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What's on HIGHLIGHTS

To see what's on when, visit **www.thsh.co.uk/whats-on**

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www.thsh.co.uk

THSH
TOWN HALL BIRMINGHAM
SYMPHONY HALL BIRMINGHAM

Entertainment

Rufus Wainwright

Friday 15 July
7pm
Symphony Hall

Sarah Millican

Sunday 17 July &
Monday 29 August
Symphony Hall

Mary Chapin Carpenter

Tuesday 26 July
7.30pm
Town Hall

Miranda Sings Live

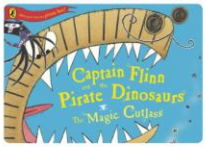
Saturday 13 August
8pm
Symphony Hall

The Gloaming

Sunday 25 September
7.30pm
Symphony Hall

The Legend of Zelda:
Symphony of the Goddesses – Master Quest

Sunday 9 October
7pm
Symphony Hall



Captain Flinn & The Pirate Dinosaurs:
The Magic Cutlass'

Sunday 30 October
1.30pm & 3.30pm
Town Hall

What The Ladybird Heard

Tuesday 27 December 2016 –
Wednesday 11 January 2017
Town Hall

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Funded by Birmingham City Council

Town Hall renovation also funded by
LOTTERY FUNDED
PROJECT PART-FINANCED BY THE EUROPEAN UNION
ARTS COUNCIL ENGLAND

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Welcome to the fourth Birmingham Fest brochure!

We have lots of shows for you again, with artists from all over the UK.
A few favourites are back, and there is lots of brand new work too.
Some are one-off performances so don't miss them!
It looks set to be a great two and a half weeks again.

There's been a lot happening in Birmingham over the past year.
The fantastic new-look New Street station opened, as well as
the stunning Grand Central, and the extension of the Metro.
We've also seen the city increasingly being used for film & TV
filming locations - including big Hollywood movies.
Also, Symphony Hall turned 25! Happy Birthday to them.

Anyway, have a look through the brochure, hopefully
you'll find a few things you like the look of.
Please support as many as you can (even if you can't
attend - spread the word!)

Mostly though, please support the
arts in Birmingham.

Darren Haywood, festival organiser.

The Venues

The Blue Orange Theatre

The Blue Orange Theatre is a professional fringe venue situated in Birmingham's Jewellery Quarter. It stages numerous in-house productions as well as hosting visiting companies, comedy nights, classes and workshops. The venue consists of a flexible theatre space which seats up to 110, a large rehearsal studio, and a spacious bar (which are both often also used for performances).

www.blueorangetheatre.co.uk
Tel: (0121) 212 2643

The Crescent Theatre

The Crescent is a purpose-built theatre in the fantastic Brindleyplace development of the city. Predominantly a membership theatre it stages about 15 in-house productions a year and hosts numerous visiting companies, small and large. The venue has a 300 seat main house, a 100 seat studio theatre, rehearsal & function rooms, a spacious bar, and a wardrobe hire department.

www.crescent-theatre.co.uk
Tel: (0121) 643 5858

The Old Joint Stock Theatre

The Old Joint Stock Theatre is part of a Grade II listed building situated right in the heart of Birmingham's city centre. The venue consists of a 100 seat studio theatre hosting a variety of productions all year round and a beautiful 50 seat Victorian-style function room which hosts both seminars and performances. The ground floor is home to the extremely popular Old Joint Stock pub which also serves food & hosts music nights.

www.oldjointstocktheatre.co.uk
Tel: (0121) 200 0946

@A.E. Harris

@A.E. Harris is a multi-purpose venue that is actually a vacated portion of a factory. Situated in The Jewellery Quarter (not far from St. Paul's Square), it is suitable for many different styles of performance. As a seated venue it has a capacity of 50. As well as hosting numerous visiting companies, festivals and arts events it is also home to Stan's Cafe Theatre Company. A unique venue.

www.aeharrisvenue.co.uk
Tel: (0121) 236 2273

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The Shows

An Audience With Gorgeous George
by Alex Brockie

Meet Gorgeous George; the legendary bad-boy wrestler whose gender-bending persona and outrageous behaviour shocked conservative post-WWII America and thrust 'camp' into the forefront of its popular culture.

Fri 15th July 7pm
The Blue Orange Theatre
Pay What You Can

Too Tall To Tribute?
by Alex Brockie

A 6ft-1-woman-show about an aspiring actress whose head is (almost literally) in the clouds! Hear how dreams of someday playing her idol, the great Marilyn Monroe, have led to some rather comical misadventures!

