Chapeltown Arts Festival 2014

Artists Directory

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| **Name** | **Work for the festival** | **Biography** |
| Sam Bell | Teaming up with percussionist Vanessa Rani singer, Guitarist Joe Harris, creator of Ikestra and double bassist Simon Read of the Matt Holborn Quintet; Vanessa’s new venture has a contemporary take on the Latin Jazz formula; mixing in the haunting ambience of her Indian vocal training with the rhythmic attack of Jazz improvisation and occasionally dropping into the African French patois taught to her by her Mauritian parents! | Sam Bell is a percussionist and composer based in Chapeltown. He specialised in Latin American music after graduating from Bretton Hall/Leeds University in 1996; became the bandleader of the Salsa band ‘Casa Latina All Stars’, which went as far as supporting the legendary ‘Tito Puente’ and now leads Latin Soul aficionados, the ‘Bugalu Foundation’.  He also plays with Ikestra and has previously worked with The Mastersounds, the Haggis Horns, Carnival Messiah, Cinematic Orchestra, Corrine Bailey Rae and Orgatronics. |
| Joe Harris | Guitarist Joe Harris, creator of Ikestra, teams up with percussionist Sam Bell- bandleader of the Bugalu Foundation; Vanessa Rani and double bassist Simon Read of the Matt Holborn Quintet; Vanessa’s new venture has a contemporary take on the Latin Jazz formula; mixing in the haunting ambience of her Indian vocal training with the rhythmic attack of Jazz improvisation and occasionally dropping into the African French patois taught to her by her Mauritian parents! | Joe Harris is a guitarist and composer based in Leeds since 2007. His love for creating new music has led him to work with some of Leeds’ finest musicians, with longstanding and diverse projects including: Ikestra, Sandrani, The Root One Band and Gotts Street Park. He is also a studio session musician and guitar tutor. |
| Ellen Burroughs | ‘Printing Places’  Collograph printing with residents of Chapeltown. Artists invite passers by to make a collograph print depicting their home. One to keep and one for a collective display in Chapeltown.  (with Clare McCormack) | Ellen Burroughs is an artist working from Union 105 studios in Chapeltown. She explores themes that concern the human psyche and its development during our formative years; her work is often described as surreal. Alongside her own artistic practise, Ellen delivers occasional participatory activities around Leeds.  [www.ellenburroughs.org](http://www.ellenburroughs.org) |
| Dead Poets |  |  |
| Max Farrar |  |  |
| Clare McCormack | ‘Printing Places’  Collograph printing with residents of Chapeltown. Artists invite passers by to make a collograph print depicting their home. One to keep and one for a collective display in Chapeltown.  (with Ellen Burroughs) | Clare McCormack is an artist who lives in Chapeltown. She draws and prints and makes things. She uses everyday materials and tries to transform them to tell stories. She is interested in people, places and animals and how we see and treat each other.  [www.claremccormack.eu](http://www.claremccormack.eu) |
| Harmony Choir |  | Singing for joy, bringing people together.  Formed in 2010, the Choir performs regularly, singing songs familiar to audiences and songs brought by the singers themselves. The choir is a wonderful place for people to leave stresses and strains at the door, find friends and be welcomed into a community. New members are very welcome, we rehears Thursdays 6-7.30 at Ebor Gardens Community Centre. Contact [frances.bernstein@ntlworld.com](mailto:frances.bernstein@ntlworld.com) or 077595 63848  <http://www.harmonychoir.org/> |
| Northern School of Contemporary Dance students past and present |  |  |
| RadhaRaman Society | *A music-band that deals with Bengali Folk music and traditional dances that arrange RadhaRaman Festival in Harehills and Chapeltown.*  *They will perform two folk songs that are fused with western beats to engage diverse audiences.*  *Band Members:*  *T M Ahmed Kaysher - Vocal*  *Amal Podder - Harmonium*  *Luthfur Rahman - Tabla*  *Sujith Chowdhury- Mandira* | A renowned Bengali music-fusion-band will perform some westernised form of popular and traditional folk songs featuring T M Ahmed Kaysher (Vocal), Amal Podder (Harmonium), Luthfur Rahman (Tabla) and Sujith Chowdhury (Mandira). |
| South Asian Arts- Dhol Group. |  |  |
