**PRESS RELEASE**

**19 June 2017**

**LGBT 50 concert *I Feel Love* tickets out this week**

**Will Young, Alison Moyet and others to perform at LGBT 50 concert broadcast live on BBC Radio 2 from Hull City Hall**

**TICKETS ON SALE FROM 10am, 23 JUNE AT:** [**WWW.HULL2017.CO.UK/LGBT50**](http://WWW.HULL2017.CO.UK/LGBT50)

**IMAGES CAN BE DOWNLOADED** [**HERE**](http://www.thecornershoppr.com/download/lgbt-50/)

Tickets for the closing concert of a week-long celebration in Hull marking the 50th anniversary of sexual freedom in the UK go on sale on Friday (23 June).

Coinciding with Hull’s status as UK City of Culture 2017, the 50th anniversary of the start of decriminalisation of homosexuality in the UK will be marked with ***LGBT 50,*** presented by Hull 2017 in association with Sewell Group and supported by Spirit of 2012.

The week-long festival of music, dance, theatre, comedy, film, photography and more kicks off on Saturday 22 July with **Pride in Hull** hosting the first ever **UK Pride** and culminates on 29 July with ***I Feel Love,*** a special concert at City Hall to be broadcast live on BBC Radio 2 and Red Button on TV.

Tickets for the celebratory night of music and performance from LGBT culture past and present will be available from [www.hull2017.co.uk/LGBT50](http://www.hull2017.co.uk/LGBT50) from 10am on Friday (23 June). Tickets cost £10 with the money going towards LGBT legacy events post 2017.

***I Feel Love****,* which is part of the BBC’s *Gay Britannia* season, will be presented by Scissor Sisters’ front woman and Radio 2 presenter Ana Matronic and BBC Radio 1’s Scott Mills. It will feature a stellar line-up of artists including **Will Young, Alison Moyet, Marc Almond, Bright Light Bright Light, Noah Stewart, Tom Robinson** and West Yorkshire’s LGBT choir **Gay Abandon**. Expect an evening of anthems, torch songs and celebration. The concert will be broadcast live on BBC Radio 2 and Red Button from 8pm – 9.30pm.

Will Young said: "I am very excited to perform at the BBC’s LGBT Concert in Hull to celebrate 50 years of decriminalisation. It is an honour, and I thank all the great people and their persistent fighting for LGBT rights that have made this anniversary possible."

**LGBT 50** begins on 22 July when **Pride in Hull** gets things started in exuberant style with a parade featuring iconic queer performance collective Duckie’s ***50 Queers for 50 Years***. Duckie artist Robin Whitmore has taken up residence in Hull, alongside Hull based costume designer Terry Herfield and artist Patrick Bullock to help LGBT+ groups and members of the public create 50 handmade LGBT+ icons. These range from stately homos Freddie Mercury and Clare Balding to Hull favourites including a 3D replica of Hull gay pub Frankies Vauxhall Tavern. Those who wish to join in the making of the icons can visit the Duckie Shop, 95 Jameson Street, 4-7 pm Thursday and Friday, 2-5pm Saturday and Sunday.

Pride in Hull events will culminate on 22 July with a concert headlined by the legendary **Marc Almond.** The line-up also features 80s sensation **Sonia,** 90s hit-makers **B\*Witched** and **Cleopatra,** X-Factor stars **Sean Miley Moore** and **Blonde Electra**, and includes Hull drag performer, **Bobby Mandrel**.

The festival closes on Saturday 29 July. Ahead of **I Feel Love**, Queen Victoria Square will play host to **A Duckie Summer Tea Party**, offering a mix of socialising and dancing for all generations and genders of the LGBT community to celebrate their freedom in the city. A variety of entertainment awaits including fancy waiters in black tie serving tea and cake; a new work by **Gary Clarke** and **Yorkshire Dance** celebrating five decades of queer culture with a cast of 50 performers; Britain’s Got Talent performers **The Sugar Dandies**; queer femme feminist performance artiste **Bird La Bird**; female drag queen **Victoria Sin**; actress and comedian **Liz Carr;** theatre director, writer and filmmaker **Topher Campbell**; a cake-making contest; and dancing to the **London Gay Big Band**.

Party the night away at the official LGBT 50 after party at Fuel. Everyone at home can listen into Ana Matronic broadcasting her Disco Devotion show live from Hull at midnight on BBC Radio 2.

