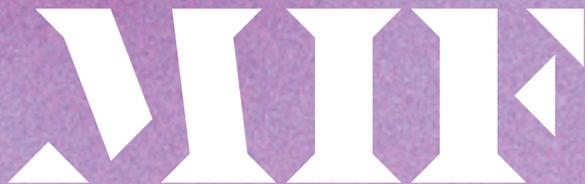


INTERNATIONAL WEEKEND

3-6 JULY 2025



manchester
international
festival
2025 3-20 Jul

 MIF25 is presented by
factory international

THURSDAY 3 JULY



The Herds

6 - 7pm
THE HERDS
MIF25 OPENING EVENT

The Walk Productions
Venue: Manchester City Centre
Free – booking recommended

Life-sized animal puppets take over Greater Manchester as part of a monumental migration across West Africa and Europe. Can they escape climate disaster? From the team behind *The Walk* with Little Amal.

THE HERDS Greater Manchester is produced by The Walk Productions in partnership with Factory International. Greater Manchester events delivered in association with Rochdale Borough Council, Rochdale Development Agency and Wigan Council. MIF25 Opening Event created in partnership with Manchester Camerata.



Photography: Ant Strack



Football City, Art United.

Image: yeahnice.design

7.30 - 8.30pm

FOOTBALL CITY, ART UNITED.
PREVIEW

Co-curated by Juan Mata, Hans Ulrich Obrist and Josh Willdigg
Venue: North Warehouse, Aviva Studios, Water Street, Manchester M3 4LG
Free – booking required

What happens when artists and footballers transfer ideas? 11 new works created by pairings of artists and footballers come together in an ambitious group exhibition featuring sound installations, play arenas, paintings, drawings, animation, sculpture and film and new genre-defying artworks.

The footballers and artists imagining a bold new world of footballing futures include **Eric Cantona** and **Ryan Gander**, **Edgar Davids** and **Paul Pfeiffer**, **Ella Toone** and **Keiken**, **Jorge Campos** and **Bárbara Sánchez-Kane**, **Raí** and **Alvaro Barrington**, **Lotte Wubben-Moy** and **Rose Wylie**, **Vivianne Miedema** and **Suzanne Lacy**, and **Jill Mulleady** inspired by **Diego Maradona**.

The exhibition will also be open daily from 11am to 8pm throughout MIF25.

Commissioned by Factory International and TO Live.
Produced by Factory International.



9pm - late
OPENING NIGHT PARTY

Venue: Festival Square, Aviva Studios, Water Street, Manchester M3 4LG
Free – booking required

Join us for a night of music, drinks and dancing on Festival Square to celebrate the opening of MIF25.

KEY TO EVENTS

- MIF25 SHOWS
- PARTIES
- INTERNATIONAL WEEKEND TALKS, TOURS AND NETWORKING EVENTS

FRIDAY 4 JULY

3 - 4pm

SHILPA GUPTA: UNTITLED OPENING

Venue: Rise Innovate, Rochdale
Free – booking required

As part of a long partnership with Greater Manchester Borough of Rochdale, artist **Shilpa Gupta** has created new work for MIF25, connecting and collecting stories with different communities to create a thought-provoking sound installation in Rochdale about absence, longing, belonging and hope.

Come and celebrate the opening of the exhibition and meet the artist.

Transport to and from the venue will be provided.

Commissioned and produced by Factory International.
In partnership with Rochdale Development Agency.



Shilpa Gupta: Untitled

Image: Courtesy of Artist

5 - 6.30pm

INTERNATIONAL WEEKEND OPENING RECEPTION

**Venue: Upper Hall Foyer, Aviva Studios,
Water Street, Manchester M3 4LG**
Free – booking required

The official programme begins with a welcome from Factory International's Artistic Director John McGrath and Creative Director Low Kee Hong (who has created this year's MIF) plus drinks and canapes at Aviva Studios. Accreditation and festival tote bags will be available for collection from 4.30pm.

Following the opening reception, you are free to explore a wide range of new commissions and events throughout International Weekend.

7 - 8pm

FOOTBALL CITY, ART UNITED.

