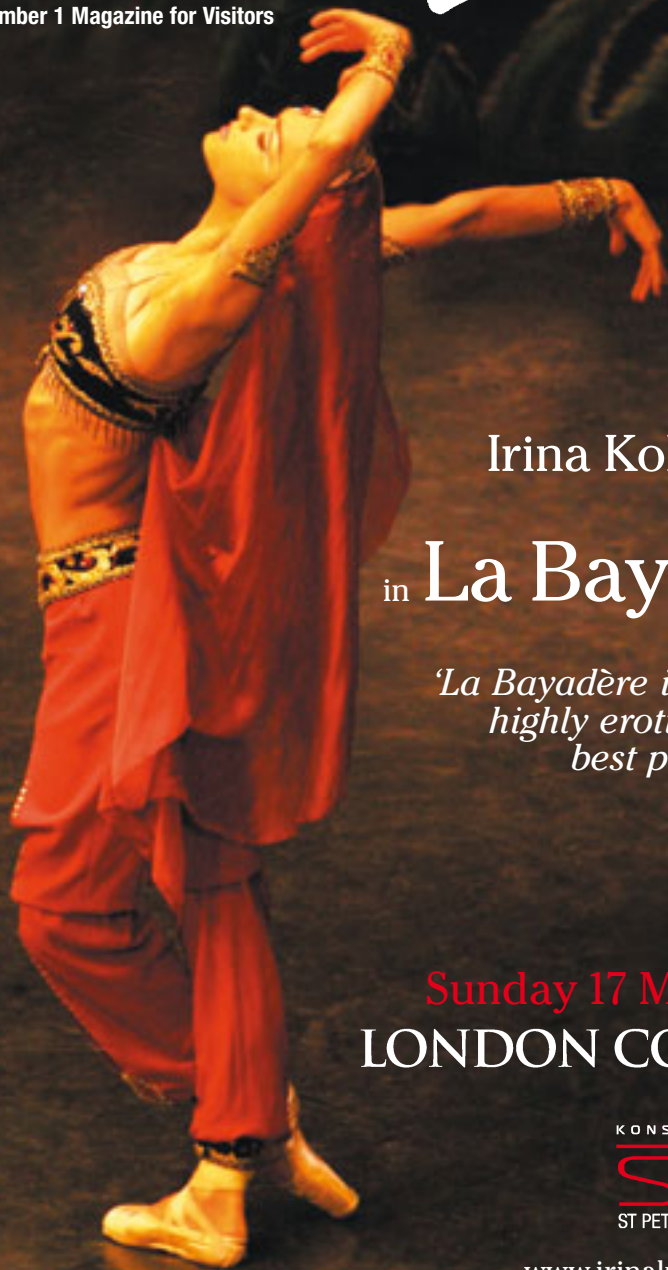


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53 YEARS The Number 1 Magazine for Visitors

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Friday 8 May, 2009
OLYMPIC CITY 2012



Irina Kolesnikova
as *Nikiya*

in La Bayadère

'La Bayadère is wholly and highly erotic - but in the best possible taste'

Sunday Express

Sunday 17 May at 7pm
LONDON COLISEUM

KONSTANTIN TACHKIN'S

SPBT
ST PETERSBURG BALLET THEATRE

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Welcome to London

As the Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport I am delighted to welcome you to London. Our capital is a world-class city with a vast array of attractions.

Our extensive public transport system will take you anywhere in London, but it's a great city to walk around as well. There are sights to see on every corner whether it's a grand Georgian square or an award-winning contemporary building. Or, take a trip down the River Thames, for centuries London's transport backbone, to see the glories of Greenwich and the Houses of Parliament from a different viewpoint.

You can taste cooking from around the world. Almost every cuisine is served ranging from Michelin starred restaurants, or, for those on a budget, London's cosmopolitan cafés.

London is renowned for its creativity and sense of style. Our department stores feature top fashion from around the world. But to get a feel for current English style, pop into the small clothes shops of Soho or, if you're feeling more adventurous, go to Shoreditch.

The art galleries and museums have never been more alluring, with block-busting exhibitions at the Royal Academy and Tate Modern. Explore the small off-beat museums or lose yourself in the vast, free, national collections.

London also offers visitors some of the most iconic sporting venues in the world to go and see. The new Wembley with its arch on its roof is a major landmark on the city's skyline and a must-see for any football fan. Near St John's Wood is Lords, the home of cricket, that also features the MCC Museum with exhibits including the Ashes urn, while Twickenham Stadium provides an electric home for English Rugby.

And don't miss the opportunity to see a show at the theatre. We are deservedly known for the quality of our acting and directing talent. And, we are a world centre for live music performances, attracting musicians of every type and from every culture.

I hope you enjoy your stay here and will return soon to explore our wonderful city again.

Andy Burnham

Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport



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ST PETERSBURG BALLET THEATRE PRESENT LA BAYADÈRE

Celebrating 10 years on stage in this week's London performance with St Petersburg Ballet Theatre, prima ballerina Irina Kolesnikova dances the role of the tragic heroine in the rarely performed La Bayadère at the London Coliseum on Sunday 17 May (19.00).

Irina Kolesnikova will make her debut at the London Coliseum as Nikiya, a role to which she brings not only her mesmerising dancing ability but also her sensitive and alluring acting talent. Irina graduated from the world famous Vaganova School in 1988 and has been described as a phenomenon in the world of Russian ballet. She is a ballerina of world renown, who possesses perfect ballet technique. Remarkably for a Russia ballerina, Irina has enjoyed enormous success independent of the Mariinsky ballet company or the Bolshoi Ballet and has always danced in the non-state Konstantin Tachkin St Petersburg Ballet Theatre. Irina is adored worldwide, and this eagerly anticipated performance of La Bayadère marks the start of her first European Tour, which includes 3 performances at the Paris Champs Elysees Theatre.

La Bayadère is a grand tale of love and murder set in India. Warrior Solor has sworn his love for Nikiya, a beautiful temple dancer, but the Rajah decides his daughter Gamzatti will marry Solor. At the betrothal celebrations, jealous Gamzatti puts a poisonous snake in a gift of flowers to kill Nikiya. In Solor's hallucinatory dream Nikiya reappears among the ghosts of earlier Bayadères in the final scene The Kingdom of the Shades.



This young company from St Petersburg is a very popular visitor to the UK and internationally has been seen on some of the world's greatest stages. Formed in 1994 and schooled in the St Petersburg tradition, this talented company of 100 artists, including its own orchestra, was seen by almost 100,000 people during its last UK tour.

The company is packed with talented and world class dancers and principals. Among the UK's favourites are Dmitry Akulinin, Marina Vejnovets, Alla Bocharova, Dimchik Saykeev, Dmitri Lisenko, Vladimir Iznov, all exceptionally fine dancers in the pure classical style.

La Bayadère at the London Coliseum on Sunday 17 May at 19.00. Tickets priced £15 to £75 can be purchased by calling 0871 911 0200, or in person at London Coliseum Foyer, St Martin's Lane, WC2, or from www.eno.org

BATTLE OF BRITAIN MEMORIAL FLIGHT OVER RAF MUSEUM

The Battle of Britain Memorial Flight Dakota will be flying across the RAF Museum on 13 May to honour the Veterans gathered from all three services. The aircraft will arrive over the skies of the Museum, from a northerly direction at 1500hrs. There is also a programme of music by The Jive Aces swing band at 11.30 and 14.00.

Every year this exclusive day gives Veterans the chance to catch up with each other, reminisce over shared experiences and enjoy themselves in the authentic atmosphere and surroundings of the Royal Air Force Museum.

Veterans' Day will be celebrated at the Royal Air Force Museum, Grahame Park Way, NW9. Call 020 8358 4849.

CITY CRUISES ENTERS ITS SUMMER SEASON

City Cruises enters its summer season with an expanded sightseeing service and a new London Showboat schedule. The sightseeing service operates a circular cruise between Westminster, Waterloo and Tower Piers as well as a hop-on hop-off service between the four major destination piers on the River Thames (Westminster, Waterloo, Tower and Greenwich).

For the summer, the service will increase in frequency, with boats every 35 minutes throughout the day, from 10.00 (from Westminster Millennium Pier) to 18.20 (Westminster Millennium Pier to Tower Millennium Pier only).

