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TimeOut

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CULTURE  
BINGE

Arty stuff is piling up this autumn.  
Let's make up for lost time

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# Inside

This issue of Time Out  
in no time at all

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One of them is 630 miles long

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# Hello, London

**Joe Mackertich**  
London Editor  
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Lots of people associate 'local' with the countryside. It's a word that brings to mind sepia-tinged bakeries, chuckling vicars, welcoming pubs and that one 'League of Gentlemen' sketch which is never going to leave the public consciousness. The truth is, the city does local better than the countryside. Rural folk, with their make-believe 'Postman Pat' fantasies, are in denial. We know the reality of country life: driving three miles to a gigantic Sainsbury's four times a week and then visiting the only pub within walking distance, even though the beer's off and the owner's racist.

Cities, by comparison, are teeming with genuine local spirit. People say London's unfriendly? Rubbish. We just have stuff to be getting on with. If we all stopped and chatted to everyone we half-recognise on the way to work, London's economy would grind to a halt. You might never know the name of the lady who owns that caff on your street, you might never speak to the bloke you nod to on the tube every morning, but it doesn't matter. You're part of each other's lives. That's community. This is our local.

## THE EDITOR'S ESSENTIALS

Three things you have to do in London



### EAT this

Brilliant, brilliant Indian food in north London from **Chilli Tuk Tuk**. The takeaway of your dreams. Lamb bhuna and paneer twists for days.



### READ this

'**The Catford Cookbook**' is a community compendium of local recipes. It's illustrated by a local and all profits go to local charities. Local!

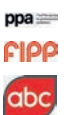


### VISIT this


**Herne Hill Market** is weekly! Who knew? Well, you, if you live near it. If you don't, it's worth the trip. Best sausage roll I've ever had.

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# City life

Edited by Isabelle Aron  
@timeoutlondon



## Looking local in the eye

With Londoners embracing their local areas more than ever, we talk to photographer Alex Lambert about her shot of Tooting Market and why it's a vital neighbourhood hub

**AT TOOTING MARKET**, everyone knows Gloria. Actually, it's 'Ms Gloria'. 'That's what she's referred to at the market,' explains local photographer Alex Lambert, who took this portrait. 'She's the godmother of the market.'

In the last few months, community in London has become more important than ever, whether that's looking out for your neighbour or being on first name terms with your local shopkeeper. That's what Lambert wanted to celebrate with this portrait of the Tooting Market trader and her shop, which has been there for decades.

Lambert took the photo in 2017 as part of a portrait series where she photographed all the stallholders in Tooting Market. At the time, it

was under threat from developers and she was working with the save Tooting Market campaign to champion this local spot. 'The market is the beating heart of the community,' says Lambert. 'It's what makes Tooting *Tooting*, so I was keen to make sure that came through in the photograph. People like Gloria have run these businesses for years – it's important to support them.'

If there's an upside to the last few months, it's that Londoners have really started to value their local amenities – the corner shop with a reliable stash of flour, the pub doing takeaway pints, the restaurant pivoting to takeaway to save you from your own cooking. It's people like Gloria who've kept our city going. 'During the pandemic, local

places like this have been a real lifeline for people,' says Lambert. 'Not just in terms of the goods that they're selling but in terms of seeing a friendly face and feeling a bit more normal.'

While the photo captures Tooting Market, Lambert believes it says something broader about what makes London what it is. 'The city is a multicultural melting pot,' she says. 'No matter who you are, you can move to London and you're instantly a Londoner and you'll find your people. For me, that's what this picture of Gloria represents – the wonderful side of London's community.' ■ *Isabelle Aron*

→ This photo has been shortlisted for the annual 'Portrait of Britain' exhibition. The accompanying book is published by Hoxton Mini Press.



HYPE DISH

# Max's rustic but rad ham, egg 'n' chip sandwich

DISSECTION

What goes into the London plates that everyone bangs on about

**WHEN MAX HALLEY** decided to open a sandwich shop that was open at night, he realised he needed to convince people that a sarnie could be dinner. 'Everyone likes ham, egg and chips, and I thought if I just slapped that in a sandwich, it would be an easy sell to explain what

I was doing,' he says. That's how Max's Sandwich Shop's most famous cult creation was born – and it's been on the menu since it opened. Halley talks us through how he transforms a pub banger into an epic sanger. ■ *Isabelle Aron*  
→ Max's Sandwich Shop, 19 Crouch Hill. £9.95.



## RYE LANE SE15

THE STREET THAT CHANGED MY LIFE

Capital Xtra presenter *Yinka Bokinni* on growing up in Peckham

**RYE LANE IS** the road that paints a picture of my youth. I was born and raised in Peckham and that street is where most of my memories are. It's where I had my first drink, in a bar opposite the train station that doesn't exist any more. I still remember watching 'Coach Carter' at Peckhamplex. The screen broke but the manager said we wouldn't get our money back because we'd only paid £2.99 for the tickets.

My mum passed away 11 years ago and Rye Lane brings back memories of my family. She'd make us go shopping and walk the bags all the way home instead getting the bus four stops.

I don't live in Peckham any more, but I come back to get my hair done, as it's the land of Black haircare.

Working in radio, the sounds of Rye Lane have always been inspiring. If you walk from Asda towards Peckham Rye station, you've got shops blaring radios, gospel music coming from churches and the sounds of the market. It's eclectic.

I often think about how weird it is when you move out of an area and you're no longer there to see the mundane. The mundane becomes quite beautiful.

*Interview by Paula Akpan*  
→ Yinka Bokinni presents 'Damilola: The Boy Next Door' on Channel 4. Release date TBC.

### The egg

'The egg is fried quickly and really hot, so you have a crispy bottom and a runny yolk. I think you want that in a sandwich. You want it medium rare, as it were.'

### The bread

'You can't mayonnaise a sandwich appropriately with sourdough. That's why I like focaccia. We make our own. It soaks up juices without losing its structural integrity.'

### The chips

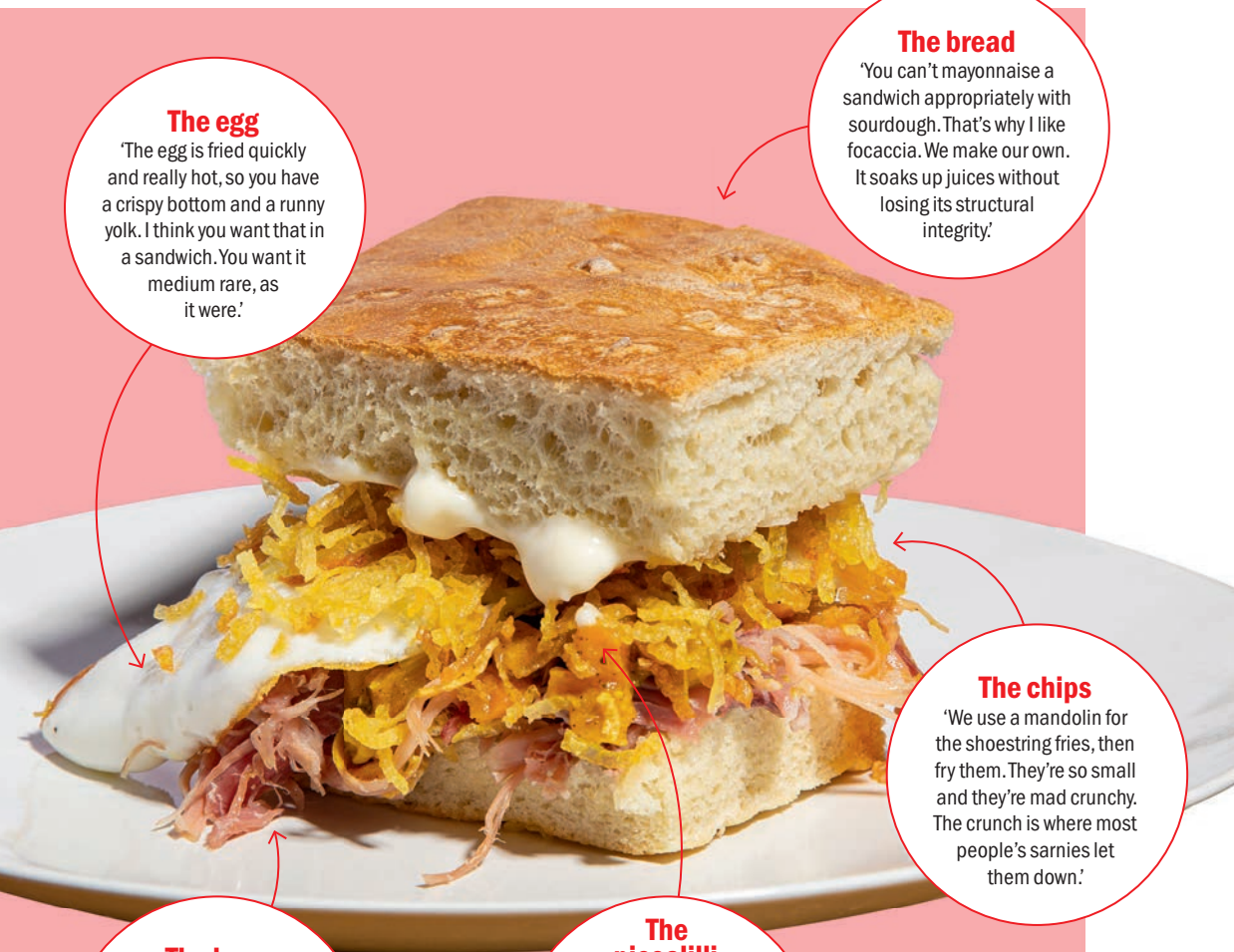
'We use a mandolin for the shoestring fries, then fry them. They're so small and they're mad crunchy. The crunch is where most people's sarnies let them down.'

### The ham

'We use whole hocks – the bit above the trotter. We braise them for four or five hours. That creates a beautiful stock, which we reheat the meat in, so no flavour is lost.'

### The piccalilli

'We make big vats of it. It's got literally half my spice rack in it and an extraordinary volume of vegetables – onions, carrots, cauliflower. It gets along so well with the ham.'



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## WHAT I OWE TO LONDON



### ‘The city’s buildings are points of amplification for me’

Poet, playwright and performer Inua Ellams on what the capital means to him

**INUA ELLAMS MOVED** from Nigeria to London when he was a child – and (apart from a few years in Ireland) he’s lived here ever since. From finding a poetry community in Borders bookshop to putting on his first play, he explains how the city has shaped him.

**I moved to London when I was 12 years old.** I’d been here once before when I was eight or nine. I remember falling in love with it and thinking: This is my city, this is where I want to be.

**I knew so little of British culture.** My cousin who lived here gave me a pair of football boots. I’d never owned anything like that in Nigeria. I lived in Victoria and I was so proud that I ran all the way to Pimlico wearing them. I blunted all the studs and wrecked them, it was so silly.

**The city gave birth to Midnight Run,** a project I run where I gather strangers to explore the city from 6pm to 6am. One night, my friend and I had been to the Battersea Arts Centre and we were waiting for the bus. It didn’t come so we began to walk. It was an epic journey, it took

seven or eight hours. I’ve now done it across the world. It’s about building a community for one night only to migrate through a city.

**London is peopled and staffed and populated and driven and inspired by immigrants.** It’s given space to my voice and taught me how to amplify it. The city’s buildings have become points of amplification for me. I don’t think I’d be an artist without London.

**At Borders bookshop on Charing Cross Road,** I began hanging around poets like Nii Ayikwei Parkes, Roger Robinson and Jacob Sam-La Rose. We’d always end up there on Friday nights, writing poetry or reading X-Men comics. Those guys became sort of unofficial mentors of mine.

**My first poetry performance was at the Aroma Café** on St Martin’s Lane. It was a £15 cash-in-hand job and it felt like a million bucks.

**It was lovely to be part of the National Theatre at Home series.** So many people tuned in to watch it, which was humbling. Many of the barbers

and clients I met when I was researching the play finally got to see it as well. It was beautiful.

