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OLYMPIC CITY 2012

An evening of stirring sounds and pageantry
BEATING RETREAT



A floodlit military spectacular by
The Massed Bands of the Household Division

9 & 10 June at 9pm Horse Guards Parade SW1

visit www.guardsbeatingretreat.com for information
and tickets at £15 or call 0844 847 2435

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Welcome to London

You may be surprised to find an officer of the British Army welcoming you to London this month. However, the Army provides some of the most famous and visible tourist attractions in London through its provision of Royal Guards, principally by the troops of the Royal Household – ‘The Guards’. Every day, the Guard changes at Buckingham Palace, St James’ Palace, Windsor Castle, The Tower of London and Horse Guards. These events are splendid examples of British pageantry with horses, foot soldiers and military music.



Additionally, this month, there are major other events, such as Beating Retreat musical spectaculars by the Guards and The Queen’s Birthday Parade (‘Trooping the Colour’) which is a major parade on Horse Guards Parade and The Mall with a Gun Salute by the King’s Troop Royal Horse Artillery.

These events are some of the most famous portrayals of British heritage and pageantry – the very fabric of the Nation. Indeed, the Guards are one of the most well-known symbols of London and the United Kingdom. A visit to London would be incomplete without experiencing at least one military ceremonial event.

June is a fantastic month in London. The ceremonial back-drop provides a part of the heritage and pageantry but London is rich in experiences from across history, architecture, music, art, cuisine, shopping, nightlife and the general bustle of a major city with a wide variety of cultures represented.

London is constantly changing so you will find new things to see and do even if you are a frequent visitor. But do not miss the enduring heritage of Royal pageantry that is on show every day.

I wish you a most enjoyable stay.

Major General William Cubitt CBE

General Officer Commanding London District and
Major General Commanding the Household Division

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HMS VICTORY RETURNS TO TRAFALGAR

The new commission for the Fourth Plinth in Trafalgar Square, Nelson's Ship in a Bottle, by leading Anglo-Nigerian artist Yinka Shonibare, was unveiled on Monday, the eve of Africa Unity Day.

Commissioned by the Mayor of London, Nelson's Ship in a Bottle is a scale replica of HMS Victory (1:30) in a bottle, measuring 4.7m in length and 2.8m in diameter. The artwork is the first commission on the Fourth Plinth to reflect specifically on the historical symbolism of Trafalgar Square, which commemorates the Battle of Trafalgar, and links directly with Nelson's column. It is also the first commission by a black British artist.



Yinka Shonibare. Photo: James O Jenkins

The ship's 37 large sails are made of richly patterned textiles commonly associated with African dress and symbolic of African identity and independence. Tying together historical and global threads, the work considers the legacy of British colonialism and its expansion in trade and Empire, made possible through the freedom of the seas and new trade routes that Nelson's victory provided.



MUSEUM MODEL RAIL SHOW EVEN BIGGER THIS YEAR

One of the capital's biggest model railway events will be back at Firepower, in the Royal Military Museum Woolwich, over the weekend of 5-6 June. The annual Model Railway Exhibition will bring together some of the most impressive model railway layouts around. Twenty two incredibly detailed and extensive model rail layouts will be on show and operating throughout the weekend for the event which attracts enthusiasts and the general public from miles around.

The model rail layouts will represent locations from around the world and different eras while over 50 trade stands will be selling everything the model rail enthusiast needs from books and tools and of course model railways.

For details, call 020 8855 7755.

VIRGIN ATLANTIC JET LAG AND FLIGHT TRACKER APPS

Virgin Atlantic has released two essential apps which will be must-have travel companions for all globetrotters worldwide. The first, called 'Jet Lag Fighter', is an iPhone and iPod touch app which has been specifically developed to help travellers overcome the effects of jet lag. The second, called Virgin Atlantic Flight Tracker, will help track in real-time, the location of each of the airline's aircraft around the globe and retrieve the latest arrival and departure information as well as flying club information.

SCIENTISTS AT SPEAKERS' CORNER

In a bid to cut out the middle man and answer some of science's burning questions, the Zoological Society of London (ZSL) is gathering together the UK's leading scientific brains to talk at Speakers' Corner in Hyde Park.

On Monday 14 June (noon to 15.00), scientists will take to their soapboxes at the world's most famous debating arena. They'll be tackling three broad themes of Earth Evolution, Earth Challenges and Earth Solutions, but they'll be expecting the public to lead the debate. Scientists at Speakers' Corner will cut through the scientific jargon and give you the truth behind the headlines. So, if you're fed up of reading about 'climategate' and hearing that the earth's going to be swallowed up by a black hole created in Switzerland, join the debate to get the facts first-hand.

Science is all about asking questions – now it's your turn! To find out more visit www.zsl.org/speakerscorner

BUPA LONDON 10,000

The 2010 Bupa London 10,000 is the third year of the event running through some of London's most famous sites, starting and finishing in the Mall with the backdrop of Buckingham Palace.

Mo Farah will defend his Bupa London 10,000 title in the capital on Bank Holiday Monday against top class opposition, while two of Kenya's finest athletes will battle for honours in the women's race.

Monday 31 May hopes to see a record number of runners at the start of this year's Bupa London 10,000, the proposed route for the London 2012 Olympic Marathon.

The race begins at 10.00.



BEATING RETREAT ON HORSE GUARDS PARADE

On two successive evenings each year in June, a magnificent pageant of military music, precision drill and colour takes place on Horse Guards Parade in the heart of London when the Massed Bands of the Household Division carry out the ceremony of Beating Retreat.

Visitors can see over 400 musicians drawn from the Household Cavalry, the Bands and the Massed Corps of Drums of the Foot Guards, the Corps of Drums of 2nd Battalion Royal Regiment of Fusiliers and the Guns of the King's Troop Royal Horse Artillery in the magnificent setting of Horse Guards Parade, SW1.

HRH The Duke of Edinburgh will take the Salute on 9 June at 21.00 and HRH The Duke of Kent on the 10 June. It is an unforgettable evening as the musicians, drummers and pipers

perform this age-old ceremony. The ceremony of Beating Retreat has its origins in the practicalities of early warfare when the drum was used for all signals on the battlefield. Beating the Retreat was a signal for troops to disengage from combat as light faded. This custom was also used to warn outlying troops to withdraw to the confines of the encampment before the picquets were set for the night.

One of the first references to the custom of Retreat is in the 'Rules and Ordnances for the Warre' dated 1554, where it is called 'Watch Setting'. In 1727 Humphrey Bland's 'Treatise of Military Discipline' stated: 'Half an hour before the gates are to be shut, generally at the setting of the sun, the Drummers of the Port Guard are to go upon the ramparts and beat a Retreat to give notice to those without that the gates are to be shut.'

There appeared to be some confusion between Retreat and another custom of 'Tattoo' which was a beating of drums within the billeting areas to order the troops to their quarters. Twenty years later, whilst in Flanders during the war of the Austrian succession, The Duke of

Cumberland made the first clear distinction between Retreat and Tattoo, when he ordered 'The Retreat is to be daily at Sunset and the Tattoo is to be beat at a later hour as ordered by the Commandants of individual encampments'.

The original call of Retreat was beaten by drums alone, and it was some years before fifers were added to play tunes. The bugle came later still and the present ceremony of having a band parade is a modern innovation to add spectacle.

Today, Beating Retreat, has become a major event in the Army's ceremonial calendar, delivering an evening of spirited marches as well as poignant and evocative hymns and anthems of special significance to our fighting forces everywhere.

