

# THE MIDLANDS ESSENTIAL ENTERTAINMENT GUIDE

MIDLANDS

# What's On

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ISSUE 333 SEPTEMBER 2013



**4 SQUARES WEEKENDER**  
EIGHTEEN-PAGE GUIDE INSIDE

THE DEFINITIVE LISTINGS GUIDE INCLUDING BIRMINGHAM WOLVERHAMPTON WALSALL DUDLEY COVENTRY STRATFORD WORCESTER REDDITCH MALVERN SHREWSBURY TELFORD STAFFORD STOKE

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showing off her Style...

feature inside

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# September 2013

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## Where light in darkness lies...

A light-tastic event has been added to the Shakespeare Birthplace Trust's autumn calendar. Fusing a 3D lightshow with theatrical performances from resident acting troupe Shakespeare Aloud, The Shakespeare Birthplace Lightshow sees some of The Bard's most dramatic scenes performed outside Stratford's popular venue, with visitors also invited to tour the Birthplace by candlelight. The shows run from 22 November to 19 December, each day taking place at half-hourly intervals between 4.30pm and 7.30pm. For further information, visit [www.shakespeare.org.uk](http://www.shakespeare.org.uk).



Shakespeare Aloud actress Jen Stone prepares to play one of the witches in Macbeth at the Shakespeare Birthplace Lightshow

## West Bromwich arts centre to close

West Bromwich arts centre The Public is to close. The venue, which opened in 2008, cost £72million to build and is receiving a £30,000 per week subsidy from Sandwell Council. The council has now decided it can no longer justify subsidising the attraction. A petition calling for the centre to be saved has been signed by approximately five thousand people. The curtain falls at The Public on 30 November, with scheduling being honoured until that time.



The Public, West Bromwich

## Major investment for Shropshire venue

An award-winning Centre of Excellence in Shropshire, used as a training facility by many of the UK's elite athletes, has been turned into a multi-million pound state-of-the-art conference, meeting and exhibition venue. Funded by Sport England, the £6.9million refurbishment of Lilleshall National Sports Centre will enable the Telford venue to compete with some of the country's top conferencing providers.



Niki Evans

## Niki Evans to star in musical's debut tour

Following successes as Mrs Johnstone in Willy Russell's Blood Brothers and Paulette in Legally Blonde, Tamworth lass Niki Evans is set to hit the road again, this time to appear alongside Darren Day in the first-ever UK tour of the musical comedy The 25th Annual Putnam Spelling Bee. The Tony Award-nominated show is based on the lives of six quirky adolescents who've entered into the 'Bee' - a competition in which contestants are challenged to spell a variety of words. Niki stars as judge and former Bee champion Rona Lisa Peretti, who's caught the eye of the senior judge, Vice Principal Patch, played by Day. The show is touring to eleven UK venues, including Birmingham's Crescent Theatre, where it stops off for one night only on 14 October.

The former nineteenth century residence of the Duke of Sutherland, the centre has been transformed into a modern space which can facilitate up to three hundred-and-sixty delegates. The venue boasts thirteen conference and meeting rooms, a one hundred-and-sixty-six-seat lecture theatre, an exhibition hall, four-star campus-style accommodation, and full dining and hospitality facilities. Taster Days are being organised to enable people to preview the facilities. To find out more, visit [www.lilleshallnsc.co.uk](http://www.lilleshallnsc.co.uk)



Lilleshall National Sports Centre

## New acquisition for Gaydon...

Gaydon's Heritage Motor Centre (HMC) has acquired a unique model of MG's record-breaking EX135 car. The acquisition has been made courtesy of a generous grant

from Arts Council England's PRISM Fund. EX135 was the first 1100cc-engine car to exceed 200mph, Major ATG 'Goldie' Gardner claiming the record in Germany in 1939. Of the new acquisition, Stephen Laing, Curator of HMC, commented: "It's fantastic to reunite the model with EX135, adding another piece of the story of MG's record-breaking achievements. It's also great to return the model to the Midlands, as it was made not so far from here, by Wilmot of Birmingham."

## Birmingham venue to host BBC comedy award semi-final

The semi-final of a prestigious competition to unearth the UK's best up-and-coming comic talent is to take place at Birmingham's Glee Club in November. Hosted by Patrick Kielty, the BBC Radio New Comedy Award aims to 'find the best new stand-up talent throughout the land'. Previous finalists have included Alan Carr, Peter Kay and Sarah Millican. The semi-final will be filmed at the Hurst Street venue on 26 November and broadcast live on BBC Radio Four Extra.



Patrick Kielty

## Street performers needed...

An annual festival which celebrates Ironbridge's status as a UNESCO World Heritage Site is on the lookout for people to perform at this year's event. The Ironbridge Gorge World Heritage Festival, supported by Telford and Wrekin Council, is appealing for local buskers, street entertainers and community bands to get in touch if they wish to perform at the event on 21 September. Anyone interested should contact Traci Dix-Williamson on 01952 435900.



## The Rizzle Kicks pop-up in Birmingham

Brighton hip-hop duo Rizzle Kicks (Jordan 'Rizzle' Stephens and Harley 'Sylvester' Alexander-Sule) are winging their way to Birmingham this month, appearing at the Great Western Arcade on Colmore Row on 6 September to celebrate the launch of their much-anticipated second album, *Roaring 20s Imaginarium*. And the pair have certainly devised an innovative way of promoting their latest release! On the morning of the 6th, fans can pick up a copy of *Roaring 20s* from their nearest HMV shop and take it along to the duo's pop-up *Imaginarium* store on Colmore Row, where exclusive merchandise will be on sale. And what's more, the first one hundred-and-fifty people through the door will have the added benefit of enjoying Jordan and Harley in performance, supported by a full live band.



## Open auditions in Coventry

Coventry's Belgrade Theatre is on the lookout for young performers interested in appearing in the chorus for this year's Christmas production of *Jack And The Beanstalk*. The auditions take place at the theatre on 8 September, and are open to all children aged between nine and sixteen. Registration forms can be downloaded from [www.belgrade.co.uk](http://www.belgrade.co.uk), or hard copies can be collected in advance from the theatre box office.



## New Birmingham landmark opens its doors.

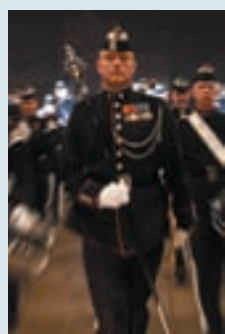
This month sees the long-awaited opening of the iconic Library of Birmingham (on 3 September). Standing proud in Centenary Square, the multi-million pound development is Europe's largest public library, and a significant addition to the cultural landscape of the second city. Expected to attract in excess of three million visitors each year, the library will be home to Birmingham's world-class collection of archives, photography and rare books - including four thousand books available on the venue's public floors. A Discovery Season, featuring numerous events inspired by the archives and collections services, marks the opening of the library, as does 4Squares Weekender, a cultural event taking place in the city centre from 6 to 8 September (see pages 57 to 73).

The opening of the new library coincides with the reopening of the adjacent Birmingham Repertory Theatre. Check out what visitors can expect from the revamped REP in our interview with the venue's Artistic Director, Roxana Silbert, on page 6.

### IN BRIEF

#### Military Tattoo celebrates twenty-five years

Britain's biggest indoor military tattoo celebrates its silver anniversary this year - and plans are afoot to mark the occasion in style. Military bands from the UK, Norway, Belgium and Slovenia will appear alongside marching bands, gymnasts, dog display teams and numerous other performers at the NIA on Saturday 30th November and Sunday 1st December.



#### Third Ceramics Biennial launches in Stoke

This month sees the launch of the third Stoke-on-Trent British Ceramics Biennial, showcasing the best of the UK's contemporary ceramics. The 2013 festival (28 September - 10 November) brings a strong international flavour to the city, with work from over thirty Scandinavian artists displayed alongside pieces from thirty-five of 'the best of the current crop of UK ceramic graduates'. The event is offering a £10,000 award to the artist who most displays 'exceptional creativity in their work'. Three venues - the China Hall at the original Spode factory site, the AirSpace Gallery, and the Potteries Museum & Art Gallery - will each host a variety of exhibitions. A Guerrilla Ceramics Trail and Artists' Soup Kitchen are just two of the associated events. For further information, visit [www.britishceramicsbiennial.com](http://www.britishceramicsbiennial.com)

#### Birmingham to host Europe's first major photorealism retrospective

A new exhibition devoted entirely to photorealism opens at Birmingham Museum & Art Gallery in November. The first and largest display of its kind in Europe, *Photorealism: 50 Years Of Hyperrealistic Painting* showcases paintings by all the major photorealists - including Birmingham-born artist John Salt, whose work more recently featured at Ikon Gallery. Of the museum's impending exhibition, Andy Horn, Head of Exhibitions, said: "Not since the 1970s has there been the opportunity to view so many photorealist paintings in one place. This exhibition - the first in Europe to gather all the star names of the genre - is a real coup for Birmingham Museum & Art Gallery." The exhibition runs until 30 March 2014.





# Welcome home!

The REP returns to Centenary Square



**Having spent a nomadic two-and-a-half years working out of other city theatres and arts venues, The REP this month returns to its newly revamped home in Centenary Square to start a new chapter in its history; a chapter which sees Birmingham's only major producing theatre integrated with the city's new multi-million pound development and latest landmark, the Library of Birmingham. What's On recently caught up with Artistic Director Roxana Silbert to talk about the changes...**

**What excites you most about the newly revamped Birmingham Rep, Roxana?**

Obviously the new three hundred-seater theatre is a blessing, and the thought of the works that we're able to do in it is really exciting. It's just opened up all sorts of options, not only in terms of collaborating with the new Library of Birmingham, but in terms of the kind of shows which we can now do - pieces which would be exposed in the main house, but at the same time would have been squeezed into The Door. That, in itself, is a huge gift. And I think what's been done with the public spaces is really exciting. It really opens the theatre up to the outside world. It's very accessible, allowing people just to pop in off the street. To mark the relaunch, we're going to open with an exhibition which continues the work of The Rep 100. It will be wonderful to put things into that space which make it interactive.

**And what about companies and performers visiting The REP?**

The studio is amazing and the rehearsal rooms are to die for, because they're large, have natural light and are also really quiet. I can't tell you how many rehearsal rooms I've been in where there's no natural light and it's absolutely freezing, so just being able to rehearse somewhere like we've now got at The REP will make an enormous difference. It's all very lovely, but I think the real success of the revamp is the public space.

**What are the most noticeable differences for theatre-goers?**

We'll now be able to offer a much broader range of work. I think people will be more comfortable - the seats are better, the air-conditioning is better, the access is better. We have far better catering facilities and, as well as a new restaurant, there will be portable drinks facilities, which can give a cabaret feel to spaces like The Door when needed. There's also a child area, where mums can come along and hang out with their kids. Generally, it'll just be a far more welcoming place. The catering side of things is also very exciting. We're working with Searcy's, an amazing catering company who run the catering at The Barbican and The National Portrait Gallery - so the quality of refreshments and food that we can offer visitors to the restaurant, as well as visiting companies and businesses, is a lot higher. There are banqueting suites which are dedicated to renting for businesses. We won't use those for any kind of artistic activity; they're there purely to maximise potential revenue. There was a focus when putting the building together that would allow us to maximise the business income without sacrificing the artistic output, and that's been the balance to find.

**The new building design was agreed before your time at The REP. If you'd have had any involvement, is there anything you'd have done differently?**

Not at this stage. What will be interesting to me is to see how the building is used, the flow of people, and how the new entrance, which links us to the Library, affects people coming in. I don't think you really know until a few months into a building being used if there are things that maybe could have been done differently.

**How will your partnership with the Library of Birmingham work?**

In terms of access, there are now two entrances into The REP. One is the old entrance, with which people will be familiar, the other is a joint entrance with the Library of Birmingham. This is a sort of shared area, with clearly marked areas either side from which to access The REP on the left and the library on the right. This means there's a lot more public space, it will be more creative and there'll be a lot more going on. For example, the Library is launching a Magic Lantern Festival, and we're commissioning two artists to create installations for that event in our spaces. Then there's the studio space itself, which belongs to the library but which The REP is running - the technicians and the people who run the space on a day-to-day basis are from The REP. That's a very connected space, so when we have our programming meetings, we have them together. We have to negotiate and agree how we're going to use the space. There are lots of things that we're both interested in. For example, they're hosting The Writers Festival, and we're presenting an un-produced play, Denmark Hill, by Alan Bennett, because there's a shared interest in that sort of thing. Hopefully that's how things will grow. Generally we have two very distinct identities but will be looking for opportunities where they can merge.

**What are you most looking forward to in the opening programme?**

I'm really looking forward to the opening week, because we've got a show in every space. They're all very different to each other, and I'm excited at seeing those different audiences come together under one roof. The whole programming is quite eclectic - it's eclectic on purpose, and will hopefully draw an eclectic audience. As for performances, I wouldn't want to single out a particular show because it's all about trying to appeal to lots of different people via lots of different bodies of work.

**Long-term, what plans have you got as Artistic Director?**

I'd like to do two things - and, in a way, that opening week will be a statement of intent. I want to bring the best work possible to Birmingham, and at the same time give opportunities to new and emerging talent. For me, it was very important that we didn't open with a home-grown show, because I believe a lot of the focus will be on the building. The great thing about Alan Bennett's People is that it's a show that

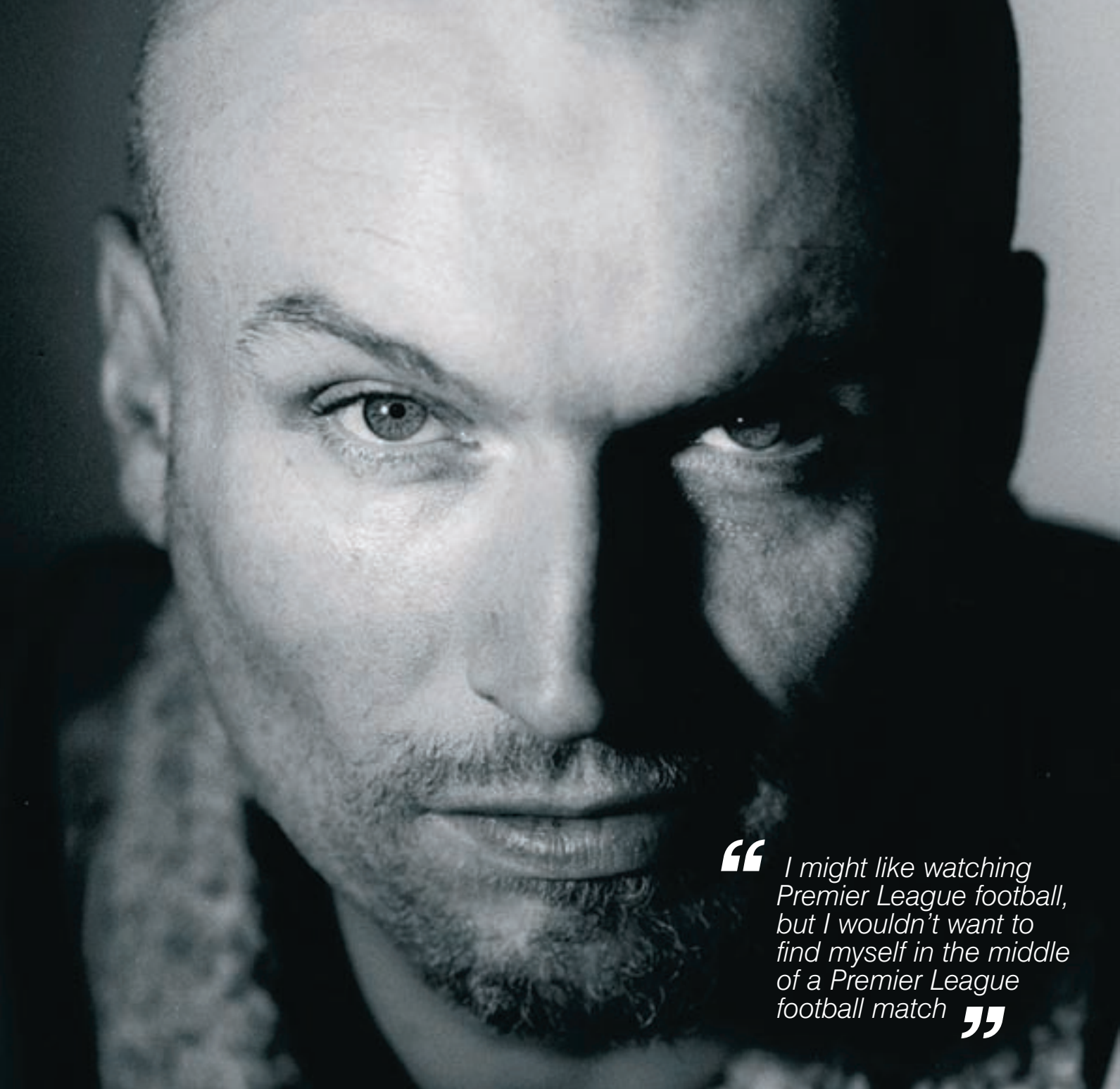
already exists. It doesn't need the reviewing or the type of critical response that much new work does. It's by the country's best writer, it's a National Theatre production, and I wanted to open with something that would be of national, and international, quality. In the studio, we've got Soweto Kinch, who's a local artist with an international reputation. Then, in The Door, we've got a work by a young director and young writer. The Door is about launching the careers of people who will hopefully be the next generation of 'national treasures', if you like.

**Finally, what are your thoughts about Birmingham and the Midlands' arts profile at the moment?**

Lots of companies from across the West Midlands recently got together to discuss how we want to push theatre across the region forward. It was incredibly positive and energetic, despite some hideous financial situations. I think the arts scene is especially vibrant at the moment, which is just amazing. Our plan is to work together, to support each other and move forward.

**Facts and figures about The REP**

- The new STUDIO occupies 357sqm. The flexible and easily adaptable auditorium enables performances to take place in a number of stage formats, including proscenium, open-end stage, thrust, traverse, promenade, and flat floor. The area of The STUDIO can also be raised to 3m-high by stage elevators, enabling more intimate events such as author readings to take place during the day without having to strike or alter the set of a REP production in the evenings.
- Two new rehearsal rooms, measuring 207sqm and 164sqm, offer better facilities for acting companies, with sprung floors, mirrored and draped walls, sound-proofing and lots of natural daylight.
- Ellisons, the UK's leading supplier to the hair and beauty industry, have generously helped The REP with fitting out the theatre's new wigs and make-up department.
- The backstage refurbishment includes four new apartments for use by visiting directors, designers and performers. The apartments have been designed and furnished by IKEA Birmingham, along with a new green room and public foyer lighting installation. All fittings, furnishings and designs have generously been provided by IKEA Birmingham.
- The TREATS, a new retail outlet in the foyer, will sell ice creams, sweets, snacks, programmes, play texts and merchandise.
- The fourteen dressing rooms are now all en-suite and can accommodate up to fifty-six actors at any one time.
- The REP re-opens with Alan Bennett's People on 3 September.



“ I might like watching Premier League football, but I wouldn't want to find myself in the middle of a Premier League football match ”

# Mark Ravenhill

exploring Voltaire's *Candide* for the RSC...

rehearsal shots from *Candide*





Often described as the 'greatest modern-day playwright', Mark Ravenhill's work ranges from the controversial 1995 play *Shopping And F\*\*\*ing* through to much-acclaimed adaptations of Bertolt Brecht's *The Mother and Life Of Galileo*. His latest work, based on Voltaire's *Candide*, is currently showing at Stratford's Swan Theatre. What's On caught up with Mark to talk about what audiences can expect from this latest offering, his involvement in the sitcom *Vicious*, and why he feels he could never write for *The Archers* or *Dr Who*...

**Why choose Voltaire's *Candide* to explore for the RSC, Mark?**

Basically it's just a book that I've always really liked. I first read it a long time ago, and over the years I've re-read it on numerous occasions. Whenever I come back to it, I stumble across something new. The writing is very fresh and funny, and it makes me laugh - and although I've read it many times, it still just comes off the page every time. The great thing about the original book by Voltaire is that, although it's inspired by ideas and philosophy, it can be read almost as a fairytale/adventure story. That said, over the years, I've become a bit more tuned-in to its philosophical side.

**And it's something you can read in small chunks and still get an understanding about, as proved by your bitesize tweets of the story...**

Yeah, each sentence is very simple and very elegant, and there's always a little spring and a bit of irony in them. So it breaks down really well to tweet.

**What's the most recent revelation that you've found with the text?**

The text seems really simple, but within that simplicity are a wealth of paradoxes which leave you thinking. Like with the last line, 'we must cultivate our garden'. What does that mean? Should we forget the world and just think about our own plot of land? Is that the solution to the problem. If we all did that, would everything be okay, or is there a cruelty in ignoring the wider picture and looking after just oneself? It's a sentence that can leave you pondering for days...

**Is there a moral to the tale?**

No, I think we'd probably expect something like this to have a moral, but actually I think it's more about making you think about things, rather than teaching you something. I think what Voltaire set out to do was to satirise his optimism, which was the new, fashionable, philosophical thing - that we were living in the best of all possible worlds. His initial impulse was to satirise that, but I think the book leaves you with lots of questions, so I've used this as a starting point and written an original play - one which is for now and for us, but which still takes some of the questions from the book. It starts off as an adaptation of Voltaire's *Candide*, then changes to a modern setting with modern characters and becomes its own play.

**Which, from what I've read, is quite gruesome...**

There are some gruesome bits, yes, but it's not as gruesome as my first ever Shakespeare play. It's funny how you'd expect that from a classic, but not so much from a modern play.

**What influenced you most when finding the level for this modern-day setting?**

Optimism was Voltaire's starting point, and I wanted that to be mine too. In our everyday lives we're pretty optimistic, perhaps more so than ever. In my grandparents', and even my parents', generation, if you asked people how they were, they'd more often than not reply "Oh, I mustn't grumble...", whereas our generation is more likely to respond, "yeah, I'm doing great. Fantastic!". We're almost expected to always be upbeat, but I think a lot of people have become quite frightened about the whole ecology of the world, and whether there's going to be a planet for our kids and grandchildren. I think we're very fearful. I think we have, in a broader sense of the word, a darker outlook than our parents, but on the front of things we're able to project a happier persona. I think that gap between our optimism and our pessimism is quite interesting, even from a generation ago.

**You've expressed your favour for the use of parallel universes in your works. What advantages does this provide for you as a playwright and for your audiences?**

Reading *Candide* originally, one of the pennies that dropped was that this everyday word 'optimism' was very new at the time. It had a very specific meaning, more like optimal. This was supported by the idea that God had created numerous universes and had decided to put us in the optimal universe. I thought yeah, lots of different universes! Wouldn't it be good to stand in a bubble and look at the numerous versions? I liked that notion, and I think it's something which we can relate to as contemporary people. The idea of there being lots of versions of reality is nowadays very popular, as has been shown by the volume of sci-fi available. In terms of theatre, I think it's just fun. It means you can set up a number of different worlds. There are five in this play, each with its own mood, its own colour, its own experience, and they can all be played off against each other. I think in theatrical terms it's quite fun to have five different versions of reality.

**You've requested that, where people are able to, they read Voltaire's original work before visiting *The Swan* to see this particular production. Is that a realistic ask?**

It's only about one hundred pages long. I think it would be quite nice for people to read, because it's one of those books that a lot of people will have heard of and would be interested in. I'd like to encourage people, and it's amazing how many people do read the Shakespeare plays before they come to see them. It helps give individuals a greater understanding of what's happening on stage. What's great about the RSC audiences is that they want to be entertained but they also want to take something away from their experiences.

**You've been writer-in-residence at the RSC for eighteen months. What's been the biggest learning-curve during your time there?**

It's a big organisation, so learning about all the different people and how it all works has taken time. I was already seeing a lot of the RSC's work, but just to see everything in that period and get to know people and how the company works has been quite an experience. There's so much that's inspired me as a writer.

**You've adapted two pieces by Brecht - *The Mother and Life Of Galileo*. Do you have a particular affinity with his work?**

I do really like Brecht plays. There's a real clarity in his storytelling, and one of the things I was really keen on with *Galileo* was the spark and vigour in the language. He was first and foremost a poet, writing a poem almost every day of his life, and he produced pieces which had a sort of elegance, which were at the same time witty and sharp. I think some English versions have made Brecht a bit woolly and heavy. What I wanted to try and capture was an English equivalent for that real speed of force and energy of thought which is there in the German. What I've tried to do is allow the excitement and the energy of the language and the ideas to come through.

**You've been writing for a number of years now. How has your writing evolved over that period?**

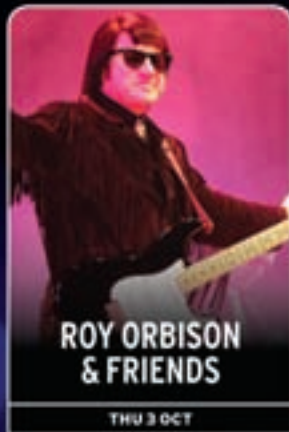
Hopefully it's got better! I've become more confident writing for a bigger cast. We've got sixteen people in *Candide*, and just being able to hold in your head the idea of sixteen people on stage is quite a challenge. Just practical things like that take a while, I think. When I first started writing, just imagining a scene with three or four people was quite daunting.

**You had huge success with the controversial *Shopping And F\*\*\*ing*, and you're often still defined by the play. Does that concern you?**

No, not really, because I think it's a great thing to have. That play toured for a number of years, was seen by lots of people and is still on university syllabuses, so it connects with a lot of people. It's great that there's one play which lots of people know, and it's a good starting point. Inevitably, when you first start writing a play, you base your characters around your own age group. Then, when you get older and more confident, you start to bring in a broader age-range of characters.

**So does that confidence now mean you're prepared to tackle a whole new range of subject matter?**

Although you like to think as a writer that you could write about pretty much anything, there are some things that you'd love to write about but the subjects don't seem to come naturally to you.



# BELIEVE THIS CHRISTMAS...



MANCHESTER EVENING NEWS

'A MIGHTY  
BLOCKBUSTER  
MUSICAL'

THE SCOTSMAN

# GHOST

THE MUSICAL

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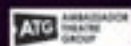
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**Anything in particular?**

Funnily enough, someone once asked me if I'd like to write for *The Archers*, which I love, but as I've never lived in a village and the programme includes some really specific stuff about farming which I know nothing about, I didn't feel I was very well equipped. That said, I did once sit in a room with someone who was going to agriculture college and, entirely based on *The Archers*, I was able to have this whole conversation about 'Setti Side'. Afterwards, he asked me how I knew so much about 'Setti Side', and I had to confess that I'd learned it all from *The Archers*!

**You're a fan of Doctor Who. Would you ever consider writing for the series?**

Yeah, I did speak to them once, a couple of years ago. Again, as with *The Archers*, it's quite a specific genre, so I'm not sure whether I could do it. I'd be quite intrigued to find out, but I suspect I'd be a bit rubbish. I might like watching Premier League football, but I wouldn't want to find myself in the middle of a Premier League football match.

**Where did your theatrical journey begin?**

I suppose I've always worked in the theatre, although originally I was mainly directing. I do understand theatre, and I do think that playwriting came out of my general excitement and enthusiasm in making theatre. Writing was just one of the forms that my enthusiasm took. For me, it's all part of the same thing - acting, directing, writing, producing; it's all just 'making theatre'. As a child I would perform whenever I could, in amateur musicals and school plays.

**Was the prospect of becoming a playwright always on your radar?**

When I was really little I used to make up plays in my bedroom and get my brother to be in them. I didn't make any distinction between the different roles, and even when I was at school and performing in amateur productions, I didn't think about the writing. As far as I was concerned, the writing was something which had been done years and years before. I'd never even met a living playwright. Gradually, at university, I became interested in directing, and then, having directed a new play, I became interested in what it was like to write a play.

**More recently you co-created the sitcom Vicious. How did that come about?**

I wrote a play which Ian McKellan was in at the Donmar Theatre. Talking to Ian, I realised that he and Derek Jacobi had been to university together and had known each other since they were nineteen. Ian commented that no one had ever written anything for the two of them to appear in together, and that if anybody ever did, they'd probably be up for it. So when someone asked for an idea for a sitcom, I said, "yeah, it would be great to have Ian and Derek as this old gay couple who can't live with but can't live without each other". It started from there, really. I just came up with the idea, the title and the situation, and an American writer, Gary Janetti, wrote the script.

**How would you respond to some people's comments that Vicious 'perpetuates a stereotype'?**

It's been really interesting, and it's certainly divided people. Yeah, I think in some ways he's writing about old-fashioned, pre-1960s gay men. I can see a lot of the criticisms, and

I'm aware that it caused proper stand-up rows between people, some of whom found it really offensive. But actually, when I first sat down to watch it on TV, I found I was immediately laughing out loud. I remember thinking to myself; this is a sitcom and I'm laughing, so I think it's working. Despite what my PC head tells me, as long as I'm laughing, then it's passed the comedy test and I'm happy with that, but I can see both sides of the argument.

**Was it modelled on anyone in particular?**

No, I just liked Ian's idea. The fact that they'd known each other so long fed into something, and the two of them get on really, really well. But there is - and I know this more from Ian's side than from Derek's - a certain amount of rivalry there, and you can see that over the years they've played very similar parts. Ian once revealed in an interview that one day, when he was reading the whole of Homer's *Odyssey*, he discovered that, down the road, Derek was reading the same piece for a rival talking-book thing. I think they've had that throughout their careers, so that sort of fed into the initial concept.

**And can we expect a second series?**

All I know is that Derek and Ian aren't available until 2015. I think there's interest on all parts for a second series but it certainly won't be next year.

**You've just returned from Edinburgh, where you gave a speech at The Fringe, asking for theatre companies to be 'more daring, dangerous and naughty' in their choice of work. Can you expand on that?**

This was the first such event - and, as with the Television Festival, they now want a Keynote Lecture at the launch of The Fringe every year. I just think that, in the last twenty years, there's been a lot of really good work in the arts, but a lot of companies have become very well behaved and good at filling in their forms, choosing the right 'art speak' and ticking the right boxes. I think there's a sort of collective illusion that the last few years have been a bit bumpy in terms of funding but that, at some point, the clock's going to be turned back and normal service will be resumed. I don't think that's a realistic expectation, and it provides an opportunity to start thinking differently; not always to think about what's the safest and nicest way to behave so as to attract funding. I want people to be more buccaneering. I think nowadays a lot of young people, as they're breaking through with their shows, are having to train themselves in corporate 'art speak'.

**And what are your thoughts on recent research which indicates that many audiences are currently less inclined to take risks with new work?**

It think it does vary. I've always liked it when I've written a new play and it's toured outside London. You can get quite locked in to the same people going to see the same sort of plays in London. There's a 'new play audience', which often means there's a thick set of responses. If, by contrast, your play goes to, say, Theatre Royal Bath, then it may well be the only new play they've seen all year, so they'll often respond to it in a different way. That's what I love about audiences at Stratford - they're not just locked into seeing lots of new plays or lots of classics, but a variety of different works. And

the responses are certainly more direct and honest.

**Of all the works you've written, which has had the most effect on you personally?**

You tend to do a bit of a stock-take of your life and the world with each play you write, but you do sort of put everything that you have into the play that you're working on at any given moment. Certainly *Shopping And F\*\*\*ing*, which was written on the kitchen table while I was doing numerous part-time jobs, was what set me off as a professional playwright, so I suppose in that respect that one changed my life.

**What sowed the seed for that particular play?**

I was reading and directing a lot of new plays, and although I thought a lot of them were good, there wasn't anything out there which completely summed up how I felt it was to be alive and to be the age I was when I wrote *Shopping And F\*\*\*ing*. I'm probably quite a lazy person, and I was just waiting and waiting for someone to come up with a play which portrayed that. When it didn't happen, I decided to write it myself. I was writing the play I wanted to see, really - and that's still how I work today. I wait around to see if someone writes the play that I want to see, and if it doesn't materialise then I have a go at doing it myself.

**You're often described as the 'greatest modern-day playwright'. Does that give you a confidence to try anything?**

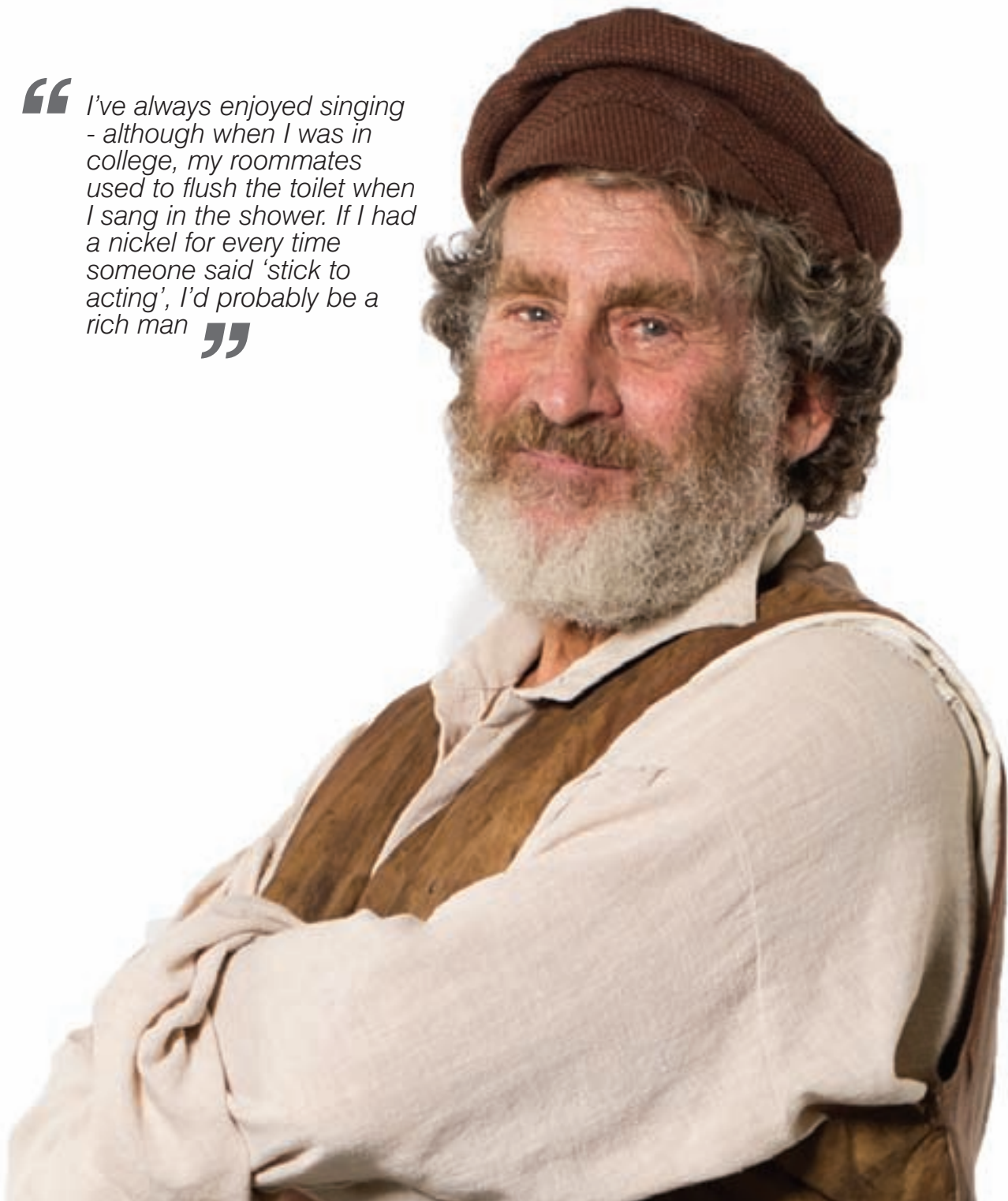
Yes, to try anything, but it's not a forgone conclusion that it'll work! The actual craft of putting a play together is always much bigger than you are. You can spend a few months swanning around and talking to students who're studying your play on the syllabus, or you can go to other countries which are producing your plays, go on TV, talk about yourself and feel very, very grand. But actually, when you sit down and start writing scenes, everything else goes out of the window, because the actual craft of putting a play together is always hard and is always very challenging. It's not so hard that I don't want to do it, but the actual problem of solving things always makes you think that you're starting all over again. It's all very exciting, and it's what keeps me going.

**Finally, as a playwright, what would you like your lasting legacy to be?**

I guess I do think a little bit about posterity. Wouldn't it be amazing if some of the stuff that you wrote could outlive you, and if perhaps in one hundred, two hundred years' time, someone picks up one of your texts and thinks 'let's try and make something of this'. I assume it's alright to hope that someone you're never going to meet and never going to know about may one day pick up your work and want to study it.

Candide shows at the **Swan Theatre, Stratford-upon-Avon**, until Saturday 26 October.

“ I've always enjoyed singing - although when I was in college, my roommates used to flush the toilet when I sang in the shower. If I had a nickel for every time someone said 'stick to acting', I'd probably be a rich man ”



# Paul Michael Glaser

fiddling about in the Midlands...



**Best remembered as one half of TV's most memorable cop duo Starsky And Hutch, veteran American actor Paul Michael Glaser is about to appear in one of his favourite musicals, playing Tevye in Craig Revel Horwood's staging of the much-loved musical Fiddler On The Roof, which stops off in the Midlands next month. What's On recently caught up with Paul to talk about his impending visit to UK shores...**

**So what's the personal appeal for you in playing Tevye, Paul?**

He's a wonderful character, and I really relate to him. He's a bit of an everyman, and he's trying to find his way and reconcile himself to how life is changing. Fiddler has a universal message, and I think that's one of the things responsible for the musical being so successful over the years. I have a real empathy with him, and playing him allows me so many of the things Starsky allowed me. I got to perform a whole range of emotions, and Tevye is very much like that. Another thing that I love about him is that he talks to the audience. He lets them in on his problems. He almost talks to them as his alter-ego. And the role has also given me an excuse to grow a beard!

**Is it true that you've only ever seen snippets of the show before?**

When I was a young actor, doing a play in New York with the British actor Donald Pleasence, we were appearing at a venue next to the theatre where Fiddler On The Roof was playing - the two stage doors were opposite each other. I happened to be seeing a girl in the Fiddler company, and since my show finished about ten minutes before the end of Fiddler, I'd quickly get changed, meet this young lady, and we'd stand in the wings and watch the last five minutes of the performance every night.

**But then you went on to appear in the film version...**

Yeah, for years after catching snippets in New York I'd find myself humming tunes from Fiddler. Then, later, I was offered the role of Perchick, who falls in love with one of Tevye's daughters, in the 1971 film version of the musical.

**So will audiences notice many differences between Craig Revel Horwood's staging and the original version?**

Craig wants to stay true to the original musical, but this new version will have a seventeen-piece orchestra featuring actor/musicians who'll be on the stage, as opposed to in the orchestra pit. For me, that's a new approach, and brings a new dimension that I think will be very interesting.

**Will it appeal to a younger audience?**

I think that we underestimate our youth in terms of what they like, what they understand and what they have an affinity for. For fifty years Fiddler has been a musical which has touched people all over the world - from Japan, Russia, Europe, you name it. It's been everywhere. It has to appeal to all kinds of people to have enjoyed success at such a universal level.

**Fiddler features some of musical theatre's most iconic songs. Are you a natural singer?**

I've always enjoyed singing - although when I was in college, my roommates used to flush the toilet when I sang in the shower. If I had a

nickel for every time someone said 'stick to acting', I'd probably be a rich man. I love singing, and I think I have a good voice. I came over to England to do a couple of pantos. I did Peter Pan and Aladdin, and the reason I did those was that I wanted to get on stage and sing. I really enjoyed that, so when I was asked to do this, I simply jumped at the chance. I love the interaction that you have with audiences in panto, and it's something that I'm also looking forward to with playing Tevye.

**As an accomplished actor, are there any new disciplines you'll need to master for the role?**

I feel very comfortable with it, but that can be both good news and bad news. I imagine maintaining the level of performance for so long could need a bit of discipline. Beyond that, and having to pull a wagon without a horse, I don't really have any concerns.

**It's quite a long tour. How do you plan to make the most of your downtime in the UK?**

I haven't decided yet. I'll be packing everything up and putting my things into storage, so I guess I'll be footloose and fancy free. I think when the tour is over I'll probably want to go to a warm climate, but I don't know whether I'll come back to the US or go some place else. The whole experience is fascinating to me, because it's a bit like taking a deck of cards and throwing it up in the air and seeing where it lands. It'll be a bit of an adventure, which is both exciting and scary at the same time. I look forward to it.

