



Bristol
Grammar
School

1552

PERFORMING
ARTS
CENTRE



AUTUMN 2018



AUTUMN AT 1532

The end of the last academic year saw Bristol Grammar School say a very fond farewell to Headmaster Mr MacKinnon who retired after ten years at the School. We have a lot to thank him for as the Performing Arts Centre was his vision; in recognition of his contribution, the 1532 theatre has been renamed The MacKinnon Theatre.

Our autumn programme sees an array of comedy events featuring James Rhys, Mae Martin, Ahir Shah and John Challis.

Following its sell-out success at the Edinburgh Fringe in August 2017, we are very excited to welcome 201 Dance Company to 1532 on 15 September to perform their original, contemporary production *SKIN*.

Twisted Tales will provide not just one, but three hilariously dark plays that reveal the darkness under the domestic, directed by the acclaimed Simon Harvey, Associate Director of Kneehigh.



In addition, an exciting school programme awaits, starting with the ever popular House Singing in October, while the Music Department will be performing Mozart's Requiem at St George's in November. Those who loved *Maleficent* last year will be pleased to hear there will also be a dance showcase titled *Revelio* towards the end of November before we enter in to our traditional Christmas festivities.

Beth Morgan

HOW TO BOOK TICKETS

<www.1532bristol.co.uk/whats-on>
0117 259 1532

Tickets can be collected on the day of the performance from the Box Office, or you can show your e-mail confirmation as proof of purchase. Tickets can also be bought in person on the day of a production, subject to availability.

If you have any questions, please contact us at:
<1532@bgs.bristol.sch.uk>

STAFF

1532 Manager Beth Morgan
Assistant 1532 Manager Rachel Isaacs
AV Manager Matt Avery
AV Technician Thomas Borthwick

For more information about our spaces and about hiring the venue, please visit:
<www.1532bristol.co.uk>

1532 PRESENTS

SKIN

THE MACKINNON THEATRE



This is not my body. This is not my body. This is not my body.

After the sell-out international tour of *Smother*, 201's award-winning hip-hop theatre returns with *SKIN* – a boy's intimate journey of gender transition to discover a body that feels like home.

Fusing urban and contemporary styles with an original score, choreographer Andrea Walker directs a cast of seven dancers in a fast-paced, emotionally driven story of family, identity and belonging.

***** '201 have created a masterpiece of human sensitivity' – *EdFringe Review*

***** 'Thrilling ... Thought provoking' – *The Wee Review*

***** 'Beautiful ... Uplifting' – *Voice Mag UK*

**** 'Packs an emotional punch, steering hip-hop into fresh territory' – *The Times*

Sat 15 Sep
2:30pm & 7:30pm
Adult £15 Concession £12

RHYS JAMES THE MACKINNON THEATRE

Rhys James is an accomplished comedian, writer and actor. At 26 he has already made numerous TV appearances on shows such as *Mock The Week* (BBC2), *Russell Howard's Stand Up Central* (Comedy Central), *Virtually Famous* (E4), *Sweat the Small Stuff* (BBC3), *@elevenish* (ITV2) and many more.

Rhys has performed five solo shows at the Edinburgh Fringe to completely sold-out audiences and critical acclaim, earning his 2017 show, *Forgives*, a spot in the British Comedy Guide's Best Reviewed Shows of the Fringe list.

His own Radio 4 series, *Rhys James is ...* debuted this year.

Rhys is also known for his prolific Twitter feed, which has been recommended in *The Telegraph*, *The Sun*, *Huffington Post*, *The Poke* and *The Gentleman's Journal* among others. Joining him will be a hand-picked selection of guest comedians.

'Charismatic, clever and self aware ... destined for great things' *The Guardian*

Sat 6 Oct
8:00pm £12



THE MAE MARTIN EXPERIMENT THE MACKINNON THEATRE

Comedy's most naturally charismatic star Mae Martin will build an improvised hour of stand-up based on the audience's suggestions.



The 2018 Chortle Award winner and 2017 Edinburgh Comedy Award nominee is the star of her own stand-up special for Comedy Central along with two award-nominated series for BBC Radio Four.

Following a sell-out UK tour, and sell-out seasons in London, Edinburgh and Australia, Mae returns with a free-flowing, experimental hour where every night will be unique.

