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This week's Time Out in no time at all

## Relax, don't do it

'New Year, new you' sound too much like hard work? Swap frantic fitness bursts for a bit of 'Restorative Yoga'

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selle TORNAD

#### Too amazing for words

The best of this year's London International Mime Festival

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#### Film 2019

What to see over the next 12 months, from the new Tarantino to 'Pokémon Detective Pikachu'. Awww!

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amnagi

#### Good-for-you food guide

Eat out in style and still have a virtuous January with our healthy restaurant round-up

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#### So 'Stow-ked

Guess what – 2019 is the year of Waltham Forest: the first ever London Borough of Culture. And it's kicking off with a three-day party

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January 8 - 14 2019 Time Out London



Happy New(ish) Year! It's probably fair to say that no one is really sure what 2019 has in store for us. So this week we're focusing on something we can always depend on: our city continuing to be great, challenging and unexpected. Among the highlights we've handpicked on p20 is a brand new photography gallery that features a 'modern conversation hub', a festival celebrating the 1969 moon landing and an immersive dining experience offering bottomless Abba. Whatever the next year brings, London will keep doing what it does best: being London. Have a good one!



What you've been rating and hating online

Eyal here was sure there'd be some catch to the deal when we highlighted £145 flights from London to New York in Norwegian Air's January sale. It doesn't include refreshments, Eyal, that much is certain. **'Does it include an aircraft?'** Eyal R via Facebook

On New Year's Eve, The Shard flashed white in time to the chimes of Big Ben. Nifty. But some saw it as an ill omen for the capital. (Looks like Sadiq's got some competition.) **'On the twelfth chime, Sauron will become evil overlord of Greater London.'** *H via Instagram*  As part of our 2018 review, we asked Londoners if they thought the summer heatwave made them happier. Ian used this as an opportunity to gloat about his tan lines. Hope you had your SPF 50 on! **'I loved working outside all summer – had lovely white bits.'** Ian P via Facebook

We posted an image of the city's predicted 2026 skyline, obscuring a beloved existing landmark, to the dismay of many. Christina thought she had the answer. **'Why would you hide the fabulous Gherkin? Can't someone build around The Walkie-Talkie instead?'** *Christina P via Facebook* 

#### **COMMENT OF THE WEEK**

London went wild for frosty pop-ups over the festive season – from rooftop ice rinks to curling alleys. The most viral of them all was Bumper Cars on Ice, which involved... well, exactly that. Danelle saw the video we captured of it for Instagram and wondered if it was to scale.

'That tiny ice rink we walked past looks much bigger in this video.' Danelle J via Instagram

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Edited by James Manning @timeoutlondon

# Boxpark 3.0

FIRST CAME SHOREDITCH. Then came Croydon. Now the biggest Boxpark yet has opened smack in the middle of north-west London. Like its sisters to the east and south, it's a 'pop-up mall' packed with places to eat: 27 of them, in fact, including Ugly Dumpling, Zia Lucia, The Athenian and KoolCha (a new street food-style spot by ex-Gymkhana and Kutir chef Rohit Ghai, which should bolster the neighbourhood's already stellar rep for Indian food). Unlike the first two Boxparks, it isn't made from shipping containers, meaning the main hall can double as a 2,000-capacity covered events space to host concerts, markets and sports screenings. There's a games bar complete with shuffleboard, ping-pong, pool and table football and a separate 300-person party venue called Beatbox. Basically, it's huge. So as well as football, big gigs and great curry, now there's a new reason to head to HA9. We're going to Wemb-er-ley ... James Manning



# THE ESSENTIALS Three things you have to do this week



Start Veganuary right with brunch at **The Spread Eagle**, London's first fully vegan pub. Grab a kombucha cocktail and dig in to **Club Mexicana**'s LA-and-Mexican-inspired weekend menu.



As temperatures drop, the **London Homeless Charities Group** is raising funds with City Hall to end rough sleeping in the capital. Give online or via a TAP London contactless donation point.



New at the Royal Festival Hall: an outpost of vinyl mecca **Spiritland**, complete with an audiophile sound system, stylish food and drink and a rare 2am licence. At last, a new South Bank hangout!

#### **City life**

## THINGS YOU ONLY KNOW IF YOU'RE A...

## **Stage manager**

#### Adele Lamb, 35

#### Making sure everything runs smoothly is as much as an art as a science

'As a stage manager, my job is to "call" shows as they happen – so that could be saying, "Winch one, go. Sound, go" through a headset. People don't necessarily think of it as artistic, but you're having to read the music, the cast and the audience's reaction, so there is an artistic side to it. We're kind of the driving force that pushes things forward.'

#### Plays, musicals and circus shows all have their own challenges

'I have done plays, but I've always been drawn towards musicals, because there's more going on in a technical sense. I've worked on shows like "Jesus Christ Superstar" and "Rock of Ages". But now I tour with Cirque du Soleil, and the difference with circus is that we are slightly movable. Something can happen to an acrobat while they're warming up that means they can't do that act, and we have to rearrange things. We make sure we run seamlessly and the audience doesn't know something's happened.'



#### Knowing what happens backstage can make it hard to watch other shows

'I make a real effort to see stuff that I wouldn't usually work on – plays, dance and opera – but I've never been able to fully switch off. There are times when you're watching something and you think: I wonder if that was meant to happen. But nobody else would notice!'

#### **Circus life makes dating hard**

'I've been single for a long time now. It's not a job for everybody, and generally people end up with somebody in the same industry because they understand the pressures you're under. But if you end up on different shows – which lots of people do – you can be on opposite sides of the world again.' ■ Interview by Danielle Goldstein → 'Cirque du Soleil: Totem', Royal Albert Hall. ↔ South Kensington. Sat Jan 12-Feb 9. £35-£210.

# WORD ON THE STREET

The most ridiculous things we've overheard in London this week

#### 'Nobody in a polar bear sweater gets laid.'

#### 'There must be a scientific word for the gravity that pulls you down bus stairs.'

'This is how you end up having three kids and a dog!'

'Nah, man, the DLR takes you right into east London. I mean *knee deep*.'

'I'm part Scottish but I just hate kilts.'

#### 'You have a kimchi drawer but you don't know what a JCB is?'

'I feel like my nostrils are more slutty than my throat.'

#### 'Poppadoms: I like them more than the average person.'

'I was in McDonald's and someone walked into the McToilet.'

#### 'I just need a kebab and someone to go down on me.'

'Oh, I know a good yarn when I feel one.'

#### Overheard any outré exchanges? Tweet us #wordonthestreet @timeoutlondon





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# Make London Better

London's got problems. Here's how we fix them



## **Clean Break**

#### WHAT IS IT?

A theatre company giving a much-needed voice to women with experience of criminal justice and the prison system. From its Kentish Town studios. artistic professionals and members engage in performance and writing projects to boost confidence. This spring, the organisation marks its fortieth anniversary with a special season of performances and collaborations.

#### WHY DOES IT MATTER?

London's last women's prison, HMP Holloway, closed in 2016. Families must now travel much further to visit female prisoners, a very high proportion of whom are from underprivileged backgrounds. Clean Break's supportive community tackles this isolation, with 70 percent of its members going on to further education, volunteering or employment.

#### HOW CAN I GET INVOLVED?

Go and see this year's birthday programme, which includes 'Inside Bitch', a Royal Court co-production playfully subverting TV portrayals of women in prison, performed by members. You can also donate or volunteer at Clean Break's studios in Kentish Town, You're sure to leave with a more rounded view of the city we live in. ■ Bex Shorunke

 $\rightarrow$  www.cleanbreak.org.uk

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#### Time Out London January 8 – 14 2019





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### **MOST GOOGLED Does London** have a flag?

**BACK IN 2016**, in the wake of the EU referendum, people started talking about the capital breaking away from the rest of the country. But if Londependence is ever going to be a serious prospect, we're going to need a flag.

Wait – doesn't London already have a flag? You've been Googling it, and the answer is, actually, no.

Most of the capital's 33 councils have a flag of their own, featuring either a coat of arms or a modern design. The tiny City of London has been flying its ensign – a red-andwhite St George's cross with the sword of St Paul (pictured) – since at least 1663. Greater London – the entity created in 1965 out of the City and the 32 modern boroughs – *used* to have a flag, but it fell out of official use in the '80s. The Greater London Authority, which has existed since 2000, has never decided on a new



Geek out at timeout.com/news

one – even though other major cities like Amsterdam, Paris, Tokyo, Chicago and New York have been flying their own flags for years.

Q,

But could that change? After all, Birmingham voted for a snazzy new flag in 2015 in a competition run by the Flag Institute. According to the body's chief vexillologist, Graham Bartram, there's no reason why Sadiq Khan couldn't start a similar campaign: 'If the Mayor is worried about people not feeling like they belong in London, maybe he should look at having a flag,' he says.

Naturally, we put the question to the Mayor himself. 'I'm happy to look into this,' says Sadiq. 'I'll need to deny the rumours that persist that I will unilaterally declare independence. But if you've got ideas for a flag, send them in.' You heard it here first – over to you, flag fans! *Megan Carnegie* 



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# **MY LONDON STORY**

Double bassist Chi-chi Nwanoku is transforming British classical music with Chineke! Orchestra – the UK's first dedicated ensemble for BAME musicians



# **'I had to form an orchestra for people like me'**

I STARTED PLAYING piano when I was seven – my neighbours even gave me their piano as I was so obsessed with it. At 18, I played Chopin in a school music competition. Afterwards, the head of music told me that I was the most musical girl in the school, and I could have a professional career if I took up a very unpopular instrument. He led me to a room with two double basses in it. I said to him: 'Sir, I'm the smallest girl in sixth form, and those are the biggest instruments in the whole orchestral' But then he said the magic words: 'Chi-chi, when have you ever been put off by a challenge?'

The competition prize paid for my first double bass lessons. After a crash course of two years in Cambridge, I found myself studying at the Royal Academy of Music in Marylebone. In 1986, I became one of the founders of the Orchestra Of The Age Of Enlightenment, where I was principal double bass player for 30 years. As the only person of colour in the orchestra for that whole time, I knew that I was an anomaly. But I had gone from a girls' boarding school into classical music, so 'white' was my world. I wonder now why I didn't challenge it, but I didn't even have anyone to challenge it with: I had no POC peers at all.

I went to the Royal Festival Hall in 2015, during the annual Africa Utopia festival, for a performance by the Orchestre Symphonique Kimbanguiste – a huge ensemble of around 200 mostly self-taught musicians from Kinshasa in DR Congo. At the pre-reception, my friend, the violinist Tasmin Little, was being interviewed by the BBC about the event. When the Southbank Centre's director of music saw me, she asked, aghast: 'But what does Tasmin know about Africa?' 'We're used to this,' I replied. 'You've been telling our stories for generations.' That's when I knew I had to form an orchestra for people like me.

The next day I phoned every music establishment in the country: the conservatoires and concert halls, the government and British Council. I travelled all over the country to find the musicians. Chineke! Orchestra played our first concert at the Queen Elizabeth Hall in September 2015 and were invited to become an associate orchestra of the Southbank Centre. Since then we've toured the UK, visited Ghent and Rotterdam and played at the Royal Albert Hall for the Proms. I was awarded an OBE, and last year I was even nominated for the Groucho Club's annual Maverick Award!

'Chineke' means 'the guardian creator of all good things' in Nigeria's Igbo language. We started off entirely BAME, and are now majority BAME. It isn't just about helping BAME musicians: it will help the whole industry because more talent will come in, especially through our Chineke! Junior Orchestra. Our cellist Sheku Kanneh-Mason has won BBC Young Musician of the Year, played at Harry and Meghan's wedding, and his debut album topped the classical charts. His older brother Braimah led our Junior Orchestra; now he's played around the world. That's the impact we can have. As much as anything, it's about building people's confidence. ■ Interview by Manu Ekanayake → www.chineke.org

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# FREE LONDON

#### Put your money away! Here are the week's best free events



#### LONDON BUN-DERGROUND

#### **No Trousers Tube Ride**

Taking off a few layers in a sweaty Central line carriage is a necessity, but it's generally frowned upon to ditch your trousers on the tube. Now's your chance to do just that as the annual No Trousers Tube Ride returns for its tenth year. Meet in front of the National Gallery and get ready to drop your kecks when you get underground. Just leave your budgie smugglers at home, yeah? → Meet in front of the National Gallery. ⇔ Charing Cross. Sun Jan 13.

#### WHAT A TREE-T Welcome to the Forest

Waltham Forest has been named London's first ever Borough of Culture for 2019 and it's kicking things off with a three-day festival. Expect light installations, music from local talent and lots of ace neon from God's Own Junkyard. → Various locations. Fri Jan 11-Sun Jan 13.

#### MOVE YOUR FEET Winter Warmer Social Tea Dance

Flossing is so 2018. Learn some new moves at this free dancing session, where you'll master everything from swing and salsa to ballroom and jive. All levels are welcome and you don't need a partner – just turn up and join in.  $\rightarrow$  Royal Festival Hall.  $\ominus$  Waterloo. Wed Jan 9.

#### TEE-TOTALLY GREAT Mindful Drinking Festival

Overdone it on the Bailey's? Have a break at this one-day festival where you can try loads of alcohol-free tipples. Learn how to make cocktails, sip free samples and feel smug the next day when you're hangover-free. → The Old Truman Brewery. Shoreditch High St Overground. Sat Jan 12-Sun Jan 13.

