

Deepness Dementia Media presents



**SCOTTISH
DEMENTIA ARTS
FESTIVAL
2024**

Monday 11th to Thursday 14th November 2024

and

The Gathering
Tuesday 12th November 9.30am-4.30pm

with support from



Festival Map

A street map of Edinburgh featuring the 3 festival locations:

25 Nicolson Square Edinburgh (Festival Hub)

25 Nicolson Square, Edinburgh, EH8 9BX (Festival Hub)

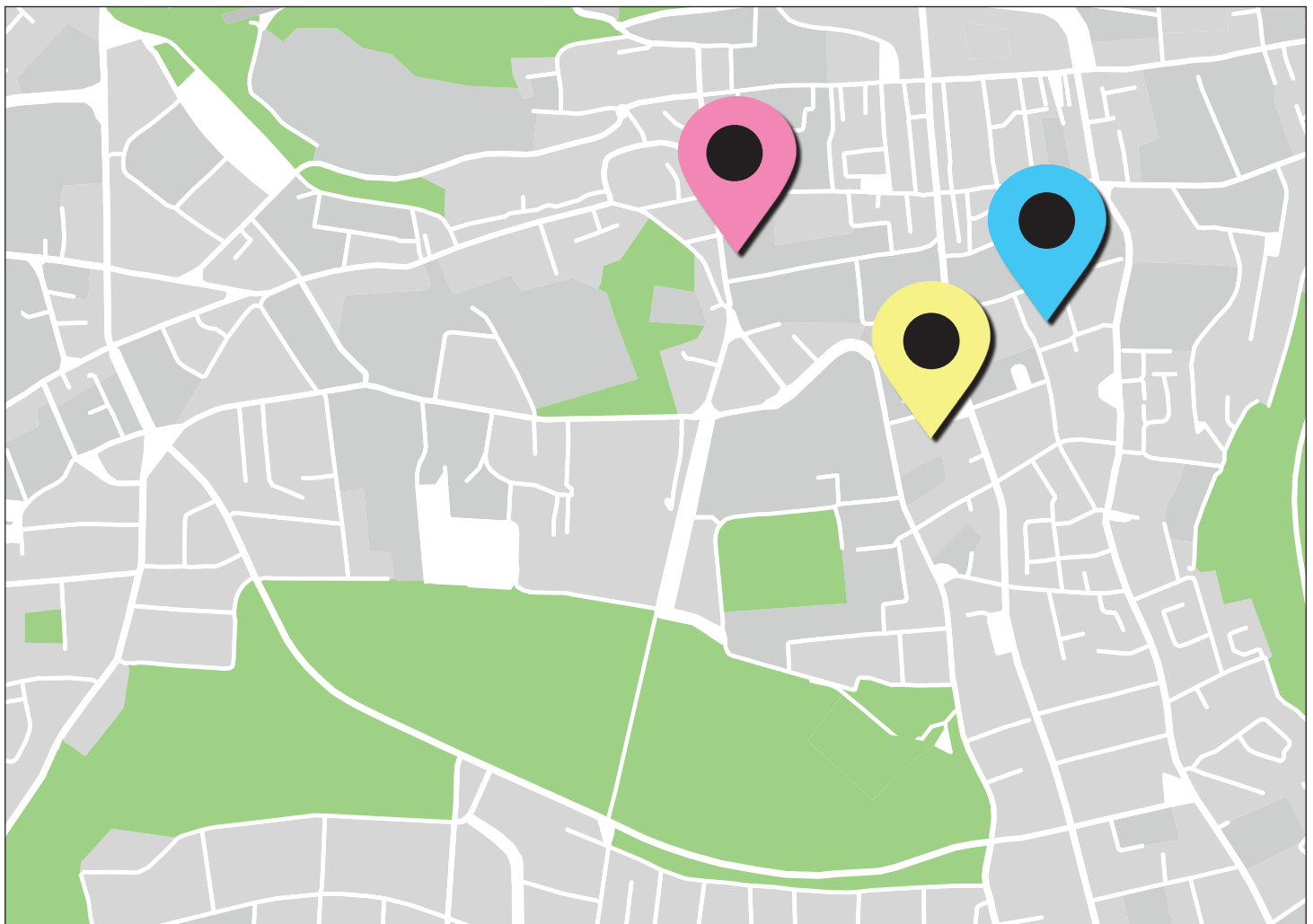
Assembly Roxy

Assembly Roxy, 2 Roxburgh Place Edinburgh EH8 9SU

Augustine United Church

Augustine United Church, 41 George IV Bridge, EH1 1EL

The Festival Hub will have a cash-only hot drinks counter situated at the Nicolson Square venue. Don't forget to pick up your local café discount card when you are there from the Welcome desk.



Welcome

It is an honour for me on behalf of Deepness and the festival organising group to welcome you to the second Scottish Dementia Arts Festival and our fourth annual gathering for people diagnosed with dementia/cognitive impairment.

