

# TimeOut

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**H**olidays can be an expensive business, which is why you don't want to burn all your budget on the flights. From now until January 13, Norwegian is offering some seriously sweet deals on flights from London Gatwick to a number of amazing American destinations – prices start at just £134.90 one-way. Here's what you could be doing in New York, San Francisco and Boston as soon as you book those tickets.

## New York Chinese New Year

Head to Chinatown to celebrate the Lunar New Year and see the streets explode in colour with the annual parade. Amid the explosive sounds of firecrackers and drums, you can sample delicious Chinese food and, if you plan it right, end your night with a karaoke sesh. **Jan 25**

## San Fran San Francisco Beer Week

SF's beer scene is legendary and there's never a better time to sample the best of the area's brews than at the city's annual beer 'week' which, happily, is actually a full ten days long! The events nurture a sense of indie creativity and collaborations with local arts and entertainment venues.

**Feb 7-16**

## Boston St Patrick's Day Parade

Boston is, famously, the most Irish city in the US, so it's no surprise that its yearly St Patrick's Day parade is a sight to behold. From West Broadway to Dorchester Avenue, the family-friendly event transforms the place into a spectacle of floats, music and all-round good vibes.

**Mar 15**

## THE PREMIUM EXPERIENCE



Start your holiday from the moment you get to London Gatwick by upgrading to the Premium experience from £17.50. You'll get entry to MyLounge (complete with hot and cold snacks and an informal self-service bar in a laid-back, loft-style environment) as well as access to the Premium Security Lane.

→ For more information head to [www.norwegian.com/uk](http://www.norwegian.com/uk)

# TimeOut

## LONDON

The 2020 highlights to put in your diary right now

# FALL ZER UP!

### JANUARY

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN
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*In the bag*

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31						

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### APRIL

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*All over it*

### MAY

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*All booked*

### JUNE

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*Yes! Booked in*

### JULY

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31						

*Booked in*

### AUGUST

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*Rammo*

### SEPTEMBER

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*Sorted*

### OCTOBER

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*Check*

### NOVEMBER

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29	30					

*Tick*

### DECEMBER

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*Fivito!*

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# Inside

This week's Time Out  
in no time at all

## Original synth

In our epic 2020 calendar, look out for  
robo-pop legends Kraftwerk's only  
UK show of the year – in Victoria Park

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## Silent but violent?

It's a clown with a chainsaw.  
The London International Mime  
Festival must be in town

PAGE 50



## Green cuisine

Yes, it's Veganuary, but swerving  
meat and dairy's a doddle with the  
best plant-based comfort food

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## Five-star nightmare

War film meets horror movie in Sam Mendes's  
'1917' – which may be his best work yet

PAGE 43

## Condo 2020

With ace galleries visiting from New York,  
Shanghai, Berlin and Toronto, the global  
art party gets started this Saturday

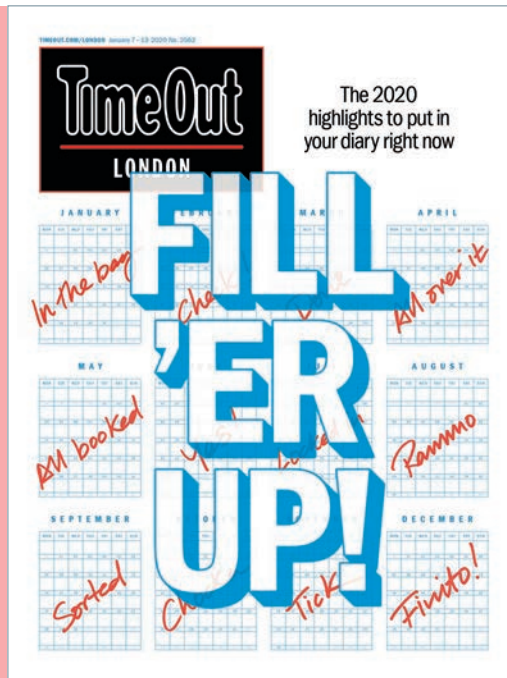
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# Hello, London

**Joe Mackertich**  
London Editor  
@j\_mackertich



Surprise!

Wait, don't call the police. I'm allowed to be here. I'm the new editor of Time Out London. Some of you might recognise me from various places across the capital.

Others will have no idea who I am and may, quite reasonably, recoil in horror at the unexpected and unwelcome sight of my face. To the first group I say: 'Nice to see you again.' To the second I can only apologise for ruining your morning.

Editing Time Out, communing with you right now, is an immense privilege. I was born in London, went to university here and have always considered The Big Dirty Bastard\* my home. Cut me and I bleed that algae that turns the Regent's Canal green every year. I regard a £5 pint as 'quite good value', know the backstreets of Soho better than my own mother's face and, like you, have no idea why there are suddenly so many bubble tea vendors.

This is a gorgeous, iconic publication and I can't wait to see the places we can take it. My wish is to forge a true and lasting bond with you, the reader. Whether you're here for a week or, like me, a lifetime, I hope to help you make sense of this stunning and stressful city. I hope to help you love London like I love London.

\*Not a real nickname for the city but feel free to use.

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LONDON

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# THE i3



Fuel economy and CO<sub>2</sub> results for the BMW i3 range 120 Ah mpg (l/100 km): N/A. CO<sub>2</sub> emissions: 0 g/km. Electric range: 188 miles. Electric energy consumption per 62 miles/100 km (weighted combined): 16.5 – 15.5 kWh. Figures are for comparison purposes and may not reflect real life driving results which depend on a number of factors including the starting charge of the battery, accessories fitted (post registration), variations in weather, driving styles and vehicle load. They were obtained after the battery had been fully charged. The BMW i3 range are battery electric vehicles that require mains electricity for charging. All figures were determined according to a new test (WLTP). Only compare fuel consumption, CO<sub>2</sub> and electric range figures with other cars tested to the same technical procedure. Model shown: BMW i3.



# City life

Edited by James Manning  
@timeoutlondon

## Veggie might

By now you've probably twigged you should be eating fewer animal products – for the planet's sake if nothing else. But guess what? This Veganuary, more than ever, going plant-based doesn't mean missing out on the good stuff – and we're not (just) talking about Greggs' vegan steak bake. A whole clutch of our fave London chefs and restaurants are launching vegan menus for the first time. **Patty & Bun** has come up with vegan versions of its three most popular burgers at six of its London restaurants. East London pizza palace **Yard Sale** has created a three-pizza vegan menu, including a cheeky riff on Pizza Express's American Hot. Even more impressive is the whole new vegan restaurant by none other than Neil Rankin of meat mecca **Temper**: check out **Simplicity Burger** on Brick Lane. And if all that turns out to be a gateway drug, hit up the Vegan Society's pop-up at **Mare Street Market** (until January 30) for free samples of vegan goodies. There goes your excuse for not giving the V-word a try this year. ■

James Manning

→ Find London's best vegan restaurants on p56.



## THE ESSENTIALS

Three things you have to do this week



### Fund this

Ace community arts festival **Brockley Max** has had its council funding cut. Chip in to its #SaveBrockleyMax crowdfunder to ensure it returns for 2020 – and spread the word.



### Try this

Looking for your new workout for 2020? It could be **Disco Barre**, with its hot moves and Studio 54-inspired soundtrack. Try it for free at two taster sessions in Dalston this weekend.



### Eat this

Inspired by the latest exhibition at Oxford's Ashmolean Museum, Heston Blumenthal is recreating the food of ancient Pompeii at **Dinner by Heston**. Get a taste of history from this week.

Get the latest from London at [timeout.com/news](https://www.timeout.com/news)

AN ODE TO

# The District line



## Celebrating the most maligned, overlooked and underrated bits of London

**WHAT'S YOUR FAVOURITE** tube line? The space-age Jubilee? The super-speedy Victoria? The grand old Piccadilly? I bet it's not the District line. In fact, in a 2013 YouGov survey, poor little greenie was rated London's second least favourite tube line – beaten only by the undeniably shit Northern.

Now, I'm not here to defend the Northern line (how could I?). But I am going to stick up for the District – not just because someone's got to.

The facts are these: the District line is slow. The District line is complicated: just take a look at the bonkers departure boards at Earl's Court. The District line is super-unreliable, it has way too many stations and you get stuck in tunnels ALL THE TIME. So why do I love it so much? Because it's so damn *civilised*.

I love its sense of space. Thanks to its origins as a 'cut-and-cover' line built just below street level, its stations are breezy, open-plan and mercifully shallow, and its carriages are broad and high-ceilinged. Compare that to the deep-level lines with their stale air, crushy corridors and tiny trains that squeeze through narrow tunnels like grimy toothpaste. I'll take air conditioning, wide

platforms and a short walk to ground level any day, thanks very much.

Also: 'old'? More like 'iconic'! Along with the Metropolitan, the District line is one of the two OG tube lines. Oscar Wilde and Jack the Ripper were probably among the early passengers. And the places it serves: South Ken, Westminster, the Tower, the City! This is the line for Proper Actual London, where basically every Zone 1 stop is a short stroll from some gobsmacking site or other.

And there's no other line that you can ride to nearly all the most bucolic bits of suburbia: Kew Gardens, Richmond Park, Wimbledon Common, even Wanstead Flats. Stuck in an urban rut? Hop on the green line and suck down some of that delicious country air!

I'll come clean: I grew up on the District line and used it daily until pretty recently, but I'm no longer a regular passenger. These days I commute on the Victoria, and yes (since you ask), it is much, *much* quicker. But if the low-key-but-lovely District line has a lesson for us, it's this: life isn't about getting places on time – it's about the journey. Especially when that journey has air con. Take that, Piccadilly! ■ *James Manning*

## WORD ON THE STREET

Ten ridiculous things we've overheard in London lately

**'If it's a short platform, how are small people going to get off the train?'**

'I know who Santa is... Santa is Amazon!'

**'OMG, are diamonds recyclable?!'**

'I bet salmon *do* have breasts.'

**'I'm really lucky my family aren't complete fascists.'**

'Just get me something wanky and expensive for Christmas – I'm sure I'll love it.'

**'Oh no, I missed Sausage Week! Story of my life.'**

'It's the perfect place to buy gifts for people you don't really like.'

**'I'm having a finger picnic!'**

'I just don't understand anyone who wears anything less than Heat Tech constantly.'

Overheard something weird? Tweet us #wordonthestreet @timeoutlondon



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# Go dairy free.

Coconut Latte



Almond Latte



Coconut Flat White

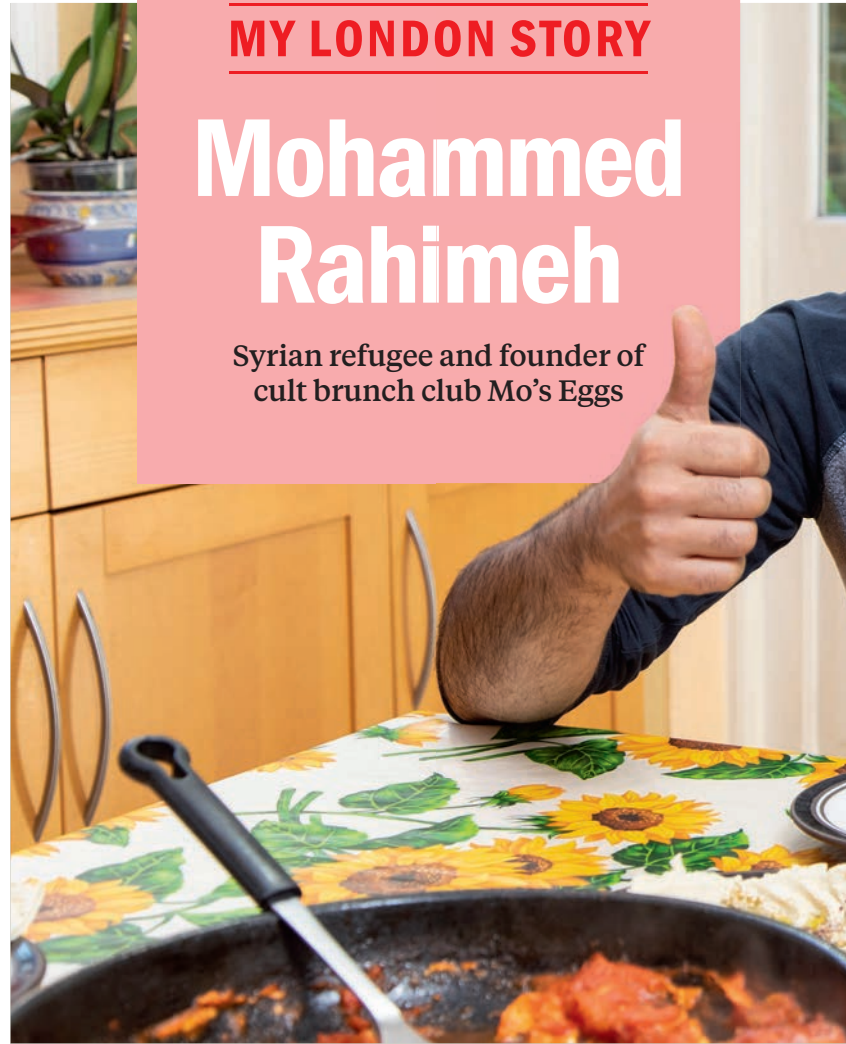
# COSTA

COFFEE

## MY LONDON STORY

# Mohammed Rahimeh

Syrian refugee and founder of cult brunch club Mo's Eggs



**MY HOME IS** a small village in southern Syria called Ain al-Fijah. I left in 2016 because men were being forced to join the army or else risk being considered a rebel. I was terrified. My dad said, 'We need someone to get out, because if something happens to me, you will be the one to care for your mother and sisters.' So I sold whatever I had and worked odd jobs to save up the money to leave the country. My family has since moved to Damascus and my village has been destroyed.

I travelled first to Lebanon, and then made my way through Europe before landing in Calais at the Jungle refugee camp. While I was there, I lived with another Syrian called Mo, who is now my best friend. He would make us the tomato-based egg dish shakshuka.

One night, we both went 'to try' – meaning to leave the camp in the hope of crossing over to the UK. We didn't make it out: Mo broke both of his legs trying to jump a high fence. After that, I started making shakshuka for him.

In the camp, I helped out initially by distributing food, clothes and shampoo, but I wanted to do more. I met the Care4Calais volunteers and, using my newfound kitchen skills, I asked if I could cook in the evenings. It was only simple things like pasta or eggs, but the main thing was bringing people together. The shakshuka was a big hit and became the starting point of Mo's Eggs.

I was in the Jungle for nine months, and I ended up forming a tight group with the people I met because we spent every single day working together. Alex, one of Care4Calais's team leaders, was instrumental in getting the pop-up off the ground. We're like brother and sister. When she left Calais, I told her I'd see her the next day. She laughed it off. But I went to try that night, and arrived safely in the UK the next day. In the morning I rang her, asking: 'Are you free for breakfast?' She couldn't believe it!

ANDY FARNSONS



One evening after I arrived in London, a group of us who'd met in the Jungle were sitting in a pub in Archway, wondering how to bring my food to the masses. Alex figured that some restaurants weren't used during the day, so maybe we could ask them if we could host a pop-up brunch. We did a trial run for a group of Alex's mates for her thirtieth, and saw what worked and what didn't. This was two years ago. Six months later, we launched Mo's Eggs as a monthly brunch club, and it's gone from strength to strength.

As well as cooking Mo's shakshuka recipe, I wanted to bring the flavour of my mother's cooking to London. On the menu we offer two different dishes: 'asylum' eggs, which are similar to a frittata, and 'Jungle' eggs: the ever-popular shakshuka. There are also various sorts of houmous, salads and khubz bread, which are laid out for everyone to pass around and share, family-style. Bottomless Syrian coffee brewed with cardamom is the order of the day, although prosecco can also be arranged. When people buy a ticket, we also ask that they donate something small on top of that to go towards a free ticket for asylum-seekers. In addition to feeding hungry Londoners, it's also really important that Mo's Eggs is accessible to everyone.

The mission of this brunch is to bring to London what we at Mo's Eggs miss from the Jungle: connection. Despite the horror stories that the camp was known for, we prefer to remember the fond times – which were almost always shared over a plate of eggs. ■ *Interview by Aisling O'Leary*

→ Mo's Eggs takes places at Benk + Bo on Jan 26 and Feb 16. ☺ Aldgate.  
£18.50 plus donation. [www.moseggs.co.uk](http://www.moseggs.co.uk)

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# COSTA

## COFFEE

Dear Natalie...

