

TIMEOUT.COM/LONDON May 14 - 20 2019 No. 2530

TimeOut

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AI city

London's hidden world

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Inside

This week's Time Out
in no time at all

'Death of a Salesman'

The Young Vic's stunning black-led staging of the Arthur Miller classic gets a deathless five stars from us

PAGE 66



The Grid

At this 'Black Mirror'-ish escape room, save humanity while sipping sci-fi cocktails in space-age get-up

PAGE 77



Porn this way

Championing feminist and queer erotica, Uncensored Festival gets radical in Hackney this weekend

PAGE 47



Photo London 2019

The mega photography fair includes an Instagram competition this year. Get snap-happy from Thursday

PAGE 70

Movie exclusive

Somerset House announces its fab Film4 Summer Screen line-up today, and we can bring you the details before anyone else

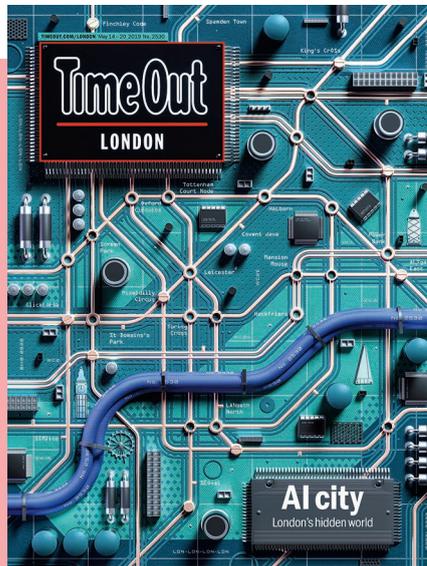
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↓ FEATURES AND REGULARS

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Hello, London

Caroline McGinn
Global Editor-in-Chief
@carolinemcginn



AI may be invisible, but it's all around us. It's in our daily commute, through the flow of trains, traffic and data. It's beneath the surface of many other things too: art, transactions, medicine. We've never been more dependent on intelligent tech, but we've never felt more anxious about it. Will robots take our jobs? Do algorithms control everything? Have we forgotten how to connect with the real world? As a big new exhibition exploring AI arrives at the Barbican (with Es Devlin's robot poet, p28), we've put together a pair of issues. This week, we explore how AI is defining our city and culture, including a very funny AI Word on the Street on p14 (thanks, Time Out tech team!). Next week, we'll look at ways to switch off from it...

YOU SAID IT

What you've been rating and hating online

London has always been in love with pastéis de nata, those delicious Portuguese custard treats. Our mesmeric video of a new place to inhale some, Santa Nata in Covent Garden, got loads of love. And some financial anxiety. **'Remortgage your house for a tart at London prices.'**

Glenn T via Facebook

They're worth every penny, Glenn. Streatham Kite Day last week was a lovely fun day out, and definitely not something anyone could feel anxious about, right? Wrong! **'As long as they're keeping them away from flight paths.'**

Beverly G via Facebook

It's #TimeOutMarketMonth! And that means celebrating the best food in the city. We declared the reuben from Monty's Deli to be unbeatable.

Someone's never encountered salt beef before, evidently. **'What did they cook it with – a photograph of an oven?'**

Matt TH via Facebook

It's cured, Matt. It's meant to be pink. Still on a food tip, Battersea Power Station hosted an entire fest dedicated to the stuff. And this guy took it all very seriously.

'Many cheese lovers would see you hanged for suggesting gouda and cheddar are noteworthy cheeses.'

Joeri V via Facebook

COMMENT OF THE WEEK

There was massive excitement about the Pomeranian café pop-up in St Paul's last weekend. Though one reader felt something was missing from its parade of cuteness.

'As a dog lover, I think this is a great idea, but why invite just one species of dog? It's a wonderful thing, as so many people love dogs but can't own one. All breeds are God's creatures, beautiful or not!'

Alka S via Facebook

Absolutely, Alka. We love mutts of every stripe. But chucking all of God's creatures together ain't always the greatest idea. Remember that owl and water vole brunch? Not a pretty sight.

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City life

Edited by James Manning
@timeoutlondon

On cloud wine

WHETHER YOU'RE MAD for merlot or a stan for sauvignon blanc, the one week that unites all lovers of fermented grape juice is finally here. London Wine Week is back, inviting Londoners to explore all that the capital has to offer in the winery world. For the festival's sixth year, Wine HQ is Flat Iron Square in London Bridge, where wine enthusiasts of all levels and preferences can sample a selection of tipples from some of London's best wine merchants for free – more than 75 venues around town are participating. You can restock your wine cellar (that's what you call the Ikea bottle rack under your kitchen sink, right?) or just chill with an alfresco glass and some oenophilic friends at one of the pop-up stands from vendors such as Bethnal Green's own Renegade Winery. So let's raise a glass to this corking excuse to drink wine all week (as if we needed one). ■ *Paula Akpan*
→ www.drinkup.london/wineweek



THE ESSENTIALS Three things you have to do this week



Eat this

Dessert bar **Whisk** is opening its doors in Angel for a three-month pop-up, offering a unique three-course tasting menu consisting entirely of gourmet puddings. Sweet!



Do this

Meet the women driving the audio industry at the **Content is Queen Women's Podcast Festival** in King's Cross this Saturday, and learn more about turning your weird idea into podcasting reality.



Sponsor us!

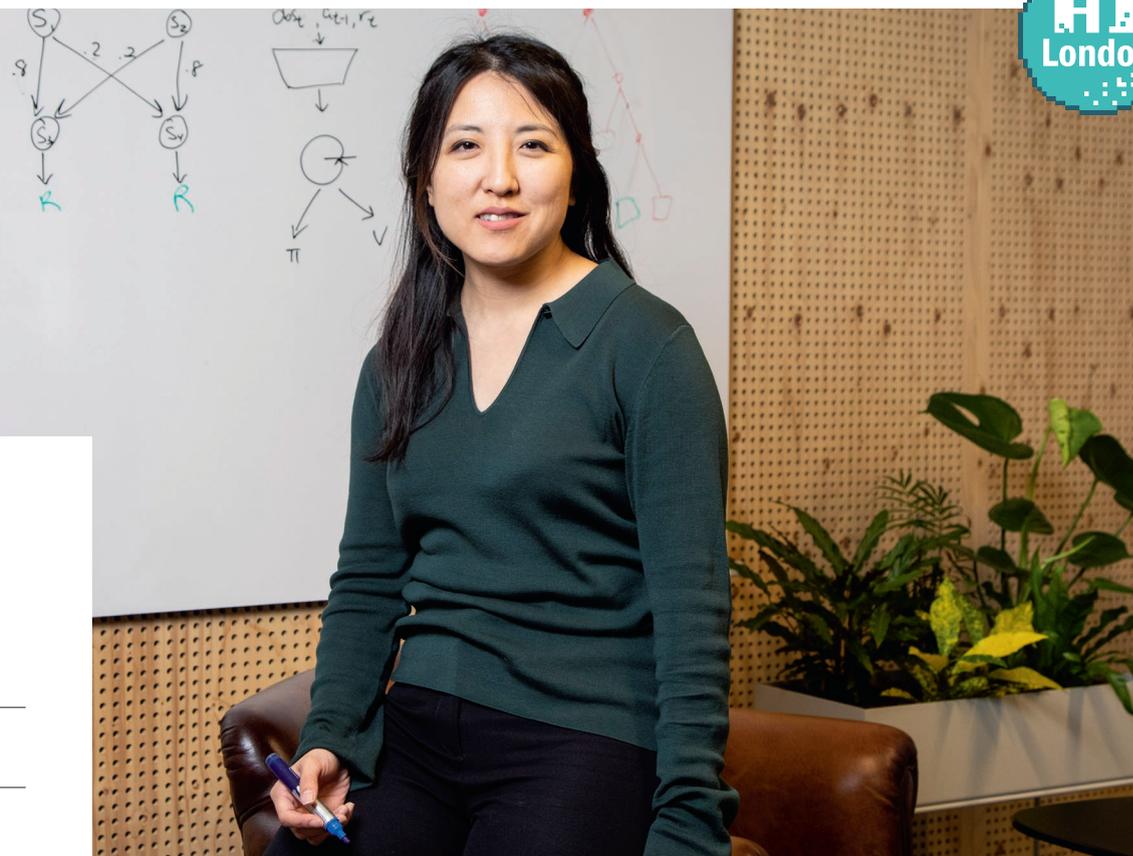
Team Time Out is taking on the **Hackney Half Marathon** in aid of Shelter from the Storm, London's only free year-round homeless shelter. Lend your support at timeout.com/hackneyhalf.



THINGS YOU ONLY KNOW IF YOU'RE AN...

AI research scientist

Jane Wang, 36



AI can make London greener

'At DeepMind, we want AI to help solve the world's most important problems. You can use it in city planning to predict the effect of widening a street, or to see how transportation can be better optimised. We think AI can have an impact in environmental issues, and are already using it to make our own buildings at Google use less energy.'

'Artificial intelligence' can mean many things

'In my view, AI is quite a broad category: it includes machine learning, but also other things that involve taking a data set and trying to output something that's more useful. To me, even Netflix show recommendations are a type of AI.'

AI's are still a long way from thinking exactly like humans

'Our neuroscientists are trying to better understand the functions of the human brain. But there are things humans do that we can't capture yet, like symbolic reasoning: seeing a phone or TV and knowing what you can do with that object. That's still difficult for AI.'

The job involves surprisingly few robots

'Very few of us work in robotics. Most of my day is spent at a computer: programming, writing papers, or preparing talks. In sci-fi

'There are things humans do that we can't capture yet'

movies, some AI researcher will code something up in an hour. In reality, AI is a group endeavour that involves hard work and collaboration with a lot of people.'

It's not all about Silicon Valley

'Along with Canada, London is absolutely a hub for this industry. Here, there's the opportunity to see the effects our work has on a diverse population. If our work is going to impact on everybody, it can't be done with just one group of people in mind.' ■ *Interview by James FitzGerald*
→ www.deepmind.com

CITY ENVY

Great things that we love in other cities

Singapore's Bus Uncle chatbot



IN SINGAPORE, THERE'S an app for everything – even getting someone to queue for you at your favourite hawker stall. But no app has caught on like Bus Uncle, an AI chatbot that helps commuters around the island by providing bus timings via Facebook Messenger. The secret of his cult appeal: he doesn't just give you the info, he's a quirky character who communicates in chatty Singlish, Singapore's colloquial form of English. (The London version might be if TfL's TravelBot spoke fluent cockney.) Powered by the Wit.ai natural language processing tool, Bus Uncle also makes bad dad (well, uncle) jokes and has recently become quite the fortune-teller. Sometimes he even nudges you for a chit chat out of the blue. He's the AI travel hero we all need to make our commutes a little more bearable. ■ *Delfina Utomo, Time Out Singapore*

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Welcome what's next

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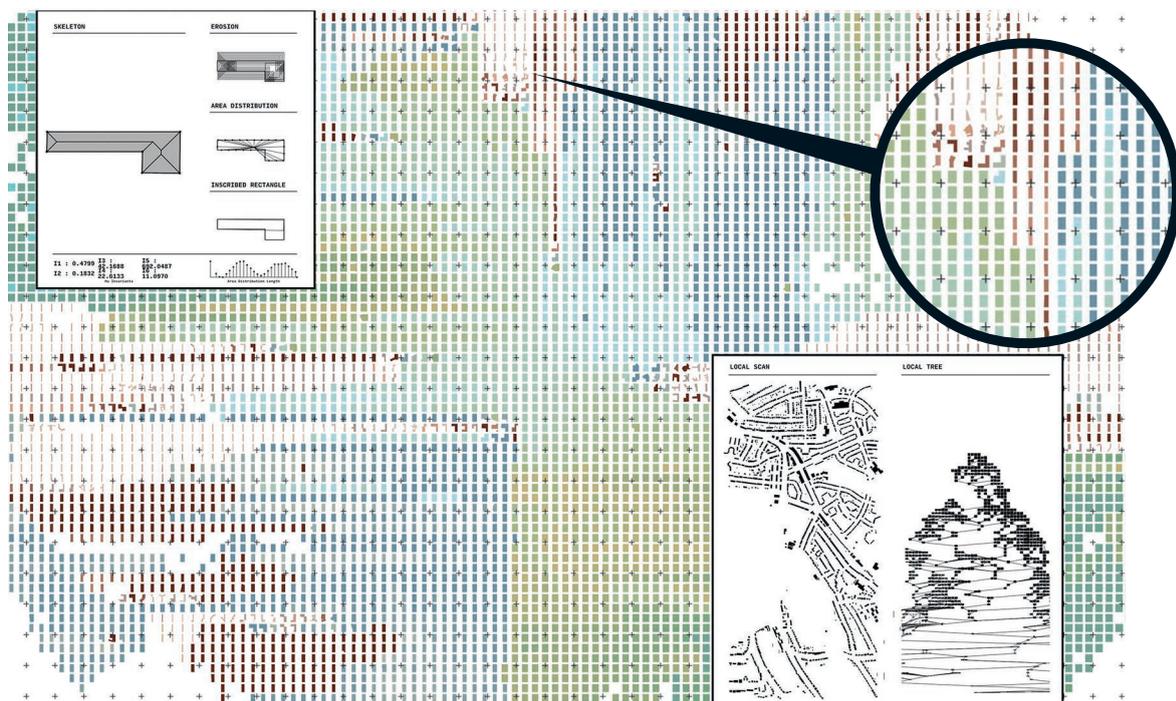


An AI view of the city

THERE ARE ABOUT 1 million buildings in London, and while humans have been mapping them for yonks, technology is only now revealing the hidden patterns that underlie our city's seemingly haphazard architecture. As part of its series of 'FormMaps', design studio Certain Measures has used AI bots to scan and remap the capital's buildings – not according to geographical location, but in a complex taxonomy of shape and architectural form. The Barbican's 'AI: More Than Human' show (see p28) includes a video projection of the results, titled 'A Machine View of London'. It may not look much like London to human eyes – but they probably said the same thing about the tube map once. ■

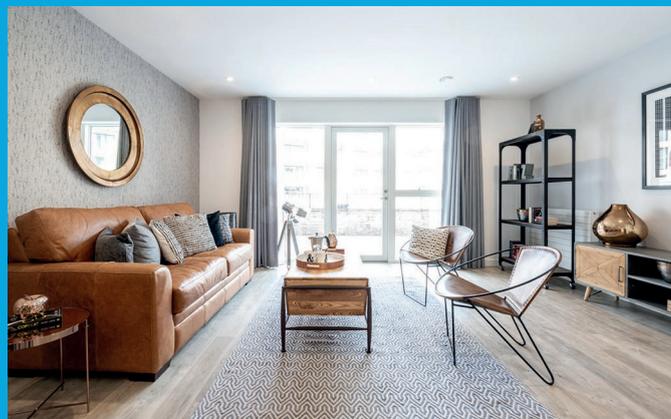
James Manning

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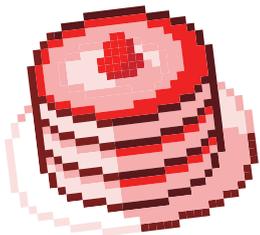


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WORD ON THE STREET

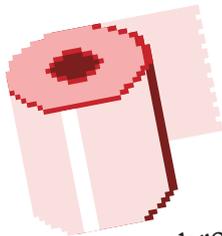
The AI Edition



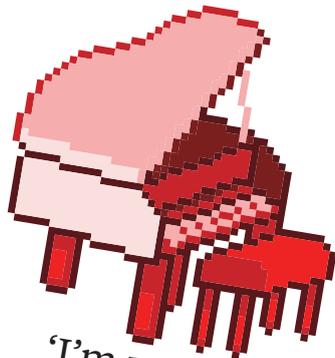
'I'm pretty sure there aren't calories in pancakes.'

'I would love to be an emoji for Brexit.'

'Every time I touch you I feel like an ex-girlfriend.'



'I'm going to throw up on some plastic bags, and then get my shit together and run out and get some toilet paper.'



'I'm very high-key.'

EVERY WEEK SINCE 2012, we've published the most ridiculous things that we and our readers have overheard in London. Our #wordonthestreet column has become a kind of hive mind: a repository of the city's changing trends, moods, hopes, fears and sexual hang-ups (so many hang-ups). But what happens when you feed all that data to a robot? We gave Time Out's awesome Technology team a bank of more than 1,000 #wordonthestreet quotes to train a version of GPT2, an AI language model created by the American non-profit OpenAI. These are the scarily convincing original quotes it generated, all based on your overheard comments. London, you created this monster - so enjoy! ■ James Manning

'My friend's dog gets migraines. He goes and does yoga.'

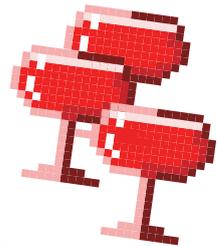
'I'd rather be ticked off than over the top.'

'If there was ever a time to be talking about carrots, it's now.'

'It's so hot, all I've seen on TV is cats in dresses.'



'Are you talking about Donald Trump? Are you trying to impregnate me?'

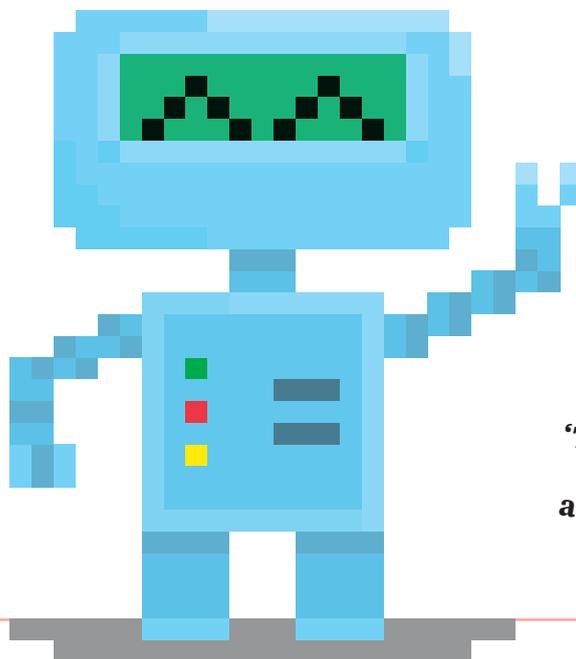


'Do you think I've overextended myself against the wine list?'



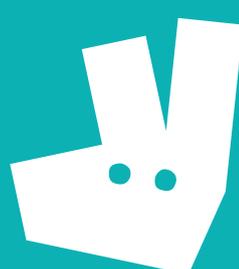
'No, I don't literally mean it's a handsome squirrel.'

'The thing is, my vagina is an absolute mess.'





messy
if done
right



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FOOD
FREEDOM

AI • more than human



barbican

16 May – 26 Aug

An exhibition that explores the relationship between humans and artificial intelligence

Media Partner: Time Out

City life



DID YOU KNOW?

Wimbledon has an AI that watches every tennis game

ALTHOUGH IT'S BEEN one of London's sporting rituals since 1877, the annual Wimbledon tennis championships aren't all about strawberries, cream and tradition. In fact, in the last few years the All-England Lawn Tennis Club has introduced some bang-up-to-date AI technology to help compile its in-house coverage of the venerable competition.

Previously, staff had manually sifted through hundreds of hours of footage each year to decide which moments of each match to feature in replays and highlights. But since 2017, a robot named Watson (created by tech giant IBM) has been doing a lot of the heavy lifting.

'With 18 courts, there can be 18 matches underway at any one point in time,' says Sam Seddon, IBM's client executive for Wimbledon. 'And in today's media world, you want to be able to tell the story of each match as quickly as possible.'

To do this, Watson scans video footage in real time for the tell-tale signs of high sporting drama. 'We've got traditional data: what's the score? Was it a break point?' explains Seddon. 'We've also got sound: were the crowd excited? And then we've got how animated the players are. Over time, artificial intelligence is able to learn not just that a piece of footage contains a human being, but that – in the context of Wimbledon – the human being is pumping his or her fist.'