As seen on BBC2's *Live at the BBC* and Sky's *The Russell Howard Hour*.

'Fast becoming the finest comedian of her generation' ***** *Metro*

'Effortlessly amusing – Mae's gentle charm is highly watchable' **** *The Times*

'Seriously funny' **** *London Evening Standard*

'A winning hour from a talent at the top of her game' **** *iNews*

Presented by Show And Tell

Thu 11 Oct
8:00pm £14

TWISTED TALES

THE MACKINNON THEATRE

Twisted Tales is a hilariously dark triple bill of riotous comedies that reveal the darkness under the domestic, the lengths people will go to for love and how to wash blood stains out of a carpet.

WHY HAVE three strangers – a brash Bristolian, a Cockney wide-boy and an introverted blogger – been summoned to play a deadly locked-room mystery?

WHO IS the bandaged man – obsessively in love and held captive inside an upmarket flat – counting down the seconds until it's time for her to return and 'thing I can't say' to begin.

HOW WILL two children's TV presenters dispose of a corpse before time runs out? All they have is their wits, their arts and crafts skills and a foul-mouthed, criminal genius glove puppet.

Join us for an anarchic night of *Twisted Tales* and consider 'how far would you go to get what you want?'

The show is written by Dan and Charlotte from Owdyado Theatre, but also by award-winning writers: Brett Harvey and Jon Welch, as well as being directed by Simon Harvey, Associate Director of Kneehigh.

Fri 12 & Sat 13 Oct
7:30pm
Adult £12 Concession £10



COLIN STAFFORD-JOHNSON

THE MACKINNON THEATRE

Irish wildlife cameraman and television presenter Colin Stafford-Johnson is one of the world's most acclaimed and internationally awarded filmmakers. During his legendary career, Colin has won countless awards from wildlife festivals and events around the world. He's lived with tigers for many years in India and filmed some of the most renowned natural history sequences in his homeland of Ireland – and now for the first time will be sharing his hair-raising stories with UK theatre audiences this autumn.



Illustrated with his own stunning film footage and photography, the talk promises unique natural history stories and special wildlife encounters in what promises to be a spellbinding evening.

Photo credited to Matt Loughrey.

Mon 15 Oct
7:30pm
£15

ONLY FOOLS AND BOYCIE

THE MACKINNON THEATRE

Enjoy an intimate evening with John Challis, one of the nation's greatest comedy actors, best known as Boycie in BBC1's *Only Fools and Horses*. In this one-off show the national treasure will reveal secrets from the set with stories and anecdotes from his dazzling career.

Having worked with some of the biggest names in show business, he'll be spilling the beans about *Only Fools and Horses* co-stars like Sir David Jason and Nicholas Lyndhurst, as well as friends and fellow performers like The Beatles, The Rolling Stones, Oliver Reed and George Best. He'll also recall tales from his time in *Dr Who*, *Coronation Street* and other TV classics.

Mr Challis will also be around after the show to meet fans and pose for pictures, while signing copies of his autobiography, *Being Boycie*, and novel, *Reggie: A Stag At Bay*.



Tue 23 Oct
8:00pm
£18.50

A PURE WOMAN

THE MACKINNON THEATRE

A new play by Simon Reade based on Christopher Nicholson's highly acclaimed novel *Winter*.

Based on true events, Thomas Hardy, 84, has an affair of the heart with the 20-something Dorset woman playing Tess in the local amateur Hardy Players' production, which drives Hardy's second wife, Florence, in her 40s, into a jealous rage. Within this highly theatrical love triangle, a deeply moving portrait of a marriage in extremis is played out.



***** 'Ravishing' – *The Telegraph*

'Absolutely first rate' – *The New York Review of Books*

'Pitch perfect' – *The Times*

Adaptor and director Simon Reade's previous touring plays include *Pride & Prejudice*, *A Room With A View* and *Private Peaceful* as well as the screenplay for the recently released feature film *Journey's End*. Poonamallee Productions has previously toured Michael Morpurgo's *Toro! Toro!* and *An Elephant in the Garden*, which also starred Alison Reid (who plays Florence). This new co-production with Dorchester Arts has been generously supported by the Steel Trust and by The Hardy Society.