For further information and tickets, telephone 0844 847 2435 or visit www.guardsbeatingretreat.com

TROOPING THE COLOUR



The Queen's Birthday Parade will this year be held on Saturday 12 June on Horse Guards Parade when The Colour will be Trooped by 1st Battalion Grenadier Guards in the presence of Her Majesty.

Precisely as the clock on the Horse Guards Building strikes eleven, the Royal Procession arrives and The Queen takes the Royal Salute. The parade begins with the Inspection, The Queen driving slowly down the ranks of all eight Guards and then past the Household Cavalry.

After the event, the Royal Family gathers on the balcony of Buckingham Palace to watch an RAF flypast.





30,000 VISITORS WELCOMED AT BRUNSWICK VILLAGE FETE

The Brunswick's version of the quintessential Village Fete went with a bang this weekend as the sun shone and crowds gathered in the centre on Saturday 15 May. It was full of families and visitors enjoying the vast array of stalls, and entertainment on offer. Visitors were able to get involved with everything from trying their luck at the traditional Village Fete games like Hoopla, the Coconut Shy and even Hook a Duck which was held in the Brunswick's own pond!

Morris Men and Maypole Dancers wowed the crowds whilst the Bloomsbury Brass Band provided the perfect atmosphere to sit and enjoy the music on one of the 30 hay bales brought in specially for the special event. Other activities included a special Brunswick football tournament, played by 90 young people, from 6 different youth centre teams from across Camden, as well as a Fair Ground ride, Balloon Race and Beer Tent. The activities were free but donations were collected for Coram's Fields, the Brunswick's charity of the year. Generous visitors helped the event raise nearly £1000.



Tradition, pageantry and wonderful blooms in the Royal Parks make June in London a feast for the eyes.

BUTTERFLIES, BUGS AND BEASTIES AT ROYAL BOTANIC GARDENS KEW

In 2010 the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew is celebrating the UN's International Year of Biodiversity and throughout the summer visitors are invited not only explore the stunning Gardens in full bloom, but to also delve into the hidden world of plant pollination and discover how plants work together with animals and insects to sustain life.

Stephen Hopper, the Director of the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew says, *'This summer we are celebrating the relationship between flowering plants and their pollinators with a stunning butterfly collection in the Princess of Wales Conservatory. Pollinators play a critical role in maintaining their biological communities and ultimately biodiversity – the intricate web of life on which we all depend. This fantastic display in the glasshouse and a new interactive play area will teach children*



the influence that pollinators have on their favourite plants, down to their shape and colour. Learning whilst they play in Kew's beautiful surroundings, they will embark on a biodiversity adventure, gaining a glimpse into a field of study still being explored by scientists at Kew and elsewhere today.'

Kew's Princess of Wales Conservatory will be transformed into a haven for Butterflies, Bugs & Beasties. See the spectacle of three butterfly zones, one steamy and flourishing with tropical orchids, another bursting with lush ferns and the last planted with sweet nectar beds. All will host clouds of fluttering butterflies and moths.

Throughout the rest of the glasshouse, among the exotic plants visitors will

encounter giant outside sculptures of bugs and beasties, that seem to hover, swoop and dive into the plants they pollinate. These large scale sculptures of insects, birds, and bats, with visual and audio interpretation, will explain the amazing relationships between flowering plants and their pollinators. There are over 30,000 different flowering plant species in the world, all unique and pollinated in a variety of ways.

The Nash Conservatory is hosting a photographic exhibition of stunning images from leading wildlife photographer Heather Angel's book, Wild Kew. The book is a seasonal exploration of the rich diversity of wildlife found in Kew Gardens. While Kew's 300 acres are filled with over 19,000 different species of plants, what is less well known is that it is also a haven for wildlife, such as the threatened stag beetle.

Chris Watson's Whispering in the Leaves is an extraordinary sound-art installation that will transport visitors to the dense rainforests of South and Central America through the recorded sounds of their native wildlife. Diffused through 80 speakers, situated within the tropical foliage of the Palm House, Whispering in the Leaves will immerse visitors in a dynamic, spatial soundscape of primate calls and birdsong, backed with a shimmering wall of insect sounds.

Young explorers can discover the new children's landscape, shaped like a plant, and nestled in the grounds of Queen Charlotte's Cottage in Kew's Conservation Zone. Journeying through this interactive landscape aimed at encouraging natural play, kids can learn about the importance of every part of a plant. They can enter via the roots, walk through the stem, hide between the fungi, get lost in the leaf maze, spin seeds, and watch birds make homes in the bird houses. At every turn, there is something new to learn – hunting for clues, solving puzzles, and enjoying science in a fun and interactive environment.

www.kew.org/summer



David Marshall.

LONDON JEWELLERY WEEK 2010

London Jewellery Week 2010 will take place from 7–13 June in venues across London. Celebrating London's unique position in the world of jewellery design, production and as a retail destination, this year's event is being led by the industry itself.

A group of cornerstone events will form the basis of a week of activities, encouraging visitors to experience and celebrate London's diverse jewellery scene. The full range of events, including special collection launches, exhibitions, receptions, seminars and fashion shows, will provide something for everyone.

The four main events will support new designers, feature established names and give visitors a unique experience of two of London's traditional jewellery quarters.



Argent of London.

Treasure: a one-of-a-kind selling exhibition to be held at Victoria House on Kingsway, featuring over 80 of the best contemporary designers showcasing their latest bespoke collections.

The Goldsmiths' Company: from the UK's premier and oldest supporter of the jewellery trade, Goldsmiths' Hall will be the venue for a number of special events during the week, including the launch party, a Salon Privé fashion show and its renowned Day of Knowledge. For more than 700 years, the Goldsmiths' Company and the Assay Office London have played significant roles in the London Jewellery trade. A hallmarking workshop for consumers at Goldsmiths' Hall will take place on Monday 7 June from 10.15 to 13.30. The workshop has been tailored specifically to educate the general public about the importance of hallmarking.

Hatton Garden: one of the oldest jewellery quarters will host the family-friendly Hatton Garden Street Festival, featuring open-workshops, launches, activities for kids and opportunities to learn about diamonds, stones, jewellery and the history of the area. The Hatton Garden Street Festival is spearheaded by Holts Academy/Platform.

Green Street Jewellers' Association: based in the heart of Newham, the GSJA represents the traditional centre for London's Asian jewellery trade and will host a series of activities, including the launch of Discover, a new consumer jewellery magazine.

A number of high-profile Patrons from the world of design have lent their support to the week including Sir Terence Conran, Shaun Leane and Nadja Swarovski, Jonathan Kendall, Philip Treacy, Michael Wainwright, Sheila Teague and Gary Wright.

SHO Fine Jewellery will be showcasing their beautiful jewellery at the Treasure exhibition taking place from 11-13 June at Victoria House, Bloomsbury, as well as at the Leblas Ethical Jewellery Event, 149 Sloane Street, SW1. Sarah Ho, founder of SHO Fine Jewellery, has developed a



The Pearly Prince elephant.

unique style of 'East meets West' capturing her Euro-Asian family routes, successfully merging iconic Chinese symbolism and quirky British heritage.

SHO was recently commissioned by Swarovski to design the Pearly Prince elephant for the 2010 Elephant Parade. One half is covered in Swarovski crystal pearls with the other side showing a pearl and crystal encrusted skeleton, symbolizing what may happen to the Asian elephants if action is not taken to protect them. This beautiful elephant will reside in Coult's window in Charing Cross during June to dazzle passers by.

Pure Jewels, based in Green Street, is committed to supporting young designers within the jewellery industry and will launch the 'Heritage Collection'.

