



WHAT'S ON // FEBRUARY-MARCH 2026



# WHAT'S ON CALENDAR

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
02 FEBRUARY POTTERY // Beginners' Handbuilding (4 wk)	03 EXHIBITION // Ian Butler POTTERY // Throwing (4 wk) WORKSHOP // Slow Stitch Circle COMEDY // Robin Ince	04 POTTERY // Intermediate (4 wk) Advanced (4 wk) FILMS // Hamnet Tony Foster	05 COMMUNITY // The RCPS Medal Awards at The Falmouth FILM // Silents Synced: R.E.M. X Buster Keaton's Sherlock Jr.	06 POTTERY // Drop-in session FILMS // The Voice of Hind Rajab Withnail & I WORKSHOP // Language of the Fan	07 WORKSHOP // Intro to Linocut THEATRE // Smalltown Boy
09	10 EXHIBITION // Peter Walker	11 TALKS // Where Kea Plums Grow My Helford Sketchbook with Sophie Velzian FILM // Sentimental Value	12 THEATRE // The 39 Steps, by Patrick Barlow	13 POTTERY // Drop-in session COMEDY // Sam Lake	14 WORKSHOPS // Costumed Life Drawing: Venice Carnival Wonderful Watercolour Taster Session FILM // Breathless
16	17 EXHIBITION // Jamie Medlin	18 THEATRE // SWORDS, SWORDS, SWORDS FILM // H is for Hawk	19 WORKSHOP // FX Makeup for Teens Taster: Visual Effects THEATRE // Appointment with MacDeath	20 POTTERY // Drop-in session WORKSHOP // FX Makeup for Teens Taster: Prosthetics THEATRE // Appointment with MacDeath	21 COMMUNITY // Meet the Napoleonic 32 <sup>nd</sup> Cornwall Regiment of the Foot THEATRE // Appointment with MacDeath
23	24 EXHIBITION // Norman Leighton WORKSHOP // Life Drawing THEATRE // Life Before You	25 FILM // The Lost Boys of Carbis Bay, with Q&A	26 WORKSHOP // Slow Stitch Circle TALK // The Drawings of Wilhemina Barns-Graham FILM // It's Never Over, Jeff Buckley	27 POTTERY // Drop-in session FILM // National Theatre Live: The Audience	28 MUSIC // Yulia Chaplina FILMS // The Voice of Hind Rajab Nouvelle Vague COMEDY // Petra Dish's Parlour Night
02 MARCH	03 EXHIBITION // Carolyn Thompson & Georgie Hare WORKSHOP // Slow Stitch Circle THEATRE // The Complete Works of Jane Austen (Abridged!)	04 FILM // Singing Makes You Feel Better, with Q&A	05 COMEDY // FIA FEST: No Apologies, by Emma Frankland	06 POTTERY // Drop-in session THEATRE // FIA FEST: Main Character Energy	07 COMEDY // FIA FEST: Cally Beaton: NAMASTE MOTHERF*CKERS



MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
09 POTTERY // Beginners' Handbuilding: Raku (4 wk)	10 EXHIBITION // Prime Women POTTERY // Throwing (4 wk) WORKSHOPS // Exploring Colour Novel Writing (6 wk)	11 WORKSHOP // Expressive Acrylic & Ink POTTERY // Intermediate Raku (4 wk) Advanced Raku (4 wk) FILMS // EOS: Turner & Constable My Father's Shadow	12 POTTERY // Throwing (4 wk) Glaze Tech (4 wk) WORKSHOP // Discover Mixed Media TALK // Cornwall's High-Tech Future(s) FILM // President's Cake	13 POTTERY // Drop-in session FILMS // Kernow Kino 3: Cornish Short Films No Other Choice	14 WORKSHOP // Clone Your Clothes: Pattern Cutting MUSIC // Seamus McKenna: 'Keep On Keeping On' album launch
16	17 EXHIBITIONS // Where Land Meets the Sea WORKSHOP // Buddhism Evolves	18 TALK // The Untold Story of Doctor Dick	19 WORKSHOPS // Slow Stitch Circle Intro to Collage with Emily Luke FILM // All That's Left of You	20 POTTERY // Drop-in session THEATRE // Cornwall Youth Theatre: The Rime of the Ancient Mariner	21 WORKSHOP // Coast: A Two-colour Linocut Workshop FILM // The History of Sound
23	24 EXHIBITION // Victoria Gillow WORKSHOPS // Spring Flowers in Oils Wonders of the Ocean FILM // Gentle, Angry Women	25 FILM // Wuthering Heights	26 TALK // Francis Hewlett RWA (1930-2012)	27 POTTERY // Drop-in session FILM // Jo in the Water, with Q&A	28 WORKSHOPS // CLD: Ancient Greece MUSIC // Lewis Kingsley Peart FILM // The Secret Agent COMEDY // Petra Dish's Parlour Night
30	31 EXHIBITION // Jo Lay: Kehelland Trust WORKSHOP // Buddhism Evolves Life Drawing	01 APRIL	02	03 POTTERY // Drop-in session FILM // The Sound of Falling	04 THEATRE // Cirquelesque Easter Speakeasy
06	07 EXHIBITION // Jo Lay: Kehelland Trust	08	09	10 POTTERY // Drop-in session	11



Open Tues-Sat 10:00-16:00  
with additional opening  
Weds-Thurs 17:00-20:00  
(hours may vary depending on events)



Events are subject to change. For up-to-date information, pricing and booking, visit [www.thepoly.org](http://www.thepoly.org), call 01326 319461, or pop in to Box Office. Find us at The Poly, 24 Church Street, Falmouth TR11 3EG.

