

CROY
DON
ITES

CROY DON ITES FESTIVAL

2-18 NOVEMBER 2023

WWW.CROYDONITES.COM

HAPPENING IN A VENUE NEAR YOU:

THE FRONT ROOM, FAIRFIELD HALLS,
TURF PROJECTS & STANLEY ARTS



SCAN ME

GREETINGS CROYDONITES!

We are very happy to present to you the programme of the 6th Croydonites Festival. In the year that Croydon is the London Borough of Culture, we think we've really outdone ourselves. We hope you agree!

There are new and exciting faces joining us, plus plenty of old and exciting faces. **Lucy McCormick** is reviving her break through cult debut *Triple Threat*, and **Abandoman** returns due to popular demand with (yet) another Edinburgh hit *Future Fest*. **Hannah Maxwell** also took the fringe by storm this year and brings her new show *Nan, Me and Barbara Pravi*.

We have an explosive opening night featuring **Oona Doherty's** *Hope Hunt and the Ascension into Lazarus* which has toured internationally, in a double bill alongside punk performance art trio **In Bed with My Brother** with *Trolled*, a DJ set to end all DJ sets.

On the locals front, the unstoppable **SLIDE** (South London Inclusive Dance Experience) are revising their first ever show *Unexpected Item* and four local artists have been commissioned to make brand new works.

Shaniqua Benjamin, KH Del Rio Smith, Simon Manyonda and **Aaron Baksh** will all premiere new pieces created for the festival.

CroydonBites, our scratch night is back featuring dance, film, comedy, song and performance including work by **Chardine Makaveli-Singh, Charles Barber, Made in Paradise, Nathan Brown-Bennett** and **Randolph Matthews & Katie Rose**.

And it doesn't stop there...we also have the long awaited return of **Sh!t Theatre** with a work in progress performance plus **Catherine Hoffmann, Liselle Terret** and **Norvil & Josephine** in a triple bill of absurd song, dance and magic. Croydonites very own **Katie Hurley** premieres her love letter to Croydon and even **Legacy Youth Zone** and **Meridian High School** show us what they can do!

CroydonWrites is back for all you budding writers, and our fantastic video project **Croytopia** will exhibit at Turf Projects. There's still plenty of time to submit your videos - we need you!

So, you can see why we believe we've outdone ourselves. Really hope you'll join us. See you in the bar...

Anna & Katie

**THIS IS
CROYDON**

London Borough of Culture is
a Mayor of London initiative.
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LETTERS FROM
**ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND**





Photo Credit: Mona Blanchet



Photo Credit In Bed with My Brother

DOUBLE BILL

THU 2 NOV 8PM / £15/£10

Fairfield Halls, Park Lane • Suitable for 18+

DOONA DOHERTY HOPE HUNT AND THE ASCENSION INTO LAZARUS

Hope Hunting lies between the lines of physical theatre, social proclamation and dance. A black car, head lights on, sits in waiting. Music thumping from its metal shield. A man who is many men, leaks out of the beat, his story, a hunt for hope.



'A swaggering graceful ode to working class men... a massive talent and a hugely original voice.'

The Guardian

IN BED WITH MY BROTHER TROLLED

Everything is expensive. Cheese. £5.32. Coffee. £6.43. Tomatoes £10000000000. We can't go wild in the aisles anymore. What will bring us together in times like these? Yes. Some biting political critique at 160 bpm. We're bringing donk to the frontline of the cost of living crisis. THIS IS OUR SUPERMARKET, BIG BRAND, WE'VE GOT CYSTITIS BUT CANESTEN IS 17.99 DJ SET. Expect sexy ladies with Lidl bags on their heads, banging tracks flecked with cut-throat satirical observations. And a shit tonne of unbranded cranberry juice.



'They create a terrifying, electric sense that anything could happen next'

The Guardian on TRICKY SECOND ALBUM

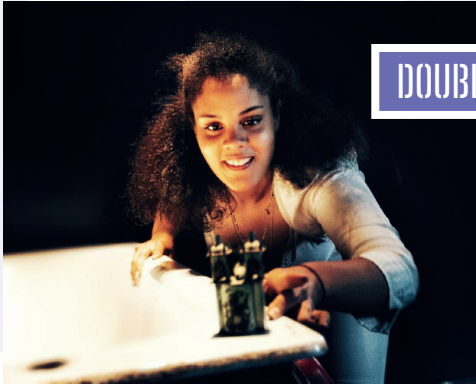


Photo Credit: Sheila Burnett

DOUBLE BILL



Photo Credit: Glenn Foster

FRI 3 NOV 7.30PM / £15/£10

The Front Room, St Georges Walk - Suitable for 16+

KH DEL RIO SMITH DESCENT

To uncover a truth that is buried, you must first accept the lies you tell yourself.

