



mermaid

COUNTY WICKLOW ARTS CENTRE

July – September 2026



Support Us

Mermaid Arts Centre is a registered charity dedicated to bringing high-quality artistic experiences to the people of Co. Wicklow & supporting artists to create new work.

Currently, only 40% of our costs are covered by public funding. With rising core costs & static funding levels, the pressure on arts organisations like ours has never been greater.

We are calling on the people & businesses of Co. Wicklow to support Mermaid. Your support will help us continue to inspire audiences, nurture creativity, & provide a vital space where artists & communities can connect.

Become a Mermaid Friend Shine the Light, Lead the Way

Choose from three levels of friendship. Our Friends support our work through an annual subscription,



Lantern
€120



Beacon
€500



Sirius
€1000+

Friend benefits include free tickets to selected shows, concession rate on films, acknowledgment online & in brochure, 10% off at Críoch Café, brochure posted to you & an invite to a Friends Evening – full details online.



Sponsor a Seat

Sponsor a seat at Mermaid and get a personalised plaque, engraved with the dedication of your choice, mounted on your chosen seat for three years.

A seat plaque is a meaningful way to celebrate someone special, promote your business, or support the arts.

With a capacity of 242 seats and over 300 events each year, your plaque will be seen by thousands of audience members! You will also be acknowledged on our website and in our brochure.

Sponsor a Seat Options:

€500 – Business

€300 – Individual



We are extremely grateful to all our supporters, see list of our Friends and seat sponsors on page 27.

To Become a Mermaid Friend or Sponsor a Seat, visit:

mermaidartscentre.ie

or call 01 272 4030



Evgeniya Martirosyan / 3+5

Running until Saturday 18 July
Free admission, all welcome

Cork-based artist Martirosyan presents work exploring themes of propaganda, censorship & the contamination of information. The title references a coded message, substituting the punishable in Russia phrase "Нem войне" ("No to War"), 3 + 5 letters.



Honey & Lemon presents DEATH BISCUITS: Dance for your life

Thursday 2 July | 8pm
€20/18

When all else fails and there's nothing left to say, we dance. Can you lose your head and find your body? This dedication to the transformative power of dancing is told through the body, voice and video, featuring an exciting intergenerational cast.



FURZE: Fuel, Fodder, Thatch, Tools, Toys

Friday 3 – Sunday 5 July
See website for full details

Shane Finan's outdoor pavilion explores furze and its place in folk history. Visit for a weekend of workshops and talks. Funded by the Arts Council and supported by Wicklow County Arts Office through the annual Strategic Project Award Scheme.



Lunfardia & Guests

Friday 3 July | 8pm
€22/20

Lunfardia return after their 2025 Mermaid reunion with vibrant Latin American music, soulful vocals blend with guitar, violin, bass, accordion & percussion. Special guests include Caroline Moreau, Marianela Gulizia & percussionist Gustavo Ecclesia.



When The Tide Comes In

Saturday 4 July | 11.15am – 1.30pm
€25

Venue: Naylor's Cove, Bray Seafront

Join artist Eilis Fanning at Naylor's Cove for a rust painting workshop. Participants will create unique designs on steel sheets in response to the rising tide and its effects on the urban coast.



Ronstadt - Ireland's Premier Linda Ronstadt Tribute

Saturday 4 July | 8pm
€28

Covering all of the 11-time Grammy Award winner's back catalogue, the setlist blends folk, country, pop, rock and soul music - played to perfection by the incredibly talented band members fronted by the amazing Nichola Selak.

FILM - Cert: 12A



La Grazia

Monday 6 July | 8pm

€12/10

132mins | Italian with English subtitles

As the Italian president reaches the end of his term, he grapples with one final duty - deciding whether to grant a presidential pardon to two prisoners. An intelligent, stylish and darkly humorous drama.

FILM - Cert: 12A



Michael

Saturday 11 July | 8pm

€12/10

127mins | English with Open Captions

A cinematic portrayal of the life and legacy of one of the most influential artists the world has ever known, giving insight into his life off-stage and some of the most iconic performances from his early solo career.

FILM - Cert: CLUB



Exhibition on Screen: Frida Kahlo

Wednesday 8 July | 8pm

€12/10

101mins | English

Frida Kahlo is a phenomenon. She is arguably the world's favourite female artist, beloved by young and old. This award-winning film takes an in-depth look at key works throughout her career, unlocking the symbolism within her art.

