

News from Battersea Arts Centre:

**Little Bulb Theatre start their national tour of *Orpheus* and return to create a show for the courtyard
A trio of alternative Christmas shows for young and old fill the building this December
An update on plans for the Grand Hall rebuild**

LITTLE BULB THEATRE

Little Bulb Theatre's critically-acclaimed production of *Orpheus* sets off on national tour this September having started life as the first-ever commission for Battersea Arts Centre's Grand Hall, where it had two sell-out runs before heading to the world-renowned Salzburg Festival. It will play at the Royal Opera House Linbury Studio Theatre as part of the 2015 Deloitte Ignite Festival (15-19 Sep), Bristol Old Vic (23-26 Sep), Nuffield Southampton (29 Sep-3 Oct), Liverpool Everyman (20-24 Oct) and Birmingham Repertory Theatre (28-31 Oct).

Now the Company has been commissioned to develop a show for the courtyard – a brand new theatre space at the heart of Battersea Arts Centre's old town hall. The production is the latest BAC Playground Project, as theatre artists shape the future of the building in collaboration with architects Haworth Tompkins.

David Jubb, Artistic Director Battersea Arts Centre, said: "*We want to work with Little Bulb Theatre to open up the courtyard and fill the space with the infectious joy that radiates from this gifted company. After decades of under-use, we have been inspired by Teatro Oficina in São Paulo, Brazil, to create a gem of a theatre space, smack bang in the middle of the building. I hope we can commission a new show and a new vision for the courtyard every summer to create an exciting destination in Battersea for all those staycation lovers.*"

Little Bulb Theatre's courtyard show will run in summer 2016. More details to be announced early next year.

CHRISTMAS AT BATTERSEA ARTS CENTRE

This December, Battersea Arts Centre will play host to a trio of alternative Christmas shows for ages 2-100.

Town Hall Cherubs | 2 Dec-3 Jan | Press views: Thu 3 Dec at 9:30am, 11am, 1:30pm and 3pm

2-5 year olds and their families are invited on an interactive and dream-like adventure to help a sleepy cherub find his way home. Surprises for little ones lie in store around Battersea Arts Centre's historical building, including a mirrored floor, a giant kaleidoscope and a gaggle of inflatable creatures. Older siblings can have their own fun on a supervised tour and workshop as part of a Mini Heritage Festival.

Jackson's Way: The Christmas Top-up Power-Seminar! | 1-12 Dec | Press Night: Wed 2 Dec at 8pm

Will Adamsdale's Perrier Award-winning motivation-a-thon returns as hopeless self-help guru Chris John Jackson gives his teachings a festive twist. Part-theatre part-comedy, Jackson is a modern day parody of American motivational speakers and a hilarious satire of the world of self-help and corporate jargon.

Sara Pascoe's Christmas Assembly | 14-23 Dec | Press Night: Tue 15 Dec at 8pm

A raucous get-together of songs, fables and all your favourite brand-new festive traditions brought to you by the Church of the Science of Christmas and led by the much-loved TV panellist, Sara Pascoe (*Have I Got News For You?*, *Mock the Week*, *8 out of 10 Cats*, *Live at the Apollo*, *Never Mind the Buzzcocks*, *Room 101* and *QI*).

GRAND HALL UPDATE

As Battersea Arts Centre marks six months since the Grand Hall fire in March, plans for the future of the space are gathering momentum. Initial phases of work included specialist groundwork contractor Deconstruct installing 18.6 tonnes of steel and 40 cubic metres of concrete to bolster the gable walls in preparation for a salvage operation completed over the summer to recover materials. Next up, a gargantuan temporary roof will be erected this winter. The scaffold structure will extend beyond the external walls of the Grand Hall and stand at 24m tall.

Consultations with Battersea Arts Centre stakeholders will take place over the autumn to gather feedback on potential designs for the space by RIBA Stirling Prize-winning architects Haworth Tompkins. Further ahead, a planning application is due to be submitted by the end of the year and the current aim is to break ground in autumn 2016 and open the new Grand Hall in autumn 2018.

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EDITORIAL NOTES

BATTERSEA ARTS CENTRE

Battersea Arts Centre is a public space where people come together to be creative, see a show, explore the local heritage, play or relax. The organisation's mission is to inspire people to take creative risks to shape the future.

