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# COBALT





COBALTSTUDIOS.CO.UK

# SUMMER SEASON









## 2026

## APR 20 - JUN 21

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# IT'S SUMMER!

## HELLO!

### Welcome to our summer programme!

For 9 weeks from April 20th, we've got events 6 or 7 days a week, packed full of lots of exciting music and happenings!
As always, there is lots of experimental, hard-to-pigeonhole type music sitting alongside a rich offering for the jazz-curious, and particularly this summer, we see some really exciting club nights for the heads amongst you! A quick note to older dancers here too..... Come and reclaim the dancefloor, because you are never ever too old to dance!

We have had a bonkers busy winter re-designing our website & developing a membership scheme, delivering pop-up gigs in our local community, fundraising, and in particular growing our programme of open access electronic music for young people – in-house and increasingly also outside Cobalt.

In many ways, it's quite an extreme time for us. We are very excited to be working with the council on a new project in town, which we hope will help to stabilize the wider ecosystem, at the same time as offering more opportunities to a wider audience to benefit from cultural opportunities (see page 4). On the other hand, we continue to urgently need to find ways to protect the live music programme at Cobalt, which, despite endless conversations about the importance of grassroots music and how we must protect it, still continues to be a daily struggle to make happen in any shape or form. We are now impatiently waiting for all of the ongoing talk about making things easier to translate to some reality on the ground that is tangible and where things actually start to feel more manageable, and which ensures that grassroots live music can continue to be supported in all the ways it deserves.

In the meantime, a very heartfelt thank you to all those of you who get what we do, show up & support, and if you haven't been down yet – we really hope to say hello soon!

COBALT

## // SAVE THE DATES // SUMMER PARTIES //

### 28/MAY - 04/JUN

**Artist in Residence: Conrad Singh**



### 20/JUN

**Midsummer Closing Party w. Matthias**




### 25 - 26/JUL

**Pride Weekend**



WATCH OUR WEBSITE FOR DETAILS

### 21/SEP

**Autumn Reopening**



...AND WE MAY DO SOME OTHER POP-UP SUMMER PARTIES, KEEP YOUR EYES PEELED!

## TICKETS TO ALL OF OUR WEEKLY EVENTS...

OPEN HOUSE ↘

LEARN & DO ↘

FRESH ↘

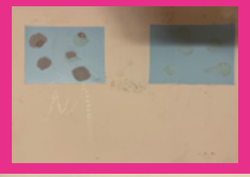
ALL LIVE MUSIC ↘

CLUB NIGHTS ↘



# COMING SOON... COBALT CENTRAL!





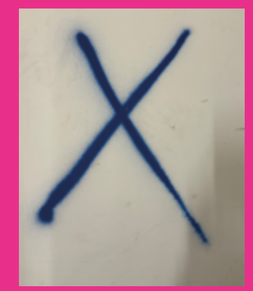






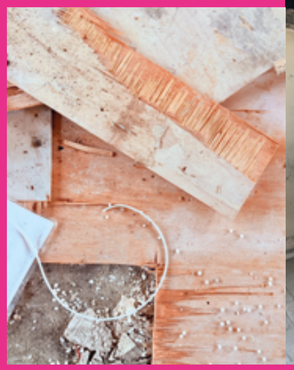












We are working with Creative Central: NCL on an exciting new project in the centre of town which will mainly consist of affordable artist studios, a small gallery space and a 'People's Studio' for workshops & learning. It will be a CIC & not-for-profit just as we are currently, and we will aim to make access to culture easy & affordable by subsidising costs with a café on the ground floor.

Currently, Creative Central are renovating the building and we will sign a lease soon – ready to take over and open at some point in the Autumn '26.

# DO & LEARN

## MON (MAKE SPACE)

### Wild Ouseburn Safari: Talk & Wildlife Wander

20 APR

7PM / £3-9

Join Heather from Wild Intrigue to explore Ouseburn Woods and City Stadium and discover springtime wildlife of the valley. A lush wildlife walk, with a chance to find out more about the nature restoration work of the Wild Ouseburn project.

### Gong Bath w. Tracey West

27 APR | 25 MAY | 15 JUN

7PM / £10-14

Affordable gong bath with Tracey West, an immersive sonic massage and a cellular cleanse for your mind, body and soul. You can lay down and rest in stillness, stretch or move while experiencing cascading layers of sound.

### A Night of Balfolk

04 MAY | 01 JUN

6.30PM / PAYF

From French partner dancing to Greek wedding choreographies. Cozy atmosphere, slow dancing and flowy moves with time to breathe and sink into the step. Focusing on European folk dance (balfolk), the DIY Ceilidh team will teach dances and play music for this connective night.

### Space in Between: Deep Listening Meditation

11 MAY

7PM / £5-10 SUGG.

A moment of stillness in an ever-rushing world. No phones, no talking, no bright lights; just candles, incense, tea, guided meditation and a flowing soundscape of ambient music, taking you on a journey of deep listening, collective rest and introspection.

### Bollywood & Belly Dance and Dahl

18 MAY

7PM / £12-16

Bollywood & Belly dance offers a fun saucy calorie-burning body workout. Simple moves with great results. You will be smiling all the way through. After dancing we will provide a simple bowl of dahl & bread for all. Suitable for all levels.

### Voice Activation w. Fay Barton

08 JUN

7PM / £10

Voice Activation taps into the magic that we hold within ourselves. Anyone can do it, at any time. If you're curious about working with your voice via a simple mindful technique, then this session is for you. The workshop will also include throat chakra healing techniques & meditation.

## TUES (MAKE MUSIC)

### Open House: Play

**(Every Tues in Co-working)**

21 APR | 28 APR | 05 MAY | 12 MAY | 19 MAY | 26 MAY | 02 JUN | 09 JUN | 16 JUN

7PM / £5 SUGG.

An open invitation to everybody to come and make spontaneous improvised music. No musical background needed; listeners also welcome.

### L.A.D.S (Ladies & Decks)

21 APR | 12 MAY | 09 JUN

6PM / £5 SUGG.

Ladies' open decks & social. Calling all women/gender non-conforming folks who DJ or want to learn to DJ! Meet like-minded people who love music and learn through chatting, mixing, sharing notes and generally addressing the lack of women/GNC artists on the decks.

