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TimeOut

LONDON



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By the side of business



LLOYDS BANK

Inside

This issue of Time Out
in no time at all

Purple reign

She's sat on the throne so long
her bum's gone to sleep. Celebrate
Her Maj's Jubilee, London-style

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Busy Lizzie

Do a Crossrail crawl with our
pick of the best places to eat
along the Elizabeth Line

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Baddy issues

'The Father and the Assassin' tells
the story of Gandhi's killer – and it's
an absolute five-star knockout

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Pulp non-fiction

Second-best national treasure
Jarvis Cocker has written a book (about
himself) and he's reading bits of it

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Sun's out...

... 'Top Gun's out. Well, 'Top Gun:
Maverick' is. The 30-years-in-
the-making sequel is a blast

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INTERNATIONAL BRAND OF THE YEAR
CAMPAIGN

Hello, London

Joe Mackertich
London Editor
@j_mackertich



The Queen and I have much in common. We both have inscrutable, unreadable expressions (hers is by choice, designed to protect her from media speculation, mine is simply the result of having a miserable face). She loves dogs, as do I. We both exert an unearned amount of influence over a group of disengaged, occasionally resentful subjects (the British public and the staff of Time Out, respectively).

Unlike me, the Queen has been a part of London life for 70 years. That's *ages*. When Princess Elizabeth received her super powers (after being bitten, as I understand it, by a radioactive Queen) Ernest Hemingway was still writing books, polio had no vaccine and there were only two American candy stores on Oxford Street, instead of 850. I suspect Elizabeth II has been a constant presence throughout the entirety of your life, like Ant and Dec or the Compare the Meerkat ad campaign.

Whether you're a diehard Queenophile or a right-on republican, I hope you spend this legendary holiday doing something wild, surrounded by mates and loved ones. Long live the Queen. And long live Time Out (Queen of Magazines).



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Advertising 7813 6000,
advertising@timeout.com
Circulation
circulation@timeout.com

Global Editor-in-Chief
Caroline McGinn
Global Deputy Editor-in-Chief
Dave Calhoun
London Editor Joe Mackertich
Deputy Editor/Chief
Sub Editor Chris Waywell
Deputy Chief Sub Editor
Sarah Cohen

Executive Editor Kate Lloyd
Events Rosie Hewitson
Film Phil de Semlyen
(Global Editor)
Food & Drink Angela Hui
Art Eddy Frankel
Theatre Andrzej Lukowski
Staff Writer Chiara Wilkinson
Work experience
Sarath Novas, India Lawrence

Global Commercial Editor
Rose Johnstone
Deputy Commercial Editor
Georgia Evans
Commercial Designer
Julia Robinson

Engagement Editor
Sam Willis
Global Social Media Lead
Sophie Tighe
Social Media Editor
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Art Director Bryan Mayes
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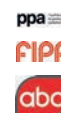
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styling Louise Mason,
photography Jess Hand

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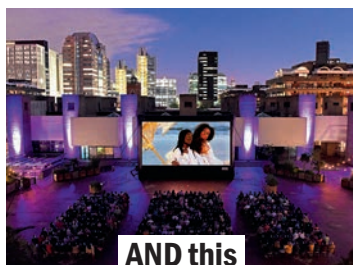
THE EDITOR'S ESSENTIALS

Three things you have to do in London



BOOK this

All Points East is not too far off now. Why would you risk missing Caroline Polacheck, Yves Tumor, Peggy Gou and effing Kraftwerk? Blinding.



AND this

Four nice-sounding words: '**Outdoor Barbican cinema screenings**'. Six more: 'featuring the work of studio Ghibli'. From August 23.

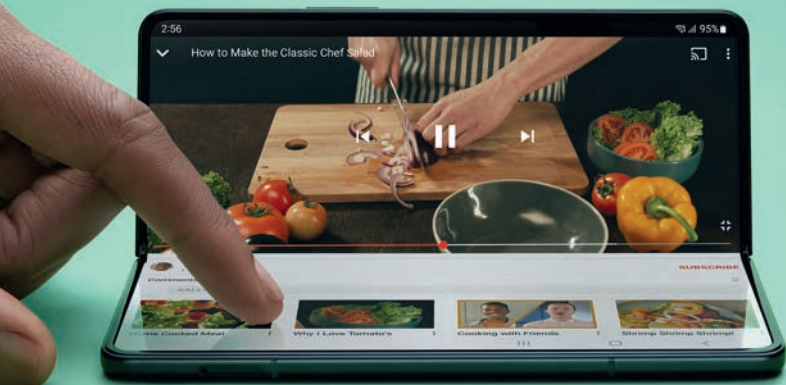


EAT here

Double Dragon in Clerkenwell is about to mutate from pop-up to 'proper restaurant'. I can vouch for its awesome Japanese food.

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City life

Edited by Chiara Wilkinson
@timeoutlondon



How weekday jam sessions helped London groove again

Platforms like *Orii Community* are giving London's emerging musicians a space to connect

A BEATBOXER SPITS into the mic while a tenor saxophone warbles between breaths. A young MC mouths bars from his phone and a singer clammers on stage, the beat switching to a syncopated swing as she hurls her deep vocals over a bluesy keyboard riff. Some of the crowd shout and wave their hands in the air, while others listen intently. Oh, and it's Monday night.

It's been exactly one year since Orii (meaning 'soul' in Yoruba) held its first open jam. Taking place at Colour Factory in Hackney Wick, it sees musicians of all skill sets play impromptu, the sounds of jazz, soul, hip hop and R&B warping into one. Some of the crowd are here to swap out with the house band and perform. Others are

on first dates. Others are there to big up their pals, or simply to soak up the vibe. 'Musicians wanted a space to reconnect and play together after lockdown,' says founder Fred Bwelle, aka Neue Grafik. The weekly sessions have grown substantially, mostly by word of mouth. Thundercat made a surprise appearance last year. 'Last week, two Brazilian musicians showed up and we did a big bossa nova track,' says Bwelle. 'Each jam has its own personality.'

Tara Lily, a jazz singer and pianist from south London, has been posting TikToks of the jams – including her cover of Miles Davis's 'Blue in Green' with a hip hop makeover and new lyrics. 'People really have a chance to get up and play at

Orii compared to other jams, so it has a lot of mad energy,' Lily says. 'I like being able to perform with people like myself who are young, broke and adventurous, and can push the boundaries.'

Orii isn't the only weekday jam in town; the scene is thriving. Bwelle took inspiration from Steam Down Weekly at Matchstick Piehouse in Deptford. In Hackney, there's Patterns at NT's Loft, the women and queer-focused Popola Jam at The Jago, Ariwo's Afro Cuban electronica jams at Grow plus a hell of a lot more. So, if you're bored of your usual Deliveroo curry and Gogglebox re-runs during the week, get on down to a jam session. ■ *Chiara Wilkinson*

→ Orii Community is at Colour Factory each Mon. £7 on the door.

HYPE DISH

Zahter's syrupy-sweet pistachio baklava

DISSECTION

What goes into the London plates that everyone bangs on about

'WHEN IT'S PISTACHIO season in Turkey, they're sold in bazaars everywhere and we'd eat fresh ones straight from the trees,' says Esra Muslu, founder of Turkish restaurant Zahter, just off Carnaby Street. Muslu learned to cook by helping her grandma in the kitchen.

'Her baklava was made with walnuts and she'd cut it into turtle shapes,' Muslu says. 'People love the pistachio version so much: they always order a second portion. That makes me so happy.' ■
Chiara Wilkinson
→ 30-32 Foubert's Place, W1F 7PS. £9.70.

The texture

'We cut the baklava into pieces before cooking. The top is crunchy, buttery and nutty, but the bottom becomes sweet and juicy thanks to the syrup.'

The cream

'We put clotted cream on top to cut through the sugar and add richness. It helps to balance the flavours - I can't eat anything that sweet without some.'

The pastry

'We make the dough using double zero flour and roll it with a thin oklava pin into 20 thin layers. Clarified butter goes between each layer before it's baked in the oven.'

The syrup

'We make a syrup using a simple one-to-one ratio of sugar and water, adding lemon juice for a nice acidity and smell. It bubbles up really quickly when we pour it on top.'

The nuts

'Pistachio dust goes in the middle for a nutty creaminess, as well as whole ones for texture. We buy ours from Turkey: if you don't use good ones, you won't get the flavour.' ■



KENSINGTON HIGH ST W8

THE STREET THAT CHANGED MY LIFE

'Bridgerton' actor *Rupert Young* on finding his feet as a performer

I LEARNED TO swim, hung out with my friends and even got my heart broken at a disco, all on Kensington High Street. It's the street where I started performing as a child and the place that got the ball rolling in my career. I ended up being part of the Christmas concert at our local church, then was asked to do a solo when I was about six. This street has been in and around my life for as long as I can remember.

Similar to the way I've grown up, the street has also changed. I remember a quiet alleyway that was next to Gap, where I used to work. Sometimes I would sit there and have lunch, and one day I put an apple sticker on a pipe. That sticker stayed there for about 12 years: I would walk past and always see it. Then, one day, I passed by and it had been completely covered up. The building had been remodelled. It was definitely needed, but I remember feeling like it was a monumental day when the sticker finally disappeared. At the time I was applying to drama school, so it was a significant moment to walk back and see that the sticker had gone after my career had finally taken off. ■ *Interview by Sarah Novas*

→ You can catch Rupert Young on stage in 'Dear Evan Hansen' at the Noël Coward Theatre.

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HOW GREEN IS IT REALLY



Elizabeth Line

It's finally here. We ask experts how good the Lizzy Line is for the planet

So, it cost £18.9 billion. Hopefully this huge project will have *some* environmental benefits.

It should do. 'It could move people out of cars when cycling wouldn't be an option,' says Helena Titheridge, professor of mobility and sustainable transport at UCL. '[But] over the last couple of years, the number of people travelling into London has fallen. In hindsight, it might have been better to invest in the cycle network or an outer London rail link in the suburbs, where the infrastructure is quite poor.'

How does it compare to other transport options?

Crossrail estimates it will use about 32g of CO₂ per passenger-kilometre, compared to about 41g for domestic rail and 170g for single-occupancy cars. Not bad. Crossrail is powered off the National Grid, run by the government. If that used more renewable sources, that figure could be lower.

Got it. What about carbon use from construction?

'The Elizabeth Line is going to pay back its construction carbon,' says Rob Paris, former head of sustainability and consents at Crossrail. 'The trains are energy-efficient, with regenerative braking. And around 99.6 percent of excavated material from the construction was beneficially reused.' However, Titheridge says that part of this estimated carbon payback was based on moving people from diesel to electric trains, which could have happened even *without* Crossrail.

The verdict

For a construction project of this size, it's a pretty impressive feat. Cycling and walking are obviously preferable transport options, but don't worry too much. We won't judge if you don't fancy the 16-hour hike from Reading to Woolwich. ■

Sarath Novas and Chiara Wilkinson

MADE IN LONDON

These small-batch marbled soaps by **Tula Louise** are carefully hand-poured, cut and stamped in east London. From patchouli and peppermint to rose geranium, each bar is 100 percent vegan and cruelty-free. *Lottie Keys*

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WORD ON THE STREET

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

'I love cheese, but mac 'n' cheese is too cheesy for me.'

'You don't just make meatballs at 5am.'

'I failed the website security quiz.'

'Does anyone have a PR contact for the Queen?'

'It's religious, but in a saucy sort of way.'

'The Victoria line smells really good.'

'It's a bit stringy, but it does the job.'

'Pickling has gone too far.'

'I can't think of any famous puppets.'

'Have you heard of Tinder?'

'I think I've traumatised my pumpkins.'

'Sometimes you've gotta sit in a tree and have a pint.'

'She's obsessed with licking salt lamps.'

