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MEDWAY

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## Explore what Rochester has to offer

Rochester Corn Exchange and various buildings along the high street will be lit up by Craig West of Fruition Arts. Eastgate House, The Guildhall Museum, Visitor Information Centre, Rochester Art Gallery and other businesses will be staying open late. Why not pop in while you are in Rochester.

## COVID-19

Although this event is outdoor, it can get very busy, therefore face coverings are optional, but recommended. Please respect those wearing them.

## Accessibility

This event is accessible, however some areas might be uneven due to the cobbled high street. Disabled parking can be found along The Esplanade and there are public disabled toilets on Northgate.

# MEDWAY LIGHT NIGHTS



FRIDAY, 11 FEBRUARY  
SATURDAY, 12 FEBRUARY  
6-9PM  
AROUND HISTORIC ROCHESTER

Did you enjoy Medway Light Nights?

Scan the QR code below and fill in our quick survey for the chance to win two pantomime tickets at The Central Theatre.



Partners and Funders



Visitmedway.org/medwaylightnights

VisitMedway

#MedwayLightNights

## Friday, 11 and Saturday, 12 February, 6-9pm

Medway Light Nights is a free spectacular festival of light which will transform Historic Rochester's iconic buildings and spaces into works of art.

Medway Council, in partnership with Emergency Exit Arts, has commissioned local, national and internationally-renowned artists, to work alongside our young people and communities, to deliver an incredible event.

Please tag us in your photos  
#MedwayLightNights  
– we'd love to see them!

#MedwayLightNights #CreativeMedway

# MEDWAY LIGHT NIGHTS

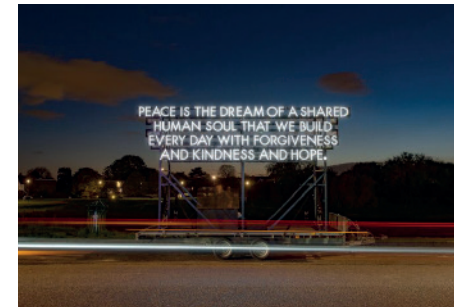
## Quick Guide Events to explore

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- 2. A Tale of Two Cities**  
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- 3. CROSSROADS**  
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- 5. Illuminarealities**  
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- 11. Cuckoo Clock Cinema**  
by 51zero
- 12. We are Medway**  
by Cohesion Plus and Ideas Test  
**Lantern parade**  
**Outdoor film installation**

## Peace Poems by Emergency Exit Arts

Shedding light on the fragile nature of peace and the strength of those who sustain it, the Peace Poems is a 14ft high illuminated poem created to mark the centenary of the Armistice and Peace Treaties and marked the end of the First World War in 1918. The large-scale mobile artwork, created with leading artist and poet Robert Montgomery, was inspired by the concept of Positive Peace developed by Johan Galtung, linking peace with justice and equality for all.

Fri, 11 and Sat, 12 Feb, 6-9pm  
Outside The Crown



## A Tale of Two Cities by Mona Whitton

This installation seeks to illustrate elements of Dickens' iconic work, "A Tale of Two Cities" through the creation of two shadow-box pieces, one depicting Paris, the other London. The buildings included are those which have relevance both to the French Revolution and the novel.

Hanging above the shadow boxes will be a myriad of glass stars, reminding us that we all shelter under the same timeless stars. The piece seeks to remind us of the social injustices highlighted in Dickens' novel both before and after the fall of the Bastille and asks us to look at both the world we inhabit and our actions and place within it.

Fri, 11 and Sat, 12 Feb, 6-9pm  
Outside The Guildhall Museum



## CROSSROADS

by Lucid Creates

CROSSROADS uses the optical illusions created by light, sound and mirrors to transport audiences to a place where good things have happened and the future we want exists now.

Optical illusions reveal how we truly perceive reality: they show us that our minds tend to make assumptions about the world and that what we see is often not truth. CROSSROADS is an immersive space in which audiences experience illusions that can reveal everything from how they process space and time to their perception of consciousness.

