

CONFETTI STUDENT MAGAZINE

wire

**ALICE
LEVINE**

FROM GROWING UP IN NOTTS
TO WORKING FOR THE BBC

DEGREE SHOW 2016

THIS YEAR'S WINNERS

ASHFIELDS

NEW LOCAL TALENT

NEW COURSES

DO A FULL DEGREE AT CONFETTI



confetti

Institute of creative technologies

SUM/2016



The Summer 2016 edition of Confetti student magazine 'The Wire', features a whole host of reaction to our Degree Show and an interview with Notts born Alice Levine.

Be sure to check out our interview with Confetti tutor Mark Pearson and find out about his label Leftback. We've caught up with former Confetti student Michael Jobling who told us all about his experience on the top-up degree at NTU and working with local TV station Notts TV. There's also an interview with up and coming Reading band Sundara Karma and local talent, ASHFIELDS.

In addition, we have some great student finance advice, as well as a list of the best summer events to spend all that free time you lucky people have coming up!

Have a brilliant summer, see you soon.

The Confetti Team

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DEGREE SHOWCASE 2016

On Wednesday 15 June we opened the doors of our HE centre and invited industry leaders and members of the public to browse the best work from this year's graduating degree students. Exhibiting the work of the next generation of creative and technical talent, this year's Confetti Degree Showcase has been one of the best yet.

The rainy weather outside didn't dampen the mood of our students and excitement was palpable as the doors to the Showcase opened and the first visitors stepped in. Family, friends, prospective students and graduates alike walked through the Confetti HE centre and our flagship studio Electric Mayhem, to see first-hand what months of hard work and preparation from some of the most talented creative graduates in the UK looks, sounds and feels like.

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.

As day turned to evening, students and their family and friends gathered in Antenna for the Degree Showcase Awards ceremony. Hosted

by Notts TV presenter Richard Spurr, the awards recognised excellence and rewarded the best degree students 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.

The evening festivities were a true testament to Confetti's dedication to creating and maintaining a tight-knit community which supports talent and personal development. The Milo Kelly Memorial Award was a special introduction to this year's awards and celebrated the most promising up and coming talent from within the ranks of first year degree students.

The evening ended on a celebratory note as Confetti CEO Craig Chettle took to the stage to award the Student of the Year accolade to Reece Taylor. In an exciting twist, he also announced a special prize for all those who were named Student of the Year in their respective fields, in the form of an internship.

From all of us here at Confetti, we would like to congratulate all our graduates for their outstanding performance and wish them the best of luck for the future!



“THE THING I AM PROUDEST OF IS THE HIGHLY IMPRESSIVE STANDARD OF WORK SHOWCASED BY OUR STUDENTS.”

- Craig Chettle, CEO



AWARD WINNERS

Congratulations to all of our winners from the night...



Games

- Achievement in 3D Design - Reece Taylor
- Achievement in Games Audio - Patrick Scott
- Achievement in Level Design - Samuel Lloyd
- Achievement in Game Concept - Chris Luniw



TV & Film

- Best Client Led Production - Jack Booth
- Best Director - Ryan Harvey
- Achievement in Post-production - Jack Booth
- Best Short - Oliver Blair



Music

- Best Music Production - Tom Smith & George French
- Achievement in Audio Engineering - Jonathan Butler
- Achievement in Industry - Jack Wright, Plus Ultra Records



Student of the Year

- Student Ambassador of the Year - Fransua Samuel
- FdSc TV & Film Technology - Rowena Brett
- FdSc Music Technology - Ryan Prokaza
- BSc Audio & Recording Technology - Ojas Pancholy
- FdSc Games Technology - Reece Taylor
- Milo Kelly Rising Star Award - Oliver Swales
- Confetti Student of the Year - Reece Taylor



CELEBRATE

It's not just our degree-show students who've been showing what they're made of! Our BTEC students put together a showcase of their very best work at this year's 'Celebrate'.

Featuring work from Games, Music, Digital Design and TV & Film, our annual event brings together family and friends in a day-long exhibition of exciting and innovative work.

Head to confetti.ac.uk for highlights from the day and to check out the gallery!

Alice Levine

After graduating from university, Nottingham-born Alice Levine has made her mark in the world of TV, music, radio AND fashion. We caught up with her after she hosted at Notts Fashion Week to see what advice she has to share...



You've worked across many areas within broadcast, what do you enjoy most?

I really like live – whether that be TV or radio. It's so exciting, that feeling that anything could happen. I think that's why my favourite element of my job is interviewing people, the challenge of getting something new and unrehearsed out of someone and managing to put them at ease, is always going to interest me.

How did you adapt to life in London after graduating – did you have a job waiting?

I went straight into an internship with my friend James at a TV company. The job was really fun and we got to make a lot of our own stuff but, in retrospect, I would never have gotten through it if we weren't doing it together. London felt really huge in the beginning. It takes you a while to build your network.

Do you get back up to Nottingham much?

I visit as often as I can – I love going and seeing my mum and dad and usually try and time it so my brother is home too. I don't really do much when I'm there, it's proper down time. My mum has a huge allotment so we'll cook a big dinner with things she's grown.

What are your best memories from growing up in Notts?

My best memories are all based around the friends that I met at school and college and I'm happy to say they're all pretty much my closest friends now too.

I remember going to the Pizza Express in town with one of my girlfriends and thinking we were really grown up.

We had two independent cinemas in Nottingham at the time – The Broadway and The Screen Room, which is apparently the tiniest cinema in Europe. We used to see everything that was on, we'd even sometimes see two films in a row. I'd love to have time to go as much now.

What led you to a career in the media?

I got really into making little films at university with James Cooper and Jamie Morton (co-hosts of 'My Dad Wrote A Porno') and that got me into being in front of the camera. I never really thought about being a presenter before as it had never really occurred to me that it was a job. I knew I wanted to work at the BBC in some capacity though – they made all the programmes I loved.

What's been your best experience in radio?