The London Showboat, an unforgettable evening of top quality entertainment and superb food, will operate every Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday.

Telephone 020 77 400 400.

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Early Opera Company • Christian Curnyn harpsichord/director
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Robin Blaze counter-tenor • Sonnerie • Monica Huggett violin/director
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Sunday 17 May • 7.30pm • St. John's, Smith Square

The Choir of Westminster Abbey • St James's Baroque
Music for the Abbey – Royal anthems for Royal occasions
Wednesday 20 May • 7.00pm • Westminster Abbey

Emma Kirkby soprano • Jakob Lindberg lute • Steven Devine harpsichord
A Choice Collection – 150 years of English Song
Thursday 21 May • 7.30pm • St. John's, Smith Square

Phantasm • Laurence Dreyfus treble viol/director
'Fancy-musick' for English viol consort
Friday 22 May • 7.00pm • St. John's, Smith Square

Zefiro Baroque Orchestra • Alfredo Bernardini oboe/director
Music by the Thames – Purcell's Theatre Suites and Handel's Water Music
Saturday 23 May • 7.30pm • St. John's, Smith Square

Tickets Free – £30 | www.lufthansafestival.org.uk | www.sjss.org.uk | 020 7222 1061



REAL FOOD FESTIVAL 2009

Following last year's phenomenal success, the Real Food Festival, which takes place at Earl's Court from 8-10 May, will once again showcase some of the finest food and drink produce from independent, small producers who use ethical, sustainable methods to produce some extraordinary products.

Driven by a passion for food that is fresh and grown or reared on healthy soil, the Festival brings together food champions, artisan producers and food lovers. With a focus on buying locally, sustainability, fair and ethical production and healthy food, the Real Food Festival 2009 is leading the debate on the quality and sustainability of food production.

Tickets telephone 0844 412 4642.



MORE THAN 35,000 FINISH THE 2009 FLORA LONDON MARATHON

More than 35,000 competitors finished the London Marathon on 26 April, the last ever to be sponsored by Flora. By 19.00 that night, 35,306 had finished after Sir Chris Hoy had set 35,747 on their way from Greenwich, the second largest field in London Marathon history. At the end of 26.2 miles it was the Olympic champion, Sammy Wanjiru, who led them home, the Kenyan winning the fastest men's elite race since the London Marathon started in 1981.

Wanjiru crossed the line in a course record of 2:05:10 with Tsegaye Kebede of Ethiopia second in 2:05:20 and Jaouad Gharib of Morocco third in 2:05:27 – the second time in two years that three men have run quicker than 2 hours 6 minutes.

Germany's Irina Mikitenko defended her title to win the elite women's race in 2:22:11 while Mara Yamauchi gave more than 750,000 spectators cause to cheer as the Briton finished second in 2:23:12, breaking her personal best by nearly two minutes. Russia's Liliya Shobukhova was third on her marathon debut, clocking 2:24:24.

Among the masses of personal triumphs on a beautiful Spring day, 10 Guinness World Records were broken including the fastest marathon dressed as Santa Claus (2:55:50 by Paul Simons), the fastest marathon dressed as a vegetable (3:34:55 by Robert Prothero) and the fastest fruit (4:19:37 by Thomas Day).

As usual, many turned out in fancy dress and many thousands more ran to raise money for hundreds of charities. One running couple were married en route – at St Bride's Church in Fleet Street – while celebrities Katie Price and Peter Andre kept the photographers waiting as they jogged in seven hours and 11 minutes.

THIS IS LONDON runner, Richard Chapman, clocked a respectable 3 hrs 49 with son Karl just ahead on 3hrs 40, while veteran journalist Bob Mundy strolled in at 5 hours exactly.

TRAVELLING LIGHT: LONDON BIENNALE

Two worlds will literally collide in Travelling Light, an exhibition which promises to explode London's edgy East End onto the luminescent international art stage when all eyes will be upon it: the opening week of the 53rd Venice Biennale Art Exhibition.

Travelling Light is an exciting collaborative project between a dynamic trio of female East End director/curators, Sophie Wilson of Pharos Gallery, Chiara Williams and Debra Wilson of WW Gallery. Intending to stretch the imagination of their artists through imposing size and weight constraints, the brief demanded that work arrived by post for the London exhibition before being transported to Venice for the Biennale. The dogma has encouraged lateral thinking and some interesting responses: artists used to working on a larger scale have had to challenge their usual practice and leave their comfort zone, often to surprising, silly and outright creative ends.

The exhibition will showcase a total of 58 artists, and submissions have arrived from all over the globe, which is appropriate not only because the theme of this year's Venice Biennale is 'Making Worlds', but because the ethos of community-grounded Pharos and WW Gallery is inclusiveness.

Travelling Light will be open at WW Gallery from 15–28 May. From there it will travel along the trade route to Venice, a path historically well trodden by merchants and hedonists attracted to the pleasure capital of Europe. Then, from 6–10 June, it will be hung in a palazzo between the Accademia Galleries and the Peggy Guggenheim Collection.

A group of all-female artists/documenters of varying nationalities will accompany the curators to Venice in order to make and record site-specific works. One of these artists is Roma Tearne, the Sri Lankan born artist and writer whose first book, *Mosquito*, was shortlisted for the 2008 Costa First Novel Award. www.wilsonwilliamsgallery.com



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Whether you are looking for a boost in your life or career, have lost your job and are worried about the future or are going through a messy divorce, Equanalta will support you and bring you back into optimum balance in every area of your life.

Jackie Hawken is a psychologist and master coach who moves people from a position of pain to one of power. She has a particular interest in helping those who wish to overcome stress and depression. As a Buddhist motivated to help people, she believes that the very purpose of our lives is to seek happiness. A proven way for people to free themselves from their 'washing-machine minds' is with the incredible power of meditation and self-compassion. She uses this throughout her work and teaches it in her workshops – 'How Tibetan Buddhist thought can change your life', 'Be your own life coach' and 'The essentials of mindfulness-based cognitive therapy and CBT in one day'.

Jackie offers one to one consultations and workshops in her treatment rooms in Bristol and London as well as in Europe and the USA. Consultations can also take place by telephone on 0117 9592635 or 07773 361013 or by email on jackie.hawken@btinternet.com or visit www.equanalta.co.uk

LONDON CELEBRATES MUSEUMS AT NIGHT

Museums at Night 2009, which takes place this year on Friday 15 May, organised by Culture24, is part of the European-wide Nuits des Musees celebrations. Now in its fifth year, it is becoming an established feature in the arts and heritage calendar and continues to bring people into museums and galleries who might not otherwise visit.

On 15 and 16 May, the Tate Modern will have a late opening at the Tate Modern Collection, keeping its doors unlocked until 22.00. Tate Modern's Collection features many of the world's most famous artists. At the moment you can enjoy Surrealism, Minimalism, post-war abstraction in Europe and the US, and the three linked movements: Cubism, Futurism and Vorticism.

Or, visit the Benjamin Franklin House at night and tour the beautiful Georgian building by candlelight before enjoying a glass of wine in the basement to hear the chilling story of bodysnatchers.

Events on Friday 15 May include a screening of *Le Mystère Picasso* (The Mystery of Picasso, 1956, Henri-Georges Clouzot) at the National Gallery.

A screening to celebrate Museums at Night, this acclaimed but rarely seen documentary records Picasso painting onto a transparent canvas, offering insights into the artist's creative processes. Also at the National Gallery, *Picasso: Challenging the Past* will be open until midnight.

On the same night, there will be an exclusive candlelit tour at Sir John Soane's Museum, a screening of two mummy-horror movies at the Petrie Museum of Egyptian Archaeology, and open studies at the V & A Museum.

On Saturday 16 May, a 1940s themed dance will take place on board HMS Belfast. There will also be themed nights at the Churchill Museum and Cabinet War Rooms ('A Night in the Shelter'), the Royal Observatory, Greenwich ('A Night in Space'), and at the London Canal Museum and Florence Nightingale Museums. Visit www.culture24.org.uk

A TRIBUTE TO 601 COUNTY OF LONDON SQUADRON

On Wednesday 13 May, members of the '601 Squadron Old Comrades Association' will unveil a memorial plaque at the RAF Museum to recognise the long standing association between the two units.

