What's New August 2013

London is set to welcome a whole host of new entertainment, summer events and fun activities to get involved in during August.

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Activities & Exhibitions

**Treasures from a hidden garden: Plant portraits by the Florilegium Society**
Chelsea Physic Garden, 1 – 30 August 2013

Every month a group of dedicated artists gathers at Chelsea Physic Garden where they have exclusive rights to select any plants in the Garden for careful study. This exhibition presents a rare opportunity to view a selection of the Society’s exquisite botanical paintings and drawings, bringing together work by the Society’s 60 elected member artists, both amateur and professional. As well as paintings of some of the superfoods being featured at the Garden this summer, the exhibition will include work inspired by plants from other areas. For more information contact Lynn Scrivener on 020 7349 6472 / lscrivener@chelseaphysicgarden.co.uk

**Out of this World**
National Maritime Museum 7, 14, 21 & 28 August 2013
Explore the Visions of the Universe exhibition with your own astronomer guide, followed by a family workshop including exciting science demonstrations and activities. Ticket includes entry to the exhibition. For more information contact Jenny Stewart on 020 8312 6732 / press@rmg.co.uk

**Ramble in the Park: Bat Walk**
Kensington Gardens & Hyde Park, 30 August 2013
Guided by the Isis Education Centre team, this is a wonderful chance to walk in Kensington Gardens and Hyde Park at night and see several different bat species – common pipistrelles, soprano pipistrelles, and noctules. Bat detectors are used so that bat echo-location calls are audible to the human ear, and because you are out in the Park on a summer’s night, owl calls may add to the atmosphere. For more information contact Emma Chappel on echappel@royalparksfoundation.org

Events

Urban Arts Weekend
Southbank Centre, 2 – 4 August 2013
Celebrating the rich history of street culture in the surrounding neighbourhoods of Lambeth and Southwark, Southbank Centre presents an Urban Arts weekend, with indoor and outdoor performances, talks, demonstrations and workshops. The weekend will feature BMX, basketball, skateboarding, street dance, graffiti and spoken word and music. Inca Elam’s hosts an evening of hip-hop inspired poems and songs, and, following his performances of Game Over in May 2012, choreographer Pierre Regal returns to Southbank Centre with a stunning piece that uses hip-hop to examine the concept of national identity. For more information contact Helena Zedong on 0207 921 0847/ helena.zedig@southbankcentre.co.uk

Ping!
Canary Wharf, 2-10 August 2013
This popular table tennis event returns to Canary Wharf’s Jubilee Place Mall from the 2–10 August. Ping! caters for all ages and abilities - whether you want to learn how to play or take part in the Corporate Challenge or just watch the action. There are professional coaches on-hand to assist and sporting legends competing against each other in showcase matches. For more information contact Rachel Bowen on 020 7630 1411 / rbowen@thecommunicationgroup.co.uk

Prudential RideLondon
Across London, 3 – 4 August 2013
A new annual, mass-participation cycling event is to hit London this summer. The world-class two-day cycling festival will allow families and amateur riders to take part, as well as attracting the world’s best elite cyclists. Saturday’s ride, FreeCycle will be aimed at cyclists of all ages and abilities who want to enjoy the fun of cycling in a traffic-free environment. The route will pass many of Central London’s famous landmarks. Up to 50,000 participants are expected to take part. Sunday’s activities will appeal to the world’s top elite cyclists and amateur cyclists alike. Set to be the largest charity cycling event in the world, the London-Surrey 100 route will start at Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park, taking in roads in London and Surrey and finishing in Central London. For more information contact Nicola Okey on 020 7902 0182 / nicolao@london-marathon.co.uk

Prudential RideLondon Cycle Show
ExCeL London, 1 – 3 August 2013
With a theme of ‘inspiration’ this new show will connect and inspire riders and would-be riders of all ages. Many the major cycling brands will be present, as well as many other exhibitors showing and selling everything from designer water bottles to the latest GPS devices. Visitors can also purchase Prudential RideLondon including a range of souvenirs and technical clothing. For more information contact Penny Dain on pennyd@ridelondon.co.uk

Canary Wharf Jazz Festival
Canada Square, 16 – 18 August 2013
Now in its seventh year, Canary Wharf Jazz Festival 2013 brings Soweto Kinch, Omar
Puente and Carleen Anderson as just some of the influential jazz and soul stars taking to the stage. Throughout the three day event, world-class artists and rising stars appear in back-to-back performances. For those completely new to jazz or committed aficionados, Canada Square Park is the place to be for a memorable jazz experience. For more information contact Rachel Bowen on 020 7630 / rbowen@thecommunicationgroup.co.uk