#### BRANCH OUT Pruning workshop and wassail

Ever heard of a wassail? It's an ancient tradition which involves singing to apple trees for a good harvest. Intrigued? Experience it at Agnes Riley Gardens where you'll listen to live music, learn how to prune apple trees and sip mulled cider. → Agnes Riley Gardens. ↔ Clapham South. Sun Jan 13. CATHERTALCATHE

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#### 19 for 2019

London has its first Borough of Culture Waltham Forest has nabbed the accolade of being the first ever London Borough of Culture, which means it's throwing a year-long programme of celebratory events. The opening spectacle, 'Welcome to the Forest' (Friday January 11-Sunday January 13), is fronted by former Mercury Prize winner Talvin Singh, who will tell the story of the borough in an original audiovisual piece. Also look out for Walthamstow Jazz Festival, a performance from Damon Albarn with Africa Express and a major exhibition marking the centenary of the Bauhaus movement. It's the biggest thing to happen to E17 since 'Stay Another Day' got to Number One. Alexandra Sims





**2** The star bartender at The Savoy is opening his own place Anybody lucky enough to drink at the American Bar at The Savoy will have been charmed by white-suited staff. Heading up the team until recently was **Erik Lorincz**, one of the world's best bartenders. That's why we can't wait to see what's in store when Lorincz launches his own bar as part of the revamp of Mayfair restaurant Momo. We don't know much about **El Bar** yet, but it's billed as 'a refined nineteenth-century-styled cocktail bar'. Bring on Savoy-style service and earthshattering drinks (hopefully without the price tags). *Laura Richards* 

 $\rightarrow$  25 Heddon St.  $\leftrightarrow$  Piccadilly Circus. From Feb.

## **3** Gillian Anderson is playing the ultimate Broadway icon in 'All About Eve'

Fasten your seat belts... This hotly anticipated stage version of Joseph L Mankiewicz's seminal 1950 film **'All About Eve'** will see Gillian Anderson and Lily James as a legendary Broadway star and a lethally determined aspiring actress whose friendship escalates into a toxic feud. An original score from PJ Harvey will accompany Mankiewicz's crackling dialogue. We predict a bumpy night, for all the right reasons. AS $\rightarrow$  Noël Coward Theatre.  $\ominus$  Leicester Square. Feb 2-May 11. £15-£150.



#### Tom Hiddleston is taking to the stage for a lively bit of Pinter

Director Jamie Lloyd's final instalment of his Pinter at the Pinter season is Lokiing amazing. He's booked 'Avengers' villain **Tom Hiddleston** to star in Harold Pinter's 1978 drama **'Betrayal'**. Hiddleston plays Robert, one of a trio of lovers on a ego-fuelled, deceitful journey. The rest of the cast is yet to be announced. Don't hold your breath for Chris Hemsworth. *Katie McCabe* → Harold Pinter Theatre. ↔ Piccadilly Circus. Mar 5-Jun 1. £15-£99.50.

#### An electronic music festival is occupying brutalist buildings London concrete meets techno for

Re-Textured, an avant-garde invention from party promoters Krankbrother. The multi-venue, multi-sensory bash will take over London's most arresting brutalist architecture with experimental light installations and leftfield electronic and ambient music. More than 30 acts have already been confirmed, all playing in a roll-call of iconic buildings, such as Walthamstow Assembly Hall and the Southbank Centre. Prepare for four days of dazzling visuals and brutal beats.AS → Various venues. Mar 28-31. From £15.



#### A creepy exhibition about the psychology of magic is on the cards Fetch the ouija board and dust off the

tarot cards, something wicked this way comes. The Wellcome Collection's 'Smoke and Mirrors' exhibition is devoted to the mental manipulation used in magic. See the Bell Box used by Houdini to expose phony mediums, find out how female magicians' assistants have played a vital role in misdirection techniques and see a gorilla costume worn by Derren Brown. Hex-citing! AS → Wellcome Collection. ↔ Euston. Apr 11-Sep 15. Free.

The Crystal Maze is making its way to the West End

Drop a mention of the 'The Crystal Maze' into any stagnating thirtieth-birthday conversation and by 2am you'll be standing armin-arm shouting 'Start the fans, please!' So enduring is the power of the '90s TV challenge show that a live version launched in London in 2016. That Live Experience proved so popular it's moving to an even bigger, mazier location - the Trocadero. It'll have 32 new challenges, more places to be locked in when you fail your task, and a bar. Your bomber jacket awaits...KM → The Crystal Maze Live Experience, 22-32 Shaftesbury Avenue. ↔ Piccadilly Circus. From Mar 29. Early bookers from £49.99 per person.



#### **Tate Britain is celebrating** women artists The art world has a bit of an erasure problem when it comes to the work of women. That's why 'Sixty Years' is a reason to bounce off the walls with excitement. The show one of the biggest at Tate Britain this year - will be a retrospective of British art from 1960 to now that features only work produced by women. It will celebrate some of this country's most important artists - like Susan Hiller and Bridget Riley - and it's curated by a woman too (Sofia Karamani). The gallery's also putting on a Van Gogh show in March but who cares about him.eh?KateLlovd

 $\rightarrow$  Tate Britain.  $\ominus$  Pimlico. From Apr 22. Price TBC.

#### The long-awaited Kubrick exhibition is opening

In 2004, a blockbuster show created from Stanley Kubrick's archives launched at Frankfurt's Deutsches Filmmuseum before touring 16 countries. The show never made it to London, despite the UK being Kubrick's adopted home - that is, until now. 'Stanley Kubrick: The Exhibition' will be packed with props from '2001: A Space Odyssey' and his other classic films. All this will coincide with a major Kubrick retrospective at the BFI (April-May) that will include 'A Clockwork Orange'. It's going to be real horrorshow. KM → The Design Museum. ↔ High St Kensington. Apr 26-Sep 17. From £11 at www.timeout.com/kubrick.



#### **19 for 2019**

#### The UK's largest outdoor fitness fest is kicking off in Hackney

Snap on those sweatbands and set your Spotify to Olivia Newton-John – things are about to get physical. After the success of the **Hackney Festival of Fitness** last year (which saw 50,000 runners and spectators descend on the borough), the organisers decided to turn the event into a massive three-dayer in Hackney Marshes. There'll be a 5k community run on the Saturday and the half-marathon on the Sunday. With free and ticketed exercise classes, a market and an open-air cinema, it's set to be the biggest outdoor fitness festival ever to take place in the UK. *KM*  $\rightarrow$  Hackney Marshes. Hackney Wick Overground. May 17-19. Festival of Fitness entry free. Half-marathon entry from £49.



#### A massive manga show is coming to the British Museum Better don your best cosplay outfit.

**'Manga'**, the biggest exhibition of its kind held outside of Japan, will open in London this May. Trace the art form from its roots in drawings, paintings and theatre design, including a 17-metre theatre curtain painted in just four hours by artist Kawanabe Kyōsai in 1880 after he'd necked more than a few bottles of rice wine. There'll also be an area where you can try on costumes and a video booth where you can get manga-fied. *Yatta!AS* 

→ British Museum. ↔ Holborn. May 23-Aug 26. £19.50.





#### **7** Kerb is heading to Covent Garden

Street food giant Kerb is getting its first permanent space bang in the middle of town this year. **Seven Dials Market** – housed in a former banana warehouse – is going to be Kerb's biggest venture yet. Once the hoardings come down, it's set to serve delish dishes to Covent Garden. Start training your your stomach now. *Stephanie Hartman* → Thomas Neal's Warehouse. ↔ Covent Garden. Due to open this summer.



# **13** Beautiful lights are transforming the Thames

London's river is set for a serious glowup in 2019. Huge light installation **'Illuminated River'**, designed by artist Leo Villareal and architects Lifschutz Davidson Sandilands, will get 15 bridges twinkling – and they might stay lit for a decade. The first four – London Bridge, Southwark Bridge, Cannon Street Railway Bridge and Millennium Bridge – will get switched on this summer. Beam me up, Scotty! *Angela Hui* 

ightarrow Due to light up in summer 2019.



#### A derelict cinema is going to reopen... as a cinema! Projectors will roll in Hoxton in

Projectors will roll in Hoxton in 2019 for the first time since 1956, as the former Gaumont cinema reopens as the **Curzon Hoxton**. Plans to redevelop the building have been in the works for years, with controversy raging about the cinema's ornate art deco frontage, and Jarvis Cocker objecting to the attached office block (something about not wanting people to see him in his PJs – he lived across the street at the time). As the façade wasn't in great nick, a new one has been recreated from moulds of the original structure, so the Curzon Hoxton retains its grand old face. *KM* 

→ 55 Pitfield St. Hoxton Overground. Exact opening date TBC.

# **15** Field Day is moving into four giant warehouses

A former gasworks near Tottenham Marshes is the new home this year of **Field Day**. The move will give the festival a whopping tenacre site to play with, including a 7,500-capacity warehouse: one of the biggest in the city. The more remote location also means the show will be able to run louder and later than any other in London. Warehouse raveit is, then. AS  $\rightarrow$  Meridian Water. Enfield Town rail. Jun 7-8. From £30.



#### **16** Woolwich is throwing a big party. For the moon Last year. a crowdfunder was

Last year, a crowdfunder was launched for a London festival marking the fiftieth anniversary of the 1969 Apollo moon landing. Now the **Moon Festival** has finally got the sponsorship it needs for blast off. This July sees General Gordon Square in Woolwich host a three-day party of moonwalks, fireworks, a night-blooming garden and a talk from Margaret Atwood in a secret location. Sheer lunacy – in the best possible way. *KM*  $\rightarrow$  Multiple venues. Woolwich Arsenal rail. Jul 19-21. Price TBC.

#### **There's Abba-themed** dining at The 02

Look, nobody wants to be the kind of person who gets piss-in-theirdisco-flares excited about the launch of an Abba-themed restaurant at The 02, but some of us were Björn this way (especially Abba member Björn Ulvaeus, who has been working on this for years). At '**Mamma Mia! The Party**', you'll be transported to a taverna on Skopelos where the waiters burst into 'Does Your Mother Know' between courses. Let's hope they can raise the money, money, money to book Cher. *KM*  $\rightarrow$  The 02.  $\leftrightarrow$  North Greenwich. Aug 29-Nov 18. Three-course meal and show from £151.20.





## Greenwich Peninsula is getting a sick new event space

Magazine London is not an upstart publication trying to rival Time Out. It's a fresh new venue for our city. The team behind Printworks is bringing this mega-site on Greenwich Peninsula to fruition. Billed as a blank canvas, expect exhibitions, concerts and parties coming soon...■ SH → Greenwich Peninsula. ↔ North Greenwich. Sep 1.



**18** A new photography gallery is launching in Whitechapel Stockholm's Fotografiska is opening not one but two new outposts in 2019. The first is on New York's Park Avenue, the second is focused on Whitechapel. In its own words, it promises 'world-class photography, an avantgarde restaurant, a buzzing bar scene, a learning academy and a modern conversation hub'. Get practising your 'modern conversation'. *SH*  $\rightarrow$  10 Whitechapel High St.  $\oplus$  Aldgate East. Due to open this autumn.

Can't think this far ahead? Find out what's happening this month at **timeout.com/january** 









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# Your 2019 (cultural) horoscope

Which exhibition will Libras love? What show should Leos see? Astrologer *Demian Allan* (left) teams up with Time Out's *Samantha Willis* to plot your cultural stars for the year



#### Capricorn

December 22-January 20 This is a shake-up year for you, Capricorn. Expect big changes in your social life and an interest in more unusual subject matters, such as life beyond earth. The '**Mars'** exhibition, landing at the Design Museum in October, is an out-of-this-world place to start.



#### January 21-February 18 Aquarius, you're going to be brave in your choices in 2019, potentially putting you at odds with The Establishment (right on!). Before you start campaigning, why not get fired up laughing at the absurdity of Donald Trump at the Almeida's new comedy **'Shipwreck'** in February.



February 19-March 20 This year you will feel more moved by moral issues than ever, Pisces, particularly those involving community and the environment. Let this inspire you to act! Take part in **The Big Count** in March, where you'll collect data (and litter) on London's riverbanks.



March 21-April 20 Aries, good news: you're going to have a powerful start to the year. Use this newfound inner and outer strength to grab the kettle bells by the balls and work out in public at **Hackney Festival** of Fitness in May. It's gains time, baby!

#### 2019 horoscopes

# **Taurus**

Taurus folk love being pampered. However, this year you'll be forced into situations where you might need to get your hands dirty. An easy first step? Muck in with a mission at the West End **Crystal Maze Live Experience**.

# Gemini

May 22-June 21 You get bored quickly, Gemini. And, in 2019 especially, it would be wise to venture into the mystical and unknown to stop things getting stale. 'Smoke and Mirrors: the Psychology of Magic' at the Wellcome Collection in April is sure to

cast a spell on you.



#### Cancer June 22-July 22

Structure and discipline will be at the heart of your 2019. Mass meditation may help you get the most out of that energy, so bag sweet inner peace at Battersea Park's **Wanderlust festival** in September. It'll be fun, promise!



#### July 23-August 23

Expect new-found courage and creative energy over the next 12 months, Leo. Tate Britain's huge **'Van Gogh and Britain'** show in March is a good way to get inspired for what's sure to be an artistic (y)ear for you.



August 24-September 22 Virgos like to be kept busy. This year, you might find yourself channelling this need for action into fighting social injustice. A chilly charity dip in Tooting Bec Lido for **Crisis Icebreaker** in January is a damn good start.



#### September 23-October 23

Libras, you appreciate beauty. It's important that this is reflected in your 2019 pastimes. Luckily, the life's work of cinema maestro **Stanley Kubrick** arrives at the Design Museum in April. Be good to your eyeballs and go!

# Scorpio

October 24-November 22 You love a little bit of danger, Scorpio, and in 2019 you'll also be after a bit of escapism. Where better to indulge this than 'Casino Royale' Secret Cinema? Sign up and relive Daniel Craig's death-defying crane jump.

There's more from Demian at demianallan.com

#### Sagittarius

November 23-December 21 Sagittarius, you're going to be really into learning about metaphysical subjects this year. Delve into the impact of technology on human society at the Barbican's eye-opening exhibition 'Al: More Than Human' in May.





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# GO OUT WITH TimeOut

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#### Yuu Kitchen

What is it? A three course Asianfusion brunch in Aldgate with bottomless drinks.