Six young jewellery designers have created a collection of jewellery inspired by the Pure Jewels brand, each exploring a different aspect of the company history. A remarkable family journey from humble beginnings in east Africa, Pure Jewels is emerging as an important brand in the fast-growing Green Street jewellery quarter, appealing to South Asian and Western tastes.

For further information, visit the website www.londonjewelleryweek.co.uk



Heritage Collection piece by Katie Rowland, which won a Lonmin Award this year.



LSO President Sir Colin Davis.

SIX WEEKS OF SIZZLING SUMMER NIGHTS WITH THE LSO

The London Symphony Orchestra's Summer Nights take place at the Barbican from 23 May until 1 July, six weeks of a remarkable range of concerts that offer something for everyone. From favourite symphonies by Dvorák, Shostakovich and Bruckner to the great concertos for violin and piano, choral works, a Family Concert for 7–12 year olds, and new works which take concert-goers on a fresh adventure with many of the world's greatest artists – this is a spectacular series over 40 summer days.

One of the opening concerts features the acclaimed Swedish trumpeter Håkan Hardenberger playing HK Gruber's Aerial

which was written for him (3 June). On 6 June, the extraordinary composer/performer Thomas Adès will conduct his own works including Powder her Face suite from his opera, These Premises are Alarmed and... but all shall be well alongside the UK premiere of Gerald Barry's La Plus Forte and Bartók's Piano Concerto No 1 with soloist Zoltán Kocsis.

Mark Elder will conduct a programme of Dvorák, Britten and Shostakovich on 10 June; the Britten Violin Concerto will be performed by the remarkable violinist Janine Jansen.

On 16 June, Xian Zhang will conduct Rachmaninov Piano Concerto No 3 with Vladimir Feltsman as soloist. Peter Eötvös will conduct a wide ranging programme on 20 June which opens with Bach (arranged Webern) Fugue in Six Voices, Helmut Lachenmann Double (Grido II) for string orchestra, with a climax of Brahms Piano Concerto No 1 with the inimitable Maurizio Pollini soloist. Haydn The Seasons will be LSO President Sir Colin Davis's major event in the LSO Summer Nights on 27 June.

Tickets for this summer season from Iso.co.uk/summernights

KABUKI – FEATURING EBIZO ICHIKAWA XI AT SADLER'S

Kabuki superstar Ebizo Ichikawa XI returns to Sadler's Wells from 4–15 June, following his hugely acclaimed performance in 2006. He brings with him both long tradition, as a direct descendant of the 17th century Ichikawa acting dynasty, and a thoroughly modern glamour that has attracted new audiences to this riveting art form.



Photo: Shochiku.

Dating from the early 17th century, Kabuki is a highly stylised performing art that employs flamboyant costumes, elaborate make-up and exaggerated body movements to create a sense of the spectacular. Combining acting, dancing and live traditional music, Kabuki is as rich as its heritage.

Within the strongly hierarchical ranks of the families of kabuki performers, 32 year-old Ebizo Ichikawa XI is relatively young but has an important status, being the eldest son and heir apparent of Danjuro Ichikawa XII, the current holder of one of the most famous and prestigious hereditary names in the kabuki world. Ebizo also has a very high profile in modern day Japan, where he is a household name and is enormously popular amongst young people.

Ticket Office: 0844 412 4300 or from the website at www.sadlerswells.com

PAUL LEWIS

Tuesday 8 June

Royal Festival Hall at 7.30pm

Mozart – *Adagio in B minor K540*

Schumann – *Fantasie in C op.17*

Liszt – *Vallée d'Obermann*

Beethoven – *Sonata in C, 'Waldstein', Op.53*

Tickets £9-£50

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www.southbankcentre.co.uk

BBC SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA WINS RPS MUSIC AWARD FOR OPERA

The BBC Symphony Orchestra has become the first orchestra to win the prestigious Royal Philharmonic Society Music Award for Opera and Music Theatre for its concert performance of Martinu's opera Juliette, given at the Barbican in March 2009 under Chief Conductor Jiří Belohlávek, despite strong competition in the category from English National Opera and Birmingham Opera.

Paul Hughes, General Manager of the BBC Symphony Orchestra said: *'To be shortlisted for two RPS Awards amongst such illustrious company is exciting enough, but to win the award for Opera and Music Theatre is amazing – and historical that the award has never gone to an orchestra before. A commitment to opera is central to our programming and for that to be recognised by this award is just the most thrilling conclusion to what has been a great season.'*

The BBC Symphony Orchestra has built a formidable reputation for opera in concert in recent years with such memorable highlights as John Adams's The Death of Klinghoffer (2002), Wagner's Tristan und Isolde (2002-3), Barber's Vanessa (2003), Ligeti's Le Grand Macabre (2003), Janacek's The Adventures of Mr Broucek (2007) – the recording of which won a Gramophone Award – Tippett's The Knot Garden (2005), and Judith Weir's The Vanishing Bridegroom (2008). A forthcoming highlight is a complete performance of Smetana's opera The Bartered Bride under Jiří Belohlávek at the Barbican on 20 May 2011.

The annual RPS Music Awards, presented in association with BBC Radio 3, are the UK's most prestigious recognition of achievement in the field of live classical music. Awards, in thirteen categories, are decided by independent panels consisting of some of the music industry's most distinguished practitioners. www.rpsmusicawards.com

FIFTEEN PREMIERES ROBERT HUGILL'S 'WHEN A MAN KNOWS'

Successful contemporary music group, Fifteen will give the premiere concert performance of Robert Hugill's new one act opera, 'When a Man Knows', with libretto based on the award-winning play of the same name by Scottish playwright Alan Richardson. The concert to launch this modern opera takes place on Sunday 13 June at St. John's Church, Waterloo, SE1.



The central premise of 'When a Man Knows' is that a man is tied up in a warehouse. But why is he there? The shocking truth is revealed. Starring soprano Deborah Stoddart as the woman, baritone Dario Dugandzic as the man, and with Sarah Barham and John Beaumont as the male and female

chorus, the instrumental ensemble is conducted by David Roblou, musical director of Midsummer Opera.

Alan Richardson's play was first staged at the Performing Arts Centre, Elizabeth College, Hobart, Tasmania in 2003, and received its UK premiere at the Kings Head Theatre, Islington in 2004. Deborah Stoddart's recent appearances have included title roles in Norma and Turandot, and as Agathe in Der Freischütz, with Midsummer Opera.

Robert Hugill of FifteenB says, *'This gripping new opera uses just four singers and four instrumentalists to create a taut music drama. The play has been aptly described as 'dark, disturbing and imaginative – a compelling and intriguing piece of writing.'*

Tickets are available on the door.

Piccadilly Market

Perfect for Gifts

Piccadilly market is held in the charming setting of the courtyard at St James's Church – just yards from Piccadilly Circus. A popular destination for over 20 years, the market offers an exciting selection of antiques, arts & crafts, jewellery, souvenirs, fashions, furnishings and more.

Craft Market open
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Green Park

RUINED

Almeida Theatre

Laden with several awards, including the coveted Pulitzer prize for drama, Lynn Nottage's harrowing war drama, *Ruined*, fails to deliver the knockout punch I was expecting after its successful, highly touted New York run. But it's a winner on points.

Set in an East African brothel on the jungle outskirts of a Congolese mining town, it focuses on the pitiable plight of women in the Kivu provinces in general and, in particular, four of them who service the brothel's clients.

Chief among them is Mama Nadi (Jenny Jules), the wily owner of the premises. A survivor very much in the mould of Brecht's *Mother Courage*, she prides herself on running a clean house, insisting that her customers empty their guns of ammunition before settling down for a night of pleasure.

