



Once Upon a Place

Friday 24 October – Sunday 2 November 2014

ONLINE PROGRAMME PREVIEW



Edinburgh printmaker Cat Outram is this year's Festival artist with her evocations of Edinburgh's townscape.

WELCOME TO THE WORLD'S FINEST FEAST OF TRADITIONAL STORYTELLING

Once Upon a Place looks at the living environment around us, expressed through story. We bring Edinburgh to life as a city of story, and radiate out with touring events across Scotland. We look into the past in town and country, and gaze into the future through the dreams, imaginings and visions of the poets and bards. And through the **Open Hearth** sessions we celebrate our common humanity with stories and songs that connect across the continents.

The Festival combines storytelling ceilidhs with talks, landscape tours and specially commissioned performances. Guest storytellers from Europe, North America and the Pacific regions, perform alongside the cream of Scotland's renowned storytelling talent, with a finale weekend marking the ancient Celtic New Year of Samhain/Hallowe'en.

Evening events ensure adults enjoy warming nights alongside a rich programme of family friendly events in a variety of locations around the city.

In this Year of Homecoming, with all its momentous events, the Storytelling Festival is for everyone from home or abroad who wants to explore what is distinctive and special about Scotland. We are also delighted to be marking the 10th anniversary of Edinburgh's designation as the world's first **UNESCO City of Literature** with celebrations of Edinburgh storytellers – **Sir Walter Scott** in the 200th anniversary of his first Waverley novel, **Robert Louis Stevenson** who links us with the Pacific, and raconteur extraordinaire of the Old Town, **John Fee**.

THE FESTIVAL TEAM

The Scottish International Storytelling Festival is supported through Scottish Government's Edinburgh Festivals Expo Fund, Creative Scotland, Homecoming Scotland, City of Edinburgh Council, Festivals Edinburgh, Culture Programme of the European Union, Creative New Zealand, Royal Norwegian Consulate General.



BECOME A FESTIVAL SUPPORTER

SISF Festival Supporter Pass 2014 £25

There is no greater pleasure than the power of traditional storytelling taking listeners on a journey of the imagination.

Register now as a Festival supporter to enjoy an array of benefits including exclusive invites and great ticket deals so you can fully immerse yourself in the celebrations, as well as support the Festival to continually provide a world class forum for the art of storytelling.



As a Festival Supporter you can enjoy:

- 25% off any Full Price ticket at any Storytelling Festival event at the Scottish Storytelling Centre
- 1 free ticket to a Festival event of your choice at the Scottish Storytelling Centre (subject to availability)
- 15% Storytelling Café discount
- A Welcome Pack, containing:
 - Copy of the programme
 - Lanyard
 - Festival Supporter Certificate of thanks and participation
 - Invite to launch party on Fri 24 October

Call our team on +44 (0)131 556 9579 to book your pass and for further enquiries email reception@scottishstorytellingcentre.com

FESTIVAL EXHIBITION

Friday 24 October to Sunday 2 November

Richard Demarco's Road to Meikle Seggie

10am-6pm and before evening events, Scottish Storytelling Centre

In the 1970's **Richard Demarco** embarked on a series of journeys, starting in Edinburgh, to recover a sense of our living culture in the environments around us. These radiated out across Europe, underpinning the internationalism of this unique Scottish-Italian artist and the curator's own extraordinary journey.

Forty years later the journey is renewed with Demarco's original artwork and notes, along with a republication of his first Meikle Seggie essay, with a new introduction by SISF Director, **Donald Smith**.



Cat Outram's artwork will feature in this year's print brochure. Cat Outram exhibits regularly in small galleries in and around Edinburgh, at Craft fairs, Charity exhibitions, Open exhibitions and members' shows at Edinburgh Printmakers, which is where she creates her etchings of views of Edinburgh. She is next exhibiting at the 3D/2D West End Fair from 2nd - 24th Aug 2014.

FESTIVAL ON TOUR



Guest Storytellers will visit Orkney, Sutherland North Coast, Aberdeen, Argyll and Bute, Dundee, Fife, Dunfermline, Glasgow and Eyemouth to meet with local performers and audiences.

