



VILLAGE
STORYTELLING
FESTIVAL

22 - 26 MARCH 2016

STORYTELLING
PERFORMANCE
EXHIBITION
FILM
SYMPOSIUM



CCA:



EXHIBITION

Join us on twitter @villagestories
or facebook.com/thevillagestorytellingcentre

INTRODUCTION

The Village Storytelling Festival is a celebration and exploration of the art and application of storytelling past, present and future. Marking the 15th anniversary of ground-breaking Glasgow charity, The Village Storytelling Centre, this four day festival brings mesmerising performances from innovative storytellers from across the UK with exciting new work, many of whom are performing in Scotland for the first time. The festival will also feature performances from community groups across Glasgow, who have each worked with us through story and another art form in a variety of different ways over the past year. These groups share aspects of their “Village” and what that community means to them. Running alongside the festival is a series of thought provoking symposia which ask how storytelling benefits us in society and indeed, how this ancient tradition remains relevant and contemporary in the modern world. We end the festival with a proper Village Fete - a community arts festival at our premises in Pollok.

The Village Storytelling Centre is a special organisation. Over the past 15 years we have worked with tens of thousands of people of all ages. Our core values of inclusiveness, empowerment, transparency, collaboration and creativity underpin everything we do. We aim to help people gain the confidence and skills they need to live the best life they can, whether we’re working with school children, adults in recovery, older people with dementia or anyone in between.

We’re delighted to invite you to our festival celebrations. We extend our thanks to everyone we have worked with over the years and in the run up to this project. The project was supported by the National Lottery through Creative Scotland Open Project Funding.

Emma Collins
Executive Director
The Village Storytelling Centre



DON'T PUT ME IN A BOX THE SOUTHWEST KINSHIP CARERS

Monday 21 to Friday 25 March

Project Café

FREE drop in

Alex Bowie - Artist

Joanne Marr - Storyteller

An installation of individual boxes of curiosities affording the viewer a small window into the lives of members of the Southwest Kinship Carers group and the young people they care for. Inspired by the Art and life of artist and carer Joseph Cornell, these boxes explore the idea of what is behind closed doors and how our inner lives may not be what is expected.

Visit our exhibition at the *Project Café* and present your ticket to get **10% off hot drinks and cakes.**



THREADS THAT BIND US THE VILLAGE SEWING GROUP

Monday 21 to Friday 25 March

Project Café

FREE drop in

Iona Barker - Artist

Lauren Bianchi - Storyteller

Textile artist Iona Barker has worked with a group of dynamic retired women from the Pollok area, exploring stories of their lifetimes and beyond, tracking the changes and curiosities of the environment, people and landmarks. These stories along with historical and contemporary local tales, have been immortalized in the form of bunting-picture-flags, each expertly crafted in an inclusive environment of story sharing, crafting and tea drinking. The bunting’s up, the festival has arrived!

PERFORMANCE

*Join us. For more information
call us on 0141 882 3025*

*Tuesday 22 March 5pm
FREE but ticketed
All ages*

Not all stories need to be told through words. We have worked with two groups who are often unheard of in our society, because for different reasons they find it hard to express themselves verbally. These two movement-based stories will give you a glimpse into each of their worlds.

POINT OF VIEW PARKOUR PERFORMANCE BY ST PAUL'S ACADEMY

*Dougie Mackay - Storyteller
Scott Houston - Parkour*

Some of us find it difficult to say how we feel. Some don't feel listened to. Luckily not all storytelling is verbal. Using Parkour movement, this dynamic group of teens express various themes of adolescence through aerial movements, balance and coordination. Emotions, frustration, expectation and humour all shine through as, in the medium of Parkour, this group of pupils from St Pauls High School express themselves in new and innovative ways.

WHISPERS IN THE WIND POSSIBILITIES

*Joanne Marr - Storyteller
Indepen-dance - Dance*

A storytelling and movement piece devised and performed by members of 'Possibilities - The Disability Community' from Possil. From village characters to village gossip and everything in between.

FIFTEEN

*Kidding On
Saturday 26 March 11am - 3pm
The Village Storytelling Centre
FREE drop in
All ages*

A piece of promenade theatre celebrating the 15 years of The Village Storytelling Centre and taking the audience to mystical and magical places. Devised and performed by The Village Storytelling Centre's young people's groups.

