



## 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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As the U.K enters new restrictions following the recent warning from the Prime Minister of a potential second wave of infection, it is a reminder that we are living through extraordinary times and dealing with circumstances outside of our control.

The Playhouse, like every other venue would have been preparing for a busy autumn season, full of action and drama which this year is not being created onstage! Autumn season is traditionally Panto season but as the majority of pantomimes are being cancelled across the country, now is the appropriate time to update you that the annual community pantomime by Alnwick Theatre Club will be postponed until January 2022.

*“Alnwick Theatre Club would like everyone to know that this has not been an easy decision to make. The uncertainty of the coming weeks and months around the duration of social distancing requirements and all the regulations and restrictions around health and safety make it very difficult for us to commit to a production of such a scale and more importantly the health and well-being of our cast and crew (and their families), the Playhouse staff and the wider community is at the forefront of our minds at this time.”*

Culture drives our economy, enriches our lives and shows off our creativity to the world. This is one of the reasons why the Government have invested a £1.57 billion investment to protect Britain’s world-class cultural, arts and heritage industries. The investment into the sector offers hope to many organisations like Alnwick Playhouse. **92% of the Playhouse income comes from tickets and related sales** and this revenue stopped overnight when we were forced into closure. Funding support for the Playhouse is more important than ever and the Playhouse have submitted an application to the Arts Council England (ACE) **Cultural Recovery Fund**.

Obviously the fund will be in huge demand across the U.K and there is no guarantee of success but we believe the Playhouse application builds a very strong case for support. ACE has previously supported the Playhouse capital campaign through Grants for the Arts, as well as making a grant though the

Coronavirus Emergency Response fund. In the next In The Loop newsletter, we hope to bring good news that our bid to the Arts Council, England Recovery Fund has been successful.

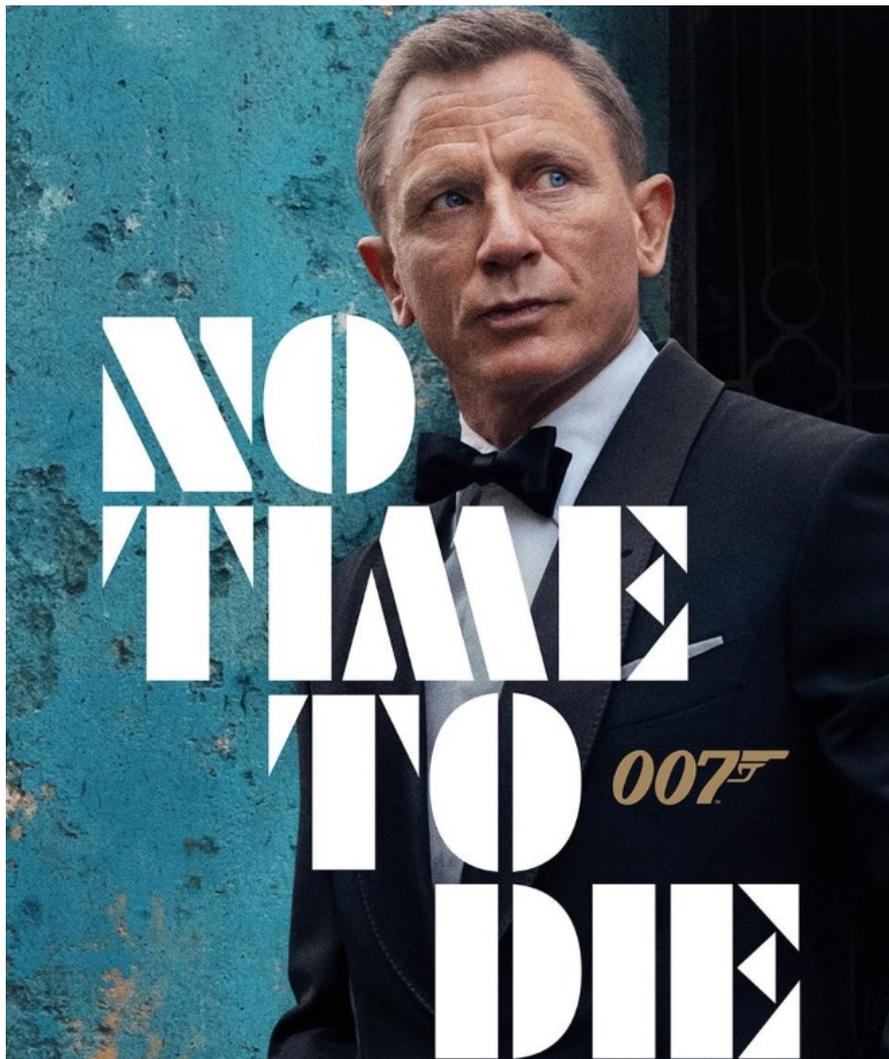
Please keep your fingers crossed for us!

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## FILM INDUSTRY UPDATE

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Whilst the UK enters new restrictions as we head into the autumn cinemas continue to attract audiences. As you would expect, there have been a few movements from the major studios, who have shuffled their release dates around. The most recent being Disney, who have just moved the global release date of latest Marvel film, *Black Widow*, to spring 2021. The studio's *Murder On The Orient Express* sequel *Death On The Nile* is now released on a much more fitting date of 18<sup>th</sup> December, alongside DC's *Wonder Woman 1984*. We can look forward to a rich programme of other films on the way too, including the new Bond film, *No Time To Die*, which still holds its November 12th release date; Pixar's latest animated feature *Soul*, which arrives in late November; and a film that we know you'll be eager to see at the Playhouse, a new adaptation of Frances Hodgson Burnett's *The Secret Garden*, which is out in late October. The future is uncertain in so many ways, but we know that there will be lots and lots of films for audiences to catch up on once we're ready to return.