The Gathering' is being held in Augustine United Church, 41 George IV Street, Edinburgh, EH1 1EL (Tel 01312201677) on the 12th of November 2024.

This year we will discuss three questions, which are:

- 1) What do we need when we are waiting for diagnoses?
- 2) What do we need in the first year after diagnoses?
- 3) What do we need a year after diagnoses and going forward?

Last year was the first Scottish Dementia Arts Festival, held in Inverness and based in The Eden Court Theatre. It was without doubt a great success with a multitude of art forms being on show, including a number of premieres of film and theatre productions. There was also workshops for participants to attend, including a clowning workshop and a Box of Smiles workshop.

Our home city for this years' festival is Edinburgh, with the Festival Hub being 25 Nicolson Square Edinburgh (see map). We will be using three venues this year: Nicolson Square, Edinburgh, is our daytime Hub with a hot drinks café onsite. It also features the Deepness Dementia Radio Station, the Playlist For Life Sound Booth, an Arts Exhibition upstairs in the Leith Room and a quiet room for anyone needing some space away from all the excitement. It is the perfect place to spend a bit of time. Festival Hub opening hours are: 12.30-5pm on the 12th, 11-5pm on the 13th, and 11-5pm on the 14th.

Venue Two is Augustine United Church on George IV Bridge where this year's Gathering for people living with dementia takes place, as well as playing host to workshops on music, clowning, sound, poetry, the sea, and song. Care Partners are encouraged to attend the 'Care For Yourself' workshops at 10am and 1.30pm. Lunch will be served at 12pm.

Venue Three is the Assembly Roxy at 2 Roxburgh Place (see map) This multi-purpose venue hosts our film sessions, dance, theatre productions, and live music.

You can find full listings of when and where events are happening within the pages of this programme. We really hope you will enjoy this years' Festival and Gathering and I personally look forward to meeting you during the event.

Cheers

Ron Coleman
Chairperson Deepness Ltd

Monday 11th November

4.30pm

Assembly Roxy

House and Bar opens with **Forget Me Notes** project

5.15pm

Assembly Roxy

Festival Welcome Reception with **Scottish Minister's Welcome**, address from **Ron Coleman** and **Meeting Centre Banner Parade**

6.15pm

Assembly Roxy

Sophie Bancroft sings *Mother Blackbird* Sophie will talk about the story and process behind *Mother Blackbird* and her role as music director of *Dementia The Musical*

7.00pm

Assembly Roxy

Yesteryear dance theatre performance choreographed by Evelina Sjödin Bergström with music by Emily Frances Ippolito

8.00pm

Assembly Roxy

Post-show discussion and Q&A with Ron Coleman and Company

8.45pm

Assembly Roxy

Networking and Catch Up (bar remains open)

10.00pm

Assembly Roxy

Welcome Reception Finishes

Tuesday 12th November

9.30am

Augustine United Church

Registration for **The Dementia 100/6000 Gathering** (for people with dementia). Teas & coffees served. Limited space for care partners but a **Look after Yourself** workshop will take place simultaneously in the same venue if you prefer to stay nearby

10.00am-4.00pm

Augustine United Church

The Gathering starts. Please note: no professionals unless required to support a person living with dementia. Care partners encouraged to attend **Look after Yourself** workshop

12.30-4.30pm

25 Nicolson Square (Festival Hub)

The Festival Hub opens with:

- **Café** serving tea, coffee and biscuits for catch ups (note: this will be a cash-only facility)
- **Quiet Room**
- **Sign-up desk** for workshops and local café discount card collection
- **Arts Exhibition on 1st Floor (Leith Room)**
- **Deepness Dementia Radio** station studio sessions

1.00-5.00pm

Assembly Roxy

Dementia Film Screenings (see page 19)

7.00pm

Assembly Roxy

House and Bar Open with recorded music by Emily France Ippolito

7.30pm

Assembly Roxy

STAND *Another Gift To You* acoustic set with Gus Harrower and Robyn Smith

8.30pm

Assembly Roxy

Open mic for anyone who wishes to share creative talents

10.00pm

Evening finishes

Wednesday 13th November

10.00am-1.00pm

Assembly Roxy

- 10am. Meeting Centres Scotland film launch
- 11am. Meeting Centres Scotland AGM (for members and non-members interested in finding out more about Meeting Centres).
- 12pm. Deepness Dementia Media film launch of *Caught In This Moment of Time* followed by Francesca Taylor Coleman's film of *Frankie Goes to Belfast*.

11.00am-4.30pm

25 Nicolson Square Edinburgh (Festival Hub) opens with:

- Café serving tea, coffee and biscuits (note: this will be a cash-only facility)
- Quiet Room
- Sign-up desk for workshops and local café discount card collection
- Arts Exhibition on 1st Floor (Leith Room)
- Deepness Dementia Radio station studio sessions
- Playlist 4 Life Sound Booth sessions here
- Literary Corner readings and Q&A:
2.00pm – *In the Palm of a Spider's Hand* by Gerry King, hosted by Willy Gilder
3.00pm – *My Wonky Brain* by Willy Gilder, Valeria Lembo and hosted by Alex Howard

2.30-4.30pm

Augustine United Church

Workshops (sign-up for these at the Festival Hub) More about workshops on pages 10 and 11.

