caffari as they weave a Scots-Italian garland of stories, music and song in celebration of Italo Calvino's centenary.

Prolific writer and political activist, Calvino is also known for translating 200 folktales from their original local dialects, collected in the book Italian Folktales.



### **TUE 17 OCT**

### Up the Middle Road: Stories from the Crichton Royal Asylum

### 6pm (1hr)

Dr Valentina Bold and storyteller Amanda Edmiston present excerpts from Mike Bolam's film *Up the Middle Road* and a live storytelling performance, followed by a discussion on how stories can heal and dispel the stigma around mental health. The event is the natural result of a 2022 project developed at the site of the former Crichton Royal Asylum in Dumfries.

### WED 18 OCT

### **New Wave**

### 6pm (1hr)

The storytelling community in Scotland is an incubator of diverse talent. Enjoy the fresh voices of new and emerging tellers. Hosted by Janis Mackay.

If you plan
to attend multiple
events, remember
to take advantage
of our Festival
Pass!



### **THU 19 OCT**

### **Scots Character**

6pm (1hr)

Dour, thrawn, generous, mean, stoic, droll, contrary, wild, gentle... Tour the range of Scots tale and tongue, including some outrageous personal memories. Wha's like us? Damned few, an we're certainly no aw deid yit. With storyteller **James Spence**.

### FRI 20 OCT

# Sgeul - Mighty and Magic

6pm (1hr)

Experience mighty and magic tales from the John Francis Campbell collection. These are presented in new adaptations, in Gaelic and English. Tradition bearer Allan MacDonald teams up with musician Aidan O'Rourke. Translation support from Donald Smith.

### SAT 21 OCT

### The Girl's Own Survival Guide to History

4pm (1hr)

Do you need help negotiating your way through the wild world of women's history? Join Gillian Paterson and Nicola Wright on a whirlwind trip through female pirates and raucous rebels, whilst learning how to avoid being called a witch.

### **SUN 22 OCT**

### A Garment for the Moon

6pm (1hr)

Travel back to a place where the sun and the moon feel sorrow and shame, and a humble tailor can journey between worlds to make a gown as glorious as a skyful of stars. Set at the beginning of time, this traditional Jewish story is told by **Shonaleigh Cumbers** from family tradition, as remembered and taught by her bubbe (grandmother) Edith Marks.



Box office: 0131 556 9579

### **TUE 24 OCT**

### Alan Bruford Lecture

### 6pm (1hr) | Free, ticketed

Explore Scotland's unrivalled folklore collections in the annual Alan Bruford Lecture. Presented by **John Shaw**, in partnership with the Department of Celtic and Scottish Studies at Edinburgh University.

# WED 25 & SAT 28 OCT

### Northern Treasures

### 6pm (1hr)

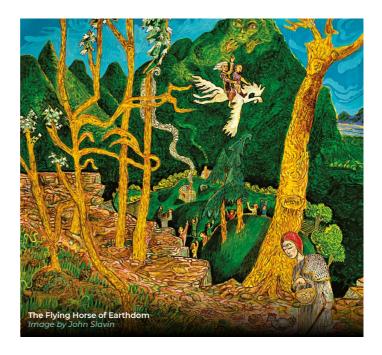
Sami culture is a collective treasure in story, song and music. Over two performances, storyteller/ joik singer Berit Alette Mienna and musician Øistein Hanssen share the deep roots of this northern lifestyle, the threats it faces, and its ongoing struggle to adapt and survive.

### FRI 27 OCT

# In the World and Out of It

#### 6pm (1hr)

Sheena Blackhall, Maria
Sappho and Kate Steenhauer
present a pilot performance
where storytelling, music
and live visual art are
intertwined in an evocation
of traditional tales and ballads
handed down from Stanley
Robertson, the Scottish
Traveller tradition bearer.



### SAT 28 OCT

### The Feast of the Dead

### 4pm (1hr)

Tonight's full moon invites us to celebrate the collective ancestors in the spirit of Celtic Samhain and Norse Winter Nights. Storyteller **David Brown** shares Cornish, Scottish, Irish and Norse tales, uncanny stories that were familiar to the people that once inhabited these green isles of the grey North Sea.



### **SUN 29 OCT**

# The Flying Horse of Earthdom

### 6pm (1hr)

From the beautiful wonder tales carried by the Williamson Traveller family of Argyll, comes this lifeaffirming story of survival from prejudice, disability and violence. Told to Duncan Williamson (1928-2007) by an old cousin who had been through World War I, the story is retold for our time by storytellers Linda Williamson, Jimmy Williamson, David Campbell and Mio Shudo.



### SAT 14 OCT

# The Town Mouse and the Country Mouse

11am (1hr) £5 per child | All Ages

Come along on a multisensory adventure with artist/illustrator Kate Leiper and storyteller Ailie Finlay. Explore this well-loved tale, handling cosy props, soft quilts, crunchy leaves, snug nests and (watch out!) tinkling cat-bells. Then create an artwork inspired by the story, dipping into Kate's wonderful art box and have fun with colours, textures and tactile materials.

Fun for everyone but particularly suitable for children with additional needs and their families and friends.

### Isis and Osiris

### 2pm (1hr) £5 per child | 5+

Join belly dancer Moyra Banks and storyteller Fergus McNicol to dance the ancient Egyptian myth of Isis and Osiris. Prepare to fly, swim and fight with the gods of Ancient Egypt in this fun story-dance for everyone. A fully interactive session so comfortable shoes suggested!

### **SUN 15 OCT**

Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh Arboretum Place, EH3 5NZ

Booking and info: Scottish Storytelling Centre www.sisf.org.uk, 0131 556 9579

### **Once There Was a Bug**

Live | Outdoor

12pm-1.30pm & 2.30pm-4pm (20min sessions) Free, drop-in | All Ages

Stories about trees, animals, bugs and much more, for children and their grown-ups.

### Rewilding Cinderella: An Eco-Storytelling Concert

Live | Outdoor

1.30pm (1hr 15) | £5 • Storywalk 1 - All Ages • Storywalk 2 - 12+

Follow the Storytelling Choir across the Garden as Cinderella stories from all over the world are woven together to explore the global, local and intimate journey of the ash-child. With Gauri Raje, Kestrel Morton, Laura Sampson, Wendy Shearer, Joanna Gilar and Fleur Hemmings. Poetry from Tunde Balogun, music from Heulwen Williams and artistic enchantments by Hannah Battershell.

The event involves a limited use of hazelnut and walnut shells.

### MON 16 OCT - WED 18 OCT

### **School of Storycraft**

10.30am (2hrs) £15 | 7-12yrs

Storytellers **Sarah Wedderburn-Ogilvy** and **Ailsa Dixon** invite you to a series of fun-filled storytelling sessions. A great introduction to live storytelling for aspiring young storytellers, venturing out to explore stories in their spoken form, through art, games and movement. Come and try to tell your own story!



