

TimeOut

LONDON

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with street food, street art, street
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LONDON

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TRANSSEXUAL ISSUE: @VICKYSPRATT_VASE; @SHOPKIKU

It's a strange time to do a Pride cover. Not because this year's parade was pushed back and then cancelled. (As drag artist Baby Lane puts it on p20 'I don't think any queer people in London actually gave a shit' about that.) It's a strange time because, just a few days ago, it was reported that Ranjith Kankanamalage, a 50-year-old gay man, was killed in a suspected homophobic attack in east London.

To some Londoners, it might come as a surprise that this kind of thing is still happening in a city as liberal as ours. But it shouldn't. According to Stonewall, one in five LGBTQ+ people has experienced a hate crime because of their sexual orientation and/or gender identity in the last 12 months. That's appalling. We should all give a shit about it.

This week's cover feature is a tribute to London's queer venues: the kind of places that Time Out has supported and celebrated for decades. But when you hear stories like Ranjith's, these places' importance – as spaces of acceptance and joy in a world where that's not a given for LGBTQ+ people – truly hits home. We'll fight to keep them open for as long as we exist.

THE EDITOR'S ESSENTIALS Three things you have to do in London



READ this

I tore through this copy of 'The Transgender Issue' on holiday (that's why it looks so ropey). It's a concise case for a fairer society.



BUY this

The occult designs on the upcycled vases from South London Makers Market alumnus **Okiku** make your flat look like a '60s horror movie.



EAT this

I bought a cheese-and-tomato bap from **Spence Bakery** the other day and ate it while watching the deer in Clissold Park. It was nice.

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City life

Edited by Isabelle Aron
@timeoutlondon



Disco inferno
London's queers let loose at monthly LGBTQ+ raves Adonis and Inferno



Coming out out

Photographer *Roxy Lee* on capturing the joyous return of London's queer nightlife

'I STARTED TAKING photos when I was about fifteen. It was accidental in a way because it was only ever really meant to be people that I knew. I've always been quite obsessed with how disposable nights out are. People always forget what outfits they've worn, and I thought it was important to document that alone, aside from anything else! And then I started working at The Glory, and doing the door at different places, so that kind of allowed me to work and take photos at the same time. I'm pretty low key, I just use a basic 35mm camera. People don't realise that I'm having a night out too, so I don't want to be carrying a lot of kit around. I missed it a lot when it was gone. There's a certain language within queer nightlife that I don't think you get anywhere else. So many people's spaces to express themselves got taken away from them. I get emotional talking about it, but to have it back now... I've never been happier.' ■ *Rosie Hewiston*

→ Roxy has an exhibition planned in September. Updates at @roxy_lee@objectandanimal @sausagedandcustard.



HYPE DISH
Decatur's fragrant and spicy shrimp boil
DISSECTION

What goes into the London plates that everyone bangs on about

DECATUR FOUNDER Tom Browne was living in the USA when he fell in love with the food of Louisiana. When he moved back to London, he couldn't find anywhere doing authentic Southern US cooking. He launched Decatur and did pop-ups and residencies all over the city.

In lockdown, he launched a DIY shrimp boil kit which developed a cult following. He explains what makes this dish work (spoiler: lots of spices). ■ *Isabelle Aron*
 → Decatur is at Jim's Cafe Clapton on Sep 9 and at Quality Wines from Sep 29-Oct 16. Decatur's shrimp boil kits are available at www.decaturlondon.com from £40 for two people.



LATIMER ROAD W10

THE STREET THAT CHANGED MY LIFE

Singer and actor *Jordan Stephens* on landing a part in 'Star Wars'

IN 2016, I WAS cycling to Grange Studios on Latimer Road for a rehearsal with Wildhood, my new band after Rizzle Kicks. On my way, I checked my phone and an email came up. It said I'd been offered a part in a film called 'Los Alamos'. I got to Grange Studios and looked through the script after I'd signed an NDA. It mentioned Darth Vader and Stormtroopers. I was like: This is 'Star Wars', that's *crazy*. I rang my agent from Latimer Road. This was on the Monday and they wanted me on set on the Friday. I thought: Are you kidding me? I didn't audition. The casting director saw me in another thing and liked me so she cast me in 'Rogue One'.

My acting career started when I got an audition for a show called 'Glue'. Since then, I've been blagging an acting career. At the time of 'Star Wars', I wasn't bothered about acting. Being a pop star was too much pressure so I put Rizzle Kicks on ice, started making grunge music and dyed my hair green. Then I got a part in 'Star Wars'. It's an example of the ridiculous spaces I find myself in as a creative. The boundaries seem to be limitless in terms of where I can end up. ■ *Interview by Isabelle Aron*

→ Jordan Stephens's single 'Wicked' is out now.

The sausage
 'We use a Cajun-style andouille sausage which we have made for us. It's heavy on dried thyme, cayenne and black pepper. It's smoked, so it's got a good flavour.'

The extras
 'We serve it with a baggie of our spice mix for extra heat and a Cajun-spiced garlic butter. If you want to get a bit more messy, you can also add a Norwegian snow-crab cluster.'

The veg
 'The potatoes go in first, cooked until they're al dente. They have the longest amount of time in the pot, so they soak up loads of flavour. The corn on the cob goes in after.'

The stock
 'We boil a pot of water with lemons, oranges, garlic and onions, then we add dried spices and our boil blend with 12 herbs and spices. It gets the water fragrant and quite spicy.'

The shrimp
 'They're XL jumbo shrimp from Billingsgate. We put them in, bring the boil to a simmer and cut the heat. They sit in the liquor until they're poached through and full of flavour.'



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Crate to Plate

How to eat locally in the city

Want to ditch the supermarket? 10 Miles Supper Club co-founder *Emily Gussin* shares her favourite local suppliers

Stock up at a city farm

Buying fruit and veg on a farm feels like a quaint dream reserved for countryside folk, but Londoners can pick up organic, seasonal veg (right now look for courgettes, beetroot and kale) from city farms such as Sitopia in Greenwich. At Stepany City Farm, you'll find eggs and meat too.

Swap your sweetener

We don't use sugar for our supper club because it's not grown in London. Instead, we use single-source honey – the flavours are complex and you can taste the flowers the bees have foraged on. Our favourite is Pearly Queen Honey, a cooperative of beekeepers around the city, each labelled with tasting notes unique to that hive.

Sip on north London plonk

Craft breweries and distilleries are all over city, but we were pretty excited to find a wine producer using grapes grown inside the M25. Forty Hall Vineyard makes a few organic whites and a sparkling wine in the most unlikely spot: Enfield. We also use it for our homemade vinegar.

Try high-tech salad leaves

Using hydroponics, Crate to Plate grow salad, greens and herbs in controlled conditions in shipping containers so they can use 95 percent less water, no pesticides and with no waste. We love their wasabi rocket and genovese basil. ■

→ The next 10 Miles Supper Club is on Oct 15. Book at www.10milesclub.com

WORD ON THE STREET

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

'I wouldn't walk two kilometres for a boyfriend.'

'Do you get French ginger people?'

'I can't remember how to sleep on my side.'

'A shag haircut is like a gateway to a mullet.'

'I am Jewish but I'm more Jew-ish.'

'What is a twat? Is it a fish's vagina or is it just... a vagina?'

'It's dumb, but it's clever-dumb at the same time.'

'Watching "Chernobyl" in this heat really hits different.'

'It's a tough world out there for chickens.'

'Right, I better check my emails before I have a nap.'

'You look like my grandpa. How would you chat me up?'

LONDON MAKERS

Black-owned and based in east London, **Krush Puppies** was a lockdown project that gained major momentum. It makes icy alcoholic bevs with flavours like Magnumade (tonic wine and lemonade) and Prosychee (prosecco and lychee).

→ From £6. www.krushpuppies.com



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The Forum in Groningen

The revamped high streets carving out a post-shopping future

London could learn a lot from these pioneering new-look town centres

THINGS WEREN'T GREAT for high streets before the pandemic. And now life is returning to semi-normal, things are even worse. The shift from bricks-and-mortar browsing to online shopping is not new. But now, especially in town centres that rely on foot traffic, that change has accelerated. Shops are disappearing fast.

For independent store owners, that's obviously terrible, but it doesn't have to be bad news for everyone else.

Take the Forum in the Dutch city of Groningen. Smack-bang in the centre, overlooking the historic market square, this ten-story complex looks like a swish department store. In fact, it sells very little at all. This new 'multi-space' aims to revitalise Groningen's hollowed-out centre by providing a huge gathering place, combining library, cinema, science museum, auditorium, exhibition space and – okay – a rooftop market square. It's a mall without (most of) the goods.

Closer to home, Bournemouth has just unveiled a similar project. Its Debenhams wasn't cut out for the age of online consumption, so the town authorities have revived its legendary

predecessor, department store Bobby's, and filled it with a modern art gallery, workshop areas and loads more artist-run space. Admittedly, it's not entirely consumer-free, as there's a beauty hall (stocking mostly local brands) and also Drool: the world's first food hall for dogs. But this seaside town is definitely doing 'high street' differently.

Neither of these has anything on the plans to reinvent Stockton-on-Tees.

Here the council has bought up the vast shopping centre that dominates the high street. Its next step? Knock the thing down and replace it with a huge park that will host festivals and other big events. Further down the road, another department store has been purchased and turned into Enterprise Arcade: a new kind of mall that lets local businesses pay nominal rent to help them get off the ground.

So, why aren't all cities doing this stuff? With hybrid working making London feel quite empty right now – and hundreds of shopfronts boarded up – it seems there's a lot we could take away from all these community-focused projects. And no, not 'build a giant mound'. ■ *Huw Oliver*



Drool at Bobby's in Bournemouth

Three cool new museums in Oslo



The museum supergroup

The popular image of Oslo may be men in suits and spenny *everything*. But some big museum openings could make it quite a bit funner. Next June, several existing attractions will merge to form the vast **National Museum** (above).

The National Gallery, the Museum of Contemporary Art and the Norwegian Museum of Decorative Arts will now be gathered under one roof.

The temple to a Norwegian hero

Launching on October 22 is the new **Munch** museum: a striking, 13-floor building overlooking the waterfront. It will be one of the world's biggest galleries dedicated to a single artist, displaying treasures from its archive of around 27,000 artefacts.

The stargazing hub

Anyone who fancies a day trip may want to try **Harestua Solar Observatory**. Just north of the city, in Hadeland, this historic site will reopen next year with a 1,500-square-metre planetarium, auditorium, café and new exhibition space, along with a collection of 'interstellar cabins' surrounding it like planets orbiting the sun. Cute. ■ *Rosie Hewitson*

For more global news go to [timeout.com](https://www.timeout.com)

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Jeffrey Hinton

Cherry Au Hon I

Kai Isalah Jamal

Romy Madley Croft

Princess Julia

Jay Jay Revlon

ally Xpress



'We do Pride all year round'

London's LGBTQ+ venues are back in business. *Rosie Hewitson* finds out what that means. Portraits *Vic Lentaigne*



IT'S BEEN A TOUGH

18 months for London's queer spaces, but then they're used to weathering the odd storm. Our LGBTQ+ venues have survived plenty since the emergence of the modern 'gay club' in the early twentieth century. Back then, venues like short-lived Piccadilly Circus drinking den The Cave of the Golden Calf, lesbian hangout Gateways on the King's Road and Covent Garden's notorious Caravan Club provided refuge for queer Londoners in spite of constant raids and arrests.

If the history of our city's queer spaces teaches us anything, it's that hardship has always led to creativity and evolution. As drag artist Baby Lane says: 'We've never been given that golden ticket to security; we've always had to fight and we've always had to work together.'

As more than half of the city's LGBTQ+ venues closed between 2006 and 2017, massive nights like

Chapter 10, Adonis, Inferno and Big Dyke Energy took over mainstream venues instead. As Pride in London became less political and more corporate, Black Pride and Trans Pride emerged to ensure the protest survived, and gave a voice to the most marginalised in the LGBTQ+ community. Then, last year, when a global pandemic forced all our city's nightlife into hibernation, it was the queer scene that led the way online: Club Quarantine, Queer House Party and endless Zoom drag shows let us laugh, dance and socialise despite being shut inside.