**My first play was at the Battersea Arts Centre.** After it burned down, I was one of the first artists to see the ruins and discuss plans to refurbish it. I have a piece of work there on permanent display – it’s a poem on kindness, stitched into a tapestry which hangs outside the grand hall.

**London is the closest I’ve felt to a home.** Everywhere else has felt too big or too small. London has enough of a spread and a cultural dynamic which means that you can meet people from various walks of life living within blocks of each other. There’s a lot of cuisine, art, music and poetry which interact and take inspiration from each other, which makes London the best place to be for me. ■ *Interview by Isabelle Aron* → ‘An Evening with an Immigrant’ is at the Bridge Theatre. Until Oct 15.

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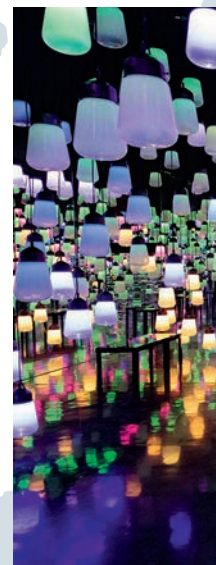
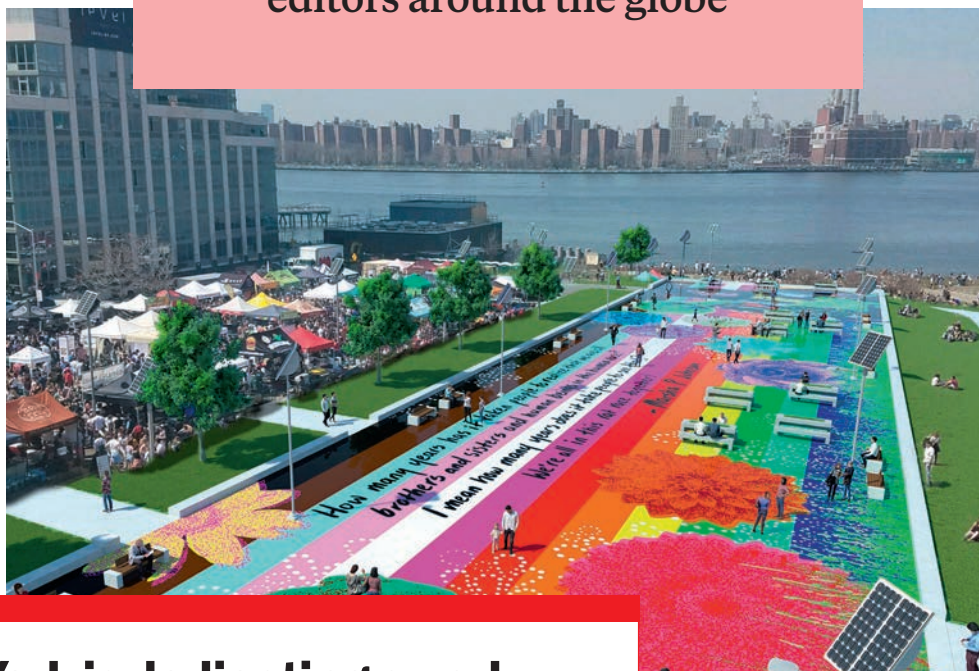
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Edited by James Manning  
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# YOUR WORLD ACCORDING TO TIME OUT

The best stories from our editors around the globe



## New York is dedicating a park to a queer pioneer

### USA

New Yorkers now have a brand new reason to love one of the city's best waterfront parks. State governor Andrew Cuomo has announced that the seven-acre East River State Park in Williamsburg will be dedicated to LGBTQ+ civil rights activist Marsha P Johnson, a Stonewall protestor and outspoken advocate for HIV/AIDS

treatment. It's the first time a New York State Park has honoured an LGBTQ+ person, not to mention a transgender woman of colour. And it's not just a rebrand: by next summer, there'll be a new park house and education centre, plus a public-art installation honouring Johnson and the LGBTQ+ movement. About time!  
*Will Gleason, Time Out New York*

### BRAZIL

## You can now visit these tropical islands – but only if you've had Covid

Volcanic peaks, unspoiled beaches, turquoise waters: the Atlantic archipelago of Fernando de Noronha is well worth the trip. The only hitch? All visitors must now prove they have had Covid-19, by providing a positive test result dating to at least 20 days before arrival. It's still unclear whether most people who get Coronavirus are then immune (and if so, for how long), but the islands are counting on it to keep their Covid death toll at its current zero. Here's hoping...  
*Huw Oliver*

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**NETHERLANDS**  
**Japan's digital art superstars are finally coming to Europe**

The artists of teamLab are officially bigger than Van Gogh: their eye-popping 'museum' in Tokyo has overtaken Vinny's as the world's most popular single-artist gallery. Now the collective is opening a permanent space in Europe – Utrecht, to be precise. The 'Nowhere' art space will house all manner of interactive light sculptures among thousands of plants. The only bad news: you'll have to wait till 2024 to get it on your IG feed. *HO*  
 → [www.nowhereartspace.com](https://www.nowhereartspace.com)



**INDIA**  
**You could soon take a 70-day bus trip from London to Delhi**

It's tough right now to imagine the adventure of a lifetime. But next year (in theory) you'll be able to board a bus and ride it all the way to India, passing through 18 countries in 70 days. The 'Bus to London' will start in Delhi in May and rack up 12,500 miles through Asia and Europe on its way to London. Then it'll do the whole thing again in reverse. A one-way ticket costs £15,320, including accommodation and some meals. Register your interest now, if you feel like massively overcompensating for a travel-free 2020. *James Manning*  
 → [www.bustolondon.in](https://www.bustolondon.in)



**PORTUGAL**  
**Porto has a brand new 'wine district'**

Just across the river from central Porto, the port-making town of Vila Nova de Gaia has just opened an essential stop for lovers of good booze. World of Wine aims to tell the story of Portuguese wine, via six (count 'em!) interactive museums. There are also restaurants, wine bars and cafés plus a wine school an art gallery and an actual chocolate factory – not to mention awe-inspiring views over the River Douro. Nothing to wine about here. *Maria Monteiro, Time Out Porto*  
 → [www.wow.pt](https://www.wow.pt)



**AUSTRALIA**  
**Melbourne's world-famous penguins are streaming live**

It's a rite of passage for most visitors to Melbourne: drive down to Phillip Island and see Australia's largest colony of frolicking fairy penguins. With the city in lockdown, no one can visit right now. Luckily, Phillip Island Nature Parks is making sure we – and the whole world – can see the scurrying little creatures from home, by live-streaming the famous Penguin Parade across Facebook and YouTube every day at 9am BST. You can even ask the park rangers all your penguin questions. Tune in to see if those bustling little guys will be able to perform without their usual audience of gushing tourists. ■ *Rebecca Russo, Time Out Melbourne*  
 → [www.penguins.org.au](https://www.penguins.org.au)



# 13 ways to make up for lost time

Ready to scoff your way through a whole year's worth of art, music and theatre this autumn? Treat yourself: you deserve it. *Eddy Frankel* and *Andrzej Łukowski* serve up a buffet of delicious unmissable highlights

IMAGES: TANTRA; PAINTING OF THE GODDESS NARODJANI, TIBET, 1700-1800; ©THE TRUSTEES OF THE BRITISH MUSEUM; MICHAEL CLARK; PUBLICITY PHOTOGRAPH FOR NEVIL MARTINS, 1884; © RICHARD HAUGHTON





# PE PE PE



## 1 Have a long tantric sesh at the British Museum

Clear all the images of a naked Sting from your mind, because the British Museum's **'Tantra: Enlightenment to Revolution'** exhibition is all about uncovering the truth behind the beautiful, esoteric Eastern philosophical movement. Expect centuries' worth of stunning objects, prints and paintings.

→ British Museum. Sep 24-Jan 24 2021. Prices tbc.

## 2 Return to the National Theatre (finally!)

After keeping us sane during lockdown with its free weekly broadcasts from its fantastic archive, the NT finally swings back into live life with **'Death of England: Delroy'**, a timely new stage work from Roy Williams and Clint Dyer examining Black Englishness. Olivier-winning 'Hamilton' star Giles Terera takes on the title role, a character whom theatre nerds will recognise as the Black best friend to Rafe Spall's white protagonist in last year's hit National Theatre production 'Death of England'. It goes without saying that the one-person performance in the cavernous Olivier Theatre will be fully socially distanced, with the audience reduced to 500 seats.

→ National Theatre, Olivier. Oct 23-Nov 28. Tickets on sale Oct 2, from £20.



## 3 Gawp at this sick high-kick in action

Writing about music is like dancing about architecture, so goes the famous quote. But what about dancing screened *in* architecture? That's what the Barbican's **'Michael Clark: Cosmic Dancer'** exhibition (above) promises, among other things. It's dedicated to the groundbreaking British dancer and choreographer and set off by the brutalist masterpiece.

→ Barbican Art Gallery. Oct 7-Jan 3 2021. £15-£17, concs £11-£17.

## 4 Go to the summer exhibition (that's actually happening in the autumn)

Bit late for the **Summer Exhibition**, isn't it? Yes, but calling the Royal Academy's annual open-submission mega-show the 'Autumn Exhibition' just doesn't have the same ring to it. So it'll be the same thing we get every summer – floor-to-ceiling art by greats and unknowns alike, plus all those little stickers on the walls – only a few months later. Cosy.

→ Royal Academy of Arts. Oct 6-Jan 3 2021. £20-£22.

## 5 Hear some actual live music

Gigs are not easy in the era of social distancing – you can't exactly pogo shirtless in some sweaty basement with a hundred other drunks when there's a bloody pandemic – but that doesn't mean that there's no live music. For a start, **St Martin-in-the-Fields** is hosting a series of socially distanced classical music concerts. There's some Bach, Messiaen, Mozart and Copland on September 26, with more solo and orchestral performances throughout the season. **Wigmore Hall** is currently operating at 10 percent capacity but that hasn't stopped it from



## Culture binge

programming more than a hundred concerts running through to December. And the **Jazz Cafe** is back! Now as a seated-only venue, but with all the soulful, bluesy, Afrobeat-tastic vibes you could hope for.

## 6 See a big weird Bruce Nauman show at Tate Modern

One of **Bruce Nauman's** works is called 'Clown Torture'. That's all you need to know about the pivotal, ultra-influential American artist, who's finally getting a seriously big Tate show this autumn. Neons, installations, films: this show is going to have it all. Plus the aforementioned clown torture.

→ Tate Modern. Oct 7-Feb 21 2021. £13, concs £12.

## 7 Discover what £100k of cold, hard, Lloyd Webber cash has done to the Palladium

Andrew Lloyd Webber famously dropped £100,000 on safety measures for the London Palladium this summer (THERE ARE SELF-CLEANING DOOR HANDLES!). Now it's actually open to the public. The initial season is a bit of a mixed bag – a **Van Morrison** residency (September 23 and 24, and November 17, 18, 20 and 21), some 'in conversation with' type events and a stand-up show from **Daniel Sloss** (October 30) – but it's great to see the iconic venue getting back to something like normal.

→ London Palladium. Various dates and prices.

Time Out London September 22 – October



## 8 Check out a selection of beautifully severed heads

Take a walk through the National Gallery and count the female artists on the wall: you'll find barely a handful. Then count the number of female nudes by men on the wall (a lot) and you might start getting a sense of how history has thought of women and art. Fine art – like medicine and law – was a male-only world for centuries. But Artemisia Gentileschi didn't give a hoot about all that. She forged a path as a lone female painter in the hyper-male world of Baroque art, and she's finally getting her dues, all these centuries later, in **'Artemisia'**, the first major show of her art in the UK.

Artemisia was the daughter of noted Italian artist Orazio Gentileschi, and started her career creating darkly dramatic paintings in the style of

Caravaggio. But at the age of 18, she was raped by her tutor Agostino Tassi. During the ensuing trial she was tortured with thumbscrews, just to make sure she was telling the truth. Tassi was convicted and exiled from Rome. It was brutal and shocking – and nothing would be the same for Artemisia after that.

Her art became more confident, more aggressive and more empowering from then on. She celebrated female figures from history and myths, and she painted a lot – seriously, a lot – of men having their heads chopped off. Artemisia was a brilliant, talented, fierce, awe-inspiring artist and deserves all the attention and praise she's about to get.

→ The National Gallery. Oct 3-Jan 24 2021. £20, concs £18.



## 9 Have a few drinks with this weirdo

If immersive shows sound like a terrible idea at the moment, *au contraire*. Wandering around a controlled environment in a small group probably brings you in contact with fewer strangers than popping to Aldi. Leading the way is a reimagined, socially distanced take on

long-running hit **'The Great Gatsby'**, back with us from October 1 at its dedicated venue Gatsby's Mansion. The Vaults throws open its gates for **'Dante's In-Furlough'** (October 15-December 30), a trip through the circles of hell with a lockdown twist. Or if you're itching to hear some live music, then visit new venue **Lockdown Town** (October 2-December 30), where you can explore five immersive environments, each with its own soundtrack, from '50s rock 'n' roll right back to, er, the music of the last global pandemic in 1918.







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# 10

## See a stand-up show on a roof

Top comic **Suzi Ruffell** is playing the strangest socially distanced gig in town: Stand Up at The O2 is literally a comedy gig on the iconic venue's roof (with your ticket including the climbing 'experience').

### How is it you're playing a show on top of The O2?

'Like many other comedians, I have always dreamed of playing The O2. Obviously at the moment that's not possible so when they got in touch and asked if I would play the next best thing I jumped at the chance!'

### Are you looking forward to it?

'I am *really* excited. Since March, stand-ups have been working out different ways to perform. Now I have the challenge of making people laugh while having one of the best views of London. It'll be different but I think it's going to be a lot of fun!'

### Is it a practical spot?

'If its windy we're all strapped on, so we'll be fine.'

### Does the daredevil element appeal?

'Yes 100 percent. Next time I am going to do stand-up jumping out of a plane.'

### Are we seeing a meaningful comeback for live comedy?

'I think stand-up will always bounce back. The socially distanced gigs I have done have been such fun; we comics are desperate to get on stage and make people laugh and it feels like comedy fans are excited to get back in the stalls and watch.'

→ The O2. Sat Sep 26 and Oct 23. £40.



# 12

## Have a night out at the Southbank Centre (but not really)

Great news: the Southbank Centre is reopening! Less great news: you can't go in! Instead, the shows in its **Inside Out** season of music and literature – which runs until December 30 – will broadcast the Royal Festival Hall to the wider world, with most viewable by purchasing a ticket to watch a live stream, and a number of the concerts aired on BBC Radio 3. It's a typically sprawling programme but there's an emphasis on diversity, with 16 of the 57 orchestral pieces by composers of colour, plus a talk from Black Lives Matter co-founder Alicia Garza.

→ [www.southbankcentre.co.uk](http://www.southbankcentre.co.uk)

# 13

## Rejoice in the continued existence of 'The Mousetrap'

You'd have been forgiven for thinking lockdown might finish off Agatha Christie's absurdly long-running murder mystery. Far, far from it: **'The Mousetrap'** is the first, and very likely only, 'straight' West End play to make a comeback for the social-distancing era, in a fully safety-compliant production that the producers cheerfully admit will definitely lose money. They love 'The Mousetrap' that much. The old girl's unkillable. ■

→ St Martin's Theatre. From Oct 23. £19.52-£99.

# 11

## Visit one of London's small cool galleries like you're a fancy art person

London's art galleries were some of the first businesses to open their doors when lockdown eased, so things are now basically back to normal for most art lovers. Take

Alicia Garza



advantage of that this autumn by heading to some amazing free shows by artists including American painter Dana Schutz at **Thomas Dane Gallery** (until December 19), master of fabrics Richard Tuttle (who did the Turbine Hall a few years ago) at **Modern Art Bury Street** (October 1-November 21), brilliantly playful ceramicist Emma Hart at **The Sunday Painter** in Vauxhall (October 2-December 9) and Trulee Hall, whose saucy, bawdy, ultra-weird installation art will be at the **Zabludowicz Collection** (October 8-December 13). That little lot should keep you going for a good while.

Find more autumn fun at [timeout.com/thingstodo](http://timeout.com/thingstodo)



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# How London's parks saved us



Victoria Park

This year, London's parks have been at the centre of everything from socialising to social change. *Alexandra Sims* looks at how we rekindled our relationship with them. Photography *Andy Parsons*

**WHEN HUNDREDS OF** horses descended on Greenwich Park for the London 2012 Summer Olympics' equestrian tournament, park manager Graham thought he'd seen its most exceptional year ever. That was until the pandemic. 'I didn't think working in the park could get more extraordinary,' he says. 'But this year has been bizarre in a completely different way.'

During lockdown, Graham saw the Royal Park transform. More joggers than he'd ever seen before jostled their way down the manicured paths. The 25 bike racks were barely enough for the wobbling mass of cyclists that arrived. Parents taught kids to ride scooters and bikes in deserted car parks. As restrictions eased, Graham watched every inch of grass fill with people picnicking. And while pubs and clubs stayed shuttered, more young people started hanging out on the lawns. A visitor survey found that some locals were exploring the park for the very first time and people were staying for longer.

The same thing happened across the city. As Covid upended our lives, parks became reassuring constants, fixed spaces of green that welcomed us like old friends when all seemed lost. For the one in five Londoners who have no access to private gardens, they became gyms, safe places to meet parents and wild escapes. (It's no wonder that when Victoria Park and Brockwell Park were closed by councils in March and April there was public outcry.)

For Graham, it felt like a whole new generation was discovering the joy of London's green spaces. 'I've worked here for 11 years, and



this last five months have been the busiest I've ever seen,' he says. 'There are so many downsides to this terrible pandemic, but it's fascinating to see people valuing the park.'

### First glimpses of green

Hannah's daughter Isla has spent half her life in lockdown. Calls to stay indoors began when she was seven months old. Parks were a godsend: the only places where Hannah could show her daughter there was more to the world than the cramped little flat where they live.

Lockdown struck swiftly. Hannah, an opera singer, and her husband, a director, lost eight months of work in the space of three days. They made a promise that every other day they would go out to a park, breathe fresh air, find some beauty in the world. Hannah scrolled through Google Maps looking for new patches of green to explore. The family drove to parks they'd never visited. They plopped Isla down on Fortune Green in Hampstead so she could see other children for the first time.

'When we look back on this time, we'll remember it as the year we sat together on a million different patches of grass,' says Hannah.

In July, she brought bunting, picnic rugs and bowls piled with Quavers and Wotsits to Regent's Park for Isla's first birthday. After weeks of only Zoom calls, it was weird and brilliant seeing loved ones in the flesh: to look them in the eye, to hear their laughter.

### The return of noise

For months parks were almost silent. The only sounds were the footsteps of lone figures traipsing on their edges, the burr of a podcast leaking from their headphones. Then came snippets of chatter as people started hanging out in twos. Summer arrived with speakers blaring music. You could tell which couples were on dates, which trees were being used as toilets. Eventually, cheers, instruments and shouts joined the hubbub as impromptu concerts and gym classes popped up. Some club-starved city dwellers gathered in illegal raves.

Nina, a poet and performance artist, found herself blasting out spoken word alongside free-styling jazz musicians and singers at a jam session on Hilly Fields. A soundsystem thudded with drums and bass guitars. 'I'm used to the liveliness of an audience, feeding

off strangers' energy,' she says. 'The park gave me that feeling again.' In Mile End Park, zumba instructor Antonella started leading socially distanced classes. When she played her soundtrack of salsa and hip hop, passers-by stopped to join in and picnickers whooped along. 'Sharing my passion with all those people after weeks of teaching virtually was totally exhilarating,' she says.

Lambeth Wind Orchestra played together for the first time since lockdown in August. In quiet, secluded corners of Brockwell Park and Ruskin Park the orchestra started getting the band back together, piece by piece.

The group has a new repertoire. It's playing uplifting pieces about coming together, getting stronger, looking beyond trouble: 'Somewhere Over the Rainbow', 'Lean on Me', Beethoven's 'Ode to Joy'. But, it's bittersweet.

When conductor John takes pictures of the rehearsals, he thinks of the people who aren't there: some members are still shielding, not comfortable leaving their homes. John wishes there was a way to bring everyone back together but he doesn't know when that will be.

### Plagues and protests

This year is not the first time that parks have helped make history. When 75,000 people died during the Great Plague in 1665, Londoners retreated to makeshift camps on green spaces away from the crammed medieval streets. After the Great Fire in 1666, Londoners whose houses were charred to ashes found a home in camps at Moorfields (now Finsbury Circus). During World War II, swathes of Hyde Park were converted into allotments to help feed the city.

For centuries, London's green spaces have offered sanctuary and been co-opted for crisis management. And they have equally given us spaces to march and protest. People have packed into parks to demand votes for women and LGBTQ+ rights, support the miners' strikes or rail against the Iraq War and student fees.

In June, as Black Lives Matter rallies spread across London, spurred by the tragic death of George Floyd in the USA, Shane\* had his own vision of a safe, peaceful protest in Newington Green, the place where he'd grown up.

Over the last decade, Shane watched as gentrification tightened its grip on the north London area. Local shops became fancy bistros and bakeries, while estates



What parks mean to...  
Russell, 38

'The park has meant everything to me. I live in a one-bedroom flat and don't have any outdoor space. I decided to take up skating as a way to enjoy being outdoors.'





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London Fields

remained unloved. Shane's mother had raised him to be a freedom fighter, to always stand up for what he believed in. She passed away two years ago. 'I realised this year,' says Shane. 'I have strength to bring people together, give things back to the community and fight injustice.' He decided he was going to 'bring the protest back home' for his community and his mum.

In June, Shane began The People Protest with a bunch of strangers. The collective planned a peaceful Black Lives Matter demonstration in Newington Green Park, with

spoken word, reggae bands and local heroes. When June 13 came, 2,000 people arrived at the scruffy patch of grass sandwiched in the middle of a roundabout, to raise their fists in solidarity. They staged two more rallies on the green: an event honouring the Windrush Generation and a talent contest.

Over the summer, Shane noticed other small groups using the park to raise their fists together and clap the NHS. Lots of people use it now, like Speakers' Corner in Hyde Park, he explains. 'I feel proud of that,' says Shane. 'I know my mum would be.'



What parks mean to...  
Flavia, 29

'I don't have a garden, so we do reiki in the park. The practice is about finding the energy in nature.'



A renewed appreciation

There have been some downsides to our renewed love of these green spaces, says Graham, the park manager. Greenwich Park's rubbish trebled over the summer and having to keep public toilets closed while visitor numbers soared was frustrating. But the negatives are far outweighed by the positives.

In the 1840s, life expectancy in Bethnal Green was little over 30 years, its winding streets foul with dirt and rubbish. In this squalid setting, Victoria Park – London's first public park – popped up like a paradise among slums and cesspits. It was never officially opened, but was taken over immediately by locals who had never seen such rolling fields or beautiful trees or delicate, colourful flowers.

Now, nearly 200 years later, Londoners have flooded their parks again, seeing these green spaces through the same excited eyes as those Victorians, rather than as the jaded twenty-first-century city dwellers we'd become. We've

laughed, cried and connected with strangers on shared bits of grass. Some Londoners have discovered new parts of their city, others have found a renewed appreciation for the nature on their doorstep.

A Greenwich local, Graham strolls around the park even when he's not working. He never gets bored of it. Each day brings a tree he hasn't noticed before or a conversation with someone new. At the top of the park's 50-metre-high slope, he'll stop and take in the view of Canary Wharf. Every time he looks at it, it's different. The light changes, illuminating some new glass box that's thrust its way into the skyline. '[This park] is an incredible place,' says Graham. 'I'm so glad more people are seeing that too.' ■

*\*Name has been changed. Additional reporting by Django Zimmatore.*



What parks mean to...  
Chris, 59

'Getting out means a lot. When you come here and fish you don't feel like you're in London. It's like an island in the city.'



