

# THE MIDLANDS ESSENTIAL ENTERTAINMENT GUIDE

WARWICKSHIRE

# What's On

www.whatsonlive.co.uk

ISSUE 339 MARCH 2014



**JACK WHITEHALL**  
KING OF COMEDY  
IN THE MIDLANDS

## The Spanish Golden Age Season

One company, ten actors, three incredible plays



### A Lady of Little Sense

by Lope de Vega Translated by David Johnston

### Don Gil of the Green Breeches

by Tirso de Molina Translated by Sean O'Brien

### Punishment Without Revenge

by Lope de Vega Translated by Meredith Oakes

**WARWICK DAVIS**  
talks about **The Reduced Height Theatre Company**  
interview inside...



**CANDOCO DANCE**  
presents a triple bill  
of works in Coventry



**MAXWELL CAULFIELD**  
**Singin' In The Rain**  
interview inside...



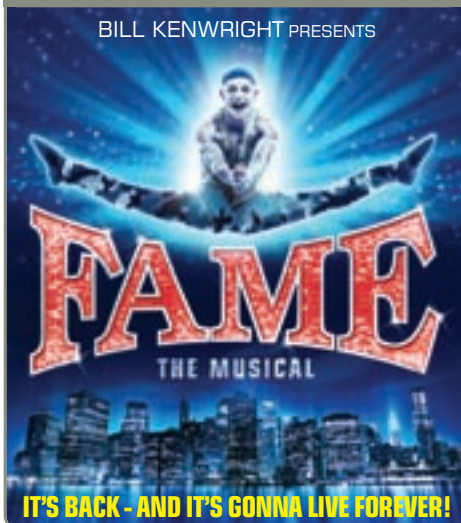
**Belgrade Theatre**  
Coventry

WED 26 MAR - SAT 19 APR  
024 7655 3055 | www.belgrade.co.uk

# Great Theatre at the Grand!

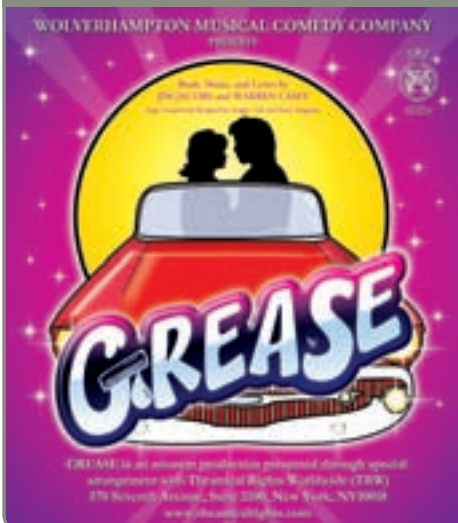
MON 3 - SAT 8 MARCH

BILL KENWRIGHT PRESENTS



TUES 11 - SAT 15 MARCH

WOLVERHAMPTON MUSICAL COMEDY COMPANY PRESENTS



MON 17 - TUES 18 MARCH

ENGLISH TOURING OPERA

PAUL BUNYAN  
BRITTEN

THE MAGIC FLUTE  
MOZART

"AS GOOD AND MAD  
AS OPERA GETS."  
OBSERVER



THU 20 - FRI 21 MARCH

ENGLISH TOURING OPERA



WED 26 - SAT 29 MARCH

★★★★★  
'AN EVENING OF RARE, RAW POWER'  
THE INDEPENDENT

THE TWO WORLDS  
OF CHARLIE F.



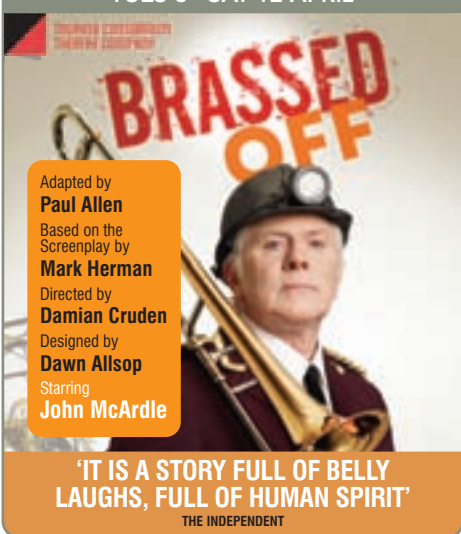
MON 31 MARCH - SAT 5 APRIL

A BRAND NEW RE-STAGED VERSION OF THE CLASSIC AMERICAN FRONTIER DANCE MUSICAL!

SEVEN BRIDES  
- THE -  
SEVEN BROTHERS



TUES 8 - SAT 12 APRIL



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Based on the  
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**Mark Herman**  
Directed by  
**Damian Cruden**  
Designed by  
**Dawn Allsop**  
Starring  
**John McArdle**

'IT IS A STORY FULL OF BELLY  
LAUGHS, FULL OF HUMAN SPIRIT'  
THE INDEPENDENT

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LESLEY JOSEPH  
HOT FLUSH

SUN 30 MARCH  
THE SOLID SILVER 60s SHOW

SUN 6 APRIL  
THE FAAABULOUS  
CERI DUPREE SHOW

SUN 13 APRIL  
BEYOND THE BARRICADE

MON 14 - TUES 15 APRIL  
TAP FACTORY

FRI 18 APRIL  
THAT'LL BE THE DAY

SAT 19 APRIL  
THE CHUCKLE BROTHERS'  
SPACE ODDITY

TUES 29 APRIL - SAT 3 MAY  
THE PLAY THAT GOES WRONG

WED 23 - SUN 27 APRIL



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# March 2014

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**What's On**  
MAGAZINE GROUP



King of Comedy - Jack Whitehall back in Birmingham, preview page 22

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**News** p4

**Music** p13

**Comedy** p22

**Theatre** p25

**Dance** p40

**Film/DVD** p43

**Visual Arts** p53

**Events** p57

**Eating Out** p65

**INSIDE:**

**Singin' In The Rain**

Maxwell Caulfield stars...  
interview p10



**Warwick Davis**

talks about his new venture  
interview p8



**Let It Be**

Beatles musical arrives  
in the Midlands p6



**March 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	29	30
31						

## RSC invites the public to share wartime memories

Stratford's Royal Shakespeare Theatre is on the lookout for members of the public who're willing to share stories and memories of their family's involvement in the First World War. In November, as part of the 2014 commemoration of the Great War's centenary, the RSC is staging a new play entitled *The Christmas Truce*. Inspired by real events, the story is set on the Western Front on Christmas Eve, as soldiers leave their trenches to meet their enemies in No Man's Land, to talk, exchange gifts and play football. Currently being penned by Phil Porter and directed by RSC Deputy Artistic Director Erica Whyman, *The Christmas Truce* will draw on the true stories of soldiers in the Warwickshire Regiment. Keen to enrich their understanding, Phil and Erica are appealing for people from Warwickshire and the surrounding region to step forward with their recollections, and are hoping that an informal drop-in event at the Royal Shakespeare Theatre on Saturday 8 March will provide them with plenty of information. Representatives from the Royal Regiment of Fusiliers Museum (Royal Warwickshire), a historian who specialises in helping people discover their family history, and a number of computers with relevant online resources will all be available on the day.

## Birmingham's New Street Station on the right track

Birmingham's New Street Station has beaten off stiff global competition to make it through to the finals of the 'best urban regeneration project' at the world's biggest property trade fair. The £600million renovation takes its place in the MIPIM Awards 2014 final alongside three other finalists - London's Battersea Power Station, Saint-Michel's Village in Paris and Kö-Bogen in Düsseldorf. The winner will be announced during the prestigious MIPIM Awards Ceremony at the Grand Auditorium of the Palais des Festivals, Cannes, on Thursday 13 March. Fingers crossed...



## Coventry theatre welcomes new members to its team

Alan Pollock (pictured), the writer behind Coventry Belgrade Theatre's blitz play, *One Night In November*, is to join the venue's



## Cape Town Opera brings Show Boat to Brum

Following a much-acclaimed production of *Porgy & Bess* at Birmingham Hippodrome in 2012, Cape Town Opera is returning to the venue this July with a new version of *Show Boat*. Based on Edna Ferber's novel of the same name, *Show Boat* is one of America's oldest musicals. Premiered on Broadway in 1927, it tells the story of the old American south by following the lives of performers, stagehands and dock workers on the Cotton Blossom, a Mississippi River Show Boat.

After kicking off its four-date UK tour at the Hippodrome from 2 to 5 July, the show then visits The Lowry, Salford, from 8 to 12 July; Wales Millennium Centre, Cardiff, 22 to 26 July; and Dublin's Bord Gais Energy Theatre, 29 July to 2 August. Commenting on Cape Town Opera's return to Birmingham, Stuart Griffiths, Chief Executive of Birmingham Hippodrome, said: "We're very excited to be opening the first ever UK tour of Cape Town Opera's *Show Boat* here at the Hippodrome in July. This is part of the theatre's ongoing ambition to bring the city the best in international performance from the finest companies across the world. It's another hugely busy and exciting year for us, with visits by international companies in the spring for our Dance Festival, from St Petersburg's Mariinsky Opera in the autumn for *The Ring Cycle*, and now, with this return visit after their great success with *Porgy & Bess*, Cape Town Opera performing once again in Birmingham."

Board of Directors. The Belgrade's also recently announced that acclaimed children's theatre director Tony Graham has taken the role of Creative Associate. Graham, who has a wealth of experience in theatre for young people, will be tasked with building and maintaining relationships with theatres and producers around the country, in order to raise the profile of the Belgrade as a producing house and to explore the possibility of joint productions. Pollock, meanwhile, has written extensively for TV, including BBC2's *Attachments*, starring David Walliams. Theatre works include *Too Much Pressure* (also for the Belgrade), and *The Death Of Cool*, which, originally produced for Hampstead Theatre, is currently being developed as a film.



## Polish artist commissioned to create new public art

The Polish Expats Association (PEA) has appointed internationally acclaimed Polish artist Joanna Rajkowska to create a new

public art project in Birmingham's Erdington district. London-based Rajkowska, best known for *Greetings From Jerusalem Avenue* - a fifteen-metre-tall artificial palm tree installed in the city centre of Warsaw - recently completed a residency in Erdington, during which she determined the concept and nature of her new project. The artist's practice focuses on 'the body and language as the foundations of social relationships'. It's anticipated that the Erdington project will reach completion in May.

## Seeking poets in Lichfield...

The Lichfield Poets, a group formed in 2006 for likeminded wordsmiths, is inviting fellow poets to submit entries for a new competition. Poems can be on any topic and in any style. They should be in English (or English dialect) and not have been published or accepted for publication elsewhere, including online publications. Since its formation, the Lichfield Poets group has contributed to the Lichfield Mysteries, the Lichfield Festival, and performed at the Lichfield Garrick. For further information on details, rules, regulations and information, email [Lichfield.Poets@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:Lichfield.Poets@hotmail.co.uk)

## Birmingham gallery takes art into the Black Country

Arts Council England has awarded Birmingham's Ikon Gallery £210,000 to enable it to take art into the Black Country - by boat! Part of a three-year programme, Black Country Voyages will see Ikon's Slow Boat travel along the region's industrial canal routes - from Smethwick to Stourbridge, Sedgley to West Bromwich and Birchills to Aldridge. Along the way, the boat will host various art-led activities, including workshops and performances. Those lucky enough to encounter Slow Boat on its journey will be invited to get involved by contributing thoughts and ideas, and in so doing may influence the development of the programme. The funding has been awarded as part of Arts Council England's £45million Strategic Touring programme.



## Jersey Boys out on tour

One of the West End's most successful musicals embarks on its first ever UK tour later this year, stopping off at two Midlands venues along the way. The multi-award-winning Jersey Boys uses a documentary-style format to present the story of Frankie Valli And The Four Seasons, and features numerous iconic hits, including Sherry, Big Girls Don't Cry and My Eyes Adored You. The Jersey Boys shows at the Regent Theatre, Stoke-on-Trent, from Tuesday 28 October to Saturday 8 November, and at the New Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham, from Tuesday 9 December to Saturday 3 January. Tickets for both dates are now on sale.



## Kinks frontman to headline Stratford literary festival

Legendary rock musician Ray Davies, design guru Emma Bridgewater and comedian and writer Tim Brooke-Taylor are amongst a host of well-known names set to appear at this year's prestigious Stratford-upon-Avon Literary Festival (26 April to 4 May). Now in its seventh year, the festival boasts a wide-ranging programme of author events, topical panel discussions, creative writing workshops and lectures. Other headliners booked to appear at the nine-day get-together include Baroness Shirley Williams, gardening guru Chris Beardshaw and 2013 Orwell Prize-winner Andrew Williams.



## RSC gears up for three special anniversaries in 2014

The Royal Shakespeare Company is gearing up to mark three very special anniversaries in 2014. First up, next month, is the four hundred-and-fiftieth anniversary of William Shakespeare's birth, an event commemorated by the company with a special fireworks display from the top of the Royal Shakespeare Theatre.

Two months later, Midsummer Mischief, a month-long festival of new plays, celebrates the fortieth anniversary of the RSC's Other Place venue. The festival features four specially commissioned plays which respond to the provocation that 'well-behaved women rarely make history'. Then, to commemorate the centenary of World War One, during its winter 2014 season the RSC will present *The Christmas Truce* (see page 4), a specially commissioned play by Phil Porter which draws on true stories of soldiers in the Warwickshire Regiment. The play focuses in particular on the experiences of local cartoonist Bruce Bairnsfather, who worked at the original Shakespeare Memorial Theatre as an electrical engineer.

New versions of *Love's Labour's Lost* and *Much Ado About Nothing* - the latter on this occasion retitled *Love's Labour's Won* - also feature in the RSC's World War One centenary schedule, with both plays being set in the shadow of war. For more information, visit [www.rsc.org.uk](http://www.rsc.org.uk)

### IN BRIEF

#### DMS extends a warm welcome to Ugandan children

Children's choir Destiny Africa, from the Kampala Centre in Uganda, fly into the UK this month to take part in a show fusing music and dance. Dressed in their native costumes, the children will join DMS in concert at Birmingham's Symphony Hall, performing on stage in *The Circle Of Life*, which incorporates drums brought over from Uganda.

Featuring over three hundred musicians, the 16 March event includes contributions from Bev Bevan, Geoff Turton and James Renford. The children will also present an a-cappella performance at a drinks reception attended by the Mayor and various dignitaries prior to the concert.

#### Epic encounters with Brecht in Birmingham

The works of German poet and playwright Bertolt Brecht form the basis of a diverse programme of events taking place at Birmingham's Repertory Theatre this month.

Curated by playwright Mark Ravenhill (pictured), Epic Encounters fuses theatre, politics and science to offer 'a feast of inspiring theatre, stimulating debate and hands-on activities for all ages'.

Central to the programme are performances on the main stage of Brecht's *A Life Of Galileo*, *The Threepenny Opera* and *The Mother*, while a Young REP production of *The Caucasian Chalk Circle* shows at *The Door*. Other highlights include *Star Gazing*, a Language Alive production that promises a fun and interactive show for seven to eleven-year-olds (8 March); *Have Your Say*, which encourages audiences to think about how they'd change the world (15 March); *Ask Me More About Brecht* - a theatrical reconstruction of the conversations between Hanns Eisler and Hans Bunge (22 March); *Eisler Shorts*, providing a

chance to watch rare short films with original Hanns Eisler scores performed live by Birmingham

Conservatoire musicians (22 March, *The Door*); and *O Moon Of Alabama*, which reunites stars of stage and screen Walter van Dyk and Liza Sadovy in a celebratory compilation of Kurt Weil's most popular works (22 March, *The Studio*).

For full listings of Epic Encounters events, visit [www.birmingham-rep.co.uk](http://www.birmingham-rep.co.uk).



# LET



# IT

# BE



## celebrating the music of **The Fab Four** in the Midlands

A hit West End and Broadway jukebox musical, **Let It Be** debuted in London in 2012 and tells the story of Britain's most famous pop group, **The Beatles**. The show offers a nostalgic but vital journey through the 1960s, as John, Paul, George and Ringo transform from happy-go-lucky mop-tops to peace-loving hippies. As you'd expect, the production's soundtrack

reflects the Fab Four's evolution, presenting a non-stop parade of some of the most famous songs ever written, from early-days hits such as *She Loves You* to later-career studio masterpieces like *Revolver* and *Sgt Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band*. It goes without saying the show is an absolute must for all fans of **The Beatles!**

## Today's Beatles...

With *Let It Be* about to embark on its first ever UK tour, *What's On* takes a look at the stars who'll be portraying the Fab Four at venues across the country, including Birmingham's New Alexandra Theatre and the Regent Theatre in Hanley, Stoke-on-Trent (see below for dates).

### Reuven Gershon as John Lennon



Birmingham-born Reuven has played John Lennon on stage and screen on many occasions, most recently in Richard Bacon's *Beer And Pizza*, in comedian Tony Hawks' feature film *Playing The Moldovians At Tennis*, and in *Lennon At 70* for the BBC. Reuven also performs live with *The Magic Of The Beatles*, and has played with *The Bootleg Beatles*.

**Favourite Beatles song: I Feel Fine**

### Stephen Hill as George Harrison



Music has always played an important part in Stephen's life. After getting an acoustic guitar at the age of eleven, he formed his first band at just thirteen, earning £50 a night playing upstairs at Wolverhampton's King's Jazz Bar. Originally from Wolverhampton, Stephen began touring nationally and internationally with various groups - including *The Beatles'* old pals *Gerry And The Pacemakers*, *The Searchers* and *The Swinging Blue Jeans* - before landing a part in *Let It Be*.

**Favourite Beatles song: Help**

### Luke Roberts as Ringo Starr



Birmingham-born Luke is no stranger to the stage, having performed in a variety of musicals including *Les Miserables*, *Sweeney Todd* and *West Side Story*. On a musical note, Luke achieved a first class BA (Hons) degree from the Academy of Contemporary Music. Moving to London in 2008 to pursue a career as a session drummer, he's since performed with some very high-profile pop artists, including *Sophie Ellis Bextor*, *Kevin Rowland* and *Sinead Quinn*.

**Favourite Beatles song: Come Together**

### Emanuele Angeletti as Paul McCartney



Having trained at Italy's Academy of Music, Emanuele's first Beatles performance came in 2000, when he was chosen to become a member of the *Fab Four* tribute band, *The Apple Pies*. In 2005, the band won a recording session in *Abbey Road's Studio 2*, the same studio in which *The Beatles* recorded many of their albums. In 2009, the band were chosen to perform at the only official EMI presentation of *The Beatles'* digitally-remastered collection.

**Favourite Beatles song: The Long And Winding Road**

### Ben Cullingworth as Ringo Starr



Moving to the capital in 2009 to study at the Institute of Contemporary Music Performance, Ben has since made a name for himself on the London live music scene, taking part in recording sessions with some of the industry's biggest names. *The Beatles* have always been Ben's favourite band, with Ringo a particular influence on him. Ben considers it a real honour to have represented the band in the West End and now out on tour.

**Favourite Beatles song: Yesterday**

### Michael Gagliano as John Lennon



A self-taught musician, Michael formed his first band at thirteen and has since performed (as a Beatle) on some of the world's biggest stages, including *Liverpool's Cavern Club* and at *Japan's Fuji Rock Festival*. He's also performed, by personal request, for *Mick Avery (The Kinks)* and at an intimate party at the home of *Oasis* frontman *Liam Gallagher*. As a lifelong Beatles fan and aficionado, Michael is the proud owner of a personal collection of Beatles instruments and equipment. He's also contributed to the *Beatles Gear Book*, and has toured the UK with its author to promote it.

**Favourite Beatles song: Penny Lane**

### John Brosnan as George Harrison



London-based musician and songwriter John started playing the guitar at ten. At eighteen, he got his first professional job - in the orchestra pit for a musical theatre production. The next ten years were spent playing in original bands both in the UK and the US. When he's not being a Beatle, John tours as a guest artist with some of the world's best symphony orchestras.

**Favourite Beatles song: Dear Prudence**

### James Fox as Paul McCartney



Cardiff-born James first trod the boards playing *Judas* in the UK tour of *Jesus Christ Superstar* in 2004. In the same year he represented the UK in the *Eurovision Song Contest* with *Hold On To Your Love*, which later peaked at number thirteen in the UK charts. As a solo performer, James has supported an array of big stars, including *Tina Turner* and *Will Young*.

**Favourite Beatles song: The Long And Winding Road**

## Did you know...

*Let It Be* was the twelfth official Beatles studio album released by EMI. The Beatles themselves were not happy with the recordings, and the project was temporarily shelved. Eventually, the tapes were given to *Phil Spector*, who was credited as producer. *McCartney* was furious with some of *Spector's* over-dubbing, and spearheaded the release of *Let It Be Naked* in 2003, which stripped the songs of *Spector's* input. *Abbey Road (released in 1969)* was the last album *The Beatles* actually recorded, and was released before *Let It Be (released in May 1970)*

*Let It Be* was the only Beatles studio album with *George Martin* not accredited as producer.

The original UK album release of *Let It Be* came in a lavish box-set with a 160-page book (*if you have a copy, it's worth about £500 in good condition!*). Currently on eBay, someone is asking £1,750 for a mint condition unplayed copy.

*Let It Be* originally had the working title *Get Back (the book included with the original UK album was entitled Get Back)*.

The *Let It Be* album cover photo shoot was originally meant to be an update of the *Please Please Me* album cover, taken on the stairs at the EMI head office. This cover image finally emerged on the 1971 compilation album *1967-1970*, also known as the 'Blue' album.

It was during the *Let It Be* rehearsals at *Twickenham Studios* that *George Harrison* walked out of a session, announcing he was leaving *The Beatles* following an argument with *Paul McCartney*.

The film *Let It Be*, directed by *Michael Lindsay Hogg*, was the last movie released by *United Artists* featuring *The Beatles*. The film included the famous 42-minute concert on the *Apple Headquarters* rooftop on 30 January 1969. The concert concluded with *John Lennon* saying, "I'd like to say thank you on behalf of the group and ourselves, and I hope we've passed the audition".

The *Let It Be* rooftop concert was *The Beatles'* last public performance, and also featured keyboard player *Billy Preston*. *Preston* is the only artist who was equally credited on any Beatles recordings.

The Beatles won an Oscar for *Let It Be* in the category "Original Song Score". The soundtrack also won a Grammy for 'Best Original Score'.

*Let It Be* shows at **New Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham**, from Mon 17 to Sat 22 March and **Regent Theatre, Stoke-on-Trent** from Mon 31 March to Sat 5 April

“Coming from a film and TV background, and doing that most of the year, it's lovely to be part of a live audience and to have that discipline of 'no second take'.”



# Warwick Davis

talks about his new company and his travels with Karl...

For those not in the know, Warwick Davis is the most successful short actor in Britain. During the past thirty years, he's graced the cinematic screen in some of the most iconic movies ever made - appearing in both the Star Wars and Harry Potter film franchises. His two TV series, *Life's Too Short* and *An Idiot Abroad*, have also been met with great acclaim. Now Warwick is venturing into unexplored territory, taking his brand new theatre company out on the road with its first ever production. What's On recently caught up with him to find out more...

#### How did the Reduced Height Theatre Company come into being, Warwick?

It's an idea I had probably a year or two ago. It comes from me going to see shows and enjoying theatre, as I do, and sitting there wishing I was on stage with the actors, but at the same time knowing I'm never going to be considered for plays like the ones I enjoy unless I produce them myself and cast myself in them! Also, I was making a

documentary for ITV about the Ovitz family, who were a family of dwarfs. There were seven of them in total, and they performed in central and eastern Europe in the 1930s and '40s. They were actually captured and sent to Auschwitz. It's an amazing story. What struck me about them as performers was that they didn't sell themselves on their size. They were brilliant performers in their own right. They played musical instruments, built

their own sets and costumes, and it was all about them being good at what they did, not about them being short. That really struck a chord with me. The third thing that came into play was that I was thinking about other short actors, and the fact that a lot of them have trained through drama school, studied the art of performing, and yet have never really had a chance to challenge themselves in the roles that they get. I consider myself



quite fortunate that I've been able to do that. Those three things combined led me to form the Reduced Height Theatre Company, so that I can produce plays that I want to see and want to be in. It also gives other short actors the chance to challenge themselves and produce some great work.

#### **Has it been a difficult journey to get it from concept to stage?**

It's sort of had a life of its own. It's been a lot of work but it hasn't been a difficult journey. Some projects you do are really hard to get going, but people were immediately enthusiastic about this. It wasn't something I had to persuade people to be involved with from a production or performing standpoint. The whole process of bringing the project together has been really easy. Challenging, but not a hard task. Everyone involved has worked really hard, and I'm keen to make this the best it can be.

#### **Why choose Philip King's See How They Run as your first show?**

I'd considered a lot of other plays. Originally, I'd wanted to do something along the lines of *An Inspector Calls* or *The Important Of Being Ernest*. Then I started to think about other genres, and farce is something I've always been fascinated with. It's performed at an extremely fast pace, and the characters are caricatures in a sense, so it really requires very big performances. I was already familiar with *See How They Run*, but when I read it again, I thought 'yes, this is the one'. I could visualise it immediately. I understood from the outset that it was probably one of the more challenging projects that I could have chosen to start the company with, but I thought, 'let's aim high - quite literally!'. During the first few days of rehearsals, it was quite hard getting the play to the right level. It felt like we were all overacting. I'm used to doing quite realistic TV stuff that has to be naturalistic. Then, all of a sudden, you're doing a character who's at a big level. What happens in the play is quite chaotic, and it has to be performed with the upmost precision. The audience might think it's out-of-control chaos but, in fact, it's a well thought-out and choreographed performance.

#### **You're both an actor in the play and its director, which adds another dimension...**

When I'm acting, I leave my producing hat on the seat. I don't make a brilliant producer, to be honest, because I won't compromise on anything. Producing is all about making compromises and coming up with solutions, and I tend not to want to compromise. If we need something, then I say 'let's have it', even if it pushes us over budget. I want it to be the best. I don't want to look back in six months' time and think 'if we'd have done that, it could've been better'. In everything I do, I like to make sure I've thought it through. I imagine producing will become very satisfying, especially as we move further towards opening night. To walk up onto that stage - as an actor - and not only to have that feeling, which is terrific, but also to feel that this wouldn't be here and the audience wouldn't be watching if I hadn't done this. It's an extra sense of accomplishment you get from it, I suppose.

#### **Up until now, most of your acting has taken place in front of the camera...**

Yes, but I'm quite experienced with stagework, although I've never appeared in a farce before. Coming from a film and TV background, and doing that most of the year, it's lovely to be part of a live audience and to have that discipline of 'no second take'. We have to get it right first time, whereas with film and TV you can become a little lazy. If it doesn't work out, you can just start again. We don't have that luxury in *See How They Run*. That's fun, exciting, thrilling, and a little scary at times...

#### **You're also in the middle of shooting a new film. What's it about?**

I can't say too much about it, apart from that it's a Christmas film called *Get Santa*. It stars Jim Broadbent as Santa, and we're in Leeds filming at the moment. Juggling the schedule on the film with rehearsals for the stagemusical has been interesting. I've been learning my lines for the film and *See How They Run* at the same time.

#### **You're a family man. How do you achieve the work-life balance?**

My family are very understanding. They know how much the Reduced Height Theatre Company means to me and they're right behind it as a project. They're very supportive, and we try and spend as much time together as we can. We'll see each other in passing over this weekend, but next week we'll see each other in tech rehearsal at the theatre, as it's half-term and the kids will be able to come over.

#### **Do your kids think you're cool?**

I hope so. I try and embarrass them when I can, but it doesn't seem to work! I get slightly annoyed at that! But no, I think so. They get to see and do some amazing things because of what I do. They get to meet their heroes more often than most youngsters.

#### **Ricky Gervais and Stephen Merchant have produced both your TV series. What was your first encounter with Ricky like?**

It was on the phone. He called me up at home and said, 'this is Ricky Gervais here', and I was like, 'Oh yeah! Who is it really?'. He started laughing like a lunatic and I thought, 'nobody else laughs like that, it's got to be him'.

#### **There seems to be a real working chemistry between the two of you...**

Yeah, we get on really well. We click creatively. He gets what I do and I get what he does. On everything we've done together, it's always worked really well. I'd certainly want to work with Ricky again in the future, when time permits.

#### **What's your most memorable moment from *An Idiot Abroad*?**

It's difficult to choose one thing, but I think it has to be jumping off the Macau Tower, a seven hundred-and-fifty-foot drop. What was I thinking?! Actually, I know what I was thinking. I was thinking that if I did it, Karl Pilkington would do it too, and I wanted him to feel good about himself. In the end, though, he didn't do it. I did - and I think it's the maddest thing I've ever done.

#### **What's Karl really like?**

I get asked this all the time. He's just like you see him on the show. That's who he is. He's Karl, whether the camera's rolling or not - cracking jokes and moaning about stuff. There's not an on-screen and off-screen Karl. With him, it's what you see is what you get.

#### **Did you find you had very much in common with him?**

The more you get to know someone - as you begin to talk about more obscure things - the more you find that you do. There were certain things we had in common and certain things we didn't. For instance, Karl doesn't like dressing up, whereas I do. I do it for a living.

#### **Were there many awkward moments?**

Yeah, when there were things that we didn't agree on, like with the *Spider Sisters* in India. He wanted me to appear with them on stage and I said, 'I'm an actor, I'm a performer, and I haven't rehearsed anything. I don't just go on stage for the sake of it'. Karl didn't seem to understand that kind of concept. There were times when we didn't get on, but by the end of it we saw eye to eye. It was a great journey, not only in the travelling sense but mentally as well.

#### **Which culture did you embrace the most on your travels?**

India. It's an astonishing country. Full of life, noise, people, colour. It's a very warm country and the people are very welcoming. I never once felt threatened. They take a real interest in anyone from the West, but when you're only three-foot-six, there's an added interest - but it was always very good-natured. I just found the whole experience very inspiring and would recommend it to anyone.

#### **You've achieved one of your goals with the Reduced Height Theatre Company. What else is on the list?**

Having a chat show would be my next one. Watch out, Jonathan Ross!

#### **After thirty years in the business, do you ever take time out to reflect on your success?**

I don't think we reflect enough on our lives in general, do we? For me, the time I reflected most was when I wrote my autobiography. I started to think about what to write. I started looking back at old photographs, and began to think how lucky I've been with the opportunities I've been given, the people I've met and things that I've done. Beyond writing the book, it made me think about appreciating every day. We're all living our lives at one hundred miles per hour, and are guilty of not living in the moment. It's all about the future and not about now. I appreciate I'm working on a film now. How lucky am I to be working with Jim Broadbent? I now appreciate every moment I have, and view every job as though it were my last. After all, there are no rules which say I'm going to be employed in anything else. As long as you don't have expectations, you can never be disappointed.

The Reduced Height Theatre Company brings *See How They Run* to the **Belgrade Theatre, Coventry**, from Mon 3 to Sat 8 March



**“** *It has the scale of a Hollywood production, and to deliver anything else would be false advertising.* **”**

# Maxwell Caulfield

on getting a soaking in the Midlands...

**A star of stage and screen, Maxwell Caulfield is probably best known for his TV work, including 1980s US dramas *Dynasty* and *The Colbys*. On this side of the Atlantic, he's appeared as a series regular in both *Casualty* and, more recently, *Emmerdale*. Married to John Mills' daughter Juliet, Maxwell is currently playing some of the country's major venues, starring as theatre boss RF Simpson in a critically acclaimed new version of *Singin' In The Rain*. What's On recently caught up with him in Nottingham to find out more...**

**What gives *Singin' In The Rain* the wow factor?**

Well, it delivers on every level. It has this deservedly famous score and some great hit tunes. It's a simple story, but rather irresistible. It's got humour, romance, spectacular dancing, and then, to top it all off, we have these amazing rain effects. The musical really is 'lights, camera, sound'. The light show is terrific - and we have a screen projector, so you get to go to the movies when you come to this show! The show also has Faye Tozer in all her glory, sounding like a scolded cat for two hours. She's a great sport, and I don't

know how she can feign that strained voice for as many weeks as she has. She's a marvel.

**On a personal level, what's the appeal for you of performing in the show?**

I get to play the big cheese. I enjoy preening around in these fabulous suits. Hand-selecting the girls for my chorus line is a bonus. The boys are pretty easy on the eye too. We have a very good-looking company but, kidding apart, touring around the British Isles is a real kick. The variety out on the road makes it a lot more appealing than staying put in the West End.

**Has the show been pared down prior to being taken on tour?**

No, not at all. We've actually been told that the show has been souped-up a bit, because we're playing such big houses. That's why it takes us a couple of days to get into each venue. The boys - the crew - have to practically build a swimming pool at each new location. It has the scale of a Hollywood production, and to deliver anything else would be false advertising. We have twelve thousand gallons of water cascading down on our hapless hero's head. Well, he's not really hapless, as he manages to get the girl, but I'm

glad it's not me who's getting the nightly soaking.

**Surely there's a health and safety issue? Has anyone ever got hurt?**

We've had a couple of backstage issues that the audience haven't been aware of. One time, at Cardiff's Millennium Centre, someone forgot to turn the taps off, and suddenly we had a minor flooding. All I can say is that it was rather swamp-like backstage! We had to take an extended intermission. Fortunately, there were some young Welsh choristers in the house who kept the audience entertained with Christmas carols while buckets and mops, and anything else to hand, was deployed to clear the deluge of water.

**Expectations are high. Is there anything that's proving a particular challenge?**

On a very personal level, missing my missus is a challenge. She looks in, and comes and spends as much time with me as she can, but she's got her own life and I can't expect her to schlep around. We love being in each other's pockets, and we've toured together too, but she's too great a talent to be sitting around waiting for me. The other great challenge, as with any long run, is sustaining a performance - but then again, everyone's job is repetitive by nature.

**Is it true that you'd never seen the film version in its entirety prior to being involved in the stage production?**

That's very true - although I'm a little loathe to admit it, as it shows a certain ignorance of Hollywood law. I honestly didn't even know it was set in the world of Hollywood! I'd seen the famous dance sequence. I'm a come-lately to the undeniable talents of Gene Kelly. I didn't realise his great personal charisma. I had other screen idols when I was younger - but then again, I'm a come-lately to the whole musical theatre scene. I didn't do Chicago, my first professional musical theatre performance, until almost ten years ago, but once you enter that world, you realise it's a joyous environment. It's not full of neurotic actors, it's more like the aforementioned smiley showgirls and great band members/musicians. They're all a great breed. We're all entertainers at the end of the day, and we're there to take people out of themselves for two-and-a-half hours. With today's crazy pace, it's great to take the audience back to a different time, when communication was really very different. We're almost like dinosaurs up there, with the idea of transitioning from a silent picture to a talking one.

**Do you see your future involving more musical theatre?**

I hope so, if I'm not too late. By 'too late' I mean age-wise, in respect to some of the great musical theatre roles. Since Chicago, I've developed the pace quickly, and played George in La Cage Aux Folles. I enjoyed that experience immensely.

