

CONFETTI STUDENT MAGAZINE

Wire

SUM/2017

KAISER CHIEFS

BASSIST SIMON RIX ON
PLAYING GLASTO, THEIR
NEW ALBUM AND THE BEST
WAY TO GET SIGNED

KODALINE

EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW

DEGREE SHOWCASE

THIS YEAR'S WINNERS

SPLENDOUR 2017

WHAT OUR STUDENTS GOT UP TO



confetti

Institute of creative technologies

PART OF
NOTTINGHAM
TRENT UNIVERSITY

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Want to write for the next Wire? If you want to interview your favourite bands, review the latest movies and play the latest games, email us at marketing@confetti.ac.uk with your article ideas.



wire

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It's summer time which, as well as exam results (gulp), means one thing... no, not rain, FESTIVALS!

Last month, 124 of our students undertook 1435 hours of work experience at Nottingham's sold out Splendour Festival – and we've covered all the action in this edition. From interviews with the bands to sneaky peeks behind the scenes, we've given you an access all areas pass to the day's action. Including exclusive interviews with Splendour headliners Kaiser Chiefs and former Confetti student Josh Wheatley after his set on the Confetti stage.

Also in this issue, our student reporter talks to Irish band Kodaline about their latest album, and our HE Games Student of the Year Akshay, reviews the latest, most exciting gaming releases.

Our Confetti roots are planted firmly in music and our fantastic partners at PMT have summed up the top 5 amps you can buy as you prepare to move into student accommodation, so that you can rock out in your room without getting complaints from your neighbours. They have also drummed up another exclusive offer for our students.

A new term means new students and new tutors. Turn to page 10 to meet Chris and Nicky, two of our new Film and TV tutors. And don't forget if you want to stay up-to-date with all our latest news throughout the year make sure you follow us on social media.



See you in the Autumn!



CONFETTI AT SPLENDOUR 2017

SPLENDOUR IN NUMBERS

- 124 CONFETTI STUDENTS
- 209 OPPORTUNITIES
- 1435 WORK EXPERIENCE HOURS

Nottingham's biggest outdoor event, Splendour celebrated its tenth year and a record 25,000 people saw amazing performances from Kaiser Chiefs, Busted and Billy Ocean amongst many others. Confetti was one of the main sponsors and our students worked alongside our technical teams to help make Splendour 2017 a fantastic event.

Over 120 students gained invaluable work experience

This year we had over 120 students from both college level and degree courses working in over 209 different roles. Our students worked hard both in the days leading up to the festival and throughout the day to make sure stages were set and some of the world's biggest names in music were ready to perform. Our Live & Technical Events students spent the days setting up the stage lighting and sound and controlled the behind-the-scenes technology. As well as supporting each stage, our students set up and ran the Acoustic Rooms stage from start to finish, helping up-and-coming artists sound and look incredible.

Our TV & Film Production students documented the entire event through filming and photography, and some worked with our industry partner, Notts TV, to film and record all the backstage action.

Second year Film & TV student Ellie Kemp spoke about her experience working on the Acoustic Rooms stage and on getting Vox Pops from the crowds throughout the day: "The Vox Pops definitely helped to improve my confidence and production skills.

I also worked on the Acoustic Rooms stage, filming some of the bands' performances. It was interesting to see the different artists perform, and it was great to be a part of capturing such an exciting experience."

The Confetti Virtual Reality Experience

During the festival, we invited people to join the acts on the main stage in our VR tent. Visitors got to experience what it was like to be on stage in front of thousands of people, and our student crew made sure it ran smoothly.

BSc Game Production student Akshay Soni was working in the tent: "I enjoyed watching the public's reactions to the VR experience as I thought that most people would now be familiar with VR, but those at our stand generally weren't. It was amazing to introduce them to this technology."

Altogether our students undertook 1435 hours of work experience during Splendour Festival 2017, making it our most successful and busiest year to date for Confetti students!

But wait, there's more...

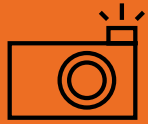
Make sure you keep reading and don't miss out on our interview with festival headliners Kaiser Chiefs and Confetti former student Josh Wheatley, who played an amazing set on the Confetti stage. We've also spoken to Live and Technical Events student Alice Mills about her experience photographing Splendour and pulled together a gallery of her amazing shots.



Splendour is the perfect environment for our students to demonstrate the skills learnt as part of their studies. The experience our students gain is integral to their continued development as industry-ready practitioners and is a clear example of our 'Do it for Real' ethos.

Andy King

Music & Events Curriculum Leader



STUDENT INTERVIEW

In between setting up the lighting on the Acoustic stage and derigging at the end of the festival with her course team, Live and Technical Events student Alice had the opportunity to spend some time gaining event photography work experience.

How did you get started with photography?

I started after getting my first Digital SLR camera when I was around 15. About a year ago I started photographing live music, which is where I have most fun with photography, as the energy the artists have on stage keeps me inspired.

What did you get up to at Splendour?

With my Live & Technical Events course team, I helped set up the Acoustic stage on the Friday. I worked as part of the lighting crew to help get the fixtures into place and ready for the day. On the day of the festival I was able to shadow the photographer working for Confetti and see what it's like shooting an event of this size, how he captures the festival,

while also showing Confetti students working behind the scenes. I also shadowed the marketing team and photographed the festival from the photo pit and side stage alongside them. At the end of the festival I helped pack down the Acoustic stage before heading off.

Did you get to meet anyone famous?

Later on in the day we hung out behind the main stage to photograph a couple of artists after their sets and we managed to catch Tony Hadley and Gabrielle Aplin.

What was your favourite part of Splendour?

My favourite part of Splendour was just being able to see the behind the scenes of the festival and how an event of this size is run. Also spending some time in the photo pit was awesome - especially during the Kaiser Chief's set.

Alice Mills

exaddi | aliceem
W: exaddiphotography.com



All the photographs on these pages were taken by Alice Mills!



INTERVIEW WITH
SIMON RIX

K KAISER CHIEFS



With so many amazing tracks to pick from, how do you go about choosing your setlist?

Nowadays we generally have a chat before each tour and talk about what we would like to play. As a band we basically like the new ones and the biggest hits. So those go in first.