Fri 15th July 8.15pm
The Blue Orange Theatre
Pay What You Can

All The Things We Could Have Been
by Robin Surgeoner

A no-holds-barred exposé of the arduous journey into adulthood and life choices for the disabled. Combining song, satire, digital scenery, and spoken word, it dares to ask many questions, and pose many observations.

Sat 16th July 5pm
The Blue Orange Theatre
Tickets £5

THESE 2 SHOWS ARE PRESENTED AS A "DIVA DOUBLE BILL"

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Honey
by Reaction Theatre

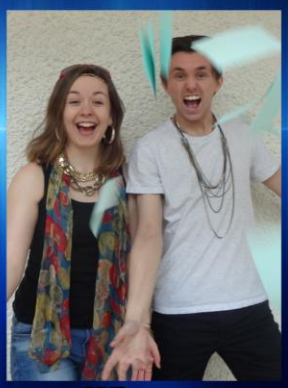
Weaving together the lives of a tattoo artist, an autistic boy, his mother, her husband away in the army, and those that want to love them. What's woven is a quilt, made as a gift for the boy with autism who loves to dance.

Sat 16th July 7pm
The Blue Orange Theatre
Tickets £8 (£6 concessions)

Swingerella's Dark Fairytale
by Andrea Smith

Once upon a time there was a princess, but her "prince charming" soon took her from first date to self harming. Hear the 10 chapter story that drove her mad. Swingerella: good girl gone bad. **(18+)**

Sat 16th July 9pm
The Blue Orange Theatre
Tickets £8 (£6 concessions)



Winners
by FRED Theatre

Maggie and Matt are 'normal'. They have normal friends, normal jobs, and a normal cat. Until their lives are turned upside down, sprayed with champagne and lathered in that posh, organic peanut butter.

Sun 17th July 3pm
Mon 18th & Tues 19th July 7pm
The Crescent Theatre
Tickets £10.50

Sentimental Journey Of Jazz
by Nataylia

Take a Sentimental Journey down memory lane and hear some of the classics in Jazz and Blues from Nina Simone, Ella Fitzgerald, Billie Holiday, and more - all stunningly performed by Nataylia.

Sun 17th July 5pm
The Crescent Theatre
Tickets £7 (£5.50 concessions)

What The Dickens?
by Foghorn Unscripted

The World of Charles Dickens has never been more fun! This fast moving, made-up, audience-led, comedy romp promises preposterous names, ludicrous coincidences, and crowd rousing melodrama!

Sun 17th July 7pm
The Crescent Theatre
Tickets £7.50

An Evening Of Improvisation
by Box Of Frogs

Presenting their own inimitable brand of high-octane improvised audience suggested nonsense. All your favourite improv games, unrehearsed and improvised entirely live. No-one knows what will happen, least of all us!

Mon 18th July 7.30pm
The Blue Orange Theatre
Free (donations welcome)

The Austerity Games by Tell Tale Theatre

It's the eve of the 1948 Olympic Games in London. Triggered by a visitation from the ghost of her husband who died in the Blitz in Coventry, old Martha Britt takes a journey through time to discover the meaning of the Olympic Spirit.

Tues 19th & Thurs 28th July 7pm
The Blue Orange Theatre
Tickets £8 (£6 concessions)

This is always the result by Gus Watcham

Two contemporary tales of shame, love, and anguish: Ageing artist Kathy is obsessed with a man who barely knows that she exists. Sarah's safe world is upended by violence & human frailty.

Tues 19th July 7pm
@A.E. Harris
Tickets £8 (£6 concessions)

Fanny: A New Musichall by Roberts & John

Fanny wants to be a big star. She is rehearsing for her Drury Lane debut. As she works on her songs with her long-suffering pianist if becomes apparent that things are not all as they seem in this tragic tale.

Tues 19th July 9pm
The Crescent Theatre
Tickets £7.50 (£5 concessions)

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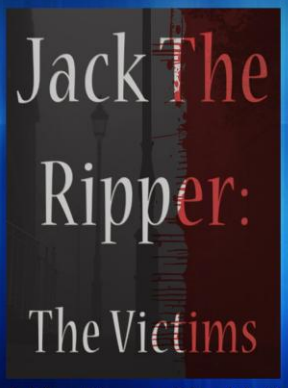

Jack The Ripper: The Victims by Blue Orange Arts

This workshop performance focuses on the victims of Jack the Ripper, highlighting their slayings and depicting the depravity and violence which formed part of the daily lives of the residents of Whitehall.