### Freshly Squeezed Open Mic

24 FEB | 24 MAR

6PM / £3 SUGG.

Freshly Squeezed returns! A welcoming monthly open mic night at Cobalt led by Jayne Dent (aka Me Lost Me), listeners and performers all welcome. Arrive early to secure a slot!

### Open Circuit: Music Makers' Social

05 MAY

6PM / £5 SUGG.

Cosy social and pop-up studio for producers & the musically curious. Bring your synths and WIPs – there will be gear to play with, friendly advice & feedback, a jam session, and a rare opportunity to hear your tracks on a lush club sound system. Open to all skill levels.

### Sacred Harp Singing Workshop w. Phil Tyler

19 MAY

7PM / £5 SUGG.

Learn the basics of Sacred Harp/ Shape Note singing, a form of social harmony singing. Inclusive and non-denominational, singers of all faiths and none. Anyone is welcome to come along and join in, it's easy & beautiful!

### Radical Choir w. Bethany Elen

02 JUN

7PM / £5-9

If hope is a muscle, join us as we explore our mutual strength through music, creating connections and community through collaborative song. All welcome – no previous choir experience is necessary.

## WEDS (MAKE ART)

### Life Drawing

22 APR | 06 MAY | 03 JUN | 17 JUN

6.30PM / £9

Chilled life drawing in a relaxed environment with gentle music, colourful lighting, fully licensed bar & hot drinks. No judgement – just drawings.

### The Queer Life Drawing Experience w. Mark Bletcher

29 APR

6.30PM / £10-14

Take turns as model (clothed) and artist, using non-traditional materials like coloured markers and pens to reimagine and 'queer' the life drawing process in a supportive & inclusive space.

### Introduction to Leathercraft w. Minuel Designs

13 MAY

6.30PM / £5-15

A fun evening of crafting, which will teach you the foundational skills for designing leather accessories and shoemaking. Through demonstrations and guided practice, you will learn how to work with leather, use professional tools and complete a small leather accessory from start to finish.

### Downtempo Collage Café

27 MAY

6.30PM / £5-9

Downtempo soundscape backdrop, access to lots of old Cobalt posters for collaging & simple food available. Come along on your own or with friends for an evening of making art and connections.

### DIY Rubber Stamp Zine Workshop w. Stephen Fowler

10 JUN

6.30PM / £10-14

Learn how to make DIY rubber stamps from erasers and simple zine structures. You'll leave the workshop with a number of simple zines featuring the groups stamps, Fowler's archive and your own unique creations.





# SUNDAY SPECIALS

## 26/APR

### Ni Maxine + Westy



7PM / £10–16

Neo Jazz from Ni Maxine with a blend of conscious lyricism, rich story telling & an unshakeable sense of self as she untangles her transatlantic roots.

NEO-JAZZ / SOUL

## 03 + 31/MAY

### NUJO Jazz Jam



7PM / £3

Student-run lively jazz jam event with a party atmosphere. Bring your instrument and join in, or just come along to scream the words – everyone's welcome!

JAZZ CLASSICS / FUNKY BEATS / IMPROV / COME AND JAM

## 03/MAY

### Junki Inoue All Night Long



10.30PM / £10–16

Born in Tokyo but now deeply meshed in the UK scene, Junki is a dedicated digger, Toi Toi & Cartulis regular who is well loved for his precise, spare, elegant, hypnotic, but warm & welcoming selections.

DEEP HYPNOTIC SPIRITUAL ELECTRONICA

## 24/MAY

### DBT. Presents: Thomas Melchior



11PM / £10–17

DBT. announces its first headline event in Newcastle with the one and only Thomas Melchior. Minimal house veteran with productions spanning back 30 years and legendary Perlon resident, he is not one to be missed.

MINIMAL / MICROHOUSE / HYPNOTIC PROGRESSIONS

## 07/JUN

### Marrapalooza: World and Traditional Music





1PM–LATE / £15–60

Local festival Marrapalooza collates a Sunday afternoon of sounds from all around the world from Palestine Sound Archive, Transylvanian Ceilidh, Mandrake Handshake, Hromada Collective, Jawari & Crescent.

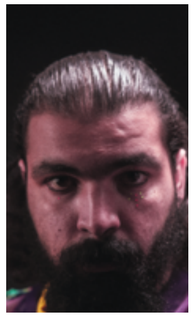
BALKAN FOLK / SITAR JAZZ / UKRAINIAN CHORAL / PALESTINIAN DANCE



# FRESH

WEEKLY BRAND NEW MUSIC, DINNER & BOARD GAMES
-
DOORS 7PM / £8-15

## 23/APR



### Yunis + KAU

Psychedelic, mind melding, synthetic traditions where ritual meets electronics & genre blending jazz from Brussels. A big bold start to the new FRESH season.

JAZZ / ELECTRONIC / ARABIC / TRANCE / GLOBAL

## 30/APR



### Laura Wilkie & Ian Carr + Will Finn & Rosie Calvert

Ancient women's work songs and traditional music driven tunes, torn apart. Teased into new shapes and stitched back together with passion & humour.

FOLK / ROOTS / NEWTRAD

## 07/MAY



### Perry Frank + Tullis Rennie

A hybrid of club music, acoustic improv, trombone & field recordings inspired by global warming, AI, deepfakes & Kate Bush. Ambient post-rock guitar loops creating atmospheric, immersive soundscapes.

ELECTRONICA / IMPROV / SYNTHSCAPES / IMMERSIVE

## 14/MAY



### Neo Geodesia + Dan Johnson

French-Cambodian audiovisual artist Saphy Vong brings music & visuals woven from pirated tapes, Khmer pop, karaoke, monk chants and movies. Experimental drumming & performance from Dan Johnson.

GLOBAL / AV / ELECTRONICA / PERCUSSION / EXPERIMENTAL

## 21/MAY

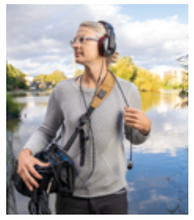


### Tobias Sarra + Church Andrews & Matt Davies

A mutually informed conversation between live electronics and analogue percussion, sonic organisms – semi-mechanical ecosystems.

