

The Rising Sun Arts Centre

Reading's Independent Art Space

January - April 2019

Projects and Participation

Workshops and Classes

Live Events



ABOUT US



We are an independent, award-winning arts centre firmly rooted in the community. The centre has brought groundbreaking, high quality arts to the town for 28 years. We have a strong commitment to making participation work and to making the centre as inclusive as possible. The Rising Sun Arts Centre is a registered charity governed by a board of trustees and has three part-time paid workers. Volunteers do all the core work of the centre and it survives on the basis of earned income with occasional funding for specific projects.



Rising Sun wins two Cultural Awards 2018



Genius Ideas with Jeff the Elf for Advent



Love Live Dream 2018

OUR HISTORY

The Rising Sun Temperance Tavern was built in 1877 among the then massed ranks of pubs and other houses of ill repute on Silver Street. It was built to the design of Alfred Waterhouse (also responsible for the far grander Natural History Museum in London) and is now listed as a Grade II building by English Heritage. After some years spent as a shop, the building eventually fell out of use and into disrepair, when it was squatted by artists in 1990. The group founded The Rising Sun Arts Centre, which opened its doors in 1991 and gained official charity status in 1997. It has been at the heart of Reading's cultural life ever since.

Check out our website
www.risingsunartscentre.org

Like us on facebook
facebook.com/risingsunartscentre

Follow us on twitter
[@risingsunarts](https://twitter.com/risingsunarts)

But most importantly...visit us!
30 Silver Street, Reading, RG12 5ST

VOLUNTEERING



Winners of the Queen's Award for Voluntary Service 2016, The Rising Sun is run by a team of determined and talented volunteers who are responsible for all of the centre's core work. Our volunteers do everything - from staffing the bar, designing leaflets and organising events to managing projects, repairs and marketing. We always welcome new people to get involved.



RVA Volunteer Awards 2018

Be part of Reading's independent arts space. Let your creativity flourish and help us bring inclusive arts to the local community. If you'd like to find out more about volunteering with us, contact our Volunteer Coordinator via nikita.moody@risingsun-artscentre.co.uk

“The Rising Sun Arts Centre is probably the most inclusive organisation I ever had the experience of being involved with. Everyone involved in the centre is so genuine, interested, and passionate about making the centre the best that it can be. I feel completely at home at the Rising Sun, and feel that the centre brings out the best in me, and in what I can achieve.” Joanne



Bar/house management



Sound engineering

Tribute Night: Madonna

Friday 25th January 8pm

Suggested donation £5

"I know I'm not the best singer and I know I'm not the best dancer, but I'm not interested in that. I'm interested in pushing people's buttons, in being provocative and in being political."

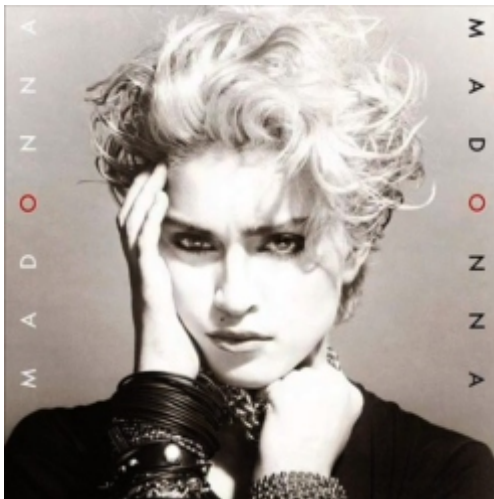
(Madonna, 1991)

"People say I'm controversial, but I think the most controversial thing I have ever done is to stick around." (Madonna, 2016)

The 2019 winter edition of Tribute Night pays homage to an iconic elder states-woman of pop and four decades of music, fashion, controversy and contrariness.

Please send an email to the address below if you would like to perform at this event or join the mailing list.

Email tributenight@hotmail.co.uk for more info.



The Big Untidy Night Out

Second Friday of every month, except January. Doors at 7:30pm

The Big Untidy Night Out specialises in bringing new undiscovered talent into the Rising Sun Arts Centre.

8th February

Brutal Valentine Special featuring Order#227 and BEASTS / Juliet & The Raging Romeos.

8th March

'Southampton Calling' with Daniel Eagle (more tbc).

12th April

Modern Gothic - curated by Ian Mitchell with Master of None, Seasons in Shorthand (more tbc)

See www.risingsunartscentre.org for more details and prices.