# FILM



**FILM // HAMNET (12A)**  
Sat 31 Jan | 17:00 & 19:45  
Weds 04 Feb | 14:30

Dir. Chloé Zhao | 2025 |  
126 mins | English

1580. Impoverished tutor William Shakespeare meets free-spirited Agnes. Captivated, they strike up an affair that leads to marriage and three children. As Will pursues a theatre career in far-away London, Agnes anchors the domestic sphere alone. When tragedy strikes, the couple's once-unshakable bond is tested, setting the stage for the creation of the timeless masterpiece, HAMLET.

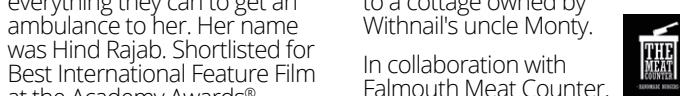


**FILM // THE VOICE OF HIND RAJAB (15)**  
Fri 06 Feb | 17:15  
Sat 28 Feb | 18:00

Dir. Kaouther Ben Hania |  
2025 | 89 mins | Arabic &  
English with English subtitles

January 29, 2024. Red Crescent volunteers receive an emergency call. A five-year old girl is trapped in a car under fire in Gaza, pleading for rescue. While trying to keep her on the line, they do everything they can to get an ambulance to her. Her name was Hind Rajab. Shortlisted for Best International Feature Film at the Academy Awards®.

In collaboration with Falmouth Meat Counter.



**FILM // TONY FOSTER: PAINTING AT THE EDGE, WITH Q&A**  
Weds 04 Feb | 19:30

Dir. David C. Schendel | 2025 |  
95 mins plus Q&A | English

Cornwall-based artist and environmentalist Tony Foster has spent the last 35 years using his art as a platform to advocate for the conservation of wild land and to raise awareness of the dangers of climate change. Q&A with Tony Foster & the film's production coordinator, Rachel Clear Burton. In collaboration with The Arts Society, Falmouth.



**FILM // SILENTS SYNCED: R.E.M. X BUSTER KEATON'S SHERLOCK JR. (U)**  
Thurs 05 Feb | 20:00

Dir. Buster Keaton, Josh Frank |  
1924/2025 | 72 mins | English

Silents Synced pairs classic silent movies with epic rock music to bring audiences a unique big screen experience. This sublime 1924 comedy, in which Buster Keaton stars as a film projectionist who dreams of becoming a detective, is reimagined with R.E.M.'s 1990s alt-rock masterpieces MONSTER and NEW ADVENTURES IN HI-FI.



**FILM // BREATHLESS (12A)**  
Sat 14 Feb | 19:30

Dir. Jean-Luc Godard | 1960 |  
90 mins | French with English subtitles

Petty crook Michel is on the run after killing a cop. He takes refuge with Patricia, an American journalism student, and plans to collect a debt before escaping to Italy. But as his life becomes more and more like an American movie, he's unaware of the net closing in around him.

10% OFF BOTH SCREENINGS WHEN YOU BUY WITH TICKETS FOR 'NOUVELLE VAGUE'



**FILM // H IS FOR HAWK (12A)**  
Weds 18 Feb | 19:30

Dir. Philippa Lowthorpe |  
2025 | 115 mins | English

After the sudden death of her father, Helen (Claire Foy) loses herself in the memories of their time exploring the natural world together and turns to the ancient art of falconry, training a wild goshawk named Mabel to navigate her profound loss. As she teaches Mabel to hunt and fly free, Helen discovers how deeply she has neglected her own emotions. Based on Helen Macdonald's acclaimed memoir.



**FILM // THE LOST BOYS OF CARBIS BAY, PLUS Q&A**  
Weds 25 Feb | 19:30

Dir. Dan Simpkins | 2025 |  
30 mins plus Q&A | English

A daring band of unlikely explorers, named the Carbis Bay Crew, venture into Cornwall's forgotten mines. Filmed over two years, this deeply personal project uncovers not just history but the power of camaraderie and connection, resilience and self-discovery, and the quiet battles of men's mental health. Q&A with the Carbis Bay Crew and filmmakers.



**FILM // IT'S NEVER OVER, JEFF BUCKLEY (15)**  
Thurs 26 Feb | 19:45

Dir. Amy Berg | 2025 |  
106 mins | English

The young star with an otherworldly voice and boundary-pushing artistry left the nineties music world reeling when he died suddenly, at age 30, following the release of his acclaimed debut album GRACE. Never-before-seen footage from Buckley's archives and intimate accounts from those closest to him illuminate one of modern music's most influential and enigmatic figures.



**FILM // NATIONAL THEATRE LIVE: THE AUDIENCE (PG)**  
Fri 27 Feb | 19:00

Helen Mirren plays Queen Elizabeth II in the Olivier and Tony Award®-winning hit play by Peter Morgan – the basis for his hit Netflix series THE CROWN. Directed by Stephen Daldrey. For 60 years, Queen Elizabeth II held a weekly meeting with each of her prime ministers, known as 'The Audience'. Through these private audiences, we see glimpses of the woman behind the crown and the moments that shaped a monarch. In collaboration with The Arts Society, Falmouth.



**FILM // NOUVELLE VAGUE (12A)**  
Sat 28 Feb | 20:00

Dir. Richard Linklater | 2025 |  
106 mins | French & English with English Subtitles

A playful, poignant love letter to cinema, NOUVELLE VAGUE reimagines the making of Jean-Luc Godard's BREATHLESS in an exuberant exploration of the youthful rebellion and creative chaos that shaped the French New Wave.

