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What's New in London | August 2017

Autumn is coming up and London's cultural calendar is once again jammed-pack with activities for everyone. Please read on for our highlights...

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New openings

The Bridge Theatre

Tower Bridge, Opens 18 October 2017

Founded by the London Theatre Company, The Bridge is a brand-new 900-seat adaptable theatre space that will focus on new writing and adaptations of classic plays. The venue will focus on contemporary theatre work, showcasing productions with ambitious staging formats and new technology. It will be the first full-scale theatre to be built in London in 80 years. Productions that are scheduled to take place include, Young Marx, Julius Caesar and Nightfall. For more information, contact Janine Shalom on janine.shalom@premiercomms.com

Exhibitions

Reflections; Van Eyck and the Pre-Raphaelites

National Gallery, 4 October 2017 – 2 April 2018

Jan van Eyck's Arnolfini Portrait (1434) was one of the beacons by which the Pre-Raphaelite Brotherhood took its stylistic bearings in forging a radical new style of painting. The exhibition will examine early responses to the technique and style of the painting, and draws attention to the different ways in which the Pre-Raphaelite artists responded to the Arnolfini Portrait. For more information, contact press@ng-london.org.uk

Hassan Hajjaj: La Caravane, Somerset House

National Gallery, 5 October 2017 – 7 January 2018

This upcoming exhibition of the British-Moroccan artist Hassan Hajjaj will showcase his vibrant fusion of contemporary cultures through new and celebrated works. This will be Hajjaj's first solo exhibition in the UK in seven years. For more information, contact press@somersethouse.org.uk

Dalí / Duchamp

Royal Academy of Arts, 7 October 2017 – 7 January 2018

Take another look at two artistic giants: father of conceptual art Marcel Duchamp, and larger-than-life Surrealist Salvador Dalí. This is the first exhibition to throw light on their surprising relationship and its influence on the work of both artists. This original exhibition brings together around 60 works, including some of Dalí's most inspired and technically accomplished paintings and sculptures, and Duchamp's ground-breaking assemblages and readymades. But it will also showcase the less familiar: photographs by Dalí, paintings by Duchamp, correspondence and collaborations between the two artists. For more information, contact

press.office@royalacademy.org.uk

Rebecca Louise Law – Life in Death

Shirley Sherwood Gallery, Kew Gardens, 7 October 2017 – 11 March 2018

Inspired by the intricate beauty of nature and its abundant history at Kew, Rebecca Louise Law is an internationally renowned installation artist based in East London, specialising in artworks made with natural materials, namely flora. She is best known for her installations of thousands of flowers suspended from the ceilings of public spaces, from New York to Melbourne and Berlin. For more information, contact pr@kew.org

Poster Girls

London Transport Museum, 13 October 2017 – Summer 2018

Girl power comes to Covent Garden. A major new exhibition about 20th and 21st century female graphic artists, it will highlight some of the key female artists who have designed for London transport through stunning original posters, letters, ceramics, photographs and more. For more information, contact press.office@ltmuseum.co.uk

Soutine's Portraits: Cooks, Waiters and Bellboys

Courtauld Gallery, 19 October 2017 – 21 January 2018

This upcoming exhibition brings together an outstanding group of portraits by Chaïm Soutine (1893-1943). Soutine was one of the leading painters in Paris in the 1920s and 1930s and was seen by many as the heir to Vincent van Gogh. This major exhibition is the first dedicated to Soutine in the UK in 35 years. For more information, contact courtauld@kallaway.com

Harry Potter: A History of Magic

The British Library, 20 October 2017 – 28 February 2018

Marking the twentieth anniversary of the publication of JK Rowling's first instalment in the Harry Potter series, this exhibition will showcase an extraordinary range of wizarding books, manuscripts and objects, and combine centuries-old British Library treasures with original material from Bloomsbury's and the author's archives. From medieval descriptions of dragons and griffins, to the origins of the Philosopher's Stone, the exhibition will take readers on a journey to the heart of the Harry Potter stories. For more information, contact press@bl.uk

Museums at Night

Across London, 26 – 28 October 2017

Explore art, history and heritage after dark with Museums at Night events across London. Every year, major museums, heritage sites and historic properties open their doors for the biannual nationwide festival. Discover new exhibitions, listen to expert talks and presentations, watch special performances, take torch-lit tours, enjoy live music in historic surroundings, and engage in a range of free and ticketed night-time activities. For more information, contact Nick on nick@culture24.org.uk