**Away from the stage, you've recently become a published author, with your book *Chrystallia And The Source Of Light*. Was writing something you always wanted to do?**

I always liked it. Unfortunately, in my formative years at school, I didn't get as far as I'd have liked. When I started doing Starsky And Hutch, I started writing dialogue, and that continued once I began directing. When the directing stopped, I started to develop a script that I'd written previously. Then, about fifteen years ago, I wrote a screenplay, but there wasn't the technology at the time to develop it, so I decided to write it as a book. The thing that I find fascinating about writing is that it reveals so much to you about yourself. I realised quite quickly that I was writing about what I'd learned about loss and helplessness during my journey through life. I decided I wanted to share this with people, so I wrote a book which I believe appeals to the child in all of us. I wrote a story in the entertainment tradition of Alice In Wonderland and The Wizard Of Oz, with lots of imaginative characters and strange happenings. *Chrystallia And The Source Of Light* is the story of a fourteen-year-old girl, told in her voice, her nine-year-old brother and their last Christmas with their mum, who's not well. It's

also their last Christmas in their house, because the bank is kicking them out. The girl is angry, but believes in the need to believe, and the children soon find themselves on a journey to this underground medieval kingdom, where everything and everybody is made of mineral and crystal. To a certain extent, it's a metaphor for my life, and at its heart it's very entertaining and enjoyable. It's aimed at kids from nine to sixteen, but I'd like whole families to read it out loud, because it answers an important question: 'what's the purpose of fear in our lives?'. The motivating force behind this whole thing was a tremendous desire to share what I'd learned, and to present it in such a way that people could take it in, enjoy it and learn from it. It's all quite spiritual.

**You briefly mentioned Starsky And Hutch, and it's for your role as Dave Starsky that you're best known. Do you look back at that time in your career with great fondness?**

I enjoy it far more in retrospect than I enjoyed doing it. I have lots of great memories from the show and that time, but it was also a real rollercoaster ride, because all of a sudden it was the best thing since sliced bread.

**Do you see this return to live theatre as opening the door to more theatrical roles in the future?**

It could well do that, or it could send me to the farm! That's not being negative; that's pragmatic. If the role's good, then I'd be up for it. After all, theatre is the actor's medium.

**Is there a particular role you'd really like to play?**

I've always liked Tevye. He's always been on my list. It may be presumptuous of me, but I've always thought that Henry Higgins in *My Fair Lady* would be a good role to play. At my age, I don't really spend a lot of time thinking 'God, I'd like to play this', or 'I'd like to play that'. I go where my creative side takes me; if it's writing, it's writing, if it's acting, it's acting, if it's directing, it's directing, and if it's golf, it's golf. It's just like that...

**Finally, would you say there's a difference between how theatre is received in the UK and the US?**

I think British audiences are much more sophisticated in terms of their appreciation of theatre. In England, theatre's always been held in far greater esteem. In America, everything is far more commercialised. Obviously, commercialism is happening all over the world, but America is leading the way in threatening the creative impulses of society. The English have always respected their theatre much more, and I feel honoured to be able to present myself as this character over in the UK.

Paul stars in *Fiddler On The Roof* at **Wolverhampton's Grand Theatre** from Tues 15 to Sat 19 October.

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£25 - 45\*



### Ed Byrne: Roaring Forties

Friday 25 October  
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Symphony Hall  
£22.50\*

## Classical



### Crazy for Gershwin

Saturday 5 October  
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# Music

## Visage

The Institute, Birmingham, Thurs 19 September

Dust off your eyeliner and pirate shirts... Visage are back in Birmingham! Pioneers of the New Romantic movement, Visage emerged in 1978 from London club Blitz, where founders Steve Strange and Rusty Egan were hosting club nights and searching for new music. Creating the band with Midge Ure, they added Ultravox keyboardist Billy Currie and three quarters of Magazine to the line-up before going on to release best-known hit and club classic *Fade To Grey* (in 1980). Now the band is back with a new album, and will be playing songs both old and new on this *Hearts And Knives* tour.



## The 1975

The Institute, Birmingham, Mon 16 September; The Sugarmill, Stoke-on-Trent, Sun 22 September

Manchester newcomers The 1975 have taken over the charts, and will release their hotly anticipated eponymous debut album two weeks before their Birmingham show. Two of their songs, *The City* and *Sex*, have received extensive airplay, and the tour is already a virtual sell-out thanks to the success of their three previous EPs. Their style has left critics at something of a loss, but has been summed up as 'brooding art rock, crisp electronica, dancefloor R&B, helium hip-hop, shimmering balladry and '80s gloss pop'. The band themselves, however, refer to it simply as 'the sum of our combined experiences'.

## LeAnn Rimes

Symphony Hall, Birmingham, Sat 14 September

American country and pop singer LeAnn Rimes has certainly made the most of her career since bursting onto the music scene at the tender age of thirteen. Her 1996 debut album, *Blue*, reached number one in the Top Country Albums chart, and laid the foundation for a career which has since seen her bag numerous high-profile awards - including a couple of coveted Grammys - and sell almost forty million albums worldwide. This Birmingham appearance comes in support of eleventh studio album *Spitfire*, which enjoyed favourable reviews when it was released earlier this year.



## Paramore

LG Arena, Birmingham, Mon 23 September

Taking four years to release their fourth and latest album, Paramore are playing six huge arena shows in the UK, of which this is one. The band have made a real connection with fans worldwide, courtesy of their much-loved emo tracks, bagging an impressive three Grammy Awards in the process. The group's flame-haired frontwoman Hayley Williams recently proved her feet are firmly on the ground by stating that she still enjoys "cooking a meal, going to the theatre (and) buying records at the store". The band have earned a host of younger fans thanks to an appearance on the *Twilight* soundtrack.

## Fleetwood Mac

LG Arena, Birmingham, Sun 29 September

Having sold more than one hundred million copies of their albums - including forty million of their 1977 hit *Rumours* - it's fair to say that Fleetwood Mac are one of the most popular rock bands in history. This rare outing sees original rhythm section Mick Fleetwood and John McVie once again giving it their all, presenting a gig that draws heavily on a superlative catalogue of music stretching all the way back to the late-1960s. The touring line-up also features Lindsey Buckingham and Stevie Nicks, who joined the band in 1975.



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## Ben E King And Jimmy James

The Jam House, Birmingham, Wed 4 September; The Robin, Bilston, Sun 8 September; The Buttermarket, Shrewsbury, Wed 18 September

Famous for classics including Stand By Me, I Who Have Nothing and Spanish Harlem, American soul legend Ben E King here teams up with the Jamaican-born, UK-based Jimmy James, known for hits I'll Go Where Your Music Takes Me and Now Is The Time. New Yorker Ben was the lead singer in The Drifters before going solo and setting up the Stand By Me charitable foundation. Don't miss this rare opportunity to see him live, in what's being billed the Superstars Of Soul show.



## Rahat Fateh Ali Khan

LG Arena, Birmingham, Sat 14 September

A popular Bollywood and Lollywood playback singer, Pakistan-born Rahat Fateh Ali Khan is primarily a performer of Qawwali, an explosive, devotional music of the Muslim Sufis. "Our family has a six hundred-year-old musical tradition," explains Rahat, "and I just followed in my ancestors' footsteps. At the age of five, my uncle (the late Nusrat Fateh Ali Khan) taught me the nuances of classical and Sufi spiritual music. I have practically imbibed Nusrat sahib's music, and keep learning new things by repeatedly listening to his songs. I am not ashamed of admitting his influence, and will carry on performing in that style for the rest of my career."

## Leonard Cohen

LG Arena, Birmingham, Sun 8 September

With the likes of U2, REM, Sting, Nick Cave and Rufus Wainwright numbered among his many and varied fans, it's fair to say that Leonard Cohen has been one of the most influential musicians of the modern era. A celebrated singer/songwriter of the classic 1960s generation, Cohen's songs have been covered by all manner of artists, from Judy Collins, with her memorable version of Suzanne, to Jeff Buckley, with his seminal rendition of Hallelujah. Cohen's no spring chicken nowadays, of course, but his popularity remains unaffected by the passing of time.



## Krystle Warren

The Glee Club, Birmingham, Fri 13 September

Born in Kansas City, Krystle busked in New York and Paris before making a name for herself with 2009 debut Circles. In so doing, she earned the regard of numerous well-respected reviewers who - thanks to her powerful and husky alto voice - likened her to Nina Simone and Tracy Chapman. Now onto self-produced EP number two, she references musical styles including folk, jazz, blues and pop.

## Jack Johnson

Symphony Hall, Birmingham, Thurs 12 September

Having released perhaps his most famous single, Better Together, eight years ago, Jack Johnson is now touring with his sixth album, From Here To Now To You. A professional surfer until an accident at the age of seventeen left him with one hundred-and-fifty stitches and minus a few teeth, Jack is now a committed environmentalist and family man, as well as an award-winning artist. As with all his tours since 2008, Johnson will donate one hundred per cent of the profits to charity.



## Gilmore And Roberts

The Hive, Shrewsbury, Sun 15 September

Katriona Gilmore and Jamie Roberts joined forces in 2006, and have since released three albums, toured with Fairport Convention and been nominated for the Radio Two Horizon Award. An award-winning songwriter, Katriona is part of The Albion Band, and previously Tiny Tin Lady and Rosie Doonan's Snapdragons. Playing contemporary folk, they combine original songwriting with astounding lap-tapping guitar, fiery fiddle and trademark harmonies, in the process creating a powerful wall of sound.

## The Front Bottoms

The Sugarmill, Stoke-on-Trent, Thurs 19 September; The Institute, Birmingham, Sat 21 September

New Jersey boys Brian Sella and Mathew Uychich are having a busy time of it at the moment. Fresh from finishing their first headlining American tour, they're in the UK with fourth album Talon Of The Hawk, and will also be playing Europe and then Canada before heading home for Halloween. With a punk sound that's epic, anthemic and full of energy, they've been compared to Blink 182. Minus a bandmate now that Brian has left to pursue his education, their music has developed a thicker, more powerful feel. Allison Weiss and Greater Ghost support.

## The Ramona Flowers

Hare & Hounds, Birmingham, Thurs 19 September

Named after the leading female in Scott Pilgrim vs The World, The Ramona Flowers are a Bristol-based five-piece who're just about to embark on their first proper headlining tour. With their video for Lust And Lies receiving a nomination for Video of the Year at the AIM Independent Music Awards, as well as a host of festival appearances behind them, including gigs at Wilderness and RockNess and a supporting gig for Bastille, it's fair to say that their two years of hard graft has really paid off. Arriving at a sound that mixes electronica, rock, indie, singer Steve Bird's incredible falsetto and a lot of emotion, they've been likened to Temper Trap. Cowboy and The Bluebeat Arkestra support.



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## Marmozets

The Slade Rooms, Wolverhampton,  
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Following the musical tradition of keeping it in the family, Marmozets comprises members of not one but two broods - Becca, Sam and Josh Macintyr, and Jack and Will Bottomley. Playing shouty, energetic, post-punk math rock, the youngsters, aged between sixteen and twenty, have put out two EPs so far; *Passive Aggressive* and *Vexed*. Earning comparisons with Paramore and Bring Me The Horizon, they appear in Wolverhampton as part of a nine-date UK tour, their first as headliners. Local bands Lightfire and Mercians support.



## Nick Harper

The Marr's Bar, Worcester, Sun 22 September

He may not have enjoyed the critical acclaim of his famous, cult-hero father Roy, but there's no denying Nick Harper is a hugely talented and much-admired guitarist and singer-songwriter in his own right. And it's hardly surprising that he chose to follow in dad's footsteps and carve out a career for himself in music, given that much of his childhood was spent in the company of Roy's legion of famous friends - the likes of Keith Moon, Jimmy Page, Robert Plant and David Gilmour were all regular visitors to the Harper household. Best known as a solo artist, Nick also scored successes as a member of English New Wave band Squeeze, for whom he occasionally provided additional guitar and vocals.

## The Carrivick Sisters

Henry Tudor House, Shrewsbury,  
Mon 23 September

Laura and Charlotte are identical twins from South Devon who play an original mix of bluegrass and folk-inspired songs. At the age of twenty-three, they've just released their fifth CD, *From The Fields*. Playing original songs, instrumentals and a few carefully chosen covers on the guitar, mandolin, banjo, dobro and fiddle, the duo have been praised for their sparkling harmonies, and enjoyed great success at Glastonbury in the summer.



## Deacon Blue

Victoria Hall, Hanley, Stoke-on-Trent, Wed 11 September; Symphony Hall, Birmingham,  
Tues 10 December

Taking their name from the title of the Steely Dan song *Deacon Blues*, this Glaswegian pop band came together in 1985, releasing the highly regarded concept album *Raintown* two years later. Follow-up offering *When The World Knows Your Name* topped the UK album charts in 1989, with further albums being released in 1991 and '93, the latter just a year prior to the group splitting up. The band reformed on the eve of the twenty-first century, and have performed together on a part-time basis ever since.

## Madina Lake

Kasbah, Coventry, Sun 29 September; The Institute, Birmingham, Mon 30 September; The Sugarmill, Stoke-on-Trent, Thurs 3 October

Breaking fans' hearts the world over, Madina Lake are calling it a day. After seven years, three albums and a gong for Best International Newcomer at the Kerrang! Awards 2007, the Chicago band are closing the book on the tale of Adalia's disappearance around the town of Madina Lake, the concept around which they were formed. They stop off in the Midlands as part of an epic twenty-seven-date UK farewell tour. Support comes from Fearless Vampire Killers and The Super Happy Fun Club. Expect to hear *From Them*, *Through Us*, *To You* in its entirety.



## Cerys Matthews

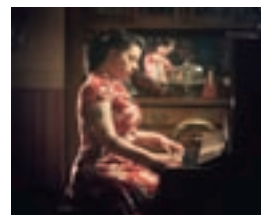
Palace Theatre, Redditch,  
Tues 24 September

Making a surprise appearance at the Hay Festival, Cerys treated festival-goers to an intimate performance of songs from her new book, *Hook, Line And Singer*. A celebration of the songs, lullabies and ballads that the ex-Catania star has collected over her lifetime, it includes *Let's Go Fly A Kite*, *Baa Baa Black Sheep* and *You Are My Sunshine*. Now a Radio 6 Music presenter, DJ, BBC documentary-maker and judge of the Dylan Thomas Literary Prize, she's set to release a new album of 'Baroque medieval songs' this month.

## Davina And The Vagabonds

The Robin, Bilston, Mon 9 September

Noted for their sharp dress sense and high-energy live performances, Blues stars Davina Sowers and the Vagabonds boast a clean sound and place great emphasis on the use of acoustic instruments. Their influences range from Fats Domino to Aretha Franklin and Tom Waits, with Sowers herself having been likened to, among others, Etta James, Amy Winehouse, Janis Joplin, Billie Holiday and Betty Boop. Averaging over three hundred performance dates a year, the band have a fast-growing fanbase, and offer a one-of-a-kind live show that's well worth catching.



## Kieran Goss

Lichfield Guildhall, Sun 22 September

Irish contemporary singer-songwriter Kieran Goss's influences have been many and varied, from Johnny Cash, Kris Kristofferson and Willie Nelson through to Frank Sinatra and the Rolling Stones. Support slots with Elvis Costello, Christy Moore and Joe Jackson gave Goss an early-career boost, after which came a period working as a street musician in New York, Germany and France. With a voice once described as having been 'sent express mail from heaven', the County Down-born guitarist is a performer who's currently very much at the top of his game, blending an instinctive musicality with a warmth and humour that always endears him to his audience.



# ENTERTAINMENT CANNOCK CHASE

OCTOBER - NOVEMBER 2013

At the PRINCE OF WALES THEATRE

Box Office: 01543 578762

## OCTOBER

### MARTY WILDE

Wednesday 2nd • 7.30pm • £19.50

### PAUL DANIELS

Thursday 3rd • 7.30pm • £17.50

### ANN BREEN

Friday 4th • 7.30pm • £15.00

### RAT PACK VEGAS SPECTACULAR

Sunday 13th • 7.30pm • £20.00

### Ballet Theatre UK present THE NUTCRACKER

Thursday 24th • 7.30pm  
£17.50. Conc £15.50, £10.00 (Under 16s)

### CLASSIC CLAPTON

Friday 25th • 7.30pm • £16.00

### LES McKEOWN'S BAY CITY ROLLERS SHOW

Saturday 26th • 7.30pm • £19.50. Conc £17.50

### BUDDY AND THE KILLER TRIBUTE TO BUDDY HOLLY AND JERRY LEE LEWIS

Sunday 27th • 7.30pm • £16.00

### AN EVENING WITH JONTY HEARNDEN

Thursday 31st • 7.30pm • £15.00



## NOVEMBER

### VOICE OF THE HEART TRIBUTE TO THE CARPENTERS

Sunday 3rd • 7.30pm • £18.00. Conc £17.00

### 60's/70's NIGHT OUT STARRING THE IVY LEAGUE AND PAPER LACE

Sunday 10th • 7.30pm • £20.00

### FOSTER AND ALLEN

Tuesday 19th • 7.30pm • £20.00

### CIRCUS OF HORRORS

Wednesday 20th • 7.30pm  
£20.00. Conc £16.00

### RAYMOND FROGGAT

Thursday 21st • 7.30pm • £16.00

### ELO EXPERIENCE

Friday 22nd • 7.30pm • £18.00

HENRY  
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HOUSE  
RESTAURANT & BAR

## SHROPSHIRE'S EXCITING NEW MUSIC VENUE

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"Becoming one of the hottest tickets in folk"  
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THE VENUE

## BROMSGROVE'S THEATRE, CINEMA, LIVE MUSIC AND COMEDY VENUE

### SEPTEMBER HIGHLIGHTS

<p>Sunday 15th Sept <b>ROB NEWMAN</b> PRESENTS HIS NEW THEORY OF EVOLUTION</p>	<p>Tuesday 17th Sept <b>JOHN COOPER CLARKE</b> THE BARD OF SALFORD</p>	<p>Wednesday 18th Sept <b>TURANDOT</b> ROYAL OPERA HOUSE LIVE SCREENING</p>
<p>Thursday 19th Sept <b>LUCY PORTER</b> PRESENTS NORTHERN SOUL</p>	<p>Saturday 21st Sept <b>TANGOMOTION</b> VIRTUOSO TANGO DANCE AND MUSIC</p>	<p>Tuesday 24th Sept <b>BARBERSHOPERA</b> PRESENTS THE THREE MUSKETEERS</p>

**FORTHCOMING CINEMA:** Blancanieves (12A) // Frances Ha (15) // The World's End (15) // Renoir (15) // Stories We Tell (12A) // Wadjda (PG) // What Maisie Knew (15)

The new Artrix brochure is available to download on [www.artrix.co.uk](http://www.artrix.co.uk)  
For bookings & full details log onto [www.artrix.co.uk](http://www.artrix.co.uk) or phone 01527 577330  
Artrix, Slideslow Drive, Bromsgrove B60 1PQ Free parking on-site

WLCT



[www.wlct.org/princeofwales](http://www.wlct.org/princeofwales)

# Music LISTINGS

For full listing information on gigs, including times and dates, visit [www.whatsonlive.co.uk](http://www.whatsonlive.co.uk)

## SUN 1 SEPT

**C'MON EVERYBODY** Celebration of the music of the 50's & 60's The Roses Theatre, Tewkesbury  
**MAGENTA** The Robin, Bilston  
**SKATERS** Hare & Hounds, Birmingham  
**ROBERT MIZZELL** Irish Centre, Birmingham  
**THE HEELS** Prince Of Wales, Birmingham  
**ASQ** The Actress & Bishop, Birmingham

## MON 2 SEPT

**ROBERT PLANT** Civic Hall, Wolverhampton



Robert Plant

## TUES 3 SEPT

**THE HACKENSAW BOYS** Hare & Hounds, Birmingham  
**DOWNSTROKE** The Jam House, Birmingham  
**ONLY SHADOWS, DECEPTIONS POCKET AND PATO** The Actress & Bishop, Birmingham

## WED 4 SEPT

**THE MANFREDS** Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury  
**BEN E. KING AND JIMMY JAMES** The Jam House, Birmingham  
**SOUTHERN TENANT FOLK UNION** Kitchen Garden Cafe, Birmingham  
**HOODIE ALLEN** O2 Academy, Birmingham  
**LAYERS** The Yardbird Jazz Club, Birmingham

## THUR 5 SEPT

**MARTIN SIMPSON** Artrix, Bromsgrove  
**MARTIN WALKYIER'S VIKING FUNERAL 2013** FEATURING MARTIN WALKYIER, DEVILMENT, ELVENKING, WAKO AND HELGRIND O2 Academy, Birmingham  
**NINA BAKER** O2 Academy, Birmingham  
**JIMMY EAT WORLD** O2 Academy, Birmingham  
**10CC** The Robin, Bilston  
**MATRIX CLUB MATRIX** The Jam House, Birmingham

## FRI 6 SEPT

**DARKSIDE - THE PINK FLOYD SHOW** Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury  
**THE JIVE ACES** Artrix,

Bromsgrove  
**PETER PAN SPEEDROCK & DESERT STORM** The Asylum, Birmingham  
**FOO FIGHTERS TRIBUTE** The Roadhouse, Birmingham  
**CLASSIC CLAPTON** The Roses Theatre, Tewkesbury  
**ULTIMATE MADNESS VS ULTIMATE SPECIALS** The River Rooms, Stourbridge  
**MENTALLICA** The Marr's Bar, Worcester  
**ALIVE & KICKING - SIMPLE MINDS TRIBUTE** The Robin, Bilston  
**KING PLEASURE & THE BISCUIT BOYS** Solihull Arts Complex  
**THE SOUL SESSION BAND** The Jam House, Birmingham  
**FUNKNIGHT FEATURING THE BRAND NEW HEAVIES, THE PB UNDERGROUND & COLMAN BROTHERS** Birmingham Town Hall  
**AN EVENING OF FOLK MUSIC** Avoncroft Museum, Bromsgrove  
**ROBBIE MOORE'S COP MUSIC** Symphony Hall, Birmingham  
**NEW ROPE STRING BAND** Number 8 Community Arts Centre, Worcester  
**OMAR** Library Of Birmingham, Centenary Square  
**LAMPA** Irish Centre, Birmingham  
**WHOLE LOTTA DC** Route 44, Birmingham  
**THE GET ALONGS, KADENCE, SCARLET VOYEUR AND THE PERSONAS** The Sugarmill, Stoke-On-Trent  
**CYANIDE LATER, AGAINST THE WHEEL, HEADTRAP AND MINIMUM** The Actress & Bishop, Birmingham

## SAT 7 SEPT

**THE OFFICIAL RECEIVERS BAND** Artrix, Bromsgrove  
**THE SOUL SESSION BAND** The Jam House, Birmingham  
**LUMINANCE** The Actress & Bishop, Birmingham  
**SLAM CARTEL PLUS SUPPORT FROM LIBERTY LIES** The Asylum, B'ham  
**THE SOUTHMARTINS** The Institute, Birmingham  
**IT'S THE ROOTS THAT MAKE THE FRUITS FEATURING ABIE'S MIRACLE TONIC, GREN BARTLEY AND MELLOW PEACHES** Artrix, Bromsgrove  
**ROY ORBISON AND FRIENDS** The Roses Theatre, Tewkesbury  
**LABOUR OF LOVE - UB40 TRIBUTE** The River Rooms, Stourbridge  
**DJ FORMAT** Hare & Hounds, Birmingham  
**93 - 1ST BIRTHDAY BASH**

FEATURING KENNY KEN B2B RANDALL WITH MC FEARLESS, MISTRESS MO, SHOCK C, TIM RYAN, ALPHA AND MANY MORE... The Institute, Birmingham  
**SOUL FOOD SOUNDSYSTEM** The Yardbird Jazz Club, Birmingham  
**SWIM WITH SHARKS** Irish Centre, Birmingham  
**HUSH HUSH SECRET CINEMA** The Sugarmill, Stoke-On-Trent  
**CASINO** Marr's Bar, Worcester  
**SELFLESS + SLAB + I HATE YOU MORE** The Roadhouse, Birmingham  
**JUSTIN CURRIE** Wulfrun Hall, Wolverhampton

## SUN 8 SEPT

**LEONARD COHEN** LG Arena, Birmingham  
**DISSIDENT PROPHET** Kitchen Garden Cafe, Birmingham  
**BEN E. KING AND JIMMY JAMES & THE VAGABONDS** The Robin, Bilston  
**BRASS BAND GALA CONCERT FEATURING BLACK DYKE BAND, CORY DAN AND FODENS BAND** Symphony Hall, Birmingham  
**F\*CK BUTTONS** The Institute, Birmingham  
**HOUMDMOUTH** Hare & Hounds, Birmingham  
**T R DALLAS** Irish Centre, Birmingham  
**THE JCQ** The Flapper, Birmingham  
**THINK FLOYD** Crewe Lyceum, Cheshire  
**JENNA VARDELL, TITUS WALDENFELS, ED GEATER AND NIX DADRY** The Yardbird Jazz Club, Birmingham

## MON 9 SEPT

**RORY MCLEOD** Kitchen Garden Cafe, Birmingham  
**FABOLOUS** The Institute, Birmingham  
**DAVINA & THE VAGABONDS** The Robin, Bilston

## TUES 10 SEPT

**MORELAND & ARBUCKLE** The Jam House, Birmingham  
**THE SAM DRAISEY SESSIONS** The Robin, Bilston  
**JON GOMM** The Marr's Bar, Worcester  
**JADE VINE** The Roadhouse, Birmingham  
**LETS TALK DAGGERS + SEXWALK** The Asylum, Birmingham

## WED 11 SEPT

**LAUREN AQUILINA** The Institute, Birmingham  
**MACKLEMORE & RYAN LEWIS** O2 Academy, Birmingham  
**MISTER NOTHING FEATURING MITCHEL ENMS FROM BBC1'S THE VOICE 2013** The Robin, Bilston  
**DEACON BLUE** Victoria Hall, Hanley, Stoke-on-

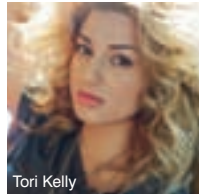


Shayne Ward - The Buttermarket, Shrewsbury

Trent  
**JON GOMM** Hare & Hounds, Birmingham  
**GOSPEL CENTRAL** The Jam House, Birmingham  
**WHILE SHE SLEEPS** The Slade Rooms, Wolverhampton

## THUR 12 SEP

**THE RAT PACK VEGAS SPECTACULAR** Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury  
**THE OFFICIAL RECEIVERS BAND** The Jam House, Birmingham  
**CREGAN & CO PERFORMING THE ROD STEWART SONGBOOK** The Robin, Bilston  
**JACK JOHNSON** Symphony Hall, Birmingham  
**TORI KELLY** O2 Academy, Birmingham



Tori Kelly

**ATTICA RAGE UK 2013** The Roadhouse, Birmingham  
**RAGE OF ANGELS** The Slade Rooms, Wolverhampton  
**MORRISSEY 25: LIVE** Ludlow Assembly Rooms, Shropshire  
**WILDFIRE FOLK CD LAUNCH** The Guildhall, Lichfield  
**GUCCI PIMP, ME & FICTION, NISHI, THE VAN CORTLANDT RANGER** The Actress & Bishop, Birmingham  
**WINTERFYLLETH, SALLIE & HORDES** The Asylum, Birmingham

## FRI 13 SEPT

**MERCURY - THE ULTIMATE QUEEN TRIBUTE** Victoria Hall, Hanley, Stoke-on-Trent  
**CLASS OF 77 FEATURING THE JAM, THE BLOCKHEADS AND THE BOOMTOWN RATS** The Assembly, Leamington Spa  
**THE SUBTERRANEANS** The Jam House, Birmingham  
**THE OLD DANCE SCHOOL WITH MARIE-CLAIRE BERREEN** Artrix, Bromsgrove  
**ALABAMA 3** The River Rooms, Stourbridge

UK PINK FLOYD EXPERIENCE Royal Spa Centre, Leamington Spa  
**THE BEAUTIFUL SOUND** The Marr's Bar, Worcester  
**PATSY FULLER AND THE REVELATORS** Symphony Hall, Birmingham  
**CHAS AND DAVE** Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury  
**THE PARADIMES AND AKA SKAFACE** Hare & Hounds, Birmingham  
**COLD FIELDS, THE GOOD WATER AND LOVATS** The Rainbow, Birmingham  
**REASIDE, BOLSHIE, REVOLVER, THE NORTONS AND ONE NIGHT STAND** O2 Academy, Birmingham  
**MANFRED MANN'S EARTHBAND** The Robin, Birmingham  
**KRYSTLE WARREN** The Glee Club, Birmingham  
**THE HURLING BOYS** Irish Centre, Birmingham  
**51 STONE** Route 44, Birmingham  
**BETRAYAL WITHIN THE RANKS, LIFELINES, AS EMPIRES BURN AND MERIDIAN** The Sugarmill, Stoke-On-Trent  
**THE STARVING DOGS** The Roadhouse, Birmingham  
**MORRISSEY 25: LIVE** Ludlow Assembly Rooms, Shropshire  
**WILDFIRE FOLK CD LAUNCH** The Guildhall, Lichfield  
**GUCCI PIMP, ME & FICTION, NISHI, THE VAN CORTLANDT RANGER** The Actress & Bishop, Birmingham  
**WINTERFYLLETH, SALLIE & HORDES** The Asylum, Birmingham

## SAT 14 SEPT

**THE SUBTERRANEANS** The Jam House, B'ham  
**SHAYNE WARD** The Buttermarket, Shrewsbury  
**'MOTOWN' LEGENDS PARTY WITH SOUL LEGEND** Naicote Hall, Berkswell, Warwickshire  
**THE BAY CITY ROLLERS** Crewe Lyceum,

Cheshire  
**THE MODFATHERS - TRIBUTE TO PAUL WELLER** The River Rooms, Stourbridge  
**TYLA (OF THE DOGS D'AMOUR)** The Slade Rooms, Wolverhampton  
**RAHAT FATEH ALI KHAN** LG Arena, Birmingham  
**JACKSON LIVE IN CONCERT** Royal Spa Centre, Leamington Spa  
**THE EVERLY BROTHERS & FRIENDS TRIBUTE SHOW** Palace Theatre, Redditch  
**CROWN THE EMPIRE PLUS SUPPORT FROM ISSUES** The Asylum, Birmingham  
**LEANN RIMES** Symphony Hall, Birmingham  
**SOUNDGARDEN** O2 Academy, Birmingham  
**FLEETWOOD BAC** Huntington Hall, Worcester  
**MICHAEL BUBLE TRIBUTE** The Swan Theatre, Worcester  
**THE RATTLIN DOORS & MIDNIGHT CONVOY** The Actress & Bishop, Birmingham  
**GARY STEWART** Royal Spa Centre, Leamington Spa  
**MASSIVE HEAD TRAUMA** The Marr's Bar, Worcester  
**80'S THEMED POP AND ROCK DISCO WITH DJS PHIL DOCKER AND JOHN BEAR** Route 44, Birmingham  
**BUSHBERRY MOUNTAIN DAREDEVILS AND SUNJAY BRAYNE** Birchmeadow, Broseley, Shropshire  
**DIRTY DC - TRIBUTE TO AC / DC** The Robin, Bilston  
**HOT MONOCLES, SHATTER EFFECT AND LIKWISE** The Flapper, Birmingham  
**ALFA 9, FOOLS PARADISE AND MOITESSIER** The Sugarmill, Stoke-On-Trent  
**THE FULL SHA BANG (BLUES BROS TRIBUTE)** Irish Centre, Birmingham  
**TREORCHY MALE CHOIR** 2013 Artrix, Bromsgrove  
**BIG SING 2013** Civic Hall,

# THIS AUTUMN

## Early Music in Warwick St Mary's Church, 7.30pm

Tuesday 1 October,

### The English Concert

directed by **Harry Bicket** with  
**Katherine Watson** soprano and  
**Mark Bennett** trumpet –  
**Bach** Suite in A minor and Jauchzet Gott  
in allen Landen, **Corelli** Trumpet Sonata,  
**Vivaldi** La Folia and **Handel** arias.



Tuesday 12 November

### Handel Music for Vespers

**Paula Sides** soprano, **Helen Sherman**  
mezzo soprano, **Clint van der Linde**  
counter tenor, **Mark Wilde** tenor,  
**Nick Merryweather** baritone,  
**University of Warwick Chamber Choir**,  
**The Old Street Band** directed by  
**Jonathan Peter Kenny**  
Programme includes Haec est Regina  
virginium, Nisi Dominus, Te decus virginum  
and Dixit Dominus.

## International String Quartet Concerts in Leamington Royal Pump Rooms, 7.30pm

Friday 4 October

### Danish String Quartet



**Haydn** Quartet Op 20 No 5, **Beethoven**  
Quartet Op 95, **Nielsen** Quartet No 3.

Friday 1 November

### Arcadia String Quartet

**Haydn** Quartet Op 76 No 5,  
**Enescu** Quartet No 2,  
**Beethoven** Quartet Op 18 No 6.

Friday 29 November

### Benyounes String Quartet



**Schubert** Quartet in Eb D87,  
**Bridge** Three Idylls,  
**Britten** Simple Symphony,  
**Dvorak** Quartet in Eb Op 51.

## Family Concert in Leamington Royal Spa Centre, 11am

Saturday 9 November

### I Flautisti

The dynamic London Recorder  
Quartet in concert. Recommended  
for ages seven years plus.  
Bring your own recorder for the Big  
Blow!

To book call  
**01926 776438**

and

[www.bridgehousetheatre.co.uk](http://www.bridgehousetheatre.co.uk)

For the full Winter programme visit  
[www.leamingtonmusic.org](http://www.leamingtonmusic.org)

**BANKS'S Robin 2** MOUNT PLEASANT BILSTON WTON WEST MIDLANDS WV14 7LJ  
BOX OFFICE - 01902 401211  
BOOK ONLINE - [www.theRobin.co.uk](http://www.theRobin.co.uk) [www.seetickets.co.uk](http://www.seetickets.co.uk) [www.ticketweb.co.uk](http://www.ticketweb.co.uk)

**SUN 1 SEP**  
**MAGENTA**  
"The 7/Club"  
Live part of their album launch weekend

**THU 5 SEP**  
\*\* JUST ANNOUNCED \*\*  
**10CC**  
EXCLUSIVE FESTIVAL WARM-UP SHOW

**FRI 6 SEP**  
**SIMPLE MINDS**  
TRIBUTE TO  
Alive and kicking  
- support Best Of The 80's

**SAT 7 SEP**  
With all your favourites  
like ROCK ON, LET ME  
ENTERTAIN YOU, CANDY  
& COME DANCING through  
to the classic... ANGELS

**BLOBBIE WILLIAMS**  
WALSHAMAR SHOW WITH ALL THE DELIGHT

**SUN 8 SEP**  
SOUL & MOTOWN  
LEGENDS - LIVE  
**BEN E. KING &  
JIMMY JAMES** & THE VAGABONDS

**MON 9 SEP** FROM THE USA - DEBUT TOUR  
HIGH ENERGY BLUES, JAZZ, DOXELAND  
AND RAGTIME  
**Davina  
VAGABONDS**  
PLUS SUPPORT  
DANNY & THE SWAMPMEN

**TUE 10 SEP** **THE SAM DRAISEY SESSIONS**  
STARTS 8pm  
FREE ENTRY  
A FREE EVENING OF QUALITY ACOUSTIC  
MUSIC FROM AROUND THE MIDLANDS,  
INCLUDING OPEN MIC SLOTS

THE HIT BOOK PROJECT BY  
**MITCHEL EMMS**  
WESTER / NOTHING  
QUARTER FINALIST OF  
THE VOICE UK 2010

**THU 12 SEP**  
PRESENTED BY  
**THE ROB STEWART**  
SUNDAY  
**Cregan & Co.**  
FEATURING JIM CRIGAN, BEN MILLS...

**FRI 13 SEP**  
**MANFRED MANN'S EARTH BAND**

**SUN 14 AUG**  
**DIRTY DC**  
THE AC/DC TRIBUTE  
+ support The Daniel Trigger Band

**SUN 15 SEP**  
The Classic Rock Society presents one of  
Sweden's finest prog exports  
+ SUPPORT ALSO EDEN  
**MOON SAFARI**

**TUE 17 SEP**  
US ROCK  
LEGENDS  
**EY&TE**  
+ SUPPORT NIGHT BY NIGHT

**THU 19 SEP**  
COUNTRY ROCK LEGENDS  
**ALBERT LEE**  
& HOGANS HEROES

**FRI 20 SEP**  
**A FOREIGNERS JOURNEY**  
+ Support E.T.A.

**SAT 21 SEP**  
**Stampede**  
TRANZAM, PAUL  
BRIDGEWATER, DEVOTED  
TO ROCK, OFF THE RAILS...  
IN AID OF CANCER RESEARCH UK

**SUN 22 SEP**  
**TRIBUTE TO YES**  
TALEI FROM  
TOPOGRAPHIC OCEANS

**THU 26 SEP**  
**ROYAL SOUTHERN BROTHERHOOD**  
CYRIL NEWELL, DON VON HOLMAN - MIKE ZITO -  
CHARLIE WOOTEN - YOUNGBOSS SCOTT

**FRI 27 SEP**  
INCLUDING ALL THE  
CLASSIC HITS  
HARVEST FOR THE WORLD -  
IDEAL WORLD...  
**THE CHRISTIANS**

**SAT 28 SEP**  
FEAT NICK DAGGER  
**THE COUNTERFEIT STONES**  
+ SUPPORT THE EMPTY CAN

**SUN 29 SEP** THE POINT ZERO TOUR  
**DENNIS LOCORRIERE**  
ON STAGE 8.30pm  
THE VOICE OF DR HOOK  
4855 CALL 01902 401211

**SUN 8 SEP** HEAT 1 / 1st MONTH  
**SUN 15 SEP** HEAT 2 / 1st MONTH

**SUN 22 SEP** HEAT 3 / 1st MONTH  
**SUN 29 SEP** 1st MONTHLY FINAL  
ALL AFTERNOONS, DOORS 12noon

## SEPTEMBER

### PINK LADY FOOD PHOTOGRAPHER OF THE YEAR

Fri 6 Sept - Fri 18 Oct



Vibrant exhibition of images from around  
the world, showcasing the art of  
photographing food. From cooking and  
celebrations to farming, selling and much,  
much more.  
Gallery and café gallery; viewing FREE

### MORRISSEY 25: LIVE

Fri 13 Sept, 7.30pm

Legacy concert filmed  
at Morrissey's  
intimate Los Angeles  
concert earlier this  
year, marking  
25 years of  
Morrissey's  
solo career.  
Tickets £12 / £10



### ROYAL OPERA HOUSE LIVE TURANDOT

Tue 17 Sept, 7.15pm



Live streaming from Covent Garden. Puccini's  
musically sublime final opera in a spectacular  
production inspired by traditional Chinese  
theatre. Starring Lise Lindstrom and  
Marco Berti Tickets £16 / £15

### NT LIVE OTHELLO

Thurs 26 Sept, 7pm



Live streaming from The National Theatre.  
A major new production directed by  
Nicholas Hytner; starring Adrian Lester  
and Rory Kinear.  
Tickets £15 / £14

1 Mill Street, Ludlow,  
Shropshire SY8 1AZ

**01584 878141**

[www.ludlowassemblyrooms.co.uk](http://www.ludlowassemblyrooms.co.uk)

# Music LISTINGS

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Stratford  
**HIGHER ON MAIDEN AND DISARM GOLIATH** The Roadhouse, Birmingham  
**JAZZ NETWORK ORCHESTRA WITH LAURA COLLINS** The Hive, Shrewsbury  
**MIDNIGHT CONVOY, FRAMED, THE RATTLIN DOORS, INCHES FROM THE GROUND** Actress & Bishop, Birmingham

## SUN 15 SEP

**KATRIONA GLIMORE AND JAMIE ROBERTS** The Hive, Shrewsbury  
**AMINGTON BAND** Tamworth Castle  
**BEYOND THE BARRICADE** The Roses Theatre, Tewkesbury  
**NEARLY DAN** Hare & Hounds, Birmingham  
**STEVE GIBBONS** Kitchen Garden Cafe, Birmingham  
**THE AMITY AFFLICTION, LANDSCAPES AND IN HEARTS WAKE** O2 Academy, Birmingham  
**MOON SAFARI** The Robin, Bilston  
**ODD 1 OUT TOUR FEATURING GUNVA B & SPECIAL GUESTS** The Institute, Birmingham  
**CHARLOTTE CARPENTER, CANNON STREET, TWO FATHOMS** The Yardbird Jazz Club, Birmingham  
**NO CEREMONY** Hare & Hounds, Birmingham  
**MARIAN & ALLY HARRON** Irish Centre, Birmingham  
**MR APOLLO, DAN HARTLAND AND MELLOW PEACHES** The Roadhouse, Birmingham  
**CHUNK! NO, CAPTAIN CHUNK! + CLIMATES + LIGHT YOU UP** The Asylum, Birmingham