Club Velocity

8pm, prices vary, tickets available on wegottickets.com



Here Are The Young Men & Uncle Peanut

16th February: Here Are The Young Men & Uncle Peanut/Rumpo Kidz/New Puritans (£5 adv)

22nd February: Ocean Ruins/Blind Rhythm/Voodoo Radio (£5 adv)

16th March: Ed Borrie/The Keep Cats/Harroland (£6.50 adv)

29th March: The August List/Horse Rock/Ameli (£5 adv)

20th April: Matt Stockl/Rocket Kings/The Unaccompanied (£5 adv)

26th April: Nearly Unsociable/MarcusMIDI/Spanish Green



Wall of Sound: Love Love Live

Saturday 23rd March

7.30pm £5 entry

Mark Jones, pioneer behind **Wall of Sound**, invites you to experience some of his favourite new discoveries. In a series of new music happenings he presents Love Love Live.

Adam & Elvis headline, oozing with an up-tempo romanticism. **The Purple Lights** return with their unique blend of rock, reggae and smattering of loopstation magic. **Human In Bloom** bring a paranormal blend of noir rock and electronic psychedelics. **Ham Legion** kick-off proceedings, their sound bursting with a beaming up-beat power pop.



Adam & Elvis

INDEPENDENT V E N U E W E E K



Pink Diamond Revue

Friday 1st February 8pm, £6 adv
Pink Diamond Revue / Blimp / Head Drop

Saturday 2nd February 8pm, £6 adv
The Go Go Cult / The Other Dramas
The Sonic Flowers

Sunday 3rd February 7.30pm, £6 adv
Jessica Lee Morgan / Harroland
Master Of None



The Go Go Cult

Independent Venue Week

Mon 28th Jan - Sun 3rd Feb

Independent Venue Week (IVW) is a seven day celebration of small music venues around the country and a nod to the people that own, run and work in them, week in, week out.

Supported using public funding by Arts Council England in the UK and also the wider music industry and brands globally, Independent Venue Week brings together these venues along with breaking and established artists, promoters, labels, media, bloggers and tastemakers to create a nationwide series of gigs.



Jessica Lee Morgan

We're very proud to be taking part in this event, with a trio of gigs put together by Club Velocity.

Tickets available on [wegottickets.com](https://www.wegottickets.com)



Club UFO

Saturday 19th January
7pm £4

The Keep Cats headline Club UFO's first gig at the Rising Sun. Expect a fascinating blend of various strands of guitar music, from punk to stoner, with support coming from **Indica Palm Radio** and **The Petties**.



The Keep Cats



Are You Listening? Festival

Saturday 27th April

The award-winning Are You Listening? Festival returns for its seventh year on Saturday 27th April. Since the festival began, it's raised nearly £60,000 for local learning disability charity Reading Mencap.

Previous guests include Idles, Sundara Karma, Ezra Furman, Anna Meredith, Field Music, The Lovely Eggs, Pulled Apart by Horses, Boxed In, The Big Moon, Palace, Steve Lamacq, DJ Format, The Amazons and many more.

Keep an eye out on their website for ticket and line-up information: areyoulistening.org.uk



Love Live Dream

Saturday 30th March

Evening event - time tbc
Free

Following the short festival of togetherness last year, Love Live Dream returns with songs and dance from a mix of cultures. The aim is to build connections between us through sharing creativity and culture – as before the event will include food and workshops. All free, keep an eye on our website and social media for line up and details.

Abdoulaye Samb Duo

Saturday 13th April 8pm
£10 with £7 concessions

Abdoulaye Samb, guitarist, singer and composer from Senegal. His original music is inspired by Fula and Mandinka cultures among many others.

The music has grown from Abdoulaye's travels, collaborations and researches in Africa and Europe. Expresses the richness of Senegalese traditions and ethnies, the beauty in them getting together, as well as an open-minded approach to all cultures and people, bridging and promoting them.



Dance Day

Sunday 10th February

Another whole day of free dance classes starting at 11.00am

A full day of free dance classes, all aimed at beginners giving a taste of the wide range of dance taught at the centre. Dance is good for you and nurtures mind, body and soul. It's great exercise, it connects us to others. It is creative and an expression of feelings and ideas.

Dances include Balboa, swing, bachata, kizomba, tango, salsa, dabka, belly dance, tap and more. Check social media for programme and timings.

Café open (you can have a piece of cake as you've worked so hard).



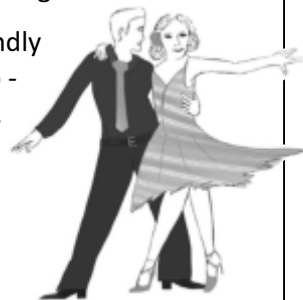
Fiesta Latina

Saturday 23rd February

9pm £6

Latin Dance Night - salsa, la rueda, merengue, tango, bachata or whatever inspires us on the night.

Relaxed and friendly social dance club - come and dance.