Pride may be cancelled again this year, but as queer clubs and gay bars reopen, it seems like a perfect time to take stock of London's LGBTQ+ spaces. We gathered voices from the capital's scene – from veteran DJ Princess Julia to trans poet and activist Kai Isaiah Jamal – at legendary queer club Dalston Superstore, to ask what London's queer venues mean to them, and how they should move forward.



First nights out

Princess Julia, DJ 'In the '70s, I lived in the epicentre of everything queer, which was Earl's Court. One of my favourite clubs was the Sombrero, on Kensington High Street. It was teeny-tiny, with a little light-up dance floor and a DJ playing 12-inch vinyl remixes. Soho became the epicentre in the late '80s.'

Jeffrey Hinton, DJ 'The Pink Panther was an illegal drinking bar on Wardour Street in the '80s – mainly rent boys. It'd be raided all the time and then they'd go and get more booze from some car boot and we'd all go back in and start all over again.'

Jodie Harsh, drag queen and DJ 'I got a really good fake ID when I was 15 years old and I started to go to G-A-Y, which at that point was at the London Astoria, which has now been knocked down. I walked in and really felt like I had found home.'

Jack Rooke, theatremaker 'The first gay bar that I went to was Freedom on Wardour Street. We went there is because we couldn't get into Heaven because my friend had accidentally brought a knife in her bag from a charity bake sale. So we were walking around Soho and we overheard Brian Dowling, the winner of "Big Brother 2", just shouting outside this bar. And my friend was like, "Let's go in."'

Romy Madley Croft, musician 'I went to Ghetto in Soho at about 15 or 16. I was really happy to get in. It was a night called Misshapes – indie-disco-pop hits. I met my best friend there, who's still my best friend now. A lot of my best friends are people I met in that club. I miss it a lot.'

Tom Rasmussen, writer and drag queen 'Soho was the first place I went out but I remember when my friends and I first heard about Sink The Pink, then Bethnal Green Working Men's Club. We slowly discovered these little jewels in east London. You know, Vogue Fabrics. Then Dalston Superstore and The Glory.'

Jack Rooke 'It's weird because I'm 28 and I walk through Soho like, "Oh God, I'd never go to any of these places now." But I love that they're still there. You can watch 18-year-olds having that first experience. I would almost certainly put a fiver into a bucket for all the 18-year-olds to have a drink at G-A-Y.'



Why physical spaces matter

Romy Madley Croft 'You know, there's only one lesbian bar left in London and I find that very sad. I love that [She Bar] is still there but I wish there was more out there for lesbians as well as obviously everyone-inclusive spaces.'

Tom Rasmussen 'I've been in London for ten years and have seen so many clubs close. It's sad, because when I'm in queer spaces, it's the closest I've ever been to real euphoria and acceptance.'

Jeffrey Hinton 'I think it's always good to recognise what you're losing and what you've lost and to make a noise about that. But also don't put all your effort into moaning about what isn't there any more because your energy, your moment, your life is now, so make things good now!'

Kai Isaiah Jamal, poet and activist 'Any physical queer space is important. Especially now, when lots of offerings are online and have an expiry date of 24 to 48 hours. They don't get the outreach they need. I grew up in south London, where there's not many

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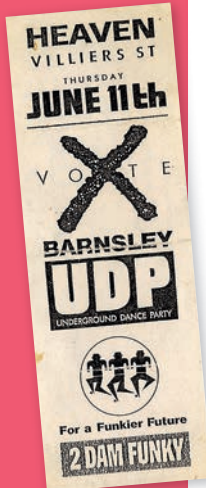
Queer club
flyers: a
history



'Rage' at Heaven,
1988



Complimentary
Pass to Heaven,
Charing Cross,
1989



'Underground
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'Land of Oz' at
Heaven, 1990

spaces. I'd find myself in spaces that were queer in the sense that a lot of white gay men went there. My introduction to understanding my place in this sphere was Black Pride. And then from Black Pride, I realised that there are loads of people who look like me.'

Jay Jay Revlon, vogue dancer

'My first queer night out was at Bootylicious. It was at Colosseum. It was a big, big club. I was like: "Shit, who knew that there were this many Black gay people?" I grew up in Black gay clubs and in the ballroom scene, where if you're white you're a dot in a sea of Black people and you have to work extra-hard because you're in our space.'



Jay Jay Revlon 'We shouldn't be afraid to have spaces that are specific. Sometimes they need to be specific to be a safe space. Everything for everyone doesn't always work.'

allyXpress, DJ 'My friend Lady Shaka created this night at Vogue Fabrics for Pacific Islanders called Pulotu Underworld. My mum is Samoan and I'd never met anyone else here that was also Polynesian, so it was amazing to DJ on a line-up of queer Polynesians. I got to meet people that were from the same islands as me, and for it to be queer as well felt like a one-in-a-million thing.'

Ryan Lanji, queer nightlife promoter

'I first threw a Bollywood hip hop night at The Glory. I called it Hungama: A Big Gay Indian Wedding. I basically ordered loads of samosas and Indian drag queens and had Club Kali DJ. I remember



RYAN LANJI; SCOTT CHASSEROT; FLYERS: CHELSEA LOUISE BERLIN/MUSEUM OF YOUTH CULTURE; ASTORIA, EDWARD HIRSTY/SHUTTERSTOCK



Last ever G-A-Y club night
at The Astoria, Soho, 2008

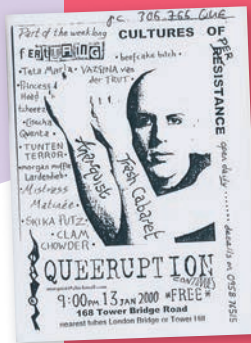
Pride



'The Hump' at The Milk Bar, Soho, 1992



'Kai Kal' at 333, Hoxton, 1990s



'Queeruption Continues' Bermondsey, 2000



'Nag, Nag, Nag' at Ghetto, Soho, early 2000s



'Wig Out' at Ghetto, Soho, 2000s



Heaven, 2012



Post-pandemic queer parties

Baby Lame, drag artist 'Considering how snowflakey queers are meant to be we've all survived this pandemic, and many of us have flourished. You know, you look at people in the West End: Cameron Mackintosh, Andrew Lloyd Webber – "Our theatres are dying, we can't do this" – and it's like: come to east London, and you'll see people that have been working within the guidelines, and they've just been making it work. We don't have the choice not to. If we don't, nothing is there.'

Ryan Lanji 'I think that the queer community undervalues our own economy. I think we don't realise how much money we put into things and how if we love something, we can catapult it into the mainstream.'

Baby Lame 'When London Pride was cancelled, I don't think any queer people in London actually really gave a shit. It's making what our lives are about, what our art is about, what our culture is about Halloween or Christmas – it's making it become seasonal. It's a cute gig to get a bit of extra cash, but we don't need it. We do Pride all year round.'

Jeffrey Hinton 'Pride, as it stands at the moment is kind of a conflicted issue. You know, I don't want to be down on the organisation, people have the best intentions at heart, I know they do, but when you have something big you normally get, which has happened, corporate financing to pay the bills of a corporate entity. I know the people behind it: they have good intentions. It's just, you know, we live in this kind of rulebook which isn't written for freedoms, it's

written for structures. Then all this money just haemorrhages into the pockets of people that already have tons of money.'

Kai Isaiah Jamal 'I'm excited for what the generation below us is doing. Right now they're moving into our seats and I want to see where they take things. I feel like every generation unlocks something new, like the queer generation of the '80s did for us. As you get older you get to see what happens and you still get to feed into that generation's psyches.'

Cherry Au Hon I, photographer 'I think it's important to put young queers in touch with elder members of the community and support intergenerational bonding. There's no better way to hear your history than firsthand from the ones that have lived it.'



Jack Rooke



Time Out
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Confit Pork Belly
Chef Alexandre Silva

THE WORLD'S BEST FOOD HALL
is back!

Pride

What the future holds

Baby Lane 'We've become increasingly accustomed to queering spaces [that aren't LGBTQ+ venues]. I think because rents are so high and it's so difficult to get licences, it's a real struggle to keep places alive. There are loads of groups of people at the moment that are just doing that: collectives like Bitten Peach or the Cocoa Butter Club, who are like: "Okay, hi, Southbank - we're going to grab you and make you queer."'

Jack Rooke 'I remember going to the Roundhouse and seeing loads of queer drag performers, like Figs in Wigs, and poets like Reece Lyons. If anything, I feel like I've seen more innovative queer performance at the Roundhouse than anywhere else. It's nice that there's a space like that where, at any given moment, there could be a Metallica gig in the main space and then underneath it in the studio theatre there could be like a big, camp, queer cabaret night. It feels like it's a proper space for the outsiders.'

Jodie Harsh 'I kind of love being the outsiders coming into a traditionally shaped space. I've always liked that. I played Creamfields on Saturday: it's a very,



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→ www.thechateau.co.uk



'Popstarz Jubilee' at The Den, 2000s



'Residance' at Dalston Roof Park, 2016

→ Flyers supplied by the Museum of Youth Culture. www.museumofyouthculture.com

very strange space, but for a DJ it was amazing. I love infiltrating it.'

Jay Jay Revlon 'We do need to educate security guards at venues, though, and venues need to employ more LGBTQ+ ones. I had a good experience when I did a ball at Fabric with Clayton from Little Gay Brother and he gave the security there this speech on how they should address people. We need more of that. And more sober spaces too. Like queer-owned restaurants and cafés.'

Jack Rooke 'I think it's just as important to fight to keep [bookshop] Gay's the Word as it is

to keep like a gay club or a gay bar. Having places where there isn't alcohol or there isn't the influence of "we're here to party", or it is just a lot of amazing books about lived experiences or about history, for me is just as important to fight

for. I would probably way more likely chain myself to the front of Gay's the Word than any other venue.'

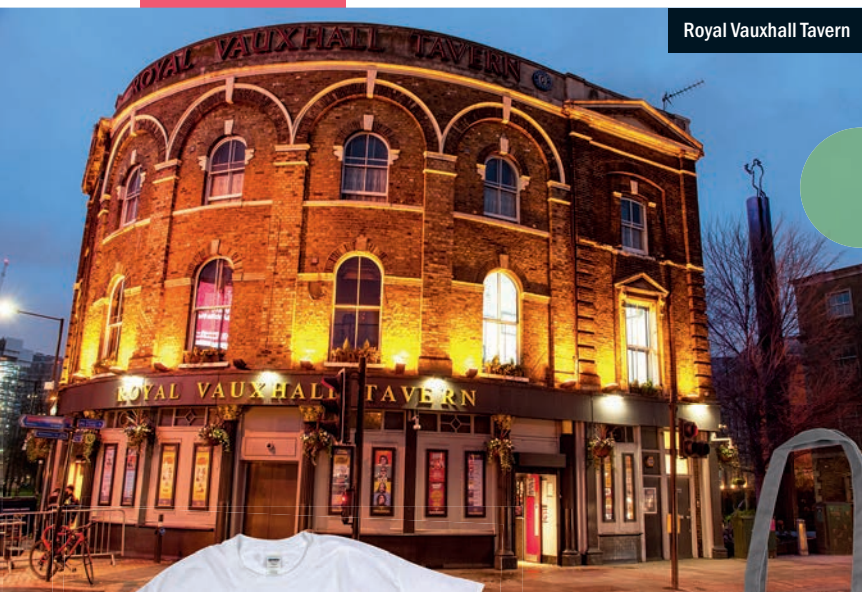
Kai Isaiah Jamal 'I'd like more places where queer people can go and get resources, like foodbanks specifically for queer people; health screenings too. Gyms. As a butch trans person, you walk into a very male-dominated space [like that] and it makes you so aware of what your body is in comparison. And

I think that's huge. You know, we live in a world where society is constantly trying to shorten our lives and I just want our lives to have longevity.'

