



Do you **DaDa?**

**Accessible formats of this brochure are available on request, please contact:**

North West Disability Arts Forum  
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[www.nwdaf.co.uk](http://www.nwdaf.co.uk)

We aim to make all events accessible.  
Contact a steward if you need help during the festival.



# DaDaFest International 08

A stunning festival with a host of talented artists and performers from all around the world

Main Festival **4th – 7th September**  
[www.nwdaf.co.uk](http://www.nwdaf.co.uk)

**Tickets available from:**

The Bluecoat Box Office Telephone 0151 702 5324  
[www.thebluecoat.org.uk](http://www.thebluecoat.org.uk) or [www.nwdaf.co.uk](http://www.nwdaf.co.uk)



## Festival highlights:

**Ju Gosling aka Ju 90** Internationally-known artist explores the idea of normality [See page 2](#)

**Kevin Connolly** A photographer born without legs who uses a skateboard has recorded people's reactions [See page 7](#)

**Denise Leigh** Winner of Channel 4's *Operatunity* performs at St George's Hall with accordion virtuoso **Stefan Andrusyschyn** [See page 10](#)

**DaDaLesque** An edgy Burlesque show with world-famous stars [See page 16](#)

**Heavy Load** A punk rock band with some learning disabled musicians at The Picket [See page 10](#)

**Beauty and the Beast** An evening-length live art theatre piece (18+) [See page 14](#)

**Claire Cunningham** Aerial dance takes on a whole new meaning with astounding crutch-based performances [See page 11](#)

**Oska Bright** A mini film festival and masterclass with learning disabled people [See page 6](#)

[www.nwdaf.co.uk](http://www.nwdaf.co.uk)



# Welcome to DaDaFest International 08

This year's festival promises an amazing and exciting line up of events



The warmest of welcomes to this year's DaDaFest. We are thrilled to bring you such an excellent line up for a truly International 2008 programme, with artists and performers from around the world. There's something for everyone here, from family-friendly puppet shows, to thought-provoking artworks about normality, right through to racy Burlesque, strictly for grown-ups only!

There are several things that we've changed this year to make the festival bigger and better than ever before in its eighth year. DaDaFest has a new main venue at the A Foundation, an atmospheric site where we can close the streets, provide complete accessibility and showcase some truly inspirational Deaf and Disability artists and performers. And artists are drawn from even further afield to give a global perspective of Deaf and Disability arts.

Please take a look at our exciting programme and get your tickets soon, they're bound to go fast!

Lastly, thanks to our main funders, Arts Council England (NW) and Liverpool Culture Company – your support is appreciated!

**Ruth Gould**  
CEO North West Disability Arts Forum (NWDAF),  
organising body of DaDaFest International 2008



DaDaFest International brings to the heart of Liverpool's Capital of Culture celebrations the unique flavour of the best and brightest of cutting-edge Deaf and Disability arts.

With more than 15 new works on show, a guest list of artists from all over the globe, a programme that ranges from cutting-edge live artworks and performance to Grand Opera, from film premieres to puppets and street acts this year's DaDaFest holds something for everyone.

As befits the year when Liverpool holds its year-long party this is the largest festival of its type ever staged in the UK and it reflects like never before the exciting, challenging and entertaining work being carried out nationally and internationally.

On a personal note, nothing like this ever gets done by one person. DaDaFest has a great team working to deliver the festival and I'd like to thank them all for all the hard work everyone has put in to make this a watershed event in the history of Deaf and Disability Arts.

Come along to the A Foundation and join in the celebration.

**Garry Robson**  
Artistic Director, DaDaFest International 2008

## Tickets

**Full Festival Pass** £55.00 / £27.50 concs.  
Excludes separately ticketed events

**Day Pass** £16.50 / £8.25 concs.  
Excludes separately ticketed events

### Separately Ticketed Events

**Denise Leigh** £11.00 / £5.50 concs.  
**DaDaLesque** £11.00 / £5.50 concs.  
**Laurence Clark** £11.00 / £5.50 concs.  
**FACT** £4.00 / £3.00 concs.

(Concessions for unwaged, under 16 or over 65)

### Tickets available from:

The Bluecoat Box Office  
**Telephone:** 0151 702 5324  
**In person:** The Bluecoat, School Lane,  
Liverpool, L1 3BX  
**Online:** [www.thebluecoat.org.uk](http://www.thebluecoat.org.uk)  
or [www.nwdaf.co.uk](http://www.nwdaf.co.uk)

To get hold of your festival pass, just take your printout confirmation sheet to the Box Office located outside the A Foundation on Greenland Street, Liverpool and it will be exchanged for a wristband.

Programme was correct at the time of going to press. NWDAF cannot be held responsible for any changes. Please check with the Box Office.

Images provided courtesy of the artists and performers featured unless stated otherwise.

DaDaFest is a not-for-profit fundraising event.

## The small print

All events are first come, first served, with no allocated seating. If there is an event you particularly want to see, please arrive early to avoid disappointment.

# Exhibitions

Galleries within the A Foundation will be open from August 22nd to 7th September displaying the work of the following artists:



welcome trust

## Ju Gosling aka ju90 – Abnormal

Abnormal results from a residency at the National Institute of Medical Research (NIMR). Funded by the Wellcome Trust, it explores normality. It is a fantastic mixed media exhibition musing on the medical profession's definitions of normality and proposing a new 'Scientific Model of Disability' – a fabulously challenging and confrontational work.

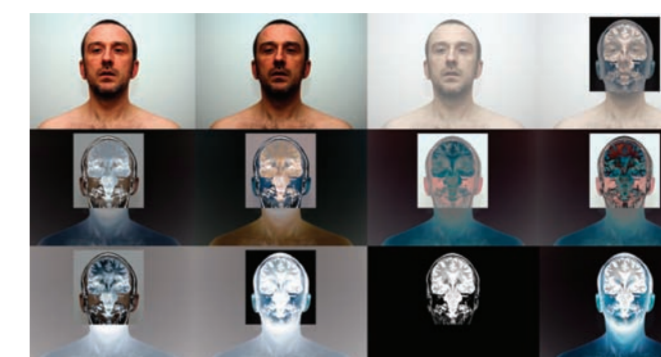
**Ju Gosling aka ju90 – Workshop**  
What does it mean to be abnormal? Who decides? Do any of us actually feel abnormal? Celebrate your ab/normality!

