



BRIGHTON
OPEN AIR THEATRE
SUMMER SEASON 2023

OUR COMMUNITY VALUES

As the cost of living crisis continues to pinch, we have made a conscious effort to remain as accessible and inclusive as we can, and have tried our utmost to keep our pricing affordable - introducing Child prices for Family shows, as well as discounted rates for Groups of 4 across all shows. Our bar prices also remain extremely competitive, but as always you are welcome to bring your own food and drink. We want BOAT to remain a venue that anyone and everyone feels welcome in and able to enjoy a fabulous day out without breaking the bank.

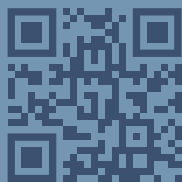
As anyone who visited last year will know, we now have toilets on site, including an accessible toilet and baby changing facilities, as well as a new box office and crew room for our volunteers. These toilets were built thanks to the kind donations from our audience, so to anyone who has donated to us over the years, thank you! There remains a lot of maintenance work to complete on site, including an increased electricity supply, upgrading of seating and improved accessibility on our pathways, so rest assured that every penny donated to us is going straight back into improving BOAT for the long term.

HOW YOU CAN SUPPORT US

The heart of BOAT has always been community - from the companies and artists who perform here, to our wonderful team of volunteers, to you, our fabulous audience. Everything we do is in service of improving this vital community asset, and every ticket bought allows us to keep offering first-rate entertainment at affordable prices. Thank you for supporting BOAT, and we can't wait to welcome you back for another season of fun under the sun!

Read on to find out more about all we have to offer this year, and please visit our website www.brightonopenairtheatre.co.uk to book tickets.

The BOAT team



Support Image:
Burundi Dance (2022)
Team Buja Artists
Photo credit: Bill Black



WELCOME TO BRIGHTON OPEN AIR THEATRE'S 2023 SUMMER SEASON



We are delighted to present our 9th annual summer season. Following a record-breaking 2022, BOAT returns with a high-quality, diverse and inclusive programme of work with artists new and old gracing our astroturf.

SEASONAL HIGHLIGHTS

We kick off with a bang in April with fabulous music from Joe Stilgoe, weekend family shows, and even some bank holiday wrestling action! In May we have our usual eclectic mix of Brighton Fringe shows, including cabaret, circus, ballet, improvisation and poetry.

In June, our Summer Comedy Festival returns for the third time, featuring some of the biggest names in stand up comedy. Other highlights include David Walliams' Bad Dad, Duke's Theatre Company's Twelfth Night, and Identity Theatre's Under Milk Wood. July sees Horrible Histories return with Barmy Britain, a production of Macbeth from National Production Company,

BOAT favourites Sarah Mann Company's large-scale production of Alan Bennett's The Madness of George III, and IK Productions start the summer holidays with a rambunctious new version of Hercules.

August heats up with performances from our Patron Simon Evans, a Pride weekend full of Drag, Changeling Theatre presenting two shows in rep, Illyria's large-scale Peter Pan, and local legends Brighton Little Theatre's ambitious production of Shakespeare in Love. There's no slowing down in September, with TIMT's Much Ado About Nothing, loads of music, and Show and Tell closing out the season in style with a full week of comedy with Stand-Up Under The Stars.

Front Cover Image:
Out Of The Deep Blue (2022)
Autin Dance Theatre
Photo credit: Rosie Powell

Welcome Image:
Stand-Up Under The Stars (2022)
Show and Tell
Photo credit: Ed Moore



FRI 21 APRIL



◀ JOE STILGOE'S TRIO SHOW

Neil O'Brien Entertainment

Joe and his incredible band return to BOAT to open the season in unmistakable style. For this concert, they bring to life his new hit album Theatre, which celebrates the great music of theatre, from Kurt Weill to Cole Porter, Rodgers & Hammerstein to Hamilton, Lerner & Lowe to Pasek & Paul, and everything in between.

Age All ages Run time 120 minutes
Doors 6pm | Start 7pm
Full £18 | Conc £15 | Group of 4 £60

▶ DRAG IN THE PARK

Alfie Ordinary

After a sizzling hot summer season in 2022, the queens are back for even more Drag In The Park! Join award-winning drag artist Alfie Ordinary as he welcomes some of the UK's best drag artists to BOAT for an alfresco drag extravaganza. See our website for the full line-up.

Age 16+ Run time 120 minutes
Doors 6pm | Start 7pm
Full £15 | Conc £12.50 | Group of 4 £50

SUN 23 APRIL



◀ TEDDY BEAR'S PICNIC

Rah Rah Theatre Company

Bring along your favourite bear and join us on a fun, exciting adventure to get to the picnic on time! Teddy Bear's Picnic incorporates puppets, well-known songs and dancing together with fun ways of learning about numbers, colours and shapes.

Age 2 - 6 Run time 55 minutes
Doors 10am | Start 11am
Full £12 | Conc £10 | Child £8 | Family of 4 £36

▶ FLANDERS AND SWANN

Something for the Weekend

Join multi award-winning comedian Tim FitzHigham and BBC Radio 4 musical maestro Duncan Walsh Atkins as they bring you the wit and wordplay of Michael Flanders and Donald Swann. Including all the classics: The Hippopotamus (Mud, Mud, Glorious Mud), The Gnu, The Gas Man Cometh and many more!

Age 6+ Run time 130 minutes
Doors 1pm | Start 2pm
Full £18 | Conc £15 | Group of 4 £60



SAT 22 APRIL



SAT 29 APR

SUN 30 APRIL



▶ WRESTLING MAY-HEM

Kapow & SWF Wrestling

The superstars of the wrestling world return to BOAT for an afternoon of high-flying, hard-hitting action suitable for all the family. Featuring tag team, solo action, ladies matches and championship showdowns, it's a grapple-tastic Bank Holiday evening!

Age 6+ Run time 120 minutes
Doors 1pm | Start 2pm
Full £15 | Conc £12.50 | Group of 4 £50

◀ DINOSAURS & ALL THAT RUBBISH

Roustabout Theatre

One small step for man, one giant pile of rubbish left behind! Man's dream to reach the stars leaves the world in ruins and disturbs the sleeping dinosaurs. Will they wake up and save planet Earth? This riotous show will have you tapping your toes from start to finish!

Age 3+ Run time 60 minutes
Doors 1pm | Start 2pm
Full £12 | Conc £10 | Child £8 | Family of 4 £36



MON 1 MAY

FRI 5 MAY



◀ OLD TIME SAILORS

Old Time Sailors

Ahoy there! You are invited to board the Sailorette and join the plentiful crew, *The Old Time Sailors*, for a night of foot stomping, dancing and singing.

Sail back to the 19th century for an immersive experience of traditional seafaring music performed in a way you may have never seen before. Sing and dance along like a drunken sailor as the band perform centuries-old folk and shanty songs.

Fancy dress is encouraged, so pull out your best seafaring garments, me hearties, and join the festivities!

Age 6+ Run time 140 minutes
Doors 6pm | Start 7pm
Full £15 | Conc £12.50 | Group of 4 £50

SAT 6 MAY



◀ THE BLUNTER BROTHERS

DMB

The Blunter Brothers started playing funk, soul and motown in 1989 and have become established as one of the premiere 'Revue' acts in the country. They cover all the hits from artists such as James Brown, Stevie Wonder, Prince, Ray Charles, Curtis Mayfield, EW&F and many more.

Age 6+ Run time 150 minutes

Doors 6pm | Start 7pm

Full £18 | Conc £15 | Group of 4 £60

▶ THE WIND IN THE WILLOWS

Vintage Verse

Join us for a whirlwind ride through the seasons as Ratty, Mole and Badger follow the impulsive Toad on his hapless misadventures. A classic tale for kids and big kids alike, this one-man show uses only the author's original words to tell the story afresh.

Age All ages Run time 100 minutes

Doors 1pm | Start 2pm

Full £12 | Conc £10 | Child £8 | Family of 4 £36



SUN 7 MAY

◀ LIONHOUSE CABARET

Actors of Dionysus

An evening of comedy and music hosted by Actors of Dionysus, showcasing wonderful local Brighton talent, and featuring the fabulous comedy duo Dyball & Kerr. "High-class character comedy" The Observer. "Pant wettingly, cheek achingly, laugh-out-loud comedy" Three Weeks.

