



Left and Right images courtesy of Scottish Ballet.

Center image: Martin Creed. Work No. 3435 EVERYTHING IS GOING TO BE ALRIGHT. 2020 © Martin Creed. All Rights Reserved, DACS 2023. Photo: Sim Canetty-Clarke

Healing Arts Scotland 2024

Scottish Ballet and the Jameel Arts & Health Lab announce national campaign with global reach in collaboration with the World Health Organisation (WHO), which will launch as part of the Edinburgh International Festival 2024.

- Following Healing Arts activations in London, New York, Houston, Venice, Jaipur, Lagos and Riyadh, **Healing Arts Scotland** will be the first ever nationwide Healing Arts campaign.
- The week-long program will launch on **19th August 2024** as part of the **Edinburgh International Festival** and include dialogues, performances, exhibitions, workshops and a series of high-profile policy convenings.
- The aim of the week is to mobilise and strengthen local arts and health projects and organisations to address Scotland's current health concerns, focusing on four priority areas where existing evidence demonstrates the arts can have a measurable impact: **loneliness & isolation, mental health in younger people, dementia, and mental health in prisons.**
- Organisations and groups across Scotland are now invited to join Healing Arts Scotland by registering their proposed activity at www.healingartsscotland.org

Healing Arts Scotland 2024 is a country-wide week-long activation celebrating and advocating for improved physical, mental and social health through the arts. Spearheaded by **Scottish Ballet** as part of the **Jameel Arts & Health Lab**'s global 'Healing Arts' campaign in collaboration with the **World Health Organisation**, the one-week activation event will be produced in partnership with a national coalition of organisations across culture, science, health, education and government.

The initiative will launch on 19th August 2024 as part of the **Edinburgh International Festival** and will include celebratory performances, exhibitions, public art programmes, workshops, dialogues, media partnerships and a high-profile policy conference.

Alongside Scottish Ballet and the Edinburgh International Festival, current partners helping to shape the week include **Luminate, Health and Social Care Alliance (ALLIANCE), Intercultural Youth Scotland, Scottish Opera, Sistema Scotland, National Galleries of Scotland, International Teaching Artists Collaborative, Healthcare Improvement Scotland, Imagine, Independence, Mental Health Foundation Scotland, Tonic Arts, The University of Edinburgh and Arts Culture Health & Wellbeing Scotland**. Other organisations and groups are now invited to join Healing Arts Scotland by registering their proposed activity, project or event in November 2023. Sign-up will be facilitated via an online portal: www.healingartsscotland.org

WHO Arts & Health Lead / Co-Director, Jameel Arts & Health Lab, **Christopher Bailey** said:

"Many cities around the world have taken part in our series of Healing Arts activations, but I am excited to see Scotland taking a truly national approach. Scotland's unique sense of community, its embrace of all art forms, and its commitment to health for all promise to be an exciting combination. I can't wait to participate and see what the communities come up with."

Scottish Ballet CEO/Artistic Director, **Christopher Hampson** said:

"Healing Arts Scotland 2024 will be an inspirational week-long celebration of the huge impact the arts has on the nation's health and well-being. Scottish Ballet is proud to be leading on this global outreach project in collaboration with the WHO and a host of partner organisations throughout Scotland."

Edinburgh International Festival CEO **Francesca Hegyi** said:

"The Edinburgh International Festival is proud to be part of the first ever nationwide Healing Arts campaign in Scotland. This is an important dialogue to help address health inequalities across the country and we look forward to facilitating those conversations throughout August."

Notes to Editors:

About Healing Arts:

Healing Arts is the global outreach campaign of the **Jameel Arts & Health Lab** in collaboration with the **World Health Organization (WHO)**. The Lab was established in 2023 by the WHO Regional Office for Europe, the Steinhardt School at New York University, Community Jameel, and CULTURUNNERS to coordinate and amplify scientific research into the effectiveness of the arts in improving health and wellbeing. Leveraging data, artist-led advocacy and a global 'Healing Arts' campaign. The Lab aims to drive policy implementation across 193 UN member states. The four major strands of the Jameel Arts and Health Lab are:

- Research – Rigorous studies to demonstrate measurable impact
 - Outreach – Events and communications campaigns to engage the public
 - Policy – Government engagement to drive policy implementation
 - Capacity Building – Arts & Health training and resources for practitioners and researchers
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About Scottish Ballet

- Scottish Ballet, founded in 1969, is Scotland's national dance company. Based in Glasgow, the company performs regularly across Scotland, throughout the UK and internationally – promoting Scotland's pioneering spirit far and wide.
- Scottish Ballet is a National Centre for Dance Health delivering specialised programmes for those living with dementia, Parkinson's, MS and Long Covid
- Under CEO/Artistic Director Christopher Hampson, Scottish Ballet presents bold, adventurous performances rooted in strong classical technique, accompanied by the Scottish Ballet Orchestra. The company's broad repertoire includes new versions of the classics and ground-breaking commissions, both on stage and screen.
- Scottish Ballet runs an extensive engagement programme, tailored to the needs of diverse communities, promoting confidence, fostering wellbeing, and encouraging creativity through dance.
- Scottish Ballet is funded by the Scottish Government.
- For more information, visit: scottishballet.co.uk

About Edinburgh International Festival

- Edinburgh International Festival is a global celebration of performing arts, bringing the finest performers of dance, opera, music and theatre from around the world to Edinburgh for three weeks every August.
- The International Festival's impact also extends beyond the annual programme, with community learning, engagement and professional development programmes running throughout the year, contributing to the cultural and social life of Edinburgh and Scotland.
- For more information, visit: www.eif.co.uk

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