What’s on at Z-arts: September to December 2018

Arts and theatre for children and families.

Box Office phone number: 0161 232 6089.

[www.z-arts.org](http://www.z-arts.org/)

335 Stretford Road, Manchester, M15 5ZA.

Registered charity: 1093556.

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# Christmas at Z-arts

## Black Beauty

From Thursday 6 to Saturday 15 December.

£6 to £12.

Run time: 90 minutes including interval.

Presented by Red Bridge and Traverse Theatre Company.

Andy and Andy have fallen on hard times. When they discover their beloved copy of Black Beauty in the cosy horse trailer they call home, they saddle up with their horse Hamish and re-enact portions of this classic, page-turning adventure! Blending storytelling, puppetry and music, this production is a fun adventure full of friendship, courage, hope and heroes. A festive treat for the whole family that is sure to warm your heart on the coldest winter’s eve.

The Guardian: “a galloping, five-star triumph”.

Art cart activities are available.

### Festive Appeal

Christmas is when we all feel festive and create memories that last a lifetime. Can you donate to help us offer every Manchester child in care a magical night at the theatre? If you would like to, you can donate when you are booking your own tickets. Thank you!

### Access and events

* BSL performances:
  + Thursday 6 December: 7 pm.
  + Saturday 8 December: 2.30 pm.
* Relaxed performance: Saturday 15 December: 2.30 pm.
* Black Beauty Christmas Fun Day: Saturday 1 December.

School performances are available. Speak to our Box Office team for more information.

# Big Imaginations shows

Art cart available for all shows.

## Twinkle Twinkle

Saturday 29 September.

Ages: 1 to 3.

11 am, 12.30 pm and 2 pm.

£6 to £9.

Run time: 40 minutes.

Presented by Touched Theatre.

There are melodies that live in all of us. No one knows that more than Marty the puppy, whose beautiful songs and play-time with his Dad are the best part of his day. But sometimes, you have to learn how to find the music inside yourself.

Join us for brilliant puppetry, magical interaction and a gorgeous original score.

## A Square World

Sunday 21 October.

Ages: 3 to 6.

11 am (relaxed), and 2.30 pm.

£6 to £9.

Run time: 45 minutes.

Presented by Daryl Beeton. Supported by Manchester Literature Festival.

What do you do when you’re in a square world but you’re not a square? Through creativity, three friends make the world welcoming for everyone, and a place where everyone can enjoy each day without any limits. With lots of fun and a little bit of chaos, *A Square World* is an uplifting story of friendship, difference and discovery. Part of Z-access family fun day.

## Adrift

Tuesday 23 October.

Ages: 8+.

2 pm.

£6 to £9.

Run time: 65 minutes.

Presented by Action Transport Theatre.

Two children are in a boat. One is rowing, one is fishing. Their talk is light-hearted: of catching a fish big enough to capsize the boat, of whales who lead the way, of mermaids who sing haunting melodies, and of land.

A land with thick grass and endless blue skies. A beautiful land. Above all, a safe land. Go on a beautiful journey with us when *Adrift* comes to Z-arts.

## Plink and Boo

Thursday 25 October.

Ages: 2 to 5.

11 am and 2.30 pm.

£6 to £9.

Run time: 60 minutes, including 20 minutes of Stay and Play.

Presented by Can’t Sit Still.

Acrobatics, music and circus! Join us in an interactive topsy-turvy world where you’ll discover two boxes full to the brim with toys. Which one will you choose to play with?  
  
Enjoy acrobatics, live music, and a LOT of toys in this vibrant circus theatre experience that playfully explores why sometimes people can’t fit into boxes.

## The Astonishing Vacuum Cleaner Adventure

Thursday 1 November.

Ages: 7 to 11.

6.30 pm.

£6 to £9.

Run time: 30 to 40 minutes.

Presented by One Tenth Human.

Get ready for mystery and adventure in this interactive production! In a dark corner of the theatre, there’s a machine. It’s old and dusty, and full of mysterious tubes. It could be dangerous. But we know we need to do something, Hetty needs our help!