Two of the women are newcomers to the establishment. Both victims of the Democratic Republic of Congo's marauding soldiers, they've been "rescued" by a local salesman called Christian (Lucian Msamati), an uncle to one of the girls who begs Mama Nadi to take them in.

Both have been 'ruined' (meaning genitally disfigured through acts of wanton brutality). Sophie (Pippa Bennett-Warner), however, still has her looks and can sing, while Salima (Michelle Asante) is pregnant and on the run from her husband. It speaks volumes for the horrendous plight of Congolese women that being made prostitutes in the safe-haven of a brothel can be construed as an act of charity.

The fourth girl, and most high-profile of the whores is Josephine (Kehinde Fadipe).

Though Ms Nottage, has written that *rara avis* of the American theatre, a serious play about a serious subject, she hasn't forgotten to leaven it with humour. Nor can she resist giving it a sentimental ending. But the core of the play, for whose research Nottage interviewed several Congolese women



Jenny Jules (Mama) and Lucian Msamati (Christian) in *Ruined*. Photo: Tristram Kenton.

fleeing their country's brutal armed conflict, is definitely no laughing matter.

I did not see the New York production, so I cannot make comparisons. But despite the play's heartbreaking subject matter, I left the Almeida stirred but not shaken.

Some of the cast are less convincing than others - notably Jenny Jules's Mama Nadi, it's not a bad performance; just too light weight. It fails to reconcile the woman's cold instinct for survival with her more compassionate moments. The role also needs a more imposing physical presence than she's able to bring to it.

And as several of the supporting characters are sketchily drawn, this, combined with the relative inexperience of much of the company, undermines certain moments in director Indhu Rubasingham's so-so staging of the play.

The one standout newcomer is Kehinde Fadipe as Josephine. Not unlike the great Josephine Baker in both physical appearance and in the way she moves and dances, Ms Fadipe, who only last year graduated from RADA, already has a quality you'll find hard to resist.

The physical production, with its smoothly executed revolving set by Robert Jones, and with atmospheric lighting and sound from Oliver Fenwick and Christopher Shutt respectively, could not be improved upon.

No masterpiece but still worth seeing.

CLIVE HIRSCHHORN

PAUL LEWIS RECITAL DEBUT

British pianist Paul Lewis is hugely celebrated for his considered and profound interpretations of the Viennese classics as testified by his award-winning Schubert Sonata series and his Beethoven Sonata cycle. In his Royal Festival Hall recital debut on Tuesday 8 June (19.30), he performs Mozart and Beethoven alongside two examples of overwhelming romanticism – Schumann's *Fantasie in C* and Liszt's headily Byronic *Vallée d'Obermann*.

'Lewis's sense of structure and constant awareness of what the harmonic rhythm is doing allows him to generate tension in the most subtle ways.'

(The Guardian)

Plans for 2010 and beyond for Paul Lewis include a busy international schedule of recitals, concerts with the London Symphony, LA Philharmonic, Chicago Symphony, a solo recital tour of Australia with *Musica Viva*, duo recitals with Mark Padmore and Steven Osborne, and the start of a two year Schubert project from 2011.



Paul Lewis


At the BBC Proms this year Paul will play all five Beethoven concertos in four concerts across the season. Future recording plans feature Beethoven's *Diabelli Variations*, the complete Beethoven Concertos with the BBC Symphony Orchestra and Jiri Belohlavek, and the three Schubert song cycles with Mark Padmore, all for *Harmonia Mundi*.

Tickets for his Southbank Centre concert are available on 0844 847 9910 or at www.southbankcentre.co.uk



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The Lord Mayor's State Coach, 1757 © Museum of London.



MUSEUM OF LONDON CALLING

On 28 May, the Museum of London unveils the Galleries of Modern London: a spectacular £20 million redevelopment telling the story of London and its people from 1666 to the present day.

Three years in the making, five new galleries reflect how the vibrant and unflagging energy of Londoners has shaped this global city. The Galleries of Modern London offer a new and inspiring vision of the world's greatest city, and place the Museum at the heart of London ahead of the 2012 Olympics.

Over 7,000 objects, together with interactive exhibits, film and changing displays, transport visitors through London's tumultuous history, rich with drama, triumph and near disaster. From the devastation of the Great Fire of 1666 to the wonders of invention at the Great Exhibition in 1851, the Suffragettes' fight for voting rights to the fashions which made the sixties swing, the galleries are an experience of rebirth and renewal, of excess and of struggle. They embody the creative spirit of the capital. Every artefact tells a personal story as Londoners reinvent their city, and are changed by it.

London comes alive in the new galleries. A stunning 48m LED chandelier ellipse encircles the light-filled Sackler Hall, hosting a newly commissioned film installation of life in the city by The Light Surgeons. Visitors can step inside an 18th century debtor's prison cell whose walls are inscribed with the graffiti left by unfortunate prisoners, or stroll around recreated Georgian pleasure gardens where mannequins wear exquisite period costumes, along with specially commissioned masks and hats by Philip Treacy. A 240 year-old printing press spills news stories across the gallery ceiling in an innovative collision of new and old technologies (*pictured right*).

The glamour and addictive consumerism of London's emerging West End is paraded through beautiful theatre outfits and a stunning art deco lift from Selfridges. But these face a room wallpapered with the maps of Charles

Booth, a meticulous colour-coded record of the poverty of life in the shadows of the richest city in the world. The voices of London's poor and dispossessed are heard. Affecting artefacts, such as the Seelig trunk, which contained all the worldly goods of a refugee family, speak to the many who have sought sanctuary and new lives in the city.

