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Welcome to the Birmingham Fest 2019 brochure!

We have lots of shows for you again, with artists from all over the UK. A few favourites are back, and there is lots of brand new work too. Some are one-off performances so don't miss them! Have a look through the brochure, hopefully you'll find a few things you like. Please support as many as you can (if you can't attend - spread the word!).

The reason I began this festival is so artists would have a platform to showcase their work - something I feel very passionately about. Whether this work is established or in its infancy it's so important creativity has an outlet.

A festival is also a great place to try things out. So if you're an artist and have an idea why not put it forward next year? You never know!

Hope to see you at one of the shows!



Darren Haywood, festival organiser.

The Venues



The Blue Orange Theatre

The Blue Orange Theatre is a professional fringe venue situated in Birmingham's Jewellery Quarter. It stages numerous in-house productions as well as hosting visiting companies, comedy nights, classes and workshops. The venue consists of a flexible theatre space which seats up to 110, a large rehearsal studio, and a spacious bar.

118 Great Hampton Street. B18 6AD.

www.blueorangetheatre.co.uk

Tel: (0121) 212 2643



@A.E. Harris

@A.E. Harris is a multi purpose venue that actually is a vacated portion of a factory. Situated in the Jewellery quarter (not far from St. Paul's Square). As a seated venue it has a capacity of 50. As well as hosting numerous visiting companies, festivals and arts events, it is also home to Stan's Cafe Theatre Company.

110 Northwood Street. B3 1SZ.

www.aeharrisvenue.co.uk

Tel: (0121) 236 2273



The Victoria

The Victoria is a theatre pub which dates back to the Victorian era. It has lots of character and is always full of life. It has a huge drinks selection on offer and also serves great food. It has a private function room on the first floor which is available for hire (120 capacity). Throughout the year it offers a range of different entertainment.

48 John Bright St, Birmingham, B1 1BN.

www.thevictoriabirmingham.co.uk

Tel: (0121) 633 9439

We would like to thank all the venues for their continued participation in, and support of Birmingham Fest.

As well as everything they have listed here for the festival, they offer a wide range of events and shows throughout the year.

Please do check out their respective websites for their full programmes.

The Shows



Brazen
by Lorna Meehan

An autobiographical spoken word journey exploring coming of age, the nature of hero worship and the difficulty in just being yourself. Inspired by a deep connection to Jim Morrison and The Doors, and the transformative power of music.

Fri 12th & Sat 13th July 8pm
@A.E. Harris
Tickets £8 (£6 concessions)



Victoria's Diaries
by Tell Tale

A special preview performance of Tell Tale's new play to mark 200 years since the birth of Queen Victoria. Hear her life story told entirely in her own words through her letters and journal entries.

Sun 14th July 7pm
The Blue Orange Theatre
Tickets £8 (£6 concessions)



Activating Human Words
by Wesley Rolston

This performance poetry piece takes four words that each possess significance on their own but when combined could become a means to explore problems we face as individuals and we feel are affecting our society.

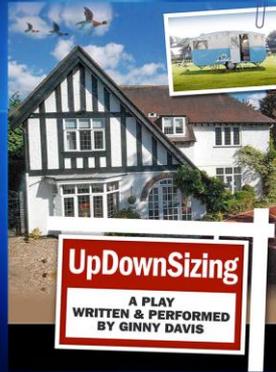
Sun 14th July 7pm
The Victoria
Tickets £4 (£2 concessions)



**An Evening of Improv
by Box of Frogs**

Presenting their own inimitable brand of high-octane improvised audience suggested nonsense. All your favourite improv games, unrehearsed and improvised entirely live. No-one knows what will happen, least of all them!

Mon 15th July 7.30pm
The Blue Orange Theatre
Free (donations welcome)



**UpDownSizing
by Ginny Davis**

A new one-woman comedy about the chaos of modern family life from Birmingham Fest award winner Ginny Davis. The kids have flown the nest so time to downsize. Mum's packing. The hubby is just under her feet.