Co-curated by Juan Mata, Hans Ulrich Obrist and Josh Willdigg
**Venue: North Warehouse, Aviva Studios, Water Street,
Manchester M3 4LG**
Tickets: £10-£15

See Thursday for details. The exhibition will also be open daily from 11am to 8pm throughout MIF25.

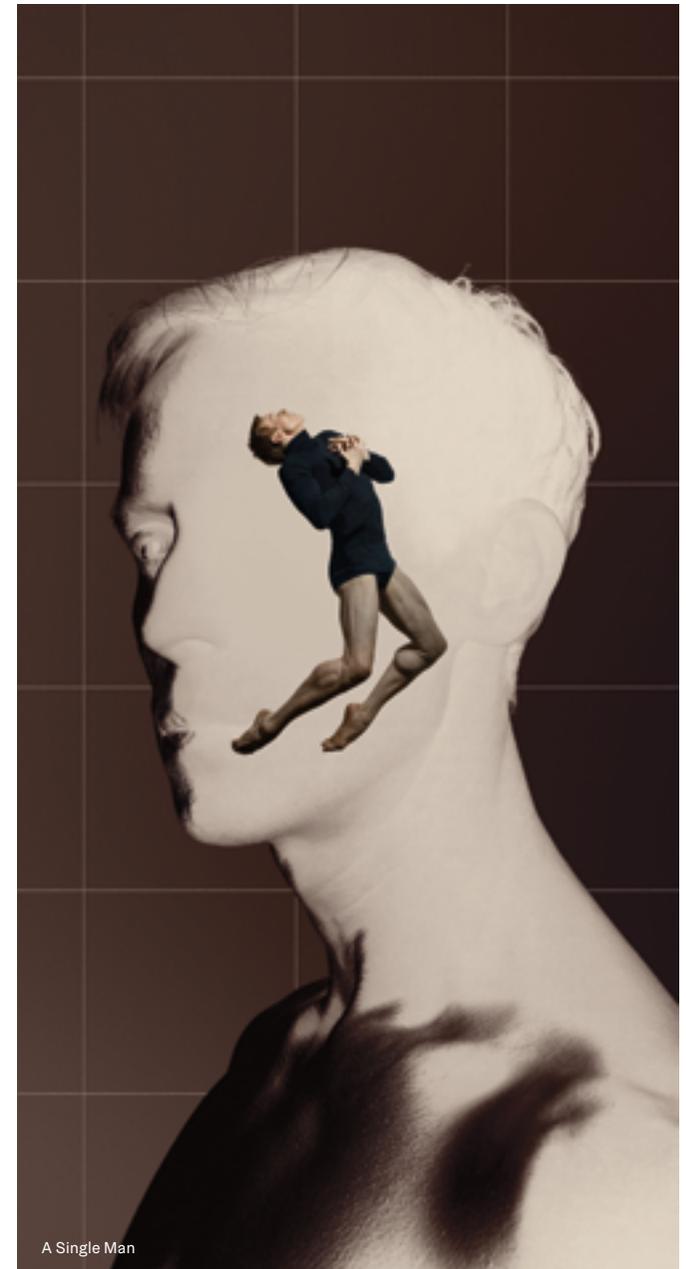
8 - 9.30pm

A SINGLE MAN

Based on the book by Christopher Isherwood
Director and Choreographer Jonathan Watkins
Music by John Grant and Jasmin Kent Rodgman
Principal Dancer Ed Watson
Venue: The Hall, Aviva Studios, Water Street, Manchester M3 4LG
Tickets: £10-£45

Christopher Isherwood's vital portrait of queer love and loss is reimagined as a contemporary ballet by **Jonathan Watkins** with new live music from celebrated singer-songwriter **John Grant** and composer **Jasmin Kent Rodgman**. Powered by exclusive new songs and performed by Royal Ballet dancers and guest artists, *A Single Man* is a healing meditation on sexuality, grief and midlife.

A Royal Ballet and Factory International co-production.



A Single Man

Photography: Rick Guest

SATURDAY 5 JULY

1 - 2pm

MEET FAFSWAG AND MIF25 INTERNATIONAL RESIDENCY ARTISTS (LUNCH AND DRINKS)

Venue: HOME, 2 Tony Wilson Place, Manchester, M15 4FN

Come and celebrate FAFSWAG's opening and meet MIF25's International Residency Artists over food and drinks.

2.15 - 3.45pm

MEET MANCHESTER ARTISTS

Venue: TBC

Free – booking required

Join fellow producers, and Factory International colleagues for an exciting presentation by Manchester artists, who will be discussing projects in development or ready for touring.

4 - 5pm

SANTIAGO YAHUARCANI CURATOR'S TOUR

With Darren Pih, Head of Exhibitions & Collections, The Whitworth.

Venue: The Whitworth, Oxford Road, Manchester M15 6ER

Free – booking required

The first international solo exhibition of works by **Santiago Yahuarcani** – artist, Indigenous activist and leader of the Aimeni (White Heron) clan of the Uitoto people. The exhibition features more than 25 paintings from 2010 to the present, including new work and international loans.

Transport to and from the venue will be provided.

A project by The Whitworth, The University of Manchester. Presented as part of Manchester International Festival 2025.



6 - 7.30pm

LIGHT BITES BUFFET AND DRINKS

Venue: The Whitworth, Oxford Road, Manchester M15 6ER

Gather with fellow guests and Factory International colleagues for early evening food and drinks.

7.30 - 9pm

LIBERATION

Venue: Royal Exchange Theatre, St Ann's Square, M2 7DH

Tickets: £10-40

See Friday schedule for details.

8 - 9.30pm

A SINGLE MAN

Venue: The Hall, Aviva Studios, Water Street, Manchester M3 4LG

Tickets: £10-£45

See Thursday schedule for details.

10 - 10.45pm

TOUR OF AVIVA STUDIOS

Starting point: The Social, Aviva Studios, Water Street, Manchester M3 4LG

Free – booking required

A behind-the-scenes look around the home of Factory International.

10pm - 1am

INTERNATIONAL WEEKEND PARTY

Venue: Upper and Lower Hall and Festival Square, Aviva Studios, Water Street, Manchester M3 4LG

Live music, drinks and dancing with a wide array of artists and representatives from national and international arts organisations. The party starts after the evening's performances have ended and runs into the small hours of Sunday morning.



Santiago Yahuarcani

Image: Santiago Yahuarcani, *Sin titulo (Untitled)* 2021, natural pigments and acrylic on Ilanchama, 60 x 87 cm. © Santiago Yahuarcani. Photo: CRISIS Gallery

SUNDAY 6 JULY

9 - 9.45am

TOUR OF AVIVA STUDIOS

Starting point: The Social, Aviva Studios, Water Street, Manchester M3 4LG

Free – booking required

A behind-the-scenes look around the home of Factory International.

10am - 12pm

CHAIR'S BRUNCH

Join the Chair of Factory International **Moira Sinclair** along with Factory International colleagues and MIF25 and future artists for a light brunch and drinks before the afternoon programme of activity.



Blackhaine

12.15 - 1pm

BLACKHAINE IN CONVERSATION WITH LOW KEE HONG

Venue: Lower Hall Foyer, Aviva Studios, Water Street, Manchester M3 4LG

Free – booking required

Join internationally acclaimed artist and choreographer **Blackhaine** in conversation about his new work for MIF25. *And Now I Know What Love Is* is an immersive performance work blending choreography and sound, asking both the cast and audience to question their sense of belonging and love in a world of despair.

And Now I Know What Love Is will be shown from 9 to 19 July at Diecast as part of MIF25.

Commissioned by Factory International and Holland Festival. Produced by Factory International.

1.45 - 2.30pm

THE PUBLIC CURATORS

Venue: Lecture Theatre, Manchester Art Gallery, Mosley Street, Manchester, M2 3JL

Free - booking required

Factory International creates opportunities for members of the public to curate their own work. This panel will include past and present public curators from Factory Academy, Fusion Factory, Young Curators and *An Inheritance* – hosted by a member of the People's Forum.

After the panel there will be an opportunity to visit *An Inheritance*.



An Inheritance

AN INHERITANCE

Beckie Darlington, Andy Field and Rosabel Tan

Venue: Manchester Art Gallery, Mosely Street, Manchester M2 3JL
Free – no booking required

What would you leave behind for children 100 years from now? Join young people from across the city preparing a historic gift from one generation to another. *An Inheritance* was developed with year 5 pupils (ages 10-11) from schools across Greater Manchester.