Age 14+ Run time 120 minutes

Doors 6pm | Start 7pm

Full £15 | Conc £12.50 | 4 for £50

BRIGHTON FRINGE.

FRI 12 MAY



▶ OH WHAT A NIGHT!

Handshake Ltd

Oh What A Night! takes you back in time on a musical journey through the incredible career of Frankie Valli & The Four Seasons, featuring songs, Sherry, Let's Hang On, Big Girls Don't Cry, Can't Take My Eyes Off You, and many, many more.

Age 6+ Run time 135 minutes

Doors 6pm | Start 7pm

Full £24 | Conc £22 | Group of 4 £68



SAT 13 MAY

● Theatre ● Comedy ● Family ● Music ● Other

SUN 14 MAY



◀ IMPROMPTU SHAKESPEARE

Impromptu Shakespeare

Hold onto your doublets, ruffs and trunk hose - The Bard is back! With story and verse improvised in the moment, enjoy a totally new Shakespeare play every time - performed by a whip smart cast.

"Side-splittingly hilarious" Broadway Baby
"Ingenious" BBC Arts

Age 10+ Run time 100 minutes

Doors 1pm | Start 2pm

Full £12 | Conc £10 | 4 for £40

BRIGHTON FRINGE.

▶ NUPTIAL ROPES

Circo Pitanga

Nuptial Ropes is a modern circus performance, combining physical theatre, high level acrobatics, mime and clown. As a naive couple prepare for their wedding, a series of buffoonish events threaten to ruin the day. Only her mischievousness and his strength bring them to a... happy end?

Age 5+ Run time 50 minutes

Doors 6pm | Start 7pm

Full £12 | Conc £10 | Group of 4 £40

FRI 19 MAY



◀ THE 70'S SOUL SHOW

TSlammers

TSlammers is an 8-piece soul band paying tribute to some of the finest soul and motown artists from the 1970's. This is no toned-down cruise ship cover act! Hard hitting, foot stomping, thigh slapping, funky soul music, as it was back then, and as it should be enjoyed now.

Age 16+ Run time 120 minutes

Doors 6pm | Start 7pm

Full £12 | Conc £10 | Group of 4 £40

▶ THE PRINCESS AND THE FROG

Let's All Dance

After sell out tours around the UK, Let's All Dance is back with this beautiful, classical ballet to charm audiences young and old. An original score, gorgeous costumes and crystal clear story-telling draw you into the magical world of ballet and make it accessible to all.

Age 0 - 8 Run time 30 minutes

1pm (Doors 12pm) & 3pm (Doors 2pm)

Full £12 | Con £10 | Child £8 | 4 £36

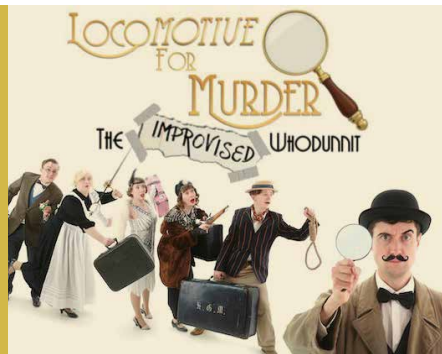
BRIGHTON FRINGE.



SAT 20 MAY

brightonopenairtheatre.co.uk f BrightonOpenAirTheatre @BOATheatre @brightonopenairtheatre

SUN 21 MAY



◀ LOCOMOTIVE FOR MURDER: THE IMPROVISED WHODUNNIT

Pinch Punch

Welcome aboard an improvised, outrageous murder mystery, where killing the cast and cracking the case is in your hands. Expect dubious accents and shaky alibis, along with thrills, spills, and good old-fashioned kills. Can you solve the case before the killer strikes again? .

Age 12+ Run time 60 minutes

Doors 1pm | Start 2pm

Full £12 | Conc £10 | 4 for £40

BRIGHTON
FRINGE.

▶ ONE-MAN LIVE AID

Glen Richardson

Remember Live Aid? The epic concert of hope, charity and rock legends? Well, Glen Richardson (Brighton Beach Boys) is recreating the Wembley Stadium bit at BOAT! It's going to be the charity sing-along to end them all! Be there, or explain your absence to your grandkids.

Age 6+ Run time 180 minutes

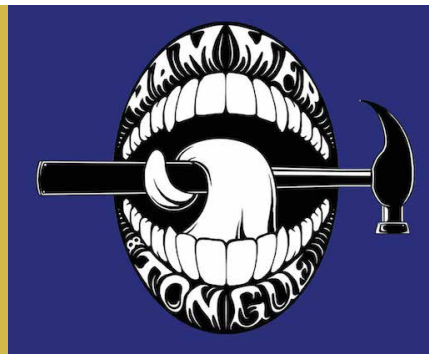
Doors 1pm | Start 2pm

Full £12 | Conc £10 | Group of 4 £40



SUN 28 MAY

MON 29 MAY



◀ OPEN-AIR POETRY SLAM

Hammer and Tongue

Hammer and Tongue bring the regional final of their infamous slam poetry contest into the open air. Eight finalists share their unique styles, perspectives and poems, and battle it out to claim their place in the National Final. Come and witness the alchemy!

Age 15+ Run time 150 minutes

Doors 6pm | Start 7pm

Full £12 | Conc £10 | 4 for £40

BRIGHTON
FRINGE.

▶ THE MODS & ROCKERS SHOW

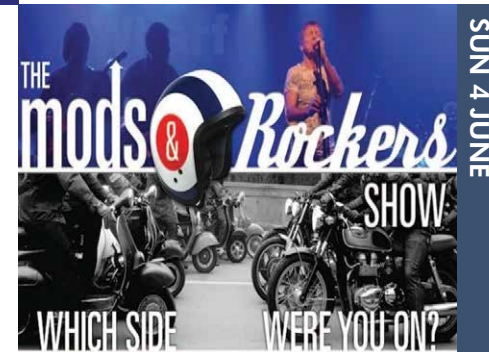
Johnny Warman's Magic Bus

The Mods and Rockers have made peace to celebrate one of the greatest eras in music, featuring The Rolling Stones, The Beatles, The Kinks, Jimi Hendrix and many more. So whether you had a parka or a leather, a scooter or a Norton, get ready for a night of pure entertainment.

Age 6+ Run time 150 minutes

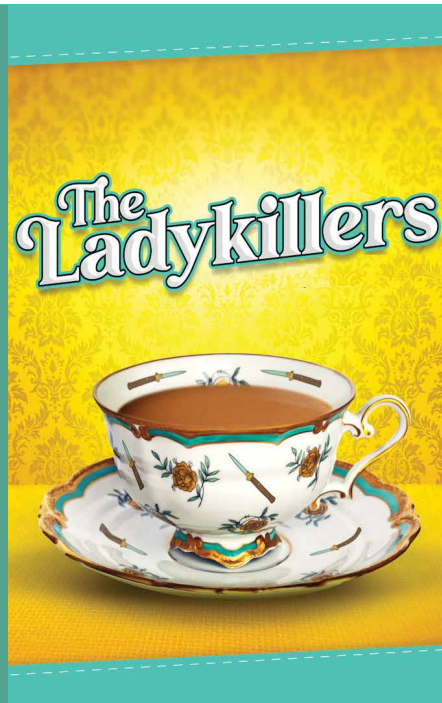
Doors 1pm | Start 2pm

Full £15 | Conc £12.50 | Group of 4 £50



SUN 4 JUNE

THUR 25, FRI 26 & SAT 27 MAY



◀ THE LADYKILLERS

Cue Fanfare

From the team behind *Don't Dress for Dinner* and last year's smash hit, *One Man, Two Guvnors*, comes *The Ladykillers*, a classic black comedy.

Posing as amateur musicians, a gang of criminals rent rooms in the lopsided house of sweet yet strict Mrs Wilberforce. As the villains plot to unwittingly involve her in their brilliantly conceived heist job, Mrs Wilberforce becomes wise to their ruse, and the gang concludes that there is only one way to keep the old lady quiet...

What follows is unexpected, tragic, and very, very funny.