Martin Green, Director of Hull 2017 said: "As the host of the first ever UK Pride, Hull will be at the forefront of the national celebrations marking the 50th anniversary of sexual freedom in the UK. With everything from a sinfonia orchestra to 80s diva Sonia, from a bake-off to poignant photography, it promises to be both classy and camp, offering something for everyone.”

Graham Jenkinson, Pride in Hull Trustee, added: "We’re delighted to be kicking off Hull 2017’s LGBT 50 celebrations in spectacular style with our biggest Pride event to date. We’re sure that everyone will have a great time with headline performances from each of the last five decades on the main stage, along with additional stages and tents with performers and activities. Most importantly though, Pride will be a place where everyone is welcome and free to be themselves."

Throughout the week there will also be exhibitions, socials, debates and more, offering an opportunity to celebrate Hull's LGBT+ community and heroes past and present, freedoms gained, and to show solidarity with continuing struggles for LGBT equality in the UK and around the world.

Humber Street Gallery will host ***The House of Kings and Queens*** (27 July - 24 September), a specially commissioned exhibition of photography by Lee Price. Captured in Sierra Leone, where homosexuality remains illegal, Price’s powerful images offer a glimpse into *The House* where inhabitants can live without oppression, exposing what it means to be gay in Hull’s sister city Freetown.

The Hull LGBT+ community have also been getting involved in an exhibition of their own during the week-long celebrations. Titled **A Moment in Time**, the exhibition uses publicly-submitted photographs to tell the LGBT+ story before the decriminalisation of homosexuality in 1967 and in the 50 years since.

In partnership with Hull Independent Cinema, ***Pride in Hull Film Festival*** (21 and 25 July) will present a selection of the best in LGBT cinema including Edinburgh International Film Festival Official Selection and Yorkshire premiere of **Tom of Finland**, Hull premiere of Sheffield Doc/Fest opener **Queerama** and the **BFI’s Britain on Film**: **LGBT** programme of rarely-seen archive LGBT films plus much more. Pride In Hull Film Festival is supported by **Transformative Film Culture for Hull** as part of its National Lottery-funded BFI Film Audience Network and led by its lead partner BFI Film Hub North. It is part of the BFI’s LGBTQ **Gross Indecency** programme exploring the pioneering – and sometimes problematic – depictions of LGBT life in British film and TV in the 50s, 60s and 70s.

**ENDS**

For press information and interview requests, please contact: alix.johnson@hull2017.co.uk / 07718 100784 or matthew.walton@hull2017.co.uk / 07711 439326

**LISTINGS**

[**The Electric Fence**](https://www.hull2017.co.uk/whatson/events/the-electric-fence/)

*4 July – 30 September*

*Hull Minster*

*Free*

A bold, visceral confrontation, Annabel McCourt’s thought-provoking installation about hate crime provides a powerful and macabre reminder of our own latent potential. Funded by Hull 2017’s Creative Communities Programme, delivered in partnership with Big Lottery Fund.

[**Visible Girls Revisited**](https://www.hull2017.co.uk/whatson/events/visible-girls-revisited-anita-corbin/)

*7 July – 11 August*

*Artlink*

*Free*

Photographer Anita Corbin revisits 56 young women she photographed in 1981 at the height of social, cultural and political change and asks where are those girls now?

[**50 Queers for 50 Years workshops**](https://www.hull2017.co.uk/discover/article/50-queers-50-years-workshop-launches-lgbt-50/)*9 June-22 July*, *Thursdays and Fridays 4 – 7pm and Saturdays and Sundays 2 – 5pm
95 Jameson Street*

The team from iconoclastic queer collective Duckie will be taking over a shop in the city centre in the run up to Pride in Hull to create representations of LGBT icons to take part in the Pride in Hull parade.

[**Pride in Hull Film Festival**](http://www.hullindependentcinema.com)

TOM OF FINLAND
*20 July, Vue Cinema Hull, 7:30pm
Dome Karukoski | Finland | 2017 | 116 mins | Cert 18 | Finnish with English subtitles*

Award-winning filmmaker Dome Karukoski brings to screen the life and work of one of the most influential and celebrated figures of twentieth century gay culture.

*BRITAIN ON FILM: LGBT
25 July, Kardomah94, 1pm
Various Directors | UK | 1909-1994 | 84 mins | Rated 15 | English language*

With films spanning 1909 to 1994, BRITAIN ON FILM: LBGT documents a century in which homosexuality went from crime to Pride, via decades of profoundly courageous activism, and the shifting attitudes to LGBT people and their rights across the board throughout a time of explosive social change.