FILM - Cert: 12A



Midwinter Break

Monday 13 July | 8pm

€12/10

91mins | English with Open Captions

Gerry and Stella are an older couple from Northern Ireland. Amid conflicts over religious beliefs and Gerry's drinking, the couple visits Amsterdam to spend time reconnecting. But a secret from the past forces them to confront some hard truths.

MUSIC



Camille O'Sullivan - Loveletter

Thursday 9 & Friday 10 July | 8pm

€32

A love letter in song, Camille celebrates dear friends Shane MacGowan, Sinéad O'Connor, David Bowie, Radiohead, Brel, Nick Cave and more. Chameleon-like on stage, each song has a different character with its own story to tell.

LOCAL ARTS



Dance Greystones - Last Call

Thursday 16 July | 7.30pm

€35

Last Call follows Jordan, a talented but troubled dancer whose rise in a professional company is overshadowed by addiction. Moving from success to collapse & recovery, the story becomes a powerful reflection on rebuilding as both performer & person.



MUSIC

The Classic Beatles Revolver & More Friday 17 & Saturday 18 July | 8pm

€31

To celebrate the mighty Revolver album turning 60 years old, The Classic Beatles take on their biggest artistic challenge yet! Tackling everything from Taxman to the monumental Tomorrow Never Knows, they are a must-see for any Beatles fan.



TAKE PART

Fridayfest Climate Café Friday 24 July | 11am – 12.30pm €10 (Includes tea/coffee & treats)

Climate Café is a series of talks & informal meetups stemming from Fridayfest. With a guest speaker each session, it's a chance to share knowledge, spark action, & seed future climate projects. Expect tea/coffee, treats, & lively conversation!



TAKE PART | OFF-SITE

Creating Gardens For Art With Children Saturday 18 July | 11am – 4pm

€75

Suitable For: Adults | Venue: Roundwood (A98 CY83)

David Begley shares his experiences of growing & nurturing gardens with children in schools & a community allotment. The talk & workshop include a screening of David's film The Keepers, highlighting the importance of art & gardening for children.



FILM – Cert: 12A

EPiC: Elvis Presley in Concert Friday 24 July | 8pm

€12/10

96mins | English with Open Captions

EPiC follows the life of one of the most famous superstars of all time, weaving unseen footage with iconic performances that have never been seen like this. A one-of-a-kind cinematic experience from Academy Award-nominated Baz Luhrmann.



FILM – Cert: 15A

The Blue Trail Monday 20 July | 8pm

€12/10

86mins | Portuguese with English subtitles

In the near future, the Brazilian government has created 'colonies' where older people are sent to live their final years. 77-year-old Teresa, however, refuses to accept that fate. She's instead determined to fulfill her dream - to fly in an airplane.



MUSIC

The Tarantinos Saturday 25 July | 8pm

€25

Step into a world of sharp suits, surf guitars, soul grooves, & cinematic swagger. The Tarantinos are an explosive 11-piece tribute band bringing the unforgettable soundtracks of Quentin Tarantino's films roaring to life on stage.

TAKE PART



BrickFlicks Stop Motion Animation

Mon 27 – Fri 31 July | 10am – 2pm

€125 | €110 Siblings

Age Suitability: 8 – 12 years

At the BrickFlicks Stop Motion Animation Camp this summer, let your imagination run wild. This week, you'll learn how to bring your favourite LEGO Minifigures to life through the magic of stop-motion animation.

DOCUMENTARY - G



Our Blue World + Q&A

Wednesday 29 July | 8pm

€12

90mins | English

Our Blue World, narrated by Liam Neeson, explores humanity's relationship with water through stories from 12 communities across five continents. Followed by a panel discussion featuring director Ruán Magan & Prof. Tasman Crowe.

DOCUMENTARY - 12A



The Song Cycle + Q&A

Monday 27 July | 8pm

€12

85mins | English with dialogue subtitles

In 2022, friends Nick Kelly & Sean Millar travelled sustainably from Ireland to Glastonbury Festival, with Nick cycling from Dublin & Sean using public transport. After the screening, Nick will share stories, answer questions, & maybe perform a tune!

