

**THE  
ATKINSON**

**10th  
Anniversary**

**April —  
June '23**

**Music  
Theatre  
Comedy  
Exhibitions  
Museum  
Shop  
Café  
Library**

Sefton Council 

# WELCOME

May 2023 marks **ten years** since we re-opened following a multi-million pound refurbishment. What a ride it has been, and we are only just getting started! We are so pleased to present an exciting variety of live music, comedy, theatre, art, history, and literature from our beautiful Grade II listed venue.

Highlights this season in our traditional **Theatre** and dynamic **Studio** space include a West-End production of **Seven Drunken Nights: The Story of The Dubliners** (26 – 27 Apr), a stunning adaptation of Mike Leigh's landmark play **Abigail's Party** (4 – 6 May), and an exciting new partnership with **Hot Water Comedy Club**.

Be inspired in our **art galleries** and discover an impressive variety of work on display including paintings, sculpture, digital art and more. Five galleries feature work from our own art collection and exhibitions delivered in partnership with other cultural organisations.

You can **get creative** too! We encourage local artists to get involved in our exhibition open calls and take part in **workshops** led by a wide range of experts. An insightful programme of **talks and lectures** delve deeper into our museum and gallery programme.

Our stunning **Egyptology museum** showcases Anne Goodison's personal artefacts in an interactive display. Mrs Goodison was one of a handful of wealthy Victorian ladies in the North West who were fascinated by ancient Egypt, and we are lucky to have her collection to show you.

The **local history museum**, Between Land & Sea, tells the story of Sefton from prehistoric times to the present day. Bring objects to life by scanning QR codes with your phone, send a digital postcard from Sunny Southport and take a selfie in a historic costume from our dressing up wall.

The Atkinson is home to **Southport Library** who offer a range of services to the local community and visitors alike. Oh, and did we mention there is an award-winning **café** and a fabulous **gift shop** too?...

The building itself is **fully accessible**, with lifts to access all areas. We have toilets on all floors, baby changing facilities on the ground floor as well as full adult Changing Places facility on the first floor.

We hope you enjoy discovering all The Atkinson has to offer.

# THEATRE



London Classic Theatres

## Abigail's Party

Thu 4 May, 7.30pm

Fri 5 May, 2.30pm & 7.30pm

Sat 6 May, 7.30pm

Age 14+

A ferocious black comedy and landmark of twentieth century theatre, don't miss Mike Leigh's ruthless and achingly funny examination of 1970s British life.

# MUSEUM



Free  
Entry

## Discover Ancient Egypt

Journey to Egypt at the time of the Pharaohs and discover the rituals and beliefs that were at the heart of everyday life for rich and poor.

## Between Land & Sea

Explore the history of Sefton from hunter-gatherer footprints to Dan Dare Pilot of the Future through a range of interactive displays.



## EXHIBITIONS

**The Sefton Open**

1 April – 13 May 2023

An annual exhibition celebrating the creativity and artistic talent across the borough. Visitors can support local artists by purchasing artworks and voting for The People's Prize.

**The Story So Far**

27 May 2023 – 2 March 2024

Looking at the theme of storytelling, this exhibition includes highlights from The Atkinson's and the Harris Art Gallery's collections of narrative paintings.

**Gordon Cheung:  
Garden of Perfect Brightness**

3 June – 9 September 2023

Named after the Yuanming Gardens in Beijing's Summer Palace, this exhibition of new work by Gordon Cheung focuses on the Second Opium Wars and the relationship between China and the West.

**Herbert Ponting:  
Explorer and Photographer**

10 June – 2 September 2023

An incredible life story told through photographs on loan from Scott's Polar Research Institute and research carried out by biographer Anne Strathie.

**The Polish Heritage Flight**

15 April – 30 September 2023

Through objects, stories and images learn a little more about those who once gave themselves for our freedom. Exhibition supported by the Polish Air Force Memorial Committee.

**Hutton Art Society**

20 May – 17 June 2023

Presenting a variety of artworks from their members. Artworks on The Landing are available to purchase.

**Blue and White Pottery:  
From China to The Willow Pattern  
and Beyond**

17 June – 29 October 2023

A showcase of The Atkinson's historic blue and white pottery collection, reflecting on the ongoing fascination with The Willow Pattern and blue and white decoration.

**Ali Barker**

24 June – 22 July 2023

Artworks inspired by personal experience of sound-colour synaesthesia. Artworks are available to purchase.



Image: Gordon Cheung in his studio with Chinese Scholar Rock sculptures.

## OPEN CALL

Get  
involved

Entry forms with full submission details are available online and at The Atkinson.