After that, we try to play something special for the people who come and see us a lot, like a couple of album tracks we haven't played for a while or a cover. Something unique that sets that tour apart from the last one. Stick them into an order and end with Oh My God. Simple.

You're playing Glastonbury, Splendour and many other festivals this year - what's the best thing about playing a festival?

We think that festivals are one of the places we thrive. Everyone knows we're a good live band, everyone knows that they'll come along and have a good time. From the band point of view, I think we like the fact that not everyone there will have bought a ticket to come and see us, so we're playing to fans of other bands, trying to win them over, I suppose to us that feels like where we started from.

You've had a career full of highlights - but what is your favourite career moment so far?

Obviously there's been a lot. Winning the Brits was a lot more important than we knew. I think that really helped us. But I think it must be when Education, Education, Education & War was number 1.

We'd had a number 1 before, but to have one 10 years along the road, I think it's an amazing achievement. Hopefully we can do it again sometime.

As music writers - where do you find yourself drawing your inspiration from?

It's too obvious, but everywhere. Ricky really writes the words, and I feel like each time we make a record it's important he's got something to say. I don't think that people connect to songs unless there is some genuine emotion/feeling in there.

After a busy festival season - what's the plan for the Kaiser Chiefs in the near future?

We've started album 7. It'll be ready when it's ready, but I like the fact everyone is up for doing it all again.

What advice would you give to bands looking for a way to get noticed?

Don't copy anyone else. Work out what is unique about your band. The

thing no-one else can offer. And emphasise it.

We have a lot of students who are just starting to get gigs, what advice would you give to them to get more bookings?

Make friends with local promoters. Try and get gigs with touring bands. Make friends with other bands. Get gigs with them.

When should a band consider getting a manager?

I think sometimes bands get a manager as an ego thing. Like it shows progress. I think only get a manager if there's someone who's as passionate about your band as you are AND can do something that you can't already do yourselves.

What's the best way for a band to develop a fan base?

Release music. Tour. Use social media. Every band is different, you just have to work out what works for you.

Should a new, non-established band spend more time in the recording studio or playing live at gigs?

I think both. Don't waste too much money on expensive studios or gigs that cost a lot of money to do. Just work hard and it might happen.

JOSH WHEATLEY



JOSH WHEATLEY
CHEMICALS
Album release:
1st September 2017

Described by Josh himself as a "sterile outlook on love silhouetted against brash,

big guitars and lush synth", Chemicals showcases the dark and brooding nature of Josh's songwriting.

Intended initially as a single, Josh went to Liverpool to work on the album with Al Groves at the Motor Museum.



Are you working on any upcoming projects that fans can look forward to?
At the moment I'm just focusing on releasing single after single. I'm hoping people will really love the next single I'm putting out, because it's one that's quite personal to me.

What was one thing that took you by surprise about the music industry?

There's always something to take you by surprise.

We have a lot of students who are just starting to get gigs, what advice would you give to them to get more bookings?

Play LOADS. When I first started, I played live because I love to play and after that things just fell into place. In the beginning, I was out 3-4 nights a week playing. The first ever gig I did was at Acoustic Rooms in December 2012 and I eventually played their Splendour stage last year.

What's the best way for a band to develop a fan base?

Without a doubt - play shows. There's a certain point, when playing shows in your hometown becomes easy. That's when you have to branch out and play shows in other cities.

Should a new band spend more time in the recording studio or playing live at gigs?

It's a combination of both really - there's no straight forward answer. You need the songs to back up your live sound, because if you start playing shows without tracks you feel great about, the audience will not necessarily dig it either. The harder you work writing and recording material you're happy with, the more of a blast you'll have playing shows.

What advice would you give budding musicians looking to start a career?

Roll with the punches and don't get disheartened. Music is incredibly subjective and everyone has their opinions. Someone may love what you do, someone may not. Don't change what you do to cater to the people who may not like what you do.

What bands were you looking forward to seeing at Splendour?

I was really looking forward to seeing Georgie, though I think our sets clashed a little. I'm a big fan of Gabrielle Aplin so I was excited for her. Also Billy Ocean and British Sea Power.



 [JoshWheatleyMusic](#)

 [JoshIsOk](#)

Also follow on:   

MEET YOUR NEW MEDIA TUTORS

Chris Chambers

TOP FACTS ABOUT ME:

- Last year I became a published author
- My favourite director is Michael Mann
- I love the Beatles



With the start of the new academic year just around the corner, we're ready to open our doors to not only our new batch of creative students but also some new tutors! We introduce to you our newest Confetti crew - Screen Acting tutor Chris Chambers and VFX tutor Nicky Martin.

Nicky Martin

TOP FACTS ABOUT ME:

- My top films are Star Wars and Lord of The Rings
- Love playing video games and listening to music and art
- Love a good Karaoke night



Starting out...

CC: After graduation I secured a place at East 15 acting school in London. This was an institution I had always dreamt about studying at as it relied heavily on the instruction of Konstantin Stanislavski and Joan Littlewood. From there I became a member of Equity and Spotlight and found myself a London agent.

NM: I've always had a creative side and enjoyed a range of arts from making music to drawing and illustration, but had never followed anything up. I decided I wanted to pursue a career in the creative industries and completed a foundation degree in Computer Games and Interactive Media, here at Confetti, followed by a top up year at Nottingham Trent University which gave me my (BA) Hons Art & Design Media Practice.

Getting the first job...

CC: Finding the first job was a crazy time in my life: I was living in London, without full-time work and attending a slew of professional castings (ITV's 'Island at War' and 'Oliver Stone's Alexander', for example), enjoying my life as a professional, working actor but never knowing when I might secure my first role. Eventually my agent found me an audition

for Principal Theatre Company's outdoor production of Romeo and Juliet. I spent that summer performing as Romeo with a beautiful grade 2 listed house as a backdrop.

NM: I graduated in July 2016 so I'm still fairly fresh out of university. I was primarily a 3D modeller and environment artist for video games. I'd say experience is a big part of applying for jobs, so get it where you can. Confetti students have some great opportunities to get involved and gain valuable work experience to prepare them for work in the industry.

Working on...

CC: I worked on the music video for Athlete's Black Swan Song. The music video revolved around the tale of a World War II soldier pinned down by enemy fire and was shot in a woodland in the West Midlands. There was a great team involved in the shoot - everyone mucking in together to bring a very dark tale to the screen. If you watch the final product, you can see how tight the action and direction is, and I think that is a credit to the work we put in with the director, Mark Locke.

NM: I've been enjoying creating digital portraits and illustrations for local people who've seen my

work and liked my style. It's great to get the recognition and get your creative work noticed in the local community.

What I learned...

CC: Patience! With any kind of shoot there's waiting around - that's part of the job - but for something so focused on single moments and emotion, it was really important for me to have my character research to fall back on and to be able to delve into my character as deeply as possible without being distracted.

NM: I'd advise students to never give up trying and always make sure you're on top of your craft. Gain as much experience as you can, even if it's unpaid.

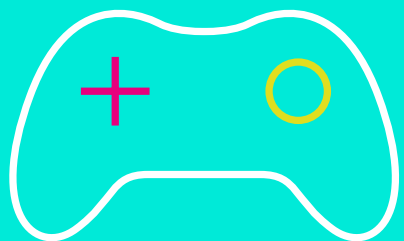
Starting to teach...

CC: I've been teaching Theatre & Acting since 2013. I'm really excited to bring my industry knowledge and skills to Confetti!

NM: It's great that I've gone full circle and will now be teaching VFX at the place I learnt my craft. I can give back to the students the industry knowledge I've built over the years but still relate to them as a fairly new graduate myself.



TOP 5 GAMES RELEASES TO LOOK FORWARD TO



It's been an exciting summer for gamers! Our Games Student of the Year Akshay gives us the scoop on his top 5 new games due to come out this year!

1 DEATH STRANDING

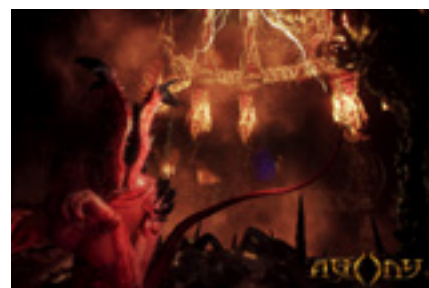
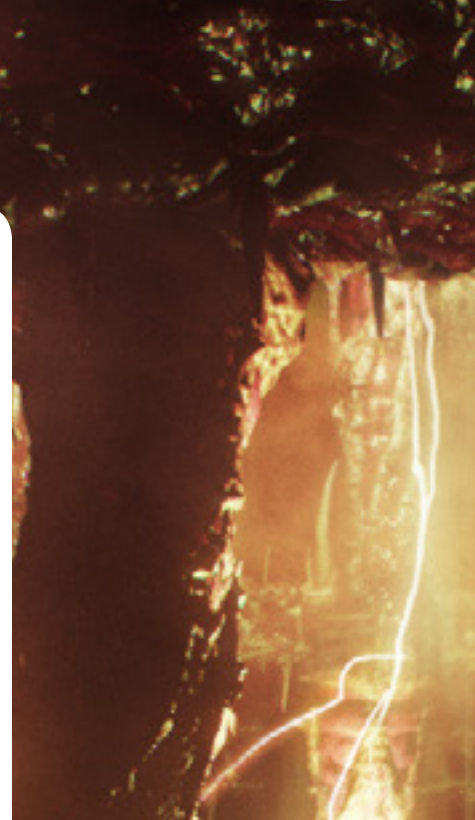
Following on from the successes of Metal Gear Solid - anticipation builds for Hideo Kojima's latest title. Death Stranding shows its strengths in two trailers released in 2016 starring familiar faces, such as Norman Reedus (Protagonist) and Mads Mikkelsen (Antagonist). The trailers provide breathtaking environments and give vague glimpses of a sophisticated narrative. In my opinion, Death Stranding goes beyond conventional gameplay and storytelling techniques. The release date is yet to be announced, but I anticipate this game will be rather unique.

2 AGONY

Madmind Studios' adaptation within the survival horror genre is intriguing. Agony is still in development and is set for release later this year. This game is innovative. It features immersive demonic, problem-solving environments based upon Dante's Inferno. It involves controlling the mind of a non-player character within the pit of hell, whilst exploring your soul. I, for one can't wait for its arrival and have high hopes that it'll live up to expectations.

3 MIDDLE-EARTH: SHADOW OF WAR

I've always had a soft spot for Lord of the Rings, so when Shadow of Mordor first came out - I felt compelled to play it. I felt that the game capitalised on the combat system, as it allowed each non-player character to gain strength from tragic events that impacted them. The game was complex and entertaining. Better yet, Shadow of War appears to improve upon every feature from its predecessor and I can't wait to get my hands on it when it's released this October.



4 ASSASSINS CREED: ORIGINS

The Assassins Creed series has some captivating games that showcase their narrative through different periods of history. Personally, my favourite game in the franchise is Assassins Creed: Brotherhood. A game involving the legendary, charismatic and wise assassin Ezio Auditore - One of the most intriguing assassins of all time. For me, the last few games lacked the intensity of AC: Brotherhood.

However, Ubisoft have taken time out to develop Assassin Creed: Origins - a game that goes back to their original roots and serves as a prequel to the others. It showcases the origins of the Assassins Creed and is due to be released this October. The gameplay so far, looks interesting and the environments are visually pleasing, as technological advancements are employed gravitating towards 4K gaming.

5 CALL OF DUTY: WORLD WAR II

We're back at the end of the 3-year development cycle of games between Treyarch, Sledgehammer and Infinity Ward and a new Call of Duty release is imminent. For me, Treyarch's development of the games within the Call of Duty franchise is particularly note-worthy.

Their delivery of World at War (2008) gave them a superior edge with dark, gritty environments and weapons that are realistic and reflect the historic events. I'm interested to see what Sledgehammer brings to the table with their own adaption of World War II. With the release scheduled for November - I hope it's worth the wait!

Agree with Akshay? Let us know the releases you're looking forward to on social.

KODALINE

Perhaps best known for their smash-hit track *High Hopes*, Irish four-piece Kodaline are back.