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## THE PLAYHOUSE GALLERY AUTUMN EXHIBITION

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Our current Graduate Spotlight Exhibition with Amber Brown and Almudena Rocca draws to a close this Monday so make sure to check it out before we move into our Autumn programme.

Our Autumn Exhibition runs from 29th September - 9th November 2020 and features the work of Gillian Lee Smith (Fine Artist) and Hilary Durie (Ceramics).

### Gillian Lee Smith

Exploring the lost and found, the past and how it has shaped us, connection and heritage – these are themes in the work of local artist Gillian Lee Smith

Originally completing a degree in Performance Costume from Edinburgh College of Art, Gillian graduated in 2005. Now focussing on 2d work she combines her love of history, community, people and their connection with the land and sea

*“The atmosphere in a landscape is a huge inspiration, particularly the places that mark the edges between land and sea. Where houses and villages and harbours are rooted in and belong to the surrounding hills and coastline. Built in such a way that they appear to have always been there. The places that still bear the marks of times gone by, the structures and shapes, all have a wonderful character that is really compelling. There is a sense of history, perhaps a melancholic way of reminding us of what has long since passed, what we have lost in many ways. There are specific elements in these places that resonate, like memories. The repeated lines of the boat masts, the mark of the tide and ladders and lines on harbour walls, the windows and doorways of old fishing cottages. These are elements that are added into the work, removing them and reworking them time and time again until they are buried and unearthed again through the process of painting”*

*Gillian exhibits locally and nationally and is currently working on an ambitious art project which will continue into 2021 and beyond titled ‘The Lost and the Left Behind’*



## Hilary Durie

After a career in teaching following a degree at Goldsmiths' College London Hilary is now focusing on developing a range of ceramics and paintings based on her personal response to the landscape.

Her work is influenced by time spent in Scandinavia and Scotland, as well as Northumberland, where home is.

The strata range is created using textured and smooth black clay, enhanced with inlaid porcelain strands, stains, slips and glazes. The larger pieces are all hand-built using coils and all ware in the strata range are stoneware fired.



You can view the [Online Gallery here.](#)

You can also keep up to date with The Playhouse Gallery's on our social media pages.

Facebook: [@theplayhousegallery](#)

Instagram: [@the\\_playhouse\\_gallery](#)

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## THIS WEEKS WATCHLIST

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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 *On The Basis Of Sex*. After the sad death of the groundbreaking US supreme court justice Ruth Bader Ginsberg, we thought that it would be a great time to revisit this recent biopic of RBG from director Mimi Leder. Felicity Jones stars as the young Ruth, a struggling attorney and new mother who faces adversity and obstacles in her fight for equal rights as a woman. When she takes on a potentially huge tax case with her husband, the attorney Martin Ginsburg (Armie Hammer), she knows it could change the direction of her career and the way that courts view gender discrimination. Fast, moving and involving, this inspirational film provides real insight into the genesis of the remarkable woman we know.

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

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## SHOW YOUR'E #HereForCulture

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#HereForCulture is a campaign launched to support arts, culture and heritage institutions across Britain.

We're here for culture but we need your help. Go to that gallery you've always wanted to visit, buy tickets to that performance that got postponed, or rediscover our history at a heritage site near you.

While our doors are closed we have put together a few suggestions of places you may wish to visit:

**Alnwick Castle** - From centuries of history to Potter-inspired magic - there is plenty to explore at Alnwick Castle! The second largest inhabited castle in the UK, Alnwick has served as a military outpost, a teaching college, a refuge for evacuees, a film set, and a family home. Delve into this extraordinary history and travel through the centuries of this living, evolving castle. Alnwick Castle reassures you they remain open and Covid-secure. Pre-booking is essential. For more information [click here](#).

**Bailiffgate Museum** - Bailiffgate are offering another chance to see the striking and thought-provoking photographic exhibition "Anthropocene" by international artist Jose Snook. Climate change and plastic marine pollution have inspired Jose's two-part exhibition which in "Mimesis" imagines insect camouflage in a rapidly changing world and in "Unnatural Selection" images the evolution of plastic-plankton hybrids. Bailiffgate Museum is now fully open and awarded 'Good to Go' status in recognition they are covid-secure. For more information see their website.

**Berwick Visual Arts** - Berwick Visual Arts is an initiative managed by The Maltings (Berwick) Trust. Berwick Visual Arts is committed to developing a welcoming and engaging environment of exceptional, ambitious visual art to inspire, challenge and encourage learning and enjoyment. Their current exhibition, The Glasgow Boys and Girls, representing the beginnings of modern Scottish painting in the early 1880's brings together nearly forty paintings and watercolours. Berwick Visual Arts are Covid-secure and have a number of procedures in place. Booking is recommended. For more information see their website.



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## THANK YOU

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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.



Alnwick Playhouse  
Bondgate Without  
Alnwick  
Northumberland  
NE66 1PQ

Tel: 01665 660550

[www.alnwickplayhouse.co.uk](http://www.alnwickplayhouse.co.uk)

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