Age 7+ Run time 135 minutes

Thur 25 & Fri 26 May

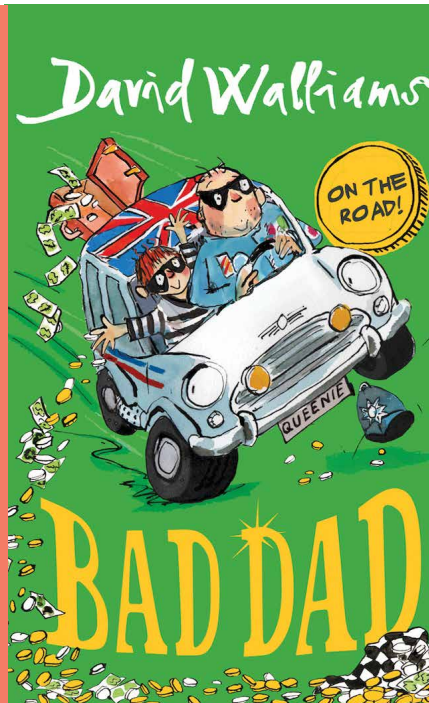
Doors 6pm | Start 7pm

Sat 27 May

Doors 1pm | Start 2pm & Doors 6pm | Start 7pm

Full £15 | Conc £12.50 | Group of 4 £50

THU 1, FRI 2 & SAT 3 JUNE



◀ BAD DAD

Heartbreak Productions

From the UK's most popular children's author, David Walliams, *Bad Dad* follows Frank and his father Gilbert as they struggle to escape the clutches of the local crime lord and clear Gilbert's name.

Frank's dad, Gilbert, wasn't always considered a criminal. But when a tragic accident puts a stop to his track-racing days, Gilbert becomes tempted by the dark allure of life as a get-away driver. This warm-hearted tale follows the highs and lows of a father and son relationship as they navigate their way through a world of crime, car chases and convicts!

Age 7+ Run time 120 minutes

Thu 1, Fri 2 & Sat 3 June

Doors 1pm | Start 2pm

Full £15 | Conc £12.50 | Child £10 | Family of 4 £45

THUR 8, FRI 9 & SAT 10 JUNE

TWELFTH NIGHT

◀ TWELFTH NIGHT

Duke's Theatre Company

You could be forgiven for thinking that *Twelfth Night* was going to be the darkest of tragedies: what could be more nightmarish than to lose your twin sibling in a furious storm at sea? In fact, a romantic comedy unfolds with a madcap farce at its heart. The broadest of broad humour mixes with moments of unbearable pathos.

Returning to BOAT for the third time, Duke's Theatre Company present one of Shakespeare's most beloved plays with the full text in all its glory, their trademark innovative production design, and original music.

Age 6+ Run time 150 minutes

Thu 8 & Fri 9 June

Doors 6pm | Start 7pm

Sat 10 June

Doors 1pm | Start 2pm & Doors 6pm | Start 7pm
Full £15 | Conc £12.50 | Group of 4 £50

▶ DRAG IN THE PARK

Alfie Ordinary

After a sizzling hot summer season in 2022, the queens are back for even more Drag In The Park! Join award-winning drag artist Alfie Ordinary as he welcomes some of the UK's best drag artists to BOAT for an al fresco drag extravaganza! See our website for the full line-up.

Age 16+ Run time 120 minutes

Doors 6pm | Start 7pm

Full £15 | Conc £12.50 | Group of 4 £50



SUN 11 JUNE

▶ MUSIC FOR MIDSUMMER

Richard Durrant

A homecoming gig for the Brighton-born guitarist and composer, joined by his band The Burning Deck. Each summer, on his bicycle, Richard performs his wonderful, acoustic music in venues the length of the British Isles. Join him this Solstice for a perfect evening of music.

Age All ages Run time 110 minutes

Doors 6pm | Start 7pm

Full £18 | Conc £15 | Group of 4 £60



WEDS 21 JUNE

FUNNY THAT! SUMMER COMEDY FESTIVAL 2023

TUE 13 - SUN 18 JUNE



◀ SUMMER COMEDY FESTIVAL

Funny That Comedy

Guaranteed knock-out comedy shows in the glorious outdoors. Brought to you by Funny That, the award-winning, Brighton-based team behind The Forge Comedy Club and hosted by legendary local compere, Stephen Grant. Returning for their 4th year at BOAT with a host of top names and familiar faces; grab your picnics and prosecco and make sure not to miss this fantastic week of open-air comedy. Previous acts include Al Murray, Russell Howard, Mark Watson and many more. Check our website for confirmed line-ups.

Age 16+ Run time 60-120 minutes

Tue 13 & Wed 14 June

Doors 5:15pm | Start 6:15pm & 7:30pm | Start 8pm

Thu 15 & Fri 16 June

Doors 7pm | Start 8pm

Sat 17 June

Doors 5pm | Start 6pm & Doors 7:30pm | Start 8pm

Sun 18 June

Doors 2pm | Start 3pm

Full £15 - £18 | Conc £12.50 - £15 | 4 for £50 - £60

▶ UNDER MILK WOOD

Identity Theatre

A small Welsh harbour community is sleeping. Only we can see their unquiet slumbers, and if you listen closely, you can hear their dreams...

Dylan Thomas' beautifully written "play for voices" explores the fantastic in the everyday life of this small village, making every character worthy of our attention. Full of humour and sharp observations, the play rejoices in its celebration of the everyday and zings with hope and a love of life and language.

Age 6+ Run time 135 minutes

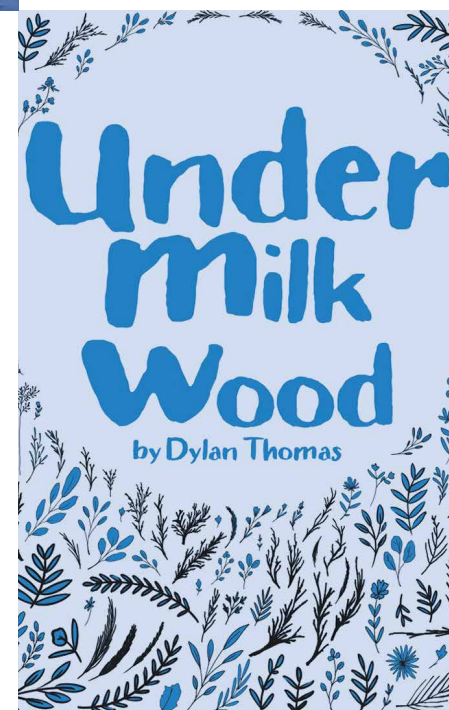
Thu 22 & Fri 23 June

Doors 6pm | Start 7pm

Sat 24 June

Doors 1pm | Start 2pm & Doors 6pm | Start 7pm

Full £15 | Conc £12.50 | Group of 4 £50



THU 22, FRI 23 & SAT 24 JUNE

SUN 25 JUNE



◀ THE ALTER EAGLES

The Alter Eagles

It's a firm BOAT favourite, this concert-length tribute to one of the greatest bands of all time, the Eagles. The audience will enjoy a loving, note-for-note recreation of songs like Hotel California, Lyin' Eyes, New Kid in Town, Take it Easy, Life in the Fast Lane and many more.

Age 6+ Run time 120 minutes

Doors 1pm | Start 2pm

Full £18 | Conc £15 | Group of 4 £60

▶ SOUTH COAST SOUL REVUE

South Coast Soul Revue

Fancy starting your weekend with two hours of solid gold, live soul & funk music? Then come and join South Coast Soul Revue for their party in the park. Two highly talented lead vocalists, funky horns and a pulsating rhythm section make for a truly authentic soul revue experience.

Age 12+ Run time 150 minutes

Doors 6pm | Start 7pm

Full £18 | Conc £15 | Group of 4 £60



FRI 30 JUNE

◀ EMMA

The Pantaloons

Meet misguided matchmaker Emma as she tries to play Cupid in this hilarious yet faithful new adaptation of Jane Austen's satirical story.

In the days before dating apps, spoilt socialite Emma is convinced that Mr Knightley just isn't that into her, that Harriet is a 100% match for Mr Elton and that Jane and Mr Dixon are made for each other. Will any of her acquaintances couple up? Will her marriage meddling mess everything up? Will she attain any self-awareness by the end of the play?

