

Fingal County  
Council presents

# SPACE INVADERS

An Early Years Arts  
**Seminar &  
Festival**

for Children,  
Families, Artists  
and the Early Years  
Sector

Farmleigh Estate  
9th and 10th  
of May 2015





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# Introduction

Building on the success of last year's inaugural festival, the **Space Invaders** team return to bring you a weekend of artistic delights in **Farmleigh on the 9th & 10th of May**. For a short spell we will invade the beautiful grounds of Farmleigh to bring you a festival that cultivates creativity and well-being. The programme offers a variety of opportunities to engage with multiple art forms and highly skilled artists in comfortable environments. This year's festival is particularly special as we include a Seminar for professionals working in the early years sector and those interested in early years arts education.

**The seminar on May 9th** will focus on *Artful Dodgers*, a unique music and visual arts programme located in two community crèche services in Fingal, Ros Eó in Rush and Little Learners in Dublin 15. In partnership with artist Jackie Maguire, we bring you a dynamic seminar schedule which includes presentations that demonstrate the rich potential in early years arts education, and research conducted in collaboration with Trinity College Dublin Arts Education Research Group (AERG). We will be joined by Rhona Matheson, CE of Starcatchers, to share examples of best practice in Scotland. Our panel discussion will include contributions from Professor Margaret Rogers of Better Start, Lisa Kavanagh of Early Childhood Ireland, and Seóna Ní Bhriain Head of Young People, Children and Education with The Arts Council of Ireland. We welcome you to join us for this information exchange.

**The Children's programme on May 10th** is exclusively for those aged **0-5 years** and their guardians who will be treated to artistic performances from around the world. In partnership with Clíodhna Noonan of Acting Up!, we bring you performances from Belgium, Croatia, Lithuania, Austria and Ireland. ReCreate will join us with their 'Warehouse of Wonders' full of playful material with lots of potential. There is something for everyone, so do come along and join in the celebration.

# Artful Dodgers Early Years Music & Visual Arts Programme

Artful Dodgers is an early years music and visual arts programme that commenced in September 2013. The programme is located in two community crèche services in Fingal and is pioneered by Fingal County Council's Arts Office, artists Jackie Maguire and Naomi Draper, Fingal County Childcare Committee and Ros Eó and Little Learners community crèche services. Artful Dodgers was delivered in three phases:

- 'artist in residence programme' (Phase 1: 2013)
- 'creative exchange programme' (Phase 2: 2014 to 2015), and
- 'parental involvement programme' (Phase 3: 2015).

Given the unique nature of Artful Dodgers, it has been monitored and evaluated by Trinity College Dublin AERG since 2013. The research team have been particularly interested in exploring the programme's capacity to enhance the children's early literacy and numeracy development; and if Artful Dodgers as a model can build the capacity of the early years educators to embed music and the visual arts in their setting.

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The Artful Dodgers partnership now wish to share their experiences of delivering a multi-phased early years arts programme with a wider audience in order to disseminate the research findings and discuss any implications on policy, practice and continual professional development in the realm of early years arts and education.

The inclusion of a space for critical reflection across disciplines between staff and artists was adopted and nurtured throughout the programme. We wish to highlight the key changes in practice that occurred as a direct result of the artists being located in the two childcare settings, the cross-profession collaboration, and the initiation of a parental involvement phase within the programme.

# Booking Information

- **Booking is essential for all events**
- **Places are limited and will be allocated on a first come first served basis**
- **Children must be accompanied by an adult at all times.**

## For information & booking please contact:

Julie Clarke, Youth & Education Officer Fingal County Council

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**Email:** [julie.clarke@fingal.ie](mailto:julie.clarke@fingal.ie)

Please provide your phone number in your email request.

If you do not have access to email please phone: 01 8905960

# Getting to Farmleigh Estate

Farmleigh is accessed through the Phoenix Park.

## From City Centre

**Bus Route:** Take the number 37 bus to the Castleknock Gate. Enter through the park gates and take the pedestrian pathway to your right. Continue until you see Farmleigh entrance. Farmleigh is a fifteen-minute walk from the Castleknock Gate.

**Driving:** Entering the Phoenix Park from Park Gate Street go through two roundabouts, take a left at the third roundabout. Take the next right and continue straight to Farmleigh Gates. Caution: Potential road closures during the summer months cause traffic from Park Gate Street to be diverted at the first roundabout. In the event of this please follow public signage.

