

Cornwall at the Heart of the Celtic Sea – Lorient 2026

A snapshot of everything from Cornwall – subject to additions



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Foreword by Cllr Leigh Frost



Cornwall is a cultural superpower, with our immensely talented musicians, artists, filmmakers, dancers, actors, entertainers and sportspeople lighting up venues around the world. It's wonderful that the world-famous Lorient Interceltic Festival is this year showcasing Cornwall as its honoured nation, because it means many more people will be able to enjoy the creations and triumphs of these talented Cornish people.

From musicals, choirs and brass bands, to storytellers, traditional instrumentalists and Cornish dance – our performers will raise their voices, stamp their feet and celebrate their Celtic Heritage loudly and proudly for all to hear. Our wrestlers will astonish audiences with their strength and dexterity, painters will delight with their keen observation, and filmmakers will capture today's stories for generations to come.

Everything will be brought together in the Garden of Cornwall at the heart of the Festival, where visitors can learn our living language of Kernewek and experience the best of Cornish food and drink – hope to see you there!

Councillor Leigh Frost
Ledyer Konsel Kernow



Gool
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Lorient

2026 Projects

In addition to amazing groups and bands we have some exciting projects being developed specifically for the Year of Cornwall at the Lorient Interceltic Festival 2026.

Horizons Celtiques

Cornwall's presence in the Horizons Celtiques this year will be a new composition by Gareth Churcher which includes choir, dance and musical ensemble based around brass.

Kernocopia – opening concert

A collaboration concert with storytelling with Skillywidden, Barrett's Privateers and Toby & Jen Kessell.

01

02



03

Senyans Kernow at Le Kleub

Brass club night! A new composition by Gareth Churcher taking Cornish brass to a new level...come and party!

04

Interceltic Music Camp

A residential camp ahead of the festival for 2 young musicians (18-25) from each Celtic nation.

05

Ladies Cornish Wrestling Belt

A new interceltic Cornish wrestling competition with a specially commissioned winner's belt.

06

City of Lights

New City of Lights lantern to join the new commission as part of Horizons Celtiques.

Horizons Celtiques

A new work by Gareth Churcher and based on an original melody by Bill Dewey and Jeanette Eathorne.

Created especially for the Festival Interceltique de Lorient 2026, The Mermaid of Zennor is a large-scale musical, visual and dance production celebrating Cornwall, its maritime heritage and its enduring place within the Celtic world.

Inspired by the legendary Cornish tale of the Mermaid of Zennor and based on an original melody by Bill Dewey and Jeanette Eathorne, the twelve-minute work unfolds through a sequence of vivid musical variations, charting a journey through myth, mystery and the ever-changing character of the Celtic Sea.

At the centre of the performance is Senyans Kernow ("Sounds of Cornwall"), a specially formed ensemble bringing together outstanding Cornish musicians alongside female and male vocal soloists. Joined by dancers and large-scale visual projections, they transform the stadium into an immersive seascape where music, movement and storytelling intertwine.

Created to celebrate Cornwall's unique cultural identity and its historic connections across the Celtic world, The Mermaid of Zennor is both a tribute to a beloved Cornish legend and a powerful expression of the shared heritage that unites the Celtic nations through the sea that connects them.



Kernocopia

A Cornish Cornucopia of music, story and sea song

A vibrant opening concert created especially for the Lorient Interceltic Festival 2026, Cornwall at the Heart of the Celtic Sea.

KERNOCOPIA weaves a bold, playful Cornish creation myth through a dynamic interplay of storytelling and live performance.

Featuring the driving energy of Skillywidden with Toby & Jen Kessell, the rousing vocal power of Barrett's Privateers, and led by the storytelling of Will Coleman and Bec Applebee, alongside special guest collaborations, KERNOCOPIA unfolds as a rich tapestry of music, language and legend — rooted in Cornwall and reaching out across the Celtic world.



Senyans Kernow Le Kleub

Senyans Kernow ("Sounds of Cornwall") brings a fresh burst of Cornish energy to Le Kleub with a performance that blends traditional Celtic melodies, modern pop favourites and dancefloor grooves.

Inspired by the explosive brass-band sounds of Hackney Colliery Band and Youngblood Brass Band, this hand-picked group of Cornish musicians delivers a powerful mix of driving rhythms, soaring melodies and infectious energy. Ancient tunes from Cornwall's rich musical heritage sit comfortably alongside contemporary hits, all reimagined through bold brass-led arrangements.

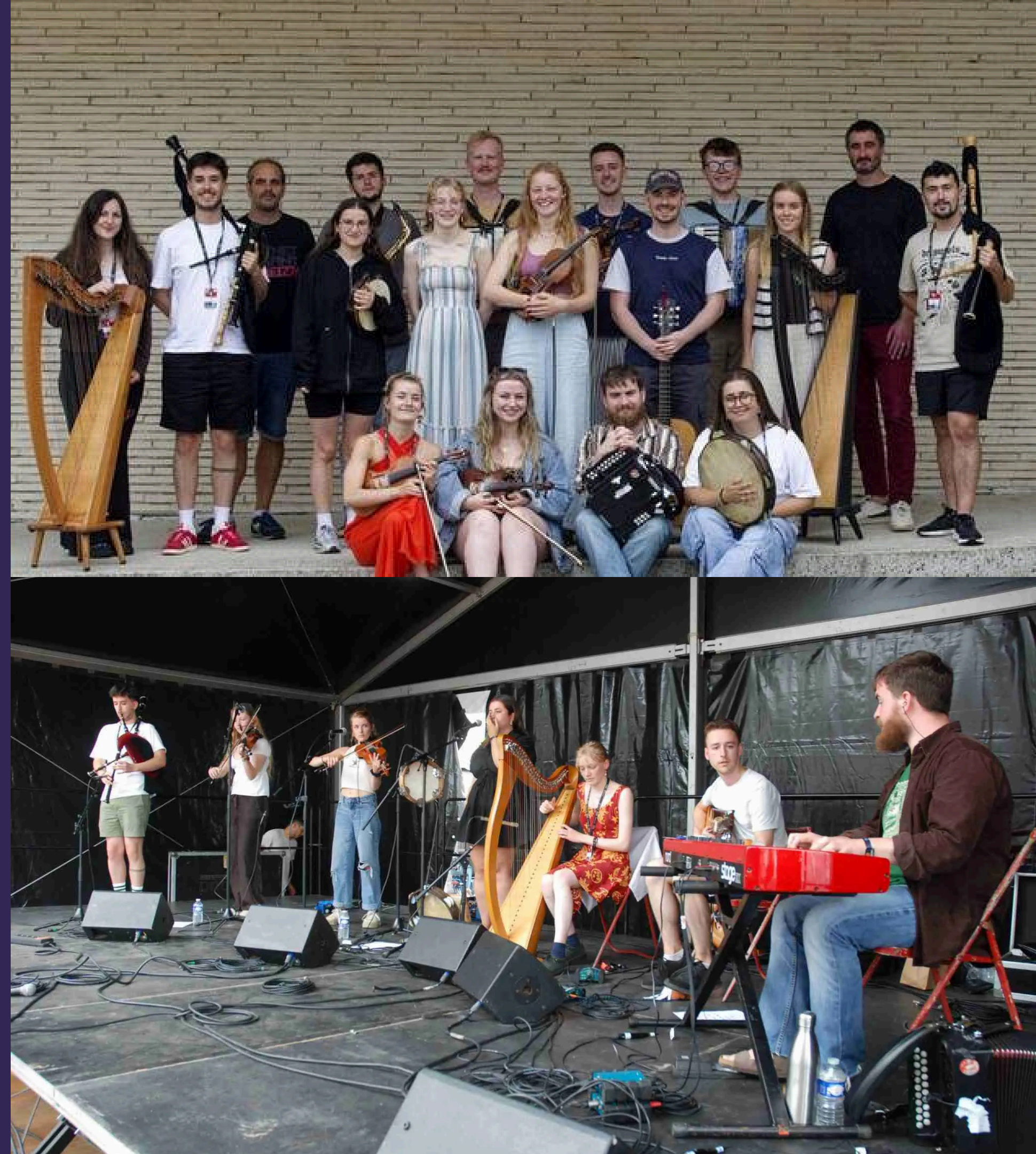
Part concert, part street band, part festival party, Senyans Kernow celebrates Cornwall's living culture with a sound that is vibrant, contemporary and unmistakably Celtic. Expect big tunes, big energy and a Cornish welcome at one of Lorient's most exciting festival venues.