CROSSROADS is as spectacular by day as it is by night. Its mirrored pillars reflect back its audience and surroundings to create a myriad of responses that are totally individual to the audience and space.

Fri, 11 and Sat, 12 Feb, 6-9pm

Kings Head Car Park  
(next to Ye Arrow)



## If Not Now

by Icon Theatre

If Not Now is a large-scale spectacular dance and light show inspired by moments in history that have launched remarkable social change.

With a mix of exhilarating dance, breath-taking projections that flood the walls of Rochester Castle, and original new music, If Not Now tells a unifying and uplifting story about how communities can come together to transform poverty, prejudice and the climate crisis.

In Icon's signature style, If Not Now is created and performed by a team of professional performers and theatre-makers alongside a company of 175 people from local communities.

All shows are BSL interpreted. The castle gardens are wheelchair navigable on pathways. In wet weather, sturdy shoes or boots are advisable.

If Not Now is an Icon Theatre Production co-commissioned by Icon Theatre, Medway Council and Theatre31.

Fri, 11 and Sat, 12 Feb  
6pm, 7pm & 8pm (20 mins long)

Rochester Castle Gardens



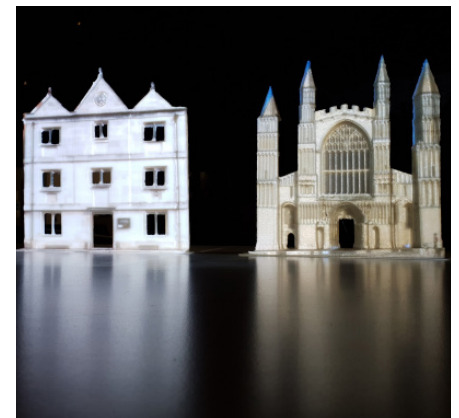
## Illuminarealities

by University of Kent

Architectural Visualisation students from School of Architecture and Planning at the University of Kent in Canterbury have created Illuminarealities, an art installation divided into two parts: one on the Six Poor Travellers' House, and one at the front of Rochester Cathedral. Feeding from the stories and messages from Charles Dickens' literature, Illuminarealities aims to combine light and architecture, creating a fusion of the two. Animating architecture with the history, culture and art of Rochester, students explore this most public of augmented realities in three ways: creating passive, physical and metaphysical interactions.

Fri, 11 and Sat, 12 Feb, 6-9pm

Six Poor Travellers' House and  
in front of Rochester Cathedral



## Dickensian Fire Laboratory

by Emergency Exit Arts and Lightfires





Be transported back in time to the Dickensian age and wander through a vista of flames and chemical reactions within The Vines of Rochester. The Dickensian Fire Laboratory harnesses the power of fire and steam in a series of audience activated installations, while various Victorian time travellers present a lesser-known narrative of Dickens. Appropriate for children and adults of all ages, come see this flaming phantasmagoria.

Fri, 11 and Sat, 12 Feb, 6-9pm

The Vines



- |                              |                                  |
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 Lantern Parade route  
 First Aid  
 Toilets  
 Car Park

Rochester Riverside  
multi-story car park



## Charles Dickens' Flying Circus

by Dream Safari

Local street artist 'Dream Safari' paints a mural of Charles Dickens in Eastgate Gardens, next to his chalet, where the great author worked on some of his best-known novels.

The mural itself will come to life with fun, but very peculiar Monty Python-esque animations. Music by Pye Corner Audio.

Fri, 11 and Sat, 12 Feb, 6-9pm

Eastgate Gardens



## The Hourglass

by Emergency Exit Arts

Conceived and produced by Illuminos for Emergency Exit Arts, this new piece is a 4-metre-high sculpture, using projection mapping and sound to create a beautiful animation show. It currently tours with 'Migrating Creatures', an inspiring short story about human and animal migration written by Arji Manuelpillai: Migration is a natural thing. We are all 'one world' and 'one people' on our journeys of discoveries.

