

THE TIM ARNOLD COMPANY PRESENTS

# ***SUPER CONNECTED***

## ***A Screen Opera***



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THE TIM ARNOLD COMPANY PRESENTS

# **SUPER CONNECTED**

**FILM · LIVE MUSIC · THEATRE**

The nationally acclaimed show by The Tim Arnold Company  
Developed in association with Arts Council England and The Cyril Shack Trust



Tim Arnold's seismic *Super Connected* examines the effect of digital exposure and dependency on families and young people's mental health.

## **1. FILM**

Inspired by the true story of a teenager battling screen addiction, the film tells the story of a London family-of-four who are aggressively co-opted by the internet.

Tech company, **Picture Sounds**, harvests data in order to target the susceptible with its latest invention - an immersive headset called the **iHead**.

## **2. LIVE MUSIC**

While the film rolls, Tim Arnold performs his critically acclaimed 12-track album **Super Connected** live. The performance is in synch with the film, with the full rock and orchestral backing of the album, and live accompaniment by pianist, **Sarah Kershaw**.

With the scale of a **Radiohead** concert and **Bowie's** theatricality, Arnold acts on stage and screen.

## **3. THEATRE**

During the performance, it emerges that both live performers are each in relationship with the characters on screen, guiding the audience to either root *for* or *against* the film's protagonists.

A live arts, multimedia, multi-genre rock opera.



## **WATCH THE TRAILER**



1. Tim Arnold and Sarah Kershaw on stage in *Super Connected* at Ironworks Studios, Brighton, May 2024

*Super Connected* was inspired by Italian psychiatrist Ricardo Cavrioli's work in the mental health field, assessing teenagers suffering with screen addiction.

*"Tim has researched screen addiction and social media's effects on mental health since 2017 with his study culminating in the critically acclaimed album and film, **Super Connected**" - BBC 5 LIVE (Nihal Arthanayake)*



2. Ballerina Daniela Maccari on stage in *Super Connected* at The Cockpit Theatre, London, June 2024

# **CHANGING DIGITAL NORMS OF COMMUNAL GATHERINGS WITH SUPER CONNECTED**

Super Connected playfully addresses our digital dependency by inviting audiences to take part in a Phone Freeze ritual by placing their phones into a lockable pouch for the performance. To experience the freedom, or discomfort of being free from the digital tug of constant connectivity. Audience keep their phones on them at all times and Phone Freeze is optional.



3. Kate Alderton introduces Super Connected in Liverpool May 2024



4. Phone Freeze pouches

*"Where does our attention go? We journey through the complex relationships we have with our screens, our desire to be watched, to hide, and to be seen."*

- Kate Alderton (Director of Super Connected LIVE)



5. Tim and Sarah on stage at Super Connected at Chapel Arts, Bath, May 2024



6. Tim Arnold on stage and screen, Brighton, May 2024

# **WHAT PEOPLE ARE SAYING ABOUT SUPER CONNECTED**

“This is worth your attention. A unique piece about the digital landscape” - **The Times ★★★★★**

“This production is a warning to humanity about today’s digital age and chillingly the one that inexorably will follow. Any piece of art should have the audience leave with more than they entered the room with. Super Connected definitely succeeds: it is a hugely significant piece of work, containing a vital message, carefully constructed and brilliantly performed. Outstanding”

- **UK Fringe Review ★★★★★**

“The work that musician Tim Arnold is doing in this space is incredible. The Arts have always been central to social critique and bringing important matters into the public debate. Tim has been banging on about phones and mental health for years. Go and watch this!”

