

LONDON & PARTNERS

What's New in London | April

With marathons, boat races, annual celebrations *and* new happenings all over the city, there is something for everyone in London this April...so don't be an April Fool– and get out there and enjoy it all!!!

For more information on What's New in London, go to visitlondon.com

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New Openings

Variant 31 Theatre <https://www.bigdreamerproductions.com/productions/variant-31-an-immersive-zombie-experience>

New Oxford Street, April 13

Taking place at Space 18, a new complex dedicated to immersive and experimental theatre, *Variant 31* will be Europe's largest immersive gaming experience. Featuring a cast of 120 professional actors trained in parkour, aerial acrobatics and stage combat, this opening show will be an immersive zombie survival game that is both high adrenaline and fast-paced. For more information, visit <https://www.bigdreamerproductions.com/>

Events

London Hat Week 2019 www.londonhatweek.com/events/

Multiple locations throughout London, 4 – 10 April 2019

Hat makers and headwear enthusiasts will gather in London with over 90 events across the city during this week-long festival celebrating creativity and craftsmanship. The schedule features millinery masterclasses, business upskilling events for budding entrepreneurs, an exhibition of over 100 hats from designers all over the world, behind-the-scenes tours of

London's most exciting fashion archives and an immersive storytelling experience. For more information, contact mail@londonhatweek.com

Power UP <https://www.sciencemuseum.org.uk/see-and-do/power>

Science Museum, 6 April – 22 April 2019

Power UP 2019 will take both gaming fans and novices on an interactive journey covering four decades of gaming history with 160 consoles and hundreds of games, right from retro arcade classics such as Space Invaders through to the latest in VR technology. For more information, contact amrita.pal@sciencemuseum.ac.uk

Ice Age: The Lost Kingdom <http://www.iceagekingdom.com/>

Gunnersbury Park, 6 – 28 April 2019

A brand-new, prehistoric, outdoor family attraction coming to the UK for the first time in 2019, *Ice Age: The Lost Kingdom* is Europe's first touring animatronic Ice Age experience and will bring to life the sights and sounds of the Ice Age with 40 majestic beasts that roamed the world some 70,000 years ago. A variety of street food outlets will be available, together with a mini-cinema marquee showing an educational Ice Age documentary, as well as a fossil excavation pit for children to unearth skeletons. For more information, visit <http://www.iceagekingdom.com/press/>

The Cancer Research UK Boat Race www.theboatrace.org/

River Thames, 7 April 2019

The famous Oxford and Cambridge Boat Race is an annual contest between the two rowing crews both universities. One of the biggest free sporting spectacles in London, The Boat Race creates a festival atmosphere on the banks of the Thames. Up to 250,000 people flock to the riverbanks every year to join in the celebrations and watch the Oxford and Cambridge University eight-oared rowing boats race along the famous 4.2-mile (6.8 km) Championship Course between Putney and Mortlake. For more information, contact moconnor@theboatrace.org

The Goat Race www.spitalfieldscityfarm.org/whats-on/2018/3/24/goat-race

Spitalfields City Farm, 7 April 2019

You heard it here first! two goats (one representing Oxford and one representing Cambridge) will go head to head at Spitalfields City Farm, to coincide with the famous boat race. Back for its eleventh year, all proceeds from this hugely popular event go straight to the farm. For more information, contact farm@spitalfieldscityfarm.org

Feast of St George www.london.gov.uk/events/2019-04-20/feast-st-george-2019

Trafalgar Square, 20 April 2019

Join the St George's Day celebrations at the Mayor of London's annual Feast of St George in Trafalgar Square. Decorated in red and white for England's national day, the square will be lined with stalls selling traditional English food, inspired by St George's Day's 13th-century origins as a national day of feasting. There will also free children's art workshops, still

walkers, Pearly Kings and Queens and a mixture of traditional and contemporary live music from 12pm. For more information, contact mayorspressoffice@london.gov.uk

