

LEEDS
YEAR OF CULTURE **2023**

Part Three
PROGRAMME GUIDE
1 Sept – 31 Dec 2023

Join a
city of
dreamers

DREAMING



leeds2023.co.uk

Welcome to Part Three: Dreaming

This is the final season in our year-long act of epic storytelling for the city from Awakening, through Playing, and now to Dreaming.

As the winter approaches and the year comes to a close, we look to the future and encourage you to continue to let your imaginations fly and dream.

It is often in the act of dreaming that we discover whole new worlds of possibility, whole new adventures that invite you to think differently, and imagine new ways of being together.



Image: © Tom Joy.

Let's create a city of courageous dreamers building a future full of hope where reality bends to the will of those who dare to dream. A future where we can imagine the impossible into being. Enjoy your dreaming time as the year turns and welcomes in the future.

Kully Thiarai

Creative Director and CEO
LEEDS 2023

LEEDS 2023 is an inspiring demonstration of the power of culture to bring us together and bring us forward. I am delighted that the EU Delegation to the UK could contribute to its vibrant cultural programme and its strong European connections. I am deeply impressed by Leeds and cannot wait to see what it will do next.

Pedro Serrano

European Union Ambassador
to the United Kingdom



Image: © Wisdom Makubile.

All of us have a spark waiting to be ignited. For me, it was after a whirlwind appearance on the BBC's Blue Peter when I was 17.

The 'lights, camera, action!' of it all left me feeling exhilarated and wanting for more. Seven years later, I found myself moving to London and working in TV. My dream had come true.

Here in Leeds, we've seen what is possible when our creative sparks are ignited. I was so proud to host The Awakening at Headingley Stadium and witness the incredible talent of the city on the stage. And off the stage, I was blown away by the thousands of artworks made by the people of this city.

As we embark on the final part of our Year of Culture, I really encourage you to harness the creativity in you and let your imaginations loose. Dream the impossible! You never know, you may also find out that dreams do come true!

Enjoy!

Gabby Logan MBE
Chair
LEEDS 2023

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About this guide

A place where dreams are celebrated, and visions for the future are brought to life.

Dreams are where the impossible becomes possible. And Leeds is a city full of dreamers, so we're making the impossible happen, right here.

In this guide, you can discover the events and activities taking place this autumn into winter, plus a round-up of some of the fantastic things going on in and around Leeds.

We've included dates, times, locations, and accessibility information where possible, and we'll be adding more details on our website every day.

For the most up-to-date information on times, access, prices, and bookings please visit the What's On guide at leeds2023.co.uk.

If you would like a large print version of this guide, please email access@leeds2023.co.uk.

The interactive cultural map on our website is bursting with insider views of Leeds' extraordinary venues, 360-degree tours of the city and stories of Leeds' cultural history.

And best of all, you can access it from your phone or desktop, meaning you can experience the Leeds adventure wherever you are.

Welcome to Part Three.
Leeds is waiting for you!



Access symbols:



Accessible Parking



Accessible Toilet



Assistance Animal Facilities



Assistive Listening



Audio Description



Baby Changing



BSL Interpretation



Captioning



Changing Places Toilets



Large Print



Quiet Space



Relaxed Performance



Visual Story



Wheelchair Accessible

Before we get stuck into Part Three, here's a quick reminder about what's still to come from Part Two: Playing.

My LEEDS Summer

Take in the last few events of our vibrant community festival happening in every part of the city. Here are the remaining My LEEDS Summer events taking place in August and September:

Morley North

– Saturday 19 August

Calverley and Farsley

– Saturday 26 August

Bramley and Stanningley

– Sunday 27 August

Chapel Allerton

– Sunday 27 August and
Saturday 2 September

Rothwell

– Saturday 9 September

FREE, find out more:

ONLINE leeds2023.co.uk

Black Music Festival

DATE Sunday 27 August

TIME From 12pm

PLACE Potternewton Park:
Leeds LS7 4AH

Celebrate the genres of black origin and feel the rhythm, with songs performed by local, national and international artists.

Ticketed event, find out more:

ONLINE blackmusicfestival.org

Leeds West Indian Carnival

DATE Monday 28 August

TIME From 2pm

PLACE Potternewton Park:
Leeds LS7 4AH

The perfect blend of jaw-dropping costumes, infectious tropical rhythms, mouth-watering food, Caribbean culture and entertainment for everyone.

FREE, find out more:

ONLINE leedscarnival.co.uk

Afra Eisma splashdown tender

DATE Until Sunday 22 October

PLACE The Tetley: Hunslet Road,
Leeds LS10 1JQ

Don't miss Afra Eisma's playful, colourful, and interactive exhibition down at The Tetley. Look out for new learning resources inspired by the exhibition on the LEEDS 2023 website.

FREE, find out more:

ONLINE leeds2023.co.uk

Sonia Boyce: Feeling Her Way

DATE Until Sunday 5 November

PLACE Leeds Art Gallery: The
Headrow, Leeds LS1 3AA

Leeds Art Gallery presents Sonia Boyce's exhibition Feeling Her Way, which won the Golden Lion for Best National Participation at the 59th International Art Exhibition – La Biennale di Venezia 2022. Check out the associated events on page 34–35.

FREE, find out more:

ONLINE leeds2023.co.uk

Image: Afra Eisma, splashdown tender, 2023 (detail). Installation view at The Tetley, 2023. Photo: © Jules Lister.



Until
December

DATE Until December
PLACE City Square: Leeds LS1 1PJ

A new public artwork in City Square reawakens history and captures the magic of the Forest of Leodis.

Making A Stand

Inspired by Leeds' roots as an ancient woodland, world-famous visual artist Michael Pinsky and award-winning environmental architects Studio Bark put sustainability at the heart of this epic piece for LEEDS 2023. We invite you to explore our connection with materials, their life cycles, and their impact on the environment around us.

FREE, find out more:
ONLINE leeds2023.co.uk

Making A Stand Online
leeds2023.co.uk

This digital artwork shares the creative journey of Making A Stand. Learn how the life of the forest inspired the artwork.

Sound Installation
DATE September

Michael Pinsky will be creating a captivating soundscape that reflects the journey of the project and the timber itself, bringing us even closer to nature with sounds of the forest and beyond.

Co-created by Michael Pinsky and Studio Bark. Produced and commissioned by LEEDS 2023. Supported by Channel 4, Arts Council England and Leeds Beckett University.

There's more to explore at Making A Stand

Events from Leeds Beckett School of Arts

DATE October to December
PLACE City Square: Leeds LS1 1PJ

Students and academics from Leeds Beckett University's Leeds School of Arts are working on an exciting programme of diverse and unmissable events including dance, performing arts, fashion and music activations for Making A Stand.

Events run from October to December with an exclusive live reading of Charles Dickens' A Christmas Carol from Dr Oliver Bray, Dean of Leeds School of Arts. The architectural forest installation will create the perfect Dickensian atmosphere for this well-loved and magical story, promising to be a real treat for the whole family.

FREE, find out more:
ONLINE leeds2023.co.uk

Other Upcoming Events:

Wellness Wednesdays

DATE Wednesday 30 August
Free beginners classes in yoga, mindful movement and meditation.

BSL Interpreted Tour

DATE Thursday 31 August
Tour this new public artwork with live British Sign Language interpretation by Lauren Lister.

Volunteer-led Tours

DATE Thursday 31 August
Guided tours from our volunteers starting promptly at 11am, 12pm, 4.30pm and 5pm.

Check out our full line-up of events, tours and performances:
ONLINE leeds2023.co.uk



Co-created by Michael Pinsky and Studio Bark. Produced and commissioned by LEEDS 2023. Supported by Channel 4, Arts Council England and Leeds Beckett University.

Image: Tom Joy.

September

Reflections of Carnival Mural

DATE From September
PLACE 33 Savile Mount:
Chapelton, Leeds LS7 3HZ

Leeds West Indian Carnival has filled the city with music and colour for over 55 years.

The festival celebrates the origins of Caribbean Carnival, which are rooted in emancipation from slavery, rebellion and identity.

In honour of the event, a new mural is being painted by Rhian Kempadoo-Millar, commissioned by East Street Arts, as part of A City Less Grey, in partnership with Leeds West Indian Carnival Committee and Leeds City Council. The artist and costume designer has been designing for Carnival for over 25 years. With input from the Chapeltown community, this important piece of art will stand proudly on the streets of Leeds.

FREE, find out more:

ONLINE eastst.art/carnival-mural

A City Less Grey

The final instalment of the LEEDS 2023 supported programme will see a series of new paper murals by artist Mohammed Barrangi come to Leeds. Find out more about East Street Arts' A City Less Grey programme on their website (eastst.art), and be sure to visit ECHOES, a new mural in Mabgate by Portuguese artist Add Fuel.

Image: © Peter Lanman

East Street Arts in partnership with Leeds West Indian Carnival Committee and Leeds City Council. Funded by LEEDS 2023, Leeds Inspired and Wade's Charity. Sponsored by Vertu Motors, Unity Housing, Rushbond, Connect Housing, North Brewing and Maureen's Caribbean Catering Ltd. Supported by Move Housing.

September

Nest

WRITTEN BY Emma Nuttall
DIRECTED BY Paul Roseby

Commissioned and co-produced by LEEDS 2023 and National Youth Theatre.
Supported by Arts Council England, Leeds Playhouse and Compass Collective.
With special thanks to RSPB St Aidan's Nature Park.

DATE Tuesday 5 to
Saturday 9 September
TIME 7:45 – 9:15pm
PLACE RSPB St Aidan's Nature
Park: Astley Lane, Leeds
LS26 8AL

Epic outdoor theatre.

It's 2050 and climate change is shaking the natural world. Now that the bird watchers can no longer watch, Skylar's home will never be the same again...

Against the stunning backdrop of St Aidan's Nature Park, LEEDS 2023 and the award-winning National Youth Theatre are staging a breathtaking series of performances.

Music, movement, and epic projections come together in this iconic Leeds location to create a once-in-a-generation experience for performers and audience alike.

A cast of over 100 young performers will take the audience on a quest through St Aidan's, allowing everyone to experience the site in unusual and surprising ways, as the story unfolds across the beautiful landscape.

Nest is a timely, urgent and hopeful piece that raises the voices of young people as they ask us all to consider our futures and the future of the planet.

