



## Skimstone Arts

**Friday 4 to Sunday 6  
March 2022**

A FREE family festival of music and arts celebrating community, nature and social action.

Take part in events on:  
**Friday 4 March, 5pm**  
Brinkburn Street Brewery, NE6 1NW

**Saturday 5 March, 10am to 6pm**  
Brinkburn Street Brewery & St Silas' Church  
in Byker NE6 1PG

**Sunday 6 March 10am to 6pm**  
Brinkburn Street Brewery & Seven Stories,  
The National Centre for Children's Books,  
NE1 2PQ

## UNITY Festival '22

UNITY Festival is back for a weekend of FREE live music, performance, arts, exhibitions, stories and workshops. Festival-goers of all ages can take part in a jam-packed programme of events to celebrate community, nature and social action.

From playful percussion, joyful African dance workshops and a pop-up choir to nest building, origami, pledge flags and pottery making sessions, this is a chance to come together to explore music, arts and nature.

**All ages welcome.**



## Saturday 5 March Main Stage at Brinkburn Street Brewery, Bar & Kitchen

### UNITY Festival 2022 Welcome 10am

Join Skimstone Arts' Artistic Director Claire Webster Saaremetts as she welcomes everyone to this year's Festival.

**Location:** Live at Brinkburn Street Brewery and via Facebook Live

**Duration:** 10 mins



### Change of Life exhibition 10am - 7pm

Visit a special exhibition in the yurt where Byker residents share special places on a Byker to Ouseburn trail, that show dreams beyond our everyday lives, working with photographer Ako Ismail.

**Location:** Brinkburn Brewery

**Duration:** All day

### Mindful Movement 10.10am

Begin the day in style with a gentle and playful body and senses warm up with Martim ready for a full day of UNITY Festival.

**Location:** Live at Brinkburn Street Brewery and via Facebook Live

**Duration:** 30 mins



### Stickman's World of Rhythms & Sounds

**11am**

Join David 'Stickman' Higgins on a rhythm adventure. Explore sounds that the body can create inspired from nature and the nurture of everyday life in an energetic morning of interactive musical play.

**Location:** Live at Brinkburn Street Brewery and via Facebook Live

**Duration:** 1 hr

### UNITY Singers Performance 12.30pm

Be immersed in the sounds of Newcastle's newest choir UNITY Singers as they perform brand new songs about community, nature and social action led by community musician Bethany Elen Coyle.

**Location:** Live at Brinkburn Street Brewery and via Facebook Live

**Duration:** 10 mins

### African Joy - Dance with Your Soul

**1.30pm**

Feel alive as Ghanaian musician and choreographer Nii Kwarty Owoo leads Festival-goers on a joyful exploration into African dance techniques.

**Location:** Live at Brinkburn Street Brewery and via Facebook Live

**Duration:** 1 hr



Miranda Krestovnikoff image © Frances Gard

### Youth Music Showcase 2.45pm

Listen to new music by young aspiring bands from across the North East as Skimstone Arts' young band Reality Boots, Standing Upright from North Tyneside and Jack Drum Arts share new songs inspired by climate change and humanity.

**Location:** Live at Brinkburn Street Brewery and via Facebook Live

**Duration:** 1 hr 15 mins



### Stories with Steve 4pm

Join the brilliant Steve Drayton as he shares Festival-goer highlights captured in UNITY Festival's very own Radio Booth.

**Location:** Live at Brinkburn Street Brewery and via Facebook Live

**Duration:** 15 mins

## UNITY Festival 2022 Headliners

### Rzgar Hama Rauf 4.15pm

Meet international composer Rzgar as he shares his specially composed music for UNITY Festival 2022 featuring traditional instruments and the human voice live from Kurdistan, Iraq.

**Location:** Live from Kurdistan, Iraq at Brinkburn Street Brewery and via Facebook Live

**Duration:** 30 mins

### Miranda Kresovnikoff 5pm

Hear TV presenter, author and President of the RSPB Miranda Krestovnikoff live from Bristol as she shares stories and experiences about her work with RSPB, nature and the environment.

**Location:** Live from Bristol at Brinkburn Street Brewery and via Facebook Live

**Duration:** 40 mins



### Stories with Steve 5.45pm

Join the brilliant Steve Drayton as he shares Festival-goer highlights captured in UNITY Festival's very own Radio Booth.

**Location:** Live at Brinkburn Street Brewery and via Facebook Live  
**Duration:** 15 mins

### Festival Highlights

Listen to highlights from Day 1 of UNITY Festival and find out what is still to come what's on tomorrow live via Skimstone Arts' community radio station Skimstone Radio.

