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SPICE UP YOUR SENSES

Inside

This week's Time Out in no time at all

Lush libations

From London's largest beer garden to a 'living bar' (below) – we get the drinks in at our leafiest watering holes

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'Amazing Grace'

Rescued footage of the awesome Aretha Franklin finally makes it to the big screen. It's glorious. Five stars

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Tom yum yum!

Check out six of the city's best Thai restaurants

PAGE 67







Hit a Dome run

The Crystal Maze Live Experience has moved to the West End. We try to make our escape from its new maze in the Trocadero

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Dalston Superstore is ten

Party time! Well-known regulars wish the beloved Hackney LGBT+ venue a very happy birthday

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↓ FEATURES AND REGULARS





This week, we catch up with super-intriguing French dancing queen Chris ahead of her huge gig headlining All Points East. A performer whose identity is as fluid as her moves, she proves that pop doesn't have to be manufactured and boring. And, she tells us, her career was inspired by Time Out! She followed one of our listings to iconic Soho club Madame Jojo's and fell in with a bunch of friendly drag queens. So, why not pick a recommendation this week and follow it to somewhere surprising? We have robot dogs (p64), Mexican wrestlers (p42) and a birthday bash for a legendary nightclub (p51). Who knows where they might lead you?



What you've been rating and hating online

Aperol: The Sequel. Last year, Aperol put on a pop-up with a massive orange canal and you all flipped out. It's coming back in late May and this time there'll be a Venice-inspired lido - with a waterfall (don't drink any liquid that's not in a glass)! Still popular? Well, 3,200(!) comments tell the story. One reader was excited but is staying on dry land. Another has had enough of our nonsense.

'OMG I love Aperol Spritz! Can't say I'd want to bathe in it, though.'

Julie A via Facebook

'Why do the British have to turn all food and drink into fun? You are not kids, show some respect!'

Myriam B via Facebook

Train enthusiasts got massively into our video of the Royal Windsor Steam Express, which sets off from Waterloo. Who wouldn't want a fab dinner while riding through the countryside? And it's carbonneutral! One reader was so happy she didn't even want to be fed.

'I'd be happy with a bag of sarnies to get to ride on that beauty.'

Helen M via Facebook

There is a beach in Fulham. Yes, for real. So make like you're in Cancun, but remember to keep your pants on: it's not that kind of beach.

'Fifteen degrees with a bit of sun and y'all still be topless.'

Ranu R via Facebook

COMMENT OF THE WEEK

In our online feature covering the most beautiful libraries in the capital, we suggested you leave your phones at home. Cue wrist-slap...

'As a librarian I feel I must state it's not either or. Pretty much everyone who comes into our library has a phone on them and that's just fine. Libraries are about information, which can be gathered more and more via electronic means. And libraries are great for free wi-fi!'

Victoria EC via Facebook

Here's a joke. A man goes into a library and says: 'Cod and chips, please.' Librarian says: 'This is a library.' Man says: 'Oh, sorry. [Whispers] Cod and chips, please.'



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COSTA COFFEE

Edited by James Manning @timeoutlondon



THE ESSENTIALS

Three things you have to do this week



Need a screen break? Have some old-fashioned family fun as the long-running (and free) **Covent Garden May Fayre and Puppet Festival** celebrates Mr Punch's birthday this Sunday.



Dishoom's bacon naan is a London breakfast classic, but now mornings at the Indian joint are even better: the new breakfast menu includes a double bacon naan as well as a vegan take. Joy!



It's Time Out

Market month!

THIS THURSDAY, the much-anticipated Time Out Market will open its doors in Miami. Just like the magazine you're holding, it's a place where you'll find the best of the city - food served by Miami's best chefs, cocktails by its greatest bartenders and art and culture by its brightest talents - curated by our expert local editors. Hot on Miami's heels, Time Out Markets in Boston and New York will open this

Keith Waterhouse's 'Jeffrey Bernard Is Unwell' is being staged for the first time in the very pub the play is set in: the under-threat Coach & Horses. Raise a pint to a Soho legend from Tuesday.

COOMES: SEE THIS: TOM



MOST GOOGLED Why are there parakeets in London?

OVER THE LAST decade or so, London has seen the unlikely spread of feral ring-necked parakeets: a species of small parrot whose native range extends across South Asia and Central Africa. First sighted in Dulwich in the 1890s. and for a long time a quirky feature of Kingston-upon-Thames, the flocks have now colonised green spaces the length and breadth of the capital, from Croydon to Crouch End.

Accustomed in their native range to the Himalayan foothills, they are unruffled by mild English winters. The last official roost count, in 2012, recorded 32,000 parakeets in London. Now there must be many, many more. As extraordinary as it seems, these bright birds are starting to become one of the most commonly seen and heard-creatures in

the city. And here's the even more extraordinary thing: no one knows how they got here.

Theories abound. Did Jimi Hendrix release a breeding pair on Carnaby Street in 1968? Did they escape from the set of the film 'The African Queen' in 1951? Did they make their bid for freedom during the Great Storm of 1987?

Sadly, the likeliest theory is the dullest: that they escaped from multiple cages, and - being a smart, sociable and highly adaptable species - lost no time in flocking together and finding nesting sites. But whatever the truth behind their expansion, London's parakeets are well on their way to becoming a ubiquitous feature of city

life. ■ Nick Hunt

→ 'The Parakeeting of London: An Adventure in Gonzo Ornithology' by Nick Hunt and Tim Mitchell is published by Paradise Road.









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Kids behave better than some adults but teenagers are the worst

'Small children are often the Tate's bestbehaved visitors. They just seem to love learning as much as they can in here. On the other hand, big groups of foreign students are much more troublesome. You'll see them playing on the escalators or running around. Often their teachers just aren't controlling them, and there's not a lot I can do about that.'

Security guards play a bigger role in art galleries these days

'We need more security staff in London galleries than we did before, but it means that my job has got more interesting. Before, I was stuck in just one room, stopping people from

doing this or that. Now I spend my day roaming free in the building and showing visitors all the things they can do.'

Diplomacy is as crucial as art history

'What we call "patrolling" involves a lot of mindreading. You learn the tell-tale gestures and body language of a person who's just about to try and touch an artwork. If a visitor does get upset at being called out, you just have to step away and avoid making them angrier - especially if they suddenly have something priceless in their hands.' \blacksquare Interview by James FitzGerald → Tate Modern. ← Southwark

W RD **ON THE STREET**

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

'He's so sheltered he's never trimmed his pubes.'

'It's like an orgy that I'm not enjoying.'

'I was in Tesco at 5am with two legs of lamb, Nutella, mini muffins, eggs and smoked mackerel.'

'He's your age, butten years older.'

'You can make so many things from bread. It's the oblong of opportunity.'

'No, I just don't want chewing gum up my arse!'

'I'm not being funny, but how on earth do you milk an almond?'

'Every time I see arockpool, Ithink: Charlie Dimmock.'

'You can't eat oysters-they're really dangerous. That's what killed Michael Winner.'

Overheard something weird? Tweet us #wordonthestreet







Limited availability. Prices are available each way based on a return 'Economy Basic' World Traveller fare, from London Gatwick only, and include taxes, fees and charges. Fare excludes checked baggage. Correct as of 1 May 2019 but are subject to change at any time. Departing from London Gatwick to Toronto (Pearson) on select dates between 1 May 2019 – 16 June 2019 and 1 September 2019 – 29 September 2019. See ba.com/gatwick for details.

THEN AND NOW

Bishopsgate





AS A TUBE driver in the late '80s, Tim Brown had a front-row seat as east London was remodelled from postindustrial backwater to Thatcherite boom town. His Kodachrome photographs, unpublished for 20 years, document the city on the brink of transformation. This picture of Bishopsgate, just north of Liverpool Street station, shows two remaining Victorian and Edwardian buildings (including The Hand Pump pub) on the verge of demolition, surrounded by cranes heralding a new era for the yuppified City of London.

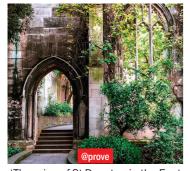




→ 'The East End in Colour 1980-1990' by Tim Brown is published by Hoxton Mini Press.

THE VIEW FROM YOU

What Time Out readers have been Instagramming this week



'The ruins of St Dunstan-in-the-East have become a splendid garden.'



'When it lines up juuuuuust right...'



'I'd been meaning to check out The Churchill Arms – I love the outside!'



'Who needs a sugar daddy when you have Daddy Bao?'

ON THE





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FREE LONDON

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



DON'T MISS

99 problems? Try 101 things to do at timeout.com/thingstodo

RRA7II IANTI

'Somos Brasil'

Get up close and personal with more than 100 Brazilian citizens at this exhibition at the Embassy of Brazil. Showcasing an extensive project by Marcus Lyon, 'Somos Brasil' (translation: 'We are Brazil') is more than just photography. If you scan the images with your phone, you can hear each person's story in their own words and see their DNA map.

 \rightarrow Embassy of Brazil. \leftrightarrow Charing Cross. Fri May 10-Jun 7.

YES, WE CAN Camden Town Brewery giveaway

To celebrate the launch of its Week Nite Any Day Lager, Camden Town Brewery is handing out 1,500 free cans from its Camden bar for a 30-minute frenzy at 5pm tomorrow. Hop to it!

- ightarrow Camden Town Brewery Bar.
- igoplus Chalk Farm. Wed May 8.

GO NUTS National Doughnut Week

Need an afternoon sugar hit? You're in luck. To celebrate National Doughnut Week, Whole Foods Market Kensington is giving away 1,000 free doughnuts from 3pm on Monday. Sweet!

→ Whole Foods Market Kensington. ↔ High St Kensington. Mon May 13.

THE SKY'S THE LIMIT Streatham Common Kite Day

See the skies of south London filled with colourful kites at this annual event. You can stick to watching the professionals (yes, there are pro kite flyers) or FYO (that's fly your own, obviously). → Streatham Common.

PAWS FOR THOUGHT Cabbages & Frocks Dog Day Afternoon

Streatham rail. Sun May 12.

Try out doga, watch a man-and-dog dance performance and catch loads of cute pups battle it out in competitions including 'waggy tail' and 'a bit of ruff'.

→ St Marylebone Parish Church Grounds. ⊕ Baker St. Sat May 11.



But we don't



Great tasting coffee, simple







These transformations aren't stage personas — "Iwas miserable and I looked like shit,' she says.

These transformations aren't stage personas – they're a way for her to feel empowered. 'I like the mess it creates,' she says. 'I'd rather be messy than trapped. It's me without any form of apology, and I apologise a lot in real life.' (It's true, she keeps saying sorry for eating breakfast as we talk.)

Ten years ago Héloïse Letissier became Christine. The story of that creation sounds like a modern-day fairytale, but she swears it's true. She had been kicked out of drama school for wanting to stage a play, something only the men on the course were allowed to do. 'I was 20 and I didn't know I could experience such blatant sexism,' she says, taking a bite of her fried egg. 'I was really down, and I thought: Where do I feel comfortable?' The answer was London, a place she had always felt was a 'safe space' when visiting with her dad (a lecturer in English: he still checks her lyrics for mistakes). She picked up a copy of Time Out - another detail that sounds made up but is true, honest - found a night at Madame Jojo's in Soho, and went to see her first proper drag show.

All hands on deck
Chris at Hammersmith
Apollo, 2018

'I was miserable and I looked like shit,' she says. 'I have expressive skin. When I'm sad I get rashes. I was this screw-faced young woman looking lost.'

So there she was: in London, in a club, covered in a rash, looking distraught, when... 'These drag queens came up to me and were like, "Are you okay?"' she says. Like fairy godmothers only with better contour, the queens spent two weeks looking after Chris, helping her work out who she wanted to be. Something clicked. She started writing songs as Christine And The Queens.

A lot has happened since then. Chris's album 'Chaleur Humaine' was the best-selling UK debut of 2016. She played her first Glastonbury the day after Brexit, and managed to channel the intense mood of the crowd in a way that other performers might have rejected. 'I started to do absurd things like fighting the rain,' she says. 'It felt like a moment to let your imagination contradict what could be happening.'

She's twice been nominated for International Female Solo Artist at the Brits, a rare achievement for a French artist in a category usually dominated by US and Anglophone megastars. She was even invited to write a song for Rihanna. 'It was about sending nudes,' says Chris. But the Barbadian star turned it down. 'I think it was because it was really sad, depressing and feeble,' she says. 'She was too fierce for it. In a way the rejection was validating: reject me, I'm not worthy!'

Ri might have flirted with working with Chris, but her proper celebrity admirer is Elton John. He sends her emails of encouragement from his iPad. And Madonna – one of Chris's idols – brought her out on stage in Paris in 2015 for a performance that involved Madge spanking her in front of the crowd. 'It was the best sexual experience I've ever had!' says Chris. 'She's powerful – she's like: I'm going to eat you, and you, and you. I'm going to have sex with you. And people are like: Yeah! Then she called me "Christina". It was slightly shady, but I loved it. It's like, thank you, punish me more!'