With their third studio album due for release later this year, the band have been keeping busy - from playing *The Other Stage* at Glastonbury, to working with writers and producers, and even a bit of wedding planning...

Wire student writer, Ellie Kemp chats to drummer Vinny May to find out more.

You've recently played 'The Other Stage' at Glastonbury - what was that like?

We're very lucky that this was our third year playing Glastonbury and each year it just gets better! It's the festival you want to play when you start out as a band, so yes, it's a big milestone!

As it's been a couple of years since your last album, *Coming Up For Air* was

released, is there any level of uncertainty about releasing new music?

I think with anything, if you've been away for a while there will always be some nerves, but we're so happy and confident in what we're putting out that whatever happens, we know we're proud of what we made!

What's it been like to work with different producers and writers on your latest album?

With this album we wanted to expand our

horizons, so working with different people was part of that and I think we've achieved something special! This album is really about friends and family and people in our lives, which was kind of unintentional as we didn't set out like that, but the strongest songs were on those topics!

What was the inspiration behind your latest track *Brother*?

It's about us really! We're like brothers to each other and would do anything for one-another and it's about just saying that you got them, no matter what!

Do you ever watch *Gogglebox* (considering *Perfect World* is used as the notorious theme song!)

A few times yes! It's awesome that our song is the theme for it as it gets

our music out to a huge audience and people that may not have even heard of us - so it's great, and the show is very funny!

Being an Irish all-male band, are you often compared to other Irish bands, e.g. *The Script*, *Westlife*?

Never got the Westlife one before, haha! But yeah, *The Script* we've got a few times! Comparisons are a way of life and when you're trying to describe something new, you always use what's come before! We don't mind to be honest, *The Script* are amazing guys and hugely successful, so yeah, it's cool with us!

What advice would you give to music students who are wanting to establish a career in the music industry?

Keep at it! This industry is so hot and cold and you have to have the self-confidence and belief in what you are doing and that no matter how many knocks you get, you can get right back up and keep moving forward!

Play as many shows and work with as many people as you can and word will spread! Oh and be nice, nothing worse than an overly arrogant person or band that think they are God's gift!

What are your plans for the rest of this year?

Well, myself and our bassist Jay are getting married to our respective partners, and then it's back to releasing a few more singles before the album and a big European/UK tour in November and December, so yeah, busy!

“ No matter how many knocks you get, you can get right back up and keep moving forward! ”

DRUMMER
Vinny May



Getting ready for the **NEXT STEP**

ARE YOU READY FOR UNIVERSITY?

Summer is the perfect time to chill, relax and get sorted for the start of university.

Starting university can feel very nerve-wracking but don't worry, you'll be busy meeting new friends, learning new things and enjoying the student night life!

To get you on the right path, we wanted to give you some hints and tips to starting your student life off the right way. So whether you're starting one of our very own creative courses, or moving onto another university - we have all the best info for you.

EXCLUSIVE PMT OFFER

5% Off Main Purchases and 10% Off Accessories

- Offer needs to exclude finance and any other offers
- Available in PMT Nottingham with valid Confetti Student Card



Fresher's Week

Get involved! Fresher's Week's a great opportunity to meet new people and get a feel for the city you're in. Don't overdo it and stock up on medicine - you may end up with Fresher's flu!



Night Life

There's no night life like the student night life! You'll have invites to student-only clubs and bars, all luring you in with cheap drinks offers. No matter how cheap they are, it can soon add up - so check your spreadsheet and only take the cash out you can afford to spend. Once it's gone, it's home time.



Books

You'll have plenty of books on that reading list of yours, but do some research before spending your cash. Some books may be available in your university library. Also check out if you can buy the books second hand - it'll save you a few quid!



Student Bank Account

Sort yourself a student bank account - banks have lots of exclusive deals for students. So do some research and see which is best for you, you could end up getting up to £100 cash back!



Budgeting

Getting your first student loan payment through can be pretty exciting, it's a lot of money and the temptation will be there to blow it! Be sensible, make a spreadsheet with all of your necessities and keep on top of it. Then you'll have no reason to feel guilty buying a new outfit for your big nights out.



Student Discount

You're a student now, so with your university card you'll have access to lots of student discounts in store and online.

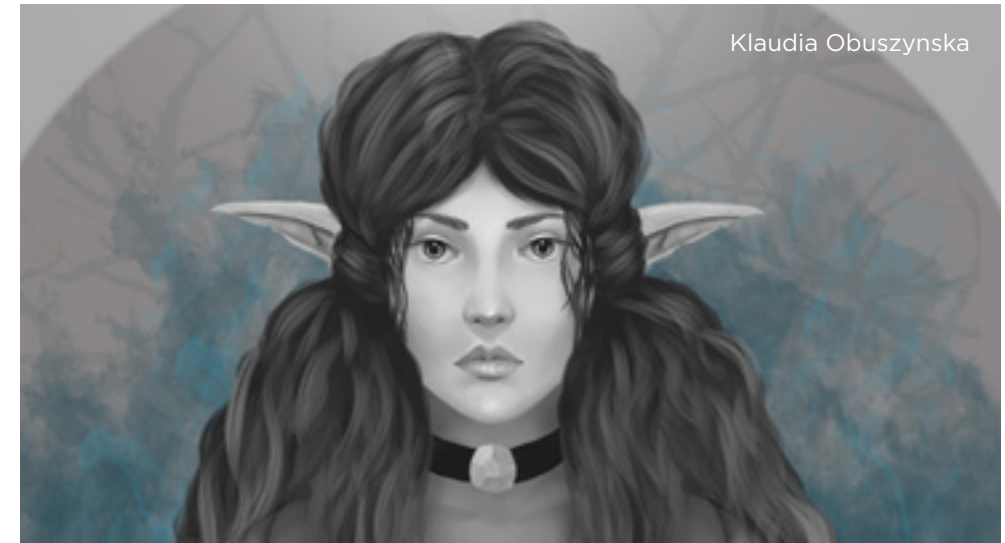
Just enjoy it!

Make the most of your time at uni, join some societies, make some lifelong friends, and soak up all of that education.