Tango Select

Sunday 10th March

3pm - 6pm £8

Live tango band. Tango Select play classic and very dance-able tangos. Lovely music, which includes milongas and Vals as well as tangos. Spend a pleasant afternoon dancing at a friendly and sociable milonga. Or if you don't dance come and listen to an afternoon of exhilarating world music



Open Page/Open Stage

Fourth Sunday of every month
27th January/24th February
24th March/28th April
7pm - 10pm

Free entry donations welcome

Do you write? Read? Sing or draw? Come and share your art. Open Page is a monthly collaborative event for people who like to make or appreciate. Like a traditional open mic, but with a focus on words and collaboration. The variety is always incredible, and the audience and contributors are what make it so special. A safe and comfortable space to showcase your work or simply meet other like-minded people. Come and be a part of Reading's new and growing community of artists, writers, musicians and enjoyers!

Front Room Theatre

Lie Back and Think of America

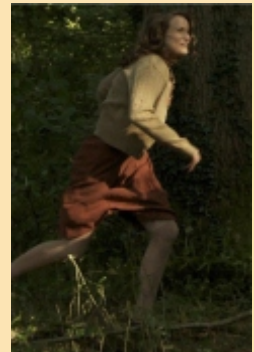
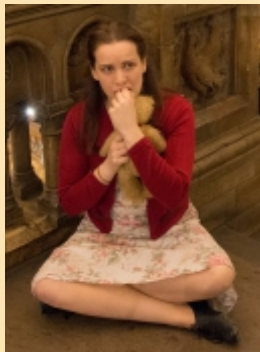
Friday 22nd March 8pm

To mark the eightieth anniversary of the beginning of World War II, Front Room Theatre presents this novelistic, funny, touching play about the Smith family living through the war in Bethnal Green, about the transforming effect of love against social and racial prejudice, about being yourself, accepting yourself and hoping others will too. This play is inspired by award-winning director Noel Izon's documentary 'Choc'late Soldiers from the USA'.

Sarah, Joe, et la guerre!

Sunday 24th March 2pm

A brand new French adaptation of Front Room Theatre's 'Lie Back and Think of America', translated by students and staff at Reading University, working with professional cast and crew. We know that the performance will be interesting and entertaining..... But does it work to set a play in 1940s Bethnal Green and then perform it in French? Come and find out! Pay what you can for entry for both shows.





Scarlet Vixens

Lip Sync Battle

Saturday 9th March

8pm £10 door/£15 VIP

The Scarlet Vixens are back with another burlesque show not to be missed!

Stand Up Cinema

Friday 15th March 7.30/8.00pm

Free/Donations

Stand Up Cinema is a collaboration between Real Time Video and The Rising Sun.

A change of emphasis for Stand Up Cinema in 2019. One evening a quarter we will be showing short films by local filmmakers and artists. Starting in March we will be holding an evening of experimental documentaries. Submissions are invited which must be under 3 minutes. Comment pieces, visual essays, awareness raising etc. Contact Real Time Video on info@real-time.org.uk if you are interested in showing your film.

The next Stand Up will be in July and will be 'poetry on film'. Submissions welcome which involve collaborations between poets and filmmakers or poets using film as a



way to present their work. If you are a poet and you have a short poem which you think would lend itself to being turned into a film, the Rising Sun and Real Time Video have a small amount of funding to match poets with filmmakers to create films which present poetry in new ways. To submit poems for consideration contact Real Time Video.





Painting by Alice Banfield

Art Exhibition

Saturday 6th April

2pm - 9pm, free entry

The Rising Sun Arts Centre is pleased to present the third installment of the Rising Sun Salon Series. This show will bring a vibrant range of work to the centre. The venue will recreate the spirit of the Salon that brings people together socially to enjoy art and culture while exploring the way in which we encounter art. Tea, coffee and cakes will be served at the bar. Keep an eye on the website for more information.



Our bar is now open on weeknights

Evenings from 7.30pm - 11pm

Join us for a social evening that might include a quiz night, games night, cocktails or just somewhere to sit and chat and listen to some classic vinyl LPs during the break of an event or class.



Finchies Bar

Every other Tuesday
7pm - 9pm

January 8th, 22nd

February 5th, 19th

March 5th, 19th

April 2nd, 16th, 30th

Bar run by people with learning disabilities. Finchies has been running for nearly 20 years and has in that time provided a relaxed and welcoming evening to all. Friendly and inclusive night out for anyone looking for good company.

Yellow Teapot Café

Every second Saturday
1pm - 3pm

12th January, 9th February,
9th March, 13th April

The Yellow Teapot Café might do everything a café might do. You can buy tea, coffee and soft drinks, biscuits and cakes. But we are an event, a haven for those who like to relax, look at books, be creative and drink tea.



MONDAY

Solo Jazz
&
Charleston

7.15pm - 8.30pm £5

A fun and informal weekly class guiding you through a series of jazz strolls and choreographed routines, led by Reading Swing Jam. Great for both complete newbies and those already familiar with partnered swing dances.