**Have you toured with much musical theatre in the States?**

I had a brief stint playing Billy Flynn in Chicago on Broadway. It would've been longer, but there was a wretched stagehand strike which interrupted the show. Also, they tend to rotate the role of Billy Flynn a lot more frequently in the States.

**Do you see a real difference in the way in which live theatre is received in the States, as opposed to here in the UK?**

No, not really. The thing about the Brits is they're so enthusiastic. When they like something, boy do they let you know about it! There was a reason why Beatlemania took off in this country! We're known for being so very reserved, and maybe we don't leap to our feet at every curtain-call, as they do on Broadway. Over there, they seem to give everything a standing ovation, regardless. It maybe takes a little bit more to impress the British, with their incredibly high standards. Testament to the success of British theatre is that Broadway is grabbing everything coming out of the West End which is of high calibre. In fact, the West End is reviving American shows and then exporting them back to the Yanks. When the Brits do enjoy something and leap to their feet, you know you've delivered - and those are the responses we're getting with Singin' In The Rain. We're not getting to kick half as much water as we'd like at the patrons on the first few rows!

**Your base is in the States. Do you notice big changes every time you return to the UK?**

I mostly see changes when I'm in London; the architecture which is springing up around Canary Wharf is staggering. It's so futuristic, and the Brits, rightly so, have always credited themselves as being on the cutting-edge. Everyone thinks America is very innovative, but it's the British who're leading the way in many ways.

**So would you ever consider moving back to the UK?**

I've not ruled it out. It's very easy to spin your wheels in Hollywood. The whole country flecks to the West Coast and the end of the rainbow to make their dreams come true. It's a very crowded environment. This is very much a youth-driven industry and I ain't getting any younger. The Brits appreciate their venerable actors.

**So is age more of an issue in the States than here in the UK?**

Definitely! Helen Mirren is extraordinary, and she's the only person over sixty who's allowed to be a sex symbol in America. It takes a British woman to do it. America's so committed to turning over the soil, whereas over here there's a wider range of outlets for actors, like radio theatre, which is still very viable in this country. On the West Coast you're kind of committed to working in front of the camera. In other words, you can deprive yourself of the opportunity to tread the boards. If you're based in the UK, and you're lucky to be part of this business, you can transition between the various media and do it all within a single year.

**You've become a familiar face on many TV soaps, both here and across the pond. Is it right to assume that's a genre you feel very comfortable with?**

I've done soaps because that's where I've been asked to work. I actually think that in Emmerdale, my style of performing didn't necessarily work. It worked in a larger-than-life situation like Dynasty, but with Emmerdale, I consistently felt out of place. Amanda Donohoe had it down to an art. I'm not suggesting for one minute that Amanda is

a natural soap actress, but she had a style which was very convincing.

**Is appearing in soaps something you see yourself returning to, or do you see your future predominantly on the stage?**

There are times when I think this is what I should've been doing all along - more theatre. Then maybe I would have developed into a finer actor. That's one of the things that's good about going out there eight times a week - you really do get to hone your craft. And particularly with comedy; it's a very subtle art, and they often say it's harder. Dramatic actors are a dime a dozen. That said, the work being exhibited by the likes of Michael Fassbender, Leonardo DiCaprio, Christian Bale and Matthew McConaughey - in fact, it's a fifty/fifty split between American and British actors - is really raising the bar on film performance. Their dedication and work is just startling.

**Is it true you started out as a Go-Go dancer?**

It wasn't like I was a Go-Go dancer. I got plucked from obscurity and very briefly appeared in the West End with other nubile types. It was a means to an end, the aim of which was to get my Equity card in a hurry. I was done with that very quickly. In fact, I seem to remember getting into a stage fight with one of my fellow cast members. It was a bit like a scene from Women In Love.

**And do you have an all-time favourite musical?**

The Chorus Line. When I was about seventeen, I worked as a dresser at the Royal Ballet - I was determined, by hook or by crook, to get into the business. Opposite us was the Drury Lane Theatre, where The Chorus Line was showing. Every night I would go over to the theatre to watch the last fifteen minutes of the show. I was drawn to it like a magnet; the whole thrill of musical theatre was like being under a spell.

**Have you ever turned down a role and later regretted it?**

I'm sure there must be a couple - but like most actors, I'm not in a position to pick and choose. Early on, when I had a three-picture deal at Paramount, which in the end only lasted for one picture - Grease 2 - there were a couple of opportunities where I blinked. In hindsight, I was foolish to do that. If I'd had any sense, I would've got another film in the can before Grease 2, so that all my chips weren't in the same basket.

**Will you take some time out to visit Birmingham's landmarks when you're in the city?**

Hopefully. I like to visit museums and get a sense of the history. That's the beauty of performing in a show in an evening; you get time off to see and do things in the day.

**Finally, have you got any plans for after Singin' In The Rain?**

Goodness, I'm just hoping to get to the end of the tour. Hopefully I won't get topped, soap opera-style!

Singin' In The Rain shows at  
Birmingham Hippodrome  
from Tues 18 March to Sat 5 April

Read the full interview online at [www.whatsonlive.co.uk](http://www.whatsonlive.co.uk)

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# Music

## Fall Out Boy

National Indoor Arena, Birmingham, Sun 16 March

Following a sell-out US arena tour last year, Fall Out Boy are back in the UK for seven dates. Showcasing the Save Rock And Roll tour, the multi-platinum Grammy Award-winning four-piece have earned themselves a new fanbase with fifth studio album and lead single My Songs Know What You Did In The Dark (Light Em Up), which made the UK top five. Keen to start a new project after a five-year hiatus, their return was called 'a rather stunning renaissance' by Rolling Stone magazine. The Pretty Reckless and New Politics support.



## Natives

O2 Academy, Birmingham, Sat 22 March

Natives are a New Forest quintet who burst onto the music scene in 2012. Filed under Fall Out Boy (above) and Foster The People, they've toured with Don Broco, Mallory Knox and The Summer Set, and play SXSW later this year. Signing a publishing and recording deal with Transmission Recordings and Notting Hill Music in 2013, they're this month releasing their first full-length album, Indoor War.



## Polar Bear

Hare & Hounds, Birmingham, Thurs 27 March

Defying convention, Polar Bear is an experimental jazz group led by Rising Star-nominated drummer Seb Roachford. Hitting the big time in 2005 when they received a Mercury Music Prize nomination for Held On The Tips Of Fingers - a crossover of jazz, funk, dance music, free jazz, electronica and drum & bass - they're now back with new album In Each And Every One, their first recording since 2010. This King's Heath show is one of ten UK dates for the group.



## Goldfrapp

Symphony Hall, Birmingham, Wed 26 March

The unique sound of Goldfrapp returns to the Midlands following the Autumn 2013 release of the duo's latest album, the ten-track Tales Of Us. Alison Goldfrapp and Will Gregory established the band in 2000 and have released six albums in total, with Tales Of Us having been generally well received by the critics. Well known for their willingness to explore various musical styles, Goldfrapp's sound has, at different points, incorporated trip-hop, electronic, synthpop, glam rock and folk music. Their impulse to experiment is hardly surprising, given the wide range of music which has influenced them. Will cites Ennio Morricone as his main inspiration, while Alison has revealed that movies such as Roman Polanski's Cul-de-sac, cult 1973 film The Wicker Man, and the James Bond franchise have all helped mould her as a musician.

## Tinie Tempah

Civic Hall, Wolverhampton, Tues 25 - Wed 26 March

Having started out by releasing music independently on his Disturbing London label, Tinie was spotted playing at Wireless in July 2009 and signed up to Parlophone three months later. His first album, Disc-Overy, debuted at Number One in the UK in 2010. The following year saw him win two Brit Awards - for Best British Breakthrough Act and Best British Single. Pass Out, Frisky, Written In The Stars and ET are just a few of the chart successes that have turned him into a music megastar. Due to popular demand, an extra Wolverhampton date has been added to this UK tour, which is taking place in support of new album Demonstration.



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## Music PREVIEW

### Backstreet Boys & All Saints

LG Arena, Birmingham, Wed 26 March

The Backstreet Boys' back-catalogue includes two of the most successful albums of all time, each boasting in excess of twenty million sales. In total, the fellas have notched up more than one hundred-and-thirty million album sales - making them the best-selling boy band in history - and are responsible for hits like *Quit Playing Games (With My Heart)*, *As Long As You Love Me* and *I Want It That Way*. This latest tour sees them hitting the road with All Saints, whose early-career success included nine top ten singles (five of which went to number one), two multi-platinum albums, two gold albums and ten million-plus record sales worldwide.



### Chvrches

The Institute, Birmingham, Mon 10 March

Coming together on a writing project, Lauren Mayberry, Iain Cook and Martin Doherty then decided to form a band, so gave life to Chvrches in 2011. Thanks to the phenomenal online success of *Lies*, the Glasgow-based synth-pop trio quickly realised they needed to get out of the studio and start playing live. A couple of years down the line, they're still achingly cool, thanks in no small measure to their huge online following. Boasting their own record label, Goodbye Records, they've just signed up Soak, who'll be supporting them at this gig. Chvrches' Institute show takes place on the same day they release *The Recover EP*.



### The Stranglers

The Assembly, Leamington Spa, Tues 11 March; O2 Academy, Birmingham, Sat 22 March

Formed forty years ago, The Stranglers were major players in the instigation of the UK punk rock scene, although later-career endeavours have seen them explore a variety of musical styles, including new wave, art rock, gothic rock and pop. Mainstream success came their way courtesy of 1982 single *Golden Brown*, with other notable hits including *No More Heroes*, *Peaches*, *Always The Sun* and *Skin Deep*. With twenty-three UK top-forty singles and seventeen top-forty albums to their name, there'll certainly be plenty of great music to enjoy in this fortieth anniversary gig.



### Jason Derulo

National Indoor Arena, Birmingham, Sat 22 March

Scoring the hit of his life with *Talk Dirty*, which made it to number one in the UK and New Zealand, Jason Derulo returns with an eight-date tour, his biggest ever in the UK and Ireland. A talented writer, Jason penned every song on new album *Tattoos* - including *Vertigo*, his collaboration with girlfriend Jordin Sparks. Recently revealing a secret skill on Instagram - the ability to tap dance - he'll here be singing songs from his three-album back-catalogue, and is supported by Conor Maynard.

### Ella Eyre

Kasbah, Coventry, Sat 8 March;  
The Institute, Birmingham, Fri 14 March

As well as being BBC Sound Of 2014 runner-up, Ella Eyre has also been listed in MTV's 2014 Top 10 Ones To Watch - so it's fair to say the London-born singer-songwriter has made a pretty big splash for a nineteen-year-old! The soulful vocalist behind Rudimental's Number One single, *Waiting All Night*, Ella is a BRIT School alumni, and already had a publishing deal before her singing talents were discovered. Releasing her first EP, *Deeper*, last year, she's launching her debut album in the summer.

### Dub Pistols & Neville Staple Band

The Assembly, Leamington Spa, Sat 22 March

Dub Pistols' sound - a combination of big beat, ska, punk and hip hop-dub music - has featured on numerous film and video-game soundtracks, including *Blade II* and *Frequency*. The notorious party rockers are here joining up with ska legend Neville Staple from The Specials, and will play ten UK dates ahead of a summer of festivals. Hailing from nearby Coventry, the band is very much viewing this Leamington show as a homecoming gig.



### Thomas J Speight

The Glee Club, Birmingham, Fri 7 March

This singer-songwriter was brought up on a cocktail of musical influences, from The Beatles to Joni Mitchell, and started writing at the tender age of twelve. Stints in various indie bands followed, after which he went solo, with debut EP *Willow Tree* introducing his melodic stylings to the world. Produced by two ex-Keane members, it was described by Ryan Adams as 'so beautiful'. Thomas plays the Glee following the release of debut single *Just Where I Want To Be*.



### Azealia Banks

O2 Academy, Birmingham, Thur 27 March

Bursting onto the scene in 2008, when she adopted the pseudonym 'Miss Bank\$' and began releasing her music through MySpace, Harlem-born bisexual singer Azealia Banks' career really took off three years later when she topped NME's Cool List. A third-place finish in the BBC's Sound Of 2012 competition provided her with plenty more gratefully received exposure. She's certainly no shrinking violet, and thinks nothing of peppering her song lyrics with a selection of profanities - her debut single, *212*, saw her using the C-word more than ten times.

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ART SCENES



discover Ltd

Sounds of the Summer

**SINGERS WANTED**

Recruiting NOW Rehearsal starting April 2014 in  
Birmingham, Esher and Warwick. Join us to sing at

**The Town Hall Birmingham**  
Saturday 21st June 2014

Featuring a wide variety of songs to get you in the mood for summer including  
*Mr Blue Sky* (ELO), *Viva La Vida* (Coldplay), *Dancing Queen* (Abba), *Summer Nights* (Grease),  
*Walking on Sunshine* (Katrina and the Waves) and many more!

NO experience required and NO auditions male and female voices needed. Minimum age 16yrs/  
non music readers welcome/ solo opportunities. Learn from professional vocal coaches (fee applies)

Come along to our preview evenings from 7.30pm - 10pm

Wednesday 26th March at St Christopher's Church, Hinchley Wood, Esher, Surrey KT10 0AQ  
Wednesday 26th March at St Columba URC Charby Road, Moseley, Birmingham B13 8DU  
Thursday 27th March at St Nicholas Church, St Nicholas Church Street, Warwick CV34 4LD

Rehearsals commence from 7.30pm - 10pm

Wednesday 9th April at St Christopher's Church, Hinchley Wood, Esher, Surrey KT10 0AQ  
Thursday 10th April at St Nicholas Church, St Nicholas Church Street, Warwick CV34 4LD  
Wednesday 16th April at St Columba URC Charby Road, Moseley, Birmingham B13 8DU

For full information: [www.singanddiscover.com](http://www.singanddiscover.com)  
or telephone 01609 889 005 follow us on twitter @singanddiscover or  
facebook singanddiscover



For further reviews, visit [www.whatsonlive.co.uk](http://www.whatsonlive.co.uk)

## Depeche Mode

LG Arena, Birmingham

Depeche Mode brought their Delta Machine show to Birmingham's LG Arena for the one and only UK date on their European winter tour. In a career spanning over thirty years, the band have garnered a reputation for electric live performances. They also have a large back-catalogue to raid, so expectations were certainly high.

Kicking off with Welcome To My World and Angel, both from their most recent release, Delta Machine, lead singer Dave Gahan enticed us into a dark and tantalising realm with his strong vocals and seductive moves. The band were complemented on stage by Christian Eigner, whose sharp and powerful drums gave extra weight to the synth basslines. The piano accompaniment of Peter Gordano came into its own when Martin Gore took his turn in the spotlight, presenting haunting renditions of Slow, Not Tonight and (later, during the encore) Shake The Disease.

The bulk of the set took in classic mid-'80s to early-'90s albums Music For The Masses, Songs Of Faith And Devotion and Violator, with the tracks Behind The Wheel and Personal Jesus being my favourites. It was great to hear Martin's lead guitar coming to the fore, giving the show a rockier edge. Just Can't Get Enough, I Feel You and Never Let Me Down were encores that topped off an exhilarating experience.

**Ted Finlay** ■■■■

## Suzanne Vega

Symphony Hall, Birmingham

With a black top hat lending her an air of mystique, New York singer-songwriter Suzanne Vega announced her comeback in style with a phenomenal opening performance of my favourite track, 1985's Marlene On The Wall. Vega swiftly struck up a great rapport with her audience, while her sheer musical brilliance ensured that I barely registered the absence of a backing band (she was accompanied solely by guitarist Jerry Leonard, resulting in the creation of an intimate 'unplugged' vibe). Her flawless delivery of Luka, and the title-track of her Grammy-nominated second album, Solitude Standing, were well-received, but there was a heavy focus on promoting her first new album in seven years, Tales From The Realm Of The Queen Of Pentacles. The album's beautiful vignettes strived to connect the material world with the beyond, and Vega's inimitable knack of infusing magic into the mundane made me feel privileged to be sharing her extraordinary, folk-inspired vision.

Her distinctive vocals still possessed that crystal clarity, soaring on heavenly tracks Jacob And The Angel and Horizon (There Is A Road), the more exuberant Crack In The Wall, and a genius sampling of 50 Cents Candy Shop on the catchy Don't Uncork What You Can't Contain. I Never Wear White was just pure fun. Older mainstream classics, The Queen And The Soldier, Rosemary, and her most commercially successful song, Tom's Diner, emphasised her highly literate brand of storytelling. The new album ably illustrates what a continually evolving and uniquely talented artist Vega is. Her remarkable longevity is no surprise. Welcome back, Suzanne.

**Malaka Chowdhury** ■■■■

## Rizzle Kicks

O2 Academy, Birmingham

From the moment British hip-hop duo Rizzle Kicks took to the stage, I could sense we were in for a great show. When they kicked off with That's Classic, it became clear my instincts were right. The two Rizzle Kicks frontmen, Jordan Stephens and Harley Alexander-Sule, were full of energy from the get go, urging the mostly twentysomething crowd to really get involved with the show. As expected, the duo played their most popular hits, including Lost Generation, Skip To The Good Bit and Mama Do The Hump, as well as their favourite tracks from their most recent album, Roaring 20s. The two Brighton boys didn't once stand still during the show, and were backed by an equally energetic five-piece band and DJ. When some confusion about which song was to be played next resulted in a humorous argument between the guitar player and Stephens, the crowd lapped it up, as they did the whole performance. The boys ended the gig with their much-loved debut single, Down With The Trumpets.

**Ryan Humphreys** ■■■■

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

## SAT 1 MAR

**ROCKET** The Jam House, Birmingham  
**MIKE AND THE MECHANICS & SADIE AND THE HOTHEADS** Symphony Hall, Birmingham  
**THE SEX PISTOLS EXPERIENCE** The Roadhouse, Birmingham  
**VIBRATORS** The Marr's Bar, Worcester  
**BLACK STONE CHERRY** Wulfrun Hall, Wolverhampton  
**OUTBREAK SPRING FESTIVAL** Ricoh Arena, Coventry  
**BILLY LUNN** Kasbah, Coventry  
**DRUM & BASS AWARDS 2014** The Institute, Birmingham  
**GROOVE ARMADA DJ SET** The Rainbow, B'ham  
**TALON - THE BEST OF EAGLES** Solihull Arts Complex  
**LOUISE PETIT** Ort Cafe, Birmingham  
**ACOUSTIC BLUES HOUSE PARTY** Artrix, Bromsgrove  
**LABOUR OF LOVE - UB40 TRIBUTE** The River Rooms, Stourbridge  
**PANACEA & A SUITCASE FULL OF OWLS** The Actress & Bishop, B'ham  
**WILD IRISH** Irish Centre, Birmingham  
**ELECTRIC ELECTRIC** The Tin Music And Arts, Coventry  
**LUKE WYLDE AND THE JAPES** O2 Academy, Birmingham

## SUN 2 MAR

**THE RAT PACK VEGAS SPECTACULAR** Stratford Civic Hall  
**5 SECONDS OF SUMMER** The Institute, B'ham  
**GEORGE EZRA** Hare & Hounds, Birmingham  
**HATS OFF TO LED ZEPPELIN** O2 Academy, Birmingham  
**JOHN LENNON MCCULLAGH** Hare & Hounds, Birmingham  
**JOSIENNE CLARKE & BEN WALKER** Kitchen Garden Cafe, Birmingham  
**FINIAN'S RAINBOW** Irish Centre, Birmingham  
**GHOULS, ENQUIRY & ROMANS** The Flapper, Birmingham  
**NORTHERN SOUL & TAMLA MOTOWN NIGHT** The River Rooms, Stourbridge

## MON 3 MAR

**ME FIRST & THE GIMME GIMMES** O2 Academy, Birmingham  
**DIANA JONES** Hare & Hounds, Birmingham  
**R5** The Institute, B'ham

**NICK MULVEY** The Glee Club, Birmingham  
**THE CARRIVICK SISTERS** Kitchen Garden Cafe, Birmingham  
**THE DUNNETT/BAXTER BIG BAND** The Yardbird Jazz Club, Birmingham  
**THE DETAILS** The Crescent Theatre, B'ham

## TUE 4 MAR

**FROM THE JAM** Bedworth Civic Hall, Warwickshire  
**FAIRPORT CONVENTION** Birmingham Town Hall  
**CYPHER 16 & 61 INCH O2** Academy, Birmingham  
**DISCLOSURE** O2 Academy, Birmingham  
**EAGULLS** Hare & Hounds, Birmingham  
**TEMPLES** The Institute, Birmingham  
**UP4 THE DOWNSTROKE** The Jam House, B'ham

## WED 5 MAR

**SHAKATAK** The Jam House, Birmingham  
**MIKE PETERS** O2 Academy, Birmingham  
**BLACKBERRY SMOKE** Wulfrun Hall, Wolverhampton  
**CHRIS WOOD** The Red Lion Folk Club, Birmingham  
**TWO MAN TING** The Yardbird, Birmingham  
**ANAI MITCHELL** The Glee Club, Birmingham  
**STRAIGHT LINES, HEY VANITY & THE POET THE PEOPLE** Hare & Hounds, Birmingham  
**MICHAEL CHAPMAN** Kitchen Garden Cafe, Birmingham  
**JOE MCELDERRY** Evesham Arts Centre, Worcester  
**SUZI & THE BACKBEATS** The Actress & Bishop, Birmingham  
**THE ANDALES, JEAN ELIOT SENIOR & HE IS A PEGASUS** The Tin Music And Arts, Coventry

## THU 6 MAR

**THE MEATLOAF STORY** New Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham  
**CRAOBH** Huntingdon Hall, Worcester  
**ED HAINE MAJOR PROJECT BAND** The Yardbird Jazz Club, Birmingham  
**SALSA CELTICA** Birmingham Town Hall  
**GET THE BLESSING** Hare & Hounds, Birmingham  
**BROTHER & BONES** O2 Academy, Birmingham  
**BOY JUMPS SHIP** Hare & Hounds, Birmingham  
**FAULKNER** The Jam House, Birmingham  
**PARADISE 9, TANG & THE ROZ BRUCE INFUSION** The Roadhouse, B'ham

## FRI 7 MAR

**THE SENSATIONAL 60S EXPERIENCE** New Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham  
**THE JOHNNY CASH ROADSHOW** Solihull Arts Complex  
**GOLDIE** Hare & Hounds, Birmingham  
**VELVET TEXAS CANNONBALL, THE MIGHTY YOUNG & THE KALEIDOSCOPIES** Hare & Hounds, Birmingham  
**ALBERT LEE & HOGAN'S HEROES** Huntingdon Hall, Worcester  
**HERE & NOW** The Assembly, Leamington Spa  
**RONIN** The Marr's Bar, Worcester  
**THE MOONSHAKERS** Drummonds Bar, Worcester  
**TG COLLECTIVE** Ikon Gallery, Birmingham  
**SOLID SOUL** The Jam House, Birmingham  
**THE DUBLIN LEGENDS** Birmingham Town Hall  
**CHARLIE BARNES** The Actress & Bishop, Birmingham  
**KHAOS THEORY & OUT OF SANITY** The Asylum, Birmingham  
**RUTHIE HENSHALL** Malvern Theatres, Worcester  
**AC/DC UK** The River Rooms, Stourbridge  
**GREEN HAZE & LINK 182** The Roadhouse, B'ham  
**SO CALLED ENEMY, CRASH CALLS, HIDDEN SKIES & COLD OCEAN LIES** O2 Academy, Birmingham  
**THOMAS J SPEIGHT** The Glee Club, Birmingham  
**FREE AT LAST** Route 44, Birmingham  
**ENOS, SHEBREW, ABRAHMA & MOTHER CORONA** Scruffy Murphys, Birmingham  
**HOSPITALITY** The Rainbow, Birmingham  
**THE RYANS** Irish Centre, Birmingham

## SAT 8 MAR

**SOLID SOUL** The Jam House, Birmingham  
**EVAN CHRISTOPHER'S DJANGO A LA CREOLE** Huntingdon Hall, Worcester  
**WILDFLOWERS** The Sunflower Lounge, B'ham  
**HIGHER ON MAIDEN** The Marr's Bar, Worcester  
**BILLY MITCHELL AND RAY LAIDLAW - THE LINDISFARNE STORY** Artrix, Bromsgrove  
**JONI MITCHELL TRIBUTE NIGHT** Ort Cafe, Birmingham  
**BUZZCOCKS** The Assembly, Leamington Spa  
**BOMBAY BICYCLE CLUB** O2 Academy, B'ham  
**SWINGING 60S PARTY WITH CUPID'S INSPIRATION** Nailcote Hall, Berkswell  
**BLACK COUNTRY METAL FEST** The Slade Rooms, Wolverhampton  
**ONE STOP BOOGIE - 70S V 80S** The River Rooms, Stourbridge

# Music LISTINGS

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

**MOTORKILL AND STONE-BROKEN** Route 44, Birmingham  
**MID-DAY MANTRA - BENARES TO BIRMINGHAM** Symphony Hall, Birmingham  
**CREAM TOURS** The Institute, Birmingham  
**UNDER THE COVERS** Irish Centre, Birmingham  
**ELLA EYRE** Kasbah, Coventry  
**THE NOTEBENDERS** The Drum, Birmingham  
**QUEEN ALIVE** The Roadhouse, Birmingham  
**ANGEL HAZE** O2 Academy, Birmingham  
**ALSO EDEN & MORPHEUS RISING** The Asylum, Birmingham

## SUN 9 MAR

**DAR WILLIAMS** Hare & Hounds, Birmingham  
**ALL TIME LOW** O2 Academy, Birmingham  
**THE ENGLISH BEAT** O2 Academy, Birmingham  
**CARLO MAHALO & THE G STRINGS** Kitchen Garden Cafe, Birmingham  
**BLAKE & BRAZIL** Irish Centre, Birmingham  
**IDIOM** The Flapper, Birmingham  
**WOODEN HORSE** Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry  
**FOOD FIGHTERZ** The Roadhouse, B'ham

## MON 10 MAR

**CHVRCHES** The Institute, Birmingham  
**CAMEL** Birmingham Town Hall  
**ROVO AND SYSTEM 7** The Assembly, Leamington Spa  
**MR APPOLLO** The Crescent Theatre, B'ham  
**MELLOW BAKU** Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry  
**GET THE BLESSING** Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry

## TUE 11 MAR

**THE STRANGLERS - 40TH ANNIVERSARY TOUR** The Assembly, Leamington Spa  
**TOM HILL AND ZZ BOP** The Jam House, Birmingham  
**LISSIE** The Institute, Birmingham  
**RODRIGUEZ** Symphony Hall, Birmingham  
**FRIDAY CLUB, MIRRORHALL, PINK VIOLENCE & LAST MASQUERADE** The Actress & Bishop, Birmingham  
**LADY MAISERY** Kitchen Garden Cafe, B'ham  
**BREED 77** The Institute, Birmingham  
**THE TELESCREEN** Hare &

## WED 12 MAR

**MICHAEL BUBLE** National

Indoor Arena, B'ham  
**ARCHITECTS** The Institute, Birmingham  
**GOSPEL CENTRAL** The Jam House, B'ham  
**SAM CARTER TRIO** The Red Lion Folk Club, Birmingham  
**NAVI - KING OF POP** Belgrade Theatre, Coventry  
**VOODOO SIX** The Slade Rooms, Wolverhampton  
**THREE STEP MANOEUVRE**  
**FUNKY ORGAN TRIO** The Yardbird, Birmingham

## THU 13 MAR

**FROM THE JAM** Artrix, Bromsgrove  
**THE SELECTER** O2 Academy, Birmingham  
**YBY TRIO** The Yardbird Jazz Club, Birmingham  
**MICHAEL BUBLE** National Indoor Arena, B'ham  
**EAGLES BORN VULTURES, THEIR SOULS FOR GOLD, THIS MEMORY & WHERE I'M BOUND** O2 Academy, Birmingham  
**JOHN BRAMELL** The Assembly Rooms, Leamington Spa  
**LUKE CONCANNON & JIMMY DAVIS** Hare & Hounds, Birmingham  
**MOOD INDIGO** The Jam House, Birmingham  
**PECKHAM COWBOYS** Scruffy Murphys, Birmingham  
**THINK FLOYD** The Swan Theatre, Worcester

## FRI 14 MAR

**DETROIT SOUL** The Jam House, Birmingham  
**DAS SEXY CLAP** The Marr's Bar, Worcester  
**MAXIMO PARK** The Institute, Birmingham  
**MILES KANE** Wulfrun Hall, Wolverhampton  
**KILLERSTREAM** Drummonds Bar, Worcester  
**MR SCRUFF** Hare & Hounds, Birmingham  
**ELLA EYRE** The Institute, Birmingham  
**KATHERINE PRIDDY, THE CADBURY SISTERS & DRAKELOW** Ort Cafe, Birmingham  
**KINGS OV LEON** The River Rooms, Stourbridge  
**EDDIE FITZ'S BEST IRISH PARTY EVER** The Assembly, Leamington Spa  
**THE DOORS EXPERIENCE** Route 44, Birmingham  
**RUTH ANGELL & SID PEACOCK BAND** Symphony Hall, Birmingham  
**QD IS AN ASTRONAUT** O2 Academy, B'ham  
**AS ELEPHANTS ARE** Hare & Hounds, Birmingham  
**FRAN THE MAN** Irish Centre, Birmingham  
**JEFF LEPPARD** The Roadhouse, Birmingham  
**THE GRAMOTONES, MODERN MINDS, EGO HONEY & CRAIG LENNON** The

Sunflower Lounge, Birmingham  
**THE QUICK** Fleet Street Kitchen, Birmingham  
**SALOPIA, DAN BECKETT, SPOOKY WAGONS, DANIEL KIRK & MIKEY MARKS** O2 Academy, Birmingham  
**THE OFFICIAL RECEIVERS** The Assembly, Leamington Spa  
**THE ROYAL BLASPHEMY** The Asylum, B'ham

## SAT 15 MAR

**MR SCRUFF** Hare & Hounds, Birmingham  
**THE AUSTRALIAN PINK FLOYD SHOW** National Indoor Arena, B'ham  
**STUNTDG** The Marr's Bar, Worcester  
**ELLEN ALLIEN** The Rainbow Venues, Birmingham  
**ONEDUB** Hare & Hounds, Birmingham  
**ANDY MCKEE** Birmingham Town Hall  
**WEATHERBIRD, SUGAR MAMA, ENDORPHINS** Sunflower Lounge, Birmingham  
**4 PARTS GUITAR** Huntingdon Hall, Worcester  
**WE ARE SCIENTISTS** The Institute, Birmingham  
**SIMON GOODALL PERFORMS CLIFF RICHARD SONGBOOK** The Crescent Theatre, B'ham  
**BARNT GREEN CHORAL SPRING CONCERT** Artrix, Bromsgrove  
**STEEL PANTHER** Civic Hall, Wolverhampton  
**THE ZZ TOPS** The Roadhouse, Birmingham  
**BONAFIDE** The Institute, Birmingham  
**LOVATS, ATLAS, THE SCRIBERS & LARANJA** Hare & Hounds, Birmingham  
**JOHNNY NORMAL - AMONG THE ECHOES & SINESTAR EURASIANEYES** The Flapper, Birmingham  
**GERRY CROSS** THE MERSEY Royal Spa Centre, Leamington Spa  
**DIRTY LITTLE LIES** The Actress & Bishop, Birmingham  
**CLEAN BANDIT** Kasbah, Coventry  
**SOLIWORK** The Institute, Birmingham  
**ELVIS NIGHT** The River Rooms, Stourbridge  
**FULLY LOADED** Route 44, Birmingham  
**SHE'KOYOKH** Symphony Hall, Birmingham  
**BLACK JACK DAVEY** Irish Centre, Birmingham  
**RADIO CHARMERS** O2 Academy, Birmingham  
**DETROIT SOUL** The Jam House, Birmingham

**SUN 16 MAR**  
**DMS IN CONCERT** Symphony Hall, B'ham  
**FALL OUT BOY** National Indoor Arena, B'ham  
**MARTHA TILSTON & THE SCIENTISTS** Kitchen Garden Cafe, Birmingham  
**CONAN** The Asylum, Birmingham  
**STAR OF THE SEA** Irish Centre, Birmingham  
**STU LARSEN** The Flapper, Birmingham

**MARIKA HACKMAN** Hare & Hounds, Birmingham  
**THE BORN AGAIN BEATLES** The Roadhouse, Birmingham

## MON 17 MAR

**CLANNAD & MARY BLACK** Symphony Hall, Birmingham  
**TOM PAXTON & JANIS IAN** Birmingham Town Hall  
**THE COAL PORTERS** Kitchen Garden Cafe, Birmingham  
**BLACK JACK DAVEY** Irish Centre, Birmingham

## TUE 18 MAR

**SPIERS AND BODEN** Wulfrun Hall, Wolverhampton  
**TOVEY BROTHERS** The Jam House, B'ham  
**HIGH TYDE, THE ASSIST, ATLAS, DEMMA** The Roadhouse, B'ham  
**ONE REPUBLIC** O2 Academy, Birmingham  
**GREGORY PORTER** Birmingham Town Hall  
**LISBEE STAINTON** Solihull Arts Complex  
**THE ANSWER** Kasbah, Coventry

## WED 19 MAR

**THE QUIK BEATS** The Jam House, Birmingham  
**UFO** The Assembly, Leamington Spa  
**LOVE/HATE** The Slade Rooms, Wolverhampton  
**BELINDA O'HOOLEY & HEIDI TIDOW** The Red Lion Folk Club, B'ham  
**JACK BRUCE AND HIS BIG BLUES BAND** Royal Spa Centre, Leamington Spa  
**SUZI & THE BACKBEATS** The Actress & Bishop, Birmingham  
**THE MIDNIGHT BEAST** The Institute, Birmingham

## THU 20 MAR

**GRAHAM BONNET'S CATCH THE RAINBOW** The River Rooms, Stourbridge  
**KODALINE** O2 Academy, Birmingham  
**CANDYRAT GUITAR NIGHT** The Marr's Bar, Worcester  
**OBZIDIAN, STRANGER IN DEATH, THIS MEMORY & ENRAPTURED** The Roadhouse, Birmingham  
**SWEET BABY JAMES** Huntingdon Hall, Worcester  
**RED FANG** The Institute, Birmingham  
**THE WANTED** LG Arena, Birmingham  
**MERCURY** The Swan Theatre, Worcester  
**THE SELECTER** The Assembly, Leamington Spa  
**911** The Institute, Birmingham  
**THE OVERTONES** Symphony Hall, B'ham  
**DRAKE** National Indoor Arena, Birmingham  
**MONSTER TRUCK & SCORPION CHILD** O2 Academy, Birmingham  
**THE FORTUNES** Solihull Arts Complex  
**GABRIELLE** Birmingham

Town Hall  
**JUST GROOVE BAND** The Jam House, B'ham  
**THE MISERS** Hare & Hounds, Birmingham  
**JUNGLE** Hare & Hounds, Birmingham  
**JONATHAN SILK QUINTET** The Yardbird, B'ham