**Location:** Broadcast live via Skimstone Radio at [www.skimstone.org.uk](http://www.skimstone.org.uk)  
**Duration:** 20 mins

## St Silas' Church, Byker



### UNITY Singers 10.45am

Explore the joy of singing in a unique pop up choir and create, shape and share new songs celebrating community, nature and social action created especially for UNITY Festival 2022 with community musician Bethany Ellen Coyle.

**Location:** St Silas' Church, Byker  
**Duration:** 1hr 30mins



### Plant Pots of Sunshine 1.30pm

Join North East Wilds and learn how to turn waste-wood into beautiful plant pots. Start from scratch or decorate a readymade pot and finish it off by planting Basil seeds. Then, with a little water and sunshine, enjoy fresh leaves from a UNITY Festival Basil plant.

**Location:** St Silas' Church, Byker  
**Duration:** 1hr



### Fly the Flag 2.45pm

Come and make specially printed flags to celebrate UNITY Festival and pledge an action for our world with printmaker Catherine Hodson.

**Location:** St Silas' Church, Byker  
**Duration:** 1hr 15 mins

### 4pm Festival continues at Brinkburn Brewery

#### Origami Butterflies 10am - 4pm

Come and sit with Emile and learn to make special butterflies to remind us of insects affected by global warming.

**Location:** Brinkburn Brewery

## Sunday 6 March Main Stage at Brinkburn Street Brewery, Bar & Kitchen

### UNITY Festival 2022 Welcome 10am

Join Skimstone Arts' Artistic Director Claire Webster Saaremetts as she welcomes everyone back to the Festival.

**Location:** Live at Brinkburn Street Brewery and via Facebook Live  
**Duration:** 10 mins

### Change of Life exhibition 10am - 7pm

Visit a special exhibition in the yurt where Byker residents share special places on a Byker to Ouseburn trail, that show dreams beyond our everyday lives, working with photographer Ako Ismail.

**Location:** Brinkburn Brewery  
**Duration:** All day

### Mindful Movement 10.10am

Begin the day in style with a gentle and playful body and senses warm up with Martim ready for a full day of UNITY Festival.

**Location:** Live at Brinkburn Street Brewery and via Facebook Live  
**Duration:** 30 mins

### Pottery Wheel

#### Drop in from 10.45am to 2.45pm

Come and try your hand at making a pot with Will Benson from Kid's Kabin.

**Location:** Brinkburn Street Brewery  
**Duration:** Drop in from 10.45am to 2.45pm

### Stickman's World of Rhythms & Sounds 11am

Join David 'Stickman' Higgins on a rhythm adventure. Explore sounds that the body can create inspired from nature and the nurture of everyday life in an energetic morning of interactive musical play.

**Location:** Live at Brinkburn Street Brewery and via Facebook Live  
**Duration:** 1 hr



### African Joy - Dance with Your Soul 1.30pm

Feel alive as Ghanaian musician and choreographer Nii Kwarty Owoo leads Festival-goers on a joyful exploration into African dance techniques.

**Location:** Live at Brinkburn Street Brewery and via Facebook Live  
**Duration:** 1 hr

### Youth Music Approaches to Songwriting 2.45pm

What is it like to write a song? Come and hear about the different ways to make songs about the world that matters with Skimstone Arts' Lead Musician Peter Saaremetts and Music Leader Susie Jones as well as members from Skimstone Arts' young band Reality Boots and Standing Upright from North Tyneside.

**Location:** Live at Brinkburn Street Brewery and via Facebook Live  
**Duration:** 45 mins  
**Suitability:** Age 10+





### Boxed In - Special Film Screening 3.30pm

Be the first to see the World Premiere of a new film short about recognising humanity beyond the warehouse world created by John-Paul Goossens, Phillip Melody, supported by videographer Shaho Omar.

**Location:** Live at Brinkburn Street Brewery and via Facebook Live

**Duration:** 10 mins



### Headliners Finding Your Inner Superhero 4pm

Join Drag Castle's Frida and Ivy, two of Newcastle's most popular drag queens, as they take to the stage with an inspiring and hilarious performance exploring who inspired them to become superheroes today.

**Location:** Live at Brinkburn Street Brewery and via Facebook Live

**Duration:** 45 mins



### Uninventing Hate 5pm

Listen to a specially commissioned short poetry monologue sets in old Ghanaian era that throws light on the struggles, pains, fights and the victories of an adjoining villages who had to battle their way from a colonizer who captured and ruled them for over 50 years.

**Location:** Live at Brinkburn Street Brewery and via Facebook Live

**Duration:** 10 mins

### Asasaa Ensemble 5.30pm

Bringing UNITY Festival 2022 to a close is Asasaa Ensemble. Led by Nii Kwartey Owoo don't miss this electrifying performance of music, infused with global and afrocentric sounds, vibrant rhythms and infectious joy.

