

PRESS RELEASE: FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



Thursday 1 – Saturday 31 October 2015
Luminate, Scotland's creative ageing festival

Join us to explore and enjoy a month of creativity

October is a month to celebrate as Luminate, Scotland's creative ageing festival, will be up and running, so come and join us as we explore what ageing means to us all. There are many different ways to get together to celebrate creativity - it could be with dance, drama, music, visual arts, storytelling, photography, crafts or outreach events. Whatever your age and wherever you are, there will be something for you in this year's programme.

Highlights include the **Luminate Photography Challenge: Pop Up Exhibition**, an exhibition of portraits from different generations created by people across Scotland. Photographic artist **Robin Gillanders** artist has helped and guided participants and will be talking about his work at the National Museum of Scotland and the Stills Gallery, Edinburgh, and the exhibition will be popping up all over the country at venues from Ullapool to Edinburgh. For the first time **Dive**, Edinburgh's finest purveyors of weirdo cabaret have teamed up with Luminate to present a timeless queer cabaret for all ages and persuasions – look out for some rather special guests.

Dance has always been at the forefront of Luminate and this year is no exception with some amazing events such as **A Dance Workshop** with **Rambert** at The Studio, Festival Theatre, and the inaugural Scottish tour by **Dance Base's PRIME** and **Scottish Ballet Elders' Company**, who will be joined by **The GOLD Company** from Canberra, Australia for their Edinburgh performance. **Dance Base** has always loved Luminate and will be running Free Classes with **Morag Deyes**, **Dance Ihayami**, **Chris Stuart Wilson** and **Anna Noonan**. As part of Festival Theatre's 'Forget me Not' dementia friendly project The Letter J are at The Studio with **Granddad and Me**, a beautifully crafted, whimsical mosaic for audiences from 5 to 105. **Once Upon A Time** is a passionate show about ageing told through the bodies of two dancers and one trapeze artist all over 65, and can be seen at the Tron in Glasgow. Or fly away to another world at the Beacon Arts Centre, Greenock with **Up, Up and Away** from **All or Nothing Aerial Dance Theatre**, proving you are never too old to get air bound.

Film always plays a major part in the festival and this year there is another terrific programme. Highlights include **The Lunchbox** which is a simple story about second chances, facing issues of growing older and finding your way in modern life. **Hip Hop-eration** will undoubtedly make you smile, as older people prepare to take part in the World Hip Hop Dance Championships in Las Vegas. **Whales of August** is the unmissable swan song for Bette Davis, Lillian Gish and director Lindsay Anderson.

The spoken word is becoming more and more popular and this year the wildly successful **Luminate Poetry Slam**, presented by Rally & Broad, has found a new home at the Traverse Theatre. **Second Wind: Poetry**

and Discussion with **Douglas Dunn, Vicki Feaver** and **Diana Hendry** launches a new Saltire Society pamphlet commissioned by the Scottish Poetry Library and part of the Baring Foundation's 'Late Style' series of artists' commissions. In Dumfries, as part of Wigtown Book Festival's annual programme author **Sue Peebles** talks to journalist Jackie McGlone about ageing, caring, loving and laughing, and a fantastic opportunity is on offer at Glasgow Women's Library where **Dervla Murphy**, an 83 year old writer and traveller discusses her worldwide adventures. **Michael Krüger**, the award winning German poet will be talking about his latest collections at the Goethe-Institut, Glasgow, and Scotland's Makar **Liz Lochhead** will be appearing at Dunbar Library. In Sutherland the hugely successful **Portskerra International Storytelling Festival** is joining forces with Luminare with a star burst of event options.

Major theatre events include a unique opportunity to hear **Brian Cox, Bill Paterson, John Bett** and **Benny Young** – the cast of *Waiting for Godot* - in a lively debate at the Royal Lyceum Theatre, discussing how accurately theatre portrays older people today. **Broth** is **Donna Rutherford's** new show which explores the experiences of older people in 21st century Scotland through the tradition of soup making. Cooking also features at the National Library of Scotland with **Dementia Friendly: Lifting the Lid: A History of Scottish Cooking** – 400 years of food and drink. **The Beautiful People** at Dundee Rep is a devised piece created by Dundee Rep's 60+ Company directed by Suzi Morrice. The Traverse will host **Lung Ha Theatre Company's** new play **Thingummy Bob** by **Linda McLean**, and A Play, A Pie and A Pint will present **Descent** by **Linda Duncan McLaughlin** at the Traverse Theatre, Edinburgh and Òran Mór, Glasgow. Tributes are paid to the Scottish textile industry with **Mill Girls on Tour** – a comical, tragic but always dramatic play shimmering with glamour whilst Stellar Quines' **Threads** by **Sylvia Dow** weaves together stories from the Borders in Peebles and Hawick. Sylvia will also be taking part with other writers in **LifeLines** by **Thrawn Crows**. Exploring the relationships between grandfathers and their grandsons, **Old Boy** is a new work in progress by Glas(s) Performance at Platform, Glasgow.