Broadcasting from Glastonbury for the first time was definitely a defining moment. Generally getting to interview bands I love and actors I admire and making my living playing records. It's pretty incredible to call that a job.

You've recently been working with Finery alongside another Confetti favourite, Vicky McClure, on creating your own fashion pieces – what was that experience like?

Great – I can't believe that my drawings and moodboards are now an actual garment. I wear it all the time. I learnt so much about how pieces are put together – it was great work experience. When do you ever get to see behind the scenes of how your favourite label operates? Their designers are so impressive, it was great to moonlight for a little bit.

What advice would you give to those who want to work in broadcasting?

Decide what you want to do, it sounds silly, but it helps a lot if you have something that you are aiming for. Being a presenter isn't the only job – and it doesn't suit everyone – there are other amazing jobs like being a producer, writer or editor; sometimes there are hundreds of roles that go into making a programme. But if performing is what you want, then prove it – record things in your own time, join the student TV and radio societies, hone your skills. Prepare for the fact that your path to the thing you want can be really round-about, but that's the fun of it.

CONFETTI CATCH-UP:

MICHAEL JOBLING

We had a chat with 2015 FdSc TV & Film graduate Michael to see what he's been up to over the last 12 months and find out any advice he has to offer...

So, how has the last year been for you?

Extremely busy and stressful, but really rewarding. I joined the top-up course (at NTU) on the Creative Media Technologies course - I was able to make a short film which I've wanted to do for a long time. Throughout the year, I've also directed two music videos for two brilliant Nottingham artists - one for Bud that was released in June and one for Bru-C which was released during summer last year. On top of that, I've also been involved in various corporate shoots for companies like Spool, Notts TV and Reel Media.

What's it been like working with Notts TV?

Notts TV was really eye opening. It made me realise just how much work video journalists do in order to get a watchable news package on live TV every day. Working at Notts TV News varied so much; one day I would be asking men with beards what they thought about World Beard Day, the next I would be meeting some incredible people who volunteered their time and money to help feed and home refugees. After my time in the newsroom, I started camera operating regularly on Notts TV's panel shows; Boot Room, Notts TV Debate and Sports Week.

What's your biggest achievement so far?

Without a doubt, making it through this year and keeping my head above water. Juggling my time between directing a music video and a short film, plus keeping up-to-date with all my uni work was one

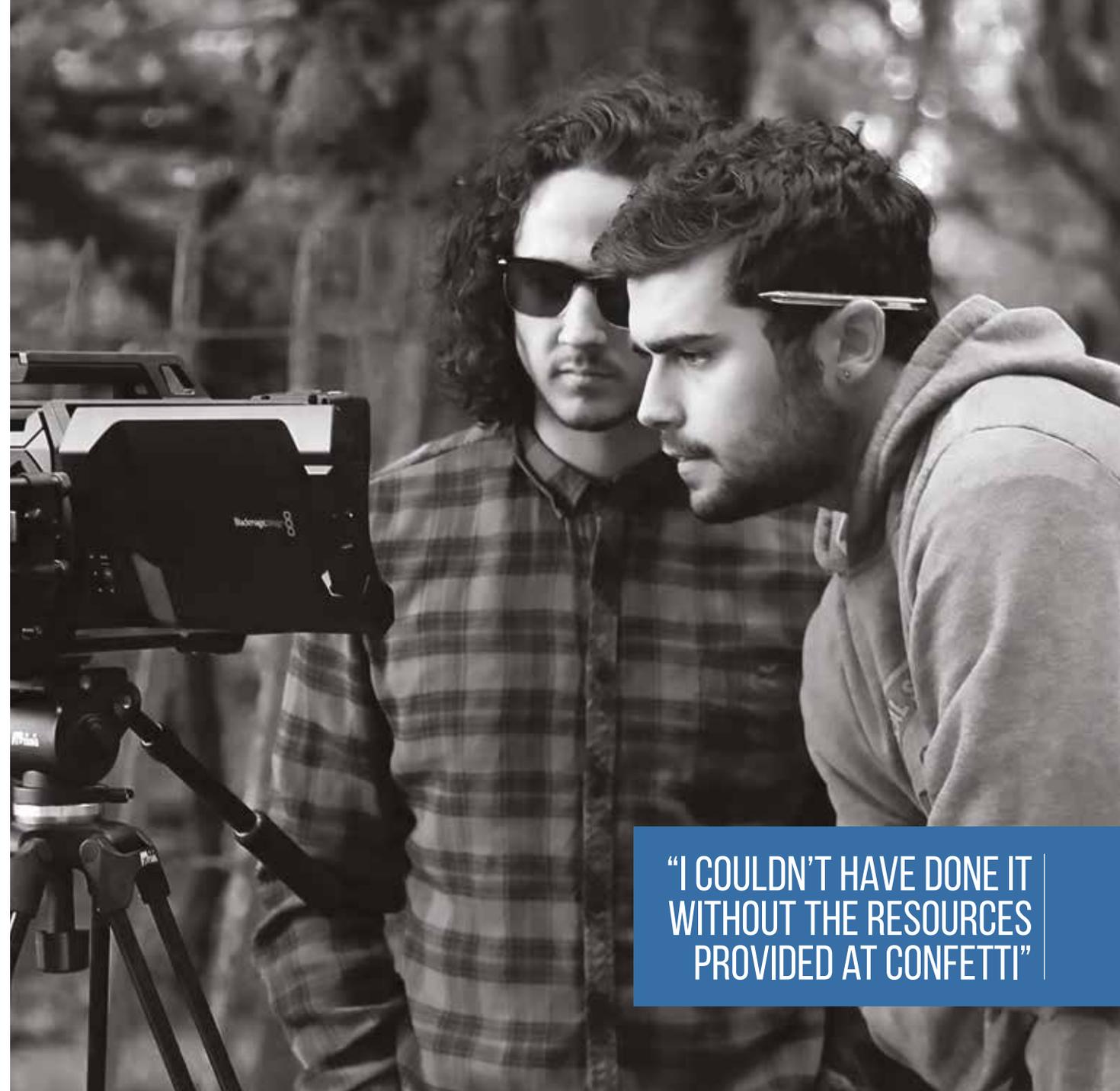
of the most challenging things I've ever done. I'm really proud of the outcome of each of these mammoth tasks and the fact that I found out I'm going to be graduating with First Class Honours from NTU really made all the blood, sweat and tears worth it. Sneakily, I think my biggest achievement is when I got to shoot my film on the Arri Alexa Mini - that was really exciting.