**Wednesday 27th August**  
**A Foundation, Blade Factory,**  
Free, booking essential

**Contact NWDAF 0151 707 1733**  
Join artist Ju Gosling aka ju90 to explore these themes further with words and art. All welcome. Bring a packed lunch – other refreshments and all materials will be provided. BSL interpretation and other access provision available on request at the time of booking.

## Tanya Raabe **DaDaFirst!**

At DaDaFest Tanya Raabe presents 'Who'S Who' - Defining the Faces of an Arts Movement', a collection of portraits challenging the notion of portraiture using disability aesthetics and visual language. Join Tanya as she creates a new painting of a well-known face on site and don't miss Artist in Conversation with Tanya and Julie McNamara.



## Gus Cummins **DaDaFirst!**

Gus is a visual artist who is a previous winner of a DaDaFest Visual artist award. A film about the condition of epilepsy, a largely invisible impairment. This will be presented at The A Foundation throughout the Festival with Gus giving an artist's talk on the Saturday evening.

## Alison Jones **DaDaFirst!**

**4th – 7th September**  
**First Viewings: Thursday 4th**  
**September 2 – 5pm**

This sound installation will be produced from a series of audio-interpretations of selected work including erotic drawings by Gustav Klimt, which have been at Tate Liverpool from 30th May to 31st August. Klimt's work, much of which was created for the male gaze, will be described from the female perspective, employing the female gaze to undertake voyeurism by proxy to the non-sighted female artist.



## Wolfgang Temmel **DaDaFirst!**

In 1983 the Austrian artist Wolfgang Temmel wrote "An Art History". This work consists of a few lines and represents nothing but the description of the creative process. Wolfgang is translating this into all languages (around 2,000!) including, for DaDaFest, into BSL. These videos will be shown on public video walls during the festival in Liverpool.

## Snap!

**4th – 7th September**

Snap! is Mencap's annual photo and story competition, in its sixth year which showcases the talents of people with a learning disability. The photographs are either taken by or feature someone with a learning disability and are accompanied by a short descriptive story. Snap! is touring venues across the UK throughout 2008 and early 2009. Visit [www.mencap.org.uk/snap](http://www.mencap.org.uk/snap) for more information on Snap!

## Gallery Opening Times

**22nd August – 7th September**

Wednesday – Sunday  
Noon – 6pm



# Venues

**Main festival site... A Foundation, Greenland Street, Liverpool plus a collection of other great venues host this year's festival...**

## A Foundation

(divided into The Coachshed, The Furnace, The Office, The Playroom and The Blade Factory)  
**37 Greenland Street, Liverpool, L1 0BY**  
[www.afoundation.org.uk](http://www.afoundation.org.uk)

Most of the events at this year's DaDaFest are held at The A Foundation in the city's Independent District. The space is divided into The Coachshed (including The Playroom), The Furnace (including The Office) and the Blade Factory.

There are also events taking place outside the A Foundation as part of DaDa in the Yard, with the street partly closed off to give a carnival atmosphere.

**Parking:** Ample inc Blue Badge only  
**Buses:** 82, 82A (stop Great George Street) & 27 (stop St. James Street)  
**Taxis able to drop off:** Yes (see map on page 5)  
**Trains:** No

## The Bluecoat

**School Lane, Liverpool, L1 3BX**  
[www.thebluecoat.org.uk](http://www.thebluecoat.org.uk)

Three events take place at the newly-refurbished Bluecoat. The space is divided into a main 'Hub' space with a café, a spacious and accessible garden with seating areas, as well as performance and gallery spaces.

**Parking:** Drop off only outside the venue  
**Buses:** Hanover Street (82 & 86) 74 & 75  
**Train:** Central underground station or Lime Street mainline station

## St George's Hall

**Lime Street, Liverpool, L1 1JJ**  
[www.stgeorghall.eu](http://www.stgeorghall.eu)

Fully accessible with BSL interpreters for the one event being held here (Denise Leigh and Stefan Andrusyschyn).

**Parking:** Limited but drop off allowed  
**Buses:** Queen's Square Bus Station  
**Trains:** Lime Street (underground and mainline)

## FACT

**88 Wood Street, Liverpool, L1 4DQ**  
[www.fact.co.uk](http://www.fact.co.uk) **Booking line: 08717 042 063**

**Parking:** Limited but drop off allowed.  
**Buses:** Leece Street  
**Trains:** Central Station (underground)

## The Picket

**61 Jordan Street, Liverpool, L1 0BW**  
**(entrance on New Bird Street)**  
[www.savethepicket.com](http://www.savethepicket.com)

This club venue is perfect for the rebellious events being held here. It is fully accessible.

**Parking:** Ample plus additional dedicated Blue Badge spaces. Drop off allowed at all times  
**Buses:** 82A (stops on Great George Street)  
**Trains:** No

## Treasure House Theatre

**World Museum, William Brown Street, Liverpool, L3 8EN**  
[www.liverpoolmuseums.org.uk/wml](http://www.liverpoolmuseums.org.uk/wml)

Within the World Museum the space is fully accessible.

**Parking:** Limited but includes Blue Badge, drop off allowed at all times  
**Buses:** Queen's Square Bus Station  
**Trains:** Lime Street Station (mainline and underground)

**Contemporary Urban Centre (CUC)**  
**41– 51 Greenland Street, Liverpool, L1 0BS**  
[www.novasscarman.org](http://www.novasscarman.org)

The CUC is a fantastic, newly-refurbished building in the Independent District with a café, pub, and restaurant. The venue is fully accessible and a BSL interpreter will be available.  
 Transport – see A Foundation

**Merseyside Society of Deaf People**  
**Queens Drive, West Derby, Liverpool, L13 ODJ**  
[www.msdp.org.uk](http://www.msdp.org.uk)

Within the Deaf Centre is a bar and performance facilities.

