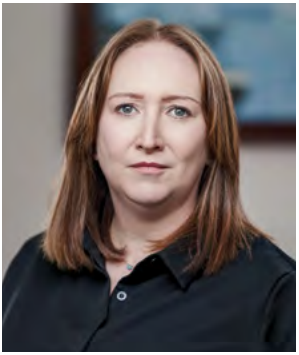


DUNAMAISE
ARTS CENTRE

EVENTS: AUTUMN/ WINTER 26





WELCOME TO OUR AUTUMN/WINTER PROGRAMME

Welcome to a new season at Dunamais Arts Centre. This autumn, our programme reflects what we want Dunamais to be: a place where artists, audiences and communities come together, where new ideas are supported, and where the people of Laois can see themselves reflected in the work we create and present.

That ambition is captured in our new mural by internationally acclaimed street artist Zabou, created with Creative Laois, The Walls Project and Laois County Council. Earlier this year, people from across Laois were invited to become the face of this major public artwork, celebrating the resilience, creativity, diversity and community spirit of contemporary Laois. From that process came Amelia and Zen, two young local people whose faces are now part of the fabric of Dunamais.

Ciara O Connell
Chief Executive Officer

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CHURCH ST
PORTLAOISE
CO LAOIS R32 W93P



SCREEN LAOIS × ACCESS CINEMA

Through this partnership with Access Cinema, Screen Laois connects local audiences to the very best of Irish, independent, world and art house cinema, alongside carefully chosen popular favourites, cult classics and seasonal screenings. From international storytelling to Halloween horror nights and Christmas favourites, the programme balances discovery with familiarity, ensuring that cinema in Laois feels both expansive and welcoming.

OPPOSITE: ARTWORK BY LOUISE BUTLER



PROGRAMME



YOUR NAME (WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES)

Mitsuha and Taki are strangers mysteriously connected through their dreams, swapping bodies and lives. As their bond deepens, they embark on an extraordinary journey to find each other.

1 SEP / 8PM / €8/€5 CONCESSION

FILM



ADULT CROCHET WORKSHOP

In Stitches by Aislinn is offering a four-week beginner crochet workshop for adults. All materials are included and no previous experience is needed; it is a skill you'll use forever. Check out our website for upcoming Halloween and Christmas crochet classes for you and your family to create decorations that will last a lifetime!

2-23 SEP / 7PM / €102.50

WORKSHOP



APPLE SPIDER FORK

Apple Spider Fork brings together contemporary Irish artists whose practices respond to living in a moment shaped by the constant circulation of pictures, fragments and signs, where images move rapidly between contexts and accumulate new meanings as they are repeated, shared, distorted and reinterpreted.

4-30 SEP / 10AM-5PM / FREE

VISUAL ART



CHRIS STAPLETON: TENNESSEE WHISKEY SHOW

Tennessee Whiskey – The Ultimate Chris Stapleton Show brings the soul, grit and energy of American country music to Irish stages, featuring Kevin Fagan and a full live band performing heartfelt ballads and boot-stomping anthems.

4 SEP / 8PM / €32.50

MUSIC



CHILDREN'S CROCHET WORKSHOP

Discover the fun of crochet in this beginner-friendly children's workshop with In Stitches by Aislinn. Learn basic stitches, create simple projects, build confidence and enjoy all materials provided. No experience is needed.

5-26 SEP / 11AM-12.30PM / €102.50

WORKSHOP



GIRLS & BOYS – LAOIS PRIDE FILM

Laois Pride and Dunamaisé present an evening of LGBTQ+ and Irish cinema. *Girls & Boys* follows rugby player Jace and aspiring filmmaker Charlie, a trans student, as a chance encounter sparks romance, secrets and self-discovery.

9 SEP / 8PM / €12.50

FILM



POKEJAM

Join us monthly at Dunamaisé Arts Centre for a Pokémon Community Meet-Up! Sell and trade cards, enjoy mystery packs, meet fellow fans, and discover new finds. All ages welcome!

