# **The Rising Sun Arts Centre**

# **Reading's Independent Art Space**

## September - December 2019

## **Projects and Participation**

Workshops and Classes

## **Live Events**







# about us

## **ABOUT US**

We are an independent, award-winning arts centre firmly rooted in the community. The centre has brought groundbreaking, high quality arts to the town for 28 years. We have a strong commitment to making participation work and to making the centre as inclusive as possible. The Rising Sun Arts Centre is a registered charity governed by a board of trustees and has two part-time paid workers. Volunteers do all the core work of the centre and it survives on the basis of earned income with occasional funding for specific projects.





Strike Up Theatre - new Rising Sun residency



Reside Dance - free classes for young people



Some of our 10th festival volunteer team

# **OUR HISTORY**

The Rising Sun Temperance Tavern was built in 1877 among the then massed ranks of pubs and other houses of ill repute on Silver Street. It was built to the design of Alfred Waterhouse (also responsible for the far grander Natural History Museum in London) and is now listed as a Grade II building by English Heritage. After some years spent as a shop, the building eventually fell out of use and into disrepair, when it was squatted by artists in 1990. The group founded The Rising Sun Arts Centre, which opened its doors in 1991 and gained official charity status in 1997. It has been at the heart of Reading's cultural life ever since.

Check out our website www.risingsunartscentre.org Like us on facebook

facebook.com/risingsunartscentre

Follow us on twitter @risingsunarts

Follow us on instagram @risingsunartscentre

But most importantly...visit us! 30 Silver Street, Reading, RG12ST

## www.facebook.com/risingsunartscentre

## VOLUNTEERING



The Queen's Award for Voluntary Service

Winners of the Queen's Award for Voluntary Service 2016, The Rising Sun is run by a team of determined and talented volunteers who are responsible for all of the centre's core work. Our volunteers do everything - from staffing the bar, designing leaflets and organising events to managing projects, repairs and marketing. We always welcome new people to get involved.



RVA Volunteer Awards 2018

Be part of Reading's independent arts space. Let your creativity flourish and help us bring inclusive arts to the local community. If you'd like to find out more about volunteering with us, contact our Volunteer Coordinator via nikita.moody@risingsun-artscentre.co.uk "The Rising Sun Arts Centre is probably the most inclusive organisation I ever had the experience of being involved with. Everyone involved in the centre is so genuine, interested, and passionate about making the centre the best that it can be. I feel completely at home at the Rising Sun, and feel that the centre brings out the best in me, and in what I can achieve." Joanne



Bar/house management



Sound engineering

## @RisingSunArts



## **Club Velocity**

8pm, prices vary, tickets available on wegottickets.com

**21st September:** Blind Rhythm/ Elucidate/The Kid Dean £5 adv.

### 27th September:

Artmagic/Harroland/Colours & Fires £8.50 adv.

**19th October:** In Albion/The Other Dramas/Boredoms In The Bathroom £5 adv.

25th October: TV Smith/Matt Stockl/ The Seasons In Shorthand £9 adv.
16th November: Hipbone Slim One Man Band/The Go Go Cult/This £7 adv.
29th November: Will Varley
21st December: The Keep Cats/ Harroland/MarcusMIDI £5 adv.
31st December: Mark Morriss/Jessica Lee Morgan £12.50 adv.

More details from www.clubvelocityreading.com



## The Big Untidy Night Out

Second Friday of every month

Doors at 7:30pm

The Big Untidy Night Out specialises in bringing new undiscovered talent into the Rising Sun Arts Centre.

### September 13th:

The Seasons In Shorthand/Nightjjar/ Khamsina/Jamie Larbalestier £5

**October 11th:** Order #227/The Fractured Lizard £5

**November 8th:** Blues Dharma/Grant Sharkey £5

**December 13th:** My Northern Sky/ Kings in the Corner £5

See www.risingsunartscentre.org for more details and prices.



# live events



## **Greenpeace Fundraiser**

Friday 6th September Doors 8pm Entry - donations

Come and enjoy a night of music from **The Mirror Pictures**, Lead Shot Hazard, All About Frank and Tape It Shut all in aid of Berkshire Greenpeace.