Fri, 11 and Sat, 12 Feb, 6-9pm

Eastgate Gardens



## Dancing with Dickens

by Fabric Lenny

Dancing with Dickens is a live animated character driven projection work starring Dickensian characters, busting moves and throwing shapes to an eclectic playlist of tunes. The audience will witness colour-rich and dynamic digital puppetry, brimming with fun and engaging aesthetics, animated against a backdrop of classic dance tunes. Fabric Lenny creates fun filled pop-up animated images using only a couple of iPads, a mixer and a projector.

Fri, 11 and Sat, 12 Feb, 6-9pm

Blue Boar Lane Car Park  
(by the post box)



## Recovery Poems

by Emergency Exit Arts

How do we commemorate what's been lost as we start to take tentative steps to coming out of lockdown? What do we want to hold onto and grow? What positive changes can we make to society and the natural environment as we recover from the pandemic? Through talking and listening to communities, artists Robert Montgomery and Deanna Rodger have created an inspiring light poem that visits public spaces as a backdrop for workshops, performances and reflections.

Fri, 11 and Sat, 12 Feb, 6-9pm

Blue Boar Lane Car Park



## Cuckoo Clock Cinema

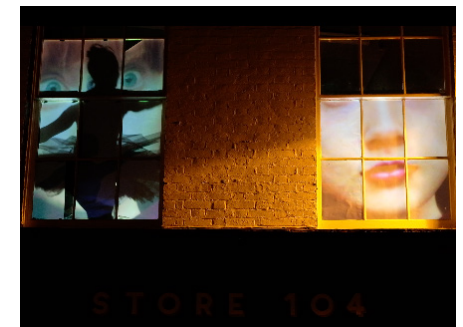
by 51zero

Inspired by Rochester High Street's unique shops and quirky objects for sale such as kaleidoscopes, music boxes, snow globes, weathervanes and cuckoo clocks, 51zero presents an evening of projections from the windows of Store 104 where the architecture of the building will be framing the show. The programme of films and animations by artists from Medway and around the world will be accompanied by a live performance of dance and music.

Fri, 11 and Sat, 12 Feb,

Projection time 6-9pm,  
Performance time 8-9pm

Store 104, High Street



A cellist and a vibraphonist will accompany the films, experimenting live during the last hour of each night, while the cuckoo improvised ballet performance of beautiful 'port de bras' will dazzle the spectator.

Limited amount of seating with blankets and a warm tippie will be provided by 51zero.



# We are Medway

by Cohesion Plus and Ideas Test

## Lantern parade

More than 17 Medway schools have helped design and create lanterns themed around 'Home, Belonging, Love and Respect' with Xtina Lamb of Intra Arts and Chris Reed.

After the parade, the lanterns will be installed in the town centre for the rest of the event. So, come take a closer look. You may recognise some of the lanterns as buildings from around Rochester itself! As part of the parade there will be live music from Bloco Fogo, 4x4 Kings of Dohl, Uzambezi Arts, Band Baja UK - brass, samba and fusion bands. The parade will arrive in time for the 7pm show of 'If not now' by Icon Theatre (6).

**Fri, 11 Feb, 6pm**

**Starting from Almon Place Car Park, along the high street, ending at Rochester Castle**



## Outdoor film installation

A film installation in St. Mary's Meadow, made with Cybersaurus Arts, will feature local schools, artists, faith and community members telling us what Medway means to them.

**Fri, 11 and Sat, 12 Feb, 6-9pm**

**St. Mary's Meadow**  
(opposite The Deaf Cat Coffee Shop)

Coming up *in Medway*

**The English Festival**

**Saturday, 16 April**  
Riverside Country Park

**Rochester Sweeps Festival**

**Saturday, 30 April to Monday, 2 May**  
Rochester

Plus even more events at [visitmedway.org](http://visitmedway.org)

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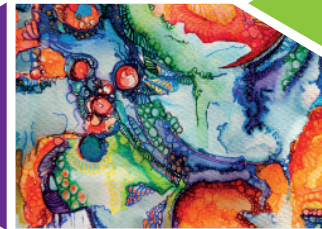
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