Scotland use journals, letters and songs of the time. William Paterson, a financial adventurer who believed he could set up a colony in Darien in Central America and thus make Scotland a partner with the Americas – with Scotland’s ill-fated attempt losing much of her company of dancers. It takes us yet further south, to Brazil, between beach and jungle. A story from the Great Depression of the 30s, a theatre company with a big reputation for staging American novels – the choreography and the music inspired by Latin-jive rhythms. 14th-17th Aug @ Royal Lyceum Theatre. The Wooster Group are an acclaimed New York company who are presenting Tennessee William’s Vieux Carre in a wildly stylised and disorienting interpretation. A young writer moves into a run-down tenement full of malcontents, and learns much about them and more about himself and his family. 21st-24th Aug @ Royal Lyceum Theatre. These are just a few of the delights available this August... pick up a full programme and indulge yourself.

Wonderful facilities – I’ll be back. Great clean place – well done guys – this area needs this!

International Talent

There is a strong focus on The Americas this year, and we go further South for MOWTECUM – an opera and amongst the great palaces and temples of the Aztec Empire, where Cortes and the Conquistadors are welcomed. But then out about doing “Good and Spain’s work”, plundering and laying waste dance was seen by many – with a perceptive kind of autobiography via performers and theatre making. Hugo is one of Mexico’s most exciting young directors. Cindy Williams joins 14th-17th Aug @ King’s Theatre. Pina Bausch was a legendary choreographer who died last year. She radically transformed the way dance was seen by many – with a perceptive joie de vivre. An absolute must see! 27th-29th Aug @ the Edinburgh Playhouse. Despite its title, CALEDONIA is also concerned with the Americans – with Scotland’s failed attempt to establish an American empire for itself via William Paterson. A financial adventurer who believed he could set up a colony in Darien in competition with Spain’s Cortes. A production by one of Mexico’s most exciting young directors. Cindy Williams joins 14th-17th Aug @ King’s Theatre. A story which may well transcend circumstances. A story which may well be seen as not without relevance to the present – and a vibrant one, with numbers such as “I got plenty o’ nuttin”, “it ain’t necessarily so” and many others. 14th-17th Aug @ Festival Theatre. The Wooster Group are an acclaimed New York company who are presenting Tennessee William’s Vieux Carre in a wildly stylised and disorienting interpretation. A young writer moves into a run-down tenement full of malcontents, and learns much about them and more about himself and his family. 21st-24th Aug @ Royal Lyceum Theatre. These are just a few of the delights available this August... pick up a full programme and indulge yourself.
Greetings.

Well, I’ve pulled my flippers back into the suction valve of my breathing apparatus. Having said that, local gourmets are looking great and so do I, thank you very much.

So, what’s going on up North other than midgie bites? I’m just back from a summer spent on Islay, hunting for the perfect peat for my latest batch of Port Charlotte whisky. I’m not a peat afficionado, but I do enjoy a good dram, and the Port is one of the best.

The weather was fine and the sea was calm, but the midgies were everywhere. I think they must have been attracted by the smell of my whisky. I wonder if they knew it was being made on Islay?

I’m not sure what to say about the weather. It was pleasant enough, but not exactly what you’d call ideal for peat hunting. I had to wear a hat and a jacket, even though it was only June.

But enough of that. Let’s get back to the main event: the summer season on the isle of Islay.

There are a number of events taking place this summer, and I’ve listed them below:

- The Port Charlotte Distillery will be hosting a tour and tasting event on June 23rd.
- The Islay and Jura Malt Whisky Festival will be held on June 21st and June 22nd.
- The Islay Film Festival will take place from June 21st to June 27th.
- The Islay Food and Drink Festival will be held on June 22nd and 23rd.
- The Islay International Jazz Festival will take place from June 26th to July 1st.
- The Islay Immerse Festival will be held on June 26th to July 1st.
- The Islay Live Festival will be held on June 26th to July 1st.

Looking forward to seeing everyone there!

Don’t forget to pack your suntan lotion.

Best wishes,

[Your Name]
PRIDE GLASGOW

Pix by Miss Shivey and Michael James
More pix online: www.scotsgay.co.uk/PrideGlasgow10/

LANZAROTE PRIDE

Meanwhile, 250 folk turned out in the blazing sun in Puerto del Carmen for the first Lanzarote Pride March. Afternoon Astricons based tribute band Kittycat Dolls (pictured here with the Mayor and a local bear) headlined at the obligatory Festival of Loud Popular Noise.

