



Date: Wednesday, 11th March 2026.

PRESS RELEASE:

### ARTPORT TAKES A BREAK

ArtPort, Portishead Arts Festival will be taking a break in 2026, returning in September 2027 with an improved programme of exciting visual arts happenings and events to match our phenomenal live music offering.

Just as that other great Somerset festival takes a sabbatical every five years to let the grass grow and the cows go on holiday, so ArtPort will be taking a year out to rest our tiny management team and let them take a much-needed break.

Most importantly: we will be using the time to upgrade and broaden the visual arts sections of the festival: bringing more world class art events to the community and public spaces of Portishead, and providing more opportunities for local and national artists to exhibit new work and try out ideas.

We will also be looking at ways to broaden our roster of literary events, and exploring new avenues to increase the number of pop-up, street-based happenings during festival week.

But stay tuned - because there's still much to look forward to this summer in Portishead, as our music team at Bands on in Portishead (BoP) brings us a fabulous weekend of music with the first Festival BoP. So keep an eye out for more info on that coming soon.

Follow Bands On In Portishead on Facebook for details of local music events happening in 2026.

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### ABOUT ARTPORT

ARTPORT is a vibrant, multi-event festival that brings the arts out of traditional spaces and places them at the centre of the local community. We provide a platform for emerging south west artists, makers and musicians; bring world-class art and installations into the community public spaces, and host an exciting and eclectic range of participatory art exhibitions and events for every age group.

ArtPort is a community-centred event that brings together art, music, performance, literature, poetry and creativity in all its forms, right here at the heart of our wonderful estuary location, on the North Somerset coast. 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.

ArtPort is a free festival. All our art exhibitions, spoken word, dance, film, art trails, outdoor events, dance & music performances in our 3 main venues & outside are completely FREE; we are also able to offer many workshops and ticketed events at specially discounted festival rates.

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### Contact:

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