Interceltic Music Camp

After a successful pilot in 2024, the Festival Interceltique de Lorient is once again organising the Interceltic Music Camp with 16 new young musicians aged 18-25 from the eight Celtic nations of Europe

During a residency week ahead of the Festival the 16 musicians will be split into two groups. They will work with two leading composers in Brittany to form bands who will be performing throughout the festival.

This year Finley Bray and Martha Woods have been chosen to represent Cornwall on this camp.



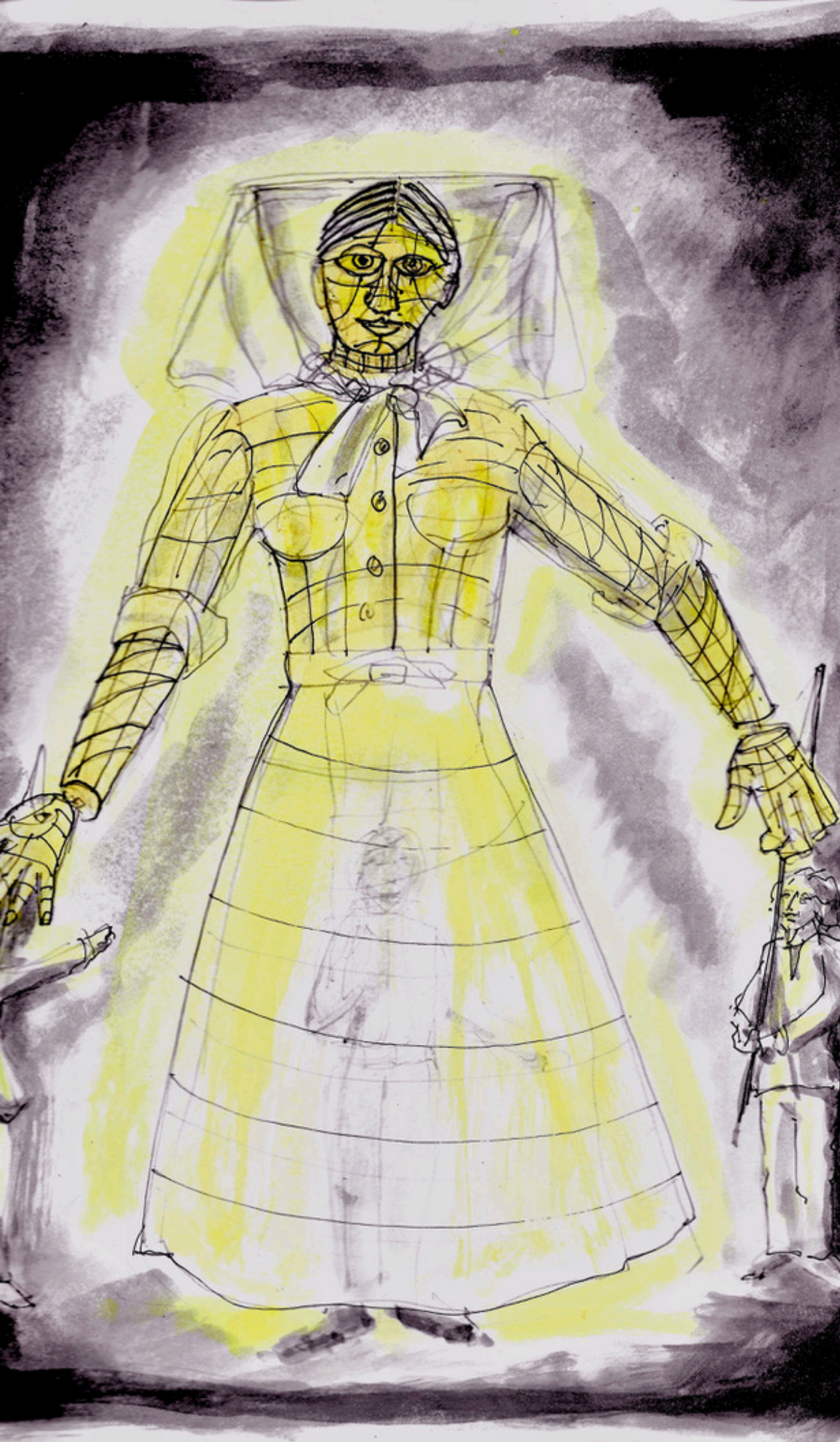
First Ladies' Cornish Wrestling Belt

2026 marks two major milestones in the story of Cornish wrestling: the bicentennial of the legendary Polkinghorne–Cann match of 1826, and the designation of Cornwall as the honoured nation at the Lorient Interceltic Festival. To commemorate these historic occasions, a new perennial Cornish wrestling championship belt has been created—the first in a century—and will be awarded as the grand prize for the Ladies' Cornish Wrestling Interceltic Open this August during the Interceltic Wrestling Week in Lorient.

This belt is the first ever crafted specifically for women's Cornish wrestling. It has been meticulously handmade by Roche-based artisan James Levett, who employed traditional Cornish silverwork and leatherworking techniques to produce a piece that is both a functional sporting trophy and a work of heritage craftsmanship. Every element has been constructed by hand, reflecting the same values of skill, patience, and pride that define the wrestling tradition itself.

The introduction of this new perennial belt marks a significant moment in the modern revival of Cornish wrestling—honouring its past, celebrating its present, and opening a new chapter for women competing on the international Celtic stage.





City of Lights – Balmaiden

City of Lights CIC — the creative force behind Truro's beloved lantern parade for over 20 years — unveils its most ambitious creation yet: a magnificent traditional Bal Maiden illuminated sculpture, honouring the spirit and heritage of St Dennis and Cornwall's clay country.

This isn't just a lantern — it's a vessel for stories. Crossing land and sea, the Bal Maiden will travel from Cornwall to Lorient, Brittany, taking her place alongside the Kekezza dancers on the festival stage. Accompanying her: writer-in-residence Amanda Harris, gathering and sharing tales from Cornwall's dispersed communities — voices exploring what it truly means to be Cornish.

Once home, the lantern will be accompanied by illuminated story boxes sharing the stories, touring Cornish community festivals through out this autumn and gifting the stories collected abroad back to the people who inspired and shared them.

Created by artists Anthony Crosby, Sue Loydell and Sam Horne-Norris Bradbury. Proudly supported by the Cornish Delegation, Cornish Lithium and FEAST.



Performers

incl. performance dates

- 3 Daft Monkeys 09
- Banjovial 10
- Barrett's Privateers 11
- Celtic Male Ensemble 12
- City of Truro Male Choir 13
- Dalla Duo 14
- Interceltic Music Camp – Finley Bray & Martha Woods 15 & 16
- Kekezza 17
- Salt & Sky 18
- Senyans Kernow 19
- Skillywidden 20
- Splann 21
- Stuns'ls 22
- Toby & Jen Kessell 23
- Will Keating & John Dowling 24

3 Daft Monkeys

With Celtic and Eastern influences, the 3 Daft Monkeys' dynamic style of world folk music reflects the global village in which we now live. Their infectious dancing rhythms lead you through a musical journey of the senses and emotions, and will leave you breathless, enthralled, and exhilarated.

With a 4-piece line-up, the band weaves enchanting melodies with catchy choruses, virtuoso vibrant fiddle, rhythmic 12-string guitar, 6-string bass, bespoke hand-percussion and 4-part vocal harmonies. Fascinating lyrics of personal and whimsical observations on life, and folk tales both ancient and modern, are told within the swirling layers of their music - all with the essential catchy sing-along chorus.

Social Media

 www.3daftmonkeys.co.uk
 [@3daftmonkeys](https://www.instagram.com/3daftmonkeys)
 [3daftmonkeys](https://www.facebook.com/3daftmonkeys)

. Performances .

Wednesday 5th August

- Quai de Bretagne
- 21:30
- Badge entry

Thursday 6th August

- Place des Pays Celtes
- 01:10am
- Badge entry

Saturday 8th August

- Le Kleub
- 21:35
- Badge entry





Banjovial

Performances

Sunday 2nd August

- Grande Parade
- 10am
- Badge entry

Sunday 2nd August

- Place de Pays Celtes
- 22:55
- Badge entry

Tuesday 4th August
Brunch-Concert Celtique

- La Taverne Celte
- 11:25 & 13:15
- Ticketed event

Forged on the rugged North Cornish coast, Banjovial was brought to life by friends Calum, Jamie and Tom, with aim of bringing together their lived experiences on the sea with their love of music and performing to audiences far and wide. As the music developed, Celtic passion and a love of old-time found its natural place, and out of the melting pot came an identity that blends the nation's rich maritime heritage with infectious rhythms and melodies, creating a sound that is both nostalgic and exhilarating.

