

the court

Suffragette *City*

**How Earl's Court became a crucible
for the British women's rights movement**

ART ///

CHELSEA ART FAIR

Is 21. Director Ben Cooper explains just what makes it different to other fairs

FILM ///

EARL'S COURT FESTIVAL

2016 is going to be another bumper year for film in your area

FOOD ///

THEO'S SIMPLE ITALIAN

Promises rustic neighbourhood fun at The Indigo Hotel in Barkston Gardens



Keeping
Life Local

Freeing Half the Human Race

As people around the world celebrate International Women's Day on March 8, Cristina Juan takes a look back on the part Earl's Court played in the women's political movement, and for a very famous resident.

It seems only fitting that Emmeline Pankhurst is buried at Brompton Cemetery. Arguably the most vocal of the militant wing of the women's voting rights movement in the early 1900s, she had always skirted around Earl's Court. She lived on Russell Square with her husband for a long period of time, but her final years were spent with her daughter, Christabel, at 50 Clarendon Road in Notting Hill. So for one reason or another, Earl's Court would become a go-to-venue for hushed meetings, loud demonstrations, Parliament member-hecklings, and even an aborted homecoming after a stint in jail.

The Pankhurst women were an infamous bunch. On 10 October, 1903, Emmeline and several other women founded the Women's Social and Political Union (WSPU). The



Emmeline's last resting place at Brompton Cemetery



Emmeline and husband Richard believed that she should not be "a household machine."

organization was set up to outstrip the radical but law-abiding NUWSS suffragists, whose major celebrities were based in Kensington, and the passive resistance of the Women's Freedom League (WFL). WSPU was only open to women members and its battle cry was "Deeds, not words".

They staged protests, spat on policeman and went on hunger strikes. After the famous Women's Sunday demonstration in June of 1908 at Hyde Park, the organization put together a literature stall for the Hungarian Exhibition at Earl's Court on 25 July of the same year. A fete and protest were to go with tables of afternoon tea.

The women were asked to dress in white. Sylvia Pankhurst, one of Emmeline's five children, talks about the success of the event in her



Emmeline Pankhurst speaking at a Trafalgar Square rally in 1916

"We women suffragists have a great mission - the greatest mission the world has ever known. It is to free half the human race, and through that freedom save the rest"

memoirs. She especially mentions the tri-coloured badges that she designed herself (she was an artist) and whose huge sales raised a significant amount of funds for the movement. The white, purple and green colour combination has since become symbolic of women's rights, and was later used in designs for tickets and banners.

On 7 December, 1913, 4,500 women gathered at the Empress Theatre on Lillie Road to protest the fifth imprisonment of Emmeline under the so-called Cat and Mouse Act. The Associated Press in covering the event said that the suffragettes were holding an 'enthusiastic meeting', and went on to give an account of the prolonged cheers when word got out that Emmeline had in fact been released and was now at a hotel staging another hunger strike. An impassioned Mrs Flora Drummond, who was presiding over the event, roused the crowd with repeated calls for volunteers and exclamations that swore to never again allow the government to "get Mrs. Pankhurst. We shall organize a bodyguard which will face even battleships."

With the coming of the First World War, Emmeline called to suspend all

militant suffrage activism in support of the war against Germany. She also called on women to work in munitions factories and asked for humanitarian help for the almost 100,000 Belgian refugees that poured through Earl's Court, many of them housed at Empress Hall.

It was not until after the First World War that the women's suffrage movement would get a major break when the Representation of People Act became law in February 1918. From that point on women over 30, who were occupiers of property or married to occupiers, were entitled to vote. The Pankhurst women continued their fight to involve women in government and push for equal rights.

On 14 June, only weeks before the Conservative Government's 1928 Representation of the People Act extended the vote to all women over 21 years of age, Emmeline died. She never saw the fullest fruit of her labour, but her grave, laid on a quiet northwest corner of Earl's Court's magnificent cemetery, is often visited and honoured by people all over the world, and will always be a marker for how far women have. 🌸



ART



A Cut Above the Rest by Lucy Pratt, oil at John Iddon Fine Art

Chelsea Art Fair is 21

The Chelsea Art Fair celebrates its 21st birthday this year, and opens its doors to the public from the 21 to 24 April. *The Court* caught up with fair director Ben Cooper to find out what is in store for London's buyers.

If this is a coming of age story, what are the signs of maturity?

When the fair was started by Caroline Penman 21 years ago there were very few art fairs. Now there is the London Art Fair at the Business Design Centre, the Affordable Art Fair Battersea... but when we started it was entirely new to bring contemporary art to the market.

So how have you maintained a unique position?

We are a small fair, but we have always stuck to a policy of quality. When I took over the directorship three years ago I re-launched it completely. Everyone had to reapply because businesses change and standards change. We redesigned the stand plan to only 35 stands and made sure that none of the galleries duplicated their artists.

What are the limitations put on galleries?