- 10.00am Workshop 1: *Have No Fear – clowning workshop with Magdalena Schamberger*
- 11.00am Workshop 2: **Portraiture with Willy Gilder** (Please bring your own sketch pad, pencils/pens)
- 11.50pm Workshop 3: **with Forget Me Notes project**
- 12.40pm Workshop 4: *The Sea and I* music and movement workshop with Jo Young, an Independent Arts Project
- 1.30pm Workshop 5: *A Box of Smiles* with Ronald Amanze and Jim Campbell
- 2.30pm Workshop 6: **Jazz Singing and Vocals with Sophie Bancroft and Tom Lyne**

7.00pm

Assembly Roxy

House and Bar Opens

7.30pm

Assembly Roxy

Caught In This Moment of Time by Ron Coleman – a reworked performance of the play with a new act and performers, followed by post-show talk

10.00pm

Evening finishes

Thursday 14th November

10am-4.30pm

25 Nicolson Square Edinburgh (Festival Hub)

opens with:

- **Café** serving tea, coffee and biscuits (note: this will be a cash-only facility)
- **Quiet Room**
- **Playlist For Life** Sound Booth sessions
- **Drop-In session for families** with Maxine Meighan and colleagues from Alzheimer Society not Alz Scotland
- **Arts Exhibition on 1st Floor (Leith Room)**
- **Deepness Dementia Radio** station studio sessions

11.30am

Assembly Roxy

Weekday Wow Factor - Daytime Disco for invited care settings and anyone up for a pre-afternoon energiser

2.00pm

Assembly Roxy

McScrooge a pantomime by Alan Mountford and Citadel Arts Group

3.30pm

Assembly Roxy

Intergenerational Singing Workshop with **Ace Voices** including young people from Heathryburn Primary School

6.00pm

Assembly Roxy

House and Bar opens

- **Closing Reception** starting with **Weekday Wow Factor Evening disco**

7.00pm

The Roddy Gordon Band

8.15pm

Dementia The Musical Soundtrack Gig

with actors (Ross Allan, Kirsty Malone, Pauline Lockhart and Fiona Wood) followed by a ceilidh with Lewis Hou and music from Sophie Bancroft and Tom Lyne

10.45pm

Festival Ends

The Gathering

Following a successful appearance in Inverness last year, the 100/6000 Gathering returns for its fourth year as part of Scotland's 2024 Dementia Arts Festival. Please find below this year's topics, details and running order. The Gathering will take place in Augustine United Church on Tuesday 12th November, between 9.30am-4.30pm.

The 4th Annual Gathering 2024

Imagine a meeting room with 100 people with cognitive impairment and dementia. What would people see? Workers might see 100 people requiring 100 risk assessments and 100 different care packages. Care home managers might see 100 potential residents. Academics might see 100 research subjects. Neurologists may see 100 CT images to be checked. Our stance is different. Instead, we see at least 6000 years of lived experience; that's 6000 years of wisdom, knowledge, and life in one room at one time.

The central topic for the Gathering this year is:

Post diagnostic support — exploring what this means to us, what we want from it, how we want it, and who should deliver it.

To address this, we'll ask three key questions:

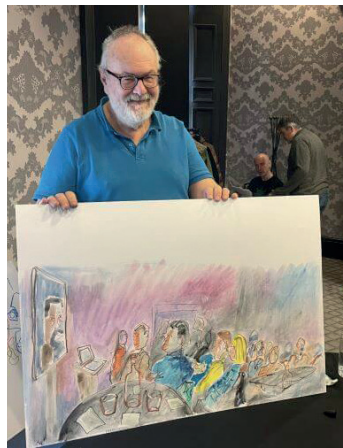
- 1 What do we want before diagnosis?
- 2 What do we want immediately after diagnosis?
- 3 What do we want after the first year?

The Gathering Schedule

| | |
|----------------------|---|
| 9.30am | Arrivals with teas and coffees |
| 10am-12pm | Care for Yourself workshop and Gathering separate into different rooms |
| 12noon-1.30pm | Lunch and catch ups |
| 1.30pm-3.30pm | Care for Yourself and Gathering reconvene for afternoon |
| 3.30pm-4pm | Afternoon tea and coffee break |
| 4pm-5pm | Conclusions and winding up |

This information from the Gathering will be collated, turned into a document and sent to the Scottish government at their request. Please note that, this year, workers will not be invited to observe. Family members who wish to remain close by can join in the Care For Yourself workshop in the same building. If a contributor requires a family member present due to communication needs, they can be in the room, but may only contribute what their partner wishes them too.

We hope to see you at the Gathering. Use your voice to have a say !



Workshops

A variety of workshops will be taking place at the 2024 Scottish Dementia Arts Festival. Please find below a list of planned workshops. Head to **25 Nicolson Square (Festival Hub)** to sign up to individual workshops and find out more.