### **MON 16 OCT**

### **Makin a Brew**

11am (1hr) £5 per child | All Ages

Musician **Gica Loening** and storyteller **Claire McNicol** share a mix of songs, rhymes, music, dance and stories aimed at small children, with older siblings welcome. Working with children and parents in Early Years Centres in North Edinburgh and Musselburgh over the last few years, Gica and Claire are delighted to create some magic in the lovely Storytelling Court!

### **THU 19 OCT**

### Kamishibai Workshop

11am (1hr 30) £5 per child | 7+

Experience the art of Kamishibai storyboard with renowned storyteller, harpist and Urasenke Japanese Tea Master **Mio Shudo**. Along with enchanting harp music, Mio will welcome you to the world of original Japanese storytelling and show you how to create Kamishibai and some secret tricks! You will also learn manga drawing techniques, story composition and performing skills.

### FRI 20 OCT

### Bear with Me: A Polar Bear in Scotland

1.30pm (1hr) £5 | 8+

Arty is a day-dreaming, inquisitive young polar bear who was born in Scotland but longs to see the world. When he inadvertently ends up on a voyage far from home, Arty discovers more than he bargained for... This moving spoken-word show from critically acclaimed collective Stuart Kenny (poet), Grant Robertson (musician/composer), Lottie Whittingham (musician) and Lewis Gillies (illustrator), takes the audience on a rip-roaring adventure across heather, hill, ocean and snow. A sell-out hit at Edinburgh Fringe 2023.

### SAT 21 OCT

# Macastory's Caddie Capers

Live | Outdoor

### 11.30am (1hr) £5 per person | 5+

Join the Old Town Caddies as they take you on a Greatest Hits tour of Auld Reekie in story, song and rhyme. You'll meet characters such as Deacon Brodie and Aggie the Fish Wife as the caddies lead vou through the cobbled streets and closes to share the secrets of old Edinburgh with vou! Interactive storytelling with the ever-entertaining Macastory.

The event involves walking on hilly terrain.

# Visual Fun With Sports

by Petre Dobre and Craig McCulloch Presented by Deaf Action

1.30pm (1hr) £5 | 3+

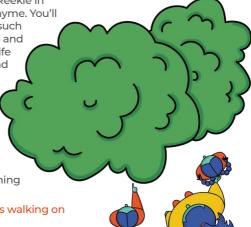
Get ready to dive into the world of sports in this exciting family show. Watch as Petre and Craig take you on a spectacular adventure where sports come to life through humorous expressions and body language. Originally performed at Edinburgh Deaf Festival, this piece is performed in Visual Vernacular and British Sign Language, with a BSL interpreter providing a voiceover in English.

### SAT 28 OCT

### **Family Samhuinn**

12pm (2hrs) Free, ticketed | 3+

This delightful Beltane Fire Society tradition allows parents to share in the magic of the Samhuinn celebration with their little ones through storytelling, face painting and arts & crafts, in advance of the Samhuinn Fire Parade on Tue 31 Oct.



# Festival Workshops

Art of the Storyteller

**Scottish Storytelling Centre** 

Live | Indoor

10.30am (2hrs 30) - unless stated All events are £16 (£12)

People have been sharing stories since language began. It is a subtle, complex and endlessly entertaining way of being human. Spend a morning with the best in the field to improve your skills and raise your ambitions. Hosted by Festival Director **Donald Smith**.

Peter Chand

### SAT 14 OCT

### Invigorate Your Story

The storyteller's relationship with the audience and their connection to the tale they are telling are vital. Liverpudlian-Irish storyteller **Maria Whatton** will explore ways to create a conducive atmosphere for listening, engaging interest and deepening connection to the different elements within a tale.

Please bring a traditional story of your choice to work on.

### **SUN 15 OCT**

### Something Old, Something New

10.30am (3hrs)

Storvteller Colin Urwin shares the process he often uses to forge stories that sound as if they've been around for millennia, 'Something borrowed' can be family anecdotes or scraps of folklore; 'something blue' might be a memory or emotion. Colin will guide participants through a process of creation in which 'something old' can be reimagined and turned into a wonder tale that is not iust 'something new' but eminently tellable.

### FRI 20 OCT

### Telling the Big Tales

Telling a long story is like holding a complicated tune from start to finish. Danish

storyteller **Svend-Erik Engh** and **Donald Smith** uncover their different approaches to tackling two mighty tales from the John Francis Campbell collection, and encourage you to make your own choices.

### **SAT 21 OCT**

# The Right to be Heard

We all know that stories give a voice to the voiceless. And often the stories we dismiss as meaningless little folktales have the most impact. Stories have given people the strength to speak up and the space to be heard in the most extreme circumstances. How can we work with stories to enable, empower and encounter each other? With storyteller Shonaleigh Cumbers

### **SUN 22 OCT**

### Common Sense: Adding Flavour to your Storytelling

### 10.30am (3hrs)

When we really start using our senses, our story can connect in a much deeper way. Join storyteller **Peter Chand** and let him guide you to add aroma, taste, texture and sound to your story, enabling it to sizzle. You will experience a variety of storytelling techniques, including use of memory and visualisation to help enhance your story, presentation or educational process.

### FRI 27 OCT

### Storytelling with Children

It is often said children are hard-wired to listen and engage with stories, but that doesn't mean they always make the easiest audience! Storyteller Daniel Serridge will explore the tools and techniques to engage younger audiences. From pace, voice, facial expression, rhythm, rhyme and humour. Daniel will break down some of the key tenets of good storytelling, offering you clear guidance on how to bring life to children's tales and leave your audience spellbound.

# SAT 28 OCT & SUN 29 OCT

### **Basket of Stories**

The Art of the Storyteller series ends with two relaxed sessions of crafting, storytelling and conversation. Inspired by a Story Blanket gifted by Canadian First Nation tellers, and by Scottish Traveller traditions, **Douglas Mackay** and **Hermione Toulson** reflect on what we can weave today in creative response to land, heritage, culture and the interrelation between them.



# **Global Lab**

### Online | Workshops

2pm (2hrs 30) All events are £10 (£8) ★£6

The global storytelling community is given the opportunity to share, question and discuss, feeding each other's roots beyond geographical borders.

Hosted by Festival Director **Donald Smith**.



### Earth Charter, Earth Stories

Our planet's eco-system is tipping towards breakdown. Yet we know that nature has the capacity to regenerate and heal. In these sessions we look at Earth's own stories for inspiration. Join this week's sessions to experience how ecological passion drives twenty-first century storytelling and contribute your own insights. In association with **Earth** 

In association with Earth Charter International.

### **MON 16 OCT**

### Rewilding Cinderella

An international collaboration to identify and compare versions of Cinderella turns up some surprising choices, and a chance to explore the doughty heroine's connections with nature. With storytellers Gauri Raje, Joanna Gilar, Kestrel Morton, Sophie Gibson and Tunde Balogun.

### **TUE 17 OCT**

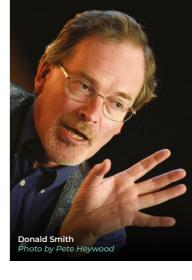
### **Just Enough**

Storytellers Cara Roberts from Scotland and Catriona Blanke from Germany explore the Earth Stories Collection and related tales. They invite us to think about how we can live in our human messiness alongside nature without mutual destruction, and on what stories can help us along.

