



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

As the summer comes to a close, we have lift off, to start variations to the original building works at the Playhouse. The auditorium and studio both have works to be completed and now that the building industry is back in full swing, it is full steam ahead to complete.

Most of the Playhouse staff are currently furloughed with only a skeleton staff in place until we can come back into the building, this closure has been an unwelcome interval in the industry but at least for the Playhouse and other Northumberland venues, it is only an interval and not the final curtain.

We are communicating regularly with other Northumberland venues, Queens Hall Arts, Hexham and The Maltings, Berwick to make tentative plans towards the re-opening of all Northumberland venues in November. Together the three venues are planning a special Northumberland Christmas project for audiences to reflect on the challenges of the past year and celebrate looking forward to the next.

We have announced a few new live shows for 2021 as artists begin to launch or re-launch tours in the hope audiences will return. We look forward to a diverse programme of fantastic entertainment in 2021 with the latest show from comedian, Jenny Eclair. Delighted to report that tickets sales are booming!

No one has a crystal ball that can predict the future, so in-order to allow patrons to book with confidence, we are offering the quick and efficient options of refund, exchange or donate for any interruption to the planned programme in 2021.

Let's hope that we don't need it!

JENNY ECLAIR: SIXTY! (FFS!)

Saturday 22nd May 2021 7.30pm



Having hit 60 (but still a year younger than Madonna), Jenny Eclair AKA 'The Face of Vagisan' confronts a new decade of decrepitude. Now that it takes 20 minutes of scrolling down to find her DOB when she's filling in forms online, should she celebrate or crawl into a hole? What will her 60's hold for this 1960's babe and is it a legal requirement to buy Nordic walking poles?

[Click here to book your tickets.](#)

THE PLAYHOUSE GALLERY SOCIAL MEDIA TAKEOVER

Our new ONLINE GRADUATE SPOTLIGHT EXHIBITION features the work of two very talented graduate artists from Northumberland, Amber Brown (Photography) and Almudena Rocca (Mixed Media). Amber and Almudena have recently given us a fascinating insight into their work and creative processes in their brilliant social media takeover.

"Hello, my name is Almudena... Here is a little bit about me... I am a multidisciplinary artist based in Newcastle and Northumberland. I work with a range of materials including ceramics, screen printing, glass and metal. My work consists of bold lines, figures and faces. Inspiration comes from personal experience with mental ill-health, politics, feminism and social issues. I also started a tattoo apprenticeship in October 2019 which is still ongoing". - **Almudena Rocca, Artist**



"Hello everyone! My name is Amber Brown...I'm a Northumbrian photographer, printmaker and aspiring curator from Amble...Exhibiting with The Playhouse Gallery is very exciting, as The Playhouse played a massive role in nurturing my creativity when growing up. I used to be involved in the Youth Theatre group since I was little and when I moved to Duchess' Community High School, was super involved with the theatre department who had bi-annual show here. Four years ago, I moved up to Edinburgh to study a BA (hons) in Photography at the Edinburgh College of Art, which I've just graduated from with a First-Class degree! Now I'm back in the North East to continue my practice as an artist and curator. So you can see what kind of photography I do, here is a photograph just below of me out shooting in Amble for my last project Earthworks which had a show at Dry Water Arts Centre. My work predominantly looks at heritage, landscape and ancestral links, so it's not surprising that my mam actually took this photo of me. Much of my research involves walks with family, conversations, oral history and archives and so she is definitely my trusty sidekick!" - **Amber Brown, Artist**



Take a look at The Playhouse Gallery's social media pages to see the full takeover and find out more about the work of Amber Brown and Almudena Rocca.

Facebook: [@theplayhousegallery](#)

Instagram: [@the_playhouse_gallery](#)

The exhibition continues until 28th September so make sure you [check our Online Gallery here](#).

THIS WEEKS WATCHLIST

After the popularity of our earlier watchlists from our film programmer Jonny (pictured left), 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 Personal Shopper. Olivier Assayas' unsettling Paris-set supernatural drama features a career-best performance from Kristen Stewart, far removed from her role in the Twilight franchise. Here, she plays high-fashion personal shopper to the stars Maureen, who is also a spiritual medium. Grieving the recent death of her twin brother from a condition she also shares, Maureen haunts his Paris home, determined to make contact with him so she can move on. A film that is impossible to tear your eyes from, Personal Shopper is a delicate exploration of grief and identity, and its deliciously eerie and ethereal tone will creep right under your skin...

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

THANK YOU

Our thanks to everyone for their continued messages of support and actions such as re-joining of Playhouse membership schemes, Front Row, Friends, donating online, or buying a seat or step. Your continued support for the Playhouse during this crisis is greatly appreciated.

Thank you for reading In The Loop.





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