Artists are submitted by the galleries and go to the advisory board. Their work has to be original, and if these are prints, they have to be signed in editions of not more than 75 – unless it is something extraordinary. We have banned all means of digital reproduction, and, because resin sculpture can be done in very

high numbers, and intrinsically is disposable, we've banned that too. The angle for us is to sit in the market and keep absolutely quality galleries, strictly vetted.

The galleries seem to have responded with repeat business...

We also have an odd link with the southwest of England, particularly Cornwall and Devon with the likes of Lighthouse Gallery and White Space Art, which has just evolved over the years really. They wouldn't come back again and again if it weren't commercially viable. Being situated on the King's Road means galleries outside London have a chance to have a London gallery for four days.

It seems that much of the work will be figurative...

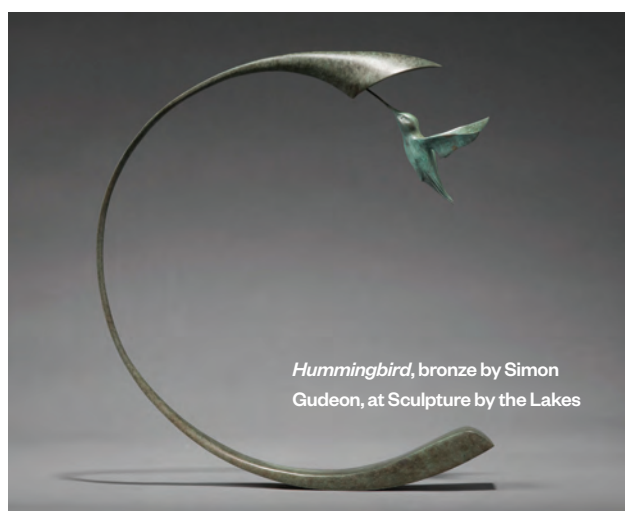
There are other art fairs like Art16 at Olympia, that focus, on the

weird and the whacky. So yes, we do have many more traditional figurative and landscape pieces, but they are all from leading and emerging artists. There is some work which is very much more 'contemporary' in feel, but much of the contemporary 'look' involves modern photography, which is digital, and therefore is very easily reproduced. We won't show that.

You've said in the past that this is a London fair for a London audience...

There are a very large number of private buyers who go for the 21st century funky look but they tend to be institutional. We appeal to a discerning London crowd. And Chelsea really is a village within London. It has its own identity. We do have visitors from across the country and internationally, but most are visiting from Kensington and Chelsea and Fulham across to Hammersmith. What we show is partly a response to the parochial nature of Chelsea to other parts of London. ☼

Chelsea Art Fair runs 21st to 24th April. Entry is £6. Thur 11am-8pm; Fri-Sat 11am-7pm; Sun 11am-5pm. A Chelsea Old Town Hall, King's Road, London SW3 5EE. T 07961 371961 W www.chelseaartfair.org E info@chelseaartfair.org



Hummingbird, bronze by Simon Gudeon, at Sculpture by the Lakes

POEM

Arrival

When I saw your father, before your birth,
I saw a boulder, its broad chest teetering
on a slope, awkward as his skin stretched
and cracked, losing its old self.
I saw him weigh each decision carefully,
his life mission sharpened like a pencil.
I saw him testing *father* on his tongue, rolling it
in his mouth like hot liquid and squinting at its burn.
As you stretched your mother's stomach,
so he stretched. He shed parts to prepare.
I saw a man naked and unsure, rolling *daddy*
around his tongue, preparing like a raw trumpeter
stretching abstract notes, creating jazz.

Malika Booker – From Vinyl Poetry Vol. #8

POETRY at the TROUBADOUR

Known for its historic role in the folk and jazz explosion of the sixties, The Troubadour on Old Brompton Road not only offers its famously Bohemian cellar-club stage to music-makers but has also become London's liveliest and longest-running poetry venue.

Since 1954, The Troubadour restaurant-café-stage has produced a venerable musical playlist: Bob Dylan, Joan Baez, and Eric Clapton all played there. But it has an equally impressive playlist of contemporary poets.

On Monday nights, at special *Coffee House Poetry* events, people listen to readings by, and conversations with, writers as varied as Mark Doty, Roger McGough, Sharon Olds, Daljit Nagra and former US Poet Laureate Billy Collins, who is a long-standing Troubadour fan.

There are poetry talks, like February's *The Poem as Selfie-Stick* debate, themed poetry evenings, a whirling spoken-word-and-music impromptu event once a season, and showcase introductions to up-and-coming poets. There is nothing quite like it – with its café-cabaret atmosphere, French accordion in the intermissions, and the space packed with poets and poetry fans of all ages (and poetry editors, publishers, bloggers and singer-songwriters), all enthralled by the magic of words.

Anne-Marie Fyfe (annemariiefyfe.com) organizes the literary events. Through *Coffee House Poetry*, she puts together a yearly calendar that has drawn people in from all over the world, earning such a reputation that the BBC and CNN's Arts-in-Europe have covered it.

Then there is the £5,000 Troubadour International Poetry Prize – one of the biggest and most lucrative poetry competitions in the UK. 2016 sees Jane Yeh and Glyn Maxwell read through all submissions, choosing three top prizes and another twenty honorable mentions.

