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Press Briefing | April 2014

What's New June & July 2014

Another exciting summer across the capital awaits, with a brand new assortment of world-class exhibitions, sporting and musical events, exciting new theatre and much more. Please read on for our highlights.

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IWM London reopens

IWM London (Imperial War Museum) is set to reopen on 19 July with the ground-breaking new First World War Galleries.

[Read more...](#)



Royal Childhood

This exhibition at Buckingham Palace from 26 July will provide a unique glimpse into the lives of young members of the royal family. [Read more...](#)



Summer of Cycling

Elite cyclists will return to the capital's streets as London hosts some of the world's most prestigious cycling events.

[Read more...](#)

Attractions

First World War Centenary

2014 - 2018 marks the centenary of the First World War, a landmark anniversary for Britain and the world. Imperial War Museum (IWM) will mark the centenary by leading a vibrant, four year programme of cultural activities across the country, including the opening of brand new First World War Galleries at IWM London in 2014. For more information visit 1914.org or contact Bryony Phillips on 020 7416 5316 / bphillips@iwm.org.uk

Heritage Gallery

Guildhall Art Gallery, opening in June 2014

The heritage gallery will display treasures from the Corporation's archives such as the Magna Carta and Shakespeare's Deed, and help to tell the City's story in the development of London and the nation. For more information contact City of London Press Team on 020 7332 1452 / andrew.buckingham@cityoflondon.gov.uk

Bludgers, Board Games and Broomsticks

Warner Bros. Studio Tour: The Making of Harry Potter, 18 July - 1 September 2014

Learn how magical sports and wizarding games came to life on screen at the Studio Tour this summer. Authentic costumes from Quidditch scenes will be on display as well as the rattling ball crate from Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone. Visitors will discover how a combination of special and visual effects were used to make cast members fly and chess pieces move – as well as getting the chance to test green screen technology for themselves! For

more information contact Sarah Mitchell on 020 7148 3770 / sarah.l.mitchell@warnerbros.com

Imperial War Museum (IWM) London's new First World War Galleries

Opening 19 July 2014

The new ground-breaking Galleries will open at IWM London this summer, as part of a transformed museum and IWM's programme for the First World War Centenary. The immersive and interactive galleries will draw upon the latest historical analysis of the war and will enable IWM to display more of the exceptional collections and tell the stories of those who lived, contributed, fought and died. For more information contact Bryony Phillips on 020 7416 5316 / bphillips@iwm.org.uk

Exhibitions

Truth and Memory

IWM London, summer 2014 - March 2015

Truth and Memory will be the largest exhibition and first major retrospective of British First World War art for almost 100 years and will include work by some of Britain's most important artists of the twentieth century. Using artworks drawn mainly from IWM's national collection this exhibition will assess the immediate impact and enduring legacy of British art of the First World War. Truth will explore how artists encountering the front lines experimented with new forms of art to capture the unfamiliar experience of the First World War. Memory will move on to look at works produced at the end of the war and in its immediate aftermath. For more information contact Bryony Phillips on 020 7416 5316 / bphillips@iwm.org.uk

British Folk Art

Tate Britain, 10 June - 30 August 2014

Nearly 200 paintings, sculptures, textiles and objects have been drawn together from collections across the country in an exhibition that will celebrate folk art in the UK. This show will unite an extraordinary selection of objects, exploring the threshold between art and artefact and challenging perceptions of 'high art'. British Folk Art will include surprising and diverse examples of British folk art, from rustic leather Toby jugs to brightly coloured ships' figureheads. The exhibition is an opportunity to discover the astonishing wealth of the nation's regional collections, including works rarely seen in public, many of which will have never been on display before in an art gallery. For more information contact Alexandra Jacobs on 020 7887 8730 / pressoffice@tate.org.uk

Colour

National Gallery, 18 June - 7 September 2014

The first of its kind in Britain – this exhibition offers visitors an exceptional opportunity to take a journey through the history of colour by exploring the wide-ranging materials used to create colour in paintings and other works of art. Using the Gallery's own spectacular paintings across the breadth of the collection, and the world-class expertise of the National Gallery's scientific department, visitors will understand not only the history of the use of colour, but also the origins and developments of the physical materials themselves. For more information contact the press office on 020 7747 2865 / press@ng-london.org.uk

