

## Galoshans Festival is here, celebrating its 8th year running!



### *A celebration of creativity with community at its heart*

Inverclyde is proud to announce the annual Galoshans festival is back and ready to get under way from Friday 21st October until Sunday 30th October 2022. The festival promises to showcase sensational performances and events, with striking visual art while bringing our local and national community together. This year's festival partners, **RIG Arts, CVS Inverclyde, Feral, Beacon Arts Centre, Magic Torch and Trancnd**, have created a bumper packed programme of activity guaranteed to capture your imagination and get you truly in the Halloween spirit.

Galoshans is a festival deeply rooted in artistic activity with a strong desire for community participation, in order to engage with the people that gather to celebrate it. This year's festival celebrates our local and national heritage through the involvement of our country's most talented artists and performers.

Through the art of storytelling, key highlights of the festival will celebrate Scotland's history of producing enthralling story tellers and tales that have shaped our local and national culture. By exploring the diversity and magic of Scottish stories through art, drama and music, this year's festival brings the mystery of Scottish tales back into the heart of the community whilst showcasing local talent and promises to capture the imagination of its guests.

*“RIG Arts are proud to be a part of the Galoshans Festival 2022, bringing free, inclusive, and creative fun to local communities whilst keeping the spirit of Galoshans alive.”*

- **Karen Orr, RIG Arts**

*“CVS Inverclyde is immensely proud to be supporting the Galoshans Festival. This year sees one of the most ambitious and exciting festivals yet. Galoshans is a uniquely Inverclyde event celebrating our history and culture – it’s a highlight of Inverclyde’s calendar. Every year Galoshans demonstrates how art and storytelling have the power to bring people together to have fun and learn about our shared heritage. It’s fantastic to see a packed and diverse programme with activities and events everyone will enjoy. So much hard work has been put into Galoshans from Inverclyde’s third sector organisations and beyond – congratulations to everyone involved for creating a brilliant festival.”*

- **CVS Inverclyde CEO, Charlene Elliott**

We are so excited to be back and are keen to celebrate the return of normalcy by hosting an enthralling and alluring event. We hope the people of Inverclyde are ready to enjoy themselves! This year’s acts will incorporate and bring to life the essence of beloved Halloween traditions. Galoshans is the perfect family art festival, providing something for everyone through a variety of indoor and outdoor performances and activities, with a mix of both free and ticketed events.

*“This is my favourite time of year for stories, and I’m lucky enough to be working on lots of different types with this year’s Galoshans festival, from story games with the library and radio plays with the Beacon through to a scary story podcast. Lots of opportunities to terrify folk with the folklore and traditions of Inverclyde and beyond - can’t wait to get started.”*

- **Paul Bristow, Magic Torch**

*“We are incredibly proud to be partnering with Galoshans Festival as it celebrates its eighth year in Inverclyde. This event will bring the community together and will showcase a huge range of creative talents. We are particularly excited that this year’s festival is being used to highlight our local and national heritage through the art of storytelling. The packed programme at Galoshans offers something fun and inspiring for everyone, while incorporating all the usual traditions of Halloween.”*

- **Pauline Kane, director of Beacon Arts Centre**

This year, the festival has teamed up with arts organisation Feral, to bring even more spectacular events to the community with amazing performances from Rob Heaslip’s **Strawboys**, Dudendance’s **Alien Species**, Ashley Peevor **The Lost Opera** and many more. Feral set out to create a programme of dynamic performances, installations and interactive encounters that will enable audiences to explore the extraordinary in the everyday. Discover an array of artistic experiences that have a surrealist take on traditional folklore and myth from Ghost Caribou to Selkies, Sea Creatures and Strawboys. They will be bringing innovative artworks and spectacle to distinct locations across the region including Lunderston Bay, Clyde Muirshiel Country Park, Battery Park, Coronation Park, Cathcart Square and at locations throughout Greenock. The programme also has a strong focus on the ecological, drawing upon Inverclyde’s coast, waters and unique position at the mouth of the Clyde.

Join us on Friday 21st October for the Galoshans Festival opening celebrations at Battery Park - illuminated with roaming performances from Ghost Caribou, lantern making workshops from RIG Arts and a spectacular light installation beamed into the night sky by TRANCND. **Ghost Caribou** by Thingumajig Theatre performance utilises the dark backdrop of the autumn night with giant puppets standing illuminated, depicting the tale of the Caribou roaming a mythical world. Audiences are promised to be amazed by the beauty of these magnificent puppets and compelled by the magic and mystery that surrounds this tale. After this event at 8pm, stay to watch TRANCND Open Landscape Event - a show of lightworks projected over the river Clyde. These beautiful beams are only visible for an hour each night before disappearing.

A key highlight includes **Seals'Kin** by Glasgow based artist **Hanna Tuulikii** - a captivating workshop, performance and screening taking place on Sunday 23rd October. Hanna Tuulikii's work delves into the folklore surrounding seals and our kinship with them as Scottish natives. The performance aspect of Seals'Kin is a body of artworks exploring myths of human-seal hybridity and folklore.

Experience fantastic, innovative events from our partners at **RIG Arts, Beacon Arts Centre, Magic Torch** who will be showcasing a variety of events from exhibitions, performances, workshops and more. Enjoy events such as **The Gathering Returns, Escape Rooms** workshop, **Arts & Heritage Exhibition, Museum of Missing Myths, Spooky Bookbug** and many more entertaining events to see and participate in.

To conclude the festivities, our communities are invited to celebrate by joining one of three **RIG Arts' Street Parties** that will take place in Gourock on 28th, Port Glasgow 29th and finally Greenock 30th October. Our parties hold the promise of a wonderful evening honouring the arts both within our community and wider country, complete with a DJ, food vendors and music. We promise to end this festival properly! A great family event that welcomes all.

Please see our programme and website for full details of all of our captivating events with times, locations and details of how to get involved!

**Galoshans Festival is Funded by Creative Scotland and Event Scotland.**

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

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