**In 2019 I totes went green: I started shopping with a canvas bag, getting coffee in a reusable cup and travelling by train more. But when huge corporations and whole countries are doing literally nothing about the climate crisis, and scientists and activists are telling us we're doomed, is my new eco lifestyle actually making a difference? Or should I just enjoy my life before we're all wiped out?**  
Sophie via email

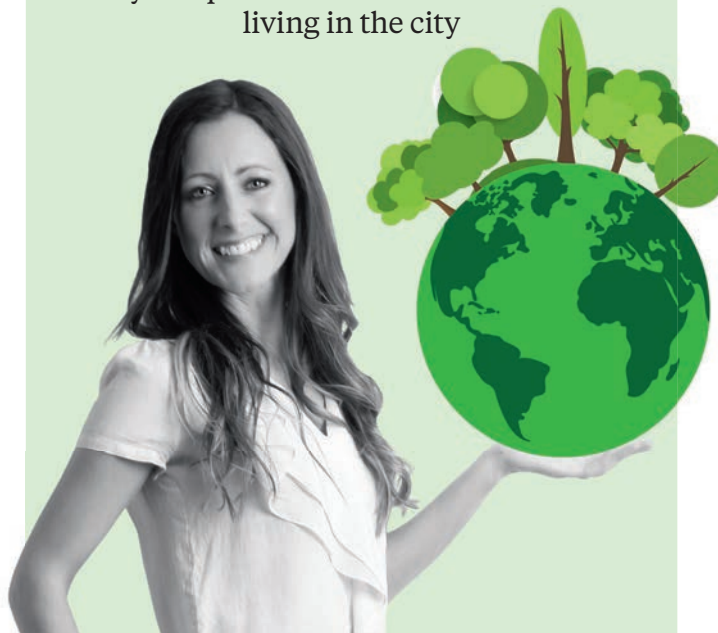
**Hi Sophie,**  
Here's a fact for you: the amount of plastic bags used by the biggest supermarkets in England has dropped by 90 percent since 2015. Big coffee chains are starting to recycle the 7 million coffee cups we chuck out every day too. That's all because of customer pressure.  
So yes, you're making a difference – and if you're one of the millions around the world who've switched to reusable toothbrushes or menstrual cups, you've also contributed towards the pressure that has made Colgate and Tampax release more sustainable products. Getting big companies to make these changes reduces single-use plastic use globally, and that doesn't just protect the oceans – it also keeps

fossil fuels in the ground. So it's a definite win!  
But you're absolutely right to question if, compared to the emissions of giant corporations – especially those directly involved

in oil and gas – these kinds of small consumer changes matter. And when so many elected politicians in the UK and elsewhere have consistently voted against measures to tackle climate change, it's hard

# GREEN GODDESS

Eco campaigner *Natalie Fee* answers your questions about sustainable living in the city



to feel like our actions count for anything.  
To answer your question: using your reusable coffee cup isn't going to save the world. But if it leads you to bigger, more significant changes such as switching to a green energy supplier (like Octopus, Ecotricity or Good Energy), cutting out red meat and flying responsibly or not at all – and if millions or billions of people do the same – then we might be in with a chance.  
Corporations and governments are still propping up the systems that have got us into this mess, putting profit and growth above our future. It's going to take years to undo that – which is why it's down to us, as individuals, to be the change. According to climate scientists, we've got ten years left to sort it out before we face irreversible ecological collapse. So let's step up collectively and make this decade the one that matters. ■

Natalie Fee is an environmental campaigner, author and speaker. She founded the City to Sea non-profit, which campaigns against plastic pollution. Her book **'How to Save the World for Free'** is published by Laurence King.  
→ Follow her on Twitter @nataliefee and Instagram @nataliefee\_.



Building a sustainable city, one project at a time



## The Bright Club

**WHAT IS IT?**  
The UK's first ever vegan members' club. A Hackney hub for London's vegan community (with co-working, mixers, panels and yoga), it's been founded by the creators of ethical lifestyle mag *Bright Zine*. Everything here is vegan, from the food to the furniture.

**WHY DOES IT MATTER?**  
Snarky food critics can dismiss veganism as a fad, but our planet is facing a climate catastrophe, and experts say greenhouse gas emissions would be cut by two-thirds if everyone on earth went vegan. Why not try it this Veganuary?

**HOW CAN I GET INVOLVED?**  
Pick from one of the membership levels, from low-access to 'full-timer'. These all include event invites and a *Bright Zine* subscription. Members must be fully plant-powered, though: 'I'm flexitarian' won't cut it round here. ■  
Ella Braidwood

→ [www.thebrightclub.co](http://www.thebrightclub.co)



*SMOOTH*  
**BLONDE  
ROAST**



**OR BOLD**  
**SIGNATURE  
ROAST?**

**FIND YOUR FAVOURITE**

# OI, SADIQ!

## How can you help Londoners feel positive about their bodies?



We're giving some of our favourite Londoners the chance to put one big question to the Mayor. **Becky Young** and **Harri Rose** are the founders of Anti Diet Riot Club, a body-positive community tackling diet culture and fatphobia through regular events. They want to know: is there anything the Mayor can do to help Londoners feel good about their bodies?

**Becky** 'Oi, Sadiq! Research shows that 90 percent of diets fail, with dieters putting the weight back on – plus more. In the face of that, what are you doing to protect Londoners from the enormous pressure that they face to achieve body perfection?'

**Sadiq** 'Our obsession with weighing ourselves is an issue. As soon as I became Mayor, I banned adverts on the Transport for London network with unrealistic body images, which put pressure on women and girls. We've also stopped certain ads for cosmetic surgery. Advertising isn't just about raising revenues for TfL – it's a responsibility. We've got one of the biggest advertising estates in the world, so we've got quite a lot of influence.'

**Becky** 'Girls as young as eight are now going on diets, which can lead to dangerous eating disorders. Do you have any powers to stop pro-diet messages getting into schools?'

**Sadiq** 'I don't run schools, and I can't interfere with the curriculum, but one of the things we are doing is trying to get more counselling and expert advice into secondary schools. I know from personal experience, as a former school

governor and a parent, that if you are young and have issues around weight, it can affect your long-term self-esteem and confidence. Our focus is making sure Londoners are healthy, physically and mentally. We're asking schools to encourage all people – including staff – to do a mile's worth of exercise a day.'

**Harri** 'But some slimming clubs use schools for their meetings, so they advertise in schools too. This perpetuates the false idea that diets always work.'

**Sadiq** 'That's a good point: because they are using the premises, their posters stay up there and kids inadvertently see them. I'll look into it. From all the evidence, I agree with you that diets aren't effective. You can't have these crash-and-burn diets. Particularly in January: you'll see a record number of people starting them around now.'

**Becky** 'Finally, what's your opinion on the calls for eating to be banned on public transport?'

**Sadiq** 'It's not happening. I'd be against that, as somebody who often has to catch up on a snack in-between events on the bus and tube. I'm often known to have a flapjack on the bus.' ■  
→ Anti Diet Riot Fest. Colours Hoxton. @ Old St. Jan 19. £40-£50. [www.antidietriotclub.co.uk](http://www.antidietriotclub.co.uk).

## CITY ENVY

Great things that we love in other cities

### Copenhagen's free-for-all fruit trees



**PICTURE THE SCENE:** dodging through London's rush-hour crowds, you spot a handful of delicious blackberries on a nearby bush. You gobble them down and suddenly feel freer, wilder, and full of natural joy. Well, over in Copenhagen, this dreamy scenario will soon be a reality: the council has recently voted to plant communal fruit trees all around the city. Foraging is already huge in

Denmark (though, according to an ancient law, snack-hunters must be able to fit their harvest into a hat). There's even a foraging app, *Vild Mad*. Now the capital is going wild by planting fruit-bearing trees in churchyards, parks, playgrounds and sports facilities. Wouldn't it be nice if we too could head out and pick fresh fruit in Zone 1? Yes, it would. Berry nice indeed. ■ *El Hunt*

PORTRAITS: ANDY PARSONS





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# FREE LONDON

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



## MAKE IT SNAPPY

### Nan Goldin: 'Sirens'

You only have five days to catch legendary US photographer Nan Goldin's first show here since 2002 – and you're going to want to. That could be because her landscapes are noughties time capsules or because the portrait series of her transgender friends is touching and dreamy. Or it could simply be because her work once appeared on a Supreme skateboard. You do you.

→ Marian Goodman Gallery. ⊖ Piccadilly Circus. Until Sat Jan 11.

## SWITCH IT UP

### Swish & Style Clothes Swap

Don't tell the mate who bought you that horrendous T-shirt for Christmas, but you can go trade it for something better at this huge clothes swap. And, who knows? Maybe your trash is someone else's future favourite top.

→ Dragon Hall. ⊖ Covent Garden. Wed Jan 8.

## A-Z

### Unexpected Views: Mahtab Hussain

New year, new *intellectual* you? You're in luck. The National Gallery's monthly talks series kicks off this week. First up? Mahtab Hussain, an artist and researcher of the visual language of multiculturalism.

→ National Gallery. ⊖ Charing Cross. Fri Jan 10.

## PITCH PERFECT

### Royal Opera House: Live at Lunch

Squeeze a culture fix into your 1pm break on Friday and watch some of the top talent from the legendary Rambert dance company do its graceful thing for 45 minutes. You'll return to work at least 500 percent cleverer.

→ Royal Opera House. ⊖ Covent Garden. Fri Jan 10.

## GOLDEN YEARS

### Bowie at The Ship

Wardour Street's The Ship was David Bowie's pub of choice between '67 and '70. (We imagine him necking Jägerbombs.) Mark the anniversary of his death by watching acoustic performances of 'Ziggy Stardust' and 'Station to Station'.

→ The Ship. ⊖ Oxford Circus. Sat Jan 11.

Looking for things to do all year round? Try [timeout.com/free](https://www.timeout.com/free)

Crisp winter mornings sparkle under a layer of frost, adorning trees and pavements alike with glittering white, and steamy clouds of breath billow from the mouths of commuters on their way to work. But as we head further into the season and the weather takes a turn, problems can arise across the rail network.

When the mercury plummets, even the lightest shower of rain or dusting of snow can freeze and become compacted on the rails, turning into dangerous ice. Not only does this freeze around the electric rail and create an insulating effect preventing trains from drawing power and being able to move with any speed – in the worst cases, it prevents them from being able to move at all.

When winter weather strikes we run snow-and-ice-busting trains around the clock to

keep you moving. These special trains are kitted out with anti-icing fluid, which works in a similar way to salt gritters on the road, preventing our electric rail from freezing in the first place. And they apply an adhesion gel to the tracks so that trains can get grip.

# BREAKING THE ICE

insulation to further prevent ice build-up, particularly in places where trains change direction to other lines. That's right, the battle against snow

We also fit certain points along the tracks with heaters and NASA-grade insulation to further prevent ice build-up, particularly in places where trains change direction to other lines. That's right, the battle against snow and ice has become space age.

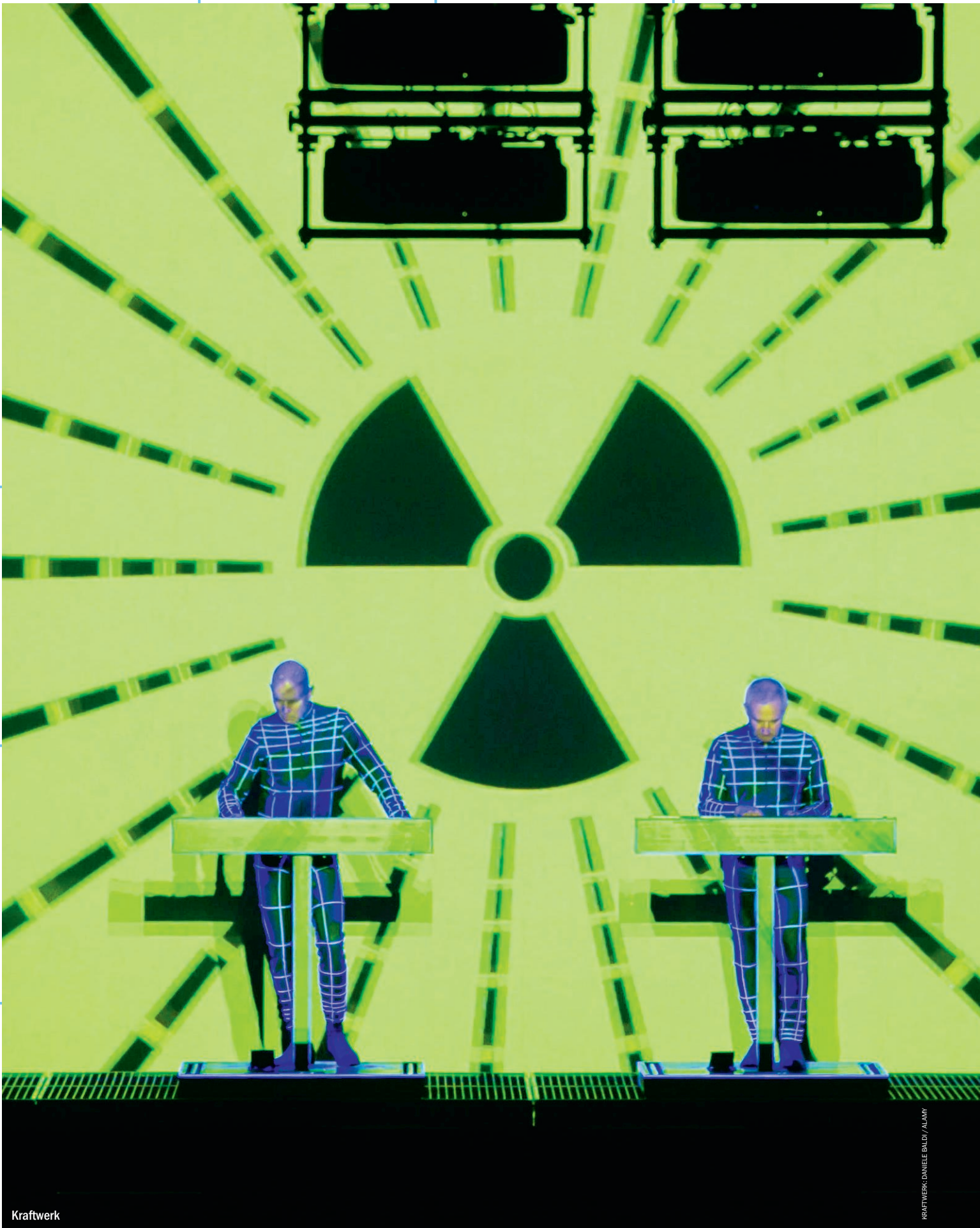
To try to keep disruptions to your journeys to a minimum, we may have to make some changes to our timetables when bad

weather hits. Some services will be less frequent, and some stations may close, but this allows us to complete all the work needed to keep you moving, albeit a little slower than usual to keep you and our staff as safe as possible.

## We know you've got places to go this winter.

**When the mercury drops, our snow-and-ice-busting trains will work around the clock to keep you moving.**

**Find out more at  
[southeasternrailway.co.uk/winter-weather](http://southeasternrailway.co.uk/winter-weather)**



Kraftwerk

KRAFTWERK DANIELE BALDI / ALAMY

# Welcome to

# 2020

Well done, you've made it to the new year with only a faint residual hangover holding you back. Now, let the Time Out team help you make 2020 a memorable one

## WINTER ❄️

### The Barbican launches a big new season

Dig into some whopping topics at the Barbican's year-long programme 'Inside Out', which explores the relationship between our lives and creativity. Highlights include boundary-breaking exhibition '**Masculinities: Liberation through Photography**'. If your new year's resolution is to be more cultured, you'll be set. *Isabelle Aron*  
→ Barbican Centre. ☉ Barbican. Throughout 2020. Prices vary.

### Brent becomes the new Borough of Culture

Last year, Waltham Forest had the honour of being the first ever London Borough of Culture – this year, it's Brent's time. If you're unfamiliar with the north-west borough, it spans Wembley, Kensal Green and Brent Park and is the birth place of Zadie Smith. The year-long programme includes an **opening celebration in Wembley Park** featuring 100 dancers and large-scale projections. Now that's Brent-ertainment. *IA*  
→ Various venues.

### King's Cross gets a handsome food hall

If you've been thinking, 'London could really do with a street food market,' you've probably not been paying much attention for the last few years. That said, **Goods Way**, in King's Cross, avoids being overkill by virtue of its New Orleans-inspired interior alone. Expect Breddos Tacos and The Duck Truck on the roster. *Bobby Palmer*  
→ 11 Goods Way.  
☉ King's Cross.  
Opens winter 2020.



Goods Way

### The bakery-wine bar hybrid of drunk dreams arrives

While you might have been cruelly snubbed by Harry and Meghan's wedding invitation list, you can still have your cake and eat it courtesy of star baker Claire Ptak. The maestro behind the royal wedding cake honed her craft on Broadway Market, and is now bringing her Violet brand to the corner of Mare Street. **Violet Corner** will offer two floors of freshly baked goodness, and feature a wine bar. *BP*  
→ 121-123 Mare St. Hackney Central Overground.  
Opens Jan 2020.

### 'Far Away' is suddenly very close

Few storytellers dig into abuses of power better than Caryl Churchill. So it's big news that '**Far Away**', potentially the winner of the hotly contested title of 'best Caryl Churchill play', is coming to London this year. It's an examination of the brutalities of war that escalates wildly to a global, interspecies conflict on a surreal scale with everything from animals to gravity taking part. *Kate Lloyd*  
→ Donmar Warehouse. ☉ Covent Garden. Feb 6-Mar 28. £10-£40.

### London gets a massive Steve McQueen retrospective

It's easy to find yourself getting jealous of **Steve McQueen**. The Turner Prize-winning artist is adept in photography, sculpture and film, which helped a bit when he dipped out of the art world to direct '12 Years a Slave' and, you know, win an Oscar. If you can hold back your envy, you'll be rewarded at Tate Modern with an exhibition of McQueen's works across two decades, from his early Super 8 film 'Exodus' to the more recent 'End Credits', a tribute to black civil rights activist Paul Robeson. *BP*  
→ Tate Modern. ☉ Southwark. Feb 13-May 11.



Brent becomes Borough of Culture





## SPRING

### Tilda Swinton season arrives

She's played a Dickensian great aunt, a zombie-fighting mortician, a superhero sorcerer and an immortal vampire – and that was just last year. Now one of the UK's most versatile film stars can add a BFI retrospective to her list of accomplishments, with the South Bank cinema hosting a **Swinton-centric season**. *BP*

→ BFI Southbank. ☉ Waterloo. March. Prices vary.

### The world's most famous cans come to London

In between pop art of slebs, this new **Andy Warhol** show features portraits of black and Latinx drag queens and trans women, which are on display

for the first time in 30 years. And yes, those iconic Campbell's soup tins will be in the mix too. *IA*

→ Tate Modern. ☉ Southwark. £22. Mar 12-Sep 6.

### The UK's largest fitness festival returns

**Hackney Festival of Fitness** is back in May. The main event is the Hackney Half, which saw a turnout of 17,000 runners last year. But there'll be loads of other ways to get sweaty. *BP*

→ Various east London venues. May 15-17. Prices vary.

### Kraftwerk headlines All Points East

Last year, we were given a hint about one of the **All Points East** bill: a band

celebrating their fiftieth anniversary. We thought: 'rock dinosaur'. Turns out it's actually German electronic pioneers Kraftwerk, who, in 1970, started a European love affair with synthesisers that would lead to techno and electro. *Oliver Keens*

→ All Points East. Victoria Park. Homerton Overground. May 29. £65.

### Expect a party under the M4

**Junction 2** treads a fine line between booking awesome names from the electronic underground (think

Honey Dijon), while also being a BIG affair. Witness the main stage, for example, which sits directly under the M4. *OK*

→ Boston Manor Park. ☉ Arnos Grove. Jun 5-6. Prices vary.



'Andy Warhol' at Tate Modern



Pokémon World Championships

J Hus

## 2020 IS ALL ABOUT

### Big pop gigs

Not content with a Glasto appearance and a slew of questionable Hackney and Brixton references in 'London Boy', freshly minted anglophile Taylor Swift will be heading back to her new favourite city to play **BST Hyde Park** (July 3-12). Swiftie fans will no doubt be thrilled to hear that

Little Mix are headlining another day of the festival, with support from Rita Ora and Kesha, even if an appearance by Pearl Jam might go over their heads. Further south, Brixton's **Mighty Hoopla** (June 6) will be headed up by a veritable buffet of blasts from the past: Anastacia, Gabrielle, Atomic Kitten and Natasha Bedingfield will all be there to belt out some singalong bangers. Alternatively, if you've had a little much of all the '90s nostalgia, Finsbury Park's **Wireless** (July 3-5) is sticking resolutely with the times – buy tickets to catch the likes of Cardi B, Travis Scott and homegrown hero J Hus.

## SUMMER ☀️

### The V&A gets curiouser

The V&A has spent years knocking it out of the park with immersive exhibitions on surprisingly specific subjects. Expect this to continue with its in-depth celebration of Lewis Carroll's trippy classic, **'Alice in Wonderland'**. *BP*

→ V&A. ☉ South Kensington.

From Jun 27. Prices vary.

### The Hayward takes an oral look at art

Appreciating art isn't just about looking at paintings and nodding earnestly, as **'Reverb: Sound into Art'** at the Hayward Gallery proves. The summer show will feature work

from 14 artists who use sound as their primary medium – whether that's music, noise or silence. You can expect to see installations that respond to the gallery's brutalist architecture, too (what does concrete sound like anyway?). *JA*  
→ Hayward Gallery. ☉ Waterloo. Jun 24-Sep 6. Prices TBC.

### Tyler, The Creator triumphantly returns

Following the release of his critically acclaimed genre-bending fifth album 'Igor' last year, a Tyler, The Creator headline show anywhere would be a big deal. The fact that this is the US rapper's first festival appearance since he was banned from the country by Theresa May (yes, really) makes it even more



Museum of the Home



## 2020 IS ALL ABOUT

### Old faves opening new venues

If 2019 was the year of queuing for restaurants, 2020 is the year of queuing for even more restaurants. That's because we're getting another **Padella** (date TBC) – the second offering from the Borough Market pasta supremos is set to open in Shoreditch early this year. Much-loved Sri Lankan restaurant **Hoppers** (February) will add a third location, in King's Cross, to its roster around the same time. Once you're fed, why not take in a film at **Kingston's new Curzon cinema**, opening in the Bentall Centre this summer. Or, if it's warmer, you might want to head to Beavertown's enormous **Beaverworld** complex (March), which sits right on the edge of the river Lea. As the name suggests, the brewery's new HQ is basically a theme park for hopheads. If all goes to plan, expect it to open in March. Oh, and don't quote us on the whole 'no queues' thing.

attendance-worthy. Catch him at **Lovebox** in July, assuming he makes it through customs. *BP*  
→ Gunnersbury Park. ☉ Acton Town. Jun 12-14. From £72.50.

### Your next favourite drinking spot lands in London

Over in New York, the **Nomad** hotel bar is known for its high-end pub grub, its 007-does-Wild-West styling and, most importantly, its fantastical cocktails. Now the hotel's opening in Covent Garden. Early renders show nineteenth-century architecture, shrubbery and velvet. As for the drinks? You'll have to wait and see. *KL*  
→ **Nomad**. ☉ Covent Garden. Opens summer.



Tyler, The Creator

### The Geffrye reopens

Don't it always seem to go that you don't know what you've got 'til it's gone? Such is the case with Hoxton's Geffrye Museum. It closed for an £18 million do-over in 2018. Now it's reopening as the **Museum of the Home** with double the gallery space. Here's hoping the quirky living room time tunnel has survived. *BP*  
→ Geffrye Almshouses. Hoxton Overground. Reopens summer.

### London fills with Pokémon

Forget the Tokyo Olympics. The real sporting highlight of year is the **Pokémon World Championships**. In its first iteration outside the US, trainers from Cinnabar Island to Vermilion City will compete in London. *BP*  
→ Location TBC. August.

## AUTUMN

### London's gets its first mural festival

It's easy to become complacent about a lot of the stuff painted on London's walls (largely because a lot of it is quite bad). But some of it is brilliant and it's time it was celebrated. Which is exactly what will happen at the **London Mural Festival**. More than 100 artists like Mr Doodle and Camille Walala will be creating large-scale paintings. *KL*  
→ Various venues. Sep 1-13. Prices TBC.

### Trans+ Pride protests for the safety of trans people

Thousands of Londoners made history last year when they headed to Piccadilly Circus as part of

MUSEUM OF THE HOME MAN: IMAGE: JAYNE LLOYD; SMALL IMAGE: 'ALL I WANT IS A ROOM SOMEWHERE', FROM THE NO PLACE LIKE HOME SERIES BY JONATHAN DONOVAN, ON SHOW IN THE NEW HOMES GALLERIES; TYLER, THE CREATOR: © OLLIE MILLINGTON/RN; VIA ZUMA PRESS





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'Sister Act'

London Mural Festival

## 2020 IS ALL ABOUT

### IRL musicals of your favourite movies

This October, London will play host to a no-expense-spared staging of the Disney smash **'Frozen'**. Think of this as your niece or nephew's 'Hamilton' moment, featuring the chance to scream along to 'Let It Go' with a thousand likeminded youngsters. But that's not the only singalong special coming. After winning plaudits across the pond, a Bryan Adams-penned version of your favourite hangover romcom, **'Pretty Woman: The Musical'**, will arrive in the capital in time for spring. Whoopi Goldberg is reprising her on-screen role in **'Sister Act'** on stage in July – with national treasure Jennifer Saunders as Mother Superior. Elsewhere, the animated film that defined your childhood – no, not 'The Lion King'; no, not 'Aladdin' either – **'The Prince of Egypt'** is hitting the West End in February. And while it might not have the staying power of the '90s Disney classics, the epic set pieces and Hans Zimmer score were born for the stage.

the city's first **Trans+ Pride**. Now the event's becoming annual, promising to remain an act of protest and speak out for safety and equality of trans people in London, as other Pride events become more corporate. The team are crowdfunding to ensure they are able to make it inclusive. *KL*

→ Venue TBC. Sep 12. Free.

#### Everyone's favourite performance artist comes to the RA

Imagine the situation: you're trying to squeeze through a doorway but there's a naked man on one side of you and a naked woman on the other. Whaddya do? That's one of the pieces that will be recreated at the Royal Academy's **Marina Abramović** exhibition, which features work spanning the artist's whole career. *KL*

→ Royal Academy. ⊕ Green Park. Sep 26-Dec 8. Prices TBC.

#### The Force heads to the Royal Albert Hall

If you hate choosing between highbrow culture and science-fiction blockbusters, this one's for you. The Royal Albert Hall hosts a **concert performance of 'Star Wars: Return of the Jedi'**. That means you can get all your Ewok kicks on the big screen, while the score is played live by the London Symphony Orchestra in the pit below. *BP*

→ Royal Albert Hall. ⊕ South Kensington. Oct 23-25. From £37.

#### Turner's turning up

Good old Will Turner's now one of the most canonical British artists. Back during the Industrial Revolution? He was a radical, capturing inventions with fresh style. See him in a new light in **'Turner's Modern World'**. *KL* ■

→ Tate Britain. ⊕ Westminster. Oct 28-Mar 7 2021. Prices TBC.

Marina Abramović

SISTER ACT: MATTHEW MURPHY AND OLIVER ROSSER; LONDON MURAL FESTIVAL: DALE GRIMSHAW; TYBALDSESTATE; MARINA ABRAMOVIĆ: TYLUSZMIJEWSKI/EPA/EFE/SHUTTERSTOCK

# Spice of Europe

**BUDAPEST**

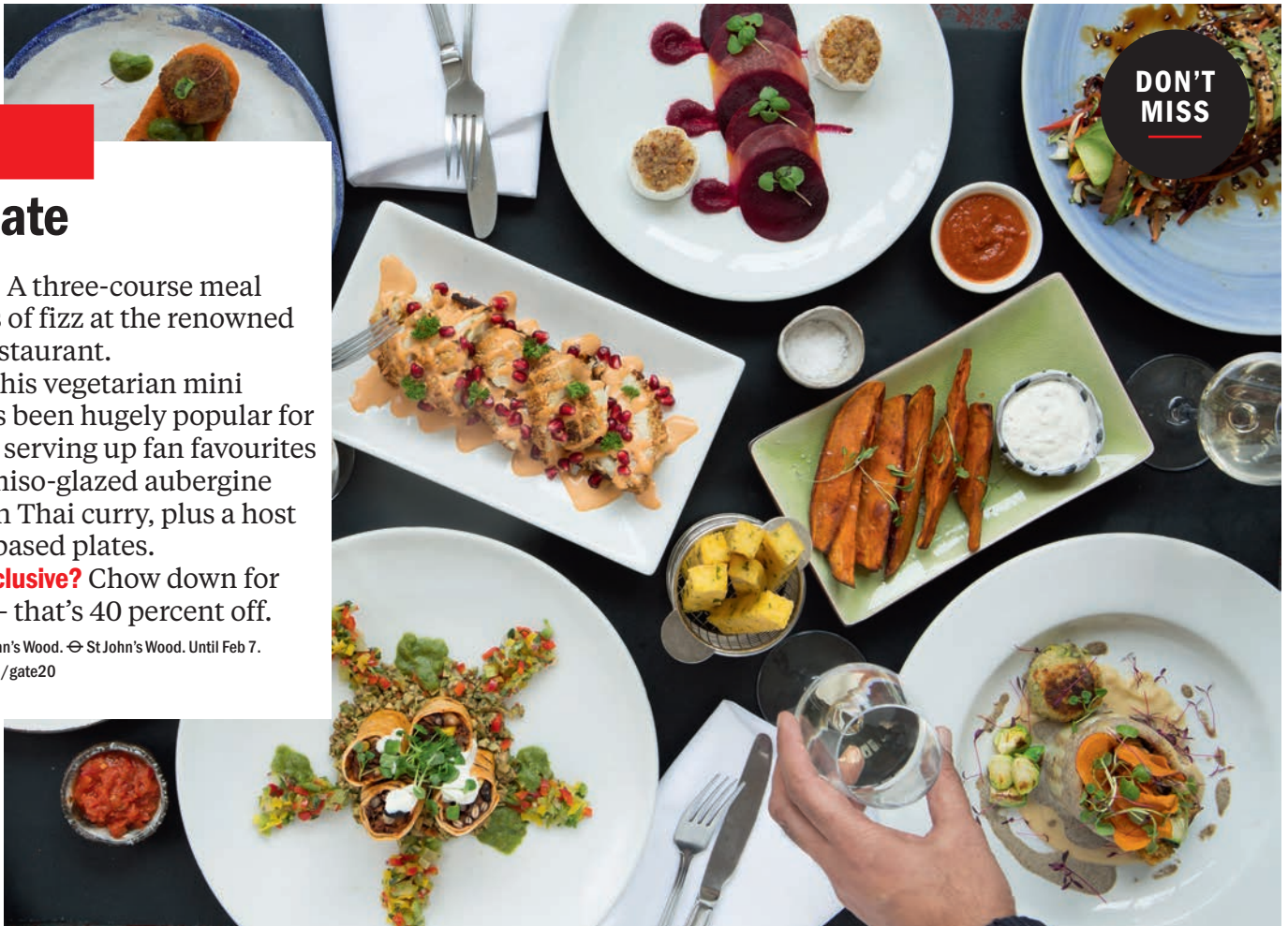
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# GO OUT WITH

## TimeOut

Food, drink, screenings, pop-ups: don't miss our exclusive offers and discounts



### The Gate

**What is it?** A three-course meal and glass of fizz at the renowned veggie restaurant.

**Why go?** This vegetarian mini chain has been hugely popular for 30 years, serving up fan favourites such as miso-glazed aubergine and green Thai curry, plus a host of plant-based plates.

**What's exclusive?** Chow down for just £24 – that's 40 percent off.

→ The Gate St John's Wood. ⊕ St John's Wood. Until Feb 7.  
[www.timeout.com/gate20](http://www.timeout.com/gate20)

### So Board

**What is it?** Boardgame events in London boozers where you can pit your prowess against your mates.

**Why go?** With more than 200 boardgames on offer, ranging from cult classics to the rude and ridiculous, these events are great for beating boredom on a budget.

**What's exclusive?** We're offering you two-for-one tickets plus 20 percent off drinks at selected venues.

→ Various locations. Select dates until Mar 9.  
[www.timeout.com/board](http://www.timeout.com/board)

### Gaucho

**What is it?** A stunning three-course steak dinner with free-flowing prosecco.

**Why go?** These Latin American steakhouses are some of London's finest. Delight in their picture-perfect plates with a glass (or two) of fizz at venues across the city.

**What's exclusive?** Enjoy the taste of Argentina for just £42.50 – saving you 60 percent. Tasty.

→ Various locations. Until Feb 13.  
[www.timeout.com/gaucho20](http://www.timeout.com/gaucho20)

### Kanishka

**What is it?** Six sharing dishes at this slick new Mayfair restaurant.

**Why go?** For some serious cooking from celebrated chef Atul Kochhar. Here he's combining original Indian flavours with top-notch British ingredients. Expect some very pretty plates indeed.