Prior to the Museum opening in 1972, the site was an active RAF station and home to amongst others, 601 (County of London) Squadron for a total of fifteen years. The sculpture celebrates the historic association of RAF Hendon and 601 Squadron as well as the bravery of its personnel and their importance to London. 601 Squadron fought in many theatres across WWII notably in North Africa and Italy.

Aircraft flown by the squadron include Hawker Harts, Hurricanes and Spitfires. Nicknamed 'the Millionaire Squadron', its ranks include renowned pilots such as Roger Bushell (the driving force behind the Stalag Luft III 'Great Escape'), Max Aitken, Stanislaw Skalski (Polish veteran of the Battles of France and Britain) and the legendary American, Billy Fiske.



SPRING AIR SHOW AT IMPERIAL WAR MUSEUM DUXFORD

Imperial War Museum Duxford's Spring Air Show on Sunday 17 May will celebrate the Best of British in style with an evocative mix of historic and contemporary military and civil aircraft, including the legendary Spitfire, Hurricane and Mustang.

Duxford is south of Cambridge at junction 10 of the M11. Ample free parking is available. For further information, telephone 01223 835 000.



COSÌ FAN TUTTE

Iranian film director Abbas Kiarostami is one of the titans of world cinema. In his opera debut at the London Coliseum on 29 May, he lends a cinematographer's eye to the beautifully observed new production of Mozart's light-hearted tale of love and relationships, incorporating spectacular filmed backdrops, which seamlessly interlace with the on-stage action along with lavish period sets and 18th Century costumes to create the perfect Mozart experience

'We have to preserve the innocence of Mozart's art, which is capable of touching the sensitive, child-like part of the audience' – Abbas Kiarostami

Written and composed at the suggestion of Emperor Joseph II, *Così Fan Tutte* was first performed in 1790. Mozart was at the peak of his creative powers and the score is full of richness and variety. The title, often translated as 'Women are like that' and 'fiancée swapping', provides the theme for an opera which is both comedy and tragedy all at once. While hilarious, it is also a profound and deeply human drama.

Kiarostami was one of the pioneering 'Iranian New Wave' film directors, a Persian cinema movement that started in the late 1960s whose techniques include poetic dialogue and allegorical storytelling dealing with political and philosophical issues. He was among the few directors to remain in Iran when many others relocated to the West after the revolution of 1979. He believes that this base and his ethnicity are at the heart of his strong artistic identity, as evident in his poetic use of Iranian landscape. He has created over 40 films since the 1970's, many award-winning, including *Close-Up*, *Life*, and *Nothing More*, *Taste of Cherry* and *The Wind Will Carry Us*.



The production originally premiered at the 2008 Festival International d'Art Lyrique d'Aix-en-Provence and now makes its much anticipated British debut. Conductor Stefan Klingele, leads the ENO Orchestra and a strong principal cast, through Mozart's enchanting and ever-popular score.

Performances take place on 29 May & 4, 11, 17, 19, 26 June & 2 July at 19.00, 6 & 13 June at 18.00 and 5 July at 15.00.

Tickets are available from the London Coliseum Box Office on 0871 911 0200.

*'The great Iranian director has produced a delightful *Così fan tutte*'* –
The Daily Telegraph.

JAMIE WALTON & DANIEL GRIMWOOD

Jamie Walton and Daniel Grimwood will give a recital at Cadogan Hall on Wednesday 20 May of the two great Romantic sonatas – Sonata in G minor, Op.19 by Rachmaninoff and Grieg's Sonata in A minor, Op.36.

The concert follows the enormous critical success surrounding Jamie Walton's 2008 releases of concertos by Elgar, Myaskovsky, Britten and Shostakovich with the Philharmonia, and Daniel Grimwood's recent recording of Liszt on an 1851 Erard launched at the Wigmore Hall last December.

Described by the *Strad* as 'one of the true greats', Jamie Walton is fast becoming recognised as a rising international soloist with a distinctive voice of his own. Recent reviews have compared his class and style of playing to that of Tortelier and Rostropovich. His Elgar concerto has been hailed by the critics as one of the finest ever recorded.

Walton's increasing discography is placing him firmly on the map as a cellist who is commanding an increasing reputation for his pure, selfless and committed interpretations.

The concert on 20 May (19.30) will begin with Faure's *Elegie* before the two sonatas which were particular favourites of the late Margaret Moncrieff-Kelly with whom Jamie studied. This concert, and a concurrent CD recording, commemorates the great teacher and person she was.

Box office tel: 020 7730 4500.



THE
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Thursday 21 May 2009 at 7.30pm
www.thebachchoir.org.uk



delius
a mass of life

Susan Bullock soprano Susan Bickley mezzo soprano
Nigel Robson tenor Alan Opie baritone
The Bach Choir Philharmonia Orchestra conducted by David Hill

Tickets: £45 (premium) | £38 | £29 | £21 | £16 | £12 | £9

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HIGHGATE CHORAL SOCIETY AT ST. MICHAEL'S CHURCH

Highgate Choral Society is continuing its 130th birthday celebrations on Saturday, 9 May (19.30), with a beautiful concert at St. Michael's Church, Highgate, as part of the 2009 Hampstead and Highgate Festival.

As the UK's ninth oldest choir, (founded in 1878), Highgate Choral Society is one of London's leading choirs, enjoying widespread critical acclaim and an enviable reputation for the high standard of its concerts and championing of both new commissions and rarely performed large scale works.

Saturday's performance will open with Faure's achingly tender and spiritual Requiem, which is always popular with audiences. Second will be Kodaly's Missa Brevis, an inspiring work written during the bombing of Budapest in the second World War, and the programme will be completed with Give Unto the Lord, Elgar's stirring setting of Psalm 29. Tickets telephone 07952 508234.



JUSTIN BOND – RITES OF SPRING

Following his appearance in the title role of Sinderella – The Twisted Tale of a Christmas Crack Whore, singer, songwriter and Tony-nominated performance artist Justin Bond returns to Southbank Centre with his latest solo project: Rites of Spring – songs for the Neo-Pagan Revolution. There will be two performances at the Purcell Room, on Friday 15 & Saturday 16 May.

Justin Bond began writing the songs for Rites of Spring while straddling a log on a mountain in Tennessee on May Day 2008 and has since been touring it with his band to wild acclaim and rapturous applause. Combining cabaret, witchcraft, a punk attitude and neo-folk glamour, this show promises tears, glitter and a rollicking good time.

Tickets available on 0871 663 2500.

BEYOND THE WALL AT BARBICAN

Beyond the Wall is the Barbican's exploration of Chinese music, concentrating on the bridge between East and West and on the influence each has had on the other. The month of May will see the final three concerts of this festival, two of which will be world premieres.

On Sunday 10 May will be the premiere of Yuanlin Chen's Tribe Among Mountains, which was commissioned by the Barbican. Yuanlin Chen is one of China's leading contemporary composers

and experts in electronic music. The concert will also feature Tan Dun's Ghost Opera, in a five movement work for string quartet and pipa, with water, metal, stone and paper. It is inspired by the shamanistic 'ghost operas' of the Chinese peasant culture, a 4000 year old tradition in which humans and spirits of the future, the past and nature communicate with each other. Both pieces will be performed by the Kronos Quartet, with Wu Man on the pipa.

Tuesday 12 May sees another premiere, that of Liu Sola (libretto and music): The Afterlife of Li Jiantong. This chamber opera is based on the story of Liu Sola's own mother Li Jiantong, a historical and political writer who was persecuted during the Cultural Revolution. After her death, her spirit came to her daughter Liu Sola, and these three visitations are the basis for the opera. The world premiere of her new chamber opera will be performed at the Barbican by Theatre of Voices, one of Europe's foremost ensembles specialising in early and new music. In the first half of this concert, Wu Man will play pieces for pipa by Chinese composers.