**Parking:** Free and with Blue Badge only spaces. Drop off allowed at all times  
**Buses:** Well served by buses from Queen's Square (12, 13) and 15 stopping at the Jolly Miller pub; 60 and (81) goes down Queen's Drive in both directions  
**Trains:** No

**For all local transport info: Merseytravel**  
**Telephone 0871 200 2233**  
[www.merseytravel.gov.uk](http://www.merseytravel.gov.uk)

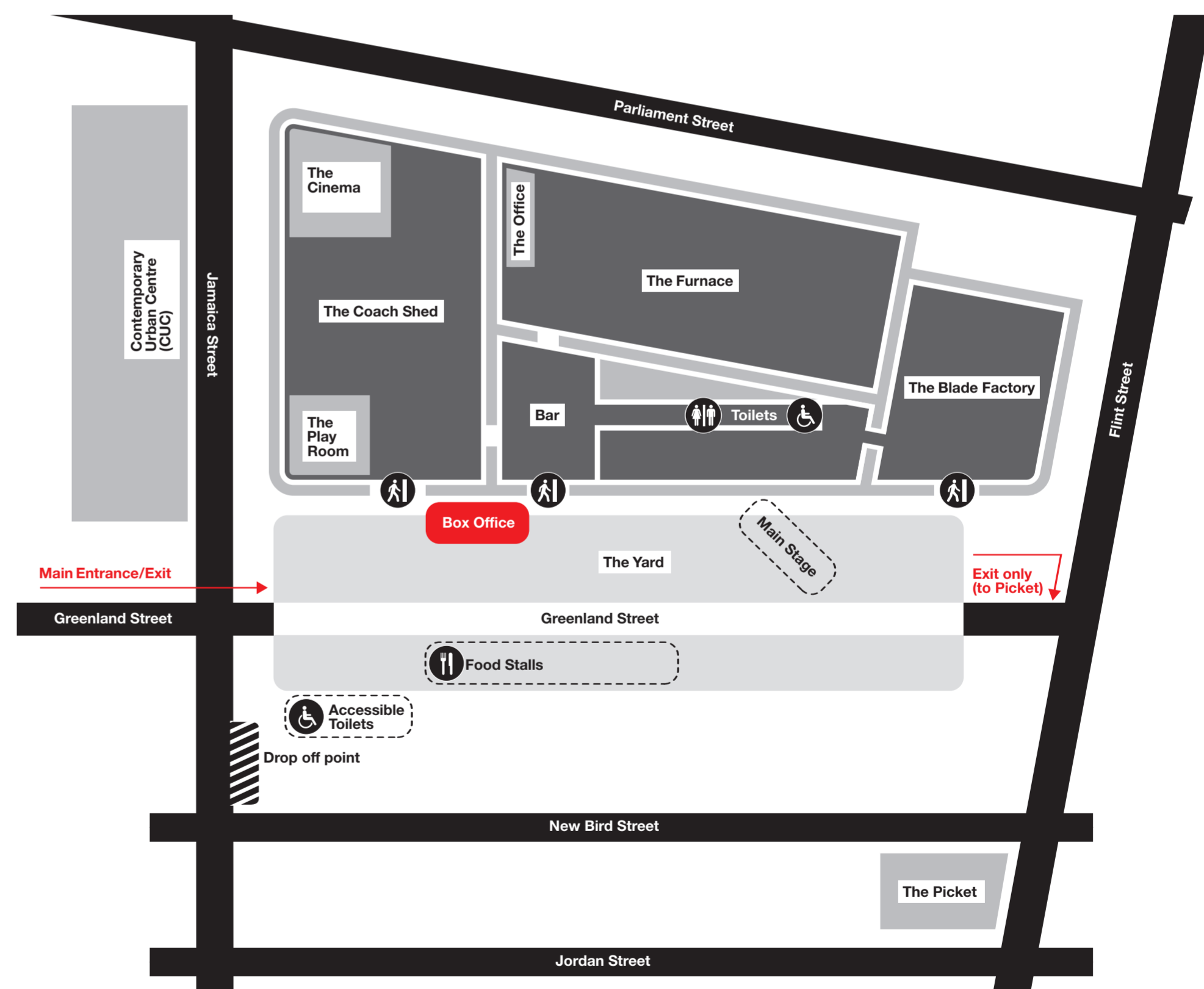
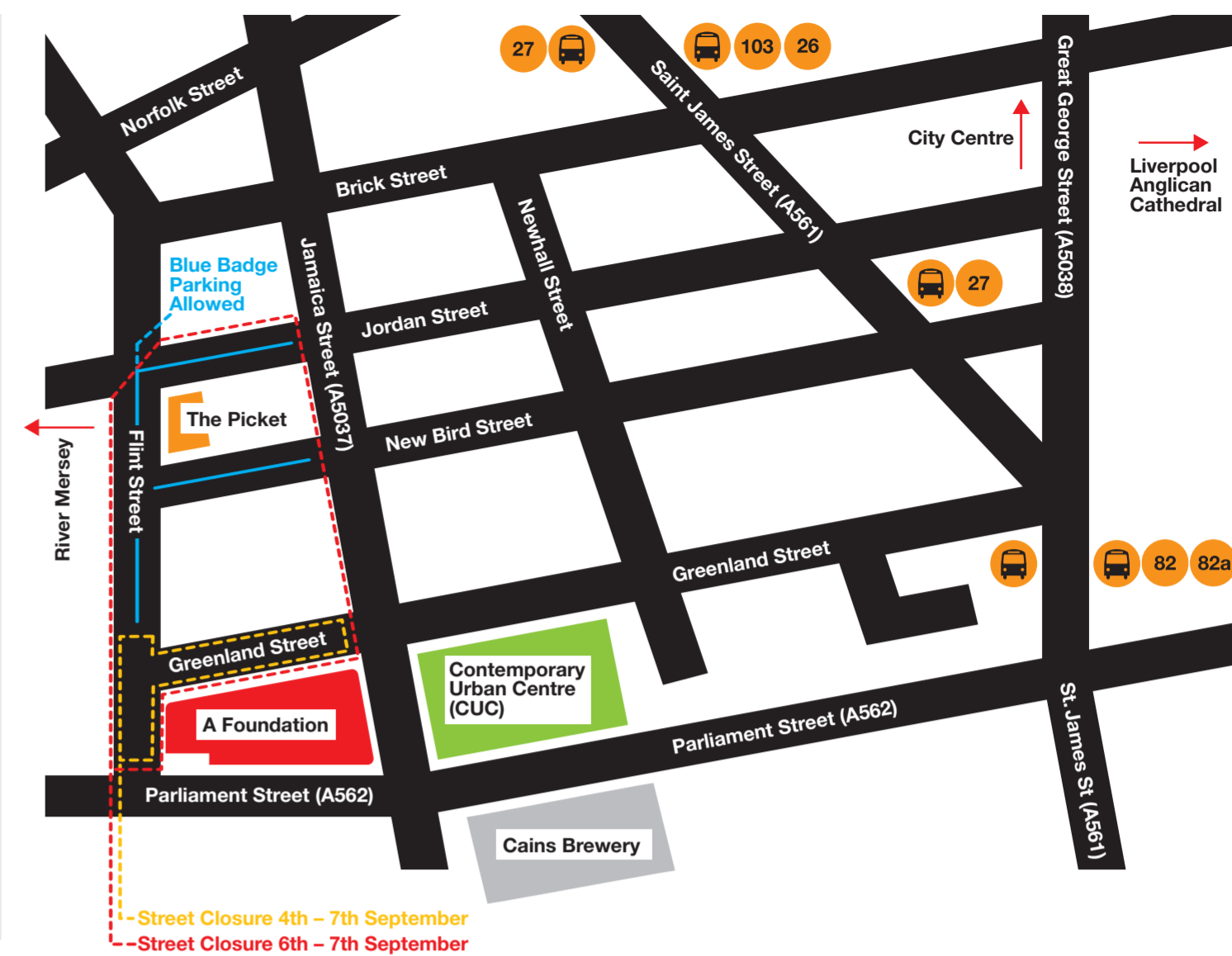
Please enter the festival at the main entrance on Greenland Street where you will be required to show your festival pass or purchase tickets on the door.

