

stamford arts centre

WHAT'S ON

SPRING 2024

featuring

**OSCAR WILDE'S
THE IMPORTANCE
OF BEING
EARNEST**



Box Office 01780 763203
www.stamfordartscentre.com



SOUTH
KESTEVEN
DISTRICT
COUNCIL

Welcome

Welcome to the Stamford Arts Centre's Spring 2024 season, where a world of entertainment awaits you! We are delighted to present our extensive lineup of events that promise to delight and captivate audiences of all ages and tastes.

Our thriving **Jazz In The Cellar Bar** series is set to continue its success into 2024, bringing you four exciting new events. These enchanting evenings are a must-attend for jazz enthusiasts and anyone seeking to elevate their Friday night experience! Our classical season is currently in full swing, and we are thrilled to present our upcoming series of four remarkable events, starting with in January with renowned pianist **Melvyn Tan**. These enchanting evenings of music take place within our exquisite ballroom, offering you the opportunity to immerse yourself in an enchanting musical experience.

Join us with your family in April for **The Museum Of Marvellous Things**, where the extraordinary becomes reality! Immerse yourselves in a world of larger-than-life puppets, mesmerizing magical effects, engaging interactive storytelling and captivating live original music. Later that month we have the classic comedy **The Importance Of Being Earnest**. HangFire Theatre will delight you with their hilarious adaptation of Oscar Wilde's masterpiece, where mistaken identity and romance collide.

Following its sensational sold-out performance at Grantham, we're thrilled to announce that **An Evening With Aggers** will take place at Stamford Arts Centre at the end of March. Brace yourself for an unforgettable encounter with the cricketing legend and acclaimed BBC correspondent, Jonathan Agnew. We strongly recommend securing your tickets in advance to ensure you don't miss out!

In addition to our live events, we offer a diverse array of regular activities, exhibitions and film screenings. This new year, unlock your creative potential and enjoy the multitude of experiences we have in store for you!

We look forward to welcoming you soon,

The Stamford Arts Centre Team

On behalf of South Kesteven District Council

Top picks



MELVYN TAN | PAGE 3



PENNYLESS | PAGE 9



AN EVENING WITH AGGERS | PAGE 14



THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING EARNEST | PAGE 17

How to book your tickets

☎ 01780 763203

🌐 www.stamfordartscentre.com

✉ boxofficestamfordartscentre@southkesteven.gov.uk

27 St Mary's Street, Stamford, Lincolnshire PE9 2DL

@stamfordarts



You can buy tickets online 24 hours a day, 7 days a week! Our box office is open 10am-2pm Monday, Wednesday, Friday & Saturday and 45 minutes prior to performances.

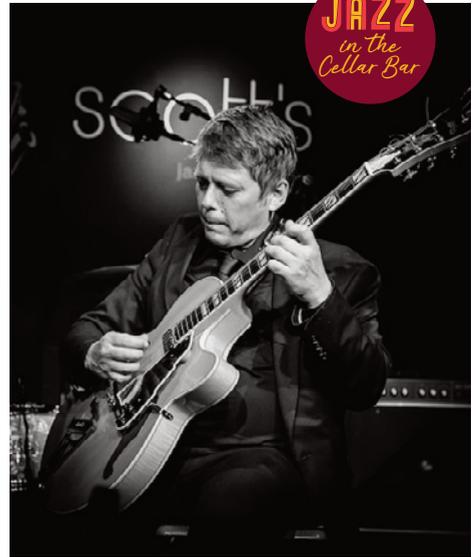
FRIDAY 12TH JANUARY, 8PM

PRICE, RATCLIFFE, WOOD ORGAN TRIO

Over a career spanning more than 25 years, award winning jazz guitarist Nigel Price has become widely acknowledged as one of the hardest working musicians in the business. Musically, his blend of flowing bebop lines, deep blues sensibility and his mastery of chording continue to delight audiences and fellow musicians alike. His career highlights include a support show for Gladys Knight at The Royal Albert Hall and an appearance on Van Morrison's recent album Keep Me Singing.

Nigel will be joined by Matthew Ratcliffe on the Hammond organ & Andrew 'Woody' Wood at the drum kit to deliver an exciting programme of high-octane guitar led swing.

£15 standard | Purchase 2 or more events from the Jazz in the Cellar Bar series and get £2 off each ticket.



SATURDAY 13TH JANUARY, 7:30PM

Top pick

MELVYN TAN

Melvyn Tan established his international reputation in the 1980s with pioneering performances on fortepiano and continues to cast fresh light on music conceived for the piano's early and modern forms. Recent appearances include performances with MDR Leipzig Radio Symphony Orchestra, Orchestra Wiener Akademie in Vienna, a Wigmore Hall recital and a BBC In Tune broadcast with Guy Johnston, Bath Philharmonia and AMUZ.

Programme:

- SCHUMANN ABEGG Variations, Op. 1
- SCHUMANN Kreisleriana, Op. 16
- BEETHOVEN Piano Sonata No. 31 in A flat, Op. 110
- BRAHMS Piano Sonata No. 1, Op. 1

Part of the Stamford Arts Centre classical season

£20 (£18 concessions) | Ballroom | Classical



FRIDAY 19TH JANUARY, 7:30PM

HAUNTINGS

Hauntings is a spellbinding evening of three tales of the supernatural from two of the world's greatest writers of ghost stories, E.F. Benson and M.R. James.

From E.F. Benson comes 'Naboth's Vineyard' in which just desserts are meted out to an unscrupulous lawyer and 'The Hanging of Alfred Wadham' in which the forces of the devil test a man of faith to his limits. From the master of the ghost story genre, M.R. James, comes 'Oh, Whistle and I'll Come to You, My Lad' in which a medieval spirit terrorizes an arrogant professor. With masterful storytelling from the award-winning actor Gerard Logan, Hauntings will transport you to a world of invisible, but terrifyingly present, spirits.