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 → Esprit Spa & Wellness at Holiday Inn Reading.

[www.timeout.com/espritspa](http://www.timeout.com/espritspa)

## Leong's Legend

**What is it?** All-you-can-eat dim sum and a glass of prosecco at this storied Chinatown venue.

**Why go?** For the mind-boggling menu. Seriously, there are more than 40 items to choose from – we're talking buns, bao, dumplings, the works – and you can try as many of them as you care to eat.

**Wait, how much?** £22 per person. That's better than half price.

→ Leong's Legend. ⊕ Leicester Square.

[www.timeout.com/endlessdimsum](http://www.timeout.com/endlessdimsum)

## Caudalie

**What is it?** A facial package that includes a 50-minute treatment, a £30 voucher and a free gift.

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→ Various locations.

[www.timeout.com/vinotherapie](http://www.timeout.com/vinotherapie)

## Kanishka

**What is it?** A six-dish sharing menu at an opulent Mayfair restaurant.

**Why go?** Because Michelin-starred chef Atul Kochhar has infused top-notch British produce with Indian flavours to create a truly mouthwatering menu. Plus the bar is a cool place to grab a cocktail.

**Wait, how much?** Only £25 per person. £30 if you decide to add a cocktail (which we'd recommend).

→ Kanisha. ⊕ Oxford Circus.

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# Things to do in London

Edited by **Katie McCabe**  
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IMAGE: JEAN-PIERRE COILLER, 1977 BY SANLÉ SORY, DAVID HILL GALLERY

The big hopes and bigger dreams of West African youth in 1960s Burkina Faso radiate from the portraits of Sanlé Sory. See them in person as they fly in for Kensington + Chelsea Art Week. **Turn to p28 for more.**



## Alfresco art

### Kensington + Chelsea Art Week

Remember when the King's Road was cool? Neither do we. The days of Chelsea counterculture – the psychedelic tailors, the mods, the Led Zepplin-owned record label – feel like they were from another dimension, let alone another era. Kensington + Chelsea Art Week is one of those events that helps the most polished parts of K&C soften their stiff upper lips by filling the place with art. The festival is returning in full force for 2020 with talks and exhibitions (look out for 'Tête-à-Têtes', a show of West African portraiture at David Hill Gallery). Make time to tread the KCAW Public Art Trail, where you'll find a giant rotting apple sculpture by Barnaby Bradford and our favourite, 'Alphabetti Spaghetti', an anxious little red post box with a knot in its gut. We feel ya, buddy.

→ Various locations. Oct 1-10. Free, some ticketed events.

### London Mural Festival

It's brought 50 new murals to the city, made the trumpets at The Leadenhall Building look like cans of a new edgy IPA and repainted a stretch of street in Leyton (find out more about that on p. 38). The first London Mural Festival has definitely left its mark. The festival comes to an end next week. Until then, you can use the mural map on the event's website to find as many as you can – don't miss June Barber, an 80-year-old Kilburn resident whose face has been painted on the side of her block on Webheath Estate.

→ Until Oct 4. Free.

### Brent Biennial

Plans for a nine-foot mural of George Michael's face on Kingsbury Road have (understandably) dominated its news coverage, but there's so much more to the Brent Biennial than his beautiful bouffant. The borough's libraries, parks, public spaces and coin-op laundrettes are opening up to esoteric installations and anthropological art projects that will dissect the history of Brent. Artists David Blandy, Imran Qureshi and Yasmin Nicholas will all be taking part. If someone offers you a DVD, don't turn it down – it might be the work of artist Adam Farah, who



Brent Biennial

has used his commission to burn short films and reflections on to discs he will hand out to the public. Or it might be a pirate copy of 'Mall Cop'. That's a risk you'll have to take.

→ Various locations. Until Dec 13. Free.

## Poetry readings

### ► 'On Uniformity'

Yomi Sode, founder of BoxedIn, the 'fastest spoken-word night in London', is slowing things down for an online performance of 'On Uniformity', a new piece of writing exploring the personal experiences of Black British schoolchildren. Sode's piece will be intermingled with a short film featuring the rich black-and-white portraits of Baltimore photographer Gioncarlo Valentine, and will close with a

conversation between the two artists. Sode is one of the brightest poetry stars in London right now, and never wastes a word, so this is one worth setting a YouTube reminder for.

→ Sep 28. Free, register in advance. [www.jerwoodarts.org](http://www.jerwoodarts.org)

### 📍 2020 Vision

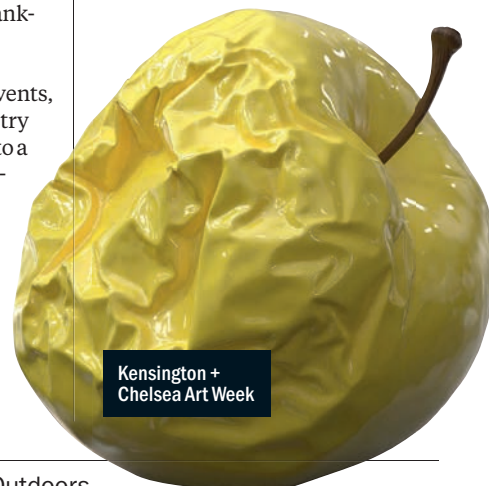
Coal Drops Yard isn't just for sparse designer concept stores and bank-breaking lunches at Barrafinna. Those reworked Victorian warehouses are also used for events, like this socially distanced poetry trail that promises to take you to a 'clarity-only zone' with on-the-spot performances from five contemporary poets. Brace yourself for introspective musings on friendship, activism, and, of course, these *strange times we find ourselves in*.

→ Meet at West Handyside Canopy. Oct 1. Free, register in advance.

## Big brunches

### 📍 Spanish Bottomless Brunch

We've all lived the nightmare. You go for tapas with your friends, and everyone wants to share. That's fine, it's tapas, you were prepared for this. But the vegetarian has vetoed



Kensington + Chelsea Art Week



the jamon iberico. Another ‘hates all seafood’ so it’s goodbye gambas. It doesn’t have to be like this. At El Pirata, you get a set menu of seven tapas dishes to share (there are gambas, we checked) and unlimited Estrella or Sangria. It’s £35 per person, which isn’t too shabby for a Mayfair restaurant, and you won’t be clashing forks over scraps of pan and patatas bravas at the end.

→ El Pirata. Until Oct 31. £35pp.

**E Black Card Brunch**

Hate eggs and everything they stand for? Boxpark might just have your brand of brunch. On the last Sunday of every month, you can pay £20 for a Boxpark Black Card to mix and match two dishes and two drinks from participating street-food traders. Sadly this black card is nothing like the Nando’s variety, but if you must act like an obnoxious British pop star, you can pay £80 for double the food tokens and a champagne ‘keg’.

→ Boxpark Shoreditch. Sep 27. From £20.

**Stuff on (and off) stage**

**N ‘Sleepless’**

See an all-singing adaptation of the original screenplay to ‘Sleepless in Seattle’ (that for whatever reason is not allowed to call itself ‘Sleepless in Seattle’). It’s a slender story garnished with peppily pedestrian songs that follows the converging lives of Baltimore-based journalist Annie and Seattleite architect Sam, who she falls for after hearing him [checks notes] mourn the death of his wife on the radio. In normal times, ‘Sleepless’ would probably not be a musical worth the detour to Wembley Park. But these are not normal times. It’s the only flashy musical in town, and being sniffy about it is like being sniffy about the offer of a turkey twizzler when you haven’t eaten for a month.

→ Troubadour Wembley Park Theatre.

Until Sep 27. £25-£45.

**E 🤪 ‘We Are Shadows: Brick Lane’**

Nimbler than work tied to a venue, immersive theatre has responded well to the age of lockdown. This ‘smartphone adventure’ from Tamasha Digital and Coney invites you to take a trip around Brick Lane and discover its lesser-known history. It’s a game – ideally for pairs, though solo is fine – that begins with a phone call and turns into a magical realist east London odyssey.

→ Brick Lane. Until Oct 2. £3.50.

**🤪 ‘C-o-n-t-a-c-t’**

The original version of this socially distanced outdoor show was a hit in France over the summer, and producers Katy Lipson and Mathilde Moulin have brought it to London in fairly short order. It’s a 50-minute drama exploring themes of mental health and anxiety that

follows Sarah, a woman approached by somebody she believes to be a stranger, who appears to hear her thoughts. Performances take place at three locations around the city. Just download the audio, and follow the show on foot.

→ Various venues. Until Nov 22. £22.50.



**Bitesized films**

**▶ The Shortest Nights**

Find yourself shunning movies that exceed a 90-minute runtime? Seek out films to suit your shrunken attention span at this online festival of 46 British shorts. Resist another night of snoozing in front of a Netflix original, and ping-pong between a dozen different genres instead.

→ Sep 26-27. From £5. Register for your festival pass at [www.shortsightedcinema.com](http://www.shortsightedcinema.com)

**▶ Making a Scene: Queer Short Films and Filmmaker Q&A**

Leytonstone Loves Film’s speciality is popping up in unexpected places with unexpected films, but as most of its taking place online, we’re settling for the second bit. At this digi watch party, you can absorb stories made by and for the LGBTQ+ community. Look out for São Paulo short ‘Perifericu’ and stick around for a Q&A with the filmmakers.

→ Oct 1. Free. register in advance.

[www.leytonstonelovesfilm.com](http://www.leytonstonelovesfilm.com)

**Drunk painting**

**🍷 Paint ‘Starry Night’ over ‘The Great Wave’**

You know what probably looks great after a few drinks? A chaotic palimpsest of famous artworks. At this ‘sip and paint’ night, you’ll be layering Hokusai’s ‘The Great Wave’ over Van Gogh’s ‘The Starry Night’. Ukiyo-e mish-mashed with post-impressionism: a good idea, right? The canvas is yours to keep, if you can face it the next day. Salut!

→ The Happenstance. Sep 26. £35.99.

**🍷 Paint Klimt + prosecco**

Gustav Klimt’s twirly golden oil painting ‘The Tree of Life’ is the subject of this prosecco-addled night of art reproduction in London Bridge. Mount it on your wall and stick on some Terrence Malick for maximum pretension.

→ The Horniman at Hays. Oct 3. £35.99.

**Are monologues the future of London theatre?**

**C Monologue season**

More associated with the tight budgets and tighter timeslots of the Edinburgh Fringe than the London stage, the monologue is not exactly the sexiest of theatrical forms.

Nonetheless, it’s one that’s having a moment in the



Elsewhere, you can see a few recent classics of the form, including Inua Ellams’s autobiographical ‘An Evening with an Immigrant’, the first chance to experience his acclaimed show since he hit the big time with his National

social-distancing era. Monologues are cheap to put on – important when you can only sell a third of your seats – and a single performer doesn’t need to distance from their castmates. And if you cast a celebrity, then boom! Suddenly you can charge a decent price for an inexpensive show. You might even break even!

The National Theatre will reopen with one next month (‘Death of England: Delroy’). The West End is due to restart with another (Adam Kay’s NHS monologue ‘This Is Going to Hurt’). And Nicholas Hytner’s Bridge Theatre is staging a full on 12-monologue season. It kicked off earlier this month with David Hare’s new Ralph Fiennes-starring ‘Beat the Devil’. But actually, despite its extreme topicality – it’s about Hare’s experience getting Covid – it’s probably the weakest link.

Theatre-staged play ‘Barber Shop Chronicles’.

Best of all, there’s a mini-season within the season, in which eight of the best actors in the whole damn country (including Imelda Staunton, Kristin Scott Thomas and Lucian Msamati) reprise their roles from this summer’s TV versions of Alan Bennett’s ‘Talking Heads’ monologues. They’re really great, reinventing and reimagining some of the lesser-known ‘Heads’ (two of the plays are brand new) and allowing some phenomenal actors to let rip on a stage again – albeit in a wry, Alan Bennett way.