COMMUNITY



CULTURE NIGHT

For Culture Night 2026, Dunamais Arts Centre will come alive with an evening of free performance, music, dance and behind-the-scenes experiences. With activity throughout the theatre, mezzanine, dressing rooms and outdoor spaces, Culture Night offers audiences the chance to experience Dunamais in a completely different way.

18 SEP / FROM 5PM / FREE

THEATRE / DANCE



STAINED GLASS TASTER

Discover the beautiful craft of stained glass in this hands-on workshop. Learn the basics of cutting, shaping and assembling glass while creating your own unique piece to take home. Perfect for beginners and creative enthusiasts alike.

19 SEP / 2-4.30PM / €85

WORKSHOP



SPOTLIGHT SESSIONS

Come along, try out your new song or poem, get feedback, meet other artists, get tips, make new friends, form bands! Whether you are just starting out and have just one complete piece, or if you have been writing for years, come by and share what you have. All ages and styles of original work are welcome.

22 SEP / 7PM / FREE

MUSIC



ALL MY FRIENDS ARE IN AUSTRALIA

Trudy's best friend is in Australia, but Trudy is still in Dublin. Join her immersive, interactive journey through friendship, distance, quarter-life crises and the challenges of staying in or leaving Ireland. This immersive play has a limited audience capacity so get your tickets soon!

25 SEP / 8PM / €17.50

THEATRE



THE MUDDY RIVER BAND

Experience Muddy River Band's unplugged tribute celebrating Bob Dylan, Neil Young and Van Morrison: a timeless evening of unforgettable songs, acoustic performances and legendary music spanning generations.

26 SEP / 8PM / €26.50

MUSIC



AVENUE Q!

Avenue Q comes to Dunamais Arts Centre for three nights of outrageous, Tony Award-winning comedy. A puppet-filled adult musical packed with sharp satire, catchy songs and hilarious characters as Princeton searches for purpose, love and meaning in New York. Strictly over 16s.

1-3 OCT / 7.30PM / €27.50

COMEDY



IMPOSTER

Louise Butler presents a collection of artworks set within the world of an imagined figure who repeatedly commissions her own likeness in appropriated scenarios. Each piece is shaped by her presence: poses that promise authority and allure, but never fully settle. Performative, self-authored and slightly off.

2-30 OCT / 10AM-5PM / FREE

VISUAL ART



AKIRA (WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES)

Katsuhiro Otomo's cyberpunk classic Akira returns to the big screen as Tetsuo's telekinetic powers spiral out of control, forcing Kaneda to save his friend and prevent catastrophe. Celebrate its 40th anniversary with us in style!

6 OCT / 8PM / €8/5 CONCESSION

FILM



80s ICONS

Relive the decade of big hair and bold hits with classics from Duran Duran, Tears for Fears, Phil Collins and more in the ultimate 80s celebration. Dust off your dancing shoes and join us for an 80s night packed with the songs you know by heart. Expect big tunes, plenty of nostalgia and a dance floor that won't stay empty for long.

9 OCT / 8PM / €32.50

MUSIC



TRÍONA MARSHALL SOLO HARP

Triona brings her unique harp sound to the stage, revealing the surprising depth of this single instrument through timeless music that feels authentic and powerful. Special guests will join Triona on the night as she returns to Dunamaisé.

10 OCT / 8PM / €22.50

MUSIC



HERE COMES THE GIRLS

The ultimate girls' night out: a tribute to iconic female artists including Cher, Madonna, Lady Gaga, Adele, ABBA and more. A non-stop party of hits spanning five decades. Sing, dance and celebrate all night.

15 OCT / 8PM / €30

MUSIC

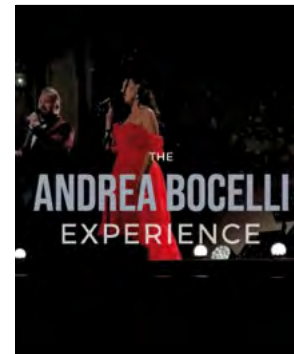


THE PIANO MAN

The Piano Man is a live celebration of Elton John and Billy Joel, starring John Forde and The 52nd Street Band. Featuring classic hits including Rocket Man, Your Song and Piano Man, this high-energy show delivers an unforgettable night of world-class entertainment and timeless songs.