£14 (£12 concessions) | Theatre
Suitable for ages 12+ | Drama



FRIDAY 19TH JANUARY, 8PM

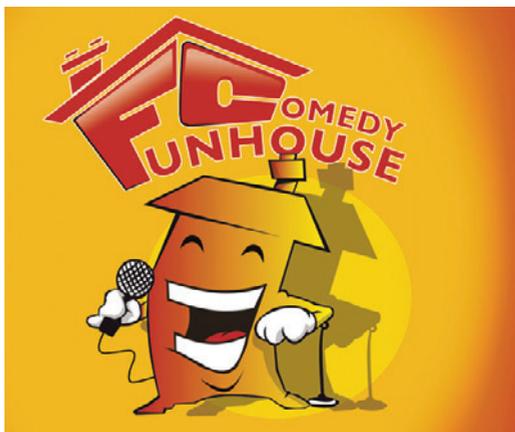
FRIDAY 15TH MARCH, 8PM

FUNHOUSE COMEDY

January event features Patrick Monahan, winner of ITV's 'Show Me The Funny'. Outstanding Irish Iranian Geordie funnyman, with charm by the bucketload. With Ben Harrington, Alex Cahill and compere Patrick Draper.

March event features Jon Pearson, wonderful storyteller and brilliant improviser. With Alex Farrow, Mary Flanigan and compere Patrick Draper.

£10 standard | Cellar Bar | Comedy



SATURDAY 20TH JANUARY, 10:30AM – 4PM

SINGING WORKSHOP WITH VAL REGAN

This workshop is for anyone who loves to sing, wants to sing, is scared to sing or has ever thought about singing. We'll spend the day learning songs in harmony just of the sheer joy of using our voices. You don't need to read music and all voices are welcome. If you're already in a community choir then great, come on down and if you're just trying it for the first time you are equally welcome.

The workshop will be led by Val Regan, a member of the Natural Voice Network and one of the UK's most experienced singing leaders.

£25 standard | Ballroom | Suitable for ages 14+ | Workshop



SATURDAY 27TH JANUARY, 7:30PM

KINDERTRANSPORT – A DOCUMENTARY CONCERT

On National Holocaust Day, an evening of two distinct halves, Kindertransport – the documentary-concert is a moving audio-visual experience, telling the story of the 1938 rescue of thousands of children from Nazi-occupied Europe. The UK took in nearly 10,000 mostly Jewish children from Germany, Austria, Poland and Czechoslovakia. Specially commissioned music and contemporary tunes add to the poignancy of this extraordinary achievement.

Part Two is Simcha in concert. Simcha is a Yiddish word meaning Celebration and this 8-piece band plays lively dance tunes and heart-rending melodies from everyday life from Jewish Europe. This genre is known as Klezmer – from the Yiddish Klezmerim, meaning itinerant musicians. Handed down by oral tradition and played across eastern Europe from Russia to the Baltic and Balkan countries, this secular music also made its way to the USA where it became absorbed into the New York jazz scene.

£12 (£10 concessions) | Ballroom | Music



SATURDAY 3RD FEBRUARY, 7:30PM

CONSONE QUARTET WITH STEVEN DEVINE

The first period instrument quartet to be selected as BBC New Generation Artists, the Consona Quartet are fast making a name for themselves with their honest and expressive interpretations of classical and romantic repertoire. Formed at the Royal College of Music in London, the Consona Quartet launched their career in 2015, shortly after which they were awarded prizes at the York Early Music International Young Artists Competition and the Royal Over-Seas League Competition.

Programme:

MOZART Piano Concerto in F major KV. 413

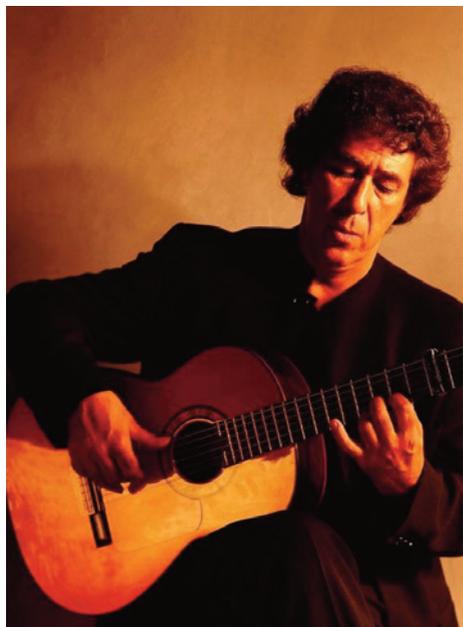
HAYDN String Quartet in D major, Op. 64, No. 5, 'The Lark'

HAYDN Piano Sonata in E minor, Hob. XV1:34

MOZART Quintet for piano and winds in E flat major, KV. 452 (arr. Ernst Naumann)

Part of the Stamford Arts Centre classical season

£25 (£23 concessions) | Ballroom | Classical



FRIDAY 9TH FEBRUARY, 7:30PM

JUAN MARTIN

The guitarist/composer who absorbed his art in the land of its origin, Andalucia and later Madrid, introduces his compositions within the forms of the great tradition of flamenco. His unique sound has been honed through a lifetime of concerts and recordings and performing with legends of the song and dance like Rafael Romero and Eva la Yerbabuena.

Voted into the top 3 flamenco guitarists in the world by Guitar Player USA, Juan Martin has toured the world playing concerts from Shanghai and Melbourne to New York as well as in the Montreux Jazz Festival. Critics have compared his compositional talent to that of Albéniz, Turina and Tárrega.

£18 (£16 concessions) | Ballroom | Music



SATURDAY 10TH FEBRUARY, 10AM, 11AM,

12PM, 2PM, 3PM

METALWORK AND PAPER CRAFTS WORKSHOP WITH SHALINI

Join Stamford based metal worker, Shalini Austin, in this fun crafting workshop! Make your own flowers, leaves or creatures using copper foil, recycled cans and card stock. Then take your designs home with you at the end. Paper crafts suitable for ages 3+, metal crafts suitable for ages 6+. Children must be accompanied by an adult.

