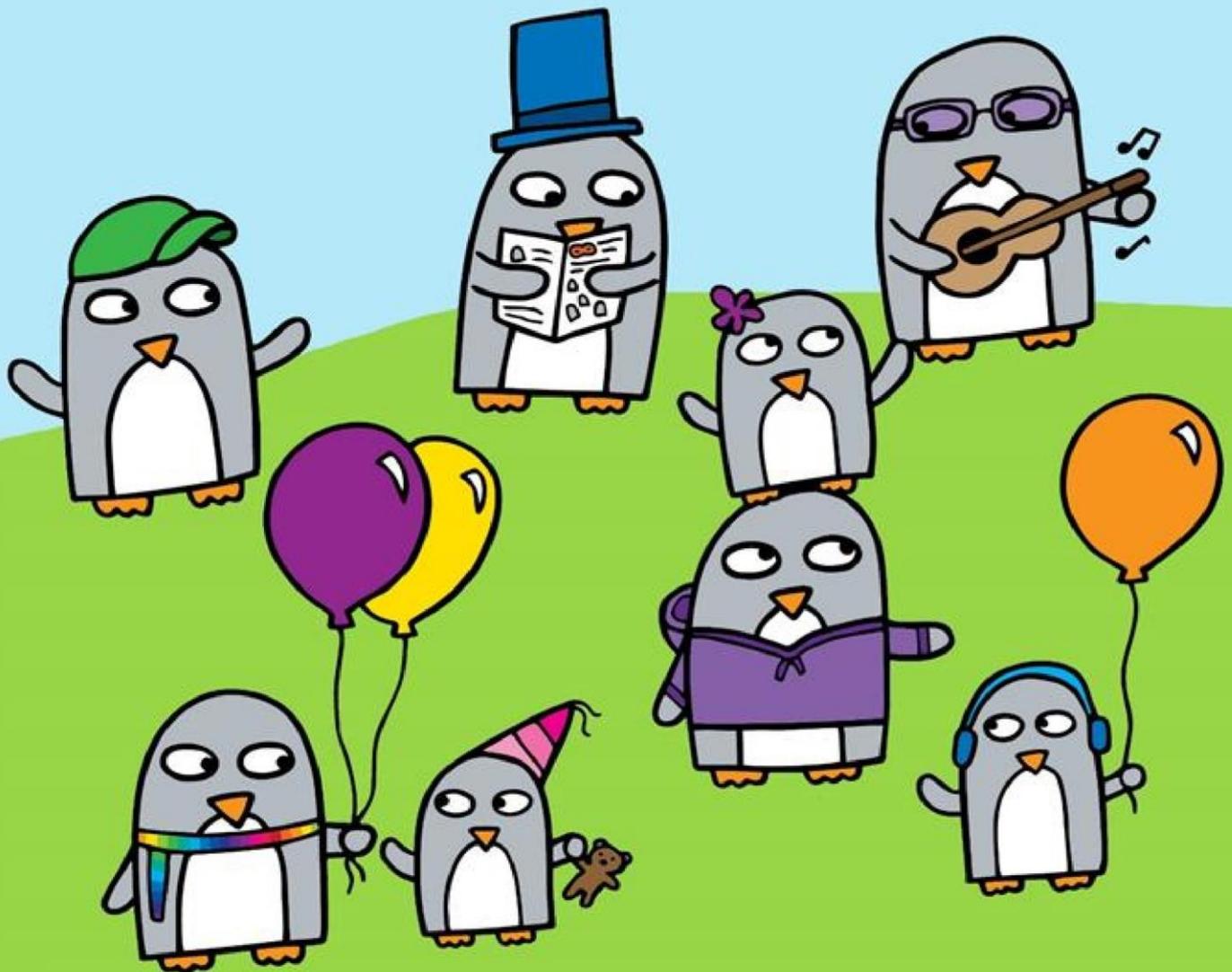


Autism Arts Festival

Friday 26th – Sunday 28th April 2019



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Creating an Autistic Space

The Autism Arts Festival is intended to be as accessible to people on the spectrum as possible, and as such we've implemented some things from autistic-led events such as Autscope that are intended to help with that.

Colour Communication Stickers

These are simple ways to indicate whether or not you're happy for people to talk to you.