Full listings will be in the main brochure and online.

FESTIVAL LOCAL – ONCE UPON A PLACE

Celebrate your own place with a local storytelling event, school visit, storytelling walk or Hallowe'en storytelling. Resources connected to local legends throughout Scotland will be published on the website to inspire and support your event. Get involved and enjoy the pleasure of sharing stories about your surroundings.

To register your event, access local resources and for more information contact
davide@scottishstorytellingcentre.com

Opening Weekend

Friday 24 October

Exclusive! Edinburgh's Underground Vaults

4pm, Blair Street Underground Vaults

Hear the authentic history of the underground. This is your chance to visit the Blair Street Underground Vaults, exclusively available with **Mercat Tours**. Explore the deepest, largest and most extensive vaults in the city whilst in the company of a Mercat historian. Why were the Vaults built? Who used them? We will recount the history of the Vaults, recall their stories and answer your questions.

Places of Power

7.30pm, Scottish Storytelling Centre

From the beginnings of time, all across the world, certain places have attracted people to them as places of power. Such places evoked the need to celebrate, to go beyond this world, to connect with some primordial force. We will take you to visit some of these places through the mystery of the Didgeridoo, Story, Harp and Dance. See the connecting story-lines that run from place to place and weave a web of story around the world. With **Daniel Allison, Paula Huolman, Ken Shapley** and **Mio Shapley**.



Saturday 25 October

Natural Stories

2pm, Scottish Storytelling Centre

Explore the forms and patterns of living nature through storytelling and felt making. Family event with **Joanne Baker** and **Allison Galbraith**. In association with **Lapidus Scotland**.

Tales of a Granny

11am, National Museum of Scotland

Where do you begin sharing the story of Scotland? With the stories, the songs, and the beautiful and sometime strange things the past has left us. Aimed at the **under-fives** these storytelling sessions aim to introduce younger children, parents and carers to the riches of Scotland's story. The event is also the prologue to *Tales of a Grandson*.

Tales of a Grandson: The Dig, The Feast and The Hooly

2.30pm (Parts 1 & 2) & 5.30pm (Part 3), The Studio @ Festival Theatre

Where do you begin to tell the story of Scotland? ... With the myths, the legends and the battles? Or perhaps simply with the universal story of boy meets girl? *Tales of a Grandson* is one man's re-telling of Scotland's history - but this is no straight and dusty history lesson: To tell this epic tale Andy Cannon (previously of Wee Stories) takes us on a time travelling adventure with his grandparents through Scotland's past to piece together the myriad of Kings, Queens, friends and foes that make up our nation's story (and unearths just why our mountains are so small on the way!)

Accompanying Andy and adding to the Tales are a local cast of dancers, a choir of grannies and some of Scotland's finest musicians. *Tales of a Grandson* is a story for all the family to enjoy, presented in three parts – *The Dig*, *The Feast*, and *The Hooly*. Stay for the day, join in the feast and the hooly and help Andy in his quest to tell Scotland's great story.

[Tickets on sale here](#)

In association with the Macrobert Arts Centre Stirling, Andy Cannon, Festival Theatre Edinburgh, and the National Museum of Scotland. Part of the Walter Scott 200th Anniversary.



Witches Brew

2.30pm, Gladstone's Land

Explore the darker side with storyteller **Fiona Herbert**. Who were the Scottish witches – healers, devil worshippers or gender rebels? Find out about the lives and perils of witchcraft in this evocative seventeenth century house on the Royal Mile, in association with the National Trust for Scotland.

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Mountain Vision: The John Muir Experience

5pm, Scottish Storytelling Centre

Travelling on North America's Pacific west, in the high sierras, John Muir realised his vision of "living with nature". Musicians and storytellers **Geordie MacIntyre** and **Alison McMorland** recapture the spirit of that mountain vision, and its influence on America, Scotland and the wider world.

