



**Lancaster
Arts
invites you
to our autumn
2023 season
Ritual**



Hello everyone

A warm welcome to our autumn season, where we continue to explore the theme of ritual. We are delighted to welcome back artists who have performed with us many times over the years — such as the globally renowned **Brotsky Quartet** and **Forced Entertainment** — and are proud of the fact that Lancaster Arts has hosted this broad spectrum of artists over many years.

Each of our season's choices investigates this theme in very distinctive ways. Our brochure cover image comes from Seke Chimutengwende's **It Begins In Darkness**, a dance work exploring the idea of the haunted house as a metaphor for how histories of slavery and colonialism haunt the present.

Sometimes the theme is celebratory, as with our opening show in the Nuffield, Katherina Radeva's **40/40**, or our exhibition **How do you make a Queer ritual?** with artists Jez Dolan and Garth Gratrix. Both Tim Crouch's new production **Truth's a Dog Must to Kennel**, and Forced Entertainment's **If All Else Fails**, play with the rituals of time and celebrate the ritual of live performance.

We have a rich and diverse concert programme for you this autumn. 2023 marks the 150th anniversary of Rachmaninov's birth and we offer two concerts that honour the occasion: **Anna Tsybuleva**, previous winner of the Leeds Piano competition, will immerse you in the music of Rachmaninov, and the Brotsky Quartet will perform a rare piece as well as works by his contemporaries. Our concert series also welcomes newcomers to the Great Hall with **Parvathi Subbiah** and **Ashley Wass**, both of whom explore the idea of ritual through rites of passage and spirituality.

In these challenging times, with the spiralling costs of living and so many demands on our time and energy, we know how vital live cultural experiences can be for our wellbeing and sense of community. Donations make a huge difference to us and our ability to offer an exciting free programme — please consider becoming a Lancaster Arts Supporter for £40 a year and save up to 20% on each show or concert. More details can be found on our website, alongside our many other ticket offers. Please see the next two pages for a glimpse of all the free work we offer.

We thank you, the audiences and participants who keep our work alive and responsive, for your continued support. This enables our cutting-edge programme to explore ambitious themes, and share the work of our brave and remarkable artists.

Please say hello when you visit, and we all look forward to seeing you!

Lancaster Arts team

Ella Alemayehu-Lambert, Associate Creative Producer

Iain Black, Administrative Assistant

Jack Bond, Communications and Marketing Manager

Alice Booth, Creative Producer

Catherine Brabin, Bridges Bursary

Sally Button, Production Assistant

Jacob Cordingley, Assistant Curator

Jocelyn Cunningham, Director

Ben Guilfoyle, Audience Engagement Manager

Serena Mansfield, Operations and Planning Manager

John Newman-Holden, Technician

Michael Poll, Concert Programmer

Adam Robinson, Collections Assistant

Miranda Stearn, Curator

Konrad Watson, Production Manager

Where ideas, people and places connect

Please join our mailing list (follow the QR code on the back of this brochure) to be sure you are up to date and don't miss anything!

Seke Chimutengwende, the creator of our dance presentation, **It begins in darkness** has been researching the connections between horror and the histories of slavery and colonialism since 2019. In a special event, Seke will join activists and academics to explore the creative process that can emerge from research.

20 October, 15 November, 21 November

This season we have an embarrassment of riches with post show discussions with the artists from **It begins in darkness**, **Truth's a Dog Must to Kennel** and **If All Else Fails** as well as with the **Brodsky Quartet**.

Have a look at a short film on our website created by artist Lowri Evans on how artists and participants explored ritual together through a series of workshops during our exhibition *Objects in Ritual*.



Lancaster Arts

Chambers of Wonder

Taster workshop: 19 October, further sessions in November and December

We invite you to help create new displays, working with gallery staff and an artist to open up a part of the University's art collection for the first time since 2019: our unique collection of Pilkington's Pottery, a Lancastrian art and design business with an international reputation. Get behind the scenes to discover untold stories and amazing objects, respond creatively and be part of finding new ways to share the collection we look after.