The last concert, Voices Of the Grasslands, performed by Hangga and Mamer, takes place on Saturday 16 May. Based in Beijing but devoted to traditional Mongolian songs, Hanggai mix throat singing with rock instruments, and dress like men of the steppes even though they live in the teeming metropolis of Beijing. With their elegant songs, top-notch production and strangely familiar tunes, Hanggai have made the leap from folk phenomenon to crossover pioneers. Hailing from the grasslands of Xinjiang province in the far West of China, Mamer is a legendary figure in the Chinese underground music scene – he's been described as the 'Lou Reed of the grasslands'. Mamer's band IZ is credited with single-handedly kickstarting China's alt-country scene; his work has influenced a huge range of acts, including Hanggai.

Box Office on 0845 120 7550.

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Vivaldi: Concerto for strings
Sibelius: Romance op.42
Weber: Quintet for clarinet and string orchestra
Brahms: String Sextet in B flat op.18 (string orchestra version)

Saturday 16 May at 7.30

**St James's Church
Piccadilly**

Box Office 020 7381 0441

YUJA WANG

Twenty-two year old Chinese pianist Yuja Wang is widely recognised for playing that combines the spontaneity and fearless imagination of youth with the discipline and precision of a mature artist. Regularly lauded for her controlled, prodigious technique, Yuja's command of the piano has been described as 'astounding' and 'superhuman', and she has been praised for her authority over the most complex technical demands of the repertoire, the depth of her musical insight, as well as her fresh interpretations and graceful, charismatic stage presence.

Yuja Wang will appear at the Queen Elizabeth Hall on Sunday 10 May at 15.00, in a programme of Scarlatti, Brahms, Chopin and Stravinsky.

Tickets 0871 663 2500.

VINICIO CAPOSSELA BRINGS BURLESQUE SALOON TO LONDON

Singer-songwriter, and Tenco-Award winner Vinicio Capossela returns to London at the Queen Elizabeth Hall on Saturday 16 May. The larger-than-life character, who emerged from the Italian music scene in the early 1990s, presents material from his latest album *Da Solo* (Warner, 2008) in a show that is part freakshow and part burlesque saloon extravaganza.

Vinicio's performances take their inspiration from the sideshows that once appeared alongside circus tents, a musical melange that ranges from Italian Opera to New-Orleans flair with waltzes, wild polkas and American blues.

Southbank Centre ticket office is on 0871 663 2500.



Photo: Michael Cooper.

THE BACH CHOIR SINGS DELIUS'S A MASS OF LIFE

On 21 May, in the Royal Festival Hall, The Bach Choir will be presenting a rare opportunity to hear a live performance of Delius's *A Mass of Life*. *A Mass of Life* is undoubtedly Delius's finest choral work but is rarely performed because of its sheer scale and the technical demands it places on the chorus.

Setting some of Nietzsche's most lyrical and least preaching poetry, *A Mass of Life* is a grand choral and orchestral celebration of life. With eleven sections, containing music which is at times exalted and at times ravishingly beautiful, this is Delius at his very best.

Sir Thomas Beecham was a great champion of Delius's music, and it was he who conducted the first complete performance of *A Mass of Life* in London in 1909. The Bach Choir is delighted to be marking the 100th anniversary of that concert.

Joining The Bach Choir will be Susan Bullock, soprano, Susan Bickley, mezzo soprano, Nigel Robson, tenor and Alan Opie, baritone (*pictured*), as well the marvellous Philharmonia Orchestra. David Hill, Musical Director of The Bach Choir, will conduct.

Tickets for this concert, which begins at 19.30, are priced from just £9, and available on 0871 663 2500 or online by following the link from the website: www.thebachchoir.org.uk



RAISE THE ROOF

A FEAST OF WORDS AND MUSIC

Tuesday, 12th May 2009 at 6.30pm

St James's Church, Piccadilly

in aid of the St James's Church, Piccadilly Restoration Appeal

PETER BOWLES
JOHN SERGEANT
BLAKE Classical Brit Award Winner

Pianist Jenny Trew,
The Flux Sax Quartet
and The Vasari Singers
Artists subject to change without notice

For tickets and further information,
please contact

e: raisetherooft@st-james-piccadilly.org
w: www.st-james-piccadilly.org/raisetherooft
or call the Ticket Office:
t: +44 (0) 20 7192 8200

Tickets
Reserved seats with post concert
reception at Christie's £95.00
Unreserved seats £15.00

**THE CROWN
ESTATE**



RAISE THE ROOF 2009

On Tuesday 12 May, Blake, the biggest selling classical debut group who won the 2008 Album of the Year Award at the Classical BRITs, will be performing in St James's Church Piccadilly to help raise funds for the restoration and repair of this popular London landmark.

Alongside them will be the Flux Sax Quartet, pianist Jenny Trew and the world renowned Vasari Singers, who will present a wonderful early evening concert of words and music with the actor Peter Bowles, actress Joanna Lumley and political journalist John Sergeant.

Concert audiences are just some of the 5,000 visitors a week who pass through the church and its grounds benefiting from all that it has to offer.



Built in the 1670's by Sir Christopher Wren, St James's Piccadilly was a fashionable place to be seen and was much admired by contemporary writers. Today it is still a vibrant hub of worship where prestigious concerts, the Alternatives spiritual centre, a colourful market and practising Christian worship sit comfortably and successfully side by side. The restoration will allow the church to continue to serve the Greater London community for centuries to come.

BLAKE who have just completed a hugely successful 2009 tour are delighted to be supporting the event: *'It was the location of our first sell-out concert in London and our band name is taken from William Blake who was baptised in the church 250 years ago. Hidden away next to the constant bustle of Piccadilly, it's an inspiring location for the arts.'*

The concert takes place from 18.30 to 19.45 at St James's Church, Piccadilly.

To book tickets, or to make a donation to the restoration work, call 020 7192 8200 or visit www.st-james-piccadilly.org/raisetherooft.html

SOUTHBANK CENTRE SUMMER LINE-UP

Featuring top UK and international dance companies at the Queen Elizabeth Hall and Purcell Room, including renowned Belgium-based collective Les Ballet C de la B and acclaimed Brooklyn-based choreographer Ronald K Brown, pioneering young peoples theatre company Teatro Di Piazza o d'Occasione (TPO) and the first Bloom Festival, showcasing dance of the African Diaspora, Southbank Centre's summer season features an exciting and diverse programme of dance, theatre, circus and cabaret.

Returning on 7 and 8 May to the Queen Elizabeth Hall is choreographer-dancer Ronald K Brown and his award-winning Evidence, A Dance Company. Praised by The New York Times as *'one of the most profound choreographers of his generation'*, Brown blends African, modern, ballet and contemporary dance styles to tell stories of the African Diaspora. For two nights only, Brooklyn-based Evidence presents a triple bill, including Brown's latest choreography One Shot: First Glance, inspired by the great African-American artist, photographer, and Pittsburgh native, Charles 'Teenie' Harris, nicknamed 'One Shot'.

Also in May, Australian dance company Lucy Guerin Inc presents Love Me, a programme of three works which explore relationships staged in projected environments. Guerin seamlessly integrates the work of some of Australia's best dancers, visual artists and composers to create three finely wrought studies of love in the void.

From 27 May – 19 July, the hugely popular Edinburgh Fringe Festival venue, E4 Udderbelly arrives at Southbank Centre. The 400 capacity touring performance venue in the shape of an upside down purple cow will host an extensive programme of comedy, circus, theatre and music, including award-winning theatre company Les Enfants Terrible and daring circus acrobats Tom Tom Crew.

Ticket Office on 0871 663 2500.

Westminster Abbey.



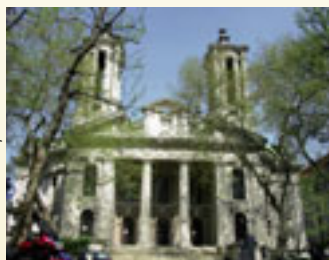
LUFTHANSA FESTIVAL OF BAROQUE MUSIC

'... one of Britain's best music festivals.'
— The Times

The 2009 Lufthansa Festival of Baroque Music celebrates one of the most illustrious periods in English music, the century that fell between the birth of Henry Purcell, 350 years ago in 1659, and the death of George Frideric Handel a century later in 1759.

As Britain's only dedicated baroque music festival, situated among the very streets in which Purcell lived and worked as organist at Westminster Abbey and that Handel too would have known during his 50 years as an adopted Londoner, where better to mark their combined anniversaries?

