

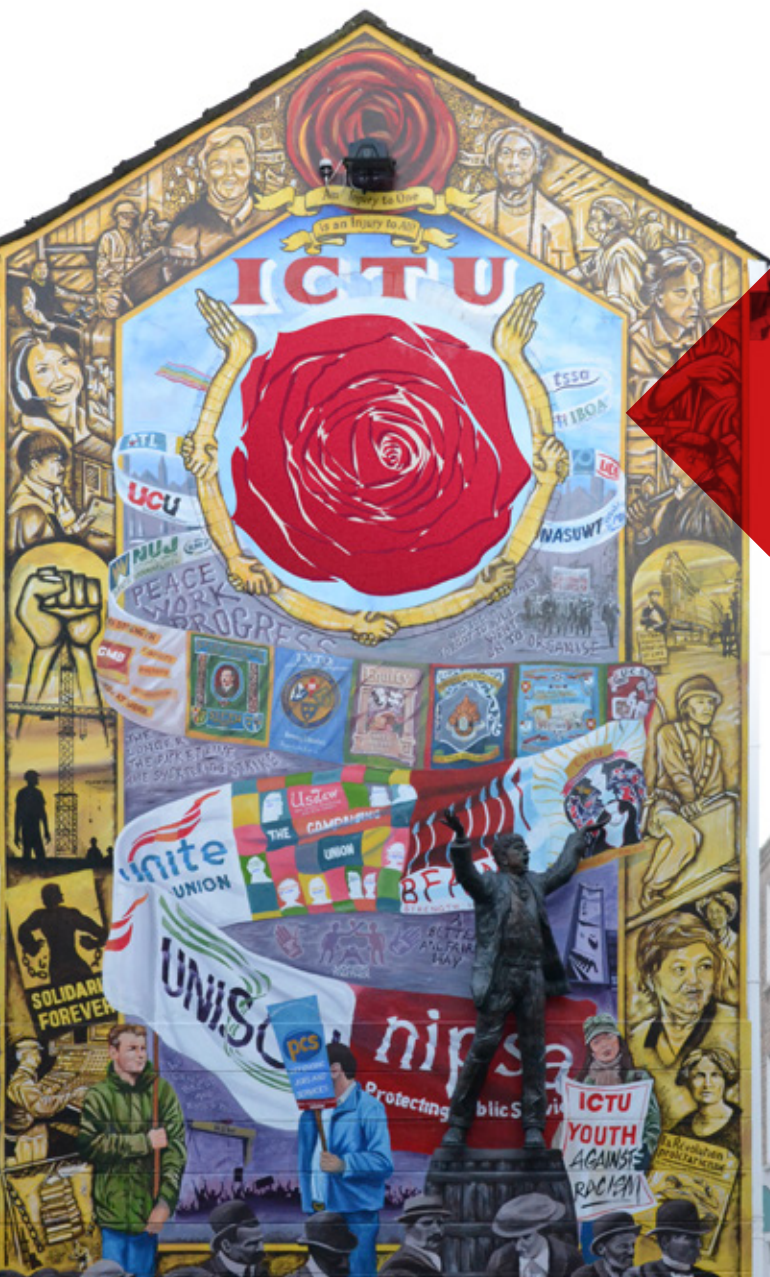


STRONGER TOGETHER

CONGRESS

Irish Congress of Trade Unions
Northern Ireland Committee

MAY FESTIVAL 2015



MARCH FOR A BETTER FAIRER WAY

www.ictuni.org
028 9024 7940

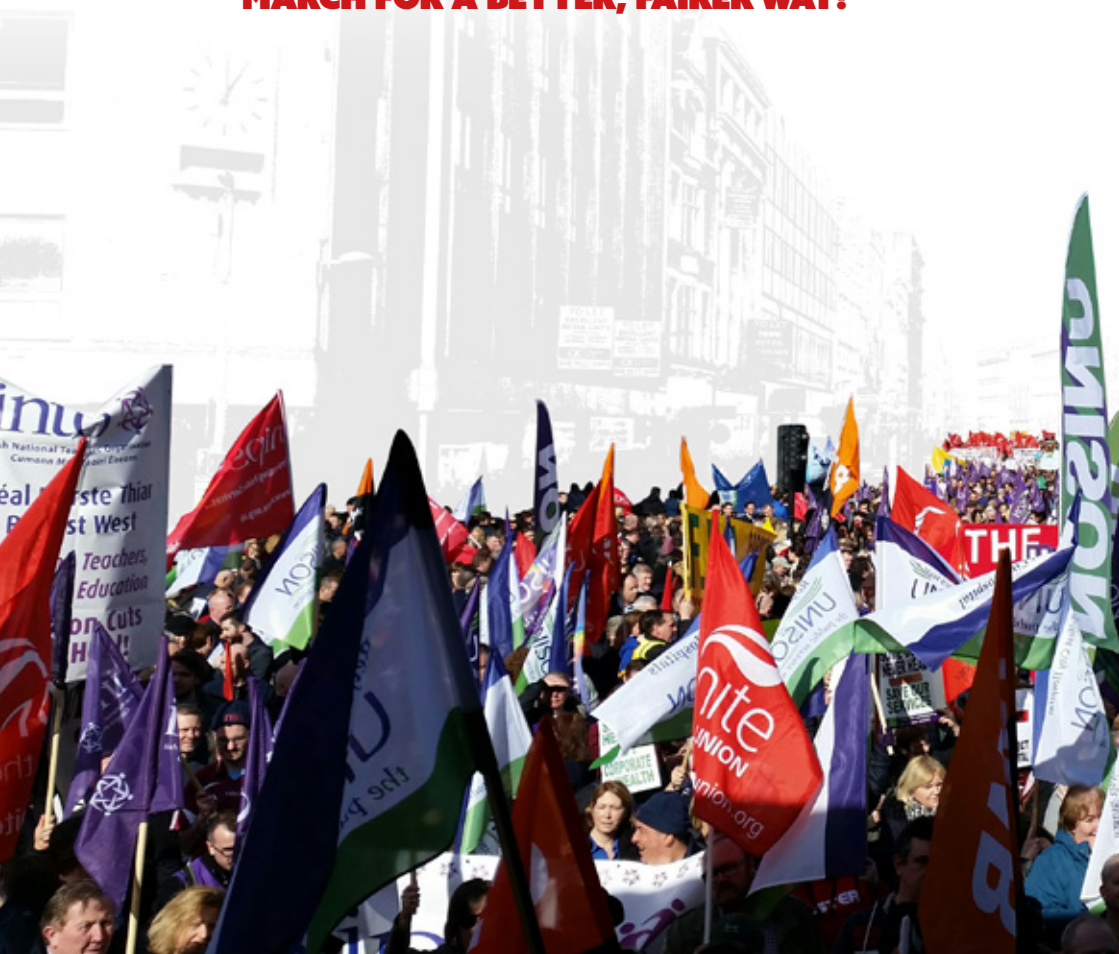


WELCOME TO THE IRISH CONGRESS OF TRADE UNIONS MAY FESTIVAL 2015 PROGRAMME

MARCH FOR PEOPLE JOBS AND SERVICES!

MARCH FOR PEACE, PROGRESS AND EQUALITY!

MARCH FOR A BETTER, FAIRER WAY!



Irish Congress of Trade Unions

ANNUAL MAY DAY RALLY AND MARCH



SATURDAY 2ND MAY 2015

MARCH FOR A BETTER FAIRER WAY

Guest Speakers including
Mick Whelan *General Secretary ASLEF*

Assemble College of Art Gardens Belfast at 11.30am
Speeches at 11.45am March off 12 noon

ALL WELCOME - BRING FRIENDS AND FAMILY!