### WED 18 OCT

# The Sea: Our Last Wilderness

Canadian storyteller **Dawne McFarlane** and Scottish
musician **Mairi Campbell**nurture our connection with
the sea and explore new
ways to renew our broken
bond with our planet's last
great wilderness. Through
story, music, science and the
inspiration of indigenous and
traditional cultures, we can
reconnect and rewild.



### **THU 19 OCT**

### Green City: Healing and Hope?

For good or ill, the struggle for sustainability will be won or lost in our cities. This session explores the gardens, where we meet the people who are turning our home city green, in a quest for healing and hope. Gardens reach back into millennia of connection between people and nature, and they are a vital pathway into the future. With Elly Crichton Stuart, Grian Cutanda and Donald Smith.



### **WEEK TWO**

### **Shared Lives**

2023 marks the 75th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and in Scotland consultation has begun on a new Bill of Human Rights.

This week we look at the underlying values and lived experience that inspire a rights-based approach, nationally and internationally. Explore how dignity, respect, equality and compassion can undermine the dehumanizers, abusers and persecutors. It is better to light a candle than curse the darkness.

### **MON 23 OCT**

### Our Place in Nature

In an increasingly online society, how do we connect to our place in nature? In this session we build on the experience of intergenerational community-based workshops and we go in search of our wild spaces, questioning our right to use them and how different generations experience

them. With **David Hughes, Joanna Ramasawmy** and **Graham Richardson**.



### **TUE 24 OCT**

### Our Human Rights

Hosted by Jemma Neville, this session looks at what is involved in a rights-based approach to society, nationally and internationally, bringing together leading rights advocates with lived experiences of today's struggle to be human. How did the Universal Declaration of Human Rights emerge, and how can we move it forward in changed circumstances?

### WED 25 OCT

# Listening to Children

While children are the voices of tomorrow, we are not always listening to them today. This session explores a variety of approaches to empowering children through respect, collaboration and imaginative companioning with shared stories. Hosted by Beth Cross, with contributions from Dr. Jennifer Markides and Donald Smith.

### THU 26 OCT

### Our Cultural Rights

TRACS (Traditional Arts and Culture Scotland) has championed a grassroots approach in the field of cultural rights and how they affect education. languages and local arts. This session aims to show how international human rights and UNESCO frameworks can underpin a community led approach to culture. Hosted by TRACS Director Steve Byrne and The People's Parish Project Lead David Francis. with creative fieldworkers and local participants.

If you plan
to attend multiple
events, remember
to take advantage
of our Festival
Pass!

Edinburgh Events

Live | Indoor Unless stated

Discover storytelling events and workshops organised by our Edinburgh partners, featuring venues and outdoor locations in the Old Town and beyond.

Allison Galbraith
Photo by Elaine Livingstone



Live storytelling | Free, ticketed

Booking and info: www.nls.uk

### FRI 20 OCT

### The Well at the World's End: Where the Heck Is It?

2pm (1hr) | 6+

Allison Galbraith shares family-friendly folktales collected by John Francis Campbell. Escape with a gang of farm animals as they set out to live the dream. Meet a fox with a flea problem and help solve the age-old riddle: where is the Well at the World's End, and how do you get there? An interactive, vivid storytelling show filled with gentle humour and a Gaelicsinging frog.

### WED 25 OCT

# Sgeul - Mighty and Magic

5pm (1hr)

Experience mighty and magic tales from the John Francis Campbell collection. These are presented in new adaptations, in Gaelic and English. Tradition bearer Allan MacDonald teams up with musician Aidan O'Rourke. Translation support from Donald Smith.

### THU 26 OCT

# A Tour and a Tale

11am (1hr) | 12+

Discover more about the NLS's current exhibition Sgeul | Story: Folktales from the Scottish Highlands – and about the life and many talents of story collector

John Francis Campbell (1821-1885), with curator **Ulrike Hogg**. There will also be an opportunity to hear one of the stories from *Popular Tales of the West Highlands*, told by **Beverley Casebow**.

### TUE 31 OCT

# Tales from the Witches Sabbath

5.30pm (1hr) | 14+

The Witchcraft Act of 1563
-1736 came into fruition
during a period of war,
turmoil and famine, when
ordinary people could easily
fall under suspicion and face
interrogation and death. Joss
Cameron, John Tantalon and
Amy Dudley take you on a
journey of stories of those
dark times, intertwined with
music and songs.

National Library of Scotland George IV Bridge, EH1 1EW

Workshops | Free, ticketed

Booking and info: www.nls.uk

### **TUE 17 OCT**

### Sgeulachdan Ghaisgeach ann am Beul-aithris nan Gàidheal Albannach

# Hero Tales in Scotland's Gaelic Tradition

2pm (1hr 30) Donations welcome | 12+

Storyteller **Ruairidh Maclean** takes us on a 'heritage tour' of Gaelic Scotland, introducing some of the heroic characters who appear in traditional tales that were recorded in the 19th and 20th centuries.

### WED 18 OCT

### Cuilg Mharbhtach Thorc agus Cathan Mòra

### Deadly Boarbristles and Mighty Battles

10.30am (1hr 30) Donations welcome | 12+

A large number of Scotland's place-names are 'folkloric', in that they commemorate happenings that belong to the realm of story and imagination. Storyteller **Ruairidh Maclean** looks at some of the most famous examples of places in Gaelic Scotland where traditional tales are rooted in name and memory.

### **THU 19 OCT**

### Alba & Èirinn: Òrain & Sgeulachdan na Fèinne

### Scotland & Ireland: Songs & Stories of the Fianna

11am (1hr 30) | 12+

A group of musicians, singers and storvtellers - Mairi MacMillan. Martin MacIntyre, Gráinne Holland, Mhairi Hall and Éamon Doorley - have been exploring the shared song and lore of Fionn MacCumhail and The Fianna in Scotland and Ireland. In this preperformance workshop, Màiri and Martin will offer insights into the shared creative journey of the group and give access to some of the key songs and stories, before the performance on Friday 20 October. A knowledge of Gaelic would be useful, but not essential.

### FRI 27 OCT

### Bùth-Obrach Òrain Luaidh le Rena Gertz

# Waulking Songs with Rena Gertz

10.30am (2hrs) | Adults

Discover more about the tradition of Gaelic waulking songs with singer **Rena Gertz**. There will be a chance to learn some Gaelic songs, to find out the history of waulking the cloth in the Highlands and islands, to hear a traditional story, and to visit the exhibition *Sgeul / Story: Folktales of the Scottish Highlands*. No experience of Gaelic or singing required.

### **SUN 15 OCT**

Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh Arboretum Place, EH3 5NZ Booking and info: Scottish Storytelling Centre www.sisf.org.uk, 0131 556 9579

# Once There Was a Bug

Live | Outdoor

12pm-1.30pm & 2.30pm-4pm (20min sessions) Free, drop-in | All Ages

Stories about trees, animals, bugs and much more, for children and their grown-ups.