Part of The Village Fete - see page 14.

**FRIDAY 25 MARCH 6PM
CCA CINEMA
FREE BUT TICKETED
ALL AGES**

Enjoy two very different musical experiences both exploring the sonic experience of communities, while merging and overlapping in unexpected patterns.

THE SOUND OF STORY-BROOK A SOUNDSCAPE BY ROSSHALL ACADEMY

*Matt Regan - Musician
Dougie Mackay - Storyteller*

The pupils of Rosshall Academy cordially invite you to explore their much loved home town of Story-Brook; a village of unparalleled sonic delights. Come and meet the hospitable locals, stroll by the sea, visit the historic theatre, and be sure to visit Granny Gaga's dinner for a pink pancake breakfast to remember.

VILLAGE VOICES GOVANHILL VOICES

Debbie Armour - Song leader

In the build up to the festival, Debbie Armour visited each of the participating groups and collected songs; Songs from childhood, of day-to-day life, from the workplace, the home, the parks and playgrounds, songs that evoke all aspects of living in "the village". With these songs, she and Govanhill Voices community choir have created something fresh and new, representing the diverse communities in the project, and creating a vocal performance exploring & highlighting both the universal experience, and ways that each individual in a community contributes to the wider culture in their own way.

WHISPERS IN THE WIND

VILLAGE VOICES

FILM

Join us. Purchase your tickets
online at www.bit.do/VSF2016



HIT THE ROAD JACK

Film screening events

FRIDAY 25 MARCH 5PM
CCA CINEMA
ALL AGES
FREE BUT TICKETED



SATURDAY 26 MARCH 10AM
CINeworld, SILVERBURN, SCREEN 8
ALL AGES
FREE BUT TICKETED

Over the course of the past year, we've been working on four films with diverse groups of young people from across the city. We're delighted to bring them together in a special screening.

HIT THE ROAD JACK

Daniel Serridge - Storyteller
Geraldine Heaney - Filmmaker

For 10 weeks pupils from Linburn academy worked on a filmic rendition of Jack and the Beanstalk. Pupils climbed into teapots, ran with golden eggs and planted magic beans in different school locations, celebrating the importance of their school to them and the safe spaces they use on a daily basis. This project worked with six pupils with complex learning needs to explore the relationship between film and storytelling whilst celebrating the incredibly supportive relationship between teachers and pupils in Linburn academy.

THE TRUTH

Naomi O Kelly - Storyteller
Morven Innes - Filmmaker

In 2015 our "Kidding On" group were given a high-adrenaline challenge: To devise a short performance from scratch in just 5 sessions – that's 8 hours! The performance took place in April 2015 and captures "The Truth" about how their community, Pollok, was created. This documentary charts their journey through the process of devising and creating the performance and what their community and The Village Storytelling Centre mean to them.

KEEP YOUR KENNISHEAD

Daniel Serridge - Storyteller
Geraldine Heaney - Filmmaker

Enjoy some of the silly comings and goings in a community hall as seen through the eyes of the young people using it. Working in partnership with Aberlour Child Care Trust, the young people aged 11 to 20 created a situation comedy about the place that means a lot to them. Not only a space of safety and security but also a space for fun and laughter, this project demonstrated the joy and support that young people receive from their local community hall and the workers from Aberlour who care for them. At a time when community space is so hard to come by, this project aimed to shed some light on a place that local people work so hard to keep running.

THE PLACE I AM

Morven Innes - Filmmaker

A short documentary trip around the Village as we prepare for the festival. Meet local residents who have been gathering to share their skills and their stories, so that each group can tell us in their own way about their "Village" and what that community means to them. This film is a work-in-progress, and how it'll end depends on the events at The Village Storytelling Festival.

STORYTELLING

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THE OLD WOMAN, THE BUFFALO AND THE LION OF MANDING

Adverse Camber Presents **THE OLD WOMAN, THE BUFFALO AND THE LION OF MANDING**

Tuesday 22 March 7.30pm

14+

£10/£8

Jan Blake - Storyteller

Kouame Sereba - guitar; dodo bow; djembe;

flutes

Raymond Sereba - guitar; dodo bow; djembe;

flutes; kalimba

Be swept away by the passion and majesty of this epic tale from Mali, of love, courage, faith and strength.