**Sefton Young Artist  
of The Year 2023**

Submission deadline: 1 May

Winners announced: 8 Jun

We invite Young Artists in school years 7–13 (or equivalent) who live or go to school in Sefton to submit one piece of artwork to our annual competition. Winners receive a prize awarded by The Arts Society and their artworks will be displayed at The Atkinson. All entries exhibited online.

**Inspirations: Poetry & Creative  
Writing Competition**

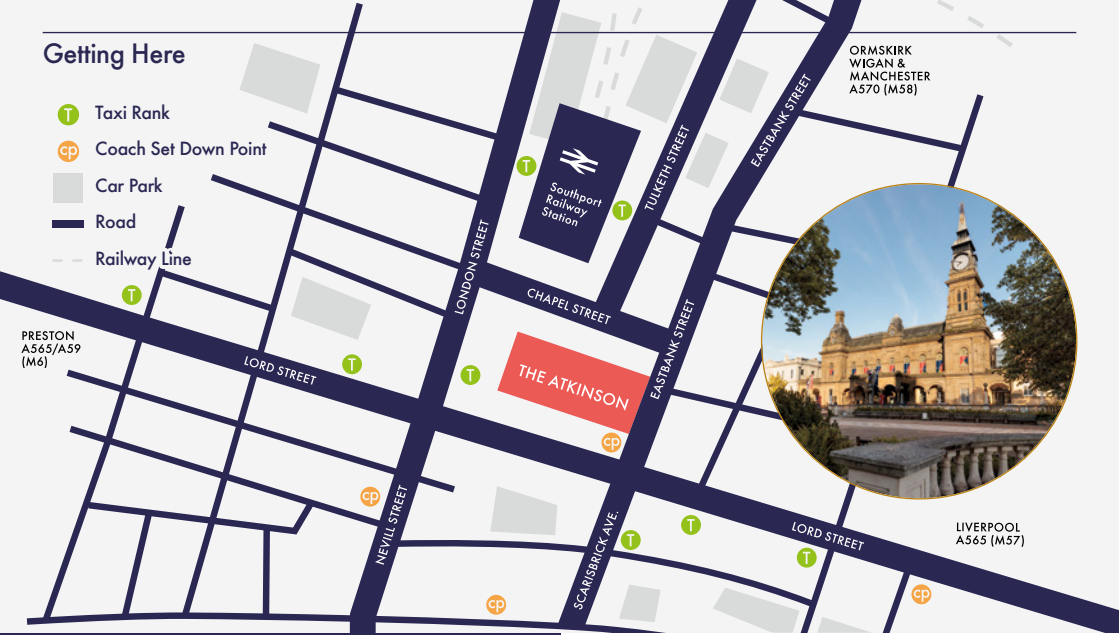
Competition Launch: 1 June

Competition deadline: 3 Sep

Winner announced: 25 Sep

We invite anyone over 18 with links to Sefton to respond to artworks featured in our exhibition The Story So Far. Winners receive a prize awarded by The Arts Society and their creative writing will be displayed in the exhibition. All entries presented online.

## Getting Here



## HELPFUL INFO

### Opening Hours

#### Box Office

Monday – Saturday 10am – 4pm  
(Open one hour before performance start times)

#### Museum, Gallery & Shop

Monday – Saturday 10am – 4pm

#### A Great Little Place Café

Monday – Friday 10am – 4.30pm  
Saturday 10am – 3.30pm

#### Southport Library

Monday – Friday 10am – 5pm  
Saturday 10am – 2pm

The Atkinson is closed on Sundays and Bank Holidays.  
Please check opening hours before visiting.

### General Information

Booking fees apply to purchases made online and over the phone.  
The Atkinson's refund policy is available online and at Box Office.  
All information is correct at the time of printing.

 LOVE, DEVELOP,  
CONSERVE

You can support The Atkinson in many different ways; by donating, becoming a member, or sponsoring a seat.

[www.theatkinson.co.uk/trust](http://www.theatkinson.co.uk/trust)

### Contact Us

The Atkinson, Lord Street, Southport, PR8 1DB

Sign up to our e-newsletter to keep up to date with what's on.

Online: [theatkinson.co.uk](http://theatkinson.co.uk) | [f](#) [t](#) [i](#) [v](#) [@](#)

Email: [info@theatkinson.co.uk](mailto:info@theatkinson.co.uk) | Phone: 01704 533 333

### Accessibility

-  Wheelchair spaces are available, please call the Box Office on 01704 533 333
-  Changing Places toilet facility
-  Assistance dogs are welcome in all areas of the venue
-  Lift access to all areas of the venue
-  Induction Loop available for any space in the venue

### The Atkinson would like to thank our Funders & Supporters:



### Exhibition Partners:



