UHArts (University of Hertfordshire Arts) brings a rich arts and culture programme to our campuses and local communities. We share the best visual arts, live arts, music, film, design and media across our University sites, in Hatfield and St Albans. Collaborating with artists and performers, we commission and present ambitious and relevant work, informed by research. UHArts seeks to engage its public as audience members, participants and active co-producers. Together with our partners, we are committed to strengthening Hertfordshire’s arts and cultural offer.
Live Arts

Our live arts programme offers an inspirational mix of theatre, dance, music, media and more. Selecting the best work from national and international companies and practitioners, we present challenging theatre and entertaining pop-ups on our campuses and in Hatfield, alongside memorable performances in the Weston Auditorium.

Highlighted event

This Time
Tue 9 Jun 19:30
With a cast ranging in age from 13 to 60, This Time by Ockham’s Razor combines circus, autobiographical storytelling and awe-inspiring aerial performance to create compelling visual theatre. It explores themes of love, support and struggle in families, alongside perceptions of strength and ability: how we are strong in different ways at different times in our lives.

Featuring a series of aerial frames which are raised from floor to ceiling, the four performers lift, push and cradle each other through thresholds and over ledges. Bodies are suspended high in the air and swung close to the ground in innovative new takes on trapeze and swinging cradle performance.

“a warm, lovingly made show – a tender take on relationships and ageing”
The Times ★★★★★

Weston Auditorium, Age 8+
£15, £13.50 Concession, £10 UH Students

Image: ©Nick Mackey
Our visual arts and design programme is presented in the Art & Design Gallery on campus, in Hatfield and at St Albans Museum + Gallery. Working with emerging and established artists, we initiate a series of exhibitions, creative sessions, installations and commissions, often informed by current ideas as well as research from within the University. We also look after the UH Art Collection which comprises around 500 artworks displayed around our campuses.

Highlighted event

Plastic Matter
Seyi Adelekun, Maria Arceo, Camilla Brendon, Hilary Jack, David Kefford, Steve McPherson, Jill Townsley and Daniel Webb
Tue 25 Feb – Sat 18 Apr
We encounter plastic in our everyday actions; we buy it, use it, throw it away, and we touch it as we use our phones, travel in our cars, open pre-packaged food. Plastic is synonymous with modern life – essential to productivity and key to convenience. Yet plastic consumption and pollution are increasingly controversial subjects and key issues of our time.

This visually stunning exhibition introduces a mix of tales about plastic – plastic as inspiration, plastic as material, plastic as resource and plastic as waste.

Eight artists explore plastic’s potential to become something more treasured, its availability and its hasty disposal. They imbue new worth and meaning to the material and ask us to consider its role and potential in contemporary society going forward.

Opening Event: Tue 25 Feb 16:00–18:00
Art & Design Gallery
FREE

Image: Maria Arceo, Neocide, 2013
The de Havilland Philharmonic Orchestra is the resident orchestra of the University of Hertfordshire. Founded in 1969, when the University was Hatfield Polytechnic, this year the orchestra celebrate their Golden Anniversary – their 50th concert season.

Conducted by Robin Browning, the orchestra is a full symphony orchestra made up of semi-professional and talented amateur musicians. They perform regularly in the Weston Auditorium and their concerts often feature renowned soloists.

Highlighted event

de Havilland Philharmonic: Elgar and Tchaikovsky
Sun 22 Mar 15:30

The concert opens with Elgar’s Cockaigne Overture which gives a lively musical portrait of Edwardian London.

Elgar’s ever-popular Cello Concerto, which first premiered in 1919, is performed by soloist Bozidar Vukotic. Bozidar is the founder member of the Tippett String Quartet and a guest principal cello with many of the country’s best orchestras.

Tchaikovsky’s 5th Symphony, a work that was initially seen as a failure, is now one of his most popular works and closes the concert.