## FRI 21 MAR

**DRAKE** National Indoor Arena, Birmingham  
**FRANZ FERDINAND** O2 Academy, Birmingham  
**THE SUBTERRANEANS** The Jam House, Birmingham  
**ENDORPHINMACHINE - PRINCE TRIBUTE** The Roadhouse, B'ham  
**STIFF LITTLE FINGERS** Wulfrun Hall, Wolverhampton  
**THE DECADES BAND** The River Rooms, Stourbridge  
**METRONOMY** The Institute, Birmingham  
**QUILL** Solihull Arts Centre  
**LOVEABLE ROGUES** The Institute, Birmingham  
**BANKS** The Institute, Birmingham  
**HEY YOU GUYS** The Marr's Bar, Worcester  
**THE DECADES BAND** The River Rooms, Stourbridge  
**THE YOUNG KNIVES** The Assembly, Leamington Spa  
**DIRTY BLONDE, CHICKEN FILTH, SOURMASH, ANIMA & RICARDO THOMPSON** Route 44, Birmingham  
**ARABELLA SPOT QUARTET** Symphony Hall, Birmingham  
**ANDY ORME** The Actress & Bishop, Birmingham  
**TOWNS** The Sunflower Lounge, Birmingham  
**RUDIE & THE REVOLVERS** Fleet Street Kitchen, Birmingham  
**THE MAJOR BRASS PROJECT** Adrian Boulton Hall, Birmingham  
**THE JONATHAN SILK BIG BAND** CBSO Centre, Birmingham  
**CHIMARIA** The Slade Rooms, Wolverhampton

**SAT 22 MAR**  
**THE SUBTERRANEANS** The Jam House, Birmingham  
**JAMES HOLROYD** Hare & Hounds, Birmingham  
**NATIVES** O2 Academy, Birmingham  
**RUMOURS OF FLEETWOOD MAC** Birmingham Town Hall  
**ONLY REAL** Sunflower Lounge, Birmingham  
**MIKE PETERS** The Marr's Bar, Worcester  
**THE STRANGLERS** O2 Academy, Birmingham  
**JASON DERULO** National Indoor Arena, B'ham  
**JOHNNY FOREIGNER** The Flapper, Birmingham  
**SHERRY BABYS** The Swan Theatre, Worcester  
**THE FORTUNES** Artrix, Bromsgrove  
**PRETEND BEST FRIEND** The Actress & Bishop, Birmingham  
**DUB PISTOLS AND**

**NEVILLE STAPLE BAND** The Assembly, Leamington Spa  
**THE NOTORIOUS BROTHERS** Route 44, B'ham  
**SAMANTHA LINDO** Ort Cafe, Birmingham  
**FOUR ACES** Irish Centre, Birmingham  
**SPACE & REPUBLICA** Kasbah, Coventry  
**WINTER MOUNTAIN** Artrix, Bromsgrove  
**MONSTER JAW & JOOLZ DENBY** The Slade Rooms, Wolverhampton

## SUN 23 MAR

**THE FOUR TOPS AND THE TEMPTATIONS** National Indoor Arena, B'ham  
**STIFF LITTLE FINGERS** The Assembly, Leamington Spa  
**DAN CROLL** The Institute, Birmingham  
**UGLY DUCKLING** Hare & Hounds, Birmingham  
**MILES KANE** Kasbah, Coventry  
**CURTIS ELLER'S AMERICAN CIRCUS** Kitchen Garden Cafe, Birmingham  
**OCTANE UK** O2 Academy, Birmingham  
**DERRICK RYAN** Irish Centre, Birmingham  
**HEARTBREAKER & MISLED** The Roadhouse, Birmingham  
**THE OLD DANCE SCHOOL** Midlands Arts Centre, Birmingham

## MON 24 MAR

**RUSSELL WATSON** Symphony Hall, B'ham  
**DAUGHTRY** O2 Academy, Birmingham  
**THE RADIOPHONIC WORKSHOP** Birmingham Town Hall

## TUE 25 MAR

**TINIE TEMPAH** Civic Hall, Wolverhampton  
**LLOYD COLE** Artrix, Bromsgrove  
**INTERPOL, TEMPLES, ROYAL BLOOD & CIRCA WAVES** O2 Academy, Birmingham  
**I AM GIANT** The Slade Rooms, Wolverhampton

## WED 26 MAR

**TINIE TEMPAH** Civic Hall, Wolverhampton  
**THE BACKSTREET BOYS** LG Arena, Birmingham  
**THE ACOUSTIC STRAWBS** The Red Lion Folk Club, Birmingham  
**JAMES SAYER BAND** The Jam House, B'ham  
**GOLDFRAPP** Symphony Hall, Birmingham  
**THE WEBB SISTERS** The Glee Club, Birmingham  
**EMILY MACQUIRE** Kitchen Garden Cafe, B'ham  
**STORY BOOKS** Hare & Hounds, Birmingham

## THU 27 MAR

**DEL CAMINO** The Jam House, Birmingham  
**AZEALIA BANKS** O2 Academy, Birmingham  
**BONAFIDE** The Assembly, Leamington Spa  
**POLAR BEAR** Hare &

Hounds, Birmingham  
**REBECCA FERGUSON** Sympho-ny Hall, Birmingham  
**THE ORB** The Assembly, Leamington Spa  
**TEMPLE SONGS** Sun-flower Lounge, B'ham  
**SAINT RAYMOND** The In-sti-tute, Birmingham  
**DAN WHITEHOUSE** Sym-pho-ny Hall, Birmingham  
**LIMEHOUSE LIZZY** The Marr's Bar, Worcester

### FRI 28 MAR

**LIFESIGNS** The Assem-bly, Leamington Spa  
**STUART MCCALLUM** Ikon Gallery, Birmingham  
**THE X FACTOR TOUR LG** Arena, Birmingham  
**ANDY FAIRWEATHER LOW & THE LOW RIDERS** Hunt-ingdon Hall, Worcester  
**HIGHER ON MAIDEN** The Roadhouse, B'ham  
**HOWLER** The Institute, Birmingham  
**YASHIN** The Asylum, Birmingham  
**B'SPOKE** The Jam House, Birmingham  
**KATY B** The Institute, Birmingham  
**ABC** Symphony Hall, Birmingham  
**FIVE FINGER DEATH PUNCH** O2 Academy, Birmingham  
**THE MOVE** Marr's Bar, Worcester  
**THE SOUL SURIVORS** The River Rooms, Stour-bridge  
**WINSTON'S BIG BROTHER** O2 Academy, B'ham  
**MARTIN TROTMAN AND**

**THE JUST GROOVE BAND** Sympho-ny Hall, Birm-ingham  
**PAT BRESLIN** Irish Cen-tre, Birmingham  
**THE BUSBY BABES** Fleet Street Kitchen, B'ham  
**THE DOLL MECHANIC**, **BLUE NATION & SWEET LILY** Route 44, B'ham

### SAT 29 MAR

**THE X FACTOR TOUR**  
 Chance to catch up with this year's finalists, in-cluding Sam Bailey, Luke Friend & Sam Callahan at the LG Arena, B'ham

### WIN TICKETS !!!

What's On has joined with organisers of this year's X Factor Live Tour to offer readers the chance to win a pair of tickets to the event on 29 March. Visit [www.whatsonlive.co.uk](http://www.whatsonlive.co.uk) for details

**B'SPOKE** The Jam House, Birmingham  
**TALON** The Rose The-atre, Worcester  
**HUSTLE! XIII** Hare & Hounds, Birmingham  
**LILY AND MEG** Ort Cafe, Birmingham  
**SOULED OUT 2 FUNK** The Roadhouse, B'ham  
**RUNRIG** Symphony Hall, Birmingham  
**AGAINST THE WHEEL** The

Actress & Bishop, Birm-ingham  
**HEAVEN'S BASEMENT** O2 Academy, Birmingham  
**FOUR TET** The Rainbow Venues, Birmingham  
**KICK UP THE 80'S** The River Rooms, Stour-bridge  
**IVOR & LYNN'S CLASSIC ROCK DISCO** Route 44, Birmingham  
**VALOUS** O2 Academy, Birmingham  
**THE FATHER TEDS** Irish Centre, Birmingham  
**ROCKABILLY ALL DAYER** Irish Centre, B'ham  
**THE STRANGE DOORS** The Marr's Bar, Worcester

### SUN 30 MAR

**EMILY SMITH** Artrix, Bromsgrove  
**THE SWINGING BIG BANDS** Birmingham Town Hall  
**MC DEVVO** The Flapper, Birmingham  
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**BELLA DIEM** The Actress & Bishop, Birmingham

### MON 31 MAR

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## Pavel Haas Quartet

Birmingham Town Hall, Sunday 23 March

Taking its name from the acclaimed Czech composer, the Pavel Haas Quartet formed in 2002, won the prestigious Paolo Borciani competition in 2005, and is now widely regarded as one of the great chamber ensembles of modern times. Regularly performing at some of the world's most reputable concert halls, the Prague-based group this month performs the second concert in its Town Hall residency, presenting a programme of three central European classics: Haydn's String Quartet in D, Op 76, No5; Dvorak's String Quartet No 10 in E flat, Slavonic; and Brahms' String Quartet No 2 in A minor.

## Russell Watson

Symphony Hall, Birmingham, Mon 24 March

Often referred to as 'the people's tenor', Russell Watson first came to the nation's attention when he sang God Save The Queen to a packed Wembley Stadium in 1999. Having made his mark, Russell was then invited to sing a full set at the Barcelona final of the UEFA Champions' League competition that very same year. In 2001, debut album *The Voice* topped the classical charts, with Russell making history by becoming the first British artist to hold both the US and UK classical number one slot. Working in the genres of classical, pop rock and operatic pop, Watson's soaring voice has garnered him an army of fans, despite him often being criticised for sitting on the fence musically.

Touring ahead of the release of his much-anticipated new album *Only One Man*, Russell this month returns to the Midlands to present a selection of old favourites alongside a number of new songs written especially for him. Claude-Michel Schönberg and Alain Boublil, the writers behind blockbuster musicals *Les Misérables* and *Miss Saigon*, have contributed to the new material.



## Birmingham Choral Union

Elgar Concert Hall, Bramall Music Building, Birmingham, Sat 29 March

Founded in the 1880s, Birmingham Choral Union is one of the longest established choirs in the Midlands. Now well into its second century, the choir regularly performs across the region, and in 2012 played its part in the Birmingham REP's Berlin Love Tour production, performing on the roof of Brindleyplace car park. Returning to Bramall Music Building's Elgar Concert Hall, the choir and orchestra this month present one of the best loved of all choral works, Mozart's Requiem Mass, alongside another great choral work, Mendelssohn's Psalm 42.

Colin Baines conducts, with contributions coming from Jaclyn Lewis (soprano), Ellie Edmonds (mezzo), Stephen Mills (tenor) and Matthew Durkan (baritone).

## Tamsin Waley-Cohen

Stratford Civic Hall, Stratford-upon-Avon, Tues 11 March; Birmingham Town Hall, Wed 19 March

Described by *The Guardian* as a performer of 'fearless intensity', Tamsin Waley-Cohen is an acclaimed violinist who's much in demand. As well as performing with some of the world's most reputable orchestras, Tamsin is also a sought-after recitalist, the founder of the Honeymead Ensemble, and an Associate Artist with the Stratford-based Orchestra of the Swan - with whom she's performing in both of these concerts. Bringing a touch of Eastern promise to the Midlands, and under the baton of David Curtis, Tamsin performs a programme of pieces by Viennese masters whose work has been inspired by Turkish music. Boccherini's Symphony No11, Mozart's Violin Concerto No.5, Turkish Rondo for violin and orchestra in B flat, and Haydn's Symphony No 22, *The Philosopher*, all feature.



## The English Concert

The Barber Institute, Birmingham, Wed 26 March

Formed by Trevor Pinnock in 1973, the English Concert boasts a fine reputation for its inspiring performances of Baroque and classical music. The 2013/14 season sees the Concert undertake a wide touring brief, performing at venues across the country as part of the Arts Council National Portfolio programme. Here, under the title of *Godfather, Father And Son* - and featuring Alfonso Leal del Oja on violin, Lisa Beznosluk on flute and Katharina Spreckelsen on oboe - they perform Telemann's *Tafelmusik Suite* in B flat TWV, 55:B1; CPE Bach's *Brandenburg Concerto No. 5* in D, BWV 1050; Telemann's *Concerto in E* for flute, oboe d'amore, viola d'amore and strings, TWV 53:E1; and JS Bach's *Overture No. 1* in C, BWV 1066.



# Classical LISTINGS

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

**BRAZILLIAN BAROQUE: A MUSICAL ELDORADO** Featuring Ex Cathedra Choir and Baroque Orchestra, Sat 1 Mar, Birmingham Town Hall  
**PAUL LEWIS PLAYS MOZART** Featuring Manchester Camerata. Programme includes works by Mozart & Beethoven, Sat 1 Mar, Malvern Theatres  
**PRINCE IGOR** A Metropolitan Opera HD Live production, Sat 1 Mar, The Roses Theatre, Tewkesbury  
**CBSO FAMILY CONCERT - CARNIVAL OF ANIMALS** Featuring Michael Seal, Nikky Smedley and CBSO Young Voices, Sun 2 Mar, Symphony Hall, Birmingham  
**VIENNA TONKUNSTLER ORCHESTRA AND JOHN LILL PLAY BEETHOVEN** Featuring Andres Orozco-Estrada and John Lill, Sun 2 Mar, Symphony Hall, B'ham  
**RISEING STARS: JANOS BALAZS JR** Programme includes works by Beethoven, Chopin, Mendelssohn & Liszt, Sun 2 Mar, Birmingham Town Hall  
**MONDAY SHOWCASE** Featuring Jessica Wilkes (flute) & Joanne Sealey (piano), Mon 3 Mar, Birmingham Conservatoire  
**PERFORMANCE PLATFORM** Featuring Isabel Villanueva (viola) & Stefan Strossnig (piano). Programme includes works by Schumann, Britten & Brahms, Tue 4 Mar, Adrian Boulth Hall, Birmingham  
**LA TRAVIATA** Welsh National Opera present Verdi's tragic opera. Linda Richardson, Leonardo Capalbo & Alan Opie star, Tue 4 - Sat 8 Mar, Birmingham Hippodrome  
**COULL QUARTET - NOCTURNE** Featuring Roderick Williams (baritone). Programme includes works by Bloch, Gorecki, Barber, Beamish & Borodin, Wed 5 Mar, Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry  
**MANON LESCAUT** Welsh National Opera present Mariusz Trelinski's contemporary production of Puccini's tale of obsession and self-destruction, Wed 5 Mar - Fri 7 Mar, Birmingham Hippodrome  
**BOULEVARD SOLITUDE** Thurs 6 Mar, Birmingham Hippodrome  
**CBSO RACHMANINOV'S SECOND PIANO CONCERTO** Featuring Michael Seal and Gabriela Montero, Thurs 6 Mar, Symphony Hall, B'ham  
**POULENC'S DIALOGUES**

**DES CARMELITES** Thurs 6 - Sat 8 Mar, Birmingham Conservatoire  
**JUBILEE QUARTET** Programme includes works by Mozart, Beethoven & Mendelssohn, Fri 7 Mar, The Roses Theatre, Tewkesbury  
**NEW MUSIC ENSEMBLE** Featuring music inspired by Asia, including the UK premiere of Jonathan Harvey's Vajra, Fri 7 Mar, The Barber Institute, B'ham  
**SHOSTAKOVICH'S FIFTH** Featuring Michael Seal and Paul Rissman, Sat 8 Mar, Symphony Hall, Birmingham  
**LA BOHEME** Ellen Kent Opera present Puccini's romantic opera. Sung in Italian with English surtitles, Sat 8 Mar, New Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham  
**ASHLEY FRIPP: ANNEES DE PELERINAGE** Programme includes works by Haydn, Thomas Ades and Liszt, Tue 11 Mar, Birmingham Town Hall  
**TAM SIN WALEY-COHN PERFORMS MOZART'S TURKISH CONCERTO** Tue 11 Mar, Stratford Civic Hall  
**ROBIN IRELAND AND CONSERVATOIRE STUDENTS** Programme to include works by Mozart, Tue 11 Mar, Adrian Boulth Hall, Birmingham  
**CBSO PLAYERS** Programme includes works by Haydn & Mozart, Wed 12 Mar, CBSO Centre, Birmingham  
**CBSO RACHMANINOV'S SECOND SYMPHONY** Featuring Mikhail Tatarnikov and Peter Donohoe. Programme includes works by Musorgsky, Dohnanyi & Rachmaninov, Wed 12 - Thurs 13 Mar, Symphony Hall, Birmingham  
**MARTINU STRING QUARTET** Thurs 13 Mar, Royal Pump Rooms, Leamington Spa  
**EUROPEAN UNION CHAMBER ORCHESTRA** Thurs 13 Mar, Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry  
**BIRMINGHAM SMALL ENSEMBLE SERIES - SPOTLIGHT ON HARP** Thurs 13 Mar, Birmingham Conservatoire  
**SAN FRANCISCO SYMPHONY AND MICHAEL TILSON THOMAS** Programme includes works by Ives (arr Brant), John Adams & Berlioz, Fri 14 Mar, Symphony Hall, Birmingham  
**FEELIN' BLUE - BEAUFORT ENSEMBLE** Fri 14 Mar, Adrian Boulth Hall, Birmingham  
**CHETHAM'S SCHOOL OF MUSIC** Programme comprises Messiaen's quartet for clarinet, vio-

lin, cello & piano, Fri 14 Mar, The Barber Institute, Birmingham  
**MUSIC FOR LUNCH RECITAL WITH MICHAEL STODDART** Fri 14 Mar, Birmingham Cathedral  
**BARNT GREEN CHORAL SOCIETY** Programme comprises Karl Jenkins' The Armed Man & Barber's Agnus Dei, Sat 15 Mar, Artrix, Bromsgrove  
**FLORILEGIUM** Programme includes works by Telemann, CPE Bach, Leclair, JS Bach, Marais & Rebel, Sun 16 Mar, Bridge House Theatre, Warwick  
**PAUL BUNYAN** Presented by English Touring Opera, Mon 17 - Tue 18 Mar, Wolverhampton Grand Theatre  
**ORGAN CONCERT WITH THOMAS TROTTER** Programme includes works by Handel, Martin, Elgar & Reubke, Mon 17 Mar, Birmingham Town Hall  
**PERFORMANCE PLATFORM - THOMAS RIEBL** Programme includes works by J.S Bach, Rudolf Jungwirth & Schubert, Tue 18 Mar, Adrian Boulth Hall, Birmingham  
**CAMERON CARPENTER IN CONCERT** Programme includes works by J S Bach & Vaughan Williams, Wed 19 Mar, Symphony Hall, B'ham  
**TAM SIN WALEY-COHN PERFORMS MOZART'S TURKISH CONCERTO** Wed 19 Mar, Birmingham Town Hall  
**MELODIAS ESPANOLAS** Thurs 20 Mar, Symphony Hall, Birmingham  
**ALEXANDER PANFILOV** Programme includes works by Debussy & Rachmaninov, Fri 21 Mar, The Barber Institute, Birmingham  
**CAVALERI QUARTET WITH TIMOTHY ORPEN** Fri 21 Mar, Artrix, Bromsgrove  
**BENJAMIN GROSVENOR** Programme includes works by Mendelssohn, Schubert, Schumann & Ravel, Fri 21 Mar, Malvern Theatres  
**JOHANNES THORELL** Fri 21 Mar, Birmingham Conservatoire  
**BINCHOIS CONSORT, BIRMINGHAM UNIVERSITY SINGERS & UNIVERSITY WOMEN'S CHOIR** Fri 21 Mar, Elgar Concert Hall, Bramhall Music Building, Birmingham  
**BIRMINGHAM SYMPHONIC WINDS** Featuring Keith Allen (conductor), Hannah Marciniowicz (saxophone) & the Solihull Youth Wind Orchestra, Sat 22 Mar, CBSO Centre, Birmingham  
**THE LONDON CONCERTANTE CHAMBER ENSEMBLE** Present Vivaldi's Four Seasons by Candlelight, Sat 22 Mar, Birmingham Cathedral  
**PAVEL HASS QUARTET** Sun 23 Mar, Birmingham Town Hall  
**THE ERATO PIANO TRIO** Sun 23 Mar, Hunting-

don Hall, Worcester  
**SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA** Programme includes works by Liley, Elgar & Vaughan Williams, Sun 23 Mar, Elgar Concert Hall, Bramhall Music Building, Birmingham  
**SIR ROGER NORRINGTON CONDUCTS MOZART** Featuring Zurich Chamber Orchestra, Sir Roger Norrington (conductor) and Jonathan Biss (piano), Tue 25 Mar, Symphony Hall, Birmingham  
**STILE ANTICO** Programme includes works by Byrd, Tallis, Morley, Gibbons, White, Weelkes & Taverner, Tue 25 Mar, St Mary's Church, Warwick  
**GERGELY BOGANYI** Programme includes works by Liszt, Bartok & Schumann, Tue 25 Mar, Adrian Boulth Hall, Birmingham  
**THE ENGLISH CONCERT** Wed 26 Mar, The Barber Institute, B'ham  
**KING'S MEN CONCERT** Capella singing by choral scholars of King's College, Cambridge, Thurs 27 Mar, Birmingham Cathedral  
**BENJAMIN BAKER & CAROLE PRESLAND** Programme includes works by Strauss & Heinrich Ernst, Fri 28 Mar, The Barber Institute, B'ham  
**REQUIEM** Performed by the Birmingham Conservatoire Repertoire

Orchestra and Birmingham Conservatoire Chorus. Programme includes works by Faure & Mozart, Fri 28 Mar, Adrian Boulth Hall, Birmingham  
**BIRMINGHAM JUNIOR CONSERVATOIRE END OF TERM CONCERT** Sat 29 Mar, Adrian Boulth Hall, Birmingham  
**BIRMINGHAM BACH CHOIR: SONGS OF THE LAMB** Sat 29 Mar, The Oratory, Birmingham  
**MOZART'S REQUIEM WITH BIRMINGHAM CHORAL UNION** Programme

includes works by Mendelssohn & Mozart, Sat 29 Mar, Elgar Concert Hall, Bramhall Music Building, B'ham  
**LAST NIGHT OF THE SPRING PROMS** Sun 30 Mar, Symphony Hall, Birmingham  
**THOMAS TROTTER CPE Bach 300th anniversary concert**, Mon 31 Mar, Birmingham Town Hall  
**MELODY MUSIC BIRMINGHAM SPRING CONCERT** Mon 31 Mar, Birmingham Conservatoire

## Classical Box Office

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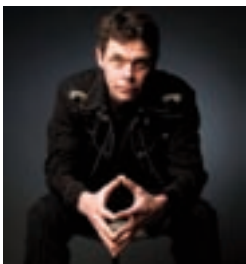
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# Comedy

## Rich Hall

The Roses Theatre, Tewkesbury, Mon 3 March; The Glee Club, Birmingham, Weds 12 March; Ludlow Assembly Rooms, Fri 25 April; Oakengates Theatre, Telford, Thurs 8 May; Royal Spa Centre, Leamington Spa, Sat 10 May

His official biography somewhat less than modestly describes American funnyman Rich Hall as 'a grouchy, deadpan, comic genius'. It also explains that he 'quit his job as a hurricane-namer for the United States meteorological service' more than two decades ago - since which time, it's fair to say, the sun has been smiling rather warmly on the hugely talented Virginian. With much of his comedy centring on making fun of life across the pond in his homeland, Rich is perhaps best known for his creation of Otis Lee Crenshaw, a bourbon-swilling red-neck jailbird from Tennessee whose many wives have all been named Brenda.



## Sean Hughes

mac, Birmingham, Fri 7 March; Royal Spa Centre, Leamington Spa, Thurs 3 April

The complete renaissance man, Sean Hughes is an actor, a musician, a writer, a TV star and a playwright. Nonetheless, he's probably at his best when doing stand-up comedy - dealing, in his own inimitable style, with the anxieties of home-owning, having a girlfriend, and the many and varied other chattels of middle-age. His live work also has a serious side, featuring some very personal and often moving material.

## Daliso Chononda

Bramall Music Building, Birmingham, Mon 3 March; Foxlowe Arts Centre, Leek, Thurs 3 Mar

Malawian Daliso has blended the slick North American style of comedy he learned while working in Canada with a real talent for brevity, ensuring that his gags, although not one-liners, nonetheless come thick and fast. Like all good comedians, he can adapt his act to suit his audience, and on a previous trip to the Midlands performed a filthy set in Birmingham's Silhouettes Strip Club before heading off to regale family audiences at the Greenbelt Christian Festival!



## Jack Whitehall

National Indoor Arena, Birmingham, Fri 14 Mar

A fella who's had no trouble whatsoever getting his boat race on the goggle-box, Jack Whitehall's highly animated style of delivery is developing all the time - as is his repertoire of material, which regularly includes such subject matter as his father's shameless attempts to get quoted in his show, his comical schooldays and the experience of being caught snorting coke by the News Of The World. Jokes include: "If my dad could see me up here now, he'd be very impressed. But you know, I'm sure wherever my dad is now, he would be looking down on us. He's not dead, just very condescending."

## Tom Wrigglesworth

Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry, Thurs 13 March; Huntingdon Hall, Worcester, Fri 11 April; mac, Birmingham, Sun 13 April; The Glee Club, Birmingham, Thurs 24 - Sat 26 April; The Highlight Comedy Club, Birmingham, Fri 6 - Sat 7 June

Whimsical storytelling and twisted logic, stylishly wrapped in some elegant flourishes of language, are the lifeblood of Chortle Award-winner Tom Wrigglesworth's highly rated act. Yorkshire-born Tom scored a big hit in Edinburgh a couple of years back, since which time he's been ploughing all the usual comedy furrows, particularly those available on BBC Radio Four. Likened by The Guardian to Mark Thomas in the way he crusades for social justice, 'albeit in a more homely fashion', Tom is here presenting his latest show, Utterly At Odds With The Universe, described by his publicity as 'an emotional journey from childhood to adulthood, exploring Tom's poignant and profound relationship with his granddad'.



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# Comedy LISTINGS

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

**MARLON DAVIS, ANDY ASKINS, MIKE BUBBINS & LEE EVANS** Sat 1 Mar, The Glee Club, B'ham  
**ADAM BLOOM, CHRIS CAIRNS, MAT REED & GARETH BERLINER** Sat 1 Mar, The Highlight Club, Birmingham  
**KEN DODD** Sat 1 Mar, Dudley Town Hall  
**RUSSELL KANE** Sat 1 Mar, Stafford Gatehouse Theatre  
**GYLES BRANDRETH** Sat 1 Mar, Huntingdon Hall, Worcester  
**JOSH WIDDICOMBE - INCIDENTALLY** Sat 1 Mar, Evesham Arts Centre, Evesham  
**JOHN LYNN, RICHARD MORTON, ANDY ASKINS & SAM GORE** Sat 1 Mar, Coventry Showcase Cinema  
**SILKY, KEVIN DEWSBURY & DAMION LARKIN MC.** Sat 1 Mar, The Slade Rooms, W'hampton  
**ANDREW LAWRENCE** Sun 2 Mar, Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry  
**SHOULD I STAY OR SHOULD I GO** Sun 2 Mar, Drummonds Bar, Worcester  
**GARY DELANEY** Sun 2 Mar, Arena Theatre, Wolverhampton  
**JENNY ECLAIR** Sun 2 Mar, Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry  
**BARNSTORMERS COMEDY NIGHT** Tues 4 Mar, Royal Spa Centre, Leamington Spa  
**LIAM WILLIAMS** Tues 4 Mar, The Slade Rooms, Wolverhampton  
**ROB BECKETT** Weds 5 Mar, Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury  
**RICH HALL** Weds 5 Mar, The Roses Theatre, Tewkesbury  
**DALISO CHAPONDA, THE NOISE NEXT DOOR AND MATT RICHARDSON** Weds 5 Mar, Bramall Music Building, B'ham  
**RUSSELL BRAND** Thurs 6 Mar, Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry  
**JAMES BEAUMONT, PATRICK DRAPER, RICHARD JAY, ALEX HOYLE, BECKY BRUNNING, EMILY ROSE & JONNY GREATREX** Thurs 6 Mar, Evesham Arts Centre, Evesham  
**PAUL SINHA** Thurs 6 Mar, The Slade Rooms, Wolverhampton  
**HIYA AND HIGHER - WITH MRS BARBARA NICE** Thurs 6 Mar, Niorhampton Arts Centre, Wolverhampton  
**STEPHEN GRANT, ROB DEERING, SEAN HEGGARTY & SALLY-ANN HAYWARD.** Thurs 6 Mar, The George Hotel, Lichfield  
**DALISO CHAPONDA, ROB ROUSE, PETE PHILLIPSON**

**& LOU CONRAN** Thurs 6 Mar, Foxlowe Arts Centre, Leek, Staffordshire  
**MARK NELSON, ROGER MONKHOUSE & ANDY ROBINSON** Thurs 6 Mar, The Glee Club, B'ham  
**SARAH MILLICAN** Fri 7 - Sun 9 Mar, Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry  
**ANDREW LAWRENCE** Fri 7 Mar, Stafford Gatehouse Theatre  
**SEAN HUGHES** Fri 7 Mar, mac, Birmingham  
**MALCOLM STENT** Fri 7 Mar, The Palace Theatre, Redditch  
**JOEL DOMMETT** Fri 7 Mar, The Slade Rooms, Wolverhampton  
**DAVID BADDIEL** Fri 7 Mar, Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry  
**DOMINIC WOODWARD, SULLY O'SULLIVAN, MATT REES & ALAN DONEGAN** Fri 7 Mar, The George Hotel, Burslem, Stafford  
**MARK NELSON, ROGER MONKHOUSE, DAN NIGHTINGALE & JORDAN BROOKES** Fri 7 Mar, The Glee Club, Birmingham  
**BENNETT ARRON, STEPHEN GRANT, BRENDAN DEMPSEY & JOE ROWENTREE** Fri 7 - Sat 8 Mar, Highlight Comedy Club, B'ham  
**JIMMY CARR** Fri 7 Mar, Royal Spa Centre, Leamington Spa  
**NINA BENJAMIN, JUNIOR SIMPSON, KANE BROWN & JOHN SIMMIT** Fri 7 Mar, The Drum, B'ham  
**CARL DONNELLY** Sat 8 Mar, Stafford Gatehouse Theatre  
**LEE HURST** Sat 8 Mar, Solihull Arts Complex, Solihull  
**GARY DELANEY** Sat 8 Mar, Royal Spa Centre, Leamington Spa  
**MARK NELSON, ROGER MONKHOUSE, DAN NIGHTINGALE & RYAN CULL** Sat 8 Mar, The Glee Club, Birmingham  
**BRENDAN DEMPSEY, COLIN OWENS, YIANNI AGISILAOU & KATE LUCAS** Sat 8 Mar, Coventry Showcase Cinema, Coventry  
**RUBY WAX** Sat 8 Mar, Birmingham Town Hall  
**JIMMY CARR** Sat 8 Mar, The Place, Oakengates Theatre, Telford  
**ROUGH WORKS** New material night, Sun 9 Mar, The Glee Club, Birmingham  
**RICHARD HERRING** Sun 9 Mar, The Glee Club, Birmingham  
**THE LAUGHTER CREWE** Sun 9 Mar, Crewe Lyceum  
**WITTANK** Sun 9 Mar, The Slade Rooms, Wolverhampton  
**ROB DEERING, SUSAN MURRAY, MATT HOLLINS**

**& MRS BARBARA NICE** Tues 11 Mar, The Light House Media Centre, Wolverhampton  
**JOE LYCETT, IAN SMITH, JOHN KEARNS AND ROMESH RANGANATHAN** Weds 12 Mar, Henry Tudor House, Shrewsbury  
**RUSSELL KANE** Weds 12 Mar, New Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham  
**LAURENCE CLARK** Weds 12 Mar, mac, B'ham  
**ANNETTE FAGON, IVY DEXTROSE, ROSIE WILBY & MAUREEN YOUNGER** Weds 12 Mar, The Kitchen Garden Cafe, Birmingham  
**RICH HALL** Wes 12 Mar, The Glee Club, Birmingham  
**WITTANK** Weds 12 Mar, Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry  
**ROBIN INCE** Thurs 13 Mar, The Station Pub, Sutton Coldfield  
**ROB BECKETT** Thurs 13 Mar, Royal Spa Centre, Leamington Spa  
**TOM WRIGGLESWORTH** Thurs 13 Mar, Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry  
**ANDY ROBINSON, ANDREW RYAN & ROB DEERING** Thurs 13 Mar, The Glee Club, Birmingham  
**ALAN CARR** Thurs 13 - Fri 14 Mar, The Edge Arts Centre, Much Wenlock, South Shropshire  
**JACK WHITEHALL** Fri 14 Mar, NIA, Birmingham  
**BILLY PEARCE** Fri 14 Mar, Royal Spa Centre, Leamington Spa  
**KERRY GODLIMAN** Fri 14 Mar, The Glee Club, Birmingham  
**CAREY MARX, JOHNNY CANDON, ZOE LYONS & BILLY KIRKWOOD** Fri 14 - Sat 15 Mar, Highlight Comedy Club, B'ham  
**STUART MITCHELL, ROB ROUSE, ANDREW RYAN & ROB DEERING** Fri 14 - Sat 15 Mar, The Glee Club, Birmingham  
**COMEDY IN THE MET** Sat 15 Mar, Stafford Gatehouse Theatre  
**FOGHORN IMPROV** Sat 15 Mar, mac, Birmingham  
**CLEVER PETER** Sat 15 Mar, Royal Spa Centre, Leamington Spa  
**ZOE LYONS, TOM PRICE, FIN TAYLOR & DANNY O'BRIEN** Sat 15 Mar, Coventry Showcase Cinema, Coventry  
**MILES JUPP** Mon 17 Mar, Artrix, Bromsgrove  
**ROB DEERING, ANDY ROBINSON, KAREN BAYLEY & MRS BARBARA NICE** Tues 18 Mar, Artrix, Bromsgrove  
**ED BYRNE** Weds 19 Mar, Crewe Lyceum  
**ROB BECKETT** Weds 19 Mar, The Glee Club, Birmingham  
**ANDREW LAWRENCE** Thurs 20 Mar, Artrix, Bromsgrove  
**HAL CRUTTENDEN** Thurs 20 Mar, The Slade Rooms, W'hampton  
**ROY CHUBBY BROWN** Thurs 20 Mar, The

