



# hightide

OCTOBER 2009

SCARBOROUGH'S ESSENTIAL GUIDE

**Ten and counting:  
Mighty Musicport**

**Battle of the Sands**

**First bite for horrorfest**

AND: music arts theatre comedy  
film exhibitions poetry food & drink

[www.hightidemagazine.com](http://www.hightidemagazine.com)

Autumn nights bring us a ton of events this month. We're spreading our wings to take in the brand new Bram Stoker film festival in Whitby, and going south to Brid for the ever-wonderful Musicport.

Back in Scarborough we feature the Battle of the Sands. A new Scarborough Film Society season gets into full swing, plus the return of the Other Side Comedy Club – and Alan Ayckbourn is back at the SJT with a new play.

It's no time to stay in.

## OCTOBER 2009

### This month

#### Well tended Edge

The Scarborough Campus cutting edge performance series returns

#### Horrorfest takes its first bite

James Latimer on a new goth horror film festival

#### Misty plays for Musicport

The world music festival celebrates a decade with a brilliant lineup

#### Jousting guitars and a wild, wild night

Bands queue up to battle for a top slot at next year's Coastival event

## PERFORMANCE



### Janis Bright welcomes the return of a contemporary classic

Scarborough Campus' eclectic performance season gets underway this month. On the Edge, programmed by Jo Beddoe, has brought dance, theatre, music, poetry and even performance cooking to the stage in Scarborough over recent years.

This season promises another strong lineup, starting on Wednesday 7 October with ReAlity, a performance/installation by new company bacchus. The show explores the impact of social networking sites, inviting the audience to play in the physical and virtual world of the performance. Bacchus consists of three theatre and performance graduates from Scarborough.

Other shows in the season include: spoken word artist and musician Zena Edwards, returning by popular demand with her new performance Security; musicians Burkhard Beins and Rhodri Davies; and dancer Marie-Gabrielle Rotie. December sees visits from dramatist Oliver Bray and the traditional School's Out performance with local and national bands coming together for a spectacular celebration.

More details from our events listings page, or call the School of Arts and New Media on 01723 357351.



# Horrorfest takes its first bite

## James Latimer introduces the first Bram Stoker International Film Festival

The festival from 16 to 19 October was established in order to provide more opportunities and exposure for filmmakers, screenwriters, Sci-Fi and games developers working within the horror, science fiction and suspense genres, as well as to draw more attention to the beautiful seaside town of Whitby by means of what we plan to become an annual event.

At our festival you will be treated to over 40 horror, thriller and science fiction films. Whether a short film made by a young director or a large budget feature by a Hollywood professional, all our movies are of a high standard. But they are unusual enough that chances are you won't have had a chance to see them anywhere else! These are certainly not the kind of films you would find at your local cinema. We can also boast the largest genre festival in Britain with over a total of two dozen UK and world premieres.

It's not all about the films though: on Friday 16 October we welcome you to our opening night party featuring Cabaret Gothique by the Velvet Burlesque company and performances by the Mocky Horror Tribute Show. Fancy dress is more than encouraged.

Dare you walk in Dracula's footsteps? The Vampire Walk is a world first and aims to be a record breaking gathering of vampires. The walk is designed to be a fun event for all the family and will be started by the world famous Hammer actress and Countess Dracula herself, Ingrid Pitt. This fun event is for the benefit of the Great North Air Ambulance.

Tickets are on sale now priced at £88 for the full four days (including the Friday night opening party) or £25 per day. They can be bought from our website or from the Whitby Spa Pavilion.

## WORLD MUSIC

# Misty plays for Musicport

## - and the food van's back!



Now in its tenth year, Musicport festival promises a fantastic weekend of music from around the globe. Roger Osborne previews this year's highlights

Britain's biggest indoor festival of world music is showing alarming signs of getting even better. Those who made it to Bridlington Spa last year saw Musicport bedding itself into its new venue – like a bunch of kids partying in a stately home.

The wonderful Grand Hall gives you a host of viewing points, from front of stage to the sumptuous balcony; and when certain bands got out onto the dance floor the place was a carnival. Part of the fun is exploring the building, coming across the acoustic stage, the DJ room (highly recommended for a total blast), bars and eateries.

This year's programme sees

the return of great names like Misty In Roots, Chumbawumba, the Ukrainians and Jean Binta Breeze. As for Musicport debutantes, organiser Jim McLaughlin told High Tide: 'We've booked some acts we've long wanted such as Nitin Sawhney, Mad Professor, Jim Moray, The African Jazz Allstars & Les 4 Etoiles, plus some really interesting new acts including Carmen Souza, Rango, Malam Mamane Barka, Delta Maid, Voluntary Butler Scheme, Pacific Curls (New Zealand) and Ted Key.'

Who is Jim most looking forward to seeing? 'It's really hard to choose as I've never booked anyone I didn't want to

see.' Nevertheless he did plump for Rango, Justin Adams & Juldeh Camara, Pacific Curls, The Ukrainians and, Jim says, 'possibly my favourite singer of all time, Julie Murphy with Fernhill.'

Talking of eateries, this year sees the return of the food vans (hooray!) including a Tibetan kitchen. Wonderful music, sea, sun, sand and noodle soup with dumplings; can you resist?

**Musicport runs from 23 to 25 October at Bridlington Spa. Details from [www.musicportfestival.com](http://www.musicportfestival.com)**

# Jousting guitars and a wild, wild night



**Roger Osborne on the latest event for rebels with a cause**

Battle of the Sands Sounds like Scarborough repelling an alien invasion of South Bay, but Battle of the Sands is a musical showcase and talent competition rolled into one. Following on from last year's successful event, ten bands will be battling it out for the privilege of appearing on the main stage at a major concert in the Spa Grand Hall early next year.

The aim of the event, as organiser Stuart Holroyd explains, is to show off some of the best up and coming bands from around Yorkshire and 'to put Scarborough on the musical map'.

The ten finalists have been whittled down from 35 entries

from all around Yorkshire. The first selection round was done by listening to demos. Seven of the final ten are from Scarborough (including some familiar names like We Heart Katamari and Alistair James), two from Whitby and one from Doncaster. The bands will play through the afternoon and evening. The panel of judges will announce the winners, who then get to play again. Last year's winners, the fabulously named Mum Locked in Castle (who won a support slot to Feeder at Coastival) will play while the judging takes place.

Stuart says: 'There will be a variety of music on offer, from straight rock to reggae to acoustic, but with the

emphasis on choosing a band who can project across a big venue.' This year's judges are Jock Bray (formerly of Cockroach), James Koppert, Kate Longmate and Matt Seymour from the BBC. 'Last year', Stuart says, 'the quality of the bands last year was exceptional - an excellent line up of young talent.' This year promises the same. At 11 bands for a fiver, Battle of the Sands must be this month's musical bargain.

**Battle of the Sands, 2pm til late, Saturday 10 October, Scarborough Spa Ocean Room. Tickets £5 from Mojo's, or ring Create on 01723 384545, [www.create.uk.net](http://www.create.uk.net)**