## MON 16 SEP

**CARO EMERALD** Symphony Hall, Birmingham  
 Caro Emerald



THE 1975 The Institute, Birmingham

## TUES 17 SEP

**JANET DEVLIN** O2 Academy, Birmingham  
**Y & T** The Robin, Bilston  
**TALON - THE BEST OF THE EAGLES** Belgrade Theatre, Coventry  
**JOHN COOPER CLARKE 2013** Artrix, Bromsgrove  
**BEN MARKLAND BAND** The Jam House, B'ham

## WED 18 SEP

**BEN E. KING WITH JIMMY JAMES & THE VAGABONDS** The Buttermarket, Shrewsbury  
**MEMORIES ARE MADE OF THIS** Musical journey through the 40s, 50s, 60s and 70s, Palace Theatre, Redditch  
**BUDDY HOLLY - A LEGEND REBORN** Belgrade Theatre, Coventry  
**GREG LAKE & THE ALUMNI BAND** The Jam House, Birmingham

## THUR 19 SEP

**CHARLOTTE CHURCH** The Slade Rooms, Wolverhampton  
**VISAGE** The Institute, Birmingham  
**ALBERT LEE & HOGAN'S HEROES** The Robin, Bilston  
**ALEXANDER** O2 Academy, Birmingham  
**UK PINK FLOYD EXPERIENCE** Victoria Hall, Hanley, Stoke-on-Trent  
**BEGGAR & CO** The Jam House, Birmingham  
**FROM THE JAM: ALL MOD CONS 35TH ANNIVERSARY TOUR** Town Hall, Birmingham  
**JIM WHITE** The Glee Club, Birmingham  
**THE FRONT BOTTOMS** The Sugarmill, Stoke-On-Trent  
**ALEXANDER ARMSTRONG AND HIS BAND** Malvern Theatres  
**THE ILLEGAL EAGLES** Royal Spa Centre, Leamington Spa  
**THE RAMONA FLOWERS, COWBOY, THE BLUEBEAT ARKESTRA** Hare & Hounds, Birmingham

## FRI 20 SEP

**SOLID SOUL** The Jam House, Birmingham  
**THE ULTIMATE 'QUEEN' TRIBUTE WITH QUEEN B** Nailcote Hall, Berkswell, Warwickshire  
**LAYERS** O2 Academy, Birmingham  
**BACK TO BROADWAY** Malvern Theatres  
**THE SMYTHS** The River Rooms, Stourbridge  
**CROWNS** The Rainbow, Birmingham  
**A FOREIGNERS JOURNEY** The Robin, Bilston  
**MARMOZETS** The Slade Rooms, Wolverhampton  
**KATE RUSBY** Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury  
**LET'S HANG ON THE MUSIC OF FRANKI VALI & THE FOUR SEASONS** The Place, Oakengates Theatre  
**ENDORPHINMACHINE: PRINCE TRIBUTE** The Roadhouse, Birmingham  
**SWIM DEEP** Birmingham

Town Hall  
**MOTIONLESS IN WHITE** O2 Academy, Birmingham  
**JAMES SKELLY & THE INTENDERS** The Institute, Birmingham  
**RAT PACK LIVE** Belgrade Theatre, Coventry  
**FOO FIGHTERS THE TRIBUTE** The Marr's Bar, Worcester  
**THROUGH THE YEARS** Netherton Arts Centre, Dudley  
**GYPSY FEVER AND DAMBA** Hare & Hounds, Birmingham  
**MICKY DEAN** Irish Centre, Birmingham  
**BLACK COUNTRY COMMUNITY** Route 44, Birmingham  
**TUSSK AND BALLS DEEP** The Sugarmill, Stoke-On-Trent  
**THE FABULOUS BOOGIE BOYS FEATURING SARAH WARREN** Huntingdon Hall, Worcester  
**THE YOUNG 'UNS** Lichfield Guildhall  
**THE EMISSARIES AND SECOND CITY FIRE** Actress & Bishop, Birmingham

## SAT 21 SEP

**ROCK AGAINST CANCER FEATURING STAMPEDE, TRANZAM, PAUL BRIDGEWATER, DEVOTED TO ROCK AND OFF THE RAILS** The Robin, Bilston  
**THE NOTEBENDERS** Symphony Hall, Birmingham  
**FAMILY VALUES TOUR FEATURING RAMMLIED, KORN AGAIN AND STIFF BIZKIT** The Roadhouse, Birmingham  
**SOLID SOUL** The Jam House, Birmingham  
**TIM BURGESS** The Sugarmill, Stoke-On-Trent

Tim Burgess



**THE PROCLAIMERS** Malvern Theatre, Worcester  
**CHAS AND DAVE** Belgrade Theatre, Coventry  
**THE ANN DUGGAN BAND** Artrix, Bromsgrove  
**GENO WASHINGTON** Palace Theatre, Redditch  
**THE JOHNNY CASH ROADSHOW** The Roses Theatre, Tewkesbury  
**THE BON JOVI EXPERIENCE** The River Rooms, Stourbridge  
**BECKY MILLS** Royal Spa Centre, Leamington Spa  
**LUKE WYLDE & THE JAPES** The Slade Rooms, Wolverhampton  
**GIMME! GIMME! GIMME!** NIGHT FEVER Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury  
**JAMES BLAKE** The Institute, Birmingham  
**BARRY GIBB** LG Arena, Birmingham  
**THE FRONT BOTTOMS** The Institute, Birmingham



James Blake - The Institute, Birmingham

**THE BAY CITY ROLLER STORY** Royal Spa Centre, Leamington Spa  
**SOULSHAKE** The Yardbird Jazz Club, Birmingham  
**WIDE EYED, VICTORIES AT SEA AND BABYPINK** Hare & Hounds, Birmingham  
**FOUR ACES** Irish Centre, Birmingham  
**SAXONISED** Route 44, Birmingham  
**FRED ZEPPELIN** The Ironworks, Oswestry  
**WOODEN HORSE** Huntingdon Hall, Worcester  
**MILLION EMPIRE AND ILLUME** Actress & Bishop, Birmingham

## SUN 22 SEP

**CHRIS DEAN'S SYD LAWRENCE ORCHESTRA** Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury  
**JOHN OTWAY** Hare & Hounds, Birmingham  
**KRIS DREYER AND EAMON COYNE** Kitchen Garden Cafe, Birmingham  
**THE 1975** The Sugarmill, Stoke-On-Trent  
**NICK HARPER** The Marr's Bar, Worcester  
**JOHN MCNICHOLL** Irish Centre, Birmingham  
**X-SLF FEATURING EX MEMBERS OF STIFF LITTLE FINGERS, HENRY CLUNY AND JIM REILLY** The River Rooms, Stourbridge  
**SEYES - TALES FROM TOPOGRAPHIC OCEANS** The Robin, Bilston  
**KIERAN GOSS** Lichfield Guildhall

## MON 23 SEP

**HOODED FANG** Hare & Hounds, Birmingham  
**THE CARRIVICK SISTERS** Henry Tudor House, Shrewsbury  
**PARAMORE** LG Arena, Birmingham  
**DARLIA** The Sugarmill, Stoke-On-Trent

## TUE 24 SEP

**CERYS MATTHEWS** Palace Theatre, Redditch  
**SEAN RUMSEY** The River Rooms, Stourbridge

**JAWS** The Institute, Birmingham  
**WIRE** The Slade Rooms, Wolverhampton

## WED 25 SEP

**BUDDY AND THE KILLER** Solihull Arts Complex  
**JOHNNY DOWD** Hare & Hounds, Birmingham  
**LUNASA** Town Hall, Birmingham  
**PATSY MATHESON** Kitchen Garden Cafe, Birmingham  
**CAROUSEL CIRCUS** The Yardbird Jazz Club, Birmingham  
**ALEXANDER O'NEAL** The Jam House, Birmingham  
**SAINT RAYMOND** Hare & Hounds, Birmingham  
**JIM LOCKEY & THE SOLEMN SUN** The Rainbow, Birmingham  
**BEN KENNEY** O2 Academy, Birmingham  
**MARTIN CARTHRY & DAVE SWARBICK** Red Lion Folk Club, Birmingham  
**KIKI DEE & CARMELO LUGGERI** New Vic Theatre, Staffordshire

## THUR 26 SEP

**BUDDY AND THE KILLER** Crewe Lyceum, Cheshire  
**JOE BROWN** Royal Spa Centre, Leamington Spa  
**THE ROYAL SOUTHERN BROTHERHOOD** The Robin, Bilston  
**YOUNG PILGRIMS** Hare & Hounds, Birmingham  
**THE RAT PACK VEGAS SPECTACULAR** New Alexandra Theatre  
**THE PRIMITIVES** The Slade Rooms, Wolverhampton  
**ABBA REUNION** The Swan Theatre, Worcester  
**CLOUD CONTROL** Hare & Hounds, Birmingham  
**EXIT CALM** O2 Academy, Birmingham  
**DEAD MEADOW** The Tin Music and Arts, Coventry  
**KAWABATA MAKOTO'S MAINLINER AND DETH-SCALATOR** The Flapper, Birmingham

**DAPPY** The Assembly, Leamington Spa  
**DEL CAMINO** The Jam House, Birmingham

## FRI 27 SEP

**JOE BONAMASSA** National Indoor Arena, Birmingham  
**ABBA 'MAMMA MIA' PARTY** Nailcote Hall, Berkswell, Warwickshire  
**JACKSON LIVE IN CONCERT** The Roses Theatre, Tewkesbury  
**HANNHA DALLAS AND THE BUTTON DOWN SOULS** The Marr's Bar, Worcester  
**THE CHRISTIANS** The Robin, Bilston  
**HOWL, THE REBELLION AND SUNDAY 44** O2 Academy, Birmingham  
**FAT CHOPS** Symphony Hall, Birmingham  
**THE MAGIC OF MOTOWN** Stafford Gatehouse Theatre  
**LIMEHOUSE LIZZY** The Assembly, Leamington Spa  
**B'SPOKE** The Jam House, Birmingham  
**MAGIC - A KIND OF QUEEN** Palace Theatre, Redditch  
**GINGER BAKER'S JAZZ CONFUSION** Wulfrun Hall, Wolverhampton  
**THE LEGENDS OF SWING - ACCESS ALL AREAS!** Lichfield Garrick, Staffordshire  
**BABAJACK** Palace Theatre, Redditch  
**KATHRYN WILLIAMS** Huntingdon Hall, Worcester  
**THE RAT PACK VEGAS SPECTACULAR** Bridgehouse Theatre, Warwick  
**THE BOOTLEG BOSS** The River Rooms, Stourbridge  
**AUDIO DISEASE** The Rainbow, Birmingham  
**THE LOVELY EGGS** The Assembly, Leamington Spa  
**SIMON SPILLET QUARTET** Symphony Hall, Birmingham  
**PAT BRESLIN** Irish Centre, Birmingham  
**FRED ZEPPELIN** Route 44, Birmingham  
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**LICHFIELD GUILDHALL**

**SEPTEMBER**

**Fri 13th Sept, 8pm**  
**Wildfire Folk**  
cd Launch night  
Tickets: £5.00

**Fri 20th Sept, 8pm**  
**The Young Uns**  
Tickets: £13.50/£11.50  
Members

**Fri 20th Sept, 8pm**  
**Kieron Goss**  
Tickets: £14.50/£12.50  
Members

**Fri 27th & Sat 28th Sept  
Noon - 11.00pm**  
**Autumn Beer Festival**

Beer . Wine . Food . Music

Our Autumn Beer Festival will feature more than 30 real ales - many of which will be local or regional. We'll also have wines, traditional ciders and perry, specialist bottled beers, the 'famous' pork pies, quality food, teas, coffees and soft drinks.

Before 6pm: £2, After 6pm: £3

**OCTOBER**

**Sun 6th Oct, 8pm**  
**Andy Cutting**  
Tickets: £12.50/£10.50  
Members

**Fri 11th Oct, 7.30pm**  
**Walsall Jazz  
Orchestra**  
and the  
**Steve Ajao  
Quartet**

Tickets: £10/£8 Members

**Sun 20th Oct, 8pm**  
**Steve Clayton  
and the 44's**  
Tickets: £12.50/£10.50  
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**Fri 25th - Sun27th Oct**  
**Lichfield Festival  
of Folk**  
Tickets: Full Festival  
Weekend £38, Full day  
tickets £12.50 - £17.50  
(concs available)

For a programme or further information contact:  
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You can now book on-line [www.lichfieldarts.org.uk](http://www.lichfieldarts.org.uk)



Roadhouse, B'ham  
**KATE RUSBY** Royal Spa Centre, Leamington Spa  
**45 SHOP LOCK: SOUND SYSTEM FRIDAYS** Featuring Empire Sound, King Tubby's Sufferer Sound, Saxon, Coxson, Infinity, Stereo Phonic & Kebra, The Drum, Birmingham  
**CLOCKWORK ORANGE, DARK ACTORS AND LAST LIGHT** Actress & Bishop, Birmingham

**SAT 28 SEP**

**MIKE DIGNAM** The Institute, Birmingham  
**B'SPOKE** The Jam House, Birmingham  
**WIZ KHALIFA** O2 Academy, Birmingham  
**EMILY MAGUIRE** Artrix, Bromsgrove  
**QUEEN - FLASH** The River Rooms, Stourbridge  
**BEYOND THE BARRICADE** Royal Spa Centre, Leamington Spa  
**THE COUNTERFEIT STONES** The Robin, Bilston  
**ROY ORBISON AND FRIENDS** Stafford Gatehouse Theatre  
**SUPERSONIC 70'S SHOW** Huntingdon Hall, Worcester  
**ROCK ANTHEMS** Performed by the critically acclaimed GAGA Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury

**GYPSY FIRE** Lichfield Garrick, Malvern  
**BACK TO BROADWAY** Palace Theatre, Redditch  
**BODIKKA** Hare & Hounds, Birmingham  
**60S NIGHT OUT** featuring The Mersey Beats And The Beat Beatles Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury  
**BURY TOMORROW** O2 Academy, Birmingham  
**LIVE\_TRANSMISSION** Symphony Hall, Birmingham  
**DARK SIDE OF THE WALL** The Swan Theatre, Worcester  
**WINSTON'S BIG BROTHER, THE NEW AGE SAINTS, SUGAR MAMA AND BROTHER OF CAEDMON** The Actress & Bishop, Birmingham  
**JASPER IN THE COMPANY OF OTHERS** The Marr's Bar, Worcester  
**UNDER THE COVERS** Irish Centre, Birmingham  
**IVOR & LYNN'S CLASSIC ROCK DISCO** Route 44, Birmingham  
**FRANK HAMILTON** The Sugarmill, Stoke-On-Trent  
**THE VIEW** Kasbah, Coventry  
**KIDS IN GLASS HOUSES** The Asylum, Birmingham

**SUN 29 SEP**

**FLEETWOOD MAC** LG Arena, Birmingham

**MADINA LAKE** Kasbah, Coventry  
**WHITE WIZARD** The Slade Rooms, Wolverhampton  
**SONGBIRD - THE EVA CASSIDY STORY** Story Kitchen Garden Cafe, Birmingham  
**THE STRANGE DOORS** The River Rooms, Stourbridge  
**DENNIS LOCORRIERE** The Robin, Bilston  
**STACEY KENT** Malvern Theatre, Worcester  
**DANNY & THE CHAMPIONS OF THE WORLD** Hare & Hounds, Birmingham  
**TOM HEALY** Irish Centre, Birmingham  
**RAY BUTCHER AND HUW WARREN** Artrix, Bromsgrove  
**DAN WHITEHOUSE** The Crescent Theatre, Birmingham

**MON 30 SEP**

**MADINA LAKE** The Institute, Birmingham  
**SCHOLARS, EVERYBODY LOOKS FAMOUS AND MIX-TAPE SAINTS** O2 Academy, Birmingham  
**BARNARDO'S YOUNG SUPPORTERS CONCERT** Symphony Hall, Birmingham  
**KESTON COBBLERS CLUB** Hare & Hounds, Birmingham  
**LUNASA** New Vic Theatre, Staffordshire

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For additional information and to find out What's On at these venues. Visit [www.whatsonlive.co.uk](http://www.whatsonlive.co.uk)

**Birmingham Contemporary Music Group**



**20th century classics: Ligeti and Schoenberg**

Sunday 6 October 2013, 7.30pm,  
**CBSO Centre, Birmingham**  
 Conductor: **Oliver Knussen**  
**Niccolò Castiglioni: Tripi**  
**Arnold Schoenberg: Five Pieces for Orchestra** (arrangement for chamber ensemble)  
**Helen Grime: Luna**  
**Alexander Goehr: Suite Op.11**  
**György Ligeti: Chamber Concerto**  
**Tickets: £14 full price / £10 concession / £1 under 16s plus transaction fee\***  
**To book: [bcmg.org.uk](http://bcmg.org.uk) / 0121 345 0491**

**30% off** Book tickets for this concert and BCMG's concert on 27 April and 10 May 2014 in one transaction and get 30% off the total price!  
 Tickets must be booked either in person, by phone or online BEFORE Saturday 5 October 2013. This offer only applies on full price tickets and when booking tickets for all three concerts in one transaction.

**\*£2.50 transaction fee, plus £1 (optional) postage, will be charged on all bookings except purchases made in person at the Town Hall or Symphony Hall Box office.**

**CENTRAL HALL** presents  
**Saturday 14 September, 7.30pm**

**CANNOCK CHASE ORPHEUS MALE CHOIR**  
 Central Hall, Ablewell Street, Walsall, WS1 2EQ



ADULTS **£5.00**  
 UNDER 18s **£2.50**

For advance reservations call **01922 721643** or on the door subject to availability

**CENTRAL HALL** presents  
**Saturday 5 October, 7.30pm at Central Hall, Ablewell Street, Walsall, WS1 2EQ**

**THOMAS TROTTER**  
**AT THE ORGAN**  
 (a 1920s Nicholson & Lord model)



ADULTS **£7.50**  
 UNDER 18s **£5.00**

For advance reservations call **01922 721643** or on the door subject to availability



## Britten Centenary: Peter Grimes

Symphony Hall, Birmingham, Thurs 26 September

Continuing Town Hall/Symphony Hall's (THSH) A Boy Was Born season - marking the centenary of Benjamin Britten - the London Philharmonic Orchestra here present what's often described as the legendary British composer's greatest work.

Both 'haunting and disturbing', Peter Grimes transports audiences to a fictional fishing village in Suffolk, where the principal character - here played by Stuart Skelton - stands alone against a suspicious, tight-knit community after his apprentice loses his life during a storm at sea.

Having received much critical acclaim since it was first performed at Sadlers Wells in 1945, the three-and-a-half hour work is here directed by Russian conductor Vladimir Jurowski. This highly-recommended performance also features Pamela Armstrong (Ellen Orford), Alan Opie (Captain Balstrode), Pamela Helen Stephen (auntie), Brindley Sherratt (Swallow), Michael Colvin (Bob Boles), and Malin Christensson and Claire Ormshaw as the nieces.

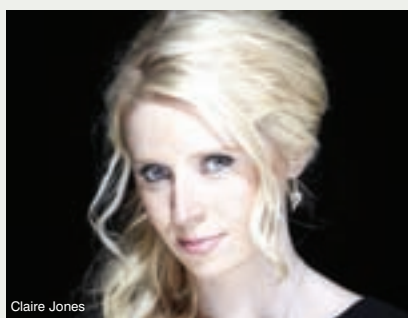
## The Music Of AR Rahman

Symphony Hall, Birmingham, Wed 4 September

BBC presenter Noreen Khan here hosts an evening of music dedicated to the work of one of the world's most respected film music composers. Presented by the CBSO, under the direction of conductor Matt Dunkley, this tribute to AR Rahman features scores from Danny Boyle's award-winning Slumdog Millionaire and Peter Jackson's Lord Of The Rings. The celebration also includes performances by Lilly-Jane Young, Sandor Stürbl, Shin DCS and Roopa Panesar on sitar, as well as music from the legendary Subhash Bose and Meenaxi.



BBC Presenter Noreen Khan and Angela Swanson, Viola



## Mozart Flute And Harp Concerto

Stafford Gatehouse Theatre, Wed 18 September

This celebration of Benjamin Britten's centenary year features a programme of works produced by the composer in his formative years, performed alongside pieces from a young Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart. Arvo Pärt's beautifully atmospheric elegy, Cantus in memoriam Benjamin Britten, opens the performance, and is followed by Britten's Simple Symphony. Mozart's Concerto for Flute, Harp and Orchestra and Symphony no.29, K201 also features, as does Britten's Prelude and Fugue for 18 Strings Op.29. Gábor Takács-Nagy conducts Claire Jones (harp) and Amina Hussain (flute).

## Nicola Benedetti

Symphony Hall, Birmingham, Tues 17 September

Acclaimed violinist Nicola Benedetti returns to Birmingham this month as part of her current Silver Violin tour, which sees the Brit Award-winner performing alongside cellist Leonard Elschenbroich and pianist Alexei Grynyuk. Held in high regard for her musicality, poise and ability to mesmerise audiences with her playing, Benedetti here fronts an eclectic programme. John Williams' theme from Schindler's List, Korngold's Marietta's Lied from Die tote Stadt, Saint-Saëns' Introduction and Rondo Capriccioso, and Tchaikovsky's Piano Trio in A minor, Op 50 are among the works being performed.



## Blake

The Roses Theatre, Tewkesbury, Sat 14 September

Comprising Ollie Baines, Humphrey Berney and Stephen Bowman, Blake are credited with bringing classical music to the masses - an achievement recognised when their debut offering won Album of the Year at the Classical Brit Awards in 2008. Fusing classical, rock, pop and musical favourites, the boys continue to enjoy worldwide success, and this month return to the Midlands to share stories from their recent tour of Asia, America and Europe, as well as to perform numbers from recently released album Start Over.



# Classical LISTINGS

For full listing information on classical concerts, including times and dates, visit [www.whatsonlive.co.uk](http://www.whatsonlive.co.uk)

**CBSO: THE MUSIC OF A. R. RAHMAN** Wed 4 Sept, Symphony Hall, Birmingham

**CANTORION MALE VOICE CHOIR** Sun 8 Sept, Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury

**LAST NIGHT AT THE PROMS** Featuring soloist Anne Williams, Sun 8 Sept, Solihull Arts Complex

**SAINT JAMES'S SINGERS** Programme includes works by Handel, Purcell & Haydn, Sun 8 Sept, St Mary's Church, Ilmington, Stratford-upon-Avon

**MATTHEW BARLEY AROUND BRITTEN TOUR**

**2013** Featuring a programme built around Britten's Third Suite for solo cello, featuring a suite by J.S. Bach, work by Tavener and new commissions from James MacMillan, Dai Fujikura and Norwegian DJ/composer Jan Bang, Tues 10 Sept, CBSO Centre, Birmingham

**CBSO BENEVOLENT FUND CONCERT** Featuring Alexander Vedernikov (conductor) & Elisabeth Leonskaja (piano). Programme includes works by Glinka, Grieg and Tchaikovsky, Wed 11 Sept, Symphony Hall, Birmingham

**THE TRECROY MALE VOICE CHOIR** Sat 14 Sept, Artrix, Bromsgrove

**CANNOCK CHASE ORPHEUS MALE CHOIR** Sat 14 Sept, Central Hall, Ablewell Street, Walsall

**ARMONICO CONSORT AND BAROQUE PLAYERS** Featuring Mark Baigent (oboe) & Steve Bailey (trumpet). Programme includes Vivaldi's Concerto in G minor RV156, Marcello's Oboe Concerto in D minor & Vivaldi's Gloria, Sat 14 Sept, Malvern Theatres

**THE ELYSIAN QUARTET** Sat 14 Sept, Symphony Hall, Birmingham

**STAFFORD SAMARITANS 50TH ANNIVERSARY CONCERT** Sat 14 Sept, Stafford Gatehouse Theatre

**BLAKE** Sat 14 Sept, The Roses Theatre, Tewkesbury

**AN EVENING OF CLASSICAL SAROD & TABLA MUSIC** Sat 14 Sept, mac - Midlands Arts Centre,

Birmingham

**LAST NIGHT OF THE PROMS** Sun 15 Sept, Crewe Lyceum

**NICOLA BENEDETTI** Tue 17 Sept, Symphony Hall, Birmingham

**MOZART FLUTE & HARP CONCERTO** Wed 18 Sept, Stafford Gatehouse Theatre

**TURANDOT: ROYAL OPERA HOUSE** Live screening of Puccini's tale of disguised identities, riddles, ritual executions and powerful, triumphant love. Sung in Italian, Wed 18 September, Artrix, Bromsgrove

**CBSO OPENING CONCERT: THE RITE OF SPRING** Featuring Andris Nelsons (conductor) and Kristine Opolais (soprano) Thurs 19 Sept, Symphony Hall, Birmingham

**CBSO OPENING CONCERT: ANNE-SOPHIE MUTTER PLAYS DVORAK** Programme includes works by Wagner, Dvorak and Stravinsky, Sat 21 Sept, Symphony Hall, Birmingham

**ORGAN PROM** Sat 21 Sept, Victoria Hall, Hanley, Stoke-on-Trent

**BIRMINGHAM CLASSICAL PLAYERS INAUGURAL CONCERT** Programme includes works by JS Bach, Sun 22 Sept, Adrian Boulton Hall, Birmingham Conservatoire

**PERFORMANCE PLATFORM: JACK MCNEILL**

**(CLARINET) & DAVID QUIGLEY (PIANO)** Programme includes works by Finzi, Edwin Roxburgh, Lutoslawski & Poulenc, Tues 24 Sept, Adrian Boulton Hall, Birmingham

**TOTALLY TCHAIKOVSKY!** With the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra, Wed 25 Sept, Symphony Hall, Birmingham

**BRITTEN CENTENARY: PETER GRIMES** Featuring London Philharmonic Orchestra, Thurs 26 Sept, Symphony Hall, Birmingham

**ALLEGRI QUARTET** Featuring Ofer Falk & Rafael Todes (violins), Dorothea Vogel (viola) & Vanessa Lucas-Smith (cello). Programme includes work by Haydn, Roth & Beethoven, Thurs 26 Sept, Malvern Theatres

**CITY OF BIRMINGHAM SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA: TOTALLY TCHAIKOVSKY!** Fri 27 Sept, Symphony Hall, Birmingham

**A TOUCH OF BASIL 2013** Annual celebration concert featuring a wide variety of musical styles and genres from classical through to rock music, Sat 28 Sept, Adrian Boulton Hall, Birmingham

**ALBERT HERRING** Mid Wales Opera present their version of Benjamin Britten's depiction

of village life, Sat 28 Sept, The Roses Theatre, Tewkesbury

**SHROPSHIRE CHAMBER ORCHESTRA** Programme includes works by Beethoven & Mozart, Sun 29 Sept, The Edge Arts Centre, Much Wenlock, South Shropshire

**ENGLISH PIANO TRIO PLAYS TCHAIKOVSKY** Sun 29 Sept, Warwick Arts

Centre, Coventry

**MONDAY SHOWCASE** Featuring Josh Hall (oboe), Joanne Sealey, Yun Lee & Shu Ting Cheng (piano). Programme includes works by Finzi, Bach, Prokofiev, Mozart, Barber & Liszt, Mon 30 Sept, Recital Hall, Birmingham Conservatoire

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# Comedy

## Rob Beckett - Live

Festival Theatre, Market Drayton, Shropshire, Sat 21 September; The Slade Rooms, Wolverhampton, Fri 27 September; Artrix, Bromsgrove, Thurs 3 October; Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry, Sun 6 October; Solihull Arts Complex, Thurs 10 October; The Met Studio, Stafford Gatehouse Theatre, Fri 11th Oct

First tickling the nation's collective funny bone in 2009, Rob Beckett's TV work includes 8 Out Of 10 Cats and Celebrity Juice. A high-tempo comedian who's been described by one newspaper as 'a little short of a revelation', Rob claims his relationship with comedy began as a youngster when, as the middle child desperate for attention, he set out to make his friends and family chuckle (or better still, belly laugh). Gags include: "You know you're working class when your TV is bigger than your book-case".



## Marcel Lucont

The Met Studio, Stafford Gatehouse Theatre, Thurs 19 September; Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry, Sun 20 October

What can be said about Marcel Lucont that hasn't already been said - given that what's already been said includes to-die-for reviews that hail him 'the master of the deadpan', proclaim his act to be 'one of astounding panache', and further describe it as 'c'est tres bon, c'est mervellieux, c'est magnifique'? Well, probably not much, really - so instead we'll simply point out that an evening in his company offers plenty of opportunity to enjoy a seriously good laugh. Oh, and that the magnificent Marcel is coming to a theatre near you courtesy of British comedian Alexis Dubus.



## Stewart Lee: Much A-Stew About Nothing

Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury, Mon 16 September; De Montfort Hall, Leicester, Fri 27 September; Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry, Wed 2 October

When you've been voted the forty-first Best Ever Stand-up Comedian, you know you've arrived - well, kind of! In fairness to forty-first Best Ever Stand-up Comedian Stewart Lee, there's actually no question whatsoever that he's arrived. He first shot to fame courtesy of his partnership with Richard Herring, and went on to score a massive international hit with the musical Jerry Springer The Opera. His style of comedy won't make for the most comfortable ride, but he's thought-provoking, funny and memorable, so suffering the odd moment that makes you feel awkward is a small price to pay for a great night out.



## Steve Hughes

The Slade Rooms, Wolverhampton, Thurs 5 September; Huntingdon Hall, Worcester, Fri 13 September; The Place, Oakengates Theatre, Telford, Thurs 26 September; The Glee Club, Birmingham, Wed 23 October; Artrix, Bromsgrove, Thurs 5 December

Boasting a reputation for hard-edged social commentary, not to mention a big beard, Aussie funnyman and ex-heavy metal drummer Steve Hughes has built up a loyal UK following thanks to numerous storming sets on, among other TV programmes, Michael McIntyre's Comedy Roadshow (BBC1), Stand Up For The Week (Channel 4) and One Night Stand (Dave). A thought-provoking and decidedly amusing night out is most definitely on the cards when he this month visits the Midlands with his While It's Still Legal tour.

## The 50% Funnier Comedy Tour

mac - Midlands Arts Centre, Birmingham, Sat 7 September; Newhampton Arts Centre, Wolverhampton, Thurs 12 September; The Public, West Bromwich, Fri 13 September; Theatre On The Steps, Bridgnorth, Thurs 19 September

Described as 'a riotous, poignant, nostalgic, but, most of all, hysterically funny evening of comedy sketches, song and dance', The 50% Funnier Comedy Tour is presented by Fizzog Productions, and blends 'Black Country grit with exotic, flirty and feisty choreography'. It also boasts an appearance by Janice Connolly's much-loved comic creation Barbara Nice, who takes on the role of compere, so it should be good... Oh, and Fizzog inform us that the show's material is suitable for audiences aged fifteen-plus.



## Comedy Box Office

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# Comedy LISTINGS

For full listing information on comedy gigs including times and dates visit [www.whatsonlive.co.uk](http://www.whatsonlive.co.uk)

## DESI CENTRAL, PATRICK MONAHAN, SID SINGH & ANNETTE FAGON

Sun 1 Sept, The Glee Club, Birmingham

## JASON MANFORD

Wed 4 - Thurs 5 Sept, New Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham

## STEVE HARRIS, WES ZAHARUK, PETE BECKLEY AND COMPERE CARLY SMALLMAN

Thurs 5 Sept, The George Hotel, Lichfield

## STEVE HUGHES

Thurs 5 Sept, The Slade Rooms, Wolverhampton

## KUM-N-AVALOFF COMEDY NIGHT

A monthly comedy event bringing together a clutch of new and used talent, Thurs 5 Sept, Stourbridge Town Hall

## ANDREW BIRD, PHIL ELLIS, NICK DOODY & LUKE TULSON

Thur 5 - Sat 7 Sept, The Glee Club, Birmingham

## DAN THOMAS, HAYLEY ELLIS & PATRICK MORRIS

Fri 6 Sept, Hereford Courtyard Theatre

## UPFRONT COMEDY

Featuring Richard Blackwood, Karlous Miller & Spank, Fri 6 Sept, The Drum, Birmingham

## DALISO CHAPONDA - LAUGH OUT LOUD COMEDY CLUB

Fri 6 Sept, The Slade Rooms, Wolverhampton

## MILTON JONES: ON THE ROAD

Fri 6 Sept, Palace Theatre, Redditch

## KEVIN DEWSBURY, MIKEY D, NATHAN CATON & DANIEL TOWNES

Fri 6 - Sat 7 Sept, Highlight Comedy Club, Birmingham

## JASON MANFORD

Fri 6 - Sat 7 Sept, Victoria Hall, Hanley, Stoke-on-Trent

## MICKEY D, ANDREW WATTS, STEVE SHANYASKI & WILL-E

Fri 6 - Sat 7 Sept, Jongleurs Comedy Club, Birmingham

## THE 50% FUNNIER TOUR

Fizzog Productions present an evening of comedy sketches, song and dance featuring compere Barbara Nice, Sat 7 Sept, mac - Midlands Arts Centre, Birmingham

## ROUGH WORKS

New material from some of the Midlands' finest comics, Sun 8 Sept, The Glee Club, Birmingham

## MR CEE, CURTIS WALKER, FELIX DEXTER AND MR FRAZIER

Sun 8 Sept, The Glee Club, Birmingham

## BARNSTORMERS COMEDY NIGHT

Tue 10 Sept, Royal Spa Centre,

Leamington Spa

## JIMMY CARR - GAGGING ORDER

Wed 11 Sept, Civic Hall, Wolverhampton

## HANNAH GADSBY, ANGIE MCEVOY, MANDY MUDDEN & MC MAUREEN YOUNGER

Wed 11 Sept, Kitchen Garden Cafe, Birmingham

## CARL DONNELLY, CIAMH MCDONNELL, JOHN GORDILLO & COMIC TBC

Thurs 12 Sept, The Glee Club, Birmingham

## STEVE HUGHES

Fri 13 Sept, Huntingdon Hall, Worcester

## THE 50% FUNNIER TOUR

Fizzog Productions present an evening of comedy sketches, song and dance featuring compere Barbara Nice, Fri 13 Sept, The Public, West Bromwich

## CARL DONNELLY, CIAMH MCDONNELL, JOHN GORDILLO & GARETH RICHARDS

Fri 13 - Sat 14 Sept, The Glee Club, Birmingham

## ROGER MONKHOUSE, TIERNAN DOUIEB, DALISO CHAPONDA & LUKE TOULSON

Fri 13 - Sat 14 Sept, Highlight Comedy Club, Birmingham

## MICKEY D, PAUL MYREHAUG, DAN NIGHTINGALE AND WILL-E

Fri 13 - Sat 14 Sept, Jongleurs Comedy Club, Birmingham

## JEREMY HARDY

Sat 14 Sept, mac - Midlands Arts Centre, Birmingham

## SEVERN JESTERS MONTHLY COMEDY NIGHT

Sun 15 Sept, Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury

## ROBERT NEWMAN'S NEW THEORY OF EVOLUTION

Comedian, journalist, novelist and activist Rob Newman makes a return to comedy with his first complete show in seven years, Sun 15 Sept, Artrix, Bromsgrove

## STEWART LEE: MUCH A-STEW ABOUT NOTHING

Mon 16 Sept, Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury

## JIMMY CARR - GAGGING ORDER

Tue 17 Sept, De Montfort Hall, Leicester

## MARCEL LUCONT

Thurs 19 Sept, The Met Studio, Stafford Gatehouse Theatre

## THE 50% FUNNIER TOUR

Fizzog Productions present an evening of comedy sketches, song and dance featuring compere Barbara Nice, Thurs 19 Sept, Theatre On The Steps, Bridgnorth

## LUCY PORTER: NORTHERN SOUL

Thurs 19 Sept, Artrix, Bromsgrove

## CARL HUTCHINSON, PAUL THORNE, IAN SMITH &

## COMIC TBC

Thurs 19 Sept, The Glee Club, Birmingham

## ALEX HORNE: LIES

Thurs 19 Sept, Mitchell Arts Centre, Hanley, Stoke-on-Trent

## JETHRO

Thurs 19 Sept, Stratford Civic Hall

## ANDREW LAWRENCE

Fri 20 Sept, The Edge Arts Centre, Much Wenlock, South Shropshire

## WV1 COMEDY CLUB

Featuring three acts tbc, Fri 20 Sept, Molineux Stadium, Wolverhampton

## STAND-UP STAIRS COMEDY SHOW

'Featuring some of the best rising stars of the local and national stand-up comedy', Fri 20 Sept, Palace Theatre, Redditch

## CARL HUTCHINSON, PAUL THORNE, IAN SMITH & JEN BRISTER

Fri 20 Sept, The Glee Club, Birmingham

## ROMESH RANGANATHAN, PAT CAHILL & JULIAN DEAN

Fri 20 Sept, Hereford Courtyard Theatre

## DANIEL TOWNES, MARLON DAVIS WITH JESSICA FOSTEKEW & TOBY HADOKE

Fri 20 - Sat 21 Sept, Highlight Comedy Club, Birmingham

## MICKEY D, HOLLY WALSH, MARK MAIER & CHRISTIAN REILLY

Fri 20 - Sat 21 Sept, Jongleurs Comedy Club, Birmingham

## LAUGH OUT LOUD COMEDY CLUB

Featuring three comics and MC Damion Larkin, Sat 21 Sept, Regent Theatre, Stoke-on-Trent

## COMEDY AT THE MET

Line up tbc, Sat 21 Sept, The Met Studio, Stafford Gatehouse Theatre

## ROB BECKETT

Sat 21 Sept, Festival Theatre, Market Drayton, Shropshire

## BILL BAILEY

Sun 22 Sept, Symphony Hall, Birmingham

## ROBERT NEWMAN'S NEW THEORY OF EVOLUTION

Sun 22 Sept, The Slade Rooms, Wolverhampton

## THE LUMBERJACKS

Wed 25 Sept, Palace Theatre, Redditch

## COMEDY WITH CAKE

Wed 25 Sept, Forest Arts Centre, Walsall

## STEVE HUGHES

Thurs 26 Sept, The Place, Oakengates Theatre, Telford, Shropshire

## IAN COPPINGER, JOHN HASTINGS, JOHN GAVIN & COMIC TBC

Thurs 26 Sept, The Glee Club, Birmingham

## ROB BECKETT - LIVE

Fri 27 Sept, The Slade Rooms, Wolverhampton

## SIT DOWN, STAND UP FEATURING PAUL MCCAFFREY, PHIL WANG & HAYLEY ELLIS (MC)

Fri 27 Sept, The Public, West Bromwich

Stewart Lee



## ALAN DAVIES

Fri 27 Sept, Bedworth Civic Hall

## STEWART LEE: MUCH A-STEW ABOUT NOTHING

Fri 27 Sept, De Montfort Hall, Leicester

## ROY CHUBBY BROWN

Fri 27 Sept, New Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham

## IAN COPPINGER, JOHN HASTINGS, JOHN GAVIN & FREDRIK ANDERSSON

Fri 27 - Sat 28 Sept, The Glee Club, Birmingham

## BRENDAN RILEY, NICK DOODY, TREVOR CROOK & DALISO CHAPONDA

Fri 27 - Sat 28 Sept, Highlight

Comedy Club, Birmingham

## BRIAN LACEY, JESSICA FOSTEKEW, ADAM CROW & ROGUE 5

Fri 27 - Sat 28 Sept, Jongleurs Comedy Club, Birmingham

## CALL ME MERMAN

Musical comedy tribute to Ethel Merman

Sat 28 Sept, Royal Spa Centre, Leamington Spa

## AN EVENING WITH BRIAN CONLEY

Sun 29 Sept, Lichfield Garrick

## THE LAUGHING SOLE COMEDY CLUB FOR KIDS

Recommended for chil-

dren aged five plus, and featuring Hannah Silvester, Andy White & Mrs Barbara Nice, Sun 29 Sept, mac - Midlands Arts Centre, Birmingham

## PHILL JUPITUS

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## JASON MANFORD

Mon 30 Sept - Tue 1 Oct, De Montfort Hall, Leicester

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# Theatre



## People The REP, Birmingham, Tues 3 - Sat 21 September

A new Alan Bennett play is always a theatrical experience worth waiting for, particularly when it's earned rave reviews at the National Theatre. Bennett's latest offering is just such a play, having pretty much garnered plaudits across the board courtesy of its London run. Described by the man himself as "a play for England, sort of", *People* focuses on the relationship between two sisters. One, an impecunious aristocrat named Dorothy Stacpoole, is eager to make a killing

by selling the dilapidated stately home in which she lives. The other, a bossy archdeacon, is in favour of handing the rambling pile over to the National Trust.