ELECTRONICA / EXPERIMENTAL / PERCUSSION / MINIMAL / SINGER SONGWRITER

## 28/MAY



### Jesse Beaman + David De La Haye

Contemplative, meditative night of evolving soundscapes & live looping layers from Nicaraguan-American solo musician Jesse Beaman & pioneering hydrophone artist David De La Haye who brings complex aquatic sounds & improvised electronic glitch!

AMBIENT / DEEP LISTENING / GLOBAL / ECOLOGICAL SOUND ART

## 04/JUN

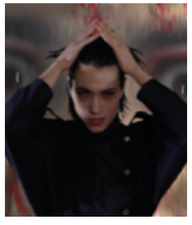


### ICHI + Conrad Singh

One-man band combining quirky handmade instrument inventions (Stilt-bass, Kalilaphone, Balloon-pipes, Hatbox-pedal-drum, Tapumpet, Percussion-shoes & Hattrick-hat) with steel-drum, ping-pong balls, typewriter, toys & everyday objects meets dreamy pop with bells & whistles on it. A magical night.

WITTY / MAGICAL / ALTERNATIVE

## 11/JUN



### Laura Krieg + NOVYI LEF

From France, a synthey, moody beat-driven exploration of the space between melancholy and desire. With analogue synths, brutalist architecture, pounding drum machines and a working-class consciousness, NOVYI LEF produce modernist synth punk for the future we never had.

SYNTH / PUNK / 80'S ATTITUDE / DANCEY

## 18/JUN



### The Aanimals + Angharad Davies & Richard Scott

Meet Eric Unburden, Chuff Chandler & Kittiwake Valentine. The Aanimals are a cool pop group from the early 2020s. Joined by boundary-pushing viola & violin duo for an adventurous double bill.

WILD / MIDSUMMER MADNESS / FREE IMPROV



**NEW MUSIC / HOME COOKED FOOD / BOARD GAMES**



# WHAT IS A FRESH GIG?







**FRESH happens every Thursday during our open seasons & is a platform to bring you fresh new music, served up alongside a homecooked plant-based meal, board games, and candles.**

We do this because it can be hard to get people to take risks and come out to hear music they don't know yet, but all artists and musicians need to start somewhere, and there is such a huge amount of high-quality music out there just waiting to be heard.

These gigs are cosy, community driven, usually seated & more often than not gentle, listening type gigs – but not always! Expect to travel between jazz based music, alt-folk, experimental, electronic, singer-songwriter, and sometimes it's just genre defying.

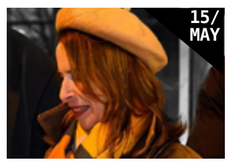
If you buy the gig & dinner ticket, you get a 'one meal suits all' homecooked meal with your ticket. We usually cook the food from scratch and dinner is well suited to lovers of vegetables and wholesome cooking: it's usually something like a dahl, veggie chilli, tacos, roast veg or similar. Our baseline is vegan, sometimes with veggie options; we can cater for nut/gluten free meals, but nuts & gluten are used in the kitchen, so if you have serious allergies, please bear that in mind. If you would like to eat, you have to buy the tickets in advance, as we usually sell out & can't guarantee food once you arrive.

Doors are at 7PM, we aim to get dinner ready by 8PM and will bring it to you when it's ready… Music usually starts around 8PM-ish, sometimes later if it's a busy night for food (we are a tiny team!) and we aim to have the music finished by 10-10.15PM.

If you want to come to the gig only, it's £8 – as always, we are striving to make music available for everybody. We hope/think it's obvious that quality music and dinner for £11 is all about culture & community, and that these events cost us money… If you can afford to purchase a higher level 'Cobalt supporters' ticket and/or drinks at the bar, we appreciate the additional help towards costs very much.