Using all that information, Watson is able to pull together a highlights reel within minutes of a match finishing – around nine times faster than a human doing the same job. And of course, Watson is constantly learning what other factors make for a nailbiting game. As millions of fans watch breathtaking footage from Wimbledon this summer, how many will realise that it's been picked out and polished by a tennis-loving robot? ■ *James Manning, interview by Alyx Gorman*

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FREE LONDON

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



BACH-ING UP THE WRONG TREE?

Sound Unbound

Think classical music is all boring chamber quartets? The Barbican hopes to make the genre more accessible at this two-day festival. There will be live music in the plant-filled conservatory, a screening of 'The Artist' with a live orchestra and performances from an electric guitar quartet. It's also taking over loads of other venues in the City, including a night of classical meets electronica at Fabric.

→ The Barbican. ↻ Barbican. Sat May 18-Sun May 19.

RISE UP Ascent & Asana

MoreYoga and Everyone Active have teamed up for Mental Health Awareness Week to host free yoga and climbing sessions, both of which benefit the mind and body. Start limbering up and email events@actionpr.co.uk to book. → Westway Sports & Fitness Centre. ↻ Latimer Rd. Thu May 16.

CAN IT BE TRUE? O'jos Light & Soul Lounge

Wine in a bottle is so last year. You can now drink vino from a can. Try it at O'jos Light & Soul Lounge, a pop-up bar for London Wine Week where there will be loads of free booze. Register for guest list on Eventbrite or just turn up. Tin tin! → Old Street Gallery. ↻ Old St. Wed May 15.

DO YOUR BIT Hackney Heart

Help Refugees and Indigo Volunteers are inviting Londoners to learn about the refugee crisis and the different ways to volunteer. There will be talks, workshops and live music. It's free to attend but you need to register online so they know you're coming. → Stour Space. Hackney Wick Underground. Sun May 19.

GET GHOSTED Nunhead Cemetery Open Day

Take a spooky tour of this SE15 cemetery that's home to 1,000 ivy-clad angels. You can even get to peek inside the chapel and crypt, which are usually closed to the public. Plus, there will be live music, stalls and a treasure hunt. → Nunhead Cemetery. Nunhead rail. Sat May 18.

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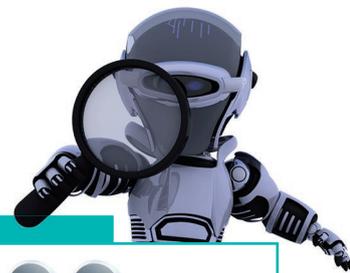
SE0va1

AI managing on

Template

Are robots really taking over the world? Maybe. *Isabelle Aron* and *Grace Goslin* take a deep dive into the myriad ways artificial intelligence is changing our city. Illustrations *Ben Fearnley*





ARE ROBOTS SPYING ON US?

IF YOU'VE LET Alexa – Amazon's virtual assistant – into your home, you've consented to her terms of service. But there's a (big) chance you didn't read them. Last month, *Bloomberg* reported that Amazon employs thousands of people to listen to what we tell Alexa in order to improve her knowledge. Cue expressions of horror. She may learn for herself (that's what AI is, after all), but she still needs human teachers. And those teachers are listening in.

Every one of your online clicks and 'likes' is being tracked (it can help AI predict your behaviour). Oh, and that 'This call may be recorded for quality and training purposes' message at the start of every helpline call? When you hear that, it's very possible humans aren't the only ones being trained by the recording. It could be feeding an AI too.

London's chief digital officer, Theo Blackwell, says that sharing data is key to AI learning but that it should be regulated. 'The growth of AI will rely on more data being shared,' he tells us, 'but with checks on how and why it is being used, and privacy safeguarded.' Either way, it might be time to take a closer look at those T&Cs. *Alyx Gorman*

1 It's helping make music

Writer's block? The bots are here to help. Like Auto-Tune on steroids, Moorgate-based company Jukedeck is an AI music generator. It works by learning chords and notes, then figures out which combinations work well together to create the ultimate banger. Songs generated by Jukedeck have been performed live by K-Pop stars such as Spica.

2 It's cleaning up London's air

It's no secret that our city's got a serious pollution problem, with 9,000 Londoners dying from poor air quality every year. The Alan Turing Institute at the British Library hopes to change that with its citywide sensors that use algorithms and data to measure pollution levels. The research will inform government policy and hopefully help London breathe easier.

3 Citymapper uses it to plot you efficient routes

Remember life before Citymapper? Us neither. The transport app uses AI to learn from its users, helping you get where you want to go as quickly as possible (and without changing tube lines five times). If a route is popular with users, the app learns to put that at the top of the list – because while AI is clever, there are some factors it might miss, which humans wouldn't. That means every time you use the app, you're basically helping the robot get even better at getting us from A to B.

4 Hospitals are using it to work out if you'll miss an appointment

Flaky? University College Hospital has its (virtual) eyes on you. Using records from 22,000 MRI scan appointments, its team created an algorithm that identified 90 percent of no-shows. They're planning to roll out the system more widely, so patients the robot thinks won't show up will get a phone call to check they're coming (from a human, not a robot – it's not that advanced yet).

5 It's tackling inequality

What can you tell from a photo of a street? Quite a lot, actually. Imperial College London has been working on a way to use images from Google Street View to detect social and economic inequality. The AI was trained using more than 500,000 images from 156,581 postcodes in London, along with stats on income, health, crime, housing and living environment. Tests show it was best at identifying income and living environment. Maybe a picture *is* worth a thousand words.



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Victoria Park
London E3
24 May > 02 June

Fri 24 May

The chemical brothers

PRIMAL SCREAM > HOT CHIP
JON HOPKINS LIVE >

Kate Tempest > Spiritualized > Little Dragon > Roisin Murphy >
Steve Mason > Danny Brown > Peggy Gou Presents Gou Talk >
Optimo > David August > Josey Rebelle > Little Simz >
Jadu Heart > Petite Noir > Maurice Fulton >
Ibibio Sound Machine > Lane 8 > Ge-ology >
Elder Island > DMX Krew

Sat 25 May



THE RACONTEURS > INTERPOL

Johnny Marr > Jarvis Cocker introducing JARVIS > ... Barnett
Fat White Man > ... Courts
Connan Mockasin > ... Temples
Amyl and the Sniffers > Angie McMahon > BC Camplight > Yak
Dream Wife > Our Girl > Viagra Boys > Bakar > The Nude Party
Willie J Healey > Demob Happy

SOLD OUT

Sun 26 May

CHRISTINE AND THE QUEENS

JAMES BLAKE > METRONOMY
MARIBOU STATE

Kamasi Washington > Beach House > Honne >
Kurt Vile and the Violators > Princess Nokia > Ezra Collective >
Toro y Moi > Rina Sawayama > Bob Moses > Andrew Weatherall >
Yves Tumor (Full band) > Baloji > Cuco > Moxie Presents On Loop >
Octo Octa > Galcher Lustwerk > Paquita Gordon

Fri 31 May

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SLEEPING WITH SIRENS

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Lotus Eater

Sat 01 June

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LEON BRIDGES > DIZZEE RASCAL
THE VACCINES > DERMOT KENNEDY

Villagers > Sam Fender > The Staves
Jade Bird > Marika Hackman > Shura > Dizzy > Gretta Ray >
Soak > HYYTS > Alan Power > Delilah Montagu

Sun 02 June

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FIRST AID KIT
JOHN GRANT
THE TALLEST MAN ON EARTH
EZRA FURMAN
RY X

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KOKOKO! > Charlie Cunningham > Mathilda Homer

+ More acts to be announced across all days



ARE ROBOTS GOING TO TAKE OUR JOBS?

THE SHORT ANSWER is: er... *maybe*. Suzanne Livingston, curator of the Barbican's new 'AI: More Than Human' exhibition, says that AI is used on a huge scale, 'almost one step back from everyday life', she says. 'In some of the big critical systems of our world, whether that's the financial, shipping or energy industries, AI plays a big role.'

In terms of working with data, AI can definitely make us more efficient.

'We'll be able to either fully automate or semi-automate vast amounts of the decision-making and lots of people's jobs,' says Nexus Studios' creative technology director Liam Walsh.

As humans and AIs collaborate more closely, your working life is likely to involve less sifting through documents and dropping numbers into spreadsheets. But if your work involves other people's feelings, Walsh reckons you're probably safe from robot-fuelled redundancy for now.

'We can make something that's really, really good at playing chess, but we couldn't make something that even understands the emotional needs of people as well as a cat does.' Phew! AG



6 It's coaching a London football team

Could your five-a-side team use help on tactics? AI could be the answer. This year, non-league football team Wingate & Finchley FC started using an AI coach to improve performance. They're not ditching their human coach, but the robot will help make decisions. It even provides inspirational quotes.

7 It's making driverless cars a reality

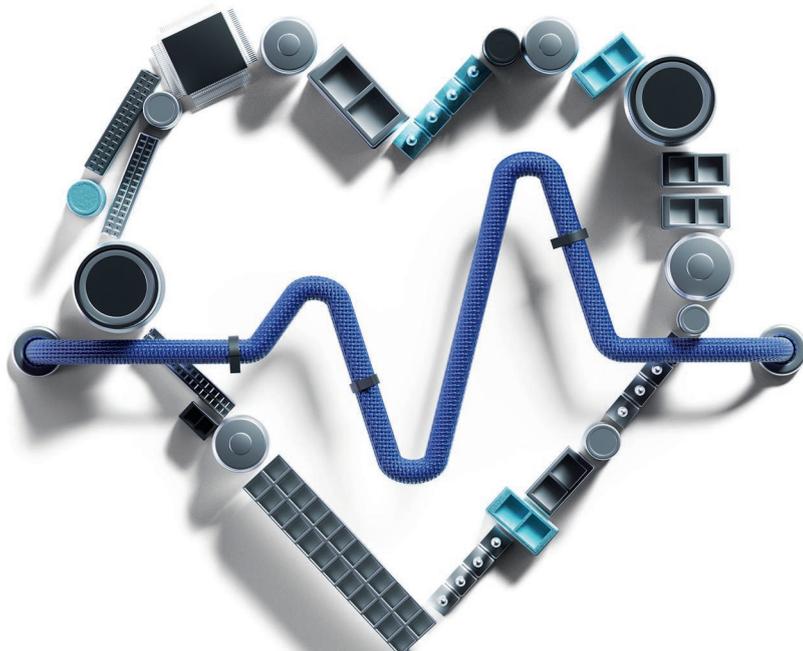
Autonomous forms of transport aren't completely new in London. The DLR rolls along without a driver every day. But self-driving cars are fairly new on the transport scene. A company called Gateway ran trials of driverless vehicles in Greenwich last year, ferrying people around the peninsula for up to 2km. The cars aren't a permanent fixture in the city yet but Gateway expects that they will be mixing with regular traffic within a decade.

8 It's helping doctors diagnose illnesses

Can a robot tell if you're sick? That's what Moorfields Eye Hospital set out to find when it teamed up with Google's King's Cross-based AI unit DeepMind. The trial used AI technology to look at the scans doctors use to diagnose eye conditions. It was able to recognise 50 common eye problems and had a 94.5 percent success rate when it came to identifying what was wrong.

9 It's changing the way we play games

Combining two huge areas of tech growth – AI and VR (virtual reality), researchers at Goldsmiths University are developing digital AI actors to star in a 'Peaky Blinders' VR game in spring 2020. The characters respond to the player's signals as well as changes in the environment, so it's totally interactive. Gamers, hold on to your baker boy caps!





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10 It's changing the way artists create art

You don't have to go near a paintbrush to make brilliant art any more. If you want proof, look no further than 'Hito Steyerl: Power Plants', an exhibition at the Serpentine Sackler Gallery right now. Steyerl's work explores the relationship between, art, the digital world, capitalism and artificial intelligence. In the show, she uses AI to predict what lies ahead, with screens filled with videos of moving flowers and plants from a nearby park – except it's a vision set 0.04 seconds in the future. Wild.

11 Police are using it to solve crimes (kind of)

The Met Police has had mixed results using AI. In 2016 and 2017 it used facial-recognition technology at Notting Hill Carnival. Embarrassingly, the robot in question was wrong 98 percent of the time in 2017. Naturally, it hasn't been used there since.

Now, the Met is using AI to predict where crimes might happen. The police feed an algorithm with previously recorded crime data and it churns out maps of the places where incidents might happen in the future. The result? Those areas are targeted by IRL police officers. (The organisation might be advanced, but we're a long way off robots in blue uniforms just yet.)

12 It's helping you to relax

We all need someone to talk to from time to time and Wysa (the emotionally intelligent chat bot) will give you a big, virtual hug via your smartphone. The app offers you personalised self-help techniques, from life-coaching to mindfulness and CBT. The app is in the funding stages of a trial with London South Bank University, which would explore the use of AI as a wellbeing tool for students. The app is basically AI that's been programmed to grasp emotions. Comforting or a bit terrifying? You decide.

13 It's cutting down flight delays at Heathrow

There's nothing like two hours of sitting on the runway at the airport to put a dampener on your holiday vibe. But AI technology being trialled at Heathrow could make that a thing of the past. The airport's 87-metre high control tower can lose visibility in bad weather, even when it's clear on the runway. The answer? Install super-high-definition cameras which feed into an AI system at the bottom of the tower, and can feed back on whether it's safe to fly. How's that for some blue sky-thinking?

14 AI-powered robots could be making you cocktails

Long queues at the bar could be a thing of the past thanks to Makr Shagr, the 'robotic bar system'. The cocktail-making robot can create concoctions from more than 150 different spirits and whip up around 80 drinks an hour. You order your drinks via the Makr Shagr app and then let the robot do its thing. Intrigued? You can see it in action at the Barbican, where it'll be serving up cocktails at the bar to coincide with the 'AI: More Than Human' exhibition. The company behind it is currently using AI to develop algorithms to help it get even speedier at shaking up cocktails, as well as using data to self-learn so it can suggest new drink ideas to users. Ours is a New Fashioned. Cheers!

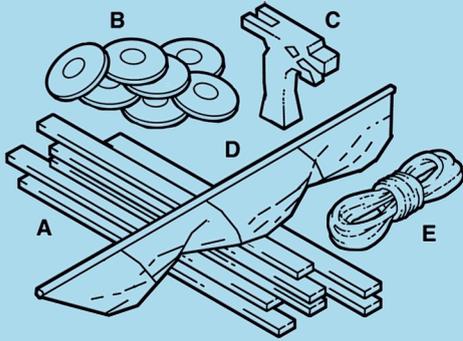
15 It helps your takeaway get to you faster

Ordering a pizza from your bed after a big night out? AI is making sure your carb-fest gets delivered before the hangover pangs really kick in. Deliveroo uses an algorithm based on predictive technology which works out the most efficient way of distributing orders, depending on where the restaurants, riders and

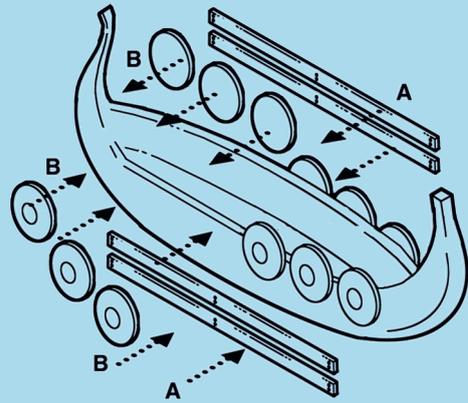


How to get to IKEA Greenwich

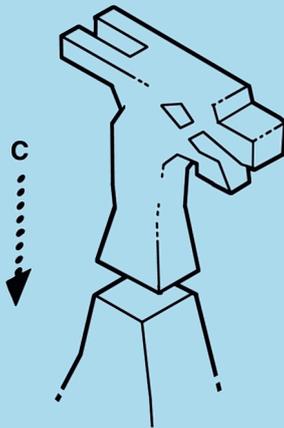
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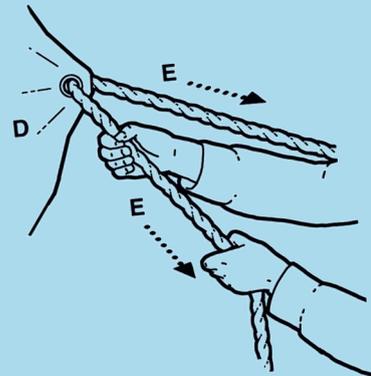
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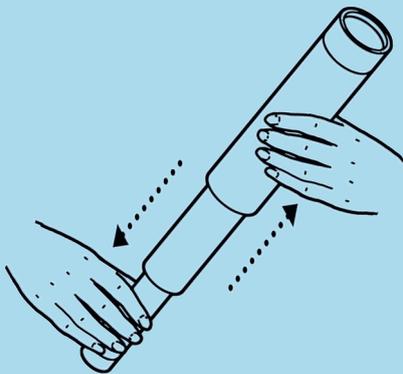
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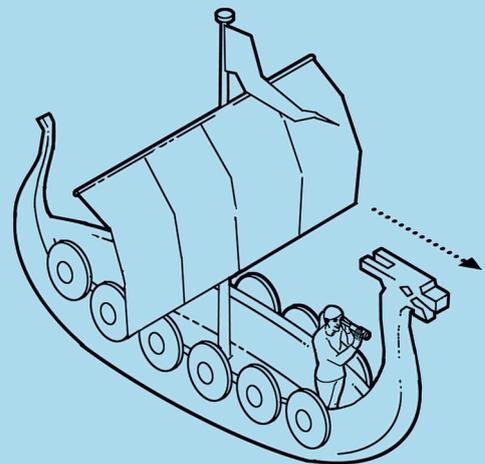
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5



6



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customers are. The clever tech has helped reduce the average delivery time by nearly 20 percent in Britain. The algorithm even has a name: Frank. It's named after Danny DeVito's character in the sitcom 'It's Always Sunny in Philadelphia'. So you can thank Frank for your next late-night fried chicken fix.

16 It's offering travel advice...

Want to know what's up with the Overground or where your bus is on diversion to? Talk to TfL's chatbot. Launched in 2017, it's powered by AI and integrated into Facebook Messenger. The travel-savvy robot can fill you in on bus arrivals, the status of a route, service updates on the entire network and send you maps. In the future, TfL also plans to use AI to help manage congestion at major road junctions and on busy tube platforms. All we need now is a robot that can sort out the temperature of the Central line.

17 ...and helping you cross the road

It's not just big tech companies that are using AI – it's pretty handy for town planning, too. City Hall uses machine-learning to understand traffic flows and tweak signalling if necessary, giving pedestrians more time to cross the roads and reducing traffic delays. Neat!

18 It's helping fight food waste

London start-up Winnow Solutions has created a nifty way to tackle food waste in the hospitality industry: an AI bin. Yes, really. Using a camera and smart scales, it scans what's being chucked away and learns to recognise what it is. It then tots up the weight and cost of the food wasted. It's already in action at Ikea, which cut food waste by 32 percent in its first year. No more discarded meatballs, hooray!

19 And, finally, it's helping Londoners write poetry

You know that game you played as a kid where everyone writes one sentence of a story? This is a bit like that, but with AI. As part of the Barbican's 'AI: More Than Human' exhibition, artist and designer Es Devlin has created 'PoemPortraits', which combines, art, poetry and machine-learning. Visitors will be able to 'donate' a word to the installation – it'll then be used in

a two-line poem produced by an algorithm that's been primed with 20 million words of verse. At the end of the exhibition, it will create a collective poem from everyone's contributions. Word up! ■

→ 'AI: More than Human'. ☹ Barbican. Thu May 16-Aug 26. £15-£17, £10-£15 concs.



DO WE NEED TO BE NICE TO ROBOTS?

IF YOU ASK Siri why she's an idiot, the response you get could be interpreted as humble – but it's also vaguely ominous. 'I am, as yet, imperfect, but I'm learning.' Aren't we all, Siri? It might sound silly, but as AI develops and we interact more with it, the question of how we treat the robots will be an important one. Liam Walsh, Nexus Studios' creative technology director says dealing with the moral implications of AI will be complex.

He describes AI as: 'sort of invisible worker-ghost-thing that will do stuff for us. AI is one of the first times where the new technological innovation is more like us... we've made these other beings, almost.' Right now, Walsh says that outsourcing mundane tasks to AI makes sense. But what happens when we make AI that's as clever as us?

