

LONDON

& PARTNERS

What's On in London | 2019

The countdown is on to 2019 – and London has a supercalifragilisticexpialidocious line-up of new theatre shows, events, exhibitions, restaurants, hotels and cultural celebrations to inspire the world.

From the hugely anticipated Christian Dior exhibition at the V&A to Van Gogh at Tate Britain; Mary Poppins to Blue Planet II in concert; Major League Baseball to tiny new restaurants – a jam-packed events calendar awaits. Read on if you're ready to feel inspired...

For more information on what's new in London, go to visitlondon.com



Special Events

Waltham Forest: The Mayor's London Borough of Culture 2019

Waltham Forest, throughout the whole year

Local heroes Damon Albarn, Zarah Hussain, Talvin Singh and Matthew Bourne join forces to celebrate Waltham Forest's year as London Borough of Culture 2019. Announced by the Mayor of London, the programme will put culture at the heart of the local community and inspire a new generation of creative talent. From concerts performed in the canopies of Epping Forest to a mass cycling procession to mark May Day. Celebrations will kick off with

a three-night festival of music, light, dance, street theatre and art at 'Welcome to the Forest' (11-13 January 2019). For more information, contact nick.dovey@walthamforest.gov.uk

London National Park City

Across London, May 2019

London National Park City is a vision and a movement to make life in London even more wonderful by encouraging people to enjoy the capital's great outdoors and by making the city greener, healthier and wilder. It's about more bird song, more tree climbing, more hedgehogs and hilltop dancing – because why not? For more information, contact hello@nationalparkcity.org

Events

New Year's Day Parade (LNYDP)

Across West London, 1 January 2019

LNYDP is an annual parade through the streets of West London on 1 January. The parade is the biggest New Year's Day street event of its kind. Running alongside the parade is the LNYDP concert series and the Grand Finale of the London International Choral Festival which has performed in internationally acclaimed music venues across the UK capital. For more information, contact dan@dkpr.co.uk

London Short Film Festival

Across London, 11 – 20 January 2019

Broaching its sixteenth year, London Short Film Festival (LSFF) has been recognised as the premiere UK showcase for cutting-edge homegrown and international short film. The first significant date on the UK film calendar each January sees diverse audiences of 10,000+ flock to LSFF in some of London's most historic cinematic venues, from the Institute of Contemporary Arts to BFI Southbank, Curzon Soho to Hackney's MOTH club. For more information, see <https://shortfilms.org.uk/>

Winter Lights Festival

Canary Wharf Estate, 15 – 26 January 2019

Step out of the darkness and into Canary Wharf this January, as evenings are set to be ignited through the language of light and technology with the return of the Winter Lights festival. Expect luminescent hopscotch, 25 metre projections of marching elephants and rhinos and 24,000 individual suspended lights as the fifth iteration of the festival is set to dazzle, enchant and amaze. The theme this year is sustainability and waste reduction. For more information, contact press.office@canarywharf.com

NBA Game: Washington Wizards and New York Knicks

The O2, 17 January 2019

The excitement of the National Basketball Association returns to London in January! The NBA London Game 2019 will mark the league's ninth regular-season game in London and

the Knicks' third game in the capital, having played regular-season games against the Detroit Pistons in 2013 and the Milwaukee Bucks in 2015. The Wizards will be playing their first game in the UK. For more information, contact tmarchesi@nba.com

Cancer Research UK Winter Run

Central London, 3 February 2019

The Cancer Research UK London Winter Run is a 10k challenge through the heart of the city, passing world famous landmarks and instantly recognisable areas that have been taken over by winter creatures. Since the first even in 2015 over 65,000 people have taken part, raising over £2,000,000 for Cancer Research UK and other good causes. For more information, contact maryke.penman@macesport.com

Orchids Festival: Columbia

Kew Gardens, 9 February – 10 March 2019

Colombia's unparalleled biodiversity and vibrant culture is the inspiration for Kew's 24th annual Orchids Festival. Stepping into the Princess of Wales Conservatory, visitors will find themselves transported to an entrancing paradise evoking the sights, smells and sounds of Colombia. Throughout the festival, there will be an exciting programme of weekend and evening events and activities featuring Colombian music, dance and cuisine, as well as a series of engaging talks from Kew's orchid experts. For more information, contact pr@kew.org