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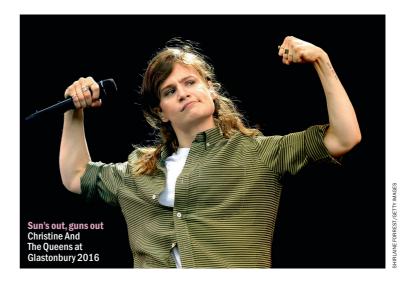
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erforming has always been a huge deal for Chris. Her shows are theatrical; choreographed in a way that goes way further than most pop routines. You might see her wrestling an invisible figure in a river or flexing her muscles on some scaffolding. 'Someone told me that my new tour is like a weird Broadway show,' she laughs.

Chris will be bringing her blend of pop, theatre and contemporary dance to All Points East in Victoria Park in just a few weeks - her biggest UK headline gig so far. 'The tour sometimes calls for being really attentive and silent but it's still a pop show,' she explains. 'It's this in-between thing and in London people really get it.' When she performed the show in France, it wasn't quite the same. 'They were like, should we clap?'

It's not the only time she's felt misunderstood in her native country. When she returned as Chris, the French media were puzzled. 'I was asked too many times whether I was transitioning,' she says. 'I can be Chris and I can be a woman. It's as if there's only one way to be feminine.' She says French magazines psychoanalysed her haircut: "She's getting rid of her will to bear a child." I was like, it's 2019. Are you fucking mad?'

Still, Chris is hopeful that conversations around gender and sexuality are becoming more open. It's something she has noticed when talking about her identity as a pansexual woman. $\hbox{`Between the first and the second record, I feel}\\$ the difference,' she says, explaining that when she released her debut album in 2014, she mentioned her sexuality and people thought she'd invented the word 'pansexual'. But she also worries about LGBT+ culture getting co-opted by corporations. 'Sometimes queer is just digested in a capitalist perspective,' she says. 'Like "Ten Queer Artists to Watch" and you're like, actually, that's reduced it again, when you just want to express your freedom.' When 'Chris' was released, some people congratulated her on what they saw as a slick marketing campaign, rather than an expression of who she is. 'It's been my life for ever. I'm talking about it because I don't want to hide it,' she says.



Her openness is having an impact. Chris says she gets letters, mostly from young girls, thanking her. 'They say: "You gave me the audacity to be empowered in my sexuality, to embrace that thing I didn't want to embrace," she says. 'That's when you're like, oh wow, this is real. It resonates.

Despite this, she has no interest in becoming a spokesperson for her identity. In fact, it seems she doesn't take herself that seriously. At one point she starts to tell me 'A great record is like a journey...', before laughing at herself - 'I want to slap myself. I'm sorry.' At another she switches from talking earnestly about the state of pop music - 'I'm fascinated by songs that are like hook, hook, hook' - to pretending to be a fish (a contender for her next reinvention, apparently).

It's why Chris is the pop star we need right now. Yes, she blurs the lines of femininity, creates a dialogue around sexuality and refuses to be categorised - but it's more than that. It's her energy. On stage she leaps, she spins, she sweats, she takes you out of your comfort zone. She's an explosion of weird fun. If you go to All Points East she'll drag you out of the gloom of politics and climate change and into her safe space with unstoppable force. 'Every time I'm sad I'm like, I can't believe I get to be Chris,' she says. 'I feel like I'm slaying when I'm on stage: I need it.'







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The lush beer garden with optional roof

Pub-food-hall hybrid **The Prince** has four eateries, three bars and London's largest beer garden draped in lots of trailing foliage.

There's even a retractable roof if the weather turns.

ightarrow 14 Lillie Rd. West Brompton Overground.



The plant-filled cocktail parlour

Thought your house plant collection was impressive? Wait until you step inside **Mr Fogg's House of Botanicals**. It's packed full of plants, with pastel decor and floral armchairs to match.

→ 48 Newman St. → Goodge St.

TRENDING

Bars full of plants

Londoners' passion for foliage has spread to the city's watering holes. Stop and smell the roses (and take a cheeky Insta pic) at these leafy spots



The bar with wall-to-wall garnishes

At **Bourne & Hollingsworth**'s new 'living bar', you'll find greenery growing up the walls. But the foliage isn't just there to look pretty – it provides freshingredients and garnishes for your drinks.

→ Bourne & Hollingsworth Buildings, 42 Northampton Rd. ↔ Farringdon.



The seasonal shape-shifter

There are two botanical bars on the cards at **South Place Hotel**. Drink gin cocktails in the Enchanted Garden until May 12 before it transforms into the Mediterranean-inspired Rosé Riviera.

→ 3 South Place. ↔ Moorgate.



The Japanese cherry blossom den

Every year, **Shochu Lounge** brings spring indoors with its dreamy sakura installation. It's now a permanent fixture, so you can sip cocktails under a pink blossom-covered ceiling all year round. ■

→ Roka, 37 Charlotte St. ↔ Goodge St.

E PRINCE: PASCO, PHOTOGRAPHY; MR FOGG'S HOUSE OF BOTANICALS : JOHNNY STEPHENS PH





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Lyle's Golden Syrup is the oldest brand in the world – and it all started in east London. *Natasha Wynarczyk* visits it to lift the lid on how the sticky stuff gets made

LYLE'S GOLDEN SYRUP recipe is top secret. It's so secret, in fact, that getting access to the factory takes months of negotiating. It's finally paid off, though. 'Big Syrup' has agreed to let me visit its Plaistow Wharf works in east London, where the amber goo has been made since 1885.

Nestled behind West Silvertown DLR station, the grey factory is identifiable thanks to the giant Lyle's can on its side and the scent of burnt sugar hanging in the air. At the entrance there's a stone carving of Lyle's creepy logo – a rotting lion carcass surrounded by bees with the legend 'Out of the Strong Came Forth Sweetness'. It's a marketing strategy that probably

wouldn't get past advertising bods today, but the packaging of Lyle's Golden Syrup has been unchanged since its inception, and the product holds a Guinness World Record for the world's oldest branding.

Before I venture inside the factory and see how the secretive sweet stuff is made, I get to visit another location: Tate & Lyle's sugar refinery, at the other end of what was once called the 'Sugar Mile'. Local affairs manager Chris Abell meets me at the building, which is tucked away behind a massive wall near City Airport.

Now mainly building sites and luxury flats, in the early twentieth century the Sugar Mile

was the UK's hub for all things sweet, from Trebor mints to Keiller's marmalade. But its unchallenged sugar daddies were nineteenth-century refiners Abram Lyle and Henry Tate. Lyle owned Plaistow Wharf and Tate the refinery. Although their two companies were later merged by their descendants, Abell explains that the two were actually bitter rivals in their lifetimes. 'They would get the same train from Fenchurch Street,' he says. 'And ignore each other.'

Stepping inside the main warehouse at the refinery, I am confronted by a gigantic pile of unrefined cane sugar – around 50,000 tonnes of the brown stuff. I fight an insatiable urge to dive





Read more in this series at timeout.com/madeinlondon

headfirst into this crystalline Everest, which crunches under my feet like snow. The raw sugar is delivered by ship it to the jetty outside from places such as Brazil, Mozambique and the Caribbean. Abell is keen to stress that at this stage it's not edible: that happens when it's refined into the stuff that you might stir into your cuppa.

Some of this unrefined sugar is taken by lorry along to Plaistow Wharf, where it gets turned into Lyle's Golden Syrup. Abell tells me that the company's tin line there churns out a staggering 40,000 cans a day, more than 10 million a year. And, with that, it's time to walk back along Sugar Mile and see that process in action.

The first thing I learn when I get to Plaistow Wharf is that only nine people in the world – nicknamed 'Goldies' – know Lyle's syrup recipe.

The second is that its history is even richer than the product. The ingredients haven't changed since Victorian times, meaning the tin in your cupboard contains the same stuff that was taken by explorer Captain Scott on his doomed 1910 Antarctic expedition. The Plaistow Wharf factory was targeted by German bombers 68 times during World War II but never stopped production.

Plaistow Wharf is a buzzing hive of activity. In the first room I'm taken to, I'm hypnotised by the tins being made. Machines that date back to the 1940s whizz and clank as the metal is beaten into shape. At the end of the line, a wheel of nozzles creates a vacuum in each tin, to check it's airtight – those that aren't are swiftly whisked away.

Everything is operated by a panel in a control room, which Abell describes as 'the heart of

the building'. It looks like Homer Simpson's workspace. I was expecting Willy Wonka rivers of gold, but the factory is more like a laboratory.

I meet one of the 'Goldies', Shruti Kawa, the factory's process area manager. Despite my penetrating, Paxman-esque style of questioning, she won't give up the recipe, though she is prepared to give me some more details. 'We take the by-product of sugar refining, a substance called "jet",' she explains. 'About 100 tonnes of jet come from the refinery every day. It's a very dark syrup that crystallises easily. We process it so it won't crystallise for more than five years.'

The process that stops the jet crystallising creates Golden Syrup. As the colour molecules are removed, it turns from a dark red to the famous dark yellow hue, and it thickens. 'It takes eight hours from beginning to end,' says Kawa.

We head into the next room, where another machine fills each tin with syrup. It's heated to 46C before pouring to make it runnier. Abell hands me a spoon and pulls a tin off the line, encouraging me to try some. The warm sweetness transports me right back to childhood baking. At the end of each day, the tins (and squeezy bottles) are loaded on to pallets and transported around the country, eventually finding their way into kitchen cupboards, cakes and cookies.

As I leave, Abell presents me with a memento – a tin of syrup, of course. I leave on a sugar high, satisfied that I've finally managed to sweet-talk my way into this holy of holies. Even if they do keep a *very* tight lid on their recipe. ■

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Royal Academy of Arts Summer Exhibition

What is it? The annual celebration of art and creativity.

Why go? The RA's 250th Summer Exhibition last year was a huge success. Now the world's biggest open-submission art show returns, co-ordinated by acclaimed painter Jock McFadyen. It's a must-see. What's exclusive? Our tickets save you 25 percent – now just £13.50. → Royal Academy. ↔ Piccadilly Circus.

Jun 10-Aug 12. www.timeout.com/exhibition

Inamo

What is it? A meal at a cutting-edge Love London Award-winner.

Why go? Apart from the interactive ordering system and

mouthwatering pan-Asian cuisine? You can choose three dishes from a 25-item menu, as well as a yakitori plate – and we're throwing in two drinks for good measure.

What's exclusive? With 58 percent off, a meal and drinks is just £22.

→ Inamo. ↔ Tottenham Court Rd. Until Jul 24. www.timeout.com/inamo2019

Laki Kane

What is it? A rum-making (and tasting) experience.

Why go? This boozy adventure will take you back to the seventeenth century, when the rum trade was booming. Taste a selection of rums, get clued-up on the spirit's history, then select spices and fruits to create your very own bottle. Chin chin!
What's exclusive? Tickets –

including a goody bag – are £39. \Rightarrow Laki Kane. Essex Rd rail. Until Aug 4. www.timeout.com/laki

The Courtyard

What is it? Bottomless brunch at a fun Fulham boozer.

Why go? Brunch without booze is futile – it doesn't take a genius to know that. So we've teamed up with The Courtyard to bring you its bangin' new brunch spread with endless tipples for £15 less.

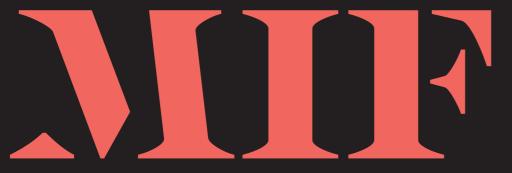
What's exclusive? Brunch with bottomless drinks for one-and-a-half hours costs just £20.

ightarrow The Courtyard. ightarrow Putney Bridge. Until Dec 29. www.timeout.com/courtyard19

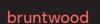
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In association with

Travel

Edited by Laura Richards timeout.com/travel

Destination Pride

These kikis are about to kick off.
Don't miss the out-and-proud LGBT+
parades and parties worth travelling for

Worldpride

New York June

This year is a significant one for all Pride events, but particularly for New York, as the city marks 50 years since the Stonewall riots, where trans women, drag queens and queer kids kickstarted the gay liberation movement. The usual, and huge, Pride March takes place on June 30, but NYC is also hosting Worldpride for the whole month, so expect to see the Big Apple taken over by even more massive parties and events than in past years. Times Square will host the closing party action, but all over the city there'll be talks and celebrations buzzing enough to compete with that touristy hotspot. We're even hearing rumours that the queen herself, Madonna, may perform... → 2019-worldpride-stonewall50.nycpride.org

Pride Toronto

Toronto June

Spread over June and with parades in the last week of the month, Pride Toronto is one of the world's biggest celebrations. It's also one of the most diverse, with a Dyke March and a Trans March as well as the Pride Parade. Then there

are the parties, which happen everywhere from the Royal Ontario Museum to inside an aquarium. On Sunday June 23, head away from the Gay Village and visit TreeHouse Party, an all-day rave featuring drag queens and DJ sets from likes of The Black Madonna – best of all, ticket proceeds from the party will go to The 519, the city's LGBT+ centre.