Amid the graceful 18th-century architecture of St John's, Smith Square, you can hear chamber music, songs, orchestral suites and theatrical spectacles by both composers, while the grand spaces of Westminster Abbey — already ancient when Purcell and Handel



St John's Smith Square.

walked through them — will echo to the sound of some of the magnificent ceremonial music they wrote for that very building, in which they now lie buried.

In addition, the festival explores Georgian music for violin and harpsichord, popular music from London's streets, the world of the English viol consort, dance tunes and ballads from London theatres, and the delicately glowing ambience of the Jacobean lute consort.

An array of outstanding international artists this year includes Concerto Köln, Ivor Bolton, Rachel Podger, Gary Cooper, Alva, The Harp Consort, Early Opera Company, Charivari Agréable, Sonnerie, Robin Blaze, the Choir of Westminster Abbey, Emma Kirkby, Phatasm, Chordophony, Zefiro Baroque Orchestra and Alfredo Bernardini.

The Lufthansa Festival of Baroque Music has been at the heart of London music-making for 25 years and plans to remain there for the next quarter century.

Full details of programmes, venues and how to book can be found at www.lufthansafestival.org.uk Box office 020 7222 1061 or at www.sjss.org.uk

ROBERT LEVIN IN ALL-HAYDN PROGRAMME

American musician Robert Levin has become a living legend as both scholar and performer and his charismatic playing and fearless improvisation have ensured him a loyal and growing following.

As a leading exponent of the fortepiano and expert on the music of Haydn, he is to perform an all-Haydn programme for solo fortepiano commemorating the 200th anniversary of the composer's death this year. The concert takes place at the Queen Elizabeth Hall on Friday 29 May. The following day he joins Elizabeth Wallfisch and David Watkin for a trio programme of classical works.

Box Office telephone 0871 663 2500. www.southbankcentre.co.uk

ARION ORCHESTRA'S 40TH ANNIVERSARY SEASON CONCERT

Arion Orchestra's 40th Anniversary Season continues this week with a concert at St James's Piccadilly on Saturday 16 May (19.30), conducted by Brien Stait.

The programme will start with a fiery concerto for strings by Vivaldi, followed by a passionate, searing Romance by Sibelius. The first half will finish with the welcome return of the brilliant clarinetist Sarah Williamson.

Williamson began learning the clarinet at the age of 8, and in 1997 won a scholarship to the Purcell School of Music, whilst also attending the Junior Department of the Royal Academy of Music. In 2002, she was the concerto finalist in the BBC Young Musician Competition, and then went on to win second prize in the Eurovision Competition for Young Musicians in Berlin.



Many will remember her performance with the Arion in Douai Abbey wearing the striking red dress! On 16 May, she will play the Weber Clarinet Quintet in the arrangement with orchestra; this really is a virtuoso clarinet concerto. The second half will consist of the first String Sextet by Brahms, arranged for orchestra by the conductor.

Tickets telephone 020 7381 0441 or on the door.



JUAN MARTIN FLAMENCO DANCE ENSEMBLE AT THE BARBICAN

The Juan Martín Flamenco Dance Ensemble Tour concludes at the Barbican on 21 May.

A celebrated virtuoso of the flamenco guitar, who has been voted into the top three guitarists in the world by US magazine *Guitar Player*, Juan Martín learned his art in the land of its origin, Andalucía in southern Spain, where he still has a home in Málaga. He spends much time on tour and in London where he has formed an international company, Flamencovision, for the promotion of high quality flamenco which he rehearses and brings direct from Andalucía.

His original method book *El Arte Flamenco de la Guitarra*, in its tenth print, has opened the complex art of the flamenco guitar to the whole world and is assiduously studied from Moscow to Beijing to San Francisco and back to Spain and has assured his name for posterity. This was the first flamenco tour book to go into the music academies worldwide.

He performs with a highly distinctive compositional style formed from his early years in Málaga and developed through wide experience in Madrid, including direct contact with Paco de Lucía. At 17 he featured in the film 'Donde tu estás' filmed in the Málaga area. Further experience and polish came through recordings with the Royal

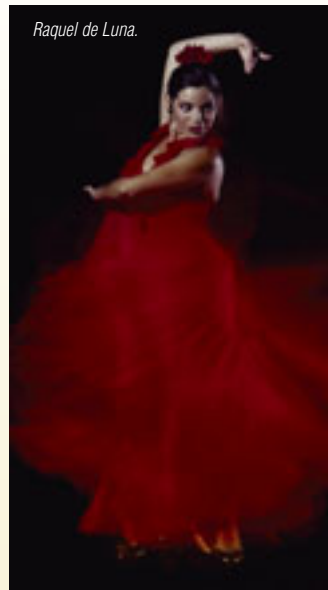
Philharmonic and live performances with artists of the calibre of Miles Davis.

The Spanish paper *El Mundo* said of him, 'he has a terrifyingly good technique and an absolute dominance of the guitar, filling the concert hall with crystalline clarity.' Juan has performed at major International Arts Festivals including Edinburgh, Ludwigsburg, Montreux Jazz solo in 1985 and with Herbie Hancock in 1987.

Also appearing on the tour, Salvador Moreno 'El Tigre' has worked with many Spanish Dance companies and Cuadro Flamencos including Carmen Mota and Antonio Canales. Known for his elegant style, wonderful sense of 'contra-tiempo' rhythm and quicksilver feet, he has toured extensively with Juan Martín's group.

Raquel de Luna, a brilliant dancer from Málaga, trained with the best dancers in Andalucía. She has toured the world and spent over a year touring Asia. With Juan Martín she has toured the UK, Ireland, Turkey and the Middle East and stars in his new DVD filmed in Istanbul. She now has a dance academy to pass on her own unique style.

Tickets are available from the Barbican Box Office on 020 7638 8891.



EXCITING YOUNG CAST FOR QUADROPHENIA

Pete Townshend's legendary rock opera *Quadrophenia* is brought to the stage for the first time for a six month tour of the UK, opening at the Theatre Royal Plymouth on 9 May.

Set in London and Brighton at the height of the Mod era, *Quadrophenia* is told through the eyes of Jimmy, a hedonistic style conscious teenager searching for a place to belong and a girl to love. Misunderstood by his parents and stuck in a dead end job, he sets off on a trip to Brighton that will change his life forever.

The compelling coming of age story is brought to life in this original stage adaptation of the legendary album. The evocative world of sixties Britain provides a colourful backdrop to Jimmy's journey. Pete Townshend's score captures the excitement of a nation on the brink of change.

An intensive casting search and a series of workshops have brought together a cast of hugely talented young performers from throughout the UK who, along with director Tom Critchley, will recreate Pete Townshend's masterpiece for the stage. Townshend, an English rock guitarist, singer, songwriter, composer, and writer, known principally as the guitarist and songwriter for The Who, has said, 'I am excited about this new production. Its genesis in workshop in Cardiff was wonderful, and what is happening now with the Theatre Royal Plymouth feels right-sized on the one hand, but also insanely ambitious for such a tricky piece. It's taken a long time, and a lot of wrangling to accept that *Quadrophenia* is probably never going to work as conventional music theatre. So I hope for a grand and chaotic explosion of music and chorus that revives the memories of being young in the '60s, but also brings those memories to life in the 21st century.'

Quadrophenia documents a culturally significant moment in Britain, the influences of which are still seen today in music and fashion.



'You'd have to go a long way to hear such gripping performances'
'Beyond compare' The Telegraph



Jamie Walton Cello Daniel Grimwood Piano

Following the enormous critical success surrounding Jamie Walton's 2008 releases of concertos by Elgar, Myaskovksy, Britten and Shostakovich with the Philharmonia, and Daniel Grimwood's recent recording of Liszt on an 1851 Erard launched at the Wigmore Hall last December, Jamie and Daniel have returned to the studio to record the two great Romantic sonatas by Grieg and Rachmaninoff. These were particular favourites of the late Margaret Moncrieff-Kelly with whom Jamie studied. This concert and CD recording commemorate the great teacher and person she was.

