



MOVIE NIGHT
A Private War, 18 Feb

PAT HARVEY
Paris Exhibition Report

STEWART HENDERSON
Vesper Sky
in concert 13 April

Sacred Comedy Festival
James Cary
‘Sacred Art of Joking’ book
Ian Hislop’s
‘A Bunch of Amateurs’ at LAC

Pat Harvey

Prayer Corner

Pray For

Kaori Homma, Director of Art Action UK, as she seeks to fundraise for the next residency programme for an artist from Japan.

Stewart Henderson and his wife Carol as they prepare for their upcoming events.

Springs Dance Company on their upcoming training programme, 'Elevate'.

UCCF as they take The Mark Drama on outreach to universities.

Morphe Arts Make Good Lectures.

Wintershall Estates and their preparations for performances of The Passion at Trafalgar Square and Guildford over the Easter period.

For those working in the media who feel isolated and for the work of Christians in Media.

For the ACG board, that they would know God's will as they plan the way forward.

For the work of the Association of Christian Writers as they seek to encourage and support Christian writers.

For any remaining work that needs to be done on the new website.

Events - ACG

MOVIE NIGHT - 18 February

The next outing to the cinema will be to see the new drama, A Private War. This film, starring Rosamund Pike, is based on the true story of acclaimed war reporter, Marie Colvin.

Odeon Covent Garden, 135 Shaftesbury Ave, WC2H 8AH.

Nearest tube Covent Garden.

Film starts at 6.50pm and Gordon Adams will be at the cinema to meet you from 6.30pm. We hope to get a reduction in admission prices.

Please contact the ACG office if you would like Gordon Adams to look out for you on the on the night.

Members News

PAT HARVEY - Pat Harvey at 'Tea Melodie'

Towards the end of 2018 Pat Harvey had a solo exhibition in Paris. A write up of the event appeared in a Japanese publication and a translation appears below.

A female artist sitting in a restaurant in Paris. She has just arrived in the city with a suitcase and one small package. She is a Londoner but frequently visits this city, which she loves to paint. People in cafes, scenes on the street corner...she has painted numerous pictures of Paris. Even now she sees the Utrillo-like autumn scenery outside the café window. It is so beautiful and the painter is driven by the urge to hold a brush.



Quai de Bercy
Watercolour by Pat Harvey

Sitting opposite is another woman who is past middle age. She is Brigitte, a Parisian and an old friend of the artist. After the meal, the painter opens the small package, takes out its contents and gives it to her friend. It is a painting of the waterside at the Quai de Bercy, on the River Seine. Her French friend brightens and says, "I'd like to look at that over coffee". She places the frame on the table and rests it against the wall. Without a moment's hesitation, the manager shoots over to their table and asks a question. "Is this your work?". Upon hearing the reply, "Oui", he hastily asks the second question. "Is it possible to have an exhibition of your paintings at our restaurant?".

Ta-da! This is something that actually happened to my artist friend Pat. The only thing that is not true is the pretentious mood of the above sentences, which I attempted to write in the style of a French novel. Pat is actually quite down-to-earth, and, once she had described this experience, we exchanged glances and almost shouted "Unbelievable! How exciting!"

A member of the Society of Graphic Fine Art and of the Arts Centre Group, Pat (www.patharvey.co.uk) has held solo and group exhibitions in this and other countries, but never in Paris, her favourite city.



Thus, in early 2018, she headed to Paris via Dieppe with over 20 pieces of work in her Vauxhall Corsa. Her destination was ‘Tea Melodie’, a fashionable restaurant in the 12th arrondissement at 72, Boulevard Picpus. The private view (‘vermissage’) was attended by, amongst others, French critics and

journalists including Philippe Barbot, one-time music critic of *Telerama* (French Radio Times), a singer in his own right and author of *Backstage* (a book which examines the connection between French chanson and British rock); Philippe Emain, singer and guitarist, and Helene Hazera, broadcaster and journalist.

Akiko Shimizu

Akiko Shimizu is a Japanese music journalist and culture correspondent based in London. This article appeared in ‘Zipangu News’, the December 2018 edition of the monthly newsletter of Japanese music label ‘Zipangu’.