Chinese New Year in London

London's West End, 10 February 2019

In 2019, Chinese New Year falls on **5 February**, with the main Chinese New Year events usually taking place in London's Chinatown, West End and Trafalgar Square close to this date. Past events have included a colourful parade and lion and dragon dances. The celebrations, which are organised by the London Chinatown Chinese Association, usually culminate in a spectacular Chinese New Year fireworks display. For more information, contact press@londonandpartners.com

The London Classic Car Show

ExCeL London, 14 – 17 February 2019

The London Classic Car Show is the must-attend event for any classic car owner, collector, expert or enthusiast. Bringing together an international celebration of the very best dealers, manufacturers, car clubs and products it's the perfect day for all. Set in London's premier events venue, one of the show's most exciting features is an indoor driving runway where classic cars are fired up and driven. For more information, contact marketing@excel.london

Head of the River Race

River Thames, 30 March 2019

The Head of the River Race is rowed annually in March from Mortlake to Putney on the Tideway in London. Up to 400 crews of eights take part, making it one of the highest participation events in London. It is rowed over the 4¼ mile Thames Championship Course

and is usually held on the third or fourth Saturday in March, depending on the tides. For more information, see www.horr.co.uk/wordpress/

The Cancer Research UK Boat Races

River Thames, 7 April 2019

The Boat Race is an annual contest between two rowing crews from Oxford and Cambridge Universities that takes place close to Easter each year. 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 (6.8km) Championship Course between **Putney** and **Mortlake**. For more information, contact moconnor@theboatrace.org

Virgin Money London Marathon

Across London, 28 April 2019

The 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

Women's FA Cup Final

Wembley Stadium, 4 May 2019

The SSE Women's FA Cup Final returns to Wembley in May 2019, following last season's record-breaking attendance which saw Chelsea victorious over local London rivals Arsenal. For more information, contact the FA press office on **0800 049 9901**.

Photo London

Somerset House, 16 – 19 May 2019

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

FINA Diving World Series #5

London Aquatics Centre, 17 – 19 May

The world's top divers will get the chance to compete on British soil in 2019, as London hosts the prestigious Diving World Series in the run up to the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games. The competition is exclusive to the World's best competitors, with dozens of world, Olympic and European champions guaranteed to be taking part across all four legs. For more information, contact press@queenelizabetholympicpark.co.uk

RHS Chelsea Flower Show

Royal Hospital Chelsea, 21 - 25 May 2019

Held in the grounds of the Royal Hospital Chelsea since 1913, RHS Chelsea is the world's most prestigious flower show inspiring millions and leading the way in innovative garden design. Nowhere makes gardening more fashionable, with a catwalk of colour and creativity, the biggest and brightest ideas, the latest plant trends and the pinnacle of garden design - this show is one the world wants to see. For more information, contact showspr@rhs.org.uk

ICC Cricket World Cup 2019

Kia Oval and Lord's, 30 May – 14 July 2019

This summer, the top international sides will go head to head for the prestigious ICC Cricket World Cup 2019 title at two of London's famous grounds, The Kia Oval and Lord's. It all kicks off at The Kia Oval with a match between hosts England and South Africa, and culminates with the champions being crowned at Lord's. There are 10 matches played in London during the tournament, with the other matches taking place around the country. For more information, see www.icc-cricket.com/cricket-world-cup

Open Garden Squares Weekend

Across London, 8 - 9 June 2019

London is blessed with many secret gardens – the private, hidden and little-known green spaces that weave through the urban landscape. For one weekend only, you can discover the gardens that help make London green. Relax in the natural spaces tucked away on rooftops, or unlock the private gardens of historic buildings and institutions. For more information, contact sarah@sarahharrisonpr.com

Taste of London

Regent's Park, 19 – 23 June 2019

For five summer days every year, Regent's Park is transformed into a foodie wonderland as 40 of London's best restaurants gather to show off the hottest dishes from their extensive menus. Plus, watch live cooking demonstrations, meet some of the capital's leading chefs, participate in masterclasses and shop at more than 200 food and drink stalls. For more information, contact taste@tcs-uk.net

West End LIVE

Trafalgar Square, 15 - 16 June 2019

West End LIVE is Westminster City Council's annual showcase event that celebrates the quality and diversity of entertainment on offer in the heart of London. Returning to the iconic location for the 15th year, the festival offers thousands of people the chance to see the best of the London stage over one weekend. For more information, contact mediateam@westminster.gov.uk