Age 6+ Run time 120 minutes

Weds 28 & Thu 29 June

Doors 6pm | Start 7pm

Full £15 | Conc £12.50 | Group of 4 £50



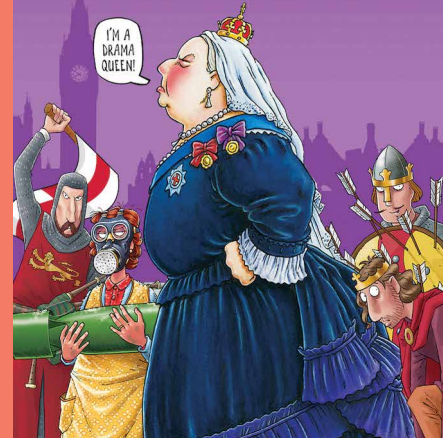
WED 28 & THU 29 JUNE

THE BRAND NEW WEST END SHOW!

HORRIBLE HISTORIES

LIVE ON STAGE!

BARMY BRITAIN



▶ MACBETH

National Production Company

In this full-scale production set in the murky Dark Ages, love, politics and witchcraft collide. A war-worn Macbeth is given a prophecy by three weird sisters that he is fated to become King of Scotland. This sets into motion a series of events that lead to the destruction of Kings, friends and souls as he and his Lady attempt to cling to the tainted crown.

Enjoy William Shakespeare's classic tale, haunted by superstition, madness and murder, as it was meant to be; with sorcery, ghostly apparitions and spectacular sword fights.

Age 11+ Run time 120 minutes

Thu 6 & Fri 7 July

Doors 6pm | Start 7pm

Sat 8 July

Doors 1pm | Start 2pm & Doors 6pm | Start 7pm

Full £15 | Conc £12.50 | Group of 4 £50

◀ HORRIBLE HISTORIES: BARMY BRITAIN

Birmingham Stage Company

We all want to meet people from history. The trouble is everyone is dead! So, Barmy Britain is back with the hit show straight from the West End, full of crazy new characters and rude rulers from Britain's barmy past.

Will you be conquered by William? Will you sink or swim with King Henry I? Go house hunting with Henry VIII, Join the gorgeous Georgians as they take over England! Break into Buckingham Palace and hide from Queen Victoria!

It's history with the nasty bits left in!

Age 5+ Run time 60 minutes

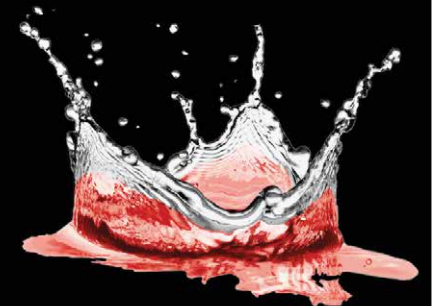
Sat 1 & Sun 2 July

Doors 12pm | Start 1pm & Doors 3pm | Start 4pm

Full £18 | Conc £15 | Child £12 | Family of 4 £54

WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE'S

MACBETH



THU 6, FRI 7 & SAT 8 JULY

WED 12 - SAT 15 JULY



◀ THE MADNESS OF GEORGE III

Sarah Mann Company

From the team that brought you *The Lady in the Van* & *Abigail's Party*.

King George III is unwell and parliament is in crisis. His behaviour is increasingly erratic, with rumours circulating that he has even addressed an oak tree as the King of Prussia. Doctors are brought in with their bizarre and inhumane treatments as the pleasure-seeking Prince of Wales prepares to manoeuvre himself into power. A spectacle of Kingship, a comedy of manners and an exploration of a man in a mental health crisis.

Age 11+ Run time 135 minutes

Weds 12 July

Doors 6pm | Start 7pm
Preview price £10

Thu 13 & Fri 14 July

Doors 6pm | Start 7pm

Sat 15 July

Doors 1pm | Start 2pm & Doors 6pm | Start 7pm
Full £15 | Conc £12.50 | Group of 4 £50

▶ THE TALE OF PETER RABBIT & BENJAMIN BUNNY

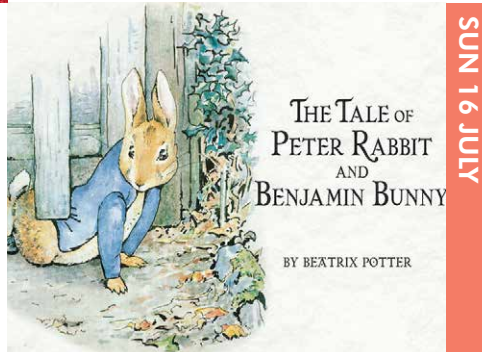
Quantum Theatre

Peter and his naughty cousin Benjamin get into all sorts of scrapes, caught in a net, trapped by a snarling cat and face to face with the terrifying Mr McGregor! Join Peter and Benjamin on their hair-raising adventures in this enchanting adaptation of the loved Beatrix Potter classic.

Age All ages Run time 100 minutes

Doors 1pm | Start 2pm

Full £12 | Conc £10 | Child £8 | Family of 4 £36



SUN 16 JULY

WED 19 JULY



▶ THE COMEDY OF ERRORS

Rain or Shine Theatre Company

A shipwreck, a family divided, the mother lost. The father, one twin and his bondsman one way, the other twin and his bondsman another. Years later, Antipholus and his bondsman, Dromio, arrive in Ephesus. Although this is their first visit, everybody knows their names! Confusion and comedy ensues.

Age 6+ Run time 150 minutes

Doors 6pm | Start 7pm

Full £15 | Conc £12.50 | Group of 4 £50

● Theatre ● Comedy ● Family ● Music ● Other

THU 20 JULY



◀ THE GREAT GATSBY

Tethered Wits

1920s New York. Welcome to the ultimate party hosted by Jay Gatsby himself! Through the eyes of Nick Carraway, meet the high lifes - and low lifes - of glitzy Manhattan. However, as the music begins to fade, perhaps the dazzling hedonism is not always what life is all about...

Age 12+ Run time 120 minutes

Doors 6pm | Start 7pm

Full £15 | Conc £12.50 | Group of 4 £50

▶ SUSPICIOUSLY ELVIS: ONE NIGHT IN VEGAS

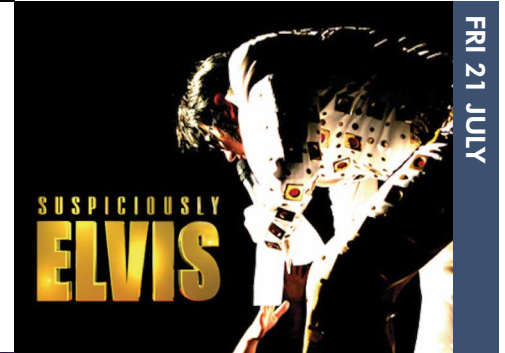
Ivor Potter Productions

Suspiciously Elvis and his live band return to BOAT with *One Night in Vegas*. Classic hit after classic hit will stir memories of those balmy Vegas nights, so come dressed as the King, bring your picnic and prosecco, and dance the night away beneath the stars.

Age 6+ Run time 120 minutes

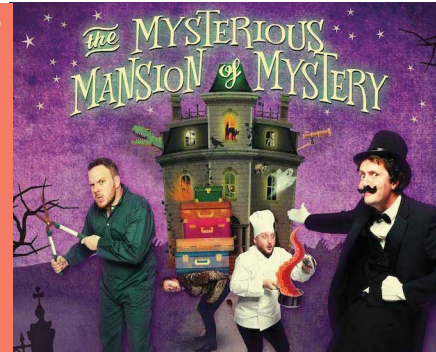
Doors 6pm | Start 7pm

Full £18 | Conc £15 | Group of 4 £60



FRI 21 JULY

SAT 22 JULY



◀ THE MYSTERIOUS MANSION OF MYSTERY

The Noise Next Door

Who knows what lurks in the curious corridors and bizarre boudoirs of this ancient manor house? You do! What you say goes in this hour of anarchic entertainment. A little bit spooky, a little bit stupid and a whole lot of funny.