Care for Yourself workshop

10am and 1.30pm, Tuesday 12th

Augustine United Church

When we take on the role of caring for a person in our family, we do so with love, but with the role lots of changes happen. We get tired, feel different difficult emotions and can feel we are losing ourselves. This can also lead us to feel guilty. Usually, at the bottom of this, we stop looking after ourselves and our own needs. This workshop will explore this and look at strategies and self-care that can make the role much easier, give us more energy and keep a sense of self

Have No Fear! with Magdalena Schamberger

10.00-10.45pm, Wednesday 13th

Augustine United Church

An introduction to clowning for people with lived experience of dementia by Magdalena Schamberger. In this short taster workshop, we will playfully explore saying 'yes' to the unknown, continuing to breath while embracing uncertainty and sharing laughter when we make mistakes.

Portraiture with Willy Gilder

11am, Wednesday 13th

Augustine United Church

Come along and enjoy drawing a picture of yourself...even if you think you can't draw! During this workshop, you'll get the chance to create your own self-portrait. Willy Gilder is a visual artist who lives with dementia. His workshop is suitable both for both those living with dementia and those that are simply interested in learning more about drawing



Singing with Forget Me Notes Project

11.50am, Wednesday 13th

Augustine United Church

Join Paul Barfoot and Alan Midwinter for one of Forget Me Notes' famous dementia-friendly recitals, an experience that is sure to leave you feeling positive, uplifted and reinvigorated in body and soul.

A Box of Smiles with Ronald Amaze

1.30pm, Wednesday 13th

Augustine United Church

Join Ronald Amaze for his an unforgettable workshop Box of Smiles — a one-of-a-kind mix of song, music mixing, joy and poetry that is sure to leave you beaming from ear to ear.

Add Jazz Singing with Sophie Bancroft

2.30pm-4.30pm, Wednesday 13th

Augustine United Church

Come for some fun group singing in this workshop, focusing on jazz vocal technique and jazz and blues songs. We will explore a little vocal improvisation (only if you want to!) and there will be time at the end of the workshop for those who would like to share their individual singing, all accompanied by Sophie Bancroft on guitar and Tom Lyne on double bass.

The Sea and I

12.40pm

Augustine United Church

This multi-sensory movement workshop explores our relationship to water as a connecting element. Through sounds of water and tactile objects such as sand, shells and clay, we will find ways to dance, move and relax together. It's about celebrating being here, together, now.

ACE Voices Intergenerational Singing Session, led by Alec Thompson-Miller

3.30pm, Thursday 14th

Assembly Roxy

This intergenerational session will focus on the culminations of ACE Voice's work with Kingswood/Heathryburn community project by celebrating the voices of people with dementia through creative, intergenerational work. The workshop will be led by Alec Thompson Miller with support from young people at Heathryburn Primary School and Maria Cowie.



Festival Sounds

Throughout the 2024 Scottish Dementia Arts Festival, a special collaboration in sound will be taking place. Head to the **Nicolson Square Venue Festival Hub** for a fun collaboration between Playlist for Life and Deepness Dementia Radio. Read below about these two pioneering organisations and how you can get involved.



Playlist for Life

Visit the Playlist for Life booth at the **25 Nicolson Square Festival Hub** to chat to a Music Detective and track down the 'soundtrack to your life'. We will help you create a playlist of personally meaningful music that can help you engage in creative activities and connect with your community. You can then take this away on Spotify, or on a USB stick, to enjoy at home.

After creating a 'Soundtrack of your Life', why not share this with radio presenter Howard Gordon of Deepness Dementia Radio (see below) who can broadcast your unique soundtrack across the Festival airwaves?

Playlist for Life is Scotland's leading music and dementia charity, helping people living with dementia discover the power of personally meaningful music to improve wellbeing. Listening to personally meaningful music can help you recapture artistic talents, engage in creative activities and connect with your community.

DEEPNESS DEMENTIA



Deepness Dementia Radio

Deepness Dementia Radio is on 24 hours a day, 7 days a week and is produced and presented by DJs who also live with dementia. It is programmed with inclusion in mind, featuring interviews with people with dementia or cognitive impairment, family care partners and professionals. Topics and themes include human rights, book club, poetry, music, art, and music from across the ages and styles from reggae to big band, folk to dance music.

For people with dementia, music and the spoken word are important for wellbeing and as a trigger for memories. Although their memory may fade, music and its accompanying memories remain embedded in the mind of someone who is cognitively impaired. That is why Deepness Dementia Radio has gone from strength to strength, and we would love you to join our community. You can listen to the radio station through your Alexa by asking for Deepness Radio or by visiting www.deepnessdementiamedia.com. If you are interesting in presenting then don't hesitate to speak to Howard Gordon who will be DJing throughout the Festival.

Performances

Read more about the performances taking place at the **Scottish Dementia Arts Festival 2024**.



