



## IN THE LOOP!

This newsletter brings you the latest Playhouse news, developments and offerings. A bi-weekly update to help keep you In The Loop until we can welcome you back into the building.

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### INDUSTRY UPDATE

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We are heading in the right direction to welcome you back into the building. Theatres across England have been given the green light to reopen from May 17 under the next stage of the government's roadmap.

Venues will be able to open with social distancing, with capacities capped at 50% or 1,000 people for indoor shows, and 50% or 4,000 people outdoors. For many theatres it will mark the first time they have been able to open their doors in more than a year. The Playhouse has introduced the opening of Phase One.

#### PHASE ONE

The re-opening of the McKenna's on the ground floor along with the Library. We have been working with our hospitality partners to make the foyer area as spacious as possible to allow café patrons to wait safely inside as opposed to outside for a table. We have hand sanitising stations and information upon entry. To create space and assist with two way traffic at the front entrance the Playhouse Box Office will not be in operation in the foyer. We ask for the cooperation of all of our patrons to continue using the ONLINE Playhouse Box Office via the website or emailing enquires wherever possible. Café tables will be spread out into the White Room on the Ground Floor and although café reservations are recommended it is not essential to pre-book.

It has been wonderful to see the cheerful staff of McKenna's back in the Playhouse. Thank you to everyone who has been into McKenna's for a coffee, breakfast or lunch. For those patrons who feel happier to sit outside McKenna's have created an outdoor seating area.



PHASE TWO will be the next phase of re-opening of the first floor, Playhouse Auditorium and Gallery. The date for PHASE TWO opening shall be announced once the final building works have been completed.

The Government Events Research Programme will explore how different approaches to social distancing, ventilation and test-on-entry protocols could ease opening and maximise participation. The evidence from these pilots will be used to inform and shape government policy to bring about the phased return of fuller audiences to venues and events up and down England. Recent reports indicate

the Events Research Programme will recommend to the prime minister that social distancing for large events will no longer be necessary from June 21.

Northumberland Venues overview.

The Maltings Theatre & Cinema, Berwick and Queens Hall Arts, Hexham have also re-opened their café areas to customers with plans to open their main auditorium in the near future.

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## PLAYHOUSE AT HOME

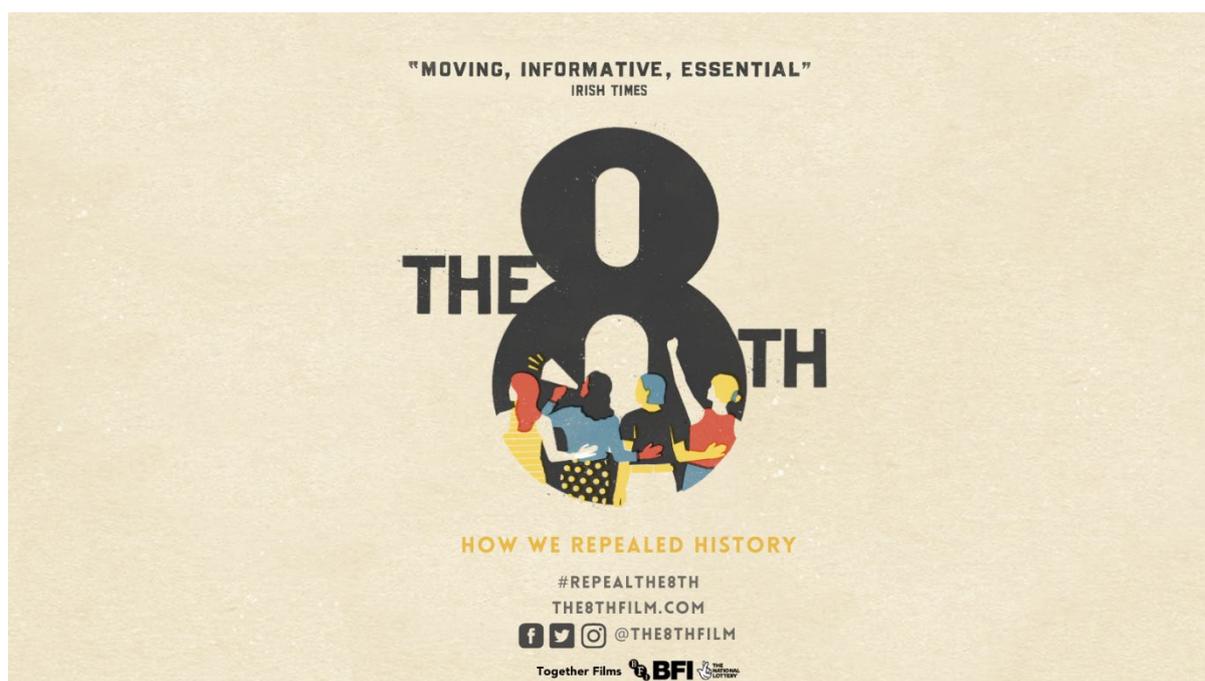
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This month **PLAYHOUSE AT HOME** brings a brand new selection of fantastic films online for you to rent.