Margaret Harrison

WE ARE THEM, THEY ARE US EXHIBITION

26th March – 15th May 2015, Free

Golden Thread Gallery, 84-94 Great Patrick Street, Belfast

We are Them, They are us is Margaret Harrison's first solo exhibition in Ireland. This exhibition presents seminal works created at various stages of her career alongside more recent pieces.

Harrison has spent her career creating artwork that addresses political concerns such as the Greenham Common Women's Peace Camp and the colonisation of the Australian landscape. In other works, Harrison questions issues of gender inequality and the objectification of women in popular culture. Hugh Hefner is reimagined as a Bunny Boy, posing provocatively in a corset, stockings and bunny ears. A man who has made millions through the objectification of women is, in turn, objectified.

For more information contact www.goldenthreadgallery.co.uk, 028 9033 0920

Film screening

HUMAN STORIES BEHIND HUMAN TRAFFICKING

Saturday 25 April 12–2pm. Doors open 11.30.

Please be seated by 12.15.

QFT, 20 University Square, Belfast

Entry is free although you must book with QFT or Belfast Film Festival www.queensfilmtheatre.com or www.belfastfilmfestival.org



The Law Centre presents an afternoon of short films and discussion on Modern Day Slavery in partnership with Unchosen.

Three short films will be screened, including 'Yoke Farm' which won the 2014 Unchosen Short Film competition.

'Yoke Farm' is based on an actual Law Centre case and its director, Tim Keeling, will join a panel of local anti-trafficking and trade union experts to discuss modern day slavery and forced labour in particular.

A senior government representative will open this event.



Alliance for Choice presents

INTERNATIONAL ABORTION JOURNEYS AND PERSONAL NARRATIVES

Short Films and Discussion

Tuesday 28th April 7-9pm, Free
Golden Thread Gallery

Alliance for Choice campaigns on the extension of the 1967 Abortion Act to Northern Ireland. To encourage debate and discussion on women's bodily autonomy and the discrimination faced especially by working class women in Northern Ireland, we are delighted to present two short films and a facilitated discussion.

The first short film is about the journeys women have undertaken to access abortion from around the world, and the second animated film documents personal stories of women who have accessed abortion in countries where it is legal. This will be followed by a discussion on abortion stigma, access and perspectives.

For more information contact
alliancechoice4@gmail.com



**Reclaim the Agenda presents:
WOMEN AGAINST THE CUTS -
ACTIVISM WORKSHOP**

Wednesday 29th April

Réalta Civic and Social Space, 48 King Street, Belfast BT1 6AD

This activism workshop will explore the fundamental ideas behind direct action and give women a chance to share their views, thoughts and feelings on the impact the cuts are having on women and how we might tackle them together.

The Workshop will include time and materials to make signs and placards to carry on the Annual May Day March and Rally and raise awareness of the impact of austerity on women and children. Come along to this relaxed and informal event.

For more information contact orlaith.hendron@wrda.net,
028 9023 0212

RECLAIM the
AGENDA



**Trade Union Friends of Palestine, Unison and Belfast and District
Trade Union Council jointly host the screening of
THE LAB**

a powerful and unsettling film by Israeli film director and
investigative journalist Yotam Feldman.

29 April, 7pm, Free

Unison Building, Galway House, York Street.

The Lab is an investigative documentary revealing how the Israeli military occupation in Palestine has become a business and a marketable, highly profitable, national asset rather than a burden.

We know that since 9/11 the Israeli arms industries are doing bigger business than ever before. But why is it that there is a spike in Israeli arms sales after every murderous onslaught on Gaza when thousands of innocent Palestinian civilians are killed? Large Israeli companies develop and test the vessels of future warfare, creating a science out of targeted killings, which is then sold worldwide by private Israeli agents who can refer to the devastation of Gaza to demonstrate their effectiveness. They manipulate a network of Israeli politicians and army commanders, while Israeli theoreticians explain to various foreign countries how to defeat civil and para-military resistance.

The screening will be followed by a discussion with Irish human rights activist Elaine Bradley, recently returned from 8 months in the West Bank and Gaza.