 ${\color{red} \rightarrow} \text{ www.pridetoronto.com}$

Magical Pride

Disneyland Paris June 1

Sure, some have bemoaned Pride becoming increasingly commercial, but what could be more fabulous than celebrating being queer with Mickey and the gang? Disneyland Paris's Magical Pride will have the iconic castle for a backdrop and will feature live performances from Years & Years and Corine, with the theme park hosting a new March of Diversity Parade, too. Meet your fave Disney characters or have a go on selected rides well into the night. From our point of view, this could be a possibly unique opportunity to ride the teacups with a drag queen.

→ www.magicalpride.com



FLIGHT CENTRE



Europride

Vienna June 1-16

Flying the flag New York City Pride

'Together and Proud' is the theme of this year's Europride, which lands in Vienna in June. Along with heaps of official events - from days at the beach to cocktail parties - Vienna is bucking the trend of paid Pride events, making access to the Europride Village, Park and Parade (June 15) free of charge. If Pride is all about partying for you, book to stay near Wienzeile, where the city's LGBT+ nightlife is concentrated. This year, the biggest event is the official Pride afterparty at The Circus Club (June 15), complete with a European house DJ line-up and a laser show. But hey, with anything up to a million people expected to join in with this Pride celebration, there'll be way more than one chance to get together with the queer community.

→ europride2019.at

Tel Aviv Pride Tel Aviv June 9-14

It's probably worth getting yourself a TLV19 Party Pass, which gives you entry to either three or five parties during the week's festivities in Tel Aviv. With temperatures in the mid-twenties, you'll be able to celebrate at rooftop kikis or party in a water park. The final stop on Tel Aviv's Pride Parade (June 14) is Charles Clore Park, where celebrations inevitably spill out on to the beach and carry on till sunset. Pack your Speedos for party time.

→ www.facebook.com/tlvpride

São Paulo Gay Pride Parade São Paulo June 23

Last year, 3 million people took to the streets to celebrate Pride in São Paulo. With the current political climate in Brazil, this year's event feels more essential than ever. Hopefully the crowds will still show up in solidarity with the LGBT+community and in the face of hate to put on the biggest Pride party the world has ever seen. Hotspots for celebrations should be centred in the queer neighbourhoods of Frei Caneca and Largo do Arouche.

 \rightarrow www.facebook.com/paradasp





San Francisco Pride

San Francisco June 29-30

Like many big city Pride events, San Francisco's parade has been accused of being overrun with corporate floats. Well, that hasn't stopped the city's flourishing LGBT+ community from creating their own kind of party. On the Friday $before\,Pride, the\,Trans\,March\,(the\,largest\,trans$ Pride event in the US) takes place in and around Mission Dolores Park, while on the Saturday of Pride weekend, many bars and clubs host their own shindigs. People even open up their homes for the day, with the area between The Castro and Mission District feeling like one ginormous street party. If leather and fetish gear are your kink, hold off your visit for the Folsom Street Fair, an inclusive festival taking place on September 29. → www.sfpride.org

Madrid Pride

Madrid June 28-July 7

As Europe's biggest Pride,
Madrid's celebration feels more
like a festival than a rally. The
city's gay neighbourhood Chueca
is flooded with people and,
more importantly, parties,
while unofficial antics often
take place in Malasaña. The
pervasive We Pride Festival
takes over a number of venues
for three days with the biggest
DJs, hottest boys and most

fabulous drag queens while the parade itself is on July 6 and runs from 5pm to midnight. It starts at Atocha Station and ends in Plaza de Colón, where a massive stage hosts performers and talks. Before the parade, there are heaps of cultural events, such as art exhibitions, film screenings and the now famous high heels race (okay, maybe it's not *that* cultural).

→ www.madridorgullo.com/en

Christopher Street Day Berlin Berlin July 27

Named after the New York street where the Stonewall riots took place, Berlin's CSD is split into two sections: the parade – which sets off from Ku'damm and Joachimsthaler Strasse and ends at the Brandenburg Gate; and the rally – a stage with musical performances, talks and DJs. On the previous weekend, you'll also find the Lesbian

& Gay City Festival, a two-day celebration in Nollendorfplatz, which hosts street food stalls, music and dancing. As this is Berlin, there's plenty that's alternative – keep an eye out for breakaway marches with politics at the forefront, or if crowds are too much for you, check out the queer picnic at Volkspark Hasenheide, an inclusive space regardless of sexuality or gender identity. And with Berlin's diverse club scene (where basically anything goes), afterparties will be thriving.

Reykjavik Pride

Reykjavik August 8-17 Now in its twentieth year, R

Now in its twentieth year, Reykjavik Pride (or Hinsegindagar, which translates as 'queer days') is usually attended by a third of the country. This year, the celebrations are being extended by four days, kicking off with an opening ceremony on August 8. In previous years, the city has welcomed volunteers to paint a big rainbow downtown. And then there's the queer cruise (no, not that kind): a party boat that sails around the small islands and the coast. There was even one year when the city's mayor marched as part of the parade in full drag.

→ www. hinsegindagar.is

Sydney Gay & Lesbian Mardi Gras Sydney February 29 2020

Although it's held out of Pride season, this famous festival draws the big guns, with Cher and Kylie (naturally) both dropping by to perform in recent years. As well as the massive parade, there are iconic events such as the Strictly Kaftan Party (where floaty beachwear is compulsory) and Queer Art After Hours, which encompasses DJ sets to guided art tours by drag queens. Time to get saving for a visit Down Under.

→ www.mardigras.org.au



By Alim Kheraj Who has more pride than Heather Small.

all.

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Great for schnitzel, sachertorte and Sigmund Freud

WITH ITS BAROQUE buildings and tinkling trams. Vienna can feel a bit like a period film set. That's only part of the story, though. Scratch the surface and you'll find the Austrian capital combines Berlin's buzz with Prague's good looks, adding a dash of its own coffee-and-cakefocused charm for good measure. Historic squares lined with imposing buildings - from Stephansplatz to the MuseumsQuartier (home to 60 institutions) - might make an old-fashioned impression, but they provide a handsome backdrop for craft brews, modern masterpieces and more.



If you only do one thing

No visit to Vienna is complete without sachertorte. The ganachetopped, apricot-jam-filled cake is such a big deal, it was the subject of a legal feud: the **Hotel Sacher** and the **Demel** bakery fought for nine years to call theirs the original. Hotel Sacher won that battle but for us, Demel's edges it on flavour.

If you want to eat and have cash to splash

Get in the queue for the legendary **Café Central**. The gilded coffee house has been an institution since 1876, and it's witnessed its share of history (Lenin and Trotsky were regulars). Tough out lukewarm service for superlative schnitzel and warm apple strudel.

If you're eating on a shoestring

Low-lit dumpling specialist **Mama Liu & Sons** is always rammed for a reason. Feast on smacked cucumber and mouth-tingling northern Chinese-style cold noodles for well under €10.

If you want to try the local booze

Erich, a funky subterranean bar off Sankt Ulrichs Platz, has a serious selection of Austrian brews, from nutty Schladminger Urbräu pilsner to full-bodied Pannonian cider.

If you want to do something unusual

The **Spanish Riding School**'s Lipizzaner horses have a special talent: they can dance. Specially

WHERE TO STAY

Bed down in Neubau, Vienna's up-and-coming 7th district - it's walkable from the centre but feels quirkily independent. With handpicked vintage furnishings, the 1960s-style rooms at budget boutique **Max Brown 7th District** punch well above their £83-a-night starting price. Or try Hotel Altstadt - it used to be an apartment building and each of the 45 rooms from £167 per night) still has its individual character.

bred and trained white stallions perform mesmerising dressage routines to classical music. Book tickets to morning practice, or get in free with a Vienna Pass.

If you want to get cultured

Does Vienna have the world's artiest district? Quite possibly. The **MuseumsQuartier**'s buildings are packed with masterpieces by the likes of Egon Schiele and Gustav Klimt. Coming to the MQ also puts you within a short stroll of the **Imperial Palace** (Hofburg) and the former tropical house **Palmenhaus**, which now does great cocktails.

If you want to get close to nature

As well as making psychoanalysis famous, Vienna's preeminent brainbox gave his name to a picnic spot. Overlooked by the neo-gothic Votiv Church, **Sigmund Freud Park** has 100 comfy sunloungers set out in summer months. They're free to use and there's no need to discuss your dreams while lying on one.

If you want to pretend you're a local

Hole up in **Fürth Kaffee** on Kirchengasse. This cool café and co-working space is one of Vienna's pioneering roasteries, with a huge menu of speciality coffees.

If you want to soak up the vibes

There's nowhere nicer to while away an afternoon than the **Naschmarkt**, Vienna's world-famous open-air market. It's nearly a mile long, selling local produce from its 120-plus stalls. Grab a pavement table at modern Israeli eatery **Neni am Naschmarkt** and watch the world go by with a plate of sabich and falafel.

If you want to take a day trip

It's easy to forget that Vienna is surrounded by woods and rolling green hills. For a jaw-dropping view of it all, follow the marked city hiking trail to the **Kahlenberg** (it'll take about four hours) or hop on the 38A from Heiligenstadt via Grinzing (that'll take about 25 minutes). From the top you can see all the way to Schneeberg, the mountain that provides the city with crystal-clear spring water. ■ *Emma Hughes*



FLIGHT CENTRE

If you buy an annual multi-trip policy you get the chance, every month, to **WIN** a holiday of a lifetime!





JUST OPENED

The Crystal Maze Live Experience West End

Start the fans! The live version of the cult '90s game show has moved to a West End location.
We head along to find out what's new

LIKE ANY WELL-ROUNDED twentysomething, I spent my tweens drinking questionable alcopops, picking out polyphonic ringtones and watching gameshow re-runs on Challenge TV, where 'The Crystal Maze' really had its way with me, thanks to charismatic bald Maze Master Richard O'Brien.

Fast-forward to the 2016 reboot and Stephen Merchant slipped into the presenter role, followed by current host Richard Ayoade. Sticking with the original format, the show has spawned a new set of maze devotees and inspired The Crystal Maze Live Experienc escape game, which has just moved from its old digs in Angel to a new location on Shaftesbury Avenue. Now occupying the old Trocadero space (which has been given a £5 million renovation), the revamped maze is twice the size of its predecessor, with 32 fresh crystal-collecting games and a glamorous on-site bar.

A note to all escape-room nerds: the maze's production value will make you quiver. The set-up unites the classic Aztec, Medieval, Future and Industrial zones, which are all whimsically decorated in the style of the '90s show. As you're led around by a Maze Master – ours was partial to innuendos like 'put the ball in your sack' – it's hard not to get swept up in game-based delirium.

Your team captain is in charge of choosing which person plays each game to win the all-important crystals - each giving you five precious



WHAT IS IT?

A recreation of the cult '90s game show in the iconic Trocadero building.

WHY GO?

To bond with your mates while grabbing at gold tickets in a giant geometric cage.

→ 22-32 Shaftesbury Avenue, W1D 7EU. ↔ Piccadilly Circus. From £49.99 per person. seconds to catch golden tickets in The Crystal Dome. As ever, the challenges fall into mental, skill, physical and mystery categories and the new Maze packs some particularly tricky puzzles. We were stumped by an especially difficult handeye coordination game involving resuscitating an alien. But, weaving between zones is just as amusing as crystal-nabbing, whether you're throwing yourself down a slide or shimmying down a ladder.

Once you've worked your way around the zones and collected as many crystals as possible, it's time to face The Dome itself. It's every bit as surreal as you'd think. In fact, hearing the words 'start the fans, please' and then wildly grabbing gold tickets is distractingly silly... so we'll blame our terrible team score on that, then. But it's wearing the orange bomber jackets and highfiving over shitty crystals that really counts. My advice? Ditch any uptight tendencies. Instead, peer through little windows and constantly shout well-meaning but totally useless advice at your mates. Become the competitive idiot that you really are. And, naturally, invest in some flattering team lycra.



By Katherine Lovage Who knows there's no place like dome.

MAZE MAXIMS

Crystal Maze artistic director Neil Connolly gives us his top tips for tackling the escape game



LISTEN TO YOUR MAZE MASTER

They are your best friend. They know the answers, want you to win crystals and are constantly trying to help you. Remember their jokes are veiled as clues and their clues are veiled as jokes.

ASK FORTIME CHECKS

The Maze Master's job is opening doors and telling you how much time you have left for each game. Keep asking to avoid moments like watching seven people scream 'THIRTY SECONDS!' in a panic.

EXPECT SURPRISES

If you pick Big Steve to do a physical challenge because he's massive and really strong, you'll look silly when he has to delicately climb through a room of ropes without upsetting very sensitive bells tied to them. Bring a good cross-section of friends and expect the unexpected.

