

## Create to Recover 2020

Torbay Culture was awarded Arts Council England COVID-19 Emergency Response Funding to support the local cultural sector to recover. We received a large number of creative submissions from artists to our open call, which made the job of the selection panel very difficult. We are delighted to announce the selected artists and projects and look forward to welcoming people from across Torbay to take get involved as participants and audiences. Further details of dates, venues and opportunities to take part will be announced soon - check back here and on our social media channels for full details.

### Chelston in lockdown - a sleeping beauty

Fred Gray



Fred Gray discovered something about his local area on his early morning walks whilst shielding during the pandemic, becoming acquainted with lanes, steps, buildings and streets; absorbing the character, names, nuances and patterns. His project 'Chelston in lockdown - a sleeping beauty' is an invitation to local people to look at their neighbourhood with fresh eyes and to share their experiences and discoveries with Fred about the place just beyond their own doorsteps.

Fred is an established fine artist who has also worked commercially including creating backings for Aardman animation films. In this project he is turning his extraordinary visual eye to reveal new views of Chelston and its tumble of different architectural styles and buildings. Drawing on local people's contributions, Fred will be creating a series of paintings to share these neighbourly perspectives on Chelston, inviting local people in to see the process as it unfolds, and exhibiting the final works at an exhibition in October.

### Gloria!

Jane Anderson-Brown



Over the summer Jane Anderson-Brown will gather together professional musicians, and a chorus of singers to rehearse together both remotely and in small socially distanced groups. The project will culminate in an open-air rehearsal and live performance by Red Earth Opera of Vivaldi's Gloria and short opera extracts, including extracts from the settings of the Orpheus legend.

During lockdown musicians have been extremely hard hit in their ability to earn a living and may be one of the last art forms to begin the road to recovery after the restrictions of the pandemic. This project will support Jane and professional musicians from Red Earth Opera to return to rehearsing and performing together and back into socially-distanced contact with their audiences.

Details of the performance including venue will be available in the coming weeks and we really hope that audiences will relish this chance to experience live music in the open air again.

Website: <https://janeandersonbrown.weebly.com> / <https://www.redearthopera.net>  
Facebook: @jane.andersonbrownmusic / @RedEarthOpera  
Twitter: @JLAndersonBrown / @RedearthoperaUK

## **Historical Torbay**

John Tomkins



John Tomkins will collaborate with members of the Torquay Museum Society (TMS) to create 3 documentary films celebrating the heritage of Torbay. The films will be shared online and at Torquay Museum and encourage local people to engage with Torbay's rich cultural heritage.

Create to Recover will support John personally to continue to work professionally as a documentary filmmaker, but also support the 250 members of TMS to continue to actively engage with the Museum's rich collection and heritage. TMS has a membership that represents a particularly vulnerable coronavirus cohort including the retired and elderly, so this project is an opportunity for isolated members of the society to keep involved using technology.

The project also hopes to recruit new members to the society to ensure its ongoing longevity.

Website: <https://www.johntomkins.org>  
Facebook: @JohnTomkinsFilmProducer  
Twitter: @johntomk

## **Outside the Fox presents Be Part of the Tail** Sophie Amos



Sophie Amos will develop Outside the Fox, giving disadvantaged communities the opportunity to experience and participate in live circus.

Due to Covid-19, live participation has been completely halted, exacerbating lack of opportunity to participate. The circus-based workshops will give participants practical skills and experience in all forms of performance (from staging, lighting and technical theatre to performance skills and improv techniques) whilst building self-confidence, teamwork and finding a sense of connection through the arts.

Create to Recover will support Sophie to undertake R&D, deliver a pilot and find cultural partners in Torbay to support sustainable delivery beyond the life of this project.

Facebook: @outsidetf

## **Present with me** Richard Chappell



Image credit: Silence Between Waves 2019. Dancer Shaw En Chew. Photographer Dan Martin

Richard Chappell will collaborate with filmmaker Dan Martin, professional dancer Sharol Mackenzie, and a small community cast from Torbay to create a short dance film exploring how movement connects us intimately to each other and to home.

Richard grew up in Torbay and now, working internationally as a choreographer, regularly returns to the Bay to make work and to teach dance. '*Present with me*' will support Richard to begin to make work again following 4 months of cancelled work and act as a bridge to a digital autumn season for Richard Chappell Dance. It will also build on 'Si-

lence Between Waves' 2019 and Richard's collaboration in Torbay with local community dancers, filmmaker Dan Martin and local partners including Dance in Devon and Torre Abbey. Local people will be invited to contribute short clips of themselves dancing through an open call in August.