Bachata

7.30pm - 8.15pm: Bachata Moderna Beginners & Bachata Sensual Improver

8:15pm - 9:00pm: Bachata Moderna Improver & Bachata Sensual Int/Advanced

9:00pm -10:00pm: FREE Social Dancing

£7 one class or both classes and social dancing £10

Bachata is a sensual and romantic Latin dance from the Dominican Republic. See Facebook for more information.

Balboa

8.30pm - 9.10pm: Balboa Beginners £5

9.20pm - 10pm: Balboa Improvers £5

A weekly Balboa class covering all of the main Balboa figures as well as ample technique and styling to get you social dancing. Balboa is a partner dance from the 1920s and 1930s for swing dance music. After each class there is social dancing. Contact us at balboamondays@gmail.com or find us on Facebook.



Balboa Mondays

WEDNESDAY

Tap
Dancing

6.15pm £5

Learn to tap, great fun, friendly class, total beginners welcome.

La Rueda

9pm: Intermediates £6

Every Other Wednesday from 9th January.

Cuban salsa danced 'in the wheel'

Intermediate class only.

Beginners classes organised periodically.

Contact Larry on 07765599433 for info.

THURSDAY

Argentine
Tango

7.30pm £6

Every Thursday beginning 10th January.

The most elegant dance in the world, Argentine tango is not like other dances. It relies on the ability of the dancers to connect through the dance and create a shared, improvised experience. The steps are easy -the skill is in creating a close and sensitive connection with your partner. For more info, call Larry on 07765599433.

Classes, workshops and projects



Move Up Project

Day Activities for people with learning disabilities.

Monday - Thursday, places available on each day.

Contact 07765599433 for details.



The Zap Project

Every Tuesday

4.30pm

The Zap Group are a group of people with learning disabilities who write and perform comedy. We have just finished our annual panto (Robin Hood) and are now planning our next show. Contact Larry Watson at larrywatson58@hotmail.com



The Zap Project performing Robin Hood Panto 2018

real
time 



Open Mind

Tuesdays 6pm - 7pm Free

Open Mind is a platform for people interested in mental health issues to get together with media professionals to develop ongoing creative digital media projects.

Contact info@real-time.org.uk



B.Alive.Art: Life Drawing Workshop

Every Tuesday
7pm - 9.30pm
£7/£6 concessions

Draw from a model in a relaxed setting. Please bring your own materials and if possible a board.



Comic/Graphic Novel Workshop

January 29th then every third Tuesday of each month
7.30pm £1

This is an ongoing monthly workshop to create a regular collaborative anthology comic book/graphic novel for publication. It is open to writers, artists or anyone who has an idea for a story. Contact Larry on 07765599433. Check our website as the dates sometimes change.

Hands Of Rhythm - World Percussion Drumming Workshop

Every Wednesday
7:30pm - 9pm £5

Djembe, cajon, bongos, darbuka, shakey stuff.
Learn basic rhythm, technique and hand percussion.



Classes, workshops and projects



Bookface Bookclub

Second Saturday of every month

12th January, 9th February,
9th March, 13th April
10am - 12pm £4

Informal artists' book group. Sharing their latest book finds and creations, and art and craft activities for book making.

This season will include drawing to music, random poetry, making rubber stamps and a twisting, folded book.

See our facebook page for further details nearer the time.



Art Space

Fourth Sunday of every month

27th January, 24th February
24th March 28th April
1pm - 4pm Free

Informal space to create your own artwork. No tuition, bring your own materials. Tables provided.



Denis Cotter

Hire the centre for creative activities and classes

The centre runs a variety of classes and workshops. Teachers hire space from us at reasonable rates and information goes into our brochure and classes are promoted online. We currently run book making, comedy, film, a variety of dance classes, life drawing and drumming workshops in the evenings and at weekends. If you are looking to run a class we have space on Wednesday and Thursday evenings, contact our facilities coordinator at facilities@risingsun-artscentre.co.uk to discuss further.

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CONTACT US

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Twitter:
[@RisingSunArts](https://twitter.com/RisingSunArts)

Facebook:
[TheRisingSunArtsCentre](https://www.facebook.com/TheRisingSunArtsCentre)

WANT TO BECOME A VOLUNTEER?

Email: nikita.moody@risingsun-artscentre.co.uk

JOIN OUR MAILING LIST

Subscribe: mailing@risingsun-artscentre.co.uk

PROGRAMMING ENQUIRIES

Email: programming@risingsun-artscentre.co.uk

FACILITIES AND ROOM HIRE ENQUIRIES

Email: facilities@risingsun-artscentre.co.uk

A big thank you to all our amazing volunteers who make all these events happen!

Information was correct at time of printing.

Check the website for up to date information.

Collated and proof read by Nikita Moody, Zac Yeo and Damien Passmore

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