Bridge

Museum of London Docklands, 27 June - 2 November 2014

This summer, the largest art exhibition ever to be staged at the Museum of London Docklands opens - which will be free of charge for all visitors. Drawing on the museum's significant art collections, the exhibition will feature rarely seen contemporary and historical artworks, alongside photography, film and maquettes to consider the significance of bridges within London's landscape. For more information, contact Laura Mitchell on 020 7814 5502 / lmitchell@museumoflondon.org.uk

Digital Revolution

Barbican Centre, 3 July - 14 September 2014

Digital Revolution explores and celebrates the transformation of the arts through digital technology since the 1970s. The exhibition brings together for the first time a range of artists, filmmakers, architects, designers, musicians and game developers pushing the boundaries of their fields using digital media. It also looks to the future considering the impact of creative coding, DIY culture, digital communities and the creative possibilities offered by technologies including

augmented reality, artificial intelligence, wearable technologies, robotics and 3D printing. The exhibition builds on the Barbican's rich history of championing pioneering artists across all art forms that use digital technology within their work. For more information contact Ann Berni on 020 7382 7169 / ann.berni@barbican.org.uk

Louis Kahn: The Power of Architecture

Design Museum, 9 July - 12 October 2014

The American architect Louis Kahn (1901-1974) is regarded as one of the great master builders of the twentieth century. Kahn created buildings of monumental beauty with powerful universal symbolism. This exhibition encompasses an unprecedented and diverse range of architectural models, original drawings, travel sketches, photographs and films. Highlights of the exhibition include a four-metre-high model of the spectacular City Tower designed for Philadelphia (1952-57), as well as previously unseen film footage shot by Kahn's son Nathaniel Kahn, director of the film 'My Architect'. The exhibition also includes interviews with leading architects including Frank Gehry, Renzo Piano and Sou Fujimoto who discuss the significance and legacy of Kahn's work. For more information contact the press team on 020 7940 8787 / media@designmuseum.org

Virginia Woolf: Art, Life and Vision

National Portrait Gallery, 10 July - 26 October 2014

Virginia Woolf: Art, Life and Vision will be a significant exhibition exploring the life and achievements of Virginia Woolf, one of the most important and celebrated writers of the twentieth century. The exhibition will feature painted portraits, photographs, drawings and rare archival material, including a letter to her sister, Vanessa Bell, written shortly before her suicide. Guest curated by biographer Frances Spalding, Virginia Woolf: Art, Life and Vision will explore Woolf as a novelist, intellectual, campaigner and public figure. For more information contact Sylvia Ross on 020 7 321 6620 / sross@npg.org.uk

Ships, Clocks & Stars: The Quest for Longitude

National Maritime Museum, 11 July 2014 - 4 January 2015

The race to determine longitude at sea gripped Europe during the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, becoming a focus for serious debate, popular ridicule and single-minded scientific endeavour. Valuable rewards were on offer for whoever could crack the puzzle and Ships, Clocks & Stars presents the ingenious methods and instruments designed to scoop the Board of Longitude's prize and transform seafaring navigation forever. The exhibition takes visitors from the coffee houses of London to the tropical climes of Cook's Pacific voyages, exploring the industry, imagination, relationships and rivalries that shaped one of the largest scientific and technical accomplishments in history; and showing that this world-changing tale does not begin and end with Harrison's famous timekeepers. For more information contact 020 8312 6790 / press@rmg.co.uk

Royal Childhood

Buckingham Palace, 26 July - 28 September 2014

From well-loved toys and treasured family gifts to tiny childhood outfits, a special exhibition at Buckingham Palace will give an unprecedented glimpse into life as a young member of the royal family growing up at Buckingham Palace. Spanning more than 250 years, Royal Childhood brings together objects from the Royal Collection, the Royal Archives and the private collections of members of the Royal Family, as well as previously unseen photographs and film footage. The exhibition will bring together both family and official gifts presented to royal children. A number of The Queen's childhood toys will go on display, including a pink tea set in the shape of a rabbit, a set of 'Knockemdown Ninepins' and a wicker pram that the two-year-old Princess Elizabeth enjoyed pushing around the gardens of 145 Piccadilly, her family home until the age of ten. For more information contact the Royal Collection Trust press office on 020 7839 1377 / press@royalcollection.org.uk