Having played extensively together as part of the popular Celtic folk band The Stowes, the trio seamlessly intertwine with each other's unique playing style to create an energetic, yet effortless musical experience, masterfully weaving the rich traditions of nautical songs and shanties with the vibrant sounds of Celtic and bluegrass music.

Barrett's Privateers



Formed in 2019 and based on the Cornish side of the beautiful Tamar Valley, the group met through a joy of acapella singing in local pubs, and Barrett's Privateers was born.

From the deep, resonating notes of the father and son bass to the high notes of the girls, Barrett's Privateers have delighted audiences throughout Cornwall and well beyond, with their broad, rich harmonies. They take each song and make it their own, with each of the voices finding a way to complement its neighbour. The power and harmony within their lively performances are both enjoyable and hugely entertaining.

Singing songs of the sea, shanties, traditional folk, Cornish and mining songs, the group have been honoured to perform at a range of events from the Interceltique Festival in Lorient, Royal Cornwall Show, Rock Oyster and prestigious Canterbury Festival of Music and Fine Arts.

Social Media



@barrettsprivateers



Barrett's Privateers

Performances

Friday 31st July

Kernocopia opening concert

- Palais de Congres
- 21:30
- Ticketed event

Sunday 2nd August

- Place des Pays Celtes
- 19:05
- Badge entry

Wednesday 5th August

- Les Terrasses
- 11:30am-13:00
- Badge entry

Friday 7th August

Brunch – Concert Celtique

- La Taverne Celte
- 11:25 & 13:15
- Ticketed event

*joint performances with Breton Shanty group Nordet.



Barrett's Privateers · 31 juillet





Celtic Male Ensemble

Performances

Horizons Celtiques

Saturday 1st August

Sunday 2nd August

Tuesday 4th August

Wednesday 5th August

Thursday 6th August

- Stadium – Stade de Moustoir
- 21:45pm
- Ticketed event

Monday 3rd August

- Place des Pays Celtes
- 14:00
- Badge entry

Friday 7th August

- Place des Pays Celtes
- 14:00
- Badge entry

The Celtic Male Ensemble was founded in 2014 by musical director Alastair Taylor to perform the winning composition from the Cornwall International Male Choral Festival's composers' competition.

The choir won both the Best Cornish Choir and Overall Winner titles in 2019, 2022, and 2024, as well as the Best Choir in the United Kingdom award in 2019 and 2022 at the Cornwall International Male Choral Festival.

The Celtic Male Ensemble is delighted and excited to perform at the Festival Interceltique de Lorient — especially this year, when Cornwall is being honoured and celebrated. They look forward to sharing their music, showcasing their heritage, and making new friends and connections.

See you soon — good health, cheers, or as we say in Cornwall, "Yeghes da!" (meaning "Good health!")

Social Media

 www.celticmaleensemble.com

 [@celticmaleensemble](https://www.instagram.com/celticmaleensemble)

 [Celtic Male Ensemble](https://www.facebook.com/CelticMaleEnsemble)

City of Truro Male Choir

City of Truro Male Choir may be able to trace its roots back more than eight decades, but over recent years it has transformed itself into a modern, forward-looking group with an eclectic and entertaining repertoire.

These days the choir sings works from multiple genres and periods. The repertoire ranges from 19th-century classical works to modern choral arrangements and pop songs, as well as a range of classic folk numbers from Cornwall and further afield. We sing in English, but also in Kernewek, French and German.

Our concerts range from formal settings in cathedrals, churches and concert halls, to informal 'Shouts' - in pubs and breweries, when we are keen for the audience to join in. Whatever the venue, we deliver engaging performances with passion and enthusiasm.

Our members come from all walks of life, united by a love of singing and a great sense of community.

Performances

Sat 1st August

- Cornish singing shout
- Garden of Cornwall

Sat 1st August

- Soiree de Cornouailles
- Taverne Celte
 - 19:30
 - Ticketed event

Sunday 2nd August

- Grand Parade
- 10am

Sun 2nd August

- Place des Pays Celtes
- 18:05-18:45
- Badge entry

Social Media



www.cityoftruromalechoir.co.uk



[@truromalechoir](https://www.instagram.com/truromalechoir)



[Truro Male Choir](https://www.facebook.com/truromalechoir)



City of Truro Male Choir • 1er août





Dalla Duo

Performances

Friday 31st July

Kernocopia opening concert*

- Palais de Congres
- 21:30
- Ticketed event

Saturday 1st August

- Place des Pays Celtes
- 22:55
- Ticketed event

Sunday 2nd August

Brunch – Concert Celtique

- Taverne Celte
- 11:25 & 13:15
- Ticketed event

*Skillywidden gigs

Dalla Duo offer a celebration of the very best of Cornish traditional music in all its varied glory, from wild and mesmerising dance tunes to beautifully haunting slower pieces. This includes instrumentals on bouzouki and clarinet, as well as songs in Cornish and in English.

Hilary Coleman and Neil Davey are both well known as co-founders of the renowned Cornish band Dalla and have done much to revive and celebrate the Celtic music of Cornwall, both being made bards of the Cornish Gorsyth for their services to Cornish music. As Dalla they have toured nationally and internationally and have released five albums. They also both continue to play together in the hugely popular nos lowen dance band, Skillywidden, which grew out of Dalla.

“Inventive and enchanting, their music celebrates Cornish culture in an upbeat and infectious voice” (The Guardian).

Social Media

Kekezza

Kekezza blends traditional steps with fresh energy, breathing new life into centuries-old customs and sharing them with audiences both local and international.

Their name means “heather” in Cornish and is inspired by the heather-covered landscapes of Cornwall. The team wears costumes in shades of purple and pink, echoing the wild flora that thrive across the moors.

Their traditional costumes are based on 19th century working dress with the iconic headdress or ‘gogh’ which is specific to the Redruth mining area, where the group is based.

Kekezza are celebrating their 20th anniversary in 2026 and are delighted to be returning to the Lorient Interceltic Festival for the Year of Cornwall!

Social Media

 www.kekezzakernow.wixsite.com
 [@kekezzakernow](https://www.instagram.com/kekezzakernow)
 [Kekezza](https://www.facebook.com/Kekezza)

Performances

Horizons Celtiques

Saturday 1st August

Sunday 2nd August

Tuesday 4th August

Wednesday 5th August

Thursday 6th August

- Stadium – Stade de Moustoir
- 21:45pm
- Ticketed event

Saturday 1st August

- Place des Pays Celtes
- 14:35
- Badge entry

Wednesday 5th August

- Espace Jean Pierre Pichard
- 16:30
- Badge entry

Mon 3rd, Tues 4th, Thurs 6th & Fri 7th

- Cornish dance workshop
- 16:00–17:00
- Salle Carnot



Festival Interceltique de Lorient

La Cornouailles, au cœur de la Mer Celtique

du 31 Juillet au 9 Août 2026





Kekezza · 5 août



Interceltic Music Camp

FINLEY BRAY

Social Media

 [@finleybraymusic](#)
 [Finley_Bray_Music](#)

Finley Bray, 18, is from the picturesque fishing town of Padstow in North Cornwall and has been immersed in Cornish folk music and traditions from an early age. He is known for his energetic, dynamic playing and his versatility. He performs on guitar, banjo, and mandolin. More recently, he has been delivering renditions of songs in his own style.

Finley recorded his debut EP at just 14 years old, featuring a collection of self-penned tunes alongside pieces inspired by musicians of his hometown. His style has developed through strong influences from across the Celtic nations, drawing on a range of traditional techniques and styles. He is a regular and current performer with Splann Ceilidh Band, Kekezza, and the Bray Family Band, appearing at many sessions and festivals across Cornwall and beyond. His performances have also taken him to the Isle of Man and to Brittany, and soon he will be studying at the RCS in Glasgow, further establishing his growing reputation within the Celtic music scene.



MARTHA WOODS

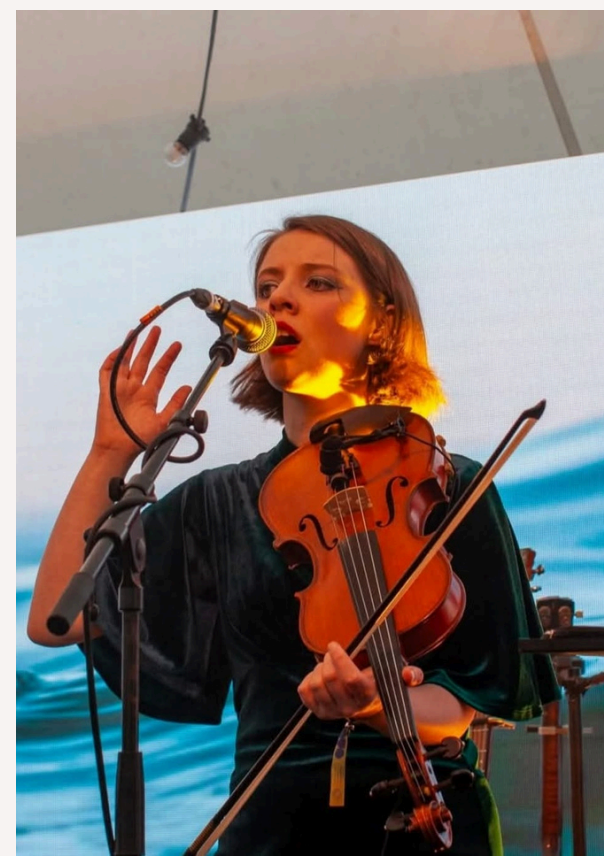
Social Media

 [Martha Woods](#)
 [@Martha_Woods_Music](#)
 [Martha Woods Music](#)

Martha Woods is a multi-instrumentalist, composer and producer from Cornwall, who grew up immersed in the traditional music and dance of her homeland. She graduated from Newcastle University's Folk and Traditional Music Degree (including a year at the Irish World Academy in Limerick) in 2023.

Martha has performed across Cornwall and beyond and has released an array of tracks on CD and streaming platforms, often combining her traditional Cornish roots with contemporary and electronic influences.

Her EP, 'Myghternes a Dhons', was named as one of Folk London Magazine's Albums of the Year 2025. Three of her compositions feature in 'Folk Tunes from the Women', a book of tunes written by female composers from across Britain and Ireland, published by Faber.



Interceltic Music Camp 1

Finley Bray

Saturday 1st August

- 12:45 – Place des Pays Celtes
- 18:15 – Les Terrasses du Festival

Sunday 2nd August

- Grande Parade – with Kekezza

Monday 3rd August

- 12:45 – Place des Pays celtes
- 19:15 – Les Terrasses du Festival

Tuesday 4th August

- 13:30 – Les Terrasses du Festival
- 18:15 – Les Terrasses du Festival

Wednesday 5th August

- 13:30 – Les Terrasses du Festival

Thursday 6th August

- 18:15 – Les Terrasses du Festival
- 20:30 – Place des Pays Celtes

Friday 7th August

- 13:30 – Les Terrasses du Festival
- 22:00 – Quai de Bretagne

Saturday 8th August

- 12:45 – Place des Pays Celtes
- 19:15 – Les Terrasses du Festival



Interceltic Music Camp 2

Martha Woods

Saturday 1st August

- 13:30 – Les Terrasses du Festival
- 19:15 – Les Terrasses du Festival

Sunday 2nd August

- Grande Parade – with Kekezza

Monday 3rd August

- 13:30 – Les Terrasses du Festival
- 18:15 – Les Terrasses du Festival

Tuesday 4th August

- 12:45 – Place des Pays Celtes
- 19:15 – Les Terrasses du Festival

Wednesday 5th August

- 20:30 – Place des Pays Celtes

Thursday 6th August

- 13:30 – Les Terrasses du Festival
- 19:15 – Les Terrasses du Festival

Friday 7th August

- 12:45 – Les Terrasses du Festival
- 22:00 – Quai de Bretagne

Saturday 8th August

- 13:30 – PLes Terrasses du Festival
- 19:15 – Les Terrasses du Festival



Salt & Sky

Performances

Friday 7th August

Loic Raison competition

- Place des Pays Celtes
- 18:00
- Badge entry

Saturday 8th August

- Brunch-Concert Celtique
- La Taverne Celte
- 11:25 & 13:15
- Ticketed event

Sunday 9th August

- Place des Pays Celtes
- 19:25
- Badge entry

Salt & Sky are a dynamic Cornish folk band known for their infectious energy, rich cultural roots, and irresistible sense of fun – whether on stage or in the dance hall. Fiddle duo Emma Packer and Lizzie Pridmore are joined by Dan Roach on guitar and Tom Jane on percussion and melodeon, forming a powerhouse quartet that's as joyful to watch as they are to dance to.

With creativity, charm, and an obvious love for playing together, Salt & Sky bring Cornish music to life and are rapidly becoming one of the region's favourite bands for both concerts and for dancing.

Social Media

-  www.saltandskymusic.co.uk
-  [@saltandskymusic](https://www.instagram.com/saltandskymusic)
-  [Salt and Sky](https://www.facebook.com/saltandskymusic)

Senyans Kernow

Created for the Year of Cornwall at the Heart of the Celtic Sea at the Festival Interceltique de Lorient, this special ensemble celebrates the rich musical heritage of Cornwall. Rooted in the Cornwall's world-renowned brass band tradition, the group expands the classic brass sound with additional instruments, creating a powerful and colourful palette that reflects both Cornwall's historic identity and its contemporary musical voice.

The ensemble is led and composed by Gareth Churcher, a Cornish composer who is internationally recognised with his music being played from New Zealand to Norway. His most recent commissions include music speaking to renewable, sustainable environmental aspects.. He composed and directed the music for the opening ceremony of Glastonbury on the Pyramid Stage.