10% OFF BOTH SCREENINGS WHEN YOU BUY WITH TICKETS FOR 'BREATHLESS'

# FILM



## FILM // SINGING MAKES YOU FEEL BETTER, WITH Q&A Weds 04 March | 19:30

Dir. Ted Simpson | 2025 | 90 mins plus Q&A | English

Men Are Singing was Cornwall's first alternative male voice choir – a social art project established in 2018 by artist Seamas Carey as an enquiry into why younger men weren't joining choirs any more. Over six years they developed into a 50-man-strong chorus. This new documentary beautifully captures the life and death of this Falmouth-based choir. Q&A with Seamus Carey.



## FILM // THE PRESIDENT'S CAKE (12A) Thurs 12 March | 19:45

Dir. Hasan Hadi | 2025 | 105 mins | Arabic with English subtitles

While people across 1990s Iraq struggle to survive the war and food shortages, Saddam Hussein requires each school in the country to prepare a cake to celebrate his birthday. Despite her efforts to avoid getting picked, nine-year-old Lamia is chosen. She must now use her wits and imagination to gather ingredients for the mandatory cake or face the consequences.



## FILM // EXHIBITION ON SCREEN: TURNER AND CONSTABLE Weds 11 March | 17:45

Dir. David Bickerstaff | 2025 | 90 mins | English

An unmissable new documentary exploring Turner and Constable's intertwined lives and legacies alongside the current ground-breaking Tate Britain exhibition marking 250 years since their births. Discover unexpected sides to both artists with intimate views of sketchbooks and insights from leading experts. In collaboration with The Arts Society, Falmouth.



## FILM // MY FATHER'S SHADOW (12A) Weds 11 March | 19:45

Dir. Akinola Davies | 2025 | 93 mins | Nigerian Creole with English subtitles

A semi-autobiographical tale set over the course of a single day in the Nigerian metropolis, Lagos, during the 1993 Nigerian election crisis. The story follows a father, estranged from his two young sons, as they travel through the massive city while political unrest threatens their journey home.



## FILM // ALL THAT'S LEFT OF YOU (12A) Thurs 19 March | 19:30

Dir. Chereni Dabis | 2025 | 146 mins | Arabic with English subtitles

1980s. A Palestinian teenager is swept into a protest that changes the course of his family's life. Reeling from its aftermath, his mother shares the story that led to that fateful moment. Spanning seven decades, this epic drama traces the hopes and heartaches of one uprooted family, revealing the scars of displacement and the unbreakable spirit of survival.



## FILM // THE HISTORY OF SOUND (15) Sat 21 March | 19:45

Dir. Oliver Hermanus | 2025 | 128 mins | English

Boston Conservatory, 1917. Lionel, a young, talented music student, meets David, and they bond over a deep love of folk music. Years later, Lionel and David make an impromptu journey through the backwoods of Maine to collect songs. Their unexpected reunion, love affair, and the music they collect will shape the course of Lionel's life far beyond his own awareness.



## FILM // GENTLE, ANGRY WOMEN (12A), WITH Q&A Tues 24 March | 18:30

Dir. Barbara Santi | 2025 | 63 mins plus Q&A | English

Three teenagers discover the largely overlooked Greenham Common Women's Peace Camp, where thousands of women lived for 19 years protesting against nuclear missiles. A poignant and timely documentary celebrating the enduring power of women's collective action, revealing a bridge between past courage and present hope. Q&A with director Barbara Santi.



## FILM // KERNOW KINO 3 Fri 13 March | 18:30

Join us in The Poly's Library for the third year of Kernow Kino, a celebration of Cornish film talent.

Enjoy a diverse programme of eight locally-made shorts which reflect the diversity of Cornwall & the Isles of Scilly through great storytelling. The full list of films will be announced soon on our website.



## FILM // NO OTHER CHOICE (15) Fri 13 March | 19:30

Dir. Park Chan-wook | 2025 | 139 mins | Korean with English subtitles

Looking for a job? When a happy family man is dismissed after 25 years of loyal service at a paper company, he finds the perfect solution to land his next role: truly eliminate the competition.



## FILM // WUTHERING HEIGHTS Weds 25 March | 19:30

Dir. Emerald Fennell | 2025 | 136 mins | English

A passionate and tumultuous love story set against the backdrop of the Yorkshire moors, exploring the intense and destructive relationship between Heathcliff and Catherine Earnshaw.

An adaptation of WUTHERING HEIGHTS by Emily Brontë.



## FILM // JO IN THE WATER (12A), WITH Q&A Fri 27 March | 19:30

Dir. Pip Piper | 2025 | 77 mins plus Q&A | English

Passionate swimmer turned reluctant activist, Exmouth-based Jo Bateman, takes on one of the UK's biggest water companies in a battle to protect our waters from devastating sewage pollution. As Jo's courage helps ignite a movement, this film exposes the dire state of our water system and asks: who will stand up for our right to swim in clean natural waters, and for the species and communities that rely upon them?



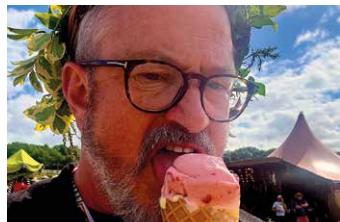
## FILM // THE SECRET AGENT (15) Sat 28 March | 19:00

Dir. Kleber Mendonça Filho | 2025 | 161 mins | Portuguese with English subtitles

Brazil, 1977. Marcelo, a technology expert in his early forties, is on the run. Hoping to reunite with his son, he travels to Recife during Carnival but soon realises that the city is not the safe haven he was expecting.

Winner of Best Director and Best Actor awards at Cannes Film Festival 2025.

# LIVE



## COMEDY // ROBIN INCE: ICE CREAM FOR A BROKEN TOOTH

Tues 03 Feb | 19:30

The co-host of Radio 4's award-winning THE INFINITE MONKEY CAGE tells stories of love and the universe, and performs poetry from his latest book, ICE CREAM FOR A BROKEN TOOTH, as well as talking about what he learned from writing NORMALLY WEIRD AND WEIRDLY NORMAL, his book about neurodivergence and the terrors and wonders that come from that. A show of happiness, empathy and connection.



