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Welcome to London

Twelve years ago, a group of actor friends who had stayed in touch after finishing drama school, put on a play called *The Murder Before Christmas* at the Old Red Lion Pub in North London. There were only four paying customers for that first performance, but they persevered. The Old Red Lion invited them back for a return visit and as word of mouth grew and they changed the name to *THE PLAY THAT GOES WRONG*, they were offered a slot in the 95 seat Studio Theatre at Trafalgar. I was invited to see a matinée in October 2013 and met the actors after the show, some of whom were also the authors. That meeting changed all of our lives and, this September, we are proudly celebrating 10 years of *The Play That Goes Wrong* at the Duchess Theatre.



We have produced seven *Mischief* shows in the West End, including *The Comedy About A Bank Robbery* which ran for four years at the Criterion Theatre, *Peter Pan Goes Wrong* which returns regularly for a Christmas Season, *Magic Goes Wrong*, *The Mind Mangler*, *Groan Ups* and *Mischief Movie Night*. *The Play That Goes Wrong* has also run very successfully on Broadway, toured the UK and across North America as well as playing 50 countries around the world. We've enjoyed two series of *The Goes Wrong Show* on BBC1 and three Christmas specials. What I've learned on this incredible journey is that people love to laugh.

Visitors to London should be aware that alongside the magnificent and historic West End, there is tremendous work being developed in London's affiliate theatres such as The Donmar Warehouse (Covent Garden), The Bush (in Shepherd's Bush), The Almeida (in Islington), The Kiln (in Kilburn), not to mention Southwark Playhouse which regularly tries out new musicals, The Lyric Hammersmith and Hampstead Theatre. These venues filter the best of the work into the West End – recent transfers include *Two Strangers Carry A Cake Across New York*, *Shifters* and *The Curious Case of Benjamin Button*. It's really worthwhile adding an affiliate or fringe venue into your theatre plans.

Have a wonderful time exploring London with its famous monuments, historic royal palaces and tremendous museums. I hope you see some great productions. I can particularly recommend *WHY AM I SO SINGLE* at the Garrick Theatre. It's the follow up show from the authors of the worldwide hit *SIX*, *The Musical* by the brilliant young writing duo of Marlow and Moss.

Kenny Wax MBE

THE BIG WEST END WALK

West End Charity Football Club Big West End Walk takes place on Sunday 8 September. Following the impressive success of last year's walk, which raised over £3.5K for Acting for Others, the event will be led by West End Charity Football Club Captain Jon-Scott Clark and Jonny Phillips, who launched the event in 2023. West End stars and famous faces will take to the streets to join the team in walking to 58 West End theatres, covering 15 miles across London.

The West End Charity Football Club team includes: John Addison, Matt Blaker, Jon-Scott Clark, Danny Colligan, Vinny Coyle, Ellis Kirk, Jo Parsons, Jonny Phillips and Captain of the Women's team, Courtney Stapleton.

West End Charity Football Club is a charity football team made up of actors, agents, casting directors, stage managers, singers and performers from London's West End. As well as some of the UK's top performers, they also have an ever-growing list of celebrities and ex-pros who play to help raise money for charitable causes.



Jon-Scott Clark and Courtney Stapleton.



LAPADA BERKELEY SQUARE FAIR

London's leading art and antiques fair, LAPADA Berkeley Square Fair, will return to its iconic Mayfair location this October in a year which marks the LAPADA association's 50th anniversary.

LAPADA Fair is home to the best of fine art and exquisite jewellery, furniture, antiques, crystals and minerals as well as specialist collections of Samurai and Impressionist works.

Since 2009, the LAPADA Berkeley Square Fair has become a leading showcase for art and antiques on the international arts calendar, establishing a reputation for attracting buyers interested in significant one-of-a-kind investment pieces, alongside a new generation of keen collectors from around the world.

Membership is only offered to those who meet the Association's strict membership criteria, regarding experience, quality of art and antiques and knowledge of their field.

New for this year, is the launch of LAPADA Fringe, a celebration of Mayfair's vibrant culture created by

world famous establishments from The Connaught to Cartier.

The fair is in the heart of Mayfair, known globally for its rich heritage, luxury retail, neighbouring art galleries, restaurants, hotels and private members clubs. The fair benefits from its proximity to these establishments, with visitors spending well over £10m across the week.

The entrance to the fair, which will run from 23-27 October, is on the north end of Berkeley Square, opposite Phillips Auction House. www.lapada.org





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NEW CAST FOR GUYS & DOLLS

Nicholas Hytner's multi-award winning, immersive production, *Guys & Dolls* is booking until 4 January next year. At the beginning of September, the show will welcome Gina Beck and Michael Simkins in the roles of Sarah Brown, and Arvide Abernathy.

THIS IS LONDON spoke to Gina and Michael about their roles, and what makes this staging of *Guys & Dolls* special.

How does it feel to be in one of the most famous musicals of all time?

GB: Absolutely wonderful, I've auditioned for the show 4 times for different productions and I feel that fate saved the best production till last to finally give me the gig.

MS: Thrilling. I saw the show back in January and found it a sensational experience, which only enhanced my joy when I was offered the part. *Guys & Dolls* is in any case one of the greatest of Broadway musicals, and this new version reveals it afresh in all its original glory. Although to be surrounded by such prodigious talent onstage on all sides can sometimes be a little daunting. It really is a remarkable production.

How does *The Bridge* differ from other venues you've performed in?

GB: It's such an amazing space. So modern and versatile. I was a little

daunted by performing in the round but it's actually incredibly freeing and comforting to have the audience supporting you from every side.

MS: It has the intimacy of a normal playhouse while simultaneously offering an impressive, NT-type experience. The fact that the auditorium is so flexible means that productions can be staged in every which-way a particular director desires.

The show is immersive, how does that enhance the audiences experience?

GB: You can feel like you are part of the world of *Guys And Dolls* like no other production has done before, you're in the mission, you're on Broadway with the gamblers, you're at the hot box and you're partying in Havana, it's a wild ride!

MS: The immersive element ensures that the audience are truly involved in the action, rather than merely viewing it seated from a collectively single direction. It also means the energy from the cast bounces into the auditorium and is reflected back by the people watching at close quarters. I always advise friends of mine who are intending to come to the show to 'promenade' in amongst the New York cops, street hawkers and bagel salesmen, as the experience is even more vibrant and immediate.

What are the challenges of performing with such dynamic staging?

GB: Making sure everyone has a great experience from every seat, and possibly aiming to not fall off the lifts...

MS: Well, you have to have your wits about you. Performing on a series of interlocking platforms that raise and lower in various combinations means that if you're in the wrong place at the wrong time you could get into all sorts of trouble. Best not for actors who suffer from vertigo!

How does this version differ from previous stagings of *Guys & Dolls*?

MS: In almost every way possible. Normally productions are in a 'proscenium arch' format – eg; the audience are in serried rows of seats all looking in one direction as conventional theatre design usually requires. But in this 360 degree version the audience is everywhere – above you, below, around you on all four sides, and even beside you. And in all directions. It makes for a thrilling ride.

Where's your secret spot in London?

GB: Not so much a secret spot, but a secret activity. My friends and I have taken to doing *Hidden City's* adventure games across London. They are incredible if you're looking for a fun and exciting way to visit parts of London you wouldn't usually.

MS: Not so secret now, thanks to the explosion of interest in open air swimming. But the Parliament Hill Lido in Gospel Oak is my special treasure – a vast, unheated, 60 metre pool, uncrowded even on the hottest of days, and with its crystalline waters offering the chance to overdose on life-enhancing endorphins and swim away the strains and stresses of London Life. It really should be on the NHS. The nation's health would be improved at a stroke...

For tickets telephone 0333 320 0051 or visit www.bridgetheatre.co.uk

2 - 6 October

Angel
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The National Ballet of Canada

Crystal Pite / James Kudelka / Emma Portner

Frontiers:
Choreographers of Canada



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Photo: Karolina Kurasz



Vasco Emauz as Marty McFly & Cory English as Doc Brown in *Back to the Future The Musical*.

Photo: Matt Crockett

BACK TO THE FUTURE NEW CAST AND BOOKING EXTENSION

Lead producer Colin Ingram, together with Robert Zemekis and Bob Gale, creators of the Back To The Future film trilogy, are introducing new cast members to the stage show this autumn. The critically acclaimed Olivier, WhatsOnStage and Broadway World Award-winning Best New Musical, *Back To The Future The Musical* is going into its 4th year this month, having had its opening night in London on 13 September, 2021.

