

CAMBRIDGE JUNCTION



BE PART OF SOMETHING

JUNCTION.CO.UK

Cambridge Junction is the welcoming home of original arts, entertainment and creativity. Sharing the power of live performance since 1990.

At Cambridge Junction we invite you to be part of something extraordinary.

We welcome everyone to share our love of the arts, music, comedy and creativity in all its forms.

We work with young people and local communities and artists to make radical, inclusive and engaging shared experiences.

As a charity and social enterprise we believe in the importance of removing barriers so everyone can take part in creative opportunities.

As well as our programme of arts and popular culture we work intensively with young people and local communities on inclusive projects and events to ensure even more people share in the benefits of being part of something.

“With an excellent booking policy, good facilities and friendly staff, Cambridge Junction is certainly a jewel in the east of England’s crown.”

The Guardian



A YEAR AT CAMBRIDGE JUNCTION

600
PERFORMANCES

2,500
ARTISTS ON
OUR STAGES

110,000
TICKETS SOLD

5,000

YOUNG PEOPLE INVOLVED
IN OUR CREATIVE
LEARNING PROJECTS

40,000

PINTS POURED

99%

GOOD FEEDBACK

50

WEEKS OF ARTIST
RESIDENCY

15

NEW SHOWS
COMMISSIONED

500

MEMBERS, SUPPORTERS
AND PATRONS

3

CREATIVE
APPRENTICESHIPS

We have been the beating heart of original art and entertainment

1985

Community-led Cambridge Venue Group is formed in response to a growing call for an arts and entertainment venue for young people.

1990

John Peel cuts the ribbon to open The Junction. The Bible headline the opening party.

Jo Brand, Hull Truck Theatre Company and Gary Clail and the On-U Sound System all appear in the first season.

1992

Radiohead are support band twice but are back to headline in 1994.

The venue grows with a capacity increase to 850. Junction Open Air entertains 7,000 people at an outdoor festival on Jesus Green.

1995

Paul Weller sells out in 36 minutes (in the days of queuing for tickets).

Warning – the home of Drum and Bass in Cambridge – launches at The Junction.

THE JUNCTION

THE BIBLE

Blur play The Junction and sell 192 tickets.



'Junction' gets the green light

SCHOOLGIRL Juliette Durio-Gair was certain on the right track when she chose "The Junction" as the name for Cambridge's new young people venue.

Juliette, of Cavendish Road, Cambridge, came to the competition run by "Young Directions" to name for the venue which opens in December. The seven-year-old beat 200 others to win a stereo cassette recorder.

She said: "I named it 'The Junction' because

2005

The Junction reopens a refurbished J1 and opens two new spaces: J2 a 220 seat theatre and J3 a space dedicated to participation and artist development.

2007

Patti Smith plays The Junction and takes the opportunity to visit the gravestone of philosopher Ludwig Wittgenstein.

2009

Boy George DJs for the 18th birthday of Dot Cotton, Cambridge's most loved LGBT club.

2010

Tim Minchin plays two nights in J1 as warm up for his first arena tour.

Lou Reed performs his *Metal Machine Music*.

Amy Winehouse wows the crowd at a Tsunami Benefit gig.

Mumford and Sons play J2 & J1 in the same year and sell out both times.

Sound&Fury's Kursk turns J2 into a submarine and goes on to tour the world.

2017

Pixies play a warm-up show in J1.

2018

Flaming Lips cram their huge stadium set in to J1 for an epic warm-up show. Wayne Coyne rides across the crowd on a unicorn.

2020

Cambridge Junction celebrates its 30th birthday with reminiscence project *Lost Nights & Love Songs* and a massive party.

Hunt & Darton's community project 24 hour Radio Local takes place outside the venue.

The programme shifts online during COVID restrictions.

Audiences around the world enjoy digital shows including NIE's *The Snow Queen*.

Paul Simonon and Mick Jones of The Clash join Gorillaz for a pre-arena warm-up show.



in Cambridge since 1990 with a focus on amplifying creativity.

1997

The Junction agrees to merge with the Cambridge Drama Centre, confirming and building a commitment to the arts.

You're In There Somewhere, a mural at the entrance to J1, is created from 500 morphed photo-portraits of Junction audiences.

Blur sell out a January warm-up gig.

2011

Ed Sheeran sells out J1 on his debut album tour.

Total Arts, our participation group for young people with disabilities begins.

