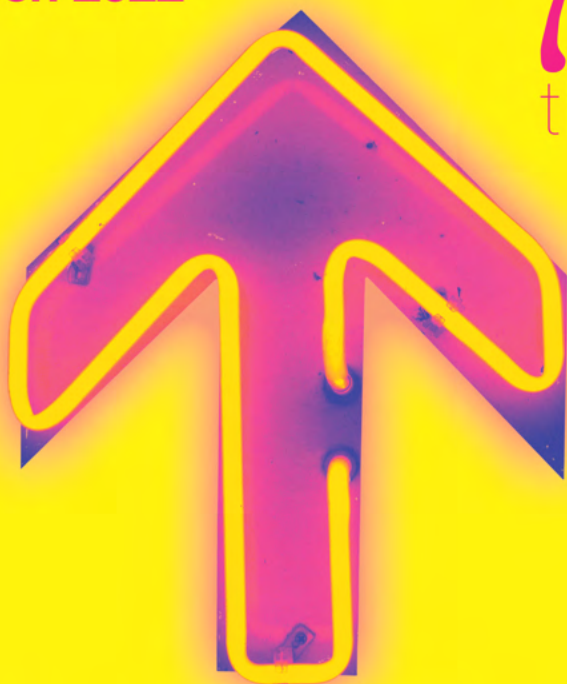


Tue 15 - Sat 26 March 2022

live
theatre



ELEVATOR FESTIVAL



Tickets: £6 – £8,
many events FREE
(0191) 232 1232
www.live.org.uk

Live Theatre
Quayside, Newcastle upon Tyne NE1 3DQ

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#ElevatorFestival

Introducing the
best new plays by
rising talent

John Ellerman
Foundation

ARTS COUNCIL
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Introducing the best new plays by rising talent

Elevator Festival is an opportunity for audiences to take a first look at new plays from the North East and beyond. When theatres were forced to close in 2020, Live made the decision to keep its creative opportunities open and support as many artists as we could. Our bursary programme awarded thirteen bursaries in total, the largest amount we have ever awarded, offering financial support, space and mentoring for independent artists with outstanding new ideas. Along with other creative opportunities from Live's talent development, this **Elevator Festival** begins to bring some of that work to our stages, and it is fantastic to be able to do so.

Intergalactic (Petals and Constellations) is a fast-paced debut play by Alison Scurfield where an unlikely friendship has cosmic repercussions. **The Twenty Seven Club**, a debut play by Chris Connel based on the book by Lucy Nichol takes a look at anxiety through the lens of nineties nostalgia. Along with a play reading of **Kailey** by Kerry Wright we are also welcoming the return of the **Elevator Scratch Night**, bringing you work-in-progress extracts of new plays by five and an opportunity for audience feedback.

For those with an interest in the innerworkings of the theatre industry we are also hosting an **Artists' Question Time** and workshops. It's a packed line up and I hope you join us to celebrate the beginning of these fantastic new plays.

Graeme Thompson, Creative Producer

Elevator Festival Creative Team

Lighting Design by **Drummond Orr**

Sound Design by **Dave Flynn**

AV Design by **Jonny Rothwell**

Stage Manager **Gabriela Oliver**

Production Manager **Drummond Orr**

Production Technician **Taylor Howie**

Creative Producer **Graeme Thompson**

Projects Producer **John Dawson**

Introducing the best new plays by rising talent

Tue 15 Mar, 7.30pm	Artists' Question Time	FREE, Booking Essential
Wed 16 -Sat 19 Mar, 7.30pm	Intergalactic (Petals and Constellations)	£8, £6 concs
Sat 19 Mar, 11am	Introduction to Directing	FREE, Booking Essential
Sat 19 Mar, 4pm	Kailey	FREE, Booking Essential
Mon 21 Mar, 7.30pm	Elevator Scratch Night	£6
Wed 23 - Sat 26 Mar, 7.30pm plus matinee Sat 26 Mar, 2.30pm	The Twenty Seven Club	£8, £6 concs
Sat 26 Mar, 11am	Directing Through Design	FREE, Booking Essential



New Plays

Wed 16 – Sat 19 Mar, 7.30pm

Intergalactic

(Petals and Constellations)

Written by **Alison Scurfield**

Directed by **Graeme Thompson**

Performed by **Aiden Nord** and **Tyler Dobbs**

You and me, we're nothing like each other. Trust me. Sometimes I think we might be, a bit. Quite a bit, actually.

Johnny isn't one of the cool kids. He likes physics, space and Professor Brian 'saucepot' Cox. He is also struggling to move on from a family tragedy. But when new boy Hassan joins the school, forces of nature, seem to pull them together. Can this unlikely friendship save them and help them both aim for the stars? Alison Scurfield's debut play is a witty and tender tale about grief, growing up gay and the universe.

Wed 23 – Sat 26 Mar, 7.30pm +

Sat 26 Mar, 2pm

The Twenty Seven Club

Written and directed by **Chris Connel**

Based on the book by **Lucy Nichol**

Performed by **Rachel Teate**, **Andrew Dawson** and **Steve Byron**

I'm young, I should be enjoying myself. Instead I'm spending every minute thinking I'm about to die when everyone else is necking Pot Noodles and cheesy Wotsits and cracking on about what a good night it was.