Why go? Aside from the trio of bao buns, you can also sink your teeth into the likes of pork chicharron and okra fries – plus limitless bubbles or beer. Oh, and there's an ice-cream bao for dessert!

**What's exclusive?** The bill for all of the above? Just £25.

 $\rightarrow$  Yuu Kitchen.  $\ominus$  Aldgate East. Valid until Mar 31. www.timeout.com/yuu19

#### Chuan Body + Soul

What is it? A pamper day with a treatment and champagne at The Langham London. Why go? To relax, revitalise and unwind after the hectic festive season. Enjoy a deep-tissue massage, a Swedish massage or a Kerstin Florian body scrub and we'll throw in a glass of champers, too. What's exclusive? It's 50 percent off - prices start at £85.

→ The Langham London.  $\ominus$  Oxford Circus. Until Apr 3. www.timeout.com/langham

#### **Yogasphere**

What is it? Five, ten or 25 classes at all London Yogasphere locations. Why go? This yoga practice counts Oprah Winfrey, Elle Macpherson and the Dalai Lama's monks among its fans. Plus, yoga isn't just great for the body; it's excellent for both mind and soul.

**What's exclusive?** It's 83 percent off – prices start at just £15 for five classes.

 $\rightarrow$  Multiple locations. First class must be taken by Apr 1. www.timeout.com/yogasphere19

#### **Palm Court**

What is it? Three courses and half a bottle of wine at Michel Roux Jr's super-classy restaurant.

Why go? To experience fare from one of the greatest culinary families. The modern-European menu here reads gloriously – we got as far as the Balvenie whisky-cured salmon before we came over all *ca alors*! What's exclusive? This top offer is just £35.

 $\rightarrow$  Palm Court.  $\leftrightarrow$  Oxford Circus. Until Mar 31. www.timeout.com/palmcourt19 BARBICAN ART GALLERY / JOHN PHILLIPS / GET





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Edited by GailTolley timeout.com/travel

# The 11 best things to do the world the world the world right now

As we launch our Do List of 50 unmissable global experiences, Time Out's international editors talk you through the 11 best ones

#### **Dream of polka dots at the Yayoi Kusama Museum** Tokyo, Japan

With her dreamlike, kaleidoscopic world of polka dots, pumpkins and mirrors, Yayoi Kusama has become one of the most instantly recognisable artists in the world. People flock to be immersed in her surreal vision, and now there's a permanent space for Kusama addicts to get lost in. Yayoi's very own museum is a narrow, minimalist space that gives visitors an intimate glimpse into her work. Sure, there are the usual polka dots and pumpkins, but what makes this place really special is the focus on Kusama's lesser-known archives and her very latest works. Getting tickets isn't always easy – they must be purchased in advance through the museum's website – but if you plan ahead you'll be rewarded with a tranquil and personal experience of Kusama's overwhelming psychedelic art. *Chee Wah Lim* → 107 Bentencho, Shinjuku, Tokyo 162-0851, Japan.

#### **2 Fly your freakiest flag at House of Yes** New York, USA

New York's gritty, drug-fueled party scene has been slowly eroded over the past two decades, but a handful of hotspots are keeping the city's weird streak alive. House of Yes, a club tucked away on the edge of Brooklyn's Bushwick neighbourhood, is the shining star in a new generation of local venues and events that encourage you to fly your freak flag. On any given night, you'll find the house packed with insanely costumed aerialists and dancers. If you want to get in on the fun, there are often body painters on hand, or just take it all off upstairs in the semi-secret hot tub which gives revellers a chance to bare all in a safe space. More than anything, House of Yes celebrates sexual freedom: the club's owners have strict rules surrounding 'enthusiastic consent' and the normalisation of activities that would feel taboo in almost any other city on the planet. *Clayton Guse* → 2 Wyckoff Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11237, USA.





#### **5 Play an explosive sport at Los Amigos Club** Cali, Colombia

Tejo is a wacky proposition for a national sport: drink copious amounts of beer or spirits while throwing metal pucks into a goal packed with clay. Oh, and the clay is studded with small explosives, which get you points if you hit them (also it's fun to blow stuff up; also you're a bit drunk). Tejo is a great equaliser: played by dignitaries and the working class alike, it was made internationally popular by the late chef Anthony Bourdain, who learned to play (and got appropriately sauced while doing so) at Los Amigos Club in Cali, where vou too can toss a *teio*, drink Poker (a local beer) and befriend the regulars. Kate Wertheimer  $\rightarrow$  Calle 49, 8a-23, Cali, Colombia.

#### Lose yourself at the Museum of Oold and New Art Tasmania, Australia

A lot of things about Tasmania's Mona are unlikely. It's underground; it's reached by a high-speed, camo-painted ferry from Hobart's waterfront; it's funded by the gambling winnings of founder David Walsh. This year saw the new Pharos Wing, described by Walsh as 'a testimonial to the power of light as art'. It's one of the only places in the world right now where you can experience one of James Turrell's 'Perceptual Cells': a fully immersive, hallucinatory light bath. This one, 'Unseen Seen', is housed in a silver sphere, lasts a full 15 minutes and is meant to be experienced in pairs. To reorient yourself afterwards, head to the Faro bar for an Instagramfriendly Black Margarita, garnished with a pig's eye encased in ice. Cheers! Ruth Dawkins → 655 Main Rd, Berriedale, TAS 7011, Australia

#### Catch a movie in a cemetery with Cinespia Los Angeles, USA

It isn't summer in LA until the first of Cinespia's cemetery screenings brings hordes of movielovers to the hallowed resting place of such Hollywood greats as Rudolph Valentino and Bugsy Siegel. Grab a spot on the Hollywood Forever Cemetery lawn (it's BYO booze, blankets

#### **3 Have an out-of-this-world sauna in 3 the 'Solar Egg'** Kiruna, Sweden

In 2017, in response to the biblical challenge of moving the entire town of Kiruna two miles east to avoid the workings of a vital iron-ore mine, the Swedes did something typically civilised: they built an insanely cool sauna. 'Solar Egg' is an alien-looking, golden-mirror-clad 'social sculpture' by artists Bigert & Bergström, set on a hilltop to hold silent watch over Kiruna as it adapts to its new location. Check before you visit, though: the 'Solar Egg' sometimes goes on tour as far afield as Paris. Malcolm Jack → Kiruna, Sweden.

#### Step into another world at Meow Wolf Santa Fe, USA

Inside an unassuming building in Santa Fe is a multidimensional mystery dwelling: Meow Wolf's 'House of Eternal Return'. It has secret passages, portals to magical worlds and climbing apparatus, plus surreal art exhibits. Slide through the washing machine to a room aglow with twinkling blue stars, or shimmy into a pitch-black room whose centrepiece is a giant laser harp. The space also has a secret music venue where the likes of Kurt Vile and St Vincent have performed (after finding it, that is). Kate Wertheimer → 1352 Rufina Circle, Santa Fe, NM 87507, USA

Sunny side up Kiruna's 'Solar Egg' sauna. Above: The Yayoi

Kusama Museum, Tokyo

H



and snacks) and watch classic and cult films projected on to the side of a giant mausoleum. DJ sets, dance parties, fireworks, film-set-worthy photobooths and a few all-night slumber parties – plus quite a few living celebrities – complete this LA rite of passage; we've yet to experience a more magical movie screening. Can't get enough during summertime? Look out for special screenings in historic Downtown LA cinemas during the off-season. *Michael Juliano* → For Cinespia's programme, visit www.cinespia.org.

#### **Barcelone Gaudí's magical world at Casa Vicens** Barcelona, Spain

Dive into the wondrous architectural universe of Antoni Gaudí in his first big project, Casa Vicens. The Catalan architect designed it in 1883 as a summer house for Manuel Vicens, when what is now the neighbourhood of Gràcia was still a village. This multicoloured marvel is where Gaudí first applied techniques, motifs and symbols that he would go on to use in his most famous buildings, including the Sagrada Familia and Park Güell. Casa Vicens was declared a Unesco World Heritage Site in 2005, but it wasn't opened to the public until November 2017. Get set for a severe case of interior-design envy. *Erica Aspas* → Carrer de les Carolines, 20-26, 08012 Barcelona, Spain.

#### **9 Try high-altitude cuisine and views at Peru's Mil** Maras, Peru

Marvel at Peru's unique culinary ancestry at the country's only restaurant specialising in highaltitude cuisine. Mil overlooks the ruins of Moray, a series of circular terraces built by the Inca as a kind of agricultural laboratory. In homage to these innovators, only ingredients found at 11,500 feet or above are served: diners enjoy eight 'moments', featuring everything from alpacato a selection of Peru's 4,000 types of tubers. Both the experience and the location in the Sacred Valley will leave you breathless (literally, there's an oxygen tank on hand in the restaurant) – so plan a long, lingering lunch after a few days of acclimatising in nearby Cusco. *Steph Dyson* → Vía a Moray, Maras, Peru.





#### **1 OTaste the best of the city at Time Out Market** Lisbon, Portugal

Portuguese cuisine is having a major moment right now, appearing on fine-dining menus all over the world. But for the best snapshot of the country's culinary heritage, head to Time Out Market in Lisbon. We don't mean to toot our own horn, but our editors and critics have spent years scouring Lisbon to deliver the best cooking in town under one roof. In 2018, the market received the prestigious Hamburg Food Service Award, as 'one of the most visionary concepts in the European food-service sector', so we're not just biased. It it also boasts cultural experiences, shops selling traditional products and even a cooking school. Then dance off your dinner at the performance space upstairs. Alyx Gorman → Mercado da Ribeira, Avenida 24 de Julho 49, Lisbon 1200-479, Portugal

### **11** Have a Venusian sound bath at the Integratron Landers, USA

Balance your chakras with a sound bath in an acoustically perfect structure in the middle of California's Joshua Tree desert. This domed chamber was built in 1959 by ufologist George Van Tassel, supposedly on the instructions of visiting Venusians. Relax in one of the hammocks strung throughout the grounds, and check out Van Tassel's original plans for the building, which included technology for human cell rejuvenation, anti-gravity capabilities and time travel. All handy for the new year!  $\blacksquare$  *Kate Wertheimer*  $\rightarrow$  2477 Belfield Boulevard, Landers, CA 92285, USA.

See the full list of 50 things to do at timeout.com/globaldolist



# Thailand

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# **CITY GUIDE** Turin

Great for slow food, vermouth cocktails and crowd-free culture



# THE LONGER YOU spend in Turin, the

more you realise how underrated it is. Formerly an automobile-producing powerhouse, the one-time Italian capital is responsible for a lot of unlikely things - such as Nutella and the first chocolate-covered ice cream on a stick. It's pretty and a bit rebellious: Baroque architecture, churches and art decogallerias abound in the centre, while Turin's techno-loving ravers have been gathering on the down-low in its abandoned warehouses and factories for years. Enjoy the city's low-key beauty before searching out touristfree galleries, phenomenal-yetaffordable dining and refreshingly undiscovered bars.

Find more buzzing cities at **timeout.com/travel** 

#### If you only do one thing...

Take at least three hours to fill your stomach with course after course of beautiful food at a very leisurely pace. Turin is the home of the slow food movement. Bright, white-andwood space **Angolo 16** is a great spot, with its inventive seafood dishes taking inspiration from the nearby Ligurian coast.

#### If you want to eat and have cash to splash...

Get a streetside table at **Lo Stonnato** for bursting, olive-oildrizzled ravioli (handmade, obvs) and hearty, fish-focused secondi *piatti* ('stonnato' means tuna).

#### If you want to eat on a shoestring...

Pick up pizza and deli treats from **Eataly**. It has a few international outposts now, but Turin is where this Italian food hall concept began. Eataly London arrives in 2020 – get a taste here first.

#### If you want to try the local brews...

San Salvario has many decent bars serving up cocktails containing all

#### HERE TO STAY

Base yourself in an Airbnb in **San Salvario** for local vibes near the best of food and nightlife, or if an aparthotel with a good breakfast and a pool is more your vibe, then book in to **Duparc Contemporary Suites Turin** (from €94 a night), also in San Salvario. manner of spirits, including the local bevvy: vermouth. Try the Americano Sbagliato at **Affini** for aperitivo.

#### If you want to get cultured...

In the early twentieth century, Turin was the Hollywood of Europe. The **National Museum of Cinema** has an amazing collection, and is located in the extraordinary Mole Antonelliana, a former synagogue with a towering square dome. For modern art with warehouse vibes, **OgrTorino**, in an old railway repair depot, is your place.

#### If you want to pretend you're a local...

Everywhere feels pretty local in Turin as it's gloriously tourist-free. But go to **Bunker** in Barriera di Milano for street art, club nights, cultural events, a climbing wall – or just to lie back in a hammock with a drink. Also in the area is **Edit**, a multipurpose culinary space in an old cable factory, with a brewery and a bar serving Italian craft beers.

#### If you just want to hang out and soak up the vibes...

Head over to the scuzzy-butbuzzy student-populated quarter **Vanchiglia** and pick your bar based on its lack of signage and how fun it looks from the people spilling out on to the street outside.

#### If you want to do a day trip...

Milan is just over an hour away, so hop on the train and do the best bits – the Duomo, Leonardo Da Vinci's 'Last Supper' (in the Santa Maria delle Grazie church) and its big ol' middle-finger-flipping 'L.O.V.E.' statue by Maurizio Cattelan.

#### If you want to get close to nature...

Get your ski on (if it's winter) or take a hike (if it's summer) at the spectacularly rugged **Parco Nazionale Gran Paradiso**, an hourand-a-half's drive from Turin.

#### If you want to do something weird...

The macabre **Magic Turin tour** explores the city's links to the occult. Hear about the city's satanic legends and look out for dark angel monuments, five-pointed stars, masonic symbols and devilish faces carved on to historic buildings. ■ *Clare Vooght* 



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Edited by Katie McCabe timeout.com/thingstodo @timeoutlondon

# Witness the (lazy) fitness

Take the laidback approach to the 'new year, new me' rhetoric with these slightly more relaxed classes

#### **Low Impact**

Forget HIIT. It's time to get LIT (that's low-impact training, to the uninitiated). The Fly LDN class swaps cardio-led circuits for weight and TRX suspension training, boosting both strength and agility. Although it's low impact on your joints, don't expect to get away scot free. Slow movements increase the burn on your muscles, turning you into a lean, mean LIT machine. → Fly LDN. ↔ Aldgate. Days vary. £20.