Hope to see you soon x



| | WC 20/04 | WC 27/04 | WC 04/05 | WC 11/05 | WC 18/05 | WC 25/05 | WC 01/06 | WC 08/06 | WC 15/06 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| THURS (FRESH) |  23/ APR<br>**Yunis + KAU**<br>JAZZ / ELECTRONIC / ARABIC /TRANCE / GLOBAL |  30/ APR<br>**Laura Wilkie & Ian Carr + Will Finn & Rosie Calvert**<br>FOLK / ROOTS / NEWTRAD |  07/ MAY<br>**Perry Frank + Tullis Rennie**<br>ELECTRONICA / IMPROV / SYNTHSCAPES / IMMERSIVE |  14/ MAY<br>**Neo Geodesia + Dan Johnson**<br>GLOBAL / AV / ELECTRONICA / PERCUSSION / EXPERIMENTAL |  21/ MAY<br>**Tobias Sarra + Church Andrews & Matt Davies**<br>ELECTRONICA / EXPERIMENTAL PERCUSSION / MINIMAL / SINGER-SONGWRITER |  28/ MAY<br>**Jesse Beaman + David De La Haye**<br>AMBIENT / DEEP LISTENING / GLOBAL / ECOLOGICAL SOUND ART |  04/ JUN<br>**ICHI + Conrad Singh**<br>WITTY / MAGICAL / ALTERNATIVE |  11/ JUN<br>**Laura Krieg + NOVYI LEF**<br>SYNTHEY / PUNK / 80'S ATTITUDE / DANCEY |  18/ JUN<br>**The Aanimals + Angharad Davies & Richard Scott**<br>WILD / MIDSUMMER MADNESS / FREE IMPROV / EXPERIMENTAL |
| FRI (LIVE) |  24/ APR<br>**Ben Vince + The Exu**<br>JAZZ / IMMERSIVE / SOUNDCAPES / IMPROV |  01/ MAY<br>**The Hempolics + Common Unity**<br>REGGAE / DUB / SOUL / HIP HOP / FUSION |  08/ MAY<br>**The Late Shows w. Dele Sosimi, Yoko Pwno & Milne Glendinning Band**<br>TOO MANY GENRES TO MENTION ! FIRST COME FIRST SERVED! |  15/ MAY<br>**Jazz Café presents: Around About Dusk & Milne Glendinning Band**<br>OLD SCHOOL / JAZZ / CAFÉ VIBES |  22/ MAY<br>**C.A.R. + Craig Richards**<br>COLD WAVE / OFF-KILTER SYNTH-POP / LIVE ELECTRONICA |  29/ MAY<br>**Suntou Susso + Izzy Neish**<br>GLOBAL / FOLK / TRADITIONAL / GRIOT MUSIC / KORA |  05/ JUN<br>**Galaxians + Frolic Acid**<br>FUNKY / PUNKY / FREE JAZZ / STREET SOUL / DISCO |  12/ JUN<br>**Violent Magic Orchestra + Zilch Patrol**<br>PERFORMANCE / NOISE / ELECTRONIC / METAL / POST-HARDCORE |  19/ JUN<br>**Ferg's Imaginary Big Band Midsummer Bash + DJs**<br>BIG BAND / JAZZ / PUNK ENERGY / FREE IMPROV |
| FRI (CLUB) |   |  01/ MAY<br>**Lena Willikens & Vladimir Ivkovic All Night Long**<br>UNEXPECTED / WONKY / LEFTFIELD |  08/ MAY<br>**Angel D'lite All Night Long**<br>QUEER / GENRE-BENDING / JOY / HOUSE GROOVES / EUPHORIA |  |  22/ MAY<br>**C.A.R. + Craig Richards**<br>ECLECTIC / UNEXPECTED |  29/ MAY<br>**Shy Bairns presents: Louie G All Night Long**<br>UNDERGROUND / HEADSY / LEFTFIELD CLUB / GENRE-CROSSING |  05/ JUN<br>**Spotty Dog presents: Ste Roberts**<br>DEEP TECHNO / HOUSE / ELECTRONICA / IMMERSIVE |  12/ JUN<br>**TokyoAcidCru 20th Anniversary Live w. Radioactive Man (DJ )**<br>ACID / LIVE SET / OLD SCHOOL / ELECTRO / BREAKS / 303 CUTS |   |
| SAT (LIVE) |  25/ APR<br>**Borokov Borokov + Stevie What?**<br>SURREAL / ALTERNATIVE / BONKERS / ELECTRONICA / PSYCH POP / LOFI |  02/ MAY<br>**Knats + Nauta**<br>NEW GEORDIE JAZZ / FUSION |  09/ MAY<br>**A Night of Vogue w. Newcastle Ballroom Community**<br>QUEER / VOGUE / PUMPING BEATS / BALLROOM |  16/ MAY<br>**Sxxplicit: Newcastle**<br>QUEER / POP-UP CLUB / ALT / POLE DANCE |  23/ MAY<br>**TC & The Groove Family + Lagos to Longbenton**<br>GLOBAL / FUSION / NU-JAZZ / BROKEN BEAT |  30/ MAY<br>**Kate Griffin & Matchume Zango+ Lauren Collier**<br>GLOBAL / FUSION / FOLK /TRAD / ALT-FOLK |  06/ JUN<br>**Marrapalooza: Radical Folk and Song Traditions**<br>FOLK / SONGWRITER / EXPERIMENTAL | <br>**Film Screening: Free Party: A Folk History**<br>DOCUMENTARY / ACID HOUSE / RAVE HISTORY / DANCING REVOLUTION |  20/ JUN<br>**Midsummer Downtempo Open Decks**<br>COMMUNITY / MIDSUMMER / DOWNBEAT / ATMOSPHERIC TEXTURES |
| SAT (CLUB) |  25/ APR<br>**Parris All Night Long**<br>BALEARIC / MINIMAL / NEXT WAVE TECHNO |  02/ MAY<br>**Far North: Locals' Party w. Antony Daly + Justin Mills**<br>ACID HOUSE / TECHNO / ECLECTIC / RARE CUTS FOR YOUR LISTENING PLEASURE |  09/ MAY<br>**Voigtmann All Night Long**<br>MINIMAL HOUSE / LEFTFIELD / ELECTRO / DEEP HOUSE GROOVES |  16/ MAY<br>**Far North presents: Locals Party w. Ms McQ + HeavenandHelen**<br>FUNK / SOUL / WORLD / GQOM / 3STEP / SA HOUSE / AMAPIANO |  23/ MAY<br>**Millie McKee + PIP**<br>PSYCHEDELIC / DUBBY / GOODNESS / DOWNTEMPO / ECLECTIC |  30/ MAY<br>**Strut w. Ralph Lawson**<br>TECH HOUSE / UNDERGROUND CUTS / MINIMAL / HYPNOTIC GROOVE |  06/ JUN<br>**Dr Horn All Night Long**<br>ELECTRO / FUNK / HOUSE / DISCO / NEW WAVE / COSMIC FLOURISHES |  13/ JUN<br>**Grace Sands + Spinback Lyle**<br>FUNKY / DEEP HOUSE / QUEER / UK BOUNCE / BREAKS |  20/ JUN<br>**Midsummer Party w. Matthias (Superluminal)**<br>MINIMAL TECHNO / DUBBY HOUSE / PSYCHEDELIC CLUB / LEFTFIELD ELECTRONICA |

WEEKLY BRAND NEW MUSIC GIGS, DINNER & BOARD GAMES. COSY & COMMUNAL. [DOORS 7PM / £8-15]

LIVE MUSIC EVERY FRIDAY NIGHT. [DOORS 7PM / VARIOUS PRICES]

MAKING SPACE FOR THE UNDERGROUND. [DOORS 10.30PM / VARIOUS PRICES]

LIVE MUSIC / POP-UPS & MORE. [DOORS 7PM / VARIOUS PRICES]

MAKING SPACE FOR THE UNDERGROUND. [DOORS 11PM / VARIOUS PRICES]

# FRI LIVE

LIVE MUSIC EVERY FRIDAY NIGHT
-
DOORS 7PM / VARIOUS PRICES

## 24/APR



### Ben Vince + The Exu

Ephemeral landscapes, textural and immersive layers of saxophone, live improv and sonic manipulation from composer & performer Ben Vince. The Exu bring raw, expressive, thought provoking, dynamic energy to their genre-fluid improvised sets.

JAZZ / IMMERSIVE / SOUND-CAPES / FREE IMPROV / EXPERIMENTAL

7PM / £7-13

## 01/MAY



### The Hempolics + Common Unity

A close-knit, family-like group known for a genre-jumping yet cohesive fusion sound, The Hempolics celebrate love, connection, and social themes through infectious rhythms, rich harmonies, and emotive lyrics.