Cadogan Hall, 5 Sloane Terrace, London SW1X 9DQ
Wednesday 20 May 2009, 7.30pm

JCL
ARTIST MANAGEMENT



HENRY VIII: MAN & MONARCH

Marking the 500th anniversary of Henry VIII's accession to the throne, historian and broadcaster Dr. David Starkey guest-curates a major exhibition at the British Library. Important and rarely displayed items from the British Library's unrivalled Henry VIII collection, including correspondence, key official documents, maps and books from the King's own library, will be exhibited alongside loans from other national museums and collections.

Through a fresh interpretation of rich original source materials, the exhibition examines the extraordinary transformations – personal and political, intellectual and religious, literary, aesthetic and linguistic – that took place in the reign of Henry VIII. It will draw on the British Library's rich and unique collections to explore the beliefs and motives behind Henry's actions, telling the story of his reign from his own perspective.

On display are numerous letters, books and manuscripts written by the King himself. Notable exhibits include Henry's personal Prayer Book, with notes in the King's distinctive handwriting, and a love letter to Anne Boleyn, which had been concealed in the Vatican for almost five centuries. These are just two items in a vast collection which details the life and character of the great Tudor monarch who continues to cast a spell over the public imagination 500 years after his accession.

Seeing such a great focus on Henry – not just the King with six wives – is refreshing; the exhibition reaches beyond the myths and stereotypes, encouraging visitors to reassess their perceptions of the infamous King. The seemingly endless display of manuscripts are presented alongside detailed commentary, providing an analytical look into a person and character so renowned. The writings on their own are works of art, well



The Psalter of Henry VIII.

preserved and easily readable – if one can interpret the Old English, that is.

Though mostly relying on texts to provide historical context, the British Library also provides a selection of portraits, tapestry, armour, plates, jewellery and sculpture on loan from other national museums and collections. It creates a visually stunning exhibition that offers new insights into Henry VIII's way of thinking and the huge changes that took place during his reign.

Accompanying the exhibition will be a variety of events offering a rich mix of performances, talks and family fun days, screenings and more. A free lunchtime performance by one of the UK's leading vocal consorts, Alamire, will take place on 24 June and David Starkey will give a lecture on 12 May, which will explore the world of Henry VIII.

Jessica Rowe

THE DEFINITIVE THELWELL AT THE CHRIS BEETLES GALLERY

Chris Beetles will open The Definitive Thelwell, the first selling show of work by Norman Thelwell in 20 years, on Wednesday 13 May. As the most popular cartoonist since the Second World War, Norman Thelwell's work remains as relevant and as rib-tickling as ever. He is best remembered for his cheeky fat ponies, beloved of almost every teenager who has ridden a horse. Indeed, his strip in the Sunday Express, featuring Kipper and his rider, Penelope, proved so popular that a certain kind of pony was nicknamed 'Thelwell'. However, Thelwell was a wide-ranging artist, who tackled many subjects for a variety of newspapers and periodicals, including Punch.

Thelwell had a strong understanding of many aspects of post-war Britain and of the British character, and may be considered the heir to the Punch cartoonist, Pont. From estate agents to battery farmers, and from hunt protestors to harassed motorists, he chronicled the minutiae of our social lives – at work, rest and play. Thelwell convinced us to his view of the world through his original and engaging approach to draughtsmanship. An accomplished landscape painter, he produced detailed, naturalistic settings for lively, comic figures that represent, what he called, 'the endearing lunacy of human behaviour'.

As the leading dealer in illustrators and cartoonists, Chris Beetles mounted a huge sell-out show of Norman Thelwell in 1989. The Definitive Thelwell provides an even more comprehensive cross-section of the work of this essential British artist, with over 150 drawings and watercolours.

Chris Beetles Gallery is at 8 & 10 Ryder Street, SW1. Tel: 020 7839 7551.

JOHN MEYER: INVOLUNTARY CONSEQUENCES AT ALBEMARLE

Whether painted in a series of cinematic narratives or as a drama encapsulated within a single frame, the dramatic tensions inherently present in John Meyer's painterly scenes remain undissipated. Meyer is widely regarded as South Africa's foremost realist painter, his astonishing technical acumen and astute, almost obsessive eye for detail made it inevitable that he would gravitate towards the genres of landscape and portraiture, from which he established and cemented his reputation as an artist of international renown. In fact, Meyer joins an illustrious and expanding pantheon of international artists, such as Lucien Freud and Chuck Close, who have propelled the conventions of realist figurative painting to previously unexplored depths.

John Meyer's recent work transcends the specifics of locale, time and genre and is on view at the Albemarle Gallery, 49 Albemarle Street, W1, until 30 May. Telephone 020 7499 1616.

'HOURS OF DEVOTION' & 'SHELF LIFE' AT COLNAGHI

'Hours of Devotion' & 'Shelf Life' is an exhibition of photographic work by the British artist and Jerwood Photographic Prize-winner Veronica Bailey, a collaboration between Bernheimer Fine Art Photography (for Colnaghi) and GBS Fine Art. Thirteen large works from 'Hours of Devotion' and twenty from 'Shelf Life' will hang at Colnaghi, 15 Old Bond Street, until 6 June. Colnaghi is the oldest Old Master dealer in London, and has a tradition of exhibiting photography beginning with Roger Fenton in the 1850's, when he showed images from The Crimean War.

'Hours of Devotion' is a body of work that resulted from an invitation from Coutts, one of the oldest and most prestigious banks in London, to explore their Old Staff Library, founded by Angela Burdett-Coutts (1814-1906) in the 1850's as a philanthropic resource for Coutts' staff.

'Hours of Devotion' at Colnaghi, offers collectors the chance to view



Russell's Modern Europe.

images inspired by the Coutts' Library whilst surrounded by The Colnaghi Library. One of the largest art libraries in private hands, The Colnaghi Library was responsible for the publication of the first photographically illustrated catalogue in 1858.

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MAYOR OF LONDON

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THE FRONTLINE RETURNS TO SHAKESPEARE'S GLOBE

Shakespeare's Globe is to present a revival of Ché Walker and Matthew Dunster's triumphant hit *The Frontline*, between 5 and 23 May. Ché Walker's frank and funny play is set on a Saturday night outside a London tube station. Twenty three actors overlap in this fast-paced, exuberant tale, bringing modern London onto the Globe stage.

The world première of *The Frontline* in 2008 signified the first new play at the Globe to be set in contemporary surroundings and proved to be a big hit, bringing a fresh energy and new audiences to the theatre.

The partnership between Matthew Dunster and Ché Walker was a particular success, and both have gone on to attract substantial projects this year. Matthew Dunster returns to the Globe after his hit production of *Macbeth* at the Royal Exchange Manchester and will direct the Globe's first full-scale production of *Troilus and Cressida* in July. Ché Walker won the George Devine Award for his play *Flesh Wound* at the Royal Court, and has also reworked *Been So Long* into a new musical comedy, which premières at the Young Vic in June.

The Globe's Young Hearts theatre season includes Shakespeare's *Romeo & Juliet*, *As You Like It*, *Troilus and Cressida* and *Love's Labour's Lost*. The Globe will also present two other new plays: *Helen* by Euripides in a new version by Frank McGuinness and *A New World: A Life of Thomas Paine* by Trevor Griffiths. In addition to its main stage programme the Globe will present two national small-scale tours of *The Comedy of Errors* and *A Midsummer Night's Dream*.

For tickets call 020 7401 9919.



Dido, Queen of Carthage. Front centre: Mark Bonnar (Aeneas). Behind left-right: Gary Carr (Cloanthus), Alan David (Ilieneus), Ryan Sampson (Sergestus) & Stephen Kennedy (Achates).

DIDO, QUEEN OF CARTHAGE

After a comic start, James Macdonald's production of Christopher Marlowe's rarely revived tragedy (dating probably from the 1580's) builds in power to reach an unexpectedly poignant yet simply staged climax. From the opening scene with a louche Jupiter lounging on high with a semi-naked youth, it becomes progressively more earthbound. The gods are never far away, though, always ready to meddle with the mortals' desires.

Siobhan Redmond's sashaying, shape-shifting, Venus manipulates the love life of her son, Aeneas (Mark Bonnar), pushing him into the arms of the Carthaginian queen who is captivated by his movingly delivered account of the terrible sacking of Troy. Anastasia Hille plays Dido as a girlish creature, hungry for his affection as she proudly shows him her gallery of rejected suitors and dismisses the attentions of the King of Gaetulia for whom, in turn, her sister nurses an unrequited passion.