The film will be screened in October at a number of venues and online.

Website: <https://www.richardchappelldance.co.uk>

### **Squidbox**

Robert Garnham



Robert Garnham will be spending his summer learning about the Brixham fishing industry and meeting the people who work there to find out about their lives, hopes, fears and experiences. Drawing on these Robert will create 'Squidbox', an original collection of poems for performance that will celebrate and shine a light on Brixham's fishing industry and the folk who work there.

Robert Garnham is a spoken word artist and LGBT comedy performance poet based in Torbay. This project will enable Robert to explore a new process and direction in his work and to get back in contact with his audiences after an enforced absence due to lockdown. Check back for details of the performance which will take place in October.

Website: <https://professorofwhimsy.com>

### **The Shoal Story**

Victoria Westaway



Victoria Westaway is inviting members of the local community to collaborate on the creation of a temporary willow structure depicting a series of waves onto which a giant shoal of fish will swim against the tide. The work will be installed on the railings in front of Torre

Abbey, starting as a series of waves in August and over the coming weeks gradually the shoal of fish will appear.

The project will offer 150 'weave fish kits' with simple instructions for making a willow fish. These kits will be available to collect from Torre Abbey for community groups and members of the public to take part. Some will be delivered to local households for people to take part who are shielding.

The project will support Victoria to return to her artistic and participatory practice following lockdown, and offers a safe and accessible invitation for people to collaborate where each small piece forms part of a powerful whole.

Web: <https://victoriawestaway.co.uk>

Facebook: @coachhousearts

Twitter: @VikWestawayArt

Instagram: vikwestaway

### **The Waymarker Project**

Zoe Singleton



Zoe Singleton will collaborate with staff at Torbay Hospital to create five waymarker stones that will form the foundation of a trail around the hospital grounds, connecting spaces along a journey to pause, think and reflect.

Each stone will be carved with a word that has special meaning to hospital staff and carved in a number of languages that reflect the diversity of staff, patients and visitors. The Waymarker Project will be a collaboration with the HeARTS programme at Torbay Hospital which is integrating artworks into a wide range of indoor and outdoor spaces within the hospital grounds for their therapeutic benefits for staff, patients and visitors.

Zoe will source stone for the project to reflect links to the exceptional geology of Torbay's coast, including the bay's own UNESCO Global Geopark<sup>1</sup> and the nearby Jurassic Coast.

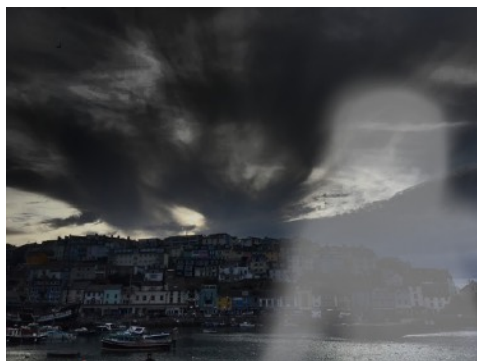
Website: <https://www.zoesingleton.co.uk>

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<sup>1</sup> The English Riviera UNESCO Global Geopark covers the Torbay local government area, and is international recognition of the locality's exceptional geological, cultural heritage and environment.

## True Tales of Spooky Brixham

Laura Jury



Laura Jury will create an original piece of theatre to bring to life Brixham's colourful ghost stories. Working in collaboration with local history experts to create an original script drawing on local folklore and known histories, 'True Tales of Spooky Brixham' will highlight hidden stories and places of interest in the town.

The work will be filmed on location in Brixham, with performances by professional actors from South Devon Players, and available for audiences to watch online in October 2020.

South Devon Players are a Brixham-based organisation specialising in researched and historical classical dramas over the past 15 years. This commission will provide support for performers and crew fees following a period of cancelled performances and reduced ability for live fundraising events due to Covid-19.

Website: <https://www.southdevonplayers.com>

Facebook: @sdevonplayers

Twitter: @sdevonplayers

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All activity will follow Government and Public Health guidance in respect of social distancing and the wellbeing of attendees and participants.

***For enquiries about the Create to Recover programme please contact Clare Parker, Creative Producer by emailing [clareparkermail@gmail.com](mailto:clareparkermail@gmail.com).***