DOCUMENTARY - 12A



Gerry Adams: A Ballymurphy Man

Thursday 30 July | 8pm

€12/10

117mins | English/Irish

Gerry Adams traces his journey from teenage activist to key architect of the Good Friday Agreement in this landmark documentary, revealing the personal story behind one of modern Ireland's most controversial & transformative leaders.

DOCUMENTARY - CLUB



Born That Way

Tuesday 28 July | 8pm

€12/10

95mins | English with Open Captions

In 1979, Patrick & Gladys Lyndon set up the inclusive Camphill Movement where they shared life in a community with people of diverse abilities & backgrounds. Born That Way chronicles Patrick's final year battling motor neurone disease & reflecting on life.

DOCUMENTARY - 12A



Palestine Comedy Club

Friday 31 July | 8pm

€12/10

96mins | English & Arabic with subtitles

When six Palestinian comedians hit the road to tour a stand-up show across Palestine, their search for humour amidst the injustice of everyday Palestinian life becomes a plea for humanity against the face of brutal war.



It's Never Over, Jeff Buckley

Saturday 1 August | 8pm

€12/10

107mins | English

Told through never-before-seen footage from Buckley's archives & intimate accounts from his mother, former partners & bandmates, follow the incredible life of one of modern music's most influential and enigmatic figures.



Stories from the Penny Farthing

Saturday 8 August | 11am & 1pm

FREE, no booking required

Suitable For: 2-7 yrs | Venue: Civic Plaza in front of Mermaid

Two delightful 20 minute stories told from a penny farthing bicycle using puppetry. Penny and The Far Thing, a cyclic nature story about finding you best life. The Fisher and his Wife, an old Brother Grimm tale of wishing for too much.



Kokuho

Monday 3 August | 7pm

€12/10

175mins | Japanese with English subtitles

After his father is killed, aspiring actor Kikuo is mentored by kabuki star Hanai Hanjiro II. Kikuo becomes friends with Hanai's son, Shunsuke but their friendship is severely tested as they navigate the cutthroat world of elite kabuki theatre.



Críoch Café Presents: Music & Brunch

Sunday 9 August | 12pm & 2pm

€38

Join Críoch Café for a delicious 4-course fine dining meal inspired by brunch classics. Chef & owner Tadgh Byrne will guide you through each dish & its provenance, accompanied by live music in a lovely, welcoming setting.



Garth Gratrix / Dip in the Pool

Opening Fri 7 August | 6-8pm

Running until Saturday 17 Oct '26 | 11am - 4pm Mon - Sat

Free admission, all welcome

British artist Gratrix embraces their returning focus on the interplay between precision & play, structure & softness, visibility & care. The works employ a pastel palette contiguous with angular forms & soft objects to evoke a playful, alluring habitat.



Trad

Monday 10 August | 8pm

€12/10

90mins | English & Irish, no Open Captions

Shóna is a talented fiddle player whose mother insists she obeys the traditions of Irish music. She leaves home to join a troupe of nomadic musicians, setting off on a journey of self-reflection, rebellion, romance and musical discovery.

FILM - Cert: PG



DJ Ahmet

Monday 17 August | 8pm

€12/10

99mins | Turkish & Macedonian with English subtitles

Ahmet, a 15-year-old boy from a remote Yörük village in North Macedonia, finds refuge in music while navigating his father's expectations, a conservative community, & his first experience with love – a girl already promised to someone else.

MUSIC



Ethno Ireland in Concert

Saturday 22 August | 8pm

€15

Ethno Ireland's traditional music exchange brings together young musicians from around the world to perform traditional music from their respective regions in a concert they have prepared in one week – a rich musical evening is in store!

FILM - Cert: 15A



National Theatre Live: Inter Alia

Friday 21 August | 8pm

€16/14

111mins | English

Oscar-nominated Rosamund Pike plays Jessica, a judge at the top of her career. She is also a karaoke fiend, a loving wife and a supportive parent. When her life gets turned upside down, can she hold her family upright?

FILM - Cert: 12A



500 Miles

Monday 24 August | 8pm

€12/10

102mins | English with Open Captions

Brothers Finn & Charlie are extremely close to their grandfather John. After a heartbreaking accident, their parents cut off contact with John. Devastated by the estrangement, the brothers run away to visit their grandfather's home in the west of Ireland.