Weds 20th July 7pm
The Blue Orange Theatre
Free (donations welcome)

Learned Friends by Ginny Davis

Prosecution and defence await a jury's verdict in the trial of a high profile football manager. Each holds a secret which will bring conflict as irregularities in the trial emerge. Employing all the tricks of the trade, who wins?

Thurs 21st July 7pm
The Blue Orange Theatre
Tickets £9 (£7 concessions)

Drain by Silence Presents

Chris drops his key down a drain. When he climbs down to search for it he finds the mysterious John. A power struggle develops between them as they are forced to examine themselves, their beliefs and myths through a strange, sinister game.

Thurs 21st & Fri 22nd July 7pm
The Old Joint Stock Theatre
Tickets £8

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Sings Ella Fitzgerald by Annette Gregory

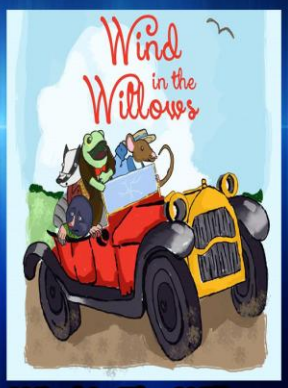
Jazz vocalist Annette Gregory sings the songs of Ella Fitzgerald, "The Voice of Jazz".
Along with her band she will be celebrating Ella's contribution to jazz music with improvised solos, swing, and sublime vocals.

Thurs 21st July 9pm
The Old Joint Stock Theatre
Tickets £10

The Voices In My Head by Gemma Layton

The Birmingham Fest 2014 winner of 'Performance of the Festival' and YouTube sensation (with her song "Shopping in Lidl"), presents her second dark and quirky character comedy show with video and songs.

Fri 22nd July 9pm
The Old Joint Stock Theatre
Tickets £10

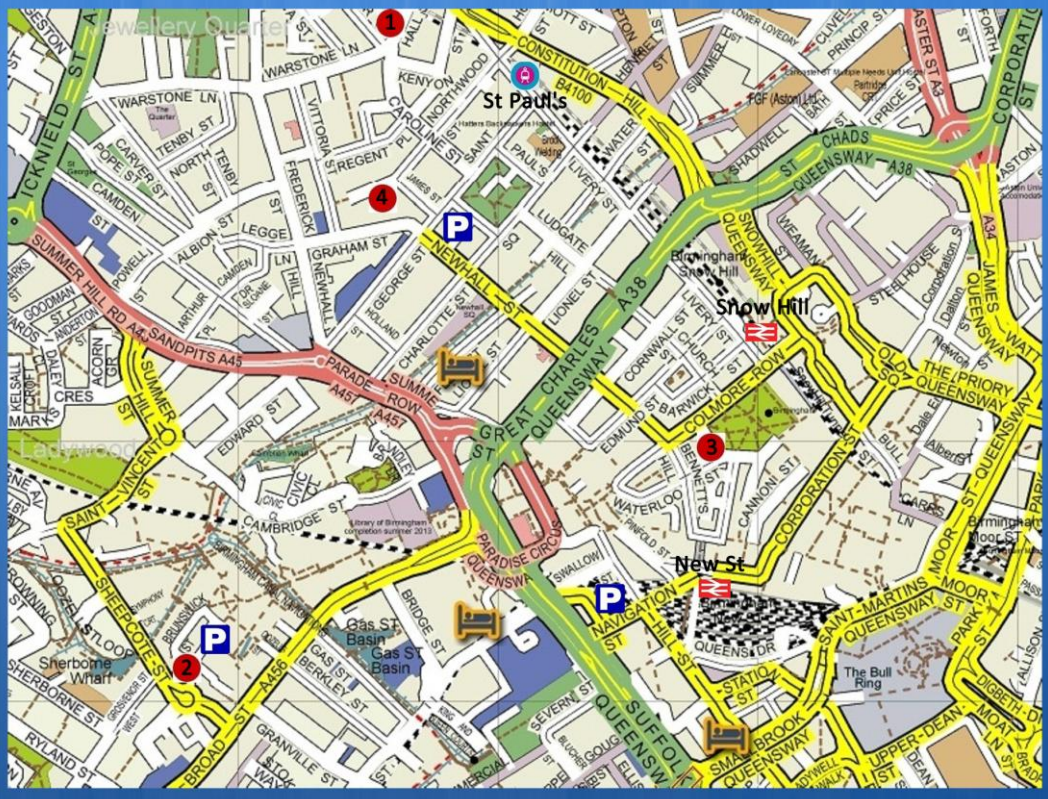


Wind In The Willows by Munchkins & Monsters

With larger than life puppets, interactive sets, songs, dances, and a huge heap of adventure, this adaptation of Kenneth Grahame's classic tale is sure to delight audiences of all ages.