What follows between them is an example of Bennett at his near best, and makes for an evening of theatre that manages to be provocative, touching and outrageous all at the same time.

*Read our interview with Sian Phillips at [www.whatsonlive.co.uk](http://www.whatsonlive.co.uk).*



## The Lion King Birmingham Hippodrome, until Sat 28 September

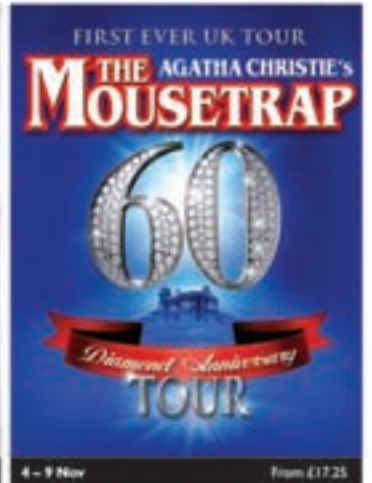
Based on the Academy Award-winning animated movie, Julie Taymor's stage adaptation of *The Lion King* brings together a huge cast of actors, singers and dancers. A global phenomenon that's delighted audiences young and old since its premiere on Broadway in 1997, the show features twenty-six different types of animal, hundreds of masks and puppets, and more than seven hundred elaborate costumes. It tells the compelling tale of young lion cub Simba as he journeys through life and struggles to accept the responsibilities both of adulthood and his future role as the King. This touring production sees Gagwana Dlamini star as Rafiki, Stephen Carlile as Scar and Cleveland Cathnott as Mufasa.


## Fallen Angels

Malvern Theatre, Mon 2 - Sat 7 September;  
Grand Theatre, Wolverhampton,  
Mon 30 September - Sat 5 October

Described as a 'euphorically funny, Champagne-fuelled comedy', Noel Coward's *Fallen Angels* is here being revived over a decade after it scored a major hit in the West End. With their husbands away playing golf and a former lover threatening to pay an impromptu visit, best friends Julia and Jane pop open the bubbly - and before too long are also loosening their tongues and sharpening their claws. But it's not until their hubbies return home early from their golfing endeavours that the evening really gets interesting... Jenny Seagrove and Sara Crowe star.





Look for the  to save 20% off the cost of your full price tickets when you book equivalent amounts for two or more participating shows at the same time. See website for further information on ticket prices and other concessions.



## Ha Ha Holmes

Crewe Lyceum Theatre, Fri 13 September; Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury, Wed 25 September; Lichfield Garrick, Wed 16 October; New Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham, Thurs 7 November; Regent Theatre, Stoke-on-Trent, Fri 8 November; Belgrade Theatre, Coventry, Tues 12 November

After enjoying great success with their first Ha Ha shows, Ben Langley and Andrew Fettes are out on the road again with another in the series - and this time their spotlight falls on the world's greatest fictional detective. The show takes *The Hound Of The Baskervilles* as its starting point - but on this particular occasion, Sherlock's a little less concerned with the detective work than he is with the laughter count. And luckily for audiences, that should prove to be pretty darned high, with none other than Joe Pasquale donning the deerstalker and puffing manfully on the pipe. *Read the interview with Joe Pasquale at [whatsonlive.co.uk](http://whatsonlive.co.uk)*



## Hedwig And The Angry Inch

Old Joint Stock Theatre, Birmingham, Thurs 12 - Sat 14 September

Rock musicals about fictional rock'n'roll bands fronted by East German transgender singers aren't exactly ten-a-penny, so it's hardly surprising that *Hedwig And The Angry Inch* caused an enormous stir when it premiered in 1998. When Hensel meets an American GI named Luther, his life is changed forever. At Luther's behest, he switches his gender - but when the operation is botched, Hensel (now renamed Hedwig) finds him/herself alone and abandoned in a Kansas trailer park. With life looking increasingly grim, what's a girl to do but form a rock band composed of Korean-born Army wives?...



## Treasure Island

Blue Orange Theatre, Birmingham, Thurs 26 - Sat 28 September

Robert Louis Stevenson's classic story has delighted generation upon generation of readers, and over the years has inspired sufficient stage and film adaptations to fill a treasure chest (and a big one, at that!). When salty old seadog Billy Bones brings his papers to



## Cymbeline

Belgrade Theatre, Coventry, Sat 14 - Sat 21 September, Roses Theatre, Tewkesbury, Tues 24 September

Shakespeare's rarely performed work brings together heroes and villains, ghosts and gods, and long-lost brothers in a story of power, love and treachery. A princess who marries without her father's permission soon finds herself needing to flee from the court, as her husband falls foul of a smooth-talking rogue... This particular version of *Cymbeline* is presented by Phizzical, a touring dance-theatre company that produces cutting-edge work inspired by Indian cinema.

the Admiral Benbow Inn, he draws young Jim Hawkins into the adventure of a lifetime, one which will see him not only setting sail in search of buried treasure, but also spending time in the company of a one-legged pirate with murder in mind...

## September In The Rain

Malvern Theatre, Wed 11 - Sat 14 September

This bittersweet comedy is written - and, on this occasion, directed - by Bouncers playwright John Godber. It tells the story of Jack and Liz, a Yorkshire couple who make an annual journey across the Pennines to enjoy a summer holiday in Blackpool, where donkey rides, talent contests, saucy postcards, rolled-up trousers and knotted hankies abound. Skipping between different eras, the play explores Jack and Liz's ongoing development together as a couple, recalling not only their first holiday in Blackpool as newlyweds but also their last, as a pair of old-age pensioners. Godber's talent for taking big themes and presenting them in an accessible, down-to-earth manner has seen him become one of the UK's most successful playwrights over the last two decades. Claire Sweeney and John Thomson star.



## An Evening Of Burlesque

Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury, Thurs 19 September; New Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham, Sat 28 September; Crewe Lyceum, Fri 15 November; Belgrade Theatre, Coventry, Fri 17 January

Burlesque has enjoyed a significant revival in recent times - and why the heck wouldn't it, given that it presents a tried-and-tested formula of bawdy comedy and female striptease? This particular show arrives in the region 'direct from the West End', and is being described by its promoters as 'the slickest, wickedly wittiest, most delightfully choreographed cabaret extravaganza of the year'.



## Winston On The Run

Artrix, Bromsgrove, Wed 25 September

Writer and performer Freddie Machin is the creative force behind this intriguing new show, which tells the story of young Winston Churchill's coming of age. Machin has based the play on archive material, including numerous letters and photographs, and sets the action in 1899, with Churchill lost in the African savannah, wanted 'Dead or Alive', and hounded by the scathing words of his late father. The show will be followed by a presentation and Q&A session.

# ARENA THEATRE

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Sep–Dec 2013

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Gazebo

## SORRY! NO COLOUREDS, NO IRISH, NO DOGS

Thursday 3 October at 7.30pm /  
Friday 4 October at 7.30pm



A series of powerful monologues are brought together in this fascinating exploration of racism, migration and the transatlantic slave trade.

**Tickets:** £10 full price / £8 concessions



## Blackeyed Theatre Company DRACULA

Monday 7 + Tuesday 8 October at 7.30pm  
Wednesday 9 October at 1.30pm + 7.30pm

A powerful new production of Bram Stoker's timeless gothic thriller, featuring live music and innovative design.

**Tickets:** £11 full price/ £9 concessions/ £5 matinee

## THE JON RONSON MYSTERIES

Thursday 7 November at 7.30pm



Writer and documentary film maker Jon Ronson talks about the extraordinary stories behind his latest book.

**Tickets:** £12 full price/ £10 concessions

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## Dunsinane

Birmingham Repertory Theatre,  
Tues 24 - Sat 28 September

The National Theatre of Scotland presents this Royal Shakespeare Company production. Envisioning one man's attempt to restore peace in a Scotland ravaged by war, David Grieg's *Dunsinane* finds Macbeth dead and the commanding officer of a British army taking the seat of power. But with a brutal guerrilla army making its intentions known, and the commanding officer feeling increasingly isolated from both his own men and his Scottish allies, it isn't long before the situation begins to spiral out of his control... Birmingham Rep Artistic Director Roxana Silbert here revives her acclaimed production, which originally showed at Hampstead Theatre.



## Eddie And The Gold Tops

The Roses Theatre, Tewkesbury,  
Thurs 26 September

Life's hard for Eddie. Stardom beckons, but how can he ever become a chart-topping superstar when he's got his deathbed promise to his milkman dad to fulfill - to ensure that he never misses a milk delivery now that he's inherited the family business. Supported in his musicmaking endeavours by the fabulous Gold Tops, Eddie needs to find a way to make his Top Of The Pops dream come true, before everything turns as sour as a bottle of out-of-date milk on a hot summer's day...



## The Vagina Monologues

Lichfield Garrick, Thurs 26 September; Solihull Arts Complex, Fri 27th September; Palace Theatre, Redditch, Sat 2 November; Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury, Mon 11 November; New Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham, Fri 22 November

Based on author Eve Ensler's 'vagina interviews', conducted with women from across the world, this witty and moving collection of tales gives voice to a chorus of lusty, outrageous, poignant, brave and thoroughly human stories. This particular tour features input from Diane Keen, Terri Dwyer and Hollie-Jay Bowes.



## Vienna Festival Ballet: Snow White

Artrix, Bromsgrove, Sat 28 September; Bedworth Civic Hall, Thurs 7 November

Touring the UK since 1980, Vienna Festival Ballet has established itself as one of the country's leading dance ensembles, presenting shows that include *Swan Lake*, *The Nutcracker*, *The Sleeping Beauty*, *Giselle*, *Cinderella*, *American In Paris* and *Bolero*. The company is further expanding its repertoire with this autumn presentation, a production that's been choreographed by the internationally renowned Barry McGrath, and which features costumes by Vonnie Meyrick-Brook, costume-maker for blockbuster movies such as *Skyfall* and the *Harry Potter* series. Expect to be entirely captivated by a show which has been described as utterly 'spellbinding'.

## Ed Rapley Trilogy

mac - Midlands Arts Centre, Birmingham,  
Sat 28 September

Ed Rapley's no ordinary man. According to one broadsheet, he has 'the camp enthusiasm of a fanged Bruce Forsyth' - a bizarre and quietly terrifying prospect indeed! Following success a couple of years back at the Exeter Fringe, Ed is here bringing together three presentations to create a theatrical landscape inhabited by childhood memories and adult loss. Blending stand-up, storytelling, dance, live art and clowning, 10 Ways To Die On Stage, The Middle Bit and Who Knows Where are all stand-alone shows, but together record the journey of a life; from wild optimism, through the wilderness, and into the unknown.



gloomy home, she sits alone each night dreading the sound of footsteps from locked and empty rooms, waiting for the gaslight to dim. When a stranger arrives one evening with a terrifying story to tell, Bella must work out whether her visitor is really there to help, or if she's about to descend into a pit of madness from which there can be no return...

## One Night In November

Belgrade Theatre, Coventry,  
Sat 28 September - Sat 19 October

When headstrong eighteen-year-old trainee teacher Katie meets stranded Oxford tutor Michael, love isn't all that's in the air, with the threat of war hanging over 1940s Coventry... Focusing on one family's experiences of the Coventry Blitz, *One Night In November* examines the notion that Churchill had advanced warning of the terrible attack which was destined to leave the city decimated. Alan Pollock's acclaimed drama returns to the Belgrade by popular demand.



## Gaslight

New Vic Theatre, Newcastle-under-Lyme,  
Fri 20 September - Sat 5 October

Patrick Hamilton's play comes with a royal seal of approval, with both King George and Queen Elizabeth having insisted on seeing it during its hugely successful West End run. It also has the honour of being the longest-running British play in Broadway history. All of which should nicely whet the appetite for this particular version of the show. Bella Manningham's life is a fun-free zone. Losing her mind and feeling trapped in her

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JONATHAN WILKES  
STARS IN  
**SNOW WHITE  
AND THE SEVEN DWARFS**  
TUE 3 DEC 2013 -  
SUN 5 JAN 2014\*



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Mon 9	10.30 8.30	Thurs 19	10.30 8.30	Sun 29	1.30 6.30
Tues 10	10.30 8.30	Fri 20	NO PERFORMANCE	Mon 30	2.30 6.30
Wed 11	10.30 8.30	Sat 21	2.30 6.30	Tues 31	1.30
Thurs 12	10.30 8.30	Sun 22	1.30 8.30	JANUARY	
Fri 13	NO PERFORMANCE	Mon 23	2.30 6.30	Wed 1	HAPPY NEW YEAR!
Sat 14	2.30 6.30	Tues 24	1.30	Thurs 2	2.30 7.15
Sun 15	1.30 8.30	Wed 25	MERRY CHRISTMAS	Fri 3	2.30 7.15
Mon 16	10.30 8.30	Thurs 26	1.30 6.30	Sat 4	2.30 6.30
Tues 17	10.30 8.30	Fri 27	2.30 6.30	Sun 5	1.30 5.30

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WORLD PREMIERE

# SNOW WHITE

[WWW.VIENNAFESTIVALBALLET.COM](http://WWW.VIENNAFESTIVALBALLET.COM)

**September 28<sup>th</sup>**  
Artrix, Bromsgrove - 2.30\* & 7.30  
[artrix.co.uk](http://artrix.co.uk) 01527 577330

**October 5<sup>th</sup>**  
Evesham Arts Centre, Evesham - 7.30  
[eveshamartscentre.co.uk](http://eveshamartscentre.co.uk) 01386-446944

**October 17<sup>th</sup> - 19<sup>th</sup>**  
Lichfield Garrick, Lichfield 2.30\* & 7.30  
(Performance of Sleeping Beauty)  
[lichfieldgarrick.com](http://lichfieldgarrick.com) 01543 412121

**October 25<sup>th</sup>**  
The Place, Oakengates, Telford - 7.00  
[theplace@telford.gov.uk](http://theplace@telford.gov.uk) 01952 382 382

**October 31<sup>st</sup>**  
Glyndwr University, Wrexham - 7.30  
[glyndwr.ac.uk](http://glyndwr.ac.uk) 01978 290666

\* Saturday Matinee

# Theatre LISTINGS

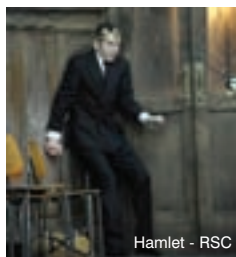
For full listing information on theatre productions including times and dates visit [www.whatsonlive.co.uk](http://www.whatsonlive.co.uk)

## From SUN 1 SEPT

**THE PRODIGALS** Musical written by Ray Goudie & Joe Harmston, until Sat 14 Sept, Belgrade Theatre, Coventry

**ALL'S WELL THAT ENDS WELL** Nancy Meckler directs Shakespeare's comic and touching romance, until Thurs 26 Sept, Royal Shakespeare Theatre, Stratford-upon-Avon

**HAMLET** David Farr directs Jonathan Slinger in Shakespeare's tragedy of justice and revenge, until Sat 28 Sept, Royal Shakespeare Theatre, Stratford-upon-Avon



Hamlet - RSC

**AS YOU LIKE IT** Maria Aberg directs following her riotous production of King John in the Swan Theatre as part of the World Shakespeare Festival, until Sat 28 Sept, Royal Shakespeare Theatre, Stratford-upon-Avon

**THE LION KING** until Sat 28 Sept, Birmingham Hippodrome

**A MAD WORLD MY MASTERS** Sean Foley makes his RSC debut, directing Thomas Middleton's Jacobean 'city comedy', an outrageously wicked, brilliantly plotted farcical satire of lies and lust, until Fri 25 Oct, The Swan Theatre, Stratford-upon-Avon

**CANDIDE** RSC Writer-in-Residence Mark Ravenhill responds to Voltaire's novel in a new play, directed by Lyndsey Turner, until Sat 26 Oct, The Swan Theatre, Stratford-upon-Avon

**TITUS ANDRONICUS** Michael Fentiman makes his RSC debut, directing Shakespeare's early revenge tragedy, until Sat 26 Oct, The Swan Theatre, Stratford-upon-Avon

**FALLEN ANGELS** Jenny Seagroave and Sara Crowe feature in Noel Coward's comedy, Mon 2 - Sat 7 Sept, Malvern Theatre

**TELL ME ABOUT YOUR EX** A brand new theatrical experience where the audience is the author, Tue 3 - Sat 7 Sept, Old Joint Stock Theatre, Birmingham

**MUDDY COWS** New comedy which centres around the elite world of female rugby, Tues 3 - Sat 14 Sept, New Vic Theatre, Newcastle-

under-Lyme

**PEOPLE** Tue 3 - Sat 21 Sept, Birmingham Repertory Theatre

**PETER GRIMES ON ALDEBURGH BEACH** Screening of Benjamin Britten's beautiful masterpiece, which has captured the imaginations of audiences since it premiered in 1945, Thurs 5 Sept, Malvern Theatres

**DEOXYRIBONUCLEIC ACID** The Belfry Players present Dennis Kelly's play about a group of dysfunctional teenagers with a murderous secret, Fri 6 Sept, Belfry Theatre, Wellington, Shropshire

**OUR HOUSE** Amateur production of the award-winning musical featuring classic hits from '80s pop group Madness, presented by Young Performers Theatre Group, Sat 7 Sept, Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury

**WALSALL GILBERT & SULLIVAN SOCIETY 50TH ANNIVERSARY GALA CONCERT** Sat 7 Sept, Forest Arts Centre, Walsall

**HANSEL AND GRETEL** Interactive theatre experience which brings the Grimm tale to life, Sat 7 Sept, Birmingham Repertory Theatre

**THE HISTORY BOYS** Alan Bennett's award-winning play, Sat 7 - Sat 14 Sept, Crescent Theatre, Birmingham

**SAPTAPADI** A lively, humorous and emotional Gujarati play for the whole family, Sun 8 Sept, mac - Midlands Arts Centre, Birmingham

## Week Commencing MON 9 SEPT

**WHAT THE BUTLER SAW** An amateur production by Nonentities, Mon 9 - Sat 14 Sept, The Rose Theatre, Kidderminster

**HOUDINI** Presented by Theatre Giants Mon 9 - Sat 14 Sept, Stoke Repertory Theatre

**IN THE BOX** Ralph Dellor hosts a memorable evening with Test Match Special commentators and cricketing legends as they recall their favourite anecdotes from life In The Box, Tue 10 Sept, Solihull Arts Complex

**FEMALE GOTHIC** Presented by Dyad Productions, the company behind the acclaimed Austen's Women, Tues 10 Sept, Bridge House Theatre, Warwick

**AN EVENING WITH SALLY MORGAN** Tues 10 Sept, Dudley Town Hall

**SEPTEMBER IN THE RAIN** John Godber drama that follows Liz and Jack on their annual jaunts to Blackpool over a thirty-year period. TV favourites John

Thomson and Claire Sweeney star, Wed 11 - Sat 14 Sept, Malvern Theatres

**TIMELESS THEATRE NOSTALGIA SHOW** Mon 16 - Tues 17 Sept, Solihull Arts Complex

**FRENCH CAN CAN** A critically acclaimed stage spectacular that celebrates the elegance of Paris and the high-kicking glamour of the city's most famous dance routine, Wed 11 Sept, Solihull Arts Complex

**CALENDAR GIRLS** The Norbury Players present an amateur production of Tim Firth's much-acclaimed drama, based on a true story, Wed 11 - Sat 14 Sept, The Norbury Theatre, Droitwich

**SHERLOCK HOLMES: THE DEATH AND LIFE** Roger Llewellyn presents a humorous tale of murder, mystery and the occult, Thurs 12 - Fri 13 Sept, Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury

**HEDWIG AND THE ANGRY INCH** Nigel Frances Productions present a stage adaptation of the award-winning Broadway rock musical, Thurs 12 - Sat 14 Sept, Old Joint Stock Theatre, Birmingham

**THE LEGEND OF MIKE SMITH** Award-winning jazz and Hip-hop star Soweto Kinch presents a staged performance of his latest album, with jazz improvisation, a driving Hip-Hop score and choreography from Jonzi D, Thurs 12 - Sat 28 Sept, Birmingham Repertory Theatre

**AN AUDIENCE WITH COLIN FRY** Fri 13 Sept, Wulfrun Hall, Wolverhampton

**HA HA HOLMES** Comedy thriller from the Ha Ha Boys. Joe Pasquale stars, Fri 13 Sept, Crewe Lyceum

**BIG GIRLS DON'T CRY** Celebration of the music of Frankie Valli and The Four Seasons, Fri 13 Sept, Palace Theatre, Redditch

**AN AUDIENCE WITH SHERLOCK HOLMES** As night draws in and fog settles once more over the city of London, join Sherlock Holmes in the study of 221B Baker Street for a classic retelling of some of his most celebrated cases, Sat 14 Sept, Palace Theatre, Redditch

**TRES TRES CABARET** Stafford's very own burlesque and cabaret night. Strictly over 18s only, Sat 14 Sept, Stafford Gatehouse Theatre

**STAFFORD SAMARITANS 50TH ANNIVERSARY CONCERT** A special variety concert featuring some of the town's best-known performers, Sat 14 Sept, Stafford Gatehouse Theatre

**THREE PHANTOMS** Featuring songs from The Phantom Of The Opera and other West End musicals. Matthew Cammelle, Stephen John Davis and Earl Carpenter star... Sat 14 - Sun 15 Sept, The Grand Theatre, Wolverhampton

## Week Commencing MON 16 SEPT

**AN EVENING WITH TONY STOCKWELL** Mon 16 Sept, Crescent Theatre, Birmingham

**DREAMBOATS AND PETTICOATS THE MUSICAL** Featuring songs from Roy Orbison, The Shadows, Eddie Cochran, Billy Fury, Chuck Berry and many more... Mon 16 - Sat 21 Sept, The Grand Theatre, Wolverhampton

**JOHN COOPER CLARKE** Tue 17 Sept, Artrix, Bromsgrove

**THE ELEPHANT MAN** Different Animal present the Tony Award-winning play which tells the tragic and moving story of Joseph Merrick and his rise from Victorian sideshow curiosity to toast of London society, Tue 17 - Sat 21 Sept, Lichfield Garrick

**ELYSIAN FIELDS** The first production from Malvern's Writer-in-Residence Nick Wilkes, Tue 17 - Sat 21 Sept, Malvern Theatres

**TURANDOT: ROYAL OPERA HOUSE** Encore Screening. Live screening of Puccini's tale of disguised identities, riddles, ritual executions and powerful, triumphant love. Sung in Italian, Wed 18 Sept, Artrix, Bromsgrove

**THE HITCHHIKER'S GUIDE TO THE GALAXY RADIO SHOW** Featuring Simon Jones as Arthur Dent. Wed 18 Sept, Royal Spa Centre, Leamington Spa

**THAT'LL BE THE DAY** Rock-'n'Roll spectacular combining music from the '50s, '60s & '70s with wacky comedy routines, Wed 18 Sept, Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury

**STORYTELLING CAFE: RETURN TO LYONESSE** Wed 18 Sept, Kitchen Garden Cafe, Birmingham

**BEDROOM FARCE** Alan Ayckbourn's classic play of infidelity, surprise and misinterpretation. Presented by KODS, Wed 18 - Sat 21 Sept, The Rose Theatre, Kidderminster

**THAT'LL BE THE DAY** Rock-'n'Roll spectacular combining music from the '50s, '60s & '70s with wacky comedy routines, Thurs 19 Sept, Palace Theatre, Redditch

**BUGLE BOY: THE LIFE STORY OF GLENN MILLER** Thurs 19 - Sat 21 Sept, Crewe Lyceum



Bugle Boy

**THREE PHANTOMS** Featuring songs from The Phantom Of The Opera and other West End musicals. Matthew Cammelle,

## Stafford Gatehouse Theatre

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### TRÈS TRÈS CABARET

THE MET STUDIO

**Sat 14 Sept**

Stafford's very own burlesque and cabaret night is ready to set hearts aflutter and pulses racing! Très Très Cabaret promises to bring you the most extravagant variety show to the secluded intimacy of The Met Studio. Featuring the hottest performers from the international cabaret scene to surprise and delight you... Dress to impress and join us for an evening of glitz, glamour and so much more. With a stellar line-up of acts, this show is set to be the talk of the town.

8pm, £15

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### MOZART FLUTE AND HARP CONCERTO

GATEHOUSE THEATRE

**Wed 18 Sept**

Manchester Camerata celebrate Britten's centenary year in a programme coupling the youthful composer's work with that of a young Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart. Arvo Part's beautifully atmospheric elegy, Cantus in memoriam Benjamin Britten, opens the programme. Britten's Simple Symphony and Prelude and Fugue show a young composer in total mastery of his craft. We continue our Mozart concerto cycle with one of Mozart's most loved of concertos, for flute and harp, featuring our principal flautist Amina Hussain and former harpist to the Prince of Wales Claire Jones. The programme concludes with the eighteen year old Mozart's 29th Symphony, a work brimming with energy, invention and pure joy.

7.30pm, £15, £13 concs under 26 £5, under 18 £3

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### MARCEL LUCONT

THE MET STUDIO

**Thurs 19 Sept**

Witty, acerbic, magniloquent Frenchman seeks willing, intelligent audience for fun, adventure, maybe something more. Winner of the Amused Moose Laughter Award 2012 and Perth Fringe-world Best Comedy Show as seen on Russell Howard's Good News (BBC3), Live at The Electric (BBC3) and Set List (Sky Atlantic).

8pm, £13 / £11 concs

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### COMEDY IN THE MET - SEPTEMBER

THE MET STUDIO

**Sat 21 Sept**

Bringing you the very best in live comedy from around the country, The MET Studio has line ups to rival the biggest comedy clubs in the UK. The MET Studio has become a regular stop off for those travelling to and from the Edinburgh fringe or preparing for their slot on Russell Howard's Good News Show. The comedy in the MET nights are regular sell outs so make sure you book early to avoid disappointment!

8pm, £10

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### THE MAGIC OF MOTOWN

GATEHOUSE THEATRE

**Fri 27 Sept**

Direct from The States, the UK's biggest Motown concert tour celebrates 50 years of no.1 songs with its brand new arena show! The non-stop spectacular features massive hits from The Supremes, Temptations, Four Tops, Jackson 5, Stevie Wonder, Marvin Gaye, Martha Reeves, Lionel Richie and more. An all star cast, that original Detroit sound, sparking costumes and amazing choreography. The Magic of Motown will be getting to you in 2013.

8pm, £21.50

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### KEIRAN GOSS

THE MET STUDIO

**Wed 2 Oct**

Long hailed as one of Ireland's leading songwriters and performers, Kieran Goss's music has won him fans across the globe, but if his songs have brought him stardom, it's Kieran's live shows which have made him a legend in his homeland.

7.30pm, £14 / £11 concs

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BOOKONLINE

Box Office 01785 254653

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- Fri 6/9 King Pleasure & The Biscuit Boys**  
High-energy Jazz & Blues Tickets £14
- Tue 10/9 In the Box Live Cricket Show**  
With Dellor, Gatting & Agnew. Tickets £19
- Wed 11/9 French Can Can Show**  
Music & Burlesque. Tickets £17.50 (£16.50, £12)
- Fri 13/9 Nonsense Musical comedy**  
Absurd, joyous romp! Tickets £15 (£13)
- Sat 14/9 Me, Mum & Dusty Springfield**  
One-woman dark comedy. Tickets £10 Adv.
- Thu 19/9 MYJO & Guest Stephen Triffitt**  
Celebrating Frank Sinatra. Tickets £14 (£13)
- Fri 27/9 The Vagina Monologues**  
Broadway & West End smash hit. Tickets £19
- Wed 2/10 Derek Acorah Live** Tickets £17.50
- Fri 4/10 The Manfreds** Tickets £19
- Sat 5/10 Nina Conti Live** Tickets £15
- Thu 10/10 Julian Smith - Saxophone**  
Joined by young future stars. Tickets £10
- Thu 10/10 Rob Beckett Live** Tickets £10
- Tue 15/10 Mugenkyo Taiko Drummers**  
Thundering rhythms. Tickets £19 (£16, £10 ch.)
- Sat 19/10 Andy & Mike's Time Machine**  
CBeebies Presenter Andy Day at 2pm. Tickets £10
- Sat 19/10 Andrew Lawrence** Tickets £14
- Tue 22/10 Stacey Kent** Tickets £18
- Fri 1/11 The Big Red Bath** 1 & 3pm, Tickets £6
- Mon 11/11 Midday Variety** Stu Francis, Tickets £15
- Thu 14/11 Foster & Allen** Tickets £25
- Thu 28/11 The Joe Loss Orchestra**  
Stars vocalist Todd Miller Tickets £17.50
- Fri 29/11 Raymond Froggatt** Tickets £20
- Sat 30/11 Evening with Des O'Connor**  
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**Blake**  
Sat 14 Sep 7.30pm



**Beyond The Barricade**  
Sun 15 Sep 7.30pm



**Blofeld & Baxter**  
Fri 20 Sep 7.30pm



**Cymbeline**  
Tues 24 Sep 7.30pm



**Eddie And The Gold Tops**  
Thurs 26 Sep 7.30pm



**Mid Wales Opera: Albert Herring**  
Sat 28 Sep 7.30pm



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# Theatre LISTINGS

For full listing information on theatre productions, including times and dates, visit [www.whatsonlive.co.uk](http://www.whatsonlive.co.uk)

Stephen John Davis and Earl Carpenter star... Thurs 19 Sept, Belgrade Theatre, Coventry

**AN EVENING OF BURLESQUE** Britain's biggest burlesque spectacular returns with a brand new show for 2013. Direct from London's West End, Thurs 19 Sept, Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury

**BEST OF BRITISH** Music, comedy sketches and drama from across the decades, Thurs 19 - Sat 21 Sept, Evesham Arts Centre

**CALENDAR GIRLS** Amateur production based on the Miramax motion picture by Juliette Towhidi and Tim Firth, Thurs 19 - Sat 21 Sept, Forest Arts Centre, Walsall

**HOPELESSLY DEVOTED** Kate Tempest's story about love in all its extremes, Thurs 19 Sept - Sat 5 Oct, Birmingham Repertory Theatre

**DEREK ACORAH THE ETERNAL SPIRITS TOUR** Fri 20 Sept, Palace Theatre, Redditch

**BACK TO BROADWAY** Fri 20 Sept, Malvern Theatres

**BLOFELD & BAXTER: MEMORIES OF TEST MATCH SPECIAL** Two of the titans of cricket share tales from Test Match Special commentary boxes across the world, Fri 20 Sept, The Roses Theatre, Tewkesbury

**GASLIGHT** Fri 20 Sept - Sat 5 Oct, New Vic Theatre, Newcastle-under-Lyme

**RUBY MAIHEM BURLESQUE** Burlesque entertainment performances from Ava Bonham Garter and Rainbow Sparkles, Sat 21 Sept, The Public, West Bromwich

**THE ELEPHANT BRIDESMAID** Magical musical about weddings, wombats and the loveliest elephant the world has ever known... Sat 21 Sept, The Place, Oakengates Theatre, Telford

**WINNIE THE POOH** Play-box Theatre present their version of AA Milne's much-loved tale, Sat 21 - Sun 22 Sept, The Dream Factory, Warwick

**WHO'S AFRAID OF VIRGINIA WOLF?** Amateur production of Edward Albee's classic, presented by the Crescent Theatre Company, Sat 21 - Sat 28 Sept, Crescent Theatre, Birmingham

## Week Commencing MON 23 SEPT

**THE PRIVATE EAR - THE PUBLIC EYE** Peter Shaffer's 1962 West End and Broadway hit, set in a musky London bedsit. Jasper Britton, Steven Blakeley, Rupert Hill and Siobhan O'Kelly star, Mon 23 - Sat 28 Sept, Malvern Theatres

**THE FULL MONTY** Stage version of the Oscar-winning film that took the world by storm in 1997, Tue 24 - Sat 28 Sept, The Grand Theatre, Wolverhampton

**DUNSINANE** Tue 24 - Sat 28 Sept, Birmingham Repertory Theatre

**FAULTY TOWERS: THE DINING EXPERIENCE** Tue 24 - Sat 28 Sept, Birmingham Repertory Theatre

**ALIENS LOVE UNDERPANTS** Tue 24 - Wed 25 Sept, Crewe Lyceum

**THE COMPLETE WORKS OF WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE (ABRIDGED)** The Reduced Shakespeare Company present a fast-paced romp through the best of The Bard's works, Wed 25 Sept, Lichfield Garrick

**WINSTON ON THE RUN** Experience the coming-of-age of Britain's greatest hero in this gripping true story of adventure, audacity and Imperial folly, Wed 25 Sept, Artrix, Bromsgrove

**HA HA HOLMES** Comedy thriller from the Ha Ha Boys. Joe Pasquale stars, Wed 25 Sept, Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury

**SEPARATE TABLES** All & Sundry present Terrence Rattigan's much-acclaimed work, which demonstrates his art of characterisation, Wed 25 - Sun 28 Sept, mac - Midlands Arts Centre, Birmingham

**AN EVENING WITH RAY MEARS** Hear Ray talk about his practical and resourceful bushcraft survival skills, Thurs 26 Sept, Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury

**OTHELLO - NATIONAL THEATRE LIVE** A major new production of Shakespeare's celebrated play about the destructive power of jealousy. Adrian Lester and Rory Kinnear star, Thurs 26 Sept, Artrix, Bromsgrove

**THE VAGINA MONOLOGUES** Based on Eve Ensler's 'vagina interviews' and featuring an all-star cast, Thurs 26 Sept, Lichfield Garrick

**TREASURE ISLAND**

Robert Louis Stevenson's tale of buccaneers and hidden gold Thurs 26 - Sat 28 Sept, The Blue Orange Theatre, Birmingham

**FOGHORN IMPROV: WE'LL MEET AGAIN** The Old Joint Stock's resident improv group take the audience on a journey back to the 1950s - a time of new beginnings... Thurs 26 Sept, Old Joint Stock Theatre, Birmingham

**EDDIE AND THE GOLD TOPS** Heartwarming 1960s comedy written and directed by Kate Bramley, with original songs and music by Jez Lowe, Thurs 26 Sept, The Roses Theatre, Tewkesbury

**OTHELLO - NATIONAL THEATRE LIVE** A major new production of Shakespeare's celebrated play about the destructive power of jealousy. Adrian Lester and Rory Kinnear star, Thurs 26 Sept, The Edge Arts Centre, Much Wenlock, Shropshire & mac - Midlands Arts Centre, Birmingham

**MURDER ON THE NILE** Thurs 26 - Sat 28 Sept, Stratford Civic Hall, Stratford-upon-Avon

**BEGUILDY: THE LIFE AND LOVES OF MARY WEBB** Janie Mitchell and Anne Marie Summers present biographical anecdotes charting the short and eccentric life of the Shropshire author and nature mystic, Mary Webb, Fri 27 Sept, The Edge Arts Centre, Much Wenlock, South Shropshire

**GIVE MY REGARDS TO BROADWAY** Presented by Blackout Theatre, Fri 27 Sept, Old Rep, Birmingham

**THREE PHANTOMS** Featuring songs from The Phantom Of The Opera and other West End musicals. Matthew Cammelle, Stephen John Davis and Earl Carpenter star... Fri 27 - Sat 28 Sept, Malvern Theatres

**JACK THE RIPPER - A 21ST CENTURY INVESTIGATION** Retired British police murder squad detective Trevor Marriott reveals the findings of his ten-year investigation into the Whitechapel Murders of 1888, Fri 27 Sept, Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury

**THE VAGINA MONOLOGUES** Fri 27th Sept, Solihull Arts Complex

**THE LEGENDS OF SWING - ACCESS ALL AREAS!** Classic Swing meets modern theatre as Tommy Warren and Jonny Gray introduce a new and exciting take on this timeless music, Fri 27 Sept, Lichfield Garrick

**FIFTY DAYS OF GREY** Fri 27 Sept, Crewe Lyceum

**EVENING OF MEDIUMSHIP**

**WITH ANDREW DEE** Sat 28 Sept, The Met Studio, Stafford Gatehouse

**AN EVENING OF CLAIRVOYANCE WITH PHILIP SOLOMON AND FRIENDS** Sat 28 Sept, The Public, West Bromwich

**BACK TO BROADWAY** Sat 28 Sept, Palace Theatre, Redditch

**ALBERT HERRING** Mid Wales Opera present their version of Benjamin Britten's depiction of village life, Sat 28 Sept, The Roses Theatre, Tewkesbury

**AN EVENING OF BURLESQUE** Britain's biggest burlesque spectacular returns with a brand new show for 2013. Direct from London's West End, Sat 28 Sept, New Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham

**ENCHANTED BURLESQUE - TRIBUTE** An evening of burlesque, with plenty of glamour and comedy, Sat 28 Sept, Old Rep, Birmingham

**GOTTA SING GOTTA DANCE...** A journey through the wonderful world of musical theatre, featuring a full supporting company of West End singers and dancers, plus a live band, Sat 28 Sept, Regent Theatre, Stoke-on-Trent

**TWEEDY'S LOST PROPERTY** Physical comedy show that follows the

antics of a circus clown who gives in to society and gets a real job, Sat 28 Sept, The Swan Theatre, Worcester

**1940S CABARET: TIME TO REMEMBER** An evening of 1940s-style entertainment, fusing music and humour, Sat 28 Sept, Bantock House Museum, Wolverhampton

**OTHELLO - NATIONAL THEATRE LIVE** A major new production of Shakespeare's celebrated play about the destructive power of jealousy. Adrian Lester and Rory Kinnear star, Sat 28 - Sun 29 Sept, mac - Midlands Arts Centre, Birmingham

**WINNIE THE POOH** Play-box Theatre present their version of AA Milne's much-loved tale, Sat 28 - Sun 29 Sept, The Dream Factory, Warwick

**ONE NIGHT IN NOVEMBER** The story of the Coventry Blitz. Sat 28 Sep - Tues 19 Nov, Belgrade Theatre, Coventry

**GOTTA SING GOTTA DANCE...** A journey through the wonderful world of musical theatre, featuring a full supporting company of West End singers and dancers, Sun 29 Sept, New Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham

**PHANTOM AND THE MUSICALS** Barry Walker's

Smackee return with their presentation of the best of West End and Broadway musicals, Sun 29 Sept, Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury

**WILD WILD PARTY** Special singalong show, guaranteed to 'get the whole family dancing, laughing and singing', Sun 29 Sept, Artrix, Bromsgrove

## Week Commencing MON 30 SEPT

**INSTITUTE OF PHYSICS - EVERYTHING FROM NOTHING** Presented by Professor Carlos S Frenk, FRs, Director of the Institute for Computational Cosmology and Ogden Professor of Fundamental Physics, Mon 30 Sept, Huntingdon Hall, Worcester

**OTHELLO - NATIONAL THEATRE LIVE** Mon 30 Sept, The Roses Theatre, Tewkesbury

**FALLEN ANGELS** Jenny Seagrove and Sara Crowe feature in Noel Coward's comedy, Mon 30 Sept - Sat 5 Oct, The Grand Theatre, Wolverhampton

**SAVE THE LAST DANCE FOR ME** Rock'n'roll musical that sees Dreamboats & Petticoats meet Dirty Dancing, Mon 30 Sept - Sat 5 Oct, Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury

"WARM, OPEN, EXCITING, ENCHANTINGLY FUNNY, LIBERATING..."

Leading Times

# THE VAGINA MONOLOGUES

BY EVE ENSLER

**HOLLIE-JAY BOWES** Grange Hill / Hollyoaks  
**DIANE KEEN** Doctors  
**TERRI DWYER** Hollyoaks / 60 Minute Makeover

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27 <sup>th</sup> Sept	SOLIHULL - Solihull Arts Complex	0121 704 6962
23 <sup>rd</sup> Oct	LEICESTER - De Montfort Hall	0116 233 3111
2 <sup>nd</sup> Nov	REDDITCH - Palace Theatre	01527 65203
11 <sup>th</sup> Nov	SHREWSBURY - Theatre Severn	01743 281 281
14 <sup>th</sup> Nov	NOTTINGHAM - Royal Concert Hall	0115 969 5555
22 <sup>nd</sup> Nov	BIRMINGHAM - New Alexandra Theatre	0844 871 3011*

\* Booking fee applies

www.vaginamonologues.co.uk

Here are a few of our favourite theatre productions we reviewed from last month. For further theatre reviews, visit, [www.whatsonlive.co.uk](http://www.whatsonlive.co.uk)

## Henry VI trilogy

Tewkesbury Battlefield

The Globe's Henry VI trilogy landed on Tewkesbury Battlefield a few days too late to benefit from the July heatwave. Even more unfortunately, the weather was so inclement that a production of Shakespeare's *The Tempest* would've been way more appropriate.