RED: I probably do not want to talk to anyone.

YELLOW: I only want to talk to people I know.

GREEN: I'm happy to talk but I might struggle to initiate conversation.

If you choose to not wear a sticker, then people will assume you'll regulate your social interactions as you would do within neurotypical social space.

Audience Packs

At the desks in the three main buildings (Jarman, Grimond and Gulbenkian), there are packs that include the communication stickers mentioned above (and others to indicate whether you're happy to be photographed or touched), disposable ear plugs and a fidget spinner.

Chill-Out Spaces

There are chill out spaces in all three buildings (Jarman, Grimond and Gulbenkian), that we are using for the festival weekend.

Can I stim?

Yes! As long as you're not hurting yourself or anyone else, the Front of House staff will not ask you to stop, and we ask all audience members to respect that.

This is a Relaxed Festival

This means that you can step out at any time and move around or make noise if you need to. However, where some festivals take the approach of removing anything in the show/film/artwork that might be challenging, we work on a principle of informed choice: The website will have detailed information about each event, including possible triggers and sensory information, so you can make an informed decision about whether or not to attend it.

Friday 26th April – Artist Development Day

Please note that the workshops from 11 – 12.30 are fully booked, so you can only attend these if you have already registered.

Artist Development Day Schedule			
10.30 – 10.50	Welcome and Introduction (Aphra Theatre, Grimond)		
11.00 – 12.30	Workshop with Annette Foster and Ysabel Clare (Aphra, Grimond)	Workshop with Jon Adams and Sonia Boue (Jarman 1)	Workshop with Kate Fox and Laura James (Templeman)
12.30 – 1.30	Lunch Break		
1.30 – 2.30	Discussion on Employment (Jarman 1) Adam Feinstein, Author of Autism Works	Panel on Training and Development (Templeman LT) Panel: Ali Northcott (CRAE/UCL), Jess Hartley (RCSSD), Nick Llewellyn and Cian Binchy (Access All Areas) and Patricia Debney (Kent)	
2.30 – 2.45	Short Break		
2.45 – 3.30	Panel on Festivals (Aphra, Grimond) Panellists: DYSPLA, Big Umbrella Festival and Safe Place Festival	Panel on Getting Published (Templeman LT) Panellists: Katherine May, Pan Macmillan and Jessica Kingsley Publishing	
3.30 – 4.00	Long Break		
4.00 – 4.45	Panel on Applying for Funding (Templeman)		
4.45 – 5.30	Open discussion – What can arts institutions and funders do to make the artworld more accessible to neurodivergent people? (Jarman 1)		

Robert White and Kate Fox – Comedy Double Bill **8pm in Gulbenkian Cinema, Tickets £7.50, £5 conc.**

The 2019 Autism Arts Festival will kick off with a double bill of comedy from Robert White (Finalist in *Britain's Got Talent* 2018) and Kate Fox (Star of BBC Radio 4's *The Price of Happiness*).

Schedules for Festival Weekend

Below is a brief schedule. Detailed show information, including possible triggers and sensory information, will be available on the [festival website](#).