Out of Hours

Week of 6 November

Artist José García Oliva will return to Lancaster Arts to continue his work to underscore the importance of key workers who keep the buildings we work in and the communities we are part of operating. José will collaborate with porters, cleaning and security staff to make their labour visible in unexpected ways through the creation of collaborative artworks — and you are invited to get involved. See website for details.

No Such Thing

November (times to be confirmed)

Our collaboration with Quarantine on this project of a free lunch between strangers continues this autumn. A changing menu of conversation starters subtly guides the discussion over a delicious meal near you. Like everyday conversations, they are funny, odd, interesting, controversial, informative, dull, life changing. We will be posting dates and venues nearer the time so you can apply!

Queer Winter Congregation

21-22 November

Jez Dolan and Garth Gratrix will be collaborating with other Queer identifying artists across different art forms. Collectively they will respond to the question 'How do you make a Queer ritual?' in the context of their Peter Scott Gallery exhibition. On 22 November in the afternoon, all are welcome to come and share in their work-in-progress ritual-making.



Ashley Wass: Bach, Beethoven, Shor and Shostakovich

Concert

7.30pm

Thursday 28 September
The Great Hall

Tickets: £12–£23

See concert season
ticket offer

Duration: 90mins,
including interval

Beethoven

Sonata in E major, Op. 109

Alexey Shor/M.Pletnev
Piano Sonata

Bach

Partita No. 1 in B flat major

Shostakovich

Prelude and Fugue No. 24
in D minor

Our Autumn season opens with an exquisite recital by Ashley Wass, Director of Music at the Yehudi Menuhin School, with our thanks to the kind and generous support of the European Foundation for Support of Culture.

If live concerts can be considered a form of ritual in and of themselves, a performance of Beethoven's Op. 109, which, with its prayer-like finale ranks amongst the most reverential of all piano works. Likewise, Bach's first Partita and Shostakovich's final Prelude and Fugue, offer deeply spiritual experiences at opposite ends of the emotional spectrum. Rounding off the programme is the Piano Sonata of Shor/Pletnev, a highly engaging work which has rapidly established itself in the repertoire of many of today's great pianists.

Ashley Wass is a former BBC New Generation Artist and the only British pianist to have won first prize at the London International Piano Competition and has performed at the Wigmore Hall, and Carnegie Hall, making his BBC Proms debut in 2008. Ashley has performed regularly as soloist with all of the BBC orchestras, the Philharmonia, and Bournemouth Symphony.

"An enviable gift to turn almost anything he plays into pure gold"
Gramophone



Two Destination Language: 40/40

Performance

7.30pm

Wednesday 11 October

Nuffield Theatre

Tickets: £12–£16

Duration: 50mins, no interval

Age: 14+

Nudity, heavy breathing

This show is captioned

Our opening show, 40/40, from Two Destination Language, is an inspiring, insightful and moving celebration of Katherina Radeva's 40 years as a woman, a migrant and an artist. Claiming space on a dance floor for one, she writes stories of her past, present and future, in speech, and in movement.

From the little girl dancing at her parents' student parties, to the teenage rhythm gymnast who was body-shamed, to the creative who refuses to be categorised, we see a choreography of all the joys and sorrows of 40 years. Katherina is an irresistible performer whose authenticity and generosity shines in this life-affirming piece.

Supported by three brilliant choreographers — Liz Aggiss, Lucy Suggate and Rachel Krische, Katherina's 40/40 is the result of 40 years of joy, migrancy and hardship, laughter and tears, super tunes and super moves. Join the middle-aged woman revolution by dancing, claiming and reclaiming the beautiful, glorious and messy complexities of womanhood.

"all about forward motion, about moving on and up, about embracing life"

★★★★ *Kelly Apter, The Scotsman*

"an exercise in generosity of spirit"

★★★★ *Lyndsey Winship, The Guardian*



Anna Tsybuleva in Concert

Concert

7.30pm

Thursday 19 October

The Great Hall

Tickets: £12–£23

See concert season

ticket offer

Duration: 95 mins,

including interval

Rachmaninov

Preludes 10 Op. 23

Elegie Op.3

Polischinelle Op.3, No.4

Lilacs Op.21, No.5

Barcarolle Op.10, No.3

Piano Sonata 2

Lancaster Arts is delighted to welcome back Anna Tsybuleva who first performed in the Great Hall in 2018. Having shot into the international spotlight in 2015 when she was crowned First Prize Winner of the Leeds International Piano Competition, Anna Tsybuleva is fast emerging as one of the finest pianists of her generation.