Entering the Phoenix Park by car from the Castleknock Gate, take a right at the first roundabout and the next right. Continue straight to Farmleigh Gates. Parking is available.

Farmleigh is the official State guest house and is managed by the OPW. In the event of an unscheduled official State event, alternative arrangements for the festival will be made.

# Seminar Schedule

## Saturday 9th of May



### 9.45am Registration, Meet the Artists and Early Years Educators

Take this time to meet Artists Jackie Maguire & Naomi Draper and Early Years Educators, Debbie Donnelly (Ros Eó Community Crèche) and Ash Ryan (Little Learners Community Crèche) to discuss *Artful Dodgers*.

### 10.15am Welcome from Julie Clarke, Youth & Education Arts Officer with Fingal County Council

### 10.30am Presentation of *Artful Dodgers* by artists Jackie Maguire & Naomi Draper and Early Years Educators Debbie Donnelly and Ash Ryan

### 11.00am Presentation of research findings from *Artful Dodgers* by Professor Carmel O'Sullivan and Professor Nóirín Hayes of Trinity College Dublin Arts Education Research Group.

### 8 11.30am Tea break

### 11.45am Guest Speaker Rhona Matheson, Chief Executive, Starcatchers, Scotland. Presentation on 'Creative Skills', a multi-agency partnership programme of training that aims to put arts and creativity at the heart of early years practice in Scotland.

Starcatchers is the only multi-arts organisation that pioneers the development of high quality performances and creative experiences for babies and young children aged 0-5 years and their grown-ups in communities in Scotland.

### 12.15pm Panel Discussion & Participatory session

What are the priorities for early years arts education in terms of policy and practice?

The panel discussion will be chaired by Professor Carmel O'Sullivan and will include Jackie Maguire Early Years Artist, Debbie Donnelly Early Years Educator, Rhona Matheson Chief Executive with Starcatchers UK, Professor Margaret Rogers National Manager with Better Start (Ire), Lisa Kavanagh Early Years Specialist with Early Childhood Ireland and Seóna Ní Bhriain Head of Young People, Children and Education with The Arts Council of Ireland.





**1.00pm**      **Break for Lunch**

**1.30pm**      **Interactive Demonstration** by Belgian artists and company *Theater de Spiegel* in The Cowshed Theatre, Farmleigh

**2.15pm**      **Break out experiential workshops.** Participants can choose one of the following:

**Workshop A:** **Artful Dodgers music and visual arts workshop with artists Jackie Maguire and Naomi Draper and early years educators Debbie Donnelly and Ash Ryan.**

Come and join the *Artful Dodgers* team to explore the magical worlds of music and visual arts. Develop an understanding of our approaches and practices. We will be using the ORID (Objective, Reflective, Interpretive and Decisional) evaluation framework to facilitate a creative exchange between the artists, early years educators and workshop participants.

**Workshop B:** **Creative Dance Workshop with dance artist Philippa Donnellan**

This creative dance workshop offers people the opportunity to take part in a range of fun dance activities, which are suitable when leading sessions with young children aged 2 to 5 years. Led by professional dance artist Philippa Donnellan, this playful process will include a lively warm-up to music and simple movement games. It will also explore how to utilize different styles of music together with a story, such as *Goldilocks* and the *Three Bears*, to help encourage children's inventive and imaginative participation in creative dance.

**3.45pm – 4.00pm**      **Closing Comments**

# Children's Programme

Sunday 10th of May

## Caban

Free Event, Booking Essential

Location:	The Cowshed Theatre Space
Presented by:	Theater de Spiegel (Belgium)
Performed by:	Joeri Wens and Nicolas Ankoudinoff
Age:	3 months – 3 yrs
Time:	10am and 2pm
Duration:	90 minutes

A magical wonderland of make believe facilitated by a wonderful set with artists and musicians eager to encourage the curious. Presented with pancake heaven, a drummer boy, a ladder house, a sleeve tunnel, a bamboo hide out and much more, children are invited to discover, build and dream in this interactive sensory space at their own pace. Each small step is encouraged by theatrical, sound and visual interventions which result in heart-warming experiences.

