



est. 1974 CARA - FRIEND.ORG.UK

Cara-Friend was established in 1974 and provides the following services to LGBT people:

helplines counselling befriending information community space social events

Call in confidence to access any of our services: Tel: **028 9089 0202** Mon - Fri 10am - 5.30pm Email: admin@cara-friend.org.uk Web: www.cara-friend.org.uk







Family Ties Project



Introduction

Ten days, nineteen events and one big queer kick up the arts...welcome to the 2nd OUTBURST Queer Arts Festival!

Your fantastic response to last year's events has really kept the momentum going through a busy transitional stage for OUTBURST, so thanks for all the support while we build a solid foundation for the future of the festival. We've taken your ideas and suggestions on board and hopefully you'll all find something in our programme of film, music, comedy, literature, theatre, discussion and visual art that tickles your fancy.

We are thrilled to welcome back Belfast Film Festival and 4Talent NI as event partners and delighted to have new partnerships with Linen Hall Library, Queen's Film Theatre and Creative Media Partnerships. Their support helps to give lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender creativity the higher profile it richly deserves, in our own community and beyond.

This year's festival has a special focus on queer stories from the past, with events and projects that look at how we creatively preserve our histories as LGBT people for future generations. And of course there's tons of shameless fun and entertainment as well. As always, we warmly welcome everyone to the festival, no matter who you like to hold hands with.

Ladies, gentlemen & everyone in between...we give you OUTBURST 2008!

OUTBURST is a non-profit festival run by LGBT community volunteers.

The OUTBURST Collective are:

Ruth McCarthy, Shannon Sickels, Patrick Sanders, Niall Gillespie, Natalie Johnston, Nuala McIlroy and Martin Bowles.

Design by www.anorakcreatives.com T. 028 92 640644

BOX OFFICE: Tickets for events can be purchased through the relevant venue box offices at Black Box, QFT, Queens University and the Linen Hall Library. Please see individual event pages and pg. 23 for internet and phone booking details.

Concession prices are available at some events for students, UB40's and Over 60s.

A big bouquet of thank yous to:

Our Volunteers, Kelly-Anne and all at Linen Hall Library, Michele, Cian and all at Belfast Film Festival, Susan and staff at QFT, Debbie at 4Talent NI, Steve and all at Cara Friend and CoSo, Una and Richard at Creative Media Partnerships, Neil and the ever helpful staff at the Black Box, Niall and Alison at Queen's University, Tracy Crowe, Paula Keenan, Jackie Rainey, Ryan Murray, performers, participants, advertisers, families, partners, friends and audiences who have supported Outburst and help to make it all possible!

FUNDERS:





PARTNERS:





Advancing equality together

The Coalition on Sexual Orientation is proud to support Outburst 2008

CoSO is an umbrella body of lesbian, gay, bisexual and trans community groups and individuals.

We're working towards an inclusive Northern Ireland society which embraces diversity and which respects and protects the rights of LGBT people.

If you would like to get involved or simply want to find out more: visit www.coso.org.uk call 028 9089 0201 email admin@coso.org.uk

OPENING NIGHT

Thursday 13 November Event: Opening Night & OUTtakes Premiere Venue: The Black Box, Hill Street Time: 8pm - 10pm Price: Free Admission, All Welcome

Opening Night & OUTtakes Premiere

Outburst kicks off in style. Old school style that is! We turn back the clocks to the gay days of yore with a good old-fashioned tea-dance, complete with vintage tunes, cake, tea, and some hilariously dodgy queer songs from the vaults of Camp Records. Dancing cheek to cheek is the order of the evening!



Plus...

A joint project between Creative Media Partnerships and Outburst, OUTtakes celebrates the experiences of LGBT people in Northern Ireland through a series of short films made here in Belfast in the run-up to the festival.

We hope that this will be just the start of a communitywide initiative to record and share stories from our lives and take a more visible place in the history of our city!