Sat 23rd July 3pm
The Blue Orange Theatre
Tickets £5 (£18 family of 4)

Venue Map



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1. The Blue Orange Theatre. 118 Great Hampton Street. B18 6AD.
   Situated next to Tesco Express.

2. The Crescent Theatre. Sheepcote Street. B16 8AE.
   Situated next to the Hilton Garden Inn hotel.

3. The Old Joint Stock Theatre. 4 Temple Row West. B2 5NY.
   Situated next to St Philip's Cathedral.

4. @A.E. Harris. 110 Northwood Street. B3 1SZ.
   Situated just up from the Lasan Restaurant on James St.

Train stations New St & Snow Hill Midland Metro station St Paul's

For more detailed travel directions and parking options please visit the venues websites.
It is possible to walk between all 4 venues. Most would take about 15 minutes.
The longest would be between The Blue Orange & The Crescent at around 25 minutes.
There are obviously various taxi companies which can be advised by the venues.

No So Period Dramas by Unfold Drama

Three drama groups (aged from 7 to adults) from Unfold Dance Theatre will be looking at real life dramas that happen around us every day and portraying them on stage in a large scrapbook of theatre.

Sat 23rd July 5pm
The Blue Orange Theatre
Tickets £5

Our Kylie's Gettin' Wed by Stripped Down Theatre

A comedy about the trials and tribulations of family weddings. The play revolves around four friends who switch from character to character to tell the story of the day. A feel-good show with a laugh a minute.

Sat 23rd July 9pm
The Crescent Theatre
Tickets £10 (£8 concessions)

Hats Off To Laurel & Hardy by Lucky Dog

The story of the best loved comedy duo of all time. Expect recreated highlights from their huge canon of work , presented by the winners of Best Performance at Birmingham Fest 2015.

Sun 24th July 2pm
@A.E. Harris
Tickets £10 (£8 concessions)

Portable Magic
by Unfold Dance

Taking the Stephen King quote "Books are a uniquely portable magic", the Unfold Dance groups (from children to adults) have explored their favourite author or book to create the unique pieces for this show.

Sun 24th July 3pm
The Crescent Theatre
Tickets £5

Make Britain Magic Again
by Damon Conlan

Witness the devilish and original Damon Conlan. There will be humour to subdue the harsh realities of a Donald Trump presidential race, miracles of a scientific nature, and chocolate; lots of chocolate.

Sun 24th July 7pm
The Blue Orange Theatre
Tickets £9 (£7 concessions)

Head Girl
by Taking Chances

A dark comedy set in the sixth form of an all-girls private school. When the position of Head Girl becomes available it starts the ultimate class wars, and no-one can play dirty like girls!

Mon 25th - Weds 27th July 7pm
The Blue Orange Theatre
Tickets £7.50 (£5 concessions)

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Away From Home
by Gritty Theatre

Going in for a hard tackle on football's last taboo - same sex relationships. This is an edgy, witty, at times tender, and subversively political piece. The "beautiful game" and the ugly truth.

Tues 26th July 9pm
The Crescent Theatre
Tickets £10.50 (£8.50 concessions)

Green Witches & Funny Girls
by Followspot Theatre

Followspot's Rachel Cranny in a special one woman show. The songs of the Broadway Divas: featuring classics like 'Memory', ''Don't Rain On My Parade' and 'Maybe This Time'. A must for all musical theatre lovers.

Thurs 28th July 9pm
The Blue Orange Theatre
Tickets £9 (£7 concessions)

River's Up
by The Reactor Factory

It's raining (again) and Tom & Sally's house is flooding (again). Before long the water is up to the ceiling and the couple are drifting around a flooded Worcestershire looking for dry land.
A tragi-comedy of epic proportions.

Fri 29th July 7pm
@ A.E. Harris
Tickets £7.50.