Ryan Lanji 'During lockdown, I started a collective called Not Dead Yet, hosting online classes that were free for the queer community to give queer people something to do. What did that teach me? People don't know what to do when the sun is up. We go sit in the park to get drunk to go out. We go to an art gallery to get drunk because it's free prosecco. We don't know how to rest in our queerness in the daylight.'

Baby Lane 'I just think more and more it's like: Let's be greedy. We have come out of this pandemic in a really strong way. We are cockroaches; we are doing this; we're learning to take space; we're learning to occupy space. I hope for more of that.' ■

Royal Vauxhall Tavern



Open Barbers T-shirt £25

Artist Amy Pennington has sketched more than 200 clients at Hackney's trans-led and queer-friendly barbershop.

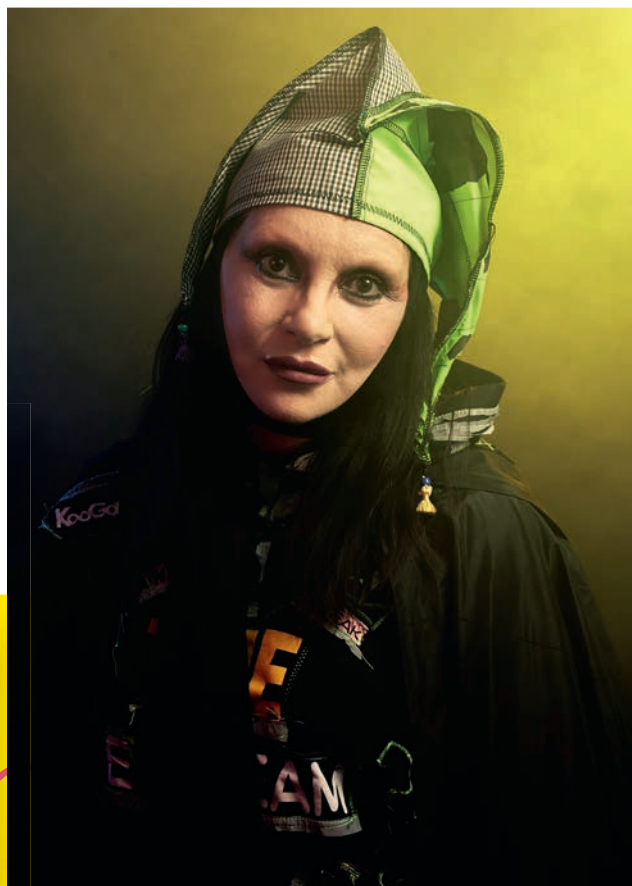
→ www.openbarbers.com



Gay's the Word tote bag £6

Flaunt your excellent taste with this tote bag made from ethically sourced cotton. Beauty and brains...

→ www.gaystheword.co.uk



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Love Local

Edited by Kate Lloyd
timeout.com/lovelocal

A unique space for east London's queer bookworms

The new Bethnal Green bookshop offering a different kind of social hang-out to London's LGBTQ+ community

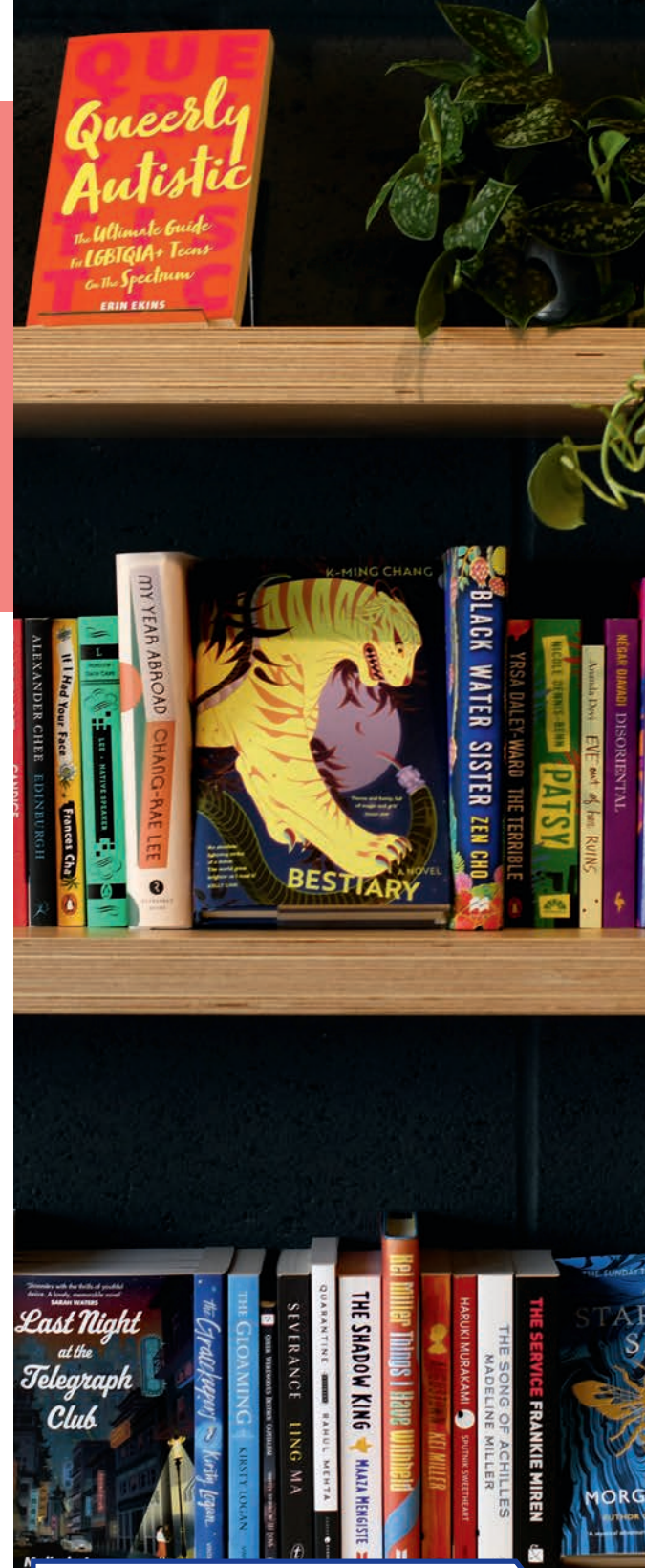
'I WAS BORN and raised in London, and I've always loved visiting places like the queer bookshop Gay's the Word and the UK's first Black bookshop, New Beacon,' says Raye, one of the book lovers behind Bethnal Green Road's new bookshop, The Common Press. 'Most mainstream bookshops will [focus on minority writers for] Pride Month or Black History Month, and then, outside of those, everything kind of gets pushed to the side. There's a lot of power in reading, so we wanted to create a space that prioritises intersectionality and all people from marginalised identities.'

The Common Press opened in August as part of Glass House, a new LGBTQ+ multidisciplinary venue that also encompasses an events space, podcast recording booths and an adjacent bar and restaurant. It may not be the only bookshop in London to exclusively sell literature by and for queer people or

people of colour, but it is the first that also creates space for these people to hang out and socialise. Open from 10am until early evening every day, the bookshop also functions as a small café serving hot drinks and snacks to customers who fancy spending time there reading their new purchases, catching up with friends or getting some work done.

'A lot of events in queer spaces are focused on drinking and nightlife. Glass House has a bar and restaurant, but we also wanted to offer something that is centred around knowledge and learning,' explains Raye. That's why The Common Press hopes to offer a range of events to help foster community too, from self-care workshops and writing groups to talks, author events, poetry readings and book clubs. 'We want to create an alternative space for those who don't always just want to go out and drink and party.' ■ *Rosie Hewitson*

→ 118 Bethnal Green Rd, E2 6DG.



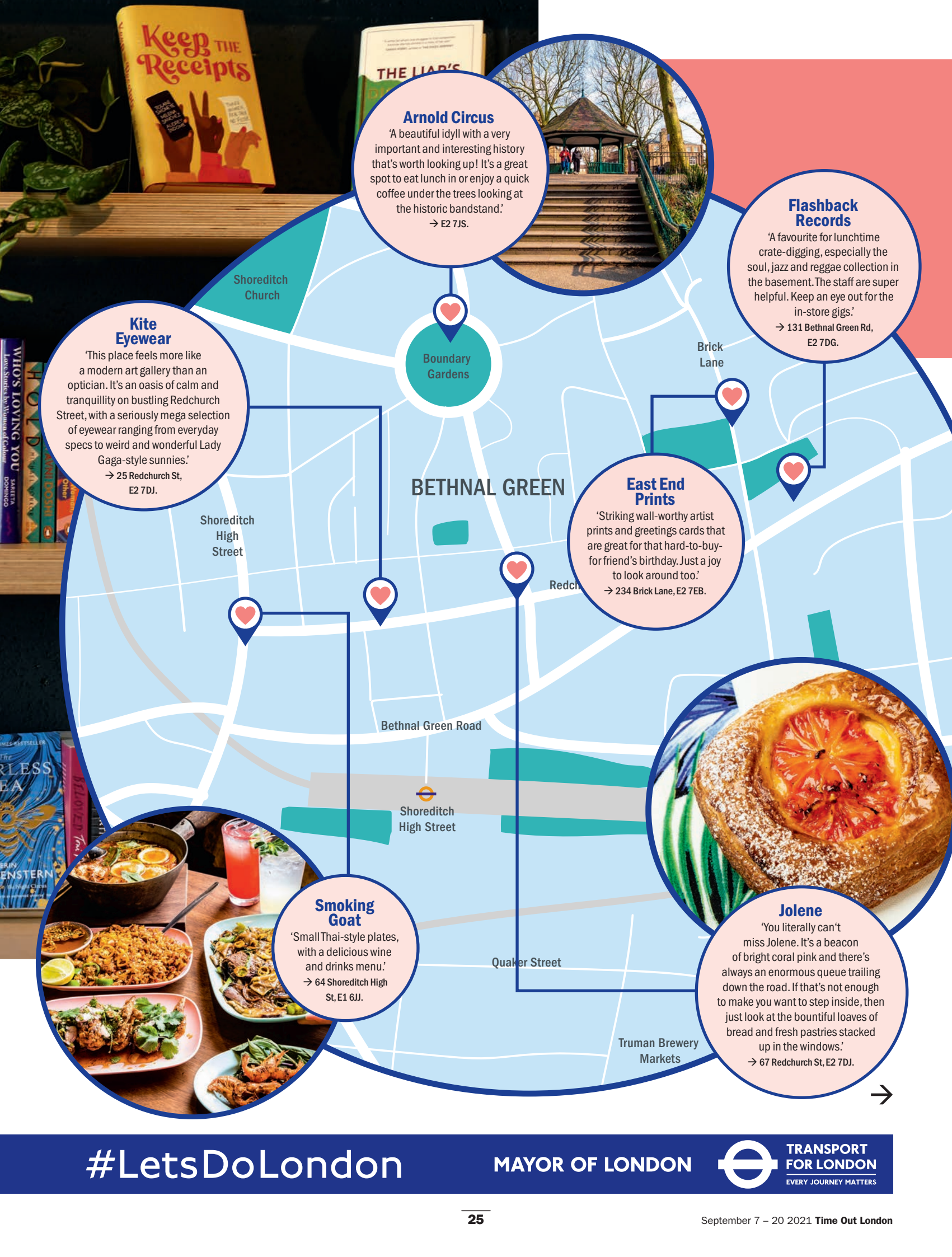
Bethnal Green



Picked by deputy CEO of independent cinema Rich Mix, *Selma Willcocks*, and her team
→ 35-47 Bethnal Green Rd, E1 6LA.

ARNOLD CIRIUS / NATHANIEL NOIR / ALAMY; SHONING GOAT / JULENE AND PANGSONS

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Arnold Circus

'A beautiful idyll with a very important and interesting history that's worth looking up! It's a great spot to eat lunch in or enjoy a quick coffee under the trees looking at the historic bandstand.'
 → E2 7JS.