This evening's performance will be an immersion into the music of Rachmaninov in celebration of the 150th anniversary of his birth. Anna Tsybuleva has developed a unique performance style, one of captivating intimacy: drawing the listener into a private sphere of music-making in even the largest of concert halls. Tonight's concert will be a magical experience.

Anna Tsybuleva has performed with many of the world's major orchestras such as the Hallé, the Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra, and the Royal Philharmonic. In 2022 she launched her inaugural festival — AlterSono, which invites artists and audiences to embark upon a journey of artistic, humanist, and scientific exploration.

“Passionate, exquisite, hypnotic”

BBC Music Magazine



Seke Chimutengwende: It begins in darkness

Performance

7.30pm

Friday 20 October

Nuffield Theatre

Tickets: £12–£16

Duration: 60mins, no interval

Age: 12+

Post show discussion

Public workshop:

Friday 20 October

It begins in darkness is a dance full of ghosts. It is an environment for processing the fear, anger and confusion which arise from the histories of slavery and colonialism that haunt the present.

In this stark, stripped back performance, five dancers move through a series of mysterious and experimental rites of passage, channelling past, present and future tensions through their bodies and voices. As if to exorcise the haunted house of history, the dancers whisper, jump, wrestle, shiver, wail and laugh, filling the space with horrors, both real and imagined.

Seke Chimutengwende is a choreographer, performer, movement director and teacher, and has been researching the connections between horror and the histories of slavery and colonialism since 2019. You can also see him perform in Forced Entertainment's *If All Else Fails* later in our season.

"Possessions, dancing as haunting, the invisible. Such characterful performances"

National Reviews Editor of Theatre Magazine, Ben Kulvichit



Brodsky Quartet: Rachmaninov Anniversary Concert

Concert

7.30pm

Thursday 26 October
The Great Hall

Tickets: £12–£25

See concert season
ticket offer

Duration: 120mins,
including interval

Post concert discussion

Stravinsky

Three Pieces

Rachmaninov

Two movements from String
Quartet No. 2

Britten

String Quartet No.1

Shostakovich

Two Pieces: Elegy & Polka

Rachmaninov

Vocalise (arr P. Cassidy)

Debussy

String Quartet

It is fantastic to have the Brodsky Quartet back at the Great Hall this autumn, in their 50th anniversary year and celebrating the 150th anniversary of Rachmaninov's birth; both rituals of marking the passage of time.

This evening's programme features Rachmaninov's visionary Two Movements for String Quartet No. 2 and his haunting Vocalise, encapsulating his genius for song. Debussy's indelibly sensuous quartet, Stravinsky's Three Pieces, whose 'Canticle' he said was the finest piece he had written to date, and Shostakovich's Two Pieces, which veer from tragedy to hilarity, will make for a truly spellbinding concert.

Since its formation in 1972 the Brodsky Quartet has performed over 3000 concerts across the world and released more than 60 recordings, picking up numerous awards and accolades. We are delighted to offer the opportunity to join a post-concert conversation with the musicians. Please join us.

"They are one of a handful of string quartets that have come to represent an elite in redefining the nature and function of a string quartet ensemble."

The Scottish Herald

Iain Belton Violin, **Paul Cassidy** Viola, **Krysia Osostowicz** Violin, **Jaqueline Thomas** Cello



Jez Dolan and Garth Gratrix: How do you make a Queer ritual?

Exhibition

11am-5pm, weekdays
27 October – 8 December
Peter Scott Gallery
Price: Free

Exhibition opening
26 October 5.30–7.30pm
All welcome

How do you make a Queer Ritual? presents an intriguing and critical inquiry into queerness and ritualistic practices and acts as a celebration of identity and an avenue for empowerment, healing, and belonging.

