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Press Briefing | July 2014

London's autumn season will be packed with blockbuster exhibitions, world-class performing arts and much more. Please read on for our highlights...

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London & Partners news



Rembrandt

Rembrandt: The Final Years at the National Gallery is a unique opportunity to see the iconic artist's late works.

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Sherlock Holmes

Explore the world of Arthur Conan-Doyle's famous literary detective at the Museum of London this October.

[Read more...](#)



Frieze Art Fair 2014

One of the world's most influential and exciting contemporary art fairs returns to Regent's Park this autumn.

[Read more...](#)

Attractions

The Weston Cast Court

V&A, 29 November 2014

The V&A will open the newly refurbished Italian Cast Court this November as the first phase in the renovation of the Museum's vast, day-lit courts. First opened in 1873, the Cast Courts were purpose built to house one of the most comprehensive collections of casts of post-classical European sculpture. Featuring some of the V&A's largest objects, the two galleries are among the most popular in the Museum. For more information contact the V&A Press Office on 0207 942 2500 / press.office@vam.ac.uk

Exhibitions

Rembrandt: The Final Years

National Gallery, 15 October 2014 - 18 January 2015

The exhibition, in collaboration with the Rijksmuseum, Amsterdam, is the first ever in-depth, focused exploration of Rembrandt's late works across all media. Rembrandt: The Final Years will bring together approximately 40 paintings, 20 drawings and 30 prints by the master, to offer visitors a once in lifetime opportunity to experience the passion and innovation of Rembrandt's late works. The exhibition will highlight the formal and iconographic concerns that occupied Rembrandt during the later years and inspired unprecedented creativity that defines our image of Rembrandt. The display will include key works lent by European and American museums. For more information contact the press office on 020 7747 2865 / press@ng-london.org.uk

Anarchy & Beauty: William Morris and His Legacy, 1860-1960

National Portrait Gallery, 16 Oct 2014 - 11 Jan 2015

From the Pre-Raphaelites to Terence Conran, the first exhibition devoted to William Morris and his influence on twentieth-century life, is to open at the National Portrait Gallery this autumn. Anarchy & Beauty will focus on Morris's far-reaching politics, thought and design. With portraits, furniture, books, banners, textiles and jewellery, this exhibition will include many extraordinary loans that will be brought together in London for the first time. Key exhibits include William Morris's own handwritten Socialist Diary from the British Library, his gold-tooled hand bound copy of Karl Marx's *Le Capital* and Burne-Jones's spectacular hand painted Prioresses Tale wardrobe. For more information contact Neil Evans on 020 7312 2452 / nevans@npg.org.uk

Sherlock Holmes Under the Microscope

Museum of London, 17 October 2014 - 12 April 2015

The Museum of London studies the world's greatest detective with Sherlock Holmes Under the Microscope. The exhibition delves into the mind of the genius sleuth, created by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle. With a particular emphasis on Holmes' relationship with London, visitors can dissect the traits that define the detective and learn more about his literary beginnings more than 125 years ago. The first major exhibition devoted to Holmes in more than 60 years, this is a chance to look beyond the familiar deerstalker, pipe and cape and discover the complex character beneath. For more information contact Andrew Marcus on 020 7814 5503 / amarcus@museumoflondon.org.uk

Women Fashion Power

Design Museum, 29 October 2014 - May 2015

A major exhibition exploring the politics of dressing for power and success. The show presents exceptional women on the world stage and their wardrobes, to show how fashion can be used as a powerful tool to build reputation, enhance careers and express modernity. Women that see clothes not as a frivolous indulgence, but as an important way to attract attention, announce presence, assert authority and guarantee notoriety. The exhibition will feature contemporary women working in politics, business, the creative arts and fashion from around the world, as well as looking back at influential women throughout history. Archive footage, interviews and photographs reveal each woman's love of fashion, their favourite designers and stand out fashion moments. For more information contact the press team on 020 7940 8787 / media@designmuseum.org

Cairo to Constantinople: Early Photographs of the Middle East

The Queen's Gallery, Buckingham Palace, 31 October 2014 - 22 February 2015

In 1862, the Prince of Wales (later King Edward VII) was sent on an educational tour of the Middle East, accompanied by the British photographer Francis Bedford. This exhibition documents the journey through the work of Bedford, the first photographer to join a royal tour, and explores the cultural and political significance Victorian Britain attached to the region. The display includes archaeological material brought back to Britain by the Prince, including an Egyptian papyrus inscribed with the Amduat, a memorial text which describes the journey through the Underworld of Re, the Egyptian sun god. For more information contact Royal Collection Trust Press Office on 020 7839 1377 / press@royalcollection.org.uk