Place, Oakengates Theatre, Telford  
**JO CAULFIELD** Thurs 20 Mar, Royal Spa Centre, Leamington Spa  
**KEVIN MCCARTHY, JOHN FOTHERGILL, JUNIOR SIMPSON & LEE EVANS** Thurs 20 - Fri 21 Mar, The Glee Club, B'ham  
**COMEDY CLUB** Fri 21 Mar, Hereford Courtyard Theatre  
**STAND-UP STAIRS COMEDY SHOW** Fri 21 Mar, The Palace Theatre, Redditch  
**DAVID HADINGHAM, RICHARD MORTON, JOHNATHAN MAYOR & PAUL MCCAFFREY** Fri 21 Mar, Highlight Comedy Club, Birmingham  
**RUSSELL HOWARD** Fri 21 - Sat 22 Mar, LG Arena, Birmingham  
**SARAH MILLICAN** Fri 21 - Sun 23 Mar, Symphony Hall, Birmingham  
**COURTLAUGHING KEVIN MCCARTHY, JOHN FOTHERGILL, JUNIOR SIMPSON & COMIC TBC** Sat 22 Mar, The Glee Club, Birmingham  
**ED BYRNE** Sat 22 Mar, Bedworth Civic Hall  
**JO CAULFIELD** Sat 22 Mar, Huntingdon Hall, Worcester  
**SHAPPI KHORSANDI** Sat 22 Mar, The Edge Arts Centre, Much Wenlock, South Shropshire  
**DAVID HADINGHAM, RICHARD MORTON, JOHNATHAN MAYOR &**

**LUKE TOULSON** Sat 22 Mar, Highlight Comedy Club, Birmingham  
**ANDY WILKINSON, DOMINIC WOODWARD, GARETH RICHARDS & MARC LUCERO** Sat 22 Mar, Coventry Showcase Cinema, Coventry  
**PARTICK MONAHAN, TAMER KATTAN, MO THE COMEDIAN & IMRAN YUSUF** Sun 23 Mar, The Glee Club, Birmingham  
**DAVID BADDIEL** Sun 23 Mar, Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury  
**WAYNE ROLLINS, MO THE COMEDIAN, AURIE STYLA & KANE BROWN** Sun 23 Mar, The Glee Club, Birmingham  
**MILES JUPP** Weds 26 Mar, Royal Spa Centre, Leamington Spa  
**ROBIN INCE** Weds 26 Mar, Artrix, Bromsgrove  
**BILLY PEARCE** Weds 26 Mar, Crewe Lyceum  
**RUSSELL BRAND** Thurs 27 Mar, De Montfort Hall, Leicester  
**STAND UP COMEDY SHOWCASE** Thurs 27 Mar, mac, Birmingham  
**ROBIN INCE** Thurs 27 Mar, The Glee Club, Birmingham  
**DAVE FULTON, CRAIG HILL, STEVE GRIBBIN & COMIC TBC** Thurs 27 Mar, The Glee Club, Birmingham  
**MATT PRICE, MARTIN EVANS, TREV TOKABI, MATT BANKS & GARY**

**COLMAN** Fri 28 Mar, National Brewery Centre, Burton upon Trent  
**DAVE FULTON, CRAIG HILL, STEVE GRIBBIN & PETE OTWAY** Fri 28 Mar, The Glee Club, B'ham  
**CARL DONNELLY** Fri 28 Mar, The Glee Club, Birmingham  
**MARTIN MOR, TANYALEE DAVIS, DAMIAN CLARK & DAVE TWENTYMAN** Fri 28 - Sat 29 Mar, Highlight Comedy Club, B'ham  
**BARNSTORMERS COMEDY NIGHT** Sat 29 Mar, Artrix, Bromsgrove  
**LINDA HARGREAVES** Sat 29 Mar, Old Joint Stock Theatre, Birmingham  
**DAVE FULTON, CRAIG HILL, STEVE GRIBBIN & GEORGE ZACH** Sat 29 Mar, The Glee Club, Birmingham  
**HOWARD READ, SIMON BLYGH, DAVE GIBSON & JACK CAMPBELL** Sat 29 Mar, Coventry Showcase Cinema  
**MILES JUPP** Sun 30 Mar, Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury  
**JASON MANFORD** Mon 31 Mar, The Place, Oakengate Theatre, Telford  
**MILES JUPP** Mon 31 Mar, Stafford Gatehouse Theatre  
**ANDY KIRKPATRICK** Mon 31 Mar, Town Hall, Birmingham

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TUE 11 - SAT 15 MAR

**Fiddler on the Roof**

£15 - £35

TUE 18 MAR - SAT 5 APR

**SINGIN' IN THE RAIN**

£16 - £35

TUE 8 - SAT 19 APR

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LIKE NOBODY ELSE'

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convention

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£15 on the day

£19.50 - £25

MON 26 - SAT 31 MAY

The National Theatre production

**ONE MAN, TWO GUVNORS**

£19.50 - £25

WED 4 - SUN 15 JUN

**Darkness and Light**

**La Fille mal gardée**

BIRMINGHAM ROYAL BALLET

£15 - £40

**DANCE** at Birmingham Hippodrome

£10 - £25

TUE 29 & WED 30 APR  
**Sideways rain**  
Alias

TUE 6 & WED 7 MAY  
Sylvie **6000**  
Guillem **MILES AWAY**

FRI 2 & SAT 3 MAY  
**TEMPEST REPLIC**  
KIDD PIVOT

FRI 23 & SAT 24 MAY  
SIDI LABRI CHERKAOU  
**milonga**

£10 - £25



# Theatre



## Singin' In The Rain

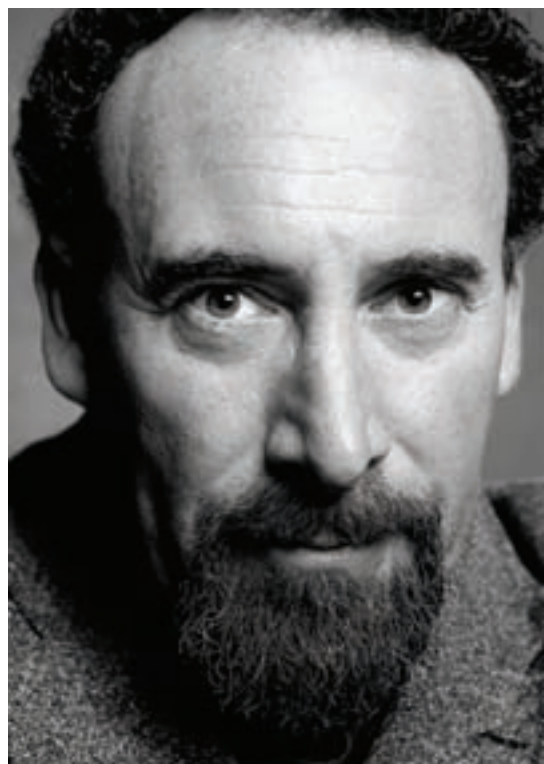
Birmingham Hippodrome, Tues 18 March - Sat 5 April

The 1952 Gene Kelly film version of Singin' In The Rain remains a jewel in the Hollywood crown, while Tommy Steele and Paul Nicholas have both enjoyed reasonably recent success with a revival stage production. As well as the title song, the musical also showcases the unforgettable Good Morning, Make 'em Laugh, Moses Supposes and

Broadway Melody.

Maxwell Caulfield and Faye Tozer star in this latest incarnation of the stage show, which visits the Midlands direct from the West End.

*Read the interview with Maxwell Caulfield on page 10*



## Henry IV Part I and Part II

Royal Shakespeare Theatre, Stratford-upon-Avon, Tues 18 March - Sat 6 September (part I), Fri 28 March - Sat 6 September (part II)

Shakespeare's famous epic offers up some of his most beautifully drawn characters, including Mistress Quickly, Pistol, Justice Shallow and irrepressible comic knight Sir John Falstaff. With England in turmoil, the king's position weak and the Prince of Wales under the corrupting influence of Falstaff, civil war is inevitable...

This new RSC production sees the company's Associate Artist Antony Sher (pictured) returning to the fold to star as the larger-than-life Falstaff.

Check out the interview with Sir Antony in next month's issue of What's On.

## Birdsong

The REP, Birmingham, Mon 17 - Sat 22 March

Sebastian Faulks' bestselling epic novel is set both before and during the Great War, and follows the fortunes of the young Stephen Wraysford as he embarks on a passionate and dangerous affair with the beautiful Isabelle Azaire. This stage version has garnered plenty of praise since premiering in the West End in 2010, with a screening on BBC1 bringing it to wider public attention.



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BEFORE THE BEATLES, BEFORE THE STONES,  
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'JOYOUS!  
I LOVE  
THIS SHOW'  
— *THE GUARDIAN*

'THE AUDIENCE  
GO CRAZY.  
IT'S THE  
SHOW  
YOU'LL NEVER  
FORGET'  
— *THE MAIL ON SUNDAY*



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CASTING BY



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SUKIE AMY  
DENIS LILL

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The Belgrade Theatre, Theatre Royal Bath and Arcola Theatre, London present

**The Spanish Golden Age Season**

One company, ten actors, three incredible plays:

**A Lady of Little Sense**  
by Lope de Vega Translated by David Johnston

**Don Gil of the Green Breeches**  
by Tirso de Molina Translated by Sean O'Brien

**Punishment Without Revenge**  
by Lope de Vega Translated by Meredith Oakes




"The real deal... An essential evening." ★★★★★ *The Guardian*

26 March - 19 April From £8.75 ★

**TOM'S MIDNIGHT GARDEN**

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— *The Independent*

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**BLACK COFFEE**



6 - 10 May From £16.25 ★

The inspiration for the musical *My Fair Lady*

**PYGMALION**  
By Bernard Shaw

Alistair McGowan  
as Henry Higgins

Starring  
Rula Lenska  
and Jamie Forman



"A marvellous play." *The Mail on Sunday*

12 - 17 May From £16.25 ★

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

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

until Sat 1 March, New Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham; 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. And 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.



## Fiddler On The Roof

Birmingham Hippodrome, Tues 11 - Sat 15 March

Starsky And Hutch star Paul Michael Glaser top-bills in this hit musical.

Set in Tsarist Russia in 1905, the story of Fiddler On The Roof centres on the character of Tevye, the father of five daughters, and his desperate attempts to maintain his family and religious traditions even as outside influences encroach ever more profoundly upon their lives.

First produced for the stage in 1964, Fiddler is best known from its 1971 movie incarnation starring Topol in the title role. Hit songs include Matchmaker, Matchmaker and the hugely famous If I Were A Rich Man.



## Tabletop Games

Old Joint Stock Theatre, Birmingham, Fri 14 - Sat 15 March; Artrix, Bromsgrove, Sat 29 March

Focusing on the question of whether religion is killing faith, this thought-provoking play is set in a cafe in a dreary out-of-season seaside town, its centrepiece attraction being a game of tabletop football. The world which is depicted is one in which ritual takes precedence over belief or faith, and where moral ambivalence reduces human relationships to a series of brutal power struggles. Ian Kendall's new play is here being presented by Midlands-based theatre company Wild Edric Media.



## See How They Run

Belgrade Theatre, Coventry, Mon 3 - Sat 8 March

Signature elements of a good farce include slamming doors, outraged vicars and cases of mistaken identity - all of which are present and correct in this much-loved offering from the pen of Philip King. But this latest version of a play first performed in 1944 does stray from the norm in one particularly significant way - all the members of the cast are under four foot tall! This is the first theatre tour to be presented by The Reduced Height Theatre Company, the most famous member of which is Warwick Davis, best known for his roles in Willow, Star Wars, the Harry Potter films, and Ricky Gervais/Stephen Merchant television series Life's Too Short and An Idiot Abroad 3. All in all, this sounds like an evening of theatre that definitely won't be 'short' on laughs! *Read the interview with Warwick Davis on page 8*

## How To Occupy An Oil Rig

Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry, Tues 4 - Wed 5 March; mac - Midlands Arts Centre, Birmingham, Thurs 20 March

Described as a show that's 'for everyone who's ever wanted to change anything', How To Occupy An Oil Rig is a playfully provocative new production. It's based around the subject of 'protest', and offers its audience the chance to learn some brand new skills - including 'how to blend in on a march', 'how to crash a boardroom meeting', and 'how to avoid becoming romantically attached to an undercover police officer!' And as if all that isn't enough, the show's producers, ARC Stockton, are also keen to stress that the evening's entertainment includes the chance to play with plasticine.

If you weren't hooked before, we bet you are now...

## Fame The Musical

Wolverhampton Grand Theatre, Mon 3 - Sat 8 March; Regent Theatre, Stoke-on-Trent, Mon 28 April - Sat 3 May; Belgrade Theatre, Coventry, Mon 2 - Sat 7 June

The original mega-hit film and its spin-off TV series are now both so old that their once-nimble dancers might soon be reaching for zimmer frames!

By contrast, Fame The Musical continues to get up a sweat on a regular basis. And as high-octane, choreographed-to-the-rafters stage musicals go, it hits the Midlands this month with a reputation second to none. Set in New York's legendary High School For The Performing Arts, the show focuses on the highs and lows of the students who're desperately seeking success, and offers a dazzling evening of foot-tapping music and breathtaking dance. Re-envisioned songs include Let's Play A Love Scene and the title hit itself.

## Bertolt Brecht Season

The REP, Birmingham

### The Mother Sat 15 March

This early Brecht work is one of his most explicitly revolutionary plays, and focuses on the journey of Pelagea Vlassova as she battles to protect her son from imprisonment, in the process becoming the strong-willed figurehead for the war against the corrupt ruling classes. The production features local performers and a community choir.



### The Threepenny Opera

Thurs 27 March - Sat 12 April

When Polly Peachum marries Macheath, her father is less than impressed and hatches a plot to arrest his ne'er-do-well son-in-law. But the law is fickle, and there's every chance Macheath won't hang - particularly as the Chief of Police, Tiger Brown, is an old army comrade! Features The Ballad Of Mac The Knife.

### The Caucasian Chalk Circle

Sat 29 March

The Caucasian Chalk Circle is considered to be one of Brecht's greatest plays. Set in the heat of civil war, it tells of the sacrifice made by a peasant girl to protect an abandoned baby. But when peace is finally restored, the boy's parents turn up to claim him... Presented by The Young REP.





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IV  
WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE  
PARTS I & II

## We Will Be Free

Artrix, Bromsgrove, Wed 19 March

Championed by no less a legendary British movie director than Ken Loach, this new production focuses on the story of the Tolpuddle Martyrs, the Dorset farm labourers convicted of forming a Trade Union in 1834 to fight against a succession of wage cuts inflicted by the local landowner. The show combines storytelling, puppetry, animation and music, and is presented by the team who previously brought Edinburgh Fringe hit *The Ragged Trousered Philanthropist* to the venue.



## Kindertransport

Malvern Theatre, Tues 11 - Sat 15 March

Diane Samuels' *Kindertransport* premiered in the early-1990s and in its time has gone from being a quiet piece presented in a London fringe theatre to a modern classic frequently taught as a set text in schools.

Telling the story of the evacuation of Jewish children to England as the Second World War loomed, it focuses on a desperate mother as she forces nine-year-old daughter Eva onto a train, sending her out of danger and into the arms of strangers.

Decades later, in the peaceful suburbia of 1980s England, Eva has become Evelyn, a proud mother preparing to say farewell to her grown-up daughter. But then a chance discovery opens an unhealed wound...



## The Sisteren

Arena Theatre, Wolverhampton, Wed 12 - Thurs 13 March; The Heritage Centre, Wolverhampton, Fri 14 March; The Drum, Birmingham, Fri 21 March; Artrix, Bromsgrove, Mon 24 March

Powerful drama here combines with sharp humour in a play that's been described as 'compelling, funny and moving'. In her hour of need, a woman finds that help is very much at hand - and that it comes in the form of three extraordinary players in the fight for women's rights: Mary Wollstonecraft, considered to be the founder of modern feminism; Claudia Jones, a Black nationalist thought by many to be the mother of the Notting Hill Carnival; and Emma Lloyd Spruson, suffragette and Wolverhampton's first female coun-

## Hot Flush

Lichfield Garrick, Thurs 6 - Sat 8 March; New Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham, Thurs 13 March; Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury, Wed 19 March; Wolverhampton Grand Theatre, Sat 22 March; The Place, Oakengates Theatre, Telford, Wed 2 April; Regent Theatre, Stoke-on-Trent, Sat 26 April

Advertised as being 'more fun than joining the gym and cheaper than botox', this touring musical focuses on the ups and downs of four ordinary women - Myra, Sylvia, Helen and Jessica - who get together at the same bar at the same time every week to discuss the lives they're living and the men they're loving or loathing. Midlands favourite Lesley Joseph, fresh from her return to TV screens in the rejuvenated sitcom *Birds Of A Feather*, takes top billing. *Read the interview with Lesley Joseph online at [www.whatsonlive.co.uk](http://www.whatsonlive.co.uk)*

... The *Sisteren* is the latest offering from highly rated theatre company Gazebo, whose previous works include *Rivers To Cross*, *Jamaica 50* and *Sorry! No Coloureds, No Irish, No Dogs*.



## Disney On Ice: Worlds Of Fantasy

LG Arena, Birmingham, Thurs 13 - Sun 16 March

Get your skates on for the return of Disney's ever-popular ice spectacular, complete with high-energy music, glittering sets and dramatic choreography. This particular theatrical extravaganza brings together characters from four favourite Disney stories - *CARS*, *The Little Mermaid*, *Disney Fairies* and *Toy Story* - and is sure to enchant children of all ages, even the grown-up ones!



## Spanish Golden Age

Belgrade Theatre, Coventry

## A Lady Of Little Sense

Wed 26 March - Thurs 17 April

Lope de Vega's romantic comedy *La Dama Boba* is here translated by David Johnston, and tells the story of famous beauties Nise and Finea, and their father Don Octavio's increasingly desperate attempts to marry them off. Beautiful they may be, but one is way too clever for her own good, the other notoriously stupid.



## Don Gil Of The Green Breeches

Thurs 27 March - Sat 19 April

This anarchic and original comedy is here presented in a new translation by Sean O'Brien. It finds the indomitable Doña Juana pulling on a pair of green breeches and heading for Madrid in hot pursuit of Don Martin, a dashing fellow who rejected her in favour of the charms of the wealthy Doña Ines.

## Punishment Without Revenge

Fri 28 March - Sat 19 April

When his subjects demand that the womanising Duke of Ferrara provides them with a legitimate heir, to supercede his bastard only-son, the beautiful Duchess of Mantua is sent to be his bride. A passionate and all-consuming love affair soon develops - but not, as his subjects had hoped, between the Duke and Duchess...



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"An extraordinary experience...  
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the highest realm in arts,  
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*Chi Cao, lead actor in Mao's Last Dancer,  
principal dancer with Birmingham Royal Ballet*

**"So inspiring! I may have found some  
ideas for the next Avatar movie."**

*Robert Stromberg, Academy Award-winning  
production designer for Avatar*

**"If heaven is the way we saw it  
tonight, count me in!"**

*Nathaniel Khan,  
Academy Award-nominated filmmaker*



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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 MAR**

## LADY WINDERMERE'S FAN

Presented by Nonentities, until Sat 1 Mar, The Rose Theatre, Kidderminster

## LITTLE SHOP OF HORRORS

The Vocalize Performing Arts Academy presents its version of the cult classic spoof comedy/horror musical, until Sat 1 Mar, Palace Theatre, Redditch

## TONIGHT'S THE NIGHT: THE ROD STEWART MUSICAL

Smash-hit West End musical comedy inspired by the songs of the man himself, until Sat 1 Mar, New Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham

## LOOT

Joe Orton's black comedy, until Sat 1 Mar, Highbury Theatre Centre, Sutton Coldfield

## DOGS DON'T DO BALLET

Little Angel Theatre bring to life the story of the small dog with a big personality and even bigger dreams through puppetry, ballet music and 'dazzling' comedy, until Sat 1 Mar, Arena Theatre, Wolverhampton

## THE PERFECT MURDER

Les Dennis and Clare Goose star in a stage version of Peter James' best-selling crime thriller, until Sat 1 Mar, Belgrade Theatre, Coventry

## ETERNAL LOVE

English Touring Theatre presents the Shakespeare's Globe production of Howard Brenton's spell-binding tale, until Sat 1 Mar, Wolverhampton Grand Theatre

## 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 Mar, Royal Shakespeare Theatre, Stratford-upon-Avon

## AN AUGUST BANK HOLIDAY LARK

Northern Broadsides present Deborah McAndrew's moving drama, poised at the tipping point between peace and war, until Sat 11 Mar, New Vic Theatre, Newcastle-under-Lyme

## NEVER TRY THIS AT HOME

Birmingham Repertory Theatre and Told By An Idiot present a disturbing homage to Saturday morning TV, until Sat 15 Mar, The REP, Birmingham

## 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

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

## OZZIE AND THE SECRET FOREST

Angela Lanyon's play for children weaves together songs and audience participation, and is suitable for two to nine-year-olds, Sat 1 Mar, Swan Theatre, Worcester

## TWELFTH NIGHT

Filter and the RSC present a new take on the Bard's lyrical tale of romance, satire and mistaken identity, Sat 1 Mar, Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry

## MAMMALS

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

## MISS SAIGON (SCHOOL'S EDITION)

Presented by SOSage Factory, Sat 1 Mar, Solihull Arts Complex

## THE LIFE OF GALILEO

Bertolt Brecht's play explores the struggle between scientific discovery and religious fundamentalism, until Sat 8 Mar, The REP, Birmingham

## KEN DODD

Sat 1 Mar, Dudley Town Hall

## THE MAN WHO LIKED ORDER

Drama by Mike Richardson, Sat 1 Mar, Palace Theatre, Redditch

## GILES BRANDRETH: LOOKING FOR HAPPINESS

Sat 1 Mar, Huntingdon Hall, Worcester

## LIVE MET BROADCAST - PRINCE IGOR

Sat 1 Mar, Malvern Theatres, The Roses Theatre, Tewkesbury; Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry

## SPLOSH!

A production for young children which fuses dance, music and puppetry, Sat 1 Mar, The REP, Birmingham

## TIERNAN DOUIEB

Brand new family comedy show, Sat 1 Mar, Lichfield Garrick

## TEN THOUSAND MILLION LOVE STORIES

Improvisation workshop and performance, Sat 1 Mar, The Blue Orange Theatre, Birmingham

## PINOCCHIO

Breaking Cycles & Z-arts promise a fast-paced, funny and magical show for all the family, Sat 1 Mar, mac - Midlands Arts Centre, Birmingham

## SHERLOCK HOLMES THE LAST ACT

An exploration

of the complex and unique intellect of the world's greatest fictional detective, Sat 1 Mar, Stafford Gatehouse Theatre

## THE REAL HOUSEWIVES OF BRIXTON

Lavern Archer's new comedy, packed with explosive characters, each attempting to be the most successful, unique and fabulous individual they can be, Sat 1 - Sun 2 Mar, The Drum, Birmingham

## SERGEANT MUSGRAVES DANCE

The Crescent Theatre present their version of John Arden's 1959 classic, set in a northern town in the grip of a miners' strike, Sat 1 - Sat 8 Mar, Crescent Theatre, B'ham

## Week Commencing

**MON 3 MAR**

## ANDY ROUSE: WILD ABOUT ANIMALS

Mon 3 Mar, Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury

## BLINK

Soho Theatre and Nabokov present a dysfunctional love story which brings together two shy individuals, Mon 3 - Wed 5 Mar, The REP, Birmingham

## KIDNAPPED Sell A Door

Theatre Company present an imaginative retelling of Robert Louis Stevenson's classic story, Mon 3 - Wed 5 Mar, New Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham

## BUDDY - THE BUDDY HOLLY STORY

Award-winning musical, Mon 3 - Sat 8 Mar, Regent Theatre, Stoke-on-Trent

## FAME - THE MUSICAL

Hit West Ender on tour, Mon 3 - Sat 8 Mar, Wolverhampton Grand Theatre

## THE TEMPEST

Presented by the Belgrade's Young Company in association with Frantic Assembly, Mon 3 - Sat 8 Mar, Belgrade Theatre, Coventry

## SEE HOW THEY RUN

The Reduced Height Theatre Company present Philip King's English farce. Warwick Davis stars, Mon 3 - Sat 8 Mar, Belgrade Theatre, Coventry

## LA TRAVIATA

Welsh National Opera present Verdi's tragic tale. Linda Richardson, Leonardo Capalbo & Alan Opie star, Tue 4 - Sat 8 Mar, Birmingham Hippodrome

## POWER GAMES

Altered Skin blend character-driven physical theatre with contemporary and South Asian dance to explore the forces that shape our destiny, Tue 4 Mar, Arena Theatre, Wolverhampton

## PEPPA PIG'S BIG SPLASH

All-singing, all-dancing adventure, full of songs, games and muddy puddles for children, Tue 4 - Wed 5 Mar, Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury

## HOW TO OCCUPY AN OIL RIG

ARC Stockton present Daniel Bye's playful and provocative show about protest, Tue 4 - Wed 5 Mar, Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry

## THE HUSBANDS

Sharmila Chauhan's play about love, jealousy and a woman's right to choose, Wed 5 Mar, Arena Theatre, Wolverhampton

## MOSCOW STATE CIRCUS

Featuring the award-winning Flying Trapeze of Aliiev White Birds, whirlwind rollerskaters the Veslovskis, elegant hand-balancer Vladislav Khostik and ariel artist Natalia Goncharova, Wed 5 - Thurs 6 Mar, Malvern Theatre

**GREASED LIGHTNIN'** North Bromsgrove High School present an amateur production of the much-loved musical charting the lives and loves of the students of Rydell High, Wed 5 - Fri 7 Mar, Artrix, Bromsgrove

## DIRTY DUSTING

Heart-warming comedy starring Crissy Rock, Dolores Porretta Brown, Leah Bell and Jason Jones, Thurs 6 Mar, Palace Theatre, Redditch

## FOR THEIR OWN GOOD

Untied Artists fuse puppetry with new writing and documentary material in an award-winning show which centres on the only certain thing in life - death! Thurs 6 Mar, mac - Midlands Arts Centre, B'ham

## THE HUSBANDS

Sharmila Chauhan's play about love, jealousy and a woman's right to choose, Thurs 6 Mar, Roses Theatre, Tewkesbury

## BLUEBEARD

Bluebeard invites audiences to join him in his chamber to share and delight in the violent passion of his deviant sexual acts... Thurs 6 - Fri 7 Mar, Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry

## A FLY IN THE OINTMENT

The Lighthouse Players present Derek Benfield's classic farce, Thurs 6 - Fri 7 Mar, Dovehouse Theatre, Birmingham

## STEPPING OUT

Comedy about the attempts of a group of working class amateurs wanting to overcome their inhibitions and two left feet in a low-rent dance studio in North London, Thurs 6 - Sat 8 Mar, The Norbury Theatre, Droitwich

## HOT FLUSH

New musical featuring Matt Slack and Lesley Joseph, Thurs 6 - Sat 8 Mar, Lichfield Garrick

## EMMA

Sutton Arts Theatre present Martin Millar and Doon Mackichan's adaptation of

the Jane Austen classic, Thurs 6 - Sat 8 Mar, Old Joint Stock Theatre, Birmingham

## MACBETH

Presented by Blue Orange Arts, Thurs 6 - Sat 15 Mar, The Blue Orange Theatre, Birmingham

## AN EVENING OF BURLLESQUE

Fri 7 Mar, Stafford Gatehouse Theatre

## ONLY FOOLS & BOYCIE

An intimate evening with actor John Challis, Fri 7 Mar, Lichfield Garrick

## BRUMMIE SPOKEN HERE!

One-man show of laughter and song from Midlands favourite, Malcolm Stent, Fri 7 - Sat 8 Mar, Palace Theatre, Redditch

## WAR HORSE

National Theatre Live screening, Fri 7 - Tue 11 Mar, Artrix, Bromsgrove

## STARGAZING

Language Alive presents an interactive experience that explains Galileo's theories of planetary motion, Sat 8 Mar, The REP, Birmingham

## ERIC AND LITTLE ERN

Homage to Britain's greatest double act, Sat 8 Mar, Royal Spa Centre, Leamington Spa

## THE GHOST HUNTER

Stewart Pringle's ghostly tale, Sat 8 Mar, Swan Theatre, Worcester

## GRANDPA'S RAILWAY M6

Theatre Company present a brand new original production for children and families, Sat 8 Mar, Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry

## ONLY FOOLS AND... BOYCIE

An intimate evening with actor John Challis, Sat 8 Mar, Arena Theatre, Wolverhampton

## HIGH VIS

Robert Cohen presents a one-man tragicomedy about a traffic warden under siege, Sat 8 Mar, Lichfield Garrick

## KNOW ONE'S FOOL

Master Fool Jonathan Kay presents an evening of improvisation, fooling and spectacular performance, Sat 8 Mar, The Edge, Birmingham City Centre

## MACBETH

Presented by Blue Orange Arts, Sun 9 Mar, Artrix, Bromsgrove

## Week Commencing

**MON 10 MAR**

## READY STEADY COOK

LIVE ON STAGE One of Britain's most popular TV cookery programmes comes to the stage in a new show hosted by Lesley Walters, Mon 10 - Tue 11 Mar, Belgrade Theatre, Coventry

## BUDDY - THE BUDDY HOLLY STORY

Award-winning musical, Mon 10 - Tue 11 Mar, Belgrade Theatre, Coventry

## A TALE OF TWO CITIES

An amateur production by Knowle Musical Socie-

ty, Mon 10 - Sat 15 Mar, Solihull Arts Complex

## POCKET HENRY V

The heroic tale of England's greatest warrior, presented by Propeller, Tues 11 Mar, Roses Theatre, Tewkesbury

## FIDDLER ON THE ROOF

A new production of one of the world's favourite musicals, starring Paul Michael Glaser and directed and choreographed by Craig Revel Horwood, Tue 11 - Sat 15 Mar, Birmingham Hippodrome

## ALL MY SONS

Swan Theatre Amateur Company presents Arthur Miller's acclaimed play, Tues 11 - Sat 15 Mar, Swan Theatre, Worcester

## GREASE

Presented by Wolverhampton Musical Comedy Company, Tue 11 - Sat 15 Mar, Wolverhampton Grand Theatre

## SWEENEY TODD

Walsall Operatic Society present an amateur production of the musical thriller set in Victorian London, Tues 11 - Sat 15 Mar, Lichfield Garrick

## KINDERTRANSPORT

Maggie Steed & Janet Dibley star in Diane Samuels' award-winning classic, Tues 11 - Sat 15 Mar, Malvern Theatre

## THE BELIEVERS

Frantic Assembly and Bryony Lavery present a visceral exploration of love and loss, Tue 11 - Sat 15 Mar, Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry

## THE GOOD OLD DAYS OF VARIETY THEATRE

Presented by New College Performing Arts Students, Wed 12 Mar, Artrix, Bromsgrove

## THE SISTEREN

Gazebo Theatre present a funny and moving new play which follows three women each fighting for their rights, Wed 12 - Thurs 13 Mar, Arena Theatre, Wolverhampton

## FIDDLER ON THE ROOF

Amateur production presented by Shrewsbury Amateur Operatic Society, Wed 12 - Sat 15 Mar, Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury

## THE MERRY WIDOW

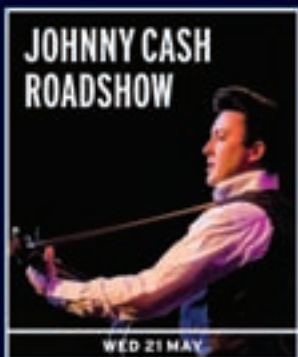
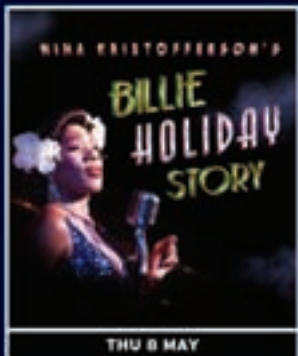
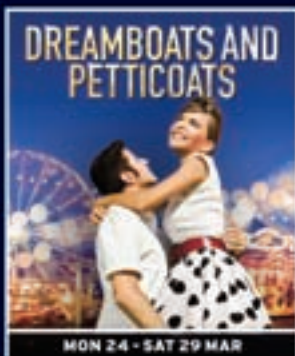
Atswood Bank Operatic Society presents Franz Lehár's comic opera, Wed 12 - Sat 15 Mar, Palace Theatre, Redditch

## STEVE HEWLETT

Britain's Got Talent contestant and 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', Thurs 13 Mar, Royal Spa Centre, Leamington Spa

## HOT FLUSH

New musical featuring Matt Slack and Lesley Joseph, Thurs 13 Mar, New Alexandra Theatre,



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4/3	<b>MANA - The Power Within</b>	£12 (€6)
Powerful dance with soul & energy by ACE dance & music		
7/3	<b>The Johnny Cash Roadshow Tribute</b>	£19
8/3	<b>Andrew Dee - Spirit Medium</b>	£15 (€13)
8/3	<b>Lee Hurst</b> Last few seats remain	£16
10/3	<b>Comedy Skool</b> Stand up course (5-wk) begins	£80
18/3	<b>Lisbee Stainton</b> Multi-Instrumentalist Hugely talented acoustic performer/songwriter	£15
19/3	<b>A Black Country Night Out</b>	£20
20/3	<b>The Fortunes - Past &amp; Present Tour</b>	£15
21/3	<b>Quill</b> with special guest Bev Bevan in 2nd half	£15

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Live comedy during April!

Richard Digance, Brendan Grace, The Producers, The Reduced Shakespeare Co. The Only Way is Downton, Tiernan Douieb, Matt Richardson, Ben Hart, Sing-A-Long-A Grease & the comedy course finale (see above)... tickets on sale now!