- **Damian McBeath, Head Teacher at The John Wallis Academy**

“Prodigious, original and alluring.” - **Stephen Fry**

“Like a warning from the future...poignant, ominous, funny and heartrending” - **Rock n Reel ★★★★★**

“A conceptual lyrical narrative taking aim at big tech’s insidious footprints across our lives” - **Prog ★★★★★**

“Super Connected is inspiring & operatic. The brilliant Tim Arnold’s beautiful & thought-provoking film about familial screen addiction fused with his live performance of 12 vignette-songs. Put down your screens & pick up your dreams.” - **Mark Blagrove, Author**

“This just needs to go stadium sized. A Tour de Force”

- **Bath Fringe ★★★★★**

“I can see this show being played for years to come.” - **Get Ready To Rock ★★★★★**

“A mammoth triumph. Tim is one of the most prolific and artistic musical icons of the 21st century” - **Brighton and Hove News ★★★★★**

“The silent movie reborn for the 21st century” - **Reading Today ★★★★★**

“Record-cum-film-theatre piece ‘Super Connected is a remarkable event. Immaculate song writing” - **Sussex Online News ★★★★★**

[www.superconnected.technology](http://www.superconnected.technology)



# BRING SUPER CONNECTED TO YOUR COMMUNITY

Our **Super Connected** live shows, screenings & workshops offer practical, creative and engaging explorations into the impact that digital media and devices are having on all of our lives.



*The Tim Arnold Company, June 2024*

## SUPER CONNECTED FULL SHOW

**Super Connected** is best experienced as the live event in which the film is screened while Arnold and supporting musicians perform the songs, curated and hosted by actress and director **Kate Alderton**.

Duration: 4 hr set-up, 70min show.

Team: Tim Arnold, Kate Alderton, Sarah Kershaw, Jim Warren and Nim Arnold

## SUPER CONNECTED FILM SCREENING

For venues without technical specifications for a live performance, we can host a film screening of **Super Connected** including Q & A with writer/director **Tim Arnold** & cast and creative.

Duration: 1 hr set-up, 70min screening, 45min Q & A

Team: Tim Arnold

## SUPER CONNECTED WORKSHOPS

Kate Alderton facilitates discussions on intimacy versus big tech, using her experience as an advanced communications skills facilitator to enhance understanding. Tim and Kate's workshop includes an interactive talk and Q & A, focusing on managing screen dependency and fostering digital well-being.

Duration: 60min Session + 30min Q & A or 90min Session + 30min Q & A

Team: Kate Alderton and Tim Arnold

## SUPER CONNECTED MUSIC MENTORING

**Super Connected Music Mentoring** is designed for students of music and drama, and focuses on honing techniques, sharing works-in-progress and receiving constructive feedback to cultivate raw authenticity in performance. Led by Tim Arnold, participants learn to engage audiences through genuine connection.

Duration: 2 x 2hr sessions

Team: Tim Arnold

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## Get in touch

General Enquiries: Nim Arnold

[nim@tamusic.co.uk](mailto:nim@tamusic.co.uk)

# ***The Tim Arnold Company***

## **Tim Arnold - Writer, Composer and Performer**

Singer, songwriter, actor, film director, composer and activist, his work spans multiple genres and mediums and he is known for his ambitious projects that draw communities together. He is founder of **Save Soho** with **Stephen Fry** and has worked extensively with **Amnesty's** Human Rights campaigns through his music.

Mixed-race and autistic, Arnold was raised in a vibrant working-class theatrical community. When **Iggy Pop** told **NME** that Arnold's work reminded him of **David Bowie**, Arnold's career was given a new lease of life, winning **BBC London Album of The Year** for his album '**The Soho Hobo**'.

Arnold was mentored by the legendary **Lindsay Kemp**, who performed alongside Arnold in his multimedia installation piece 'What Love Would Want' in 2018. Tim is *Ambassador for Neurodiversity at The Creative Well*, *lecturer at the Waterbear College of Music and sits on the EID committee at the Musicians Union*.

## **Kate Alderton - Theatre Director**

Kate is a Brighton-based actress, theatre maker and dream tender. As a performer she trained at LAMDA, and in her dream work she is a Dream Tending graduate of Pacifica Institute. She co-produced and co-starred in the play *Cosmic Trigger* by Daisy Eris Campbell with female led theatre company The Mycelium. She has worked with immersive theatre collective Foolish People Frantic Assembly, and the legendary revival of Neil Oram's *The Warp* – the longest play in the world. Joining the Tim Arnold Company in 2019, Kate makes new work about our connection to dreams, imagination and consciousness exploration.

## **Sarah Kershaw - Pianist and Performer**

A long-standing member of cult orchestra The Irrepressibles, Sarah joined Tim for his *Super Connected* project in 2021 as pianist and singer and joined the Tim Arnold Company with Kate and Nim to develop the multimedia theatrical presentation of the project at London's Roundhouse in 2023.

## **Jim Warren - Sound Design**

Longstanding live producer for Radiohead, Jim's credits also include Arcade Fire, Peter Gabriel and Nine Inch Nails. Jim has been shaping the sound of Tim's music on stage since 1995.

## **Nim Arnold - Production Manager**

Founding member of The Tim Arnold Company, Nim has produced sell out shows at Soho Theatre, The Almeida, Roundhouse, O2 indigO2 and RADA. As film producer – '*Soho Is*' and '*Super Connected*'.

### **Wikipedia**

[Super Connected](#)

[Tim Arnold](#)

### **Official Websites**

[Super Connected](#)

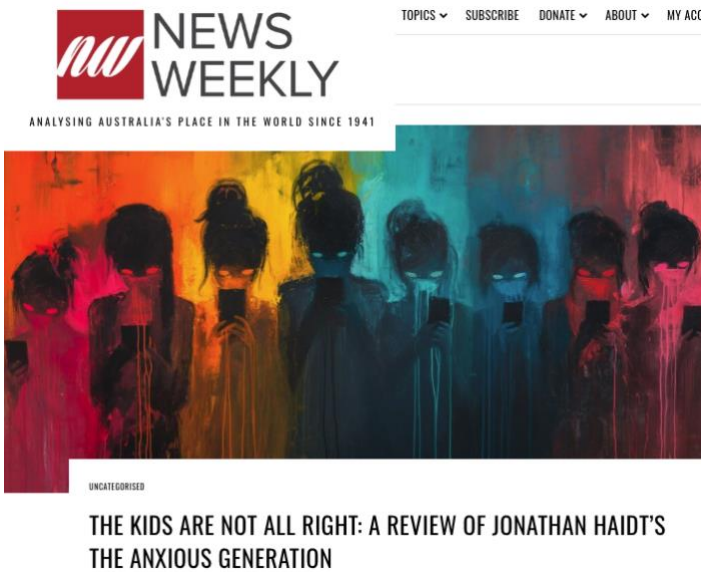
[Tim Arnold](#)

How a multimedia Rock Opera that explores the impact of Digital Media and Devices on our Lives, Mirrored Global News on its first UK Sold-Out Tour.

## TIM ARNOLD'S SUPER CONNECTED



May 9<sup>TH</sup> 2024 SUPER CONNECTED ISLE OF WIGHT!  
THE TOUR BEGINS



“The period from 2010 to 2015 is the time when smartphones and social media became widely adopted among teens and when we saw massive spikes in teen mental-health problems.” - [Jonathan Haidt](#)

“Up on the billboard, 100 feet tall, slogans appear about ‘sharing it all’. Head down and buried in nothing much, I didn’t hear your call” - [Tim Arnold](#) (*The Touch of A Screen, Track 3 from Super Connected*)

[Read 'The Kids Are Not Alright' in News Weekly Australia](#) (full article)



May 10<sup>TH</sup> 2024 UK PARLIAMENT ANNOUNCES FIRST  
DEBATE ON THE IMPACT OF SOCIAL MEDIA ON CHILDREN

[\*\*WATCH THE DEBATE\*\*](#)







May 17<sup>TH</sup> 2024 SUPER CONNECTED LIVERPOOL!