The new cast includes recent graduate Vasco Emauz, who is making his West End debut as 'Marty McFly', Orlando Gibbs as 'George McFly', C.J. Borger as 'Goldie Wilson' and 'Marvin Berry', Alex Runicles as 'Biff Tannen', Talia Palamathanan as 'Jennifer Parker', Ellis Kirk as alternate 'Marty McFly' and Liam McHugh as 'Dave McFly'.

They are joined by returning cast members Cory English as 'Doctor Emmett Brown', Sarah Goggin as 'Lorraine Baines', Lee Ormsby as 'Strickland' and alternate 'Doctor Emmett Brown' and Patricia Wilkins as 'Linda McFly'.

The Original Cast Recording, released

on Sony Music's Masterworks Broadway label, is now available and has had over 20 million streams. It features the new music by multi-Grammy Award-winners Alan Silvestri and Glen Ballard alongside classic songs from the movie including *The Power of Love* and *Johnny B Goode*.

Sony Masterworks Broadway recently released a Deluxe Edition of the Original Cast Recording both digitally and as a 2-CD set. The Deluxe Edition includes 13 never-before-heard demos, alternate and early versions of many of the show's major numbers, most performed by Glen Ballard himself.

The productions in London and Manchester have so far been seen by over 1.5 million people and the musical has broken box office records at the Adelphi Theatre.

Marty McFly is a rock 'n' roll teenager who is accidentally transported back to 1955 in a time-travelling DeLorean, invented by his friend, Dr Emmett Brown. But, before he can return to 1985, Marty must make sure his high school-aged parents fall in love in order to save his own existence.

BackToTheFutureMusical.com
Booking line 0203 925 2998.

A RAISIN IN THE SUN

Groundbreaking and challenging, Lorraine Hansberry's *A Raisin in the Sun* broke barriers as the first play by a black woman on Broadway. This classic family drama full of humour and heart remains relevant and powerful in a world still divided by inequality. Now the pioneering theatre company, Headlong, is to present a fresh new staging of *A Raisin in the Sun* by director Tinuke Craig. The new production will play nationwide from 13 September, arriving at Lyric Hammersmith Theatre on 8 October until 2 November.

In a rented apartment on Chicago's South Side, the Younger family is full of hope, dreams, grief, and big plans. Their beloved father has died, and the money from his life insurance policy could change their lives. Mama wants to put down roots in a home of her own. Her



Solomon Israel plays Walter Lee in Headlong's *A Raisin in the Sun*.

daughter Beneatha has her heart set on becoming a doctor. But her son Walter Lee thinks the money is his to spend — and he's willing to sacrifice his values and his family to get what he wants. Each must face what it means to escape the confines of a segregated society. How do you create a meaningful life in a world designed to keep you down?

Director Tinuke Craig said: 'It is a privilege to once again work alongside the creative powerhouse that is Headlong in their 50th year after collaborating on *Jitney* in 2021.'

Tickets from lyric.co.uk

TINA – THE TINA TURNER MUSICAL

The hit West End production TINA – THE TINA TURNER MUSICAL which is based on the life of legendary artist Tina Turner and was produced in association with Tina Turner herself has welcomed a new cast in addition to Karis Anderson and Zoe Birkett who share the role of Tina Turner and Rolan Bell as Ike Turner.

Mark Anderson continues as Record Producer Phil Spector and Lyricist Terry Britten, as does Jonathan Carlton as record company Marketing Manager Erwin Bach. Grace Wylde joins to play Tina's sister Alline Bullock, Irene Myrtle Forrester continues as Tina's Grandmother, GG and Daniel Haswell joins as Tina's father Richard Bullock.

The show is a global success with 8 productions having opened worldwide since 2018 and a new UK and Ireland tour beginning March 2025. Developed in London together with Tina Turner, the critically acclaimed production received its world premiere in April 2018 and has subsequently broken all Box Office records at the Aldwych Theatre.

Discover the heart and soul behind the Queen of Rock 'n' Roll at Tina – The Tina Turner Musical, the undeniable mega hit in London's West End. Set to the pulse-pounding soundtrack of her most beloved hits, experience Tina Turner's triumphant story live on stage as this exhilarating celebration reveals the woman that dared to dream fiercely, shatter barriers, and conquer the world – against all odds.

www.tinathemusical.com



Photo: Matt Crockett

Zoe Birkett



Photos: Manuel Harlan

HARRY POTTER AND THE CURSED CHILD CELEBRATES 8 YEARS

Harry Potter and the Cursed Child celebrated its 8th anniversary at London's Palace Theatre last month. Produced by Sonia Friedman Productions, Colin Callender and Harry Potter Theatrical Productions, Harry Potter and the Cursed Child has now been seen by over 1.7 million people in the West End and over 11 million worldwide.

There have been 2740 performances of Part One and Part Two combined, totaling 6432 hours of performance from the 46 strong London cast.

Over the last eight years, 256 cast members have performed in the original London two-part multi award-winning production at the Palace Theatre along with 215 people who have worked backstage to continue to bring Harry Potter and the Cursed Child to life each performance.

Writer Jack Thorne said 'Making Harry Potter and the Cursed Child was a beautiful experience, working with John and our talented creative team and cast has been a wonderful journey. It really has been a team effort from every person involved in the show, and we are all proud to still be here 8 years on'.

Director John Tiffany added 'We have been on an incredible journey over the last 8 years, from opening the original production at the Palace Theatre in 2016 to taking the show to audiences

worldwide. We have collaborated with many wonderful artists over the years, both on and off stage, all of whom have worked tirelessly to bring Harry Potter and the Cursed Child to our fantastic audiences each and every performance'.

19 years after Harry, Ron, and Hermione saved the wizarding world, they're back on a most extraordinary new adventure – this time, joined by a brave new generation that has only just arrived at the legendary Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry. Prepare for spectacular spells, a mind-blowing race through time, and an epic battle to stop mysterious forces, all while the future hangs in the balance.

Box Office Tel: 0330 333 4813 or visit www.harrypottertheplay.com





The National Ballet of Canada – Angels' Atlas by Crystal Pite © Karolina Kuras

THE NATIONAL BALLET OF CANADA RETURNS TO SADLER'S WELLS

The National Ballet of Canada is to present the UK premiere of *Frontiers: Choreographers of Canada* at Sadler's Wells from Wednesday 2 to Sunday 6 October. This triple bill includes works by three leading choreographers hailing from Canada: Crystal Pite's *Angels' Atlas*, Emma Portner's *islands* and James Kudelka's *Passion*.

Founded by Celia Franca in 1951, the company is renowned for its diverse repertoire ranging from traditional ballets to contemporary work. The company encourages the creation of new ballets as well as the development of Canadian choreographers. They return to Sadler's Wells for the first time since 2013 when they presented Alexei Ratmansky's *Romeo and Juliet*.

Hope Muir, Artistic Director of The National Ballet of Canada said: '*Sadler's Wells was my home theatre for several years, and it is exciting to be returning with The National Ballet of Canada in the capacity of Artistic Director. I have a unique relationship to the theatre as Rambert was the first company to*

perform there after the rebuild in 1998 and I feel that I developed as an artist and performer on that stage. It will always feel like a creative home to me, and I am thrilled to be coming back with our extraordinary company.'

Acclaimed choreographer and Sadler's Wells Associate Artist Crystal Pite presents her much anticipated work *Angels' Atlas*, created especially for the company, which originally premiered in Toronto in 2020. The Dora Award-winning ballet unfolds against a morphing wall of light that carries the illusion of depth and a sense of the natural world. The dancing body becomes a sign of humanity's limitations within a vast, unknowable world. The ballet is set to original music by Owen Belton and choral pieces by Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky and Morten Lauridsen.

In a choreographic career spanning three decades, Pite has created more than 50 works for dance companies in Canada and around the world. She made her Royal Ballet choreographic debut in the 2016/17 Season with the Olivier Award-winning *Flight Pattern*. In 2022, *Light of Passage* was the Royal Ballet's

first full-length work by a female choreographer in almost 30 years.

Emma Portner's islands is a sculptural duet for two women in which the dancers are joined, fusing their bodies together as one. The work is set to an eclectic compilation of music by contemporary artists and original music by Forest Swords, bringing together hip-hop, dub, guitar loops and electronic sampling for a rhythmic, avant-garde sound. Portner created *islands* for the Norwegian National Ballet in 2020, this was her debut as a ballet choreographer, and in the following commissions she has continued to challenge the conventions of the artform. Portner is on track to create five ballets by her 30th birthday in November of this year. She has made dances for Justin Bieber, collaborated with Michelle Dorrance, and worked on the West End musical *Bat Out of Hell*.