Tell us about your project with Bud...

I agreed to do the video as soon as I heard the song, which is called City Bird. I wrote a treatment and when Bud gave it the go-ahead, we began producing it. We raised money for it through a successful Kickstarter campaign, from which we raised over £2,000 so that we could pay for locations, cast and crew. It was a very tricky video to make as it featured twelve characters, over 40 extras, eight locations, prosthetic make-up, nightclub scenes, exterior night scenes, VFX and dialogue. But we pulled through and did enough prep work beforehand so it went smoothly. The video's had really positive feedback - it makes the whole crazy process worthwhile.

What are you up to next?

I just want to keep making content that I'm proud of with people I really get on and work well with. I've just started pre-production on my next short film which I will be co-directing/writing with my brother.



"I COULDN'T HAVE DONE IT WITHOUT THE RESOURCES PROVIDED AT CONFETTI"

Finally, can you give us your most valuable piece of advice for current students?

The thing I found most valuable, was that you don't do well by doing your work to the minimum requirements. The more prepared you are - I assume this applies to the games and music courses as well - the better you're going to do. Use the resources as much as possible - I couldn't have done my work to

anywhere near the same standard if I didn't have the resources provided at Confetti.

 MichaelJoblingFilms

 MichaelJoblingFilmmaker

 MichaelJoblingFilmmaker

PREPARING FOR UNIVERSITY

Starting university can feel a bit nerve-wracking – but don't worry, you'll soon be busy meeting new friends, learning new things and enjoying everything student life has to offer. To give you a bit of a head start, here's a few tips to get you off on the right foot...

1

Student bank account

Sort yourself a student account – banks have lots of exclusive deals for students. Do some research and see which one is offering the best deal for your circumstances. You could even get £100 just for switching banks!



2

Budgeting

Getting your first student loan payment through can be pretty exciting – it's a lot of money and the temptation might be to blow it straight away! Be sensible, make a spreadsheet with all your necessities and keep on top of it – then you'll have no reason to feel guilty about buying tickets to that must-see gig.

3

Nightlife

There's no nightlife like the student nightlife! You'll have invites to student-only clubs and bars, often coaxing 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.

4

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. You'll get details of how to apply for your NUS card when you enrol, in the meantime, check out NUS.org.uk.



5

Books

You'll have plenty of books on that reading list, but do some research before spending your cash. The library at NTU will stock all the books required for your course. If you want your own copy, check out if you can buy the books second-hand – it'll save you a few quid!

6

Welcome Week

Get involved! Welcome Week's a great opportunity to meet new people and get a feel for all the clubs, societies and events you can get involved in. Confetti is part of Nottingham Trent University, so you get access to all their welcome activity too. Bonus!

And finally – just enjoy it! Make the most of your time at uni – join some societies, make some lifelong friends, and get connected.



Young Creative Awards Nottingham

Hundreds of people attended the 8th Nottingham Young Creative Awards, which aim to give people aged 13 to 24 who live, study or work in Nottingham, the chance to show off their creative work, network with future employers and gain valuable industry experience and mentoring.

This year a record 350 young creatives submitted their work in 10 different categories to meet the 'Goals and Dreams' theme.

Confetti students dominated the Animation and Media category taking away all three awards. There were also Confetti winners for Music and Film. Our students' work was Highly Commended in Graphic Design and Music too.

Nat Goddard, Head of Learning and Development said "It was a privilege to be surrounded by so many creative minds and those who inspire others. Nottingham has an exciting future ahead."

BAFTA award-winning local actress, and Confetti ambassador Vicky McClure, presented

the overall winner in front of a packed audience at Nottingham Playhouse.

"The awards are all about inspiring, supporting and encouraging creativity in the young people of Nottingham. These awards are becoming one of the most exciting events in Nottingham's creative calendar," said Nigel Cooke, Chair of the YCA.

"Every year I am impressed by the creativity, talent and professionalism of our young people here in Nottingham. We are proud to shine a light on their imagination, skill and dedication."

All of the winners received a cash prize of £100 and will have opportunities for mentoring, support or work experience from local creative businesses.

Huge congratulations to Confetti winners Adikah Patterson, Zakk Jones, Renate Saifutdinova, Super Furniture and highly commended students Ray Jocsing, Edward Lawrence Pollard and Tanis Barks.



SUNDARA KARMA

With their latest single 'Loveblood' being tipped as Annie Mac's Hottest Record in the World, Confetti student Ellie Kemp caught up with lead vocalist Oscar Lulu and drummer Haydn Ashley from Reading's Sundara Karma, to find out all about playing Nottingham, musical influences and summer festivals.

You've played Nottingham quite a few times in your career – do any venues have a significance to you?

O: Yeah, they do for sure. We went on our first ever tour with Swim Deep when we were 16 and Rescue Rooms was the first show of that tour. It's probably the most memorable venue from Nottingham for us.

Which is your favourite track to play live?

O: I think it differs for each of us – I like Olympia and Loveblood, they're fun. I'm loving Vivienne at the moment, too.

Who were the artists you looked up to when you were younger?

O: For me it was Jim Morrison. I remember being 15 or 16 and I went through a real hippie phase. I was obsessed with Woodstock and I just wanted long hair and to live in California!

H: When I started getting into music, I was listening to 60s stuff, more like the Beach Boys and the Beatles.

What advice do you have for young musicians who are wanting to make a career out of music?