The main festival site at A Foundation will be signposted from main roads around the area – look out for the brown AA signs.

Parking around the surrounding streets is at owner's own risk.

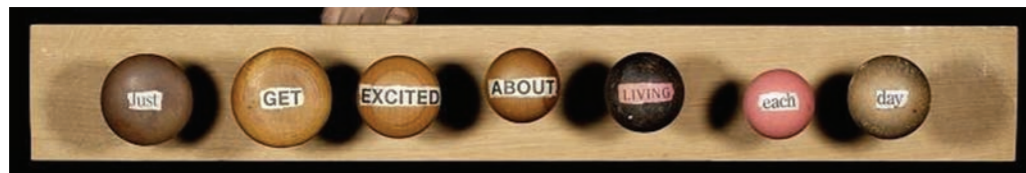
Wheelchair accessible buses

Events are fully accessible





## Festival opens at Noon



### First Viewings:

#### DASH

A Foundation, The Coachshed, 2 – 5pm

Here DaDaFest presents the work of DASH, a rural arts project based in Shrewsbury. The featured artists will be:

**Jenny Brown** is an artist maker using found objects to create art works about her vision of the world. She explores texture and spaces in strange environments.

**David King** is a digital artist using 3D computer graphics and digital photography, concentrating on anatomical form and the metamorphosis of mathematics for his images.

**Joy Tudor** has a background in textiles and uses her love of colour, texture and form to move and manipulate in a digital world, exploring ideas that are influenced directly by her environment.



### First Viewings:

#### Martin Bruch

#### Window/three movements

A-Foundation, The Blade Factory, 2 – 5pm

Other people lean out the window and look into the yard below. I sit by the window and look over the parapet... For ten years Martin occupied a fourth storey apartment on Margaretenstraße, carefully planned and equipped for a wheelchair, but was seldom home. He did not think much about the amazing view over/in the yard until his retirement. Now he enjoys the view every day.



NORTHWEST  
VISION MEDIA  
create the bigger picture

#### Oska Bright Masterclass

A Foundation, The Coachshed, 10am – Noon  
£4, Bookings through NWDAF, 0151 707 1733

Learning disabled people have made five fantastic films which are being shown at DaDaFest, but here they show you how to make your own. Arts organisation Carousel has worked with Junk TV to create the films and they are now on tour around the UK. We are thrilled to receive them at DaDaFest this year. This event has received funding from Northwest Vision. **Booking essential.**

### First Viewings: Venture Arts

A Foundation,  
The Coachshed  
2 – 5pm

DaDa First!

Venture Arts is a small visual arts centre in Hulme, Manchester, which provides art practice opportunities for learning disabled people. The idea of 'Globe' is to show a world of different textures and subtleties through an art piece. Standing on its own, and approximately a metre in diameter, this piece will rotate and be touchable by the general public and will challenge the senses.

### First Viewings:

#### Alison Jones

A Foundation,  
The Coachshed  
2 – 5pm

This sound installation will be produced from a series of audio-interpretations of selected work including erotic drawings by Gustav Klimt.



### First Viewings:

#### Kevin Connolly

A Foundation, The Coachshed, 2–5pm

DaDa First!

Everyone tries to explain to themselves the things that baffle them. For the same reason we want to know how someone different, strange, or disfigured came to be as they are. But before any of that – we stare. Kevin is a photographer who has no legs and uses a skateboard for transportation. He has recorded people's reaction to him across 15 countries, 31 cities, with 32,000 photos that result in 1 stare. As well as his Rolling Exhibition being part of DaDaFest, Kevin is doing an artist's talk on Friday at 3.30 – 5pm at A Foundation in the Coachshed.

#### So you wanna be a DaDa Star?

The Picket, 2 – 5pm

Open mic sessions and workshops, compered by poet **Jim McSharry** and American Disability Arts activist **Johnny Crescendo**. This first session features a workshop by Liverpool's own **Wicked Fish Theatre Company** looking at how they are developing a show based around Kafka's Metamorphosis.

#### Artists in Conversation Tanya Raabe and Mat Fraser with Julie McNamara

A Foundation,  
The Coachshed  
5 – 6pm



#### Tanya Raabe

A Foundation,  
The Blade Factory  
Noon – 2pm

Live portrait painting.



#### Danny Diva

Merseyside Society  
of Deaf People (MSDP)  
3–5pm

DaDa First!

Presented by Fittings Multi-Media Arts. This new show is inspired by the life of legendary BlooLips performer Diva Dan. 'A coal miner's son finds his inner swan. As a Drag Queen. He's a Deaf drag queen who loves to sing. He joins a drag troupe. He is the star. It is the early nineties and he dies. It's before the pills. Danny Diva dies of AIDS.'

DaDa First!

#### Film followed by Q&A A Film About Happiness

by Heavy Load  
A Foundation,  
The Coachshed  
5 – 7pm

Shot over two years as this punk band record their first album The Queen Mother's Dead, the film is a comedy of conflicting ambitions, capturing the sweat and romance of playing in a band. Heavy Load have been called Brighton's answer to The Ramones. They're also unique, made up of musicians with and without learning disabilities.



