



16TH POLISH ARTS FESTIVAL

14 - 17 SEPTEMBER 2023

Embracing the Elements Wśród Żywiołów

Get ready for a mesmerizing presentation of the rich and diverse form of Polish art, music, dance, theatre, literature, film, workshops and more! This unique festival is a perfect combination of Irish and Polish culture, fostering understanding, recognition, belonging and friendship. As every year, we support local artists and promote young talents, but there will be no shortage of exciting icing on the cake in the form of an international presentation!

The theme of this year's festival is Embracing the Elements. In these uncertain times of war and conflict in Europe, the climate crisis and the raging elements, we reflect on our attitude to the world, life, nature and human impact on the changes we experience both in the political and climate-related context. We are asking questions and encouraging reflection, we support connection and intercultural understanding. We are writing new stories, painting new pictures and singing new songs - come join us.

www.polishartsfestival.ie

FUNDED BY:



Clár Éire Ildánach
Creative Ireland
Programme



Thursday 14.09	Friday 15.09	Saturday 16.09 PAF KIDS DAY	Sunday 17.09	Friday 22.09 CULTURE NIGHT
Online Festival Music Commission Emma Langford & Anna Banko –Szumacher	Online Festival Music Commission Emma Langford & Anna Banko –Szumacher	Online Festival Music Commission Emma Langford & Anna Banko –Szumacher	Online Festival Music Commission Emma Langford & Anna Banko –Szumacher	Online Festival Music Commission Emma Langford & Anna Banko –Szumacher
Online PAF Stories / Opowiadania PAF	Online PAF Stories / Opowiadania PAF	Online PAF Stories / Opowiadania PAF	Online PAF Stories / Opowiadania PAF	Online PAF Stories / Opowiadania PAF
Treasure Hunt – in 6 locations in Limerick Woman of the Seine - Topielica Music-Video - Dance Project The Hunt Museum & Online 14.09 - 24.09.2023	Treasure Hunt – in 6 locations in Limerick Woman of the Seine - Topielica Music-Video - Dance Project The Hunt Museum & Online 14.09 - 24.09.2023	Treasure Hunt – in 6 locations in Limerick Woman of the Seine - Topielica Music-Video - Dance Project The Hunt Museum & Online 14.09 - 24.09.2023	Treasure Hunt – in 6 locations in Limerick Woman of the Seine - Topielica Music-Video - Dance Project The Hunt Museum & Online 14.09 - 24.09.2023	Woman of the Seine - Topielica Music-Video - Dance Project The Hunt Museum & Online 14.09 - 24.09.2023
OFFICIAL OPENING OF THE FESTIVAL & ART EXHIBITION by Katarzyna Gajewska Chronology of Water (Available 14.09 - 13.10.2023) @ THE HUNT MUSEUM 6pm Opening Concert of Emma Langford & Anna Banko –Szumacher with Official Festival Music Piece	OPENING of Photographic exhibition Forces of Nature - Siły Natury Belltable Foyer 7pm Film Screening “Dangerous Gentlemen - “Niebezpieczni Dżentelmeni” Belltable cinema 8pm	MASTERCLASSES with DAGADANA Irish World Academy of Music and Dance 10-12.30 Hip-Hop workshop with Matt Szczerek Belltable (age: 8-10) 10.00- 11:00 & 11.15 - 12:15 Family Film Screening “TRIPLE TROUBLE” - “TARAPATY” Belltable cinema 12:30 Listening Party Belltable 10:00 -11:00 11:15 - 12:15 Photography workshop with your smartphone Rafał Kostrzewa The Hunt Museum Café 10:30 - 12:00 12:30 - 14:00 (12+)	Hip-Hop workshop with Matt Szczerek The Hunt Museum 11.15 - 12:15 12:30 - 13:30 Listening Party The Hunt Museum 11:15 - 12:15 12:30 - 13:30	Living Statues Lutrek & Theatre Sztuka Ciała Walkabout performances The Hunt Museum 17:00 - 19:00 Elemental Tales 2 Street Performance The Hunt Museum 19:00 & 20:30
		Concert DAGADANA Belltable 19:00		
		Concert SEVEN NUN - SINS & N.R.W.H.L Record Room, The Commercial 21:00		

EXHIBITION

An exhibition of paintings by **Katarzyna Gajewska** "The Chronology of Water"

