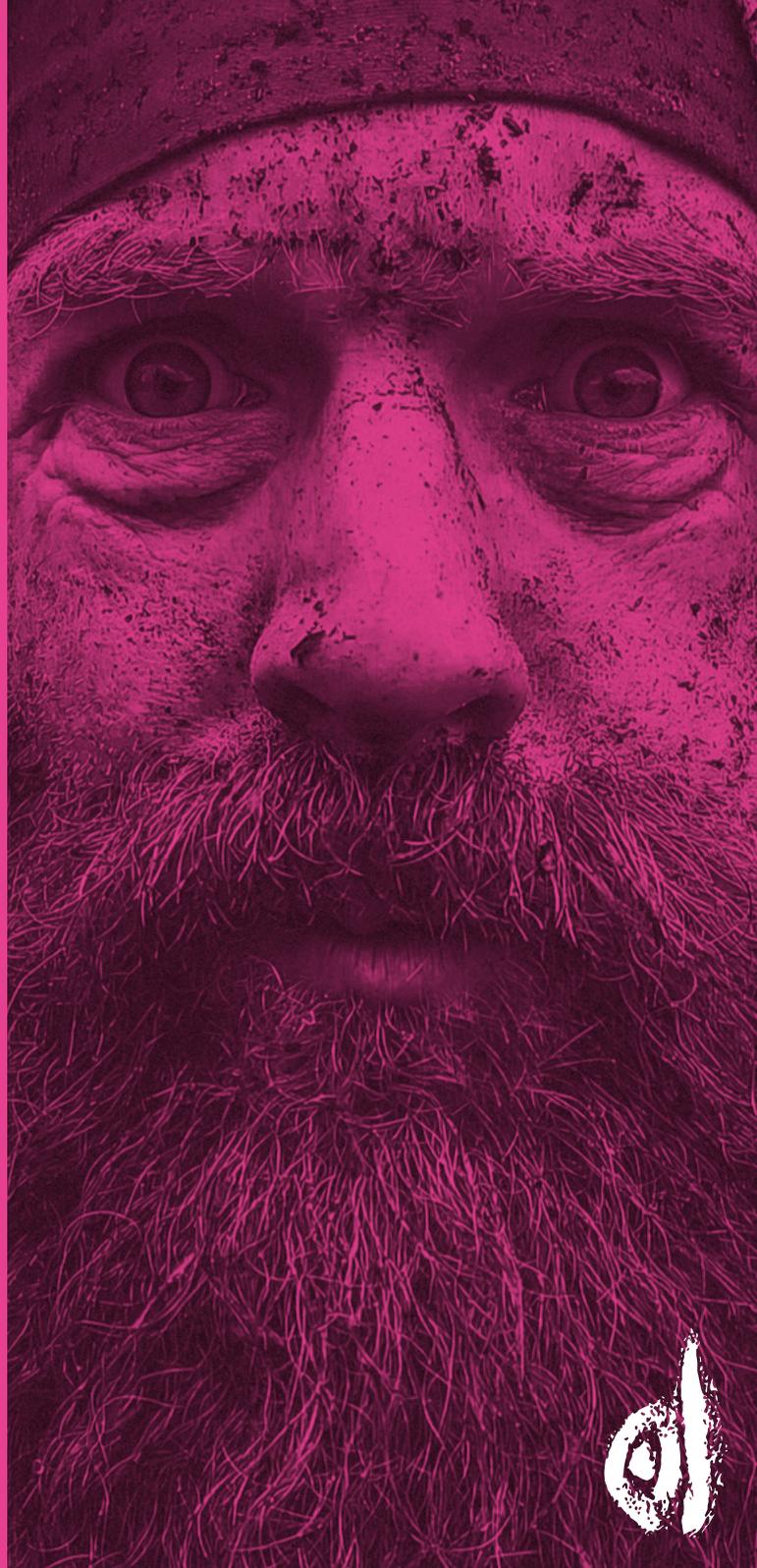


DUNAMAISE
ARTS CENTRE

EVENTS: **SPRING /
SUMMER 26**



WELCOME TO OUR SPRING/SUMMER PROGRAMME



DUNAMAISE.IE
+353 (0)57 866 3355

CHURCH ST
PORTLAOISE
CO LAOIS
R32 W93P

As Chief Executive Officer of Dunamaisé Arts Centre, I feel deeply privileged to lead this remarkable space at a moment of renewal and possibility. Dunamaisé is more than a building; it is where stories are shared, voices are heard, and our community gathers to laugh, reflect and imagine together. Rooted in the heart of Portlaoise and the Midlands, it belongs to the people of Laois and it is our responsibility to nurture it with care, courage and ambition.

Throughout my career, I have believed in the power of the arts to connect people and to strengthen place. At Dunamaisé, my commitment is simple: to create a welcoming home for artists and audiences alike, to honour what has come before us, and to build a future that is bold, inclusive and sustainable. We are working to ensure that every child, every family, every visitor and every artist feels that this is their space.

Together with our Board, team, partners and supporters, we are shaping the next chapter for Dunamaisé and An Dún, one filled with creativity, generosity and pride. Ensuring that the work created and presented here resonates beyond our county, reaching audiences and building connections nationally and internationally. Laois has a story worth sharing, and Dunamaisé will be a platform from which it travels. I look forward to welcoming you through our doors and sharing the journey ahead.

Ciara O'Connell
Chief Executive Officer

OPPOSITE: SALAVTORE OF LUCAN



PROGRAMME



PORTLAOISE SPOTLIGHT SESSIONS

LAST TUE EVERY MONTH (JAN-MAY)

FREE / 7-9.30pm

A monthly open mic for original music and poetry, held on the last Tuesday of each month at Dunamais Arts Centre. Open to all experience levels, it's strictly original work — no covers. Just arrive, sign up on the night, and take the stage in a supportive, creative community setting.