Tues 16th July 7pm
The Blue Orange Theatre
Tickets £8



**Frankenstein
by Blue Orange Arts**

The gothic masterpiece. It is 1818 and, as a bell tolls nearby, Victor Frankenstein's monstrous creation explodes into existence. A one hour retelling of the horror classic.

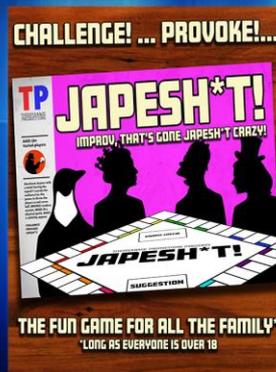
Weds 17th - Sat 20th July 7pm
(plus Saturday matinee 3pm)
The Blue Orange Theatre
Tickets £9 (£7 concessions)



**He'd Murder Me
by Baby Grace Theatre**

West Yorkshire, 1977. The North is in the grip of the Yorkshire Ripper's reign of terror. Against the backdrop of suspicion and fear, 15 year old Jack attempts to find his identity in the world

Weds 17th & Thurs 18th July 9pm
The Blue Orange Theatre
Tickets £8 (£6 concessions)



**Go Japesh*t!
by Thespianage**

Short-form improvised comedy with a twist! During 'Japesh*t rounds' the audience has the power to throw the players a real curveball: enforce random accents, bring in a physical quirk, or make a celebrity appear!

Sat 20th July 9pm
The Blue Orange Theatre
Tickets £8 (£7 concessions)



**Not Just William
by Tell Tale**

Young William Shakespeare sets off on an errand which sends him on an enchanted journey through a haunted forest and a magical graveyard where he discovers stories which stay with him forever.

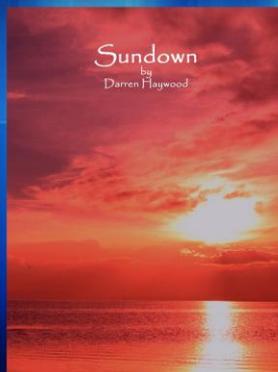
Sun 21st July 3pm
The Blue Orange Theatre
Tickets £8 (£6 concessions)



New Version of Me
by Midsummers Theatre

Harry Goldsmith leads an ordinary life; family, friends, and a good education, but when he finds himself broken after ending his relationship, everything in his world and all he thought he knew is suddenly turned upside down.

Sun 21st July 7pm
@A.E.Harris
Tickets £8



Sundown
by Taking Chances

A moving drama about two people who meet somewhere specific at a defining point in their life, but they both need to be there on their own. Will both of their plans go ahead? Or will things take a different turn?

Mon 22nd - Weds 24th July 8pm
The Blue Orange Theatre
Tickets £8 (£6 concessions)



A Matter of Law
by Two Jens & Me

This brand new play seeks to highlight the suffering of men in domestic abuse. It takes you into the courtroom in the trial of Edwina Frankfield accused of abusing her husband Terry. You the jury will decide.

Thurs 25th - Sat 27th July 7pm
The Blue Orange Theatre
Tickets £10



Skin in the Game
by Paul Westwood

The family flat isn't selling. Dad's gone into a care home that needs paying for. Three estranged siblings meet to sort things out, but the reality of the situation is more terrifying than any of them can imagine.

Thurs 25th - Sun 28th July 9pm
The Blue Orange Theatre
Tickets £8 (£6 concessions)



The Winter's Tale Revisited
by The Willmore Singers

This one hour adaptation of Shakespeare's classic focuses exclusively on jealousy as a stark background for acts of domestic violence. Set in 2019 in the world of organised crime and featuring new music.

Sun 28th July 5pm
The Blue Orange Theatre
Tickets £8 (£6 concessions)



We'll Be In Touch
by Joanna Gay

Mickey and Spud have lived next door to each other most of their lives. They have no money, no job and no other friends, but what they do have is a friendship like no other so they make a pact to stay dossing together.

Sun 28th July 7pm
The Blue Orange Theatre
Tickets £8 (£6 concessions)