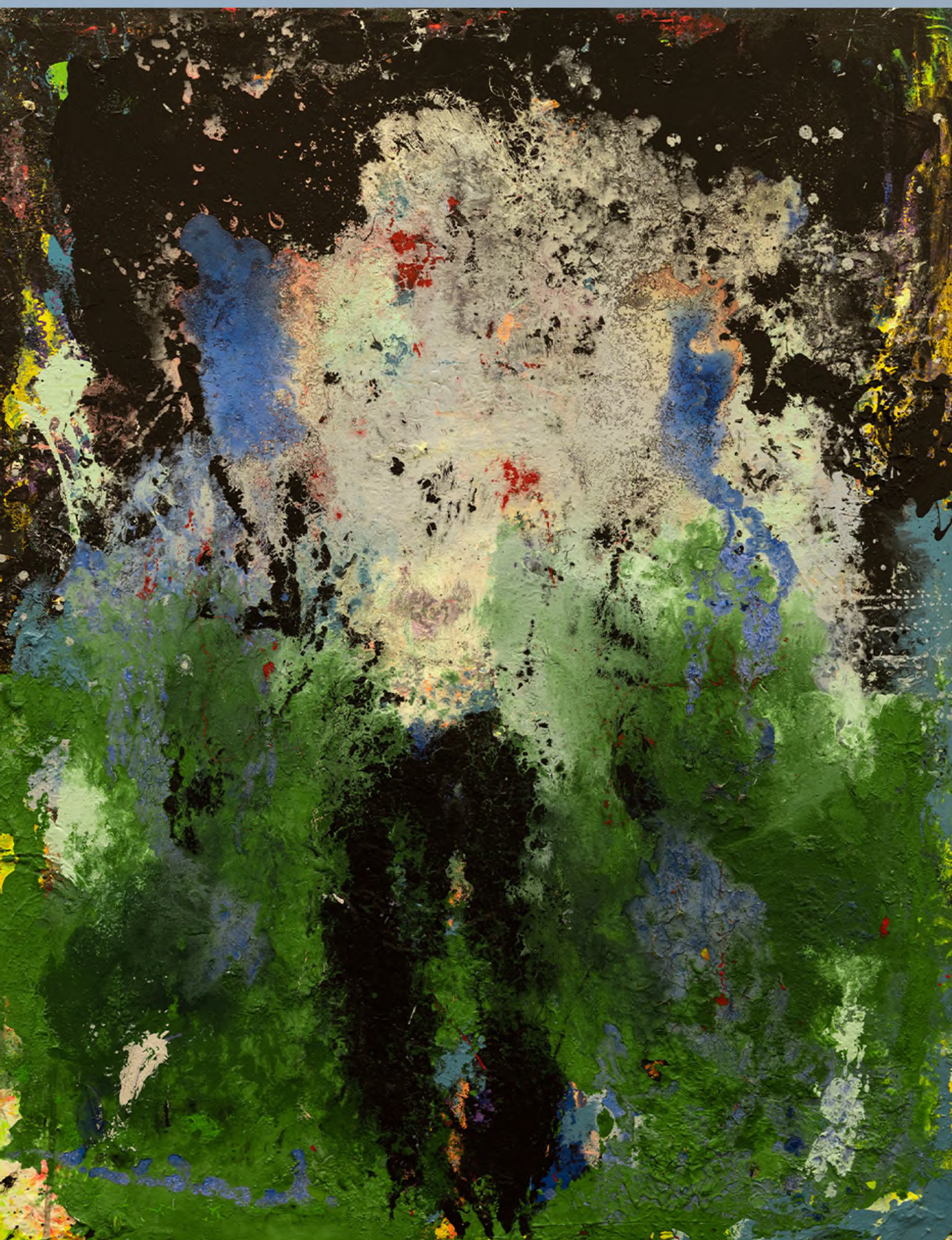
"The Chronology of Water" borrows its title from an honest, raw memoir by Lidia Yuknavitch. There are many ways to drown and many ways to emerge.

Water is a symbol of life; time is passing, breathing faint and low, there is beauty in the rhythm and colour.

"The Chronology of Water" is a journey of high and low; waves of raw memories are combined with the magic of comfort. Beauty, pain, love and transformation, are shaped by fidgeting with direct and metaphorical. Draping dissonance between new and recycled; painting over new surfaces subsequently as in an endless circle of life.

The figures / memories are present and they are absent at the same time; covered by a veil; between this time or another, by the memory of a quiet world.

"There's a release that can happen in water where you don't have to be scared of rage, or grief, or pain", Lidia Yuknavitch.