Submissions can be made via email or post. The deadline is the 21 of June. Go to coffehousepoetry.org/prizes for details. It also has an archive of all the winning poems since 2007. ☼



The Power of Singing

'Here with a Loaf of Bread beneath the

Bough, A Flask of Wine, a Book of Verse – and Thou Beside me singing in the Wilderness – And Wilderness is Paradise now'. So wrote Omar Khayyam in the 11th century about the transformational power of singing.

Our local choir, Kensington Singers, is transforming the lives of some 60 local participants as they prepare for their next concert on 17 March at St Philip's Church in Earls Court Road. Many people in the choir do not read music; in fact, for many this is their first experience of singing. And yet the results have been truly astounding, as we heard at the Earl's Court Christmas Concert.

Led by the young and dynamic Hannah Brine, singers begin each Monday evening rehearsal using a very kinetic approach, with every part of the body engaged. To hold a note longer, for example, Hannah asks the choir to sing while putting their palms together and reaching out in front as far as they can. Your reporter tried this, and it works!

Reasons for joining the choir are many. From 'my aunt brought me' to 'I just moved here and wanted to be part of something' and 'it's the friendliest and happiest choir I've come across'. Choristers head off to the Hansom Cab public house after rehearsal, and other opportunities are taken for socialising, such as recent choir birthday celebrations with balloons, cake and wine.

Kensington Singers represents a wonderful opportunity for Earl's Court residents, friends and family to join and sing in a choir. Show your support by coming to the Songs of the Sea fifth year anniversary concert on 17 March, where all are certain to be transported to other places through wonderful sea-inspired music. 🌊

Open 8pm, Adults £10, concessions in advance £8 (buy online); Door, £12 & £10 **A** St Philip's Church, Earl's Court Road, W8 6QH
T 0781 493 5049 (call Hannah Brine)
W kensingtonsingers.co.uk



ECFF 2016: Magic in Film-Making

FILM

GREAT NEW OPPORTUNITIES ARE AVAILABLE TO MAKE AND SEE FILM

Earl's Court is known around the world for its diverse and colourful history. It has arts and creativity encoded in its DNA. To take advantage of these things, November 2015 saw local residents Sean Duffy, Caroline Tod and Toby Brown present the Earl's Court Film Festival 2015, a fresh, new, annual event in collaboration with film-makers from London Film School in Covent Garden.

"We screened two short films made in Earl's Court in 2015, namely *Fellow Travellers* and *The Door To*, as well as a feature length film, *Hangover Square*, written by one-time resident Patrick Hamilton," says Duffy. "The Festival attracted more than 350 film-goers, and was supported by our local councillors and the mayor for RBKC.

"There was an amazing atmosphere, and our audience was cross-generational from many nationalities, which is exactly what we had aimed for. The whole festival brought a real

buzz into Earl's Court, along with creativity, innovation and real film-making opportunity".

The next instalment – ECFF 2016 – will take place from 1-11 November 2016. This year, four to five short films will be presented that have been made through grants and logistical support for short film makers and screen writers. Once again, they will have been shot in the Earl's Court area during the spring and summer in collaboration with London Film School in Covent Garden, London Film Academy in Fulham, and many new film-makers.

This expanded line up will be screened at more venues too, including The Finborough Theatre, The Troubadour, London Film Academy and St Cuthbert's. The winner will screen in Covent Garden.

"I would recommend any young film-makers to take part in the Earl's Court Community Trust film-making grant process," says Ju Shardlow, producer of *Fellow Travellers*.

"Getting the script to production was a smooth process thanks to the help with locations, a filming and meetings base and ties with local organisations.

"It's very rare to get help with both monetary and production aspects of filming, so this was a treat for *Fellow Travellers*. It was also great to have a small selection of films screened, as it made us feel extremely special".

Andres Bratterud, director of *The Door To*, added: "The Festival was a great opportunity for me as an aspiring film-maker. Winning the production grant through the screenplay competition allowed us to produce the film to a higher quality, and ECFF organized a brilliant premiere at a fantastic venue. They sold out all the seats, and both the screenings and the Q & As were well organized". 🌟

(For further information on the Film Grant and ideas for short films, email earlsshorts@gmail.com. For information on the ECFF 2016, check here and in other local press).

Earl's Court Film Club Launches with a Bang

Monthly film evenings for young and old alike.

The Earl's Court Film Club launches on 18 March with the childhood musical *Chitty Chitty Bang Bang*. Loosely based on Ian Fleming's novel, the script is by Roald Dahl and is a 1968 childhood classic. The film is followed on 15 April with five-time Academy Award winning 1964 American fantasy, *Mary Poppins*, also showing at St Cuthbert's Church in Philbeach Gardens. Why such firm family favourites for a local film club? "We wanted to provide one night per month when the entire family could

come to see a film for around £15," says Lawrence Deneault, one of the sponsors of our newspaper and force behind the Film Club.

"We wanted to make it affordably good fun for children as well as their mothers and grandparents. It's a great time for all of us to meet our neighbours – and for our children to make new friends from the area, whilst munching on our free popcorn.