Exeunt Magazine: “really brilliant children’s theatre”.

# Special events

## World Inside a Book

Coming February 2019!

Ages: 0 to 8.

A World Inside a Book: Gruffalos, Dragons and Other Creatures.

From our amazing success working with Discover Children’s Story Centre, London, to bring you Bear Hunt, Chocolate Cake and Bad Things in 2016, we are extremely excited to announce that from February 2019, Z-arts will be presenting *A World Inside a Book: Gruffalos, Dragons and Other Creatures*. Families will be able to take a trip into the brilliant 3-D technicolour world of the best loved children’s author, Julia Donaldson and illustrator Axel Scheffler, with the UK’s first immersive exhibition of their wonderful work.

Supported by Discover Children’s Story Centre.

## Cinema Club: Roald Dahl’s *The Witches*

Saturday 15 September.

Ages: 8+.

2.30 pm: family screening, £6 to £9.

7.30 pm: adult only screening, £10.

Presented by Make A Scene and Z-arts.

For Roald Dahl Day we're working with Make A Scene to bring a very special interactive, immersive screening of *The Witches* to Z-arts.

Expect chocolate, potions, spells and mice plus Afternoon Tea themed food, cocktails, mocktails for the kids, sweets, cakes, crafting, workshops and a boot camp on how to spot real-life witches.

## Z-access Family Fun Day

Sunday 21 October.

All ages.

10 am to 2 pm.

Free.

Our free fun day specially designed for families and friends with additional requirements and disabilities returns. Come along to enjoy drama, dance, music, arts and crafts together as a family. Our trained staff, facilitators, and BSL interpreter will be at Z-access to welcome you and support you.

As part of Z-access, a relaxed performance of *A Small World* will be taking place at 11 am. House lights will be kept on and you can come and go as you need to.

## Rush Hour Jam with Arun Ghosh

Friday 12 October, Friday 2 November and Friday 7 December.

All ages.

5 pm to 7 pm.

Free

Hectic day? Get ready to unwind with some live music with award-winning jazz artist Arun Ghosh and his guest artists at Z-cafe!

With a house band, including local young musicians, *Rush Hour Jam* is a chance for you to enjoy a relaxed evening of open-hearted music and amazing jazz vibes.

Part of Family Fridays at Z-cafe. Supported by P.R.S. Foundation and One Manchester.

## Drag Queen Story Time

Saturday 8 December

Ages: 3+.

10.30 am and 12 pm.

£6 for one adult and one child, and £3 for additional adult and children tickets.

In partnership with Black Gold Arts, Contact and STUN, *Drag Queen Story Time* aims to capture the imagination and fun of the gender fluidity of childhood, while giving children a positive queer role model.

Shaz Blakefield will be reading the story of *Nimesh the Adventurer,* written by Ranjit Singh. Nimesh is walking home from school. Except there happens to be a shark in the corridor. And a dragon in the library!

Join us at Z-arts for some themed arts and crafts activities before listening to the story.

# Events and holidays

## The Big Draw

Saturday 6 October.

All ages.

10 am to 12 pm.

Free.

The Big Draw Festival 2018 is all about letting loose, embracing happy accidents, and discovery! Kids and big kids alike can join visual artist Suzanne for a day of creating, playing and drawing!

Supported by John Thaw Foundation.

## Charlie Cooke’s Favourite Book

A week long holiday activity.

Monday 29 October to Friday 2 November.

Ages 6 to 10.

10 am to 12 pm, or 1 pm to 3 pm.

Free for Bright Sparks Members.

Taking inspiration from Julia Donaldson and her hero Charlie Cooke, who is reading a book about a pirate captain. You will write and illustrate your own picture books within a picture book, learning lots of creative writing and illustration techniques!

Supported by Greater Manchester Police.

## Halloween Party

Saturday 27 October.

All ages.

2 pm to 4 pm.

£6 for one adult and one child, and £3 for additional adult and children tickets. Booking in advance is advised.