14.09 - 13.10 2023

The Hunt Museum (Cafe)

Ruthland Street, Limerick

Official Launch:

Thurs, 14.09 @6pm

Free admission



14 - 22 September

Belltable Foyer

&

Online: 14 Sept - 13 Oct

Free admission

EXHIBITION

PAF Photography Exhibition

"Forces of Nature"

The Polish Arts Festival is holding a group exhibition entitled "Forces of Nature" on view from September 14th to 22nd in Belltable, Limerick and online from September 14th to October 13th at www.polishartsfestival.ie

"Forces of Nature" looks beyond the traditional landscape to interrogate the ecological and natural forces at play in the surrounding landscape.

The visitors are invited to select their favourite photograph through an online or in-person vote. The author of the work with the highest number of votes will receive a cash prize of €150.

Selected artists:

1. Anna Woźniakiewicz
2. Dawid Mazur
3. Iweta Kulczycka
4. Jarosław Musialik
5. Joanna Chrostowska
6. Justyna Machnicka
7. Piotr Szczepaniak

Woman of the Seine - Topielica

"Drowned woman from the Seine" is an original project by Dorota Korczycka-Bąblińska, an actress of the Zdrojowy Teatr Animacji in Jelenia Góra, a puppeteer and a versatile artist who also works in ceramics, costume design and scenography.

The project includes two pieces of original music, for which music videos were filmed. The leitmotif and inspiration for the project is the story of the mysterious "Stranger from the Seine" (L'Inconnue de la Seine), a young girl fished out of a river in Paris at the end of the 19th century. The attention of contemporaries was attracted by the appearance of the young woman's face and her gentle smile. For unexplained reasons, a posthumous mask of this unknown woman was made - according to the legend, it was made by a court official who fell in love with her during the examination of the corpse. This image and the mysterious story of the death of a young woman with an enigmatic smile inspired generations of artists, her face was used to create a mannequin for teaching resuscitation - that's why she is called "the most kissed woman in the world".

This story of death in the water and rescuing drowned people inspired Dorota Korczycka-Bąblińska, who combined Slavic mythology with Western European mythology. A young woman, a peasant, in exchange for the promise of eternal love, gives her life to Drowned, a demon who, according to Slavic legends, lived in ponds, lakes and streams, kidnapping and drowning unwary people who were lured to the water's edge at night. In the visual layer, both songs tell about the beginning of their journey together, the girl dances on the shore of the lake, watched by nymphs and followed by Drowned, she is eventually captured by him.



14.09 - 14.09.2023

The Hunt Museum

Ruthland Street, Limerick

Free admission





Saturday 16 September

The Belltable

7pm

Tickets: €25

the arts
council
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festivals



CONCERT

Dagadana

DAGADANA has been combining elements of Polish and Ukrainian culture with the help of jazz, electronics and world music for over 15 years. Their music crosses the borders between nations, the stage and the audience, proving that sincerity in music initiates an amazing mystical adventure, an exchange between people. The band is an ambassador of Slavic culture, both Polish and Ukrainian.

DAGADANA was the only band from Poland and Ukraine to play at the legendary Glastonbury Festival in 2019! The American National Geographic wrote about them. They have performed in 30 countries. On a raft, in a mine, in the desert, at the biggest festival in South America and had many tours in China.

Their new album "Tobie" (nominated for the Fryderyk 2022 Awards) is full of wishing songs (the oldest songs preserved in Slavic lands). Folk-jazz-electronic arrangements are an important voice not only in Polish-Ukrainian relations. The band shows that by singing in their native languages, you can attract the attention of radio broadcasters and listeners in the farthest corners of our globe.



Shortcut to tickets:
Scan QR Code



16TH POLISH ARTS FESTIVAL
2023

Seven Nun-sins & N.R.W.H.L

Seven Nun-sins is a music group from Limerick created by Łazor and Vaya, combining various musical genres, from the sophisticated rhymes of the above-mentioned artists to sonorous singing for which the third vocalist, Grzegorz Wodzol Jarosławski, is responsible.

The band includes the vocalists, three guitars and drums - taken care of by Marcin, Adrian, Shane and Paweł, thanks to whom the songs have grace, claw, and also chill and harmony that has a nice vibe for the ear and soul. Expect to sway, dance and even jump.

With special guests: N.R.W.H.L

Based out of Dublin, N.R.W.H.L is a project that started at Gas Sound Studios during now legendary Jamming in Kondysya sessions.