CELEBRATE FAILURE

Everybody comes to the live experience saying 'I'm gonna smash it and get 16 crystals.' Then they realise how hard and stressful it can be when you're inside a room trying to solve a really hard puzzle while people shout wildly counterintuitive advice at you. Just embrace it. I play the games every day and I'm still terrible at most of them.

GET TO THE BACK

Most of the tickets in The Dome are actually at the back. So get away from the door, use your hands like pincers and flail wildly for those golden sweet wrappers. When in doubt, just have a dance around.

HAVE FUN

Be competitive, but realise there's nothing on the line apart from making great memories – and memories are best made as a team. One of the best teams we had was a group of mums who spent 45 seconds just having a lovely time dancing around inside The Dome.





Advertisement feature

On course for some state-of-the-art study

Go behind the scenes of the art world with these firstclass summer courses at Sotheby's Institute of Art

ove art? Then Sotheby's
Institute of Art has summer
courses that you'll definitely
want to pencil in. They start in June
and combine classroom learning, art
experiences, seminars and lectures
from international art world experts
and leading art practitioners, as
well as visits to galleries, auction
houses, museums, studios and
more. Here are four of our favourites.

Art and Its Markets

Time may be money, but so is art. If you can't tell your big-hitters from priceless gems, then no worries: this course delivers commercial

savvy. Develop your critical insight and valuation skills, and find out how auction houses operate.

Introduction to Contemporary Art

To stay up-to-date with the art world, jump on this Sotheby's Institute of Art course. Over five days, you'll cover international art in different forms from the 1960s onwards, and drop in on some great London galleries and museums.

Art Crime

From fakes and forgeries to thefts and illegal underground

networks, this course digs into the multi-billion-pound art crime industry. Explore how it impacts the international art market and the challenges and opportunities that it brings to the industry as a whole.

Women and Art

This is your chance to uncover the experiences and constraints of female artists, while interrogating the presentation of the female form in art. You also get to explore the influence of gender on curating and censorship.





→ For more information, visit www.sothebysinstitute.com/summer

SOMETHING FOR THE WEEKEND

Friday



Peckham Craft Show

The mainstay of London Craft Week returns, filling Copeland Park with more than 50 skilful makers. Highlights include printing and tapestry workshops, plus displays from ceramicist Lily Pearmain and textile weaver Sophie Graney.

→ Copeland Park. Peckham Rye Overground.
Thu May 9-Sun May 12. Free entry, workshop prices vary.

DRINK The London Whisky Weekender

Swot up on the ins and outs of scotch et al from the best in the business, all the while enjoying street food and live DJs. Wham, dram, thank you ma'am.

→ The Kia Oval. ↔ Oval. Fri May 10-Sun May 12. From £20.

HONK City of London Brass Band Free Spring Concert

See some real brass nerve and hear some of your favourite tunes from stage and screen, at this gloriously free concert in the City.

- → St Mary-at-Hill church.
- → Monument. Fri May 10. Free.

Saturday

SHOP SheInspiresMe Car Boot

Indulge in guilt-free retail therapy at this stylish sale. Profits go towards Women for Women International, a charity helping female war survivors.

- → Brewer Street Car Park.
- → Piccadilly. Sat May 11. £10.

WATCH Stella Live

This *Telegraph* mag celebration features a, well, stellar line-up, including Davina McCall, Mary Portas and Jo Malone.

- → Saatchi Gallery.
- → Sloane Square.

Fri May 10-Sat May 11. £50.



We Love Cheese

Brie-sy does it at this humongous cheese fest, where dairy lovers can drool over cheeses hard, soft, savoury and sweet, from traders competing for the coveted We Love Cheese Cup.

→ Battersea Power Station. Battersea Park rail.
Sat May 11-Sun May 12. Free entry, tasting cards £8.

Sunday

Streatham Kite Day

Untangle your high-flying toys for the twenty-first year of this airborne extravaganza. Head to the on-site pop-up kite stall to invest in a new one. Or, if needs be, make repairs.

→ Streatham Common. Streatham rail. Sun May 12. Free.



DON'T TOUCH Independent Ceramics Market

A free weekend market showcasing more than 40 ceramicists, including current students, up-andcoming graduates, and established ceramicists.

→ Abney Hall. Stoke Newington Overground. Sat May 11-Sun May 12. Free entry.

The London Ear Guided Walk

Train your ears to tune into birdsong and traffic on this walk, while learning how the noises of our streets have changed over time.

→ Meet at St Paul's station.
Sun May 12.£15-£18.

More crafty escapades at timeout.com/thingstodo



DON'T MISS

The Greatest Show of Lucha Libre

This is how we do it timeout.com/dolist

GET READY TO feel a palpable energía in the air around Camden this week as it plays host to a night of high-flying manoeuvres, terrifying leg drops and tornillo twists. Forget WWE, this is Mexico's version of pro-wrestling where masked fighters beat seven shades of burrito out of each other while dressed in flamboyant spandex. Lucha Libre became a cultural phenomenon in Mexico in the early twentieth century (it's the most popular sport in the country after football) and has since half-nelsoned hearts across the globe. Now, the sport's finest fighters are turning The Roundhouse into a Mexican arena worthy of the greatest Luchadores. Go to see bad guys ('rudos'), who employ underhand tactics to break the rules, and good guys ('técnicos'), who use complex and spectacular moves to fly through the air and smack into each other at high speed. Considered superheroes in Mexico, some of the country's most famous Luchadores will be joining the over-the-top night of freefighting. El Hijo del Santo, the world-famous 'Silver Masked Man', will be in attendance, as will Cassandro El Exótico, 'The Liberace of Lucha Libre'. What? We did say it was OTT. ■ Alexandra Sims and Bobby Palmer

→ The Roundhouse. ← Chalk Farm. Sat May 11. £20-£50.









TODO

The best events in your area

⊙ Central **N** North **S** South **∃** East **W** West

BRAIN FOOD

Sabrina Ghayour

British-Iranian chef Sabrina Ghayour, author of the bestselling 'Persiana', will be bringing a selection of vibrant vegetarian Middle Eastern dishes to Dulwich during this demonstration of recipes from her new cookbook. It'll also feature a Q&A with *Guardian* food journalist Felicity Cloake.

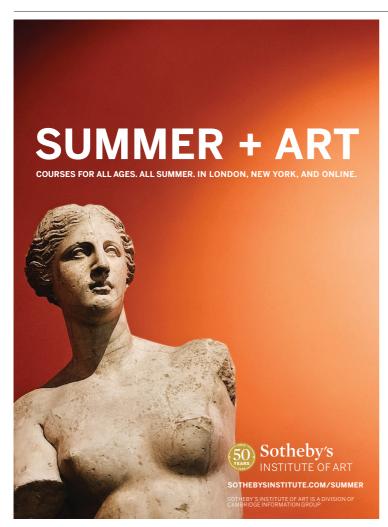
→ The MCT at Alleyn's. North Dulwich rail. Tue May 7. £10.

G Food For Thought Supper Club

Knowledge tastes good. Stand-up Andrew O'Neill tackles the subject of the supernatural, while you tackle Fish House's fried chicken.

→ East Village. ↔ Stratford. Wed May 8. £25.







QUIRKY SPORT

Riot Grrrls of Wrestling Present: She Persisted

Punk feminist wrestling group Eve is back for an evening of theatrical wrestling stunts fuelled with cabaret and comedy. Watch them backbreak the patriarchy.

→ Resistance Gallery. ↔ Bethnal Green. Sat May 11. £25.

© Spy Run London

On this challengeladen, clue-ridden run, you'll tackle a 5-10km route while pretending to be an 'operative' tracking and locating an enemy agent who you'retasked with 'taking out'. All the while you can take in some of our loveliest landmarks. It finishes in the pub, naturally. → Check website for exact

meeting point.

Green Park.

Sat May 11. £35.

DOGS

• Cabbages & Frocks Dog Day **Afternoon**

Think your dog's looking a bit ruff? Bring your fur baby along to this annual Cabbages & Frocks market day featuring dogyoga, gluten-free treats and pooch portraits, with plenty of food, fashion and vintage stalls for those on two legs, too.

- → Cabbages & Frocks Market. → Baker St. Sat May 11. Free entry.
- The Pomeranian Café

Prepare to be dazzled by plenty of adorable furry clouds at a one-off pomeranian cafe to celebrate 'The Secret Life of Pets 2'. There'll be human food and drink, as well as 'pupcakes' and 'paw star martinis'.

- → The Happenstance.
- → St Paul's. Sun May 12.
- £10 for nom owners, £14 without dogs. Adv booking only.

CRAFT WEEK

South London Makerspace Workshops

As part of London Craft Week, South London Makerspace is putting on a number of workshops where you can learn to make jewellery, clocks, ethical plant hangers and glowing doorstops.

→ Arch 1129, 41 Norwood Rd. Herne Hill rail. Wed May 8-Sun May 12. Prices vary.

10 The Future of Craft

Listen to lectures from industry professionals and get hands-on in terrarium-building or embroidery classes, all in the striking Oxo Tower Wharf.

→ Bargehouse, Oxo Tower Wharf. → Southwark. Thu May 9-Sun May 12. Free entry.

O London Craft **Week at Coal Drops Yard**

There's candle-making and chocolate-crafting at the new King's Cross creative hub, but the star of the show is the indigo hand-dyeing workshop from art collective Buaisou.

- → Coal Drops Yard.
- ← King's Cross. Wed May 8-Sun May 12. Prices vary.

The Craft of Games

Not a new George RR Martin novel, but rather an evening of discussion and performance which will explore the concept of video games as a 'contemporary craft discipline'.

- → William Morris Gallery.
- → Walthamstow Central. Thu May 9. £12.

LEARN

© Fertility Fest

More than 200 artists and scientists are joining forces to talk about egg-freezing, miscarriage, IVF, infertility and more.

- → Barbican Centre.
- → Barbican. Until May 12. Prices vary.

MARKETS

19 E17 Designers **Spring Market**

Swap Oxford Street for Orford Road, with handmade products from independent designers and makers. ightarrow Waltham Forest Community

Hub. ← Walthamstow Central. Sat May 11. Free entry.

Peckham Palms **May Market**

After the successes of their markets earlier in the year, Peckham Palms are once again laying on a weekend where you can shop for jewellery, homeware and other beautifully designed trinkets.

→ Peckham Palms.

Peckham Rye Overground. Sat May 11-Sun May 12. Free.

Peckham Vintage Kilo Sale

At this market you can grab what you fancy from the six tonnes of stock on offer, take it to the scales and pay just £15 per kilo for your carefully-picked wares. Get your mitts on the silk scarves and you'll be quids in.

→ Copeland Gallery. Peckham Rye Overground. Sun May 12. £3 before noon, £1.50 after.

ART

3 Wimbledon Art Fair 2019

One hundred and fifty of London's artists, designers and general creatives descend on Wimbledon for this four-day art fest. Meet the artists, see the art and buy some paintings, fashion pieces and ceramics. all of which will range from the definitely affordable to the, well, possibly not really.

→ Wimbledon Art Studios.

→ Wimbledon Park. Thu May 9-Sun May 12. Free entry.



Friday Late

Seeing is believing

Drop in for a free night of magic performances, cocktails, talks and workshops inspired by our exhibition Smoke and Mirrors: The psychology of magic.

Fri 10 May, 19.00-23.00

wellcomecollection.org ₹ ⊕ Euston ⊕ Euston Square



Wellcome's free museum and library for the incurably curious

CRAFTY EVENTS

• Real to Reel: The **Craft Film Festival**

This film fest is screening flicks about all kinds of making, featuring eyewear made of metal and a gym that makes bread.

← Piccadilly Circus Tue May 7-Wed May 8. £13.90.

→ Picturehouse Central.

O London Craft **Beer Cruise**

The perfect mix of seafaring down the Thames and beerquaffing. Ale tasters will be poured from ten craft breweries across six rotating lines, meaning you can sample more than your fair share of thirds before you stumble on to land again. Scrumptious.

→ Festival Pier. ↔ Waterloo. Sat May 11. £38-£44.

Slow Journalism Night

Delayed Gratification offers an antidote to fast-paced content with a lineup of 'slow journalism'speakers, including investigative iournalist Harriet Salem and filmmaker Eli Mengem.

→ London College of Communication.

→ Elephant & Castle, Thu May 9, £20,

Fancy getting all bouncy on a 340-metre inflatable obstacle course at Alexandra Palace this summer? Book **The Monster** just £18.

> TIMEOUT.COM/MONSTER19

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

Film



Amazing Grace



YOU'D HAVE EXPECTED ultra-rare footage of a peak Aretha Franklin belting out gospel songs to a small audience – including Mick Jagger dancing like your dad after too many Tia Marias – to have been guarded with the lives of all concerned. However, the singer's intimate 1972 show at an LA Baptist church was fumbled by Oscar-winning director Sydney Pollack. He failed to match the footage with the sound during filming, resulting in an audio track that didn't sync up. The film never saw the light of day.