**What's exclusive?** This delicious deal is only £25 – plus you can add a cocktail for a fiver.

→ Kanishka. ⊕ Oxford Circus. Until Apr 3.  
[www.timeout.com/kanishka20](http://www.timeout.com/kanishka20)

### Plant-Powered Expo

**What is it?** Tickets to a brand new showcase of UK businesses that promote plant-based living.

**Why go?** The team behind VegFest is back, bringing together some of the biggest vegan lifestyle brands. Discover food and drink, fitness ideas, gardening and more.

**What's exclusive?** Save 66 percent on tickets – that's a whole lot of eco-friendly action for just £5.

→ Olympia London. ⊕ Kensington (Olympia). Feb 1-2. [www.timeout.com/plant](http://www.timeout.com/plant)

Theatre, music, events: get the best tickets in town at [timeout.com/london/offers](http://timeout.com/london/offers)

A man with long dark hair, wearing a black and orange wetsuit, is smiling and looking back over his shoulder. He is holding a white surfboard under his arm. The background is a bright, sunny beach with waves breaking in the distance.

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The logo for Jersey, featuring a stylized white 'J' shape above the word 'Jersey' in a white sans-serif font.

Jersey

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# Travel

Edited by Laura Richards  
timeout.com/travel



## Lapland is for life (not just for Christmas)

**DON'T LET THOSE** festive feelings thaw. The frosty wilderness of Lapland is now easier than ever to reach, meaning that winter fun can stretch well into the new year. You can fly from London direct to Finland's northernmost airport, Ivalo – a snow-capped village that's the definition of a winter wonderland. From peaceful walks over unspoilt icy fells to shooting through forests on a sleigh pulled by huskies, Finnish Lapland serves up post-Christmas Christmassy vibes by the stockingful. Keep an eye out for Santa; we hear he likes to hit the slopes off-duty.

### **1 It's got some top slopes**

Swap snow boots for skis at Saariselkä Ski School, a 20-minute drive south of Ivalo. Whizz down slopes from green to black, for around £82 for three hours. If that's too steep (and we're not talking incline), try Aurora Tobogganing for £38. It's an easy-ish ride illuminated by a dreamy light show, and you can even sled down on your backside (that's more like it).

### **2 You can snuggle up with huskies**

Give off your best alpha-dog vibe while steering a pack of five

galloping Alaskan and Siberian huskies, which pull you on a wooden sled through the hills of Saariselkä. A one-hour trip with Frozen Lake Husky takes you deep into the forest, led by owner and dog whisperer Erika. She even allows time for a snuggle with the adorable puppies. We think that's worth the £59 alone.

### **3 Saunas are everywhere**

After playing out in temperatures well below freezing, it makes sense to pile into a hot cabin. In Finland, it's not unusual to take a daily sauna – most apartments have their own private



SNOWBILLES DELPIVEL / SHUTTERSTOCK.COM



facilities, so you'll likely have a sauna where you're staying, even if it's an Airbnb. Go full Finnish and get naked. You'll just need your best avoiding-eye-contact-on-the-tube face.

#### 4 Snowmobiles fly you through the forest

If you're going to splash out once on your trip, make it on snowmobiling. The Star Arctic Hotel and Wilderness Centre offers a range of outdoor jaunts, from berry-picking to canoeing,

and its Snowmobile Safari is a blast. After getting kitted out, you'll throw a beast of a machine across the wild and frosty hills. It costs around £150, but it's so very worth it.

#### 5 The reindeer run wild

There are more reindeer than people in Finnish Lapland and they roam freely, so you've got a good chance of meeting one. Spot them migrating over mountains or snuffling for lichen. Don't be fooled by their peaceful nature, though, these guys can move. See them go

full throttle at the annual Reindeer Championships in Inari (February 3-9), where trained animals compete for the title of Finland's fastest. Our money's on Rudolf.

#### 6 Snow-shoeing helps you soak up nature

One thing you'll notice in Lapland: it's totally silent. Finns adore the tranquillity of nature and long walks through hushed fells. But 50cm of the white stuff can make it tricky, if not dangerous, to set off on a ramble. We'd advise a two-hour walk with Visit Inari (£63), which includes a hot drink, big ol' snow shoes and a clued-up local guide.

#### 7 There's a smokin' food scene

With such harsh winters, Finns have mastered food preservation. Pickled and smoked ingredients are everywhere, and add a rich dimension to meals. Visit Laanilan Kievari, a restaurant in a wooden hut with a roaring open fire. The family-run joint has an '80s vibe, serving specialities like home-smoked salmon, reindeer and brown bear (it tastes a bit like beef). There's also a sauna, because Finland.

#### 8 You can catch fish (or try to!) on frozen lakes

Let's be honest, you probably won't catch any fish. But after you've ridden in a heated sled pulled by a snowmobile into the centre of a huge frozen lake, swooned at the picture-perfect scenery and marvelled at the quiet, you really won't mind. Try the Ice Fishing tour (£58) with Aurora Village Ivalo, which includes a guru to help you bag some trout.

#### 9 You might spy the Northern Lights

These fluttering ribbons of light draw visitors to Finland like moths to a flame, and even locals gush about their beauty. Finnish folklore says that they were put in the sky by the tail of a fox as it ran across the mountains – a far more enchanting explanation than colliding particles. But like a bouncer at a nightclub, the Aurora Borealis can't be coaxed into dancing. If you miss them, no biggie. You'll just have to come back. ■



By Lucy Lovell  
Who is training to become a dog whisperer.



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# ESSENTIAL Toronto

Poutine, pottery and pot

## What's the deal with Toronto?

This city is full of surprises. First, you discover that Drake did not, in fact, start from the bottom. He started in Forest Hill, one of the most affluent boroughs in the district. Then, you learn that Toronto deals in so much more than lumberjacks, maple syrup and snow; this city is one of the most multicultural places in the world. It's also pretty big – bigger than Montreal. Yet, behind all the highways and towering concrete and glass, there's a laidback scene for foodies, culture junkies, dog spotters or anyone craving a high. It's one of the greenest cities going – and in more ways than one.

Berczy Park dog fountain



## If you only do one thing

Toronto is famous for sports: in particular, the winter kind. Sound the air horn for the **Hockey Hall of Fame** where you can geek out over games and Wayne Gretzky memorabilia, then climb the famous **CN Tower**. Let's go, Maple Leafs!

## Dine in style

Brunch is best eaten at **Maison Selby** in St James Town, built as a hotel in the 1800s. Ernest Hemingway stayed here during a stint at the *Toronto Star*, so make it an Ernest breakfast with a mimosa on the side of your pain perdu.

## Eat on the cheap

Try crispy sprouts at **Bar Sybanne**, gorge on pierogi at **The Ossington Stop** or eat around the globe by walking block to block with **Eating Through Toronto** (tours start at £38). You won't need help finding Canada's finest creation – there's a **Smoke's Poutinerie** in most corners with chips, cheese and gravy for £3.

## Stay up late

If you like smooth cocktails and '70s disco, **Supernova Ballroom** is your scene. Ingredients

## HANG OUT IN THIS 'HOOD

Where a spaghetti-shaped network of railway lines meet you'll find **The Junction**, Toronto's industrial epicentre and the perfect place to stay if you're exploring the city. It has a much slower pace than downtown, so you'll enjoy retreating to one of its independent coffee shops or microbreweries. Book an Airbnb here and live like you're an OG local.

are locally sourced and used considerably to minimise waste. And despite its financial district setting, you won't need to float your savings on the market to drink here.

## Get (legally) high

Even non-smokers will marvel at Toronto's cannabis stores. **The Hunny Pot Cannabis Co** on Queen Street West has three floors of oils, flowers and paraphernalia while **Ameri** in Yorkville is the Apple Store of pot – compare 49 strains of the green stuff on iPads.

## Soak up the vibes

Inside the former location of Canada's largest distilling company you'll now find the **Distillery District**, home to fashion, food and artisanal produce. Spend the day buying gifts, sipping suds at **Mill Street Brewery** and people-watching.

## Get cultural

Hit up the **Royal Ontario Museum** for natural wonder, go potty for pottery at the **Gardiner Museum** or get your art fix at **The Museum of Contemporary Art**. Or go slightly bizzaro with a well-heeled walk back through time at the **Bata Shoe Museum** – marvel at Elton John's platform boots.



Bata Shoe Museum

## Take a day trip

Two facts about **Niagara Falls**: more than 700,000 gallons of water crash over its edge every second, and 50 wineries dot the lush expanses of surrounding countryside. Like the sound of the latter? Many trips from Toronto include transfers and catering, so you can enjoy the whole area's refreshing reputation.

## Only in Toronto

Dog lover? So, it would seem, are Torontonians. There are 230,000 pups in this city (with 2.8 million owners), and 65 off-leash areas (aka pooch parks) in which to spot them. You can also marvel at **Berczy Park's** dog fountain, where 27 breeds spout arcs of aquamarine. Pick up a poutine-flavoured souvenir for your furry friends at **Timmie Doggie Outfitters**. ■ *Samantha Willis*





# SALE

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**ABTA**  
ABTA No W325X



# Things to Do

Edited by **Katie McCabe**  
timeout.com/thingstodo @timeoutlondon



## Cling to that festive feeling



Not quite ready to face 2020? Wring out that last mulled drop of Christmas cheer with the remaining 'seasonal' things to do in the city

### Go to Skate Lates at Somerset House

Never made it to the big shiny, showy ice rink at Somerset House? Then see it at its best with Skate Lates, a club night on ice with a very decent line-up of DJs – strictly no cheese. Try not to fall arse over tit as you slide around to dark trap and grime from London clubnight Night Dreams, and a set from Girls Can't DJ founder Jordss. A whizz around the ice and a rinkside hot chocolate should help feed that 'it's still Christmas' denial.

→ Somerset House. ☉ Temple. Fri Jan 10. £17.

### Have a look at the last of London's Christmas lights

Most of London's major Christmas light installations will be packed away into their giant boxes by January 6. But like a visiting uncle with no self-awareness, the 'Wave' installation in Belgravia will be sticking around just a few days

longer than normal. Made up of 500 colourful glowing orbs, 'Wave' is loosely inspired by the concept of chromotherapy, with lights that are designed to make visitors feel more energised and at ease.

→ Eccleston Yards.  
☉ Victoria. Until Sat  
Jan 11. Free.

### See festive films on the ice at Queens

Watch classic movies from a deckchair that's plonked on an actual ice rink at Queens in Bayswater for the last 'festive' cinema pop-up. Catch screenings of 'Wall-E', 'The Greatest Showman' or 'Dirty Dancing'. Look out for the servers who'll be skating around selling popcorn.

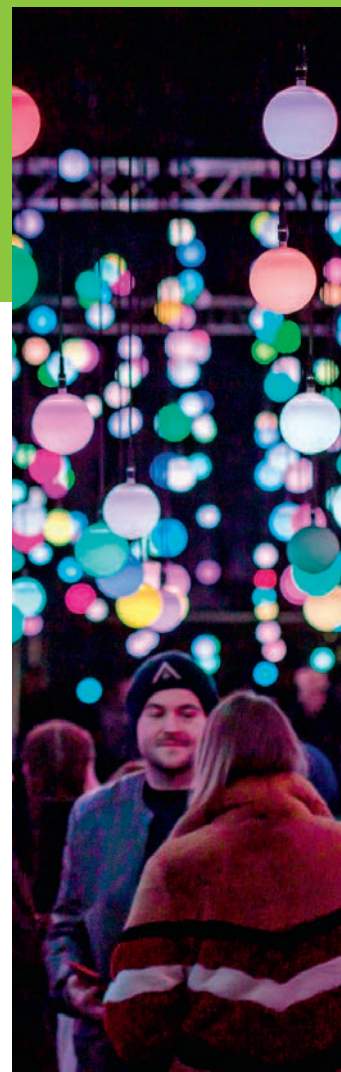
→ Queens. ☉ Bayswater. Until  
Jan 26. £14.50.

### Visit Hogwarts in the Snow

The Hogwarts Express is about to depart, but there's still time to see the Great Hall decked out for the Yule Ball (if you can cope with the crowds and queues). See dripping icicles, snow-covered Christmas trees, an orchestra playing silver instruments, turkey and burning Christmas puddings laid out on the table. The Gryffindor

Common Room will feature original props with Christmas cards created by cast members. If you can't get tickets, just treat yourself to another hungover viewing of 'Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban'.

→ Studio Tour Drive. Watford Junction  
Overground then bus. Until Jan 26.  
£47, booking essential.



SKATE AT SOMERSET HOUSE WITH FORTNUM & MASON © LUKE DYSON; JPG: HOGWARTS IN THE SNOW: DAN WONG PHOTOGRAPHY

Hogwarts in the Snow



'Wave' at Eccleston Yards



Somerset House ice rink



'Dirty Dancing' at Festive Films on the Ice

Get 2020 vision at [timeout.com/january](http://timeout.com/january)

### Swap unwanted gifts for sex toys

Got a 'Killing Eve' DVD box set for Christmas when you no longer own a DVD player? Take your unwanted gifts to the South Bank for the Sex Not Socks gift swap, where you can trade them for a sex toy from the Lovehoney 'lucky dip' sack. The presents will then be donated to a homeless charity. Bulky items aren't welcome, so no trying to palm off your unused face steamer in exchange for a butt plug.

→ Observation Point. ☹ Waterloo. Jan 14.  
Bring a gift or give a donation.

### Say bye to The Queen's House ice rink

With its grand English baroque architecture, verdant green spaces and excessive quaintness, there's just something indecently Christmassy about Greenwich. Even more so when you visit this outdoor ice rink. Get yourself to south London before Sunday and you can do one final loop of the ice while taking in some sweet views of London. And yes, it's still doing mulled wine. Greenwich does not give up on Christmas that easily.

→ Queen's House. Maze Hill rail. Until Sun Jan 12.  
£13.50-£16.

### Catch one of the last Christmas theatre shows

The final curtain has long since fallen for the majority of London's panto productions, but the Old Vic's ebullient retelling of 'A Christmas Carol' will be running until January 18. The play, created by hit writer Jack Thorne, is narrated by a rowdy chorus of costumed spirits. As our reviewer put it: 'It looks like a Victorian slum party on opium, and sounds, at its heights, like a choir of angels'. ■ *Katie McCabe and Angela Hui*

→ Old Vic. ☹ Waterloo. Until Jan 18. £12-£67.50.

## DIGITAL COURSES

Illuminated Origami  
Saturday 18 January

Get to Know Your Camera  
Wednesday mornings,  
29 January – 25 March

Constructive Fashion Illustration  
Saturday 1 February

Introduction to Robotics  
Friday 7 & Saturday 8 February

Data Visualisation  
Tuesday evenings,  
18 February – 24 March

## EVENING TALKS

Filthy Lucre: Darren Waterston  
in Conversation  
Friday 24 January

Surrealism Then and Now  
Tuesday 28 January

Fashionopolis  
Friday 14 February

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# SOMETHING FOR THE WEEKEND

## Friday



### Hidden Stories of Hyde Park

Get acquainted with the secrets of this famous London park with a rare opportunity to explore the Victorian pet cemetery, which is crowded with more than 600 tiny animal gravestones. Morbid!

→ Hyde Park. ☉ Marble Arch. Fri Jan 10. £10.

### SING Sing-a-Long-a 'Dirty Dancing'

Have the time of your life by hollering along to the film's banger-filled soundtrack. Dress up, grab a bag of props and sway like Swayze.

→ Prince Charles Cinema.  
☉ Leicester Square. Fri Jan 10. £17.

### PARTY The Travelling Circus

Bestival founders Josie and Rob da Bank are behind this big top-themed bar. Go to see acrobats, sword-swallowers and neck Fire Eater cocktails.

→ Mercato Metropolitano.  
☉ Elephant & Castle. Until Feb 1. £20.

## Saturday



### How to Eat Your Christmas Tree

Don't bin your fir. Learn how to turn it into dinner at this evergreen-themed feast with courses of douglas fir jelly and blue spruce ice cream.

→ Host of Leyton. Leyton Midland Rd Overground.  
Sat Jan 11. £37.

**SWAP Swish and Style**  
Realise your resolution to reduce waste by exchanging your unwanted clothes for someone else's pre-loved garms at this swap shop.

→ Round Chapel.  
Hackney Central Overground.  
Sat Jan 11. Free.

### SLAM Eve Riot Grrrls of Wrestling

Watch this crew of spandex-wearing ladies perform patriarchy-smashing wrestling stunts.

→ 229 The Venue. ☉ Regent's Park. Sat Jan 11. £20.

## Sunday

### No Trousers Tube Ride

Being willing to take off your pants and keep a straight face about it are the only requirements for joining this semi-starkers group trip on the underground.

→ Meet opposite the Canton restaurant, Newport Place.  
☉ Leicester Square. Sun Jan 12. Free.