What might be the considerations and principles that underpin the creation of Queer rituals? The artists share a playful journey towards authenticity, consent, and cultural sensitivity. They embed personal experiences and lived realities into seemingly differing Queer aesthetics and explore communal connection that is both invitational and atmospheric, bringing together objects and people.

The exhibition allows for individual readings, reflections and interpretations suggesting a space to hold Queer rituals that remains ever changing and evolving to the needs and desires of community. It cultivates an inclusive space to shed societal burdens, and embrace vulnerability to create an environment of empathy, compassion, and understanding. It acts as a proposal to consider what a Queer ritual could be, rather than asking audiences to take part in a pre-designed ritual. The artists are experimenting with the idea, not defining the outcome.



An evening with Parvathi Subbiah

Concert

7.30pm

Thursday 9 November

The Great Hall

Tickets: £12–£23

See concert season ticket offer

Duration: 55 mins

Montsalvatge

Canción de cuna para

dormir un negrito

Canto negro

Falla

Siete canciones españolas

Obradors

Con amores la mía madre

Simón Díaz — Subbiah

(arrangement for piano

voice)

La vaca mariposa

Lancaster Arts is delighted to welcome soprano, Parvathi Subbiah to the Great Hall for her Lancaster debut.

Parvathi's programme choices are informed by the rites of passage from the most poignant moments of our lived experiences; from our lullaby-filled beginnings in Montsalvatge's Canción de Cuna, to falling in love in Il Trovatore, recovering from unrequited love in Carmen and finally, to singing for those who have passed and those on their way to the other world in La Mamma morta, Senza mamma and Desdemona's last Ave Maria. There is even a song for the ritual of singing to livestock in Simón Díaz's Vaca Mariposa!

Parvathi is a former student of the legendary Italian operatic soprano, Mirella Freni, and studied at the Centro Universale del Bel Canto Academy in Italy. She was a finalist in the Voice of Black Opera competition in 2022, organised by the Black British Classical Foundation. Parvathi completed her Doctorate in Venezuelan politics at the University of Cambridge last year.



Tim Crouch: Truth's a Dog Must to Kennel

Performance

7.30pm
Wednesday 15 November
Nuffield Theatre
Tickets: £12–£16
Duration: 70mins
(no interval)
Age: 14+
Post show discussion

Lancaster Arts welcomes Tim Crouch back to the Nuffield theatre with his new provocative and exciting solo work.

Truth's a Dog Must to Kennel draws on ideas of virtual reality to send him back to the future of the play he left, Shakespeare's King Lear. Back to a world laid waste by division and trauma; a world where the revolution will take place on a screen.

This is a daring piece of theatre that switches between scathingly funny stand-up and an audacious act of collective imagining. It's a celebration of live performance and a skewering of the state we're in now. King Lear meets stand-up meets the metaverse.

"an emotive, filthy love letter to the almost-lost art of being in a room, together"

★★★★ *Financial Times*

"it is as if we ourselves are at the turbulent centre of King Lear"

★★★★ *The Guardian*

"one of the most important writers and theatre makers in the UK"

The Stage



Forced Entertainment: If All Else Fails

Concert

7.30pm

Tuesday 21 November

Nuffield Theatre

Tickets: £12–£16

Duration: 85mins, no interval

Age: 14+

Lancaster Arts is proud to welcome back Forced Entertainment with *If All Else Fails* their new comical and tangled collaboration performed by Seke Chimutengwende and Cathy Naden, and directed by Tim Etchells with dramaturgy by Tyrone Huggins.

Two performers engage in an absurd test that seems to shift and change as they work their way through it. Fragments of a language lesson. Questions from a personality quiz. Slogans from some future society. The performers laugh, hesitate, ask for more time. The test continues. As the clock ticks it's not even certain if the subjects of the test are the audience or the performers. Drawing on the artists' mutual interest in improvisation, and in setting up complex, comical and unstable performance situations, the piece brings together two powerful forces in the contemporary theatre scene.

“...Near legendary...at the forefront of performance and innovation.”