UNISON
the public service union

Book Launch, Seán Murray **MARXIST-LENINIST AND IRISH SOCIALIST** **REPUBLICAN**

Thursday 30 April, 6pm Free

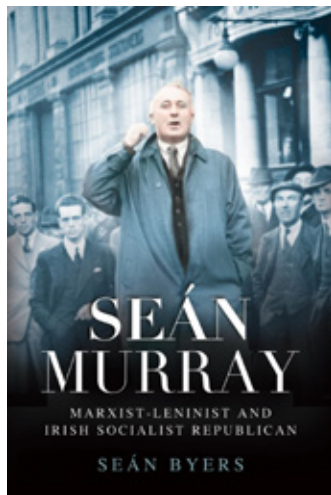
The John Hewitt, Donegall St Belfast.

Seán Murray went from an unremarkable rural, northern Catholic upbringing to become general secretary of the Communist Party of Ireland and one of the most prominent left-wing thinkers of his era.

An Irish War of Independence volunteer, anti-Treaty republican and graduate of the International Lenin School in Moscow, Murray rooted himself in the key Irish labour, republican and international struggles of his time. Based on previously unseen archival sources, this book explores Murray's IRA activities during the Irish revolutionary period; his significant contribution to the 1932 outdoor relief strike and the short-lived republican Congress initiative; and his crucial role in organising the Irish contingent of the International Brigades who fought with the Republicans in the Spanish Civil War.

The book will be launched by Brian Campfield, NIPSA general secretary and incoming president of the Irish Congress of Trade Unions.

For more information contact sean@trademarkbelfast.com
07794434440



Belfast and Districts Trades Council presents: **THE ANNUAL MAY DAY LECTURE**

with best-selling author Kerry-Anne Mendoza

Thursday 30th April, 7pm, Free

Golden Thread Gallery, 84-94 Great Patrick Street, Belfast

Wages have been frozen, benefits have been slashed and public spending squeezed. The pain of a financial crisis caused by bankers and speculators has been borne by ordinary people all over the country – and by the poor and disabled most of all.

Kerry-anne Mendoza is a former management consultant in banking, local government and the NHS, who left her job to join the Occupy protest. She blogs at [Scriptonite Daily](http://ScriptoniteDaily.com).



In her best-selling book *'Austerity – The Demolition of the Welfare State and the Rise of the Zombie Economy'* Mendoza argues austerity has not been born of necessity but is an opportunity seized upon by neoliberals to pursue their decades-long project to shrink government and put public resources, including the NHS and state schools, into private hands.

For more information see www.facebook.com/belfasttradescouncil or contact 07435 786055



ICTU Youth presents:
TALES OF RESISTANCE

Friday 1st May 7pm, Free
Realta Social and Civic Centre, King St Belfast

This event will include speakers from Ireland and Great Britain to discuss mobilizing young people to resist austerity and build a better future. The speakers will share experiences of youth activism and their recent involvement in various social and industrial disputes. It will be an informal social setting and will be a fantastic opportunity for debate and exchange of ideas. The event is open to all and will include music, food and refreshments

**Reverend Billy and the Stop Shopping Choir –
in conjunction with the Cathedral Quarter Arts Festival,
and Friends of the Earth presents:**

I KNOW YOU'RE ON THE STREET RIGHT NOW!

Sunday 3 May, 7pm, £6
Green Room, Black Box Theatre, Hill Street, Belfast

New York City based Reverend Billy & The Stop Shopping Choir are planet criers, gospel shouters, and punk disruptors. This post religious church service pursues the mysterious catalyst that ignites collective knowledge into collective will.

With 50 performing members and a congregation in the thousands, they are wild anti-consumerist



gospel shouters and Earth loving urban activists who have worked with communities on four continents defending community, life and imagination.

The Devils over the 15 years of the “church” have remained the same: Consumerism and Militarism. In this time of the Earth’s crisis they are especially mindful of the extractive imperatives of global capital.

Join them for an evening of music, theatre, and spoken word, as they bear witness to the injustices heaped upon people and planet by powerful forces of politics and big business.