Until, that is, co-director Alan Elliott got hold of it. Elliot, a music producer by profession, spent hundreds of hours in an editing suite fixing the mishandled footage. The result is 'Amazing Grace', a labour of love that pays off gloriously. Watching the Queen of Soul belting out the songs her pastor dad taught her as a child is nothing short of transcendent.

Franklin is backed in the concert by the Southern California Community Choir, each bizarrely kitted out in silver vests that make them look a bit like the inside of crisp packets but which somehow capture the celebratory mood. The conductor, the enigmatic Reverend James Cleveland, fights back the tears as he watches her hit outrageous high notes. It's the Queen of Soul at her purest and will make even the most hardened atheist want to bellow 'Yes Lord!' from the back of the cinema (something that happened three times as I watched it).

One of its most memorable moments captures Franklin as she struts through the church in a fur coat, an ultra-confident blueprint for the modern pop star. Another shows her barking at one of her gospel musicians to start over, a reminder of her restless pursuit of perfectionism that's riveting to witness. There's a political edge here, too. With

a poignant rendition of the old gospel classic 'We'll Never Grow Old' comes the sense that she's channeling the Civil Rights struggle, in all its pain and doggedness, into her vocals. Her vocals swing from joyous to melancholic with tingle-inducing majesty. It's a cliché, perhaps, but the hairs on the back of your neck will be standing up.

'Amazing Grace' is one of those rare music docs that takes control not just of your limbs, but your mind too. You won't be able to stop thinking about it – in all its raw passion and joy. In these days of depressing newspaper headlines, it's a good news story you should let into your life. ■

→ 'Read our review with director Alan Elliott on p50.



ByThomas Hobbs

Who still feels bad about murdering 'Respect' in school assembly that time.

Madeline's Madeline



'MADELINE'S MADELINE' OPENS with a

teenaged girl pretending to be a cat, nuzzling up to a woman in a kitchen; their relationship is initially unclear. It's intriguing, intimate, unsettling: three moods that persist throughout American director Josephine Decker's fascinating film.

Madeline (Helena Howard) is a young biracial actress who's playing the lead in a piece of experimental theatre. Her mother (Miranda July) is encouraging but slightly bewildered. She's also nervous about Madeline's mental health, something theatre director Evangeline (Molly Parker) seems happy to exploit for her own ends. Earnest hippy actors and pornobsessed boys-next-door inhabit the fringes of their lives, contributing to enjoyable darkly comic episodes. But the centrepiece of the film is the relationship between Madeline and the two older women in her life.

It's surely no accident that performance artist Miranda July is cast as the mother: the movie bears similarities to her own work as a

FREE WITH MUBI GO Watch 'Madeline's Madeline' 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 IN PARTINERSHIP WITH MUBI theatre production. **FILM OF THE WEEK**

WHAT IS IT... A US indie about a mentally ill girl at the centre of a

WHY GO.

For a stunning breakout turn from Helena Howard.

Director Josephine Decker (15) 93 mins.

filmmaker, such as 'The Future' and 'Me and You and Everyone We Know'. Meanwhile, the riveting Parker helps imbue Evangeline with characteristics that would be contradictory in a more conventional film (she's pregnant, manipulative, affectionate, controlling and vulnerable).

The real eye-opener is the performance from Howard, as she

flits between manic happiness and feral fury. Not one of these women is the sort you would readily call 'likeable', which makes them all the more interesting, as does the camerawork from cinematographer Ashley Connor ('The Miseducation of Cameron Post'), which offers a dizzying route into Madeline's agitated headspace. Like the improvised theatre it depicts, 'Madeline's Madeline' isn't for everyone, but if you're up for challenging, character-focused fare, you should definitely give it a whirl. ■ Anna Smith



Pokémon Detective Pikachu

High Life





WHAT IS IT...

A comedy set in a world full of Japanese pocket monsters.

WHY GO..

For the Ryan Reynolds-voiced Pikachu: like Sherlock, only 160 percent cuter.

→ Director Rob Letterman (PG) 104 mins.



IF YOU KNOW your Psyduck from your Squirtle, this one may already be on your most-anticipated list for the year. For Pokémon devotees, it ticks all the boxes, from the moment it opens with a grazing Cubone (a pocket monster who wears a skull as a hat – cuter than it sounds) and introduces Ryme City, a place where humans and Pokémon live in harmonious incomprehension. If you aren't one of those people, imagine watching 'Who Framed Roger Rabbit' after a PCP binge and you'll get the idea.

The dense plot involves genetically mutated Pokémon, a Spielberg-y missing dad and a sinister corporation. Into the mix comes loner Tim Goodman (Justice Smith), who discovers he can talk to Pikachu, the ex-partner of his missing cop dad. Ryan Reynolds provides the furry sleuth's voice and has a ball, chucking around inappropriate one-liners ('Are you going to make me into a lampshade?') with giddy abandon.

If the final act is a bit dull and the anarchic Reynolds factor ends up muzzled, director Rob Letterman makes sure not to lose that self-aware edge altogether, while providing enough Pokémon Easter eggs to satisfy the most demanding fan. He's also helped invent a whole new movie genre: cuddly noir. Phil de Semlyen

WHAT IS IT...

An arrestingly strange sci-fi from Claire Denis.

WHY GO..

For an out-there Robert Pattinson leaving the R-Patz thing light years behind.

Director Claire Denis(18) 113 mins.



MANY TABOOS ARE broken in this strange, sexually charged sci-fi from French director Claire Denis. Her English-language debut, it's a continuation of the sensual concerns in her work ('Let the Sunshine In') and the colonial ones ('Beau Travail'). It also features a hyperspace voyage of alienation and grief in which Robert Pattinson co-stars with a chamber full of dildos. Well, we did say it was strange.

Drifting in a decrepit, 'Red Dwarf'-ish spaceship, Monte (Pattinson) and his baby daughter are revealed in flashback to be the sole survivors of a mission that saw death row inmates testing a theory about black holes. Experimenting on them is Juliette Binoche's Dr Dibs, who takes sperm from male inmates to see if conception is possible in space's irradiated depths. The crew soothes its frustrations in the 'Fuckbox', that aforementioned chamber. The monkish Monte, however, abstains from it all and Pattinson mines his off-kilter ascetic with fascinating intensity.

The same is true of his director, who sidesteps the genre's horrors ('Alien') and grandeur ('2001: A Space Odyssey') to craft hypnotic sequences indebted to Tarkovsky's 'Solaris'. It's juicy and carnal: Denis is less concerned with the vast void of space than with its impact on the body. It's composed of 'star stuff', sure, but spit, breast milk and blood too.

Courtney Duckworth



FIVE QUESTIONS FOR Alan Elliott

The music producer-turned-director on the epic quest to make his Aretha Franklin doc

WHEN ARETHA FRANKLIN played an intimate gig in an LA church in January 1972, the audio track was turned into the highest-selling gospel album of all time. However, most people were unaware that the performance had been filmed too. That footage was mishandled by director Sydney Pollack, then mothballed. Enter music producer Alan Elliott, who has spent 30 years magicking it into a spectacular music doc. 'Amazing Grace'. He shares its incredible story.

Why has it taken so long to make this film? 'Sydney [Pollack] used an inexperienced crew to film [the gig] and it was a bit of a mess. When I found out about the footage in 1990, I knew I had to fix it but there's been a lot of obstacles: I had to remortgage my house, then Aretha sued me. It was painful, but when I found out she had cancer I understood. She didn't want there to be a film that felt like a eulogy.'

What is it that makes this gig so special? 'Aretha's energy is like this tsunami and it feels like the building is going to implode. The small setting gives it a unique intimacy too. Iwatched Beyoncé's "Homecoming" and she could fit ten of those churches on that stage.'



What do you think is driving her on stage? 'She's aware Diana Ross and Barbara Streisand are also making films, and she knows she has to nail this performance [to remind people who the Queen of Soul is]. Remember, there's so much footage of The Beatles and other white musical acts, but this footage of a black genius has been sitting in a storage facility for 36 years. It's important that people finally see it.'

The film never leaves the church. Why not? 'We didn't want to do a typical talkingheads structure, but make it more of an experience. Sydney, who I worked with right up until his death in 2008, suggested we get Quincy Jones on camera in 'Amazing Grace' but I said no. It was always important to me that the viewer never left the church. It's pure escapism.'

Do you have a favourite moment? 'The part where Aretha's father wipes the sweat from her brow while she's singing really touches me. I have daughters and know that feeling. Also, when she's singing "[I'll] Never Grow Old". That gained a lot of resonance when she passed away.'■Interview by Thomas Hobbs → 'Amazing Grace' opens Fri May 10. See our review p47.

ALSO OPENING

ARCTIC →

Solo survival movies live or die on the charisma of their lead. Mads Mikkelsen says virtually nothing in 'Arctic' - he's a downed pilot a couple of months into a snowy ordeal – but is endlessly compelling throughout. He injects the simple acts of rigging up an ice-fishing system or tending to an SOS sign with the aura that'll be so familiar to fans of 'Hannibal'. Debut director Joe Penna, a YouTube star known as MysteryGuitarMan, builds on it with John Carpenter-esque craft, restrained editing and some gorgeous Icelandic locations. Joshua Rothkopf



WHERE HANDS **TOUCH**

Writer-director Amma Asante ('Belle') has done a remarkable job of opening up history in her films, via love stories centred on people of colour. Here, she examines the fate of Nazi Germany's black citizens through the eyes of Amandla Stenberg's young Rhinelander and her relationship with a Hitler Youth member (George MacKay).

It's well intentioned, buttheirtentative exploration of one another's attitudes to race, country and Nazism soon descends into melodrama. Helen O'Hara

DESTINATION WEDDING

In this talky black comedy, Keanu Reeves and Winona Ryder play a pair of misanthropes thrust together en route to a wedding. It will require all your love for the pair to hang in there as they bitch, carp and exchange jaded worldviews. It's basically the Phil and Rita dynamic from 'Groundhog Day', only with two Phils and a fifth of the zingers. ■ Phil de Semlyen

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Everyman Cinemas' annual music movie fest is back. Tune your air guitar and get along to some cracking rock, soul and acid house docs, including the ace 'Beats'.

> → Various London cinemas. Thu May 9-May 26. For full listings visit www.everymancinema.com

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

Edited by Oliver Keens



You've changed east

Happy birthday Dalston Superstore!

> As the beloved East End LGBT+ venue turns ten, we ask some well-known regulars to share their birthday greetings



'To another ten years!'









Owen Jones

Author and columnist

'Happy birthday, Dalston Superstore, you sexy beast. With so many LGBT+ spaces vanishing across London and beyond, you are a queer gem to be treasured. And with so much of the LGBT+ scene dominated by cis white gay men (hello!), kudos for genuinely attempting to cater to our communities in all their diversity. Your staff are icons, and you are a pillar of LGBT+ nightlife in our capital. To another ten years!'

Rvan Lanii

Hungama club night promoter

'Whether it be my exhibitions or making an exhibition of myself on the dance floor, Superstore has watched me grow up, hugged me when I felt alone and become a place I'll always call home. Happy birthday - it's been one hell of a Hungama!'



Happy birthda





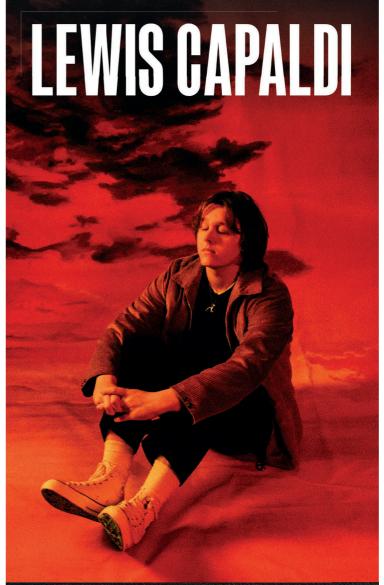


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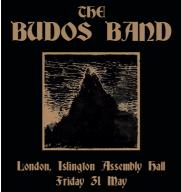
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WHAT'S THE DEAL WITH

Stella Donnelly

So, why should I care about this Stella?

This Welsh-Australian singer-songwriter creates psychtinged, socially conscious indie rock that will make you laugh, cry and feel like your head is on another plane.

What's socially conscious about it?

The lyrics, of course. Stella isn't afraid to make her opinions known: she made her breakthrough with 2017's 'Boys Will Be Boys', a song about sexual assault that dropped serendipitously as the #MeToo movement was gathering steam. And on this year's impressive debut album, 'Beware of the Dogs', she tackles subjects as weighty as victim-blaming, bringing down the patriarchy and reproductive rights.

It sounds kind of heavy...

Maybe so - but someone's gotta say it, right? And her music is far from one note – she can twist lyrics from seriously gloomy to crassly hilarious in an instant. And actually, some of her songs, 'Tricks' and 'Die' for example, are surprisingly sunny and upbeat.

So seeing her live won't leave me all miserable?