Another Gift For You, STAND Gig with Gus Harrower and Robyn Smith

7.30pm, Tuesday 12th

Assembly Roxy

STAND is a peer support group for people living with a diagnosis of younger onset dementia, their families and friends. Since 2021, the group have been writing original music with the help of singer-songwriters Gus Harrower and Robyn Smith. In April 2023, they released their debut album titled *Our Gift To You* and in September they released their second collection of original songs.



Caught in This Moment of Time

7.30pm, Wednesday 13th

Assembly Roxy

Caught in This Moment of Time is a one-act play that explores one person's attempt to use Alexa (Artificial Intelligence) to retain their autonomy despite having dementia. The play has both very funny and very sad moments and is based on the author's own experience of dementia and technology. Set in one room, which is the extent of Ron's world, the piece is interspersed with song, poetry and dance that is designed to allow the audience to share Ron's journey. At the end of the play, there is an opportunity to discuss with the writer and the cast issues that are raised by the performance.

DEMENTIA



The Musical

Dementia The Musical Soundtrack Gig

8.30pm, Thursday 14th

Assembly Roxy

Fresh back from its Scottish tour with 4-star reviews, the actors from *Dementia The Musical* (Ross Allan, Kirsty Malone and Fiona Wood) join us for a journey through the play's soundtrack.

Written by those living with dementia, this brand-new musical is based on the campaigning work of three of Scotland's longest serving dementia activists James McKillop, Nancy McAdam & Agnes Houston and follows the fight they led to ensure people with dementia have a voice in what happens in their lives. *Dementia the Musical* is a funny but moving production telling the history of Scottish dementia activism and their role front and centre of it.

Dementia the Musical is a new musical theatre production by Ron Coleman, Scottish poet and writer living with dementia, in collaboration with renowned director Magdalena Schamberger. Composition and musical direction from Sophie Bancroft, one of Britain's leading Jazz musicians. Additional music supplied by esteemed songwriter Andrew Eaton-Lewis. Set design by Karen Tennent.



Forget Me Notes project

4.30pm, Monday 11th

Assembly Roxy

Join The Forget Me Notes choir who will sing during the Festival's Welcome reception. Expect anything from ABBA to The Weather Girls, Emile Ford to Sisters on 45! (The Forget Me Notes will also host a workshop at 11.50 on Wednesday 13th Augustine United Church.)

The Forget Me Notes are a music-based project built on dementia friendly principles, that is open to all who enjoy a community of warmth, openness and understanding where self-expression is encouraged and welcomed.



McScrooge by Citadel Arts Group

2pm, Thursday 14th

Assembly Roxy

A mini-panto written by Alan Mountford and directed by Mark Kydd.

McScrooge is a Scottish version of Dickens' *A Christmas Carol* with an Edinburgh twist and adapted as a dementia-friendly pantomime with input from people living with dementia. This is a relaxed performance with plenty of festive songs inviting audience participation. There will also be a relaxed social café with a meet and greet from 1.30pm.

Cast: Ashley Barlow, James Bryce and Mark Kydd; Puppeteering advice: Freda O'Byrne; Creative Producer: Liz Hare; Sound and Lighting: Roddy Simpson.

Old Mother Blackbird

6.15pm, Monday 11th

Assembly Roxy

Inspired by an extraordinarily brave and loyal mother blackbird that set up nest in her garden in a wee village south of Edinburgh, Sophie Bancroft captured the universal story of maternal love and family in a song called Old Mother Blackbird. Using handmade collage characters, she then created a short film to accompany the song which was selected to be screened at the Women Over Fifty Film Festival (WOFFF) in 2023 and is now currently being screened as part of a dementia-responsive programme of short films on the in-flight entertainment of Virgin Atlantic flights, curated by WOFFF.



Weekday Wow Factor Daytime Discos

11.30am, Thursday 14th (disco 1) & 6pm (disco 2)

Assembly Roxy

Join us for Fun, Friendship and Fitness. Everyone welcome for a boogie, chat and definitely singing along. Come as you are, move as you can and soak up the disco vibes. Request your favourite tunes, from Bob Marley to Bob Hope, Eminem to ABBA. DJ Cameron will play it all and we can't wait to see you there.



Yesteryear Dance Theatre Performance

7pm Monday 11th

Assembly Roxy

What happens when you can recall what happened years ago, but the memory of yesterday has slipped away? Set to the tones of the symphony created by Emily Frances Ippolito, yesteryear explores the journey of dementia symptoms, diagnosis and aftermath through movement. Choreographed by Evelina Tiger in collaboration with dancers Deanna Canny-Armitt, Neve Renwick, Lauren McGonagle and Sky Su. The piece also features guest appearances from dancers Fangzhou Gu.



