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What's New | July 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

American Idiot

Arts Theatre, 8 July – 13 September 2016

The X Factor's Amelia Lily and double platinum selling artist Newton Faulkner star in the Tony Award-winning Green Day-inspired rock musical American Idiot, returns to the Arts Theatre. Subsequent to a hugely successful 2015 run at the West End venue and a smash-hit 2016 UK tour, the sounds of "Boulevard of Broken Dreams", "21 Guns" and "Wake Me Up When September Ends" will once again have audiences rocking for a strictly limited run, with Faulkner and Lily continuing in their roles. Packed with many of Green Day's greatest hits, the punk band's music scores three young boyhood friends, seeking a place in a world still feeling the shockwaves of the events of 9/11. For more information contact natalie@made.travel

Summer Series at Somerset House

Somerset House, 7 – 17 July 2016

London's intimate live music festival, set in the picturesque courtyard of Somerset House, will play host to an eclectic and world-class array of headline artists alongside a selection of hotly-tipped emerging acts. Grammy Award-nominated Hiatus Kaiyote will open the Summer Series. The festival brings an array of global acts to London, featuring French musician St Germain and Italian-English singer-songwriter Jack Savoretti. Joining the diverse festival line-up this year are Mercury Prize-winning Benjamin Clementine, duo Paul Heaton and Jacqui Abbott, Everything Everything and Caravan Palace. For more information contact juliebland@familypr.co.uk

Groundhog Day

Old Vic Theatre, 11 July – 17 September 2016

Old Vic Artistic Director Matthew Warchus helms the world premiere staging of a musical based on the 1993 film, with a book by original screenwriter Danny Rubin, and music and lyrics by Tim Minchin. Andy Karl plays arrogant Pittsburgh TV weatherman Phil Connors, who is forced to repeat the same day again and again after he is sent to cover the annual Groundhog Day event in Punxsutawney, Pennsylvania. For more information contact office@joallanpr.com

Impossible

Noel Coward Theatre, 13 July – 27 August 2016

Fusing death-defying stunts, technological trickery, grand stage illusions and close-up magic in a fast-paced breath-taking performance, the show reinvents the biggest illusions in history. For more information contact david.bloom@target-live.co.uk

Ragnar Kjartansson- The Visitors

Barbican Centre, 14 July - 4 September 2016

If you missed one of the standout shows of 2015, the Vinyl Factory's presentation of Ragnar Kjartansson sensational musical installation, The Visitors, fear not as you'll be able to experience it at the Barbican's summer exhibition, dedicated to the young Icelandic artist who has brought fun back to art. For his recent show at Palais de Tokyo, he transformed the galleries into living entities where the lines between fact and fiction were blurred. He's been the crooner

of a big band, become a captain of a boat, and dressed up as a knight. For more information contact press@barbican.org.uk

BBC Proms 2016

Royal Albert Hall, 15 July – 10 September 2016

Each year the BBC Proms host two months of concerts, including the famous Last Night performances, world premieres of contemporary works and shows by a diverse range of artists. In a continuing effort to promote artists from across the musical spectrum, the Proms continues to welcome singers and artists from various genres; as well as classical favourites. For more information contact caitlin.benedict@bbc.co.uk

The Bodyguard

The Dominion Theatre, 15 July 2016 - 7 January 2017

Based on the 1992 blockbuster film which starred Whitney Houston and Kevin Costner, this sassy romantic thriller includes the hit songs I Will Always Love You, One Moment in Time, Queen of the Night, Saving All My Love and I Wanna Dance With Somebody. British soul singer Beverley Knight takes on the role of Rachel Marron, a music superstar who, after receiving threats from an unknown stalker, hires Frank Farmer, a former secret service agent, as a bodyguard with whom she unexpectedly falls in love. For more information contact amy@rawpr.co.uk

Jesus Christ Superstar

Open Air Theatre, Regent's Park, 15 July – 27 August 2016

Celebrating 45 years since Tim Rice and Andrew Lloyd Webber's seminal musical first hit the stage, Jesus Christ Superstar returns to London in a powerful new production directed by Timothy Sheader. With a legendary score including I Don't Know How to Love Him, Gethsemane and Superstar, and musical direction by Tom Deering and choreography by Drew McOnie, experience epic storytelling in the remarkable surroundings of Regent's Park Open Air Theatre. For more information contact morag.sb@openairtheatre.com

Vamos Cuba!