O: Have an idea of who it is you want to be, what kind of music you want to do and surround yourself with good people. Do your own thing – the best piece of advice I was given was to finish every song you start writing.

Where do you find inspiration to write?

O: I find it hard to write on routine – I can't say I'm going to write for two hours everyday, at a given time. For me, I can't turn it on like a tap – whereas some people can. I think the quieter moments are always the best place to get inspiration from – that's probably the best way for me if I'm looking for a sign from above.

Does your debut album differ from your EPs?

O: It is different, but it does have two songs from EP I and one from EP II, so I guess it's more of an evolution from those two EPs.

What's it like knowing fans are getting tattoos of your lyrics?

O: It's absolutely nuts! It's the biggest compliment anyone can give you, because that's for life. I think it's not just for us anymore either, it's for them and it's beautiful, I like it.

You've got a busy summer ahead, is there anything you're really looking forward to?

O: Reading Festival – it's our hometown, and we're playing the main stage, it's gonna be nuts.

H: Glastonbury as well, we've never played it, so that will be really cool.

Catch Sundara Karma at Rescue Rooms on Tuesday 27 September.

SURROUND
YOURSELF WITH
GOOD
PEOPLE



ALL IN A DAY'S WORK

QA Game Tester at Ubisoft Blue Byte, Laura Allitt, gives us a round-up of her average day working within the gaming industry.

9.00AM

Arrive at the office, log into my PC, grab an iPad and get ready to start the day. Check my emails to see what tasks have been assigned to me by my lead – prioritise anything else I need to get done.

9.15AM



Begin testing a game and reporting any bugs found along the way. As tasks differ from day to day, I could be looking at a variety of aspects. Whether testing a specific feature or performing a full functionality test on the game, it depends what needs to be achieved. Today, I've been assigned to complete a functionality test. This requires me to play the game from beginning to end as one of our players would – in order to make sure the game runs smoothly.

11.45AM

I have a short meeting with the rest of the development team as well as the producers of the game to discuss the weekly plan, get updates from all aspects of the project and ask any questions/queries we may have. Once the meeting is done, it's back to testing!

12.30PM

Lunchtime! Today, the QA team decide to head to one of the many restaurants located near the office. Today, it's a unanimous vote for pizza.

1.30PM

Back to work. Look at finishing off the morning's tasks. Once completed, I talk to my lead to see if any new jobs have been sent to us. Get a head start on tomorrow's to-do list and work on that for the rest of the day.

5.00PM

Home time. Check and respond to any pressing emails and check my agenda for the next day. Shut down my computer, put away my iPad and leave the office to head home.

6.30PM

Work on my 3D Environment Portfolio. This area of game development has always been a huge passion of mine so I'm actively working on improving my portfolio whilst gaining vital experience and knowledge in my role.

11.00PM

Once I've finished my tasks it's time to get some sleep – recharging my batteries ready for the next day.

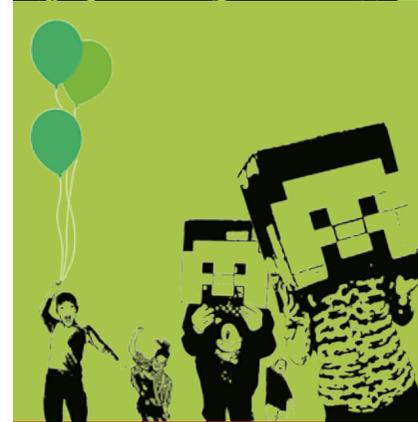


6.00PM

Arrive home. Cook dinner, watch an episode of The Big Bang Theory and take a quick look at any personal emails I've received during the day. Then do a quick tidy up ready to carry on with the evening.


THE NATIONAL VIDEOGAME ARCADE

What's The NVA?



The National Videogame Arcade is a family day out, a leading cultural centre and the home of videogames.

At the NVA you can explore three floors of playable exhibitions about videogames.

You can meet your friends here and play your own games.

You can learn new skills. Hear a talk. Meet renowned gaming experts. Even have your birthday party!

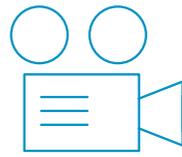
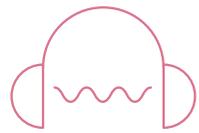
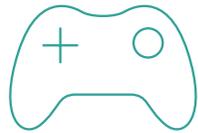
Explore our galleries or just drop in for a visit to the Toast Bar.

There's something new to discover on every visit to the NVA!

24-32 Carlton Street, Nottingham NG1 1NN
thenva.com

HAVE YOU HEARD?

We have exciting news about our courses! Confetti can now offer brand new top-up degrees, validated by Nottingham Trent University. This means you can study a full BSc at Confetti in your chosen course, whilst benefiting from all the advantages of being an NTU student.



Our brand new courses include:

- BSc Games Production (Top-Up)
- BSc Film Production Technology (Top-Up)
- BSc TV Production Technology (Top-Up)
- BSc Audio & Music Technology (Top-Up)

As well as being a Confetti student, you'll have access to all NTU facilities including the students' union and opportunities to join clubs, societies and attend NTU's Welcome Week.

Each top-up year contains a specially designed set of brand new modules built around teaching you industry specific skills and software at a higher level. Our industry experienced tutors will prepare you for future employment, through expanding your skillset and increasing your independence.

If you're a current TV & Film student, the good news doesn't stop there! From September 2016 Confetti will have some new classrooms for you within the newly opened 'Space2'.

The new space includes some great features:

- 4K production suite
- Touch screen advanced lighting control
- Professional audio monitoring and mixing facilities
- Wireless COMMS, MICS and IEM
- Huge Green Screen studio

As a Confetti student it couldn't be easier to continue your Confetti journey on one of our new top-up courses, as you don't need to go through the UCAS process - just complete a form and we'll do the rest!

Want to know more?

Email hello@confetti.ac.uk, call 0115 952 2075 or speak to your tutor for more info.