16 OCT / 8PM / €30

MUSIC



ANDREA BOCELLI EXPERIENCE

The Andrea Bocelli Experience comes to Dunamaisé Arts Centre in a stunning live tribute celebrating 30 years of iconic music. Featuring Nessun Dorma, powerful vocals and world-class musicians, it promises an unforgettable and emotional night.

17 OCT / 8PM / €32.50

MUSIC



A TRIBUTE TO THE MUSIC OF JOHN DENVER WITH MARC ROBERTS

Marc Roberts' award-winning show A Tribute to the Music of John Denver is a full multimedia journey through John Denver's life and music. Join us as Marc brings to life John Denver's warm voice and timeless songs as they still have a way of making an entire room sing along.

18 OCT / 8PM / €27.50

MUSIC



LEE CRONIN'S THE MUMMY

Lee Cronin's The Mummy follows a family whose daughter returns eight years after her abduction, possessed by an ancient demon, unleashing terror and a desperate fight for survival. Irish director Lee Cronin, known for Evil Dead Rise, brings his distinctive take on horror to this chilling story.

20 OCT / 8PM / €8/€5 CONCESSION

FILM



HAY!

Hay! is a joyful countryside adventure about growing up, discovering dreams and spreading your wings, featuring puppetry, music, clowning, song and dance in a highly accessible show. This family friendly theatre show will keep everyone entertained!

22 OCT / 8PM / €12.50

THEATRE





GEARÓID FARRELLY: NO PRESSURE

After surviving hospital stays, a sick cat and a nerve-racking stint on *Dancing with the Stars*, Gearóid Farrelly returns with *No Pressure*. In this candid and hilarious hour, he unpacks the chaos of modern life with his trademark wit, reflecting on the absurdities of life, the challenges of self-care and the joy of embracing imperfection.

23 OCT / 8PM / €27.50

COMEDY



AN INTRODUCTION TO FLORAL BUTTERCREAM PIPING

Discover floral buttercream piping with Mrs Bouquet's Cakes. Learn to create hydrangeas, daisies, tulips and ruffle roses, then take home a beautiful seven-piece bouquet of cupcakes. Beginners welcome. Ages 16+.

24 OCT & 5 NOV / 10AM-2PM / €132.50

WORKSHOP



THE LAST WITCH: BRIDGET CLEARY

The Last Witch: Bridget Cleary is a solo piece about her 1895 murder, blending folklore and theatre to explore superstition, fear and enduring questions of power, identity and independence.

24 OCT / 8PM / €22.50/20.50

THEATRE



SPOTLIGHT SESSIONS

Come along, try out your new song or poem, get feedback, meet other artists, get tips, make new friends, form bands! Whether you are just starting out and have just one complete piece, or if you have been writing for years, come by and share what you have. All ages and styles of original work are welcome.

27 OCT / 7PM / FREE

MUSIC



SIGHTLESS CINEMA

Sightless Cinema returns with *Cuckoo's Lane* and *Overboard*, two hilarious audio dramas blending comedy, drama and immersive surround-sound theatre. Optional blindfolds enhance the experience, with surprise live performances by blind performers.

28 OCT / 7PM / €15/12.50

THEATRE

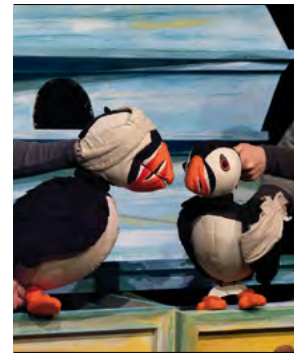


HALLOWEEN CREATIVE CAMP

Get creative this Halloween with Marta. Join three fun-filled days of spooky arts, crafts and imagination, perfect for young creatives ready to make, create and have fun.

29-31 OCT / 10AM-2PM / €80

WORKSHOP



PUFFLING PERCY

Puffling Percy follows a young puffin who is afraid to fly and embarks on a brave adventure with a fearless mouse. A heartwarming, puppet-filled musical about friendship for ages 3+. This is a show for all the family to enjoy especially the smaller ones!