REPORT ON L’ABRI TALK ON 25 JANUARY 2019

The Artist & The Church as Patron: Gift, Protection & Collaboration

ACG Director, Rosemary Bird, recently visited L’Abri for one of their Friday Night lectures and she reports on her visit below.

The talk was given by **Sara Schumacher** from St Mellitus College. Sara is a visual artist herself but lectures at St Mellitus in Art & Theology, having done a Phd in that area.

What follows is a personal reflection on her talk done from memory and not from detailed notes. I went expecting a history of various churches who had commissioned artwork over the centuries. What Sara did was to take 3 of the 4 contemporary case studies which she had looked at and talked about the process and result of each collaboration. The three cases involved artists, of which two were not Christians and one who was. The churches were a memorial chapel, a big city church and a small community church used by a lively and youngish congregation. In each case the church had wanted a piece of artwork to go in the sanctuary but the way the process was handled and the interaction between the artist and the church in producing the finished artwork varied.

In the first case, the picture was going into a very simple chapel. The walls either side of the chancel bore the names of those who had died in two world wars. The artist spent a lot of time talking to the priest who had requested the piece, trying to get a sense of how the chapel was used. What she came up with was a picture, as though in pencil, of a draped piece of cloth coming down from a point which was very simple, could be understood in various ways, and seemed to portray a sense of peace, encouraging reflection on the part of the people who visited the chapel.

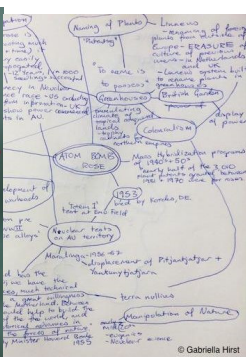
The second case, was a picture to go over the altar of a very traditional church in a city. The artist, not a Christian, started painting the picture of a man staring up and praying, using lots of orange and brown, showing light coming from all directions.

Regularly, the artist would redo the painting feeling dissatisfied with the results. There were talks between the priest and the artist and at one stage it seemed as if it was going nowhere. The artist was encouraged to continue and the picture that was produced was very different, more thought provoking. Both the priest and the congregation were pleased with the result even though it had taken so long.

The third case, was a picture to go on the wall of a more modern community church over the place where the communion table would normally go but where the worship band were set up for the regular Sunday worship. The artist was a young man in the congregation who wanted to give a painting of his to the church and was given permission by the church. His original painting of the Last Supper got destroyed in a fire but even when he redid it, there seemed to be very little input from the church apart from the fact that they wanted to encourage him as an artist. This time the disciples and Jesus were in modern dress, male and female, relatively young and obviously engaging with each other but not with Jesus. Unlike the previous two case studies, there was little engagement with the artist. People said they just trusted him to come up with the picture.

What struck me was that it was the non-Christians who had sought to understand the purpose of the artwork and the context in which it was set and were supported in this by the church leaders. The Christian artist was left to do whatever he wanted with no dialogue about the context or feedback on how it might impact the worshippers. The congregation when asked afterwards did not seem to see the picture as relevant to their worship. Perhaps this was due to the age of the congregation, largely much younger than the other churches, and partly inexperience of artwork that moves and inspires a response but does not dictate. It is good to know that Sara Schumacher is involved in teaching the new generation of clergy to appreciate the role of art within the context of the church. *Rosemary Bird.*

The magazine can be read here: <https://www.jasperian.org/crisis-72>



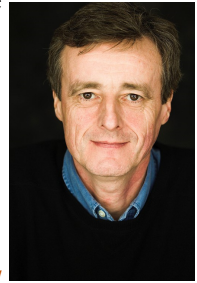
In a cultural environment that obscures the long-term implications of the nuclear

6-8pm, Deptford X Project Space , Brook Mill Road, London, SE8 4HL.

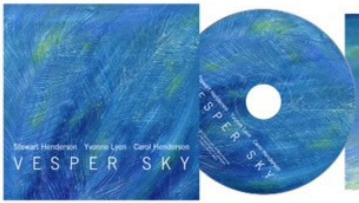
STEWART HENDERSON - Vesper Sky in Concert With Stewart and Carol Henderson and Yvonne and David Lyon.