The Stage (UK)



Tuesday Talks

1pm, Tuesdays

Price: Free, please pre-book online

In Partnership with the Lancaster Institute of Contemporary Arts

Join us on Zoom 31 October, 7 November and 14 November or in the Peter Scott Gallery 21 November and 28 November to meet artists exploring how the use of humour informs their practice.

Followed by a live Q+A.

Maddi Nicholson 31 October (Zoom)

Maddi produces stitched, cast iron, inflated and recycled plastic sculptures and paintings, using the humour embodied in the 'stuff of our lives' to engage with issues around place and community. Her 'Going home from here', an inflated replica of a Barrow terraced house, toured Cumbrian beauty spots.

Alan Dunn 14 November (Zoom)

Alan presents his 'ZERO PLAN' project, in which he collects copies of Paul Young's LP 'NO PARLEZ', inviting us to think about the nature of collecting. A wry humour plays its part through the preposterous notion of buying multiple copies of the same record, with a nod to Alan's other work in dementia care homes.



Tuesday Talks

Keith Bloody Mary (KBM) 21 November (Peter Scott Gallery)

KBM acts out the role of Dr Frankenstein by taking parts of other people's photographs out of context before fusing them to make surreal images. She has collaborated with scientific researchers and is interested in the weird fleshy parts of the biological sciences.

Garth Gratrix 28 November (Peter Scott Gallery)

Garth is a contemporary visual artist whose work focuses on 'formal frolic' and the queering of spaces, using a self-imposed form of regulation of 'nine inches apart, together, away, repeat'. He works collaboratively to examine queerness through collaboration, friendship and cooperation.

Emily Simpson 5 December (Zoom)

Emily's work looks at love, LOLs and loss, questioning how experiences of loss, life and language are shaped by the non-binary perspective and the political implications they create. Emily founded 'oh kay gall' gallery in York, and produced an e-zine exploring protest rights through memes, interviews and writing.



Ticket Information

Support Us

Passionate about the arts? Become a Supporter for £40 a year and save up to 20% on all adult tickets, or support us through donations instead. Find out more and join on our website. Your support helps us deliver an ambitious and exciting artistic programme that enables free access for all to take part, such as on page 3 of this brochure.

Purchasing your tickets

Please book your ticket(s) on our website at LancasterArts.org. If you need assistance, email us at boxoffice@lancasterarts.org or call 01524 594151. Tickets can also be purchased on the door (if we are not sold out!).

Ticket Prices

We do not charge booking fees. All student/under 26 tickets are £12. Free events can be found on page 3 of this brochure. Our online programme is 'pay what you feel'. Companion tickets are free.

Venue	Great Hall (Brodsky Quartet)	Great Hall	Nuffield Theatre
Band A	£25	£23	£16
Band B	£23	£21	—
Supporter Band A	£21	£19	£13
Supporter Band B	£19	£17	—



Concert Season Tickets

Receive 10% discount on all tickets when you book two concerts, 15% when you book three and 20% when you book all four!

Theatre Season Tickets

Exactly the same discounts as our concerts when booking for our four Nuffield Theatre shows. Visit the website for full details and all the latest offers.

Student 2-4-1 Ticket Offer

This season we're encouraging students or under 26s to join a friend with our new 2-4-1 offer. If you are a student or under 26 years old you can come to any of our shows or concerts for just £6 each, when you book two tickets!

Concerts Family Offer

(Grand)Parents and their children (Under 16) can get 50% off the concert prices. Email boxoffice@lancasterarts.org for details.

City of Sanctuary tickets

We are offering 10 free tickets per show to people who are seeking sanctuary in Lancaster. Please email cityofsanctuary@lancasterarts.org for details.

Pre-show Meal

For the first time we are now offering audiences the chance to eat at The Lounge restaurant, located just next to the Nuffield Theatre, offering a seasonally changing menu with locally sourced ingredients. Please book your table in advance by calling 01524 593260 or email eat@lancaster.co.uk. The Lounge will be open before events between 9 October – 17 December 2023.



Keep up to date

Our programme is dynamic and flexible, with new events added all the time. To make sure you're in the loop and up to date, sign up to our mailing list via the QR code or visit our website for all the latest news and events.