## TALK // WHERE KEA PLUMS GROW

Weds 11 Feb | 15:30

Local historian Nigel Baker will talk about the origin of the Coombe orchards and their associated industries, such as oyster dredging, river fishing, barges, coppicing oak woods, flower growing and tea. Links will be developed to Kurt Jackson's current exhibition, 'River Fal', on show at the Jackson Foundation Gallery in St Just in Penwith until February 2026.



## TALK // MY HELFORD SKETCHBOOK, BY SOPHIE VELZIAN

Weds 11 Feb | 18:00

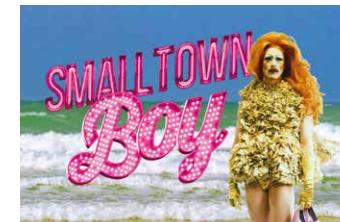
Join local artist and landscape painter Sophie Velzian for an intimate exploration of her first publication – a visual love letter to the Helford River and its surrounding landscapes. In this artist talk, Sophie will share the creative journey behind the book, which captures a year of painting using gouache en plein air, and will delve into her artistic process, from fieldwork and observation to composition and storytelling.



## COMMUNITY // THE RCPS MEDAL AWARDS 2026

Thurs 05 Feb | 18:00

Join our award winners and distinguished guests for an evening hosted in partnership with The Falmouth. Tickets include a welcome drink, networking, dinner, and the award ceremony itself.



## THEATRE // SMALLTOWN BOY

Sat 07 Feb | 19:00

In the wake of their boyfriend Leo's unexpected death, Edie, a drag queen from Bristol, travels down to Cornwall to meet the family they never knew of. Expecting small-town homophobia, Edie instead finds a community they didn't expect. As Edie's arrival awakens new emotions and old tensions, truths begin to pour out. A heartbreakingly joyful play about grief, community, and growing up queer in a rural town, explored through the explosive storytelling medium of drag.



## THEATRE // THE 39 STEPS BY PATRICK BARLOW

Thurs 12 Feb | 19:30

TOUCH Theatre brings you a juicy & fast-paced spy comedy thriller following a fugitive's riotous adventure from London to the Scottish Highlands and back again. Packed with non-stop laughs and performed by a ridiculously talented all-female cast of four playing 139 characters! The action involves sheep, haddock, missing fingers, handcuffs, mysterious strangers, bizarre accents, political rallies and some good old-fashioned romance.



## COMEDY // SAM LAKE: YOU'RE JOKING! NOT ANOTHER ONE!

Fri 13 Feb | 19:30

Feeling like life and his career has become repetitive, Sam is asking himself, 'Are we really doing this again?' Has he lost sight of his goals after years of entertaining countless idiotic men in comedy clubs? Has he turned into yet another version of himself to please everyone? Sam addresses the stereotypes of effeminate gay men that both hinder and help him in his efforts to be a funny little scamp.



## THEATRE // APPOINTMENT WITH MACDEATH

Thurs 19 - Sat 21 Feb | 19:30

A tragic comedy? A laughable tragedy? Or even a pantomime? You decide! Following last year's sell-out show, the CHOUGHS this year blend Agatha Christie with a beard, with the Bard! The aim was a biting political satire playing under a subtle tearjerking romance. But a stellar cast couldn't make it down from London, the band were described as 'live' a few years ago, and the special effects aren't very. Warning: contains adult humour.



## THEATRE // SWORDS, SWORDS, SWORDS!

Weds 18 Feb | Shows at 11:00 | 13:00 | 15:00

The Hall of Swords is on tour for February half-term with a collection for you to look at, learn about and handle! Join the travelling swordstorian (a person who knows about swords) as he leads you on a tour of some choice blades from myth, legend and history. This event combines theatre, storytelling, demos and interactivity, to inspire and bring the past to life!



## THEATRE // LIFE BEFORE YOU

Thurs 24 Feb | 19:30

Gráinne leaves Ardoyne, Belfast, for England, chasing the promise of a better life for her daughter Eimear, who grows up stepping through doors her mother could never open. But with every step forward, Eimear drifts further away – into another class, another name, another life. This unflinching new play by Eva Hudson addresses women's healthcare, class, survival, and the erasure of ageing women, asks what do we pass on, and how do we escape the lives written for us?



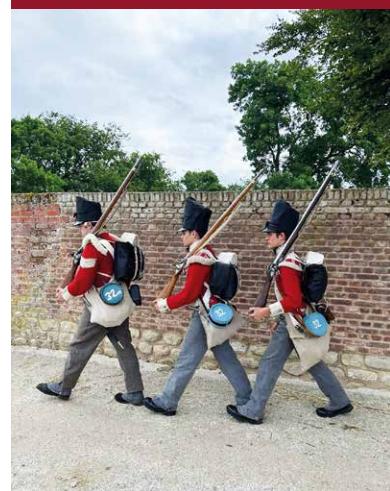
## COMMUNITY // MEET THE NAPOLEONIC 32ND CORNWALL REGIMENT OF FOOT

Sat 21 Feb | 10:00-16:00

Living history! Demonstrations! Musket handling! Thanks to support from Falmouth Town Council, this Cornwall-based Napoleonic-era re-enactment group are marching to The Poly this February.

The regiment will gather in our Main Gallery so there's plenty of space to absorb this historical experience and discover the Regiment of Foot's role in the Napoleonic Wars.

Discover what it was like to be a Napoleonic redcoat... get a closer look at the kit, hold a musket, and ask those burning questions – could they really fire three rounds a minute? Plus, of course, take photos!