29 OCT / 11AM / €12.50

THEATRE

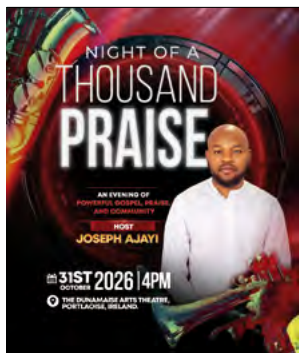


WITCHES IN ART! MULTIMEDIA ART TALK

Witches in Art explores magic, folklore and witchcraft through art, from Goya's haunting masterpieces to surrealist reinterpretations. Join Carol O'Neill for a spellbinding multimedia talk celebrating power, rebellion and maybe chocolate. Ages 16+.

30 OCT / 8PM / €14.50

TALK



NIGHT OF A THOUSAND PRAISE

One sound, one heart, one purpose. Night of a Thousand Praise is a powerful evening of music, unity and uplifting energy. From humble beginnings in Portlaoise, it now arrives at Dunamaisie Arts Centre. Open to all; expect soul-stirring vocals, live-band energy and an atmosphere of joy, hope and togetherness.

31 OCT / 6PM / FREE

MUSIC



LEAVES FESTIVAL OF WRITING AND MUSIC

LEAVES returns with a celebration of Irish writing and poetry, workshops, readings, music and storytelling through film. Led by Laois County Council Arts and Library Services with venue partners Dunamaisie and Laois Chamber Alliance, the festival invites audiences to engage with acclaimed writers and unique collaborations.

5-7 NOV / TBC / TBC

FESTIVAL



HAPPINESS THEN

A witty comedy-drama about estranged sisters Bridget and Frances, reunited after their mother's death. As they clash over wine, wills and past wounds, can sisterly love heal old relationships?

5 NOV / 8PM / €20.50

THEATRE



LIMINAL LINES

Liminal Lines is a new body of work by Sarah Quick exploring thresholds, transition and impermanence. Blurred paintings of her children at night occupy an in-between space where memory, time and presence dissolve into something both familiar and otherworldly. These fleeting images reflect on the passing of childhood and the fragility of moments that cannot be held.

6 NOV-4 DEC / 10AM-5PM / FREE

VISUAL ART



ABBA FOREVER

ABBA FOREVER returns by popular demand for a festive night of classic hits, dazzling performances and unforgettable fun. Sing along to Dancing Queen, Mamma Mia, Waterloo and more at the ultimate Christmas party.

11 NOV / 8PM / €30

MUSIC



PORTLAOISE MUSICAL SOCIETY: YOUNG FRANKENSTEIN

Portlaoise Musical Society presents Mel Brooks' hilarious Young Frankenstein. Follow Frederick's chaotic journey from respectable scientist to monster-maker, packed with outrageous comedy, unforgettable characters and spectacular musical numbers.

14-21 NOV / €25

THEATRE



SPOTLIGHT SESSIONS

Come along, try out your new song or poem, get feedback, meet other artists, get tips, make new friends, form bands! Whether you are just starting out and have just one complete piece, or if you have been writing for years, come by and share what you have. All ages and styles of original work are welcome.

24 NOV / 7PM / FREE

MUSIC



THE DRUIDS

Award-winning Irish folk band The Druids deliver powerful vocals, rich harmonies and traditional arrangements, blending Irish ballads, history and storytelling into an uplifting, heartfelt live performance.

27 NOV / 8PM / €20

MUSIC



CHRISTMAS WREATH WORKSHOP

Get into the festive spirit and create your own beautiful Christmas wreath. Enjoy a relaxed, hands-on workshop, learning creative techniques to design a unique wreath to display proudly at home this Christmas.

WORKSHOP

28 NOV / 4PM / €70



GERRY GUTHRIE

Award-winning country star Gerry Guthrie returns with his nationwide concert tour, performing favourite hits alongside special guests Kathy Durkin and Mick Mulhern, hosted by Valerie Hughes.