Media

✉ gchurcher@cmst.co.uk

Performances

Friday 31st July

- Palais de Congres
- Official opening of the festival 12pm

Horizons Celtiques

Saturday 1st August

Sunday 2nd August

Tuesday 4th August

Wednesday 5th August

Thursday 6th August

- Stadium - Stade de Moustoir
- 21:45pm
- Ticketed entry

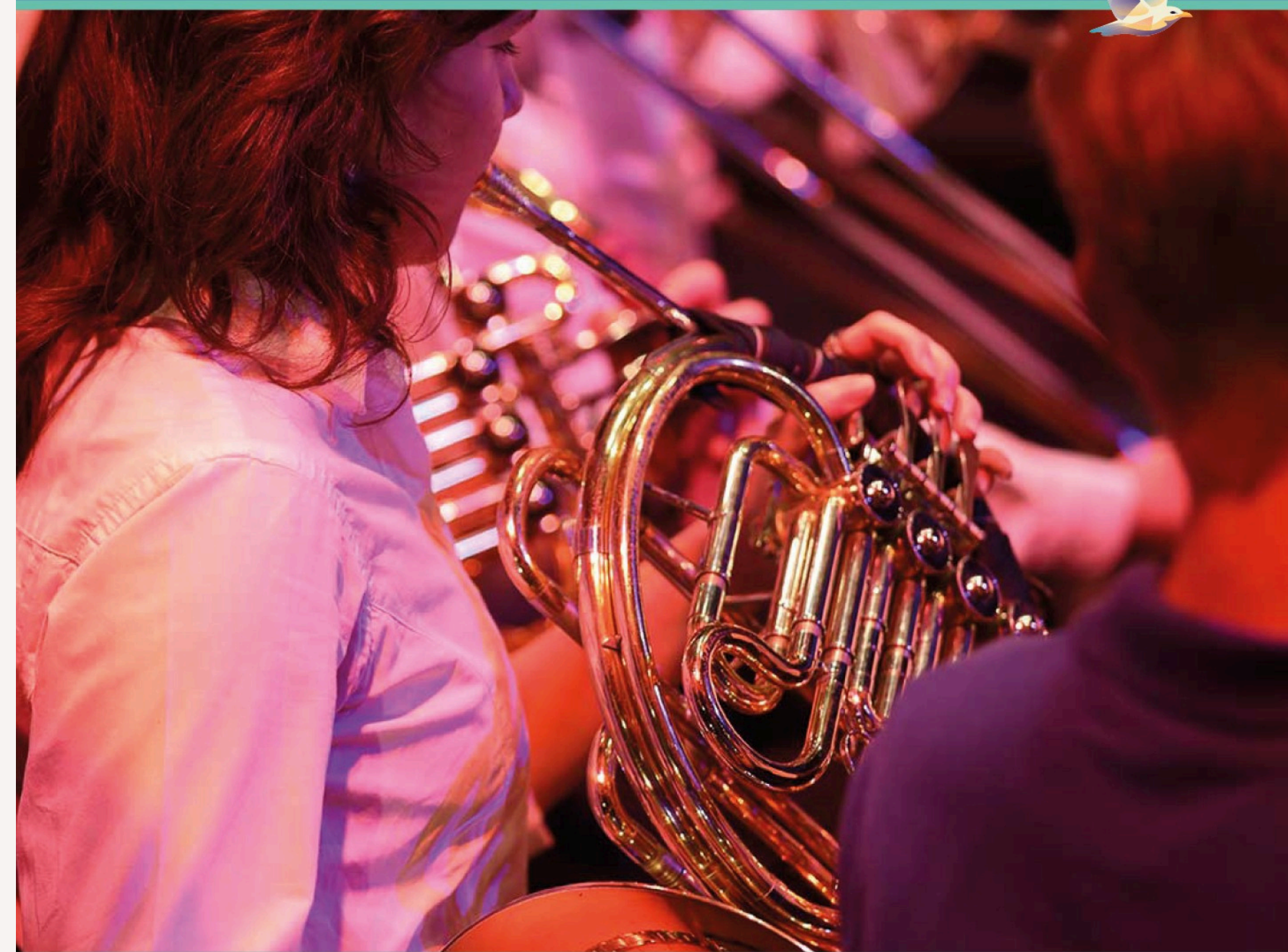
Monday 3rd August

- Le Kleub
- 21:30pm
- Badge entry

Friday 7th August

City of Caudan

- Evening performance in neighbouring city



Senyans Kernow · 3 août





Skillywidden

Performances

Friday 31st July
Kernocopia opening concert

- Palais de Congres
- 21:30
- Ticketed event

Saturday 1st August

- Place des Pays Celtes
- 22:55
- Badge entry

Leading lights of the nos lowen style of Cornish Celtic dance music, Skillywidden are renowned for whipping up wildly enthusiastic festival and nos lowen dance crowds across Cornwall and beyond.

The line-up includes members of the internationally acclaimed Cornish band Dalla, as well as special guests drawn from the cream of Cornwall's musical talent, both from the world of traditional Cornish music, and from other genres too.

Skillywidden's exhilarating performances convey the sheer joy they take in Cornwall's indigenous culture.

Social Media

 [Skillywidden](#)
 [Skillywidden](#)



Splann

Splann are a traditional dance band from North Cornwall, bringing together a father-and-son duo from Padstow, a fishing town with a strong musical heritage of its own, along with guitarist from the well-known Davey musical family.

Rooted in Cornwall's rich musical tradition, they regularly play for ceilidhs, traditional dances and sessions both at home and internationally, representing Cornwall abroad. Their music draws on the lively session repertoire of Cornish tunes, reels and polkas, played with plenty of lift and drive.

No strangers to Lorient, they are looking forward to representing the session tunes of Cornwall during the Year of Cornwall – at the Heart of the Celtic Sea.

Performances

Sunday 2nd August

- Les Terrasses
- 22:00
- Badge entry

Thursday 6th August

Brunch-Concert Celtique

- La Taverne Celte
- 11:25 & 13:15
- Ticketed event

Also joining Kekezza for Cornish dance workshops and showcases throughout the week.

Social Media



www.splann.co.uk



[@splann_band](https://www.instagram.com/splann_band)



[Splann](https://www.facebook.com/Splann)





The Stuns'ls

Performances

Tuesday 4th August

- Place des Pays Celtes
- 22:55
- Badge entry

Wednesday 5th August

Brunch - Concert Celtique

- Taverne Celte - Brunch
- 11:25 & 13:15
- Ticketed event

Join them for a shout in the Garden of Cornwall on

Tuesday 4th /Wednesday 5th

Born from the salt, sweat and occasional chaos of Cornish Pilot Gig rowing, Stuns'ls is a sea shanty group formed from the rowing clubs of Mevagissy and Charlestown. The name comes from one of their earlier songs, "Old Maui" - a stuns's (Studding sail) being the extra sail a square-rigger sets to catch the faintest winds and squeeze out a little more speed.

What started as a few voices raised after training sessions and regattas has grown into a harmony-loving crew with a passion for sea shanties and Cornish folk songs. Like gig rowing itself, singing shanties is about rhythm, teamwork and timings - everyone pulling (or singing) together to make something bigger than the sum of its parts.

Social Media

-  www.stunsls.com
-  [@Stuns'ls](https://www.instagram.com/Stuns'ls)
-  [Stuns'ls](https://www.facebook.com/Stuns'ls)



Toby & Jen Kessell with Joe Doyle

Toby & Jen Kessell are a fresh new group bringing together three of Cornwall's finest traditional musicians: Jen Kessell, Toby Kessell and Joe Doyle. Playing a beautiful mix of Celtic music on viola, melodeons, guitar and vocals, you can expect to hear a celebration of the best tunes from Cornwall to Ireland and beyond. Toby and Jen have been playing for dance nights, concerts, festivals and events all over Cornwall, as well as providing the music for popular theatre company, Miracle Theatre.

They've also been gigging on tour with 3 Daft Monkeys and Skillywidden – friends and excellent musicians! New for 2026, Jen and Toby have teamed up with Joe Doyle – traditional guitarist who learned his craft playing in Ireland and Brittany, and is now immersing himself in Cornwall. Find them in 2026 at festivals both local and international, venues up and down the UK, and at a session or two along the way!

Performances

Friday 31st July

Kernocopia opening concert

- Palais de Congres
- 21:30
- Ticketed event

Saturday 1st August

- La Taverne Celte – Cornish evening
- 19:30
- Ticketed event

Monday 3rd August

Brunch – Concert Celtique

- Taverne Celte – Brunch
- 11:25 & 13:15
- Ticketed event

Social Media



[Toby & Jen Kessell](#)



Jen & Toby Kessell · 31 juillet





Will Keating & John Dowling · 31 juillet



Will Keating & John Dowling

Performances

Friday 31st July

- Place des Pays Celtes
- 14:00
- Badge entry

Saturday 1st August

Brunch – Concert Celtique

- Taverne Celte – Brunch
- 11:25 & 13:15
- Ticketed event

Award-winning Will Keating is a celebrated Cornish folk musician renowned for his evocative voice and deep-rooted connection to Cornish heritage. Drawing on traditional folk influences, Keating has captivated audiences with his soulful performances and storytelling through music. With two critically acclaimed albums and numerous tours to his name, Keating remains a cherished figure in the Cornish folk music scene, dedicated to preserving the rich cultural traditions of Cornwall through his art. His work not only entertains but also preserves the unique legacy of his homeland.

Performing alongside Will is world-renowned banjo player, and friend, John Dowling. John is a previous winner of the BBC Young Folk Awards and the USA National Bluegrass Banjo Championships.

Social Media



www.willkeatingcornwall.com



[@willkeatingcornwall](https://www.instagram.com/willkeatingcornwall)



[Will Keating](https://www.facebook.com/WillKeating)



Visual artists

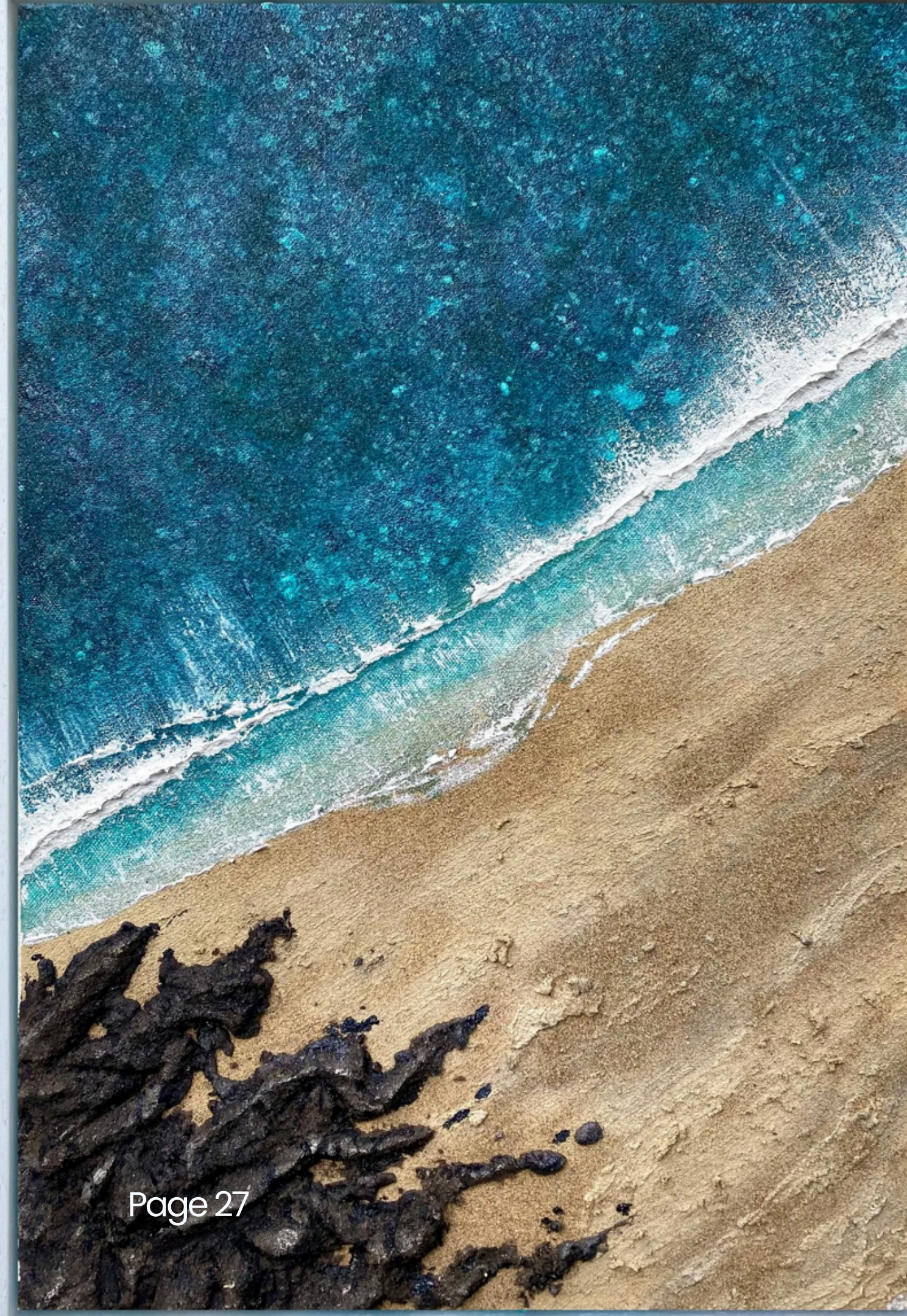
As part of the Euro-Celtic Art Exhibition in Lorient 7 artists will be representing Cornwall at the Heart of the Celtic Sea.