Not at all. Between songs, Stella cracks sharp, sarcastic jokes about people she's met, the world around us and herself. Her banter won't make you forget the messages in her music, but it will stop you leaving the venue feeling like you need a stiff drink.

Okav. I'm in. How do I get involved?

'Beware of the Dogs' and her debut EP 'Thrush Metal' there's that crude humour – are out now. And she plays her biggest UK headline show to date at the Scala tonight (Tuesday May 7) – it's sure to be a stella(r) affair. ■ Rhian Daly

 \rightarrow Stella Donnelly plays the Scala tonight. \ominus King's Cross.

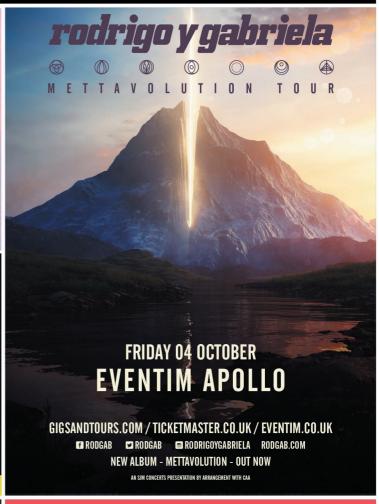






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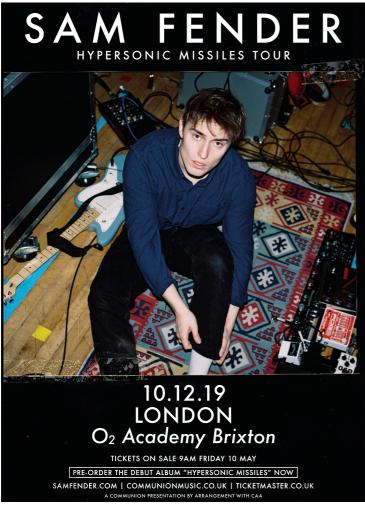






AN SJM CONCERTS & ANGLO MANAGEMENT PRESENTATION BY ARRANGEMENT WITH WME





GIGS AND CLUBS

What Made Geri Ginger?

Ahead of the Spice Girls' reunion tour, Just May-who describes herself as 'the world's premier Geri Halliwell impersonator'presents a show celebrating the iconic rise of Ginger Spice. It's safe to assume Mel B will get a cheeky mention.

→ The Glory. Haggerston Overground. Fri May 10. £6-£8.

Derrick Carter: 20 Years of **Derrick Carter**

The underground house pioneer is making Shoreditch's XOYO his home every Saturday in May. This week's instalment is a celebration of his super-influential music career.

Like a Sturgeon: Especially for EU

£18.50.

Think Brexit can't get any weirder? Think again! This night of 'anti-Brexit cabaret' combines

politicallipsyncsand parodies of key players including Theresa May and Nicola Sturgeon with, um, Kylie's greatest hits. We should all be so lucky.

- → Royal Vauxhall Tavern.
- → Vauxhall. May 22. £8.

Collard

This south Londoner makes soulful R&B which is earning comparisons to Prince and D'Angelo. Check out his sensual beats and magical falsetto at this debut headline show that's sure to be a hot ticket.

- → Camden Assembly
- ← Chalk Farm. Jun 4. £8.

Aurora

The Norwegian singer-songwriter who covered Oasis's 'Half the World Away' for the 2015 John Lewis Christmas ad brings her ethereal electropop to a suitably

atmospheric venue. Tickets go on sale at 9am on Friday (May 10).

 \rightarrow Roundhouse. \leftrightarrow Chalk Farm. Nov 11. £thc.

Imogen Heap

Big news: the innovative Grammywinner is playing her first London gig in more than four years. \rightarrow Roundhouse. \leftrightarrow Chalk Farm. Nov 15. £37.50.

Sam Fender

It's a huge year for the rising star from Tyneside: he's won the Brit Awards Critics' Choice prize, is getting ready to drop debut album 'Hypersonic Missiles' in August and has just announced his biggest London headline show to date for December. By then, it should feel like a victory lap.

→ 02 Academy Brixton. OBrixton. Dec 10. £tbc.

Zedd





In a nutshell...

A trendy and eclectic arts space from the team behind Shoreditch's Village Underground.

Where is it?

A stroll up Stoke Newington Road from Dalston Kingsland station.

What's the vibe? Evolutionary Arts Hackney

(or EartH to pals) is what you'd end up with if BBC Radio 6 Music opened a venue. Once an art deco cinema, the space was transformed after acrowdfunding campaign, with a tiered theatre up top and a cosy concert hall downstairs.In addition to gigs, stand-up shows and theatre, it hosts flea markets for all your vinyl needs.

Little Simz

What makes it a great venue?

The roster of events is seriously on-point. Each week sees a blend of up-and-coming artists rubbing shoulders with some of the biggest names in alternative music:

Foals and Vampire Weekend

have headlined the venue's
1,000-capacity concert hall
stage. And its low ceilings
help make it seem like
one of London's dark
basement sweatboxes.

What's the booze situation?

As well as the usual suspects – Estrella Damm and Camden Hells – you can pick up a hoppy number from fellow N16ers Pressure Drop. That's if you manage to move on from the surprisingly extensive aperitif and cocktail list.

What's coming up there soon?

Scarlett Curtis is hosting a live recording of her 'Feminists Don't Wear Pink' podcast here on May 20. Then rising folkie star Aldous Harding plays on May 22, and Moby's launching his book with a Q&A on June 3. Looking

further ahead, there's a show from Islington's fast-rising hip hop queen Little Simz on October 29, which should feel like a properly triumphant homecoming. ■ Sam Higgins

→ 11-17 Stoke Newington Rd, N16 8BH.

Dalston Kingsland Overground.



Theatre & Dance

Edited by Andrzej Lukowski timeout.com/theatre @timeouttheatre

TIME OUT LOVES

The Camden Roar

Dig up London's hidden stories at the Camden People's Theatre's treasure trove of communityinspired fringe shows

TO CELEBRATE ITS twenty-fifth birthday, Camden People's Theatre is turning into one giant megaphone, ready to amplify the voices of people who live in the surrounding streets and high rises. The fest is headed up by 'Human Jam', co-created by artistic director Brian Logan. The line-up's seven lo-fi shows cover issues that residents care about, from young people's frustrations to the centuries-old corpses under its streets. Here are three to get you started.

'Human Jam'

Brian Logan 'The trigger for this show was when they started digging up the graveyard up the road to make way for HS2. When I heard they were unearthing 60,000 bodies my jaw dropped. Suddenly, we were living 100 yards away from the biggest exhumation project in European history. We're a local theatre so we're perfectly placed to drill down into that.'

Shamira Turner, co-creator 'The archaeological dig has unearthed all sorts of people who were laid to rest in the mid-1700s to early 1800s: like Thomas Craig, who died after tumbling headlong from a hot air balloon, or Bill Richmond, a former slave who became a boxing celebrity. This show is about them, but

it's also about what happens when you take away common public space. By destroying this graveyard, they're displacing rat colonies, so residents have to keep their windows shut. We're using a chorus of local people to dig through the layers, and find out what stories to tell.'

 \Rightarrow Camden People's Theatre. \Leftrightarrow Warren St. Tue May 7-May 25. £12, £10 concs.

'High Rise Estate of Mind'

Conrad Murray, rapper and director 'Our show is set in an alternative reality where everyone lives in a high rise. We've created it through beatboxing workshops with kids from a local estate. It's come naturally to them: it's music that comes from tension, from living in cities and being in close quarters. "Hamilton" in the West End is sick, but it's not real hip hop – it's a musical with hip hop elements! We're keeping this show authentic to us: nothing's watered down. It's about crime, and being worried about being forced to move, and gentrification. You see the people in these funky new cafés and think: Yo, I've lived here my whole life, who are you? It's good to get solidarity around the issue, because everyone's getting hit by the housing market right now.

→ Camden People's Theatre. ↔ Warren St. Tue May 7-May 11. £12. £10 concs.

58



'King's Cross (Remix)'

Tom Marshman, theatremaker' I started making this show by having a tea party for LGBTQI+ people who lived in King's Cross in the 1980s, and to hear their stories. HIV and AIDS came up a lot: everyone I spoke to had it or knew someone who'd had it. But people also talked about the wildness of King's Cross back in the day, that it was kind of a little bit lawless before it got gentrified. I've made the show by gluing their anecdotes and memories together. A lot of

ALLISLAND: BRINKHOFF MOEGENBURG

them happen in the [now defunct] Bell pub. I try to recreate it in the show using theatrical magic. There's an invitation to get in the pub, enter its world and dance.'■

 \rightarrow Camden People's Theatre. \leftrightarrow Warren St. May 21-25. £12,£10 concs.



By Alice SavilleWho just wants to know where they're going to hide the bodies.

ALSO OPENING

Other new shows to catch



SMALL ISLAND

The NT's adaptation of Andrea Levy's classic novel about Jamaica's Windrush generation is big, slick, gripping entertainment. **Following four** characters-three black Jamaican, one white British - as their lives criss-cross during and after WWII, adaptor Helen Edmundson does supreme work packing a big book into a pacy three-hours-and-tenminutes play. Rufus Norris's spectacular production is the sort of show the huge Olivier theatre was built for. Andrzei Lukowski

→ National Theatre, Olivier. ↔ Waterloo. Until Aug 10. £15-£75.

MAN OF LA MANCHA

'Human Jam'

Kelsey Grammer decks himself out in a suit of armour and a pair of vole-sized false eyebrows for this valiant but ramshackle attempt to resurrect a half-forgotten 1965 Broadway musical based on Cervantes's 'Don Quixote'. To

paraphrase its only famous song, a mismatched celebrity cast and a by-numbers production render contemporary relevance an impossible dream. Alice Saville

- ightarrow London Coliseum.
- → Charing Cross. Until Jun 8. £15-£150.

ROSMERSHOLM

'Rosmersholm' by Henrik Ibsen is a play that few people have heard of and even fewer can pronounce. So even with the 'Avengers'-adjacent (and terrific) Hayley Atwell in the cast, it feels somewhat audacious of producer Sonia Friedman to just bung a production of it, cold, into the West End. But she has pretty much pulled it off. If it veers off into weird melodrama at the end, then Ibsen's depiction of a fractured society torn between extremes of right and left feels spectacularly timely. Andrzej Lukowski → Duke of York's Theatre. → Leicester Square.

AVALANCHE: A LOVE STORY

A one-woman show, starring Maxine Peake, 'Avalanche' is an adaptation of Julia Leigh's 2016 memoir. A gruelling account of years lost to IVF, it starts with a wry, dry tone. By the time Peake's Leigh is going, alone, through round after round of IVF, the panic level rises and 'Avalanche' becomes tensely gripping. Holly Williams → Barbican Centre. → Barbican, Until Sun

THE HALF GOD OF RAINFALL

May 12. £16-£60.

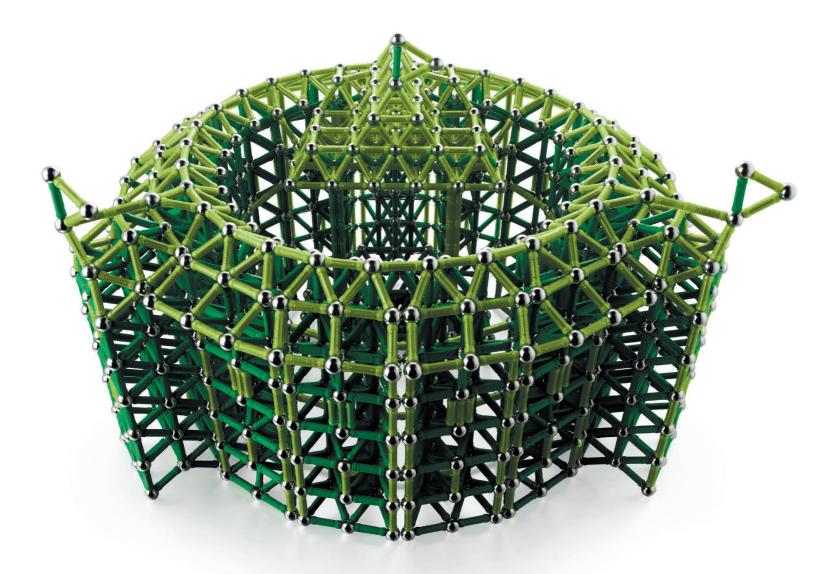
An impassioned mix of Greek and Yoruba mythology, Inua Ellams's 'The Half God of Rainfall' is the story of Nigerian basketball star Demi, who has supernatural powers on the court. Ellams's exquisite writing gets to shine here. His script is a masterclass in dialogue: every word is a polished, delicious delight. ■ *Zoe Margolis* → Kiln Theatre. ← Kilburn. Until May 17. £12.50-£32.50.