Flashback Records

'A favourite for lunchtime crate-digging, especially the soul, jazz and reggae collection in the basement. The staff are super helpful. Keep an eye out for the in-store gigs.'
 → 131 Bethnal Green Rd, E2 7DG.

Kite Eyewear

'This place feels more like a modern art gallery than an optician. It's an oasis of calm and tranquillity on bustling Redchurch Street, with a seriously mega selection of eyewear ranging from everyday specs to weird and wonderful Lady Gaga-style sunnies.'
 → 25 Redchurch St, E2 7DJ.

Boundary Gardens

East End Prints

'Striking wall-worthy artist prints and greetings cards that are great for that hard-to-buy-for friend's birthday. Just a joy to look around too.'
 → 234 Brick Lane, E2 7EB.

Smoking Goat

'Small Thai-style plates, with a delicious wine and drinks menu.'
 → 64 Shoreditch High St, E1 6JJ.

Jolene

'You literally can't miss Jolene. It's a beacon of bright coral pink and there's always an enormous queue trailing down the road. If that's not enough to make you want to step inside, then just look at the bountiful loaves of bread and fresh pastries stacked up in the windows.'
 → 67 Redchurch St, E2 7DJ.





Matchstick Piehouse

'It's a theatre and music venue and I like how down to earth it is. They sell pies, and it's a perfect package: a laidback but cleverly organised way of presenting music, in the middle of the week.'

→ Railway Arches 213-214, Edward St, SE8 5HD.

The Well Charity Shop

'They are so sweet in there. There's a man at the back who does the sorting out. He's really kind and allows me to peer over the counter to see if there are any musical instruments. You never know if you're going to find a pair of Gucci shoes or some Issey Miyake trousers.'

→ 1 Creek Rd, SE8 3BT.

Phone Services Ltd

'My phone is my life and the guy in this shop has saved a couple of phones for me. He's fair and there's a clear honesty about what they do. That's a very salt-of-the-earth, Deptford kind of thing.'

→ 105 Deptford High St, SE8 4RG.

Chicken King Peri Peri

'On this site was a café called Café Selecta: typical greasy spoon. My friends would go to the market and we'd meet there. They'd let us join tables together, have breakfast. The owner, Fodd, would let me get plantain from one of the greengrocers and would fry it up for us. I go in now just to feel that feeling.'

→ 79 Deptford High St, SE8 4AA.

The Quaggy and Ravensbourne rivers

'You can join the river behind the Stephen Lawrence building, through Brookmill Park, and walk up in the water to where it becomes the Quaggy. You just need a pair of waders or wellington boots and you can walk to Catford. It's London, but away from all of the noise. You could be anywhere.'

→ Brookmill Rd, SE8 4JP.

Aaja

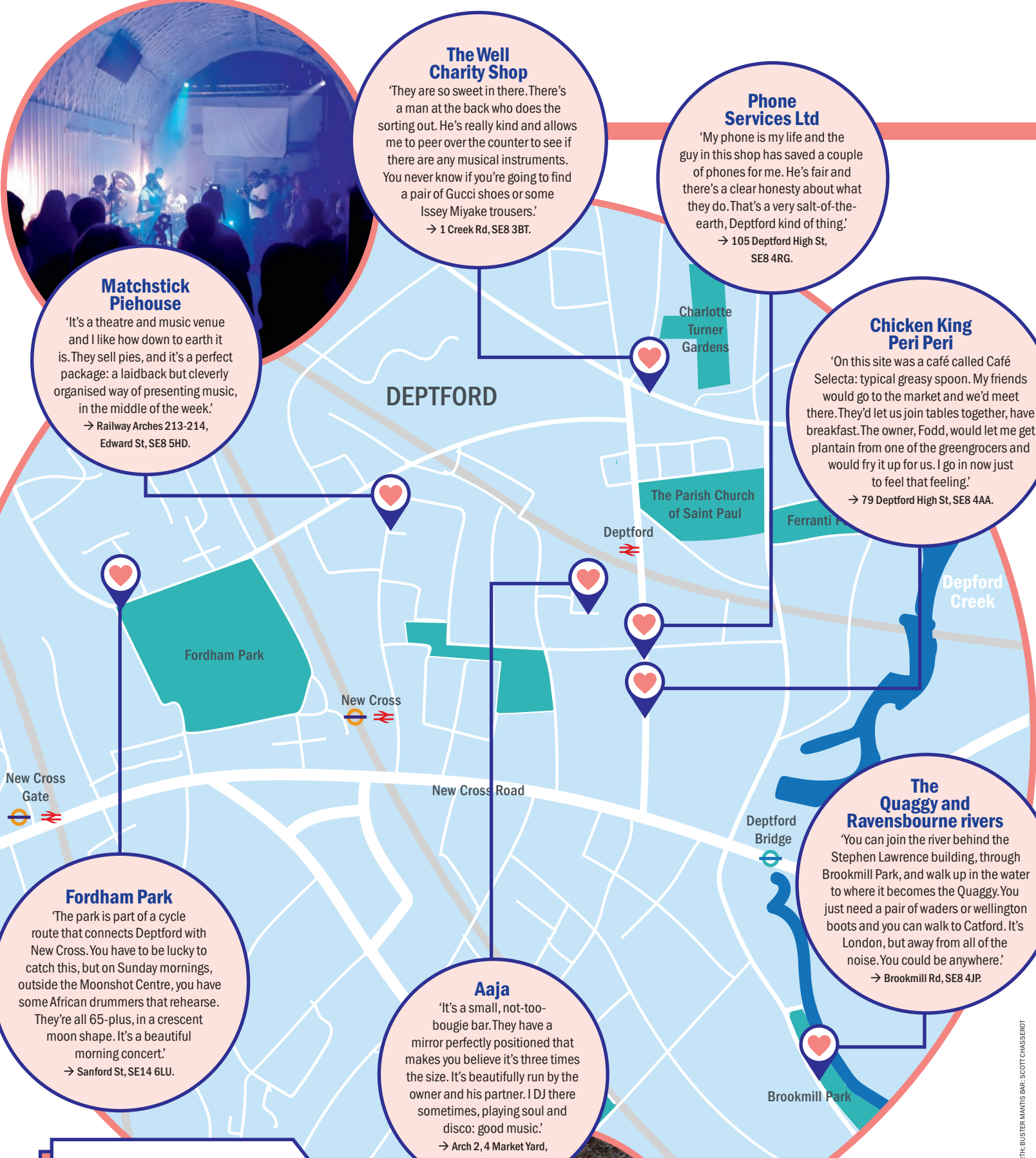
'It's a small, not-too-bougie bar. They have a mirror perfectly positioned that makes you believe it's three times the size. It's beautifully run by the owner and his partner. I DJ there sometimes, playing soul and disco: good music.'

→ Arch 2, 4 Market Yard, SE8 4BX.

Fordham Park

'The park is part of a cycle route that connects Deptford with New Cross. You have to be lucky to catch this, but on Sunday mornings, outside the Moonshot Centre, you have some African drummers that rehearse. They're all 65-plus, in a crescent moon shape. It's a beautiful morning concert.'

→ Sanford St, SE14 6LU.



Deptford



Picked by *Gerald Francis*, DJ and Deptford local who buys and sells treasure via Instagram
 → @geraldisapopularname



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Dancing's back in Deptford

Buster Mantis reopens its dancefloor

BUSTER MANTIS OWNER

Gordon McGowan has spent the last 18 months telling people off for dancing. They told him off, too: 'Why are you playing this music if we're not supposed to dance?' It was fair enough, shrugs the south Londoner, who moved here from Jamaica aged 13. After all, the playlist that accompanies its saltfish fritters, jerk jackfruit burgers and Lychee Mojitos encompasses R&B, hip hop, dancehall, grime, garage and 'a bit of afro-house'. 'We play anything that a Jamaican would



like apart from Celine Dion,' he says. 'Jamaicans like Celine Dion but we're not playing that.'

The bar, restaurant and impromptu dancehall has just revived its weekend DJ sessions with regular-turned-resident Gyps. Fletch and Pharaoh G. 'People were timid, like little deer,' says Gordon, who opened Buster Mantis in late 2015. 'We just darkened the lights a bit more and within a half hour there was this collective relief. They just picked up where they left off.'

Buster Mantis became a key location for London's resurgent jazz

musicians, who fuse conservatoire-level skills with the energy and vibe of a garage rave. The venue hosted artist collective Steam Down's weekly sessions between 2017 and 2019. (It continues down the road at the Matchstick Piehouse and Buster Mantis plans to revive its own Champion Sounds jam soon.)

The return of bopping, shuffling and 2-stepping at Buster Mantis is a welcome reprise of the area's long musical histories. 'We didn't have a DJ when we first started but the music we played got people out of their seats,' says Gordon. 'It meant more to people than I anticipated, and they expressed it with their feet.' ■

Emma Warren

→ 3-4 Resolution Way, SE8 4NT.



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Bethnal Green

Bethnal Green (Central Line & Overground, zone 2)
Stepney Green (Hammersmith & City, District Line, zone 2)

Deptford

Deptford Bridge (DLR, zone 2 & 3)
New Cross (Overground, zone 2)



Travel in Zones 2-6 for £1.70 off-peak

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Fare stated is the adult off-peak pay as you go fare on Tube, DLR, and most London Overground services, not travelling through Zone 1.

MAYOR OF LONDON



LONDON FOR LESS

Food, drink, screenings and pop-ups. Behold our exclusive offers and discounts

Sea Containers

What is it? A three-course tasting menu plus a cocktail at the classy South Bank restaurant.

Why go? To share three small plates, three large plates and two desserts at a Tom Dixon-designed restaurant with glorious views over the Thames. Oh, and a cocktail each, too.

Wait, how much? Just £25 per person, which is pretty damn fine value right there.

→ 20 Upper Ground, SE1 9PD. www.timeout.com/seacontainers2021



'A Midsummer Night's Dream'

What is it? An alfresco production of Shakespeare's comedy, under the stars in Kew Gardens.

Why go? Well, there's that lush setting beneath the heritage trees at Kew Gardens' Theatre Lawn and then there's the Bard's timeless, magical play. Bring a blanket.

Wait, how much? £22 – that's a positively dreamy 48 percent discount, just for you.

→ Kew Gardens, TW9 3AF. www.timeout.com/midsummerkew

Chaps & Dames

What is it? A wash, cut and blow dry at a Finsbury Park salon.

Why go? You'll get your locks looking luscious thanks to the attentions of one of the salon's senior stylists. And if you like what you get? Tap 'em up for a discounted treatment and blow dry for the next time you book an appointment, too.

Wait, how much? From £24, which is pretty cheap to look hot AF, right?.

→ 154 Tollington Park, N4 3AD. www.timeout.com/chapsdames

Inamo

What is it? Bottomless drinks and unlimited pan-Asian tapas.

Why go? Well, it's as much food and booze as you want, with more than 30 dishes on offer and your choice of fizz, beer or wine. Plus it's available at both their Covent Garden and Soho branches. Can't really go wrong with that.

Wait, how much? £34.95, a sweet 67 percent saving. Lovely stuff.

→ Covent Garden or Soho branches. www.timeout.com/inamoseptember

Moonshine Salon

What is it? An immersive cocktail experience in Shoreditch.

Why go? Grab your liquor and head to this Wild West-themed bar where not only will you be kitted out like a rootin' tootin' cowperson, you'll have four drinks mixed for you by the experts behind the bar.

Wait, how much? £25 for all that fun and mixology. Oh, and those ten-gallon hats, of course.

