National Theatre

Wednesday 10 July 2024

RAMBERT BRING AN EXCERPT OF PEAKY BLINDERS: THE REDEMPTION OF THOMAS SHELBY AND MORE TO NATIONAL THEATRE'S FREE RIVER STAGE FESTIVAL



Image link available here.

Rambert will take over the festival's third weekend from 19 to 21 July for an explosive celebration of dance.

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 organisations.

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.

Host **Rhys' Pieces** will take you through the weekend bringing sass, panache and insane looks to the River Stage. Choreographer **Marion Motin**, who worked with Christine and the Queens and Dua Lipa, opens the weekend on **Friday 19 July** with an excerpt from **Rouge** created for and performed by Rambert's dancers. Rambert's Artistic Director **Benoit Swan Pouffer** presents **Us**, a series of duets with spoken word by members of Future Movement, Rambert's innovative creative youth programme. Former Rambert dancer **Liam Francis** will present **Where to Start?** and **Aishwarya Raut** will showcase a new piece titled **Tension Funfair**. End the night with London native **DJ Tim Garcia** with some deep, soulful house.

Start off Saturday 20 July with a family dance workshop led by Amy Toner and a Contemporary Groove session with Naya Lovell and Jonathan Wade. Swoon and sway with Nali, a Swiss born, Cape Verdean singer who blends vulnerable lyrics with elements of jazz and dancehall. By order of the Peaky Blinders, enjoy an excerpt of Rambert's thrilling stage adaptation, *Peaky Blinders: The Redemption of Thomas Shelby*, written by Steven Knight, creator of the original TV series, performed by Rambert's dancers and choreographed and directed by Benoit Swan Pouffer. Join in the fun with Paradigmz's Soca Workshop and Coco's K-Pop workshop. Fresh from its premiere at London's Stone Nest, watch Rambert's brilliant dancers performing *Analogue* by Jill Johnson. Catch a dance-off with Benoit Swan Pouffer and Rambert Dancers, learn some Vogue fundamentals with Jay Jay Revlon and dance like no one's watching at his DJ set where he mixes House, Afro House, Classics and Ballroom beats.

Relax into Sunday 21 July with Eryck Brahmania's Family Yoga Workshop and Emma Weir's

Line Dance Workshop. Sheree Dubois and the band will be treating us to more jazzy tunes, with

Romarna Campbell on drums, Dave Manington on bass and Gemma Hawkins on the piano. Sheba

Montserrat will host a Caribbean dance workshop journeying through the music genres of

Reggae, Ska, Soca and Dancehall to nourish your body and satisfy your soul. Seduction City will

end the weekend with some carnival classics, reggae and soul music.

Behind the scenes, the River Stage team is joined by **National Theatre Young Technicians Alumni** in the delivery of the GDIF and Rambert weekends of the festival. Launched in 2017, Young Technicians is the NT's flagship technical training programme for young people aged 14-18, taking place both at the NT and nationwide to offer in-depth training for free to young people from groups currently underrepresented in the technical theatre industries. Participants work with the NT's production team to develop practical skills across a variety of backstage roles, including lighting, sound, video and more.

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,** and **Oh My Dog** 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 <u>website</u>.

For further press information contact NT Press Coordinator: Anoushka Chakrapani achakrapani@nationaltheatre.org.uk

Image link available here.

Rambert

What if...

...there was a dance company where brilliant and daring people could show up and be supported to push themselves to move the world forward.

Welcome to Rambert.

We believe that to give brilliant and daring people the chance to inspire others is to give them the power to change the world for the better. As one of the world's most diverse companies of dancers we transform everyday spaces by making dance that is awe-inspiring, adventurous, dynamic, and relevant, and taking it to our neighbourhood, the nation and the world. We want to hear the most exciting and radical ideas wherever they may come from and connect with brilliant and daring audiences and participants from all backgrounds. Through performances; dance and wellness classes and courses for people of all ages and abilities we want to ensure we are inspiring, engaging and relevant to everyone.

Rambert's Chief Executive is Helen Shute and Benoit Swan Pouffer is Artistic Director. Rambert is a National Portfolio Organisation of Arts Council England.

For lots of online dance content, behind the scenes, podcasts and a library of over 300 on demand classes in 20 different styles visit our online home Rambert Plus.

@RambertDance on Instagram, TikTok and Facebook

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.

For more information, please visit <u>nationaltheatre.org.uk</u>

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