With its uneven mixture of tone and tempo, this youthful work (which owes much to Virgil's *Aeneid*) proves most compelling in its stillest, candlelit moments. Here, the emotional intensity of the war-damaged soldier's memories, and, later, the desperation of the love-struck queen whom he fatally abandons to set sail for Italy, reach out to the audience unadorned and the effect is riveting.

Cottesloe Theatre

Louise Kingsley

DONMAR NEW WYNDHAMS SEASON

Following the Donmar's year long residency at the Wyndham's Theatre, the new season has been announced for the company's home base in Covent Garden.

Ibsen's *A Doll's House*, in a new version by Zinnie Harris, is followed by Tennessee Williams' *A Streetcar Named Desire*. This is then followed by Pedro Calderon de la Barca's *Life is a Dream* in a new version by Helen Edmundson and the season concludes with the world première of *Red*, by John Logan, directed by Michael Grandage.

Juan Martín

FLAMENCO ENSEMBLE

A dazzling company of dancers and musicians!



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OF THE
FLAMENCO
GUITAR
TRADITION"**
THE TIMES

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PLAYS

THE 39 STEPS

Maria Aitken's tongue-in-cheek adaptation of John Buchan's whodunnit has four actors playing 150 parts and includes all the legendary scenes from Hitchcock's movie.

CRITERION THEATRE

Piccadilly Circus, WC2 (0844 847 1778)

A VIEW FROM THE BRIDGE

Major revival of Arthur Miller's play with Ken Stott and Mary Elizabeth Mastrantonio. Lindsay Posner directs. Until 16 May.

DUKE OF YORK'S

St. Martin's Lane, WC2 (0870 060 6623)

THE WOMAN IN BLACK

An innocent outsider, a suspicious rural community, a gothic house and a misty marsh are the ingredients of this Victorian ghost story, now in its 17th year.

FORTUNE THEATRE

Russell Street, WC2 (0870 060 6626)

ENJOY

Famously Alan Bennett's first theatrical failure when it premiered in 1980, director Christopher Luscombe has triumphantly re-visited the play to universal critical acclaim. Until 16 May.

GIELGUD THEATRE

Shaftesbury Avenue, WC2 (0844 482 5130)

Royal National Theatre

(Plays In Repertory)

OLIVIER THEATRE

DEATH AND THE KING'S HORSEMAN

Set against the conflict of indigenous and invader in Nigeria, 1943, Nobel Laureate Wole Soyinka's play examines the essence of corruption and the power of human will, as the Horseman of the newly dead King prepares to escort him to the afterlife.

ENGLAND PEOPLE VERY NICE

A riotous journey through four waves of immigration from the 17th century to today. The emerging pattern shows that white flight and anxiety over integration is anything but new.

LYTTELTON THEATRE

BURNT BY THE SUN

Poised at the beginning of Stalin's Great Terror, the play depicts a brutal future encroaching on the last days of a fading world.

TIME AND THE CONWAYS

J B Priestley was fascinated by the study of time. Writing in 1937, he saw how Britain was complacently failing to learn from history and charging headlong towards another conflagration.

COTTESLOE THEATRE

MRS AFFLECK

Samuel Adamson's new play takes Ibsen's 'Little Eyolf' as the inspiration for a passionate and tragic tale of obsessive love, set in 1950 England.

DIDO, QUEEN OF CARTHAGE

The wit and sheer poetry of Christopher Marlowe's first play is set on the shores of Carthage and tells the story of Dido and Aeneas.

NATIONAL THEATRE

South Bank, SE1 (020 7452 3000)

WAR HORSE

The National Theatre's new epic based on the celebrated novel by the Children's Laureate (2003-5), Michael Morpurgo. Actors work with magnificent life-size puppets on a gruelling journey through history.

NEW LONDON THEATRE

Drury Lane, WC2 (0844 412 4654)

CALENDAR GIRLS

The true story of the members of the Woman's Institute who shun their usual cake baking and jam making in order to produce a nude calendar to raise money for Leukaemia Research.

NOEL COWARD

St Martin's Lane, WC2 (0870 850 9175)

THE MOUSETRAP

Agatha Christie's whodunnit is the longest running play of its kind in the history of the British theatre.

ST MARTIN'S THEATRE

West Street, WC2 (0870 162 8787)

THE LAST CIGARETTE

Warm, candid and with a double dose of dark humour, this dramatisation of Simon Gray's 'The Smoking Diaries' was completed just before his death last summer. Felicity Kendal stars.

ORDINARY DREAMS

Deepening recession, uninspiring job, antisocial neighbours and rubbish on the streets, this dark comedy follows four thirty-somethings in their search for happiness.

TRAFALGAR STUDIOS

Whitehall, SW1 (0870 060 6632)

WAITING FOR GODOT

Samuel Beckett's classic play originally exploded onto the London stage 50 years ago when it shocked as many people as it delighted. This new production stars Ian McKellan and Patrick Stewart.

THEATRE ROYAL HAYMARKET

Haymarket, SW1 (0870 400 0626)

DUET FOR ONE

Deeply moving psychological drama about a brilliant concert violinist who is forced to rethink her career and her life after being diagnosed with multiple sclerosis.

VAUDEVILLE THEATRE

Strand, WC2 (0870 890 0511)

MADAME DE SADE

Yukio Mishima's play, translated from the Japanese by Donald Keene, starring Judi Dench, directed by Michael Grandage. Until 23 May.

WYNDHAM'S THEATRE

Charing Cross Road, WC2 (0870 950 0925)

MUSICALS

JOSEPH AND THE AMAZING TECHNICOLOR DREAMCOAT

Tim Rice and Andrew Lloyd Webber's family musical based on the Biblical story of the errant son and his jealous brothers. Includes the hit song, 'Any Dream Will Do.'

ADELPHI THEATRE

Strand, WC2 (0870 403 0303)

DIRTY DANCING

Based on the '80s movie, this famous tale involves a daddy's girl and a dance instructor at a New York holiday resort during the long, hot summer of 1963.

ALDWYCH THEATRE

Aldwych, WC2 (0870 4000 704)

WICKED THE MUSICAL

Hit Broadway story of how a clever, misunderstood girl with emerald green skin and a girl who is beautiful and popular turn into the Wicked Witch of the West and Glinda the Good Witch in the Land of Oz.

APOLLO VICTORIA THEATRE

Wilton Rd, SW1 (0870 161 1977)

CHICAGO

A dazzling mixture of sinuous bodies, tough broads, murder and fickle fame, the Ebb-Fosse musical goes from strength to strength in this monochrome production.

CAMBRIDGE THEATRE

Earlham Street, WC2 (0870 890 1102)

SUNSET BOULEVARD

A new and intimate production of Andrew Lloyd Webber's highly acclaimed musical, which premiered at the Adelphi Theatre in 1993.

COMEDY THEATRE

Panton Street, SW1 (0870 060 6637)

WE WILL ROCK YOU

A unique collaboration between the legends of rock and Ben Elton, reflecting the scale and spectacle that marked Queen's live performances.

DOMINION THEATRE

Tottenham Court Rd, W1 (0870 169 0116)



Ian McKellan in *Waiting for Godot*.