More reviews at timeout.com/theatre

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NEW SHOWS

THE HOTTEST THEATRE OPENINGS THIS WEEK

WEST END

Death of a Salesman

Marianne Elliott stages Arthur Miller's play with a mega starry cast including Wendell Pierce ('The Wire') and Arinzé Kene. \rightarrow Young Vic. \leftrightarrow Waterloo. Until Jul 13. £10-£40.

Henry IV Part 1 + 2

Globe boss Michelle Terry kicks off her new season with Shakespeare's history. → Shakespeare's Globe.

- → Blackfriars. Until Oct 11.
- £5-£47 each part.

TOP-SELLING

TICKETS

ATTIMEOUT.COM/TICKETS

1 Come from Away

This joyful show is all warm

Canadian wholesomeness.

→ Phoenix Theatre. Until Sep 14. 2 Wicked

Stephen Schwartz's witches

are still working their magic.

Apollo Victoria. Until May 23 2020.

3 Betraval

Tom Hiddleston stars in

Pinter's menacing classic.

Harold Pinter Theatre. Until Jun 8 2019.

4 The Book of Mormon Legendarily filthy satire from the 'South Park' boys. Prince of Wales Theatre. Until Jul 5.

5 Waitress

A sugar-sweet musical about

female friendship.

Adelphi Theatre. Until Oct 19

FOR TICKETS TO THE BEST SHOWS AT GREAT PRICES

OFF-**WEST END**

Amour

A belated UK premiere for Michel Legrand's gently whimsical Broadway musical.

- → Charing Cross Theatre. → Charing Cross. Until Jul 20.
- £22.50-£32.50.

Barely Methodical Troupe: Shift

The alt-circus stars are back with another lo-fi acrobatics show.

- → Shoreditch Town Hall.
- Old St. Tue May 7-May 18. £12.50-£22, £14-£20 concs.

'Follies

The Last

Temptation of

Boris Johnson

A knockabout satire by

Jonathan Maitland.

→ Park Theatre. ← Finsbury

Park. Thu May 9-Jun 8. £18.50-

£32.50, £16.50-£23.50 concs.

Class

This hit play from **Dublin** explores learning difficulties, entitlement and social exclusion.

Bush Market. Tue May 7-Jun 1. £20-£25, £10-£17.50 concs.

show about ageing is more sensitive than it

Clapham Junction rail.

Fuck You Pay Me

Joana Nastari's solo show about stripping impales stigma on a crystal-studded spike heel.

→ The Bunker. ↔ London

→ Bush Theatre. ↔ Shepherd's

Die! Die! Die! **Old People Die!**

Ridiculusmus's new sounds.

→ Battersea Arts Centre. Wed May 8-May 25. £15-£18.

Bridge. Tue May 7-May 19. £16, £10-£12 concs.

EXCLUSIVE

'WHITE PEARL'



See hotly tipped playwright Anchuli Felicia King's gripping new satire for up to 48 percent off with Time Out. Tickets now from just £15.

TIMEOUT.COM/WHITE

Ts&Cs apply

LAST CHANCE

All About Eve

Rejoicing at Her

Wondrous Vulva The Young Woman Applauded Herself

memorably named

celebration of the

female anatomy.

→ Ovalhouse Theatre.

£12-£16, £8-£10.

Rendezvous

with Marlene

German singing

cabaret show is

Dietrich.

£20-£40.

→ Arcola Theatre.

legend Ute Lemper's

inspired by her chance

hour phone call - with

encounter-athree-

screen icon Marlene

Dalston Junction Overground.

→ Oval. Thu May 9-May 25.

Bella Heesom

performsthis

Gillian Anderson and Lily James play bitter rivals in Ivo van Hove's take on the vintage backstage flick.

- → Noël Coward Theatre.
- → Leicester Square. Until Sat May 11. £15-£175.

Follies

This stunning production of Stephen Sondheim's melancholy musical is a love letter to theatre's storied history.

- → National Theatre, Olivier.
- → Waterloo. Until Sat May 11. £34-£72.

Save 40 percent on tickets to the original, terrifying live production of 'Ghost Stories' with our exclusive offer. Tickets to this spook fest are just £25.20.

Many more theatre listings at timeout.com/theatre

Art

Edited by Eddy Frankel timeout.com/art @timeoutart

SHOW OF THE WEEK

'New Waves: Mohamed Melehi and the Casablanca **Art School'**





IT'S ALWAYS NICE when art comes along and rips you out of your comfort zone, drags you out of your knowledge bubble and tears you from the established canon. You get so used to your ideas about art coming from books and museums, and being so proscriptive as a result, that it can all get a little staid sometimes. But then something like this Mohamed Melehi exhibition shows up and gives you a bit of a jolt.

Melehi is a Moroccan modernist. He spent time $in \, New \, York's \, '60s \, art \, scene, but \, went \, back \, to \, North$ Africa to help develop a new abstract language: one that would reflect his culture, and help shape it too. The result is a body of work full of curved lines and intersecting shapes, sun-drenched colours and patterned meanderings.

The bulk of the work ripples with blues and yellows and purples and pinks. In the arcing compositions you can see hints of Arabic calligraphy and shimmering heat haze. Melehi is passionately obsessed with the history of the Maghreb's visual culture - the pendants and earrings, the rugs and clothing – and you can see its influence on everything here.

The show's a bit of a mess, though. The rooms are too packed and screens filled with documentation



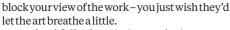
NHAT IS IT...

Gorgeous modernist paintings from an unsung Moroccan great.

They're gorgeous, engrossing and full of symbolism.

The Mosaic Rooms. ← Earls Court. Until Jun 22. Free.





But thankfully, the paintings and prints themselves are absolute stunners. It's such a wonderful testament to the power of abstraction and modernism that with this simple collection of curving lines and shapes, Melehi is able to create paintings so full of references and allusions that they couldn't be anyone's but his, and they couldn't be from anywhere but there. This is brilliant Moroccan modernism, and we should be damn thankful that we know that that's actually a thing.



By Eddy Frankel
Who once went to Morocco to find himself,
and was VERY disappointed with the results.



Felicity Hammond



'SITE-SPECIFIC' is a term that gets tossed around so much it's lost all meaning. Felicity Hammond's new installation, however, is genuinely worthy of that two-word descriptor.

Occupying the entire one-room space of the Arebyte Gallery, the wood-and-metal artwork presents a fractured modern cityscape, the type of wipe-clean corporate banality found in cities across the globe. In between the blocky structures are black pools, not dissimilar to the type of urban water feature that used to be at, say, the More London complex near the Mayor's office.

The architecture pictured not only fits neatly with the gallery space and its ceiling maze of fat metallic pipes – it perfectly mirrors the built environment outside the main doors.

Arebyte is part of London City Island, a blob of land the River Lea (a tributary of the Thames) squidges around like squeezed-out toothpaste. Currently partly a building site, the area is being rapidly redeveloped into 'an exclusive island neighbourhood'. The London City Island website sells a vision of urban paradise where bobblehatted Londoners making money in the creative industries work, rest and play in a 'twelve-acre micro-Manhattan'.

This hasn't always been the case. LCI used to go by the much less attractive name of 'Bog Island' because it often flooded. The pools of water in Hammond's installation actually reference the Great Thames flood of 1928 when the area got submerged.

Hammond's installation doesn't simply criticise or satirise what's happening around Arebyte and in London more widely. Instead, it subtly and cleverly draws your attention to just how disconcerting and weird these hyper-sterilised international Nowherevilles are. And, precisely because they're so ultra-samey, you almost don't notice their bacteria-like spread until you're standing smack-up against an elite-living block of flats dribbling cold brew down your chin. Go visit, but don't be surprised if the little red bridge across to Canning Town tube suddenly feels like a lifeline back to somewhere far less strange.

Rosemary Waugh

WHAT IS IT...

An immersive, waterlogged attack on gentrification.

NHY GO...

It's powerful stuff, and brilliantly presented.

ightarrow Arebyte. ightarrow Canning Town. Until May 18. Free.



FOUR THINGS TO SEE AT

'Al: MoreThan Human'

Art and science collide in the Barbican's mega-ambitious new show about artificial intelligence. Here's what to expect

Environmental intelligences

One of the big things that artificial intelligence can help us with is managing the decline in our poor planet's health. The Mediated Matter Group has created a synthetic apiary, a perpetual spring environment for bees, complete with pollen and nectar substitutes and simulated daylight, while MIT's Open Agriculture Initiative is trying to create crops in table-top-sized growing chambers. Other projects explore the future of road safety and the way AI can influence medical care.

Robotic animals

In the grand scheme of evolution, humans are pretty smart. Less smart are dogs and fish, so it's obviously easier to create robo-animals than it is to create robo-humans, which goes some way towards explaining the inclusion in this show of Sony's Aibo and MIT's SoFi, a synthetic dog and a synthetic fish, respectively. Adorable, and you don't have to pick up their poo or scoop them out of the tank when they die. Perfect.

1 Immersive art

A lot of this wide-ranging exhibition is comprised of contemporary artists responding to the topic of artificial intelligence. There's Lawrence Lek's



speculative future video game, Kode9's sound installation about an AI version of the mythical golem from Jewish folklore, Anna Ridler's thousands of photos of tulips, and Joy Buolamwini's exploration of racial bias in facial-recognition software. But one of the main attractions will be Japanese collective teamLab's immersive installation (pictured), where your movements help shape the art itself.

Human-defeating computers

Welike to measure artificial intelligences in game situations – can a computer beat a grandmaster at chess? Can it thrash an adult at, I don't know, Cluedo? As the intelligences improve, the answer has become yes a lot more often than no. The exhibition will include items and explanations of IBM's Deep Blue and Watson computers and DeepMind's AlphaGo, the first computer to beat a human at the strategy board game Go. If we find one that can play a full game of Monopoly without dying of boredom then we're in real trouble. $\blacksquare Eddy Frankel$

→ 'AI: More Than Human' at the Barbican Centre. ↔ Barbican. May 16-Aug 26. £10-£17. Find even more Al in next week's issue.

> Read more about the best exhibitions at timeout.com/art

THREE MORE

AI-inspired exhibitions you have to see in London right now



↑ Hito Steyerl: 'Power Plants'

Steyerl mixes nature and data to shocking effect: creating AI-powered art that makes social inequality visible and lushly beautiful at the same time.

→ Serpentine. ← Lancaster Gate. Until May 5. Free.



↑ Rachel Rossin: 'Stalking the Trace'

With a virtual reality headset strapped on your bonce, you can walk through Rossin's exhibition and control the passage of time. This is affectingly futuristic, computer-driven art. → Zabludowicz Collection, ↔ Chalk Farm, Until Jul 7, Free,



↑ Lawrence Lek: 'AIDOL'

This CGI-film tells the story of a future singer who is reliant on an AI songwriter. It's damn clever, totally trippy and really quit pretty. → Sadie Coles HQ. ↔ Oxford Circus. Until May 18. Free.





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KFC

PARTICIPATING RESTAURANTS ONLY. KFC NAME, DESIGN AND RELATED MARKS ARE

Food

Edited by Tania Ballantine

timeout.com/eatdrink @timeouteatdrink

SIX OF THE BEST

Thai restaurants

Tired of your dismal high street Thai?
Don't stress: these are the places
worth crossing the capital for



Small sharing plates are the name of the game at this colourful Peckham favourite, where the focus is on lesser seen street foods: a stir-fry of yam beans and king oyster mushrooms, say (that's vegan and gluten-free, too). Seasonal Western ingredients are also given the Thai treatment: think guinea fowl with broad beans, papaya and ginger.

→ 168 Bellenden Rd, SE15 4BW.

Peckham Rye Overground.

Kiln

For edgy and exciting food, head to the ground floor of this Soho spot, where a steel counter (for walk-ins only) gives terrific views of the theatrical open kitchen. Stripped-back dishes – mostly cooked on the grill or over coals in the ceramic charcoal burner (the kiln) – are inspired by rural Thailand, but much of the produce comes from the UK. The curries (monkfish and its liver, or fiery jungle curry) are a must, as are any of the wok-fries. → 58 Brewer St, W1F 9TL. ↔ Piccadilly Circus.

Kin + Deum

As a modern Thai restaurant, Kin + Deum is the full shebang: a laidback, minimalist space serving up big helpings of thrilling, Bangkokinspired food with the help of some genuinely lovely staff. Our top picks? The red rice curry salad, the soft aubergine with a tangy tamarind dip, a pitch-perfect som tam salad and the eye-wateringly fiery pad spaghetti prawn kee mao.

ightarrow 2 Crucifix Lane, SE1 3JW. ightarrow London Bridge.

Singburi

A veteran of the Leytonstone scene (and still something of a local secret), this tiny family-run café scores in every department. The BYO policy is one draw, but the food is also a blast – staunchly traditional, potently spiced and delivered without ceremony from the open kitchen. Prices are fair, service is matter-of-fact and the place is rampantly popular – despite the hassle of booking over the phone. → 593 High Rd, E11 4PA.

Leytonstone High Rd Overground.