£5 per child | The Gallery | Suitable for ages 3+ Workshop

SATURDAY 10TH FEBRUARY, 7:30PM

AS SHE LIKES IT

Kiss the Hollywood happy ending goodbye! As SHE Likes It is inspired by the story of #MeToo pioneer Patricia Douglas. It's been nearly 100 years since Patricia Douglas was lured to a studio party under the guise of a casting call, in what was perhaps the biggest, best-suppressed scandal in Hollywood history.

Written by Chloe Wade and supported by Olivier Award Winning Playwright, Morgan Lloyd Malcolm; Emilia (The Globe), Obsession (Netflix), As SHE Likes It is a peek behind the sepia cigarette smoke and passionate embraces of Old Hollywood, as seen through the eyes of its archetypes. Through a fusion of live theatre and filmed footage, As SHE Likes It exposes the cultural legacy of sexism and exploitation that still haunts the industry to this day.

£14 (£12 concessions) | Theatre | Drama



FRIDAY 16TH FEBRUARY, 2:30PM

THE BLUEBIRD - A QUEST FOR HAPPINESS

Join Mirtel, a Seer, and her tree spirit, Micky, on their quest to find the elusive bluebird and help unlock its mystery... What is the bluebird's secret power and where could it be hiding? In the Land of Memory or Future? Is it trapped in the Land of Luxury or lost in the Land of Night? We'll bring plenty of theatrical magic, but we need your help to find the answers...

£10 (£8 concessions) £30 family of 4 | Theatre | Suitable for ages 5+ | Family



FRIDAY 16TH FEBRUARY, 8PM

TONY KOFI'S TENOR LEGACY

Originally hailing from the East Midlands, internationally acclaimed, award-winning saxophonist Tony Kofi explores the music of the great tenor saxophone players. This band has been playing as a unit since 2015 and on this outing will be exploring material by John Coltrane, Sonny Rollins, Sam Rivers, Wayne Shorter, Joe Henderson & Dexter Gordon as they pay homage to the giants of the tenor saxophone throughout jazz. The quartet has recently performed to a sell-out crowd at the 606 Club in London as well as being a regular hot ticket at Nottingham's Peggy's Skylight Jazz Club.



£15 standard | Purchase 2 or more events from the Jazz in the Cellar Bar series and get £2 off each ticket.



TUESDAY 20TH FEBRUARY, 7:45PM

PHILIPPA MASSEY TALK: LET THERE BE LIGHT

When and how did people light their dwellings after dark? How did people manage before the streets of Stamford illuminated, and when did it happen? Philippa investigates the history and provision of public lighting in Stamford, who supplied it and how it was financed and operated. She also looks at how the supply of fuel and power to private houses came about, and what it entailed.

£6 (£5.50 concessions) | Theatre | Talk

FRIDAY 23RD FEBRUARY, 8PM

PENNYLESS

Penny Stevens on violin and Les Woods playing guitar form a distinctive and powerful sound as they range through the world of original and roots folk/world music. After 12 years and with 6 albums released as a four-piece band, Penny and Les are heading back out into the world as a duo; expect a varied mix of up-tempo instrumentals and fanciful songs: high energy and fun!

£5 standard | Cellar Bar | Music



SATURDAY 24TH FEBRUARY, 7:30PM

DVORAK & JANACEK: SIMFEST 2024 LAUNCH CONCERT

Stamford International Musical Festival returns to Stamford Arts Centre for the 5th edition of this annual chamber music. Violinist, Freya Goldmark, is joined by a select group of Europe's finest musicians for this special concert announcing the programmes for the May Festival being held 16th-18th May 2024. This year the festival will have a focus on the great Czech composers Dvorak and Janacek as well as featuring works by Schubert, Ligeti, Brahms and Dohnanyi.

This event will include –

Janacek – String Quartet No.2 Intimate Letters
Interval

Dvorak - String Quintet in E flat Op.97

£22, free for 17 and under when accompanied by an adult | Ballroom | Classical



THURSDAY 29TH FEBRUARY, 7:30PM

A SHORT HISTORY OF FLOWERS: THE STORIES THAT MAKE OUR GARDENS

ROYAL GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY

This lecture includes tales of exploration, unrequited but also enduring love, botanical piracy and excessive hybridisation bringing these beautiful flowers to life. From the flamboyant bougainvillea, collected in Rio de Janeiro by an 18th century female botanist in disguise to the deliciously scented stock which made a journey across France bearable for a 19th century traveller. These flowers have played pivotal roles in our societies across the world, from boom to bust economies, the Fuchsia hedgerows of Ireland as well as making bold fashion statements, these unassuming blooms hold treasure troves of stories.

Advolly Richmond is a garden historian, TV and radio presenter and independent researcher in gardens, landscapes, plants and social history. A regular contributor on BBC Gardeners' World as well as on BBC Gardeners' Question Time, she is also the presenter of The Garden History Podcast, an A-Z.



£14 (£12 concessions) £10 RGS members | Theatre | Talk

FRIDAY 8TH MARCH, 8PM

ME & MR JONES

Me & Mr Jones are Rachel Foster (voice) and Paul Deats (piano). They perform beautiful original songs, made with love. Nostalgic for another time but very much for today. The duo are accompanied by an awesomely talented rhythm section; 'The Whole Affair' - Simon Paterson (double bass) and Steve Smith (drums).

Rachel has toured the US with Weekend Players earning Billboard Chart success at no.3 and reaching no.1 in the Dance Chart respectively. Paul has toured Europe and the UK extensively, he is a constantly inventive arranger and composer making him a much sought after player, performer and collaborator.

£15 standard | Purchase 2 or more events from the Jazz in the Cellar Bar series and get £2 off each ticket.



JAZZ
*in the
Cellar Bar*

SATURDAY 9TH MARCH, 7:30PM

CONNAUGHT BRASS

Connaught Brass are quickly making a name for themselves as a fresh talent in the chamber music world. Having already made their debut at the Lucerne Festival and London's Wigmore Hall, the ensemble's ability to manipulate and unify sound earned them 1st Prize in the Inaugural Philip Jones International Brass Ensemble Competition (2019) and the Royal Overseas League Mixed Ensemble Competition (2022). Vibrant, spirited and bold.