'Are they slaves? Do we constrain them within their consciousness so they can't overthrow us?' he asks.

For now, Walsh is mindful of how he treats the technology he meets in day-to-day life, such as self-checkout kiosks at supermarkets (although they don't use AI yet). 'I've taught my daughters to say thank you to the robots,' he says. AG

ROBOT IMAGES: SHUTTERSTOCK

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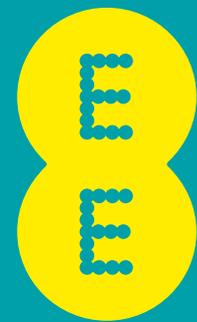
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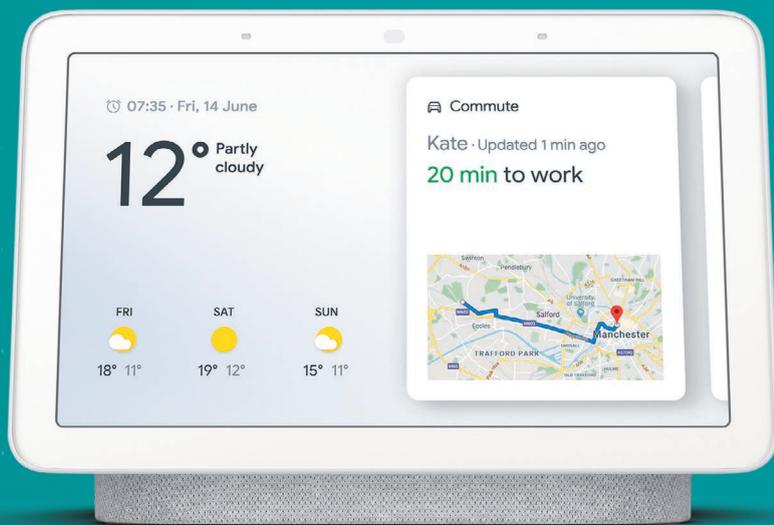
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Steve Jones, unknown, Alan Jones, Chrissie Hynde, Jordan and Vivienne Westwood at SEX in 1976



1971: Vivienne Westwood sets up shop

The King's Road is synonymous with the tartan-clad kids of the punk scene. And you don't get more punk than Vivienne Westwood. The politically conscious designer opened her first boutique with then husband Malcolm McLaren at 430 King's Road in 1971. In 1974, it became SEX, and helped spawn punk. After more reinvention, it became Westwood's shop Worlds End that you'll find on the street today, as radical and DIY as ever.

Monarchs to mohawks

300 years of the King's Road

In May 1719, the royal private road from Whitehall to Hampton Court opened to the public. Chelsea's main drag has since seen punk, protest and parties. *Grace Goslin* picks its iconic moments



Punks on the King's Road in 1977

DAVID DAGLEY / SHUTTERSTOCK, PAUL REVERE / SHUTTERSTOCK



→ 1966: The Who play a gig in an army barracks

The ultimate example of the King's Road's representing an intersection of counter-culture and the establishment? When The Who played live at army barracks the Duke of York's HQ just off the street. Maybe it isn't that weird a conjunction: both the band and the army are noisy and destructive, though The Who have historically suffered a much higher casualty rate.

ALAMY, BRIDGEMAN IMAGES, DAVID ASHDOWN/GETTY, GETTY



↑ 1977: Activists march for gay rights

Gay rights activists marched along the King's Road in 1977 to protest against the conviction of *Gay News* staff for writing 'blasphemous libel'. It's not its only connection to queer culture. The street was home to legendary lesbian club Gateways from 1931 to 1985. And bright pink pub The Markham Arms at 138 King's Road was especially popular among the LGBT+ community in the '70s. Word has it that it was also a favourite spot with Soviet spies...



← 1970: The local mayor gets really into Chelsea's FA Cup triumph

In April 1970, Chelsea beat Leeds to bring home the FA Cup. The only fitting celebration? A homecoming parade along London's hardest partying street culminating in the mayor standing in the window of Chelsea Town Hall pouring champagne into the trophy. Respect to you, sir!

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AT MODERATE CHARGES .
*Tea 4/- each, other Refreshments in proportion .
The 6/- token received in part payment .*
*The Grounds may be hired on reasonable terms for Public, Private,
and Charity Balls, Dinner Parties, Balls, Births, Weddings, & Road Meetings,
Archery, & other Amusements .*
*A Billiard Ground (with Terrace) 250 yards in length, Pistol Shooting
Pits, Archery Glades, completely shaded, with magnificent Bins,
A Bowling Green, and large sized Billiard Table
Steamers & Combs, every ten minutes .*

Published by Thomas Agnew & Sons, Ltd., 15, Old Bailey, London, E.C. 4.

← 1800s: Cremorne Gardens is the place to party

From 1845 to 1877, privileged Londoners headed out of town to Viscount Cremorne's Pleasure Gardens at the westerly end the King's Road. There, they were treated to fireworks, galas and performances. In 1874, a daredevil/idiot known as 'The Flying Man' was released from a balloon above the gardens in a birdlike machine with wings he could flap. But things went terribly wrong, and he plummeted to his death on Sydney Street.

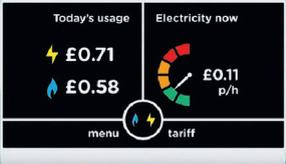


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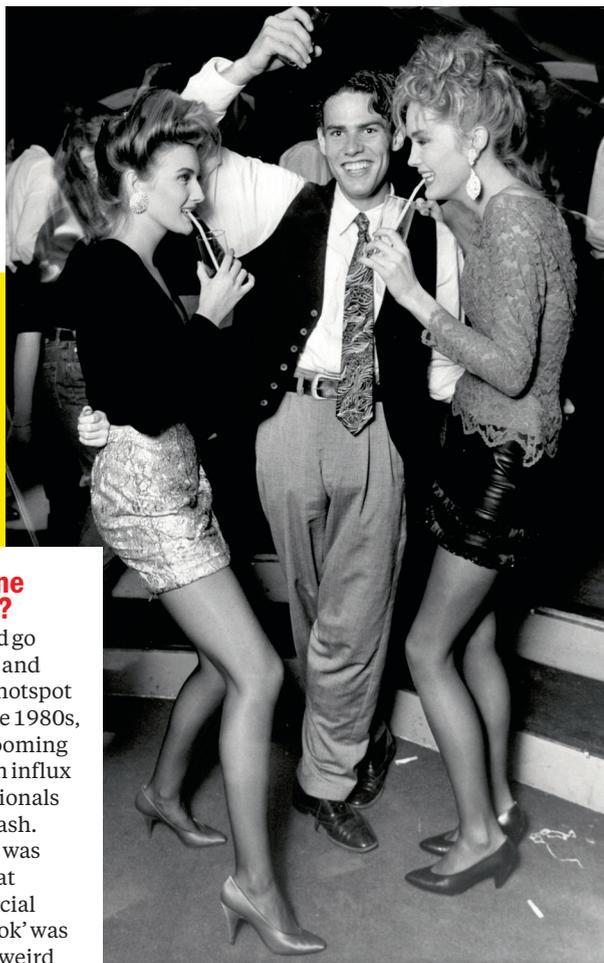
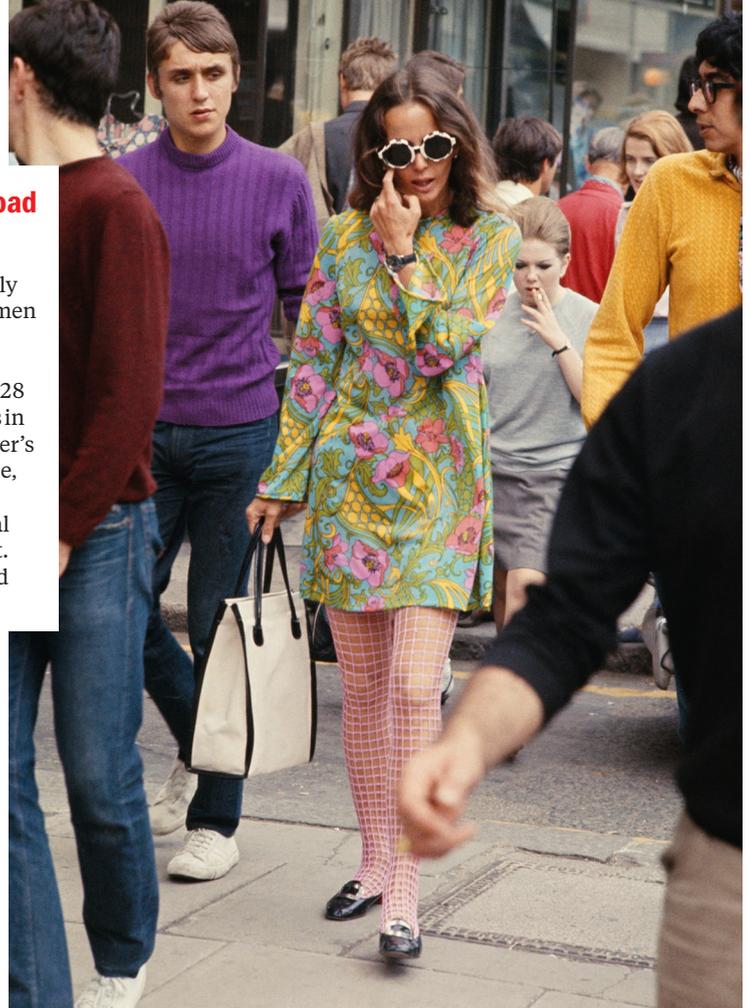
300 years of the King's Road

→ 1960s: The King's Road starts swinging

The '60s in London were famously swinging, especially among the 'Chelsea Set'. Women were hopping straight out of Mary Quant's clothes store Bazaar and into Fantasie at 128 (one of the first espresso bars in London) sporting the designer's iconic mini skirts. Meanwhile, Christian, an actual lion cub, was the resident party animal at furniture store Sophisticat. Where he presumably clawed up everything in sight.



Christian the Lion (centre) in 1970



→ 1980s: The Sloane Rangers arrive, yah?

How did the King's Road go from tartan, safety pins and activism, to the bougie hotspot it is now? Yuppies. In the 1980s, the stock market was booming and west London saw an influx of Young Urban Professionals with wads of cash to splash. By 1982, Sloane Square was so packed with them that satirical guide 'The Official Sloane Ranger Handbook' was published. The look – a weird mix of Barbour and bling – has persisted: there's a reason Range Rovers are known as 'Chelsea tractors'.



GETTY, DEREK CATANV / SHUTTERSTOCK, GRAHAM TROTT / SHUTTERSTOCK

↑ 1935: Chelsea-ites celebrate a silver jubilee

It's no surprise that a road literally named after a king has thrown its fair share of royal celebrations. But before punks did their takedown of Liz's 1977 jubilee, there was a more demure one for George V and Queen Mary. They celebrated their silver jubilee with a carriage ride along the King's Road in June 1935. Sounds like a right royal knees-up. ■

See more street scenes at timeout.com/londonphotos



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'Museum of the Moon'



TRENDING

The moon

This July marks 50 years since humans walked on the moon and London is celebrating with a load of cool lunar events. *Isabelle Aron* counts down the best

Five... 'Museum of the Moon'

Always wanted to visit the moon but don't fancy all that intense space training? Now's your chance. The Natural History Museum is bringing it to London. Sort of. Created by artist Luke Jerram, the six-metre glowing sculpture features detailed Nasa imagery of the satellite's surface. You can even indulge in cheese and wine nights and do yoga under it (not at the same time).

→ Natural History Museum. ☉ South Kensington.

Fri May 17-Sep 8. Free.

Four... 'Apollo 11: First Steps' screening

Get cosy in the Science Museum's Imax cinema to watch the footage of the lift-off, landing and return of the 1969 Apollo 11 mission. The screen is one of Europe's biggest, so you'll be properly immersed in the film, which features unseen footage and newly discovered recordings from Nasa's archives. And yes, you'll be able to re-live 'one small step for man, one giant leap for mankind'.

→ Science Museum. ☉ South Kensington. Fri May 17-Jul 19. £11.

Three... An Evening with the Moon

Okay, so you technically spend every evening with the moon – it's always there, just hanging out in the sky. But this series of moongazing events at the Royal Observatory invites you to get up close and personal with it. It kicks off in with a live show in the planetarium, led by an astronomer who will talk you through the moon and stars. Then it's time to take a closer look using the observatory's huge 18-tonne Victorian telescope. Sometimes size does matter.

→ Royal Observatory Greenwich. Greenwich DLR.

Jun 8, Jul 6 and Aug 6. £16.

Two... 'The Moon'

Do a deep dive into all things lunar at this major exhibition at the National Maritime Museum. It features more than 180 moon-related objects. Get up close to items from the Apollo 11 mission, including Buzz Aldrin's 'Snoopy cap' (a special part of his astronaut suit with an audio headset for communication), as well as a rare lunar meteorite.

The exhibition will trace the moon in history and pop culture, from a Mesopotamian tablet from 172 BC, showing how lunar eclipses were thought to be terrible omens, to the modern space race.

→ National Maritime Museum. Greenwich DLR. Jul 19-Jan 5 2020. £9.

One... The Moon Festival

What on earth is in a moon-inspired cocktail? Find out at London's first ever Moon Festival, which has been crowdfunded by lunar enthusiasts. The week-long event includes cocktail-making classes, a look the relationship between witches and the moon at Treadwells bookshop, panel discussions – including the legendary Margaret Atwood talking about the moon and magic – and a closing party aboard the Cutty Sark. We have lift off! ■

→ Various locations and prices. Jul 19-26.

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Open Garden Squares Weekend

What is it? Two-for-one tickets to the citywide open-gardens event.

Why go? Who doesn't love a good snoop? At OGSW, there are more than 100 gardens to visit, many of which are not usually open to the public. And you'll be doing Mother Nature a favour – the money raised will be put towards green space preservation.

What's exclusive? Two tickets will set you back just £20.

→ Various locations. Jun 8-9. www.timeout.com/ogsw



The Moon Festival

What is it? A new weeklong festival celebrating our natural satellite.

Why go? For outdoor art spectacles, a pioneering programme of night-time activities and appearances from internationally renowned artists and speakers, including author Margaret Atwood.

What's exclusive? Our tickets start at just £10 a pop. Lunacy!

→ Various locations. Jul 20 and 25. Fest runs Jul 19-26. www.timeout.com/moon. See more moon-related events on p36.

National Geographic Traveller Food Festival

What is it? A chance to take your taste buds on a trip around the globe at this inaugural food fest.

Why go? To rub shoulders with food writers, chefs and the team behind *Nat Geo Traveller* magazine. Not to mention the selection of tasty treats to tuck into.

What's exclusive? It's just £18 for a ticket, down from £23.65.

→ Business Design Centre. ⊕ Angel. Jul 20-21. www.timeout.com/natgeofood

Luxury martini experience

What is it? An espresso martini class with cocktails aplenty.

Why go? This masterclass includes four luxury martinis for your tasting pleasure – need we say more? You'll also get to make your own martini using Five vodka and Boun Beans coffee, and enjoy three coffee-inspired dishes with your tipples.

What's exclusive? It's 50 percent off – tickets are £39.99.

→ Good & Proper Tea. ⊕ Farringdon. May 29-31. www.timeout.com/martini19

'Nelson Mandela: The Official Exhibition'

What is it? A fascinating exhibition about the world's most famous freedom fighter.

Why go? This show is unmissable. Go on a personal journey through Madiba's life, gaining new insight into the people, places and events that shaped him as an iconic leader.

What's exclusive? You can save 33 percent – tickets are now £10 each.

→ Leake Street Gallery. ⊕ Waterloo. Until Jun 2. www.timeout.com/mandela

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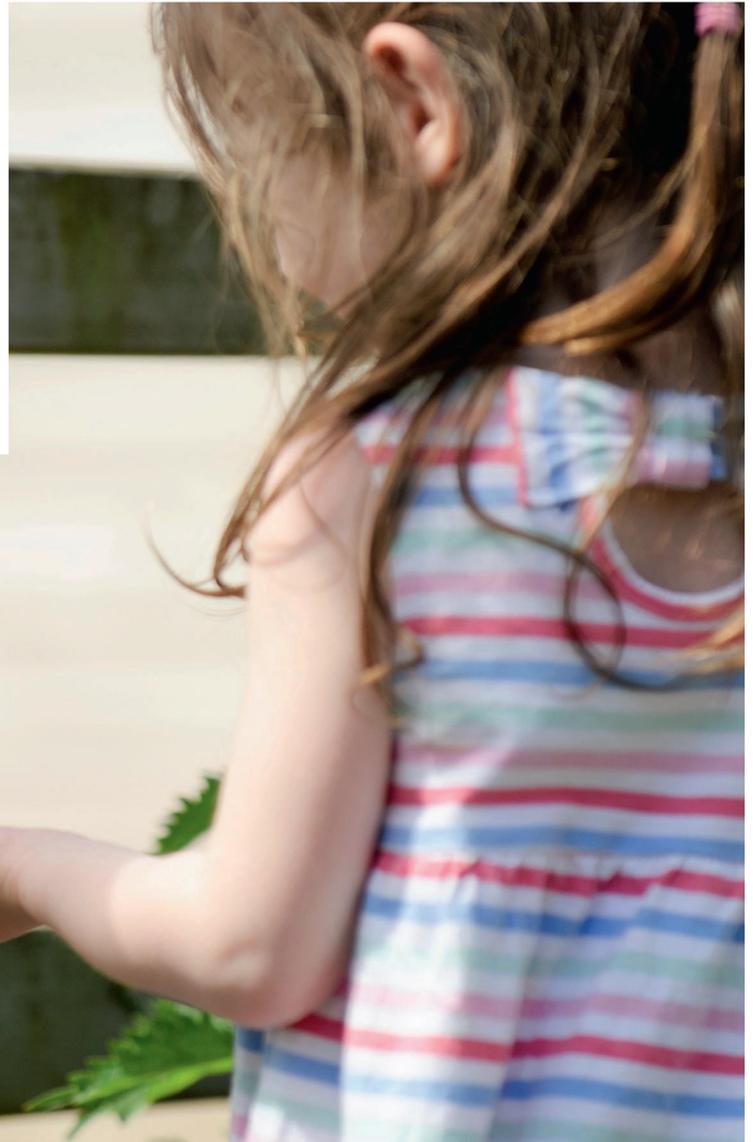


Things to Do

Edited by Katie McCabe
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Surrey Docks Farm



WHERE TO FIND

Baby spring animals

Spring means sunshine, pretty flowers and scores of cute newborn creatures. We pick the best places in the city to see fluffy bundles of joy



Lambs

When it comes to baby animals to cuddle up to in spring, tiny lambs are obviously the GOAT. Thankfully, **Surrey Docks Farm**, a sweet little site right next to the Thames with its own blacksmithery, puts on lamb-feeding sessions almost every day. You'll have to book your slot a week in advance in case the little guys need a rest (they're pretty tiny after all). The farm also runs a 'Meet the Small Animals' experience, where you can get up close and personal with all kinds of cute critters, including rabbits, guinea pigs and ferrets.

→ Rotherhithe St. ☉ Canada Water. Daily, 10am-4pm. Free.

Chicks

Stepney City Farm has cheeping chicks in abundance. Head along to the 40-year-old farmyard, set up by residents in the East End on a derelict site, to take a peek at some super small fluffballs. Don't forget to admire the adults too, some of which are ex-battery hens who lay plenty of eggs for the farm shop. There are also donkeys, goats and rabbits to ogle, a greenhouse made from plastic bottles to explore, plus an on-site plant shop, meaning you won't be leaving disappointed (or empty-handed).

→ Stepney Way. ☉ Stepney Green. Tue-Sun 10am-4pm. Free.



Walthamstow Wetlands



Surrey Docks Farm



Woodlands Farm Trust



Spitalfields City Farm



Kids (as in, small goats)

Nestled in the National Trust's Morden Hall Park, **Deen City Farm** is the proud owners of two adorable kids born just last month - that's baby goats, rather than pint-sized humans. As well as the bleating bucks, they've got an alpaca called Kimby, prize-winning cows with new calves to visit, a café and farm shop, and an on-site riding school (you can only ride the horses, not the alpacas, sorry). Plus, if you're looking for maximum cuteness, the farm's lambs are coming late. They're due to be born any day now, so they should be extra small and adorable for your visit.