LIVE

# FALMOUTH INTERNATIONAL ARTS FEST AT THE POLY



## TALK // THE DRAWINGS OF WILHEMINA BARNES-GRAHAM

Thurs 26 Feb | 18:00

A painter of abstract work and part of the Modernist group of artists in St Ives, Barns-Graham practiced the discipline of drawing throughout her life, using it to inform her paintings and to explore different ideas. These drawings are important works in their own right, and in this lecture art historian Catherine Wallace highlights some of the main themes that reflect the artist's journey through life.



## COMEDY // PETRA DISH'S PARLOUR NIGHT

Sat 28 Feb | 19:30  
Sat 28 March | 19:30

Petra Dish's Parlour Night will be an evening of fun, games, frivolity and entertainment! Building on the back of the success of Petra Dish's QUIZSTRAVAGANZA, Parlour Night will offer more puzzles, more games... charades will be back as 'Are You Cha-Radey', 'cross' words will be calmed down, 'fictional words' might be spoken, and there will be tests for your memory and logic!



## MUSIC // PIANO AT THE POLY

A suite of Saturday afternoon recitals from internationally acclaimed soloists.

### YULIA CHAPLINA

Sat 28 Feb | 14:30

Winner of seven international piano competitions. Expect to hear Tchaikovsky, Chopin, Mozart and Scriabin.

### LEWIS KINGSLEY PEART

Sat 28 March | 14:30

Nordic dreams and salon fancies... intimate piano portraits by Sibelius and Grieg from Scandinavia and virtuosity from Vienna.



## COMEDY // NO APOLOGIES, BY EMMA FRANKLAND

Thurs 05 March | 20:30

Delving deep into internet discourse and classical mythology, NO APOLOGIES radically mis-remembers Nirvana's iconic 1993 MTV Unplugged concert.

This personal and multi-layered production fights back against the pressure to mould ourselves into images that are acceptable to society and highlights the danger that lies when we are not able to live as our full, vibrant selves.



## THEATRE // MAIN CHARACTER ENERGY

Fri 06 March | 20:30

A high-camp cocktail of comedy and cabaret by Temi Wilkey. A beautiful and supremely talented black actress is putting on an outrageously hilarious, autobiographical one-woman show to finally take up the space she's been so routinely denied. It's your privilege, your honour, to give her all the attention she deserves. After a sold-out run at Soho Theatre in 2025, this cult phenomenon is coming to take Falmouth by storm!



## COMEDY // CALLY BEATON: NAMASTE MOTHERF\*CKERS

Sat 07 March | 19:30

A funny show about a deadly serious subject, NAMASTE MOTHERF\*CKERS is a celebration of and for the female of the species. Invisible no more.

Combining Cally's comedic and storytelling prowess with extracts from her stereotype-busting book of the same name, this quick-witted, unexpected and unapologetic insight into midlife has at its heart her own story of radical reinvention.



## THEATRE // THE COMPLETE WORKS OF JANE AUSTEN (ABRIDGED!)

Tues 03 March | 19:30

This fast-paced romp through the masterpieces of Jane Austen completely sold out its opening two-week run in Bristol and is now touring the UK!

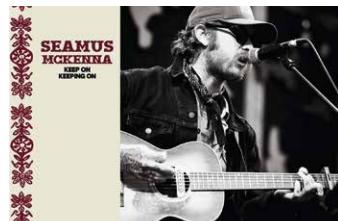
Three nimble actors take on all of Austen's beloved heroines, friends, and love interests – and her incisive social satire – in just 80 minutes. Join Schoolhouse Productions with their gloriously silly, and \*entirely accurate\* whizz around the world of Jane Austen!



## TALK // CORNWALL'S HIGH-TECH FUTURE(S): MIRACLE OR MIRAGE?

Thurs 12 March | 17:30

There's much to suggest Cornwall is being revitalised by recent high-tech developments. But over the last 200 years, Cornwall has mostly seen economic disappointment. Will this new activity turn the tide? Are any of the new technological clusters strong enough to provide the sustained high-paying growth that Cornwall needs if it is to close its wealth gap with the rest of the UK? Louis Turner explores and explains what we can expect.



## MUSIC // SÉAMUS MCKENNA 'KEEP ON KEEPING ON' ALBUM LAUNCH

Sat 14 March | 19:30

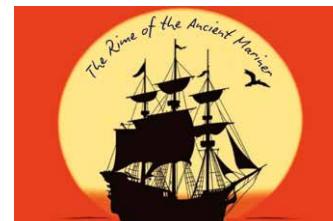
Solo artist Séamus McKenna has over a decade's experience in writing, recording and performing. Mixing influences from his Irish roots, acoustic folk and Americana, Séamus has a unique yet familiar sound. KEEP ON KEEPING ON is Séamus' first studio album. Capturing the raw essence of his live performance, the album exemplifies the folk genre and is uncompromising in its sound and structure. Out 04 March 2026.



## TALK // THE UNTOLD STORY OF DOCTOR DICK

Weds 18 March | 19:30

Uncover the forgotten story of Richard 'Doctor Dick' Pascoe, a quack doctor who inspired both love and hatred across Victorian Cornwall – a gripping narrative of grubby secrets and unruly mobs that'll guide you into some of the darker corners of Cornwall's past. Was this man an angel or a devil? There are reasons to believe both and neither. Your host is Will Hazell, award-winning pirate-hatted storyteller known best for running local walking tours at Falmouth Uncovered.