FINANCIAL TIMES [HOW DO I GET MY KIDS OFF THEIR PHONES?](#) (full article)



May 21<sup>st</sup> 2024 SUPER CONNECTED BRIGHTON!



[Is TikTok safe for kids and teenagers?](#) (full article)

22<sup>nd</sup> MAY 2024 The Independent: [Screens and teens: How phones broke children's brains](#)

24<sup>th</sup> May 2004 The Guardian: [Are Kids Losing Their Love of Music?](#) (full article)



Super Connected LIVE, Brighton



Experts believe that phone-based childhoods are seriously harming mental health – and parents are fighting back - [EVENING STANDARD](#)

St Albans set to be first smartphone-free UK city for under-14s - [THE TELEGRAPH](#)

Danish PM calls for 15+ age limit for social media in EU - [POLITICO.EU](#)



May 29<sup>TH</sup> 2024 SUPER CONNECTED BATH!



**Petition Demands UK Parents' Access to Deceased Child's Social Media After Suicide - [Tech Times](#)** (full article)

Tim Arnold  
28 May at 17:17

Congratulations, Ellen Roome

We did it—you did it! The Super Connected world is starting to unravel, thanks to your brave and vital efforts.

May your son's memory continue to inspire. Thank you for sending more light to families fighting against big tech's social norms. This is a new beginning.... [See more](#)

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Petition

### Give parents/guardians a right to access social media accounts of their children

I want parents/guardians to have the right to be given access to their children's social media accounts, by social media providers, both when the child is alive and if they are deceased.

[More details](#)

**Sign this petition**

**100,008** signatures

Show on a map 100,000

**Government will respond**

Government responds to all petitions that get more than 10,000 signatures

Waiting for 5 days for a government response

**At 100,000 signatures...**

At 100,000 signatures, this petition will be considered for debate in Parliament



**RADIO 5**

**BBC RADIO 5 LIVE**

**Tayshan Hayden-Smith and Tim Arnold**

Thal Arthanayake is joined by Tayshan Hayden-Smith and Tim Arnold on his new show Super Connected which tells the true story about a teenager addicted to screens and social media.

24 days left to list  
3 hours



May 30<sup>th</sup> 2024 SUPER CONNECTED READING!



New York governor to launch bill banning smartphones in schools - [THE GUARDIAN](#) (full article)



June 4<sup>th</sup> 2024 SUPER CONNECTED LONDON!



Internet addiction alters brain chemistry in young people - [The Guardian](#) (full article)

Adults and teens turn to 'dumbphones' to cut screen time - [BBC NEWS](#) (full article)





## June 12<sup>th</sup> 2024 THE DEBATE CONTINUES...

What happened when 10 teens gave up their smartphones? - [BBC NEWS](#)

Screen time the most harmful health crisis since youth smoking - [The Hill times](#)

50% of teenagers feel anxious without their smartphones, a survey for BBC Radio 5 Live and BBC Bitesize suggests - [BBC NEWS](#) (full article)

Read Tim's Journal about the tour on Substack:

[THE SUPER CONNECTED TOOLKIT](#)



# SUPER CONNECTED

## PRESS REPORT

### REVIEWS

(May – June 2024)

“This production is a warning to humanity about today’s digital age and chillingly the one that inexorably will follow. Any piece of art should have the audience leave with more than they entered the room with. Super Connected definitely succeeds: it is a hugely significant piece of work, containing a vital message, carefully constructed and brilliantly performed. Outstanding”

- **UK Fringe Review**

“Tim has researched screen addiction and social media’s effects on mental health since 2017 with his study culminating in the critically acclaimed album, film and now theatre show”

- Nihal Arthanayake **BBC 5 LIVE**

"The silent movie reborn for the 21st century" - **Reading Today**

“A mammoth triumph. Tim is one of the most prolific and artistic forces of the 21st century.” - **Brighton and Hove News**

“This just needs to go stadium sized. A Tour de force” - **Bath Fringe Review**

“Rock ‘n’ Roll with a social message and a story for families. Brilliant.”