Journey into a mind where memory, music and myth have merged. This intimate, autobiographical piece explores the recovering of memories by a survivor of childhood trauma.

DESCENT has been commissioned by Croydonites Festival, as part of our mission to nurture and develop local artists.

'Gave me chills, such a brave and heart wrenching performance!'

Audience Member

KATIE HURLEY YOU'RE SO F**KING CROYDON!

WORK-in-PROGRESS

It was my nemesis, I hated Croydon with a real vengeance. It represented everything I didn't want in my life, everything I wanted to get away from. I think it's the most derogatory thing I can say about somebody or something: 'God, it's so f**king Croydon!' - David Bowie

Join writer-performer Katie Hurley, for a work in progress of her debut solo show, 'You're SO F**KING Croydon!'.

Interweaving music, dance and noughties culture, Katie explores themes of home and hope, as she boldly asks if where you live, shapes who you are and who you are destined to be?

'A difficult subject written with so much realism and humanity. Amazing!'

Park Theatre Patron for The Witterings

'Katie Hurley is outstanding. I'm not normally one for gushing but I can hand on heart say hers was one of the best performances I've seen this year'

WestEndWilma for Zero Down

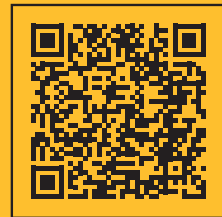
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LSBU Croydon Campus OPEN DAY

Saturday 4 November 2023
10am–2pm

Your future in the making. Visit London South Bank University's brand new campus in Croydon Town Centre to meet students & staff, tour state-of-the-art teaching & learning facilities, and to find out more information about our undergraduate degrees in:

- Accounting & Finance
- Adult Nursing
- Business Management
- Mental Health Nursing
- Chiropractic



Register your place:

www.lsbu.ac.uk/opendays



EST 1892

LSBU
London South
Bank University



lsbu.ac.uk

London South Bank University Croydon Campus, Electric House, 3 Wellesley road, CR0 2AG



Photo Credit: Photography/Christa Holka, Digital Post-Production/Anna Fernandez

SAT 4 NOV 8PM / £15/£10

Stanley Arts, South Norwood Hill
Suitable for 14+

HANNAH MAXWELL NAN, ME AND BARBARA PRAVI

An epic tale of care, crisis and the Eurovision Song Contest.

In 2021, Hannah Maxwell moved back to the Home Counties to care for her terminally ill grandfather. But this show isn't about that. It's about France's Eurovision star Barbara Pravi, who's just lovely.

In between cooking, cleaning and Countdown, Maxwell escapes into an intensifying fantasy of ballroom dances, heartfelt ballads, Parisian cafés, fluent French and definitely-not-creepy plots to engineer a meetcute with a random foreign celebrity. It's La La Land meets Mission Impossible meets Hannah's nan.



'A masterclass in storytelling'
Time Out



'You will laugh. You will cry, You'll be glad you are alive'
Dark Chat



Photo Credit: The Other Richard

WED 8 NOV 8PM / £18/£15

The Front Room, St Georges Walk
Suitable for 18+

LUCY MCCORMICK TRIPLE THREAT

For one night only Lucy McCormick returns with her queer cult hit Triple Threat via a holy trinity of dance, power ballads and performance art. Attempting to reconnect to her own moral conscience by re-enacting the New Testament, she takes on all the main roles, assisted by arbitrary angels Samir and Lennie. With trademark absurdism and enthusiasm, Lucy puts her best foot forward in the face of existential deadlock.



'Lucy McCormick has the moves of Beyoncé, the lungs of Christina Aguilera and the morals of a punk iconoclast. That makes her a triple threat indeed.'

The Scotsman



'nudity, blasphemy and copious Nutella,
the show is fantastically entertaining'

The Guardian



Photo Credit: Sophie Standford



Photo Credit: Alessa Davison Photography

THU 9 NOV 7.30PM / £15/£10

Fairfield Halls, Park Lane - Suitable for all ages

SLIDE UNEXPECTED ITEM

Unexpected Item is a multi-layered intergenerational dance performance with a cast of local disabled and non-disabled dancers. In the age of reuse/recycle vs bigger/better/more the piece is about consumerism, raising deeper questions about productivity, power and knowledge.

