

## Aylo

@aylo\_nomad

### AYLO's back and she's painting power.

Rochdale-born, award winning, and artistic director of Common Walls, AYLO's mural 'Dreams Never End' hits hard. Inspired by New Order's track, recorded in Rochdale's Cargo Studios, it's a bold tribute to the ongoing fight for women's rights and the role of Rochdale founded Co-op in women's suffrage. Identity. History. Healing. This wall doesn't whisper. It roars.

## SecaOne

@seca\_one

### SecaOne paints sound and soul.

His mural dives into Rochdale's role in the 'Madchester' music revolution of the late 80s and early 90s. Cargo Studios, 24 Hour Party People, and raw cultural energy. It's vivid, loud, and rooted in a movement that still shapes the music of today. Lyrics leap off the wall, so why don't you join in.



## Culture Coop

Zahirah Hafiz @lifeindetailuk  
Elizabeth Chandler @\_liz\_chandler  
Evan Barlow @artistlad

### Culture Coop are reimagining the past.

Three artists team up with Rochdale's communities to reimagine the history of a former textile warehouse through Islamic Arts. Panels will transform boarded up windows into vibrant images that celebrate heritage, identity and creativity.



## Insane51

@insane51

### Insane51 flips the script in 3D.

The Greek muralist has pioneered the 'double exposure' technique to create murals that shift to reveals two worlds. Exploring the balance between fragility and renewal, this mural is inspired by a poem from Rochdale school children created as part of Wild Wonders 2024. Grab some 3D glasses and see it shift.

## Cabasa CIC

@cabasacarnivalarts

### Cabasa's first mural is a shout from the soul.

Led by Rhian Kempadoo-Millar, Lizzie Rigby and Emily Wood, it dives into Women's unheard stories around reproductive health. Inspired by voices from Rochdale's Soul Sisters, Seriously Crafty and beyond, it's bold, beautiful and rooted in lived experience. Pushing boundaries and visually stunning – this is art with heart.

## LeiMai

@leimai\_lemaw

**LeiMai's wrapping Rochdale in colour.** Scouse born, Manchester based and bold to the bone, Lei-Mai's murals fuse graffiti grit with playful design. Her artistic journey started during a period of homelessness, when her street art led to her first commission. Now she's transforming 2 buildings on Drake Street and Maclure Road. Inspired by local flora and fauna, these wraps are wild, vibrant and full of life.



**7–14 September**  
**Rochdale town centre**

Live painting from world class mural artists - graffiti jams - BMX, skate boarding and parkour displays - live music - artist talks - and more!

**Festival Guide**

## Epod3000

@epod3000

### Epod's plugged in. And totally wired.

Blending classical flair with urban edge, his mural 'TOTALE WIRED' riffs off The Fall's track recorded right here in Rochdale. The subject's caught in a web of tech and media, wired to forces beyond their control.

It's sharp. It's surreal. It's a mirror to modern life.



## Onur

@onurpainting

### Onur's landed. And he's bringing the glow.

Globally acclaimed for radiant, detailed large-scale murals, Onur's festival piece is pure Rochdale energy inspired by Rochdale's Gracie Fields' wild tune 'The Rochdale Hounds'. A tribute to heritage, humour and hometown pride. This wall's got a story. And it's barking loud.

## Smug

@smugone

### Smug's in town and he's painting real.

Known for hyper real murals that fuse nature and humanity, Smug's latest, features 'Auntie' Suriya Begum - Rochdale legend, community champion, everyday hero. Chosen through an open call, her portrait will be shot pre-festival and transformed into a mural that radiates pride, warmth and grit. This wall's got heart.







**Travelling between the town centre and Rail Station?**

**Walking**  
Follow the tram tracks along Drake Street & Maclure Road (12 minutes).

**Tram**  
Catch the tram 1 stop (4 mins). Did you know if you can travel this 1 stop for free with a valid rail ticket to/from Rochdale Railway Station.

**Pedestrian areas**

Rochdale Railway Station

Rochdale Transpot Interchange (Bus)

Metrolink (Interchange & Railway station)

Car Parking

Toilets

# Welcome to Common Walls where Rochdale's streets get loud with colour!

From 7<sup>th</sup> 14<sup>th</sup> September, our town centre will transform into a giant open air gallery as world class mural artists hit the walls to tell bold, authentic stories.

