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MAYOR OF LONDON



What's New | August 2016

London's summer season will be packed with blockbuster exhibitions, world-class performing arts and much more. Please read on for our highlights...

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Entertainment

The Seagull

National Theatre, 3 August – 3 September 2016

On a summer's day in a makeshift theatre by a lake, Konstantin's cutting-edge new play is performed, changing the lives of everyone involved forever. Chekhov's masterly meditation on how the old take revenge on the young is both comic and tragic, and marks the birth of the modern stage. For more information contact abanerjee@nationaltheatre.org.uk

Film4 Summer Screen

Somerset House, 4 - 17 August 2016

London's ground-breaking open-air film festival returns with a prestigious programme of contemporary classics, popular favourites and premieres of forthcoming releases. Projected on London's largest outdoor screen in full surround sound, there will be special on-stage introductions from the stars at selected screenings and sundown DJ sets before the films begin. This year's line-up includes films like Ex Machina, Sunset Boulevard and Funny Face. For more information contact press@somersethouse.org.uk

Horrible Histories – The Best of Barmy Britain

Apollo Theatre, 9 August – 3 September 2016

It's time to prepare yourselves for a special production of Horrible Histories featuring your favourite characters from our barmy past to celebrate the 5th Anniversary of Barmy Britain in the West End. Could you beat battling Boudicca? Will King John be a martyr for the Magna Carta? Will you lose your heart or your head to Henry VIII? For more information contact office@birminghamstage.com

946 - The Amazing Story of Adolphus Tips

Shakespeare's Globe, 11 August – 11 September 2016

Based on Michael Morpurgo's novel The Amazing Story of Adolphus Tips, 946 explodes everything we thought we knew about the D-Day landings, using music, puppetry and foolishness to tell this tale of war, prejudice and love. Tender, political and surprisingly romantic, this story speaks to us all and finally reveals the secrets the US and British governments tried to keep quiet. For more information contact imogen.g@shakespearesglobe.com

Jungle Book

Southbank Centre, 13 - 28 August 2016

Rudyard Kipling's classic tale is brought crashing into the 21st century with street dance and circus. This spectacular new production from Metta Theatre features beat-boxing bin man Baloo, graffiti artist Bagheera and a skateboarding Wolf crew. Audiences can venture into the jungle for a heart-warming coming-of-age story. For more information contact press@southbankcentre.co.uk

Groundhog Day

Old Vic Theatre, 16 August - 17 September 2016

Groundhog Day is the story of Phil Connors, a cynical Pittsburgh TV weatherman who is sent to cover the annual Groundhog Day event in the isolated small town of Punxsutawney, Pennsylvania, when he finds himself caught in a time loop, forced to repeat the same day again and again. As each day plays out exactly the same as before Phil becomes increasingly despondent, will he ever unlock the secret and break the cycle? Director Matthew Warchus, composer and lyricist Tim Minchin, choreographer Peter Darling and designer Rob Howell, four of the creators of the international sensation Matilda The Musical, have joined forces with writer Danny Rubin to collaborate on this new musical based on his 1993 hit film. For more information contact jo@joallanpr.com

Prom 44: Shakespeare on Stage and Screen

Royal Albert Hall, 18 August 2016

This transatlantic Prom presents a range of Shakespeare's characters as reflected on stage and screen – from Joby Talbot's ballet The Winter's Tale to Bernstein's West Side Story and Cole Porter's Kiss Me Kate – and features an all-British first half and a second half devoted to American musicals, conducted by the US-born Keith Lockhart. For more information contact rickb@royalalberthall.com

South West Four

Clapham Common, 27 - 28 August 2016

Enjoy the return of South West Four on Clapham Common this bank holiday weekend. With newly-announced headliners, Rudimental, joining the likes of The Chemical Brothers and DJ EZ, this will be one weekend not to forget. Grab some well-needed bank holiday sunshine and dance the night away in South London with South West Four. For more information contact press@locknloadevents.com

Waiting for Waiting for Godot

St. James Theatre, 30 August - 24 September 2016

Following two understudies as they wait for their surely inevitable turn in the spotlight, Dave Hanson's side-splitting off-Broadway comedy Waiting for Waiting for Godot receives its European premiere at the St James Studio. Set backstage at a production of Samuel Beckett's absurdist play, two hapless stand-ins fill in the time waiting for their turn on-stage. Directed by Mark Bell, the critically acclaimed director of the Olivier Award-winning The Play That Goes Wrong, Waiting for Waiting for Godot plays for a hysterically funny four-week run. For more information contact julia@stjamestheatre.co.uk

The Entertainer

The Garrick Theatre, 20 August – 12 November 2016

Archie Rice, played by Kenneth Branagh, is a pathetic music-hall performer who is as much a failure in his domestic life as he is at his comedy act. Blending the fading world of British music hall with a domestic family drama, the play uses song, music and dance to tell the bitter-sweet story of Archie and the explosive examination of public masks and private torment. For more information contact: info@thecornershoppr.com

Events & Activities

Ship Shape Saturdays: Signals at SeaHMS Belfast, Saturdays in August 2016

Hop on board HMS Belfast for Ship Shape Saturdays and learn how to become a member of the ship's crew and find out how the Royal Navy signal from ship to ship using lights, codes and flags. This immersive activity will give everyone the opportunity to experience many different ways that messages can be sent in secret and understood by only those who should know. For more information contact rcampbell@iwm.org.uk