Schedule for Saturday 27 th April	
10.00 – 10.45	<p>Stories for Kids Who Dare To Be Different – Talk by Illustrator Quinton Winter</p> <p>These are the extraordinary stories of 100 famous and not-so-famous men and women, every single one of them an inspiring pioneer and creative genius in their own way, who broke the mould and made their dreams come true.</p>
10.30 – 11.30	<p>Oska Bright Film Festival presents Queer Freedom</p> <p>A collection of short films celebrating the queer community, love and self-expression. Featuring John and Michael (Canada), which pays tribute to two men with Down’s Syndrome who shared an intimate and profoundly loving relationship, and Life on Two Spectrums, which follows ‘Tia Anna’ a drag queen with Asperger’s.</p>
11.45 – 13.15	<p>Mainspring Arts Playwrights’ Showcase</p> <p>Six neurodivergent writers, six short plays. This showcase is part of Square Peg Scripts, a playwriting programme run by Mainspring Arts. Since November 2018, six participants have been developing short plays with mentoring by established playwrights. The showcase will feature rehearsed readings of extracts from each of the scripts in development.</p>
12.00 – 13.00	<p>Filskit Theatre – The Artist</p> <p>Welcome to our interactive art gallery where each painting is a world waiting to be explored. Our Artists are here to show you around. Step inside their works of art as paintings spring to life through interactive projection, light and sound. The Artist is a multi-sensory performance for young autistic people aged 7+.</p>
12.00 – 17.00	<p>WEBs Exhibition (Drop in at any time between 12 and 5pm)</p> <p>WEBs promises the viewer an immersive window on neurodivergent creativity with a series of mainly digital works by seven artists from the WEBworks group. Featuring artists: Sonia Boué, Kruse, Rhiannon Lloyd-Williams, Naomi Morris, Katherine May, Hugh Pryor, Sonja Zelić. Curated by the WEBworks Group.</p>
12.30 – 14.00	<p>Open Mic Poetry with Lava Elastic</p> <p>Lava Elastic, a neurodivergent comedy/poetry night based in Brighton, is stretching to Canterbury for the next Autism Arts Festival. This poetry afternoon will feature a mixture of established poets and open mic slots. If you are interested in performing your poetry, then please just get in touch.</p>
14.00 – 15.00	<p>Reading and Book Signing by Laura James</p> <p>Laura James found out that she was autistic as an adult, after she had forged a career for herself, married twice and raised four children. <i>Odd Girl Out</i> tracks the year of Laura's life after she receives a definitive diagnosis from her doctor, as she learns that 'different' doesn't need to mean 'less' and how there is a place for all of us, and it's never too late to find it.</p>
15.00 – 17.30	<p>Lego Movie 2: The Second Part (Accessible Film Club)</p> <p>It's been five years since everything was awesome and the citizens are facing a huge new threat: LEGO DUPLO invaders from outer space, wrecking everything faster than they can rebuild.</p>

15.00 – 15.15	<p>CrazyFutureLove by Everyday DayLee Lee and Dayo are forever in love. Well, they are in love with the idea of love, but sadly it has never worked out. They've been hurt before, and it hurt real bad. Two guys with learning disabilities go on a quest to imagine their future meeting the right partner. But what stops us from being stuck in a forever loop of rejection?</p>
15.30 – 15.55	<p>#BinariesBeGone by Emma Selwyn It's 2068 at the 50th anniversary exhibition of the #binariesbegone movement. Join Sylvie as she/they bring us into the historical gendered world of 2018 where girls will be girls and boys will be boys and where diversity is not yet an outlawed term. What an archaic world that was. We're now thankful that the revolution really did equalise our everyday relations and difference is no more.</p>
16.00 – 19.00	<p>A Prayer for the Dead (drop in at any time between 4pm and 7pm) Hans Asperger... Thinker... Shaper... Doctor... Founder... Nazi... Murderer... Daniel Bendelman... Jewish... Aspergers Syndrome... Third Generation Holocaust Survivor... A Clash of past, present and future. A broken mix of identity infused with tragedy. Where do we go from here? How can we go from here? Let us pray. Let us remember. Lest We Forget</p>
16.15 – 17.15	<p>Rhi Lloyd-Williams poetry readings Rhi is a poet, playwright, blogger and essayist. She was longlisted for The New Welsh Review's 2018 essay competition for her collection, "The Wrong Kind of Happiness", about finding balance as an autistic person in a non-autistic world. Her debut play, "The Duck", is currently touring.</p>
17.30 – 18.30	<p>DYSPLA Festival Short Films DYSPLA will screen a selection of award winning films from DIMIF 2018 and two commissioned films including 'FIGHT', a collaboration between DYSPLA and world renowned video artist D-FUSE with a sound track by Swayzak.</p>
18.00 – 19.00	<p>Square Pegs Drama – Heads, Shoulders, Knees and Autism Square Pegs Theatre Company present an original piece of theatre which explores what autism means to them. Using storytelling, music and physical theatre we will take you on a journey into our world.</p>
18.30 – 20.00	<p>Open Mic Comedy with Lava Elastic Lava Elastic, a neurodivergent comedy/poetry night based in Brighton, is stretching to Canterbury for the next Autism Arts Festival. This comedy show will feature a mixture of established stand-ups and open mic slots.</p>
20.00 – 21.10	<p>Zara by Mind the Gap Theatre When Eva was born, her mother wasn't prepared for what was coming next. Eva is no ordinary baby. Eva is a giant threat to society. The army is called; the world's media descend on the UK; there are protests and placards, opinions and destruction. And there is Zara, her mother. A mother who will defend the child she loves with all her might. A mother against the world.</p>
20.30 – 22.00	<p>Sparklies in the Dark A tradition at Autscope, Sparklies in the Dark is unstructured sensory play for people of all ages. There will be UV lights and fidget toys to play with.</p>
22.00 – 08.10	<p>All Night Avengers In preparation for Avengers: Endgame, we'll be screening four films with Earth's Mightiest Heroes in an all-night Marvel movie marathon. (Avengers Assemble, Avengers: Age of Ultron, Captain America: Civil War, and Avengers: Infinity War) <i>Note: We'll be meeting in the Grimond to lead people to the Lupino Cinema</i></p>