Each mural is a tribute to Rochdale's soul - our music, our nature, our people.

This festival is about all of us, from historical legends to a poem by local school children.

Grab the map. Chase the paint. Watch the town transform in real time. And while you're at it, check out our other iconic murals now part of Rochdale's visual heartbeat.

There's more to see too – check out the live paint jam, installations, pop up performances and urban art surprises across the town centre!

Common Walls is just one spark in a blazing year of festivals, exhibitions and live art as Rochdale takes the spotlight as Greater Manchester's Town of Culture 2025–26.

We're not just decorating walls. We're making noise. We are Rochdale.

rochdalecreates.co.uk/townofculture

@rochdale.creates

@commonwalls\_festival

## New murals

- |  |   |                                       |   |
|--|---|---------------------------------------|---|
| <b>1</b> <b>Lei-Mai</b><br>@leimai_lemaw | <b>3</b> <b>Insane51</b><br>@insane51           | <b>6</b> <b>AYLO</b><br>@aylo_nomad   | <b>9</b> <b>Seca One</b><br>@seca_one           |
| <b>2</b> <b>Lei-Mai</b><br>@leimai_lemaw | <b>4</b> <b>Cabassa</b><br>@cabassacarnivalarts | <b>7</b> <b>Onur</b><br>@onurpainting | <b>10</b> <b>Culture Coop</b><br>@culturecoopuk |
|  | <b>5</b> <b>EP0D3000</b><br>@epod3000           | <b>8</b> <b>Smug</b><br>@smugone      |   |

## Existing murals

- |  |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|--|
| <b>11</b> <b>Tasha Whittle</b><br>@tasha_whittle   | <b>14</b> <b>Curtis</b><br>@curtis_hylton            | <b>18</b> <b>Philth</b><br>@philthblake2           | <b>22</b> <b>Folie</b><br>@folieartanddesign |
| <b>12</b> <b>Tea One</b><br>@teaone_gavinrenshaw   | <b>15</b> <b>Lei Mai</b><br>@leimai_lemaw            | <b>19</b> <b>London Police</b><br>@thelondonpolice | <b>23</b> <b>Jack Brett</b><br>@jackbrett_   |
| <b>13</b> <b>Northern Line</b><br>@northernlinemcr | <b>16</b> <b>Penfold</b><br>@mrpenfold               | <b>20</b> <b>Thisone</b><br>@thisones_art          |  |
|  | <b>17</b> <b>Katie Scott</b><br>@katiescott_creative | <b>21</b> <b>Tankpetrol</b><br>@tankpetrol         |  |

## Festival programming

- Mural Artists in Conversation**
- A** **The Baum**
- Thurs 11 Sep - from 19:00
- Hear from the artists transforming our town about their creative practice.
- Hip Hop Night**
- B** **Hoochi Koochi**
- Fri 12 Sep - from 20:00
- Join DJ Woody on the dancefloor for a night of hop-hop bangers.
- Paint Jam**
- C** **Rochdale Town Hall Square**
- Sat 13 and Sun 14 Sep - 10:00–16:00
- Watch 9 artists compete as they paint live!

- Extreme Sports Displays**
- C** **Town Hall Square**
- D** **Baillie Street**
- E** **Smith Street**
- Sat 13 - 10:00–16:00
- Prepare to be amazed by a breathtaking displays taking across the town centre!
- Follow @rochdale.creates for timings and more details.
- Fusion Extreme BMX Ramp Show**
- See world class professional riders launch into the air to perform breathtaking stunts.
- BMX Flatland Show**
- Riders have nothing but their bike and the blank canvas of a smooth surface it's more of an art form than other styles of BMX, with an emphasis on creativity, style and originality, as riders link and mix tricks together.

- Mountain Bike Trails Show**
- See some of the UK's best Trail Riders, as they control and jump across huge distances and obstacles.
- Parkour and Freerunning Show**
- Athletes flip and leap across any obstacles in their path with agility, flexibility and precise co-ordination.
- Skateboarding Show**
- Skateboarders perform flips over ramps and grind boxes, by the highest quality athletes in the UK.
- Basketball Show**
- Streetballers showcase their artistic flare with basketballs through tricks and skills.
- Breakdance Show**
- See the breakers bring the energy through their explosive shows.

Please note all festival programming is subject to change - stay tuned to @rochdale.creates for updates.