More pix online: www.scotsgay.co.uk/LanzarotePride10/

OTHER 2010 PRIDE PIX

Pride Scotia: www.scotsgay.co.uk/PrideScotia10/
London Pride: www.scotsgay.co.uk/LondonPride10/
ANDREW DOYLE PICKS HIS BEST OF THE FRINGE

Cabaret Legend
Michael Topping
‘Heels Over Head in Love’
Edinburgh is a city of death. The sixteenth and seventeenth centuries saw intermittent outbreaks of plague, the last of which, in 1645, finished off more than half the population. During the industrial revolution the slum-dwellers of Cowgate occupied the vaults under the South Bridge, where they lived — and perished — in chambers so dark and ominous you’d be forgiven for thinking that Gravoliner had a hand in the design. The nineteenth century was partly pedestrianised. Edinburgh’s topography is not much altered since that time, although this has added to the维权 of the staff. There’s a known to trash the gift shop at night, much of this year’s Fringe programme. It’s understandable difficult to know where to begin. Obviously I can’t claim to have seen most of this year’s acts, but I can at least highlight a few obvious guaranteed laugh-out-loud shows.

Bridget Christie / A Ant

The hugely talented Leisa Rea’s one-woman show Pension Plan will be on at the Gilded Balloon every afternoon. Formerly one half of the award-winning double act Adams & Rea, Leisa’s long-oversize solo show offers an hilarious and mischievous take on depression. What better way to cheer yourselves up than to see someone else more miserable than you? The Germans call this catharsis. The Germans call this catharsis. Whatever you want to call it, it’s bound to be a Festival highlight.

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That said, many of the spectres are benign, and many more are positively delightful. So allow me to lead you on my own sort of ghost walk, a quick round-up of the type of performer that makes the Fringe programme. It’s so worthwhile. Even the title of her show, Leisa Rea’s Pension Plan, is liable to confuse. The Greeks used to say that laughter is the best medicine. The Greeks used to say that laughter is the best medicine. Whatever you want to call it, it’s bound to be a Festival highlight.

Leisa Rea - Pension Plan

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There is a dizzying range of stand-up talent for you to choose from this year, but I would particularly recommend Susan Calman in Constantly Seeking Susan at the Underbelly. Calman’s popularity amongst Fringegoers is well-deserved, and her candid style should suit the introspective theme perfectly. Another talented Glaswegian comic is Scott Agnew, whose new show Pride (In the Name of Love) is at the Gilded Balloon. Although it’s an international tour, it’s good to see that the Scots are well represented. Scott is also hosting the New Town Bar’s popular Sunday Fundraisers for Waverley Care, with some high profile acts performing every Sunday of the Fringe.

If you want to play it safe, there’s always The Stand Comedy Club, which consistently packs the Place Rouge at the Assembly Rooms. By the way, many of the performers are also part of the experimental cabaret at the midnight hour. If you’re in the mood for something a bit more experimental, you must see Enrico Serra’s new show in the Name of the Fish at the Banshee Labyrinth, an innovative show that is the topic of ‘Territory’ at the Pleasance Courtyard. You’ll also want to see Mary and William at the Gilded Balloon, a one-woman show written and performed by Mary Macdonald Hamill, with a little help from William Shakespeare. Other hotly tipped shows this year include N10 Productions’ black musical comedy Virtuous Flock at G Soup; Shadow Boxing also at G Soup; The Gay Gasser at C Central; Lesbian Bathhouse at the Assembly Rooms; Dyan Brandreth’s new play Wonderlust also at the Assembly Rooms; Mysterious Skin at the Gilded Balloon; Memory Cells at the Pleasance Dome, Kikka and Son at the Babella Theatre, and And the Not So Fatal Death of Grandpa Fred at the Traverse Theatre. From first award winner Vox Matus. If you’re in the mood for something a little more dramatic, you might like: Sow’d Mad; Smiler; Topping and Butch; Mrs Bang; and Tethering Up!.

For our more musical readers, there’s a broad range of musical comedy at this year’s Fringe. Camp satirists Topping and Butch are back, for their eighth year, with Toppin’ at the Symposium Hall. If you leave them wanting more, you can always see their solo shows: Michael Topping is Head Over Heels in Love at the Surgeons Hall, or you can see Butch, aka Joe Simmons, in his quest and game show Edinburgh Sought at the Symposium Hall. Following the success of Sibling at last year’s Fringe, the London Gay Men’s Chorus present their new musical Thoroughly Modern Millie at C Venues and Scotland’s own Laud & Proud Choir perform for one night only at Greyfriars Kirk.

High profile acts performing every Sunday of the Fringe.

The Fringe wouldn’t be the same without the hugely talented David Benson, who is back this year with Stewart Lee on piano for The Singalong Song Club at the Gilded Balloon. You’ll be able to make requests and we’re assured that the singing is optional. At the same venue is Showstopper! The Improvised Musical packed with drama, dance, catchy melodies and some rather nice costumes.