MUSIC



SHARON SHANNON IN CONCERT

SAT 28 FEB / €32.00 / 8pm

From Glastonbury to global stages, Sharon Shannon, Meteor Lifetime Award winner, has thrilled audiences with her iconic accordion, hits like *The Galway Girl*, and collaborations with stars like Imelda May and Shane MacGowan.

MUSIC



ADULT CROCHET WORKSHOPS

CHECK WEBSITE FOR DATES / €122.50

Aislinn presents In Stitches, a 4-week beginner crochet workshop for adults. No experience needed, all materials included. Learn a relaxing, creative skill for life in a supportive, welcoming environment.

WORKSHOP



SOLD OUT

ONÓIR

FRI 6 MAR / €37.00 / 8pm

These talented musicians set a new standard with incredible arrangements and harmonies. Join Onóir on a musical odyssey from their take on traditional to modern songs. From tears to laughter, enjoy chemistry, excitement and banter in a show to remember.

MUSIC



CHILDREN'S CROCHET WORKSHOP

CHECK WEBSITE FOR DATES / €102.50

In Stitches by Aislinn is offering two separate 4-week beginner crochet workshops children (ages 9-12). All materials are included, and no previous experience is needed. Participants will learn a creative, relaxing skill they can use for life in a supportive, welcoming setting.

WORKSHOP



SEAN CONWAY: ENDURANCE

SAT 7 MAR / €21-24.00 / 8pm

Sean Conway pushes human limits, 105 Ironmans in 105 days, swimming Britain's length, cycling Europe unsupported, and a 4,200-mile triathlon. Endurance is his gripping, inspiring journey from photographer to world-record athlete.

TALK



PINTS, DENTURES & ROCK 'N' ROLL

FRI 13 MAR / €29.00 / 8pm

Tadhg J Devery is back with his wildest show yet. After the success of *A Day in the Country*, he returns with a bigger, faster, completely outrageous night of rural Irish chaos. Expect fed-up farmers, drunken plumbers, failed musicians, and an undertaker obsessed with recycling the dead. The most unhinged night out you'll have all year!