Anyone who's ever put their faith in the British summer, bought a ticket for an outdoor show, and then spent the entire time doing a passable impersonation of a drowned rat will know only too well that the business of 'being sodden' can spectacularly undermine one's appreciation of a performance under the stars. And so it was, unfortunately, with Henry.

Umbrellas went up, umbrellas came down, umbrellas went up again. And all the while the actors did their very best to power their voices through the prevailing wind, the increased need to project meaning their performances were so much less subtle than they might otherwise have been. The cast were certainly wholehearted in their attempts to entertain, and they just as certainly needed to be - the audience was palpably distracted by the conditions, with regular visits to the dryness and relative warmth of the refreshments tent being an all too appealing idea.

This trilogy had much to recommend it. It deserved a better fate than a day spent doing battle with the elements. *Alex Dyle* ■■■■■



## Strictly Confidential

Symphony Hall, Birmingham

A *Strictly Come Dancing* offshoot bounced back into Birmingham this summer with a couple of hot dates at Symphony Hall.

This time, it came not with a judging line-up but with a smattering of the series' most popular faces. The show provided plenty of behind-the-scenes trivia and showbiz gossip, as well as many of the best Latin and ballroom routines. Hence its title - *Strictly Confidential*.

Host Lisa Riley talked and danced her way through the story of her career and her family, and explained how her beloved *Strictly* had given her a new lease of life both professionally and personally. My two favourite dancers were there too: long-legged Aussie Natalie Lowe and Russian heartthrob Artem Chigvintsev, who let slip how he fell in love with his dancing partner (and eventual 2010 winner) Kaira Tointon.

The show was ideal for fans wanting a summertime *Strictly* fix before the new series starts in the autumn. *Anita Champaneri* ■■■■■



## Evita

Grand Theatre, Wolverhampton

In a role previously performed by some of musical theatre's finest, Madalena Alberto shone as brightly as the diamonds that often adorned the neck of Argentina's first lady, Eva Peron. With an undisputably impressive vocal range, she perfectly manoeuvred her way through some of Tim Rice and Andrew Lloyd Webber's most iconic and heartfelt musical numbers. Her rendition of *Don't Cry For Me Argentina* was up there with the best. Alberto was sure-footed throughout, guiding the character of Peron from her days as a self-assured actress who became the voice of the Argentinian people through to her tragically early demise at the age of thirty-three - the final scene leaves you breathless.

Elsewhere, Sarah McNicholas' rendition of *Another Suitcase...* is simply sublime, while *Wet Wet Wet* frontman Marti Pellow's animated portrayal of the revolutionary Che said much for his versatility as a performer. His raspy tones were perfect for narrating Peron's rise to fame and fortune, and he certainly delivered on his promise to bring something of himself to the role.

Credible performances also come from Mark Heenehan, as Juan Peron, and from Nic Gibney, who, as Eva's first love Magaldi, is the person credited with influencing her in her formative years.

A wonderful production, much deserving of its standing ovation. *Patsy Moss* ■■■■■

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## New casting announced for Andrew Lloyd Webber classic

Argentinian actor Geronimo Rauch is this month joining the cast of Andrew Lloyd Webber's multi-award-winning musical, *The Phantom Of The Opera*. Hot on the heels of his acclaimed performance as Jean Valjean in *Les Miserables* at the Queen's Theatre, Rauch will play *The Phantom* opposite Sofia Escobar's Christine. Other new additions to the cast include Sean Palmer (Raoul), Andy Hockley (Monsieur Firmin), Martin Ball (Monsieur Andre), Claire Moore (Carlotta), Jacinta Mulcahy (Madame Giry) and Cat Lane (Meg Giry). *The Phantom Of The Opera* is booking at Her Majesty's Theatre until 26 April 2014.

## Linda Bassett to appear in post-war drama

Following her much-celebrated performance in Alan Bennett's *People at the National Theatre*, East Is East actress Linda Bassett is to return to the London stage in Andrew Wesker's post-war trilogy, *Roots*. Bassett will play mother to Jessica Raine's Beatie Bryant - a young woman finding her voice at a time of unprecedented change. Set in 1958, *Roots* centres around Beatie's relationship with a young socialist who she met on a trip to London, and who's visiting her at her family's Norfolk farm. Dizzy with notions of change, Beatie looks forward to a future in a bolder, freer world... *Roots* shows at The Donmar Warehouse from 3 October to 30 November.



## Roddy Doyle musical makes its West End debut

The stage adaptation of Roddy Doyle's best-selling novel *The Commitments* is to make its debut at the Palace Theatre this month. The show, which has been two years in the making, has been adapted by Doyle himself, with the award-winning Jamie Lloyd taking the director's chair. *The Commitments* follows two members of a frustrated synthesizer band who turn for help to young working-class music expert Jimmy

Rabbitte. Jimmy advertises for additional musicians, and launches the band under the name *The Commitments*. The stage show features songs by Aretha Franklin, The Rolling Stones, The Temptations, James Brown, Otis Redding and Wilson Pickett. *The Commitments* opens at the Palace Theatre on 21 September, with bookings currently being taken until 26 January 2014.

## WEST END LISTINGS:

### MUSICALS

**AMERICAN PSYCHO** Almeida Theatre, 3 Dec 2013 - 25 Jan 2014  
**BILLY ELLIOT - THE MUSICAL** Victoria Palace Theatre, booking until 21 Dec 2013  
**BODYGUARD** Adelphi Theatre, booking until 14 Mar 2014  
**BOOK OF MORMON** Prince Of Wales Theatre, booking until 8 Feb 2014  
**CHARLIE AND THE CHOCOLATE FACTORY - THE MUSICAL** Drury Lane Royal, booking until 31 May 2014  
**CIRCUS OF HORRORS** Lyric Theatre, 28 Oct 2013 - 16 Dec 2013  
**COMMITMENTS** Victoria Palace Theatre, 21 Sept 2013 - 26 Jan 2014  
**DIRTY DANCING** Piccadilly Theatre, booking until 22 Feb 2014  
**FROM HERE TO ETERNITY** Shaftesbury Theatre, 30 Sept 2013 - 26 Apr 2014  
**I CAN'T SING! THE X FACTOR MUSICAL** London Palladium Theatre, 27 Feb 2014 - 26 Mar 2014

**JERSEY BOYS** Prince Edward Theatre and Piccadilly Theatre, booking until 9 Mar 2014  
**LES MISÉRABLES** Queen's Theatre, booking until 26 Apr 2014  
**LET IT BE** Savoy Theatre, booking until 18 Jan 2014  
**LIGHT PRINCESS** Lyttelton, National Theatre, 25 Sept 2013 - 2 Jan 2014  
**LION KING** Lyceum Theatre, booking until 20 Apr 2014  
**MAMMA MIA!** Novello Theatre, booking until 5 Apr 2014  
**MATILDA THE MUSICAL** Cambridge Theatre, booking until 25 May 2014  
**MISS SAIGON** Prince Edward Theatre, from May 2014  
**MONTY PYTHON'S SPAMALOT** Playhouse Theatre, booking until 2 Nov 2013  
**NUTCRACKER ON ICE - IMPERIAL ICE STARS** London Palladium, 24 Oct 2013 - 3 Nov 2013  
**ONCE** Phoenix Theatre, booking until 30 Nov 2013  
**PHANTOM OF THE OPERA** Her Majesty's Theatre, booking until 26 Apr 2014

**ROCK OF AGES** Garrick Theatre, booking until 2 Nov 2013  
**SAUCY JACK AND THE SPACE VIXENS** Leicester Square Theatre lounge, now booking until 15 Sept 2013  
**SCOTTSBRO BOYS** Young Vic Theatre, 18 Oct - 23 Nov 2013  
**SEUSSICAL** Arts Theatre, 29 Nov - 5 Jan 2014  
**SOUND OF MUSIC** Regents Park Open Air Theatre, booking until 14 Sept 2013  
**STEVEN WARD** Aldwych Theatre, 3 Dec 2013 - 1 Mar 2014  
**STOMP** Ambassadors Theatre, booking until 22 Dec 2013  
**THRILLER LIVE** Lyric Theatre, booking until 16 Mar 2014  
**TOP HAT** Aldwych Theatre, booking until 26 Oct 2013  
**WE WILL ROCK YOU** Dominion Theatre, booking until 26 Oct 2013  
 ria Theatre, booking until 26 Apr 2014.  
**WICKED** Apollo Victoria Theatre, booking until 26 Apr 2014.  
**WIND IN THE WILLOWS** Duchess Theatre, 11 Dec 2013 - 1 Feb 2014

### DRAMA

**BLUE STOCKINGS** Shakespeare's Globe Theatre, booking until 11 Oct 2013  
**CHIMERICA** Harold Pinter Theatre, booking until 19 Oct 2013  
**CORIOLANUS** Donmar Warehouse, booking 6 Dec 2013 - 8 Feb 2014  
**CURIOUS INCIDENT OF THE DOG IN THE NIGHT-TIME** Apollo Theatre, booking until 25 Oct 2014

**GHOSTS** Almeida Theatre, 26 Sept - 23 Nov 2013  
**MOUSETRAP** St Martins Theatre, booking until 3 Jan 2015  
**OTHELLO** Olivier National Theatre, booking until 18 Sept 2013  
**PRIDE** Trafalgar Studio Theatre, booking until 9 Nov 2013  
**ROMEO & JULIET** Ambassador Theatre, 25 Sept - 29 Nov 2013  
**WAR HORSE** New London Theatre, booking until 15 Feb 2014

**WOMAN IN BLACK** Fortune Theatre, booking until 14 Dec 2013

### COMEDY

**39 STEPS** Criterion Theatre, booking until 19 Oct 2013  
**BARKING IN ESSEX** Wyndham's Theatre, 6 Sept 2013 - 4 Jan 2014  
**ONE MAN, TWO GUVNORS** Haymarket Theatre Royal, booking until 31 Aug 2013



Circus Of Horrors, Lyric Theatre

# What's on...



Fri 20th September  
**LETS HANG ON**

7.30pm, £18.50, £16.50 concs



Thu 26th September **STEVE HUGHES** 16+

**While It's Still Legal**  
8pm, £13, £11 concs



Sun 29th September  
**MARY DUFF**

7.30pm, £18, £17 concs



Sat 19th October **THE LUMBERJACKS** 16+

**Stu Francis, Craig Campbell & Glenn Wool**  
8pm. Tickets: £16



Mon 21st October  
**DIRTY DUSTING**

starring **Crissy Rock, Pat Dunn & Leah Bell**  
7.30pm. Tickets: £20



Fri 25th October  
Vienna Festival Ballet  
presents  
**SNOW WHITE**

7pm. Tickets: £19.50, £17.50 concs,  
under 14 yrs £12



Tue 29th October  
**HALFWAY TO PARADISE**  
**THE BILLY FURY STORY**

7.30pm. Tickets: £17.50, £16.50 concs



Thu 31st October  
**ARDAL O'HANLON**

8pm. Tickets: £20



Sat 9th November  
**HAIRY MACLARY AND FRIENDS**

2pm & 4pm. Tickets: £10, £8 concs

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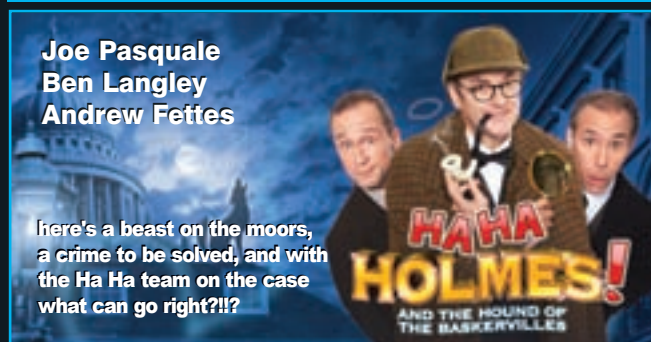
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# Festivals

## Bromyard Folk Festival

Bromyard, Herefordshire, Fri 13 - Sun 15 September

This festival of traditional music annually presents a line-up of outstanding local, national and international folk musicians, performing in concerts, ceilidhs and displays. Featuring over one hundred-and-seventy hours of entertainment in just one weekend of music, song and dance, the festival has been described by its organisers as 'the best folk festival/cultural event in the Welsh Border area'. An impressive line-up of folk royalty - including Show Of Hands, John Kirkpatrick and Eliza Carthy - all feature.



Show Of Hands

## Shrewsbury Country Music Festival

West Midland Showground, Shrewsbury, Saturday 21 - Sunday 22 September

Organisers of the inaugural Shrewsbury Country Music Festival are hopeful that the 2013 event will prove to be the first of many. The aim of the new festival is to offer a platform for local country music artists whose talents are usually confined to Shropshire's pubs and clubs. "I'm aware of a great deal of talent within the county," says organiser and Showground Trustee Maelor Owen, "and as a devotee myself of country music, I want to do my bit, through the Shropshire County Showground, to promote some of our local bands and provide entertainment for the many people who, like me, love the genre."

The first festival's line-up includes Paul Challinor, Alan Williams, Alan Herbert, Tony Hughes and Shrewsbury-based magician Paul Rushworth (pictured).



The 1975

## Shrewsbury Fields Forever

West Midlands Showground, Shrewsbury, Fri 13 - Sun 15 September

Returning for a third year, this three-day festival presents an eclectic mix of musical entertainment, with lovers of indie, rock, alternative, electronic, dance and popular music all catered for. Among the acts booked to appear over the weekend are Maximo Park, The 1975, Athlete, Sister Bliss, Faithless, James Walsh, and Starsailor (with an exclusive solo set). Sunday's Festival event ensures there's a quality side-order of comedy to go with any hangover you might be nursing!



Stooshe

## T-Live

Telford Town Park, Shropshire, Sat 7 September

McFly this month become the first ever major act to perform a live outdoor gig in the Telford Town Park Arena. The band, who've sold more than ten million records worldwide in their decade-long career, are the headliners for T-Live - an element of Telford & Wrekin Council's major summer festival, T-Party.

Commenting on the event, Telford & Wrekin Council leader Councillor Kuldip Sahota said: "I'm absolutely delighted that we've been able to attract an internationally established act like McFly for the first ever T-Party Festival. To my mind, this puts down a marker for the T-Party for future years, and will well and truly put Telford and Wrekin on the map."

McFly play a seventy-five minute set at the event, with support acts The Making, Madison, Stooshe, Loveable Rogues and Luminites on stage from late afternoon.



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# Food Festivals

## Ludlow Food Festival

Ludlow Castle & Ludlow Town Centre, South Shropshire,  
Fri 13 - Sun 15 September

Ludlow's historic town provides a perfect setting for this annual event, which showcases the diversity and quality of the area's gastronomic delights. First launched in 1995, the food festival fast became established as one of the country's foremost events of its kind, allowing visitors to indulge in an array of fine food and drink, enjoy demonstrations and talks from a host of professionals, and take part in some now-famous activities - including the challenge of following the Ludlow Sausage Trail, the Festival Loaf Trail and a Real Ale Trail. Inside the castle, more than one hundred-and-sixty local artisan food producers showcase their goods. Other attractions at this year's event include the Secret Restaurant, have-a-go cookery sessions for kids, and a series of coffee masterclasses.



## Mold Food Festival

Mold, North Wales, Sat 21 - Sun 22 September

More than fourteen thousand visitors attended the prestigious Mold Food Festival last year, with organisers anticipating that the 2013 event will prove to be even more popular. This year's festival sees celebrity chefs Rosemary Shrager, Graham Tinsley and Brian Mellor providing some entertaining cookery demonstrations and showcasing their speciality dishes, while local chefs get the chance to compete for numerous prestigious awards. Other attractions during the weekend include live music performances, children's entertainment, and an interactive zone, where visitors can try their hand at activities such as cake-decorating and the art of flambe.



## Abergavenny Food Festival

Abergavenny Town Centre, South Wales,  
Sat 21 - Sun 22 September

If you fancy some food-filled fun in the Welsh Borders this month, there's an obvious event to head for. The Abergavenny Food Festival 2013 boasts a culinary line-up that includes MasterChef 2012 winner Shelina Permaloo, Master Chocolatier Marc Demarquette, and the globally-acclaimed Magnus Nilsson - who'll be chatting about his restaurant on the edge of the Arctic Circle. Joining them is Omar Allibhoy (described by Gordon Ramsay as the Antonio Banderas of the food world!), who'll be giving a masterclass in cooking paella. Other attractions at this year's festival include the Food Academy at the Castle - giving children the chance to experience drop-in hands-on workshops - and the Incredible Edibles Live show, which features 'edible insects, mind-blowing food science and some very big explosions'!



## Leamington Food Festival

Royal Pump Room Gardens, Shropshire, Sat 7 - Sun 8 September

The Leamington Food & Drink Festival is being promoted as a mouth-wateringly 'fun-filled weekend of activities and entertainment that will have everyone's tastebuds tingling and feet tapping'. Sounds pretty good to us - and when you scratch the surface, it becomes clear the marketing blurb has every chance of making good on its promise. Highlights for 2013 include a cookery theatre, a barbecue masterclass area, a kids' cookery school, a food festival trail, over one hundred-and-fifty exhibitors showcasing everything from meats, pickles and wines to organic produce and cookeryware, and live entertainment from, among others, Flamenco guitarist Matt Hernandez and local singer-songwriter Will Johnson.

Ludlow Food Festival  
13th - 15th September 2013  
Inside Ludlow Castle

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NAOMI WATTS  
**DIANA** CERT IIC

A FILM BY OLIVER HIRSCHBIEGEL

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THE WHOLE STORY



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EMBANKMENT FILMS PRESENTS AN ESCOFFIER FILMS PRODUCTION IN CO-PRODUCTION WITH SCOPE PICTURES AND LE PRINCE AND FUMI WAKI AND FILMGATE FILMS AN OLIVER HIRSCHBIEGEL FILM NAOMI WATTS NAHSEN ANDREWS "DIANA" WITH RED PIERSCOTT EDERTON CSA  
AND JOHN WOKING WATANABE WITH JULIAN DAY WITH KAVE DUNN WITH DAVID HOLMES AND KEETUS CHANCHA WITH JAMES FINCK WITH RAINER KLAUSMANN S.P.S. WITH KATE SNELL WITH PAUL RITCHIE MATT DELARBY GENEVIEVE LEHAL JAMES SAUNDY  
© 2019 MARK WOOLLEY TIM HASLAM RAVEN MARSHALL WITH STEPHEN JEFFREYS WITH ROBERT DEANSTEIN AND DOUGLAS HAY WITH OLIVER HIRSCHBIEGEL

# Film

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From  
FRI 13  
SEPT

## Rush

CERT 15 (122mins)

Starring **Chris Hemsworth, Daniel Brühl, Olivia Wilde, Alexandra Maria Lara, Natalie Dormer, Christian McKay** Directed by **Ron Howard** (USA)

Ron Howard is one of the most successful filmmakers on the planet. And whenever he's dealt with true-life subjects, the awards have rolled in. Think *Apollo 13*, *A Beautiful Mind*, *Cinderella Man* and *Frost/Nixon*. Now he takes on the rivalry between Formula One racers James Hunt and Niki Lauda as they compete for the 1976 World Championship at Fuji in Japan. Australian hunk Chris Hemsworth (*Thor*, *Snow White And The Huntsman*) takes on the role of the Surrey-born James Hunt, while the German actor Daniel Brühl (*Ladies In Lavender*, *Inglourious Basterds*) plays the Austrian Lauda. More importantly, the scenarist is Peter Morgan, adding to his roster of biographical marvels that includes *The Queen*, *The Last King Of Scotland*, *The Other Boleyn Girl* and *Frost/Nixon*.



From  
FRI 20  
SEPT

## Diana

CERT tbc

Starring **Naomi Watts, Naveen Andrews, Cas Anvar, Douglas Hodge, Juliet Stevenson** Directed by **Oliver Hirschbiegel** (UK/France/USA)

It had to happen. The surprise is that it hasn't happened sooner (not counting the trashy TV versions). Here, the former Princess of Wales is portrayed by the Anglo-Australian actress Naomi Watts, and the film recounts the last two years of Diana's life. So, there'll be the post-monarchical relationships, in particular her ding-dong with the heart surgeon Dr Hasnat Khan (Naveen Andrews), as well as her emotive campaign against land mines. The Oscar buzz surrounding Naomi Watts' performance has already begun, although it's odd that a forty-four-year-old should be playing a woman who was thirty-six when she died. NB: Watts' close friend Nicole Kidman is playing another princess in *Grace Of Monaco*, which is due in cinemas next January.

## TOP 5

FILM BOX OFFICE

1 **Kick-Ass 2** (15)

2 **Planes** (U)

3 **Grown Ups 2** (12a)

4 **2 Guns** (15)

5 **The Conjuring** (15)



Kick-Ass 2

## Now Showing

### Hammer Of The Gods

CERT 18 (94mins)

Starring **Charlie Bewley, Elliot Cowan, Clive Standen, Alexandra Dowling, Glynis Barber, James Cosmo**

Directed by **Farren Blackburn (UK)**

The most impressive thing about this movie is its title. In truth, it's a Viking epic on a budget, and the armies of six and seven do little to alleviate the atrocious dialogue. The marauding Vikings speak like Oxbridge graduates (with a generous injection of the Anglo-Saxon "f" word), while the Anglos are portrayed as a motley crew of Barbarians. The 'battle' scenes are tedious, the sound effects silly and the electronic score like something lifted from a ninety-five-minute trailer. So, where's Dolph Lundgren when you need him?



## Released from Wed 4 Sept

### Ain't Them Bodies Saints

CERT tbc

Starring **Casey Affleck, Rooney Mara, Ben Foster, Rami Malek, Keith Carradine**

Directed by **David Lowery (USA)**

Set against the backdrop of 1970s Texas Hill Country, the poetically titled Ain't Them Bodies Saints has been commended for its cinematography. Casey Affleck plays an outlaw who escapes from prison, having served four years for a murder committed by his wife (Rooney Mara). He now sets out across them thar hills to be reunited with his missus and the daughter he has yet to meet.

### About Time

CERT 12a (123mins)

Starring **Domhnall Gleeson, Rachel McAdams, Bill Nighy, Tom Hollander, Margot Robbie, Neve Gachev, Vanessa Kirby, Lindsay Duncan**

Directed by **Richard Curtis (UK)**

It's about time Rachel McAdams chose her leading men more carefully. In *The Time Traveller's Wife*, she ended up with the time-travelling Eric Bana, which caused no end of problems. Here, she's got Domhnall Gleeson, who's blessed(?) with the same temporal talent. Except he goes and erases the timeline in which they fell in love...

From the director of *Love Actually*.

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## White House Down

CERT 12a (131mins)

Starring **Channing Tatum, Jamie Foxx, Maggie Gyllenhaal, Jason Clarke, Richard Jenkins, James Woods**

Directed by **Roland Emmerich (USA)**

It was less than five months ago that the White House was attacked by terrorists and rescued by a man rejected by the Secret Service. That all happened in Olympus Has Fallen, and the hero of the hour was Gerard Butler. In *White House Down*, Channing Tatum is the maverick cop rejected by the Secret Service - just as the White House is attacked by terrorists. Jamie Foxx plays the US President.



## Riddick

CERT 15 (119mins)

Starring **Vin Diesel, Karl Urban, Katee Sackhoff, Jordi Mollà, Bokeem Woodbine**

Directed by **David Twohy (USA)**

Don't ever accuse Vin Diesel of being above doing a sequel. After three sequels to *The Fast And The Furious* (and a cameo in *The Fast And The Furious: Tokyo Drift*), he's decided to recycle his character of Richard B Riddick for a change, following the sequel *The Chronicles Of Riddick* ten years ago (which co-starred Judi Dench). Here, Riddick finds himself in another tight spot as he's left for dead on an inhospitable planet and is plagued by alien predators.



Released from Fri 13 Sept

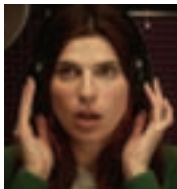
## In A World...

CERT 15 (93mins)

Starring **Lake Bell, Fred Melamed, Demetri Martin, Michaela Watkins, Rob Corddry**

Directed by **Lake Bell (USA)**

Great title - if you're familiar with movie trailers. "In a world where men were men..." Precisely. Carol Soto is the daughter of a legendary voice-over artist and is determined to buck the trend for male voices on trailers. Lake Bell plays Carol, and also directed and produced the comedy from her own screenplay.



From  
FRI 13  
SEPT

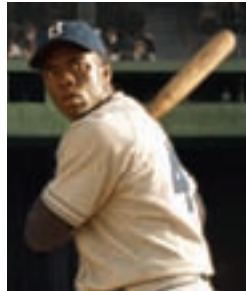
## 42

CERT 12a (128mins)

Starring **Chadwick Boseman, Harrison Ford, Nicole Beharie, Christopher Meloni, Andre Holland, Lucas Black**

Directed by **Brian Helgeland (USA)**

In the annals of American sport Jackie Robinson is a legend. He was also the first African-American to play baseball in the Major League. Harrison Ford plays Branch Rickey, the team executive for the Brooklyn Dodgers. Actually, 'Branch' was his middle name, but that's the name he's known by.



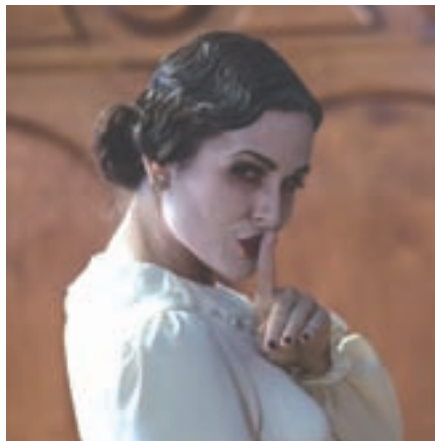
## Insidious: Chapter 2

CERT 15 (105mins)

Starring **Patrick Wilson, Rose Byrne, Ty Simpkins, Lin Shaye, Barbara Hershey**

Directed by **James Wan (USA/Canada)**

When James Wan, the director of *Saw*, decided on a more psychological approach with *Insidious* (2001), nobody anticipated that the film would gross \$79million. On a budget of \$1.5million. Wan himself returns for more of the same, as Josh and Renai Lambert fight to disentangle themselves from the spirit world.



## Justin And The Knights Of Valour

CERT PG (96mins)

Featuring the voices of **Freddie Highmore, Saoirse Ronan, Charles Dance, Antonio Banderas, Mark Strong, Olivia Williams, Rupert Everett, Julie Walters**

Directed by **Manuel Sicilia (Spain)**

As Justin (Highmore) embarks on a quest to become a knight, he must first learn all about honour and courage to become a man. A computer-animated fantasy from Spain, the film has a British voice cast to be proud of. In 3D.

Released from Fri 20 Sept

## The Call

CERT 15 (94mins)

Starring **Halle Berry, Abigail Breslin, Morris Chestnut, Michael Eklund, Michael Imperioli**

Directed by **Brad Anderson (USA)**

Jordan Turner (Halle Berry) is a telephone operator who takes an emergency call and realises that it's up to her to save an abducted teenager from being murdered. Sounds a bit like the Kim Basinger thriller *Cellular* (2004), but that's no bad thing.



## Cold Comes The Night

CERT 15 (90mins)

Starring **Alice Eve, Bryan Cranston, Logan Marshall-Green, Ursula Parker, Leo Fitzpatrick**

Directed by **Tze Chun (USA)**

A struggling motel owner and her daughter are taken hostage by a career criminal. The twist is that the latter is almost blind and needs the two captives to be his eyes as he attempts to retrieve some moolah from a crooked cop.

Alice Eve (*Men In Black 3*, *Star Trek Into Darkness*) has come a long way since reading English at Oxford - her father, Trevor Eve (Eddie Shoestring to older readers), must be proud.





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## R.I.P.D. CERT 12a (96mins)

Starring **Jeff Bridges, Ryan Reynolds, Kevin Bacon, Mary-Louise Parker, Stephanie Szostak** Directed by **Robert Schwentke** (USA)

Of course, the title stands for Rest In Peace Department and is based on the Dark Horse comic book. It's another buddy cop movie, but the twist here is that the law enforcers operate in the afterlife. That is, they're dead. The American critics were not kind. In 3D.



Released from Fri 27 Sept

## Filth CERT 18 (97mins)

Starring **James McAvoy, Jamie Bell, Jim Broadbent, Imogen Poots, Joanne Froggatt, Eddie Marsan, Shirley Henderson** Directed by **Jon S. Baird** (UK)

The novelist Irvine Welsh doesn't do happy. Here, his 1998 novel Filth is given the cinematic treatment, with James McAvoy as a bigoted, corrupt cop who attempts to manipulate his way into a promotion. It's hard to imagine the sweet McAvoy as a bad boy, but then Ewan McGregor pulled it off in the big-screen adaptation of Welsh's Trainspotting.



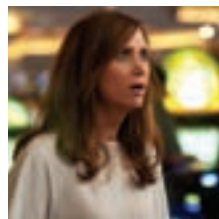
## Girl Most Likely CERT 12a (103mins)

Starring **Kristen Wiig, Annette Bening, Matt Dillon, Darren Criss, Natasha Lyonne** Directed by **Shari Springer Berman and Robert Pulcini** (USA)

Kristen Wiig (Bridesmaids) is going from strength to strength and here plays a playwright pining for her ex. However, when she stages a fake suicide to win his attention,



she ends up in the custody of her mother (Bening), a gambling addict. From the filmmakers who brought us the wonderful American Splendor, as well as The Nanny Diaries.



## Austenland CERT 12a (97mins)

Starring **Keri Russell, JJ Feild, Bret McKenzie, Jennifer Coolidge, Jane Seymour** Directed by **Jerusha Hess** (USA)

America continues its obsession with Jane Austen with this adaptation of the 2007 best-seller by Shannon Hale. Keri Russell (TV's The Americans) plays Jane Hayes, who travels to an English Jane Austen theme park to find her own Mr Darcy. It's produced by Stephenie Meyer, who penned the Twilight saga.

## Blue Jasmine CERT 12a (98mins)

Starring **Alec Baldwin, Cate Blanchett, Andrew Dice Clay, Sally Hawkins, Peter Sarsgaard, Michael Stuhlbarg** Directed by **Woody Allen** (USA)

Of course, jasmine is usually white or yellow, but then the New York socialite Jasmine Francis has got a major case of the blues. She's played by Cate Blanchett, who's forced to move in with her sister when her marriage to a rich businessman (Baldwin) self-destructs. The American reviews have been positive but don't expect any laughs.



## Runner, Runner CERT 15 (91mins)

Starring **Justin Timberlake, Gemma Arterton, Ben Affleck, Anthony Mackie, David Costabile** Directed by **Brad Furman** (USA)

If you can suspend enough disbelief to accept Justin Timberlake as a Princeton student (he's thirty-two), then this crime thriller

about online poker holds some promise. It's a good break for the Kent-born Gemma Arterton, and Ben Affleck should make an effective villain. Leonardo DiCaprio is executive producer.

## Prisoners CERT tbc

Starring **Hugh Jackman, Jake Gyllenhaal, Viola Davis, Maria Bello, Terrence Howard, Melissa Leo, Paul Dano** Directed by **Denis Villeneuve** (USA)

A carpenter (Jackman) takes the law into his own hands when his daughter and her friend are kidnapped. However, the impetuous Boston cop Loki (Gyllenhaal) is not impressed... Mark Wahlberg executive produces.



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# Visual Arts

## Keeping Up Appearances: Fashion Through Two World Wars

Herbert Museum & Art Gallery, Coventry,  
Sat 21 September - Sun 5 January

Evening gowns, day-dresses, workwear and underwear are all present and correct in this intriguing new show, which charts the story of women's history from 1900 to the 1950s through the clothes that they wore. The sixty-year period under the spotlight saw a more profound change in the role and status of women than any other comparable period of time in history. Not surprisingly, these changes were reflected in the fashions of the period, with restrictive corsets being rejected in favour of practical workwear, and dresses becoming more daring as the women of the era sought a much-needed distraction from the horrors of war.

A special talk on the subject, entitled Exhibition Insight: Behind The Fashion, takes place at the gallery on 9 November.



## The 8th British International Mini Print Exhibition

Royal Pump Rooms, Leamington Spa,  
until Sun 6 October

Featuring two hundred small prints selected by open competition from over one thousand international entries, this touring exhibition also includes ten larger invited prints from distinguished artists. The second such display to be managed by the Printmakers' Council, the well-established national organisation of UK printmakers, the exhibition showcases a broad range of high-quality contemporary fine art printmaking. Established artists displaying larger prints in the exhibition include Morgan Doyle, Wuon Gean Ho, Michael Goro, Maggi Hambling, Eve Kask, Guy Langevin, Melvyn Petterson, Ana Maria Pacheco, Marcus Rees Roberts and Weimin He.



## Function 4

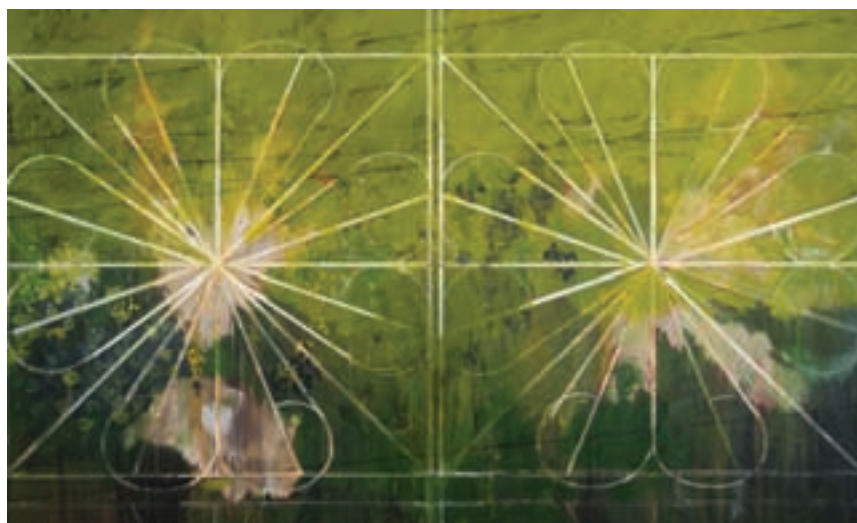
The Barber Institute, Birmingham, Fri 6 September - Sun 24 November

Wide-ranging original portraiture forms the basis of this exhibition of works by emerging photographic talent from Birmingham University. For the Barber's eightieth anniversary year, students were asked to produce pieces which responded to a central theme. In doing so, they've created a series of works which, exhibited around the venue's main galleries, provide a new dialogue with the site's historical works.

## Hurvin Anderson: Reporting Back

Ikon Gallery, Birmingham, Wed 25 September - Sun 10 November

Tracing the development of Hurvin Anderson's distinct figurative style, Reporting Back is the most comprehensive exhibition to date of the British artist's paintings, which are known for their ability to evoke sensations of being caught between one place and another. The exhibition includes work made shortly after he graduated from the Royal College of Art in 1998, as well as the acclaimed Peter's Series (2007-2009), inspired by his upbringing in Birmingham's Afro-Caribbean community.



## Ongoing exhibitions

### OMG!

Red House Glass Cone, Stourbridge,  
Sat 7 September - Sun 20 October

Newspapers cast in glass, glass feathers, bulbous black glass seed pods enveloping a clear glass seed, and enormous mirrored glass gates feature among the works on show in this new exhibition at the Red House Glass Cone. Curated by Charlotte Clark, a recent glass graduate and the manager of Wolverhampton's Shop In The Square project, Oh My Glass! showcases pieces from twenty recent graduates, all of whom have worked in key historical material. Each contributor displays a piece from their degree alongside a current item, highlighting their progression of ideas since graduating.



### Follow The Line: Ha Ha And Beyond

Shire Hall Gallery, Stafford,  
Sat 14 September - Sun 27 October

Ceramic and textile artist Karen Shapley's latest exhibition combines a wide range of materials - including ceramics, found objects and textiles - and presents a collection of woodland animals and their habitat. The pieces have been created especially for this exhibition, which, it's promised, will both charm and delight.

### Hitting The Right Notes

Bilston Craft Galleries, Sat 7 September -  
Sat 5 October

Shropshire-based artist/maker Jane Wilson is the creative talent behind this thought-provoking new exhibition, which presents a selection of sculptural wall panels and small 3D constructions. All of Jane's work is made from reclaimed materials, the majority of which come from the actions of discarded upright pianos.