"We also hope that the Earl's Court Film Club will provide a showcase for local restaurants to introduce new food and dining experiences to our community." 🌟

Open 6.30pm, film starts at 7pm **A** St Cuthbert's Church, 50 Philbeach Gardens, SW5 9EB
T 020 7692 0588 **W** earlscourtfilmclub.com

the court

CALENDAR

March & April

All listings correct at time of going to press. Please check with the venue or organizer to confirm dates and times. If you'd like to see your event below, please send listings in the same format to listings@thecourt.london.

ART

KAPOPOULOS FINE ARTS COLLABORATION

OLD BROMPTON GALLERY

TO 11 MARCH

Old Brompton Gallery collaborates with Kapopoulos Fine Arts gallery from Greece to present a group exhibition featuring work by twenty eight international and Greek artists.

Artworks vary in style from paintings, sculptures and screen prints to mixed media constructions.

Open Tue-Fri, 11am-6pm; Sat, 11am-5pm

A 238 Old Brompton Road, SW5 ODE

T 0203 298 1318 **W** oldbromptongallery.com

PRE-RAPHAELITES ON PAPER:

VICTORIAN DRAWINGS FROM THE LANIGAN COLLECTION

LEIGHTON HOUSE MUSEUM

TO 29 MAY

Featuring over 100 drawings and sketches by the Pre-Raphaelites and their contemporaries, the exhibition – organised by the National Gallery of Canada – expresses the richness and flair of British draftsmanship during the Victorian era.

Open Daily, 10am-5.30pm, Adults £10 (tickets include entry to the exhibition and the House). Curator-led tours with Daniel Robbins Wed 9 March, Wed 6 April, Wed 11 May, 6.30-7.30pm, £25 (Includes complimentary wine) **A** 12 Holland Park Road, W14 8LZ **T** 020 7471 9153 **W** www.rbko.gov.uk/subsites/museums

LEONARDO DA VINCI: THE MECHANICS OF GENIUS

SCIENCE MUSEUM

TO 4 SEPTEMBER

Investigate both the facts and the misconceptions that surround this great genius of the Renaissance: Was he the period's only designer of machines? Did all of his designs get fully constructed?

Open Daily, 10am-8pm, £8/£10; Friday night lates until 10pm, Free **A** Exhibition Road, SW7 2DD **T** 0870 870 4868 **W** www.sciencemuseum.org.uk

LIGHT PAINTINGS BY ROSETTA WHITEHEAD

GALLERY 286

3-30 MARCH

Mysterious, sensual and technically accomplished, Rosetta's sometimes extremely long exposures reveal the aura of her sitters or summon up strange streams of ectoplasm. Each shoot is a collaborative performance event and, seeing the complexity of the finished works, it can be hard to believe that no photo-editing software has been used to create them. To join the Private View invite list, email jross@gallery286.com.

Private Views Thu Mar 3, 6.30-8.30pm; Sun 6 Mar, 12 midday-3pm; Tue 8 Mar, 6.30-8.30pm, Free. **Open** Wednesdays 12 midday-6pm, or by appointment, Free **A** 286 Earls Court Road, SW5 9AS **T** 0207 730 2239 **W** www.gallery286.com



BOTTOCELLI REIMAGINED

VICTORIA AND ALBERT MUSEUM

5 MARCH-3 JULY

This exhibition explores the ways artists and designers from the Pre-Raphaelites onwards have responded to the legacy of Sandro Botticelli (1445-1510). Fifty original works from collections around the world are shown alongside more recent masterpieces by Dante Gabriel Rossetti, Edward Burne-Jones, René Magritte, Elsa Schiaparelli, Andy Warhol and Cindy Sherman.

Open Daily, 10am-5.45 pm, Adults £15, Concessions. Check website for free tours, talks and family events. **A** Victoria & Albert Museum, Cromwell Road, SW7 **T** 020 7942 2000 **W** www.vam.ac.uk



THE ROYAL BRITISH SOCIETY OF SCULPTORS BURSARY AWARDS

THE ROYAL BRITISH SOCIETY OF SCULPTORS

7 MARCH- 20 MAY

This vibrant exhibition showcases the work of the 10 winners of the RBS Bursary Awards 2015, representing the best and brightest emerging contemporary sculptors. Artists include Kyveli Anastasiadi, Rosana Antoli, Tsuyoshi Anzai, Ting Tong Chang, Alex Duncan, Sebastian Kite, Nu Li, Helen Pailing, Tim Sandys and Liz West.

Open Wed-Fri, 12.30-5.30pm (or by appointment), Free **A** 108 Old Brompton Road, SW7 3RA **T** 020 7373 8615

W rbs.org.uk

CURATING CONTEMPORARY ART EXHIBITIONS 2016 GRADUATE SHOW

ROYAL COLLEGE OF ART KENSINGTON GORE GALLERIES

9-20 MARCH

Curating Contemporary Art MA programme students present four independent projects including work centred on public happenings in London, Lahore and São Paulo; sound works that generate a physical bodily impact; an architectural-sound installation, and performances, sound-based sculpture and painting complemented by online commissions.