OUTtakes is supported by:



outburst queer arts festival 2008 🐖

LITERATURE

Friday 14 November Event: NIGHTS BENEATH THE NATION - Denis Kehoe in conversation with Senator David Norris Venue: Linen Hall Library, Belfast Time: 6.30pm - 8pm Price: Tickets £3

Denis Kehoe in conversation with Senator David Norris



This event is brought to you in association with:

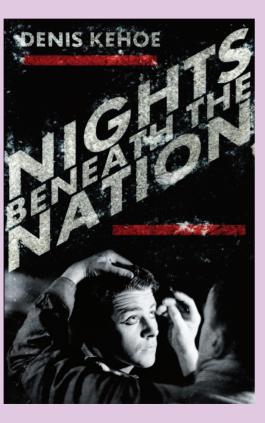
In partnership with Linen Hall Library, OUTBURST is delighted to bring you a very special literary event with guest author Denis Kehoe and politician/ human rights campaigner Senator David Norris.

Published in September 2008 by Serpent's Tail, *Nights Beneath the Nation* is the acclaimed debut novel by Irish writer Denis Kehoe. It tells the story of 67 year-old Daniel Ryan, a gay man who flees to New York from his native city of Dublin in the 1950's, following the break up of his relationship in a repressed and intolerant society. Decades later, Daniel returns home to exorcise the ghosts of his past and becomes embroiled in a dangerous cat and mouse game with a young man who threatens to expose his buried history.

Denis will read extracts from *Nights Beneath the Nation* and joining him to discuss the book will be Senator David Norris. A respected scholar and veteran campaigner for civil rights, Senator Norris will be known to many as founder of The Campaign for Homosexual Law Reform, which was the driving force in repealing the law against homosexual acts in the Republic of Ireland. Book your tickets for this very special evening online at www.linenhall.com, by phone on 028 9032 1707 or in person at the library.

'I lived through most of the period described in this book and I can attest to its authenticity – that's exactly how it was. Read – and grieve – and celebrate'

Senator David Norris, Irish Independent



GROUP ART

Friday 14 November

Event: IRIS Ceremony - Group Art Event Venue: The Black Box, Hill Street & The Lagan

- Time: 8.30pm 10pm
- Price: Free Admission

IRIS Event

Taking inspiration from the beautiful Loy Krathong ceremony which happens at this time each year in Thailand, OUTBURST invites all members of the LGBT community, as well as our families, friends and supporters, to take part in a very special group art event.

Traditionally, Krathongs are small floats made of flowers, colourful leaves, bread, paper, lighted candles or incense which are sent downriver with the intention of releasing the troubles and negativity of the past year.

We invite everyone to join in at our short workshop, from 8:30-9:30 pm at the Black Box, where you can make your own krathong, or put the finishing touches on one you made earlier!

Use as much imagination as you like (search Google and Wikipedia with 'Krathong' for great ideas and tips) but please make sure that all materials you use are organic/ biodegradable and not harmful to the environment (and also that it will actually float!). Full details of our "sailing point" will be available on our website closer to the time.

Bring your friends and families. Let's symbolically say goodbye to the bigotry and hatred from the past year, and light up the river with unity and hope for our future. IRIS...the flower of wisdom and hope IRIS...the goddess of the rainbow IRIS...a part of the eyes that see change



counselling, workshops and personal development for gay & bisexual men

Belfast Centre: *tel:* (028) 9031 9030

Foyle Centre: *tel:* (028) 7128 3030

email: counselling@rainbow-project.org *web:* www.rainbow-project.org/counselling

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VISUAL ART

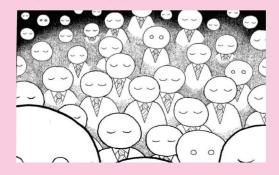
Friday 14 - Saturday 22 November Event: Scenes of a Graphic Nature Venue: Safehouse Gallery, Donegall Street Time: 10am - 5pm

Scenes of a Graphic Nature Northern Irish Queer Graphic Stories

No longer "just for kids", comic books, cartoon strips and graphic novels are finally being recognised as a legitimate artform, combining visual, literary and even cinematic techniques.