James Kudelka's abstract ballet *Passion* which he created for Houston Ballet in 2013 is a love story set to the first movement of Ludwig van Beethoven's *Concerto for Piano in D, Op. 61a*. Two couples each stylistically unique – one classical, the other contemporary – weave within the corps-de-ballet, evoking complex relationships of passion. Kudelka has choreographed for many of the world's leading ballet companies and was Artistic Director of The National Ballet of Canada from 1996 to 2005. During his tenure, Kudelka became renowned for his distinctive versions of classical ballets including *The Nutcracker* and *Cinderella* which continue to be signature works of the company.

Further information and tickets from the box office on 020 7863 8000 or at www.sadlerswells.com

LONDON CITY BALLET

Now on its inaugural tour, London City Ballet has a new company of fourteen internationally renowned dancers, representing nine nationalities. The Resurgence tour will visit Cambridge, Cheltenham, Windsor, York, and Sadler's Wells in London (from September 11-14) as well as stops at the Joyce theatre in New York, Portugal and China.

The dancers will perform pieces from Resurgence, a programme of acclaimed works. Ashley Page's Larina Waltz, will mark the ballet's 30th anniversary, while Five Dances is a new work premiering from Olivier award-winner Arielle Smith. Completing the programme will be Eve, a full company work by Christopher Marney, which premiered at Sadler's Wells in 2022, and the revival of Kenneth MacMillan's 1972 one-act ballet Ballade, unseen in Europe for over 50 years.

WAYNE MCGREGOR KNIGHTHOOD IN BIRTHDAY HONOURS LIST

His Majesty The King has appointed Wayne McGregor CBE a Knighthood in this year's Birthday Honours List for his pioneering contribution to the field of dance.

Choreographer and director Sir Wayne McGregor CBE is internationally renowned for progressive innovations in performance that have radically redefined dance in the modern era. Driven by an insatiable curiosity about movement and its creative potentials, his experiments have led him into collaborative dialogue with an array of artistic forms, scientific disciplines, and technological interventions. The startling and multi-dimensional works resulting from these interactions have ensured McGregor's position at the cutting edge of contemporary arts for over thirty years.

Since 2006, Wayne McGregor has been Resident Choreographer at the Royal Ballet, the first choreographer from a contemporary dance background to be invited into the role.



Álvaro Madrigal and Jimin Kim dancing 'Five Dances' by Arielle Smith. Photo: ASH


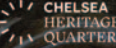
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Photo: Julian Guidera

A CELEBRATION OF QUEEN MARY II WITH CHAPEL CHOIR OF THE ROYAL HOSPITAL CHELSEA

The Chapel Choirs of the Royal Hospital Chelsea and the Old Royal Naval College combine forces in an historic celebration of the life of Queen Mary II. Their concert (26 September, 19.00), part of the 2024 Chelsea History Festival, is a return visit to Chelsea following a critically acclaimed first joint concert earlier this year in Greenwich. The performance will take place at The Wren Chapel, SW3.

Instrumental in the founding of the Old Royal Naval College in 1692, now the home of Trinity Laban, Queen Mary was on the throne when the Royal Hospital opened its doors to its Chelsea Pensioners that same year. The link between Greenwich and Chelsea is Sir Christopher Wren, the genius who created these unique havens for Army and Navy Veterans 300 years ago.

The choirs, accompanied by the renowned instrumental forces of the Brandenburg Baroque Soloists, will perform a captivating selection of music written by John Blow and Henry Purcell for Queen Mary's coronation, birth, and funeral; we also hear George Frideric Handel's Utrecht Te Deum,

written for her successor to the English throne, Queen Anne (1665-1714).

The concert will last approximately 100 minutes, including interval. Tickets, priced at £40 (box seats) £30 (pew seats), which include an interval drinks reception in the Great Hall, are online at www.chelseaheritagequarter.co.uk or by telephoning 0131 226 0014.

BIRMINGHAM ROYAL BALLET AT SADLER'S WELLS

Birmingham Royal Ballet is to perform *Luna*, a powerful and moving new ballet, at Sadler's Wells from 22-23 October. Five female choreographers from around the world take inspiration from the pioneering women of Birmingham. Each tells a story tackling universal themes through sweeping dramatic movement and intense, intimate moments of darkness and light.

'It's not about the individual but the thematic interpretation of how much those women had to overcome and swim against a tide' explains Caroline Davis, Birmingham Royal Ballet's *Luna* producer.

'The starting-point was – what does a contemporary female Lunar Society look like in our city? It was at that point that I was reminded of Louise Palfreyman's book *Once Upon a Time in Birmingham: Women Who Dare to Dream* which is on my daughter's bookshelf and handed that to Carlos and said 'why don't we think about this in this respect?' and that is how everything evolved.

'That book was crowdsourced by the people of Birmingham and it was put together by a young panel of women who then chose 30 women for the book. Those are the women that we've then put in front of the creative team we are working with, and they have interpreted that in their own manner.

Each choreographer has responded in their own way to those stories, highlighting themes of community, strength and overcoming difficulties rather than focusing on individual women's experiences.

Wubkje Kuinderserma, from the

Netherlands, has created the first piece, *Terra*, which features a chorus of local children alongside the dancers and looks towards the future. British choreographer Seeta Patel's *Daring to Dream Big* looks at how women have harnessed education to foster progress. Overcoming Adversity by Thais Suárez from Cuba is a *pas de deux* which explores how women cross barriers to move forwards.

The production also includes British choreographer Arielle Smith's *Empowerment* in which a group of women support and lift each other. In Spanish choreographer Iratxe Ansa's *The Light*, a single woman battles against a group of faceless dancers to rise above the crowd.



And, by the finale, *Luna*, created by Wubkje, the moon and the themes have come full circle and return to the ideal of a future full of hope for the women and children of tomorrow.

This autumn also brings Sir Frederick Ashton's *La Fille mal gardée* (*The Wayward Daughter*), the sunniest and funniest of ballets, back to the Sadler's Wells stage (25-26 October). Mixing spectacular classical ballet with slick comedy, a clog-dancing dame and a super-cute pony, as well as live music by the Royal Ballet Sinfonia, this is sure to be fantastic entertainment for you, your friends, and all your family.

Tickets for both shows are available at www.sadlerswells.com or www.brbl.org.uk

17 - 19 Oct

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Manuel Liñán

¡VIVA!



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SADLERSWELLS **Peacock**



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Photography by Marcos G Panto



FIDDLER ON THE ROOF

Regent's Park Open Air Theatre

On any short list of classic musicals that have stood the test of time, *Fiddler on the Roof* invariably makes the cut. While the fashion for revivals nowadays leans towards new renderings of the original, not every story needs re-imagining and *Fiddler on the Roof* is one of them.

Regent's Park Open Air Theatre has a new summer production of *Fiddler on the Roof* which remains poignant and authentic, with a wonderfully evocative set, complete with virtuosic fiddler, Raphael Papo, who claims the stage in a thrilling duet with Chava (Hannah Bristow), and joins a fistful of strong performances from a large cast headed by Adam Dannheisser.

The setting is 1905 in the tiny village of Anatevka, where Jewish milkman, Tevye, lives his life by his community's

proud traditions. For his five daughters, that means a visit from the matchmaker... But, against the backdrop of a changing world, as each daughter challenges his beliefs and makes life choices away from the traditional, can Tevye hold on to his roots, or must he bend to the will of his children and learn to embrace a new order?

Some of the themes echo the world of today but this is a powerful yet subtle version of *Fiddler on the Roof*, already extended by a week in September, so the public are clearly in harmony with the ambition of the piece. Directed by Jordan Fein, the show features the famous songs 'If I Were A Rich Man', 'Tradition', 'Matchmaker' and 'Sunrise, Sunset'.

A haunting drama, full of joy and beautifully presented at the Open Air Theatre. *Jemma Court*

NEW UK-JAPAN COLLABORATION

Umeda Arts Theater is to present two new UK-Japan collaboration projects featuring Japanese writers and directors at Charing Cross Theatre in October. The world premiere of *One Small Step*, an original work written and directed by Takuya Kato, plays from 27 September to 9 October. Meanwhile *Tattooer*, written by Takuya Kaneshima, inspired by the short story, *Shisei*, by Junichiro Tanizaki and directed by Hogara Kawai will open in Tokyo, Japan in September before coming to London for its UK premiere from 14–26 October.