Join us for a spooky party where we’ll be in Julia Donaldson inspired fancy dress. Get creative with a Room on the Broom themed arts activity. Plus lots of fun and games for the whole family to enjoy.

## Z-Earth Fun Day

Saturday 24 November.

All ages.

11 am to 3 pm.

Free.

Z-Earth family fun day takes inspiration from nature and ecology, exploring both through arts, crafts and arts activities for all ages! Created by a team of young people, this fun day will be jam-packed with things to do and see inspired by the great outdoors.

## Black Beauty Christmas Fun Day

Saturday 1 December.

All ages.

12 pm to 4 pm.

Free.

Join us on our free festive fun day where you can make cards, gifts, decorations and more with a theme of celebrating courage, friendship and our love of animals.

## Bright Sparks Winter Showcase

Monday 17 December.

All ages.

Pay as you feel: suggested donations are £2+ for adults and £1+ for children.

Our resident thespians are performing for your festive delight. After a full term gaining new skills, it’s time to show them off to their friends and family. So get your clapping hands ready to show your appreciation.

# Regular classes

Free for Bright Sparks members. Booking for classes is essential. All classes are available to book one week in advance. Become a Bright Sparks member online or speak to our Box Office.

## Preschool to 5 years

* Monday: 11 am to 11.45 am: Let’s Imagine, Let’s Create, Let’s Dance, and Let’s Do Yoga.
* Saturday
  + 9.30 am to 10.30 am, ages 4 to 6: Learn ballet with Ballet Attitude Elemental.
  + 10 am and 11 am, ages 4 to 6: Learn street dance with Beat Street Elemental.
  + 11.30 am to 12.15 pm, ages 4 to 6: Drama Stars

## 6 to 10 years

* Monday
  + 4 pm to 4.45 pm: Drama Stars.
  + 4.45 pm to 5.30 pm: Drama Stars.
* Tuesday
  + 4 pm to 5 pm: Pop Stars. Music and singing each week.
  + 4 pm to 4.45 pm, ages 5 to 8: Yoga Stars. Explore yoga with themes such as nature and animals.
  + 5 pm to 6 pm: Cheer Stars. Our new class is for boys and girls who like cheerleading, acrobatics and dance.
* Wednesday
  + 4 pm to 4.45 pm: Art Stars.
  + 5 pm to 6 pm: Film Stars. Learn digital skills including film-making, animation, sound, design and more with.
  + 5.15 pm to 6 pm: Art Stars.
* Thursday
  + 4 pm to 4.30 pm: Ballet Attitude Elevate.
  + 4.30 pm to 5 pm: Tap Attitude Elevate.
  + 5 pm to 5.30 pm: Beat Street Elevate.
* Saturday: ages 7 to 10
  + 10 am to 11 am: Drama Stars.
  + 11.30 am to 12 pm: Ballet Attitude Elevate.
  + 12 pm to 12.30 pm: Tap Attitude Elevate.
  + 12.30 pm to 1 pm: Beat Street Elevate.

## 11+ years

* Monday
  + 4.30 pm to 5.30 pm: Z-Artists.
  + 5.45 pm to 7 pm: ZYP.
* Thursday
  + 5.30 pm to 6.15 pm: Learn street dance with Beat Street Supreme.

## Family

* Friday
  + Friday Night is Family Night: 3 pm to 5 pm: Lego and Games Cafe. Weekly Lego challenges and board games to play with your family.
  + 5 pm: Family Cinema Club. Classic books and stories is this season’s theme for our screenings.
* Saturday
  + 10.30 am to 11.30 am: Family Art Stars.
  + 12.30 pm to 1.30 pm: Family Art Stars.

# Visiting productions

## Emergency 2018

Saturday 6 October.

12 pm to 10 pm.

Pay what you decide.

Presented by Word of Warning.

A day out for the curious. Manchester’s manic micro-marathon of the bizarre is back, from gallery to theatre, store-cupboard to stairwell, more than 20 live works in a non-stop performance takeover. From noon, dip in and out of ongoing performances or join us in the evening for some sit-down shows.

