

NOW IN PHILADELPHIA

Each performance during the PIFA Gala takes place beneath a replica of U.K. artist Luke Jerram's "Museum of the Moon."

LEADING EDGE

In June, don't be surprised to see musicians playing in the air above the Schuylkill River. Or a quartet of dancers leading countless Philadelphians down Broad Street as they boogie to an electronic soundscape and leave traces of gaffer tape along their route. They are all part of the **Kimmel Center for the Performing Art's Philadelphia International Festival of the Arts**—a pulsating feast of performances that are as unconventional as the platforms themselves. The biennial event begins with a May 31 gala, followed by 10 days of jaw-dropping acts by some of the world's most cutting-edge artists, including the Philadelphia premiere of *Taylor Mac: A 24-Decade History of Popular Music*, an epic 24-hour pop odyssey that integrates audience members into the act. As producing artistic director Jay Wahl puts it: "What PIFA has the power to do is develop meaningful moments among community members. I hope you meet someone at the *Taylor Mac* show or dance with someone on the Schuylkill River, and afterward have a drink together and share a great conversation." Cheers to that. *May 31-June 10, various locations, kimmelcenter.org* —Nila Do Simon