

LONDON & PARTNERS

What's New in London | May

This May, London has plenty of activities and events for visitors to experience. Read on for our highlights...

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Anniversaries

250th Anniversary of the Royal Academy of Arts

Royal Academy of Arts, opens 19 May 2018

The RA was founded in 1768, making 2018 its 250th anniversary. To celebrate, the venue will have an expanded exhibition programme and new, free displays of art and architecture for visitors to explore all year-round. Founded by Sir William Chambers, the Academy prides itself on promoting the practice of art, sharing a strong belief that all artists are changing the world. For more information, contact

press.office@royalacademy.org.uk

Exhibitions

Into the Light: Photography and Abstract Art

Tate Modern, 2 May – 14 October 2018

This exhibition explores the relationship between the birth of abstract art and the invention of photography. It spans from 1910 to the present day, displaying the innovation and originality of photographers over this period while highlighting how they responded and contributed to the development of abstraction. *Into the Light* will feature works from Paul Strand, László Moholy-Nagy, Man Ray and more. For more information, contact pressoffice@tate.org.uk

Ghulam Mohammed

Grosvenor Gallery, 9 – 29 May 2018

Ghulam Mohammed will be debuting his first solo show in London at the Grosvenor Gallery, in association

with Canvas Gallery, Karachi. The artist has trained in traditional miniature painting techniques in Pakistan and creates incredibly delicate collage works. For more information, contact art@grosvenorgallery.com

Azzedine Alaïa: The Couturier

Design Museum, 10 May – 7 October 2018

Azzedine Alaïa was recognised throughout his life as a master couturier, who was known for using unique styles of cuts, tailoring, fit and materials within his fashion designs. The exhibition will present more than 60 examples of Alaïa's craft from the past 35 years that reflect his outstanding career. For more information, contact media@designmuseum.org

London Nights

Museum of London, 11 May – 11 November 2018

The Museum of London's next major exhibition, *London Nights*, will explore the city after dark through both contemporary and historic imagery, ranging from the late 19th century to the present day. From the unexplored to the imagined, from Soho to Sydenham, the city at night reveals itself moment by moment from the mundane to the beguiling or even alarming. For more information, contact lbates@museumoflondon.org.uk

Sublime Symmetry

Guildhall Art Gallery, 11 May – 28 October 2018

William De Morgan has been described as the most intriguing and inventive ceramic designer of the late Victorian period. *Sublime Symmetry* will showcase some of his finest ceramics, featuring complex and groundbreaking designs that are influenced by fantastical beasts and floral imagery. For more information, contact andrew.buckingham@cityoflondon.gov.uk

The Future Starts Here

V&A Museum, 12 May – 4 November 2018

This exhibition will explore the power of design in shaping the world of tomorrow. From smart appliances to satellites, artificial intelligence to internet culture, more than 100 objects will be brought together as a landscape for the near future. These objects are the seeds of possible futures, currently in development, being worked on by scientists and designers in studios and laboratories around the world. For more information, contact press.office@vam.ac.uk

TEETH

Wellcome Collection, 17 May – 19 September 2018

This exhibition will trace the evolution of our relationship with our teeth and with the profession that has shaped the way we live with them. Following modern history's tireless pursuit of the pain-free mouth and the perfect smile, this is the first exhibition to look at how dentistry evolved from fairground entertainment to highly-skilled profession with many associated educational campaigns and spin-off industries. For more information, contact e.philippou@wellcome.ac.uk

Roman Dead

Museum of London Docklands, 25 May – 28 October 2018

In 2017 an extremely rare sarcophagus was excavated in Southwark, where an ancient Roman cemetery is known to have once stood. *Roman Dead* will display the sarcophagus and explore rituals, burials and beliefs in Londinium, offering a glimpse into the lives – and deaths – of Londoners. For more information, contact press@museumoflondon.org.uk