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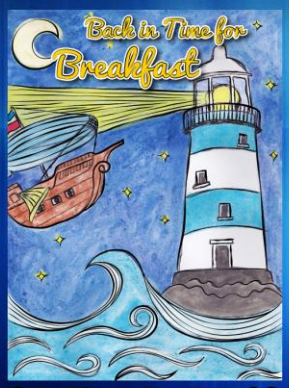

Back In Time For Breakfast by Munchkins & Monsters

In their critically acclaimed show, meet Millie, a young girl whose family live and work on a secluded lighthouse island. Featuring imaginative storytelling, playful puppetry, interactive sets, and much, much more!

Sat 30th July 3pm
The Blue Orange Theatre
Tickets £5 (£18 family of 4)

Shakespeare's Avengers Assembleth by Drake's Drummers

Shakespeare is kidnapped by a crazed fairy in an enchanted forest. With the fate of the bard and his mystical infinity quill in the balance, can his heroes save their creator from the evil machinations of Oberon?

Sat 30th July 7pm
The Blue Orange Theatre
Tickets £8 (£6 concessions)

Alice In The Wilderness by Andrea Smith

The sequel to "Swingerella's Dark Fairytale". Down the rabbit hole Alice is falling into this sedative called love. Join her as she finds the drugs don't work and she is a Lost Girl in Wonderland. Spoken word, Burlesque, & performance art. **(18+)**

Sat 30th July 9pm
The Blue Orange Theatre
Tickets £8 (£6 concessions)

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Loving Monica by Blancmontage Theatre

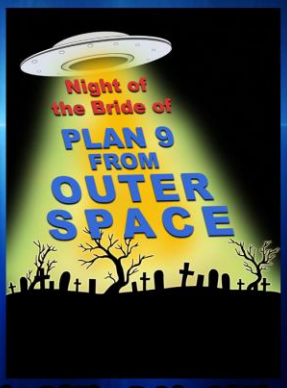
What was the real story behind Monica Lewinsky and her affair with the president of the United States, Bill Clinton. Equipped with real material, five actors search for the truth with humour and integrity in this devised piece.

Sun 31st July 2pm
@A.E. Harris
Tickets £7 (£5 concessions)

Network! by Birmingham Fest

Join us for a networking event to mark the last day of the festival. Open to both performers and audiences, chat with others about what you've presented or seen, and platform anything upcoming.

Sun 31st July 3pm
The Blue Orange Theatre
Free



Night Of The Bride Of Plan 9 by Blue Orange Arts

Unexplainable flying saucers lighting up the night sky! Strange and secret experiments at the old Lake Marsh place! Deadly, mutated, atomic creatures and the undead dead rising from the grave!

Sun 31st July 5pm
The Blue Orange Theatre
Free (donations welcome)

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UNMISSABLE ENTERTAINMENT AT THE REP

AUTUMN AND WINTER 2016 SEASON INCLUDES

26 SEPTEMBER – 1 OCTOBER 2016
Cahoots Theatre, in association with Park Theatre, presents

8 – 12 NOVEMBER 2016
Regent's Park Theatre present

6 – 15 OCTOBER 2016
Kneehigh, in association with Birmingham Repertory Theatre and Berkeley Repertory Theatre, presents

25 NOVEMBER 2016 - 7 JANUARY 2017
Birmingham Repertory Theatre Company presents

THE REP BIRMINGHAM REPERTORY THEATRE

0121 236 4455
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Charity No.223660

Birmingham City Council

ARTS COUNCIL ENGLAND

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Diary *all information is correct at time of going to print - please check the website for changes

	Blue Orange	Crescent	Old Joint Stock	@A.E. Harris
Friday 15th July	Gorgeous George 7pm Too Tall To Tribute 8.15pm			
Saturday 16th July	All The Things 5pm Honey 7pm Swingerella 9pm			
Sunday 17th July		Winners 3pm Sentimental Journey 5pm What The Dickens? 7pm		
Monday 18th July	Box Of Frogs 7.30pm	Winners 7pm		
Tuesday 19th July	The Austerity Games 7pm	Winners 7pm Fanny: A New Musichall 9pm		This Is Always The Result 7pm
Wednesday 20th July	Jack The Ripper 7pm			
Thursday 21st July	Learned Friends 7pm		Drain 7pm Annette Gregory Sings Ella 9pm	
Friday 22nd July			Drain 7pm The Voices In My Head 9pm	

facebook: Birmingham Fest www.birminghamfest.co.uk twitter: @bhamfest

*all information is correct at time of going to print - please check the website for changes