→ 28-30 Houndsditch, EC3A 7DB. www.timeout.com/moonshinesalon

Theatre, music, events: get the best deals in town. **Search 'Time Out offers'**

Things to do in London

Edited by **Katie McCabe**
[timeout.com/thingstodo](https://www.timeout.com/thingstodo) @timeoutlondon



WHITECROSS STREET PARTY: NAT URAZNIKOVA

Travel through the polychromatic labyrinth of Colourscape Festival on Clapham Common, where musicians roam through big inflatable tunnels to serenade the crowds. **Turn to p35 to read more.**

Things to Do

Big nights out

S Foreverland

Foreverland is basically a huge, fluorescent touring rave. The venue is decked out with neon decorations, hanging inflatables and confetti jets. There are also performances from dressed-up neon characters who are cutting about in between everyone having a good time. Musicwise, expect lots of classic house and dance anthems: tracks by artists like CamelPhat, Fisher and Gorgon City. You'll be picking flecks of UV paint off your skin for weeks.

→ Studio 338. Sep 10. £27.

S Garage Sessions

DJ Luck & MC Neat aren't just some throwback act to be carted out for noughties club nights. The UKG duo are still going strong – see them for yourself at this garage, grime and 2-step session at Brixton Jamm, where the dancefloor will be yours for the taking until 4am. With a little bit of luck (plus rum punch and beer buckets) you can make it through the night.

→ Brixton Jamm. Sep 10. From £8, free before 9pm.

N Ritmo London

Did you spend lockdown dreaming of the moment you could press your face against the cold brick wall of a hot industrial unit while a DJ pumped some classic house music into your bloodstream? Well now you can, at this Ritmo London Warehouse Night Rave in Haringey, with DJs Huerta, Velasco and Felon5. Haven't heard of Ritmo? Don't worry, we hadn't either – it's a new collective of some music-obsessed friends whose name stands for 'Rhythm of the Moment'.

→ Unit 58, Millmead Industrial Estate, N17 9QU. Sep 18. £10.



Street parties

S Bermondsey Street Festival

Cocktails and cockapoos: sounds like a great combo, no? Well, a dog show and alcoholic drinks are just two things Bermondsey Street Party will serve up. Local street food, live performances and fancy homework stalls make up

this 'village fête in the city'. Don't leave without grabbing a bespoke poem by the Poetry Takeaway, the world's first mobile poetry emporium.

→ Bermondsey St. Sep 18. Free entry.

C Whitecross Street Party

Whitecross Street Party is about as far as you can get from your standard village fête. Instead of 50p Rice Krispie cakes, you get street performers, a record fair and two days of live painting by 25 graffiti artists creating an outdoor exhibit. Look out for the monochromatic scrawlings of The Doodle Man, whose work will be recognisable to anyone who has ever set foot in Shoreditch.

→ Whitecross St. Sep 11-12. Free entry.

London Design Festival

C 🌞 Yinka Ilori: 'Asphalt Art'

Not content with turning half of Greenwich Peninsula into a multilayered kaleidoscope, Yinka Ilori is taking his technicolour designs to central London for a series of streetscape commissions called 'Asphalt Art', which aim to transform Tottenham Court Road into the UK's largest public artwork for London Design Fest.

→ Various locations. Sep 18-26. Free.

C 'Medusa: Architecture + Reality'

In 2013, leading Japanese architect Sou Fujimoto created a giant steel cloud in Kensington with his Serpentine Pavilion. Now he's back with a big V&A project for London Design Festival. The

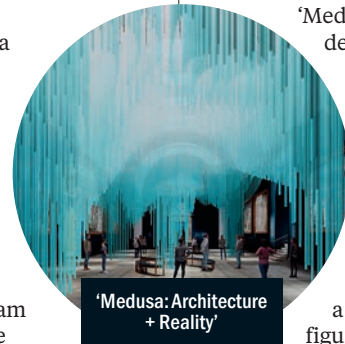
'Medusa' installation is designed to respond to the movements of visitors, with an intent to draw parallels between 'modern life, designed space and climate change'. What any of this has to do with a misunderstood figure of Greek

mythology, we have no idea, but it's bound to look v cool.

→ V&A. Sep 18-26. Free.



Nobody escapes Peppa Pig
Whitecross Street Party



'Medusa: Architecture + Reality'

BEHIND
THE COMEDY

Alison Spittle



'I'm a lover, not a fighter' Alison Spittle

S Alison Spittle: 'Work in Progress'

Almost everyone in Ireland knows Alison Spittle, and you should too. We spoke with the Westmeath comedian to see what makes her tick (turns out, it's Camden. She really loves Camden).

Your next gig is a work in progress, what can we expect?

'It's about me kind of grappling with my relationship with violence, but in a funny way, because I saw some people get into a fight at aqua aerobics. If you saw it in a UFC ring, you'd be like "Grand!", but not at a mid-tempo aqua aerobics class with about 50 pensioners. It was quite the brawl.'

So what went down? Did you try to intervene?

'No, no, I was too busy exercising. I'm a lover not a fighter.'

You moved from Dublin to London two years ago, how has it been?

'I am happy that I spent lockdown here. I live in Camden and it's

mad. When the puddles of sick started appearing again on my way to Aldi, it was like "Nature is healing." You know things are going to be okay. It's like being in Jurassic Park and seeing a fresh dinosaur poo: "It's coming, they're nearby!" I love living there.'

Are there any differences between Dublin and London audiences?

'Big time. They're more discerning in London. In Ireland, they'll give you a bit of leeway at the start. In London, you kind of have to prove you're funny upfront.'

What made you choose Camden?

'Genuinely: because I'd heard of the place. Amy Winehouse loved it and if it was good enough for her... I'm not a goth, but Camden is like a goth Disneyland. I also like that people will tell you that Camden's not good. If I tell people I live there they'll be like, "That place was good 20 years ago, it's a dump now."' ■ Katie McCabe

→ Battersea Arts Centre. Sep 11. Pay what you can. Suggested price £12.



"DID I MENTION WAVES? GET READY FOR THIS PLAY TO MAKE SOME."

THE TIMES



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Rediscover London by Overground

London is open! Make the most of autumn with these seven unmissable activities

Welcome back, London – let's make this our best autumn ever. As the capital reopens, the opportunities for fantastic experiences become boundless. Whether you've been craving theatre, can't wait to hit the dance floor or are keen to explore under-the-radar attractions, the time is now. Transport for London's network is the key to getting around easily and affordably – which is why we've teamed up with TfL to bring you seven excellent activities for autumn, all of which are close to stations on the London Overground.

Tube it. Bus it. Train it. Welcome back. **#LetsDoLondon**



Clapham High Street

Clapham Common

1

Get curious at Open House Festival London

It's huge, it's free and it's on until September 12! Go on guided tours, access cool buildings and get involved in family-friendly activities. Overground-adjacent events include walking tours of Brockley and Ladywell cemeteries, historic Deptford and Clapham Old Town. → Free. Some venues require advance booking.

West Brompton



2

Laugh out loud at London Wonderground

Head west to the LOL-fest that is London Wonderground – it's a pop-up funfair-meets-Fringe-festival from the Underbelly team. Catch stand-up shows from the likes of Lucy Porter, Stephen K. Amos and Eshaan Akbar; plus circus, cabaret, kids' shows and more.

→ Free entry to site. Tickets from £12.50.

Brondesbury Park



3

See a show at Kiln Theatre

Missing live theatre? The Kiln is back with a collection of vivid stories, all told over one performance, inspired by the people who have shaped north west London. 'NW Trilogy' (until October 9) takes audiences on a journey from an Irish dance hall to the story of a woman searching for her father, a reggae musician who was once part of the Trojan Records scene.

→ From £15.



4

Take a dip in Parliament Hill Lido

If, like us, one of the big things you missed during lockdown was swimming, then why not get back into it at one of the loveliest lidos in London? This Grade II-listed beauty happens to be the only outdoor pool in the UK with a stainless steel pool liner, which gives the water a gorgeous shimmer. Afterwards, head up Parliament Hill for stunning skyline views.

→ From £7.09.

Gospel Oak

Hoxton

5 **Expand your mind at the Museum of the Home**

East London's Geffrye Museum has reopened after three years of redevelopment with a new name, but with the same purpose: to offer a loving (and fascinating) physical history of our homes from 1600 to the present.

→ Free entry with timed tickets.



Hackney Wick

6

Get your music fix at The Lot

Last summer, the car park of Hackney Wick venue HWK became an events space which is now known as The Lot. Head to this sunny spot for a weekly programme of top-notch DJs and bands.

→ Prices vary, some events are free.



OVERGROUND

Surrey Quays

7 **Make new friends at Surrey Docks Farm**

You're never too old to pay a visit to cheeky goats, cute donkeys and cuddly guinea pigs at this working farm. You can even bottle-feed one of the cute young calves if you book ahead.

→ Free entry. Calf-feeding, £10.



GET THERE WITH TFL

Thanks to Transport for London's off-peak fares, you can get even better value as you travel across the Overground. Off-peak fares apply on all Tube, DLR, London Overground and TfL Rail services across London and can be accessed every weekday between 9.30am and 3.59pm, and after 7pm. They also apply all day at weekends and on public holidays. Always touch in and out with the same card or device to pay the right fare.

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Fare shown is for an adult off-peak pay as you go journey not going via Zone 1 on Tube, DLR and most London Overground services.

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→ More inspo at www.timeout.com/rediscover-london



MAYOR OF LONDON

Things to Do

ONE UNMISSABLE THING



Punchdrunk is back

Immersive theatre gods Punchdrunk return with 'The Burnt City', a Trojan War-set epic staged in two huge buildings in Woolwich. Tickets go on sale tomorrow (September 8) for a run starting next March.

→ 1 Cartridge Place. Mar 22-Aug 28 2022. www.theburntcity.com

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* The Times 'Best Places to Live List' 2015 to 2020



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Pride nights

E 'Showgirls': Live Extravaganza

You've probably heard that 'Showgirls' is one of the worst films ever made. Well, drag artist Baby Lane is here to show you why that opinion is straight-up garbage. At this interactive film screening in the Rio Cinema, Lane will bring Paul Verhoeven's misunderstood camp classic to life with burlesque, striptease, Thrust It competitions, go-go dancing and literal flame-throwing from Lady Noella. Who needs Vegas when you can shake your pasties in Dalston? → Rio Cinema. Sep 9. £15.

S Gay Shame

One of London's longest-running LGBTQ+ Pride nights is back for what it's calling its twenty-fifth 'petulant' year. As always, the night will offer up an unpredictable conveyor belt of arty performers – sideshows, theatre, drag, cabaret, and some dirty choreography from Lea Anderson. Gay Shame lifers Readers Wives will be sharing the decks with DJ Ritu. Oh, and there'll be free chips. → Royal Vauxhall Tavern. Sep 11. £16.

like Elif Shafak and Yvonne Bailey-Smith, and local history talks. But there's also stand-up comedy and, crucially, each day is capped off by a closing party. It won't quite be a warehouse rave, but it'll offer the chance to get into tense discussions about 'the latest Sally Rooney' somewhere other than Twitter.

→ Queen's Park. Sep 18-19. £18 each day.

C Stories Festival

The *Evening Standard* has teamed up with Netflix to bring us a three-day storytelling event. Held at Picturehouse Central, the line-up includes some pretty big names, such as Dr Amir Khan (author of 'The Doctor Will See You Now'), Ashley Walters (star of Netflix series 'Top Boy'), Candice Brathwaite (author of 'I Am Not Your Baby Mother') and Ricky Gervais, who'll be discussing his black-comedy series 'After Life'. → Picturehouse Central. Sep 24-26. Prices vary.



Major group exhibitions

C Photo London

Photography is big business, and nothing makes that clearer than Photo London, the UK's biggest photography fair. Collectors travel from all over the world for its glitzy events, but its entry price for the general public is steep at £29. As a trade-off, the fair is enormous, encompassing dozens of exhibitions by photography galleries from all over the world. One of the highlights this year is 'Close Enough: Robert Capa', a show of 50 rare prints that takes

Book fests

N 🎭 Queen's Park Book Festival

Too many book festivals don't have enough festival. But not Queen's Park Book Fest. It'll have the usual combination of readings from literary celebs,



Yvonne Bailey-Smith

PUNCHDRUNK: JILIAN ABRAMS

an in-depth look at the Hungarian-American war photographer's image-making process.
→ Somerset House. Sep 8-12. From £29.