The Roddy Gordon Band

7pm, Thursday 14th

Assembly Roxy

Starting out in the sixties, inspired by many folk and blues singers, Roddy left his home town of Aberdeen and headed for the bright lights of Soho London. Roddy played The Hard Rock Café, The Speakeasy, The Marquee and many other folk/rock venues as well as sessions for the BBC, including *Sounds of the Seventies*. Roddy moved to Sydney in the late seventies playing the vibrant club scene and held a four-year residency at The Fortune of War Hotel, The Rocks, Sydney. From 1988 through to 2006 Roddy gigged across England and Scotland before relocating to South Australia and recording albums 'Love & Blues' and 'C'est La Vie', the latter receiving the runner up position in the South Australian Regional Awards for outstanding and significant contributions demonstrating excellence in South Australia's regional communities. Roddy is now based in North Yorkshire and recording his third album 'The Future is Brief'. Jane Gordon joined Roddy over 30 years ago and has gigged with Roddy extensively in the UK and Australia. Along with backing vocals, Jane plays bass and guitar.

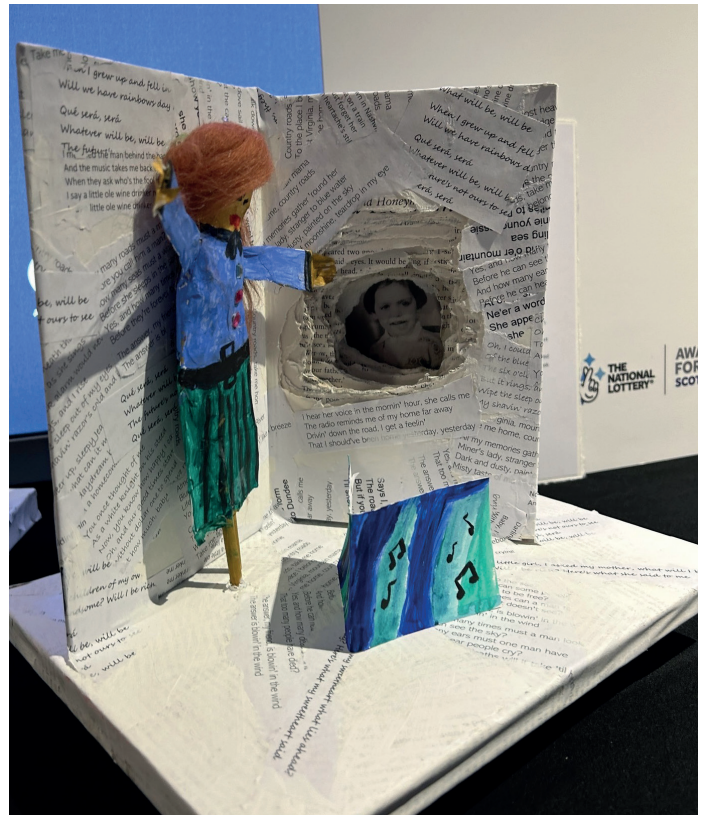


Ceilidh with Lewis Hou

8.15pm, Thursday 14th

Assembly Roxy

Lewis is founder and director of Science Ceilidh which supports cultural and knowledge democracy across Scotland. He supports the Ideas Fund and Community Knowledge Matters network, which funds and advocates for community-led research - including working with Deepness. He is also currently an Engage Fellow with the National Coordinating Centre for Public Engagement looking at systems change around whose knowledge is valued, and he is also an urban dancer and fiddle player.



Visual Arts

Read more about the exhibitions of visual arts taking part in the Scottish Dementia Arts Festival 2024. Drop by **Nicolson Square Festival Hub** between Tuesday 12th November from 12.30pm until Thursday 14th November 4.30pm to enjoy an array of artistic displays.

Creative work will be exhibited by artists Willy Gilder, Ian Petrie and members from Deepness Dementia media, Ullapool, Stornoway and Musselburgh Meeting Centres, bold Scotland, The Forget Me Notes Volunteer Project and the GRAND - My Wonky Brain graphic novel project.

bold – Bringing Out Leaders in Dementia

bold is an award-winning project that brings people in the dementia world together on an equal footing through an innovative Social Leadership programme, and a bold community partners network. Our vibrant bold Celebrations Art Exhibition has been curated and created by our **bold** community partners, some of whom live with dementia. The process is more important than the result and is how we innovate, imagine and flourish together as a community.

Ian Petrie

Ian has been painting since he was a child and won the School Art Prize when he was 18. He studied psychology and philosophy at St. Andrews University and then worked in business and finance. Ten years ago, Ian started an art group in sheltered housing in Edinburgh and rediscovered his love for art. He has been painting since, drawing great inspiration from nature, especially animals. 'Art relaxes me and is company with friends' says Ian regarding his passion for painting and doing art.

Willy Gilder

Willy Gilder is a former BBC journalist, writer and illustrator who was diagnosed with early-stage Alzheimer's disease in 2021. Since being diagnosed, Willie has been a very active member of the dementia community, promoting the importance of creative and occupational therapy and even presenting Capital Theatre's dementia-friendly podcast, *All The World's A Stage*. He is an active and award-winning artist.