Greenpeace defends the natural world and promotes peace by investigating, exposing and confronting environmental abuse, and championing solutions. This event looks to raise some money for Greenpeace and awareness of the wonderful things they do.



### **Abdoulaye Samb**

Saturday 14th September 8pm £10

Postponed from April, we're happy to finally welcome Abdoulaye Samb back to the centre.

Abdoulaye is a guitarist, singer and composer from Senegal. His distinctive musical style has grown out of his travels, collaborations and researches in Africa and Europe. Abdoulaye plays a truly remarkable Senegalese blues, which draws on elements of the rich Fula tradition interwoven with rumba, mbalax, Afro-Latin and deep blues. This promises to provide a wonderfully intimate experience of African/Senegalese music.



# @RisingSunArts



Mike Cooper Friday 4th October 8pm £10 (£9 in advance wegottickets.com)

A rare return for this living local legend. For the past 50 years Mike Cooper has been an international artistic explorer constantly pushing the boundaries. He plays lap steel guitar and sings, he is an improviser and composer, song-maker, a visual and installation artist, film and video maker and radio arts producer. Ranging effortlessly through free improvisation, his own idiosyncratic original songs, electro-acoustic music, exotica, traditional country blues, folk, pop songs, and 'sonic gestural' playing utilising open tunings, extended guitar techniques and electronics.

### Green Rock River Band Saturday 5th October 8pm £10 with £7 concessions (£9/£6 in advance wegottickets.com)



We're pleased to welcome Green Rock River Band back to the centre - it's starting to become an annual tradition! The Green Rock River Band are a hybrid of sounds echoing music hall, Americana, folk and jazz, all blended with a contemporary sound and performance. They have always focused on the craft of songwriting - from big anthems to striking ballads. A Green Rock River Band show will promise loud, brash string band music; banjos, fiddles, guitars and washboards all over-scored by melodic trombone and soaring three part harmonies.



**Tribute Night: AC/DC** Friday 1st November 8pm Suggested donation £5

It's heads-down, no-nonsense rock'n'roll at the 2019 autumn edition of Tribute Night, as we revel in the trademark twin power chord bludgeon attack and larynx-grating shriek of AC/DC and celebrate one of the defining formulas of rock music. Please email tributenight@hotmail.co.uk if you would like to perform at this event or join the mailing list.

## Tribute Night: Christmas Special

Saturday 14th December 8pm

'Twas the Trib Night before Christmas... Join us for another Yuletide jamboree of Christmasrelated ditties as we immerse ourselves indulgently in festive spirit! We will treat you to a delicious spread of musical Christmas cheer and a right old knees-up it will be too.





Alan Clayson and the Argonauts

Support to be confirmed Friday 15th November 8pm £7.50

There are folk around today who'll tell you the legendary Alan Clayson and the Argonauts were and are the greatest group ever formed - not least

for a stage act that still defies succinct description four decades after they were thrust swiftly to 'a premier position on rock's Lunatic Fringe' (Melody Maker). Moreover, latest album, This Cannot Go... - and new single, 'Sol Nova' - might stand as an artistic apotheosis were it not for the promise of surprises yet to come - and correlated press coverage contained the telling sentence, 'Somewhere there is a parallel universe where they are bigger than The Beatles!' See www.alanclayson.com for more information.

# live events



# Scarlet Vixens Burlesque Present: Dreams and Nightmares

Saturday 7th September Doors at 7.30pm

£8 in advance from Skiddle, £10 on the door / £15 for VIP

Take a burlesque journey into your subconscious and the wonders and horrors that lurk within. What will you experience when you join us this evening? Your dreams come true or a waking nightmare? Maybe a little bit of both wrapped up in a sexy Scarlet Vixen package. A night of fantasy and freakshow not to be missed.

# Scarlet Vixen Nerdlesque Present:

The Fellowship of the Ding Saturday 2nd November Doors at 7.30pm

£8 in advance from Skiddle, £10 on the door / £15 for VIP

We're going on an adventure! A burlesque adventure through a world inspired by the works of Tolkien and the world of Middle Earth to be exact. Join us on a quest to destroy the one ring, defeat the forces of darkness and save the (Berk)Shire.

Fire performances, hula hooping, comedy and more! A one off show not to be missed.