Global City: On the Streets of Renaissance Lisbon

The Wallace Collection, 6 November 2014 - 15 February 2015

This will be the first exhibition in Britain to focus on Renaissance Portugal and its pivotal role as a centre for global trade and will highlight the cross-cultural influences between Lisbon, Africa, Asia and the Far East. The exhibition will show a stunning selection of luxury objects including ivories, rock crystal carvings and silver, on loan from the Wallace Collection and other leading collections in the United Kingdom and in Portugal. For more information contact Natasha Plowright on 020 7734 4800 / natasha@theresasimon.com

Events

London Restaurant Festival

Across London, 8 - 27 October 2014

If you love food, don't miss the London Restaurant Festival, three weeks of fabulous foodie events and special menus at London restaurants. Now in its sixth year, the London Restaurant Festival is a city-wide celebration of London restaurants and chefs. There's something for every taste and budget, from great-value festival restaurant-hopping menus to amazing one-off chef-led events. Some of the best restaurants in London will create special fixed-priced taster menus as a way for food lovers to sample their dishes. There will also be a range of tours gathered by culinary theme as well as food-focused activities running throughout the festival. For more information contact Catherine Donegan on 020 7233 6425 / catherine@dundascommunications.com

Frieze Art Fair 2014

Regent's Park, 16 - 19 October 2014

Frieze Art Fair is one of the world's most influential contemporary art fairs. Set in the beautiful surroundings of Regent's Park, Frieze Art Fair attracts more than 150 of the most exciting contemporary art galleries in the world. After browsing the stalls, you can enjoy guided tours, talks, films and performances. This year sees the introduction of two new features: Live and Focus. Live aims to involve visitors with participatory works; while Focus looks into works from solo and communities of artists, with new art from first-time exhibitors and significant contributions from familiar faces. For more information contact Nora Foster on 020 3372 6100 / nora.foster@frieze.com

Diwali in London 2014

23 October 2014

Diwali, the Festival of Lights, is celebrated by many communities across London. Every year, Trafalgar Square hosts a Diwali celebration that attracts thousands of people to central London. This year's packed programme of free entertainment includes music and dance from community groups and professional artists, food stalls and a range of activities for children. You'll also find smaller festivals and family events across London, as well as special menus in some London restaurants. For more information visit diwaliinlondon.com

Halloween in London 2014

31 October 2014

There are loads of horrifying Halloween events, spooky venues and restaurants, Halloween parties, scary attractions and opportunities to don your most chilling fancy dress costumes during Halloween in London on and around 31 October. For more information visit visitlondon.com/halloween

Lord Mayor's Show

Between Mansion House and the Royal Courts of Justice, 8 November 2014

The Lord Mayor's Show is the one of the world's oldest and best-loved pageants. Having survived eight centuries, the procession fills the streets from Mansion House to the Royal Courts of Justice in Aldwych. In 2014 the show will be celebrating the 800th year of the Mayoral Charter and Magna Carta. For more information contact the City of London Press Office on 020 7332 1754 / john.park@cityoflondon.gov.uk

Remembrance in London 2014

Across London, 9 - 11 November 2014

Each year in November, the United Kingdom remembers the men and women who gave their lives in the two World Wars and subsequent conflicts. 11 November is known as Armistice Day, Remembrance Day or Poppy Day. During the First World War, on the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month in 1918, the guns of the Western Front fell silent after more than four years of continuous warfare. In many parts of the world, people observe a two-minute of silence at 11am on 11 November. Remembrance Sunday takes place on 9 November in 2014 and sees special events and services relating to remembrance. This year will be extra special as 2014 marks the hundredth anniversary of the outbreak of the First World War, and there will be a whole programme of cultural events taking place across the capital. For more information visit visitlondon.com/first-world-war-centenary

Theatre, Music & Film

The Five & the Prophecy of Prana Barbican, 2 - 4 October 2014

Five young troublemakers are drawn into a power struggle that has divided a secret group of warriors. Given a chance to redeem themselves in the ensuing battle to restore peace, their action-packed adventure becomes a celebration of camaraderie and the triumph of the human spirit. Set in modern Tokyo, The Five & the Prophecy of Prana sees dazzling visuals frame a dynamic fusion of hip-hop and martial arts in an explosive tribute to manga – Japan's popular graphic novel form. For more information contact Angela Dias on 020 7382 7168 / angela.dias@barbican.org.uk

The Infidel – The Musical

Theatre Royal Stratford East, 3 October - 2 November 2014

The Infidel – The Musical is an original stage musical-comedy based on the British hit film, and will feature book and lyrics by David Baddiel. The show tells the story of an ordinary British Muslim man, Mahmoud Nassir, who discovers that he is adopted and that his birth parents were in fact Jewish. The resulting cultural and religious chaos leads to an uproarious and insightful comedy of identity, race, prejudice and confusion. The announcement follows a successful Kickstarter crowd-funding campaign that saw members of the public pledge £55,110, enabling the production to go-ahead. For more information contact Felix Mussell on 020 8279 1110 or email press@stratfordeast.com