Vaisakhi Festival www.london.gov.uk/events/2019-04-27/vaisakhi-2019

Trafalgar Square, 27 April 2019

Another fantastic cultural event heads to Trafalgar Square this April! Vaisakhi, the celebration of Sikh and Punjabi tradition, heritage and culture is one of the most important events in the Sikh calendar, and is celebrated on 13 April (occasionally 14 April) by more than 20 million Sikhs around the world. It was on this day in 1699 that the Khalsa order was established by Guru Gobind Singh. The annual London festival has been celebrated by more than 30,000 people in recent years and marks the start of the Sikh New Year. Enjoy free live music performances, see works by Sikh artists, try out gatka or the army-led obstacle course, and tuck into traditional food from the stalls in Trafalgar Square. For more information, contact mayorspressoffice@london.gov.uk

Virgin Money London Marathon www.virginmoneylondonmarathon.com/en-gb/

Across London, 28 April 2019

The world-famous London Marathon is a long-distance running event held in London, as part of the World Marathon Majors. The event was first run on 29 March 1981 and has been held in the spring of every year since, providing an incredible atmosphere as thousands take to the streets to cheer on the runners. For more information, contact media@londonmarathonevents.co.uk

Exhibitions

Beasts of London www.museumoflondon.org.uk/museum-london/whats-on/exhibitions/beastsoflondon

Museum of London, 5 April 2019– 4 January 2020

Beasts of London explores the fascinating role animals have played in shaping the capital. Discover how animals – from lions to elephants, to horses, rats and pigeons – have shaped the city and its beastly history. Inspired by objects in the collection and a partnership with the Guildhall School of Music & Drama, *Beasts of London* will be a fully interactive digital installation using video projection mapping to bring the animals to life. For more information, contact press@museumoflondon.org.uk

Imaginary Cities www.bl.uk/events/imaginary-cities

British Library, 5 April – 14 July 2019

This newly-commissioned body of work showcases fantastical cityscapes created by artist in residence Michael Takeo Magruder. Traditional materials combine with cutting-edge digital technologies to remix images and live data from the Library's digital collection of historic urban maps into fictional cityscapes for the Information Age. For more information, contact press-andpr@bl.uk

Mary Quant www.vam.ac.uk/exhibitions/mary-quant

V&A, 6 April – 16 February 2020

The first international retrospective on the iconic fashion designer Dame Mary Quant, this exhibition will explore the years between 1955 and 1975, when Quant revolutionised the high street, harnessing the youthful spirit of the sixties and new mass production techniques to create a new look for women. Challenging conventions, she popularised the miniskirt, colourful tights, and tailored trousers. For more information, contact press.office@vam.ac.uk

Smoke and Mirrors: the psychology of magic

https://wellcomecollection.org/exhibitions/W_vuwBQAACoA_SY2

Wellcome Collection, 11 April – 15 September 2019

Explore spirit photography, magic props, psychology experiments and more to see how magic works on (and in) your mind. Focusing on the relationship between magic and psychology, this exhibition will seek the truth about deception and consider what it is about the human condition that leads many people to believe in magic and the supernatural, even in the face of logical explanations. For more information, contact mediaoffice@wellcome.ac.uk

Edvard Munch: love and angst

www.britishmuseum.org/whats_on/exhibitions/munch.aspx

British Museum, 11 April – 21 July 2019

The creator of art's most haunting and iconic face, the emotional intensity of *The Scream* has reverberated through history, speaking to generations. Norway's answer to Vincent van Gogh, discover Edvard Munch as the British Museum lifts the veil on his life and works in the largest show of his prints in the UK for 45 years. In this collaborative exhibition with the Munch Museum in Oslo, discover how he mastered the art of printmaking and explore his remarkable body of work. For more information, contact communications@britishmuseum.org

Chihuly at Kew: Reflections on nature <https://www.kew.org/kew-gardens/whats-on/chihuly-at-kew-reflections-on-nature>

Kew Gardens, 13 April – 27 October 2019

The world's most celebrated contemporary glass artist is back, showcasing his work against the stunning backdrop of Kew Gardens. Iconic artist Dale Chihuly will once again exhibit his luminous glass artworks in a spectacular landscape, featuring pieces never seen before in the UK. For more information, contact pr@kew.org