If we’re still knee-deep in monologues in a year we might be bored with the things. For now, though, let’s salute this humble saviour of the socially distanced stage. *Andrzej Lukowski*

→ The Bridge Theatre season runs until Oct 31. Prices vary.

IMAGE: MONOLOGUES: THE OUTSIDE DOG, FUCHERIA SANDALL. PHOTO BY ZAK NICHOLSON. BEST BREVIAL: YASMIN NICHOLAS. BY ROT METHE. KENSINGTON + CHELSEA ART WEEK: THIS EARTH OF MAJESTY. THIS SEAT OF MARS. BY BARBARA BARFORD



# On yer bike!

Today is World Car Free Day!  
Join us as we meet three  
passionate cyclists – and find  
out how you can get on the road  
affordably and safely

**W**e don't need to tell you about the benefits of cycling – you already know them, pal. Along with walking, getting around on a bike is great for your wellbeing (and better for London's air quality). During lockdown, loads more of you took up cycling – and you're probably still walking a bit more, too. But what you might not know is that TFL has responded to this by launching new cycling and walking services, including a free online cycle skills course, a nifty travel app and new traffic-free routes. Pretty helpful, right? Basically, there's never been a better time to take to the streets (or Cycleway, or canal paths).



## 'I didn't even think of it as cycling at the time'

**Isabelle is the director of Wheels for Wellbeing, which provides disabled people with the tools to cycle and works for a more accessible city.**

I purchased my first hand-cycle back in my mid-thirties. I went out to purchase something that would enable me to keep up with my four-year-old on rough terrain, which you can't really do on a wheelchair. That was when I came across the hand-cycle, which clips on to the front of the wheelchair. For a number of years I used it in parks, but never on the road.

**Then I got involved with Wheels for Wellbeing, the organisation that I now run.**

I met other disabled people who were cycling and that got me thinking: why wasn't I seeing what

I was doing as cycling? I ended up equipping myself with an e-assist version of my clip-on hand-cycle. With the electric power of the battery and a bit of cycle training, I became much more confident when dealing with traffic and stopped worrying about hills.

**Cycling has become not only a mode of transport, but my way to keep healthy.**

My regular route is to work, from Streatham to Brixton. Lately, some friends and I have set up a little 'Sunday Cycling Adventures' group. We've been from Streatham through to Vauxhall, the South Bank and Buckingham Palace. We've gone out of our way to find new routes on well-protected Cycleways and quiet backstreets, and had coffee in Clapham and Balham.



# 'I decided to upgrade to an e-bike with the Cycle to Work Scheme'

## **Molly lives in Bethnal Green and commutes to the South Bank.**

A couple of years ago, I moved to East Dulwich, which is quite hilly – I decided to treat myself to an e-bike through the Cycle to Work Scheme. Your company buys your bike, tax-free, and it comes out of your salary. I think I saved about £600. I'm paying it off in instalments, but I don't even notice it coming out of my salary!

## **It's effortless cycling.**

You're still getting the action of cycling, but you never break a sweat. It really comes into its own on hills and on long distances – and it's great if you have loads of stuff

to carry. The battery lasts for a good five hours and you charge it by plugging it into the wall. The bike is quite heavy and more expensive but, at the same time, it's basically like having your own car. There was one evening this summer where I went from East Dulwich to Hackney Marshes, then across to Hampstead Heath and then back to East Dulwich. And I never got sweaty!

## **I enrolled in a cycling course.**

TfL funds free cycle skills training. I enrolled through my local borough and have not stopped raving about it! It helps you to build confidence on your bike. The instructor was

## **Advertisement feature**

excellent! They'll pick you up and take you to where you want to go to, and show you the quietest routes. There are also other schemes where you can get safety checks on your bike.

## **I'm using it more and more.**

In lockdown, I used it more on the weekends and for learning the cycle routes – I've definitely noticed more of those popping up. Cycling more has helped me realise how everything is connected. It's a lovely way to hack the city. It's made my lifestyle more engaged than passive, and it gives you that quiet space in the morning and the evening.

# 'Cycling to work makes me time-rich'

## **Bryan lives in London Fields and commutes to King's Cross on his single-speed bike.**

I started cycling when I moved to Amsterdam, where everyone cycles. When I moved back to London in 2014, I just kept it up. To get to work, it only takes me 20 minutes to cycle along the canal – so I save about 40 minutes and there are no traffic lights, it's just non-stop the whole way. That means I get longer in bed!

## **I've discovered plenty of new spots in London.**

I've done lots of exploring on my bike. Sometimes I'll cycle all the way to Portobello Road and do a bit of house-spotting in areas like Chelsea. If you're on a bus you just see its route – but with the bike, you can take side streets. I often cycle

out to Hackney Wick. When I used to have more time off, I'd cycle to Stratford and the Docklands. One year during Wimbledon, I went cycling and ended up in St Katharine Docks and realised that it had a pop-up screen showing the tennis with beanbags out. During lockdown, I cycled to Leicester Square to see it when it was empty and take photos.

## **It's time to upgrade.**

I've got a rickety single-speed bike, and I don't like the idea of putting my one-year-old son on it with me. My wife and I are both going to do the Cycle to Work Scheme so we can get better bikes and pay them off bit by bit. I still want a single-speed bike; something lightweight and streamlined.



## **TFL CYCLING AND WALKING SERVICES**

### **Online cycle skills course**

TfL's four short modules are designed for newbies and experienced riders alike. Visit [cycle-skillsonline.tfl.gov.uk](https://cycle-skillsonline.tfl.gov.uk).

### **Walk with TfL**

From daily walking inspiration and spectacular short walks to details of quick walks between stations, check out [londonblog.tfl.gov.uk/category/walking](https://londonblog.tfl.gov.uk/category/walking).

### **TfL Go**

This new (free!) travel app aims to get London moving again. Use it to plan your cycling or walking journey by searching TfL Go.

### **TfL maps**

Find open and proposed cycle routes, as well as Santander Cycle docking stations at [tfl.gov.uk/modes/cycling/routes-and-maps](https://tfl.gov.uk/modes/cycling/routes-and-maps).

### **Streetspace for London**

Find brand new temporary cycle lanes and wider footpaths in your area at [sustrans.org.uk/streetspace-for-london](https://sustrans.org.uk/streetspace-for-london).

→ Want to get in the saddle? Search TfL Cycle Skills

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The British Museum

## Tantra enlightenment to revolution

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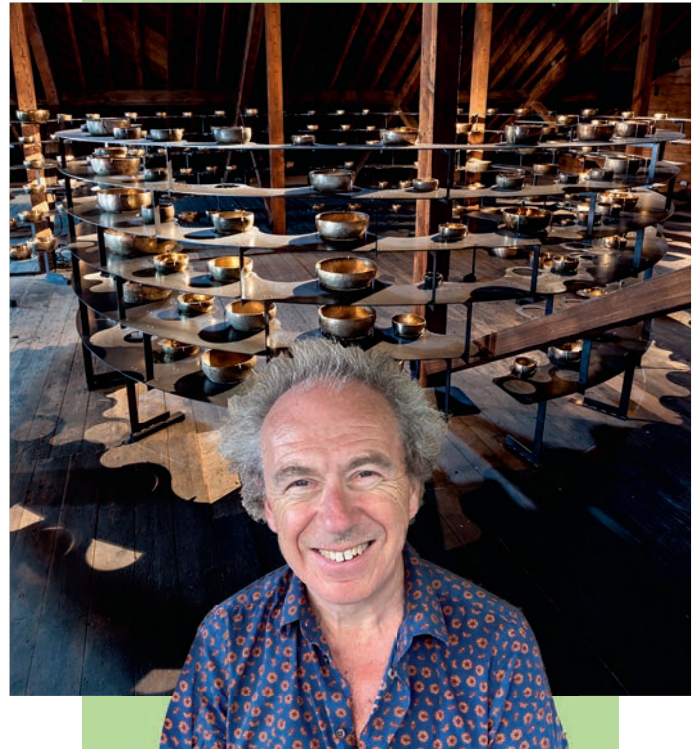
Painted and gilded clay figure of Kali striding over Shiva, Bengal, Eastern India, late 19th century.

Supported by Bagri Foundation



## BEHIND THE MUSIC

# Jem Finer



### ▶ The Longplayer Assembly

At the turn of the millennium, artist Jem Finer unveiled a musical composition designed to play in an old lighthouse for 1,000 years. A 12-hour conversation between 24 people (Brian Eno among them) will mark its twentieth birthday. For now, we catch up with the father of 'Longplayer' for a slightly shorter chat.

### What is it like as an artist to have a piece of work that will outlive you and all of us?

'Lots of things we make will outlive us. What's different about "Longplayer" is that it won't be complete until many generations after I've passed on. I don't think I really realised when it started what I was letting myself in for, in terms of how to look after it. It's like having some kind of weird kid that one's bound to for life.'

### Have your thoughts on 'Longplayer' changed at all, now that lockdown has shifted the way we perceive time?

'Really, it's more interesting to ask other people. I've had a feeling over the last four years or so that there's been an increasing interest in "Longplayer". Four years ago was the Brexit referendum. From that point on, the world really seems to have taken a drastic turn... Maybe that has something to do with it.'

### What do you think London is going to look like when 'Longplayer' finally comes to an end in 2999?

'I have no idea, to be honest. It could be nothing except rubble and sky and the river. Everyone could be living underground, or it could look quite similar to what it does today, but with different taller buildings, made of different materials. Who knows? That's beyond the realms of my speculative abilities, I'm afraid.' ■

Interview by Katie McCabe

→ Sat Sep 26. Free. Stream online at [www.longplayer.org](http://www.longplayer.org).

IMAGES LONGPLAYER: JAMES WHITAKER; JEM FINER: MARCIA FARQUHAR



## Big online talks

### ▶ The Moth International Virtual Mainstage

Novelist George Dawes Green founded The Moth storytelling event to recreate the kind of tale-sharing he heard on long hot nights on Southern American porches. It's now so firmly part of pop culture that it appeared in an episode of 'Girls'.

This year's edition might be virtual, but the combination of poignant human truths and rhapsodical tone will still cause you to shed a tear against your will.

→ Sep 26. £12.

www.themoth.org

### ▶ Kraszna-Krausz Book Awards 2020 Showcase: Artist and Editor Talks

LaToya Ruby Frazier has been capturing the hope and perseverance of working-class Black life in modern America since she was 17. Her book of moving documentary and fine art photographs was recently recognised with a Kraszna-Krausz Book Award. Hear Frazier in conversation with other 2020 winners at a talk where the audience members can ask questions from their sofas. No pontificating, people – virtual events are hard enough without someone uttering the dreaded 'I have more of a statement than a question...'

→ Sep 30. Pay what you can.

www.thephotographersgallery.org.uk

## Cyber bars

### ▶ Otherworld

Had enough of the New Normal world? This virtual reality arcade in an east London railway arch is offering you a portal – or 16 to be

precise – to other worlds where the words 'social distancing' and 'maskne', have yet to be uttered. Book a slot in one of its futuristic-looking pods to stride across the globe like a giant in a high-octane version of Google Earth or manoeuvre through cascades of bullets in a 'Matrix'-style slow-mo shoot-'em-up. All those glutte-cramping nights of lockdown gaming are about to pay off. Time to battle some zombies in a desert.

→ 336 Acton Mews. From £12.

## Craft work

### ▶ The London Artisan

At the start of every new season, The London Artisan curates a line-up of the country's best designer-makers who pack its markets with swish jewellery, ceramics and prints. Some of the prices can make your eyes water, but tea just tastes better from a fancy handmade clay mug, we can't explain it.

→ Old Truman Brewery. Oct 3-4. Free, drop-in.