Keep on rocking in the flea world [timeout.com/markets](http://timeout.com/markets)

### BUY Big London Flea

Pick your way through 50 stalls at this flea where veteran vintage-sellers flog their wares alongside locals clearing their attics.

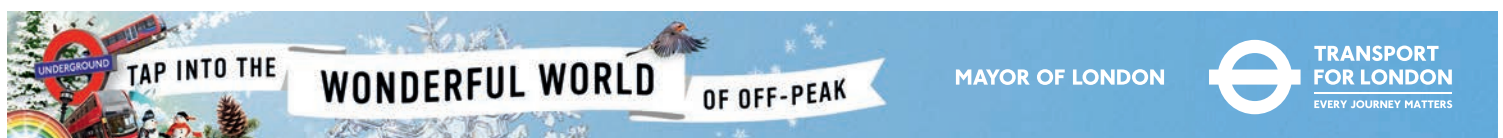
Sharp eyes at the ready.  
→ Earth. Dalston Kingsland Overground. Sun Jan 12. £1.

### LISTEN TS Eliot Prize Readings

Hear the wordsmiths shortlisted for this prestigious prize read out their poems, then guess who'll scoop the £25,000 winnings.

→ Royal Festival Hall.  
☉ Waterloo. Sun Jan 12. £12-£15.

EAT YOUR CHRISTMAS TREE: SPRUCE CURED SALMON COUNTER, PHOTO BY JULIA GEORGALLIS; NO TROUSERS ON TUBE: STEPHEN CHUNG/LNP/SHUTTERSTOCK





# Madagascar in the frame

## A community living without clean water

Their story told in an unmissable new photographic exhibition at Fujifilm House of Photography 8-9 Long Acre, Covent Garden Until 31 January

Search: WaterAid Time



### WHY I LOVE

# Ciné-Real

Katie McCabe believes this 16mm film club has created the best movie night in town



Ümit Mesut, co-founder of Ciné-Real film club

#### It's run by a London legend

What makes a Ciné-Real screening different from a normal night at the cinema? Its organiser, a trained projectionist called Ümit Mesut, who set up the night with the help of film director Liam Saint-Pierre. He's the owner of Ümit & Son, a film emporium in Clapton that's filled with towers of Super 8 and Super 16 film reels. Ever seen 'Cinema Paradiso'? Well, Ümit is Alfredo, only with an East End accent and a more impressive moustache.

#### The programming is unpredictable

Ciné-Real exclusively screens movies on 16mm, but undamaged film reels are not easy to come by so there is a limit to what can be shown. That distillation of choice can be a blessing, as there's no set theme. The only aim is a great cinematic experience, whether that means a screening of 'ET' or Jean-Luc Godard's 'Alphaville'.

#### It's a form of time travel

Ciné-Real events take place in the art deco diamond that is The Castle Cinema. Ümit projects each film, so you can see him in his element working with his own equipment just a few seats away, and listen to the whirr and snap of the film as it plays. There's even an intermission to allow reel changes.

#### It can change the way you think about film

Fetishisation of the past can be exhausting, but Ümit's commitment to celluloid is infectious rather than preachy. As he explains to the audience before most screenings, a film on 16mm can reproduce colours that digital cannot, at least not in the same way. Ciné-Real isn't a resistance against digital, but an elegant case for why both formats should coexist. ■

→ Next screening: 'The Maltese Falcon'. The Castle Cinema. Homerton Overground. Jan 23 and 26. £10.

Find more great movie nights at [timeout.com/thingstodo](http://timeout.com/thingstodo)

JUST OPENED

# Museum of Neoliberalism

**WHATEVER YOU TAKE** away from the Museum of Neoliberalism, you definitely won't forget the display 'Bottle of Amazon employee urine'. According to the museum, it came from a worker in one of the company's fulfilment centres who passed up a toilet break in order not to fall behind on work targets. It's just one of the ways this place confronts you with how modern economic structures have trickled down into people's everyday lives.

Tucked between a laundrette and a hairdressers in an unassuming post-war shopping centre in Lewisham, the museum explains its purpose in a window sign: 'to look

back on neoliberalism, what it has done to our world; and what might lie beyond it'. Turns out, it's quite scary stuff.

The exhibition, which begins with a display setting out the main players of twentieth-century neoliberalism, has been created by satirical artist Darren Cullen and Gavin Grindon, a lecturer at the

University of Essex who curated parts of Banksy's Dismaland.

Like the suspects board of a detective on the edge, it's covered in a criss-cross of red string connecting images of Margaret Thatcher, George W Bush, Tony Blair, David Cameron and Boris Johnson.

You're then exposed to the ways capitalism has seeped into our lives,

from Scouts badges embroidered with oil company logos to a replica of the cladding and insulation at Grenfell Tower.

Regardless of your political persuasion, it's hard not to be moved. The museum admits that it 'may seem dispiriting', but it'll stoke a fire in your belly for change. ■  
*Alexandra Sims*



**WHAT IS IT...**  
A small DIY museum that exposes the evils of modern-day economics.

**WHY GO...**  
To find out what 'neoliberalism' actually means.

→ 16 Eltham Rd, SE12 8TF. Lee rail. Closing date tbc. Free, booking in advance is recommended.

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Resolution 2020

Dense about contemporary dance? Change that in 2020 with a visit to the UK's biggest festival of choreography. See shows from emerging dance artists, or throw some shapes of your own at a workshop.

→ The Place. ↻ Euston. Thu Jan 9-Feb 22. Prices vary.

THREE OF THE BEST

OTT yoga classes



Kilted Yoga

Swap sweatpants for a kilt at this 60-minute Forrest yoga sesh with 'kilted yogi' Finlay Wilson. You don't have to wear a kilt to join in, but if you do, underpants are optional.

→ London Scottish House. ↻ St James's Park. Sat Jan 11. £12.



Disco Yoga brunch

Practise your downward-facing dog to some disco tunes then dive into a bottomless brunch. Wear your shiniest spandex and sequins as there's a prize for the best dressed every week. Be warned, this is definitely not one for yoga purists.

→ Boulevard Theatre. ↻ Piccadilly Circus. Sat Jan 11.

£40, £50 with bottomless prosecco.



Gallery Yoga

Get bendy on a Sunday morning while surrounded by artworks from the Dutch Golden Age at Dulwich Picture Gallery. After the stretch session, you'll get early access to the gallery's 'Rembrandt's Light' exhibition. Angela Hui

→ Dulwich Picture Gallery. West Dulwich rail. Jan 19. £25.

After a more straightforward class? Try [timeout.com/yoga](https://www.timeout.com/yoga)

**mime**  
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14 Jan – 1 Feb  
**London International Mime Festival**  
Universal stories told differently

Image © Richard Termine

Featuring shows from:  
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Peeping Tom,  
Fleur Elise Noble  
and Nick Lehane

**barbican**



EXPLORE

**S From Space Oddity To Starman: Bowie's Beckenham Tour**

It's been four years since we lost the Starman. Celebrate the Beckenham-bred superstar on this epic guided tour exploring his hometown and rise to stardom. Visit the site of the now-demolished Haddon Hall, where the first Ziggy Stardust outfit was supposedly stitched together, and see the venue where he rehearsed for the 'Hunky Dory' album. → Meet at Beckenham Junction rail. Sat Jan 12. £20, book in advance.

**W 'The Tiger Who Came to Tea'**

Step into the world of Judith Kerr's wonderful children's classic at this fiftieth anniversary exhibition. See Kerr's childhood drawings, learn about her experience of escaping Germany as Hitler came to power, revisit scenes from the book and tuck into tiger-themed treats. → Osterley House & Park. ⇨ Osterley. Sat Jan 11-Mar 1. £12 admission.

PARTY

**W Warmth for the Streets**

The only entry requirement to this shindig is to donate some warm clothing on the door that can be given to the homeless to help them keep warm over winter. Bring along jumpers, coats or duvets, then spend the night listening to comedians and dancing to a set from Kiss FM DJ Justin Wilkes. → Trailer Happiness. ⇨ Ladbroke Grove. Sat Jan 11. Free.

TO DO

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Graphic: Identity © The National Gallery, London

WATCH

**E Doc'n Roll LDN: 'Rudeboy: The Story of Trojan Records'**

The rebellious musical film fest is back for a special screening of this doc telling the story of the iconic Croydon record label. Stick around after for a Q&A and DJ set from dub legend Sir Lloyd Coxson. → Number 10 London. London Fields Overground. Thu Jan 9. £15.40.

**C 'More Than Just a Pretty Face - Alt Drag Revolution'**

The London Short Film Festival kicks off with a screening of boundary-pushing films showcasing 1980-90s drag from London-born club kid Jeffrey Hinton's archives. Commentary is provided by Baby Lane, That Ray, Wesley Dykes, Drag Syndrome and Lilly Snatchdragon. → ICA. ⇨ Charing Cross. Fri Jan 10. £14.

**S An Evening with the Stars**

See the constellations through the 18-tonne Great Equatorial Telescope and catch a planetarium show at this celestial experience. → Royal Observatory. Cutty Sark DLR. Until Jan 25. £24.

JOIN IN

**E The Art of Tea Leaf Reading**

Want to know what 2020 has in store? Professional diviner Freya Ingva hosts this tea-leaf reading sesh where she'll interpret the soggy lumps in your mug and hopefully give you some good news. → Hucks. ⇨ Walthamstow Central. Wed Jan 8. £20.

LISTEN

**C Arab Christmas**

Across the Arab World, Orthodox Christians and Egyptian Coptics celebrate Christmas on January 7. Join them by listening to Syriac, Coptic and Byzantine chants at this service hosted by Palestinian singer Reem Kelani. → St Martin-in-the-Fields. ⇨ Charing Cross. Tue Jan 7. £15.

**E Live Music and Spoken Word Open Mic**

If 'perform at an open mic' is on your resolutions list, get to this night in the depths of Docklands. Hear performances from local talent then muster up the courage to sign up yourself. → Raw Labs. Gallions Reach DLR. Fri Jan 10. Free.

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# Film

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

## TIME OUT MEETS

# Sam Mendes

The ex-Bond director on his new epic  
'1917' and why he stans for Covent Garden.  
Portrait *Andy Parsons*

**HAVING MADE TWO** Bond films in 'Skyfall' and 'Spectre', Sam Mendes isn't desperately keen to chat about a third one. 'If there's one way to take your mind out of it, it's to make a movie as engrossing as this one,' he says of the transition from 007 to '1917', steering the conversation gently but unmistakably back to his Oscar-tipped war epic.

You can forgive him sounding testy when facing the inevitable questions about Bond: his brilliant, spectacularly ambitious new World War I film has been an all-consuming journey. Following two British soldiers (George MacKay and Dean-Charles Chapman) behind enemy lines, it's shot in really, really long takes stitched together with invisible edits. 'There were days when it seemed ridiculous,' he laughs.

**'Every day at some point I thought: Why have I done this to myself?'**

**Did you have any moments where you thought: Okay, I've bitten off a bit much here?**

'Every day at some point I thought: Why have I done this to myself? I was sort of trapped a bit by the script. I wrote it with Krysty [Wilson-Cairns] but really it was my idea, so I couldn't look to someone else to get me out of it. I'd do a seven-minute take and, after six minutes and 30 seconds of magic, someone trips and you have to start again. That can be heartbreaking. But when you do get it, it's such a high.'

**Do you have a favourite continuous shot in cinema?**

'There's one in "Children of Men" where Clive Owen enters a besieged building. I looked at it in pre-production to see if it was as good [as I remembered] and came away thinking: Yes, it was.'

**Your grandfather inspired the story. What do you think he'd have made of the film?**

'He spent 60 years not talking about what happened to him, presumably because he found it extremely traumatic. But being the man he was, I think he'd have embraced it.'

**The film feels meticulously researched. Did the Imperial War Museum café know your lunch order off by heart?**

'It's an incredible resource but I didn't spend a lot of time there. I had two historical researchers and I told them: "Tell us what we're doing wrong." Occasionally, I'd ignore it because you want to make the story come alive rather than please the historical nerds in the audience.'

**World War I has been treated in so many ways. Did you have a liberal attitude towards people quoting 'Blackadder Goes Forth' on set?**

[Laughs] 'You know what? I was the one quoting it. No one else did. It's still one of the most moving World War I moments of all, the last scene in "Blackadder Goes Forth".'

**Having said goodbye to James Bond, how did it feel watching the trailer for 'No Time to Die'?**

'Great: I can't wait. I'll be there watching it. But I've been so in the tunnel of this movie that the fact they've made it is amazing. The time has flown by.'

**How do Bond and '1917' compare in terms of scale and complexity? Was this harder or easier?**

'I learned a lot doing Bond, no question. Bond is bigger and is more scattered: you're often having to shoot in one place and judge second and third units from other places. Even when you're shooting in one place, you're using seven or eight cameras. To go from that to just one camera and two hours of real time is a blessing.'





**It must be a little strange to be in the dark having done so much to plot the arc of Daniel Craig's Bond?**

'It's exciting. Bond is a contemporary myth and you tell your chapter of it and then it's someone else's job to carry the torch. I'm a big fan of Cary [Fukunaga]: I thought "True Detective" was brilliant. I think they're in pretty safe hands.'

**What inspires you about London?**

'I'm a Covent Gardenite. I've been working there for 29 years, since the beginning of the Donmar [theatre] and my office is still there. It's changed a lot but I still love it. The place still has a spirit about it, even since its gentrification. When I was first on Neal Street there was the clog shop and the kite store and

[vegetarian restaurant] Food for Thought. Now there's loads of shoe shops.'

**So: stairs or lift at Covent Garden station?**

'I always take the stairs because a) I don't get very much exercise and b) I get claustrophobic in the lift.'

**Do people chat to you on the tube?**

'Not much. At the height of Bond people would shout out: "Good job, mate!" but very little abuse. I admire and respect people who deal with genuine fame because for me it'd like being deprived of oxygen.' ■



**By Phil de Semlyen**  
Who took all his friends to the Imperial War Museum for his eleventh birthday.

**FILM OF THE WEEK**



**1917**



**A HIT OF** pure adrenaline, Sam Mendes's stunning, sorta-single-take '1917' hits its greatest heights when darkness falls. A British tommy dusts himself off from a glancing wound, wanders to the window of a broken-down house and, in one invisible cut, emerges into the skeletal, hellish remains of a French town. It's at once an epic piece of filmmaking and, quite possibly, the greatest 'person walks into a town' moment in cinema since Claudia Cardinale in 'Once Upon a Time in the West'.

At its core, '1917' is a simple men-on-a-mission story dressed up with all the technical bells and whistles at the director's disposal. The men are lance corporals Schofield (George MacKay) and Blake (Dean-Charles Chapman), who are summoned into the trenches for a hurried briefing from Colin Firth's General Erinmore. Their mission? To deliver a message to stop a planned attack before morning.

Initially, the duo brave the half-familiar horrors of an Otto Dix nightmare of no-man's land. Then they, and the film, disappear into a subterranean realm below the German lines and it's clear what Mendes has in mind: a quasi-horror movie.

Even more than Christopher Nolan's 'Dunkirk', '1917' is a wildly audacious reinvention of its genre. The script, co-written by Krysty Wilson-Cairns, honours the historical truth of this eerie moment and invites us into a strange, hellish hinterland that even the best Great War films haven't explored. The stories of Mendes's own grandpa, a WWI veteran, inspired it and Mendes Sr, it turns out, has helped create possibly his grandson's best film yet. ■ *Phil de Semlyen*

**WHAT IS IT...**

A radical reinvention of the Great War movie filled with technical wizardry.

**WHY GO...**

It's an uncanny tour de force and a new vision of WWI.

→ Director Sam Mendes (15) 119 mins.

## Film

# Seberg



**AN ACTOR WHOSE** tragic trajectory is the stuff of Hollywood infamy, Jean Seberg is still probably most famous for redefining cool in a *Herald Tribune* T-shirt in Jean-Luc Godard's 'Breathless'. 'Seberg', a well-intentioned but pedestrian account of her real-life dalliance with the Black Panthers and subsequent persecution by the FBI, won't change that, though it might change the perception of Kristen Stewart's range. Her performance burns with far greater intensity than the middling material that surrounds it.

Closer to a surveillance drama than a biopic, 'Seberg' shows this idealistic, unguarded starlet trying to put her fame and wealth to good use by supporting the civil rights movement – and demonstrates how easily that narrative was hijacked by the establishment. She meets Black Panther Hakim Jamal (Anthony Mackie) on a flight, falls into bed with him and is soon deep into '60s racial politics and radicalism.

The film is at its best depicting how easily a Hollywood star could needle the paranoid authorities, and the precarious soft power that fame lent her. 'We need a shotgun to get people's attention,' a Panther tells Seberg, 'you get a haircut, you're on the front cover of *Life* magazine.'