### Rewilding Cinderella: An Eco-Storytelling Concert

Live | Outdoor

1.30pm (1hr 15) | £5 Storywalk 1 - All Ages Storywalk 2 - 12+

Follow the Storytelling
Choir across the Garden as
Cinderella stories from all over
the world are woven together
to explore the global, local and
intimate journey of the ashchild. With Gauri Raje, Kestrel
Morton, Laura Sampson,
Wendy Shearer, Joanna Gilar
and Fleur Hemmings. Poetry
from Tunde Balogun, music
from Heulwen Williams and
artistic enchantments by

The event involves a limited use of hazelnut and walnut shells.

Hannah Battershell.



### **Angus**

Edzell

### **SUN 22 OCT**

### Gorge-ous Nature Stories

Live | Outdoor

The Burn Estate, Blue Door Walk, Glenesk, Brechin, DD9 7YP 2pm (2hrs) | £6

Storyteller Cara Roberts takes you through the Blue Door, on a story walk beside the beautiful Gannochy Gorge. Come and find out some of the myths and stories associated with our native species and landscape. Hear folktales, and share celebrations of the rivers, trees and birds that have shaped our understanding of the world.

Please be aware the path is uneven.

Booking and info: Cara Roberts - cara@ onenatureeducation.com, www.onenatureeducation.com

**Montrose Basin** 

### **SUN 22 OCT**

### Wild Geese and Other Tales

Scottish Wildlife Trust Visitor Centre, Rossie Braes, A92, DD10 9TA 5pm (1hr) | £6

Local storyteller and naturalist Cara Roberts shares mythic and real tales of wild geese, and reflects on our need for nature connection and rewilding. Spend some time in the Scottish Wildlife Trust Visitor Centre, watching the geese land, before or after the performance.

Booking and info: scottishwildlifetrust.org.uk or Cara Roberts - cara@ onenatureeducation.com, www.onenatureeducation.com

### Argyll

### Isle of Mull

**Bunessan** 

### **MON 13 NOV**

### Once Upon a Time there Was a War

Bunessan Community Hall, PA67 6DP 7.30pm (1hr) Pay What You Can

The harsh reality of war meets the magic of love songs and art, as Danish storyteller Svend-Erik Engh shares stories from real-life soldiers gathered in a decade of research, whilst musician Mairi Campbell sings songs of peace and love, from the canon of Scottish traditional song and her own writings. Danish artist Tea Bendix illustrates words and music. bringing another dimension into the stories. Hosted by An Tobar and Mull Theatre.

Booking and info: www. antobarandmulltheatre.co.uk





Lochawe

### **SUN 22 OCT**

### **Rickle O Stanes**

### St Conan's Kirk, PA33 1AQ 3pm (1hr) | By donation

This is a show about Scotland's land: about its rocks and mud, what it's grown, what lives it's sustained, how it's been bought, fought for and wounded.
Through powerful and playful storytelling and traditional song, Shona Cowie, Neil Sutcliffe and dramaturg Liam Hurley explore the layers of history on which we stand today, piling up to create a performance as

radical as it is entertaining.

Info: enquiries@stconanskirk.

ora.uk



### **TUE 14 NOV**

**Events hosted by** The Rockfield Centre Rockfield Brae. 19 Stevenson Street, PA34 5DQ

Booking and info: therockfieldcentre.org.uk

### The Laughing Mermaid and **Other Stories**

4pm (1hr) Pay What You Can | 7+

Welcome to an hour of funny folktales from Denmark with storytellers Svend-Erik Engh and Alice Fernbank bringing you an assortment of stories from Svend-Erik's book Danish Folktales. Meet laughing mermaids, giant snakes, a fat cat, a runaway sledge, giants, devils, and of course Vikings.

Not suitable for children under 7.

### **Odin's Eve** and the Art of Seeina

### 7pm (1hr) | Pay What You Can

'When a proton beam of radio therapy fires into my eye, ultraviolet auroras appear in my vision. An unexpected moment of beauty in a cancer treatment centre in the Wirral opens the doorway to a world of Æsir and Vanir gods, and their epic quests in the pursuit of seeina.'

Storyteller Alice Fernbank shares a personal story of illhealth and healing, threaded through the Norse tales of Odin, Gullveig, and Mimir. Directed by Kath Burlinson.



### Clackmannanshire

Alloa

**SAT 21-**FRI 27 OCT

### Wild Hillfoots Storytelling **Festival**

### 'Being Human'

Hillfoots Tales welcomes vou to Alloa! Eniov four days of traditional tales featuring quest storyteller Shona Cowie and local storytellers Eleanor Bell. Rosie Brown. Joanne Dowd, Mary Snaddon, Tania Dron. Sue Bytheway. Gail Watson, Heather Kirby and Laura Allison.

Full programme, booking and info: www.hillfootstales. co.uk, hillfootstales@gmail. com, 0780 655 906.

### 21 OCT Stand Up

Shona Cowie, Joanne Dowd and Tania Dron

### **25 OCT**

**Rights of the Round Table** Hillfoots Tales

### **26 OCT**

**Finding the Right Story** 

Joanne Dowd and Sue Bytheway

#### **27 OCT**

Storytellers Unleashed Hillfoots Tales

**Dollar** 

### WED 18 OCT

### Tales from the Japanese Garden

Live | Outdoor

The Japanese Garden at Cowden, Upper Hillfoot Rd, **FK14 7PL** 11am (1hr 30)

Tour included in garden ticket

Welcome to Sha Raku En. the place of pleasure and delight. Step through the archway and join a unique story tour around the garden. Hear Japanese tales and of the adventures of its creator Ella Christie with storytellers Lindsey Gibb and Mio Shudo.

The story tour is suitable for all ages. Please note the paths are loose gravel and slope upwards at various points.

Booking and info: Nicola Diblev cowden-garden.myshopify. com, outreach@ cowdengarden.com, 07876 117 703



# Dumfries & Galloway

### **Dumfries**

**Events hosted by The Stove Network** 

Full programme, booking and info: www.wildgoosefestival.scot

### THU 19 -SUN 29 OCT

### Wild Goose Festival

Enjoy our annual exploration of nature, creativity and place across eleven days. The familyfriendly programme celebrates the incredible journey undertaken by five species of wild geese from Greenland. Iceland and Svalbard to the Solway estuary, in our very own region. Produced by The Stove Network and held in Dumfries and surrounding areas, the festival unites key partners from across the region to promote connection with our natural world through creativity, education and community engagement.

### **THU 26 OCT**

# Northern Tales and Tunes

The Stove Network & Café, 100 High St, DG1 2BJ

7.30pm (1hr) £5 | Adults and 12+

Sami storyteller/joik singer Berit Alette Mienna and musician Øistein Hanssen travel to Dumfries for a cosy and unique evening of stories, music and songs from the far north.