Programme:

MORGEN ANDRESEN	Prelude and Rheinlaender from 3 Norwegian Dances
STRAVINSKY	Suite from Pulcinella 2.0 (arr. Steven Verhelst)
RACHMANINOFF	Bogoroditse Devo (arr. Akugbo)
TILSON THOMAS	Street Song
ARNOLD	Brass Quintet No. 1, Op. 73
FLORENCE PRICE	Adoration (arr. Blair)
WEILL	Suite from the Threepenny Opera (arr. Foster)



Part of the Stamford Arts Centre classical season

£20 (£18 concessions) | Ballroom | Classical

TUESDAY 12TH – SATURDAY 16TH MARCH, 7:45PM



STAMFORD SHOESTRING THEATRE PRESENTS VISITORS BY BARNEY NORRIS

A powerful tribute to love, family and gratitude for a life well-lived, this tender and uplifting play received the Critics' Circle Award 2014.

When Kate, a young blue-haired carer, comes into Arthur and Edie's home, the three of them develop a surprising friendship. What follows is an intimate portrait of the love between an elderly couple, the confusion of youth and how one family, made strong by their shared memories of the past, navigates an uncertain present.

This amateur production of "Visitors" is presented by arrangement with Concord Theatricals Ltd. On behalf of Samuel French Ltd. www.concordtheatricals.co.uk

£12 (£10 concessions) | Theatre | Drama

SATURDAY 16TH MARCH, 2PM

SINGING WORKSHOP WITH MADDY PRIOR & FORGOTTEN LANDS

Join Maddy Prior & Forgotten Lands for this fun and informative vocal workshop before their evening performance!

Learn a song with us to sing your heart out! BUT ALSO...

- Learn the benefits of a fun warm-up to prepare the whole body for singing.
- Learn the benefits of anatomical and physiological knowledge for voice users. Learn how to get consistency of voice, note-to-note, day-to-day.
- Learn modern scientific vocabulary for singing aspects.

**£10 standard | Ballroom | Workshop
1 Hour 40 minutes**



SATURDAY 16TH MARCH, 7:30PM

MADDY PRIOR & FORGOTTEN LANDS

Maddy Prior and Rose-Ellen Kemp (her daughter and fellow singing teacher) are embarking on some shows around the UK joined by musicians Andrew Sinclair (Steeleye Span guitarist) and Ruth Elder (viola and piano). The band's sound is based around their four part harmony along with virtuosic viola playing which goes from dream-like wistfulness all the way through to thick, textured rhythmic crunch. This works in a powerful tandem with Andrew's extraordinarily intuitive guitar skills, creating wide scapes of drone, arpeggio and full-tilt riffs. The performance is all at once harmonically impressive and challenging, entertaining, uplifting and light-hearted, thoughtful and eclectic.

£20 standard | Ballroom | Music



THURSDAY 21ST MARCH, 7:30PM

AUSTEN'S WOMEN: LADY SUSAN

Austen's Women are back - in a brand-new show! Devil-may-care Lady Susan, the coquettish black widow, hunting down not one, but two, fortunes; oppressed, rebellious daughter Frederica; long-suffering sister-in-law Catherine; family matriarch Mrs De Courcy; and insouciant best friend, Alicia.

Return to the Regency (or rather, Georgian) in this darkly comic tale of society and the women trapped within it; their struggles, their desires, their temptations and manipulations - and at the vanguard, Lady Susan: charming, scheming, witty, and powerful; taking on society and making it her own. But has she met her match?

Based on Jane Austen's first full-length work from 1794, and created entirely from letters, the piece is performed by Rebecca Vaughan and directed by Andrew Margerison.

£16 (£15 concessions) | Theatre | Suitable for ages 12+ | Drama



FRIDAY 22ND MARCH, 7:30PM

LINCS SOUL COLLECTIVE

Lincs Soul Collective is a group of musicians all of whom play in various other ensembles and bands. What brings us together is a love of live music and in particular, soul, blues and funk; in fact anything that moves our soul.

Enjoy an evening with us as we take a journey through soul and rhythm and blues taking in some more modern tunes as well as the old favourites. Arethra Franklin, Ray Charles, Wilson Pickett and even the B52s will feature in this celebration of soulful, live music!



£14 (£12 concessions) | Ballroom | Suitable for ages 16+ | Music



SATURDAY 23RD MARCH, 7:30PM

SPRING FUN WITH STAMFORD CHAMBER ORCHESTRA

We are thrilled to welcome back local soloist Freya Goldmark to play Prokofiev's wonderful and melodic Violin Concerto no. 2, along with Mozart's tuneful Haffner Symphony no.35, and introduce you to Agathe Backer-Grøndahl's Scherzo.

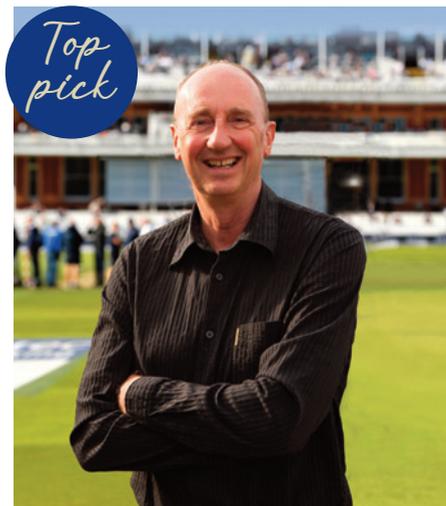
£13.50 (£11.50 Over 60s, £6 Under 26s) | Ballroom | Music

THURSDAY 28TH MARCH, 7:30PM

AN EVENING WITH AGGERS

Get ready to be bowled over by true cricket legend and renowned BBC correspondent, Jonathan Agnew. From his early days learning the ropes under the guidance of the legendary Brian Johnston to rising above the infamous "leg over" incident, Agnew has cemented his status as one of the most esteemed commentators and interviewers in the cricket world. Whether you're a die-hard fan or new to the game, plunge into the world of cricket with exclusive behind-the-scenes footage, an electrifying blend of sporting highlights, uproarious anecdotes, and side-splitting humour.