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# Viduli / I Pack My Bag

Free Event, Booking Essential

Location:	The Motor House
Presented by:	Theatre NuU (Austria)
Performed by:	Sarah Gaderer and Laura-Lee Röckendorfer
Age:	2yrs – 5yrs
Time:	11am and 2pm
Duration:	30 minutes

*Sa* and *La* are two mischievous friends confronted with the challenge of packing their suitcase. With a joyous whoop and a battle of wits *Sa* and *La* leap in and out of their suitcase in this humorous pantomime piece that deals with fantasy, imagination, memory, space and time. Can you help this crafty pair pack their bag?



# Children's Programme

Sunday 10th of May

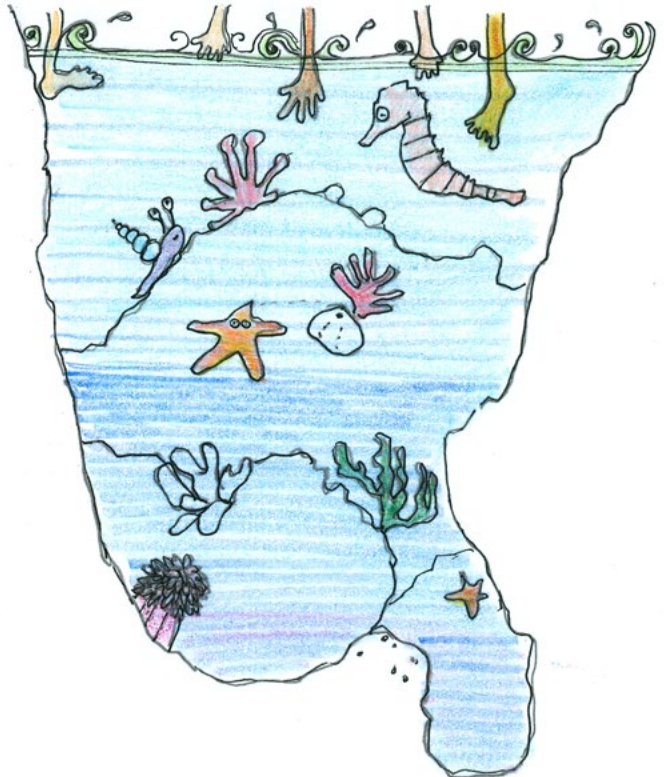
## Sweet Hands Spicy Feet

Free Event, Booking Essential

<b>Location:</b>	The Arkle Room
<b>Presented by:</b>	Kidding Ensemble (Ireland)
<b>Performed by:</b>	Angelica Santander, Andrea Cleary, Sandra Gonzales Banderas, Moises Mas Garcia
<b>Age:</b>	3mths – 2yrs
<b>Time:</b>	10am and 1pm
<b>Duration:</b>	35 minutes

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By the silvery glint of the morning sun, we will go on an adventure using movement, storytelling and music to share tales from the Caribbean. Strengthening mobility by using our hands and feet we will explore the rolling hills, splashing waves, crystal clear waters, unusual plants and colourful marine life in the offshore reefs together.





## The Story About Cloud

Free Event, Booking Essential

**Location:** The Kitchen Cabinet Room

**Presented by:** Mala Scena (Croatia)

**Directed and Performed by:** Ivica Simić

**Age:** 2yrs – 5yrs

**Time:** 11.30am and 2.30pm

**Duration:** 35 minutes

A white delicate veil lit up smoothly by the sun or moonlight; have you ever wondered how far the wandering clouds overhead have travelled? What have they seen? Where have they been? In this delightful tale a young boy playing on a meadow meets a fluffy friendly cloud and a unique friendship is born. The Cloud brings the young boy on a delightful journey full of surprises not to be missed.

# Children's Programme

Sunday 10th of May

## Pasaka / A Fairytale

Free Event, Booking Essential

**Location:** The Paddock

**Presented by:** Teatriukas (Lithuania)

**Performed by:** Dalia Mikoliūnaitė, Žilvinas

Ramanauskas, Gediminas Žilys

**Age:** 0-5yrs

**Time:** 10.30am and 2.30pm

**Duration:** 45 minutes

The leafy woods are a magical place with wonderful creatures great and small. Wandering musicians transfixed on their song veer off track and into a dark woodland area where the animals have voices and riddles to share. Join Squirrel, Owl, Fox, and Deer to sing a harmonious lullaby to guide the wanderers along a safe path home.