Overheard something weird? Tweet us #wordonthestreet @timeoutlondon

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Live the Jubilee like a real queen

There's a royal banquet of fun this extra-long bank holiday, from twee corgi parties to five-day ragers. We pick 70 of the best things to do and get pro tips on pacing yourself. *Modelmaking Wilfrid Wood. Styling Louise Mason. Photography Jess Hand*

Hang out somewhere almost as fancy as Buckingham Palace

1 Head to Hampton Court Palace for the **Jubilee Joust**, a proper old-school competition with knights on horseback (though thankfully not national treasures Sir Ian McKellen and Sir Patrick Stewart).
→ Hampton Court Palace. Jun 1-5. £26.10.

2 Pretend the royals are your bezzie mates at **'Life Through a Royal Lens'**, a collection of intimate family portraits spanning more than 200 years, housed in The Duke and Duchess of Cambridge's official residence.
→ Kensington Palace. Until Oct 30. £20.

3 Take in a fragrant tribute to Her Majesty at the Tower of London's **'Superbloom'**. To mark her 70 years on the throne, the moat that surrounds the

historic building has been filled with tens of thousands of wild flowers to create a spectacular, summer-long display.

→ Tower of London. Jun 1-Sep 18. £12.

4 Swing by the **Southbank Centre** for five days of irreverent Jubilee parties and performances including Duckie's 'Official' and 'Alternative' Royal Command Performances and a screening of Danny Boyle's new Sex Pistols series. There's also an In Conversation event with the Oscar-winning Danny himself.

→ Southbank Centre. Jun 1-5. Prices vary.

5 Greenwich's magnificent Old Royal Naval College has played a starring role in royalty-centric telly series and blockbuster films including 'The Crown' and 'The King's Speech'. Find out more on its **Platinum Jubilee Tours**, alongside tales of the kings and queens who've partied, lived and died in the royal borough over the past 500 years.

→ Old Royal Naval College. Jun 2-5. £7.

ACT LIKE A QUEEN

London's *other* royalty have enough glitz, smarts and camp to give Liz a run for her money. Heed their words



6

Gwendoline Jones
Pearly Queen of Royal Greenwich

'Don't let your history die. Get to know London's traditions. I like to do the Lambeth Walk, and eat pie and mash or jellied eels. Tourists look at me and say: "Are you the Queen?" and I say: "I'm the Queen of London. Let's leave it at that."'



7

Rehema Muthamia
Miss England

'If you want to be a queen, just go for it! I was always interested in the glitz and glam of beauty pageants growing up, but I didn't see myself represented. But now, little girls come up to me and want to try my tiara on, and my friends joke that I'm the second Queen of England.'



8

Paisley Billings
Queen Anna of Cleves in 'Six the Musical'

'To feel like a queen, you just have to love yourself loads. Positive talk and self-love. Queen tings. I'll be performing this Jubilee weekend and I can't wait. The lights, the vibes, everyone's singing along - it's just hype.'



9

Just May Drag queen

'Get yourself some black eyeliner, cheap heels and a ratty wig and you're good to go: that's how anyone can feel like a queen this Jubilee. Me and Lizzy, we're tight. Only while she's riding in carriages and eating swans I'm getting 2am Ubers and a bag of chips.'

PA/5 PEARLY QUEEN, QUEEN ANNA, DRAG QUEEN: JESS HAND; BEAUTY QUEEN: BEN ROWE; GORING: BEN CARPENTER



The Goring
Jubilee tea

Enjoy a feast fit for a queen

10 Tuck into a three-course pub meal in Clapham that begins with coronation-chicken sausage rolls at **The Royal Jubilee Supper Club**. The price includes 90 minutes' worth of bottomless Pimm's and 'Ju-bellinis'.
→ The Little Orange Door. Jun 1-3. £47.50.

11 Treat yourself to **The Jubilee Afternoon Tea** at The Goring, the closest hotel to Buckingham Palace and a long-time favourite haunt of 'the firm'.
→ The Goring. Until Sep 1. From £60.

12 Attend a super-exclusive street party in the **The Stafford's** secluded, cobbled courtyard. This is Mayfair, *darling*, so the menu is packed with swanky takes on classic finger food including quail scotch eggs.
→ The Stafford. Jun 5. £80.

13 Nosh on a three-course Jubilee brunch at **Aqua Shard**, featuring spectacular views over London and cocktails decked with crown decorations.
→ Aqua Shard. Jun 2-3. £49-£67.

14 Channel Elizabeth II's ancestor King Henry VIII by tucking into a **bottomless Sunday roast**. No one will judge you for turning your plate into a moat of gravy. For once.
→ Drake & Morgan at King's Cross. Jun 4. Prices vary.

PRO SURVIVAL TIPS

Ollie Templeton Head chef, Carousel

'The best way to power through? Pop down to the office for overpriced craft beer, then food, and lots of it. I like to go for tasty frozen Chinese food. Spice and fat always help to cure a hangover.'



JUBILEE- THEMED COCKTAILS

15

The Queen's Teapot

If the Queen deigned to sip cocktails, she might well opt for this gin-based brew, scented with bergamot, and served with dainty cucumber sandwiches.

→ The Little Yellow Door. £50.

16

Ich Bin ein Berliner

Pay homage to the royals' Teutonic roots with this cocktail, made with German Monkey 47 gin and finished with grapefruit. It apparently is meant to symbolise the reinvigoration of Anglo-German relations after WWII.

→ Radio Rooftop. £20.

17

The Sour-Faced Prince Charles

Purse your lips like you've spent decades waiting for your spot on the throne over this acid concoction of bourbon, bitters, lemon and lime.

→ Little Nan's Bar. £10.

THINGS NOT TO SAY

18

'The Queen's Jubilee celebration is actually being held at the Pizza Express in Woking.'

19

'Tea parties have been proven to improve class mobility and quality of life.'

20

'It must be so hard to escape royal pressures. How do you unwind when attending parties, dinners and travelling the world is your job?'

21

'I think they really need a new Royal Yacht.'

22

'They actually bring in more money in tourism than they spend on sexual assault lawsuits.'

23

'Brexit was Meghan's fault.'



Kings & Queens

Sink a pint at a right royal piss-up

24 Pick from an all-British tap list at Brick Lane bottle shop **Kill the Cat's** street party, which promises bunting, costume prizes and craft brews galore.
→ 43 Brick Lane. Jun 2-4. £12.50.

25 Sip a pint by the silvery Thames at **Riverside Beer Festival**, which offers a global selection of brews, plus street food and live music as the sun sets.
→ Greenwich Peninsula. Jun 2-4. £50.

26 'EastEnders' fans will be thrilled by artist Stanley Shtinter's installation **'The Lock-in'**, which loops together 100 hours of pub-based footage from the series. Watch it with a pint at Bethnal Green's **The Queen Adelaide**.
→ 483 Hackney Rd. Jun 3. Free entry.

27 Camden Town Brewery is launching its Jolly Good Liz lager at a **Jolly Good Jubilee Party** knees-up in its decorated beer hall in Kentish Town, alongside the chance to decorate your own can.
→ Camden Beer Hall. Jun 5. £12.

28 Combine pups and pints at the **Queen's Corgilee: Corgi Garden Party** in Hackney Wick, which offers discounted tickets if you bring an actual corgi with you.
→ Barge East. Jun 2. £12.

PRO SURVIVAL TIPS

Hannah Crosbie
Founder - Dalston Wine Club

'I never want to be 100 percent drunk or 100 percent sober. I suggest a tiny meal every three hours: El Pastor tacos or the noodle ice cream from Sup Ya Ramen.'



Make like the Queen of the Night at a Jubilee rave

29 Dance to beats harder than Prince Charles's arteries at **The Queer's Platinum Jubilee**, a drum and bass night in Shoreditch with an all-LGBTQ+ line-up.
→ Village Underground. Jun 3. £19.

30 Bop with body-positivity activists at Club Indulge's **Alternative Jubilee! Plus Size & Fat Liberation Club Night** near Tower Hill. Fancy dress isn't obligatory, but they're inviting you to 'get your tiaras out for the lads'.
→ The Windsor. Jun 4. £10.

31 Enjoy live music, DJ sets and loads of great food and drink at **Queenie's Big Bank Holiday Bash**, a five-day rager at Walthamstow's Exale Brewery.
→ Exale Brewery. Jun 1-5. Free.

32 Get down to hip hop, afrobeats, bashment, R&B and afrofusion at Stratford's **Kings & Queens** outdoor daytime party.
→ Pitch Stratford. Jun 2. From £15.

33 Groove to acid house at electro collective Ritmo's **Platinum Jubilee Arch Rave**, which'll mix beats with the rumble of trains passing overhead.
→ Bermondsey Social Club. Jun 4. £10-£15.

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37 Iced biscuits

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Get together with real queens at a drag party

38 Get your dauber out at **Drag Queen Bingo**. It's hosted by camp callers Timberlina and Auntie Maureen in the Grade II-listed Victorian conservatory of Forest Hill's historic Horniman Museum. → Horniman Museum and Gardens. Jun 5. £2.50.

39 Make for Shoreditch hotel Mama Shelter's **Tea with the Queen**: a three-course dinner, bottomless bubbles and an audience with HRH Miss Demeanour. → Mama Shelter. £35-£40.

40 Party with a teeming line-up of drag stars at outdoor Clapham shindig **Kingdom of Queens**, which is serving up frozen cocktails and festival vibes. → Arch Clapham. £15.

41 Higher than a drag queen's heels, Roof East's **Royal Rooftop Jubilee Jaunt** offers fun and games galore,

including lipsyncing and a 'sexiest dad' contest. So you can feel elevated, then dragged back down to the gutter. → Roof East. £38

42 Watch drag homages to pop royalty (as well as the actual Queen) at **West End Drag Brunch: Jubilee Queens of Pop** in the City. There's a bottomless-booze option if you're feeling especially jubilant. → The Folly. Jun 4. From £54.95.

Try a random royal-themed activity

43 Have a brunch to remember at London's first ever **Corgi Café**, down in Southwark. It's even hired a 'puparazzi' to take Insta-ready snaps of you and your four-legged friends. → Refinery Bankside. May 29. £13.75.

44 Party like it's 1959 at **A Platinum Playlist: Jubilee Special** at the Gunnersbury Park Museum. This concert

is packed with famous classical pieces as well as rock 'n' roll songs from the many decades of the Queen's epic reign. → Gunnersbury Park Museum. Jun 4-5. Free.

45 The same venue is putting on a **Learn to Jive 1950s Style** shindig in its Rothschild Rooms. All ages and abilities are welcome: bring a partner or pair up when you get there. → Gunnersbury Park Museum. Jun 2-3. Free.

46 Bop to top '50s tunes in Hackney at the **London Jubilee Jump**. Don't worry if you've got no moves, because Jive Swing, the dance club organising it all, is laying on free dance classes. → Columbia Rd. Jun 2. Free.

47 Burlesque star Miss Fallon Dee is performing a **saucy '50s-inspired dance** in the window of Covent Garden lingerie boutique Coco de Mer. Join her afterwards for a masterclass that'll teach you to disrobe even more regally than Liz herself did after her coronation. → 23 Monmouth St. Jun 4. £15.

PRO SURVIVAL TIPS

Jun Tanaka
Chef-founder, The Ninth
'The juice from pickled cucumbers is great for a hangover. I love pickles, so I always have a jar or two in the larder. It's best served chilled.'



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'Crown and Conflict'

Level up your royal knowledge

48 Pop into the Imperial War Museum for **'Crown and Conflict: Portraits of a Queen in Wartime'**. It will trace the then Princess Elizabeth's experience of WWII through film, photography and poignant personal artefacts.

→ Imperial War Museum. May 27-Jan 8 2023. Free.

49 Head to Oxo Tower's riverside art gallery to see Elizabeth II portrayed in tattoos or with Louis Vuitton-patterned robes at **'Art Save the Queen'**, which offers some leftfield visual perspectives on her 70 years on the throne.