## London drag

### ▶ Mariah and Friendz: Sloppy September

Douse your hands in sanitiser, because you're in for a dirty night of anarchic drag at this club night 'vaguely inspired by Mariah Carey' – well, aren't we all? Everything will be gloriously sloppy, apart from the Covid rules and restrictions. Drinks will be served till 2am: that's right we said TWO IN THE MORNING,

so it will probably be the wildest night you've had all year.

→ Bethnal Green Working Men's Club. Sep 25-26. £15.

### ▶ Solve-Along-A 'Murder, She Wrote'

It might not seem obvious to you now, but what the world needs is a Jessica Fletcher drag night, and 'Murder, She Wrote' superfan Tim Benzie will be supplying the goods for this interactive screening of the cult show. Pit your wits against JB Fletcher and race to solve the crime before Angela Lansbury drops a wry 'I couldn't help but notice...'

→ Royal Vauxhall Tavern. Sep 23. £8.



## FOE TO FRIEND

The British Army in Germany since 1945

### ▶ Hyper Reality

What do you get if you cross 'Black Mirror'-style tech with retro arcade games and add a lil' pinch of cyberpunk? The answer lies in this virtual-reality bar, which has three immersive spaces where you can wander around a haunted hotel, ride a VR rollercoaster, race cars or hunt wizards in a castle. You can book in for two-hour gaming slots, or pay as you play. Unlike its Mile End neighbours, the bar here is totally dry – so there's no danger of drunkenly forgetting about that two-metre distance.

→ 67 Mile End Rd. From £30.

### ▶ London Terrariums

If you're still head over heels for your ever-expanding family of succulents and swiss cheese plants, you can create your own self-contained ecosystem at this soil-filled workshop. An expert will take you through the history of the glass-encased gardens, before letting you scavenge through a botanical pick 'n' mix of lush ferns to fill up your glass globe with.

→ Carousel London. Oct 3. £40-£60.

open again. Numbers will be reduced, dancing will be subdued (absolutely no mosh pits, please), but the sounds will be just the same. Indie music night Idaho is bringing four bands to an outdoor stage at The Victoria in Dalston, including Finnish Flag who specialise in 'sad pop' and dreamy pop-folk singer-songwriter E Davies. It's first come, first serve and only 70 people will be able to attend, so look alive.

→ The Victoria. Sep 27. Free.

## Tiny gig

### ▶ Idaho at The Victoria

After months of silence, slowly, slowly London's gig venues are beginning to

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# Food & Drink

timeout.com/eatdrink @timeouteatdrink

## Hallelujah! There are actually some new bars and restaurants

Feel the Old World thrill of eating or drinking somewhere you've never eaten or drunk before at one of these top spots

**WHO THE HELL** would open a restaurant or bar in 2020? Surely you'd have to have some serious guts to think it was an appropriate time to open the doors of a brand new venture. But, against all the odds, doors have been swinging open across the city. From favourites like Tandoor Chophouse, Swift and Club Mexicana opening new sites, to iconic venues like Barrafina giving their current venues total overhauls (its Drury Lane restaurant is reopening as a seafood spot), brave change has been happening on a major scale. But here we're saluting the bravest of them all: the Londoners who've opened totally new joints this year.

### The modern Punjabi one

Named after the family village of founders Ravinder and Amar Madhrai, **Attawa** does Punjab comfort food that's sure to cure your winter blues. Think: crisp amritsa khatta ladoo (fried

lentil dumplings) and the creamiest black dal makani in the city.

It soft-launched as a takeaway in the spring but now it's here in brilliant, full restaurant form. → 6 Kingsland High St, E8 2JP.

### The one that's temporary

Ex-Moro man Stevie Parle is the brains behind **Flora** in Portobello Dock (the same site as his previous, much-loved venture Dock Kitchen). Once again he's teamed up with designer buddy Tom Dixon to deliver a very easy-on-the-eye

combo of outdoor dining space (summer flavours and a menu that changes daily) and shop (organic produce, honey, wine, that kind of thing). It's only around for a few months so do not dilly-dally.

→ 344 Ladbroke Grove, W10 5BU.

### The long-awaited one

**Akoko** was supposed to open much, much earlier than this. But – due to reasons that I'm sure we don't need to spell out – the hyped West African joint will now arrive on October 8. In the kitchen? 'Masterchef: The Professionals' finalist William JM Chilila. On his menu? Smoked goat with jollof rice, yam with lobster agus and goat's milk ice cream with uda burnt cream. Hell, yes.

→ 21 Berners St, W1T 3LP.

### The absurdly tasteful one

If there was an award for unfortunate timing, husband and wife team Woongchul Park and Bomee Ki would win it. They opened **Sollip**, an extremely cool

European-Korean restaurant in Bermondsey, almost exactly as lockdown began. The menu is simple but sophisticated (the 'catch of the day' dish features white beef broth, timiz pepper and leek jangaji) and the wine's curated by Noble Rot. Pick up a jar of homemade kimchi while you're there.

→ Unit 1, 8 Melior St, SE1 3QP.

### The one with all the veg

It might seem like there's nothing that new about **Turnips**, a Borough Market fruit-and-veg retailer established back when Britpop was big. But while it's already got a rustic



Akoko



Rondo

IMAGES: RONDO/STEVEN JOYCE





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for those wishing to really test the limits of human appetite. You can expect 'Mexican soul, British ingredients' which translates to dishes like langoustine tacos with sea buckthorn, kolrabi ceviche and tamal served with corn-husk ice-cream. *And* there's a mezcal bar.  
 → 9 Seymour St, W1H 5BT.

### The one born out of a supperclub

Chef Adejoké 'Joké' Bakare has made the leap from supperclub to fully fledged restaurant with **Chishuru**, opening inside Brixton Village market. Nigerian-born, Bakare's goal is to 'bring pleasure' to London with dishes from the West African region. The set menu moves from snacks like waina – fermented rice balls – to peanut-butter-laden desserts. And at £30 for four courses, who needs Eat Out to Help Out?  
 → Unit 9, Market Row, Coldharbour Lane, SW9 8LB.

### The one with a wall of wine

It's a real all-star line up running the show at **Rondo**. For a start, it's backed by Holborn's bougie Hoxton Hotel. Then it's got William Lander (Quality Chop House) and Chris Gillard (a St John stalwart) in charge. The plan? To do some best of British cooking – mutton, pork cheek, loads of seasonal local veg – all served up with rustic reds, whites and rosés plucked from a whole damn wall of wine in the dining room.  
 → 199-206 High Holborn, WC1V 7BD.

### The one that does EVERYTHING

Yann Florio was one of the stand-out stars of 'MasterChef' 2019 (he was the one who looked like one of the Three Musketeers). **Kreidel** is his new co-venture in Hoxton. It is *extremely* post-2020: a restaurant with discrete four-person booths, a 12-seat bar, an events space and – get this – a media studio, so that if it all goes to *shiiiiit* again, it's all set up to do live-streamed demos etc. Oh, and it's an online deli and wine shop too. So, a bit of everything, including (presumably) the kitchen sink.  
 → 227-229 Hoxton St, N1 5LG.

### The one in an old cab office

Gordon McGowan's mini Deptford bar empire has expanded both geographically and in spirit. Buster Mantis set the tone: an arch space that offered punch, Jamaican food and vital jazz event Steam Down. He added Stockton – more cocktails and more brunch options. Now **The Watergate** sees SE8's bar scene creep riverwards into uncharted territory and a former minicab office. It's très chic, with high tables, plants, a tiny isosceles triangle of back garden, plus benches out front. There's a menu of mixed drinks, well-chosen wines and good beer. Just look at Deptford: all big and grown up. ■  
 → 7 Watergate St, SE8 3HR.

caff in Greenwich Market doing top-notch toasties, the restaurant added to its Borough plot by night is different. It stars a £65 tasting menu – put together by Tomas Lidakevicius, formerly of City Social – that does all sorts of sordid things to seasonal veg.  
 → 3 Borough Market, SE1 9AH.

### The one with a mezcal bar

**Kol**, the almost-opened restaurant created by Noma Mexico alumnus Santiago Lastra, has attracted a lot of attention. A five-course set menu will set you back £55, but there's a £77 seven-course option

Attawa





# A word from our friends

At Time Out, we're always working with our partners to showcase all the great things happening in their worlds. There's a lot going on, from bars and restaurants reopening to great events and activities taking place across the capital. Over to you guys...



 FITZROVIA

## **JERUSALEM SAYS:**

'Jerusalem is a rustic, hip cocktail and lounge bar in Fitzrovia with a secret garden terrace. Join us to celebrate our relaunch on September 24, with £1 cocktails from Bombay Bramble, free beers from Camden Town Brewery and happy hour all night!  
33-34 Rathbone Place, W1T 1JN.



 MAYFAIR

## **NOBU SAYS:**

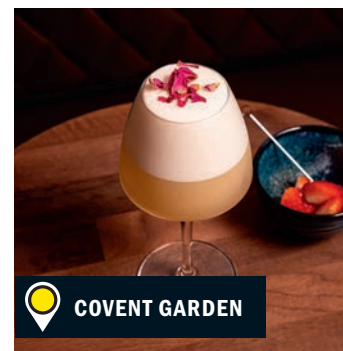
'Lunch is back at Nobu London, with bento boxes and donburi bowls on the menu every Saturday and Sunday. And weekday lunches return from October, with discounts for early-week diners. Follow us on Instagram for more details. We look forward to seeing you soon!  
19 Old Park Lane, W1K 1LB.



 MOORGATE

## **ANGLER SAYS:**

'This season, we have extended the Eat Out to Help Out offer, with three courses for £30 available at lunchtime and for dinner. Enjoy Michelin-starred dishes out on our rooftop terrace or in our restaurant. We look forward to seeing you all again soon!  
3 South Place, EC2M 2AF.



 COVENT GARDEN

## **MOTO SAYS:**

'Located in Covent Garden, Moto serves a range of independent craft sakes and Japanese spirits sourced directly from breweries. Come and enjoy food and drink you won't find elsewhere in London, from Monday to Saturday from noon to 10pm.  
7 Maiden Lane, WC2E 7NA.





**KING'S CROSS**



**LONDON BRIDGE**

**THE HANSOM SAYS:**

'It's official: afternoon tea is back at The Hansom, available from Friday to Sunday, from £38 per person. It's always a good idea to have afternoon tea in one of London's most iconic settings, so book now to avoid disappointment.'  
*St Pancras Renaissance Hotel, Euston Rd, NW1 2AR.*

**NINE LIVES SAYS:**

'We're back in business! The main doors of Nine Lives have reopened, so book now. The fun is also spilling out on to the cobbles, with our new outdoor offering, Nine Lives Alley. Join us for Sunday brunch between noon and 6pm for beautiful burritos and marvellous Micheladas!'  
*8 Holyrood St, SE1 2EL.*



**KING'S CROSS**



**VARIOUS LOCATIONS**



**BETHNAL GREEN**



**TOTTENHAM**

**ST PANCRAS BRASSERIE AND CHAMPAGNE BAR BY SEARCYS SAYS:**

'St Pancras Brasserie by Searcys reopens this week, offering crowd-pleasing signature dishes from its popular à la carte menu created by head chef Colin Layfield, plus a Veuve Clicquot champagne trio.'  
*St Pancras International Station, Euston Rd, N1C 4QL.*

**BURGER & LOBSTER SAYS:**

'To celebrate welcoming diners back into restaurants, Burger & Lobster has rolled back to 2011 pricing for the original three menu items. Snap up a whole lobster, 10oz prime-cut Nebraskan beefburger or delicious lobster roll, with fries and a house salad, for £20, until the end of September.'  
*Various locations.*

**CHIRINGUITO SAYS:**

'Set in Museum Gardens near Bethnal Green tube, Chiringuito offers a Latin-inspired menu and Balearic beats. Open from morning coffee to evening tapas and cocktails, this laidback place with a roof terrace and park views is a local hotspot.'  
*Museum Gardens, Cambridge Heath Rd, E2 9PA.*

**TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR STADIUM SAYS:**

'This adrenaline-pumping, 90-minute experience will challenge adventure-seekers to "take it to the edge" by scaling one of the newest landmarks in London: Tottenham Hotspur Stadium. Climbs are available throughout the week and on match days. Book your experience now.'  
*748 High Rd, N17 0AP.*

MAIN IMAGE: BURGER & LOBSTER BY ROB GREIG; JERUSALEM: FABOVH; COUK; MOTO; ANDY PRINSONS

# Love Local

Edited by Kate Lloyd  
timeout.com/lovelocal

## The Leyton street that's had a rainbow makeover

How east London residents and local businesses crowdfunded one of the city's boldest murals

**CAMILLE WALALA'S BOLD** blocks and stripes of colour splashed across buildings are a welcome visual jolt on London's generally grey and brown streets. They've popped up everywhere from South Molton Street to Shoreditch. But one road in Leyton has just committed to the look in a big way.