It ought to be a juicy enough story without fictional bolt-ons, but that's what the screenplay



offers with the addition of a conflicted FBI agent (Jack O'Connell, solid enough) and his bigoted boss (Vince Vaughn, Vince Vaughn-ing). This subplot is meant to provide a handy entrée into J Edgar Hoover's prurient, morally bankrupt surveillance culture – O'Connell's G-man learns that 'Hoover likes to hear the bed springs creak' – but only serves to drag things off topic. Stewart's firebrand turn deserves better. So does Seberg. ■  
*Phil de Semlyen*

**WHAT IS IT...**  
Hollywood star Jean Seberg falling foul of the FBI in '60s America.

**WHY GO...**  
For Kristen Stewart strutting her stuff sporting Seberg's famous pixie crop.

→ Director Benedict Andrews (15) 102 mins.

## HEADS UP Scenes in the Square

A new interactive sculpture trail is landing in Leicester Square to celebrate its role in a century of cinema. Film icons from Laurel & Hardy to Wonder Woman and homegrown faves including Mr Bean and Paddington will be sited around the space, with a massive Bugs Bunny emerging from a flower bed with a carrot to freak out hen parties.

→ Scenes in the Square. ↻ Leicester Square.  
From late Feb. Free.



# Five London actors for 2020

This town's got talent: here are the local faces to watch out for on the big screen this year



## Amber Anderson

The Glastonbury-born, Notting Hill-based actress has been slowly raising her profile with stints on TV ('Strike') and supporting roles in movies ('In Darkness'). This year should take it up a notch or two: she plays Jane Fairfax in Autumn de Wilde's new take on 'Emma' and appears in the eagerly anticipated 'The Souvenir: Part II'.

**See her in** 'Emma' (opens February 14).

**Fun fact** She has cats called Sooty and Jasper.

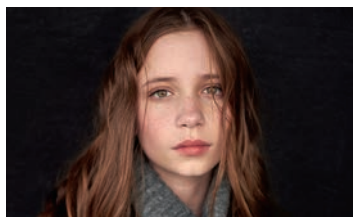


## Bukky Bakray

The 16-year-old east Londoner had no interest in acting before 'Rocks' director Sarah Gavron came to her school to find the lead for her coming-of-age drama. She was duly cast and her performance has earned her some rave reviews.

**See her in** 'Rocks' (opens April 10).

**Fun fact** On finding out she'd been chosen for 'Rocks', she ran past Finsbury Park station, screaming.



## Dixie Egerickx

The west London teenager was shortlisted for a role in Steven Spielberg's 'The BFG', making it to the final ten. Her breakthrough will come with 'The Secret Garden', a starry adaptation of the beloved novel. She's playing the feral and fiery lead character, Mary Lennox.

**See her in** 'The Secret Garden' (opens April 17).

**Fun fact** She was cast in HBO's now-cancelled 'GOT' prequel.



## Lashana Lynch

After appearing in indie British movies 'Fast Girls' and 'Brotherhood', Lynch levelled up with the role of fighter pilot Maria Rambeau in 'Captain Marvel'. She's set to get mega-famous in the new James Bond film as a '00' agent.

**See her in** 'No Time to Die' (opens April 2).

**Fun fact** The multi-talented Lynch is also a singer-songwriter. Maybe get her to write the Bond theme, eh?



## Amir Wilson

If you saw 'His Dark Materials', you'll recognise this 15-year-old as the otherworldly Will Parry. Wilson will return in season two, but first you can see him as Dickon in the new adaptation of 'The Secret Garden' opposite Colin Firth and Julie Walters.

**See him in** 'The Secret Garden' (opens April 17).

**Fun fact** He can speak Arabic. ■ *Hanna Flint*

All the best movies to see in London at [timeout.com/film](https://www.timeout.com/film)

# Music & Nightlife

Edited by Oliver Keens  
timeout.com/music @timeoutmusic

## The BIGGEST gigs of 2020

There's already a healthy gaggle of major shows announced for the next 12 months. Here's our pick of the best so far

### Madonna

Never one to rest on her laurels for very long, the Queen of Pop on her latest tour eschews huge arena shows in favour of a whopping 15-night stand at the relatively intimate London Palladium. The crap news is that, while there's still a handful of tickets available, expect to hand over the big bucks if you want one.

→ London Palladium. Dates between Jan 27 and Feb 16.

### Tove Lo

The Swedish pop queen tours in support of recent-ish album 'Sunshine Kitty'. Maybe her duet partner on 'Really Don't Like U' – a certain Kylie Minogue – will guest.

→ O2 Forum Kentish Town. Mar 12.

### Avril Lavigne

Dig out the fingerless gloves for AvLav's first UK headline shows in years. Her current setlist features

### Dua Lipa

The reigning princess of British pop brings her 'Future Nostalgia' tour to the capital. An album of the same name is due in 2020 and has already spawned the huge, house-influenced hit 'Don't Start Now'.

→ The O2. May 26-27.



## Sam Fender

The fast-rising star tours in support of his awesomely named, chart-topping debut album 'Hypersonic Missiles'. The North Shields lad's indie-rock bangers, including 'The Sound' and 'Play God', should pack Ally Pally to the rafters.

→ Alexandra Palace. Mar 26-27.

all the hits from 'Complicated' to 'Girlfriend'. You're guaranteed an Av-solutely fabulous time.

→ O2 Academy Brixton. Apr 1, 5, 6.

## Snoop Dogg

Pour yourself a supersized 'Gin and Juice', because the Doggfather is playing live in London for the first time since 2015. The tour celebrates his influence on hip hop and pop culture generally by enlisting some of his key collaborators from over the years: Warren G, Tha Dogg Pound, Obie Trice and D12. Irish hip hop duo Versatile will be joining the support line-up, so it's gonna be an epic night all round.

→ The O2. Apr 15.

## Harry Styles

Is it too soon to call him the Robbie of 1D? Two shows at one of London's biggest venues – in support of second solo LP 'Fine Line' – suggest Hazza's on the right track.

→ The O2. Apr 22-23.

## King Krule

We are still 100 percent besotted with Archy Marshall's regal alias. Three albums in, his stoned-to-the-bone songcraft and intimate, jazz-flecked performance mode has us enraptured.

Album number four is coming.

We can't wait.

→ O2 Brixton Academy. Mar 25.

BRUCHMAN/GETTY IMAGES; KIM WATERS/GETTY IMAGES; DUALipa/AGENCE FRANCE PRES; SAM FENDER; SIMONE JOYNER/GETTY IMAGES; KING KRULE; FRANK FOLK/AGENCE FRANCE PRES





## Meltdown

Ladies and gentlemen, the one and only Grace Jones is curating this year's Meltdown festival. The hula-hooping pop icon is a real wild card, so it's impossible to predict what kind of acts she might book for the ten-day music and culture fest, but you can bet her own performance will be mind-blowing.

→ Southbank Centre. Jun 12-21.

## Brockhampton

After smashing it at Lovebox last summer, the multi-headed, progressive hip hop boyband return to London. Their ability to connect with fans and cultivate a smart, switched-on and super enthusiastic following is becoming legendary, so expect these two Brixton shows to be pretty transcendent.

→ O2 Academy Brixton. May 19-20.

## Pet Shop Boys

'West End Girls' and East End boys alike are bound to enjoy this one, because it's the first ever actual greatest hits show from Neil Tennant and Chris Lowe, surely one of the most consistently great duos in British pop.

→ The O2. May 28.

## Diana Ross

A week after owning the Glastonbury legends slot, the Supremes diva plays her first London gig in 13 years. It's billed – entirely legitimately – as 'A Diamond Diana Music Celebration', so expect to hear all her hits, from 'Ain't No Mountain High Enough' to 'Upside Down'.

→ The O2. Jul 8-9 and 19.

## Celine Dion

What do you mean you missed the memo? Celine is proper cool now. The vocal powerhouse, style icon and meme queen continues her Celine-aissance with an arena show in support of latest album 'Courage'.

→ The O2. Sep 17-18.

## Billie Eilish

The 18-year-old pop prodigy behind 'Bad Guy' (one of the most thrillingly distinctive breakthrough hits in recent memory) brings her first full-scale world tour to London. Laudably, she's making it an eco-friendly affair where fans can bring in their own refillable water bottles and plastic straws are banned.

→ The O2. Jul 26-27, 29-30.





## Stormzy

The grime king's brilliant new album is called 'Heavy Is the Head', and finds the rapper riffing on the price of fame, but that doesn't mean he's about to surrender his crown. A case in point: this massive three-night stand at The O2.

→ The O2. Sep 2-4.

## Elton John

Following the success of his 'Rocketman' biopic and stunningly honest memoir, Sir Elts continues his career victory lap by bringing the epic 'Farewell Yellow Brick Road' tour to London. If this really is his final tour, he's going out in style by playing all the classics from 'Bennie and the Jets' to 'The Bitch Is Back'. ■ *Nick Levine and Oliver Keens*

→ The O2. Dates between Nov 2 and Dec 17.

More 2020 gigs at  
[timeout.com/music](http://timeout.com/music)

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# Theatre & Dance

Edited by Andrzej Łukowski  
timeout.com/theatre @timeouttheatre



## FIVE OF THE BEST

# Wordless wonders

London International Mime Festival's 2020 line-up is packed with circus, mime and physical theatre to leave you speechless

### History that isn't a drag

Come face-to-(painted)-face with the twentieth century's biggest stars in drag show **'Romancing the Apocalypse'**. Twisted London duo Thick & Tight will lipsync, dance and party their way through a night of eerily accurate renditions of historical and countercultural icons, from Derek Jarman to Princess Di.  
→ Sadler's Wells. ⊖ Angel. Thu Jan 9-Sat Jan 11. £20.

### A marsupial to marvel at

Half-man, half-kanga hybrid **'Rooman'** sprang into life after he appeared to Australian artist Fleur Elise Noble in a dream. She tells his story in this offbeat, quietly nightmarish show, which mixes puppets with scenery that looks like a kid's scribbled-on pop-up book.  
→ Barbican. ⊖ Barbican. Jan 14-18. £18.

### A tramp through mime history

Charlie Chaplin and Stan Laurel shared a cabin on a 1910 sea voyage to New York. Laurel talked about the trip all his life. But Chaplin's autobiography never even mentions him. Find out why in UK mischief-makers Told by an Idiot's piano-soundtracked **'The Strange Tale of Charlie Chaplin and Stan Laurel'**.  
→ Wilton's Music Hall. ⊖ Aldgate East. Jan 14-18. £13-£28.

### Some real bad mothers

Ravens turf their chicks out of the nest before they can even fly. The feathered fiends are the inspo behind German company Still Hungry's **'Raven'**. It's an aerial show by three mothers that talks about winging it as a working parent.  
→ Jacksons Lane. ⊖ Highgate. Jan 21-23. £18, £16 concs.



### Clowns that are unafraid to be scary

What with the recent rebirth of Stephen King's *'It'*, it's never been tougher for clowns to shed the whole 'creepy' thing. Bristol-based company Opposable Thumb's show **'Coulrophobia'** pokes fun at its audience's fears of all things white-faced, red-nosed and custard-pie-wielding. Its two stars brandish cardboard chainsaws in a playfully sinister show that's also pretty damn adorable. ■  
→ Jacksons Lane. ⊖ Highgate. Jan 24-26. £18. London International Mime Festival runs Wed Jan 8-Feb 2.



By Alice Saville  
*Who's anything but down on clowns.*

Clockwise from top left: *'Raven'*, *'The Strange Tale of Charlie Chaplin and Stan Laurel'* and *'Coulrophobia'*

RAVEN: LUCIA GERHARDT; THE STRANGE TALE OF CHARLIE CHAPLIN AND STAN LAUREL: HUGO GLENNING; COULROPHOBIA: ADAM LALITY

## TOP-SELLING TICKETS

ATTIMEOUT.COM/TICKETS

### 1 To Kill a Mockingbird

'The West Wing' writer Aaron Sorkin adapts a classic.  
→ Gielgud Theatre. May 21-Sep 5.

### 2 Uncle Vanya

Toby Jones plays the title role in this new take on Chekhov.  
→ Harold Pinter Theatre. Jan 14-May 2.

### 3 Come from Away

Footstomping, heartmelting musical from Canada.  
→ Phoenix Theatre. Until May 23.

### 4 The Phantom of the Opera

Lloyd Webber's OTT hit.  
→ Her Majesty's Theatre. Until Oct 17.

### 5 Hamilton

The hyped hip hop musical.  
→ Victoria Palace Theatre. Until May 23.

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## NEW SHOWS

### THE HOTTEST THEATRE OPENINGS THIS WEEK

#### WEST END

#### Coming Clean

Kevin Elyot's 1982 gay love triangle drama has scrubbed up nicely; it hits the West End after a popular fringe run.  
→ Trafalgar Studios.  
⊖ Charing Cross. Until Feb 1. £25-£30.

#### La Bohème

A return for Richard Jones's witty take on Puccini's classic opera of arty Parisian misery.  
→ Royal Opera House.  
⊖ Covent Garden. Fri Jan 10-May 27. £11-£230.

#### Magic Goes Wrong

A gaggle of magicians see their dreams

vanish in a puff of smoke in this new comedy. It's a collab between Mischief Theatre and magic royalty Penn & Teller.  
→ Vaudeville Theatre.  
⊖ Covent Garden. Until May 31. £20-£75.

#### Lexicon

Edgy circus from NoFit State, who are joined by a live band.  
→ Roundhouse. ⊖ Chalk Farm. Until Jan 18. £15-£55.

#### OFF- WEST END

#### Antigone

Lulu Raczka's myth-inspired follow-up to

her hit dystopia 'A Girl in School Uniform'.  
→ New Diorama Theatre.  
⊖ Great Portland St. Tue Jan 7-Feb 1. £16.

#### Scrounger

This new play by Athena Stevens ('Schism') is inspired by her lawsuit against the airline that broke her wheelchair.  
→ Finborough Theatre.  
⊖ Earls Court. Tue Jan 7-Feb 1. £18-£30.

#### Shackleton and His Stowaway

The true story of a plucky teenager who followed Shackleton to Antarctica.  
→ Park Theatre. ⊖ Finsbury Park. Wed Jan 8-Feb 1. £14.50-£18, £13-£16.50 concs.

#### The Tyler Sisters

Three siblings dredge up four decades' worth of secrets in Alexandra Wood's new play, inspired by a famous photography project.  
→ Hampstead Theatre.  
⊖ Swiss Cottage. Until Jan 18. £12-£14, £6-£10 concs.

## EXCLUSIVE

Catch some of the best comedians at the renowned **Covent Garden Comedy Club**. Tickets are now £9.50 – saving you 50 percent.

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## Snowflake



#### WHAT IS IT...

Mike Bartlett's Christmas play about Brexit, sort of.

#### WHY GO...

Elliot Levey is brilliantly excruciating as a middle-aged dad stuck in the '90s.

→ Kiln Theatre. ⊖ Kilburn. Until Jan 25. £12.50-£32.50.

**MIKE BARTLETT IS** a playwright unafraid of a clodhopping set-up if it helps him tell a good story. His drolly named Gen X versus Gen Z Christmas play 'Snowflake' revolves around an improbable scenario in which 48-year-old widower Andy (Elliot Levey) has hired a hall for a one-man welcome home party for his estranged daughter Maya. But instead a different woman, Amber James's Natalie, shows up.

Whatever clunking of gears might be involved in setting the scene, Bartlett's dialogue is pure magic. As performed by the winily lovable Levey, Andy, in particular, is a brilliantly observed piece of characterisation. He feels old and out of touch with the world, worried that he's offended Maya... somehow. Yet the excruciating thing about him – certainly if you're my age – is that he's not *that* old: the simpler world he pines for is essentially the '90s. And for all his attempts at self-reflection, deep down he believes that he is right, that things were better when he was Maya's age, and that he knows better than her.

Towards the end, Maya (Ellen Robertson) does finally appear as a character, and it's these scenes that hit home the hardest. She does not exactly cover herself in glory, but Andy's unwillingness to hear her out or consider he might not know what's best for her – even as he's trying to be kind – is agonising.

The play is set at Christmas, and Bartlett pulls a tearjerk conclusion out of it all. But his provocative and tender vision of divided Britain suggests that there is no way forward if we don't try to understand each other. ■ *Andrzej Lukowski*

#### EXCLUSIVE

## 'VOLDEMORT & THE TEENAGE HOGWARTS MUSICAL PARODY'



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# Comedy

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## TIME OUT LOVES Tarot

**LAST YEAR, BELOVED** circuit sketch acts Gein's Family Giftshop and Goose joined forces to become a sketch supergroup: Tarot. Yes, they're the NKOTBSB of the sketch comedy world. Just with less synchronised dancing and more horror-themed mischief. Here's what they have to say about their interactive spooktacular of a show, which comes to Soho this month.