C 'Mixing It Up: Painting Today'

The Hayward Gallery has pulled together some of the best names in contemporary painting for this survey show, and plenty of them would be worth the price of admission on their own, but all together? Bargain. There are 31 artists in total, with big names like Peter Doig, Lubaina Himid and Rose Wylie. Leave some extra time for the smoky, noir-ish nudes of Lisa Brice.
→ Hayward Gallery.
Sep 9-Dec 12. £12.

C RA Summer Exhibition

It's the return of the RA's Summer Exhibition (except it's in autumn, but whatever). This year it's being curated by Yinka Shonibare to the theme of 'Reclaiming Magic', and will feature work from Njideka Akunyili Crosby and Michael Armitage along with hundreds of other artists. It has been going since 1769, so it's short on surprises at this point. But in a year where it's been tricky to catch every show in town, it's an opportunity to see painting, sculpture, prints and photography from major artists, all in one go.
→ Sep 22-Jan 2 2022.
£20-£22.

to play the Bard's doomed Danish prince at the Young Vic. The cast also includes the mighty Adrian Dunbar (of 'Line of Duty' fame) as Claudius/The Ghost. As superintendent Ted Hastings would say: 'Now we're sucking diesel'.
→ Young Vic. Sep 27-Nov 13. £10-£43.



Huey Lewis And The News for the film.
→ Adelphi Theatre.
Until Feb 13 2022.
£19.85-£224.50.

C 'Frozen'
Director Michael Grandage's lavish take on the most successful animated film of all time has already been and gone on Broadway. While it

Summery music fests

S 🎧 Hospitality Weekend in the Woods

To mark Hospital Records' twenty-fifth anniversary, the label's putting on a massive two-day festival in Beckenham Place Park with Netsky, Camo & Krooked, Noisia, Calibre & DRS. Expect massive drum 'n' bass sets and big, big parties.
→ Beckenham Place Park.
Sep 18-19. £74.10.

E 🎧 We Are Fstvl

The ace dance music festival is back, but at a new venue: Dagenham's Central Park. It'll be banging tune after banging tune from the likes of Andy C, The Blessed Madonna, Nina Kraviz, Carl Cox and Horse Meat Disco.
→ Central Park. Sep 11-12.
£150 for a two-day ticket.

S 🎧 Colourscape Music Festival

Colourscape's polychromatic tunnels are returning to Clapham Common after a long hiatus. Never been? Just wander around its big inflatable labyrinth to see what musicians you can find inside. You might happen upon a flautist, a classical guitarist or maybe even a bit of Balinese gamelan. Who knows? Those colourful innards are designed to surprise. One of the few upsides of the post-lockdown era is that everyone needs to

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Hot-ticket theatre

C 'Hamlet'

Although Shakespeare's masterpiece is always around in some form or other, there hasn't really been a big London 'Hamlet' since 2017 with Andrew Scott. Here we finally go, though, delayed a year by Covid. Actress Cush Jumbo follows in the footsteps of her 'Good Fight' co-star Michael Sheen

C 'Back to the Future: The Musical'

This all-singing version of Robert Zemeckis's '80s time-travelling classic had a long road to the West End, but the future is finally here. If you've seen the film, you already know what the show is about: Marty McFly hops into Doc Brown's DeLorean, zips back to the 1950s, accidentally messes with the fabric of the space-time continuum and nearly gets off with his own mum. Songwise, it's a mix of new tunes and cheesy 1980s classics like 'The Power of Love', which was written by '80s band

doesn't do anything to reinvent the wheel, it absolutely does enough to transport fans of the film back to their beloved Arendelle and the complicated relationship between sisters Elsa and Anna (the former being possessed of powers over ice and snow, lest we forget). Yes, it does feature *that* song, with remarkable restraint – it's only included once.
→ Theatre Royal Drury Lane. Until Jun 26 2022.
£20-£150.

pre-book, doing away with the long Colourscape queues.
→ Clapham Common. Sep 11-19. £5 (£10 at weekends).

N Defected London

Looking for something a little more hardcore to round off the summer (yes it's still summer, got it?). Head to the Tottenham Drumsheds for two days of dance music headlined by Honey Dijon and Dan Shake.
→ The Drumsheds. Sep 25-26. £99 two-day ticket.

Didn't find what you're after?
Try timeout.com/thingstodo

Food & Drink

Edited by Angela Hui
timeout.com/eatdrink @timeouteatdrink

Off the eaten track

Borough blooming busy? Munched through Maltby Street? Broadway's appeal narrowed? Try these lesser-known street-food markets instead

Sumptuous south

Sunday might be a day of rest, but it's a good one to saunter south of the river to get your fill at **South Norwood Market**. Try Taco Collective's quesada birria tacos, which are stuffed to the brim and come with a pot of rich gravy-like beef consommé for dipping. Indian Star's specialty is the yoghurt-marinated chicken madras kothu parotta: a soft yet crispy layered flatbread situation loaded with a medley of spices and salna (gravy).

→ Harris Academy Playground, SE25 6AD. Every Sun, 10am-3pm.

Taste the world in N15

Eat global at **Tottenham Green Market**, a proper northern paradise showcasing organic produce and artisanal baked goods. Pay the The Chaat House a visit; they'll look after you with spiced chickpea samosa chaat with

ice-cold pani puris. Or stop by Marli's Kitchen for vegan jollof and mega boxes of fried 'chickun', which is made from oyster mushrooms and will make you question your life choices. Wash it all down with locally made craft beer, then spend the rest of the afternoon shopping for vintage garms.

→ Town Hall Approach Rd, N15 4RY. Sep 12, 11am-4pm.



Sun Valley Jerk at Tabard Street Food Market

Upgrade your lunch

Say no to the sad Pret sarnie and head to **Tabard Street Food Market**. Level up lunch with Filipino barbecue specialist Pinoy Eat. Its beef tapsilog is made up of thin slices of marinated meat that's griddled in front of you then served on fluffy rice with a crispy fried egg. Or make colleagues jealous with Sun Valley Jerk's juicy pork with a side of curried chickpeas, rice, peas and mac 'n' cheese.

→ St George The Martyr, SE1 1JA. Mon-Fri, 10am-2.30pm.

From farm to fork

The friendly **Fulham Farmers' Market** brings all the eats to the yard. Opt for a flavoursome pastry or empanada at Eli&Pie. From jerk chicken patties to butternut squash and ricotta pies, its range bounces nicely between traditional and playful. For a pide party in your



DixieMia at Lunch Out, Imperial Wharf



More sizzling street food at
[timeout.com/foodmarkets](https://www.timeout.com/foodmarkets)



Chaat House at Tottenham Green Market



Marli's Kitchen's 'chickun' will make you question your life choices



Food & Drink



Pinoy Eat at Tabard Street Food Market



Dorothy's Deli at Lunch Out, Imperial Wharf



El Noplaito at Trash and Treasure



A guide to finding the lesser-spotted Taylor's beers

Whether you're an avid enthusiast or have more of a general interest in the species, our brewery webshop, timothytaylorshop.co.uk makes it easy to locate our beers roaming wild in their natural habitat. You can order all of our bottled varieties, our classic and award-winning *Landlord* pale ale, our well-balanced genuine Yorkshire bitter, *Boltmaker*; *Knowle Spring*, the full-bodied and refreshing blonde beer; *Landlord Dark*, the rich yet light dark ale; *Hopical Storm* a modern dry-hopped pale ale, the aromatic and hoppy *Cook Lane IPA*, and the dark and warming *Poulter's Porter*. And they'll wing their way to you with free delivery anywhere in the UK.

All for that taste of Taylor's



mouth, head to Piddaji for filled Turkish flatbreads straight out of a custom wood-burning oven.

→ St Johns Church, North End Rd, SW6 1PB. Every Sat, 9am-2.30pm.

Banish lunch al desko

Hungry office workers (or wfh crew who are sick of their own cooking) can dine out, out at one of **Lunch Out's** venues, at Imperial Wharf, Biscuit Factory and Dickens Yard. Find freshly made bun cha, banh mi and summer rolls galore at Nha Trang Kitchen, eat the rainbow with Dorothy's Deli's wholesome pick 'n' mix salads or hit up DixieMia for flaming barbecued meats.

→ Various locations at SW6, SE16 and W5. Mon-Sat, 10am-4pm.

A trove of delights

Strike gold at **Trash and Treasure Market**. Indie makers, vintage stalls, street-food vendors and live music come together to bring you a mega night flea market. Mix and match between classic pork pastor tacos, cochinita

pipil (think: pulled pork 2.0) and succulent chicken tinga tacos at El Nopalito. Or sample spring roll, cheeseburger and margherita pizza dumplings from Carnaby restaurant Ugly Dumpling's mobile stall.

→ The Brentham Club, 38a Meadvale Rd. Sep 17, 5pm-9pm.

Beats and eats

Good food and good music: a match made in heaven.

Find both at **Myddleton Road Market**.

AJ's Cakes & Bakes offers spectacular

homemade brownies,

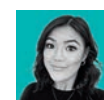
cakes and cupcakes,

and Smokoloko will be upping the ante with its mouthwatering barbecue brisket and steak sandwiches. Besides food, there'll be art, crafts, games, homewares, beauty products and vintage items. Plus, the Black Lives Matter soundsystem will be pumping out tunes. ■

→ Myddleton Rd, N22 8NE. Oct 3, 11am-4pm.



Nha Trang Kitchen at Lunch Out, Imperial Wharf



By Angela Hui
Who is in the market for some Korean fried chicken.

New openings

Shiny new places to eat: get excited then get in there first

Counter strike

Bag the best seat in the house at **Bibi's** 13-seater kitchen counter, which overlooks the custom-built sigree charcoal grill. Chef Chet Sharma (ex-JKS development chef) takes inspiration from his grandmothers, street carts and roadside cafés. The focus is on bar snacks, chaat, sigree and dessert with high impact and flavoursome spice blends, as well as wood and charcoal grilling.

→ 67-69 George St, W1U 8LT. Opens Sep 9.

Fire in the hole

Chef Niklas Ekstedt brings the heat to the capital with his first



Ekstedt at The Yard

restaurant outside Stockholm.

Ekstedt at The Yard uses no gas, no electricity and no gadgets, just fire. Expect smoky Scandinavian dishes, such as ember-cooked leek and flambadou oysters.

→ 3-5 Great Scotland Yard, SW1A 2HN. Opens Sep 17.

Ugly delicious

The brains behind Polpo, Russell Norman is going solo again with **Trattoria Brutto**. It's named after the Italian phrase 'brutto ma buono', which means 'ugly but good'.

The focus is hearty and honest Tuscan food, with dishes such as

panzanella, vitello tonnato and pappardelle with wild boar.

→ 35-37 Greenhill Rents, EC1M 6BN. Opens Sep 23.

Substantial meal and a pint

After calling Islington's The Compton Arms home for the past two years, Four Legs has opened a boozer called **The Plimsoll** in Finsbury Park. The famous dexter burgers will be there, but leave space for new pasta dishes and standing-up pub grub like fried oysters.

→ 52 St Thomas's Rd, N4 2QW. Opens end of Sep.

West is best

The team behind Berber and Q have set their sights west with **Carmel**. It'll be a laidback, all-day affair with North African and Middle Eastern flavours, like tamworth pork chops from Swaledale served with confit garlic, preserved lemon and borlotti, or slow-grilled chicken with curry-pickled radicchio. ■ **Angela Hui**

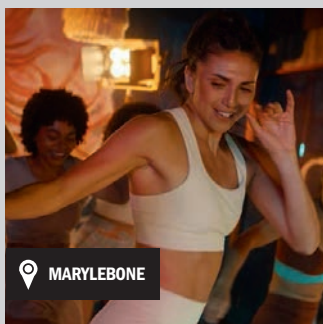
→ Lonsdale Rd, NW6 6RR. Opens Oct.