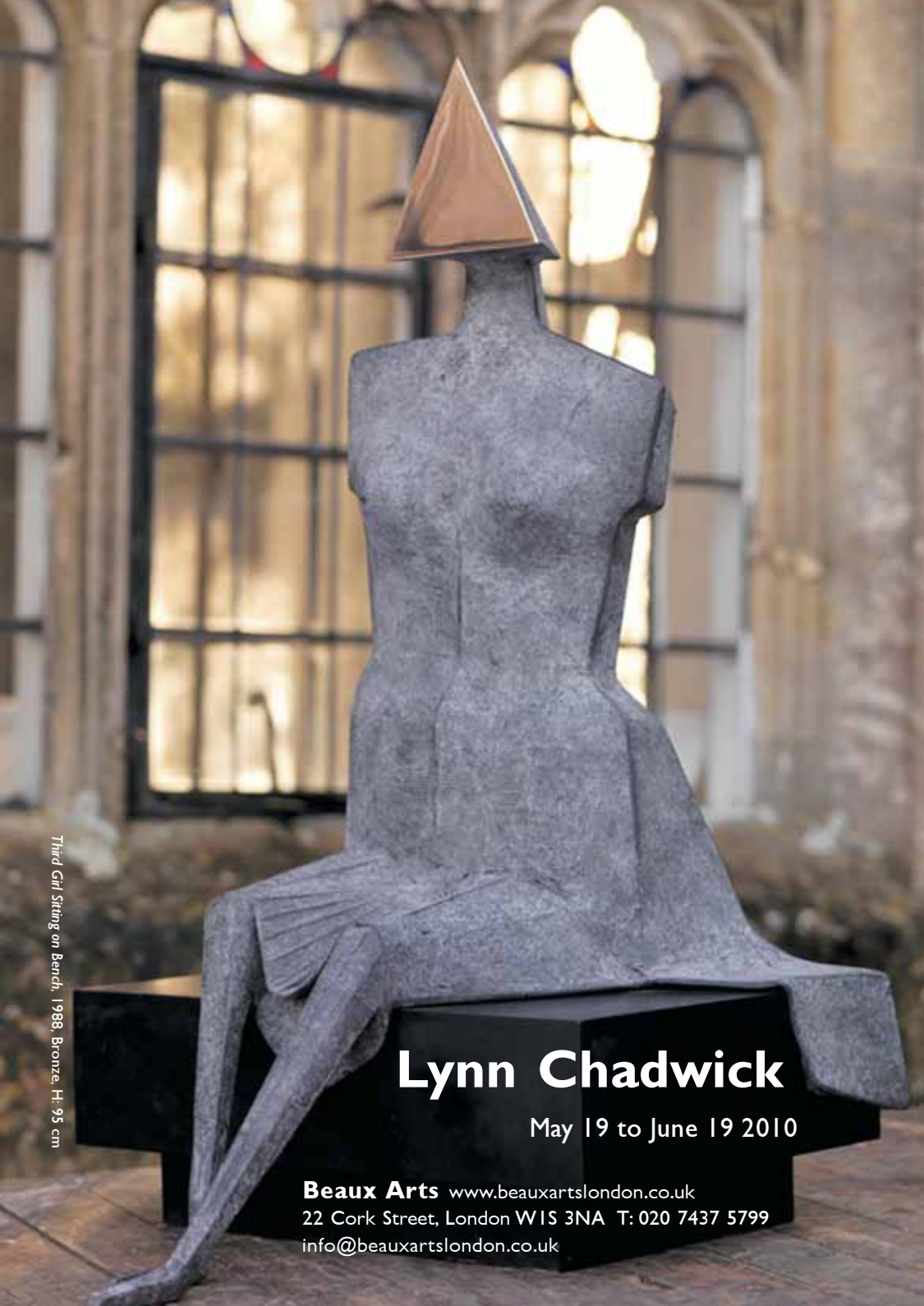
An immersive war room, with a suspended bomb, captures a blitzed city and provides an innovative outlet for the Museum's extensive oral history collections. Iconic objects abound; a red telephone box, a bowler hat, coronation union jacks, and the spectacular Lord Mayor's State Coach, illuminated for the first time in its own windowed gallery.

The Galleries of Modern London show London reaching out to the world and the world coming to London. They are part of a vision to create a revitalised world-class Museum that is a must see destination for all visitors who want to get beneath the skin of the city.

www.museumoflondon.org.uk



Expanding City © Museum of London. This symbolises the printing revolution that occurred in London during the period.



Third Girl Sitting on Bench, 1988, Bronze, H: 95 cm

Lynn Chadwick

May 19 to June 19 2010

Beaux Arts www.beauxartslondon.co.uk
22 Cork Street, London W1S 3NA T: 020 7437 5799
info@beauxartslondon.co.uk



Lee Sun –Do, *Tranquility of Perfect Deportment*, 2007, courtesy X Power Gallery, Beijing, Paris and Beverley Hills.

THE RUSSIAN EASTERN & ORIENTAL FINE ART FAIR

Now in its second year, the newly expanded Russian, Eastern and Oriental Fine Art Fair at the Park Lane Hotel from 9–12 June will feature more than 50 exhibitors, showcasing 1,000 years of fine art. *'With virtually every fine art fair in Europe focusing on Western art, The Russian, Eastern and Oriental Fine Art Fair is the only event of its kind to concentrate on fine art from the East.'* said Peter London, Fair Director.

Following the success of last year, the 2010 Fair has expanded to include Eastern and Oriental art. Reflecting the enthusiasm in London for art from Iran, India, China, Korea and Vietnam, specialist galleries will show a stunning mix of traditional and modern contemporary fine art from these regions.

Key works on display include an important painting, *The Firebird*, by Natalia Goncharova (1881–1962). In 2008 Goncharova's, *Les Fleurs*, set the record for a female artist at auction when it sold for £5.5 million (\$10.8 million) at Christie's London. Two living masters of Indian art, Maqbool Fida Husain and Syed Haider Raza, will also be represented at the Fair, as will Lee Sun-Don, the only artist from Taiwan to have shown at the Venice Biennale.

The timing will take advantage of the huge additional influx of art buyers into London for the major sales at Christie's, Bonhams and MacDougall's the same week.

THE THAI FESTIVAL LONDON

The aromatic hubbub of food stalls arrive in London on 12 & 13 June, as The Thai Festival comes to Ealing Common, bringing an authentic taste of South East Asian finery. Permeate your sense of adventure within the steam, smoke and scents as you experience time honoured as well as modern fusion Thai cuisine cooked before you with all the energy and spontaneity of a bustling street market.

Stalls will be hosted by local Thai restaurants in greater London, whose head chefs will be creating dishes inspired by years of commitment to only the very best recipes and freshest of ingredients



With dozens of Thai craft stalls as well as Thai classical dancing, a Thai music circle, Thai Boxing demonstrations and Buddhist Temple exhibition, take the time to discover the heart of Thailand's ancient culture and history. Moreover, the festival promises to entertain the whole family, with ornate fruit and vegetable carving, as well as face painting for younger enthusiasts.

If it's a bit of relaxation you're after, what better than to forget the weary limbs of sightseeing and treat yourself to a thorough Thai shoulder and foot massage with a traditionally trained specialist.

For details, telephone 07799 725311.

VICTORIA & ALBERT: ART & LOVE

The current exhibition at The Queen's Gallery, Buckingham Palace, is the first ever to focus on Queen Victoria and Prince Albert's shared enthusiasm for art. Bringing together more than 400 items from the Royal Collection, it celebrates the royal couple's mutual delight in collecting and displaying works of art, from the time of their engagement in 1839 to the Prince's untimely death in 1861. The exhibition also challenges the popular image of Victoria – the melancholy widow of 40 years – and reveals her as a passionate and open-minded young woman.

For Victoria and Albert, art was an important part of everyday life and a way they expressed their love for each other. Around a third of the objects in the exhibition were exchanged as gifts between the couple to mark special occasions.

Prince Albert's taste was influenced by his German ancestry and his experience as a student in Florence and Rome. He led a revival of interest in early German and Italian painting at a time when 'the Primitives' were largely ignored.

The royal couple were regular visitors to the annual Royal Academy exhibition and frequently made purchases. In 1855, Victoria bought Cimabue's *Madonna Carried in Procession* by Frederic Leighton, the first work by the artist to be shown at the Academy.

The artist Edwin Landseer's skilful depiction of animals greatly appealed to Victoria and Albert, who surrounded themselves with a large assortment of pets. Victoria and Albert were important patrons and collectors of the new art of photography, and lent their support to the Photographic Society, which was established in 1853. They commissioned hundreds of photographs of their family, friends and Household, and used the medium to record places they had visited together – a counterpart to their *Souvenir Albums of watercolours and drawings.*

www.royalcollection.org.uk or by telephone on 020 7766 7301.

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WOMEN BEWARE WOMEN

At the end of Thomas Middleton's 1621 tragedy *Women Beware Women*, there are more dead bodies on stage than in the final moments of *Hamlet*. It's the gory, Grande Guignol climax to a rude, crude Jacobean romp in which lust, greed, incest, murder, sexual infidelity and rape are the order of the day – and night.

It all begins when a rather nerdish and indigent Florentine bank clerk called Leantio (Samuel Barnett), elopes with the beautiful Bianca (Lauren O'Neil), a wealthy heiress, and marries her.

Unbeknownst to the hapless Leantio, Bianca has caught the eye of the libidinous Duke of Florence (Richard Lintern), who, with the conniving help of the reptilian widow Livia (Harriet Walter), lures Bianca to his courtly residence where he rapes her.