Weston Auditorium
£18, £15 Concession, £12.75 Friends & UH Staff, £8 Child, FREE for UH Students

Image: © Ilsa Desai
Spring & Summer 2020

February

de Havilland Philharmonic Orchestra: String Quartet
Thu 6 Feb 12:00–13:00
Enjoy a musical lunch break with string players from the University’s resident orchestra.
Chapman Lounge
FREE

New Town Stories
Fri 7 – Thu 27 Feb
A display of co-produced artwork by local communities and accompanying workshops with artist Jane Glynn. Inspired by Stuart Whipps’ New Geographies commission.
See website for details.
Lowcase Gallery, Art & Design Gallery Café
FREE

de Havilland Philharmonic Orchestra: Czech Classics
Sun 9 Feb 15:30
Dvořák’s Slavonic Capriccio and the ever-popular Symphony No. 9, the “New World” Symphony, are accompanied by Martinů’s Obce Concerts featuring guest soloist Jonathan Small.
Weston Auditorium
£18, £15 Concession, £12.75 Friends & UH Staff, £8 Children, FREE UH Students

Slinkie Love
Tue 11 Feb 10:00 & 12:00 Art & Design Gallery, 14:00 & 15:00 Abram, Weston Auditorium
Celebrate Valentine’s Day early with Badam 02’s street theatre performance of Slinkie Love, an adorable story of two huge slinkies falling in love. Members of the UnKrts team will be on hand to tell you more about the work we do and how you can get involved.
FREE

Plastic Matter
Tue 25 Feb – Sat 18 Apr
A group exhibition exploring plastic’s potential as inspiration, material, resource and waste. Featuring work by Saff Ali, Maria Arcos, Camilla Brendan, Hilary Jack, David Kefford, Steve McPherson, Jill Townsley and Daniel Webb.
Opening Event: Tue 25 Feb 18:00–18:30
All welcome.
Art & Design Gallery
FREE
Image: Steve McPherson, Absent Histories - Combination Piece (Orange No. 2), 2009

March

Art in Action
Thu 5 Mar 12:00 Art & Design Gallery Café, 13:00 Forum
Be inspired over lunch as speed painter Jon Hicks creates art in minutes.
Join him for a variety of portraits and landscapes live to music.
College Lane Campus
FREE
Image: Dave Pickles

Humans Make Plastic
Tue 10 Mar 14:00–16:00
A visual arts workshop with artist Camilla Brendon who works with bold colour, striking forms and found, foraged or donated plastic. Come and create something special from used plastic.
Art & Design Gallery
FREE
Image: Camilla Brendon

de Havilland Philharmonic: Elgar and Tchaikovsky
Sun 22 Mar 19:30
The Orchestra presents Elgar’s much-loved Cello Concerto, performed by soloist Blazidar Vuketin, alongside Elgar’s Cockaigne and Tchaikovsky’s passionate 6th Symphony.
Weston Auditorium
£18, £15 Concession, £12.75 Friends & UH Staff, £8 Children, FREE UH Students

Plastic Matter Panel Discussion
Thu 26 Mar, 16:00–18:00
Join us for a series of short talks exploring the topic of plastic, from a cross-disciplinary panel. We welcome your questions and ideas. See website for details.
Art & Design Gallery Café
FREE

March

April

Hertfordshire Open 2020
Sat 4 Apr – Sun 21 Jun
A group exhibition showcasing work from practicing artists across the county, selected by an independent panel of judges. Part of the Hertfordshire Year of Culture 2020 and organised by UHArts in partnership with St Albans Museum + Gallery.
Weston Gallery
£10, £8 Concessions, £5 UH Students

Sonic Herts
Mon 27 Apr – Thu 7 May
The University of Hertfordshire’s annual music festival showcases new work by students and staff, alongside performances by prominent guest artists and talks by industry professionals. See website for performance details.
Various venues on College Lane campus
FREE

Gallery Gig: El Whitaker
Thu 30 April 12:00–13:00
Join us for a relaxed lunch in the Gallery Café listening to the mellow jazz and folk sounds of El Whitaker. El is one of our talented UH music students and is due to release her EP in 2020.
Art & Design Gallery Café
FREE

May

de Havilland Philharmonic Orchestra: Mahler’s Mighty 5th Symphony
Sun 17 May 19:30
Sofia Jovanovska performs Bruch’s beautiful Violin Concerto, one of the most popular works in the repertoire, followed by Mahler’s mighty 5th Symphony.
Weston Auditorium
£18, £15 Concession, £12.75 Friends & UH Staff, £8 Children, FREE UH Students