£25 (£23 concessions) | Theatre | Talk



THURSDAY 4TH APRIL, 10AM, 10:45AM, 11:30AM, 12:15PM, 1PM, 1:45PM, 2:30PM

WONDERDOME – PLANETARIUM EXPERIENCE

Join the Cosmic Fun! Get ready for a space-tacular adventure! Be awed, inspired, and enlightened. Hop into WonderDome and blast off into a 30-minute journey through the stars, let the magic of space envelop you.

Parents don't forget to book a seat too. And make sure you're on time because once the cosmic show begins, we can't let anyone in. Come join us for a spacey-fun time that'll leave you wide-eyed with wonder!

£8 standard | Ballroom | Workshop

FRIDAY 5TH APRIL, 7:30PM

MARTIN HARLEY

Martin Harley has been making music and touring the world for over two decades. His sound has never been more down to earth. Exploring roots, blues and slide guitar in a style The Guardian referred to as 'Spellbinding', Harley has released nine albums to date, four recorded on home soil and four across the Atlantic in Texas and Nashville.

Martin's solo shows are known for mixing excellent musicianship and songwriting with a down to earth sense of humour and tales of 3 decades of world travel. Martin's recent nominations include, AMA instrumentalist of the year, Best Acoustic Guitarist, Best Acoustic Blues artist.

£18 (£16 concessions) | Ballroom | Music

SATURDAY 6TH APRIL, 10AM, 11AM, 12PM,

2PM, 3PM

METALWORK AND PAPER CRAFTS WORKSHOP WITH SHALINI

Join Stamford based metal worker, Shalini Austin, in this Spring crafting workshop! Make your own spring flowers, bunnies and other shapes using copper foil, recycled cans and card stock. Then take your designs home with you at the end. Paper crafts suitable for ages 3+, metal crafts suitable for ages 6+. Children must be accompanied by an adult.

£5 per child | Blue Room | Suitable for ages 3+ Workshop



WEDNESDAY 10TH APRIL, 2:30PM

THE MUSEUM OF MARVELLOUS THINGS

Welcome to The Museum of Marvellous Things, where the impossible can happen! Discover stars in jars, catch moons like balloons, dance with Doo-Dahs in cages, sing with Noo-Nahs on stages. Because this is a museum like no other – it's made from the magic of YOUR imagination – and you get to bring it alive.

With giant puppets, magical effects, interactive storytelling, LIVE original music and a chance to make your own special puppet, this is a fun-filled family show based on the picture book by Kristina Stephenson. Meet sensible, serious Norbert Norris and wild, wonderful Tilly T. Pott, as they give you a sneak peek inside their amazing museum and ask YOU to fill it with MAGIC!

**£8 (£6 concessions) £24 family of 4 | Theatre
Suitable for ages 3+ | Family**



FRIDAY 12TH APRIL, 7:30PM

**CAPTAIN BACKWASH & THE
BARLEY BOY (AND GIRL)
RAFTER RAISERS**

We sing songs and play traditional music from Ireland and many other countries on a variety of instruments including Guitar, Melodeon, Mandolin, Bouzouki, Violin and various woodwind instruments. We also play our versions of some well-known songs from the 60s and some more recent compositions. The group originated in Castor about 15 years ago and all the musicians and singers are local.

£5 standard | Cellar Bar | Music

SATURDAY 13TH APRIL, 7:30PM

**THE IMPORTANCE OF
BEING EARNEST**

The trivial comedy for serious people is back. Mistaken identity and romance collide with cucumber sandwiches and a handbag in Oscar Wilde's much-loved comedy of manners.

Jack loves Gwendolen. Algernon loves Cecily; though both of them are engaged to the roguish Ernest - much to the disapproval of the formidable Lady Bracknell. Unfortunately, Ernest doesn't actually exist, and when his true identity is revealed, being earnest takes on a whole new importance!

Following the success of their first national tour in 2022, HangFire Theatre return with a revival of their fast paced and hilarious adaptation of Wilde's famous comic masterpiece.

£16 (£15 concessions) | Theatre | Drama



THURSDAY 18TH APRIL, 7:45PM

PHILIPPA MASSEY TALK: A STAMFORD MISCELLANY

This is a series of small, potted biographies of some Stamford personalities from the 20C. Philippa shares with you a fairly random choice of snapshots of people who have lived and worked in the town. They were not necessarily born or bred in Stamford, but these are people who had some effect or impact on the town and have been influential in various ways.

£6 (£5.50 concessions) | Theatre | Talk

FRIDAY 19TH APRIL, 7:30PM

PRISCILLA QUEEN OF DISASTER

A real story from a real mother! It's a true story and you won't believe it! Priscilla, Queen Of Disaster is brutally honest about being a mum. Motherhood isn't just paying a photographer to take a perfect photo of your bundle of joy curled up in a basket.

With tears streaming down your face, laugh along with the sometimes savage! - experiences that can be motherhood and face up to letting go of what we all thought it would be.

**£13.50 standard | Theatre
Suitable for ages 14+ | Drama**



FRIDAY 19TH APRIL, 8PM

CHRIS GUMBLEY QUARTET

Presenting an exciting program of new arrangements of classic jazz repertoire, this Quartet is led by virtuoso saxophonist Chris Gumbley fronting a band of some of the UK's top jazz instrumentalists. Chris has performed alongside The Temptations & The Four Tops, The English Chamber Orchestra, Pasadena Roof Orchestra and an abundance of his own projects. This outfit explores a wide range of jazz styles, ranging from trad to swing to bebop and beyond. Al (piano) & James (double bass) will be making their first appearance as part of the Stamford jazz program.

£15 standard | Purchase 2 or more events from the Jazz in the Cellar Bar series and get £2 off each ticket.