**SOMETHING'S
HAPPENING
HERE**



SCAN ME

How to find us

Accessibility

We welcome D/deaf and (dis)abled patrons. Please inform us if you have any access requirements at the time of your booking. During your visit do not hesitate to approach any staff member for assistance. Guide or assistance dogs are welcome. Full details can be found on our website. Contact 01524 594151 or boxoffice@lancasterarts.org for more information.

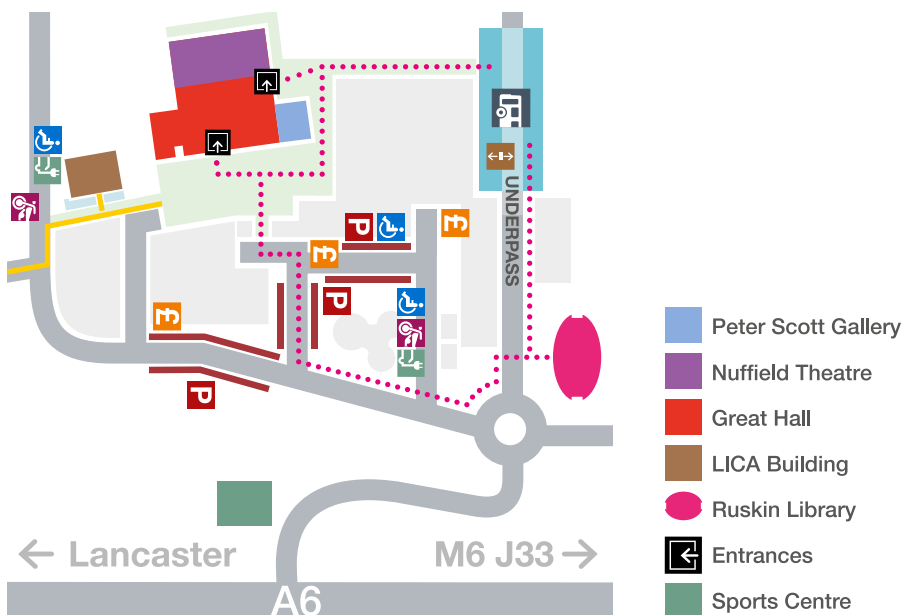
Driving?

Use the LA1 4YW postcode with your Sat Nav. Exit the M6 motorway at junction 33 and take the A6 north towards Lancaster. Turn right at the third set of traffic lights on the A6 onto the University main drive. Take the first exit left from the roundabout, at the top of the hill, and park in Visitor Zone A.

Visitor Parking is free in any zone on campus after 6pm and all day during the weekends. The nearest visitor parking zone is 'A'. For weekday parking use the pay and display machines or purchase a parking scratchcard at the Reception lodge.

Buses run every 5–20 minutes from the city centre to campus. For timetables contact Stagecoach or call 'Traveline' on 0871 200 22 33.

Once on campus follow signs to the Great Hall Complex (GHC).



At a glance

Concerts

7.30pm 28 September Great Hall	Ashley Wass: Bach, Beethoven, Shor and Shostakovich
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7.30pm 19 October Great Hall	Anna Tsybuleva in Concert
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7.30pm 26 October Great Hall	Brodsky Quartet: Rachmaninov Anniversary Concert
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7.30pm 9 November Great Hall	An Evening with Parvathi Subbiah
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Exhibition

11am–5pm, weekdays 27 October–8 December Peter Scott Gallery	How do you make a Queer ritual?
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Performance

7.30pm 11 October Nuffield Theatre	Katherina Radeva: 40/40
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7.30pm 20 October Nuffield Theatre	Seke Chimutengwende: It begins in darkness
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7.30pm 15 November Nuffield Theatre	Tim Crouch: Truth's a Dog Must to Kennel
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7.30pm 21 November Nuffield Theatre	Forced Entertainment: If All Else Fails
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Free events

19 October	Chambers of Wonder taster workshop
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20 October	It Begins In Darkness Workshop
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20 October, 15 November, 21 November	Post show conversations
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6 November	Out of Hours
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21–22 November	Queer Winter Congregation
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November (dates TBC)	No Such Thing
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