“It’s an act. It’s an art. It’s almost a religion.” - New York Times

For further information contact niall.bakewell@foe.co.uk
028 9089 7592

Belfast Trades Union Council & Creative Workers

Cooperative present:

BETWEEN TWO WORLDS EXHIBITION

7th – 20th May 2015, Free
Golden Thread Gallery

An ever changing exhibition for an every changing world. Get a sense of the energy that fires campaigns such as Hands off our Public Services, Frack Off, Reclaim the Agenda and the Empty Purse Campaign. Get in on the action and map your own activism.

Between Two Worlds will explode onto the walls of the GT Gallery on the 28th April and from there will grow organically, democratically and freely until it is launched on Thursday 7th May between 6pm and 8pm. Free Admission and all welcome.

For more information contact info@gtgallery.co.uk
or ryan.mckinney@nipsa.org.uk



The Big Table Coalition

OPEN SOURCE AT THE BIG TABLE

**Thursday 7th May, 7pm Friday 8th - Sunday 10th May, noon-7pm
daily, Free**

Lower Garfield Street, Belfast (just off Royal Avenue)

The Open Source is a performance space, music venue and workshop hub, bringing life back into empty space in Belfast's Cathedral Quarter.

This year Open Source moves outdoors, to a purpose-built banquet table on Lower Garfield Street. The Big Table will host a weekend of activity focused on the theme of, "The Love Economy – Cooperative Alternatives to Free Market Economics."

Business as usual is delivering austerity, job losses, a widening wealth gap, and a trashed planet.

Don't let anyone tell you there is no alternative.

For further information contact niall.bakewell@foe.co.uk
www.opensourceni.com

International Brigade Commemoration Committee presents:

SONGS OF THE INTERNATIONAL BRIGADES

Celebrate 70th anniversary of the defeat of
Hitler fascism 1945
Saturday 9th May 2015, £5
Sunflower Pub, Union Street

A time of heroes.

Songs of the International Brigades on the
70th Anniversary of the defeat of Hitler
fascism 1945

Featuring Gueroes Guerin and Charlie from Limerick



THE BATTLE FOR THE FUTURE - SPAIN'S ONGOING CIVIL WAR

Saturday 9th May 11am - 1pm, Free
UNITE Offices, 26-34 Antrim Road, Belfast

Forty years after the death of Franco the Spanish Civil War and the legacy of the General's dictatorship is still fought over in contemporary Spain. Just as we have seen closer to home the battles are all bound up in culture and commemoration.

The current Spanish government of Mariano Rajoy has used austerity to shelve any focus on past Francoist atrocities at the same time as encouraging a kind of benign revisionism about the Franco era while promoting policies he would have been proud of. The end result is a kind of continuous politicking which resonates with both northern and southern Ireland.

Connal Parr followed up his Masters in Irish Studies with a PhD in Ulster Protestant working class politics and culture at Queen's University Belfast. He is the current Irish Government Senior Scholar at Hertford College, University of Oxford and has been widely published in Irish Studies Review, Irish Political Studies, News Letter and the Dublin Review of Books, and has a book on the way.

For more information contact Lynda Walker
lyndaernest@btinternet.com 07751 951785

Light lunch provided



Migrant Workers Support Unit Irish Congress of Trade Unions VOICE, SILENCE AND EQUALITY