→ 39 Windsor Avenue. ☎ South Wimbledon.
 Tue-Sun 10am-4.30pm. Free.

Piglets

You can take your pig, sorry, pick of the bunch at **Forty Hall Farm** in Enfield, which has 14 Tamworth and Berkshire piglets this year. The farm also runs a regular farmers' market with fresh cheese, artisan cakes and craft beer, plus a veg bag scheme to help locals get their five-a-day.

CREDIT TO FOLLOW HERE



If you're still feeling as greedy as a pot-bellied porker, head on to **Hounslow Urban Farm** where you can join a regular meet-and-greet with the resident pigs and micro pigs.

→ Enfield. Turkey St Overground. Fri-Sun, 11am-4pm. Free. Faggs Rd.
 ☎ Hatton Cross. Daily, 10am to 5pm. Free.

Goslings

A birdwatcher's paradise, **Walthamstow Wetlands** boasts 520 acres of unspoilt wetland, ten separate reservoirs, and more than 50 different avian species. It's no surprise, then, that a wealth of baby birds call the leafy spot home. Go for the goslings, but stay for some of the more leftfield little fellows who hang about there. You can catch young crested grebe chicks hitching a ride on their mums' backs, or listen to the squeals of leggy baby herons begging for food from one of more than 40 on-site nests.

→ 2 Forest Rd. ☎ Tottenham Hale. Daily,
 9.30am-4pm. Free.

Calves

The Woodlands Farm Trust in Welling has two female English longhorn calves this year, one born on Good

Friday and one the week before. Before you start calling us fibbers, their youthfulness means that (despite the name) they're too young to have actually grown their, erm, long horns. Still, they're super cute, and they share the 98-acre site with Shetland ponies and three other types of cattle.

→ 331 Shooters Hill. Welling rail. Tue-Sun, 9.30am-4.30pm. Free.

Peachicks

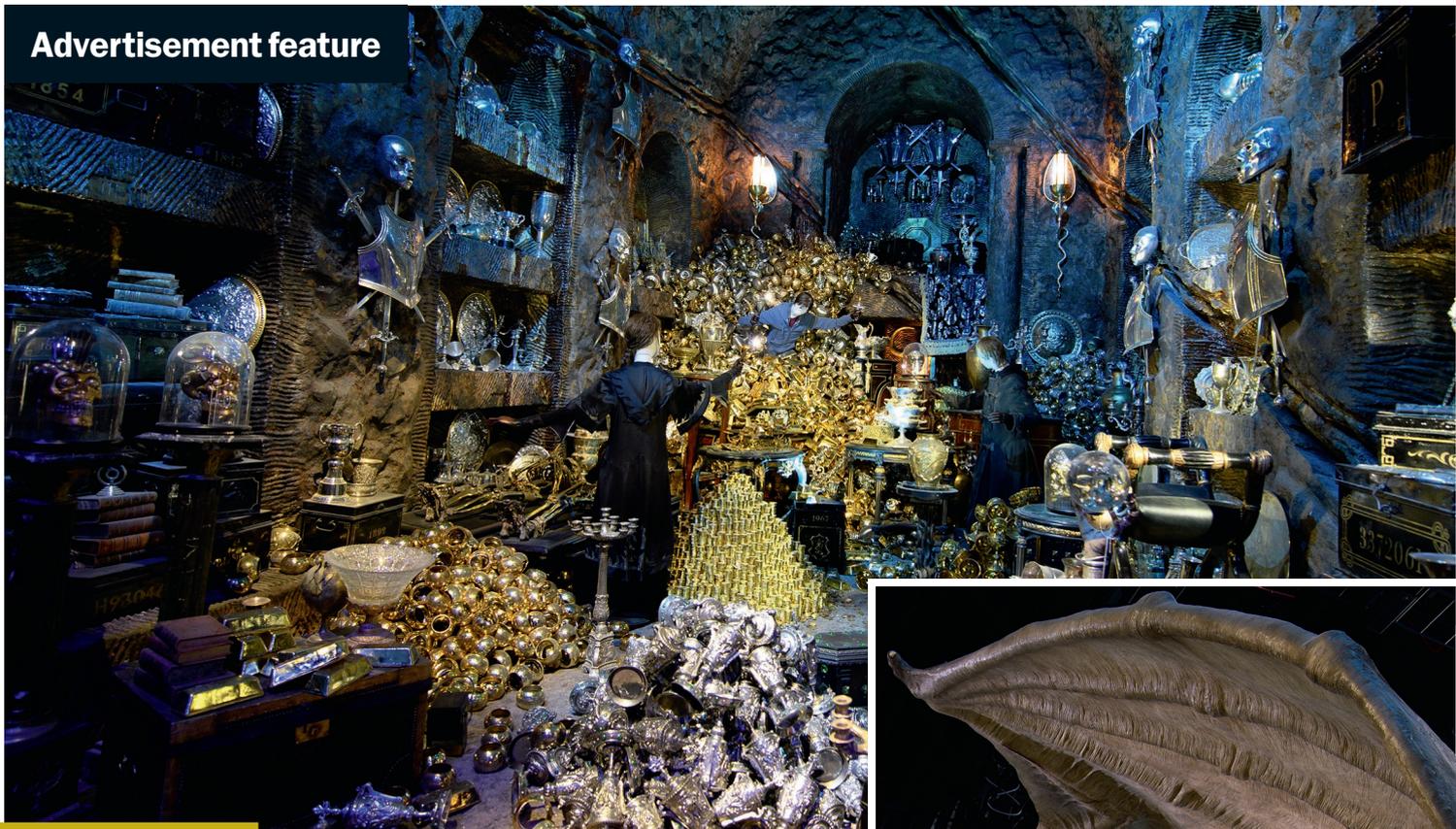
Did you know that the overarching term for peacocks and peahens is 'peafowl', and the word for a baby peafowl is a 'peachick'? Well, now you do, and now you also know that there are three tiny chicks roaming free-range at 20-year old **Brooks Farm** in Leyton. The little chicks don't have their big kaleidoscopic tails yet, but they make up for it in sheer cuteness. The farm also has sheep, donkeys, ponies, goats and a little train which trundles you around the premises. All aboard, and all that.

→ Jack Cornwell Park. Leyton Midland Rd Overground.
 Tue-Sun, 10am-4pm. Free.



By Bobby Palmer
 Who's on a mission to pet every baby animal in London.

Advertisement feature



A magical family adventure

Make your next day out with the kids fly, with a trip to Warner Bros. Studio Tour London (Quidditch broom provided)

As school holidays approach, are you contemplating the next Great Sofa Escape? Tough call, right? Trying to keep each family member happy isn't easy. But if the one thing that gets your Muggle hearts racing is sitting down to a Harry Potter film together, a visit to Warner Bros. Studio Tour London – The Making of Harry Potter has something for everyone.

A dragon's welcome

The jaw-dropping sight of a huge Ukrainian Ironbelly dragon hovering above you when you first arrive might be your first selfie opportunity of the day, but it won't be your last. The Tour's famous highlights include a chance to enter the Great Hall at Hogwarts, step onboard the Hogwarts Express, walk through the front door of 4 Privet Drive and stroll up Diagon Alley – but

for 2019, there are several brand new features as part of the Tour's biggest expansion yet.

Welcome to Gringotts

Be one of the first families to see the stunning new, full-sized Gringotts Wizarding Bank set, in all its marble and brass glory.

See how the snake-like vault doors unlock close up, hear how the props department moulding machine worked non-stop for six months to make enough trinkets to fill the vaults, and find out what it took to make some of the most spectacular scenes, as Harry, Ron and Hermione made their daring Horcrux raid to steal Helga Hufflepuff's Cup.

Now for the first time, you can stand among the ruins of Gringotts just as it is destroyed in 'Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows'. A quick

tip: when you see what's thundering towards you out of the smoke and fire, try not to jump into the arms of the stranger next to you...

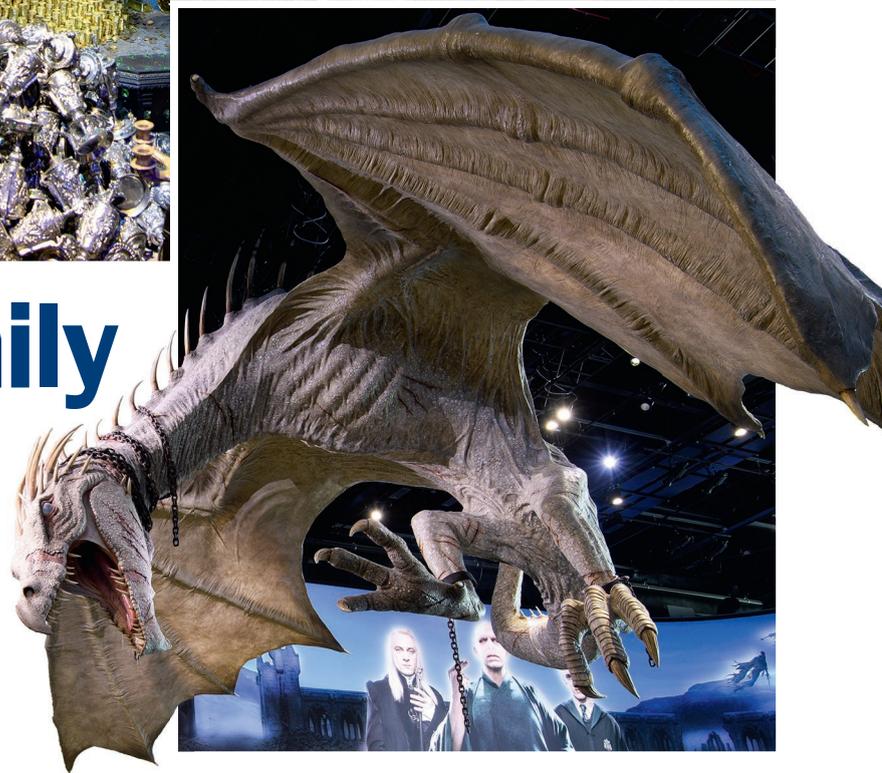
Everyone's top day out

Through the craft of every movie set and special effect, the Studio Tour is full of fascinating stories.

Budding artists will be inspired by the models, costumes and sketches; ghoulish souls can lurk among the Dark Arts sets; and little daredevils are sure to get busy practising their wand skills, swooping through the sky on a stick and hopping on Hagrid's motorbike.

By the end of your day, you'll all be so immersed in the wizarding world

you won't want to go home. Best stay, in that case, and treat yourself to something yummy from the Chocolate Frog Café like every good Hogwarts first year would. Well, that's our excuse, anyway.



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→ Book now at wbstudiotour.co.uk

SOMETHING FOR THE WEEKEND

Friday



Tender Touches

Ignore your mum. It's fine to play with your food. This space in Peckham is exploring scran as art, creating a 'dining room' where everything from the food to the furniture is an objet d'art. Order a dish from the curated menu and experience the pieces with all five senses. Yum yum!

→ AMP Gallery, Queens Rd Peckham Overground.
Fri May 17-Jun 30. Free entry, food prices vary.

FEAST Sicily Fest

Got a passion for Palermo but can't afford to go? Head to Brick Lane and sample all the Italian island's good bits without having to endure a budget airline flight.

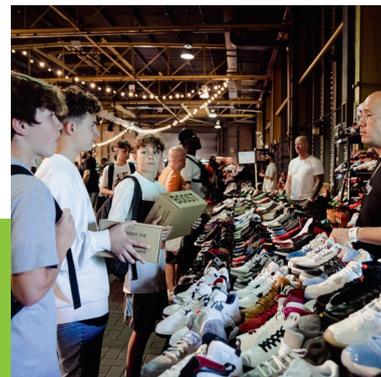
→ The Boiler House, Shoreditch High St Overground. Fri May 17-Sun May 19. Free entry.

FUN Oval Night Market

A monthly street party is coming to Bethnal Green this summer. Expect sumptuous street food, ice-cold craft beer, balmy beats and not a bit of bunting in sight.

→ The Oval. ☉ Bethnal Green.
Fri May 17-Sat May 18. Free entry.

Saturday



Sneakerness

Know your Yeezy Boost 350s from your Air Max 95s? This appreciation of all things trainers is one for you – whether you're looking to cop a drop or just want to see some ultra-rare creps in the flesh.

→ Printworks, Rotherhithe Overground.
Sat May 18-Sun May 19. From £10.

LEARN Chelsea Fringe

Sack off the main floral event for this blooming marvellous indie festival. Expect walks, talks, workshops and a record attempt for the world's longest daisy chain.

→ Various venues.
Sat May 18-May 26. Prices vary.

EXPLORE Nunhead Cemetery Open Day

The graveyard's annual open day is cheerier than it sounds. Tours of the usually closed crypt are a highlight.

→ Nunhead Cemetery, Nunhead rail. Sat May 18. Free entry.

Sunday

Hackney Festival of Fitness

Exercise is heading east in a big way. Attempt an adrenaline-fuelled class, join a stand-up paddleboard expedition or cheer on the Hackney Half competitors.

→ Hackney Marshes, Hackney Wick Overground.
Fri May 17-Sun May 19. Prices vary.



WOOF Primrose Hill Festival and Dog Show

Think you own the city's cutest canine? Put your pooch to the test at this annual event. Not mad on mutts? There are plenty of other attractions to go barking for, including a roller disco, obv's.

→ Regent's Park Rd.
☉ Chalk Farm.
Sun May 19. Free.

BUY Photographica

Treat your selfie and snap up a proper camera at this photography fair.

→ Royal Horticultural Halls.
☉ St James's Park.
Sun May 19. £5-£8.

No plans? Not any more.
timeout.com/thingstodo

GO
BEATS NO
EVERY TIME



NEW



PROTEIN PACKED SNACKS

GO DOESN'T WAIT FOR READY OR GET SET,
GO'S ALREADY GONE, GO GOES FOR IT.

GO ASKS 'WHAT'S NEXT?'
BECAUSE GO IS A CHOICE.
AND GO DOESN'T CHOOSE TO SNOOZE,
LET A HANGOVER HANG OVER THEM,
OR DIP A TOE. GO DIVES IN!
PREFERS MOUNTAINS TO MEMBERSHIPS
AND IS SO FAR FROM THE SOFA
YOU CAN'T EVEN SEE IT!
GO BEATS NO EVERY TIME.

SO IF YOU CHOOSE GO,
GET OUT THERE AND GO.

NEW



PROTEIN PACKED SNACKS



Ready for the big reveal? This is your chance to win a trip to Argentina

If you like the idea of getting on a plane and heading for sunny South America, then it's time to tell Trivento about your personal 'bold discoveries'...

Ever signed up to a charity skydive and realised that you actually quite like hurling yourself out of a plane? Or found yourself lost at a music festival with no means of communication only to discover that you actually prefer your own company to that of your friends? Well, Argentinian winemakers Trivento want to celebrate these mini revelations by sending you across the world.

It's all part of Trivento championing 'bold discoveries', because that's what their winemaking expertise is built on.

They want to hear all about your own experiences – those times when you did something audacious and unusual and unlocked something in yourself that you didn't realise existed. And no, it doesn't have to involve festivals or contemplating your own mortality from 12,500 feet.

If you're picked as one of the top three, you'll meet your fellow finalists at a London location for some promo shots. Then the competition will really heat up. A public vote will help decide the winner, who will win a trip (for two, FYI) to Argentina and get the story

of their own 'bold discovery' turned into a short film.

Oh, and as a little extra treat, Trivento are offering entrants the chance to win a case of Trivento Reserve Malbec during each day of the competition entry period. So even if you don't win the holiday, you might just get to enjoy some delicious – and free – vino. *Salud!*

So, ready for an adventure? Enter at www.triventobolddiscoveries.com, pack your sunnies, check your passports are in date and find that four-leaf clover. Good luck, globetrotters!



BODEGA
TRIVENTO
ARGENTINA

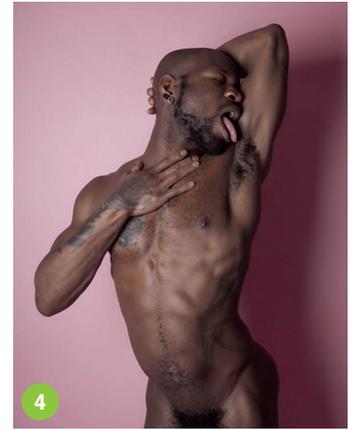
Enjoy Responsibly
drinkaware.co.uk for the facts

→ Entries are open until May 31 2019. For full terms and conditions head to www.triventobolddiscoveries.com

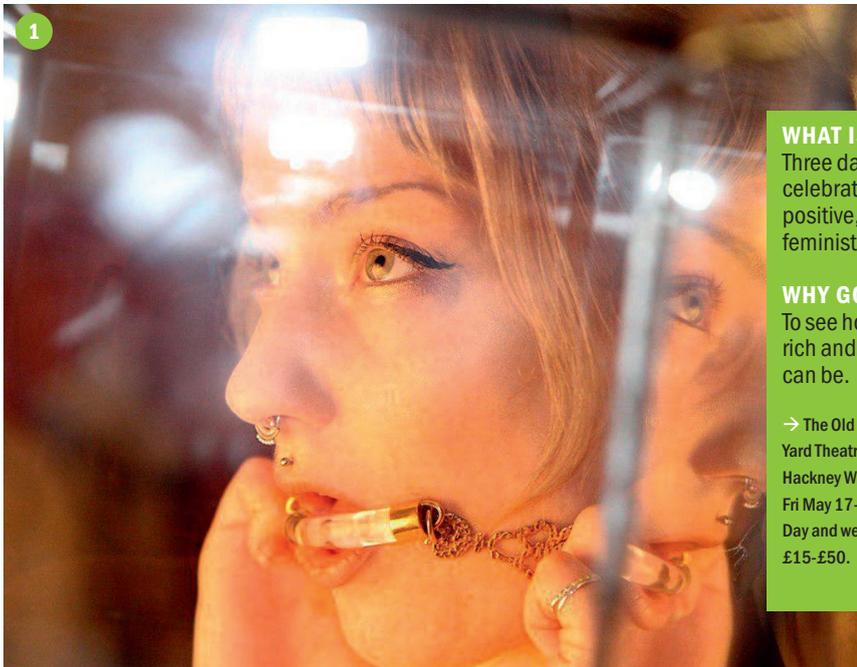
PREVIEW

Uncensored Festival

Filmmaker and fem porn director Lidia Ravviso tells us why she co-founded a sex-positive festival



1. Vex Ashley 'Four Chambers'
2. Marnie Scarlet by Alistair Veryard
3. Ole Ege 'Pornografi - En Musical'
4. Bishop Black by Yuliang-Liu
5. Fluida Wolf by Alessandro Amici



WHAT IS IT?

Three days of events celebrating sex-positive, queer and feminist porn.

WHY GO?

To see how amazingly rich and diverse porn can be.

→ The Old Baths, The Yard Theatre and Hub67. Hackney Wick Overground. Fri May 17-Sun May 19. Day and weekend passes £15-£50.

Tell us about Uncensored Festival.

Lidia Ravviso: 'It's a three-day immersive experience showcasing just how broad and diverse pornography is. More than 30 artists, sex practitioners and activists from the UK and abroad are involved in our programme of film events, performances, workshops, talks and a mixed-media exhibition.'

What does a 'sex-positive' festival actually mean?

'It means letting people experience their sexuality in a culture of openness and consent. We want visitors to feel safe to discuss the complexities of pornography and experiment with their interest in erotica.'

What are your personal highlights?

'We're presenting two film premieres: a documentary on

female pleasure produced and directed by Erika Lust – one of the biggest independent makers of feminist porn in Europe, and a short film by Shu Lea Cheang, who will be representing Taiwan at the Venice Biennale. There'll also be talks from Vex Ashley, creator of the amazing [adult film project] "Four Chambers" and Itziar Bilbao Urrutia, a pornographer and dominatrix, who'll speak about pornography legislation with Myles Jackman, Britain's top obscenity lawyer.'