#### **Blokbreath**

You know that thing you do roughly 20-30,000 times a day? Well, you're doing it wrong. But don't panic – Breathpod founder Stuart Sandeman is on hand to provide a breath of fresh air to your respiratory system. He'll be offering up a series of techniques that could improve your strength, conditioning and focus, and all without leaving you gasping for air.

→ Blok. ↔ Liverpool St. Wednesdays. £17.



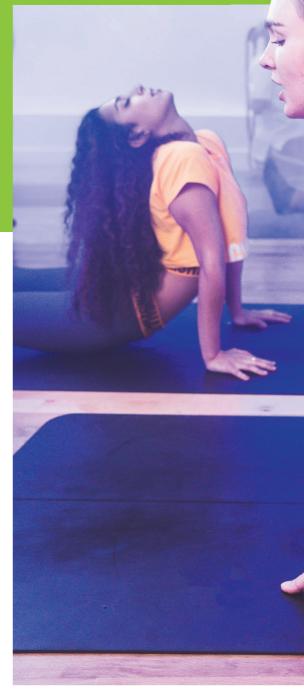
Like the idea of yoga, but feel like you've landed yourself in the middle of a contortionists' convention every time you take a class? Then this easygoing experience is for you. Passively stretch out all of your knots and kinks as you drape yourself over blankets and bolsters in a variety of poses, with the biggest challenge being not falling asleep. Vinyasa-please!

→ The Refinery. Homerton Overground. Days vary. £14 (£5 for first timers).

#### **Super Pink**

Think pink with a 2.5-hour guided session of restorative poses in a magenta-hued room. As part of the class, an in-house acupuncturist turns you into a human-shaped pin cushion. The teachers will be moving about the space to offer mini massaging and reiki sessions too, but you'll probably be too chill to notice.

→ Chromayoga. ↔ Old St. Days vary. £28, book in advance.

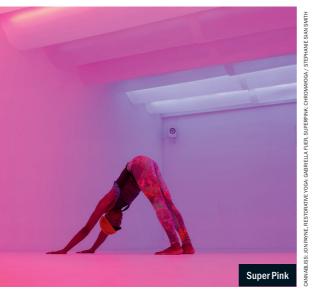




Find your corpse pose at **timeout.com/yoga** 









#### **Cannabliss**

Swap CBA for CBD at Gymbox's latest 'holistic retreat' class. Participants are given cannabinoidcontaining patches to wear throughout, which will supposedly help with inflammation. The dope session is aimed at those looking for a break between tough workouts, recovering from an injury or just not able to hack sitting at a desk after the festive break.

→ Gymbox. Victoria, Holborn, Old St and other locations. Days vary. Membership costs from £63 a month, £20 day pass.

#### **Dynamic Reformer Pilates**

Okay, we'll level with you – this will make you break out in a sweat. The turbo-charged pilates session will give your body a complete workout, toning muscles you didn't even know you had along the way. But it's a welcome break from shouty bootcamp-style classes that dominate many gyms nowadays – and there's not a mustachioed ex-army officer in sight. → Ten Health & Fitness. Chiswick, Notting Hill, Fitzrovia and other locations. Days vary. £30.

#### Stretch

Bending and extending before and after exercise is the real highlight of any class – either the pain hasn't really started or it's finally over. Cut out the meddling middle section and devote 45 minutes to getting your flex on at this Barrecore class. You'll come away feeling fully recovered and ready for the daily grind. ■

 $\rightarrow$  Barrecore. Kensington, Chelsea, Wimbledon Village and other locations. Days vary. £28.



**By Charlie Allenby** Who will be spending most of January snoozing on a gym mat.

# Meet the new you for 2019: artfully inclined and altogether calmer

Win over the new year before it's really started with the National Art Pass

et's face it. You're probably not going to stick to those new year's resolutions of hitting the gym seven times a week, learning Norwegian and mastering the saxophone. But here's one resolution you'll definitely want to stick to: see more art.

Sounds simple, doesn't it? The good news is that it absolutely can be with a National Art Pass from Art Fund, the national fundraising charity for art.

With the National Art Pass, you'll have art on tap – and you'll soon be hooked. As a bonus, you'll also save a ton of cash, as the pass gives you free entry to over 240 museums, galleries and historic houses across the UK, plus a hefty 50 percent off entry to major exhibitions, including those at some of London's most well-known venues.

All that artfulness comes at only  $\pounds$ 70 for individual membership. Or, if you fancy kicking off 2019 with a dose of goodwill, you can add a Plus One for just £38, meaning that

a pal or loved one will get the same benefits when they're with you. Speaking of benefits, did you

know that visiting galleries and museums regularly can actually impact positively on your wellbeing? Well, it can, as a study published by Art Fund demonstrates.

Its 'Calm and Collected' report found that 63 percent of people visited a gallery or museum specifically to de-stress, and that people who regularly visited reported a greater sense of satisfaction. What's more, 51 percent said they wanted to visit more often. If that sounds like you, getting a National Art Pass could be your ticket to a calmer 2019.

If you're now thinking something along the lines of: 'Yeah, I'd like to see more art, but I just can't find the time', you're not alone. Lots of people assume that visiting an exhibition is time-consuming, when it doesn't have to be. In fact, here are four ways you can build art into your daily life.

#### Visit in your lunch break

Reclaim that precious time and do something worthwhile with it – pop in to a nearby gallery or museum and lose yourself in something beautiful or bizarre for a while. You'll get back to the office feeling delightfully tranquil.

#### Visit after work

Ease the horror of commuting by spending time at an exhibition when the working day is done. It's the perfect way to decompress after a stressful day and you'll also dodge rush hour.

#### Plan a visit around another activity Heading out to lunch/the gym/the

cinema/the pub? Why not slot in an hour or so before or after whatever you're doing to see some art? It may sound like a big lifestyle change – but it's really not. You'll wonder why you never did it before.

#### Take a chance

Take a gamble by visiting somewhere that's new. It doesn't matter if you don't know what's on, just go and have a look. You might find something you love.

So, the next question has to be: where can you visit with the National Art Pass? Glad you asked, because there's a formidable selection of places across the UK. Here are five of the many highlights in London.

## National Art Pass

Please show your card for free admission and reduct

Sam Clarke Individual, Plus One



#### Horniman Museum and Gardens (free exhibitions and aquarium)

Tucked away in south-east London, this much-loved gem is one of London's finest smaller museums. You'll find an array of wonders from the natural world to gawp at, including fantastic beasts and birds, plus an incredible gallery filled with musical instruments from around the world.

#### Whitechapel Gallery (50 percent off exhibitions)

This small but perfectly formed venue is delightfully difficult to categorise. Over the years it's showcased work from icons such as Frida Kahlo and Mark Rothko, but you're just as likely to stumble across multimedia installations or exhibitions from groups such as New York's Guerrilla Girls collective.

## Tate Modern (50 percent off exhibitions)

Still one of the city's most iconic galleries, Tate Modern is, quite simply, a giant of contemporary art, both in London and across the globe. Soak up timeless works across a range of mediums from masters such as Andy Warhol, Louise Bourgeois, Henri Matisse and Anni Albers, plus exhibitions from innovative new artists.

#### The Postal Museum (free exhibitions – excludes Mail Rail)

One of London's newer museums is also one of its most unique, proving that post is actually very cool. Discover the fascinating story behind hundreds of years of UK postal history, and – most importantly – don't forget to ride the Mail Rail, a train that takes you through the subterranean tunnels that were once used to distribute post across London.

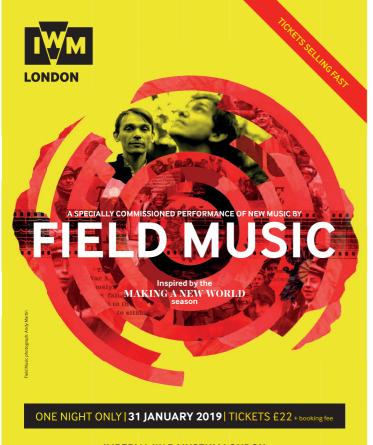
#### V&A (Victoria and Albert Museum) (50 percent off exhibitions)

Long regarded as a world leader when it comes to showcasing art and design, this behemoth of a museum focuses on everything from jewellery and fashion across the ages to video games to ceramics, and much more.

Also, do remember that, with the National Art Pass, you're not just getting free and reduced-rate access to amazing exhibitions. You've also given yourself a new way of exploring the city and boosting your cultural know-how.

So, banish those January blues in style with a National Art Pass, and set yourself up for a 2019 crammed full of art. It could be the best new year's resolution you'll ever make – and keep.

 $\rightarrow$  Get yourself off to an artful start right now at www.artfund.org/2019.



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## SOMETHING FOR THE WEEKEND

## **Friday**



# 'Welcome to the Forest'

Waltham Forest kicks off its year as London's Borough of Culture with a three day-long party. God's Own Junkyard is behind a neon-lit street carnival, while a huge light installation takes over Lloyd Park and audiovisual film screenings fill the town hall.

> → Various locations. ↔ Walthamstow Central. Fri Jan 11-Sun Jan 13. Free.

#### DRINK Below 20

Swigged too much fizz over Christmas? Hit up this pop-up bar serving low-alcohol tipples. Make ours an artichoke juice mixed with some low-ABV sherry. Mmm. → Henrietta Hotel. ↔ Covent Garden. Fri Jan 11-Sun Jan 13. Free entry.

#### WATCH London Experimental Film Festival

Settle down for an evening of 'visionary and progressive' films at the first screening of the year for this radical film fest. → Unit 9 Project Space. Shoreditch High St Overground. Fri Jan 11. Free.

## Saturday

#### WALK David Bowie: From Birth to Stardom

Put on your red shoes and journey from Brixton to Soho on this epic seven-hour walking tour following the London boy's life in the capital with singalongs on the way. → Meet at Brixton tube station. Sat Jan 12. £35.

#### DANCE Ballroom Get Down

Start the year with a spring in your step at this dance marathon. Stick around for the allstyles dance battle. → Clore Ballroom, Royal Festival Hall. ↔ Waterloo. Fri Jan 11-Sat Jan 12. Free.



## EVEWomen's Pro Wrestling

Watch this crew of spandexwearing ladies perform theatrical wrestling stunts fuelled with cabaret and comedy. Expect gender stereotypes to be smashed to smithereens.

ightarrow Resistance Gallery. ightarrow Bethnal Green. Sat Jan 12. £20.

## **Sunday**

## Hackney Flea Market

Do your fingers twitch at the thought of browsing through secondhand bric-à-brac? You'll feel right at home at this eclectic market with stalls heaving with vintage fabrics and salvaged furniture.

→ Abney Public Hall. Stoke Newington Overground. Sat Jan 12-Sun Jan 13. Free entry.



#### sing Wassail in the Pleasaunce

Folk music, dancing morris men, singing choirs and local cider will welcome in the new year at this traditional 'Twelfth Night' celebration. → East Greenwich Pleasaunce. Westcombe Park rail. Sun Jan 13. Free.

#### SWISH Stuff!

Realise your resolution to reduce waste at this swap shop where you can exchange your unwanted clutter. Plus, hear from a sustainability expert on how to consume more responsibly. → Poplar Union. Langdon Park DLR. Sun Jan 13. Free.

Try something new at **timeout.com/hobbies** 

# It's showtime! ODEON Luxe Leicester Square relaunches

Pan this way, people: the golden age of cinema has returned

henever we strolled through Leicester Square in 2018, we felt like something was missing. Why? Well, the iconic ODEON cinema – the West End home of the movie premiere, where star-studded red carpets meet screaming fans – was closed for regeneration. But here's the great news: it's now back, and with a pretty massive bang.

As one of the world's most famous cinemas (it *did* open in 1937 and *is* the brand's flagship), ODEON Luxe Leicester Square has reopened following a multi-millionpound, very plush refurbishment. We're talking a return to form and a throwback to the golden age of cinema, where the historic glamour and charm of the original venue meet state-of-the-art luxury and technology. Swish!

#### Here's the geeky bit

ODEON Luxe Leicester Square is now home to the UK's first Dolby cinema, which means that you can enjoy enhanced imaging via Dolby Vision laser projection and immersive audio thanks to a unique Dolby Atmos system. Yeah, sure, it all sounds a bit techy, but hold on to your popcorn, people – we've talked to experts who know about these things and that's some seriously impressive kit.

#### Want to get extra-comfy?

ODEON LUXE LEICESTER SQUARE HOME OF PREMIERES

All the screens at the new ODEON Luxe Leicester Square have expertly designed seating that'll help you relax with your chosen flick. But if you really want to kick back? Some of the 800 (count 'em!) seats in Screen 1 are super-swanky luxe recliners. These are basically the best seats in the house, with at least three times more legroom than usual. They're so good, in fact, that ODEON is calling luxe-recliner-based movie-watching 'an exclusive, intimate experience' (and no, we aren't talking about any back-row stuff...).



#### **Promotional feature**





Picture perfect ODEON Luxe Leicester Square is back and ready for its close-up

## Fancy catching a movie for free?

Well, you've come to the right place. We've teamed up with ODEON to give away two tickets to a film of your choice. To enter, simply visit **www.timeout.com/odeonluxe**, click the 'enter' link and answer the question. Yep, it really is that easy (don't say we're not good to you). Plus, with a packed schedule of blockbusters waiting in the wings, and tickets already available to book online, seeing the relaunch for yourself is just a click away. Ready to get in on the action?