→ Gallery@oxo. Jun 2-12. Free entry.

50 Pore over royal memorabilia at **Sir John Soane's Museum** in Lincoln's Inn Fields. It's putting items on loan from the public on display, so expect to see at least one Charles & Diana commemorative wedding mug, tray and tea towel.

→ Sir John Soane's Museum. May 25-Jun 26. Free.

51 Explore the relationship between the Queen's ancestors and the City of London on the two-hour-long **A Right Royal City** walking tour.

→ City Information Centre. Until Sep 30. £12.

52 Join lecturer Rosa Somerville for a short tour of royal-themed items called **'The Order of the Garter and Other Royal Insignia'** at The Wallace Collection in Marylebone, one of London's loveliest galleries.

→ The Wallace Collection. Jun 4. Free.

PRO
SURVIVAL
TIPS

Fergus Henderson

Co-founder, St John

'After a night of overindulgence, try the cocktail we call Dr Henderson.'

'My dad passed down to me this excellent potion of Fernet Branca and Crème de Menthe.'



Escape the madness at these totally Jubilee-free places

66 Pay homage to the UK's biggest ever anti-royalist by visiting the **Statue of Oliver Cromwell** in Westminster. Play your cards right, and you too could execute a king someday.

→ House of Commons. Free

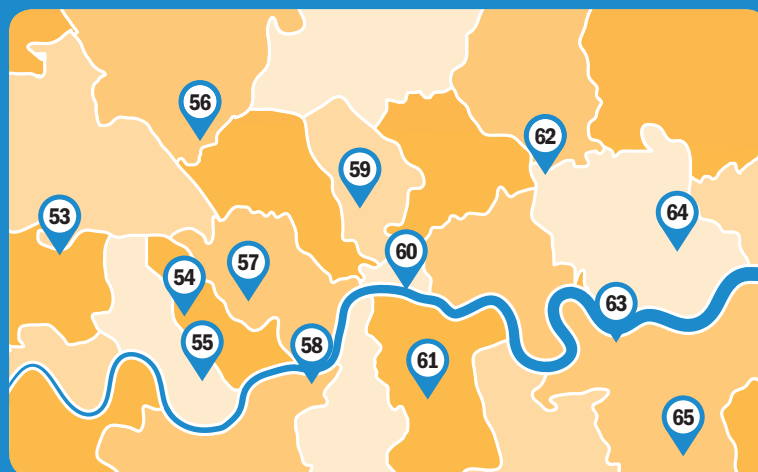
67 Imbibe the guillotine-happy spirit of France right in the middle of Piccadilly Circus at **Brasserie Zedel**. Neck vin rouge and dig into a raw-pink steak tartare and you'll be singing revolutionary battle hymn 'La Marseillaise' before the night is out.

→ 20 Sherwood St.

More celebrations for the long weekend at [timeout.com/jubilee](https://www.timeout.com/jubilee)

FIND YOUR STREET PARTY

Celebrate outdoors at these community knees-ups



53 Jubilee Dance Party

Wembley Park. Jun 4. Free.

54 Celebrating 70 Years

Gloucester Square Gardens. Jun 11. £10.

55 Abingdon Platinum Jubilee Street Party

Abingdon Rd. Jun 2. £10.

56 Westminster Chapel Street Party

Castle Lane. Jun 5. Free.

57 Mayfair Platinum Jubilee Party

North Audley St. Jun 2-3. Free.

58 Lodge Lane Platinum Jubilee Street Party

42 Lodge Lane. Jun 5. Free.

59 Islington Square Street Party

Islington Square. Jun 3. From £7.50

60 Platinum Jubilee Celebrations at Spitalfields

Bishops Square. Jun 1-5. Free.

61 Bankside Open Spaces Festival

Red Cross Garden. Jun 3. Free.

62 The Platinum Mela

Flanders Playing Fields. Jun 3. Free.

63 St Luke's Church Jubilee Summer Party

Ruscoe Road. Jun 5. Free.

64 Platinum Jubilee in Leytonstone

St John's Churchyard. Jun 4. Free.

65 Platinum Picnic in the Park

Charlton Park. Jun 3. Free.

→ For more details of Jubilee street parties, visit

www.timeout.com/streetparties.

68 Prince Charles famously despises brutalist architecture, so defy him by enjoying the concrete jungle that is the **Barbican Centre**. See some art he'd hate while you're there at 'Postwar Modern: New Art in Britain 1945-1965'.

→ Silk Street. £18, £13 concs

69 Anarchists and radical types gather in King's Cross at **Housman's Bookshop**: browse its shelves and you'll find titles like 'Black Ghost of Empire' or 'Green Unpleasant Land'.

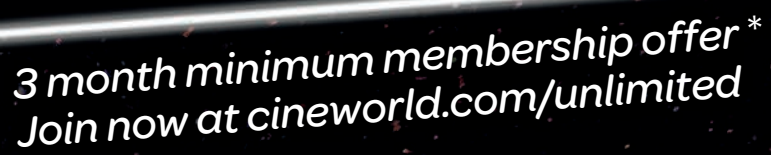
→ 5 Caledonian Rd.

70 Shut out the world altogether in a floatation tank at **Floatworks Angel**, where you'll be immersed in total darkness and silence. Shame the sessions don't last four days, really. Joking. ■

→ 21 Essex Rd. £55.

By Alice Saville, Nick Levine, Sarath Novas and India Lawrence

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C I N E M A S

Love Local

Edited by Georgia Evans
timeout.com/lovelocal

Greenwich's new LGBTQ+ cultural space

In the first of two pieces of LGBTQ+ good news, Queercircle focuses on stronger links between culture and wellbeing. Over the page, we find the RVT is live and kicking as ever

QUEERCIRCLE IS THE kind of place its founder Ashley Joiner craved when they arrived in London 15 years ago. While making their documentary 'Are You Proud?' in 2016, they met Andrew Lumsden, a member of the Gay Liberation Front. He convinced them to set up a five-day event celebrating LGBTQ+ artists in a holistic setting. Its success prompted years of consultation, workshops and conversations about how to recreate the experience long term. It soon became clear Queercircle needed a physical space.

It found its place in the Design District of North Greenwich, and is a free-to-enter space that champions talent within the LGBTQ+ community while giving people the opportunity to meet up and organise. 'One of the reasons for building it is to ensure younger people coming to the city have a space and a network of people they can connect with,' says Joiner. 'Not just in a professional capacity but on a personal level.'

Art, of course, is key. Queercircle will host its first exhibition, with Michaela Yearwood-Dan, from June 9 to September 8. 'Michaela's work will embrace the community as they come in,' Joiner says. 'I wanted to create an environment where we could start from a place of joy.'

Running concurrently, 'The Queens' Jubilee' will showcase archives of the radical drag queens of the Gay Liberation Front and coincide with the fiftieth anniversary of the first Pride march.

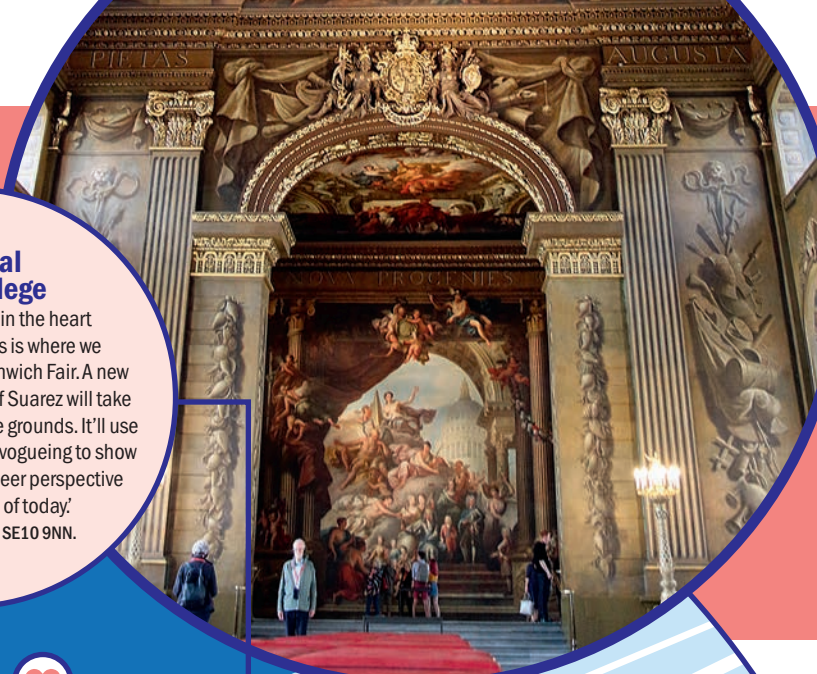
For the future, Joiner hopes to create cross-generational relationships at Queercircle as well as political change. 'Learning from the community over the next 12 months will be pivotal for our development,' they say. 'Big picture: we're looking to diversify the arts and culture sector, develop a health and wellbeing programme to fight the cuts to

services, and ensure our community is looked after.' ■ Georgia Evans

→ Building 4, 3 Barton Yard, Soames Walk. queercircle.org



Welcome back. Tube it. Bus it. Train it.



Old Royal Naval College

'Our offices are right in the heart of Greenwich, and this is where we present our annual Greenwich Fair. A new production from House of Suarez will take place on the Naval College grounds. It'll use contemporary dance and voguing to show a uniquely Black and queer perspective on the Greenwich of today.'
→ King William Walk, SE10 9NN.

Uber Boat (from Greenwich to Woolwich)

'You can take in amazing riverscapes and get a view of the Naval College but also see odd and interesting sights like the Thames Barrier and the Royal Docks – as well as all the wildlife. There's a bar too, so you can have a glass of wine as you're going along.'
→ Greenwich Pier, SE10 9HT.

Ben Oakley Gallery

'It's a beautiful gallery in Greenwich Market that focuses on outsider art. We worked with Ben to mark the fiftieth anniversary of the decriminalisation of homosexuality in 2017. He created rainbow-coloured love locks from acetate. Throughout the day, people filled in messages on the back before they were fixed on to the gates of the Old Royal Naval College.'
→ 9 Turnpin Lane, SE10 9JA.

Made in Greenwich

'I love it because you walk in and find all these locally made ceramics, pictures and gifts. It's a little treasure trove of work made in Greenwich. I always go in to buy thank-you cards for all the artists and guest companies who perform at Greenwich+Docklands International Festival.'
→ 324 Creek Rd, SE10 9SW.

GREENWICH PARK

The Point

'Everybody goes to the top of the hill in Greenwich Park, but few people know about this site, which has an equally beautiful view across south-east and east London. There's also a touching WWII memorial where an Australian pilot was shot down and crashed there.'
→ Point Hill, SE10 8QW.

Greenwich



Picked by *Bradley Hemmings*, founder and artistic director of Greenwich+Docklands International Festival





Royal Vauxhall Tavern

'A legendary LGBTQ+ venue. It's home to nights as eclectic as Duckie - I've been going for 20 years - Beef Mince, BarWot and Solve-Along-a Murder, She Wrote. The RVT has fended off several greedy developers, and became the first venue to be listed sui generis by Historic England for its significance to queer history in the UK.'

→ 372 Kennington Lane, SE11 5HY.

Above The Stag

'I feel pride that the UK's only dedicated LGBTQ+ theatre is in Vauxhall. As well as the main house, there's a snazzy cabaret lounge. They've also added a terrace and refurbished the bar.'

→ 72 Albert Embankment, SE1 7TP.

Brunswick House

'This is one of London's most beautiful dining rooms - dripping with chandeliers. I've been coming here since it opened about a decade ago, and the magic never wears off. The food is modern British and always thrilling.'

→ 30 Wandsworth Rd, SW8 2LG.