Disobedient Objects

V&A, 26 July 2014 - 1 February 2015

The V&A will this summer present the first exhibition to explore objects of art and design from around the world that have been created by grassroots social movements as tools of social change. From Chilean folk art textiles that document political violence to a graffiti-writing robot, Disobedient Objects will demonstrate how political activism drives a wealth of design ingenuity. The exhibition will showcase forms of making that defy standard definitions of art and design. The objects that will be on display are mostly produced by non-professional makers, collectively and with limited resources as effective responses to complex situations. For more information contact Zoe Franklin on 020 7942 2497 /

z.franklin@vam.ac.uk

Events

The Venture Cup 2014

St Katharine Docks, 7 June 2014

This June the world's longest, toughest and most prestigious powerboat race will begin its 2,750 mile adventure right in the heart of London on the legendary Greenwich Meridian. The race will ensure the very toughest ocean conditions, with the most technologically advanced speed and endurance boats battling against the elements. From Wednesday 4 June as well as the day of the race, the Venture Cup fanzone will be open to the public at St Katharine Docks. The race fleet will be on full static display alongside an international comedy festival, colourful stalls, delightful arts installations and tantalising food and beverage stands. For more information contact Ellie Wilson on 020 7234 5709 /

ewilson@londonandpartners.com

Gumball 3000

Regent Street, 8 June 2014

The Gumball 3000 is an annual British 3,000-mile (4,800 km) international motor rally which takes place on public roads. This year's rally will be having an overnight stop in Regent Street during its trip from Miami to Ibiza. The incredible supercars on display are not to be missed. Enjoy the all day entertainment and welcome the superstars and their cars as they roll on to Regent Street in the early evening. For more information contact Susie Howard on 020 7287 9601 /

susie.howard@sisteris.com

Trooping the Colour: The Queen's Birthday Parade

Horse Guards Parade, 14 June 2014

London celebrates The Queen's official birthday in June each year with Trooping the Colour, a fantastic military parade that has taken place in London since 1820 in London's St James's Park. The ceremony of Trooping the Colour is full of military pomp and pageantry as The Queen carries out an inspection of the troops from the Household Division. The Queen then leads the troops down the Mall to Buckingham Palace, one of London's most famous landmarks. Tickets for the Trooping the Colour are available to the public, however they must be applied for in writing in January or February and are then allocated by ballot. If you're not lucky enough to get a ticket for Trooping the Colour, you can join the crowds of spectators along the Mall to watch all the action. For details on where to send your application, visit

royal.gov.uk

Open Garden Squares Weekend

Aross London, 14 - 15 June 2014

In the region of 200 gardens, many private and hidden, will once again offer Londoners and visitors alike the chance to delve beyond the garden gate into the green spaces beyond. The gardens, located across the capital, range from the historic and traditional to the new and experimental. They include classic London square gardens, roof gardens, community allotments, urban wildlife and ecology centres as well as the gardens of historic buildings, institutions, restaurants, schools and shops. For more information contact Martha Oakes on 020 8854 5460 /

martha@marthaoakespr.co.uk

Royal Ascot 2014

Ascot Racecourse, 17 - 21 June 2014

Royal Ascot, the world's most famous race meeting, is considered to be one of the most glamorous events in London's sporting calendar. Steeped in tradition, heritage and pageantry, Royal Ascot dates back 300 years and is attended by the Royal Family, including Her Majesty the Queen. Founded by Queen Anne in 1711, Royal Ascot features a daily horse-drawn procession from Windsor Castle to Ascot Racecourse led by the royal carriage. For more information contact Ashley Morton-Hunte on 01344 878 508 / ashley.morton-hunte@ascot.co.uk