Trooping the Colour: The Queen's Birthday Parade

Horse Guards Parade, 8 June 2019

Experience a traditional ceremony full of military pomp and pageantry, with Trooping the Colour on Horse Guards Parade. Marking the Queen's official birthday, this annual event will

feature hundreds of officers, horses and musicians from the Household Division in ceremonial uniform. For more information, contact info@householddivision.org.uk

Royal Ascot

Ascot Racecourse, 18 - 22 June 2019

Royal Ascot is Britain's most valuable race meeting, attracting many of the world's finest racehorses. For more than 300 years Ascot Racecourse has been at the heart of the British sporting and social calendar. The Royal Meeting promises five days of world-class racing, high fashion, pageantry and fine dining as the racecourse welcomes more than 300,000 visitors from across the globe – a truly remarkable occasion. For more information, contact pr@ascot.co.uk

Major League Baseball London Series

London Stadium, 29 - 30 June 2019

A first for London! The **Boston Red Sox** and **New York Yankees** will go head to head, as **Major League Baseball** makes its London debut with **London Series 19** at the **London Stadium**. The two-game series will see the stadium pitch turned into a baseball field, as it hosts the first European contests by North America's most historic professional sports league. For more information, contact david.straw@londonstadium185.com

Wimbledon Lawn Tennis Championships

All England Club, 1 - 14 July 2019

The Championships, Wimbledon is the oldest tennis tournament in the world and arguably the most famous. Of the four major annual tennis tournaments known as the 'Grand Slams', Wimbledon is the only one to still be played on grass, which is where the name lawn tennis originated. It is estimated that 28,000 kilos of English strawberries & 7,000 litres of cream are consumed each year at Wimbledon! For more information, see www.wimbledon.com

RHS Hampton Court Palace Flower Show

Hampton Court Palace, 2 - 7 July 2019

The RHS Hampton Court Palace Flower Show is the largest annual garden and flower show in the world - the showground covers 33 acres. It takes place in the grounds of Hampton Court Palace each July and is organized by the Royal Horticultural Society (RHS) who are also behind the RHS Chelsea Flower Show each May. For more information, contact press@hrp.org.uk

Barclaycard presents British Summer Time

Hyde Park, 5 - 14 July 2019

World-famous artists and rising stars take to the stage in this iconic Royal Park for two weekends of live music; while Open House takes over during the week between the concerts with free summer activities, music and food. For more information, contact press@hrp.org.uk

Prudential RideLondon

London and Surrey, 3 – 4 August 2019

Prudential RideLondon is a world-class festival of cycling for all. There is no other closed-road event like it that combines the fun and accessible element of a free family ride in central London with the excitement of watching the world's best professional cyclists race in the Prudential RideLondon-Surrey Classic and Prudential RideLondon Classique. For more information contact media@ridelondon.co.uk

London Design Festival

Across London, 14 – 22 September 2019

Explore a range of creative installations and events celebrating contemporary design during the London Design Festival. The annual festival has been showcasing the work of designers, architects, artists and retailers since 2003. During the festival, hundreds of large-scale installations, exhibitions and events pop up in many unique spaces across London, from world-famous museums to small local studios. For more information, contact londondesignfestival@exposure.net

Open House London

Across London, 21 – 22 September 2019

Celebrate London's architectural wonders as Open House London throws open the doors of hundreds of buildings and spaces around the capital. Enjoy free access to more than 800 public buildings, private houses, churches, museums, schools and offices, and join tours, guided walks and activities throughout the weekend. For more information, contact press@open-city.org.uk

Cutty Sark 150

Cutty Sark, celebrations start in February and continue throughout the year 2019

Cutty Sark, one of the world's most famous ships, the last surviving tea clipper and the fastest and greatest of her time will be marking its 150th anniversary in 2019. To celebrate this landmark occasion, Cutty Sark will be hosting a range of special events throughout the year, including concerts, theatre and poetry performances relating to her impressive career, her Victorian maritime heritage and historic connections to China, Australia and the rest of the world. For more information, contact press@rmg.co.uk

Art & Exhibitions

Victoria Revealed

Kensington Palace, until 6 January 2019

Inspired by the Queen's own journals and featuring displays of personal objects in the rooms where she once lived, this exhibition gives an intimate account of Queen Victoria's fascinating life. You will learn many, often surprising aspects of Queen Victoria's character: devoted wife, dedicated mother, lover of the arts and powerful stateswoman, with a reign spanning 63 years. For more information, contact press@hrp.org.uk

Prototyping in Tokyo

Japan House London, January – February 2019

Prototypes are technologies in the making, combining technology with creativity which shape the future. They are examples of Japan's formidable capacity for technological innovation and appreciation of beauty. The exhibition explores robotic movement, the generation of bio-likeness through design and engineering methods, and the manufacture of specialised lower-limb prostheses for competitive sport. For more information, contact

katie.blake@kallaway.com

Pierre Bonnard: the colour of memory

Tate Modern, 23 January – 6 May 2019

This is the first major exhibition of Pierre Bonnard's work in the UK since the much-loved show at The Tate 20 years ago. It will allow new generations to discover Bonnard's unconventional use of colour, while surprising those who think they already know him. For more information, contact kitty.malton@tate.org.uk

Christian Dior: Designer of Dreams

V&A, 2 February – 14 July 2019

This is the largest and most comprehensive exhibition ever staged in the UK on the House of Dior. Spanning from 1947 to the present day, the exhibition traces the history and impact of one of the 20th century's most influential couturiers, and the artistic directors who have succeeded him. Ensembles will be shown alongside accessories, fashion photography, film, perfume, make-up, illustrations, magazines, and Christian Dior's personal possessions to explore the legacy of the couturier. For more information, contact press.office@vam.ac.uk

Diane Arbus: In the Beginning

Hayward Gallery, 13 February – 6 May 2019

This exhibition explores the first seven years of photographer Diane Arbus' career, from 1956 to 1962. Her photographs of children and eccentrics, couples and circus performers, female impersonators and pedestrians are among the most intimate, surprising and haunting works of the 20th century. This exhibition is the first solo show of Arbus' work in the UK for 12 years. Organised by the Metropolitan Museum of Art it features more than 100 photography. For more information, contact filipa.mendes@southbankcentre.co.uk

Elizabethan Treasures: Miniatures by Hilliard and Oliver

National Portrait Gallery, 21 February – 19 May 2019

The first major exhibition on Tudor and Jacobean portrait miniatures in the UK for over 35 years, *Elizabethan Treasures: Miniatures by Hilliard and Oliver* will bring together key works from the National Portrait Gallery and major loans from public and private collections to showcase the careers of the most skilled artists of the period, Nicholas Hilliard (1547? – 1619) and Isaac Oliver (c.1565 – 1617). For more information, contact press@ng-london.org.uk

Spare Parts

Science Gallery London, King's College London, 28 February – 12 May 2019

This exhibition will question the nature of the human body and the science, ethics and technology that enable its repair or alteration. It will explore the latest research – including pioneering new studies from King's Faculty of Life Sciences and Medicine – into the engineering of body parts at a cellular, tissue, organ or limb level, while investigating whether 'spare parts' can exist outside of the biological body to be shared or exchanged in the future. Artists featured include Oron Catts and Ionat Zurr, John A. Douglas and Marianne Cloutier. For more information, contact press@london.sciencegallery.com

The Renaissance Nude

The Royal Academy of Arts, 3 March – 2 June 2019

This exhibition will examine the origins of the nude, and how it inspired some of the most renowned masterpieces of the western canon. Bringing together works by artists such as Titian, Raphael, Michelangelo, Leonardo, Dürer and Cranach, the exhibition will examine a dynamic visual tradition that permanently altered the character and values of European art. For more information, contact eugenia.ellanskaya@royalacademy.org.uk

Stanley Kubrick Season

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, offering audiences the opportunity to experience masterpieces such as *2001: A Space Odyssey* (1968) and *Eyes Wide Shut* (1999) on the big screen. Running alongside the Kubrick season there will be a programme of films inspired by his work and plenty of events and talks. It coincides with *Stanley Kubrick: The Exhibition* at The Design Museum (27 April – 17 September). For more information, contact liz.parkinson@bfi.org.uk

The EY Exhibition: Van Gogh and Britain

Tate Britain, 27 March – 11 August 2019

This major exhibition will show how Van Gogh was inspired by Britain and how he went on to inspire British artists. Van Gogh lived in London as a young man for several crucial years. He walked the streets alone, dreaming of the future and fell in love with British culture. Tate Britain will tell this story using the largest collection of Van Gogh's paintings to be shown in the UK for nearly a decade. For more information, contact kitty.malton@tate.org.uk