Larkhall Park

'What I really love about Larkhall Park is that it feels like it belongs to the community. It's not famous or pretty enough for anyone outside of the area to choose to visit, so park users are usually families, groups of friends or local sports teams kicking a ball about.'

→ Courland Grove, SW8 2PX.

District

'This Aussie-style all-day café and brunch spot in Embassy Gardens does a "Brekkie Bun" - with eggs, bacon, rocket and chutney on a soft roll - that can see off any hangover.'

→ 7 New Union Square, SW11 7DN.

The Surprise

'When I moved to my current flat, I scoped out my nearest pubs. The Surprise didn't seem the most promising one. It felt like it belonged to its regulars: multiple screens showing multiple sports and a darts league that often took over the back room didn't scream "Newcomers welcome!" But once in, I found a warm welcome and a great selection of snacks (I couldn't love a pub that didn't stock Scampi Fries).'

→ 16 Southville, SW8 2PP.

Vauxhall



Picked by food podcaster *Hugh Smithson-Wright* ('Hugh's Joy ofFood')

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Time Out's Love Local campaign supports local food, drink and culture businesses in London. Find out how you can help the places that make our city great.
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Disability-positive drag in Vauxhall

Disabled, Queer and Hear shines an inclusive spotlight on the area's performers



'DISABLED, NOT INVISIBLE' – this is the mantra that has motivated Disabled, Queer and Hear founder Wayne Allingham throughout his drag career.

Also known as Sugar Cube, Allingham hasn't let his degenerative hemiplegia and learning difficulties get in the way of his love for performing. That's despite often feeling like an outsider in the community.

In 2018, Allingham decided to create Disabled, Queer and Hear to promote inclusivity at drag venues across the country. With each show that he hosts, Allingham's intention is to break down barriers and remove stigma for disabled queer performers.

'Being a disabled person is thought to be a burden on society, plus a lot of disabled folk have lost their confidence and feel like they haven't got a safe space,' Allingham explains. 'Disabled, Queer and Hear gives the disabled community a place where they can enjoy a night out with their friends and feel empowered.'

Allingham's project was born in the iconic Royal Vauxhall Tavern. He thinks of the former Victorian music hall-turned-gay stalwart (and accessible venue) his 'second home'.

In March, the RVT hosted Allingham's perception-smashing LGBTQ+ Disabled Artist of the Year event. It saw dozens of disabled

performers competing for the coveted title. The event was fully inclusive, with wheelchair access, accessible disabled toilets, Braille menus and a British Sign Language interpreter.

'The energy was electric. There is so much love in the LGBTQ+ disabled community,' he says. 'I find it really empowering to give other disabled artists a platform in this public way.'

'Performing gives us the opportunity to show the world that we are human beings. Just because we have a disability, it doesn't mean we're going to stop or slow down.'

Sarah Green

→ Royal Vauxhall Tavern, 372 Kennington Lane, SE11 5HY.

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Roka Aldwych

What is it? Bottomless brunch in a posh setting.

Why go? You'll get ten small plates, a main and a dessert platter. It's a good excuse to brush your hair, put something on that hasn't got food stains on it and act like the baller you always wished you could be.

Wait, how much? You'll get 22 percent off (so just £52) with free-flowing bubbles and wines included.

→ 71 Aldwych. www.timeout.com/roka52



Leong's Legend

What is it? Bottomless dim sum and a glass of bubbly.

Why go? Undo the top button of your jeans and get stuck into a belly-busting selection of Taiwanese pork buns, 'supreme' crab meat xiao long bao and plenty more from the Legend-ary Chinatown restaurant.

Wait, how much? You have 40 items of food to choose from for just £22. That's like £1.80 per dish.

→ 39 Gerrard St.

www.timeout.com/leongs22

Goddard & Gibbs

What is it? A swish new British restaurant specialising in seafood.

Why go? Firstly, it's an exclusive. So you can sit there smugly, knowing you're paying less than all the other suckers around you. It also serves up some pretty good grub – think steamed mussels, beef onglet and smoked salmon. Yum.

Wait, how much? Three courses and a glass of fizz for £25? Go on then.

→ 100 Shoreditch High St.

www.timeout.com/goddardgibbs

The Gate

What is it? Elevated vegan and vegetarian cuisine.

Why go? The food is so good that it'll wow stubborn carnivores, even if you have to drag them here kicking and screaming. They'll soon settle down with a beet burger and forget what all the fuss was about.

Wait, how much? Save 40 percent on three courses and a glass of wine, making it just £25 per person.

→ Hammersmith, Islington and Marylebone.

www.timeout.com/gate22

National Geographic Traveller Food Festival

What is it? A big weekend of big eats.

Why go? Love travelling and picking at food like an uncool, British Anthony Bourdain? This is the event for you. Experience a celebration of culinary curiosities with critics and big-name chefs hosting masterclasses and workshops.

Wait, how much? Just £12, so cheaper than a plane ticket at least.

→ Business Design Centre.

www.timeout.com/natgeotraveller

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Things to Do

Edited by Rosie Hewitson
timeout.com/thingstodo @timeoutlondon



Touch the hem of Putney Jesus

Music fests

S 🌞 **Wide Awake**

A relative newcomer to Brockwell Park's packed out summer festival schedule, Wide Awake bills itself as a 'musical melting pot', and it's not hard to see why. Dance duo Bicep and ageing rockers Primal Scream headline over the first two-day edition alongside an eclectic bunch of top acts ranging from Peckham punks Fat White Family and Leeds rockers Yard Act to deep house DJ Leon Vynehall and electronic producer Floating Points.
→ Brockwell Park. May 27-28. From £35.

S 🌞 **City Splash Festival**

This one-day south London festival celebrates the influence of African and Caribbean music on British culture through sets from an array of international artists, including

Afrobeats hitmaker Mr Eazi, veteran dancehall artist Barrington Levy and Jamaican reggae legend Sister Nancy. Black Eats LDN will be handling the food, so expect mouth-watering dishes from more than 40 of the finest Black-owned food traders in the city, ranging from banging jerk chicken and fried plantain to curried goat and ital stew.
→ Brockwell Park. May 29. From £35.

S 🌞 **Gala**

This independent dance music-heavy three-day in Peckham Rye Park was one of the first festivals to return post-lockdown. So naturally it sold out in seconds. This year, its house and techno-heavy roster includes Dan Shake, Bradley Zero, Nia Archives, Horse Meat Disco

and Shanti Celeste, while live instrumental acts like Children of Zeus, Sons of Kemet and Ezra Collective's Joe Armon-Jones bring the jazzy vibes.
→ Peckham Rye Park. Jun 2-4. From £60.

S 🌞 **Mighty Hoopla**

In its short few years of existence Mighty Hoopla has become a kind of de facto opening ceremony for Pride Month and a wonderful antidote to the city's more studious festivals. It expands to two days for the first time this year, with Steps, Jamelia, Sugababes and Anastacia all featuring on the typically nostalgic and pop-centric line-up. There'll also be a healthy dose of camp and cabaret from the likes of Blu Hydrangea, The

Cocoa Butter Club, London Gay Men's Chorus, The Bitten Peach and Charity Shop Sue. Excuse me laydeh!

→ Brockwell Park. Jun 3-4. From £49.50.

S 🌞 **Cross the Tracks**

This new Brocky P fest may have only been around for a couple of years, but it's already making waves thanks to its tasteful, groove-heavy curation across soul, funk and jazz, and the proper care it takes with selecting the food and bevvy offerings. This year's festival features headline sets from legendary radio DJ Gilles Peterson, south London singer-songwriter Joy Crookes and psychedelic Texan trio Khruangbin, alongside a craft beer fair organised by the London Brewers' Market, an independent creatives' market and even on-site yoga and wellness sessions. Neat.
→ Brockwell Park. Jun 5. From £59.50.





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Pub in the Park

Foodie fests

S 🍷 Pub in the Park

'Great British Menu' judge Tom Kerridge brings his travelling celebration of pub grub to Wimbledon. London foodie faves – including Atul Kochhar, Angela Hartnett, Hoppers and Cue Point – will be cooking up a storm as part of an epic roster of restaurants and gastropubs creating dishes for the festival. There'll be plenty of live demos where you can brush up on your chef skills. And the music's not too shabby either: Basement Jaxx, Soul II Soul and a DJ set from Faithless feature in the line-up. Tasty stuff.

→ Wimbledon Park. May 27-29. From £43.40.

W 🍷 The Rosé Festival

An unrivalled line-up of wine producers will be in town for this summery new vino fest. Guests will be able to sample loads of delicious plonk as well as enjoying paired tasting menus, 'pinknics' and live music in the leafy surroundings of Fulham Palace's picturesque gardens. Pink wine is dazzlingly sophisticated now. You heard it here first!

→ Fulham Palace. May 27-29. From £25.



Culture fests

N 🎧 The Podcast Show

Whether you're addicted to podcasts, have your own podcast or are merely convinced that you and the lads would have a major hit if you ever did get round to making one, there's something for you at this new international festival. It features more than 150 panels, talks and live podcast recordings. An eclectic bunch of top audio creators will be there, including Louis Theroux, Annie Mac, Gary Lineker, BBC presenter Emily Maitlis and activist Munroe Bergdorf.

→ Business Design Centre. May 25-26. From £30.

T TEDxSoho

Singer-songwriter Tom Odell, poet and anti-gang activist Karl Lokko, Bafta-nominated actor Ray Panthaki and Hollywood star Michael Sheen feature on the bill for TED's first Soho talk series.

You almost definitely know what's in store by now. Expect to hear some powerful, fascinating and inspiring words of wisdom that may well cause you to shed the odd tear.

→ Cambridge Theatre. May 30. From £55.

WHAT'S YOUR THING?

Jack Rooke

The funny dude behind Channel 4's new coming-of-age comedy 'Big Boys' chats to *India Lawrence* about his favourite stuff in London right now

'I Don't Know Why I'm Crying'

'This is by Maude, which is a great, weird, queer performance company who make absurdist camp satires. And CPT is one of London's most supportive venues for new acts.'

→ Camden People's Theatre. Jun 1-2. From £10.

The Last Word

'The Roundhouse is where a lot of London creatives start out. It does amazing things for young people, like this annual spoken word festival. I'm running a workshop on TV writing at this year's festival.'

→ Roundhouse.

Until Jun 23. Prices vary.



Pleasant Lady

'This is a little Chinese stall in Old Spitalfields Market. It does jianbings, which are part crêpe, part omelette. They are honestly the yummiest snacks I have ever eaten in my entire life.'

→ Old Spitalfields Market.

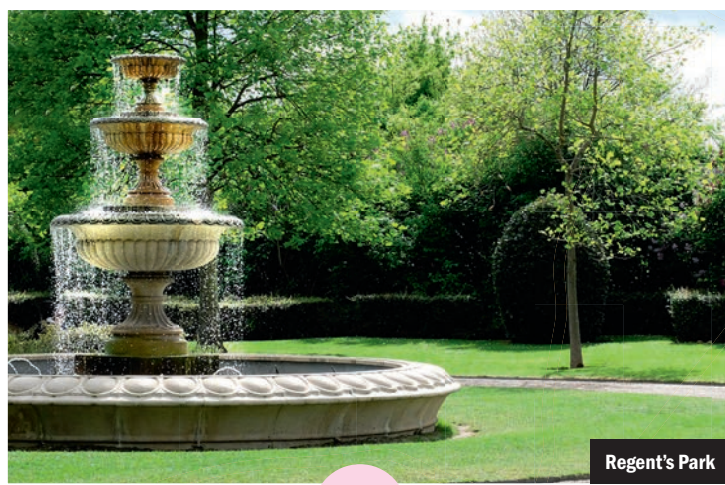
London LGBTQ+ Community Centre

'I just think it's quite cool to have a really solid LGBTQ space in London.'

→ 60-62 Hopton St, SE1 9JH.