Taste of London 2014

Regent's Park, 19 - 22 June 2014

For four summer days the park in central London is transformed into a foodie wonderland. More than 40 of the best restaurants in the city gather to show off the best items from their extensive menus. Visitors can choose dozens of fine dishes to create the perfect taster menu. The ultimate alfresco feast, over 200 artisan producers and premium brands

also attend the festival, offering some of the best food from Britain and around the world. Visitors can also take part in cooking demonstrations, meet some of the capital's top chefs, including Michel Roux Jr and Atul Kochar, and explore themed areas dedicated to certain types of food. For more information contact taste@housepr.com

Year of the Bus, Regent Street Bus Cavalcade

22 June 2014 (date tbc)

One of London's most famous icons is Transport for London's double-decker red bus. Come and see how they have adapted in style since 1914 with a display of over 25 buses from throughout the ages. The buses will be assembling at Albert Embankment and making their way to Regent Street for midday. For more information contact Susie Howard on 020 7287 9601 / susie.howard@sisteris.com

City of London Festival

Across City of London, 22 June - 17 July 2014

The annual City of London Festival will once again animate the Square Mile with its customary extravaganza of music, dance, art, film, poetry, family and participation events, transforming some of the City's most iconic venues and outdoor spaces into a wealth of creative activity for everyone to enjoy. Highlights will include world-class symphonic concerts in St Paul's Cathedral, intimate recitals in livery halls, unique street performances in the City's gardens and squares, plus a ground-breaking new pop-up venue, to be revealed. For more information contact David Lasserson on 020 7936 1290 / colf@brunswickgroup.com

Wimbledon Championships

All England Club, 23 June - 6 July 2014

The Wimbledon Championships is the oldest tennis tournament in the world, and widely considered to be the biggest and the most prestigious. It has been held at the All England Club since 1877. It is one of the four Grand Slam tennis tournaments, the other three majors being the Australian Open, French Open and US Open. Wimbledon is the only Major still played on grass, the game's original surface, which gave the game its original name of "lawn tennis". For more information contact Johnny Perkins on 020 8971 2529 / public.relations@aeltc.com

Pride in London

Across London, 28 June 2014

Join the party as thousands of people take to the streets for Pride in London, a celebration of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) people and culture. A highlight is the Pride parade, which usually follows the traditional route from Baker Street, along Oxford Street and Regent Street, ending in Trafalgar Square. One of London's most vibrant celebrations, the parade features thousands of marchers, roller-skaters, dancers and singers. For more information contact mediacentre@prideinlondon.org

Traffic-Free Summer Streets

Regent Street, 6, 13, 20, 27 July 2014

Inspired by a similar scheme in New York, Regent Street will be traffic free every Sunday in July giving the space back to pedestrians. Take a wander down Regent Street and discover the amazing stores it has to offer such as Superdry, Hollister, J.Crew and Hamleys as well as the Regent Street's Food Quarters, Swallow Street and Heddon Street to enjoy some alfresco dining the excellent restaurants. For more information contact Susie Howard on 020 7287 9601 / susie.howard@sisteris.com

Tour de France 2014 - Stage 3

Across London, 7 July 2014

See the world's top cyclists race past London landmarks including Tower Bridge, the Houses of Parliament, Big Ben and Westminster Abbey. After setting off from Yorkshire, the 200 riders of the 2014 Tour de France will enter London through Epping Forest before completing a circuit of the Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park. They will then ride through the East End before turning westwards along the Thames towards central London. At almost every turn Tour de France riders will pass world renowned landmarks and vivid displays of the capital's rich history. The final stretch will travel through St James's Park before a spectacular finish on The Mall in front of Buckingham Palace. For more information visit visitlondon.com/cycling

Hampton Court Palace Flower Show

8 - 13 July 2014

Hampton Court Palace Flower Show is the world's largest annual flower show. As well as the stunning floral displays, you can learn about growing your own fruit and vegetables, get tips on gardening in a changing climate, and shop for garden products. This RHS (Royal Horticultural Society) spectacle is the largest of its kind in the world and for six days in July thousands of gardening fans can see, smell and touch an abundance of floral delights. For more information contact the press office on 020 7821 3043 / pressoffice@rhs.org.uk