OUTBURST presents Scenes of a Graphic Nature, a selection of work by local illustrators who use comics to explore the notion of what it means to be "queer" in Northern Ireland today. These images use not just humour, but powerful visual imagery to tell stories that might otherwise not get told. The work is part of a larger project to document a community that is beginning to understand the importance of its own history and visibility.

Featuring a foreword by Roberta Gregory, creator of *Bitchy Bitch* and *Naughty Bits*.



WORKSHOP

Saturday 15 November

Event: Beginner's Guide to Podcasting Venue: Linen Hall Library, 17 Donegal Square North Time: 9.30am - 1pm Price: Free Admission

Podcast Workshop

Ever wondered what a Podcast is? Or how to make your own? Discover the ins and outs of perfect podcast production at this beginner's workshop.

Listen to examples, practice your interview skills and learn audio editing tips with CultureNorthernIreland's experienced podcast producers.

This workshop a great opportunity for individuals and community groups to learn to stream audio content on their websites, from just-for-fun creative stuff to interviews, discussions and pretty much anything else you'd like to share with the world!

Admission to workshop is free. Please register by emailing info@outburstarts.com by November 14th.





THEATRE

 Saturday 15 & Sunday 16 November

 Event:
 We Always Treat Women Too WellI

 Venue:
 Queen's University (assemble at QFT)

 Time:
 Two shows each night - 7.15pm & 9pm

 Tickets:
 £9/£7 conc. from QFT box office, in person or by T. (028) 90971097 after 6pm

TheatreofplucK presents.. We Always Treat Women Too Well!

Pyrotechnics, exploding puppets, promenade site-specific performance...

Welcome to the debauched new queer spectacular from Belfast's innovative and daring young theatre company, TheatreofplucK!

Inspired by the scandalous 1947 French novella by Raymond Queneau, 'We Always Treat Women Too Well!' is a darkly funny and raunchy comedy set against the background of the 1916 Easter Rising in Dublin.

Gertie Girdle finds herself held hostage by a ragtag bunch of Irish rebels, including two gay men, in a post office on the banks of the Liffey. Despite their leader's plea to 'Act correctly!' a series of shocking sexual encounters spirals out of control, with Gertie's proto-feminist femme fatale behaviour wrecking havoc on their plans...

Director and designer Niall Rea's, 'We Always...' is a bold (and potentially controversial) interpretation of a pulp fiction story that is definitely not for the faint-hearted but richly rewarding and daring in its humorous exploration of human sexuality. Imaginatively re-written for stage by Andrew Holmes.

PLEASE NOTE: Audiences must assemble at Queen's Film Theatre 15 mins before each of the four performances, to journey across the street to a specific Queen's University site. It's all part of the action!



Praise for TheatreofplucK

"Four stars...idiosyncratic and compelling" The Irish Times

"A kick in the face, but in a good way!" ThePhiladelphia HX magazine

MUSIC

Saturday 15 November Event: Quire Puts Outl - Quire & Guests Venue: The Black Box, Hill Street Time: Doors 8pm Price: Tickets £8 / £6 conc.

Quire Puts Out! Quire & guests

Book your tickets early for what promises to be the best winter warmer you'll find this year!