Photo by Morgan White





**Laurence Clarke**  
**Spastic Fantastic**

**DaDaFirst!**

The Bluecoat, 8pm  
Tickets £11 / £5.50

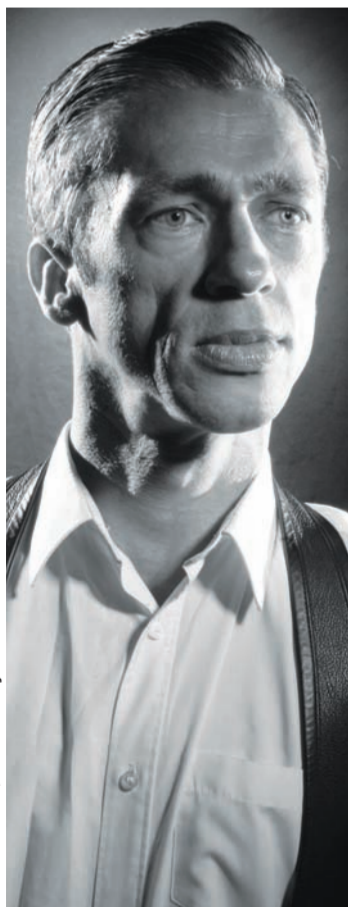
Hot wheeled from the Edinburgh Fringe, the show tells the story of how Laurence, as someone with cerebral palsy, has attempted to reclaim the word 'spastic'. As with his previous shows, it combines stand-up comedy with fiendish hidden camera stunts. With fantastic reviews from national critics for previous shows, this is a performance which will stun and entertain in equal measure.



Film followed by Q&A **DaDaFirst!**  
**The Last American Freakshow**

A Foundation, The Coachshed  
7.30 – 9.30pm

Film followed by Q&A with director Richard Butchins. Careering across America in a ramshackle old school bus, run on stolen vegetable oil, starring such self-defined freaks as The Lobster Girl, The Half Woman, Dame Demure, and The Elephant Man this is a powerful road movie. Butchins' documentary was originally scheduled to be screened in a joint event with the London Disability Arts Forum and Bafta, but Bafta refused to screen the movie saying "it raised too many questions..."



**Sideshow**

with Mat Fraser, Amelie Soleil, Liz Carr, Blind Gurl and the Crips plus Heavy Load. The Mermaid will also be relaxing in The Office. A Foundation, The Furnace, 9.30pm - Midnight

Performer Mat Fraser will be compering the Sideshow event, revisiting the old freakshow and carnival history of Disability arts. As well as the first performance anywhere of a real live mermaid, other performers include:

- Amelie Soleil:** circus and Burlesque performer.
- Liz Carr:** Liz is a crip activist and actor.
- Blind Gurl and the Crips:** A fantastic musical cabaret outfit produced by Sounds of Progress, a Glasgow-based music theatre project. They have already won a prestigious Herald Angel at the Edinburgh Festival.
- Heavy Load:** Learning disabled punk band.

**DaDaShorts**

A Foundation, The Coachshed  
10pm – Midnight

A collection of short films by Deaf and Disability Artists.

Friday 5th September

Oska Bright Kaite O'Reilly Froggastic Ramesh Meyyappan Horizontal Heroines DaDaStar  
Claire Cunningham Crossings Festival Pass: £55 / £27.50 Day Pass: £16.50 / £8.25



**Oska Bright Screenings**

Contemporary Urban Centre (CUC)  
10.30am – 2.30pm

Showings at 10.30am, 11.15am, 12.45pm and 1.30pm. This event has received funding from Northwest Vision.



**Reflect, Muse, Imagine**

A Foundation, The Coachshed  
11am – 12.30pm  
continues 1.15 – 2.45pm  
FREE event

Keynote speakers to include Steve Mannix and the Cultural Olympiad. Reflect, Muse, Imagine is a series of debates with keynote speakers throughout the Festival discussing its key themes in relation to the Deaf and Disability arts movement in the UK and internationally. The first (across two sessions) discusses the Cultural Olympiad and the role of Deaf and Disability Arts in representing the breadth of artistic work in the UK.

**Aaron Williamson** **DaDaFirst!**

Throughout the 5th & 6th  
Watch out for the 'barrier man' on and around the festival site!

Aaron Williamson is providing a live performance art piece near The A Foundation. "You can't come through here, you'll have to go round the side or the back..." These are probably the most common words experienced by disabled people. Aaron will set up tape barriers and in an act of social reversal, disabled people will be allowed through but the 'normal' members of the public will be advised to take a short diversion.



**Crossings** **DaDaFirst!**

by Julie McNamara  
Treasure House Theatre, World Museum Liverpool  
2 – 3.15pm

Performance poet, playwright and producer Julie McNamara presents a new piece 'Crossings'. A composite of stories gathered from Merseyside and from the walls of museums in Liverpool and New Zealand. Set on a ghost ship, the story of three women's voices born hundreds of years apart – haunting the notorious Zong.



**Tanya Raabe**

A Foundation, The Blade Factory  
Noon – 2pm

Live portrait painting continues.

**Have lunch with a Mermaid!**

A Foundation, The Furnace Office  
1pm

Bring your own sarnies, but no fish!

**Artist's Talk Kevin Connolly**

A Foundation, The Coachshed  
3.30 – 5pm

See Thursday's listings for more information.





**So you wanna be a DaDa Star?**  
The Picket, 2 – 5pm

Open mic sessions and workshops with performance poet **Jim McSharry** and featuring **The Unusual Stage School** from Wales.

**The Mezzanine** **DaDaFirst!**  
by **Simon Startin**  
A Foundation, The Coachshed, 6 – 7.30pm

A rehearsed reading of a new stage adaptation by Simon Startin, of Nicholson's Baker's acclaimed novel. The original novel presented the thoughts and memories of a young office-worker as he ascends an escalator to the mezzanine of the office building where he is employed in his lunch break. In the Playroom at the A Foundation, followed by a Q&A.

**Kaite O'Reilly**  
Off the Page Masterclass  
Merseyside Play Action Council,  
1– 27 Bridport Street,  
Liverpool, L3 BQF  
Invitation only event

Inter:View, a partnership between NWDaf and Liverpool Biennial of Contemporary Art, tutored by Kaite O'Reilly, using the work of visual artist Otto Karvonen as stimulus. The project showcases the work of seven 'Off the Page' writers in an exciting web-based endeavour - [www.biennial.com/interview](http://www.biennial.com/interview)

**Laurence Clarke**  
**Spastic Fantastic**  
The Bluecoat, 8pm  
Tickets £11 / £5.50

See Thursday's listings for more information.



