

**BIRMINGHAM**

# What's On

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**JADE EWEN**

IN BEN ELTON MUSICAL  
INTERVIEW INSIDE...

**TUESDAY 18 MARCH - SATURDAY 5 APRIL**

- ★ ★ ★ ★ ★  
The Daily Telegraph
- ★ ★ ★ ★ ★  
Daily Express
- ★ ★ ★ ★ ★  
Mail On Sunday
- ★ ★ ★ ★ ★  
Financial Times
- ★ ★ ★ ★ ★  
Sunday Express



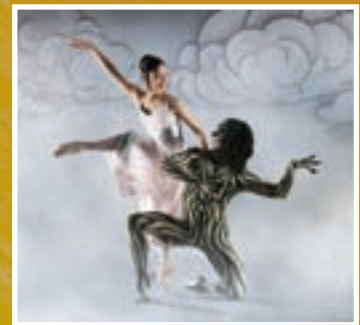
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**What's On**  
MAGAZINE GROUP



Ex-Sugababe Jade Ewen talks about her role in Ben Elton's musical, Tonight's The Night - interview page 6

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**News** p4

**Music** p13

**Comedy** p22

**Theatre** p25

**Dance** p40

**Film/DVD** p43

**Visual Arts** p51

**Events** p55

**Eating Out** p64

**INSIDE:**

**Matthew Bourne**  
chats about Swan Lake  
interview p8



**Seven Brides...**  
classic American musical  
arrives in the Midlands p27



**Alan Ayckbourn**  
talks about his latest play  
interview p10



**February 2014**

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28		

## Private Peaceful heading for the Midlands

A new UK tour of the hit one-man show *Private Peaceful* is heading for the Midlands. Simon Reade's highly acclaimed stage adaptation of Michael Morpurgo's *World War One* novel tells the story of a young soldier awaiting a dawn firing squad. The production, which debuted in 2004 and has since played to sell-out audiences across the country, sees Paul Chequer and Andy Daniel sharing the role of Private Tommo Peaceful. Chequer appeared in the 2012 film version of the story, while Daniel's theatre credits include *Journey's End*, *The Railway Children* and *The History Boys*. This latest tour, marking the centenary of the beginning of World War One, shows at the Festival Theatre, Malvern, from 17 to 19 April, and at The REP, Birmingham, from 14 to 17 May.



## ELO co-founder honoured in home city

Composer, music producer and Brummie rock legend Jeff Lynne is to join fellow musicians Ozzy Osbourne, Tony Iommi and Roy Wood on Birmingham's Walk Of Stars, located along the city's popular Broad Street. ELO co-founder Lynne, who's worked with some of the industry's biggest names, will be presented with a duplicate of the Birmingham-made commemorative star by comedian Jasper Carrott at a ceremony at the Library of Birmingham on 13 March. Commenting on the newly bestowed honour, Lynne said: "I'm thrilled to be included on the Birmingham Walk of Stars! It's great to have my work recognised in my home town!"



## Drayton Manor gearing up for new attraction

One of the region's most popular visitor attractions is getting ready to launch a new family thrill ride. Drayton Manor Theme Park in Tamworth, Staffordshire, which already features some of the biggest, wettest and scariest rides in the UK - Shock-wave, G-Force, Maelstrom, Apocalypse and Splash Canyon - will welcome new stomach-churning aerial adventure Air Race in time for the summer school holidays. Accommodating twenty-four riders at any one time, Air Race will feature banks, loops, dives and weightlessness, and will allow visitors to experience accelerations of almost 4G. Little wonder, then, that Drayton Manor is promising the new ride will give thrill-seekers 'the time of their life'.

## Businesses invited to raise their rackets for charity

A 'shuttlecock showdown' at Birmingham's National Indoor Arena (NIA) is inviting local businesses to showcase their racket skills for charity. The 21 February event sees teams of four battle it out on court, with the participating players being drawn from Birmingham's business community. All monies raised will go to Badminton England's chosen charity, The Anders Foundation, an organisation which encourages young people of all abilities to achieve their sporting goals. The Birmingham Business Shuttlecock Showdown is followed at the NIA a couple of weeks later by the Yonex All England Badminton Championships, taking place from 4 to 9 March.

## Applications sought for Birmingham festival

Organisers of an independent performing arts festival which made its debut in Birmingham last year have announced its return for 2014. Designed to 'celebrate the second city's venues and arts scene', Birmingham Fest showcases new works

from both the UK and abroad. This year's festival takes place at locations across the city from 11 to 27 July. Applications to take part are now being sought from individuals and companies in various theatrical disciplines, including theatre (adult and children), dance, music, comedy and poetry. For further information, visit [www.birminghamfest.co.uk](http://www.birminghamfest.co.uk)

## My UK opens its first Birmingham hub

The Birmingham arm of a national company is on the lookout for performers to star in its debut presentation later this year. Since its launch five years ago, Musical Youth UK (MyUK) has taken the nation by storm, with six regional hubs and performances on the West End stage. As well as providing large-scale musical performance opportunities, the company also teaches vital stagecraft skills for would-be professional performers. MyUK Birmingham launched in January and is currently seeking youngsters aged eleven to nineteen to perform in its production of *Les Misérables* at the Crescent Theatre from 18 to 23 August. Email [auditions@musicalyouthuk.org](mailto:auditions@musicalyouthuk.org) to express your interest.

## Flatpack announces headline events

A festival which started out ten years ago as a monthly night in a Digbeth pub has announced its 2014 headliners. The eleven-day Flatpack Film Festival is described as holding a 'unique place in the UK's film scene'. Organisers are promising the 2014 event will offer 'an eye-popping line-up of new features, shorts and special guests, as well as providing an alternative route-map to Birmingham via walking tours, installations and pop-up screenings across the city.' This year's highlights include *The World Made Itself* - an immersive piece of myth-making from LA-based artist and performer Miwa Matryek - the UK premiere of *The Great Flood*, which provides a portrait of the devastation caused by the Mississippi floods of 1927, *Birmingham On Sea* - a tale of a land-locked city's love affair with water - and an immersive and horizontal screening of 1972 sci-fi movie *Silent Burning*. Flatpack Festival runs from 20 to 30 March. For further information, visit [www.flatpackfestival.org.uk](http://www.flatpackfestival.org.uk)



## Cultural quarter to welcome return of Swingamajig

A unique festival which invites Electro Swing lovers and vintage connoisseurs to take to the streets and party in style is returning to Birmingham for a second year. Bringing the 'sounds and styles of the 1920s up to date with a modern twist', Swingamajig is the UK's first one-day festival dedicated to Electro Swing, Vintage Sounds and Gypsy Mayhem. New for 2014 are a vintage cinema, dance workshops facilitated by some of Europe's leading professionals and, er, a spot of electric hamster racing! Swingamajig takes place at Boxxed, along Digbeth's Floodgate Street in Birmingham's Cultural Quarter, on Sunday 4 May.



## Ancient China comes to Birmingham

A production which has received plenty of international acclaim for 'bringing the wonders of ancient China culture to millions across the globe', is making its way to Birmingham this spring. Shen Yun visits the city's ICC on 14 and 15 April as part of a European tour which also includes a Dublin stop-off (19 & 20 April). For further information, visit [www.shenyunperformingarts.org](http://www.shenyunperformingarts.org)

archive image of Birmingham Opera company



## Secret location for Russian political drama

Birmingham Opera Company is using a 'secret venue' to present a brand new production of Musorgsky's *The Khovansky Files: A National Enquiry* ('Khovanshchina') in April. The powerful political drama, which centres on rebellion and revolution, will be performed as part of the city's Russia Year of Culture 2014 celebrations, the opening performance of which takes place at Birmingham's Town Hall this month.

The opera company's founder and artistic director, Graham Vick, is the man at the helm of the new translation by Max Hoehn. Graham was one of the first international directors to be invited behind the Iron Curtain, helming a version of Prokofiev's *War And Peace* at the Kirov in 1991. For this latest production, he will lead a cast of international soloists, the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra, the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra Children's Chorus and over two hundred volunteers from Birmingham. Featured soloists include Paul Nilon, Eric Greene, Stephanie Corley, Joseph Guyton, Claudia Huckle, Keel Watson, Jeff Lloyd Roberts and Robert Winslade Anderson. This latest production follows Birmingham Opera Company's groundbreaking and award-winning presentation of Stockhausen's *Mittwoch Aus Licht* in 2012.

### IN BRIEF

#### Fundraisers to scale new heights

Fundraisers at Birmingham's Acorns Children's Hospice are on the lookout for adventurous types who fancy abseiling down one of the city centre's most famous buildings. A one hundred-and-twenty-foot descend from the roof of Birmingham's House of Fraser store is planned for Sunday 13 April, offering daredevil adventurers an exciting way to raise vital funds for Acorns. The event is open to people of all ages and abilities, with full training by professionals provided on the day. There's a £15 entry fee, with all participants required to raise a minimum of £75. To find out more, visit [www.acorns.org.uk/charity-abseil](http://www.acorns.org.uk/charity-abseil)

#### Kaiser Chiefs to kick off Silverstone British Grand Prix

Indie rock band and three-time Brit Award-winners the Kaiser Chiefs are to ensure that the country's most prestigious motor-racing event gets off to a full-throttle start this summer. The Kaisers will be performing at Silverstone on the eve (3 July) of the Formula One Santander British Grand Prix (4 to 6 July). The performance is the first of five UK summer dates for the band.



#### Library to host exhibition of graphic scores

Examples of visual music, musical graphics and eye music from numerous well-respected international composers are to be exhibited at the new Library of Birmingham. The works, by composers including, Janet Boulton, Pauline Oliveros, Elliot Sharp and Carl Bergstrom Nielsen, will be shown as part of the city's new festival, *Frontiers: Extraordinary Music From Downtown New York & Birmingham*. The exhibition is entitled *Score: Trace That Sound*, and explores how composers, musicians and artists have reimagined the way in which music can be represented through notation and text. A number of graphic scores, which exist as works of art in their own right, will be featured. For further information on *Frontiers*, visit [www.frontiersmusic.org](http://www.frontiersmusic.org)



Janet Boulton - Eye Music



# Jade Ewen

Ex-Sugababe out on the road in Ben Elton musical...

Jade Ewen's vocal talents first came to the nation's attention in 2009, when she achieved fifth place in the Eurovision Song Contest. The same year she confirmed herself as a bonafide pop artist by joining one of the UK's most successful girl bands, replacing Keisha Buchanan in The Sugababes. Years before her big break, and having trained at the Sylvia Young Theatre School, Jade made her West End debut in Disney's *The Lion King*, at the tender age of twelve. With musical theatre being her first love, she's delighted to be making a return to the stage to play Dee Dee in Ben Elton's *Rod Stewart - The Musical*. What's On caught up with her to find out more...

**Tell us about your character in Tonight's The Night, Jade...**

Dee Dee is a really aggressive, fiery character who's full of zest. There's a bit of a love interest going on, but Rocky, the character she's in love with, doesn't love her. So there's a bit in the show where she expresses how she feels and reveals a

certain vulnerability. I don't want to give too much away, but by the end of the show things have certainly changed around for her.

**Is playing a feisty character something that comes quite easily?**

Yes and no. I like to copy and mimic things

that I've seen, and I take inspiration from a few characters that I've seen in film and on TV, but then there's always the worry that you might be playing it too big. In theatre, there's always that compromise of making it natural while at the same time making it big enough on stage to convince the audience.

**Do you get a lot of artistic freedom to play around with the character?**

Our director obviously has ideas, but she tries to encourage us to go with our instincts. We try and tune in and go with that, but, generally speaking, it's a balanced, fifty/fifty relationship.

**And what iconic Rod Stewart songs do you get to sing?**

What Am I Going To Do and First Cut Is The Deepest, which is the favourite. That comes at the moment when Dee Dee is at her most vulnerable.

**Were you a fan of Rod's music prior to being involved in Tonight's The Night?**

I had no idea how much Rod Stewart music I actually knew. Obviously, a lot of it was before my time, so it wasn't as if I consciously grew up listening to it, but being involved in this, I've realised that it's everywhere. It's in adverts, in the background of things, on the radio or whatever. I now realise I knew most of the words to these songs, I just didn't realise they were Rod's. What's really interesting is that everyone, it doesn't matter which generation you're from, kind of knows a Rod Stewart song. A real Rod favourite of mine - which I don't sing in the show - is This Old Heart Of Mine. It's a really lovely song.

**Tonight's The Night has been described as 'sexy'. Can you expand on that?**

Because it's meant to have a rock'n'roll/gig feel, I guess there's a natural bit of sex and grit that comes through. There are a few love interests, but I wouldn't say it's overly raunchy. It's not like you need a certificate to come and watch it.

**Are there any similarities between this and We Will Rock You?**

I guess the only similarity is that it's well-known songs incorporated into a musical. As far as the storyline goes, it's definitely very different. Also, as a cast, I'd hope that we come at this completely differently. Some of the group haven't seen We Will Rock You, so have been able to come at this fresh and uninfluenced. I like to think that we bring our own identity and put our own mark on it.

**Most people will know you as one third of the Sugababes, as well as for your Eurovision entry, but is it true that theatre's your first love?**

Absolutely! I did theatre before anything else. I went to Sylvia's (Sylvia Young Theatre School) and I've always been as equally focused on acting and dancing as I have singing. Singing was the avenue that got me out there, but a big part of me, as a performer, has come from theatre.

**So is theatre where you see your future?**

I think so. I don't want it to be just one or the other, because I love music, I love performing and I love being on stage. I want my future to involve both recording and, hopefully, performing on the West End stage. And one day on Broadway too - that would be amazing.

**With the West End, is there a particular role that's up there on your list?**

Elphaba would be amazing. Wicked is a great show. I love the songs, and everybody likes to fly...

**What about an Andrew Lloyd Webber musical...**

I would love to, definitely. I've never asked or hinted, because I think it might be a little bit awkward. We'll have to see - maybe I'll invite him along to the show...

**Are you still in touch?**

He's not the easiest person to keep in touch with because he doesn't have a mobile phone. You have to kind of physically bump into Andrew; you can't just call him on his mobile or send him a text.

**You're touring with Tonight's The Night until April. What's in the diary after that?**

There are a few things in the pipeline, but I have to await confirmation before I can tell. One of those will hopefully be theatre. Also, I'll carry on recording solo material for my debut album. I'm doing bits for that at the moment, but it's proving to be a little difficult juggling different hats - switching from writing to recording to theatre - and also finding time to sleep!

**Are you quite disciplined in terms of how you allocate your time?**

I'm finding this tour a really good experience for me, because it's the first time I've really had to organise myself and take care of my own accommodation and all that sort of stuff. All of that's normally dealt with by your management. At times it's been a bit overwhelming, but I'm finding now that I've got a system in place which I'll apply to every aspect of my life in future. It's definitely about finding a balance and, luckily for me, it's only in theatre. When I'm recording, it's just a case of turning up. The rest is for somebody else to juggle.

**What's been the biggest learning-curve for you in going on tour with this show?**

For some reason I'm always thrown in at the deep end. It happened with Eurovision, performing live in front of one hundred-and-twenty-two million people. That whole experience was very intense. Then it happened again joining the band. The Sugababes were obviously a massive band before I was in the group, and then it was dealing with press, learning eight albums-worth of songs and going out on tour - again very intense. With Splash, I couldn't swim, so I literally had to dive in at the deep end. I think I have a habit in life of just getting stuck in and then worrying about the rest once I'm in. If I worried too much about things and questioned my ability, I'd never do anything. Once I've agreed to do something, I often look back and think, "oh, what have I done?", by which time it's too late and I've just got to get on with it.

**Ex Sugababe bandmate Heidi Range is also out on tour, with the stage version of Happy Days. Are you supportive of each other's post-band solo projects?**

Definitely! I'm glad that Heidi's experiencing it as well. I know she's a massive fan of theatre, but she's never had the opportunity to do it before. If you're a performer, all you

want is to be on stage, and you get to do that almost every night of the week when you're in a musical. If you're in a band, you get to do it, but it's more seasoned. You may be recording for however many months, then there may be a couple of months of live performances, and then it's back to the studio or promoting. I think, as an artist, the thing you crave most is to be up there performing on a stage.

**Do you foresee The Sugababes ever getting back together in the future?**

There are no definite plans to get back together. That said, I can't say it's over. At the moment we're all busy doing our own individual projects.

**You've mentioned working on your debut album. How would you describe this?**

It's very soulful and sometimes quite emotional. Putting it together has been a sort of healing process, because there have been a lot of emotional things that I've gone through. I've discovered things about myself, and I've grown as a person. I guess I'd summarise it as a soulful and healing chapter of my life. This has been the first time I've been able to express myself without having all the pressure and restrictions which have gone before. It's been a reminder of why I came into the music business in the first place.

**As a singer, who inspires you most?**


I've got a few, but I really love Stevie Wonder. His storytelling is amazing, and the fact that he's blind, and my dad's blind, means it feels like there's a real connection.

**Finally, what's your ultimate goal as a performer?**

I definitely want to do more theatre, and I'd love to go over to America and see what's out there. They seem to love the Brits, and I'd certainly like to investigate new territories. I guess, basically, I'd like to achieve world domination...



Tonight's The Night: The Rod Stewart Musical shows at New Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham, from Mon 24 February to Sat 1 March, and Regent Theatre, Stoke-on-Trent from Mon 24 to Sat 29 March

A close-up portrait of Matthew Bourne, a man with short brown hair and glasses, wearing a dark blue shirt. He is looking slightly to the right of the camera with a subtle smile. The background is a plain, dark grey.

“ I remember Cameron Mackintosh, the producer, coming up in the interval and saying that he had to do this in the West End ”

# Matthew Bourne

reflects on the moment he realised *Swan Lake* was a hit...



**Director-choreographer Matthew Bourne first premiered his revelatory *Swan Lake* in 1995, since which time this modern reinterpretation of a ballet-world mainstay has transfixed audiences across the globe. With a new version of *Swan Lake* about to hit the road, Matthew reflects on a show which has not only become a genuine cultural phenomenon but also transformed the lives of many, not least that of Bourne himself.**

**When *Swan Lake* premiered at London's Sadler's Wells Theatre, did you have any idea it would go on to achieve such success?**

Absolutely not; you couldn't predict anything like that. I just remember in the rehearsal room having to get the thing done. It was a long piece - the longest by far that I'd done up to that point - so it was about working away at just trying to do the best we could do. I wasn't really thinking beyond that.

**Nonetheless, the venture must have prompted speculation in the dance world and beyond?**

It did! There were all sorts of doubts expressed by people outside the room, and I was well aware that there were two prevailing camps. One group was sure that the piece was going to be hilarious and a real send-up; they were the ones who couldn't wait! There were others who kept saying, "You do know it's a tragedy and you're not going to mess around with it, are you?".

**What did you think you had in the rehearsal room itself?**

I remember all of us feeling that we liked the idea, and that we had something we thought could work, but I don't think we were over-confident. It was more about a sense of us working towards the same thing, and simply having a confidence in the fact that we liked the idea of what we were doing.

**Can you recall the actual seedbed for the idea - the moment when the project itself actually took hold?**

The very first idea was the thought of all-male swans. That had come to me watching the ballet long before I ever had a company or any possibility of doing *Swan Lake* at all; it was just a daydream. I remember being intrigued as to what that might do to the plot. It helped, of course, that I'd seen the ballet itself a lot. So I had this memory of Royal Ballet dancer Anthony Dowell as the Prince, wandering around in Act One pretty much saying, "No, I will not get married; take her away, I want something else!". So I just thought, "Oh, there's something going on in this story that's not being told".

**What was that precisely?**

I think it was that feeling of someone who's yearning for something, which seemed to me a metaphor for someone who's possibly gay; or who maybe just wanted a different kind of woman, or something like that. It definitely felt to me like something that was there in the ballet itself and not like anything I'd invented. And if you consider Tchaikovsky's own life, and the turmoil and violence in the music, that also suggested something much deeper than a lot of pretty swans in a row.

**Do you remember a 'click' moment in performance when you sensed a hit on your hands?**

Very much so. The bit, I think, that made the audience go completely quiet was the

entrance of Adam Cooper as the Swan. All of a sudden, you felt people thinking, "This isn't what we were expecting!". It suddenly went very quiet, very serious. And then I remember Cameron Mackintosh, the producer, coming up in the interval and saying that he had to do this in the West End, and I thought, "this is only the interval, but - well, Cameron does know; there's something about his instinct!". It was once the second half got going and we were into the Ball scene that it all became suddenly electric. Then, when Adam came on in his leather trousers as the Black Swan, the show really caught fire. At the end there was this spontaneous roar - which the piece has received ever since - and that was honestly something I hadn't expected at all.

**It must be infuriating when you hear the work described as 'the all-male *Swan Lake*', since there are women prominently featured in the cast, albeit not as the swans.**

Very much so, and we've had some wonderful women over time, from Fiona Chadwick and Etta Murfitt onwards. That misperception you mention is so easy to say, and it makes sense to everyone - but I do have to correct it, obviously. For one thing, I don't want people sitting there during the scenes with the royals thinking that they're watching men in drag!

**I'm glad you reference the royals, who have to be mentioned, given that they were in a very different place in 1995 from where they are now. For one thing, Princess Diana was alive at the time.**

Yes, and she saw it, we believe. It's funny; the royal aspect is the thing I thought everyone would pick up on, because royal scandal was such a big deal when we opened *Swan Lake*. All that, I have to say, was quite inspiring in a way. One felt there was a story going on in real life, as in *Swan Lake*, in which a prince couldn't marry the person he really loved - in Charles' case, Camilla - and so had to marry a suitable young person instead, namely Diana. All that seemed terribly sad if you looked at it from a purely human point of view, so I thought there was a lot of sympathy to be had for a prince who couldn't be what he wanted to be.

**Yes, it's important that the royal aspect of your production isn't viewed merely as facetious, or as a romp.**

I do think the royal family really liked it, and found it very sympathetic; but no one is going to admit to that or say it publicly. I found out from Princess Margaret, when she came to see *Cinderella*, that she had the video and, as I say, we're pretty sure that Diana had been in. What's intriguing, too, is that we were asked to do it as part of the Royal Variety performance, apparently as a personal request from the Queen - so they certainly didn't turn against it because of the subject matter.

**How do you think the intervening years have refocused that aspect of the production?**

Well, we have different sorts of royals now. The young princes seem more well-adjusted - or shall we say 'normal' - so I'm not sure we see them in quite the same way as we once looked at Charles. On the other hand, I do think there's still very much a relevance here. There's a lot of protection and grooming that still goes on; I mean, Kate didn't just emerge as a fully formed royal. You still have to be a certain type of person to be part of the royal family, and it's important that our story is set in an uncertain, unspecified time period. It's as much about now as it was about then.

**You went on from *Swan Lake* to devise numerous pieces, from *Edward Scissorhands to Play Without Words*, and from *Cinderella to Sleeping Beauty*. Does *Swan Lake* occupy a privileged position, simply because of what it represented for you?**

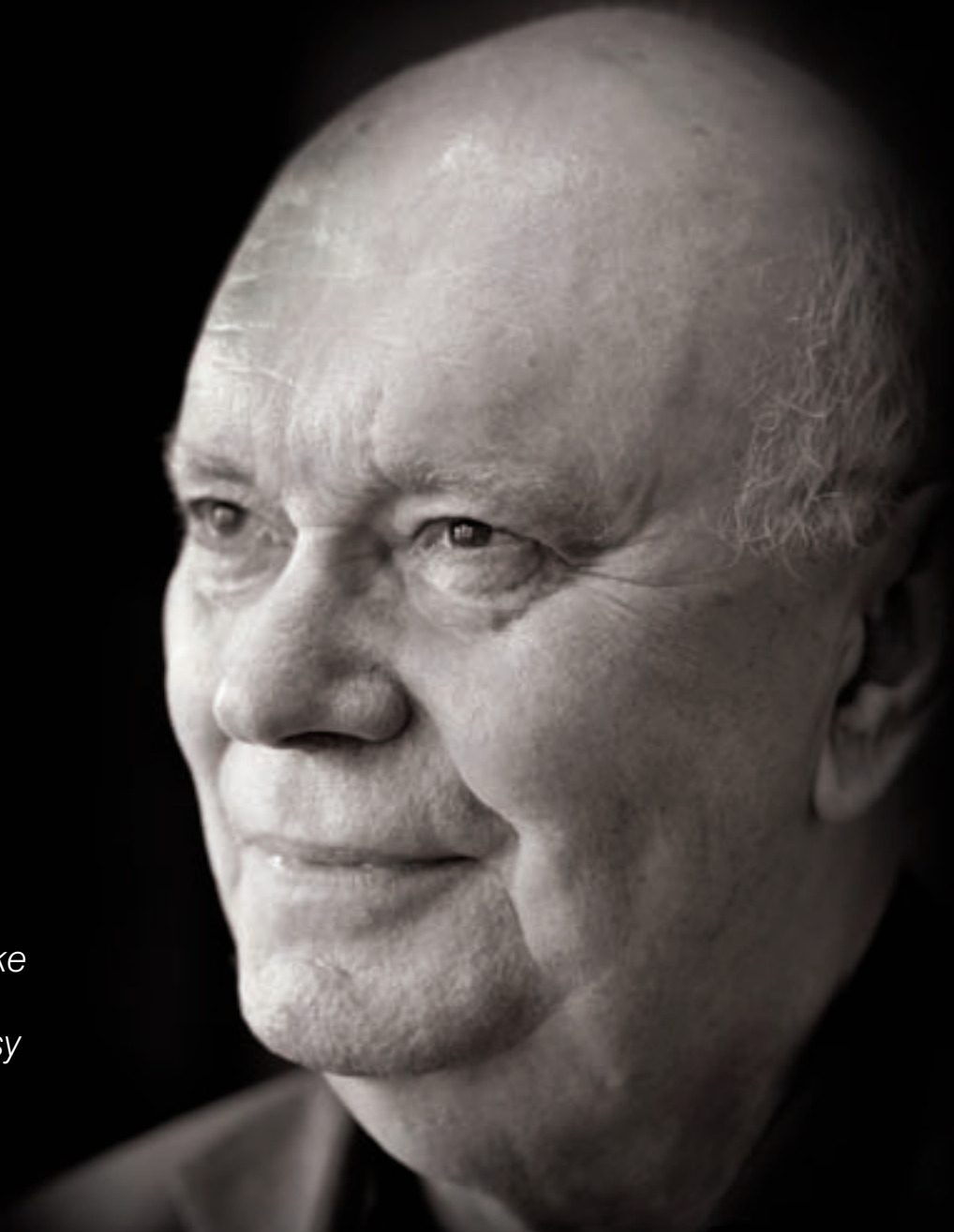
I like to think of all those pieces you mention as children; and, as with any child, you can't pick a favourite. But of course I'm hugely grateful to *Swan Lake* - how could I not be? It changed my life and a lot of people's lives. It took us to Broadway and made us an international company. The fact is, I still love thinking about it and working on it, and I still have a lot to say about it to the dancers. It's amazing to think that in eighteen years we've gone from a company of eight to one of seventy, and that we've done more performances of our *Swan Lake* during those years than the Royal Ballet has done during its entire existence.

**What you're doing, presumably, with your company *New Adventures* is looking forward as well as back...**

That's exactly right. *Swan Lake* was the trailblazer - so much so that when we cast the show nowadays we find men whose whole ambition as dancers has been about appearing in this piece. By contrast, eighteen years ago it was hard to get a cast of fourteen swans together! Now, hundreds come to each audition. But what's most satisfying is that this hasn't been our only successful thing. I wouldn't feel the same about *Swan Lake* if it had been a one-hit wonder. I'm grateful for this show, but also for all the ones that have come since, not least in terms of the public following myself and following the company.



Matthew Bourne's *Swan Lake* shows at Birmingham Hippodrome from Wed 5 to Sat 15 February.



“The good people are the hardest to make interesting. Villains are easy and generally more fun!”

# Alan Ayckbourn

talks about his latest play, Arrivals And Departures...



**With seventy-eight plays under his belt, more than forty of which have been performed in the West End, Alan Ayckbourn is one of the world's most prolific and successful playwrights. The Tony and Olivier Award-winner's latest work - Arrivals And Departures - is this month being performed at Warwick Arts Centre alongside two of his other plays, Time Of My Life and Farcicals. What's On recently caught up with Alan to talk about his career, his inspirations, and the very particular challenges of writing for the stage...**

**What can you tell us about your new play, Arrivals And Departures, Alan?**

It's a memory play, in short. It's got a cast of thirty speaking parts shared between eleven actors plus two children. But while it's a big play in scale, it's not a big play in terms of the characters. It centres around a single, central relationship and is essentially all about two people, Barry and Ez. Against this background, there's also a side-plot running which is to do with an ambush to catch a terrorist. So it's a play on several levels. Hopefully it will not confuse but amuse!

**You describe it as a memory play. What does that mean?**

Two strangers meet and the audience learn about their back-stories through their memories. So at the end of the play, the characters themselves know precious little more about each other than they did when they started out. It was interesting for me to write. Normally, as the characters get to know each other, so do the audience. But here, only the audience gets to know the back-stories, and only they realise how close these characters could be, but for the fact that they're strangers.

**Was there anything which particularly inspired you to write the play?**

Not really. It sort of evolved from this idea of telling a story through memories. Form always fascinates me. Arrivals And Departures has an interesting structure. Having written so many plays, many of which have straight narratives, I think that nowadays one of the interests for me is to surprise and intrigue the audience through the way the story is told, just as much as through the story itself. There aren't that many new stories to tell, if indeed any; it's only in the way they're narrated that the story becomes new. I think my audience has got used now to saying, "how's this going to start?". It's also not just a matter of looking for new ways to tell a story, but of keeping me fresh as well.

**How do you write a story told primarily through memories?**

Cinema has always been a prime influence on me, much more so than stage work. The grammar of cinema is something immediately adaptable to the sort of theatre I work in, which is normally free of big set changes. I'm free to use cinematic techniques, such as the flashbacks in Arrivals And Departures. There's a whole series of memories for Ez and Barry which, in their minds, probably seem far longer than they actually are. How often do we get a flash of memory and you've apparently been back in time for about twenty minutes but only a second has passed in real time? You can't have twenty-minute scenes on stage and then say to the audience, only a second has passed in real time. So you have to try and condense the information in these memory scenes. It's an exercise in

'precise information' playwriting; writing a scene of less than a page which gives you four or five pages of information. This is also challenging because brevity is no guarantee of interest - brevity, mercifully, just doesn't take very long!

**The play also has an unusual setting...**

One of the most notable things about Arrivals And Departures is that there isn't a single domestic scene in the play. They're all set on railway stations or in bus stations - all to do with transportation. Even the flashbacks always happen in airports, multi-storey car parks and so on; anywhere except a domestic sitting room. This is, I think, not unrelated to the title of the play, which also refers to other arrivals and departures in life, such as births and deaths.

**What can you tell us about the main characters - Ez and Barry?**

Ez is a young female soldier who's lost her faith in human nature. Barry is a traffic warden from Harrogate. He's a fascinating character and not a million miles away from Douglas Beechey in my play Man Of The Moment, who's also had a troubled subtext of a life. Everything has fallen in on Barry, but he's the sort of person who keeps the smile in place because his philosophy is, if you smile every day, you spread a little bit of happiness and you make the world a slightly happier place. But the consequence of that is you don't let anyone in. So there's a fortress about him, and the smile excludes anyone taking him at more than skin-deep level. We get the privilege of moving in quite close and seeing beneath the smile.

**Arrivals And Departures is playing in repertory with Time Of My Life. Are there any similarities between the plays?**

Both plays are to do with time, which is interesting. But the way time is used in Arrivals And Departures is nowhere near as complicated as how time is used in Time Of My Life. I'm still looking at the old prompt script of Time Of My Life to see how we originally did it!

**Did you have a desire to tell stories from an early age?**

Yes. Storytelling was a big part of my upbringing - probably the result, during my early years, of having a mother as a writer who spent most of her time writing in order to feed our single-parent family of two! What choice did I have?

**Strong-minded women feature heavily in your work. Why's this?**

The result of the above. My mother had gone right off men at that particular time and preferred the company of other women. They chatted away for hours and usually never noticed little six-year-old me, playing in the corner. But I heard them.

**Did starting out as an actor influence your writing?**

It's not uncommon for playwrights to start out as actors. From Shakespeare onwards, it's been very important; a sort of apprenticeship, really. There's nothing like actually doing it for learning the craft. It's a bit like learning an instrument before embarking on composition.

**Who's inspired you most as a writer, and why?**

I was 'born' as a writer at an interesting time for British theatre. At the end of the old order - from Coward, Rattigan etc backwards - and on the threshold of the new order - Pinter, Osborne and company onwards. So at the start, practically everyone influenced me. Plus a whole load of black-and-white - as well as silent - films.

**What do you consider the essential components of a great play?**

Good narrative, absorbing and shifting characters, and preferably an intriguing angle. A great play is one that keeps you in your seat, filled with expectation and anticipation till the very end.

**Do you always follow the same format when writing?**

Never. I try always to start with a clean sheet. Obviously, ingrained technique and technical know-how will govern me to some extent, but whenever possible, at my stage of life, I like to break all the rules.

**Have you ever given up on a play?**

Yes, once every few years. Hopefully before they're even produced!

**Who's been the most difficult character to develop?**

The good people are the hardest to make interesting. Villains are easy and generally more fun!



Farcicals

The Alan Ayckbourn Ensemble, featuring Arrivals And Departures, Time Of My Life and Farcicals, shows at Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry, from Tues 11 to Sat 15 February.

## What's on

# HIGHLIGHTS

To see what's on when, visit [www.thsh.co.uk/whats-on](http://www.thsh.co.uk/whats-on)

### Rock, Pop & Entertainment



#### Anton Du Beke: Ballroom to Broadway

Sunday 9 March  
3pm  
Symphony Hall  
£19.50 – £41.50 plus transaction fee\*



#### Goldfrapp

Wednesday 26 March  
Doors 7pm  
Symphony Hall  
£18.50 – £29.50 plus transaction fee\*



#### Last Night of the Spring Proms

Sunday 30 March  
3pm  
Symphony Hall  
£14.50 – £36.50 plus transaction fee\*



#### The Swinging Big Bands & the Songs of Frank Sinatra with the Gordon Campbell Big Band

Sunday 30 March  
3pm  
Town Hall  
£12.50 – £17.50 plus transaction fee\*

### Rock, Pop & Entertainment



#### From Hackney to Hollywood: The Don Black Songbook

Thursday 3 April  
7.30pm  
Symphony Hall  
£22.50 – £36.50 plus transaction fee\*

### Jazz, Folk, World & Roots



#### Salsa Celtica

Thursday 6 March  
8pm  
Town Hall  
£17.50 plus transaction fee\*

### Classical



#### San Francisco Symphony and Michael Tilson Thomas

Friday 14 March  
7.30pm  
Symphony Hall  
£9.50 – £60 plus transaction fee\*

### Family



#### Hetty Feather

Tuesday 22 –  
Sunday 27 April  
Town Hall  
£15 – £21.50 plus transaction fee\*

\*A £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.

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# Music

## Sam Smith

The Institute, Birmingham, Fri 28 February

To say that the soulful-voiced Sam Smith has had a good start to 2014 would be an understatement. From featured vocalist for Disclosure to achieving standout success, Sam is making the industry sit up and take notice. Named Critics' Choice ahead of this month's BRIT Awards, he also won the BBC's Sound Of 2014 award, beating off opposition from Ella Eyre, Banks, Sampha and George Ezra in the process. This Institute gig is one of six special UK dates he's playing prior to the May release of his debut album, *The Lonely Hour*.



## Tom Odell

Civic Hall, Wolverhampton, Sun 9 February

Shooting to fame with album *The Long Way Down* and standout single *Another Love*, Tom Odell won the BRIT Awards Critics' Choice gong in 2013. Nominated for two BRITs this year, for Best British Male Solo Artist and British Breakthrough Act, Tom shows no sign of slowing down, and will stop off at five UK venues on this tour. Recently revealing his fear of spiders when one crawled across his piano onstage in Tasmania, he's forecast that fellow artist Sam Smith will have 'a huge year' in 2014 - as long as he watches out for spiders!

## Mr Scruff

The Assembly, Leamington Spa, Thurs 13 February; Hare & Hounds, Birmingham, Fri 14 - Sat 15 March

This DJ, producer, cartoonist and self-professed tea drinker is named after his scruffy beard and love of loose line drawings. Renowned for all-night-long, across-the-board DJ sets, Mr Scruff presents a vinyl melting-pot of jazz, soul, hip-hop, funk, disco, deep house, reggae, dubstep, afrobeat, latin and gems that defy categorisation.

A talented illustrator - he draws the covers to his albums and singles - he's best known for tracks such as *Get A Move On*. His Midlands gigs are among a handful of shows he's presenting across the UK and Europe this month.



## Beyoncé

LG Arena, Birmingham, Sun 23 - Mon 24 February

Famed for her high-energy performances and spectacular stage shows, Beyoncé Knowles' star continues to be in the ascendant. The former *Destiny's Child* singer is now one of the best-selling music artists of all time, having notched up in excess of seventy-five million album sales worldwide. Not surprisingly given that fact, she's also bagged her fair share (and then some!) of gongs and accolades, including way more Grammy Awards than she's got fingers and no small number of MTV Video Music Awards. She visits Birmingham this month with her *Mrs Carter Show*, which was the highest grossing tour by a female artist in 2013.

## London Grammar

O2 Academy, Birmingham, Sun 16 February

Debut album *If You Wait* not only earned London Grammar Number Two spots in both the UK and Australian album charts, it also bagged them a BRIT Award nomination in the British Breakthrough Act category. The trio's music has been described as 'a blend of ambient, ethereal and classical sounds', with Hannah Reid's voice being compared to that of Florence Welch. The band have certainly been quick off the mark in terms of gaining global fame, with this year's fourteen-date UK headline tour and a further nineteen dates in America and Canada seeming certain to raise their profile even further. Electro duo Bondax support.