**Saturday 13th April, 7.00pm for 7.30pm,
Christ Church, Esher, Surrey KT10 8QS.**

Best selling poet, lyricist and broadcaster, Stewart Henderson with his wife, writer and apprentice iconographer, Carol Henderson, have collaborated with Scottish musicians, Yvonne and David Lyon on the already critically acclaimed album, *Vesper Sky* - *'a unique collection of songs and poems, tellingly nuanced performances'* folkradio.co.uk



Following extensive BBC Radio airplay on Tom Robinson 6Music, Radio Scotland, Wales and Foyle, and many independent stations, this quartet of outstanding artists are currently on the road North and South of the border. You can catch them at the above gig, as indicated.



Tickets: £10 if pre-booked
via www.stewart-henderson.com
or £12 (cash only) on the door.

.... *'the cadence and collusion of
voices...is a glorious success'*
Northern Sky Magazine.

Following Yvonne Lyon's two successive appearances in 2018 and 2019 at the prestigious Celtic Connections in Glasgow, it is no wonder that BBC Radio Scotland's Iain Anderson says of her *'listening to Yvonne is a life-affirming experience'*, whilst Gillian Reynolds, radio critic of The Sunday Times notes of Stewart Henderson, *'he understands the packed power of words; the importance of their use and measure'*.

SPRINGS DANCE COMPANY - Elevate Dance Training Course

Springs Dance is now auditioning for its Elevate Course.

**The next audition will be on March 30, 1pm
at 23 Lampmead Road, London, SE12 8QJ.**

For information Tel 07775 628442

Email elevate@springsdancecompany.org.uk

or visit their website:

<https://springsdancecompany.org.uk/>

ELEVATE DANCE COMPANY

2019 Auditions:
Saturday 2nd February
Saturday 30th March
Thursday 9th May



COMMISSION4MISSION - 'Reconciliation' Exhibition



'The Last Supper' by David Millage

This exhibition will feature commission4mission artists and will be held at The Chapel of Christ the Servant, **Coventry Cathedral**, **10 March - 12 April**.

Mon-Fri 10am-5pm (last entry 4pm).

Sunday 12pm - 4pm (last entry 3pm).

The works will interpret the theme in a broad way ranging from biblical themes to political themes and more.

<https://www.commission4mission.org/>

Events Other

CHRISTIANS IN MEDIA - February 28, Bradford



Working as a Christian in today's media can sometimes feel a bit isolated - but if you're working in the Leeds Bradford area, in press, production, broadcast, photography, copy, PR or film, help is at hand!

6.30-8.30pm, Thursday, Feb 28th at

The Hub at Christians Against Poverty, North Street, Bradford, BD1 4EW.

Come to meet others and share ideas, enjoy fish and chips, fresh coffee, a game of pool with chance to give a listening ear for others and to pray.

The guest speaker is **Paula Stringer**, CAP's inspiring new Executive Director and former Head of Production for BBC Sport.

<https://www.christiansinmedia.co.uk/>

UNVEILING ARTS FESTIVAL - 10-11 May

UNVEILING

The Unveiling Arts Festival exists to engage people in a deeper understanding of the Gospel and the heart of God by sharing insights through the creative arts, relating to specific themes. A select group of artists are assigned the same brief, which they will consider prayerfully before creating original art in response.

The Engine Room, Lebus Street, London, N17 9FU.

To book tickets please visit:

<https://event.bookitbee.com/20990/unveiling-arts-festival-2019>

More information can also be found on their Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/UNVEILINGFestival>

WINTERSHALL PASSION OF JESUS

The Passion of Jesus will be performed in
Trafalgar Square on the 19th of April at 12 noon and 3:15 pm and
Guildford High Street on the 20th of April at 12 noon and 2:30 pm.
Both performances are free.



Call For Volunteers

Please email

admin@wintershall.org.uk if you can volunteer to help on all or some of the day. Transport is available from Wintershall if required.

Live Stream

In Trafalgar Square, there will be a live stream of both performances and live streaming can be arranged with your congregation/group/friends.