It's 1994. Emma has just heard about the death of Kurt Cobain and her anxious mind becomes obsessed with one question – why do so many rock stars die aged 27?

As Emma tries in vain to control her panic attacks, she discovers that perhaps there's something much bigger from her past that needs to be addressed...

Mon 21 Mar, 7.30pm

Elevator Scratch Night

Endo The Line by **Chess Tomlinson**

Nix prepares for her Mam Karen's 50th birthday without the help of her younger disengaged siblings. The runnings of the household have usually fallen on Nix' shoulders since the death of her Dad. Karen is perpetually living in a heightened manic state and needs constant emotional guidance, but Nix' patience is running thin today. Even with the calming presence of her partner Jake and the fact that she's off her tits on morphine, Nix struggles to keep her secret.

Head Girl by **Girl Next Door**

Head Girl is a play about falling in and out of love with yourself. A coming of age story, that navigates the 21st-century girl boss mentality, whilst still practicing self-care seven days a week. Becca is running in the campaign for Head Girl at school and running herself into the ground, all with a smile on her face. But who is she doing all this work for?

Henhouse by **Mhairi Ledgerwood**

Henhouse is about Ben and Lee, two young men who fall in love while working on a farm. Their relationship is put under strain when Lee struggles with his mental health. Tonight's scratch will showcase 3 scenes from Act 1 of the play, which is currently in development.

How Was I To Know? by **Papi Moises Jeovani**

Papi will be performing an autobiographical piece, written in the form of spoken word poetry. It will start from the age of 10 all the way to the present day. He will also be taking certain creative liberties.

A Bouffon Play About Hong Kong

by **Isabella Leung**

Set against the backdrop of this international city's skyscraper, the bouffons emerge from the swamp to tell the truth about their home. They must be careful with their choice of words, they must conceal their fear and anger, they must put those who abandoned them in their rightful place, and their weapon is humour. Laughter helps the bouffon to find freedom in an absurd world where politicians are comedians, soldiers and police are troubled poets, and at the centre of it all, a woman who has all the power, living a glamorous life of empty daydreams.

Play Reading

Sat 19 Mar, 4pm

Kailey (Play Reading)

Written by **Kerry Wright**

Directed by **Mitchell Vernals** and

Kerry Wright

Who cares for you when a parent is in prison? Based on writer Kerry Wright's own teenage experience, *Kailey* is a comedy drama about the turbulent journey of 18 year old Kailey as she tries to navigate life alone whilst her mum is caught in the prison system. Followed by a post-show event with the writer exploring the process of writing from personal experience.

Events & Workshops

Tue 15 Mar, 7.30pm

Artists' Question Time

Elevator Festival kicks off with a forum in which artists and industry figures discuss and debate pressing artistic issues of the day and explore how we can work together and move forward from the pandemic. Hosted by Live Theatre's Artistic Director, **Jack McNamara**. Panel members include: **Luke Barnes, Amy Golding, Lindsay Rodden, Ishy Din, Cameron Sharp** and **Wambui Hardcastle**.

Sat 19 Mar, 11am

Introduction To Directing

Live Theatre's Artistic Director leads a taster session for directors at the start of their creative journey, outlining the main roles and approaches a director might bring into rehearsals, from working with actors to thinking about design. Suitable for beginner directors or other theatre practitioners interested in moving into this craft.

Sat 26 Mar, 11am

Directing Through Design

A practical session for more experienced directors and makers on how to work dramaturgically with design to push the impact and meaning of their work. Ideal for directors or practitioners who have already begun to create theatre but are looking to refine and develop its visual potential.

Online Panel discussion and Q&A

Sat 26 Mar, 10.30am

Mental Health In Drama

Streaming over Zoom this online panel discussion and Q&A explores responsible mental health portrayals in drama and comedy scripts, and how to avoid stereotypes and sensationalism.

Panelists include: **Lucy Nichol** - freelance mental health script advisor and author of *The Twenty Seven Club*, **Jenni Regan** - freelance mental health script advisor and author of *Isolation* and **Victoria Bradley-Smith** - junior storyliner (*Hollyoaks*) and former script researcher (*Coronation Street*).

Talent Development

We are dedicated to increasing opportunity for early career artists as well as discovering and celebrating writers from the region. Each year we work with hundreds of artists through our free and open access talent development programme.

For future opportunities for artists and theatre makers see

www.live.org.uk/artistdevelopment or join the Creative Opportunities email list at

www.live.org.uk/signup

Help us to nurture new talent

We purposely keep our ticket prices for Elevator Festival low and accessible for all. So if you have enjoyed one of our free events or shows as part of Elevator Festival 2022 then why not consider supporting our talent development programme by donating at www.live.org.uk/ef2022

What did you think? It's important to find out what visitors really think so we can improve the Live Theatre experience. After the show please take a few minutes to complete a feedback postcard, email feedback@live.org.uk or share on social media using **#ElevatorFestival**