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The Euro-Celtic Art Exhibition will be open daily in the Palais de
Congres , 14:00-19:00.



Gemma Lessinger

Gemma Lessinger is a contemporary seascape artist based in Cornwall, UK. Drawing inspiration from the coastline that surrounds her, she creates highly textured artworks using reclaimed textiles, vintage fabrics, fishing rope, surfboard offcuts and other repurposed materials.

Originally trained in Art & Design before spending two decades in the fashion industry, Gemma combines her love of textiles with a deep connection to the ocean. Her work explores themes of memory, place, sustainability and wellbeing, transforming discarded materials into contemporary coastal landscapes that invite viewers to reconnect with cherished shorelines and moments of calm.

Her paintings are collected internationally and have been exhibited throughout the UK. Through both her artwork and creative experiences, Gemma encourages others to slow down, embrace creativity and reconnect with the natural world.

Maggie Cochran

Maggie's work celebrates the sea as a place of calm and wonder and is all about her love affair with the Cornish beaches, coastline and the magical Cornish light.

Meditative, joyful, dynamic, yet creating a sense of calm, Maggie's coastal landscapes capture a moment in time. They take you to the water's edge and the sound of the ebb and flow of the ocean.

Maggie co-founded Prime Women Artists, a network set up to support women artists living and working in Cornwall. She donates regularly to marine conservation charities and loves that she can use her art to help conserve the marine environment that she is so passionate about.

Maggie has a Fine Art degree from the University of Chichester.

www.maggiecochranart.com



Charlie Lewin

Based in Far West Cornwall, Charlie Lewin is a textiles artist working with hand felting and machine embroidery. Lewin uses sustainably sourced materials to explore how as a society we have become severed from Mother Earth and each other. A campaigner for equality, justice and the environment, Lewin uses wools and reclaimed fabrics to explore concerns.

Work includes: three-dimensional vessels; banners, fabric posters, wall hangings; and Celtic inspired knots. The knots are designed by Lewin and represent the rhythmic nature of Life; its twists, turns and tangles, its continuity and its interconnection. Work exhibited here are her hand felted vessels - a delightful play on 'rusted ceramics' created in wool and silk.



Paul Lewin

A painter of international renown for his cliff-top en plein air paintings, Paul Lewin trained in Bristol and has since lived and worked in south-west Britain, much of this time in West Penwith, the westernmost tip of Cornwall. He has had over 50 one-person exhibitions and numerous group shows in the UK and overseas. His paintings have been purchased for collections throughout the UK, Germany, Mexico, USA, Australia and the Far East.

“Paul Lewin has painted a defining portrait of the near seas and coastal edges around West Penwith in deepest Cornwall. From Penzance to Zennor, Pendeen Watch to St Ives, he captures the extraordinary geography of the peninsular, the geological story of fierce molten extrusion and collapse that created this bunched fist of coast and its invisible reefs.” Paul Gough – Zawn



Julia Poole

Emotion and the felt sense of place is at the heart of Julia's painting. At a time when hope can feel elusive, Julia's work calls you to pause, breathe and reconnect with the beauty and fragility of life. Her work encompasses references to the sea and Cornish coastline alongside abstracted works that express the inner world of feeling and imagination.

As a Yoga and Meditation teacher, Julia's work is often both spiritual and connected to this world. A desire for freedom finds voice in the gestural layering and movement within her paintings.



Andrew Burgess

Andrew's paintings emerge from a space of uncertainty – an intuitive, often unconscious place where he allows the work to form itself through process rather than plan. Andrew begins without knowing exactly what the final image will be. There's no map, only a sense of momentum, a desire to engage with material, space, and time. The process is exploratory and physical – an act of building, undoing, layering, and reacting.

Each painting is grounded in a foundational structure, typically beginning with charcoal. This initial layer serves as a skeleton, a grounding, establishing rhythm, form, and movement. From there, Andrew builds with ink, acrylic, and oil, letting each medium interact, interrupt, or support the others. The layering is not just technical, it is conceptual. The painting becomes a conversation between materials, where history is embedded in the surface, and decisions leave visible traces.

Andrew works primarily impasto, engaging with the materiality of paint in a direct and tactile way. The surface becomes terrain, textured, complex, and unpredictable. He is interested in how paint behaves, how it sits on the surface or sinks into it, how it clings to texture or pools in unexpected places. There is a kind of alchemy in this interaction, a transformation of base materials into something resonant, emotive, and alive.

www.andrewburgess.art/





Clare Hughes

Clare Hughes lives in Cornwall, UK. Her loose expressive style conveys scenes from the landscape and seascapes of the Cornish coast.

Clare studied the BA Art & Design at Bradford College from 1983-1986, and majored in textiles, 3D design and community Arts. She went on to achieve an MA By Research, Interior Design, from Manchester Metropolitan University, in 2001.

After working as an interior designer, and running her own successful business, Clare decided to take up painting in 2016, and in 2017 decided to close her design business in favour of concentrating on her painting practice.

She exhibited her first painting in St Ives Arts Club member's exhibition in 2017, and since then has gone on to exhibit in many group exhibitions, as well as joint exhibitions with other artists. She has successfully sold many of her paintings throughout the past nine years.

In 2023 she applied to Sky Arts Landscape Artist of the year, and was selected to be a Wildcard. Clare took part in, and was televised for the Liverpool Waterside episode of the programme.

Currently Clare is a member of St Ives Arts Club, part of an artists' collective in Cornwall, and permanently exhibits her work at a contemporary gallery in Truro, called Gallery TR1.

www.clarehughesartist.co.uk



Cornish wrestling

Cornish wrestlers attend the festival each year and compete in backhold, Gouren and of course Cornish wrestling. Competitions between Brittany and Cornwall date back to the 16th Century and continue today. The friendship of wrestlers at the festival has been built up over a number of years.



Mon 3rd, Tues 4th, Wed 5th & Fri 7th August

2:30-3:30pm- Training demos

3:30-5:30pm - Public, come and try session

5:30-6:00pm - Presentation of competing wrestlers

Monday 3rd August

18:00-22:30 - International tournament of Back Hold

Wednesday 5th August

18:00-22:30 - International tournament of Cornish wrestling*

Saturday 8th August

1:45-8pm - International tournament of Gouren



*includes presentation of the Inaugural Ladies' Cornish Wrestling Belt.

Cornish film programme

In collaboration with Screen Cornwall, Cornwall will be exhibiting the following Cornish films at the Festival Interceltique de Lorient in the CineFilm programme. Each film will be shown alongside another film from a Celtic nation and the programme will take place at Auditorium Saint Louis.