REGGAE / DUB / SOUL / HIP HOP / FUSION / ROOTS

7PM / £10-16

## 08/MAY

### The Late Shows w. Dele Sosimi, Yoko Pwno & Milne Glendinning Band

This year for The Late Shows we bring you a HUGE SELECTION OF TOP CLASS, TOTALLY FREE LIVE MUSIC alongside open studios & other bits and bobs!

Groove, spirit & feel-good Afrobeat original heavyweight Dele Sosimi.
Yoko Pwno, bursting with joyful energy and highly danceable, rocket-fuelled folk fusion. Smooth jazz club vibes from the Milne Glendinning band.

TOO MANY GENRES TO MENTION! FIRST COME FIRST SERVED!

6PM / FREE

## 15/MAY



### Jazz Café presents: Around About Dusk + Milne Glendinning Band

Around About Dusk bring New Orleans jazz, blues, old-time, European folk and roots traditions, brought to life with rich vocal harmonies. Settle down at the Cobalt jazz café, think smoky half light, slinky fresh jazz, candles, café style seating , margaritas, negronis & dinner.

OLD SCHOOL / JAZZ / CAFÉ VIBES

7PM / £7-15

## 22/MAY



### C.A.R. + Craig Richards

For starters, at Craig's suggestion we bring you the fast rising & excellent C.A.R. Travelling between dark & machine-driven to glacial electronic, post-punk & heartwarming, introspective pop, all emoting from a self-confessed crush on far too many genres!

COLD WAVE / OFF-KILTER SYNTH-POP / LIVE ELECTRONICA / PSYCHEDELIC DISCO

9PM / £14-17

## 29/MAY



### Suntou Susso + Izzy Neish

Suntou's music is a bridge between worlds, master of the kora – West African harp whose sounds have enchanted listeners and carried the soul of Mandinka culture for over 7 centuries. Born into a revered lineage of Gambian Griots: historians, storytellers and peacekeepers & rooted in ancient rhythms and spiritual depth, Suntou is both a guardian of the tradition and a bold innovator of its future.

GLOBAL / FOLK / TRADITIONAL / GRIOT MUSIC / KORA

7PM / £10-16

## 05/JUN



### Galaxians + Frolic Acid

Galaxians bring us a futuristic discoey, house-drenched & funky invitation to dance, informed by Latin freestyle, 80s pop and the UK street soul of the early 1990s. Frolic Acid explore heavy riffs, angular grooves, surreal lyrics with a touch of raw aggression, for a dynamic and eclectic sonic experience.

FUNK / PUNK / JAZZ / NEW HOUSE / DISCO

7PM / £7-13

## 12/JUN



### Violent Magic Orchestra + Zilch Patrol

Extreme metal collides with electronic rave culture, blending blast beats with industrial techno and gabber rhythms. Blurring the boundaries between concert, club night, and performance art, VMO deliver a chaotic, high-voltage fusion of sound and visuals, with raging noise rock from Zilch Patrol.

PERFORMANCE / EXPERIMENTAL ELECTRONICA / NOISE / METAL

7PM / £10-£16

## 19/JUN



### Ferg's Imaginary Big Band Midsummer Bash

Bringing big band music kicking and screaming into the 21st century and beyond, this 20+ people band is a key part of the Leeds' independent jazz and experimental music scene, they paved their own way with a relentless enthusiasm and punk ethos. A true Midsummer knees-up!

BIG BAND / JAZZ / FREE IMPROV / PUNK ENERGY

7PM / £7-13



LIVE MUSIC EVERY FRIDAY NIGHT



# FRI CLUB

MAKING SPACE FOR THE UNDERGROUND
-
DOORS 11PM / VARIOUS PRICES



## 01/MAY



### Lena Willikens & Vladimir Ivkovic All Night Long

Two iconic sonic leftfield heroes, a dream B2B we have wanted to bring you for years, delighted to finally be making it happen.

UNEXPECTED / WONKY / LEFTFIELD / STORYTELLING

11PM / £12-17

## 08/MAY



### Angel D'lite All Night Long

Join the colourful universe of Angle D'lite, taking in all shades of rave-horny organs, high camp vocals, big breaks & thumping bass.

QUEER / GENRE-BENDING / JOY / HIGH-NRG / CAKEBEAT

11PM / £11-16



## 22/MAY



### C.A.R. + Craig Richards

He's back & bringing with him one of the hottest live acts around – C.A.R. Released on The Nothing Special, Craig's record label, not much else needs to be said except get your tickets while you can!

ECLECTIC / UNEXPECTED / SONIC JOURNEY

9PM / £14-17

## 29/MAY



### Shy Bairns presents: Louie G All Night Long

Shy Bairns bring Louie G, serious digger & selector, seamless DJ and absolute stalwart of the Manchester party scene, for his Newcastle debut.

RARE CUTS / UNDERGROUND / HEADSY / HOUSE / ELECTRO

11PM / £8-16

## 05/JUN



### Spotty Dog presents: Ste Roberts

Another bold Spotty Dog booking, Ste operates at the intersection of deeper techno, electronica, house and electro – his intricate and beguiling sounds have been fascinating dancers for over two decades now.

DEEP TECHNO / HOUSE / ELECTRO / IMMERSIVE

11PM / £8-16

## 12/JUN

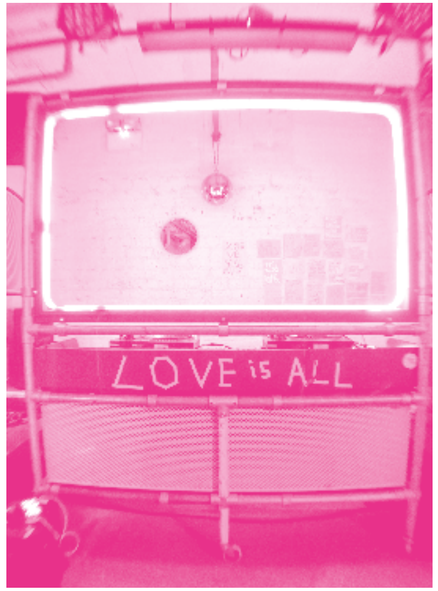


### TokyoAcidCru 20th Anniversary Live w. Radioactive Man (DJ Set)

TokyoAcidCru have been rocking the live underground scene for the last two decades. Join them with guest Keith Tenniswood aka Radioactive Man for an anniversary party.

ACID / LIVE SET / OLD SCHOOL / SPARK-INDUCING ELECTRO

11PM / £12-16




MAKING SPACE FOR THE UNDERGROUND

# SAT LIVE

LIVE MUSIC / POP-UPS / PERFORMANCE & MORE
-
DOORS 7PM / VARIOUS PRICES

## 25/APR



### Borokov Borokov + Stevie What?

A volatile mix of angular synth pop, work-incapacitated hi-NRG, krautrock with a double "t," birthday-acid house, supra-Freudian elektrapunk, and multilingual lamentations. Every track an escape attempt, writhing out of its own straitjacket.

SURREAL / ALTERNATIVE / BONKERS / ELECTRONICA / PSYCH POP

7PM / £8-14

## 02/MAY



### Knats + Nauta

The toon's hottest new jazz quintet Knats album release gig bring us sophisticated arrangements, strong melodies and danceable grooves. Will sell out very soon!

NEW / GEORDIE / JAZZ / FUSION

7PM / £10-16

## 09/MAY



### A Night of Vogue w. NCL Ballroom Community

A community event built by and for our community and allies; in a time when trans, queer and POC identities are being erased and attacked, it's spaces like this that become the holdouts for our livelihoods and our culture.
Show up and show out – help us keep this culture alive!

QUEER / VOGUE / PUMPING BEATS / DANCE / BALLROOM

7PM / £9-13

## 16/MAY



### Sxxplicit: Newcastle

Sexplicit, a worker-led, queer-focused, pop-up strip club is coming to Newcastle for the first time! We're so excited to bring this much needed space to you. This event is in collaboration with Studio Space 6 and the North East Sex Workers Collective.
This is Newcastle's first and only pop-up club.

QUEER / POP-UP CLUB / ALT / POLE DANCE

7PM / £50+

## 23/MAY



### TC & The Groove Family + Lagos to Longbenton

Ten-piece collective TC & The Groove Family return for more of their highly danceable, diverse music that explores grooves, Afrobeat, broken beat, jungle, jazz and grime. Throw in local Afrobeat collective and we've got a huge party line-up.

WORLD / FUSION / NU-JAZZ/ BROKEN BEAT

7PM / £10-16

## 30/MAY



### Kate Griffin & Matchume Zango + Lauren Collier

Using clawhammer banjo, vocals & the timbila, this is a cross-cultural collab project that celebrates the universal power of traditional music, creating a rich blend of world rhythms, contemporary songwriting and playful joy. Opening set from virtuoso fiddle player.

FOLK / WORLD / ALT FOLK / TIMBILA / TRADITIONAL

7PM / £9-13

## 06/JUN



### Marrapalooza: Radical Folk and Song Traditions

Local festival Marrapalooza brings us radical folk songs from a vertical line-up of alt-folk makers, featuring Milkweed, Elanor Moss, Jim Ghedi, Gwenifer Raymond, Jennifer Reid, Jasmine Padgett (Family Band).

FOLK / SONGWRITER / EXPERIMENTAL

7PM / £15-60

## 13/JUN



### Film Screening: Free Party: A Folk History

They wanted the freedom to party, the state saw them as the enemy within. The untold story of the free party movement, Caslemorton and the Criminal Justice Act, and how its impact sparked a revolution around the world, from raves and festivals, to politics and protest.

DOCUMENTARY / RAVE CULTURE / ACID HOUSE

8.30PM / £7-12

## 20/JUN



### Midsummer Downtempo Open Decks

Leading up to our midsummer party with Matthias, we pull out our soft furnishings for an all-invited open decks session. Dig out your most beautiful, spiritual, downtempo vibes to create a collective warm-up fitting for midsummer's night.

COMMUNITY / MIDSUMMER JOY

7PM / FREE

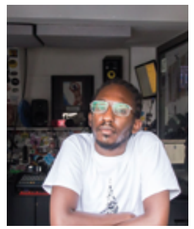
**LIVE MUSIC / POP-UPS / PERFORMANCE & MORE!**



# SAT CLUB

MAKING SPACE FOR THE UNDERGROUND
-
DOORS 10.30PM / VARIOUS PRICES

## 25/APR



### Parris All Night Long

Parris has built a singular sound that blends sharp-edged techno, woozy Balearic tones, stripped-back house grooves – all delivered with effortless confidence & positive energy!

BALEARIC / MINIMAL / NEXT WAVE TECHNO / GENRE-FLUID / POST-DUBSTEP

10.30PM / £8-16

## 02/MAY




### Far North: Locals' Party w. Antony Daly + Justin Mills

A rare chance to hear two stalwarts of the North East play all night together. Expect all bases covered – from ambient sounds early doors, to acid house, deep house from the last 40 years and the best techno cuts from their collections.

HOUSE / TECHNO / ECLECTIC / RARE CUTS FOR YOUR LISTENING PLEASURE

10.30PM / £6-12

## 09/MAY



### Voigtmann All Night Long

Punk attitude woven with musical talent & precision, bouncy, buoyant, driving beats with an ever-present funk and groove make for an irresistible high energy and joyful dance floor. So pleased to welcome him back for an all night longer!

MINIMAL HOUSE / LEFTFIELD / ELECTRO / DEEP HOUSE / GROOVE

10.30PM / £11-17

## 16/MAY



### Far North: Locals Party w. Ms McQ + HeavenandHelen

A musical menagerie of all things funky and strictly vinyl from Ms McQ and a genre-fluid set spanning Gqom, Amapiano, 3Step, Afro Tech & more from Helen. An exciting double bill of brilliant local selectors, guaranteed to keep you dancing all night long.

FUNK / SOUL / WORLD / GQOM / 3STEP / SA HOUSE / AMAPIANO

11PM / £6-12

## 23/MAY



### Millie McKee + PIP

Devoted digger & vinyl collector, Millie is known for her deeply intuitive and sensitively woven genre-spanning sets rooted in dub, jazz, psychedelia and underground dance music.

PSYCHEDELIC / DUBBY / GOODNESS / SPIRITUAL / DOWNTEMPO / SONIC JOURNEY

10.30PM / £8-16

## 30/MAY



### Strut w. Ralph Lawson

Strut returns for a summertime community fundraiser with underground legend Ralph Lawson, known for his unique, northern sound, founder of 20/20 Vision record label & long-standing Back To Basics resident.

FORWARD-THINKING / DEEP HOUSE / FOR THE HEADS

10.30PM / £10-15

## 06/JUN



### Dr Horn All Night Long

A free party scene aficionado with a life long obsession for digging and collecting music, Dr Horn is a selector who walks the line between house and disco. His sets are all about fun – bringing the party to the dancefloor for the discerning music lover.

ELECTRO / FUNK / HOUSE / DISCO / NEW WAVE / COSMIC FLOURISHES

10.30PM / £8-16

## 13/JUN



### Grace Sands + Spinback Lyle

'We love you Grace… because you have history' – Dominic, ADONIS regular

Need we say more here?!

FUNKY / DEEP HOUSE / QUEER / BUTCH VOGUE / BALLROOM / DIY

10.30PM / £8-16

## 20/JUN



### Midsummer Party w. Matthias (Superluminal)

Known for his minimal, experimental, stripped-back, headsy, deeply hypnotic & spiritual mixes, Matthias is a DJ, producer, boss of Superluminal Recordings & founder of the Berlin underground party by the same name. He felt like just the right booking for a giddy midsummer's night do!

MINIMAL TECHNO / DUBBY HOUSE / PSYCEDELIC / LEFTFIELD ELECTRONICA

10.30 / £9-15




**MAKING SPACE FOR THE UNDERGROUND**

# CULTURAL IMPACT

## COBALT PROVIDES...

AFFORDABLE & ACCESSIBLE

- *Artist Studios*
- *Co-working*
- *Cultural Events*
- *Cultural Education & Engagement*
- *Cultural Skills & Training*
- *Artist Development Opportunities*

### OUR 2025 PROGRAMME AT A GLANCE...

Committed to diverse, experimental and left-of-centre cultural offerings, we programme harder to place music and art, blur genre boundaries and make space for new music and risk-taking creative endeavours.

There is a strong focus on bringing world-class culture and artists from diverse cultural backgrounds, as well as supporting the local scene by offering educational, performance and development opportunities (i.e. support slots dedicated exclusively to local musicians, residencies).

We operate a co-creative approach to programming by offering free space, accessible venue hire and co-promotion opportunities to local creatives, facilitators, community leaders and collectives to put on their own events, and by maintaining an active dialogue with our community via a regular steering group and audience survey.




### HOW MANY PEOPLE BENEFITTED FROM COBALT IN 2025?

**24,836**
**VISITORS**
(12% increase from 22,007 in 2024)

**1529**
**ARTISTS**
(7% increase from 1431 in 2024)

635 Women & Non-binary / GNC
693 Men

## OUR 2025...

**TICKETS**

**£9.09**
AVERAGE TICKET PRICE

**4019**
FREE TICKETS

**2029**
DONATION TICKETS

**MONEY**

**£141,233**
PAID TO ARTISTS & MUSICIANS

**£112,302**
PAID TO COBALT STAFF, TECHNICIANS & OTHER FREELANCERS

**£364,006**
INCOME (BAR & TICKET SALES, VENUE HIRE, CLOAKROOM)

**£15,000**
PRS FOUNDATION GRANT

**£72,000** *IN KIND*
UNPAID DIRECTORSHIP



### CULTURAL AND SOCIAL SUPPORT & TRAINING




### EDUCATION: LEARNING & DOING

**Learn & Do**
-
Each season we offer a range of creative workshops and community engagement events, from open mics, life drawing & crafts workshops to singing and dancing sessions. All events are offered at affordable/donation entry and facilitated by makers and artists from the local community.

**142**
LEARN & DO EVENTS

CREATIVE LEARNING

**L.A.D's (Ladies and Decks)**
-
Our in-house programme of workshops, open decks sessions, socials and club nights. It is aimed at providing educational and peer support opportunities for female & GNC people, as well as uplifting female & GNC DJs and artists.

**15**
DJ MIXES RECORDED

IRO
**60**
HOURS OF FREE ACCESS TO DJ EQUIPMENT

### SUPPORTING RISK-TAKING & NEW MUSIC

In 2025, FRESH, our event series aimed at introducing new music, welcomed a total of 1608 visitors, with more than 10 choosing to support the event by buying a season ticket.

With support from PRS Foundation via their Talent Development Network (TDN), we were able to host 3 paid residencies in 2025, welcoming Patrick Ziza, Contours X Dan Valentine and ZINZILE.




### INCREASING ACCESSIBILITY & REACHING MANY MORE PEOPLE

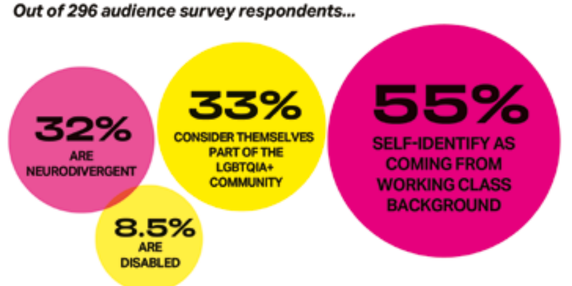



In 2025, we launched a YouTube channel for Cobalt, where we regularly publish gig recordings, artist interviews and features on residencies.

We have also started developing SoundCloud profiles for Cobalt DJ mixes, as well as L.A.D's, with an aim to help up-and-coming local artists reach more audiences.