Why is a festival of pornography even needed?

'When I met the festival's co-founders, we shared concerns about the negative implications

of censorship has on the porn industry. In 2014, certain sexual acts were banned from being depicted in online adult content produced in the UK. Legislation keeps changing, which creates problems for independent porn producers, online sex workers and the public, who will eventually be asked to verify their age before accessing online porn. We wanted to counteract this and create a festival challenging what's offensive in pornography.'

Uncensored is happening after the London Porn Film Festival was forced to relocate due to complaints. What sort of reception have you had?

'We've had positive feedback from people unfamiliar with non-traditional pornography who are curious to learn more, and from the community fighting against censorship in porn.'

Why does porn remain so divisive?

'Many critics don't make a distinction between traditional porn – lacking ethical and cinematic values – and the adult cinema challenging this vision. I'm glad to see how many young and diverse pornographers are challenging traditional male-oriented adult entertainment.'

What's your response to the idea that 'feminist porn' is an oxymoron?

'We disagree with this viewpoint and it's a very old one. We're critical of sexism in the mainstream porn industry – a critique that would be impossible without feminism. But we don't dismiss pornography. We grew up watching porn, enjoying porn and consider it a very rich genre that gives a lot of space for artistic experimentation.' ■ Interview by Alexandra Sims

This is how we do it
timeout.com/thingstodo



Let your creativity soar!

Our latest run of events on the London Eye are all about capturing the city's best side. Here's everything you need to know before you snap up your tickets

Polish those lenses and sharpen those pencils – Time Out's Eye-Openers is back for another round of up-in-the-air action on the London Eye. And this time, it's all about sketching and snapping. That's right – after our latest sell-out run in April, we're taking over the Eye's capsules once more, for a series of sessions that are ideal for creative folk and Insta addicts.

Now, as artistic muses go, the London skyline during the summer is about as photogenic as you can get, and gliding above it during a half-hour rotation on the London Eye means you can admire the little stunner from a variety of interesting angles. So whether you're all about sunset hashtags or you like to make your mark with charcoal, ink and pen, all you have to do is pick your sesh, bag your ticket and go make some masterpieces.

Skyline Sketching

So huge and varied is the London skyline these days that you could easily spend half an hour deciding which bit to draw. That's why we've brought in the peeps from the London Drawing Group to help you see more and do more during your time in the sky. As a warm up, they'll introduce you to the idea of automatic drawing, where you make loose, flowing marks on your paper without thinking about form, and encourage you and your

fellow sketchers to work together on a multi-panel panorama. They'll also help you to focus your artist's eye and go beyond the figurative; using the juxtaposed shapes of skyscrapers and bridges to create abstract compositions. Of course, if you'd rather just draw a nice picture of Big Ben, that's fine too. *Jun 10, 11 and 14, £25.*

Golden Hour Photography

Keen to capture London at its absolute best? This is the one for you. Golden Hour, as any seasoned snapper will tell you, is the bit right before the sun sets where everything looks like something out of a Turner landscape or a ditty romcom or some other cultural masterpiece. As well as the opportunity to capture cityscapes full of dusky colours and long, dreamy shadows, booking this session means you'll also get expert tuition from a pro photographer, who'll show you how to make the most of the ideal shooting conditions and offer simple practical tips like how to avoid glare when shooting through glass. You'll also learn how to set up your camera so there's no need to spend hours editing your pics to get them looking right. Yep, this could be the moment you finally find out what all those buttons and dials do. *Jun 12-14, £25.*





Phone Photography Masterclass

Listen – nobody ever broke the internet with a wonky, out-of-focus, blown-out selfie with a bit of Westminster Bridge in the background. No, if you're going to challenge A-listers for Instagram likes, you'll want to take some tips from the pros and get your phone photography on point. Designed for anyone with a smartphone in their pocket (you, then), sessions are led by one of two professionals with tons of followers – art director Matt

Inwood and mobile photography whizz Olly Lang – who'll show you how to make the most of camera features you might not even know you had, to get your cityscapes looking their very best. And because lighting conditions way up high can be a touch challenging, they'll also show you how to use photo-editing apps to sharpen up details, tone down highlights, balance colours and much more. Okay, so you won't be able to use #nofilter, but you should score a few more followers. Jun 10-13, £25.



→ Ready to get creative? For more information and to buy your tickets, head to www.timeout.com/eyeopeners

CULTURE



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TO DO

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EUROVISION

E Eurovision Party London

Expect things to get suitably trashy at the Rio cinema, which is laying on Eurotastic cocktails, Israeli nosh and a karaoke competition to celebrate the finale of the larger-than-life singing competition.

→ Rio Cinema. Dalston Kingsland Overground. Sat May 18. £18.

C Nordic Bar Eurovision Party

It's been 13 years since Finnish metallers Lordi won the ESC. Dance along to their tunes (and Abba's) at Fitzrovia's Nordic Bar.

→ Nordic Bar. ⊕ Goodge St. Sat May 18. £10 on the door only.

E Eurovision 2019 Two-Floor Screening Party at The Glory

LGBT+ superpub The Glory goes all out for Eurovision, describing the annual song contest as 'gay Christmas'. Expect massive screens, live acts and the chance to dance till 3am.

→ The Glory. Haggerston Overground. Sat May 18. Free before 7pm, £10 after.

C Lady Lloyd's Eurovision Party

One of Soho's most beloved drag queens brings her annual knees-up to Ku Bar's basement again. She'll be belting out Eurovision hits (and not quite hits) before the main event.

→ Ku Bar & Club. ⊕ Leicester Square. Sat May 18. Free entry.

E The Water Poet Eurovision Party

The Water Poet may be no more, but this legendary party lives on at sister spot The Crown and Shuttle. As is tradition, it's fancy dress. This year's theme is 'toys' – in honour of 2018 winner Netta's song 'Toy'.

→ The Crown and Shuttle. Shoreditch High St Overground. Sat May 18. Free entry.

C Eurovision Party Waterloo

Where better to hold a Eurovision party than Waterloo, the (spiritual) site of Abba's 1974 European victory? Head down to The Windmill for drinks, confetti and score-guessing, plus there'll be prizes!

→ The Windmill. ⊕ Waterloo. Sat May 18. Free entry.

Advertisement feature

Five reasons why you need to visit Cambridge

Keen to escape the city? Get out and explore the east of England by train



Seen all that London has to offer? Here are five reasons why we think you should drop everything and head to historic Cambridge. Plus, thanks to Greater Anglia, you can get advance one-way fares from just £8* from London Liverpool Street – so there's really no reason not to.

1. Punting on the River Cam

It's the done thing in Cambridge, so hop on board and assume pole position. Wanna couple up? Bag two-for-one punting at www.greateranglia.co.uk/punt.

2. The Fitzwilliam Museum

At this famous museum of art and antiquities, you'll get to gawp at incredible

objects from across the globe. And it's totally free.

3. Cambridge Wine Merchants

We love a boozy break and Cambridge Wine Merchants is the toast of the town. Head there to sip, swill and slosh your way through the finest grape juice.

4. Botanic Garden

It's owned by Cambridge Uni and you can meander through its 40 acres of gloriously green, lush foliage. Horticultural heaven.

5. Kettle's Yard

Quaint and cosy, this homely art gallery is lovingly curated and will have you marvelling at the modern and contemporary works on show. Recently renovated, it looks ace too.

→ Visit www.greateranglia.co.uk/daysout to find two-for-one and great-value train fares from London Liverpool Street

greateranglia



*Advance fares are subject to availability for nominated trains, one way.

LNDR

WAREHOUSE SALE

May 2019

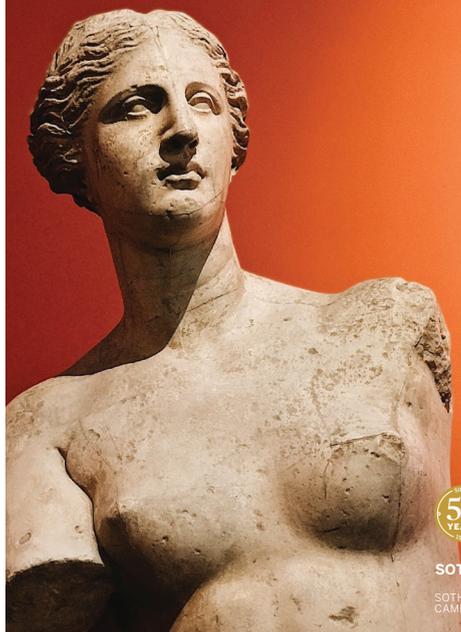
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PARTIES

S Coconut Funk

You'd have to be coco loco to miss LGBT+ par-tay specialist Fruité's Coconut Shy shindig at Peckham's Tola. South-east London local Natalie Sandi will be bringing some juicy house and disco gems to proceedings. This night's renowned for its all-inclusive atmosphere and friendly vibes.

→ Tola. Peckham Rye Overground. Fri May 17. £8.

S Urban Village Fête

This modern update of a traditional British fair returns to Greenwich Peninsula with hands-on Aardman claymation workshops, a market featuring cookies and artisanal jams, and music courtesy of DJ Gilles Peterson and the Jazz Re:Freshed team.

→ Greenwich Peninsula. North Greenwich. Sun May 19. Free entry.

FOLIAGE

E London Plant Swap

If you're tired of terrariums and bored of bonsais, this market's for you. Bring along as many plants as you can carry and swap 'em for leaves belonging to fellow green-fingered Londoners, so you can go home with the greenery of your dreams. Loads of lovely plants will be available to buy, too, and for a bit extra you can take part in a staghorn fern-mounting workshop (we don't know what that means either).

→ Benk + Bo. Aldgate East. Sat May 18. £10-£35.

FLEA MARKETS

C Flea at Vinegar Yard

Formerly Flea at Flat Iron Square, this weekly vintage and makers' market has moved to Vinegar Yard in SE1, bringing its heaps of antiques, clothing, homeware, books, bikes and cameras with it. It's a veritable hunting ground for treasures and pre-loved artefacts – and if you can't make it this weekend, you can visit its range of pop-up shops, open every weekday.

→ Vinegar Yard. London Bridge. Sat May 18-Sun May 19. Free entry.

E Hackney Flea Market

Anyone who wants their flat to look like a spread from a 1970s interior design mag, or has a penchant for browsing second-hand bric-à-brac, will feel right at home wandering among the tables at Hackney Flea Market, where an eclectic taste is key. If you're on the lookout for costume jewellery, vintage fabrics, old maps and salvaged furniture, this is the right place for you.

→ Abney Public Hall. Stoke Newington Overground. Sat May 18-Sun May 19. Free.

JOIN IN

C Postcard Painting Along the Thames

Unleash your inner JMW Turner on this guided walk, where you'll begin by taking in some of the artwork (including those by the man himself) at Tate Britain. Feeling inspired, you'll then head to the river to create your own atmospheric masterpieces. Leave with a set of self-made postcards to send to your closest friends or (depending on the quality) your worst enemies.

→ Starts at Tate Britain. Pimlico. Sat May 18. £40.

S Roll for Mind Board Game Night

Roll on down to this ace collaboration between mental health charity Mind and the South London Board Games Club. You can lay down as big a charitable donation as you want on the door to spend the evening playing a huge selection of board games until your stubborn, bullish competitiveness means no one wants to play with you any more. It's BYO food and drink (including alcohol), too.

→ The Hub, Ugly Duck. Bermondsey. Tue May 14. Free, donations welcome.

EXCLUSIVE

We've got a bunch of tickets saving you up to 30 percent on some ace gigs at Camden's much-loved **Jazz Cafe**. Get involved from just £8.75 a pop – it'd be rude not to.

TIMEOUT.COM/JAZZCAFE19

More swaps, shops and bops at
timeout.com/thingstodo

Film

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



FIRST LOOK

Summer Screen

We've been given an exclusive first look at this year's Film4 Somerset House Summer Screen line-up – and it's a doozy

THERE ARE FEW things more summery than watching a movie under the stars – ideally while plying yourself, Dude-like, with indulgent beverages. And few open-air cinema spots can rival Somerset House's Summer Screen for grandeur. The just-announced line-up scrubs up pretty well too.

Pain and Glory Aug 8

Pedro Almodóvar debuts his hotly tipped new drama. It stars honorary Londoner Antonio Banderas (he studied at Central Saint Martins, donchaknow) and promises a night of heady passions.

Black Panther Aug 9

Wakanda is coming to the West End, with Marvel's thunderous action movie likely to dislodge any loose tiles in the postcode.

Wild at Heart + Mandy Aug 10

This Nicolas Cage double bill will span the whole Cage spectrum: from a bit out-there to batshit demented. This will. Be. AN. Awesome. NIGHT!

The Princess Bride Aug 11

Would you really miss seeing Buttercup, Westley and co again in this romantic spot? Inconceivable.

The Matrix Aug 12

The ultimate crowd-pleasing sci-fi. There'll be a DJ set for anyone who wants to go all 'Matrix Reloaded'.

God's Own Country Aug 13

Set in Yorkshire, this tough-but-tender love story has a big heart and an important message.

This Is England Aug 14

Shane Meadows's '80s-set drama is a bona-fide, TV-series-spawning masterpiece.

Straight Outta Compton Aug 15

This hip hop origin story will deliver big performances and courtyard-shaking beats.

Before Sunrise + Before Sunset Aug 16

The ultimate will-they/won't-they romance.

Get Out + They Live Aug 17

This cracking double-bill for horror fans pairs the master (John Carpenter) with his heir (Jordan Peele).

Clueless Aug 18

Still a totally, like, quotable joy, this giddy high-school comedy is Jane Austen with valet parking. Miss it? Ugh, as if.

Reservoir Dogs Aug 19

Quentin Tarantino's iconic heist movie follows the Misters (Pink, Orange, Blonde, Bump and Tickle) as they steal diamonds, shoot all the guns and yak in a caff about Madonna.

The Piano Aug 20

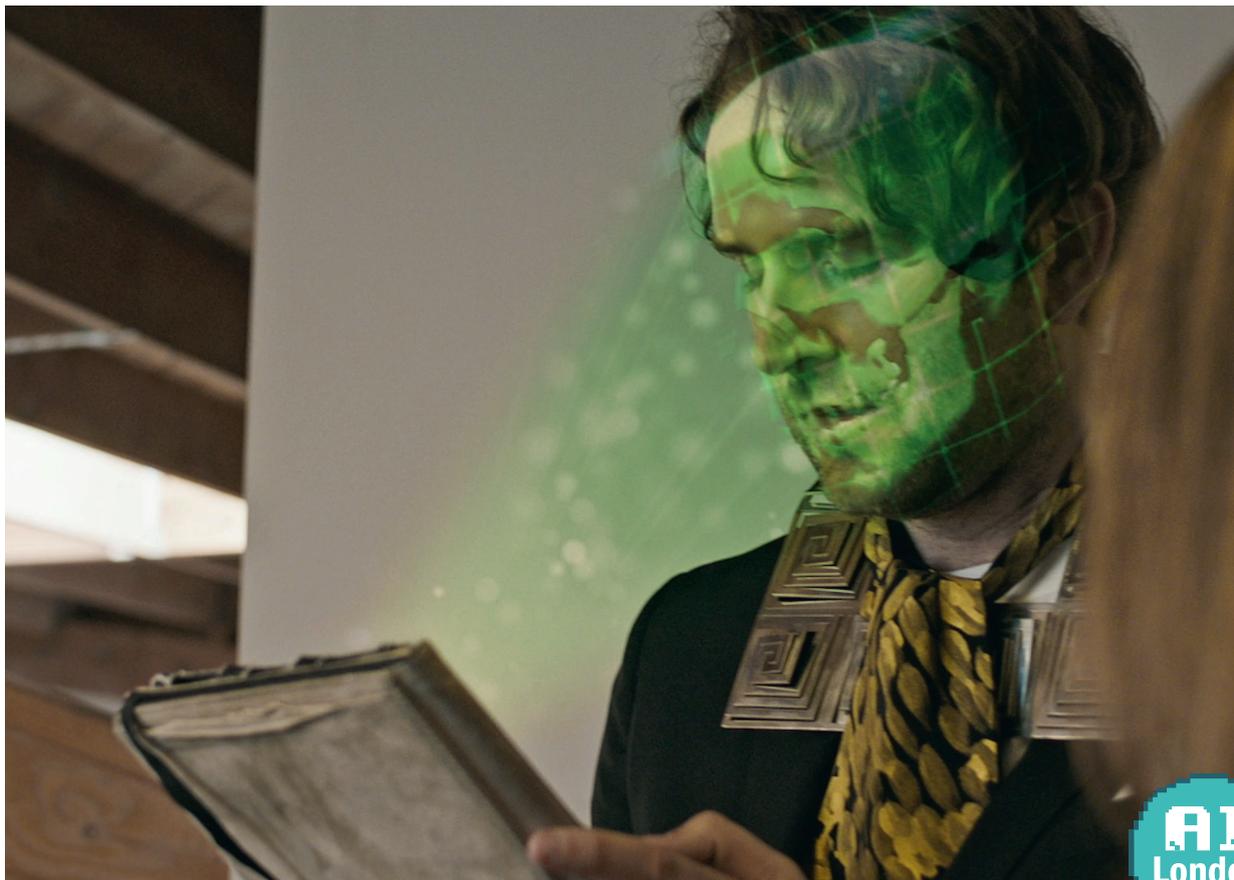
This quiet epic from Jane Campion delivers windswept vistas, big emotions and stonking performances from Oscar-winner Holly Hunter and Harvey Keitel.

Inna De Yard Aug 21

The closing-night screening is a reggae 'Buena Vista Social Club' that promises ace tunes and mellow vibes. ■

→ Film4 Summer screen runs Aug 8-21. Head to www.somersetthouse.org.uk to book tickets.





The curious case of 'Benjamin'

Thanks to one British filmmaker, there's now an AI that writes screenplays. But as *Sophie Monks Kaufman* discovers, Oscars are unlikely to follow soon

STRUGGLING WITH HIS latest screenplay, filmmaker Oscar Sharp took a leftfield approach to solving his writer's block: he invented an AI to do the writing for him. The Brit had moved to LA to cut his teeth as a Hollywood screenwriter in 2016, only to fall into a depressed funk. At a low ebb, he heard from a friend, 'tech-wizard' Ross Goodwin, who'd pioneered a machine – then known as 'Jetson' – that could write poetry. What if it could turn out a script too? The pair fed it hundreds of science-fiction scripts, including 'Alien', 'Blade Runner' and '2001: A Space Odyssey', turning the screenplay that emerged into a nine-minute short called 'Sunspring'. It debuted at the Sci-Fi London film festival, with 'Jetson' surprising audience members during a Q&A by spontaneously announcing that its name was actually Benjamin.

Benjamin, née Jetson, is a code that operates a bit like your phone's predictive text. To start writing, it needs 'input data': scripts and opening

prompts. From there, it comes up with letter-by-letter guesses informed by the most commonly used letter formations in the input data. Sharp and Goodwin could increase the randomness of these guesses by 'turning up the temperature' on the code.

So what's it like watching a film written by Benjamin? Two minutes into 'Sunspring' my brain starts to ache from the effort of trying to make sense of dialogue (Woman: 'I don't want to be honest with you.' Man: 'You don't have to be a doctor.'). It's a brain-bending soup of non-sequiturs – and not in the good, David Lynch way where someone eventually turns out to be a mysterious cowboy. Dressed in shiny space-wear, the actors muster enough gravitas to almost transcend the gibberish, but it's still a slightly baffling watch.

If Benjamin wasn't born with Aaron Sorkin-like gifts, it's evolving rapidly. In 2017 it penned 'It's No Game', a very silly meta-text that draws on

excerpts of Benjamin scripts trained on a heady stew of Shakespeare, Sorkin and Hollywood Golden Age screenplays, plus David Hasselhoff dialogue. Then came 'Zone Out', in which visuals were added to the input data. Two '60s sci-fi movies were fed in, with the mouths of the 'Sunspring' actors transposed on to the mouths of the old cast to recite the new dialogue.