# LIVE MUSIC SHOWS



**RACHEL SERMANNI**  
FRI 7 FEB (STUDIO)



**THE BEARDS**  
MON 17 FEB



**JOHN BRAMWELL**  
FRI 21 FEB (STUDIO)



**ANAIIS MITCHELL**  
WED 5 MAR



**THE WEBB SISTERS**  
WED 26 MAR



**WHITE DENIM**  
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Fri 7 February, 8pm

## CRAIG OGDEN

Giuliani: Grand Overture Dowland: Lachrimae Pavane  
Dowland: Fantasia No. 7 Britten: Nocturnal op 70  
Poulenc: Sarabande Turina: Sonata for Guitar op 61  
Bach: Lute Suite No 4 BWV 1006a Walton: 5 Bagatelles



Fri 28 February, 8pm

## TIPPETT QUARTET

Mozart: String Quartet in G K387  
Robert Simpson: String Quartet No 11 (1984)  
Beethoven: String Quartet in C op 59 - 3



Fri 21 March, 8pm

## CAVALERI QUARTET WITH TIMOTHY ORPEN

Janacek: String Quartet No 2 'Intimate Letters'  
Ian Venables: Canzonetta for clarinet and  
string quartet (1st performance - Joint Bromsgrove  
Concerts/Droitwich Concert Club Commission) Mozart: Clarinet Quintet in A K581



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[www.artrix.co.uk](http://www.artrix.co.uk) [www.bromsgrove-concerts.org.uk](http://www.bromsgrove-concerts.org.uk)

Raymond Gubbay presents

Friday 14 February at 7.30pm

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**Grieg** Piano Concerto in A Minor  
**Bizet** Carmen Suite  
**Mascagni** Intermezzo from Cavalleria Rusticana  
**Strauss** Roses from the South Waltz  
**Ravel** Bolero

Viv McLean piano Toby Purser conductor  
London Concert Orchestra



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**SOUSA** Stars and Stripes Forever  
**GRIEG** Morning & In the Hall  
of the Mountain King  
**PUCCINI** O soave fanciulla from *La bohème*  
**VERDI** Brindisi from *La Traviata*  
**TCHAIKOVSKY** Swan Lake Suite and Finale  
**SUPPE** Light Cavalry Overture  
**ELGAR** Nimrod from *Enigma Variations*  
**GOODWIN** 633 Squadron  
**COATES** The Dambusters March

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## The Gipsy Kings

Civic Hall, Wolverhampton, Fri 21 February

Presenting music that's been described as having 'a rumba flamenca style with pop influences', The Gipsy Kings hail from Arles and Montpellier in the South of France and perform in Spanish with an Andalusian accent. Formed in 1978, they enjoyed a major success with their self-titled debut album, and have since become even more widely known as a result of their contributions to the soundtracks of hit movies *The Big Lebowski* and *Toy Story 3*.



## Penguin Café

Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry, Wed 19 February

Continuing the legacy of the Penguin Café Orchestra, created by Simon Jeffes forty years ago, Penguin Café was formed in 2010 by Simon's son, Arthur, when he realised how much he missed his father's music. Describing their sound as 'cheerfully beautiful chaos', Arthur mixes original Penguin Café Orchestra music with new compositions, fusing traditional Englishness with rhythms from other cultures, such as those of South America and West Africa. Following last year's sell-out UK tour, Penguin Café are this month releasing new album *The Red Book*.



## Skaters

Hare & Hounds, Birmingham, Fri 28 February

This transatlantic trio comprises LA-based singer Michael Cummings and drummer Noah Rubin, both of *The Dead Trees*, and London-based guitarist Joshua Hubbard from *Dirty Pretty Things*. Meeting in the middle, they now call Manhattan their home. A constant source of inspiration, they're gearing up for the release of aptly titled debut *Manhattan*, just prior to this King's Heath show. Influenced by skate culture and the ethos of acceptance, the band's Birmingham stop-off is one of eight UK shows.



## Bonobo

The Institute, Birmingham, Thurs 27 February

It looks like being another busy year for musician, producer and DJ Simon Green, stage name Bonobo. He's already confirmed slots at two of the world's most prestigious music festivals - Coachella and Sonar - and is also undertaking a twenty-date tour of Europe and the UK. All this after releasing his album *The North Borders* late last year. Still, with over ten years' experience, countless mix records and five successful albums - including *Dial M For Monkey* and *Black Sands* - under his belt, he's a man who's well used to busy schedules. He's accompanied at The Institute by a full live band.

## Gerry Cross The Mersey

Artrix, Bromsgrove, Sat 15 February

Best known for the hit song *Ferry Cross The Mersey* - and for the version of *You'll Never Walk Alone* that first inspired Liverpool FC's supporters to sing the most famous of all football anthems - Gerry Marsden is one of the UK music industry's greatest 1960s icons. This hugely popular show offers his fans the chance to take a nostalgia-drenched stroll down memory lane, as Gerry presents an evening that sees him blending his greatest hits with plenty of stories, jokes and anecdotes from his fifty-plus years in the business.

## The Beards

The Glee Club, Birmingham, Mon 17 February

Singing songs that extol the virtues of having a beard, these four hairy Australians - Johann Beardraven, John Beardman Jr, Nathaniel Beard and Facey McStubblington - are the perfect antidote to the winter blues. Embarking on their first ever world tour, they've specifically picked First World countries to visit, as "people living in developed countries are more susceptible to shaving - it's important for our message to reach them". Hits include *If Your Dad Doesn't Have A Beard* and *You've Got Two Dads*.



## Suzanne Vega

Town Hall, Birmingham, Mon 3 February

A sensitive, deeply personal artist, whose success presaged a wave of singer/songwriters, Suzanne Vega first reached international attention with the massive single *Marlene On The Wall*. Each of her following albums has seen her making plenty of musical developments, even if the themes have remained pretty much constant. Although unlikely to regain the levels of success she enjoyed in the late-1980s, mainly because there's so much competition these days, she remains a thoughtful and rewarding performer. Her 2014 world tour is in celebration of her new album *Tales From The Realm Of The Queen Of Pentacles*.



## Fairport Convention

Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury, Thur 6 Feb;  
Royal Spa Centre, Warwickshire, Tues 11 Feb;  
Town Hall, Birmingham, Tues 4 Mar;

Given that seminal album *Liege & Lief* is hailed as having been the inspiration for the electric folk movement, it's hardly surprising that Fairport Convention are considered to be one of English folk rock's most important groups. Founded in 1967, the band have, at various times, featured some of the country's most talented musicians, and since 1979 have hosted the Cropredy Festival, the largest annual event of its kind in England.

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Charlie Piper With Stolen Fire  
Britten Sinfonietta Op 1 Martinu Nonet  
Wagner Siegfried Idyll

Sunday 16 March at 3.00pm  
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Telemann Paris Quartet in D  
CPE Bach Trio Sonata in G Wq144  
Leclair Deuxieme recreation de musique d'une execution facile in G minor Op 8  
JS Bach Ricercar a 3 and Trio Sonata from The Musical Offering  
Marais Le Sonnerie de Sainte Genevieve du Mont a Paris  
Rebel Les caracteres de la Danse



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# UNIVERSITY OF BIRMINGHAM

## BARBER CONCERTS



### The Ehnes Quartet 5 February 7.30pm

James Ehnes violin  
Amy Schwartz Moretti violin  
Richard O'Neill viola  
Robert deMaine cello

Formed in 2010, the Ehnes Quartet, led by internationally celebrated soloist James Ehnes, makes its Barber Institute debut. The programme highlights two works with traditional, folk music influences by Bartók and Suk, and also showcases the quartet's 'talent, intelligence and sensitivity' (*La Presse*) in what has become their signature piece, Ravel's String Quartet in F.



### The English Concert 'Godfather, Father and Son' 26 March 7.30pm

Lawrence Cummings director  
Alfonso Leal del Ojo viola  
Lisa Beznosiuk flute  
Katharina Spreckelsen oboe

The English Concert, one of the world's leading period instrument ensembles, perform works by Telemann, J S Bach and C P E Bach. The English Concert has worked at the forefront of the Baroque and Classical music revival and comprises many of Europe's finest baroque musicians.

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# Music LISTINGS

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

## SAT 1 FEB

**THE RED LEMONS** The Jam House, B'ham  
**THAT'LL BE THE DAY** Bedworth Civic Hall  
**PAUL CARRACK** Royal Spa Centre  
**SHOWADDYWADDY** The Robin, Bilston  
**T-REXTASY** Artrix, Bromsgrove  
**KIRVANA** The Slade Rooms, W'hampton  
**KICK UP THE 80S** The River Rooms, Stourbridge  
**FABIO, GROOVERIDER & UTAH JAZZ** Hare & Hounds, Birmingham  
**INCLEMENT QUARTET & KATY ROSE** Ort Cafe, Birmingham  
**BLED FROM WITHIN** Kasbah, Coventry  
**AND FINALLY - PHIL COLLINS TRIBUTE SHOW** The Swan Theatre, Worcester  
**THE MIGHTY WRAITH** The Roadhouse, B'ham  
**STAYIN ALIVE - THE DEFINITIVE BEE GEES TRIBUTE** Evesham Arts Centre, Worcester  
**RE-COVERED** The Irish Centre, B'ham  
**TOMMY HUNT MINI NIGHT'ER** Wulfrun Hall, Wolverhampton  
**THE FOO FIGHTERS TRIBUTE** The Marr's Bar, Worcester  
**RUBY TURNER** Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry  
**BRAINS FOR BREAKFAST, CHAPTER, CTRL C & EUPHONY** O2 Academy, Birmingham  
**ONLY THE GOOD & TIGER-PUNCH** The Actress & Bishop, Birmingham  
**IVOR AND LYN'S CLASSIC ROCK DISCO** Route 44, Birmingham  
**EYE OF SOLITUDE** The Asylum, Birmingham  
**HANK WANGFORD** Kitchen Garden Cafe, Birmingham  
**40Z OF GROOVE** The Yardbird, Birmingham

## SUN 2 FEB

**PROTEST THE HERO** O2 Academy, Birmingham  
**SEPULTURA** The Institute, Birmingham  
**THE CLASSIC ROCK SHOW** Birmingham Town Hall  
**DEBORAH ROSE** Artrix, Bromsgrove  
**MICK FLAVIN** The Irish Centre, Birmingham  
**JAGUAR LAND ROVER BAND IN CONCERT** Solihull Arts Complex  
**EMMA MARIE** The Actress & Bishop, B'ham  
**ROCK/ALT ALL DAYER** The Roadhouse, B'ham  
**BONFIRE RADICALS & KATE DOUBLEDAY BAND** Kitchen Garden Cafe, Birmingham

## MON 3 FEB

**SUZANNE VEGA** Birmingham Town Hall  
**CLUTCHING AT STRAWS** Kitchen Garden Cafe, Birmingham  
**THE DUNNETT & BAXTER BIG BAND** The Yardbird Jazz Club, Birmingham

## TUES 4 FEB

**RX BANDITS** Hare & Hounds, Birmingham  
**METRO SOUL** The Jam House, Birmingham  
**ANDY BUNTING QUINTET** The Spotted Dog, Birmingham  
**NIX, NI, OI FAITHFUL** The Yardbird, Birmingham

## WED 5 FEB

**LANDERMASON** The Red Lion Folk Club, Birmingham  
**SCHOOL OF ROCK & POP SHOWCASE** O2 Academy, Birmingham  
**ALDERBROOK ROCK AND POP FESTIVAL** Solihull Arts Complex  
**HIP HATCHET** Kitchen Garden Cafe, B'ham

## THUR 6 FEB

**KING PLEASURE & THE BISCUIT BOYS** The Robin, Bilston  
**BRILLIANT CORNERS** PLAY THELONIOUS MONK The Yardbird, B'ham  
**DEL AMITRI** Civic Hall, Wolverhampton  
**TALON - THE BEST OF THE EAGLES** Huntingdon Hall, Worcester  
**ACOUSTIC / FOLK SHOWCASE** The Roadhouse, Birmingham  
**THE SIMON AND GARFUNKEL STORY** The Swan Theatre, Worcester  
**KILLSWITCH ENGAGE AND TRIVIAM** O2 Academy, Birmingham  
**ADAM ISAAC BAND** The Jam House, B'ham  
**BOAT TO ROW** Symphony Hall, B'ham  
**WE ARE THE IN CROWD** O2 Academy, B'ham

## FRI 7 FEB

**CREAM OF CLAPTON** The Place, Oakenates  
**THINK FLOYD** The Robin, Bilston  
**LOEFAR, PALEMAN, MICKEY PEARCE & CHUNKEY** The Rainbow Venues, Birmingham  
**FLOSSIE MALAVIALLE** Lichfield Guildhall  
**THE BOXER REBELLION** O2 Academy, B'ham  
**WE ARE UNDERSIGNED** The Yardbird, B'ham  
**KISS - DRESSED TO KILL** The River Rooms, Stourbridge  
**FRAN THE MAN** The Irish

Centre, Birmingham  
**CASH - PAYIN' RESPECT TO THE MAN IN BLACK** O2 Academy, Birmingham  
**JOHN OTWAY** The Assembly, Leamington Spa  
**THE OASIS EXPERIENCE** The Roadhouse, B'ham  
**THE STAFFORDSHIRE BAND: BRASS PLANET** Forest Arts Centre, Walsall  
**THE STRAITS** Birmingham Town Hall  
**HARRIET AMOS** Huntingdon Hall, Worcester  
**ABBAMANIA** Crewe Lyceum  
**RAYMOND FROGGATT** The Edge Arts Centre, Much Wenlock  
**MAXXI SOUNDSYSTEM** Hare & Hounds, B'ham  
**GROUPE** The Jam House, Birmingham  
**KINGS OF LYON** The Marr's Bar, Worcester  
**THAT'S LIFE - TAKE THAT & WESTLIFE SHOW** Nailcote Hall, Berkswell  
**THE DRIFTERS** Royal Spa Centre, Leamington Spa  
**RACHEL SERMANNI** The Glee Club, Birmingham  
**BOOTLEG ABBA & QUEEN ALIVE** Solihull Arts Complex  
**JONATHAN SILK QUINTET** Symphony Hall, B'ham  
**BIG CITY** Route 44, Birmingham

## SAT 8 FEB

**GROUPE** The Jam House, Birmingham  
**FLUX** Symphony Hall, Birmingham  
**EXPLOSIVE LIGHT ORCHESTRA** The Roadhouse, Birmingham  
**THE BOWIE EXPERIENCE** Theatre On The Steps, Bridgnorth, Shropshire  
**THE BIG 4 TRIBUTE BAND** The Sugarmill, Stoke-on-Trent  
**ROB ORBISON & FRIENDS WITH BARRY STEELE** Solihull Arts Complex  
**DEAD PREZ** Kasbah, Coventry  
**LESS THAN JAKE & REEL BIG FISH & ZEBRAHEAD** O2 Academy, B'ham  
**EVERLY BROTHERS TRIBUTE SHOW** Huntingdon Hall, Worcester  
**ABBA MANIA** Bedworth Civic Hall  
**THE ZIGGIE PAUL BAND** Route 44, Birmingham  
**JOSH KEMP QUARTET** The Hive, Shrewsbury  
**GA GA** Tamworth Assembly Rooms  
**WHOLE LOTTA LED** The Swan Theatre, Worcester  
**URIAH HEEP** The Robin, Bilston  
**THE ELVIS YEARS** Royal Spa Centre, Leamington Spa  
**THE ATLANTICS AND DJ DREW STANSALL (THE SPECIALS)** Hare & Hounds, Birmingham  
**THE DEEP DARK WOODS** The Sunflower Lounge, Birmingham  
**THE TREATMENT** The Slade Rooms, Wolverhampton  
**LUCY SPRAGGAN** The Place, Oakenates,

Telford  
**KRAFTWERK UNCOVERED** Birmingham Town Hall  
**THE WEEKEND ANTHEMS** The River Rooms, Stourbridge  
**THE HURLING BOYS** The Irish Centre, B'ham  
**BUZZARD LOPE & GILL SANDELL** Ort Cafe, Birmingham  
**CHAINS, STYLUSBOY & DAN WILDE** The Tin Music And Arts, Coventry

## SUN 9 FEB

**TOM ODELL** Civic Hall, Wolverhampton  
**MOLLY HATCHET** The Robin, Bilston  
**SLAVES / PUP** The Flapper, Birmingham  
**SHAWN CUDDY** The Irish Centre, Birmingham  
**ELEANOR MCEVOY** Marr's Bar, Worcester  
**ROD AND THE FACEZ** The Roadhouse, B'ham  
**LIBERTY LIES, OF BLUE SKIES AND YOUTH, LIGHT-FIRE** Sunflower Lounge, Birmingham

## MON 10 FEB

**ANNA CALVI** The Institute, Birmingham  
**EL BORN** Kasbah, Coventry  
**MARTIN CARTHY** Kitchen Garden Cafe, B'ham

## TUES 11 FEB

**FOALS** O2 Academy, Birmingham  
**LITTLE COMETS** The Institute, Birmingham  
**FAIRPORT CONVENTION** Royal Spa Centre, Leamington Spa  
**KENT DUCHAINE** The Jam House, B'ham  
**KESTON COBBLERS CLUB** Hare & Hounds, B'ham  
**ARNIE SOMOGYI'S MINGUS BIG BAND** The Spotted Dog, B'ham  
**ELEANOR MCEVOY** Kitchen Garden Cafe, Birmingham  
**NASHVILLE BLUES, THE FIDGETS & 120 MINUTES** The Yardbird, B'ham

## WED 12 FEB

**MARTIN TURNERS WISHBONE ASH** The Robin, Bilston  
**THE 1975** O2 Academy, Birmingham  
**GOSPEL CENTRAL** The Jam House, B'ham  
**THE QUIREBOYS** The Assembly, Leamington Spa  
**THREE STEP MANOEUVRE** FUNKY ORGAN TRIO The Yardbird, Birmingham  
**LITE** The Flapper, B'ham  
**STEVE KNIGHTLEY** The Red Lion Folk Club, Birmingham  
**SHY NATURE** Hare & Hounds, Birmingham  
**JOHN COOPER CLARKE** New Vic Theatre, New-castle-under-Lyme

## THUR 13 FEB

**KERRANG! TOUR - LIMP BIZKIT, CROSSFAITH & NEKROGBLIKON** O2 Academy, Birmingham

**ANTHONY MARSDEN MAJOR PROJECT BAND** The Yardbird, B'ham  
**WILL AND THE PEOPLE** Hare & Hounds, B'ham  
**JOHN KIRKPATRICK** Huntingdon Hall, Worcester  
**KATHRYN ROBERTS & SEAN LAKEMAN** Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury  
**SONS OF CREAM** The Robin, Bilston  
**THE SUBS** The Jam House, Birmingham  
**SPEEDY ORTIZ** Hare & Hounds, Birmingham  
**HEATHER PEACE** The Institute, Birmingham  
**RICHARD DIGANCE** Solihull Arts Complex  
**HAGLEY SCHOOL - THE MUSIC OF ABBA** Birmingham Town Hall  
**MR SCRUFF** The Assembly, Leamington Spa  
**TANKUS THE HENGE, SUNDOWN & GRASSROUTES** The Roadhouse, B'ham

## FRI 14 FEB

**A DAY TO REMEMBER** O2 Academy, Birmingham  
**MONSTER MAGNET** Wulfrun Hall, W'hampton  
**STEVE AJAO JAZZ QUARTET** Symphony Hall, Birmingham  
**THAT'LL BE THE DAY** Crewe Lyceum  
**THE BON JOVI EXPERIENCE** The River Rooms, Stourbridge  
**LET'S HANG ON** Tamworth Assembly Rooms  
**NINE BELOW ZERO** The Robin, Bilston  
**GARY CROSBY'S FOUNDATION** Arena Theatre, Wolverhampton  
**THE INTENTIONS** The Jam House, B'ham  
**THE ELECTRO SWING BALL** The Place, Oakenates, Telford  
**SHOOTING THE BREEZE** Irish Centre, B'ham  
**HEAVEN 17** Birmingham Town Hall  
**BROTHERS GROOVE** Dudley Brewhouse Blues Club, Dudley  
**KEITH JAMES: THE SONGS OF LEONARD COHEN** Artrix, Bromsgrove  
**TICH** The Institute, B'ham  
**THINK FLOYD** The Swan Theatre, Worcester  
**LOVE CLASSICS** Symphony Hall, B'ham  
**MARZY'S VALENTINE BURLESQUE SPECIAL** The Marr's Bar, Worcester  
**MOTOWN LEGENDS PARTY WITH SOUL LEGEND** Nailcote Hall, Berkswell, Works  
**QUILL** Prince Of Wales Centre, Cannock  
**BON GIOVI** The Roadhouse, Birmingham  
**JACQUI DANKWORTH** Solihull Arts Complex  
**THE WISE GUYS** Fleet Street Kitchen, B'ham

## SUN 16 FEB

**LONDON GRAMMAR** O2 Academy, Birmingham  
**EDENBRIDGE** The Robin, Bilston  
**THE STRYPES** The Institute, Birmingham  
**THE 45S** Hare & Hounds, Birmingham  
**CHRIS QUINN** The Kitchen Garden Cafe, Birmingham  
**BARB JUNGR: HARD RAIN** Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry  
**EZRA FURMAN** Hare & Hounds, Birmingham  
**LITTLE JIMMY** The Irish Centre, Birmingham  
**SALVATION, KRITICAL CHARGE, SKULL FOX & ROGUE AMBITION** The Flapper, Birmingham  
**LOVESPELL** The Roadhouse, Birmingham

## MON 17 FEB

**MOTORHEAD** Civic Hall, Wolverhampton  
**THE BEARDS** The Glee Club, Birmingham  
**LIANNE KAYE** Hare & Hounds, Birmingham  
**THE DEFILED, BUTCHER BABIES & THE KILLING LIGHTS** The Asylum, Birmingham  
**BROOM BEZZUMS** The Marr's Bar, Worcester  
**THE DEMON BARBERS** New Vic Theatre, New-castle-under-Lyme

## SAT 15 FEB

**THE INTENTIONS** The Jam House, B'ham  
**SARA COLMAN** Symphony Hall, B'ham  
**UPON DESCENT** The Slade Rooms, Wolverhampton  
**HIDDEN SKIES, HOPE AND**

**CHANCE, TIGER PUNCH & LOST AT HOME** O2 Academy, Birmingham  
**DREAM THEATER** Civic Hall, Wolverhampton  
**GERRY CROSS** The MERSEY Artrix, Bromsgrove  
**BAD LUCK & SUPERSTITION WITH SEVENTH ERA** Route 44, Birmingham  
**FURY, TWISTED SPECIES, TEXAS FLOOD & LIGHT-FIRE** Scruffy Murphys, Birmingham  
**LET'S HANG ON** Stafford Gatehouse  
**FOREVER IN BLUE JEANS** The Swan Theatre, Worcester  
**THE COUNTERFEIT STONES** The Robin, Bilston  
**PETER HOOK AND THE LIGHT** The Assembly, Leamington Spa  
**SHADOW DEAMON VALENTINES BALL FT. DJ SLY, BASSMAN, TRIGGA, NICKY BLACKMARKET AND MORE** The Institute, Birmingham  
**BASIA BULAT** Hare & Hounds, Birmingham  
**CHILDREN OF THE GRAVY - BLACK SABBATH TRIBUTE** The Roadhouse, Birmingham  
**ZIM ZIM** The Actress & Bishop, Birmingham  
**KNOXVILLE HIGHWAY** Solihull Arts Complex  
**THE BON JOVI EXPERIENCE** The River Rooms, Stourbridge  
**PAT BRESLIN** Irish Centre, Birmingham

## SUN 16 FEB

**LONDON GRAMMAR** O2 Academy, Birmingham  
**EDENBRIDGE** The Robin, Bilston  
**THE STRYPES** The Institute, Birmingham  
**THE 45S** Hare & Hounds, Birmingham  
**CHRIS QUINN** The Kitchen Garden Cafe, Birmingham  
**BARB JUNGR: HARD RAIN** Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry  
**EZRA FURMAN** Hare & Hounds, Birmingham  
**LITTLE JIMMY** The Irish Centre, Birmingham  
**SALVATION, KRITICAL CHARGE, SKULL FOX & ROGUE AMBITION** The Flapper, Birmingham  
**LOVESPELL** The Roadhouse, Birmingham

## MON 17 FEB

**MOTORHEAD** Civic Hall, Wolverhampton  
**THE BEARDS** The Glee Club, Birmingham  
**LIANNE KAYE** Hare & Hounds, Birmingham  
**THE DEFILED, BUTCHER BABIES & THE KILLING LIGHTS** The Asylum, Birmingham  
**BROOM BEZZUMS** The Marr's Bar, Worcester  
**THE DEMON BARBERS** New Vic Theatre, New-castle-under-Lyme

## TUES 18 FEB

**BRYAN CORBETT QUARTET** The Jam House, B'ham

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**Sat 15th  
FEBRUARY**

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**Fri 21st  
MARCH**

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MARCH**

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# Music LISTINGS

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**PETE KENT** The Robin, Bilston  
**TURISAS** The Slade Rooms, Wolverhampton  
**CHARITY BATTLE OF THE BANDS** The Roadhouse, Birmingham  
**JOHN FLEMING QUINTET** The Spotted Dog, Birmingham  
**CATE LE BON** Hare & Hounds, Birmingham  
**ANDY WHITE** Kitchen Garden Cafe, B'ham  
**MATT FROBISHER, ALAN MASON, THE STRANGLER FIGS** The Yardbird, Birmingham

## WED 19 FEB

**THE ARISTOCRATS FT. GUTHRIE GOVAN** The Assembly, Leamington Spa  
**SONS OF ICARUS** The Asylum, Birmingham  
**TWENTY ONE PILOTS** The Institute, Birmingham  
**THE UKULELE ORCHESTRA OF GREAT BRITAIN** Symphony Hall, Birmingham  
**KATHRYN ROBERTS & SEAN LAKEMAN** Artrix, Bromsgrove  
**THE DANSE SOCIETY** The Robin, Bilston  
**DUELLER 88** The Jam House, Birmingham  
**RED SHOES** The Red Lion Folk Club, B'ham  
**PENGUIN CAFE** Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry  
**DRENGE** Hare & Hounds, Birmingham  
**MECHANICAL SMILE** The Roadhouse, B'ham  
**RED METHOD** O2 Academy, Birmingham  
**SWEET GUM TREE** The Institute, Birmingham

## THUR 20 FEB

**AYNSLEY LISTER BAND** The Robin, Bilston  
**NEWTON FAULKNER** O2 Academy, Birmingham  
**MARTIN WALKYER'S VIKING FUNERAL** O2 Academy, Birmingham  
**HOUSE OF LEGENDS** Huntingdon Hall, Worcester  
**CHIRS MADDOCK QUINTET** The Yardbird, B'ham  
**ORLA GARTLAND** The Institute, Birmingham  
**THE CARL PALMER BAND** Birmingham Town Hall  
**THE PARIS 1940S** The Jam House, B'ham  
**CARRIE TREE & HOUSE OF HATS** Hare & Hounds, Birmingham  
**VOIS** Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry  
**THE ORWELLS** Hare & Hounds, Birmingham  
**ANDY FAIRWEATHER LOW AND THE LOW RIDERS** Solihull Arts Complex  
**EXISTIMMORTAL** The Asylum, Birmingham  
**UNCLE JIM, SWERVE & ANIMA** The Actress & Bishop, Birmingham  
**BOINK QUARTET** Ort

Cafe, Birmingham

## FRI 21 FEB

**THE MAGIC OF MOTOWN** New Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham  
**MIDLAKE** Wulfrun Hall, Wolverhampton  
**GERRY GLENNON** The Irish Centre, B'ham  
**CASSIOPEIA** The Asylum, Birmingham  
**FIRES, LITTLE LIAM & LUKE ROUND** Sunflower Lounge, Birmingham  
**DUMB** Hare & Hounds, Birmingham  
**DEFINITELY MIGHT BE & ADORED** The Irish Centre, Stourbridge  
**ULTIMATE ELTON & THE ROCKET BAND** The Robin, Worcester  
**BOY JUMPS SHIP** The Assembly, Leamington Spa  
**SUGAR MAMA, SOUND KID & NEVER BEEN LESS** O2 Academy, Birmingham  
**PHIL BEER** Birchmeadow, Broseley, Shropshire  
**SUPER 6 & CATHODES** The Actress & Bishop, Birmingham  
**BOGUS BLOOZE** Route 44, Birmingham  
**GUNS VS ROSES** The Roadhouse, B'ham  
**SHANE FILAN** Symphony Hall, Birmingham  
**JOHN BRAMWELL** The Glee Club, Birmingham  
**MOTOWN'S GREATEST HITS - HOW SWEET IT IS** Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury  
**JACKSON LIVE IN CONCERT** The Swan Theatre, Worcester  
**UP4 THE DOWNSTROKE** The Jam House, B'ham  
**THE GIPSY KINGS** Civic Hall, Wolverhampton  
**SONIC BOOM SIX + RAT ATTACK** The Institute, Birmingham  
**THE OFFICIAL RECEIVERS BAND** The Marr's Bar, Worcester  
**ZARA MCFARLANE** Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry  
**THE FORTUNES** Prince Of Wales Centre, Cannock  
**TOY** The Rainbow Venues, Birmingham  
**RIC YARBOROUGH TRIO** Symphony Hall, B'ham  
**STEVE DAY BAND** The Down Inn, Bridgnorth  
**CORNELL CAMPBELL MEETS THE SOOTHSAYERS** The Drum, B'ham  
**MODS AND SODS** Fleet Street Kitchen, B'ham

## SAT 22 FEB

**UP4 THE DOWNSTROKE** The Jam House, B'ham  
**CASINO** The Actress & Bishop, Birmingham  
**WARREN JAMES & HIS SKIFFLE SESSIONS BAND** Huntingdon Hall, Worcester

**EMPTY HANDS** The Asylum, Birmingham  
**FAT WHITE FAMILY** Sunflower Lounge, B'ham  
**TAKING HAYLEY** The Institute, Birmingham  
**OASIS UK** The Swan Theatre, Worcester  
**RIZZLE KICKS** O2 Academy, Birmingham  
**MAETLOAF** The River Rooms, Stourbridge  
**M.A.D O2 Academy**, Birmingham  
**LAUREN SAMUELS** Bedworth Civic Hall  
**RAWK HEADBOOM** The Marr's Bar, Worcester  
**BOOTLEG ABBA & BEE GEES FEVER** The Robin, Bilston  
**BENEATH THE REMAINS** O2 Academy, B'ham  
**CRACKED ACTORS, EASTFIELD, ALCOHOL LICKS** Route 44, Birmingham  
**REVEREND AND THE MAKERS** Kasbah, Coventry  
**STAR OF THE SEA** The Irish Centre, B'ham  
**INCINERY, DEMONS OF OLD METAL, SHEBREW & SLAB** Scruffy Murphys, Birmingham  
**HONEYFEET & MENDI SINGH** Hare & Hounds, Birmingham  
**DEADFEST WEEKEND** The Roadhouse, B'ham  
**THE TWANG** Wulfrun Hall, Wolverhampton

## SUN 23 FEB

**THE RAT PACK IS BACK** The Grand Theatre, Wolverhampton  
**TAKING BACK SUNDAY** Kasbah, Coventry  
**RECONNECTED** O2 Academy, Birmingham  
**CLARE HAMMOND** Huntingdon Hall, Worcester  
**DEADFEST WEEKEND** The Roadhouse, B'ham  
**MILLY WINTER & ANNIE DRESSNER** Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry  
**JAMES BAY** The Yardbird Jazz Club, Birmingham  
**MORPHEUS RISING** The Robin, Bilston  
**NIPSEY HUSSLE** The Institute, B'ham  
**BEYONCE** LG Arena, Birmingham  
**SEAN WILSON** The Irish Centre, B'ham

## MON 24 FEB

**BEYONCE** LG Arena, Birmingham  
**CHRIS MILLS & THE DISTANT STARS** Hare & Hounds, Birmingham  
**RADKEY** Hare & Hounds, Birmingham  
**ROBIN HERON & THE TEA PAD ORCHESTRA** Kitchen Garden Cafe, B'ham

## TUES 25 FEB

**ULTIMATE RHYTHM & BLUES** Symphony Hall, Birmingham  
**RUDDIMENTAL** Civic Hall, Wolverhampton  
**FOXES** The Institute, Birmingham  
**SOULFLY** O2 Academy, Birmingham  
**ATLAS, CAPITAL SUN, SURF & DEAF INSPECTOR** The Actress & Bishop, Birmingham  
**ROBBIE MOORE QUINTET**

The Spotted Dog, Birmingham  
**THE MONOLITH DEATHCULT** The Asylum, Birmingham  
**DAVID FISHER, HERITAGE & LIONEL STREET PLAYERS** The Yardbird B'ham

## WED 26 FEB

**ROOM 94** O2 Academy, Birmingham  
**MARTYN JOSEPH** Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury  
**BLUE TOUCH PAPER** Artrix, Bromsgrove  
**GAVIN DEGRAW** The Institute, Birmingham  
**THE JOHN STEEDS** The Jam House, B'ham  
**NURVAX JAM** The Yardbird, Birmingham  
**LUKE JACKSON** The Red Lion Folk Club, B'ham  
**THE GRAVELTONES, THE CADILLAC THREE & BUFFALO SUMMER** The Institute, Birmingham  
**MARRAKESH EXPRESS** Kitchen Garden Cafe, Birmingham  
**LET SPIN** The Tin Music And Arts, Coventry

## THUR 27 FEB

**VAULT OF EAGLES, MAN-SIZE, ASS PASTY & FOX TAIL ROCKETS** Marr's Bar, Worcester  
**LEGENDS OF SOUL LIVE CONCERT** Malvern Theatre  
**LUKE SITAL-SINGH, ELIZA AND THE BEAR, FAREWELL J.R. & ANNIE EVE** Hare & Hounds, Birmingham

**COCOS LOVERS** Ort Cafe, Birmingham  
**THE WYTCHEs** Sunflower Lounge, Birmingham  
**RICHARD DIGANCE** Artrix, Bromsgrove  
**THE DARK EYES, NEVER BEEN LESS & SISTER LUCK** The Roadhouse, Birmingham  
**PAUL PARKER & ALL THE RIGHT FRIENDS** The Robin, Bilston  
**REVEREND AND THE MAKERS** O2 Academy, B'ham  
**WE CAME AS ROMANS, CHUNK! NO CAPTAIN CHUNK, THE COLOR MORALE & PALM READER** O2 Academy, B'ham  
**DEL CAMINO** The Jam House, Birmingham  
**PAPER AEROPLANES** Hare & Hounds, Birmingham  
**BONOBO** The Institute, Birmingham  
**ANDREW WOODHEAD QUINTET** The Yardbird, Birmingham  
**THOM KIRKPATRICK** Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry  
**ABIE'S MIRACLE TONIC** Symphony Hall, Birmingham  
**FIRE IN CAIRO** O2 Academy, Birmingham

## FRI 28 FEB

**LOVELESS LUCK** O2 Academy, Birmingham  
**CAPTAIN HORIZON** The Asylum, Birmingham  
**THE STONES** The Assembly, Leamington Spa  
**THE UPBEAT BEATLES** Crewe Lyceum

**THE DANSETTE DAYS** Huntingdon Hall, Worcester  
**UZUK** The Roadhouse, Birmingham  
**THE DEAR HUNTER & ANTHONY GREEN** O2 Academy, Birmingham  
**THE SUPERSKAS** The Robin, Bilston  
**BACK TO BROADWAY** The Swan Theatre, Worcester  
**NICK HARPER** The Tin Music And Arts, Coventry  
**FRANCIS HILLEN'S ACOUSTIC MUSIC NIGHT** The Spotted Dog, Birmingham  
**SAM SMITH** The Institute, Birmingham  
**ROCKET** The Jam House, Birmingham  
**BETH NIELSEN CHAPMAN** Birmingham Town Hall  
**CLASSIC CLAPTON** Number 8 Community Arts Centre, Worcester  
**SKATERS** Hare & Hounds, Birmingham  
**SPANDEX BELLEND** The Marr's Bar, Worcester  
**WINSTON'S BIG BROTHER** The Actress & Bishop, Birmingham  
**LONG DISTANCE** The Irish Centre, Birmingham  
**BUDDY HOLLY ROCK AND ROLL PARTY** Prince Of Wales Centre, Cannock  
**DIZZY LIZZY** Route 44, Birmingham  
**REALMS** Symphony Hall, Birmingham  
**RECOVERED** Fleet Street Kitchen, Birmingham

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 VICTORIA HALL, HANLEY 0870 060 6649  
 STAFFORD GATEHOUSE 01785 254653

### Warwickshire

THE ASSEMBLY, LEAMINGTON 01926 311311  
 THE KASBAH, COVENTRY 024 7655 4473  
 NAILCOTE HALL, BERKSWELL 02476 46 6174  
 STRATFORD CIVIC HALL 01789 207100  
 THE TIN MUSIC & ARTS, COVENTRY 0247 655 9958

### Worcestershire

ARTRIX, BROMSGROVE 01527 577330  
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## Ingrid Fliter: Chopin Birthday Concert

Birmingham Town Hall, Sat 22 February

One of only a handful of pianists to have received the Gilmore Artist Award, Ingrid Fliter is renowned for her collaborations with some of the world's most celebrated orchestras. The Argentinian-born musician is held in the highest regard for the 'eloquence and truth' that her performances bring to the music of Chopin, with Gramophone magazine describing her recording of the Polish composer's waltzes as 'amongst the finest Chopin recordings in recent years'. This Birmingham concert is one of three UK dates for Fliter, and sees her performing a programme that comprises Chopin's Nocturne in D flat, Op 27, No 2; Scherzo No 4 in E; Mazurka in C sharp minor, Op 50, No 3; Waltz in A minor (Op posth), Ballade in F minor, Op 52, No 4 and Twenty-four Preludes.