Battersea Arts Centre encourages people to test and develop new ideas with members of the public – a process called Scratch. Scratch is used by artists to make theatre, by young people to develop entrepreneurial ideas and as a helpful process for anyone who wants to get creative.

The area of South West London and the old town hall in which Battersea Arts Centre is based, are rich in heritage. In April 2016 the organisation will become custodian of the Wandsworth Museum Collection, using creativity to explore the past and imagine the future.

Scratch has been adopted as far afield as Sydney and New York and shows and projects developed by people at Battersea Arts Centre travel across the UK and the world. The organisation has successfully sparked new approaches to creativity across the globe.

Each year Battersea Arts Centre

- Welcomes over 160,000 people to its building
- Inspires the local community to get creative including 3000 young people
- Works with over 400 artists to put on over 800 performances and tour at least 10 shows and projects

bac.org.uk | [@battersea_arts](https://twitter.com/battersea_arts)

CHRISTMAS SHOWS LISTINGS INFORMATION

Title: Jackson's Way: The Christmas Top-up Power-Seminar!

Artist/Company: Will Adamsdale

Venue: Battersea Arts Centre, Lavender Hill, SW11 5TN

Date: 1-12 Dec

Time: 8pm (Running Time: 60 min)

Price: £12

Booking Link: bac.org.uk/jackson

Box Office: 020 7223 2223

Will Adamsdale's Perrier Award-winning motivation-a-thon returns as hopeless self-help guru Chris John Jackson gives his teachings a festive twist.

Was 2015 a WIN folks? Did u achieve? Did u maximise? I'm hearing a lot of NOs and that's where I come in – JACKSON, author of the multi-selling Jackson's Life Coach Slam-Down! (Volumes 1 and 2) and originator of a more successful life-method franchise than Christianity and capitalism combined! (According to various studies).

In this special Power-hour I've combined work from the 'Jackson unleashed DVD' and the recent Asian tour in a power-package that GUARANTEES 4-6 TIMES MORE EFFECTABILITY IN THE 3 KEY AREAS – wealth / relationships / transport AS WELL AS a failsafe method of making the equation 'love / finance + contentitude' work ON YOUR TERMS and AT YOUR PACE (and in metric!).

Office parties welcome, couples in trouble welcome, huddled masses welcome! Bring small, sad objects.

Title: Town Hall Cherubs

Artist/Company: A Battersea Arts Centre production with Theatre Ad Infinitum, Amy Pitt, Ted Barnes and Amy Pennington

Venue: Battersea Arts Centre, Lavender Hill, SW11 5TN

Date: 2 Dec – 3 Jan

Time: 9:30am, 11am, 1:30pm and 3pm

Price: £10 - £14

Booking Link: bac.org.uk/cherubs

Box Office: 020 7223 2223

This Christmas, join us for a gentle and dream-like adventure for children aged 2-5 and their grown-ups.

Fallen from his place in the sky, a sleepy cherub is in need of some little helpers. Follow his garland through Battersea Arts Centre's beautiful old rooms, stopping off to play and discover. Help our cherub find his way home and discover what makes this old town hall so magical in a tender journey with surprises along the way.

Title: Sara Pascoe's Christmas Assembly

Artist/Company: Sara Pascoe

Venue: Battersea Arts Centre, Lavender Hill, SW11 5TN

Date: 14-23 Dec

Time: 8pm (Running Time: 95 min inc. interval)

Price: £12

Booking Link: bac.org.uk/pascoeschristmas

Box Office: 020 7223 2223

Songs, fables and celebrations from the Church of the Science of Christmas, hear the mouse choir sing, ponder Father Crispin's centipede, learn the secret of not dying, donate your morals into the chastity bucket, find the Dead Sea Dolls and dispel the myth of the haunted instruments.

It's all your favourite brand-new Christmas traditions in one show! It's a human centred ceremony but gods are welcome (if they arrange their own seating.) CHRISTMAS!

Sara is a comedian all year round and has appeared on *Have I Got News For You?*, *Mock the Week*, *8 out of 10 Cats*, *Live at the Apollo*, *Never Mind the Buzzcocks*, *Room 101* and *QI*.

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