THE SHAKING BOG



The Shaking Bog – Where Art & Nature Meet

Friday 21 – Sunday 22 August

See website for full details

The acclaimed Shaking Bog Festival returns this August for an immersive celebration of art and nature. Enjoy readings, conversations, concerts, film, nature trails, workshops, gatherings and, for the first time, dancing!

MUSIC | FAMILY



Kíla Family Show

Saturday 29 August | 2.30pm

€28 | €12 Child | €64 (2 Adults, 2 Children)

A concert for families from award-winning band Kíla, that has the kids interacting with the music from the very start. A stunning performance that the whole family will genuinely enjoy!



MUSIC

Kíla

Saturday 29 August | 8pm
€28

Award-winning band, Kíla, are heralded as one of Ireland's most innovative and exciting groups. Their unique sound has been ever-evolving, rooted in tradition, yet inspired by a myriad of influences and ideas from all around the world.



THEATRE

Speckintime: Welcome to Traumatraum

Saturday 5 September | 8pm
€22/20

Injury & mobility impairment can jolt a life upside down - but also send it on a surprising new path. A theatrical fusion of personal story, dance & clowning. Inspired by the experiences of artists, Philip St John, Karen Gleeson & Michael McCabe.



FILM - Cert: 15A

Diamanti

Monday 31 August | 8pm
€12/10

135mins | Italian with English subtitles

Rome 1974. Sisters Alberta & Gabriella create costumes for film & theatre productions. When they receive an order from Oscar-winning costume designer Bianca Vega to make costumes for a huge upcoming film, the sisters' studio is pushed to its limits.



FILM - Cert: CLUB

Fairyland

Monday 7 September | 8pm
€12/10

116mins | English, no Open Captions

After the death of his wife, Steve moves himself & his daughter Alysia to the vibrant landscape of 1970's San Francisco. Steve must navigate pursuing his own passions with raising his daughter, as she blossoms into a young woman.



TAKE PART

The Reluctant Performer

Saturday 5 September | 11.30am - 2pm
€25

Suitable For: 16+ years

A performance art workshop with David McGovern for anyone curious about performance, but who may not see themselves as a typical performer. Learn unexpected methods & then create your own understated performance.



THEATRE

Jimmy's Story - A New Play

Thur 10 | 8pm & Fri 11 Sept | 12pm & 8pm
€15/10

Jimmy's Story is a new play by Left Field Productions. Jimmy loses a dear friend through suicide. The play follows Jimmy's struggle to get his mojo back.



Ecological 35mm Film Shooting & Seaweed Developing Workshop

Saturday 12 September | 11.30am – 3.30pm
€50 | Venue: Bray Seafront & then back to Mermaid

Shoot black & white 35mm film, then Maria McSweeney will guide participants through the process of making a DIY film developer from foraged seaweed & other non-toxic materials & an eco-fixer as a sustainable alternative to conventional chemicals!



Gee-Gee present S(h)tick!

Friday 18 September | 4.30pm & 6pm
FREE, no booking required
30mins | Venue: Civic Plaza in front of Mermaid

A highly skilled & inventive diabolo performance packed with humour, energy, and astonishing technique. This blend of circus & comedy delivers vibrant street theatre entertainment that delights all ages. Stick around to watch Circus Fergus!



Back to Square One: Showcase

Saturday 12 September | 7.30pm
€20

Celebrate Square One's 50th anniversary with a selection of snippets from some of their most loved productions from the past 50 years.



Circus Fergus

Friday 18 September | 5.10pm & 6.40pm
FREE, no booking required
30mins | Venue: Civic Plaza in front of Mermaid

Circus Fergus delights audiences of all ages with juggling, comedy & theatre. From fire & knives to towering unicycle feats, his interactive show delivers unforgettable laughter, surprising moments, & spectacular circus skill.



Colours of Time

Monday 14 September | 8pm
€12/10
126mins | French with English subtitles

Four distant cousins, all descendants of Adèle Meunier, inherit their ancestor's house. They must clean the property, which has been abandoned since 1944. As they sift through belongings, they imagine Adèle's vibrant life in Paris in 1895.



Rambling House

Friday 18 September | 8pm
FREE, booking is required
Venue: Mermaid's auditorium

Enjoy an old-fashioned Parlour Session, given by members of Little Bray Rambling House Collective. There will be poetry, stories, songs, music, lively commentary and chats. Bean an Ti / MC for the evening is Carmen Cullen.