### How would you describe your show?

'An occult choose-your-own-adventure-without-a-storyline, Epstein-didn't-kill-himself, horror-comedy morality triptych.'

### Has anything spooky happened to any of you in real life?

'The fact Kath has been dead for seven years is pretty spooky. She doesn't milk it, though.'

### What is your favourite thing about performing this show?

'The structure changes every night so every time we do it's like it's the first time. Or it's when Adam hitches his nightie above his knees.'

### What's the rudest thing you've done in a show?

'We did a preview to two of Kath's friends and no one else. That was pretty rude of us.'

### If you won the lottery, what would you do?

'Buy a venue in London and set up a bespoke comedy club, haemorrhage money for 20 years until all our marriages desiccate and our friendships sour, then fold the company and go on a reunion tour to pay for our divorces.' ■

*Ben Williams*

→ Soho Theatre. ⊕ Tottenham Court Rd. Mon Jan 13-Jan 18. £15-£17.

## THE TEN BEST GIGS THIS MONTH

### 10 Make Some Noise

Daniel Kitson hosts this charity fundraiser, introducing Bridget Christie, Josie Long and more.

→ Union Chapel. ⊕ Highbury & Islington. Jan 18. £20.

### 9 Strip Light Night

Somewhere secret in Covent Garden you can catch Marcus Brigstocke, Ivo Graham and Janine Harouni.

→ Secret location. ⊕ Covent Garden. Tue Jan 7. £12.

### 8 Rosie Jones: 'Backward'

This talented stand-up – now a TV favourite – brings her third solo show to Soho.

→ Soho Theatre.  
⊕ Tottenham Court Rd.  
Jan 21-25. £14-£16.50.

### 7 Crybabies: 'Danger Brigade'

High-energy WWII-themed, narrative-driven sketch comedy from this newbie trio.

→ Soho Theatre.  
⊕ Tottenham Court Rd. Until Sat Jan 11. £14-£19.50.

### 6 'I, Tom Mayhew'

A powerful solo show tackling growing up poor and being a twentysomething in austerity Britain.

→ Soho Theatre.  
⊕ Tottenham Court Rd.  
Jan 16-18. £14.50-£15.

### 5 Trygve Wakenshaw: 'Only Bones V1.4'

The clown's new show has no story, no language and no set.

→ Soho Theatre. ⊕ Tottenham Court Rd. Tue Jan 7-Jan 25. £10.50-£20.

### 4 FOC It Up

Kemah Bob hosts the Femmes of Colour Comedy Club, with stand-ups, sketch comics, clowns and drag artists.

→ 2Northdown.  
⊕ King's Cross. Jan 26. £7.

### 3 Tom Basden: 'Sorry Thank You Please'

First stand-up show in over a decade from the 'Fresh Meat' writer.

→ Soho Theatre. ⊕ Tottenham Court Rd. Mon Jan 13-Jan 18. £11.50-£20.

### 2 Frank Skinner: 'Showbiz'

Like a fine wine, The Black Country hero has mellowed with age.

→ Garrick Theatre. ⊕ Leicester Square. Mon Jan 13-Feb 15. £28.75.

# 1

## Huge Davies: 'The Carpark'

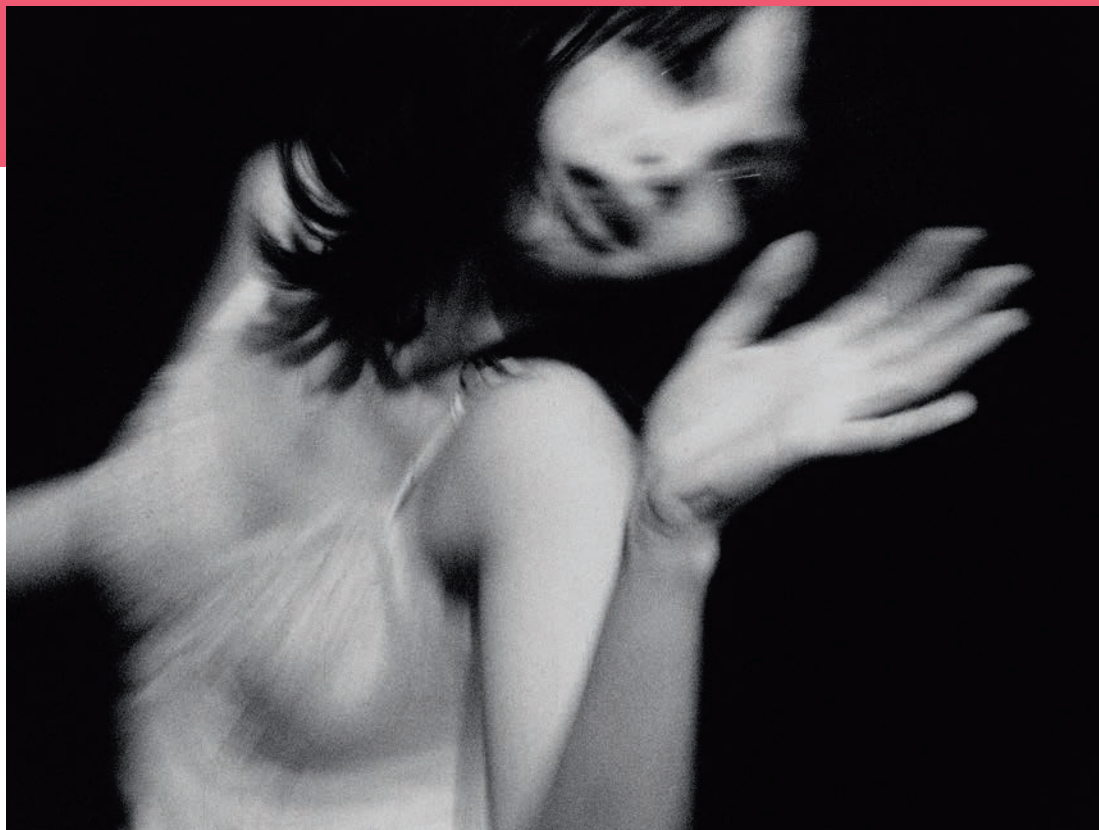
Musical comedy with a deliciously dark edge from this fast-rising star who was nominated for Best Newcomer at last year's Edinburgh Comedy Awards.

→ Soho Theatre. ⊕ Tottenham Court Rd. Jan 27-Feb 1. £12-£17.



Edited by Eddy Frankel  
timeout.com/art @timeoutart

# Art



## FORWARD, BACKWARD.

Backward, forward. Forward, backforebackward. The more times you watch Bruce Conner's short film 'Breakaway' (1966) the less sure you become of which direction the action is running in.

The black-and-white work, which lasts approximately five minutes, shows performer and singer Toni Basil dancing to her song of the same title as Conner's film. Basil starts off wearing a pair of dark opaque tights with large polka-dot holes sliced into them. The footage then flashes through a series of outfit changes: pale silk negligée, basic black panties, baroque flowered bra and complete nudity.

She dances the 'dance like nobody's watching' dance that people dance when they know people actually are watching, her eyes fixed forever down the camera lens at the invisible viewer. At one point she executes some elegant jetés, leaping across and out of the shot. The rest of the time she shakes, twists and flips her

shoulders around, a half-controlled ramshackleness.

Then the film stops, switches, and shows the same footage in reverse. Basil's movements instantly look wilder, stranger, more out of control. The Motown-inspired pop track, however, sounds surprisingly undistorted. The lyrics could be mistaken for Russian, while the inside-out drum beats aren't a million miles

away from The Beatles' 'Tomorrow Never Knows', the final track on 'Revolver', which uses backwards masking, reversed guitar and psychedelic looped effects.

And that's it. That's the whole film and, here, the entire exhibition. But that's okay, because it forces you to focus on something you otherwise might pass by. It also, unless you're in an extreme rush, forces you to watch it

## Bruce Conner: 'Breakaway'



### WHAT IS IT...

An artsy take on a pop video turned inside out.

### WHY GO...

It's like the best and worst night of your life simultaneously.

→ Thomas Dane Gallery.  
↻ Green Park. Until Feb 22. Free.

a few times. And it's then you see the interesting things about an essentially pretty simple artwork.

It's unmistakably the product of the '60s, to the point that certain elements of it – the nudity, the pubic hair, the Nico-esque eyeliner – now seem closer to clichés of the era than the symbols of liberation probably intended by Conner.

But it's the backwards and forwards that remains interesting. The artist is remembered for his collages and assemblages and 'Breakaway' is essentially a filmic collage, the repeated flipside giving the whole thing the air of exhaustive repetitiveness, an unravelling as you dress, undress, dance, stop, dance, dress, undress, dance. Repeat. Basically, it's the feeling of still being on the dancefloor when you've no idea if the track's playing backwards and you've lost all your clothes. ■



**By Rosemary Waugh**  
Who once tried to dance backwards. Regrettably.

# Condo London 2020

Every January, international galleries fly into the capital for Condo. Here are the shows not to miss over the next month

Cond-oh yes! 'Stepping Stairs' by Judith Hopf (left); 'A Pervasive Rhythm' by Bagus Pandega (right); 'In Dreams' by Nicholas Cheveldave (far right); 'In Purple' by Johanna Billing (below); 'A Fops 3' by Jos de Gruyter and Harald Thys (bottom)



**FOR YEARS, THE** depths of winter were a pretty art-free time – a barren, bereft period for gallery-goers, with barely a new show opening to get you through the darkest months. Then, in 2017, Condo came along and, like a fashionably late Santa Claus, dumped a sackload of exhibitions

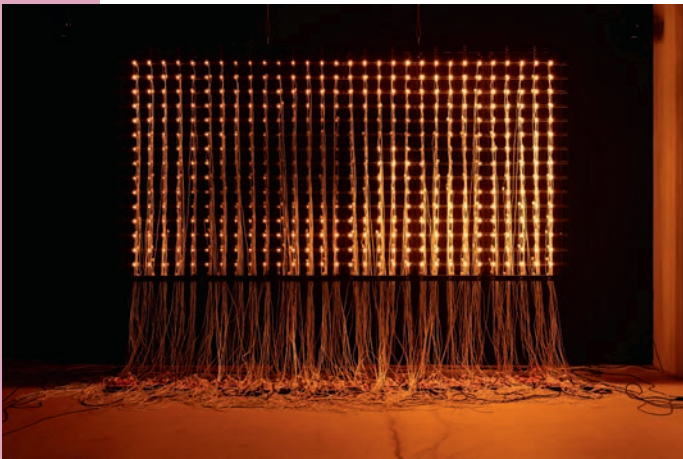
on dreary old January. Here's everything you need to know in order to gorge yourself silly on an endless array of international art.

### What is it?

You might have hated sharing the house with family over Christmas, but London's galleries have a more

enthusiastic attitude to guests. Condo is their yearly opportunity to show the love by inviting some of their international counterparts into their homes, either letting them take over the whole space, or dividing it down the middle and putting on a show at the same time. This year sees 19 overseas galleries rock up

Plan your art calendar at [timeout.com/art](http://timeout.com/art)



UDRI HAPPE, 'OVERPASS SPINNS' (2018) (IMAGE COURTESY OF THE ARTIST); BERENNY, 'IMAGE COURTESY OF THE ARTIST'; DEBBY BANGS, 'MINDS, A FOREVER' (2018) (IMAGE COURTESY OF THE ARTIST); AND DEPENDANCE, 'BRUSSELS' (2019) (IMAGE COURTESY OF THE ARTIST); NICOLAS CHEVÉLONNE, 'DREAMS' (2020) (IMAGE COURTESY OF THE ARTIST); AND EMANUEL BANGUI, 'LONDON BAGUIS PANDEGA, A PERSVASIVE RHYTHM' (2018) (IMAGE COURTESY OF THE ARTIST).



18 Oct 2019 – 9 Feb 2020

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Corinne Day, 'George in Stiletto', from the feature 'Goths on Acid' for Ray Gun magazine, June–July 1995. Courtesy and © The Corinne Day Estate

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ARTS COUNCIL ENGLAND

at 17 spaces around the city. Some venues are even playing host to two of their global artsy friends.

**Who's involved?**

The schedule for 2020 features galleries from New York, Shanghai, Berlin, Toronto and Jakarta, including a London debut for Turkish gallery Öktem Aykut at Southard Reid. Other names to look out for include Belgium's Dépendance and Hong Kong's Edouard Malingue at Sadie Coles HQ, and New York's Team gallery at Modern Art's Vyner Street space. You can go on a worldwide art tour with a carbon footprint only as big as that created with a one-day travelcard.

**How do you tackle it?**

Most of the venues are spread out across east London, with extra clumps in central and south. We suggest going big on opening weekend, focusing your art attack on the eastern front – where you'll be able to walk between most galleries – followed by a reviving pint while you rest your tired feet and try to digest all that vital, gritty, vibrant, contemporary culture. Then treat yourself to a tour of the central and south London galleries the following week: it's never a good idea to open all your presents at once. ■ *Eddy Frankel and Rosemary Waugh* → Condo London 2020. Various venues. Sat Jan 11-Feb 8. Free.

# Food

Edited by Tania Ballantine  
timeout.com/eatdrink @timeouteatdrink

## Turning over a new leaf

It's the beginning of the year, which can only mean one thing: Veganuary. Right now we're craving vegan comfort. Here's where to go for that plant-based hug

### ComptoirV

The vegan offshoot of nearby Le Comptoir deals in globetrotting plant-based cuisine with lots of exotic nuances and the odd jokey dish name such as 'It's No Jerk' (a three-bean burger with barbecue sauce). The look leans towards the Middle East, but the menu covers everything from jackfruit nuggets and beetroot houmous to roti-style curried chickpeas with Moroccan bread. Drinks are vegan too.

→ 1 Keslake Mansions, 12 Station Terrace, NW10 5RU. Kensal Rise Overground.

### Mao Chow

It's never easy to find proper Chinese food in vegan form, but this cheery hipster hangout in Hackney really nails it, with its short menu of terrific Sichuan-inspired street food dishes. Current hits range from smacked cucumber with black vinegar, sesame oil and crushed garlic to dan dan noodles topped

with vegan mince made to a secret recipe. Prices are wallet-friendly... just remember that it's cash only.

→ 159a Mare St, E8 3RD. London Fields Overground.

### Purezza

The London outpost of the UK's first vegan pizzeria is buzzy, modern and relaxed, while the terrific plant-based toppings involve everything from wood-smoked tofu and shaved seitan to rice-based mozzarella and beetroot carpaccio. Go for good old-fashioned gluttony by ordering a wicked Oreo pizza for pud.

→ 43 Parkway, NW1 7PN. ☺ Camden Town.

### Rudy's Dirty Vegan Diner

Serving up hefty portions of US-style junk food, this diner is the king of frill-free comfort grub. Carb-tastic delights include the Dirty Burger – made using a soya mince patty, fake bacon and cashew cheese – and the Rudy's Reuben, a vegan version of



Temple of Hackney





Purezza



Mao Chow



Young Vegans

the classic US beef-plus-cheese-plus-kraut uber-sandwich. Oof!  
→ Stables Market, Unit 729-731, NW1 8AH. ☺ Camden Town.

### Temple of Hackney

London's first vegan 'chicken shop' was born out of Hackney's Temple of Seitan street stall. It's all about 'meaty' wheat gluten (aka seitan) here, whether you order peppery popcorn-style nuggets, battered strips or a burger. Add-ons like bowls of zingy red slaw or vegan mac 'n' cheese with smoky 'facon' cubes are bang-on too.

→ 5 Morning Lane, E9 6NA. Hackney Central Overground.

### What the Pitta!

Head down to the Camden branch of this mini-chain, where the chefs marinate soya chunks in secret spices to create the restaurant's signature kebab 'meat'. You'll find them in the headline act: a vegan doner where the 'meat' comes packed in flatbread, with salad, soya yoghurt, tzatziki and houmous. Portions are huge, but you can take any leftovers home. Check out the syrupy and sweet baklava, too.

→ 89-91 Bayham St, NW1 0AG. ☺ Camden Town.

### Young Vegans

A twenty-first-century update of a pie-and-mash shop, but with a twist – everything here is flesh-free. Occupying a corner of Camden Market, Young Vegans feels like a funky street-food joint, while its pies go way beyond the usual kale and lentils: try the katsu curry or the all-day breakfast (scrambled tofu, seitan sausage etc, under a pastry lid). Comfort food sides and puds also get a big thumbs up. ■

→ Camden Market, 60 Camden Lock Place, NW1 8AF. ☺ Camden Town.