Sat 27 Oct 2:30pm
Thu 25, Fri 26 & Sat 27 Oct
7:30pm
Adult £15, Concession £12

BENEDICT ALLEN

THE MACKINNON THEATRE

In a brand new show, adventurer-explorer Benedict Allen tells the whole unvarnished truth of his most recent adventure – a solo expedition to Papua New Guinea, during which he filmed his journey to visit a community he had befriended thirty years earlier – when he hit the headlines after failing to turn up for a flight to Hong Kong, prompting his friends and family, and eventually the world media, to become concerned for his wellbeing.



Benedict will recall the highs and lows of this awe-inspiring trip, tell exhilarating tales from his life as an explorer and show never-before-seen material from his travels across the globe.

'Part of history of television' – Mark Thompson, Former Director General, BBC

'This is a hugely exciting venture for me. I can't wait to travel the UK and share my experiences of some of the most testing, but also wonderfully inspiring, corners of the globe' – Benedict Allen

Sun 28 Oct
7:00pm £15

ALI COOK

THE MACKINNON THEATRE

Star of the West End magic spectacular *Impossible*, *Penn & Teller: Fool Us* (ITV1), *Dirty Tricks* (Channel 4), *Monkey Magic* (Five), *Psychic Secrets* (Five) and *The Jerry @trick show with Jerry Sadowitz* (Five).



Ali Cook returns with his own brand of awe-inspiring magic and off-beat comedy. Expect to be genuinely amazed.
<www.alicook.com>
Twitter: @ali_cook

Sat 17 Nov
8:00pm
Adult £15 Concession £13



AHIR SHAH AND GUESTS THE MACKINNON THEATRE

Ahir Shah has rapidly become one of the key voices in UK comedy, whose sharp, intellectual brand of stand-up features a blend of philosophical inquiry, political vigour and top quality gags. His astute and hilarious observations on the current social and political situation have seen him receive nominations for Best Show at the Edinburgh Comedy Awards 2017 and 2018, and make appearances on the *The Now Show* (BBC Radio 4) and *Newsnight* (BBC 2).

'One of his generation's most eloquent comic voices' **** *The Telegraph*

**Fri 2 Nov
8:00pm £12**

JAMES ACASTER AND GUESTS THE MACKINNON THEATRE

One of the biggest stars of UK comedy right now, James Acaster toured the country last year with a staggering three show 'Trelogy', performing *Recognise*, *Represent* and *Reset* consecutively over three nights in each venue. These three shows plus *Recap* form the Netflix series *Repertoire* - the first ever stand up mini series with an overarching narrative. In 2017 James also released his debut book *Classic Scrapes*, making the Sunday Times bestseller list.



**Date TBC - check website
8:00pm £12**

BALLET BRISTOL'S TENTH ANNIVERSARY THE MACKINNON THEATRE

Ballet Bristol presents a spectacular family show to celebrate its tenth anniversary. The gala kicks off the festive season with highlights from famous classical ballets filled with beautiful costumes and well-known music. At this year's gala, the dancers will perform colourful choreography from *Ondine*, *La Bayadere* and *The Nutcracker*.

Tickets are available at

<www.balletbristol.co.uk/gala2018>

**Sat 15 Dec
7:00pm
Adult £9 Concession £6**



BGS PRESENTS

HOUSE SINGING THE MACKINNON THEATRE

The House groups vocally battle it out in an effort to be crowned the House Singing Champions. Also featuring performances from the Girls', Boys' and Friday Choirs, this is never anything less than a spectacular evening of entertainment. Due to the refurbishment of the Colston Hall, the competition will be held at 1532.

**Fri 19 Oct
7:00pm**



YEARS 5 AND 6 TEATIME CONCERT THE MACKAY

Our Teatime Concerts provide an opportunity for some of the School's youngest pupils to perform in a relaxed and friendly environment to their family and friends. Parents will receive further information about how to book tickets.

**Mon 5 Nov
4:00pm**



SCHOOL CONCERT ST GEORGE'S

Make sure you join us in the world-renowned surroundings of St George's concert hall for the first of many school concerts over the year ahead with performances lined up from just some of the many talented orchestras, bands and choirs at BGS. Information on how to book tickets will be circulated in the Autumn term.