- **John Giddings** (*Promoter – U2, Madonna, Lady Gaga, Iggy Pop, David Bowie*)

"Super Connected is inspiring & operatic. Tim Arnold’s beautiful and disturbing feature-length film about familial screen addiction fused with his performance of 12 vignette-songs is a new theatre in a class of its own” – **Mark Blagrove**, Author (*The Science and Art of Dreaming*)

"Great music, powerful acting, immersive experience. Like a musical of 'the city of lost children'. This is going places, a must see. "- **Guy Holder** (*Head of PSHRE, Harrodian School*)

"A new film, album and theatre show about teenage screen addiction and how parents and teenagers navigate their relationships with each other in the new reality of digital distraction"

- **The Bath and Wiltshire Parent**

"An innovative mix of film, music and theatre" - **Isle of Wight County Press**

"Record-cum-film-theatre piece ‘Super Connected is a remarkable event."

- **Sussex Online News**

"Art alchemy at it's best. Tim has never sounded better" - **Lying To Meet You Podcast**

# REVIEWS

## (2023)

““Like a warning from the future...poignant, ominous, funny and heartrending. Genius”  
– **Rock n Reel ★★★★★**

“This is worth your attention” – **The Times ★★★★★**

“Lush, dynamic and dramatic, all unified by euphoric choruses” - **Mojo ★★★★★**

“Ranging from Bowie and Byrne manoeuvres to indie-rock grandiosity” – **Clash ★★★★★**

“A conceptual lyrical narrative taking aim at big tech’s insidious footprints across our lives” – **Prog ★★★★★**

“Think Peter Gabriel in cahoots with Vaughan Williams”  
– **Culture Catch, New York ★★★★★**

“It’s the charm and personality he laces through the record that’s  
the real stroke of genius here”  
– **The Quietus ★★★★★**

“A gorgeous, swooning and smart piece of melodic drama” – **Big Issue ★★★★★**

“This excellent, consciousness-raising album is a triumph” – **We Are Cult ★★★★★**

“Tim Arnold’s voice is as beautiful as it is sincere” – **Neurodiverse Review ★★★★★**