Food

The V&A, 18 May – 17 November 2019

Food is a bold exhibition that will explore the exciting innovation and ingenuity of individuals, communities and organisations that are radically re-inventing how we grow, distribute and experience food. From urban farming to new gastronomic experiences and synthetic meat, the exhibition will take visitors on a journey from farm to kitchen to table via laboratories, design studios and grass roots projects posing questions about how the collective choices we make can lead to a more sustainable, just and delicious food future. For more information, contact press.office@vam.ac.uk

Summer Exhibition 2019

The Royal Academy, 10 June – 13 August 2019

The Royal Academy's annual Summer Exhibition, the world's largest open submission contemporary art show, is now in its 251st year. It provides a unique platform for emerging and established artists to showcase their works to an international audience, comprising a range of media from painting, printmaking and photography, to sculpture, architecture and film. It has been held each year without interruption since 1769. For more information, contact eugenia.ellanskaya@royalacademy.org.uk

Cindy Sherman*National Portrait Gallery, 27 June – 15 September 2019*

Widely regarded as one of the world's leading contemporary artists, Cindy Sherman, (b. 1954), first gained widespread critical recognition for *Untitled Film Stills*, a series comprising of 70 images which was the artist's first major artistic statement and defined her approach. This exhibition will place the series on public display for the first time and will feature around 180 works from international public and private collections. For more information, contact LMcKechan@npg.org.uk

Kiss My Genders*Hayward Gallery, summer 2019*

This is a group exhibition celebrating more than 30 international artists whose work explores and engages with gender fluidity, as well as non-binary, trans and intersex identities. It features works from the late 1960s and early 1970s through to the present moment, and focuses on artists who draw on their own experiences to create content and forms that challenge accepted or stable definitions of gender. Working across painting, immersive installations, sculpture and more, many of these artists treat the body as a sculpture, opening up new possibilities for gender, beauty and representations of the human form. For more information, contact clare.callaghan@southbankcentre.org.uk

The Moon*National Maritime Museum, 19 July 2019*

Celebrating the fiftieth anniversary of humanity's first footsteps on another world on 21 July 2019, Royal Museums Greenwich will mount a major exhibition to explore our evolving relationship with the Moon across history. The exhibition will show that the Moon has always acted as a mirror for humanity's dreams, obsessions and endeavours. The exhibition will include the earliest drawings of the Moon made using a telescope by Thomas Harriott, from the collection of Lord Egremont, along with key pieces from the Royal Astronomical Society, Victoria and Albert Museum and Science Museum, and the loan of Apollo space programme artefacts from the Smithsonian National Air and Space Museum in Washington D.C. For more information, contact press@rmg.co.uk

Culture Under Attack*IWM London, 5 July 2019 – 5 January 2020*

Culture Under Attack explores the impact of acts of war against what defines who we are – our culture. From the buildings we build for our communities to the tangible and intangible

things we treasure as individuals, *Culture Under Attack* will invite visitors to consider what happens when culture is threatened, targeted or deliberately annihilated. The season will be made up of three exhibitions, 'What Remains', jointly curated with Historic England; 'Rebel Sounds,' an immersive experience exploring the significance of music in relation to cultural and personal identity; and 'Art in Exile', uncovering how cultural treasures in British museums were evacuated during the Second World War. For more information, contact PoAndrews@iwm.org.uk

Bridget Riley

Hayward Gallery, October 2019

This major exhibition celebrating the British artist is organised by the National Galleries of Scotland in partnership with the Hayward Gallery and in close collaboration with the artist. It will be the first museum survey of Riley's work to be held in the UK for 16 years. The exhibition will place particular emphasis on the origins of Riley's perceptual paintings, and will trace pivotal, decisive moments in her acclaimed career. It will feature early representational paintings, iconic black-and-white paintings of the 1960s, expansive canvases in colour, recent wall paintings as well as studies and preparatory material. For more information, contact clare.callaghan@southbankcentre.org.uk