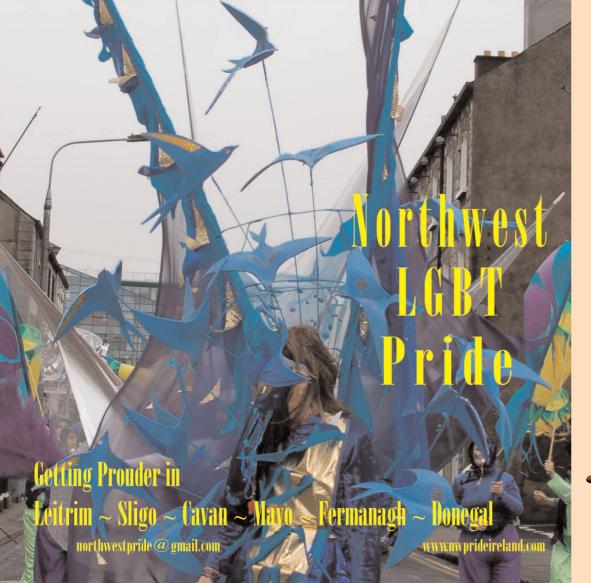
Last year they gave us a One Night Stand to remember, with an uplifting performance that left a packed Black Box audience loved-up and screaming for more. This November, Belfast's LGBT singers are back with more musical lovin' in their brand spanking new show, Quire Puts Out!

With special guest Cat Barter.

Cat is a singer/songwriter and a popular performer on the Belfast bar scene, including Dubarrys. Her music will be featured in "Seacht", a new drama series due to be aired in 2009.







PERFORMANCE / COMEDY

 Sunday 16 November

 Event:
 Licky Rake

 Venue:
 The Black Box, Hill Street

 Time:
 Doors 8pm

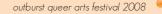
 Price:
 £9/£7 conc. from The Black Box

Licky Rake

After crashing her own T.V. career in the U.S. by streaking onto Judge Judy's set shouting 'Judge Nudie!' over and over, while jumping up and down naked in front of the camera, Licky Rake is bringing her own brand of talk show to Belfast.

Nominated for Best Speigeltent Show in Dublin's Fringe Festival, Licky will try and stay sober long enough to dish out her world famous advice to an assortment of Northern Irish guests, ranging from the weird to the REALLY weird.

This evening with Licky Rake promises to be a queer extravaganza that no self-respecting television station would dream of letting onto its screens.



DISCUSSION

Monday 17 November Event: Telling Tales Venue: Linen Hall Library, 17 Donegal Square North Time: 6.30pm - 8pm Tickets: Admission Free

Telling Tales

The LGBT community in Northern Ireland has many stories to tell but how are these stories to be archived? How can creative artists help document a community and make its history public? Can the arts really be a legitimate form of documentation? Whose truth are we telling and why bother doing it in the first place?

Our Telling Tales discussion will look at the issues involved in documenting Queer history and we welcome thoughts and participation from all.

The Northern Ireland Political Collection based at Linen Hall Library contains material that documents areas of Northern Ireland's Queer history and some of this material will be available for viewing at this event.

In partnership with:



Telling Tales panel:

Tonie Walsh has been a well know figure in the LGBT civil rights movement in Ireland since 1979 and was the first openly gay person to stand for election to Dublin City Council.

Founder of Gay Community News magazine and former president of the National Lesbian & Gay Federation (NLGF), Tonie reorganised NGLF's archives into what would later become the Irish Queer Archive (IQA), which he officially handed over to the National Library of Ireland in June 2008.

Marie Quiery has been a queer activist in feminist and republican communities for over 30 years. Marie has long been convinced of the importance of recording our stories and our lives and has over the years contributed archival material and ephemera to the Linen Hall Library. She lives in Belfast and works in organisational development and as a Gestalt psychotherapist and supervisor.

Describing herself as ta dyke from New York who came to NI to work in Ballymena", Dominique Bouchard is a museums officer for the Mid Antrim Museums Service. For the past two years she has been involved in directing a Community History Programme, helping ethnic communities and other groups to develop multimedia archives. Her work has been recognised by the British Academy and she is currently collaborating with the Council of Europe on its FARO Convention. She has studied in New York and Oxford and now lives in Bellast.

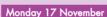
The discussion will be Chaired by BBC broadcaster and journalist, William Crawley.