Cézanne Portraits

National Portrait Gallery, 26 October 2017 – 11 February 2018

The first exhibition devoted entirely to portraits by Paul Cézanne, widely considered one of the most influential artists of the nineteenth century. This major exhibition will bring together for the first time over 50 of Cézanne's portraits from collections across the world, including works which have never been on public display in the UK. In collaboration with Musée d'Orsay, Paris and National Gallery of Art, Washington DC. For more information, contact Neil on nevans@npg.org.uk

The Currency of Communism

British Museum, 26 October 2017 – May 2018

This exhibition, coinciding with the centenary of the Russian Revolution, explores how communist states radically re-structured their economies to reflect Marxist ideology. The display looks at all aspects of the monetary system, from the coins and banknotes issued by the state, to barter, voucher systems and the black market. For more information, contact Nikki on nelvin@britishmuseum.org

Haim Steinbach

White Cube Mason's Yard, 27 October 2017–20 January 2018

This exhibition will be a solo presentation including a number of new shelf works by Haim Steinbach, an American artist who focuses on mass produced objects in art form, also known as 'readymades'. Steinbach's

practice involves the assembly and presentation of a wide range of readymades, which are brought together to highlight their cultural and aesthetic importance. For more information contact Alex on

alexoneill@whitecube.com

Wildlife Photographer of the Year

Natural History Museum, October 2017

Now in its fifty-second instalment, the Wildlife Photographer of the Year competition provides a showcase for the world's very best nature photography. From intimate portraits to dramatic landscapes, see how photographers' passion for the natural world produces startling images. For more information, contact

press@nhm.ac.uk

Events & Activities

BFI Film Festival

Southbank, 4 – 15 October 2017

Marking its 61st anniversary, The British Film Institute London Film Festival screens more than 300 films, documentaries and shorts from approximately 50 countries. A much-loved feature of the London cultural calendar, last year the Festival saw over 800 filmmakers from across the world take part, whilst the event itself attracted over 22,000 visitors. For more information, contact Mia on mia.farrell@bfi.org.uk

Frieze Week

Regent's Park, 5 – 8 October 2017

Frieze Week features more than 160 of the world's leading galleries. View and buy art from over 1,000 of today's leading artists, and experience the fair's critically acclaimed Frieze Projects and Talks programmes. For more information, contact press@frieze.com

Shades of Nature Autumn festival

Kew Gardens, 7 – 29 October 2017

Kew will be celebrating the shift into Autumn Season with a brand new festival and exhibition that will feature pieces of work by 16 different artists. These will all focus on natural beauty and environmental themes, allowing visitors to appreciate the work as they explore the Royal Botanical Gardens. For more information, contact

pr@kew.org

Dance Umbrella

Across London, 11 – 28 October 2017

Dance Umbrella is London's international dance festival, celebrating 21st century choreography across the capital. Dance Umbrella's mission is to celebrate 21st century choreography through its annual, international London festival, through year-round creative learning opportunities for all ages, and by developing choreographic talent. The aim is to entice audiences, nurture artists, innovate practice, and stimulate interest in the power of the body in motion. For more information contact Laura on laura@thecornershoppr.com

London Literature Festival

Southbank Centre, 13 – 29 October 2017

The London Literature Festival attracts great writers from all over the world each year, for a series of talks, readings, workshops and spoken word performances. For 2017, the festival will host Tom Hanks, Philip Pullman and Annie Leibovitz. It will also feature a live reading of Nelson Mandela's memoirs. For more information, contact Naomi on naomi.burgoyne@southbankcentre.co.uk

Africa on the Square

Trafalgar Square, 14 October 2017

Organised by the Mayor of London for Black History Month 2017, Africa on the Square returns to Trafalgar Square for the fourth year. Expect a range of activities highlighting communities from across the continent, with a fantastic line-up of entertainment including live music and dancing, as well as food stalls, a fashion show and lots of activities for kids. For more information, contact Sarah Dolly on sarah.dolly@london.gov.uk