Writing: Making Your Mark www.bl.uk/events/writing-making-your-mark

British Library, 26 April – 27 August 2019

Discover the extraordinary story behind one of humankind's greatest achievements through more than 100 objects spanning 5,000 years and five continents. Items as diverse as James Joyce's annotated copy of *Ulysses* and a 60,000-strong petition against Bengali partition sit alongside Burmese tattooing instruments and a new take on typography by the Russian artist El Lissitzky to illustrate how writing allows humans to enact change. For more information, contact press-andpr@bl.uk

Entertainment & Theatre

Underbelly Festival in South Bank www.underbellyfestival.com

Open from April until the end of September 2019

Underbelly Festival Southbank brings the best in live circus, comedy, cabaret and family entertainment to the heart of London. Visitors can enjoy international street food, after work drinks in one of London's largest outdoor bars and a true festival atmosphere on the banks of the Thames. For more information, contact gregor@borkowski.co.uk

Stanley Kubrick Season <https://designmuseum.org/exhibitions/stanley-kubrick-the-exhibition>

BFI Southbank, April and May 2019

Throughout April and May, BFI Southbank will present, in partnership with The Design Museum, a definitive Stanley Kubrick season, showing masterpieces such as *2001: A Space Odyssey* (1968) and *Eyes Wide Shut* (1999) on the big screen. There will also be a programme of films inspired by his work and plenty of events and talks, coinciding with *Stanley Kubrick: The Exhibition* at The Design Museum (27 April – 17 September). For more information, contact liz.parkinson@bfi.org.uk

She Persisted www.ballet.org.uk/production/she-persisted/#section-overview

Sadler's Wells Theatre, 4 – 13 April 2019

Three iconic stories and three bold works on and by women, *She Persisted* builds on *She Said*, the English National Ballet's first all-female choreography programme, created in 2016. The spring triple bill will feature an equal number of female and male dancers performing on a stage covered in soil, dancing the selection and sacrifice of a victim. Live music will be performed by the English National Ballet Philharmonic. For more information, contact press@ballet.org.uk

A German Life <https://bridgetheatre.co.uk/whats-on/a-german-life/#overview>

The Bridge Theatre, 6 April – 11 May 2019

A new play by Christopher Hampton, drawn from the life and testimony of Brunhilde Pomsel, directed by Jonathan Kent. Brunhilde Pomsel struggled to make ends meet as a secretary in Berlin during the 1930s, her many employers including a Jewish insurance broker, a German Broadcasting Corporation and, eventually, Joseph Goebbels. Christopher Hampton's play is based on the testimony she gave when she finally broke her silence to a group of Austrian filmmakers, shortly before she died in 2016. Maggie Smith, alone on stage, plays Brunhilde Pomsel. For more information, contact info@bridgetheatre.co.uk

Hauschka www.barbican.org.uk/whats-on/2019/event/hauschka

Barbican Theatre, 12 April 2019

Volker Bertelmann, aka Hauschka, has become synonymous with the way in which he disembowels the piano, using every part of the instrument to create sounds and effects one might not usually associate with the instrument. For this performance, and his new record, he has gone back to the basics – focusing on the purity of the piano. Taking inspiration from nature and walks in the forest for these new works, the music echoes these themes with songs that are crisp and emotionally charged. For more information, contact press@barbican.org.uk

Captain Corelli's Mandolin www.captaincorellismandolin.com/

Rose Theatre, Kingston, 23 April – 12 May 2019

The first major stage production of Captain Corelli's Mandolin, based on the best-selling novel by Louis de Bernières will come to London in April, 25 years after the book was first published. It is an epic love story set on the Greek island of Cephalonia, following the lives of Dr Iannis, his beautiful, strong-willed daughter Pelagia, and the Italian Captain Antonio Corelli, during the Italian and German occupation of the island in World War II. For more information, contact info@amandamalpass.com