	Blue Orange	Crescent	Old Joint Stock	@A.E. Harris
Saturday 23rd July	Wind In The Willows 3pm Not So Period Dramas 5pm	Our Kylie's Gettin' Wed 9pm		
Sunday 24th July	Make Britain Magic Again 7pm	Portable Magic 3pm		Hats Off To Laurel & Hardy 2pm
Monday 25th July	Head Girl 7pm			
Tuesday 26th July	Head Girl 7pm	Away From Home 9pm		
Wednesday 27th July	Head Girl 7pm			
Thursday 28th July	The Austerity Games 7pm Green Witches And Funny Girls 9pm			
Friday 29th July				River's Up 7pm
Saturday 30th July	Back In Time For Breakfast 3pm Shakespeare's Avengers 7pm Alice In The Wilderness 9pm			
Sunday 31st July	Network 3pm Night Of The Bride 5pm			Loving Monica 2pm

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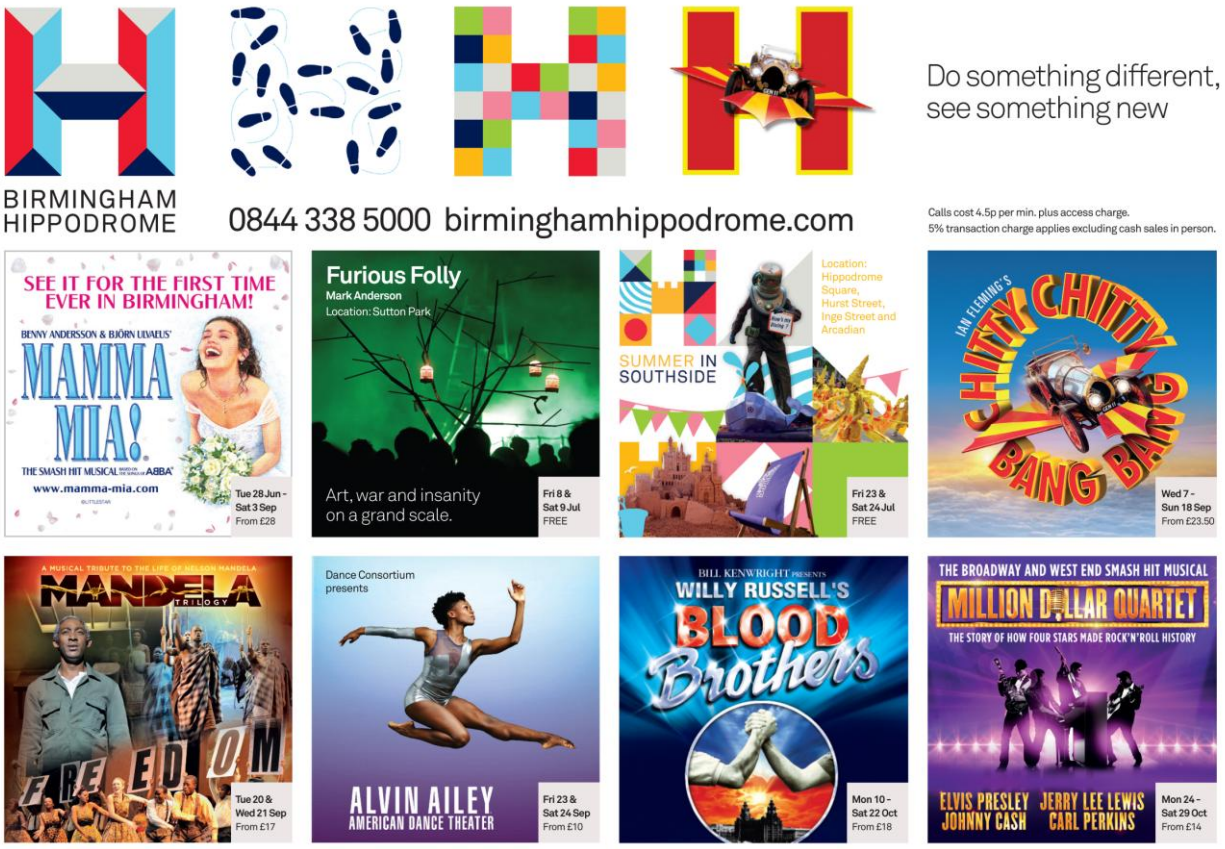

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