For full listing information on Visual Art exhibitions, including times and dates, visit [www.whatsonlive.co.uk](http://www.whatsonlive.co.uk)

**BERT HACKETT: THE GEMINI YEARS** A collection of cartoons which celebrate the significant contribution that Bert Hackett made to Birmingham journalism, until Sun 1 Sept, mac, Birmingham

**MORRIS THE MAN** Exhibition which takes a look at the early life of the man behind the William Morris car-making empire, until Mon 2 Sep, Heritage Motor Centre, Gaydon, Warwickshire

**ABOUT FACE** Exhibition featuring European masterpieces from London's National Gallery, until Sun 1 Sept, The Barber Institute, Birmingham

**MEMENTO MORI** A new display which examines changing approaches towards death, burial and commemoration, until Sun 1 Sept, The Potteries Museum & Art Gallery, Stoke-on-Trent

**THE CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S OPEN ART EXHIBITION** until Fri 6 Sept, The Place, Oakengates Theatre, Shropshire

**COAST: MIXED MEDIA EXHIBITION** until Sat 7 Sept, Twenty Twenty Gallery, Much Wenlock, South Shropshire

**LOOKING IN WONDERLAND** Graphicus Touring exhibition featuring an array of works produced by British illustrator, humourist and political satirist Sir John Tenniel, until Sun 8 Sept, Herbert Art Gallery & Museum, Coventry

**PATTERN: A REPEATED DECORATIVE DESIGN** Featuring textiles, jewellery, ceramics and stationary from a group of artists who use pattern in their work, until Sun 8

Sept, Shire Hall Gallery, Stafford

**JAN J. KLOS: HAVE YOU SEEN THE GREEN** Series of photographs which explore the problematic relationship between man and nature, until Sun 8 Sept, mac - Midlands Arts Centre, Birmingham

**THROUGH THE RABBIT HOLE** Summer exhibition which explores the magical world of the Alice In Wonderland stories and illustrations, until Sun 8 Sept, Herbert Art Gallery & Museum, Coventry

**RPS INTERNATIONAL PRINT 156** Showcasing various styles and genres within the photographic field, until Sun 8 Sept, Shire Hall Gallery, Stafford

**STUART LAYTON: YOU'LL NEVER WORK IN THIS TOWN AGAIN** Two films in an as-yet-incomplete trilogy which originate from little more than a fragment of information, until Sat 14 Sept, Wolverhampton Art Gallery

**ECHOES** Heritage Lottery-funded exhibition which shares the memories of people who worked and lived in Birmingham's Digbeth and Highgate districts during the '60s, '70s and '80s, until Sun 15 Sept, Birmingham Museum & Art Gallery

**SHIMABUKU** Japanese artist Shimabuku fuses installation, video, photography, drawings, sculptural pieces and events to convey his intense fascination with the natural world, until Sun 15 Sept, Ikon Gallery, Birmingham

**REVIEWING THE LANDSCAPE** Through using iPad sketching, digital etching, pencil drawing,

oil painting and traditional sketchbooks, contemporary artists Simon Faithfull, Julian Opie, Jo Roberts, Paul Ryan, George Shaw and Sarah Woodfine provide a unique response to Turner and Constable's interpretations of the landscape, until Sun 22 Sept, Compton Verney, Warwickshire

**THE HECKLERS** Featuring photography, video, painting, sculpture, printmaking, installation and performance works which use a degree of playfulness to comment on social and political issues, until Sun 22 Sept, New Art Gallery, Walsall

**PERAMBULIST SOMNAMBULIST BY PETER DAY** Exhibition which 'analyses the familiar, banal and anonymous in the everyday environment, through walking and serial revisiting', until Fri 27 Sept, Light House Media Centre, Wolverhampton

**ORDINARY/EXTRA/ORDINARY** An exhibition celebrating the vitality, diversity and humour that art can embody, until Sun 29 Sept, The Public, West Bromwich

**GAGWAKA - MAKING STRANGE** Vivan Sundaram's fashion designs, formed from recycled materials, redefine the boundaries of art and fashion and the relationship between simplicity and excess, until Sun 29 Sept, The Public, West Bromwich

**WHY I NEVER BECAME A DANCER** An autobiographical film about Tracey Emin's adolescence, and her trials and anxieties of growing up in Margate, until Sun 29 Sept, The Public, West Bromwich

**HOMEMADE** Photographic exhibition which showcases local creative talent, until Sun 29 Sept, The Public, West Bromwich

**WOLVERHAMPTON MOTOR INDUSTRY EXHIBITION A**

showcase of works associated with Wolverhampton's rich motor industry heritage, until Mon 30 Sept, Wolverhampton City Archive

**OUT OF THE DARKNESS** The story of Black Country mining, from its early days to its demise, until Sat 5 Oct, Dudley Museum & Art Gallery

**CONTEMPORARY ART** Featuring new works acquired through the Art Fund Renew Scheme, until Sat 5 Oct, Wolverhampton Art Gallery

**GEORGE CAITLIN: AMERICAN INDIAN PORTRAITS** Collection of colourful portraits which document the Native American people's way of life, until Sun 13 Oct, Birmingham Museum & Art Gallery

**GALACTIC CRAFT EXHIBITION** Exhibition exploring the wonders of outer space, until Sat 19 Oct, RBSA, Birmingham

**ON PARADE: THE REAL DAD'S ARMY** An exhibition focusing on Bantock's use as a radio control centre for the Home Guard during WWII, until Sun 20 Oct, Bantock House, Wolverhampton

**ARTIST ROOM: DAMIEN HIRST** A year-long exhibition featuring sculptures, paintings and prints. The display is accompanied by a series of inspired satellite exhibitions, events and activities during the course of the year, until Sat 27 Oct, The New Art Gallery, Walsall

**JACOB EPSTEIN AND DAMIEN HIRST** Exhibition of works spanning the two ends of the twentieth century, until Sun 27 Oct, The New Art Gallery, Walsall

**COLLECTOR'S CABINET** Exhibition of pressed glass made in the north of England, loaned to the gallery by museum friend, Mr Peter Holland, until Nov,

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# VisualArts LISTINGS

For full listing information on Visual Art exhibitions, including times and dates, visit [www.whatsonlive.co.uk](http://www.whatsonlive.co.uk)

Broadfield House, Dudley

**A PINT IN THE MUSEUM** Exhibition which explores Worcester's history through its pubs, publicans and regulars, until Sun 2 Nov, Worcester City Museum & Art Gallery

**RON MUECK: ARTIST ROOMS** Much-anticipated exhibition featuring numerous works from the museum's Artist Rooms collection, as well as pieces from private collections rarely seen in the UK, until Sat 2 Nov, Wolverhampton Art Gallery

**A SQUASH AND A SQUEEZE** Exhibition which brings Julia Donaldson's much-loved children's stories to life, until Sun 3 Nov, Birmingham Museum & Art Gallery

**QUENTIN BLAKE: AS LARGE AS LIFE** Featuring fifty works produced by Blake for hospitals and health centres here and abroad, until Sun 3 Nov, Herbert Art Gallery & Museum, Coventry

**PAULINE BOTY: POP ARTIST & WOMAN** A vibrant display of paintings, collages and ephemera which provides an overview of Boty's career and her position at the forefront of British Pop Art, until Sat 16 Nov, Wolverhampton Art Gallery

**DAMIEN HIRST: HE TRIED TO INTERNALISE EVERYTHING 1992 - 1994** A group of glass-walled cells containing everyday objects such as tools, clothing and furniture, all of which have been arranged in a way that's intended to suggest a human presence, until Sat 23 Nov, The New Art Gallery, Walsall

**OUTSIDE IN: CENTRAL** Regional arm of a national art programme focusing on marginalised and outsider art, until Sun 15 Dec, Compton Verney, Warwickshire

**CIRCUS EXHIBITION** Exhibition which brings together objects from across the permanent collections, to tell the

story of 'the greatest show on earth', until Sun 15 Dec, The Potteries Museum & Art Gallery, Stoke-on-Trent

**MARX-LAMBERT COLLECTION REDISPLAY** Exhibition of works by one of Britain's foremost designers, until Sun 15 Dec, Compton Verney, Warwickshire

**SENSING SCULPTURE** Featuring new commissions and previously un-displayed works from the Art Gallery's collection, until Tues 31 Dec, Wolverhampton Art Gallery

**THE OTHER MR DARWIN** The story of Alfred Russel Wallace, who was so nearly the 'father of evolution', until Tues 31 Dec, Dudley Museum & Art Gallery

**PIT PROFILES** Exploration of the links between coal mining and art, until Tues 31 Dec, Coalbrookdale Gallery, Ironbridge, Shropshire

**CRAFTSENSE** Exhibition featuring over one hundred of the world-renowned Bilston enamels, until Tue 31 Dec, Bilston Craft Gallery

**WAR EFFORT** Major new exhibition which focuses on the massive WWII contribution made by the British motor industry, until Sun 5 Jan, Coventry Transport

Museum

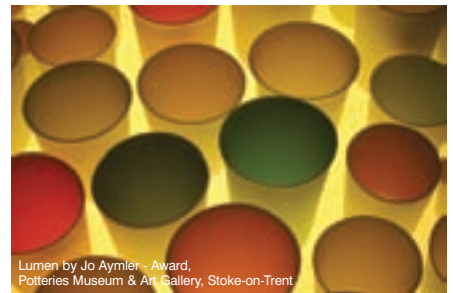
**REGENERATED** The story of the Jewellery Quarter's Smith & Pepper jewellery factory, featuring unique works by Cathy Miles, Rajesh Gogna and Miranda Sharpe, until Sat 11 Jan, Museum of the Jewellery Quarter, Birmingham

**IN STITCHES: A CELEBRATION OF RSC COSTUME** Exhibition which draws on the RSC's rich heritage in creating specialist costumes for the stage, until Mon 31 Mar, Royal Shakespeare Theatre, Stratford-upon-Avon

**FUNCTION IV** Showcase of works from photography students at Birmingham Institute of Art and Design, Birmingham City University, Fri 6 Sept - Sun 24 Nov, The Barber Institute, Birmingham

**TIME PASSING III** Exhibition of works which document changes happening at different places in Birmingham over the period of one year, with one photo taken each month, Sat 7 Sept - Sat 5 Oct, Wolverhampton Art Gallery

**BEAUTY IS THE FIRST TEST: CONTEMPORARY CRAFT AND MATHEMATICS** Featuring works by



Lumen by Jo Aymier - Award, Potteries Museum & Art Gallery, Stoke-on-Trent

many leading makers, including Ann Sutton, Michael Brennand-Wood and Peter Randall, Sat 7 Sept - Sat 2 Nov, Bilston Craft Gallery

**SOCIETY OF ARTISTS** The sixty-sixth annual exhibition of the Worcester Society of Artists, with many items for sale, Sat 14 Sept - Sat 12 Oct, Worcester City Museum & Art Gallery

**GERALD DEWESBURY EXHIBITION** Sat 14 - Sat 12 Oct, Twenty Twenty Gallery, Much Wenlock, South Shropshire

**ONCE UPON A TIME IN THE MIDLANDS** Toys, automata, jewellery, glass and embroidery are here used to help relay stories, folklore and urban myths of the Midlands, Sat 14 Sept - Sun 27 Oct, Shire Hall Gallery, Stafford

**MILLET TO MANET** French prints from the

late-nineteenth century, Thurs 19 Sept - Sun 12 Jan, The Barber Institute, Birmingham

**HAZE AND FOG** Film installation which explores the collective consciousness of people living in the time the artist calls 'magical metropolises', Fri 20 Sept - Sat 16 Nov, Eastside Projects, Birmingham

**DEAR LYNDIA** An international touring exhibition which considers the maverick British curator, writer, art historian and patron Lynda Morris, Fri 20 Sept - Sat 16 Nov, Eastside Projects, Birmingham

**AWARD British Ceramic Biennial** festival's major exhibition, featuring work by twenty-two of the UK's finest ceramists, Sat 28 Sept - Sun 10 Nov, The Potteries Museum & Art Gallery, Stoke-on-Trent

THE BARBER INSTITUTE OF FINE ARTS

DISPLAYS INSTALLATIONS

AUTUMN 2013  
ADMISSION FREE  
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[www.barber.org.uk](http://www.barber.org.uk)  
Visit by train:  
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UNIVERSITY OF BIRMINGHAM

**FUNCTION 4 PORTRAITURE**

6 Sept - 24 Nov 2013

Award exhibition new work by photography students at Birmingham Institute of Art and Design

**SONIC VISIONS INSPIRED BY ART**

13 Sept - 10 Nov 2013

Three of the Barber's most iconic paintings - as you've never heard them before...





WAVE

FREE ENTRY

LOCAL HISTORY FAIR

**WOLVERHAMPTON CITY ARCHIVES**

SATURDAY 12 OCTOBER 2013  
10AM - 3.30PM

The fourth annual Wolverhampton Local History Fair will be held at Wolverhampton City Archives. The event will feature stalls representing historical groups and societies from in and around the local area and family friendly activities. Refreshments will be provided by the Friends of Wolverhampton Archives & Local Studies.

WOLVERHAMPTON CITY ARCHIVES  
MILLER HALL BUILDING, WYTHAM HILL, WOLVERHAMPTON, WV2 2PL  
01902 752480  
[www.wolverhampton.gov.uk](http://www.wolverhampton.gov.uk)

WAVE  
WOLVERHAMPTON CITY ARCHIVES

WAVE Wolverhampton Local History Fair 2013 © Wolverhampton Archives

SPECIAL PLACES GREAT IDEAS



**THE REP**  
Birmingham Repertory Theatre



**AUTUMN & WINTER 2013-14  
SEASON NOW ON SALE  
SEASON INCLUDES**

.....  
The National Theatre of Scotland and the  
Royal Shakespeare Company present



## Dunsinane

*By David Greig*

**24 to 28 Sep**

*Starring Siobhan Redmond  
& Jonny Phillips*

.....  
Lee Dean and Jenny Topper in association with  
Park Theatre presents



## Daytona

*By Oliver Cotton*

**21 to 26 Oct**

*Starring Maureen Lipman,  
Harry Shearer & John Bowe*

.....  
Birmingham Repertory Theatre in  
association with Bill Kenwright presented  
by arrangement with Nica Burns



## Twelve Angry Men

*By Reginald Rose*

**4 to 19 Oct**

*Starring Martin Shaw*

.....  
Birmingham Repertory Theatre Company presents




## Tartuffe

*By Molière*

*Translated by  
Chris Campbell*

**1 to 16 Nov**

*Starring Mark Williams*

 Birmingham City Council


Registered in England 295910 Charity No. 223660



Birmingham Repertory Theatre  
Centenary Square,  
Broad Street,  
Birmingham B1 2EP

**Box Office:**  
**0121 236 4455**

**Online:**  
**birmingham-rep.co.uk**





**FREE  
GUIDE**



# 4SQUARES WEEKENDER


**BIRMINGHAM CITY CENTRE  
6-8 SEPTEMBER 2013**

**FREE WEEKEND  
OF SPECTACULAR  
OUTDOOR ARTS**

**LIBRARY OF BIRMINGHAM  
OPENING WEEKEND!**

[4SquaresWeekender.com](http://4SquaresWeekender.com)

[#BHAM4SQ](https://twitter.com/BHAM4SQ)

 **OOZELLS SQUARE**

 **CENTENARY SQUARE**

 **CHAMBERLAIN SQUARE**

 **VICTORIA SQUARE**





# Paul Kaynes

talks about Birmingham's latest cultural offering...

**As one of the steering team behind this month's 4 Squares Weekender, which celebrates the opening of the new Library of Birmingham, Paul Kaynes is well placed to assess the city's ever-growing status as a 'cultural hotspot'. What's On recently caught up with him to ask about what's in store for visitors to Birmingham between 6 and 8 September, his future plans as Director of Creative Programmes at The Hippodrome, and his shared vision for the Southside district of the city.**

**For those not in the know, Paul, what does the role of Director of Creative Programmes entail?**

My job is to oversee everything that the Hippodrome does beyond the main stage. That includes education and community programmes, outdoor or festival programmes - like Summer In Southside - all of our access work and special projects like 4 Squares.

**So where did the initial concept for 4 Squares come from?**

It all started before I arrived here. It came about from a discussion that I know the Chief Executive of the Birmingham Arts Partnership had in relation to the opening of the new Library of Birmingham. It's such a significant moment for Birmingham, and is probably the biggest cultural opening in the UK this year - and maybe for many years to come, given the state of the country's economy. This is a very important, iconic moment in the history of Birmingham, and the arts or-

ganisation wanted to mark it - to say it's a cultural moment. And what better way than to put on an arts programme?

**Could you see this becoming a regular event for the city?**

I think it's too early to say. The Birmingham Arts Partnership is very interested in working together on large-scale events in the future, but what those large-scale events might be is not yet decided.

**You mentioned Birmingham Arts Partnership. What's the long-term objective of BAP?**

The Birmingham Arts Partnership has been working together for a year or two now, and they've got all sorts of initiatives - partly working together on large-scale projects like 4 Squares, partly working together on education and family projects, and partly seeing how we can make the most of the fantastic art scene that we have here in Birmingham.

The city has the most incredible range of arts organisations, artists and events happening, and I think that sometimes it isn't recognised in the city, or indeed in the rest of the UK. What we want to do is shout louder about that, and make sure people know just how good the arts sector is here.

**There are currently fourteen members. Do you plan to build on that number by welcoming more people to the partnership?**

We already work with a much wider range of organisations, so whilst there are fourteen principal members, there are a lot more who are involved on projects like 4 Squares. We're working, for instance, with Flatpack Festival, B-Festival and others who aren't actually part of BAP but who are key partners in this particular event.

**So is there a set criteria which arts organisations have to meet in order to have any involvement?**

The fourteen principal members are the organisations that are funded at a significant level by the city council. Other members are added in for specific projects.

**What are you most looking forward to seeing at 4 Squares?**

It's very difficult to pick specific highlights but I would say *As The World Tipped*, because it's such a spectacular large-scale show. It really is a wonderful event. I've seen it before and it really is worth making the effort to come and see on the Friday or Saturday evening.

The best way of describing it is like a real-life disaster movie in the sky. The moment when the stage lifts and stops being a horizontal, and instead turns into a vertical stage, is a very special moment. What happens after that is simply spectacular...

**It must be a mammoth task bringing something of this magnitude to Victoria Square?**

We're very fortunate in that both *Wired Aerial Theatre*, who are doing *As The World Tipped*, and *No Fit State*, who are doing *Open House*, are very used to working in this sort of urban environment. *Wired Aerial Theatre* have presented *As The World Tipped* to audiences all over the UK and across the world, so they've encountered all sorts of different spaces.

There's not much you could ask them to do that they haven't already had to do somewhere else. Although the machinery that's needed on the square is quite significant, it's something which will fit very well in *Victoria Square* and will be quite spectacular.

**Does the programming cover a broad spectrum, to cater for all ages and tastes?**

Absolutely. The great thing about working with the fourteen BAP members is that between them they represent such a broad range of work, and therefore appeal to a very wide range of audiences. There's a very strong family-friendly focus in *Oozells Square* and *Brindleyplace*, and again in *Centenary Square*, where we've got the family-orientated *Musical Picnic*. For people who are particularly interested in Hip-Hop, Reggae and Sufi music, we've got *The Drum's Simmer Down*. Then, for people who are into drama, we've got things like *The REP's EAT!* show, which is happening in four caravans across the site. So with that range of organisations, and the opportunity to do things both in the daytime and evening, it's really a joy to be able to programme such a range of work for such a range of different audiences.

**Beyond the festival, what do you think could further benefit Birmingham as a cultural hotspot?**

Well, not least because of the festival, we certainly aim to get some notice for this event. We want Birmingham to be recognised for doing something which is exciting, fun and innovative. We want the people who come to this event to be more aware of what's on and what's available for them to come to in future months, whether they're residents or visitors to the city. By having had the experience of working together once like this, we very much hope that we'll be able to do it again.

**Again, beyond the festival, if you had a free reign to bring any act you wanted to Birmingham, which would you choose?**

That's quite a difficult one, because I've got

lots that I'd love to see. In Derry this year, which is, of course, the City of Culture, there's been some fantastic work created by a choreographer called Mark Murphy and a company who specialise in all kinds of weird and wonderful stuff - including pyro - called *Walk The Plank*. They've collaborated to produce some really spectacular outdoor shows which, although I've not seen, I've heard about and seen footage of. I'd love to see if there's a way we could bring that particular partnership to Birmingham.

**Does your job entail a lot of travelling and scouting?**

It will do, but because I've only been in the post for three months and it's the summer, our focus has been on delivering this year's programme - and, indeed, *4 Squares*. The plan for the future is that we should be looking around and seeing what great work we can bring to the city, and what we can make. It's not all about bringing things which already exist. We also want to originate and create new work which has its premiere in Birmingham before it goes off around the world.

**So where does your interest in the arts stem from?**

I didn't have a particularly artistic upbringing but I did have a couple of really amazing experiences at school, where I was taken to see things in my teenage years. I've never looked back.

**Do you have a favourite genre?**

That's a difficult one, but I think it would have to be dance.

**Has being involved in the arts ever given you a desire to perform yourself?**

No, not really. Anyone who's seen me perform knows that that wouldn't be a very happy experience. I leave it to the people with the skill. I just like watching, and hopefully choosing the right things to share with other people.

**What would you consider to be your biggest professional success?**

The highlight, certainly of the last few years, has been *The Voyage*, which was produced by the Hippodrome. I wasn't here then, but I was involved as a Cultural Olympiad organiser. It was a really amazing event in terms of its scale and its ambition, the international artists and the number of local people who were involved. It really was an extraordinary event which, despite the weather, large audiences enjoyed.

**And what's presented you with the biggest challenge in your career?**

As someone responsible for programming and commissioning work, what I'm really interested in is making sure it's not just existing audiences who get to enjoy what we present but new audiences as well. Also, that people who don't really know that the arts are for them can come along and really get the most out of those experiences. I suppose the biggest challenge has sometimes been breaking through and letting people know about what's going on, and how great it's going to be. Sometimes I think our popular media has very fixed ideas on what the arts are about, and if we could only get past that and tell people how enjoyable and fulfilling

the arts are, we could get bigger audiences and new audiences to see the work.

**When I last interviewed Stuart Griffiths, the Hippodrome's Chief Executive, he spoke about his vision of Southside becoming Birmingham's very own Covent Garden. Is that a vision you share?**

Absolutely! We did our first Summer In Southside event a couple of weeks ago, where we had a day of outdoor dance in a variety of spaces around the theatre. It really did feel like Birmingham's very own Covent Garden for the hour or two that we were doing it. And, of course, there are many similarities between Southside and Covent Garden - the fact that there are arts venues and organisations based here, and the fact it's the gay quarter and the Chinese quarter. We've got lots of interesting restaurants and, actually, when we put live performing arts into the spaces - into the squares and on the streets - it really is buzzing with atmosphere, with people and with excitement.

**What are your plans to build on Summer In Southside?**

Next year we'll be looking at doing more of that kind of work. Southside is absolutely where we're focused in terms of planning these weekends of free outdoor arts events. We hope that next year we'll be able to put on an even bigger and bolder programme.

**And long term...**

I think one of the things, particularly in my area, is what interesting ideas and approaches international artists take. One of the things that I'd really like to do in our programme in Southside is to bring over some of the international companies who are doing fantastic work from not only places like France and Spain - two of the biggest outdoor arts producers in the world - but also from South America and beyond. There's some amazing stuff going on in those places, and we need to see it here, because both artists and audiences who get to see that work get to realise just what's possible, which raises everybody's expectations and aspirations.

**Is that not already being done to a certain extent with events like the International Dance Festival?**

Yes it is, but I think there's even more interest. In a city like Birmingham, it's inevitable that people are going to be interested in work produced by a whole range of international artists, not least because our population is so international and there's such a wide range of people who live here, each with their own connections overseas. We need to be able to use that, to capitalise on the diversity of Birmingham. The idea of bringing a range of artists that reflect those communities is incredibly exciting.

**And finally, Paul, if you weren't in the arts, which profession would you choose?**

I've never considered it, because I've never wanted to do anything else, but I guess I'm pretty good at holiday planning. I always seem to be planning friends' trips, giving them advice on where to go, how to get the best deals, who serves the best food and where to go to sample the best arts and culture when they're there. If I could be paid for organising that, I'd be very happy!

# POPPING UP...

## Performances & Music popping up around the 4 Squares

### Talking Birds Theatre Co presents **THE Q**

The British are, and always will be, world beaters when it comes to queuing. Witness dramas of pushing in, as well as receiving helpful tips such as How to hold your place in the Queue.

**SATURDAY & SUNDAY**



### **LOUIS ROBINSON'S TRIO DAMBA**

Featuring three members of popular Birmingham band The Destroyers, Trio Damba deliver an engaging live show, performing a variety of tunes borrowed from genres as diverse as Klezma, Hot Club, Tango, Country and Western and Fraggie Rock in their trademark fun and witty style.

**FRIDAY**



### **GRANNY TURISMO**

When Doris, Mary and Marge arrive on their souped-up shopping trolleys, everyone takes notice! N.B. the grannies are loud!

**SATURDAY & SUNDAY**



### **YOUNG PILGRIMS**

These inspiring brass-led experimentalists - with sousaphone, trombones, horns, trumpets and drums - are a marching band supreme, modelled in the great New Orleans style.

**SATURDAY**



### Cocoloco present **NESTS**

Interact with the twitchers who have spent so long bird-watching that their heads have transformed into nests.

**SATURDAY & SUNDAY**



### TG Collective: **'NEARLY HOTCLUB' QUINTET**

The eclectic TG Collective perform as a special quintet, playing material from Django Reinhardt and Stephane Grappelli, along with music in the gypsy-jazz style from the 1920's-40's, with arrangements from Duke Ellington to Irving Berlin.

**SATURDAY**



### Natural Theatre Company in partnership with Birmingham Hippodrome **THE REDS**

Like a sculptural flash mob, the faultlessly attired Reds assemble from all corners, mingling, passing, ignoring, eluding a confident sense of purpose.

**SATURDAY & SUNDAY**



### **AFRO MIO**

Singing in five languages, Afro Mio draw on their heritage in Angola and Congo with a harmonious blend of rich vocals, rhythmic conga and melodious African guitar.

**SATURDAY**



### DanceXchange present **SECRET DANCES**

From a beautiful contemporary presentation to an exhilarating B-boy throwdown, look out for some spectacular performances where you might least expect them.

**SATURDAY & SUNDAY**



### **PERHAPS CONTRAPTION**

The astonishing avant-pop marching band have led spontaneous processions upon boats and beaches, in subterranean venues and at Glastonbury.

**SUNDAY**



### **CBSO STRING QUARTET**

One of the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra's many musical arms pops up on the bridge joining Brindleyplace to the NIA.

**SATURDAY, 12-12.30PM & 1-1.30PM**



### **OCCASIONAL BRASS BAND**

Mixing the intense swing rhythms of an acoustic New Orleans streetband with Lady Gaga, Otis Redding and Drum & Bass.

**SUNDAY**



### **POP-UP SOUL**

This is a rich blend of Birmingham's finest up-and-coming talent, each performing short, unplugged sets of compositions that range from old-skool right through to classic soul.

**SUNDAY**



Look out for the Pop-up performances across all 4 Squares



# PLANNING YOUR DAY



Start your visit at **Oozells Square** in Brindleyplace for family fun. Get your hands dirty and help create a giant city from clay, all the time watching out for the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra and surprise dance performances, not to mention plenty of action inside Ikon Gallery, including new music from Birmingham Contemporary Music Group.



**Centenary Square** will be transformed into a Musical Picnic by Town Hall Symphony Hall - turning an urban square into a playful pastoral idyll, with pop-up music and dance performances. Watch as surprising acts appear and dramatic events take place without warning! In the Library itself, hear the magical music of Ex Cathedra and Birmingham Opera Company.



Over to **Chamberlain Square**, where The Drum's Simmer Down stage will fill your senses with Reggae, Ska, Bhangra, Sufi and Hip Hop. Birmingham Museum & Art Gallery present a day of film courtesy of Flatpack Festival, whilst Birmingham Royal Ballet and DanceXchange take over Town Hall.



Then lastly to **Victoria Square**. During the daytime you can run away to the circus with Nofit State, then stay late on Friday and Saturday nights for the spectacular large-scale show *As The World Tipped*, by Wired Aerial Theatre. Breathtaking staging, film and fearless aerial performance combine to create a real-life disaster movie in the sky in this epic piece of outdoor storytelling.



All this plus Birmingham's most exciting street food, chances to join in and a great party atmosphere. It all starts on Friday evening at 9.30pm with *As The World Tipped* in Victoria Square. See you there!



Need help? Ask one of our friendly volunteers in a 4 Squares Weekender t-shirt if you have any questions.



Wet and windy weather: Venues and timings may change in the event of bad weather. Check [www.4squaresweekender.com](http://www.4squaresweekender.com) or ask one of our volunteers for updates. Capacity is limited for some events.



## Brindleyplace will be filled with family fun and surprise performances



### Ikon presents **CLAYGROUND COLLECTIVE**

Get your hands dirty and create a giant city and canalscape made of clay. Ikon joins up with the Clayground Collective for an afternoon of messy fun.

**SATURDAY & SUNDAY, 12-5.30PM**



### **SLOW BOAT AT 4 SQUARES WEEKENDER**



Visit Ikon's floating art venue, Slow Boat. Enjoy Clayground Collective's 'Clay Cargo' installation, meet members of Ikon's Youth Programme and find out more about Slow Boat's summer voyage to the East Midlands.

**SATURDAY & SUNDAY, 12-5.30PM**  
**MOORED ON THE BIRMINGHAM AND FAZELEY CANAL, BRINDLEY-PLACE, OUTSIDE THE NATIONAL SEALIFE CENTRE**

### **IKON FAMILY WEEKENDER**

Open to all ages (adults very welcome), make your own original artwork in an afternoon of creative activities that will engage, challenge and inspire.

**SATURDAY & SUNDAY, 1-4PM**  
**IKON GALLERY**



### Ikon presents **SHIMABUKU: SOMETHING THAT FLOATS/ SOMETHING THAT SINKS**

Visit Ikon Gallery to experience the artwork of Japanese artist Shimabuku, including hands-on installations and plenty of fun.

**FRIDAY, SATURDAY &  
SUNDAY, 11-6PM**  
**IKON GALLERY**



# OOZELLS SQUARE AND BRINDLEYPLACE

## CRACK UP!

### A Birmingham Contemporary Music Group and Ikon collaboration

The internationally renowned Birmingham Contemporary Music Group perform music by Japanese composers Toshi Ichianagi and Shiori Usui across Ikon Gallery. BCMG's players will be scattered amongst Ikon's exhibition, *Something that Floats / Something that Sinks*, by Japanese artist Shimabuku. The playful, experimental nature of both Ichianagi and Usui's music, including *Usui's Crack Up* - a piece composed from the sound of a friend's laughter - goes hand-in-hand with Shimabuku's work, which encourages visitors to enjoy experiences as if they are happening to them for the first time.

**SUNDAY, 12PM & 4PM (PERFORMANCES LAST 30 MINUTES)  
IKON GALLERY**



## DanceXchange presents BIRMINGHAM DANCING



Birmingham Dancing, developed for International Dance Festival Birmingham 2014, which takes dance right into the workplaces of the city; into offices, bars, hotels and schools. In this exclusive preview, see the staff of Piccolino restaurant perform their everyday moves choreographed by Gary Clarke, supported by Adam Rutherford. *Each show runs for 5 minutes*

**SATURDAY ONLY, 4PM, 5PM, 6PM, 7PM  
PICCOLINO, OOZELLS SQUARE**

**SEE CENTENARY SQUARE, PAGE 11  
ALSO AT THE HYATT REGENCY HOTEL**

## sampad presents CIRCLES IN THE SQUARE

Classical and modern urban dance styles join hands as sampad presents this enthralling, specially choreographed performance. A timeless cultural mix of music and movement connecting past and present.

**SUNDAY ONLY, 1PM & 3PM**



## CITY OF BIRMINGHAM SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

Our very own CBSO takes a break from its international touring schedule to perform in a variety of ensembles across the city centre for 4 Squares Weekender. From brass ensembles to wind ensembles, string quartets to a percussion ensemble, the CBSO brings the music they take into the city's schools out into the city centre. Cello Notelets offer musical fun for little ones.

## CBSO Brass Ensemble

The CBSO's brass section is known as one of the finest in Europe. Usually found in the heart of the orchestra, here they have their very own stage in the heart of Birmingham.

**SATURDAY, 12-2PM\* & 3.30-5.30PM\***

## CBSO Percussion Ensemble

See and hear the amazing sounds of the CBSO percussion section and be blown away by their virtuosity and brilliance.

**SUNDAY, 12-2PM\* & 3.30-5.30PM\***

**SEE ALSO CENTENARY SQUARE, PAGE 13**

**CHAMBERLAIN SQUARE, PAGE 25**

**\*INCLUDES INTERVAL OF 30 MINUTES**

## mac birmingham presents PIF PAF: SOMETHING TO HOLD



A fast-paced tale is spun on a thrilling new aerial sculpture by Pif Paf, within a transforming mechanical world of action, metal and rope. With storms on every horizon, three souls get un-hinged as their worlds force them to do unthinkable things. *Performance lasts 25 minutes*

**SATURDAY, 1PM, 2.30PM, 4PM**

**SUNDAY, 12PM, 2.30PM**

**CENTRAL SQUARE, BRINDLEYPLACE**

## Birmingham Repertory Theatre presents EAT!



Ladies and gentlemen, we give you Eat!, a theatrical journey in four caravans. We take food for granted: we diet, overindulge, grab it on the go, but rarely do we delve into its stories. Explore the caravans dotted around 4 Squares Weekender and hear tales of feasting, fasting and famine with plenty of food for thought.

**SATURDAY & SUNDAY, HALF PAST THE HOUR FROM  
12.30 - 6.30PM (NO PERFORMANCE AT 2.30PM)**

**THEN FIND DIFFERENT STORIES IN THE REMAINING EAT! CARAVANS IN CENTENARY AND VICTORIA SQUARES**

Enjoy a Musical Picnic, catch a Bollywood spectacular and hear exquisite music in the Library of Birmingham

**sampad presents  
HOORAY FOR BOLLYWOOD!**

Centenary Square comes alive with pulsating rhythms and shimmering colour. Uplifting high-energy dance performances are set to a musical medley of foot-tapping tracks from popular Bollywood films. Come and join the party!  
**SATURDAY, 1.30PM & 4.30PM, NEAR HALL OF MEMORY**



**MUSICAL PICNIC...**

Exclusively for 4 Squares Weekender, Town Hall Symphony Hall are transforming Centenary Square into a playful pastoral idyll where families can come together for a Musical Picnic - a fun-packed and exhilarating programme of music for all ages. Watch and join in with performers, as children are introduced to a world of music, song, storytelling and dance.  
**SAT 11AM-6PM & SUN 12-6PM**



**The REP presents  
SECRET DRAMA**  
Look out for extraordinary dramatic occurrences happening in Centenary Square during the 4 Squares Weekender, courtesy of The REP.  
**SATURDAY, 2 & 4PM**

**?**

**DON'T MISS IT!**  
PERFORMANCE LASTS 5 MINS

**SATURDAY 7 SEPT**

**LLUIS MATHER AND FRIENDS**

The brilliant young saxophonist Lluís Mather leads a dynamic group of musicians, presenting an eclectic mix of jazz, blues, improvisation and even scat singing.  
**11-11.45AM**



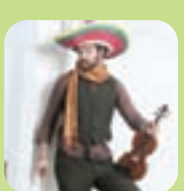
**BURDOCK CEILIDH BAND**

Find yourself drawn into the pounding rhythms of the Burdock Band - traditional music with an incredible variety of beautiful melodies.  
**12-12.45PM**



**LOUIS ROBINSON AND FRIENDS**

With his inimitable fun and witty style, Louis presents simple ways to enjoy music-making at home with your children.  
**1-1.45PM**



**NOTELETS - CBSO CELLO ENSEMBLE**

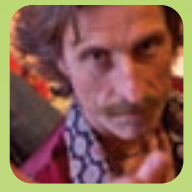
The ever-popular CBSO Notelets take a trip out of the CBSO Centre to meet and entertain your little ones - meet the CBSO Cellists and Cellos!  
**2.30-3.45PM & 4.45-6PM**



**SUNDAY 8 SEPT**

**MICHAEL LOADER**

Storyteller Michael Loader uses nature and the great outdoors to inspire imaginations and creativity.  
**12-12.45PM**



**METROPOLITAN BRASS**

The wonderfully entertaining Metropolitan Brass Quintet take you on a brassy trip around the world. Discover how brass instruments work, and explore how music can be fast, slow, descriptive and emotional.  
**1-1.45PM**



**NOTELETS - CBSO CELLO ENSEMBLE**

The ever-popular CBSO Notelets take a trip out of the CBSO Centre to meet and entertain your little ones - meet the CBSO Cellists and Cellos!  
**2.30-3.15PM & 4.30 6PM**



**SOWETO KINCH**

Award-winning alto-saxophonist and MC Soweto Kinch is one of the UK's most exciting and versatile young musicians. He and his band will introduce audiences to the toe-tapping sounds of jazz, song-rooted swing and hip hop.  
**3.30-4.15PM**





# CENTENARY SQUARE

## The REP presents **EAT!**

See page 7 for details.

**SATURDAY & SUNDAY, 1-6.30PM  
ON THE HOUR AND HALF-HOUR**



## DanceXchange presents **BIRMINGHAM DANCING**

More from Birmingham Dancing - catch the staff from the Hyatt Regency Birmingham performing in their workplace. *Each show runs for 5 minutes* (see also p7)

**SATURDAY ONLY, 11AM, 12PM, 2PM, 3PM  
HYATT REGENCY BIRMINGHAM,  
2 BRIDGE STREET (OPPOSITE CENTENARY SQUARE)**



## BE Festival presents **BE NEXT**

BE Next is Be Festival's young performance company for young people who speak a second language at home, or have English as a second language. This is a development from the scratch performance first presented at this year's BE Festival in July.

**SATURDAY & SUNDAY, 2.15 & 4.15PM  
NEAR MUSICAL PICNIC**



## DISCOVERY SEASON



**4 Squares  
Weekender  
celebrates the opening weekend  
of the Library of Birmingham**



The Discovery Season - produced by Capsule in collaboration with the Library of Birmingham, and supported by Arts Council England - brings to life the Library's stunning new spaces, from the studio theatre to the towering book rotunda and the outdoor garden terraces, playing host to installations, events, performances and workshops for every age and interest. Events encompassing literature, art, film, illustration, food and debate will be enjoyed under one golden roof in the city's newest social space.

Learn about Birmingham's new library via [www.libraryofbirmingham.com/discoveryseason](http://www.libraryofbirmingham.com/discoveryseason)

## INSIDE THE LIBRARY OF BIRMINGHAM...

See inside the new Library of Birmingham while listening to music from some of the city's best choral groups.

The Terraces and Book Rotunda are accessed from inside the Library.

The amphitheatre can be viewed from Centenary Square or from within the Library.

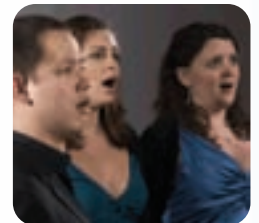
## Birmingham Opera Company presents **THE RUSSIANS ARE COMING...**



A preview of Birmingham Opera Company's new opera *The Khovansky Files*, presented with *Songs And Dances Of Death* - four contrasting songs with one unifying theme: the presence of a woman; Death herself. Singer Byron Jackson, with Sergey Rybin at the piano, performs the *Songs* with a selection of quintessential Russian opera arias.

**SATURDAY, 1.30 & 3.30PM SUNDAY, 1 & 3PM  
AMPHITHEATRE, LIBRARY OF BIRMINGHAM,**

## Ex Cathedra presents **THE LANGUAGE OF FLOWERS**



Music inspired by nature, the language of flowers, the delights of birdsong and, of course, love. Hot on the heels of their five-star BBC Prom, Ex Cathedra Consort perform exquisite music from 16th century France alongside pieces by Britten, Lauridsen, Saint-Saëns, Roth, MacMillan and Birmingham's own John Joubert.

**SATURDAY  
AMPHITHEATRE, LIBRARY OF BIRMINGHAM, 2.30PM  
BOOK ROTUNDA, LIBRARY OF BIRMINGHAM, 3PM  
SECRET GARDEN, LIBRARY OF BIRMINGHAM (FLOOR 7), 4PM**

## CBSO WIND ENSEMBLE



The CBSO's Centre Stage series moves out of CBSO Centre, with the incomparable music of Mozart performed by members of the CBSO.

**SATURDAY, 3PM  
AMPHITHEATRE,  
LIBRARY OF BIRMINGHAM**

## CBSO STRING QUARTET



The CBSO's Centre Stage series moves out of CBSO Centre, with music for string quartet performed by members of the CBSO.

**SUNDAY, 3PM  
AMPHITHEATRE,  
LIBRARY OF BIRMINGHAM**

## RED FOOD PICNIC



Join in the Red Food Picnic on the Discovery Terrace, with extra special guests. Bring along a punnet of strawberries, pack of tomatoes or a red chilli - if you dare!

**SUNDAY, 1-1.30PM  
DISCOVERY TERRACE,  
LIBRARY OF BIRMINGHAM (FLOOR 3)**



# Flying high in Victoria Square



## Birmingham Hippodrome and Nofit State Circus presents

### OPEN HOUSE

Aerialists, acrobats and musicians explode from their caravans for a series of circus taster workshops, impromptu stunts and professional circus performances, in collaboration with local artists and groups. All ages are invited to run away with the circus for a few hours and train alongside Nofit State's professional performers. Alternatively, simply sit back and watch as the spectacle unfolds.

**SATURDAY, 12-2PM & 3-5PM**  
**SUNDAY, 12-2.15PM & 3.15-5.30PM**



## Birmingham REP presents **EAT!**

Ladies and gentlemen, we give you Eat!, a theatrical journey in four caravans. We take food for granted: we diet, overindulge, grab it on the go, but rarely do we delve into its stories. Explore the caravans dotted around 4 Squares Weekender and hear tales of feasting, fasting and famine with plenty of food for thought.

**SATURDAY & SUNDAY, FROM 1PM, ON THE HOUR**  
**THEN FIND THE REMAINING EAT CARAVANS IN CENTENARY AND OZZELLS SQUARES.**



## Birmingham Royal Ballet presents...

Birmingham Royal Ballet is the UK's leading touring ballet company and is based in the heart of the city, at Birmingham Hippodrome. Dancing ballets that range from 19th-century classics, through the amazing works that made British ballet a household name during the 20th century, to the wide-ranging creative pieces Director David Bintley and international guests choreograph for the Company today, Birmingham Royal Ballet always offers something that will amaze and astonish with its invention, skill and beauty.

**SATURDAY, 1PM**  
**TOWN HALL**



## Freefall Dance Company presents **CHAIRS**

Inspired by the humble chair, this piece celebrates international dance styles in a way only Freefall Dance Company can. Led by former Birmingham Royal Ballet dancers and staff from Fox Hollies Performing Arts College, the acclaimed Freefall provides a training and performing platform for highly gifted young people with severe learning difficulties.

**SATURDAY, 3PM**  
**TOWN HALL**





An unforgettable  
late-night spec-  
tacular

**LAUNCH  
PERFORMANCE  
FRIDAY**  
9.30PM

## Birmingham Hippodrome and Wired Aerial Theatre present **AS THE WORLD TIPPED**

Officially opening 4 Squares Weekender on Friday night and closing Saturday evening's programme, don't miss this opportunity to see the spectacular large-scale show *As The World Tipped*, an epic piece of outdoor storytelling presented on a vast 12m screen set high in the night sky.

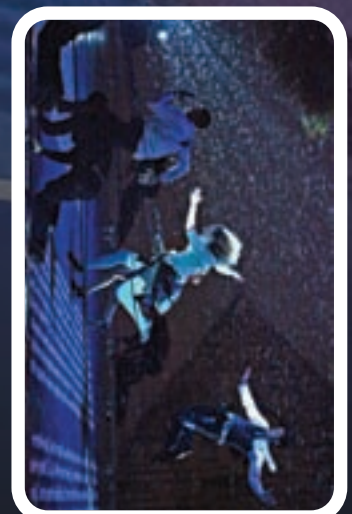
Combining dramatic film and visuals with breath taking aerial performance and stunning choreography, *As The World Tipped* confronts one of the most pressing issues for the planet with spectacle, humour and emotion.

At the Secretariat of the Copenhagen Climate Change conference, harassed staff fail to notice as the world around them literally and metaphorically slides towards disaster.

Suspended above the audience in the night sky, the performers struggle to control their increasingly precarious world as they do battle with the effects of drastic environmental catastrophe.