Discover more new restaurants [timeout.com/newopenings](https://www.timeout.com/newopenings)

EKSTEDT AT THE YARD: DAVID LOFTUS

Sponsored listing

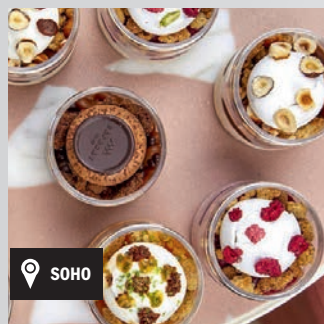
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MARYLEBONE

DAN'S SAYS:

'Change how you feel about fitness forever with calorie-burning, dance-based workouts to addictive Latin beats at Dan's. Seventy-five percent of Dan'sers feel the positive mood boost of the classes, so why not try London's happiest workout? No experience needed. Two classes for £22 and bring a friend for free.'
5 Cavendish Place, W1G 0QA.



SOHO

BAFARAT SAYS:

'Hang on to summer by indulging in our gourmet ice-cream, served in jars. Swoon-worthy flavours include mango and passion fruit, pistachio and raspberry and a decadent dark chocolate and salted caramel. These luxurious ice-cream and sorbet creations are the perfect treat. Head to our café to explore more.'
6 Warwick St, W1B 5AW.



PARSONS GREEN

QUADRA SAYS:

'Quadra serves authentic "pizza in teglia". For non-Italian speakers, this means that we use baking pans to cook our pizza. This helps our highly hydrated dough to turn into a crunchy and light pizza. Quadra serves pizza slices, starters and desserts with a selection of beers, wines and cocktails. Book your table here: www.wearequadra.co.uk.'
28 Parsons Green Lane, SW6 4HS.



LEICESTER SQUARE

HELIOT STEAK HOUSE SAYS:

'Our Meatologist Menu consists of an Irish Wexford tomahawk steak (900g to 1,200g) served with sides and sauces and a bottle of Federalist chardonnay or Federalist zinfandel wine. It's priced at £50 per person. This offer needs to be booked 24 hours in advance and is for a minimum of two people'
The Hippodrome Casino, Cranbourn St, WC2H 7JH.

Travel

Edited by Huw Oliver
timeout.com/daytrips

Five UK island breaks to make you feel like you're abroad

Escape this cursed isle with a trip to one of Britain's 6,000 other lumps of land

Isle of Skye

HAD TO RETHINK that Caribbean trip thanks to the Delta variant? Never fear: the UK is home to a whopping 6,289 islands, each with its own fascinating history and some pretty dreamy landscapes too. The waters may be less blue over here, but if you fancy feeling like you've gone far away without the hassle of border restrictions, this is one way to do it.

You could probably spend a lifetime island-hopping around Blighty and not get bored, as you'll find everything from pristine miles-long beaches to quaint little villages,

breathtaking hike routes to ancient archaeological sites. So, if you're looking for some Covid-secure holiday inspo this autumn, here are five island breaks that might just conjure the illusion that you're abroad.



Rathlin Island

1 St Mary's Cornwall

Although it covers little more than six square miles, St Mary's is the largest and most accessible of the Isles of Scilly, just off the coast of Cornwall. Thanks to

its abundance of gorgeous natural features – it has beautiful coastal and countryside landscapes – the island has attracted plenty of

artists over the years, and is now home to several decent galleries like Porthloo Studios and Tamarisk. Want to make the most of the sun while it's still (sort of) warm? The island's three main beaches are among Cornwall's finest.

2 Skye Scotland

The Isle of Skye, the biggest of the Inner Hebrides on Scotland's north-west coast, is 50 miles long and filled with lush glens and ghostly peaks that draw hikers. There's no shortage of scenic routes, but don't miss the Trotternish Ridge, which includes the iconic Old Man of Storr rock formation. Be sure to book a tour of the Talisker distillery where you can sample the local single malt. And with its pretty technicolour houses, the harbour village of Portree is also worth a visit.



Guemsey



Orkney



3 Rathlin Northern Ireland

Northern Ireland's only inhabited island has a population of around 150, making it an excellent place to really feel like you've escaped the shackles of everyday life. Head to the Boathouse Visitor Centre to learn about Rathlin's history, hire a bike and cycle the length of the six-mile island, or take a short bus ride to the Seabird Centre where you can spot puffins, kittiwakes and razorbills perched on the clifftops. And if you're lucky, you might also spy seals playing in the water below.

4 Guernsey Channel Islands

Guernsey has a long and colourful history, from being a key base for English kings during wars with France to occupation by German troops in World War II. Learn all about the Channel Island's turbulent past at La Vallette Underground Military Museum. But it's not all doomy history here: Guernsey has serious cultural cachet too. It provided inspiration to the exiled Victor Hugo and painter Renoir, plus the backdrop for bestseller 'The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society'. Visit in June to catch talks and workshops at its annual literary festival.

5 Orkney Scotland

It might be one of the more remote of the UK's islands, but mainland Orkney is worth the trek. Just off the north-east coast of Scotland, it is listed as a Unesco World Heritage Site thanks to its 5,000-year history and wealth of archaeological treasures. These include the prehistoric village of Skara Brae, the Ring of Brodgar stone circle and the Maeshowe chambered tomb. It's also a great place to go birdwatching, with 13 RSPB sites across the island. ■



By Rosie Hewitson
Who owns a private island...
on Animal Crossing.

City Hunter Dundee

#3

Investigating unexpected urban breaks in the UK



DUNDEE WAS HISTORICALLY the city of the three Js: jute, jam and journalism. But these days the home of *The Beano* is becoming known for its art and design scenes. Head to the city's revamped waterfront and the striking **V&A Dundee** amply explains why this place is the UK's first Unesco City of Design. Its latest exhibition, 'Night Fever', looks at the aesthetics of club culture – and we can tell you it delves far deeper than just bucket hats and glowsticks.

There's also the **McManus**, with eight galleries of famous fine art. Meanwhile, the **Dundee Rep** is the place to catch world-class theatre and dance, and for art with an edge, you'll want to take in the excellent programme at the **DCA**.



But if you fancy learning a little more about this city's past? Visit restored former jute mill **Verdant Works**, where you'll get the lowdown on Dundee's textile industry. It's also worth dropping by **Discovery Point**, which houses the *RRS Discovery* – the ship that took Captain Scott on his first Antarctic voyage.

After all that, you'll be hungry, so it's fortunate this city has so many great places to eat. Feeling fancy? **The Newport Restaurant** by 'MasterChef' winner Jamie Scott is your best bet. Expect a sophisticated Scottish menu filled with local seasonal produce, plus views across the River Tay. **Flame Tree Café** also comes highly recommended, if you feel like waffles, or anything you can think of 'on toast'. And for end-of-trip drinks? Try rum cocktail bar **The King of Islington** and raise a glass to this wonderful wee city. Make that four Js: Dundee really is a joy. ■ *Arusa Qureshi*

→ London King's Cross to Dundee, around six hours 20 minutes.



More desirable destinations
[timeout.com/travel](https://www.timeout.com/travel)

ISLAND BREAKS: SHUTTERSTOCK/V&A DUNDEE; JOE DAILY/SHUTTERSTOCK; FOOD: THE NEWPORT RESTAURANT

Sip under the stars

Sunset staycation, anyone? Soak up the golden hour from these amazing terraces and gardens across the UK



Edinburgh

The Talbot Yorkshire

If you're after a breath of fresh air without sacrificing comfort, The Talbot in Malton is a cosy and stylish countryside hotel with deluxe rooms. Its bright bar is stocked to the brim and also offers afternoon tea and a special Sunday menu – making it a perfect place to put your feet up after checking out the nearby North York Moors and Yorkshire coastline.

12th Knot London

Perfectly situated overlooking the Thames on the South Bank, this stylish rooftop bar is loved for its panoramic views. Chill out on the balcony with a cocktail (its ever-changing list champions seasonal ingredients) or catch sets by top-notch DJs during golden hour. You can't go wrong!



WestBeach

Rose Street Garden Edinburgh

Nestled between two of Edinburgh's busiest streets is Rose Street Garden – a popular food and drink spot next to the landmark Corinthian-columned Dome. As well as tempting sharing cocktails, it also has a whole menu section dedicated to Bombay Sapphire, with brambles, clover clubs and gin mules. Book in advance because this place can get pretty busy.

WestBeach Bournemouth

It's 2021 and Bournemouth is the new Ibiza. We're talking alfresco dining, big sandy beaches and plenty of live music. WestBeach is a seafood restaurant right on the beach that whips up its orders fresh under your nose from an open-plan kitchen. All you have to do now is pray for another heatwave.

Polurrian on the Lizard Cornwall

Cornwall is a go-to for staycations and there's a reason for that. It has sparkling waters, a million opportunities for sunset Insta Stories and almost too many glorious hotels to choose from. Polurrian on the Lizard is one of the most dramatically situated hotels here: it has a private beach, cliff-top setting and a bar and restaurant serving tasty fare. Need an excuse to visit? Bombay Sapphire will be hosting a Sunset Sessions terrace takeover on September 11 with an exclusive cocktail menu, a DJ and a Cocktails and Create Masterclass led by local designer Elly Jahnz. Tickets are £12 from Eventbrite (search Bombay Sapphire Sunset Sessions Polurrian).

ENJOY A BOMBAY SAPPHIRE SUNSET AND TONIC AT HOME

For a refreshing beverage that just screams summer, try this super easy serve. Over cubed ice, mix 50ml of Bombay Sapphire Sunset special edition gin – infused with warming cardamom and turmeric, and bittersweet Spanish mandarin – with 100ml of chilled tonic water (the fancier, the better). To garnish, add a wheel of fresh orange and star anise.



→ Discover more sunset staycation spots at www.timeout.com/bombaysunsets



SPENT THE LAST year avoiding the news by escaping into novel after novel? If you're not quite ready to let go of your literary lockdown, perhaps you should consider basing your next day out around the life of a famous author.

Finding legit locations, however, can be a bit of a task. You can't move for cafés that claim to have once served Charles Dickens, or hotels supposedly visited by Virginia Woolf. So we've come up with our own pick of the best holidays in the UK for every type of reader – just be sure to fit in a trip to a bookshop, too.

Agatha Christie's Devon

The Queen of Mystery's holiday home was no basic Airbnb. Agatha Christie often described Greenway, near Dartmouth, as 'the loveliest place in the world', and she's not far off. These days it's a National Trust property, filled with trinkets from the writer's life. Peep at her grand piano (she was a trained concert pianist, fyi), or browse the copious bookshelves that line every room.

→ Around 5 hours from London Paddington.

Tolkien's Oxford

The fantasy writer was an academic at Merton College, Oxford, and he met likeminded scribe (and good

Four getaways for proper book nerds

Got lost in literature over the past year? Try a bookish UK escapes. Illustration *Steve Beech*

buddy) CS Lewis here too. Walking tours will take you to The Eagle and Child pub, where they met weekly to discuss their work. True 'Lord of the Rings' fans should head to The Eurobar, though. It might look like an unremarkable sports bar – and nowadays the site of many a student pre-drinks – but it's apparently the place where Tolkien got the inspiration for The Prancing Pony,

Frodo's fave boozier. Why not put in a hobbit-worthy sesh next time you're in town?

→ Around 1 hour 10 minutes from London Paddington.



Oxford

Wordsworth's Lake District

Wordsworth was deadly serious about his love of the Lakes, and you can see why.

He lived at Dove Cottage in Grasmere with his family and an adorable puppy named Pepper, who was bred by fellow poet

(and canine enthusiast) Samuel Taylor Coleridge. You can peer at Wordsworth's tiny glasses, or his modified chair that allowed him to gaze at the fells while writing. For the full experience, twin Dove Cottage with Rydal Mount, up the road near Windermere. He lived here for the latter half of his life, and it's decidedly grander. Guess poetry can be a moneymaker after all.