Big Boys is on Channel 4 from May 26





Regent's Park

An Eye for... Wellness

Get a welcome change of scene with a restorative ride in a pod on the London Eye

How long do you spend staring at a screen every day? Be honest. Last year Uswitch revealed that the average person in the UK spends over 12 hours daily doing just that, which can negatively affect your mental health. Well, we're calling for a time out. Immerse yourself in the beauty our fair capital has to offer from one of the best spots in town – the lastminute.com London Eye. From 135 metres high, moving at a leisurely 26cm/second, you'll gain a fresh perspective on the city while unwinding from the stress of the day. On a clear day, you'll breathe easier after seeing just how verdant London is, with thousands of parks stretching as far as the eye can see. Step into your pod, take a big, deep breath in and out, and for the next half an hour, just let yourself soar, taking in these soul-nourishing details as you go...

Green spaces

Despite being dubbed the Big Smoke, our capital is surprisingly green. There are 3,000 parks, which is almost 18 percent of the entire city. That's more than roads and rail combined, which is a pleasant fact to meditate on while gazing over a considerable chunk of them. As the big wheel turns, you'll see **St James's Park** to the west – home to Buckingham Palace, so you can peek into the royal backyard – plus **Hyde Park** and **Kensington Gardens** – to the north in **Regent's Park** and **Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park** out east.

St James's Park



Kensington Gardens

Old meets new

Looking to boost your mood? Naturally, taking in London's stunning skyline will get the dopamine flowing – and even more so if you're a lover of art, design and architecture. Focus on the iconic dome of **St Paul's Cathedral** (amazingly, London's tallest building from 1710 until 1962) – then look to the other side of the Thames and take in the juxtaposition of Wren's Baroque style with the enormous brick chimney of the **Tate Modern**, built in the early '50s as a power station. You'll notice this blend of the old and new everywhere you look, from the elegant Gothic buildings of **Westminster Abbey** in the west against the shiny modern skyscrapers of **Canary Wharf**.



Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park

The Thames

Long gone are the days of the Great Stink in 1858, when the Thames ponged so much that Parliament had to rush through a bill to build an epic sewerage system which we still use today. The mighty river that you're looking at from your pod is now considered one of the cleanest in the world and helps keep us healthy by providing two-thirds of the city's drinking water. Plus, ZSL has counted 125 species of fish living in the Thames – nice one London.



St Paul's Cathedral

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Canary Wharf

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E Freedom Seekers of London

Slave history documentation project Runaways London hosts this powerful Tuesday late where guests are invited to look more closely at artefacts in the museum's 'London, Sugar & Slavery' gallery, take in poetry performances and check out art pieces responding to the history of enslaved people in London.

→ Museum of London Docklands. May 24. Free.

C Science Museum Cancer Revolution Lates

Chat to cancer researchers from the Francis Crick Institute, play with an 'interactive tumour-like sculpture' and get some potentially life-saving advice from the Coppafeel Boobettes at this midweek late celebrating the opening of the Science Museum's new free exhibition 'Cancer Revolution: Science, Innovation and Hope'. There'll also be the usual food and bevvie offerings, plus a silent disco and medical pub quiz.

→ Science Museum. May 25. Free-£10.



E Sutton House After Hours

Travel through five centuries of scandal, royal drama, London history and hauntings during this Thursday evening tour of Hackney's most historic home. You'll be able to hear a wealth of fascinating tales about the Victorian schoolchildren, trade unionists, refugees and anarcho-punks who have called the National Trust property home, dating right back to when it was built by Cromwell's right-hand man Ralph Sadleir in 1535.

→ Sutton House. May 26. From £8.

C Tate Modern Lates: Mindfulness

This mindfulness-themed May late will have you experiencing extreme zen, via a bunch of free talks, workshops and performances exploring the transformative healing power of art. These include a dance piece by Taiwanese-American artist Lee Mingwei followed by a conversation between the artist, performers and Tate curators, as well as a slow sketching workshop, meditation sessions and music from Hong Kong-based producer DJ ASJ.

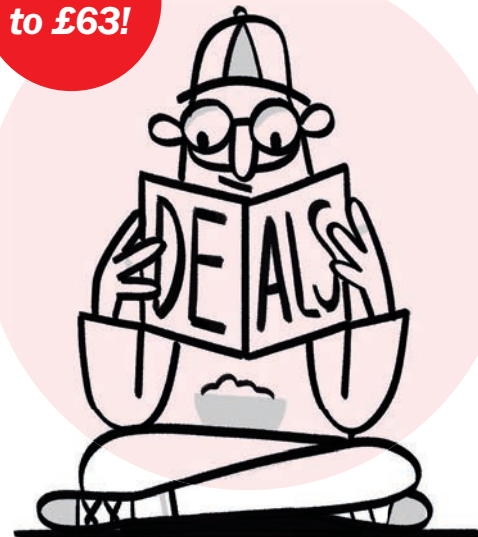
→ Tate Modern. May 27. Free.

Time Out

See you in 'The Burnt City'

We're exclusively teaming up with Punchdrunk to bring you **£25 rush tickets** for the immersive spectacle of the year.

Save up to £63!



Sign up here



Be part of denim history

Levi's is unveiling a new, '90s-inspired take on its iconic 501 jeans, and launching a high-tech immersive pop-up in its Regent Street store to celebrate

As they nudge their 150th year in 2023, Levi's 501 jeans are fashion's most enduring icon. They've been worn by miners and rock stars, while celebs from Marilyn Monroe to Jaden Smith have knocked it out of the park wearing them. They're so universal they're known simply by their number – 501: the number that changed everything.

But 501s have changed too, subtly altering their profile to become must-haves for new generations, while keeping true to their history. Now, for 2022, at the newly opened interactive

experience in the flagship Levi's store on Regent Street, you can immerse yourself in this timeless style interpreted for now and, for the first time, get up close and personal to the latest update of the classic 501s. Dipping into the archive for inspiration, the new Crazy Leg capsule collection brings together an oh-so-desirable '90s slouchy vibe. It's influenced by the original Crazy Leg jeans, which were released in 1967 in the spirit of the carefree San Francisco Summer of Love, a defining moment in counterculture.

What is it?

Head inside to the central space of the store and you'll discover the 501 experience projected on to canvases. Static images are brought to life by pushing the 'trigger' – a red button that transports the viewer into a living moodboard of the new 501 Crazy Leg collection, dropping them into the summer of '67 through lights, motion graphics and sound design, curating a key moment in style history. Moments later, you'll be brought back to the present to discover the 501 Collection 2022. Focusing on the '90s 501 jeans and shorts, the trucker jacket and T-shirts, it breathes new life into the bold prints and graphics of 1960s Levi's.

Why go?

To encounter some authentic style immersion and be transported into the cinematic visuals and soundscapes of the new Levi's 501 campaign and Crazy Leg capsule collection. Yes, it uses cutting-edge twenty-first-century projection-mapping technology, but it also reminds us how much of our culture is tied to the history of this iconic product. Outside of the interactive experience, shop the 501 product collection – including the original, cropped and shorts. They're design classics that transcend trends to become integral to your own signature style.

**Levi's, 176 Regent St,
W1B 5TJ. Mon-Sat
10am-8pm, Sun noon-6pm.**

THE 501 SPIRIT



To help launch the new Crazy Leg collection, Levi's has partnered with five visionaries who embody the 501 spirit: A\$AP Nast, Barbie Ferreira, Hailey Bieber, Peggy Gou and England star, philanthropist and activist Marcus Rashford.

He said: "When you believe something needs to change and it's not changing, it puts you in a predicament now where if you feel like there's a small chance that you can do something to help, then you'll take that chance."

Inspiring stuff!

→ Visit Levi's at 176 Regent Street now.

Levi's 501[®] jeans

Games galore

C NQ64 Grand Opening

Neon-splattered retro gaming bar NQ64 officially opens its latest branch on Soho's Brewer Street this week, with loads of classic consoles alongside more than 30 original arcade game. The late-night spot doesn't officially open until Friday, but a select few lucky joystick-heads will be chosen to preview the venue at its grand opening on Thursday evening. Drop the bar a message on Instagram to be in with a chance of winning free drinks and gaming tokens, plus a coveted place on the guestlist. Ready, player one!

→ NQ64. May 26. Free.

E MCM London Comic Con

Calling all cosplay whizzes, superhero worshippers, and anime stans: Comic Con is back for 2022 with a massive line-up to geek out over. This year's omnivorous programming includes appearances from the cast and crew of James Bond, 'Doctor Who', Harry Potter, the MCU and, yes, 'Star Wars'. And there's also the usual smörgåsbord of fun stuff to do including cosplay competitions, fan meet-ups, manga drawing workshops, and console games.

→ ExCeL London. May 27-29. From £17.50.

Mega markets

S Peckham Salvage Yard

South London's largest indoor vintage market returns to Copeland Park, offering bargain-hunters the chance to peruse 50 stalls of collectables, clothes, ceramics and delightful knick-knacks. Being Peckham, a regular browse through someone's-dearly-departed-gran's-wardrobe this is not. The event is dog-friendly and a DJ will be on-hand to provide a bangin' soundtrack as you rifle your way through tons of hidden gems.

→ Copeland Park. May 29. £1.

S A South London Makers Market

We really bloody love this sustainability-conscious makers' market, so much so that we declared it London's best street market in the Time Out Best of the City Awards back in December (what do you *mean* you've never heard of them?) It returns this Sunday, when more than 30 small local brands will be peddling hand-crafted homeware, ceramics, art, clothes and jewellery. Take, like, six totes with you, minimum.

→ Upper Norwood Library Hub. May 29. Free.

London in bloom

W RHS Chelsea Flower Show

This blooming marvellous celebration of all things horticultural is back in its traditional late-May slot after two years of pandemic-induced disruption. And this year, it's proving that plants can be political

Cool talks

C The British Library Food Season

The British Library's season of food-centric events continues this week with a mouthwatering programme of talks and discussions featuring a knife-sharp line-up of cookery writers, critics and chefs. These include a panel discussion

about the delights of Japanese tipples, a day of free talks about sustainable food-sourcing hosted by independent roastery Origin, and an in-conversation with Angela Hartnett as she launches her new cookbook, 'Good Food for Real Life'.

→ British Library. Until May 27. Prices vary.

C Jarvis Cocker: 'Good Pop, Bad Pop'


Pulp frontman Jarvis Cocker is the laconic genius behind masterpieces of musical storytelling like 'Common People' and 'Babies', so it's little surprise that his new memoir 'Good Pop, Bad Pop' has got the critics on side. See him in discussion with music journalist Miranda Sawyer at this celebration of his book, which offers a candid look through his childhood, musicianship, ambitions and more.

→ Southbank Centre. May 27. From £15.

C PJ Harvey in Conversation

Mercury Prize-winning singer songwriter PJ Harvey has added another string to her bow with the publication of 'Orlam', a verse novel charting a magical Dorset childhood. See Harvey recite passages from it at this talk, where she'll also discuss her work with poet Paul Muldoon. It's a chance to dive into the dark and strange world of her coming-of-age fable, written in Dorset dialect, and full of delight in the countryside where she grew up.

→ Queen Elizabeth Hall. Jun 2. From £35.



The British Museum


Book now

The Citi exhibition

Feminine power the divine to the demonic

Until 25 September

Supported by



Lilith, Kiki Smith, 1994.
Image © The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, photo by Hyla Skopitz.



with display garden 'Hands Off Mangrove', which is inspired by the racially motivated false arrest of the Mangrove Nine in 1970. The show also includes tips on bee-friendly gardening from BBC Studios, a spectacular-looking multi-sensory houseplant display, ideas for growing in small spaces (like a £750pm box room in Zone 3, for example) and botanical shopping opportunities galore. Last year's autumn edition was great, but nothing quite compares to the vibrant colours of spring.

→ Royal Hospital Chelsea. May 24-28. From £40.65.