JAZZ
*in the
Cellar Bar*

SATURDAY 20TH APRIL, 7:30PM

TRIO GASPARD

Founded in 2010, Trio Gaspard is one of the most sought-after piano trios of their generation, praised for their unique and fresh approach to the score. Important engagements over the past year include recitals at the BBC Proms, Unione Musicale Turin, Wigmore Hall, KKL Lucerne as well as at Berlin's Pierre Boulez Saal.

Programme:

WINKLEMAN	Piano Trio written for the Trio Gaspard's 'Haydn Project'
HAYDN	Piano Trio No. 44 in E, Hob. XV:28
LISZT	Hungarian Rhapsody No. 9, 'Carnival in Pest'
BRAHMS	Hungarian Dances
BRAHMS	Piano Trio No. 2 in C, Op. 87



Part of the Stamford Arts Centre classical season

£20 (£18 concessions) | Ballroom | Classical



SATURDAY 27TH APRIL, 7:30PM

SPRING FESTIVAL; A BRASS BOUQUET

Celebrating the renewal of spring through the brass brilliance of Stamford Brass. Lincolnshire's highest rated brass band, ready to entertain you in this exciting concert.

£11 (£6 student/child) | Ballroom | Music

FRIDAY 3RD MAY, 7:30PM

DEAN FRIEDMAN IN CONCERT

Hailed by critics and fans alike as a one of the finest songwriters of his generation, Dean Friedman has achieved legendary, pop-icon status for chart-topping hits, Ariel, Lucky Stars, Lydia, McDonald's Girl and more.

Following Friedman's sold-out, 40th Anniversary Tour, Friedman returns to the stage armed with a stunning collection of his insightful and compelling, true-to-life 'story songs' - songs of pathos and humour that deal with family, friends, neighbours, work and the seemingly trivial, yet ultimately essential stuff of everyday life.

**£29.50 standard | Ballroom
Suitable for ages 9+ | Music**

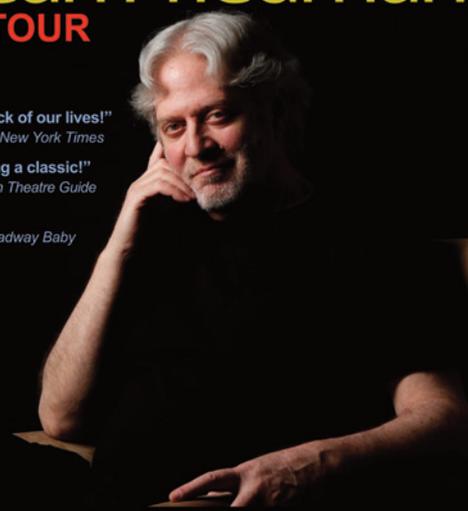
"Dean Friedman is entirely unique and utterly brilliant!"
★★★★★ *ThreeWeeks*

**Dean Friedman
ON TOUR**

"Soundtrack of our lives!"
- *New York Times*

"Every song a classic!"
- *London Theatre Guide*

"Brilliant!"
- *Broadway Baby*



Stamford Verse Festival



Wednesday 24th – Sat 27th April 2024

We are delighted to be bringing back Verse Festival to Stamford. Running bi-annually since 2012, this small but perfectly formed spoken word festival, which reflects our thriving poetry scene, hopes to include something for everyone. Take a look at what's on and we'll see you there!

WEDNESDAY 24TH APRIL

LET'S CHAT - POETRY AND WORDS WITH DARREN RAWNSLEY, 1:30pm

Bring your poems, or a favourite poem, and have a relaxed conversation about poetry and writing. Suitable for adults and young adults.

This event takes place every Wednesday 1:30pm – 2:30pm.

Free | Stamford Library



POET LAUREATE FINAL, 7:30PM

Could you be the next Stamford Poet Laureate? If you enjoy writing poetry and think this might be for you, then head to our website to apply online, closing date April 12th. The final will then be held at Pint of Poetry, our regular monthly open mic night, on April 24th at 7:30pm.

Free | Stamford Arts Centre Gallery



THURSDAY 25TH APRIL

JOELLE TAYLOR C+NTO & OTHERED POEMS, 7:30PM

Winner of the 2021 T. S. Eliot Prize, poet and author Joelle Taylor brings a selection of her work to Stamford following an international tour that included Sydney Opera House.

C+NTO tells the story of the LGBT counterculture of the 1990's. It is part memoir and part magic trick, an honouring of the brave and irreverent women who transformed queer life in the UK. It is a book of love, grief, community, and the continuing fight for justice. Released in February 2024, *The Night Alphabet* is Joelle's debut novel. Set across geographies and timespans, it is a deep and bold investigation into violence, resilience and women's stories.

£15 standard | Stamford Arts Centre Theatre



FRIDAY 26TH APRIL

THE VERY GRIMM BROTHERS UNLOCKED, 7:30pm

Grimm Ade (poems) and Grimm John (guitar) live at Castle Grimm. It isn't all plain sailing. They share their innermost fears, woes and décor challenges, the relief of wild swimming, rhubarb crowns, Scandonoir and Castle Grimm's secret. Heart-warming and funny. Told through poems, music, tiny stories and an aeronautical display, wind permitting.

The Very Grimm Brothers are Adrian Mealing, a Malvern Poetry Slam Champ who sings à cappella with *Men in General*, *A Fistful of Spookies* and *The Spooky Men's Chorale* (Aus), and John Denton who wears several musical hats including, *John Denton's Midnight Band* and *The Fezz*.

£10 standard | Stamford Arts Centre Cellar Bar



SATURDAY 27TH APRIL

SHAKESPEARE AT THE STONE, 11AM

Come and join Stamford Poets at the Stamford Poetry Stone as they celebrate the birthday of William Shakespeare as part of Verse Festival.

Free | St Michael's Churchyard



PAGE TO STAGE: ASH DICKINSON, 2PM

Join professional poet Ash Dickinson ('Impressive wordplay' – The Times, 'Clever and funny' – The Scotsman) for a workshop designed in bringing your work to life. Poetry as a live and aloud force. There will be opportunity to write, opportunity to read, opportunity to perform. For those who'd like to write poetry and share it, here's an opportunity to transform.