Saturday 16 September
Record Room, The Commercial
Catherine Street, Limerick
9pm

Tickets: €10 on the door and online

CONCERT



The band is made of five people with various backgrounds and levels of musical experience. We're constantly exploring and learning, but we're also very focused on working this project to our maximum, to reach our limits (or pass them without even noticing). We're friends, we love what we do after hours in the Dublin music underground. It is pure magic to play together and meet new people.





CINEMA

Dangerous Gentlemen / Niebezpieczni dżentelmeni

Director: Maciej Kowalski / 2022
Crime Story / Comedy / 103 min

"Dangerous Gentlemen" is about canonical figures of Polish culture of the past - and starring the cream of Polish talent of today.

"Dangerous Gentlemen" is a crime story and comedy in one and is the feature-film debut of writer-director Maciej Kowalski.

The characters include some of the most distinguished figures of Polish culture at the turn of the 19th and 20th centuries - novelist Joseph Conrad, translator Tadeusz Boy-Żeleński, anthropologist Bronisław Malinowski and painter and writer Stanisław Ignacy Witkiewicz (known as "Witkacy").

Dangerous Gentlemen / Niebezpieczni Dżentelmeni follows Tadeusz Boy-Żeleński (Kot), Witkacy (Dorociński), Joseph Conrad (Seweryn) and Bronisław Malinowski (Mecwaldowski), four famous bohemians from Zakopane, who wake up after a bibulous all-night party. Their heads are bursting from a hangover, no one remembers anything and the situation is not improved by the corpse of an unknown man found on the floor. In addition, law enforcement officers are knocking on their door.

Friday 15th September
Belltable
69 O'Connell Street, Limerick
8pm
Tickets: €8

Family Cinema
as part of the PAF Kids Day

Director: Marta Karwowska / 2020
Comedy / Adventure / 85 min

Triple Trouble is another portion of the adventures of Julka and Olek.

When Monet's Beach in Pourville disappears from the National Museum in Poznań – the children face a task – to find the painting, discover the identity of the thief and save an innocent painter accused of the theft.

A harmonious duo begins an investigation, but suddenly a crazy twelve-year-old Felka appears on the horizon and trouble comes with her. The story of jealousy and trust is intertwined with solving a criminal mystery.

Triple Trouble is the story of a tested friendship, which can become even stronger.

Saturday 16th September
Belltable
69 O'Connell Street, Limerick
Tickets: €7

CINEMA

Triple Trouble Tarapaty 2



Hip-Hop Workshop with Matt Szczerek

As part of the **PAF Kids Day** join us at a highly physical workshop where you can experience and have fun with basic Hip-Hop techniques with Matt Szczerek. Matt plays with his hat a lot, so make sure you bring your own one to the workshop.

Matt Szczerek is a Dublin based choreographer and creative director for Human Collective company merging street dance and contemporary.

His main styles include Hip-Hop, Krump and Breaking.

Matt also curates one of the biggest festivals for street dance in Ireland called Dance2Connect.

Saturday, 16th September

10:00 & 11:15

Belltable, 69 O'Connell Street

Sunday, 17th September

11:15 & 12:30

The Hunt Museum, Rutland Street

Tickets: €7

Age suitability: 7-10





Photography workshop with your smartphone by Rafał Kostrzewa

As part of the **PAF Kids Day** explore the magic of smartphone photography and learn new camera techniques amid beautiful scenery of The Hunt Museum garden.

Learn the composition and how to work with ambient light and simply how to take amazing portraits.

At the end of this workshop each participant will have a chance to print their photo.



Saturday 16 September
The Hunt Museum, Rutland Street
10:30 & 12:00
Tickets: €7
Age suitability: 12+

PAF Audio Stories

Polish Arts Festival is proud to present PAF Audio Stories to young audiences in Limerick and beyond. PAF Stories is a literary project for children, commissioned and produced by the Polish Arts Festival. A listening party is where an audiobook listening experience meets a workshop – the excitement of listening to stories combined with some fun drama and story-making games!

Together we will listen to a selected story, discuss the characters and have a lot of fun role-playing and devising movement for our favourite creatures!



