



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.

INDUSTRY UPDATE

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.

PLAYHOUSE AT HOME

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

Throughout June we are celebrating diversity and inclusivity and wishing everyone a Happy Pride Month. As part of our Pride 2021 celebrations this month's selection features **COWBOYS**. Cowboys tells the story of Troy and his transgender son Joe, an 11-year-old with a passion for cowboy yarns and the great outdoors. As they travel through the majestic beauty of the northern Rockies, television news reports emerge claiming that Joe is missing. As detective Faith investigates, we see a bigger picture involving Joe's conservative mother Sally and her inability to let go of the little girl she loves.



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.

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

- The 8th
- Ahead Of The Curve
- Sisters With Transistors
- The Bike Thief
- Cowboys

We hope you enjoy our selection!

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

PLAYHOUSE GALLERY ONLINE

Summer Open Exhibition

Professional and amateur artists are invited to apply to exhibit in our next Summer Open Exhibition, which will run from 14th July - 30th August 2021.

A maximum of 3 artworks can be submitted for selection and successful applicants will only then pay a one off fee of £10 per artwork showcased online with NO COMMISSION to pay on their art sales.

Closing date Monday 28th June 2021.

[Click here for more information on how to apply.](#)



Judith Appleby

Inspired by the Coast

4th May - 7th June 2021

Judith's solo exhibition will come to an end on Monday. Don't forget to take a look at her 'Inspired by the Coast' paintings online.



Featured Image:

'Lindisfarne Castle'

Acrylic on canvas board

Framed: 52cm x 52cm £600

Unframed: 40 x 40 cm £550

[Click here to browse the gallery online.](#)

THIS WEEK'S WATCHLIST

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 weeks watchlist features Manchester By The Sea.

Kenneth Lonergan's rich study of grief bagged two Oscars for Casey Affleck's icy, damaged performance and Lonergan's terrific screenplay. When his older brother Joe passes away, Lee Chandler (Affleck) is shocked that Joe made him sole guardian of his teenage nephew Patrick (Lucas Hedges). Dropping his job as a janitor in Boston, Lee reluctantly returns to Manchester-by-the-Sea, the fishing village where his working-class family has lived for generations. There, he must face the difficult past that separated him from his wife Randi (Michelle Williams) and the community where he was born and raised, whilst coming to terms with his newfound responsibility to Patrick.

[Click here to view this weeks Watchlist.](#)

THANK YOU

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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