- Rose of Nevada – Mark Jenkin, 2025
- A Year in a Field – Christopher Morris, 2023
- Crush – Emmanuel Roy, 2025 (Breton/Cornish collaboration)



ROSE OF NEVADA



Rose of Nevada

Mark Jenkin, 2025

Friday 14:00–16:00 – L'Auditorium Saint-Louis*

*Also showing is Aber – 'clip musical de Fleuves' (Brittany, Bretagne, 2025, Quentin Bernard)

AWARD-WINNING CORNISH DIRECTOR MARK JENKIN'S THIRD FEATURE FILM, THE TIME-TRAVELLING ROSE OF NEVADA.

When a fishing boat, the Rose of Nevada, lost with all hands 30 years ago, mysteriously reappears in the old harbour of a forgotten Cornish village, for those who remember, it's surely a sign. The boat must go out to sea again and maybe then the luck of the devastated village will turn. Young father Nick and enigmatic newcomer Liam join captain Murgey, and they head to sea. But when they return, satisfied with their haul, something is amiss – they've slipped back in time, and the villagers greet them as if they are the original crew.

A FILM BY
Mark Jenkin

STARRING

George MacKay, Callum Turner, Francis Magee, Edward Rowe, Rosalind Eleazar and Mary Woodvine

A Year in a Field

Christopher Morris, 2023

Thursday 14:00–16:00 – L'Auditorium Saint-Louis*

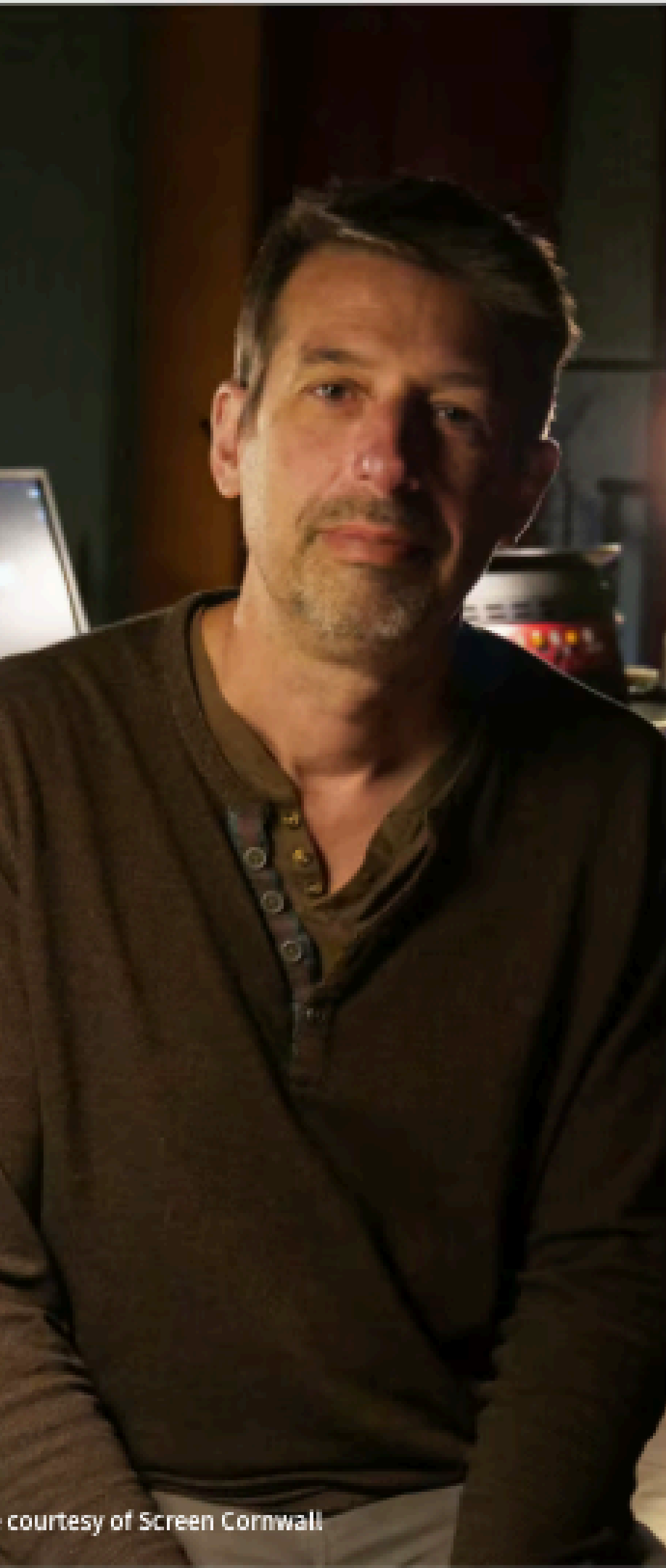
*Also showing is Trécarré (Acadie, 2024, Natalie Robichaud)

The story of one Cornish field told over one climatic year. Winter Solstice 2020: with his camera and tripod, BAFTA winning documentary filmmaker Christopher Morris began filming each day in a field near his home.

“I’ve never glued my hand to a road, or strapped myself to a tree and I’ve never been on a climate protest march but once in a lifetime natural disasters are happening more than once in my lifetime and I’ve got to do something...”
A quiet, unnoticed, one-man vigil, a direct-action of stillness.

Directed by
CHRISTOPHER MORRIS
Starring
CHRISTOPHER MORRIS





courtesy of Screen Cornwall



Crush

Emmanuel Roy, 2025

Monday 14:00-16:00 – L'Auditorium Saint-Louis*

*Also showing is Tarrac (2022 – Irish)

On both sides of the Channel, on the seashores that face each other, two teenage girls go through the little ordinary adventures of their age. Unrelated at first sight. Unless, despite the waters that separate them, they are much closer than we think...

Breton Production Company: Kalanna Productions
Cornwall-based Production Company: Alysia Maciejowska
Writer/ Director: Emmanuel Roy

The collaboration between Screen Cornwall and Breton broadcasters on this new co-commission represents a natural progression, bringing together two organisations with proven track records in supporting minority language film production.

The initiative aims to achieve several crucial objectives including nurturing and promote Cornish and Breton filmmaking talent and creating shared cinematic experiences for Cornish and Breton audiences. This project represents a significant step in preserving and promoting minority languages through film and offers opportunities for cultural exchange and the development of cross-border creative partnerships.