June

This Time
Tue 9 Jun 19:30
A show about time, age and the stories we tell ourselves from the award-winning circus theatre company Ockham’s Razer. This Time combines circus, autobiographical storytelling and awe-inspiring aerial performance to create a compelling piece of visual theatre which explores themes of love, support and struggle in families, alongside perceptions of strength and ability.
Weston Auditorium, Age 8+
£15, £13.50 Concession, £10 UH Students

Poetics of Place
Fri 26 Jun – Sat 22 Aug
A group exhibition considering the ways in which our perceptions of place shape our thoughts, memories, and dreams. As part of Hertfordshire Year of Culture, the exhibition focuses on works by six artists living and working in Hertfordshire: Fiona Curran, Yuna Jung, Dave Nelson, Kirke Ruus, Amanda Ralph and Imogen Walsh.
Opening Event: Thu 25 Jun 17:00–19:00, featuring the de Havilland Philharmonic Orchestra String Ensemble.
All welcome.
Art & Design Gallery
FREE
Image: Fiona Curran, Gather, 2018

Poetics of Place

This Time

July

Chaos Dancing Cosmos
Sat 4 Jul – Wed 19 Aug
Artist Rosania Aristi takes over the historic Assembly Room at St Albans Museum + Gallery with her site-specific installation Chaos Dancing Cosmos. Using 3km of rubber and copper piping, powered by small motors, the installation pervades the space like a pulsating three-dimensional drawing.
St Albans Museum + Gallery
FREE
Image: Rosania Aristi, Chaos Dancing Cosmos, 2019. Photograph by Joseph David Trembley

Artist Networking & Sharing Event
Thu 9 Jul, 18:00–20:30
An informal social event inviting artists to share their work and ideas over drinks. Part of the Poetics of Place exhibition.
Art & Design Gallery
FREE
Booking Essential

Ongoing

Guided Sculpture Walks
First Thursday of the month, 13:00
Introducing 11 outdoor sculptures on College Lane Campus that map the changing characteristics of British sculpture since the 1950s.
Art & Design Gallery
FREE

New Geographies
Until May 2020
This three-year project has commissioned 10 new site-responsive artworks across East Anglia. Join UHArts for the final screening of Stuart Whipps’ film and Kiril de Koning’s forthcoming commission, funded by Arts Council England.
See website for details.
FREE

Contact Us
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(Mon-Fri: 10:00-12:00)

Book Online
uharts.co.uk
Info

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uharts.co.uk

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(By phone only)

Art & Design Gallery
(including Lowercase Gallery)
University of Hertfordshire
College Lane Campus
Hatfield, AL10 9AB

Open Mon-Fri: 10:00-16:00
Sat: 11:00-15:00 (during exhibitions only)

Weston Auditorium
University of Hertfordshire
de Havilland Campus
Hatfield, AL10 9EU

Chapman Gallery
Main Building
University of Hertfordshire
College Lane Campus
Hatfield, AL10 9AB

Parking
College Lane Campus: Limited pay and display on weekdays, free on weekends and evenings (17:30 onwards)

de Havilland Campus: Limited pay and display on weekdays, free on Sundays and evenings (19:00 onwards)

Park and Ride
Buses run every 7-8 minutes
Mon-Fri 07:00-22:00
Costs £1, term time only

St Albans Museum + Gallery
Town Hall
St Peter’s Street
St Albans
AL1 3DH

Transport
Bike: Alban Way
Bus: Uno bus and other local buses
Train: Hatfield Station for campuses / St Albans
City for St Albans Museum + Gallery

Accessibility
All venues have full wheelchair access, including toilets and parking

Follow us...
Find out about upcoming events on our social media platforms
@UniHertsArts

Join us...
Sign up for email updates to stay in the loop about our events, news and special offers.
uharts.co.uk/mailing-list

Volunteer with us...
Volunteer across our performing and visual arts programmes, and at St Albans Museum + Gallery. Get free entry to our events while developing new skills in the arts sector.
UHArts supports the ‘Go Herts Award’. For further information email us at
uharts@herts.ac.uk

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Cover image: Seyi Adelekun, Plastic Pavilion, 2019