Commissioned and produced by Factory International. Developed with year 5 pupils from schools across Greater Manchester.



Image: Greta van der Star

3 - 3.45pm

NEW FRONTIERS - THE IMMERSIVE EXPERIENCE

Hosted by Gabrielle Jenks, Factory's Digital Director with Industry panel members.

Venue: Aviva Studios

Free - booking required

The popularity of immersive and experiential installations is on the rise, but what are the opportunities and challenges for creators and commissioners? This session draws on lessons from industry specialists (including Eleanor Whitley from Marshmallow Laser Fest) unpicking distribution models, scaling of practice and the genealogy of the immersive arts.



Venture Arts: Michael Beard

4 - 5pm

VENTURE ARTS: MICHAEL BEARD

Live improvisation jam with Michael Beard, Manchester Camerata and Company Chameleon.

Venue: The Lab, Aviva Studios, Water Street, Manchester M3 4LG

A pop-up open studio filled with movement, music and making. With local artist **Michael Beard** in residence, live performances and interactive workshops, the Lab is a welcoming space for creative exploration.

Commissioned by Factory International and Venture Arts. Produced by Factory International.



Image: Courtesy of Artist

ALSO HAPPENING ON SUNDAY 6 JULY



7.30pm
HALLÉ: SOUNDS OF THE EAST

with Singapore Chinese Orchestra
Venue: The Bridgewater Hall, Lower Mosley Street,
Manchester, M2 3WS
Tickets: £10 - £40

An evening of music woven together by Eastern tradition and inspiration. Conducted by **Kahchun Wong**, featuring the European premiere of Cambodian American composer **Chinary Ung**'s *Grand Spiral (Desert Flowers Bloom)*, Debussy's *La mer* and the UK premiere of Wong's orchestration of Mussorgsky's *Pictures At An Exhibition*.

Presented by the Hallé in partnership with Factory International for Manchester International Festival 2025.



Image: Courtesy of Artist

11am - 8pm (slots every 30 mins)

FOOTBALL CITY, ART UNITED.

Venue: North Warehouse, Aviva Studios, Water Street,
Manchester M3 4LG
Tickets: £10-£15

See Thursday for details. The exhibition is open daily from 11am to 8pm throughout MIF25.

12 - 6pm

FALE SĀ / SACRED HOUSE

Venue: HOME, Gallery, 2 Tony Wilson Place, Manchester, M15 4FN
Free - booking required

See Saturday for details. The exhibition is open daily from 12 to 8pm throughout MIF25.

10am-5pm

SANTIAGO YAHUARCANI

Venue: The Whitworth.
Free - no booking required

See Saturday for details.
The exhibition is open between 10am and 5pm daily during MIF25.

3 - 4.30pm

A SINGLE MAN

Venue: The Hall, Aviva Studios, Water Street, Manchester M3 4LG
Tickets: £10-£45

See Thursday schedule for details.

FESTIVAL SQUARE



Festival Square

FESTIVAL SQUARE

Aviva Studios, Water Street, Manchester M3 4LG

The buzzing heart of MIF returns with a free programme of live music and performances. Expect everything from family fun and spoken word to the hottest up-and-coming bands and late-night DJ sets.

Enjoy Festival Square from Tuesday to Sunday during MIF25. There'll be great food and drink in the Square. A full schedule will be available in June.



ACCESS GUIDE

 Accessible Parking	 Captioning
 Accessible Toilet	 Changing Places Toilet
 Assistance Animal Facilities	 Chill Out Space
 Assistive Listening	 Relaxed Performance
 Audio Description	 What to Expect Guide
 BSL Interpretation	 Wheelchair Accessible

Image: @sampt_officiel

VENUES

- 1 Aviva Studios home of Factory International
- 2 HOME
- 3 The Royal Exchange
- 4 The Whitworth
- 5 The Bridgewater Hall
- 6 Manchester Art Gallery
- 7 R-KIX Performance Centre

HOTELS

- 1 Motel One Manchester – Royal Exchange
- 2 Treehouse Hotel Manchester



ACCOMMODATION

This year we have secured exclusive rates with two partner hotels: Treehouse and Motel One Royal Exchange. To take advantage of these rates, please reserve your room via the booking form. Room availability is strictly limited and on a first come first served basis.

Please note the deadline for partner hotel booking is Friday 16 May 2025.



TREEHOUSE HOTEL MANCHESTER ★★★★★

Blackfriars St, Manchester M3 2EQ
treehousehotels.com/manchester

Treehouse Manchester is a brand-new four-star hotel opening in the heart of the city this March, offering eco-friendly innovations, exquisitely designed rooms inspired by the beauty of nature, and plenty of meeting and hang out areas. It also serves as a dynamic hub for artists, stakeholders, guests and enthusiasts of Manchester International Festival, inviting a vibrant cultural celebration. All MIF locations are easily accessible from here and usually within walking distance from the hotel.

RATES (BETWEEN 3-20 JULY)

Double Room - £155.00 per night incl. VAT*
Premium Room - £205.00 per night incl. VAT*

*Please note that the 11, 12, 16, 19 and 20 July are charged at £255 for Double Rooms and £305 for Premium Rooms per night to due major events taking place in the city with enhanced demand for rooms

Breakfast - £14.00 per person



MOTEL ONE MANCHESTER - ROYAL EXCHANGE ★★★

Royal Exchange, 15 Cross Street, Manchester, M2 1WD
motel-one.com/en/hotels/manchester/hotel-manchester-royal-exchange/

Motel One Royal Exchange is a stylish and budget-friendly hotel in the heart of Manchester, ideally situated within walking distance of all MIF venues and just a stone's throw from Treehouse Manchester. Its chic, modern design and inviting communal spaces create the perfect backdrop for guests to immerse themselves in the vibrant cultural celebration of Manchester International Festival.

RATES (BETWEEN 3-20 JULY)

Double Room – From £70 per night incl. VAT with some weekend dates coming in at higher rates *

*Please note that the 11, 12, 16, 19 and 20 July are charged at a premium rate due major events taking place in the city with enhanced demand for rooms

Breakfast - £14.00 per person

CONTACTS

This is not an exhaustive list of all performance times and dates – for a full schedule visit factoryinternational.org/mif25

Access information for every performance can be found online at factoryinternational.org/mif25/venue-access-information/

If you would like more details about any IW Programme, please email our dedicated team at internationalweekend@factoryinternational.org

MANY THANKS TO:

Principal Partner **Aviva**

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Senior Supporters **EssenceMediacom, Eversheds Sutherland, Hawkins/Brown, IF_DO, Manchester Metropolitan University, Mills & Reeve LLP, Regatta, The University of Manchester**

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Factory Founding Cast **Beaverbrooks Charitable Trust, Law Family Charitable Foundation, Garfield Weston Foundation**

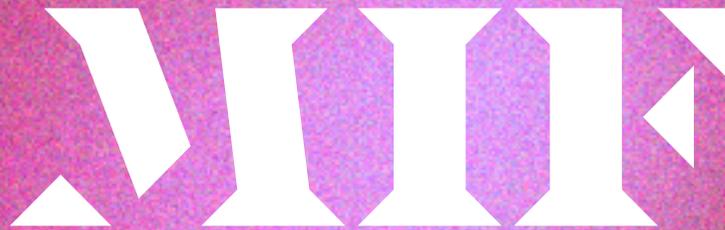
The Factory Trust, which leads on philanthropic capital fundraising activity to underpin the wider strategic efforts to deliver a world-class venue for all, would like to thank the above **Founding Cast** capital supporters for supporting the building of Factory International's home, Aviva Studios.

Trusts & Foundations **Esmee Fairbairn Foundation, Law Family Charitable Foundation**

Foundation Circle **Jo & Tom Bloxham MBE, Craig & Rita Hollingworth, The Regatta Foundation, The Savannah Wisdom Foundation**

Patrons **Phil & Julie Adams, Jonathan Levy, Simon Sack & Emma Almond**

Pioneers **Leila Alexander, Lisa Ashurst, Matthew Claughton, Bob Gardner, Helen Gilman & Malcolm Pitcher, Laura Harper, Mick Lawlor, Jim Leaviss, Preyesh Oza, Alice Rawsthorn, Moira Sinclair, Martyn & Valerie Torevel**



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2025 3-20 Jul

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