## THEATRE // CORNWALL YOUTH THEATRE: THE RIME OF THE ANCIENT MARINER

Fri 20 March | 19:30

A bold retelling of Coleridge's poetic ballad. When the mariner, in a moment of reckless impulse, shoots the Albatross, nature itself turns against him. The wind dies. The sea burns. His shipmates perish under a curse that leaves him the lone survivor, adrift among the dead. Haunted by spirits, tormented by isolation, the mariner is forced to confront the cosmic weight of his crime. Their story. Their burden. Their tale must be told.



## TALK // FRANCIS HEWLETT RWA (1930-2012)

Thurs 26 March | 18:00

Hewlett was a well-known painter in Falmouth, having been head of the painting department at University College Falmouth 1963-1981. He inherited the views of the Euston Road group, who rebelled against Modernism in the late thirties, and the importance of painting traditional subjects in a realist manner was the philosophy behind both his teaching and practice. His paintings and sculptural ceramic works will be discussed.

# POTTERY/WORKSHOPS



BEGINNERS  
HANDBUILDING  
4-WEEK COURSE



POTTERY // FOUR-WEEK  
BEGINNERS' HANDBUILDING  
Starts Mon 02 Feb  
14:00-16:00 | 18:30-20:30

For the perfect introduction to ceramics, join in our four-week beginners' course. Handbuilding is one of the oldest forms of pottery, allowing you to make pots, bowls and more. You'll learn the techniques of pinch pots, coil pots and slab making while being encouraged to experiment with traditional decorative methods such as slip and glazing.



INTERMEDIATE  
POTTERY  
4-WEEK COURSE



POTTERY // FOUR-WEEK  
INTERMEDIATE COURSE  
Weds 04 Feb | 14:00-16:00

This course has been designed for people with some experience who would like to develop their existing skills and start to gain knowledge in a broader range of building, firing and glazing techniques. Every week we'll explore a different firing technique, clay and construction method, playing with the materials to help you develop a more personalised approach to your making.



WORKSHOP //  
SLOW STITCH CIRCLE  
Tues 03 Feb | 14:00-15:30  
Tues 10 March | 10:30-12:00  
Thurs 12 March | 14:00-15:30  
14:00-16:00 | 18:30-20:30

Whether you're a novice or an experienced potter looking to expand your skills on the wheel, this course will teach you the basics of pottery throwing, starting with throwing basic cylinders and then developing your skills to help you make more complicated forms, including bowls and mugs, as learning about turning, firing, and glazing techniques!



POTTERY // FRIDAY  
DROP-IN SESSIONS  
15:00-20:00

Whether you're a thrower looking for a wheel to rent, or a hand-builder looking to make in a community space, every Friday we open our doors for potters to use our facilities – perfect for anyone wanting to develop their existing skills and catch up on some quality studio time.

Although this is not a taught session, there is always a member of staff on hand to answer any questions and give some guidance.

Pop down to the pottery and use the wonderful studio space for just £10 an hour.

- › Bags of clay (12.5kg) are available for purchase from £20
- › Three wheels are available for use – prebooking via email is highly recommended
- › Kiln firings from £12 per shelf
- › Metal and wooden tools, knives, batts, whirlers/banding wheels, sponges, paint brushes etc, are all free to use as you make.

Pop in and pay as you go or email [pottery@thepoly.org](mailto:pottery@thepoly.org) to prebook a slot on one of the wheels.



WORKSHOP //  
INTRODUCTION TO LINOCUT  
Sat 07 Feb | 10:00-15:00

A five-hour workshop which familiarises participants with the skills of relief printmaking and the tools and materials used. Play with the tools, learn technique through doing and a little tuition, then move on to designing a carvable block, transferring an image to lino and creating a simple, one-colour linocut (normally A5 or A6). All participants will have the opportunity to print proofs of their block both by hand and by tabletop press.



WORKSHOP // COSTUMED  
LIFE DRAWING: VENICE  
CARNIVAL  
Sat 14 Feb | 11:00-13:00

Our annual trip to Venice is back and this time it falls of Valentine's Day! Spend your Valentine's morning with us drawing iconic Venetian costumes and masks based on 16<sup>th</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup> century clothes, with an extra twist! We are welcoming back the wonderful Maisie and her pole skills to bring an extra bit of spice to this year's carnival. This is an untutored session – make sure to bring your own choice of drawing materials.



WORKSHOP //  
WONDERFUL WATERCOLOUR  
TASTER SESSION  
Sat 14 Feb | 14:30-16:30

Two taster days for teens aged 12-16 years, with FX makeup artist Jo Stambridge – attend one workshop or both!

**Day 1: Practical Visual Effects**  
An intro to casualty make-up including bite marks, bullet holes, and large flesh wounds.

**Day 2: Intro to Prosthetics**  
Sculpt a facial feature, nose, bump, or horns! Learn how to make and apply a range of prosthetics techniques.

# POTTERY/WORKSHOPS



## 4-WK BEGINNER'S HANDBUILDING WITH RAKU

**POTTERY // BEGINNERS' HANDBUILDING: RAKU**  
Starts Mon 09 March  
14:00-16:00 | 18:30-20:30

Practice drawing from a model in a range of media in a relaxed, supported environment.

Held in The Poly's Library, tutor Lisa Waldron provides guided exercises and extra support if required as well as opportunities to draw freely. Experienced artists, improvers and beginners are all welcome.



## WORKSHOP // NOVEL WRITING SIX-WEEK COURSE

Starts Tues 10 Mar | 10:30-12:30

The ultimate solution for anyone looking to turn their writing ideas into a finished product. Over the course of six weeks, tutor Luke Dimech will guide you through the entire writing process, from conceptualisation to completion. With hands-on learning, practical exercises, and expert guidance, by the end of the course you'll have a solid understanding of what it takes to write a novel and the skills to turn your ideas into a fully-realised work of fiction.



