



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

The Playhouse is delighted to share with you all the recent news that our bid to ACE Culture Recovery Fund was successful.

Alnwick Playhouse has been awarded funds as part of the Government's £1.57 billion Culture Recovery Fund (CRF) to help face the challenges of the coronavirus pandemic and to ensure they have a sustainable future, the Culture Secretary has announced today.

The Playhouse is one of 1,385 cultural and creative organisations across the country receiving urgently needed support. £257 million of investment has been announced today as part of the very first round of the Culture Recovery Fund grants programme being administered by Arts Council England. Further rounds of funding in the cultural and heritage sector are due to be announced over the coming weeks.

The news of this funding has brought joy and relief to everyone at the Playhouse as it will help us survive the financial implications of closure and also help us to navigate new socially distanced ways in which to continue as the creative and social hub for our community.

A socially distanced programme reduces our audiences to only 60 people and so we have an ambition to develop new staff skills and technology to explore a digital offer which can extend far beyond the Playhouse stage. We also aim to invest in a digital and visual arts programme to help us keep involved with the creative community and leave a legacy for the future.

The Playhouse shall also be working in partnership with other Northumberland Venues, Queens Hall, Hexham and The Maltings, Berwick towards a joined up digital project celebrating Northumberland at Christmas.

This vital new funding is gratefully received and most reassuring to our community, partners and valued supporters that the Playhouse will survive for future generations to come.



HM Government

We're an arts venue and we are #HereForCulture

Thanks to the Government's Culture Recovery Fund we can continue to be #HereForCulture.

HERE FOR CULTURE

Culture Secretary Oliver Dowden said:

“This funding is a vital boost for the theatres, music venues, museums and cultural organisations that form the soul of our nation. It will protect these special places, save jobs and help the culture sector’s recovery.

“These places and projects are cultural beacons the length and breadth of the country. This unprecedented investment in the arts is proof this government is here for culture, with further support to come in the days and weeks ahead so that the culture sector can bounce back strongly.”

Chair, Arts Council England, Sir Nicholas Serota, said:

“Theatres, museums, galleries, dance companies and music venues bring joy to people and life to our cities, towns and villages. This life-changing funding will save thousands of cultural spaces loved by local communities and international audiences. Further funding is still to be announced and we are working hard to support our sector during these challenging times.”

LIGHT IT IN RED

On Wednesday 30th September our venue was in red in support of the #LightItInRed #WeMakeEvents campaign. Red has always signified 'stand by' in theatre, the industry is standing by to get back to work. It now also signifies we are at red alert. The campaign is being run by a large and growing industry collective of trade bodies, businesses and freelancers affected by the shutdown all working together.

The aim is to have support extended for the individuals and companies in this sector until they can return to work.

This next stage in the campaign is known as 'Stand as One'. We call on you to stand as one, united in our common cause to save our industry. Along with countless other venues across the UK, Alnwick Playhouse stood as one to highlight the need for urgent support in order to help our industry survive. We are proud to stand with all of the venues, staff and freelancers who make the live events we love happen.

Find more information at [LightItInRed](#) and [WeMakeEvents](#).



FILM INDUSTRY UPDATE

It's been all go in the world of cinema this week. As cases of COVID-19 start to rise again, the new James Bond film No Time To Die was moved to the spring by its distributor, eager to ensure that it may earn as much money as it can on release. Capturing the headlines and forcing the temporary closure of the Cineworld chain and their subsidiary company Picturehouse, who were anticipating it being an autumn success for them, the impact of the film's move has overshadowed the good news out there. And there is a lot - despite the impact of moving a blockbuster film in the calendar, the independent sector still thrives in this new landscape and cinema around the world keeps up its charge back to business (China's cinemas are selling more tickets now than last year!), looking for new ways to reach audiences via digital platforms. Whilst the impact of the pandemic still leaves things a little uncertain for now, there are still plenty of opportunities to view online and at home and of course we can't wait to open our doors for you in the future.

LETS GO DIGITAL

We are excited to bring you our first live digital experience, bringing **the performances you love into your home**. When booking tickets it will work a little differently. Rather than booking directly through

The Playhouse website tickets will be booked at [GoFasterStripe.com](https://www.gofasterstripe.com). You will then receive an email containing your e-ticket and a link to the performance. For those of you who can't make the date a recording of the performance will remain available for 1 week after the show for anyone with a valid ticket.

RUBY WAX - HOW TO BE HUMAN

ONLINE EVENT: Tuesday 13th October 7.30pm



Based on her bestselling book, Ruby's show How to be Human answers every question you've ever had about evolution, thoughts, emotions, the body, addictions, relationships, sex, kids, the future and compassion.

We can't stop the future from arriving, no matter what drug we're on. But even if nearly every part of us becomes robotic, mechanical fingers crossed we'll still have our minds. Hopefully we'll use them for things like compassion, instead of just chasing what's 'better' like a hamster on a wheel. If we can do that we're on the yellow brick road to happiness.

Outrageously witty and smart, blending brilliant comedy and insightful life lessons, How to be Human is the show you need to help you upgrade your mind as much as you've upgraded your iphone.

Running Times

7.30pm - Intro from Ruby (live)

7.35pm - How To Be Human

8.25pm - Comfort Break

8.35pm - Q+A with Ruby (live)

[Click here to book your tickets](#)

LOST VOICE GUY: CEREBRAL LOL-SY

Wednesday 10th March 2021 8pm



Following the success of his huge sell out 2019 UK tour, Lost Voice Guy is heading back out on the road to put a smile on the faces of people up and down the country once again.

The Britain's Got Talent winner will poke fun at his life living as a disabled person in a post-apocalyptic world, as he tries to cope with the fame and fortune since his memorable victory. From the highs of meeting 50% of The Chuckle Brothers to the lows of being called 'him off The X Factor', and everything in between.

The stand-up comedian might not have a Geordie accent yet, and he might still sound like a posh version of Robocop, but his comedy is sure to leave you speechless.

As featured on America's Got Talent: The Champions, The Royal Variety Performance, Live At The Apollo, The Last Leg, The One Show, and star of Ability on Radio 4.

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.

[Click here to book your tickets](#)

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 Queen & Slim. From director Melina Matsoukas, this timely fugitive story is simmering with righteous anger. Slim (Daniel Kaluuya: Get Out) and Queen (Jodie Turner-Smith) are on their first date when things take a sudden turn and a vicious cop pulls them over for a minor traffic violation. When the situation escalates Slim shoots the cop in self-defence. Labelled as cop killers the pair go on the run, becoming a symbol of national trauma, terror and pain. Reflecting the current issues facing US race and culture, Queen and Slim is stylish and powerful filmmaking.

[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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