## Ehnes Quartet

The Barber Institute, Birmingham, Wed 5 February

Here appearing at the Barber for the first time, the Ehnes Quartet comprises four internationally renowned string musicians, and is regarded as 'one of the most sought-after chamber groups performing today'. Led by the much-celebrated Canadian violinist James Ehnes, the quartet also features Amy Schwartz Moretti on violin, Richard O'Neill on viola and Robert deMaine on cello. Highlighting the musicians' versatility and virtuosity, this Birmingham concert sees the quartet present two works with traditional, folk-influences - Bartok's String Quartet No.3, SZ85 and Suk's Meditation On The Old Czech Hymn St Wenceslas, Op.35a. These are performed alongside Beethoven's Quartet Op.74 in E flat, 'Harp', and Ravel's String Quartet in F, the latter of which has become the quartet's signature piece.



## Handel's Theodora

Birmingham Town Hall, Thurs 6 February

Widely regarded as a neglected masterpiece, Handel's Theodora is said to have been the German composer's favourite oratorio, rating higher than his more popular Messiah. This version of the Roman tragedy is brought to Birmingham by the English Consort under the guidance of Artistic Director Harry Bicket. Sung in English with English surtitles, the production also features Rosemary Joshua (Theodora), Sarah Connolly (Irene), Tim Mead (Didymus), Andrew Kennedy (Septimus) and Neal Davies (Valens). The Choir of Trinity Church Wall Street, New York, supports.

Formed by Trevor Pinnock in 1973, the English Consort boasts a fine reputation for its inspiring performances of Baroque and Classical music. The 2013/14 season sees the Consort marking its fortieth anniversary with an extensive tour, performing Theodora at top concert halls both here and in the United States, including London's Barbican and New York's Carnegie Hall.



## Ensemble 360

Bridge House Theatre, Warwick, Sun 16 February

With a fast-growing reputation for its ability to engage with different audiences and age groups, Ensemble 360 comprises eleven musicians of international standing who share the belief that concerts should be informal, friendly, relaxed and, where possible, performed 'in the round'. Celebrating Britain's industrial heritage and the centenary of Benjamin Britten, this Warwick concert sees the ensemble perform Britten's Six Metamorphoses After Ovid Op.49 for solo oboe (film by artist Katie Goodwin), Piper's With Stolen Fire - with archive film footage from the BFI - Britten's Sinfonietta, Martinu's Nonet and Wagner's Siegfried Idyll.

This evening performance follows Ensemble 360's family concert Stan And Mabel, staged at Bridge House Theatre earlier on the same day.

For further details, visit, [www.musicintheround.co.uk](http://www.musicintheround.co.uk)

## The Midland Sinfonia: A Fine Romance

Artrix, Bromsgrove, Sat 8 February

Founded by Nigel Morley in 1995, Worcestershire-based orchestra the Midland Sinfonia is no stranger to Artrix in Bromsgrove, where, under the directorship of conductor Richard Laing, it regularly delights audiences with its extensive repertoire.

Promising an early 'Valentine's treat', A Fine Romance sees the orchestra joined by Shulah Oliver on violin and Diana Mathews on viola in a programme of works from the late-eighteenth century romantic period. Beethoven's Romance in F, Mozart's Sinfonia Concertante and Mozart's Symphony No 40 all feature.



# 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 ORGAN SYMPHONY** Programme includes works by Faure, Rachmaninov, Widor and Saint-Saens, Sat 1 Feb, Symphony Hall, Birmingham

**PIONEERS OF SOUND** Francois Bayle & Francis Dhomont perform their own compositions, Sat 1 Feb, CBSO Centre, Birmingham

**LUCY PARHAM & ROBERT GLENISTER - THE LIFE AND LOVES OF CLAUDE DEBUSSY** Sat 1 Feb, Huntingdon Hall, Worcester

**SUPERSIZE POLYPHONIC 2** Featuring Armonico Consort and Baroque Players, The English Cornett and Sackbut Ensemble. Programme includes works by Striggio & Tallis, Sat 1 Feb, Malvern Theatres

**O DUO** Eclectic programme from 'vivacious' percussionists, Owen Gunnell & Oliver Cox, Sun 2 Feb, Bridge House Theatre, Warwick

**RIISING STARS: JULIETTE BAUSOR AND ALISDAIR BEATSON** Programme includes works by Dutilleux, J S Bach, Charlie Piper, Messiaen & Prokofiev, Sun 2 Feb, Birmingham Town Hall

**O DUO FAMILY CONCERT** High energy performance for young audiences, featuring music by Bach, Glass & Chopin, Sun 2 Feb, Bridge House Theatre, Warwick

**PIONEERS OF SOUND** Sun 2 Feb, CBSO Centre, Birmingham

**LUNCHTIME ORGAN CONCERT WITH THOMAS TROTTER** Featuring the Birmingham Conservatoire Choir, Mon 3 Feb, Birmingham Town Hall

**MONDAY SHOWCASE** Featuring Justyna Zanko (violin) & Robert Markham (piano); Thomas Caddick (piano) & The Esseham Ensemble, Mon 3 Feb, Recital Hall, Birmingham Conservatoire

**PHILHARMONIA ORCHESTRA** Programme includes works by Britten, Elgar & Vaughan Williams, Tues 4 Feb, Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry

**CBSO: ULTIMATE VAUGHAN WILLIAMS** Wed 5 Feb, Symphony Hall, Birmingham

**EHNES QUARTET** Wed 5 Feb, The Barber Institute, Birmingham

**HANDEL'S THEODORA** Thurs 6 Feb, Birmingham Town Hall

**CBSO: GILBERT AND SULLIVAN GALA** Featuring John Wilson (conductor), Sarah Fox (sopra-

no), Benjamin Hulett (tenor), Richard Suart (baritone), Matthew Hargreaves (bass), and the Birmingham University Singers, Fri 7 Feb, Symphony Hall, B'ham

**HARRIET AMOS & FRIENDS** Programme includes works by Debussy, Chopin, Mozart & Weber, Fri 7 Feb, Huntingdon Hall, Worcester

**CBSO CENTRE STAGE: BRASS EXPLOSION!** Programme includes works by Berio, Saint-Saens, Previn & Gershwin, Fri 7 Feb, CBSO Centre, Birmingham

**BIRMINGHAM CONSERVATOIRE LUNCHTIME RECITAL** Fri 7 Feb, Birmingham Cathedral

**JENKINSON FRITH DUO** Fri 7 Feb, The Barber Institute, Birmingham

**CRAIG OGDEN - FANTASY TO FLAMENCO** Programme includes works by Giullani, Dowland, Britten, Poulenc, Turina, Bach & Walton, Fri 7 Feb, Artrix, Bromsgrove

**RUSALKA** A Metropolitan Opera HD Live production, Sat 8 Feb, The Roses Theatre, Tewkesbury

**THE MIDLAND SINFONIA - ROMANTIC STRINGS** Programme includes works by Beethoven & Mozart, Sat 8 Feb, Artrix, Bromsgrove

**SINGALONG WITH THE CBSO: CARMINA BURANA** Sun 9 Feb, Symphony Hall, Birmingham

**A CLASSICAL TWIST: ORCHESTRA OF THE SWAN** Programme includes works by Haydn & Schubert, Tue 11 Feb, Stratford Civic Hall

**IRVING BERLIN: FROM RAGS TO RITZES** Tues 11 Feb, Symphony Hall, Birmingham

**ORCHESTRA OF THE SWAN: CLASSICAL MASTERPIECES** Programme includes works by Haydn, Mozart, Schubert, Tues 11 Feb, Stratford Civic Hall

**CBSO MENDELSSOHN IN BIRMINGHAM: HYMN OF PRAISE** Featuring Edward Gardener (conductor), Sophie Bevan & Mary Bevan (sopranos) and Robert Murray (tenor), Thurs 13 Feb, Symphony Hall, B'ham

**THE FILM ORCHESTRA: MOVIE AMORE** Thurs 13 Feb, Swan Theatre, Worcester

**LONDON CONCERT ORCHESTRA: LOVE CLASSICS** Programme includes works by Tchaikovsky, Grieg, Bizet, Mascagni, Strauss & Ravel, Fri 14 Feb, Symphony Hall, Birmingham

**LUNCHTIME ORGAN RECITAL WITH MARCUS HUXLEY** Fri 14 Feb, Birmingham Cathedral

**LOUISE ALDER (SOPRANO) & JOSEPH MIDDLETON (PIANO) CONCERT** Fri 14 Feb, The Barber Institute, Birmingham

**ENSEMBLE 360: STAN & MABEL** Sun 16 Feb (3pm), Bridge House Theatre, Coventry

**ENSEMBLE 360** Programme includes works by Britten, Piper, Martini & Wagner, Sun 16 Feb, Bridge House Theatre, Warwick

**THOMAS TROTTER ORGAN CONCERT: ALL THE PRESIDENT'S MEN** Mon 17 Feb, Birmingham Town Hall

**CBSO: MOZART AND ELGAR** Featuring Edward Gardener (conductor) & Steven Osborne (piano), Wed 19 - Thurs 20 Feb, Symphony Hall, B'ham

**FINZI'S HARDY: 'EARTH AND AIR AND RAIN' & 'FOOTPATH AND STYLE'** Featuring Samuel Oram (baritone), Lauren Gregory (piano) & The Cornwell Quartet, Thurs 20 Feb, Recital Hall, B'ham

**CONSERVATOIRE COULL QUARTET: THREE AGES OF BEETHOVEN** Thurs 20 Feb, Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry

**BERNADEL QUARTET** Fri 21 Feb, The Barber Institute, Birmingham

**WIND AND BRASS CHAMBER CONCERT** Featuring Michael Harris & David Purser (conductors), Fri 21 Feb, Adrian Boulton Hall, Birmingham

**MIDLAND SINFONIA** Fri 21 Feb, Birmingham & Midland Institute

**INGRID FLITER: CHOPIN BIRTHDAY CONCERT** Sat 22 Feb, Birmingham Town Hall

**GALA OPENING CONCERT OF THE ANGLO-RUSSIAN YEAR OF THE CULTURAL EXCHANGE** Sat 22 Feb, Symphony Hall, Birmingham

**CBSO YOUTH ORCHESTRA** Featuring Ilan Volkov and Allison Bell. Programme includes works by Debussy, Messiaen & Sibelius, Sun 23 Feb, Symphony Hall, Birmingham

**BIRMINGHAM PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA: MAHLER'S THIRD SYMPHONY** Sun 23 Feb, Birmingham Town Hall

**UNIVERSITY OF WARWICK WIND ORCHESTRA: WIND & BELLES** Mon 24 Feb, Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry

**CHOIR OF NEW COLLEGE OXFORD** A Treasury of Oxford Jewells featuring works by Tallis, Byrd, Greene, Boyce, Pergolesi & Allegri, Tues 25 Feb, St Mary's Church, Warwick

**PAVEL HAAS QUARTET** Programme to include Brahms' Clarinet Quintet, Tues 25 Feb, Birmingham Town Hall

**CBSO MOZART'S GRAN**

**PARTITA** Featuring Karl-Heinz Steffens (conductor) & Renaud Capuçon (violin) Programme includes works by Mozart, Glazunov and Stravinsky, Wed 26 Feb, Symphony Hall, B'ham

**CLASSICAL MASTERPIECES** Featuring Orchestra Of The Swan, David Curtis (conductor) Diane Clark (flute) & Helen Sharp (harp). Programme includes works by Haydn, Mozart and Schubert, Wed 26 Feb (2.30pm), Birmingham Town Hall

**CLASSICAL MASTERPIECES** Featuring Orchestra Of The Swan, David Curtis (conductor) Diane Clark (flute) & Helen Sharp (harp). Programme includes works by Haydn, Mozart and Schubert, Wed 26 Feb (7.30pm), Number 8, Pershore, Worcs

**RICHARD & ADAM: THE IMPOSSIBLE DREAM** Thurs 27 Feb, Symphony Hall, Birmingham

**CBSO PLAYERS** Programme includes works by Beethoven & Mendelssohn, Thurs 27 Feb, CBSO Centre, Birmingham

**CBSO SONGS FOR SWINGIN' ORCHESTRA** Featuring Richard Balcombe (conductor), Catherine Porter (vocalist) & Graham Bickley (vocalist), Fri 28 Feb, Symphony Hall, B'ham

**TIPPETT QUARTET - BROMSGROVE CONCERTS** Programme includes works by Mozart & Robert Simpson, Fri 28 Feb, Artrix, Bromsgrove

**HALLE ORCHESTRA** Programme includes works by Ravel, Richard Strauss & Beethoven, Fri 28 Feb, Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry

**EXAUDI** Fri 28 Feb, The Barber Institute, B'ham

**LONDON HAYDN QUARTET** Programme includes works by Jadin, Beethoven &

Haydn', Fri 28 Feb, Royal Pump Rooms, Leamington Spa

**A MUSICAL JOURNEY ON THE ORIENT EXPRESS** Featuring Hannah Smalley (flute), Lucy French (cello) & Joanne Sealey (piano). Programme includes works by Ian Clarke, Widor, Pleyel, Donatoni & Briccialdi, Fri 28 Feb, Recital Hall, Birmingham Conservatoire

**ROYAL BALLET SINFONIA** Fri 28 Feb, Birmingham Cathedral

## Classical Box Office

ADRIAN BOULT HALL, B'HAM  
0121 331 5901

ARTRIX, BROMSGROVE  
01527 577330

BARBER INSTITUTE, BIRMINGHAM  
0121 414 7333

BIRMINGHAM CONSERVATOIRE  
0121 331 5901/2

BIRMINGHAM & MIDLAND INSTITUTE  
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BIRMINGHAM TOWN HALL  
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BRAMALL CONCERT HALL, BIRMINGHAM  
0121 414 3344

BRIDGE HOUSE THEATRE, WARWICK  
01926 776438

CBSO CENTRE, BIRMINGHAM  
0121 780 3333

LICHFIELD GARRICK  
01543 412121

HUNTINGDON HALL, WORCESTER  
01905 611 427

ROYAL PUMP ROOMS, LEAMINGTON SPA  
01926 742700

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01926 403940

STRATFORD CIVIC HALL  
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Birmingham Contemporary Music Group

## INSIGHT: exploring Param Vir's sarod concerto

Sunday 23rd February 2014

2pm - 4.30pm

CBSO Centre, Birmingham B1 2LF

Join composer Param Vir, British sarod maestro Soumik Datta, and BCMG and Fulcrum Point musicians, as we explore Vir's concerto for sarod and ensemble through talks, performance, and work-in-progress workshops.

Tickets: £5 plus transaction fee\*

Box Office: 0121 345 0491

[www.bcmg.org.uk](http://www.bcmg.org.uk)

\*A £2.50 fee per transaction will be charged on all bookings, except purchases made in person at the Town Hall or Symphony Hall

# Comedy

## Karen Bayley: Geezer Bird

mac, Birmingham, Sat 15 February

No less a comedy icon than Alan Carr has admitted that Karen Bayley's had him 'in stitches' - positive proof, were any needed, that she's very much a comedian who's on top of her game. Birmingham-born Karen has picked up a fair number of awards and accolades on her climb up the greasy comedy pole, and after nearly ten years as a professional rib-tickler has become a familiar television face on shows such as *The Last Word*, *Take The Mike*, *Sex On The Job* and *The Fred Macauley Show*.



## Festival Of The Spoken Nerd: Full Frontal Nerdity

Stafford Gatehouse Theatre, Fri 1 February; Artrix, Bromsgrove, Thurs 20 February

Unabashed geekiness and science-related belly-laughs are both much in evidence in this lighthearted celebration of science that brings together humour, song and live experiments. Described as a comedy night for the 'insatiably sci-curious', the show is hosted by Physics graduate and award-winning 'geek songstress' Helen Arney, stand-up mathematician Matt Parker, and BBC One science experiments guy Steve Mould.



## Miles Jupp

The Roses Theatre, Tewkesbury, Thurs 6 February; mac, Birmingham, Weds 19 February; Royal Spa Centre, Leamington Spa, Weds 26 March

The Daily Telegraph has described an evening with Miles Jupp as being 'a little like watching an Evelyn Waugh character narrate his hopeless exploits before your very eyes'. That's patently no bad thing, mind you, as evidenced by Mr Jupp's hugely successful stand-up career!

Miles is no stranger to Televisionland either, having appeared in, among other shows, *The Thick Of It*, *Mock The Week* and *Have I Got News For You*.

Oh, and he's even been a movie star, courtesy of roles in *Made In Dagenham* and *Johnny English Reborn*.



## Russell Kane

Royal Shakespeare Theatre (compere only), Stratford-upon-Avon, Sun 2 February; Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry, Sun 9 February; Hereford Courtyard Theatre, Sat 15 February; Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury, Fri 28 February; Stafford Gatehouse Theatre, Sat 1 March; New Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham, Weds 12 March

This man's official publicity blurb says it all: "Love. Race. Politics. Class. Strap in for some super-speed sunderings and inconvenient sociology in an evening of self-soiling merriment that will leave you with rickets". In short, Russell Kane is a very funny man - and it's not just his publicist who thinks so. Kane's been drawing a crowd since bursting onto the scene back in 2004, serving up liberal doses of humour in an act which features some considerably weighty and thought-provoking material.

## Comedy Box Office

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, BIRMINGHAM  
0844 871 3011  
ARTRIX, BROMSGROVE  
01527 577330  
BEDWORTH CIVIC HALL  
02476 376707  
BIRMINGHAM TOWN HALL  
0121 780 3333  
THE DRUM, BIRMINGHAM  
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DUDLEY CONCERT HALL  
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MAC, BIRMINGHAM  
0121 446 3232  
PALACE THEATRE,  
REDDITCH  
01527 65203  
THE ROSES THEATRE  
TEWKESBURY  
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LEAMINGTON SPA  
01926 334418  
STAFFORD GATEHOUSE  
THEATRE  
01785 254653  
THE SLADE ROOMS,  
WOLVERHAMPTON  
0870 320 7000  
WARWICK ARTS CENTRE  
02476 524524  
WEST BROMWICH TOWN  
HALL  
0121 596 4429  
WULFRUN HALL,  
WOLVERHAMPTON  
0870 320 7000

## Comedy LISTINGS

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

**MARK THOMAS** Sat 1 Feb, mac, Birmingham  
**CHRISTIAN REILLY, KAREN BAILEY, JARLATH REGAN & MATT REES** Sat 1 Feb, Highlight Comedy Club, Birmingham  
**FESTIVAL OF THE SPOKEN NERD - FULL FRONTAL NERDITY** Sat 1 Feb, Stafford Gatehouse Theatre  
**DAVE TWENTYMAN, JASON JOHN WHITEHEAD, PAUL THORNE & ELLIE TAYLOR** Sat 1 Feb, The Glee Club, B'ham  
**CHRISTIAN REILLY, PETE OTWAY, RAYMOND & MR TIMPKINS AND RHYS**

**MATTHEWSON** Sat 1 Feb, Showcase Cinema, Coventry  
**RUSSELL KANE AND FRIENDS FEATURING CHRIS RAMSEY** Sun 2 Feb, Royal Shakespeare Theatre, Stratford-upon-Avon  
**SHOULD I STAY OR SHOULD I GO** Sun 2 Feb, Drummonds Bar, Worcester  
**THE BBC'S REAL MCCOY WITH MR FRAZIER & FRIENDS, ROBBIE GEE, CURTIS WALKER & EDDIE NESTOR** Sun 2 Feb, The Glee Club, B'ham  
**GARY DELANEY, ANDREW BIRD, COMPERE SPIKY**

**MIKE** Weds 5 Feb, The Jam House, Birmingham  
**MILES JUPP** Thurs 6 Feb, The Roses Theatre, Tewkesbury  
**GEOFF NORCOTT, GARY DELANEY, GUY MANNERS & RHYS MATTHEWSON** Thurs 6 Feb, The George Hotel, Lichfield  
**ANDY ROBINSON, STEVE SHANYASKI, MICK FERRY & LEE EVANS** Thurs 6 - Sat 8 Feb, The Glee Club, Birmingham  
**RUDI LICKWOOD, GLENDA JAXSON, AXEL, JOHN SIMMIT** Fri 7 Feb, The Drum, Birmingham  
**TIM CLARK, STEFANO PAOLINI, THE RAYMOND AND MR TIMPKINS** Review, **STUART MITCHELL & JELLYBEAN MARTINEZ (FRI ONLY)** Fri 7 Feb - Sat 8 Feb, Highlight Comedy Club, Birmingham  
**JOHN ROBINS - WHERE**

**IS MY MIND?** Sat 8 Feb, Artrix, Bromsgrove  
**SPENCER BROWN, SUSAN MURRAY, MATT RUDGE AND DANNY DEEGAN** Sat 8 Feb, Showcase Cinema, Coventry  
**STEVE SHANYASKI & MICK FERRY** Sat 8 Feb, The Glee Club, B'ham  
**RUSSELL HOWARD** Sat 8 - Sun 9 Feb, Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury  
**RUSSELL KANE** Sun 9 Feb, Warwick Arts Centre, Bromsgrove  
**ROUGH WORKS: NEW MATERIAL NIGHT** Sun 9 Feb, The Glee Club, Birmingham  
**JIMEOIN** Tues 11 Feb, Wulfrun Hall, Wolverhampton  
**BARNSTORMERS COMEDY NIGHT** Tues 11 Feb, Royal Spa Centre, Leamington Spa  
**FIERCE & FABULOUS** Weds 12 Feb, The

Glee Club, Birmingham  
**JACK WHITEHALL - WORK IN PROGRESS** Weds 12 Feb, Civic Hall, Wolverhampton  
**ALEX HORNE** Wed 12 Feb, Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury  
**SHAZIA MIRZA, CHARMIAN HUGHES, VG LEE AND MAUREEN YOUNGER** Weds 12 Feb, The Kitchen Garden Cafe, Birmingham  
**PAUL SINHA**, Thurs 13 Feb, Artrix, Bromsgrove  
**JOHN GORDILLO, IAN MOORE & ANDY ROBINSON** Thurs 13 Feb, The Glee Club, Birmingham  
**JASON MANFORD** Thurs 13 - Fri 14 Feb, Stafford Gatehouse Theatre  
**SUSAN CALMAN** Fri 14 Feb, Station Pub, Sutton Coldfield  
**MARK OLVER, QUINCY WITH PETER WHITE, WILL MARS & HARI SRIKANTHA (FRI ONLY)** Fri 14 - Sat 15 Feb, Highlight Comedy Club, Birmingham  
**JOHN GORDILLO, IAN MOORE, PHIL NICHOL & ROBIN MORGAN** Fri 14 - Sat 15 Feb, The Glee Club, Birmingham  
**CHRIS MCCAUSLAND, SILKY, JEN BRISTER AND STEPHEN K AMOS** Sat 15 Feb, Huntingdon Hall, Worcester  
**ALEX HORNE** Sat 15 Feb, The Met Studio, Stafford

**KAREN BAYLEY** Sat 15 Feb, mac, Birmingham  
**KEN DODD** Sun 16 Feb, Royal Spa Centre, Leamington Spa  
**JIMEOIN** Tues 18, Feb, Artrix, Bromsgrove  
**JASON MANFORD** Tues 18 - Weds 19 Feb, Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury  
**STEPHEN K AMOS** Wed 19 Feb, Lichfield Garrick  
**ED BYRNE** Wed 19 Feb, Palace Theatre, Redditch  
**MILES JUPP** Wed 19 Feb, mac, Birmingham  
**GARY DELANEY**, Thurs 20 Feb, The Slade Rooms, Wolverhampton  
**LUCY PORTER** Thurs 20 Feb, Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry  
**ROY CHUBBY BROWN** Thurs 20 Feb, Palace Theatre, Redditch  
**FESTIVAL OF THE SPOKEN NERD - FULL FRONTAL NERDITY** Thurs 20 Feb, Artrix, Bromsgrove  
**IAN COGNITO, JOE LYCETT, ANDY ROBINSON** Thurs 20 Feb, The Glee Club, Birmingham  
**DAVE JOHNS, GEOFF NORTON, MARK NELSON & ERICH MCELROY** Fri 21 - Sat 22 Feb, Highlight Comedy Club, Birmingham  
**IAN COGNITO, JOE LYCETT & PAUL MCCAFFREY** Fri 21 - Sat 22 Feb, The Glee Club, Birmingham  
**CHRIS RAMSEY** Sat 22

Feb, New Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham  
**ED BYRNE** Sat 22 Feb, Civic Hall, W'hampton  
**BARNSTORMERS COMEDY NIGHT LINE UP TBC** Sat 22 Feb, Artrix, Bromsgrove  
**TIFFANY STEVENSON, GEOFF NORCOTT, SY THOMAS AND GWILLUM ARGOS** Sat 22 Feb, Showcase Cinema, Coventry  
**SEANN WALSH** Sat 22 Feb, Warwick Arts Centre, Bromsgrove  
**LAUGHING SOLE COMEDY CLUB FOR KIDS** Sun 23 Feb, mac, Birmingham  
**STEPHEN K AMOS** Sun 23 Feb, Warwick Arts Centre, Bromsgrove  
**TOM WRIGGLESWORTH - UTTERLY AT ODDS WITH THE UNIVERSE** Sun 23 Feb, Artrix, Bromsgrove  
**PUNT & DENNIS** Weds 26 Feb, B'ham Town Hall  
**LEE HURST** Thurs 27 Feb, The Met Studio, Stafford  
**MARLON DAVIS & ANDY ASKINS & TWO COMICS TBC** Fri 28 Feb, The Glee Club, Birmingham  
**RICHARD HERRING - WE'RE ALL GOING TO DIE** Fri 28 Feb, The Slade Rooms, W'hampton  
**ADAM BLOOM, CHRIS CAIRNS, MAT REED & GARETH BERLINER** Fri 28 Feb - Sat 1 Mar, Highlight Comedy Club, Birmingham

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# COMEDY NIGHT

AT THE BRAMALL MUSIC BUILDING

WEDNESDAY 5 MARCH 2014

Door 7.30pm/On stage 8pm

LINE UP INCLUDES...

### The Noise Next Door

Five times sell-out veterans of the Edinburgh Fringe Festival and one of the country's most sought after comedy club headliners, The Noise Next Door leave audiences everywhere in awe of their lightning quick wit and totally original comedic talents.

### Daliso Chaponda

Daliso Chaponda is a Malawian Comedian and fiction writer who has performed all around the world. He has appeared on Comedy Central Africa, Paramount UK, Loaded TV and Channel 10 Australia. His fiction has appeared in Ellery Queen, Apex Digest, Machine of Death and many more.

### Matt Richardson

Matt will be appearing at our Comedy Night straight off the back of 32 episodes of Xtra Factor, and appearances on other shows including Sweat The Small Stuff, Celebrity Juice and Nevermind The Buzzcocks.

TICKETS  
 ADVANCED  
**£7.50**  
 STUDENTS  
**£5.00**



Book tickets at [www.thsh.co.uk/event/comedy-night-at-the-bramall-music-building](http://www.thsh.co.uk/event/comedy-night-at-the-bramall-music-building) or by calling 0121 345 0492



**WED 5 - SAT 15 FEB**

SWAN LAKE

**£18.50  
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# Theatre



## Tonight's The Night: The Rod Stewart Musical

New Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham, Mon 24 February - Sat 1 March; Regent Theatre, Stoke-on-Trent, Mon 24 - Sat 29 March

Ben Elton's show, inspired by the music of legendary Scottish rocker Rod Stewart, has earned plenty of plaudits since debuting in the West End in 2003. As with all such endeavours, the storyline's far less important than the music for which the production offers a vehicle - but, for the record, this one tells the story of a tongue-tied young man who trades his soul for that of Mr Stewart's in a desperate attempt to

win the hand of the girl he loves. Maggie May, Baby Jane, Hot Legs and Sailing are among the timeless classics that ensure the evening moves along at a brisk ol' pace. Former Sugababe and 2009 Eurovision finalist Jade Ewan stars as Dee Dee. Read the interview with Jade on page 6.



STARRING  
DAVID  
ESSEX

### The Dishwashers

The REP, Birmingham, until Sat 15 February

Morris Panych's play hardly carries the most exciting of titles, but it does boast David Essex! Nowadays better known for treading the boards than busting the charts, the one-time pop star takes the role of Dressler, a man who's been happily dishwashing for over thirty years. Dressler is joined in the business of scraping and scrubbing plates by Emmett - a City high-flyer brought crashing down to earth by the financial crisis - and the decrepit Moss, who's just about ready for retirement. Between them, they find that the pastime of dishwashing can sometimes go hand-in-hand with a quest for existential meaning!

Playwright Panych brings plenty of wit and humour to proceedings in a work which, despite its aforementioned uninspiring title, actually scrubs up pretty darned well.

### The Perfect Murder

Malvern Theatre, Mon 10 - Sat 15 February; Belgrade Theatre, Coventry, Mon 24 February - Sat 1 March

Based on the international best-selling crime thriller by Peter James, *The Perfect Murder* finds Victor Smiley in the mood to bring his long and no longer satisfactory marriage to an end in emphatic style. As young detective Roy Grace starts to investigate his very first homicide case, dark forces intervene, and Grace begins to fear that nothing is quite as it seems... Les Dennis heads a cast that reads like a who's who of familiar television faces, including Claire Goose, Gray O'Brien, Steven Miller and Simona Armstrong.



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Follow Shen Yun:



## The Life Of Galileo

The REP, Birmingham,  
Fri 28 February - Sat 8 March

Charting the seventeenth century scientist's incredible struggle against the church over his assertion that the earth orbits the sun, *A Life Of Galileo* is considered by many to be Bertolt Brecht's finest play, presenting, as it does, the key conflict between scientific discovery and religious fundamentalism. Acclaimed actor Ian McDiarmid plays Galileo in this new translation by Roxana Silbert and RSC Writer-In-Residence Mark Ravenhill. The show arrives at The REP following a successful run at The Swan Theatre in Stratford-upon-Avon last year.



## The Husbands

mac - Midlands Arts Centre, Birmingham,  
Sat 22 February; Roses Theatre, Tewkesbury,  
Thurs 6 March

A joint theatrical endeavour between Kali and Pentabus, this brand new play by Sharmila Chauhan takes place against a backdrop of modern rural India. With two husbands already, Aya is set to marry a third. In the society from which she comes, there are relatively few women - so taking more than one husband is nothing unusual. But on the very day that she's set to marry for a third time, a stranger arrives on the scene - one who threatens to challenge the belief system by which Aya and her husbands are leading their lives... Described as 'an explosive new play about love, jealousy and a woman's right to choose', *The Husbands* promises to be both an exuberant and challenging work of contemporary theatre.



## The Alchemist

Belgrade Theatre, Coventry,  
Sat 1 - Sat 22 February

First performed in 1610, Ben Jonson's *The Alchemist* was described by poet Samuel Taylor Coleridge as having one of the three most perfect plots in literature. It's also widely considered to be Jonson's finest work. When an outbreak of the Plague forces the gentleman Lovewit to flee London, his butler, Jeremy, is left in sole charge of the house, and uses the premises - not to mention his



## Black Coffee

Wolverhampton Grand Theatre, Mon 3 - Sat 8 February; Regent Theatre, Stoke-on-Trent,  
Mon 17 - Sat 22 February; Belgrade Theatre, Coventry, Tues 6 - Sat 10 May

Take a play by the Queen of Crime, add a company dedicated to producing new versions of her work, and there's every chance you'll be left with an evening of high-quality, brain-teasing theatre. This latest version of *Black Coffee* promises to make for just such an evening. The Official Agatha Christie Theatre Company here make a welcome return with the first play ever written by Ms Christie. When eccentric inventor Sir Claud Amory is murdered and his new formula stolen, it's time for a legendary Belgian detective with an equally legendary wax moustache to put his 'little grey cells' to work and uncover the perpetrator of the dastardly crime (we're talking Hercule Poirot there, by the way!). Robert Powell, Liza Goddard, Gary Mavers and Ben Nealon star.

association with a conman and a prostitute - to set up a series of elaborate scams. But can the man now calling himself Captain Face really get away with claiming he can turn tin into bankable gold?...

## Woyzeck

The Roses, Tewkesbury, Wed 26 February;  
Bridge House Theatre, Warwick,  
Thurs 27 February

Although ostensibly written by Georg Büchner in the mid-nineteenth century, *Woyzeck* was posthumously finished by numerous authors, editors and translators, and wasn't premiered until 1913, seventy-six years after its primary author's death. The title of the work refers to a lowly soldier named Franz Woyzeck, who is stationed in a provincial German town and living with Marie, the mother of his child, who was born out of wedlock and therefore not blessed by the church. To make extra money, Franz agrees to take part in medical experiments, but soon finds his mental health severely compromised as he begins to experience a series of apocalyptic visions... This particular version of the play, presented to coincide with the centenary of World War One, is influenced by the styles of playwrights Steven Berkoff and Antoine Artaud, and comes with a free education pack.



## Twelfth Night

Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry,  
Tues 25 February - Sat 1 March

As with many Shakespearean comedies, *Twelfth Night* is based on a case of mistaken identity, with Viola disguising herself as a boy and causing all sorts of awkward romantic shenanigans. The wooing of the beautiful Lady Olivia by Duke Orsino is soon thrown off the rails. The play is made by the subplot, in which the merciless Sir Toby Belch and his foolish companion Sir Andrew Aguecheek seek to humiliate the pompous Malvolio, and achieve their aim with more than a little style... This 'explosive new take' on one of The Bard's greatest works comes courtesy of a collaboration between Filter and the RSC.



## My Romantic History

Artrix, Bromsgrove, Sat 22 February

This intriguing piece from DC Jackson is very modern, very funny, and has been very well received since making its debut at the 2010 Edinburgh Festival. Tom and Amy are two very different people - but after an office party leads to a one-night stand, it seems that opposites might well attract. Until, that is, the spectres of past relationships make an appearance and threaten to put a big fat spanner in the works...

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HIGHLIGHTS

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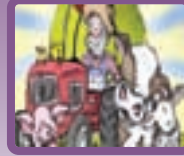
Friday 21<sup>st</sup> Feb  
**CHAMPIONS OF  
MAGIC**

WITH YOUNG & STRANGE AS  
SEEN ON PENN & TELLER



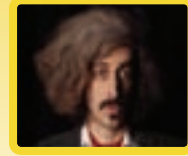
Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> Feb  
**OLD MACDONALD  
HAD A FARM**

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Man (15) // Saving Mr Banks (PG) // Walking With Dinosaurs (U)  
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24/2	Malcolm Stent in the Afternoon	£10
27/2	Macbeth by William Shakespeare	£10 (£8.50)
4/3	Mana - The Power Within Ace Dance	£12 (£6)
7/3	The Johnny Cash Roadshow Tribute	£19
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Warwick Arts Centre,  
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## Frozen

The REP, Birmingham, Fri 7 - Sat 15 February

Bryony Lavery's thought-provoking play around the themes of emotional paralysis and forgiveness made its debut at Birmingham Rep in 1998, and has since accrued its fair share of accolades. The story focuses on the disappearance of ten-year-old Rhona, and follows the trajectories of both her mother and her killer in the years which follow, the two being linked not only by the little girl but also by an American criminal psychologist researching the subject of serial killing. This particular version of Lavery's play features a cast of four deaf and two hearing actors, and is performed in British Sign Language and spoken English.



## Grisly Tales From Tumblewater

mac - Midlands Arts Centre, Sun 16 February; Artrix, Bromsgrove, Mon 17 February; Arena Theatre, Wolverhampton, Thurs 20 February

'Rip-roaring', 'darkly comic' and 'magical' are just some of the accolades so far garnered by Teasel Theatre's adaptation of Bruno Vincent's deliciously dark novel. *Grisly Tales* tells the story of brave orphan Daniel Dorey, and the challenges which beset him when he visits Tumblewater, an unfriendly world controlled by twisted landowner Caspian Prye. Armed only with his wits and a satchel's-worth of spintangling stories, Daniel must do his best to stay alive and tell his tales. But can he bring down Caspian Prye, not to mention rescue the girl in the distant room?... Edward Jaspers is the 'one man' element of this one-man show, a production that's been described as 'Charles Dickens meets Roald Dahl via *Horrible Histories* with laughs, frights and live music'.



## Misunderstood Monster

The Swan Theatre, Stratford-upon-Avon, Fri 21 - Sun 23 February

If your kids are aged between four and nine and happen to be scared of fiends, spiders, crocodiles and/or aliens, *Misunderstood Monsters* might well be the show to make



## Seven Brides For Seven Brothers

New Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham, Mon 3 - Sat 8 February

The story of seven macho, wild west kinda guys, each huntin' out a li'l lady fer hisself, is best known, of course, from its 1954 MGM movie incarnation, starring the boom-voiced Howard Keel. And just like the film, the stage version features smash-hit songs such as *Wonderful Wonderful Day*, *Spring Spring Spring*, *Goin' Courtin'* and *Sobbin' Women*. This brand new touring production features Sam Attwater as Adam and Helena Blackman as Milly.

them feel a whole lot better. Written and presented by the high-energy Aoife Mannix and Janie Armour, the production stars the hugely engaging characters of monster-hunter Saint Georgie and faithful sidekick Squeazy - two daredevil adventurers who spring into action when earth is threatened by tiny Scoodlefug aliens...

At the end of *Misunderstood Monsters*, the audience will be provided with details of how to download a free app that allows them to undertake a series of site-specific challenges connected with the show.

## A Brief History Of Helen Of Troy

Old Joint Stock Theatre, Wed 19 - Sat 22 February

Containing both adult themes and scenes of an adult nature, Mark Schultz's thought-provoking work is an unsettling examination of complacency culture and the politics of beauty. Inspired by Euripides but with its sights firmly set on contemporary America, it focuses on the character of Charlotte, a fifteen-year-old girl who, grieving over the loss of her mother and struggling to make her relationship with her father work, is inexorably drawn towards a world defined by sex, ambition and beauty products... The play has been deemed unsuitable for audience members under the age of fourteen.