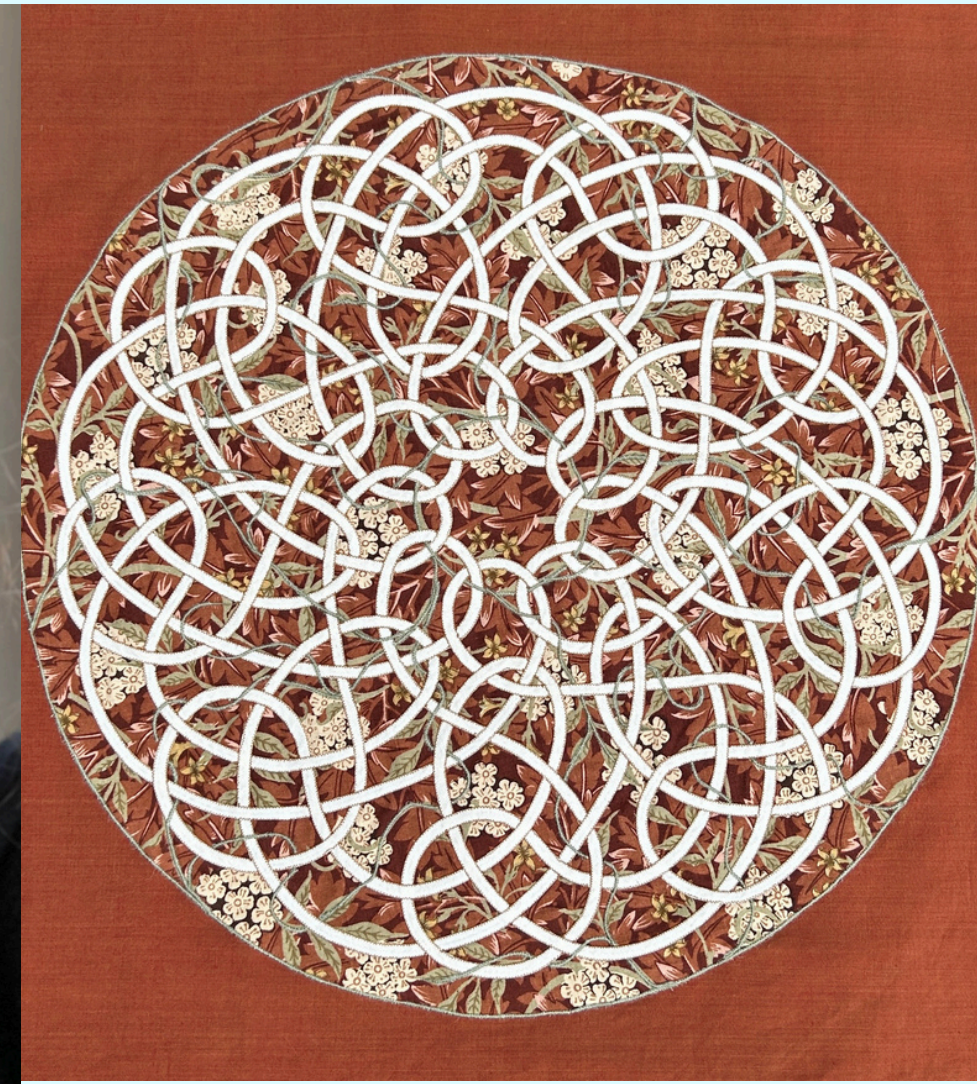
Workshops

Embroidery with Charlie Lewin

Based in Far West Cornwall, Charlie Lewin – is a textiles artist working with hand felting and machine embroidery. Lewin uses sustainably sourced materials to explore how as a society we have become severed from Mother Earth and each other. A campaigner for equality, justice and the environment, Lewin uses wools and reclaimed fabrics to explore concerns.

Work includes: three-dimensional vessels; banners, fabric posters, wall hangings; and Celtic inspired knots. The knots are designed by Lewin and represent the rhythmic nature of Life; its twists, turns and tangles, its continuity and its interconnection.

Teaching at the Lorient embroidery workshops, Lewin will give participants an opportunity to hand embroider Celtic inspired knots and labyrinths.



Sunday 2nd August – Demonstration
École Bisson, 13:30 – 17:00

Tuesday 4th August – Workshops
École Bisson, 9:30 – 12:00 & 13:30 – 17:00

Wednesday 5th August – Workshops
École Bisson, 9:30 – 12:00 & 13:30 – 17:00

Workshops

Cornish dance with Kekezza

Monday 3rd August - Workshop
Salle Carnot - 4-5pm

Tuesday 4th August - Workshop
Salle Carnot - 4-5pm

Thursday 6th August - Workshop
Salle Carnot - 4-5pm

Friday 7th August - Workshop
Salle Carnot - 4-5pm

Cornish language

Cornish language workshops at various times
throughout the week in the Garden of Cornwall area.



Fatla genes

How are you?

Dydh da

Hello

Interceltic Business Forum

The Interceltic Business Forum brings together senior leaders, investors and entrepreneurs from the Celtic nations to facilitate collaboration, learning and strategic networking.

The Forum is held twice-yearly, with one day overlapping the Lorient Interceltic Festival and one day hosted by a different member nation earlier in the year. The events involve keynote speeches and roundtables about innovation, technology and entrepreneurship, attended by business and political leaders of the Celtic nations.

In April 2025, Cornwall hosted that year's non-Lorient Forum meeting, in Falmouth. It was opened by Lord John Hutton and highlights included discussions around the power of diaspora, AI and financing for start-ups. The Interceltic Challenge was set by Celtic Sea Power: large companies set challenges for small and medium-sized enterprises in the Celtic regions to support their development.

In Lorient this year, those attending the Interceltic Business Forum will want to look out for a keynote speech by the Leader of Cornwall Council, Cllr Leigh Frost, and a panel on marine renewable energy.

For more details, and to register to attend, visit: <https://www.intercelticforum.com/events>





Cornish food & drink

Cornwall has worked with the Lorient Interceltic Festival to connect Cornish food & drink producers. The following companies will be exporting product to the festival which festival goers can buy onsite throughout the festival .

- Proper Cornish pasties
- St Austell Brewery
- Roddas Cornish Clotted Cream



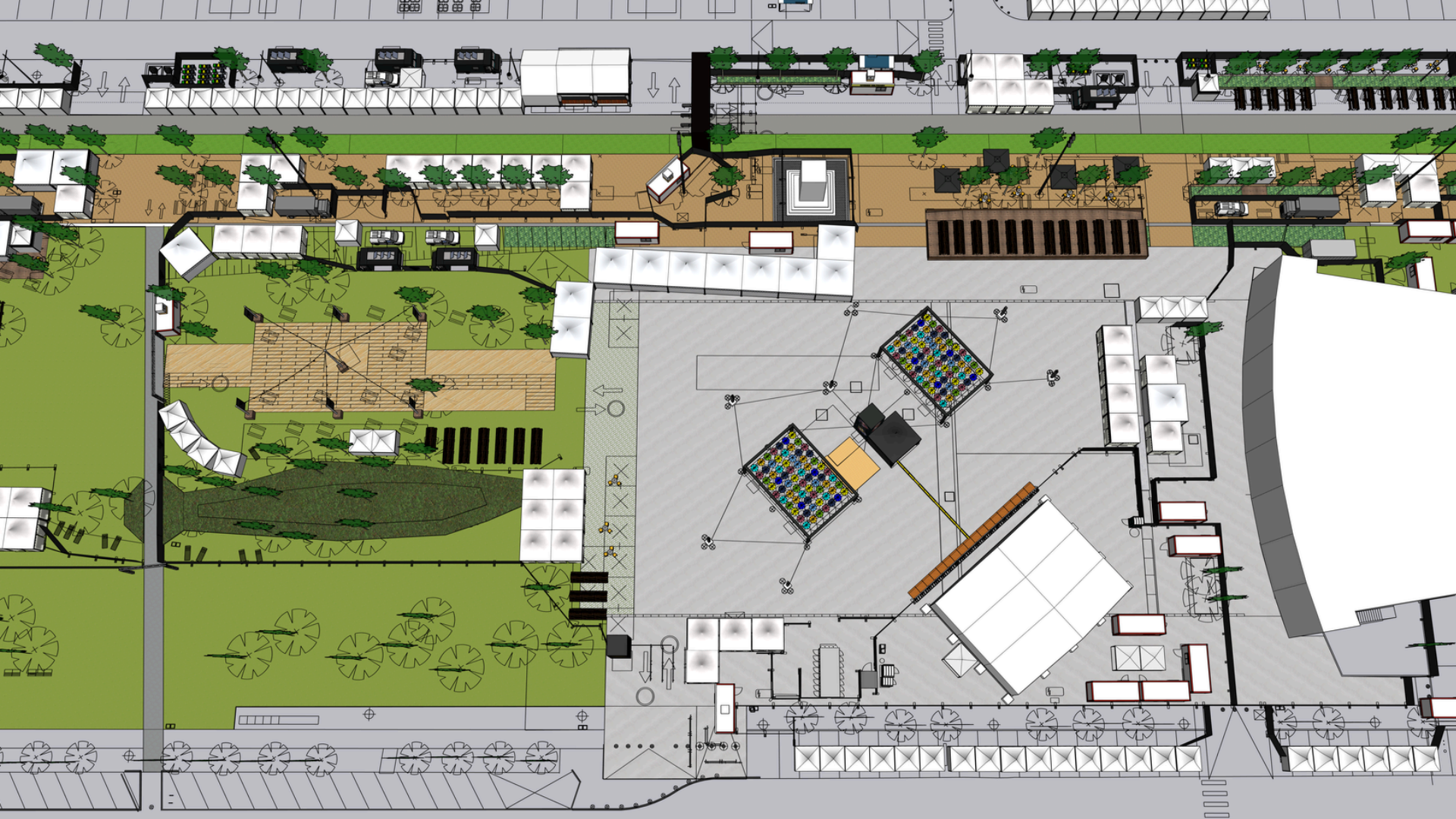
The Garden of Cornwall

At the heart of the festival you will find Cornwall. A garden space to experience and learn more about Cornwall. Come and have a pasty and a pint whilst joining in with a Cornish singing 'shout', after learning a bit of Kernewek and chatting to volunteers all about Cornwall, Cornish culture and everything else you might like to know!

The full programme for the Garden of Cornwall will be available each day in the Garden.

Within the Garden of Cornwall you will find:

- Cornish food e.g. Furniss Biscuits,
- Artists' prints, – from artists exhibited in the EuroCeltic Art Exhibition
- St Justin Jewellery
- Molly Biscoe artist Cornish language products
- Cornish flags and merch
- Cornish language & music books
- Merch from Cornish bands and groups at the Festival





Kuntelles yn Lorient!
Rendez-vous à Lorient!





Meur ras



Associated funders