MUSIC

28 NOV / 8PM / €32.50



USELESS DOG / SO THIS IS CHRISTMAS

Useless Dog is one of Ken Wardrop's early breakthrough short documentary films. It tells the humorous and charming story of a farmer's sheepdog named Guinness. *So This Is Christmas* is a feature-length documentary directed by Ken Wardrop. It explores the complex, emotional, and often challenging realities of the holiday season.

FILM

1 DEC / 8PM / TBC



SMETANA'S THE BARTERED BRIDE

One bride, two suitors. Irish National Opera's *The Bartered Bride* tours Ireland with a lively comic tale of young lovers defying an arranged marriage. Featuring vibrant music, folk rhythms and energetic dance, this fresh production follows their clever schemes in a bustling village filled with romance, humour and chaos.

THEATRE

3 DEC / 7.30PM / €32.50



RUDOLPH SAVES CHRISTMAS – THE MUSICAL

Rudolph returns in this magical Christmas musical packed with music, laughter and festive fun. When fog threatens the North Pole, can Rudolph and his friends save Christmas? Ideal for ages 3+. Bring the family as the festive season begins!

THEATRE

11 DEC / 11AM / TBC



BOTANICAL WATERCOLOUR WORKSHOP

Explore the beautiful art of watercolour painting with Jacinta Hughes in this relaxing botanical workshop. Learn techniques for painting delicate flowers, leaves and natural details while creating your own botanical artwork to take home. Perfect for beginners and art lovers alike.

WORKSHOP

12 DEC / TBC / €20



MACCANA – THE UNSEEN GROWTH OF WINTER

The Unseen Growth of Winter is a 16-date all-island tour of original piano music by composer Maccana, featuring a 70-minute live performance of intimate contemporary works inspired by memory, landscape and reflection.

MUSIC

12 DEC / 8PM / €17.50



SPOTLIGHT SESSIONS

Join us for a very special Christmas concert on the main stage of the Dunamais Arts Centre. Musicians and spoken word welcome.

MUSIC

15 DEC / 7PM / €15



IT'S A WONDERFUL LIFE

When a compassionate, small-town businessman reaches his breaking point on Christmas Eve, a guardian angel arrives to show him what the world would have been like had he never existed. Frank Capra's timeless masterpiece starring James Stewart is a soaring, heart-wrenching celebration of community, selflessness, and the profound impact of a single human life.

17 DEC / 8PM / TBC

FILM



WHISTLEBLAST'S NIGHT BEFORE CHRISTMAS

WhistleBlast's Night Before Christmas brings families and schools a sparkling festive adventure, featuring Vivaldi, The Snowman, The Nightmare Before Christmas, storytelling, singing, percussion and plenty of Christmas fun.

18 DEC / 11AM / FREE

MUSIC



EIMEAR QUINN – SONGS OF WINTER DREAMING

Experience an enchanting winter evening as Eurovision winner Eimear Quinn returns to Dunamase, joined by Mamisa String Quartet and guitarist Robbie Overson, performing Celtic, classical and seasonal favourites.

19 DEC / 8PM / €29.50

MUSIC



SNOW WHITE

Portlaoise Pantomime Group presents Snow White, a magical family pantomime bursting with laughter, music, pop songs, audience participation and festive fun, across 11 spectacular performances.

16-23 JAN / TICKETS ON SALE SOON

THEATRE



NASHVILLE LIVE

Experience Nashville Live, Europe's award-winning country music show, featuring tributes to legendary stars, a superb live band, authentic Nashville sound and 40 timeless country hits in one unforgettable evening.

13 FEB / 8PM / €32.50

MUSIC



MOVIE ICONS SHOW

Experience the magic of cinema with Movie Icons Show, featuring unforgettable songs from iconic films. Spectacular live vocals, legendary artists and timeless movie soundtracks combine for an unforgettable night of entertainment.

19 FEB / 8PM / €31.50

MUSIC



JIMMY BUCKLEY'S VARIETY SHOW

Enjoy a lively evening of music, laughter and nostalgia, featuring Jimmy Buckley's powerful vocals, an Elvis tribute, country favourites, comedy, impersonations, special guests and unforgettable entertainment.