### Wanlockhead

### FRI 27 OCT

### The Ballad of the Wanlock Ingot

Wanlockhead Community Centre, Manse Road, ML12 6UT 7pm (2hrs) | By donation (suggested £5), on the door

From deep in the earth of the Southern Uplands to the bottom of the ocean at the Cape of Good Hope, fate carries a sailor and a lead ingot far from home. Through traditional stories, live illustration and readings from the original book, **Jean** 

Edmiston, Andrew Foley

and **Kirsten Milliken** explore the lives, folklore and customs of Wanlockhead's 18th century miners.

Info: Kirsten Milliken www.kirstenmilliken.co.uk, millikenkirsten@qmail.com



### Dundee

**Events hosted by Blether Tay-Gither** 

Booking and info:

Owen Pilarim - storypilarim@hotmail.com

### **SUN 15 OCT**

### **Tales of Care**

Live | Outdoor

University of Dundee Botanic Garden, Riverside Dr, DD2 1QH 2.30pm (1hr) | Free, drop-in

Blether Tay-Gither storytellers invite you to the lush green setting of the Botanic Garden as they weave stories on the theme of Care, for the enjoyment of all families.

The event is in conjunction with the Festival of the Future organised by the University of Dundee

### WED 25 OCT

### Journey to the South

HMS Unicorn, S Victoria Dock Rd, DDI 3BP 7pm (2hrs) | £5

Dundee storytellers are pleased to host special guests Anna Conomos-Wedlock and Rebecca Vučetić in a night of stories and music from Greece, Asia Minor and Scotland. Set sail and get ready for a spellbinding journey from the North Sea to the Mediterranean.

### **Fife**

**Events hosted by Lang Spoon Tales** 

Booking and info: Kate Walker - kate. storyteller@hotmail.co.uk, 07745 957 134

**Dunfermline** 

### **TUE 17 OCT**

### Tales of Exile & Freedom

Carnegie Hall Studio Theatre, East Port, KY12 7JA 7.30 (1hr 30) | £5 (£4)

Argyll-based **Gauri Raje** and local Fife storytellers **David Hughes**, **Kate Walker** and **Sarah Wedderburn-Ogilvy** share stories of separation and liberty. Tales of yesterday, spoken for today.

### **SAT 11 NOV**

### Fabulous Fables

Dunfermline Carnegie Library and Galleries, 1 Abbot St, KY12 7NL 2pm (1hr 30) Free, ticketed | 4-10 yrs

Local storytellers Mary Snaddon, Kate Walker and Sarah Wedderburn-Ogilvy craft and tell old stories of wonder and wisdom tales for today.

Children must be accompanied by an adult.

**Falkland** 

### **THU 19 OCT**

### Wild Adventures: Stories of Connection

The Stables, KY15 7AF 2pm (2hrs) £6 (£4) per child, adults free

Storytellers **David Hughes** and **Sarah Wedderburn- Ogilvy** host a family session of stories and wild crafting. Bring your grown-ups and join us for some nature crafting as we search for the wild stories that

Booking and info: wildstoryweaver.eventbrite.

### SAT 28 OCT

connect us

### Rooted Tales: Stories of Land and Lore

The Stables, KY15 7AF 2pm (2hrs) | £8 (£6)

Storytellers **David Hughes** and **Sarah Wedderburn- Ogilvy** share stories to deepen our connection with land and with place. Have a go at some simple wild crafts as you listen to the tales.

Booking and info: wildstoryweaver.eventbrite. com



### SAT 14 OCT

### Bennachie Speaks

Laidlaw Music Centre, McPherson Recital Centre, Queen's Terrace, KY16 9QF 3pm (1hr) | £5

Musician Mairi McKeown and storyteller Ailsa Dixon weave legend and history with freshly-composed music to explore the past, present and future of Aberdeenshire mountain Bennachie: from rock formations and 900 year-old love triangles to the impact of climate change on its slopes. Through song and story, the mountain speaks.

Booking and info: Ailsa Dixon - ailsaedixon@gmail.com, FB: @AilsaDixonStoryteller

### Glasgow

Glasgow

**TUE 24 OCT** 

# Sangs an' Clatter: Northern Tales and Tunes

Blackfriars, 36 Bell St, G1 1LG 7.30pm (2hrs 30) Pay What You Can (£5-£15)

Sami storyteller/joik singer Berit Alette Mienna and musician Øistein Hanssen join the Village storytelling crowd for a unique evening of stories, music and song from the far north. Hosted by The Village Storytelling Centre.

Booking and info: www. villagestorytelling.org.uk, info@villagestorytelling.org. uk. 0141 882 3025



### Highland

Dornoch

### FRI 13 OCT

### **Tales and Tunes**

Dornoch Library, 8 High St, IV25 3SH 11am (1hr) | Free Adults and children 7+

Enjoy a morning of stories and music in the company of storyteller **Bob Pegg** and listen to the sounds of Scotland's oldest instruments.

Info: Bob Pegg - catsback@gmail.com

**Evanton** 

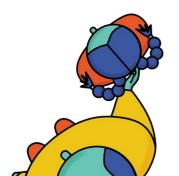
### **SAT 25 NOV**

### Multicultural Ceilidh

Victoria Diamond Jubilee Hall, Hermitage St, IV16 9YG 3pm (3hrs) | By donation

Storyteller Lizzie McDougall invites you to a multicultural and family-friendly ceilidh of stories, songs and music, with tea and scones. A lively afternoon to celebrate traditional stories and music from Scotland and distant lands, with contributions from international musicians living in the Highlands.

Info: Lizzie McDougall - lizzie.mcdougall@gmail.com



**Fort Augustus** 

### **SUN 12 NOV**

### An Cruinneachadh

Fort Augustus Village Hall, Church Rd, PH32 4DG 2pm (3hrs) | Free

Thighibh cruinn airson cuirm le farsaingeachd de dh'òraidean, fiolm agus ceòl beò a tha a' mealadh dualchas bheartach sgìrean Chill Chuimein, Ghleann a Garadh agus Ghleann Mhoireasdan.

Cluinneamaid bho Euan
Robertson, dealbhadair fiolm
a th' air duaisean a thogail,
fìdhleir le daimh dhan àite
Charlie Grey, eitn-eòlaiche
Raghnaid Sandilands, Andrew
Grant MacKenzie eòlaiche
eachdraidh agus luchd-ciùil
Munro Gaul, Neil Baillie agus
Ceit Langhorne. Bheir òigridh
na sgìre blasad de sgeulachdan
ionadail dhuinn cuideachd.

Mar phàirt de An Cruinneachadh.

Fios: www.the-gathering. co.uk, ancruinnjg@gmail.com

### The Gathering

Explore the rich cultural heritage of Fort Augustus, Glengarry and Glenmoriston with filmmaker Euan Robinson, local fiddler Charlie Grey, ethnographer Raghnaid Sandilands, historian Andrew Grant McKenzie and musicians Munro Gauld, Neil Baillie and Ceit Langhorne. Young people from the area will also share local stories.

Part of An Cruinneachadh Community Arts Programme.