Open Daily, 12 midday-5pm, Free **A** Kensington Gore SW7 2EU **T** 020 7590 4444 **W** london.secret.rca.ac.uk/2016

HAJRA WAHEED'S SEA CHANGE - CHAPTER 1: CHARACTER 1, IN THE ROUGH THE MOSAIC ROOMS

11 MARCH-21 MAY

Through the unfolding narratives of nine individual characters who have disappeared over nine chapters, this ambitious multimedia novel aims to give viewers a sense of looking for the individual story amidst the mass; reflecting on the value of the media's portrayal of crises, particularly migration.

Open Tue-Sat, 11am-6pm, Free. **A** 226 Cromwell Road, SW5 0SW **T** 0207 370 9990 **W** www.mosaicrooms.org



LEIGHTON'S GRAND STUDIO LIFE-DRAWING CLASSES

LEIGHTON HOUSE MUSEUM

15 MARCH, 12 APRIL

Artist Ann Witheridge, founder of London Fine Art Studios, returns to Leighton House to lead a new series of her popular art workshops in Leighton's grand studio.

Open 1-4pm, £30

MUSEUM LATES

LEIGHTON HOUSE MUSEUM

18 MARCH, 15 APRIL, 20 MAY

Late openings provide visitors with the chance to enjoy the museum and visit the exhibition 'out of hours' until 9pm. There is also the chance to enjoy live music and complimentary refreshments. Booking is not required.

Open Daily, 10am-5.30pm except Tuesdays, £7 **A** 12 Holland Park Road, W14 8LZ **T** 020 7471 9153 **W** www.rbko.gov.uk/subsites/museums

STEWART LAWS SECRET RCA 2016

ROYAL COLLEGE OF ART

8-15 APRIL

RCA Secret returns to the Royal College of Art's Kensington campus for 2016. The RCA's annual fundraising postcard sale will feature over 2,000 postcard-sized drawings, collages, photographs and sculptures by some of the world's most celebrated artists and designers, as well as by promising students from the college.

Open Fri 8 & Sat 9, 11am-6pm (no sales); Sun 10 (sale opens 8am-6pm); Mon 11-Fri 15 (exhibition and sale 11am-6pm); Sat 16 (collection 9am-5pm), Free **A** Kensington Gore, SW7 2EU **T** 020 7590 4444 **W** london.secret.rca.ac.uk/2016

JENNIFER BINNIE, ALEX BINNIE, KITTY SHEPERD EXHIBITION

GALLERY 286

12-30 APRIL

Paintings by Jennifer Binnie, woodcuts by Alex Binnie (no relation) and ceramic works from Kitty Shepherd. Jennifer co-founded the Neo-Naturists, celebrated for their body-painting performances in the 1980s. Alex is a world-renowned tattoo artist and print-maker. Kitty's ceramics are beautifully executed, super-fun, pieces of Pop Art.

Open Wed, 12 midday-6pm, or by appointment, Free **A** 286 Earls Court Road SW5 9AS **T** 0207 730 2239 **W** www.gallery286.com

LECTURE: THE DAY-DREAM OF PAINTING: THE PURPOSES OF DRAWING IN VICTORIAN ENGLAND

LEIGHTON HOUSE MUSEUM
21 APRIL

With reference to the drawings on display in the exhibition, Christopher Newall will explore the various purposes for which drawings were made in the Victorian period; from works that were to be seen and sold to private meditations, personal to the artist. Christopher Newall is an independent art historian and curator.

Open 6.15-8pm, £15 **A** 12 Holland Park Road, W14 8LZ **T** 020 7471 9153
W www.rbkc.gov.uk/subsites/museums

MUSIC

REHAB AT THE CELLAR

THE FINBOUROUGH ARMS
WEDNESDAYS

Every Wednesday the Rehab team host an open mic in The Cellar. Sign in at 7.30pm, but arrive no later as performance slots often disappear instantly. There's a free drink for every performer, and a house guitar available so there really are no excuses!

Open 7.30pm, Free **A** 118 Finborough Road, SW10 9DE **T** 020 3417 0490
W www.finborougharms.co.uk

SYMPTOMATIC PRESENTS...

THE FINBOUROUGH ARMS, THE CELLAR
SATURDAYS

5, 19 MARCH; 2, 16, 30 APRIL

Bi-monthly, the Symptomatic team come to The Cellar and bring a basement-full of musicians with them. Expect Rook and Indie sound on a Saturday!

Open 7.30pm, £5 **A** 118 Finborough Road SW10 9DE **T** 020 3417 0490 **W** www.finborougharms.co.uk

MUSIC FOR A MARCH EVENING: 'CELEBRATING WOMEN COMPOSERS'

ST CUTHBERT'S CHURCH
10 MARCH

Miriam Kramer (violin), Mayda Narvey (cello), and Charis Hanning (piano) pay tribute to women composers and writers. Hear the extraordinary work of 12th century mystic and polymath Hildegard von Bingen; one of the little known 17th century sonatas of Elizabeth-Claude Jacquet de la Guerre (the first woman to write an opera); the Trio in G minor of Clara Schumann, and the surprising and experimental work of contemporary women composers.