Entertainment

Saint George and the Dragon

National Theatre, Opens 4 October 2017

Rory Mullarkey makes his National Theatre debut with a drama that draws on the myths that Britain was built on. He'll reimagine the story of George, who slew a dragon and rescued a maiden, into modern day folk tale. The world premiere is directed by National Theatre Associate Lyndsey Turner with design by Rae Smith. For more information, contact Vicky on vkington@nationaltheatre.org.uk

HAIR the Musical

The Vaults, Opens 4 October

HAIR transfers to London, celebrating its 50th anniversary year. The acclaimed Hope Mill Theatre's production of the iconic tribal rock musical directed by Jonathan O'Boyle, transfers to The Vaults. Like a mini Woodstock, from the moment the audience arrive, The Vaults is transformed into a fully immersive 60s venue, with psychedelic innovative design, iconic artwork and hippie flower power. For more information, contact publicity@dgpr.co.uk

Beginning

National Theatre, Opens 5 October 2017

In the early hours of the morning, in the aftermath of a party in north London, two people meet. And nothing will ever be the same for them again. For more information, contact Vicky on vkington@nationaltheatre.org.uk

Young Frankenstein

Garrick Theatre, Opens 10 October

Mel Brooks' quirky musical Young Frankenstein receives its West End premiere at London's Garrick Theatre, opening for a limited season beginning September 2017. Young Frankenstein, the wickedly inspired re-imagining of the Mary Shelley classic, sees Frederick Frankenstein, an esteemed New York brain surgeon and professor, inherit a castle and laboratory in Transylvania from his deranged genius grandfather, Victor Von Frankenstein. For more information, contact press@londontheatre.co.uk

Shiraz with Anoushka Shankar

Barbican Hall, 14 October 2017

The newly premiered Shiraz is a restoration of the silent Indian/British/German co-production. It tells the love story of the 17th-century princess who inspired the construction of the Taj Mahal. Both screenings will be accompanied by a live performance of a specially commissioned score by the Indian composer and sitar player Anoushka Shankar. For more information, contact press@barbican.org.uk

The Lorax

Old Vic, 15 October – 5 November 2017

The irrepressible, big-hearted, moustachioed critter is back. Following rave reviews and an Olivier nomination for Best Entertainment and Family show, Dr. Seuss's The Lorax returns to The Old Vic stage to inspire a whole new audience. Adapted by David Greig and brought to the stage by acclaimed director Max Webster (James and the Giant Peach, To Kill a Mockingbird, Twelfth Night), The Lorax blends theatrical invention, puppetry, songs and zany humour in a timely and vibrant Christmas show with a message for grandparents, parents and children alike. For more information, contact sblakey@theagency.co.uk

Michael Clark Company – to a simple, rock 'n' roll . . . song

Barbican Theatre, 18 – 28 October 2017

Having left elated audiences wanting more last autumn, Michael Clark is back with an extended version of his latest show. The Olivier Award-nominated production features choreography by Barbican Artistic Associate Clark, as well as tributes to Patti Smith and David Bowie. For more information, contact press@barbican.org.uk

Elite Syncopations

Royal Opera House, 18 – 19 October 2017

The Royal Ballet and guest companies dance MacMillan's will be showcasing the one-act ballet Elite Syncopations as part of Kenneth MacMillan: a National Celebration. The show features an upbeat score, and a cast of 12 dances. For more information, contact ashley.woodfield@roh.org.uk

Le Baiser de la fée

Royal Opera House, 18 – 19 October 2017

Scottish Ballet dances Kenneth MacMillan's dark, dreamlike Stravinsky ballet, in a new production designed by Gary Harris as part of Kenneth MacMillan: a National Celebration. Originally composed by Igor Stravinsky in 1928, the narrative of this ballet is based on Hans Christian Andersen's *The Ice Maiden*. For more information, contact ashley.woodfield@roh.org.uk

Jeux

Royal Opera House, 18 – 24 October 2017

As part of Kenneth MacMillan: a National Celebration, The Royal Ballet dances Wayne Eagling's short ballet inspired by MacMillan's re-creation of Nijinsky's lost Debussy work. Created in 1913, this show expands the ballet's original focus on the dangerous games adults play into a compelling meditation on the power and vulnerability of the artist. For more information, contact ashley.woodfield@roh.org.uk

Of Kith and Kin

Bush Theatre, 18 October – 25 November 2017

Daniel and Oliver are about to have their first baby. With their best friend, Priya, acting as surrogate, they've turned the study into a nursery and the bottles are sterilised. All that's missing is the bundle of joy they've been pining for. But when Daniel's chaotic mother gatecrashes the baby shower with a few home truths, the cracks in Daniel and Oliver's relationship begin to show. Are they as ready for this as they think they are? And more importantly, is Priya? For more information, contact laura@thecornershoppr.com

Vamos Cuba!