COMEDY



CONAL GALLEN: THE LAST LAUGH TOUR

SAT 14 MAR / €32.50 / 8pm

Join Conal Gallen, Ireland's master of mayhem, for a night of laugh-out-loud stand-up in The Last Laugh Tour. From mad family stories to classic Irish observations, Conal delivers the kind of comedy only he can. It's cheeky, it's wild and it's pure craic from start to finish. Book your seats now! You'll be laughing all the way home!

COMEDY



THE BURNED MAN

THU 19 MAR / €20.00 / 8pm

Fomoire presents a darkly gripping tale set in a remote Slieve Bloom cabin, where a scarred man holds two strangers captive, seeking vengeance for his wife's death. As secrets unravel and tensions rise, truth blurs the line between victim and villain. Blending black humour with raw emotion, this new play explores love, guilt and obsession.

THEATRE



ROCK ICONS SHOW

FRI 20 MAR / €30.00 / 8pm

Rock Icons Show makes its debut at Dunamais Arts Centre on Friday 20th March. Ireland's ultimate classic rock experience celebrates Deep Purple, Bon Jovi, Pink Floyd, Thin Lizzy and more unmissable anthems performed live.

MUSIC



STAGE ACADEMY NEWBRIDGE PRESENTS BACK TO THE 80s

SUN 22 MAR / €20.00 / 1pm & 7pm

A high-energy musical packed with nostalgia. Travel back to a time when Michael Jackson and Rick Astley ruled the charts, shoulder pads were stylish, and the Atari was cutting-edge technology, all set to iconic 80s anthems including *Girls Just Wanna Have Fun*, *Video Killed the Radio Star*, and *Footloose*.

MUSIC



SINÉAD FARRELL, KATIE TERTELL & FIACHRA GARVEY PIANO TRIO

THU 26 MAR / €27.50 / 8pm

Experience world-class chamber music with Katie Tertell, Fiachra Garvey, and Sinéad Farrell. From virtuosic cello and piano to dazzling piccolo, this trio brings international flair and unforgettable artistry to the stage.

MUSIC

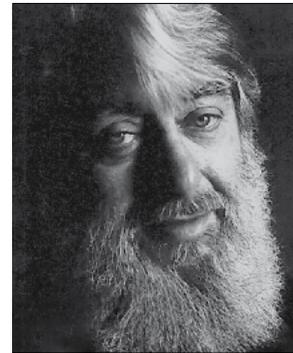


EILEEN MOORE DANCE ACADEMY

30-31 MAR / €20.00 / 1.30 & 6.30pm

Dunamais Arts Centre proudly presents Eileen Moore Dance Academy's debut show! Delight in Beatrix Potter brought to life through dance, followed by a vibrant celebration of movement from students of all ages. Creativity, joy, and the love of dance shine in every performance!

DANCE



REMEMBERING RONNIE DREW WITH PHELM DREW

FRI 3 APR / €27.50 / 8pm

Join Phelim Drew for an unforgettable evening of stories and songs from Ronnie, Luke, Barney, Ciaran, and John. A mix of folk and timeless classics brings the spirit of The Dubliners to life. Sit back, sing along, and experience the joy and energy of Ireland's folk legends.

MUSIC



THE WITCH WHO COULDN'T SLEEP

SAT 4 APR / €17.50

The Witch Who Couldn't Sleep, a magical Story Time musical by Steven Lee. Join Natascha the Witch in a fun, interactive adventure with songs, storytelling, and animation. Perfect for children aged 3-8 to inspire imagination, literacy, and play!

CHILDREN

This summer, Dunamais Arts Centre is inviting people who live and work in Laois to apply to become the face of a major new public artwork by internationally acclaimed street artist Zabou. One individual will be selected to represent modern-day life in Laois, reflecting its resilience, creativity, diversity and community spirit, and will be immortalised on the exterior wall of Dunamais Arts Centre.