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

**MARCH 2014  
HIGHLIGHTS**

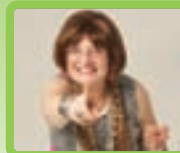
Thursday 13th March  
**FROM THE JAM**  
THAT'S ENTERTAINMENT  
ACOUSTIC SET



Sunday 16th March  
**SWAN LAKE**  
VIENNA FESTIVAL BALLET



Tuesday 18th March  
**LAUGHING FOR  
A CHANGE**  
WITH ROB DEERING &  
BARBARA NICE



Tuesday 25th March  
**LLOYD COLE**  
SOLO ACOUSTIC TOUR



Wednesday 26th March  
**ROBIN INCE**  
COMEDIAN & SCIENCE  
ENTHUSIAST



Sunday 30th March  
**EMILY SMITH**  
AWARD-WINNING SCOTTISH  
FOLK SINGER



**FORTHCOMING CINEMA:**  
Inside Llewyn Davis (15) // American Hustle (15)  
The Wolf Of Wall Street (18) // 12 Years A Slave (15)  
The Lego Movie (U) // The Monuments Men (12A)



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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)

**Birmingham**  
**PRONOUN** The Belgrade Youth Theatre present Evan Placey's drama, which follows Isabella, a boy trapped in a girl's body who's finally decided to do something about it... Thurs 13 - Sat 15 Mar, Belgrade Theatre, Coventry  
**THE ANATOMY OF MELANCHOLY** Stan's Cafe bring 'the world's most extraordinary self-help manual' to the stage, Thurs 13 - Sat 15 Mar, Lichfield Garrick  
**STEPPING OUT** Amateur production from the Norbury Players, Thurs 13 - Sat 15 Mar, The Norbury Theatre, Droitwich  
**DISNEY ON ICE PRESENTS WORLDS OF FANTASY** Family adventure which takes audiences on a journey to four magical destinations, including the auto-racing terrain of Cars, Andy's bedroom from Toy Story 3, the undersea world of Ariel, and Tinker Bell's home in Pixie Hollow, Thurs 13 - Sun 16 Mar, LG Arena, Birmingham  
**THE CIRCUS OF HORRORS LONDON AFTER MIDNIGHT** Featuring sword swallowers, daredevil balancing acts, hair hangers, demon dwarfs, a pickled person and astounding aerial acts, Fri 14 Mar, Victoria Hall, Hanley, Stoke-on-Trent  
**NICHOLAS NICKLEBY** Gerald Dickens, the great, great grandson of Charles, presents his personal version of the Victorian author's famous novel - and plays all the characters himself!, Fri 14 Mar, Tamworth Assembly Rooms  
**NATALIE HAYNES - WORDS** Fri 14 Mar, Artrix, Bromsgrove  
**ONLY FOOLS & BOYCIE** An intimate evening with actor John Challis, Fri 14 Mar, Stafford Gatehouse Theatre  
**DRACULA** Blackeyed Theatre in association with South Hill Park bring a contemporary

feel to Bram Stoker's Victorian Gothic adventure, Fri 14 - Sat 15 Mar, Swan Theatre, Worcester  
**TABLETOP GAMES** Thought-provoking play which questions whether religion is killing faith, Fri 14 - Sat 15 Mar, Old Joint Stock Theatre, Birmingham  
**CIRCUS OF HORRORS: LONDON AFTER MIDNIGHT** Featuring sword swallowers, daredevil balancing acts, hair hangers, demon dwarfs, a pickled person and astounding aerial acts, Sat 15 Mar, New Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham  
**WERTHER** Two of opera's greatest artists - Jonas Kaufmann and Elna Garanca - appear together for the first time at the Met in Massenet's sublime adaptation of Goethe's revolutionary and tragic romance, Sat 15 Mar, Malvern Theatres; The Roses Theatre, Tewkesbury; Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry  
**LITTLE RED HEN** Language Alive present an interactive version of the well-loved children's story, with puppetry, games - and lovely fresh bread!, Sat 15 Mar, The REP, Birmingham  
**THE MOTHER** Mark Ravenhill's adaptation of Bertholt Brecht's earliest and most explicitly revolutionary play, Sat 15 Mar, The REP, Birmingham  
**CHILDREN'S THEATRE** The Norbury Players present a short play performed by adults especially for children aged four to ten, Sat 15 Mar, The Norbury Theatre, Droitwich  
**DIRTY DUSTING** Heart-warming comedy starring Crissy Rock, Dolores Porretta Brown, Leah Bell & Jason Jones, Sat 15 Mar, Bedworth Civic Hall  
**AN INSPECTOR CALLS** JB Priestly's classic thriller, Sat 15 - Sat 22 Mar, Crescent Theatre, Birm-

ingham  
**PATRICIA ROUTLEDGE: FACING THE MUSIC** In conversation with writer and broadcaster Edward Seckerson, Patricia Routledge recalls a special part of her career, Sun 16 Mar, Malvern Theatre

## Week Commencing MON 17 MAR

**SALLY MORGAN** An evening of psychic entertainment, Mon 17 Mar, Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury  
**BIRDSONG** An epic tale of love and war set both before and during the Great War, Mon 17 - Sat 22 Mar, The REP, Birmingham  
**THE DISHWASHERS** David Essex stars in Morris Panych's play about the Zen of dishwashing, Mon 17 - Sat 22 Mar, Malvern Theatre  
**LET IT BE** The Beatles musical, Mon 17 - Sat 22 Mar, New Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham  
**GMTG SPRING SHOWCASE 2014** Featuring a collection of musical theatre greats, Tues 18 Mar, mac - Midlands Arts Centre, Birmingham  
**FIRST ENCOUNTER: TAMPING OF THE SHREW** A perfect introduction to Shakespeare for anyone aged eight and over, Tue 18 Mar, New Vic Theatre, Newcastle-under-Lyme  
**GOING DARK BY HATTIE TAYLOR** Sound & Fury use their innovative theatre vocabulary of immersive surround-sound design, total blackout and imaginative lighting to reawaken our wonder at the cosmos and reveal how one man's vision becomes illuminated by darkness, Tues 18 - Wed 19 Mar, Malvern Theatre  
**WHAT THE LADYBIRD HEARD** Stage adaptation of Julia Donaldson's much-loved story for children, Tue 18 - Wed 19 Mar, Regent Theatre, Hanley, Stoke-on-Trent  
**EGUSI SOUP** Menagerie and Theatre Royal Bury St Edmunds present Janice Okoh's fast and furious drama about inter-generational and cross-cultural relationships, Tue 18 - Sat 22 Mar, The REP, Birmingham  
**THE PHANTOM OF THE OPERA** Amateur production presented by Lichfield Garrick Youth Theatre, Tues 18 - Sat 22 Mar, Lichfield Garrick  
**SINGIN' IN THE RAIN** Chichester Festival Theatre production of the much-acclaimed musical. Maxwell Caulfield & Faye Tozer star, Tue 18 Mar - Sat 5 Apr, Birmingham Hippodrome  
**HENRY IV PART I** Sir

Antony Sher plays infamous comic knight Falstaff in Shakespeare's history play. Jasper Britton and Alex Hassell also star, Tues 18 Mar - Sat 6 Sep, Royal Shakespeare Theatre, Stratford-upon-Avon  
**A BLACK COUNTRY NIGHT OUT** The cream of Black Country entertainment come together again to raise the roof with laughter, Wed 19 Mar, Solihull Arts Complex  
**HOT FLUSH** New musical featuring Matt Slack and Lesley Joseph, Wed 19 Mar, Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury  
**WE WILL BE FREE!** The Tolpuddle Martyrs story, told via puppetry and animation, with musical arrangements from folk artist John Kirkpatrick, Wed 19 Mar, Artrix, Bromsgrove  
**IN PRAISE OF ELEPHANTS** Farnham Maltings Theatre present a celebration of the greatest animal on the planet in a play full of surprises, live, music - and biscuits!, Wed 19 Mar, Newhampton Arts Centre, Wolverhampton  
**D-DAY DARLINGS** Nostalgic show which fuses film footage with 1940s songs to tell the story of wartime Britain, Wed 19 Mar, Roses Theatre, Tewkesbury  
**HIS DARK MATERIALS PART I** Presented by Birmingham Ormiston Academy, Wed 19 - Fri 21 Mar, The Old Rep, Birmingham  
**THE VICAR OF DIBLEY** All & Sundry present a stage version of the much-loved TV comedy, Wed 19 - Sat 22 Mar, Palace Theatre, Redditch  
**THE OPPOSITE SEX** St John's Players present David Tristram's adult comedy, Wed 19 - Sat 22 Mar, Swan Theatre, Worcester  
**DANIEL BYE: HOW TO OCCUPY AN OIL RIG** Playful and provocative show about protest, Thurs 20 Mar, mac - Midlands Arts Centre, Birmingham  
**MORBID CURIOSITIES** Don't Go Into The Cellular Theatre Company present a chilling new theatre show which blends original stories and new adaptations of Poe, Stevenson & Conan Doyle, Thurs 20 Mar, Library of Birmingham  
**HIS DARK MATERIALS PART II** Presented by Birmingham Ormiston Academy, Thurs 20 - Fri 21 Mar, The Old Rep, Birmingham  
**A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM** The Crescent Youth Theatre present Shakespeare's comical and heartwarming play, Thurs 20 - Sat 22 Mar, Crescent Theatre, Birmingham  
**WEST SIDE STORY** Ama-



The Dishwashers - Malvern Theatre

teur production presented by AC Pro in association with the Belgrade Theatre, Thurs 20 - Sat 22 Mar, Belgrade Theatre, Coventry  
**THE QUIET COMPERE TOUR OF THE NORTH** Ten poets, on for ten minutes each with The Quiet Comper of Manchester, Fri 21 Mar, mac - Midlands Arts Centre, Birmingham  
**THE SISTEREN** Gazebo Theatre present a funny and moving new play which follows three women fighting for their rights, Fri 21 Mar, The Drum, Birmingham  
**THE MUMMY** Jason Durr, Susie Amy & Denis Hill star in 'the mother of all horror comedies', Fri 21 - Sat 29 Mar, Belgrade Theatre, Coventry  
**ASK ME MORE ABOUT BRECHT** Theatrical reconstruction of conversations between Hanns Eisler and Hans Bunge, translated and performed by Sabine Berendse & Paul Clements, Sat 22 Mar, The REP, Birmingham  
**THE TELL TALE HEART** Little Earthquake present Edgar Allan Poe's edge-of-the-seat thriller, Sat 22 Mar, Lichfield Garrick  
**HOT FLUSH** New musical featuring Matt Slack and Lesley Joseph, Sat 22 Mar, Wolverhampton Grand Theatre  
**EISLER SHORTS** Chance to witness rare short films, with their original Hanns Eisler scores performed live by Birmingham Conservatoire musicians. Presented by Flatpack Film Festival, Sat 22 Mar, The REP, Birmingham  
**NAUKAR WOTI DA 2014** Punjabiwood comedy play from Matribhoomi Theatre, Sat 22 Mar, The Drum, Birmingham

**O MOON OF ALABAMA** Kurt Weill cabaret night, Sat 22 Mar, The REP, Birmingham  
**THE 22ND WORCESTER-SHIRE THEATRE FESTIVAL OF ONE-ACT PLAYS** Drama groups compete against each other in the Worcestershire round of the All England Theatre Festival, Sat 22 - Sun 23 Mar, The Norbury Theatre, Droitwich  
**BIG RED BATH** Half Moon & Full House Theatre fuse music, song and humorous characters in a tale for two-to-five-year-olds, Sun 23 Mar, mac - Midlands Arts Centre, Birmingham  
**A FEAST OF GILBERT & SULLIVAN** A concert recapturing the fun and magic of the original D'Oyly Carte Opera Company, Sun 23 Mar, Lichfield Garrick  
**GREAT EXPECTATIONS** Holdsworth Drama present Nick Ormerod and Declan Donnellan's version of Charles Dickens' classic tale, Sun 23 - Mon 24 Mar, Crescent Theatre, Birmingham

## Week Commencing MON 24 MAR

**OTHELLO** Icarus Theatre Collective present Shakespeare's tragedy of scandal, intrigue, lust and vengeance, Mon 24 Mar, Stafford Gatehouse Theatre  
**THE SISTREN** Gazebo Theatre present a funny and moving new play which follows three women fighting for their rights, Mon 24 Mar, Artrix, Bromsgrove  
**TONIGHT'S THE NIGHT: THE ROD STEWART MUSICAL** Smash-hit West End musical comedy inspired by the songs of the man himself,



Circus Of Horrors - New Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham

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LIVE IN CONCERT:

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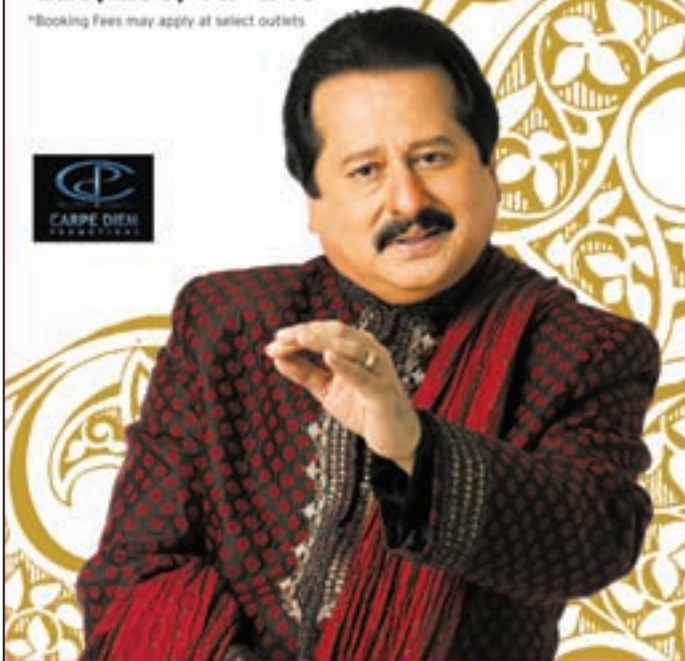
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Macbeth

...is foul, and foul is fair  
...ever through the boggy down

...be ere the set of sun,

...Anon

...shall be the best  
...to thine own purpose

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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)

Mon 24 - Sat 29 Mar, Regent Theatre, Hanley, Stoke-on-Trent  
**DREAMBOATS AND PETTI-COATS: THE MUSICAL** Featuring songs from Roy Orbison, The Shadows, Eddie Cochran, Billy Fury, Chuck Berry and many more, Mon 24 - Sat 29 Mar, New Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham  
**FASCINATING AIDA** Starring Dillie Keane, Liza Pulman & Adele Anderson, Tue 25 Mar, Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury  
**ANON** Welsh National Opera fuse live soundscapes and contemporary theatre in a live screening of a groundbreaking new opera written by Paralympic Games opening ceremony composer Errollyn Wallen, Tues 25 Mar, Newhampton Arts Centre, Wolverhampton  
**SING SOMETHING SIMPLE** Dark Horse present the story of Spencer Parkin - the boy who can't sing... Tue 25 - Wed 26 Mar, Arena Theatre, Wolverhampton  
**MACBETH** Geg present Shakespeare's bloodiest play, Tues 25 - Wed 26 Mar, Palace Theatre, Redditch  
**ETERNAL LOVE** English Touring Theatre presents the Shakespeare's Globe production of Howard Brenton's spell-binding tale, Tues 25 - Sat 29 Mar, Malvern Theatre  
**THE SORCERER** Birmingham Savoyards present one of Gilbert & Sullivan's lesser known operas, Tues 25 - Sat 29 Mar, The Old Rep, Birmingham  
**OLIVER!** Amateur production presented by Coleshill Operatic Society, Tue 25 - Sat 29 Mar, Solihull Arts Complex  
**A VOYAGE AROUND MY FATHER** The Lichfield Players present an amateur production of John Mortimer's humorous play, Tues 25 - Sat 29 Mar, Lichfield Garrick  
**STEEL MAGNOLIAS** Robert Harlings drama, set in an American beauty shop, Tues 25 - Sat 29 Mar, Highbury Theatre Centre, Sutton Coldfield  
**AN EVENING WITH DAVID SEDARIS** Wed 26 Mar, The Assembly, Leamington Spa  
**MAD(E) IN HADES** Three retellings of the myth of Heracles, based on Euripides' tale of domestic murder and demented dogs, Wed

26 Mar, Old Joint Stock Theatre, Birmingham  
**ANON** Welsh National Opera fuse live soundscapes and contemporary theatre in a live screening of a groundbreaking new opera written by Paralympic Games opening ceremony composer Errollyn Wallen, Wed 26 Mar, mac - Midlands Arts Centre, Birmingham  
**FOGHORN IMPROV: MADE UP MAYHEM** Thurs 27 Mar, Old Joint Stock Theatre, Birmingham  
**LUCY WORSLEY: A VERY BRITISH MURDER** Historical and Chief Curator for the charity Historic Palaces, Dr Lucy Worsley, here explores Britain's obsession with cold-blooded murders, detection and punishments, Thurs 27 Mar, Ludlow Assembly Rooms, South Shropshire  
**AROUND THE WORLD WITH GILBERT AND SULLIVAN** Thurs 27 - Fri 28 Mar, The Norbury Theatre, Droitwich  
**OUR HOUSE** Birmingham Ormiston Academy Musical Theatre present Tim Firth's acclaimed musical, with music and lyrics by Madness, Thurs 27 - Sat 29 Mar, Crescent Theatre, Birmingham  
**TEACHERS** John Godber's much-acclaimed schoolroom comedy, Thurs 27 - Sat 29 Mar, Swan Theatre, Worcester  
**THE THREEPENNY OPERA** A collaboration between Birmingham Repertory Theatre Company, Nottingham Playhouse Theatre Company, Graeae Theatre Company, New Wolsey Theatre & Ipswich And West Yorkshire Playhouse, Thurs 27 Mar - Sat 12 Apr, The REP Birmingham  
**DON GIL OF THE GREEN BREECHES** Sean O'Brien's new translation of Tirso de Molina's exuberant comedy blends mistaken identity, role-reversal, ghosts, and green trousers. Presented as part of The Belgrade's Spanish Golden Age Season, Thurs 27 Mar - Sat 19 Apr, Belgrade Theatre, Coventry  
**THE DON BLACK SONG-BOOK: FROM HACKNEY TO HOLLYWOOD** Celebrating and telling the story of the life and career of Oscar winner Don Black, and featuring music from both stage and screen, Fri 28 Mar, Malvern Theatre  
**DOWN TO EARTH: AN EVENING WITH MONTY DON** Hear Monty's stories about his travels and visits to gardens all over the world, Fri 28 Mar, The Place, Oaken-gates Theatre, Telford  
**A BLACK COUNTRY NIGHT OUT** The cream of Black Country entertainment comes together again to raise the roof with laughter, Thurs 27 Mar, Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry  
**SALLY MORGAN: PSYCHIC SALLY ON THE ROAD** Thurs 27 Mar, Crewe Lyceum Theatre  
**AN EVENING WITH DEREK ACORAH** Thurs 27 Mar, Lichfield Garrick  
**A BLACK COUNTRY NIGHT OUT** An evening of laughter and song with Dandy, Giggetty, Ian 'Sludge' Lees, Peter Lee and Jonny Cole, Thurs 27 Mar, Huntingdon Hall, Worcester  
**MIDDAY VARIETY** Coventry's finest variety show, with live music and a star line-up, Thurs 27 Mar, Belgrade Theatre, Coventry  
**THE FALLING SONG** Award-winning dance theatre company Junk Ensemble presents its critically acclaimed pro-

duction, which explores the nature of flying, falling, and the relationship between the two, Thurs 27 Mar, mac - Midlands Arts Centre, Birmingham  
**WANTED** Riverside Performing Arts fuse humour, metaphor, music and real-life stories in an engaging, episodic show that challenges our thinking about what it means to fit in, to belong and to be wanted, Fri 28 - Sat 29 Mar, mac - Midlands Arts Centre, B'ham  
**LOVE ON THE DOLE** Ronald Gow's stage adaptation of Walter Greenwood's powerful novel depicts Lancashire life during the Great Depression, Fri 28 Mar - Sat 5 Apr, Hall Green Little Theatre, Birmingham  
**PUNISHMENT WITHOUT REVENGE** Meredith Oakes' translation of Lope de Vega's dark and thrilling drama, performed at The Belgrade as part of the theatre's Spanish Golden Age Season, Fri 28 Mar - Sat 19 Apr, Belgrade Theatre, Coventry  
**HENRY IV PART II** The third installment in Shakespeare's history play, exploring loyalty, betrayal and the experience of growing old. Sir Antony Sher stars... Fri 28 Mar - Sat 6 Sep, Royal Shakespeare Theatre, Stratford-upon-Avon  
**THAT'LL BE THE DAY** Rock'n'Roll spectacular

combining music from the '50s, '60s & '70s with wacky comedy routines, Sat 29 Mar, Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury  
**GOING DARK BY HATTIE TAYLOR** Sound & Fury use their innovative theatre vocabulary of immersive surround-sound design, total blackout and imaginative lighting to reawaken our wonder at the cosmos - and to reveal how one man's vision becomes illuminated by darkness, Sat 29 Mar, mac - Midlands Arts Centre, Birmingham  
**SING SOMETHING SIMPLE** Dark Horse Theatre Company present Vanessa Brooks' bitter-sweet comedy, Sat 29 Mar, Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury  
**SPOKEN ENCOUNTERS** Evening of performance poetry by Beat Freaks & Burn After Reading. Presented by Apple & Snakes, Sat 29 Mar, The REP, Birmingham  
**HEROES AND VILLAINS** Encore Theatre Academy present an amateur revue celebrating musical theatre's classic heroes and villains, Sat 29 Mar, The Norbury Theatre, Droitwich  
**TABLETOP GAMES** Thought-provoking play which questions whether religion is

combining music from the '50s, '60s & '70s with wacky comedy routines, Sat 29 Mar, Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury  
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VIENNA FESTIVAL BALLET presents

# Swan Lake

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Fri 28th March, 7.30pm  
**William Aston Hall, Wrexham** 01978 293293

Thurs 22nd - Sat 24th May, 7.30pm  
**Lichfield Garrick** 01543 412121



# Cinderella



Easter Monday 21st April, 5pm, **Arts Centre, Evesham** 01386 446944

Wed 23rd April, 7.30pm, **Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury** 01743 281281

Fri 2nd May, 7.30pm, **Rose Theatre, Tewkesbury** 01684 295074

[www.viennafestivalballet.com](http://www.viennafestivalballet.com)

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**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: **Jamet Steel** Set & Costume Design by **Jean Chan**  
Lighting Design by **Prerna Mehta** Music by **Arun Ghosh**

Tue 4 Mar 7:30pm, **THEATRE SEVERN SHREWSBURY**  
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Wed 5 Mar 7:30pm, **ARENA THEATRE WOLVERHAMPTON**  
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Thu 6 Mar 7:30pm, **ROSES THEATRE TEWKESBURY**  
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Fri 7 Mar 7:30pm, **LUDLOW ASSEMBLY ROOMS**  
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**'UNMISSABLE'**

Sunday Express 2013



**'CATCH IT IF YOU CAN'**

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

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With original production elements  
and choreography by **JEROME ROBBINS**

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)

## Swan Lake

Birmingham Hippodrome

Everyone should see this masterpiece of dazzling dance, which Matthew Bourne, the genius behind the production, refers to as 'contemporary dance/theatre' rather than ballet. Tchaikovsky's music is so familiar, yet the interpretation still so new. It's unbelievable that this production first found its wings eighteen years ago. It was revolutionary then, and it still is today. Swan Lake with male swans? Oh yes - and with the raw, powerful energy of their performance, we know these swans are real creatures. We must also acknowledge the fantastic contribution of the female cast members, who actually constitute a third of the company. Coventry-born Andrew Monaghan delights as the Prince, with Jonathan Olliver as the charismatic Swan. This production takes the audience on a rollercoaster ride of emotions, embracing both humour and tragedy, and boasts not only a fabulous set but also exquisite costumes, designed by Lez Brotherston.

A standing ovation from the whole of the audience rounded off the evening in appropriate style. Catch it when you can - you're in for a treat.

Jan Watts ■■■■■



## Seven Brides For Seven Brothers

New Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham

Based on the smash-hit 1954 Hollywood musical of the same title and the short story *The Sobbin' Women*, this classic tale has stood the test of time and remains a crowd-pleasing favourite. Alex Hammond would've stolen the show as Adam, the confident leader of the rambunctious Pontipee brothers, had his performance not been matched by that of Helena Blackman, who played his steely bride Milly. On being whisked back to Adam's secluded Oregon mountain home, Milly discovers that 'wedded bliss' equals 'becoming housekeeper to his slovenly siblings'. Cue much hilarity, as her valiant attempt to teach the brothers civilised manners in lively number *Goin' Courtin'* leads to a meeting with the local women and numerous abductions-cum-betrothals! *Social Dance* was easily the highlight of the entire show, which did wear on at times, and the talented young cast displayed keen athleticism during some inventively choreographed routines. Indeed, these sequences brimmed with tremendous energy, leaving the bizarre plot feeling like little more than an afterthought. I must confess to being somewhat underwhelmed by the lacklustre songs, though one number belted out with genuine passion was Hammond's powerful *Where Were You?* The second half, during which the abductees adjusted to mountain life and Adam and Milly separated, was stultifying, never regaining the momentum of the first half. At least the two leads' reunion and final wedding extravaganza delivered a feelgood ending.

A classic musical, but not for this modern woman. Malaka Chowdhury ■■■

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## Hofesh Shechter: Sun

Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry

Sun marks the much-anticipated return of Israeli-born choreographer Hofesh Shechter - and what a return it is! Living up to all expectations, it's a work boasting everything you'd expect from Shechter, and plenty more besides.

As the auditorium is plunged into darkness - a regular feature of Sun - Shechter personally addresses his audience, reassuring them that everything's 'going to be just fine'. Seventy minutes of chaos then ensues, via an eclectic mix of movement, music and laughter.

But don't be mistaken; Sun is no comedy. Instead, the piece introduces episodes of violence and war interrupted with scenes of grazing sheep and prying wolves, all of which serve as a constant reminder of the dangers that lurk in everyday life. Some of the movements make a nod in the direction of a more classical style, imitating port de bras (another regular feature of the choreographer's work), box steps and Charlestons. It's in the build up of the chaos that we see Shechter at his best - the familiarity of intricate stepping patterns, grounded and heavy movement. A high-level of sound compliments what we see and feel, while Shechter's ability to build drama with his creations - both visual and aural - generates a real air of discomfort. This is a somewhat beautiful work, albeit a very complex one, and Shechter delivers on pretty much every level. The only thing missing, his live orchestra, would really have pushed the piece over that edge. Jamie Ryan ■■■■■

# COMING SOON TO THEATRE SEVERN

THURSDAY 6 MARCH 2014



## iMAGICIAN THE EVOLUTION OF MAGIC

Jamie Allan is one of the greatest innovators of modern magic and has devised illusions that have stunned audiences across the globe.

'Beautiful, Artistic' Andrew Marr

FRIDAY 21 MARCH 2014

## CARA DILLON WITH SUPPORT FROM WINTER MOUNTAIN

"Cara Dillon is one of Ireland's truly great singers"  
Guardian



SUNDAY 23 MARCH 2014

Fame: our society is obsessed with it – but who will talk honestly about what it's really like? David Baddiel, in his first full show for fifteen years, does.

## DAVID BADDIEL FAME: NOT THE MUSICAL

FRIDAY 28 MARCH 2014



## AN EVENING WITH RUTHIE HENSHALL

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**What's On**

<p>14 March 7.30pm Tickets £14</p> <p><b>NICHOLAS NICKLEBY</b> Performed by 'Charles Dickens' great grandson Gerald Dickens A One Man Show</p>	<p>24 March 7.30pm Tickets £16 (£12)</p> <p><b>RIVER MONSTERS</b> face to face With Jeremy Wade</p>
<p>28 March 7.30pm Tickets £17.50</p> <p><b>HERMAN'S HERMITS</b> One of the most successful groups world-wide</p>	<p>1 April 11am &amp; 2pm Tickets £16 (£12)</p> <p><b>DOUG ALLAN</b> In the Company of Giants Wildlife Cameraman</p>
<p>11 April 7.30pm Tickets £21</p> <p><b>ROY CHUBBY BROWN</b> Returns with his bluest show yet!</p>	<p>13 April 11am &amp; 2pm Tickets £12 (£10)</p> <p><b>Chris Pui</b> CBeebies favourite double act</p>

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## Casting confirmed for Shakespeare In Love

Tom Bateman and Lucy Briggs-Owen are to play star-crossed lovers William Shakespeare and Viola de Lesseps in the much-anticipated stage version of 1998 film Shakespeare In Love. Bateman's stage credits include The Duchess Of Malfi at the Old Vic and Much Ado About Nothing at Wyndham's Theatre, while Briggs-Owen has appeared in productions of Boris Godunov, The Orphan Of Zhao and A Midsummer Night's Dream.

Based on Marc Norman and Tom Stoppard's Academy Award-winning screenplay, this major new version is brought to the stage by Lee Hall, the man behind multi-award-winning musical Billy Elliot.

Shakespeare In Love opens at the Noel Coward Theatre on 23 July.

## Goold unveils two new plays at the Almeida Theatre

Almeida Theatre's new Artistic Director Rupert Goold has announced he's to direct the world premiere of a controversial new 'future history play' about the early reign of Prince Charles. King Charles III explores not only the people underneath the crown and the unwritten rules of Britain's democracy, but also the conscience of the country's most famous family.

The production runs at the Almeida from 3 April to 31 May, and is the first of two new plays programmed at the venue by Goold. The second, Anne Washburn's Mr Burns, shows at the theatre from 5 June to 19 July.



## Great Gatsby star Carey Mulligan to make her West End debut

A brand new production of David Hare's Skylight is to open at Wyndham's Theatre in June.

The passionate drama received much acclaim when it premiered at the National in 1995, going on to win the Oliver Award for best new play. Having since been resurrected both in the West End and on Broadway, this latest revival sees Inside Llewellyn Davies and Great Gatsby actress Carey Mulligan make her West End debut, playing schoolteacher Kyra Hollis.

Set in present-day London, Skylight is a three-hander in which Hollis is reunited with

old flame Tom Sergeant, here played by Bill Nighy. As they attempt to rekindle their former feelings for one another, Sergeant and Hollis engage in an evening of brutal debate - one that's dangerously compromised by their opposing ideologies and mutual lust. Matthew Beard, who starred alongside Mulligan in the 2009 coming-of-age film An Education, makes his West End debut as Tom's son.

Directed by Stephen Daldry and featuring designs by Bob Crowley, Skylight starts its two-month run at Wyndham's on 18 June.

## 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 28 June 2014

#### CHARLIE AND THE CHOCOLATE FACTORY - THE MUSICAL

Drury Lane Royal, booking until 30 May 2015

#### COMMITMENTS

Victoria Palace Theatre, booking until 14 Sept 2014

#### DIRTY ROTTEN

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

**FROM HERE TO ETERNITY** Shaftesbury Theatre, booking until 29 Mar 2014

#### I CAN'T SING! THE X FACTOR MUSICAL

London Palladium Theatre, booking until 25 Oct 2014

#### JERSEY BOYS

Piccadilly Theatre, 14 Mar - 25 Oct 2014

#### LES MISÉRABLES

Queen's Theatre, booking until 25 Oct 2014

#### LION KING

Lyceum Theatre, booking until 28 Sept 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, 3 May - 25 Oct 2014

#### ONCE

Phoenix Theatre, 13 Mar - 4 July 2015

#### 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 Jul - 23 Aug 2014

#### STEPHEN WARD

Aldwych Theatre, booking until 31 May 2014

#### STOMP

Ambassadors Theatre, booking until 21 Dec 2014

#### TELL ME ON A SUNDAY

Duchess Theatre,

booking until 8 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 25 Apr 2015

### DRAMA

#### ANTONY & CLEOPATRA

Shakespeare's Globe Theatre, 17 May - 24 Aug 2014

#### DOCTOR SCROGGY'S WAR

Shakespeare's Globe Theatre, from 12 Sept 2014

#### FATAL ATTRACTION

Haymarket Theatre Royal, 11 Mar - 21 Jun 2014

#### GHOST STORIES

Arts Theatre, booking until 24 May 2014

#### HANDBAGGED

Vaudeville Theatre, 3 Apr - 2 Aug 2014

#### KING LEAR

Olivier National Theatre, booking until 28 May 2014

#### OTHER DESERT CITIES

Old Vic Theatre, 13 Mar - 24 May 2014

### COMEDY

**39 STEPS** Criterion Theatre, booking until 18 Oct 2014

#### BLITHE SPIRIT

Gielgud Theatre, booking until 7 June 2014

#### DUCK HOUSE

Vaudeville Theatre, booking until 29 Mar 2014

#### KNIGHTS OF THE

**BURNING PESTLE** Old Vic Theatre, 20 Feb - 30 Mar 2014

#### TWELFTH KNIGHT

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

Fatal Attraction - Haymarket Theatre Royal



# Dance



## Mana

Solihull Arts Complex, Tues 4 March; Arena Theatre, Wolverhampton, Fri 7 March; No.8 Pershore, Worcestershire, Fri 14 March; Artrix, Bromsgrove, Fri 28 March

Presented by Birmingham-based ACE dance and music, Mana is described as a 'thought-provoking' double-bill that blends Afro-fusion movement styles, martial arts techniques, and an essence of flamenco and ballet. Set to 'a stunning backdrop' of commissioned music and cutting-edge lighting design, the performance promises 'a journey so powerful it will send shivers down the spine'.

The two featured pieces include Spanish choreographer José Agudo's A Thousand Shepherds - a celebration of discipline and dedication inspired by tradition - and South African choreographer, Vincent Mantsoe's Mana (the same name as the double-bill), which evokes 'the spirit and earthy ambience of African dance and traditions'. Founded in 1996, ACE dance and music combine African and Caribbean movement aesthetics with contemporary techniques to create high quality, innovative performance work.

## Candoco Dance Company

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

Founded in 1991 by Celeste Dandeker and Adam Benjamin, Candoco Dance Company comprises disabled and non-disabled dancers who present a diverse repertoire of contemporary works. During its twenty-three-year history, the ensemble's productions have received plenty of critical praise, The Observer describing them as 'delicious and very funny', and The Stage as 'utterly cool'. This Warwick date, which sees Candoco present a triple-bill of works, showcases a new, full-company presentation by the award-winning Thomas Hauert. The choreographer's piece challenges dancers' habitual ways of moving, and features 'patterns of swirling, pushing, jittering and side-stepping in and out of formations, shifting and changing like a flock of birds.' A restaging of Trisha Brown's signature work Set And Reset/Reset, performed to Laurie Anderson's score, also features, as does Two For C from award-winning choreographer Javier de Frutos.



## Love&Sex Aka Per-mission

The Drum, Birmingham, Fri 28 March

This hard-hitting new dance show is delivered by Somerset-based State Of Emergency. Described as a journey in two parts, Love&Sex starts with the expectation of a girls' night out, and invites audiences to question their own behaviour and that of others. In part two, choreographer Alesandra Seutin has created a world of love and hope amidst the negative pressures of modern life.

Founded in 1986, at a time of political unrest both in the UK and globally, State Of Emergency was named after the mid-1980s dictate imposed by the apartheid government in South Africa.