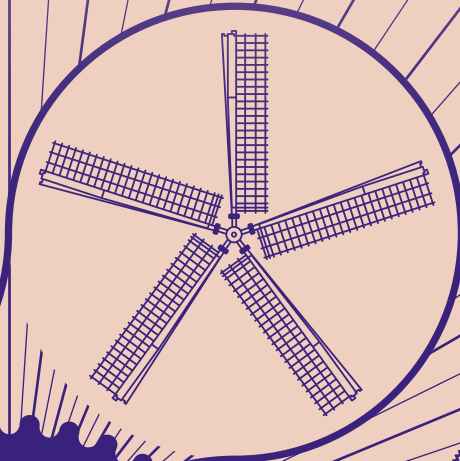
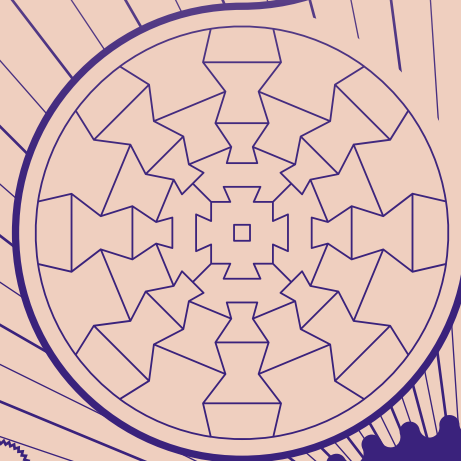
Ticketed event, find out more:

ONLINE leeds2023.co.uk



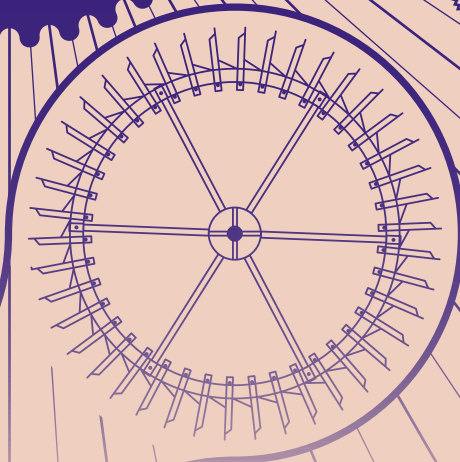
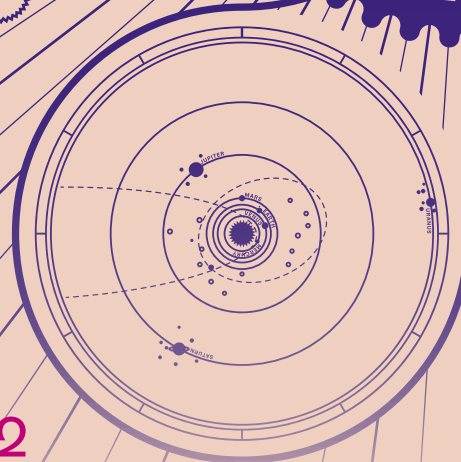
Image: © Tom Arber.

September
— November



John Smeaton
1724 - 1792

The Art of
Engineering



Smeaton300: The Art of Engineering

John Smeaton was born in Leeds and his trailblazing Civil Engineering projects continue to shape the world around us today.

Engineery: Building Better Futures

DATE Friday 27 October 2023 to
Sunday 28 September 2025

PLACE Leeds Industrial Museum

Get hands-on with engineering at Leeds Industrial Museum with exhibitions, workshops and demonstrations. The Engineery exhibition will take you on a whistle stop tour from lighthouse history, future space exploration to the network of pipes beneath your feet, all brought to life through unique objects and gallery pieces. Plus there's Lego bridge-building, stone-carving and coding workshops.

Create with Engineering

DATE September to October

PLACE Leeds Libraries

Get playful with engineering and discover the wonders of flight, build your own bridge, or create an artwork inspired by the Eddystone Lighthouse at family workshops across Leeds Libraries this autumn.

FREE and ticketed, find out more:
ONLINE leeds2023.co.uk

Smeaton300 Talks and Screenings

DATE October to November
PLACE Various Locations

Head to Farsley Literature Festival, Leeds Libraries and Hyde Park Picture House for talks and films from Cosmic Shambles, Maggie Aderin-Pocock and Roma Agrawal that explore engineering, art, science and astronomy.

Ticketed event, find out more:
ONLINE leeds2023.co.uk

For more Smeaton300 events and activities for schools check out page 60. The Smeaton300 programme will continue into 2024 with more exciting collaborations and events to come.

Check out smeaton300.co.uk from October for more info.



Smeaton300 is an original idea developed by Foxglove, enabled by Leeds City Council in partnership with LEEDS 2023. Supported by The National Lottery Heritage Fund, Arts Council England, Bruntwood, Burberry and Scottish Power Foundation.

Moon Palace

Come with us to the moon and back.

A gift from East Leeds to the world, Moon Palace is your ticket to the stars without leaving the city.



Created by artists Heather Peak and Ivan Morison, this new artwork and mobile observatory is inspired by the legacy of John Smeaton and the observatory he built in East Leeds. Bringing together creativity and art, engineering and science, collaboration and public good, Moon Palace is an absurdly joyful experience you don't want to miss. Moon Palace is touring right across the city with drop-in daytime observation sessions and ticketed after dark moongazing each month.

Further monthly After Dark Observing Sessions to be announced along with Daytime Observing Sessions.

Ticketed and FREE, find out more:
[ONLINE leeds2023.co.uk](https://leeds2023.co.uk)



Daytime Observation Sessions

Drop into this day-time observation session for an other-worldly experience combining day-time solar and radio astronomy and good conversation with your on-board hosts over a cup of tea.

PLACE White Rose Shopping Centre
DATE Saturday 30 September
TIME 11am – 5pm

PLACE Whimoor Library
DATE Saturday 28 October
TIME 12 – 6pm

PLACE University of Leeds
DATE Tuesday 21 November
TIME 1 – 5pm

FREE. More dates available:
[ONLINE leeds2023.co.uk](https://leeds2023.co.uk)

Orionid Mass Observing Session

Bring along your telescope or a pair of binoculars and join us on this special evening as we (fingers crossed!) observe the Orionid Meteor Shower from Moon Palace.

PLACE Potternewton Park
DATE Saturday 21 October
TIME 6 – 9pm

FREE, find out more:
[ONLINE leeds2023.co.uk](https://leeds2023.co.uk)

After Dark Observation Sessions

Book your ticket for this after-dark sky gazing session with our on-board telescopes, and great conversations on art, science and much more hosted by artists and astronomers.

PLACE Victoria Square
DATE Saturday 9 September
TIME Session 1: 9 – 10:30pm
Session 2: 11pm – 00:30am

PLACE Royal Armouries
DATE Sunday 22 October
TIME Session 1 (relaxed):
7:30 – 9pm
Session 2: 9:30 – 11pm

PLACE Leeds Society for Deaf and Blind People
BSL and Audio
Described sessions
DATE Tuesday 4 October
TIME Session 1: 7:30 – 9pm
Session 2: 9:30 – 11pm

More dates available:
[ONLINE leeds2023.co.uk](https://leeds2023.co.uk)

Moon Palace will also be visiting Otley, Farnley, Wetherby, Rothwell and other wards to be announced. Check out the leeds2023.co.uk website to find out more.

Image: © Charles Emerson.

September

The Chronicles of Rothwell Temperance Band

PERFORMANCE 1

DATE Saturday 2 September

TIME 3 – 4pm

PLACE This Green Moon:
Swillington Organic
Farm, Coach Road,
Leeds LS26 8QA
Ticketed event,
find out more:



ONLINE thisgreenmoon.com

PERFORMANCE 2

DATE Friday 22 September

TIME 8 – 9pm

PLACE Brudenell Social Club:
33 Queen's Rd, Burley,
Leeds LS6 1NY
Ticketed event,
find out more:

ONLINE brudenellsocialclub.co.uk



Discover the untold tales of one of the world's best brass bands.

Rothwell Temperance Band have played all over the UK and beyond since 1881. The iconic 30 piece band are putting on a new kind of performance. In partnership with sound artist and audio storyteller Verity Watts, the performance combines live brass, spoken word and music samples to tell the story of Rothwell Temperance Band and its community. It also celebrates the artists and communities of South Leeds that the band have been committed to throughout their career.

Supported by LEEDS 2023 and Help Musicians UK.

Image: © Lucas Alexander - Unsplash.

Ancient Futures

DATE Saturday 2 to
Sunday 3 September
TIME Saturday 4pm
Sunday 12.30pm and 4pm.
PLACE Millennium Square:
Leeds LS2 3AD

Acrobatics meets Afrofuturism.

Upswing and Unlimited Theatre bring circus, dance, acrobatics and spoken word together in this Afrofuturistic spectacular.

Expect (literally) out of this world performances as a team of fabulous Afronauts arrive from another dimension, and invite you to join their bold, movement. Pack your space helmet, because you're about to be launched into a fantastical future world inspired by West African Folklore.

FREE, find out more:
ONLINE leeds2023.co.uk



Image: © creativepower.

Ancient Futures is co-produced by Unlimited Theatre and Upswing. Ancient Futures has been supported by Without Walls and commissioned by LEEDS 2023; Greenwich & Docklands International Festival; Brighton Festival and Stockton International Riverside Festival. Ancient Futures has also been supported by Coventry City Council. Co-commissioned by City of Bradford Metropolitan District Council for BD: Festival. Creation supported by 101 Outdoor Arts. Supported using public funding by Arts Council England.

September



BBC Contains Strong Language Festival

DATE Thursday 21 to Sunday 24 September

PLACE Howard Assembly Room:
32 New Briggate, Leeds LS1 6NU

Leeds Central Library:
Calverley St, Leeds LS1 3AB

The Wardrobe: 6 St Peter's Square, Leeds LS9 8AH



Contains Strong Language's main partners are LEEDS 2023 and Wrecking Ball Press for this year's festival. Supported by The British Council.

Word on the street.

The BBC's poetry and performance festival is coming to Leeds this September. With performances from the most exciting local, national and international voices in poetry, this free four-day language extravaganza celebrates emerging and established poets alike, including Poet Laureate, Simon Armitage, the MC and boxer Testament and Leeds writer and literary activist Khadijah Ibrahiim. Hear new poets in Words First, and grab your chance to be in the audience for the BBC's live recordings of Front Row with Nick Ahad, and The Verb with Ian McMillan.

FREE and ticketed, find out more:
ONLINE leeds2023.co.uk

A City Without Seams

DATE Thursday 21 to Sunday 24 September

PLACE The Corn Exchange:
Call Lane, Leeds LS1 7BR

Artist Keith Khan has spent the past few months visiting the 33 wards of Leeds, learning about the people and communities that make them special, and touring local areas with the LEEDS 2023 Neighbourhood Hosts.

From these experiences, he has created bespoke artworks – one for each ward – and a unique textile design that combines them all and celebrates the city of Leeds.

The material has been used to create stunning garments made by local designers, makers and students from Leeds Arts University.

A City Without Seams is an exhibition of this beautiful work, which will showcase both our local uniqueness and the collective spirit of Leeds. The exhibition will feature the individual artworks, all of which have been woven into textile hangings and will be gifted to each ward to display in their community venues.

The textile artworks and part of the motif-covered fabric were generously woven by British luxury brand, Burberry, on the jacquard looms in their mill in Keighley.

Head down to the Corn Exchange to check out your ward's motif, try on garments and learn more about how it all came to life.

FREE, find out more:

ONLINE leeds2023.co.uk



Supported by Paul Hamlyn Foundation, The National Lottery Heritage Fund, Arts Council England and Burberry. Commissioned and produced by LEEDS 2023.



A City Without Seams

All of Keith Khan's motifs are also available as a digital exhibition on the LEEDS 2023 website.



October

Light Night Leeds 2023

DATE Thursday 12 to
Friday 13 October
TIME 6.30 – 10.30pm
PLACE Multiple indoor and outdoor
venues, Leeds City Centre



Art in the dark!

Light Night Leeds is the UK's largest annual arts and light festival, and will be illuminating the city again this October. Captivating performances and spectacular artworks by local, national and international artists will be taking over some of Leeds' most famous spaces including a new projection inspired by the Making A Stand installation on City Square. Step outside for this night-time adventure!

FREE, find out more:

ONLINE lightnightleeds.co.uk

Image: Emergence
by This Is Loop at Winter
Lights 2023, Canary Wharf,
credit Alan Hayes.

Supported by Leeds City Council, Arts Council England, Vastint, British Library, LEEDS 2023 and The Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

September
— October

Hidden Stories

With a population of around 800,000 people, Leeds is an enormous tapestry of untold tales just waiting to be discovered.

Artists, researchers, communities and heritage organisations across Leeds have teamed up to bring some of these stories to life. It's a chance for Leeds to beat the drum – loudly and proudly – for its vibrant and unique history.

Learn more about the real stories we're shining a spotlight on.

Commissioned by LEEDS 2023. Made possible thanks to funding from The National Lottery Heritage Fund and in partnership with Historic England.



Image: © Graham Fotherby.