#### Marvel at the design...

That's right, the cinema's new interior is now more sophisticated than your mum's designer wallpaper. Inspired by the brand's art deco origins, the building's famous heritage features have been beautifully restored – which means you can marvel at the 'Flying Ladies' sculptures and the original Compton organ in the Premiere Screen. Plus, there's a very cool mirrored wall and auditorium doors that pay homage to decades of royal and world film premieres.

## ...and don't forget to grab a drink

Whether you're partial to a glass of fizz or just fancy a beer, ODEON Luxe Leicester Square has a brand new drinking spot. The very snazzy glass-fronted Oscar's cocktail bar has vibes that hark all the way back to Hollywood's heyday. And with its creative concoctions served up alongside some glittering views of Leicester Square, you've got all the excuses you need to have an atmospheric pre-flick tipple.



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#### **RE-NEW**

#### B Re:Solutions Festival

In need of a post-Christmas pick-meup?Thisfive-day fest has a packed programme of health and wellness events to get you feeling fresh, including candlelit gong baths, yoga and meditation classes, motivational talks, workshops and wellness retreats. → Truman Brewery. Shoreditch High St Overground. Thu Jan 10-Mon Jan 14. Prices vary.

#### The Grand Gathering Vol 10

Callingall enlightenmentseekers. Hundreds of Londoners are expected at this mass mediation and mindfulness event led by Just Breathe founder, and yogi, Michael James Wong. There'll also be performances by musicians and live poetry to set the mood. → F Block T1, Truman Brewery. Shoreditch High St Overground. Mon Jan 14. £18.

#### Rooftop Yoga

Stretch out and de-stress while taking in some sweet views of the London skyline at this workout on Ace Hotel's swanky rooftop. → Ace Hotel. Shoreditch High St Overground. Sat Jan 12. £12.

#### SHOP

#### Brixton Vintage Kilo Sale

Buy your weight in vintage clobber at the famous retro shopping fair's January sale. The premise is the same as usual: pay £15 for 1kg of clothes and nab yourself sportswear, denim pieces, jackets, and more in the process. Load up with light items and you're laughing. → Pop Brixton. ↔ Brixton. Sat Jan 12-Sun Jan 13. Free entry.

♥ The London Vintage Fashion, Textiles and

Accessories Fair London's original vintage fair is stationed at Hammersmith Town Hall with a huge assortment of retro treats. It really is an Aladdin's cave of period treasures, so get ready to dig deep for some bargains. → Hammersmith Town Hall. ⊕ Ravenscourt Park. Sun Jan 13. £5 entry.

#### Old Spitalfields Antiques Market

Kit your home out in sweet retro style by picking up all sorts of vintage oddities at this weekly market stocked by a community of antiques specialists and dealers. → Old Spitalfields Market. ↔ Liverpool St. Thu Jan 10. Free entry.

## WATCH

#### London Short Film Festival

The LSFF rings in its sixteenth birthday with ten ambitious days of bitesized movies. Catch screenings of incredible new films competing in this year's awards for 'Best UKShort', and don't miss the opening night showcase of shorts made in the '80s by graduating directors nowconsidered industry greats.  $\rightarrow$  Various London venues. Fri Jan 11-Jan 20. £6-£14.

#### LET'S DANCE

#### David Bowie Birthday ArtNight

Celebrate what would have been David Bowie's 72nd birthday by letting loose on a canvas and painting a portrait of the Brixton boy over a few drinks at this laidback art class. → Neighbour. ↔ Kentish Town. Tue Jan 8. £34.

#### • 'Labyrinth' Masquerade Ball

Catch an interactive screening of Jim Henson's fantasy in which the starman appears as the Goblin King. You'll get a goodie bag with all the tools you need to make the most of the

#### Things to Do

film then be treated to a show from the PCC's very own 'Jareth'.  $\rightarrow$  Prince Charles Cinema.  $\Leftrightarrow$  Leicester Square. Fri Jan 11. £13.50.

#### DRINK

#### Mindful Drinking Festival

There's no need to worry about a hangover at this booze-free festival. For the sober-curious, there'll be tastings of low-alcohol and nonalcoholic beer and wine, and low-sugar craft sodas, with top sommeliers. → Truman Brewery. Shoreditch

High St Overground. Sat Jan 12-Sun Jan 13. Free entry.

#### LISTEN

**O** TS Eliot Prize Readings Settle in for a night of verse and balladry as poet Ian McMillan introduces ten talented wordsmiths who have been shortlisted for the TS Eliot Prize for Poetry. Don't miss the first major highlight of the 2019 literary calendar. → Royal Festival Hall. ⊕ Waterloo. Sun Jan 13. £15.

#### • Index on Censorship: Birth, Marriage and Death

From death cafés to Ghanaian coffin culture and China's new two-child policy, catch this panel talk discussing the taboos that still remain around birth, marriage and death. Providing punchy debate and frank conversation to mark the launch of *Index on Censorship*'s latest magazine will be author and journalist Xinran, founder of Bloody Good Period Gabby Edlin and the author of 'Notes to Self' Emilie Pine. → Foyles. ↔ Tottenham Court Rd. Thu Jan 10. Free.

#### LEARN

#### O LGBTQ+ History Workshop

Riffle through some of the earliest records held at the London Metropolitan Archives dating back to 1395 and get clued up on lesser-known LGBT+ history in this mindexpanding workshop. → London Metropolitan Archives. ↔ Farringdon. Sat Jan 12. £5.

#### • Make Your Own Natural Beauty Products

Learn how to create deodorant sticks, aloe vera moisturising cream and toothpaste at this workshop with Bottega Zero Waste. All the recipes have as low an impact on the environment as possible. If you want to reduce waste this year, this is just the ticket.  $\rightarrow$  Mercato Metropolitano.  $\Leftrightarrow$  Elephant & Castle. Werd Ian 9, £30.

#### • 'Jurassic Park': Could It Happen?

Ever wondered if Richard Attenborough could've resurrected a load of prehistoric lizards in real life? Ross Geller might think it's impossible, but you can still pose those burning dino questions to Dr Susannah Maidment, a dinosaur researcher/ curator at the Natural History Museum. → East Dulwich Tavern. East Dulwich rail. Tue Jan 8. £10.

#### PARTY

#### O Hip Hop Karaoke

Fancy yourself as a Beastie Boy/Girl? Think you could give Snoop a run for his money? Here's your chance to act out some hip hop fantasies. There's a huge list of classics and lesserknown jams to choose from so ease yourself in with a mellow Tribe Called Quest number... or battle with a frenetic Busta Rhymes track if you're feeling baller. → Tate Modern. ↔ Southwark. Sat Jan 12. £10.

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Edited by Phil de Semlyen timeout.com/film @timeoutfilm

# **12 films to see in 2019**

From more 'Star Wars' to Quentin Tarantino's Hollywood epic, here's this year's unmissable dozen

#### **'Us'** Mar 15

Clear your diary – and your Twitter feed – for Jordan Peele's latest zeitgeist-capturing horror film. Like his ace debut flick 'Get Out', 'Us' promises to wrap some seriously barbed racial commentary in visceral shocks.

#### **Dumbo'** Mar 29 Ever seen a live-action elephant fly? You will when Disney's loose remake of its classic 1941 animation arrives this spring. Tim Burton is behind the camera so expect some gothic touches, and a quirky Danny Elfman score, as the stompy little mammal joins the circus.

**Wild Rose'** Apr 19 Glaswegian cleaner and part-time country singer Rose-Lynn Harlan dreams of Nashville stardom in a drama that promises plenty of toe-tapping tunes and loads of raw emotion. It's 'A Star Is Born' with a hoover and a showcase for the substantial talent of actressmusician Jessie Buckley.

**4 'Avengers: Endgame'** Apr 26 Likely to be the biggest movie of the year, this one will definitely have the highest body count as the world absorbs the fallout from Thanos's foul deeds in 'Infinity War'. Who can succeed where the cream of the Marvel superheroes has failed and defeat the allpowerful titan? Someone call Bananaman.





#### **'Toy Story 4'** Jun 21 Woody, Buzz, Bo Peep and friends regroup for an unexpected but still much-

anticipated fourth outing. This one – directed by one-time Pixar storyboard artist Josh Cooley – introduces new characters (look out for Forky) and, with Andy now at college, a new home for the toys.

#### 🏊 **'The Lion King'** Jul 19

This remake of the beloved animation has a stellar voice cast – Donald Glover! Beyoncé! – and the cream of Hollywood's visual effects industry to make it look amazing. But will it be too faithful to the original? The first trailer rang more than a few bells, not that the bazillion people who watched it on YouTube cared. Hakuna matata!

#### **Once Upon a Time in Hollywood'** Jul 26

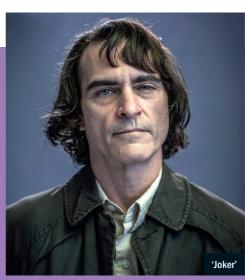
Quentin Tarantino's crime film is sure to hoover up attention and headlines when it lands







'Dumbo'



in the summer. It promises to be a luridly realised Hollywood story with the backdrop of 1969's Manson murders. Leonardo DiCaprio plays an actor trying to make it in the movie business and Brad Pitt is his stunt double.

'Once Upon a Time in Hollywood'

Rey from 'Star Wars: The Last Jedi'

49

**'Joker'** Oct 4 With Joaquin Phoenix as the Joker, this dark spin-off movie should offer a pre-Halloween frightfest of its own. The actor is a master of playing off-kilter characters and there are few characters as off-kilter as the DC mastervillain. This smaller-scale film will chart his origins as a failed stand-up comedian.

**9 'Star Wars: Episode IX'** Dec 19 The latest, sure-to-be-enormous instalment is rumoured to pick up a year after 'The Last Jedi'. Taking the reins again is JJ Abrams ('The Force Awakens') as the light side and the dark side resume hostilities. The plot is very much under wraps, but we do know that Billy Dee Williams will be back as cloak-wearing space scoundrel Lando Calrissian.

**100 'High Life'** Date TBC Like a kind of arthouse canary, Robert Pattinson gravitates towards the most out-there material. He's repeating the trick with a bonkers-sounding sci-fi from Claire Denis about a group of criminals journeying towards a black hole while being experimented on by a mad scientist. Clear your diary now.

**Midsommar'** Date TBC If 'Hereditary' gave you the heebiejeebies last year, wait until you see what its director, Ari Aster, has in store next. A couple travel to a Swedish midsummer festival where things get violent and weird fast. It should be part Burning Man, part 'Wicker Man'.

**122 'The Irishman'** Date TBC Martin Scorsese reunites his old 'Goodfellas' muckers Robert De Niro and Joe Pesci, and throws in Al Pacino and Harvey Keitel for good measure, in a Mob epic that's coming to Netflix – and the odd cinema screen – sometime this year. Dust off your shinebox. ■ *Compiled by the Time Out Film team* 

More 2019 movie highlights at **timeout.com/film** 

## **INTRODUCING** Denise Gough

**THE IRISH ACTRESS** has scored rave reviews for her theatre work in 'People, Places and Things' and 'Angels in America'. But aside from small roles in the likes of 'Jimmy's Hall', she hasn't been known to film fans – until now. Gough's turn as Mathilde de Morny, aka Missy, the gendernonconforming lover of Keira Knightley's title character in 'Colette', should establish her as a major onscreen talent, a prospect she was taking in her stride when we met.

#### Did you always want to act?

'I got on stage when I was nearly nine and really loved it. Then I did an acting class in the town that I was from [Ennis, County Clare], then I came to London and I fucked around for five years and started doing an acting class in an old nightclub. And then that teacher turned out to be a teacher at a drama school and I got an agent.'

Did you have any reservations taking on what some people might see as a trans role? 'I wanted to be sure that it was okay for me, as a woman, to play that role. I spoke to a turn-of-the-century trans expert, who talked about assigning contemporary sexual

**Colette** 

#### \*\*\*\*

**BASED ON THE** true story of French novelist Sidonie-Gabrielle Colette (Keira Knightley), Wash Westmoreland's film plunges us into the literary scene of turn-ofthe-twentieth-century Paris. Almost immediately his camera casts a critical eye on this setting. Rather than depict a place of vibrancy, he portrays a world of pretension and opportunism, the ideal habitat for Colette's careerist husband Willy (Dominic West), who publishes her sapphic stories under his name.

The entire film revolves around the relationship between Willy and Colette. It is a joy to watch her grow in confidence and Knightley nails that transition. Her blossoming relationship with gender-nonconforming artist Missy (Denise Gough, in an eyecatching role) offers a sparky outlet for that new-found self-assurance. At the other end of the spectrum, West's turn as Willy is a surprisingly subtle study of a man who tries to mask his deep insecurities with bluster. West manages to imbue him with some sympathetic qualities without absolving him of his many faults.



identities to historical figures. There's no way of knowing whether she was at the forefront of what would be the butch lesbian movement or the trans movement. I thought: I'm not going to apologise for taking the role. What I really hope won't happen is that I can only play what I am, because as an Irish woman that doesn't leave me very much. I'm a direct descendent of the first ever female pirate but nobody's told that story.'

#### What's next for you?

T'm doing a film called "Monday". Sebastian Stan and I play an American couple who fall in love in Greece. I initially thought it looked fun but with a lot of sex, then I watched the director's previous film and I thought: I trust him to make people feel empowered rather than sexualised, and I was right.'

## You've been in both 'Casualty' and 'Holby City'. Is that even allowed?

'I don't know! I can't remember much but I do remember in "Casualty" I was wearing agreen jumper and green eyeshadow and I had a really bad dye job with a greenish colour. I tried to do it myself. ■ Interview by Anna Smith

#### FILM OF THE WEEK

#### WHAT IS IT... A Paris-set period drama with a dollop of queer

dollop of queer feminist energy.