| Sandra Whyles | Exhibiting new and existing work in the Chapeltown Salon.  Project manager for the festival. | Using the media of clay vessel making, printing, and photography Sandra is continuously researching and experimenting with personal and social themes (past and present) in her art practice. Working with and counter to global popular culture she sees her art as an evolutionary process. |
| Lladel Bryant | **‘Nine Lives’**  Written by Zodwa Nyoni  *Ishmael is an asylum seeker who is living in limbo. He's been dispersed by the Home Office to place that isn't his home. He fled Zimbabwe because being who he was was a crime. Now he's trying to call Armley home, but it doesn't feel like home and the people aren't like those back home.*  Ishmael played by Lladel Bryant. | A recent graduate of Manchester School of Theatre. He is the co-founder of Chicken Shop Shakespeare, a Leeds based and internationally renowned collective; which explores Shakespeare's worked through flash mob theatre. His credits include: Ivanov in Ivanov ( Manchester School of Theatre), Claudius in Hamlet (Manchester School of Theatre), Solomon in Bittersweet ( Red Ladder Theatre), Romeo in Romeo & Juliet ( T-Danby), Barista in DCI Banks (Left Bank Pictures). He was the expects choice upon completion of his final year showcase in 2013. He was awarded the title of UK's Young Citizen Of The Year 2006. |
| Vanessa Rani | Teaming up with percussionist Sam Bell- bandleader of the Bugalu Foundation; Guitarist Joe Harris, creator of Ikestra and double bassist Simon Read of the Matt Holborn Quintet; Vanessa’s new venture has a contemporary take on the Latin Jazz formula; mixing in the haunting ambience of her Indian vocal training with the rhythmic attack of Jazz improvisation and occasionally dropping into the African French patois taught to her by her Mauritian parents! | Vanessa Rani is a British born singer, whose parents are from Mauritius, whose family are from India and whose musical tastes reflect her rich heritage.  She studied Jazz at Leeds College of Music where she was introduced to Jazz improvisation and was particularly influenced by the Indian Classical music taught as part of the BA course and which she found strongly resonated with her roots. |
| Stone Rootz |  |  |
| Karolina Szymkiewicz |  |  |
| Jonathan  Turner | **‘Street Studio’** *by local art photographer. Celebrating Chapeltown by making portraits of its vibrant community.* |  |
| Carol Sorhaindo |  |  |
| Joe Williams | **Heritage Corner**  **‘Candy Breeches’ -** *Readings and Songs on the life of pioneering Gospel singer Thomas Rutling: born enslaved, Tennessee, USA; died in Harrogate, Yorkshire, 1915.*  Performed with Jhardell Farrell | An actor, writer, historian and recent MA graduate of Leeds University. As well as co-founding many community projects over four decades, he has written, performed, produced and directed numerous community arts projects and professional theatre productions.This year Joe won a Leeds Black Award for services to the arts and became the Director of **Heritage Corner** - which creatively explores the African presence in pre-Windrush Yorkshire through walks and creative projects - such as Joe now making public appearances, for all occasions, as Pablo Fanque, Britain’s first circus proprietor of African origin. |
| Zodwa Nyoni | ‘**It's Not The Sound’**  *Performance piece about accents, identity, migration and always being told you’re not from the place that you say you're from*  **‘Nine Lives’***.*  *Ishmael is an asylum seeker who is living in limbo. He's been dispersed by the Home Office to place that isn't his home. He fled Zimbabwe because being who he was was a crime. Now he's trying to call Armley home, but it doesn't feel like home and the people aren't like those back home.*  Ishmael is played by Lladel Bryant | A Zimbabwean-born playwright and poet. She is currently Channel 4 Writer-in-Residence at the West Yorkshire Playhouse. Her previous residencies include: Apprentice Poet-in-Residence Ilkley Literature Festival (2013), Writer-in-Residence Leeds Kirkgate Market (2012), I Love West Leeds Festival (2010) and Poet-in-Residence BBC Radio Leeds (2006).  Her plays have showcased at the West Yorkshire Playhouse, University of Leeds, Theatre in the Mill, Square Chaple, and Bush Theatre. Zodwa has read her poetry at the Venezuela Embassy (London), British Museum, Bridlington Literature Festival, Southbank Centre and Nuyorican Poets Café (New York City). |