A LITTLE NIGHT MUSIC

Set to a score in waltz time by Stephen Sondheim, the story turns on four couples over a midsummer weekend in turn-of-the-century Sweden, where affairs of the heart are uppermost.
GARRICK THEATRE
Shaftesbury Avenue, WC2 (0844 412 4662)

THE PHANTOM OF THE OPERA

Long running epic romance by Andrew Lloyd Webber, set behind the scenes of a Paris opera house, where a deformed phantom stalks his prey.
HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE
Haymarket, SW1 (0870 890 1106)

THE LION KING

Disney's phenomenally successful animated film is transformed into a spectacular stage musical, a superb evening of visual delight.
LYCEUM THEATRE
Wellington Street, WC2 (0870 243 9000)

THRILLER – LIVE

Spectacular, high octane show celebrating the career of the King of Pop, Michael Jackson and the Jackson 5.
LYRIC THEATRE
Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (0870 890 1107)

STOMP

This British theatrical sensation has enthralled audiences across the world with its combination of theatre, dance, comedy and percussion.
NEW AMBASSADORS
West Street, WC2 (020 7369 1761)

SPRING AWAKENING

Inspired by Frank Wedekind's 1891 masterpiece of repressed emotion and adolescent passion, Steven Sater and Duncan Sheik's new musical explodes onto the West End stage following a sell-out season at Lyric Hammersmith.
NOVELLO THEATRE
Aldwych, WC2 (0870 950 0935)

PRISCILLA THE MUSICAL

Based on the Oscar award winning film, a glamorous Sydney based performing trio take their show to the middle of the Australian outback.
PALACE THEATRE
Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (0870 895 5579)

BLOOD BROTHERS

Willy Russell's powerful musical about twins from Liverpool, separated at birth, whose paths cross in friendship and finally in bloodshed.
PHOENIX THEATRE
Charing Cross Road, WC2 (0870 060 6629)

GREASE THE MUSICAL

Inimitable slice of 50s Americana, bursting with denim, cheerleaders and well-oiled quiffs. Summer Nights, Hopelessly Devoted to You, You're The One that I Want and many more get audiences dancing in the aisles.
PICCADILLY THEATRE
Denman Street, W1 (0870 060 0123)



Cameron Mackintosh's revival of Lionel Bart's musical masterpiece 'Oliver' is playing at Theatre Royal Drury Lane. Box Office 0870 890 1109.

LA CAGE AUX FOLLES

Major revival of the classic Jerry Herman musical, which became the biggest new American musical of the decade when it opened on Broadway in 1983. A timeless and deliciously funny tale of family values and the need to be proud of who we are, and where life is never a drag!
PLAYHOUSE
Northumberland Avenue, WC2 (0870 060 6631)

JERSEY BOYS

Rags to riches tale of four blue collar kids working their way from the streets of Newark to the heights of stardom as Frankie Valli and The Four Seasons. Features such hits as 'Can't Take My Eyes Off You', 'Big Girls Don't Cry' and 'Sherry'.
PRINCE EDWARD THEATRE
Old Compton Street, W1 (0870 850 9191)

MAMMA MIA

Hit musical based on the songs of ABBA, set around the story of a mother and daughter, on the eve of the daughter's wedding.
PRINCE OF WALES THEATRE
Old Compton Street, W1 (0870 850 0393)

LES MISERABLES

Much praised and spectacularly staged version of Victor Hugo's epic novel. Mon-Sat at 19.30. Mats Weds & Sat at 14.30.
QUEENS THEATRE
Shaftesbury Avenue, WC2 (0870 950 0930)

CAROUSEL

The story of the love affair between Billy Bigelow, a smooth-talking carousel barker, and Julie Jordan, plus one of the most celebrated scores of all time, including The Carousel Waltz, If I Loved You, June is Bustin' Out All Over and You'll Never Walk Alone.
SAVOY THEATRE
Savoy Court, WC2 (0870 164 8787)

HAIRSPRAY THE MUSICAL

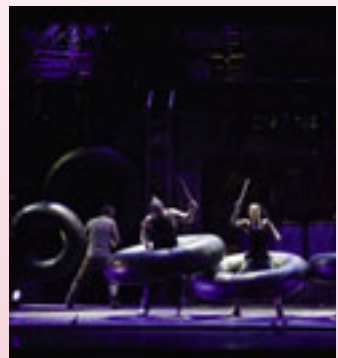
Tracy Turnblad, the big girl with the big hair and an even bigger heart goes from 60s style dance show to a downtown rhythm and blues record shop in this musical based on the John Waters movie.
SHAFTESBURY THEATRE
Shaftesbury Avenue, WC2 (020 7379 5399)

OLIVER!

Cameron Mackintosh's revival of Lionel Bart's musical masterpiece, starring Rowan Atkinson as 'Fagin'. The legendary songs include 'Consider Yourself', 'Food Glorious Food', 'I'd Do Anything' and 'As Long as He Needs Me'.
THEATRE ROYAL DRURY LANE
Catherine Street, WC2 (0870 890 1109)

BILLY ELLIOT - THE MUSICAL

The hit British film is transformed into a thrilling stage musical by its original director, Stephen Daldry, with music by Elton John.
VICTORIA PALACE
Victoria Street, SW1 (0870 895 5577)



Theatre, dance, comedy and percussion make up the fun of STOMP at New Ambassadors.

Eating Out

HARRISONS

In Paris recently, I sat in a cosy little bistro near Montmartre and had a meal – nothing fancy, but delicious – cooked by the owner's sister-in-law. I told him how much I was enjoying myself and how, in London, we have so few family-run restaurants. The nostalgia was oozing out of every pore – you could almost hear an accordion playing – but the restaurateur was less romantic on the subject of Parisian gastronomy. There were so many bland chains going up towards the famous Sacré Coeur, he said, they had dubbed them 'les réchauffeurs' ('the re-heaters'.)

Which made us feel so much better. In any case, if there are visitors to this city who despair of all the glossy pizzerias, sushi joints, curry houses and other purveyors of foreign foodstuffs, I can recommend hopping on the Tube. For there, just 15 minutes from the West End, you can find Londoners supping in their local versions of a 'restaurant du quartier'. In Chiswick, for example, amongst several good eateries of note, there is Sam's Brasserie. This is a bustling, meet-all-needs sort of place opened three years ago by a former colleague and protégé of Rick Stein's, Sam Harrison. More recently, the same team opened Harrison's in Balham along the same lines. Had I ever been to Balham before? No, of course not! North Londoners do not cross the Thames to go south, nor vice versa. It makes them feel, er, seasick.

So I can reveal that Balham – to my immense surprise – is a charming neighbourhood full of boutique shops, young professionals, mothers with babies, older people with walking sticks. It is, indeed, like most other London villages, a great and vibrant mix of people – most of whom seem to be finding their way to Harrison's.



What a great place Harrison's is. Fun, informal, with proper food cooked before your eyes (the chef's tables are always booked ahead.) It has three or four different seating areas; as we arrived at our table, past the entirely open kitchen (and I don't mean a show kitchen – the look of concentration on the chefs' faces show they are preparing whole meals here) an assortment of two families with babies were leaving after an early dinner. As we were eating, couples came and went, but a large table of middle-aged people (lecturers? We wondered at first) stayed on to banter over the chocolate truffles, which is when we worked out they were a group who played badminton together. It only needed the local *Stitch'n'Bitch* for a complete neighbourhood profile.

Like many of Rick Stein's restaurants – though I am not for a moment suggesting that Harrison models his brasseries on those West Country temples to seafood – there are a great many appealing fish dishes on the menu. Mussels, oysters, prawns... my so-called vegetarian friend made short work of the potted crab served with toasted sourdough and a homemade pickle of cucumber with dill. This seemed very popular, in fact, at tables all

around; almost as popular as the 'Harrison's Classic Cheeseburger', which kept waiting past adorned with wiggly looking chips and greatly finesse-d salad. The beetroot salad which I ordered came as both dark red and golden versions of the root vegetable, nicely contrasted with pungent feta cheese and big parsley leaves.

After that, the 'something to follow' options were cod sitting on a creamy mound of risotto, the whole delicately flavoured with saffron; calves' liver done pink, with mash and jus and crispy onion rings; and kale on the side, not slathered in anything, just steamed and very fresh. Oh, the blessed relief when chefs know when to restrain themselves.

A bottle of Rick Stein's Hunter Valley Semillon/Sauvignon (he obviously bought the winery whilst on holiday) was just perfect and sold at a perfect price point – £24.50. Though we did try that game of, 'if we weren't here celebrating, we could spend ever so little' – in this case, we thought, less than £20 each by eating one of the substantial mains, drinking a few glasses of the house wine at £13.50 and some water.

Too bad that, in real life, we over-fed ourselves by launching into the orange pannacotta and plum crumble, which left us with that debauched feeling – sincerely meant every time – 'no more food – ever,' and a bill of around £40 each. Oh, well.

I do recommend Harrison's; sample a little local life; taste some real British food; drink in the warm atmosphere of SW12.

Sue Webster

HARRISON'S
15-19 Bedford Hill, SW12
Tel: 020 8675 6900

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