Age 3+ Run time 60 minutes

Doors 1pm | Start 2pm

Full £12 | Conc £10 | Child £8 | Family of 4 £36

▶ WINGING IT

The Noise Next Door

The funniest show you will see all year... Made up on the spot? That might sound impossible, but The Noise Next Door have spent 15 years perfecting the art of Winging It. Watch in amazement as they transform audience suggestions into genuinely hilarious sketches and songs.

Age 15+ Run time 120 minutes

Doors 6pm | Start 7pm

Full £15 | Conc £12.50 | Group of 4 £50



SAT 22 JULY

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BOAT FULL SUMMER SCHEDULE

APRIL

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SUN 23 JULY



◀ SWING THAT MUSIC

Down With The Count: All-Stars

Enjoy instrumental songs from Duke Ellington and Glenn Miller, alongside vocal classics from Nat 'King' Cole and Ella Fitzgerald, all presented with Down for the Count's unmistakable brand of swing, wit and humour.

Age 7+ Run time 140 minutes

Doors 1pm | Start 2pm

Full £25 | Conc £22.50 | Group of 4 £90

▶ IMPORTANCE OF BEING EARNEST

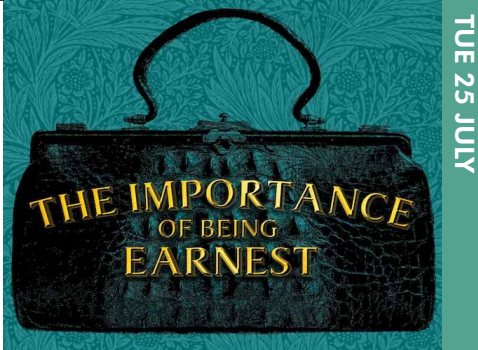
Chapterhouse Theatre Company

Chapterhouse Theatre Company is proud to present Oscar Wilde's finest and best-loved romantic comedy. With a cast of unforgettably larger-than-life characters, the delightful Cecily, the roguish Algernon and the formidable Lady Bracknell are sure to keep you wildly entertained!

Age 4+ Run time 130 minutes

Doors 6pm | Start 7pm

Full £18 | Conc £15 | Group of 4 £60



TUE 25 JULY

◀ HERCULES

Ian Kennedy Productions

IKP's unmistakable brand of "delightfully daft" family theatre is back at BOAT this summer with another adventure for all ages.

Travel back in time to the land of heroes, monsters and myths and join Hercules as he labours for beauty, truth and love! Come along on a legendary adventure as Athena guides our hapless hero to success. But with time running out to prove himself a hero, will Hercules ever be able to scale Olympus and get own happy ending?

Age 3+ Run time 100 minutes

Weds 26 & Thu 27 July & Fri 28 July

Doors 1pm | Start 2pm

Full £12 | Conc £10 | Child £8 | Family of 4 £36

WED 26, THU 27 & FRI 28 JULY



FRI 28 JULY



◀ SUBLINE!

BOAT

Conjuring the anarchic 'anything goes' spirit of BOAT founder Adrian Bunting's celebrated creation, Zinbar, comes a new showcase for upcoming performers, plus some iconic artists from Zinbar's '90's heyday. A mixed bill of weirdness, fun and experiment, true to Adrian's vision of access for all. In a word, sublime!

Age 15+ Run time 120 minutes

Doors 6pm | Start 7pm

Full £12 | Conc £10 | Group of 4 £40

▶ POTTED PREVIEWS

Simon Evans

Local legend and BOAT Patron Simon Evans returns with Potted Previews of comedy sets heading to the Edinburgh Fringe. Previous comedians include Rosie Jones, Ivo Graham, Mark Steel and Angela Barnes. Line-ups to be announced online, but quality and laughs are guaranteed!

Age 16+ Run time 90 minutes

Doors 1pm | Start 2pm & Doors 6pm | Start 7pm

Full £15 | Conc £12.50 | Group of 4 £50



SAT 29 JULY

SUN 30 JULY



◀ SUNDAY IN THE PARK WITH JAZZ

Charlotte Glasson

The 7th annual Sunday in the Park with Jazz, featuring local, 6-piece band Butxaca playing an eclectic mix of jazz-influenced music, and London-based jazz comedy outfit Bonzo Bills. A comedy and music mix on a Sunday afternoon in the sun!

Age All ages Run time 150 minutes

Doors 1pm | Start 2pm

Full £12 | Conc £10 | Group of 4 £40

▶ PANDORA'S BOX JAR

The Last Baguette

A riotous retelling, written by Sunday Times award-winning playwright Tiff Woodsmith. Join the Baguettes as they lift the lid on this classic myth. A gallop through Greek mythology featuring goofy gods, hilarious heroines & daft deities with comedy, music and bad puns.

Age 6+ Run time 120 minutes

Doors 1pm | Start 2pm

Full £12 | Conc £10 | Group of 4 £40



WED 2 AUG

THU 3 AUG



◀ ORTONESQUE

BlackBox Theatre Company

Full of acerbic wit and illicit encounters, Ortonesque explores the extraordinary life of playwright, Joe Orton, and his relationship with long-term partner, Kenneth Halliwell. From their squalid flat in Islington to the Kasbahs of Tangier, this is a tale of love, jealousy, haddock ... and murder.

Age 16+ Run time 120 minutes

Doors 6pm | Start 7pm

Full £15 | Conc £12.50 | Group of 4 £50

▶ SING-ALONG IN THE PARK! FAMILY DRAG SHOW Alfie Ordinary

This Pride weekend, bring the kids for a sing-along sensation! This all-singing, all-dancing, family-friendly show brings all the fun and glamour of drag to BOAT for an audience of all ages. So dress to impress, pack that picnic, and get ready to join in with Disney and pop songs.

Age All ages Run time 90 minutes

Doors 1pm | Start 2pm

Full £12 | Conc £10 | Child: £8 | Family of 4 £36



FRI 4 AUG

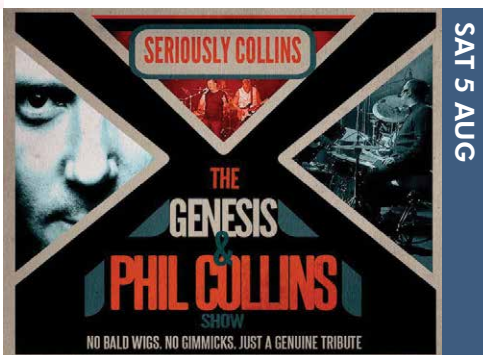
◀ DRAG IN THE PARK: PRIDE EDITION Alfie Ordinary

Don't miss the campest show in town! Featuring Drag In The Park favourites and some brand new divas too, our Pride edition is always a highlight of the summer. Join award-winning drag artist Alfie Ordinary for an alfresco drag extravaganza! See website for line-up.

Age 16+ Run time 120 minutes

Doors 6pm | Start 7pm

Full £15 | Conc £12.50 | Group of 4 £50



SAT 5 AUG

▶ GENESIS & PHIL COLLINS SHOW Seriously Collins

Packed with hits and fan favourites, this two-hour extravaganza will take you back to Phil Collins in his heyday. Phil's extensive catalogue has been meticulously studied and arranged to give the ultimate Phil Collins & Genesis experience. No wigs. No gimmicks. Just a genuine tribute.

Age 6+ Run time 140 minutes

Doors 6pm | Start 7pm

Full £18 | Conc £15 | Group of 4 £60

SUN 6 AUG



◀ NIGHTINGALE

New Creations Collective

A new ballet based on the life and works of Florence Nightingale. You know the legend, but do you know the lady behind the lamp? This original production celebrates the world-changing achievements of a national hero, through music and dance.

Age 8+ Run time 75 minutes

Doors 6pm | Start 7pm

Full £12 | Conc £10 | 4 for £40

▶ THE UGLY DUCKLING

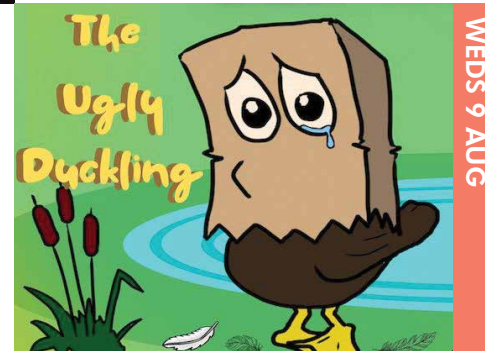
Folksy Theatre

A brand-new, musical adaptation of the much-beloved tale *The Ugly Duckling*. Come along for the journey, filled with live music, puppetry and colourful characters. Will the ugly duckling find his place in the world and discover true happiness?