Sadler's Wells, 26 July - 21 August 2016

From the creators of the smash-hit dance sensation Havana Rakatan comes Vamos Cuba! the spectacular new summer show from acclaimed Cuban choreographer Nilda Guerra. The show is set in the crazy chaos of Havana airport, where families are parted, lovers reunited, and time flies when you're having fun. In a place of new beginnings and old romances, where reality calls and dreams take flight, we experience the joys and vibrancy of Cuban life with all the passion and humour that embodies the Cuban spirit. For more information contact eugenie.dunster@sadlerswells.com

Activities and Events

Art Night 2016

Various locations across London, 2 July 2016

Follow a trail of art from Admiralty Arch to Temple for the all-night arts festival Art Night organised by Unlimited Productions. As night falls, head to a disused Jubilee line platform in Charing Cross Underground station for Koo Jeong's multi-sensory installation. Catch live performances at Somerset House and Southwark Cathedral, as well as in a luxury flat on the Strand and on the Duke of York Steps at the ICA. Watch videos by Cecilia Bengolea projected on Covent Garden's East Piazza after dark and more. For more information contact press@ica.org.uk

Big Dance Week 2016

Various locations across London, 2 – 10 July 2016

Big Dance Week returns in 2016 with special projects like Big Dance Shorts, a touring Big Dance Bus and Big Dance events in local areas of London. One of the stand-out events of minutes of choreography at home and take part in numerous performances across London. For more information contact info@bigdance.org.uk

Sherlock Holmes: The Experience

Madame Tussaud's, opening 15 July 2016

Sherlock Holmes: The Experience will invite visitors to enter the mysterious world of Sherlock Holmes in a walk through adventure staged in the atmospheric basement of the Marylebone attraction. Visitors get to 'don' the great detective's deerstalker to help Dr Watson find the enigmatic Sherlock. The gripping journey will transport visitors to some of the most famous places and moments from the popular stories – including the detective's eclectic drawing room, along lamp lit Victorian streets, to the dark moors where the infamous 'demon' hound lurks and finally to an unforgettably dramatic 'watery' conclusion. For more information contact enora.le-goff@merlinentertainments.biz

Star Wars Celebration

ExCeL Centre, 15 - 17 July 2016

Star Wars Celebration is the ultimate four-day Star Wars fan experience filled with entertainment, celebrity appearances, stage shows, panels, interactive events, screenings and exclusive Star Wars first looks and sneak peeks. From seasoned saga veterans to young Padawan learners, there's something for everyone at Star Wars Celebration. Attendees relive favorite Star Wars memories with great friends while making new memories and new friends too. For more information contact starwarsinquiry@reedexpo.com

London Anniversary Games

Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park, 22 – 23 July 2016

World record holder Usain Bolt will grace the track at the London Anniversary Games, along with many of the world's best athletes and Paralympic stars such as David Weir, Jonnie Peacock and Hannah Cockroft, before they head to Rio for the Olympic and Paralympic Games. As the ultimate finale to the summer season you can expect a host of electrifying performances from Bolt and many more global stars, as this will be the last opportunity for athletes to put the finishing touches on their preparations for the Olympic stage. For more information contact gburrell@britishathletics.org.uk

Archikids Festival

Various locations across London, 23 – 24 July 2016

Let your kids run riot in the Square Mile at a festival that hopes to turn five-to-eleven-year olds into 'architectives'. Some of the City's most iconic buildings are opening to families once again in 2016 for workshops and activities that will help children explore aspects of design and construction. For more information contact archikids@open-city.org.uk

RideLondon

Various locations, 30 – 31 July 2016

The Mayor of London's 2016 RideLondon festival of cycling will take place over the weekend of 30-31 July 2016 with the 100-mile sportive on Sunday 31 July. RideLondon is the world's greatest festival of cycling with more than 95,000 riders participating in five separate events: the RideLondon FreeCycle, the RideLondon Grand Prix, the RideLondon-Surrey 100, the RideLondon Handcycle Classic and the RideLondon-Surrey Classic. Find out more at www.RideLondon.co.uk or contact pennyd@ridelondon.co.uk

Exhibitions

Real to Reel: A Century of War Movies

IWM, 1 July 2016 – 8 January 2017

To mark the 100th anniversary of the release of the original blockbuster, The Battle of the Somme, this immersive new exhibition will explore how film-makers have found inspiration from war's inherent drama to translate stories of love and loss, fear and courage, triumph and tragedy into movies for the big screen. Discover personal stories and surviving wartime artefacts alongside film industry props, scripts and set designs from classics including Apocalypse Now, Battle of Britain, Das Boot, Casablanca, Jarhead, Saving Private Ryan, Atonement and War Horse, among many more, to reveal how box-office hits can offer surprising perspectives on war. For more information contact

hthompson@iwm.org.uk

David Hockney RA: 77 Portraits, 2 Still Lives

Royal Academy, 2 July – 2 October 2016

Embracing portraiture with a renewed creative vigour, Hockney offers an intimate snapshot of the LA art world and the people who have crossed his path over the last two years. His subjects – all friends, family and acquaintances – include office staff, fellow artists, curators and gallerists such as John Baldessari and Larry Gagosian. Each work is the same size, showing his sitter in the same chair, against the same vivid blue background and all were painted in the same time frame of three days. Yet Hockney's virtuoso paint handling allows their differing personalities to leap off the canvas with warmth and immediacy. For more information contact press.office@royalacademy.org.uk

Georgia O'Keeffe

Tate Modern, 6 July – 30 October 2016

The summer of 2016 brings the first large-scale, monographic show of Georgia O'Keeffe's work, a founding figure of American modernism, to the UK for more than twenty years. This ambitious and wide-ranging overview will reassess O'Keeffe's place in the canon of modern art, charting her progression from early abstract experiments to late work. The serialised, increasingly economic and stylised paintings of the southwestern locations called the 'Black Place' and the 'White Place', will be at the heart of the exhibition. For more information contact ruth.findlay@tate.org.uk

Fire! Fire!