This month's selection, **available until Thursday 1st July**, will include:

- The 8th
- Ahead Of The Curve (available from Friday 4th June)
- Sisters With Transistors
- The Bike Thief
- Cowboys

We hope you enjoy our selection!



Every time you watch a film from the comfort of your own home the rental fee goes direct to supporting the Playhouse and the independent film makers. Please note when booking you will be redirected to purchase tickets.

[Find out more and book your tickets here.](#)

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## PLAYHOUSE GALLERY ONLINE

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Judith Appleby

Inspired by the Coast

4th May - 7th June 2021

From a background in architectural education and research, Judy's work is always carefully designed to follow deliberate geometric composition without losing vitality and character of place. Her use of colour in the Farne Islands paintings is drawn from microscopic images of local geology.

Judy's studio is in Newcastle and she is represented by The Biscuit Factory, The Old School Gallery in Alnmouth and The Emerging Artists Partnership ([scotlandArt.com](http://scotlandArt.com)) in Glasgow. Her paintings are in private collections in UK, USA, India, and Europe and in public collections in the North East of England.

This Summer one of her Lindisfarne Castle paintings is on show at The Baltic Centre for Contemporary Art in Gateshead.



Featured Image:

'Dunstanburgh Castle'

Acrylic on canvas board

Framed: 42 x 42 cm £330

Unframed: 30 x 30 cm £280

The Playhouse Gallery is committed to supporting artists throughout the region and we continue to offer our support, safely, in whatever way we can during these difficult times. While the doors are currently shut, the Playhouse Gallery is still running **ONLINE**.

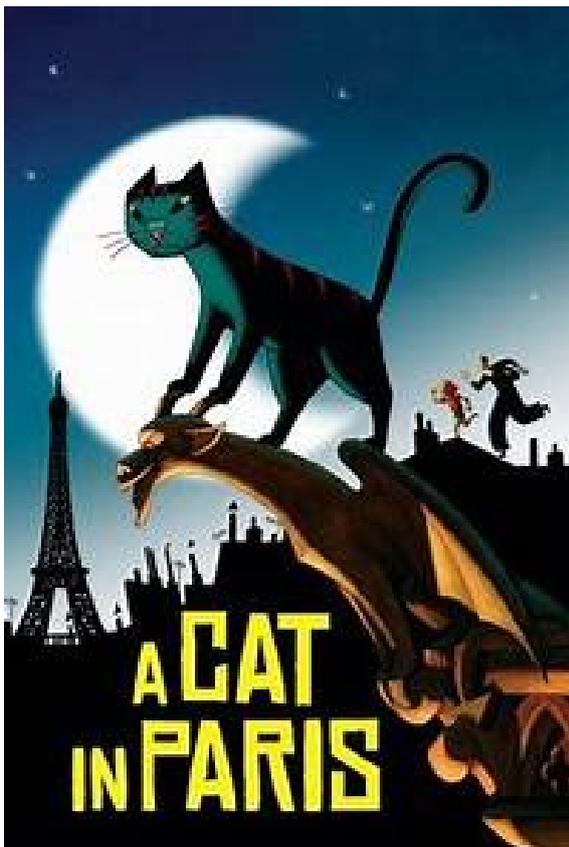
[Click here to browse the Playhouse Gallery.](#)

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## THIS WEEK'S WATCHLIST

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After the popularity of our earlier watchlists from our film programmer Jonny Tull, here is another selection of great films currently streaming online on Netflix, Amazon Prime, All4 and BBC iPlayer for you to explore over the next two weeks.



This week's watchlist features A Cat In Paris.

This gorgeous French animated film is a striking delight (and not just for kids)!

Dino is the pet cat of lonely little girl Zoe by day and the accomplice of burglar Nico by night. Zoe is traumatised by her father's recent death and has not spoken for a long time. But she adores Dino, so when she finds out about his double life she follows him out onto the Paris rooftops and finds herself caught up in a thrilling adventure.

An Oscar-nominated treat, A Cat In Paris is wonderful, irresistible filmmaking.

[Click here to view this week's Watchlist.](#)

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## THANK YOU

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Our thanks to everyone for their continued messages of support. Your continued support for the Playhouse during this crisis is greatly appreciated.

Thank you for reading In The Loop.



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