## Our Magic Garden

Free Event, Booking Essential

Location: The Paddock

Presented by: ReCreate (Ireland)

Age: 0 – 5yrs

Time: Drop in between 10am – 3pm

Weave your way through trees in full leaf and long grass to the explorer's tent where you can investigate the crooked house and dance beneath the giant flowers. Invade the paddock with artists Orla Kelly, Louise Osborne and Deirdre Rogers, who will be there to take you on a sensory adventure exploring the natural world through paint, colour, play and creative fun.

Watch out for strange garden creatures and make your own from an exciting array of unusual materials from ReCreate's 'Warehouse of Wonders'. This is a free play, self-directed creative area for all.



# Biographies

**Clíodhna Noonan** is founder and director of the early years arts events company **Acting Up!** She has designed and developed the Vintage Voices programme which runs regularly for children aged 0-3 years and their carers. Clíodhna has trained extensively with the Smallsizes EU network having lived in Romania and Egypt until recently. She has written, produced and performed *The Silver Tree* project in Ireland, Egypt, Tunisia and Lithuania and her second theatre piece, *Dreamtrain*, received a Smallsizes seed fund grant in 2011. Clíodhna is currently working on a third early years arts performance piece. Clíodhna programmes the independent and unique Marhaba! Families Festival in Cairo and Bahariya (a rural region of the Western Desert in Egypt within a Bedouin community.) Most recently she was a delegate on the first Anna Lindh Foundation common action in Taroudant, Morocco with the theme of art as a means of social transformation. Acting Up! and Teatriukas are now programming and co-ordinating the international early years LABAS! festival in Vilnius, Lithuania which will have its first edition from 26-29 May 2015.

16 [cliodhnanoonan@gmail.com](mailto:cliodhnanoonan@gmail.com)

**Jackie Maguire** has a hDip in Community Arts Education from NCAD, an MA in Equality Studies from UCD, a BA in Drama & Theatre Studies and Environmental Studies from Liverpool Hope University College. She is currently a Research Associate at TCD, a lecturer at Maynooth University and an early childhood artist. Her practice is informed by the renowned Colourstrings approach. Although Jackie works predominantly through music, her practice is informed by her formal drama training, which she incorporates as a performative element in her working methodologies. Jackie was awarded the Travel & Training grant from the Arts Council of Ireland in 2012 and 2014 and gained the Colourstrings Associate Teacher Kindergarten CSAK Certificate in 2012. Jackie's background includes over 15 years of working with children in Ireland and the UK, over five years' experience of managing a community crèche; and employment as Development Officer with Fingal County Childcare Committee. Recent early years arts programmes include; *Artful Dodgers: The Moonlight Project: Space Invaders* and *The Wonder Project*. Jackie has presented at a number of national and international conferences.

[colourstringsmusicwithjackie@gmail.com](mailto:colourstringsmusicwithjackie@gmail.com)



**Naomi Draper** graduated from NCAD with a Bachelor of Design specialising in glass in 2007. Following an Erasmus programme at the Academy of Art, Architecture and Design, Prague, she received a scholarship to attend the Pilchuck Glass School, Seattle. In 2011, she completed a Postgraduate Diploma in Community Arts Education at NCAD. Naomi has participated on a number of residency programmes within a community and educational context, most recently completing the LOCIS Residency at Residence Botkyrka, Sweden, and the Leitrim County Council Artist in Schools Residency at SN Bhríd Naofa NS, Ballinamore, Co Leitrim. In 2015 Naomi will work in residence at The Model Project Space, Sligo, and The Harrington Studios, Boyle, Co Roscommon. Recent exhibitions include One Million to One, Botkyrka Konstall, Sweden, Paper for the Sky, Interstate, Brooklyn, NY and the Practice national tour; West Cork Arts Centre, Axis Ballymun, Dublin, The Model, Sligo.



# Biographies

**Professor Carmel O’Sullivan** is the Head of the School of Education in Trinity College Dublin. She is Director of the Arts Education Research Group in Trinity College, and organises an international Summer School in Drama and Theatre in Education each year (M.Ed.). She is a founding member of ADEI (the Association for Drama in Education in Ireland). Carmel is involved in several externally funded research projects. Her current research interests include drama with children and young people with an autism spectrum disorder (ASD), and drama as an approach to integrated teaching and learning in early years education. She is a regularly invited speaker at national and international conferences, and has delivered lectures and practical workshops for parents, teachers, health professionals, academics, arts educators and others in academic and professional institutions worldwide. Carmel continues to work with children and adults with ASD on a weekly basis in her professional career.