Livia also cunningly contrives a marriage between her niece Isabella (Vanessa Kirby) to a punkish idiot (Harry Melling) while at the same time paving a way for her brother Hippolito and Isabella to have an incestuous affair on the side.

And if that's not damage enough, she then sets her sites on poor Leantio whom she seduces with promises of wealth and status.

Though it is the scheming of the kind of treacherous woman the play's title asks you to beware, it's the Duke and Hippolito who benefit most from her machinations.

As in most Jacobean tragedies, immorality comes at quite a price with the web of deceit in which the protagonists are ensnared resulting in murder most foul.

Director Marianne Elliott stages the play's bloody final act as an orgiastic masque in which actions speak more ghoulishly than words. She's assisted by Lez Brotherston's set which goes into permanent revolve mode during this elaborate and inventively staged dance of death.

Once again the full resources of the Olivier's remarkable facilities are effectively employed with particularly striking use being made of a quartet of impressive chandeliers.

Yet the most memorable scene is the intimate chess-playing encounter between Livia and Leantio's frumpy old mum (Tilly Tremayne) which takes place while the Duke is having his way with Bianca in another part of the court. Unaware that her daughter-in-law is being ravished against her will, the old woman listens innocently to the chess-related metaphors and sexual innuendos spoken not so innocently by the knowing Livia.



It's staged in modern dress and with an accompanying jazz score. But as the atmosphere at its very core is so endemic to the morals, mores and machinations of Jacobean tragedy, to take it out of the period that defines it seems pointless.

Still, it's a generally well-staged revival with a deliciously subtle yet poisonous performance from Harriet Walter, who, with Harry Melling's preening, doltish idiot, stands out from a cast that's merely routine.

National Theatre Lyttelton.

CLIVE HIRSCHHORN

THE FANTASTICKS

A brand new production of the classic musical, *The Fantasticks*, opens in London next week at the Duchess Theatre. *The Fantasticks* first played in New York nearly fifty years ago and has since become the longest running show of any kind in the United States and the longest running musical in the world. It has played in over 2000 cities and towns in the States, and internationally, it has been staged in 67 countries.

The Fantasticks tells an allegorical story, loosely based on the play *The Romancers* (Les Romanesques) by Edmond Rostand, concerning two neighbouring fathers who put up a wall between their houses to ensure that their children fall in love, because they know children always do what their parents forbid. After the children do fall in love, they discover their fathers' plot and each goes off to experience the world. Finally they return to each other and the love they had, having learned from the world to recognise their true feelings.

Elements of the musical are drawn from the story of *Pyramus and Thisbe*, its story winding its way through Shakespeare's *Romeo and Juliet* and *A Midsummer Night's Dream* as well as Donizetti's *L'Elisir d'Amore* and Rostand's play.

Up and coming stars, Lorna Want and Luke Brady will play the young lovers in this new production, joined by a hugely experienced and impressive cast which includes musical theatre favourites David Burt and Clive Rowe in the roles of the two fathers, as well as Edward Petherbridge and Paul Hunter who will play the roles of Henry and his sidekick Mortimer. The character of El Gallo around whom much of the twists and turns of the plot happen will be played by Hadley Fraser and the role of the mute by Carl Au.

BEYOND THE HORIZON & SPRING STORM AT THE COTTESLOE

This thoughtful, cross-cast pairing of early works from the pens of Tennessee Williams and Eugene O'Neill provides a welcome opportunity to catch the UK premiere of the former's *Spring Storm*, and to witness their initial explorations of themes which were to recur again and again in their later and better known dramas.

Set on a Connecticut farm, O'Neill's *Beyond the Horizon* (his first full length play, which premiered in 1920 and won a Pulitzer Prize) depicts two devoted brothers, one of whom loves the land whilst the other plans a life of travel, adventure, books and poetry. Both have fallen for the same girl (Liz White's Ruth, her youthful anticipation turning to worn down bitterness and regret as the years pass) and, in trying to do the right thing by each other, end up crushing their own dreams and damaging themselves and their loved ones.

Written in 1937 when he was a student, and then discarded, *Spring Storm* (Williams' second play) also has a young girl at the apex of a problematic romantic triangle. A forerunner of *Blanche Dubois*, *Southern belle Heavenly* (White again) is irresistible attracted to Michael Thomson's virile, blue-collar Dick (the names say it all) but is also reluctant to dismiss the wealth and social approval which marriage to well-educated, well-connected Arthur would provide. Arthur, in turn, dallies heartlessly with the spinsterish librarian (Anna Tolputt) who (intellectually, at least) would, in all probability, suit him far better. There's tragedy here, too, but also humour – in Heavenly's coquettish attempts to seduce Michael Malarkey's ineffectual Arthur and, especially, in Jacqueline King's deliciously funny portrayal of her unstoppably snobbish mother.

Each play stands alone, but seen together they highlight the similarities between two giants of the American theatre and prove a feather in the caps of both the hosting National and Northampton's Royal & Derngate where Laurie Sansom's sensitive and atmospheric productions originated.

Louise Kingsley



BILLY ELLIOT EXTENDS BOOKINGS TO APRIL 2011

Based on the Oscar nominated film, *Billy Elliot the Musical* is an inspirational story of one boy's dream to realise his ambitions against the odds. Set in the North East of England against the background of the historic 1984/85 miners' strike, Billy pursues his passion for dance in secret to avoid disapproval of his struggling family.

Billy Elliot features music by Elton John, book and lyrics by Lee Hall, is directed by Stephen Daldry with choreography by Peter Darling. Box Office: 0870 895 5577.

Pictured: Billy Elliot (Oliver Gardner) – photograph Alistair Muir.

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REGENT'S PARK OPEN AIR THEATRE OPENS 2010 SEASON

The 2009 production of *Hello, Dolly!* at Regent's Park Open Air Theatre, won three Laurence Olivier Awards at this year's ceremony, taking awards for Best Musical Revival, Best Actress in a Musical (Samantha Spiro) and Best Theatre Choreography (Stephen Mear).

Following a record-breaking season Artistic Director Timothy Sheader is this summer joined by directors Philip Franks, Steve Marmion and Liam Steel to present the 2010 season at London's beguiling outdoor theatre.

Opening the season, Timothy Sheader directs Patrick O'Kane (direct from *War Horse*) and Emma Cuniffe (*The Lakes* and currently *Dumb Show*, Kingston Rose Theatre), as John and Elizabeth Proctor, Emily Taaffe (*Nation at the National Theatre*) as Abigail and Oliver Ford-Davies (RSC, including Gregory Doran's recent production of *Hamlet*) as Danforth in Arthur Miller's *The Crucible* from 24 May – 19 June. The unique setting of the Open Air Theatre allows another classic to find a new voice.

One of Shakespeare's earliest plays *The Comedy Of Errors* returns to the theatre after fourteen years, directed by Philip Franks (recent West End productions include the Ronald Harwood plays *Collaboration* and *Taking Sides*). A story of mistaken identity, this new production is set in 1940's *Casablanca*

and plays from 24 June – 31 July. The young and vibrant cast is lead by Daniel Weyman (TMA Award nomination for the title role of *Nicholas Nickleby* at Chichester Festival Theatre) as *Antipholus of Syracuse* alongside Daniel Llewelyn-Williams as *Antipholus of Ephesus*. Jo Herbert (Gwendolen in last year's production of *The Importance of Being Earnest*) plays his wife Adriana. Anna-Jane Casey (currently playing *Velma in Chicago*) fronts a live swing band in the role of *Courtesan*.