Heritage Open Days: Creativity Unwrapped

DATE Saturday 9 September to Sunday 17 September

PLACE Across Leeds

Get ready for an exhilarating journey through time. Supported by the National Trust and coordinated by Leeds Civic Trust, this year's Heritage Open Days features over 100 free events ranging from dance to interactive art to circus.

Heritage Open Days Hub

DATE Friday 8 September to Sunday 17 September

PLACE Leeds Corn Exchange: Call Lane, Leeds LS1 7BR

Take part in workshops, experience events, and discover more about Leeds' unique history at this pop-up venue.

FREE, Find out more:

ONLINE leeds2023.co.uk



Image: © Mat Dale.

Any Work That Wanted Doing

DATE Friday 8 September to Sunday 31 December

PLACE Leeds Industrial Museum at Armley Mills: Canal Road, Leeds LS12 2QF

This exhibition at Leeds Industrial Museum brings together disabled people's voices from the past and present, highlighting their contributions to history and to contemporary culture. Disabled artists have created eight new artworks in response to the hidden histories of disabled mill workers. These will be displayed amongst the museum's collection of textile machinery.

FREE tours available, otherwise the museum's admission charges apply, find out more:

ONLINE leeds2023.co.uk



Image: © Sable Radio.

Culture Club

DATE Friday 8 September

TIME 6 – 10pm

PLACE Thackray Museum of Medicine: Beckett Street, Leeds LS9 7LN

Thackray Museum of Medicine has teamed up with Sable Studios, to produce a weekly youth club for 16-21 years olds based in East Leeds. Exploring the history of healthcare and medicine, Culture Club gives young people the chance to play around with a variety of creative mediums and brings the museum to life through weekly sessions and a series of Culture Club Lates events. Join us for an evening of free workshops, talks, exhibitions, food, music and works curated by the young people of Culture Club. All ages welcome.

FREE, find out more:

ONLINE leeds2023.co.uk





Forgotten Battles: Gender in the Armouries

DATE Friday 8 September
to Sunday 3 March 2024
PLACE Royal Armouries: Armouries
Drive, Leeds LS10 1LT

Experience the Royal Armouries Museum as you've never experienced it before. This temporary exhibition and self-guided trail uncovers the gendered and queer histories concealed within the museum's collection, offering up fresh perspectives on ten historical artefacts. Walk through and immerse yourself in this highly innovative display that challenges conventional narratives and reclaims the museum as an LGBTQIA+ space.

FREE, find out more:
ONLINE leeds2023.co.uk



"We are delighted to have been able to support these projects that demonstrate the enormous pride communities have for their individual and collective heritage in Leeds. It will be incredibly exciting to see this fantastic programme, that truly puts people at its heart, unfold in the final season of this landmark year for LEEDS 2023. This has been made possible thanks to money raised by National Lottery players."

Helen Featherstone

Director, England, North at The National Lottery Heritage Fund.



Image: © Alan Benstock.

Meet Me At Cantors

DATE Sunday 10 September
TIME 3pm and 7:30pm
PLACE The Riley Theatre:
98 Chapeltown Road,
Leeds LS7 4BH

Step back in time to 1950s Chapeltown! Milim proudly presents "Meet Me At Cantors" – a captivating theatre production that delves into the social lives of Leeds' Jewish teenagers. Written by Anthony Clavane and Mike Levy, and directed by Tash Hyman, this heartwarming play explores the joys of growing up in a vibrant working class Jewish community.

Ticketed, find out more:
ONLINE leeds2023.co.uk



Image: © Nina Mozuraita.



Eating the Corn Exchange

DATE Sunday 29 October
TIME 10am – 4pm
PLACE Leeds Corn Exchange:
Call Lane, Leeds LS1 7BR

Eating the Corn Exchange is the latest immersive, multi-sensory experience from Edible Archives, known for their etiquette-flipping, multi-sensory work with food and heritage. This accessible experience explores the heritage of the Corn Exchange as a meeting place for subcultures in this city and as an iconic building that holds many precious memories for the greeboes, punks, skaters, moshers, and goths of Leeds.

FREE, find out more:
ONLINE leeds2023.co.uk



City Stories: Common Ground

DATE Sunday 24 September
to Saturday 28 October
(Heritage Open Days
preview 16-17 September)
PLACE Priestley Hall, Mill Hill Chapel,
City Square, Leeds LS1 5EB

**LEEDS 2023 Hub: Trinity
Shopping Centre, Albion
Street, Leeds LS1 5AT**

Lens Lab Project has spent the past year working closely with communities from six of the faiths in our city; gathering stories and capturing portraits of people and place through photography within these thriving communities. City Stories: Common Ground brings together a cross-section of activities, photography, sound works and conversations, within the historic building of Mill Hill Chapel. A selection of photographs can also be found as part of an installation in the LEEDS 2023 Trinity Hub.

FREE, find out more:
ONLINE leeds2023.co.uk



September —December



Image: © James Phillips.

The Magician and The Good Book double-screening

DATE Wednesday 27 September
TIME 5pm
PLACE Everyman Cinema: Level 4,
Trinity Leeds, Albion Street,
Leeds LS1 5AY

Catch Leeds on the big screen.

An epic double bill of two films by Leeds People's Theatre hits screens for LEEDS 2023. The Good Book and The Magician are packed with epic adventure, dystopian drama and magic, with our city and the people who live here at the centre of the action. Popcorn ready? Roll film!

FREE, find out more:

ONLINE leeds2023.co.uk



Written by James Phillips. Produced by Slung Low. Commissioned by LEEDS 2023. In association with Leeds City Council, Ingram Road Primary School, The Space and Arts Council England.



Image: © Bran Symondson.

Re:Loaded

DATE Saturday 2 December 2023
to Friday 31 May 2024
TIME 10am – 5pm during museum
opening times
PLACE Royal Armouries Museum:
Armouries Drive, Leeds
LS10 1LT

Loaded with meaning.

Throughout history, guns have been treated not just as weapons, but as pieces of art. They've been plated in gold and decorated in diamonds; given as diplomatic gifts between nations and embellished in campaigns for peace. This temporary exhibition at the celebrated Royal Armouries Museum questions our complicated relationship with weapons through their reimagining as objects of artistry.

FREE, find out more:

ONLINE royalarmouries.org



Image: © Jamie Nutter.

Brightside

DATE Thursday 28 to
Saturday 30 September
TIME Various Times
PLACE RYDE: Protection House,
16a E Parade, Leeds
LS1 2BH

Generation Spin Class.

Brightside is a celebration of feeling good in your own skin, the positive impact of exercise on mental health, and the belonging that can only be found sweating it out with a bunch of strangers. This spin class and theatre-show explores the world of 'Generation Me' soundtracked by a millennial anthem.

**Pay What You Decide,
find out more:**

ONLINE brightside.show



Commissioned by LEEDS 2023, The Place and A+E Lab. Supported using public funding from the National Lottery through Arts Council England. With support from Yorkshire Dance and Jerwood Charitable Foundation.

September

Family Flourish: Harvest

DATE Saturday 9 September
TIME 1 – 5pm
PLACE Roxby Community Garden:
Lindsey Road, Leeds
LS9 7LR

Celebrate the vibrant communities living in Lincoln Green with Mafwa Theatre this September. Head over to a Harvest themed family gala in the brand new Roxby Community Garden for workshops, performances, exhibitions, food and music.

FREE, find out more:
ONLINE leeds2023.co.uk



Commissioned by LEEDS 2023 as a part of My World My City My Neighbourhood supported by Paul Hamlyn Foundation, The National Lottery Heritage Fund, Arts Council England, Leeds Community Foundation and Mohn Westlake Arts Engagement Fund. Supported by the National Lottery Community Fund. In partnership with Leeds City Council.



Image: © Tribe Four Films.

Civic Skateboarding

DATE Saturday 16 to
Sunday 17 September
PLACE Leeds City Centre

Celebrating Leeds' diverse and inclusive skateboarding community.

This mini festival puts street skating in the spotlight. There will be inclusive and supportive skate sessions in the city centre for everyone – whether you're an experienced skater or complete beginner. We particularly welcome female and minority gender skateboarders to join in the fun!

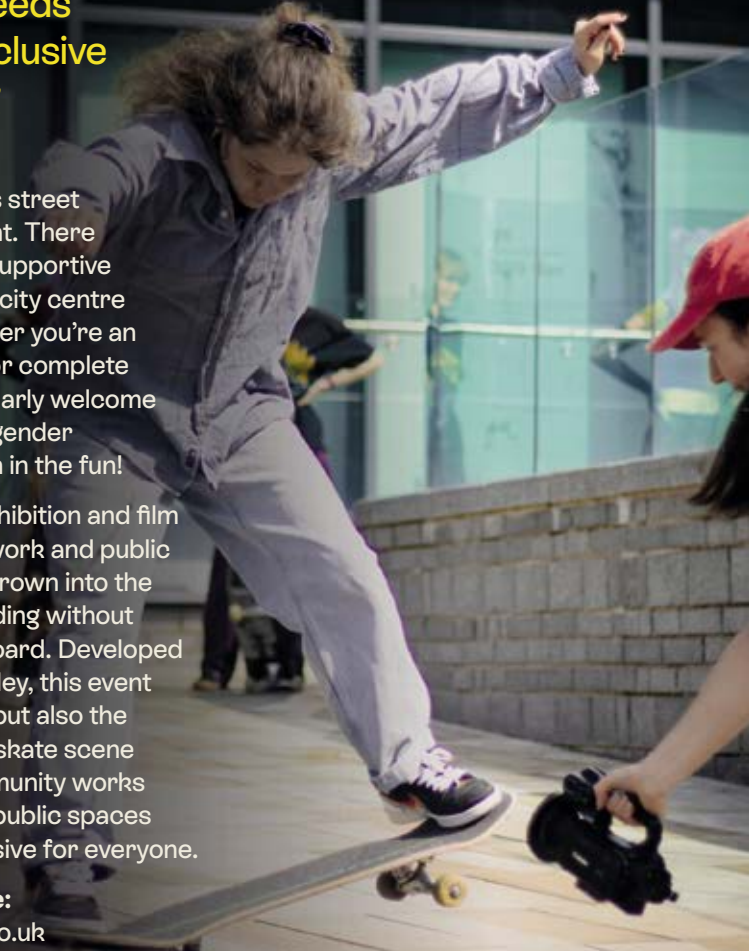
With a co-curated exhibition and film screening, audio artwork and public sculpture, you'll be thrown into the culture of skateboarding without even stepping on a board. Developed by artist Harry Meadley, this event showcases the joys, but also the challenges our city's skate scene is facing, as the community works towards making our public spaces safer and more inclusive for everyone.

FREE, find out more:
ONLINE leeds2023.co.uk



Commissioned by LEEDS 2023 as a part of My World My City My Neighbourhood supported by Paul Hamlyn Foundation, The National Lottery Heritage Fund, Arts Council England, Leeds Community Foundation and Mohn Westlake Arts Engagement Fund. In partnership with BLANK_, Henry Moore Institute, Leeds Playhouse, LS-TEN Charity, Welcome Skate Store and many more. Additional support from Leeds Beckett University and The National Lottery Community Fund.

Image: © Steph Bartlett.



October

The Path Between

DATE Saturday 14 October
TIME From 6 – 9pm
PLACE Meanwood Valley Urban Farm:
Sugar Well Road,
Meanwood, Leeds LS7 2QG

Take a stroll along
this magical illuminated
trail and experience
Meanwood like
never before.

Using light and dark in innovative ways, this captivating community event features site-specific light and sound displays, connecting you with hidden cultural gems in the heart of Meanwood Valley. Hosted by The Meanwood Road Project, MVUF, and Marveland, this accessible 'light walk' was created with the help of local residents, schools, artists, and makers. It is your chance to strengthen your connection to the natural environment and celebrate some unique local treasures. See things in a different light and join us for an unforgettable journey through a radiant world.