Age 2 - 10 Run time 60 minutes

Doors 1pm | Start 2pm

Full £12 | Conc £10 | Child £8 | Family of 4 £36



WEDS 9 AUG

THU 10 & SAT 12 AUG



◀ LOVE'S LABOUR'S LOST

Changeling Theatre

The King and three friends take an oath dedicating themselves to a life of study, avoiding the company of women for three years. No sooner have they made their vow, the Princess of France and her ladies-in-waiting arrive, presenting the men with a severe test of their high-minded resolve.

Widely believed to be the prequel to *Much Ado about Nothing*, this is Shakespeare does *Bridgerton*. If you loved the Netflix series, then this show is perfect for you!

Part of Changeling Theatre's comedy double-bill with Richard Brinsley Sheridan's *The School for Scandal*. Book for both shows and save 15%

Age 6+ Run time 150 minutes

Thu 10 Aug

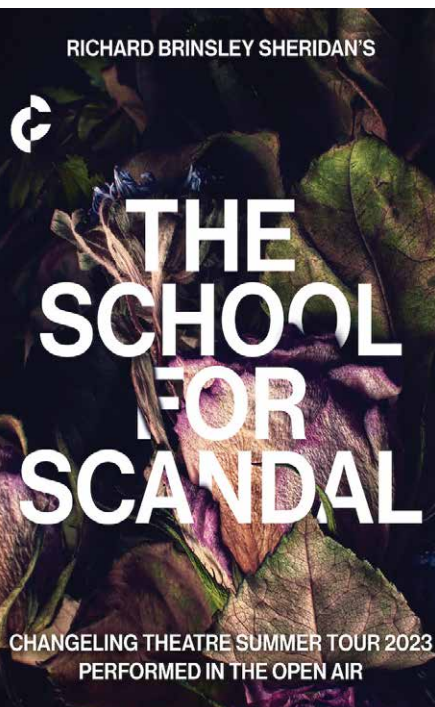
Doors 6pm | Start 7pm

Sat 12 Aug

Doors 1pm | Start 2pm & Doors 6pm | Start 7pm

Full £15 | Conc £12.50 | Group of 4 £50

FRI 11 & SUN 13 AUG



◀ THE SCHOOL FOR SCANDAL

Changeling Theatre

Lady Sneerwell is in love with Charles, who's in love with Maria. Joseph is in love with Maria, who's in love with Charles. A plot is devised to ruin Charles and Maria's relationship through gossip and lies, creating a scandal of epic proportions.

Sheridan's meticulously crafted play is a razor sharp, highly entertaining satirical comedy. In the age of fake news this is the play to see. It will have you in stitches from beginning to end!

Part of Changeling Theatre's comedy double-bill with Shakespeare's *Love's Labour's Lost*. Book for both shows and save 15%.

Age 6+ Run time 150 minutes

Fri 11 Aug

Doors 6pm | Start 7pm

Sun 13 Aug

Doors 1pm | Start 2pm

Full £15 | Conc £12.50 | Group of 4 £50

▶ SHAKESPEARE IN LOVE

Brighton Little Theatre

Promising young playwright Will Shakespeare is plagued by debt and tormented by writer's block - until he finds his muse in the form of passionate noblewoman, Viola de Lesseps. Their forbidden love draws many others into the drama, including Queen Elizabeth I, and inspires Will to write the greatest love story of all time: *Romeo and Juliet*.

Brighton Little Theatre arrive at BOAT with this sparkling romantic romp that bursts with everything you'd expect from the Bard: romance, comedy, drama, thrilling stage fights, music, dancing, singing and maybe even a dog...

Age 12+ Run time 150 minutes

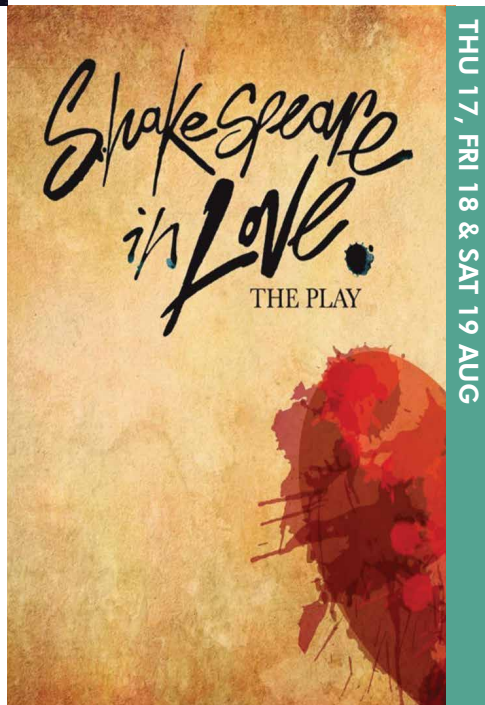
Thu 17 & Fri 18 Aug

Doors 6pm | Start 7pm

Sat 19 Aug

Doors 1pm | Start 2pm & Doors 6pm | Start 7pm

Full £12 | Conc £10 | Group of 4 £40



● Theatre ● Comedy ● Family ● Music ● Other

WEDS 23 AUG



◀ PERSUASION

DOT Productions

In this new adaptation of Jane Austen's novel *Persuasion*, we follow the story of Anne Elliot who was persuaded by friends and family to end her engagement to Frederick Wentworth. Seven years later, they meet again... will they be persuaded to stay apart or will love conquer all?

Age 8+ Run time 120 minutes

Doors 6pm | Start 7pm

Full £15 | Conc £12.50 | Group of 4 £50

▶ LIVE WRESTLING: CAGE MATCH

Kapow & SWF Wrestling

The superstars of the wrestling world return to BOAT for an afternoon of high-flying, hard-hitting action suitable for all the family. Featuring tag team, solo action, ladies matches and championship showdowns, plus a 15-foot high steel cage!

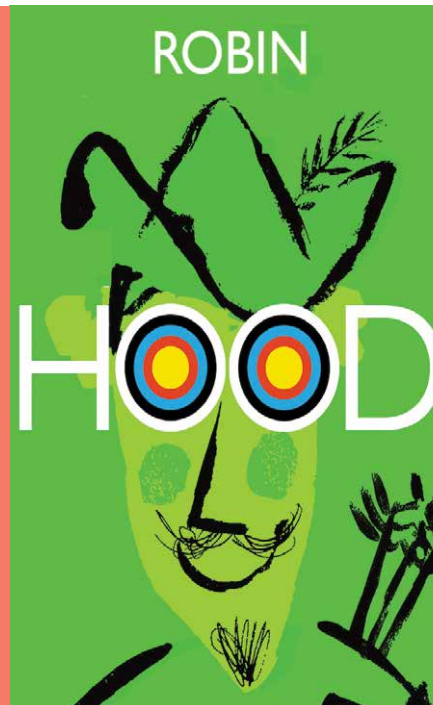
Age 6+ Run time 120 minutes

Doors 1pm | Start 2pm

Full £15 | Conc £12.50 | Group of 4 £50



THU 24, FRI 25 & SAT 26 AUG



◀ ROBIN HOOD

Illyria

From the earliest ballads of *Robin Hood*, some pre-dating Chaucer, Illyria has created a fast-moving, fun-packed family show.

Featuring tales of camaraderie, good against evil, swashbuckling action and riotous comedy, this remains one of Illyria's most popular ever titles. You'll definitely laugh, you'll probably cry - and if you're not cheering at the archery competition involving the entire audience then you must be dead.

We also guarantee you will learn new uses for the phrase "Don't Do This At Home."

Age 5+ Run time 110 minutes

Thu 24, Fri 25 & Sat 26 Aug

Doors 1pm | Start 2pm

Full £15 | Conc £12.50 | Child £10 | Family of 4 £45

brightonopenairtheatre.co.uk f BrightonOpenAirTheatre @BOATheatre brightonopenairtheatre

MON 28 AUG



◀ CAVERN TO IMAGINE

The Vox Beatles

Cavern to Imagine is an incredibly accurate portrayal of the Beatles recordings that we all know and love. So dress up, grab your friends and family, bring your dancing shoes, and spend your Bank Holiday Monday celebrating the talent and music of the Fab Four.

