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MAYOR OF LONDON

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What's New in London | April 2017

London is packed with blockbuster exhibitions, world-class performances, and brand new openings. Please read on for our highlights...

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New Openings

Ocean Invaders

SEA LIFE London Aquarium, 1 April 2017

Discover the fascinating world of jellyfish at this new experience. Move through three interactive spaces, which allow you to explore the lifecycle and survival skills of jellyfish, distinguish the most dangerous from the most spectacular and even create your own digital swarm, so you can test the strength of the feared jellyfish sting. Also experience a jaw-dropping spectacle as you're completely surrounded by a jellyfish invasion in the 'Wow' area, making this the largest jellyfish facility in the UK. For more information contact

kara.gaughan@stripecommunications.com

Exhibitions

Giacomo Balla: Works from the Biagiotti Cigna Collection

The Estorick Collection, 5 April – 25 June 2017

'The Biagiotti Cigna Collection' is one of the largest collections of works by Futurist painter Giacomo Balla. Assembled by renowned Italian fashion designer Laura Biagiotti and her husband, the collection comprises over two hundred works that represents the artist's life, spanning forty-seven years. The display will feature figurative paintings and drawings, abstract and applied art, as well as many of Balla's fashion-related designs. For more information contact alison@alisonwrightpr.com

Queer British Art

Tate Britain, 5 April - 1 October 2017

Marking the fiftieth anniversary of the decriminalisation of male homosexuality in England and Wales, this will be the first major exhibition in Britain to focus on queer British art. Covering a pivotal period of time where attitudes towards gender and sexuality radically changed, explore how is expressed in art. The exhibition includes works from Oscar Wilde, Dora Carrington and Francis Bacon and many more, as well as personal photographs and ephemera. For more information contact daisy.taylor@tate.org.uk

Game Changers: Another Way to Play

Terrace Rooms, Somerset House, 7 April – 7 May 2017

This exhibition will examine how designers and artists have continuously adapted familiar games, in imaginative ways. Using three popular game varieties; billiards, chess and mazes, it will demonstrate how games are constantly reinvented and transformed over time, with the help of new technologies. Exciting new works by contemporary artists will be showcased alongside archival material and imagery, so visitors will be able to see the transformation of their favourite games. For more information contact press@somersetshouse.org.uk

Chris Ofili; Weaving Magic

The National Gallery, 26 April – 28 August 2017

Turner Prize-winning artist, Chris Ofili presents his new work, which is his first exploration with the medium of tapestry. Ofili has been working closely with master weavers to see his design translated into a hand-woven tapestry. The imagery reflects his ongoing interest in classical mythology and contemporary 'demigods', together with the stories, magic and colour of the Trinidadian landscape he inhabits. For more information contact press@ng-london.org.uk

Russian Revolution: Hope, Tragedy, Myths

The British Library, 27 April – 29 August 2017

This exhibition will re-examine the Russian Revolution, focusing on the experiences of ordinary Russians living through extraordinary times. Key characters, such as the last Tsar and Lenin will be examined alongside the political events of the period. Focussing mainly on the events of the Revolution and its immediate aftermath, the story will be told through posters, maps, postcards, letters, and much more, displayed alongside 3D items on loan from other institutions. For more information contact elsie.king@bl.uk

Sergey Ponomarev: A Lens on Syria

IWM London, 27 April – 3 September 2017

Reflecting the ongoing conflict and crisis in Syria, this exhibition will feature photographs by Russian documentary photographer Sergey Ponomarev. Discover a range of colour prints and digital media that evoke the harsh reality in the Middle East, including two award-winning series of work created in association with the New York Times. This exhibition will sit alongside 'Syria: Story of a Conflict', a display which explores in more detail the origins, escalations and impact of the conflict. For more information contact efry@iwm.org.uk

Entertainment**Carousel**

London Coliseum, 7 April – 13 May 2017

Rodgers and Hammerstein's iconic musical comes to London in a semi-staged production starring Alfie Boe and Katherine Jenkins. Presented with Michael Linnet and Michael Grade with English National Opera, viewers will be swept up in the tale of Billy Bigelow, who returns to earth fifteen years after taking his own life. For more information contact mediaenquiries@eno.org

Betroffenheit

Sadler's Wells, 11 – 12 April 2017

Following a premiere in spring last year, this production, created by Crystal Pite and Jonathon Young, returns to London. The performance evokes the state of shock and bewilderment that one feels in the wake of a disaster and draws on themes of loss, trauma, addiction and recovery. Blurring the boundaries of theatre and dance, it is a highly creative and inventive piece, co-created by Kidd Pivot and Electric Company Theatre. For more information contact jolene.dyke@sadlerswells.com