So, should screenwriters pack up their typewriters in anticipation of a wave of genius AI scripts flooding Hollywood? Well, no. 'Machines desperately need us to connect with each other emotionally in order to exist,' says Sharp, adding that the main application of AI in Hollywood is as a data-crunching tool on movies' profitability. A further Benjamin upgrade is in the works but it's hard to foresee a near-future of killer screenplays written this way. It'll be some time before an AI needs to write an Oscar acceptance speech. ■

→ Sci-Fi London Film Festival runs Wed May 15-May 22 at the Prince Charles Cinema and Stratford Picturehouse.

John Wick: Chapter 3 – Parabellum



WHAT IS IT...
Another outing for Keanu Reeves's sharp-suited hitman.

WHY GO...
For about 700 breathtakingly choreographed dust-ups.

→ Director Chad Stahelski (15) 131 mins.



THAT LATIN WORD translates as 'prepare for war', though in these glorious gun-fu movies, the war is already here. The franchise's slick assassin John Wick is fast becoming Keanu Reeves's definitive role, and he's never more effective than when he's on the move – which is often in another outing that marries 'Matrix' thrills with John Woo action beats.

The thugs who killed his dog in the first film are long gone, but there are plenty more to take down, even if the supporting cast – Ian McShane's hotel proprietor, Lawrence Fishburne's underworld boss, Halle Berry as a lady with a pack of vicious hounds – mostly stay out of his way.

What we're really here for is the dazzling fight scenes, the work of director Chad Stahelski, Reeves's long-time stunt double and choreographer. The bloodletting is delirious. A closed Manhattan Bridge hosts a sword duel on motorbikes. Put Wick on a horse and he's more of a menace than John Wayne on a grouchy day. In one fight, so many knives are flung, a corpse ends up as a pin cushion. This is a fever dream of an action movie: you'll emerge from it blissfully punch-drunk. ■ *Joshua Rothkopf*

Birds of Passage



WHAT IS IT...
A 'Narcos'-like saga set on the Colombian coast in the '60s and '70s.

WHY GO...
For a mesmerising and transporting drug epic like no other.

→ Directors Cristina Gallego and Ciro Guerra (15) 126 mins.



EVEN IF YOU'VE seen a hundred drug epics, you've never seen quite one like Colombia's 'Birds of Passage'. It has the clammy fixations of 'Scarface' (drugs, guns, cash, bigger guns), the eerie glaze of 'Aguirre'-era Herzog and a bit of acid western thrown in, but it's also defiantly its own thing: a languid ride filled with odd omens that suddenly jags off in unexpected directions.

It follows Rapayet (José Acosta), a sleepily impassive member of the Wayúu people on the country's Caribbean coast. Sparked by a chance meeting with weed-craving American gringos, he evolves over two decades into a drug baron, accruing power and bringing violence to his clan. But his glassy inertia – Scarface, he isn't – allows more ruthless players to move into his space and it's here that 'Birds of Passage' explodes into bloodletting on a near-Shakespearean scale.

Ciro Guerra, who co-directs with Cristina Gallego, was behind 2015's spellbinding 'Embrace of the Serpent' and while this is a less trippy experience, it's just as plugged in to the friction caused when grasping modernity is injected into the bloodstream of an ancient culture. It's also a morality play about how violence mutilates even the most enduring ways of life, giving its more visceral thrills a guilty edge. Leave your expectations at the door. ■ *Phil de Semlyen*

FROM THE ACADEMY AWARD® WINNING PRODUCERS OF MOONLIGHT & 12 YEARS A SLAVE



“Steve Carell & Timothée Chalamet are outstanding”

The Skinny



The Telegraph



The Independent



Culture Whisper

“An emotional powerhouse... impossible to forget”

Rolling Stone



Time Out



Little White Lies



Empire

Academy Award® Nominee Academy Award® Nominee

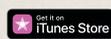
Steve Carell Timothée Chalamet Maura Tierney & Amy Ryan

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Screenplay by LUKE DAVIES and FELIX VAN GROENINGEN
Directed by FELIX VAN GROENINGEN

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JOHN WICK: MARK ROGERS; BIRDS OF PASSAGE: EMANUELE ROJAS

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HEADS UP Cannes Film Festival

The famous old film jamboree kicks off this week. Here are six things to look out for...

CANNES IS ABOUT huge yachts, smartypants films and people trying to figure out which Dardenne brother is which, right? Wrong. Well, wrong-ish (there are some huge yachts). The grand movie fest returns this week with a ton of exciting films and at least the start of a bright new agenda. Here's what to look out for.

1 A Jim Jarmusch zombie movie

The US arthouse maverick opens the fest with 'The Dead Don't Die', a post-apocalyptic yarn with a killer cast (Tilda Swinton, Bill Murray, Adam Driver, Chloë Sevigny, Tom Waits) and an army of zombies. What's French for 'braaaains'?

2 Quentin Tarantino's LA epic

After months of rumours, it's official: Tarantino is back at Cannes with his new movie, the 1969-set 'Once Upon a Time in Hollywood'. It's been 25 years since he won the Palme d'Or for 'Pulp Fiction'. Can he do it again?

3 The return of Terrence Malick

The enigmatic Texan auteur has had a quiet few years but he's finally finished his latest film, 'A Hidden Life', and will be unveiling it on the Croisette. Expect it to feature more sun-dappled wheatfields than Theresa May's last bender.



4 More female filmmakers (but not many)

Last year's festival was marked by a red carpet protest from 82 high-profile women highlighting Cannes' poor representation of female filmmakers. It still has a way to go with its #MeToo credentials: only 12 of its official selection films are directed by women this year – just 28 percent.

5 Fallen heroes

Director Asif Kapadia's last two docs – 'Senna' and 'Amy' – were breathtaking, emotional character studies. His latest subject, '80s football superstar and all-round tabloid baddie Diego Maradona, promises much more of the same when it debuts in Cannes. But will the man himself turn up for a kickabout?

6 Glory for Pedro Almodóvar

The Spanish filmmaker has never won a Palme d'Or (though he's won for Best Director and Best Screenplay), but 'Pain and Glory' could just break his duck. It's a heart-filled, semi-autobiographical story of a filmmaker rueing past wounds. We'd like to think that, in a meta twist, this will include the lack of a Palme d'Or. ■ *Phil de Semlyen and Dave Calhoun*
→ The 72nd Cannes Film Festival runs Tue May 14-May 25.

FROM THE FILMMAKERS OF EMBRACE OF THE SERPENT



IN CINEMAS & ON DEMAND FRIDAY • CURZON.COM/BIRDSOFPASSAGE

WHAT I KNOW ABOUT Rave culture

'Beats' writer-director Brian Welsh on recreating the mid-'90s free party boom

'BEATS' DIRECTOR Brian Welsh is nursing a sore head. 'I stupidly agreed to put on a dance party after each screening in every city,' says the 38-year-old Scotsman. Luckily, these nocturnal manoeuvres are second nature: his new film is rooted in his own rave-going youth. He shares his memories of his rave-whistle-blowing days.

It was life-changing

'I'd just started high school when the first Prodigy album came along. It sounded like it was from fucking outer space. It's fed into everything I've done in my life since – the rave scene had a DIY ethic that's informed my filmmaking.'

It's really tough to film

'It's hard when everyone has to pretend to dance without music [to record the dialogue]. That's why we put on a big rave for the film. We didn't call "cut", we just worked around the crowd with the actors. The ravers were blissfully unaware.'

People danced differently back then

'We made a training video of '90s dancing for the extras. People dance very differently now: it's a lot more Glastonbury-like, with everyone facing the DJ and people capturing things on social media.'



'Beats'

The visuals were as important as the tunes

'From 1988 to 1994, when the film takes place, there was a lot happening in video art. I worked with a guy called Weirdcore [Nicky Smith] who does visuals for the Aphex Twin and MIA. He took a lot of Super 8 footage shot back in '94 and fucked about with that.'

It had an edge

'There was such moral panic across Middle England around the rave scene. Some of these events were out of control, like [illegal 1992 rave] Castlemorton, but there was a malicious attempt to take our civil liberties away via the Criminal Justice Public Order Act. That same piece of legislation was recently used against Extinction Rebellion.'

It's not over yet

'After the Criminal Justice Act, everything was brought into clubs and taxed, but there's still shit happening. There was a big party down in Dorset that got broken up last month. I live in Cornwall now and there are always people who disappear for a couple of days, then come back and say: "I was at this large rave up in the hills." Where there's a will, there's a way.' ■

Interview by Dan Jolin

Beats



ALSO OPENING

WHAT IS IT...

A love letter to mid-'90s rave culture.

WHY GO...

For a hands-in-the-air joyride.

→ Director Brian Welsh (18) 101 mins.

IT FEELS SUPERFICIAL to compare 'Beats' to 'Trainspotting': it's Scottish, it's the mid-'90s, it's young tearaways, it's drugs. But it's the sensory impact too – 'Beats' bottles a very similar brand of lightning to Danny Boyle's film, consistently exploding with energy and emotion.

'Beats' is about brotherhood between two best friends but also among an entire culture. Directed by Brian Welsh, and co-written by him and Kieran Hurley (adapted from the latter's play), it introduces 15-year-old Johnno (Cristian Ortega) and his downtrodden, unhinged pal Spanner (Lorn Macdonald). With Spanner's life about to crush him, their plan to have the night of their life at an illegal warehouse rave is a literal as well as mental escape. On a more macro level, the fun-hating Criminal Justice Act is about to crush the whole scene.

While never deviating from its brilliant young stars, 'Beats' is a tribute to the rave revolution, communicating via its emotion, sounds and a hefty whack of psychedelic visuals exactly what it felt like. It's miraculously authentic – the pill-popping centrepiece is the heavenly answer to the LSD hell of Gaspar Noé's 'Climax'. But it's all about the people. Bar a needless eleventh-hour plot contrivance, 'Beats' hits all the right notes: an ode not just to human gatherings but to youth itself. It's absolutely a period piece (heightened by being in black and white), but its humanity is ageless, serving up an irresistible amount of thrills, spills and jaw-aches. ■ Alex Godfrey



TUCKED →



For a film named after an act of gender subversion, there's not that much exploration of sexual identity in Jamie Patterson's Brighton-set odd-couple drama. 'Tucked' contorts itself to assure us that terminally ill drag queen Jackie (Derren Nesbitt) is a straight man, and squanders the chance to speak to a wider audience in the process. Jordan Stephens, of Rizzle Kicks fame, is great as Faith, the up-and-coming non-binary queen Jackie meets at work. A more ambitious film would have told Faith's story as well as Jackie's. *Cathy Brennan*



AGAINST THE TIDES



If you thought swimming the Channel was a feat, wait until you hear about Oceans Seven: a marathon swimming challenge that takes in seven terrifying open-sea channels. This doc follows single mum Beth French as she attempts to complete it. What drives someone to take to shark-infested waters and swim for hours on end? For

Beth, her young son, who might be on the autistic spectrum, is a motivation – but is it just driving them apart? The swimming is engrossing, even if Beth herself remains a mystery. *Dave Calhoun*

DR STRANGELOVE OR: HOW I LEARNED TO STOP WORRYING AND LOVE THE BOMB



Catch Stanley Kubrick's blackly comic masterpiece on the big screen. Terry Southern's script offers an ageless marriage of technology, human stupidity and nervous laughs as Cold War paranoia hastens the world to nuclear doom. Glorious but still scary. *Timothy Sortie*

Music & Nightlife

Edited by Oliver Keens
timeout.com/music @timeoutmusic

Meltdown 2019 is GO!

Nile Rodgers is the curator of the Southbank Centre's annual music fest. Here's who the songwriting legend has assembled so far...

Nile Rodgers & Chic

Aug 3, Royal Festival Hall

Surely the jewel in the shiny Meltdown glitterball is this performance by Nile Rodgers's all-conquering band, Chic. Though the band are known for being stalwart festival headliners, always packing a cavalcade of Nile-related hits, this show is going to be a little different according to the organisers. Here's hoping they do plenty of Chic's lesser-known gems, of which there are frankly an obscene amount!

A Night of Studio 54

Aug 3, Queen Elizabeth Hall Foyer

On the same night as Chic's opening set, there'll be a recreation of legendary-glamour playground Studio 54. The foyer of the Southbank Centre will play host to a tribe of go-go dancers and original Studio DJs including Jellybean Benitez.

Thundercat

Aug 4, RFH

Much like the eponymous animated felines, LA's sonic wizard Thundercat is a glorious amalgamation. Fusing bubbling modern funk,

R&B, punk and more, he's become one of his generation's most lauded talents. Catch him at the Royal Festival Hall for his only European show of the year.

Kokoroko

Aug 5, QEH

London afrobeat octet Kokoroko might be the newest young bucks on the bill, but they're already more lit than a birthday cake. Gilles Peterson put single 'Abusey Junction' on his label Brownswood Recordings' mixtape at the start of last year; since then, the track's racked up nearly 30 million plays. Don't sit on this lot.





Anitta



Songhoy Blues

Despacio



Kyle Dixon and Michael Stein



Kokoroko

ALLOU TOURE: ANDREW MACCOLL/REX; SHUTTERSTOCK; ANITTA: THIAGO AUGÉ DIGITAL RETOUCHING STUDIO

Anitta

Aug 6, RFH

Multi-award-winning pop star Anitta has stormed her way to the top of the Brazilian music scene, breaking records across Latin America like it ain't no thang. And, she's still only 26: take that, T-Swifty. Join her 13.5 million Facebook fans and give her a 'like' at the Royal Festival Hall.

Durand Jones & The Indications

Aug 6, QEH

Close your eyes and you could be listening to the lost cousins of Smokey Robinson, Al Green or any of soul's most heartbreaking hitmakers. But nope, DJ and the gang are in fact five twentysomething lads who met at Indiana University. Confusing? Yep. Brilliant? Also yep. Expect them to fill the Queen Elizabeth Hall with lashings of love and soul.

Kyle Dixon and Michael Stein perform music from 'Stranger Things'

Aug 7, RFH

Love the weird and wonderful soundtrack to Netflix smash 'Stranger Things' but could do without a gaggle of pre-teens running around reminding you of your own sad mortality? Composers Kyle 'n' Mike will be performing the music from the telly, complete with a neon light show and not a baseball-capped child star in sight. Sweet relief.

Alfa Mist

Aug 7, QEH

In recent years, the London leftfield jazz scene has gone from an underground niche to an increasingly buzzy concern. Catch one of its rising stars, pianist and producer Alfa Mist, who'll be bringing this year's 'Structuralism' LP to Meltdown.

Despacio

Aug 9-10, RFH Clore Ballroom

Now this *will* be a treat. Despacio is a sporadic party run by James Murphy from LCD Soundsystem and Soulwax brothers Dave and Stef Dewaele. It involves low lighting, an ornate audiophile speaker set-up (that surrounds the dancefloor) and frankly gorgeous slow disco songs played by the trio for 500 people each night. On vinyl only, natch.

Eurythmics Songbook

Aug 9, RFH

'Sweet Dreams', 'There Must Be An Angel', 'Here Comes the Rain Again'. Even if you don't think you're a connoisseur of '80s titans Eurythmics, chances are you'll have more than few of these hits burned deep into your brain already. Dave Stewart will be joined for this show by an all-star cast of guests to give those old faves a new lease of life.

SOPHIE

Aug 10, RFH

Producer extraordinaire Sophie struck out on her own with hugely acclaimed debut 'Oil Of Every Pearl's Un-Insides' last year. Since then, her live shows have been as infrequent as they are impressive; don't miss a rare chance to immerse yourself in her extrasensory world.

Songhoy Blues

Aug 11, RFH

Nile knows that you've got to end a celebration with a bang – hence his invitation to Malian desert-rock troupe Songhoy Blues to close the festival. Expect gnarly riffs, deep grooves and the joyous atmosphere of a Glastonbury afternoon transported to the Southbank. ■ *Oliver Keens and Lisa Wright*

→ Tickets go on sale Tue May 14. www.southbankcentre.co.uk/meltdown



Actress Alfie Templeman The Black Madonna
Bonobo dj Boy Azooga Celeste Channel Tres
Charlotte Adigéry Courtesy Death Grips
Deerhunter Denis Sulta Diplo DJ Seinfeld
Earl Sweatshirt Eclair Fifi Erol Alkan
Fall Forward Femi Kuti FLOHIO
George FitzGerald Grainger HAAi HÆLOS
HOMESHAKE Jessica Winter John Talabot
Jorja Smith JPEGMAFIA Julia Holter
Jungle Jvck James Kelly Lee Owens
Kojey Radical LEON VYNEHALL
Lost Souls of Saturn live Mahalia Mall Grab
Marie Davidson live The Mauskovic Dance Band
Maya Jane Coles presents Nocturnal Sunshine
Mella Dee Methyl Ethel Modeselektor live
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WHAT'S THE DEAL WITH

Chai



Okay, hit me – who's this awesomely colourful lot?

Chai are Mana, Kana, Yuki and Yuna. They're four women from Nagoya, Japan on a mission to bring their *neo-kawaii* message to the world through bright, optimistic indie-pop sung mostly in their native tongue.

And what exactly is 'neo-kawaii'?

It's the group's attempt to redefine the classic concept of *kawaii*, or the culture of cuteness. The band say the accepted definition of cute is too limiting and want to remove its boundaries to reflect their belief

It's a sugar-fuelled rebellion that's determined to make a change

that, really, everyone is cute, despite society's accepted norms.

I love them already. How exactly are they achieving this?

Their message permeates their music in songs like 'Curly Adventure', which encourages listeners to accept and love who they are, and 'Fashionista', which places individual style over following trends and trying to fit in. This isn't a new direction for them. In 2017, on the track 'N.E.O.', they railed against oppressive beauty standards, declaring that the 'fat legs' and

'small eyes' criticised by the wider world are actually okay.

They're hardly the first band to spread that message, though.

Of course not. But with some artists, that kind of content can feel like hollow zeitgeist-chasing. With Chai, it feels like a sugar-fuelled rebellion that's as celebratory as it is determined to make a change.

Okay, I'm almost sold, but what do they actually sound like?

There's definitely a super-sweet vibe but they're more than a one-trick bubblegum-blowing pony. In interviews they cite influences as diverse as Basement Jaxx, Devo and Gorillaz, while on latest album 'Punk' you can hear bits of Tom Tom Club, Le Tigre, Hinds, Blur and more. In short, Chai are a fizzing treat that will have you grinning from ear to ear. ■ *Rhian Daly*
→ Chai play Moth Club on Fri May 17. Hackney Central Overground.

GIGS AND CLUBS

Sister Sledge

The iconic girl group celebrate 40 years of their discotastic 'We Are Family' album with DJs Norman Jay MBE and Artwork.
→ Roundhouse. @ Chalk Farm. Sat May 18. £28-£45.

Jimmy Cliff

The reggae legend is playing a headline show in west London next week! It's a super-intimate venue, so everyone should see clearly (now).
→ Subterania. @ Ladbroke Grove. May 24. £50.

Big Dyke Energy

This female-focused 'big dyke rave' will have London legends Coco Cole and Jaye Ward serving tunes. Promoters promise all-female security, gender-neutral loos

and wheelchair access.
→ Venue MOT Unit 18. South Bermondsey rail. May 31. £7.

Kim Petras

The German pop princess who's worked with avant-garde producer Sophie and Paris Hilton (yes, really) has announced only her second-ever London headline show.
→ Omeara. @ Borough. Aug 27. Price tbc.