## Fiesta Latina

Saturday 28th September and 30th November 9pm £6

Latin dance club with music from DJ Tijeras, Fiesta latina is a long running Latin dance night featuring salsa, la rueda, merengue, bachata (and has even been known to have some tango) - whatever inspires us. Relaxed and friendly social dance event come and dance.





# Tango Select

Sunday 17th November 3pm - 6pm, £8 (Non dancers £5)

Tango Select play classic and very dance-able tangos. Lovely music including milongas and vals as well as tangos. Spend a pleasant afternoon dancing at a friendly and sociable event. Or if you don't dance come and listen to an afternoon of exhilarating world music.

## Balboa Mondays presents Tea Dance

Sunday 3rd November, £10 2pm - 6pm

After the roaring success of the Balboa Mondays 2016, 2017 and 2018 Tea Dances we are back with another edition to raise money for this wonderful place which has given Balboa Mondays a home. So come along, have a dance and eat cake to help put some money towards the Rising Sun Arts Centre. This time to raise money to get a suitable covering on the new floor base in the upstairs room, to improve our ability to shuffle, jazz step and rueda our way through 2019 and beyond!

The afternoon kicks off at 2pm with a taster Balboa class, then from 2.30pm onwards we will have the finest DJs playing tunes for your dancing pleasure right the way through to 6pm whilst offering ample opportunities to partake of tea and cake.



However if you are a budding baker and fancy earning not only everyone's admiration of your amazing skills but also a reduced entry fee then offer to bake a cake and we would love to do exactly those things. If you want to take advantage of the opportunity please drop us a line at BalboaMondaysCake@gmail.com Check the facebook event page for updates.

## www.risingsunartscentre.org



## **Open Page/Open Stage**

Fourth Sunday of every month 7-10pm Free entry, donations welcome.

22nd September/27th October 24th November/22nd December

Do you write? Read? Sing or draw? Come and share your art. Open Page is a monthly collaborative event for people who like to make or appreciate. Like a traditional open mic, but with a focus on words and collaboration. The variety is always incredible, and the audience and contributors are what make it so special. A safe and comfortable space to showcase your work or simply meet other like-minded people. Come and be a part of Reading's new and growing community of artists, writers, musicians and enjoyers!

## **Irregular Open Stage**

Tuesday 15th October / 19th November 7pm - 10pm

Like an open mic, but completely unplugged - no PA and no mics. If you'd like to sing, play an instrument, or do some spoken word - poetry, comedy or acting, please do come along!



## www.risingsunartscentre.org



# Bookface: Chapter 10

Saturday 12th - Sunday 13th October 11am - 5pm free entry

This year is the 10th chapter of our artists' book fair. Browse stalls and share ideas at our artists' book fair weekend. Handmade books, small press, altered books, illustrators, printmakers, limited editions, poetry and story readings, exhibition, installations, workshops, demos and more. Relax in our Yellow Teapot Café bar with homemade snacks. Check our website and facebook event page for full details and updates.

> Immy Smith: interdisciplinary artist, 'Cryptic Cards'





Richard Conway Jones: stories, poetry and art



Mary Riley: altered books



Sam Knight: handmade books, printmaker

## www.risingsunartscentre.org



## **Stand Up Cinema**

Local filmmakers are invited to submit short films for The Rising Sun and Real Time Video's quarterly event showing short films by local – or not so local creators. The only stipulation is that you should be in the room when the film is shown to take part in discussion.

## **Silent films**

Friday 20th September 7.30pm Free/Donations

### Can you tell a story in pictures?

For this event we're on the lookout for films where the focus is on the moving image. As always the criteria is open to interpretation, the only stipulation being your film needs to be under 3 minutes long. Live musical accompaniment is laudable if you can make it happen!

## Winter Films

Friday 20th December 7.30pm, free

Wrap up cosily in front of our warm log fire and enjoy the magic and mystery of the winter season. 3-minute films on winter interpreted as widely as you like.

We will have mulled wine and a real fire going to complement the theme of the evening.



Send all contributions to Real Time Video at info@real-time.org.uk

## StrikeUp Scratch Night

Saturday 7th December, 7.30pm



Join StrikeUp for a pacy evening of back-to-back theatre, featuring new works from our StrikeUp Forum writers, selected performances from our adult classes and a sneak preview and special announcement about the company's next project. This event is a fundraiser, we are asking for minimum donations of £5 on the door and an opportunity to win prizes throughout the evening, so please bring plenty of cash! Tickets on the door, to reserve a place, contact Rachel: rachel@strikeuptheatre.co.uk 07514712785.