Schedule for Sunday 28 th April	
10.00 – 10.30	<p>The Catography of Autism Research by Jon Adams Jon through the ‘medium of cats’ will present ‘catographically’ a map of an autistic persons view on the current priorities in autism research, the people who set them and some autistic people’s experiences of participatory research. (Warning this performance may contain cats, inappropriate language, irony, sarcasm, metaphor, humour & theory of mind.)</p>
10.00 – 12.00	<p>Sensory Circus by FEEL Theatre (2 performances: 10-11 or 11-12) Blast off into space with Neo, our little alien puppet and discover the magical wonders of planet circus. Sensory Circus is a UV and LED glow performance combining circus and puppetry created specifically for children and young people with autism and PMLD, followed by a sensory play session.</p>
11.00 – 12.00	<p>James McGrath Selected readings from his forthcoming book.</p>
12.00 – 17.00	<p>WEBs Exhibition (Drop in at any time between 12 and 5pm) WEBs promises the viewer an immersive window on neurodivergent creativity with a series of mainly digital works by seven artists from the WEBworks group. Featuring artists: Sonia Boué, Kruse, Rhiannon Lloyd-Williams, Naomi Morris, Katherine May, Hugh Pryor, Sonja Zelić. Curated by the WEBworks Group.</p>
12.30 – 14.00	<p>Open Mic Music with Mel Golding and Robyn Stewart This will feature a mixture of established musicians and open mic slots.</p>
12.30 – 14.30	<p>Dumbo (2019) A young elephant, whose oversized ears enable him to fly, helps save a struggling circus, but when the circus plans a new venture, Dumbo and his friends discover dark secrets beneath its shiny veneer.</p>
13.30 – 14.30	<p>Stealth Aspies Unlike anything you have ever experienced before. Enter the authentic autistic space and join Alain English, Sarah Saeed, Paul Wady and Hannah Yahya, for authentic stories of late diagnosis, being in the neuroatypical closet and our lives as out autistic people. We are the first 100% autistic theatre company in human history. Are you brave enough to listen, and challenge your entire orientation to humanity?</p>
15.00 – 16.00	<p>Better Together by ACA Theatre Join the three delightful Clowns who make waiting at a bus stop a tragically complicated affair. They don’t know it yet, but Tropizo, Doa & Squiggle are on a journey to become best friends! Full of slapstick, acrobatics, and physical comedy, Better Together is an artful, intelligent, and hilarious piece.</p>
15.00 – 16.00	<p>Katherine May – Reading and Book Signing Katherine May is an author of fiction and memoir, and an award-winning blogger. In 2018, she published a novel, The Whitstable High Tide Swimming Club, and a memoir, The Electricity of Every Living Thing, both with Trapeze Books. Her previous titles include The 52 Seductions (as Betty Herbert), Burning Out, and Ghosts & Their Uses.</p>