FREE, find out more:
ONLINE leeds2023.co.uk



Commissioned by LEEDS 2023 as a part of My World My City My Neighbourhood supported by Paul Hamlyn Foundation, The National Lottery Heritage Fund, Arts Council England, Leeds Community Foundation and Mohn Westlake Arts Engagement Fund. Supported by Inner North East Community Committee.

Image: © Lizzie Coombes.

August
– October



ANIMATED HAREHILLS

DATE Various Workshops and Screenings between August and October
TIME Various times
PLACE Thackray Museum of Medicine:
141 Beckett Street,
Harehills, Leeds LS9 7LN

Get animated in Leeds
this summer with Leeds
Animation Workshop

Home to Leeds Animation Workshop since 1978, Harehills gets even more animated this summer! Get creative at a series of workshops where beginners can have a go at making an animated film. There's also informal screening events featuring professional animators from our region, who'll show amazing award-winning films, explain their different techniques and tell you how they got started. The series ends with a spectacular free after-dark projection event, including films, music, and specially created work by local artists for everyone to enjoy.

FREE, find out more:
ONLINE leedsanimation.org.uk



Commissioned by LEEDS 2023 as a part of My World My City My Neighbourhood supported by Paul Hamlyn Foundation, The National Lottery Heritage Fund, Arts Council England, Leeds Community Foundation and Mohn Westlake Arts Engagement Fund. Supported by the National Lottery Community Fund.

October



Sonia Boyce and Jacqui Dankworth with the Carducci String Quartet

DATE Thursday 5 October
TIME Doors at 6:45pm
Event at 7:30pm
PLACE Howard Assembly Room:
32 New Briggate, Leeds
LS1 6NU

Join Sonia Boyce OBE RA and Jacqui Dankworth MBE in conversation followed by a performance from Jacqui with the celebrated Carducci String Quartet at Howard Assembly Room.



This event is held in association with Leeds Art Gallery, LEEDS 2023 and Howard Assembly Room.

To coincide with Sonia Boyce: Feeling Her Way at Leeds Art Gallery, this one-off event sees the artist in conversation with her collaborator and jazz vocalist Jacqui Dankworth, before a performance from Jacqui's trio alongside the celebrated Carducci String Quartet.

Known primarily as a jazz vocalist, Dankworth's skill in singing extends far beyond that, and so it is no surprise that she has asked the Carducci String Quartet, widely regarded for their Shostakovich interpretations, to join her for the evening.

This is a rare opportunity to explore the intersections between art and music; between classical, jazz and more.

TICKETED, find out more online:
ONLINE operanorth.co.uk

Sonia Boyce: Feeling Her Way – Learning, Community and Families Programme

In response to their ongoing exhibition Sonia Boyce: Feeling Her Way, Leeds Art Gallery have joined forces with LEEDS 2023 to programme a range of family-friendly and youth-led activities.

For the latest details on the full engagement programme, please visit our website.

FREE, find out more online:
ONLINE leeds2023.co.uk

Youth Takeover Weekend at Leeds Art Gallery

DATE Friday 27 to Sunday 29 October
PLACE Leeds Art Gallery: Victoria Gardens, Leeds LS1 3AA
TIME Fri: 10am – 5pm
Sun: 11am – 3pm

The last weekend of October is handed over to young people. With creative responses to the exhibition, this takeover includes improvised performances by Northern School of Contemporary Dance students and an evening event featuring Sable Radio DJs.



Image: © Northern School of Contemporary Dance.

In partnership with LEEDS 2023, Leeds Art Gallery, Henry Moore Institute and Northern School of Contemporary Dance.

Autumn
2023

Sky Arts Future Perfect

Sky Arts and LEEDS 2023 support the region's emerging talent.

Sky Arts has commissioned five of the brightest creative talents in Leeds to create a new series of short films for LEEDS 2023. From coming of age tales to stargazing, the stories each answer the same question – what future is worth fighting for?

The project has been created to spotlight diverse artists across the city and give them the opportunity to share their stories with a national audience.

**Catch screenings of the films
on Sky Arts this autumn:**

The Last Day
– Gomolemo Nyakale

Working Classical Heroes
– Ellis Arey

Push Through, Push Through!
– Isla Hurst

Moon Palace – A Stargazer's Journey
– East Leeds Project

Little Goes
– Jo Schofield, Charlotte Gwinner
and Rebecca May

Find out more:
ONLINE leeds2023.co.uk

Sky Arts in partnership with Arts Council England,
LEEDS 2023, The Space and Studio12.

Image: © Studio12.

August
– November



Baby Week Leeds: Tetley Takeover

DATE Wednesday 15 to
Sunday 19 November

PLACE The Tetley: Hunslet Road,
Leeds LS10 1JQ

What do you get when you mix baby sensory with an art exhibition? Artist Beatrice Lee Knowles has created a fun, colourful installation especially for little ones down at The Tetley. While the kids (and their imaginations) run wild, parents can check out talks on all things early years and parenting.

FREE, find out more:

ONLINE leeds2023.co.uk



Voluntary Action Leeds: Community Training Programme

DATE August to November

PLACE Various Locations

Calling all local community groups and leaders! Unleash your potential with Voluntary Action Leeds' citywide training programme – a series of empowering workshops taking place across Leeds between August and November. It's your chance to connect with fellow community champions and gain essential skills in organisational development, community engagement and funding strategies, as well as learning how to incorporate arts and creativity into your work. Let's make a lasting impact in our communities!

FREE, find out more:

ONLINE leeds2023.co.uk

Part of Baby Week Leeds supported by
LEEDS 2023 and Child Friendly Leeds.

October

Unsung Sports 2023

DATE Wednesday 25 October
TIME Doors Open 6:45pm
Performance 7:30pm
PLACE Leeds Irish Centre:
York Road, Leeds LS9 9NT

DATE Thursday 26 October
TIME Doors Open 6:45pm
Performance 7:30pm
PLACE Leeds City Museum:
Millennium Square
Cookridge Street,
Leeds LS2 8BH

Welcome, alternative sports fans!

Unsung Sports spotlights unique sports from all around Leeds and the amazing people who play them. Through photography, film, poetry and specially created songs, this evening of performance shares untold stories of passion, belonging and commitment. Join players and fans of Aikido, Pétanque, Basketball and many more in a celebration of adversity overcome and expectations exceeded.

FREE, find out more:
ONLINE leeds2023.co.uk



Delivered by Peter Spafford in partnership with Space2 and LEEDS 2023.

September

Visions in the Map

DATE Saturday 23 September
PLACE Various Venues

Leeds' first underground Drag Collective are bringing often untold stories to spaces all over the city.

Visions in the Map is the result of a three-year research project that unlocks the unspoken queer history of Leeds. Trace stories of resistance and protest through a map of the city. Join this collective of working class, queer creatives staging artworks, performances and workshops. This celebration of queer identity puts LGBTQIA+ stories firmly in the spotlight.

FREE, find out more:
ONLINE leeds2023.co.uk

Some historical information will discuss themes of a sexual nature and police brutality. Suggested 18+ or 16+ with parental guidance.

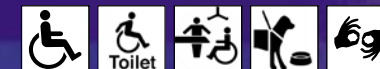


Image: © JMA Photography.

In partnership with LEEDS 2023, Assembly House, Leeds Museums and Galleries, West Yorkshire Queer Archives, Whitelock's Ale House, The Fenton and Wharf Chambers.

One of the most exciting opportunities that comes with delivering a Year of Culture is the chance to offer experiences that help us to think differently or learn something new, and kickstart conversations we may not otherwise have. When considering what LEEDS 2023's contribution could be to climate action, building on the strong work led by many in the city already, we knew that the power of working with artists in this field was one of the biggest ways we could have an impact.

By re-introducing the Forest of Leodis back into Leeds City Centre with a new artwork by Michael Pinsky and Studio Bark, Making a Stand is a new public space to contemplate our relationship with nature, the built environment, and the planet. Whilst also experiencing joy and fun even in the most challenging subjects through music, mindfulness and surprising activations taking place throughout the year.

Nest, in partnership with the National Youth Theatre, is an epic outdoor performance bringing together young people in one of Leeds' most beautiful landscapes, RSPB St Aidan's Nature Park. Sharing the next generation's calls to action for the future of our planet. This mass takeover of one of our most precious natural resources in Leeds will be a wild, immersive experience taking on the climate crisis through music, projections and performances from 100 young people.

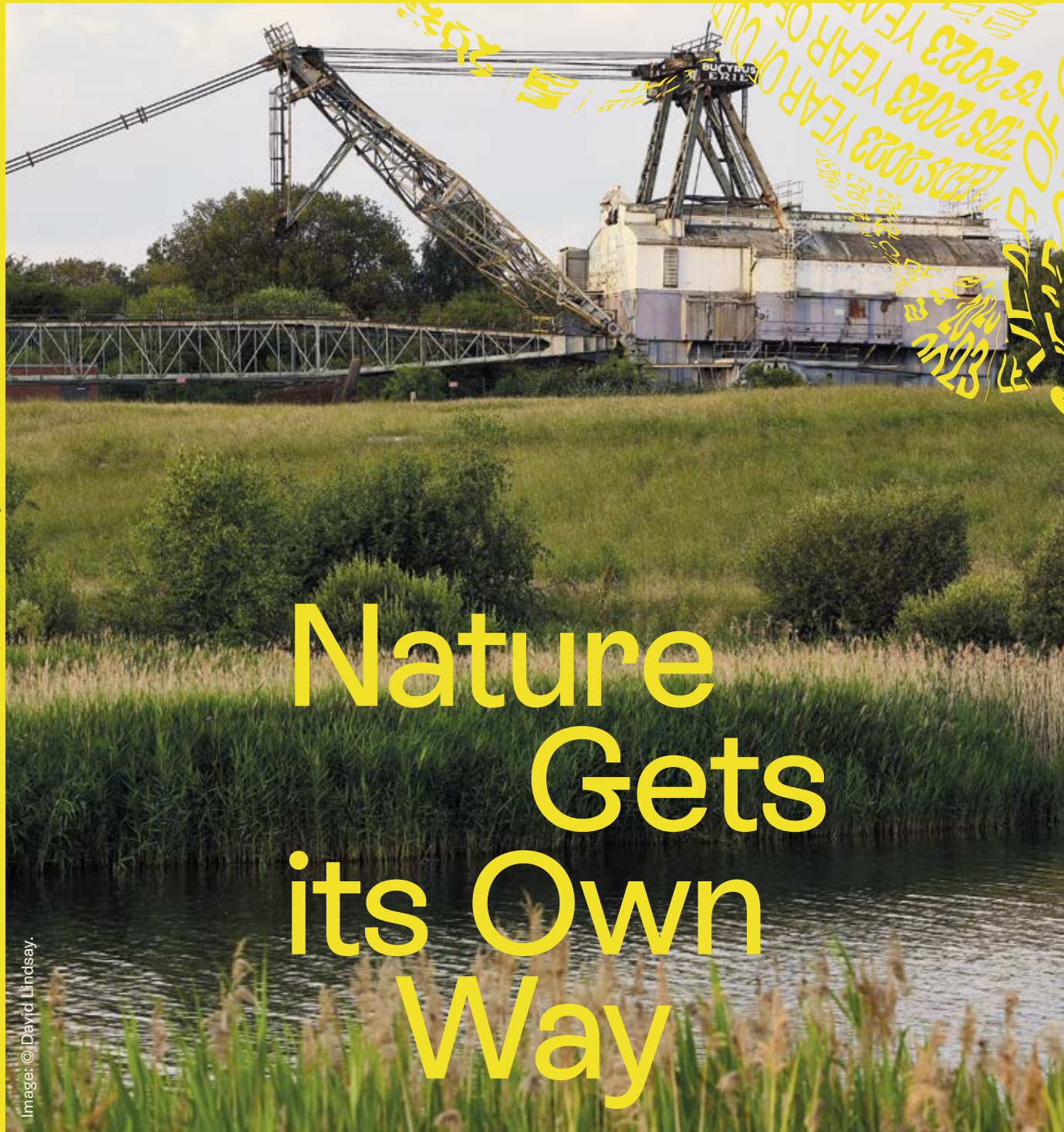
Invisible Flock, in partnership with artists, activists and communities from around the world, have been working with us to examine land ownership, rights and occupation. This collective of international artists has created responses to a two-year investigation into land in Leeds and around the world – offering local and global perspectives on a future where humans live alongside, rather than in conflict with, nature and ecologies.