Think it's too soon to apply for a top-up degree?

It's not! You can begin the 2017 application process for a Confetti FdSc degree now. For more info visit confetti.ac.uk

Don't miss out, start your Confetti Higher Education journey now!



TAKING THE STAGE

After performing live at Confetti earlier this year, we found out how it's all been going for Level 2 Music Performance students Isha Gidda and Kayleigh Hollier...



How long have you been performing?

I: I have been performing alone since I was 8 years old and started performing with Kayleigh at the start of my course, one year ago.

K: I started when I was 8 but have been with Isha for about a year, since the beginning of my time at Confetti.

Why do you want a career in music?

I: I have always loved music, both playing instruments and singing. That passion has followed me throughout my life.

K: I have always loved music. I think I realised that it was my passion when I was in year six at junior school.

Where have you performed before?

I: I have only done a few performances with Confetti but we have performed at the Nottingham Arts Theatre and a few times on my own, at various places outside of college.

K: I performed in junior school in year five and six. I have performed at Confetti multiple times and it is where I get to perform the most.

How do you prepare for a performance?

I: I drink water, make sure to do my vocal warm-ups and remember to breathe!

K: I am most worried because of my nerves, so to prepare, I remind myself over and over that the audience are my family and friends and it's something that I love doing!

Do you feel nervous before you perform, if so, how do you get past it?

I: I'm not a professional performer so I do get really nervous. I find it hard to overcome that but with more practice at college, I hope to become more comfortable on stage.

K: I always get nervous, even in front of my family and friends! I bear in mind that they support me and that helps me get past my nerves.

Who's your favourite performer?

I: Hayley Williams - I wish I had her confidence and energy!

K: Jenna McDougall from 'Tonight Alive' because she has overcome a lot of self-doubt and self-esteem issues.

What do you want to do next?

I: I don't have a plan really, but I know I want to develop my confidence and carry on performing.

K: My dream is to become part of a band and/or perform solo, making my mark on the music industry.

MACMILLANFEST 2016

IN AID OF RAISING MONEY FOR MACMILLAN CANCER SUPPORT

ROCK CITY MAIN HALL	<p>SIKTH INME (SPECIAL FAN PICKED SETLIST) AREA 11 • BLACK PEAKS SHIELDS • BEASTS THE FIVE HUNDRED PATRIOT REBEL BOTB WINNER</p>	SPONSORED BY BODYCRAFT TATTOO	RESCUE ROOMS	<p>SEAFRET EYRE LEW SUSPECT ALIBI ADELPHIA • UNKNOWN ERA HOUSE OF THIEVES THE MOCKING JAYS SILVER WILSON BOTB WINNER</p>	SPONSORED BY CASTLE ROCK BREWERY
ROCK CITY BASEMENT	<p>Stop! Stop! BAD TOUCH EVA PLAYS DEAD AUTUMN RUIN LIBERTY LIES THE DISTANT NORTH SISTER SHOTGUN PARASIGHT</p>	ROCK CITY BASEMENT	STEALTH STAGE	<p>THE QEMISTS BLOOD YOUTH JUST JAMES • LOCK & KEY HARKEN • SPANGLE CORPS ON THE OPEN ROAD OUR SAVING DAY CUT THE HEROICS BOTB WINNER</p>	SPONSORED BY TOTAL ROCK
SPANKY VAN DYKES (18+)	<p>CONTINENTS SPECIAL GUESTS TBA HELLO TOMORROW THE AFTER DARK MOVEMENT TEENAGE CASKET COMPANY ENDEAVOUR • HIGH TIDES YOU WANT FOX BEYOND GRACE NASTY HIGH</p>	SPANKY VAN DYKES (18+)	MAIN BAR ACOUSTIC STAGE	<p>TIGRESS VETCHES JOSEPH KNIGHT KATE AUBURN HARRIET • BILLIE SMITH & GROVES JAMES LETTA BOTB WINNER GUY ELLERTON</p>	MAIN BAR ACOUSTIC STAGE
RED ROOMS	<p>THREE GIRL RHUMBA THE BARNUM MESERVE GONE AND LOST IT ISAAC THE RUTHERFORDS JOEY COLLINS VANITY BOX THE TANGENTS AMULET</p>	SPONSORED BY LEFTLION	<p>SATURDAY 3RD SEPTEMBER 2016 7 STAGES • NOTTINGHAM</p> <p>BBQ, RAFFLE AND LOTS MORE WWW.MACMILLAN.ORG.UK • TICKETS £15 ADV ADVANCE TICKETS ON SALE FROM: WWW.ALT-TICKETS.CO.UK</p>		



INTRODUCING... Mark Pearson

Music tutor Mark tells us the highlights of his career and his best advice for working in the business.

How did you get into teaching at Confetti?

My old tutor used to be the vocalist in a band I was in and he hooked me up with the job. I started off teaching DJing and music production and then progressed to working on the full time Level 3 course.

Tell us a bit about 'Leftback Records'...

I started Leftback in 2014 with Michael McLardy, who works for Confetti sister company, Constellations. We used to grab food together at lunch and chat about how hard it was to get music signed to the big labels as they were so busy with releases and are usually after a certain sound. We both hated making music to fit onto a label and then not being happy with what we'd made, so after some discussion, we decided to start Leftback as an outlet to release our own music. Being able to make exactly what you want and not having to think about a label is pretty liberating.

I've been producing under the Dudley Strangeways alias since 2009. I used to produce more bumping house, like Inland Knights or Phil Weeks kind of stuff, but I've progressed towards more deep and minimal house. My music has always had a stripped back groove-led sound and I've had some reasonable releases over the years.

What's the most exciting thing that's happened so far in your career?

Production wise it was great to be asked to remix Todd Terry as he was a producer/DJ

I was really into whilst growing up, and the actual track was one of my favourites that I used to blast in the car, so I was pleased when the request came through. In terms of DJing, the best thing this year was being asked to play at Comunite festival in Mexico for Boiler Room, which was such an experience. Even though we were only there for a short time, the people who ran the festival were really cool and the complications we had with the travel made it into a real adventure.

