

PRESS RELEASE

ARTPORT 2023 | PORTISHEAD ARTS FESTIVAL



THE CLOSING OF SOMERSET HALL: HOW WILL THIS EFFECT ARTPORT 2023?

You may have heard by now, the news that North Somerset Council has been forced to take the decision to temporarily close Somerset Hall for health and safety reasons pertaining to the leaking roof impacting on the electrical and fire systems.

As soon as this situation became apparent, NSC has been proactive in its response, and we are able to update you that works on the roof are expected to start today, Friday 28th July. Until initial inspections are carried out, it won't be possible for anyone to guarantee how long remedial works will take, but both NSC and ArtPort are hopeful that, as work is starting early, Somerset Hall may very well be open again in a few weeks. Everyone involved in the provision of Somerset Hall as a community space is working together to achieve resolution to the problem in the shortest time.

The ArtPort committee want to reassure you that we have a number of contingency plans available to us, to enable the festival to go ahead in equal but different surroundings, should this become necessary.

Please be assured that the festival is not in doubt or jeopardy and will certainly be going ahead as planned.

We ask that you bear with us whilst we finalise our plans and decide upon which of our contingency plans to move forward with, if necessary, and we will keep you informed of our plans.

We thank you for your patience.

With all good wishes,
The ArtPort Committee.

ENDS

ABOUT ARTPORT

ArtPort is Portishead Arts Festival: a community-focused, multi-arts event that takes place annually in the unique and historic location of Portishead, on the North Somerset coast, on the last weekend in September. This year's festival will be held on 23-24 September, 2023.

Now in our third year, we continue to grow, this year adding spoken word, community ArtWalk, a film season and much more to our roster of events.

Entirely run by volunteers, the festival and its contributors work hard to bring together a range of events and creative experiences for all age groups - a packed programme of artists, craftspeople, workshops and demonstrations, live musical performances, dance events, art trails, film and much more.

The festival takes place in the three main, central venues of Somerset Hall, the Beacon Hub and the Folk Hall, with other performances and events taking place at venues around the centre of Portishead, including: kids' workshops at Portishead Youth Centre and live musical performances in Marina Square (outside H&W). Full details will be available on our website.

- Logos and images available on request

For further information, contact:
Mellony Taper, Marketing Director
Tel. 07595959759

Email: mellonytaper@gmail.com

Web: <https://www.portisheadartsfestival.org>