## Macbeth

Solihull Arts Complex, Thurs 27 February; Blue Orange Theatre, Birmingham; Thurs 6 - Sat 15 March

Shakespeare's famous tragedy recounts the blood-curdling yarn of Macbeth's meteoric rise to the throne of Scotland. Having been spurred into action by the prophesies of three supernatural women, Macbeth's ambition gets the better of him and, with his good lady wife egging him on, he embarks on a campaign of cold-blooded murder. Slaughtering first Duncan and then his own best

friend Banquo, Macbeth begins to lose his grip on sanity, deciding that the only course of action open to him is to commit even more atrocities, including the murder of women and children.

## Moon Tiger

Malvern Theatre, Mon 3 - Sat 8 February

Penelope Lively's haunting story of loss and desire is here adapted by Simon Reade. As seventysomething historian Claudia Hampton plots her greatest work, a history of the world, she remembers the details of her own life, recalling her growing-up years between the wars and the people who shared both her triumphs and her tragedies... Familiar television face Jane Asher stars in this subtle and eloquent work of theatre.



## Mother Courage And Her Children

Crescent Theatre, Birmingham, Wed 12 - Sat 15 February

There are those who regard *Mother Courage And Her Children* to be the greatest play of the twentieth century, while others have called it the greatest anti-war play of all time. One of nine penned by Bertolt Brecht in an effort to counter the rise of Fascism and Nazism, it's set during the Thirty Years War, and follows the fortunes of Anna Fierling, a woman who's determined to make a living from the conflict... This staging is presented by the Birmingham School of Acting.

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THU 6 MAR

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SAT 8 MAR

**RUSSELL  
KANE**  
WED 12 MAR

LESLEY JOSEPH  
**Hot Flush!**  
The Neighbourhood Musical in Town  
THU 13 MAR

THE  
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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)

From  
**SAT 1 FEB**

**THE HUNDRED AND ONE DALMATIONS** Adapted and directed by Theresa Heskins, until Sat 1 Feb, New Vic Theatre, Newcastle-under-Lyme

**BLITHE SPIRIT** Amateur production of Noel Coward's classic comedy romp, until Sat 1 Feb, Hall Green Little Theatre, Birmingham

**DEALERS CHOICE** The Crescent Theatre Company present Patrick Marber's modern classic, until Sat 1 Feb, Crescent Theatre, Birmingham

**PRISCILLA QUEEN OF THE DESERT** Feelgood international musical direct from the West End and Broadway. Jason Donovan stars, until Sat 1 Feb, The Grand Theatre, Wolverhampton

**BOEING BOEING** Presented by Nonentities, until Sat 1 Feb, The Rose Theatre, Kidderminster

**ANTIGONE** Warwick University Drama Society present Jean Anouilh's tragedy, inspired by Greek mythology and the play of the same name, until Sat 1 Feb, Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry

**HONOUR** Joanna Murray-Smith's intriguing play, which explores how things change when love drifts from its anchor, until Sat 1 Feb, Highbury Theatre Centre, Sutton Coldfield

**SNOW WHITE AND THE SEVEN DWARFS** Featuring John Partridge, Gok Wan, Stephanie Beacham, Gary Wilmot, Paul Zerdin & Matt Slack, until Sun 2 Feb, Birmingham Hippodrome

**WENDY AND PETER PAN** Ella Hickson's new version of JM Barrie's classic tale of the boy who never grows up, until Sun 2 March, Royal Shakespeare Theatre, Stratford-upon-Avon

**BLOOD BROTHERS** Willy Russell's musical, set in his native Liverpool, until Sat 8 Feb, Belgrade Theatre, Coventry

**THE DISHWASHERS** David Essex stars in Morris Panych's play about the Zen of dishwashing, until Sat 15 Feb, The REP, Birmingham

**WOLF HALL** Mike Poulton's dramatisation of Hilary Mantel's Man Booker Prize-winning novel, until Sat 29 March, The Swan Theatre, Stratford-upon-

Avon

**BRING UP THE BODIES** Mike Poulton's new dramatisation of Hilary Mantel's Man Booker Prize-winning novel, until Sat 29 Mar, The Swan Theatre, Stratford-upon-Avon

**LIKE A VIRGIN** A powerful and hilarious romp through the bubble-gum years of teenage life, until Sat 1 Feb, Lichfield Garrick

**THAT'LL BE THE DAY** Rock'n'Roll spectacular combining music from the '50s, '60s & '70s with wacky comedy routines, Sat 1 Feb, Bedworth Civic Hall

**TROUBLE AND THE ENGINE** BY SIMON ATKINS Children's theatre featuring a toymaker, trainee wizard and King Abracadabra, Sat 1 Feb, Swan Theatre, Worcester

**EMBRACED BURLESQUE** Evening of cabaret, music, comedy and burlesque... Sat 1 Feb, Newhampton Arts Centre, Wolverhampton

**A BLACK COUNTRY FAIRYTALE... AY IT** Fizzog Productions weave together various fairytales in one 'spectacular' production, Sat 1 Feb, mac - Midlands Arts Centre, Birmingham

**SIDE SHOW** Nine Productions present a unique show based on the lives of Daisy and Violet Hilton - two women joined at the hip whose extraordinary bond brings them fame but denies them love, Sat 1 - Sun 2 Feb, Arena Theatre, Wolverhampton

**CINDERELLA** Enchanting tale of heroic adventure, true love, messy mayhem and lots of festive frivolity, Sat 1 - Sun 2 Feb, The Belfrey Theatre, Wellington, Shropshire

**BOUNCERS** John Godber's classic comedy, until Sat 8 Feb, The Blue Orange Theatre, Birmingham

**THE ALCHEMIST** Presented by The Belgrade Theatre and Riding Lights Theatre Company, Sat 1 - Sat 22 Feb, Belgrade Theatre, Coventry

**TOSCA** Opera Up Close present their critically acclaimed production of Puccini's fast-paced opera, Sun 2 Feb, Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury

**CIRCLES IN THE SAND** Half Moon present an intimate, imaginative and captivating play which explores sand in new and exciting ways,

Sun 2 Feb mac - Midlands Arts Centre, Birmingham

Week Commencing  
**MON 3 FEB**

**AN EVENING WITH PETER ALLIS** An evening of anecdotes and broadcasting highlights from one of the country's finest golfers, Mon 3 Feb, Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury

**ADVICE FOR THE YOUNG AT HEART** New play by Sucker Punch playwright Roy Williams which examines the unrest of summer 2011 against the backdrop of the 1958 Notting Hill race riots, Mon 3 - Tue 4 Feb, The REP, Birmingham

**OF MICE AND MEN** John Steinbeck's dramatic tale of two men with a single dream, Mon 3 - 5 Feb, Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury

**BLACK COFFEE** Agatha Christie classic starring Robert Powell, Liza Goddard, Gary Mavers & Ben Nealon, Mon 3 - Sat 8 Feb, The Grand Theatre, Wolverhampton

**SEVEN BRIDES FOR SEVEN BROTHERS** Starring Sam Attwater & Helena Blackman, Mon 3 - Sat 8 Feb, New Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham

**MOON TIGER** Jane Asher stars as historian Claudia Hampton in Penelope Lively's haunting story of loss & desire, Mon 3 - Sat 8 Feb, Malvern Theatre

**CARMEN** Russian State Ballet & Opera House present Bizet's legendary opera, in which Carmen shifts her passion from one lover to another with tragic consequences, Tue 4 Feb, Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury

**CLASSIC GHOSTS** Jack Shepherd stars in a new double-bill presentation of spinechilling stories, Tues 4 - Sat 8 Feb, Lichfield Garrick

**DOWN TO EARTH: AN EVENING WITH MONTY DON** Listen to Monty's stories about his travels and visits to gardens all over the world, Wed 5 Feb, Malvern Theatre

**JOHN NEWTON: AMAZING GRACE** Saltmine Theatre presents a dramatic retelling of John Newton's remarkable life, Wed 5 Feb, Roses Theatre, Tewkesbury

**AN EVENING WITH PETER ALLISS** Thurs 6 Feb, Solihull Arts Complex

**IRVING BERLIN: FROM RAGS TO RITZES** A celebration of one of America's greatest songwriters, Thurs 6 Feb, Malvern Theatre

**THE TELL TALE HEART** Little Earthquake present Edgar Allan Poe's

thrilling tale, Thurs 6 Feb, mac - Midlands Arts Centre, Birmingham

**FIRST ENCOUNTER: THE TAMING OF THE SHREW** A perfect introduction to Shakespeare for anyone aged eight and over, Thurs 6 - Sun 8 Feb, The Courtyard Theatre, Stratford-upon-Avon

**THE LAST FIVE YEARS** Amateur production of Jason Robert Brown's musical, which follows the relationship of New Yorkers Cathy and Jamie as they fall in and out of love over the course of five years, Thurs 6 - Sun 9 Feb, Old Joint Stock Theatre, Birmingham

**LA TRAVIATA** OperaUp-Close presents Verdi's tragic tale of searing passion, Fri 7 Feb, Malvern Theatre

**AN AUDIENCE WITH COLIN FRY** Fri 7 Feb, Bedworth Civic Hall

**THE JOKER & THE WHITE FEATHER** A double-bill of works from the Owen Lewis Portable Theatre Company, Fri 7 Feb, Arena Theatre, Wolverhampton

**THE KNICKER LADY** The hit show that romps through the history of the humble knicker with a tempo and hilarity that leaves audiences spellbound and dying for more, Fri 7 Feb, Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury

**TIGER LILLIES: LULU - A MURDER BALLAD** Opera North, West Yorkshire Playhouse & Warwick Arts Centre present a staging of Martin Jacques macabre classic, Fri 7 - Sat 8 Feb, Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry

**MUCH ADO ABOUT SOM'AT** RumDoxy Theatre presents a four-hand, all-female production of Shakespeare's comedy, Fri 7 - Sat 8 Feb, Crescent Theatre, Birmingham

**THE GLAD CAFE - THE NEVER SUCH CANTEN** Somesuch Theatre perform a new play which presents audiences with plenty of food for thought, Fri 7 - Sun 9 Feb, mac - Midlands Arts Centre, Birmingham

**CINDERELLA** Enchanting tale of heroic adventure, true love, messy mayhem and lots of festive frivolity, Fri 7 - Sun 9 Feb, The Belfrey Theatre, Wellington, Shropshire

**FROZEN** Bryony Lavery's award-winning play, which sees four people drawn together by horrific circumstances, Fri 7 - Sat 15 Feb, The REP, Birmingham

**AN AUGUST BANK HOLIDAY LARK** Northern Broadsides present Deborah McAndrew's moving drama, poised



English Touring Theatre's *Eternal Love* - showing at Wolverhampton Grand Theatre

at the tipping point between peace and war, Fri 7 Feb - Sat 1 Mar, New Vic Theatre, Newcastle-under-Lyme

**LIVE MET BROADCAST - RUSALKA** Renée Fleming returns to one of her signature roles, singing the enchanting *Song To The Moon* in Dvorák's soulful fairytale opera. Tenor Piotr Beczala co-stars as the Prince, Dolora Zajick is Ježibaba, and dynamic young maestro Yannick Nézet-Séguin is on the podium, Sat 8 Feb, Malvern Theatres & The Roses Theatre, Kidderminster; The Edge Arts Centre, Much Wenlock, South Shropshire

**MACBETH - BLOOD WILL HAVE BLOOD** Contender Charlie, China Plate and Warwick Arts Centre present a reworking for a young audience of Shakespeare's macabre play, Sat 8 Feb, Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry

**BANANAS IN PYJAMAS** Brand new, action-packed show for children from Milkshake's 'top bananas', Sat 8 Feb, Stourbridge Town Hall

**MOUTH OPEN, STORY JUMP OUT** Polarbear present a show about the craft of storytelling, Sun 9 Feb, Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry

**SWEENEY TODD THE DEMON BARBER OF FLEET STREET** Amateur production presented by Young Performers Theatre Group, Sun 9 - Mon 10 Feb, Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury

Week Commencing  
**MON 10 FEB**

**BARD HEADS - FINDING THE WILL** Two fifty-minute shows where one man and one woman take on the characters from Hamlet and *The Tempest*, Mon 10 Feb, Artrix, Broms-

grove

**GILES BRANDRETH: LOOKING FOR HAPPINESS** Mon 10 Feb, Palace Theatre, Redditch

**OTHELLO** Presented by Icarus Theatre Collective and King's Theatre Southsea, Mon 10 - Tue 11 Feb, Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury

**SOME GIRL I USED TO KNOW** Denise Van Outen stars in a new one-woman play featuring songs from the '80s and '90s, Mon 10 - Wed 12 Feb, New Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham

**A PERFECT MURDER** Les Dennis and Claire Goose star in a stage version of Peter James' best-selling crime thriller, Mon 10 - Sat 15 Feb, Malvern Theatre

**THE SIX WIVES OF HENRY VIII** Two-man historical drama which promises an 'ill-researched lesson in cross-dressing Tudor history that audiences will never forget', Tues 11 Feb, Roses Theatre, Tewkesbury

**RETURN TO THE FORBIDDEN PLANET** WBS Musical Theatre Company present an amateur production of the much-acclaimed musical, described as a 'mash-up of retro sci-fi and Shakespeare's *The Tempest*, Tue 11 - Fri 14 Feb, The Edge Arts Centre, Much Wenlock, South Shropshire

**THE COMEDY OF ERRORS** Shakespeare's most farcical comedy, presented by the internationally acclaimed all-male theatre company, Propeller, Tue 11 - Sat 15 Feb, Belgrade Theatre, Coventry

**THE 39 STEPS** Amateur production presented by Stoke Repertory Theatre, Tue 11 - Sat 15 Feb, Stoke Repertory Theatre

**ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES** Alan Ayckbourn's latest work is a dark comedy which, set at a London rail terminus,

PENTABUS  
THEATRE

**kali**  
THEATRE COMPANY



Kali and Pentabus Theatre

**THE HUSBANDS** by Sharmila Chauhan

Against a backdrop of modern rural India *The Husbands* is an explosive new play about love, jealousy and a woman's right to choose. It's Aya's wedding day. Her third. Her current two husbands aren't too fussed. In a society in which there are few women, that's just what happens. But as the household prepares for the wedding feast, a stranger arrives - one who threatens to challenge everything they believe in.

Director: **Janet Steel** Set & Costume Design by **Jean Chan**  
Lighting Design by **Prerna Mehta** Music by **Aran Ghosh**

Sat 22 Feb 8pm

**MIDLANDS ARTS CENTRE**  
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www.macarts.co.uk  
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Tue 25 Feb - Sat 1 Mar 7:45pm

**LEICESTER CURVE**  
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0116 242 3595

Tue 4 Mar 7:30pm

**THEATRE SEVERN**  
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www.theatresevern.co.uk  
01743 281 281

Wed 5 Mar 7:30pm

**ARENA THEATRE**  
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www.arenatheatre.info  
01902 321 321

Thu 6 Mar 7:30pm

**ROSES THEATRE**  
TEWKESBURY  
www.roses theatre.org  
01684 295 074

Fri 7 Mar 7:30pm

**LUDLOW ASSEMBLY ROOMS**  
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**Macbeth**

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...over through the fog and thine

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Thursday 6th March - Saturday 15th March

**The Blue Orange Theatre**

The **Prince of the Pagodas**

25 February - 1 March



Music  
Benjamin Britten

Choreography  
David Bintley



**BIRMINGHAM ROYAL BALLET**  
Director David Bintley c/o

To see behind the scenes visit  
[www.CreatingPagodas.com](http://www.CreatingPagodas.com)

Photo: Richard Barry; Image: The Lgh Creative Services

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*Calls charged from 5p per minute; 5% booking fee applies; £1 postage applies*

The Prince of the Pagodas is supported (2014) by the John Feeney Charitable Trust, the Garfield Weston Foundation, the Patrick Trust, the John Feeney Charitable Trust, the Foyle Foundation, the Bolshoi Trust, the Perry Family Charitable Trust, the City of Birmingham Orchestral Endowment Fund, the Leche Trust, the Owen Family Trust, the Britten-Pears Foundation, the Big Give 2013, Birmingham Royal Ballet's New Production Syndicate and the Director's Appeal 2013-14.



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centres around an elaborate trap to capture a dangerous and elusive terrorist, Tue 11 - Sat 15 Feb, Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry

**AN EVENING WITH JOHN COOPER CLARKE** The self-styled 'Bard of Salford', Wed 12 Feb, New Vic Theatre, Newcastle-under-Lyme

**CIRCUS OF HORRORS: LONDON AFTER MIDNIGHT** From sword swallowers to daredevil balancing acts, hair hangers to demon dwarfs, a pickled person to astounding aerial acts, the circus that stormed Britain's Got Talent is back with its latest and biggest show to date, Wed 12 Feb, Lichfield Garrick

**BABYLON** The Flanagan Collective present an 'old-fashioned folk tale about kings, queens and revolutions', Wed 12 Feb, Old Joint Stock Theatre, Birmingham

**ADVICE FOR THE YOUNG AT HEART** New play by Sucker Punch playwright Roy Williams which examines the unrest of summer 2011 against the backdrop of the 1958 Notting Hill race riots, Wed 12 Feb, Arena Theatre, Wolverhampton

**ERIC AND LITTLE ERN** An entertaining homage to the 'greatest comedy duo Britain has ever seen...', Wed 12 Feb, Forest Arts Centre, Walsall

**HOW TO MAKE A KILLING IN BOLLYWOOD** The Regal Theatre Bathgate present a new comedy about friendship, fame and fortune, Wed 12 Feb, Royal Spa Centre, Leamington Spa

**HEDDA GABLER** Icarus Theatre Collective present Christopher Hampton's translation of Henrik Ibsen's classic tale, Wed 12 - Thurs 13 Feb, Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury

**A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM** Presented by Propeller, an all-male Shakespearean ensemble with a proven track record for high quality and contemporary productions of The Bard's work, Wed 12 - Sat 15 Feb, Belgrade Theatre, Coventry

**CLASSIC GHOSTS** Presented by Middle Ground Theatre Company, Wed 12 - Sat 15 Feb, The Grand Theatre, Wolverhampton

**TIME OF MY LIFE** Revival of Alan Ayckbourn's bittersweet comedy, Wed 12 - Sat 15 Feb, Warwick Arts Centre,

Coventry

**MOTHER COURAGE AND HER CHILDREN** Birmingham School of Acting present Bertolt Brecht's thought-provoking work, considered by many to be the greatest play of the 20th century, Wed 12 - Sat 15 Feb, Crescent Theatre, Birmingham

**CLOUD NINE** Birmingham School of Acting present Caryl Churchill's landmark play, which explores relationships within 19th century Africa and contemporary London, Wed 12 - Sat 15 Feb, Crescent Theatre, Birmingham

**THE NOVICE DETECTIVE** A fusion of theatre, storytelling, stand-up and clowning is here used to tell an autobiographical tale that's heart-warming, heartbreaking, ridiculous - and sort of true, Thurs 13 Feb, Wem Town Hall, North Shropshire

**STUART MACONIE - THE PEOPLE'S SONGS** Spend an evening in the company of popular and prolific TV and radio presenter, journalist, columnist and author Stuart Maconie as he talks about his new book and epic radio series, Thurs 13 Feb, Arena Theatre, Wolverhampton

**JAY RAYNER: GREEDY MAN IN A HUNGRY WORLD** Restaurant critic and BBC One Show reporter Jay Rayner combines hard-nosed reporting with witty memoir to take you on a journey through the world's edible landscape, Thurs 13 Feb, Ludlow Assembly Rooms, South Shropshire

**BOEING BOEING** Classic comedy by Marc Camoletti, Thurs 13 - Sat 15 Feb, Lichfield Garrick

**RENT 20TH ANNIVERSARY CONCERT** Fri 14 Feb, New Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham

**THAT'LL BE THE DAY** Rock'n'Roll spectacular combining music from the '50s, '60s & '70s with wacky comedy routines, Thurs 13 - Fri 14 Feb, Crewe Lyceum

**THE ELECTRO SWING BALL** Evening of live music, swinging DJs, dance class, burlesque, acrobatics, circus performances and a series of vintage-themed treats. The Electro Swing Ball feature... Fri 14 Feb, The Place, Oakengates Theatre, Telford, Shropshire

**BRAND NEW ANCIENTS**

Poet and spoken word artist Kate Tempest tells an everyday heroic story. Accompanied by a live score, Fri 14 - Sat 15 Feb, mac - Midlands Arts Centre, B'ham

**HUMPTY DUMPTY & THE BIG BOOK OF NURSERY RHYMES** Sat 15 Feb, Tamworth Assembly Rooms

**MOSCOW STATE CIRCUS** Sat 15 - Sun 16 Feb, The Place, Oakengates Theatre, Telford, Shropshire

**ENCHANTED BURLESQUE** Fusion of comedy, glamour and humour, Sat 15 Feb, Old Rep, Birmingham

**CHRIS AND PUI ROADSHOW** Show for pre-school children from the popular CBeebies double act, Sat 15 Feb, Royal Spa Centre, Leamington Spa

**CHILDREN'S THEATRE** The Norbury Players present a short play for children aged four to ten, Sat 15 Feb, Norbury Theatre, Droitwich

**FARCICALS** Two frivolous little comedies of fun, infidelity, food fights, lust and loss of trousers! Presented by Stephen Joseph Theatre, Scarborough, Sat 15 Feb, Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry

**QU LIVE** Musical theatre cabaret night showcasing new writers and performers, Sat 15 Feb, Old Joint Stock Theatre, Birmingham

**GRISLY TALES FROM TUMBLEWATER** Teasel Theatre fuse spinechilling stories with laughs, frights and live music, Sun 16 Feb, mac - Midlands Arts Centre, Birmingham

**THE SOOTY SHOW** Join Sweep, Soo & Richard Cadell as they help Sooty celebrate his birthday, Sun 16 Feb, Artrix, Bromsgrove

**AN AUDIENCE WITH DOREEN** A riotous concoction of affectionate Black Country humour and biting social satire, Sun 16 Feb, Lichfield Garrick

**Week Commencing  
MON 17 FEB**

**GRISLY TALES** Teasel Theatre here fuse spinechilling stories with laughs, frights and live music, Mon 17 Feb, Artrix, Bromsgrove

**BARNEY THE DINOSAUR LIVE** Interactive show for children, packed with song, dance & fun, Mon 17 Feb, Royal Spa Centre, Leamington Spa

**MOSCOW STATE CIRCUS** Mon 17 - Tues 18 Feb, Lichfield Garrick

**KODO - ONE EARTH TOUR** Mon 17 Feb, Symphony Hall, Birmingham

**JACK AND THE BEANSTALK** Lyngo Theatre, in collaboration



Some Girl I Used To Know - showing at New Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham & Wolverhampton Grand Theatre

with Trestle Theatre, present their version of the classic fairytale, Mon 17 - Tue 18 Feb, mac - Midlands Arts Centre, Birmingham

**51 SHADES OF MAGGIE** Spoof play based on the best-selling trilogy 50 Shades of Grey, Mon 17 - Wed 19 Feb, The Grand Theatre, Wolverhampton

**THE BIRTHDAY PARTY** Amateur production of one of Harold Pinter's most frequently performed plays, Mon 17 - Sat 22 Feb, Hall Green Little Theatre, Birmingham

**BLACK COFFEE** Agatha Christie classic starring Robert Powell, Liza Goddard, Gary Mavers & Ben Nealon, Mon 17 - Sat 22 Feb, Regent Theatre, Stoke-on-Trent

**HANDSWORTH GANG SHOW 2014** The ever-popular feast of fun, with the Crescent's local scouts and guides, Mon 17 - Sat 22 Feb, Crescent Theatre, Birmingham

**ANDY AND MIKE'S TICK TOCK TIME MACHINE** After discovering a mysterious machine, Andy and Mike begin a quest to collect things from the past and the future, Tues 18 Feb, Palace Theatre, Redditch

**LAUREL & HARDY** A heartwarming slapstick retelling of a legendary partnership, Tues 18 Feb, Roses Theatre, Tewkesbury

**KARAOKE** The Sleepwalk Collective present the UK premiere of a loosely connected trilogy of performances about pleasure and boredom in the 21st century, Tue 18 - Wed 19 Feb, Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry

**BARMY BRITAIN** A brand new show featuring 3D Bogglevision effects which bring historical figures and events to life on stage. Presented by Birmingham Stage Company, Tue 18 - Sat 22 Feb, Belgrade Theatre, Coventry

**LOOT** Amateur produc-

tion of Joe Orton's much-acclaimed black comedy, Tues 18 - Sat 22 Feb, Highbury Theatre Centre, Sutton Coldfield

**GOD OF CARNAGE** Different Animal Theatre Company present Yazmina Reza's award-winning comedy of manners, Tues 18 - Sat 22 Feb, Lichfield Garrick

**JOSEPH AND THE AMAZING TECHNICOLOR DREAMCOAT** Youth Group production of Andrew Lloyd Webber and Tim Rice's classic musical, Tue 18 - Sat 22 Feb, Regent Theatre, Stoke-on-Trent

**ME AND MY GIRL** Amateur production performed by Bridgnorth Musical Theatre Company, Tues 18 - Sat 22 Feb, Bridgnorth Leisure Centre, South Shropshire

**THE CHUCKLE BROTHERS IN A 2014 SPACE ODITY** A new show providing fun for all the family, Wed 19 Feb, Crewe Lyceum

**366 DAYS OF KINDNESS** Bernadette Russell's multimedia performance, blending storytelling, stand-up & live documentary, Wed 19 Feb, Arena Theatre, Wolverhampton

**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, Wed 19 Feb, Roses Theatre, Tewkesbury

**BLACK ON WHITE TOUR: DEMONSTRATION OF CLAIRVOYANCE** Wed 19 Feb, Palace Theatre, Redditch

**SWEENEY TODD THE DEMON BARBER OF FLEET STREET** Presented by Music Theatre Warwick, Wed 19 - Sat 22 Feb, Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry

**A BRIEF HISTORY OF HELEN OF TROY** Birmingham School of Acting present an 'unsettling examination of complacency culture and the politics of beauty'. Contains adult themes and

scenes of an adult nature, Wed 19 - Sat 22 Feb, Old Joint Stock Theatre, Birmingham

**HMS PINAFORE** Presented by Walsall Gilbert & Sullivan Society, Wed 19 - Sat 22 Feb, Forest Arts Centre, Walsall

**BARNEY THE DINOSAUR LIVE!** Interactive show for children packed with song, dance and fun... Thurs 20 Feb, Stafford Gatehouse Theatre

**THE CHUCKLE BROTHERS IN SPACE ODITY** A new show promising fun for all the family, Thurs 20 Feb, Royal Spa Centre, Leamington Spa

**POSTMAN PAT** See Pat and his friends live on stage, with an exciting new story based around the forthcoming feature film, Thurs 20 Feb, Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury

**THE UNREMARKABLE DEATH OF MARILYN MONROE** Dyad Productions present a candid insight into the life of the Hollywood legend, Thurs 20 Feb, The Swan Theatre, Worcester

**GRISLY TALES FROM TUMBLEWATER** Teasel Theatre fuse spinechilling stories with laughs, frights and live music, Thurs 20 Feb, Arena Theatre, Wolverhampton

**A BLACK COUNTRY FAIRYTALE... AY IT** Fizzog Productions weave together various fairytales in one 'spectacular' production, Thurs 20 - Fri 21 Feb, Newhampton Arts Centre, Wolverhampton

**WHEN WE ARE MARRIED** Carrs Lane Players present an amateur production of JB Priestley's much-performed comedy, Thurs 20 - Fri 21 Feb, Carrs Lane Church, Birmingham

**SOME GIRL I USED TO KNOW** Denise Van Outen stars in a new one-woman play featuring songs from the '80s and '90s, Thurs 20 - Sat 22 Feb, Wolverhampton Grand Theatre

Live Film Take Part Support Exhibitions Festivals

# WE ARE 40 THE ROSES

## What's On Feb - Apr



**The Six Wives Of Henry VIII**  
Tues 11 Feb 7.30pm



**Laurel & Hardy**  
Tues 18 Feb 7.30pm



**Woyzeck**  
Wed 26 Feb 7.30pm



**The Husbands**  
Tues 6 Mar 7.30pm



**Pocket Henry V**  
Tues 11 Mar 7pm



**The Hospital**  
Sat 12 & Sun 13 Apr 2pm & 7pm



**Reduced Shakespeare Company**  
Wed 16 Apr 7.30pm



**Hedda Gabler**  
Wed 30 Apr 7.30pm



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[www.rosestheatre.org](http://www.rosestheatre.org)  
Sun Street, Tewkesbury, Glos, GL20 5NX

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# Les Miserables



## Auditions!



Can you sing, dance, act, or all three?

Musical Youth UK (MyUK) are opening up their first Birmingham Hub and we need talented singers and performers aged 11-19 to audition to be part of our debut production of Les Miserables school edition! Be part of a national opportunity to give young people the chance to fulfil their performance dreams!

To audition please email [auditions@musicalyouthuk.org](mailto:auditions@musicalyouthuk.org) and ask for an application pack for MyUK Birmingham.

**Dream the dream!**



# Theatre LISTINGS

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**OLIVER!** The Viv Kelly Children's Theatre Group present a production of Lionel Bart's acclaimed musical, Thurs 20 - Sat 22 Feb, Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury

**MOON ON A RAINBOW** Shawl Tawala Theatre Company and the National Theatre present Errol John's witty play, Thurs 20 - Sat 22 Feb, The REP, Birmingham

**BOEING BOEING** Classic comedy by Marc Camoletti, Thurs 20 - Sun 23 Feb, Crewe Lyceum

**CHAMPIONS OF MAGIC** Join an award-winning team of liars, swindlers and cheats for a night of trickery, Fri 21 Feb, Artrix, Bromsgrove

**THE JUST SO STORIES** Presented by Red Table Theatre, Fri 21 Feb, Solihull Arts Complex

**GREAT EXPECTATIONS** One-man adaptation of Charles Dickens' classic tale, Fri 21 Feb, Arena Theatre, Wolverhampton

**AN AUDIENCE WITH SALLY MORGAN** Fri 21 Feb, Royal Spa Centre, Leamington Spa

**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, Fri 21 Feb, Ludlow Assembly Rooms, South Shropshire

**HOW TO MAKE A KILLING IN BOLLYWOOD** The Regal Theatre Bathgate present a new comedy about friendship, fame and fortune, Fri 21 Feb, Lichfield Garrick

**MISUNDERSTOOD MONSTERS** Half Moon present a fast-paced 'out of this world' adventure for children aged four to nine, Fri 21 - Sun 23 Feb, Swan Theatre, Stratford-upon-Avon

**THE TWIST** New musical featuring songs from the '50s and '60s, Sat 22 Feb, Solihull Arts Complex

**AN AUDIENCE WITH JONATHAN MILLER** A chance to meet Dr Jonathan Miller, one of Britain's most intriguing polymaths, Sat 22 Feb, Lichfield Garrick

**THE CASTLE SMALL** The Magical Touring Puppet Theatre present two original stories for young children, Sat 22 Feb, Norbury Theatre, Droitwich

**THE HUSBANDS** Sharmila Chauhan's play about love, jealousy and a woman's right to choose, Sat 22 Feb,

mac - Midlands Arts Centre, Birmingham

**STEVE HEWLETT: THINKING INSIDE THE BOX** Britain's Got Talent contestant, ventriloquist Steve Hewlett, takes to the road with award-winning illusionist Richard Griffin in a brand new show which promises to 'delight and amaze the whole family,' Sat 22 Feb, The Place, Oakengates Theatre, Telford, Shropshire

**MY ROMANTIC HISTORY** Reform Theatre Company present DC Jackson's award-winning romantic drama, Sat 22 Feb, Artrix, Bromsgrove

**SID'S SHOW** Join Sid from Cbeebies live on stage in a fun-filled adventure that promises to knock your socks off!, Sat 22 Feb, Prince Of Wales Centre, Cannock

**BEAUTY AND THE BEAST** Multistory weave music, song, puppetry and projection in this retelling of the much-loved children's fairytale, Sun 23 Feb, Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry

**JACK AND THE BEANSTALK** Lyngo Theatre, in collaboration with Trestle Theatre, breathe new life into the classic fairytale, Sun 23 Feb, Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry

**OLD MACDONALD HAD A FARM** Children's show presented by People's Theatre Company, Sun 23 Feb, Artrix, Bromsgrove

**PENNY DREADFUL: HOW TO BE IMMORTAL** Original new play which fuses true tales, live music, '50s science and nano-puppetry to explore our need to connect to the dead, Mon 24 Feb, New Vic Theatre, Newcastle-under-Lyme

**LADY WINDERMERE'S FAN** Presented by Nonentities, Mon 24 Feb - Sat 1 March, The Rose Theatre, Kidderminster

**TONIGHT'S THE NIGHT: THE ROD STEWART MUSICAL** Smash-hit West End musical comedy inspired by the songs of the Maggie May star, Mon 24 Feb - Sat 1 March, New Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham

**THE PERFECT MURDER** Les Dennis and Claire Goose star in a stage version of Peter James' best-selling crime thriller, Mon 24 Feb -

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**LOVE & SEX AKA PERMISSION** State of Emergency present a brand new, hard-hitting dance show which explores issues of love, sex and consent, Tue 25 Feb, Arena Theatre, Wolverhampton

**ETERNAL LOVE** English Touring Theatre presents the Shakespeare's Globe production of Howard Brenton's spell-binding tale, Tue 25 Feb - Sat 1 Mar, The Grand Theatre, Wolverhampton

**LOOT** Amateur production of Joe Orton's much-acclaimed black comedy, Tues 25 - Sat 1 Mar, Highbury Theatre Centre, Sutton Coldfield

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**SPLOSH!** A production for early years which fuses dance, music and puppetry, Wed 26 Feb, The Place, Oakengates Theatre, Telford, Shropshire

**WOYZECK** Brand new adaptation based on the play by Georg Buchner, Wed 26 Feb, The Roses, Tewkesbury

**MAMMALS** Warwick University Drama Students present Amelia Bullmore's darkly humorous look at the flip side of home-sweet-home, Wed 26 Feb - Sat 1 Mar, Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry

**WAR HORSE** National Theatre Live screening, Thurs 27 Feb, Wem Town Hall, North Shropshire; Ludlow Assembly Rooms, South Shropshire

**WE WILL BE FREE!** The Tolpuddle Martyrs tale, told via storytelling, puppetry and animation, with musical arrangements from folk artist John Kirkpatrick, Thurs 27 Feb, Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury

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**MIDDAY VARIETY** Coventry's finest variety show, with live music and a variety line-up, Thurs 27 Feb, Belgrade Theatre, Coventry

**FINDING JOY** A comic, anarchic, touching and heroic full-mask adventure from Worcester-based theatre company Vamos, Thurs 27 Feb,

mac - Midlands Arts Centre, Birmingham

**MACBETH** The Blue Orange Theatre present Shakespeare's murderous tale of greed, witchcraft and madness, Thurs 27 Feb, Solihull Arts Complex

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**WHEN I GROW UP** Breaking The Silence presents Raj Jarrett's drama, which highlights the impact of domestic violence, Fri 28 Feb, Crescent Theatre, Birmingham

**DOGS DON'T DO BALLET** Little Angel Theatre bring the story of the small dog with a big personality and even bigger dreams to life through puppetry, ballet music and comedy, Fri 28 Feb - Sat 1 Mar, Arena Theatre, Wolverhampton

**LITTLE SHOP OF HORRORS** Amateur production presented by The Vocalize Performing Arts Academy, Fri 28 Feb - Sat 1 Mar, Palace Theatre, Redditch

**THE LIFE OF GALILEO** Bertolt Brecht's famous play explores the struggle between scientific discovery and religious fundamentalism, Fri 28 Feb - Sat 8 March, The REP, Birmingham

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Translated by  
Mark Ravenhill  
Starring  
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**'UNMISSABLE'**

Sunday Express 2013



**'CATCH IT IF YOU CAN'**

Observer 2013



**'GO SEE THIS SHOW AND  
BE STUNNED BY GENIUS'**

Telegraph 2013

**3 WEEKS 1 - 19 APRIL 2014**



**WEST  
SIDE  
STORY**

Below are reviews of theatre productions we checked out last month. For further theatre reviews, visit [www.whatsonlive.co.uk](http://www.whatsonlive.co.uk)

## Strictly Come Dancing Live

National Indoor Arena, Birmingham

Strictly fans got to escape the January blues for an evening when the show arrived in Birmingham for the start of its national tour. The three male judges returned to the city and seemed to be loving every minute of it - although they'd toned down their camp and saucy banter by comparison with last year. The 2014 tour was hosted by 2012 competitor Lisa Riley, and featured all three finalists from the last series - Natalie Gumede, Susanna Reid and winner Abbey Clancy.

Highlights from the first half included a gorgeous American Smooth from rugby player Ben Foden and Russian 'pocket rocket' Kristina Rihanoff, a dramatic Paso Doble from Susanna Reid and Kevin Clifton, and an awesome jive from favourites Natalie Gumede and Artem Chingvitsev. Westlife's Nicky Byrne and partner Karen impressed with a slick, sharp and supercool James Bond-inspired Argentine Tango, while series winners Abbey Clancey and Aljaz Skorjanec performed a truly beautiful quick-step.

Ben and Kristina fired up the second half with a sexy salsa, after which things got even better, courtesy of Natalie and Artem's sublime Viennese Waltz, while Mark Benton and Iveta's cha cha cha spoofed MC Hammer.

The fabulous finale was a hot disco salsa by the gorgeous Abbey and Aljaz, the latter of whom raised the roof in his Travolta-style white suit. The pair topped the leaderboard again, with a fabulous thirty-out-of-thirty score, but it was Natalie and Artem who won the audience vote and were duly crowned the evening's winners.