WHO CAN APPLY?

Anyone who lives or works in Laois. If you are under 18, a parent or legal guardian must submit the application on your behalf and provide written consent.

HOW TO APPLY

Please complete the form on our website and submit:

- A clear photograph of yourself
- A short paragraph telling us who you are and why you believe you should represent Dunamais

Applications close 18 April.

ABOUT THE ARTIST

Zabou is an internationally acclaimed street artist known for powerful large-scale portrait murals. She has created over 270 murals across 25 countries. Her Irish works include murals of Cillian Murphy in New Ross and Frederick Douglass in Cork. Working mainly in spray paint, she transforms photographic portraits into striking black-and-white murals filled with warmth, dignity and humanity.

ABOUT THE WALLS PROJECT

The Walls Project is a national public art initiative transforming communities through ambitious mural commissions. In five years, it has supported 400+ artists and delivered 460+ murals across Ireland.

THIS PROJECT IS DELIVERED BY DUNAMAISE ARTS CENTRE IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE WALLS PROJECT AND CREATIVE LAOIS.





THE ANDREA BOCELLI EXPERIENCE

SAT 11 APR / €32.50 / 8pm

Celebrating 30 years of timeless classics including *The Prayer*, *Nessun Dorma*, and *Time to Say Goodbye*. Starring Alan Fitzsimons and Rachel Goode with a full orchestra, this powerful live tribute promises an unforgettable night together.

MUSIC



LAOIS DANCE ACADEMY SHOWCASE

SAT 18 APR / €17.50-19.50

Laois Dance Academy presents a vibrant showcase of dance, from ballet to hip hop, performed by young dancers aged 3-18. Based in Portlaoise, the academy combines technical training with a love of movement.

DANCE



KAMMER PHILHARMONIE EUROPA

TUE 21 APR / €18.50-20.50 / 8pm

Experience the brilliance of Kammer Philharmonie Europa live at Dunamais Arts Centre in March. This acclaimed European chamber orchestra brings together top young musicians from across the continent for an exhilarating evening of classical masterpieces, from Vivaldi to Mozart. A must-see concert for lovers of dynamic, virtuosic music!

MUSIC



SOLD OUT

MARY BLACK: THE SLÁN TOUR

WED 22 APR / €47.50 / 8pm

Mary Black announces her final Irish tour in April and May 2026 — The Slán Tour. After 45+ years of unforgettable music, Mary takes her final bow on the road with her loyal band. Don't miss this once-in-a-lifetime farewell concert!

MUSIC



LEGENDS OF THE 60s SHOW

THU 23 APR / €32.00 / 8pm

The Legends of the 60s Show returns with a live band! Sing, swing, and clap along to 40+ iconic hits from Elvis, The Beatles, Tom Jones, and more. One unforgettable night of 60s magic!

MUSIC



FOURTH WALL THEATRE GROUP PRESENTS: MOLL

SAT 25 APR / €18.50-20.50 / 8pm

Moll Kettle shakes up a sleepy country presbytery with cleverness and charm, sparking a hilarious battle with Fr. Brest. John B. Keane's classic comedy comes alive in this sparkling Fourth Wall Laois Theatre production. A must-see!

THEATRE



ALTAN

FRI 1 MAY / €30.00 / 8pm

ALTAN @40. Celebrating four decades of Irish music! Hailing from Donegal, ALTAN's fiery fiddles, soulful songs, and masterful musicianship have captivated audiences worldwide. Join them for a special anniversary concert full of energy, tradition, and unforgettable music.

MUSIC



MOANA

9-10 MAY / €16.50-18.50 / 1 & 6pm

Join Curtain Call Stage School students, aged 4-17, for a magical ocean adventure inspired by Moana. As darkness threatens Motunui, Moana seeks Maui, discovering courage, friendship, and self-belief and identity.