GIRLS LOST
*25 July, Kardomah94, 3pm
Alexandra-Therese Keining | Sweden | 2016 | 106 mins | Cert 15 | Swedish with English subtitles*

After drinking the curious nectar that drips from a mysterious plant, best friends Kim, Bella and Momo magically transform into boys. Geeky girls by day and popular boys by night they find themselves living in two completely different worlds.

WHO’S GONNA LOVE ME NOW?
*25 July, Kardomah94, 6pm
Barak Heymann / Tony Heymann | UK | 2016 | 84 mins | Cert 15 | Hebrew / English with English subtitles*

WHO'S GONNA LOVE ME NOW? celebrates the triumph of love over hate, of understanding over ignorance and the melding of cultures who traditionally view each other as extreme.

COLOUR OF HIS HAIR

*25 July, Hull Truck Theatre, 7pm (paired with QUEERAMA)*

*Sam Ashby | UK | 2017 | 23 mins | Cert 18 | English language*

Based on an unrealised film script written in 1964 for The Homosexual Law Reform Society, a British organisation that campaigned for the decriminalisation of homosexual relations between men, THE COLOUR OF HIS HAIR merges drama and documentary into an impressionistic meditation on queer life under the law.

QUEERAMA
*25 July, Hull Truck Theatre, 7pm
Daisy Aquith | UK | 2017 | 77 mins | Cert 18 | English language*

Mining the jewels of the BFI archive, QUEERAMA tells the story of an extraordinary century of gay experiences. Directed by Daisy Asquith with a soundtrack by Alison Goldfrapp, Hercules & Love Affair and John Grant, the film takes us into the relationships, desires, fears and expressions of gay men and women in the 20th century – a century of incredible change.

52 TUESDAYS
*25 July, Kardomah94, 8pm
Sophie Hyde | Australia | 2016 | 112 mins | Cert 15 | English language*

Sixteen-year-old Billie's reluctant path to independence is accelerated when her mother reveals plans for gender transition and their time together becomes limited to Tuesday afternoons. Filmed over the course of a year, once a week, every week (only on Tuesdays) these unique filmmaking rules bring a rare authenticity to this emotionally charged story of desire, responsibility and transformation.

[**Service for the LGBT community at Hull Minster**](http://prideinhull.co.uk/pih/2017/06/06/lgbt-service-at-hull-minster/)*Friday 21 July 7.00-8.30pm
Hull Minster*

*Free*

A service for members of the Hull LGBT+ community, their friends, families and allies hosted by the Reverend Matt Woodcock and visiting priest [Rachel Mann](http://rachelmann.co.uk/). Rachel is a published poet and author, often writing about her experiences of chronic illness and being transgender in the Church of England.

[**Pride in Hull**](http://prideinhull.co.uk/pih/2017/06/06/lgbt-service-at-hull-minster/)*Saturday 22 July
Queen’s Gardens, Hull City Centre*

As the first ever UK Pride, Pride in Hull is set to kick-start LGBT 50 with a spectacular event taking you on a musical journey through the decades.

[**A moment in time exhibition**](https://www.hull2017.co.uk/discover/article/pride-hull-get-involved-lgbt-exhibition/)*Saturday 22 – Saturday 29 July
Various venues*

*Free*

A photography exhibition curated from images submitted by the community reflecting on life pre and post decriminalisation.

[**Lads n Lasses**](http://prideinhull.co.uk/pih/event/lads-lasses-2/)
*Monday 24 July 7.30pm
Fruit, 62-63 Humber St, Hull HU1 1TU*

*£9*

A new piece of theatre written and performed by local young people’s theatre group Aposarts, around the topic of homophobia in school.

Book now [www.hullboxoffice.com/events/lads-lasses](http://www.hullboxoffice.com/events/lads-lasses)

**Reflections on Gender and Sexuality**

*Monday 24th July- 5-8pm Rev Chris Dowd*

*Wed 26th 9am-5pm. AM: Nicola Field, CN Lester. PM: A symposium of Academic and key speaker discussing current discourses in the LGBT community.*

*Thur 27th- TBC*

*University of Hull, Cottingham Road, Hull*

*Free with pre bookable places.*

A series of one off talks based around the progression of LGBT culture from a historical perspective and looking to the future of LGBT rights.