Film

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

WHAT IS IT...

Tom Cruise feels the need for more speed, 36 years on.

WHY GO...

The supersonic dogfights will blow your mind.

→ Director Joseph Kosinski
(PG) 131 mins. Out May 27.

FILM OF THE WEEK

Return of the Mach

NOT JUST THE best of the best but now also the oldest of the old, Tom Cruise's Pete 'Maverick' Mitchell is back in the cockpit in a follow-up that will thrill every fan of the 1986 'Top Gun'. There's a bit in the middle that sags, but, honestly, your neck will need the respite. The rest of the movie soars – it's a reminder of how good Hollywood can be at popcorn entertainment when it sets its mind to it (and when Cruise is involved).

Maverick is more than three decades older and looks about one of them, but for all his still-boyish looks and perma-pearly grin he's now a relic of a test pilot who's about to be put out to pasture by Ed Harris's AI-championing rear admiral, aka 'The Drone Ranger'. But what's that? There's an illegal uranium processing plant in an unnamed rogue state and an impossible bombing mission to carry out? Soon Mav is reluctantly being sent back to Top Gun Academy to train a new batch of young F-18 hotshots. God help us, etc.

The opening alone – a rule-breaking test mission at Mach 10 – is ridiculously exciting. From then on, the beats will feel oh-so-familiar: there's a ball-busting officer (Jon Hamm) itching

'Top Gun: Maverick'



to sack Maverick, a genius pilot with no sense of teamwork (Glen Powell) and a lot of bickering about hard decks. There's even a bar singalong, some sweaty ballgames on the beach and a blast of Kenny Loggins for the oldies in the crowd.

But the story also breaks new ground via Maverick's spiky relationship with Miles Teller's bitter Bradley 'Rooster' Bradshaw, the son of his old co-pilot Goose, and a sweet love story with Jennifer Connelly's single mum. Obsolescence never feels far away for the ageing hero, even if he still has the reflexes of a 21-year-old.

Most of all, it works so well because with its insane aerial photography at the fore, and the style-forward 'Tron: Legacy' director Joseph Kosinski behind the camera, it never lets go of that simple love of flying: of men and women stress-testing high-tech machines until bits start to fall off, the machines stress-testing them right back.

All this helps avoid any sense of it being another multi-million dollar recruitment ad for the US military. The mission is more of a MacGuffin: a Death Star trench raid to let the characters show their mettle, while Maverick and Rooster's testy relationship plays out. It's pure escapism and just about the right side of gung-ho.

It is a shame that, for whatever reason, the female characters from the original 'Top Gun' are nowhere to be seen – Kelly McGillis's flight instructor, Charlie, has clearly opted for the 'leave me for ever' option, while Rooster's mum (Meg Ryan) has been bumped off. This especially rankles with such effort being made to locate Val Kilmer's Iceman in the story for a touching bromance with Maverick.

But grumbles aside, few blockbuster reboots can boast this blend of nostalgia, freshness and adrenaline. You will want to high-five someone on the way out. Don't think, just do it. ■



By Phil de Semlyen

Who mostly feels the need for a cuppa and a sit down.



Five films to see at Sundance London

The ultimate indie weekend is back in town in June.
Here's what to catch at the fest

IT'S THE FILM fest your clued-up mate has been banging on about for months and it's back at Picturehouse Central in June. Sundance London is marking its tenth anniversary as a firmly established part of the city's cultural landscape, delivering UK-first screenings of all things provocative, entertaining and independent. Here are five to look out for on this year's programme.

'Good Luck to You, Leo Grande' June 9

Simultaneously raising the curtain and dropping its knickers is this frank, bittersweet comedy-drama about a retired widow eager to explore her sexuality with the help of a male escort (Daryl McCormack). Its star, Emma Thompson, will be there to intro a big-hearted, sex-positive film with shades of a softer, gentler Mike Nichols movie.

'Fire of Love' June 10

If you've seen Werner Herzog's 'Into the Inferno', you'll know all about married volcanologists Katia and Maurice Krafft, who dedicated their lives to exploring some of the world's most explosive lava pots. This spectacular yet intimate doc from American filmmaker Sara Dosa delves even deeper into their sulphur-braving lives together.

'Sharp Stick' June 10

Anything Lena Dunham does is a conversation starter, so expect the festival bar to be buzzing after her new LA-set comedy about a 26-year-old babysitter (Kristine Froseth) who loses her virginity to her employer (Jon Bernthal). Ignore the mixed reviews and give this bold story of sexual awakening and exploitation a spin – not least for a genius cameo from Londoner Scott Speedman as an enlightened porn star.

'Honk for Jesus, Sell Your Soul' June 12

Championed by Jordan Peele, this feature-length take on a 2018 short is a poke in the eye for all those weird American megachurches with pastors on CEO salaries. Here, Sterling K Brown and Regina Hall are the Southern baptists trying to piece it back together after a scandal brings their church down.

'Brian and Charles' June 12

This ridiculously charming British comedy is presented by Time Out – and jolly excited about it we are too. Brian is a lonely inventor living in rural Wales; Charles is the lovable robot he fashions from an old washing machine and a mannequin's head (not as creepy as it sounds). With its irresistible mix of eccentricity, belly laughs and heart, it should end the festival weekend in a flurry of feelgood vibes. ■

WHEN IS IT?

June 9-12 at Picturehouse Central.

HOW MUCH?

£17.20 for adults. Ten-ticket festival pass £130.

WHAT ELSE IS GOING ON?

Filmmaker talks, Q&As and live podcasts, including the excellent Girls on Film and 90 Minutes or Less Film Fest.

AND ALSO...

Three of the films will be screening in 25 cinemas nationwide.

→ www.picturehouses.com/sundance

LONDON ON SCREEN

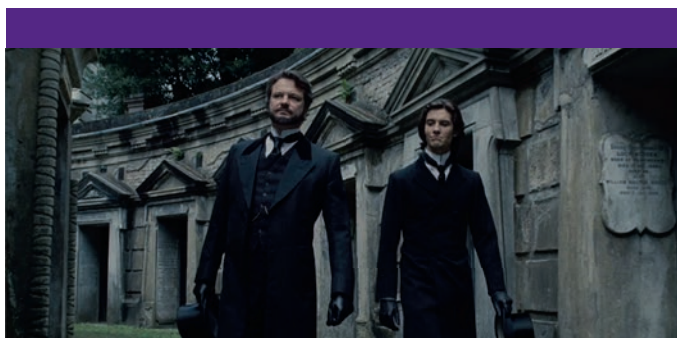
The graveyard in 'Dorian Gray'

The location Highgate Cemetery, N6.

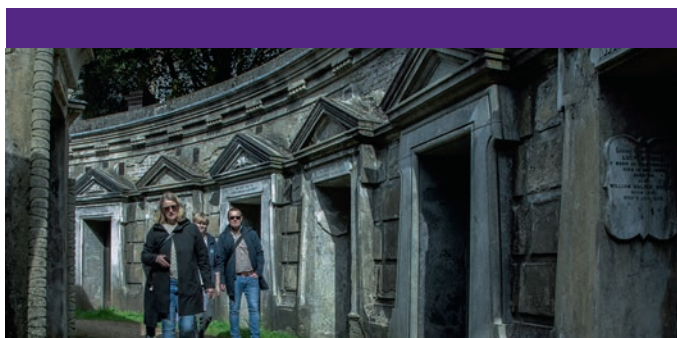
The scene Painter Basil Hallward (Ben Chaplin) is murdered by Dorian Gray (Ben Barnes), a pretty boy who never seems to age. Gray and his devious mentor, Lord Henry (Colin Firth), attend the funeral, swaggering around the cemetery's crypts.

Then It's easy to see why this 2009 period drama picked Highgate Cemetery. 'With its gothic monuments, overgrown trees and ivy, it was designed as an antidote to the overflowing graveyards of inner London,' says Catharine Arnold, author of 'Necropolis: London and Its Dead'. 'It's where wealthy Victorians were buried.' The cemetery, described by Arnold as a 'Fortnum & Mason for the dead', was a likely destination for Gray's high-society victims.

Now The cemetery continues to thrive as a filming location, popping up in 'Luther' and 'Fantastic Beasts'. 'Dorian Gray' hasn't aged as well, but it does offer a fascinating glimpse of the catacombs, an avenue of tombs with apertures which admit light into the spaces below. 'It's a ready-made film set,' says Arnold. ■ *Thomas Hobbs*



Then



Now

ALSO OPENING



MEN

★★★★★

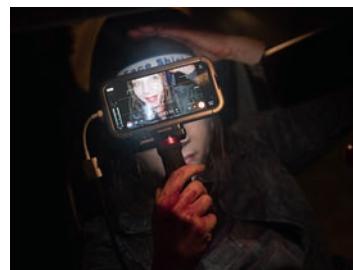
Why is the grass around the country house where Harper (Jessie Buckley) comes to stay after the death of her ex a hallucinogenic shade of chartreuse? No reason, it turns out. It's typical of an Alex Garland folk horror that gestures at addressing toxic masculinity but rings hollow, and as a bloody spectacle, absurdly kitsch. Rory Kinnear pulls off enough roles to rival Alec Guinness in 'Kind Hearts and Coronets', but the casting feels like a gimmick. Garland's best work is anchored by feeling. Here, he's stumbled down a rabbit hole. *Sophie Monks Kaufman*
Out Jun 1



BERGMAN ISLAND

★★★★★

Peppered with film-buff-pleasing Ingmar Bergman references, Mia Hansen-Løve's sunlit gem takes place on the Swedish island where the auteur spent his later years. It's a meaningful backdrop for a relationship drama that follows a filmmaking couple, Chris (Vicky Krieps) and Tony (Tim Roth), as they start to go full 'Scenes from a Marriage' on each other. It's emotionally intuitive and well observed, and when Chris's script comes alive in a film-within-a-film drama that stars Mia Wasikowska, faintly magical too. *Phil de Semlyen*
Out Jun 3



DASHCAM

★★★★★

Revisiting the miseries of lockdown and adding a demonic twist made a lot of sense in Brit director Rob Savage's spiky, clever Zoom horror 'Host'. Second time, not so much. The messy, chaotic 'Dashcam' has real-life LA musician Annie Hardy playing a version of herself as a vlogger who spouts conspiracy theories and improvises raps to a livestreaming audience. You can only hope she's not this annoying in real life, because by the time the supernatural menace reveals itself, you're firmly on Team Blood-Spewing-Zombie. *Phil de Semlyen*
Out Jun 3



THE BOB'S BURGERS MOVIE

★★★★★

Combine the anarchic spirit of 'Spongebob Squarepants' with the self-referential smarts of Matt Groening and you might get something a bit like 'Bob's Burgers', an animated sitcom about hangdog patty-flipper Bob Belcher, his wife and three kids. It translates pretty well to the big screen, too. There's even a plot (think 'Chinatown', only much sillier) to set it apart from many other telly spinoffs, the voice cast – Kristen Schaal, Kevin Kline, Zach Galifianakis lend their vocal chords – is fun and the gag hit rate is high. Take a bite. *Phil de Semlyen*
Out May 27

Theatre & Dance

Edited by Andrzej Łukowski
timeout.com/theatre @timeouththeatre

Knowing Me, Knowing 02

Norfolk broadcasting legend Alan Partridge is back on the road with his new show 'Stratagem'. Ahead of three nights at The O2, we catch up with his alter ego Steve Coogan

AHA! FROM HIS enduring on-screen partnership with Rob Brydon to his Oscar-nominated screenplay for 'Philomena', Steve Coogan is famous for a multitude of things. But in the UK he'll always be best known for his alter ego Alan Partridge, who began life as the hapless sports presenter of Chris Morris's 'On the Hour' in 1991 and was last seen as a hapless current affairs show host in 'This Time with Alan Partridge'. He's back again with 'Stratagem', a theatrical touring spectacular that sees Partridge flogging dubious life-guru advice.