## WORKSHOP // EXPLORING COLOUR

Tues 10 March | 10:30-16:30

This workshop focuses exclusively on colour, nurturing play to discover new approaches and colour combinations. Learn how to mix colours with accuracy and confidence and find which pallets resonate with you most. Explore how colours are informed by other colours and how they affect one another when placed together through fun exercises. Leave with a series of colour studies, small paintings and swatches to inspire future work. With tutor Laura Menzies.



## POTTERY // ADVANCED COURSE: RAKU

Starts Weds 11 March | 18:30-20:30

A specialised and practical raku course for those with an extensive knowledge of working with clay, offering a deep dive into making to explore the stunning results of this ancient firing method. The course will look closely at building on your experience and develop your design and construction ideas further, tailoring glazes and firing techniques to your individual project.



## WORKSHOP // DISCOVER MIXED MEDIA

Thurs 12 March | 10:30-16:30

In this playful and experimental workshop you will explore a range of materials, including acrylic, ink, collage, pastels and charcoal, and learn how to layer them up to create mixed-media artworks full of texture and depth. You will create your own collage papers through guided mark-making exercises and gelli printing, layering these papers up with other selected materials to create a series of striking, abstract artworks. With tutor Laura Menzies.



## POTTERY // FOUR-WEEK GLAZE TECHNOLOGY COURSE

Thurs 12 March | 18:30-20:30

Get an insight into the materials that make up glaze and the effects they create. Through experimentation and tests you'll learn to make a range of basic glaze recipes from scratch, and see the results each week. By analysing and reflecting on results, you'll build your own folder of glaze recipes, as well as gaining a basic awareness of studio health & safety practices. Suitable for beginners and professionals - no previous knowledge or practice required.



## WORKSHOP // INTERMEDIATE COURSE: RAKU

Starts Weds 11 March | 14:00-16:00

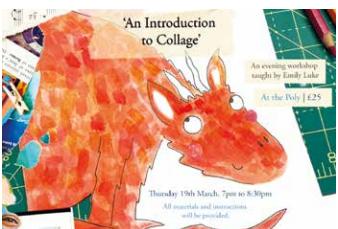
Join our specialised four-week intermediate raku course to expand your skills and delve into a mesmerising ancient firing method with beautiful results. Bespoke to you and your making style, these sessions will let you explore a project you really want to work on, creating pieces specifically for a raku firing, and help you expand and develop your skills in a supportive environment.



## WORKSHOP // CLONE YOUR CLOTHES: PATTERN-CUTTING

Sat 14 March | 10:00-16:00

Do you have a favourite garment you wish you could recreate? Bring it along to this hands-on workshop with Helen Shine from Dot n Cross to learn how to create a custom pattern from your most-loved top or dress, without taking it apart. You'll leave with a sewing pattern you can make again and again, and construction tips so you're ready to get started at home. Suitable for people with some experience of garment construction.



## WORKSHOP // AN INTRO TO COLLAGE WITH EMILY LUKE

Thurs 19 March | 19:00-20:30

A fun and relaxing evening workshop in The Poly's cosy library... the perfect way to spend a winter's evening, chatting with like-minded people and learning some new crafting skills. Illustrator Emily Luke will guide you through different collaging techniques, how to source and choose materials, and how to build up an image of your choice. By the end you will have a finished artwork to take home and new skills to apply to your next artwork.

# POTTERY/WORKSHOPS



## WORKSHOP // COAST: TWO-COLOUR LINOCUT

Sat 21 March | 10:00-15:00

In this five-hour workshop, learn traditional relief printmaking skills to make two small linocut/rubber stamps which overlay to create a two-colour coast-themed mini print.

Bring photos or sketches of your favourite stretch of coast, and we will work to interpret and transform your images into beautiful, simple, small works of art.



## WORKSHOP // WONDERS OF THE OCEAN: A BEGINNER'S WATERCOLOUR WORKSHOP

Tues 24 March | 18:00-20:30

Dive into the world of watercolour through the lens of our local marine life. Learn essential techniques, explore mark making, and build confidence as you paint your own beautiful sea creature to take home. All materials are included, though bringing a sketchbook is recommended to practice techniques before beginning your final piece. A perfect, calming way to connect with creativity and the ocean!



## WORKSHOP // PAINTING SPRING FLOWERS IN OILS

Tues 24 - Thurs 26 March | 10:30-16:00

Come out of hibernation with this vibrant workshop celebrating the arrival of spring in Cornwall! Try your hand or improve your skills in oil painting with artist and tutor Lisa Waldron. Lisa will take you through the process of capturing a selection of fresh spring flowers in oils – from constructing the composition in an underpainting, to adding the final finishing touches. Learn how to achieve bright floral colours and mix natural and vibrant greens.



REGULAR DEADLINE: 28 FEB 2026

## SHOWCASE YOUR ACTING SKILLS: ENTER THE CORNWALL MONOLOGUE COMPETITION 2026

Cornwall's competition to showcase on-screen acting talent is open to professional & amateur performers aged 18+. To find out more and enter, scan the QR code to visit [FilmFreeway](#).



[FilmFreeway](#) [DS Film](#) [EPOLY](#)



## WORKSHOP // COSTUMED LIFE DRAWING: ANCIENT GREECE

Sat 28 March | 11:00-13:00

A time of heroes, monsters, gods and goddesses! Step back to Ancient Greece as we bring a little bit of it to the costumed life drawing stage! This untutored session from Swashbuckling Cornwall will feature a range of costumed poses ranging from one to 15 minutes. Make sure to bring your choice of drawing materials – anything from pen and paper to oils, inks or even an iPad. Kindly supported by the Society for the Promotion of Hellenic Studies.