Life Rewired

The Barbican, throughout 2019

Life Rewired is an arts and learning season running throughout 2019 exploring what it means to be human in the face of technological and scientific forces that are dizzying in their speed, scale and complexity. The season will demonstrate how artists are finding imaginative ways to communicate through the human impact of unprecedented technological shifts as well as finding new uses for AI, big data, algorithms. Highlights include 'AI: More than Human' a major new exhibition offering an unprecedented survey of creative and scientific developments in AI and 'Strange Loops', a series of collaborative projects and events inspired by Pulitzer prize-winning book *Gödel, Escher, Bach: An Eternal Golden Braid* by Douglas Hofstadter, and exploring whether a machine can become conscious or creative. For more information, contact nick.adams@barbican.org.uk

Theatre & Entertainment

Swan Lake

London Coliseum, 3 – 13 January 2019

English National Ballet brings the timeless classical ballet to life in Derek Deane's enthralling production. Beloved for its superb dancing, beautiful sets and Tchaikovsky's glorious music, played live by English National Ballet Philharmonic, this performance is a thrill for the dedicated fan or first-time ballet goer. For more information, contact alice.gibson@ballet.org.uk

Cirque du Soleil: Totum

Royal Albert Hall, 12 January – 9 February 2019

Cirque du Soleil returns to the Royal Albert Hall with Totem. Totem takes you on a stunning journey into the Evolution of Mankind – from our original amphibian state to our ultimate quest for flight. Featuring Cirque du Soleil's mind-blowing signature acts, and returning to London after record-breaking previous seasons, Totem is an unforgettable spectacle for all ages. For more information, contact rckb@royalalberthall.com

When we have sufficiently tortured each other

National Theatre, January 2019

Martin Crimp's play breaks through the surface of contemporary debate to explore the messy, often violent nature of desire, and the fluid, complicated roles that men and women play. Using Richardson's novel as a provocation, five characters act out a dangerous game of sexual domination and resistance. For more information, contact rgreenwood@nationaltheatre.org.uk

New Music International

Southbank Centre, 16 – 20 January 2019

Marking the start of a new music focus every January, 2019 sees the launch of New Music International, a festival with a truly global outlook. The programme spans continents, featuring composers from across the globe and performances by Ensemble Modern, Resident Orchestras London Philharmonic Orchestra, Philharmonia Orchestra, London Sinfonietta and more. For more information, contact press@southbankcentre.org

Come From Away

Phoenix Theatre, 30 January 2019

Come From Away the musical is the remarkable true story of the 7,000 stranded passengers that were welcomed by the people of Gander Newfoundland during the wake of 9/11. Cultures clashed, and nerves ran high, but as uneasiness turned into trust music soared into the night and gratitude grew into enduring friendship. For more information, see phoenix.londontheatres.co.uk

9 to 5

The Savoy Theatre, 28 January – 31 August 2019

9 to 5 the musical tells the story of Doralee, Violet and Judy - three workmates pushed to boiling point by their sexist and egotistical boss. Inspired by the cult film this new West End production is about teaming up, standing up and taking care of business! Featuring an original score by country legend and pop icon Dolly Parton. For more information, contact simon@rawpr.co.uk

Lost Lagoon

Location TBC, 1 February – 7 April 2019

Lost Lagoon by Bompas & Parr represents a fantastical reinterpretation of the eponymous Captain Henry Morgan's world, and will require guests to explore a series of cocktail-based escapades as part of an extravagant immersive theatrical production. Budding buccaneers will navigate themselves by boat on an indoor sea to a series of islands. Along the way, they

will receive rum-based rations and progressively accumulate the knowledge to make the finest rum punches. For more information, contact hester@bacchus.agency

All About Eve

Noël Coward Theatre, 2 February – 11 May 2019

Lifting the curtain on a world of jealousy and ambition, this new production, from one of the world's most innovative theatre directors, asks why our fascination with celebrity, youth and identity never seems to get old. For more information, contact jbowman@encore.co.uk

The Girl on the Train

Richmond Theatre, 11 February TBC 2019

Adapted from Paula Hawkins's novel – an international phenomenon– this gripping new play will keep you guessing until the final moment. Rachel Watson longs for a different life. Her only escape is the perfect couple she watches through the train window every day, happy and in love. Or so it appears. When Rachel learns that the woman she's been secretly watching has suddenly disappeared, she finds herself as a witness and even a suspect in a thrilling mystery. For more information, nicciall@theambassadors.com