Most people would call you an actor rather than a comic now, and you've never really toured a lot – so why a massive undertaking like an Alan Partridge arena tour?

'One, it's about knowing I can still do it. And I haven't seen an audience in ages. I don't do social media, so doing something live

is the only direct contact I have, all the middle men are cut out. To see an audience and physically hear them in the same space is a) viscerally enjoyable and b) good for me creatively.'

What's the idea behind the show? Alan's a self-help guru now?

'To be honest what we first thought of was the title. One of the Gibbons brothers [who co-write with Coogan] just said: "...stratagem?" and we started laughing. It's stupid corporate speak, so we decided to call it that and figure the rest out backwards. It's dressed up as a lifestyle guru thing, but it quickly falls apart and you realise Alan has a personal agenda.'

'It's hubris, it's Icarus, it's giving candy to a child'



My Fair Lady



WHAT IS IT...

The classic rags-to-riches musical returns to London.

WHY GO...

It's a big, slick, crowd-pleasing production.

→ London Coliseum.
Until Aug 27. £20-£185.

'MY FAIR LADY' is a complicated kind of musical fairy tale. It gives audiences wonderfully quaint Victoriana and an enchanting rags-to-riches transformation. But it sours its own magic by unveiling the social injustices beneath the story.

While Bartlett Sher's revival is slick and accomplished, it loses the narrative's subtlety in a crowd-pleasing burst of top-hatted kitsch. Amara Okereke plays cockney flower girl Eliza Doolittle with vocal aplomb: her voice soars through much-loved songs like 'Wouldn't It Be Lovely', making them a heartrending highlight. But her Eliza is a bit of a caricature. When insulted by phonetics expert Henry Higgins, she's not crushed, she shoves him out of the room, with physical comedy that masks her vulnerability. As Higgins, Harry Hadden-Paton lacks the charisma and underlying menace needed to give their relationship snap.

If you strip away its romantic trappings, 'My Fair Lady' is the story of an upper-class man who takes on a working-class woman as a bet, bullies her into speaking 'properly' and is surprised when she reveals feelings. Sher tries to address the uncomfortable undertones with a tweaked ending. However, it doesn't really work when there's been so little directorial innovation in what's gone before. It's a delight to hear Alan Jay Lerner and Frederick Loewe's score fill the Coliseum, and this production will just about satisfy fans of the musical, without offering enough to win over sceptics. ■ *Alice Saville*



The Father and the Assassin



WHAT IS IT...

Darkly hilarious drama about Gandhi's assassin, Nathuram Godse.

WHY GO...

For Shubham Saraf's tremendous central turn.

→ National Theatre, Olivier.
Until Jun 18. £20-£89.

TO SAY THAT 'The Father and the Assassin' is a historical drama about Gandhi's killer, Nathuram Godse, is both accurate and a really bone-dry underselling of Anupama Chandrasekhar's play.

Wandering on stage, covered in blood, with an enormous shit-eating grin on his face, Shubham Saraf gives a hilarious, tragic, titanic *tour de force* performance as Godse. He initially presents as a sort of wannabe supervillain: convinced (or is he?) that he's achieved a great thing in killing Gandhi, needling the audience with snark about how our knowledge of his victim is derived from Wikipedia and 'that fawning Attenborough film'.

Soon, though, it becomes apparent that he's such an unreliable narrator he can't even convince himself: characters pop up from his subconscious to mock his attempts to argue that Gandhi was a big fraud who deserved to die.

Before long, the play dives thrillingly into Nathuram's truly bizarre childhood, having been a) raised as a girl by his parents (it's a long story) and b) regarded as a conduit for the goddess Durga whom he seems to believe spoke through him.

It's great writing from Chandrasekhar, great direction from Indhu Rubasingham and a great lead from Saraf: part historical character study, part meta-comedy, part philosophical treatise, and part forensic analysis of colonialism's legacy and nationalism's toxicity. ■ *Andrzej Łukowski*



How is playing arenas?

'Well, we've written an arena show. It's not intimate, but it's Alan, you let him lead the way: what would he do? Put on a grand spectacle! It's self-aggrandising, its hubris, it's Icarus, it's like giving candy to a child. There are dancers and three giant screens.'

Alan is essentially a failure – would he really be doing three nights at The O2?

'Well, the answer is no, he wouldn't. You're always dancing around things like that. But we try to present some sort of consistency: he's back on TV, he's trying to present himself as some sort of self-help, lifestyle guru; there are lots of vulnerable people out there who will hand their money over to idiots with a platform.'

Do you look back on previous versions of Alan when making new stuff?

'No, no! Although we do have to check the archive more and more to make sure we're not contradicting ourselves. Often somebody will quote something to me and say "oh blah blah that thing you said" and I just don't remember; it was 20 years ago. I can quote "Monty Python" stuff that's 50 years old. But I can't do that with my own stuff.'

Why stick with Alan when you're so successful elsewhere?

'Paradoxically, if I hadn't made progress in other areas I'd have been less likely to come back to him, because however good it was, it would be like a one-trick pony. But because I can do other tricks I don't mind doing my old trick. I do a lot of heavier stuff, so going back to writing jokes with Partridge is freeing yourself from anxiety. I come back to Alan to have a warm bath!' ■

→ 'Stratagem' is at The O2, May 31-Jun 3.



By Andrzej Łukowski
Who didn't shout any catchphrases but it was close.

Art

Edited by Eddy Frankel
timeout.com/art @timeoutart

EXHIBITION OF THE WEEK

Front line staff

'Lee Miller: Nurses'



THE RUBBERY, ALIEN fingers of sterilised gloves hang from stands like bird beaks. Masked nurses work under suspended lights in an operating theatre. Grinning faces peek between flapping tent fabric, overlapping guy ropes and washing lines plot a distorted grid. These photos could almost be part of a black-and-white fashion shoot. But look closer, and you'll find a raw grittiness to these images that spells out a haunting reality.

Lee Miller was many things: she was a model, she was surrealist artist Man Ray's muse, she was the bad bitch that photographed herself in the bath in Hitler's Munich apartment on the day he killed himself in 1945.

Later in life, she was even a successful gourmet chef. In this exhibition, she is a photojournalist and war reporter, documenting the lives of ordinary women in the final year of WWII.

Miller was accredited with the US Army in 1942 and on D-Day, she crossed the Channel to France, where she immersed herself in the graft, grief and horror of the front line. Following the day-to-day lives of nurses, her photographs and articles were published in US and UK *Vogue*, and a mere 13 have been selected from the archives to feature in the Fitzrovia Chapel's powerful new exhibition.

Built as part of Middlesex Hospital, the chapel reopened to the public in 2015, to share cultural projects relating to the hospital and nearby area.



WHAT IS IT...
An intimate show of wartime images from this pioneering photographer.

WHY GO...
It's an intensely moving experience in this atmospheric space.

→ Fitzrovia Chapel.
Until Jun 5. Free.

Surrounded by towering new-build apartments, it's a hidden sanctuary, with shining stained glass and a gold mosaic ceiling that would give Moth Club a run for its money. A recording of Miller's granddaughter Ami echoes around the walls, as she reads out extracts of her grandmother's poetic, thoughtful prose. You can listen along or let Miller's images tell their own story.

The context of these photographs might be bleak, but they fizz with personality. Miller wasn't commissioned for the project, she just went out into the field and did it herself. Her boldness gleams from the other side of the lens: she presents these young nurses as individuals, not robotic functionaries. We see the women brushing their teeth, eating in groups at mealtime, flirting off-duty with a soldier. We see them deep in

concentration in a surgical tent and one of them standing tall as male soldiers roll around the floor during a physiotherapy session. We even see the ghostly outlines of their uniforms hanging up to dry, a gentle reminder of their never-ending domestic duties. There's something brilliantly considered about these photographs, as though they were taken in a studio rather than in a field hospital. From the composition of shadows to the careful juxtaposition of hard and soft, we're constantly reminded of Miller's roots in surrealism.

There's one photograph that particularly stands out. First, you see the dramatic swan-like curve of a nurse's hat. Then you see its wearer



LEE MILLER: RUBBER GLOVES ARE STERILISED AND DRIED ON STANDS, GUINNESS HOSPITAL, 1940s. ENGLAND 1943 © LEE MILLER ARCHIVES/ENGLAND 2022. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED. LEE MILLER CO. UK. FITZROVIA CHAPEL: TOM CARTER



crouched over a thin, frowning child in a hospital bed. 'For an hour I watched a baby die,' Miller wrote about the image. 'He was dark blue when I first saw him... there was nothing to do but watch him die.'

Miller took this photograph in Vienna in 1945, after the Nazis had surrendered. The city had been taken over by black marketeers who'd stolen all the drugs from the hospitals. The photo was never published at the time: it didn't fit with the narrative of hope and reconstruction after the war ended. It's still hard to look at. It's a glaring reminder that hardship and pain are everywhere, never-ending. But it's also a powerful creative statement, summing up who Miller really was:

a daring woman who could recast joy, despair and truth in a way that people would remember as art.

Today, with the backdrop of the past two years – when nurses have been overworked, and when grief and uncertainty have felt at their most overwhelming in a generation – this intimate collection of images feels particularly poignant, more so for its sombre, reflective setting. And with a new war and new suffering in the world, Miller's message remains grimly contemporary. ■



By Chiara Wilkinson
Who's never been a nurse but has worked on a deli counter.



Virginia Overton 'Animal Magnetism'



IN A DEPARTURE from its usual manically colourful programming, Goldsmiths Centre for Contemporary Art has put on a show of Nashville-born sculptor Virginia Overton. Overton is a great exploiter and explorer of other artists' works, and also materially responds to the spaces in which she shows. So here, we have literal offcuts from pieces by British luminary Sir Anthony Caro, and works reflecting the grimy mechanics of the Goldsmiths building, a former boilerhouse.

This means a lot of gloomy scrap metal: tubes, I-beams, chutes and jagged rusty sheets. Despite all this heavy industry, Overton's works are mostly domestically scaled, not fuck-off massive outdoor-type things, like you might be able to use them as (really uncomfortable) furniture. One of them even incorporates that marble lump from the iconic Arco floor lamp, now supporting a ropey old bit of pipe that Overton picked up off the street. This kind of tension populates a lot of her pieces. For instance, the two mismatched halves of metal tubing seemingly attempting to form a whole in 'Untitled (½ and ½)'. Overton is a fan of the annoying 'shall I?/shan't I?' school of naming works. Everything is 'Untitled', with a title in brackets. Eg: 'Untitled (Chime for Caro)'.

Eg: 'Untitled (Chime for Caro)'.

There are a couple of standouts that more than make up for that niggles. I really liked the room full of swooping planks that crash over you like a silent breaker, 'Untitled (Arc)', while upstairs there's a fun piece made of chunks of steel covered in crappy mirror tiles and revolving on a turntable, as if disco was less Black and more blacksmith.

If you enjoy materials and their interplay, you could do a lot worse than spending some time with this rather austere show. Being more of a vapid idiot, I'm looking forward to GCCA getting back to its madcap personality. ■ *Chris Waywell*

WHAT IS IT...

Scrap metal and more from this Nashville sculptor.

WHY GO...

If you really like big lumps of stuff, this could be one for you.

→ Goldsmiths Centre for Contemporary Art. Until Jul 31. Free.

Food & Drink



How to eat well on the Elizabeth Line

Do a Crossrail crawl and eat your way west to east, from Bond Street Basque to a Nepalese feast in Woolwich

PICTURE IT: YOU'RE sitting on a shiny new train, there's real air conditioning, the patterned purple seats are comfy and you can get from Paddington to Canary Wharf in just 17 minutes. Nope, it's not a pipe dream. The long-awaited first phase of the Elizabeth Line, aka Crossrail, opens today. The new purple link promises super-speedy connections from east to west and back again, but also gives you the chance to easily eat your way across the city. Here are the picks at five of the Lizzie Line's stops. The next station is... Flavourtown.