16.30 – 17.30	<p>Frosted Glass (2017) A semi-autobiographical film written by Anthony Fairweather, an award-winning poet and performance artist, whose poetry helped psychiatrist Dr Sheila Dawson diagnose him with Asperger’s Syndrome at the age of 26. Frosted Glass is based on his experience of living with Asperger’s, the stigma of mental illness and the discrimination that many people on the autistic spectrum face in everyday life.</p>	
17.00 – 18.00	<p>Makaton Story Time by More than Words Join More Than Words to read and sign some popular stories, and join in with some singing and signing too. It’ll be a relaxed and fun way to learn some Makaton signs!</p>	
17.45 – 18.30	<p>Shy Radicals by Hamja Ahsan <i>The quieter you become, the more you are able to hear – Lao Tzu</i> Drawing together communiqués, covert interviews, oral and underground history of introvert struggles (Introfada), here for the first time is a detailed documentation of the political demands of shy people.</p>	
18.00 – 19.00	<p>Adventures of Super Autie Gang by Annette Foster Super Aspie Grrl is back but this time she’s not alone. Over the last year she has been working with other Autistic women, nonbinary and trans people to create a new sparkly spangly fantastical Neurodivergent experience that gives voice to an invisible generation of autistic people and celebrate their extraordinary perspectives. This will include some old favourites and be a work in progress showing.</p>	
18.00 – 19.15	<p>Deej (2017) Abandoned by his birth parents and presumed incompetent, DJ Savarese (“Deej”) found not only a loving family but also a life in words, which he types on a text-to-voice synthesizer. As he makes his way through high school and dreams of college, he confronts the terrors of his past, society’s obstacles to inclusion, and the sometimes paralyzing beauty of his own senses. In his advocacy on behalf of other nonspeaking autistics, he embraces filmmaking and poetry, and discovers what having a voice can truly mean.</p>	
19.00 – 21.00	<p>Tilley Bear, Mummy Bear and Nanny Hippo invite you for an afternoon of tea, ginger cake and stories Three generations of a Kent family with experience of Autism and Mental Health share their experiences, wisdom and advice in a relaxed, informal setting: a replica of their front room!</p>	
20.00 – 21.00	<p>The Derek Paravicini Quartet The Derek Paravicini Quartet is the new must-hear group, currently wowing audiences all over the UK, following their successful debut on the BBC’s ‘In Tune’ programme. Four stunningly talented young musicians combine to create a unique sound, portraying a kaleidoscope of emotions – now achingly sad, now humorous, now infused with warmth – and all shot through with a fiery virtuosity. Derek Paravicini Quartet are a musical chameleon, able to change their sonic palette to suit any occasion, with the breathtaking new takes on classic songs and jazz standards, and a repertoire from ragtime to Radiohead, from Irving Berlin to the Beatles, from Cole Porter to Coldplay.</p>	

Key

Grimond Building	
Jarman Building	
Gulbenkian Building	

Tickets

26th April – Artist Development Day

The Artist Development Day is free, but the morning workshops are now fully booked. However, if the other sessions are of interest then you are welcome to attend.

26th April – Robert White and Kate Fox

Tickets for the comedy double bill are £7.50, with a concessionary rate of £5.

Note: Concessionary rate includes neurodivergent and disabled people, students, under 16s, over 65s and unemployed people.

You can book tickets online using the following link:

<https://thegulbenkian.co.uk/event/robert-white-kate-fox>

27th and 28th April – Festival Weekend

This festival we are selling festival passes which covers almost all of the events across the festival. You can purchase one-day or two-day passes.

1 day pass - Full: £12, Conc: £10 and Group (2+): £5 each.

2 day pass - Full: £20, Conc. £14 and Group (2+): £7 each.

You can book tickets online using the following link:

<https://thegulbenkian.co.uk/event/autism-arts-festival-2019-2>

27th April – Accessible Film Club presents Lego Movie 2

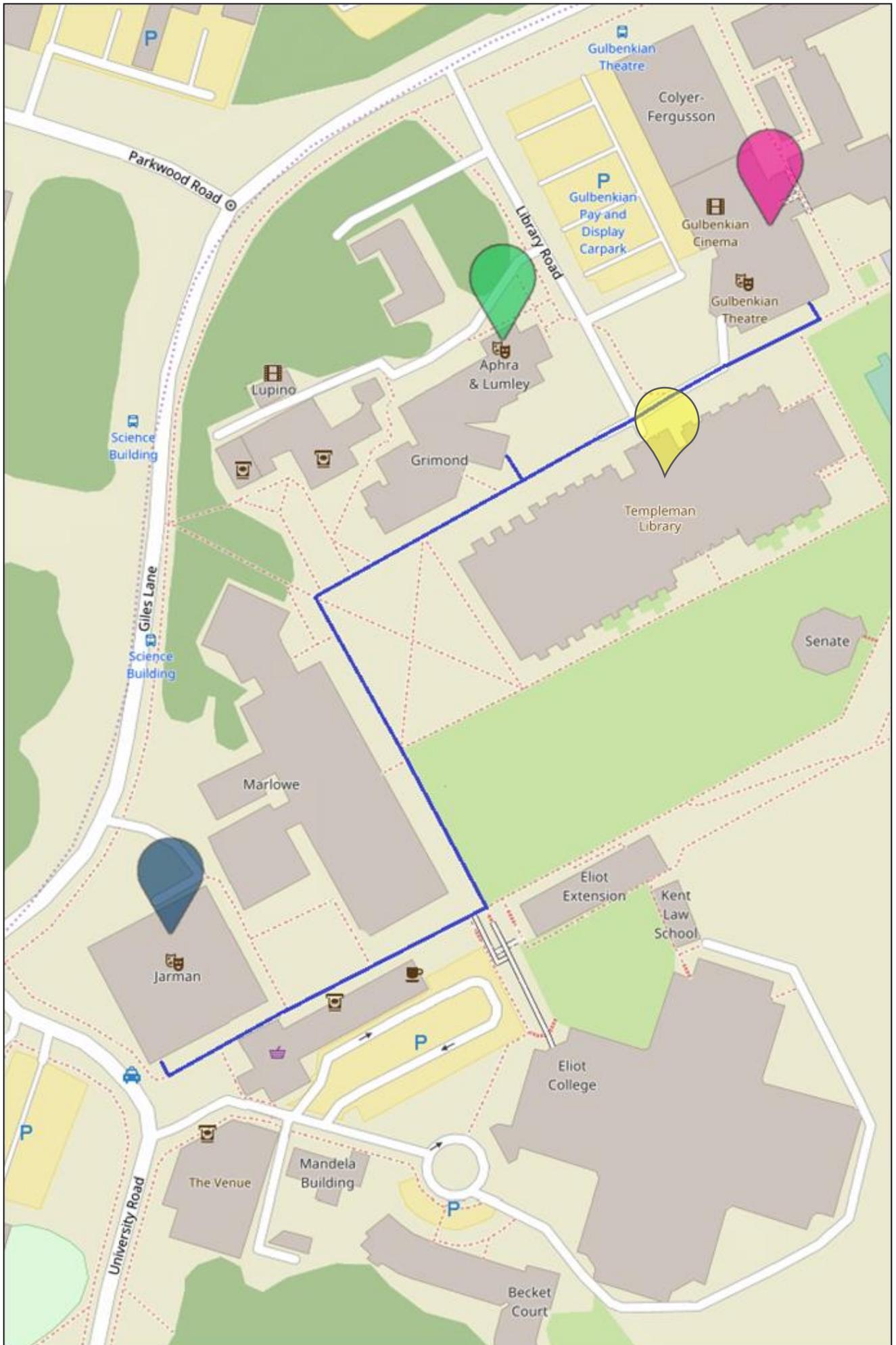
For licencing reasons, this event is ticketed separated. ([Book online](#))

Most tickets are £5, but tickets for babies (0-18 months) are only £1

28th April – Family Film: Dumbo (2019)

For licencing reasons, this event is ticketed separated. ([Book online](#))

Most tickets are £3, but tickets for babies (0-18 months) are only £1



Getting Here

The festival is on the Canterbury campus of the University of Kent.



If you travel by car: The postcode for GPS is CT2 7NB and a map of the car parks is available here - <https://www.kent.ac.uk/transport/maps/parking-map.pdf>

If you travel by train: Please note that there are two different train stations in Canterbury, from which you'll then need to get to the campus.

Canterbury West: <https://goo.gl/maps/zg6QTS6mL3x>

Canterbury East: <https://goo.gl/maps/XjVVecz1Wan>

Both have taxi ranks outside of them and bus stops nearby.

If you travel by bus: The UNI1 and UNI2 buses regularly run from Canterbury City Centre to the Campus.

If you travel by taxi: Ask to be taken to The Gulbenkian, as this is where the main box office for the festival is located.

The Autism Arts Festival is supported by Arts Council England, with additional support from the Gulbenkian and School of Arts at the University of Kent.