These are some examples of our contribution to the dialogue on our relationship with the planet in this final season. But we're one part of a much larger community seeking solutions to one of society's most complex challenges. From Leeds Climate Commission to the Place Based Climate Action Network, Friends of the Earth Leeds, Leeds Permaculture Network and of course our close collaborators SAIL.

We hope they provide a space to dream about a new way of taking climate action, whilst also being surprising, unique and joyful experiences to be part of.

Emma Beverley

Director of Programmes
LEEDS 2023



October
— November

This is a FOREST

DATE October to November

PLACE Various Locations

The land wants to be a forest.

Through art, sculpture, film and data, This is a FOREST explores what might be possible if we work with – rather than against – nature, exposing systems and structures that prevent ecosystems from thriving.

These indoor and outdoor artworks and interventions invite us to explore ownership of earth, soil, air and water. Beyond its financial value, what is land worth in ecological, health and social terms?

Invisible Flock is a multi-award-winning interactive arts studio, based at Yorkshire Sculpture Park, who create sensory environments and installations where human and planetary health meet. This project sees them collaborate with Anushka Athique, Vandria Borari, Nwando Ebizie, Outi Pieski and Jenni Laiti as they journey across 50 sites in Leeds in an attempt to reclaim a part of the city as a forest.

FREE, find out more:

ONLINE leeds2023.co.uk

An International Leeds

LEEDS 2023

Image: After Tears: After a Requiem by Neo Muyanga.

As an early supporter of LEEDS 2023, the British Council recognised the city's potential for growing international connections. With over 175 languages spoken, Leeds is one of the UK's most culturally exciting and diverse cities. I believe this is one of the city's greatest strengths, and I'm excited to see what will come from the new connections with over 40 countries, developed through the Year of Culture.

It would have been easy for LEEDS 2023 to lose sight of the international potential of the programme. The challenges of forging international partnerships are more prevalent now than ever. Leeds' determination to 'do it anyway' despite the disappointment surrounding the European Capital of Culture bid, was an act of fortitude. Leeds' resolve to continue to reach out to Europe and the wider world was only strengthened: bringing together communities, creatives, academics, and cultural leaders across six continents throughout the year. LEEDS 2023's ambitious international outlook, with the British Council's support and networks, has helped to make and tour work, raise the profile of the region internationally, create new connections and facilitate exciting new, and lasting partnerships.

In this final season, much of the work to build these international connections comes to fruition. The BBC's Contains Strong Language festival arrives in the city, and with it come poets from around the world convened by Simon Armitage. Transform Festival produces its biggest programme yet, including its first international commission with MEXA. Award-winning artists Masimba Hwati and Xabiso Vili will bring their innovative sculptural and augmented reality artworks to life in collaboration with Leeds creatives. Artists from Zimbabwe, South Africa, Malaysia, India, The Netherlands, Finland and more will present their work for the first time in the UK. Right here in Leeds.

By using the lens of the LEEDS 2023 diaspora to connect people and communities, the final phase of this incredible Year of Culture will help create a whole new world in the city. I'm looking forward to seeing how this city continues to grow beyond its borders to create a strong global legacy for culture and collaboration.

Shinder Hundal MBE
Global Arts Director
The British Council

October Sokunge

DATE Exhibition: Monday 16 to Saturday 28 October
Performances: Monday 16 to Tuesday 17 October

TIME Performances at 1pm

PLACE Leeds Kirkgate Market:
Vicar Lane, Leeds LS2 7HY

Sounds of everyday resistance.

What does it mean to exist and thrive in the gaps of a system, the gaps of society? Sokunge is the word from the Shona language used to describe something in transition, or in the process of becoming. This project by award-winning Zimbabwean artist Masimba Hwati celebrates the small acts of resistance that ordinary people practise every day as they exist in the in-between.

The exhibition will feature sculptures constructed from brass instruments combined with found objects. An ensemble of local artists – poets, musicians, DJs and dancers – will bring these sonic sculptures to life in a performance that combines haiku, spoken word and music to form a sound based ritual exploring the space negotiated between us. Join us to explore the liberty that can be found in the experience of becoming.

FREE, find out more:

ONLINE leeds2023.co.uk

Commissioned by LEEDS 2023. Supported by The British Council and The National Lottery Heritage Fund.

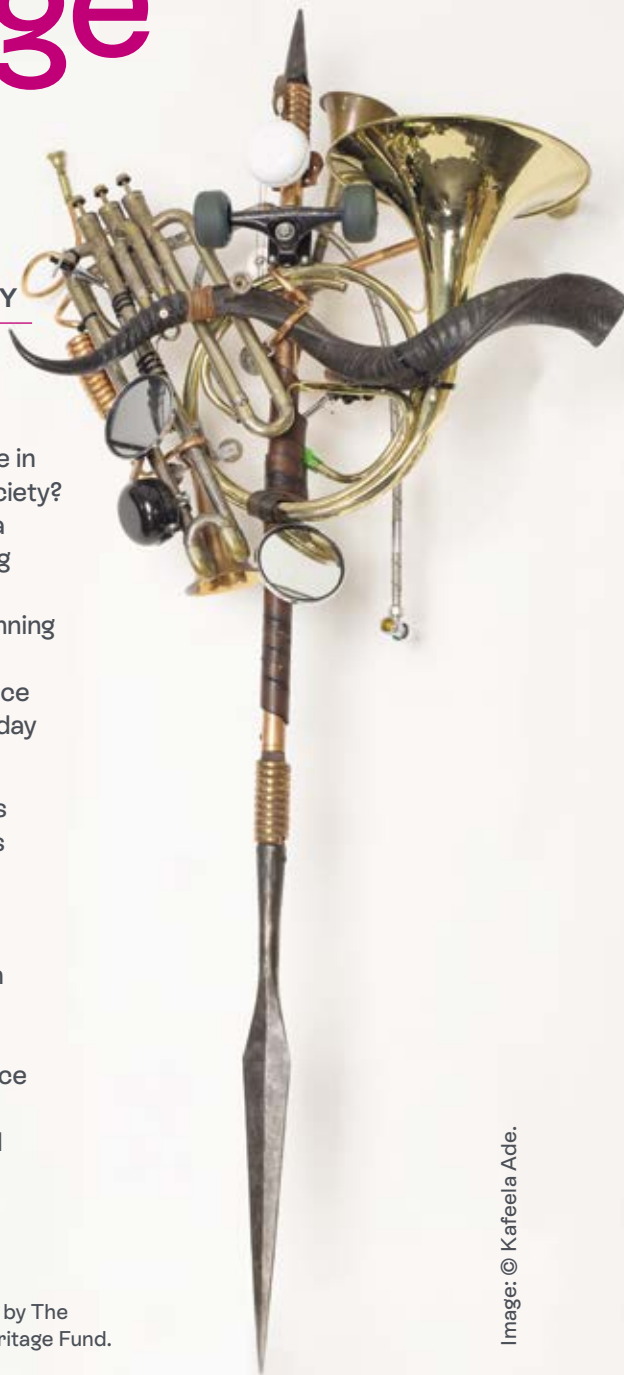


Image: © Kafeela Ade.

December



Guardians of Leeds

DATE Friday 1 to Wednesday 20 December

PLACE Leeds City Centre

A city of untold stories.

What if the story of our city was only told through the eyes of one person? What would we miss? How many tales would go untold? Guardians of Leeds is a celebration of how the stories we share shape our reality.

South African artist Xabiso Vili collaborates with local Black and Brown storytellers and poets to reclaim the power of their stories.

A trail of artworks comes alive throughout the city, waiting to be discovered. Using augmented reality accessed through your phone, you can unlock hidden narratives through layers of poetry, illustration, videography and music, right in the palm of your hand.

Guardians of Leeds is for anybody that has a story to tell that might not be remembered, but is certain it should live deep in the bones of the buildings, alleyways and rivers that run through our city.

FREE, find out more:

ONLINE leeds2023.co.uk

Commissioned by LEEDS 2023. Supported by The British Council and The National Lottery Heritage Fund.

Image: © Sonwabo Valashiya.

October

Transform 23

Image: © Bas de Brouwer.

Powerful performance, extraordinary experiences.

From intimate encounters in unusual spaces to epic main stage performances, Transform 23 is a performance festival bringing together extraordinary productions from across the globe. With dance, theatre, public interventions and more, this international celebration of creative trailblazers is tender, reflective and gloriously defiant. Catch this spectacle of rebellious creativity all over Leeds as we gaze into the future and imagine a new world. We've picked out three festival highlights but don't miss the full programme of events.

DARKMATTER

DATE Saturday 14 October
TIME 7:30 – 8:55pm
PLACE Leeds School of Arts:
Leeds Beckett University,
Portland Way, Leeds
LS1 3PB

Cherish Menzo and onstage partner Camilo Mejia Cortés present an (Afro) futuristic dance performance, remixing techniques from hip hop to explore the way they are perceived and the reality in which they move. Age guidance 16+

Ticketed event, find out more online:
ONLINE transformfestival.org

Transform 23 is produced by Transform – in partnership with Leeds Playhouse and citywide venues and partners. Supported by LEEDS 2023. Funded by Paul Hamlyn Foundation, Esmée Fairbairn Foundation and The Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. Supported using public funding by Arts Council England.

SONGS FOR NO ONE

DATE Saturday 21 October
TIME 2 – 3:15pm
PLACE Carriageworks Theatre:
The Electric Press,
3 Millennium Square,
Leeds LS2 3AD

This evocative solo performance includes dialogues, poems and songs to tell the invisible stories of an Iranian boy and girl living under dictatorship. Created and performed by Dutch Iranian artist Nastaran Razawi Khorasani. Performance in Farsi, English surtitles. Age guidance 16+

Ticketed event, find out more online:
ONLINE transformfestival.org

PUMPITOPERA TRANSATLANTICA

DATE Thursday 19, Friday 20
and Saturday 21 October
TIME 9 – 10:30pm
PLACE The Warehouse In Holbeck:
Crosby Street, Holbeck,
Leeds LS11 9RQ

Brazilian artist collective MEXA present a vivid reimaging of Homer's Odyssey, combining operatic vocals, 90's pop music and personal stories of being mothers, racialised and LGBTQIA+ people. Performance in Brazilian Portuguese, English surtitles. Age guidance 16+

Ticketed event, find out more online:
ONLINE transformfestival.org

October

2 Worlds 1 Voice

DATE Friday 27 October
TIME 7 – 11pm
PLACE Coming Soon

Global culture,
local sound.

This international music collaboration connects Leeds with the world. Ntantu, a Leeds-based rap and RnB artist with 1M+ views on TikTok for his track “Pressure”, has teamed up with rising Nigerian star Brownie Podis to release a new EP. The pair explore Leeds’ connection to Lagos, bringing their voices together in one epic production. Alongside the EP, a short documentary will be released about the process of working on the project and the challenge of creating art remotely.