GRAND

(Graphic Novels and Dementia) is an intergenerational collaboration from a group of participants aged between 12-70. **bold** Partners Valeria Lembo & Willy Gilder brainstormed the idea to produce a graphic novel that would tell Willy's dementia story. The resulting novel was edited by Alex Howard and printed by Capital Theatres. Pick up your copy at the Festival today!



Literary Corner

Come and meet authors and ask them questions about their creative process, content and own experiences of living with dementia at the [Nicolson Square Festival Hub](#) from 2pm, Wednesday 13th.

In the Palm of a Spider's Hand

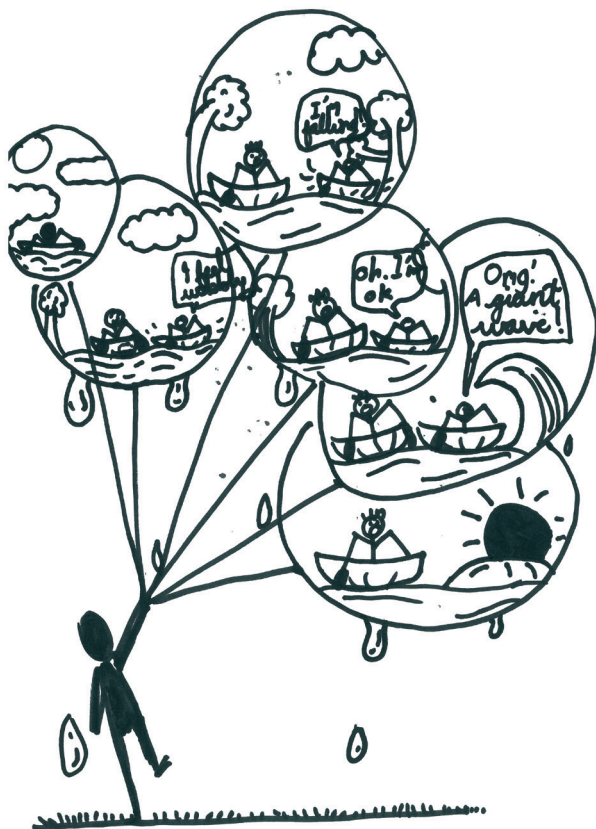
In the Palm of A Spider's Hand was written by Gerry King and edited by Rachel Arthur of Boom Saloon. The Q&A will be hosted by Willy Gilder between 2pm-2.40pm.

A ground-breaking work that challenges the very fabric of what we think we know about dementia, creative thinking and the power of words, Gerald King's *In the Palm of a Spider's Hand* is a radical act of defiance against the conventions of both literature and life. Diagnosed with young-onset Alzheimer's at 55, King was told he'd never work with words again. Today, his debut poetry collection not only defies that prognosis but also pushes back against the suffocating stereotypes perpetuated by mainstream media. This project was made possible by an Age Scotland Peer to Peer Fund.

My Wonky Brain

Q&A hosted by Alex Howard at 3pm

My Wonky Brain is the first kids graphic novel in Scotland about dementia, written and illustrated by an inter-generation group of 10+ people, aged between 12 & 60. The book was born out of a collaboration between Bold Scotland (Bringing Out Leaders in Dementia) and Capital Theatres, as was inspired by Willy Gilder's experiences of living with dementia. The project was led by Valeria Lembo, the text edited by Alex Howard, and the book graphic designed and typeset by Jane Greig of Capital Theatres.



Film Screenings

Films will be available to watch on the 12th November from 1-5pm, and 13th November 11am-1pm in our drop in cinema at Assembly Roxy.

Here is a selection of what you might catch when dropping by. These films will play on a repeating basis and are in no particular order.

12th November 1-5pm

How personalised playlists have helped me
 The Forget Me Notes Project
Rethink Dementia film - Danny Murphy
Rethink Dementia Film - Irene Donaldson
Rethink Dementia Film - BSL TV advert
 STAND Fife and Deepness films
 The Sea and I
 A bold Mini Commission Fenella Kerr
 A bold Mini Commission barbara gardner
 A bold Mini Commission Willy gilder
 A bold Mini Commission Alec Thompson Miller
 A bold Mini Commission James Mckillop and Yvonne Lyon
 Upon Broad Shoulders

Playlists for Life
 The Forget Me Notes Project
 Scottish Government
 Scottish Government
 Scottish Government
 STAND and Deepness
 Independent Arts Projects
 bold (Bringing out Leaders in Dementia)
 bold
 bold
 bold
 bold

13th November 10am-1pm

10.00am Meeting Centres Scotland Film Launch
 11.00am Meeting Centres Scotland AGM
 12.00pm *Caught In This Moment Of Time* launch
 1.30pm *Frankie Goes To Belfast*

with welcome from Graham Galloway
 for members and non members to find out
 more about Meeting Centres
 with post film Q&A with Ronald Coleman
 by Francesca Taylor Coleman

Dancer Biographies

Find out about the Yesteryear dancers taking part in this year's Scottish Dementia Arts Festival.