The Peacock, 24 October – 11 November 2017

The sizzling spectacular from celebrated Cuban choreographer Nilda Guerra returns to London, in a new collaboration with acclaimed director Cal McCrystal, whose work includes *One Man Two Guvnors* and productions with *Cirque du Soleil*. Set in the crazy chaos of Havana airport, *Vamos Cuba!* is an exuberant mix of traditional and modern dance styles including salsa, rumba, cha-cha-cha and reggaeton, with a live band led by Julito Padron and a cast of the hottest dancers Cuba has to offer. For more information, contact Rachel on rachel.mcclure@sadlerswells.com

RULE OF THREE

Lilian Baylis Studio, 24 October – 11 November 2017

RULE OF THREE is a danced performance with both performative and narrative elements. It features American drummer NAH performing live with three dancers, Steven Michel, Julien Josse and Courtney Robertson, recreating the atmosphere of a nightclub combined with the feeling of getting lost in the pages of a book. For more information, contact rachel.mcclure@sadlerswells.com

Song of the Earth

Royal Opera House, 24 October – 1 November 2017

English National Ballet dances MacMillan's powerful exploration of love, loss and renewal, set to Mahler's *Das Lied von der Erde* – part of Kenneth MacMillan: a National Celebration. At its premiere it was acclaimed as a masterpiece, and is claimed to remain one of MacMillan's most powerful and beautiful ballets. For more information contact ashley.woodfield@roh.org.uk

The Judas Tree

Royal Opera House, 24 October – 1 November 2017

The Royal Ballet performs MacMillan's complex and controversial work on guilt and betrayal in a compromised time, as part of Kenneth MacMillan: a National Celebration. Created in 1992, the themes of this production include an exploration of collective guilt, and the violent consequences of a rule of fear. For more information, contact ashley.woodfield@roh.org.uk

Sea of Troubles

Royal Opera House, 26 October – 1 November 2017

As part of Kenneth MacMillan: a National Celebration, Yorke Dance Project performs Kenneth MacMillan's powerful short ballet inspired by Shakespeare's *Hamlet*. An intimate piece, the show includes just six performers who dance to a twentieth century score composed by Webern and Martinů. For more information, contact ashley.woodfield@roh.org.uk

Gloria*Royal Opera House, 26 – 27 October 2017*

Northern Ballet dances MacMillan's powerful evocation of the horrors of war, set to Poulenc and inspired by Vera Brittain's Testament of Youth – part of Kenneth MacMillan: a National Celebration. The piece is inspired by Vera Brittain's autobiography Testament of Youth, which recounts the author's wartime experiences and grief at the loss of her fiancé and brother. For more information contact ashley.woodfield@roh.org.uk

Lucia di Lammermoor*Royal Opera House, 30 October – 27 November 2017*

Lucia di Lammermoor is Donizetti's tragic masterpiece. Walter Scott's novel The Bride of Lammermoor moved the Italian composer greatly with its tale of the tragic consequences of a forced marriage. In the subsequent score he produced not only some of his most beautiful but also his most dramatically potent music. Donizetti's opera of a woman forced to breaking point is conducted by Michele Mariotti with a cast including Lisette Oropesa, Charles Castronovo and Christopher Maltman, in Katie Mitchell's powerful production. If you have any questions please contact ann.richards@roh.org.uk

Restaurants and nightlife**London Restaurant Festival***Across London, 1 – 31 October 2017*

Taking place in 350 restaurants across the city, London Restaurant Festival is the citywide celebration of eating out and the perfect opportunity to try new restaurants. The events showcased at the festival include tasting menus with great British Chefs, restaurant hopping-tours and more. For more information contact Georgina on georgina@fraser-communications.co.uk