Sadler's Wells Family Weekend - Aracaladanza

Sadler's Wells, 14 – 15 April 2017

Put together especially for children and their families, enjoy a special programme of performances, workshops, games and arts and crafts activities. Multi-award winning company 'Aracaladanza' will perform 'Vuelos', a show that evokes Leonardo da Vinci's quest to make man fly. For more information contact eugenie.dunster@sadlerswells.com

Breakin' Convention '17

Sadler's Wells, 29 – 30 April 2017

This acclaimed international festival of hip hop dance theatre returns for its fourteenth year, with performances from UK and international companies. Curated and hosted by Associate Artist Jonzi D, who has been influential in the development of the British hip hop and dance theatre scene over the last two decades, enjoy participatory activities before the show and during the interval, and see the foyer transformed with live DJs, freestyle dance jams, graffiti exhibitions, workshops from top artists and live aerosol art. For more information contact jolene.dyke@sadlerswells.com

Events & Activities**Now Play This**

New Wing, Somerset House, 7 – 9 April 2017

This event marks the opening of a month-long celebration of games and play, coinciding with city-wide initiative, the London Games Festival. There are plenty of exciting activities to choose enjoy, from two-player board games to interactive multiplayer installations, a post-apocalyptic mini-golf course on the River Terrace or even a

game of ping-pong on a table that creates art while you play, this event is guaranteed fun for everyone. For more information contact press@somersetshouse.org.uk

Rendez-Vous 2017 Tall Ships Regatta

Greenwich, 13 – 16 April 2017

Greenwich will host the start of the 'Sail Training International Rendez-Vous Tall Ships Regatta' to Quebec, marking the 150th anniversary of the Canadian Confederation. See some of the world's largest ships anchored at two sites, The Maritime Greenwich UNESCO World Heritage Site and the Royal Arsenal Riverside in Woolwich, and enjoy a huge Parade of Sail on the final day, with 40 Tall Ships and a number of smaller Class C and D ships sailing down the Thames in convoy. For more information contact laura@showponyevents.co.uk

Secrets of the Underground

London Transport Museum Depot, Acton, 22 – 23 April 2017

Transport enthusiasts and families can enjoy a rare opportunity to explore this working Museum Depot, which holds over 320,000 artefacts from London's transport history. The weekend programme includes a series of themed talks, interactive displays, tours and fun activities, as well as a behind the scenes look at Crossrail and a ride on a miniature railway. For more information contact press.office@ltmuseum.co.uk

St. George's Day Festival

Borough Market, 23rd April 2017

Celebrate England's national day at London's oldest food market, which will include a visit from some Catalonian traders, marking the fact that St. George is the Patron Saint of both regions. The market will be filled with sounds and smells of both cultures, with traders creating special themed products during the day. You can also enjoy a chef demonstration kitchen, creating a range of delicious traditional dishes with a modern day twist. For more information contact ellie@boroughmarket.org.uk

New Restaurants

Radici

30 Almeida Street, 4 April 2017

Celebrated chef Francesco Mazzei will open this authentic and traditional trattoria, inspired by his heritage and the cuisine of Southern Italy. The seasonal menu will offer a carefully selected range of charcuterie and cheeses, as well as Mazzei's favourite childhood dishes. Enjoy eggless pasta with Southern Italian lamb, pork and beef ragu, or be tempted instead by the fresh, wood-fired pizzas. For more information contact carolinac@danddlondon.com

Maple & Kings

Pancras Square, Kings Cross, 7 April 2017

Healthy eating hits North London, as the team behind 'Maple and Fitz' open their second London venue. Offering the same extensive breakfast and lunch menu each weekday, you can also enjoy a brand new healthy brunch menu on weekends. With gluten-free snacks, cold pressed juices and their famous smoothies, there's no harm in indulging here. For more information contact alice@bacchus-pr.com

Tratra

2 – 4 Boundary Street, 28 April 2017

French chef Stéphane Reynaud opens this new restaurant, in the revamped basement of Shoreditch's Boundary hotel. With an emphasis on charcuterie and meat, expect regional cuisine with a personal touch, inspired both by Reynaud's childhood, growing up in the Ardèche region, as well as his family of pig farmers, where he first learnt his flair for butchery. For more information contact fiona@bacchus-pr.com

Monty's Deli

227 – 229 Hoxton Street, April 2017

Once a bustling market stall five years ago and now opening their first permanent home, enjoy Jewish soul food favourites, such as chicken soup and sandwiches packed with home-made, signature salt beef and pastrami. Offering breakfast, lunch and evening menus, bagels and sweet pastries will be baked daily, cured meats will be expertly cured and the pastrami will remind you of the best Jewish delis in New York. For more information contact georgina@fraser-communications.co.uk

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