Discover a royal family, torn apart by jealousy, plots and exile and a prophecy which hinges on the most reviled woman in the kingdom. Can her child bring the kingdoms of West Africa together?

In an epic and uplifting performance, the acclaimed storyteller Jan Blake is accompanied by the virtuoso musicians, Raymond and Kouame Sereba from Cote d'Ivoire. Delicate and dramatic by turn, their song and music, cradles the story in an evocative soundscape.



THE SHAHNAMEH

CAT GERRARD

Adverse Camber Presents **THE SHAHNAMEH: THE EPIC BOOK OF KINGS**

Wednesday 23 March 8pm

12+

£10/£8

Xanthe Gresham-Knight - storyteller

Arash Moradi - shurangiz, daf, setar

Breathe in the passion-filled adventure, lust and romance of *The Shahnameh*. Dive into the majestic mythology of Persia - where supersized heroes and magical horses challenge the selfish demands of kings; where fathers and sons meet as strangers on the battlefield and, condemned by a femme fatale queen, a lion-hearted young man journeys through fire.

The Shahnameh was written over 1,000 years ago and stretches from creation to the 7th century fall of the Persian Empire. Here, a hand-picked selection of stories are brought to life by dazzling performance storyteller, Xanthe Gresham Knight and the sublime, rhythmic sounds of virtuoso Kurdish Iranian musician, Arash Moradi, on daf, setar and shurangiz. Enjoy these treasured stories wrapped up in an intimate, enchanting and powerful performance.

THE FOUR CHAMBERS OF THE HEART

Thursday 24 March 7pm

14+

£10/£8

Tim Ralphs & Cat Gerrard

The heart has its own strange and wonderful ways. Some are well known: the regular beat of your everyday love stories, tales told so often their patterns becomes ingrained in the imagination. But the heart has other rhythms - it sends some down paths that have been kept secret by society, by collectors of stories, by the subjects of these complicated loves. Storytellers Cat Gerrard and Tim Ralphs are pilgrims on these hidden pathways to passion and heartache. Listen as these wordsmiths bring you an evening of exquisite lesser-known tales from around the world that will make your heart thump, break, beat and flutter.



CLOCKWORK

Thursday 24 March 9pm

14+

£10/£8

Katrice Horsley

A 90 minute show that explores the corsetry of social constructs upon the human form. Meet the Wordsmiths who each night chant their words of power and enchant our dreams as a consequence.

Meet Nousha, a young girl who experiences sound in a different way to others and meet Edna, a woman who may be so old that she has a pubic comb over but who knows the importance of belly laughter in our development as human beings. Clockwork is a heart-warming and hopeful story with moments of true sorrow and also ribald laughter.

The Devil's Violin Presents THE FORBIDDEN DOOR

Friday 25 March 8pm

12+

£10/£8

Dominic Kelly - Storyteller

Sarah Moody, Oliver Wilson-Dickson

& **Dylan Fowler** - Musicians

The Devil's Violin are delighted to present The Forbidden Door - an evocative and enchanting evening of rich and dynamic storytelling accompanied by visceral, melodic live music. Written by acclaimed storyteller and author Daniel Morden. What would you sacrifice for the one you love? Don't open that door! As soon as the rule is laid down, we know it will be broken. Once the door is opened, then what? - adventures! All of us love a good tale, and this is a wonderful one. Expect love, loss, drama, danger, horror, humour, twists and trials. How far is too far?

SANGS AN' CLATTER & SO SAY ALL OF US

Saturday 26 March 7pm - 10.30pm

16+

Tickets £10/£8

Featuring *A Circumnavigation* - commissioned especially for *The Village Storytelling Festival*

A CIRCUMNAVIGATION

Saturday 26 March 8pm - 8.45pm

Tickets - included in *Sangs an' Clatter* ticket

Ian Stephen - Storyteller

Peter Urpeth - Pianist

Christine Morrison - Imagery

The last night of The Village Storytelling Festival concludes with an evening of everyone's favourite Glasgow based peripatetic storytelling evening, **Sangs an' Clatter**. This time we're having a big shindig to celebrate our fifteenth birthday, featuring stories and songs from a whole host of performers who have all been part of our past, present and future. Our house band will be **Kittlinclapperdin**, and we'll have stories from **David Campbell**, **Gary Cordingley** and of course the Village Storytellers. So put on your party frock, step into your dancing shoes and prepare yourself for a birthday party. We promise it'll be better than when you turned 15. And so say all of us...