FILM - Cert: TBC



Familiar Touch

Monday 21 September | 8pm

€12/10

92mins | English with Open Captions

Ruth, an older woman living alone, is experiencing the onset of dementia. When her son moves her into an assisted living facility, she's frustrated by the limited freedom. Despite her cognitive decline, Ruth seeks out joy in her new surroundings.

TAKE PART



Handmade Paper & Pulp Painting

Saturday 26 September | 11.30am - 4pm

€45

Suitable For: 18+ years

A workshop open to all levels, teaching participants how to process recycled fibres and create pulp paintings - a process using finely blended fibres in a large syringe to create designs using pulp! Led by Dr Kat Cope.

MUSIC



Little John Nee: Johnny Gotta Bus Pass

Thursday 24 September | 8pm

€20/18

Little John Nee, one of Ireland's most compelling live performers, presents a funny, heartfelt & celebratory elder-punk state-of-the-nation address proving ageing doesn't mean opting out - it means showing up and playing louder where it matters.

FILM - Cert: PG



Talking Heads: Stop Making Sense

Saturday 26 September | 8pm

€12/10

88mins | English

The greatest concert film of all time, Stop Making Sense brings to the screen Talking Heads at Hollywood's Pantages Theater in Dec 1983. Filmmaker Jonathan Demme captures the band in this new & complete restoration for the film's 40th anniversary.

MUSIC



The Druids Irish Folk Band

Friday 25 September | 8pm

€22/20

After nearly ten years The Druids are now an integral part of the Irish Folk Scene. Both entertaining and educational, their live show is a must for all lovers of Irish song music and history.

FILM SCREENING



Joanna Kidney: The Future has an Ancient Heart: Screening & Conversation

Sunday 27 September | 2 - 4.30pm

€12

A screening of Joanna's short eco film will be followed by forged delights & a conversation with insightful guest speakers around the film's themes of attuning, interwovenness & ritual. Funded by The Arts Council & supported by Wicklow County Arts Office.

FILM - Cert: 15A



Power Ballad

Monday 28 September | 8pm

€12/10

100mins | English with Open Captions

Rick is a wedding singer, having given up on stardom for family life in Ireland. He spends a night working on music with boyband superstar Danny Wilson. When Danny releases a new hit, Rick discovers his song has been stolen...

MUSIC

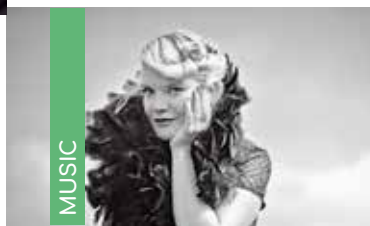


Ora Quartet: Contrasts

Wed 14 Oct | 8pm

€23/21

MUSIC



Doris Day: A Date with the Girl Next Door

Sat 17 Oct | 8pm

€22/20

DANCE



HYPERACTIVE

Wednesday 30 September | 8pm

€22/20

A high-energy human dance installation for five virtuosic male dancers with wild street energy - dancing styles from Broadway to Jazz to Afro-Brazilian. Athletic, high-energy, funny & exciting, it shows a snapshot of contemporary Irish masculinity.

MUSIC | YARN



Clare Sands Album Launch Tour

Sat 14 Nov | 8pm

€22/20

OPERA



Irish National Opera: Smetana's The Bartered Bride

Sat 21 Nov | 7.30pm

€35/32

MUSIC



Andrew Lloyd Webber & Beyond

Saturday 3 October | 8pm

€28.50

A vibrant journey through the iconic music of Andrew Lloyd Webber, with additions from Stephen Sondheim, Stephen Schwartz, Leonard Bernstein. Featuring tenor (& Bray native) Ross Scanlon, Soprano Katy Kelly & pianist Annalisa Monticelli.

TALK



Seán Ronayne: Untold Sounds

Sun 6 Dec | 2pm & 7pm

€23

DANCE



Ballet Ireland: Romeo & Juliet

Tue 15 & Wed 16 Dec

€36/30 | €124 (Family of 4)



COUNTY WICKLOW ARTS CENTRE

Box Office & Gallery Opening Hours

- Monday – Saturday: 11am – 4pm, & until show-time on performance evenings.
- Sunday & Bank Holidays: Open 1 hour before the event. Please note, phone lines close 30mins before events.