### OUR COMMUNITY: WORDS & KEY TAKEAWAYS FROM OUR SURVEY

*Out of 296 audience survey respondents...*




*'I simply find Cobalt a liberating space, where I can relax, enjoy, feel kinship and most importantly express myself in safe and supportive space.'*

*'Places like Cobalt that work to bring equity and inclusion to the local cultural scene make me really proud to be a Northern artist.'*

*'It's the hub for creative people like me to connect, create and discover. It's probably the only music venue in town that I frequent so much as I know the quality of the events they offer will never disappoint.'*

***We believe culture is transformative in a million different ways & it must belong to absolutely everybody.***

## APRIL

| | |
|---|---|
| 20 | WILD OUSEBURN SAFARI |
| 21 | L.A.D.S (LADIES' OPEN DECKS & SOCIAL) |
| 22 | LIFE DRAWING |
| 23 | YUNIS + KAU |
| 24 | BEN VINCE + THE EXU |
| 25 | BOROKOV BOROKOV + STEVIE WHAT? |
| 25 | PARRIS ALL NIGHT LONG |
| 26 | NI MAXINE + WESTY |
| 27 | GONG BATH |
| 28 | FRESHLY SQUEEZED OPEN MIC NIGHT |
| 29 | QUEER LIFE DRAWING |
| 30 | L. WILKIE & IAN CARR + W. FINN & ROSIE CALVERT |

## MAY

| | |
|---|---|
| 01 | THE HEMPOLICS + COMMON UNITY |
| 01 | LENA WILLIKENS & VLADIMIR IVKOVIC |
| 02 | KNATS + NAUTA |
| 02 | FAR NORTH: ANTONY DALY + JUSTIN MILLS |
| 03 | NUJO JAZZ JAM |
| 03 | JUNKI INOUE ALL NIGHT LONG |
| 04 | A NIGHT OF BALFOLK |
| 05 | OPEN CIRCUIT: MUSIC MAKERS SOCIAL |
| 06 | LIFE DRAWING |
| 07 | TULLIS RENNIE + PERRY FRANK |
| 08 | LATE SHOWS W. DELE SO-SIMI, YOKO PWNO & MGB |
| 08 | ANGEL D'LITE ALL NIGHT LONG |
| 09 | A NIGHT OF VOGUE |
| 09 | VOIGTMANN ALL NIGHT LONG |
| 11 | SPACE IN BETWEEN: DEEP LISTENING MEDITATION |
| 12 | L.A.D.S (LADIES' OPEN DECKS & SOCIAL) |
| 13 | LEATHERCRAFT WORK-SHOP W. MINUEL DESIGNS |
| 14 | NEO GEODESIA + DAN JOHNSON |
| 15 | AROUND ABOUT DUSK + M. GLENDINNING BAND |
| 16 | SXXPLICIT: NEWCASTLE |
| 16 | FAR NORTH: HEAVENAND-HELEN + MS MCQ |
| 18 | BOLLYWOOD AND BELLY DANCE & DAHL |
| 19 | SACRED HARP SINGING |
| 20 | LIFE DRAWING |
| 21 | CHURCH ANDREWS & M. DAVIES + TOBIAS SARRA |
| 22 | CRAIG RICHARDS + C.A.R. |
| 23 | TC & THE GROOVE FAMILY + LAGOS TO LONGBENTON |
| 23 | MILLIE MCKEE + PIP |
| 24 | DBT. PRESENTS: THOMAS MELCHIOR |
| 25 | GONG BATH |
| 26 | FRESHLY SQUEEZED OPEN MIC |
| 27 | DOWNTEMPO COLLAGE CAFÉ |
| 28 | JESSE BEAMAN + DAVID DE LA HAYE |
| 29 | SUNTOU SUSSO + IZZY NEISH |
| 29 | SHY BAIRNS PRESENTS: LOUIE G |
| 30 | K. GRIFFIN & M. ZANGO + LAUREN COLLIER |
| 30 | STRUT W. RALPH LAWSON |
| 31 | NUJO JAZZ JAM |

## JUNE

| | |
|---|---|
| 01 | A NIGHT OF BALFOLK |
| 02 | RADICAL CHOIR W. BETHANY ELEN |
| 03 | LIFE DRAWING |
| 04 | ICHI + CONRAD SINGH |
| 05 | GALAXIANS + FROLIC ACID |
| 05 | SPOTTY DOG PRESENTS: STE ROBERTS |
| 06 | MARRAPALOOZA FESTIVAL |
| 06 | DR HORN ALL NIGHT LONG |
| 07 | MARRAPALOOZA FESTIVAL |
| 08 | VOICE ACTIVATION W. FAY BARTON |
| 09 | L.A.D.S (LADIES' OPEN DECKS & SOCIAL) |
| 10 | DIY STAMP ZINES W. STEPHEN FOWLER |
| 11 | LAURA KRIEG + NOVYI LEF |
| 12 | VIOLENT MAGIC ORCHES-TRA + ZILCH PATROL |
| 12 | TOKYOACIDCRU 20TH ANNIVERSARY |
| 13 | FILM SCREENING: FREE PARTY: A FOLK HISTORY |
| 13 | GRACE SANDS + SPIN-BACK LYLE |
| 15 | GONG BATH |
| 16 | FRESHLY SQUEEZED OPEN MIC |
| 17 | LIFE DRAWING |
| 18 | THE AANIMALS + A. DAVIES & R. SCOTT |
| 19 | FERG'S IMAGINARY BIG BAND SUMMER BASH |
| 20 | MIDSUMMER DOWN-TEMPO OPEN DECKS |
| 20 | MIDSUMMER PARTY W. MATTHIAS |



ANGEL D'LITE / MAY 08



JASMINE PADGETT FAMILY BAND / JUN 06



VIOLENT MAGIC ORCHESTRA / JUN 12

LEARN & DO ::: INTERACTIVE EVENTS / EDUCATIONAL / CREATIVE PARTICIPATION

FRESH ::: BRAND NEW MUSIC / BOARD GAMES / HOME-COOKED SCRAN ::: THURSDAY

LIVE MUSIC ::: BIGGER GIGS / BIGGER ACTS / DANCING / ALT DRAG SHOWS ::: FRIDAY / SATURDAY

CLUB NIGHTS ::: FOR THE DANCERS / SWEATY PARTIES / MAKING SPACE FOR THE UNDERGROUND ::: FRIDAY / SATURDAY

**FIND US:**
-
10-16 BOYD STREET
NCL / NE2 1AP

**SOCIALS:**
-
INSTAGRAM - @COBALTSTUDIOS.OUSEBURN
FACEBOOK - COBALTSTUDIOSCIC
YOUTUBE - @COBALTSTUDIOS.OUSEBURN

TICKETS →

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