WHY GO... For Keira Knightley's magnetic

⇒ Director Wash

Westmoreland (15) 112 mins. Admittedly it takes a while to rev up, but as Colette starts to explore her identity as a queer woman, the film begins to take flight. Knightley, whose career has been somewhat defined by the billowy gowns of British period drama, wears her increasingly androgynous wardrobe in 'Colette' with a refreshing bravado, and Andrea Flesch's work as costume designer is easily the film's highlight. **Cathy Brennan** 

#### **FREE WITH MUBI GO**

Watch 'Colette' this week for free, with a MUBI subscription. Get a hand-picked cinema ticket every single week. → Find out how at www.mubi.com/go

## Stan & Ollie

#### $\star\star\star\star\star$

#### NOT SINCE MARTIN SCORSESE followed up

the Mob mayhem of 'Casino' with two hours of Buddhism in 'Kundun' has a director made such a pronounced gear shift as Jon S Baird does with his follow-up to 2013's Irvine Welsh adaptation 'Filth'. Cocaine squalor gives way to 'Stan & Ollie', a heartfelt celebration of the friendship between comedy giants Stan Laurel

(Steve Coogan) and Oliver Hardy (John C Reilly) filled with cosy moviebiz nostalgia and some mishaps with hats. It's a love song played in a minor key, and it leaves an unexpectedly lingering impression. It's also highly suitable for your nan, if you need the option.

The story charts the duo's final vears as they embark on a gruelling tour of British theatres while trying to get a new Robin Hood picture off the ground. It's 1953, and the world has long since moved on from their brand of slapstick to new talents like Norman Wisdom. The crowds are thin and their prospects thinner.

The two leads are terrific: Reilly defies a dodgy fat suit to give us an

WHAT IS IT.. A late-career biopic of comedy doubleact Laurel and Hardy.

WHY GO. For Steve Coogan's stellar performance

as Stan Laurel.

Director Jon S Baird (PG) 97 mins.



avuncular Hardy, bemused by his friend's work ethic and obsessed with the finer things in life.

Coogan, in particular, is terrific as Laurel, dialling down the trademark mannerisms and unpeeling layers of melancholy and disappointment as the funnyman grapples with their failing film project and past wounds. There's a sprinkling of the pair's

classic lines ('I'm never getting married again,' says Laurel. 'I'm just going to find a woman I don't like and buy her a house.'), but refreshingly nothing here feels over-familiar. The script by 'Philomena' screenwriter Jeff Pope also provides juicy supporting roles for Shirley Henderson and Nina Arianda as the comedians' long-suffering wives, Lucille and Ida. The film may be called 'Stan & Ollie', but it's never more alive than when the four of them are on screen. ■ Phil de Semlyen

## **The Front Runner**

VHAT IS IT..

A drama about scandal-hit US presidential candidate Gary Hart.

WHY GO... For JK Simmons's breathtakingly cynical political operative.

Director Jason Reitman (15) 113 mins.



JASON REITMAN'S MERCURIAL drama charts the fall from grace in 1987 of US presidential candidate Gary Hart (Hugh Jackman) following a much-publicised affair. It returns the director to the political territory of his savage tobacco lobby satire 'Thank You for Smoking', but in a post-Trump world, the script feels like it's trying too hard to get us to ask ourselves how we ever got so worked up about

 $\star\star\star\star\star$ 

this kind of scandal. It's a glibness that's misplaced. The film is so desperate to come off like a wry media

satire that it misses the deeper story: that of a woman being treated shabbily on a man's way to the top. You wait for Vera Farmiga to unleash a magnificent monologue as Hart's angry wife, but it never comes. 'The only thing that I asked is that you don't embarrass me,' she says, almost gently. And if there is a point at which Hart realised he had to withdraw from the presidential race - a flash of personal reckoning or guilt - it's not included.

Reitman is stronger when depicting the media circus. He also leans to good effect on his regular, JK Simmons, who lends effortless cynicism as Hart's campaign manager. Recently, it's been credibly reported that the whole Hart scandal was a set-up orchestrated by Republican operative Lee Atwater. None of that is here either, and while you can't hold breaking news against 'The Front Runner', there's a whiff of inconsequence to it all, fizzy and watchable as it often is. Joshua Rothkopf

## **ISLAND OF THE**

This doc takes us to Christmas Island, an Australian territory which houses a detention centre for more than 800 asylum seekers - an institution shrouded in secrecy and controversy. Writerdirector Gabrielle Brady moves between the frustrated work of a campaigning counsellor, trippy scenes of migrating red crabs and the religious rituals of islanders. It's rich in symbolism, and made more dreamy by an eerie score. It turns righteous social anger into art to puzzle over and unpick. Dave Calhoun

## ALSO OPENING



\*\*\*\*\*



#### THE UPSIDE

Life-affirming French hit 'The Intouchables', the true story of a bromance between a wealthy quadriplegic man and his just-outof-jail live-in carer, gets the Hollywood treatment. This incredibly cheesy remake stars 'Breaking Bad' actor Bryan Cranston and Kevin Hart, doing their best with a script that cracks out all the oddcouple movie clichés.

Cranston, especially, brings humanity and smarts to a flimsy part, but the suggestion that America's divides can be fixed with some Pavarotti and a joint is downright Stone Age. Cath Clarke

#### **HOUSE BY THE SEA** \*\*\*\*\*

French auteur Robert Guédiguian returns with a family drama that unfolds under the Mediterranean winter sun. It's a generous, knowing, slightly scrappy encounter, best appreciated by those who've enjoyed previous Guédiguian fare like 'A La Place du Coeur' and 'La Ville Est Tranquille' and will enjoy the cast reunion.∎ Trevor Johnston

All the biggest new films reviewed at timeout.com/film

January 8 – 14 2019 Time Out London



Edited by Oliver Keens timeout.com/music @timeoutmusic

# New year, new music

If Spotify Unwrapped made you realise you're stuck in a musical rut, we're here to help – with a selection of the rising music makers set to smash it in 2019



#### **Kojey Radical**

Born-and-bred Londoner Kojey Radical isn't just a rapper – he's a poet, visual artist and much more. That refusal to be limited to just one discipline comes through in his music, too, which boasts elements of grime, hip hop, R&B and beyond, while his subject matter draws precisely from all areas of life and politics.  $\rightarrow$  Kojey Radical has music due imminently, apparently! Oooh.





## **Billie Eilish**

Right now, it's hard to imagine pop prodigy Billie Eilish not having a massive 2019. Over the last two years she's made nihilism and misery her calling card, backed by big electronics. Latest single 'Come Out and Play' adds another string to her bow – heartbreaking, fingerpicked acoustics that take her Instagram-ready sorrow old-school but will still have you reaching for the tissues.

> → Billie Eilish plays 02 Shepherd's Bush Empire on Mar 4-6.

#### **Sam Fender**

It's sadly rare that a Brits Critics Choice winner tackles uncomfortable and important subjects, but Sam Fender does just that. His debut EP 'Dead Boys' found him singing about male suicide and the woes of masculinity, all set to soaring indie anthemics that sound ready to lift the roof off any festival tent this summer. → Sam Fender plays Electric Brixton on Feb 28.

#### **Sea Girls**

HOMAS

HEW PARRI T

SEA GIRLS: MAI

London-based four-piece Sea Girls make the kind of indie-pop that feels like it'll never disappear, regardless of trends. Like Blossoms and The Wombats before them, Sea Girls are big, hooky and splattered with aural colour. Theirs is a kind of low-key songcraft that can worm its way into your skull until you just need to be yelling along to them in the middle of a sweaty mass of strangers.

ightarrow Sea Girls play Heaven on Mar 8.





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#### Music & Nightlife



#### Ella Mai

For some artists, success takes years to find them. That's true of Ella Mai, who finally got her moment last year when irresistible single 'Boo'd Up' made it impossible to ignore her any longer. Her debut album, released last October, confirmed she's more than a one-hit wonder: packing classic, soulful R&B and fully justifying her co-signs from the likes of Bruno Mars and Kehlani.

ightarrow Ella Mai plays 02 Shepherd's Bush Empire on Thu Jan 10.

#### **King Princess**

There's something so joyful about King Princess (aka Mikaela Straus), even when she's writing sad songs. You can feel creative excitement shining through everything she does, whether that's the incredibly romantic but tongue-in-cheek 'Pussy Is God' or the elegant heartbreak of 'Talia'. She already marked herself out as one of music's brightest new stars last year – 2019 is hers for the taking.

ightarrow The King Princess EP 'Make My Bed' is out now.

#### **Octavian**

Drake's obsession with London might suggest it's easy for a rapper from the city to get a co-sign from the household name. But Octavian has properly earned it. The 22-year-old Brit School attendee's latest mixtape 'Spaceman' merges grime and house in a way that seems destined to prompt more than just global superstars firing off a money gun to it.

ightarrow Octavian plays 02 Kentish Town Forum on Feb 28.





## Slowthai

Patriotic types might want to avoid Northampton's Slowthai, who is known to scream 'fuck the Queen' on stage and whose assessment on 'Drug Dealer' is that there's 'nothing great about Britain'. Like a grimier Jamie T, the rapper clashes hip hop with old-school punk attitude, resulting in barbed, chaotic songs that are the perfect soundtrack for these broken times.

ightarrow Slowthai plays York Hall on Apr 1.





#### Mahalia

COTT

MEENO, OC

ELLA MAI:

Mahalia is a prime example of the benefits of biding your time. Signed to a major label since she was just 13, the now 20-year-old is primed to ascend from her pretty popular base right now into the star-o-sphere in 2019. Last year's 'Seasons' EP, with its sultry, characterful R&B, showed that fame should be a doddle for her, while she's already made a strong start by supporting the likes of Ed Sheeran and Jorja Smith.  $\blacksquare$  *Rhian Daly*.

 $\rightarrow$  Mahalia supports Rudimental at their Teenage Cancer Trust show at the Royal Albert Hall on Mar 25.

## More excellence at timeout.com/music

# Theatre & Dance

Edited by Andrzej Lukowski timeout.com/theatre @timeouttheatre

# What to see at London International Mime Festival

No, not men in facepaint pretending to be trapped in boxes. It's the best physical theatre from around the world. LIMF is back for 2019

#### **Homegrown hunks**

There is a lot very arty international work at LIMF 2019, but there's also Barely Methodical Troupe, made up of buff Brit acrobats who scored a massive hit with their laidback debut show 'Bromance'. You can expect an uncomplicated – albeit eye-poppingly skilful – good time with **'Shift'**, a show based around acrobatics, B-boying, Cyr wheel and the company's distinct sense of easy humour.

→ Platform Theatre. Wed Jan 9-Sat Jan 12.

#### A man turned gross living artwork

In **'Transfiguration'**, Congo-born Olivier de Sagazan encases himself in clay and paint to turn himself into a sort of terrifying living hybrid of puppet and puppeteer, transforming from human form to animal, and then to weirder, darker things.

ightarrow Sadler's Wells. Thu Jan 10 and Fri Jan 11.

#### A trip into the human body

**'Intronauts'** by Green Ginger is a literal journey into the human body: it's set in a future in which miniaturised people are injected by syringe into other people to perform vital maintenance work. Inspired by classic sci-fi movies, expect absurd and innovative puppetry. → Jacksons Lane. Fri Jan 11- Sun Jan 13.

#### **Masked fairytale madness**

A shoemaker, a bird and gun-toting rabbit have a series of dark, strange adventures in **'Waltz of the Hommelettes'**, by Les Antliaclastes. Staged using giant puppets and masked performers, it's a homage to the weirdness, cruelty and strange childish logic of the classic European fairytales, before Disney cleaned them up. → The Pit, Barbican Centre. Jan 15-19.

#### Valerie Solanas's dying hallucinations

'Chambre Noire' imagines the bizarre dying thoughts of radical feminist, author of the Scum Manifesto and would-be Andy Warhol assassin Valerie Solanas. Created by French company Plexus Polaire and performed by a puppeteer and a percussionist, this is quite possibly the most out-there thing at LIMF, which is really saying something. → Jacksons Lane. Jan 25-27.



#### Full LIMF listings at timeout.com/mimefest





#### An old folks' home buried underground

Hallucinatory Belgium-based duo Peeping Tom have been one of the big breakthrough acts from LIMF over the past few years. The first of a trio of works exploring family, their latest UK premiere 'Father (Vader)' is set in an old folks' home buried deep below the ground. As an old man hovers between life and death, the world becomes increasingly strange as he crosses over.

→ Barbican Theatre. Jan 30-Feb 2.

#### An endless vision of London

Wry Brummie legends Stan's Cafe return with 'The Capital', a show entirely performed on two constantly moving walkways, creating an everchanging spectacle that mirrors the ebb and flow of the city as seen from a bus window. It will look really cool, we promise.■ → Jacksons Lane. Jan 31-Feb 2.

By Andrzej Lukowski Who is in fact trapped in an invisible box, though he doesn't like to moan.



The Guardian The Observer  $\star\star\star\star$ The Telegraph

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#### **Theatre & Dance**

## **Sweat**

#### WHAT IS IT ...

Lynn Nottage's masterpiece about America's industrial decline

#### WHY GO... It's an instant classic: one of the all-time great American plays.

Donmar Warehouse. ↔ Covent Garden. Until Jan 26, £10-£40,



#### $\star\star\star\star\star$

WHAT HAPPENS WHEN three generations of certainty and security crumble overnight? Lynn Nottage's monumental play about class, race and the dignity of labour tells us - and the answers should scare us all.

'Sweat' was born out of two years that US playwright Nottage spent visiting the hollowed out post-industrial American city of Reading, Pennsylvania. I was a bit apprehensive that her research would lead to information overload. But not a bit of it: there are only nine characters, and empathy radiates from every word. Nottage's own sweat has paid off in what is emphatically one of the great American plays.

It unfolds in non-chronological order: most of it is set in 2000, where sort-of protagonists Cynthia and Tracey (Clare Perkins and Martha Plimpton, both brilliant) hang out in the local bar and banter boozily, confident in the security of their jobs and futures at a local, family-run steeltube factory. But their belief that the company will always look after them feels dangerously naive; flashes of 2008 show portents of doom.