Eid in London

Across London, 28 July 2014

Celebrate the Muslim festival of Eid in London. You'll find Eid parties and events in London throughout the festival period. Eid celebrations usually take place on Trafalgar Square too – check back for more information and dates nearer the time. Eid is a global Muslim cultural event that officially marks the end of Ramadan, the Islamic holy month of fasting. Observed by millions of Muslims, Eid sees celebrations across communities and families throughout the world. Traditionally the festive atmosphere is increased by everyone wearing their best clothes, so get dressed up and join in the celebrations! For more information visit london.gov.uk

Theatre, Music & Film

Still Current

Sadler's Wells, 5 - 7 June 2014

Following a successful national tour, Sadler's Wells Associate Artist Russell Maliphant presents Still Current, featuring three new works and two of Maliphant's most iconic pieces. Audiences have the chance to see Maliphant perform alongside his Company of dancers; Thomasin Gülgeç, Dickson Mbi and Carys Staton - the latter of whom will perform the modern-classic solo Two, originally made famous by Sadler's Wells Associate Artist Sylvie Guillem. For more information contact Rob James on 020 7863 8114 / rob.james@sadlerswells.com

Romeo & Juliet

Royal Albert Hall, 11 - 22 June 2014

The English National Ballet will perform Derek Deane's breath-taking in-the-round production of Romeo & Juliet. Performed by a company of 120 dancers and actors this epic staging of Shakespeare's timeless tragedy is set in the middle of the audience. This magnificent production brings to life all the emotions of the world's greatest love story. For more information contact Nicola Osmond-Evans on 020 7590 2933 / nicola.osmond-evans@ballet.org.uk

Hampton Court Palace Festival

11 - 25 June 2014

The Hampton Court Palace Festival gets underway with high-profile names from rock, pop and classical music taking to the stage in the historic main courtyard of the Tudor palace. Experience summer evenings of memorable music with special guests including Jools Holland, Van Morrison, Marc Almond, Jamie Cullum, Jason Donovan, Rick Astley, Dionne Warwick, George Benson and the legendary Beach Boys. Away from the main stage, visitors can relax with a picnic in the scenic gardens or head over to a marquee to enjoy the delights of the buffet. Now in its 21st year, this is one of the more sophisticated and laid-back entries in the festival calendar. For more information contact Cat Steventon on catherine.steventon@hrp.org.uk

Meltdown 2014

Southbank Centre, 13 - 22 June 2014

Southbank Centre's annual Meltdown festival has been running since 1993 and each year invites a different cultural figure to act as director of the event and pick the performers of their choosing. This year, DJ, recording artist and record label boss James Lavelle has been asked to direct the 2014 festival - promising 10 days of performances and creative collaborations. Previous directors include: Elvis Costello, David Bowie, Morrissey, Massive Attack, and more. For more information contact Oliver Krug on 020 7921 0676 / oliver.krug@southbankcentre.co.uk

Greenwich+Docklands International Festival (GDIF14)

Various locations, 20 - 28 June 2013

Opening on midsummer's day, GDIF returns with a thrilling line-up of inspiring UK and international outdoor arts. Prepare for a packed programme of eye-popping spectacles, innovative outdoor theatre, and the country's biggest

programme of outdoor dance as well as ingenious and surprising art installations. For more information contact Sharon Kean on 020 7697 8453 / sharon@keanlanyon.com

The Elephantom

New London Theatre, 30 June - 6 September 2014

The National Theatre's hugely popular adaptation of Ross Collins' much loved children's picture book The Elephantom, about a little girl who is unexpectedly visited by a giant blue ghost-elephant, will be charging into the New London Theatre for a strictly limited summer season from. Ross Collins' The Elephantom is adapted by Ben Power, and co-directed by Finn Caldwell and Toby Olié with design by Samuel Wyer. For more information contact Nada Zakula on 020 7452 3046 / nzakula@nationaltheatre.org.uk