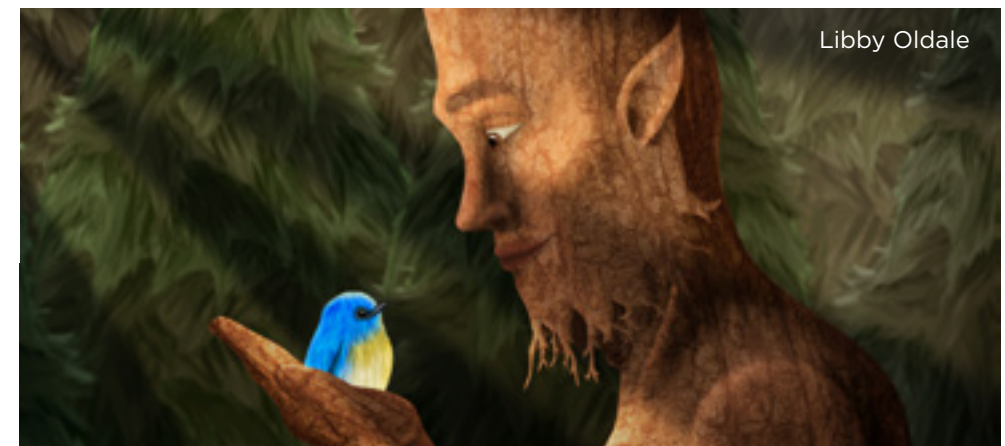
SPOTLIGHT ON GAMES ART

Rowan Unsworth

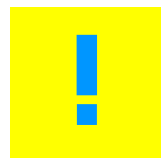
Our Games Art students have had an amazing year - with their work being displayed in numerous exhibitions and winning multiple awards. Here's what they got up to...



Klaudia Obuszynska



Libby Oldale



Level 3 Exhibition

As part of their course, our Level 3 Games Art students organised their own exhibition - showcasing their creative work to friends and family, receiving some great feedback as part of their final year.

The National Videogame Arcade's Education Manager Rachel Barrett was invited to view the work before selecting the best to be featured within the NVA over the summer.

Tunnel Vision

Our students regularly have their work displayed in the city's Tunnel Vision experience - a series of LED screens in the intu Broadmarsh & Victoria shopping centres. The prominent location gives students the opportunity to get their work displayed in public.

Celebrate

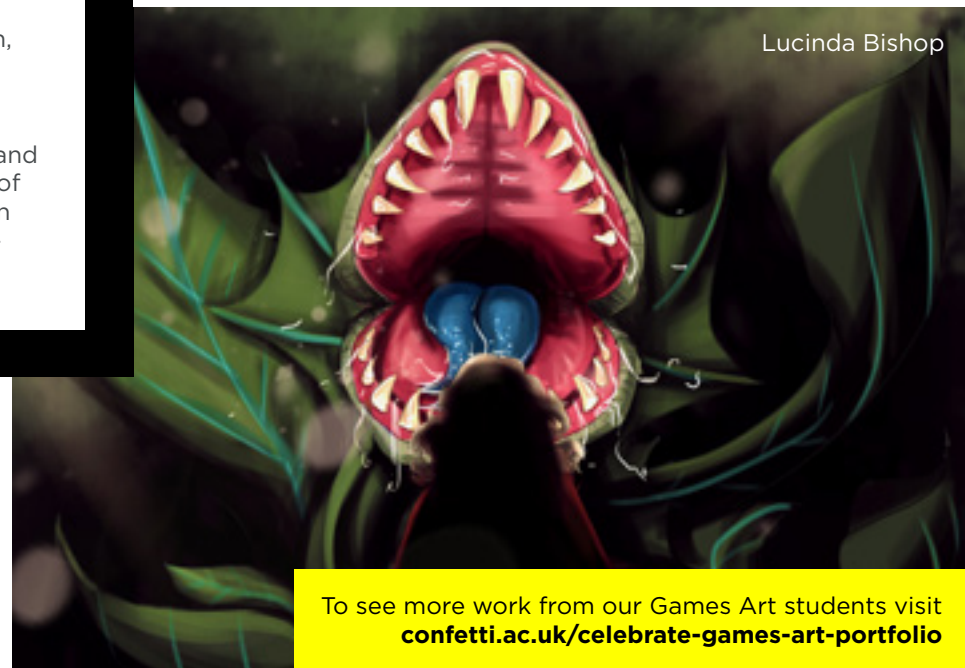
Last month our Games Art students took part in the annual end-of-term event Celebrate. They exhibited their artwork in the National Videogame Arcade in the heart of the Creative Quarter - a great way to get noticed by the local creative community!

Young Creative Awards

For the second year in a row, Confetti students dominated the Animation & Media category at the Young Creative Awards, walking away with four awards and being highly commended in the Film, Photography and Visual Arts categories.

National Videogame Arcade

Our FdA Games Art students displayed and sold their work in the NVA in July. Eight of our students currently have their work on display in the public gallery at the NVA - which will stay up across the summer.



Lucinda Bishop



Lewis Harrison

“ I was really proud of how good the students' work looked; it was fantastic to see their artwork placed within an institution such as the National Videogame Arcade. I think it's a rare opportunity to exhibit somewhere like this, and hopefully they will be proud of their accomplishments.

Adam Cain

Games Art Course Leader

To see more work from our Games Art students visit confetti.ac.uk/celebrate-games-art-portfolio

WORK BEGINS ON CONFETTI'S CONTEMPORARY MUSIC EDUCATION HUB

OPENING OCTOBER 2017

Confetti is set to become a leading force in contemporary music education with the creation of our new home for music and live events in Nottingham.



We have always re-invested in our facilities to stay current, but this development takes our provision for music and events to another level. It makes Nottingham a “must go to” destination for contemporary music education.

Craig Chettle
Founder and Chief
Executive at CICT

Designed by world renowned acoustic architects White Mark Ltd

- 14 rehearsal spaces
- 5 recording studios
- 300 capacity live event venue
- Critical listening seminar room
- Live events production workspace
- Mastering, surround sound and post production studio

We're working on transforming the ground-floor of the Marco Island building in Nottingham into a contemporary music and events education hub which will include music studios, rehearsal rooms, sound recording and editing suites, social spaces and a 300-capacity auditorium.

The first spaces are expected to be ready for students starting a course this October and the full development is expected to be open by Spring 2018.