Following the 2009 production of *The Tempest*, Steve Marmion (who directed Edward Gant's *Amazing Feats of Loneliness for Headlong*, and transferred Rupert Goold's production of *Macbeth* to Broadway) directs *Macbeth* re-imagined for everyone aged six and over. This is the third year that the theatre has presented a Shakespeare play staged especially for family audiences using the original language and text. Playing from 3 July – 31 July, the cast includes Golda Rosheuvel (RSC credits include Rupert Goold's *The Tempest* and *Angels in America* for *Headlong*) as *Lady Macbeth*, Simon Trinder (who played opposite Pete Postlethwaite in *The Tempest*, Manchester Royal Exchange and spent three years at the RSC) as *Macduff* and Josephine Butler as *Banquo*. For the second year running, there will be a Saturday morning performance and two performances on a Sunday.

Box Office: 0844 826 4242.

WAM BAM CLUB AT CAFE DE PARIS

As temperatures continue to rise in London, things also heat up at Wam Bam Club. The June line-up features the perfect balance of entertainment for a sizzling Saturday night on the town.

Where else is burlesque bookended by slapstick, magic makes way for mademoiselles and you can take your seat underneath the sparkling chandelier of this magnificent West End venue? Wam Bam Club has everything to offer to people who know how to have a really good time. You've had a good day sightseeing, so dress up, sit back and be entertained.

At Wam Bam Club on 29 May, magician Christian Lee will include a dramatic attempt to catch a bullet in his teeth in his act – for one night only – although hopefully he will survive to do it again for those of who might miss it.

The Wam Bam Club is at Cafe de Paris, 3 Coventry Street, Piccadilly Circus, W1. Nearest tube stations are Leicester Square/Piccadilly Circus.



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APOLLO VICTORIA THEATRE • LONDON



SIR EDMUND HILLARY MEMORIAL LECTURE AT RGS

The annual Sir Edmund Hillary Memorial Lecture will be given at the Royal Geographical Society on 27 May by Jan Morris CBE. As The Times Special Correspondent on the 1953 Mount Everest expedition, Jan Morris became the most famous newspaper journalist in Britain (*pictured*). John Hunt called the, then James' climb with George Band and Mike Westmacott to Camp III 'a remarkably good performance for one who had never climbed before' reaching Advance Base - 'We all admired his enterprise; he had well earned his place as a full member of the expedition.' Through a series of coded messages and a certain amount of bribery Jan arranged for the news of success to reach London in time for the Queen's Coronation.

This opportunity to experience a first hand account of the famous ascent of the world's highest mountain promises to be especially entertaining and humorous. Special guests Bhim Bogati & Sherap Sherpa of REED Nepal, visiting the UK for the first time, will describe their work as Teacher Trainers for The Himalayan Trust in the remote areas around Everest and Kangchenjunga with some great photographs to illustrate their talk.

George Band OBE chairs the event. Tickets at the door on the night or online from www.worldexpeditions.com

PLAYS

MRS WARREN'S PROFESSION

Controversial in its time, George Bernard Shaw's play is now acknowledged as a true classic. Stars Felicity Kendal.
COMEDY THEATRE
Panton Street, SW1 (0844 871 7622)

THE 39 STEPS

Maria Aitken's tongue-in-cheek adaptation of John Buchan's whodunnit has four actors playing 150 parts and includes all the legendary scenes from Hitchcock's movie.
CRITERION THEATRE
Piccadilly Circus, WC2 (0844 847 1778)

BEDROOM FARCE

Alan Ayckbourn's ingenious comedy shines a brilliant spotlight onto the trials and tribulations of suburban marriage.
DUKE OF YORK'S
St Martin's Lane, WC2 (0844 847 1722)

THE WOMAN IN BLACK

An innocent outsider, a suspicious rural community, a gothic house and a misty marsh are the ingredients of this Victorian ghost story, now in its 21st year.
FORTUNE THEATRE
Russell Street, WC2 (0870 060 6626)

Royal National Theatre Plays in repertory

OLIVIER THEATRE

LONDON ASSURANCE

Dion Boucicault, Irish genius of London theatre in the age of Charles Dickens, wrote this brilliantly funny play in 1841.

WOMEN BEWARE WOMEN

Corruption will not go unpunished in Thomas Middleton's blackly funny, fast and ferocious tragedy, directed by Marianne Elliott.

LYTTELTON THEATRE

THE WHITE GUARD

Andrew Upton's vigorous new version of Milhail Bulgakov's rarely performed masterpiece, set in Kiev during the Russian Civil War.

THE HABIT OF ART

Alan Bennett's new play looks at the unsettling desires of two difficult men, Benjamin Britten and W H Auden.

COTTESLOE THEATRE

SPRING STORM

European premiere of a gripping early play by Tennessee Williams.

BEYOND THE HORIZON

The powerful Pulitzer prize-winning drama that formulated Eugene O'Neill's vision of America.

LOVE THE SINNER

Drew Pautz's tense and provocative new play considers what we may be willing to sacrifice for what we believe to be right.

NATIONAL THEATRE

South Bank, SE1 (020 7452 3000)

WAR HORSE

The National Theatre's epic based on the celebrated novel by Children's Laureate, Michael Morpurgo. Actors work with magnificent life-size puppets on a gruelling journey at the time of the First World War.
NEW LONDON THEATRE
Drury Lane, WC2 (0844 412 4654)

ENRON

Based on one of the most infamous scandals in financial history, the play mixes classical tragedy with savage comedy in a narrative of greed and loss during the tumultuous 1990s.
NOEL COWARD
St Martin's Lane, WC2 (0844 482 5140)

THE REAL THING

Major revival of Tom Stoppard's multi-award-winning modern classic, starring Toby Stephens. Razor sharp drama that brilliantly examines the complex nature of love, art and reality.
OLD VIC
The Cut, Waterloo, SE1 (0844 871 7609)

THE MOUSETRAP

Agatha Christie's whodunnit is the longest running play of its kind in the history of the British theatre.
ST MARTIN'S THEATRE
West Street, WC2 (0844 499 1515)

HOLDING THE MAN

West End premiere of Tim Conigrave's funny yet moving play speaks across generations, sexual preferences and culture.
TRAFALGAR STUDIOS
Whitehall, SW1 (0844 847 1722)

MUSICALS

LOVE NEVER DIES

Andrew Lloyd Webber's long awaited sequel to The Phantom of the Opera, the show is a rollercoaster ride of obsession and intrigue, in which music and memory can play cruel tricks.
ADELPHI THEATRE
Strand, WC2 (0844 847 1722)

DIRTY DANCING

Based on the '80s movie, this famous tale involves a daddy's girl and a dance instructor at a New York holiday resort during the long, hot summer of 1963.
ALDWYCH THEATRE
Aldwych, WC2 (0844 847 2330)

WICKED THE MUSICAL

Hit Broadway story of how a clever, misunderstood girl with emerald green skin and a girl who is beautiful and popular turn into the Wicked Witch of the West and Glinda the Good Witch in the Land of Oz.
APOLLO VICTORIA THEATRE
Wilton Road, SW1 (0844 826 8000)

CHICAGO

A dazzling mixture of sinuous bodies, tough broads, murder and fickle fame, the Ebb-Fosse musical goes from strength to strength.
CAMBRIDGE THEATRE
Earlham Street, WC2 (0844 412 4652)

WE WILL ROCK YOU

A unique collaboration between the legends of rock and Ben Elton, reflecting the scale and spectacle that marked Queen's live performances.
DOMINION THEATRE
Tottenham Court Rd, W1 (0844 847 1775)