Photo credit: Adriana Laube "Kot". T

Saturday, 16th September

10:00 & 11:15

Belltable, 69 O'Connell Street

Sunday, 17th September

11:15 & 12:30

The Hunt Museum, Rutland Street

Age suitability: 6-12

Tickets: **Free event**, booking essential

The Treasure Hunt

PAF polish
arts
festival

14 - 17 SEPTEMBER

TREASURE HUNT

**POSZUKIWANIE SKARBÓW
IN 6 LOCATIONS IN LIMERICK CITY**

**FIND THE TREASURE AND WIN THE PRIZE
ZNAJDZ SKARB I ZGARNIJ NAGRODĘ**



GET STARTED TODAY!

Get yourself ready for the one and only PAF Treasure Hunt – Poszukiwanie skarbów!

6 locations in Limerick starting at The Hunt Museum!

Only with the Treasure Hunt sheet you can enter the museum for free on the day.

Find the Treasure and win the prize! More information will be available on our website on 14 September.

You have only 4 days to complete it and grab the prize.

Get your team together and off you go!

14-17 September
6 locations in Limerick City
Free Event

Check our website
to find out more:
www.polishartsfestival.ie

PAF Stories - Listen Online

PAF Stories is an open call commission project led by the Polish Arts Festival in Limerick. This year we have commissioned two contemporary, playful and exciting stories for children - one in English and one in Polish. The stories were then recorded as audio pieces for children, available online for listening at home and in a classroom environment.

Our 2023 writers are:

Laura Barszczewicz & Peter McCluskey.

Our mentors were Urszula Sawicka - Gamarra & Padraig Kenny.

"The boy with fiery hair and the magical harp"

by Laura Barszczewicz

An Irish boy named Mairtín loves to read books. Among his colleagues, however, the interest in technology prevails, and they spend a lot of time playing on consoles and surfing the Internet. One day, Mairtín stumbles upon a library he didn't know existed before. It is there that he finds a collection of books containing ancient Irish legends unknown to him. The boy, passionately reading them, imperceptibly moves into their world, encountering the heroes of the story.

Dee-Dee Day-dreams

by Peter McCluskey

Dee-Dee-Nee-Bee-Ess-Kee is a 12 year old girl who loves daydreaming. One day her Mum asks her to go to the Post Office in their little village to post a letter for her. What happens on her journey to the post office? Listen to the story to find out!



Painting: Adriana Laube

The stories were recorded in an audio format directed by Urszula Sawicka-Gamarra and Liam McCarthy and voiced by actors Justyna Cwojdzinska and Matt Szczerek.

Listen online at:
www.polishartsfestival.ie

Elemental Tales 2



Friday, 22 September (Culture Night)

7:00 pm

8:30pm

Event duration: 40mins

The Hunt Museum Gardens

Free admission

Elemental Tales 2 is a promenade performance consisting of four multi-disciplinary performance pieces set in various locations within the Hunt Museum garden.

The performance combines Slavic (Polish & Ukrainian) folk tales with Irish Fairy stories and draws parallels between the similarities of both traditions.

The performers bring the characters to life through dance, storytelling, physical theatre, music and mask. This year the Living Statues are part of our performance.

Meet The Nature Goddess, Rusalkas, Elves, Cunning Wild Plants that come alive and invite you to make the magic with them.

Experience the imaginative journey through the four elements of Water, Air, Earth and Fire and sing with us at the end around the fire.

The Polish Arts Festival this year is joined by Ukrainian community members and artists.





I, Woman/ Ja, Kobieta

Festival Music Commission

by Emma Langford and Anna Banko -Szumacher

Coming from very different worlds, musically and personally, something that unites musicians Anna Banko-Schumacher and Emma Langford is a deep belief in the strength and power of women. The artists wanted to shine a light in this collaboration on a beloved Polish poet, Maria Pawlikowska-Jasnorzewska, whose work explores the natural, the supernatural, love in all its forms, and the "divine feminine". Their original, collaborative piece is called "I, Woman / Ja, Kobieta" and combines Polish, English and Irish languages in a loving tribute to Maria Pawlikowska-Jasnorzewska's piece "Rodzina Czarownicy". The piece begins in Irish "sean nós" style with Anna singing gently in Polish over a simple drone – a perfect juxtaposition of Irish and Polish elements. In the song you hear the poem split into two parts, sung in Polish and then in Irish. Anna created the initial melodic structure upon which Emma wrote a counter-melody. Together they wrote the chorus which occurs in Polish and in English. Emma created the arrangement. The piece is written for multiple voices, two violins, piano, and a drone instrument such as harmonium or shruti box. Produced by Ben Wanders of Ben Wanders Productions.

www.polishartsfestival.ie