Open 7.45pm followed by a reception, £10 (Under 26 Free, over 60s and concessions £7, supported by the Earl's Court Community Trust) **A** St Cuthbert's Church, 60 Philbeach Gardens, SW5 9EB

LACOCK SCHOLARS PROGRAMME - IN TENEBROSIS

ST CUTHBERT'S CHURCH

13 MARCH

Tenebrae responsories by Victor Gesualdo, and Cardoso.

Open 6pm, Free **A** St Cuthbert's Church, 60 Philbeach Gardens, SW5 9EB
T 020 7370 3263 & 07711 405 750



FOOD & DRINK

THEO'S SIMPLE ITALIAN

THE INDIGO HOTEL, BARKSTON GARDENS
NEW OPENING

"I really want people to say 'let's go to the Italian around the corner'. I want it to be approachable, affordable, high quality but fun." So says food and beverage manager Simone Conti of the freshly opened Theo's Simple Italian at The Indigo Hotel on Barkston Gardens. Having opened its doors mere days ago, this new eatery provides a neighbourhood-friendly, rustic Italian experience – but backed by the quality controls of Theo Randall, patron of the InterContinental Park Lane restaurant of the same name, and former head chef at Michelin starred The River Café in Hammersmith. These extend to using the same suppliers as Park Lane, but most importantly, Randall-protégée William Leoni heads the kitchen. "We also have a cold-counter and specialist deli serving cured meats and small-batch coffee from Workshop Coffee's roastery in East London," says Conti. "We even have an in-house pastry chef and will be making cakes to order." What more could you want from the Italian next door?

Open Breakfast: Mon-Fri, 6.30-11am, Sat-Sun, 7am-12pm; Lunch: Daily, 12 midday-4pm; Dinner: Daily, 5-10.30pm **A** 34-44 Barkston Gardens, SW5 0EW
T 020 7373 7851

POETRY

THE SEA, THE SEA

THE TROUBADOUR

7 MARCH

Invited guest poets read their own and others' poems of sea and shore, of bays and boats, of tides and tempests. Plus, sea-themed music and nautical prize quiz.

Open 8-10pm, £7 **A** 263 Old Brompton Road SW5 **T** 020 7370 1434

W www.coffeehousepoetry.org or contact Anne-Marie Fyfe on 020 8354 0660

RECITALS – FLEUR ADCOCK, WILL BURNS AND FIONA SAMPSON

THE PRINT ROOM

15 MARCH

From meditations on migration and small, isolated communities (Adcock) to 'minimalist, emotionally sparse... quiet intelligence and subtle ways of seeing' (Will Burns) and a dreamlike and sustained meditation on time and belonging (Fiona Sampson), the poetry here combines formal sophistication with metaphysical exploration of renewal, beauty and risk.

Open 7.30pm, £10 **A** Print Room at the Coronet, 103 Notting Hill Gate, W11 3LB
T 0203 6426 606 **W** www.the-print-room.org

THEATRE

TERRA PRINT ROOM DANCE COMPANY – WORLD PREMIER

THE PRINT ROOM AT THE CORONET TO 12 MARCH

The burgeoning dance programme at the Print Room continues with the world premiere of Hubert Essakow's *Terra*, the final part of his trilogy exploring the elements – water, fire and earth. Booker Prize-winning novelist Ben Okri has been commissioned to write a new poem to accompany the work.

Open Mon-Fri 7.30pm; Sat 3pm & 7.30pm, £10/£27 **A** 103 Notting Hill Gate, W11 3LB **T** 0203 642 6606 **W** www.the-print-room.org

GOOD KING RICHARD BY IAN DIXON-PORTER

DRAYTON ARMS THEATRE

To 12 MARCH

History is always written by the victor. But who was the real Richard III?

Open Tue-Fri, 8pm; Sat 3pm & 8pm, £14/£10 **A** 153 Old Brompton Road, SW5 0LJ
T 020 7835 2301
W www.thedraytonarmstheatre.co.uk

MERIT BY ALEXANDRA WOOD

FINBOROUGH THEATRE

3-26 MARCH

"A rapacious banker, corrupt, corrupting, you thought he would steal my soul." Spain, 2013. A game of split loyalties and questionable morals, Alexandra Wood's thrilling new play looks at the complexities of a mother-daughter relationship and, in the growing argument between rich and poor, the girl stuck in between.