Lee Bul: Wayward Wander

Hayward Gallery, 30 May – 19 August 2018

The Hayward Gallery presents the work of acclaimed South Korean artist Lee Bul. This exhibition will explore the artist's extensive investigation into the body and its relationship to architectural space. Over the course of his 30-year career, Lee Bul has explored questions of intimacy, gender, technology and class through a focus on the body. For more information, contact press@southbankcentre.co.uk

Shopping, Events and Activities

Sculpture in the City

Throughout the City of London, May 2018

Now in its ninth year, the urban sculpture trail returns to London's Square Mile. Walking the trail is free and provides the public with access to world-class art by internationally renowned artists. For more information, contact sculptureinthecity@cityoflondon.gov.uk

London Original Print Fair

Royal Academy of Arts, 3 – 6 May 2018

Offering visitors the chance to buy original prints spanning five centuries, from top international dealers, galleries and studios, the London Original Art Fair will also host a daily programme of talks with artists and specialists. For more information, contact press.office@royalacademy.org.uk

London Craft Week 2018

Across London, 9 – 13 May 2018

Meet artists, designers and engineers, and explore their studios and creative spaces at London Craft Week. Take part in workshops with famous design studios, art galleries, award-winning restaurants and luxury fashion brands. Plus, get an insight into the creative thinking behind well-known items from the past and present. For more information, contact press@londoncraftweek.com

Carnaby Style Weekender with GQ

Carnaby Street, 10 – 13 May 2018

Carnaby Street will be hosting a weekend that will celebrate all things style, in partnership with GQ magazine. Visitors will have access to exclusive discounts, talks, workshops, promotions, styling sessions

magazine. Visitors will have access to exclusive discounts, talks, workshops, promotions, styling sessions and more over the four days. For more information, contact Bethan.Harris@sisterlondon.com

Affordable Art Fair Hampstead

Hampstead, 10 – 13 May 2018

Held on Hampstead Heath, this Art Fair will feature 100 galleries under one roof, exhibiting paintings, original prints, sculpture, etchings and photography from both established names and emerging talents. As well as workshops and talks, there will be a late night opening on the Thursday, offering guests music, wine, art and sculpture demonstrations. For more information, contact press@affordableartfair.com

Balance Festival – London 2018

Shoreditch, 11 – 13 May 2018

The UK's largest festival dedicated to fitness and wellness returns to London in May 2018. This event will offer over 200 exercise classes as well as a range of healthy foods. There will also be talks from leading nutritionists, chefs, world-class fitness trainers and yogis. For more information, contact hello@thisisbalancefestival.com

Covent Garden May Fayre and Puppet Festival

Covent Garden, 13 May 2018

Join Punch and Judy enthusiasts from all over the country at this festival, hosted in the garden of St Paul's Church (The Actors' Church). Follow the brass band procession around Covent Garden, attend the midday church service with Mr Punch in the pulpit and spend the afternoon watching puppet, music and dance performances. For more information, contact info@alternativearts.co.uk

Museums at Night

Across London, 16 – 19 May 2018

Explore art, history and heritage after dark with the Museums at Night events across more than 30 venues in London. Major museums, heritage sites and historic properties, as well as smaller cultural venues open their doors for the biannual nationwide festival. Discover new exhibitions, take torchlit tours, enjoy live music in historic surroundings and engage in a range of free and ticketed night-time activities. For more information, contact rosie@culture24.org.uk

Photo London

Somerset House, 17 – 20 May 2018

This world-class photography fair brings together work from museums, galleries, auction houses and independent artists from across the city. The public programme will also provide exhibitions, installations and talks from special guests of the festival. For more information, contact matthew@suttonpr.com

FA Cup Final 2018

Wembley, 19 May 2018

Watch the climax of English football's biggest competition at London's Wembley Stadium or live on TV from a London pub. For sports and football fans alike, this is a London event that's not to be missed. For more information, contact communications@thefa.com

Royal Wedding: Prince Harry and Meghan Markle

Windsor, 19 May 2018

Join in royal festivities as Prince Harry marries Meghan Markle at the historic Windsor Castle in St George's Chapel. The couple became engaged at Prince Harry's Kensington Palace home in November 2017, following a whirlwind 16-month royal romance. For more information on royal activities in the capital, see the [Visit London website](#)