**Boygirlfruitflower Productions present DaDaFirst!**  
**A (Gay Disabled Transsexual) Love Story as told to the ticket collector at Alton Towers**  
by **Steven Keyworth**

A Foundation, The Playroom, 9 – 10pm

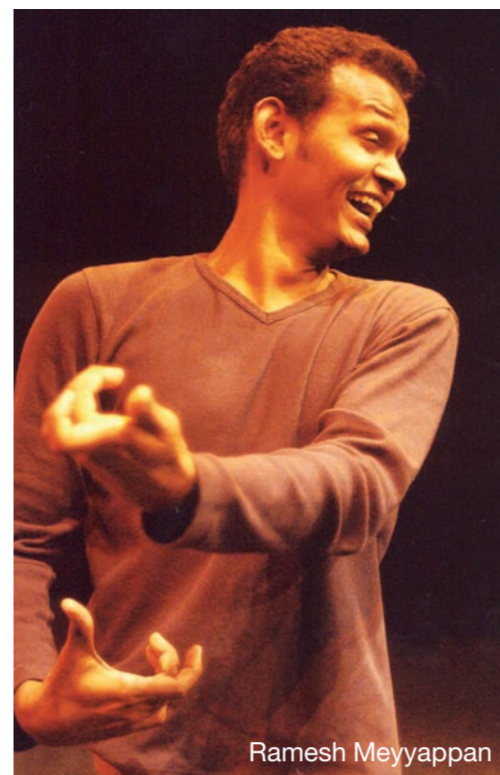
A new version of the ground-breaking comedy from Steve Keyworth, (writer for Eastenders and The Royal Court), specially produced for DaDaFest.

*"profoundly moving... a pure pleasure to watch"*  
*"...as good a play as I've ever seen about the absurdity of prejudice"*



**Horizontal Heroines** **DaDaFirst!**  
with **Denise Leigh** and **Stefan Andrusyschyn**  
and special guest **Kinny Gardner**  
St George's Hall, 8pm  
Tickets £11 / £5.50

The only event in the amazing St George's Hall, the winner of Channel 4's Operatunity show, Denise Leigh, will be presenting her new recital work "Horizontal Heroines" with Ukrainian musical virtuoso Stefan Andrusyschyn. The title is a tongue in cheek reference to how many opera heroines sing their final arias either dead or dying and is an opportunity for Denise and Stefan to put together a programme of some of the finest works, both classical and modern, in the international repertoire.



**Evolution** **DaDaFirst!**  
with **Ramesh Meyyappan, Common Ground and Claire Cunningham**  
A-Foundation, The Furnace, 9 – 11pm

Liverpool's own **Common Ground** will be performing a newly-commissioned sign dance work responding to the Furnace and receiving its world premiere on the Friday night.

**Ramesh Meyyappan** (Singapore) Physical Theatre performer Ramesh will also be restaging his stunning version of Dario Fo's Mister Buffo at The Evolution event.

**Claire Cunningham** Award-winning Scottish dancer and performer Claire Cunningham will be presenting two works at DaDaFest this year. The first is Evolution. Finding inspiration from her work with Jess Curtis and Bill "Crutchmaster" Shannon, Claire has created these beautiful gravity-defying works that gently explore the possibilities of dance and flight in a body with perceived physical limitations. Claire was the first and only Disabled Artist to win a prestigious "Creative Scotland" award from the Scottish Arts Council.



**Jazz, Blues and Beyond**  
with **Jazz Orient, Tom Doughty and Blind Gurl and the Crips**  
A Foundation, The Festival Bar, 11.30pm – 1am

**Jazz Orient** Late night jazz with a touch of Eastern promise in the Furnace on the Friday night from sitar virtuoso Baluji Srivastav and his crew.

**Tom Doughty** Playing lap slide to International standard, his music conveys sound, feeling and emotion to leave audiences buzzing. His styles include Blues, Roots, Standards, Self penned. Some comments include: *"We the audience were simply buzzing, after all that, and we went home totally satisfied having heard top class Blues from a first rate practitioner. He is a must see performer."* Lewis A Harris - Folk Northwest.

**Blind Gurl and the Crips** Scottish Cabaret act.



**Frogstastic**  
with **Heavy Load**  
The Picket,  
7.30 – 11pm

This is a club night run by the Heroes Project to provide a premier club experience for learning disabled people their friends and guests. Featuring the fantastic learning disabled punk band from Brighton, Heavy Load, it will be a night to remember.

**DaDaShorts**  
A Foundation,  
The Coachshed  
11pm – Midnight

A collection of short films by Deaf and Disability Artists.



# Saturday 6th September

**Odyssey Johnny Crescend Krazy Kat Open Arts Choir Mat Fraser Liz Bentley Paper People**  
**The Unusual Stage School Festival Pass: £55 / £27.50 Day Pass: £16.50 / £8.25**

## Reflect, Muse, Imagine

**A Foundation, The Coachshed**  
11am – 1pm  
**FREE event**

*"If I were you I wouldn't start from there: Where now for Deaf and Disability Arts".*

Keynote speakers from Vision 21. Reflect, Muse, Imagine is a series of debates with keynote speakers throughout the Festival.



## Have lunch with a Mermaid!

**A Foundation, The Furnace Office**  
12.30pm

Bring your own sarnies, but no fish!



## Tanya Raabe

**A Foundation, The Blade Factory**  
Noon – 2pm

Tanya Raabe continues her live portrait painting.



Paper People



Johnny Crescendo



The Alexandras



Denise Leigh

## DaDa in the Yard

**with the Alexandras, Wizards of Wind, Johnny Crescendo, Tom Doughty, Denise Leigh and Stefan Andrusyschyn, Open Arts Choir and Paper People.**

**Outside the A Foundation, Noon – 5pm**

**The Alexandras** Wacky signed song Divas featuring Caroline Parker present their visually stunning disco driven outdoor roadshow.

**Wizards of Wind** (Keith Preston and Tony Doyle) - A unique and historical project bringing together tradition, music, comedy, technology and disability innovation in a beautiful exploration of one of the western world's most famous theatrical characters... the amazing Mr Punch! For all the family.

**Johnny Crescendo** Renowned Disabled Arts activists now based in the US.

**Tom Doughty** Based on slide guitar held lap style - a new way of playing, using adapted picks and a glass tube.

**Denise Leigh and Stefan Andrusyschyn** Channel 4's *Operatunity* winner and accordion virtuoso perform together.

**Open Arts Choir** (Northern Ireland) A vibrant inclusive community choir for singers aged 6 or over, regardless of disability, race or past musical experience. Belfast-based and eight years young, it has more than 24 members. Mainly acapella, with an eclectic choral repertoire. Having sung at Cork's European Capital of Culture's celebrations, they will now join Liverpool as we have the culture crown in 2008. As Seen on TV in the hit show 'Last Choir Standing'.

