

Autumn arts extravaganza the Hostry Festival is set to return for an eighth year with a packed programme of theatre, music and more.



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The launch of the 2018 Hostry Festival brochure at Norwich Cathedral. Photo: Simon Finlay Photography.

And this October festival regular Total Ensemble Theatre Company will be taking centre stage with its brand new show *Boy in the Lighthouse*.

The performance - described as a dark story bathed in light - is the 2018 central production for the annual celebration of the arts which will once again take place at Norwich Cathedral's Hostry.

Performed in Total Ensemble's unique style, it will see the members of the inclusive theatre company tell the tale of a young man living in an isolated and forgotten lighthouse who embarks upon an adventure into fantastic worlds.

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“It’s a wonderful example of inclusivity and community, working together to perform something truly wonderful and uplifting and exciting to watch, and I am really proud that we have commissioned Total Ensemble to do that.” said the festival’s artistic director, Stash Kirkbride, who said the show also summed up the spirit of the entire festival programme.



Total Ensemble Theatre Company are performing Boy In The Lighthouse at the 2018 Hostry Festival. Photo: supplied by the Hostry Festival

“It’s a festival full of diversity, inclusivity and originality, and we cannot wait to share it with everybody,” he said.

Paint Out Norwich - the open air art competition celebrating the city on canvas - will be returning for a fifth year meanwhile the Norfolk Arts Awards will once again celebrate our county’s cultural champions.

Actress and writer Sally Phillips - known for her roles in Smack the Pony, the Bridget Jones films and Miranda - will be reflecting on her career and also her BBC documentary A World Without Down’s Syndrome?

The Bishop of Norwich, the Rt Rev Graham James, will be taking part in an in conversation event and there will also be a debate celebrating inspiring women and the arts as well as events with journalists and authors Matt Frei and Gavin Hewitt.



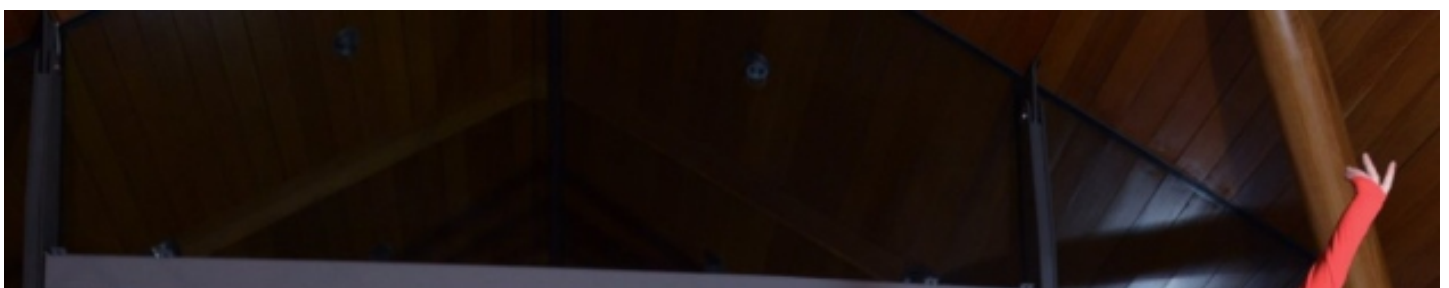
Richard Bond taking part in 2017 Paint Out Norwich by Bishop Bridge. Picture: DENISE BRADLEY

Music highlights include: The Ella McCready Jazz Trio; James Boyd and Harriet Mackenzie celebrating 400 years of guitar and violin music; and Cocteau and Poulenc double bill *The Human Voice*.

The 2018 Hostry Festival - for which the UEA is the principal sponsor - will run from October 13 to 28. More information about the festival will be available from Monday at www.hostryfestival.org

