

National Theatre

Thursday 20 June 2024

EAST LONDON'S ICONIC VENUE THE GLORY TO TAKE OVER NATIONAL THEATRE'S FREE OUTDOOR ARTS FESTIVAL, RIVER STAGE



Image link available [here](#).

London's largest free outdoor arts festival, River Stage, returns to the National Theatre for the eighth year this summer, over four weekends from **5 - 28 July 2024** with an exciting programme of live music, theatre, dance and more, curated by some of the UK's leading arts venues. The South Bank will come to life once again with performances alongside a delicious selection of independent food and drink from street food suppliers **KERB**.

This year's River Stage partners are **The Glory** (5-7 July), **Greenwich+Docklands International Festival** (12-14 July) and **Rambert** (19-21 July). The **National Theatre** (26-28 July) will host the closing weekend of River Stage.

Opening the festival on **Friday 5 July**, East London's iconic queer venue **The Glory** return to the River Stage. Dance the night away to club classics at **John Sizzle's DJ Sesh** and singalong to classic showtunes at **Jonny Woo's Showtime Extravaganza** with a sensational cast including **Mimi Chanel, Bolly Illusion, Camille Leon, Adam Perchard** and **Sadie Sinner** who will also host the Greenwich+Docklands International festival weekend on 13 July. **The Divine T-Party** close the night with pop and dance delights performed by **Lucia Blayke, The Doll Named Dan** and more.

Ease into Saturday with a **Crafty Art Sesh** hosted by **Finn Yvo** on **6 July**. **The Enby Show** will follow up with a fast-paced thirty chaotic cabaret minutes. Mixing pop hits with a pub quiz, Jonny Woo will be joined by **Madge** on piano and RuPaul's Drag Race Star **Just May** for an afternoon of a sing-along dance party, celebrating all the campness Europe has to offer at the **Big Euro Pop Party**. **Cassandra** will present an hour of musing, self-made music and 80's eccentric stylings. **Sue Gives a F**k** and **Rhys' Pieces** are ready to serve a non-stop dance, rap, comedy, live, lip-synched show-business. Rhys' Pieces will join us once again from 19-21 July to host Rambert's takeover weekend. In the evening, a collective of queer performers of Turkish, Kurdish, Cypriot and Southwest Asian heritage, **Harem of Noone**, will bring pop-cultural delights for everyone to enjoy. **Lipsync 1000 V Man Up**, one of UK's biggest contests for drag kings and queens, will be back at the South Bank showcasing the stars of tomorrow. Dance into the night at **John Sizzle's Queerdo Disco** with performances from the glittering Glory talent.

The Glory will close their takeover weekend on **7 July** with a whole lot of tunes. East London's High Priestess of Cool, **Stav B**, will take you on a wonderous trip through her incredible record collection- the perfect start to a chilled Sunday. The stars of **All The Fraudulent Horse Girls**, a

Brooklyn Rep production, will showcase excerpts from their musical stage show depicting the lives and loves of every pre-teen girl's dreams. The amazing **Barbs** on piano will soundtrack your Sunday afternoon with some Chopin and Phillip Glass. The Glory's finest performers, Jonny Woo and **Rudi Douglas**, plus their talented mates from Margate, **Lo Lo No**, **Ziah Ziah** and more, reprise the Big Gay Songbook for a joyful sunny finale.

Alongside **The Understudy** and the riverside bar, **KERB** will be serving up a range of London's most exciting street food. **Baba Dhaba**, **Mexclub**, **Chicken Bandits**, **Oh My Dog** and **Poke Nom** bring an array of delectable flavours whilst **Hackney Gelato** serve delicious, refreshing ice-cream. KERB will be partnering with **Two Tribes** on the bar for some of the finest cold beer, and **Sen Noods**, **Meltdown Cheeseburgers** and **Sireli** will be serving up mouth-watering delicacies at The Understudy

The River Stage festival will run from 5-28 July. All events are free. For more details and the full programme with schedule, please visit the [website](#).

Ends

For further press information contact NT Press Coordinator: Anoushka Chakrapani
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Image link available [here](#).

The Glory

The Glory is East London's legendary queer bar, drag hothouse, LGBTQIA+ performance venue, nightclub and curators of major events and festivals across the country. Opened in 2014 by iconic London drag queens Jonny Woo and John Sizzle, plus infamous party-starter, and TV director

Colin Rothbart, with many of their staff being influential creatives and some of their performers such as Bimini and Crystal, to name but two, end up gracing the UK's television sets! Not just a pub, The Glory can be found at leading festivals like Glastonbury, Latitude and Mighty Hoopla and regularly features on documentaries and features.

About the National Theatre

The National Theatre makes theatre that entertains and inspires using its creativity, expertise and unique reach. The National Theatre shares unforgettable stories with millions of audience members across the UK and around the world – on its own stages, on tour, in schools, on cinema screens and streaming at home.

World-leading artists make their best work at the National Theatre with the widest possible audience and impact. The National Theatre invests in talent and innovation on stage and off, taking seriously its role as the nation's theatre. Of the new productions developed each year with a wide range of theatre companies, a third of that research and development resource is dedicated to shows staged at theatres outside London.

Through touring our work to local theatres and schools and nationwide education and community programmes, we are active in 71 of the 109 levelling up priority areas in the UK. A registered charity with deeply embedded social purpose, the National Theatre works with hundreds of schools and communities across the UK to fire imagination and inspire creativity, and to develop skills and pathways for careers in theatre.

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