## Shakespeare Schools

Monday 5 to Friday 9 November, and Monday 12 to Friday 16 November.

All ages.

7 pm.

£9.75 to £7.75. Group rate: £6.50.

Run time: 2.5 hours, including a 15-minute interval.

Shakespeare Schools Foundation is proud to present the world’s largest youth drama festival at Z-arts. See Shakespeare’s timeless stories brought to life like never before, and support young people from your community as they take to the stage.

## Cinderella

Wednesday 21 to Saturday 24 November.

Ages: 4+.

Wednesday to Friday: 7.30 pm.

Saturday matinee: 12.30 pm.

Saturday evening: 5.30 pm.

£14 to £17.

Run time: 2.5 hours including interval.

South Manchester Amateur Operatic Society presents *Cinderella*. You shall go to the ball! Step into Christmas for the must-see show of the season. A truly magical rags-to-riches tale with superb song and dance routines, hilarious comedy and special effects.

## Guys and Dolls

Wednesday 28 November to Saturday 1 December.

Ages: 8+.

7.30 pm.

£11 to £16.

Run time: 2.5 hours including interval.

Manchester Musical Youth Graduates are back with a touch of class with the 1950’s musical comedy *Guys and Dolls.* Frank Loesser’s musical is about rolling the dice and falling in love under the bright Manhattan lights.

A hilarious tale of the most unlikely of New York city pairings: Sky, a high-rolling gambling ladies’ man, meets Sarah Brown, a defiant and highly strung missionary girl.

# Become a Z-arts supporter

By becoming a regular supporter of Z-arts, you will be helping to nurture and inspire generations of young people from across Manchester and beyond!

## Seedling: Give from £4 to £9 a month

By becoming a seedling, you will:

* Sponsor a book, which will proudly feature your name and will inspire our pre-school programme Let’s Create and Let’s Imagine.
* Have your donation recognised on the Z-arts website so everyone can see how amazing you are.
* Be invited to one special Z-arts event in the year.

## Leaf: Give between £10 and £25 a month

For this amount, you will become a leaf and you’ll:

* Be invited to our VIP events throughout the year.
* Have your donation recognised on the Z-arts website so everyone can see how amazing you are.
* Sponsor a pair of dance shoes, which will proudly feature your name and will inspire young people in our ballet, beat and tap classes.

# General Information

## Enjoy a cuppa at Z-cafe

Whether you’re visiting to see a show, attend a class or are just feeling peckish, Z-Cafe is the perfect place to grab a bite to eat and something to drink. Free wifi is available.

Breakfast is available on Monday and Saturday between 9.30 am and 11 am.

Lunch is served Monday to Saturday between 12 pm and 2 pm.

Friday night at Z-cafe is Family Night! With board games to play, and Arun Ghosh’s *Rush Hour Jam,* Fridays at Z-cafe are a chance to relax and have fun once the week is done!

## How to book

Box Office opening hours:

* Monday to Friday: 9 am to 9 pm.
* Saturday: 9 am to 5 pm.

Tickets and info: 0161 232 6089.

Online: [www.z-arts.org](http://www.z-arts.org/)

M15 resident? Concession tickets available for Hulme residents on certain productions.

## Getting to Z-arts

Walk: 20 minutes’ walk from Oxford Rd & Deansgate train stations.

Bus: There are regular bus services from the city centre: 250, 256 and 263 pass just outside.

Car: There is ample on-street parking in the area.

## Accessibility

Anyone who requires a companion can book an Essential Companion ticket at no extra charge. Hearing loops and headsets, and protective headsets are available for theatre performances and events.

There is access to various areas of the building via a lift. There are more details online at z-arts.org/access. If you have any questions, please come and chat to us at the Box Office or by calling 0161 232 6089.

## Thank you to our funders and supporters

* Manchester City Council
* Arts Council England
* G.M.C.A.
* B.B.C. Children in Need
* Paul Hamlyn Foundation
* The Lever Prize
* P.R.S. Foundation

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