One Small Step is an original play by Takuya Kato, a prolific young Japanese playwright and director, developed in Japan and the UK through workshops and readings with UK artists.



Takashi and Narumi are a married couple, working for a major contractor on a project to migrate humans to the Moon, where a city is being established where humanity's ideal new life can begin. But they suddenly encounter an unexpected setback to their plans...

Writer/director Takuya Kato said: '*One Small Step* might appear to be futuristic but in reality it's the story of a future that's already nearly here. It's also a story that raises important questions about the roles of the mother and motherhood, which is an issue that working couples all over the world face in their private lives. I'm very excited to be able to develop this new piece in the UK and explore that the differences between our two cultures are more similar than we may think.'



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WickedTheMusical.co.uk

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BRITISH ART FAIR

British Art Fair presents a showcase of the very best Modern and Contemporary British Art for sale.

The 2024 fair at Saatchi Gallery (26 to 29 September) is set to showcase the greatest names in British Art, such as Albert Irvin, David Hockney, Bridget Riley, Frank Auerbach, Alan Davie, Paul Nash, L.S. Lowry, Paula Rego, Barbara Hepworth, Damien Hirst and Tracey Emin, exhibited by the UK's leading

dealers who are on hand to offer their specialist advice on collecting.

The 2024 edition sees the return of SOLO CONTEMPORARY, British Art Fair's contemporary platform curated by artist and gallerist Xavier Ellis for the third year with a focus on Britain's most talented living artists. *'This year will include a selection of the UK's most exciting curators and gallerists offering significant one-person presentations.'* says Xavier Ellis.

Alongside Solo Contemporary, 'PIVOTAL: Digitalism', is a new fair section presenting the very best digital art being created and exhibited in Britain today. Curated by Rebekah Tolley-Georgiou, PIVOTAL will bring together leading artists in the field.

On Friday night, the fair will be open until

21.00 with complimentary drinks provided by Sipsmith and Prime Time Lager. A special event, 'Meet the artists', will be open to all visitors, which provides the opportunity to meet artists and discuss their work in an informal way. As official Charity Partner, WaterAid will auction a selection of works by celebrity artists.

British Art Fair is joined by the Wilhelmina Barns-Graham Trust who will be exhibiting a selection of Barns-Graham's works alongside pieces by six contemporary artists supported by the Trust. The Fair will also see the launch of a book focused on Barns-Graham's 'Glacier' series at 14.00 on Saturday. They will also be offering a new book aimed at children, which looks at the artist's long and productive life.

www.britishartfair.co.uk



Images: Top left: Albert Irvin – Louise 01 – Silkscreen Print.

Bottom left: Wilhelmina Barns-Graham photo courtesy of the Wilhelmina Barns-Graham Trust 2000.

Above: Blond Contemporary: Hockney – Arrival of Spring.



THE TRUTH ABOUT HARRY BECK AT LONDON TRANSPORT MUSEUM

As part of the new strategic vision for London Transport Museum, Director and CEO Elizabeth McKay and the team are to present a brand new play about the designer of the iconic version of the London Tube map, which launches on 14 September at the museum's on-site Cubic Theatre, right in the heart of Covent Garden. Presented by the Natural Theatre Company, *The Truth About Harry Beck*, written and directed by Andy Burden, will play until 10 November, with a national opening night on 18 September, the fiftieth anniversary of Harry Beck's death.

Inspired by the culture and creativity of the West End, the introduction of theatre is one example of how London Transport Museum is expanding its programming for new audiences. Music, performance and even more art and design will allow people to explore London's rich transport history and the influential characters that have shaped London.

For many of us, the London Underground is purely functional. But to Harry Beck, this web of geography became an obsession – a fascination with the creation of the perfect Tube map. How did Beck create the iconic diagrammatic map of today, and at what cost? To understand you need to meet Harry, and his wife Nora.

Take a glimpse inside a journey of passion, a wife's dedication and the living breathing network of the tunnels and train tracks in our capital. Embrace your inner transport enthusiast through a mash up of real-life accounts, uncovered anecdotes and seemingly unconnected facts (...with a peppering of fictitious characters).

Visitors will join The Natural Theatre Company as they take you on a whimsical whirlwind of fact through the worlds of design, transport, modern history, and an addiction to getting it right.



The first pocket edition of the Underground map by Harry Beck, January 1933 copyright TIL @ London Transport Museum.

Elizabeth McKay, Director and CEO for London Transport Museum, said: 'The opportunity to introduce this new play about the man behind the famous Tube map was a no-brainer for us. London Transport Museum is a cultural cornerstone in Covent Garden in the heart of theatreland and this play lets you experience one of London's little-known stories in a brand-new live format. We are bringing the capital's rich history and characters alive for you.'

Writer and director Andy Burden said: 'About 16 years ago, I had the idea to put the story of the iconic Tube diagram on stage. I met with Ken Garland, a designer whose book 'Mr Beck's Underground Map' helped bring Harry Beck's story to public attention. He lent me copies of Beck's letters and gave me a small insight into the man. He was a man dedicated to finding the perfect schematic representation of the Underground network. And over a period of nearly 30 years, he worked tirelessly to improve the map, reflecting new stations, new lines and new suggestions from his bosses.'

'Looking through Ken's book, I got obsessed with the map and how he drew it, at one point being fixated on each minute change to its layout. Over 14

years I kept rewriting the play trying to make it work at its best – life it seems was imitating art! The first short run of the play appeared in September 2021 at the Theatre Royal Bath. Sadly, Ken Garland had passed away just months before, so never got to see the play.

'I am so pleased that my play about Harry Beck's story is enhancing the experience at this fabulous museum. It also keeps his name alive and connected to his wonderfully simple creation.'



Harry Beck, 1968, copyright Ken Garland Estate.

London Transport Museum has also released new tickets for its exclusive, award-winning Hidden London guided tours, running up to the end of March. www.ltmuseum.co.uk



Chairs for Human Use with Chair for Spirit Use.

NEW MOCO MUSEUM LONDON

The highly anticipated new gallery, Modern Contemporary (Moco) Museum, will open on 11 September. Esteemed pioneer of performance art, Marina Abramovic, will be headline artist in her solo exhibition, *Healing Frequency*.

Healing Frequency will be a landmark exhibition, featuring twelve works by the Serbian artist. Active for over four decades, Abramovic is a pioneer of performance art. She is famous for works such as *Rhythm Series* (1973–1974); *Works with Ulay* (1976–1988) and, more recently, *The Artist Is Present* (2010).

The show calls on the universal capacity for transformation and healing, with Marina inviting viewers to accept the profound impact of transitory objects on the human soul, and how they impact our mental and emotional experiences.

In a synthesis of global exploration, art and spirituality, the exhibition embodies a joint mission to search the depths of our collective consciousness. As Abramovic herself notes, *‘The power of performance art, after all, lies in its ability to transform not just the artist, but the audience too. The body of the artist is the medium, but so too is that of the observer. Moco understands the importance of direct experience to activate the power of art.’*

In addition to Marina Abramovic’s groundbreaking exhibition, Moco Museum London will showcase a diverse collection of over 120 artworks

by acclaimed artists such as Jean-Michel Basquiat, Kaws, Keith Haring and Jeff Koons. Moco Museum presents original Basquiat works, never before exhibited in London. Visitors may experience the monumental brilliance of Takashi Murakami or the captivating allure of Daniel Arsham’s *Lunar Garden*. You can delve deeper into the local art scene, with captivating works by London-based luminaries such as Chris Levine, Jake Chapman, Hayden Kays, Tracey Emin, and Damien Hirst and explore the world of digital immersive art.

More than an opening, the advent of Moco is an invitation to explore, engage, and encounter art in its exciting forms. For further information and tickets, visit www.mocomuseum.com



Marina Abramovic, Film still from Body of Truth © Indie Film, 2019.

HOLY RELICS – OBJECTS THAT CHANGED THE WORLD

From the gun used to assassinate Archduke Franz Ferdinand, to Lord Byron’s dip pen, renowned photographer Rick Guest documents extraordinary objects that have changed our history and culture in ‘Holy Relics’, to be unveiled for the first time as an exclusive guest exhibition at StART in London this October.

Rick has travelled the world to capture hyper-detailed portraits of objects that have shaped our history across three centuries – from Charles Darwin’s walking cane, to the handwritten work of Dylan Thomas, to Pink Floyd’s iconic *Wish You Were Here* master tape.