Ash Dickinson has been full-time as a poet since 2008 and is in great demands to run writing workshops in schools, galleries, museums, prisons and with writing groups. His debut collection, 'Slinky Espadrilles', was the very first title published by Burning Eye Books.

£10 standard | Stamford Arts Centre Ballroom



LUKE WRIGHT'S SILVER JUBILEE, 7:30pm

Crack out the bunting! It's Luke Wright's Silver Jubilee.

Over twenty-five years, Luke Wright has built up a reputation for being one of Britain's most popular live poets. He has won an unprecedented four Saboteur Awards (national awards for spoken word), a Stage Award, and a Fringe First.

This show is an excavation of lives lived and not lived. Wright navigates his audience through a warm and honest hour of poems and stand-up, with the directness and pathos that has made him one of the most popular live poets in England. With some wild experiments in form, a nervous kitten called Sir John Betjeman and a healthy smattering of drum n bass, Wright manages to navigate some heart-wrenching material and keep the laughs coming.

£15 standard | Stamford Arts Centre Theatre



Stamford
Verse Festival
Wednesday 24th – Sat 27th April 2024



Regular Activities

SKETCHING STAMFORD WITH KAREN NEALE

MONDAYS 10AM – 12:30PM

karen@karenneale.co.uk | 07710 406967

ART WITH HEATHER HARRISON

MONDAYS 1:30PM – 4PM

heatherlindaharrison@gmail.com

STAMFORD DANCE ACADEMY

MONDAYS

www.pzazzdanceacademy.co.uk

ELECTRIC JIVE DANCE

MONDAYS

www.electricjive.co.uk

WILDCATS THEATRE SCHOOL

TUESDAYS AND SATURDAYS

www.wildcatstheatre.co.uk

DRAWING FROM LIFE PORTRAITURE WITH MIKE ALABASTER

TUESDAYS 1:30PM – 4PM & THURSDAYS
7:30PM – 10PM

01780 763806

BALLROOM & LATIN WITH ANN GIBBONS

TUESDAYS 7PM – 8:45PM

www.anngibbonsdance.co.uk

YOGA WITH NICKY HAYES

TUESDAYS 10AM & WEDNESDAY 7:30PM

www.nickyhayesyoga.co.uk

PAINTING AND DRAWING WITH TIM BEASLEY

WEDNESDAYS

SMCtoundry@yahoo.co.uk

SCULPTURE CLASS WITH JONTY MEYER

WEDNESDAYS 7PM – 9:30PM & FRIDAYS
10AM – 12:30PM, 1:30PM – 4PM

jonty@jontymeyer.com | 07799 048841

PAUL CREWE ART CLASSES

THURSDAYS 1:30PM – 4PM

pacrewe@yahoo.uk | 07540 075764

WOVEN CHORDS COMMUNITY CHOIR

THURSDAYS 7:30PM – 9:30PM

info@wovenchords.com

DROLMA MEDITATION

THURSDAYS 1PM – 2PM

www.stamfordartscentre.com

Other Events & Satellite Screenings



ROYAL OPERA: RUSALKA
WEDNESDAY 24TH JANUARY, 6:45PM
STAMFORD ARTS CENTRE, CINEMA



NT LIVE: DEAR ENGLAND
THURSDAY 25TH JANUARY, 7PM
STAMFORD ARTS CENTRE, CINEMA



SUBLIME STRINGS (STAMFORD CHAMBER ORCHESTRA)
SATURDAY 27TH JANUARY, 7:30PM
STAMFORD METHODIST CHURCH



EMMA RAWICZ
SATURDAY 3RD FEBRUARY, 7:45PM
STAMFORD METHODIST CHURCH



ROYAL BALLET: MANON
WEDNESDAY 7TH FEBRUARY, 7:15PM
STAMFORD ARTS CENTRE, CINEMA



NT LIVE: VANYA
THURSDAY 22ND FEBRUARY, 7PM
STAMFORD ARTS CENTRE, CINEMA



**EXHIBITION ON SCREEN: PAINTING THE
MODERN GARDEN - MONET TO MATISSE**
TUESDAY 27TH FEBRUARY, 7PM
STAMFORD ARTS CENTRE, CINEMA



ELINA DUNI & ROB LUFT BAND
SATURDAY 2ND MARCH, 7:45PM
STAMFORD METHODIST CHURCH



ROYAL OPERA: MADAMA BUTTERFLY
TUESDAY 26TH MARCH, 7:15PM
STAMFORD ARTS CENTRE, CINEMA



DAVID PRESTON
SATURDAY 6TH APRIL, 7:45PM
STAMFORD METHODIST CHURCH



**ROYAL BALLET:
MACMILLAN TRIPLE**
TUESDAY 9TH APRIL, 7:15PM
STAMFORD ARTS CENTRE,
CINEMA



**EXHIBITION ON SCREEN:
JOHN SINGER SARGENT**
TUESDAY 16TH APRIL, 7PM
STAMFORD ARTS CENTRE,
CINEMA



ROYAL BALLET: SWAN LAKE
WEDNESDAY 24TH APRIL,
7:15PM
STAMFORD ARTS CENTRE,
CINEMA

Booking Information

Tickets

The box office is open from 10am-2pm Monday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday plus 45 minutes prior to events. Online bookings are open 24/7 and gift vouchers and credit can also be used when booking via our website. Tickets can be printed in person or sent via email as a PDF. Simply show your ticket on your smart phone as you enter the theatre – no need to print!

Sign Up To Our Digital Mailing List

Join our digital mailing list via our website or contact the box office if you would like to sign up to receive the brochure, as well as exclusive discounts, offers and exciting updates.

Concessions

Concessions are available on selected performances, indicated in brackets. We are proud to say that we are part of the Blue Light Card and SKDC Armed Forces Discount Card schemes, and discounts are available on Arts Centre Promoted events – please see logo on website listings for participating events.

Children

Children under 12 must be accompanied by an adult when attending unless otherwise specified.

Babes in arms tickets are available on selected performances for children. These are for toddlers aged 2 and under. Please speak directly to the box office to check for eligibility. These are lap tickets only and they will not be assigned a seat, therefore one babes in arms ticket per adult.