FILM

Monday 17 - Wednesday 19 November Event: The OUTBURST Belfast LGBT Film Festival Venue: Queen's Film Theatre (QFT) Time: See each film below Price: £5.50 / Conc.£4.50 / Students £3.50

In partnership with OUTBURST, Belfast Film Festival and Queen's Film Theatre have combined the might of their Lesbian & Gay film programming expertise and are delighted to bring you The OUTBURST! Belfast Lesbian & Gay Film Festival. We are starting off with six of the best - four new features and two brilliant documentaries. The excellent MARCHING SEASON was directed by Belfast born Grace Chapman and JAMES, the award winning local short, will be part of a series of shorts to be screened before the features. We hope you enjoy the festival!



Were The World Mine

Dir. Thomas Gustafson - 2008 – USA – 95mins - Cert U Monday 17 November QFT Screen 2 6.45pm



High School Musical meets Hedwig in a genuinely uplifting treat for audiences of all ages. Were The World Mine truly enchants as a chase for teenage same-sex love leads an entire town to become homosexually curious.

Our hero Timothy happens upon a love potion during his high school rehearsals for Shakespeare's magical 'A Midsummer Night's Dream' and consequently brings out a little bit of gay love in everyone he meets. But is the price worth paying and can he really win over the school jock's heart?

Breakfast with Scot

Dir. Laurie Lynd – 2007 – Canada - 90mins – Cert U Monday 17 November QFT Screen 2 8.45pm

Gay/mainstream crossover films don't come along too often and this crowd pleaser is sure to be the biggest since *Priscilla*, *Queen of the Desert!* Eric is a hockey hero turned broadcaster who, along with his partner Sam, works in a straight-dominated sports environment where they both remain firmly in the closet. Their world is turned upside down when Sam's brother's tween-aged son is dumped on their doorstep and little Scot, brilliantly performed by Noah Bernett, reveals himself as too much of a queen to hide. The situation intensifies to great comic effect, as their entire world dissolves into chaos. With internalised homophobia and gay parenting confronted and hard knocks overcome, *Breakfast With Scot* is the funniest and most touching gay film you'll see this year.





I Can't Think Straight

Dir Shamim Sarif - 2008 - UK - 80mins Tuesday 18 November QFT Screen 2 6.45pm

A "British, Indian, Muslim, Arab, Christian, lesbian Romantic Comedy', Shamim Sarif's I Can't Think Straight follows the unlikely love affair between two women of very differing cultures.

In the upper echelons of traditional Jordanian society, a wealthy Christian Palestinian couple prepare for the marriage of their daughter, Tala.

Back at work in London, Tala encounters Leyla, a young British Indian woman who has an instant effect on her But their growing attraction is thwarted by Tala's sense of duty and tradition and, as wedding plans continue, she finds that she must abandon her preconceptions of love in order to truly follow her heart.

Sex Positive

Dir. Daryl Wein - 2008 - USA - 75mins Tuesday 18 November QFT Screen 2 8.45 pm

One of the most provocative and challenging new films for gay audiences, Sex Positive is charged with passion and dedication to its subject.

Richard Berkowitz, now penniless and forgotten, was one of the three key political activists during the early days of the American AIDS crisis. An S&M hustler, he wrote and published How to Have Sex in an Epidemic, now considered to be the genesis of modern day gay safe sex, but ended up being vilified by his own community for discussing issues such as sexual promiscuity.

Sex Positive is a brilliantly electric and intoxicating film, telling a much more dramatic and intriguing story of the AIDS crisis than you may have ever imagined.





The Art of Being Straight The Marching Season

QFT

Dir Jesse Rosen – 2008 – USA - 71 mins Wednesday 19 November QFT Screen 2 6.45pm

Wednesday 19 November

John is young, good looking and has a way with the ladies. After a break-up with his girlfriend, he moves west to L.A. for a fresh start. As he explores his new life in California with his ex-girfriend Maddie, now with her own girlfriend Anna in tow, John succumbs to the charms of a male work colleague, throwing his life into utter confusion. Meanwhile, Maddie starts questioning her commitment to Anna while developing a crush on her new male neighbour.