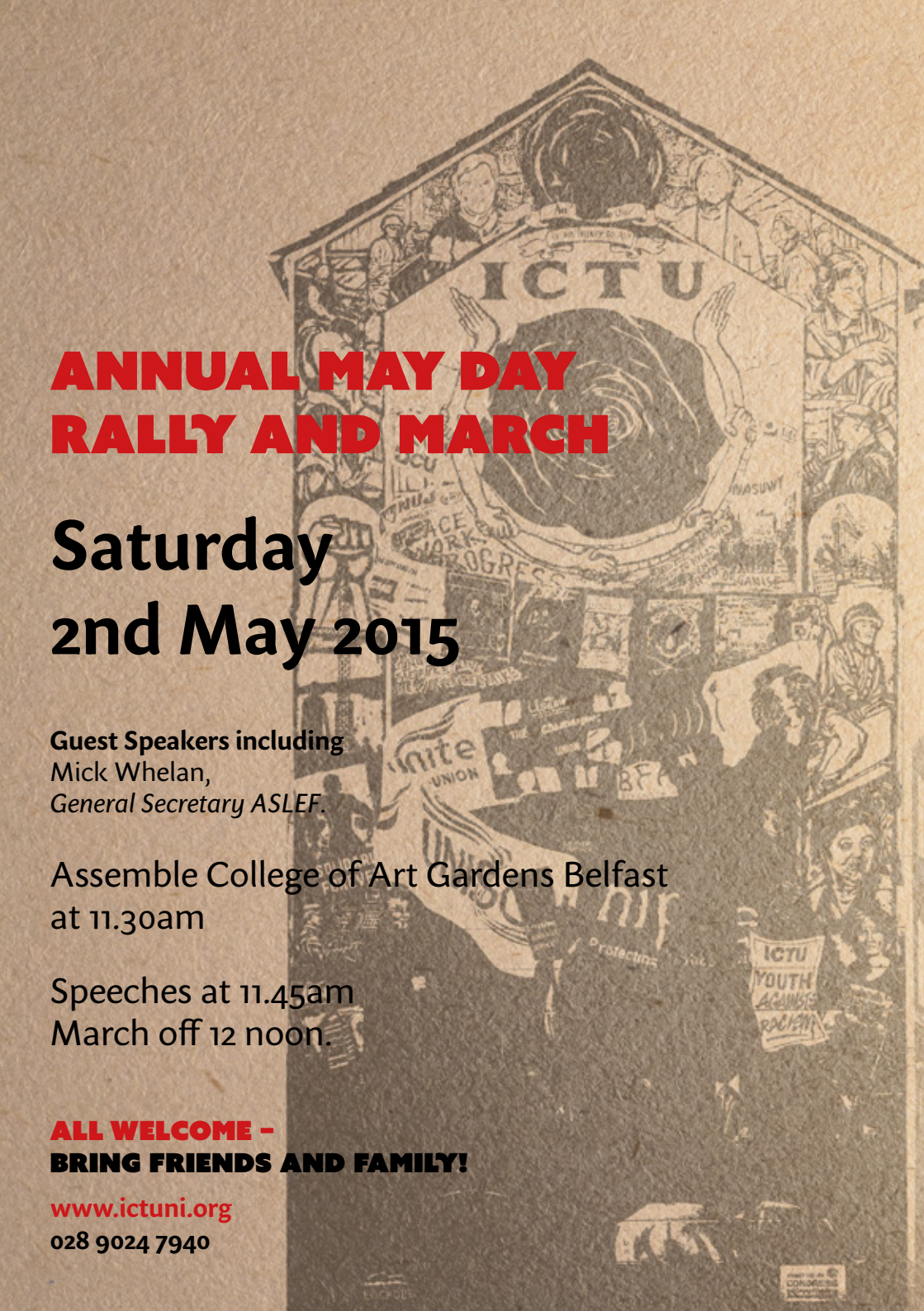
Saturday 9th May 2015, 4 – 6 pm
Golden Thread Gallery

An exploration of empowerment and trust among migrant communities living and working in Northern Ireland.

Through the Theatre of the Oppressed techniques, this workshop will examine the main issues and fears that migrant people face nowadays. By putting in practice theatrical games, we will explore the different ways in which we can empower ourselves as individuals and as part of our communities.

World music and refreshments. The event is free.





ANNUAL MAY DAY RALLY AND MARCH

Saturday 2nd May 2015

Guest Speakers including
Mick Whelan,
General Secretary ASLEF.

Assemble College of Art Gardens Belfast
at 11.30am

Speeches at 11.45am
March off 12 noon.

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