# 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 Mar, The Swan Theatre Worcester

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

**ESSENCE OF IRELAND** Exploration of Irish myths through narration, Irish music and Irish dancing, Sun 2 Mar, Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury

**MANA** A production of African dance and Shaman traditions. Presented by ACE dance and music, Tue 4 Mar, Solihull Arts Complex

**CANDOCO DANCE COMPANY TRIPLE BILL** Tue 4 - Wed 5 Mar, Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry

**JAMES WILTON DANCE: LAST MAN STANDING** James Wilton's first full-length work, which explores 'threats to life' and man's desire to survive, Wed 5 Mar, mac - Midlands Arts Centre, Birmingham

**AN EVENING OF BURLESQUE** Britain's biggest burlesque spectacular, Fri 7 Mar, Stafford Gatehouse Theatre

**ANTON DU BEKE** Best known for starring in BBC1's Strictly Come Dancing, Anton Du Beke is back with a stunning new show, Sat 8 - Sun 9 Mar, Symphony Hall, Birmingham

**SWAN LAKE** Presented by Moscow Ballet La Classique Thurs 13 - Fri 14 Mar, Belgrade Theatre, Coventry

**IT'S SHOWTIME 2014** Presented by Ami Ashton Dance Company, Wed 12 - Thurs 13 Mar, Bedworth Civic Hall

**GISELLE** Moscow Ballet La Classique present the most romantic of classical ballets, Thurs 13 - Sat 15 Mar, Belgrade Theatre, Coventry

**ESSENCE OF IRELAND** Sun 23 Mar, The Roses Theatre, Tewkesbury

**PASHA & KATYA** Sun 23 Mar, Malvern Theatre

**THE SLEEPING BEAUTY** Royal Opera House Live screening, Wed 19 Mar, The Edge Arts Centre, Much Wenlock, South Shropshire & Ludlow Assembly Rooms, South Shropshire

**THE LITTLE MERMAID** World premiere, presented by Ballet Theatre UK, Sat 22 Mar, Bridge House Theatre, Warwick

**SLEEPING BEAUTY** The Russian State Ballet of Siberia present the classic story of love and innocence, mystery and magic, set to Tchaikovsky's sublime score, Sun 23 Mar, Wolverhampton Grand Theatre

**A NIGHT IN THE WEST END** Presented by Yvonne's School of Dance and Curtain Call Productions, Sun 23 Mar, Crewe Lyceum Theatre

**ESSENCE OF IRELAND** Sun 23 Mar, The Roses Theatre, Tewkesbury

**PASHA & KATYA** Sun 23 Mar, Malvern Theatre

**GISELLE** The Russian State Ballet & Orchestra of Siberia present the heart-rending tale of love, treachery and forgiveness from beyond the grave, Mon 24 Mar, Wolverhampton Grand Theatre

**SWAN LAKE** The Russian State Ballet & Orchestra of Siberia present the greatest romantic ballet of all time, Tue 25 Mar, Wolverhampton Grand Theatre

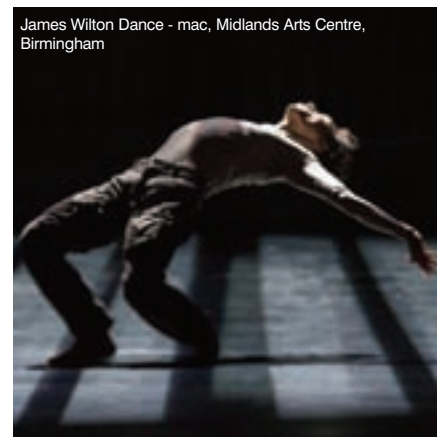
**SWAN LAKE** Presented by Vienna Festival Ballet, Wed 26 Mar, Bedworth Civic Hall

**THE FALLING SONG** Junk Ensemble push physicality to the extreme in a performance which explores the dangerous relationship between flying and falling, Thurs 27 Mar, mac - Midlands Arts Centre, B'ham

**MANA** Fri 28 Mar, Artrix, Bromsgrove

**LOVE & SEX AKA PERMISSION** State Of Emergency present their brand new, hard-hitting dance theatre show, Fri 28 Mar, The Drum, Birmingham

**HOLI: A CELEBRATION OF COLOUR** Jai Jashn Dance and Arena Theatre present an evening of music and dance which celebrates India's rich and diverse culture, Sat 29 Mar,



James Wilton Dance - mac, Midlands Arts Centre, Birmingham

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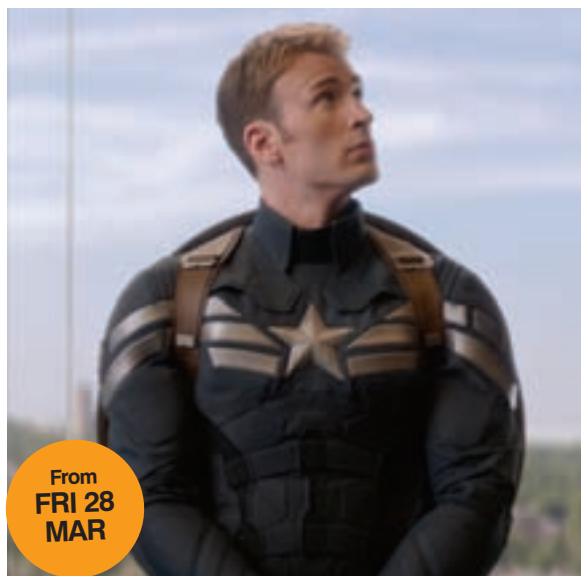


From  
FRI 14  
MAR

## Grace Of Monaco CERT tbc

Starring Nicole Kidman, Tim Roth, Frank Langella, Parker Posey, Milo Ventimiglia, Derek Jacobi, Paz Vega, Robert Lindsay Directed by Olivier Dahan (USA/Monaco/France/Belgium/Italy)

As Grace of Monaco has been chosen to open this year's Cannes Film Festival, one hopes that it will receive a warmer reception than last year's Diana. The latter, which starred Nicole's friend Naomi Watts as Princess Diana, was given an unwarranted critical mauling - it was obviously too fragile a subject for a film. Here, Olivier Dahan's biography deals with the marital crisis of the former Grace Kelly, who went from being Hollywood royalty to bona fide European sovereignty. Tim Roth, a fine actor, seems an odd choice to play Prince Rainier III, but then Dahan did help to earn Marion Cotillard an Oscar for playing Edith Piaf (in La Vie En Rose).



From  
FRI 28  
MAR

## Captain America: The Winter Solider CERT tbc

Starring Chris Evans, Scarlett Johansson, Robert Redford, Samuel L. Jackson, Sebastian Stan, Anthony Mackie, Cobie Smulders, Hayley Atwell, Dominic Cooper Directed by Anthony Russo and Joe Russo (USA)

At the end of Captain America: The First Avenger (2011), CP - aka Steve Rogers - found himself transported from the Second World War to present-day America. As if adjusting to Twitter and climate change weren't enough, CP now finds himself pitted against a ruthless Soviet assassin, the Winter Soldier, who happens to have been CP's old friend of yore (aka James 'Bucky' Barnes). But, luckily for CP, he now has the help of the Black Widow (Johansson) and the Falcon (Mackie). But are they enough to save the future of the planet? Shown in both 3D and the IMAX format.

## TOP 5

FILM BOX OFFICE

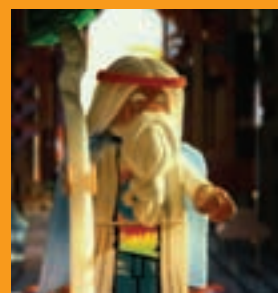
1 The Lego Movie (U)

2 The Monuments Men (12a)

3 RoboCop (12a)

4 Mr Peabody And Sherman (U)

5 The Wolf Of Wall Street (18)



Released from Fri 7 Mar

## The Grand Budapest Hotel

CERT 12a (100 mins)

Starring **Ralph Fiennes, F. Murray Abraham, Edward Norton, Mathieu Amalric, Saoirse Ronan, Adrien Brody, Jude Law, Bill Murray, Owen Wilson**

Directed by **Wes Anderson (UK/Germany)**

For those who like their entertainment a little mannered and askew, then Wes Anderson is their man. Following the cult euphoria that greeted his *The Life Aquatic with Steve Zissou*, *The Darjeeling Limited* and *Moonrise Kingdom*, Anderson now brings us an original story about a concierge in an imaginary European country. Ralph Fiennes plays the porter of the eponymous establishment (in the Republic of Zubrowka) and his adventures prove to be predictably unconventional.



## Paranoia

CERT 12 (102 mins)

Starring **Liam Hemsworth, Gary Oldman, Amber Heard, Harrison Ford, Lucas Till, Embeth Davidtz, Richard Dreyfuss**

Directed by **Robert Luketic (USA)**

Although shot in the summer of 2012, *Paranoia* is only being released now - rushed into cinemas in the silly season - after a tsunami of hostile reviews in the US. A story of corporate greed and skulduggery, it's based on the novel by Joseph Finder and has a cast to die for. Pity.



## 300: Rise Of An Empire

CERT 15 (102mins)

Starring **Sullivan Stapleton, Eva Green, Lena Headey, Hans Matheson, Rodrigo Santoro, David Wenham**

Directed by **Noam Murro (USA/Bulgaria)**

Seven years ago Zack Snyder's sword-and-sandal epic *300* made Gerard Butler a major star. Now we have the sequel in which the Australian actor Sullivan Stapleton (*Animal Kingdom*) plays the Greek general Themistokles who defends his people from invading Persian forces led by Xerxes (Santoro). Expect lots of fighting. In 3D and (in some cinemas) IMAX.

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## Escape From Planet Earth

CERT U (89 mins)

With the voices of **Brendan Fraser, Sarah Jessica Parker, Rob Corddry, William Shatner, Craig Robinson, Jessica Alba, Ricky Gervais**

Directed by **Cal Brunker (Canada/USA)**

Scorch Supernova (Fraser) is a heroic astronaut from the Planet Baab and gets an SOS call from Earth - aka the Dark Planet. But it's a trap and Scorch is captured and tranquilized by the dastardly General Shanker (Shatner) and taken to Area 51 where the army hotshot keeps a variety of aliens... The American reviews were not kind. In 3D



Released from Weds 12 Mar

## Need For Speed

CERT 12a (130 mins)

Starring **Aaron Paul, Dominic Cooper, Scott Mescudi, Imogen Poots, Ramon Rodriguez, Michael Keaton, Dakota Johnson**

Directed by **Scott Waugh (USA)**

Yet another film based on a video game, this is yet another story about a man - a speed racer, no less - who is wrongly imprisoned. There are also the familiar ingredients of a frame-up and then revenge. Mr Paul, of course, is most famous for playing Jesse Pinkman in the cult TV series Breaking Bad. In 3D.



## The Zero Theorem

CERT 15 (106 mins)

Starring **Christoph Waltz, Mélanie Thierry, David Thewlis, Lucas Hedges, Matt Damon, Tilda Swinton**

Directed by **Terry Gilliam (UK/Romania)**

Prior to the Monty Python team getting back together again, its American member managed to direct one of his increasingly rare and unconventional movies. This one is a science fiction fantasy about a computer hacker (Waltz) looking for the meaning of life. Of course, it's all there in the algebra, except that Life keeps on getting in the way...



From  
FRI 21  
MAR

## The Rocket

CERT 12a (96 mins)

Starring **Siththiphon Disamoe, Loungnam Kaosainam, Suthep Po-ngam, Sumrit Warin**

Directed by **Kim Mordaunt (Australia/Thailand/Laos)**

Considering the country's extraordinary topography and political and cultural legacy, it is astonishing that Laos has not served as the backdrop for a major film until now. Marking the feature directorial debut of the Australian documentarian (and former actor) Kim Mordaunt, *The Rocket* explores the displacement of a rural Lao community as a new dam is constructed. The central character is Ahlo, a ten-year-old boy believed to bring bad luck wherever he goes. Nonetheless, Ahlo is filled with a sense of adventure and mischief as befits a boy of his age. And even with his home and family in tatters, Ahlo resolves to build a rocket (of the firework variety) to prove his worth... Working with non-professional actors and shooting on the hoof in amongst the gorgeous jungle scenery, Mordaunt has created a bewitching fable that is at once magical, heart-breaking, earthy, relevant and breathtakingly beautiful - one of the most distinctive and unusual films you are likely to see all year.



## Under The Skin

CERT 15 (108 mins)

Starring **Scarlett Johansson, Antonia Campbell-Hughes, Paul Brannigan**

Directed by **Jonathan Glazer (UK)**

From the director of *Sexy Beast* and *Birth*, this science fiction thriller stars Scarlett Johansson as an alien who preys on hitchhikers in Scotland. Apparently, you'll either love it or hate it.

## About Last Night

CERT 15 (100 mins)

Starring **Kevin Hart, Michael Ealy, Regina Hall, Joy Bryant, Paula Patton, Christopher McDonald**

Directed by **Steve Pink (USA)**

A remake of the 1986 romcom that starred Rob Lowe and Demi Moore, this version has changed the colour of the characters and switched the locale from Chicago to Los Angeles. But it's still about the complications of love, from the first bloom through to a time of reconciliation. And like the first film, it's a rough adaptation of David Mamet's 1974 play *Sexual Perversity In Chicago*.

## Veronica Mars

CERT tbc

Starring **Kristen Bell, Jason Dohring, Krysten Ritter, Ryan Hansen, Francis Capra**

Directed by **Rob Thomas (USA)**

Nine years after the TV series ended, the feature film version of *Veronica Mars* arrives, with Kristen Bell reprising her role as the former teenage sleuth. Although reluctant to return to her hometown of Neptune, California, Veronica goes there to investigate a murder to clear her old boyfriend's name.

Released from Fri 21 Mar

## A Long Way Down

CERT 15 (96 mins)

Starring **Pierce Brosnan, Toni Collette, Aaron Paul, Imogen Poots, Rosamund Pike, Sam Neill, Tuppence Middleton**

Directed by **Pascal Chaumeil (UK)**

Johnny Depp bought the rights to Nick Hornby's 2005 novel before it was even published, but has taken a back seat on this all-British production. It's the story of four people who decide to commit suicide by jumping off a tall building in London on New Year's Eve. The twist is that they're all strangers and each character's attempt to end his life in solitude is ruined by the appearance of the other. Knowing Hornby, there'll be quite a lot of humour in amongst the soul searching.

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## Starred Up

CERT 18 (106 mins)

Starring **Jack O'Connell, Ben Mendelsohn, Rupert Friend, Sam Spruell**  
Directed by **David Mackenzie (UK)**

Written by the former prison therapist Jonathan Asser, *Starred Up* is the story of a teenage inmate (O'Connell) who, because of his predilection for violence, is moved from a young offender's institution to an adult jail. There, he not only encounters an unconventional therapist (Friend) but his own father (Mendelsohn). Expect some pretty strong violence (and language).



## The Unknown Known

CERT tbc

Directed by **Errol Morris (USA)**

With films like *The Thin Blue Line* and *The Fog Of War* under his belt, Errol Morris has proved himself to be one of the pre-eminent documentary filmmakers working today. Here, he turns his attention to Donald Rumsfeld, the former US Secretary of Defence. And, yes, the 2003 invasion of Iraq will be under discussion.

## Yves Saint Laurent

CERT 15 (106mins)

Starring **Pierre Niney, Guillaume Gallienne, Charlotte Lebon, Laura Smet**  
Directed by **Jalil Lespert (France)**

With a title like this, you can expect a good deal of fashion. Indeed, this is a biog of the Frenchman once described as the most influential fashion designer of the latter part of the twentieth century. However, Lespert's film tackles more than the catwalks and explores Saint Laurent's long-term friendship, love affair and business partnership with Pierre Bergé. Amazingly, this is the fifth film to have been made about Saint Laurent.



## Half Of A Yellow Sun

CERT 15 (111 mins)

Starring **Thandie Newton, Chiwetel Ejiofor, Anika Noni Rose, Joseph Mawle, John Boyega** Directed by **Biyi Bandele (Nigeria/UK)**

It is perhaps ironic that great African parts are so often played by the English. Winnie Mandela has been played by the London-born Sophie Okonedo and Naomie Harris, Nelson Mandela by Idris Elba, and (wince) Muhammad Ahmad by Laurence Olivier (in Khartoum). Now comes the adaptation of



## Muppets Most Wanted

CERT U (113 mins)

Starring **Ricky Gervais, Ty Burrell, Tina Fey, Tom Hiddleston, Zach Galifianakis, Kermit, Miss Piggy, The Great Gonzo**  
Directed by **James Bobin (USA)**

Following the unexpected critical and commercial success of *The Muppets* (2011), Kermit & co. are back for more songs and adventures. This time the gang are on tour in Europe (London, Berlin, Madrid) and find themselves involved in an international crime racket headed by Kermit's double.

Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie's *Orange Prize-winning novel* set during the Nigerian-Biafran War of 1967-1970. While Adichie and the director Bandele are Nigerian, the two leads are played by the London-born Thandie Newton and Chiwetel Ejiofor, as Olanna and her lover Odenigbo. While they are both very good, Bandele (a prominent novelist and playwright) is unable to draw convincing performances from the rest of his cast and the film, at best, is workmanlike. And, spanning most of the 1960s, it fails to find a cohesive narrative, although under the guidance of cinematographer John de Borman it does look terrific.



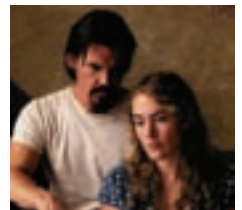
## Labor Day

CERT 12a (111 mins)

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 is 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.



Released from Fri 28 Mar

## The Legend Of Hercules

CERT 12a (99 mins)

Starring **Kellan Lutz, Gaia Weiss, Scott Adkins, Roxanne McKee**  
Directed by **Renny Harlin (USA)**

K.Lutz played Emmet Cullen in the *Twilight* saga and here gets to flex his pecs as Greek mythology's great hunk. Unfortunately, the film was a massive flop in the US, augmented by excoriating reviews. Let's hope that the August release *Hercules* - with Dwayne Johnson as the eponymous hunk - is a better proposition.

# 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 Old Market Hall, Shrewsbury, until Sat 1 Mar; Ludlow Assembly Rooms, South Shropshire, Sat 1 - Tues 4 Mar; Wern Town Hall, North Shropshire, Tues 4th & Thurs 6 Mar; Roses Theatre, Tewkesbury, Sun 9 - Mon 17 Mar; Stoke Film Theatre, Fri 14 - Sat 15 Mar; The Festival Drayton Centre, Fri 21 - Sat 22, Mon 24 - Tues 25 Mar*

## 1395 Days Without Red tbc

A woman makes her way through an eerily quiet city. At every crossing she stops. Should she wait or should she run? Should she wait for others or take the risk on her own? The city is Sarajevo, and the route the woman takes became known as Sniper Alley during the siege of the city endured by its citizens for 1395 days between 1992 and 1996. Stars Maribel Verdú. *Showing at mac, Birmingham, Sat 22 Mar*

## 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 Ludlow Assembly Rooms, South Shropshire, Sat 8 - Mon 10 Mar*

## 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 Festival Drayton Centre, Fri 7 & Mon 8 Mar; Ludlow Assembly Rooms, South Shropshire, Mon 17 - Tues 18 Mar; Roses Theatre,*

*Tewkesbury, Weds 19 Mar*

## The Armstrong Lie 15

The extraordinary story of the Tour de France champion Lance Armstrong, his fight with testicular and brain cancer, his astonishing comeback and then his terrible shame. *Showing at mac, Birmingham, Sat 1 - Mon 3 Mar*

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## The Artist 15

It's 1927, and George Valentin is a silent movie megastar whose fame is threatened by the advent of the 'talkies'. Dismissing this technological advance as a fad, he stubbornly ploughs on with a big budget silent epic. *Showing at Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry, Sat 1 Mar*

## 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 mac, Birmingham, Fri 14 - Tues 18 Mar; Roses Theatre, Tewkesbury, Sat 29 Mar - Tues 01 Apr*

## Back To The Garden 12a

It's a year since the death of an inspirational theatre director, and his widow is struggling to come to terms with her loss. So a group of close friends come to spend the weekend, to offer their support and to

celebrate his memory before they scatter his ashes in the garden. Stars Emma Garden, Anna Mottram. *Showing at mac, Birmingham, Mon 17 - Thurs 20 Mar*

## Blancanieves 12a

A black and white silent film retelling Snow White and set in 1920s Seville. *Showing at Foxlowe Arts Centre, Leek, Tues 25 Mar*

## Blue Jasmine 12a

New York socialite Jasmine Francis has got a major case of the blues. She's also forced to move in with her sister when her marriage to a rich businessman self-destructs. Stars Alec Baldwin and Cate Blanchett. *Showing at The Edge Arts Centre, Much Wenlock, Mon 3 Mar*

## The Book Thief 12a

A young girl sent to live with a foster family in World War Two Germany learns to read with encouragement from Max, a Jewish refugee who they're hiding under the stairs. *Showing at Wern Town Hall, Tues 11 & Thurs 13 Mar; Old Market Theatre, Shrewsbury, until Thurs 13 Mar; mac, Birmingham, Fri 21 - Thurs 27 Mar*

## Captain Phillips 12a

Tom Hanks plays the eponymous captain, who was abducted by Somali pirates in 2009. *Showing at The Edge Arts Centre, Much Wenlock, Mon 24 Mar*

## Cinema Paradiso 15

Salvatore, now a successful film director, returns home for the funeral of Alfredo, his old friend who was projectionist at the local cinema throughout his childhood. Soon, memories of his first love affair and all the highs and lows that shaped his life come flooding back. *Showing at Roses Theatre, Tewkesbury, Sun 16 Mar*

## The Dallas Buyers Club 15

Based on a lengthy article in the Dallas Morning News, this is a true story about a homophobic rodeo jock who contracts Aids. Starring Matthew McConaughey, Jennifer

Garner. *Showing at mac, Birmingham, Sat 1 - Thurs 2 Mar*

## False Trail 15

When Erik's boss orders him back to his home town to solve a brutal murder, he hesitantly returns, the thought of going back stirring up unpleasant memories. And what at first appears to be a simple murder soon proves to be something much more complicated. *Showing at Foxlowe Arts Centre, Leek, Tues 4 Mar*

## 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's forced to marry her late sister's husband... *Showing at Hereford Courtyard Theatre, Mon 24 - Weds 26 Mar*

## Fires Were Started u

Tells of the London fire-service battling in the Blitz. *Showing at The Hive, Shrewsbury, Fri 7 Mar*

## Frozen PG

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. *Showing at Malvern Theatres, Sat 1 - Sun 2 Mar*

## The Great Flood u

A documentary built up from hours of archive footage filmed in 1927, when the Mississippi's banks broke in one hundred-and-forty-five different places and forced thousands of people from their homes. And, like Hurricane Katrina, it's a natural disaster that throws man-made inequality into sharp relief. *Showing at mac, Birmingham, Weds 26 Mar*

## The Great Gatsby 12a

Baz Luhrmann's production of the famous F Scott Fitzgerald novel stars Leonardo De Caprio and Carey Mulligan. *Showing at Forest Arts Centre, Walsall, Thurs 20 Mar*

## Hannah Arendt 12a

While reporting on the Nazi war crime trial of Adolf Eichmann, Hannah Arendt became embroiled in controversy when she tried to understand how such an ordinary person could be part of something so evil. *Showing at The Edge Arts Centre, Much Wenlock, Mon 31 Mar*

## Her 12a

In the not-too-distant future, Theo, who's going through a divorce, downloads a voice-activated operating system. Choosing a female identity for his new programme, he finds himself becoming totally reliant on 'Her'. Stars Joaquin Phoenix and the voice of Scarlett Johansson. *Showing at Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry, Sun 2 Mar; mac, Birmingham, Fri 14 - Thurs 20 Mar*

## 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 Ludlow Assembly Rooms, South Shropshire, Thurs 20 Mar*

## 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. Directed by the Coen brothers. *Showing at Wern Town Hall, North Shropshire, Mon 3 - Weds 5 Mar; Artrix, Bromsgrove, Mon 3 & Fri 14 Mar; Stoke Film Theatre, Fri 7 - Sat 8 Mar; Ludlow Assembly Rooms, South Shropshire, from Fri 28 Mar*

## The Invisible Woman 12a

The film focuses on Dickens' extra-marital relationship with Ellen 'Nelly' Ternan. Stars Ralph Fiennes and Felicity Jones. *Showing at Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry, Sun 2 Mar; Artrix, Bromsgrove, Mon 3 & Fri 14 Mar; Light House Media Centre,*

*Wolverhampton, until Thurs 6 Mar*

## Kiss The Water PG

A portrait of the extraordinary, eccentric Megan Boyd, who lived a hermit's existence in the Scottish Highlands, where she became the world's most celebrated maker of salmon fishing flies. *Showing at Ludlow Assembly Rooms, South Shropshire, Thurs 6 Mar; Stoke Film Theatre, Thurs 13 Mar*

## 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 The Edge Arts Centre, Much Wenlock, Mon 10 Mar*

## The Life Of Pi PG

The story of a sixteen-year-old Indian boy stranded on a lifeboat in the Pacific with a Bengal tiger, a spotted hyena, a zebra and an orangutan. *Showing at The Norbury Theatre, Droitwich Spa, Weds 19 Mar*

## Lift To The Scaffold PG

One of the seminal French films of the 1950s. A handsome veteran of the Indo-China and Algerian Wars and his lover plan the murder of her arms-manufacturer husband. Stars Maurice Ronet, Jeanne Moreau. Film score by Miles Davis. *Showing at mac, Birmingham, Tues 4 - Thurs 6 Mar*

## Lore 15

In Nazi Germany during the dying days of World War Two, five destitute siblings must travel 900km to their grandmother's home after their Nazi parents are arrested by Allied Forces. *Showing at The Hive, Shrewsbury, Fri 21 Mar*

## Mandela: Long Walk To Freedom 12a

The late anti-apartheid activist Nelson Mandela has been played by several actors, but this is the first film to be based on Mandela's autobiography. Stars Idris Elba. *Showing at Roses Theatre, Tewkesbury, Sun 2 - Tues*

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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



2 - Mon 10 Mar; Ludlow Assembly Rooms, South Shropshire, Sun 23 - Mon 24 Mar

### The Madness Of King George 12a

The story of King George III of England's slide into insanity and its resulting effects on both his family and the government of the time. Stars Nigel Hawthorne and Helen Mirren. *Showing at Stoke Film Theatre, Tues 11 Mar*

### The Missing Picture 12a

Rithy Panh uses clay figures, archival footage and narration to recreate the atrocities Cambodia's Khmer Rouge committed between 1975 and 1979. *Showing at Stoke Film Theatre, Tues 11 Mar*

### The Monuments Men 12a

Based on the book by Robert M Edsel, this is the true story of a group of art historians and curators who're conscripted to infiltrate Nazi Germany in order to track down invaluable works of art. *Showing at The Light House Media Centre, Wolverhampton, until Thurs 6 Mar; mac, Birmingham, Fri 7 - Thurs 13 Mar*

### The Moon Man u

Meet the man in the moon, whose solitary existence comes to an end when he hitches a

ride to Earth on a passing comet. *Showing at Roses Theatre, Tewkesbury, Sat 22 Mar*

### The Night Of The Hunter 12

The story of a religious fanatic who marries a gullible widow whose young children are reluctant to tell him where their 'real daddy' hid ten thousand dollars he'd stolen in a robbery. Stars Robert Mitchum and Shelly Winters. *Showing at mac, Birmingham, Fri 7 - Sat 8 Mar; Hereford Courtyard Theatre, Thurs 27 Mar*

### Only Lovers Left Alive 15

A reclusive, centuries-old vampire rock star is 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... Stars Tom Hiddleston, Tilda Swinton. *Showing at mac, Birmingham, Fri 21 - Weds 26 Mar*

### 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 Ludlow Assembly Rooms, South Shropshire, Tues 4 - Weds 5 Mar*

### Philomena 12a

Dame Judi Dench plays Philomena Lee, an elderly woman who decides to search for the son taken from her when she was just a teenager. Also stars Steve Coogan. *Showing at Stourbridge Town Hall, Mon 3 Mar; Foxlowe Arts Centre, Leek, Tues 18 Mar; Hereford Courtyard Theatre, from Sun 30 Mar*

### 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 Malvern theatres, until Thurs 6th Mar; Stoke Film Theatre, Thurs 6 Mar; Wern Town Hall, North Shropshire, Weds 26 - Thurs 27 Mar*

### Rush PG

The film charts the rivalry between Formula One racers James Hunt and Niki Lauda as they compete for the 1976 World Championship. Chris Hemsworth and Daniel Brühl star. *Showing at The Edge Arts Centre, Much Wenlock, Mon 17 Mar*

### The Secret Life Of Walter Mitty PG

Mitty, played by Ben

Stillier, is the ultimate dreamer, who embarks on extravagant adventures inside his own head.

*Showing at Roses Theatre, Tewkesbury, Sun 2 - Mon 3 Mar; Hereford Courtyard Theatre, Mon 17 - Weds 19 Mar*

### Stranger By The Lake 18

Alain Guiraudie's atmospheric thriller is set at a beautiful lakeside spot in southern France, frequented by men sunbathing in the summer heat and seeking out anonymous casual encounters in the nearby woods. Franck bears witness to a murder and, as a silent witness, must choose between his passion and his moral integrity. *Showing at mac, Birmingham, Sun 9 - Thurs 13 Mar*

### Sunshine On Leith PG

A musical following the story of two soldiers from Afghanistan who have to adjust to civilian life in Edinburgh. *Showing at Stourbridge Town Hall, Fri 7 Mar*

### Teenage 12a

Teenagers didn't exist much before the 1950s. Or did they? This kaleidoscopic collage of rare archive footage, diary entries and Super 8 recreations follows their evolution during the first half of the twentieth century.

*Showing at Roses Theatre, Tewkesbury, Mon 24 - Tues 25 Mar*

### Up u

This charming and visually stunning family film follows grumpy old widower Carl as he and his house travel to Venezuela with the help of thousands of balloons. *Showing at Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry, Sat 15 Mar*

### 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 Roses Theatre, Tewkesbury, Sat 15 Mar*

### 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 Foxlowe Arts Centre, Leek, Tues 11 Mar*

### The Wind In The Willows u

A stop-motion animation version of Kenneth Grahame's classic children's book. The Wild Wood is disturbed by Toad's latest eccentric scheme, and it's up to Mole, Ratty and Badger to

restore order. Voiced by David Jason and Michael Hordern, among others. *Showing at mac, Birmingham, Sat 8 Mar*

### 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 Ludlow Assembly Rooms, South Shropshire, Tues 25 - Weds 26 Mar; Roses Theatre, Tewkesbury, Sat 22 - Tues 25; Hereford Courtyard Theatre, from Fri 28 Mar*

### The World's End 15

Having failed with a pub crawl twenty years previously, five childhood friends meet up in order to re-attempt their alcoholic feat. But before they reach The World's End alehouse, they realise that the planet has been invaded by aliens. Stars Simon Pegg. *Showing at Forest Arts Centre, Walsall, Fri 7 Mar*

### Zero de Conduite PG

Director Jean Vigo's tale of an uprising in a French boarding school. *Showing at The Hive, Shrewsbury, Fri 7 Mar*

## DVD NEW RELEASES

### Ender's Game 12a

Our planet has been invaded. Again. In anticipation of a follow-up attack, 'The International Fleet' decides to train children for battles in the future. Stars Asa Butterfield and Harrison Ford. Based on the novel by Orson Scott Card. **Released 10 March**



### The Counsellor 18

Michael Fassbender plays the counsellor of the title, a lawyer whose greed leads him into deep water when he teams up with a drug trafficker and attempts to smuggle \$20 million-worth of cocaine across the Mexican border. **Released 17 March**

### Jeune & Jolie 18

That's 'Young & Beautiful' in English. The drama focuses on a year in the life of a seventeen-year-old French prostitute. Stars Marine Vacth. **Released 24 March**

### Dom Hemingway 15



Dom Hemingway is a safe-cracker who's just spent the last twelve years in prison. Now he's out - and wants his reward for keeping his mouth shut. Stars Jude Law. **Released 24 March-**



### Homefront 12a

Jason Statham plays a former DEA agent who moves his family to a quiet town to escape his violent past, only to find the place is ruled by a meth drug lord. Also stars James Franco and Winona Ryder. **Released 31 March**

### Philomena 12a

Philomena Lee is an elderly woman who decides to search for the son taken from her when she was just a teenager. The script, inspired by a true story,

was penned by Steve Coogan and Jeff Pope, and won the Best Screenplay Award at Venice. Judi Dench plays the eponymous heroine, while Coogan plays journalist Martin Sixsmith. **Released 24 March**



### Fill The Void u

With films like Eyes Wide Open, Lemon Tree and Waltz With Bashir, Israel is proving to be a leader in world cinema. This one is set in the highly orthodox world of the Haredi Jewish community in Tel Aviv. Shira Mendelman is an eighteen-year-old girl looking forward to her marriage when, out of the blue, her older sister dies in childbirth. So, in keeping with the levirate tradition, she's forced to marry her late sister's husband. Stars Hadas Yaron and Chaim Sharir. **Released 24 March**

### Oldboy 18

Here, Josh Brolin (No Country For Old Men, Gangster Squad) plays the detainee with retribution on his mind. Expect some strong adult content. **Released 31 March**



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



# Two worlds collide...

bringing Downtown New York to Birmingham

Birmingham will be filled with the sounds of Downtown New York this month, when Frontiers Festival hits venues across the city. Presented by Birmingham Conservatoire and Third Ear, Frontiers looks to the collaborative and do-it-your-own-way traditions of New York, and to the sounds, ideas and iconic moments from that city which have fuelled music culture.

Birmingham's own vibrant music scene, with its strong young voices and bold new work, adds to the programme. Visitors can expect performances taking in everything from jazz to post-punk, with experimental new sounds and cutting-edge technology. Plus there's performance art, exhibitions, performance poetry, workshops, talks and film screenings.

**Frontiers Festival Producer Ed McKeon has had a career spanning two decades, presenting over 200 events and commissioning 100 new musical works during that time. He is also a lecturer and broadcaster. What's On recently caught up with Ed to ask him about his favourite picks for Frontiers Festival:**

#### What can we expect in Frontiers Festival?

Frontiers Festival is an invitation to lose yourself in a parallel world - but it isn't the fantasy New York of yellow cabs, Times Square and Sinatra's 'city that never sleeps'.

The Downtown that Frontiers offers is an experience of being more alive, super-alert, astonished by sounds, performance, poetry, film and visual music that has changed your world. The musicians, artists and poets who make these experiences have done it their own way, creating paths into new realities that we're invited to follow. In Frontiers, you'll find work that seeks the 'extra' in the 'ordinary', offering experiences that are joyful, hilarious, ecstatic, surreal and generous.

#### So what do you mean by 'Downtown New York'?

'Downtown New York' is the term given to the musical and artistic scene which began in New York in the 1960s. Artists began to use non-traditional venues, such as lofts and industrial spaces, to make and perform experimental music and art. The rule book was torn up; it was a case of 'anything goes'.

#### What's the link between Downtown New York and contemporary Birmingham?

Even though much of this work is thirty or forty years old, it's hugely relevant today. Dig a little beneath the surface of the culture around us and you'll find a network of connections to the energy, ideas and ingenuity of the Downtown New York scene.



### Ed's top five highlights...

#### Pauline Oliveros: Quartetto Telematico

Parkside Studio, Millennium Point, Tues 1 April, 7 - 8pm

Pioneering American composer Pauline Oliveros directs a real-time improvised performance linking musicians in California, New York and Montreal using superfast broadband. Leading the event from Birmingham, this will be the first global telematic concert attempted by the composer in the UK. Now aged eighty-one, Oliveros is a legendary figure in contemporary American music. Her career spans some fifty years of boundary-breaking musicking, working as a composer, writer and campaigner.



#### Apartment House: Songs For Drella

Studio Theatre, Library of Birmingham Sun 30 March, 7.30pm - 9.30pm, £10/£7

This is a rare performance of numbers from Songs For Drella, Lou Reed and John Cale's 1990 tribute to Andy Warhol. It's performed by Leo Chadburn and Apartment House, one of the most exciting groups in Europe who create memorable performances of new, improvised and experimental music.

#### Decibel performing works by Robert Ashley

Adrian Boult Hall, Birmingham Conservatoire, Fri 4 April, 7.30pm - 9.30pm

Robert Ashley is a key member of the Downtown scene. His life's work is here honoured in a special ceremony at the Adrian Boult Hall. Resident ensemble Decibel performs his Outcome Inevitable and Hidden Similarities, presented alongside works by Birmingham Conservatoire composers Ed Bennett, Joe Cutler, Michael Wolters, Andrew Hamilton and Damien Harron.