Other highlights include the Hofner bass on which Sir Paul McCartney changed the face of music, Ernest Hemingway’s typewriter, Sir Peter Blake’s hand painted bass drumskin used on the cover of The Beatles’ 1967 masterpiece *Sgt Pepper’s Lonely Hearts Club Band*, Sir Henry Moore’s chisels, Charles Dickens’ quill, TS Eliot’s fountain pen, and the original film cans from cinematic masterpieces such as *Apocalypse Now* and *The Deerhunter*.

Moon dust from Apollo 11, Napoleon’s hat abandoned at Waterloo, Lewis Hamilton’s F1 steering wheel from 2020, Beethoven’s death mask, Lucian Freud’s paints, the computer Tim Berners-Lee designed the world wide web on, and the table on which Jane Austen wrote *Pride & Prejudice* and *Sense & Sensibility* also feature.

Through his longstanding relationship with Abbey Road Studios, Rick has produced immaculate portraits of Abbey Road’s irresistibly iconic microphone collection – including those used by The Beatles, Pink Floyd, Fela Kuti and Kate Bush to both define and shift culture.

Composer, producer and son of Sir George Martin, Giles Martin said Rick’s collection ‘perfectly illustrates the role these extraordinary microphones have played in the creation of the music we love. Historic glory, genius, and loss echo throughout this evocative and captivating collection. It is not just an assortment of objects, but a seismic collection of human stories. Guest’s portfolio presents these storied artefacts with the reverence they deserve.’

StART was the first commercial art fair to be held at the Saatchi Gallery and remained there for ten editions. In 2024, the innovative global art fair is relocating to an exciting new space – the Town Hall, King’s Cross – for its 11th edition.

The fair, which takes place from 7-13 October, will be the debut event of the new venue. Town Hall KX.

www.startkx.com

DIVE INTO THE HEART OF THE RIVER THAMES

The River is a revolutionary new sound installation that will plunge museum goers and art lovers into an immersive encounter through audio recorded in the depths of the River Thames, a first-of-its-kind exhibition for the Natural History Museum. Upon entering the dimly-lit gallery, visitors can give over their senses to the all-encompassing sound world of the Thames. The work has been composed specifically for the Museum's Jerwood Gallery and will be presented in close proximity to the river itself.

Recorded by Jana Winderen using specialist underwater hydrophones, the installation will be presented in High-order Ambisonic spatial sound reproduction. From the ambient crackling of gas bubbles at the source by Kemble, the bustling industry of Central London and the sprawling estuary into the North Sea, listeners will experience a huge range of sounds created and heard by aquatic species. These sound environments evolved over millions of years into a finely tuned orchestra of underwater life, but are increasingly disrupted by the imposing noise of human activity, the impact of which we are yet to fully understand.

Jana Winderen is one of the world's leading sound artists. Her compositions and sound installations have been exhibited and performed internationally in renowned institutions and programmes such as the MoMA, New York; the Guggenheim Museum, New York; Wuzhen Contemporary Art Exhibition, China; and the Venice and Thailand Art Biennales.

Blending contemporary art conceptions with vital information concerning the planetary emergency, the Natural History Museum's Jerwood Gallery is one of London's most up-and-coming contemporary arts spaces to connect audiences and artists to the natural world.



Jana Winderen recording the Thames © Trustees of the Natural History Museum.

BRITISH ART FAIR

Modern and Contemporary British Art
BRITISHARTFAIR.CO.UK

26 – 29 September 2024
Saatchi Gallery, London SW3 4RY

HEADLINE PARTNER
POWERHOUSE
CHELSEA WATERFRONT

Artwork: Detail from Albert Irvin OBE RA, 'Louise I', 2002
printed and published by Advanced Graphics London.



Vincent van Gogh Sunflowers, 1889. The Mr. and Mrs. Carroll S. Tyson, Jr., Collection (1963-116-19)
© Philadelphia Museum of Art

VAN GOGH – POETS AND LOVERS

Visitors to the National Gallery can expect to be blown away by Van Gogh's most spectacular paintings in the museum's once-in-a-century exhibition. You will walk with a pair of lovers beneath a starry night. Look up at swirling clouds and cypress trees swaying in the wind. Stay a little while in Van Gogh's favourite park, the 'Poet's Garden', or under a shady tree in Saint-Rémy.

The exhibition, which opens on 14 September, will bring together the most loved of Van Gogh's paintings from across the globe, some of which are rarely seen in public. They will be paired together with his extraordinary drawings.

Over just two years in the south of France, Van Gogh revolutionised his style, in a symphony of poetic colour and texture. The show looks at this time in Arles and Saint-Rémy as a decisive period in his career. His desire to tell stories produced a landscape of poetic imagination and romantic love on an ambitious scale.

There will be the opportunity to see up-close his 'Starry Night over the Rhône' (1888, Musée d'Orsay) and 'The Yellow House' (1888, Van Gogh Museum), as well as the Gallery's own 'Sunflowers' (1888) and 'Van Gogh's Chair' (1889).

LOSING THE IMAGE – KAROLINA ALBRICHT AT JGM GALLERY

Taking its title from Phyllida Barlow's words, 'Losing The Image', Karolina Albricht's second solo exhibition of paintings at JGM Gallery from 10 September encourages its audience to consider paintings as spatial environments, which both evade definition and elicit novel interpretations on each viewing. In Barlow's case, the phrase, 'losing the image', refers to the particular way in which the viewer experiences a three-dimensional object as they move around it.

For Albricht this also opens up an enquiry into what an image means and what is its relationship to the world. This enquiry, as well as the paintings in the exhibition, is informed by her interest in Eastern Orthodox icon paintings, alongside her recent residency in rural Norfolk and the way it reaffirmed Albricht's relationship to nature. Losing The Image traces her shifts in pictorial thinking, the image being progressively questioned and rephrased.

Central to the attraction of Albricht's work, in the words of Jennifer Guerrini-Maraldi (JGM Gallery's Director), is '... an aesthetic and stylistic originality that distinguishes Karolina as an artist of great courage and daring.'

JGM Gallery was founded in 2017 by Australian-born Jennifer Guerrini Maraldi, one of the United Kingdom's leading specialists in Indigenous Australian Art.



Islands by Norman Hyams.

ISLANDS – A SUMMER EXHIBITION

Mayfair's Connolly at 4 Gifford Street, W1, is showing a new exhibition of works titled Islands by artist Norman Hyams, on view until 25 September, organised in collaboration with Freddie Foulkes.

Hyams commenced this body of work in 2022. He is a focussed and committed painter, returning time and again to the same subject matter, seeking within its familiarity an exciting unfamiliarity. As William Feaver wrote on Frank Auerbach in 2009: *'To paint the same head over and over leads to unfamiliarity; eventually you get near the raw truth about it, just as people only blurt out the raw truth in the middle of a family quarrel.'*

The same applies here. Hyams experimenting with all the formal features that painting has to offer (media, composition, form, technique, palette, tone, and light among them) is Hyams recording all he feels in response to his subject matter; it is Hyams getting nearer and nearer the 'raw truth'. The pictures exhibited have been selected from a significantly larger body of work; the artist and gallerist believe that these are nearer the raw truth than any others.

Geography, experience, and imagination are all crucial to our understanding of islands. In many cases the focus of legend and invention, islands, from Atlantis to St. Helena (home to Napoleon's last words), have excited and haunted humanity since the dawn of time; they are intensely loved and intensely loathed, they are desired and rejected, they are minutely scrutinised, yet often perilously misjudged.

SUMMER TOURS AT BUCKINGHAM PALACE AND WINDSOR CASTLE

Buckingham Palace will be open to the public until the end of September for the annual Summer Opening of the State Rooms, where visitors have the opportunity to tour the 19 magnificent rooms used by members of the Royal Family for official entertaining, furnished with some of the finest works of art from the Royal Collection.

The Australian State Coach, usually housed in the Royal Mews, is this year on display in the Palace's Grand Entrance Portico. Given to the late Queen by the people of Australia to mark the Australian Bicentenary in 1988, it is the only royal coach to have an on-board generator, providing electric windows and central heating.



At the Royal Mews, families can also see the spectacular Gold State Coach, which carried their Majesties back to Buckingham Palace from the Abbey on the Coronation Day.

A Royal Day Out ticket combines a visit to the State Rooms with a trip to the Royal Mews, at a discounted price, as well as entrance to the exhibition Royal Portraits: A Century of Photography at The King's Gallery next door.