Fun, fresh and savvy with credible twentysomething observation. The Art of Being Straight approaches young adulthood with a confident look at the sometimes hazy boundaries of sexuality.



Screening with Short: IAMES Dir. Conor Clements - 2008 - Ireland - 21 mins

This sensitive film explores the difficult subject of adolescent sexual activity in an isolated Irish community. James has a crush on his male teacher. He is looking for understanding and love but is the local cruising spot the place to find it?

Dirs, Grace Chapman, Emma Jones – Ireland/UK – 2008 - 60min QFT Screen 2 8.45pm

It's June 2007 and Pride participants in London and the Latvian capital of Riga prepare for two very different kinds of events...

While London celebrates 35 years of Gay Pride, Riga holds its first officially sanctioned LGBT march, faced with the chilling and threatening opposition of religious fundamentalist and neo-nazi groups. The Riga march is by necessity a solemn political act, while in London some worry that the political origins of Pride have become lost in what we now call "our Parade". A powerful and unifying film, The Marching Season asks important questions about the purpose and future of Pride, as well as being a timely reminder of the reasons why we march in the first place.



but work can

Life might be

UNISON supports lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender workers in in the health, education, local government and community/voluntary sectors in Northern Ireland.

Networking, legal advice, social events and protection at work.

To join UNISON in Northern Ireland Call 028 9027 0190

To contact the LGBT group www.unison.org.uk/out

WRITING

Thursday 20 November

Event: Launch of Threads - an anthology of stories from older lesbian women Venue: The Black Box, Hill Street Time: 8pm Tickets: Voluntary donation at door

Launch of Threads

Stories of lesbian life in Northern Ireland in the 1970's and 1980's

In the decades before Gaydar, *The L Word* and civil partnerships, life for lesbian women in Northern Ireland was a little bit different...

OUTBURST is delighted to support the launch of Threads, a new book of personal stories from lesbians who braved the social intolerance and security barriers of the 70's and 80's to live, love and party on the small underground gay scene here.

Self published by local women and written in their own words, these raw, honest, funny and occasionally heartbreaking reminiscences take us from awkward first visits to North St.'s Chariot Rooms club to the raucous carry-on of the Belfast/Dublin dyke bus run.

With readings from the book and special guests from "the old days", we welcome everybody to come and celebrate this little piece of our history, as well as the wonderful women who made it!



Déjà Vu Vu is an occasional social night in Belfast for discerning older women.

Enjoy great 70's and 80's music in a friendly and welcoming party atmosphere.

The next event will take place on: Fri. 5th Dec, 7.30pm – Midnight, Black Box (Hill St.)

All proceeds generously going to OUTBURST!



UNISON - Your Friend At Work

PERFORMANCE

Queer At Queen's



Outburst goes back to school for three days of queer academia and performance, brought to you by our friends at Queen's University Belfast. All events are free. Please register by emailing info@outburstarts.com to guarantee admission, as seats are limited.

Supported by the School of Languages, Literatures and Performing Arts, Queen's University.

Friday 21 November Event: ECCE HOMO Venue: Drama Studio, Queen's University Drama & Film Centre (QFT Building) Time: 7.30pm

Ecce Homo

A rehearsed reading of Belfast Community Theatre's play Ecce Homo, devised in 1988. The play, created collaboratively in West Belfast at the height of the Troubles, explores sexuality and identity through a coming out complicated by timing, geography and religious ideologies.

Directed by BCT founder member Joe Reid and performed by members of the original cast. Followed by a panel discussion on the play and the work of BCT. The panel features Sheffield theatre makers Bill McDonnell and John Goodchild, who worked with BCT in the 1980s. Concludes with a wine reception.

QUEER PERFORMANCE IN IRELAND

A series of seminars exploring queer theory, in celebration of the launch of new book 'Queer Performance in Ireland' in spring 2009.