## Food

# Flor



**WHEN FLOR FIRST** opened, it generated a torrent of hype. Hardly surprising, really, given its status as the casual Borough Market sister to Shoreditch's trailblazing (but now somewhat pricy) Lyle's. The excitement whirled around like a cyclone, sweeping up bloggers, journos and passing Dorothys in its wake. Then it passed. Then we visited. And guess what? It was buzzy and brilliant, even for us ordinary folk.

Housed in a building that's narrow but tall – like something canalside in Amsterdam – Flor is small. At street level, you squeeze in from the bustle of Borough Market to a teeny concrete-floored wine bar with a short counter and a smattering of seats. If you're here to eat, head up the winding iron staircase to the first floor. There are lofty ceilings and gloriously tall warehouse windows. The space is a little on the utilitarian side – with more concrete



**WHAT IS IT...**  
A more casual sibling to Shoreditch's Lyle's, this time in Borough Market.

**WHY GO...**  
For anchovy toast under a little cured pork fat blanket.

→ 1 Bedale St, SE1 9AL  
↻ London Bridge.

on the floor, exposed brickwork that feels a bit 'new build', black wipe-clean tables and overbright lighting – yet somehow Flor gets away with it. How? Because every seat on our off-peak visit was taken, generating a hum of loud, lively chatter which, set against a canvas of folksy-cum-indie tunes, made it feel like a fun diner.

The food is of the modernist small plates school. I admired the

kitchen for having the confidence to offer all three of this year's on-trend cheeses on one small menu: brie-like Baron Bigod paired with honey, burrata teamed with peaches and fennel, and stracciatella – mozzarella's creamier cousin – elevated by sweet grapes and olive oil. We were dazzled by a portion of anchovy toast, the grilled bread first dotted with morsels of the meaty, salty fish, then draped with folds of

cured noir de bigorre (pork fat) and tiny leaves of fragrant marjoram. Then, later: a butter-soft piece of smoked eel laced with grainy grape mustard and flanked by a little bundle of shredded purple cabbage.

Service was charming, the filtered water (sparkling or still) is all free. Flor isn't radical. Just very, very good. ■ *Tania Ballantine*  
**Dinner for two with drinks and service: around £115.**

Sponsored Listing

## Going out? Try here.



ISLINGTON

### WILD FOOD CAFÉ SAYS:

'Celebrate Veganuary with Wild Food Café Islington, a sustainability-minded restaurant filled with living plants, serving innovative 100 percent plant-based cuisine from an open-plan kitchen. Enjoy brunch, lunch and dinner, wood-fired pizzas, burgers and desserts, as well as a selection of juices, artisan coffee, natural wines and cocktails.'  
269-270 Upper St, N1 2UQ.



KNIGHTSBRIDGE

### HOT MAY POT POT SAYS:

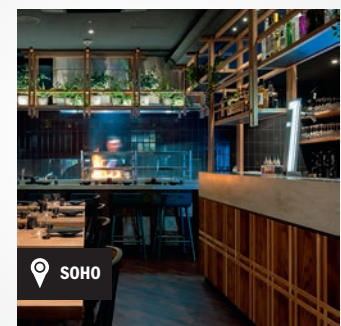
'Northern Chinese hot pot restaurant Hot May, located in an elegant Knightsbridge townhouse, is launching a nourishing detox menu this January. At just 525 calories, you can expect refreshing, zingy salads, hot pots featuring fresh seafood and vegetables poached in overnight broths, and a white fungus dessert – just £120 for two.'  
30 Beauchamp Place, SW3 1NJ.



FINCHLEY ROAD

### TERRA TERRA SAYS:

'A new arrival to Finchley Road, just a short walk from Swiss Cottage, Terra Terra's artisan pasta, rustic pizzettas and Italian desserts bring the larger-than-life flavours of Tuscany straight to NW3. With 50 percent off all day Monday, as well as amazing student offers and tasty brunch deals, this fresh food is not to be missed. *Delizioso!*'  
120 Finchley Rd, NW3 5JB.



SOHO

### ROBATA SAYS:

'Robata, meaning "fireside", specialises in the long-standing tradition of Japanese charcoal cooking. Bringing the flavours of Japan to the heart of Soho, we create a unique experience where Asian flair meets twenty-first-century creativity. Enjoy sake cocktails, sharing plates and our celebrated robata skewers.'  
56 Old Compton St, W1D 4UE.

# Miel Bakery



**A SIMPLE SANDWICH** board outside Miel Bakery draws in visitors, calling out the day's specials. An aroma of baked goods wafts down busy Warren Street. Inside, it's not a place to linger (there are no comfy couches and no wifi), though the small space does boast some lovely touches: French boulangerie-style tiles, millennial-pink tables and the fact that you are served straight from the onsite kitchen. Close to the station and many an office block, Miel attracts lunchtime crowds with its focaccias and freshly made sandwiches.

Most of Miel's ingredients are sourced with care from France (Normandy flour, Charentes butter, Valrhona chocolate). All the pastries and breads are baked small-batch throughout the day, so it's almost guaranteed that you'll sink your teeth into something melty, warm and doughy, straight from the oven. This is perhaps why the price tags



are on the steep side, with a humble croissant ringing up at £3.50. But it's money well spent: pastries are so flaky and delicate, they rank among the best the capital.

The rest of the menu is a mix of London faves (chunky chocolate sea-salt biscuits, spicy-sweet cinnamon buns) and Parisian sweet eats. Don't miss the 'shiny AF' (their words) chocolate tart, filled with molten dark chocolate that

oozes over the edges of the crust as you bite into it. There's also an excellent shortcrust biscuit, topped with caramelised pecan nuts and drizzled in sticky caramel sauce. Drinks, like the decor, are simple, with a choice of just filter coffee, hot chocolate or fruity cordials: the message is clear – bakes are the main event here. ■ *Nina Clark*  
**Pastries for two with drinks and service: around £25.**

**WHAT IS IT...**  
A small bakery and workshop in the heart of Fitzrovia.

**WHY GO...**  
For fresh French bakes as good as anything in Paris.

→ 57 Warren St, W1T 5NR.  
☎ Warren St.

**EXCLUSIVE**  
Get 23 percent off bottomless brunch with bubbly or wine at **Roka**. Now £45.  
[TIMEOUT.COM/ROKA20](http://TIMEOUT.COM/ROKA20)

# Snackbar



**WHAT IS IT...**

A daytime café near Dalston Junction.

**WHY GO...**

For Insta-friendly food and lovely vibes.

→ 20 Dalston Lane, E8 3AZ, Dalston Junction Overground.

**JUST DOWN THE** road from Dalston Junction station, Snackbar is full of good-looking young people. It's all very likeable, with cheery staff and minimalist decor, from funky plants to turmeric-coloured tables and cool touches like wall hooks for menus (and coats).

The food? Not sensational but perfectly fine. And it's pretty. This is stuff that's practically pleading to have its photo taken – dishes like a dazzling rice bowl topped with crunchy tempura mushrooms, pickled squash, sharp kimchi, cavolo nero and an egg yolk begging to be burst open (while you film). Fun for the eyes and decent to eat. There were delicious treats too, such as the pumpkin pie with its swish, refined sweetness.

Then there were some tacos, with those attractive blue corn tortillas, laden with scrambled egg, avo, pickled onion and cheese. Again, a beauty to look at, and comforting. It was, sadly, a little lacking in flavour, though much more exciting once revved up with hot sauce (you'll need to ask for this, but staff are

eager to help: we were given five Tabasco variants). Elsewhere, a croissant was forgettably average and, although the peanut butter and chocolate cookie was scrumptiously soft, there was little sign of the promised miso. Still, Snackbar is a charming addition to Dalston. ■

*Ella Braidwood*

**Lunch for two with drinks and service: around £35.**



**EXCLUSIVE**

## THREE-COURSE BOTTOMLESS BRUNCH AT CHOTTO MATTE



This flagship restaurant offers something unusual – Nikkei cuisine (that's Japanese-Peruvian fusion to the uninitiated). Now, you can dig into an exclusive brunch there, with seabass ceviche, sizzling beef teriyaki, cocktails and more. Just £39.

TIMEOUT.COM/CHOTTO

Ts&Cs apply.

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# Drink

Edited by Laura Richards  
timeout.com/bars @timeouteatdrink



## January blues-busters

It needn't be the saddest month of the year. At these weird and wonderful bars, you'll be having fun with or without the booze

### Bobby Fitzpatrick

Step straight into the '70s. Bobby Fitzpatrick is a retro-themed bar in West Hampstead that takes nostalgia to new levels. Stucco ceilings and kitsch furniture provide a look that would have Austin Powers blushing; this bar is the very definition of a shag pad. Have drinks that transport you far away from new year dreariness. Although Dry January didn't hold

quite the same sway in the 1970s, if you ask nicely staff will whip you up a fruity mocktail.

→ 273 West End Lane, NW6 1QS.  
☉ West Hampstead.

### The Four Quarters

Remember when a trip to the arcades was the best thing you could do with your Friday night? At this Peckham arcade bar (and its sister in Hackney Wick), it can still be

this way – lose yourself to the retro delights of Street Fighter, Ms Pac-Man, Asteroids et al. If you're still on the sauce, the menu is far from a throwback and features plenty of London craft beers. And vegan junk food – from burgers to chilli cheeze fries – is provided by Deptford's The Full Nelson, so you can hit your January KPIs in other ways.

→ 187 Rye Lane, SE15 4TP.  
Peckham Rye Overground.



Bobby Fitzpatrick

## THREE OF THE BEST

### Alcohol-free cocktails



#### Dry Old Fashioned at Dishoom

All the lingering flavours of the top cocktail, but no lingering hangover to speak of. Dishoom's sober take on the Old Fashioned includes tingly ginger and hickory-smoked brown sugar – so it still somehow feels like whisky business.

→ 5 Stable St, N1C 4AB. ☎ King's Cross. £6.50.



#### Ginger Snap at Teatulia

Go for a full January cleanse at this tea bar, which usually mixes booze with its leaves to make inventive cocktails. Instead, this zero-percent hero contains basil, cucumber and coriander alongside both green tea and ginger tea.

→ 36 Neal St, WC2H 9PS. ☎ Covent Garden. £7.



#### Sour CherryAmerica (no alc) at Hawksmoor

One stellar drink on Hawksmoor's new menu is this 'temperate' take on the Americano, which gets bitterness from Æcorn Apertifs and a fruity whack from preserved cherry juice, which more than compensates for the lack of booze.

→ 157a Commercial St, E1 6BJ. Shoreditch High St Overground. £6.



The Jellied Eel



Little Nan's Bar

#### The Jellied Eel

At weekends, L Manze's pie-and-mash shop in Walthamstow gives way to The Jellied Eel, a cocktail and croquetas concept. You can drink in the glow of red-tinted lights in a remarkably gorgeous room usually reserved for East End grub. Best of all, cockney mocktails cost just £4. The Virgin Queen is made from Seedlip, elderflower, lemon and mint, and it pairs pretty nicely with those tapas.

→ 76 High St, E17 7LD. St James St Overground.

#### Liquorette

This cheesy (in a good way) establishment has a neat look with mirrored walls, neon signs and plenty of pictures of Tom Selleck in the ladies' bathrooms. Like boozy bingo, there's a form you fill out to make your order, and cocktails come quickly since they're pre-batched and served on tap. That includes some top zero-percent options, like a Safe Sex on the Beach. Can't face leaving the house so soon after New Year's Eve?

Get cocktails – boozy or alcohol-free – delivered to your door via Liquorette's website instead.

→ 6 Rathbone Place, W1T 1HL.  
☎ Tottenham Court Rd.

#### Little Nan's Bar

Cocktails in teapots might be old hat in 2020, but there's still a lot to love about a night out at Deptford's Little Nan's Bar. There's leopard print on sofas and doilies on hard surfaces, plus more royal family memorabilia than you can shake a sceptre at. Add to that some '90s pop anthems, sparklers in your cheesy chips and Pat Butcher references aplenty. And temperance has never looked so silly, with alcohol-free cocktails including a Baroness Dimmock and a drink honouring TV's original huns, 'Loose Women'. ■

→ Arches 13-15, Deptford Market Yard, SE8 4BX.  
Deptford rail.



By Laura Richards  
Who is anything but dry,  
thank you very much.

# Escapes

Edited by Ellie Walker-Arnott  
timeout.com/daytrips

## The best UK places to visit in 2020

**THERE ARE COUNTLESS** reasons to stay in the UK in 2020. It might be small but, when it comes to stunning landscapes, world-class culture and incredible history, it can't be beaten. Plus, in an age when we're so conscious of our own environmental impact, adventuring closer to home means swerving that plane shame, too.

### 1 Bodmin

Bleak Bodmin Moor, dotted with granite tors and wild ponies, is a powerful antidote to London life. It's also the stuff of supernatural legends and grim ghost stories. Embrace those vibes with a stay in an eighteenth-century prison cell when Bodmin Jail hotel opens later this year.

### 2 Alfriston

Head to pretty Alfriston in East Sussex as the National Trust turns 125. The olde-worlde village is where you'll find Alfriston Clergy House, a medieval, timber-framed hall, which was the first building to be saved by the NT.

### 3 South Downs

The South Downs, which runs from historic Winchester to Eastbourne's chalk cliffs via green hills, ancient woodland and sea views, is London's closest National Park and has been one for ten years. Take a celebratory hike.

### 4 Alderney

Utilise the 75-years-since-VE-Day May bank holiday on this timewarp Channel Island, which was occupied by German forces during WWII. It's littered with abandoned forts and bunkers. Fort Clonque is now a holiday home.



### 5 Lake District

Spot rocky reflections in still lakes, attempt rhyming couplets in Wordsworth's 250th anniversary year, or scream when the new mile-long zip wire over Honister slate mine opens.

### 6 Plymouth

There's a buzzy feel to this ancient Devon port town this year. Hundreds of events are planned to mark four centuries since the Mayflower set sail from here to the Americas.

### 7 Outer Hebrides

If the aim is to feel indescribably far from London, this string of stunning Scottish islands will do the trick. Head to Barra and the Uists to find ancient relics, Barbados-worthy white sands and delicious silence.

### 8 Yorkshire

This might be the year of space tourism, but if you prefer to stay grounded, head to the North York Moors and the Yorkshire Dales for the Dark Skies Festival to spot constellations, take a guided night walk or cycle in the starlight.

### 9 Manchester

The Royal Horticultural Society is opening its first new garden in 17 years this summer. The historic walled Garden Bridgewater in Salford is a great excuse to go north.

### 10 Wye Valley

Channel your inner Gillian Anderson (everyone has one) and explore this lush corner of the country where Netflix's 'Sex Education' is filmed. ■ *Ellie Walker-Arnott*



# Bag yourself some Florida sun



Don't blow your holiday budget on the flights. Check out Norwegian's New Year Sale and keep the money to spend when you're there

**S**treet parties, food festivals and the NFL's number one showdown: there are plenty of reasons to head to Orlando, Miami and Tampa in early 2020. But the best one of all? Norwegian's New Year Sale, which offers plenty of great deals to Florida starting from £139.90 one-way. Book before January 13 for discounts on flights from London Gatwick.

## Orlando

### Mardi Gras at Universal Orlando

Every night from February to April, Universal Studios Florida plays host to the biggest and brightest of parties: Mardi Gras. Marvel at the street performers and brilliant parade before refuelling on delicious Cajun treats and dancing the night away to local bands.

**Feb 1-Apr 2**

## Miami

### Super Bowl 2020

Oh yes, it's the big one! Super Bowl LIV touches down in Miami for the one and only clash of America's NFL titans. This year's half-time show is headlined by Jennifer Lopez and Shakira, promising a blood-pumping, high-octane spectacle to remember. They'll also be joined by some special guests, so watch this space. **Feb 2**

## Tampa

### Tampa Bay Chocolate Festival

Grab the whole family and head on down to this mega-celebration of all things chocolate-related. This themed food truck event showcases the versatility of our favourite treat and the creativity of the people who work with it. There are even (if you need them) plenty of savoury food options available too. **Yum. Feb 15**

## TRAVELLING WITH KIDS?

**Keep the whole family happy with a few simple travel hacks at London Gatwick:**

Use the Family Assistance Lane on the Departures level.

Head to the Kids Zone in the Departure Lounge for entertainment tailored to your littlest ones' needs.

Dine at one of the many restaurants, which all aim to serve within 15 minutes and have kids' menus to make things easy. If you're starting the Stateside party early, there is a choice of family-friendly restaurants, some with views of the runway, that offer American cuisine.



→ For more information head to [www.norwegian.com/uk](http://www.norwegian.com/uk)

The Norwegian logo features the word "norwegian" in a bold, white, lowercase sans-serif font. To the right of the text is a stylized blue swoosh that curves upwards and then downwards, resembling a wing or a stylized 'N'.

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