London at Night

Guildhall Library, 3 August 2016

Many people over the centuries have been fascinated by London at night. Even in the twenty-first century, London after dark has lost none of its charm and intrigue. In a talk to accompany his exhibition of photographs, Simon Gregor (artist-in-residence at Guildhall Library) will share some of his experiences of photographing London at night, and the stories behind the images. He will also reflect more generally on the links between the photographic image and the time and place in which it was created. For more information contact **Andrew.Buckingham@cityoflondon.gov.uk**

Caught By the River Thames

Fulham Palace, 6 – 7 August 2016

Caught by the River Thames is a remarkable new music, arts and nature festival. Bringing together a gathering of bands and brewers, authors and artists, thinkers and drinkers, Caught by the River Thames will be part gig, part literary gathering and part nature symposium. It will unearth archival London audio-history and provide poetry in the total serenity of a Victorian chapel; play host to jump-up party music from the four corners of the world while holding a low-impact, locally sourced Ten Mile Beer Festival. For more information contact info@caughtbytheriver.net

Visions Festival

Across the borough of Hackney, 6 August 2016

Now in its fourth year, Visions brings Hackney a big dose of creative fun this summer. The promoters have earned their reputation for booking up-and-coming artists, with this year's acts including Young Fathers, Anna Calvi, Mykki Blanco and Gengahr. There's also a range of non-musical activity: markets, exhibitions, street food stalls and the like. For more information contact rhian@carryonpress.co.uk

Rio Olympics at Beach East

Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park, 6 - 21 August 2016

Life's a beach once again at the Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park, with over 2,200 square metres of sand deposited at the site for endless sandcastle competitions and balmy evening walks. This year's tropical offering will have a Rio theme in celebration of the Olympics and there will be big screens to watch all the action on. For more information contact press@queenelizabetholympicpark.co.uk

Splash Fest 2016

Battersea Park, 7 August 2016

Splash Fest is set to transform Battersea Park into London's first family-friendly aqua obstacle course. Featuring five zones of water-themed challenges and games over a 2.5km trail – as well as a lively event village – Splash Fest will see families conquering slides, foam, water spouts and more! Organised by the Royal National Lifeboat Institution (RNLI), all profits will go to the lifesaving charity. For more information contact emmajohnston_pr@yahoo.co.uk

River Rat Race

ExCeL Centre, 13 August 2016

Round up your mates and get ready to swim, crawl, jump, slide and laugh your way around the wettest obstacle race in the UK. Be one of the 1000's of Rat Racers who tackle over 35 obstacles including a 50ft water slide, giant inflatables and the biggest water jump in any UK race. This is a totally unique challenge in London's Docklands achievable by anyone with a sense of adventure and a sense of humour. For more information contact events@ratrace.com

Notting Hill Carnival

Notting Hill, 28 – 29 August 2016

The streets of West London come alive every August Bank Holiday weekend as London celebrates Europe's biggest street festival – the Notting Hill Carnival. With a Caribbean theme that sees West London packed with steel bands, Calypso music and tempting food stalls, the Notting Hill Carnival is a huge party. Expect a sea of colour as amazing floats and costumed performers wind their way through the streets of London. Whether you want to join in the fun or simply watch the crowds go by, don't miss the chance to be part of one of London's biggest and best annual events. For more information contact press@Inhcet.com

Accommodation, Food & Drink

Gin Festival London 2016

Tobacco Dock, 26 – 28 August 2016

Over 100 different gins including new gins, new producers and a variety of entertainment will be on offer over the festival. You'll also be able to try an exclusive new gin, Tarquins "Single Estate Tea" Gin, made especially for Gin Festival. Throughout the event there will be talks from gin industry experts, food available to buy and chit chat with other gin lovers. For more information contact <code>jess@ginfestival.com</code>

StreetXo

Mayfair, opening summer 2016

David Munoz, chef and creator of Madrid's three Michelin starred DiverXo is bringing his street-food inspired spot StreetXo to London. The focal point of the restaurant will be the open kitchen with chefs front and centre, serving up a rolling menu of tapas-style sharing plates, inspired by the chef's Spanish heritage and travels around South-East Asia. Be sure to look out for the trolley laden with one-off creations circulating the room. For more information follow them on Twitter @StreetXoLondon

Magpie

Location TBC, opening summer 2016

The actual location is still under wraps, but the restaurant will be in central London. With around 30 dishes on the menu, each from £3 to £12, diners will be able to pick what they want as they're wheeled around the room. Elizabeth Allen, will create small plates influenced by Japanese dim sum, including chicken heart popcorn with hot sauce, koji-grilled corn, mussels with miso and beef dripping toast and duck rillettes with sourdough and nukazuke pickles.

Carve

London Bridge, opening summer 2016

The unique licensed carvery will serve high-protein meals in the form of 'carvepots', from breakfast through to dinner. Impeccably sourced fish, meat and vegetarian options are hand carved, pulled and prepped by experts on customerfacing carving podiums, and served with spices, rice, relishes and roots. Creative all-day combinations include smoked pork leg with apple slaw, crème fraiche, piquillo peppers and pineapple ketchup; roasted tofu with sesame seed crust, tamari, ginger and turmeric root; or salmon gravlax with leeks, fennel, radish, chopped egg, dill and mustard. For more information follow them on Twitter @CarveCity

About London & Partners

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Media Enquiries: London & Partners Media & PR TeamTel: +44 (0)20 7234 5710Switch: +44 (0)20 7234 5800

Email: press@londonandpartners.com





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