London Cocktail Week 2017*Across London, 2 – 8 October 2017*

Join a seven-day cocktail party across the capital as some delicious and colourful creations are served up for London Cocktail Week (LCW). Sample old classics and discover new spirits at the Cocktail Village, which houses pop-up bars from the biggest names on the market to up-and-coming brands, as well as tempting food stalls. Enjoy even more mixes and flavours, immersive experiences and workshops at the London Cocktail Week hub. Make the most of special offers at more than 200 bars, restaurants and pop-ups. Plus, get involved with distillery tours, masterclasses, tastings, food and drink pairings, parties and more during the week-long festival. For more information contact press@drinkup.london

by CHLOE*Covent Garden, opening October 2017*

Autumn 2017 will see the opening of the first overseas site from US-based, plant-based, fast-casual restaurant by CHLOE. in London, marking the popular brand's inaugural international expansion. The Covent Garden, central London-based flagship will seat up to 70 guests, as well as offering grab and go. For more information, contact Lois on lois@anteaterpr.com

Peckham Levels*Peckham, opens October 2017*

Peckham Levels, a new experimental destination housed in a multi-storey car park, will add to the area's food offering with street food traders joining in to serve Peckham's favourites, from Kurdish mezze to California-style breakfasts. In addition, the new space will feature a café, a cocktail bar and craft tap room. For more information, contact Kiera on kiera@peckhamlevels.org

Indian Accent*Mayfair, Opens october 2017*

Following the success of the flagship in New Dheli - currently standing in The World's Best 50 Restaurants list - Indian Accent will be opening a new branch in the heart of London. The establishment will host a menu that has been put together by the group's chef, Manish Mehrotra, exploring progressive ideas in Indian cuisine while maintaining traditional integrity. For more information, contact Mukta on mukta.kapoor@oldworldhospitality.com

Caravan City*City, Opens October 2017*

Part of the Bloomberg Arcade, the newest café in the Caravan chain will serve a fermented and grains section the menu. It will also feature a "shrub station", where customers can create their own drinks should they wish to. There will also be a brunch menu on offer. For more information, contact becky@caravanrestaurants.co.uk

Giggling Squid*Wimbledon, Opens October 2017*

The Thai tapas chain will be opening a new establishment in the heart of Wimbledon, their first restaurant in the UK to feature in London. The new diner will continue with its signature dishes, as well including a new special menu just for children. For more information, contact geo@avocadomedia.co.uk

Parsons*Covent Garden, Opens October 2017*

From the creators of The Ten Cases in Covent Garden comes a new seafood restaurant that offers a great wine list with equally great food to choose from. The venue will offer a classic selection of dishes to choose from, including smoked fish, scallops and langoustines. For more information, contact ance@10cases.co.uk

Smoking Goat*Shoreditch, Opens October 2017*

The Thai barbecue establishment will be opening its doors in Shoreditch this Autumn. The new building will offer lots of space, seating around 100 customers. The chefs will be experimenting with a Thai variant of char siu, roasted in custom charcoal and wood burning pots. There will only be 3-4 dishes on the menu at a time, but these are likely to change daily and will always include at least one or two seafood dishes. For more information, contact Nadia on nadia@smokinggoatsoho.com

The Coal Shed*Tower Bridge, Opens October 2017*

Following its debut in Brighton, this sustainable meat and fish restaurant will be opening its doors in the new One Tower Bridge development. The menu will feature range of 35-day dry-aged Scottish steaks that'll be cooked on hot coals, as well as a selection of smaller dishes to choose from. For more information, contact Eliza on eliza@samphirecommunications.com

Sabor*Mayfair, Opens October 2017*

Nieves Barragan will be opening her first restaurant in Mayfair that will focus on traditional Spanish cuisine such as tapas and seafood. The menu will include a focus on speciality dishes such as octopus and roast suckling pig. There will also be a separate bar that will open alongside the dining area, which will serve a selection of sherries, txakolis, vermouths, beers and wines. For more information, follow Nieves on Twitter at twitter.com/NievesBarragan1

Killer Tomato*Portobello Road, Opens October 2017*

After the success of the flagship establishment in Shepherd's Bush, Portobello Road will be gaining a new burrito and taco diner. The menu will feature pork belly burritos, house-made hot sauces and cheeseburger tacos. For more information, contact info@killertomato.co.uk

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