Anita Champaneri ■■■■■

## Thriller Live

ICC, Birmingham

Thriller Live, the all-singing, all-dancing theatrical homage to Michael Jackson, recently moonwalked into the ICC.

The show opened X Factor-style, with a booming voice listing the King of Pop's mega-selling singles and albums and hailing his influence on today's crop of pop performers. It was all lights and action in the first half, as the show disco-stomped through the hits of the Jackson 5 and Jacko's first solo album, *Off The Wall*, in the process treating us to the likes of *Blame It On The Boogie*, *Can You Feel It* and *Don't Stop Til You Get Enough*. Four singers, all trying their best to sound like Jackson, shared lead vocals. These included Birmingham-born Cleopatra (Comin Atcha) Higgins and white, long-haired rocker Jesse Smith, whose rendition of *Dirty Diana* made it seem like we were reliving the X Factor Live finals. While some of the vocals and moves were slightly off, the second half of the show went bad-ass on the crowd, featuring all the big dance-floor numbers from the greatest album of the twentieth century, *Thriller*. The frisson of excitement was palpable when the dancers cracked some deft moves to *Smooth Criminal*.

All the classic dance moves were on show, from the moonwalk and crotch-grabs to the trilby doffs and gravity-defying leans. The Jacko favourites were saved for the final act - *Beat It*, the visually stunning *Thriller* and the high-octane anthem *BAD*. The crowd's reaction was fantastic. It certainly was 'bad'! Anita Champaneri ■■■■■



## Wendy And Peter Pan

Royal Shakespeare Theatre, Stratford-upon-Avon

There are some stories that never grow old, stories whose stature seems to grow with each new flight of the imagination. In this latest re-imagining of JM Barrie's timeless tale of daring heroics, everlasting childhood, dastardly pirates and lost children, Ella Hickson takes her characters on a transformative journey beyond the sheltered landscapes of the Edwardian nursery - a familiar world of pre-received wisdom bathed in the soft glow of tradition - catapulting them headlong into a Neverland of their own imagining, where shadows lurk around every corner, battles are fought and won, happy thoughts are rediscovered, and heroines (as well as heroes) are made! This latest festive offering from the RSC sees an uncharacteristically feisty Wendy take centre-stage in a story that places 'loss' at the heart of her imaginative recovery and, by association, her self-discovery.

Faced with the crippling loss of her younger brother Tom, and convinced that his shadow still haunts her window, Wendy's heroic quest to salvage what remains of her parents' marriage begins when the mercurial figure of Peter Pan arrives in her nursery one night. He's accompanied by an army of shadows simulating flight, their combined presence 'lifting' Peter to the status of God in his own make-believe reality.

*Wendy And Peter* is, at its heart, a classic swashbuckling family adventure, complete with stunning aerial acrobatic sequences, ferocious fight-scenes, dastardly pirates ships and fantastical sets, all of which lend the piece a wonderfully quirky and, at times, genuinely mesmerising charm. Katherine Ewing ■■■■■

## Theatre Box Office

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THE MAN WHO MOVED HEAVEN AND EARTH

By Bertolt Brecht  
Translated by Mark Ravenhill  
Featuring **Ian McDiarmid**

**28 February to 8 March**

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0121 236 4455  
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**FORTHCOMING ATTRACTIONS 2014**  
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<p>Mon 10th Feb, 7.30pm <b>GYLES BRANDRETH</b> Looking For Happiness Tickets £17.75*</p>	<p>Thurs 13th Feb, 7.30pm <b>SINATRA, SEQUINS AND SWING</b> Tickets £20.75 &amp; £19.75* (disc)</p>
<p>Fri 14th Feb, 7.30pm <b>MARTY WILDE AND THE WILDCATS</b> Tickets £18.75 &amp; £17.75* (disc)</p>	<p>Tues 18th Feb, 2.00pm <b>ANDY AND MIKE'S TICK TOCK TIME MACHINE</b> Tickets £12.75 &amp; £10.75* (disc) £41* (family ticket)</p>
<p>Wed 19th Feb, 8.00pm <b>ED BYRNE</b> Roaring Forties Tour Tickets £23.25*</p>	<p>Thurs 20th Feb, 7.30pm <b>ROY CHUBBY BROWN</b> Tickets £19.75*</p>
<p>Fri 21st Feb, 7.30pm <b>JAI MCDOWALL</b> Tickets £20.25* &amp; £19.75* (disc)</p>	<p>Thurs 6th Mar, 7.30pm <b>DIRTY DUSTING</b> Tickets £20.75*</p>

\* Inclusive of 75p booking fee per ticket up to a max of £3

**ONLINE BOOKING:**  
[www.redditchpalacetheatre.co.uk](http://www.redditchpalacetheatre.co.uk)

## Californication star to play bunny boiler in Trevor Nunn's Fatal Attraction

Californication star Natascha McElhone has announced she's to play 'bunny boiler' Alex Forrest in Trevor Nunn's stage version of *Fatal Attraction*, which shows at the Haymarket Theatre from 8 March to 21 June.

A story of obsession and revenge, *Fatal Attraction* was originally a hit 1987 movie starring Michael Douglas and Glenn Close. Natascha's previous London credits include *Honour*, at Wyndham's Theatre, and *Richard III* and *A Midsummer Night's Dream* at the Open Theatre in Regent's Park.



Director, Sean Foley

## New theatre for NT production

The National Theatre's production of *The Curious Incident Of The Dog In The Night-Time* is to resume its West End run at the Gielgud Theatre from 24 June. Performances of the Olivier Award-winning production were suspended in December when the ceiling collapsed, mid-performance, during its run at London's Apollo Theatre.

Based on Mark Haddon's award-winning novel, the show has been hailed 'a phenomenal combination of storytelling and spectacle'. It will show at the Gielgud Theatre prior to its much-anticipated transfer to Broadway in October.

## Phileas Fogg's latest adventure kicks off at the O2...

An immersive theatre experience with a difference is on offer when Sean Foley's *Around The World In Eighty Days* opens at London's O2 Pavillion in June.

Foley's stage adaptation of Jules Verne's literary classic sees the amazing adventures of Phileas Fogg unfold in a much-heralded multimedia production, presented in a three hundred-and-sixty-degree dome the size of ten IMAX screens. The production also features a flying hot-air balloon and a twenty-foot steam-powered elephant.

Created by Matthew Churchill Productions, the team behind the Chichester Theatre In

The Park tent, *Around The World In Eighty Days* shows in London for eleven weeks, after which it heads out on a three-year, nineteen-city US tour.

The highly rated Foley is the man behind the award-winning West End comedy *The Ladykillers* and the critically acclaimed *Perfect Nonsense*. The latter, starring Stephen Mangan and Matthew Macfadyen, continues to book at Duke of York's Theatre until 20 September.

For further information and to book tickets for *Around The World In Eighty Days*, visit [www.80daystheshow.com](http://www.80daystheshow.com)

## WEST END LISTINGS:

### MUSICALS

**BILLY ELLIOT: THE MUSICAL** Victoria Palace Theatre, booking until 16 May 2015

**BODYGUARD** Adelphi Theatre, booking until 30 Aug 2014

**BOOK OF MORMON** Prince Of Wales Theatre, booking until 3 May 2014

**CHARLIE AND THE CHOCOLATE FACTORY - THE MUSICAL** Drury Lane Royal, booking until 1 Nov 2014

**COMMITMENTS** Victoria Palace Theatre, booking until 14 Sept 2014

**DIRTY DANCING** Piccadilly Theatre, booking until 22 Feb 2014

**DIRTY ROTTEN SCOUNDRELS** Savoy Theatre, 10 Mar - 29 Nov 2014

**FROM HERE TO ETERNITY** Shaftesbury Theatre, booking until 26 Apr 2014

**I CAN'T SING! THE X FACTOR MUSICAL** London Palladium Theatre, 27 Feb 2014 - 25 Oct 2014

**JERSEY BOYS** Prince

Edward Theatre, booking until 9 March 2014 and Piccadilly Theatre, 14 Mar - 25 Oct 2014

**LES MISÉRABLES** Queen's Theatre, booking until 25 Oct 2014

**LION KING** Lyceum Theatre, booking until 20 July 2014

**MAMMA MIA!** Novello Theatre, booking until 25 Oct 2014

**MATILDA THE MUSICAL** Cambridge Theatre, booking until 21 Dec 2014

**MISS SAIGON** Prince Edward Theatre, from 3 May - 25 Oct 2014

**ONCE** Phoenix Theatre, booking until 31 May 2014

**PAJAMA GAME** Shaftesbury Theatre, 1 May - 13 Sep 2014

**PHANTOM OF THE OPERA** Her Majesty's Theatre, booking until 25 Oct 2014

**PORGY AND BESS** Open Air Theatre, Regents Park, 17 July - 23 Aug 2014

**STEPHEN WARD** Aldwych Theatre, booking until 1

Mar 2014

**STOMP** Ambassadors Theatre, booking until 21 Dec 2014

**TELL ME ON A SUNDAY** Duchess Theatre, 17 Feb - 1 Mar 2014

**THRILLER LIVE** Lyric Theatre, booking until 28 Sept 2014

**WE WILL ROCK YOU** Dominion Theatre, booking until 5 Apr 2014

**WICKED** Apollo Victoria Theatre, booking until 1 Nov 2014.

### DRAMA

**ANALOG.U.E** Lyttelton National Theatre, 25 Feb - 20 Mar 2014

**ANTONY & CLEOPATRA** Shakespeare's Globe Theatre, From 17 May 2014

**DOCTOR SCROGGY'S WAR** Shakespeare's Globe Theatre, From 12 Sept 2014

**EMIL AND THE DETECTIVES** Olivier National Theatre, booking until 18 Mar 2014

**FATAL ATTRACTION** Haymarket Theatre, Royal, 8 Mar - 21 Jun 2014

**GHOST STORIES** Arts Theatre, 13 Feb - 24

May 2014

**HAPPY DAYS** Young Vic Theatre, booking until 8 Mar 2014

**WAR HORSE** New London Theatre, booking until 15 Feb 2014

### COMEDY

**39 STEPS** Criterion The-

atre, booking until 18 Oct 2014

**DUCK HOUSE** Vaudeville Theatre, booking until 29 Mar 2014

**JEEVES AND WOOSTER IN PERFECT NONSENSE** Duke Of York's Theatre, booking until 8 Mar 2014

**KNIGHTS OF THE BURNING PESTLE** Old Vic Theatre, booking 20 Feb - 30 Mar 2014

**TWELFTH KNIGHT RE-IMAGINED** Open Air Theatre, Regent's Park, booking 21 Jun - 12 July 2014



Happy Days - Young Vic Theatre

# Dance



## Matthew Bourne's Swan Lake

Birmingham Hippodrome, Wed 5 - Sat 15 February

Firmly established as a modern-day classic, Matthew Bourne's contemporary interpretation of the universally loved Swan Lake has been the recipient of over thirty international theatre awards - including three Tonys for its Broadway production. It's also the longest running ballet both in the West End and across the Atlantic. Premiering at Sadlers Wells in 1995, Bourne's provocative version became an instant hit. Its all-male swans, character comedy and use of mime not only challenged more traditional interpretations of the work but also attracted a younger audience to the world of ballet. With four successful tours under its belt, the show this month returns to the Birmingham Hippodrome for its only Midlands date - miss it at your peril! Read the interview with Matthew on page 8.



## Tap Factory

Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury, Fri 14 - Sat 15 February; New Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham, Sun 16 February; Grand Theatre, Wolverhampton, Mon 14 - Tues 15 April; Royal Spa Centre, Leamington Spa, Sat 3 May

Described as 'Tap Dogs meets Stomp', this rhythm-based production sees an array of internationally renowned exponents of dance, gymnastics and acrobatics take to the stage to showcase their skills. Blending percussion with dance and comedy, Tap Factory also features a live band on stage. Having delighted audiences across Europe and South America, this much-hyped show embarks on its first UK-wide tour this month, taking in various Midlands venues along the way.

## Sun

Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry,  
Tues 4 - Wed 5 February

Co-commissioned by numerous companies, Sun is presented by Hofesh Shechter, who's widely regarded as one of the UK's most exciting contemporary artists. The work - which brings together fourteen talented dancers with an eclectic soundtrack featuring original music by Shechter - has certainly garnered its fair share of plaudits.

'The world is perfect,' informs its publicity. 'From the darkness of Shechter's emotive and often angry world emerges a bright white light dancing out of the smoke and chaos'.

Sun hasn't been to everybody's liking, mind, with some critics feeling that the material is rather thin and repetitive. Buy a ticket and judge for yourself.





## BRB: The Prince Of The Pagodas

Birmingham Hippodrome, Tues 25 February - Sat 1 March

David Bintley's imaginative reworking of John Cranko's 1957 production makes its UK debut at the home of Birmingham Royal Ballet this month. Set to Benjamin Britten's only commissioned ballet score, The Prince Of The Pagodas celebrates the power of love in the fantastical Chrysanthemum Kingdom, where adventures abound for the Princess Sakura. Having received much critical acclaim at its National Ballet of Japan premiere in 2011, this new addition to the BRB repertoire features imaginative costumes from War Horse designer Rae Smith.



## Broken

mac - Midlands Arts Centre, Birmingham, Wed 12 - Thurs 13 February; Roses Theatre, Tewkesbury, Tues 25 February

Weaving athletic dance with digital imagery and original music, Broken examines man's precarious relationship with the earth. Using two contrasting worlds - the caves of ancient ancestors and modern apartments of glass and steel - Kevin Finnan's production takes audiences on a journey which questions man's ambivalence to the planet. An adrenaline-fuelled spectacle packed with trickery and illusions, this thought-provoking piece has the capacity to leave audiences breathless, as dancers contort their bodies to negotiate the cracks and craters of a place where all is not as it seems...



## Dance LISTINGS

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

**AN EVENING OF DIRTY DANCING** A tribute show featuring great songs and memorable dancing, Sat 1 Feb, Solihull Arts Complex

**BOLSHOI - LOST ILLUSIONS** Live HD Broadcast from the Bolshoi Theatre, Moscow, Sun 2 Feb, Malvern Theatres

**SUN** A new work from one of the UK's most exciting contemporary artists, choreographer Hofesh Shechter, Tue 4 - Wed 5 Feb, Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry

**MATTHEW BOURNE'S SWAN LAKE** Award-winning modern interpretation of the classic ballet that sees the traditional female corps de ballet replaced with a menacing male ensemble, Wed 5 - Sat 15 Feb, Birmingham Hippodrome

**SLEEPING BEAUTY** Starlight School of Dance presents a choreographed version of the classic fairytale of good vs evil, Thurs 6 - Sat 8 Feb, Palace Theatre, Redditch

**ANTON DU BEKE** New show featuring 'dazzling dancing and superb singing', with the sensational Raymond Gubbay Big Band Orchestra under the baton of Richard Balcombe, Sat 8 Feb, Symphony Hall, Birmingham

**CLARE HAMMOND** Popular piano works framed by two dances, the Bach-Brahms Chaconne and Ginastera's Danzas Argentinas, Sun 23 Feb, Huntingdon Hall, Worcester

**SLEEPING BEAUTY** Performed by The Russian State Ballet & Orchestra Of Siberia, Sun 23 Feb, Malvern Theatre

**RICHARDZ ON STAGE 2014** Annual school show, Sun 23 Feb, Crescent Theatre, Birmingham

**BROKEN** Motionhouse present their latest production, which sees dancers negotiate the cracks and craters in a world of illusions where nothing is quite as it seems, Wed 12 - Thurs 13 Feb, mac - Midlands Arts Centre, Birmingham

**TAP FACTORY** A variety of dance disciplines - urban, tap dance and hip-hop - fused with comedy and acrobatics, Fri 14 - Sat 15 Feb, Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury

**THE LOCK IN** Mon 17 Feb, New Vic Theatre, Newcastle-under-Lyme

**THE LOCK IN** Tue 18 Feb, mac - Midlands Arts Centre, Birmingham

**THREE OF A KIND** Birmingham Royal Ballet presents a triple-bill of works - John Cranko's Card Game, George Balanchine's Slaughter On Tenth Avenue and Kenneth MacMillan's Elite Syncopations, Wed 19 - Sat 22 Feb, Birmingham Hippodrome

**GISELLE** Performed by The Russian State Ballet & Orchestra of Siberia, Fri 21 Feb, Malvern Theatre

**SWAN LAKE** Performed by The Russian State Ballet & Orchestra Of Siberia, Sat 22 Feb, Malvern Theatre

**A NIGHT OF DIRTY DANCING** Brand new dancing extravaganza, presented by an all-star cast, including West End performers, Sat 22 Feb, Stafford Gatehouse Theatre

**BALLETBOYZ** One of the most cheekily original and innovative forces in modern dance. Led by former Royal Ballet lead dancers Michael Nunn and William Trevitt, Wed 26 Feb, Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury

**BALLETBOYZ** Fri 28 Feb, Regent Theatre, Hanley, Stoke-on-Trent

**BRENDAN COLE: LICENCE TO THRILL** Chance to see the Strictly stalwart joined by professional dancers and a fourteen-piece band in a journey across time - complete with a sprinkling of James Bond magic, Wed 26 Feb, Regent Theatre, Hanley, Stoke-on-Trent

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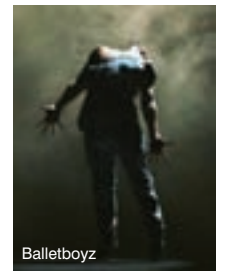
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# Film

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From  
FRI 14  
FEB

## The Monuments Men

CERT 12a (118mins)

Starring **George Clooney, Matt Damon, Bill Murray, John Goodman, Jean Dujardin, Bob Balaban, Hugh Bonneville, Cate Blanchett** Directed by **George Clooney** (USA/Germany)

George Clooney surrounds himself with another all-star cast for what looks like a fascinating slice of Second World War history. Based on the book by Robert M Edsel, this is the true story of a group of art historians and curators who are conscripted to infiltrate Nazi Germany in order to track down invaluable works of art. It transpires that Hitler looted Europe and Russia on an epic scale, seizing an enormous quantity of priceless paintings, sculpture, furniture and artefacts to store in his hometown of Linz in Austria. And we're talking works by Leonardo Da Vinci, Michelangelo, Raphael, Rembrandt and Vermeer, many of which are still missing. Clooney himself wrote the screenplay along with his long-time collaborator Grant Heslov.



From  
FRI 7  
FEB

## The Dallas Buyers Club

CERT 15 (117mins)

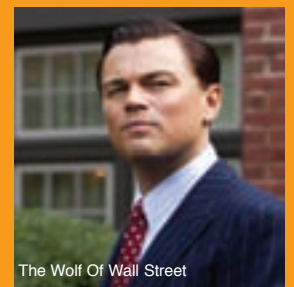
Starring **Matthew McConaughey, Jennifer Garner, Jared Leto, Steve Zahn, Dallas Roberts** Directed by **Jean-Marc Vallée** (USA)

For his performance as a homophobic rodeo jock who contracts Aids, Matthew McConaughey did a 'Christian Bale' and lost a remarkable fifty pounds. He won a Golden Globe (and an Oscar nomination) for his pains, as did his co-star Jared Leto (songwriter and lead vocalist for the rock band Thirty Seconds To Mars), who plays a transgender woman. For the record, the film - based on a lengthy article in the Dallas Morning News - is a true story. The director previously brought us the acclaimed films C.R.A.Z.Y., The Young Victoria and Café de Flore.

## TOP 5

FILM BOX OFFICE

- 1 **The Wolf Of Wall Street** (18)
- 2 **12 Years A Slave** (15)
- 3 **American Hustle** (15)
- 4 **Frozen** (PG)
- 5 **Devil's Due** (15)



The Wolf Of Wall Street

Released from Fri 7 Feb

## The Invisible Woman

CERT 12a (111mins)

Starring **Ralph Fiennes, Felicity Jones, Kristin Scott Thomas, Tom Hollander, Joanna Scanlan, Tom Burke**  
Directed by **Ralph Fiennes (UK)**

Having made his directorial debut with the bold and visually impressive *Coriolanus* (2011), Ralph Fiennes now turns from Shakespeare to Charles Dickens. Adapted by Abi Morgan from Claire Tomalin's book, the film focuses on Dickens' extra-marital relationship with Ellen 'Nelly' Ternan (Jones). As actor, Fiennes brings considerable energy to his portrayal of Dickens, an ebullient and youthful figure, a man embarrassed by his success yet determined to harness it for the greater good. Above all, though, Fiennes the director communicates his passion for Dickens' literary virtuosity, a talent that continues to enrich our lives to this day.



## Robocop

CERT tbc

Starring **Joel Kinnaman, Gary Oldman, Michael Keaton, Samuel L. Jackson, Abbie Cornish, Jackie Earle Haley**  
Directed by **José Padilha (USA)**

Another franchise comes bursting back to life in what is now the traditional 'reboot' practice. Here, the law-enforcing cyborg is played by the Swedish-American actor Joel Kinnaman, who starred in the American remake of the cult Danish TV series *The Killing*. And he's got a great supporting cast, which should up the ante on the 1987 original (as should the CGI effects). Let the killing commence!



## Mr Peabody & Sherman

CERT 12a (111mins)

Featuring the voices of **Ty Burrell, Max Charles, Leslie Mann, Stephen Colbert, Ariel Winter, Allison Janney, Mel Brooks**  
Directed by **Rob Minkoff (USA)**

Rocky and His Friends have a lot to answer for, not least two appalling big-screen spin-offs from the 1959-1961 cartoon series, namely *Boris and Natasha* (1992) and *The Adventures Of Rocky And Bullwinkle* (2000). Now the good people at DreamWorks Animation have seen fit to lift this eponymous segment from the show and blow it up into a full-scale, 3D computer-animated feature. For the record, it concerns a highly intelligent dog (Mr Peabody) and his adopted boy, Sherman, who travel back in time in their *Wayback Machine*.

For full film listings,  
showings  
and booking links  
visit: [whatsonlive.co.uk](http://whatsonlive.co.uk)



View the latest trailers on line

Released from Fri 14 Feb

## Cuban Fury

CERT 15 (98mins)

Starring **Nick Frost, Rashida Jones, Chris O'Dowd, Ian McShane, Olivia Colman, Alexandra Roach, Rory Kinnear**  
Directed by **James Griffiths (UK)**

With Nick Frost's growing cinematic profile and the popularity of *Strictly Come Dancing*, this salsa comedy could break out. Frost plays Bruce, a loser who's got a crush on his beautiful American boss, Julia (Jones, from TV's *Parks And Recreation*). Then he discovers she has a secret passion: salsa. And many, many years ago, Bruce was something of a child prodigy of the Latin dance!



## Her

CERT 15 (126mins)

Starring **Joaquin Phoenix, Amy Adams, Rooney Mara, Olivia Wilde, Portia Doubleday**, and the voice of **Scarlett Johansson**  
Directed by **Spike Jonze (USA)**

As it happens, 'Her' (voiced by Scarlett Johansson) is invisible both to us and our protagonist, Theo Twombly (Phoenix). In the not-too-distant future, Theo, who is going through a divorce, downloads a voice-activated operating system. Choosing a female identity for his new programme, Theo finds himself becoming totally reliant on 'Her', both practically and emotionally. Okay, so what do you expect from Spike Jonze? The director of *Being John Malkovich* and *Adaptation*, Jonze has never opted for the conventional. Here, he conjures up a futuristic and lyrical love story in which the camera seldom leaves Joaquin Phoenix's face. In spite of the cinema's previous explorations of artificial intelligence, 'Her' emerges as a highly original work, being both a cerebral black comedy and a thought-provoking contemplation of the human condition.



## Tinkerbell And The Pirate Fairy

CERT tbc

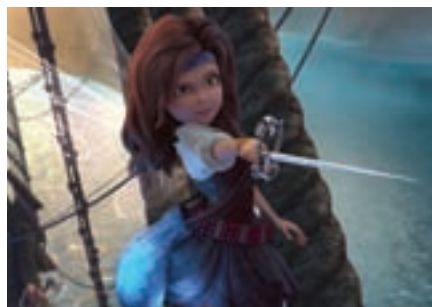
Featuring the voices of **Mae Whitman, Tom Hiddleston, Christina Hendricks, Carlos Ponce, Lucy Liu, Anjelica Huston**  
Directed by **Peggy Holmes (USA)**

Tinkers is back, in her fifth outing in the DisneyToon Studios' *Tinker Bell* series, and this



From  
FRI 21  
FEB

time comes up against a young Captain Hook (voiced by Hiddleston, no less). And you can see it all in 3D. For diehard fans, *Tinkers* will be back in *Legend Of The NeverBeast*, released next year.



## The Lego Movie

CERT U (100 mins) -

Featuring the voices of **Chris Pratt, Elizabeth Banks, Will Arnett, Morgan Freeman, Channing Tatum, Will Ferrell, Liam Neeson, Charlie Day** Directed by **Phil Lord and Chris Miller (USA/Australia)**

As the rest of us attempt to keep up with technology, the world of Lego remains steadfastly basic. Maybe that's the appeal. Having branched out into parks (there are six of them), clothes(!), board games and video games, the Danish brand is now about to conquer your local multiplex. The computer-animated movie is set in the 'Lego universe' and features such 'mini-figures' as Batman, Superman and Spaceman Benny. Judging by the trailer, it does look quite witty. In 3D.



## Only Lovers Left Alive

CERT 15 (123mins)

Starring **Tom Hiddleston, Tilda Swinton, Mia Wasikowska, John Hurt, Anton Yelchin, Jeffrey Wright**  
Directed by **Jim Jarmusch (UK/Germany)**

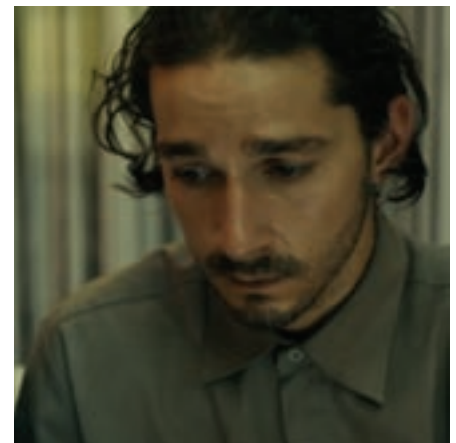
Yep, this is yet another vampire movie. But as it's directed by Jim Jarmusch, this will be different than most. The director describes it as a "crypto-vampire love story" and it stars Hiddleston as a reclusive, centuries-old rock star who's finding it hard to keep up with modern technology. In fact, it's all getting so much that he decides to take his own life!

## The Necessary Death of Charlie Countryman

CERT TBC

Starring **Shia LaBeouf, Evan Rachel Wood, Mads Mikkelsen, Rupert Grint, Vincent D'Onofrio, Melissa Leo**  
Directed by **Fredrik Bond (USA)**

Nigel Farage might not approve, but Shia LaBeouf falls heavily for a young Romanian woman (Wood). However, the latter, Gabi Ibanescu, still seems to be irrevocably involved with her ex (Mikkelsen), a volatile and extremely dangerous man. Expect some profoundly adult material.



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Released from Fri 21 Feb

## A New York Winter's Tale CERT tbc

Starring **Colin Farrell, Jessica Brown Findlay, Russell Crowe, Jennifer Connelly, William Hurt, Eva Marie Saint, Will Smith**  
Directed by **Akiva Goldsman (USA)**

When the burglar Peter Lake (Farrell) breaks into a Manhattan property, an heiress (Brown Findlay) dies in his arms. What follows is a mystical, romantic fantasy that spans almost a century, as Lake attempts to be reunited with the late heiress. The film, based on Mark Helprin's novel *Winter's Tale*, marks the directorial debut of the acclaimed scriptwriter Akiva Goldsman (*A Beautiful Mind*, *Cinderella Man*, *The Da Vinci Code*, *I Am Legend*, etc).



## Stalingrad CERT 15 (131mins)

Starring **Petr Fedorov, Yanina Studilina, Dmitry Lysenkov, Thomas Kretschmann**  
Directed by **Fedor Bondarchuk (Russia)**

The Soviet filmmaker Sergei Bondarchuk (1920-1994) made arguably the biggest film ever to come out of Russia, namely *Waterloo* (1970). Now his son Fedor has taken on the battle of Stalingrad, the decisive WWII conflict between the Germans and the Russians. Not only is the film in 3D, but it's the first non-American movie to be produced in the IMAX format. Incidentally, Herr Kretschmann is best known for starring in the 1993 German film *Stalingrad* [sic].



## Nymphomaniac CERT tbc

Starring **Charlotte Gainsbourg, Stellan Skarsgård, Stacy Martin, Shia LaBeouf, Christian Slater, Jamie Bell, Uma Thurman**  
Directed by **Lars von Trier (Denmark/Germany/France/Belgium)**

Charlotte Gainsbourg is one of the few actresses willing to work with Lars von Trier on a repeat basis. And, boy, does he put her through the wringer. In *Nymphomaniac*, released in two parts - or 'volumes', she plays the eponymous woman who relays the details of her erotic life to a complete stranger (Skarsgård). Expect scenes of hardcore sex.



From  
WEDS  
26 FEB

Released from Fri 28 Feb

## Labor Day CERT 12a (111mins)

Starring **Kate Winslet, Josh Brolin, Tobey Maguire, Gattlin Griffith, Clark Gregg, Brooke Smith**  
Directed by **Jason Reitman (USA)**

The films of Jason Reitman (*Juno*, *Up In The Air*, *Young Adult*) tend to be about the journeys taken by a single character - usually with a good deal of humour. *Labor Day*, adapted from the novel by Joyce Maynard, is different in that it's about a family. One might even accuse it of Norman Rockwell-esque aspirations of Americana, but then this is no ordinary family. Kate Winslet's Adele Wheeler is suffering from a degenerative psychological disorder, her thirteen-year-old son Hank (Griffith) is taking on the responsibilities of the house, and Mr Wheeler has run off with another woman. Then a killer forces his way into their home! Reitman appreciates the power of detail and he draws the viewer into his sun-dappled, off-kilter scenario with cinematic finesse. The humour is there, but it's the humour that arises out of life, not a fabricated line of dialogue. The production values are ace and the central performances of Winslet and Josh Brolin are pitch perfect: Winslet at once confused, fragile and protective of her son; Brolin strong, warm and vigilant. If the film never entirely sheds its novelistic genesis, it is nonetheless an engrossing, gripping and moving tale.



## The Book Thief CERT 12a (131mins)

Starring **Geoffrey Rush, Emily Watson, Sophie Nélisse, Ben Schnetzer, the voice of Roger Allam**  
Directed by **Brian Percival (USA)**

Like *The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas*, Markus Zusak's 2005 novel *The Book Thief* is aimed at a 'young adult' readership. And as with John Boyne's book, the treatment of German children in the Second World War presents a problem in terms of a cinematic adaptation. Young adults should be aware of the atrocities, but they're not quite ready for *Saving Private Ryan*. Brian Percival's adaptation (he previously directed episodes of *Downton Abbey*) is a proficient if hardly riveting piece of cinema. As Liesel, the illiterate girl who develops a love of books under the tutorship of her foster parents, the extraordinarily pretty Sophie Nélisse looks better suited to selling cosmetics than anti-Nazi propaganda. And for a film about storytelling, the film is surprisingly weak on narrative traction.

## Non-Stop CERT tbc

Starring **Liam Neeson, Julianne Moore, Michelle Dockery, Nate Parker, Linus Roache, Lupita Nyong'o**  
Directed by **Jaume Collet-Serra (USA/France)**

Liam Neeson is back in action, this time as an air marshal who's sent a text announcing that a passenger will die every twenty minutes unless \$150million is transferred to a secret bank account. At the very least, it'll be good to see Dockery (*Downton Abbey*) and Oscar nominee Nyong'o (*12 Years A Slave*) in new roles.



## Welcome To Yesterday CERT tbc

Starring **Jonny Weston, Sofia Black D'Elia, Amy Landecker**  
Directed by **Dean Israelite (USA)**

A group of teenagers stumble across plans to build a time machine and manage to construct one themselves. Shot in the 'found footage' format.

# Film A-Z LISTINGS

All films are currently on general release unless otherwise stated. For full listing information, including times and dates, visit [www.whatsonlive.co.uk](http://www.whatsonlive.co.uk)

## 12 Years A Slave 15

Based on the autobiography of Solomon Northup, who was kidnapped and sold into slavery in 1841. Stars Chiwetel Ejiofor and Michael Fassbender. *Showing at The Electric Cinema, Birmingham, Fri 31 Jan - Thurs 6 Feb; The Light House Media Centre, Wolverhampton, Fri 31 - Thurs 6 Feb; Warwick Arts Centre, Fri 31 Jan - Fri 7 Feb, Sun 9 - Tues 11 & 13 Feb; Old Market Hall, Shrewsbury, Fri 21 - Thurs 27 Feb*

## Age Of Uprising: The Legend Of Michael Kohlhaas 15

In the 16th century in the Cévennes, a horse dealer by the name of Michael Kohlhaas leads a happy family life. When a lord treats him unjustly, he raises an army and puts the country to fire and sword in order to have his rights restored. Mads Mikkelsen stars. *Showing at Stoke Film Theatre, Stoke On Trent, Thurs 27 Feb*

## All Is Lost 12a

A story of survival, when the craft of a lone sailor takes on water after a collision with a shipping container. Robert Redford stars. *Showing at Artrix, Bromsgrove, Tues 4 - Weds 5 Feb; Stoke Film Theatre, Stoke On Trent, Thurs 6 & Sat 8 Feb; Number 8 Community Arts Centre, Pershore, Sat 8 & Mon 10 Feb; Roses Theatre, Tewkesbury, Weds 12 - Thurs 13 Feb*

## American Hustle 15

Christian Bale plays Irving Rosenfeld, a 1970s con-man coerced into helping the FBI ensnare a cadre of corrupt politicians. Based on real events. *Showing at The Light House Media Centre, Wolverhampton, Fri 31 Jan - Thurs 6 Feb; Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry, Fri 21 - Weds 26 Feb; Stoke*

*Film Theatre, Stoke On Trent, Fri 21 - Sat 22 Feb*

## August: Osage County 15

Adapted from the 2007 play by Tracy Letts, this is a black comedy set in an Oklahoma household where a crisis reunites the women in the family. Meryl Streep and Julia Roberts star. *Showing at Old Market Hall, Shrewsbury, Fri 7 - Thurs 13 Feb; Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry, Fri 14 - Thurs 20 Feb*

## Burton And Taylor 15

After divorcing in 1982, Richard and Elizabeth had one final reunion on the stage when they spent seven months touring with Noel Coward's *Private Lives* in 1983. Public speculation grew about a reunion, but in private, old frictions played out. Helena Bonham Carter and Dominic West star. *Showing at Forest Arts Centre, Walsall, Thurs 27 Feb*

## Calamity Jane 12a

The Deadwood Stage is comin' to town, bringing Doris Day and Howard Keel to fuss, feud and fall in love as Calamity Jane and Wild Bill Hickok. *Showing at Crescent Theatre, Birmingham, Thurs 27 Feb*

## Captain Phillips 12a

Tom Hanks plays the eponymous captain, who was abducted by Somali pirates in 2009. *Showing at Stourbridge Town Hall, Mon 10 Feb*

## Casablanca u

Set in Africa in the early days of World War Two, an American expatriot meets a former lover - with unforeseen complications. Humphrey Bogart and Ingrid Bergman star. *Showing at The Edge Arts Centre, Much Wenlock, Shropshire Mon 10 Feb*

## The Company Of Wolves 18

Young Rosaleen's grandmother weaves vivid tales of folklore and fantasy with warnings of fantastic beasts that lurk within men and foretellings of the fate of all young girls who stray from the path... *Showing at The Courtyard, Hereford, Thurs 11 Feb*

## The Crash Reel 12a

A documentary telling the story of one unforgettable athlete, Kevin Pearce; one eye-popping sport, snowboarding; and one explosive issue, Traumatic Brain Injury. *Showing at The Courtyard, Hereford, Sat 1 - Weds 5 Feb*

## Creation 12a

The story of how Charles Darwin battled to publish *Origin Of The Species* while struggling with personal and family illness,

his doubts about his theory's effect on society, and tensions with his devoutly Christian wife, Emma. *Showing at The Hive, Shrewsbury, Sat 22 Feb*

## Day Of The Flowers 15

When chalk-and-cheese Scottish sisters Rosa and Ailie head for Cuba with their recently deceased father's ashes, they suddenly find themselves embroiled in an eye-opening adventure... *Showing at Malvern Theatres, Thurs 6 Feb; Number 8 Community Arts Centre, Pershore, Mon 24 - Tues 25 Feb*

## Dirty Dancing 12a

'Baby' Houseman is infatuated with her dance teacher Johnny Castle. But nothing is straight forward in their relationship, as their different backgrounds make their interaction a struggle. Patrick Swayze stars. *Showing at The Courtyard, Hereford, Fri 14 Feb*

## Don Jon 18

Jon is a man who has a knack for pulling beautiful and accessible babes. But he's never happier than at home watching pornography. And then he meets two very different women... Joseph Gordon-Levitt and Scarlett Johansson star. *Showing at The Courtyard, Hereford, Fri 14 Feb*

## The Epic Of Everest u

This remarkable film is re-released to celebrate the 60th anniversary of the final conquest of Everest. This is the official record of the legendary Everest expedition of 1924 that sparked an on-going debate over whether Mallory and Irvine did indeed reach the summit. *Showing at Ludlow Assembly Rooms, South Shropshire, Fri 28 Feb*

## Fanny PG

The second part of Daniel Auteuil's *Marseilles Trilogy* revival begins where the last story (*Marius*) ended, concentrating on its titular heroine's efforts to survive back home while her lover sails the seven seas. *Showing at Number 8 Community Arts Centre, Pershore, Thurs 6 & Weds 12 Feb; Roses Theatre, Tewkesbury, Mon 10 Feb*