According to Donald Morrison, a Stornoway cooper who transcribed many of the stories which were spoken around Stornoway harbour in the early 1800s, the Steward of St Kilda once set out for the archipelago, with his wife aboard a simple sailing vessel. That crossing was only the start of a series of adventures and strandings which amount to a Hebridean Odyssey. This unintended circumnavigation of Lewis and Harris drives the narrative for a series of linked tales with piano accompaniment. The scenes will be set by projected images of the Outer Hebrides.

SYMPOSIUM

Join us. Purchase your tickets
online at www.bit.do/VSF2016



POWER OF STORYTELLING:
BETH HAMILTON-CARDUS



POWER OF ENGAGEMENT:
KATRICE HORSLEY

STORYTELLING - POWER OF ENGAGEMENT

Wednesday 23 March 9.30am - 12.30pm

Storytelling has a unique power to engage us not just on a logical but an emotional level, to help us think differently about issues, to take us outside our typical thought patterns and open new vistas of imagination. This symposium, chaired by **Donald Smith** (Director of TRACS), features **Katrice Horsley** examining *Neuroscience and Narrative*, **Beth Hamilton-Cardus**, one half of *Suit and Pace*, talking about, and also giving us a chance to try out telling, *Big Topic Tales: Issue-Based Storytelling for Children* and **Janis Mackay** discussing *Stories for a Better Nation*, a project that paired traditional folklore with modern issues to provide space to consider fresh perspectives.

Our five thought-provoking symposia provide space and time to reflect on the art and application of storytelling now and in the future. With a range of fascinating speakers, each event will be interactive, giving you a chance to think about issues raised, to try out some of the techniques yourself and to engage with the panel and with your peers.



MORE THAN WORDS:
AILIE FINLAY

MORE THAN WORDS - STORYTELLING IN A SENSE

Wednesday 23 March 1.30pm - 4.30pm

Hearing and listening to stories is a fundamental part of the human experience, so how can this be inclusive for people with barriers to communication? This session gives you a chance to hear from **Daniel Serridge** and **Joanne Marr** (The Village Storytelling Centre) about our work over the year to produce a film with children from Linburn school who have additional and complex needs (screenings Friday 25th and Saturday 26th March) and also to create a story told through movement with **Possibilities** (Possil's disabled community) and **Indepen-dance** (performance Tuesday 22nd March). Hear **Ailie Finlay** talk about developing *Stories to Squish, Smell and Shake* for young children and learn some of her secrets. **Maureen Phillips** from PAMIS alongside **Amanda Scott** (Principle Teacher for SEN) will share their work on *Sensory Stories for Sensitive Issues*, reviewing the evidence behind multi-sensory storytelling to communicate with people with profound and multiple learning disabilities including using this to discuss sensitive issues.



PERSONAL STORYTELLING:
LISA CURTICE

PERSONAL STORYTELLING - EMPOWERMENT, ENTERTAINMENT AND ETHICS

Thursday 24 March 9.30am - 12.30pm

There is an increasing interest in personal autobiographical stories in several contexts. Chaired by **Lisa Curtice** (Chairperson of the Village and Programme Director at the Health and Social Care Alliance Scotland) we will explore the impact (intended and otherwise) of sharing our stories. **Michael Williams** will share his insights into *Illness, storytelling, and self-management: a personal perspective*; **Joanne Marr** and **Douglas Mackay** (The Village) and people they've worked with will discuss coproducing *Stories of Recovery* from substance misuse and what the resulting publications have meant to everyone involved. We'll also reflect on the ethical implications of collecting and sharing of personal stories, as **Emma Collins** (The Village) asks *Whose Story Is It Anyway?* Finally we will consider *The Rise of True Storytelling* as an ever more popular form of entertainment - speaker TBC.