FREE, find out more:
ONLINE leeds2023.co.uk



Image: © Luke Musharbash (L-Image).

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Comissioned by LEEDS 2023. Supported by The British Council.

November

Leeds International Film Festival 2023

DATE Friday 3 to
Sunday 19 November
TIME Various Times
PLACE Multiple venues
across Leeds

**The world of film comes
to Leeds this November.**

Leeds International Film Festival is back for its 37th year, with a specially extended edition from 3-19 November as part of LEEDS 2023.

From the newly refurbished Hyde Park Picture House and Howard Assembly Room to Vue in The Light and Everyman Cinema, the city will be hosting the latest films by the most exciting filmmakers from Leeds and across the world. LIFF aims to discover and support new diverse voices in local and global filmmaking, and as a qualifying festival for the likes of the Academy Awards® and BAFTAs, you're guaranteed to see incredible films from all genres.

Ticketed events, find out more:
ONLINE leedsfilm.com



Leeds International Film Festival is organised by the Leeds Arts, Events & Venues service of Leeds City Council.

Image: © Daniel Johnson

Coming soon...



Artangel

Extraordinary art,
unexpected places.

DATE Autumn 2023
PLACE Leeds

FIND US artangel.org.uk

November

High Times and Dirty Monsters

DATE Thursday 9 to
Saturday 11 November
TIME Various Times
PLACE Leeds Playhouse:
Playhouse Square, Quarry
Hill, Leeds LS2 7UP



Expect heavy beats
and full hearts.

The voices of young disabled people often go unheard. But not anymore – this raucous, radical, hard-hitting theatre show shares the good times and the not-so-good times of being young and disabled in 2023.

This celebratory project will reach Deaf, disabled and neurodivergent young people through participation opportunities and a national tour. Expect hip-hop, beatboxing, street dance, and a whole lot of talent.

TICKETED, find out more:

ONLINE leedsplayhouse.org.uk

Co-produced by 20 Stories High, Graeae Theatre Company, Liverpool Everyman & Playhouse and LEEDS 2023. Supported by Arts Council England Project Grant, Backstage Trust, Coutts Foundation, Liverpool City Council and Paul Hamlyn Foundation.

Artwork by Joe Harper. Photo credits – Omer Ga'ash,
Performance Preparation Academy (PPA), Mark Dawson.



September – October Early Career Music Promoters

We've joined forces with Come Play With Me – an award-winning local music development organisation – to support their mission of fostering a more equitable music scene in Leeds.

Throughout the year, a group of 11 visionary young people are taking part in a series of workshops, mentoring sessions and paid work placements to advance their skills and help them create their own gigs and music events. Here's a taste of some of the gigs coming up soon.

Ticketed events, find out more:
ONLINE leeds2023.co.uk

Fantasma

Saturday 23 September,
10pm – 5am, Eiger Studios,
Leeds LS11 5NF

Let Leeds Shake

Wednesday 4 October,
7:30 – 11pm, Hyde Park Book Club:
Leeds LS6 1BL

Women in Rock

Sunday 15 October, 7:30 – 11pm,
Hyde Park Book Club: Leeds LS6 1BL

A Lesson in Music Education

Saturday 21 October, 12 – 3pm,
Sheaf Street: Leeds LS10 1HD

QueerCore: Night of The Living

Tuesday 31 October, 7:30pm – 2am,
The Wardrobe: Leeds LS9 8AH

Delivered by LEEDS 2023 and Come Play With Me.
Supported by Leeds City Council and Arts Council England.

November Leeds Creative Skills Festival

DATE Monday 20 November
TIME 2 – 7pm
PLACE First Direct Arena:
Arena Way, Leeds
LS2 8BY

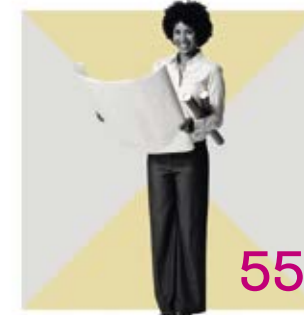
Unlock your creativity
at this vibrant celebration
of artistic expression.



Delivered by Leeds City Councils Employment
& Skills and Culture Programmes Teams
supported by LEEDS 2023.

Whether you're an aspiring artist, musician, or writer, or just looking to explore your creative side, this festival is for you. It's a chance for you to learn from some of the best creatives and cultural organisations in Leeds about creative courses, careers, skills and opportunities. And who knows? You might even discover a new passion or talent that you never knew you had. From live performances to interactive workshops, there's something for everyone at the Leeds Creative Skills Festival 2023.

FREE, find out more:
ONLINE firstdirectarena.com



Throughout the closing months of our Year of Culture, children will be diving into stories and reading some of the best new books, as part of Leeds Book Awards with Leeds Libraries. They will also have the chance to hear our Northern Dreaming storybook during story time.

Young people will be sharing stories that celebrate the vibrancy and diversity of our city. Lift the Lid, in partnership with Creative Lives and SharpFutures, gives 23 young people the opportunity to shine a spotlight on Leeds by creating podcasts and news articles. Sky Arts Future Perfect will showcase the creation of five new short films produced by some of the city's most exciting new talent, and Leeds Languages Week will see young people telling their stories in different languages.

Children and young people will also be expressing themselves through music and dance, participating in the Yorkshire Schools Dance Festival, and taking over Leeds Art Gallery for a weekend of dance and music inspired by Sonia Boyce: Feeling Her Way. Eleven early career music promoters, who have been participating in a year-long programme with Come Play with Me, will be shaping the story of Leeds' music industry by creating an inclusive programme of music events.

Through stories young people will be connecting with the natural world while coming to terms with the impact of climate change. Both Re-imagining Home, presented by Story Makers Company, and River of Hope, with Thames Festival Trust, will give children and young people the opportunity to explore themes of climate change. Meanwhile, young people taking part in Nest, in partnership with National Youth Theatre, will create a breathtaking performance exploring the impact of the climate crisis on our world, through a fictional but all too real story.

Children and young people will journey through stories this season as they dream of the future and create their own narrative.

Chris Ansell

Head of Creative Learning and Engagement
LEEDS 2023

Young Storytellers and Dreamers

Image: © JMA Photography.



September
— December

Culture in the Classroom

Let Culture Loose in your school, excite learners, and support their development through inspirational learning experiences.

From art gallery visits and participatory challenges to classroom resources and activities, we have creative learning offers for every key stage. And we've linked back to the curriculum, so you can be confident that your learners' experiences will align with learning goals.

FREE, find out more:

ONLINE leeds2023.co.uk

Professional Development for Teachers

Cultural Education Conference

DATE Monday 4 December

PLACE The Tetley

Join Leeds Cultural Education Partnership and industry leaders to discuss best practices in arts and cultural education.

Teachers' Conference: STEM and the Arts

DATE Saturday 30 September

TIME 9:30am – 5pm

PLACE The Grammar School at Leeds

Inspired by pioneering civil engineer John Smeaton, this education conference is for primary and secondary teachers in Leeds and beyond.

Arts and Humanities

Afra Eisma Learning Resources

PLACE Online

Download a pack of resources from our website to help learners creatively respond to The Tetley's Afra Eisma: splashdown tender exhibition.

Art gallery visits

DATE September to November

PLACE Henry Moore Institute and Leeds Art Gallery

Following an assembly at their school, pupils will explore art, poetry and music through a free visit to Sonia Boyce: Feeling Her Way at Leeds Art Gallery and The Weight of Words at Henry Moore Institute.

Burberry Careers Roadshow

DATE September to December

A chance for KS4 pupils to explore creative career paths with British luxury brand, Burberry.

Leeds Book Awards

DATE October

Leeds Libraries are running the Leeds Book Awards until October as a part of our Year of Culture, where children and young people dive into the best books of the year.

My LEEDS Schools Grants

DATE Deadline 29 September

Schools are invited to apply for a grant of £300 to enable pupils to design an activity to be added to an existing event in the school's calendar.

Reimagining Home

DATE Monday 30 October to Friday 10 November

PLACE Online

An immersive online experience for KS2 addressing climate change, separation and wellbeing. Shape your own environment by responding to interactive prompts. In partnership with Story Makers Company at Leeds Beckett University.

River of Hope

DATE September to November

A free creative project with Thames Festival Trust for KS3 pupils to explore the climate crisis through a global lens.

Yorkshire Schools Dance Festival

DATE Wednesday 18 October to Thursday 19 October

TIME 9:30am – 2:30pm

PLACE The Carriageworks

Enjoy a day full of dance and performance at Carriageworks Theatre. Open to all key stages.

The Art of Engineering

As a part of Smeaton300, we've planned a whole host of activities for STEM pupils to get stuck into.

Check out our selection of offers, including free online My Learning resources, a voucher code to do CREST Awards for free, a video game coding workshop, and a day out to design an imaginary public space with industry experts!

My Learning Smeaton Resource

PLACE Online

Explore John Smeaton's global impact as the pioneering father of civil engineering with KS2 and KS3 pupils through a free teaching resource on the My Learning website.

Smeaton300 Coding Day with Barclays

DATE Thursday 30 November

TIME 10:00am – 12:00pm

PLACE Online

A two-hour creative coding workshop for Year 6 pupils to create a game using the basics of coding, as well as discovering the amazing work of John Smeaton.

Smeaton300 CREST Awards

PLACE Online

A chance for KS2 and KS3 pupils to think like scientists and engineers and design and develop their very own STEM projects.

Smeaton300 Industry Sharing Day

DATE Wednesday 8 November

TIME 9:30am – 12:30pm

PLACE Leeds Industrial Museum

A special day out for KS2 and KS3 STEM students to work alongside industry professionals to design 'Smeaton Park' – an imaginary new public space.

Leeds Language Week

DATE Monday 13 to Friday 17 November

PLACE Online and in schools

Did you know over 170 languages are spoken in Leeds?

Schools are invited to celebrate the city's multilingual heritage with a week-long programme of activities. From poetry competitions, to language workshops, and foreign film screenings, find out how your school can get involved.

FREE, find out more:

ONLINE leeds2023.co.uk



In partnership with LEEDS 2023, British Council, Camões Centre for Portuguese Language at Leeds, Goethe-Institut, Instituto Cervantes Leeds, Institut français du Royaume-Uni, Into Film, Leeds 0-19 Learning Improvement, Leeds Chinese Community School, Leeds City Council, Leeds International Film Festival, Leeds Music Education Partnership, Leeds Young Film, Manchester Poetry Library at Manchester Metropolitan University, Stephen Spender Trust, University of Leeds.

Image: © JMA Photography.

All That Lives

DATE Friday 27 October
to Saturday 4 November

TIME Various Times

PLACE Quarry Hill Campus,
Leeds City College:
Leeds LS2 7BS

BLANK_ Gallery,
Quarry Hill Campus,
Leeds City College:
Leeds LS2 7BS

Leeds Playhouse:
Playhouse Square,
Quarry Hill,
Leeds LS2 7UP

Centre For Live
Art Yorkshire:
1-2 Regent Street,
Leeds LS2 7QA



Grief Series (UK)
& Zion Art Studio
(Mexico) welcome you
to celebrate Day of the
Dead reimagined with
the people of Yorkshire.

Experience beautiful, pioneering visual
and digital art, live performance and
empathetic conversation during a
glorious celebration of life – and death.

Learn about Mexican Day of the Dead
traditions and contribute objects to an
immersive public Ofrenda to celebrate
those you have loved and lost.

With its fair share of provocative
events programmed by Centre for
Live Art Yorkshire (CLAY) we hope
you'll laugh 'til you cry, remember
the good times and leave with
a lighter heart.

Signposting to practical help, advice
and local services will be available
via our facilitated Crossing sessions
with facilitators trained in holding
meaningful, helpful conversations
around the themes of life and death.