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**Professor Nóirín Hayes** is Visiting Professor at the School of Education, Trinity College Dublin. Working within a bio-ecological framework of development and through a children’s rights lens she researches in early childhood education with a particular interest in curriculum and pedagogy. She has authored many books, reports and research articles and has served on a number of government working groups, commissions and advisory groups.



**Rhona Matheson** is the Chief Executive of Starcatchers in Scotland. Rhona studied Scottish History and Theatre Studies at the University of Glasgow graduating in 1999. Rhona began her career working with 7:84 Theatre Company (Scotland) before joining Wee Stories, a company specialising in storytelling theatre for children and families. In 2006, Rhona was appointed the Project Manager of the pilot Starcatcher project based at North Edinburgh Arts in Muirhouse, Edinburgh. Since then, Rhona has driven the development of Starcatchers' work. This has included the facilitation and delivery of 9 residency projects based in a range of arts and community settings, producing more than 25 productions which have toured to venues across Scotland, the UK and internationally and working with colleagues to pioneer programmes of Creative Skills Development for Early Years Practitioners. Rhona has built up a wealth of knowledge and understanding of early years theatre and arts over the last 8 years and is regularly invited to speak at events across the UK and internationally about Starcatchers and early years creativity in Scotland.



# Biographies

**Philippa Donnellan** trained in Contemporary Dance Technique at the Martha Graham School, New York, and gained an MA in Dance Studies from Surrey University UK. She has worked as a teacher for many organisations including: Middlesex University, Ludus Dance Company, Adventurers in Motion Pictures; ARC Dance Co, ROSAS Dance Company, The Place Evening School and Sadler's Wells Theatre/Community Dance Dept UK. For many years she worked with Green Candle Dance Co in London as Community & Education Coordinator. Philippa joined CoisCéim Dance Theatre in 2006 to set up Broadreach – a dance participation and audience engagement programme. She has taught, choreographed and directed a range of initiatives for people of all ages on this programme. In 2012 Broadreach was awarded a CocaCola Thank You Fund Award for which Philippa directed The Beat Project. Her most recent work is a dance research project about people's relationship with food which has been funded by Dublin City Council's Arts Bursary Award and the Arts in the Community Scheme Award.

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**Mala Scena** is a Croatian theatre company established in 1989. It produces shows specifically for early years on a regular basis. They have created theatrical performances for children from 18 months to 5 years, including *The Story About Sound*, *The Story About Light* and *The Story About Water*. This year Mala Scena return to bring us *The Story of About Cloud*. Their plays have won awards both at home in Croatia and abroad in Bosnia and Hercegovina, Australia, Japan, the USA and the UK.



**Teatriukas** is a professional actors troupe from Lithuania, creating and delivering theatre performances, educational activities, festivals and entertainment events for children over all over the world (UK (2004); USA (2007); France, Luxembourg, Swiss, Germany (2010); Czech Republic, Poland (2011); Iceland (2009, 2011); Belgium (2012), India Delhi (2013), Ireland, Norway (2014), Ireland, Sweden (2015). The troupe is made up of three actors - Dalia Mikoliūnaitė, Žilvinas Ramanauskas and Gediminas Žilys. All of them are graduates of Vilnius University in Lithuania, having specialized in acting-philology. Teatriukas is a member of ASSITEJ - World Theatre Network of Theatre for Children and Young People.

[www.teatriukas.lt](http://www.teatriukas.lt)

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**Theater De Spiegel** is a Belgium based theatre company that makes music theatre for tiny tots. Caban is their most innovated project to date and was created specifically for 0-3 age group. Actors play with music, space, theatre, the environment and the audience in a space transformed by the outstanding constructed pieces made by the creators. The artists maximise the different objects at their disposal and are versatile in their delivery. Theatre De Spiegel can transform any space and have delivered work in multi-purpose spaces, cultural centres, community centres, nurseries, libraries, museums.

[www.despiegel.com](http://www.despiegel.com)

# Biographies

**Kidding Ensemble** is an Irish based multicultural theatre company dedicated to making creative and artistic work for both adults and children. Their work emerges from various sources and takes many forms. Their intention is to explore the ultimate possibilities of theatre and its resonance with the audience with a focus on physical expression through different techniques and styles such as clowning and puppetry. Children discover their hands and feet at an early age and are fascinated by how they are used. *Sweet Hands Spicy Feet* provides time for children and their adult guardians to explore using hands and feet in a comfortable creative environment.