27 FEB / 8PM / €32.50

MUSIC



SPRINGSTEEN!

Experience the UK and Europe's only 100% American Bruce Springsteen tribute. Fronted by Monte Thompson, SPRINGSTEEN! delivers an authentic, high-energy celebration of The Boss that every fan will love.

27 MAR / 8PM / €30

MUSIC

CALENDAR

DUNAMAISE.IE
+353 (0)57 866 3355

CHURCH ST, PORTLAOISE
CO LAOIS, R32 W93P

1-3 OCT	AVENUE Q! ●	7.30PM
2-30 OCT	IMPOSTER ●	10AM-5PM
6 OCT	AKIRA (WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES) ●	8PM
9 OCT	80s ICONS ●	8PM
10 OCT	TRÍONA MARSHALL SOLO HARP ●	8PM
15 OCT	HERE COMES THE GIRLS ●	8PM
16 OCT	THE PIANO MAN ●	8PM
17 OCT	ANDREA BOCELLI EXPERIENCE ●	8PM
18 OCT	A TRIBUTE TO THE MUSIC OF JOHN DENVER ●	8PM
20 OCT	LEE CRONIN'S THE MUMMY ●	8PM
22 OCT	HAY! ●	8PM
23 OCT	GEARÓID FARRELLY: NO PRESSURE ●	8PM
24 OCT & 5 NOV	AN INTRODUCTION TO FLORAL BUTTERCREAM PIPING ●	10AM-2PM
24 OCT	THE LAST WITCH: BRIDGET CLEARY ●	8PM
27 OCT	SPOTLIGHT SESSIONS ●	7PM
28 OCT	SIGHTLESS CINEMA ●	7PM
29-31 OCT	HALLOWEEN CREATIVE CAMP ●	10AM-2PM
29 OCT	PUFFLING PERCY ●	11AM
30 OCT	WITCHES IN ART! MULTIMEDIA ART TALK ●	8PM
31 OCT	NIGHT OF A THOUSAND PRAISE ●	6PM
5-7 NOV	LEAVES FESTIVAL OF WRITING AND MUSIC ●	TBC
5 NOV	HAPPINESS THEN ●	8PM
6 NOV-4 DEC	LIMINAL LINES ●	10AM-5PM
11 NOV	ABBA FOREVER ●	8PM
14-21 NOV	PORTLAOISE MUSICAL SOCIETY: YOUNG FRANKENSTEIN ●	TBC
24 NOV	SPOTLIGHT SESSIONS ●	7PM
27 NOV	THE DRUIDS ●	8PM
28 NOV	CHRISTMAS WREATH WORKSHOP ●	4PM
28 NOV	GERRY GUTHRIE ●	8PM
1 DEC	USELESS DOG / SO THIS IS CHRISTMAS ●	8PM
3 DEC	SMETANA'S THE BARTERED BRIDE ●	7.30PM
11 DEC	RUDOLPH SAVES CHRISTMAS - THE MUSICAL ●	11AM
12 DEC	BOTANICAL WATERCOLOUR WORKSHOP ●	TBC
12 DEC	MACCANA - THE UNSEEN GROWTH OF WINTER ●	8PM
15 DEC	SPOTLIGHT SESSIONS ●	7PM
17 DEC	IT'S A WONDERFUL LIFE ●	8PM
18 DEC	WHISTLEBLAST'S NIGHT BEFORE CHRISTMAS ●	11AM
19 DEC	EIMEAR QUINN - SONGS OF WINTER DREAMING ●	8PM
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13 FEB	NASHVILLE LIVE ●	8PM
19 FEB	MOVIE ICONS SHOW ●	8PM
27 FEB	JIMMY BUCKLEY'S VARIETY SHOW ●	8PM
27 MAR	SPRINGSTEEN! ●	8PM

MUSIC ●
VISUAL ART ●
EDUCATIONAL ●

COMEDY ●
CINEMA ●
THEATRE/DANCE ●



funding
the arts

Clár Éire Ildánach
Creative Ireland
Programme