**Tue 13 Nov
7:00pm**



YEARS 3 AND 4 TEATIME CONCERT

THE MACKAY

The following week is our Years 3 and 4 pupils' turn to perform in The Mackay.

Parents will receive further information about how to book tickets.

**Wed 14 Nov
4:00pm**



NIAMIR'S HOUSE CONCERT

THE MACKINNON THEATRE



It's time for those in Niamir's House to show off their talents, as students from all year-groups put on an excellent evening of entertainment as part of their House Charity Week.

**Wed 21 Nov
7:00pm**

REVELIO

THE MACKINNON THEATRE

A *Fantastical Beasts*-inspired dance showcase. *Revelio* merges a collection of pieces that explore the themes and plot of this magical world and narrative.

'The typewriter starts and the magic begins. The year is 1920 and the world for a 'no-maj' is about to be blown wide open as we take that step inside the case and reveal the magic yet darkness inside.'

**Thu 22 & Fri 23 Nov
7:00pm**



BRISTOL SCHOOLS' FESTIVAL

THE MACKINNON THEATRE

Bristol Schools' Theatre Festival is a platform for all drama students in the Bristol area to watch and perform published plays in a professional venue. Our passion is to inspire young people from every corner of Bristol to take up drama in their schools.

Theatre is for all and therefore should be accessible by all, which is why our festival is completely free, not only to perform in but also to watch. Any donations that we receive during the festival will go to a Bristol-based charity.



**Tue 27, Wed 28 & Thu 29 Nov
7:00pm**

INFANT NATIVITY

GREAT HALL

The Infant Nativity story is always a highlight of the Infant School calendar, and is the first time that the Reception children will perform in front of an audience alongside their peers.

**Thu 6 & Fri 7 Dec
4:00pm**



SENIOR CAROL SERVICE

GREAT HALL

Join us for a night of readings and songs to celebrate the close of the Autumn term with our traditional Carol Service in a festive Great Hall.

**Wed 12 Dec
6:00pm**





JUNIOR CAROL SERVICE

GREAT HALL

House Drama returns! Staged after just one day of sure-to-be frantic rehearsals, a cast from each of the Houses will perform an original work written, chosen and directed by students – all with a common theme. Each cast is vying to be named House Drama Champions, but only one will be crowned the victor.

Thu 13 Dec
6:00pm

COMING UP IN 2018...

House Entertainment Evenings

SCOTT'S

SHORT'S

GLENN'S

HILLIARD'S

EDWARD'S

February
School Of Rock



March
Junior MADD



March
House Drama



March
Spring Concert



SEPTEMBER

15 SKIN

OCTOBER

6 Rhys James
11 The Mae Martin Experiment
12 Twisted Tales
13 Twisted Tales
15 Colin Stafford-Johnson
19 House Singing
23 Only Fools and Boycie
24 A Pure Woman
25 A Pure Woman
26 A Pure Woman
27 A Pure Woman
28 Benedict Allen

NOVEMBER

2 Ahir Shah and Guests
5 Teatime Concert
13 School Concert
14 Teatime Concert
17 Ali Cook
20 Drama Gala
21 Niamir's House Concert
22 Revelio
23 Revelio
27 Bristol Schools' Festival
28 Bristol Schools' Festival
29 Bristol Schools' Festival

DECEMBER

6 Infant Nativity
7 Infant Nativity
8 James Acaster and Guests
12 Senior Carol Service
13 Junior Carol Service
15 Ballet Bristol's 10th Anniversary Show

■ External events
■ Senior School events
■ Infant and Junior events

PLANNING YOUR VISIT

Location: We are just off the Clifton Triangle on Elton Road (see the map below).

Parking: There is on-street parking directly outside the venue and on adjacent roads, charges apply. There are NCP car parks located on Trenchard Street and Jacob Wells Road.

Access Parking: We have a designated parking area for customers who require level access and reduced walking distances. Please contact the venue at <1532@bgs.bristol.sch.uk> or 0117 259 1532 to reserve a space.

Buses: The Elton Road bus stop is served by routes 9 and 72. The Queens Road bus stop is served by routes 1, 2, 3, 3X, 4 and 8.