[www.facebook.com/pages/Kidding-Ensemble/227876540557504](https://www.facebook.com/pages/Kidding-Ensemble/227876540557504)

**Theater Nuu** are an Austrian based theatre company founded in 2012. They make work for the early years age group and perform in formal and non-formal spaces such as crèche and community settings. Their material comes from observing children engaged in natural play with the world around them. Each performance piece is created with the audience in mind as direct communication with the children during performances is an important element of their work.

[www.theaternuu.at/home](http://www.theaternuu.at/home)

**Deirdre Rogers** is a glass artist, designer and educator. Her involvement in teaching programmes over the last 15 years has strengthened her interest in integrating creativity in all learning environments and assisting parents in developing the skills and confidence to engage in artistically rich experiences with their children. Working with organisations such as the Design Crafts Council of Ireland and currently as Arts Coordinator for ReCreate Ireland she is instrumental in promoting quality creative projects in schools, crèches and community groups nationwide. Her glass work is also influenced by the children she works with. Through personal imagery and simple line she strives to capture how a child's imagination allows them to create magical pictures and outrageous ideas, which make perfect sense.



**Órla Kelly** is the co-founder and director of Early Childhood Creativity, an initiative that aims to stimulate creative thinking and activity in early years, children and their parents, and to support artists and educationalists to develop specific and creative ways of working with early years children (0-6 years). Órla is a visual artist, creative educationalist and an arts manager. She has worked with children for over fifteen years creating work in Ireland and Europe. Órla is currently working in partnership with Fingal County Council and Scoil Bhríde Cailíní in Blanchardstown, as artist-in-residence in Room 13. Room 13 is a unique arts-in-education programme that aims to establish art studios and encourage intellectual diversity and creativity in primary schools. Her own education includes a Diploma in Psychology from Maynooth, a Degree in Fine Art from Limerick College of Art and Design and a Masters in Arts Management from Anglia Ruskin University, Cambridge.

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**Louise Osborne** is an award winning illustrator and international visual artist. Her multidisciplinary practice incorporates a focus on participatory arts and collaborations. She has considerable experience developing arts programmes for children, youth and adults in Ireland and the UK. Louise is passionate about promoting creativity and organising imaginative and playful opportunities for young and old. Her practice is based in Dublin where she is working with ReCreate to develop their “Creativity in the Community” programme, is Assistant Producer of the Learning and Development Programme with Create Ireland, and is engaged in creative collaborations with professional Irish and international artists.

## Children's Programme Sunday May 10th

EVENT	PARTICIPANTS	PAGE	TIME	VENUE	COST
Caban	3mths - 3 yrs	pg 10	10am (90 minutes)	Farmleigh Cowshed Theatre	Free
Sweet Hands Spicy Feet	3mths - 2 yrs	pg 12	10am (35 minutes)	Farmleigh Arkle Room	Free
Pasaka / A Fairytale	0 - 5yrs	pg 12	10.30am (45 minutes)	Farmleigh Paddock	Free
Viduli / I Pack My Bag	2yrs - 5 yrs	pg 11	11am ( 30 minutes)	Farmleigh Motor House	Free
The Story About Cloud	2 yrs - 5 yrs	pg 13	11.30am (35 minutes)	Farmleigh Kitchen Cabinet Room	Free
Sweet Hands Spicy Feet	3mths - 2 yrs	pg 12	1pm (35 minutes)	Farmleigh Arkle Room	Free
Caban	3mths - 3 yrs	pg 10	2pm (90 minutes)	Farmleigh Cowshed Theatre	Free
Viduli / I Pack My Bag	2yrs - 5 yrs	pg 11	2pm (30 minutes)	Farmleigh Motor House	Free
Pasaka / A Fairytale	0 - 5 yrs	pg 14	2.30pm (45 minutes)	Farmleigh Paddock	Free
The Story About Cloud	2 - 5 yrs	pg 13	2.30pm (35 minutes)	Farmleigh Kitchen Cabinet Room	Free
Our Magic Garden	0 - 5 yrs	pg 15	Drop in 10am - 3pm	Farmleigh Paddock	Free

### More Information at

[www.facebook.com/pages/Space-Invaders-Early-Years-Festival/299232916903797](http://www.facebook.com/pages/Space-Invaders-Early-Years-Festival/299232916903797)

[www.fingalarts.ie](http://www.fingalarts.ie)



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