Throughout September, families can also book an engaging guided tour to the top of the famous Round Tower at Windsor Castle. From a height of 65.5 metres, they can enjoy breath-taking views across the historic Windsor parkland, the London skyline as well as the extent of Windsor Castle. Conquer the Tower Tours run every day until Monday, 30 September, between 10.30 and 15.30.



Peter Packer

Special Great Kitchen Tours during September offer a fascinating insight into Windsor Castle as a working royal palace. The Great Kitchen is the oldest working kitchen in the country, built in the reign of Edward III and in use for over 750 years.

Families can see original fireplaces from the 1360s and hear about the elaborate dinners prepared for successive monarchs. They can learn about how the Great Kitchen is used today for State occasions hosted by The King in this unique guided tour of an area not usually open to the public.

Tours run every day until Monday, 30 September, between 10.30–15.30.

During September, the State Rooms at Buckingham Palace and Windsor Castle are open Thursday to Monday, remaining closed on Tuesdays and Wednesdays. For families, entry to the Palace and Castle is free for under-5s, while children (5–17) go half price and further concessions are available for young people (18–24). Visitors can also convert their tickets into a 1-Year Pass to return for free within a year.

Tickets and visitor information: www.rct.uk or telephone 0303 123 7339.



Photographs © Royal Collection Enterprises Limited 2024 | Royal Collection Trust.



Witness for the Prosecution celebrates its 7th Birthday in October.

WITNESS FOR THE PROSECUTION

County Hall

Some visitors to London manage to book themselves into a tour of the Houses of Parliament. The building is lovely, but if you have ever watched the Members of Parliament on TV, dozing off in their seats whilst the minutiae of modern law-making is thoroughly discussed, you may shy away from that particular experience.

What 'Witness For The Prosecution' offers, therefore, is a thrilling combination of both drama and historic setting. The grand foyer, with its marbled columns, massive corbels and sweeping central staircase is impressive. The 'secret' council chamber (now disused, as the council was disbanded in 1986) is a breathtaking octagonal room of vast proportions, with domed ceiling, red leather seats and oak rails (which make a convenient shelf for a glass of wine.) Now the magnificent set for Agatha Christie's whodunnit, the chamber makes you feel you are in a courtroom. Some of the audience (self-designated!) participate as the jurors.

Jury service in the UK is a public duty and most people enjoy being called up to some degree. However, it would be hard to imagine a real-life case being as interesting as a play. Christie originally wrote 'Witness...' as a short story. It was slight, and only some years later was she persuaded to turn it into a full-length drama for the stage. There is no denying it is a period piece. And yet the bewigged opponents in what turns out to



be a battle for a man's life are not so very different today. There's a judge who doesn't seem to know what a cat brush is. A barrister who is easily taken in by a lady of the night. A jury who are 'bound to think a foreigner is lying'.

Tension builds, as cheeky chappy Leonard (George Jones) looks in imminent danger of being convicted for murder and swinging from a noose. It's all so unfair, because he only became friends with a (rich) older lady after picking her up on Oxford Street when she dropped her parcels crossing the road. She is subsequently the murder victim. But Leonard seems really sweet – naïve even – and 'a bit of a dish', as the barrister's assistant points out. So he could not possibly have done it. Moreover his wife, who could provide an alibi, is a cold, perplexing German and the only other potential witness to the crime is an embittered housekeeper, who stood to inherit the old lady's money before she changed her will in favour of Leonard. An 'open and shut' case?

As with so many whodunnits, the answer seems cut and dried about once in every scene. Then another sentence – gasp – reveals a fact we never anticipated. Like a tennis match, the arguments slam back and forth, sometimes into the back of the court, sometimes right in front of you, but you missed it.

The production may not have to try very hard with its setting – still the acting is nicely tuned, both antique in style and yet modern in substance. At the end of the evening, the man to my left turned to say, 'Did you get it?' I had to admit, no, I didn't guess the answer to this riddle of a play. Agatha Christie outwits us all again.

Sue Webster

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 ALDWYCH THEATRE

TinaTheMusical.com



Design: M.A. Photography: Pavi Dukovic of the Broadway cast



Jason Barnett (*Big Charles*), Kadiif Kirwan (*Cordell*) and Simon-Anthony Rhoden (*Dwayne*) in *The Hot Wing King* at the National Theatre.

Photo: Helen Murray.

THE HOT WING KING

National Theatre

The scene is a fancy modern kitchen (not one island, but two), somewhere in Memphis Tennessee. The doorbell rings. In waltzes Olisa Odele (Isom) with his pigeon chest, limp wrists and strutting gait. He throws a look to the main man, chef Cordell (Kadiif Kirwan) and proceeds to taste Cordell's chicken wings. There's butter and garlic, blueberry, Parmis-shaaan (Parmesan), spicy and so on. In the absence of much dialogue, all we can do is observe Isom's ultra-mobile features to try to gather which he thinks is more brilliant than the others. It's a tense moment, but mainly fraught with hilarity.

What is it about fried, marinated chicken that resonates so deeply with most African nations, not to mention African Americans? The answer is lost in history. But the cultural context makes for a genial drama by Katori Hall, who earned the Pulitzer Prize for *The Hot Wing King* in 2021. (He also won major awards for *Tina: The Tina Turner Musical*.)

Big, handsome, muscular Cordell is determined to win the prize in a cookery competition which could crown him king of certain gourmet chicken wing styles. His friends gather to help him in that quest. Along the way we learn, slowly and sometimes painfully, of his journey from straight family man with two college-age sons, to separated husband and new

partner of Dwayne (Simon Anthony-Rhoden), a besuited, bespectacled hotel manager whom he met in a barber shop and who turned his life upside down.

The play is an emotional rollercoaster, yet manages to be funny and satirical all at once. Why, oh why does Isom decide that the sauce he has been stirring for hours has no flavour? While the other co-opted friends/cooks sneak away from the all-important midnight stove on the eve of the competition to watch a basketball match on TV, Isom casually 'rectifies' the situation by dumping the hottest chili pepper known to man in the pot.

It's rare to hear an audience gasp (loudly) in unison. Who needs sport? If a national team had scored an own goal, the disappointment could not be more keenly felt. And yet Hall's drama is so much more than insular gastronomy. Love, sexuality, parenting, a racialised society, complex relationships and kleptomania all feature in a story which is never certain to have a positive outcome. At the same time, surely the casual-seeming camaraderie on stage which can produce both character comedy and a flawless version of 'Never too Much' as a seamless part of the action means this play is bound to head for the starry climes of the West End hereafter?

Here's to that success.

Sue Webster

MANUEL LIÑÁN ¡VIVA! AT THE PEACOCK THEATRE

Innovative choreographer, director and flamenco dancer, Manuel Liñán is to bring his Oliver Award-nominated show ¡VIVA! to Peacock Theatre from 17-19 October.

First shown in London at Sadler's Wells Theatre for the Flamenco Festival in 2022, the show comes to Peacock Theatre for the first time. The performance showcases a plurality of dances including traditional rhythmic footwork, curving arms and slaps to the thighs such as alegrías, tárantos and bulerías. On stage, there are six bailaoras (dancers) who perform an ode to freedom that defies the traditional gender-normative codes of flamenco.

A trailblazing artist, Manuel Liñán created a new space for himself in the flamenco world, challenging the defined roles of male and female forms, working with leading artists such as Olga Pericet, and guest choreographing for the likes of Ballet Nacional de Espana, Rafaela Carrasco and Teresa Nieto.

His shows have been seen in London before, most recently in 2023 in a celebratory piece called *Gala Flamenca*. He comes back to London with his own vibrant, joyful and exuberant show that celebrates expression and the freedom of being oneself.

Tickets available from 020 7863 8000 or online at www.sadlerswells.com



Manuel Liñán.

Photo: Marcus G Punto



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18th YEAR AT APOLLO VICTORIA THEATRE FOR WICKED

The West End and Broadway musical phenomenon, WICKED, that tells the incredible untold story of the Witches of Oz, is now in its 18th year at London's Apollo Victoria Theatre.

Stephen Schwartz and Winnie Holzman's celebrated musical, based on the novel by Gregory Maguire, imagines a beguiling backstory and future possibilities to the lives of L Frank Baum's beloved characters from 'The Wonderful Wizard of Oz', revealing the decisions and events that shape the destinies of two unlikely university friends on their journey to becoming 'Glinda The Good' and the 'Wicked Witch of the West'.

'One of the most successful musicals of all time' (BBC News) and the winner of more than 100 global awards, Wicked has now been seen by over 65 million people worldwide.