Críoch Café Opening Hours

- Monday to Friday: 8am – 4pm & Saturday: 10am – 4pm. With a theatre bar service on performance evenings.

Booking Tickets

- Phone Box Office: 01 272 4030
- Online: mermaidartscentre.ie
- In Person: Visit Box Office during opening hours. Please note, tickets cannot be exchanged or refunded.

Accessible Seating

Wheelchair and accessible seating is located in the front row on the ground floor. Please contact the Box Office team to book, as these seats cannot be booked online.

E-tickets

Show your e-ticket QR code on your phone at the auditorium door – no printing needed. If you have any issues, contact the Box Office. Please arrive at least 15 minutes early. Latecomers will not be admitted until there's a suitable break.

Parking

FREE underground parking for all evening & weekend events (entrance straight ahead and on the left after turning in off Main St.). The overground car park in front of Mermaid is pay-and-display with 24/7 clamping & is not affiliated with us.

Gift Vouchers

Give the gift of a great night out! Buy vouchers online to print at home, or visit/call the Box Office. Available in any amount with no expiry date, and valid for all Mermaid events!

Keep in Touch

To stay updated on all our events, news, and opportunities, follow us on social media or join our email list, sign up at mermaidartscentre.ie or contact the Box Office.

 @MermaidCountyWicklowArtsCentre

 @mermaidartscentre

Front Cover Image:

Ellis Fanning's Workshop When The Tide Comes In (pg 7)

This brochure has been printed on FSC-certified paper from sustainable managed forests. Please recycle it after use.

Mermaid's Friends & Seat Sponsors

Mermaid Arts Centre is a registered charity dedicated to bringing high-quality artistic experiences to the people of Co. Wicklow & supporting artists to create new work. Currently, only 40% of our costs are covered by public funding. With rising core costs & static funding levels, the pressure on arts organisations like ours has never been greater. We are extremely grateful to all our supporters. See our website, or pages 2 & 3 for further details on becoming a friend or sponsoring a seat.

SIRIUS:

- Denis Kidney

BEACON:

- Eileen Maguire – Stoney Road Press

LANTERN:

- Sheila Benney
- Briege Byrne
- Catherine Byrne
- Siobhan Byrne Gallagher
- Bernie Chambers
- Stephen Costello
- Tom Cremins
- Joan Davis
- Alan & Marie Downes
- Mary Downey
- Mary Doyle
- Anne Ferris
- Madison Freidank
- Jean Gibson
- Paul J Halferty
- Marie Hegarty
- Patrick Hussey
- Gabrielle Igoe
- Teresa Kehoe
- Julie Kelleher
- John Kelly
- Joanna Kidney
- Jane Kierans
- Ellen Leahy
- Harriett Ledwidge
- Olive Lindsay
- Gillian Ludlow
- Carolyn MacDonnell

- Peggy Masterson
- Helen McAllister
- Ross McDermott
- Jacinta McNeill
- Maeve & Michael Miller
- Finola Murphy
- Marie & Martin O'Brien
- Kate O'Carroll
- Nanette O'Connell
- Philip & Noella O'Reilly
- Michelle Rogers
- Marie Ryan
- Ian & Christine Scott
- Annick Smith
- Nathan Somers
- Martin Sorohan

SEAT SPONSORS:

- Bray & District Chamber of Commerce
- Bray Municipal District
- Bray One Act Drama Festival
- Casey Hallahan
- Druid Software x 2
- Finnegan Bray
- Frank Duff's Bar & Lounge x 2
- In memory of Fred Lee
- In memory of Gladys Sheehan
- In memory of Marie Humphries
- In memory of Seán Leahy
- Junior Musicals x 2
- Key Plastics Ltd.
- Prendergast Maguire Financial Services Ltd.
- McDermott Family
- Rory Sheehan

Our Funders/Partners



An Roinn Cultúir,
Cumarsáid agus Spóirt
Department of Culture,
Communications and Sport





COUNTY WICKLOW ARTS CENTRE

mermaidartscentre.ie

Box Office: 01 272 4030

Mermaid Arts Centre, Main St.,
Bray, Co. Wicklow, A98 N5P1

CRO: 359874 | RCN: 20051761
