

MANCHESTER INTERNATIONAL IS BACK!

MIF is back – inviting you to leap into the unknown with some of the most exciting creative minds of our generation. Taking over Aviva Studios and spreading across the city and beyond, experience art that pushes boundaries, addresses the big questions of our time and creates hope for the future.

With lots of free events, take a chance and try something new. Gather your friends and family, find your joy – and Dream Differently.

Aviva £10 tickets are available across all our shows. What will you discover?

FOOTBALL CITY, ART UNITED.

Co-curated by **Juan Mata, Hans Ulrich Obrist** and **Josh Willdigg**

4 JUL – 24 AUG

AVIVA STUDIOS

Ticketed, family bundle tickets available
art, installation, family

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.

There's something for everyone to experience – from sound installations, play arenas, paintings, drawings, animation, sculpture and film to 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.

Access Facilities:

Accessible Parking
Accessible Toilet
Assistance Animal Facilities
Captioning
Changing Places Toilet
Chill Out Space
Relaxed Performance
Wheelchair Accessible
What to Expect Guide

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

SINGLE MAN

Based on the book by **Christopher Isherwood**
Director and Choreographer **Jonathan Watkins**
Music by **John Grant** and **Jasmin Kent Rodgman**

2–6 JUL

AVIVA STUDIOS

Ticketed

dance, music, theatre

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.

Access Facilities:

Accessible Parking
Accessible Toilet
Assistance Animal Facilities
BSL Interpretation
Captioning
Changing Places Toilet
Chill Out Space
Wheelchair Accessible

A Royal Ballet and Factory International co-production.

FALE SĀ/SACRED HOUSE FAFSWAG

4 JUL – 10 AUG

HOME

Free exhibition, some events ticketed
art, film, installation, performance

Critically acclaimed Queer

Indigenous collective **FAFSWAG** take over HOME with an always-on exhibition of digital art, moments of live cultural ceremony and a programme of indigenous cinema and public discussions. Grounded in Pacific identity and culture, *FALE SĀ / SACRED HOUSE* explores themes like transformation and ritual, fantasy and futurism, the environment, cultural languages and spirituality.

Access Facilities:

Accessible Parking

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

Commissioned by HOME and Factory International. Produced by Factory International. SAUNIGA (cultural ceremony) was developed with support from Asia TOPA, Arts Centre Melbourne.

AND NOW I KNOW WHAT LOVE IS **Blackhaine**

9–19 JUL

DIECAST

Ticketed

dance, music, art

Internationally acclaimed artist and choreographer **Blackhaine** presents 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.

Access Facilities:

Accessible Toilet
Assistance Animal Facilities
Audio Description
Captioning
Wheelchair Accessible
What to Expect Guide

Commissioned and produced by Factory International.

LIBERATION

Written by **Ntombizodwa Nyoni**

Directed by **Monique Touko**

27 JUN – 26 JUL

ROYAL EXCHANGE THEATRE

Ticketed

theatre

It's 15 October 1945, Manchester. Africa's freedom and future is in the hands of her descendants at the fifth Pan African Congress. Inspired by true events, this powerful new play traces the private lives of activists who fought to liberate Africa and explores why their story remains relevant in 2025.

Access Facilities:

Accessible Parking

Accessible Toilet

Assistance Animal Facilities

Assistive Listening

BSL Interpretation

Captioning

Wheelchair Accessible

Commissioned by the Royal Exchange Theatre. Produced by the Royal Exchange Theatre and Factory International

THE HERDS

The Walk Productions

3–5 JUL

MANCHESTER CITY CENTRE | HEYWOOD | LEIGH

Free, no booking required

art, family, performance

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.

MIF25 OPENING EVENT - 3 JUL

Access Facilities:

Accessible Parking

Accessible Toilet

Assistance Animal Facilities

Audio Description

Wheelchair Accessible

What to Expect Guide

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 and Rochdale Development Agency, and Wigan Council. MIF25 Opening Event created in partnership with Manchester Camerata.

A SYMPHONY OF FLESH AND BONES

Juliet Ellis

10–13 JUL

AVIVA STUDIOS

Ticketed

art, film, installation

In this contemplative new film and installation, artist **Juliet Ellis** deconstructs the relationship between our body, mind and self, using her family history to both probe and provoke universal questions.

Access Facilities:

Accessible Parking
Accessible Toilet
Assistance Animal Facilities
Changing Places Toilet
Chill Out Space
Wheelchair Accessible
What to Expect Guide

Commissioned and produced by Factory International.

AN INHERITANCE

Beckie Darlington, Andy Field and Rosabel Tan

4 JUL – 2 NOV

MANCHESTER ART GALLERY

Free, no booking required

exhibition, family friendly, art

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 from schools across Greater Manchester.

Access Facilities:

Accessible Parking
Accessible Toilet
Assistance Animal Facilities

Captioning
Chill Out Space
Wheelchair Accessible
What to Expect Guide

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

BALMY ARMY × BALMY UKRAINE

8–10 JUL
CONTACT

Free, some events ticketed
exhibition, family, art

Balmy Army, Manchester's art, activism and mutual care project for young people, is back to heal and help our mental health. For MIF25, they're connecting with young people from Ukraine for a special takeover of Contact.

Access Facilities:

Accessible Parking
Accessible Toilet
Assistance Animal Facilities
Wheelchair Accessible

A project by 'the vacuum cleaner' in partnership with Contact. Presented as part of Manchester International Festival 2025. Originally commissioned and produced by HOME and Factory International for Manchester International Festival 2023.

A POSSIBILITY
Germaine Kruip

17–20 JUL
ROYAL NORTHERN COLLEGE OF MUSIC
Ticketed
music, art, performance, theatre

Transforming the theatre space into a world of wonder, **Germaine Kruip** invites audiences to transcend the immediate and explore a world of infinite possibilities. Featuring new compositions by British composer **Emily Howard** and American composer and sound designer **Hahn Rowe**.

Access Facilities:

Accessible Parking
Accessible Toilet
Assistance Animal Facilities
Assistive Listening
Audio Description
Wheelchair Accessible
What to Expect Guide

Commissioned and produced by Factory International.

HALLÉ: SOUNDS OF THE EAST with **Singapore Chinese Orchestra**

6 JUL
THE BRIDGEWATER HALL
Ticketed
music, performance

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*.

Access Facilities:

Accessible Parking
Accessible Toilet
Assistance Animal Facilities
Assistive Listening
Wheelchair Accessible

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

SANTIAGO YAHUARCANI

4 JUL 2025 – 4 JAN 2026
THE WHITWORTH
Free, no booking required
art, exhibition

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

Access Facilities:

Accessible Parking
Accessible Toilet
Assistance Animal Facilities
Chill Out Space
Wheelchair Accessible

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

SHILPA GUPTA: UNTITLED

4–20 JUL

R-KIX PERFORMANCE CENTRE, ROCHDALE

Free, no booking required

art, exhibition

Artist **Shilpa Gupta** connects and collects stories with different communities to create a thought-provoking sound installation in Rochdale about absence, longing, belonging and hope.

Access Facilities:

Accessible Parking

Accessible Toilet

Assistance Animal Facilities

Audio Description

Wheelchair Accessible

What to Expect Guide

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

VENTURE ARTS: MICHAEL BEARD

4–20 JUL

AVIVA STUDIOS

Free, booking required for some sessions

exhibition, family, art

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.

Access Facilities:

Accessible Parking
Accessible Toilet
Assistance Animal Facilities
Captioning
Changing Places Toilet
Chill Out Space
Relaxed Performance
Wheelchair Accessible
What to Expect Guide

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

FACTORY SETTINGS

AVIVA STUDIOS

Free, no booking required
art

Factory Settings returns for MIF25 with a new project by award-winning design studio **Superflux**.

Marking the beginning of a long-term partnership, which will explore the ecological future of Aviva Studios' post-industrial site, the collaboration will launch with an augmented reality experience on the Factory Settings app.

Factory Settings is a free AR app – choose a particular lens and inhabit experiences crafted by artists. What might you discover?

Commissioned and produced by Factory International.

MUSIC & MORE

4–20 JUL

AVIVA STUDIOS

art, music

The incredible acoustics of Aviva Studios will play host to our MIF25 music programme while **Festival Square** – 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.

Access Facilities:

Accessible Parking
Accessible Toilet
Assistance Animal Facilities
Changing Places Toilet
Chill Out Space
Wheelchair Accessible

ACCESS KEY



Accessible
Parking



Audio
Description



Chill Out
Space



Accessible
Toilet



BSL
Interpretation



Relaxed
Performance



Assistance Animal
Facilities



Captioning



What to
Expect Guide



Assistive
Listening



Changing
Places Toilet



Wheelchair
Accessible

YOUR SUPPORT MAKES AN IMPACT

We believe in a world that is more equitable, accessible and representative. For us, this means pushing the boundaries of art in all its forms, throwing open the doors to our sector,

challenging established ways of thinking about skills development, and refusing to accept the status quo.

With your support, we can transform this bold vision into a living, breathing reality. Are you ready to make an impact with us?

Visit factoryinternational.org/support to find out more.

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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.

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