Age 6+ Run time 150 minutes
Doors 1pm | Start 2pm
Full £15 | Conc £12.50 | Group of 4 £50

▶ A TRIBUTE TO PINK FLOYD

Crazy Diamond

Crazy Diamond plays and pays tribute to the music of Pink Floyd. The band's approach to Floyd's music faithfully honours and admires the original band, and in this gig, highlight their seminal album *Wish You Were Here*, plus favourites from *The Great Gig In The Sky* and *Echoes*.

Age 4+ Run time 130 minutes
Doors 6pm | Start 7pm
Full £21.50 | Conc £18 | Group of 4 £72



SAT 2 SEPT

◀ MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING

TIMT

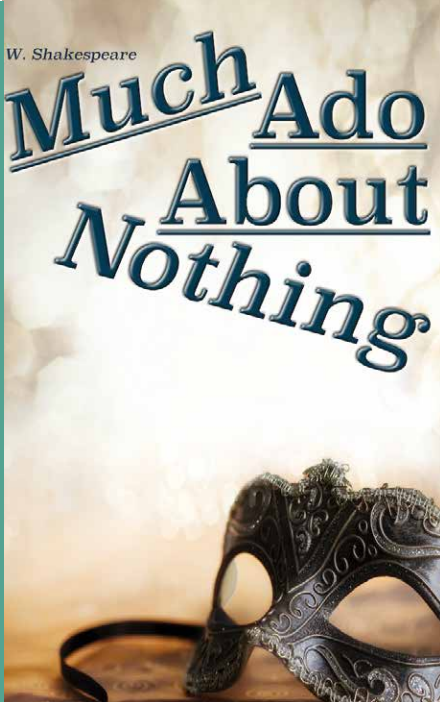
Who doesn't love love? Well, you might be surprised! BOAT regulars This Is My Theatre return this summer with yet another stunning production.

In Shakespeare's raucous romantic comedy, deception is rife as wedding bells sound in the air, testing not only the young lovers Hero and Claudio, but also the steadfastly single Beatrice and Benedick!

With plots, pranks and live music throughout, you will fall in love all over again with Shakespeare's *Much Ado About Nothing* this Summer.

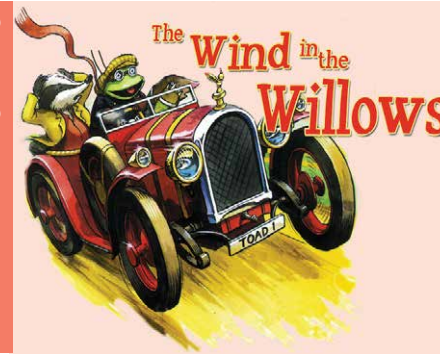
Age 7+ Run time 90 minutes

Thu 31 Aug & Fri 1 Sept
Doors 6pm | Start 7pm
Full £15 | Conc £12.50 | Group of 4 £50



THU 31 AUG & FRI 1 SEPT

SUN 3 SEPT



◀ THE WIND IN THE WILLOWS

Quantum Theatre

Boating with Ratty, a feast with Badger and hijinks on the open road with that reckless ruffian, Mr Toad... What more could such firm friends wish for? Join Mole, Ratty and Badger on their mad-cap adventures in Quantum Theatre's brand new adaptation of this family favourite.

Age All ages Run time 95 minutes
Doors 1pm | Start 2pm
Full £12 | Conc £10 | Child £8 | Family of 4 £36

▶ THE IMPROVISED SHAKESPEARE SHOW

ShakeltUp Theatre

Shakespeare hasn't written anything new for an age, so we thought we would give him a hand. Using his language, your audience suggestions, and our overactive imaginations, we create a brand-new Shakespeare play live on stage, complete with live music, songs and laughs.

Age 12+ Run time 60 minutes
Doors 6pm | Start 7pm
Full £12 | Conc £10 | Group of 4 £40



WEDS 6 SEPT

FRI 8 SEPT



◀ JOE STILGOE'S VARIETY NIGHT

Neil O'Brien Entertainment

Joe, magnificently supported by star performers from the Brighton area, celebrates the diversity and talent of the greatest melting pot of arts and entertainment outside London. Expect laughter, tears, heartbreak, heartache, virtuoso musicianship, thrilling dance and spectacle.

Age 16+ Run time 120 minutes
Doors 6pm | Start 7pm
Full £18 | Conc £15 | Group of 4 £60

▶ DRAG IN THE PARK

Alfie Ordinary

The finale of BOAT's Drag in the Park series is set to sizzle and certain to be gorgeous. See our website for the full line-up.

Age 16+ Run time 120 minutes
Doors 6pm | Start 7pm
Full £15 | Conc £12.50 | Group of 4 £50



SAT 9 SEPT

SUN 10 SEPT



◀ HOUND OF THE BASKERVILLES

British Touring Shakespeare

The last of the Baskerville line moves into his ancestral home on Dartmoor, but can world-famous detective Sherlock Holmes and his trusty assistant Dr Watson solve the legend of the fiendish hound that is said to haunt his family before it is too late?

Age 6+ Run time 130 minutes

Doors 1pm | Start 2pm

Full £15 | Conc £12.50 | Group of 4 £50

▶ END OF SUMMER PARTY

Brighton Beach Boys

The Brighton Beach Boys are delighted to end BOAT's spectacular summer season once again. Let us take you surfing on the sound waves to the USA with hits like 'God Only Knows', 'Sloop John B', 'Surfin' Safari', 'Surfing USA', and more!

Age All ages Run time 150 minutes

Doors 1pm | Start 2pm

Full £18 | Conc £15 | Group of 4 £60



SUN 17 SEPT

WED 13 - SAT 16 SEPT



◀ STAND-UP UNDER THE STARS

Show and Tell

Brilliant comedy. Beautiful open-air theatre. *Stand-Up Under The Stars* returns to BOAT with a packed week of A-list comedy stars.

Previous acts include Nina Conti, Tim Vine, Bridget Christie, Tim Key, Phil Wang, Mae Martin, Nish Kumar, Ed Gamble and many more.

Hailed by The Guardian as "a riot of joy", *Stand-up Under The Stars* has been delighting audiences with open-air comedy shows since 2018. Check our website for confirmed line-ups.

Age 16+ Run time 120 minutes

Weds 13 & Thu 14 Sept

Doors 6pm | Start 7pm

Full £17.50

Fri 15 & Sat 16 Sept

Doors 6pm | Start 7pm

Full £19.50

● Theatre ● Comedy ● Family ● Music ● Other

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ACCESS INFO

BOAT has step-free access throughout the site and an accessible toilet. We have four Wheelchair Positions, and tickets are clearly available to select on our website when booking. Free carer tickets are also available for anyone who needs them - please email us to request these.

As an outdoor venue, we are inherently relaxed, and as such can accommodate those who are neuro-diverse or with additional sensory requirements. If you have any questions, would like more information or to arrange a site visit, please contact Tanya on hello@brightonopenairtheatre.co.uk

Romeo and Juliet (2021)
Duke's Theatre Company
Photo credit: Colin J Smith





THE BAR AT BOAT

OPEN FOR REFRESHMENTS BEFORE & DURING EVERY SHOW

WINE

Sauvignon Blanc, Merlot, Prosecco
125ml £3.50 | Bottle £15

BEER & CIDER

Lager, Pale Ale, Cider, No Alcohol Beer
330ml £3.50 | 440ml £4

GIN & TONIC

330ml £3.50

BOOZY HOT CHOCOLATE

Baileys, Rum, Brandy
25ml £4

ICES

Ice Cream, Fruity Ice Pop
£2.50

SOFT DRINKS

Coca Cola, Diet Coke, Lemonade
Elderflower, Ginger Beer, Rhubarb
Apple Juice, Still & Sparkling Water
330ml £2

HOT DRINKS

Tea, Coffee, Hot Chocolate, Decaf
Herbal Teas
£2

SNACKS

Crisps, Nuts, Fruit & Nut Bar, Smarties
Fruitellas, Chocolate Brownie
£1.50

PICNICS

You are more than welcome to bring your own picnic, but please remember to take your litter home with you, and beware of seagulls! We also have luxury canapé kits from Sussex Gourmand which are available to pre-order when you book your tickets online.