**Location:** Live at Brinkburn Street Brewery and via Facebook Live & Skimstone Radio

**Duration:** 1 hr



### Festival Highlights 6.45pm

Listen to highlights from UNITY Festival 2022 and look back at a weekend of community, nature and social action with Claire Webster Saaremets and artists from the weekend live via Skimstone Arts' community radio station Skimstone Radio.

**Location:** Broadcast live via Skimstone Radio at [www.skimstone.org.uk](http://www.skimstone.org.uk)

**Duration:** 15 mins

## Seven Stories, The National Centre for Children's Books

### Face Painting & Henna Art Drop in from 11am to 4pm

Have your face painted with a favourite animal from nature with Monica Wilson and get your hands decorated with Henna art which promotes luck and happiness with artist Gurbax.

**Location:** Seven Stories, The National Centre for Children's Books



### Eggs, Nests & Calls 10.45am

Make a nest "on the wing" using spell-poems from *Lost Spells*, a pocket-sized treasure from Robert MacFarlane and Jackie Morris, packed full of interesting facts and activities. A workshop for all to look after bird life around them. FREE event but a suggested donation of £5 to Seven Stories would be welcomed.

**Location:** Seven Stories, The National Centre for Children's Books

**Duration:** 1 hr

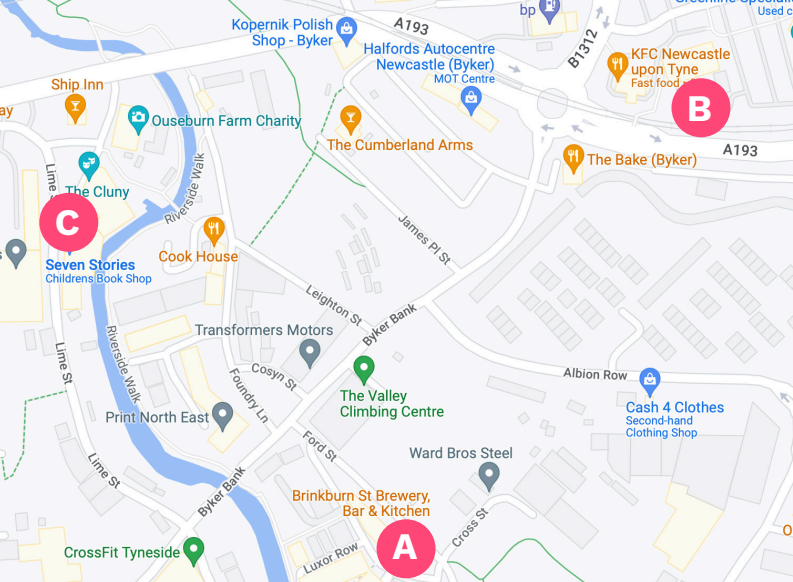
### Fly the Flag 1.30pm & 2.45pm

Come and make specially printed flags to celebrate UNITY Festival and pledge an action for our world with printmaker Catherine Hodson.

**Location:** Seven Stories, The National Centre for Children's Books

**Duration:** Drop in from 1.30pm to 2.30pm and 2.45pm to 4pm





## Unity Festival 2022 Venues

**A** - Brinkburn Street Brewery, NE6 1NW

**B** - St Silas' Church, Byker NE6 1PG

**C** - Seven Stories, The National Centre for Children's Books, NE1 2PQ

## What did you think?

At Skimstone Arts it is important for us to find out what you thought about UNITY Festival 2022 to help us plan and improve for UNITY Festival 2023.

Please share any thoughts with us via social media using **#UNITYFestival2022**, email **info@skimstone.org.uk** or complete a feedback form at any UNITY Festival 2022 event.

**This festival is FREE however any donations to support further Skimstone Arts work would be welcomed.**



@Skimstone\_Arts



@SkimstoneArtsEnsemble



@skimstonearts

## Thanks

### Byker Commissioning Group

Thank you to Loretta, Stacey, Steven, Penny, Angela, J and Sophia who have worked with us over the last 6 weeks to help plan, programme, organise and event manage UNITY Festival 2022. This was made possible with funding from Well Newcastle Gateshead.

### UNITY Festival 2022 has been made possible with in kind support from:

- Brinkburn Street Brewery, Bar & Kitchen
- St Silas', Byker
- Seven Stories, The National Centre for Children's Book
- Stepney Bank Stables
- Kids Kabin
- Ouseburn Trust
- Byker Sands

**#UnityFestival2022**

**www.skimstone.org.uk**

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Well Newcastle Gateshead

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