## Panto: Aladdin

Tuesday 17th December Matinee - doors at 12.30, free entry Evening - doors at 7pm £3

This year's panto will be Aladdin, performed by The Move Up Project, Zap Comedy and volunteers from the Rising Sun. Last year's Panto (Robin Hood) was a fabulously fun event and this year should be just as hilarious. Both performances devised and performed by people with learning disabilities. A great evening of seasonal entertainment for all the family.

# social events



# The Rising Sun Dragon Bar

Every second Monday of the month 8pm - 11pm Free entry

9th September/14th October 11th November/9th December

Regular DJ and cocktail night! Have a look at our Facebook page for cocktail menu. Vegan snacks available. Cool relaxed vibe. Let's mix.

## **Board Games Night**

Monday 16th September/21st October/18th November/16th December 8pm free entry

If you like board games and fancy a relaxing evening playing games in a friendly environment, come down to the centre on the third Monday of each month. There is a large selection of games to choose from, or if you want, bring your own and show us how it's done! Either play with friends or join in a game at one of the other tables.



## **Finchies Bar**

Every other Tuesday 7pm - 9pm, free entry

Finchies is a cafe bar run by and for people with learning disabilities providing a relaxed and welcoming place for people to meet up and have a drink.

**Dates for 2019:** 3rd/17th September, 1st/15th/29th October 12th/26th November Christmas Party 10th December





Print by Nela Bligh

## **Yellow Teapot Café**

Monthly Saturdays, 1pm - 3pm 5th October/2nd November 7th December

The Yellow Teapot Café might do everything a café might do. You can buy tea, coffee and soft drinks, biscuits and cakes. But we are an event, a haven for those who like to relax, look at books, be creative and drink tea. Our café is will also be open as part of Bookface event on 12th/13th October, see page 11.



# dance classes

## MONDAY

Solo Jazz & Charleston





### 7.15pm - 8.30pm £5

A fun and informal weekly class guiding you through a series of jazz strolls and choreographed routines, led by Reading Swing Jam. Great for both complete newbies and those already familiar with partnered swing dances.

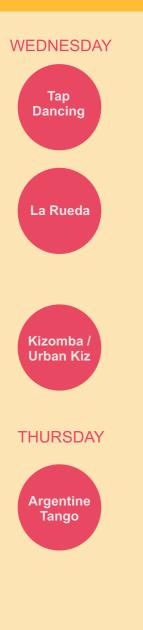
7.30pm - 8.15pm: Bachata Moderna Beginners & Bachata Sensual Improver
8:15pm - 9:00pm: Bachata Moderna Improver & Bachata Sensual Intermediates/Advanced
9:00pm -10:00pm: FREE Social Dancing
£7 for one class, or £10 for both classes and social dancing. Bachata is a sensual and romantic Latin dance from the Dominican Republic. See Facebook for more information.

8.30pm - 9.10pm: Balboa Beginners £5 9.20pm - 10pm: Balboa Improvers £5 A weekly Balboa class covering all of the main Balboa figures as well as ample technique and styling to get you social dancing. Balboa is a partner dance from the 1920s and 1930s for swing dance music. After each class there is social dancing. Contact us at

balboamondays@gmail.com or find us on Facebook.



Balboa Mondays



6.15pm £5 Learn to tap, great fun, friendly class, total beginners welcome.

9pm: Intermediates £6 Every other Wednesday from 4th September. Cuban salsa danced 'in the wheel' Intermediate class only. Beginners' classes organised periodically. Contact Larry on 07765599433 for info.

7:30pm -8:15pm: Absolute Beg/Beginners £7 8:15pm -9:00pm: Improver+/Intermediate/Advanced £7 9-10:30pm: Social Dancing £3 Both classes and social dancing £10

## 7.30pm £6 Every Thursday

The most elegant dance in the world, Argentine tango is not like other dances. It relies on the ability of the dancers to connect through the dance and create a shared, improvised experience. The steps are easy - the skill is in creating a close and sensitive connection with your partner. For more info, call Larry on 07765599433.