HEALTH AND WELLBEING:
RUTH KIRKPATRICK

STORYTELLING FOR HEALTH AND WELLBEING

Thursday 24 March 1.30pm - 4.30pm

There are many well-evidenced benefits of storytelling for health and well-being. Chaired by our Executive Director, **Emma Collins**, we explore some applications of storytelling in a health setting. **Ruth Kirkpatrick**, known for her work which goes to the heart of emotional wellbeing, will share her experience of working *Eye to Eye*, *Mind to Mind* and *Heart to Heart – Storytelling and Wellbeing*. **John McCormack** of the Scottish Recovery Network gives us an insight into the power of words to help people with mental health problems experience recovery through his presentation *You Own Your Story, You Own Your Life*, before leading us through *The Hero's Journey*. Also hear lessons about partnership working from **Lauren Bianchi** (The Village Storytelling Centre) and **Fiona Sinclair** (NHS), gained through our award winning project, *Knowing Me, Knowing You*, which took place in Gartnavel Royal Hospital's older people's wards.

THAT'S NOT STORYTELLING:
MICHAEL WILLIAMS

THAT'S NOT STORYTELLING – AN ANCIENT TRADITION IN A MODERN WORLD

Friday 25 March 10am - 1pm

Michael Williams chairs this final session, which is sure to generate robust debate. In modern society, what counts as storytelling and how can this ancient tradition continue to be relevant to contemporary audiences? **Tamar Williams** (former young storyteller of the year) will explore *Staging the Story: Exploring Traditional Storytelling on the Contemporary Stage*. **Daniel Serridge** (The Village) will discuss storytelling through different art forms and invite us to consider whether *That's Not Storytelling*. **David Campbell** (performing **Saturday 26th**), internationally renowned ambassador of Scottish stories, reminds us that the oral bardic tradition remains highly relevant with *Stories Now More Than Ever: The Enduring Art*. We'll also hear from **Cat Gerrard** (of Tailspin, performing Thursday 24th) and **Naomi Wilds** (Adverse Camber – shows on Tuesday 22nd and Wednesday 23rd) about *Producing Contemporary Stories*, as they discuss setting up their respective contemporary storytelling companies. There'll be plenty of time to have your say during our panel discussion!

THE VILLAGE FETE

SATURDAY 26 MARCH 11AM - 3PM
THE VILLAGE STORYTELLING CENTRE, POLLOK
ALL AGES
FREE DROP IN

We're rounding off our fabulous festival with a proper old-fashioned Village Fete. The whole family will love this FREE event with stalls, crafts, home-baking, cookery demonstrations and even a bouncy castle.



But that's not all! Come along and enjoy the fantastic performances, music and artwork that has been created by local groups working with us over the year. You'll be amazed by the acrobatic feats of St Paul's Academy parkour group, delighted by the Govanhill Voices choir who have taken inspiration for their performance from all the other Village Festival participants and collaborated with pupils from Rosshall, and entertained by our very own Kidders of all ages who have put together a very special performance "Fifteen" to celebrate our anniversary.



VILLAGE
STORYTELLING
FESTIVAL

VENUES & CONTACT INFO

The Village Storytelling Centre

183 Meiklerig Crescent, Glasgow, G53 5NA

Tel: 0141 882 3025

CCA

350 Sauchiehall St, Glasgow G2 3JD

Tel: 0141 352 4900

Cineworld - Silverburn Shopping Centre,

763 Barrhead Rd, Glasgow G53 6QR

Tel: 0871 200 2000

Project Café

134 Renfrew St, Glasgow G3 6ST

Tel: 0141 332 9520

TICKETING INFO

Book online: WWW.BIT.DO/VSF2016

All events in the symposium are free but ticketed, as are all day time performances.

The Village Fete is a free drop-in community arts festival for all ages. **The evening storytelling performances** are priced at **£10/£8** but there are special deals for attending multiple shows.

Adverse Camber double bill - see both Adverse Camber performances (Tuesday 23rd and Wednesday 24th) for **£15**.

Thursday night double bill - see both performances on Thursday 24th March for **£15**. If, like us, you don't want to miss a single show, treat yourself to a **Full Festival Pass** for **£40/£35**



CCA: Centre for Contemporary Arts

 **THE Project CAFE**



ALBA | CHRUTHACHAIL