For more information on how to do this please contact Wintershall Estates: Tel 01483 892167 or email admin@wintershall-estate.com

<https://www.wintershall.org.uk/passion-jesus-london>

CHRISTIAN ARTS SEMINAR - 21 July - 1 August



This 38th International Christian Artists Seminar will be an EU seminar fully focused to find work and keep working as artist of any art form. Subjects include: how to take care of yourself (avoiding health risks), the value of life long learning in helping to secure work; the question of whether you still have job satisfaction, what will be your unique call, talent and added value? It will be both a theoretical and very practical seminar with lectures and debates including very interesting meetings with artists who have survived and are ready to speak about their secrets and answers, followed by 2 days of unique workshops in any form of art.

Zonheuvel Estate, Doorn, Utrecht, The Netherlands.

For more information and booking visit their website:

<http://www.christianartists.org/> or email info@christianartists.org

MORPHE ARTS MAKE GOOD LECTURES



4 March Sara Schumacher, tutor and lecturer in theology and the arts at St Mellitus College, London.

1 April Carol and Stewart Henderson.

6 May tbc

3 June Adrienne Dengerink Chaplin.

7-9pm, Husk Coffee and Creative Space, 649-651 Commercial Road, Limehouse, London, E14 7LW.

Tickets £5/£8. Keep and eye on Morphe's Facebook for more information nearer the time:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/morphearts/>

Art+Christianity

Art+Christianity presents a series of symposia exploring the Eucharist in relation to art, architecture and craft. Each symposium will act as a 'sounding', taking place in a different regional centre and feeding into a conference in London in November. The symposia will draw upon collections of ecclesiastical art and design as well as the architecture of sanctuaries and chapels set aside for the celebration of the Eucharist.

Symposium 3: Conversations between ancient and Modern.

Saturday 2 March 2019, 10.30am – 4.30pm, Chichester Cathedral and Bishop's Palace. Chaired by **Nicola Coldstream**.

This third *Visual Communion* symposium, will look at ways in which modern art and architecture can engage with ancient buildings and traditions in such a way that it enriches and enlivens both.

Symposium 4 Altars: Texture and Tradition.

Saturday 18 May 2019, 10.30am – 4.30pm, Winchester Cathedral Education Centre and Cathedral. Chaired by **Roly Riem**

For more information please visit:

<https://www.artandchristianity.org/v-c> or Tel 020 3757 5492

ASSOCIATION OF CHRISTIAN WRITERS

Bath Writers' Day 9 March - Approaching a Publisher.

Sarah Grace and Nicki Copeland, both with a wealth of experience within the publishing world, will be sharing their experiences and giving advice on how to find and approach publishers within both the fiction and non fiction markets.

10am-4pm, Widcombe Baptist

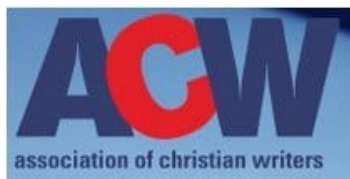
Church, Pulteney Road, Bath, BA2 5JR.

Members: £22 pre-booked, £27 on the door.

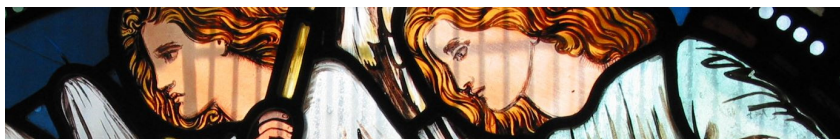
Non-Members: £27 pre-booked, £32 on the door.

Cost includes drinks and snacks. Bring your own lunch.

You can pre book here: <https://christianwriters.org.uk/events/>



VISUAL ARTS THEOLOGY - Call For Papers



Visual Theology II: Ruskin and the Pre-Raphaelites: *Sacre Conversazioni*

Saturday 21st and Sunday 22nd September, St Michael and All Angels Chapel, Marlborough College.

‘**All great art is praise**’, *John Ruskin*. This conference aims to celebrate the life and work of John Ruskin during his bicentenary and will create a space for theologically engaged conversations about Ruskin, religion and the arts.

For information about the conference and the requirements of papers please visit: <https://www.visualtheology.org.uk/cfp/>

L'ABRI FILM FESTIVAL - 22-23 February



The theme of this year's festival is
‘**Pictures of the Good Life**’.