Warm up shows from Elbow and Duran Duran.

2021

Tom Jones kickstarts a new season of events following months of lockdowns and restrictions.

Paul Hamlyn Foundation grant funding for a three year Creative Learning programme for young people with complex needs.

2000

Robert Plant plays in the tenth birthday celebrations and delights with a set entirely comprised of covers.

Coldplay take over J1 for tour pre-production and cap it off with an unforgettable gig.

The first Funky Flamingo club organised and presented by and for disabled young people fills J1.

2012

Junction Young Company is founded.

2022

Making *The Democratic Set*, a new film celebrating our communities with Ibsen Award-winning Back to Back Theatre and 100 local participants.

2003

The Fiver – five bands for five pounds – launches and fast becomes an institution offering young people the chance to play on a professional stage, often for the first time.



2013

The Junction re-launches as Cambridge Junction.

Lee 'Scratch' Perry plays J1.



Bands who have played at Cambridge Junction in their early days include Manic Street Preachers, Green Day,

2004

The Damned are a controversial choice to turn on Cambridge's Christmas lights before a J1 show.



2014

Sonic Pi: Live & Coding opens the door for young people to coding and music composition.

Royal Blood sell out in 2 minutes (in the days of internet booking).

Mercury Rev, Stormzy, St Vincent, Sleaford Mods, Loyle Carner, Lewis Capaldi, Wet Leg and so many more.



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Within and beyond our walls, we engage with young people and communities providing unique opportunities to get creative, gain skills and connect to others by sharing extraordinary experiences.

Cambridge Junction has a long tradition of working with communities across Cambridge and beyond. We work with local partners and artists who are experienced in working with people to develop opportunities for everyone to engage in creative activities.

As a charity and social enterprise, we focus on removing barriers to enjoying and taking part in creative experiences.

“Events like these are really wonderful and important in our community, it’s brilliant to have the chance to meet new people and have fun together.”

Participant at The Punch, The Sandwich, The Cake by Hunt & Darton in Queen Ediths



CREATIVE LEARNING

Over the last decade our wide-ranging creative learning programme has grown substantially, particularly working with those with complex needs and who experience barriers to accessing education. These programmes help young people to build confidence, skills and aspirations as well as providing accredited qualifications and pathways into careers in the cultural and creative sectors.

Each year we engage with over 5,000 young people on a range of open and targeted programmes as well as providing a home to local artists and cultural organisations who work with young people:

- developing skills, promoting happiness, wellbeing and having fun;
- making theatre accessible for hundreds of people through our funded ticket scheme;
- kickstarting careers through events, projects and apprenticeships;
- embracing and amplifying the creativity of young people in the Cambridge area.

"I honestly can't thank the Junction and Romsey Mill enough at the moment. My son is a different lad thanks to your support with his music."

Creative Learning participant's parent



ARTIST DEVELOPMENT

Our programming has always been eclectic and diverse. The opening of our theatre and studio (J2 and J3) in 2005 allowed us to present even more events. You can enjoy comedy, dance, theatre, live art and performance that transcends classification.

Our artist development programme helps musicians and artists develop their skills, from sound engineering to writing new work, creating the next generation of artists and creators.

Ideas and art grown in Cambridge go on to be seen around the world, and some of the most exciting international artists share their work in Cambridge on our stages. Our resident companies, associate and visiting artists contribute to the UK's creativity and creative industries. They also bring you some of the most surprising nights out!



ACCESSIBILITY

Welcome and access are cornerstones to all that we do. We want everyone to feel welcome and safe at Cambridge Junction, to enjoy great nights out together with family and friends. This is equally important to our offer for audiences, participants in our programmes, the artists we host and internally our team.

We are proud of the fact that all our spaces have flat-floor access. Our staff are trained and experienced in providing an inclusive welcome, hosting relaxed performances, supporting Disabled artists, and in mental health first aid.

Many of our events are made accessible through BSL interpretation, captioning and audio description. We also regularly present relaxed performances and multi-sensory productions for audiences with profound and multiple learning disabilities.



EQUITY, DIVERSITY, INCLUSIVITY & BELONGING

Ensuring that our programme, audiences, participants and staff are representative of the communities in which we live and work is vital to the success of our work at Cambridge Junction and central to our values and identity.