CHILDREN



VISIONS OF FLOYD: A TRIBUTE TO GREATNESS

SAT 16 MAY / €32.50 / 8pm

Experience the ultimate tribute as Visions of Floyd brings a curated selection of the most iconic hits from the Pink Floyd catalogue, capturing the scale, emotion, and psychedelic brilliance of the band's enduring legacy.

MUSIC



DECLAN NERNEY (WITH EFFIE NEILL & JOHN MCNICHOLL)

THU 21 MAY / €30 / 8PM

Irish country music legend Declan Nerney, Hall of Fame inductee, brings a lifetime of hits, charm, and storytelling to the stage. From his Drumlish roots to national acclaim, experience the music that has captured hearts across Ireland.

MUSIC



THE LOVE HUNGRY FARMER

FRI 22 MAY / €22.50-24.50 / 8PM

Join John Bosco McLaine on a hilarious and heartfelt quest for love in a world of advice, missteps, and few women. Seamus O'Rourke brings Ireland's masterful storytelling to life in a night of laughter, romance, and wit worthy of John B. Keane

COMEDY



THIS IS HOW WE FLY

SUN 12 JUL / €22.50 / 8PM

Formed in 2010, This Is How We Fly fuse Irish and Swedish folk, jazz, and percussive dance into a unique sound. Their second album, Foreign Fields, follows their acclaimed 2013 debut.

MUSIC

WORKSHOPS & EXHIBITIONS



CAIFE & COMHRÁ

EVERY SECOND SAT FOR 4wks (FROM 28 FEB)
FREE / 11.00-12.30pm

Irish hub @ Dunamais Arts Centre. Drop in for a cuppa and chat as Gaeilge in a welcoming atmosphere. All ages and levels of Irish welcome. A perfect place to rekindle your *cúpla focal* amongst friends.

COMMUNITY



ART CLASSES WITH CAROLINE

TUE & WED

Weekly Classes during term time. A creative environment to develop your skills with classes for adults and children. Visit our website for more details.

WORKSHOP



CAMP BROADWAY

6-10 JUL & 13-17 JUL / €122.50 / 10am-2pm

Camp Broadway returns for its 16th year! Juniors (4-9) perform The Tale of the K-Pop Demon Hunters. Inter/Seniors (10-18) stage The Greatest Showman, with daily training and a final Dunamais Theatre performance.

WORKSHOP



WONDER WALLS

SAT 6 JUN / FREE

Wonder Walls for Cruinniú na nÓg, presented by the team behind Waterford Walls, invites young people aged 12-18 to get creative through vibrant, collaborative street art workshops. Participants will work alongside a professional artist to create an epic, collaborative mural. Places are limited and must be booked in advance.

WORKSHOP



SALVATORE OF LUCAN

FEB-MAR / FREE

Salvatore of Lucan is a Dublin-based Irish artist whose large-scale paintings blend everyday life with a touch of the uncanny. Drawing on his Bangladeshi-Irish heritage, his work explores identity, home, and relationships — capturing the ordinary, the magical, and the beautifully human.

VISUAL ART



ABBEYLEIX COLLEGE

23 APR-17 MAY / FREE

Annual art, craft and design exhibition. An exciting blend of contemporary art from emerging artists working and living locally. QQI level 5 and 6 graduates present work in a variety of disciplines.

VISUAL ART



MADDERDOIT?

1-30 AUG / FREE

Born in England and now based in Laois, Madderdoit? is a self-taught street artist blending bold colour with monochrome imagery. Internationally collected, he remains committed to authentic, audience-connected work rooted in graffiti.

VISUAL ART



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.

DUNAMAISE FRIENDS MEMBERSHIP

Our friends membership, designed for audiences who believe in the power of the arts in Laois and want to play an active role in sustaining a vibrant cultural future for the county. More than a membership scheme, Friendship is a community of supporters who value artistic ambition, access for all, and the role of Dunamaisé as a shared civic space.