Refunds

We are unable to refund money or tickets once a purchase has been made. If an event is sold out, we will try to sell unwanted tickets and if successful, your Stamford Arts Centre account will be credited the money.

Gift Vouchers

You can buy a gift voucher for any amount you require over the phone, via our website or by popping into the box office.

Hire The Venue

From our magnificent ballroom to meeting rooms we have a variety of spaces to suit your needs. Visit our website or email us at Stamford.Events@southkesteven.gov.uk for more information.

The management reserves the right to change the programme, if necessary, without notice.



 **GUILDHALL ARTS CENTRE**

Guildhall Arts Centre
St Peter's Hill,
Grantham, NG31 6PZ

guildhallartscentre.com
01476 406158

**Make sure to check out
South Kesteven's other venues
for even more events!**

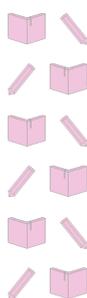
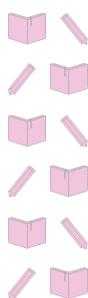
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PRESENTS





THE LAST WEDNESDAY OF EVERY MONTH

STAMFORD ARTS CENTRE
GALLERY BAR
7:30PM

STAMFORD POETS PERFORM
LIVE STAND-UP POETRY.
READ ALOUD OR ENJOY THE
POETRY OF OTHERS, ALL ARE
WELCOME!

THE GROUNDED COFFEE SHOP

☕ Open: Monday - Saturday from 9am



📷 [thegroundedcoffeeshop](https://www.instagram.com/thegroundedcoffeeshop)



Pick up a cinema brochure
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MATINEES: £6.50 (£6)
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YOUR DONATION WILL ALLOW US TO PROVIDE CULTURAL EXPERIENCES, FREE OF CHARGE, TO THOSE WHO WOULDN'T OTHERWISE BE ABLE TO ATTEND

TO FIND OUT MORE OR TO DONATE

VISIT WWW.STAMFORDARTSCENTRE.COM/SUPPORT-US



Date	Event
FRIDAY 12TH JANUARY	PRICE, RATCLIFFE, WOOD ORGAN TRIO
SATURDAY 13TH JANUARY	MELVYN TAN
FRIDAY 19TH JANUARY	HAUNTINGS
FRIDAY 19TH JANUARY	FUNHOUSE COMEDY
SATURDAY 20TH JANUARY	SINGING WORKSHOP WITH VAL REGAN
SATURDAY 27TH JANUARY	KINDERTRANSPORT - A DOCUMENTARY CONCERT
SATURDAY 3RD FEBRUARY	CONSONE QUARTET WITH STEVEN DEVINE
FRIDAY 9TH FEBRUARY	JUAN MARTIN
SATURDAY 10TH FEBRUARY	METALWORK AND PAPER CRAFTS WORKSHOP WITH SHALINI
SATURDAY 10TH FEBRUARY	AS SHE LIKES IT
FRIDAY 16TH FEBRUARY	TONY KOFI'S TENOR LEGACY
FRIDAY 16TH FEBRUARY	THE BLUEBIRD - A QUEST FOR HAPPINESS
TUESDAY 20TH FEBRUARY	PHILIPPA MASSEY TALK: LET THERE BE LIGHT
FRIDAY 23RD FEBRUARY	PENNYLESS
SATURDAY 24TH FEBRUARY	SIMFestival
THURSDAY 29TH FEBRUARY	A SHORT HISTORY OF FLOWERS: THE STORIES THAT MAKE OUR
FRIDAY 8TH MARCH	ME & MR JONES
SATURDAY 9TH MARCH	CONNAUGHT BRASS
TUESDAY 12TH – SATURDAY 16TH MARCH	STAMFORD SHOESTRING THEATRE PRESENTS VISITORS BY BARNEY NORRIS
FRIDAY 15TH MARCH	FUNHOUSE COMEDY
SATURDAY 16TH MARCH	MADDY PRIOR & FORGOTTEN LANDS & WORKSHOP
THURSDAY 21ST MARCH	AUSTEN'S WOMEN: LADY SUSAN
FRIDAY 22ND MARCH	LINCS SOUL COLLECTIVE
SATURDAY 23RD MARCH	SPRING FUN WITH STAMFORD CHAMBER ORCHESTRA
THURSDAY 28TH MARCH	AN EVENING WITH AGGERS
THURSDAY 4TH APRIL	WONDERDOME - PLANETARIUM EXPERIENCE
FRIDAY 5TH APRIL	MARTIN HARLEY
SATURDAY 6TH APRIL	METALWORK AND PAPER CRAFTS WORKSHOP WITH SHALINI
WEDNESDAY 10TH APRIL	THE MUSEUM OF MARVELLOUS THINGS
FRIDAY 12TH APRIL	CAPTAIN BACKWASH & THE BARLEY BOY (AND GIRL) RAFTER RAISERS
SATURDAY 13TH APRIL	THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING EARNEST
THURSDAY 18TH APRIL	PHILIPPA MASSEY TALK: A STAMFORD MISCELLANY
FRIDAY 19TH APRIL	PRISCILLA QUEEN OF DISASTER
FRIDAY 19TH APRIL	CHRIS GUMBLEY QUARTET
SATURDAY 20TH APRIL	TRIO GASPARD
WEDNESDAY 24TH APRIL	POET LAUREATE FINAL
THURSDAY 25TH APRIL	JOELLE TAYLOR: C+NTO & OTHERED POEMS
FRIDAY 26TH APRIL	THE VERY GRIMM BROTHERS UNLOCKED
SATURDAY 27TH APRIL	SHAKESPEARE AT THE STONE
SATURDAY 27TH APRIL	PAGE TO STAGE - ASH DICKINSON
SATURDAY 27TH APRIL	LUKE WRIGHT'S SILVER JUBILEE
SATURDAY 27TH APRIL	STAMFORD BRASS
FRIDAY 3RD MAY	DEAN FRIEDMAN IN CONCERT