Robert Louis Stevenson – The Life Journey

6.30pm, Scottish Storytelling Centre

The story of the life, loves, adventures and sorrows of the Edinburgh writer, crowned “Tusitala” – the Storyteller – by the Samoans. Scotland’s best loved author is brought to life by fiddler **Judy Turner** and guitarist/singer **Neil Adam**. Reliving Stevenson’s journey in song, through his own words – poetry, diaries and letters – they tell the story of his action packed but all too short life in Scotland, America and finally the Pacific.



Open Hearth

8pm, Scottish Storytelling Centre

Join storytellers and musicians in a relaxed traditional session round the hearth, as the darkness closes in and the embers glow with pictures in the fire. With **Judy Turner**, **Neil Adam**, **Grace Taylor** and **Tusiata Avia**.

Sunday 26 October

Down at the Farm: In Gorgie

11.30am & 1.30pm, Gorgie City Farm

Head down to the farm for some animal tales amidst the cows, sheep, pigs and ducks, mixed in with a bit of home reared native wit and wisdom.

Tales of a Granny

11am, National Museum of Scotland

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In association with the Macrobert Arts Centre Stirling, Andy Cannon, Festival Theatre Edinburgh, and the National Museum of Scotland. Part of the Walter Scott 200th Anniversary.



National
Museum of
Scotland



Storytelling for a Greener World

From 1pm, Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh

Experience natural stories of all kinds in the beautiful setting of Edinburgh's botanical gardens. Stories will emerge gently in different locations, while story walks meander between the story encampment and the outer reaches. Also included is an introduction to the ground-breaking Hawthorn Press book, *Storytelling for a Greener World*, and a specially commissioned performance of *Where Curlews Call* by **Malcom Green** and **Nick Hennessey** – [more details here](#).



Macastory: A Soldier's Tale

2pm & 3pm, Scottish National Portrait Gallery

1914, the first months of WWI... Young Scottish soldier Archie is away from home for the first time in the trenches of the Western Front. A few hundred yards away is Rudi, a young German soldier. Featuring shadow puppets, song and rhyme, hear the story of their meeting during the 1914 Christmas Truce.

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From the Pacific Coast

5pm, Scottish Storytelling Centre

Canadian storyteller **Dawne McFarlane** shares the rich traditions of Canada's Pacific coast with a blend of First Nation and Canadian sources.

Rhythms from New Zealand

6.30pm, Scottish Storytelling Centre

Aotearoa, with its north and south islands, marks the furthest destinations of the Pacific voyagers. Today, poets and storytellers, just like our guests **Grace Taylor** and **Tusiata Avia** reach out from New Zealand across the oceans with their own distinctive rhythms.



Open Hearth

8pm, Scottish Storytelling Centre

Join storytellers and musicians from Scotland and the Pacific in a relaxed traditional session round the hearth, as the darkness closes in and the embers glow with pictures in the fire.

Festival Week

Monday 27 October

The Education Day: Place Based Learning

10.30am to 4pm, Scottish Storytelling Centre

How do we harness the power of place in learning for adults and children? Experience Story maps, local song searching, multimedia interpretation and much more in a fantastic day of exploration, with workshops and discussion. For teachers, educators, and artists who are working in schools and community learning.



Studying Elsewhere – Stories of Learning Abroad

4pm, Scottish Storytelling Centre

Storytelling youth meets the wide world. University of Edinburgh exchange students share the stories they gathered while living and learning abroad. Is narrative the clue to understanding another culture, and “being found in translation”?



Between Tides

5pm, Scottish Storytelling Centre

Tentsmuir is a unique area of North East Fife caught between the tides and endowed with a rich ecology. **Lea Taylor, Mairi Campbell** and **Derek Robertson** combine with Scottish natural heritage to capture the flow of nature and the spirit of a special place.

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As I Was Young and Easy

6pm, Scottish Storytelling Centre

A lyrical celebration for the Dylan Thomas centenary evoking the poet's turbulent love of life and bardic evocations of the Welsh landscape. The SISF is delighted to feature Wales as part of the **European Seeing Stories** project. Performed by **David Campbell** and **Wendy Weatherby**, with accompanying musicians.