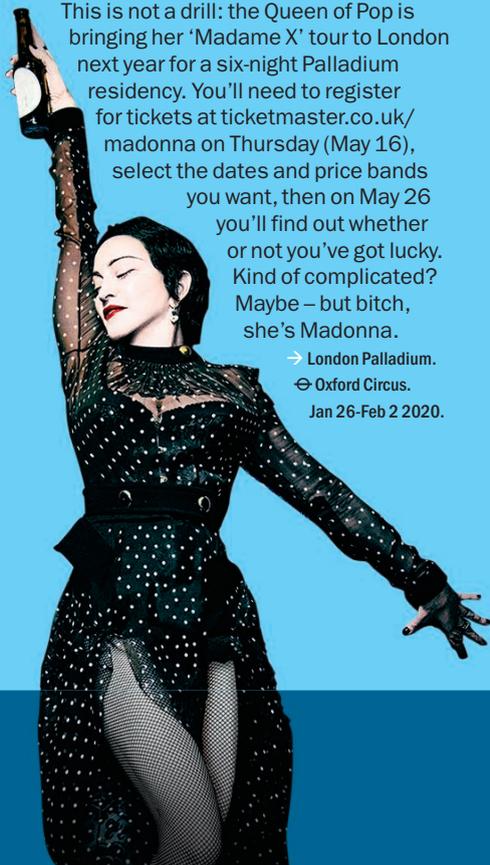
Mirrors Festival

This awesome one-dayer is moving from Hackney to Camden. The line-up is still super-sharp: Phoebe Bridgers headlines, with loads more acts playing across five stages at Camden Assembly, Dingwalls and the Roundhouse.
→ Various venues. @ Chalk Farm. Nov 2. Price tbc.

Madonna

This is not a drill: the Queen of Pop is bringing her 'Madame X' tour to London next year for a six-night Palladium residency. You'll need to register for tickets at ticketmaster.co.uk/madonna on Thursday (May 16), select the dates and price bands you want, then on May 26 you'll find out whether or not you've got lucky. Kind of complicated? Maybe – but bitch, she's Madonna.

→ London Palladium.
@ Oxford Circus.
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Carly Rae Jepsen in numbers

Hey, we just met you, and this is crazy, but Carly Rae Jepsen is back with a new album and London gig, so here's... some stats, compiled by *Kate Solomon*



→ Carly Rae Jepsen plays XOYO on May 29.

Theatre & Dance

Edited by Andrzej Lukowski
timeout.com/theatre @timeoutheatre

TIME OUT MEETS

The Wolf of Wall Street

A new immersive theatre show will take you inside the notorious world of Jordan Belfort



FORMER FINANCIER and ex-con Jordan Belfort lived a life of crazed, drug-addled excess in the '90s. He made millions of dollars, served 22 months in jail for fraud, then re-emerged, cleaned up, as a motivational speaker. His hyper-lurid 2007 memoir 'The Wolf of Wall Street' was a hit; Martin Scorsese's 2013 adaptation was an even bigger hit. Now it's just been announced that it's being made into an immersive theatre show, in which audiences will play new recruits to Belfort's company as the 'greed is good' dream starts to sour.

The reason there's a market for this show is that people secretly want a bit of your '90s lifestyle, surely?

'It's suspension of disbelief. I think people go because they want to experience something without having to live it. To get the high without having to do the drug, and not be screwed up afterwards. You don't go to watch the Avengers because you actually want Thanos blasting at you.'

It's key to the message of both the book and the show that you went a bit too far...

'A bit? I went *really* too far. If you buy into your own bullshit you go off on a very dangerous path and I did that.'

So this is kind of a morality story?

'Totally. It is. But let's not deny the fact that it was glamorous. It was fun to an extent. I think the problem when you put something in a box and say "it's bad" or "it's good" is that you take the message away of what it really is. Clearly there were some things just awful and terrible that I should never have done and that won't be repeated, but that doesn't mean I can't learn from it.'

You still owe people money, right?

'Yeah. Well, not to people. There's no more people. I pay money to a fund. But it's almost over.'

You started your memoirs in prison – did you know you had a good story?

'No! I remember thinking it was all perfectly normal what was going on, because you become desensitised to your own insanity. Admittedly when I started writing the book I was like: OH MY GOD. I couldn't believe it as it was unfolding on paper.'

Did you know you could write?

'I couldn't write! I taught myself by reading Tom Wolfe and Hunter S Thompson. I used those books as textbooks and I modelled them to make a strategy for writing and then I was able to write.'

The New York Times reported today that Donald Trump lost \$1bn in the mid-'80s to mid-'90s. Does that surprise you?

'That's old news. What's the secret to that? I knew him back then. I flew with Donald Trump in his helicopter. A lot of what happened with Trump was a symptom of the time, with massive debt being taken on by everyone. Listen, if he lost that much money and somehow still got rich then he did something right.'

Ever thought of entering politics?

'Never. Absolutely not. You know why? Because I'd probably be pretty good at it! But it's so evil, politics – they rip you to shreds!' ■

→ 'The Wolf of Wall Street' is at a TBA central London location. Sep 5-Jan 19 2020. £59.95.



By Andrzej Lukowski
Who is yet to make his first million.

MICHAEL WHARLEY



Death of a Salesman

★★★★★

LAST YEAR SUPER-DIRECTOR Marianne Elliott brilliantly rewired one great American classic: Stephen Sondheim's 'Company', which she refreshed for the twenty-first century by astutely gender-swapping the lead character.

Staged so that it centres on a black family, her revival of another American classic, Arthur Miller's 'Death of a Salesman' – co-directed with Miranda Cromwell – possibly doesn't redefine it to quite the same extent. Other directors have had the same casting idea. But it is a phenomenal production that unquestionably finds new depths in the play.

Certainly making struggling salesman Willy Loman African-American clarifies certain elements of the character, in the same way that making Bobby into Bobby did for 'Company'. Here played by US star Wendell Pierce, Willy's crippling inferiority complex and vocal mystification at why people take against him seem answered – he isn't just a terminal loser, but a man in denial about the fact he's been discriminated against his whole life because of his race. Never easy to watch, the scene in which Willy begs his young, white employer Howard for easier work is excruciating.

The idea of Willy as a victim of racism isn't something Elliott and

Cromwell follow through with absolute rigour. But it gives an extra dimension to Pierce's excellent Loman, who can appear hale, hearty and charismatic one minute and irrevocably damaged the next – he is a fuck-up, but he has been defeated by more than just his own shortcomings.

What really distinguishes the production, though, is the extraordinary sequences set in the depths of Willy's mind, his guilt-stricken reveries back to the high-school sporting glory days of favourite son Biff (Arinzé Kene), and his agonies over his fleeting connection with his own elder brother, Uncle Ben (Joseph Mydell). I have

literally never seen these bits done well before. But here they're staged with a kinetic Lynchian surrealism, the memory figures surrounding Willy sped up, heightened and jerky. He crashes from one reminiscence to another – sometimes with a near-indistinguishable intrusion from the present – falling through his own crumbling mind with a terrifyingly vertiginous pace as Anna Fleischle's dreamy, hypermobile set rises and falls around him. It's stunning.

Ultimately, the dreams are the ornate architecture rising above the play's rock-solid family drama foundations. 'Death of a Salesman' is about fathers and sons: how they relate to each other, how they admire each other, how they lie to each other, how they disappoint each other, how they destroy each other. Pierce's Willy Loman is so affecting because even when he's behaving terribly, you can understand the human frailties that led him to this point. His greatest tragedy is that he pretended – to himself, his family, and most especially his beloved Biff – that the world was a kinder, happier, fairer place than is really case. And who can really blame a father for that? The failure of the excellent Kene's outwardly tough, inside desperately sensitive Biff to live up to his early promise can on one level be read as a result of Loman's failure to prepare him for the discrimination he would receive when he lost his star-athlete status.

Miller didn't tend to write amazing roles for women, and Sharon D Clarke isn't the first great actor to be a tiny bit wasted in the important but small part of Loman's wife Linda, despairingly enabling him to go through with the charade that he's a success. Still, in Elliott and Cromwell's moving, provocative, atmospheric production, musical-theatre great Clarke does get to sing at intervals. A closing, spiritual-style number feels like a generous gesture, a sheen of dignity to Willy's tragedy. ■ *Andrzej Lukowski*

WHAT IS IT...
Arthur Miller's play, staged to centre on an African-American family

WHY GO...
It finds new depths in a theatre classic

→ Young Vic Theatre.
⊖ Waterloo. Until Jul 13.
£10-£40.

More reviews at
timeout.com/theatre

Amour



WHAT IS IT...

An oddball French musical about a man who can walk through walls.

WHY GO...

Michel Legrand's wonderful score.

BOOK...

Buy tickets at timeout.com/theatre

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



IF 'AMELIE' GAVE you a toothache, this ridiculously sweet helping of French magical realism might make your gnashers more rotten than a 'Les Misérables' extra's. Michel Legrand's musical tells the story of a put-upon office clerk in post-war Páree who mysteriously gains the power to walk through walls, then woos the girl of his dreams. Unlike fellow French import 'Les Mis', the Broadway run of 'Amour' was a total flop (it lasted two weeks, barely longer than your average macaron).

Still, this small-scale revival is a fine showcase for the show's main attraction: Legrand's score. It brims over with joyfully tinkly '50s-style choruses and some utterly gorgeous ballads, beautifully rendered by Anna O'Byrne. Unfortunately, her character, Isabelle, isn't as nuanced as the tunes she sings: she's a generic songbird in a gilded cage, trapped living with her no-good older husband. Archetypal nobody Dusoleil (Gary Tushaw) steams up his round spectacles lusting after her, and tries to win her by using his new magic powers to become a Parisian Robin Hood. This story's baguette-wielding clichés are sent up by Jeremy Sams's endlessly funny lyrics, and lent knowing wit by Hannah Chissick's breezy, lo-fi staging – the cast brandish light-up umbrellas, and glide across the stage on bicycles.

Only the unexpectedly bittersweet ending complicates this show's winningly fluffy tone. I can see how it would fall flat on Broadway, but its Gallic charms work wonders in this intimate space. ■ *Alice Saville*



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User Not Found



WHAT IS IT...

A beautiful site-specific show about grief in the web age.

WHY GO...

It's thought-provoking and deeply moving.

→ The CoffeeWorks Project.
Battersea Park Overground.
Fri May 17-Jun 2. £15-£20, £16.50 concs.



DANTE OR DIE'S gorgeous show about grief and digital afterlives is performed in a café. After we sit down, last orders are taken, we're issued with headphones and phones, and we meet Terry (DoD co-artistic director Terry O'Donovan).

In a raw and magnetic performance, O'Donovan paces, sometimes dances, about the café, but often we look away, our attention drawn to his voice in our ears and the action on our mobile-phone screens.

Luka, Terry's ex-boyfriend of nine years, has died – something that Terry is late finding out. He is tipped off not by a phone call but by a sudden rush of oblique condolence messages that all assume he is aware of the death. Then he receives a message from a company called Fidelis: he has been made executor of Luka's social media legacy, entrusted with deciding what happens to his presence after death.

The performance soon becomes a dance of sadness, memory and technology, as Terry attempts to process his sorrow at Luka's passing. He trawls social media, obsessively cross-referencing major dates in their relationship with Luka's often maddeningly bland Twitter feed. Our glowing phones bring Terry's loss closer but also distance us from it; a text or email of condolence is not the same as having to talk about it.

'User Not Found' is ultimately coy about the question of whether we have a right to be forgotten, but it is unequivocal that we all have a right to let go. ■ *Andrzej Lukowski*

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 THE GUARDIAN

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Dancers: Emma Hawes and Francesco Gabriele Frola. Art Direction: Charlotte Wilkinson. Photo © Jason Bell. *Reviews for 2015 Dutch National Ballet production at the London Coliseum

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NEW SHOWS

THE HOTTEST THEATRE OPENINGS THIS WEEK

WEST END

Salt

Selina Thompson's stunning solo show retraces routes taken by her ancestors across the transatlantic slave triangle.

→ Royal Court Theatre.
 ↻ Sloane Square. Tue May 14-Jun 1. £20-£25.

White Pearl

Australian-Thai playwright Anchuli Felicia King's hugely hyped debut is a raucous satire set in a Singaporean skin-whitening start-up.

→ Royal Court Theatre.
 ↻ Sloane Square. Until Jun 15. £12-£95.

OFF-WEST END

The Curious Case of Benjamin Button

A new musical inspired by F Scott Fitzgerald's tale of a man who ages backwards.

→ Southwark Playhouse.
 ↻ Elephant & Castle. Wed May 15-Jun 8. £14-£22, £18 concs.

Dido

Purni Morell's swansong as Unicorn Theatre boss is this ambitious opera for teenagers and adults.

→ Unicorn Theatre. ↻ London Bridge. Until Jun 2. £10-£24, £8-£18 under 18s.

The Firm

A gang reunite for a wistful pint in Roy Williams's drama.

→ Hampstead Theatre.
 ↻ Swiss Cottage. Until Jun 8. £5-£14.

Jeffrey Bernard Is Unwell

Soak up some boozy Soho history with Keith Waterhouse's pub-set monologue.

→ Coach & Horses.
 ↻ Leicester Square. Until Jun 9. £20-£45.

Jeff Wayne's Musical Version of 'The War of the Worlds': The Immersive Experience

Sci-fi fun inspired by the prog-rock album.

→ Old Metal Exchange.
 ↻ Aldgate. Thu May 16-Aug 31. £59.50, £49.50 concs.

Operation Mincemeat

A new musical from much-loved comedy mongers Kill the Beast.

→ New Diorama Theatre.
 ↻ Great Portland St. Tue May 14-Jun 15. £18.

Orpheus Descending

Tamara Harvey directs Tennessee Williams's rarely-staged story.

→ Menier Chocolate Factory.
 ↻ Borough. Until Jul 6. £37.50-£55.

This Island's Mine

Set in 1988, Philip Osment's drama is a multi-strand look at gay life under Thatcher.

→ King's Head Theatre.
 ↻ Angel. Wed May 15-Jun 8. £10-£25, £5-£18 concs.

Vincent River

Philip Ridley's hit two-hander is an explosive look at the aftermath of a hate crime.

→ Trafalgar Studios.
 ↻ Charing Cross. Thu May 16-Jun 22. £20-£40.

Yvette

Urielle Klein-Mekong's solo show follows a 13-year-old girl with a difficult secret to hide.

→ Bush Theatre. ↻ Shepherd's Bush. Tue May 14-Jun 1. £15.

BOOK NOW



'The Future'

Beloved theatre company Little Bulb have only gone and written a musical about artificial intelligence. 'The Future' centres on a group of present-day scientists looking forward to a time when AI outstrips humanity – set to a soundtrack of 'cosmic rock'.

→ Battersea Arts Centre. Clapham Junction rail.
 Jun 12-29. £10-£20.

TOP-SELLING TICKETS

ATTIMEOUT.COM/TICKETS

1 Come from Away

This Canadian hit show is heart-stoppingly good.

→ Phoenix Theatre. Until Sep 14.

2 The Book of Mormon

Long-running, toe-tapping, box-office-smashing musical.

→ Prince of Wales Theatre. Until Aug 17.

3 Aladdin

The magical Disney show.

→ Prince Edward Theatre. Until Jul 27.

4 Rosmersholm

Ibsen's meaty drama.

→ Duke of York's Theatre. Until Jul 20.

5 Wicked

The witch-filled spectacular.

→ Apollo Victoria. Until May 25 2020.

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Art Project Bora - Somoo photo by Kuuu Kim

Many more theatre listings at timeout.com/theatre

Edited by Eddy Frankel
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Art



**EVERYTHING YOU
NEED TO KNOW ABOUT**

Photo London 2019

The mega-sized photography fair returns to the courtyard of Somerset House this week. Here's why you need to pay it a visit



MARY MCGARTNEY, GALLERY IN SINK, LONDON, 2009. © MARY MCGARTNEY, TOM WOOD, MAD MAX, (1993). © TOM WOOD. IMAGE COURTESY OF GALLERY SINK, LONDON, 2019. © TOM WOOD, SINK, DOWN GREAT HIGH STREET, (1992). © TOM WOOD & GALLERY SINK, DOWN.

Snap happy (clockwise from opposite): Mary McCartney, 'Ballet Dancer in Sink'; Tom Wood, 'Sit Down Great Horner Street'; Tom Wood, 'Mad Max'



It's full of incredible galleries

Just over 100, to be exact. And they come from 21 different countries. This means you can check out London's homegrown galleries while also taking a virtual trip to Japan, South Africa, Finland, Taiwan... the list goes on. Don't miss the 'Discovery' section, which includes 25 galleries focused on new and emerging names in the snapping business.

There'll be some top-notch photographers

And while we're on that topic, Photo London is awash with major names rubbing camera straps with the younger generation of photographers. Check out this year's Master of Photography, Stephen Shore, make a beeline for Time Out faves Juno Calypso and Maisie Cousins at the TJ Boulting gallery, and find new names you've never heard before. You'll be sure to see something you Leica lot!

There's a free public programme...

For visitors who fancy a go themselves, this year's Public Programme features a giant bronze Gavin Turk sculpture of an egg called, erm, 'Portrait of an Egg', located on the River Terrace. There's going to be an Instagram comp connected to it, and you'll be egged on to take part. There's also an audiovisual work by Eamonn Doyle called 'Made in Dublin' that looks intriguing, and a whole host of other free projects to explore if you can't spare the cash for a ticket.

...and lots of events

Finally, if you want a little sit-down, there's a multi-event schedule crammed full of excellent talks (£13 each). Photo-world royalty and Brexit documenter Martin Parr is on the bill, as is Zackary Drucker discussing her project on transgender identities in photography and Swedish snapper Maja Daniels talking about the ancient language Elfdalian. Oh, and you can also shell out to catch Gavin chat about that egg. ■

WHAT IS IT...

The fifth edition of London's biggest and best photography event.

WHY GO...

From all-time greats to newbie names, here's your chance to gorge on gorgeous snaps.

→ Somerset House.
 ⇨ Temple. Thu May 16 - Sun May 19. £32 (weekend pass), £27 (one-day pass).

THREE SHOWS YOU HAVE TO SEE

Still on and still great



↑ Joanna Pitrowska: 'All Our False Devices'

Up-and-coming Polish photographer Pitrowska makes human behaviour super-creepy with her sideways glance at intimate movements and interactions.

→ Tate Britain. ⇨ Pimlico. Until Jun 9. Free.



↑ William Eggleston: '2¼'

Eggleston chronicled the rise and fall of the American Dream in the '70s via one of its most iconic symbols: the automobile. Fast cars and even faster politics.

→ David Zwirner. ⇨ Green Park. Until Jun 1. Free.



↑ Dave Heath: 'Dialogues with Solitude'

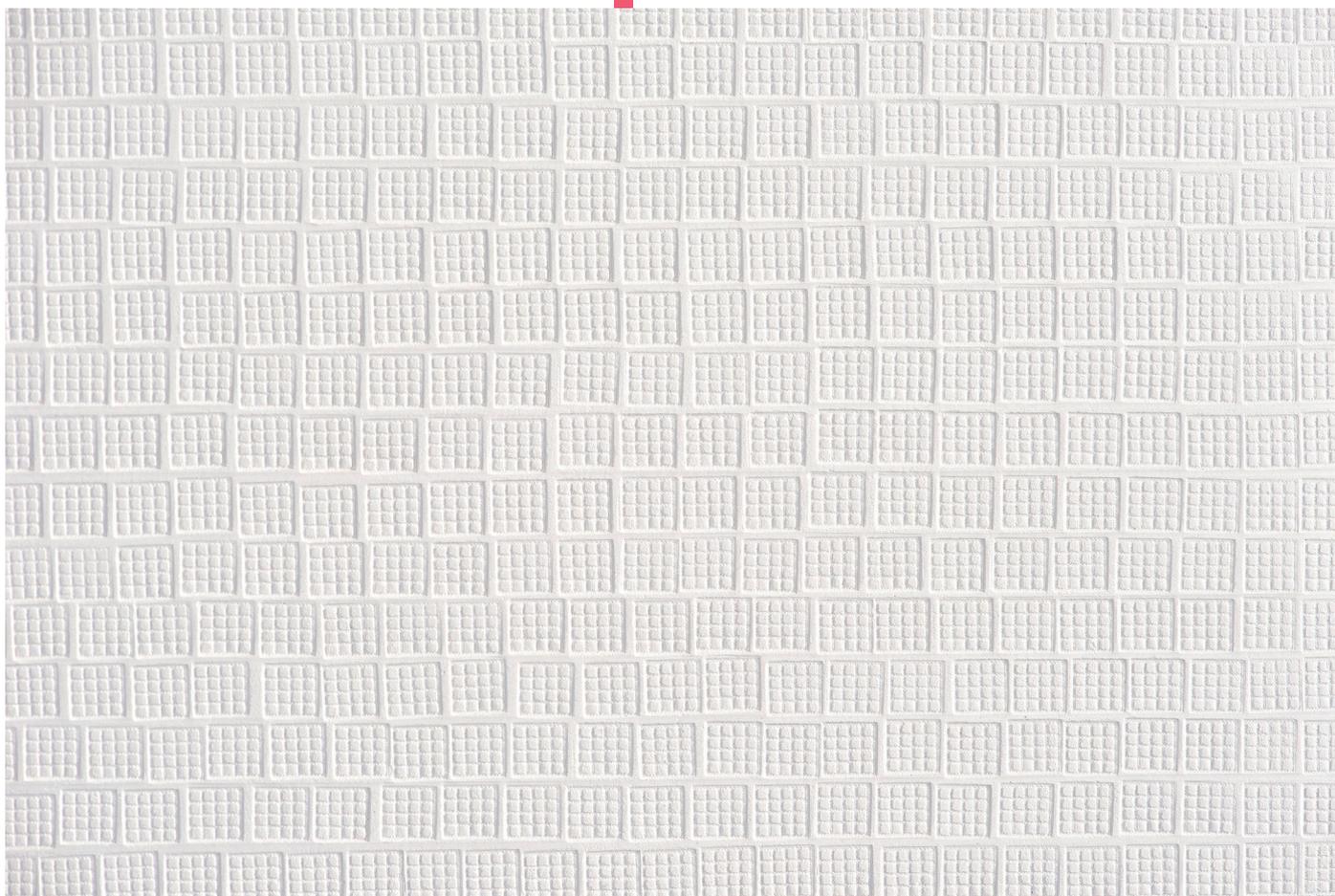
It was the quiet moments that interested post-war American snapper Dave Heath. His meditative portraits likewise invite silent contemplation.