## BECOME A POLY MEMBER

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[WWW.THEPOLY.ORG/JOIN](http://WWW.THEPOLY.ORG/JOIN)

# GALLERIES



# SPRING OPEN 2026

21<sup>ST</sup> - 25<sup>TH</sup> APRIL

Image credit: Chloe Woods, 2025 exhibitor

## OPEN CALL IS NOW OPEN

Spring Open is The Poly's open call, curated art show, held in our Spring Gallery – our annual celebration of the artistic talent in our community.

The call for entries is now open. We welcome work from all artistic disciplines, from new and established artists. Selected artists will be notified by 21<sup>st</sup> March.

You can enter up to three pieces of work for consideration. Work must be original, created in the last two years, and not previously exhibited at The Poly.

ENTRY FORM DEADLINE: FRIDAY 06 MARCH | DETAILS AT [WWW.THEPOLY.ORG](http://WWW.THEPOLY.ORG)

# GALLERIES



## IAN BUTLER: STREETS I KNOW, FACES I DON'T

Tues 03 - Sat 07 Feb, Spring Gallery  
Private View: Tues 03 Feb | 17:00-19:00

This photography exhibition brings together two projects that explore brief encounters with strangers and stories found in passing moments. The first features black and white images where unfamiliar faces pause in stillness, hinting at hidden stories. The second grew from a post-pandemic challenge to photograph one hundred strangers, a process that revealed the resilience and humanity emerging as we entered a new chapter.



## PETER WALKER: REFLECTIONS

Tues 10 - Sat 14 Feb, Spring Gallery  
Large-scale oil abstractions based upon the Helford River.



## JAMIE MEDLIN: FROM THE WATER'S EDGE

Tues 17 - Sat 21 Feb, Spring Gallery  
A collection of oil paintings celebrating the coasts and waterways of Cornwall. Rooted in the concept of 'blue space', this collection draws on the calming and restorative nature of water. Set across Cornwall's coastline, each piece captures a unique mood, revealing the emotional depth of the ever-changing waters and portraying the array of stunning views within our wonderful county of Cornwall.



## NORMAN LEIGHTON: ALL THE WORLD'S A STAGE

Tues 24 - Sat 28 Feb, Spring Gallery

Characters, fictional, real and spiritual, make up this series of paintings. From Shakespeare, Chaucer, and other sources, they are presented as life's players. 'As you like it', they each have their parts to play.



## CAROLYN THOMPSON & GEORGIE HARE: LAND AND SEA

Tues 03 - Sat 07 March, Spring Gallery  
Private View: Tues 03 March | 17:00-19:00

Carolyn's work originates from the act of walking through, and being in, the landscape – a remapping of the visual experience taking in scale, rhythm, time passing, seasonal change and all weathers. Georgie paints the sea and wooden boats, themes which have always been in her life. It connects her to her family, people, and a sense of the past.



## PRIME WOMEN ARTISTS: PRIMAVERA

Tues 10 - Sat 14 March, Spring Gallery

Prime Women Artists is a collaborative network set up to support women artists living in Cornwall. The group will be exhibiting a variety of media and styles, all celebrating the arrival of spring in Cornwall.



## WHERE LAND MEETS THE SEA

Tues 17 - Sat 21 March, Spring Gallery  
Private View: Tues 17 March | 17:00-19:00

Four artists celebrate Cornwall's land, sea and wildlife through paint, ceramics, textiles and jewellery. Featuring Fiona Cant's stunning landscape paintings, Lucy Joines' fun and whimsical ceramic sculptural boats and animals, Sue Newell's beautifully colourful textile pieces and paintings, and Bellinda Latimer's exquisite hammered and layered copper, brass and nickel jewellery.



## VICTORIA GILLOW: TRACE

Tues 24 - Sat 28 March, Spring Gallery  
Private View: Tues 24 March | 17:00-19:00

Victoria's work maps landscape in real time, aiming to acknowledge the traces of memory and time that are held by a landscape. She often starts a work, on location, with a drawn line tracing the landscape, pathways and journeys up and over hills, headlands and out to sea. These lines also trace the energy of places, combining with past footfall to create new layered memories.



## JO LAY: KEHELLAND TRUST

Tues 31 March - Sat 04 April, Spring Gallery  
Private View: Tues 31 March | 17:00-19:00

An exhibition of artwork inspired by Jo's time as artist in residence at The Kehelland Trust during 2023/24. Kehelland Trust is a horticultural setting supporting people with learning and physical disabilities. Jo recorded the environment and people through drawing, painting and other media and this exhibition shares both her work and that of the Trust with the wider community.

# COMING UP IN APRIL...



## THEATRE // CIRQUELUSQUE

**EASTER SPEAKEASY**

**Sat 04 April | 19:30**

Cirquesque return with a new Easter cabaret in our Main Gallery space atop The Poly!

## MUSIC // MERRY HELL

**Fri 17 April | 19:30**

Multi-award winning band Merry Hell offer joyful, uplifting folk-rock, with a message of hope for troubled times. Native to the north-west of England, the eight-piece musical charabanc emerged from the embers of the much-loved folk-punk band The Tansads, before developing a life and feel all of its own. Their energy and passion are complemented by their love of what they do and desire to share hope and togetherness with as many people as possible.

## MUSIC // GAVIN FAIRHALL LEVER

**Fri 24 April | 19:30**

Gavin Fairhall Lever are a stunning explosion of colour in the wild and unruly garden of the London folk scene. A tangle of roots from Northern Ireland, Cornwall and Norfolk gives exuberant life to a truly contemporary folk music, full of thorns and flowers – an exhilarating, joyful tumble of Celtic trad, melodic warmth, vibrant rhythmic invention, and the subtle expressivity of jazz harmony. All performed with a compelling combination of fire, precision and mongrel bite.

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## FIND US

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