Barclaycard presents British Summer Time Hyde Park

Hyde Park, 4 - 13 July 2014

The 10-day Summer extravaganza in London is back and getting set for 2014 with an enviable line up of artists in July this year, including: The Backstreet Boys, McBusted, The Webb Sisters, Jack Savoretti, To Kill A King and many more. This fantastic line-up really shows Barclaycard presents British Summer Time Hyde Park is the place to go to watch the most talented musicians performing live today, showcased in the glorious setting of the world famous Royal Park. For more information contact Chris Goodman on 0207 436 3633 / chris.goodman@outside-org.co.uk

Brasil Brasileiro

Peacock Theatre, 8 - 27 July 2014

The energy of Brazil comes to London this summer as Brasil Brasileiro returns to Sadler's Wells, featuring 35 performers from Rio de Janeiro, this production brings alive the spirit that makes Brazil so unique. Famed for its euphoric dance heritage, Brazil is a country where the musical culture of Africa and Europe merged in a melting pot of dance forms to create its own national rhythm: the samba. From its beginnings as a ritualistic love dance, to a modern day Rio street carnival, Brasil Brasileiro shows samba in all its forms. For more information contact Rob James on 020 7863 8114 / rob.james@sadlerswells.com

Medea

National Theatre, from 14 July, playing in repertoire until 4 September 2014

Carrie Cracknell directs Euripides' powerful tragedy Medea, in a new version by Ben Power. Medea is a wife and a mother. For the sake of her husband, she has left her home and borne two sons in exile. But when he abandons his family for a new life, Medea faces banishment and separation from her children. Helen McCrory returns to the National to take the title role; the cast also includes Michaela Coel, Danny Sapani and Cath Whitefield. For more information contact Mary Parker on 020 7452 3234 / mparker@nationaltheatre.org.uk

The Proms

Royal Albert Hall, 18 July - 13 September 2014

The BBC Proms, or simply The Proms, is an eight-week summer season of daily classical music concerts and many more other related events. The Proms are held annually mostly in Royal Albert Hall, South Kensington, London, but also in London's Cadogan Hall and several parks throughout the whole country. For more information contact 020 7959 3004 / press@royalalberthall.com

Coppélia

London Coliseum, 23 - 27 July 2014

Coppélia, is the comic tale of an eccentric toymaker and his mechanical doll. Dr Coppélius, the toymaker, has created the lifelike Coppélia doll and wishes for nothing more than to bring her to life. English National Ballet's time honoured production is choreographed by Ronald Hynd. Léo Delibes' melodic score is played by English National Ballet's full orchestra. For more information contact Nicola Osmond-Evans on 020 7590 2933 / nicola.osmond-evans@ballet.org.uk

Epstein: The Man Who Made The Beatles

Leicester Square Theatre, 30 July - 6 September 2014

Epstein: The Man Who Made The Beatles is the untold story and window into the private world of the music entrepreneur whose stellar career as Beatles Manager made him a household name yet whose controversial personal life remained very much in the closet. Acclaimed stage and TV star Andrew Lancel and actor Will Finlason will return to

the roles of Brian Epstein and the fictional character 'This Boy' respectively. This is a must-see opportunity to discover a previously unexplored story and celebrate a true icon of 1960's popular culture – a man who shaped music and style across the world. For more information contact Jenny Morgan on 0151 245 0136 / jenny@billelms.com

Hotels

The Beaumont Hotel

Mayfair, Opening Autumn 2014

Restaurateurs Jeremy King and Chris Corbin are to open their first hotel overlooking Brown Hart Gardens in Mayfair. The 75-room hotel will feature an inhabitable sculpture of a crouching man, called Room, by artist Antony Gormley which is predicted to become a landmark for the area. King and Corbin, who have made their name with top restaurants such as The Wolseley, The Ivy and Le Caprice have developed the project in partnership with property firm Grosvenor to a design by ReardonSmith architects who have previously worked on the Four Seasons on Park Lane, The Savoy, and Claridge's. The Beaumont will also comprise a Presidential suite, a 100-seater classic New York-style restaurant, a private dining room, spa and leisure facilities. For more information contact martine.degeus@CorbinKing.com



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