Rosmersholm <https://rosmersholmplay.com/>

Duke of York's Theatre, 24 April – 19 July 2019

Ian Rickson directs Tom Burke and Hayley Atwell in the West End premiere of Duncan Macmillan's startling new adaptation of Henrik Ibsen's gripping and piercingly relevant work of personal and political passion Rosmersholm. For more information, visit <https://rosmersholmplay.com/>

Man of La Mancha www.eno.org/whats-on/man-of-la-mancha/

London Coliseum, 26 April – 8 June 2019

Inspired by Miguel de Cervantes's 'Don Quixote', the award-winning musical *Man of La Mancha* returns to London after 50 years. Starring Kelsey Grammer and Danielle de Niese, chivalry abounds in this tale of knighthood, love, loyalty and adventure. For more information, contact press@ballet.org.uk

Food & Drink

Marylebone Food Festival www.marylebonefoodfestival.com/

24 – 28 April 2019

Marylebone's food and drink establishments – ranging from neighbourhood cafes and wine bars to Michelin-starred restaurants – will put on special menus and host exclusive masterclasses, one-off collaborations, food tours and talks, throwing the spotlight on the gastronomic wealth and diversity of the area. A headline event will launch the festival on 24 April when some of London's best Marylebone-based chefs and food experts come together for an exclusive dinner held in St Mary's Church on York Street. For more information, visit <https://www.marylebonefoodfestival.com/>

Cocktails in the City www.cocktailsinthecity.com/

The Vaults, 4 – 6 April 2019

Cocktails in the City is a two-day celebration of the cocktail. Get together with the world's leading bartenders and enjoy exclusive new drinks from 25 of the city's finest bars as they compete to be crowned best bar. Journey down the rabbit hole and see The Vaults transformed into a warren of secret speakeasies, exclusive Mayfair establishments, infamous party haunts, and botanical bars bursting with flora and fauna. For more information, visit www.cocktailsinthecity.com/events/london

Allegra <https://manhattanloftgardens.com/explore/food-drink/>

Stratford, April 2019: date TBC

The destination restaurant for the new Manhattan Loft Gardens by former Chiltern Firehouse head chef, Patrick Powell, Allegra serves inventive, seasonal dishes with alfresco dining available amongst cedar pathways and wild flowers of the first sky garden. For more information, visit <https://manhattanloftgardens.com/explore/food-drink/>

The Sea, The Sea www.theseathesea.net/

Chelsea, April 2019: date TBC

Named after Iris Murdoch's novel *The Sea, The Sea*, chef Alex Hunter will be cutting the ribbon for his new restaurant on Chelsea's Pavilion Road. A fish shop and deli by day, and a restaurant and champagne bar in the evening, the menu will be changing daily to make the most of the fresh catches from the day boats. For more information, contact info@theseathesea.net

MEATliquor <https://meatliquor.com/>

Marylebone, April 2019: date TBC

The original MEATliquor relocates to a more permanent location to continue serving their ever so popular burgers, hotdogs and more. Starting out as the MEATwagon back in 2008, the original MEATliquor W1 was opened in 2011 just off Oxford Street. After closing its doors last year, MEATliquor W1 is slated to reopen 500m away from its original location. For more information, visit <https://meatliquor.com>

Hotels

Manhattan Loft Gardens <https://manhattanloftgardens.com/>

Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park, April 2019: date TBC

The 42-storey design hotel Manhattan Loft Gardens was founded by Harry Handelsman, the visionary behind the restored St Pancras Hotel and Chiltern Firehouse. With 145 guestrooms and suites, the skyscraper will excel in both aesthetic and functional design, delivering panoramic views of the city skyline and space for yoga classes and weekly gin tastings. For more information, contact amelia@bacchus.agency

Hard Rock Hotel London www.hardrockhotels.com/london

Mayfair, April 2019: date TBC

Built in one of London's most iconic locations – on the corner of Oxford Street and Park Lane – this hotel from the legendary US chain is set to be a musical haven. The hotel will offer exclusive suites for Rock Royalty, together with two vibrant bars and a lively Hard Rock Café® - this is a place where business definitely meets pleasure. For more information, contact hrhlondon@exposure.net

About London & Partners:

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