As seen on TV!

**Paper People** Street theatre aimed at young people. The performers are newspaper vendors, and will cut and manipulate their newspapers into a variety of characters and landscapes that lift off the page and come to life. Combining traditional Chinese paper cutting techniques with more contemporary 3D paper art techniques.

## Petrushka

**by Krazy Kat**  
**A Foundation, The Coachshed**  
Performances at 2pm and 4pm

Featuring Lindsay Kemp, principle guest artist Kinny Gardner, and directed by Sign Dance Diva Caroline Parker, Krazy Kat present their new family show. A warm and wacky retelling of the old Russian folk tale Petrushka with puppets and fully-integrated sign language.



**Boygirfruitflower Productions present**  
**A (Gay Disabled Transsexual) Love Story as told to the ticket collector at Alton Towers by Steven Keyworth**  
**A Foundation, The Coachshed,**  
7.30pm

See Friday's listings for more information.



Rob Roy

**Artist's Talk**  
**Gus Cummins**  
**A Foundation, The Blade Factory**  
6 – 7pm

**Tyst Theatre present**  
**Odyssey**  
**A Foundation, The Coachshed, 6 – 7pm**

Tyst, with their Director Josette Bushell-Mingo, will be showing a documentary of the making of their epic production of the Odyssey, and talking about the making of the show. This spectacular mixed media performance featuring leading Deaf performers from all over Europe has been a huge success with critics and audiences alike and is undoubtedly one of the most ambitious shows ever put together under the banner of Deaf and Disability Arts.



## A Celebration of Deaf Arts

compered by **Ramesh Meyyappan, Rob Roy and Neslysim Divaldo**

**A Foundation, The Furnace, 1 – 6pm**

Featuring international artists of the calibre of Rob Roy (Australia) and Czech performance company Neslysim Divaldo and compered by Ramesh Meyyappan, DaDaFest presents the very best of Deaf Performing Arts.

## Films at FACT

**FACT, 88 Wood Street, Liverpool, L1 4DQ**  
**Bookings: 08717 042063 info: 0151 707 4450**  
**www.fact.co.uk**

No charge for festival pass holders and tickets £4/£3 to non-pass holders

**5pm The Last American Freakshow** (R. Butchins)  
**7pm Special People** (J. Edgar) plus Q & A.

Films shift to the Box in FACT (Foundation for Art and Creative Technology), for a Liverpool premiere of **Special People**, with filmmaker Justin Edgar in attendance for a Q&A. Plus a second chance to catch stunning documentary **The Last American Freakshow**.

## Special People

When a filmmaker embarks on an education project with disabled teenagers he imagines a heart-rending opus of triumph over adversity. His sassy charges are less than impressed. Sharp, funny and touching, this is a feel-good comedy with a subversive glint in its eye.

## Fittings Multimedia Arts present **DaDaFirst!** **Welcome to the Institute: 'Hidden Voices, Real Lives'**

**The Bluecoat, 7pm**

This multi-sensory sound and vision installation collaging the memories of ordinary people of their time in Day Centres, homes and institutions will be running throughout the week at The Bluecoat. Join Alfred the Archivist for a special closing event on the Saturday as popular beat combo, **Madame Friend and the Friendlies** bring the week to a close with a social free 'n' easy. Tea and biccies served in the Hub at The Bluecoat.



**DaDaRave**  
with Chinaman,  
DJ Geezer and  
Grateful Handz  
The Picket  
11.30pm – 2am

Pioneers of Deaf Rave in the UK will be whipping up a storm at the Picket late into Saturday night where you'll feel the vibrations through every fibre of your body!



Claire Cunningham



Julie Atlas Muz, Photo by Ted D'Ottavio

**DaDa Variety**  
with Liz Bentley, Johnny Crescendo and Jim McSharry, hosted by the Unusual Stage School  
The Picket, 7.30 – 10pm

**Liz Bentley** A sit-down comedienne who works on the comedy, cabaret and poetry circuit. Her acts include story, song (with ukulele and Casio keyboard) poetry and competition.

**Johnny Crescendo** Renowned Disabled Arts activists now based in the US.

**Jim McSharry** Performance poet.

The Unusual Stage School is open to any Disabled person or Deaf person aged 18 or over living in Wales and runs residential courses covering a whole range of theatrical skills for young people with a serious desire to develop their performance.

**Hothouse in the Furnace**  
with Open Arts Choir and Claire Cunningham, includes **Beauty and the Beast** by Julie Atlas Muz & Mat Fraser. Hosted by Liz Bentley  
A Foundation, The Furnace  
10pm – Midnight

**Open Arts Choir** A vibrant inclusive community choir.

**Claire Cunningham: **DaDaFirst!****  
Mobile is a work about choices and the unseen, subtle influences that shape my life. External and internal factors that affect where I go, what I do, when I do it and how I do it. Claire takes to the skies in a new aerial work commissioned for DaDaFest.

**Mat Fraser and Julie Atlas Muz in Beauty and the Beast **DaDaFirst!****

What else could you get when a born freak and a former beauty queen make a fairy tale? DaDaFest has commissioned Mat Fraser and Julie Atlas Muz to develop and complete their sell-out success from the Zagreb "Extravagant Bodies" art festival into a new piece - "Beauty and the Beast". Mat is a TV-star and former Thalidomide Ninja and he joins forces with Julie Atlas Muz, an American performance artist (Miss Exotic World and Miss Coney Island 2006) to create an evening-length live art theatre piece that resurrects the classic fairy tale in a way that Disney never dreamt!

\*Contains scenes of a sexual nature\*

**DaDaShorts**  
A Foundation,  
The Coachshed  
9 – 11pm

A collection of short films by Deaf and Disability Artists.

Sunday 7th September

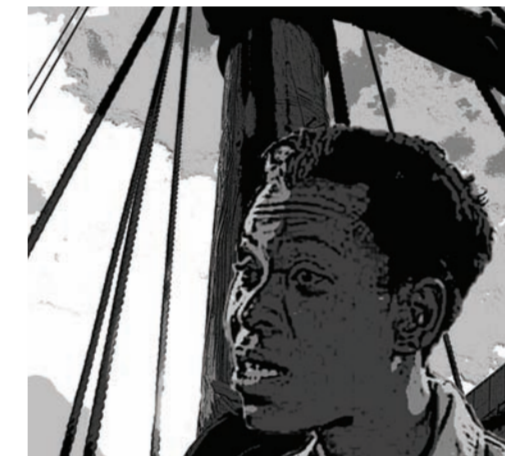
The Crowntoppers Millie Dollar Liz Carr Jim McSharry Nabil Shaban Amelie Soleil  
DaDa in the Yard Diva Hollywood Festival Pass: £55 / £27.50 Day Pass: £16.50 / £8.25

**Reflect, Muse, Imagine**  
A Foundation,  
The Coachshed  
10am – Noon, FREE event

Keynote speakers will be Phillip Patston from New Zealand via digital link up and esteemed artist Ju Gosling, aka ju90. Debate will centre around Momentum 09, a Deaf and Disability Arts festival in New Zealand next year and the ideas around (ab)normality.