THE TROUBADOUR CLUB

2 March – Fuller Music Presents

Ant Barnes/SomebodyToSomeone/
Alex Kew/Laura Williams/Maz Manzini

3 March – James Shead

4 March – Jam Sandwich Presents...

5 March – Something for the
Weekend (Live) plus DJ

8 March and 5 April (8pm)

– Songwriters Showcase

10 March – Schwamp Shack

– Dr Schwamp

12 March – Blues Night

– Katie Bradley Blues Experience

16 March – Troubadour Country

– Sarah Darling/Claydon Connor

18 March – Troubadour Friday – Track Dogs



Open Sun-Wed, 7pm-midnight; Thu-Sat 7pm-2am. Contact for prices **A** 263 Old Brompton Road, SW5 **T** 020 7370 1434 **W** www.troubadourlondon.com



BARONS COURT THEATRE

1-5 MARCH	DEMONOLOGUES by Wendy Mecalif
7-22 MARCH	WARD No. 6 by Anton Chekhov
9-26 MARCH	THE MASTER AND MARGARITA by Mikhail Bulgakov
28 MARCH-2 APRIL	NEW AMAZONS by Dr Bob Boland
26 MARCH-5 APRIL	VENUS IN FUR by Leopold Von Sacher-Masoch
9-19 APRIL	LOLITA by Vladimir Nabokov
30 MARCH-24 APRIL	INVITATION TO A BEHEADING by Vladimir Nabokov
29 APRIL	DOT AN'I by Nanette Ackerman
26 APRIL-8 MAY	CALAIS by Dermot Dolan

Call for timings, £4.50-£16 **A** 28a Comeragh Road, W14 9HR **T** 0208 932 4747

Open Tue-Fri, 7.30pm; Sat 3pm (from 12 March) and 7.30pm; Sun 3pm, £14/£18 **A** 118 Finborough Road SW10 9DE **T** 020 7244 7439 **W** www.finboroughtheatre.co.uk

DON'T SMOKE IN BED BY AURIN SQUIRE - WORLD PREMIER
FINBOROUGH THEATRE
6-8, 13-15, 20-22 MARCH

Following the success of last year's production of Obama-ology, multi-award-winning African-American playwright Aurin Squire returns to The Finborough Theatre with another world premiere. *Don't Smoke In Bed* is a stunning exploration of social and racial perception in contemporary America. **Open** Sun-Mon 7.30pm; Tue 2pm, £16/£18 **A** 118 Finborough Road, SW10 9DE **T** 020 7244 7439 **W** www.finboroughtheatre.co.uk

PRINCESS CARABOO - WORLD PREMIER
FINBOROUGH THEATRE
30 MARCH-22 APRIL

The World Premiere of a new British musical by Phil Willmott, this is the extraordinary true story of a beautiful young woman who tricked her way from vagrancy to wealth and power in Regency England by pretending to be a shipwrecked Princess. **Open** Tue-Fri 7.30pm; Sat 3pm & 7.30pm; Sun 3pm, £18/£16/£14 **A** 118 Finborough Road, SW10 **T** 020 7244 7439 **W** www.finboroughtheatre.co.uk

THE NON-STOP CONNOLLY SHOW
FINBOROUGH THEATRE
4-24 APRIL

The first UK production commissioned by the Finborough Theatre for 40 years commemorates the centenary of Dublin's Easter Rising of 1916. Margaretta D'Arcy and John Arden's retell the life-story of Easter Rising leader James Connolly, charting in epic verse and stirring dialogue the life and career of Ireland's greatest revolutionary. **Open** Mon 4 (parts 1 & 2), Sun 10 (part 3), Mon 11 (part 4), Sun 17 (part 5), Mon 18 (part 6) 7pm, £12; Sat 23 (parts 1-4), Sun 24 (parts 5 & 6)

12-noon onward, £20 (all day performances – come and go as you please)
A 118 Finborough Road SW10 9DE
T 020 7244 7439
W www.finboroughtheatre.co.uk

DEATH WATCH by Jean Genet, translated by David Rudkin
THE PRINT ROOM AT THE CORONET
11 APRIL-7 MAY

Three young convicts share a cell. Informed by his experience in French prisons, Jean Genet's *Death Watch* is an explosive exploration of the inversion of moral order and is the first major revival of this work in thirty years in translation from David Rudkin. **Open** Mon-Sat, 7.30pm, £25/£32, Concessions **A** 103 Notting Hill Gate W11 3LB **T** 0203 642 6606 **W** www.the-print-room.org

LOVE LEARNING

YOUTH OUTREACH
EARL'S COURT YOUTH CLUB
DAILY
Earl's Court Youth Club works with young people aged 9 to 19 years old – and up to 25 years old with disabilities. Activities include dance classes, digital art, design and printing, arts and crafts, cooking, football, fitness, music production, studio engineering courses, computer games, pool, table tennis and more. **A** 120 Ifield Road, SW10 9AF **T** 020 7737 970 **W** www.earlsourtouthclub.co.uk

RESPONSE COMMUNITY PROJECTS
RESPONSE CAFÉ
DAILY
Response is a community-based charity that serves the needs of vulnerable individuals. It offers classes from computer literacy to Thai Chi designed to increase educational attainment and general well-being. Open to all comers and to all those who live or work in or have some other connection with Earl's Court. **Open** Mon-Fri **A** 300 Old Brompton Road, SW5 9JF **T** 020 7370 4606 **W** www.responseprojects.org.uk