Virgin Sport Hackney 2018: Festival of Fitness

Hackney, 20 May 2018

This east London festival celebrates fitness for everybody, no matter the skill level. The event will feature the Hackney half marathon, 'Go Fit Yourself' bootcamp style classes, entertainment and a selection of food and drink stalls to enjoy. For more information, contact press@virginmedia.co.uk

BBL Basketball Play-off Finals

The O2 Arena, 20 May 2018

The 2018 British Basketball Play-Off Finals are back to The O2 arena in 2018, following a successful 2017 edition. The women's final will take place at 1pm, followed by the men's final at 4pm. For more information, contact communications.team@theo2.co.uk

RHS Chelsea Flower Show

Chelsea, 22 – 26 May 2018

World-renowned garden designers, plant specialists and florists come together every year in Chelsea to show off cutting-edge garden designs and inspirational floral exhibits. Stroll through show-stopping and award-winning gardens, discover rare flowers and plants, spot emerging gardening trends and browse horticultural products, from gardening gadgets to sculptures and plants. For more information, contact pressoffice@rhs.org.uk

Vitality Westminster Mile

Westminster, 27 May 2018

The Vitality Westminster Mile is a mile-long race that will start on The Mall, heading around St James's Park and the Wellington Barracks, before finishing in front of Buckingham Palace. Organised by London Marathon Events Limited, in partnership with Westminster City Council, there are categories for all ages and abilities so everyone can take part. For more information, contact media@londonmarathonevents.co.uk

Vitality London 10,000

Across London, 28 May 2018

The Vitality London 10,000 is a 10km course that passes many of London's famous sights including Admiralty Arch, Nelson's Column, St Paul's Cathedral, Somerset House, Big Ben, the Houses of Parliament and Westminster Abbey. The day will also feature the Vitality Wellness Festival in Green Park, which will include child-friendly activities and giveaways. For more information, contact media@londonmarathonevents.co.uk

Women: Work and Power

Throughout the City of London, 31 May – 30 November 2018

Women: Work and Power examines the struggle for gender equality through the ages while celebrating a number of significant anniversaries in 2018. The event will be a series of new commissions, outdoor work and planned events at City of London venues including the Barbican, Museum of London and Bishopsgate Institute, delivering a wide-ranging programme that spans multiple art-forms. For more information, contact andrew.buckingham@cityoflondon.gov.uk

Entertainment

Chess

London Coliseum, 1 May – 2 June 2018

Chess will be returning to London for its first major revival in the capital for over 30 years. *Chess* is set around a chess tournament between two grandmasters, one American, the other a Soviet. Between them, apart from a chess board, is a woman who manages one of the men, and who falls in love with the other. Previews from 26 April. For more information, contact mediaenquiries@eno.org

The Tap Pack

Sadler's Wells, 1 – 19 May 2018

Inspired by the kings of swing, Frank Sinatra, Dean Martin and Sammy Davis Jnr, *The Tap Pack* brings a new, exhilarating energy to a timeless style. With slick suits, sharp wit and songs from Sinatra to Ed Sheeran, Australia's finest tap dancing performers are a cocktail of pure entertainment, serving up classics with a twist, with a live four-piece band. For more information, contact caroline.ansdell@sadlerswells.com

Mood Music

The Old Vic, 2 May – 30 June 2018

In an expensive London recording studio, two songwriters, their lawyers and their psychotherapists go to battle over music. A play about the drama and the psychodrama of making music by the writer of *Sunny Afternoon* and *Blue/Orange*, the world premiere of *Mood Music* by Joe Penhall is directed by Roger Michell. Previews from 21 April. For information, contact Joanna.Down@oldvictheatre.com

Building the Wall

Park Theatre, 4 May – 2 June 2018

Building the Wall examines what happens when an ordinary person becomes a cog in a regime and how the inconceivable becomes the inevitable. This gripping political thriller is by Robert Schenkkan, a Pulitzer Prize and Tony Award-winning playwright and Academy Award nominee. Previews from 2 May. For more information, contact arabella.neville-rolfe@target-live.co.uk