WICKED has also embarked on its countrywide tour, led by Laura Pick (Elphaba) and Sarah O'Connor (Glinda). The spectacular, critically acclaimed touring production is playing in Dublin (until 14 September), Sunderland Empire (24 September to 20 October), Cardiff (24 October to 23 November) and Manchester (3 December to 12 January).

www.wickedthemusical.co.uk

WHY AM I SO SINGLE?

From the multi-award winning writers of SIX the Musical, Toby Marlow and Lucy Moss' all-new, highly anticipated second musical, Why Am I So Single? follows two best friends through the ups, and mostly downs of their dating lives in the era of Tinder (and Bumble and Grindr and Hinge). This very relatable musical comedy is the ultimate show for best mates, serial daters and anyone who's ever wondered why they're so single? The show features a score of original songs by the dynamic writing team of Marlow & Moss. From catchy pop songs that you won't be able to stop singing, hilarious pastiches of well-known musicals, dazzling disco anthems and orchestral epics, Marlow & Moss' score will capture audiences' hearts – and ears – this autumn.

WAITING FOR GODOT

Didi and Gogo wait by a tree for a man named Godot. They don't know who he is, why they are meeting or what time he is coming – only that something incredible could happen when he does... This is the play that changed the rules. Samuel Beckett's Waiting for Godot opens at Theatre Royal Haymarket for a limited run from 13 September.

A stellar cast has been assembled, including Tom Edden who will play Lucky and Jonathan Slinger who will play Pozzo. They join Lucian Msamati as Estragon and Ben Whishaw as Vladimir.

COME ALIVE! THE GREATEST SHOWMAN CIRCUS SPECTACULAR

Come Alive! The Greatest Showman Circus Spectacular is set to open at The Empress Museum in Earls Court, with performances from 23 September.

Audience members are invited to arrive early for the interactive pre-show experience, enjoy close-up performances, curious characters and savour delicious food and drink. They then take their seats in a 700-seat Big Top, where circus meets musical theatre in an epic spectacular, featuring a brand-new story inspired by the 20th Century Fox Motion Picture and featuring all the hit songs by Pasek, and Paul including 'This Is Me', 'Rewrite the Stars', 'A Million Dreams', and more, all set to a brand new story inspired by the 2017 film starring Hugh Jackman.

Come Alive! will feature the finest international circus stars (Cirque de Demain Medal Winners, Cirque du Soleil) and musical theatre talent from the West End. At the helm of the production is Drama Desk award-winning Creative Director Simon Hammerstein. Hammerstein is joined on the creative team by Music Producer and Olivier Award-nominated Matthew Brind and Lead Choreographer Jerry Reeve.

The show is inspired by the 20th Century Fox Motion Picture The Greatest Showman story by Jenny Bicks. It is produced by Outside The Box Amusements and TSG Entertainment.

www.comealiveshow.com



BIRMINGHAM ROYAL BALLET

© Manvir Rai

Director: Carlos Acosta



The creation of *Luna* is possible thanks to the support of Oak Foundation.

Luna

A powerful and moving new ballet

22 & 23 October



Sadler's

Angel
sadlerswells.com

DEATH OF ENGLAND: THE PLAYS

Trilogy of plays (Michael; Delroy; Closing Time) exploring questions of family, identity, class, race, colonialism and even cancel culture in modern Britain. Until 28 Sept. @sohoplace
4 Soho Place, Charing Cross Road, W1

FAWLTY TOWERS – THE PLAY

Nearly 50 years since it first hit British TV screens, the 'greatest British sitcom of all time' (Radio Times) is now a brand-new stage play, adapted by comedy legend John Cleese. Until 28 September.
APOLLO THEATRE
Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (0330 333 4809)

WITNESS FOR THE PROSECUTION

Based in a unique court room setting inside London's County Hall, a landmark production of Agatha Christie's gripping story of justice, passion and betrayal.
COUNTY HALL
Belvedere Road, SE1 (0844 815 7141)

I WISH YOU WELL

Academy Award winner, bone broth drinker and devastating downhill skier Gwyneth Paltrow arrives in a snoozy Utah courtroom to defend her legacy. Four-hander telling the (mostly) true story of the campest trial in history. 11 September – 12 October.
CRITERION THEATRE
218-223 Piccadilly, W1 (020 7839 8811)

THE PLAY THAT GOES WRONG

A Polytechnic amateur drama group are putting on a 1920s murder mystery and everything that can go wrong... does!
DUCHESS THEATRE
Catherine Street, WC2 (0330 333 4810)

SHIFTERS

Fierce new romance by Benedict Lombe. Dre and Des are young, gifted and black. As young lovers, he stayed, she left. Now they come crashing back into each other's lives. Until 12 October.
DUKE OF YORK'S THEATRE
St. Martin's Lane, WC2

BOYS FROM THE BLACKSTUFF

It is 80s Liverpool. Chrissie, Loggo, George, Dixie and Yosser are used to hard work and providing for their families. James Graham's powerful new adaptation of the TV series transfers from the National Theatre.
GARRICK THEATRE
Charing Cross Road, WC2 (0330 333 4811)

JUNO AND THE PAYCOCK

Poetic, poignant and hilarious comedy based in Dublin, 1922, as the Irish Civil War is tearing the nation apart and Juno, a beleaguered matriarch, struggles to make ends meet and keep the family together. 21 September – 23 November.
GIELGUD THEATRE
Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (0344 482 5151)

National Theatre

OLIVIER THEATRE

CORIOLANUS

Unrivaled in the art of war, Coriolanus is Rome's greatest soldier – but when he becomes involved in election for high office, he risks becoming the city's greatest enemy. David Oyelowo returns to the London stage. From 11 September.

LYTTTELTON THEATRE

THE GRAPES OF WRATH

Forced to travel west in search of a promised land, an American family embark on an epic journey to California in search of work and a new life. John Steinbeck's novel reimaged. Until 14 September.

DORFMAN

THE HOT WING KING

Katori Hall's Pulitzer Prize-winning comedy makes its London debut in a fiery new production. Until 14 September.

NATIONAL THEATRE

South Bank, SE1 (020 7452 3000)

SLAVE PLAY

Jeremy O.Harris's extraordinary play about race, identity and sexuality in twenty-first century America. Until 21 September.

DR STRANGELOVE

New stage adaptation of Stanley Kubrick's jet-black comedy masterpiece about a rogue US General who triggers a nuclear crisis. Steve Coogan stars. From 8 October.

NOEL COWARD THEATRE

St. Martin's Lane, WC2 (0344 482 5151)

STRANGER THINGS: THE FIRST SHADOW

Directed by Stephen Daldry, this gripping new adventure will take you back to the beginning of the Stranger Things story – and may hold the key to the end...

PHOENIX THEATRE

Charing Cross Road, WC2 *online booking only*

FAULTY TOWERS THE DINING EXPERIENCE

Inspired by one of Britain's greatest ever comedy series, a 2 hour production is set in a restaurant where the audience are the diners.
PRESIDENT HOTEL
Guilford Street, WC1 (0845 154 4145)

THE MOUSETRAP

Agatha Christie's whodunnit is the longest running play of its kind in the history of British theatre.
ST MARTIN'S THEATRE
West Street, WC2 (0844 499 1515)

WAITING FOR GODOT

Witty and absurd, poignant and profound. Beckett's seminal play is a timeless take on what it means to be human. Lucian Msamati and Ben Whishaw star as two guys waiting by a tree for a man named Godot.
THEATRE ROYAL HAYMARKET
Suffolk Street, SW1 (020 7930 8800)

THE 39 STEPS

Alfred Hitchcock's classic spy thriller, hilariously recreated for the stage, with four actors playing 139 roles, including handsome hero Richard Hannay with his stiff upper lip and pencil moustache. Until 28 September.
TRAFALGAR THEATRE
14 Whitehall, SW1

OEDIPUS

Reimagining of the ancient Greek tragedy starring Mark Strong and Lesley Manville as a politician anticipating a landslide victory on election night and the woman who is his wife – but also his mother. From 4 October.
WYNDHAM'S THEATRE
Charing Cross Road, WC2

MUSICALS**KATHY & STELLA SOLVE A MURDER**

Kathy and Stella host Hull's least successful true crime podcast. Big hearted musical, fresh from a sell-out tour of the North.