Thur 20 November - 4pm, 12 University Sq, Room 101 'Sexuality and the Dysfunctional City: Queering Segregated Space.'

Niall Rea presents a study on the unperformed play Ecce Homo by Belfast Community Theatre, proposing Queer as a desegregated identity in Northern Ireland.

Sat 22 November - 4pm, 12 University Sq, Room 101 'Queer Culture, Drag Performance and the Secret of Miss Pandora 'Panti' Bliss'

Dr. Fintan Walsh from Trinity College Dublin presents a paper exploring how Drag critiques, denaturalises and disidentifies with heteronormative culture through performance as protest.

Sat 22 November - 5pm, 12 University Sq, Room 101

Keynote Address by Dr. David Cregan of Villanova University, Philadelphia and editor of 'Queer performance in Ireland' Carysfort Press 2009, on the forthcoming publication of this book exploring its relation to performance and identity.



CLOSING PARTY!

Saturday 22 November Event: Queer Prom Night Venue: The Roost Lounge, Church Lane Time: 9pm til Late Price: Tickets £5 in advance / £7 on door

Queer Prom Night

Get that taffeta gown out of mothballs and those ruffled shirts ironed... it's Prom Time!!

For our extra special closing party, The Roost Lounge presents Queer Prom Night, the most glamorous excuse you'll find this year to dress up, get giddy and find that perfect date to kiss under glittering stars! There'll be punch cocktails to get you in the mood, swoonsome music to keep you dancing close and a photographer on hand to capture your special night, so get planning your outfit and don't forget that corsage for your date. We can't wait to see who will be Queen and King of the Prom!

Advance tickets for Queer Prom are available from The Roost Lounge, Church Lane (by the In Shops) and Best Vintage clothes shop (Wellington Place, opp. City Hall)



Prom Dress-Up Workshop

If you want to be pretty in pink with your own stylish twist on Prom Night, why not come to our dress-up workshop earlier in the day? Using anything they can get their hands on, Vintage Bunny and Eclectic Trudy will help you expose that individual fashionista in you.

Please bring any inspirations and materials or bits and bobs you may like to use. We will have some materials available but please bring a basic outfit or clothing items to work your magic on!

For registration, email info@outburstarts.com





AS PART OF OUTBURST WHY NOT COME DOWN FOR SOME...

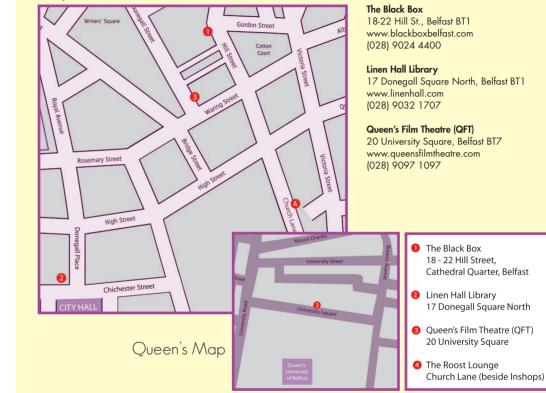


ORDER SET MENU PIZZA AND GET A PERONI FOR £2 ORDER 2 SET MENU PIZZA AND GET A BOTTLE OF RED/WHITE WINE FOR £8

6PM- 11PM THURSDAY TO SATURDAY THE BLACK BOX. 18-22 HILL STREET, BELFAST

VENUES & CONTACTS

Map



For media enquiries and general information, please E. info@outburstarts.com or T. 028 9089 0202.

OUTBURST apologises that this year's exhibition venue is not fully accessible. We are happy to arrange viewings for our audience members with disabilities at an alternate location - please contact us.



Lasbian advocacy services initiative

Working to improve the quality of life for lesbian & bisexual women

Keep in touch with the issues and changes that matter to you by visiting LASI at **www.lasionline.org** or join our mailing list at **info@lasionline.org** for events, news and more.