

Baltic unveils early Spring events with craft market, unique Anti-Valentine's Party and Mother's Day Afternoon Tea

Baltic Centre for Contemporary Art has unveiled three new events for adults and families in February and March - an alternative Anti-Valentine's Party evening (Sat 14 Feb), an independent Makers Market (Sat 28 Feb 11:00-17:00) and a Mother's Day Picnic Afternoon Tea (Sun 15 Mar).

Bad romance will be on display at Baltic on Saturday 14 February as the gallery invites singles, friends and couples looking for an alternate Valentine's night to ditch the roses and enjoy an **Anti-Valentine's Party Night**.

Featuring drag performances from Dollhaus dolls - including Mea T. Cleaver, Kealea Sin Love, Leviathanne, Laila Sagittaria and Strawberry Fatcake - the night will also include music from North-East DJs Cousin Dan, Westy, and Becky Woodcock, all in collaboration with Big Beat Manifesto. Tickets include a free pizza slice and there are three indulgent cocktails on sale that align with the night's theme - The Toxic X, The Break-up and The TonICK. Guests are invited to dance, enjoy the performances and vent their biggest turn offs by adding icks to the 'ICK' wall.

Tickets: baltic.art/tickets

At the end of the month on Saturday 28 February, the **Early Spring Makers Market** returns to Baltic. Delivered in collaboration with Endless Love Creative, this popular one-day event sees 50 artists and makers from across the UK set up stalls inside the gallery to sell unique and contemporary design-led pieces. The **Early Spring Makers Market** will feature botanicals, ceramics, clothing, jewellery, knitwear, homeware, print and stationery. *(list of confirmed stallholders included in notes to editor)*

Many creators bring limited editions, originals and new works for 2026. Visitors can browse beautiful art for their home, gift inspiration and thoughtful one-of-a-kind items. £2 entry, 18s and under free. Tickets can be booked prior to the event online or purchased on the door.

Tickets: baltic.art/market

On Sunday 15 March, Baltic will be welcoming families to enjoy a **Mother's Day Picnic Afternoon Tea** inside the gallery. With four sittings at 11:30 / 12:30 / 13:30 / 14:30, this special event is a memorable way to celebrate Mother's Day at one of the region's most iconic venues. The relaxed, picnic-style Afternoon Tea will include

classic finger sandwiches, freshly whipped houmous with crudité, warm sausage or cheese & leek rolls, followed by scones piled high with clotted cream and jam, plus delicious cakes and English Breakfast Tea to enjoy.

There will also be a chance for families to get creative at the Mother's Day card-making station where children can unleash their creativity and make heartfelt, handmade and unique cards for Mums to treasure.

Tickets: baltic.art/tickets

All events are on sale and bookable now:

Anti-Valentine's Party Night: Saturday 14 February, 8pm-1am
17.50 per person / Tickets: baltic.art/tickets

Early Spring Makers Market: Saturday 28 February, 11:00-17:00
2.00 per person / Tickets: baltic.art/market

Mother's Day Picnic Afternoon Tea: Sunday 15 March
£15 Adult Ticket, £21 with Prosecco (200ml), £20 with Baltic Brew Beer (440ml) and £10 Children's Ticket (10 & under). Tickets: baltic.art/tickets

-ENDS-

For more information, images or interview request, please contact:

David Brookbanks: david@ludlowstreet.co.uk

Emma Pybus: emma@emmapybus.com

NOTES TO EDITORS

Confirmed Stallholders at Early Spring Makers Market:

Alex Sickling | Anna-Lisa Smith | Anna Billany | Aysha Tengiz | Bianco Perry | Civil Block Microsoapery | Colinmeltstuff | Carolyn Sara Designs | CharKnots | Chloe Heffernan | Chelsea Waites | Ceramics by Kat | Deep North | DRESS | debo clay | Ella Osborne | Fernandes Makes | Hallo Ceramics | Hannah Dolden Textiles | Han Bourn | Honky Cat Studio | Honor Dodd | Kate Rhodes Jewellery | Kristyna Baczynski | kwild.art | KiJo Jewellery | Lara Aitken | Liz Harry | LDM Design | Lyon and Feather | Lucy Hook Designs | Little black cat illustrated goods | Mended Made | Madzillus | Martha Duncan Studio | Mockup Goods Co. | Olive & B | Olive & Mabel | Others&They | Robert Hunter Ceramics | Rachel Mahon Print | Susannah Brookes Jewellery | Studio Mondo By Satomi | Spindle Printer | Sophie Victoria Anderson | The Owlery | This Thursday | Thundercliffe Press | Tillie Rose Studio | Tomalu

Studios | Poppy Burr | Zenoté Handmade.

About Baltic Centre for Contemporary Art

Baltic Centre for Contemporary Art is a major international centre for art situated on the south bank of the River Tyne in Gateshead, England. It has welcomed over 10 million visitors since opening in July 2002. Baltic presents a distinctive and ambitious programme of temporary exhibitions and events and is a world leader in the presentation and commissioning of contemporary visual art. Housed in a landmark ex-industrial building, Baltic houses 2,600 square metres of art space, making it one of Europe's largest dedicated contemporary art institutions.

Baltic has presented the work of over 877 artists of 78 nationalities in 266 exhibitions to date including Joy Labinjo, Hew Locke, Heather Phillipson, Antony Gormley, Cornelia Parker, Daniel Buren, Lubaina Himid, Steve McQueen, Jenny Holzer, Judy Chicago, Lorna Simpson, Imran Perretta, Huma Bhabha and John Akomfrah.
www.baltic.art

Baltic Centre for Contemporary Art South Shore Road, Gateshead NE8 3BA Open Wednesday – Sunday, 10am–6pm. Free entry.