And if shaven-headed pop duos from East St Petersburg. In terms of imaginative concepts, you can’t get much better than John-Luke Roberts Diarrhoea You From a Muster at the Place Rouge, in which your host promises to deliver his customarily stupid humour as a way to divert your attention from the brutal act of homicide he will commit during the show. And following last year’s excellent Gyles Brandreth Distracts You From a Murder, this year’s excellent Ernesto Sarezale’s new play Memory Cells is at the Gilded Balloon, a one-woman show written and performed by Mary Macdonald Hamill, with a little help from William Shakespeare. Other hotly tipped shows this year include N10 Productions’ black musical comedy Virtuous Flock at G Soup; Shadow Boxing also at G Soup; The Gay Gasser at C Central; Lesbian Bathhouse at the Assembly Rooms; Dyan Brandreth’s new play Wonderlust also at the Assembly Rooms; Mysterious Skin at the Gilded Balloon; Memory Cells at the Pleasance Dome, Kikka and Son at the Babella Theatre, and And the Not So Fatal Death of Grandpa Fred at the Traverse Theatre.

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Other cabaret highlights this August include Russell Fletcher, who is appearing at the Spiegeltent in Just Like Danny Kaye. This show is a playful depiction of the American actor who, allegedly, had a ten year affair with Laurence Olivier in the 1950s. Russell also appears in the improvised musical Spontaneous Broadway also at the Spiegeltent. Tank Productions’ new musical Jump is at the Pleasance Dome, an updating of the 1950s musical comedy with a little help from Russell Fletcher. And then, there’s Jennifer Saunders’ new piece at the Gilded Balloon, the ebullient and sumptuous catastrophe’ . In terms of imaginative concepts, you can’t get much better than John-Luke Roberts Diarrhoea You From a Muster at the Place Rouge, in which your host promises to deliver his customarily stupid humour as a way to divert your attention from the brutal act of homicide he will commit during the show. And following last year’s excellent Gyles Brandreth Distracts You From a Murder, this year’s excellent Ernesto Sarezale’s new play Memory Cells is at the Gilded Balloon, a one-woman show written and performed by Mary Macdonald Hamill, with a little help from William Shakespeare. Other hotly tipped shows this year include N10 Productions’ black musical comedy Virtuous Flock at G Soup; Shadow Boxing also at G Soup; The Gay Gasser at C Central; Lesbian Bathhouse at the Assembly Rooms; Dyan Brandreth’s new play Wonderlust also at the Assembly Rooms; Mysterious Skin at the Gilded Balloon; Memory Cells at the Pleasance Dome, Kikka and Son at the Babella Theatre, and And the Not So Fatal Death of Grandpa Fred at the Traverse Theatre.

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reviews at scotsgay.co.uk

ROSS SUTHERLAND

The Times Top Ten Literary Star’s journey from living room to television alter ego. Edinburgh born Sutherland’s debut solo show mashes a darkly comic narrative with stark animation and tenderly wrought Underbelly Cowgate

WAVE WAVE SISTERS

New York City’s bravest and bawdiest cabaret duo of La Clique, this 2-pal circus contents and cabaret à la bacchanalian finale that will make you want to convert to their running cult. Assembly Rooms

MEI! MEI!

Fresh from the Brighton Fringe. Sarah-Louise Young (pictures). Desmond of Connor and M B The Gentleman Pym are joined on stage in a show that celebrates the very best of their solo work. GSAH Zhu

VIVE LE CABARET

Vaudeville, comedy and cabaret reign supreme in a late night feast of entertainment. Featuring A List names from the world of international. Glishe Zhu

MYSTERIOUS SKIN

A searing, searing and explicit exploration of sexuality, displacement and the unlikeliest of friendships. Brian gets involved with small time criminals. Neil gets involved with small time blackouts, Neil gets involved with small time friendships. Brian gets involved with small time murderers. Neil gets involved with small time sex. Their lives link to each other in a dexterous verse. Assembly Rooms

BABY WANTS CANDY

The original improvised musical returns to Edinburgh after a sold out run in previous Fringes. Assembly Hall

HANNA GANGBY

The winner of the International Offerings for self respect. Picked out run in previous Fringes. Assembly Rooms

Dance With Me

In terms of dance this year some old names are back, along with some new ones to discover. There will be some shows that you will see, and some that you will not. One of the hardest to predict is Martin Creed – Collapsing Wall No. 1525 (Tin Roof). The Turner Prize winner has decided a piece of dance. It consists of five dancers dressed in Sitting in the five corners of ballet positions each of which has been described as a musical note. Somehow this writer can’t expect to be giving this 3 stars, but it is going to be closer to 1 or 5. There is an exhibition of John Souters’s recent work, Dance Over Up, at the Fruitmarket Gallery.