## Fill The Void u

Set in the highly orthodox world of the Haredi Jewish. Shira is an eighteen-year-old girl looking forward to marriage when, out of the blue, her older sister dies. So, in keeping with tradition, she is forced to marry her late sister's husband... *Showing at Stoke Film Theatre, Stoke On Trent, Tues 25 Feb*

## Frozen PG

This animated Disney feature is loosely based on Hans Christian Andersen's *The Snow Queen*, in which the kingdom of Arendelle is turned into an eternal winter by the Princess Elsa. With the voice of Kristen Bell. *Showing at The Courtyard, Hereford, Fri 14 - Weds 19 Feb; Old Market Hall, Shrewsbury, Sat 15 - Sat 22 Feb; Wern Town Hall, North Shropshire, Mon 17 - Weds 19 Feb; Roses Theatre, Tewkesbury, Mon 17 - Thurs 20 Feb; Ludlow Assembly Rooms, South Shropshire, Weds 19, Fri 21 - Sat 22 Feb*

## The Harry Hill Movie PG

An all-new comedy in which Hill, as Harry Hill, goes on a road trip with his nan (Julie Walters) to Blackpool. *Showing at The Courtyard, Hereford, Fri 7 - Tues 13 Feb; Number 8 Community Arts Centre, Pershore, Mon 17 - Tues 18 Feb*

## The Hobbit: The Desolation Of Smaug 12a

Bilbo and the dwarfs hike their way to Erebor, where they encounter the dragon Smaug and his treasure. Ian McKellen and Martin Freeman star. *Showing at The Courtyard, Hereford, Sat 1 - Weds 5 Feb; Atfield Theatre, Oswestry, Sat 1, Weds 5, Sat 8 and Weds 12 Feb; Wern Town Hall, North Shropshire, Fri 14, Mon 17 - Tues 18 Feb; Roses Theatre, Tewkesbury, Sun 16 - Thurs 20 Feb; Ludlow Assembly Rooms, South Shropshire, Mon 17 - Thurs 20 & Sat 22 Feb*

## The Innocents 12a

Based on the novella *The Turn Of The Screw*, by Henry James, this 1961

psychological thriller returns to the big screen. Deborah Kerr stars as a governess who becomes convinced that the children in her care are possessed. *Showing at Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry, Weds 12 - Thurs 13 Feb*

## Inside Llewyn Davis 15

Set in Greenwich Village, New York in 1961, and loosely based on the memoir of folk singer Dave Van Ronk. Stars Oscar Isaac and directed by the Coen brothers. *Showing at Old Market Hall, Shrewsbury, Fri 14 - Thurs 20 Feb; Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry, Fri 14 - Thurs 20 Feb*

## Jeune & Joie 18

That's 'Young & Beautiful' in English. Francois Ozon's drama focuses on a year in the life of a seventeen-year-old French prostitute. Marine Vauth and Charlotte Rampling star. *Showing at Ludlow Assembly Rooms, South Shropshire, Weds 5 - Thurs 6 Feb*

## Kill Your Darlings 15

Daniel Radcliffe plays Allen Ginsberg in a true crime story that implicates him, Jack Kerouac and William S Burroughs in a murder. Also stars Dane DeHaan. *Showing at The Courtyard, Hereford, Fri 7 - Thurs 13 Feb; Stoke Film Theatre, Stoke On Trent, Tues 11 & Thurs 13 Feb; Ludlow Assembly Rooms, South Shropshire, Mon 10 - Tues 11 Feb*

## Le Belle Et La Bête PG

Jean Cocteau's adaptation of *Beauty And The Beast*. When a merchant is told that he must die for picking a rose from the Beast's garden, his courageous daughter offers to go back to the Beast in her father's place. *Showing at Number 8 Community Arts Centre, Pershore, Thurs 13 Feb; Stoke Film Theatre, Stoke On Trent, Thurs 20 Feb*

## Leviathan 12a

A documentary looking into the dangerous world of commercial fishing off the New England coast. *Showing at Atfield Theatre, Oswestry, Sat 15 Feb*

## CINEMA Box Office

### Birmingham

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0207 438 9580  
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### Warwickshire

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0871 224 4007  
ODEON NUNEATON  
0871 224 4007  
SHOWCASE, COVENTRY  
0871 220 1000  
VUE, LEAMINGTON SPA  
08712 240 240  
PICTURE HOUSE, STRATFORD-UPON-AVON  
0871 902 5741  
WARWICK ARTS CENTRE  
COVENTRY 02476 524524

### Worcestershire

ARTRIX, BROMSGROVE  
01527 577330  
MALVERN THEATRE  
0845 287 2146  
THE NORBURY THEATRE, DROITWICH SPA  
08444 777 1000  
WAREHOUSE, KIDDERMINSTER  
01562 747773  
VUE, WORCESTER  
0871 224 0240  
THE ROSE'S THEATRE, TEWKESBURY  
01684 295 074



### Le Weekend 12a

A couple take a trip to Paris to rejuvenate their marriage. While there, they bump into an old friend who acts as a catalyst for things to come. Jim Broadbent and Lindsay Duncan star. *Showing at Malvern Theatres, Tues 4 Feb; Stourbridge Town Hall, Mon 17 Feb*

### Love (Amour) 12a

Love is the story of Georges and Anne, a couple in their eighties whose life is thrown into turmoil when Anne suffers a stroke. Jean-Louis Trintignant and Emmanuelle Riva star. *Showing at The Hive, Shrewsbury, Fri 7 Feb*

### Mandela: Long Walk To Freedom 12a

The first film to be based on the late Nelson Mandela's autobiography. Idris Elba stars. *Showing at the Old Market Hall, Shrewsbury, Fri 31 Jan - Thurs 6 Feb; Number 8 Community Arts Centre, Pershore, Sat 1, Mon 3 - Tues 4 & Fri 7 Feb; Festival Drayton Centre, Market Drayton, Fri 7 - Sat 8 and Tues 11 Feb; The Courtyard, Hereford, Fri 7 - Thurs 13 Feb; Stoke Film Theatre, Stoke On Trent, Sat 15 & Tues 18 Feb; Artrix, Bromsgrove, Sat 22 - Mon 24th Feb; Wern Town Hall, North*

*Shropshire, Weds 26 Feb*

### Marius 12a

Marius works in his father's seaside bar and would join a ship's crew to see the world if it weren't for his childhood love, who has an offer of marriage from someone else. Daniel Auteuil and Raphaël Personnaz star. *Showing at Roses Theatre, Tewkesbury, Mon 3 Feb*

### Moonrise Kingdom 12a

The story of two twelve-year-olds who fall in love, make a secret pact, and run away together into the wilderness. As various authorities try to hunt them down, a violent storm is brewing off-shore - and the peaceful island community is turned upside-down. Bruce Willis and Edward Norton star. *Showing at The Hive, Shrewsbury, Fri 21 Feb*

### Moshi Monsters The Movie u

Together the Moshi Monsters must stop evil Dr. Strangelove and his incompetent Glumpsidekick Fishlips. *Showing at The Courtyard, Hereford, Fri 15 - Weds 19 Feb*

### The Nun 12a

The film charts the rebellion and tragic fate of young aristocrat Suzanne Simonin. After discovering that she's an illegitimate

child, her family force her to live in a convent and spend her life as a nun. Pauline Etienne and Isabelle Huppert star. *Showing at Warwick Arts Centre, Mon 3 - Tues 4 Feb*

### Nebraska 15

A dipsomaniac travels from Montana to Nebraska with his son to supposedly claim some prize money. Bruce Dern and Will Forte star. *Showing at Artrix, Bromsgrove, Sun 2 - Mon 3 Feb; Roses Theatre, Tewkesbury, Fri 7 - Sun 9 Feb; Ludlow Assembly Rooms, South Shropshire, Fri 14, Sun 16 - Mon 17 Feb*

### The Patience Stone 15

Somewhere in an unnamed Middle Eastern country, a loyal, thirty-something wife faithfully sits watch over her vegetative husband, who's all but been forgotten by his fellow Jihadists. Over time, she gathers the courage to tell him all of the things she remained silent about during their ten years of marriage. *Showing at Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry, Weds 5 Feb; Stoke Film Theatre, Stoke On Trent, Fri 7 Feb*

### The Princess Bride 15

When the lovely Buttercup is kidnapped by a gang of misfits, they find they're pursued by the Dread

Pirate Roberts, who just might be Westley, her one true love. Peter Falk and Cary Elwes star. *Showing at Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry, Sat 1 Feb*

### The Railway Man 15

Based on the autobiography of Eric Lomax who, as a POW for the Japanese, helped build the Thai-Burma Railway. Colin Firth and Nicole Kidman star. *Showing at Artrix, Bromsgrove, Tues 4 - Weds 5 Feb; Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry, Fri 7 - Thurs 13 Feb; Roses Theatre, Tewkesbury, Weds 19 - Thurs 27; The Courtyard, Hereford, Sun 23 - Weds 26 Feb; Ludlow Assembly Rooms, South Shropshire, Sun 23 - Weds 26 Feb*

### Saving Mr Banks 15

A biography of PL Travers, author of Mary Poppins, showing her early life in Australia and her dealings with Walt Disney. Tom Hanks and Emma Thompson star. *Showing at Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry, Fri 31 Jan - Sun 2 Feb; Ludlow Assembly Rooms, South Shropshire, Fri 31 Jan - Weds 5 Feb; Roses Theatre, Tewkesbury, Sat 1 - Sun 9 Feb; Wern Town hall, North Shropshire, Tues 4 & Thurs 6 Feb; Artrix, Bromsgrove, Sun 16 - Weds 23 Feb*

### Sunshine On Leith 15

A musical following the story of two soldiers from Afghanistan who have to adjust to civilian life in Edinburgh. *Showing at The Courtyard, Hereford, Sat 1 - Weds 5 Feb; The Edge Arts Centre, Much Wenlock, Mon 17 Feb*

### Summer In February 15

In this adaptation of Jonathan Swift's novel, the artist Alfred Munnings and his friend Gilbert Evans obsess about the same woman. Set in the Cornish artist community known as the Lamorna Group. Dominic Cooper and Emily Browning star. *Showing at Forest Arts Centre, Walsall, Fri 14 Feb; Norbury Theatre, Droitwich Spa, Weds 19 Feb*

### Vertigo 15

A retired San Francisco detective suffering from acrophobia investigates the strange activities of an old friend's wife, all the while becoming dangerously obsessed with her. James Stewart and Kim Novak star. *Showing at Stoke Film Theatre, Stoke On Trent, Mon 17 Feb*

### Wadjda u

Wadjda is a ten-year-old girl who dreams of buying a bicycle. But bike-riding is prohibited for women, and Wadjda finds herself

up against some seemingly insurmountable barriers. *Showing at The Edge Arts Centre, Much Wenlock*

### Walking With Dinosaurs u

State-of-the-art computer animation and real-life backgrounds are used to tell the story of three dinosaurs from infancy to adulthood. *Showing at The Courtyard, Hereford, Fri 14 - Weds 19 Feb; Artrix, Bromsgrove, Mon 17 - Thurs 20 Feb*

### What Maisie Knew 15

Seven-year-old Maisie finds herself used as a bargaining tool as her parents part and try to start new lives with new lovers. Julianne Moore and Alexander Skarsgård star. *Showing at The Edge Arts Centre, Much Wenlock, Mon 3 Feb*

### The Wolf Of Wall Street 18

Over its three-hour running time, there's so much bad behaviour, so much profanity, so much cocaine and hookers and parties that it's like The Hangover that swallowed Wall Street. Leonardo DiCaprio stars. *Showing at Malvern Theatres, until Thurs 6 Feb; Stoke Film Theatre, Stoke On Trent, Fri 28 Feb*

For full listings visit: [www.whatsonlive.co.uk](http://www.whatsonlive.co.uk)

## DVD NEW RELEASES

### Austenland 12a

An adaptation of the 2007 bestseller by Shannon Hale. Keri Russell plays Jane Hayes, who travels to an English Jane Austen theme park to find her own Mr Darcy. Produced by Stephenie Meyer, who penned the Twilight saga. **Released 3 February**



### Captain Phillips 12a

Tom Hanks plays the eponymous captain, who was abducted by Somali pirates in 2009. Based on the book by Captain Phillips himself, in collaboration with Stephan Talty. **Released 10 February**



### How I Live Now 15

An American teenager comes to England and stays with cousins in the countryside. But her bucolic idyll is confounded by the outbreak of World War Three. Stars Saoirse Ronan. **Released 10 February**

### Enough Said 15

Romance can be complicated. Actually, it's always complicated in the movies. Here, a divorced woman finds out that the man she's pursuing is, in fact, the ex-husband of her new girlfriend. Tricky. Stars Julia Louis-Dreyfus and James Gandolfini. **Released 10 February**



### Filth 18

The novelist Irvine Welsh's 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. **Released 10 February**



### About Time 12a

Tim discovers that he can time-travel and change what's happened in his life, but he erases the timeline in which he falls in love with his girlfriend. Stars Domhnall Gleeson, Rachel McAdams. **Released 3 February**

### Blue Jasmine 12a

Jasmine is usually white or yellow, but the New York socialite Jasmine Francis has got a major case of the blues. She's forced to move in with her sister

when her marriage to a rich businessman self-destructs. Cate Blanchett, Alex Baldwin, Andrew Dice Clay and Sally Hawkins star. Directed by Woody Allen. **Released 17 February**

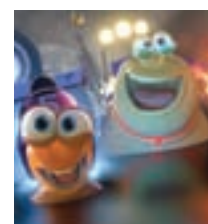


### Ain't Them Bodies Saints 15

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. He now sets out across them thar hills to be reunited with his missus and the daughter he has yet to meet. **Released 17 February**

### Turbo u

In this computer-animated 'toon, Theo is a snail who dreams of being the fastest snail in the world. And he wants to join the Indy 500. With the voice of Ryan Reynolds. **Released 17 February**



Christmas Tree Stool, Fabien Capello, 2012. Photo: Neil Moss



**1 February 2014  
– 29 March 2014**

**Bilston Craft Gallery**  
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West Midlands WV14 7LU  
01902 552507  
[www.wolverhamptonart.org.uk/bilston](http://www.wolverhamptonart.org.uk/bilston)



# RAW CRAFT

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Herbert Art Gallery & Museum, Coventry

# Walls With Wounds

By Dale vN Marshall  
15 February – 18 May 2014



[www.theherbert.org](http://www.theherbert.org)  
Herbert Art Gallery & Museum, Jordan Well, Coventry, CV1 5QP

## ARTifex



Images of the paintings are on the Artifex website and can be purchased prior to the opening of the exhibition.

**Basia Roszak**

Artifex Gallery's first solo exhibition of Basia Roszak's exciting bold and colourful oil paintings. This is a rare opportunity to view and buy her work outside of Scotland and London.

**The exhibition runs daily 10am – 5pm throughout February.**

### ARTifex GALLERY

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Telephone: 0121 3233776. [www.artifex.co.uk](http://www.artifex.co.uk)


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Herbert Art Gallery & Museum, Coventry

# EXPOSED

## THE BODY IN ART FROM DÜRER TO FREUD


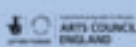
Until 21 April 2014



An exhibition of work from the fine art collections of Birmingham Museums, exploring artistic responses to the human body.

[www.theherbert.org](http://www.theherbert.org)  
Adults £4  
Friends of Birmingham Museums £2  
18 & Under FREE

The exhibition is organised in partnership with Birmingham Museums and supported by funding from Arts Council England.

# Visual Arts

## Jamal Penjweny: Saddam Is Here

Ikon Gallery, Birmingham,  
Wed 19 February - Mon 21 April

Comprising twelve images of Iraqi people holding a lifesize picture of Saddam Hussain in front of their own, Jamal Penjweny's *Saddam Is Here* reinforces the belief that the late dictator's 'shadow is still following Iraqi society everywhere'. This latest work from Penjweny, who started his artistic career as a sculptor and painter before moving into photography, became the subject of international attention when it was included in *Welcome To Iraq*, in the Iraqi pavilion at the 2013 Venice Biennale, curated by Ikon Director Jonathan Watkins. This Birmingham presentation is Penjweny's first solo exhibition.



## Walls With Wounds

Herbert Art Gallery & Museum, Coventry,  
Sat 15 February - Sun 18 May

Documenting Dale N Marshall's journey from rebellion to rehabilitation, *Walls With Wounds* consists of vibrant abstract and layered multimedia works which reference the artist's life.

The first reference is his time spent sectioned in Cornwall's St Lawrence's Hospital, one of Britain's oldest asylums. The second is his experience as a graffiti artist, when he demonstrated his artistic ability for the first ever time by spray-painting the walls of Bristol.

As well as these two experiences, Marshall also draws inspiration from his studio - a former Victorian workhouse in North Wales, the inscribed and decaying walls of which bear testament to the children who inhabited the building over one hundred years ago.

Described as both 'raw' and 'emotive', Marshall's works have been praised for the way in which they demonstrate that 'hope and redemption are possible, whatever darkness may lie beneath our scars'.



## New Art West Midlands

Grand Union, Birmingham, Fri 14 February - 15 March; The Barber Institute, Birmingham, Fri 14 February - 27 April; Wolverhampton Art Gallery, Fri 14 February - 10 May; Birmingham Museum & Art Gallery, Fri 14 February - 18 May

A major Turning Point West Midlands initiative, New Art West Midlands provides a showcase for the work of twenty-four artists, all of whom have graduated from one of the region's undergraduate or post-graduate fine art degree courses within the past three years. Demonstrating the depth of the region's artistic talent across a variety of media, works by past students at Birmingham City University, Coventry University, Staffordshire University and the University of Wolverhampton this month go on show at four of the region's most prestigious galleries.

New Art West Midlands also provides five artist prize-winners with an opportunity to undertake exhibitions, residencies or projects at other regional galleries and venues, including New Art Gallery Walsall, mac Birmingham, the Library of Birmingham, Airspace Gallery in Stoke and A3 Project Space in Digbeth.



## Grayson Perry: The Vanity Of Small Differences

Birmingham Museum & Art Gallery, Fri 14 February - Sun 11 May

Turner Prize-winning artist Grayson Perry here takes his inspiration not only from his own 2012 television documentary series *All In The Best Possible Taste*, but also from William Hogarth's *A Rake's Progress* - a series of canvases depicting eighteenth century society which the artist produced in the early 1730s.

Charting the story of class mobility and examining the influence of social class on aesthetic taste, the exhibition comprises many of the characters, incidents and objects that Perry encountered while making his BAFTA award-winning documentary series. Using these characters to weave a narrative, the artist has produced a social commentary which focuses on the minutiae of contemporary taste, in so doing paying due homage to Hogarth's collection of eighteenth century paintings.

## Ongoing exhibitions

### Ruby's Room

The Barber Institute, Birmingham,  
Fri 21 February - Mon 26 May

An unusual genre of portraiture fashionable two hundred years ago provides the inspiration for this exhibition of photographic miniatures by contemporary photographer Bettina von Zwehl. Paintings of single eyes of family members were particularly popular in the early nineteenth century, and Bettina has captured eye portraits of her husband and her daughter Ruby. These have subsequently been mounted in jewellery by designer Laurie Lee. Previously seen at Bath's Holbourne Museum, Ruby's Room also features photographic eye portraits of children from Ruby's primary school, and portraits of Bettina, Ruby and young girls and women, all of which have been inspired by miniatures within a collection at London's V&A Museum.



### Moore Rodin

Compton Verney Gallery, Warwickshire,  
Sat 15 February - Sun 31 August

Works from two major players in the world of modern sculpture feature in this exhibition, which celebrates Compton Verney's tenth anniversary. While pieces by Henry Moore and Auguste Rodin stand proud in the Capability Brown-landscaped gardens, drawings by both artists - and a set of photographs taken by Moore of his cast of Rodin's Walking Man - are on show in the venue's galleries. Loans from Musée Rodin in Paris, the Henry Moore Foundation in Hertfordshire, and public collections from throughout the UK all feature.

### Basia Roszak Exhibition

Artifex Gallery, Sutton Coldfield,  
Sat 1 - Fri 28 February

Having contributed to collections exhibited in locations as far-flung as Canada, Saudi Arabia, France and Australia, Polish-born artist Basia Roszak fuses traditional and new media to create works which reflect 'the ordinary imagery of life in an extraordinary way'. Forging a growing reputation for her composition and characteristic use of strong colour, Roszak presents figurative art that captures her subjects as they go about their everyday business. This is the first solo exhibition of the artist's colourful oil paintings, and offers a rare opportunity outside of Scotland and London to view and purchase her work.



Basia Roszak's The Broken Strap

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

**ARTIST ROOMS: JOSEPH BEUYS** Exhibition from one of the most influential artists of the late-twentieth century - the political activist and philosopher Joseph Beuys, until Sat 1 Feb, Worcester City Museum & Art Gallery

**STINKING KISSINGER** A project about the artist Eileen Bunn's sister, Pauline, and her relationship with epilepsy, until Sat 1 Feb, Bilston Craft Gallery

**BASTION: AN INSTALLATION OF FILM AND MIXED MEDIA** A spectacle which explores and explodes the stereotype of the harmless jester, until Sat 1 Feb, Wolverhampton Art Gallery

**START** Annual event which provides an opportunity for art enthusiasts to purchase original artworks, until Sat 1 Feb, RBSA, Birmingham

**AND WHEN YOU FINALLY DISAPPEAR/WE'LL JUST SAY YOU WERE NEVER HERE** Cult artists, writers and twins Ayo & Oni Oshodi here continue their relationship with mac Birmingham via a series of interventions which extend across the building and into Cannon Hill Park, until Sun 2 Feb, mac - Midlands Arts Centre, Birmingham

**12TH COVENTRY ARTS CONSORTIUM EXHIBITION** Showcase of work by local artists from Coventry's four main art societies, until Sun 2 Feb, Herbert Art Gallery & Museum, Coventry

**MAKING MOVES: CREATING FUTURES FOR CRAFT** Exhibition of contemporary craft which showcases the results of nine maker's residencies across the West Midlands, until Sun 2 Feb, mac - Midlands Arts Centre, Birmingham

**SOLUTIONS IN ART** Showcase displaying a diverse range of style & content, until Mon 3 Feb, Roses Theatre, Tewkesbury

**THE PIRACY PROJECT** An international publishing and exhibition project exploring the philosophical, legal and practical implications of book piracy and creative modes of reproduction, until Sat 8 Feb, Grand Union, Birmingham

**TIM JOHNSON: THE LUMINESCENT GROUND** Featuring installation

photography and text pieces made during visits to England, France, Germany and the Netherlands in the early 1970s, until Sun 9 Feb, Ikon Gallery, Birmingham

**WINTER SHOWCASE** Work from artist/makers who use natural materials - including bone, wool and unrefined clays - as their medium, until Sat 15 Feb, Bilston Craft Gallery

**DEAN KELLAND: NO HIDING PLACE** Fusion of performance, filmmaking, collage and print, exploring cultural identities and stereotypical representations of masculinity, until Sat 15 Feb, Wolverhampton Art Gallery

**FROM DARKROOM TO DIGITAL** Exhibition which traces the rich and influential history of photography in W'hampton, from the mid-19th century to the present day, until Sat 15 Feb, Wolverhampton Art Gallery

**WHO AM I? 'Fresh and thought-provoking'** exhibition born from an initiative to help disadvantaged 16-to-19-year-olds understand their identity as British citizens, until Sun 16 Feb, Library of Birmingham

**THE HALF** Touring exhibition featuring ninety-four prints of actors preparing for the stage, until Wed 19 Feb, The Swan Theatre, Stratford-upon-Avon

**TRADE SHOW** Ambitious cross-sectoral project to explore, commission and implement trading structures used by artists within everyday-life situations. Curated by Kathrin Böhm & Gavin Wade, until Sat 22 Feb, Eastside Projects, Birmingham

**DOROTHEA WIGHT & MARC BALAKJIAN** Exhibition celebrating the duo's contribution to British printmaking, until Sun 2 March, The New Art Gallery, Walsall

**ARTIST ROOMS: RICHARD LONG** Sculptures, maps and text works inspired by Long's time spent walking in the landscape, until Sun 2 Mar, Potteries Museum & Art Gallery, Stoke-on-Trent

**SPRITE SYMPHONY** Embark on a journey into a world of magical fairies and sprites, as you follow the trail to discover the installation around the building and find enchanted fairies trapped in jam jars, until

Sun 2 Mar, PACCAR Room, Royal Shakespeare Theatre, Stratford-upon-Avon

**UNCOMMON GROUND** Regarded as the most comprehensive exhibition of British Land Art to date, until Sat 8 Mar, The Mead Gallery, Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry

**SHENAC ROGERSON ARBSA** Linoprints featuring blocks of colour and line that create clean and spacious compositions with dynamic statements of colour, until Sat 8 Mar, RBSA, Birmingham

**THE CONTEMPORARY PORTRAIT: SELF AND OTHERS** Exhibition which explores the different artistic ways in which the human form is depicted, until Sun 9 Mar, Shire Hall Gallery, Stafford

**STAFFORDSHIRE LANDSCAPE** Exhibition by Lisa Henderson which explores the landforms of the County of Staffordshire through rich colours, textures and patterns, until Sun 9 Mar, Shire Hall Gallery, Stafford

**GEORGE GROSZ: THE BIG NO** Exhibition of works produced by one of the 'greatest satirical artists of the twentieth century', until Sun 16 Mar, The New Art Gallery, Walsall

**PETER WAREING** A collection of new ceramics with imagery influenced by natural forms found in South West Scotland, until Sat 22 Mar, RBSA, Birmingham

**THE BETTER PLACE TO SHOP: THE STORY OF BEATTIES** Featuring catalogued material relating to Wolverhampton's famous department store, until Sat 29 Mar, Wolverhampton City Archives

**PHOTOREALISM: 50 YEARS OF HYPERREALISTIC PAINTING** The first large-scale retrospective of its kind in Europe, until Sun 30 Mar, Birmingham Museum & Art Gallery

**CHI HARU SHIOTA: DIALOGUES** Two new site-specific installations and a selection of drawings and films which aim to embrace the viewer and challenge their perspective of the immediate environment, until Sun 30 Mar, The New Art Gallery, Walsall

**NIKHIL CHOPRA: SPACE ODDITY** Personal histories and India's colonial past are explored using performance, painting and photography, until Sat 5 Apr, Wolverhampton Art Gallery

**MELTING POT CRAFT EXHIBITION** Showcasing the diverse and eclectic

cultural influences present within the British craft scene, until Sat 5 Apr, RBSA, Birmingham

**CHRIS CLINTON, DEAD MEDIA** Birmingham-based artist Chris Clinton uses familiar objects and reclaimed materials to create artworks which refer to contemporary popular culture and our disregard for out-of-date media, until Sun 6 Apr, The New Art Gallery, Walsall

**STUDIO PRINTS** Exhibition featuring the work of artists and print-makers Dorothea Wight and Marc Balakjian, until Tues 15 Apr, New Art Gallery, Walsall

**DAVID TREMLETT EXHIBITION** Large-scale, site-specific wall drawings of geometric arrangements, abstract compositions of arcs, circles, trapezoids and line, until Mon 21 April, Ikon Gallery, Birmingham

**EXPOSED: THE BODY IN ART FORM FROM DURER TO FREUD** Exhibition which explores artistic responses to the human body, with works by Albrecht Dürer, Dante Gabriel Rossetti, Barbara Hepworth, Helen Chadwick, Francis Bacon, Gillian Wearing and Lucian Freud all featured, until Mon 21 Apr, Herbert Gallery & Museum, Coventry

**DEVIL'S IN THE DETAIL** Large-scale prints and reproductions of engravings which champion the skill and craftsmanship of the Victorian trade catalogue engraver, until Wed 30 Apr, Engineuity, Ironbridge, Shropshire

**ALL IN A DAY'S WORK** Insight into some of the large manufacturing companies which once made their home in the Black Country, until Mon 5 May, Bantock House & Park, Wolverhampton

**CHROMA COLLECTIVE** Exhibition featuring works from four contemporary jewellers with a shared goal of raising awareness of the craft within Birmingham's Jewellery Quarter, until Sun 4 May, Museum of the Jewellery Quarter, Birmingham

**FAMILY CIRCLES** Featuring contributions from some of the greatest masters in miniature portraiture, until Mon 26 May, The Barber Institute, Birmingham

**A BIG BANG: THE ORIGINS OF POP ART COLLECTION** The first in a two-part display exploring some of the biggest names in the Pop Art industry, until Sat 21 June, Wolverhampton Art Gallery

# VisualArts LISTINGS

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

## FOR THE RECORD

Exploring themes of preservation and recording in the work of female artists, until Sun 29 June, Birmingham Museum & Art Gallery

## THE ROGER PILKINGTON GLASS COLLECTION

Exhibition which shows the development of English drinking glasses from the late-seventeenth to the late-nineteenth century, until Sun 10 Aug, Broadfield House Glass Museum, Dudley

**IN STITCHES: A CELEBRATION OF RSC COSTUME** until Mon 1 Sep, Royal Shakespeare Theatre, Stratford-upon-Avon

**BACK TO FRONT: 40 PERMANENT COLLECTION GEMS** Exhibition which celebrates the fortieth anniversary of the gallery's Garman Ryan collection, until Sat 16 Nov 2014, New Art Gallery, Walsall

**FAITH AND FORTUNE** Exhibition exploring the early histories of two of the world's great religions, until Sun 30 Nov, The Barber Institute,

## Birmingham

**TRACED** Permanent exhibition tracing the success of art & design in Wolverhampton while bringing together works by local artists from the museum's collection, until Wed 31 Dec, Wolverhampton Art Gallery

**ROGER KEELING EXHIBITION** Works in a variety of media which capture a variety of subject matter, including landscapes, figures and still life, Sat 1 - Fri 28 Feb, Granary Art Gallery, Weston Park, Staffordshire

**RAW CRAFT: FINE THINKING IN CONTEMPORARY FURNITURE** Showcase of imaginative contemporary furniture by seven designers that's characterised by careful use of materials and a problem-solving approach to making, Sat 1 Feb - Sat 29 Mar, Bilston Craft Gallery

**WE WORKED AT THE PORCELAIN** Photographic exhibition focusing on some of Royal Worcester's many

craftsmen and women, Sat 1 Feb - Fri 1 Aug, The Museum of Royal Worcester

**MELANIE EZRA EXHIBITION** Mon 3 Feb - Mon 10 Mar, Gallery3, The Gateway, Shrewsbury

**ARTISTS' STUDIO: SARAH TAYLOR SILVERWOOD** Exhibition from Birmingham-based artist Sarah Taylor Silverwood, whose practice is grounded in drawing, narrative and landscape, Tues 4 Feb - Sun 20 July, New Art Gallery, Walsall

**BIRMINGHAM TODAY COMPETITION** A selected exhibition which celebrates the second city in all its aspects, Thurs 6 Feb - Sat 1 Mar, RBSA, Birmingham

**PORTRAIT OF A POTTERIES POPSTAR** A selection of objects & memorabilia to celebrate the fortieth birthday of one of the world's most successful pop stars, Robbie Williams, Sat 8 Feb - Sun 6 Apr, The Potteries Museum, Stoke-on-Trent

**JUNCTION 5** Exhibition of contemporary art from five local artists with varying technique and artistic approach, Sat 8 Feb - Sat 8 Mar, Wolverhampton Art Gallery

**AT PASSION'S EDGE** Sid

Turner's exploration, in sculpture & imagery, of the Latin verb 'devoid', Sat 8 Feb - Sat 8 Mar, Bilston Craft Gallery

**SEEING AND MAPPING OUR WORLD** Exhibition of photographs of rare & antiquarian maps from the Cathedral Library in the Dean's Chapel, Mon 10 - Fri 28 Feb, Worcester Cathedral

**THE JEWELLERY QUARTER DURING THE FIRST WORLD WAR** Exhibition of artefacts, images and oral histories relating to the recruitment of soldiers from the Jewellery Quarter, Fri 14 Feb - Sun 14 Dec, Museum of the Jewellery Quarter, Birmingham

**EXPOSURE** Photographic exhibition featuring artists from across the country, Mon 17 - Mon 24 Feb, Roses Theatre, Tewkesbury

**IKON ICONS: JOHN SALT** The first artist ever to exhibit at Ikon, in 1965, Wed 19 Feb - Mon 21 Apr, Ikon Gallery, Birmingham

**MARGARET FAIRHEAD RBSA** A series of stitched pieces inspired by observations of flowers from her garden, Mon 24 Feb - Sat 5 Apr, RBSA Gallery, Birmingham

## Museums & Art Galleries

### Birmingham

ARTIFEX Sutton Coldfield 0121 323 3776  
BARBER INSTITUTE 0121 414 7333

BIRMINGHAM MUSEUM & ART GALLERY 0121 303 2834

THE BURROWS GALLERY, THE CUSTARD FACTORY 0121 224 7344

CASTLE GALLERIES 0121 633 0015

GRAND UNION 0121 643 9079

IKON GALLERY 0121 248 0708

NUMBER NINE THE GALLERY 0121 643 9099

RBSA GALLERY 0121 2364353

THREE WHITE WALLS GALLERY 0121 643 0078

### Black Country

BANTOCK HOUSE WOLVERHAMPTON 01902 552195

BILSTON CRAFT GALLERY 01902 552507

BROADFIELD HOUSE GLASS MUSEUM, DUDLEY 01384 812745

DUDLEY MUSEUM & ART GALLERY 01384 815575

LIGHT HOUSE MEDIA CENTRE WOLVERHAMPTON 01902 716055

THE NEW ART GALLERY WALSALL 01922 654400

RED HOUSE GLASS CONE 01384 812750  
WOLVERHAMPTON ART GALLERY 01902 552055

### Shropshire

BEAR STEPS GALLERY, SHREWSBURY 01743 344994

TWENTY TWENTY GALLERY, MUCH WENLOCK 01952 727952

THE WILLOW GALLERY, OSWESTRY 01691 657575

### Staffordshire

THE POTTERIES MUSEUM & ART GALLERY 01782 232323

SHIRE HALL GALLERY STAFFORD 01785 278345

STAFFORDSHIRE MUSEUM, SHUGBOROUGH 01889 881388

### Warwickshire

COMPTON VERNEY GALLERY 01926 645500

HERBERT ART GALLERY COVENTRY 02476 832386

MEAD GALLERY WARWICK 02476 524524

ROYAL PUMP ROOMS 01926 742700

### Worcestershire

WORCESTER CITY ART GALLERY 01905 25371

Visit [whatsonlive.co.uk](http://whatsonlive.co.uk) for venue website details

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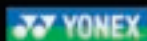
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# Events



## Chinese New Year Celebrations Southside (including Birmingham Hippodrome), Sun 2 February

Birmingham's Southside district once again plays host to the region's biggest Chinese New Year celebrations. Dragon dances, acrobatic displays and martial art demonstrations are just a few of the attractions on offer on the main stage, with traditional craft stalls and an abundance of delicious Chinese fare available along Hurst Street. Festivities culminate in what promises to be a spectacular firework display. Organised by the Birmingham Chinese Festival Committee (BCFC), the 2014 event also sees Birmingham Hippodrome trans-

forming its Stageside Bar & Restaurant into a 1920s-style Shanghai tea house, where visitors can sample various types of Chinese tea, observe performances of Chinese magic and have a go at creating souvenirs to take home. They can also participate in a chopstick masterclass, with those who display the most skill and speed then being invited to take part in a special 'chopstick challenge', courtesy of the Yum Tum Club.

## Race Retro

Stoneleigh Park, Warwickshire  
Fri 21 - Sun 23 February

This month sees Race Retro celebrate its tenth anniversary with an array of features that further endorse its standing as a great day out for motoring enthusiasts.

Recognising fifty years of the iconic McLaren, the event this year showcases some of the legendary cars involved in the manufacturer's most high-profile victories, including the McLaren M23 F1 car driven by Emerson Fittipaldi in 1974.

Racing legend Sir Stirling Moss makes a welcome return to the show this year, with other highlights including Silverstone Auctions, live rally action, historic kart demonstrations, show halls and hundreds of trade stands.



## Holiday Fun At Thomas Land

Drayton Manor Park, Staffordshire, Sat 15 - Sun 23 February

Europe's only Thomas Land opens its gates for the half-term holiday this month, ahead of its main season opening in March. Promising a fun-packed day for young adventurers, the attraction is based on characters from the ever-popular Thomas & Friends series, and features a plethora of fun rides, including the Troublesome Trucks Coaster, Cranky the Crane Drop Tower, and the latest addition, Winston's Whistle-stop Tour. Drayton Manor's fifteen-acre zoo, complete with meerkats, black leopards and a baby Brazilian tapir - is also open for the holiday.



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of



Season Pass

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Ultimate Toddler Pass

**only £30**

for more details visit

**[www.DraytonManor.co.uk](http://www.DraytonManor.co.uk)**



## Half Term Trail

Kenilworth Castle, Warwickshire  
Sat 15 - Sun 23 February

Warwickshire's Kenilworth Castle is regarded as one of England's most romantic ruined castles and is a great place to enjoy a fairy-tale adventure. So what better way to explore the castle's nine hundred years of history than via an organised trail around its ramparts? Explore where kings and queens once dined - and learn how a gift of tennis balls in the Great Hall may have led to the battle of Agincourt...



## Birmingham Botanical Gardens

Edgbaston, Birmingham, Sun 16 February

While various other horticultural venues are keeping their doors firmly closed until the arrival of spring, Birmingham's Botanical Gardens is providing visitors with an opportunity to discover its seasonal delights free of charge. Providing plenty of inspiration for green-fingered enthusiasts, the landscaped gardens feature an abundance of hellaboros, snowdrops and cyclamen, as well as the spidery flowers of the hamamelis mollis - all of which bring a touch of colour to a rather drab time of year.

Other events at the venue this month include the annual Friends Book Sale (also on the 16th) and a Wedding Fair on the 23rd.