Colourful, playful and contemplative,
All That Lives will be a space of
connection with radical gentleness
at its heart.

From Leeds to Mexico, from silence
to conversation.

No Elephants in the room, no skeletons
in the closet.

We cannot wait to see you there.

Ticketed events, find out more:

ONLINE leeds2023.co.uk



Produced by Polite Rebellion and commissioned by LEEDS 2023. With support
from Arts Council England, Arts@Leeds, Leeds Clinical Commissioning group,
Leeds Playhouse and Leeds City College. With special thanks to Static Flow
Productions, Zion Arts Studio and Centre for Live Art Yorkshire.

October



The Variety Club Disability Sports Awards

DATE Monday 30 October
TIME 6:15pm
PLACE Queens Hotel: Leeds LS1 1PJ

The UK's only national disability sports awards, celebrate and champion people with disabilities in sport.

Hosted by comedian & disability advocate Adam Hills MBE and GB Snowsport CEO Vicky Gosling OBE, and with performances from comedians Rosie Jones & Katerina Vana. Event partners include Channel 4, British Paralympics Association, England Cricket Board, England Golf, Leeds United FC, Leeds Rhinos and LEEDS 2023.

Ticketed, find out more:
ONLINE variety.org.uk



Image: © Chris Eastham.

Neville Street Artwork

DATE From October
PLACE Neville Street:
Leeds LS1 4BQ

New art on Neville Street.

Neville Street is getting an artistic overhaul this September and will become the home of a new gallery wall created by locally-based artists. The designs will celebrate the city's vibrant cultural identity and shine a light on communities in the city, particularly those in south Leeds. Celebrating the people, culture and heritage of Leeds, the artwork will sit along a newly clad and lit walkway that better connects the South Bank, south Leeds, and the city centre.

FREE, find out more:
ONLINE leeds2023.co.uk

The commissioning of artwork has been a collaborative exercise undertaken in partnership with Leeds City Council, the Civic Trust, Network Rail and the West Yorkshire Combined Authority.

EPIC DOMESTIC

DATE Pre-bookable and drop-in public events: Wednesday 13 December
Exhibition: Thursday 14 to Sunday 17 December
TIME 10am – 5pm
PLACE The Tetley: Hunslet Road, Leeds LS10 1JQ

Join Bobby Baker's domestic revolution!



Bobby Baker's EPIC DOMESTIC is an artistic mission to fight gender injustice, connect communities and challenge the unequal division of domestic labour in the home. Inspired by activism, propaganda and the untold stories of women all over the world, EPIC DOMESTIC is a quest to create a Domestic Revolutionary Party fit for the 21st Century.

FREE and TICKETED events, find out more:

ONLINE leeds2023.co.uk

Supported by LEEDS 2023, Unlimited and Arts Council England.

Image: © Bobby Baker.



December



Motus Mori: CORPUS

DATE Introduction Workshops:
Thursday 21 to
Sunday 24 September
Performances: Friday 8
to Sunday 10 December

TIME Various Times

PLACE Leeds Art Gallery:
The Headrow, Leeds
LS1 3AA



The Body as Archive.

Internationally acclaimed Dutch-German choreographer Katja Heitmann is on a mission to collect and preserve human movement. In partnership with Leeds Art Gallery and Yorkshire Dance, Katja is creating a new version of her Motus Mori archive of movement with people in Leeds who have a heightened awareness of how they move because of age or physical condition. You are invited to experience how our bodies hold deep knowledge of our memories and emotions in this moving, intimate performance of slowed-down gestures.

FREE, find out more:
ONLINE leeds2023.co.uk

Stichting This is not a show is structurally supported by the Dutch Performing Arts Fund, Province of Noord Brabant and Municipality of Tilburg. This project is made possible through the support of LEEDS 2023, The Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Leeds Art Gallery and Yorkshire Dance.

Image: © Hanneke Wetzer.

Found Cities, Lost Objects

DATE Friday 8 December 2023
to Sunday 21 April 2024

TIME Tue – Sat: 10am – 5pm
Sun: 11am – 3pm

PLACE Leeds Art Gallery:
The Headrow, Leeds
LS1 3AA



Explore the urban environment through the eyes of women and gender nonconforming artists in an Arts Council Collection touring exhibition curated by Turner Prize-winning artist and cultural activist Lubaina Himid CBE. This exhibition of over 60 artworks, also includes work by Leeds and Yorkshire-based artists, exploring themes ranging from safety and navigation, to concepts of belonging and power.

FREE, find out more:
ONLINE leeds2023.co.uk

Generously supported by funders Arts Council England and Leeds City Council.

Image: Hannah Starkey, Mirror – Untitled, September 2015, 2015 Arts Council Collection, Southbank Centre, London. © the artist.



From
November

Hibiscus Rising

Yinka Shonibare CBE RA

DATE From Saturday
25 November
PLACE Meadow Lane,
Leeds LS11 5BJ

**New Hope Grows
in the City.**

A new artwork by award-winning British-Nigerian artist Yinka Shonibare CBE RA will bloom permanently in the city of Leeds.

Shonibare's renowned African-inspired batik patterns adorn a huge hibiscus flower. The plant grows all over Nigeria, and has been placed at the centre of this epic design to honour the life and legacy of David Oluwale. The Leeds resident was a British-Nigerian migrant who settled in Leeds after spending his childhood in Lagos.

David Oluwale faced homelessness, ill mental-health and racism before being hounded to his death in 1969 by drowning in the River Aire as a result of systematic police harassment and violence.

The 10 metre high piece offers an opportunity to reflect on Oluwale's life story and creates a joyful, peaceful space for people to come together and connect. It invites the city to remember the past and imagine a more inclusive future.

FREE, find out more:

ONLINE leeds2023.co.uk





Image: © Jude Palmer.

Director's Note

They say it takes a village to raise a child so perhaps it is no surprise that it has taken a lot of people from all walks of life, to help make LEEDS 2023 Year of Culture a reality.

To all those who gathered, talked, shared ideas, persuaded the unconvinced, stepped forward and persevered, even when the odds looked impossible, THANK YOU. Almost ten years since the city began its journey and sitting outside of any formal framework, Leeds delivered a Year of Culture in the most extraordinary and often challenging of circumstances. THANK YOU to all who played their part along this journey. We couldn't have done it without you.

In every corner, in every home, in every business, creativity abounds. Who could argue with that when you look back on The Awakening, and the thousands who submitted their artwork to get a ticket? Or when you consider the myriad of events as part of My LEEDS Summer, when 33 Neighbourhood Hosts truly Let Culture Loose in their wards? And what about The WOW Barn raised in 24 hours despite the rain? Or the 1001 stories that captured the spirit of wisdom and age? Who would have imagined the possibility of 180 children singing a Benjamin Britten opera in a warehouse?

Defying expectations in so many ways: the communities and the collectives; the artists and the poets; the children and the elders; the makers and the funders. So many coming together to create a raft of new stories for a city in uncertain times. And now as the nights draw in and the dawning of a new year is around the corner, we pass the baton on to all of you – to continue dreaming, imagining and creating new myths about a city that is no longer spoken of as a sleeping giant but knows with certainty that it is a city of quiet greatness!

Kully Thiarai
Creative Director and CEO
LEEDS 2023



This is the moment to show off your city!

So far we've welcomed nearly 1000 volunteers onto our programme who collectively have racked up thousands of hours to help make our events possible. We spoke to two of them, Neil Saunders and Hoi Jan Chan, to hear more about their experiences this year.

What opportunities have you had as a result of your involvement in LEEDS 2023?

Hoi Jan: "I've had so many wonderful opportunities through my involvement with LEEDS 2023. One experience that stands out is being part of The WOW Barn and the youth activities that took place as a part of the event. I am a fundraiser and I volunteered alongside my mother. It was incredible to witness the impact we were making and see generations coming together in both those volunteering and the community attending the events. LEEDS 2023 truly embraces and incorporates people of all ages."

What was your favourite opportunity you had as a result of your involvement in LEEDS 2023?

Neil: "After completing over 40 hours of volunteering, it is difficult to pick out a favourite one! The Awakening, to me, was the most exciting. Meeting volunteers for the first time, getting all kitted out in our uniform... even the rain couldn't ruin it!

Inducting new volunteers is something I thoroughly enjoy. Meeting like-minded people and seeing the same eagerness and excitement that I had is lovely to see. You create great memories with other volunteers. We were even in great spirits during the 4am shift I had at The Wow Barn. We all hyped each other up. Seeing the sun rise over the barn was amazing and made our efforts all worth it."

Read the full interview and sign up to be a volunteer:
[ONLINE leeds2023.co.uk](https://leeds2023.co.uk)

Image: Tom Joy.

Beyond 2023

When Leeds decided to dust off the disappointment of being unable to compete for European Capital of Culture and instead press ahead and do our own thing, we made a huge statement of intent about our city and what it stands for.

That combination of tenacity, imagination and dedication is exactly what's got us here today, and standing at Headingley Stadium in January, as thousands of people watched the night sky above Leeds illuminated during the spectacular Awakening opening event, it all felt worthwhile.

A feeling of unity and collective will has been a common thread throughout this year, and it's been incredible to see the energy and diversity of Leeds encapsulated so well in a programme that has fired imaginations all across the city.

In particular, it's been inspiring to see how LEEDS 2023 has been such a vibrant catalyst for the forging of new friendships and networks and how the programme has celebrated Leeds as a truly global, international city.

In the coming months, we'll not only see those international links really come to the fore, we'll also have the opportunity to reflect on the city's past, present and future with the much-anticipated unveiling of Hibiscus Rising. This stunning sculpture created by the renowned Yinka Shonibare will be situated at the heart of the city's redeveloped South Bank, and will commemorate the life and tragic death of David Oluwale while standing as a symbol of community cohesion.

That spirit will be fundamental to the legacy of LEEDS 2023, a celebration that has brought the city together and given Leeds a chance to show the whole world who we are.

Councillor Jonathan Pryor
 Deputy Leader of Council and
 Executive Member for Economy,
 Culture and Education
 Leeds City Council



Image: © Ant Robling.

Northern Dreaming

A gift of stories for the young.

Welcoming a new addition this year? LEEDS 2023 and the British Library have come together to create a special gift for babies born in Leeds in 2023.

Northern Dreaming is a collection of poetry and stories by 18 emerging and published writers. Each author shares their unique perspective and imagination, inspiring the next generation of dreamers.

The gift is a celebration of the magical thrill of storytelling. It's a place for readers to find comfort, inspiration and joy.

With stories for babies, children and young adults, the book is designed to carry readers all the way through their childhood, and be treasured long after the last page has been turned.

FREE, find out more:
ONLINE leeds2023.co.uk

The Gifting

The team that created The Awakening as the opening show of our Year of Culture are working on something entirely different and surprising for our closing event.

Drawing from the magic of the darkest winter nights and the dawning of a new year, look out for further details about our closing ceremony as we bring a year of Awakening, Playing and Dreaming to a close.

Ticketed, find out more:
ONLINE leeds2023.co.uk

Image: Based on original artwork by Milly Chapple.

Co-published by LEEDS 2023 and the British Library. Supported by The National Lottery Heritage Fund and Arts Council England. Original concept commissioned by UNBOXED: Creativity in the UK with funding from UK Government.

Co-produced by LEEDS 2023, the British Library and Slung Low. Supported by The National Lottery Heritage Fund and Arts Council England.

August
—December

A round-up of some of the exciting cultural happenings in our city.

For more ideas of things to do in Leeds visit:
leeds2023.co.uk and leedsinspired.co.uk

Becoming the Brontes

29 June to 28 October

Explore the creative beginnings of Charlotte, Emily, Anne and Branwell Brontë – from the little books they produced as children to rare first editions of their most celebrated works.