Emily Frances Ippolito, Composer

Emily Frances Ippolito is a composer with a passion for creating emotionally resonant music for film. She scored the award-winning short film *Sonya*, earning Best Original Score at the Gothamite Film Awards in 2022. Her other projects include the feature film *The Difference Between Us* and several shorts like *The Fuscus*, *Curiosity*, and *One Way*. Emily holds a master's in Music Composition for Screen from the University of Edinburgh. She's also an author, with her children's series *Teyla Kai's Adventures* available on Amazon. Originally from Oregon, she now lives in Edinburgh, Scotland.



Evelina Tiger, Choreographer

Evelina Tiger is a Swedish choreographer, dance artist, and teacher based in Scotland. She holds a First Class BA Hons from The Scottish School of Contemporary Dance (2023). Her recent projects include work with Dancebase for the Edinburgh International Festival, involvement in Scotland's contact improvisation community, and creating for Deepness Dementia Media at Scottish Dementia Arts Festivals. Passionate about inclusive dance, Evelina draws on her love of music and literature to foster connections through movement, working with people of all abilities. As an autistic artist, she integrates her lived experience into her practice and her role as a support worker for autistic adults with learning disabilities. Evelina is also a member of Collective Avoidance.



Deanna Canny-Armitt, Dancer

Deanna, 21, is a 2023 graduate of The Scottish School of Contemporary Dance with a First Class degree. Since graduating, she has toured with National Youth Dance Scotland across the UK and Estonia, concluding at Edinburgh's Assembly Festival. She also attended a residency in Wales, working with choreographers Mario Bermudez and Daisy Howell, performing at the Riverfront Theatre in Newport. With a background in acrobatic gymnastics, Deanna is interested in incorporating these elements into her movement practice while exploring the physical qualities of the human body.



Gu Fangzhou, Dancer

Gu Fangzhou is a contemporary dancer, trainee counsellor, and doctoral student whose work blends movement, therapy, and social change. Specializing in improvisational dance, she believes that “emotion is in motion,” using movement to foster self-understanding and transformation. Fangzhou’s research explores embodied narratives—how our bodies carry and express personal and collective stories. She advocates for emotional expression and challenges societal norms by connecting people to their bodies and stories. Through her interdisciplinary approach, Fangzhou uses movement as a tool for personal and social activism, empowering others to embrace change within themselves and the world around them.



Lauren McConagle, Dancer

Lauren McConagle is a professional contemporary dance artist and Therapeutic Dance facilitator from Ireland, now based in Edinburgh. She views dance as a powerful tool for connection and fostering autonomy through movement. Her interests include psychosomatics, the mind-body connection, screendance, site-specific work, acrobatics, and physical theatre. Lauren enjoys collaborating across different art forms, always seeking meaning and purpose in her work for herself and others. For her, dance is a way to explore personal development, self-expression, and freedom, deepening her understanding of her body and its relation to others.



Neve Renwick, Dancer

Neve is a partially deaf contemporary dance artist from Crieff, Scotland. A graduate with first-class honours from the Scottish School of Contemporary Dance, she has worked in diverse areas, from coaching individuals with disabilities to performing in New York City with the Scottish Ballet’s Youth Exchange Company. Neve’s performances aim to connect with audiences through expressive storytelling, while her choreography immerses deeply in music, memorizing every note to synchronize mind and body. Inspired by dancers with disabilities, Neve’s creative process is driven by their artistry. Her upcoming projects will merge her love of dance and fashion into visually striking creations.



Sky Su, Dancer

Sky Su (he/they) hails from Lenapehoking, the unceded land of the Lenape people, now known as New Jersey, from a Han Taiwanese family. They began dancing in Edinburgh, supported by the Scottish dance community, and practiced Contact Improvisation since 2016. Sky has performed with Curious Seed in FIELD and Chalk About. Their work is relational, improvised and experimental, often collaborating with musicians, filmmakers, dancers, and photographers. They studied Sculpture at Edinburgh College of Art and continue exploring lovelifedance, guided by Body-Mind Centering, Feldenkrais, and social, racial, and queer justice movements. Sky is also a member of Collective Avoidance and other creative collectives.

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Acknowledgements

A heartfelt thank you to all our incredible Festival funders, partners, and supporters! Your unwavering commitment and generosity—through countless hours of guidance, invaluable skills, creative contributions, and financial and in-kind support—have made this year's Scottish Dementia Arts Festival a remarkable success.

Thanks to each of you, we're celebrating the creativity and resilience of people living with dementia for the second consecutive year, and the future is looking brighter than ever. To our phenomenal Festival performers, facilitators, and artists: thank you for sharing your immense talent with us over the past four days. Your contributions have truly brought this Festival to life.

Together, we're building real collaborative partnerships that inspire others to see dementia in a new light and champion the autonomy of people with dementia, supporting their right to live meaningful, culturally rich lives on their own terms.

Here's to the Scottish Dementia Arts Festival 2025—can't wait to see you there, DAFers!

Dawn Irvine

Creative Director (Projects)



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