**Tanya Raabe**  
A Foundation,  
The Blade Factory  
10am – Noon

Tanya Raabe continues her live portrait painting.



**Crossings**  
by Julie McNamara  
Contemporary Urban  
Centre (CUC),  
2 – 3.15pm

Performance poet, playwright and producer Julie McNamara presents a new piece 'Crossings'. A composite of stories gathered from Merseyside and from the walls of museums in Liverpool and New Zealand. Set on a ghost ship, the story of three women's voices born hundreds of years apart – haunting the notorious Zong.

**Doctor Who and the Beast Within**  
Nabil Shaban in conversation  
with Laurence Clark  
A Foundation, The Coachshed, 1 – 2pm

Actor/writer/activist/filmmaker Nabil will be in conversation with self-confessed Dr Who fanatic Laurence Clark, reflecting on his career as a Disabled performer and recalling his star role as Sil The Evil Intergalactic Businessman in a little piece cunningly entitled "Dr Who and The Beast Within".

**DaDa in the Yard**  
with The Alexandras,  
Wizards of Wind,  
Johnny Crescendo,  
The Crowntoppers,  
Paper People and  
Laurence Clark.  
Outside the A  
Foundation, Noon – 5pm

The Crowntoppers Musicians from Crown Street Resource Centre. They won the first ever Community Arts DaDaFest Award in 2003. Festival regulars since 2001, the group have empowered, created and remain a force to be reckoned with.

See Saturday's listings for more information.



Diva Hollywood



Millie Dollar

**DaDaLesque**  
with Millie Dollar, Liz Carr, Julie Atlas Muz,  
Mat Fraser, Diva Hollywood and Amelie Soleil  
The Bluecoat, 8 – 11.30pm  
Tickets £11 / £5.50

DaDaFest's foray into the world of Burlesque, once again lead by the estimable Millie Dollar, will feature new collaborations especially commissioned by DaDaFest.

**Petrushka**  
by Krazy Kat  
A Foundation,  
The Coachshed  
Noon & 2pm

See Saturday's listings for more information.

**So you wanna be a DaDa Star?**  
The Last Session  
The Picket, 4 – 7pm

Open mic session. Performance poet Jim McSharry and rock'n'roll hero Johnny Crescendo will lead anyone still capable of singing, dancing, joking or any other entertaining practice allowed by Liverpool's laws, in a late afternoon free 'n' easy at The Picket.



# Diary **All the events at a glance...** a great line up of talent.

## August 22nd to 7th September

**Exhibitions:** Ju Gosling aka ju90, Tanya Raabe, Wolfgang Temmel, Gus Cummins

### Thursday 4th September (see page 6, 7 & 8 for details)

#### Festival opens at Noon

10am – Noon	Oska Bright Masterclass
Noon – 2 pm	Tanya Raabe
2pm – 5pm	So You Wanna Be a DaDa star?
2pm – 5pm	First Viewings
3pm – 5pm	Danny Diva
5pm – 6pm	Artists in Conversation: Tanya Raabe and Mat Fraser with Julie McNamara
5pm – 7pm	Heavy Load
7.30 – 9.30pm	The Last American Freakshow
8pm – 9pm	Spastic Fantastic, Laurence Clark
9.30pm – Midnight	Sideshow
10pm – Midnight	DaDaShorts

### Friday 5th September (see page 9,10 & 11 for details)

Throughout 5th & 6th	Aaron Williamson
10.30am – 2.30pm	Oska Bright Screenings
11am – 12.30pm	Reflect, Muse, Imagine debate (pt.1)
Noon – 2pm	Tanya Raabe
1pm	Lunch With a Mermaid
1.15pm – 2.45pm	Reflect, Muse, Imagine debate (pt.2)
2pm – 3.15pm	Crossings, Julie McNamara
2pm – 5pm	So You Wanna Be a DaDaStar?
3.30pm – 5pm	Artist's Talk: Kevin Connolly
6pm – 7.30pm	The Mezzanine
7.30pm – 11pm	Frogtastic with Heavy Load
8pm – 9pm	Spastic Fantastic, Laurence Clark
8pm	Horizontal Heroines
9pm-10pm	A (Gay Disabled Transsexual) Love Story...
9pm – 11pm	Evolution

### Friday 5th September (see page 9,10 & 11 for details)

11pm – Midnight	DaDaShorts
11.00pm – 1am	Jazz, Blues and Beyond

### Saturday 6th September (see page 12,13 & 14 for details)

11am – 1pm	Reflect, Muse Imagine debate
12.30pm	Lunch with a Mermaid
Noon – 2pm	Tanya Raabe
2pm and 4pm	Petrushka, Krazy Kat
1pm – 6pm	A Celebration of Deaf Arts
Noon – 5pm	DaDa in the Yard
5pm	The Last American Freakshow
6pm – 7pm	Odyssey, Tyst Theatre
6pm – 7pm	Artist's talk: Gus Cummins
7.30pm – 9pm	A (Gay Disabled Transsexual) Love Story...
7pm	Special People
7pm	Welcome to the Institute: Hidden Voices, Real Lives
7.30pm – 10pm	DaDaVariety
9pm – 11pm	DaDa Shorts
10pm – Midnight	Hothouse in the Furnace Open Arts Choir, Claire Cunningham–Mobile and Beauty and the Beast
11.30pm – 2am	DaDaRave, w/ Chinaman, DJ Geezer and Grateful Handz.

### Sunday 7th September (see page 15 for full details)

10am – Noon	Reflect, Muse, Imagine debate
10am – Noon	Tanya Raabe
Noon – 5pm	DaDa in the Yard
1pm – 2pm	Doctor Who and the Beast Within
2pm – 3.15pm	Crossings, Julie McNamara
2pm and 4pm	Petrushka, Krazy Kat
4pm – 7pm	So You Wanna Be a DaDaStar?
8pm – 11.30pm	DaDaLesque



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