Prolific mural-makers Wood Street Walls teamed up with residents and local businesses to crowdfund the project: covering a significant chunk of Leyton High Road with Walala's striking designs. The campaign secured £40,000 thanks to the Mayor of London and Spacehive's Crowdfund London initiative, and now 'Walala Parade' has finally been brought to eye-popping life.

The fronts of toyshops, takeaways, tyre-fitters and loads of other local businesses on the road (a stone's throw from Leyton station and the Leyton Technical) have

been transformed by the London-based French designer. Each building is now a gorgeous patchwork of peach, lilac, blue, black and red geometric shapes.

Yes, it's multicoloured, but it's also green: the designers have used recycled paint from Forest Recycling Project, and a new paint formula that is intended to absorb carbon emissions. Perhaps more importantly than this, though, it's a bold, visible statement of one local area of London sticking together, wanting to move forward and championing its identity in what Walala calls 'a community-driven initiative'.

'Art and colour have an amazing power to spread positivity,' says the artist of the project, 'especially at the scale of the street. It's wonderful to have an opportunity to have such a significant impact on the look and feel of an entire neighbourhood.' ■

*Laura Richards*



### Leyton, Leytonstone



*Adam Cozens* is the co-founder of Leytonstone-based coffee roasters Perky Blenders.





### Hooksmith Press

'I love the style of the prints and the typography by Russell Frost. He does handprinted letterpresses and has this simple little gallery that opens on to the street: I challenge you to walk past without looking in.'  
→ 54 Church Lane.

### Hollow Ponds

'We all need to get out a bit, now more than ever. Hollow Ponds borders the ancient woodlands of Epping Forest, where I enjoy running. There is boat hire on the lake, and great space for dog walkers and picnics. The Sir Alfred Hitchcock Hotel on its perimeter makes for an interesting place to grab a pint after a walk around.'  
→ Leyton Flats, Whipps Cross Rd.

### Masala India

'A simple, family-run restaurant that I often come to with friends and family. The best thing here are the tiffins, which you fill with a combination of four curries, vegetable dishes, breads and rice. It's a great sharing place.'  
→ 466 High Rd Leyton.

### Stone Mini Market

'From the outside this could be just another corner store but inside it's super forward-thinking. It does locally sourced produce (some of which is available in zero-waste packaging). It also has the best range of local beers in the area.'  
→ 743 High Rd Leytonstone.



### Juno Space

'Juno Space hosts yoga and workshops predominantly for women but it also has a fantastically inclusive and thoughtful little coffee shop where all are welcome. My wife Victoria and I have two young boys and we have benefitted from the incredible support and fellowship that exudes from our borough.'  
→ 80 Ruckholt Rd.

### Unholy Bagels

'Martin from Unholy Bagels has absolutely perfected the filled bagel. All bread is baked on-site and the lunchtime range is excellent, with great vegetarian options. You can buy bags of bagels to take home too. Eat one for lunch in Abbots Park next door.'  
→ 660 High Rd Leyton.

### Mora

'Hands down my favourite restaurant in the area. This little place serves fresh pasta made daily and is the first place I tried grated white truffle. The food is exceptional and the staff are always friendly. I am a bit spoiled as it is over the road from our head office and roastery and it has the best pie-and-mash shop in London next door.'  
→ 487 High Rd Leytonstone.



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# Escapes

Edited By Ellie Walker-Arnott  
timeout.com/daytrips

## Breathtaking UK hikes

After all those months sat on the sofa these epic UK hiking trails are, well, actually quite likely to leave you panting

**THERE WERE DAILY** local walks (those little strolls that saved us during lockdown) and then there are these: world-class hiking routes that take in mountains, farmland, lakes, coastline and some of the most stunning scenery the United Kingdom has to offer.

This autumn, we'll be wearing in our new hiking boots on these routes, which wend through some of the country's most incredible rural areas. Load up your rucksack with a tent and a multipack of plasters (or B&B hop) to tackle the entire length, or choose a smaller section for a day-long leg stretch. Either way, we'll see you at the trail head.

### South Downs Way

Running from Eastbourne to Winchester, this trail along the majestic chalk ridges of the South Downs is a tick list of lovely locations. Walkers tackle the Seven Sisters cliffs, photo-ready Cuckmere Haven and Sussex's wonky medieval villages before heading inland to lush hills and

woodland. Pack thick socks and plot a route of around 12 miles a day to complete it in just over a week.

**How far in total? 100 miles**

### West Highland Way

Here's one brave way to explore the mega-landscapes between Glasgow and Fort William in Scotland. The West Highland Way is etched through the Loch Lomond & Trossachs National Park and beyond, past glassy lochs and heather-covered lowlands to steep mountain paths. Tackling the entire route is certainly a challenge, but if you're not fazed, know this: you finish right at the foot of Ben Nevis.

**How far in total? 96 miles**

### Coast to Coast Walk

This long-distance trek isn't one of the UK's official trails, but it's a popular one, taking hikers from the Irish Sea on the sands of St Bees in Cumbria to the North Sea as it rolls into historic Robin Hood's Bay in Yorkshire. Following local footpaths, the route, which was first



Your calves might not thank you for this hilly route, but your eyeballs surely will



IMAGES: SOUTHWEST COASTPATH: STEVE HEAVY/SHUTTERSTOCK

Cleveland Way



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South West Coast Path



published by walker and writer Alfred Wainwright in the 1970s, takes you through three UK National Parks: the Lakes, the Yorkshire Dales and the North York Moors. Who's for hill-and-vale bingo?  
**How far in total? 190 miles**

### South West Coast Path

Currently the longest hiking trail in the UK, you're going to need a fair amount of annual leave to tackle this in one go. The route runs from Minehead in Somerset all the way to Poole in Dorset, via rugged cliffs, cute fishing villages and surfing spots along the Devon and Cornwall coastline. It's

recommended to allow a casual 52 days to walk it start to finish, but you can jump on to the well-signposted coastal path at any point to trek a more manageable chunk. Maybe with a pub or three en route.

**How far in total? 630 miles**

### Pennine Way

The Pennine Way is one wild and remote path, connecting northern England to the Scottish borders. Your calves might not thank you for this hilly route (the combined ascent is higher than Mount Everest fyi) but your eyeballs surely will. It's one epic vista after another, taking you through the Peaks and the Yorkshire Dales, and over Hadrian's Wall.

**How far in total? 268 miles**

### The Ridgeway

Known as Britain's 'oldest road', this trail over high ground has been used since prehistoric times by travellers and traders. It still makes for an awesome walk, with panoramic views of the North Wessex Downs and the Chiltern Hills. Set off at Avebury's neolithic stone circle and you can put your feet up a few days later beside the Thames in Goring.

**How far in total? 87 miles**

### Cleveland Way

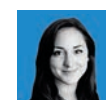
You'll want nine days to fully complete this hike, which explores both the North York Moors and the county's world-famous coastline. Most people walk clockwise from Helmsley to Filey. Just make sure you allow enough time to properly enjoy spots like Roseberry Topping hill and get your goth on at Whitby's atmospheric cliff-top Abbey.

**How far in total? 109 miles**

### Cotswold Way

All the gear, no idea? You can avoid steep peaks (and guarantee plenty of picturesque stop-offs) by hiking The Cotswold Way. It meanders from bougie Chipping Campden to the honey-coloured city of Bath, taking in rolling valleys, chocolate-box villages and a bunch of historic landmarks. Eleven days should suffice to do all 102 miles, but it's an ace one to pick up for a gentle afternoon stroll if that's more your idea of a good time. ■

**How far in total? 102 miles**



By **Ellie Walker-Arnott**,  
Who once hiked up a  
mountain on crutches.





The Old Neptune

## FIVE OF THE BEST

# Pints with stellar views

A seat in a great pub garden was the hottest ticket of summer 2020. Drink in these picturesque outdoor boozing spots before autumn ruins our alfresco fun

### 1 The Old Neptune Whitstable

If only views of the crashing waves will do, head to The Old Neptune. This much-loved pub stands right on the stones of Whitstable beach. Sit outside with salty shingle underfoot for unobstructed views of the sand, the sea and the watery horizon.  
→ [www.thepubonthebeach.co.uk](http://www.thepubonthebeach.co.uk)

### 2 The Drunken Duck Ambleside

You find this charming boozier on a rural crossroads in the middle of the Lake District. For the best vistas to accompany your pint of Barnegates Brewery's Cat Nap (it's brewed behind the pub, fyi), cross over the road and bag one of the handful of benches on the grassy verge. In front of you, fields tumble down into a valley backdropped by purple peaks in the distance.  
→ [www.drunkenduckinn.co.uk](http://www.drunkenduckinn.co.uk)



The Drunken Duck

### 3 The Trout Oxford

Perched right on the edge of the River Thames as it runs alongside Port Meadow, this historic watering hole has the kind of spacious garden social-distancing dreams are made of, with views of the water and Godstow Bridge.  
→ [www.thetroutoxford.co.uk](http://www.thetroutoxford.co.uk)

### 4 The Mayfly Stockbridge

The pretty Mayfly looks out over the rushing River Test, in a secluded corner of Hampshire. Its garden stretches along the river's edge and is pretty sizable, so a picnic bench (for six only, remember) with a view is as good as guaranteed. Watch out for trout splashing about in the Test's clear waters.  
→ [www.mayflyfullerton.co.uk](http://www.mayflyfullerton.co.uk)

### 5 The Ypres Castle Inn Rye

This atmospheric, seventeenth-century pub is surrounded by nice things to look at. The beer garden is right in the shadow of Rye Castle's ancient ramparts, while drinkers facing the other way get views of boats, marshland and the River Rother towards Camber Sands and the coast. ■ *Ellie Walker-Arnott*  
→ [www.yprescastleinn.co.uk](http://www.yprescastleinn.co.uk)