We do this by:

- foregrounding the work of LGBTQIA+, Deaf and Disabled, and Global Majority artists and producers;
- ensuring our recruitment processes are inclusive, by advertising opportunities externally, using diverse networks, reducing barriers for anyone wanting to apply for a job;
- increasing the number of performances across the programme that are BSL interpreted, relaxed, audio described and captioned;
- curating a programme that is balanced and diverse in art form, representation, and potential audience;
- employing artists and practitioners with relevant lived experience on all Creative Learning projects.



ENVIRONMENTAL RESPONSIBILITY

Cambridge Junction declared Climate Emergency in April 2019, and we believe that Climate Crisis is the biggest risk to all our lives and work in the next decade.

Over the last three years we have taken action to:

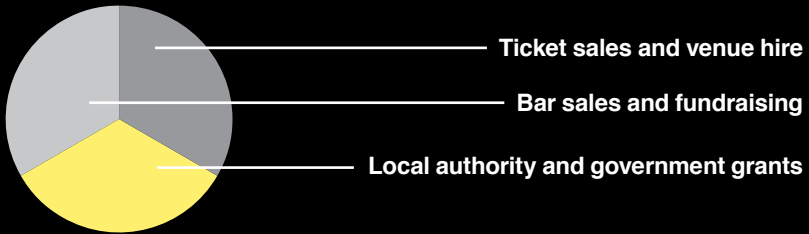
- reduce the use of single-use plastics across our building;
- reduce waste;
- increase the use of local suppliers;
- reduce our carbon footprint. This will remain a top priority.

We also support artistic work that explores Climate Crisis and solutions to how we might live differently in the future.



HOW WE DO THIS

We are a social enterprise and charity. In a typical year a third of our income comes from ticket sales and venue hire, a third from bar sales and fundraising and fundraising from trusts, foundations, companies and individuals and a third from local authorities and government grants.



Our audiences are roughly a third from the city of Cambridge, a third from the wider county and a third from further away. Our programme offers something for everyone, from sensory shows for babies through to club nights, innovative international theatre, and the chance to see the band you saw here when you were a teenager again.



Increasingly we rely on the generosity of the people who value what we do to deliver the breadth of our programme.

We couldn't do this without all our supporters, especially our audiences, participants, members, supporters and patrons. Thank you.

WORKING WITH LOCAL BUSINESSES

We love working with local businesses, a vital part of our local community. We can provide an unusual venue in which to host team-building days. We can also offer exclusive dining opportunities to entertain clients and treat staff. Our corporate memberships are a valued staff benefit, offering your team exclusive offers and presales and no booking fees for any of our shows.

With business support we can extend our work with the local community and young people through meaningful creative activities. We can also support businesses in their engagement with clients or staff through targeted events, projects and entertaining.

Cambridge-based company Stobbs IP generously supported the creation of *The Nutcracker* Christmas show, enabling it to be fully accessible, and BSL interpreted during its entire run.



CREATING A CULTURAL LEGACY

We have ambitions to continue to develop what we offer our community as the population around Cambridge continues to grow.

To do this we need support from people like you, who share our love of music and art, and understand what an important part they play in our lives and communities. If you would like to be part of our story please do get in touch.



One way you can do this is to leave us a gift in your will. A Cambridge Junction supporter who has already pledged a gift in their will said:

“Cambridge Junction has been an important place in my life, so when making my will I decided to leave a gift to the charity. It gives me a good feeling to think that in the future I will help many more people to also enjoy performances and meaningful times at the venue.”

Email support@junction.co.uk to discuss how you might support our work.



THANK YOU

We can only do all this with your support.

Every ticket booked, drink bought and donation made supports our charitable work.

Our 500+ members, supporters and patrons provide valuable year-round support.

Arts Council England and Cambridge City Council funding ensures we can offer many activities free or at a low cost.

Support from Trusts and Foundations makes our most targeted work with young people possible.

Our education and community partners ensure we can target our work to where it is most needed.

If you can, consider becoming part of one of our membership schemes



Membership benefits include...

- No booking fees – save with every booking!
- Priority booking on selected shows
- Special offers and staff picks
- Limited edition Cambridge Junction merchandise

**Join us today at junction.co.uk
and be part of something**

Thanks photographers Claire Haigh, David L Hone, Claire Borley, Valerio Berdini, Ema R Jones, Rosie Powell, Lina & Tom, and Loops Photography for helping us tell our story.

Junction (CDC) Ltd (trading as Cambridge Junction) is a social enterprise and registered charity (number 801637).



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ENGLAND**