Making a welcome return are Absolutely Productions’ Acleat (Festival), a captivating journey of visceral raw moments of hilarity and exposed vulnerability. The second show is called Knot. What? – for ‘Not Quite Right’. The questions, such as who can dance and who can’t, are violently pushed and the audience is asked to speculate what can be. It is Drift is about a couple’s troubled relationship.

An emerging name for dance is James Creed and the Cape Dance Company (both Zoo Roxy). It is CAPA’s first appearance at Fringe in Edinburgh after a sold out run in previous Fringes. CAAPA’s first appearance at Fringe was to dance their way through the Anglo Irish agreement. Having succeeded in that this year their pair of interlinked and themselves the difficult mission of space travel beyond the confines of their own country and space. They have plans to communicate harmoniously with aliens and responsive a distant planet on friendly terms with all life forms they encounter.

Also making a welcome return are the spectacular Scottish Dance Theatre (Zoo Scotland). They have toured to the UK and Java. The Life & Times of Girl A by choreographer Ben Duke a woman is trying to tell what she’s got is a stage and some dancers. An idiosyncratic dance by John Scott. Viviana Durante – a story of life, death and careens to a symphony. Barbara Rafferty and Stuart Hopps – a story of life, death and careens to a symphony. Barbara Rafferty and Stuart Hopps – a story of life, death and careens to a symphony.

Dance companies in 4 distinct programmes with themes of Beautiful, Lyrical, Rock It, and Athletic. EICC. This year this pair of Irishman set themselves the difficult mission of space travel beyond the confines of their own country and space. Having succeeded in that, this year their pair of interlinked and themselves the difficult mission of space travel beyond the confines of their own country and space. They have plans to communicate harmoniously with aliens and responsive a distant planet on friendly terms with all life forms they encounter.


There is much more but one I will definitely not get run in previous Fringes. Assembly Rooms

To pick out a few. Liz Lea Dance have two shows. The re’s lots more dance around, ranging from traditional Irish music and dance from a company from the 1920’s. Traditional Irish music and dance from a company from the 1920’s. Traditional Irish music and dance from a company from the 1920’s. Traditional Irish music and dance from a company from the 1920’s. Traditional Irish music and dance from a company from the 1920’s.

Martin Powell

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LGBT news and developments:

- **Scottish Borders LGBT Equality**: Tel: (01382) 459252.
- **GAY AND LESBIAN HUMANISTS**: E-mail: info@sgih.org.uk
- **GAY AND LESBIAN ATHEISTS AND HUMANISTS**: E-mail: quest@broken-rainbow.org.uk

**Believers**

- **TWO BROTHERS**: Welcomes gay men and women interested in spirituality. Tel: 0141-573 7565.
- **GLASGOW LAMBDA**: Scottish national gay men’s Christian group. Tel: 0141 332 1212.

**Bikers**

- **DAVID MCCARTHY**: Scotland’s gay men’s motorcycle group. Tel: 0141 339 4414.
- **SCOTLAND SCOTTIE**
- **ROAM OUTREACH**: Part of the Harm Reduction Team.

**Cultural**

- **EDINBURGH GAYDADS SCOTLAND**: Meet on the 2nd Sat of each month at 10am at the Edinburgh Gay Men’s Health Centre. Tel: 07832 123 456.
- **GAY CARAVAN CLUB**
- **HIV AWARENESS**

**Dentists**

- **ARMS AND LEGS**

**Drug and Alcohol**

- **SCOTLAND’S 1ST GAYBIZ**

**Environmental**

- **GAY MINDS**

**Equality**

- **THE BEARS OF SCOTLAND**: Regular residential workshops and events. Tel: 07712 345 678.

**Equality**

- **SCOTLAND’S 1ST GAYBIZ**

**Events**

- **COMMUNITY EVENT**: The event for all LGBT communities, with a focus on promoting healthy lifestyles, celebrating diversity, and supporting local initiatives.

**Health**

- **EDINBURGH GAYMINDS**: Society for gay men and women in Edinburgh. Tel: 0131 557 8790.

**Health and Wellbeing**

- **GAY MINDS**: Society for gay men and women in Edinburgh. Tel: 0131 557 8790.

**Help**

- **WEDDING TRANSPORT**: Tel: 07871 234 567.

**HIV**

- **HIV AWARENESS**

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- **GAY DADS SCOTLAND**: Meet on the 2nd Sat of each month at 10am at the Edinburgh Gay Men’s Health Centre. Tel: 07832 123 456.
- **GAY CARAVAN CLUB**

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**Keywords**

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TRANSLATION

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THE LUVIES PRESENTS

A DOLL’S HOUSE

ADAPTED AND DIRECTED BY RAY NICHOLSON

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LGBT Glee Club
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