Friends receive priority booking, curated invitations to special screenings and events, including Shared Screen Laois previews, behind-the-scenes insights, and opportunities to connect directly with artists and visiting creatives. In return, their support strengthens Dunamaisé's ability to programme bold work, champion local artists, support young people, and grow cinema and performance across the Midlands.

THANK YOU TO OUR FUNDERS AND SUPPORTERS:



Clár Éire Ildánach
Creative Ireland
Programme



CALENDAR

DUNAMAISE.IE
+353 (0)57 866 3355

CHURCH ST, PORTLAOISE
CO LAOIS, R32 W93P

LAST TUE JAN-MAY	PORTLAOISE SPOTLIGHT SESSIONS ●	7pm
FEB-APR	SALVATORE OF LUCAN ●	N/A
EVERY 2ND SAT	CAIFE & COMHRÁ ●	11am
CHECK WEBSITE	ADULT / CHILDREN'S CROCHET WORKSHOPS ●	
28 FEB	SHARON SHANNON IN CONCERT ●	8pm
06 MAR	ONÓIR ●	8pm
07 MAR	SEAN CONWAY: ENDURANCE ●	8pm
13 MAR	PINTS, DENTURES & ROCK 'N' ROLL ●	8pm
14 MAR	SPONGE BOB (AS GAELIGE) ●	1.30pm
14 MAR	CONAL GALLEN: THE LAST LAUGH TOUR ●	8pm
19 MAR	THE BURNED MAN ●	8pm
20 MAR	ROCK ICONS SHOW ●	8pm
26 MAR	SINÉAD FARRELL, KATIE TERTELL & FIACHRA GARVEY PIANO TRIO ●	8pm
30-31 MAR	EILEEN MOORE DANCE ACADEMY ●	1.30/6.30pm
03 APR	REMEMBERING RONNIE DREW ●	8pm
04 APR	THE WITCH THAT COULDN'T SLEEP ●	
07 APR	SIRET ●	8pm
10 APR	FOLK NIGHT HUBERT MURRY & STEPHEN O'DOWD ●	8pm
11 APR	ANDREA BOCELLI EXPERIENCE ●	8pm
18 APR	LAOIS DANCE ACADEMY SHOWCASE ●	8pm
21 APR	KAMMER PHILHARMONIE EUROPA ●	8pm
22 APR	MARY BLACK: THE SLÁN TOUR ●	8pm
23 APR	LEGENDS OF THE 60s SHOW ●	8pm
APR-MAY	ABBEYLEIX COLLEGE ●	N/A
25 APR	MOLL ●	8pm
29 APR	MIASMA ●	8pm
01 MAY	ALTAN ●	8pm
05 MAY	BUGONIA ●	8pm
09-10 MAY	HOW FAR I'LL GO: CURTAIN CALL ●	1/6pm
16 MAY	VISIONS OF FLOYD: A TRIBUTE TO GREATNESS ●	8pm
19 MAY	ONE VOICE WITH GOD CHOIR ●	7pm
19 MAY	SOULEMANE'S STORY ●	8pm
21 MAY	DECLAN NERNEY IN CONCERT ●	8pm
22 MAY	THE LOVE HUNGRY FARMER ●	8pm
23 MAY	I WILL ALWAYS LOVE YOU: THE BEST OF WHITNEY HOUSTON ●	8pm
30 MAY	LISA LAWLOR: SCHOOL OF DANCE ●	3/7pm
16 JUN	TWO PROSECUTORS ●	8pm
27 JUN	CELTIC CON ●	
06-10/13-17 JUL	CAMP BROADWAY ●	10am
12 JUL	THIS IS HOW WE FLY ●	8pm
1-30 AUG	THE ART OF MADDERDOIT ●	N/A
16 AUG	ELVIS PRESLEY & THE WAY IT WAS ORCHESTRA ●	8pm

MUSIC ●
VISUAL ART ●
EDUCATIONAL ●

COMEDY ●
CINEMA ●
THEATRE/DANCE ●



funding
the arts

Clár Éire Ildánach
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Programme