Their fates and Nottage's analysis are bleak, but her respect for her characters is palpable. She is never needlessly cruel to them, and we see their decline only briefly. It is society that is cruel - 'Sweat' only reflects it, and we should all pay attention. Andrzej Lukowski

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#### **NEW SHOWS** THE HOTTEST THEATRE OPENINGS THIS WEEK

#### WEST END

#### **Coming Clean**

A gay couple flirt with non-monogamy in Kevin Elvot's 1982 bittersweet comedy.  $\rightarrow$  Trafalgar Studios.  $\leftrightarrow$  Charing Cross. Until Feb 2. £30-£40.

#### Songs for Nobodies

The stories of stars from Edith Piafto Patsv Cline fill this new musical, starring seasoned vocal mimic Bernadette Robinson.  $\rightarrow$  Ambassadors Theatre. ↔ Leicester Square. Until Feb 23. £25-£75.

## **TOP-SELLING** TICKETS

**1** The Book of Mormon This musical comedy is a hit of biblical proportions. > Prince of Wales Theatre. Until Mar 30.

2 Company A smart take on Sondheim's musical about singledom.

**3** Summer and Smoke Patsy Ferran is the breakout star of this poignant drama.

4 Wicked This hit musical is still casting a spell over London. Apollo Victoria. Until Nov 30.

**5** The Inheritance Matthew Lopez's sprawling drama of gay life in New York. Noël Coward Theatre. Until Jan 19.

FOR TICKETS TO THE BEST SHOWS **AT GREAT PRICES** 

#### **OFF-WEST** END

#### **Approaching Empty**

is a tale of clashing lovalties, set in a scruffy minicab office.  $\rightarrow$  Kiln Theatre.  $\leftrightarrow$  Kilburn. Wed Jan 9-Feb 2. £10-£32.50.

#### Aspects of Love

A return for Andrew Lloyd Webber's silly, saucy musical about Bloomsburyset bonking. → Southwark Playhouse. ↔ Elephant & Castle. Until Feb 9, £16-£27.50.

#### ATTIMEOUT.COM/TICKETS

> Gielgud Theatre. Until Mar 30.

 $\rightarrow$  Duke of York's Theatre. Until Jan 19.

#### Until Jan 31. £12.

KEEP.

Cult storyteller Daniel

Kitson's new show.

→ Battersea Arts Centre.

Retirees run riot in

→ Hampstead Theatre.

Until Jan 26. £5-£14.

↔ Swiss Cottage.

Dusty Hughes's new

comedy about ageing.

**Stop and Search** 

Gabriel Gbadamosi's

new play discusses

→ Arcola Theatre, Dalston

police tactics.

Junction Overground.

Clapham Junction rail.

**Paradise** 

Ishv Din's new play

#### Wed Jan 9-Feb 9. £10-£22.

War of the Worlds A new sci-fi show by Isley Lynn, staged by physical theatre whizzes Rhum and Clay.  $\rightarrow$  New Diorama Theatre. ↔ Great Portland St. Until Feb 9, £3-£15.



#### **Dreamgirls**

Don't miss this Motown story of girlgroup highs, lows and bitter regrets. → Savoy Theatre. ↔ Charing Cross. Until Sat Jan 12, £25-£175.

Tickets to the extremely lovable comedy 'The Book of Mormon' start at just £22.50 when you book through us.

Many more theatre listings at timeout.com/theatre



#### Edited by Eddy Frankel timeout.com/art @timeoutart



## OPENING THIS WEEK Condo 2019

The citywide art festival is back for another year, so brave the cold to discover some seriously exciting new art

JANUARY IS NORMALLY a pretty miserable time for art: everyone's sleepy, hungover and hibernating. But since 2017, Condo has been plunging a much-needed shot of adrenaline straight into the icy veins of London's wintery art scene, bringing tons of galleries to town for a genuinely exciting month-long art festival. The idea is simple: young galleries from around the world descend on London for one-month residencies in various contemporary art spaces, which host their global buddies and show work together with them. This year, it's bigger than ever, with 52 international galleries across 18 London spaces. See it as your chance to glimpse what's hip and happening in Berlin, Guatemala, LA, Hong Kong and plenty of other places, just without the air fare. We can't wait to see LA's Chateau Shatto taking up residency at Sadie Coles HQ, Cairo's Gypsum Gallery at The Sunday Painter and Tokyo's Misako & Rosen at Southard Reid in Soho. Condo is spread across the whole city, but don't let that put you off, it's the perfect excuse to work off the seasonal gluttony while soaking up some of the best new art around. ■ Eddy Frankel → Condo 2019. Various London venues, Sat Jan 12-Feb 9. Free. For full listings, head to www.condocomplex.org.

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#### Art

'no single architect

than Piano on the modern city centre

The Times

'wonderfully

uplifting'

The Telegraph

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## **LAST CHANCE Art exhibitions**

Some of 2018's best shows are still on, but not for long...

#### 'Mantegna and Bellini' $\rightarrow$

price of one. But it's not all about the art, this show is packed full of politics and intrigue too.  $\rightarrow$  The National Gallery.  $\ominus$  Charing Cross. Until Jan 27. £12-£16.



#### 'Klimt/Schiele' $\rightarrow$

Gustav and Egon were friends and mutual admirers, and between them they created some of the most stunning avant-garde art of their generation. Gorgeous stuff. → Royal Academy of Arts. ↔ Piccadilly Circus. Until Feb 3, £16, £14 concs.

#### 'Ribera: Art of Violence' $\psi$

Ribera was the master of gore, a sort of proto-Wes Craven – but there's a lot of beauty in amongst all the blood and guts.

 $\rightarrow$  Dulwich Picture Gallery. West Dulwich rail. Until Jan 27. £16.50, £8 concs.















#### 'Modern Couples' ←

Behind every great male artist is an equally good but totally overlooked female artist. This stunning show tries to redress that balance a little. → Barbican. ↔ Barbican.

Until Jan 27. £16, £10-12 concs.



#### Elmgreen & Dragset 个

The Scandinavian art duo have built a pool in the Whitechapel. Why? To criticise gentrification, obviously. No, really, it's genuinely brilliant. ■ *Eddy Frankel* → Whitechapel Gallery. ↔ Aldgate East. Until Jan 13. £12.95, £9.50 concs.

Want more art? Find it at timeout.com/art



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# 2019's most exciting museum exhibitions

Kickstart 2019 with a resolution to visit more museums. Here's our guide to the best shows to look forward to this year

## 'Christian Dior: Designer of Dreams'

The V&A goes bigger than a postwar circle skirt with this massive retrospective of Christian Dior. Famous for the 'New Look', which threw out wartime austerity in favour of tiny waists and more, more, more fabric, Dior's creations are the fuel of fantasy. This is the biggest fashion exhibition the museum has staged since the hugely popular 'Alexander McQueen: Savage Beauty' in 2015 and, like a Dior catwalk model, it looks hot.  $\rightarrow$  V&A.  $\oplus$  South Kensington. Feb 2-Jul 14. £20-£24.

#### 'Bedrooms of London'

This sobering exhibition of new documentary photography by Katie Wilson captures the homes of some of London's 700,000 kids who live below the poverty line. A timely and fitting show for the museum of the Foundling Hospital, an institution that was established to look after London's abandoned children. → Foundling Museum. ↔ Russell Square. Feb 8-May 5. £10, £7.50 concs.

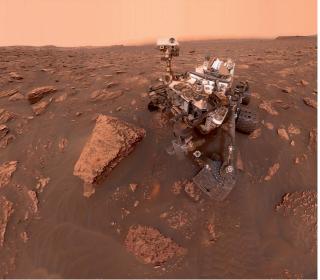
#### 'Smoke and Mirrors: The Psychology of Magic'

Gather your newt eyes, fetch the cauldron and dust off the tarot cards: the Wellcome Collection has a new exhibition exploring the psychology behind magic. Learn about the vital role of the female assistant to a magician, study a ghost-detection kit and marvel at the head of a gorilla costume once worn by Derren Brown. A show to visit with your weird sisters. → Wellcome Collection. ↔ Euston Square. Apr 11-Sep 15. Free.

#### **'Stanley Kubrick:** The Exhibition'

Kubrick's movies – like 'A Clockwork Orange', '2001: A Space Odyssey', 'Dr Strangelove' and others – are





famous for involving some of the most ambitious sets ever created. This is your chance to see props, costumes, photographs and other memorabilia.

→ Design Museum. ↔ High St Kensington. Apr 26-Sep 17. £16, £12 concs.

#### **'AI: More Than Human'**

Think you're clever? Be prepared for a bit of a knock to your confidence with this interactive exhibition at the Barbican. The show brings together the latest in artificial intelligence, calmly showing that the cleverest (or maybe stupidest) thing humans have ever done is create machines that already outwit us all.  $\rightarrow$  Barbican.  $\oplus$  Barbican. May 16-Aug 26. £11-£15.

'Food: Bigger Than the Plate'

In an era where it's not worth eating if it's not worth Instagramming, it's

## Find even more shows to see at timeout.com/museums





hardly surprising that the V&A is doing an exhibition on food, glorious food. But while a visual feast of actual feasts awaits, the real point of this show is to suss out how our avocado and almond milk habits are screwing up the earth. This exhibition dares to imagine a time when trees, animals and rivers aren't always the losers. Food for thought, right there. → V&A. ↔ South Kensington. May 18-Nov 17. £tbc. lockwise from above: 'Food t the V&A; Christian Dior t the V&A; 'Manga' at the ritish Museum; 'Mars' at ne Design Museum

#### 'Manga'

The biggest manga exhibition to ever be held outside Japan, this show charts the history of the Japanese artform. It demonstrates how it's grown into a multibillion-pound industry, taking in gaming, cosplay and anime, plus the cultural phenomenon/ seriously annoying activity known as 'Pokémon Go'. Visitors can try on cosplay outfits and head inside a special video booth to be manga-fied. → British Museum. ↔ Holborn. May 23-Aug 26.

£19.50, £16 concs.

#### **'Secret Rivers'**

The Thames is just one of many rivers to flow through our city. Along with visible ones like the Lea, there are also several 'hidden' rivers travelling underneath the city streets. This fascinating exhibition features items dredged up from the various different waterways, plus contemporary art inspired by the rivers. → Museum of London Docklands. ↔ Canary Wharf. May 24-Oct 27. Free.



#### 'Mars'

Bored of Brexit? Tired of Trump? Had it with hearing about how humanity has destroyed the rainforests/rivers/reindeer and so forth? Well, never mind. Soon it will all be over and we can move to a (fingers-crossed) friendlier corner of the solar system. To get with the space-age programme, the Design Museum is showcasing inventions connected to every stage of the most ambitious version of 'Relocation, Relocation' ever. ■ *Rosemary Waugh* → Design Museum. ↔ High St Kensington. Oct 16-Mar 1 2020. £tbc.

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#### V&A South Kensington

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Edited by Tania Ballantine timeout.com/eatdrink @timeouteatdrink



# **Fresh start**

Feeling a bit crappy after Christmas? Here's our pick of London's healthiest haunts, so you can truly treat your body like a temple

#### Aprés Food Co Farringdon

The owners of this gorgeous-looking Clerkenwell joint want us all to 'make friends with food' – and we're certainly sold on the place with its low-key backstreet vibe, pretty plants in pots and cleverly contrived gluten-free cooking. Everything is nutritionally balanced, from the frittata muffins and sweet-potato hash to the luscious cakes made with coconut sugar. Drinks are on-message too. Aprés is now open in the evenings, so you can go and get your health fix after dark.  $\rightarrow$  72 St John St, EC1M 4DT.  $\leftrightarrow$  Barbican.

#### Farmacy Royal Oak

Owned by well-connected glamourpuss Camilla Al-Fayed (of Harrods fame), Farmacy sells 'clean indulgence' to an eager audience of moneyed Notting Hillbillies and aspirational hedge-fund wives. It's a happy, joyful, 'free-from' kind of place – no dairy, no sugars, no additives, no meat – with lots of plant-based goodies ranging from 'clean curries' to macro 'earth bowls'. Even the most virtuous dishes taste luxurious, especially when eaten in such chic surroundings. → 74 Westbourne Grove, W2 55H. ↔ Royal Oak.

#### Farmstand Covent Garden

Don't expect strawberries in December at Farmstand – a cleanlined minimalist diner inspired by the namesake roadside produce stalls of America's Midwest. GM-free, simple, sustainable and seasonal are its watchwords, and the food's also healthy without ramming the ethos down people's throats. Colourful salad boxes and trays are the big sellers, supported by liquid assets including cold-pressed juices and gluten-free lager.

→ 42 Drury Lane, WC2B 5AJ. ↔ Covent Garden.







Maple & King's King's Cross 'Clean eating' feels like fun at

this sibling of Maple & Fitz. Order downstairs, then take your 'lunch box' upstairs to a blond-wood dining area dotted with fairy lights. Pick from the nourishing, healthy salads – our faves include 'Purple Haze' (pickled purple cabbage, rice and roasted pumpkin) and a mix of sweet potato, quinoa, kale and sundried tomatoes. Then top it all off with grilled chicken, halloumi or tofu. → Unit 1,3 Pancras Square, N1C 4AG. ↔ King's Cross.

#### Squirrel South Kensington

Given the rodent-themed interiors, indoor trees and bird-house cutlery holders, you might be tempted to go nuts at Squirrel – and there are plenty of opportunities to indulge your inner muncher at this cosy spot. We especially like the smoked tofu and the various themed bowls (including the zesty guac 'n' roll, essentially a freeform burrito). → 11 Harrington Rd, SW7 3ES. ⇔ South Kensington.

#### Wildflower Peckham

Everything is pitched just right at this stylish vegan and veggie canteen at Peckham Levels – a multi-storey car park-turnedmultifunctional cultural space. Vegetables get the headline treatment in creative, pretty, seasonal plates ranging from harissa-roasted cauliflower to cabbage with sesame and chilli. If it's on, try the cheese-free swede fondue with pickled veg for dunking.  $\blacksquare$  $\rightarrow$  Level 5, 95a Rye Lane, SE15 4ST. Peckham Rye Overground.