→ Around 4 hours 30 minutes from London Euston.

The Brontës' Yorkshire

Haworth in Yorkshire would be well worth a visit even if it weren't for its literary associations. But for the ultimate bookish getaway, you've got to head to the Brontë Parsonage, the magical family home of Charlotte, Emily, Anne et al. Charlotte and Emily are buried in the nearby churchyard, so you can pay your respects while you're there. For the full Cathy experience, trek over the moorland to Top Withens, the ruined farmhouse that's rumoured to be the 'real' Wuthering Heights. ■ *Sophie Dickinson*

→ Around 3 hours 30 minutes from London Paddington.

More great days out at [timeout.com/daytrips](https://www.timeout.com/daytrips)

THE EAGLE AND CHILD: JOHN SEAWAY/SHUTTERSTOCK

Film

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

FIRST LOOK

Desert stormer

FIRST THINGS FIRST. Yes, the sandworms are awesome. Gigantic voracious tubes with thousands of scimitar teeth that curve inward to form a kind of giant eyeball, they're a bit like what would happen if the Channel Tunnel had a baby with a Sarclacc.

These subterranean nightmares that lurk beneath the surface of the vast desert planet of Arrakis are just one element of Denis Villeneuve's big, thinky blockbuster to exceed expectations. An epic sci-fi full of premonitions, 'Dune' director Denis Villeneuve ('Blade Runner 2049') must have had a few of his own when he set about bringing Frank Herbert's thematically dense book series to the screen: mostly involving sobbing into his on-set

coffee at the sheer enormity of cramming it all into a film.

But the Canadian filmmaker has nailed it where, in different ways David Lynch, Alejandro Jodorowsky and Ridley Scott all floundered. His 'Dune' is sprawling, spectacular and politically resonant in its critique of colonialism and exploitation. Okay, technically it doesn't have an ending – it's 'Part 1' of a series that may not get a Part 2 – and not everyone will get along with the levels of

patience Villeneuve demands of his audience, but those who do will be rewarded with precise storytelling, visual fireworks and some god-level world-building.

The bulk of 'Dune' unfolds on Arrakis. It's a severe and inhospitable place from which the cruel overlords of the House Harkonnen extracts spice – a prized commodity used to power space travel – and fight the indigenous Freman people, who use it for spiritual enlightenment. The insurgency comes to an abrupt halt when the Emperor swaps the Harkonnen for the more enlightened House Atreides.

Of course, as any 'Dune' stan will tell you, this is just a trap to eradicate the fancy-dan

Dune



DON'T MISS

Still on and still great

PIG

★★★★★

They took his pig – now Nicolas Cage's loner wants it back. A powerful human drama half-disguised as a vengeance thriller, this Pacific Northwest-set gem is the best Cage has been for ages.

CENSOR

★★★★★

Welsh filmmaker Prano Bailey-Bond announces herself as a serious talent with the horror flick of the moment about a young film censor (Niamh Algar) losing her grip.

SHANG-CHI AND THE LEGEND OF THE TEN RINGS

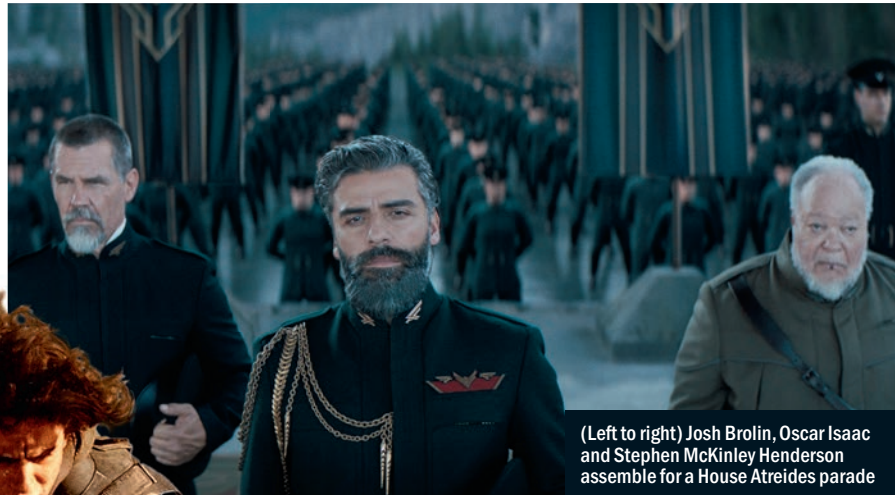
★★★★★

Forget 'Black Widow', this is the beginning of phase – checks notes – four of the Marvelverse, and an all-action intro it is too. The martial arts fight scenes are ree-diculous.

ANNETTE

★★★★★

A mad-as-a-tree musical in which Adam Driver and Marion Cotillard raise a puppet baby, everyone sings throughout, and alt-pop outsiders Sparks provided the songs. Welcome to Leos Carax's otherworldly opus.



(Left to right) Josh Brolin, Oscar Isaac and Stephen McKinley Henderson assemble for a House Atreides parade



The sandworm that turned Jason Momoa and Paul Timothée Chalamet flee the surface of Arakkis. Below: Sharon Duncan-Brewster as a Freman

Atreides altogether. At the heart of these Shakespearian machinations is Timothée Chalamet's gifted, introspective Paul Atreides. He's a Prince Hal-like figure who may just be the messiah-like chosen one the universe has been waiting for. He has inherited political power from his dad (Oscar Isaac) and magic from his mum (Rebecca Ferguson). He can use his voice as a mind-control device and has surprising fighting skills for one so tousled.

The wrinkle is he's young and gauche – the voice thing is still a bit hit-and-miss – and the clock is ticking. The evil Harkonnen is on the verge of a galactic double-cross that will leave Paul on a hero's journey across the remote, lethal badlands of Arakkis. There are portents involving knives, battles and a mysterious Freman (Zendaya). Oh, and a Jedi-like religious cadre called the Bene Gesserit, who get shortish shrift from a screenplay by Villeneuve,

WHAT IS IT...

In a nutshell? 'Game of Thrones' in space.

WHY GO...

Timothée Chalamet is on top form, and so are the killer sandworms.

→ Director Denis Villeneuve (TBC). 158 mins.

Eric Roth and Jon Spaihts that mostly makes sage decisions about what to include and what to omit from Herbert's source material.

If you've read the books, you'll know what all these premonitions signify; if you haven't, no biggie. Hang in there for the giant worms.

And hang in there, too, for some expertly handled action sequences. Unlike a lot of skittishly cut modern-day blockbusters, Villeneuve allows his to breathe with measured editing and VFX that blends into the massive sets and desert locations ('Dune' was partly filmed in Jordan's famous Wadi Rum). Also cool is the insect-like tech – spaceships flutter like dragonflies and drones hover like bees – and a Hans Zimmer score that sits halfway between Maurice Jarre's work on 'Lawrence of Arabia' and the György Ligeti used on '2001: A Space Odyssey'.

Chalamet is rock solid as this Luke Spicewalker figure, but everyone is watchable here – there's no Sting to stink the place up. Pick of the supporting cast is Stellan Skarsgård, who channels Marlon Brandon in 'Apocalypse Now' as the Harkonnen's bloated head honcho, the Baron. He's a power-hungry schemer whose litany of monstrous traits includes floating through the air like an evil children's balloon. Like a lot in 'Dune', he's shrouded in gloom and hardly a laugh riot, but he's not short of substance. He's just one reason to hope for Part 2. ■
→ 'Dune' premiered at the Venice International Film Festival. It's in UK cinemas Nov 19.



By Phil de Semlyen
Whose favourite spice is still Sparty.

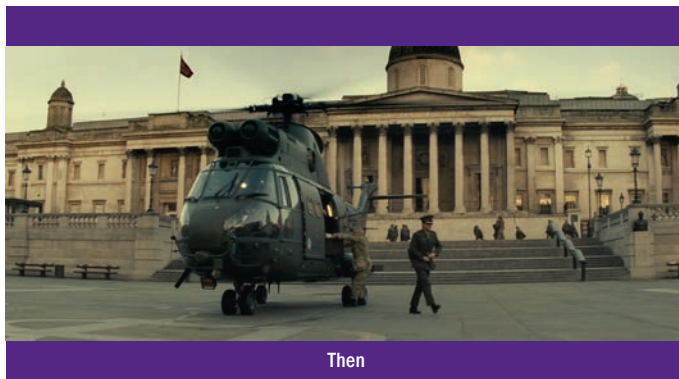
LONDON ON SCREEN 'Edge of Tomorrow'

The location Trafalgar Square, WC2.

The scene A voracious alien species has invaded earth and army PR man Major William Cage (Tom Cruise) has been enlisted to fight them. Travelling to London to weasel his way out of combat duty, he lands next to the National Gallery in a chopper. Not a bad entrance, eh?

Then When Cruise signed up to star in this 2014 sci-fi, he had one stipulation: 'Tom wanted to land a helicopter in the middle of Trafalgar Square,' says location manager Georgette Turner, who had 14 weeks to organise it all. 'We had three hours on a Sunday morning to shut everything down and film it,' she remembers. 'Tom was flown in by the RAF in a historic Puma helicopter.' The sequence took a £120,000 bite out of the film's budget.

Now The Doug Liman sci-fi has gone on to build a cult following. Turner, meanwhile, looks back fondly on her experience working with Cruise. 'He made sure he knew everybody's name,' she says. 'Someone must have told him I liked cheese because on the last day I got a big hamper of it. I was just glad we landed him safely, as the helicopter actually broke down after we finished filming.' ■ *Thomas Hobbs*



Then



Now

ALSO OPENING



PRISONERS OF THE GHOSTLAND

★★★★★

At this stage in Nicolas Cage's career, it's almost a surprise if he's *not* playing a man with bombs strapped to his testicles. That's the chewy situation facing his character – known only as Hero – in a sci-fi from Japanese maverick Sion Sono. Cage's Hero is on a mission to rescue a missing woman (Sofia Boutella) on behalf of her granddad, The Governor. If Hero thinks about getting frisky with her... well, you can guess the rest. It's cheerfully nuts but mostly a hoot with it, and Boutella even gets to out-Cage Cage at times. And her co-star? He's having a ball. *Stephen A Russell*
→ Out Sep 17.



THE SERVANT

★★★★★

Newly restored and re-released, Joseph Losey's filleting of the British class system is the finest guys-go-mad-in-a-flat movie this side of 'Performance'. The screenplay by Harold Pinter doesn't hurt. It has Dirk Bogarde's grafting northern schemer taking a job as a manservant for workshy fop Tony (James Fox), sparking a subtle – and less subtle – bending of social codes. Losey's direction sets the nerves jangling: with shadows, distorted reflections and glowering close-ups, he plunges us into a fever dream of privilege, power and perversion. *Tom Huddleston*
→ Out Sep 10.



A BRIXTON TALE

★★★★★

One of the most dangerous people for a young Black Londoner to get tight with is a posh white girl with a camcorder, posits this pointed, if unrevelatory drama that splits its time between the smart piles and estates of SW9. Leah (Lily Newmark) is the YouTuber with artier aspirations encouraged to mine her connection with Benji (Ola Orebiyi, an eye-catching debut) for creative ends. This translates into the worst kind of class tourism. But is it also exploitation? That promising line of enquiry is obscured by all the usual urban drama staples: drugs, guns and violence. *Phil de Semlyen*
→ Out Sep 17.



HERSELF

★★★★★

The biggest strength of this tough but hopeful drama is newcomer Clare Dunne, who co-wrote the screenplay and is compelling as an abused woman struggling to make a new home – literally – for her two daughters. Dunne is Sandra, a Dubliner who has left her violent husband and is inspired by a YouTube video to build her own house. Director Phyllida Lloyd ('Mamma Mia!') keeps Sandra's doggedness in tight focus, but isn't above throwing in the odd cheesy montage. The ever-watchable Harriet Walter offers tart assistance as a local doctor. *Phil de Semlyen*
→ Out Sep 10.

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