Hirta Songs – Evoking St Kilda

8pm, Scottish Storytelling Centre

Glasgow-based singer and guitarist **Alasdair Roberts** will perform the critically-acclaimed *Hirta Songs*, featuring the fruits of his recent collaboration with the award-winning poet **Robin Robertson**. *Hirta Songs* is a graceful and emotionally stirring suite of poems and tunes concerning the remarkable story of St Kilda, a now uninhabited archipelago lying some 50 miles off Scotland's West Coast. For many years, St Kilda was home to a small population of Gaelic-speaking Scots, who eked a hard living from the unforgiving cliff-faces and raging oceans of their home until their final evacuation in 1930. A **Seeing Stories** event from Scotland with **Stevie Jones** (double bass) and **Rafe Fitzpatrick** (violin).



Tuesday 28 October

SEEING STORIES

Reaching across Europe, people are trying to recover their urban and rural narratives – the magic of place to create sustainable living and an art that celebrates life. If we do not connect with our own environments, how can we expect humankind to care enough to ensure conservationism for the future? On **Tue 28 and Wed 29 Oct**, the Seeing Stories project partners will be in Edinburgh to share their stories and approaches.



Seeing
Stories

Seeing Stories Edinburgh events also run through the whole Festival.

Portugal – Where Rural Meets Urban

1pm, Scottish Storytelling Centre

Ana Sofia Pavia moves between narrative and song to capture the intense colour of Portuguese culture – where everything flows to the sea or comes ashore at this meeting place of cultures and continents.

Seeing Stories: Symposium

2.30pm, Scottish Storytelling Centre

Hear about the development of story collecting and interpretative projects – and performances – in Aachen, Florence, Lisbon, Edinburgh and the Scottish Borders. With project partners from Germany, Italy, Portugal and Scotland.

Follow the Story – Folklore and Archaeology

5pm, Scottish Storytelling Centre

The past is all around us waiting to be found. An illustrated talk shows how traditional tales can take us to specific and special places in the landscape, as well as lead to new insights into the lives of our ancestors. By following traditional story, and utilising place names analysis and landscape reading, we can set off on journeys that find new archaeology and gain greater understanding of the sacred past. With storyteller and folklorist **Stuart McHardy**.

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Alan Bruford Memorial Lecture

6.30pm, Scottish Storytelling Centre

This annual lecture is organised by the **Department of Celtic and Scottish Studies** at the **University of Edinburgh**, with particular reference to the **School of Scottish Studies Archives**. It commemorates Alan Bruford's pioneering work as a folklore interpreter and collector, by featuring the work of a contemporary researcher.

Open Hearth

8pm, Scottish Storytelling Centre

Join storytellers and musicians from Scotland and Europe in a relaxed traditional session round the hearth, as the darkness closes in and the embers glow with pictures in the fire.

Wednesday 29 October

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Seeing Stories Edinburgh events also run through the whole Festival.



Seeing
Stories

Welcome Home

1pm, Scottish Storytelling Centre

Lydia Winter upon visiting her home town encounters a strange murmuring in the old part of town. She interprets it as the cobble stones welcoming her home. Years later she discovers the true voice behind the murmurs. It is the Mother Goddess of water and stone. She – whose name changed several times throughout the 12,000 years of known worship – remains the guardian of the land and brings prosperity to the people as long as she is respected and acknowledged. She asks Lydia to tell her story to the people of today. Storyteller **Regina Sommer** brings to life the hidden stories of Aachen.

Seeing Stories – Story guides

2.30pm, Scottish Storytelling Centre

This symposium and workshop explores how to source, edit and shape local narratives for the benefit of both residents and visitors. What are the vital stories and how can they be communicated for today's audiences and explorers? Ideal for artists and those working in tourism, visitor attractions and marketing.

Ginevra degli Almieri – Love in Florence

5pm, Scottish Storytelling Centre

A journey through the old streets of Florence rediscovering the life of Ginevra degli Almieri, with storyteller **Giovanna Conforto** and art historian **Daniela Corradini**. This incredible love story could be one of the sources of inspirations for Shakespeare's *Romeo and Juliet*, but the roots of the legend are lost in time...