**FRIDAY, 9.30PM & SATURDAY, 9PM**  
(60 MINUTES)

Enjoy music with Louis Robinson's Trio Damba - Friday from 7pm (see Page 9)



Chamberlain Square is filled with the sound of Bhangra, Hip-Hop, Motown, Soul, Roots, Rock, Reggae and more. Cool off at Birmingham Museum & Art Gallery with a day of film hosted by our very own Flatpack Festival.

## Birmingham Museum & Art Gallery present FLATPACK FILM CAFÉ

Take a pitstop at the Waterhall for free rolling programme of screenings. Produced by the team from Flatpack Festival, the film jamboree which takes over Birmingham every March, you'll find a typically varied jumble of shorts, animation, archive discoveries, cult movies and live performance. Plus bold, eyepopping posters created at the Birmingham Arts Lab print workshop during the 1970s. Tea and cake is available throughout.

**SATURDAY AND SUNDAY, 12PM – 8PM**  
**WATERHALL, BIRMINGHAM MUSEUM & ART GALLERY**



## SATURDAY 7 SEPT

### 12PM COLOUR BOX: CINEMA JIGS (70 MINS)

Toe-tapping cartoons from around the world, hand-picked from the Flatpack family programme. Suitable for all ages. Hosted by Sarah Hamilton Baker.

### 1.30PM ANIMATED BIRMINGHAM (50 MINS)

Homegrown animated shorts using a range of techniques. Includes a recent collaboration between Juneau Projects and pupils from a number of local schools, made at the Museum, and a couple of shorts from CBSO's recent Silent Movie Animation Challenge.

### 2.45PM COLOUR BOX: BUGS AND BEASTS (60 MINS)

Cunning birds, wriggly insects, and singing monsters all feature in this selection of animated shorts. Suitable for all ages.

### 4PM SONGS AND DANCES OF DEATH (45 MINS)

During March 2013 Birmingham Opera Company presented a series of pop-up performances of Songs and Dances of Death, a song cycle by Russian composer Modest Musorgsky. Documenting their every move was a young filmmaking team, and this screening includes three of the videos made during the tour. Plus two classic animations by Alexeieff and Parker, both inspired by Musorgsky's work.

### 5PM KINO 10 SHORTS (70 MINS)

Exploring all manner of short films, from animation to music video, with some experimental and documentary thrown in for good measure, KINO 10 concoct a programme of shorts guaranteed to put a smile on your face.

### 6.30PM HE WHO GETS SLAPPED (80 MINS)

Beautiful, bizarre silent drama from 1924 about a disgraced scientist (Lon Chaney) who becomes a circus clown. Also the first ever appearance of the MGM lion! Featuring live accompaniment by pianist John Sweeney.



### 12-4PM SILHOUETTE ANIMATION WORKSHOP

Throughout Saturday afternoon Lightbox Cinema will be running a drop-in animation workshop in the Waterhall, where you can make a shadow film using cardboard cut-outs. Suitable for ages 5+.

## SUNDAY 8 SEPT

### 12PM COLOUR BOX: CINEMA JIGS (60 MINS)

Toe-tapping cartoons from around the world, hand-picked from the Flatpack family programme. Suitable for all ages.



### 1.30PM PAKEEZAH (148 MINS)

Showing in Bollywood's centenary year, a landmark in Indian cinema. The tragic tale of a courtesan's daughter who becomes famous for her mesmerising dances, Pakeezah was 14 years in the making and flopped on release in 1972 but has since been recognised as a true classic. Starring Meena Kumari, who died shortly after the film came out, and featuring the angelic voice of Lata Mangeshkar. Certificate: PG

### 5PM MUSICTUBE (60 MINS)

Here we pick out a selection of the most innovative and interesting music videos from the past 18 months. Featuring Dash Shaw's Seraph from Sigur Ros's hugely popular Valtari project, Tame Impala's joyful animated video for Feels Like We Only Go Backwards by Becky Sloan and Joe Pelling (Flatpack 2013 award winner too!), and the latest video from Birmingham-based band Troumaca.

## The Drum presents SIMMER DOWN SHOWCASE

SATURDAY 5-8.30PM  
SUNDAY 2.30-7PM

The Drum brings you a special music programme with outstanding musicians, singers, DJs and dancers.

### SATURDAY 7 SEPT

#### ANSAR KHALID QAWWAL AND PARTY

An unforgettable Qawwali concert recreating the qawwalis of Nusrat Fateh Ali Khan's along with new compositions.

5-5.45PM

#### DCS BHANGRA GROUP

DCS led the 1980s transformation of classic Punjabi Bhangra into a contemporary global phenomenon. Come ready to raise your arms and move your feet!

6-6.45PM

#### Reggae Splash

Some of Birmingham's finest Reggae artists take to the stage.

#### BASIL GABBIDON AND BACKING BAND

The founding member of Birmingham's infamous band Steel Pulse.

7.15-7.30PM

#### YAZ ALEXANDER

The Birmingham-based singer-songwriter whose performances are characterised by passion and energy.

7.30-7.45PM

#### PETER SPENCE

Peter Spence is best known for his peerless vocals, as well as the quality of his songs and material.

7.45-8PM

#### MUSICAL YOUTH

Best remembered for their number one hit around the world 'Pass the Dutchie'.

8-8.15PM

#### TENNA STAR

One of the UK's finest vocalists in Reggae today.

8.15-8.30PM



### SUNDAY 8 SEPT

#### Hip-Hop 'til you drop!

SUNDAY, 2.30-4PM

The Drum and DanceXchange join forces to weave DJs, beat boxers and live performers for a high energy extravaganza of urban flavours. Will live performances from Sic'Nis, MSI Asylum, Detin8, Clan & Deez'I and Adante.



PLUS LOOK OUT FOR

#### THE SONY XPERIA B-BOY CHAMPIONSHIPS ALL-STARS

To celebrate the championships coming to Birmingham, DanceXchange presents exclusive performances from Brooke, Roxi, Marvel and Sunni. Plus workshop demonstrations from Shaun Cope and Lucie Talbott, and a community B-Boy performance created by Mickael 'Marso' Riviere.

12.30-1.15PM & 2.30-3.15PM

#### THE MAGIC OF OLD SKOOL CLASSICS

Honouring the Soul and Motown legends. Brothers of Soul and Divas of Soul perform favourite hits made famous by The Temptations, The Four Tops, Aretha Franklin, Tina Turner and scores more. Then Reggae

Divas honour the great female Lovers Rock superstars with sweet tight vocal harmony and dazzling moves.

4-5.30PM



#### TIPPA IRIE

The UK Reggae legend and acclaimed dancehall MC takes to the Simmer Down stage. Tippa Irie has been at the forefront of the scene for the past 25 years and remains one of the world's most requested Reggae entertainers.

6-7PM



# CHAMBERLAIN SQUARE



## City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra

See Oozells Square, page 7 for more details

**WIND  
ENSEMBLE**  
SATURDAY, 12PM



**STRING  
QUARTET**  
SUNDAY, 12PM



## Also at Birmingham Museum & Art Gallery

**SATURDAY, 10AM-8PM & SUNDAY, 10AM-7PM**

### GRUFFALO GROOVES!

Join a dance workshops for 4-11 year olds inspired by the words and music of former Children's Laureate, Julia Donaldson. Her famous characters the Gruffalo, Tiddler and Tabby McTat come to life.

**SATURDAY & SUNDAY, 11AM & 1PM**  
**ROUND ROOM,**  
**BIRMINGHAM MUSEUM & ART GALLERY**



### HUSHED TONES

Something surprising will pop-up in and around the Round Room and Industrial Gallery. Powered by Beat-freaks.

**SATURDAY, 2.30PM & 6.30PM**  
**SUNDAY, 1.30PM & 5.30PM**  
**ROUND ROOM AND INDUSTRIAL GALLERY,**  
**BIRMINGHAM MUSEUM & ART GALLERY**

### AMERICAN INDIAN PORTRAITS BY GEORGE CATLIN

One of the most important series of portraits of native peoples ever made, on show in this National Portrait Gallery touring exhibition.

**SATURDAY & SUNDAY**  
**BIRMINGHAM MUSEUM & ART GALLERY**



## Now it's time to join in...

### dx PARTICIPATE

Show off your moves with taster dance workshops from DanceXchange's class programme. See a 10 minute workshop demo on the stage before moving into Town Hall for a 30 minute taster workshop. You might discover a hidden talent!



## SATURDAY 6 SEPT

### STAGE AND TOWN HALL

#### STAGE

- 1.30-2pm: Lindy Hop with James Hamilton and Cordao de Ouro Capoeira with Sam Mascote
- 3.30-4pm: Musical Dance with Beth Squire & Ami Radcliffe, Lindy Hop with James Hamilton & Cordao de Ouro Capoeira with Sam Mascote

#### WORKSHOPS IN TOWN HALL

- 2-2.30pm: Lindy Hop with James Hamilton
- 2.30-3pm: Cordao de Ouro Capoeira with Sam Mascote
- 4-4.30pm: Musical Dance with Beth Squire & Ami Radcliffe
- 4.30-5pm: Cordao de Ouro Capoeira with Sam Mascote
- 5-5.30pm: Lindy Hop with James Hamilton

## SUNDAY 7 SEPT

#### WORKSHOPS IN TOWN HALL

- Urban Fusion with Shaun Cope (1-1.30pm & 3-3.30pm)
- Street Dance Styles with Lucie Talbott (1.30-2pm & 3.30-4pm)

### mac birmingham presents MOVE ME - AN INTERACTIVE DANCE EVENT

Even if you haven't danced since nursery, after a few minutes of Move Me you'll be moving like you never knew you could. Somewhere between a dance class, a Flashmob and a party, you'll be learning the moves alongside professional contemporary dancers and taking centre stage. Everyone of all ages and abilities can join in.

**SATURDAY, 12-1PM, 2.30-3.30PM ON STAGE**  
**6-7PM TOWN HALL**



## OOZELLS SQUARE AND BRINDLEYPLACE

### TIMELINE

11am 12pm 1pm 2pm 3pm 4pm 5pm 6pm 7pm 8pm 9pm

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	SHIMABUKU: SOMETHING THAT FLOATS / SOMETHING THAT SINKS presented by Ikon, IKON GALLERY. <b>p6</b>	11am - 6PM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	CBSO Brass Ensemble <b>p7</b>	12-2PM & 3.30-5.30PM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	SLOW BOAT AT 4 SQUARES WEEKENDER MOORED ON BIRMINGHAM AND FAZELEY CANAL, BRINDLEYPLACE, OUTSIDE THE NATIONAL SEALIFE CENTRE <b>p6</b>	12-5.30PM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	CLAYGROUND COLLECTIVE presented by Ikon, IKON GALLERY <b>p6</b>	12-5.30PM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	EAT! presented by The Rep <b>p7</b>	EVERY HOUR
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	PIF PAF: SOMETHING TO HOLD presented by mac birmingham <b>p7</b>	1, 2.30 & 4PM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	IKON FAMILY WEEKENDER <b>p6</b>	1-4PM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	BIRMINGHAM DANCING presented by DanceXchange PICCOLINO <b>p7</b>	4, 5, 6, & 7PM

## CENTENARY SQUARE

### TIMELINE

11am 12pm 1pm 2pm 3pm 4pm 5pm 6pm 7pm 8pm 9pm

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	BIRMINGHAM DANCING HYATT REGENCY BIRMINGHAM <b>p11</b>	11AM, 12, 2, 3PM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	LLUIS MATHER AND FRIENDS (Musical Picnic) <b>p10</b>	11-11.45AM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	BURDOCK CEILIDH BAND (Musical Picnic) <b>p10</b>	12-12.45PM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	EAT! presented by The Rep <b>p11</b>	EVERY HOUR FROM 1PM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	LOUIS ROBINSON AND FRIENDS (Musical Picnic) <b>p10</b>	1-1.45PM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	HOORAY FOR BOLLYWOOD! presented by sampad <b>p11</b>	1.30 & 4.30PM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	THE RUSSIANS ARE COMING... presented by Birmingham Opera Company <b>p13</b> AMPHITHEATRE, LIBRARY OF BIRMINGHAM	1.30 & 3.30PM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	SECRET DRAMA presented by The Rep <b>p11</b>	2 & 4PM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	BE NEXT presented by BE Festival <b>p11</b>	2.15 & 4.15PM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NOTELETS - CBSO CELLO ENSEMBLE (Musical Picnic) <b>p10</b>	2.30 & 4.45PM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	CBSO WIND ENSEMBLE AMPHITHEATRE, LIBRARY OF BIRMINGHAM <b>p13</b>	3PM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	THE LANGUAGE OF FLOWERS presented by Ex Cathedra, <b>p13</b> LIBRARY OF BIRMINGHAM: ROTUNDA 3.30PM, AMPHITHEATRE 4.30PM, TERRACE 5.30PM	2.30, 3 & 4PM

## CHAMBERLAIN SQUARE

### TIMELINE

11am 12pm 1pm 2pm 3pm 4pm 5pm 6pm 7pm 8pm 9pm

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	AMERICAN INDIAN PORTRAITS BY GEORGE CATLIN BIRMINGHAM MUSEUM & ART GALLERY <b>p25</b>	10AM-8PM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	GRUFFALO GROOVES! ROUND ROOM, BIRMINGHAM MUSEUM & ART GALLERY <b>p25</b>	11AM & 1PM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	CBSO - WIND ENSEMBLE <b>p25</b>	12PM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	DX WORKSHOPS AND MOVE ME STAGE, CHAMBERLAIN SQUARE <b>p25</b>	12-1PM, 1.30-2PM & 2.30-4PM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	FLATPACK FILM CAFÉ presented by Birmingham Museum & Art Gallery, WATERHALL <b>p15</b>	12-8PM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	HUSHED TONES BIRMINGHAM MUSEUM & ART GALLERY <b>p25</b>	2.30 & 6.30PM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	ANSAR KHALID QAWWAL & PARTY (Simmer Down Showcase) presented by The Drum <b>p17</b>	5-5.45PM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	DCS BHANGRA GROUP (Simmer Down Showcase) presented by The Drum <b>p17</b>	6 - 6.45PM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	BASIL GABBIDON & BACKING BAND (Simmer Down Showcase) presented by The Drum <b>p17</b>	7.15-7.30PM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	YAZ ALEXANDER (Simmer Down Showcase) presented by The Drum <b>p17</b>	7.30-7.45PM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	PETER SPENCE (Simmer Down Showcase) presented by The Drum <b>p17</b>	7.45-8PM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	MUSICAL YOUTH (Simmer Down Showcase) presented by The Drum <b>p17</b>	8-8.15PM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	TENNA STAR (Simmer Down Showcase) presented by The Drum <b>p17</b>	8.15PM

## VICTORIA SQUARE

### TIMELINE

11am 12pm 1pm 2pm 3pm 4pm 5pm 6pm 7pm 8pm 9pm

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	MOVE ME - An interactive dance event, presented by mac birmingham, TOWN HALL <b>p25</b>	6-7PM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	OPEN HOUSE - presented by Birmingham Hippodrome and Nofit State Circus <b>p27</b>	12-2 & 3-5PM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	BIRMINGHAM ROYAL BALLET PRESENTS... TOWN HALL <b>p27</b>	1PM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	EAT! presented by The Rep <b>p27</b>	EVERY HOUR FROM 1PM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	LINDY HOP, CORDAO DE OURO CAPOEIRA & MUSICAL DANCE - DX WORKSHOPS TOWN HALL <b>p25</b>	2-5.30PM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	CHAIRS presented by Freefall Dance Company, TOWN HALL <b>p27</b>	3PM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	AS THE WORLD TIPPED presented by Birmingham Hippodrome & Wired Aerial Theatre <b>p29</b>	9PM

BIRMINGHAM CELEBRATES



# 4 SQUARES WEEKENDER

BIRMINGHAM  
CITY CENTRE  
CENTENARY  
VICTORIA  
CHAMBERLAIN  
OOZELLS

FREE WEEKEND  
OF SPECTACULAR  
OUTDOOR ARTS

[4SQUARESWEEKENDER.COM](http://4SQUARESWEEKENDER.COM)

6-8TH  
SEPT 2013



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**What's On**  
[whatsonlive.co.uk](http://whatsonlive.co.uk)



## OOZELLS SQUARE AND BRINDLEYPLACE

### TIMELINE

11am 12pm 1pm 2pm 3pm 4pm 5pm 6pm 7pm 8pm 9pm

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	SHIMABUKU: SOMETHING THAT FLOATS / SOMETHING THAT SINKS presented by Ikon, IKON GALLERY <span>p6</span>	11am - 6pm
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	CBSO Percussion Ensemble <span>p7</span>	12-2PM & 3.30-5.30PM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	PIF PAF: SOMETHING TO HOLD presented by mac birmingham <span>p7</span>	12 & 2.30PM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	CRACK UP! - A BCMG and Ikon collaboration IKON GALLERY <span>p7</span>	12 & 4PM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	SLOW BOAT AT 4 SQUARES WEEKENDER MOORED ON BIRMINGHAM AND FAZELEY CANAL, BRINDLEYPLACE, OUTSIDE THE NATIONAL SEALIFE CENTRE <span>p6</span>	12-5.30PM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	CLAYGROUND COLLECTIVE presented by Ikon, IKON GALLERY <span>p6</span>	12-5.30PM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	CIRCLES IN THE SQUARE presented by sampad <span>p7</span>	1 & 3PM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	IKON FAMILY WEEKENDER <span>p6</span>	1-4PM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	EAT! presented by The Rep <span>p7</span>	EVERY HOUR

## CENTENARY SQUARE

### TIMELINE

11am 12pm 1pm 2pm 3pm 4pm 5pm 6pm 7pm 8pm 9pm

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	MICHAEL LOADER (Musical Picnic) <span>p10</span>	12-12.45PM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	RED FOOD PICNIC FIRST FLOOR TERRACE, LIBRARY OF BIRMINGHAM <span>p13</span>	1-1.30PM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	METROPOLITAN BRASS (Musical Picnic) <span>p10</span>	1- 1.45PM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	EAT! presented by The Rep <span>p11</span>	1-6.30PM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	BE NEXT presented by BE Festival <span>p11</span>	2.15 & 4.15PM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NOTELETS – CBSO CELLO ENSEMBLE (Musical Picnic) <span>p10</span>	2.30-3.15PM & 4.30-6PM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	THE RUSSIANS ARE COMING... presented by Birmingham Opera Company AMPHITHEATRE, LIBRARY OF BIRMINGHAM <span>p13</span>	1 & 3PM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	SOWETO KINCH (Musical Picnic) <span>p10</span>	3.30-4.15PM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	CBSO STRING QUARTET AMPHITHEATRE, LIBRARY OF BIRMINGHAM <span>p13</span>	3PM

## CHAMBERLAIN SQUARE

### TIMELINE

11am 12pm 1pm 2pm 3pm 4pm 5pm 6pm 7pm 8pm 9pm

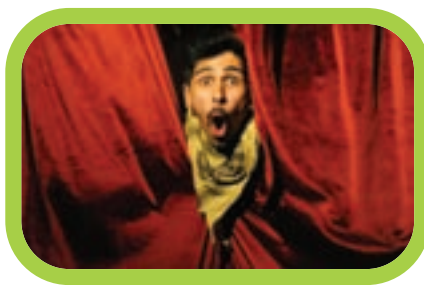
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	AMERICAN INDIAN PORTRAITS BY GEORGE CATLIN <span>p25</span> BIRMINGHAM MUSEUM & ART GALLERY	10AM-7PM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	GRUFFALO GROOVES! ROUND ROOM, BIRMINGHAM MUSEUM & ART GALLERY <span>p25</span>	11AM & 1PM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	CBSO - STRING QUARTET <span>p25</span>	12PM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	FLATPACK FILM CAFÉ presented by Birmingham Museum & Art Gallery, WATERHALL <span>p15</span>	12-8PM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	B-BOY CHAMPIONSHIPS ALL-STARS presented by DanceXchange <span>p17</span>	12.30 & 2.30PM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	HUSHED TONES BIRMINGHAM MUSEUM & ART GALLERY <span>p25</span>	1.30 & 5.30PM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	HIP-HOP 'TIL YOU DROP! (Simmer Down Showcase) presented by The Drum <span>p17</span>	2.30 - 4PM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	THE MAGIC OF OLD SKOOL CLASSICS (Simmer Down Showcase) presented by The Drum <span>p17</span>	4-5.30PM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	TIPPA IRIE (Simmer Down Showcase) presented by The Drum <span>p17</span>	6-7PM

## VICTORIA SQUARE

### TIMELINE

11am 12pm 1pm 2pm 3pm 4pm 5pm 6pm 7pm 8pm 9pm

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	OPEN HOUSE - presented by Birmingham Hippodrome and Nofit State Circus <span>p27</span>	12-2.15PM & 3.15-5.30PM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	EAT! presented by The Rep <span>p27</span>	FROM 1PM ON THE HOUR
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	URBAN FUSION - DX WORKSHOPS TOWN HALL <span>p25</span>	1-1.30PM & 3-3.30PM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	STREET DANCE STYLE - DX WORKSHOPS TOWN HALL <span>p25</span>	1.30-2PM & 3.30-4PM



EMMA  
WILLIS

RYLAN  
CLARK



# STYLE BIRMINGHAM LIVE AW13

THE FASHION & SHOPPING EVENT OF THE YEAR

SATURDAY 28 SEPTEMBER AT TOWN HALL - TICKETS FROM £15

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# Putting on the Style...

celebrities host Birmingham's fashion spectacular

**Recognised as one of the country's top shopping destinations, Birmingham is home to Harvey Nichols, Selfridges and the Bullring, as well as a host of reputable independents and designer stores. Marking the city's fashionable achievements, the award-winning Style Birmingham this month makes a welcome return to the city, transforming Birmingham Town Hall into a fashion industry-style setting to showcase the latest autumn-winter collections.**

Promoting and raising the profile of Birmingham's reputation as a world-class shopping destination, Style Birmingham regularly attracts two hundred-and-fifty thousand visitors to the city centre during the last weekend in September, with major retailers reporting an average uplift of sixty per cent in sales as a direct result of the show.

Style Birmingham Live AW13, which recently received a coveted British Council of Shopping Centres Purple Apple Marketing Award, this year welcomes two new faces to the city's biggest one-day fashion spectacular, with Birmingham-born model Emma Willis and Reality TV star Rylan Clark joining forces to oversee the event's 'jaw-dropping' catwalk show at the Town Hall. Emma and Rylan will also host Style On The Side, which sees the duo give their reactions to the season's key looks before inviting the audience to join in with a fashion-themed Q&A after each show.

Of her impending involvement with Style..., Emma recently commented: "I can't wait to get back to Birmingham to host the show this year. The plans for the catwalk show at Town Hall are incredible, and with so many stores and brands already lined up to take part, the show is set to be the best Style Birmingham Live yet. I love to go shopping in

Birmingham when I'm back in the Midlands, so after a day of non-stop fashion and beauty, I'm looking forward to hitting the shops."

Featuring more than one hundred retailers - including Bullring, Selfridges, The Mailbox, Harvey Nicholls, House of Fraser, Marks & Spencer and numerous independents - Style Birmingham constantly strives to improve on its reputation as 'an unmissable day of fashion, beauty and shopping', and this year's event is no exception. In addition to the main catwalk event, Style Birmingham will see numerous sideline events at House of Fraser, The Mailbox and the Bullring, the latter venue celebrating its tenth anniversary with The Show: Ten.

Style Birmingham Live is also supporting Breast Cancer Care, and is inviting ticketholders to get along and see Lady Penelope's FABulous bespoke pink Roll-Royce Ghost, with the original Thunderbirds FAB1 number plate donated by presenter and broadcaster Chris Evans! The beautiful car will be parked outside Town Hall for the duration of the day. The visit follows its marathon journey from Land's End to John O'Groats, which was supported by a host of celebrities, including Gary Barlow and Mary Berry.

Tickets to the Style Birmingham Live show at

Birmingham Town Hall are £15 and include a seat at the catwalk show, access to amazing store offers and events, and a goody bag courtesy of The Mailbox and Harvey Nichols. VIP tickets can be purchased for £25 and include a premium seat at the catwalk show, a pre-show glass of bubbly at the Virgin Trains 'First Class Lounge' within Town Hall - where ticketholders can enjoy a DJ and stylish treats including chocolates and beauty demonstrations - plus a goody bag courtesy of The Mailbox and Harvey Nichols. Shows take place at 10.30am, 12pm, 1.30pm, 3pm and 4.30pm on Saturday 28 September. Tickets can be purchased from [ShoppingInBirmingham.com](http://ShoppingInBirmingham.com), where you can find the latest style news first, and be in with a chance of winning a pair of the season's essential Louboutin heels.



FAB1, which will be parked outside the Town Hall for Style Birmingham Live AW13 on Saturday 28 September



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28TH-29TH SEPTEMBER

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# AUTUMN FASHION FIX

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**THE SHOW: TEN**

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BULLRING'S 10TH BIRTHDAY FINALE  
FASHION SHOW, HOSTED BY

**MOLLIE KING**

— FROM THE SATURDAYS —

SATURDAY 28TH SEPTEMBER  
11AM, 1PM, 3PM, 5PM AND 7PM

SUNDAY 29TH SEPTEMBER\*  
11.30AM, 1PM, AND 3PM

\*not hosted by Mollie King

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**BULLRING**  
BIRMINGHAM



# Happy Birthday, Bullring!

ten questions in ten minutes with Mollie King...

**Birmingham's Bullring is a decade old this month. To mark the occasion, the popular shopping destination is presenting AW13 catwalk event, The Show: Ten, on 28 September. The Saturdays' Mollie King will be fronting no fewer than five shows throughout the day. And organisers are promising plenty of surprises along the way too...**

**Are you looking forward to visiting Birmingham, Mollie?**

Absolutely. Birmingham is such a great city, with an amazing fashion offering and a great sense of style.

**What can we expect from The Show: Ten?**

Well, you should expect a lot of surprises throughout the month, and during the show itself you'll get to see some of the season's most divine trends brought to life on the catwalk. The best thing is that everything you see on the catwalk is available from shops in Bullring.

**What's your favourite trend of the season?**

Monochrome. It's everywhere. I love autumn/winter; you can play around a lot more with layers.

**Are you excited about hosting this fashion event in one of the UK's most important**

**fashion cities?**

Birmingham is such a stylish city and I'm very excited to be a part of Bullring's ten-year celebrations and The Show: Ten.

**What's your one key piece of style advice?**

Dress for you. It's important that you feel comfortable in what you're wearing. It's not always about adopting every trend but trying different pieces to see what suits you and your body shape.

**How important is fashion to The Saturdays?**

Fashion is very important to us as a band. We love nothing more than browsing the latest trends and shopping on the high street.

**What's been your favourite Red Carpet outfit?**

A few months ago, at the Glamour Women of

the Year Awards, I wore a beautiful red cutaway dress, which I loved. It was a modern take on a sophisticated dress.

**How would you describe your sense of style?**

I like to dress classic and sophisticated, but I think it's important to try out new trends too. I like dressing preppy, but I also think it's important to keep things simple.

**What's your favourite designer label and high street label?**

I'm quite experimental with designers and the high street, but I definitely like to mix the two.

**Who's your style icon?**

I love Sarah Jessica Parker's style, and definitely like to take elements from her.

Visit the Bullring during September and see many of the shops and restaurants offering special discounts, offers, and activities in-store. Keep your eye out for a very special announcement on 4 September when Bullring's best-kept secret will be revealed...

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Butterflies Live Music Theatre

Cyclamen Show 22/9 Halloween Fun 30/10

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27th - 29th September 2013 NEC Birmingham

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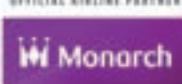


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# Events



## A Place In The Sun Live

NEC, Birmingham, Fri 27 - Sun 29 September

Looking to invest in that long-dreamed-about holiday home abroad, but not quite sure how best to go about it? Well, you could start by heading to Birmingham's NEC at the end of this month and checking out Channel Four's overseas property exhibition, A Place In The Sun Live. Featuring around one hundred-and-fifty agents selling property in destinations across the world, the show also hosts a series of free-to-attend seminar sessions, where you can learn about everything

from the process of buying property abroad to how you'll be affected by those all-important tax laws.

The TV programme's presenters, Laura Hamilton, Jasmine Harman, Jonnie Irwin and Amanda Lamb, are also on hand with plenty of sound advice, and for anybody who's harbouring celebrity aspirations, there's even a chance to screen-test to appear on the next series of the show.

## The Cycle Show

NEC, Birmingham, Fri 27 - Sun 29 September

Described as the biggest event of its kind, this annual show at Birmingham's NEC features an abundance of bikes and associated products for cycling enthusiasts, both on and off-road. In addition to the hundreds of stalls, the weekend event features outdoor demo tracks, on which visitors can try out the latest mountain bikes. There's also the chance to see the best freestyle BMX pros and trials riders strutting - or should that be 'cycling'? - their stuff. New attractions for 2013 include a BMX Park Contest, Roller Racing, and the Onza Trials (featuring pro riders Brett Penfold and Ian Drummond).



Knights of Middle England

## Midland Game Fair

Weston Park, Staffordshire, Sat 14 - Sun 15 September

This year celebrating its thirtieth anniversary, the Midland Game Fair is once again providing an array of main arena family entertainment, as well as plenty of countryside activities with which to get involved. The 2013 line-up features performances by, among others, medieval jousters the Knights of Middle England, the Tigers Free Fall Parachute Display Team, the Mid-Wales Axe Team, Ye Olde Redtail Falconry and Cyril the Squirrel. Sporting attractions include the Great Wall Motor World Series Clay Shooting Final and the Countryman's Weekly Champion of Champions in the terrier and lurcher events. Live music, educational displays and have-a-go features ensure the show's got a good chance of offering something to appeal to most visitors.

COMPANIS FOOD PROVOCATEURS PRESENTS...

# RUDE FOOD FIESTA

IT'S A BIT OF A MOUTHFUL

SATURDAY 14 SEPTEMBER

4-11pm

EDIBLE EASTSIDE, FAZELEY STREET,  
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A unique and memorable art event that has been created to parody the ubiquitous food festival. There's plenty to stuff in your cake-hole, including a food-related programme of food/drink, art, performance, music and competition.

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## INSPIRING FREE EXHIBITIONS AT COVENTRY MUSEUMS THIS AUTUMN

*Quentin Blake  
 WAS LARGE AS LIFE*

Herbert Art Gallery & Museum, Coventry  
Until 3 November 2013  
[www.theherbert.org](http://www.theherbert.org)



Herbert  
Art Gallery & Museum, Coventry



The exhibition was supported by Coventry City Council and the Coventry City of Culture 2012-2013.

## WAR EFFORT

THE BRITISH MOTOR INDUSTRY  
DURING WORLD WAR II

COVENTRY TRANSPORT MUSEUM  
Until 5 January 2014  
[www.transport-museum.com](http://www.transport-museum.com)



Coventry  
Transport Museum  
Preserving the Motor Spirit



## The Pirates In An Exhibition With Scientists

Thinktank, Birmingham, until Sun 22 September

A swashbuckling adventure awaits visitors to Birmingham's science museum this month, as characters and sets from the Sony Pictures Animation and Aardman Animations Award-nominated blockbuster *The Pirates!* are brought to life. As well as taking part in a variety of crafts - from model-making to animation - visitors are invited to dress up in pirate finery and become part of The Pirate Captain's crew, courtesy of the latest blue-screen technology. Referencing Polly - the dodo that thinks it's a parrot - a famed Dodo reconstruction, on loan from Oxford University, is being housed at Thinktank for the duration of the exhibition, linking the film with the world of natural history.



## Battle Of Britain Weekend

RAF Cosford, nr Wolverhampton, Sat 14 - Sun 15 September

Marking the most important event in Royal Air Force history, the Battle Of Britain Weekend offers a series of themed activities and demonstrations for aviation and World War Two enthusiasts to enjoy. Attractions include real-life working Griffon engine demonstrations and a chance to see how a World War RAF Ops Room functioned. There's also an opportunity to witness land army girls in action, with a re-enactment group digging for victory in the wartime garden. New for 2013, Marjorie Cartwright Jones offers advice and thrifty tips for hard-pressed wartime housewives, courtesy of her onsite Make Do And Mend classes.



## BMW Show

Santa Pod, Northampton, Sun 15 September

Returning to Santa Pod Raceway for its eighth year, the BMW Show is a hugely popular celebration of Bavaria's finest. The one-day event features both Run What Ya Brung and a Show And Shine competition, not to mention stunt displays, the chance to try a two-seater dragster, funfair rides and an



## Sony Xperia B-Boy Championships World Finals

O2 Academy, Birmingham, Sat 21 - Sun 22 September

If you enjoy dance, you'll love this. The eighteenth event of its kind - and this year taking place in association with Birmingham's DanceXchange, the Sony Xperia B-Boy Championships World Finals brings together top break dancers, poppers and Hip-Hop dancers for a high-energy weekend of dance magic and fierce competition. The event sees the UK's national winners challenging the greatest crews from around the globe, and doing their best to impress a world-class judging panel made up of leading international pioneers and World Champions. The weekend also includes workshops led by some of the world's top dancers, all of which will be held at DanceXchange in central Birmingham.

opportunity to browse numerous trade stands. All BMWs - race cars, show cars, modern, retros, classics, new minis and BMW bikes - are welcome at the event.



## Ironbridge Gorge World Heritage Festival

Ironbridge, South Shropshire, Sat 21 Sept

Heritage talks and walks, a high-quality craft and food market, live street entertainment and numerous family activities all feature in this year's Ironbridge Gorge World Heritage Festival, a celebration of the area's designation as a World Heritage Site back in 1986. Demonstrations and displays celebrating the remarkable heritage of the Gorge, and plenty of hands-on art activities, ensure the event is both educational and entertainment-packed. Oh, and there's even the chance for youngsters to enjoy a donkey ride!



## Living History Weekend

Black Country Living Museum, Dudley, Sat 14 - Sun 15 September

This event at Dudley's award-winning museum allows visitors to step back in time and observe the Friends of the Black Country Living Museum as they forgo all modern-day comforts. For two whole days, volunteers will live exactly as people did at the end of the nineteenth century, undertaking everyday household tasks like cooking, cleaning and washing, but doing so without the aid of washing machines, hoovers and ready meals. Rather than us...



## Women In World War II Evening

Coventry Transport Museum, Thurs 12 September

Providing a fascinating insight into the roles played by women during World War Two, this Coventry Women's Research Group-inspired evening includes stories about women who worked in the land army, the city's auxiliary fire service, and who volunteered to work on the canals. The event also focuses on the correspondence of one young woman, whose writings ranged from describing the effects of the bombing to the experience of dealing with her fiancé being away in the forces.



## WESTON PARK INTERNATIONAL THREE DAY EVENT



**10th – 13th October 2013**

Bring the whole family into the countryside and walk in a thousand acres of rolling parkland. Shop in the Trade Stands or picnic in the park.

**Three Day Event timetable**

Thursday 10th & Friday 11th	Elegant dressage	£ 5 per person
Saturday 12th	Exhilarating cross country	£10 per person
Sunday 13th	Precision Show jumping	£ 5 per person

**One Day Event**

Sunday 13th Dressage, Show Jumping & Cross Country £ 5 per person

Weston Park, Weston-under-Lizard, Nr Shifnal, Shropshire  
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Birmingham MUSEUMS

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# Shrewsbury Country Music Festival

**Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2013 - 11<sup>am</sup> - 7<sup>pm</sup>**

Artists include:

- Paul Challinor
- Alan Williams
- Alan Herbert
- Tony Hughes
- Plen Evans
- Paul Duncan's Country Disco

Sat 21st: Talent Country Contest from 3.00pm - Winner plays main stage on Sunday!