# Classes, workshops and projects



## StrikeUp Theatre

StrikeUp theatre newly resident at the Rising Sun, offer a range of workshops and classes - open to all. For more information, please check the Rising Sun's website.

### **StrikeUp Education**

New Season Courses from September 2019.

#### The Actor & Empathy

Thursday Mornings 10.30am - 12.30pm

Using techniques from a range of theatre practitioners, learn how to connect to your character through breath, thought and action.

#### The Actor & The Voice MK II

Thursday Evenings 8pm - 10pm

Back by popular demand, this course is suitable for new students and those wishing to develop their vocal practice. **Term Fees:** £135

### **Bookings & Enquiries:**

Please email rachel@strikeuptheatre.co.uk Or call Rachel on 07514712785.



### StrikeUp Forum Theatre

Fri 20th September, 18th October and 22nd November 7.30pm - 10pm, £15 per session

Forum Theatre was invented by Brazilian Theatre Practitioner, Augusto Boal, in the early 70s. It is an interactive form of theatre used to host theatrical debate between actors and spectators, often by interpreting scenes in multiple different ways.

StrikeUp Forum Theatre is a space for actors and writers to collaborate on new work. Every month, one new script from an emerging writer will be selected for development. Scripts may be full plays or extracts, for 3 - 4 actors, up to 15 minutes in length. Following an ensemble based physical warm up, Actors will be split into three groups, each with a different rehearsal brief. For the last part, all three interpretations will be performed back for a lively debate that will spill into the bar afterwards, with opportunity to network for further development.

**To Book a Space:** Please email rachel@strikeuptheatre.co.uk Or call Rachel on 07514712785

#### A Note to Writers:

Unsolicited scripts will not be accepted. If you would like your work to be considered for StrikeUp Forum Theatre, please contact rachel@strikeuptheatre.co.uk to discuss becoming part of our Associate Writers Programme.



## **Moves Together**

Thursdays 5th September - 10th October 4.15 - 5.15 and 5.15 - 6.15 pm

Free dance classes for young people age 8 -19.

Weekly classes are led by Reside Dance C.I.C, Reading's professional, contemporary dance company.

Participants choose which time is most suitable for them when booking. Participants will also be given the opportunity to get involved with the marketing of their performances, gaining experience of marketing in a professional arts centre.

The classes will explore the children's and young people's experiences of social media and seek to unravel and make sense of them through the real relationships that they are developing through dance. The professional dance artists will create a positive, safe and supportive environment from which children and young people can identify common experiences on social media and use them as a stimulus to create two dance works that are at the heart of their everyday lives.

To book and/or find out more, please contact jen@residedance.co.uk

## Older People's Cultural Champions Team

Funded by Reading Borough Council through their Reading Place of Culture, Great Place Scheme supported by the Heritage Lottery Fund, Arts Council England and Historic England.

The Rising Sun Arts Centre and Real Time Video are currently working to create an Older People's Cultural Champions Team for Reading. The Team will address barriers to older people taking an active part in arts and culture and seek to promote ways for older people to engage more widely with cultural activities.

Contact Larry at info@risingsun-artscentre.co.uk if you would like more information.







# Classes, workshops and projects



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## **Move Up Project**

Day activities for people with learning disabilities. Monday - Thursday, places available on each day. Contact Larry on 07765599433 for details.



The Move Up Project creating decorations for our festival

The Zap Project Every Tuesday 4.30pm



The Zap Group are a group of people with learning disabilities who write and perform comedy. Fresh from our Fringe Show and starting work on this year's annual panto, Aladdin. Anyone interested in joining can call us on 07765599433.



The Zap Project performing at Reading Fringe Festival



### Zap Magazine

Award-winning magazine made by and for people with learning disabilities. Editorial meetings held on Mondays at 2.30pm. We are working on issue number 8 which will be out early next year. Copies of issue 7 available contact info@risingsun-artscentre.co.uk



# B.Alive.Art: Life Drawing Workshop

Every Tuesday 7pm - 9.30pm £7/£6 concessions

Draw from a model in a relaxed setting. Please bring your own materials and if possible a board.