The Earth, The Colour

6.30pm, Scottish Storytelling Centre

A bilingual storytelling event in Italian and English based on stories from Fiesole, teaching us the importance of including the “outsiders” in our lives. The story of Silvana, an old lady who was one of the last farmers working as a sharecropper, is entwined with the story of Paolo, a painter and former cobbler. The two life stories are enriched with folk tales, as well as local myths and legends, performed by storytellers **Monica Fabbri** and **Andy Hunter**.

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Open Hearth

8pm, Scottish Storytelling Centre

Join storytellers and musicians from Scotland and Europe in a relaxed traditional session round the hearth, as the darkness closes in and the embers glow with pictures in the fire.

Thursday 30 October

Through Border Eyes – Celebrating Walter Scott

John Buchan's Guide to Walter Scott

2pm, National Library of Scotland

Why is Scott the great unread? Let John Buchan be your guide to the delights and perils of the “Wizard of the North”. In the 200th anniversary of Scott's *Waverley*, **Donald Smith** invites you to look again at Scott through Buchan's eyes.

Scott's Singing Muse: Minstrelsy of the Scottish Borders

3pm, National Library of Scotland

All of Sir Walter Scott's later achievements are foreshadowed in his first major work – a monumental collection of Borders songs and legends. Re-published this year, for the first time with the music and full background, the Minstrelsy is a kist of treasures and curiosities. General Editor **Sigrid Rieuwerts** unveils this ground breaking achievement.

Exploring Celtic Traditions with David Campbell

2pm, Scottish Storytelling Centre

David Campbell has been at the forefront of Scotland's storytelling renaissance, and has written and taught widely about both the older Celtic traditions and the Scottish Travellers, especially tradition-bearer Duncan Williamson.

A workshop for all those who wish to learn more about the Celtic traditions of storytelling from a master storyteller.



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Tales from Norway

5pm, Scottish Storytelling Centre

Scotland and Norway have been exchanging people, stories and ideas for centuries. Like Scotland, Norway has a flourishing storytelling renaissance, with tales ranging between land and sea, the traditional and the contemporary. Take a trip to Norway with **Stina Fagertun**.

Orkney and Shetland – Northern Connections

6.30pm, Scottish Storytelling Centre

Norse culture spread across Scotland, as raiders turned to settlers, but in the Northern Isles it remains the dominant note. Meet the masters of the northern storytelling art in full flight, celebrating their new books. The unstoppable flow of humour, adventure and tragedy will continue into the later evening events, with storytellers **Tom Muir** and **Lawrence Tulloch**.

Open Hearth

8pm, Scottish Storytelling Centre

Join **Stina Fagertun**, **Tom Muir** and **Lawrence Tulloch** in a relaxed traditional session round the hearth, as the darkness closes in and the embers glow with pictures in the fire.

Friday 31 October – All Hallows Eve, the Night of Samhain

Rosslyn Glen Walk

Meet at 10.30 am at the Scottish Storytelling Centre

Go by bus to Rosslyn to explore the weird and wonderful traditions of the Glen with its extraordinary chapel and castle. Storyteller **Ken Shapley** is your guide, who has his own special take on the patterns to be seen in the woodland. *This event is weather dependent – please wear sturdy shoes and warm clothing.*

Exploring Celtic Traditions with George Macpherson

2pm, Scottish Storytelling Centre

George or Seoras Macpherson is the traditional Seanachaidh of Glendale. He continues an unbroken line of stories from ancient times to the more recent community stories of his beloved northwest Skye, Ardnamurchan and Argyll. He has an especial interest in the older sagas, and in stories of the second sight. Prepare for Samhain in the traditional Highland manner, with the unique insights of storyteller **George Macpherson**.