Follies

National Theatre, 14 February – 26 March 2019

After a sold-out run, Follies, winner of the Olivier Award for Best Musical Revival, returns in 2019. New York, 1971. There's a party on the stage of the Weismann Theatre. Tomorrow the iconic building will be demolished. Thirty years after their final performance, the Follies girls gather to have a few drinks, sing a few songs and lie about themselves. For more information, contact ehardy@nationaltheatre.org.uk

Waitress

Adelphi Theatre, February 2019

The Tony Award-nominated smash hit musical Waitress will have its official UK premiere in the West End next spring. Currently playing its third year on Broadway, the show will bring with it an all-female lead creative team – a West End musical first. For more information, contact hannahbl@thecornershoppr.com

Blue Planet II: Live in Concert

The O2, 17 March 2019

Following the success of the BAFTA award-winning BBC One television series Blue Planet II, presented by Sir David Attenborough, BBC Studios and FKP Scorpio are proud to present Blue Planet II – Live in Concert. It will involve a selection of stunning visuals from the television series, highlighting the natural wonders of our blue planet in breath-taking detail on a 4k Ultra HD LED screen and will be accompanied by the original immersive music score by a full symphony orchestra. For more information, contact pressoffice@o2.com

Captain Corelli's Mandolin

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 2019, 25 years after the book was first published. It is an epic love story set on the Greek island of Cephalonia, which follows 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

Mamma Mia! The Party

The O2, late spring 2019

This delightful immersive theatrical and dining experience first launched in Stockholm to great success and is now coming to London. Work has begun to transform one of the venues within the O2 into Nikos' Taverna and guests will feel like they are right in the heart of a Greek island paradise, while the story of Nikos and his family plays out in front of them. Of course, there will be the opportunity to sing and dance to plenty of ABBA songs. For more information, contact rachel.lloyd@theo2.co.uk

Cinderella

Royal Albert Hall, 6 – 16 June 2019

This new in-the-round version of *Cinderella*, from multi-award-winning choreographer Christopher Wheeldon, will premiere at the Royal Albert Hall. Co-produced by English National Ballet (ENO) and the Royal Albert Hall, Wheeldon's inventive production features over 90 dancers and combines magnificent sets and costumes and theatrical surprises in what promises to be the ballet spectacular of 2019. For more information, contact alice.gibson@ballet.org.uk

Festival of Film

Royal Albert Hall, October – November 2019

The Royal Albert Hall's Festival of Film returns, celebrating the magic of the movies, while shining a spotlight on cinema's best scores. The programme is packed with immersive movie and music experiences, including a host of screenings, concerts with a film flavour, exhibitions, talks and tours. For more information, contact paulb@royalalberthall.com

Mary Poppins

Prince Edward Theatre, autumn 2019

The world's most famous nanny is returning to London's West End! Disney musical *Mary Poppins* is set to float back into the West End in 2019, and will follow the closure of another Disney show, *Aladdin*, at the Prince Edward Theatre. For more information, see <https://www.londontheatre.co.uk/show/mary-poppins>

Hotels

Vintry & Mercer

The City of London, 4 February 2019

Nestled in the heart of London along a narrow street, you'll find the capital's newest luxury boutique hotel. The 92 bespoke rooms and suites draw interior inspiration from the historic trading guilds of the City of London and create a unique hideaway in the bustling borough. The Vintry Kitchen can be found downstairs where you can sample delicious Asian tapas before heading to the terrace for a tippie overlooking iconic London sights like St Paul's Cathedral and The Shard. For more information, contact pr@vintryandmercer.com

Manhattan Loft Gardens

Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park, April 2019

The 42-storey design hotel Manhattan Loft Gardens was founded by Harry Handelsman, the visionary behind the restored St Pancras Hotel and Chiltern Firehouse. It will have 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

Great Cumberland Place, spring 2019

Watch out London: America's legendary hotel chain is coming this way! Built in one of the most iconic locations – on the corner of Oxford Street and Park Lane, Hard Rock Hotel London, one of the many global franchises of the Hard Rock group is set to open its doors in spring 2019. The hotel will boast around 1000 stylish rooms and suites, with two vibrant bars and a lively café. True to its name, it will be a haven for music lovers, exhibiting memorabilia from musical greats within the hotel. For more information, contact info@hrhlondon.com

Standard Hotel

King's Cross, early 2019

Standard Hotels is bringing The Standard London, complete with 250 rooms and an amazing glass roof extension, to a former Camden Council building in King's Cross. Construction is in full swing, with glass stories on top of the existing concrete structure in a marked contrast with the Gothic Revival Renaissance St. Pancras hotel across the street. Anticipation is building for this hotter than hot new addition to the London hotel scene. For more information, contact press@standardhotels.com