Films and discussions will take place at the
**Manor House, L'Abri Fellowship,
Greatham, Liss, Hants, GU33 6HF** and at
Greatham Village Hall.

The programme for showings and discussions
over the weekend is:

Friday 22 February
‘Joy’ at 8pm.

Saturday 23 February

‘Leave No Trace’ at 9am

‘Chef’s Table’ or ‘Call the Midwife’ at 11.45am

‘The Secret Life of Walter Mitty,’ at 3.30pm

‘Maudie’ at 7.30pm

‘Life Is Beautiful’ at 10.30pm.

Full details can be seen here: <http://tinyurl.com/yxjgxdwh>

Email bookings@englishlabri.org Tel 01420 538436
<http://www.labri.org/england/index.html>

SACRED COMEDY FESTIVAL - Saturday 16 March

9.30am - 1pm
A range of workshops and events including:
Improv Comedy, Kids' Comedy Show,
A Multi-dimensional Chat Show and
a show combining comedy and wellbeing!

7.30pm - 10pm
Sacred Stand-up Night: a comedy club in a church!
Hosted by Tony Vino, and starring
Jo Enright, Stephen Cookson, and
Mark Palmer

SATURDAY 16TH MARCH 2019
ST LAURENCE'S CHURCH

the Stroud



Festival 2019

a full day of laughs from a deeper place

St Laurence Parish Church, The Shambles, High Street, Stroud, GL5 1AP. Tel 01453 759099.

The festival will include morning workshops for adults and children; Laurence Chorater's "Spiritual Experience: A Multi-Dimensional Chat Show"; "Retreat Yourself" with Sanderson Jones; and evening Stand-Up Night hosted by Tony Vino, and starring Mark Palmer, Stephen Cookson, and Joe Enright.

Entry is FREE but there are suggested donations to cover costs.

“The Stroud Sacred Music Festival has been a big success and so Simon Howell and I thought: how about a Stroud Sacred Comedy Festival? Only trouble is sacred comedy is not a thing. Well it is now! The seriously funny, seriously silly and funnily spiritual jostle together in this unique event.” *Chris Head* (Comedy Director, Script-Editor and Trainer).

More information here: <http://tinyurl.com/yyczz2lp>

LANTERN ARTS CENTRE - A Bunch Of Amateurs

April 3-6, 7.30pm (Saturday matinee 2.30pm).

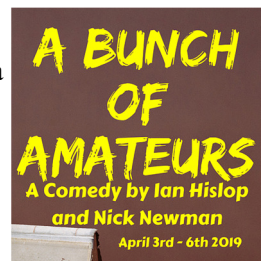
LAC present this play which is written by Ian Hislop and Nick Newman. Keen to boost his flagging career, a fading Hollywood action hero arrives in England to play King Lear in Stratford - only to find that this is not the birthplace of the Bard, but a sleepy Suffolk village and the cast are a bunch of amateurs trying to save their theatre from developers. Tickets £14.

For more information contact LAC:

Email lac@lanternarts.org

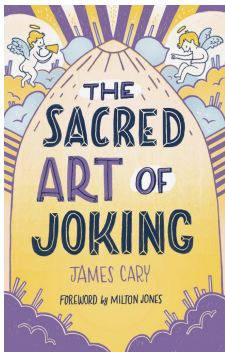
T 0203 761 7070 <https://www.lanternarts.org/a-bunch-of-amateurs>

LAC, Tolverne Road, London, SW20 8RA.



Other News

JAMES CARY - The Sacred Art Of Joking Book



The Sacred Art of Joking is a new book by James Cary about how jokes can go horribly wrong, especially in the realm of religion. The devil may have all the best tunes. But does he have all the best jokes? Was Jesus funny? Why does religion have to be so serious? Maybe it doesn't.

Award-winning BBC Comedy writer and stand-up theologian James Cary explains why

Christians should be able to take a joke and how the Bible is way funnier than it first appears.