What are you up to next?

We have just signed some wicked EPs for the label from a new artist from Romania called 'Groovesh' and have just sent off to press our tenth Leftback release, which is by myself and Michael. I've just released a track on Josh Wink's Ovum recordings and have gigs booked around the UK, Berlin and Space Ibiza for Carl Cox's 'Music is Revolution' night throughout the summer.

What's the best piece of advice you've received in the industry?

It's a classic piece - treat people how you expect to be treated. The industry is really small and people talk. No-one likes to collaborate with someone who is difficult to work with!

leftbackrecords.co.uk

ACHIEVING THE DREAM

First year Visual Effects student Kirk Fletcher gives us the low-down on his passion for rollercoasters and how he plans to make his dream of designing some of the top thrill rides of the future, a reality.

Why did you choose Confetti?

I am overly thrilled about all things that are involved with technology, so when I found out about Confetti it sounded perfect for me. Being around a computer is just the way to work and I love it.

How has your first year been so far?

I originally imagined that my first year would have been quite difficult, it is a very strange experience for me because this is a totally different environment to what I am used to but it's turned out to be really great. The actual software and equipment were surprisingly easy to get the hang of, once I got the basics out of the way – and from the reviews of my tutors, such as Brian, I seem to be smashing it already!

What's been your inspiration?

My first job working at Alton Towers was on the photo booths that were right next to the coasters and I loved it. But at the recent event celebrations for 'Nemesis' turning 21, I got the chance to meet the creator of all the coasters for Alton Towers, as well as many other parks around the world, John Wardley.

After being truly inspired by his work, it made me determined to become a rollercoaster designer – no matter what it takes. Learning about the route that John had taken to be

where he is today, I was shocked to find out that he originally worked on some James Bond movies, specialising in visual effects – which is the course that I am currently studying. This made me feel one step closer to achieving my dream career.

Where did your love of rollercoasters begin?

'Oblivion' at Alton Towers was the ride that gave me the love and obsession with rollercoasters. I was going through all emotions walking up to the ride for the first time and with it being the biggest in the park, I was quite intimidated – I was still shaking as we were going up and as soon as it dropped and came out the other side, the only thing going through my head was 'again, again and again!' and that's where the whole obsession began.

What is your main aim for the future?

After I finish my course I intend to go into studying some form of 3D simulator course which can then lead me into the designing of rollercoasters for big theme parks all over the world. I have already designed some of my own creations in industry standard software to assist me with learning the skills of designing and testing for the future. Overall my main intention is to be within the theme park industry designing these beasts for others to enjoy.



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ASHFIELDS

One of the many districts of the county, or local up and coming atmospheric indie pop band? You guessed it... Both!

The band's current line-up formed in late 2015 when front man Louis Devonshire and bassist Josh Pickering joined Carl Kynaston, Thomas Cotterill and Jak Garratt.

ASHFIELDS recorded their first EP 'Hometown' in January 2016 and shortly after held a launch show at The Bodega in Nottingham with an almost sold-out crowd!

Since the release of Hometown, ASHFIELDS have gone on to support the likes of Beach Baby, Holy Esque, Judas, Native People and, most recently, an opening slot at Dot to Dot Festival. They've also been featured three times on 'The Beat' with Dean Jackson and BBC Introducing.

ASHFIELDS have come a long way in such a short space of time, but what's the 'Big Dream'?

"Obviously we want to live the dream!" says Louis. "We want to be a big, well known band, but right now we are just enjoying what we do whilst we try and achieve that dream," added Carl.

“TAKE INFLUENCE, BUT BE YOURSELF”

It's clear to see that the music is a priority for ASHFIELDS and after a crazy 10 months, how can they possibly top it? Guitarist Tom told us, "We are constantly booking shows and replying to emails. I guess our focus is on the festivals and bigger shows with DHP at the

moment. We've got a few festivals coming up, Riverside Festival and another one we can't talk about yet, we're also on the short list for YNOT in Derbyshire, so hopefully that plays out in our favour."

Confetti is also heavily connected to this talented Notts band, as it turns out, drummer Jak studied on the Level 3 Music Technology course back in 2009. "It gave me solid practical experience which has been invaluable to me, giving me the edge when performing live and in the studio - I'd definitely recommend it to anyone wanting to pursue a career as a musician."

"We've always enjoyed having a close friendship with other local bands and that would be hard to achieve without places like Confetti," adds Carl.

When asked about advice for current students Josh told us, "I think the important thing is to just have fun, we all have bands we love but it's not always the best idea to try and copy; Don't get me wrong, take influence, but be yourself."

Tom went on to say "Take time when writing your tracks, don't just write it then bang out a recording straight away, work on it and perfect it."

"Don't just sign to the first record label as well," added Louis.

So, what's next for the band? "We are actually hitting the studio to start recording our next single in a few weeks - a track called 'Munich'" said Carl. "This will be the first track we've released without a record label, so we're free to do what we like, in fact, I'm making a pledge now to give the fans this track for FREE!"

The band will head to the studio beginning of July with Guy Elderfield (Random Recordings) and Robert Milton (Dog is Dead) producing; moving on to record their new EP with the hopes of a music video coming out around August time.



Keep an eye out over Facebook and Twitter for news on when 'Munich' will be available for free download.

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10 SECOND PLUG

ELLIE KEMP

Name: Ellie Kemp
Age: 17
Course: BTEC Level 3 Acting, Film and TV

When I'm not studying I'm...

Either planning a radio show or on the air. I've been on local community radio station 103FM The Eye for over a year and a half, co-hosting morning shows and presenting my own hour-long show. I also co-host a rock and alternative show with Confetti student Robert Templemen-Foster on Radio NCN.

I got started by...