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The Coming of the Unicorn and other Tales of Wonder

4pm, Scottish Storytelling Centre

Linda Williamson has been gathering stories and ballads of wonder since before she travelled with her husband Duncan Williamson, a master storyteller of Scotland's Travelling People and of the Wonder Tales. Encounter magical creatures and transforming imagination in a session set to delight the wise heart in everyone.

Meeting the Fairies

5pm, Scottish Storytelling Centre

Only don't call them "fairies" but the Good Folk or the Gentle Kind. Otherwise they might take offence, curdle milk, steal babies and generally make your life unbearable... On the other hand a little generosity and respect – or if push comes to shove raw courage – may do wonders. Storytellers, singers and musicians **David Francis** and **Rachel Newton** of *The Shee* move from song to story and back in an entrancing session.



Ballads of the Supernatural

6.30pm, Scottish Storytelling Centre

The old songs continue to haunt, not least in the hands of great performers, and especially on Samhain, when the ghosts and spirits walk into our world. With storytellers and singers **Marion Kenny** and **Susan Orr Holland**.

Guid Crack Club

7.30pm, Waverley Bar

An opportunity to get a tale in round the circle of Edinburgh's regular storytelling session. This Guid Crack Storytelling Festival special is hosted by Orkney storyteller **Tom Muir**.

Hallowe'en Hearth

8pm, Scottish Storytelling Centre

Join storytellers and musicians from Scotland and around the world in a relaxed traditional hearth session, as the darkness closes in and the embers glow with pictures in the fire. Outside the wind rustles in the darkness and the shadows creep closer in this special evening event for Samhain.

Finale Weekend

Saturday 1 November

Scottish Traditional Tales – New Series Launch

11am, Scottish Storytelling Centre

Enjoy a range of new children's story books based on traditional tales. Hear storytellers **Janis Mackay**, **Lari Don** and **Theresa Breslin** live as they share Scotland's treasury of myths and legends, with book illustrations as a backdrop. Presented by Edinburgh based publisher **Floris Books**.

Deacon Brodie Unmasked – by Jack Martin

2.30pm, Gladstone's Land

Just across from Gladstone's land lived Deacon Brodie, Edinburgh's most notorious double dealer and master of disguise. A respectable citizen by day, Brodie ran multiple rackets by night including gambling, cock-fighting and theft. Finally he got his come-uppance, but not before Jack Martin wiled his way into the

villain's inner secrets. Later writers such as Robert Louis Stevenson turned to Brodie as the epitome of Edinburgh hypocrisy. We couldn't possibly comment... but storyteller **Jack Martin** will comment very fully.

Near not Far – World War One's Divergent Voices

2.30pm, National Library of Scotland

The centenary of WWI has brought unprecedented access to archives and first-hand testimonies. We can't imagine or relive the horror, but we can listen to the voices of those who lived through it all, speaking to us across the decades. A specially commissioned live performance based on the first-hand testimony of soldiers, nurses, home front workers, women, and those who opposed the war. In association with the **Edinburgh Peace and Justice Centre**.



To Absent Friends

4pm, Scottish Storytelling Centre

This weekend is traditionally a season for remembering the lost and the loved, and storyteller **Margot Henderson** marks the tradition by exploring how dead people live on in the memories and stories we share. In partnership with **To Absent Friends, a People's Festival of Storytelling and Remembrance** – www.toabsentfriends.org.uk

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Stories from Wales – Yng Ngheredigion

5pm, Scottish Storytelling Centre

Welsh landscapes, language and rural culture are brought together through music, visuals and storytelling. And the *hiraeth* – meaning both longing and belonging – remains strong. The Festival is delighted to feature Wales as part of the **European Seeing Stories** project. With **Rafe Fitzpatrick**.

Death and Fish

5.30pm, Scottish Storytelling Centre

Ian Stephen's new novel is an exploration of storytelling and a lyrical exposition of living by and on the sea. Following the book launch with **Ian Stephen** and Saraband Publishing, Ian will weave material from *Death and Fish* with his new collection of traditional stories from the Western Isles (see below).