THE CURIOUS CASE OF BENJAMIN BUTTON

F Scott Fitzgerald's short story about a boy born old, who grows younger every day, transposed to a Cornish fishing village. Sell-out at Southwark Playhouse. From 10 Oct.
AMBASSADORS THEATRE
West Street, WC2 (0207 395 5405)

BACK TO THE FUTURE

Adventure based on the 1985 blockbuster about a rock'n'roll teenager who is accidentally transported back to 1955 in a time-travelling DeLorean.
ADELPHI THEATRE
Strand, WC2 (020 7557 7300)

TINA – THE TINA TURNER MUSICAL

The untold story of the late Tina Turner, a woman who dared to defy the bounds of her age, gender and race.
ALDWYCH THEATRE
The Aldwych, WC2

WICKED

The West End and Broadway musical phenomenon, which tells the untold story of two unlikely friends' extraordinary adventures in Oz, on their journey to becoming Glinda The Good and the Wicked Witch of the West. APOLLO VICTORIA THEATRE
Wilton Road, SW1 (0333 009 6690)

KISS ME, KATE

With Cole Porter's razor-sharp wit, this 'ultimate Broadway musical from the golden age' (Financial Times) whisks you into a world of backstage chaos and romantic entanglements. Until 14 September. BARBICAN CENTRE
Silk Street, EC2 (020 7638 8891)

GUYS & DOLLS

A new revival of the Broadway classic staged as thrillingly immersive theatre. It has more hit songs, more laughs and more romance than any show ever written. Until 25 January. BRIDGE THEATRE
Potters Fields Park, SE1 (0333 320 0052)

MATILDA

Critically acclaimed Royal Shakespeare Company production of Roald Dahl's book, directed by Matthew Warchus. CAMBRIDGE THEATRE
Earlham Street, WC2

ROCKY HORROR SHOW

Jason Donovan stars as the charismatic Dr Frank-N-Furter in this famous tale of two squeaky clean college kids whose car breaks down outside a creepy mansion... 6-20 September. DOMINION THEATRE
Tottenham Court Road, W1 (020 7927 0900)

WHY AM I SO SINGLE?

Ever asked yourself how you could possibly be single when you're so cool, interesting and fun? That's the situation faced in this new musical from the writers behind 'Six'. Until 13 February. GARRICK THEATRE
Charing Cross Road, WC2 (0330 333 4811)

THE WIZARD OF OZ

Time to join Dorothy, Toto and friends on an unforgettable adventure down the yellow brick road. Featuring the original score from the MGM film, including Over the Rainbow and We're off to see the Wizard. Until 8 September. GILLIAN LYNNE THEATRE
Drury Lane, WC2 (020 3925 2998)

THE PHANTOM OF THE OPERA

Long running epic romance by Andrew Lloyd Webber, set in a Paris opera house where a deformed phantom stalks his prey. HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE
Haymarket, SW1

CABARET

Award-winning revival of Kander and Ebb's iconic musical, featuring the songs Willkommen, Maybe This Time, Money and the title number. KIT KAT CLUB
Northumberland Ave., WC2 (0333 009 6690)

THE LION KING

Disney's phenomenally successful animated film is transformed into a spectacular stage musical. LYCEUM THEATRE
Wellington Street, WC2 (0844 871 3000)

HADESTOWN

Multi-award-winning musical that transports you to the Underworld, with a joyful combination of folk, pop, Dixieland and blues.

THE GRUFFALO

Magical, musical adaptation of the classic picture book by Julia Donaldson and Axel Scheffler. Matinées until 8 September.

LYRIC THEATRE

Shaftesbury Avenue W1 (0330 333 4812)

MAMMA MIA

Hit musical based on the songs of ABBA, set around the story of a mother and daughter on the eve of the daughter's wedding. NOVELLO THEATRE
Alwych, WC2 (0344 482 5151)

MOULIN ROUGE! THE MUSICAL

A world of splendour and romance, of eye-popping excess, of glitz, grandeur and glory. PICCADILLY THEATRE
Denman Street, W1 (0333 009 6690)

MJ THE MUSICAL

Myles Frost, who won a Tony award for his performance as Michael Jackson, heads up a cast delivering iconic songs such as Billie Jean, Beat It and Smooth Criminal. PRINCE EDWARD THEATRE
Old Compton Street, WC2 (0344 482 5151)

THE BOOK OF MORMON

A crude, satirical show telling the story of two young and naive mormon missionaries. PRINCE OF WALES THEATRE
Coventry Street, W1 (0344 482 5151)

A NIGHT WITH JANIS JOPLIN

Fuelled by such unforgettable songs as 'Me and Bobby McGee,' 'Piece of My Heart', and 'Summertime', this is a musical journey celebrating Janis and her biggest musical influences. Until 28 September. SADLER'S WELLS
Rosebery Avenue, EC1 (020 7863 8000)

MEAN GIRLS

Meet The Plastics – Regina, Gretchen and Karen. They rule North Shore High and will burn anyone who gets in their way. Broadway's hilarious hit musical, with iconic characters, razor-sharp wit, and killer songs. SAVOY THEATRE
Strand, WC2 (0333 009 6690)

MRS DOUBTFIRE

Hilarious and heartfelt story about holding onto your loved ones against all odds. SHAFTESBURY THEATRE
Shaftesbury Avenue, WC2

LES MISERABLES

Boublil and Schönberg's legendary musical continues to enthral. SONDEHM THEATRE
Shaftesbury Avenue, WC2 (0344 482 5151)

FROZEN

Disney's fantasy film is brought to life on stage, inspired by Hans Christian Andersen's fairy tale 'The Snow Queen'. Until 8 September. THEATRE ROYAL
Drury Lane, WC2

FANTASTICALLY GREAT WOMEN WHO CHANGED THE WORLD

Pop-fuelled, upbeat hit, starring some of history's greatest icons, from explorers to artists and scientist to secret agents. Until 8 September.

CAKE: THE MARIE ANTOINETTE PLAYLIST

Brand new musical/gig/ballet, retelling a story that sparked a revolution in 18th century France. 13 September – 10 November.

THE OTHER PALACE

12 Palace Street, SW1 (020 7592 0302)

SIX THE MUSICAL

Tudor Queens meet Pop Princesses in a musical depiction of the six wives of Henry VIII. VAUDEVILLE THEATRE
Strand, WC2 (0330 333 4814)

HAMILTON

Lin-Manuel Miranda's multi award-winning musical, based on one of America's Founding Fathers, Alexander Hamilton. VICTORIA PALACE THEATRE
Victoria Street, SW1 (0344 482 5151)



THE 2024 VITALITY LONDON 10,000

This month, 20,000 people will take part in the 2024 Vitality London 10,000 on 22 September to celebrate the friendships and relationships they have made through running. This year's event is a celebration of our running communities – whether they are clubs, informal groups, friends or families.

Among those taking part in the 2024 edition of the Vitality London 10,000 are five-time Olympian Jo Pavey, taking part with Running at 40 Plus, radio DJ Adele Roberts, who will be celebrating the community of people who supported her during her recovery from bowel cancer, and Scott Mitchell and Tanya Franks, whose friendship developed into a relationship through running following lives impacted by Alzheimer's disease.



CANYON RELEASE OLYMPIC ARTWORK DESIGN

Canyon is one of the most innovative bike brands in the world. The concept began in founder Roman Arnold's garage and grew to be the world's largest direct-to-customer manufacturer of road bikes, mountain bikes, triathlon bikes, gravel bikes, hybrid bikes, and electric bikes.

They have earned their glowing reputation for innovation through consistently using advanced materials, thinking, and technology. The iconic Canyon design is easy to identify. Alongside being boldly competitive and ever-expanding, they are committed to making the global cycling community accessible for every rider.

While Canyon partners with some of the finest athletes on the planet, their mission, 'Inspire to Ride', highlights how they work to promote the power of cycling to everyone.

This summer's Olympic Games saw 40 Canyon riders either aiming for glory, or simply taking their chance to represent their nation and pit themselves against the world's best. Canyon athletes competed in Track cycling, Road cycling, Time Trial, Triathlon and Cross Country mountain biking and each of their bikes was decked out in Canyon's speed of light-inspired 'MACH 874' artwork.

Now, to celebrate their performances, Canyon is releasing three limited-edition designs so you can pay tribute to the heroics of your favourite riders.



The MACH 874 design came from Canyon's creative director Ultan Coyle who took the inspiration of Paris as the city of light together with the high-speed performances of the athletes to create a speed-of-light inspired design, otherwise known as MACH874.

Each bike was designed with a prism colourway on the forks and a deep blue/grey base colour with silver accents and an iridescent Canyon logo that changes colour as light hits it.

Canyon products are exclusively available online at www.canyon.com



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