Treasures of the Brotherton Gallery: Parkinson Building, University of Leeds, Woodhouse Lane, Leeds LS2 9JT
library.leeds.ac.uk

MC Yallah & Debmaster

31 August

MC Yallah is a unique female voice in Ugandan Hip-Hop, and is a leading light in Uganda's legendary electronic and experimental Nyege Nyege collective. Support from Debmaster, BFTT, Boe&Lx and Kuassa.

Sheaf St: 3 Sheaf Street, Leeds LS10 1HD
sheafst.com

Leeds' Treasures

4 September

A collection of treasures, each housed in the archives of a different library in Leeds, will be presented for the first time in one place in a unique online exhibition.

ONLINE
librariesinleeds.org



Image: © MC Yallah.

Image: © Leeds International Beer Festival.



Libraries in Leeds Festival

4 to 9 September

This inaugural festival showcases a number of the city's libraries and celebrates their varied contributions to the health, heritage, cultural, arts and education sectors.

Various addresses. The details will be on the website for each event:
librariesinleeds.org

Behind the Scenes Library Tours

4 to 8 September

Members of the public have an opportunity to experience a taste of working life behind the scenes of some of the city's libraries and archives.

Various locations
librariesinleeds.org

Leeds International Beer Festival

7 to 10 September

An annual 4-day festival at Kirkstall Abbey, celebrating and promoting craft beer, complemented by a street food market, live music and all sorts of lovely beer related things.

Kirkstall Abbey: Abbey Road, Leeds LS5 3EH
leedsbeer.com

Family History in the 21st Century

7 September

Nick Barratt will talk about the popularity of mainstream TV programmes and discuss the impact of DNA connectivity, generative AI and deep fake tools on the process of researching family history.

Laidlaw Library: University of Leeds Woodhouse Lane, Leeds LS2 3AR
librariesinleeds.org

Wordsworth Donisthorpe and the great What If?

8 September

Film experts at Leeds School of Arts, Leeds Beckett University, promise an exciting, illustrated talk on Leeds' neglected film pioneer.

**Leeds School of Arts building:
Leeds Beckett University City
Campus, Portland Way,
Leeds LS1 3PB**
leedsbeckett.ac.uk

Generations: Three Short Ballets

8 to 16 September

Northern Ballet's new era begins with an exclusive triple-bill on their home stage featuring breathtaking ballets by some of the world's finest choreographers.

**Stanley & Audrey Burton Theatre:
Northern Ballet, Quarry Hill, Leeds
LS2 7PA**
northernballet.com

Family Day at Leeds Central Library

9 September

Enjoy a host of free family activities, from creative Lego building and Code Club to Story and Rhyme Time.

**Leeds Central Library: Calverley
Street, Leeds LS1 3AB**
librariesinleeds.org

Family Day at the University of Leeds

9 September

Join the University of Leeds for 'Get Creative' sessions, where you will have a chance to express your creativity through a number of different projects.

**Edward Boyle Library:
University of Leeds Level 9,
Makerspace, Edward Boyle Library,
Woodhouse, Leeds LS2 9JT**
librariesinleeds.org

Rosie Jones: Triple Threat

13 September

This show is guaranteed to be full of unapologetic cheekiness, nonsensical fun and unadulterated joy from the triple threat herself.

**City Varieties: Swan Street,
Leeds LS1 6LW**
leedsheritagetheatres.com

Popular music in Leeds: Histories, heritage, people and places

17 September

Join Leeds Beckett University music experts, Dr Paul Thompson, Dr Brett Lashua and Dr Peter Mills on a guided walking tour of Leeds' hidden musical heritage.

**The Dry Dock: Woodhouse Lane,
Leeds LS2 3AX**
leedsbeckett.ac.uk

Next Gen: Postgraduate Show 2023

18 to 23 September

Next Gen is a showcase of work by talented creatives graduating from Leeds Arts University's postgraduate degrees.

**Leeds Arts University:
Blenheim Walk, Leeds LS2 9AQ**
leeds-art.ac.uk

Leeds Digital Festival

18 to 29 September

A celebration of digital culture in all its forms, and the UK's largest open tech event, Leeds Digital Festival returns this September.

**Multi-venue festival: taking place
across Leeds City Centre and the
wider City Region.**
leedsdigitalfestival.org

School of Night Celebrate the 400th Anniversary of Shakespeare's Folio

22 September

A night full of wonder and daftness to celebrate the 400th anniversary of the first publication of Shakespeare's Folio, co-produced by Slung Low and the British Library.

**Slung Low at Temple:
Holbeck, Leeds LS11 9UD**
slunglow.org

Little Red Riding Hood

23 September

A wolf in granny's clothing knows all about what fun dressing-up can be, and in Little Red Riding Hood a magical wardrobe opens its doors to a fantastic display of gorgeous garments.

**Carriageworks Theatre:
The Electric Press, 3 Millennium
Square, Leeds LS2 3AD**
carriageworkstheatre.co.uk



Image: © Generations: Three Short Ballets.



Image: © Katrina Cowling: Near to the Wild Heart.

Katrina Cowling: Near to the Wild Heart

28 September to 16 December
Katrina Cowling's Near to the Wild Heart exhibition presents a body of newly commissioned sculpture, produced as part of her Kenneth Armitage Sculpture Fellowship.
Blenheim Walk gallery:
Leeds Arts University,
Leeds LS2 9AQ
leeds-art.ac.uk

Fathom

2 to 22 October
Fathom is an online theatrical experience by Goat and Monkey that nudges participants to carve out ten minutes a day to rekindle curiosity and ignite the creative flame.
ONLINE
leeds2023.co.uk

Wild Irish Tales

11 October
An evening of storytelling with Clare Murphy in aid of Global Rehabilitation.
Clothworkers Centenary Concert
Hall: Woodhouse, Leeds LS2 3AR
globalrehabilitation.org

Beautiful Thing

18 to 28 October
An iconic coming-out and coming-of-age story, Beautiful Thing is about community, friendship, rites of passage and what it is to be sixteen and in love.
Leeds Playhouse:
Playhouse Square Quarry Hill,
Leeds LS2 7UP
leedsplayhouse.org.uk



Image: © The Gods Are All Here.

The Gods Are All Here

24 October
Sparked by the discovery of letters from his father in Nigeria to his mother in Wales, first-class storyteller, Phil Okwedy, shares a compelling and funny and warm performance.
Carriageworks Theatre:
The Electric Press, 3 Millennium Square, Leeds LS2 3AD
carriageworkstheatre.co.uk

Contested Bodies

25 October to 6 April 2024
Contested Bodies interrogates and celebrates the performativity of gender as a social construct and brings together works by over forty contemporary artists from across the gender spectrum.
Stanley & Audrey Burton Gallery:
Parkinson Building, University of Leeds, Woodhouse Lane,
Leeds LS2 9JT
library.leeds.ac.uk

The Lightbulb Princess

30 October
A delightful new show full of sparkle and song. Can you help a very unusual princess solve an unexpected problem?
Carriageworks Theatre:
The Electric Press, 3 Millennium Square, Leeds LS2 3AD
carriageworkstheatre.co.uk

RJC Dance Inner North East FREE October Half-Term Dance Camp

30 October to 3 November
This October, young people aged 9-17 years are invited to the RJC studios for a dance camp to awaken bodies with dance, movement & choreography.
RJC Dance: The Mandela Centre,
Chapeltown Road, Leeds LS7 3HY
rjcdance.org.uk

SI Leeds Literary Prize – 10th anniversary celebration and The Unheard Voices book launch

15 November
Celebrating 10 years of Leeds-based national literary award SI Leeds Literary Prize with the launch of its anthology The Unheard Voices, published by Peepal Tree Press and edited by Prize alumna Saima Mir.
Clothworkers Centenary Concert Hall Foyer: Woodhouse,
Leeds LS2 3AR
sileedsliteraryprize.com



Image: © The Christmas Experience at Lotherton Hall. Photography Charles Gregory

Leeds City College: What has 2023 meant to us?

23 November to 15 December

Throughout 2023, students at Leeds City College have been unleashing their inner artist by creating a range of exciting and vibrant work.

BLANK_: University Centre Leeds, Quarry Hill Campus, Playhouse Square, LS2 7BS

leedscitycollege.ac.uk

Robin Hood: The Rock 'n' Roll Panto

24 November to 7 January 2024

Following the success of previous titles, Robin Hood is the latest classic tale to get the Rock 'n' Roll treatment.

City Varieties Music Hall:
Swan Street, Leeds LS1 6LW

leedsheritagetheatres.com

The Christmas Experience at Lotherton

25 November to 31 December

From interactive woodland walks, trips to the North Pole and decorated formal gardens, the Christmas Experience at Lotherton is nothing short of magical.

Lotherton Hall: Lotherton Lane, Aberford, Leeds LS25 3EB
thechristmasexperience.co.uk

Northern Ballet's The Nutcracker

29 November to 10 December

Christmas isn't complete until you've experienced the wonder of Northern Ballet's The Nutcracker. Share in Clara's adventures as she is swept away by her Nutcracker Prince into an enchanting winter wonderland.

Leeds Grand Theatre:
46 New Briggate, Leeds LS1 6NU
leedsheritagetheatres.com

The Enormous Crocodile

2 December to 6 January 2024

A new musical version of Roald Dahl's picture book featuring tasty tunes and mischievous puppets suitable for those 4+.

Leeds Playhouse:
Playhouse Square Quarry Hill,
Leeds LS2 7UP
leedsplayhouse.org.uk

NEW GROUND

5 December to 8 December

In NEW GROUND, watch three distinct new works created for and with BA students at Northern School of Contemporary Dance by professional choreographers: Fabio Liberti, Amaury Lebrun and Sattva Ninja.

Riley Theatre:
NSCD, 98 Chapeltown Road,
Leeds LS7 4BH
rileytheatre.com



Image: © SNOWED IN. Zoe Manders.

I Should Be So Lucky: The Official Stock, Aitken & Waterman

12 to 30 December

Hilarious and heart-warming – I Should Be So Lucky is about family, friends, love and great times. Expect soaring anthems, classic pop tracks and dazzling dance sequences.

Leeds Grand Theatre:
46 New Briggate, Leeds LS1 6NU
leedsheritagetheatres.com

RJC Dance Youth Provision Showcase

15 December

An annual event of inspiring evening of dance, which celebrates and highlights the achievements of young people in our community.

Northern School of Contemporary Dance: 98 Chapeltown Road, Leeds LS7 4BH
rjcdance.org.uk

SNOWED IN

20 December to 21 December

Four friends wake up to find they are completely snowed in, and a magnificent adventure unfolds in this playful, interactive family show brought to you by Anatomical.

Riley Theatre:
NSCD, 98 Chapeltown Road,
Leeds LS7 4BH
rileytheatre.com

Partners, Funders and Corporate Supporters

Thank you to all those people and organisations who have supported us so far.

Here's why Arts Council England are supporting Nest this autumn:

"Nest illustrates how cultural activity can explore serious issues such as climate change through immersive work performed in an unusual and inspiring setting. It's also a great opportunity for young people to gain skills in backstage roles and for the audience to enjoy a truly creative experience. I'm delighted we have supported it with an award of £100,000 through our National Lottery Project Grants programme."

Pete Massey, Director North of Arts Council England.

There's still time to get involved through our new We Love LEEDS 2023 Club. This club makes supporting our transformative Year of Culture more accessible than ever before at just £1000 + VAT. Contact support@leeds2023.co.uk to find out more.

We'd like to offer huge thanks to everyone below:

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2023 Club Members



H B D



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LEEDS YEAR OF CULTURE 2023

Supported by Leeds City Council



Leeds
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Market, cloud design by Drewit Studio.
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