The BFI London Film Festival

Across London, 8 - 19 October 2014

A two-week showcase of the world's best new films, the BFI London Film Festival is one of the most anticipated events in London's cultural calendar. The 12-day celebration of cinema includes screenings of fiction and documentary features, including world premieres and European premieres. There will also be screenings of live action and animated shorts. A stellar line-up of directors, cast and crew will take part in career interviews, master classes and other special events. For more information contact Premier Comms on iffenquiries@premiercomms.com

Here Lies Love

National Theatre, 13 October - 8 January 2015

The award-winning New York production of David Byrne and Fatboy Slim's musical Here Lies Love will open the new Dorfman Theatre (formerly the Cottesloe), following its complete refurbishment as part of the NT Future project. The Public Theater's production of Here Lies Love, which premiered in New York in 2013 to critical and popular acclaim, traces the astonishing journey of Imelda Marcos, First Lady of the Philippines, from her meteoric rise to power to descent into infamy and disgrace. The theatre is transformed into a pulsating club for an immersive theatrical event which combines heart-pounding beats with adrenaline-fuelled choreography and 360-degree staging. For more information contact Susie Newbery on 020 7452 3061 / snewbery@nationaltheatre.org.uk

Thomas Adès: See The Music, Hear The Dance

Sadler's Wells, 30 October - 1 November 2014

A major event in the theatre's forthcoming Autumn 2014 season, Thomas Adès: See The Music, Hear The Dance features some of his most celebrated works. For this new Sadler's Wells Production, Adès conducts the Britten Sinfonia and performs live on stage, in his only London appearance of 2014. For more information contact Rob James on 020 7863 8114 / rob.james@sadlerswells.com

Dance Proms

Royal Albert Hall, 2 November 2014

Come and see this fantastic celebration of dance as hundreds of young dancers perform an original piece at the Royal Albert Hall. Dance students from around the UK and as far afield as Spain, Malta and Israel will perform pieces of original choreography on the Royal Albert Hall's famous stage. The twenty-four dance acts come from all dance genres, from ballet to hip hop, cheer dance to jazz and even Tahitian national dance. Over 400 young dancers will share the stage with a variety of celebrity guest acts including Matthew Golding and Akane Takada from The Royal Ballet dancing a pas de deux from Don Quixote. For more information contact the press team on 020 7959 3004 / press@royalalberthall.com

Made In Dagenham

Adelphi Theatre, from 5 November 2014

Gemma Arterton will be starring in this major new musical based on the true life story of the Ford machinists of

Dagenham, who went on strike for equal pay in 1968 and led to the equal pay act of 1970. Based on the critically acclaimed film of the same name, this very British musical comedy shows that ordinary people can do extraordinary things when they know what's right. For more information contact Jessica McCrorie on 020 7836 4747 /

jessicamccrorie@akauk.com

Royal Shakespeare Company – Henry IV Parts I and II

Barbican Theatre, 29 November 2014 - 24 January 2015

Continuing the Barbican's three-year collaboration with the RSC, Gregory Doran's productions of Henry IV Parts I and II come to the main stage following their premiere in Stratford-upon-Avon and subsequent national tour. With his crown under threat from enemies both foreign and domestic, Henry IV prepares for war. Having deposed the previous king, he is only too aware how tenuous his position is, and the price to be paid if he falters. For more information contact Angela Dias on 020 7382 7168 / angela.dias@barbican.org.uk

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 de Geus on martine.degeus@CorbinKing.com

M by Montcalm

Shoreditch London Tech City, opening autumn 2014

One of two new hotels from the Montcalm group set to open in 2014, the M by Montcalm is part of a cluster of towers beginning to form on City Road. The new build 200-room hotel is part of a 23-storey tower development which fuses large scale art, sculpture and architecture in a futuristic looking tower. The building will include retail and bars, self-storage, business centre, fitness centre and the hotel which has an exceptional roof top bar overlooking London. The pioneering new building which tapers and twists to allow daylight penetration at street level has been created by architect Will Alsop. He has described the project as "an artwork" which includes a striking 15-storey work by artist Bruce McLean. For more information visit mbymontcalm.co.uk

The Lanesborough

Knightsbridge, opening fourth quarter 2014

One of London's most iconic five-star hotels is being refurbished. The new designs by interior designer, Alberto Pinto, will enhance all guest rooms and public areas and integrate the latest innovations while honouring the building's architectural heritage as one of London's most well-regarded Regency landmarks. For more information contact Clare Gillespie on Clare.Gillespie@luchfordapm.com

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