Smoking Goat

Som Saa

The brazen Shoreditch reincarnation of the original dive bar-esque Denmark Street space provides smack-in-the-face Thai barbecue in a jam-packed industrial-meets-rustic setting. all smoke, loud music and highstrength alcohol. The food is laced with volcanically hot 'mouse-dropping' chillies, and the flavours will hit you for six. Be sure to order the lardo-fried rice and the signature fish-sauce chicken wings, both of which are serious crowd-pleasers. Best news? Your wallet won't be seriously dented, even if you go heavy on the booze. This is really drinking food at its absolute best.

→ 64 Shoreditch High St, E1 6JJ. Shoreditch High St Overground.

Som Saa

With full-frontal, never-dumbed-down flavours from Thailand's north-eastern provinces, the cooking at Som Saa is guaranteed to blow you away. Beyond its terrific

EXCLUSIVE

Enjoy bottomless dim sum and a glass of prosecco at Hampstead Chinese restauran **Goldfish.** All for just £19.50.

> TIMEOUT.COM/GOLDFISH2019

curries, unforgettable dishes include the stunning deep-fried sea bass with isaan herbs, which comes with both its head and tail on, though save space for the knockout puds, like silky palm-sugarice cream (think burnt toffee and salt), served with grilled turmeric-tinged banana. Bookings are limited to groups, but a reservation may get you one of the side cabanas: these are the best seats in the house.

→ 43a Commercial St, E1 6BD. ↔ Aldgate East.

CookDaily



→ Arch 358, Westgate St, E8 3RN. London Fields Overground.

HAVING BUILT A cult following at the original Boxpark site, charismatic plant-food champion King Senathit (aka 'King Cook') has migrated further east to this larger space. The location couldn't be cooler: a short hop from Mare Street Market in one direction and Netil Market in the other. Then there's the setting: under a railway arch, with concrete floors, an arcade machine in the corner and more tables on fake grass outside.

It's essentially a trendy canteen: you order and pay at the counter, then collect your food on a tray when your number's called. If you're lucky, you might catch a glimpse of the king himself, bustling in the small semi-open kitchen.

The food itself – a line-up of globe-trotting bowls for £8.50 (plus toppings), served on big beds of carbs – was satisfying, rather than stellar. Our best dish was the 'noodle bowl', a stir-fry of udon noodles and green veg that was both sweet and fiery. But 'da infamous' – the Thai-style curry on which KC's rep was built – was ordinary. It was packed with veg, which we loved, but the coconut milk sauce lacked depth and fragrance. Toppings are extra: it's worth stumping up a quid for the gnarled 'fake chicken' (soy and wheat protein).

CookDaily isn't quite a destination, but for a satisfying vegan lunch? Sure. ■ Tania Ballantine Lunch for two with soft drinks (no service): around £25.

WHAT IS IT...

A larger, eat-in site for the vegan cult hit.

WHY GO..

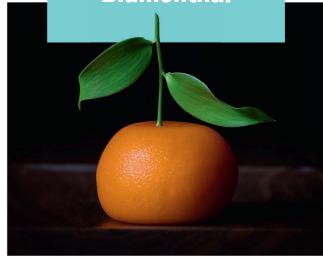
For sweet but fiery udon noodle stir-fry. Go ahead and add the gnarled fake chicken, for a quid.



EXCLUSIVE BELGO Want more moules for your moolah? Save 49 percent on moules-frites and a drink at one of four Belgo restaurants. Now just £10. TIMEOUT.COM/BELGO2019 Ts&Cs apply.

SO YOU'VE NEVER BEEN TO

Dinner by Heston Blumenthal





Wait. Isn't this the place with the Meat Fruit?

Spot on. It's the London outpost of culinary wizard Heston Blumenthal's empire, and has a focus on recreating heritage dishes from days of yore.

What's the vibe?

Given the heritage focus, surprisingly modern. Occupying what was once two separate restaurants within the Mandarin Oriental, it's a huge, expensively decorated space with a masculine, minimalist look, all coffee, cream and backlit pelmets. Service is just fabulous: gracious, charismatic and super-savvy.

How about the food?

Outstanding. Of course, there's that signature Meat Fruit (above), made to a recipe dating back to 1500. A silky chicken liver parfait in a firm mandarin jelly, plus a real leaf poking out of the top (don't eat that). But everything here is flawless, from saffron and almond rice with veal sweetbreads, which dates back to 1390, to spiced squab pigeon with artichokes, ale and malt.

But?

The bill will be brutal. At Dinner, the starters cost more than £20, mains over £40 and so on. But there's lots of good (free) bread, and the terrific triple-cooked chips are 'only' £6, so share where you can, or hold back on booze (from £36 a bottle) to soften the blow. A bit.

Any other tips?

The dark interiors and special-occasion price tag are best suited to dinner, but if you must go for lunch, then ask for a table by the window, looking on to the park. \blacksquare *Tania Ballantine*

Dinner for two with drinks and service: around £250.

→ Mandarin Oriental, 66 Knightsbridge, SW1X 7LA ↔ Knightsbridge.

Love it? Tell us at timeout.com/restaurants

Drink

Edited by Laura Richards timeout.com/bars @timeouteatdrink

Heads + Tails

→ 175 West End Lane, NW6 2LH, ↔ West Hampstead.



A BARTENDER WAS wearing a tropical shirt and sailor hat in Heads + Tails, despite it only being a Wednesday night. It seems the party has arrived in West Hampstead, as this spot was busy with punters of all ages who were putting to bed any persistent rumours that this is a sleepy part of town. The bar gets its name from its two clear concepts – the upstairs (Heads) is a light space serving lowalcohol drinks, and the basement (Tails) is a barely lit spot for cocktails made from dark spirits.

While the idea isn't totally original (just look at bar Swift in the West End), the execution means this spot just opposite the tube is surprisingly gorgeous. Particularly upstairs, where furnishings include gold-trimmed, marble-effect surfaces, turquoise seating and verdant greenery spilling from pots and planters. Plus, there's a pretty decked garden out the back to suit those daytime-friendly drinks.

A sweet Italian bartender made us feel at home at the bar in Heads, answering our questions in detail, giving thoughtful suggestions and letting me order from the downstairs menu when I was in need of something stronger. But despite my predilection for a drink containing three different whiskies (it had been a long day and the wonderfully balanced Diamond in the Rough took the edge off), I left without

any guilt for taking my pregnant friend bar-reviewing. Her drinks were some of the best. The Everlong was an effervescent joy made from alcohol-free aperitif Everleaf, mixed with elderflower cordial and lemon tonic. And a Pink Lemonade had just a whisper of rosé vermouth but felt like a full-on cocktail treat. There's something for everyone: Heads or Tails, clear-headed or full sailor hat. ■ Laura Richards



OPENING SOON

May ushers in Aussie craft beer, groundbreaking cocktails and a good, old-fashioned East End boozer



The Buxton

O Aldgate East.

From the team behind popular boozer The Culpeper comes this east London 'pub with rooms'. Annoyingly, the rooftop bar is reserved for hotel guests. But the ground floor is set to be a proper pub for all, championing the best local drinks.

→ 42 0sborn St, E1 6TD.

Tayer + Elementary

Alex Kratena – the former head bartender at Artesian – will launch his first bar with partner Monica Berg. Expect cocktails on tap at Elementary and the most progressive drink-making taking place at Tayer.

→ 152 0Id St, EC1V 9BW.

Little Creatures Regent's Canal

Granary Square continues to boom. The latest launch is from Aussie brewery Little Creatures, bringing a tap room and microbrewery to the 'hood, along with its famed Fremantle brews. Strewth!

→ 8 Handyside, N1C 4DJ.

→ King's Cross.

The Canbury Arms



WHAT IS IT.

A Kingston pub gets a revamp from Pearmain Pubs.

WHY GO...

A stellar beer line-up makes this another booming boozer for the borough.

→ 49 Canbury Park Rd, KT2 6LQ. Kingston rail.



IFTHERE'S ONE thing Kingston does well, it's re-inventing jaded boozers. The Grey Horse, The Queen's Head, The Albion and The Black Horse are all reaping the rewards of refurbishment. The Canbury Arms had been at the forefront of this renaissance – a dusty old cave that blossomed into a bright community pub a few years back. Unfortunately, as other pubs upped their game, the novelty wore off and last orders were rung mid-2018. But now – as per the local trend – The Canbury is back and it's raised

Behind the revamp is Pearmain Pubs: a good, old-fashioned group with a reputation for saving and sprucing up the deadest of pub dodos. The Crown in Twickenham is a case in point. Here, they've added a muted look and placed emphasis on gastro grub – the pub is now split into a bar and a restaurant.

High ceilings can make the place feel loud when busy. And we quickly found that drinkers can't sit in the dining area but diners can eat in the bar, making it all the more manic. But there's a lengthy and fairly priced selection of beers – and it's particularly good to see local brewery Park getting a pitch. If you do require peace with your pint, the huge patio should prove popular. The borough may be positively creaking with great pubs, but The Canbury is back up there with the best of 'em.

Dave Faulkner

More low- and no-alcohol spots at timeout.com/bars





Cambridge

A perfect day in

Dinky wine bars, honey-coloured colleges and loads of bikes

IF CAMBRIDGE WERE a person, they'd be worldly, spirited and always ready to hop on a bike. Far more than just a prestigious, worldfamous university, the city (Cambridge is small but it's been a city since 1951) is packed with everything from pop-up food markets to oldas-time pubs. Sitting on the River Cam and with a walkable, vibrant and quite frankly gorgeous centre, this city is as charming as they come.

First up

Get your bearings with a bird's eye view of the city. Make your way to **Great St Mary's Church**. One short climb up a steep and windy staircase later and you'll be at the top of a tower with views over Cambridge's pretty spires.

Soak up the vibes

You can't visit Cambridge without peeking into the colleges, with their perfectly mowed lawns and grand libraries. **King's College** is the most famous, but **Corpus Christi** and **St Catharine's** are just as stunning. Extra Cambridge points if you **rent a bike** and explore on two wheels.

Stop for lunch

Grab a bite to eat at **Market Square**. It's like an outdoor version of Greenwich Market minus the crowds. Or eat at local fave the **Old Bicycle Shop**. It used to be – you guessed it – a shop selling bikes. It dates back to the 1800s and Charles Darwin is rumoured to have once bought a bike from there.

Get a culture fix

Cambridge Arts Theatre is a total gem that welcomes new shows each week, while the **Fitzwilliam Museum**, home to art and antiquities, gives the British Museum a run for its money. Don't miss **Kettle's Yard**, an art gallery and the former home of Jim Ede, a curator at Tate.

Drink like a local

Cambridge Wine Merchants is part shop, part bar, with floor-to-ceiling shelves stuffed with bottles of vino from all over the world. Fancy a pint? Seventeenth-century pub **The Eagle** is doused in history. It's where Watson and Crick announced their findings on DNA, and has graffiti by WWII airmen on the walls and ceiling. ■ *Anna Bonet*

→ Get there: 48 minutes by train from London King's Cross; around one hour 30 minutes by car.

WAKE UP HERE

The Varsity Hotel & Spa



Book a Graduate room or a Senior Fellows suite at this central Cambridge hotel and live out your Oxbridge dreams. Nestled down a side street next to the River Cam, The Varsity Hotel & Spa is the ideal place to rest up after a day spent cycling around the city. There are even river views from the spa's hot tub where you can soothe your burning calves. Keep an eye on the skyline over dinner in the sixth-floor restaurant, which has floorto-ceiling windows, or head skywards to the rooftop terrace for more stunning vistas with a cucumber collins cocktail in hand. Anna Bonet

→ Cambridge. From £155 a night. www.thevarsityhotel.co.uk



TENZING Natural Energy is inspired by Sherpa Tenzing – one of the first two men to summit Mt. Everest. When we heard about the natural, energising brews Sherpas use on high altitude expeditions, we travelled to meet the family of Sherpa Tenzing to find out more. With their help, we created our drink: a plant-based triple hit of natural caffeine, electrolytes and vitamin C.



Sherpa Tenzing after successfully ascending Mt. Everest - 1953



We travelled to meet the family of the late Sherpa Tenzing - 2016



Team TENZING now - 2019

Today, we are a team of 14 that are taking on an Everest of our own: launching a plant-based alternative in a market dominated by some pretty big dogs. It's certainly not going to be easy, but that's the exciting part! If you're up for an adventure too, keep an eye out for our upcoming environmental projects or even join our team.

FIND OUT MORE AT

TENZINGNATURALENERGY.COM PURELY FROM PLANTS. NICE.

PURELY FROM PLANTS. N. E.

WHAT MAKES TENZING DIFFERENT



Natural Caffeine & L-Theanine

from Green Coffee, Guarana & Green Tea.



Electrolytes

from Himalayan Rock Salt.



Vitamin C

from Lemons & Indian Gooseberries.



48 calories

per can.



Inspired by Sherpa Tenzing and the energising brews Himalayan Sherpas use on their high altitude expeditions.

TENZINGNATURALENERGY.COM