**Out for a Laugh - Comedy Showcase***Wednesday 26 July**Kardomah 94*

*Ticketed*

A showcase event for people who attended a comedy workshop earlier in the week along with local and national LGBT comedians.

**LGBT+ Entrepreneur Day**

*Wednesday 26 July*

*Kardomah 94*

*Free*

Workshops and business forum for members of the LGBT community thinking about setting up in business or developing existing businesses.

[**House of Kings and Queens**](https://www.hull2017.co.uk/whatson/events/house-kings-queens/)*Thursday 27 July – Thursday 24 September
Humber Street Gallery*

*Free*

A specially commissioned exhibition of photography by Lee Price. Captured in Sierra Leone, where homosexuality remains illegal, Price’s powerful images offer a glimpse into *The House* where inhabitants can live without oppression, exposing what it means to be gay in Hull’s sister city Freetown.

[**Moved By Art LGBT50**](http://www.humberstreetgallery.co.uk/event/moved-art-house-kings-queens/)

*17 August, 5-8pm*

*Humber Street Gallery*

*Free*

A multidisciplinary arts project engaging local artists and young people aged 16-24. Artist James Noah will explore The House of Kings and Queens, where participants can engage with the exhibition and create inspired LGBT poetry and an LGBT graphic. Fancy getting involved? Email info@humberstreetgallery.co.uk

[**Polari**](https://www.hull2017.co.uk/discover/article/polari-literary-salon-back-hull/)*Thursday 27 July 8 – 10pm
Kardomah 94,*

*£6-8*

Paul Burston’s peerless LGBT literary salon returns to the city.

Book now [www.hull2017.co.uk/events/polari-hull-pride](http://www.hull2017.co.uk/events/polari-hull-pride)

**Red Ribbon Soiree**

*Friday 28 July*

*Location TBC*

*Ticketed*

Fun-packed fundraiser for Hull’s only HIV hardship fund (Hardy Fund). Saucy adult entertainment, exotic buffet and dancing.

[**Into the Light**](https://www.hull2017.co.uk/discover/article/dig-dancing-shoes-lgbt-50/)*Saturday 29 July
Queen Victoria Square, Hull*

Described as ‘a fast-forward version through LGBT history’ Into the Light invites everyone to dance through the decades from 1967. Award winning Gary Clarke from Yorkshire Dance has created a moving dance celebration of our lives and loves, our challenges and our triumphs. Follow the LGBT community’s emergence from a secret world, in which homosexuality was illegal, and join us for a riotous, family-friendly performance in the bright, open air. Anyone can become part of its cast, to register interest contact Kirsty at kirstyredhead@yorkshiredance.com.

**A Duckie Summer Tea Party***Saturday 29 July from 1pm
Queen Victoria Square, Hull*

Free

A Summer tea party by the inimitable Duckie features a 50-performer dance show by Gary Clarke and Yorkshire Dance, a cake making contest, special performances and dancing to the London Gay Big Band. Fancy waiters in black tie will be serving tea and cakes to hundreds of patrons while others dance the square into vibrant life.

**I Feel Love***Saturday 29 July, 8 – 9.30pm
Hull City Hall*

*£10*

BBC Radio 2 presents a live concert from Hull City Hall broadcast on Radio 2 and Red Button which is part of the BBC’s Gay Britannia season. Presented by BBC Radio 1’s Scott Mills and Scissor Sisters’ front woman and Radio 2 presenter Ana Matronic, and will feature a stellar line-up of artists. Expect an evening of anthems, torch songs and celebration.

[**Alien Sex Capsule, John Walters**](https://www.hull2017.co.uk/whatson/events/alien-sex-capsule/)

*19 August – 29 September*

*Artlink*

*Free*

A multimedia, multi-sensory and immersive show exploring the relationship between visual culture and HIV. Painting, sculpture and video converge conversation on the complex subject of contemporary sexual health today.

**NOTES TO EDITORS**

[**Duckie**](http://www.duckie.co.uk/)

Duckie are purveyors of progressive working class entertainment, combining vintage queer clubbing, LGBT heritage and social archaeology and quirky performance art shows.

[**Yorkshire Dance**](https://yorkshiredance.com/)

Yorkshire Dance is a charity which champions the value of dance and its development in Yorkshire by raising standards, increasing knowledge and understanding and fostering creativity and innovation.