ALL THE FUN OF THE FAIR

Inspired by his debut album, David Essex stars as fun fair owner, Levi Lee, recently widowed and father of a rebellious teenage son.
GARRICK THEATRE
Charing Cross Road, WC2 (0844 847 1722)

HAIR

The 2009 Tony award winning Broadway production. A celebration of life, love and freedom featuring great songs including Let The Sun Shine In, I Got Life and Aquarius.
GIELGUD THEATRE
Shaftesbury Avenue, WC2 (0844 482 5141)

THE PHANTOM OF THE OPERA

Long running epic romance by Andrew Lloyd Webber, set behind the scenes of a Paris opera house, where a deformed phantom stalks his prey.
HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE
Haymarket, SW1 (0844 412 2707)

THRILLER – LIVE

Spectacular, high octane show celebrating the career of the King of Pop, Michael Jackson.
LYRIC THEATRE
Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (0844 412 4661)

SISTER ACT

Based on the hit movie, the new stage musical follows disco-diva Deloris Van Cartier as she goes into protective custody in a convent.
LONDON PALLADIUM
Argyll Street, W1 (0844 412 2204)

THE LION KING

Disney's phenomenally successful animated film is transformed into a spectacular stage musical, a superb evening of visual delight.
LYCEUM THEATRE
Wellington Street, WC2 (0844 844 0005)

STOMP

This British theatrical sensation has enthralled audiences across the world with its combination of theatre, dance, comedy and percussion.
NEW AMBASSADORS
West Street, WC2 (0844 811 2334)

PRISCILLA QUEEN OF THE DESERT

Based on the Oscar award winning film, a glamorous Sydney based performing trio takes their show to the Australian outback.
PALACE THEATRE
Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (0844 755 0016)

BLOOD BROTHERS

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

GREASE

Inimitable slice of 50s Americana, bursting with denim, cheerleaders and well-oiled quiffs featuring Summer Nights, Hopelessly Devoted to You, You're The One That I Want and more.
PICCADILLY THEATRE
Denman Street, W1 (0844 412 6600)

DREAMBOATS & PETTICOATS

Inspired by the smash hit million selling compilation albums which featured some of the greatest hits of the rock 'n' roll era.
PLAYHOUSE THEATRE
Northumberland Ave, WC2 (0844 847 1722)

JERSEY BOYS

Rags to riches tale of four blue collar kids working their way from the streets of Newark to the heights of stardom as Frankie Valli and The Four Seasons.
PRINCE EDWARD THEATRE
Old Compton Street, W1 (0844 482 5151)

MAMMA MIA!

Hit musical based on the songs of ABBA, set around the story of a mother and daughter, on the eve of the daughter's wedding.
PRINCE OF WALES THEATRE
Old Compton Street, W1 (0844 482 5115)

LES MISERABLES

A spectacularly staged version of Victor Hugo's epic novel about an escaped convict's search for redemption amidst the tumult of Revolutionary France.
QUEENS THEATRE
Shaftesbury Avenue, WC2 (0844 482 5160)

LEGALLY BLONDE THE MUSICAL

Based on the 2001 film which starred Reese Witherspoon as Elle Woods, the multi award-winning musical storms into London.
SAVOY THEATRE
Strand, WC2 (0844 847 1722)

OLIVER!

Cameron Mackintosh's revival of Lionel Bart's musical masterpiece. The legendary songs include Consider Yourself, Food Glorious Food and I'd Do Anything.
THEATRE ROYAL
Catherine Street, WC2 (0844 412 2955)

SWEET CHARITY

Tamzin Outhwaite plays the title role in the West End transfer of Tony Award-winning musical, originally directed and choreographed by Bob Fosse from book by Neil Simon.
THEATRE ROYAL
Haymarket, SW1 (0845 481 1870)

BILLY ELLIOT – THE MUSICAL

The hit British film is transformed into a thrilling stage musical by its original director, Stephen Daldry, with music by Elton John.
VICTORIA PALACE
Victoria Street, SW1 (0844 811 0055)

AVENUE Q

An unholy comedic alliance of humans and puppets tells the story of life on the wrong side of the tracks in this Tony Award-winning musical by Robert Lopez and Jeff Marx.
WYNDHAM'S THEATRE
Charing Cross Road, WC2 (0844 482 5120)

**ROYAL OPERA HOUSE TOURS**

The superb Floral Hall at the Royal Opera House Covent Garden. Tours can be arranged to see behind the scenes including costumes and make up areas. The public spaces also offer a complete range of dining options before the performance or for a relaxing meal in the most elegant of surroundings – simply for the pleasure of being there!

This Is London Olympics



ANISH KAPOOR VISITOR ATTRACTION FOR OLYMPIC PARK

Award winning London-based artist Anish Kapoor has been given the commission of a lifetime to design the spectacular new public attraction in the Olympic Park. The stunning artwork, to be entitled 'The ArcelorMittal Orbit', will ensure the Park remains an unrivalled visitor destination following the 2012 Games, providing the key Olympic legacy Mayor of London Boris Johnson envisaged for the East End.

The breathtaking sculpture – thought to be the tallest in the UK – will consist of a continuous looping lattice of tubular steel. Standing at a gigantic 115m, it will be 22m taller than the Statue of Liberty in New York and offer unparalleled views of the entire 250 acres of the Olympic Park and London's skyline from a special viewing platform. Visitors will be able to take a trip up the statuesque structure in a huge lift and will have the option of walking down the spiralling staircase.

One of the world's most distinguished contemporary artists, Turner Prize winning Anish Kapoor studied in London, where he is now based. He is well known for his use of rich pigment and imposing, yet popular works, such

as the vast, fleshy and trumpet-like Marsyas, which filled the Tate's Turbine Hall as part of the Unilever Series, the giant reflecting, pod like sculpture Cloud Gate in Chicago's Millennium Park and his recent record breaking show at the Royal Academy, the most successful exhibition ever presented by a contemporary artist in London.

Anish Kapoor's proposal has been developed in collaboration with one of the world's leading structural designers, Cecil Balmond of Arup. Balmond, who trained and lives in London, is known for his innovative work on some of the greatest contemporary buildings in the world, such as the CCTV building in Beijing, as well as numerous Serpentine

Gallery pavilion commissions. The two began working together on the Marsyas project in 2002 and have become renowned for their ambitious, large-scale public art projects.

ArcelorMittal will fund up to £16 million of the £19.1 million project with the outstanding £3.1 million provided by the London Development Agency. The unveiling also marks ArcelorMittal's announcement to become a tier two sponsor of the Olympic and Paralympic Games, to support the infrastructure and success of 2012.

'This stunning structure will become a new iconic London landmark towering 115 metres into the London skyline. Alongside the Olympic Stadium and Aquatics Centre, Anish Kapoor's brilliant design will be like honey to bees for the millions of tourists that visit London each year. Having been involved in this project from the outset, I'm now looking forward to seeing it go from a great idea into a brilliant reality.' said Minister for the Olympics and London, Tessa Jowell.

Chairman of the London Organising Committee of the Olympic Games and Paralympic Games (LOCOG), Seb Coe added – *'Our ambitions for the Games are very clear and very simple. We want to leave leaving a lasting legacy: of more young people playing sport, of changing public attitudes towards disabilities through the Paralympic Games, of an extraordinarily transformed landscape in East London, in which this impressive sculpture will play a central role. The new sculpture will be an indelible memory, a declaration of legacy and a definable landmark that Londoners and people from around the world will enjoy visiting during the Games and long afterwards.'*

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