Visiting BBC Radio Nottingham to sit in on Verity Cowley's show, when I was 15 and worked at the Rushcliffe Council. I got to see behind-the-scenes of a radio show and it really intrigued me, so from then on I emailed every community and hospital radio station I could find. 103 The Eye ended up taking me on, and about a year later, Rob and I got our show on Radio NCN.

Confetti has helped me by...

Offering me some amazing opportunities - through college I was able to audition to be a voiceover artist for Global radio, which will help me build up a showreel and get more experience.

I'm proudest of...

My solo show on 103 The Eye, and getting to interview tribute and original bands at the 'Glastonbudget' music festival.

Tune in to 103theeye.co.uk on alternative Saturdays between 9-11am, alternative Sundays from 6-7pm, or radioncn.co.uk on Wednesdays between 1-2pm to hear more from Ellie!



Don't let the name fool you; this band are far from 'unknown' and have already built quite the reputation for themselves. In only 18 months they've toured the country, played nine festivals, released an EP and performed with Confetti Alumnus - HarleighBlu.

Student Hollie Doherty managed to catch up with Max, Kane, Josh and Gaz from Unknown Era and found out a bit more about their individual roles within the band.

"I'm pretty quiet for a brass player, but I get things done and help keep people organised behind the scenes," trombonist Max tells us.

Gaz, who plays guitar, as well as taking on some vocals says, "Having been in a few bands before and being the eldest, I'm seen as the 'band dad'. I've also been working in the music industry for over a decade."

Kane is the guy who writes and sings the tunes whilst Josh plays lead guitar and is 'Mr. Technical.'

Also involved in the musical 'family' are bass guitarist Lewis who helps 'lighten' the mood, Mollie who describes herself as 'vocalist by gig and Tequila Wolf by night', drummer/designated driver Andy, female vocalist Emily and Laurence, who plays the trumpet and provides everyone with entertainment at the after parties!

But how do Unknown Era cope with so many creative influences and strong personalities?

"In order to become such a tight group you must be ready to overcome issues. We've had a few little flare-ups, but they've only brought us closer together," says Kane.

The band was originally established back when Kane and Josh were just starting secondary school and just like the band's name, their sound is far from average or straight-forward.

"It's party music! We never really talked about it - we just played what came naturally, but from early on, people seemed to enjoy it and go mad at gigs so we just kept doing it" explains Gaz. "The great thing is we have so many influences, God knows what we will do in the future! We could come out with some Gothic Gospel Punk Metal one day... who knows?!"

The band also have some advice to offer for aspiring bands: "Never give up and if you want it then go out there and get it, research, bug people, ask for advice and be nice to everyone! Also every band starting out should put on a few of their own gigs as it gives you invaluable insight into how promoters and venues work!"

Keep your eyes out for Unknown Era as they prepare to smash the festival season, and begin writing and recording their debut album! #WatchThisSpace



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STUDENT SPOTLIGHT: JOE CASS

Earning himself the moniker 'The Soundest Guy' amongst his classmates - L3 TV & Film student Joe Cass has already worked on a feature film and been involved in a whole host of projects. We had a chat about his highlights so far and why he knew Confetti was the place for him.

How did you get started?

I started doing Sound Recording two years ago when I began studying Level 3 TV and Film. At first I wanted to be a camera operator or Photographer. It was during practical sessions that I had the opportunity to do sound recording. I found it really interesting, and so started taking time out to learn more about sound devices - microphones etc.

What's been your favourite project to work on?

My favourite project was a Zombie feature film called 'Case Files', which was directed by Confetti student Damien Kage. It's been one of the most professional and demanding projects I've worked on - and I'm proud to be part of it. Working with talented people from across the country has been a pleasure. At one point, I was on a shoot with over 400 extras, being filmed by the BBC. It was an experience that I'm sure I won't ever forget.

Why did you choose Confetti?

I chose Confetti because it is the place of real professional learning and training - by tutors that have real industry experience to share with students. Whether it's Music, TV & Film or Games - this is where you need to be to get into the industry. Confetti has connections with loads of outside companies and industry professionals - more than any other college in Nottingham.

What have you got planned for the future?

My plans are to become a better sound recordist and to work on more and more projects - I also want to take all the opportunities I can to make industry connections while I'm at college, hopefully to get me work when I leave.

Need a sound recordist on your project?

Get in touch and see if 'The Soundest Guy' can help.

Joe.Cass.9

JoeCass18@yahoo.co.uk



EFFECTED

Marcus Thorley, regular Guitar & Bass session musician at Confetti offers up some suggestions to help your playing, musicianship, tone and creativity.

Using an 'effect' can inspire and help your creativity and can set the perfect ambience and mood. One such effect that continues to find a place, is one of the earliest guitar effects: Tremolo.

Let's define: Tremolo is a variation in volume (a variation in pitch is Vibrato), this isn't helped by the fact that Fender called the Stratocasters moving bridge a tremolo... (It's a Vibrato). The first mechanical Tremolos were used in Organs, they used an increase and decrease in air pressure, however, on a number of occasions, this also created a shift in pitch, again adding to the 'confusion' over the Tremolo/Vibrato term.

DeArmond

By 1941 the DeArmond Company developed what many consider the first effect unit for guitar (see pic). Inside is a jar containing electrolytic fluid, which gets shaken by a motor. Inside the jar is a pin attached to the positive connection of the guitar cable. As liquid moves against the connection, signal is sent to ground and the end result is a very cool liquid Tremolo, (Billy Gibbons from ZZ-Top still uses one).



Amp Tremolo

The next development came in the late 40s, with the effect built into Amplifiers. One or more valves were dedicated to the duty, the current sent to the valve varied and so the bias changed. Gibson, Danelectro, Magnatone and Fender did this in different ways and so the different types of Tremolo became sought after, the Fender became particularly popular (The 55 Tremolux amp being Fenders first to feature the effect).

Pedal Tremolo

Funnily enough, Tremolo pedals of the modern age spend their time trying to replicate days of old and there's lots of choice with various analogue and digital sound-alikes.