Museum of London, 23 July 2016 – 17 April 2017

350 years ago one of the most infamous disasters struck London – the Great Fire of London. Discover the city before, during and after the blaze in this interactive family exhibition. Find out how the fire started and spread, and discover the personal stories of the people who were there at the time. View rarely seen artefacts from 1666, compare modern and contemporary firefighting techniques and learn how the city we know today rose from the ashes. For more information contact ljackson@museumoflondon.org.uk

Fashioning a Reign: 90 Years of Style from The Queen's Wardrobe

Buckingham Palace, 23 July - 2 October 2016

Constituting the largest display of The Queen's dress ever mounted, this exhibition will chart significant events in The Queen's life and the nation's history through an unprecedented collection of dress, jewellery and accessories designed for these occasions, from childhood to the present day. The Queen's support of British couture and millinery will be highlighted through important pieces created for a world stage by renowned designers, including Sir Norman Hartnell, Sir Hardy Amies and Ian Thomas. For more information contact press@royalcollection.org.uk

Summer Science Exhibition 2016

Royal Society, 4 – 10 July 2016

A stone's throw from London's Trafalgar Square, at its home on Carlton House Terrace, the Royal Society will be highlighting the diversity of scientific ingenuity and creativity in the UK. This year there are 22 exhibits with something for everyone to explore and enjoy. For curious kids and families discover the secret life of birds and quiz dare-devil

scientists who investigate erupting volcanoes. For tech fans there's a surgical robot that learns from medical data to help surgeons operate with precision. Space fans can speak to researchers who now know more about the big bang than ever before, explore a galaxy in virtual reality, and find out why there's so much junk in space and what we can do to clean it up. For more information contact press@royalsociety.org

Restaurants

Carnaby Street Eat

Carnaby Street, opening 23 July 2016

Carnaby's best restaurants, bars and cafés will bring their dishes and concepts out onto the streets with food stalls and trucks serving small bites and delicious signature dishes. Stalls include Dirty Bones, Señor Ceviche, Crumbs & Doilies, Pizza Pilgrims, The Detox Kitchen, Whyte & Brown, Shoryu Carnaby, Tapas Brindisa Soho, Cha Cha Moon, Rosa's Thai Café and Dehesa. Enjoy free entry to the festival, £5 taster dishes and on-the-day offers from over 30 global cuisines alongside live music, entertainment and a series of experiential cooking demos. For more information contact beth@sisterpr.com

Casita Andina

Soho, opening 28 July 2016

After heading east for his last two ventures, Martin Morales is coming back to Soho for his next. On their (entirely gluten-free) menu, diners can expect huacatay marinated lamb with heritage Peruvian potatoes, sustainable black king fish with rocoto tiger's milk and pickled pineapple, king prawns with coriander quinoa chicharrones and a dessert of melt-in-the-middle Peruvian chocolate pudding. The restaurant will seat 58 and feature a ceviche counter, a pisco bar and a patio for alfresco dining. For more information follow them [@AndinaLondon](https://twitter.com/AndinaLondon)

Hanger

Fulham, opening summer 2016

Hanger, a self-styled "steak and liquor bar", will take over two floors. Expect hanger steak supplied daily by Hixson's of Smithfield at around £10 per person. Menu highlights include Hanger Steak Sandwich, served with sticky onions, watercress, mustard and ciabatta. Adding to that, there are small plates and sides such as salt and vinegar squid. For more information follow them on Twitter [@hanger_sw6](https://twitter.com/hanger_sw6)

The Other Room

Bethnal Green, opening summer 2016

From the owners of the Bermondsey Arts Club comes a 40-cover bar serving 50 different beers and Californian-inspired food. Beer-lovers can expect different brews from all over the world and from various breweries in London. For more information follow them [@OtherRoomBar](https://twitter.com/OtherRoomBar)

Samarkand

Fitzrovia, opening summer 2016

Uzbeki restaurant Samarkand will be run by native Sanjar Nabiev. A new venture from the owner of Michelin-starred restaurants Pied à Terre and L'Autre Pied, the restaurant will offer traditional and contemporary Uzbeki fare in a premium setting. For more information follow them on Twitter [@DCL_Leisure](https://twitter.com/DCL_Leisure)

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