1 Bond Street

The shopping mecca's Crossrail stop might not be opened to the public just yet but bookmark these places for future reference. Chef Ferdinand 'Budgie' Montoya is slinging out

showstopping dishes at **Sarap Filipino Bistro** in Heddon Street. For a chef's table experience, sit at Nieves Barragán's Michelin-starred **Sabor** counter in Mayfair and bask in the Basque goodies. If you're after more trad lunchtime fare, the family-run **Paul Rothe & Son** in Marylebone has been going for more than 100 years. Its handmade sandwiches, with near-limitless filling options, and freshly made soups are the stuff of legend.

→ Sarap Filipino Bistro, 10 Heddon St, W1B 4BX. Sabor, 35-37 Heddon St, W1B 4BR. Paul Rothe & Son, 35 Marylebone Lane, W1U 2NN.

2 Tottenham Court Road

The heart of the West End is also the epicentre of good restaurants. Hidden away on an alley behind Primark lies **Kikuchi**, an affordable joint for sushi, omakase and sashimi (best accompanied by a flight of sake). Crank up the heat with a visit to **Seoul Bakery**, a student hangout and K-pop lover's wet dream filled with all things Korean. Its rabokki, kimbab and bibimbap make for comforting lunch options. For a classier affair, head to a cult favourite wine bar: **Noble Rot Soho**.



St John

This branch (there's another in Holborn) offers a French-leaning menu with dishes like pig's-head-and-ham-hock terrine, and roast chicken, morels and vin jaune. → Kikuchi, 14 Hanway St, W1T 1UD. Seoul Bakery, 14 Great Russell St, WC1B 3NH. Noble Rot Soho, 2 Greek St, W1D 4NB.

3 Farringdon

If Soho is the central meeting point for a casual bite before moving on elsewhere, then Farringdon is the place for serious eating. Of course there's **St John** (as always) but don't forget Nick Bramham at **Quality Wines**, cooking some of the city's finest food. We loved the sun-kissed octopus bun and roast scallop with Café de Paris butter; check its Insta for the daily blackboard. If you're after an Italian escape without leaving Zone 1, head to **Luca** for sublime Italian cooking.



Food & Drink

Or drop in to eat your way through chef Florence Knight's Med menu at the dreamlike distressed Tuscan villa setting of **Sessions Arts Club**.

→ St John, 26 St. John St, EC1M 4AY. Quality Wines, 88 Farringdon Rd, EC1R 3EA. Luca, 88 St John St, EC1M 4EH. Sessions Arts Club, Old Sessions House, 24 Clerkenwell Green, EC1R 0NA.

4 Liverpool Street

The City

of London is home to suits and skyscrapers. Venture slightly further afield from the station and you'll find Sichuan specialist **Noodle & Beer**. As its name suggests, noodles are the aim of the game. The za-jiang mian and chongqing xiao mian dry wheat noodles with spring onions, pickled greens and peanuts are blow-your-head-off good. For more Chinese fare, brave the crowds at Spitalfields Market and head to **Dumpling Shack** for its famed juicy

shengjianbao (pan-fried pork buns) doused in black vinegar and chilli oil. Be warned: they squirt.

→ Noodle & Beer, 31 Bell Lane, E1 7LA. Dumpling Shack, Old Spitalfields Market, Brushfield St, E1 6BG.

5 Custom House

The only time you've probably been to Custom House is for an event at the ExCel Centre once in a blue moon. Well, rethink that journey and make a beeline for some

of the best Chinese banquet halls in Docklands. **Yi-Ban** and **China Palace** both offer sprawling dim sum menus with views of the Thames but the real thrill is seeing planes landing at City Airport while you shovel down black-bean beef, king prawns with salted egg yolk and Singapore vermicelli noodles.

→ Yi-Ban, London Regatta Centre, 1010 Dockside Rd, E16 2QT. China Palace, ExCel West, Unit R1 Warehouse, 2 Western Gateway, Royal Victoria Dock North, E16 1DR.

curry soup, and the fried chilli momo, packed with juicy, spiced meat fillings and covered in a blanket of peppers, onions and chilli sauce. ■

→ Kailash Momo, 79 Woolwich New Rd, SE18 6ED. Maya DD's, 25 Anglesea Rd, SE18 6EG. D Namaste, 158 Plumstead Rd, SE18 7DY.

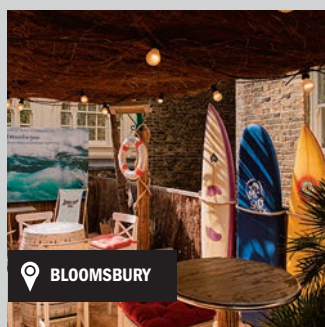


By Angela Hui
Who doesn't mind the gap at all!

NOODLE AND BEER: JO RAN CHEN

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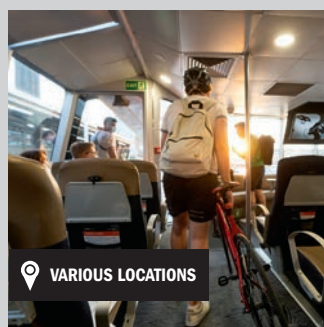
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VARIOUS LOCATIONS

UBER BOAT SAY'S:

'Did you know that you can commute in London by river? Find your nearest pier and enjoy a warm summer breeze while gliding through the city. Travelling to and from work by boat guarantees a comfortable seat and great coffee from the on-board café-bar.' The Queen's Walk, SE1. uberboatbythamesclippers.com.



SOUTH KENSINGTON

STEAK AND COMPANY GLOUCESTER ROAD SAYS:

'To celebrate the return of the Chelsea Flower Show, the neighbourhood's favourite steakhouse will exhibit an exquisitely crafted pink floral window display. The menu will be abloom with a limited-edition Whitley Neill gin-based colourful cocktail using elderflower cordial, fresh raspberries and prosecco.' 152 Gloucester Rd, SW7 4TD.



LONDON BRIDGE

GIUSEPPE'S PLACE SAYS:

'Come down to Giuseppe's, Tuesday to Saturday, and sample our new lunch menu (available until 3pm): your choice of starter and main plus a glass of wine for £26. We've got pasta, pizza, meat and fish options – all served with a large portion of good old Italian hospitality. Buon appetito!' 47-49 Borough High St, SE1 1NB.

Food & Drink

Caravel



CARAVEL IS a restaurant on a boat, but don't expect any ahoying. It's on a boat with a vibe so distinctly unboaty that you'll forget you're floating on the Regent's Canal until you need to get back on to dry land to go to the loos. (They're in its sister restaurant next door, a great spot for a pre-dinner Rum 'n' Coke Old Fashioned, fyi.)

Until then, you'll feel more like you're at the kind of local that might be the set of a London romcom. The walls are painted dark green and tilt inwards, cocooning each table. An open doorway at the back of the boat allows for nosy glimpses of the surprisingly chill kitchen.

If you're a fan of St John, Jolene or Rochelle Canteen you're going to love the menu here. Caravel is run by brothers Fin and Lorcan Spiteri, the sons of two of London's most renowned restaurateurs (mum Melanie Arnold is the co-founder



RESTAURANT OF THE WEEK

WHAT IS IT...

A chic modern British restaurant on an art deco boat.

WHY GO...

For romantic vibes and some of the best cooking in London right now.

→ 172 Shepherdess Walk, N1 7JL.

of Rochelle Canteen and dad Jon Spiteri is co-founder of Sessions Arts Club). The brothers have impressive CVs: they've worked at some huge restaurants including Quo Vadis, Oldroyd and 69 Colebrooke Row.

Now, they've taken over a restored barge next door to Studio Kitchen. The food is a run of playful takes on modern European and classic Brit dishes: crunchy rostis topped with refreshing yoghurt and

salty caviar; a surprisingly light duck croquette moulded into the shape of a rubber duckie; a deeply sweet tomato salad with roasted onions, asparagus served with a thick, creamy, hazelnutty sauce.

And that's just the starters.

The main you need to order is the lamb. The meat is braised to tender perfection, a tight block of intense flavour. The result tastes like a fantasy-tier Sunday roast, especially when washed down with the

vibrant house red. Dessert? The rhubarb jelly, chantilly cream and honeycomb tastes as nostalgic as it sounds, while the caramelised banana and almond tart is pure indulgence.

Overall? Caravel is the best date restaurant I've ever been to. Although be warned: you'll eat so much you may find yourself staggering down the towpath drunk on carbs and meat. Trust me, I've been there. ■ Kate Lloyd

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Ayllu



WHAT IS IT...

A cosy-but-buzzing Paddington spot for nikkei bites.

WHY GO...

For the vibey atmosphere and single-bite tacos with a Japanese twist.

→ Under Smith's Bar & Grill, 25 Sheldon Square, W2 6EY.

TUCKED BELOW a generic canalside bar and restaurant in Paddington, Ayllu isn't exactly hard to find, but it still has the air of a hideaway. Lights are dimmed, there are live DJ beats and atmospheric Amazon-green walls, gold-glowing lamps and warm wood.

Tropical tipples garlanded in palms, and foamy pisco sours also did wonders for the vibe: the crowd seemed to be there for the drinks as much as the food.

Ayllu is one of London's many nikkei – Peruvian and Japanese fusion – restaurants. Expect plates like tiraditos, raw fish, cut like sashimi and drizzled in marinade. You also get bite-sized tacos with cured seafood, bao, and ceviche sushi rolls with white fish and mayo infused with leche de tigre ('tiger's milk', a spicy citrus-based marinade used to cure a classic Peruvian ceviche).

Dishes really varied: the sushi was pretty forgettable. But a trio of tacos with salmon, tuna and avocado was the perfect combo of crispy deep-fried shell and cool-creamy interior. Another highlight was the fluffy bao, somewhat modestly filled with rich slow-cooked beef shin, salty-sweet teriyaki sauce and spicy roccoto cream. And make sure you don't miss the chicken fried rice, with truffle and an oozing poached egg. Don't bother with desserts: just double-down on those tacos. ■ Nicole Trilivas



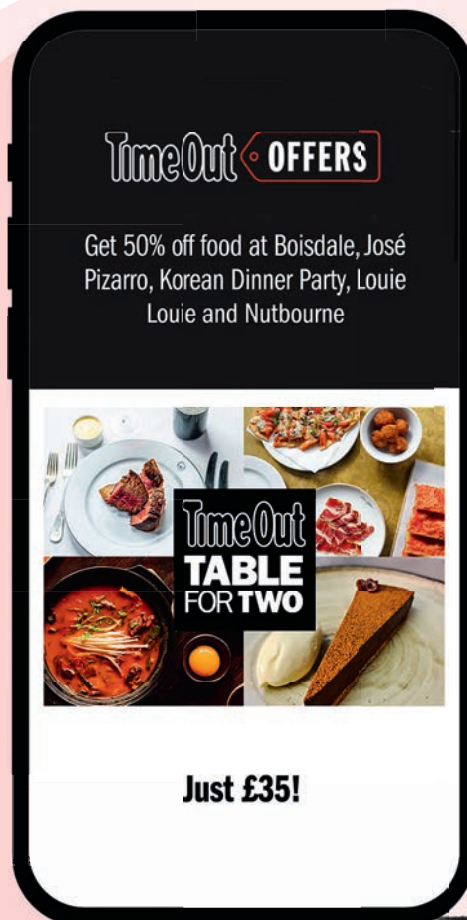
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A photograph of Justin Bieber in a tunnel, looking upwards with his hand on his forehead. The image has a high-contrast, grainy aesthetic with a color palette dominated by teal, blue, and yellow. The background shows the structure of the tunnel and some graffiti on the walls.

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