**WEEKEND CAMPING available from Friday 20<sup>th</sup>**



Officially opened by Matthew Carr, former BBC Radio Shropshire Country Music Presenter

- A relaxing weekend in Shrewsbury's premier event venue with 53 acres of parkland - Flush toilets/showers available
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- Trade areas
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- Day Ticket Only: £8 Accompanied Children under 14 FREE
- Wet Weather Grandstand Option available

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The West Mid Showground is managed by the Shropshire & West Midlands Agricultural Society, Clary Hall, 10275

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**3 Day Festival in the heart of Shrewsbury**  
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# Events LISTINGS

For full listing information on Events, including times and dates, visit [www.whatsonlive.co.uk](http://www.whatsonlive.co.uk)

from  
**SUN 1 SEP**

**THE PIRATES! AN ADVENTURE WITH SCIENTISTS** A swash-buckling adventure featuring characters and sets from the Sony Pictures Animation and Aardman Animations Award-nominated blockbuster *The Pirates!*, until Sun 22 Sept, Thinktank at Millennium Point

**THROUGH THE RABBIT HOLE** Summer exhibition exploring the magical world of the Alice In Wonderland stories and illustrations, until Sun 8 Sept, Herbert Art Gallery & Museum, Coventry

**SUMMER TREASURE HUNT** Holiday fun, where participants can solve the clues around the park and win a medal, until Mon 2 Sept, Hawkstone Park & Follies, North Shropshire

**WILD WEATHER** Find out about the science and technology behind Britain's weather via interactive demonstrations and activities, and see how wind turbines generate electricity, until Sun 1 Sept, Enginuity, Ironbridge, Shropshire

**THE GREAT KENILWORTH QUEST** Hunt down the clues and put your knowledge to the test to solve the riddles and complete the challenge, until Sun 1 Sept, Kenilworth Castle, Warwickshire

**SUMMER HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES** Featuring hands-on heritage trails and activities, until Sun 1 Sept, Black Country Living Museum, Dudley

**SUMMER FUN TRAIL** Explore the court grounds and find the hidden clues. Solve the challenge and a special reward awaits! until Sun 1 Sept, Witley Court, Worcestershire

**SUMMER FUN TRAIL** Explore the castle grounds and find the hidden clues. Solve the challenge and a special reward awaits! until Sun 1 September, Stokesay Castle, South Shropshire

**SUMMER FUN TRAIL** Explore the grounds and find the hidden clues. Solve the challenge and a special reward awaits! until Sun 1 Sept, Wroxeter Roman City, Shropshire

**INSTALLATION OF GLASS GATES** BY ROBYN SMITH Previously shown at the

International Festival of Glass Biennale 2012 and Moor St Station as part of the Making Moves exhibition, Sun 1 - Mon 2 Sept, Worcester Cathedral

**VICTORY WEEK** Themed family activity trail and workshop where visitors can design a mini-commemorative plate to celebrate the end of the war, running until Sun 1 Sept, Coventry Transport Museum

**VW ACTION** A laid-back gathering of likeminded VW enthusiasts enjoying racing, RWYB, Show'n Shine, trade village plus evening family entertainment, until Sun 1 Sept, Santa Pod Raceway, Northampton

**T-PARTY FESTIVAL** until Sun 1 Sept, Telford Town Park, Shropshire

**JACOBITE REBELLION WEEKEND** Experience the life of an 18th century Redcoat at an authentic military encampment, as the soldiers prepare to quell the 1745 Jacobite Rebellion, until Sun 1 Sept, Avoncroft Museum, Bromsgrove

**LICHFIELD FOOD AND DRINK FESTIVAL** until Sun 1 Sept, Various locations throughout Lichfield

**PEAK PERFORMANCE TEST & TUNE DAY** RWYB with maximum track time and a fully prepped track for serious enthusiasts, Sun 1 September, Santa Pod Raceway, Northampton

**UPSTAIRS, DOWNSTAIRS: BEHIND THE SCENES TOUR** A chance to see parts of the house not normally open to the public, Sun 1 Sept, Weston Park, Staffordshire

**UK CYCLING EVENTS RACE** Sun 1 Sept, Three Counties Showground, Malvern

**MARKETPLACE - CONTEMPORARY CRAFT FAIR** Featuring a range of high-quality work from exciting designers across ceramics, jewellery, textiles, woodwork and visual art, Sun 1 Sept, mac - Midlands Arts Centre, Birmingham

**BRITISH MINI DAY** Sun 1 Sept, Uttoxeter Racecourse, Staffordshire

**CRAFT AND VINTAGE FAIR** Sun 1 Sept, Victoria Hall, Hanley, Stoke-on-Trent

**A STORY OF THE BATTLE OF WORCESTER** Mon 2 Sept, The Commandery, Worcester

**DISCOVER HIDDEN HER-**

**ITAGE MONTH** Discover strange and hidden things around Croome, Mon 2 - Mon 30 Sept, Croome, Worcestershire

**INTRODUCTION TO YOUR BIRMINGHAM** Guided tour with World Cultures Curator Adam Jaffer, Tues 3 Sept, Birmingham Museum & Art Gallery

**PRO RACER TEST & TUNE DAY** Wed 4 Sept, Santa Pod Raceway, Northampton

**STAFFORDSHIRE HOARD TOUR & VISIT TO CONSERVATION STUDIO** Event which gives an insight into Anglo Saxon times, Wed 4 Sept, Birmingham Museum & Art Gallery

**BAT WALK** Wed 4 Sept, Weoley Castle, Birmingham

**BRIDGNORTH BEER FESTIVAL** Thurs 5 - Sat 7 Sept, Severn Valley Railway, Kidderminster

**FIA CHAMPIONSHIPS: THE FINALS** Featuring top-fuel dragsters, drag bikes, jet cars, stunts, monster trucks, traders, sideshows and more family entertainment, Thurs 5 - Sun 8 Sept, Santa Pod Raceway, Northampton

**HERITAGE OPEN DAY 2013** Alan Mayes, Principal Architect Planner for Warwick District Council, gives an introduction to Heritage Warwickshire Open Days. No booking required, Fri 6 Sept, Leamington Spa Art Gallery & Museum

**4 SQUARES WEEKENDER** Arts-based event celebrating the opening of the new Library of Birmingham, Fri 6 - Sun 8 Sept, Oozells Square, Chamberlain Square, Centenary Square & Victoria Square, Birmingham

**MUCH WENLOCK WALKING WEEKEND** Fri 6 - Mon 9 Sept, Much Wenlock, South Shropshire

**WEM CARNIVAL** Sat 7 Sept, Bowensfield, Wem, North Shropshire

**HERITAGE OPEN DAY** Event organised by the Redditch Local History Society, Sat 7 Sept, Forge Mill Needle Museum, Redditch

**BEER AND MUSIC FESTIVAL** Sat 7 Sept, Fordhall Organic Farm, Market Drayton, Shropshire

**STAFFORD ARTS FESTIVAL** Arts, music, crafts, dance and much more... Sat 7 Sept, various locations around Stafford

**ART & HERITAGE FAIR** Sat 7 Sept, Shropshire Wildlife Trust, Shrewsbury

**MAKE AND TAKE ACTIVITY** Family craft sessions, Sat 7 Sept, Museum of the Jewellery Quarter, Birmingham

**THE BRITANNIA STADIUM**



Filmi Talkies - Wolverhampton

**MOTOR SHOW** Showcase of new and old cars, live entertainment, a funfair and much more... Sat 7 - Sun 8 Sept, Britannia Stadium, Stoke-on-Trent

**WYCHAVON OIL ENGINE PRESERVATION SOCIETY RALLY** Sat 7 - Sun 8 Sept, Avoncroft Museum, Bromsgrove

**COTTAGE GARDEN FESTIVAL** Admire the gardens at Anne Hathaway's cottage while enjoying demonstrations of rural crafts, Sat 7 - Sun 8 Sept, Anne Hathaway's Cottage, Stratford-upon-Avon

**CROCHET FOR BEGINNERS** Nina Kirkwood takes participants through the basics, as they relax and enjoy coffee at the same time. Take along your own crochet hooks and yarn. Please note, this workshop always sells out, so be sure to book early, Sat 7 Sept, The Roses Theatre, Tewkesbury

**STICKY SATURDAY: PAPER CRAFT** Free drop-in sessions for children aged four-plus, Sat 7 Sept, Broadfield House Glass Museum, Stourbridge

**FESTIVAL OF FIREWORKS** A pyrotechnic spectacular, Sat 7 Sept, Catton Hall, Staffordshire

**THE LEAGUE OF FRIENDS OF BRIDGNORTH HOSPITAL ANNUAL GALA** Featuring Punch & Judy, a magic show, a jazz band, stalls, tombola, refreshments and a Grand Draw, Sat 7 Sept, Bridgnorth Hospital, Shropshire

**GALLERY TOUR** Chance to find out more about the gallery and its collections, Sat 7 Sept, Wolverhampton Art Gallery

**1940S WEEKEND** Weekend of nostalgia, with music, stalls, displays, activities and fun for all the family, Sat 7 - Sun 8 Sept, Bantock House Museum, Wolverhampton

**ATTINGHAM FOOD FAIR** Sat 7 - Sun 8 Sept, Attingham Park,

Shrewsbury

**THE AUTUMN ANTIQUE CERAMIC & GLASS FAIR** Sat 7 - Sun 8 Sept, Museum of Royal Worcester

**HARVEST CRAFT WEEK-END** Sat 7 - Sun 8 Sept, Moseley Old Hall, Stafford

**WELSHPOOL ANTIQUES & COLLECTORS FAIR** Sun 8 Sept, The Flash Leisure Centre, Welshpool, Powys

**FILMI TALKIES** Celebrating one-hundred years of Indian cinema with free workshops, children's activities & Mehndi (henna). Sun 8 Sept, Blakenhall Community & Healthy Living Centre, Wolverhampton. Find out more on Facebook - JaijashnDance

**ON THE BUSES** This Bus rally, based at Bewdley Station, promises a superb display of historic commercial vehicles, vintage bus rides and trade stands, Sun 8 Sept, Severn Valley Railway, Bewdley, Nr Kidderminster

**IN THIS PLACE** A unique audio theatre experience which immerses participants into a world of stories & events connected to the landscape, Sun 8 Sept, Bog Visitor Centre, Stiperstones (Shropshire). This event also takes place on the 15th, 18th 22nd, 25th & 29th September

**CIRCUS SKILLS WORKSHOP** Try your hand at juggling, stilt & tightrope-walking, unicycles, plate-spinning and much more... Sun 8 Sept, Eastnor Castle, Herefordshire

Week Commencing  
**MON 9 SEP**

**FILM & TV QUIZ** Put your film knowledge to the test with the Lighthouse's monthly quiz. Plenty of prizes to be won! Mon 9 Sept, Light House Media Centre, Wolverhampton

**KNIT-NIGHT AT**

**LOCKWORKS** Evening of knitting, crochet and chat, Tue 10 Sept, Light House Media Centre, Wolverhampton

**FESTIVAL OF THE HORSE** Tues 10 Sept, Three Counties Showground, Malvern

**SALLY MORGAN ON THE ROAD** Evening of memoirs, Tue 10 Sept, Dudley Town Hall

**HISTORY OF THE MOLINEUX HOUSE** Free, drop-in talk by Billy Howe, Wed 11 Sept, Wolverhampton City Archives

**WOMEN IN WORLD WAR II EVENING** An enlightening evening of talks about the roles played by women in World War II, led by members of the Coventry Women's Research Group, who will be talking about some of the women featured in their books. Free, but advanced booking recommended, Thurs 12 Sept, Coventry Transport Museum

**HERITAGE OPEN DAYS** Thurs 12 - Sun 16 Sept, Various Wolverhampton city venues

**FIRE UP!** Evening of immersive theatre, art, music, poetry and dance, Fri 13 Sept, Gladstone Pottery Museum, Stoke-on-Trent

**LUDLOW FOOD FESTIVAL** Recognised as the foremost food festival in Britain, the Ludlow Food and Drink Festival features the very best of local fare, talks and demonstrations from the region's top chefs. The festival also features the now-famous Ludlow Sausage Trail, Fri 13 - Sun 15 Sept, Ludlow Castle, South Shropshire

**HERITAGE OPEN DAY** Take a guided tour of The Royal Pump Rooms with Senior Curatorial Officer Vicki Slade to find out about the building's vibrant history, and discover what goes on behind the scenes, Fri 13 Sept, Leamington Spa Art

# Events LISTINGS

For full listing information on Events, including times and dates, visit [www.whatsonlive.co.uk](http://www.whatsonlive.co.uk)

Gallery & Museum **LIFTING THE LID** Hour-long tour which reveals how the site's history has been preserved, Fri 13 Sept, Greyfriars, Worcestershire **BLACK AND WHITE BALL** For more information visit [www.thedinnerclubuk.com](http://www.thedinnerclubuk.com) Fri 13 Sept, Grosvenor Pulford Hotel and Spa, Pulford, Nr Chester **LOCKSMITH'S HOUSE FREE OPEN DAY!** Explore the home of the Hodson family and view demonstrations in the gaslit rooms, Sat 14 Sept, Black Country Living Museum, Dudley **STARS AND STRIPES COUNTRY & WESTERN DAY** Fundraising event for Macmillan Cancer Support, Sat 14 Sept, Tamworth Assembly Rooms **BATTLE OF BRITAIN WEEKEND** Nostalgic family weekend of events and activities for the whole family to enjoy, Sat 14 - Sun 15 Sept, RAF Cosford, Nr Wolverhampton **HERITAGE OPEN DAY** Sat 14 Sept, Chedham's Yard, Stratford-upon-Avon **HERITAGE OPEN WEEKEND** Chance to meet Mike Ford, Stafford's very own Court Artist, who'll be on hand to share his techniques, Sat 14 Sept, Shire Hall Gallery, Stafford **THE LAST LANCASTER!** Watch a flypast by a Lancaster Bomber, see a display of model aircraft from local modelling clubs, and listen to songs from the 1940s, Sat 14 Sept, The Potteries Museum & Art Gallery, Stoke-on-Trent **STAFFORD SAMARITANS 50TH ANNIVERSARY CONCERT** A special variety concert featuring some of the town's best-known performers, Sat 14 Sept, Stafford Gatehouse Theatre **BOULTON'S BRUM WALK & TALK** Chance to find out more about the area around Soho House, Sat 14 Sept, Soho House, Birmingham **STICKY SATURDAY: PAPER CRAFT** Free drop-in sessions for children aged four-plus, Sat 14 Sept, Dudley Museum & Art Gallery **EVENING SCENIC SPECIALS** Leisurely journey to Bridgnorth and back, Sat 14 Sept, Severn Valley Railway, Kidderminster **LIVING HISTORY WEEKEND** Sat 14 - Sun

15 Sept, Black Country Living Museum, Dudley **RUN WHAT YA BRUNG** The chance to take your car or motorcycle out on the famous quarter-mile dragstrip and test its performance limits in a safe and legal environment, Sat 14 Sept, Santa Pod Raceway, Northampton **MIDLAND GAME FAIR** An event for those interested in country pursuits, including world-class clay pigeon shooting, gundog competitions, falconry displays, ferret racing, fine arts, rural crafts and hundreds of trade stands, Sat 14 - Sun 15 Sept, Weston Park, Staffordshire **CHEESE & PICKLE FESTIVAL** Sat 14 - Sun 15 Sept, Coughton Court, Warwickshire **WAR AND PEACE** Guided tour which highlights items in the museum which reflects themes of war and peace. Ceramics, paintings and a WW2 Spitfire feature, Sat 14 - Sun 15 Sept, The Potteries Museum & Art Gallery, Stoke-on-Trent **SHADOW FACTORY BUS TOUR** A unique opportunity to take a guided bus tour of the sites of some of Coventry's shadow factories. Free, but advanced booking recommended, Sat 14 Sept, Coventry Transport Museum **YOUNG TUDORS** King Edward's School Birmingham Living History Group, Sat 14 - Sun 15 Sept, Avoncroft Museum, Bromsgrove **HERITAGE WEEKEND** Sat 14 - Sun 15 Sept, Cambrian Heritage Railways, Oswestry, North Shropshire **WORLDS APART DAY** Fourth annual family event which brings together four hundred-years of history and culture, Sat 14 - Sun 15 Sept, Aston Hall, Birmingham **HERITAGE OPEN DAY** Featuring as part of a nationwide initiative celebrating heritage and culture, Sun 15 Sept, Ford Green Hall, Stoke-on-Trent **SNAILBEACH LEAD MINE HERITAGE OPEN DAY** Sun 15 Sept, Snailbeach Lead Mine, Nr Minsterley **TOY COLLECTORS FAIR** Sun 15 Sept, Three Counties Showground, Malvern **BMW SHOW** Featuring huge club displays, Run What Ya Brung, classic and modified Show & Shine competi-

tions and loads of off-track entertainment. New Mini welcome, Sun 15 Sept, Santa Pod Raceway, Northampton **1940S ROOM: OPEN DAYS** Drop-in event inviting visitors to look around the 1940s room and find out about life during wartime, Sun 15 Sept, Bantock House Museum, Wolverhampton **HERITAGE OPEN DAY** Featuring as part of a nationwide initiative celebrating heritage and culture, Sun 15 Sept, Gladstone Museum, Stoke-on-Trent **HISTORIC LONGTON WALK** Join local historian Phil Rowley on a guided walk around Longton, beginning at the Gladstone shop, Sun 15 Sept, Gladstone Museum, Stoke-on-Trent **HERITAGE OPEN DAY WEEKEND** Sun 15 Sept, The Commandery, Worcester

## Week Commencing MON 16 SEP

**AN EVENING WITH TONY STOCKWELL** Mon 16 Sept, Crescent Theatre, Birmingham **DESIGN AND MAKE YOUR OWN CLOTHES** Learn how to sew or gain new skills in this series of six workshops with an experienced tutor. Design and make skirts, jackets, trousers, children's clothes or your own salwar or kameez. Places are limited, so call 01782 232323 to book. Each session is £5, or £25 for all six, Mon 16 Sept, The Potteries Museum & Art Gallery, Stoke-on-Trent **MEDFOOD LONDON ITALIAN MARKET** Tues 17 - Sat 21 Sept, Brindleyplace, Birmingham **DRIFT WHAT YA BRUNG** Chance to learn or practise drifting in safe and legal conditions on some of the Pod's thirty acres of open tarmac, with beginners, intermediate and advanced tracks open at the same time each DWYB day, Wed 18 Sept, Santa Pod Raceway, Northampton **TOUR OF BRITAIN** Fifth stage of Britain's biggest professional cycle race, Wed 18 Sept, City Centre, Stoke-on-Trent **THE PRE-RAPHAELITE - SEX, DRUGS AND POETRY TOUR** A tongue-in-cheek evening tour with a definite adult slant, led by the house steward, Thurs 19 Sept, Wightwick Manor, Wolverhampton **PEAK PERFORMANCE TEST & TUNE DAY** RWYB,



Toy Collectors' Fair - NEC, Birmingham

with maximum track time and fully prepped track for serious enthusiasts, Fri 20 Sept, Santa Pod Raceway, Northampton **LIFTING THE LID** Hour-long tour which reveals how the site's history has been preserved, Fri 20 Sept, Greyfriars, Worcestershire **DEREK ACORAH THE ETERNAL SPIRITS TOUR** Fri 20 Sept, Palace Theatre, Redditch **PROFESSOR ANTHONY BRIGGS** Introduction to the contradictory personality of Tolstoy through the catastrophic events and private dramas of the central characters caught up in the Napoleonic Wars, Fri 20 Sept, Artrix, Bromsgrove **PHOTOGRAPHIC STUDIOS IN VICTORIAN WOLVERHAMPTON** A talk by Frank Sharmar about how local studios photographed the people of Wolverhampton in Victorian times, an event illustrated by a number of photographs from the speaker's personal collection, Fri 20 Sept, Wolverhampton Art Gallery **ROCK & METAL CIRCUS FESTIVAL** Fri 20 - Sun 22 Sept, Stoke Prior Club, Birmingham **AUTUMN STEAM GALA** Fri 20 - Sun 22 Sept, Severn Valley Railway, Kidderminster **BACK TO THE 40S** Sat 21 - Sun 22 Sept, Grange Farm, Hilton, Bridgnorth, Shropshire **WEAVING WITH FABRIC WORKSHOPS** Large-scale weaving with recycled t-shirts and hula hoops, Sat 21 Sept, Bilston Craft Gallery **DR JOHNSON'S BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS** Featuring a live performance by local school musicians and choristers, Sat 21 Sept, Lichfield City

Centre **THE NATIONAL FINALS** MSA British Drag Racing Championship for Pro Mods and other supporting classes trackside, plus an American Car Nationals Static Display of USA vehicles, Sat 21 - Sun 22 Sept, Santa Pod Raceway, Northampton **OPEN COCKPITS EVENING** An annual event which allows visitors the chance to get 'up close and personal' with the workings of a wide range of the museum's aircraft, Sat 21 Sept, RAF Cosford, Nr Wolverhampton **MULTI-CULTURAL FUN DAY** Sat 21 Sept, United Reform Church, Shrewsbury **DUDMASTON ESTATE FUN RUN** Sat 21 Sept, Dudmaston Estate, Quatt, Nr Bridgnorth **PRINTMAKING EVENT WITH ERIC GASKELL** This linocut workshop for beginners looks at making a print from a single colour. Take along drawings and photographs which can be used as the basis for the design, Sat 21 Sept, Leamington Spa Art Gallery & Museum **IRONBRIDGE GORGE WORLD HERITAGE FESTIVAL** Sat 21 Sept, Ironbridge, Shropshire **SCARLETOIR FASHION AND BEAUTY EVENT** Expect to find one-off jewellery pieces, natural skincare, bespoke clothing, accessories, one-off handbags, nail care, homework, make-up and collectibles. Sat 21 Sept, Carrs Lane Church Centre, Birmingham **STICKY SATURDAY: PAPER CRAFT** Free drop-in sessions for children aged four-plus, Sat 21 Sept, Red House Glass Cone, Stourbridge **SONY XPERIA UK B-BOY CHAMPIONSHIPS** Hosted

by Crazy Legs (Rock Steady Crew) and Afrika Islam (Universal Zulu Nation), Sat 21 - Sun 22 Sept, O2 Academy, Birmingham **NEWCOMEN ENGINE** The only full-sized working replica of the world's first steam engine billows into life! Sat 21 - Sun 22 Sept, Black Country Living Museum, Dudley **AUTUMN FAIR** Featuring traders and makers offering colourful and unusual gifts, artisan foods and crafts, Sat 21 - Sun 22 Sept, Trentham Gardens, Stoke-on-Trent **SWINGING BELLES** Life drawing with a difference...illustrative illustrating, fun with pens and pencils, Sat 21 Sept, Herbert Art Gallery & Museum, Coventry **TOY COLLECTORS' FAIR** Six hundred stalls of toys, trains and models at Britain's biggest toy collectors fair, Sun 22 Sept, NEC, Birmingham **FLEA FAIR** Sun 22 Sept, The Three Counties Showground, Malvern **1940S ROOM: OPEN DAYS** Drop-in event inviting visitors to look around the 1940s room and find out about life during wartime, Sun 22 Sept, Bantock House Museum, Wolverhampton **SHUGBOROUGH BRIDAL FAIR** The largest bridal fair in Staffordshire, featuring demonstrations and an abundance of ideas to help couples plan their big day, Sun 22 Sept, Shugborough Historic Working Estate, Staffordshire **ORIGINS OF MIDDLE EARTH - GUIDED WALK** Follow in the footsteps of the young JRR Tolkien, author of Lord Of The Rings and The Hobbit, as you're taken on a guided talk

around the lost hamlet of Sarehole and the natural splendour of Moseley Bog, Sun 22 Sept, Sarehole Mill, Birmingham  
**WARWICKSHIRE COUNTRYSIDE DAY** Sun 22 Sept, Hatton Country World, Warwick  
**FARM FUN DAY** Featuring a host of rural activities, children's crafts, farmyard songs and performance with Indigo Arts, Sun 22 Sept, Forge Mill Needle Museum, Redditch  
**INDIAN SUMMER BAZAAR** Showcasing the best of Shropshire's independent traders, Sun 22 Sept, The Hive, Shrewsbury  
**SUMMER FARM FUN DAY** Sun 22 Sept, Forge Mill & Bordesley Abbey, Worcestershire  
**FALCONRY DAY** Sun 22 Sept, Weoley Castle, Birmingham

Week Commencing  
**MON 23 SEP**

**DESIGN AND MAKE YOUR OWN CLOTHES** Learn how to sew or gain new skills in this series of six workshops with an experienced tutor. Design and make skirts, jackets, trousers, children's clothes or your own salwar or kameez.

Places are limited, so call 01782 232323 to book. Each session is £5, or £25 for all six, Mon 23 Sept, The Potteries Museum & Art Gallery, Stoke-on-Trent  
**MOSELEY ARTS MARKET** Showcase of work from talented local designers and makers, as well as visiting artists, Thurs 26 Sept, Birmingham Cathedral Grounds  
**AUTUMN BEER FESTIVAL** Fri 27 Sept, The Guildhall, Lichfield  
**WOMEN AND POP ART SYMPOSIUM** Event held in conjunction with the museum's Pauline Boty exhibition, Fri 27 Sept, Wolverhampton Art Gallery  
**FLOATING MARKET** Birmingham's first floating market, Fri 27 - Sun 29 Sept, Brindleyplace, Birmingham  
**THE CYCLE SHOW** The UK's biggest cycling event, Fri 27 - Sun 29 Sept, NEC, Birmingham  
**A PLACE IN THE SUN LIVE** Fri 27 - Sun 29 Sept, NEC, Birmingham  
**CELEBRATING EID** Featuring traditional Qawwali music, Palestinian dancers and more... Sat 28 Sept, The Potteries Museum & Art Gallery, Stoke-on-Trent  
**CLASSIC VIRGINS DAY** A new 'experience day' which provides an intro-

duction to the classic car scene, Sat 28 Sept, Heritage Motor Centre, Gaydon, Warwickshire  
**SHREWSBURY MORRIS DANCER'S DAY OF DANCE** Sat 28 Sept, various sites around Shrewsbury  
**GEORGIAN WEEKEND** Journey back to Compton's past, experience aspects of life and meet characters from the Georgian period. Plenty of music and activities to enjoy, Sat 28 - Sun 29 Sept, Compton Verney Gallery, Warwickshire  
**HISTORIC BOATERS GATHERING** The canal at the museum village plays host to a gathering of traditional working narrow boats. Cargoes will be transported around the museum's canal and volunteers will demonstrate the way people used to live on the boats. Enjoy traditional musical entertainment and crafting activities, Sat 28 - Sun 29 Sept, Black Country Living Museum, Dudley  
**RUN WHAT YA BRUNG** The chance to take your car or motorcycle out on the famous quarter-mile dragstrip and test its performance limits in a safe and legal environment, Sat 28 Sept, Santa Pod

Raceway, Northampton  
**POPSTALGIA...NOT 'ARF!** Featuring fifty Ford Populars at Millennium Place, Sat 28 Sept, Coventry Transport Museum  
**BROOCH MAKING WITH MELANIE TOMLINSON** Design and make your own brooch using simple metal techniques. Suitable for beginners. Booking essential. Sat 28 Sept, Shire Hall Gallery, Stafford  
**STYLE BIRMINGHAM LIVE** Three-day fashion spectacular, hosted this year by X Factor finalist Rylan Clark and model and presenter Emma Willis, Sat 28 Sept, Birmingham Town Hall  
**CRAFT CLUB** A forum for anyone interested in making things together, Sat 28 Sept, Wolverhampton Art Gallery  
**BAVARIAN EVENING** Sat 28 Sept, Tree Tops Pavillion, West Midland Showground, Bewdley  
**MALVERN AUTUMN SHOW** Sat 28 - Sun 29 Sept, Three Counties Showground, Malvern  
**BROTHER CADFAEL WEEK-END** A series of events celebrating the 100th anniversary of the birth of Ellis Peters, Sat 28 - Sun 29 Sept, various locations in Shrewsbury, including Shropshire Wildlife

Trust, Drapers Hall, Shrewsbury Abbey, Shrewsbury Library and Haughmond Abbey  
**DEER STUDY CENTRE WEEKEND** Find out about the black fallow deer living on the Trentham Estate, Sat 28 - Sun 29 Sept, Trentham Monkey Forest, Stoke-on-Trent  
**THE GREAT SHROPSHIRE BAKE OFF** Sat 28 - Sun 29 Sept, Brompton Cookery School, Atcham, Shrewsbury  
**JAPSHOW FINALE** The finale event of the year for Japanese car enthusiasts, with Jap drag series and more, Sun 29 Sept, Santa Pod Raceway, Northampton  
**MAC BIRMINGHAM FOOD MARKET** Monthly event selling delicious produce, homemade cakes, spices, artisan products and much more... Sun 29 Sept, mac - Midlands Arts Centre, Birmingham  
**HARVEST FESTIVAL** The annual harvest will be celebrated in a traditional fashion with a display of produce and a thanksgiving service in the Mission Church, Sun 29 Sept, Blists Hill, Ironbridge, Shropshire  
**BODYBUILDING 2013 UK Open Championships** Suitable for persons aged fourteen-plus, Sun 29 Sept, The Assembly, Leamington Spa

**DOLL & TEDDY FAIR** Featuring up to ninety quality stands full of antique, new, artist and collectable dolls and teddies, plus restorers, supplies and accessories, Sun 29 Sept, National Motorcycle Museum  
**APPLE DAY** Sun 29 Sept, Avoncroft Museum, Bromsgrove  
**1940S ROOM: OPEN DAYS** Drop-in event inviting visitors to look around the 1940s room and find out about life during wartime, Sun 29 Sept, Bantock House Museum, Wolverhampton  
**STAFFORDSHIRE CLASSIC CAR & BIKE SHOW & AUTOJUMBLE** Sun 29 Sept, Uttoxeter Racecourse, Staffordshire  
**2ND ANNUAL CHILLI FESTIVAL** Family fun day featuring plenty of themed activities, including a chilli-eating contest, a best chilli sauce contest, chilli crafts for kids, demonstrations and workshops, Sun 29 Sept, Dorothy Clive Garden, Market Drayton, Shropshire  
**WEDDING FAYRE** Sun 29 Sept, Great Hall, Worcestershire County Museum

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 A RECIPE FOR FINE FOOD AND GOOD COMPANY

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*For the more discerning unattached person, age 35+ (no age limit)*

*Events weekly include dining out, dinner dances, black tie balls, theatre, weekends away and holidays abroad.*

**NOT A DATING AGENCY**

**BLACK & WHITE BALL**  
 Grosvenor Pulford Hotel Nr CHESTER  
**13 September**

**ANNIVERSARY BALL**  
 Park Royal Hotel WARRINGTON  
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# Spice

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7 days-a-week



Wouldn't you love to be invited to join a thriving club of 3000 friends in the West Midlands (and 15,000 nationally!) who really know how to enjoy themselves?

Well here's your chance. We're a friendly, local action, adventure and social group offering a wide variety of opportunities for our members to have fun together.

There's literally something for everyone; be it the latest adrenaline pumping outdoor activities... weekends & holidays... sports nights... workshops on fascinating subjects... or social nights including theatre, parties and 'behind the scenes' visits to all sorts of unusual places you've always wanted to go.

Events take place at locations across the West Midlands. Lots of our members are single and come along on their own, but we also welcome couples and groups of friends.

There's no hidden agenda – we're just one happy family of friends. Members are all ages (18–80!) and from all walks of life.

The one unifying factor of anyone joining Spice is that they want to live life to the full.

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email [claire@spicebham.com](mailto:claire@spicebham.com)  
or visit [www.spicebham.com](http://www.spicebham.com)

## What Our Members are up to in September 2013

### Sunday 1 September

- Cornden Hill/ Mitchells Fold Stone Circle Ramble
- Coton In The Elms Easy Ramble
- Disc Golf Experience
- Don't Diet - Change the way you Eat
- Hangliding - Tandem Experience by Air Tow
- Microlighting Experience Flight
- Mountain Biking - Follow the Dog Trail
- Paragliding - Tandem Experience
- Paragliding Day Course

### Monday 2 September

- Badminton For Fun - Worcester
- Spice Book Club

### Tuesday 3 September

- Cafe Ceramica Experience
- Preview Evening (Arden Hotel)
- Stand Up Paddle Boarding
- Ten Pin Bowling (Broadway Plaza)

### Wednesday 4 September

- Badminton For Fun - Coventry
- Badminton at NIA
- Ben E King at the Jam House
- Earlswood Twilight Ramble + Supper
- Jogging Evening in Solihull
- Makeup Skills Lesson with Esther Marie
- My life with the Corgis and other Royals!
- Only Spice on Horses!
- Tamworth and Lichfield Pub Night

### Thursday 5 September

- Curry and Quiz - Solihull
- Halesowen and Quinton Pub Night
- Hedgehog Appreciation Evening
- Jewellery Quarter Evening Walk
- Scottish Dancing Workshop
- Tennis for Absolute Beginners (Indoor)

### Friday 6 September

- Bath Cycling Weekend
- Halton Gill Barn Weekend
- Ironbridge and Shropshire Hills Walking Weekend
- Oddfellows Dinner Shuffle
- Sailing Weekend around the Solent

### Saturday 7 September

- Acting for Beginners Workshop
- Colour U Confident Workshop
- Jewellery Making with Beads
- Lichfield Proms + Chorley Easy Ramble
- Marvellous Mammals Tour
- Ramble, Scramble and Dangle
- Saturday Night Fusion Buffet
- Spice Does Tesco Wine Club Fair
- Static Trapeze Workshop
- Western Style Rifle Shooting Afternoon
- White Water Rafting at Bala

### Sunday 8 September

- Abseiling for the Terrified
- Bewdley + Arley Moderate Ramble
- Cinema Night
- Croquet Party
- Echills Wood Railway - Behind the Scenes
- Golf - Learn to Play in a Day (Warwickshire)
- Hooola Hooping
- Introduction to Rowing
- Learn to Horse Ride in a Day
- Ragley Hall Rambling and Sketching
- Six Dales Moderate Ramble
- Spice Choir - Develop your Singing Ability
- Tandem Skydive from 12,000ft
- Walk with Wolves - Bedford
- Zip World - Ultimate Zipline Experience

### Monday 9 September

- Badminton For Fun - Worcester
- Badminton at Barr Beacon
- Run in the Park
- Snooker Night and Buffet

### Tuesday 10 September

- Drumming Experience for Beginners
- Indoor Climbing at Redpoint
- Solihull Pub Night
- St Giles Hospice - Charity Talk

### Wednesday 11 September

- Badminton For Fun - Coventry
- Badminton at NIA
- Breadmaking Workshop at Hindleys
- Magic for Beginners
- Sutton Pub Night

### Thursday 12 September

- Assay Office Tour
- Comedy Night At The Barton Marina
- Dining at The Marwood
- Nine Steps to Happiness
- Unihoc (Mixed Indoor Hockey)

### Friday 13 September

- Barn Dance and Supper
- Camping Afloat - Grand Union Canal to Warwick
- Sea Kayaking with the Seals

### Saturday 14 September

- Ballroom Dance Masterclass - Waltz
- Chestnut Centre Otter Guided Tour and Posh Picnic
- Chocolate Experience
- Farm Talk and Walk
- Itihaas Contemporary Indian Dinner Shuffle
- National Memorial Arboretum and Lunch
- Rally Driving Lesson
- Silly Dale Moderate Ramble
- The History Boys
- White Water Kayaks
- Yoga and Pilates for a New You

### Sunday 15 September

- Archery and Rifle Shooting
- Balloon Flight
- Compton Verney Gallery Visit and Tea
- Eyam 'The Plague Village' Moderate Ramble
- Forest Segway on Cannock Chase

**“It's an opportunity to get to do lots of things you wouldn't otherwise do... and meet lots of people you wouldn't otherwise meet”. Jamie, Spice member**

# HOLIDAYS

# LEISURE

# SOCIAL



*Flying*



*Outdoor Pursuits*



*Walking*



*Motor Sports*



*Water Sports*



*Wild & Wacky*

3

- Go Ape in Cannock
- Moseley Village Walk and Indian Banquet
- Otter Talk and Guided Walk Slimbridge
- Victorian Gardens Walk and Afternoon Tea

### Monday 16 September

- Bromsgrove Pub Night
- Preview Evening (Sutton)

### Tuesday 17 September

- Cookery School Evening and Dinner
- Educating Rita
- Indoor Bowls Taster Session with Coaching
- Kings Heath Pub Night

### Wednesday 18 September

- Badminton For Fun - Coventry
- Badminton at NIA
- Chinese Meal and Quiz - Sutton Coldfield
- Fencing for Beginners
- Jogging Evening in Solihull
- Secrets of the Holy Grail

### Thursday 19 September

- Beer and Skittles Night in Tamworth
- Beggar and Co at the Jam House
- Grace Dieu Priory Full Moon Ghost Walk
- Living With Dogs
- Tapas Evening and Flamenco Show
- Warwick and Leamington Pub Night

### Friday 20 September

- Autumn Black Tie Ball Weekend
- Greek Dance Workshop
- Hastings and East Sussex Coast Walking Weekend
- Morgan Motors Visit
- Sailing Weekend from Poole-Jurassic Coast & Weymouth
- Scotland's Castles and Glens Weekend

- Spice Hits Town at the Jam House

### Saturday 21 September

- Aerial Silks Workshop
- Anderton Boat Lift Experience
- BBC Birmingham B7ehind the Scenes
- Canadian Canoe Adventure
- Caving at the Symonds Yat Caves
- Chocolate Experience
- Meeting your True Soul Mate
- New Members Bridgenorth Treasure Hunt
- Saturday Night with Shakespeare
- Sausage Making Workshop
- The View from The Shard - London
- Ultimate Dog Owners Day

### Sunday 22 September

- Abbots Bromley Moderate Ramble
- Adventure Trekking Day
- Bridgenorth + Severn Way Ramble
- Clay Pigeon Shooting
- Dinghy Sailing
- Hovercraft Driving on Land and Water
- Jazz and Blues, Real Ale and Supper Cruise
- New Members Easy Morning Ramble
- SAS Laser Combat

### Monday 23 September

- Badminton at Barr Beacon
- New Members Mix and Mingle

### Tuesday 24 September

- Ladies Football Training
- Run in the Park
- Sex and Contraception in 1580

### Wednesday 25 September

- Badminton For Fun - Coventry
- Badminton at NIA

- Martial Arts for Beginners
- Quiz
- Synchronised Swimming for Beginners

### Thursday 26 September

- Bullet Proof Confidence
- Rodizio Rico Dining Experience at The Cube
- Sporting Night and Supper
- Unihoc (Mixed Indoor Hockey)

### Friday 27 September

- Chill Out Bike Amble Weekend
- Cinema Night - Rubery
- Elan Valley Walking/Social Weekend
- Southern Peak District Walking Weekend
- Treasure Island

### Saturday 28 September

- Bridge Abseil and Ladder Climb
- Bushcraft for Beginners
- Field Archery Day
- Getting the life you always wanted but were afraid to ask!
- Helicopter Lesson
- Lazy Cow Private Dinner
- Makeover or Boudoir Photography Session
- Poker Night at Lea Marston
- Tenbury Ramble

### Sunday 29 September

- Acrylic Painting Intro. Day
- Astwood Bank Easy Ramble
- Cheerleading Workshop!
- Llama and Mule Trekking with Lunch
- Malvern's Explorer Ramble
- Peak Classic Caves Day
- World's Wackiest Racers

### Monday 30 September

- Adventure Golf at Star City!

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# Eating Out

## New bar for Birmingham

A new craft beer bar is to open in Birmingham, courtesy of three of the biggest names in Midlands brewing and cuisine. Simpsons' Andreas Antona, Purity Brewing Company managing director Paul Halsey and former Mitchells & Butlers director Martin Hilton have pooled their experience to create Pure Bar & Kitchen, which will be sited along Waterloo Street. The new venue aims to tap into 'the growth of craft and cask beer', while at the same time offering customers food from 'a carefully selected menu'. Dozens of jobs are expected to be created at Pure Bar & Kitchen when it opens either later this year or in early 2014.



## Not on our patch...

Shrewsbury Council has voiced its concern at the prospect of two American diners opening on the outskirts of the market town. Citing traffic jams and 'the Americanisation of Shrewsbury' as the reasons for its objection, the council has questioned the long-term benefits of having Frankie & Benny's and Chiquito's restaurants opening to the north of the town. It's predicted that up to sixty jobs could be created should the development go ahead.

## Michelin-starred chef set to skydive for local charity

Richard Turner of Turners in Harborne, Birmingham, is to take part in the Queen Alexandra College annual skydive on 7 September. Richard has been keen to lend his support to the Harborne-based national charity since opening its new facilities - a cafe and therapy centre - earlier this year. The dive poses a significant challenge for Richard, who has a fear of heights. "I have issues on the top floor of the Bull Ring because it's so high up," he says. "I can't imagine what I'm going to be like in a plane at thirteen thousand feet in the sky!" For more information about Queen Alexandra College and how you can support Richard and 'Team QAC', contact Sarah Caldwell on 0121 428 5064 or scaldwell@qac.ac.uk



## Fahrenheit fires up...

### REVIEW

Nothing really matches up to the sheer audacity of a Las Vegas casino. A billion dollar industry, behemoth hotels, glamour, glitz, showbusiness and dry desert heat. Casinos in the UK can't compete, especially given the current economic climate. Nonetheless, I still have a soft spot for them. The likes of Broadway Casino and Genting are bringing the glamour and excitement back to UK gaming - and after the recent launch party at Genting Casino on Birmingham's Hagley Road, I decided to make a return visit. This Genting Casino has recently had a bit of a refurb. Its clientele is not as male-dominated as you'd expect, and the chic new champagne bar & lounge certainly makes the stylish ladies feel at home. Over a glass of chilled

prosecco, I checked out the new Fahrenheit restaurant's bar and grill menu, which featured an eclectic choice of steaks, chicken and seafood dishes, all prepared with some impressively deft touches. The restaurant is a smart addition to the place; boasting muted colours and mood lighting, it's not overtly stylised. The dishes on the menu are another matter; all great works of style and substance. My choice for starter was easy; the seared black pearl scallops served with strawberries, balsamic vinegar and rocket (£8). I love my scallops, but I've never had them served with strawberries before. These certainly didn't disappoint; fresh and meaty, they were beautifully plated and provided a nice contrast of textures and flavours. My specials main was the roasted rump of English lamb with wild garlic

mashed potato and red wine jus (£18). The meat was perfectly cooked, and sat on a throne of the creamiest mash, the dish prettily decorated with purple pansies. A hearty portion that was immensely satisfying. Dinner was rounded off with a nice slice of clementine & coconut cheesecake with gingernut crumb (£5). Great food, well priced and in nice surroundings. Looks like Genting's new restaurant has found a winning formula.

Anita Champaneri

Food: ■■■■■  
Service: ■■■■■  
Ambience: ■■■■■  
Overall value: ■■■■■  
**OVERALL** ■■■■■

**Genting Casino**  
1 Norfolk Rd  
Edgbaston  
Birmingham  
B15 3PS  
Tel: 0121 454 3725

# Restaurant **REVIEWS**

## Italian flavour at Steakhouse

If memory serves me correctly, the restaurant which was previously located in the premises of the Buffalo Steak House was a rather dingy establishment, where waiters would appear out of the darkness to greet you. What a transformation! White walls, vivid turquoise contrasts, bright lights, dazzling white tablecloths and a well-stocked bar at the far end (which had presumably always been there, but I'd never noticed it before).

We were seated at a lovely table in the window, from where we could people-watch while perusing a menu which had a decidedly Italian flavour to it. That said, it was then explained to us that the menu shouldn't be taken too literally. The Buffalo Steak House has been open for four months now, and some meals which haven't proved popular have been replaced



with alternative choices. All suppliers are said to be local, and where supplies have been difficult to obtain, more readily available replacements are sourced. So you need to ask the staff for up-to-date information about what's on offer.

For starters, my wife had beautifully cooked and well-presented baby asparagus with a delicious hollandaise sauce. She was very pleased with her choice. I went for the pork ribs in a sticky barbecue sauce. The sauce was delicious and the pork fell off the bones. The portion was generous, which meant I had to leave some for fear of filling up prematurely!

For mains, I tried a Buffalo Steak Special, which was absolutely delicious - wonderfully tender and tasty sirloin in a deliciously creamy white wine sauce. My wife had a fillet steak with pepper sauce, and a side of fries. We shared the chips, which were hand-cut and perfectly cooked. Both meals were served with roasted veg, which was delightful. Again, the fillet steak was perfectly cooked, tender and tasty.

Unfortunately, the desserts didn't quite match up to the starters and steak. The baked cheesecake was slightly overdone, a little dry, and served with a chocolate sauce which didn't enhance it. The sticky toffee pudding with custard, however, was absolutely the right choice. Fantastic!

We chose a Merlot to go with our meal, which was full and fruity, great value and a great accompaniment.

Our opinion of the Buffalo Steak House is largely good. Staff, excellent; ambiance, excellent; food, good; value for money, good. The main thing that a steak house needs to get right is the steak, and this it did. Ac-



cording to the menu, the steak is locally sourced and hung for twenty-eight days, and it tastes all the better for it. They try to serve it not as good pub grub, with onion rings and peas, but as a better quality meal, with more imaginative sides.

Will we go back again? Yes. Probably to enjoy their pre-theatre menu before seeing a show at the nearby Theatre Severn.

David Evans

Food:	■ ■ ■ ■ ■
Service:	■ ■ ■ ■ ■
Ambience:	■ ■ ■ ■ ■
Overall value	■ ■ ■ ■ ■
<b>OVERALL</b>	■ ■ ■ ■ ■

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