

edinburgh people's festival

www.edinburghpeoplesfestival.org.uk

PRESS RELEASE

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For immediate release

PEOPLE'S FESTIVAL PROGRAMME 'Reaches The Parts Others Ignore'

The Edinburgh People's Festival today published its August 2008 programme of events.

In previous years the People's Festival presented David Sneddon to the Jack Kane Centre in Craigmillar weeks before he went on to win the BBC's Fame Academy talent show, took Hollywood actress Nancy Cartwright to the city's Royal Infirmary in 'Bart Goes to the Simpson's', smuggled TV comedian Mark Thomas and Paddy Hill of the Birmingham Six, INTO Saughton prison and showcased the legendary talents of Oscar nominated playwright Trevor Griffiths at The Stand.

The centrepiece of this years programme is an award winning retrospective exhibition telling the story of the People's Festival for the very first time, from its birth in the 1950's, to its rebirth in 2002 and including its development to date. The exhibition takes place in the ARTSPACE in Craigmillar and runs from Saturday 9th-16th August.

People's Festival Chairman Colin Fox believes this year's programme surpasses anything the group has presented before and continues to 'reach the parts of the city the other festivals ignore'.

'The People's Festival just goes from strength to strength. This year we again present outstanding artistic attractions in those communities which all the other festivals ignore. I am particularly pleased to stage our exhibition in Craigmillar as that community has been in many ways the spiritual heart of the People's Festival for more than 50 years. We also have a visual arts competition in Muirhouse with £1,000 in prize money, a photographic exhibition in the Oddfellows Hall, Forest Road, a 'Rebus' literary tour on the Southside, musical performance from the James Gillespie's youth theatre, the Hamish Henderson memorial lecture, a debate in Wester Hailes on the future of the arts in Scotland featuring a distinguished panel of opinion formers, a music gig inside Saughton prison, an outstanding comedy night in Gorgie and, to round the whole week off, a ceilidh with a difference in Leith. And thanks to the generosity of the city's trades union movement all this largely free.

Full details of our programme are now available on the People's Festival website www.edinburghpeoplesfestival.org

All the Edinburgh People's Festival shows are free except where space is strictly limited and then tickets are £2. The Edinburgh People's Festival is a registered charity. ENDS

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