→ Photographers' Gallery. ⇨ Oxford Circus. Until Jun 2. £5, concs available.



By Rosemary Waugh
 Who hates having her photo taken.
 As you can probably tell.

JOANNA PITROWSKA: UNTITLED (2014), IMAGE COURTESY OF THE ARTIST AND SOUTHARD REID; WILLIAM EGGLESTON: UNTITLED (c.1977), © EGGLESTON ARTISTIC TRUST, IMAGE COURTESY OF EGGLESTON ARTISTS; TRUCKS: AND DAVID ZWIRNER; DAVE HEATH: (2009), © DAVE HEATH, IMAGE COURTESY OF THOMAS GREENBERG GALLERY; NEW YORK, AND STEPHEN BULGER GALLERY; TORONTO.



Prabhavathi Meppayil: 'Recent Works'



SOME ART SCREAMS and shouts its existence, but other art stakes its claim a little more quietly. Prabhavathi Meppayil's art is of the silent type. The Indian artist creates ultra-minimal white canvases, totally monochrome but highly textured works that are so subtle they're barely there.

The images are indented with perfectly identical marks: sequences of lines or repeating geometric shapes like bite marks or claw marks on paper. The patterns come from her family's goldsmithing tools: Meppayil is taking artisanal craft and pushing it into the abstract. You might think that makes a craft like goldsmithing into something more ephemeral, nebulous, less easy to grasp, but it actually does the opposite. She's boiled it all down to its essence, removed everything but the tools and their impact.

If you were being a cruel you could say the works look like wallpaper or – sorry – textured toilet paper. But by being so simple, quiet and repetitive they manage to drag you into their world. You get lost in the patterns and shapes, and before

WHAT IS IT...

Whiter-than-white canvases patterned with a goldsmith's tools.

WHY GO...

Less is more when it comes to these understated beauties.

→ Pace. ↻ Green Park. Until May 25. Free.



you know it, this white nothingness actually feels full: full of shape, nuance and shadow.

The central wall is dotted with metal cubes indented with the same shapes you see in the canvases, little leaves and almonds, stuttering in geometric repetition.

Meppayil has made work here that condenses down artisanal beauty, craft knowledge and long, rich family history into simple, but perfectly elegant minimalism. So, if it does look a bit like bog roll, it's the fanciest bog roll the world's ever seen. ■ *Eddy Frankel*



Denzil Forrester: 'A Survey'



WHAT IS IT...

Technicolour paintings inspired by reggae and dub clubs.

WHY GO...

These artworks will make you want to stay up dancing until 4am.

→ Stephen Friedman Gallery, Piccadilly Circus. Until May 26. Free.

DENZIL FORRESTER'S PAINTINGS don't look like the kind of art you normally find in contemporary galleries. They aren't full of nods to art history, they're not drenched in conceptual theorising and they don't fit neatly into the canon of Western art history. Basically, they don't look exactly like everything else. And thank fuck for that, because that's what makes them great.

Forrester is a black British artist, born in Grenada, who for 40 years has been painting scenes from reggae and dub clubs. His ultra-bright works are throbbing with dancing bodies, thrumming with movement and chaos. This is London life captured in single moments: people, parties, police, sound, culture and sweat. There are DJs hunched over turntables, MCs holding their mics in front of huge speaker stacks while severe, angular policemen watch on. There are moments of calm among the chaos, there are people lost in the moments, but in general, this is life at its most alive.

Forrester's not a neat or particularly formal painter, and some of it is a bit messy. But there's something unique about precisely that. His figures don't look like Rembrandt's, his faces don't look like Picasso's. His is a different voice: a black, London voice, separate from the stuffiness of the commercial art world. We might have missed out on seeing his art until now, but we should be seriously thankful the opportunity is now here. ■ Eddy Frankel

DENZIL FORRESTER, READING WITH MA PETS (2018) © DENZIL FORRESTER. IMAGE COURTESY OF THE ARTIST AND STEPHEN FRIEDMAN GALLERY, LONDON.

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Dave Heath, 'What is this scene?' (2018), Oil, 100cm x 100cm, with a courtesy of Howard Greenberg, © Dave Heath, 2018. Photo: Roger Galway, Toronto

Food

Edited by Tania Ballantine
timeout.com/eatdrink @timeouteatdrink



WHAT'S THE DEAL WITH

Market Hall Victoria

→ 191 Victoria St, SW1E 5NE. ↻ Victoria.

Ooh. A new place to buy avocados?

Nope. Not that kind of market. It's actually a food hall inside a handsome old building. And it's right across from Victoria station.

So what's it got, then?

More like: what hasn't it got? It's home to 11 kitchens. Three bars. *And* a rooftop terrace.

But is it actually popular?

Hell, yes. Go in the evening and you'll have to shout over the music and the noise. That's okay, though. You'll be too busy scoffing to care.

What's on the menu?

Well, the specific line-up changes all the time, but

essentially, it's drinking food of the highest order: big-flavour carbs from some of the city's best casual spots. Right now, that means dumplings, salt beef sarnies, noodles, kebabs and burgers, as well as pasta, tacos and curries. Plus all-day brunch (obvs), soft-serve ice cream and coffee.

Sounds good. So what should I eat?

Well our current favourites include the prawn tempura udon from Koya Ko (every bit as good as at Soho's Koya Bar), or roti with any of the curries from Gopal's Corner (not *quite* as special as at big sis Roti King, but still pretty decent). Plus killer salt-beef sarnies from Monty's Deli or dumplings from Baozi Inn. But the surprise hit? Pasta from the relatively unknown Nonna Tonda

– aka Nonna's – where a plate of wide, flappy pappardelle with duck ragù was just magnificent.

Any final tips?

Go off-peak: on our Thursday night visit, it was one-in-one-out just to get in, then another 20 minutes of that hover-by-the-table-dance to bag a seat. Better yet, go in a gang: groups of eight can book. Now you just have to find seven friends... ■

Dinner for two with drinks (no service):
around £45.



By Tania Ballantine
*Who obviously went when it was raining.
No rooftop for her.*

Pachamama East

→ 73 Great Eastern St, EC2A 3HR. ☺ Old St.



A SHOREDITCH OFFSHOOT of the Marylebone original, Pachamama East again infuses Peruvian flavours with exciting ingredients from across the globe (and especially Japan). Shabby chic may sound a bit '90s, but at this split-level space, it's done with genuine elegance: all geometric tiles, festoon lighting and earthenware that you'll want to stick on your Pinterest board.

The menu is divided into small plates themed by 'soil', 'land' and 'sea', all intended for sharing. Ceviche dominates the sea section, whereas the land plates are larger, so there's less chance of fighting over the last chunk of pork belly.

Every dish was a riot of colour, flavours and textures. The tapioca



WHAT IS IT...

A sibling of the Peruvian fusion restaurant, this time in Shoreditch.

WHY GO...

Because it's time you tried Peruvian kimchi for yourself.

marshmallows were as must-order as ever; the starchy, savoury, soft filling was tucked into a crisp breadcrumb jacket, with a thick ocopa black mint and peanut sauce on the side. A miso-cured carrot was dark and sticky against risotto-style black quinoa, with sharp Peruvian kimchi cutting through the creaminess. 'Duck on rice' was an understatement for the beguilingly tender meat that arrived on top of moreish white dashi rice. And if

you've got room for dessert, the yuzu ice cream is something else.

The only niggle was that plates arrived ad hoc, meaning you could have a dish of subtle tuna ceviche competing with punchy Sichuan lamb. But the passionate, high-energy staff will happily let you order as you go: just ask. A rainbow of flavours like this deserves to be savoured in stages. ■ *Lisa Harris*
Dinner for two with drinks and service: around £100.

EXCLUSIVE

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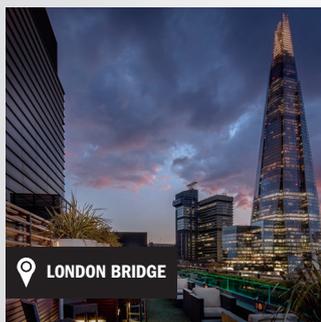
'Tuck into Rotate's bottomless brunch launch offer for only £35 per person, including bao and sides from our kitchen resident Tiger Bites Bao (as seen on the BBC's "My Million Pound Menu") as well as unlimited classic cocktails, prosecco and craft beer. Plus, resident DJs will play feelgood tunes all night. Cheers!'
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5 More London Place, Tooley St, SE1 2BY.



WEMBLEY PARK

BOXPARK WEMBLEY SAYS:

'Boxpark brings 20 street food vendors, three bars and great entertainment to Wembley Park. From burgers to Indian by a Michelin-starred chef, Boxpark caters for all. Like its older siblings in Shoreditch and Croydon, Boxpark Wembley aims to deliver a calendar of pioneering events reflecting local culture and community.'
Olympic Way, Wembley Park, HA9 0JT.

Cakes & Bubbles



→ 70 Regent St, W1B 4DY. ☉ Piccadilly Circus.

WITH A MENU by patisserie grandioso Albert Adria (considered by some to be the best pastry chef in the world), this small space at the Hotel Café Royale is a destination for pastry buffs.

Surroundings are old-school swish: lots of marble, gold-leaf walls and drinks trolleys of fizz. The windows face busy Regent Street: you can gawp at passers-by. They can gawp back.

The 'cake' concoctions are radical. A twist on a pancake was airy, filled with a yogurt foam and topped with a crème brûlée shell; a minuscule stroopwafel ice-cream sandwich came served in an elaborate box and then popped in a dainty foil bag to keep cool. Sometimes it went too far: the 'carrot cake' was just a few grated tendrils of the vegetable wedged between paper-thin wafers. Get the signature chocolate cork instead: it's the most decadent, rich – and weighty – thing here.

But there's no sugar-coating the prices. A single creation costs between £6 and £12, and to feel even remotely satisfied, you'll need several. They're so dainty that they can seem lost on the plate, but also so light (some just a few grams) that at least there's no guilt. Oh, and everything is also low-sugar and colourant-free.

In short, don't go chasing a fat sugar rush. This is a place for patisserie pilgrims. ■ *Nina Clark*
Cakes for two with drinks and service: around £60.

WHAT IS IT...
 A luxurious hotel patisserie from a world-renowned pastry chef.

WHY GO...
 To see what all the Albert Adria fuss is about.



THREE OF THE BEST

Hammersmith restaurants



The Gate ★★★★★

→ 51 Queen Caroline St, W6 9QL. ☉ Hammersmith.

WHAT IS IT... The original branch of the iconic vegetarian restaurant, once popular with the likes of Macca and Madge.
WHY GO... For classic dishes that are beautifully presented and nicely done: like the beetroot veggie burger in a pretzel bun.



The River Café ★★★★★

→ Thames Wharf, Rainville Rd, W6 9HA. ☉ Hammersmith.

WHAT IS IT... A celebrated Italian restaurant by the edge of the Thames towpath, where Jamie Oliver and other celeb chefs trained.
WHY GO... To eat flawless, unfussy grills and plates of exceptional pasta (in summer, ask for a table on the terrace).



Zia Lucia ★★★★★

→ 61 Blythe Rd, W14 0HP Kensington Olympia Overground.

WHAT IS IT... A neighbourhood pizzeria where the USP is a choice of four different 48-hour fermented doughs.
WHY GO... For the spectacular nutty wholemeal base topped with anything: it's better than the real thing.

EXCLUSIVE

THE GATE



Save 40 percent on a mouth-watering plant-based meal at this popular veggie hotspot. Three courses and a glass of prosecco is just £24 – and you can redeem at either Marylebone or Hammersmith branches.

TIMEOUT.COM/GATE19

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Drink

Edited by Laura Richards
timeout.com/bars @timeouteatdrink

Cloudwater Tap Room

→ 73 Enid St, SE16 3RA. ☺ Bermondsey.



IN A MODERN world with the metric system, beer seems to be stuck in the dark ages. As well as being served as a pint (20 fluid ounces, if you're asking), it's also possible to drink a yard – although that's only really acceptable if you're on a stag do or channelling Mark Corrigan from 'Peep Show'. You can add to that list the Bermondsey Beer Mile (where you'll find many of those pints and stag dos). The eclectic run of railway-arch-occupying breweries and tap rooms continues to grow,

and Manchester's Cloudwater is its latest – a brewery that's fully enlightened.

It's at the Bermondsey station end of the strip, nestled between Moor Beer Co and Brew by Numbers. There's no sign above the door, but peer through windows past jazzy tables and pastel-pink stools to see an illuminated logo at the back of the unit beckoning you to the bar. There you'll find 20 different Cloudwater

and collaborative brews on tap, from sessionable pales to wine-strength porters, plus a regularly updated list of cans and bottles in its cold store.

It settled on the barman's selection, a Cloudwater DIPA that went down far too easily for something so strong (8.5%), while my partner picked an IPA that was fruity-yet-subtle in flavour. Both came in at £4, as do all the draught beers, which sounds cheap until

you notice the measures (a third-pint and a half-pint, respectively). A schooner or smaller is great for trying a lot in one session, but that could effectively cost £12 for a pint – even if they are some of the nicer craft beers around, it may leave you scratching your head. Although, if I'd had a full 20 fluid ounces of mine, I can assure you the water wouldn't have been the only thing that was cloudy. ■ *Charlie Allenby*

BAR OF THE WEEK

WHAT IS IT...
A Bermondsey outpost for the popular Manchester brewer.

WHY GO...
Sample a stellar range of experimental beers served in sessionable sizes.



WHAT'S THE DEAL WITH

The Grid



So is this a bar, or what?

Is anything just a bar these days? The Grid is an escape room in dystopian London, where an evil AI start-up threatens to wipe out humanity. Your goal is to beat the system. While drinking cocktails.

Sounds like some 'Black Mirror' business.

You're not wrong. You go in as a volunteer for a company called

Neosight, sent to interact with a new AI robot and teach it about human intelligence. But then there's a twist that's (almost) Brooker-worthy.

But surely cocktails and complex puzzles don't mix?

Oh, you'd be surprised. The experience includes two cocktails that the game's creators weave into the narrative. Neither is so strong that you'd struggle with logic and maths (well, no more than usual).

Be real with me: are the drinks any good?

They are, if you like your cocktails teeth-grittingly sweet. There's a fun, DIY element to them, though – and you can choose between gin, vodka or non-alcoholic. But really, there's not much time for boozing on the brink of an AI apocalypse. ■

Rose Johnstone

→ 2 Robinson Rd, SE1 8BU. ☺ Southwark.
From £29.99. www.thegrid.london

The new guy hasn't quite got the hang of it yet...



What on earth have lightsabers got to do with brewing beer?

It may seem a little excessive, but we check every last cask with a *lightsaber*. But it's not from a galaxy far, far away. It's an ultraviolet light used by our brewing team to inspect our casks for absolute cleanliness. Only when it has passed the lightsaber test is a cask considered worthy of becoming home to 72 pints of freshly brewed Landlord. With a beer as finely balanced in flavour as Taylor's, coaxed from pure Pennine spring water and the finest hops and barley, we can't help being just a little picky.

All for that taste of Taylor's



Escapes

Edited by Ellie Walker-Arnott
timeout.com/daytrips



A perfect day in

Oban

Dreamy views, single malt and seafood feasts

THERE'S NOTHING MORE romantic than a scenic train journey – and the Caledonian Sleeper is one of the best. The overnight service whisks sleeping Londoners to Scotland, where they wake up to lochs and mountains whizzing past the windows. Inspired to ride the rails? Set your sights on the pretty Victorian seaside town of Oban. Known as the gateway to the Outer Hebrides, it's a totally charming destination in itself.

First up

Admire the **sweeping coastal vistas**, walk to the atmospheric ruins of **Dunollie castle**, or stop kidding yourself and head straight for the whisky. **Oban Distillery** is a quick and fun intro to single malt. It also includes two samples of Oban's finest. That'll put a skip in your step for the rest of the day.

Stop for Lunch

Book a table at **Ee-Usk** where they name the fisherman or -woman that supplies each type of fish. The restaurant is wrapped with floor-to-ceiling windows, which means you can do a spot of wildlife-watching from your tables.

→ Get there: 11 hours on the Caledonian Sleeper from London Euston to Crianlarich, then one hour by train to Oban; around nine hours by car.

Soak up the vibes

Oban has regular **ferry trips** to some stunning corners of Scotland. Wild coastlines and pristine beaches await at **Mull**, a beautiful island that's a 45-minute boat trip from Oban. Nature-lovers can indulge in walks across unspoilt white sand, or head into technicolour fishing town **Tobermory**.

Hit the shops

Stock up on handmade truffles from the **Oban Chocolate Company**. **The Oban Whisky & Fine Wines Shop** specialises in rare bottles and small-scale producers. As well as limited-edition whiskies, it stocks an impressive range of artisan Scottish gins – including a small-batch botanical one made in Oban itself. Slàinte!

Drink like a local

Sea shanties and pints abound in **The Oban Inn** – a cosy old boozer with views over the harbour. The oldest pub in the town, it recently relaunched after being closed for nine years. Now, it's popular with locals and tourists alike, and hosts regular jazz, folk and acoustic nights. ■ *Lucy Lovell*

IF YOU ONLY DO ONE THING

Settle in for a feast on the harbour. **Oban Seafood Hut** is the kind of no-frills hidden gem everyone wishes they could find on holiday. The tiny shack has alfresco shared tables, where diners sit elbow-to-elbow cracking fresh crab claws. It's unbelievably cheap, too. Just beware of the seagulls. They have no fear.

WAKE UP HERE

Perle Oban



Oban boomed in the Victorian era, leaving us with stunning waterfront buildings like the one Perle Oban calls home. The grand hotel had a makeover recently, leaving the original features and adding a modern colour palette of sea-blues. Pristine rooms offer the perfect sanctuary for resting tired feet after a long day exploring the coast. The huge sash windows give stunning views over Oban, meaning the lazy visitor could easily get away with seeing the Highlands and Islands from the comfort of their bed. Hey, no judgment. *Lucy Lovell*

→ Oban. From £129 a night.
www.perleoban.com

Travel to the end of the line at timeout.com/daytrips

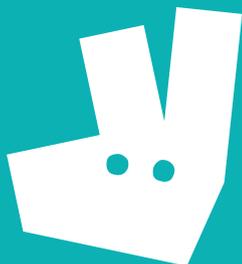


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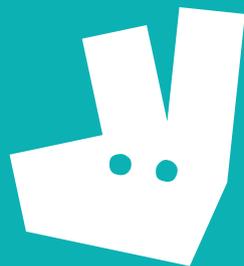
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