This means that if you've accepted an offer to study on either our college-level or degree courses in Music Performance, Music Technology and Live and Technical Events production, you'll learn in some of the finest studios in Europe!

The new music hub is going to be kitted out with all the latest industry-standard equipment, and acoustic and technical design for the new spaces is being delivered by renowned industry specialists White Mark.



Confetti's new Contemporary Music Hub will, undoubtedly, be an educational centre of European significance.

Its facilities – both in quality and variety, will fully reflect the highest standards of the professional work place and offer students a learning experience in a context that truly represents the world in which they hope to succeed.

David Bell
Managing Director White Mark

The location of the new music hub places our students right on the doorstep of the UK's largest musical instruments retailer and our close partners, Professional Music Technology.

The new music hub will not only be a teaching space, but together with our partners at Nottingham Trent University, we'll also run a distinctive programme of public-facing activities, such as gigs and events.

The Marco Island space is our second site being developed this year – find out more about our campus developments and stay up-to date with all the latest news.

INTRODUCING

Luke Radford



**LEVEL 3
TV & FILM TUTOR**

How did you get into teaching at Confetti?

I cut my teeth at Stone Soup Academy, an alternative provision school, teaching kids that had been removed from mainstream education how to make music videos and short films. I saw a job advertised at Confetti and jumped at the opportunity. Confetti turned my life around during my teens, I'm not sure where I would have ended up if I hadn't studied here.

Tell us a bit about your background in TV & Film?

I graduated Confetti and worked odd jobs to pay the bills whilst crewing on different projects, including a music video with grime legend Footsie and also as production manager on a short film/youth project called "Guillemot". The director Nick Marq had played one of the air rifle hippies in "Lock Stock &

Two Smoking Barrels" before going into producing and directing films. I shadowed him for all of the production, noting down how he interacted and collaborated with the cast & crew. Since then I've produced and directed music videos for a range of Notts artists - Connor Spray, Darkzy, Youthoracle, J. Littles and Jah Digga.

Any projects outside of teaching?

Heart of Chaos is the biggest and most time consuming. It's near impossible making a feature whilst holding down a full time job, though the experience and what I have learnt has been invaluable. Stuntman Adam Collins got me involved to co-direct a screenplay he had written. It's a love letter to the 80s/90s action films my dad showed me as a kid - Die Hard, Predator, Lethal Weapon, all of the old Steven Seagal and Jean Claude Van Damme

films. We had an SFX team blow up the Council House foyer and a junkyard in Stapleford, part of the stunt team from "Star Wars Force Awakens" and "Avengers Age of Ultron" also came down for a few days. Confetti has been supportive from the beginning and having students involved, both past and present, is a testament to the talent that comes through here.

Outside of that I'm working on a documentary/promo piece about St Ann's rapper Jah Digga. His life is literally a film, the narrative is insane; beautiful and heartbreaking. Producer Nick Stez has scored the film, I can't wait to show people what we have produced.

What do you love most about TV & Film?

It's all I've ever wanted to do. Before I had any understanding of how films were made I wanted to be an actor.

gigantic

5 tips

TO GET YOUR EVENT SOLD

1 Sell Tickets Online
Regardless of the scale of your event, selling tickets online helps in so many ways. What happens if you book a band into a 150-capacity venue, but demand is too huge? By monitoring online ticket sales, you can move the venue in advance if needed.

2 Keep Pricing Flexible
You should always give the impression that your event is going to sell out and customers should buy tickets in advance to guarantee they get in. If it comes to the day and you have only sold 50 tickets and 150 have said they're attending on social media, that's when you can announce the door price to get as many people coming as possible.

3 Marketing
Marketing differs depending on the type of event. I definitely recommend putting posters up around the city and into the listings pages within publications such as Wire and Leftlion. Most importantly, marketing spend should be focused on social media. Get your acts to shoulder the burden of marketing for you; they should share links and event news on their own channels.

4 Get Help
There are loads of people who can help to sell out your event. A ticket agency will have local data that they can email, so speak with them and create a local network of promoters and work together. You can also use your mates as brand ambassadors. For example, if they sell tickets on your behalf - offer them free entry. Your chosen venue might also have footfall that you can promote to.

5 Don't Panic and Don't Give Up
If it comes to the day of the show and your numbers are low, don't worry! Everyone has to start somewhere and your audiences will grow organically. So don't give up and stop promoting! Promoters are the unsung heroes of the DIY music scene and take the risks both emotionally and financially. There will be promoters up and down the country who'll tell you how they lost money on an Ed Sheeran or Adele show for example. Every sold out event gives you the funding to put on the three shows you believe in, but won't sell out.

Gigantic is one of the UK's best-known independent ticketing agencies, which sells tickets to events including Ed Sheeran and Download Festival. Simon Carpenter, Business Development Manager at the Nottingham based agency, shares his five top tips to get your event sold.



TOP 5 FILMS

- 1 Apocalypse Now
- 2 Seven
- 3 Mean Streets
- 4 Saturday Night & Sunday Morning
- 5 Badlands





Degree Showcase 2017

The academic year for our university students ends with our annual Degree Showcase. This year we welcomed family, friends and industry professionals to our dedicated TV & Film hub – Space2 – to watch, listen, test and play the fantastic work of this year’s graduating degree students. From games designers and TV & filmmakers, to music producers and sound engineers – our students displayed their diverse range of skills through complex final year projects – such as documentaries, videogame levels, remixes and mastering portfolios.

We kicked off the degree showcase with a private view, specifically for industry professionals

and VIPs to enjoy the celebration of our students’ work, giving them the opportunity to network and showcase their talents to all the right people.

Industry professionals such as our TV & Film ambassador Vicky McClure, former king of Rockstar Games Andy Davis and one part of Nottingham Duo Congi – Gary Frost turned up to see the work of the next generation of creative and technical talent. Our students even got to brush shoulders with the Sheriff of Nottingham Councillor Glyn Jenkins!

The rainy weather outside did not dampen the mood of exhibiting students and excitement was high as the doors to the Showcase opened for day two for the general public, family and friends to enjoy their work.