## The Singular Exploits Of Sherlock Holmes

Avoncroft Museum, Bromsgrove,  
Thurs 27 February

This month making a welcome return to Avoncroft, Jonathan Goodwin's one-man show explores the life and times of the great Sherlock Holmes, along the way recounting numerous highlights from the legendary sleuth's illustrious crimebusting career. An ardent fan of Holmes from an early age, Jonathan will be taking part in a question-and-answer session at the end of the show.



## Love Worcester

Various venues throughout Worcestershire, Fri 14 - Sun 23 February

Ten days of events and activities celebrating Worcester's rich history, heritage and architecture take place across the city during this month's half-term school holidays.

Launching with a two-day Living History In Worcester event at The Commandery, Love Worcester aims to encourage more tourists and shoppers to visit the historic city.

Included in a wide-ranging programme of events are cryptic puzzles for children at the Elgar Birthplace Trust, craft activities at Worcester Art Gallery & Museum, a Living History Fayre at Worcester Cathedral, and a love-themed market along the High Street.

For historians, the festival offers two themed tours - Secrets Of The Ale House Trail and Secrets Of The Old Town Trail. Facilitated by local historic interpreters Discover History, the trails finish at Worcester's oldest pub, The Cardinal's Hat.

The event is brought to a close by Museums Worcester and Imagineer Productions' Magnificent Moths Parade, taking to the streets at midday on Sunday 23 February.

## The Spring Caravan And Camping Show

NEC, Birmingham, Tues 18 - Sun 23 February

A regular on the NEC's calendar, the Spring Caravan And Camping Show is a perfect starting-point for planning your holiday. As well as showcasing the latest models in caravanning, motorhomes, camping and accessories, the six-day event features a variety of free activities and attractions - including the rock-face challenge and cliff drop, dog agility, mountain bike track and challenge, camp-site cooking and motorhome manoeuvring lessons. The show is always a draw for celebrity guests, and 2014 is no exception. TV presenter, double world record-holder and all-round daredevil Helen Skelton is on hand on the Thursday to answer questions about her extreme outdoor adventures, while actress, chef and author Lisa Faulkner promises to share recipes for delicious and easy-to-prepare meals during Friday's show. Other celebrities taking part are Josh Sutton - the author of Guyrope Gourmet - wild food expert Mark Lloyd, TV explorer and zoologist Andy Torbet, and TV personality Julia Bradbury.



## Auto Science Live

Heritage Motor Centre, Gaydon,  
Warwickshire, Sat 15 - Sun 23 February

A regular on the venue's calendar, Auto Science Live offers a range of 'inspiring' family-friendly activities for the first school holidays of 2014. A Mad Auto Science Show packed with interactive demonstrations and hands-on activities kicks off the week's proceedings. This is followed by Lego-themed activities on Tuesday and Wednesday, during which visitors can try their hand at building and testing their own machines.

Auto Crafty Thursday, meanwhile, offers children the chance to make their own crafty science autos, while Mighty Fast Friday showcases a fun-sized Scalextric racetrack on which to test lap times.

An interactive Auto Science Trail runs throughout the week in support of each of the daily events.



## Sainsbury's Indoor Grand Prix

National Indoor Arena, Birmingham,  
Sat 15 February

Widely considered to be one of the world's best indoor meets, this popular annual event sees some of the country's biggest track-and-field stars heading for Birmingham, with Double Olympic Champion Mo Farah a regular participant. At the time of going to print, athletes expected to be in attendance at this month's meet were still to be announced...

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Winning  
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**Stage Interviews  
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Colin Demmett,  
Rob Kinsey and  
Jim Reynolds**

**on 22nd & 23rd February  
at The International Centre, Telford**

**Listen to  
the  
Bill Ivy vs  
Jawa**

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## From Road Racing (and on stage)

- Charlie Williams - 9 times a TT winner
- Frank Whiteway - Suzuki's IoM supremo
- Hector Neill - Ireland's longtime sponsor of the likes of Joey and the grand old man of the N/West. Boss of TAS - Relentless and TYCO Suzuki
- Julian Ryder - Moto GP prophesies for Cal and Bradley.
- Phil Morris - Oswestry museum man and fund raiser extraordinaire
- Tommy Robb, 1960's Yamaha supremo full of Irish wit.
- Ron Langston - on stage recalling his TT exploits  
*Plus* Ian Hutchinson's TT fireblade
- Marco Lucchinelli's 500 w/champ winning Suzuki  
1936 New Imperial racer  
The flat 4 Konig Newcombe racer  
5 of Ron Langston's originals!
- Kenny Roberts OW31 750 full factory Yam  
A collection of TZ 750's  
1936 500cc International Norton  
"Crooks Nostalgic Suzuki"
- Michael Dunlop's 2013 classic TT winning Suzy  
Charlie Williams' Yamahas

**PLUS SIDECAR CITY - 3 WHEELS OF ALL DESCRIPTIONS!**



Charlie Williams



10 times B/C  
Steve Saunders -  
one of the  
modern  
trials  
importers at  
Telford



Lackey talks to De Goster and Mikkola in 78

## From Off Road (and on stage)

- Brad Lackey - The first American to win the 500cc World Moto Cross title in 1982
- Pete Edmondson On stage with "The LIFE of EDDY!"
- 1970 British scrambles champ Badger Goss
- Mary Driver - ACU comp secretary
- Bill Brown - Maico importer looks back - and forwards!
- Ron Langston - The 1958 Motocross des Nations
- Steve Saunders - Jotagas and my new book  
*Plus* BSA's last Bantam trials bike
- The Scott trials stand celebrating 100 years.
- Maico Mania - A display of every Maico ever built
- EVO Heaven - the best of EVO blinged bikes
- Bultaco Sherpa - One of each and every year  
A Scott trials bike!
- Lackey's factory bikes
- Twin Shock bling - the best twinshocker at the show
- Edinburgh Club. All the winning bikes and riders of the Two Day Pre 65 Scottish - 30 yr anniversary
- All the modern trials bikes, Beta, Jotagas, Ossa, Gas/Gas
- The New trail bikes - AJP, Gas/Gas, Beta, Jotagas/Ossa etc.
- George Greenland and Bill Gwynne collections
- Bud Ekins theme display

**PLUS SAMMY MILLER AND HIS 80TH BIRTHDAY**

Just a few of the 240 dealers attending:- Hagon Shocks, Terry Weedy, Skye Classic Triumph Spares, Steve OSSA Sell, Pete Eddy, Jimmy Aird (Scott Leathers), Racebase, Steve Goode, Charley (Husky) Preston, Destroy Shirts, Dave Renham, Trial and Trail, HVA factory, Bob (Fantic) Wright, SWM UK, Rod Spry, John Mcrink, Phil Denton, Jim Pickering, PE Suzuki, Simon Bateman, Sammy Miller, PES, Bill Brown, Faber, Rockshox, CZ UK, Joe Maxwell CCM, Electrex, Bill (Fantic) Pye, Regent m/x, Ben Heman (Holland), MXM, Moto Duro, Jeff Bens (Belgium) Adrian Moss, Alan Wright, Maico only, & Paul Dean.

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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  
**SAT 1 FEB**

## WILD WINTER SAFARI

until Sun 9 Feb, West Midland Safari Park, Bewdley

## SPRITE SYMPHONY

Embark on a journey into a world of magical fairies and sprites as you follow the trail to discover the installation around the building and find enchanted fairies trapped in jam jars, until Sun 2 Mar, Royal Shakespeare Theatre, Stratford-upon-Avon

## BIG TIME AMERICAN

**WRESTLING** All Star Superslam wrestling starts the new year with an explosive evening of top live action for all the family to enjoy, Sat 1 Feb, Victoria Hall, Hanley, Stoke-on-Trent

**ARTY PARTY** Fortnightly art club for 8-14-year-olds, Sat 1 Feb, The Potteries Museum & Art Gallery, Stoke-on-Trent

**LANDSCAPE - DEVELOPING A PERSONAL RESPONSE** Lisa Henderson talks about different approaches to painting the landscape, Sat 1 Feb, Shire Hall Gallery, Stafford

**BOOK TRINKET BOX WORKSHOP FOR ADULTS** With Nick Wells, Sat 1 Feb, Walsall Leather Museum

**GALLERY TOUR** Informal tour to find out about Wolverhampton's world renowned collections and the history of the gallery, Sat 1 Feb, Wolverhampton Art Gallery

**WALK AROUND THE GALLERIES...** Explore different approaches to landscape with a guided tour, featuring the Richard Long exhibition and the museum's displays, Sat 1 Feb, The Potteries Museum & Art Gallery, Stoke-on-Trent

**FABULOUS FOLLIES** Guided tour of some of the unique garden monuments on the south side of the estate, Sat 1 Feb, Shugborough Estate, Staffordshire

**BOWMAN ANTIQUE FAIR** Featuring up to four hundred stands selling antiques, curios, vintage, retro & collectables, Sat 1 - Sun 2 Feb, Stafford Bingley Hall

**TNA IMPACT WRESTLING** Watch some of the world's top wrestling stars battle it out live in the ring, as TNA Wrestling arrives in the region, Sun 2 Feb, National Indoor Arena,

## BIRMINGHAM 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, Sun 2 Feb, Santa Pod Raceway, Northampton

**SHUGBOROUGH BRIDAL FAYRE** Demonstrations and entertainment to help you plan your 'perfect day', Sun 2 Feb, Shugborough Estate, Staffordshire

**THE 15TH CLASSIC & MODERN JAPANESE & EUROPEAN MOTORCYCLE SHOW** Sun 2 Feb, Donington Park

**CHINESE NEW YEAR CELEBRATIONS** Welcome the Year of the Horse with lion dancing, Chinese-themed activities & fireworks, Sun 2 Feb, Arcadian Centre, Southside, Birmingham

**THE LAUGHTER CREWE** A comedy and curry night Sun 2 Feb Crewe Lyceum

**MILITARIA** Europe's premier indoor show, featuring a wide range of items from Britain, America, Germany & Russia, Sun 2 Feb, Stoneleigh Park, Warwickshire

**WELLY WALKS** Guided tour of the parkland as it begins to reawaken for spring, Sun 2 - Sun 23 Feb, Hanbury Hall & Gardens, Worcester

Week Commencing  
**MON 3 FEB**

**LAUGHING FOR A CHANGE: COMMUNITY COMEDY COURSE** Course open to all adults, Mon 3 Feb, Light House Media Centre, Wolverhampton

**IRONBRIDGE ARCHAEOLOGY SEMINAR SERIES** Third in a new series of archaeology-related talks and walks, Tues 4 Feb, The Long Warehouse, Coalbrookdale, Ironbridge, Shropshire

**TUESDAY TOUR: FOLKLORE & CUSTOM** Slides & tour looking at folklore & custom, Tues 4 Feb, Blakesley Hall, Birmingham

**LUNCHTIME TALK: WOLVERHAMPTON AT WORK** A talk by Michelle Hallard about historic murders in the city of Wolverhampton, Tues 4 Feb, Bantock House Museum, Wolverhampton

**GUY DAY'S HINTS & TIPS: PASTRY** Head chef Guy Day shows how to per-

fect your pastry skills with sweet & savoury classics, Tues 4 - Wed 5 Feb, Weston Park, Staffordshire

**BANFF FILM FESTIVAL** Following sold-out shows across the UK in 2012, the world's most prestigious mountain film festival returns to the Midlands with a brand new selection of extraordinary short films from the world's leading adventure film-makers, Wed 5 Feb, Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury

**ARTFORUM GOLD** Range of art activities using different materials and methods, using the gallery as your inspiration, Wed 5 Feb, Wolverhampton Art Gallery

**THE SEA IN BIRMINGHAM** An anthology of stories celebrating thirty years of the influential Tindal Street Fiction Group, Wed 5 Feb, Library of Birmingham

**WHAT IS IT?** Expert advice on the identification and care of ceramics, art and local and natural history, Wed 5 Feb, The Potteries Museum & Art Gallery, Stoke-on-Trent

**WINTER GUIDED TOUR** Visit Aston during the close season for a tour & refreshments, Wed 5 Feb, Aston Hall, Birmingham

**DRIFT WHAT YA BRUNG** Chance to practise drifting in safe and legal conditions on some of the Pod's thirty acres of open tarmac, where there are beginners, intermediate and advanced tracks open at the same time each DWYB day, Wed 5 Feb, Santa Pod Raceway, Northampton

**GRUESOME AND GHOSTLY TOURS** Promising an evening to make your blood curdle and spine tingle, Wed 5 Feb, Lichfield City Centre

**NEWCOMEN SOCIETY LECTURE** Professor David Williams talks about early military gunmaking in Birmingham, Wed 5 Feb, Thinktank, Birmingham

**HISTORY TALK ON SPICER TAXIDERMISTRY COLLECTION** Thurs 6 Feb, Market Hall Museum, Warwick

**PAPER MOON SWING DANCE WORKSHOP** For adults & young people aged twelve and over, Fri 7 Feb, Wem Town Hall, North Shropshire

**BLACK COUNTRY DIALECTS "NETHERTON IS WHAT I THINK WITH"** Dave Reeves, poet-in-residence at the Black Country Museum, takes audiences on a journey into the culture and dialect of the Black Country, Fri 7 Feb, Savoy Centre, Netherton, Wolverhampton

## ICELAND, DEFROSTED

Author event with Ed Hancox, Fri 7 Feb (7pm), Bridgnorth Library, Shropshire

**WINTER GUIDED TOUR** Limited places. Booking essential, Fri 7 Feb, Sarehole Mill, Birmingham

**ICELAND, DEFROSTED** Author event with Ed Hancox, Fri 7 Feb (2.30pm), Shrewsbury Library

**PIRATE WEEKEND** Featuring an abundance of themed activities, Fri 7 - Sat 8 Feb, Alton Towers, Staffordshire

**CANDLELIT TOUR** Join the knowledgeable guides as they take visitors on a walk through history, Fri 7 - Sat 8 Feb, Birmingham Back to Backs

**MANSION WINTER TOURS** Discover the stories which shaped the Regency mansion, Fri 7 - Sat 23 Feb, Attingham Park, Shrewsbury

**SCULPTING THE BODY** Guided by artist Tanya Kozin, participants can produce their own small human figure sculpture in the first workshop, then focus on the detail of hand sculpture in the second workshop, Sat 8 Feb, Herbert Art Gallery & Museum, Coventry

**YOUNG ARTISTS** Workshop offering participants a chance to learn new drawing, painting and sculpture skills, Sat 8 Feb, Wolverhampton Art Gallery

**PORTRAIT DRAWING WITH DAVID GLEESON** Take along a photo of a family member or friend and have a go at creating your own black-and-white drawing in charcoal & chalk or graphite & pencils, Sat 8 Feb, Wolverhampton Art Gallery

**NATIONAL LIBRARIES DAY** Join National Storytelling Laureate Katrice Horsley for a day of celebration and discovery... Sat 8 Feb, Library of Birmingham

**FRIENDS OF WOLVERHAMPTON CITY ARCHIVES MEETING** A talk about 'Wightwick Manor - The romantic philanthropist and his Tory cousin' by Pat Jones & Caroline Pugh, Sat 8 Feb, Wolverhampton City Archives

**LIFE DRAWING WITH A DIFFERENCE** Sat 8 Feb, Herbert Art Gallery & Museum, Coventry

**AZTEC WEEKEND** Explore the origins of the cocoa bean and take part in numerous themed crafts inspired by the Aztec tribe, Sat 8 - Sun 9 Feb, Cadbury World, Birmingham

**SHREWSBURY DARWIN FESTIVAL** Sat 8 - Sun 23 Feb, various locations around Shrewsbury

**THE ADVENTURES OF ANDY KERSHAW** Enjoy an evening of chat and reminiscence with national treasure, legendary broadcaster and foreign correspondent Andy Kershaw, Sun 9 Feb, Kitchen Garden Cafe, Kings Heath, Birmingham

**CHINESE NEW YEAR OF THE HORSE** Celebrate the Chinese New Year with traditional music, dance and crafts, a lion dancing display, a Cantonese opera, origami and Chinese painting workshops, Sun 9 Feb, The Potteries Museum & Art Gallery, Stoke-on-Trent

**VALENTINE SPECIAL** Workshop where visitors can make a handmade gift for that special someone, Sun 9 Feb, Shire Hall Gallery, Stafford

**VOLUNTEER OPEN DAY** Drop in between 12 - 2pm and find out about volunteering at one of the heritage sites, Sun 9 Feb, Soho House, Birmingham

**PRECIOUS PAINTINGS: COUNTRY HOUSE CONSERVATION STUDY DAY** Tues 11 Feb, Weston Park, Staffordshire

**LUNCHTIME TALKS: BIRMINGHAM & ITS PEOPLE** Advance booking advisable, Tues 11 Feb, Library of Birmingham

**TUESDAY TOUR: FEAST AND FAMINE - THE LIFE AND TIMES OF A JACOBAN HEIRESS** Tues 11 Feb, Blakesley Hall, Birmingham

**GRUESOME AND GHOSTLY TOURS** Promising an evening to make your blood curdle and spine tingle, Tues 11 Feb, Lichfield City Centre

**DINOSAUR ZOO** Tue 11 - Wed 12 Feb, The Place, Oakengates Theatre, Telford

**THE CIRCUS OF HORRORS** Following their performance on Britain's Got Talent, the Circus of Horrors troupe take to the road with their latest show, which is set in a plague-infested London in 1666, Wed 12 Feb, Lichfield Garrick

**WINTER GUIDED TOURS** Visit Aston during the close season for a tour & refreshments, Wed 12 Feb, Aston Hall, Birmingham

**LGBT HISTORY MONTH: VOICES IN HISTORY** As part of LGBT History Month, this session takes a look at history using archive material, Wed 12 Feb, Wolverhampton Art Gallery

**STUART MACONIE - THE PEOPLE'S SONGS** Spend an evening in the com-

pany of popular and prolific TV and radio presenter, journalist, columnist and author Stuart Maconie as he talks about his new book and epic radio series, Thurs 13 Feb, Arena Theatre, Wolverhampton

**SYMPHONY HALL TOUR** Chance to explore one of the finest concert halls in the world, Thurs 13 Feb, Symphony Hall, Birmingham

**THE SPICER FAMILY: 3 GENERATIONS OF TAXIDERMIST** See examples of Victorian & Edwardian natural history, Thurs 13 Feb, Warwickshire Museum

**VALENTINES GHOST TOUR** Kenilworth is one of England's most romantic ruined castles, but not all lovers who lived there had a happy existence. Learn about their lives and deaths on an eerie evening tour around the castle and gatehouse, Fri 14 Feb, Kenilworth Castle, Warwickshire

**SEX, DRUGS & POETRY - THE SCANDALOUS LOVES OF THE PRE-RAPHAELITES** A tongue-in-cheek evening tour with a definite adult slant, Fri 14 Feb, Wightwick Manor & Gardens, Wolverhampton

**GEORGIAN VALENTINES SUPPER** Fri 14 Feb, Warwick Castle

**MASQUERADE TO MURDER: MURDER MYSTERY DINNER** Pre-booking essential! Fri 14 Feb, Shugborough Estate, Staffordshire

**VINTAGE TEA PARTY** Enjoy high tea in the setting of Bantock House. Pre-booking required, Fri 14 Feb, Bantock House, Wolverhampton

**THE ORIGINS OF MIDDLE EARTH** Discover the childhood playground of JRR Tolkien, Fri 14 Feb, Sarehole Mill, Birmingham

**THE ELECTRO SWING BALL** Evening of live music, swinging DJs, dance class, burlesque, acrobatics, circus performances and a series of vintage-themed treats. The Electro Swing Ball feature... Fri 14 Feb, The Place, Oakengates Theatre, Telford

**WINTER GUIDED TOUR** Fri 14 Feb, Sarehole Mill, Birmingham

**VALENTINE LANTERN WALK** Enjoy a candlelit stroll around the gardens, Fri 14 Feb, Biddulph Grange Garden, Stoke-on-Trent

**CANDLELIT TOUR** Join the knowledgeable guides as they take visitors on a walk through history, Fri 14 - Sat 15 Feb, Birmingham Back to Backs

**THE BRITISH SHOOTING SHOW** Premier showcase for major interna-



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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)

tional gun manufacturers, gun retailers and shooting accessory suppliers, Fri 14 - Sun 16 Feb, Stoneleigh Park, Warwickshire

**LOVE THE WORKERS** Range of themed activities in support of the museum's current photographic exhibition, Fri 14 - Sun 23 Feb, Museum of Royal Worcester

**MCM MIDLANDS COMIC CON** Promising a fun day out for all sci-fi fans, gamers, movie buffs, comic collectors and cosplayers, Sat 15 Feb, Telford International Centre, Shropshire

**LEATHER BAG WORKSHOP** Try your hand at leatherworking, stitching and construction techniques to design and create a bag that reflects your personal style, Sat 15 Feb, Bilston Craft Gallery

**ARTWORK OF THE MONTH TALK WITH SAM MACE** Sat 15 Feb, The New Art Gallery, Walsall

**SECRETS OF THE OLD TOWN** Explore the oldest parts of the city centre with a costumed guide, Sat 15 Feb, tour starts at Worcester Guildhall and finishes at The Cardinal's Hat

**ARTY PARTY** Fortnightly art club for 8-14-year-olds, Sat 15 Feb, The Potteries Museum & Art Gallery, Stoke-on-Trent

**BRITISH ATHLETICS INDOOR GRAND PRIX** Sat 15 Feb, National Indoor Arena, Birmingham

**DRAWING THE BODY** Guided by visual artist Frieda Van de Poll, develop your drawing technique and experiment with mixed media. Working from a life model inspired by the Exposed exhibition, each workshop will offer new and challenging poses, Sat 15 Feb, Herbert Art Gallery & Museum, Coventry

**LOVE WORCESTER LIVING HISTORY FAYRE** Featuring local history societies & re-enactment groups, Sat 15 Feb, Worcester Cathedral

**LOVE WORCESTER THEMED STREET MARKET** Sat 15 Feb, Worcester City Centre

**TRIBUTE TO LUVLY: AN EVENING WITH JAYNE CARPENTER, JIM HAWKINS & FRIENDS** A Shropshire Cat Rescue event, Sat 15 Feb, The Hive, Shrewsbury

**SNOWDROP WALKS** Blow away the winter blues with a walk through the dingle, Sat 15 - Sun 16

Feb, Dudmaston Estate, Nr Bridgnorth, Shropshire

**MOSCOW STATE CIRCUS** Sat 15 - Sun 16 Feb, The Place, Oakengates Theatre, Telford

**THE SPRING ANTIQUES CERAMIC FAIR** Sat 15 - Sun 16 Feb, Museum of Royal Worcester

**VALENTINE'S WEEKEND** Sat 15 - Sun 16 Feb, Cadbury World, Birmingham

**LOVE WORCESTER LIVING HISTORY** Watch as re-enactors take over the venue to demonstrate two thousand years of history, right up to WWII, Sat 15 - Sun 16 Feb, The Commandery, Worcester

**MUD PIE COOK-OFF COMPETITION** Get cooking in Moseley's mud pie kitchen, Sat 15 - Wed 19 Feb, Moseley Old Hall, Wolverhampton

**LOVE WORCESTER: THE CITY IN MINIATURE** Children's activities, Sat 15 - Sat 22 Feb, Worcester City Art Gallery & Museum

**FAMILY FUN DAYS** Take along your wellies and try out the playful journeys on the estate - follow the horseshoes to the labyrinth, clamber over logs, and pause in the rest-a-while shelter, Sat 15 - Sun 23 Feb, Baddesley Clinton, Warwickshire

**AUTO SCIENCE LIVE** Half-term family fun featuring a range of free family-friendly activities, bringing to life automotive engineering and the science behind it, Sat 15 - Sun 23 Feb, Heritage Motor Centre, Gaydon, Warwickshire

**HALF TERM POTTERY PAINTING** Paint a piece of pottery to take home with you. Choose from animals, bottle ovens, flowers and much more... Sat 15 - Sun 23 Feb, Gladstone Pottery Museum, Stoke-on-Trent

**SELF-LED BIRD TRAIL** Follow the clues on the trail map to find the many different birds building nests around the park, Sat 15 - Sun 23 Feb, Severn Valley Country Park, Alveley, Bridgnorth

**MOSHI MONSTER MADNESS** Themed activities for half-term, Sat 15 - Sun 23 Feb, Alton Towers, Staffordshire

**FAMILY FUN DAYS** Don your wellies and head to the woods to build a den, play hoopla, splash in the puddles and have your very own family adventure, Sat 15 - Sun 23 Feb,

Packwood House, Warwickshire

**HALF-TERM TRAILS** Find the clues to win a prize. Different theme every day... Sat 15 - Sun 23 Feb, Attingham Park, Shrewsbury

**WELLY WANDER TRAIL** Sat 15 - Sun 23 Feb, Tittesworth Water, Meerbrook, Nr Leek, Staffs

**HALF-TERM ACTIVITIES** Take a trip to Blists Hill Museum and have fun with the many drop-in activities on offer, Sat 15 - Sun 23 Feb, Blists Hill Victorian Museum, Ironbridge, Shropshire

**FREEMASONRY PAST AND PRESENT** Exhibition & children's activities, Sat 15 - Sun 23 Feb, Museum of Freemasonry, Worcester

**FEBRUARY HALF-TERM TRAIL** Search around the castle grounds to find clues and claim your tasty treat, Sat 15 - Sun 23 Feb, Beeston Castle, Cheshire

**FLIGHT WORKSHOPS** Find out about the science of flight via a series of interactive activities, Sat 15 - Sun 23 Feb, Enginuity, Ironbridge, Shropshire

**FEBRUARY HALF-TERM TRAIL** Search around the castle grounds to find clues and claim your tasty treat Sat 15 - Sun 23 Feb, Goodrich Castle, Hereford

**HALF-TERM FAMILY AT CADBURY WORLD** Featuring entertainers and live family shows in the marquee, in addition to the regular Cadbury World attractions, Sat 15 - Sun 23 Feb, Cadbury World, Birmingham

**FEBRUARY HALF TERM TRAIL** Search around the castle grounds to find clues and claim your tasty treat, Sat 15 - Sun 23 Feb, Kenilworth Castle

**DONNA FALLON** An evening with the 'International Psychic Medium to the Stars', Sun 16 Feb, Crewe Lyceum

**MODEL TRACTOR, PLANT & CONSTRUCTION SHOW** Sun 16 Feb, Warwickshire Exhibition Centre, Nr Leamington Spa, Warwick

**HERMITS AND HIDDEN GEMS WALK** Fully escorted walk around Haywood Cliffs, taking in views and learning about the flora and fauna, Sun 16 Feb, Shugborough Estate, Staffordshire

**DONINGTON 4X4 SHOW** Featuring 4x4-related trade stands offering parts, accessories and services for all makes of 4x4, whatever your chosen use, Sun 16 Feb, Donington Park

**BUILD A BROOD A HOME** Workshop where visitors can make their

own nest box and apple bird-feeder to take home during National Nest Box Week. This event also offers a bird trail with quiz and guided nest tour, Sun 16 Feb, Dorothy Clive Garden, Market Drayton, Shropshire

**FRIENDS BOOK SALE** Sun 16 Feb, Birmingham Botanical Gardens

## Week Commencing MON 17 FEB

**SALLY MORGAN: PSYCHIC SALLY ON THE ROAD** Mon 17 Feb, New Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham

**WWI DISCOVERY DAY** Opportunity to handle weapons, try on uniforms and explore the museum's fascinating collections, Mon 17 Feb, Staffordshire Regimental Museum, Lichfield

**BIRD BONANZA** Learn all about our feathered friends & have a go at making your very own nest box, Mon 17 Feb, Westport Lake Rd, Tunstall, Stoke-on-Trent

**MESSY JESSIE** A new sensory performance for the under-fives, written by Jan Watts, Mon 17 Feb, Library of Birmingham

**WONDERFUL WINTER TRAIL** Mon 17 Feb, Hanbury Hall, Worcestershire

**CRAFTY DROP-IN** Colour a map of Neverland or design a treasure map to your own magical land as part of the RSC's Wendy & Peter Pan-themed holiday activities, Mon 17 Feb, Royal Shakespeare Theatre, Stratford-upon-Avon

**SEA SHANTY SINGING WORKSHOP** Learn songs of the sea and dance a pirate jig, Mon 17 Feb, Royal Shakespeare Theatre, Stratford-upon-Avon

**DISCOVERING MODERN MASTERPIECES** Mon 17 - Fri 21 Feb, Herbert Art Gallery & Museum, Coventry

**HALF-TERM FUN** Wellington walks, wild art work, den building and orienteering, Mon 17 - Fri 21 Feb, Wightwick Manor & Gardens, Wolverhampton

**HALF-TERM TILE DECORATING WORKSHOPS** Drop-in sessions where participants use the technique known as tube lining to decorate their very own tile to take home, Mon 17 - Fri 21 Feb, Jackfield Tile Museum, Ironbridge, Shropshire

**KITE CHAOS!** Make your very own kite to fly on the hill, Mon 17 - Fri 21 Feb, Carding Mill Valley, South Shropshire

**CHINESE NEW YEAR DROP-IN CERAMIC WORKSHOPS** Celebrate the Year Of The Horse with fun drop-in activities where you can use on-glaze paints to decorate your own themed design made out of clay, Mon 17 - Fri 21 Feb, Coalport China Museum, Ironbridge

**HALF-TERM ACTIVITIES** Mon 17 - Fri 21 Feb, RAF Museum, Cosford, Nr Wolverhampton

**FAMILY ACTIVITY DAYS** Follow the trail around the gardens and win a prize. Craft activities also available, Mon 17 - Fri 21 Feb, Hanbury Hall & Gardens, Worcestershire

**DROP-IN ARTS** Hands-on sessions making crafts to take home, Mon 17 - Fri 21 Feb, Birmingham Museum & Art Gallery

**SAFARI BACKPACK & TRAIL** Grab yourself a backpack filled with equipment to help you explore the cathedral, Mon 17 - Sat 22 Feb, Worcester Cathedral

**BILLY SMARTS CIRCUS** All-human spectacular, Mon 17 - Sun 23 Feb, Trentham Gardens, Stoke-on-Trent

**MONKEY BUSINESS - CHILDREN'S WORKSHOP WITH JIM MORRIS** Tue 18 Feb, Walsall Leather Museum

**WENDY & PETER PAN ACTIVE STORYTELLING** Suitable for ages four to eight, Tues 18 Feb, Royal Shakespeare Theatre, Stratford-upon-Avon

**GREAT HALL MEDIAEVAL BANQUET** Tue 18 Feb, Warwick Castle

**PAINT, PAPER & PLASTERWORK: THE DECORATION OF THE ENGLISH COUNTRY HOUSE** Study day exploring the 'interior design legacies that have made Weston the stunning house that it is today', Tues 18 Feb, Weston Park, Staffordshire

**WONDERFUL WINTER FAMILY ACTIVITY DAYS** Themed trails and make-and-take activities, Tues 18 Feb, Hanbury Hall, Worcester

**TRUSTY'S TUESDAY CLUB** Holiday sessions featuring everything from outdoor adventures to craft & wildlife activities, Tues 18 Feb, Attingham Park, Shrewsbury

**MEET ME AT BANTOCK** Regular conversation club for people aged fifty & over, Tues 18 Feb, Bantock House Museum, Wolverhampton

**ANIMAL ORIGAMI** Create your very own paper menagerie. Children of all ages welcome, Tyes 18 Feb, Smestow Valley, Wolverhampton

**HERBERT ILLUMINATION: THE MEDIAEVAL MAGDALEN** A talk from Leah Mellors exploring

the mediaeval ideal of Mary Magdalen, and why she was one of the most popular female saints during the Middle Ages, Tue 18 Feb, Herbert Art Gallery & Museum, Coventry

**CONVERSATIONS** Tue 18 Feb, Herbert Art Gallery & Museum, Coventry

**BIRMINGHAM'S ROLE IN THE ABOLITION OF THE SLAVE TRADE** Gallery talk with History Curator Henrietta Lockhart, Tues 18 Feb, Birmingham Museum & Art Gallery

**MONKEY BUSINESS CHILDREN'S WORKSHOP** Chape with art worker Jim Morris, Tues 18 Feb, Walsall Leather Museum

**CRAFTY DROP-IN** Make a pair of Tinkerbell fairy wings or a Peter Pan hat as part of the RSC's Wendy & Peter Pan-themed holiday activities, Tues 18 Feb, Royal Shakespeare Theatre, Stratford-upon-Avon

**ANIMAL MANIA** Blakesley's favourite mobile zoo returns with its cute and furry friends, Tues 18 Feb, Blakesley Hall, Birmingham

**MOVEMENT WORKSHOP** Work with an actor and explore some of the physical moments from Wendy & Peter Pan. Suitable for ages eight-plus, Tues 18 - Wed 19 Feb, Swan Theatre, Stratford-upon-Avon

**THE WONDERFUL WIZARD OF OZ** Join Avoncroft's munchkins to celebrate the seventy-fifth anniversary of the film classic, Tues 18 - Thurs 20 Feb, Avoncroft Museum, Bromsgrove

**HALF-TERM CRAFT ACTIVITY: FROG HATS** 'Frog hat'-making workshop, Tue 18 - Fri 21 Feb, The Potteries Museum & Art Gallery, Stoke-on-Trent

**HALF TERM ACTIVITY - SPARKLE BUGS** Drop-in event where visitors can make a creepy crawly minibeast out of clay before decorating it with sequins to make it sparkle, Tue 18 - Fri 21 Feb, Gladstone Pottery Museum, Stoke-on-Trent

**CELEBRATIONS** Craft activity days exploring celebrations & festivals from around the world, Tues 18 - Fri 21 Feb, Worcestershire County Museum

**AMERICAN SUPERSLAM WRESTLING** Wed 19 Feb, Bedworth Civic Hall

**POP-UP STORYTELLING WITH GRAHAM LANGLEY & CATH EDWARDS** Free drop-in session, Wed 19 Feb, Library of Birmingham

**MEET THE ROMANS LIVE!** Find out what life was like in Roman Warwickshire, Wed 19 Feb, Market Hall

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Fri 31 Jan -  
 Sat 15 Feb 2014

# Events LISTINGS

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

Museum, Warwick  
**LGBT HISTORY MONTH: POLARI** Learn the lost gay language in a fun & interactive session exploring language, Wed 19 Feb, Wolverhampton Art Gallery  
**VICTORIAN SERVANT'S DAY** Family fun day with craft activities, re-enactors, dressing up, handling & more... Wed 19 Feb, Aston Hall, Birmingham  
**KINGDOM OF MERCIA** Meet characters from the Anglo-Saxon world, including an ambassador from Kent visiting King Penda, a shaman who's a practitioner of an ancient religion, and two artisan workers. This event also offers a chance to see a range of birds of prey in the museum's Anglo Saxon Falconry and Folklore presentation, Wed 19 Feb, The Potteries Museum & Art Gallery, Stoke-on-Trent  
**BIRD BOX MAKING** As part of National Nest Box Week, Wed 19 Feb, Cannock Chase Visitor Centre, Staffs  
**MOSES FOR NOVICES** An introduction to identifying local mosses and liverworts with Martin Godfrey, Staffordshire County Recorder for Bryophytes. Pre-booking essential, Wed 19 Feb, The Potteries Museum & Art Gallery, Stoke-on-Trent  
**HALF-TERM FUN! SCAVENGER HUNT** Booking essential! Wed 19 Feb, Severn Valley Country Park, Alveley, Bridgnorth  
**LOVE WORCESTER'S PAST** Children's crafts, Wed 19 Feb, The Hive, Worcester  
**ARTFORUM GOLD** Range of art activities using different materials and methods, using the gallery as your inspiration, Wed 19 Feb, Wolverhampton Art Gallery  
**LOVE WORCESTER, LOVE PETS** Half-term make-and-take workshop where participants can make their very own cuddly magnetic pet, Wed 19 Feb, Tudor House Heritage Centre, Worcester  
**FOREVER FRIENDS** Story & craft sessions for children aged five-plus, Wed 19 Feb, Central Children's Library, Wolverhampton  
**FAMILY WORKSHOP: SHADOW PLAY** Have a go at telling the story of Wendy & Peter Pan playing with shadows & light, Wed 19 - Thurs 20