#### High Mood Food Marylebone

A pure-food haunt for vegans, flexitarians and everyone in between, High Mood Food infuses its dishes with beneficial bacteria in the shape of gut-friendly fermented foods. The menu is stuffed with overtly healthy possibilities, but it's not afraid of meat and dairy (there's even a bone broth!). Trust us – HMF's laidback vibe, vibrant interiors and bubbly staff are bound to put you on a selfconsciously virtuous high that'll last all day.

#### ightarrow 25 Duke St, W1U 1LD. $\leftrightarrow$ Bond St.

#### Lis Café Deli Hampstead

'Eat no evil' is the mantra behind this homely yet très tasteful 'clean food' café near Hampstead Heath, which offers an all-day menu of vitamin-packed smoothies, energygiving breakfast bowls and colourful layered salads in jars – plus vegan cakes engineered to pass for moreor-less healthy. Signature serves include cacao-chia pudding with whipped coconut cream and a healthier version of challah french toast that will make you forget you're eating something virtuous. → 95-97 Heath St, NW3 6SS. ↔ Hampstead.

#### Malibu Kitchen at The Ned Mansion House

A narrow sunshine strip of a restaurant promoting guilt-free 'clean eating' within the swanky surrounds of The Ned hotel/club complex, Malibu Kitchen feels like a slice of California in the City. The menu favours veggie and vegan over meat and fish – although there's something for everyone, including fans of raw food. Veg and mango rolls with spicy nuts, poké bowls and zesty salads all fit the bill. Wash it down with the terrific green juice.  $\rightarrow$  27 Poultry, EC2R 8AJ.  $\leftrightarrow$  Bank.

Farmstand, Wildflower, High Mood Food, Malibu Kitchen, Farmacy



## Need something to impress your mates or dates?

We've got just what you need: half-price food at eight seriously classy London restaurants.

Think Gaucho, Burger and Lobster and Londrino.

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Each box contains a set of nine cards giving you 50 percent off the food bill for two people.



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## **Going out? Try here.**



#### MAHIKI SAYS:

'Mahiki is the ultimate party destination in London. With its tiki décor, delicious cocktails made with fresh fruit and tropical flowers adorning every Honolulu Honey's hair, a night out at this Mayfair spot is set to be unique in every respect. With no VIP rooms and an open-door policy, Mahiki prides itself on its fun, vibrant atmosphere.' *1 Dover St, W1S 4LD*.



#### FOUR QUARTERS EAST SAYS:

'We serve up classic arcade and console gaming with an excellent selection of board games and craft beers. Four Quarters East also boasts a truly world-class spirits range with a fully equipped cocktail bar. And if that wasn't enough reason to visit, we have happy hour at 5pm to 7pm Monday to Friday!' Unit 8, Canalside, Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park, E20 3BS.



#### SHORYU RAMEN SOHO SAYS:

'Suffering from the post-Christmas slump? Recharge your batteries with our £18 detox set menu featuring a zen mocktail, two healthy salad sides and a vegan ramen – it's delicious and nutritious. This offer is available from January 1-31 at all Shoryu branches across the city. Start the year as you mean to go on!' 3 Denman St, W1D 7HA.



#### GRIDIRON SAYS:

'Our hearty modern-British menu celebrates seasonal, ethically sourced ingredients, with fire-cooked specialities to be shared or enjoyed alone. The wine list has been curated by Fiona Beckett, and ranges from new world to European classics plus an 'Under the Counter' section curated by sommelier Lucy Ward.' 19 Old Park Lane, W1K 1LB.

## THREE OF THE BEST Mayfair restaurants

Honey, grab the keys to the Bentley, we're going to the posh bit of town



The Counter at Sabor ★★★★ → 35-37 Heddon St, W1B 4BR. ← Piccadilly Circus. WHAT IS IT... The more casual half of Sabor, a tapas restaurant from the former executive chef of Barrafina. WHY GO... For the tartaleta dessert – thin pastry filled with fruit, topped with creamy, booze-laced mascarpone.



#### Goodman **\*\*\*\***\*

→ 24-26 Maddox St, W1S 1QH. ↔ Oxford Circus.
 WHAT IS IT... A branch of the American steakhouse mini-chain that could double as a rich grandfather's study.
 WHY GO... For truly perfect steak and a spicy peppercorn sauce that'll knock your socks off.



#### Kitty Fisher's **\*\*\*\***

→ 10 Shepherd Market, W1J 7QF. ↔ Green Park.
 WHAT IS IT... A vibey European basement restaurant named after an eighteenth-century courtesan.
 WHY GO... The food is fabulous. Splash out on loads of small plates like smoked eel with parsley risotto and egg yolk.

Find the full list of Mayfair maestros at timeout.com/mayfair



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#### **RESTAURANT OF THE WEEK**

## **Kricket**

→ 41-43 Atlantic Rd, SW9 8JL. ↔ Brixton.



**OH KRICKET, HOW** do I love thee? Let me count the ways... And at the Brixton branch of this cool modern Indian spot – the original was in a Pop Brixton container, and this second permanent branch follows a successful Soho spot – those ways are many.

There was the astounding house bhel puri: an Indian snack staple of puffed rice and crunchy chickpea noodles, here dolloped with yoghurt and strung through with the sweet tang of raw mango. A rustling, greaseless pile of samphire pakora, drizzled with sweet-sharp tamarind; and a couple of Goan sausage croquettes – dinky, porky grenades redolent of the best 'nduja.

So it continued. A tiny dish of chopped raw bavette, zesty with green mango and stuck with little sails of fried lotus root, was the best



riff on tartare we've eaten in eons. A larger plate of pulled pig's head was gutsy as hell, the blindingly rich mix of meat and glutinous fat given a blast of vindaloo chilli heat. Best of all were some ludicrously tender nuggets of the signature Keralan fried chicken, the salt offset by slivers of pickled mooli.

Negatives were few and far between. But, in the name of constructive criticism, a subtly creamy dish of baby aubergine with grated coconut was a bit flat; objectively, the vindaloo was over-seasoned. But these are minor quibbles. The myriad killer dishes, affable staff and rumbling, terracotta-coloured arch setting make this one of the best spots in one of London's go-to gastro postcodes. ■ Tom Howells Dinner for two with drinks and service: around £100. WHAT IS IT... A modern Indian small-plates restaurant in Brixton.

WHY GO... For London's best fried chicken, Keralan-style.

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Save 52 percent on three courses and a glass of bubbly at Moroccan joint **Souk Medina**. It's just £19.

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Edited by Laura Richards timeout.com/bars @timeouteatdrink

## Teatulia

→ 36 Neal St, WC2H 9PS. ↔ Covent Garden.

\*\*\*\*\*

#### I ALMOST MISTOOK Teatulia for another of Seven Dials' many smart boutiques, sandwiched between make-up and shoe shops (it took a few zooms on Google Maps to confirm its unlikely location). But that's probably because it sort of is – a fancy single-origin tea shop that doubles as a bar and sources leaves from its garden in Bangladesh.

Upon entering, we were greeted by friendly staff, plus shelf upon shelf of loose-leaf teas in pretty pots and the wonderful scents that accompanied them. It looks more like a bourgeois organic shop than a bar at first glance, so you may be unaware of the tea-infused cocktails until you take a seat in one of the comfortable armchairs and have a look at the menu. It's a short read, consisting of around seven cocktails in total, some of which are non-alcoholic but sound just as tantalising.

Suffering from seasonal cold and flu symptoms during our visit,

we picked the Chai Hot-Butter Rum, which came with a side of salted caramel candyfloss, and a bittersweet Ginger Snap infused with coriander, basil and cucumber – both costing £10. We'd had the bar staff pegged as tea specialists as opposed to mixologists until we tried these surprisingly delicious concoctions, each using tea leaves at their core. There isn't a great deal of choice, but Teatulia could be

#### **BAR OF THE WEEK**

WHAT IS IT... Tea shop meets bar in the middle of Covent Garden.

WHY GO... For sober and stiff drinks – all with tea at their core.

a great option if you're doing Dry January – alcohol-free cocktails like the Green Tea Ginger Cooler looked particularly palatable.

Although the space is beautifully designed (complete with its own library curated by Tilda Swinton) it's hard to escape the fact that you're sipping in a shop. But if you are a total tea fiend (teetotal or not), it's well worth checking out. ■ Samantha Willis

\* \* \* \*

## **Tap 13**

→ Unit E5, Broadway Market Tooting, 29 Tooting High St, SW17 0RJ. ↔ Tooting Broadway.

WHAT IS IT... A zero-waste tap bar in Broadway Market Tooting.

#### WHY GO...

To discover a world beyond just beer on tap – and that includes prosecco.



**COUNT 'EM UP** – 13 taps shine brightly in a row behind a very small and ramshackle bar within Broadway Market Tooting. From them pour beer, cider, wine and pre-batched cocktails. The bar not only hopes to keep marketgoers well fuelled but it aims to generate zero waste in the process.

It's a compact and stripped-back space with stools facing the taps and a few seats the other side of a pathway reserved for market footfall. As such, you'd expect Tap 13 to struggle to make its own atmosphere – but it almost felt like its sole bartender was overcompensating when we made a midweek visit. His chat was practically non-stop (and mostly entertaining) and he blared out emo hits from the noughties to plug any lulls in conversation. It may be a bit invasive if you're hoping for a quiet catch-up, but we appreciated this old-school approach to bartending.

The four beers were from Tulse Hill's Bullfinch Brewery, with pints of lager and pale ale for  $\pm 5$ . Wine by the glass cost the same and included a very drinkable French red – that's if you're not instantly drawn to prosecco on tap (which is, let's face it, the holy grail). The bartender let me try all three cocktails (the beauty of a tap bar) before I settled on a rhubarb and rosé spritz with plenty of fizz and sweet vanilla notes. And I thought 13 was meant to be unlucky. **L**aura Richards

Tap into 2019 drinks trends at timeout.com/bars

# THREE OF THE BEST

Forget Dry Jan – go low instead. Here are three London brews that cut down on alcohol but don't compromise on flavour



#### **Lager** by Small Beer Brew Co

This remarkable brewery makes beers solely between 0.5 and 2.8 percent ABV, and there's less than one unit in a bottle of its easy-drinking pilsnerstyle lager. It's a thirstquencher at any time of the day, quite frankly. → www.theoriginalsmallbeer. com, £2.45.



## Table BeerFive Points x Wiper& True

With a flavour as tropical as a Gloria Estefan medley, an amber hue and a silky smooth feel from oats, it's fairly gobsmacking that this table beer collab rings in at just 2.2 percent ABV. → www.fivepointsbrewing. co.uk, £3.29.

#### Gecko Little Beer byVillages

Scuttle along to Deptford's Villages brewery, which specialises in sessionable beers. The lowest of the low (in a good way) is Gecko, an IPA light on booze (2.9 percent), but heavy on sweet citrus flavour. → www.hopburnsblack.co.uk, £2.95.



Edited by Ellie Walker-Arnott timeout.com/daytrips IF YOU ONLY DO ONE THING Combine food and architecture at the Grade II-listed Mackie Mayor, a casual, communal

dining joint in one of Manchester's most beautiful buildings. With a selection of top food, booze and coffee traders all under one stunning glass roof, a day tasting your way through the menus is a day well spent.

A perfect day in

# Manchester

#### Creativity, banging breweries and great grub

**BIG, BOLD AND** always up for a party, Manchester has plenty to offer the hedonistic visitor. But as well as a legendary music scene and big club nights, there's an enviable food offering and a line-up of breweries that'd impress the most hardcore hop head. It's a city underpinned by community and independence. Discover unique cafés, proper pubs and a thriving arts scene, and you'll still barely have scratched the surface.

#### **First up**

The **Northern Quarter** is a good place to start the day, with a brew at **Siop Shop** and a wander past the record shops and street art. Next, head to **Ancoats**, where slick glass and concrete sit side-by-side with red brick mills, and hot new restaurants are opening at a staggering pace.

#### **Stop for lunch**

Pop into **Pollen Bakery**. Be warned – there can be queues at lunch – but it's a testament to its top sourdough and cakes. Queue too long? Find **Grub Food Fair** behind Piccadilly station, where artisan stalls serve up some of the best scran in the city.

#### **Drink like a local**

Manchester is carving a name for itself on the global beer scene. **Cloudwater Brew Co** – voted second-best brewery in the world – is a must see. Post-brewery, prop up the bar at **The Smithfield Tavern**, or geek out at the city's best craft beer bars: **Port Street Beer House** and **Café Beermoth**.

#### Soak up the vibes

Letting your hair down and having a dance is what the city does best. Keep it classic with a noisy gig at the sweaty subterranean **Soup Kitchen**, or explore **Yes** – a restaurant/bar/music venue where daytime drinks on the roof all too easily transform into an all-night rave in the basement club.

#### Hit the shops

There's a definite Manchester 'look', and it's largely encapsulated by **Oi Polloi**, a Northern Quarter menswear boutique which has a loyal, well-dressed following. The neighbouring **Manchester Craft and Design Centre**, housed in a former Victorian fish market, boasts two floors of charming shops run by locals. *Lucy Lovell* 

 $\rightarrow$  Get there: two hours and 5 minutes by train from London Euston; around four hours by car.

#### WAKE UP HERE

## Whispering Willow



After a day in the city, call this swish narrowboat home. It's moored in Manchester's coolest district, Ancoats, just a short stroll from the city centre. The surprisingly spacious 57ft boat is kitted out with everything you'd expect from a boutique hotel, but with bags more charm. Think stylish interiors, a powerful shower, a king-size bed and a deck with views over the marina. There's also a wood-burning stove, making the waterborne hideaway a cosy place to retire to even in the middle of winter. Lucy Lovell → Manchester. From £65 a night. www.airbnb.co.uk

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