On the Western Edge – Stories from the Outer Hebrides

6.30pm, Scottish Storytelling Centre

Sea lore and craft, along with humour, weather – lots of it – and a close connection with people and place thread through Ian Stephen's storytelling and writing. Moving between his new novel *Death and Fish*, and traditional tales, **Ian Stephen** evokes the living culture of the outer isles, and how to survive it.



Open Heart – Islands

8pm, Scottish Storytelling Centre

Join storytellers and musicians from the northern and western Isles – and some sea faring guests – in a relaxed, traditional session round the hearth, as the darkness closes in and the embers glow with pictures in the fire.

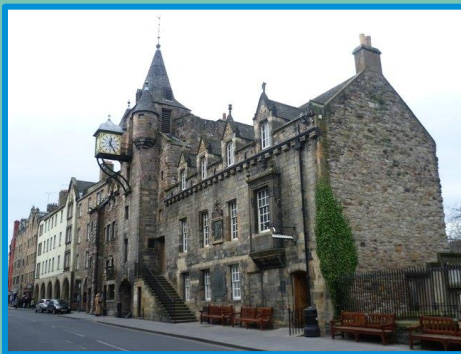
Sunday 2 November

Storytelling Master Class

11am, Scottish Storytelling Centre

Ashley Ramsden, founder of the *School of Storytelling* in 1994, leads an intensive day for those with storytelling experience who are keen to stretch their skills and explore the traditional art more deeply.

Canongate: The Glorious Half Mile to Holyrood



Look again at Edinburgh's glorious Canongate. Sir Walter Scott was inspired to pen his *Chronicles of the Canongate*, Charles Dickens got the idea for *Great Expectations* and *A Christmas Carol* here and Edinburgh's beloved makar Robert Fergusson found his last resting place at the Kirk. All the pageant of life has gone up and down this street from Queens to rebels, courtiers to beggars, and indigent debtors to the wealthiest in the land. In former times Churches, palaces, taverns and brothels jostled for space, while more recently the return of Scotland's Parliament has once again made Canongate a scene of power play and intrigue.

Enjoy free events at The Museum of Edinburgh, Canongate Kirk, the People's Story Museum, the Scottish Poetry Library, Acheson House, and the Scottish Parliament. A glorious afternoon of *Once Upon the Canongate* brings Edinburgh – City of Story – to life.

With the support of the Culture Programme of the European Union and in association with Edinburgh Museums and Galleries, Edinburgh World Heritage Trust and Edinburgh UNESCO City of Literature.

Near not Far – World War One's Divergent Voices

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Exclusive! Edinburgh's Underground Vaults

4pm, Blair Street Underground Vaults

Hear the authentic history of the underground. This is your chance to visit the Blair Street Underground Vaults, exclusively available with **Mercat Tours**. Explore the deepest, largest and most extensive in the city whilst in the company of a Mercat historian. Why were the Vaults built? Who used them? We will recount the history of the Vaults, recall their stories and answer your questions.

John Fee's Old Town Journeys and Evocations

5pm, Scottish Storytelling Centre

A celebration of the late, great John Fee, storyteller of the Old Town, coinciding with the launch of his posthumous book of Old Town Tales, introduced by **Donald Smith**, with photos by **Stuart McHardy**. They are joined for this special launch event by storytellers **Audrey Parks** and **Clare McNicol**, along with members of Edinburgh's *Life Stories*.

The Rescue of the Son of Fion

6.30pm, Scottish Storytelling Centre

Enjoy a big story from the classic Highland canon, with a tale known in Skye, Ardnamurchan and the Isle of Man. Climb mountain heights and plumb the depths of oceans in search of the cup of healing with the great Traditional Seanachaidh **Seoras Macpherson** sharing the tale, supported by **Kati Waitzmann** who is learning from the tradition.

Open Hearth – Fires of Memories

8.30pm, Scottish Storytelling Centre

Join storytellers and musicians from home and abroad in a relaxed traditional session round the hearth, as the darkness closes in and the embers glow with pictures in the fire. This final session of the Festival is hosted by Festival Director, **Donald Smith**.



Scottish International
Storytelling Festival