Info: www.the-gathering. co.uk, ancruinnjg@gmail.com

### **Halkirk**

### SAT 14 OCT

### Folklore and Humans: Where Two Worlds Meet

The Ross Institute, B874, KW12 6XZ 12pm, 3pm & 6pm (2hrs) Free, ticketed

Join a trio of storytellers exploring the interplay between humans and mystical characters from local folklore.

Jane Mather (12pm) will introduce the magical figures and wise women of Caithness. Alexandria Patience (3pm) will examine stories of herbs, health, brews and witches, and Griogair MacAllein (6pm) will lead a vivid, immersive workshop on darker local tales.

Booking and info: Cally Maxwell - www. sidhchailleannart.com, sidhchailleannart@gmail. com, 07811 873 507

**Inverness** 

### SAT 11 NOV

# Women Making History Banners

The Bike Shed, Grant Street, IV3 8BN

### 3pm (2hrs) | By donation

Journey through equality stories and songs from the Highland banners, made to celebrate 100 years since women got the vote.

Storyteller and artist Lizzie
McDougall will share some of
the stories on the banners, with
musical and poetry contributions
from the many talented
women who contributed to
the banner making.

Info: Lizzie McDougall - lizzie. mcdougall@gmail.com

### **Kincraig**

### **TUE 14 NOV**

**Events hosted by Storylands Sessions** 

Booking and info: badenochstorylands.com

### Storylands: Early Show

6pm (1hr) £5 (£3, child free) | All Ages

Hamish Napier and Merryn Glover invite you to an evening of stories, music and poetry for all ages. You are welcome to contribute your favourite stories or songs, or you can just relax and listen! Featuring guest storytellers Inés Álvarez Villa and David Francis.

### Storylands: Late Show

8pm (2hrs) £10 (£5, child free)

Guest storytellers Inés Álvarez Villa and David Francis bring their stories to the Cairngorms. Contribute your own favourite stories or songs, or you just relax and enjoy the night! Hosted by Hamish Napier and Merryn Glover.



### Ullapool

### SAT 21 OCT

### Journeying Towards Equality

Ullapool Village Hall, Market Street, IV26 2XE 3pm (2hrs) | By donation

Journey through equality stories and songs from the Highland banners, made to celebrate 100 years since women got the vote.

Storyteller and artist Lizzie McDougall will share their stories with musical and poetry contributions from Ullapool community.

Info: Lizzie McDougall - lizzie.mcdougall@gmail.com



### Midlothian

**Temple** 

### SAT 21 OCT

### Myths of Midlothian

Temple Village Hall, EH23 4SQ 2pm (1hr 30) | Free, drop-in

An afternoon of stories and delicious cakes in the remote village of Temple. Hear local storytellers **Stephen McCabe** and **Elaine Robertson** share enchanting tales from the lush countryside and historic towns of Midlothian! There will be space for everyone to contribute stories, be they local legends or just embarrassing tales from your Midlothian childhoods.

Info: Stephen McCabe – stephen@ naturetherapyonline.net

### Moray

**Findhorn** 

### FRI 24 NOV

# Tales from the Fire

Universal Hall, The Park, IV36 3TZ 7.30pm (2hrs) | £5

Storytellers Carol Scorer, Peter Vallance and Margot Henderson invite you to an evening of stories that have been born from the fire, and that we hope will bring you wisdom, healing and transformation.

Booking and info: www.universalhall.co.uk

### **North East**

**Aberdeen & Peterculter** 

### FRI 6 OCT - TUE 28 NOV

### Aberdeen & Beyond Storytelling Festival

Join GAS - Grampian Association of Storytellers and the Elphinstone Institute for a jamboree of stories from Aberdeen and beyond, reflecting the real international character of the area. With special guests Zahra Afsah, Anna Conomos-Wedlock, Rebecca Vučetić, Linda Williamson and Nicola Wright, joined by local storytellers Lola Dabiri, Khloud Ereksousi, Arantxa García de Sola, Phyll McBain, Jackie Ross, Nana Tomova and many more.

Full programme, booking and info: www.abdn.ac.uk/elphinstone grampianstorytellers.wordpress.com

#### 6 OCT

First Friday Fling - GAS

### **18 OCT**

The Voice Shall Always Remain – Zahra Afsah and Khloud Ereksousi



### **20 OCT**

Bennachie Speaks – Ailsa Dixon and Mairi McKeown

#### **24 OCT**

The Promise - Anna Conomos-Wedlock and Rebecca Vučetić

#### 27 OCT

**The Three Apprentices** – Phyll McBain, David G Pullar and Cara Roberts

### **30 OCT**

Stories from the Gelly - Linda Williamson

#### 3 NOV

First Friday Fling - GAS

#### 7 NOV

Naija-Tales: Tell It Like a Nigerian - Lola Dabiri

#### **17 NOV**

**Ballads and Stories** – GAS and TMSA - Traditional Music and Song Association of Scotland.

### **18 NOV**

A User's Guide to Stories & Heritage - Nicola Wright

#### **19 NOV**

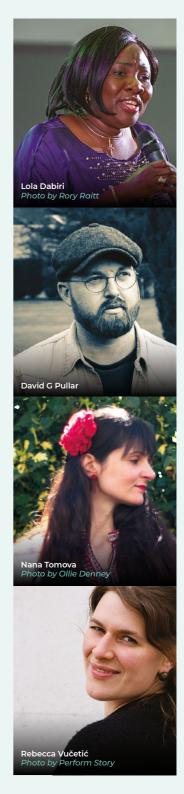
Toilet Tales - Jackie Ross and Nicola Wright

#### 21 NOV

Threads of Gold: Ancient Bulgarian Tales - Nana Tomova

#### **28 NOV**

Phyll & Friends - Phyll McBain



### North Lanarkshire

Shotts

### SAT 28 OCT

### In the Hartwood

Spring Hill Community Hub, Knoll Croft Road, ML7 5JF 2pm (1hr 30) | Free, ticketed

Join storytellers Jane Mather and Heather Yule on a iourney in tribute to those interred in pauper's graves at the now derelict Hartwood Hospital, and the friends who tend the cemetery and make it a tranquil oasis. Let stories and harp music guide vou into the faerie realm where dreams are powerful and nature spirits abound. The event includes O&A with Friends of Hartwood.

Booking and info: www.spotlightshotts.org



Part of the Right To Be Human series

### Orkney

### THU 26 -**SUN 29 OCT**

### Orkney Storytelling **Festival**

Welcome to the small festival with a big heart! This year we are honoured to host storytellers Peter Chand and Shonaleigh Cumbers, joined by renowned artist and illustrator Katherine Soutar. who will be creating live art during the storytelling sessions.

Our guests will be joined by local storytellers Tom Muir. Fran Flett Hollinrake. Marita Luck, Erin Farley and Chris Perry on a four-day celebration of traditional stories in a series of venues throughout the islands. also including 12th-century St Magnus Cathedral.

