

The Segments

an arts newsletter

Edition one

October 2014

Two weeks ago the first of this year's planned Theatre Club visits took us to Islington to see Alecky Blythe lead a cast of professional actors and community volunteers in her powerful study of the impact of the 2011 riots on the community of Hackney.

The next Theatre Club visit is not until **Thursday, 4th December**; so to fill this huge gap in your social and cultural calendar **James Goddard, Jake Short and Charlie Thomas-Burstow** have put their heads together to produce this newsletter aimed at *anyone* in the sixth form who wishes to enjoy the advantages

of living in one of the world's cultural capitals.

The essence of enjoying the full range of the arts is to keep an open mind, and the venues **James, Jake & Charlie** identify here will enable you to do this without the need to spend very much money.

James, Jake and Charlie have created a résumé of what's happening in theatre, music and art in London over the next month or so. Half-term will be here in less than three weeks and I know many of you will want to use some of that time to enjoy yourselves expanding your cultural horizons: you could do a lot worse than to start here! *SRB*



The Theatre Segment



London has a seemingly endless amount of theatre: just waiting for you to tap into. From West End to Fringe, this segment will give you a quick overview of the relatively cheap and downright outrageously affordable theatre that is available for you in our glorious capital city!

I will focus mostly on Fringe theatre; but you may spot the occasional West End production; but for the considerations of affordability, they will be rare.

Some venues you should be aware of:

- Young Vic, Waterloo
- Old Vic, Waterloo
- The Tricycle Theatre, Kilburn
- The Soho Theatre, Soho
- The National Theatre, Waterloo
- The Gate Theatre, Notting Hill
- The Almeida Theatre, Islington
- The Arcola, Shoreditch
- Donmar Warehouse, Covent Garden
- The Royal Court, Sloane Square
- Battersea Arts Centre, Battersea
- Theatre 503, Battersea
- The Barbican, The City
- Southwark Playhouse, Elephant & Castle

Join their free mailing lists; check their websites regularly to see what's coming up.

Exciting schemes to be aware of:

- National Theatre's 'Entry pass'
- Theatre 503 'Pay what you can Sundays'
- Arcola Theatre 'Passport'
- The Gate Theatre's 'Young People's Night.'

They all provide ways of getting seats for less than £10.

Four shows currently showing:

Confirmation at the **Battersea Arts Centre**. *The Guardian* described Chris Thorpe's exploration of the way confirmation bias limits our political thinking as 'electrifying'. Mr Black saw it in Edinburgh in August and agrees with *The Guardian*! Catch it at BAC 6th October–25th October.

Blind Eye at **Theatre 503** £15 or 'Pay what you can Sundays' (£3–£12) 30th September–25th October.

Check out the **Gate Theatre's** *Who Does She Think She Is* season; *Edge Of Our Bodies* is currently on: tickets £10, showing 25th September – 18th October.

Spine is at the Soho theatre. It is politically challenging, the story of a young woman taking back control of her life, with the help of a very unconventional old lady. Previews £10. Otherwise £12. 21st September–2nd November.

Theatre in London is cheap, exciting and informal – you don't need to 'dress up' (unless you want to!): theatre shouldn't have to be 'an occasion', it should be a common occurrence!

Directions

Battersea Arts Centre (nearest station Clapham Junction: 20 minutes from Carshalton by direct train, then 5 to 10-minutes' walk up Lavender Hill – BAC is on the left at the top of the hill).

The Gate Theatre (nearest Tube Notting Hill Gate: 43 minutes from Morden on Northern, Victoria & Circle lines, then 3-minutes' walk)

Soho Theatre: (nearest Tube Leicester Square: 35 minutes from Morden on Northern line *via* Charing Cross, then 10-minutes' walk)

The Arcola Theatre: I'm going to advise the London Overground here, however there are other ways to get there. Check their website for guidance. It's 45 minutes from West Croydon to Dalston Junction on the Overground, then 2-minutes' walk to the theatre at 24 Ashwin Street.

James Goddard

The Music Segment

There is a vast treasure trove of music events and venues available at discounted prices for people our age! Listed below is a mere sample of the halls and venues in London; the cream of the crop, if you will.

Kings Place, N1 9AG (nearest Tube King's Cross St Pancras: 35 minutes from Morden by Northern line) (standard prices vary between £15 and £30; online saver scheme reduces all prices to £9.50). Performances are largely classical, with other more varied genres and styles featured on occasion, including jazz and blues. Venue also hosts a substantial art gallery, which is free to view.