FAQs



WHAT HAPPENS IF IT RAINS?

We get wet! Shows go ahead in all weather, so come prepared with raincoats, umbrellas, sun cream and shades. We will only cancel a performance if the conditions are considered dangerous to performers or audience, which is incredibly rare. If ever in doubt, the show will almost always be going ahead.

ARE DOGS ALLOWED?

No dogs are allowed on site, except for guide dogs.

WHAT COUNTS AS A CONCESSION?

Concession tickets are available to: over 65s, under 16s, students, NHS staff, Equity members and the unemployed. ID may be required upon entry.

HOW DO I RECEIVE MY TICKETS?

You will be emailed your tickets – this email will come from Ticketsource, our ticket provider.

IS THERE ALLOCATED SEATING?

No – you may sit anywhere you like. Rest assured you get a great view from everywhere!

Full FAQs on our website

DO YOU HAVE WAITING LISTS FOR SOLD-OUT SHOWS?

No, but if you come along and there is space we will squeeze you in. This can't be guaranteed.

WHAT IS YOUR LATECOMERS POLICY?

Latecomers are allowed in – we will squeeze you in at an appropriate moment in the performance.

WHY DO YOU CHARGE A BOOKING FEE?

The booking fee is charged by our ticketing provider – Ticketsource – and covers the costs of using their service.

WHAT IS THE AGE LIMIT FOR A CHILD TICKET?

Anyone under 12 qualifies for a Child ticket.

CAN I BRING MY CHILD OR BABY TO A SHOW?

Of course – but we recommend checking the age recommendation of each show. Babes in arms (those that will not need their own seat) do not require a ticket.

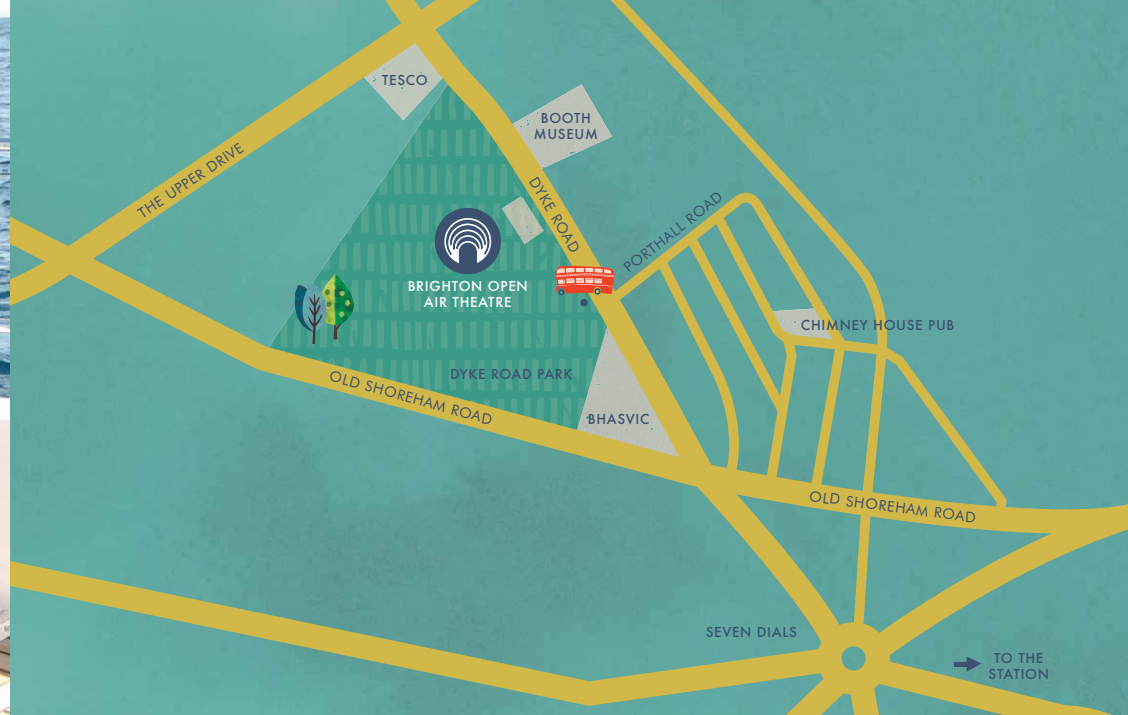
CAN I BRING A BUGGY/PUSH CHAIR IN?

You can bring them on site, but not into the seating area. We have a space where you can store buggies securely.

THE BOAT STORY

BOAT is the vision of Brighton playwright, showman and construction manager, Adrian Bunting, who died from pancreatic cancer in May 2013, aged 47. In his final days Adrian threw his efforts into realising a long held ambition; the creation of a permanent open-air theatre for the city he loved.

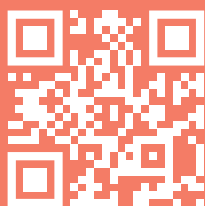
BOAT was launched by Adrian's Mother, Isobelle Bunting, on the 9th May 2015, almost two years to the day after Adrian passed away. Now celebrating its ninth year and a well-established part of Brighton and Hove's cultural landscape, we are looking forward to our biggest season ever.



THANK YOU TO OUR PLATINUM SPONSOR

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www.benchmarkfp.co.uk



BOAT is a registered charity (no. 1156051)

BOAT WOULD ALSO LIKE TO THANK

Adrian's family, Brighton and Hove City Council and the Parks Team, Friends of Dyke Road Park, Vahid and all at the Dyke Road Park cafe, Beverley Grover, Ben Gander, Robert and Linda Nicholls, The Crescent Pub Quizzers and Gemini Print. Most importantly, our amazing team of volunteers, without whom none of this would be possible.

If you would like to donate to BOAT, there's a button on the homepage of our website. We also accept cash and card donations after performances. Thank you!

BOAT relies on the incredibly generous support of our wonderful team of volunteers. We're always looking to work with new people, so if you're passionate about live performance, looking to make some new friends and don't mind being outdoors, we'd love to hear from you!

You can contact Tanya on operations@brighttonopenairtheatre.co.uk for more info.

FIND US

BOAT is located in Dyke Road Park on Dyke Road. We are a 5-minute walk from Seven Dials roundabout, and opposite the Booth Museum. Our postcode is BN3 6EH.

BY FOOT BOAT is a 20-minute walk from the centre of Brighton.

BY BIKE There are cycle lanes leading to the park from the city centre. We have a bike rack in the theatre.

BY TRAIN BOAT is a 20-minute walk from Brighton station and a 15-minute walk from Preston Park station.

BY BUS The 27 and 77 buses go past the park.

BY CAR BOAT is 5 minutes from the A27 and the A23. Limited pay and display street parking is available on Dyke Road and surrounding streets. There is no free parking at the venue.

CONTACT US

EMAIL hello@brighttonopenairtheatre.co.uk

PHONE 07391 357542

brighttonopenairtheatre.co.uk [f](#) BrightonOpenAirTheatre [t](#) @BOATheatre [g](#) brighttonopenairtheatre

HOW TO BOOK

ONLINE www.brighttonopenairtheatre.co.uk

PHONE BOAT does not have a box office number so we strongly advise booking online. You can book by calling TicketSource on 0333 666 4466, additional fees apply.

IN PERSON If a show is not sold out tickets are available at the gate from the time of doors open. We accept card only - no cash except for donations.

THE BOAT TEAM

Patron: Simon Evans

Trustees: Dominic Boon, Sue Bradley, Graeme Hawkins, Steve Turner, Jane Waller and Lisa Wolfe

General Manager: Will Mytum

Operations Manager: Tanya Macleod

Duty Managers: Antonia Draper, Laura Mukabaa, Amanda Ogilvie, Kate Packham, Adam Self and Jamie Smith

FOH: The Amazing BOAT Volunteers

Brochure Design: Laura Danby




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ISI Inspection Report 2022

A photograph of two children in a garden. On the left, a boy with green face paint and a green hoodie looks back over his shoulder. On the right, a girl with long brown hair and a blue dress looks towards him. The background is filled with green foliage.

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