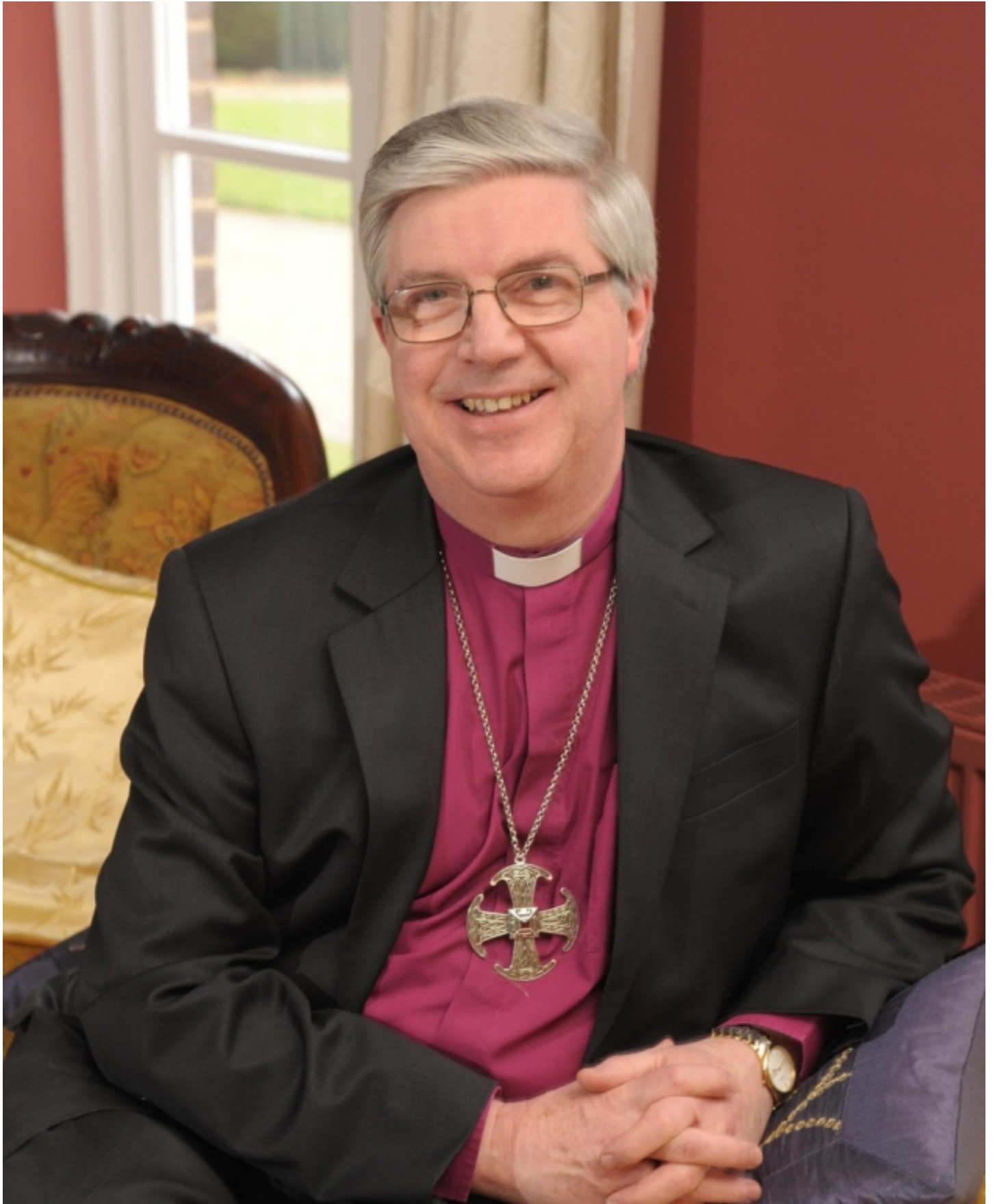
Tickets can also be bought from Monday at www.hostryfestival.org, by calling the box office on 01603 598676 or in person at Norwich Theatre Royal.

There will also be a Hostry Festival launch night at Norwich Cathedral's Hostry at 7pm on September 3.





The Norfolk Arts Awards will be returning to the 2018 Hostry Festival. Pictured are the EDP People's Choice Awards winners - Come Yew In!, Lost in Translation Circus and Annie Catwoman - at the 2017 Norfolk Arts Awards winners at Norwich Cathedral's Hostry. Photo: Simon Finlay Photography





The Bishop of Norwich, the Rt Rev Graham James, is taking part in the 2018 Hostry Festival. Picture: Denise Bradley





The Ella McCreedy Jazz Trio is taking part in the 2018 Hostry Festival. Photo: Michelle Beatty



Gavin Hewitt is taking part in the 2018 Hostry Festival. Photo: supplied by the Hostry Festival



Matt Frei is taking part in the 2018 Hostry Festival. Photo: supplied by the Hostry Festival



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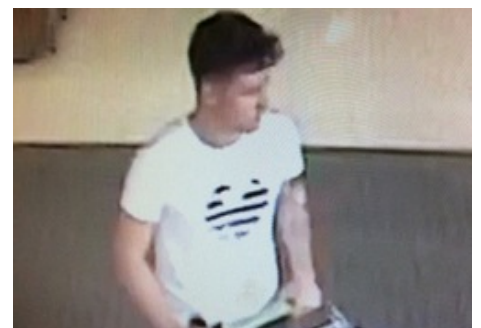
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