OLDHAM COLISEUM THEATRE STUDIO

Oldham Coliseum Theatre is committed to developing the work of emerging artists and companies from across the region and beyond to explore the stories and issues that affect and reflect our local communities. We offer a supportive, welcoming and playful creative environment to take work to the next level. The Studio programme runs alongside that of the Main Auditorium with a mix of new writing, visiting companies, rehearsed readings, bespoke and in-house productions, and this year includes a week packed full of workshops and opportunities.

The Studio continues to shape itself as a space where audiences can experience something new, brave and often contemporary. This year we’re taking that a step further, working with companies from across the North West and beyond to support their work and put your stories at the heart of what we do. The 2018 season includes Thorn from local writer Tim Keogh following its award-winning run at the Manchester Fringe, Fine Comb Theatre bring us Matchsticks alongside brand new work and The Thelmas join us from London with Coconut and Ladykiller. Eight companies bring us eleven shows, with something for everyone.

In addition to this, we invite you to join us for Cultivate a week packed with opportunities for you to engage further with the studio shows, meeting the cast, workshops with the creatives and discussions around everything from producing and marketing to auditions and rehearsed readings.

Chris Lawson,
Associate Director,
Oldham Coliseum Theatre

HOW TO FIND US

We’re on Fairbottom Street, off Yorkshire Street in Oldham Town Centre. OL1 3SW

TRAM – catch the Metrolink into Oldham Town Centre – Oldham Mumps stop is a four minute walk away, (0.2 miles) and Oldham Central stop is a six minute walk (0.3 miles). www.metrolink.co.uk

BUS – It’s a six minute (0.3 miles) walk down Yorkshire Street from Oldham Bus Station and a four minute walk (0.4 miles) up Yorkshire Street from Oldham Mumps Interchange.

Plan your journey with www.tfgm.com

CAR – Sat Nav: OL1 3EX for our nearest car park on Bradshaw Street. From 6pm, it’s just £1.50 to park. Free all day Saturday and Sunday for up to three hours. www.oldham.gov.uk for car parks. The car park has four disabled bays. Blue Badge holders can park outside the theatre. Sat Nav: OL1 3SW. Please display your Blue Badge.

HOW TO BOOK

0161 624 2829
coliseum.org.uk

BARS

The bar is open one hour before and after every performance.

KEEP IN TOUCH

Oldham Coliseum Theatre reserves the right to offer selected discounts at its discretion. All details are correct at the time of going to press. For information on running times, use of smoke or strobe lighting, please check our website.
Manchester ADP presents

FINDING ALICE
By Emma Hinds

In a Belgian prison in 1918, German officer, Himmel, is interrogating a group of prisoners who he believes to be part of a spy network. He is desperate to find the spy Alice Dubois. What lengths will he go to find her and what measures will the inmates take to protect themselves?

Relaxed performance:
Wednesday 14 February, 2.30pm.

Manchester ADP is a collective of writers, actors and directors staging monthly script-in-hand events to help writers develop their work, whilst creating showcase and networking opportunities for local actors and directors.

SATURDAY 10 & THURSDAY 15 FEBRUARY, 7.30PM
Tickets £8

Theatre Collective presents

THE WASP
By Morgan Lloyd Malcolm

Heather and Carla haven’t seen each other since school. Their lives have taken very different paths. Over tea, Heather presents Carla with a bag of cash and a proposition. This electrifying new thriller asks how far beyond the playground we carry our childhood experiences.

The Theatre Collective was founded by local theatre makers from different backgrounds, with an emphasis on collaboration. Their focus is on creating high-quality local productions, with a creative team combining their skills, resources and networks.

THURSDAY 15 & SATURDAY 17 MARCH, 7.30PM
Tickets £8

Keogh Productions presents

THORN
By Tim Keogh

June 1972. David Bowie sings Starman on British TV and lights a fire in Steven Patrick Morrissey. Thorn portrays how this young Mancunian wrestles with the problems of his own self-acceptance and social pressures supported by his love of David Bowie and Glam Rock.

Keogh Productions is made up of nine actors who are all from the North West and at different stages in their acting careers. Tim Keogh won Best Newcomer at the Manchester Fringe awards for Thorn and Chantell Walker has just finished three years in Liverpool as a young director at the Everyman & Playhouse Theatres.

THURSDAY 22 MARCH, 7.30PM
Tickets £8
**FINE COMB CONVERSATIONS**
By Rachel McMurray

ToFairy subjects, taboos, and things we just don’t say... But all think. So why not be honest and start to talk? From gender and sexuality to mental health and relationships, Fine Comb Theatre opens an honest dialogue in four plays on subjects that are often swept under the carpet.

*Fine Comb Theatre* is a North West based theatre company creating theatre inspired by fact, infused with fiction, and ingrained with fine-comb attention to detail. Since 2013, they have established a reputation for creating stylised productions around delicate subject matters.