In 2013 SLIDE created Unexpected Item and we are redeveloping the piece for our 10th anniversary. Although a time for celebration, uncertainty hangs heavy in the air... what does the future hold?

“What a gift for a Sunday. Great audience interaction, serene setting and the work was mesmerising, romantic, peaceful, affirming and joyous, authentic and honest.” Ray Oudkerk, Assistant Principal, The Brit School about 'Insert Title Here'

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MERIDIAN HIGH SCHOOL & THE PAPPY SHOW NEW WORK

Students from Meridian High School in New Addington will be supporting SLIDE with a work made in collaboration with The Pappy Show. The Pappy Show is a London based physical theatre company who create distinctive and critically acclaimed productions and lead inclusive workshops rooted in kindness. This work made with Meridian High, draws on the experiences of the students involved and is the result of an intensive series of workshops. We are delighted to bring this outstanding company to Croydon to work with young people in the borough.

What people have said about The Pappy Show's work Boys:

‘a joyous, life-affirming show.’
The Reviews Hub

‘Blown away by the sheer electricity of the pappys show’s boys’
Frantic Assembly



TRIPLE BILL



Photo Credit: Lukasz Izdebski

FRI 10 NOV 7.30PM / £15/£10

Fairfield Halls, Park Lane - Suitable for all ages

AARON BAKSH EXODUS

Exodus explores themes around migration. Three individuals embark on a journey struggling to flee conflict. Throughout this, they attempt to explore togetherness and loss. Inspired by current issues and conditions around the globe including war, displacement and poverty.

EXODUS has been commissioned by Croydonites Festival, as part of our mission to nurture and develop local artists.



MADE IN PARADISE

Sega is the traditional dance from the island of Mauritius, situated in the Indian Ocean. Sega is embedded into modern Mauritian culture and is the official National Dance. It has evolved since its early days, with modern Sega often including elements of other genres such as Jazz and Reggae, with the latter combination being known as Seggae. The Made in Paradise dancers are a group from South London bringing this authentic experience to you straight from its tropical roots.

LEGACY YOUTH ZONE

Legacy

An **OnSide** Youth Zone

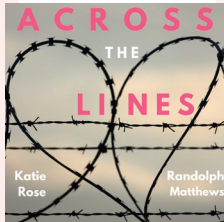
Legacy Youth Zone will present two short works: Movement of the Youth and New Beginnings, both choreographed by Aaron

Baksh. Legacy is a local youth hub where young people from the borough can take part in a wide range of activities in afterschool, weekend and holiday clubs. It provides an outstanding service, helping young people achieve their potential.

CROYDONBITES

CroydonBites is a programme for local artists with short works, some of them making their debut performances.

SAT 11 NOV 7PM / £15/£10 The Front Room, St Georges Walk • Suitable for 14+



RANDOLPH MATTHEWS & KATIE ROSE ACROSS THE LINES

Across the Lines is an immersive artistic journey by vocal artists Randolph Matthews and Katie Rose, exploring the hope and challenges of human connection. This multi-layered performance piece challenges barriers, encourages empathy, and prompts reflection, aiming to cross the lines to a more compassionate society. Join us on this transformative voyage into the heart of humanity.

CHARDINE MAKAVELI-SINGH A CRONX TALE – STEFANS STORY (FILM)

A Cronx Tale is a short, animated film about the dangers of getting involved in gangs, street crime and county lines. Through animation it looks at how actions have consequences, and using a mixture of reality and fiction, its aim is to leave an impact and create positive change.

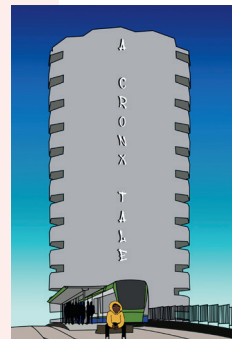


Image Credit: Sebastian Black



Photo Credit: Iffee

NATHAN BROWN-BENNETT CANCELLED!!!

What do Birds, Dirt, War and Blackness have in common? Find out from 21 year old cyber security student and passionate Spoken Word artist, Nafe. Presenting a collection of pieces touching racism, culture and mental health in what he calls 'Cancelled!!!' including new pieces performed for the first time.

OFF THE CUFF THEATRICAL PRODUCTIONS THE IMMIGRATION OFFICE

Find out how British you really are and what happens when the patron Saint of England tries to enter the country that claims him as their own. A comic exploration of our current immigration system and the various myths of national identity.