“A towering ambition and theatricality” – **Classic Pop ★★★★★**

“Progressive pop at its finest” – **Get Ready To Rock ★★★★★**

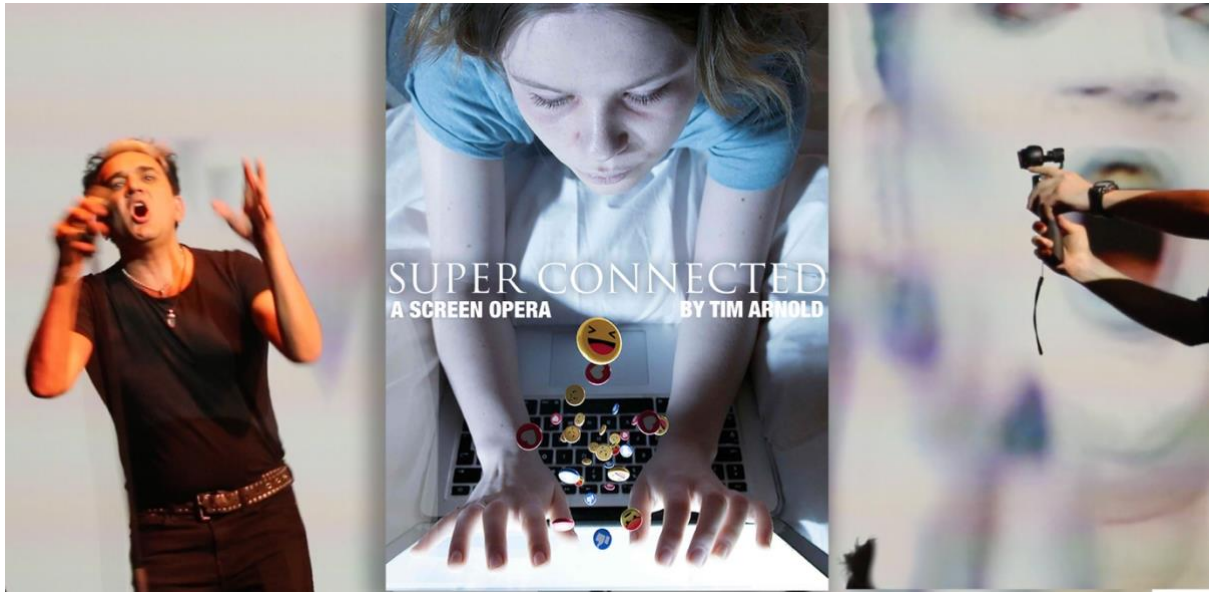
## Interviews

[Tim Arnold Talks ‘Super Connected’ Album, May 2024 UK Tour And More](#)

[Interview with British singer-songwriter and performance artist, Tim Arnold](#)



# NEWS



[Brighton and Hove News](#)

[Culture Liverpool](#)

[Explore Liverpool](#)

[Island Echo](#)

[Isle of Wight County Press](#)

[Broadway World](#)

[Broadway Baby](#)

[Reading Today](#)

[Music News Monthly](#)

[London World](#)

[Fringe Review](#)

[Get Ready To Rock](#)

[Music Republic](#)

[Bath and Wiltshire Parent](#)

## **SUPER CONNECTED**

### **AUDIENCE TESTIMONIALS**

**(May - June 2024)**

“As a head teacher at a small Sussex school, I found it incredible moving. I think the way arts can speak to these massive issues is so powerful. It gets the conversation on to the table”

- **Vanessa Emery** (Bath)

“I’ve got a 5 and a 9-year-old. It’s impossible to know what to do about the phone situation, but the film and the songs are spot on”- **Harriet Chamberlain** (London show)

“I’ve met people tonight and we’ve talked about these issues. The whole album, the film and the show is really doing something- **Andrew Mailing** (London show)

“I think you should bring this into schools and help start the conversation there. that is literally the problem I’m seeing in the young people I teach”- **Michael Ainsworth** (Liverpool)

“My son is 14 and we’ve had a wonderful night out.”- **Beverley Dean** (London show)

“Creating space for us all to talk about it after the show to connect and find out what other people are experiencing is a massive important part of what you’ve brought here tonight”

- **Richard Marshall** (London show)

“I found the story of the young girl so heart-breaking, thinking about my own kids as they navigate the world of social media and technology. This is an incredibly important piece”

- **Nigel Brookes** (London show)

“I’ve had some amazing conversations with total strangers, as well as the Super Connected team tonight. It’s an incredible show” - **David Lewis** (Bath)

“I love the combination of film and live music. The impact of phones on the attachment between parent and child was very powerful.”- **Nathan Hicks** (Brighton)

“Super Connected really made me realise I’m not alone”- **Jim McCauley** (Bath)

“It was shocking and thought provoking. Tim’s voice is stunning and he acted beautifully”

- **Brenig Evans** (Bath)

“Absolutely loved the music and film very powerful. I discussed after how showing it to teens in school would be so beneficial.” - **Becky Rawlings** (Bath)

It’s not like anything I’ve been to. It’s f\*\*\*ing cool actually”- **Lesley Wright** (Brighton)

“It’s like if you’re a smoker...and you watch a film about someone dying from cancer, you might not be able to stop smoking straight away, but you definitely want to LIVE longer. That’s how I feel after watching Super Connected. I want more life off screens”

- **Jeremy Goodman** (Liverpool)