## The Rising Sun Comic Library

Tuesday 8th of October 7.30pm free entry

The Rising Sun has been donated a comic collection comprising some thousands of comics - mainly Marvel Silver Age and Modern Age Titles (includes Frank Miller's run on Daredevil, The Death of Phoenix etc). We will be holding a bagging and cataloguing evening. Anyone is welcome to help us put the collection in order. Once it's catalogued and stored we will be open monthly for people to peruse the comics and will be organising comic based workshops, discussions and events. Contact Larry on 07765599433. Check our website as the dates may change.

## **Open Mind**

Tuesdays 6pm - 7pm Free

Open Mind is a platform for people interested in mental health issues to get together with media professionals to develop ongoing creative digital media projects.

Contact info@real-time.org.uk



real time

# Classes, workshops and projects



## Bookface Bookclub First Saturday of the month

7th September/5th October 2nd November/7th December 10am - 12pm £4

Informal artists' book group. Sharing our latest book finds and creations, and art and craft activities for book making. This season we will be experimenting with different types of folded book forms and techniques.

Bookclub Exhibition at Woodley Library 1 - 15 September.

**Bookface Chapter 10**, our annual artists book fair see page 11.

See our facebook page for updates and other book arts news.



Art Space Fourth Sunday of every month 22nd September/27th October 24th November/22nd December 1pm - 4pm Free

Informal space to create your own artwork. No tuition, bring your own materials. Tables provided.



Please check our website for further events that are not in this programme.

www.risingsun-artscentre.org

# Quick glance event listings

September	Event	page
FRI       6         SAT       7         MON       9         SAT       14         FRI       13         MON       16         FRI       20         SAT       21         SUN       22         FRI       27         SAT       28	GREENPEACE FUNDRAISER SCARLET VIXENS RISING SUN DRAGON BAR ABDOULAYE SAMB BIG UNTIDY BOARD GAMES NIGHT STAND UP CINEMA CLUB VELOCITY OPEN PAGE OPEN STAGE CLUB VELOCITY FIESTA LATINA	5 8 14 5 4 14 12 4 10 4 8
October	Event	page
FRI       4         SAT       5         FRI       11         SAT       12         SUN       13         MON       14         TUES       15         SAT       19         MON       21         FRI       25         SUN       27	MIKE COOPER GREEN ROCK RIVER BAND BIG UNTIDY BOOKFACE: ARTISTS' BOOK FAIR BOOKFACE: ARTISTS' BOOK FAIR RISING SUN DRAGON BAR IRREGULAR OPEN STAGE CLUB VELOCITY BOARD GAMES NIGHT CLUB VELOCITY OPEN PAGE OPEN STAGE	6 6 4 11 11 14 10 4 14 4 10
November	Event	page
FRI       1         SAT       2         SUN       3         FRI       8         MON       11         FRI       15         SAT       16         SUN       17         MON       18         TUES       19         SUN       24         FRI       29         SAT       30	TRIBUTE NIGHT: AC/DC SCARLET VIXENS BALBOA MONDAYS TEA DANCE BIG UNTIDY RISING SUN DRAGON BAR ALAN CLAYSON AND THE ARGONAUTS CLUB VELOCITY TANGO SELECT BOARD GAMES NIGHT IRREGULAR OPEN STAGE OPEN PAGE OPEN STAGE CLUB VELOCITY FIESTA LATINA	7 8 9 4 14 7 4 9 14 10 10 10 4 8
December	Event	page

### **CONTACT US**

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Telephone: 0118 986 6788

Website: www.risingsunartscentre.org

Email: info@risingsun-artscentre.co.uk

Twitter: @RisingSunArts

Instagram: @risingsunartscentre

Facebook: TheRisingSunArtsCentre

### WANT TO BECOME A VOLUNTEER?

Email: nikita.moody@risingsun-artscentre.co.uk

### JOIN OUR MAILING LIST

Subscribe: mailing@risingsun-artscentre.co.uk

### **PROGRAMMING ENQUIRIES**

Email: programming@risingsun-artscentre.co.uk



A big thank you to all our amazing volunteers who make all these events happen! Information was correct at time of printing.

Check the website for up to date information.

Collated and proofread by Nikita Moody, Zac Yeo and Damien Passmore Layout by Neile Wright, cover design by Rory McVeigh.