Photo Credit: David Gleave



Photo Credit: Sh!t Theatre



Photo Credit: Richard DeDomenici

WED 15 NOV 8PM / £12/£8

The Front Room, St Georges Walk
Suitable for 16+

SH!T THEATRE OR WHAT'S LEFT OF US

WORK-in-PROGRESS

Sh!t Theatre make multi-award winning performance art that tours nationally and internationally. Or at least, they used to. Join them for their inevitable folk revival phase.

'Anarchic performance legends'

Time Out

'few companies make shows that are so consistently, outrageously fun'

The Guardian

*Fun not guaranteed

4-18 NOV 11AM-5PM / FREE

Turf Projects / Whitgift Centre
Suitable for all ages

RICHARD DEDEDOMENICI CROYTOPIA

GET INVOLVED!

Croytopia is the brainchild of Richard DeDomenici and Jess Mabel Jones. It's a new kind of video project where you not only create the content, but you are the content!

You are invited to recount on camera important and interesting personal facts and memories, triggered by specific locations in Croydon. These will be uploaded to an interactive map and become part of an exhibition at Turf Projects from 4-18 Wed-Sat November.

Find out more here: croytopia.com and send your videos to video@croytopia.com

'Jess Mabel Jones makes you look at the world in a different way. Remarkable.'

Time Out

'DeDomenici is one of the most intellectually gifted, imaginative and dedicated performance artists in the UK today.'

The Scotsman



Photo Credit: Myer Jeffers



Photo Credit: Simon Manyonda

DOUBLE BILL

THU 16 NOV 7.30PM / £15/£10

The Front Room, St Georges Walk - Suitable for 14+

SHANIQUA BENJAMIN LOVE WARRIOR

What's the point of a beating heart if not to feel?

What happens when love doesn't take you to your happy place?

Love Warrior is an immersive piece of spoken word theatre, further developing a short performance that was originally part of Apples & Snakes immersive show, Rallying Cry in 2018, and then a scratch in Croydonites 2022.

This one-woman show asks you to get comfortable sitting in the uncomfortable that comes with love, change and challenging perceptions.

Are the lines between good and bad as clear cut as you think?

Love Warrior has been commissioned by Croydonites Festival, as part of our mission to nurture and develop local artists.

Trigger warning: references of violence and some themes audiences may find distressing.

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SIMON MANYONDA BLESSED, TRYNA SHAKE THIS CURSE

Blessed, Tryna Shake This Curse is a Theatrical Mixtape of late 90s early 00's nostalgia created by Simon Manyonda (Rye Lane). Garage Music, Dawson's Creek and Croydon NightLife, soundtrack a coming of age tale following a young man yearning to manifest his daydreams and become an Actor

Soundtracked by a score created and composed by Simon Manyonda with additional production by Owain Kelly (NO CEREMONY///), BLESSED experiments with the 90s transportation of Garage Music on mixtapes and puts it on stage to tell a blast from the past story that all started outside The Black Sheep.

Blessed, Tryna Shake This Curse has been commissioned by Croydonites Festival, as part of our mission to nurture and develop local artists.

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TRIPLE BILL



Photo Credit: Holly Revell

FRI 17 NOV 7.30PM / £15/£10

The Front Room, St Georges Walk • Suitable for 16+

CATHERINE HOFFMANN PATCHING THINGS UP WITH ANGUS CHAI

An absurdist cabaret show by Catherine Hoffmann, exploring her passion for WD40, ghosts, and revolution with misfit drag alter ego Angus Chai. This cosmic love child of Ivor Cutler and Sheena Easton will take us on the road to economic recovery with his toolkit anthology and power worm mantras.



LISELLE TERRET CHATTERBOX

Chatterbox is a 55-year old, single working mum from Glasgow; Jewish, ex- bulimic, & ADHD with a fear of intimacy. Created and performed by Liselle Terret, also know as Doris La Trine, Liselle is a neurodivergent performance artist, writer, director and teacher.

NORVIL & JOSEPHINE

Norvil & Josephine are a dazzling comedy magic and variety act full of theatrical escapism at its best. They seem to be the traditional imposing magician and doting assistant... but magic is never what meets the eye!

They turn the classic notion of a Vaudeville act on its head in their show full of comical gender bending twists and turns. It's time for the magician to find new dreams while the assistant calls the shots!