Recommended Listening

Bang Bang - Nancy Sinatra • The Rumble - Link Wray
In My Room - The Beach Boys • How Soon Is Now - The Smiths

For lessons on Guitar or Bass set-up's, contact Marcus via:

[f](#) marcus.thorley.3 [YouTube](#) Guitar & Bass Breakdown

#DOWHATIDO

We hear from last year's Degree Show Student of the Year winners and find out how Confetti helped jump-start their careers.



Rhianne Murphy
Games Designer/Composer
FdSc Games Technology
2013-2015

I was at Confetti for four years and to this day it is still the best decision I've ever made. Not only did it give me the guidance I needed to learn about the games industry, but it gave me opportunities that I wouldn't have found on my own.

The one thing universities don't tell you is how much you grow and learn about the things you don't want to do. This helped me mould into my own individuality and strengthened my passion for the things I did want to do.

Now I have multiple freelance projects with indie developers in audio and I've just finished work on my first alpha release of a solo project. Education can be the platform you need, especially if you want more time to create a portfolio you're proud of.



Rory Wallace
Runner
BSc Audio & Recording Tech
2012-2015

One of the best things about Confetti for me was the lecturers. They didn't just teach a subject, they taught their students to really care about what they were learning.

My lecturer constantly arranged extra-curricular sessions which gave me a more practical knowledge of audio. This reinforced what I had learnt in the lectures and gave me a much clearer understanding of the topic.

I now work as a runner at Grand Central Recording Studios in Soho. For over 20 years it has been trailblazing creativity in sound design, and the passion for audio excellence that was taught at Confetti is really shared by all of my colleagues.



Jake Sharpe
Production Assistant
FdSc Music Technology
2013-2015

In the last year I've gone from doing audio production and producing bands to primarily video editing and audio for broadcast, which has led me to learn a whole new skillset.

Since graduating, I've worked on lots of Notts TV projects, heading up shoots on location and editing the final shows - including an interview with Micheal Parkinson and the Robin Hood Folk Festival. I've also kept my own recording and producing business running on the side, and have produced numerous albums for bands around Nottingham.

Confetti certainly helped me get here, my advice for making the most of your time would be to take up every opportunity given to you and never say no!

WHAT'S ON IN NOTTS?



SPLENDOUR 2016

Wollaton Hall

Some of you may already have Splendour scheduled in your diary as you'll be part of the backstage action helping set up the 'Confetti Stage' for bands such as The Darkness, The Fratellis and The Rifles.

The rest of you will have to buy tickets yourself I'm afraid, but get on it quick! Last year sold



out and it's set to be the same this year. Recognised as the city's biggest summer day out, Splendour is always in high demand. So what are you waiting for? Bag yourself a ticket to sun, Splendour and the sounds of sensational superstars!

splendourfestival.com



RIVERSIDE FESTIVAL

Victoria Embankment

Nottingham's biggest FREE weekend festival is back, offering three days of entertainment and fun along the banks of the River Trent.

There will be a host of activities for festival goers to enjoy - from a bustling street fair with rides and games to a vibrant mix of live music performances from around the globe. You'll find four music stages showcasing a variety of genres, as well as the best in local talent.

On Saturday evening there will be a spectacular fireworks display and on Sunday you can watch over 20 teams take part in Dragon Boat racing.



SUICIDE SQUAD

Cinemas nationwide

In the third instalment from the DC Extended Universe, a secret government agency run by Amanda Waller, named A.R.G.U.S., creates a task force comprising super villains, the 'Suicide Squad'.

Starring Will Smith as Deadshot, Jared Leto as Joker, Margo Robbie as Harley Quinn and Cara Delevigne as Enchantress - this is set to be the hit of the summer.



WORLD OF WIZARDRY

Nottingham Conference Centre

Daydream Events are holding their first ever unofficial UK Wizarding convention, where it is required to leave your normal life behind, step onto platform 9 3/4 and get in to Nottingham!

There are a limited number of tickets available for certain activities like the House Games, the Big Quiz and the evening ball and lots of free things to do like attending potions workshops, entering the cosplay and colouring competitions and browsing the Wizarding Marketplace. There will be some fantastic guests in attendance!

Find out more at:
daydreamevents.uk/world-of-wizardry



CARIBBEAN CARNIVAL

Victoria Embankment

You can enjoy two days of great music, food, funfair rides and hundreds of spectacular, handmade carnival costumes.

On Saturday, carnival revellers are treated to music for all age groups and styles and can enjoy music acts, including many local musicians. Sunday hosts a spectacular parade of masqueraders from a multitude of carnival troupes. A spectacular event not to be missed!

The Carnival site will be open from noon until 8pm on both days.

£2 per person
(Under 12s £1, toddlers go free)



SUMMER NIGHTS

Wollaton Hall

Summer Nights is the perfect way to spend an evening under the stars with friends and family. 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, Mad Max: Fury Road, Robin Hood - Prince of Thieves, The Dark Knight Rises, and in case you missed it somehow - Star Wars: The Force Awakens will also be playing.

Dates for Wollaton Hall run from 26-29 August, though different films will be available at other locations around the Midlands.

summernightsfilm.co.uk



MARVEL UNIVERSE LIVE!

Motorpoint Arena

For the first time ever, iconic Marvel Super Heroes and villains will be brought to life in a spectacular live action show.

Everyone will be able to cheer for their favourite Marvel Super Heroes, including Spider-Man, Iron Man, Hulk, Thor, Black Widow and more, as they battle Loki and Marvel's most sinister villains in a live, action-packed arena performance for the whole family. It's being hailed as the most technically advanced live show ever, with cutting-edge special effects, pyrotechnics, aerial stunts, martial arts, motorcycles and more.

For more details, head to:
marveluniverselive.com

THE GALLERY

Bringing together the work of the next generation of creative professionals, our Degree Showcase was an amazing opportunity to experience the work of some of the most talented creative graduates in the UK. Well done class of 2016!





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