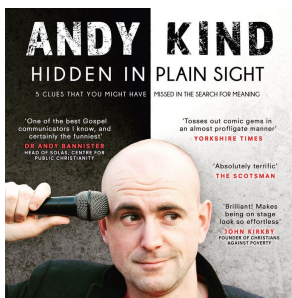
Seriously. James has contributed to BBC shows like *Miranda*, *Another Case of Milton Jones* and *Newsnight*. In *The Sacred Art of Joking*, he delves into the Bible and finds that ultimately, the joke's on us.



For more information about James and how to order the book please visit:

<http://www.jamescary.co.uk/sacred-art-of-joking/>

ANDY KIND - A Call Out To Churches



Comedian, Andy Kind, is available for performances in churches. He is currently touring his 2019/2020 show, '*In Plain Sight*'. A YouTube presentation can be seen here:

<https://tinyurl.com/ybfzpozv>

Andy can be seen live on **Friday 22 March**, 8-10.15pm, at **Brentwood Baptist Church, 91 Kings Road, Brentwood, Essex**.

Online bookings can be made here:

<https://tinyurl.com/ycck8dlb>

For more about Andy please visit his website:

<http://www.andykind.co.uk/>

He can be contacted via his email: andy@andykind.co.uk

Information from other Organisations

NB. We include information from other organisations so that their news will reach a wider audience. This does not mean we claim any affiliation with these groups, or necessarily agree with their views.

PURE CREATIVE ARTS

Pure Creative Arts sparks imagination and conversation through original musical productions that raise questions, encourage

openness and provoke insight. They offer workshops and mentoring programmes to encourage and develop young people to find out who they were created to be and take their unique place in the world.

More information here: <https://purecreativearts.org/>



NEWS FROM UCCF - Immersive Theatre Reaches Students

UCCF is requesting prayer for some of the CU missions coming up in colleges and universities which are using **The Mark Drama** as part of their outreach. This is a new initiative to go alongside their Uncover Mark Bible Studies. It gives students another way to experience the story that Mark tells about Jesus – and as they do so, to get to know Jesus for themselves. Fifteen students – often with little or no drama background or training – acting out every event in Mark's Gospel as theatre in the round. Yet students have found that it's a powerful way to invite their friends to experience Jesus' story. Many will come because they're interested in theatre, or because their friends are performing. And students consistently pull off high-quality events that captivate the imagination and spark conversations about Jesus. No props. No costumes. No professionals. Every incident in Mark's Gospel in 90 minutes.

More information is available here:

<https://www.uccf.org.uk/uncover-mark/the-mark-drama.htm>

CHRISTIAN WRITER

This is an online community for Christian writers and poets. It includes free short story and poetry writing contests.

<https://twitter.com/CCWWordsmith?lang=en>

RADIUS - New Youtube Channel

The Religious Drama Society of Great Britain (RADIUS) has a new home for interviews, videos and performance extracts.

Visit their new YouTube channel to find out more:

<https://www.youtube.com/c/RadiusDrama>



LEITH SCHOOL OF ART - Seeking new Principal



Leith School of Art is seeking a new Principal to succeed Philip Archer on his retirement after 27 years of exceptional service to the School. This is an exciting opportunity for an artist with a passion and vision for art education who will embrace the tradition and values of this unique art school while bringing the leadership and innovative drive which will shape the next chapter in its remarkable story.

Full details can be found on their website:

<https://www.leithschoolofart.co.uk/>

The deadline for the receipt of applications is midday on Friday 15th February 2019. The Leith School of Art was founded by ACG members Mark and Lottie Cheverton.

REGULAR PIANO ACCOMPANIST WANTED



The Lantern Arts Centre is seeking a piano accompanist for its in-house choir. The accompanist is required to support the choir's weekly rehearsals, other occasional rehearsals and its performances in concerts and other events. The

successful applicant will be a highly proficient player with good sight-reading skills. Ideally they will have experience in accompanying choir rehearsals, but otherwise should be adaptable and willing to learn the requirements of accompanying choir rehearsals. A fee can be offered.

LAC can be contacted through their website: <https://www.lanternarts.org/>

Arts Centre Group

c/o Paintings In Hospitals, 51 Southwark Street, London, SE1 1RU
020 7407 1881 / info@artscentregroup.org.uk /
www.artscentregroup.org.uk / FB: ACG Arts Centre Group /
[@artscentregroup](https://www.facebook.com/artscentregroup)