Photo Credit: Lucian Koncz



SAT 18 NOV 8PM / £18/£15

The Front Room, St Georges Walk
Suitable for 16+

ABANDOMAN FUTURE FEST

Abandoman's Future Fest is an immersive, improvised musical comedy experience that turns a 60-minute show into a three-day music festival! With Rob Broderick's award-winning blend of audience interaction and razor-sharp improvisation, you'll be taken on a musical journey that transforms your suggestions into captivating tales and hit songs.

Direct from Edinburgh, this exhilarating live experience is one you won't want to miss!



'A frenetic genius!'

The Age AU



'Clever, quick-witted and audacious'

The Scotsman



'Infectiously fun and hilarious'

Edinburgh Festival Magazine

GET INVOLVED CROYDONWRITES

CroydonWrites is our critical writing programme that runs alongside the festival. If you are interested in writing about performance and keen to improve your skills, then this is just the thing for you!

Send us a short bio and an example of something you've written, it could be a review, or a letter or a piece of work for an exam. Ideally not over 250 words!

If chosen, you'll get to attend a writing workshop on 28th October in Central Croydon, receive a selection of tickets for the shows and guidance from our two very experienced journalists Francesca Peschier (The Stage, Exeunt Magazine) and Sanjoy Roy (The Guardian, Springback Magazine).

Send your submissions to anna@croydonites.com by 16 October.

Legacy

An **OnSide** Youth Zone

WHAT YOU CAN DO AT LEGACY

MEMBERSHIP

- Become a member for **£5** per year.
- Pay just **50p** entry per session.

FOOD & DRINK

- We serve a hot meal every session for **£1**.
- Snacks can also be purchased from the **Big Love Kitchen** tuck shop.

ADDITIONAL SPACES

- Library
- Health & Wellbeing
- Sensory Room

REGISTER NOW AT :

www.legacyyouthzone.org

YOUR SPACES



MELODIES

Music Room

With a separate Recording Studio, you can learn a new instrument, get vocal training and produce beats all in one session.



EXPRESSIONZ

Performing Arts Studio

Express yourself creatively in our studio. Join us for dance, drama or even parkour sessions.



CRONX

Radio Room

Whether you want to record a youth led podcast, or learn how to DJ, the radio room can enhance your skill set.



CREATIVE LOUNGE

Art Room

With a separate Recording Studio, you can learn a new instrument, get vocal training and produce beats all in one session.



LEGENDS

Media Room

You can develop a range of skills including graphic design, photography, videography, gaming and coding in our media suite.



FLAVOURZ

Training Kitchen

For all aspiring chefs, or those that need to learn skills in the kitchen - step into Flavourz where you can bake or cook up a storm.

CROYDONITES

Croydonites is a festival of theatre and performance for Croydon. Our mission is to nurture local artists and bring high quality work from around the UK to Croydon doorsteps.

Director: Anna Arthur

Associate Director: Katie Hurley

Production Manager: Jonathan Samuels

We are funded by:

THIS IS CROYDON

London Borough of Culture is a Mayor of London initiative.

MAYOR OF LONDON

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London Borough of Culture is a Mayor of London initiative, with support from Arts Council England and National Lottery Heritage Fund. The This is Croydon programme is being delivered through a unique collaboration between the cultural organisations and people of the borough in partnership with Croydon Council.



SCHEDULE

2 Nov	8pm	Oona Doherty / In Bed with My Brother	Fairfield Halls
3 Nov	7.30pm	KH Del Rio Smith / Katie Hurley	The Front Room
4 Nov	8pm	Hannah Maxwell	Stanley Arts
8 Nov	8pm	Lucy McCormick	The Front Room
9 Nov	7.30pm	SLiDE / Meridian High & The Pappy Show	Fairfield Halls
10 Nov	7.30pm	Aaron Baksh Legacy Youth Zone Made in Paradise	Fairfield Halls
11 Nov	7pm	CroydonBites	The Front Room
15 Nov	8pm	Sh!t Theatre	The Front Room
16 Nov	7.30pm	Shaniqua Benjamin / Simon Manyonda	The Front Room
17 Nov	7.30pm	Catherine Hoffmann Liselle Terret Norvil & Josephine	The Front Room
18 Nov	8pm	Abandoman	The Front Room
4-18 Nov	11-5pm	Croytopia	Turf Projects

FOR MORE INFORMATION AND BOOKING: WWW.CROYDONITES.COM

CONTACT: ANNA@CROYDONITES.COM / KATIE@CROYDONITES.COM

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