#### Carl Stone: Fujiken

Ikon Gallery, Wed 2 April, 9pm - 10pm

This is the UK Première of Carl's new work. A pioneer of live computer music, Carl has been dubbed 'the king of sampling'. Fujiken is a blend of field recordings made in Southeast Asia, including meandering on the Chao Praya River in Bangkok, a fire outbreak in Phnom Penh and college sports practice in Toyota City Japan. Carl's presentation is the culmination of Festival In A Day, a whole day filled with film and performance



#### Elliot Sharp's Foliage And SCORE

Elliot Sharp's Foliage: Recital Hall, Birmingham Conservatoire, Thurs 3 April, 9pm - 10pm  
SCORE - Trace That Sound: Spotlight Exhibition Area, Library of Birmingham, Sat 22 March - Sat 5 April, 8am - 8pm (Mon - Fri), 9am - 5pm (Sat), 11am - 4pm (Sun)

Elliot's Sharp's Foliage is an extraordinary graphic score which is interpreted differently with each performance. It's here presented in a big band style, with a stellar line-up from the Conservatoire's jazz department and special guests. You can see the score itself in SCORE, an exhibition of graphic scores at the Library of Birmingham, which is well worth a visit.

PERFORMANCE

**Laurie Anderson's As If**  
Saturday 22 March,  
12noon

CENTENARY SQUARE,  
FREE TO ATTEND  
NO BOOKING NECESSARY

*Sarah Farmer responds to and re-imagines Laurie Anderson's As:if, playing her violin whilst wearing ice skates frozen into blocks of ice.*

PERFORMANCE

**Ryan Probert: Thirty-Six Views of Mount Fuji**  
Saturday 22 March,  
12-1pm

BY THE 3RD FLOOR GALLERY:  
LIBRARY OF BIRMINGHAM,  
CENTENARY SQUARE, B1 2ND  
FREE TO ATTEND  
NO BOOKING NECESSARY

*The Vickers-Bovey Guitar Duo perform the popular work by Birmingham Conservatoire composer Ryan Probert, inspired by conscious and unconscious memory.*

EXHIBITION

**SCORE – Trace That Sound**  
Saturday 22 March –  
Saturday 5 April  
8am - 8pm (Mon –  
Fri) 9am - 5pm (Sat)  
11am - 4pm (Sun)

SPOTLIGHT EXHIBITION AREA:  
LIBRARY OF BIRMINGHAM -  
FREE ADMISSION

*Sock puppets, playing cards, telephone doodles... This exhibition is a snapshot of the incredible variety of musical scores that have emerged since the 1950s. Featuring artists from Janet Boulton to Wadada Leo Smith, Christian Marclay to Claudia Molitor and Gavin Bryars, and precedents from ancient Egypt and the Middle Ages.*

PERFORMANCE

**Beat it! Percussionists led by Maraca2**  
Monday 24 March,  
5-6pm

MOOR STREET STATION  
FREE TO ATTEND –  
NO BOOKING NECESSARY

*Birmingham Conservatoire Percussion Ensemble Maraca2 explores the pulsating minimalist rhythms of Downtown New York from the bustling environment of Moor Street Station.*

PERFORMANCE

**Waste Paper Opera Company presents Bastien und Bastienne by James Oldham**

Tues 25 March and  
Wed 26 March,  
7.30-8.30pm

THE RAINBOW WAREHOUSE,  
160 DIGBETH HIGH STREET,  
B12 0LD  
TICKETS: £8 (£5)

*Picture a quaint Classical opera (Mozart's Bastien und Bastienne to be precise, written 250 years ago when Mozart was just twelve) that has been dragged carelessly through time, picking up various references and influences along the way. Then prepare yourself for a thorough and at times brutal reworking of it. This is 21st century theatre at its best.*

PERFORMANCE

**Hot Potato**  
Wednesday 26 March  
7-8pm

NEW LECTURE THEATRE:  
BIRMINGHAM  
CONSERVATOIRE, PARADISE  
PLACE, B3 3HG - £4 TICKETS  
AVAILABLE ON THE DOOR

*Robert Nettleship and his ensemble Hot Potato, present a set of striking contemporary music infused with a strong flavour of jazz.*

PERFORMANCE

**Spectrum**  
Thursday 27 March  
7.30-9.30pm

NEW LECTURE THEATRE:  
BIRMINGHAM  
CONSERVATOIRE, PARADISE  
PLACE, B3 3HG. FREE  
ADMISSION – NO BOOKING  
NECESSARY

*This programme of choral and chamber music demonstrates the broad spectrum of music being written and performed at Birmingham Conservatoire, and features both new works and Conservatoire classics.*

READING

**Beats and Birmingham – Poets and the City**  
Friday 28 March,  
5.30-7.30pm

CAFÉ MEZZANINE: LIBRARY  
OF BIRMINGHAM,  
FREE ADMISSION -  
NO BOOKING NECESSARY

*The Institute of Creative and Critical Writing brings Beat poetry into dialogue with Birmingham for a meditation on the city and the poetry of city life. Enjoy readings of the Beats - Ginsberg, Kerouac, Burroughs and Corso - alongside poets of the city Luke Kennard, Bohdan Piasecki and Louis MacNeice.*

PERFORMANCE

**The Young Composers Project Showcase**  
Friday 28 March,  
7.45pm-9pm

RECITAL HALL: BIRMINGHAM  
CONSERVATOIRE,  
TICKETS: £6 / £4 /  
FREE (UNDER 16s)

*Thirteen young composers showcase their work, from group song-writing with Jack McNeill to composing music for short animations and writing music for professional musicians.*

TALK

**Henry Hills Workshop**  
Friday 28 March  
7:30pm-9pm

EASTSIDE PROJECTS, 86  
HEATH MILL LANE, B9 4A  
TICKETS: £4 (£2)

*A long-time resident of New York's East Village, Henry Hills discusses his connections to and 'survival' of the downtown art scenes in New York in the '90s alongside some of his videos, including the rarely seen Naked City Series (Gotham, Igneous Ejaculation, & Osaka Bondage).*

PERFORMANCE

**Hans Koller Quartet featuring John O'Gallagher**  
Saturday 29 March  
8-9.45pm

CBSO Centre, Berkley  
Street, B1 2LF -  
TICKETS: £15  
plus transaction fee\*

*The great jazz pianist and composer Hans Koller is joined by saxophonist John O'Gallagher, fast becoming a key figure on the New York scene, and is a member of drummer Jeff Williams' New York Quartet. The quartet is completed by Percy Pursglove, a Jazzlines Fellow supported by the Jerwood Charitable Foundation, on bass.*

PERFORMANCE

**Five Encores to Dynamic Motion**  
Sunday 30 March  
12.15-1.15pm

RECITAL HALL: BIRMINGHAM  
CONSERVATOIRE, PARADISE  
PLACE, B1 3HG  
TICKETS: £5 (£3)

*Dynamic young pianist Vicky Bonham presents a programme of music by two wild men of American music together with new commissions from Birmingham Conservatoire composers.*

PERFORMANCE

**Steve Reich's Electric Counterpoint**  
Sunday 30 March,  
6-7pm

RECITAL HALL: BIRMINGHAM  
CONSERVATOIRE, PARADISE  
PLACE, B3 3HG  
TICKETS: £5 (£3)

*Steve Reich's minimalist composition Electric Counterpoint has inspired The Orb and many others. Here it will be performed by solo guitar with a mix of classical, steel string and electric bass tracks, devised by Matthew O'Malley.*

PERFORMANCE

**Songs For Drella**  
Sunday 30 March,  
7.30pm-9.30pm

STUDIO THEATRE: LIBRARY  
OF BIRMINGHAM  
TICKETS: £10 / £7

*Regarded as one of the most exciting groups in Europe, Apartment House together with Leo Chadburn will perform numbers from Songs for Drella, Lou Reed and John Cale's 1990 tribute to Andy Warhol, alongside works by Phil Niblock, Alvin Lucier, Chadburn himself, and songs by the late great Arthur Russell and by the Velvet Underground.*

PERFORMANCE

**Robert Ashley's Maneuvers for Small Hands**  
Monday 31 March,  
3-4pm

RECITAL HALL: BIRMINGHAM  
CONSERVATOIRE, PARADISE  
PLACE, B3 3HG  
TICKETS: £10 (£7)

*Maneuvers For Small Hands is one of Ashley's first major works, a wild and at times theatrical compendium of radical music from the '60s performed for the first time in over 40 years by Dutch pianist Reinier van Houdt.*

TALK

**Pauline Oliveros In conversation with Frances Morgan (The Wire)**  
Monday 31 March,  
5-6.15pm

HERITAGE LEARNING SPACE:  
LIBRARY OF BIRMINGHAM,  
CENTENARY SQUARE, B1 2ND

*Free admission – no booking necessary*

*Pauline Oliveros has been exploring the potential for listening and technology for the past 60 years to reveal to us our innermost humanity. She is interviewed by Deputy Editor of The Wire, Frances Morgan.*

PERFORMANCE

**Thallein Performs Works By Brown, Feldman & Cage**  
Monday 31 March,  
7-8pm

RECITAL HALL: BIRMINGHAM  
CONSERVATOIRE, PARADISE  
PLACE, B3 3HG  
TICKETS: £10 (£7)

*Three works all explicitly inspired by the work of visual artists, performed by the Thallein ensemble.*

PERFORMANCE

**European Première Morton Feldman's The Swallows Of Salangan**

Monday 31 March,  
8.30-8.40pm

ADRIAN BOULT HALL:  
BIRMINGHAM  
CONSERVATOIRE, PARADISE  
PLACE, B3 3HG

*Howard Skempton conducts players from BCMG and Thallein Ensemble, and members of Via Nova, in the European première of Morton Feldman's The Swallows of Salangan (1960), a work for chorus and orchestra.*

PERFORMANCE

**David Lang's The Passing Measures**  
Monday 31 March,  
9.15-10pm

ADRIAN BOULT HALL:  
BIRMINGHAM  
CONSERVATOIRE, PARADISE  
PLACE, B3 3HG  
TICKETS: £10 (£7) for both events

*Birmingham Contemporary Music Group perform the acclaimed work of David Lang.*

PERFORMANCE

**Pauline Oliveros with special guests**  
Tuesday 1 April,  
7-8pm

RECITAL HALL: BIRMINGHAM  
CONSERVATOIRE, PARADISE  
PLACE, B3 3HG  
TICKETS: £10 (£8)

*Pauline Oliveros is interested in the 'super human' qualities of which we're all capable, especially our ability to be attuned to the world when enhanced by technology. Here she presents a solo accordion performance with special guests.*

## PERFORMANCE

**Decibel performs Philip Glass**

**Tuesday 1 April,  
7.30pm-10pm**

IKON GALLERY, 1 OOEZELLS STREET, B1 2HS  
TICKETS: £12 (£8)

*Ensemble in Residence for Frontiers Festival, critically-acclaimed group Decibel gives a rare performance of Philip Glass' ground-breaking early minimal compositions.*

## PERFORMANCE

**Pauline Oliveros: Deep Listening® Meditation**

**Wednesday 2 April,  
9.30-11am**

IKON GALLERY, 1 OOEZELLS STREET, B1 2HS  
TICKETS: £15 (£10)

*Pauline Oliveros leads a Deep Listening event at Ikon Gallery, in an event that will expand your consciousness while also being a lot of fun!*

## PERFORMANCE

World Première

**The Elysian Quartet, Nuntempa, James Dooley and 42 electronic artists**

**Wednesday 2 April,  
12.15pm-1.20pm**

RECITAL HALL: BIRMINGHAM CONSERVATOIRE  
TICKETS: £12 (£8)

*The Elysian Quartet and 42 electronic artists work together to give the world première of Robert Ashley's mind-blowing String Quartet Describing The Motion of Large Real Bodies, alongside the European première of Elliott Sharp's stunning double quartet Occam's Razor and Meredith Monk's Stringsongs.*

## PERFORMANCE

**Andy Ingamells**

**Wednesday 2 April  
1.30-2.30pm**

ARENA FOYER: BIRMINGHAM CONSERVATOIRE, PARADISE PLACE, B3 3HG  
£4 – individual event ticket  
Tickets available on the door

*Andy Ingamells returns to Birmingham for a repeat performance of his celebrated Piano Recital. Watch, listen and keep your distance, as he battles with himself, his piano, red paint and his assistant, playing as best he can as the music stutters to its sticky conclusion.*

## PERFORMANCE

**Howard Skempton with Via Nova**

**Wednesday 2 April  
2.30-3pm**

RECITAL HALL: BIRMINGHAM CONSERVATOIRE, PARADISE PLACE, B3 3HG  
TICKETS: £4

*Contemporary vocal ensemble Via Nova, with Howard Skempton and conducted by Daniel Galbreath, present two works exploring our relationship to language; Oliveros' Sound Patterns, winner of the Gaudeamus International Composers Award in 1962, and She Was a Visitor from Ashley's 1967 opera That Morning Thing.*

## PERFORMANCE

**Decibel**

**Wednesday 2 April  
4.30-5.30pm**

RECITAL HALL: BIRMINGHAM CONSERVATOIRE, PARADISE PLACE, B3 3HG  
TICKETS: £4

*The Frontiers Festival Resident Ensemble presents a programme of works by Birmingham Conservatoire students alongside music by young New York composers Tristan Perich, Anna Clyne and Missy Mazzoli.*

## PERFORMANCE

**Noszferatu**

**Wednesday 2 April,  
6pm-7pm**

RECITAL HALL: BIRMINGHAM CONSERVATOIRE  
TICKETS: £10 (£7)

*Noszferatu work across a wide range of genres including contemporary classical, jazz, tango, pop, experimental music and theatre. Today they perform new works from Birmingham Conservatoire, with plenty of room for improvisation.*

## PERFORMANCE

UK Première

**Elliott Sharp: Momentum Anomaly**

**Wednesday 2 April  
7.30-8.15pm**

RECITAL HALL: BIRMINGHAM CONSERVATOIRE, PARADISE PLACE, B3 3HG  
TICKETS: £10 (£7)

*Elliott Sharp is a stunning musician and composer, and when it comes to his compelling work on the electro-acoustic guitar, he is regarded as one of the best there is. The remarkable solo-performance piece Momentum Anomaly illustrates Sharp's technical command of his guitar and his ability to exploit it in remarkable ways.*

## PERFORMANCE

UK Première

**Carl Stone: Fujiken**

**Wednesday 2 April,  
9pm-10pm**

IKON GALLERY, 1 OOEZELLS STREET, B1 2HS  
TICKETS: £10 (£7)

*Carl Stone is one of the pioneers of live computer music, hailed by the Village Voice as "the king of sampling". Composed in Tokyo, Fujiken blends field recordings made through Southeast Asia (Vietnam, Thailand, Cambodia and Japan) with appropriated music from street cassettes, processed and resynthesized.*

## PERFORMANCE

**Elliott Sharpe's Foliage**

**Thursday 3 April,  
9-10pm**

RECITAL HALL: BIRMINGHAM CONSERVATOIRE, PARADISE PLACE, B3 3HG  
TICKETS: £12 (£8)

*The first big-band performance of Elliott Sharpe's classic work Foliage in the UK, performed by a stellar line up from Birmingham Conservatoire's Jazz Department including Jazzlines Fellow Percy Pursglove, Grammy award winner Jean Toussaint, Graham Sibly (tuba), the Conservatoire's Head of Jazz Jeremy Price, BBC Big Band Drummer winner Andrew Bain, and pianist for Stan Sulzmann Liam Noble.*

## PERFORMANCE

**Automatic Writing Composed by Robert Ashley**

**Thursday 3 April,  
7-8pm**

STUDIO THEATRE: LIBRARY OF BIRMINGHAM, CENTENARY SQUARE, B1 2ND  
TICKETS: £12 (£8)

*The UK première of Robert Ashley's Automatic Writing, written in 1979, performed by New York's radical performance company Object Collection on a stage strewn with television monitors, video cameras, and dim pools of slowly shifting light.*

## PERFORMANCE

**Terry Riley's In C**

**Friday 4 April  
12.15-1.15pm**

BOOK ROTUNDA: LIBRARY OF BIRMINGHAM, CENTENARY SQUARE, B1 2ND  
FREE TO ATTEND  
NO BOOKING NECESSARY

*Legend has it that composer Terry Riley was on a bus in San Francisco when the idea came to him for one of the most important and influential pieces of the 20th century. This performance is led by Northern Irish band-leader Sid Peacock with musicians from his Surge Orchestra, Thallein Ensemble and special guest Christopher Hobbs.*

## PERFORMANCE

**Thirty Minutes On The Subject Of Soap Operas**

**Friday 4 April,  
3-4.15pm**

RECITAL HALL: BIRMINGHAM CONSERVATOIRE, PARADISE PLACE, B3 3HG  
TICKETS: £5 (£3)  
AVAILABLE IN THE DOOR

*Seán Clancy's Thirty Minutes of Music on the Subject of Soap Operas, Andrew Hamilton's Friendly Place and Howard Skempton's Selection of Accordion solos.*

## PERFORMANCE and CEREMONY

**Decibel perform works by Robert Ashley and Birmingham Conservatoire Composers**

**Friday 4 April,  
7.30-9.30pm**

ADRIAN BOULT HALL: BIRMINGHAM CONSERVATOIRE, PARADISE PLACE, B3 3HG  
TICKETS: £9 (£7)

*Robert Ashley is awarded an Honorary Doctorate of Music by Birmingham City University and Birmingham Conservatoire. To commemorate this important occasion the festival's Resident Ensemble, Decibel, present Ashley's Outcome Inevitable and Hidden Similarities alongside works by Conservatoire composers Ed Bennett, Joe Cutler, Michael Walters, Andrew Hamilton and Damien Harron.*

## PERFORMANCE

**Musical Marathon #2: The Monkathon**

**Monday 2 –  
Thursday 5 June**

VARIOUS VENUES

*Birmingham Conservatoire's Jazz Department proudly presents Birmingham's first ever Monkathon – a celebration of the music of American jazz giant Thelonious Monk. Monk's entire back catalogue, all 70 of his compositions, will be performed in venues across the city, and in a variety of interpretations over the course of four days.*

## PERFORMANCE

(UK Première)

**Rhys Chatham: A Secret Rose For 100 Guitars**

**Saturday 7 June,  
7-8.15pm**

TOWN HALL, VICTORIA SQUARE, B3 3DQ  
TICKETS: £15  
PLUS TRANSACTION FEE

*No Wave pioneer Rhys Chatham, section leaders David Daniell, Seth Olinsky, and Toby Summerfield, Birmingham-based rhythm section Laurence Hunt of Pram and bassist Sebastiano Dessaney are joined by 100 guitarists perform his mesmerizing piece, A Secret Rose, in the magnificent setting of Town Hall. A truly awe-inspiring and unifying once-in-a-lifetime event.*

## PERFORMANCE

**Warren Smith**

**Thursday 5 June,  
8-10pm**

THE HARE AND HOUNDS, 106 HIGH STREET, KINGS HEATH, B14 7JZ  
TICKETS: £10 (£7)

*In the company of Thurston Moore (Sonic Youth), Dominic Lash, Pat Thomas, Alex Ward, and players from Birmingham Conservatoire, Warren Smith demonstrates why he is deserving of his reputation as a master percussionist and drummer, and why such a 'who's who' list of musicians across such a vast range of genres have chosen to work with him. Together, this stellar line up present music that moves from big band jazz to the frontiers of improvised sound.*

## PERFORMANCE

(World Première)

**David Lang: Crowd Out**

**Sunday 8 June  
2.30-3.30pm  
and 4.30-5.30pm**

MILLENNIUM POINT, CURZON STREET, B4 7XG  
FREE TO ATTEND – ADVANCE BOOKING NECESSARY

*Birmingham Contemporary Music Group lead 1000 people in an all-singing, all-shouting super group as a fitting finale. This will be the world première performance of Lang's new piece Crowd Out, and one of the largest vocal events that the city has ever seen!*

Look out for the official  
Frontiers Festival programme  
available from Monday 10 March



THE  
**BARBER**  
INSTITUTE OF  
FINE ARTS



# Ruby's Room

Photographic Miniatures by Bettina von Zwehl

21 February – 26 May 2014

ADMISSION FREE

0121 414 7333

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

Visit by train: University station

The Barber Institute of Fine Arts,  
University of Birmingham,  
Edgbaston, Birmingham B15 2TS

UNIVERSITY OF  
BIRMINGHAM

Image from 'Ruby's Room' by Bettina von Zwehl. Photographed in collaboration with Laura Lane Jewellery & Beadery, www.lanejewellery.com

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 5GP



supported using public funding by  
ARTS COUNCIL  
ENGLAND

# Those Were The Decades

A series of events focusing on the five decades of Ikon's history and the social, political and cultural context.

**1960s: The rise of counterculture**  
Saturday 29 March, 11am–8pm  
The Library of Birmingham

Day includes:

- Illustrated talk by Dr Kieran Connell, University of Birmingham
- Panel discussion on Ikon in the 1960s
- Exploring the archives with Dr Chris Upton
- Flatpack Film Festival screening

## Future events

Saturday 14 June: 1970s – Politics and Protest

Saturday 12 July: 1980s – Anything Goes

Saturday 11 October: 1990s – The March of Globalisation

Saturday 29 November: 2000s – The Age of Turbulence

## How to book

Day passes £15 / €12 concs

Evening only £7.50 / €5.50

Season tickets (all five days) £60 / €48

Visit [www.ikon-gallery.org](http://www.ikon-gallery.org) or call Ikon Shop on 0121 248 0711.

## Ikon Gallery

Open Tuesday – Sunday, 11am–6pm, free entry

0121 248 0708 / [www.ikon-gallery.org](http://www.ikon-gallery.org)

Those Were The Decades is organised in collaboration with Flatpack Film Festival, The Library of Birmingham, University of Birmingham and Writing West Midlands. Ikon is supported using public funding by Arts Council England and Birmingham City Council. Ikon Gallery Limited trading as Ikon. Registered charity no. 528892

# IKON 50

FIFTY YEARS OF ARTISTIC EXCELLENCE

# Visual Arts

## Family Circles

The Barber Institute, Birmingham, until Mon 26 May

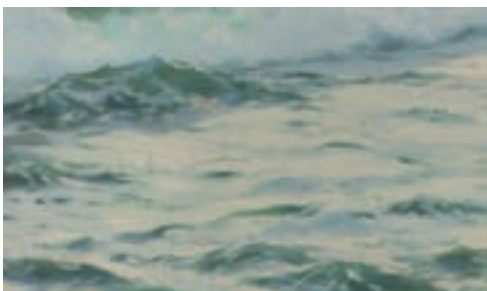
Contributions from some of the 'greatest masters' in miniature portraiture feature in this new Barber Institute offering. Focusing on the family, and how its members and dynasties were depicted between the seventeenth and nineteenth centuries, the exhibition comprises a series of portraits of children, brothers, husbands and wives. The showcase of art, which is supported by renowned auctioneer house Bonhams, features work by artists Nicholas Dixon, Bernard Lens, James Scouler, John Smart, William Ross, and the brothers Isaac and Peter Oliver.



## Songs Of The Sea

Worcester City Art Gallery & Museum, until Sat 26 April

For over a century the Cornish town of St Ives has been visited by artists from across the world, all of whom have been eager to capture its breathtaking beauty and the rich colours of the British coastline. Highlighting the period prior to 1914, a time when painting large works outdoors was popular with artists, this new exhibition showcases the wealth of material produced by the St Ives colony of artists. Stunning seascapes and landscapes from artists including Adrian Stokes, John Amesby Brown and Julius Osson all feature. As well as viewing the exhibition, visitors can also enjoy two related events. On 4 March, the museum curator offers an insight into one of the venue's many sea-related objects, while eight days later, on the 12th, David Tovey hosts a talk entitled Masters And Pupils: The St. Ives Schools Of Landscape And Marine Painting.



## BP Portrait Award

Wolverhampton Art Gallery, Sat 1 March - Sat 14 June

The BP Portrait Award is the world's most prestigious portrait competition - 2013's contest saw nearly two thousand artists from seventy-seven countries competing for the top prize. Submissions were presented in a variety of contemporary styles, and ranged from informal and personal studies of friends and family to revealing portraits of famous faces - including those of Alistair Campbell, Frida Kahlo and Emeli Sande. This Wolverhampton showcase features the Award's winning entry - Pieter by Susanne du Toit - and Second Prize-winner The Uncertain Time (pictured above), by Coventry-based artist John Devane.

## New Art West Midlands

Grand Union, Birmingham, until Sat 15 March; The Barber Institute, Birmingham, until Sun 27 April; Wolverhampton Art Gallery, until Sat 10 May; Birmingham Museum & Art Gallery, until Sun 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.



Lucy Hutchinson: Blonde

## Further exhibitions

### Ikon Icons: John Salt

Ikon Gallery, Birmingham, until Mon 21 April

Playing a pivotal role in Ikon's fiftieth anniversary celebrations, Ikon Icons sees the return of five British artists who've made a major contribution to the gallery's exhibition programme over the past five decades. Birmingham-born John Salt, the first artist ever to exhibit at Ikon when it opened in 1965, kicks off the series, with the display of his early-career paintings, prints and sculptures reflecting 'a pop sensibility, a subtle sense of humour and an abiding interest in cars'.

Two years after making his Ikon debut, Salt moved to the States, where he engaged with the artistic discipline of Photorealism. Many of Salt's Photorealism works from this time are on show at Birmingham Museum & Art Gallery until the end of March.



### Bill Drummond: The 25 Paintings

Eastside Projects, Birmingham, Fri 14 March - Sat 14 June

Probably best known as co-founder of '80s pop group KLF, Bill Drummond is also highly regarded as both a writer and artist. This unique exhibition marks the beginning of a ten-year journey which, starting off beneath Spaghetti Junction, will see Drummond tour twelve cities across the world. Residing in each city for three months, he will work on various strands of his practice. These may include - but are not restricted to - making beds on streets from wood, extending the soup line around the globe, or giving performance lectures. An exhibition in each of the visited cities will signpost, reflect and document what Drummond is doing in any place at any given time, and will be represented by text painted in acrylic on canvas. Bill began producing The 25 Paintings in 2001, and anticipates completing the set in 2025.



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

**BIRMINGHAM TODAY COMPETITION** A selected exhibition which celebrates the second city in all its aspects, until Sat 1 Mar, RBSA, Birmingham

**SOMETHING FOR NOTHING** Featuring the art collection and artworks of Steve Corfield, until Sat 1 Mar, Harborne Art Gallery, Birmingham

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

**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

**JUNCTION 5** Exhibition of contemporary art by five local artists with varying techniques and artistic approaches, until Sat 8 Mar, Wolverhampton Art Gallery

**AT PASSION'S EDGE** Sid Turner's exploration, in sculpture and imagery, of the Latin verb 'devoid', until Sat 8 Mar, Bilston Craft Gallery

**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

**ALEX ROBINSON-SUTHERLAND: THE STORY SO FAR** Uplifting and inspiring abstract works, thought-provoking pieces that automatically engage the viewer and encourage active involvement in art, until Sun 9 Mar, The Drum, Birmingham

**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

**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, until Sat 29 Mar, Bilston Craft Gallery

**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

**WALK ON** Touring exhibition which explores the universal act of taking a walk, until Sun 30 Mar, mac - Midlands Arts Centre, Birmingham

**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

**MARGARET FAIRHEAD RBSA** A series of stitched pieces inspired by observations of flowers from her garden, until Sat 5 Apr, RBSA Gallery, 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

**PORTRAIT OF A POTTERIES POPSTAR** A selection of objects and memora-



Grayson Perry: The Vanity of Small Differences - Birmingham Museum & Art Gallery

to celebrate the fortieth birthday of one of the world's most successful pop stars, Robbie Williams, until Sun 6 Apr, The Potteries Museum, Stoke-on-Trent

**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

**JAMAL PENJWENY** Exhibition comprising twelve images of Iraqi people holding a lifesize picture of Saddam Hussain in front of their own, until Mon 21 Apr, 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

**IKON ICONS: JOHN SALT** The first artist ever to exhibit at Ikon, in 1965, until Mon 21 Apr, Ikon Gallery, Birmingham

**DAVID CARPANINI: A PAINTER-PRINTMAKER AND HIS WORLD** Retrospective exhibition featuring some of Carpanini's most iconic works, dating back to 1964, alongside recently completed etchings, drawings & paintings, until Mon 21 Apr, Leamington Spa Art Gallery & Museum

**DAVID ROWAN: THE DARK RIVER** A body of work which navigates the course of Birmingham's River Rea. This exhibition forms part of Flatpack Festival, Birmingham's annual film jamboree which takes place in the city from 20 to 30 March, until Sun 27 Apr, mac - Midlands Arts Centre, Birmingham

**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

**MADE AT MAC: FROM THE INSIDE** Featuring art works from the Introduction To Art Techniques course, led by artist-tutor Helen Tarr, until Sun 4 May, mac - Midlands Arts Centre, Birmingham

**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

**SPRING SHOWCASE** Featuring an eclectic mix of ceramics, textiles, homewares & delicate paper jewellery, until Sat 10 May, Bilston Craft Gallery

**GRAYSON PERRY: THE VANITY OF SMALL DIFFERENCES** Exhibition charting the story of class mobility while examining the influence of social class on aesthetic taste, until Sun 11 May, Birmingham Museum & Art Gallery

**DALE N MARSHALL: WALLS WITH WOUNDS** Exhibition which consists of vibrant abstract and layered multimedia works which reference the artist's life, until Sun 18 May, Herbert Art Gallery & Museum, Coventry

**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

**FOR THE RECORD** Exploring themes of preservation and recording in the work of female artists, until Sun 29 June, Birmingham Museum & Art Gallery

**ARTISTS' STUDIO: SARAH TAYLOR SILVERWOOD**



# VisualArts LISTINGS

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

Exhibition from Birmingham-based artist Sarah Taylor Silverwood, whose practice is grounded in drawing, narrative and landscape, until Sun 20 July, New Art Gallery, Walsall

## WE WORKED AT THE PORCELAIN

Photographic exhibition focusing on some of Royal Worcester's many craftsmen and women, until Fri 1 Aug, The Museum of Royal Worcester

## 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

**MOORE RODIN** Works from two major players in the world of modern sculpture feature in this exhibition in celebration of Compton Verney's tenth anniversary, until Sun 31 Aug, Compton Verney Gallery,

Warwickshire

## YOU - THE 12TH PLINTH

Stand on the empty 12th plinth, strike a pose and create a living sculpture by becoming an artist's model, inspiring a composition for a new sculpture, until Sun 31 Aug, Compton Verney, Warwickshire

**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, 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

## 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, until Sun 14 Dec, Museum of the Jewellery Quarter, 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

**CRAFTSENSE** Featuring over one hundred of the world-renowned Bilston enamels which showcase the links between eighteenth century local industry and contemporary craft, until Wed 31 Dec, Bilston Craft Gallery

## SENSING SCULPTURE

Featuring new sculptures alongside old favourites, Sun 2 Mar - Wed 31 Dec, Wolverhampton Art Gallery

## 40 YEARS OF WOMEN

**ARTISTS** The strong female characters in the Garman Epstein family and their circle of friends are captured in this exhibition of works from the gallery's Permanent Collection, Sat 8 Mar - Sun 29 Jun, The New Art Gallery, Walsall

**PAT LANDON RBSA** Solo

show which focuses on a year of travelling, as experienced by the artist, Mon 10 Mar - Sat 3 May, RBSA, Birmingham

**LEARNING TEAM SHOW-CASE** Exhibition of work from the WAVE learning team during 2013/14, Sat 15 Mar - Sat 12 Apr, Wolverhampton Art Gallery

**JOHN RIDOUT: A LIFE IN PAINTING** Retrospective exhibition of paintings which catalogue changes in the Midlands over scores of years, Sat 15 Mar - Sat 12 Apr, Wolverhampton Art Gallery

**FRIENDS' EXHIBITION** Friends of the RBSA show off their talent in a range of media, Wed 19 - Sat 29 Mar, RBSA, Birmingham

**ANDREW MATHESON RBSA** Solo show featuring a display of forms in porcelain, experimenting with barium glaze, Mon 24 Mar - Sat 17 May, RBSA, Birmingham

**FOUND EXHIBITION** Second group exhibition held at the gallery by Quatrefoil artists Jacqueline Calladine, Annette Lucas ARBSA and Stephanie Redfern RBSA, Mon 31 Mar - Sat 12 Apr, RBSA, 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 01899 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

This year escape to Worcester City Art Gallery & Museum for two sublime landscape exhibitions...



**Song of the Sea**  
The St Ives School of Landscape and Marine Painting  
Until Saturday 26 April



**Skylight Landscape**  
by Paul Nash and David Prentice  
Saturday 3 May - Saturday 5 July

Free entry  
Open Mon - Sat 10.30am - 4.30pm  
Worcester City Art Gallery & Museum,  
Foregate Street, Worcester WR1 1DT

For more information visit  
[www.museumsworcestershire.org.uk](http://www.museumsworcestershire.org.uk)  
or call 01905 25371



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2013

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[WWW.WOLVERHAMPTONART.GALLERY](http://WWW.WOLVERHAMPTONART.GALLERY)

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FASHION

# Thurs 20 - Sun 23 March

Open 9.30am - 5.30pm (Sun 5pm)

## NEC, Birmingham

OVER  
**300**  
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- ◆ The Giant Textile Books Display
- ◆ Papercrafts & Beading
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**EACH ADULT AND SENIOR TICKET ORDERED  
BY 5PM MON 17TH MARCH 2014**

# Events



## **Billy Smart's Circus** Warwick Racecourse, Tues 25 - Sun 30 March

Founded in 1946 by its namesake, Billy Smart's Circus soon became a household name with its regular TV appearances and tours. Back on the road for 2014, and with Billy's granddaughter Yasmine at the helm, the circus promises a real family spectacle, with award-winning artistes from around the world coming together in a fast-moving and

visually thrilling two-hour show.

Expect great entertainment from Australia's Flying Aces, Russia's ten-handed Assadulin Troupe, Romanian acrobatic trio The Extreme Brothers, Italian clown Jonny Bogino and French foot juggler Germaine Delbosq.

## **Yonex All England Badminton Championships**

National Indoor Arena, Birmingham,  
Tues 4 - Sun 9 March

One of the oldest and most prestigious open badminton tournaments in the world returns to the Midlands this month. The event, which brings together the top ten international players from each discipline to compete for the coveted title, is being advertised as 'fast-paced sporting action at its best'. Hoping to make their mark at the 2014 event are Chris and Gabby Adcock. Currently fifth in the world rankings, the couple aim to become England's first All England champions since Nathan Robertson and Gail Emms won the mixed doubles title back in 2005.

(c) Badmintonphoto.com



## **International Craft And Hobby Fair**

NEC, Birmingham, Thurs 20 - Sun 23 March

Britain's biggest and best event of its kind brings together three distinct shows - Sewing For Pleasure, Hobbycrafts, and Fashion, Embroidery & Stitch - with more than three hundred exhibitors on hand to showcase the latest trends and offer visitors plenty of expert advice. Presenting the stitching world's latest supplies, ideas and innovations, Sewing For Pleasure features numerous hands-on activities, one of which, the Sewing Club, sees author Laura Strutt running mini-workshops for beginners.