Feb, Swan Theatre, Stratford-upon-Avon  
**CERAMIC WORKSHOPS** Join artist Lorraine Bates to learn how to work with ceramics, Wed 19 - Thurs 20 Feb, Birmingham Museum & Art Gallery  
**CODEBREAKING FAMILY ACTIVITIES** Wed 19 - Thurs 20 Feb, Elgar's Birthplace Museum, Worcester  
**CHILDREN'S SCHOOL HOLIDAY ACTIVITY SESSIONS** An ideal opportunity for aspiring young potters to work with professional, ceramic artists, Wed 19 - Thurs 20 Feb, Eastnor Pottery, Ledbury  
**BOOKMARK PEOPLE** Drop-in with Ruth Radcliffe, Thurs 20 Feb, Walsall Leather Museum  
**FUNKY BANDS & BRACELETS WORKSHOP** Drop-in sessions for children, Thurs 20 Feb, Walsall Museum  
**CRAFT DAY** Half-term day of fun, making crafts to take home, Thurs 20 Feb, Soho House, Birmingham  
**TRAVELLING THE TIMELINE** Workshop where children aged six-plus can have a go at making plaster fossils, fizzing volcanoes and model dinosaurs. Please note that children under eight must be accompanied by an adult, Thurs 20 Feb, Ludlow Assembly Rooms, South Shropshire  
**WONDERFUL WINTER FAMILY ACTIVITY DAYS** Themed trails & make-and-take activities, Thurs 20 Feb, Hanbury Hall, Worcester  
**PIRATE SWORD STAGE FIGHTING** Workshop which teaches how to cross swords safely and make swashbuckling look real, Thurs 20 Feb, Clore Learning Centre, Waterside, Stratford-upon-Avon  
**SEA SHANTY SINGING WORKSHOP** Learn songs of the sea and dance a pirate jig, Fri 21 Feb, Royal Shakespeare Theatre, Stratford-upon-Avon  
**ART SPEAKING** Audio-described tours of exhibitions for people with visual impairment, Fri 21 Feb, Wolverhampton Art Gallery  
**LOVE LOCAL WILDLIFE** Discover what's going on locally and make your own bird feeder to take home, Fri 21 Feb, Greyfriars, Worcester  
**BEHIND-THE-SCENES TOUR** Opportunity to see parts of the court

seldom open to visitors, Fri 21 Feb, Witley Court, Worcestershire  
**THE PEARLIAD BY ROSIE PUG BOOK LAUNCH** Fri 21 Feb, Library of Birmingham  
**'SPAKE PRAPPER' A BLACK COUNTRY TALK SHOW** Hosted by Dave Reeves, Fri 21 Feb, Savoy Centre, Netherton, Wolverhampton  
**WOODLAND TREASURE TRAIL** Follow the clues to discover parts of Cannock Chase, and learn about the country park and its inhabitants along the way, Fri 21 Feb, Cannock Chase Country Park, Staffs  
**FEBRUARY FUN DAY** Featuring children's entertainment, face-painting and balloon modelling, Fri 21 Feb, Gladstone Pottery Museum, Stoke-on-Trent  
**WENDY & PETER PAN ACTIVE STORYTELLING** Suitable for ages four to eight, Fri 21 Feb, Royal Shakespeare Theatre, Stratford-upon-Avon  
**WINTER GUIDED TOUR** Learn about the history of the mill and milling, and see what repair & maintenance is taking place, Fri 21 Feb, Sarehole Mill, Birmingham  
**CRAFTY DROP-IN** Get in the fancy dress mood with all things pirate as part of the RSC's Wendy & Peter Pan-themed holiday activities, Fri 21 Feb, Royal Shakespeare Theatre, Stratford-upon-Avon  
**CREATE BADGES WORKSHOP** Design & make your very own pin badge using the museum's special badge-making machine, Fri 21 Feb, Museum of the Jewellery, Birmingham  
**WOODLAND SPRITES FAMILY CRAFT WORKSHOP** Fri 21 Feb, Weoley Castle, Birmingham  
**MUSICAL MADNESS** Discover your musical talents & have a go at making your own musical instruments, Fri 21 Feb, Market Hall Museum, Warwick  
**WONDERFUL WINTER TRAIL** Fri 21 Feb, Hanbury Hall, Worcestershire  
**BUILD A BOOK FAMILY WORKSHOP** In association with Lifeworlds Learning. Pre-booking advisable, Fri 21 Feb, Library of Birmingham  
**CRAFT DAY** Half-term day of fun, making crafts to take home, Fri 21 Feb, Sarehole Mill, Birmingham  
**SNOWDROP EVENING WALKS** Discover Attingham's carpet of snowdrops in a different light on an evening walk, Fri 21 - Sun 23 Feb, Attingham Park, Shrewsbury

**STUNTFEST** Half-term family fun. Action-packed day of daredevil stunts, monster truck mayhem, flame-throwing jet vehicles, displays and fireworks! Sat 22 Feb, Santa Pod Raceway, Northampton  
**LOVE WORCESTER, LOVE PETS** Half-term make-and-take workshop where participants can make their very own cuddly magnetic pet, Sat 22 Feb, Tudor House Heritage Centre, Worcester  
**DUNGEONS AFTER DARK** An evening of ghoulish entertainment that's not for the faint-hearted, Sat 22 Feb, Warwick Castle  
**SECRETS OF THE OLD TOWN** Explore the oldest parts of the city centre with a costumed guide, Sat 22 Feb, tour starts at Worcester Guildhall and finishes at The Cardinal's Hat  
**HALF-TERM CRAFT SESSION** Workshop where visitors can have a go at making a birdbath out of plant pots, bird puppets out of lollipop sticks, and paper plate birds' nests, Sat 22 Feb, Severn Valley Country Park, Alveley, Nr Bridgnorth  
**LOVE YOUR CREATIVITY** Children's activity with cold porcelain, Sat 22 Feb, Museum of Royal Worcester  
**MOSAIC WORKSHOP** Learn how to create your very own beautiful panel under the guidance of environmental sculptor and mosaic artist Victoria Harrison Sat 22 Feb, Ludlow Assembly Rooms, South Shropshire  
**WOLVERHAMPTON LOCAL HISTORY SYMPOSIUM** Eighth annual event showcasing new and significant research into local history, Sat 22 Feb, Bantock House Museum, Wolverhampton  
**VINTAGE WEDDING FAIR** Sat 22 Feb, Worcester Guildhall  
**FAMILY BADGE-MAKING WORKSHOP** Make a badge inspired by the Library of Cultures exhibition, Sat 22 Feb, Library of Birmingham  
**YOUNG ARTISTS** Workshop offering participants a chance to learn new drawing, painting and sculpture skills, Sat 22 Feb, Wolverhampton Art Gallery  
**PHOTOREALISM EXHIBITION TALK BY JOHN SALT** Birmingham-born photographer John Salt discusses his paintings, Sat 22 Feb, Birmingham Museum & Art Gallery  
**WAKING THE WINDMILL** See the museum as it's sailed for the first time by the museum's team of volunteers. This event also features

breadmaking in the Toll House, Sat 22 - Sun 23 Feb, Avoncroft, Bromsgrove  
**SNOWDROP WALKS** Blow away the winter blues with a walk through the dingle, Sat 22 - Sun 23 Feb, Dudmaston Estate, Nr Bridgnorth, Shropshire  
**CLASSIC & ROAD RACING SHOW** Sat 22 - Sun 23 Feb, Telford International Centre, Shropshire  
**MUD PIE COOK-OFF COMPETITION** Get cooking in Moseley's mud pie kitchen, Sat 22 - Sun 23 Feb, Moseley Old Hall, Wolverhampton  
**WINTER STEAM GALA** Sat 22 - Sun 23 Feb, Churnet Valley Railway, Froggall, Staffs  
**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, Sun 23 Feb, Santa Pod Raceway, Northampton  
**WEDDING FAIR** Sun 23 Feb, Birmingham Botanical Gardens

## Week Commencing MON 24 FEB

**AN EVENING WITH TONY STOCKWELL** Mon 24 Feb, Tamworth Assembly Rooms  
**SALLY MORGAN: PSYCHIC SALLY ON THE ROAD** Mon 24 Feb, Stafford Gatehouse Theatre  
**SPRING CLEANING TOURS** Take a tour with the conservation team as spring-cleaning gets underway, and explore parts of the house not normally open to the public, Tues 25 Feb, Greyfriars, Worcestershire  
**TUESDAY TOUR: HOUSE-KEEPING THE HALL** Tues 25 Feb, Blakesley Hall, Birmingham  
**CRAFTPLAY EXPLORERS** Regular play & stay sessions to discover, play and create with your child, Tues 25 Feb, Bilston Craft Gallery  
**TEXTILE GROUP** An opportunity to meet likeminded people in a creative environment and swap knowledge & skills, Wed 26 Feb, Bilston Craft Gallery  
**WINTER GUIDED TOUR** Tour & refreshments with the site's expert guides, Wed 26 Feb, Aston Hall, Birmingham  
**THE PLANET IN OUR HANDS: RESPONDING TO CLIMATE CHANGE** Talk facilitated by Chief Scientific Advisor to the UK Government, Sir Mark Walport, and Professor of Public Engagement with Science at the University of Birmingham, Alice

Roberts, Wed 26 Feb, Thinktank, Birmingham  
**DRIFT WHAT YA BRUNG** Chance to practise drifting in safe and legal conditions on some of the Pod's thirty acres of open tarmac, where there are beginners, intermediate and advanced tracks open at the same time each DWYB day, Wed 26 Feb, Santa Pod Raceway, Northampton  
**BONHAM'S VALUATION DAY** Take along your items to be valued by a panel of experts from the international auctioneers, Wed 26 Feb, Avoncroft, Bromsgrove  
**MEET ME @ WAG** Regular conversation club for people aged fifty and over, Wed 26 Feb, Wolverhampton Art Gallery  
**LGBT HISTORY GROUP: KEEPING SECURE** Session which provides a personal safety guide, Wed 26 Feb, Wolverhampton Art Gallery  
**EDUCATE & CELEBRATE: LGBT HISTORY MONTH CONCERT** Booking essential! Wed 26 Feb, Library of Birmingham  
**ROMAN COOKERY WORKSHOP** Find out more about authentic cooking techniques, ingredients and recipes of the times, and help to create your own Roman dishes, Wed 26 Feb - Wed 19 Mar, Wroxeter Roman City, Shropshire  
**EARLY YEARS PLAY DAYS** Play Days give children aged one to three an opportunity to explore and investigate through sensory play, Thurs 27 - Fri 28 Feb, Herbert Art Gallery & Museum, Coventry  
**WINTER GUIDED TOUR** Fri 28 Feb, Sarehole Mill, Birmingham  
**THE NATIONAL WEDDING SHOW** Hints, tips and ideas galore for The Big Day, Fri 28 Feb - Sun 2 Mar, NEC, Birmingham  
**INTERNATIONAL FASHION WEEK** Fri 28 Feb - Sat 1 Mar, The Council House, Birmingham  
**OSWESTRY YOUTH MUSIC FESTIVAL** Featuring more than two hundred-and-fifty young musicians, Fri 28 Feb - Mon 3 Mar, Oswestry Methodist Church, North Shropshire  
**BORDERLINES FILM FESTIVAL** Featuring more than two hundred film screenings at various venues across four counties, including the Marches, Herefordshire, Shropshire & Worcestershire, Fri 28 Feb - Sun 16 Mar. For further info, visit [www.borderlinesfilmfestival.org](http://www.borderlinesfilmfestival.org)

# Eating Out

## Zodiac inspires new cocktail list

Chung Ying Central in Birmingham's Colmore Row Business District has launched a new cocktail list based on the twelve signs of the zodiac. The venue's head bartender, Matt Wilkinson, has been busy researching and creating a new cocktail for each of the dozen astrological signs, the first of which is based on a Moscow Mule recipe to mark the Year Of The Horse, which signifies unexpected adventure and romantic spirit. The delicious cocktails feature alongside a host of other delights on offer at Chung Ying Central, including an express Dim Sum menu to satisfy the hunger pangs of Colmore's business residents.



## Only Fools star John Challis to launch restaurant's AGA venture

Only Fools And Horses star John Challis is set to help launch a new cooking concept at a Midlands restaurant. The Shropshire-located Ye Olde Punch Bowl Inn is currently installing an AGA Total Control cooker, after recently announcing a partnership with the Telford-based company that manufactures the iconic cookers. The AGA will be the centrepiece of the venue's award-winning carvery. For further information about the Punch Bowl, and to book at table, visit [www.punchbowlinn.com](http://www.punchbowlinn.com), or call 01746 763304.

## Pop-up restaurant pops up again!

Following success with a launch event last year, two Midlands chefs have announced that their pop-up restaurant will be 'popping up' a couple more times in the weeks ahead. Nathan Eades from Bromsgrove and Grant Hill from Kidderminster share a passion for fine foods and foraging, and will re-open their Epi restaurant on 25 February and 31 March at the Kitchen Garden Cafe in King's Heath, Birmingham. As well as presenting a menu for £32.50 (excluding drinks), the duo hope that the temporary business will show off their skills to a new set of diners. During the course of the evening, Nathan and Grant will be happy to answer patrons' questions about the dishes on offer and their cooking methods.



## Indian powerhouse in the city...

### REVIEW

Rajdoot is a long-established Indian restaurant which is well known on the Birmingham curry circuit. With a number of new kids on the block, I found myself wondering whether this Jewellery Quarter stalwart still had the power to tantalise and amaze its patrons' tastebuds?

On arrival, Rajdoot is a warm and inviting oasis. From the lighting to the soft furnishings, the Rajasthani-influenced decor helps set the stage for an evening of Indian dining.

I was accompanied on my visit by a vegetarian, who relished the wide variety of dishes on the menu. After taking our seats, we enjoyed poppadoms and a selection of accompaniments, including a tangy onion relish and a yogurt-based dip.

Our choice of Chicken Hariyali and Paneer Tikka (Indian cottage cheese) for starters was a good

one. With a nice, spicy paste smothered onto the large pieces of paneer, this and the chicken starter were wolfed down in no time.

For mains, I opted for one of the 'Chef's Specialities' - Monkfish Tawa Masala - and Lamb Gosht; a typical Indian dish of spicy lamb. My friend chose Paneer Makhani and Bhindi Mushroom (Okra). A coriander naan, a garlic naan and pilau rice accompanied our medley of spice dishes.

Having never tried monkfish at an Indian restaurant before, I was impressed by how well this meaty fish absorbed the masala. The paneer was delicious too - perfectly balanced in flavour. As lovers of chilli, both my friend and I felt the Bhindi needed more of a kick, yet the chef had cooked it to crunch perfection. Our only disappointment was the coriander naan, which came out cold and slightly overcooked around the edges. We were, however, given

another one by the lovely waiter.

Following a curry with a heavy dessert is always dangerous, but I couldn't resist the gulab jaman, which hit my sugar spot perfectly. My friend enjoyed the kulfi. Rajdoot certainly offers a real Indian experience from the moment you enter the door. The attentive staff, plush interiors and well thought-out menu offer plenty of reason to visit this restaurant. Even as new dining establishments crop up in and around the city, this Indian powerhouse is showing that it still knows how to pack a significant punch or two. *Parv Gandham*

Food: ■■■■■  
Service: ■■■■■  
Ambience: ■■■■■  
Overall value ■■■■■  
**OVERALL** ■■■■■

**Rajdoot Tandoori**  
78 - 79 George Street,  
Birmingham,  
B3 1PY  
0121 236 1116



# Restaurant REVIEWS



## Taste of America coasts into Brum

Coast-to-Coast is the new American-themed restaurant & bar on Birmingham's Broad Street, part of a nationwide chain owned by the company which also owns Frankie & Benny's and Garfunkel's. The place is huge - 'three hundred-and-sixty covers' huge - with twenty chefs on the books. Fresh from a multi-million pound fit-out, the interiors are great fun; they've captured that 'American bar' feeling brilliantly. The food is what you'd expect - pizza, pasta, grills, Tex-mex; a lot of meat and carbs, not too many vegetables. There are interesting beers to enjoy, and they pride themselves on cocktails, something that should go down well with Broad Street's Saturday night partygoers. In restaurant chains run by men in suits rather than chefs, the food often gets forgotten in favour of the theme, the service and the upselling. So while we had a lovely, friendly hostess, and were treated to a swish leather booth of our own, the experience could quite easily have been improved by putting fresh (rather than tinned) tomato in the salsa, by offering vegetarians something other than goats' cheese, and by providing a better standard of cooking in general. Starters were fine, and generously sized. Five beer-battered prawns (£7.95) arrived crisp and ale-flavoured, accompanied by Cajun mayonnaise. The spicy calarmari (£6.75) was well judged, neither too raw nor too rubberlike.

My main of three sliders with fries and slaw (£13.95) was fine, neither memorably good nor terribly bad. The patties lacked that savoury unctuousness found in a great burger, but were well presented with a variety of toppings

- pulled pork, blue cheese, bacon. My friend's fajita was passable; seasoned chicken breast served on a sizzling stone with softened onions and peppers, with separate tortillas and toppings to roll your own. A simple dish, not worth £15.75. By this point we'd both worked our way through too much fried carbohydrate to cope with desserts, which included cheese-cake, brownies and ice-cream. Coast-to-Coast offers the kind of easy-to-please food you'd expect on a family menu; something for everyone. The downside is the prices - a simple two-course dinner for two (no booze) cost upwards of £50 - acceptable if you're getting good cooking, not so great for what was essentially burger and chips. Vegetarians get a bad deal, with very little variety - and there's no information on either the menu or the website about where the seafood, meat and poultry are sourced. I can only assume that it's bought in as cheaply as possible, making the prices even more outrageous. I suppose that recent refit's got to be paid for somehow. Coast-to-Coast is a fun place, good for evenings out with friends and family. Just make sure that someone else is paying. *Helen Stallard*

Food:	■ ■ ■ ■ ■
Service:	■ ■ ■ ■ ■
Ambience:	■ ■ ■ ■ ■
Overall value	■ ■ ■ ■ ■
<b>OVERALL</b>	■ ■ ■ ■ ■

**Coast to Coast**  
Broad Street  
Birmingham  
CV8 1JQ  
Tel: 01926 353637

# Restaurant LISTINGS

For full listing information on restaurants, including opening times and type of cuisine, visit: [www.whatsonlive.co.uk](http://www.whatsonlive.co.uk)

## Birmingham

**AALTO RESTAURANT**  
Hotel La Tour, Albert Street, Birmingham B5 5JT 0121 718 8000

**AIR RESTAURANT LG**  
Arena, Bickenhill Rd, 0844 338 0333

**BANK 4** Brindleyplace, B1 2JB 0121 633 4466

**BAR ESTILO** 10-114 Wharfside St, The Mailbox, B1 1RF 0121 643 3443

**BARAJEE** 265 Broad Street, B1 2DS 0121 643 6699

**BELLA ITALIA** 102 New Street, B2 4HQ 0121 643 1548

**BERLIOZ** Burlington Arcade, New St, B2 4JQ 0121 633 1737

**BLUE MANGO** Regency Wharf, Broad St, B1 2DS 0121 633 4422

**BLUE PIANO RESTAURANT AND BAR** 24-26 Harborne Rd, B15 3AA 0121 454 6877

**BUONISSIMO** 1 Albany Rd, Harborne, B17 9JX 0121 426 2444

**CAFE OPUS 1** Oozells Square, Brindleyplace, B1 2HS 0121 248 3226

**CARLUCCIO'S** The Water's Edge, Brindleyplace B1 2HP 0121 633 9262

**CENTENARY BAR & BRASSERIE** Broad Street, B1 2EP 0121 245 2080

**CHI BAR & GRILL** 61 Newhall Street, B3 3RB 0121 233 3150

**CHUNG YING** 16-18 Wrottersley Street, B5 4RT 0121 622 5669

**CHUNG YING GARDEN** 17 Thorpe St, B5 4AT 0121 666 6622

**CIELO** 6 Oozells Square, Brindleyplace, B1 2JB 0121 632 6882

**COAST TO COAST** 9 Brindleyplace, Broad Street, B1 2HJ

**COTE** The Mailbox, B1 1RX 0121 631 1587

**CUCINA RUSTICA** 24 Ludgate Hill, B3 1DX 0121 233 2277

**DEL VILLAGGIO** Unit 528, Middle Mall, The Bullring, B5 4BE 0121 643 1400

**EDMUNDS** 6 Brindley place, B1 2JB 0121 633 4944

**FLEET STREET KITCHEN** Fleet Street, Islington Gates, B3 1JH 0121 236 0100

**ITIHAAS** 18 Fleet St, B3 1JL 0121 212 3383

**JAMIE'S ITALIAN** Middle Mall, Bullring Shopping Centre, B5 4BE 0121 270 3610

**JIMMY SPICES** Regency Wharf, Broad St, B1 2DS 0121 643 2111

**LAS IGUANAS** Arcadian

Centre, Hurst St, B5 4TD 0121 622 4466

**LASAN** 3-4 Dakota Buildings, James St, St Paul's Square, B3 1SD 0121 212 3664

**THE LOFT LOUNGE** 143 Bromsgrove St, B5 6RG 0121 622 2444

**THE LOST & FOUND** 8 Bennetts Hill, B2 5RS 0121 643 9293

**LOVES** The Glasshouse, Browning St, B16 8FL 0121 454 5151

**MECHU** 47 - 59 Summer Row, B3 1JJ 0121 212 1661

**METRO BAR & GRILL** 73 Cornwall St B3 2DF 0121 200 1911

**MINT** Yew Tree Retail Park, Stoney Lane Yardley, B25 8YP 0121 789 8908

**MOUNT FUJI** The Bullring, B5 4BH 0121 633 9853

**NUVO BAR** 11 Brindley Place, B1 2LP 0121 631 1600

**OPUS** 54 Cornwall St, B3 2DE 0121 200 2323

**THE ORIENTAL** The Mailbox, 128-130 Wharfside St, B1 1RQ 0121 633 9988

**PEACHYKEENS** 1741 Coventry Road, B26 1DS 0121 764 5519

**PENNY BLACKS** The Mailbox, 132-134 Wharfside St, B1 1XL 0121 632 1460

**PICCOLINO** 9 Brindleyplace B1 2HS 0121 634 3055

**PITCHER & PIANO** Brindleyplace, B1 2HP 0121 643 0214

**POPPY RED** Arcadian Centre, Birmingham B5 4TD 0121 687 1200

**PURNELL'S** 55 Cornwall St, B3 2DH 0121 212 9799

**PURNELL'S BISTOR & GINGER'S BAR** 11 Newhall Street, B3 3NY, 0121 2000 1588

**THE RECTORY** 50-54 St Paul's Sq, B3 1QS 0121 605 1001

**RED PEPPERS** 117 Wharfside St, B1 1RF 0121 643 4202

**SAN CARLO** 4 Temple St, B2 5BN 0121 633 0251

**SHIMLA PINKS** 215 Broad St, B15 1AY 0121 633 0366

**SIMPSONS**, 20 Highfield Rd, Edgbaston B13 3DU 0121 454 3434

**THE SLUG AND LETTUCE**, Brindley Place, Birmingham B1 2HL 0121 633 3049

**STRADA** 109-111 Wharfside St, The Mailbox B1 1XL 0121 643 7279

**TGI FRIDAYS** 180 Hagley Road, Edgbaston, B16 9NY 0121 454 1930

**THAI EDGE** 7 Oozells Sq, B1 2HL 0121 643 3993

**THE VAULTS** Newhall Place, Newhall Hill, B1 3JH 0121 212 9837

**WAGAMAMA** Brindley Place, Birmingham B1

## Black Country

**ARBOUR LIGHTS** 127-128 Lichfield Street, Walsall WS1 1SY 01922 613361

**BANKS BISTRO** Chapel Ash, Wolverhampton WV1 4EP 01902 238433

**BELLA** 82 Chapel Ash, Wolverhampton. 01902 427555

**BELLAGIO** Castlegate Park, Dudley, DY1 4TA 01384 455661

**BENGAL FUSION** 174 High St, Lye, Stourbridge DY9 8LN. 01384 891111

**BILASH** 2 Cheapside, Wolverhampton, WV1 1TU 01902 427762

**BLAKEY'S EASTERN PROMISE** 19 High Street, Stourbridge, DY9 8LB 01384 893322

**THE BLUE BRICK** Broad Gauge Way, Wolverhampton WV1 1AA 01902 875301

**BRAVACCIOS** 4 Upper Green, Wolverhampton WV6 8QQ 01902 756052

**CAFE CHAMPAGNE** 253-255 Bilston Road, Wolverhampton WV2 2JN 01902 458024

**CASA CASITA** Upper Gornal, Dudley, DY3 1UP 01902 676754

**CAFE MASALA** 45 Mill Street, Kidderminster, DY11 6XB 01562 744600

**CATELLANI'S** 6 School St, Wolverhampton, WV1 4LR 01902 428928

**CHIQUITO** Castlegate Park, Dudley, DY1 4TA 01384 215130

**CINNAMON COURT** Bentley Mill Way, Walsall WS2 0BP 0121 568 6664

**THE COWSHED** Clive Farm Clive Rd, Patterningham, WV6 7EN 01902 701888

**THE CROOKED HOUSE** Coppice Hill, Himley, DY3 4DA 01384 238583

**THE DITCH** 1 Town Hill, Walsall, WS1 2EU 01922 643215

**DON SALVO** 25 Darlington Street, Wolverhampton WV1 4HW 01902 712819

**DUNSLEY HALL** Dunsley Rd, Kinver, DY7 6LU 01384 877077

**THE FAIRLAWNS AT ALDRIDGE** 178 Little Aston Road, Aldridge, Walsall WS9 0NU 01922 455122

**FARADAYS** The Waterfront, Brierley Hill, Dudley, DY5 1UR 01384 482 882

**FIVE RIVERS** Vicarage

# Restaurant LISTINGS

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Place, Walsall WS1 3NA  
01922 646164

**FOUR STONES** Adam's Hill, Clint, Stourbridge, DY9 9PS 01562 883260

**FRANZLS** 151 Milcote Rd, Smethwick, B67 5BN  
0121 429 7920

**FRENCH CONNECTION**  
3 Coventry St, Stourbridge DY8 1EP  
01384 390940

**FRENCH HEN** Bromsgrove Rd, Clent, Stourbridge DY9 9PY 01562 883040

**GOLDEN MOMENTS 2-3**  
Ablewell St, Walsall WS1 2EQ 01922 640363

**KARMA** 2F High Street, Stourbridge, DY8 4NH  
01384 375919

**LE BRASSERIE** 5 Lower Mill Street, Kidderminster, DY11 6UU 01562 744976

**MADE IN THAI** Darlington St, Wolverhampton WV1 4HW 01902 312512

**THE MANGO TREE** Chester Road, Walsall, WS9 9HJ, 01922 457 344

**PARADISE BALTI** 7 Lower Mill Street, Kidderminster DY11 6UU 01562 60479

**THE PIE FACTORY** 50 Hurst Lane, Tipton DY4 9AB  
0121 557 1402

**RED FORT** Fold St, Wolverhampton, WV1 4LP 01902 424440

**RISTORANTE ROMAGNA** 4 Upper Green, Tettenhall, Wolverhampton WV6 8QJ 01902 756052

**SAFFRON** Wolverhampton Road, Oldbury B69 4RR  
0121 552 1752

**SIMON'S** 520 Chester Rd, Aldridge, Walsall, WS9 0PU 0121 580 9293

**SPICES** Hollywell Rd, Wednesbury, WS10 7PA  
0121 502 0720

**THE SPRINGHILL**  
Warstones Rd, Penn, Wolverhampton WV4 4LB 01902 342530

**THE SUMMERHOUSE** 92 Gospel End Rd, Dudley DY3 4AN 01902 676 102

**THORNSCROFT**  
Bridgnorth Rd, Wolverhampton, WV6 7EQ 01902 700 253

**THE VINE LANE** Vine Lane, Stourbridge, DY9 9PH  
01562 882491

**THE WOODMAN** Claverley, Wolverhampton WV5 7DG 01746 710 553  
WR9 8LU

## Warwickshire

**7 SQUARE** 7 Old Square, Warwick CV34 4RA  
01926 411 755

**NO. 9 CHURCH STREET**  
Stratford upon Avon, Warwickshire CV37 6HB  
01789 415522

**AGRA PLACE** 12 Abbey Green, Nuneaton, CV11 5DR 024 7635 0515

**THE ALMANAK** Abbey End North, Kenilworth, CV8 1QJ 01926 353 637

**AUBERGINE** 32 Smith St, Warwick CV34 4HS  
01926 400 086

**THE ALMANAK** Abbey End North, Kenilworth CV8 1QJ 01926 353637

**BLUE BISTRO** 21 Spon St, Coventry, CV1 3BA 024 7622 9274

**BROWNS** Earl St, Coventry CV1 5RU 0247 622 1100

**CARLUCCIOS** 13 Waterside, Stratford-upon-Avon CV37 6BA  
01789 267424

**CASTLES** 6 Castle Street, CV34 4QU 01926 495421

**CATALAN** 6 Jury St, Warwick CV34 4EW  
01926 498 930

**THE CHURCH STREET TOWNHOUSE** 16 Church Street, Stratford-upon-Avon CV37 6HB 01789 262222

**COOMBE ABBEY** Brinklow Road, Coventry, CV3 2AB  
024 7645 0450

**CROSSED KHUKRIS GURKHA** 115 Abbey Street, Nuneaton, CV11 5BX 024 7634 4488

**EDWARD MOON** 9 Chapel Street, Stratford-upon-Avon, CV37 6EP 01789 267069

**EGO** 29 The Square, Kenilworth, CV8 1EF  
01926 864463

**THE ENCORE**  
Bridge Street Stratford



Buonissimo, Harborne, Birmingham

upon Avon CV37 6AB  
01789 269462

**FINEST CATCH** B'ham Rd, Henley in Arden, B95 5QR 01564 793783

**FIVE RIVERS** 20-22 Victoria Terrace, Leamington Spa, CV31 3AB 01926 431999

**GEORGETOWN** 23 Sheep St, Stratford-upon-Avon, CV37 6EF 01789 204445

**GRANTS OF SHEEP ST** 21-23 Sheep Street, Stratford-upon-Avon, CV37 6EF 01789 290 008

**HIGH PAVEMENT BAR & DINING** 3 High Street, CV34 4AP 01926 494725

**HELP OUT MILL** Heather Rd, Shakerstone, Nuneaton, CV13 0BT  
01530 260666

**INDIA RED** 25 Abbey Street, Nuneaton, CV11 5BX 024 7634 2090

**JIMMY SPICES** 64-66 Station Rd, Solihull, B91 3RX 0121 709 2111

**LE BISTRO PIERRE** Swans Nest, Bridgford, Stratford upon Avon, CV37 7LT  
01789 264804

**MALLORY COURT** Harbury Lane, Leamington Spa, CV33 9QB, 01926 330214

**MATRICARDIS** 97 High St, Henley in Arden, B95 5AT

01564 792735  
**MERCHANTS** Swan Street, Warwick CV34 4BJ 01926 403833

**NICOLINIS** 14 The Parade, Leamington Spa, CV32 4DW 01926 421620

**ONE ELM** 1 Guild St, Stratford-upon-Avon, CV37 6QZ 01789 404919

**PREZZO** 1-3 High St, Warwick CV34 4AP  
01926 475867

**RESTAURANT 23** 34 Hamilton Terrace, Holly Walk Leamington Spa, CV32 4LY 01926 422422

**RISTORANTE DA VINCI** 50 Earlsdon Street, Coventry, CV5 6EJ 024 7671 3554

**ROBBIE'S RESTAURANT** 74 Smith Street, CV34 4HU  
01926 400470

**ROOFTOP RESTAURANT @ The RST**, Waterside, Stratford-upon-Avon, CV37 6BB 01789 403449

**SAFFRON GOLD** Market St, Westgate House, Warwick CV34 4DE  
01926 402061

**THE SAXON MILL** Coventry Rd, Guys Cliffe, Warwick CV34 5YN  
01926 492 255

**SIGNATURES @ The Belgrave** Theatre, Coventry, CV1 1GS  
02476 846762

**TAILORS** 22 Market Place, Warwick CV34 4SL  
01926 410590

**THE TREVELYAN** Warwick Rd, Stratford-upon-Avon, CV37 0NR  
01789 295252

**THE VINE INN** 86 - 88 West St, Warwick CV34 6AW  
07873 219005

**WARWICK SPICE** 24 Smith Street, CV34 4HS 01926 491736

**ZIZZI** 85-87 Regent Square House, Parade, Leamington Spa CV 32 4NL 01926 432532

**ANGEL CHEF 1** Angel St, Worcester WR1 3QT  
01905 731131

**ANUPAM** 85 Church Street, Malvern, WR14 2AE 01684 573814

**BACCHUS** 44 Worcester Road, Bromsgrove B61 0TA 01527 877557

**BENEDICTOS** 34 Sidbury, Worcester WR1 2HZ  
01905 214444

**BINDLES BAR & BRASSERIE** 55 Sidbury, WR1 2HU  
01905 611120

**BRAMBLINGS** Hither Green Lane, Redditch, B98 9BE  
01527 406600

**BRIDGE INN** Plough Road, Droitwich, WR9 7NQ  
01905 345874

**BROWNS** 24 Quay St, Worcester WR1 2JJ  
01905 26263

**CHADESLEY RESTAURANT** Brockencote Hall Hotel, Kidderminster DY10 4PY  
01562 777876

**THE CHASE INN** Chase Rd, Upper Colwall, Malvern, WR13 6DQ 01684 540276

**CHESTERS** 51 New St, Worcester, WR1 2DL  
01905 611638

**CROWN & SANDYS** Main Rd, Ombersley, WR9 0EW 01905 62025

**EWE AND LAMB** Hanbury Road, Bromsgrove B60 4DN 01527 871 929

**THE FIG TREE** 99 Church Street, Gt Malvern, WR14 2AE 01684 569909

**FOUR SEASONS** 61 Lowesmoor, Worcester WR1 2RS 01905 27026

**FUSION BRASSERIE** Hawbridge, Stoulton, Worcester WR7 4RJ  
01905 840647

**THE INN AT STONEHALL** Stonehall Common, Worcester, WR5 3QG  
01905 820462

**KING CHARLES II** King Charles House, New St,

Worcester WR1 2D  
01905 22449

**L'AMUSE BOUCHE** 51 Graham Rd, Malvern, WR14 2HU 01684 572427

**LANGTREYS** 89a High St, Bromsgrove, B61 8AQ  
01527 878242

**LITTLE VENICE** 1 - 3 St Nicholas St, Worcester WR1 1UW 01905 726126

**LOTUS HOUSE** 33 Ombersley St East, Droitwich, WR9 8QX  
01905 770079

**MAEKONG THAI** 12 Worcester Road, Bromsgrove B61 7AE  
01527 578888

**MASSALLA LOUNGE** 35 Broad St, Worcester WR1 3NH 01905 729955

**MUG HOUSE** Claines Lane, Worcester WR3 7RN 01905 456649

**ON THE ROCKS** 44 Worcester Road, Bromsgrove, B61 7AE  
01527 882412

**PORTOFINO**, 6 Worcester Rd, Droitwich, WR9 8AD  
01905 794799

**PORTWAY ITALIAN**, Alcester Rd, Redditch, B48 7HT 01564 824794

**PUCCINI'S**, 12 Friar St, Worcester WR12LZ  
01905 27770

**RAJDOOT** Cutnall Green, Droitwich, WR9 0PW  
01299 851000

**ROSADOS'S** 2 Finstall Rd, Aston Fields, Bromsgrove, B60 2DZ  
01527 889948

**SAFFRON BISTRO** 15 New St, Worcester WR1 2DP  
01905 610505

**THAI LOTUS** 147 Worcester Rd, Bromsgrove, B61 7HN  
01527 882606

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## Worcestershire

**ANAKARI** 47 The Tythings, Worcester, WR1 1JT  
01905 21412

For full Restaurant listings visit: [www.whatsonlive.co.uk](http://www.whatsonlive.co.uk)

LOOKING FOR A  
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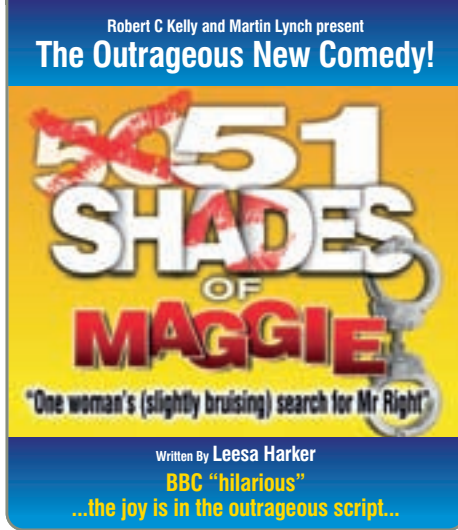
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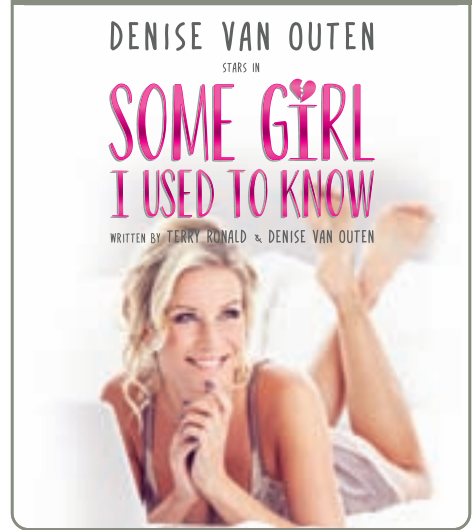
WED 12 - SAT 15 FEBRUARY



MON 17 - WED 19 FEBRUARY



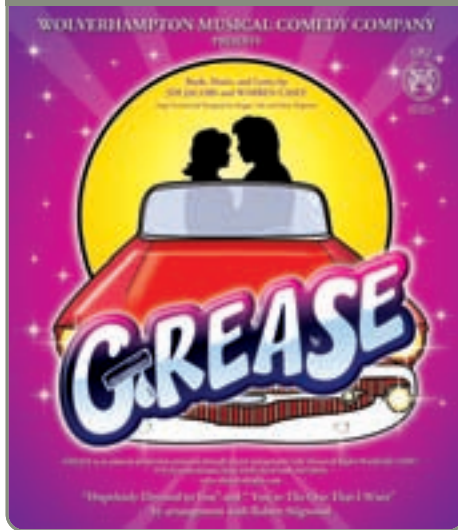
THU 20 - SAT 22 FEBRUARY



TUES 25 FEB - SAT 1 MARCH



TUES 11 - SAT 15 MARCH



MON 17 - TUES 18 MARCH



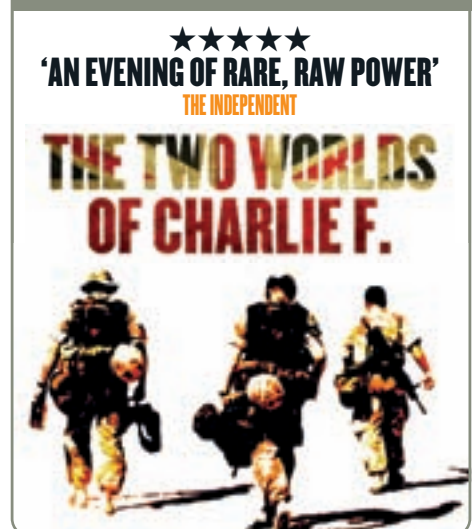
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ALSO BOOKING

- SUN 23 FEBRUARY  
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**SEVEN BRIDES FOR SEVEN BROTHERS**
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