Royal Albert Hall, SW7 2AP (nearest Tube South Kensington: 35 minutes from Morden on Northern, Victoria & Circle or District lines; then 10-minutes' walk) (BBC Proms season 2015 will start just before the end of the Summer Term, with 'at-the-door' tickets costing £10, irrespective of age). Relatively cheap 'coffee mornings' hosted throughout the year, with the ticket including complimentary pastries and coffee/tea.

Southbank Centre, SE1 8XX (nearest Tube Waterloo: 25 minutes from Morden on Northern line, then 5-minutes' walk) – Of all the listed venues, this is the most diverse, musically speaking, with performances ranging from classical to minimalism, jazz and blues.

Barbican Centre, EC2Y 8DS (nearest Tube Moorgate: 32 minutes from Morden on Northern line, then five minutes' walk) – Home of the London Symphony Orchestra, with ticket prices varying from £10 to £38 plus a booking fee. 16–25 year olds can become 'Young Barbicans', receiving tickets for £5, £10 or £15 each, depending upon availability. This scheme includes theatre, art exhibitions and film screenings at the Centre.

St Martin in the Fields, WC2N 4JJ (nearest Tube

Charing Cross: 28 minutes from Morden on Northern line, then 5-minutes' walk) – Concerts tend to be classical-oriented, varying from Baroque to 20th Century pieces, although there are occasional jazz concerts, called 'Jazz Nights'. Prices vary from £9, for a seat with restricted view, to £26; students receive a discount. Most concerts tend to under-sell, with a large number of tickets on offer at the door. Jazz Nights are cheaper, with tickets for just £3.50.

Fairfield Halls, Croydon simply get the 157 from school towards Crystal Palace – the bus stops just across the road from the Halls.

The Wigmore Hall, W1U 2BP Nearest Tube Oxford Circus: 30 minutes from Morden on Northern and Victoria lines, then 10-minutes' walk.

Alongside these more formal events, various competitions run throughout the year, including the Gigs: Big Busk competition – a showcase of young musical talent in the nation's capital. Also, there are several local venues hosting prestigious orchestras and performances throughout the year – including Fairfield Halls in Croydon, directions to which are listed above. To enquire about performances at Fairfield Halls, see Mrs Patel in W01, who will gladly provide further details!

Upcoming performances

St Martin in the Fields: <http://purchase.tickets.com/buy/TicketPurchase>

Barbican Centre: www.barbican.org.uk/music/

Southbank Centre (includes art events): www.southbankcentre.co.uk/whatson/

Kings Place for October; includes art events and talks: www.kingsplace.co.uk/whats-on

Royal Albert Hall (for November): www.royalalberthall.com/tickets/

Wigmore Hall www.wigmore-hall.org.uk/whats-on

Jake Short

The Art Segment

There are many different tiny crevices in London in which art is being bred, all of which you have to find and discover, but not all! Some art is right under our noses and we don't even know about it, this segment is to introduce you to current art exhibitions going on in London.

Anselm Kiefer is a German artist who was born in March 1945 under the Third Reich, and this shaped his work. Kiefer has been known to create works that are extremely challenging for the viewer to interpret.

Kiefer uses a combination of different tools to create his works, one art piece called 'The Orders of the Night' is currently situated at the Art Museum in Seattle. This piece is 4 meters in height and 7 meters wide, a combination of ash, paper, glitter, straw and fire. Kiefer has also has created a sculpture out of unfinished canvases from artists (see the front page), currently being displayed at the Royal Academy of Arts.

Another show worthy of your attention is running at Tate Modern until 26th October. This is the first comprehensive exhibition of **Kazimir Malevich's** work in the UK.

Malevich was one of the key figures in the explosion of creativity which accompanied the Russian Revolution of 1917. He sought to create a new kind of art for the new society which was evolving under Soviet Communism. His 'Black Square' of 1913 is at the bottom of this page.

Getting to **The Royal Academy of Arts** Nearest Tube Green Park: 29 minutes from Morden on Northern and Victoria lines, then 5-minutes' walk.

Getting to **Tate Modern**. Nearest Tube Southwark: 33 minutes from Morden on Northern and Jubilee lines, then 8-minutes' walk (follow the orange lamp-posts!) ENJOY!

Charlie Thomas-Burstow