Full programme, booking and info: orkneystorytellingfestival.co.uk

### Perth and **Kinross**

**Aberfeldy** 

### FRI 20 OCT

### Sami Night: Film & Storytelling

Birks Cinema, 1 Dunkeld St, **PH15 2DA** 5.30pm (3hrs) £10, under 18s free

Join us for a film screening followed by a storytelling ceilidh and feast, sharing traditions and foods from Scandinavia. Suitable for families.

Booking and info: www.birkscinema.co.uk

### Yoik

(1hr)

The untold story of one of the oldest music cultures in Europe. This film aims to show how Sami people found their own musical path.

Directed by Mai Lis Skaltie. 2014.

### East of the Sun and West of the Moon (1hr 30)

Live storytelling

A feast of story and song from the Sami tradition with storyteller/ioik singer Berit Alette Mienna and musician Øistein Hanssen. Hosted by local storyteller Claire Hewitt.

### SAT 21 OCT

### **Joik Singing** Workshop

Lesser Town Hall Aberfeldy. 2 Crieff Rd, PH15 2BJ 2pm (2hrs) Free, ticketed | Donations welcome

Sami storyteller/joik singer Berit Alette Mienna and musician Øistein Hanssen guide you through the ancient Sami song tradition of joik. Immerse yourself in the magic of northern sounds. Hosted by Claire Hewitt.

Booking and info: Claire Hewitt - clairesach12@gmail. com. 07500 118 047



#### Kenmore

**Events hosted by The Scottish Crannog Centre**Loch Tay, PH15 2HY

Booking and info: www.crannog.co.uk info@crannog.co.uk 01887 830 583

# SAT 7 & SUN 8 OCT

### Celtic Autumn: The Iron Age Bake Off

10am (6hrs) - Tours start every 45 minutes £7, under 5s free (family tickets available)

Celebrate the harvest on Loch Tay! You can listen to stories around the fire, explore our village and taste various ancient delicacies. Smoked Loch Tay trout, baked honey cakes, stewed wild fruits, take on the role of judge and decide which of our teams' dishes is the best! Bog butter on toast anyone?

### **TUE 31 OCT**

### Samhain Festival

7pm (2hrs 30) £20 (£15 child, under 5s free)

Join us as we celebrate the ancient Celtic festival of Samhain. Listen to live music, storytelling and song alongside fire and magic, games with the Hedgewitches, shadow puppet performances, and our famous Ram Burn!

Guising is encouraged and there will be prizes for the best dressed! Remember to wrap up warm!



### **Shetland**

**Bigton** 

### **SUN 22 OCT**

### **Wave Riders**

Hymhus, ZE2 9JF 3pm (1hr) £10 (£5), on the door

Three women, three ships, three voyages. Journey back in time with storyteller **Jan Bee Brown** and musician **Renzo Spiteri** as they share a series of saga-driven sonic stories of Viking pioneers Unn the Deep-minded, Gudrid the Far-traveller and Melkorka the Silent. Setting sail in small boats, our heroines forged better ways to live in peace with rights, freedoms and respect, standing shoulder to shoulder.

Booking and info: Jan Bee Brown - 07799 852 162



Part of the Right To Be Human series



### South Lanarkshire

**Biggar** 

### SAT 25 NOV

### The Wee Folk of the Woods

Wiston Lodge, Millrigg Road, Wiston, ML12 6HT 12.30pm (3hrs) | £8

Follow the Path of the Little People with storytellers Kirsten Milliken and David Hughes for a family-friendly story walk with games and creative activities. Enjoy mulled apple juice and toasted marshmallows by the fireside, and hear tales of the creatures that live in the woods, in the branches of the trees and behind the faerie doors.

Booking and info: www.wistonlodge.com info@wistonlodge.co.uk

### Western Isles

### Isle of Lewis

**Stornoway** 

**Events hosted by An Taigh Ceilidh** 16 Church Street, HS1 2DH

Booking and info: www.gaelichebrides.com, failte@taighceilidh.com, 07554 665 549

### THU 5 OCT

### **Cuairt a Bhaile**

Live | Outdoor

2pm (1hr 30) | £6

Cuairt a' Bhaile sa Ghàidhlig an cois **Magaidh Nic** a' **Ghobhainn** agus na caraidean. Seanchas a' chladaich chun Gearraidh Chruaidh.

### The Town Walk

A walk around Stornoway with **Magaidh Smith** and friends. Stories from the shoreline to the Castle Grounds.

### **THU 2 NOV**

### Blàr air Mointeach Leòdhais

2pm (1hr 30) | £6

Feasgar sheanchas mu na làraich far an robh cath agus othail air mòinteach Leòdhais an cois **Magaidh Nic a Ghobhainn** agus na caraidean.

### Clan Battles in Lewis

An afternoon of stories of battle and clan wars in the Lewis landscape with Magaidh Smith and friends.



### **Events hosted by Museum Nan Eilean**

Booking and info: www.outerhebridesheritage.org.uk w.seaborne@cne-siar.gov.uk

### **THU 19 OCT**

### **Storytelling Day**

Guest storyteller **Douglas Mackay** travels to Stornoway to present a number of Halloween-themed sessions for all ages and invites you to join the fun.

### Interactive Family Storytelling

Museum nan Eilean, Lews Castle Grounds, HS2 0XS 11am & 1pm (1hr)

11am & 1pm (1hr) Free, ticketed

Family-friendly sessions featuring storytelling, arts and crafts.

### **Open Hearth**

Lews Castle Bar, Lews Castle, HS2 OXS 7pm (2hrs) £6 (drop-in), £4 (online)

Informal and relaxed storytelling evening, with the chance to contribute your stories.

# Map of Stories

Enjoy an hour of multimedia storytelling where a world of local Scottish stories unfolds through the live voices of traditional storytellers and site-specific film footage of the landscapes they emerge from. Produced by **Transgressive North** as part of VisitScotland's Year of Stories 2022.

www.mapofstories.scot



# Community Programme

### MON 2 OCT - THU 30 NOV

### The Big Scottish Story Ripple

The SISF Community & Family Programme pairs local storytellers with schools and community groups in live and digital settings throughout Scotland. Take part in The Big Scottish Story Ripple by holding a storytelling event led by a storyteller from the Scottish Storytelling Forum's Directory. Groups can apply for a subsidy that will cover the cost of the storyteller's fees and in return, successful applicants must offer a good deed back to their local community on, or before, St Andrew's Day.

For more information contact: storytelling@tracscotland.org



### **The Stone Soup Collective**

**Scottish Storytelling Forum** in partnership with **Re-Act: Refugee Action Scotland** will work with groups of women from refugee communities across Edinburgh on the theme of 'Right To Be Human' to bring out the stories that are important to them.