**THURSDAY 26 APRIL, 7:30PM**
Tickets £5

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**MATCHSTICKS**
By Rachel McMurray

“One tree makes a million matchsticks. That’s what I like, knowing I could use a million and have basically no effect on the outside.”

When Dani gets sent to prison counselling for anger issues she is reluctant to communicate with her counsellor, Heather. Heather introduces Dani to matchstick modelling. What happens when two differing women find common ground in the unlikeliest of circumstances? Inspired by a true story, *Matchsticks* forces us to consider the value of art and the impact of incarceration.

**THURSDAY 19 APRIL, 7:30PM**
Tickets £8

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**SELFIES KILL MORE PEOPLE THAN SHARKS**

Do you feel good when someone ‘likes’ your selfie? Does scrolling through your social media feed make you happy? Does your handheld device help you pass toilet time?

*Selfies Kill More People Than Sharks* is a madcap, witty, and irreverent look at today’s ‘attention economy’ from members of the last generation to remember a time when phones had to be plugged into the wall.

**WEDNESDAY 25 APRIL, 7:30PM**
Tickets £8

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**WORK IN PROGRESS READING: MAKING LOVE**
By Amie George

Rogue Bones present a rehearsed reading of *Making Love*, a play developed on London’s Royal Court Writers’ Programme.

Martin idolises Amelia. She’s his life, his love, his joy. But Amelia isn’t real: she’s made of silicon and steel, and a stretch of his imagination. Can their relationship survive intrusion and curiosity from the outside world?

**THURSDAY 26 APRIL, 7:30PM**
Tickets £5
LADYKILLER

By Madeline Gould

A chambermaid, a hotel room and a dead woman.

It’s not what it looks like, really, it’s not. It was self-defence…and anyway the woman was asking for it.

Ladykiller is a blood-soaked morality tale about social responsibility, zero-hours contracts and tearing up the gender rule book on psychopathy.

Wednesday 23 May, 7.30pm

Tickets £8


coluseum.org.uk

WORK IN PROGRESS:
IF I SHOULD FALL...

RedBobble Theatre presents

It’s 1941 in war torn Britain as housewife Beattie deals in black market veg, a husband with shell shock and memories of her first love. Inspired by original letters, ‘If I Should Fall...’ explores what it means to be at war, then and now.

RedBobble Theatre is made up of Kelly Munro-Fawcett, Louisa May Parker and Martha Simon; based in the North West with a collective passion to create touring theatre that is brave, challenging, inspiring and inclusive. With a focus on telling female stories, and as passionate advocates for parents in the arts, If I Should Fall... is their new show in development.

Thursday 21 June, 7.30pm

Tickets £5

COCONUT

By Guleraana Mir

Ever feel like you are constantly disappointing people?

Meet Rumi, a British Pakistani woman who’s referred to as ‘Coconut’ (brown on the outside, white on the inside). Born and brought up as a Muslim, Rumi spends more time enjoying fine wine and bacon than at the mosque.

When she meets Simon, a white guy, she hopes that his decision to convert to Islam will be enough to keep everyone happy. However, as Simon begins to explore his faith, Rumi’s world spins off its axis in ways she could never have predicted.

Originally commissioned by Ovalhouse

Thursday 24 May, 7.30pm

Tickets £8

The Thelmas present

THE COCONUT

Fly In Your Soup Theatre presents

BETTY

By Louise-Clare Henry

Betty lives in memories; she finds warmth and solace there, away from her widowed existence and empty house that was once full of life.

Increasingly becoming detached from her reality Betty finds her memories begin to unravel. With no real grasp on reality and a memory that is slipping away, what has she got left?

Fly In Your Soup Theatre puts a strong focus on the physical, avoiding language barriers so their work can be accessible to a more diverse range of people. The company pursue innovative ways of telling stories to begin to create a new kind of theatre, breaking down old forms.

Saturday 23 June, 7.30pm

Tickets £8
REGULAR EVENTS

A series of regular events for people who want to take their interest in new writing a little further.

SCRIPPS

11AM – 1PM FORTNIGHTLY

WEDNESDAY 18 APRIL – WEDNESDAY 20 JUNE 2018

A play reading group over five sessions exploring a range of submitted texts – looking at potential work for our Studio and Main House. Find out more about the commissioning process in a theatre. Listen or be part of the reading.

£15 per term

Take part in both Scripts and Scribbles for £30 per term. Book on 0161 624 2829 / coliseum.org.uk

SCRIBBLES

11AM – 1PM FORTNIGHTLY

WEDNESDAY 25 APRIL – WEDNESDAY 27 JUNE 2018

A writing group over five sessions for everyone, including absolute beginners, led by a guest writers. Tips, techniques and exercises to help you develop your ideas into a rehearsed reading.

£15 per term

Oldham Coliseum Theatre is a registered Charity No: 508829 Oldham Coliseum Theatre Ltd Reg No: 1415547. VAT No: 223 7213 – 39