**Notting Hill Carnival**
25 – 26 August 2013
Held each August Bank Holiday since 1966, the Notting Hill Carnival is the largest festival celebration of its kind in Europe. Every year the streets of West London come alive, with the sounds and smells of Europe’s biggest street festival. With many astonishing floats and the sounds of the traditional steel drum bands, scores of massive sound systems plus not forgetting the hundreds of stalls that line the streets of Notting Hill, The Notting Hill Carnival is one of London’s biggest events. For more information contact NK Media on 020 7096 8888 / info@nkmedia.co.uk

**Theatre, Music & Film**

**Kids Week**
Across many London theatres, 1 – 31 August 2013
Now in its 16th year and run by the Society of London Theatre, Kids Week is all about encouraging young people to experience the magic of live theatre. During Kids Week a child aged 16 or under can go free to participating shows when accompanied by an adult paying full price. Up to two extra children’s tickets can be purchased at half price. The shows taking part include: Billy Elliot the Musical, The Curious Incident Of The Dog In The Night-Time, Disney’s The Lion King, Horrible Histories - Barmy Britain, Jersey Boys, Matilda the Musical, Les Misérables, Rock Of Ages, Stomp, Thriller Live, We Will Rock You, Wicked, and much more. Kids Week also has a fantastic range of free activities and events. For more information contact Matthew Brown on 020 7557 6729 / matthewb@solttma.co.uk

**West Side Story**
Sadler’s Wells, 7 August - 22 September 2013
This production of West Side Story features the entire original Jerome Robbins choreography. When Tony falls in love with Maria, the sister of the rival gang’s leader, the feud takes on a new dimension, and as their love blossoms so begins a fatal journey overshadowed by violence and hatred. The score includes the unforgettable songs ‘Maria’, ‘Tonight’, ‘Somewhere’, ‘America’ and ‘I Feel Pretty’. For more information contact Simon Raw on simon@rawpr.co.uk

**Film4 Summer Screen at Somerset House**
8 – 21 August 2013
London’s best-loved open-air cinema is back this August with an extended programme of films over 14 nights. Presented in the magnificent 18th century courtyard on a giant screen with full surround sound, Film4 Summer Screen at Somerset House features comedy, romance, musicals, thrillers and much loved classics. With early evening DJ sessions, providing the ideal soundtrack to your picnic, Film4 Summer Screen at Somerset House is the ultimate cinema experience and the highlight of the summer calendar. For more information contact Josephine Rodrigues on 020 7845 4638 / Josephine.Rodrigues@somersethouse.org.uk

**ZooNation’s Groove On Down The Road**
Southbank Centre’s Queen Elizabeth Hall, 10 August – 1 September 2013
Kate Prince and her award-winning dance company ZooNation return to Southbank Centre the world premiere of Groove on Down the Road. The company behind Some Like It Hip Hop give their unique twist to the classic story of The Wizard of Oz, which comes to the Queen
Elizabeth Hall as part of Southbank Centre’s Festival of Neighbourhood with MasterCard. The cast of the show is made up of young dancers from across the UK, all under the age of 19, showcasing the exceptional talent of ZooNation’s next generation of dancers. For more information contact Lara Delaney on 020 7921 0917 / lara.delaney@southbankcentre.co.uk

Peter Pan, The Never Ending Story – World Arena Tour
Wembley Arena, 21-26 August 2013
A ground-breaking theatrical production will transport audiences to a world full of fantasy as they witness a theatrical spectacular of cinematic quality. A feast of dance and music, the show will capture the hearts and imaginations of every generation of the family. Watch as Peter is elevated into the air without harnesses by an incredible wind turbine, allowing him to realistically fly on the stage (a first for the stage). World renowned musical director Matt Dunkley will be adapting contemporary hits for this spectacle. For more information contact Emma Carson on 020 3137 6499 / emma@katiephillipspr.co.uk

Jazz Nights in the Café in the Crypt
St Martin-in-the-Fields, throughout August 2013
The Café in the Crypt may be underground but there’s no secret that it is one of London’s hottest music venues. Listen to some swinging musicians, soak up some stunning Georgian architecture and enjoy fantastic food and drink. Live acts include Rob Hughes (7 August), The Gary Baldwin Trio (14 August), Jumoké Fashola (21 August) and TJ Johnson’s Bourbon Kick (28 August). For more information contact Julie Emig on 020 7766 1115 / julie.emig@smitf.org

Hotels
Chocolate Masterclasses
The Royal Horseguards Hotel, 14 August & 21 August
Throughout July and August, the hotel is offering four chocolate themed masterclasses, where little ones can learn how to make their own delicious cocoa inspired treats – perfect for a special celebration or a summer holiday treat. Hosted by the hotel’s talented pastry chef, Joanne Todd, treat your brood to a fun filled afternoon creating a number of mouth-watering chocolate delights. The masterclass also includes a gift bag bursting with goodies, including a copy of the classic tale, Charlie and The Chocolate Factory. Priced at £25 per child and includes the kids ‘mini afternoon tea’. For more information contact Stacey Stockwell on 020 8237 1210 / stacey.stockwell@sirencomms.com