Through participatory workshops the women will learn new skills, improve their confidence and have a platform to make their voices and their stories heard. The project will culminate in a sharing of work which will be open to the public, so please keep an eye on our website and social media platforms for more updates:

### www.storytellingforum.co.uk @scotstoryforum

Funded by **EVOC** (Edinburgh Voluntary Organisations Council)



Festival City Stories is a project between JACK ARTS SCOTLAND and Festivals Edinburgh. Find out more: www. edinburghfestivalcity.com/about/stories

# The Haggis Box

Haggis, Neeps & Tatties

Traditional, Vegetarian & Vegan (NGCI)

Coffee, Scotch Eggs, Quiche, Soup, Ice Cream, Local Beers, Cakes & Traybakes

Sit in

Find us on the
Royal Mile in the
Scottish Storytelling Centre
43-45 High Street, Edinburgh

**Open Daily from 10am** 



# Festival Diary Edinburgh



DATE	TIME	EVENT	LOCATION	PAGE
FRI 13	6pm	Tales of Exile and Sanctuary	SSC	07
	8pm	Open Hearth	SSC	10
SAT 14	10.30am	Invigorate Your Story	SSC	19
	11am	The Town Mouse and the Country Mouse	SSC	07
	2pm	Isis and Osiris	SSC	16
	6pm	The Iron Hag and Other Tales	SSC	13
	8pm	Wave Riders	SSC	07
SUN 15	10.30am	Something Old, Something New	SSC	19
	12pm	Once There Was a Bug	RBGE	16
	1.30pm	Rewilding Cinderella: An Eco-Storytelling Concert	RBGE	16
	6pm	Where the Feather Falls	SSC	13
	8pm	Letters to Jackie	SSC	07
	10.30am	School of Storycraft	SSC	16
	11am	Makin a Brew	SSC	17
MON 16	2pm	Rewilding Cinderella	Online	20
10	6pm	Calvino 100	SSC	13
	8pm	Joyfully Grimm: Reimagining a Queer Adolescence	SSC	07
TUE 17	10.30am	School of Storycraft	SSC	16
	2pm	Sgeulachdan Ghaisgeach ann am Beul-aithris nan Gàidheal Albannach	NLS	23
	2pm	Just Enough	Online	20
	6pm	Up the Middle Road: Stories from the Crichton Royal Asylum	SSC	13
	8pm	The Voice Shall Always Remain	SSC	07
	10.30am	School of Storycraft	SSC	16
WED 18	10.30am	Cuilg Mharbhtach Thorc agus Cathan Mòra	NLS	23
	2pm	The Sea: Our Last Wilderness	Online	20
	6pm	New Wave	SSC	13
	8pm	Don Quixote Rides Again	SSC	80
THU 19	11am	Kamishibai Workshop	SSC	17
	11am	Alba & Èirinn: Òrain & Sgeulachdan na Fèinne	NLS	23
	2pm	Green City: Healing and Hope?	Online	20
	6pm	Scots Character	SSC	14
	8pm	Red Aphrodite	SSC	11
FRI 20	10.30am	Telling the Big Tales	SSC	19
	1.30pm	Bear with Me: A Polar Bear in Scotland	SSC	17
	2pm	The Well At the World's End: Where the Heck Is It?	NLS	22
	6pm	Sgeul - Mighty and Magic	SSC	14
	7.30pm	Guid Crack	WB	11
	8pm	Alba & Èirinn: Òrain & Sgeulachdan na Fèinne	SSC	11

DATE	TIME	EVENT	LOCATION	PAGE
SAT 21	10.30am	The Right to be Heard	SSC	19
	11.30am	Macastory's Caddie Capers	SSC	17
	1.30pm	Visual Fun with Sports	SSC	17
	4pm	The Girl's Own Survival Guide to History	SSC	14
	6pm	Odin's Eye and the Art of Seeing	SSC	08
	8pm	Shadow Walking	SSC	08
SUN 22	10.30am	Common Sense: Adding Flavour to your Storytelling	SSC	19
	2pm	SMHAF Writing Awards	SSC	11
	6pm	A Garment for the Moon	SSC	14
	8pm	Orpheus   Orfeo	SSC	08
MON 23	2pm	Our Place in Nature	Online	21
	6pm	In the Hartwood	SSC	08
	8pm	The Displaced Heart	SSC	11
	2pm	Our Human Rights	Online	21
TUE 24	6pm	Alan Bruford Lecture	SSC	15
2-7	8pm	Rickle O Stanes	SSC	80
	2pm	Listening to Children	Online	21
WED 25	5pm	Sgeul - Mighty and Magic	NLS	22
	6pm	Northern Treasures	SSC	15
	8pm	Open Hearth	SSC	10
THU 26	llam	A Tour and a Tale	NLS	22
	2pm	Our Cultural Rights	Online	21
	6pm	Arise!	SSC	09
	8pm	Fire from the Woods	SSC	09
FRI 27	10.30am	Storytelling with Children	SSC	19
	10.30am	Bùth-Obrach Òrain Luaidh le Rena Gertz	NLS	23
	6pm	In the World and Out of It	SSC	15
	7.30pm	Guid Crack	WB	11
	8pm	The Promise	SSC	11
SAT 28	10.30am	Basket of Stories	SSC	19
	12pm	Family Samhuinn	SSC	17
	4pm	The Feast of the Dead	SSC	15
	6pm	Northern Treasures	SSC	15
	8pm	Once Upon a Time There Was a War	SSC	09
SUN 29	10.30am	Basket of Stories	SSC	19
	12pm	Human Library	SSC	11
	6pm	The Flying Horse of Earthdom	SSC	15
	8pm	Open Hearth	SSC	10
<b>TUE 31</b>	5.30pm	Tales From the Witches Sabbath	NLS	22

### **Location Key**

NLS National Library of ScotlandRBGE Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh

SSC Scottish Storytelling Centre

**WB** Waverley Bar

Go Local Scotland listings: pages 24-35



### How to get here

The Scottish Storytelling Centre's award-winning building is the hub of the Festival, located halfway down Edinburgh's Royal Mile, within easy walking distance of Princes Street and Waverley train station. There is no parking directly outside the Centre, but the Lothian bus number 35 stops outside with a taxi rank close by.



### **Tickets**

0131 556 9579 | sisf.org.uk





**f ⊚ y ⊚ scotstoryfest** 

#RightToBeHuman



TRACS (Traditional Arts & Culture Scotland) (SCIO SC043009) is a co-operative network which champions our shared traditions of music, song, storytelling, dance, crafts, customs and local languages. TRACS celebrates the local distinctiveness of Scotland's places: our intangible cultural heritage. TRACS brings together the Traditional Music Forum (SCIO SC042867), the Scottish Storytelling Forum (SCIO SC052330) and the Traditional Dance Forum of Scotland (SCIO SC045085). Supported by Creative Scotland and The City of Edinburgh Council.



### **Our Partners**

















Special thanks to Edinburgh partners: National Library of Scotland, Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh, University of Edinburgh - School of Scottish Studies Archives, Scottish Mental Health Arts Festival, Waverley Bar, Beltane Fire Society.

Special thanks to our regional partners in Angus, Argyll, Clackmannanshire, Dumfries & Galloway, Dundee, Fife, Glasgow, Highland, Midlothian, Moray, North East, North Lanarkshire, Orkney, Perth & Kinross, Shetland, South Lanarkshire and Western Isles.