The Great Scotland Yard Hotel

Westminster, 2019 TBC

As might be guessed at from its name, this upcoming 'luxury boutique' hotel is moving into the historic home of the Met Police, where it will provide 153 rooms and several sophisticated food and beverage outlets. It will become the first UK property to join Hyatt Group's Unbound Collection (an assortment of individual and unbranded hotels). For more information, contact milica.antic@hyatt.com

Food & Drink

Bob Bob Cité

Leadenhall Building, Aldgate, 15 January 2019

Set to occupy the entire third floor of 'The Cheesegrater' this long-awaited follow-up restaurant to cult Soho venue Bob Bob Ricard promises more 'press for champagne', alongside cooking provided by well-known chef, Eric Chavot. When it finally arrives, one thing is certain: it won't be subtle! For more information, contact info@joriwhitepr.co.uk

Endo at Rotunda*Wood Lane, January 2019*

Endo Kazutoshi, Master sushi chef and director of Ichibuns, the Japanese ramen and burger restaurant which launched in London last year, has confirmed that his next restaurant will be at White City. The 15-cover sushi restaurant is named after the space it will occupy, the rotunda of the former BBC headquarters. For more information, contact stevie.king@purplepr.com

Amazonico*Berkeley Square, January 2019*

It's early days, but word on the grapevine is that Spanish celebrity haunt Amazonico, famous for its lush forested interior, is planning to open in the former Allied Irish Bank building in Berkeley Square. Amazonico is known for an eclectic, Brazilian-inspired menu reminiscent of Zuma and Nobu. For more information, [check back soon.](#)

Din Tai Fung*Centre Point – early 2019*

World-famous Taiwanese restaurant *Din Tai Fung* will be open its second London restaurant in Tottenham Court Road's new Centre Point development. The restaurant will offer the 'signature' Din Tai Fung menu, including its world-famous xiao long bao (steamed pork soup dumplings), steamed prawn and pork shao-mai and other staples. For more information, see <https://www.dintaifung.com.sg/about.php>

Angelina*Dalston, February 2019*

Dalston is known for its alternative scene, so it's no surprise that the unusual fusion of Japanese and Italian food and a no-phone rule will be the latest addition to its culinary offering. Angelina will combine the two cuisines, forming a menu that celebrates regional and seasonal dishes from the two countries. It will also host a hidden drinking den called Golden Gal, inspired by Tokyo's famous Shinjuku district. For more information, see www.angelina.london

Xier*Marylebone, February 2019*

This new restaurant from acclaimed Italian chef Carlo Scotto, previously Head Chef at Babbo in Mayfair, will be a two-tiered affair with a casual ground floor space and then a first-floor fine dining experience with an exquisite 10 course tasting menu. For more information, [check back soon.](#)

Soutine

St. John's Wood, early 2019

At the beginning of 2019, Corbin & King (the group behind The Wolesley and Brasserie Zedel) will open Soutine on St John's Wood High Street. Similar in many ways to Colbert, the informal neighbourhood rendezvous will take inspiration from the great boulevard cafés of Paris. Located in an impressive period building, the front room and pavement will offer relaxed café and bar seating, leading to a slightly more formal space at the rear. For more information, contact laura.urquhart@corbinking.com

Sam's Riverside

Hammersmith, early 2019

West London restaurateur Sam Harrison is back from three years of travelling with a destination riverfront restaurant by Hammersmith Bridge, which will be part of the multimillion Riverside Studios redevelopment. The plan is to make the most out of the restaurant's spectacular river-side setting, with floor to ceiling windows and an outdoor terrace. There will be a strong leaning towards seafood on the menu and a big feature cocktail bar. For more information, contact hello@samsriverside.co.uk

D&D restaurant

120 Fenchurch St, spring 2019

The prolific D&D restaurant group who own Blueprint Café, German Gymnasium and Quaglinos are gearing up for their next opening, atop a new building on Fenchurch St. It's not going to be at the very top of the building – that will be home to an open-to-the-public sky garden - but it will definitely still have pretty amazing views over the city. For more information, contact briam@danddlondon.com

Please note: This information was correct on 18 December 2018. It will be updated regularly here.