RED

Wyndham's Theatre, 4 May – 28 July 2018

The first UK revival of *RED* will take place at the Wyndham's Theatre, following its successful run in 2009. Under the watchful gaze of his young assistant, and the threatening presence of a new generation of artists, Mark Rothko takes on his greatest challenge yet: to create a definitive work for an extraordinary setting. For more information, contact Kate Morley PR on **+44 207 299 4300**

Breakin' Convention

Sadler's Wells, 5 – 7 May 2018

Celebrating its 15th year, *Breakin' Convention* is an international festival of Hip Hop Dance Theatre. The event will feature performances from world champion 'b-boy' crews to cutting-edge street dance companies. There will also be dance workshops, graffiti, DJs and freestyle sessions taking place all over the venue. For more information, contact caroline.ansdell@sadlerswells.com

Nightfall

The Bridge Theatre, 8 May – 3 June 2018

Set on a farm outside Winchester, *Nightfall* tells the story of a family struggling to keep afloat. Jenny is widowed after an incident with a Labrador and a shotgun. Her son Ryan is struggling to earn enough through farming. Her daughter Lou returns home to grieve. But when Lou's wealthy boyfriend Pete turns up, the family equilibrium shifts. For more information, contact janine.shalom@premiercomms.com

Planet Earth II Live in Concert

Royal Albert Hall, 13 May 2018

Planet Earth II Live in Concert receives its UK premiere at the Royal Albert Hall. The event will feature breathtaking, specially-selected footage from the BAFTA and Emmy award-winning BBC series, shown in high-definition on the big screen. The BBC Concert Orchestra and BBC Singers, conducted by Jessica Cottis, will play the music by Oscar winner Hans Zimmer and his composers, Jacob Shea and Jasha Klebe. For more information, contact ricker@royalalberthall.com

Peter Pan

Regent's Park Open Air Theatre, 24 May – 15 June 2018

Packed with puppetry and enough theatrical magic to enchant both young and old alike, *Peter Pan* returns to the Regent's Park Open Air Theatre. For the wounded soldiers of WW1, imagination is their only escape. Yet as they're transported to the fantastical lagoons and pirate ships of Neverland, allegories of the war

They've left behind are ever present. Previews from 17 May. For more information, contact office@joallanpr.com

The Rink

Southwark Playhouse, 25 May – 23 June 2018

Jack Maple Productions will stage the first London revival in 20 years of *The Rink* by the Tony and Olivier Award-winning John Kander (music) and Fred Ebb (lyrics), the creators of musicals such as *Chicago* and *Cabaret*. Anna, an Italian housewife who runs a roller-skating rink on the Eastern seaboard, is about to sell it to developers until her estranged daughter, Angel, returns after a long absence, hoping to save the rink and patch things up with her mother. For more information, contact alex@amandamalpass.com

Food and Drink

Gunpower Market Market

Tower Bridge, May 2018

The team behind the successful Gunpowder, the home-style Indian kitchen in Spitalfields, are heading south of the river Thames with this new venture. Gunpowder Market Market will offer dishes inspired by Calcutta, and will feature a bakery that will turn into a wine bar in the evening. For more information, contact hello@gunpowderlondon.com

Brigadiers

Bloomberg Arcade, May 2018

This new Indian barbecue establishment will be opening in the recently opened Bloomberg Arcade development. The menu will include fiery small plates, as well as a mixed grill section which will include rotisserie duck, wood-roasted suckling lamb and tandoori tomahawk steaks. For more information, contact info@gerbercomms.com

Gazelle

Mayfair, May 2018

Tony Conigliaro, owner of six bars across London, will be opening a new restaurant with Rob Roy Cameron. The establishment will house a café, bar and restaurant, offering an eclectic food menu alongside one of Conigliaro's famous cocktail lists. For more information, contact office@lotusinternational.net

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