## ICYMI

### New lido is a first for the UK

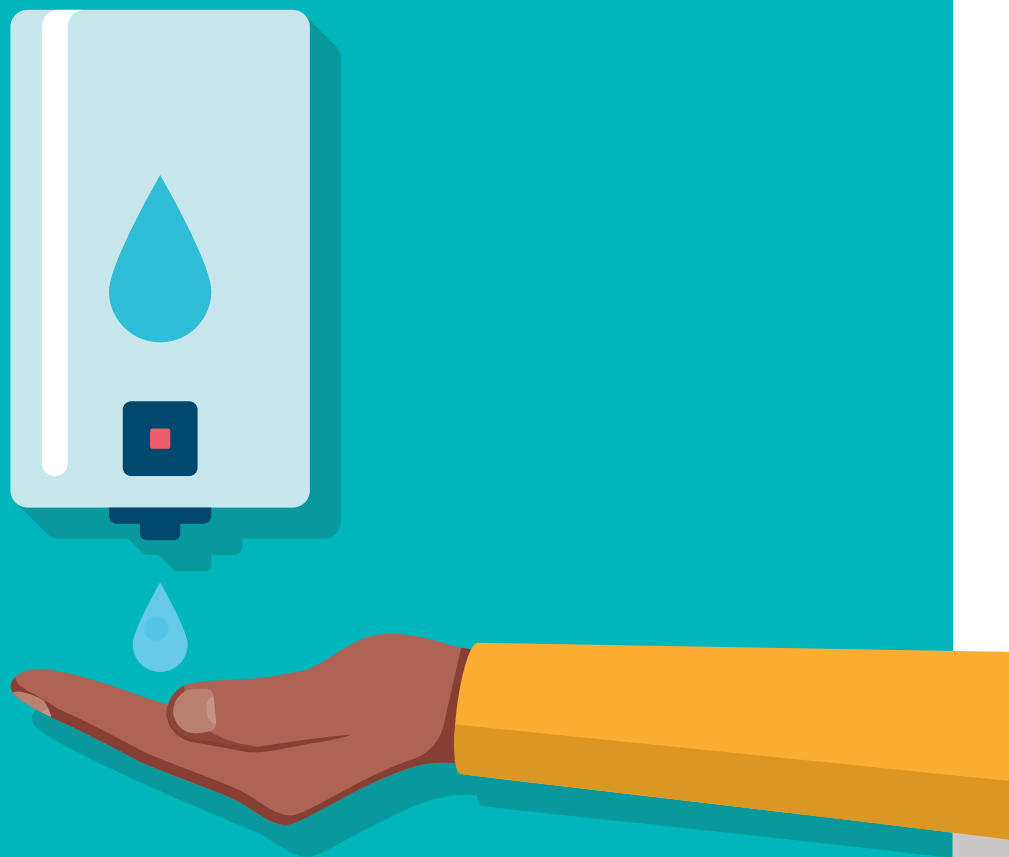


Summer might be on the way out, but there's one good reason not to pack away your swimming costume just yet. Jubilee Pool in Penzance – a lido filled with seawater that sticks right out into the Cornish waves – has just opened a 'geo pool', heated by geothermal energy. The triangular, art deco lido has been popular with locals and visitors in the summer months since it opened in the 1930s. Now it's set to stay open all year round, thanks to the new section that is being naturally heated to a balmy 35C using warmth from underground hot springs. Jubilee Pool is already the largest lido in the UK and now it can call itself the first geothermally heated lido in the UK too. According to a spokesperson for Geothermal Engineering Ltd, this is one of the most sustainable forms of heating available. So it's a warm, sensory experience that's also good for the environment? You know where to find us when the temperature starts to drop.  
*Ellie Walker-Arnott*  
→ Jubilee Pool, Cornwall.  
[www.jubileepool.co.uk](http://www.jubileepool.co.uk)



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# Film

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

## TEN OF THE BEST

# Movies to see this autumn

Bond, Black Widow and Hercule Poirot are coming to blow your mind

**THE LEAVES ARE** falling, the nights are drawing in and – hallelujah! – movies are back. If you fancy a trip to the cinema, saddle up for some absolute belters. On the slate? The return of 007, the latest Pixar and at least one enormous moustache.

**1 Saint Maud Oct 9**  
Writer-director Rose Glass delivers a killer first film with this clammy seaside psyche-out. Rising star Morfydd Clark plays a nurse whose spiritual devotion and dedication to her dying patient (Jennifer Ehle) tips into something darker. Fun fact: the script was partly written in the Wellcome Collection.

**2 Death on the Nile Oct 14**  
Up for a starchy murder mystery? Extravagantly moustached detective Poirot (Kenneth Branagh) is back for

another Agatha Christie potboiler. Gal Gadot, Armie Hammer, Letitia Wright and Russell Brand are among the suspects. Can the Brains from Brussels find the culprit before it's too late? Spoiler: almost certainly.

**3 Black Widow Oct 28**  
Scarlett Johansson finally gets the Black Widow solo outing Marvel fans have been praying for for years in a movie that sees her pass the torch to co-star Florence Pugh. Set after 'Captain America: Civil War', it has Natasha Romanoff back on home soil, where her KGB past returns to haunt her. Listen out for some *vick Rossianack-cents*.

**4 Mogul Mowgli Oct 30**  
Another no-holds-barred project for a Londoner in a hurry. This one has Riz Ahmed on dual duties as co-writer and actor, where he'll be channelling his real-life musical side-hustle as an MC



into the story of a British-Pakistani rapper who gets struck down with autoimmune disease. Expect plenty of mic-drop moments from Riz MC.

**5 Shirley Oct 30**  
The ever-stupendous Elisabeth Moss plays American horror writer Shirley Jackson. Along with her husband (Michael Stuhlbarg), she sets about ruining the lives of her young lodgers. Directed by Josephine Decker, it boasts literary credentials (it's based on a novel by Susan Scarf Merrell) and bohemian horrors of its own.

**6 Train to Busan Presents: Peninsula Nov 6**  
A zombie-infested South Korea awaits in Yeon Sang-ho's follow-up to his excellent 2016 undead-athon. It's a sidequel rather than a sequel, so you don't need to have seen 'Train to Busan' to understand what's going on. What's Korean for 'BRAAAAAAINS!'?

**7 No Time to Die Nov 12**  
Daniel Craig may have finally met his match in Rami Malek's superbad in his final Bond outing. He has a world-threatening plan





IMAGES: SOUL: DISNEY/PIXAR; DUNE: CHIA BELLA JAMES/WARNER BROS.; NO TIME TO DIE: NICOLA DOVE/DANJAQ, LLC AND MGM; MONSOON: DAT VU

All the latest films reviewed at [timeout.com/films](https://www.timeout.com/films)

Clockwise from left: 'Soul', 'No Time to Die' and 'Dune'

and – bad news, 007 – he hasn't furloughed his henchmen. On the upside, Bond has Lashana Lynch's badass new 00 agent as back-up. Judging by its latest trailer, the franchise is in safe hands, with Cary Fukunaga directing.

**8 Soul Nov 27**  
Pixar's latest daring animation is set in the great hereafter. Jamie Foxx voices a music teacher who falls down a manhole and into the afterlife, where his body and soul part company. Sound heavy? Fear not, it's the work of playwright Kemp Powers and co-director Pete Docter, who even managed to make sadness fun in 'Inside Out'.

**9 Dune Dec 18**  
Overseen by a filmmaker with real pedigree in the field of thinky science-fiction – Denis Villeneuve of 'Arrival' fame – this new 'Dune' is an early Christmas present for sci-fi lovers, Frank Herbert fans and anyone with a passing interest in giant sandworms. The cast boasts Timothée Chalamet, Rebecca Ferguson, Oscar Isaac, Javier Bardem and Zendaya. Prepare to spice up your life.

**10 West Side Story Dec 18**  
Wanna live in America? Steven Spielberg's remake of the 1961 musical offers the next best thing. This one introduces a new generation of Sharks and Jets – including 19-year-old Rachel Zegler who beat 30,000 hopefuls to the role of Maria – as well as a welcome return for Rita Moreno, who won an Oscar for the original. It was filmed on location, so New York may end up being the star of the show. ■



**By Phil de Semlyen**  
Who would like to see a \$200 million Michael Bay movie called 'Conkers'.

## Monsoon



**WHAT IS IT...**  
A child refugee from the Vietnam War returns to the land of his birth 30 years on.

**WHY GO...**  
It's a soulful slice of slow cinema.

→ Director Hong Khaou (12A) 85 mins. In cinemas and on VOD Sep 25.



**HENRY GOLDING PLAYS** a British-Vietnamese man who goes back to the land of his birth in a drama that's as precise and composed as its protagonist. Mostly set in present-day Saigon, it weaves a queer love story into a Southeast Asian travelogue, exploring themes of migration, change and reconciliation along the way.

Golding is Kit, a debonair Brit who looks like he probably travels with a copy of *Wallpaper\** magazine. He's back in Vietnam for the first time since his family fled the country as Saigon was about to fall. His memories are hazy but the scars of war are still very real for him. His efforts to reconnect play out in awkward scenes with a childhood friend (David Tran), who harbours a sense of betrayal at his long absence. The cringy gifts Kit arrives with work as a smart metaphor for the chasm that has grown between them.

'Monsoon' sees British-Cambodian writer-director Hong Khaou building on the strengths of his debut, 2014's 'Lilting', while broadening his canvas. A gay subplot with American entrepreneur Lewis (Parker Sawyers) evolves from a Grindr hook-up into something deeper, ushering Kit out of himself in a way that makes him more and more relatable. Golding's subtle, minimalist performance and Khaou's careful compositions work a treat to show a man at odds with his bustling surroundings as he tries to make peace with the past. Surrender to its gentle rhythms and 'Monsoon' rewards you with a deeply soulful journey. ■ *Phil de Semlyen*

## Miss Juneteenth



**WHAT IS IT...**  
A single mum enrolls her daughter in a pageant, hoping it's her ticket to college.

**WHY GO...**  
It's a film that rises to this BLM-conscious moment in a big way.

→ Director Channing Godfrey Peoples (15) 99 mins. In cinemas and on VOD Sep 25.



**OBSERVED ON JUNE 19**, Juneteenth commemorates the date in 1865 when the last US slaves were freed. It finally found its way into America's collective consciousness this year, with New York declaring it a public holiday. Thanks to debut filmmaker Channing Godfrey Peoples, it's now been honoured with a rather lovely, big-hearted hymn to resilience too.

'Miss Juneteenth' is set in a mostly Black community in Texas. It's the home of struggling ex-pageant winner Turquoise (Nicole Beharie), a single mum who scrapes by working nights at a bar, trying to build a better life for her 15-year-old daughter Kai (Alexis Chikaeze). Turquoise forces Kai to enter the competition, hoping that the prize of a college scholarship will be the ticket to the brighter future she never had. Meanwhile, Kai's feckless father won't support his child.

Despite all the hardship Turquoise faces, 'Miss Juneteenth' never gets lost in self-pity or recrimination. Peoples focuses her narrative on Kai's unflinching perseverance and the bond she shares with her child. There's understated chemistry between the two, and sharp allusions to the racial disparities of incarceration and the ways in which lenders take advantage of Black businesses. The story homes in on the realities of being Black in America and makes its point with style and economy: that everyone deserves a shot at the future they aspire to, regardless of the colour of their skin, the talents they possess or their ability to wear a frilly gown. ■ *Zach Long*



## Film

**IF THE '80s** makes you think of mobile phones the size of your head, Roland Rat and Duran Duran hanging off yachts, well, join the club. But short doc 'We Found Love in the 80s' is here to dispel those clichés. Like 'Creature Comforts' by way of those Love Is... comic strips, it's an interview-based celebration of enduring love affairs that will be more kitchen sink than kitschy. 'It's a journey with couples who met in the 1980s to find what made them stay in love,' explains director Dawinder Bansal, 'and what it takes to stay together.'

The film is a collaboration between artist Bansal and '80s synth-pop deity Martyn Ware from The Human League, who provides a soundscape to accompany the film's mix of archive footage and talking-head interviews.

Bansal interviewed 42 couples, all of whom met in the 1980s and all of whom are still together. 'There are couples who talk about Section 28 [which], in the '80s, [made] it illegal to teach about gay relationships,'

NEW TO STREAMING

# Enduring loves

Long-term relationships laid bare in a doc for the Tinder age



she says. 'We have a Falklands War veteran who met his wife in a nightclub, and a couple who run a vintage shop on Brick Lane. I'm single, so I'm interested in how you stay in a long-term relationship through difficult times.'

There's contemporary resonance in these stories of couples dealing with tough times. 'The '80s were such an iconic era for fashion, music, dance and film,' says Bansal, 'but there are a lot of parallels to where we are right now: open racism, a [Tory] government, concerns about the environment, and the 1980s had a virus too, in HIV. But I wanted this to celebrate people who overcame obstacles together.'

So has she become a relationship guru along the way? 'I nearly started crying during the first interview,' she laughs. 'It was so emotional. I feel privileged to have heard these stories.' Prepare your feels for a solid workout. ■ *Phil de Semlyen*

→ 'We Found Love in the 80s' is available to stream on Oct 2 at 7.30pm as part of Leytonstone Loves Film. [www.leytonstonelovesfilm.com](http://www.leytonstonelovesfilm.com)



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