**[Pride in Hull](http://prideinhull.co.uk)**

Pride in Hull is an annual event, with the aim of providing a platform for every part of Hull and East Yorkshire’s LGBT+ community in order to raise awareness of LGBT+ issues. By holding Pride events, the organisation hopes to campaign for equality and challenge discrimination by creating opportunities for engagement while celebrating LGBT+ life

**UK Pride**

This will be the first time all of the UK's 70 Pride festivals have come together to plan a single national event highlighting the issues affecting the LGBT+ community. The unanimous decision to pick Hull as a host city for UK Pride was taken at the last year’s UK Pride Organisers' Conference.

[**About Hull UK City of Culture**](http://www.hull2017.co.uk)

Hull UK City of Culture 2017 is a 365 day programme of cultural events and creativity inspired by the city and told to the world. Hull secured the title of UK City of Culture 2017 in November 2013. It is only the second city to hold the title and the first in England.

Divided into four seasons, starting with Made in Hull, this nationally significant event draws on the distinctive spirit of the city and the artists, writers, directors, musicians, revolutionaries and thinkers that have made such a significant contribution to the development of art and ideas.

Hull 2017’s second season, Roots and Routes, runs from April to June and explore Hull’s unique place as a gateway to Europe and one of the world’s busiest ports. Its maritime history and global connections inspire the stories of the city; this season of work will also celebrate Hull’s international links, including Rotterdam, Reykjavik and Freetown.

Freedom runs from July to September. Building on the legacy of Hull-born anti-slavery campaigner William Wilberforce MP, *Freedom* will explore the concept of freedom in all its many forms. The final season, Tell the World will run from October to December.

The Culture Company was set up to deliver the Hull 2017 programme and is an independent organisation with charitable status. It has raised £32 million, with over 70 partners supporting the project, including public bodies, trusts and foundations and local and national businesses.

Key contributions are coming from: Host City – Hull City Council; Principal Partners - Arts Council England, BBC, Big Lottery Fund, East Riding of Yorkshire Council, Heritage Lottery Fund, KCOM, KWL, Spirit of 2012, Yorkshire Water and the University of Hull; Major Partners –Associated British Ports, Arco, BP, the British Council, British Film Institute, Green Port Hull, Hull Clinical Commissioning Group, MKM Building Supplies, P&O Ferries, Paul Hamlyn Foundation, Sewell Group, Siemens, Smith & Nephew and Wykeland Group. The National Lottery has contributed more than £10m of this funding, making it the largest single funding body for Hull 2017.

68 per cent of the funding is dedicated to public facing activities, including the widest range of cultural events in every corner of the city, with a further 11 per cent for legacy and contingency. More than £5 million is being invested in volunteering, learning and community engagement. £1.6 million is being invested to ensure a legacy after 2017. This includes capacity building, such as supporting existing events so they can grow, staging curtain-raiser events, developing future programming for after 2017 and building a new platform to support a unified ticketing system for the city.

Hull 2017’s International Partners are: Aarhus, Denmark, which is European Capital of Culture 2017; Reykjavik, Iceland; Rotterdam, The Netherlands; and Freetown, Sierra Leone (twinned with Hull). These relationships are reflected in a number of events throughout the year.

Follow us on **Twitter** @2017Hull **Instagram** @2017hull **Facebook** HullCityofCulture

**Spirit of 2012**

Spirit of 2012 is the London 2012 legacy foundation established with a £47m endowment from the Big Lottery Fund. So far, it has invested over £25 million into community projects in over 100 locations across the UK, benefiting more than 1 million people.

Spirit funds partners across the UK that provide opportunities in sports, physical activity, arts and culture, volunteering and social action. It was founded to continue and recreate the spirit of pride, positivity and social connectedness that people experienced during the London 2012 Games.  It invests to create good outcomes for people and communities.

**British Film Institute**

The BFI is funding ‘Transformative Film Culture For Hull', as part of its National Lottery-funded BFI Film Audience Network and led by its lead partner BFI Film Hub North. Delivered through Hull 2017 and by Hull Independent Cinema and a unique partnership of film festival, educational and archive partners from across the north, the film programme will bring a packed programme of more than 400 screenings, one-off events and film festivals throughout the year to Hull and the region.   The programme reflects the BFI’s activities across the UK to bring film to audiences where there is less opportunity for them to experience and engage in film, and to support local film networks and audience initiatives. There will be much to explore, celebrate and enjoy.