BOOK BREAK
BROMPTON LIBRARY & EARLS COURT COMMUNITY TRUST
TUESDAY & THURSDAYS
Relax, listen while others read, and share a cup of tea and biscuits to discuss what is being read. **Open** Tue, 10.30am-12.30pm, Brompton Library, 210 Old Brompton Rd, SW5 0BS; Thu 10.30am-12 midday, Earl's Court Community Trust, 1a Nevern Place SW5 9NR (Contact rosietrustam@thereader.org.uk)

THE FRIENDS BRIC-A-BRAC STALL
CHELSEA AND WESTMINSTER HOSPITAL
WEDNESDAYS & FRIDAYS
Friends Book Sale. A great chance to grab a novel. **Open** Fri, 10am; Wed, 10am **A** Ground Floor Academic Atrium **T** 0203 315 8825

THE MOON & NUDE: LIFE DRAWING
THE FINBOUROUGH ARMS – THE CELLAR
SUNDAYS
A relaxed evening of drawing, drinks and music. Friendly untutored sessions for all abilities. Materials available, no need to book. **Open** 6-8pm, £10 **A** 118 Finborough Road SW10 9DE **T** 020 3417 0490 **W** finborougharms.co.uk

OUT AND ABOUT

BIRD AND NATURE WALKS
HOLLAND PARK
SATURDAYS
Meet outside the café at 9am on the first Saturday of each month and stroll through the park looking at birds, plants and butterflies led by knowledgeable Friends of Holland Park residents. **Open** 9am onwards, Free **A** Holland Park, Ilchester Place, W8 6LU **W** thefriendsofhollandpark.org

ANNUAL FRIENDS ART EXHIBITION
HOLLAND PARK
SAT 16-SUN 24 APRIL
With featured artist Mao Wen Biao, in the Orangery. **Open** 10.30am-3pm, Free **A** Holland Park, Ilchester Place, W8 6LU **W** www.thefriendsofhollandpark.org

BROMPTON CEMETERY TOURS
BROMPTON CEMETERY
13 & 27 MARCH, 10 & 24 APRIL
Enjoy a splendid walk through one of Britain's oldest and most distinguished garden cemeteries, led by Friends of Brompton Cemetery. **Open** 2pm, £6 per person (donation goes toward the work of The Friends) **A** South Lodge (Fulham Road entrance), Fulham Road, SW10 9UG **T** 020 73511689 or **E** info@brompton-cemetery.org.uk **W** www.brompton-cemetery.org.uk

STEP INTO THE GARDEN WITH JO MALONE LONDON
CHELSEA PHYSIC GARDEN
18 MARCH
Michael Holland, Head of Education at Chelsea Physic Garden, hosts a herb planting master-class alongside Emma South, Regional Education Manager for Jo Malone London. He will take you through planting tips and offer advice for your own herb garden. Afternoon tea created by the award winning Tangerine Dream Cafe. **Open** 2.30-5pm, £45 booking required **A** 66 Royal Hospital Road SW3 4HS, **T**: 020 7352 5646 **W** www.chelseaphysicgarden.co.uk

CONSERVATION VOLUNTEERING
HOLLAND PARK - ECOLOGY CENTRE
19 MARCH
The Ecology Centre runs a scheme of outdoor and creative activities for 5-12-year-olds in the spring, summer, and half-term holidays. Help with planting, pond clearance and dead hedging! **Open** 10.30am-3pm, Free **A** Holland Park, Ilchester Place, W8 6LU **T** 020 7938 8186 or **E** ecologycentre@rbkc.gov.uk

RUSSIAN VIRTUOSI OF EUROPE CONCERT
HOLLAND PARK
23 APRIL
Led by Natalia Lomeiko and Yuri Zhislin, the Russian Virtuosi of Europe Concert will be held in the delightful surroundings of the Orangery. **Open** 7.30pm, £15 **A** Holland Park, Ilchester Place, W8 6LU **W** www.thefriendsofhollandpark.org

FREE LEARNING EVENTS
BROMPTON LIBRARY
WEEKLY

Mondays	Baby Rhyme Time, 2-2.30pm
Thursdays	Children's Storytime, 10-10.30am
Saturdays	Saturday Storyland, 10-10.40am
Chatterbooks	2nd Monday of the month, 3.45-4.45pm
Reading Group	1st Tuesday of the month, 6.30-7.30pm
Story and craft	1st Saturday of the month, 10.30-11.30am

A 210 Old Brompton Road London SW5 0BS **T** 020 7361 3010
W www.rbkc.gov.uk/libraries/news-and-events



Present
- A TOTALLY FABUOUS -

FAMILY FILM NIGHT

St Outhberts Church, 50 Philbeach Gardens, Earl's Court, SW5 9EB

Friday 18th March | Doors open 18:30

Just £7 Per Adult or £15 Per Family*

Tickets are available from

www.welovethecourt.com

or call Earl's Court Film Club on 020 7692 0588



FILM CLUB MEMBERS ENJOY
FREE POPCORN AT EVERY EVENT!
Limited tickets on sale at the door

*Monthly membership fee / Family membership
includes 2 Adults and up to 5 children

tlc  SW5