Live Music Now is once again part of Luminare, bringing live music to older people around the country performed by young musicians, and this year visiting care homes and older people's groups in East Ayrshire, Dundee and Fife. A highlight of the music programme is **The Royal Conservatoire of Scotland** who will be pushing itself to the edge with **Strictly Come Dancing in Extremes**. At Horsecross Arts, Perth, massed ukuleles **Tayside Silver Strummers** from Perth and Dundee University of the Third Age join together to present a memorable concert.

The **Turner Prize 2015** is coming to Tramway, and their **Luminare Week** is offering people over 50 an opportunity to participate in workshops and produce work for an exhibition. In Lockerbie you can see an exhibition of artwork made by the Notwen House residents and mixed media artist **Tracy Metcalfe**. Catch **Penny Lilley** in her Pop Up Week in Castle Douglas, with textiles inspired by the symbolism of circles. At the Museum of Edinburgh **Mothers, Daughters, Fathers, Sons – Memories of Childhood** shares wonderful personal histories. At the Scottish National Gallery you can enjoy a guide tour of paintings by **Arthur Melville** and try out some watercolour painting. Or for something completely different, **Illuminate** in Livingston gives you the chance to discover artworks created by community members and projected onto major buildings.

Luminare is also thrilled to include a number of opportunities for people to engage creatively online or simply watch and enjoy Luminare performances and exhibitions at home online at www.luminareScotland.org.

Luminare is supported by Creative Scotland, The Baring Foundation and Age Scotland



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The Baring Foundation



Luminate Director, Anne Gallacher:

“As our fourth festival approaches, it’s exciting to see Luminate reaching more communities across Scotland than ever before. There’s something for everyone whatever your age – a chance to take part in an activity you may not have tried before such as weaving, ceramics or Indian dance, a film in a nearby cinema that will inspire you about the possibilities of growing older, a concert in your local care home or a storytelling performance in your village hall. Creativity has no age, and once again this October Luminate shows the breadth of opportunities that are available nationwide.”

Janet Archer, CEO at Creative Scotland:

“We are delighted to be supporting Luminate 2015. As one of our Regularly Funded Organisations, we value Luminate’s approach to engaging with older audience members, participants and artists and exploring a subject that is truly relevant to us all.

This year’s programme is packed with high quality performances, exhibitions and film screenings as well as opportunities to take part through workshops, discussions or the Luminate Poetry Slam! It will, once again, reach across the country into theatres, galleries, public places and beyond as well as presenting an exciting and inspiring programme of outreach activity in care homes and day centres.”

David Cutler, Director, The Baring Foundations:

“The Baring Foundation is proud to jointly fund Luminate for its fourth year and delighted to see it go from strength to strength. The contribution that older people make to the arts and that the arts make to older people is being increasingly recognised and Luminate is the vanguard of that movement.”

Brian Sloan, Chief Executive, Age Scotland:

“Luminate, Scotland’s creative ageing festival, has in only 4 years grown to become an important part of the Scottish arts calendar. This has happened not only because it encourages us to recognise the valuable contribution that older people make to society, which it does incredibly well, but just as importantly, it promotes the contribution that is made when generations work collaboratively. As a society, we all benefit when we recognise that age should never be a barrier to creativity. So whether you’re up for a night at the movies, a great play, a good dance or much more, take the time to get illuminated this October!”

For full programme listings or to download a copy of the brochure visit www.luminatescotland.org

For further information contact:

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Notes to editors:

Luminate, Scotland’s creative ageing festival, is now in its fourth year. During October the festival will host an amazing array of performances, events and activities that shine a light on our creativity as we age. In addition to events in the public programme, Luminate includes outreach activities and performances that take the festival into care homes, sheltered housing communities and local groups throughout October.

Creative Scotland is the public body that supports the arts, screen and creative industries across all parts of Scotland on behalf of everyone who lives, works and visits here. We enable people and organisations to work in and experience the arts, screen and creative industries in Scotland by helping others to develop ideas and bring them to life. We distribute funding provided by the Scottish Government and the National Lottery. For further information about Creative Scotland please visit www.creativescotland.com. Follow us @creativescots and www.facebook.com/CreativeScotland.