In addition to the usual displays and associated materials for sale, Fashion Embroidery & Stitch this year provides an added attraction in the form of a display of costumes worn by the likes of Hugh Jackman and Russell Crowe in the film version of *Les Miserables*.

The award-winning Hobbycrafts, meanwhile, offers numerous Mini Make & Take sessions, where visitors are encouraged to 'get crafty' using the wealth of materials on offer.



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the nia  
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**ALL THE PASSION.**

4-9 March 2014 | The NIA | Birmingham

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ALL ENGLAND.



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[allenglandbadminton.com](http://allenglandbadminton.com)  
0844 444 9994

## Kokora Martial Dance

mac - Midlands Arts Centre, Birmingham,  
Thurs 20 March

This unique event blends the art of Oriental martial dance and music. Using Tessen fans and Samurai swords, the two-hour show celebrates the artistry of sixteenth century Miyamoto Musashi, and includes a Samurai sword performance set to a three thousand-year-old piece of traditional tabla music by Mohinder Singer. The evening also features performances of Indian Gatka and Chinese Tai Chi martial dances, and music reflecting both eastern and western influences.



## Flatpack Film Festival

Various Birmingham locations,  
Thurs 20 - Sun 30 March

Ten years after it made its debut as a monthly night at a Digbeth pub, Birmingham's Flatpack Festival continues to thrive as an annual celebration of film, holding a unique place in the UK movie 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 landlocked city's love affair with water - and an immersive and horizontal screening of 1972 sci-fi movie Silent Running.



## The Fast Show

Santa Pod Raceway, Northampton,  
Sun 23 March

The first performance and modified car event on the Santa Pod calendar, The Fast Show offers plenty of high-octane action, both on and off track. Highlights include club stand displays, Run What Ya Brung, FWD drag racing, drifting, stunt displays, jet car, a trade village and funfair rides.



## The National Homebuilding And Renovating Show

NEC, Birmingham, Thurs 27 - Sun 30 March

Whether you're looking to build a new home from scratch or considering a home renovation project (regardless of size), a visit to the National Homebuilding And Renovating Show is sure to prove a good starting point. Aimed at the self-builder, the 2014 event features a host of new attractions - such as the Energy Saving Home and Sustainable Homes Show - and plenty of familiar features, including the Advice Centre, Ask The Experts, numerous specialist exhibitors and the chance to peruse hundreds of niche products.

## Crufts

NEC, Birmingham,  
Thurs 6 - Sun 9 March

The world's most prestigious dog show returns to the Midlands this month, promising 'a fantastic day out for all the family'. It's anticipated that this year's event will see approximately twenty-two thousand dogs from a total of forty-five countries heading to the LG Arena to compete in the various canine competitions programmed over the four days.



## The Big Bang Fair

NEC, Birmingham, Thurs 13 - Sun 16 March

Recognised as the UK's largest celebration of science, technology, engineering and maths for young people, The Big Bang Fair brings together leading business and industry experts for four action-packed days of theatre shows, interactive workshops and exhibits. Highlights of the 2014 event include Gastronomer Extreme, with TV presenter Stefan Gates promising 'an explosive, stomach-churning journey into the science of your lunch'. There's also Greg Foot's new show Kaboom!, which explores the science behind the explosions that shape our modern world. CSI workshops, meanwhile, offer visitors the chance to try their hand at being a real-life forensic scientist, while The Big Bang Fair Family Fun Day (Saturday and Sunday only) features plenty of fun activities to keep children of all ages entertained.



## Sooty's Wacky Workshop

Cadbury World, Birmingham,  
Sat 15 - Sun 16 March

Taking time out from his CITV show to visit Birmingham, Sooty is joined at Cadbury World by close friends Soo and Sweep. In a brand new show that's brimming with magic, music and mess, the chums find themselves hoping that Sooty's latest invention, the Super Sonic Sootomatic, can save the day...



## Handmade And Vintage Wedding Fair

Wolverhampton Art Gallery, Sat 16 March

Featuring handmade and vintage products for couples who dream of a bespoke wedding, this special event in the unique setting of Wolverhampton Art Gallery offers something just that little bit different for brides-to-be. The fair comprises numerous stalls - set up within the gallery spaces - and showcases handmade jewellery, wedding photography and personalised gifts. The event also features a trail of vintage and antique wedding dresses, a fashion show of gowns and hairdressing demonstrations..

# BIRMINGHAM ST. GEORGE'S DAY ANNUAL CONCERT



**TROOP AID**  
supporting our injured troops

- Birmingham Community Gospel Choir
- Spal Automotive Sovereign Brass
- Joy Strachan - Brain with "Quill"
- Massed Male Voice Choir
- Birmingham Schools' Showcase



**DON MACLEAN ● MYSTERY GUEST ● MALCOLM STENT**

**19 APRIL 2014, 6pm-9pm**

Prices £5 - £18 plus transaction fee\*  
 Tickets obtainable from the Town Hall or Symphony Hall.  
 Box office 0121 348 0603. www.shb.co.uk  
 \* 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.

**SH SYMPHONY HALL BIRMINGHAM**

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# Billy SMART'S BRITAIN'S GREATEST CIRCUS



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**TUES 25 to SUN 30 MARCH**

TUES 25th GALA PERFORMANCE  
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Billy Smart's Circus is part of The Warwick Spring presented by Playbox Theatre  
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[www.playboxtheatre.com](http://www.playboxtheatre.com)

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**CRAFTS COUNCIL**

Christmas Tree Stand, Felton Capwell, 2013. Photo: Nick May

Until 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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**WAVE** Wolverhampton City Council

**ARTS COUNCIL ENGLAND**

# 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 MAR**

**INTERNATIONAL FASHION WEEK** until Sat 1 Mar, The Council House, Birmingham

**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

**THE NATIONAL WEDDING SHOW** Hints, tips and ideas galore for the Big Day, until Sun 2 Mar, NEC, Birmingham

**CULTURE VULTURE: SCRIPT-READING WORKSHOPS** Learn and perform the works of some of the greatest and most iconic writers of our time. Just turn up and get involved! Every Tuesday until 25 Mar, Library of Birmingham

**BROOCH MAKING WORKSHOP WITH MELANIE TOMLINSON** Sat 1 Mar, Walsall Leather Museum

**CLUB EXPO** An event packed full of advice, tips and suppliers for all clubs, Sat 1 Mar, Heritage Motor Centre, Gaydon, Warwickshire

**DRAWING THE BODY** Guided by visual artist Frieda Van de Poll, participants are invited to develop their drawing technique while experimenting with mixed media. Working from a life model inspired by the Exposed exhibition, each workshop offers new and challenging poses, Sat 1 Mar, Herbert Art Gallery & Museum, Coventry

**A SHORT HISTORY OF DRAWING** Art historian David Packwood offers a brief history of drawing, referencing the diverse artworks on display in Exposed, Sat 1 Mar, Herbert Art Gallery & Museum, Coventry

**BIRMINGHAM COMMUNITY HERITAGE DAY** Sat 1 Mar, Library of Birmingham

**STORY HOARD** Creative writing workshops based on the Staffordshire Hoard, facilitated by writer Helen Cross, Sat 1 Mar, Birmingham Museum & Art Gallery

**STAINED GLASS DAY WORKSHOP** Facilitated by designer & maker Paul Floyd, Sat 1 Mar, Ruskin Glass Centre,

Stourbridge

**PUNJABI WOLVES KING OF THE RING** Sat 1 Mar Civic Hall, Wolverhampton

**DRUM & BASS AWARDS** Sat 1 Mar, The Institute, Birmingham

**TEN THOUSAND MILLION LOVE STORIES**

Improvisation workshop and performance, Sat 1 Mar, The Blue Orange Theatre, Birmingham

**THE BIRMINGHAM ALTERNATIVE & BURLESQUE FAIR** Sat 1 Mar, The Rainbow Venues, Birmingham

**HISTORY SEEKERS** Discover fascinating facts about history and hear the amazing stories about local people and events from the past using real historical documents at the City Archives, Sat 1 Mar, Wolverhampton City Archives

**GALLERY TOUR** Informal tour of the gallery to find out more about the history of the building and Wolverhampton's renowned collections, Sat 1 Mar, Wolverhampton Art Gallery

**HERITAGE WEEKEND** Guided walks which showcase the rich history of Bournville Village, Sat 1 - Sun 2 Mar, Cadbury World, Birmingham

**OUTBREAK SPRING FESTIVAL** Sat 1 - Sun 2 Mar, Ricoh Arena, Coventry

**TRACTOR WORLD** Celebrating the vintage, classic and new ages of mechanised farming, Sat 1 - Sun 2 Mar, Three Counties Showground, Malvern

**THOMAS LAND WEEKEND** Sat 1 - Sun 2 Mar, Drayton Manor Theme Park, Tamworth, Staffs

**DISCOVER YOUR FAMILY HISTORY** Maggie Loughran, an expert in British and Irish genealogy, offers advice and practical tips on how to discover more about your ancestors, Sat 2 Mar, Birmingham Back to Backs.

**WEDDING FAIR** Held in conjunction with the Bromsgrove Standard, Sun 2 Mar, Avoncroft Museum, Bromsgrove

**INTERNATIONAL MG & TRIUMPH SPARES DAY** Sun 2 Mar, Stoneleigh Park, Warwickshire

Week Commencing  
**MON 3 MAR**

**TILE DECORATING WORKSHOP** Drop-in workshop where visitors can relax while creating their very



The Origins of Middle Earth - Sarehole Mill, Birmingham

own masterpiece to take home, Tues 4 Mar, Jackfield Tile Museum, Ironbridge, Shropshire

**PUBLIC TALK: SOME WALSALL ASTRONOMERS IN HISTORY** A lost Walsall astronomical society of the 1920s is uncovered in this talk from Stuart Williams... Tues 4 Mar, Walsall Museum

**ECHOES OF ALL OUR PASTS** Paul Quigley from the Black Country Echoes project talks about celebrating the communities built around Black Country manufacturing, Tues 4 Mar, Bantock House Museum, Wolverhampton

**TUESDAY TOUR** Discover more about Blakesley Hall and Yardley, Tues 4 Mar, Blakesley Hall, Birmingham

**THE YONEX ALL ENGLAND OPEN BADMINTON CHAMPIONSHIPS** One of the oldest and most prestigious open badminton tournaments in the world, Tue 4 - Sun 9 Mar, National Indoor Arena, Birmingham

**WINTER GUIDED TOUR** Wed 5 Mar, Aston Hall, Birmingham

**CRUFTS 2014** The world's largest dog show returns, with activities for the whole family to enjoy, Thurs 6 - Sun 9 Mar, NEC, Birmingham

**WINTER GUIDED TOUR** Fri 7 Mar, Sarehole Mill, Birmingham

**CARIBBEAN BEACH PARTY WEEKEND** Fri 7 - Sat 8 Mar, Alton Towers Resort, Staffordshire

**BOWMAN ANTIQUE FAIR** Featuring up to four hundred stands selling antiques, curios, vintage, retro and collectables, Fri 7 - Sun 9 Mar, Stafford Bingley Hall, Stafford

**ANDREW DEE - BLACK OR WHITE TOUR** An evening of mediumship, Sat 8 Mar, Solihull Arts Complex

**INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY** A morning exploring works from the Art Gallery's collection which reflect

the theme of Women In Art, Sat 8 Mar, Wolverhampton Art Gallery

**TOURISM & ATTRACTIONS SHOW** Sat 8 Mar, Ingenuity, Ironbridge, Shropshire

**SILVER DECORATIVE PENDANTS & CHARMS WORKSHOP** Sat 8 Mar, Bilston Craft Gallery

**STORY HOARD** Creative writing workshops based on the Staffordshire Hoard, facilitated by writer Helen Cross, Sat 8 Mar, Birmingham Museum & Art Gallery

**TALK AND WALK** Offering a chance to learn more about one of Birmingham's hidden gems, Sat 8 Mar, Weoley Castle, Birmingham

**MIDLANDS FISHING SHOW** Now in its third year, the Midlands Fishing Show features talks, demonstrations & celebrity appearances, Sat 8 - Sun 9 Mar, Ricoh Arena, Coventry

**LIVING HISTORY WEEK-END** Featuring the 5/60th Royal American (Rifles), Napoleonic drill displays, weapons, demonstrations & talks, Sat 8 - Sun 9 Mar, Whittington Castle, Nr Oswestry, North Shropshire

**THOMAS LAND WEEKEND** Sat 8 - Sun 9 Mar, Drayton Manor Theme Park, Tamworth, Staffs

**CHARACTER WEEKEND** Celebrate Cadbury's most colourful characters with an unmissable weekend starring Caramel Bunny, Freddo and more! Sat 8 - Sun 9 Mar, Cadbury World, Birmingham

**AWAKEN YOUR SENSES: SOLIHULL MIND BODY SOUL WEEKEND** Two-day event featuring over thirty exhibitors showcasing a diverse range of complimentary therapies and healing, Sat 8 - Sun 9 Mar, Ramada Solihull Hotel

**THE 39TH LEAMINGTON & WARWICK MODEL RAILWAY EXHIBITION** Featuring twenty-six

working layouts in many scales and forty traders, Sat 8 - Sun 9 Mar, Stoneleigh Park, Warwickshire

**WILLOW WEAVING WORKSHOPS** Sun 9 Mar, Weoley Castle, 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 9 Mar, Santa Pod Raceway, Northampton

**ULTIMATE DUBS UK 2014** The UK's largest Indoor VAG enthusiasts event, bringing VW, Audi, Seat and Skoda show cars from all over Europe together under one roof, Sun 9 Mar, Telford International Centre, Shropshire

**MEDIEVAL WALK** Sun 9 Mar, Attingham Park, Shrewsbury

**ANTIQUE & COLLECTORS FAIR** Sun 9 Mar, Three Counties Showground, Malvern

Week Commencing  
**MON 10 MAR**

**TILE DECORATING WORKSHOP** Drop-in workshop where visitors can relax while creating their very own masterpiece to take home, Tues 11 Mar, Jackfield Tile Museum, Ironbridge, Shropshire

**ART WALK** Amble up to the Old Yardley Village before returning to Blakesley for a collage-making workshop, Tues 11 Mar, Blakesley Hall, Warwickshire

**PARK CHECK** Join the ranger for an early morning walk which provides a great insight into the workings of the estate, Tues 11 Mar, Charlecote Park, Warwickshire

**WINTER GUIDED TOUR** Wed 12 Mar, Aston Hall, Birmingham

**THE BIG BANG UK YOUNG SCIENTIST & ENGINEERS FAIR** The UK's largest

celebration of science, technology, engineering and maths for young people, Thurs 13 - Sun 16 Mar, NEC, Birmingham

**WINTER GUIDED TOUR** Fri 14 Mar, Sarehole Mill, Birmingham

**THE ORIGINS OF MIDDLE EARTH** Take part in a guided walk and discover the childhood playground of JRR Tolkien, Fri 14 Mar, Sarehole Mill, Birmingham

**ARTIST TALK: BEN JOHNSON** Accompanying the gallery's Photorealism exhibition, Sat 15 Mar, Birmingham Museum & Art Gallery

**GHOST HUNT** With paranormal events company Eerie Evenings, Sat 15 Mar, Dudley Castle

**STORY HOARD** Creative writing workshops based on the Staffordshire Hoard, facilitated by writer Helen Cross, Sat 15 Mar, Birmingham Museum & Art Gallery

**WRITER NETWORKING MORNING: ASIAN WRITERS IN THE WEST MIDLANDS** Join Writing West Midlands and Sampad for a free morning of discussion and networking for emerging and established writers from the Asian community, Sat 15 Mar, Wolverhampton Art Gallery

**THE SOOTY SHOW** Brand new exclusive live show for Cadbury World. Join Sooty as he tries out his latest inventions on Sweep and Soo, Sat 15 - Sun 16 Mar, Cadbury World, Birmingham

**THE MIDLANDS GARDEN RAILWAY SHOW** Sat 15 - Sun 16 Mar, Warwickshire Exhibition Centre

**CLASSIC COMMERCIAL ENTHUSIAST SHOW** Sat 15 - Sun 16 Mar, Three Counties Showground, Malvern

**THOMAS LAND WEEKEND** Sat 15 - Sun 16 Mar, Drayton Manor Theme Park, Tamworth, Staffs

**AVONCROFT THROUGH THE AGES** Featuring



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BBC

\*Calls cost from 5p per minute from a BT landline. Calls from mobiles will be considerably more.



## VINTAGE WEDDING FAYRE WOLVERHAMPTON ART GALLERY

SATURDAY 22 MARCH 2014

Featuring handmade and vintage products for couples who dream of a bespoke wedding and value the handmade touch. The event will feature exhibits from wedding specialists, a fashion show of wedding gowns and afternoon tea served in the Gallery café.

11am - 4pm. Free admission



# Weston Park Horse Trials

12<sup>th</sup> - 13<sup>th</sup> April 2014

Two Full Days Of Exciting Competition

Show Jumping  
Cross Country  
Dressage

Admission  
**£6**  
Under 12s  
FREE

Weston Park, Weston-under-Lizard, Nr Shifnal, Shropshire  
Directions:- M6 J12, M54 J3 - TF11 8LE



# Events LISTINGS

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

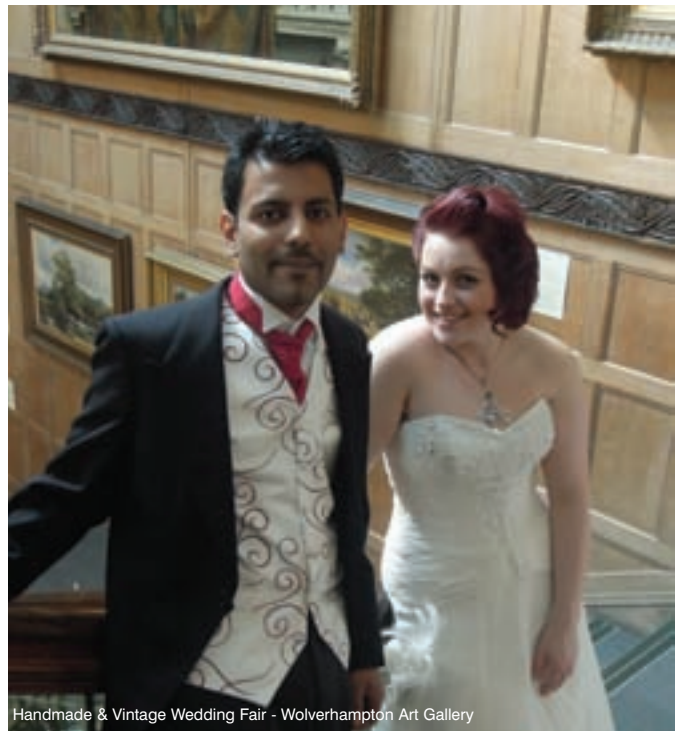
Roman, Viking, Tudor & Victorian re-enactors, Sat 15 - Sun 16 Mar, Avoncroft Museum, Bromsgrove  
**YVON BONENFANT: ULUZUZULALIA** Pronounced OO-LOO-ZOO-ZOO-LAY-LIA, this is a vivacious and interactive voice playground for families to enjoy together. The Tongue Wizards: Queen Victor the Fabulous, and Volumia the Librarian, will help you to explore two worlds: Squeak and Speak, Sat 15 - Tue 18 Mar, mac - Midlands Arts Centre, Birmingham  
**ST PATRICK'S DAY PARADE** Sun 16 Mar, Digbeth, Birmingham  
**INTERNATIONAL JAGUAR SPARES DAY** Featuring over two hundred stalls from all over the UK, Sun 16 Mar, Stoneleigh Park, Warwickshire  
**CARRIAGEWAY WALK & WORK CLUB** Discover the hidden history and archeology of the old carriageways in Fishpool Valley, Sun 16 Mar, Croft Castle, Leominster  
**TOY COLLECTORS FAIR** Sun 16 Mar, Three Counties Showground, Malvern

Week Commencing  
**MON 17 MAR**

**SNIPPETS OF SHAKESPEARE** Mini-scenes from Shakespeare, enacted at various times of the day, Mon 17 - Wed 19 Mar, Moseley Old Hall, Wolverhampton  
**HERBERT ILLUMINATION: CURATOR TALK** Join Victoria Osborne as she explores selected works within the Exposed exhibition from a curatorial perspective, Tue 18 Mar, Herbert Art Gallery & Museum, Coventry  
**TUESDAY TOUR: FOOD & DRINK IN TUDOR TIMES** Tues 18 Mar, Blakesley Hall, Birmingham  
**ENTERTAINMENT IN 18TH CENTURY BIRMINGHAM** A gallery talk with Applied Art curator Sylvia Crawley, Tues 18 Mar, Birmingham Museum & Art Gallery  
**TILE DECORATING WORKSHOP** Drop-in workshop where visitors can relax while creating their very own masterpiece to take home, Tues 18 Mar, Jackfield Tile Museum, Ironbridge, Shropshire  
**MEET ME AT BANTOCK** Regular conversation

club for people aged fifty and over, Tues 18 Mar, Bantock House Museum, Wolverhampton  
**VOLUNTEER OPEN DAY** Pop along for a cuppa and a chat, and get information regarding volunteer roles and opportunities at the castle, Tues 18 Mar, Powis Castle, Nr Welshpool, Powys  
**GHOST WALK** The original Dudley Ghost Tour, starting and finishing at the town's most haunted buildings, Wed 19 Mar, Station Hotel, Dudley  
**ART WORKSHOP** Thurs 20 Mar, Witley Court, Worcestershire  
**VALUATION DAY: FINE ART & ANTIQUES** Hosted by Fieldings Auctioneers, Thurs 20 Mar, Bantock House Museum, Wolverhampton  
**SHARE YOUR MEMORIES OF THE 1960S** Handle objects from the period and share your memories with museum staff in this special hands-on session, Thurs 20 Mar, Walsall Museum  
**MARTIAL DANCE & MUSIC** Two-hour show celebrating the artistry of sixteenth century Japanese swordsman Miyamoto Musashi, Thurs 20 Mar, mac - Midlands Arts Centre, Birmingham  
**SEWING FOR PLEASURE...** Incorporating Hobbycrafts and Fashion Embroidery & Stitch, Thurs 20 - Sun 23 Mar, NEC, Birmingham  
**FLATPACK FILM FESTIVAL** Cinematic extravaganza fusing new talent, forgotten classics and live music, Thurs 20 - Sun 30 Mar, various locations throughout Birmingham [www.flatpackfestival.org](http://www.flatpackfestival.org)  
**WINTER GUIDED TOUR** Fri 21 Mar, Sarehole Mill, Birmingham  
**LOCAL HISTORY TALK: HIDDEN HISTORIES** A talk by Councillor Claire Darke and Dr Paul Darke about the first female doctors in Wolverhampton, and the patients, places and institutions they would've visited, Fri 21 Mar, Wolverhampton Art Gallery  
**SPRING STEAM GALA** Three-day event for steam enthusiasts featuring visiting locomotives, including the 1638 Hawksworth Pannier tank from the Kent & East Sussex Railway, Fri 21 - Sun 23 Mar, Severn Valley Railway, Bewdley, Nr

Kidderminster  
**LEATHER IPAD/TABLET CASE WORKSHOP FOR ADULTS** with The Identity Store, Sat 22 Mar, Walsall Leather Museum  
**MGCC T-REGISTER REBUILD 2014** Sat 22 Mar, Heritage Motor Centre, Gaydon, Warwickshire  
**SATURDAY NIGHT SPECIAL** Run What Ya Brung till late. Track open from 9am to 8pm, with evening entertainment and camping, Sat 22 Mar, Santa Pod Raceway, Northampton  
**TOUR OF THE LIBRARY OF CULTURES EXHIBITION** Led by one of the library's Collections curators, Sat 22 Mar, Library of Birmingham  
**SNIPPETS OF SHAKESPEARE** Mini-scenes from Shakespeare, enacted at various times of the day, Mon 17 - Wed 19 Mar, Moseley Old Hall, Wolverhampton  
**SPRINGTIME IN SMESTOW** Join the rangers in discovering the delights of springtime on the reserve, Thurs 20 Mar, Smestow Valley, Wolverhampton  
**BATTLEFIELD ARCHAEOLOGY OF THE ENGLISH CIVIL WAR** Thurs 20 Mar, The Commandery, Worcestershire  
**VINTAGE TEA PARTY** Sat 22 Mar, Bantock House Museum, Wolverhampton  
**HANDMADE & VINTAGE WEDDING FAYRE** Sat 22 Mar, Wolverhampton Art Gallery  
**FRIENDS OF WOLVERHAMPTON CITY ARCHIVES MEETING** Duncan Nimmo talks about inter-war suburbia in Wolverhampton, Sat 22 Mar, Wolverhampton City Archives  
**THE GREAT HISTORIC BAKE OFF** Make gingerbread from Mary Wise's 18th century recipe book in historic surroundings, Sat 22 Mar, St John's Museum, Warwickshire  
**A TASTE OF JAPAN** Featuring an abundance of themed activities, demonstrations & performances, Sat 22 Mar, The Potteries Museum & Art Gallery, Stoke-on-Trent  
**PRINTMAKING WITH NAOMI GREAVES** Taster workshop where participants can explore lino and mono printing methods, and have a go at creating their very own species of butterfly, Sat 22 Mar, Shire Hall Gallery, Stafford  
**SCIENCE WEEKEND** Sat 22 - Sun 23 Mar, Cadbury World, Birmingham  
**THOMAS LAND WEEKEND** Sat 22 - Sun 23 Mar, Drayton Manor Theme Park, Tamworth, Staffs  
**COSTUME COLLECTION WEEKEND** Explore the



Handmade & Vintage Wedding Fair - Wolverhampton Art Gallery

castle's period rooms and learn about Victorian fashion. The weekend also offers an opportunity to learn about some of the site's costumes not normally on display, Sat 22 - Sun 23 Mar, Tamworth Castle  
**THE FAST SHOW** The season-opening show for all performance and modified car enthusiasts. FWD drag series, RWYB, show'n'shine, stunt shows, traders, car clubs and a heated nightclub on the Saturday night all feature, Sun 23 Mar, Santa Pod Raceway, Northampton  
**BUILDING CONSERVATION DAYS** Sat 22 - Sun 23 Mar, Avoncroft Museum, Bromsgrove  
**AWAKEN YOUR SENSES: BROMSGROVE MIND BODY SOUL EVENT** One-day event featuring over thirty exhibitors showcasing a diverse range of complimentary therapies and healing, Sun 23 Mar, Bromsgrove Hilton Hotel  
**GREAT MALVERN SPRING INTERNATIONAL MILITARY CONVENTION** Sun 23 Mar, Three Counties Showground, Malvern

Week Commencing  
**MON 24 MAR**

**WALSALL DANCE FESTIVAL** Showcase of work from local schools, colleges and community groups, Mon 24 Mar, Forest Arts Centre, Walsall  
**TILE DECORATING WORKSHOP** Drop-in workshop where visitors can relax while creating their very own masterpiece to take home, Tues 25 Mar, Jackfield Tile

Museum, Ironbridge, Shropshire  
**WILLIAM MORRIS & THE KELMSCOTT PRESS** Chance to view the site's collection of books, made by William Morris' private printing press, as part of a talk on Morris' life, Tues 25 Mar, Wightwick Manor, Wolverhampton  
**AN EVENING WITH DAVID SEDARIS** Following three sell-out runs in London and two sell-out Edinburgh Fringe Festival stints, David Sedaris embarks on his first ever UK tour, Wed 26 Mar, The Assembly, Leamington Spa  
**DRIFT WHAT YA BRUNG** Chance to practice 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 Mar, Santa Pod Raceway, Northampton  
**BRIGHTWELLS PERFORMANCE HORSE AND PONY SALE** Wed 26 Mar, Three Counties Showground, Malvern  
**WINTER GUIDED TOUR** Wed 26 Mar, Aston Hall, Birmingham  
**HEAD GARDENER SPRING TOUR** Thurs 27 Mar, Witley Court, Worcestershire  
**EARLY YEARS PLAY DAYS** Providing an opportunity for children aged between one and three to explore and investigate through sensory play, Thurs 27 - Fri 28 Mar, Herbert Art Gallery & Museum, Coventry  
**WINTER GUIDED TOUR** Fri 28 Mar, Sarehole Mill, Birmingham  
**THE X FACTOR LIVE 14** Fri 28 March - Sat 29 Mar, LG Arena, Birmingham

**JUNE FIELD - PSYCHIC** Sat 29 Mar, Huntingdon Hall, Worcester  
**CLASSIC VIRGINS** An active and informative day for people contemplating classic car ownership, Sat 29 Mar, Heritage Motor Centre, Gaydon, Warwickshire  
**MIDLANDS WHISKY FESTIVAL** Sat 29 Mar, Stourbridge Town Hall  
**RUN WHAT YA BRUNG** The chance to take your car or motorcycle out on the famous quarter-mile dragstrip and test its performance limits in a safe and legal environment, Sat 29 Mar, Santa Pod Raceway, Northampton  
**RAG RUG WORKSHOP** With specialist Jessie Lindon, Sat 29 Mar, Birmingham Back to Backs  
**VICTORIAN HOUSEHOLD HINTS** A new addition to the Blists Hill calendar, this event offers visitors an opportunity to pick up some good old-fashioned housekeeping tips, Sat 29 - Sun 30 Mar, Blists Hill Victorian Town, Ironbridge  
**GO OVER THE TOP ABSEIL** Sat 29 - Sun 30 Mar, St Mary's Church, Dogpole, Shrewsbury  
**MOTHER'S DAY WEEKEND** Each visiting mum will be treated to a miniature box of Cadbury chocolates, Sat 29 - Sun 30 Mar, Cadbury World, Birmingham  
**MOTHERING WEEKEND** Sat 29 - Sun 30 Mar, Hanbury Hall & Gardens, Droitwich Spa, Worcestershire  
**STRAIGHTLINERS** Bike-only RWYB, including Round One of the Straightliners Championship, Sun 30 Mar, Santa Pod Raceway, Northampton

The  
MIDLANDS  
**ZONE**  
*Pride Ball*  
2014

Friday 28 March 2014  
**International Convention Centre**  
Birmingham

*A glittering night of action-packed  
entertainment including a special guest star*

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Dress code: Smart lounge suits, black tie, ball gowns and frocks!

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# Eating Out

## A taste of Asia comes to The Cube

A restaurant and cocktail bar selling authentic Indian cuisine opens at top Birmingham leisure venue The Cube next month. The Master And Margarita will join numerous highly rated restaurants already housed in The Cube, including Marco Pierre White Steakhouse, Brazilian churrascaria Rodizio Rico, and recently-opened burger and shrimp restaurant Bun & Bowl.



## Wake up and smell success...

A barista from Birmingham's independently owned coffee shop Six Eight Cafe has won a place in the national semi-finals of the industry's prestigious UK Barista Championship. Eighteen-year-old Imogen Ludman recently impressed judges at the competition's regional heats at Millennium Place, and will take on other regional champions in the London semi-final on 5 April.

## Buonissimo! Spring arrives at Harborne restaurant

An Italian restaurant recently given top marks across the board by What's On magazine has launched a new menu for the Spring season. Based in Harborne, Birmingham, Buonissimo offers an array of authentic Italian dishes which are prepared using local suppliers wherever possible. Sure to tantalise the tastebuds, the new menu features an array of reasonably priced dishes. These include Sgombro capperi agilo a burro - fresh mackerel coated in oats and finished with a round of caper, parsley and garlic butter; Ravioli al tartufo - artisan-filled pasta with ricotta and wild truffles in a cream, roast garlic and mushroom sauce; and Fegato al balsamico - pan-seared calves liver glazed in red wine and balsamic vinegar, served with homemade potato gratin and spinach. For full details of the new menu and to book a table, visit [www.buonissimo-mouk.com](http://www.buonissimo-mouk.com).



## Waters' genius strikes again...

### REVIEW

Andy Waters is not the sort of chef to let success go to his head. And actually, that's just as well - because if he were, he'd have a pretty big head by now!

Andy earned a Michelin Star for Warwickshire family restaurant Edmunds, prior to its 2008 Brindleyplace relocation. Then, last year, he separated from his partners to join now-celebrated Worcestershire dining pub The Queens.

Little wonder, then, that I had high hopes for his new Edgbaston venture, Waters On The Square. After a warm welcome from the unassuming chef patron himself and attentive service from our bubbly waitress, we settled back in the understated-yet-classy venue and allowed the day's stresses to melt away.

I opted for a beautifully presented starter of beetroot, smoked salmon, sweetened endive and cucumber with horserad-

ish cream. The salmon was the finest I've ever tasted (and I don't usually like salmon!). My companion plumped for the mushroom soup of the day, remarking on its rich depth of flavour. Our tastebuds were genuinely tantalised.

I savoured every bite of my comforting main course (requested from the lunch menu) - wild mushroom risotto. At the same time, I watched my usually reticent companion devour her meal at an alarming speed! Her grilled fillet of sea bass (with scallops and lemon & dill sauce) was, she proclaimed, exactly how fish should be - flavoursome and flaky. Oh, and far superior to her recent meal at Jamie Oliver's restaurant!

This was simple, quality food, cooked to perfection. Shunning alcohol for fresh juice seemed only natural.

Adopting comedian Peter Kay's diet mentality of 'start on Monday', we dived into our delectable

desserts. And oh boy, were they good! The classic apple crumble satisfied my incorrigible sweet tooth, and the lemon cheesecake was declared 'divine'.

This was an exquisite fine dining experience enjoyed at a moderate price. We left feeling supremely impressed and pampered. I urge you to (a) book a table, and (b) tell everyone you know to do the same. Rival restaurants beware: Waters' eminent genius has yet again created an experience that's sheer culinary bliss. I couldn't help but feel that this is exactly how 'excellent cooking' really should be done.

*Malaka Chowdhury*

Food: ■■■■■  
Service: ■■■■■  
Ambience: ■■■■■  
Overall value ■■■■■  
**OVERALL** ■■■■■

**Waters On The Square**  
Chad Square  
Hawthorne Road  
Edgbaston  
Birmingham B15 3TQ

# 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

## 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 ALMANACK** 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 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



Rajdoot Tandoori, Birmingham

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 Belgrade Theatre, Coventry, CV1 1GS 02476 846762

**TAILORS** 22 Market Place, Warwick CV34 4SL 01926 410590

**THE TREVELYN** Warwick Rd, Stratford-upon-Avon, CV37 ONR 01789 295252

**THE VINE INN** 86 - 88 West St, Warwick CV34 6AW 07873 219005

**WARWICK SPICE** 24 Smith Street, CV34 4HS 01926 491736

**ZIZI** 85-87 Regent Square House, Parade, Leamington Spa CV 32 4NL 01926 432532

## Worcestershire

**ANAKARI** 47 The Tythings, Worcester. WR1 1JT 01905 21412

**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 21444

**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

**CHADDESLEY RESTAURANT** Brockencote Hall Hotel, Kidderminster DY10 4PY 01562 778786

**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

**EWEL 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, Stoughton, 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

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