As day turned to evening, students and their families and friends gathered in the Space 2 TV studio for the Degree Showcase awards ceremony, hosted by Notts TV presenter Iain Chambers. The best degree students were recognised and rewarded for their hard work and dedication. One by one, the 16 winners collected their awards and gave speeches which highlighted the important role the support of Confetti tutors, their families and peers have had on their achievements.

Take a look at our online portfolio at confetti.ac.uk



WINNERS...

Achievement in Live Production
Design Callum Maxwell

Best Television Show
James Hutton

Best Games Project
Jaroslaw Wisniewski

Best Music Production
Joseph Langford
Christopher Ball

Best Film
Oliver Blair

Best Visual Effects Production
Jake Eden

Do It For Real
Merryn Rae Peachy

Rising Star Award
Alice Mills

Event Student of the Year
Lewis Jones

TV Student of the Year
James Hutton

Games Student of the Year
Akshay Soni

Music Student of the Year
Joseph Legge

Film Student of the Year
Mitchell Brown

VFX Student of the Year
Ja'maul Adams

Confetti Institute of Creative Technologies' Student of the Year
James Hutton

CELEBRATE

Our annual college-level student showcase 'Celebrate' took place in July and was a massive success! Our students went offsite to display their work at Broadway Cinema, The National Videogame Arcade and Rough Trade - all venues within minutes of Confetti, in the heart of Nottingham's Creative Quarter.

The Broadway Cinema screened The 'Celebrate short film festival'. Showcasing documentaries, music videos, commercials and short film productions, our talented TV, Film & Acting students showcased their creative flair with the screen.

Our gaming gallery, digital media and VFX exhibition, presented at the National Videogame Arcade was a hit with family, friends, and the public. Students were able to showcase their creative talents that they've built on course.



The line-up at Rough Trade represented Confetti's Music Performance, Tech and Live Events students - good vibes and great sounds. Whilst our performers took to the stage, DJs mixed on the decks and the technical events crew pulled out all the stops with their lighting and sound skills - the audience enjoyed the Confetti free music gig.



Our staff and students pulled off an amazing showcase over three venues allowing us to show the people of Nottingham our young creatives!





ROLL SOUND

STUDENT SOUND COMPANY

Confetti students Charlie and Josh have started their own audio engineering company – Roll Sound. We caught up with them to see how their new venture is going...

Tell us a bit more about your company?

At Roll Sound we offer audio engineering for TV, film and games. We provide audio engineering services for pre and post-production, including recording on location, sound design, ADR and stereo mixing.

How did you get started?

We worked on a former Confetti student's TV series. When his sound guy was taken ill, we filled in for him while he was recovering. After this, word spread and we had other students messaging us saying that they've heard good things and need reliable sound

recordists/boom ops. We realised that there was potential for a career in this area of the industry for us, so we invested in equipment and promoted our services on social media platforms and forums.

What has been your biggest success so far?

Our biggest success is that our name is becoming known. People are now contacting us about quotes and the services we offer. We have a great group of contacts through working with new people and attending the TV & Film Tweetups held by Confetti's sister company, Antenna.

Initially, we worked mainly on creative projects, such as shorts and TV shows, whereas now, we have contacts who have given us work recording promotional videos for businesses across Nottingham.

What are you looking forward to working on next?

We are working to complete a final mix for a pilot TV series produced by Coalescent Films. We have worked with these guys for a while now and are confident that only good things will come from the work we do with them.

We'll be responsible for adding Foley, sound design and completing the overall mix of the pilot. This will then be marketed and promoted to distribution companies locally and nationally.

We have also just begun to promote our new mobile ADR service which consists of a portable recording studio that can be set up at the location of the filmmaker's choice. This is cheaper and easier for filmmakers, as we come to them with a studio rather



than them having to get all the actors together to go to a studio.

What made you choose to come to Confetti?

Charlie: I chose to study at Confetti because I wanted to make a career out of sound engineering and a family friend told me that Confetti would be the best place to study sound. I then did a Level 2 course and wanted to carry on my studies with Confetti on the Level 3 Studio & Live course. I'll be going on to higher education at Confetti this year to study Audio & Music Technology.

Josh: I chose to study at Confetti after moving up from Cornwall with the desire to go back to education and learn more about what I love – sound. Initially, I wanted to study Level 3 Urban & Electronic with my interests being in beat-making and

songwriting. However, my GCSE's held me back a year and by the time I got to Level 3, I had a better understanding of what I wanted to do, so I chose Studio & Live. I'm now looking forward to starting a degree course with Confetti in September.

How do you juggle your studies with your working life?

It can be stressful at times, especially if we have multiple deadlines for college projects, as well as recording on-location and completing sound editing for our Roll Sound clients.

Our way around it is to make a start on our college projects as soon as we get them and bounce off each other with ideas and points to make in our assignments. We then work together on our post-production work progressively until we are both happy with the results.



At times our social lives are constricted, but, in return we've made some good friends and had some great experiences. We find the pressure of deadlines helps us push ourselves further, if we had too much time on our hands we may procrastinate, but, we genuinely don't have the time for that.

What advice would you give students looking to start a course at Confetti?

Aim high and stay consistent. The axiom that you're only as good as your most recent work is true.

If you're always pushing yourself to improve and learn new things, no matter what the scenario or industry, there will be a way to apply this knowledge to what interests you.

5 Valve Amps

That won't annoy your housemates
(unless you want them to)

Let's face it, valve or tube amplifiers are made to be played loud - any guitarist will tell you that they sound best when you absolutely crank the life out of them and get the tubes hot. Although cranking a tube amp right up feels and sounds amazing, it's not always practical when you're at home or in halls. If you want that gorgeous valve amp tone without having to blow out your windows, here's the best tube amplifiers for home use that won't get you evicted!



Marshall 2525C Mini Silver Jubilee Combo

Since the original Marshall 2555 Silver Jubilee amplifiers were released in 1987 to commemorate 25 years of Marshall amps and 50 years of Jim Marshall's influence in music, the amplifiers have taken on an

almost God-like status as the ultimate "must-have" for tone snobs. Getting hold of one has been almost impossible - until now. The Marshall Mini 2525c Silver Jubilee combo has been constructed using the same diagrams that Jim Marshall used to craft the original.

Why is this a good tube amp for home use?

The Marshall Mini 2525c Silver Jubilee combo is a great gigging amp thanks to the fact you have 20 watts of power at your disposal, however you can use the three-position standby switch to drop the power output to 5 watts. This means you get the same Jubilee roar at a lower volume - perfect for recording at home or just jamming.

Why is this a good tube amp for home use?

The cool thing about the EVH 5150III 15W LBXII is the introduction of the 1/4 power switch, which allows you to drop the output of the 15-watt head to 3.5 watts. This means you can make good use of the Green and Blue channels within the amp and push those four ECC83S preamp tubes and two EL84 power tubes as much as you want without the huge volume. A great amp that you can use to perfect your sound at home and then transfer to the live arena by flicking the switch back to 15 watts!



EVH 5150III 15W LBXII Amplifier Head

We're bucking the trend a little here by talking about a head rather than a combo amplifier, but with good reason! The EVH 5150III 15W LBXII Amplifier Head is a lunchbox sized amplifier that packs some serious tonal punch that Eddie Van Halen would be proud of.

PMT HOUSE OF ROCK

Come and visit the PMT Nottingham Music Superstore. We've got one of the largest selections of musical instruments, guitars, amps, drums, DJ, PA, recording equipment, keys and more! Call in today and speak to us about the best amp for your set up!

VOX AC4C1-12 Custom Series Guitar Amplifier Combo

Vox amplifiers are renowned for their "cranked tube" sound, but getting that classic tone means cranking the volume too - which is not always practical! Thankfully, the team at Vox understand how important it is to achieve that sound at a lower volume, hence the introduction of the VOX AC4C1-12 Custom Series Guitar Amplifier Combo.

Why is this a good tube amp for home use?

The Vox AC4C1-12 is a highly portable amplifier packed with 4 watts of power and a Celestion 12" speaker. The fact it's only 4 watts means you can drive the 2 x 12AX7 preamp tubes and EL84 power tube without destroying your hearing. You have that classic Vox tone at lower volumes! The addition of the Top Boost tone switch means you can add more high-end dynamics and bite to your sound, which is extremely useful for those in need of that coveted tube grit!



Fender Pro Junior III Combo Amplifier

The Fender Pro Junior III Combo Amplifier has quickly become an industry-standard amplifier for those in need of a portable valve amp small enough for home and studio use, but loud enough for the stage. It's an extremely straight-forward amplifier to use with a single channel, making it a great amplifier for the valve amp "first timers", professional gigging musicians or home players.

Why is this a good tube amp for home use?

This nifty little amp is packed with 15 watts of power through 2 x 12AX7 preamp tubes, 2 x EL84 power tubes, and 1 x solid state rectifier tube, as well as a 10" Special Design speaker, so getting that authentic "tube break-up" sound isn't a problem. The single volume and single tone knobs make it extremely easy to use and the fact it only weighs 9kg means bringing it home from practice won't break your back!



Orange Rocker 15 1x10 Valve Amp

Although Orange prefer to do things LOUD, turning up to 11 isn't always practical, so the team at Orange have crafted the ultimate option for lovers of that tube amp sound, just at lower volumes - the Orange Rocker 15.

Why is this a good tube amp for home use?

The huge benefit to the Orange Rocker 15 amp lies within the Bedroom/Headroom switch, which allows you to change the output power of the amplifier. It's a 15 watt amp that you can drop to 7 watts or as low as 1 watt via the flick of a switch. This means you can enjoy all that tube amp sound, whether clean or dirty, at home.



WHAT'S ON IN NOTTS?



NOTTINGHAM CARIBBEAN CARNIVAL
Victoria Embankment

Never been to the Caribbean? Don't worry because the Caribbean Carnival is returning to Nottingham.

The stress of Results Day will be over, so celebrate at this vibrant carnival full of colourful costumes and action-packed entertainment. Along the riverside you'll also find music stages, workshops, stalls and even a large funfair at the Carnival Village.



SUMMER NIGHTS FILM FESTIVAL
Wollaton Hall

Summer Nights is the perfect way to spend an evening under the stars with your mates. Set up your spot on the lawn seating area, then sit back and enjoy the atmosphere until the film starts on the big screen after sunset.

This year's films include, Jurassic Park, The Dark Knight Rises, Rogue One: A Star Wars Story and Moulin Rouge.



MAYHEM FILM FESTIVAL
Broadway Cinema

With premieres, previews, special guests and midnight screenings, film students and fans can expect the best in horror, sci-fi and cult cinema at Mayhem. You can meet special guests, celebrate new and emerging talent, and discover exciting new features and short films. You never know, it might just give you the inspiration you need to take your own short film to the next level.



NOTTINGHAM COMIC CONVENTION
Nottingham Conference Centre

In its 5th year here at Nottingham, Comic Con has a lot of exciting activities in store for all you comic fans. Enjoy live music from some of the best local bands plus seminars and Q&A panels. Browse through over 150 comic exhibitors, as well as some awesome artists who are waiting to talk to you about their work.



GOOSE FAIR
Forest Recreation Ground

The Goose Fair returns to the Forest Recreation Ground, bringing you an action-packed few days, full of over 500 attractions - perfect timing after the student loans drop. From rides for the extreme thrill seekers to the popular stalls for all you foodies, there's something for everyone.

If you're new to Nottingham, this festival is a hit with the locals and should never be missed!



HOCKLEY HUSTLE
Hockley

Experience live music in over 24 venues along the streets of Hockley, just a stone's throw away from Confetti. This music festival is well known for being a springboard for local musical acts with the likes of Jake Bugg, Saint Raymond and Liam Bailey all performing at the Hustle - so watch out for the next rising stars of Nottingham! Last year's event was absolutely fantastic and our students gained valuable experience working and performing at the different venues.



ROCKINGHAM MUSIC FESTIVAL
Nottingham Trent Students' Union

This year's Rock Festival of Nottingham, held at Nottingham Trent's Student Union building, has a great line-up confirmed for you to enjoy quality music with your mates. With the likes of Kix, Loverboy and Vince Neil of Mötley Crüe headlining, hard-rock lovers are in for a treat.

For the full line-up and ticket information, go to twww.rockinghamlive.com



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