

## event listings

### Theatre

**The Duchess of Malfi.** New Diorama Theatre, 15-16 Triton Street, Regent's Place, London, NW1. The palaces of Italy are choked with corruption in Webster's vicious tragedy of madness, love and politics. As the widowed Duchess of Malfi searches for a new husband her eye falls fatally on her servant Antonio. Determined to pursue her desires at any cost she marries in secret believing that her fiercely proud family will, in time, understand. £12.50 / £10.50 (conc), Tuesday, August 5-Saturday, August 23.

**Tour of Duty.** Upstairs at the Gatehouse, Highgate Village N6. Part of The Camden Fringe Festival 2014. He is Angelina's father; an ex-soldier; a man of honour; Dad. He's the man who raised her on his own from childhood to womanhood. He has done his duty: he has done his best, but has he done enough? In everyone's story there is a time to stay and a time to let go. There comes a time when whichever we do, we can but hope that we have made the right choice and done our duty. *Tour of Duty* is a simple yet compelling story of love and sacrifice that will stay with you long after the curtain has come down. 7.30pm, 9.15pm, Thursday, July 31. 9.15pm, Friday, August 1.

**Swimming Pools, Psychos, Spouses.** Pentameters Theatre, 28 Heath Street, Hampstead, NW3. Three 25-minute one-man shows (with an interval) by Craig Crosbie. Tues-Sat at 8pm, Sun at 5pm. £12 (concs £10). Until Sunday, August 3.

**An Evening with comedian Noel Fielding.** Jacksons Lane, 269a Archway Road, Highgate, N6. Expect a magical mix of Noel's unique brand of stand-up comedy, live animation, music and some of his best-known TV characters, such as The Moon and Fantasy Man. There will also be support from *The Mighty Boosh's* Mike Fielding and Tom Meeten. Thursday, August 14-Saturday, August 23.

### Exhibitions

**ART – Camden artists show drawings and paintings at the Open Open 2014 exhibition** in The Gallery, Swiss Cottage Library. Running July 26-September 6.

**Fellowship and Sacrifice – Hampstead and the First World War.** Burgh House, New End Square, Hampstead, NW3. Marking the centenary of the conflict, this exhibition looks at the effects of the war on Hampstead and the Heath. It examines the work of official war artists from the area and soldiers from Hampstead who fought at the Front and the important role played by local military hospitals and residents. Features two new acquisitions – the original copy of *Blast, War Number 1915* by Wyndham Lewis and an oil painting of Richard Carline by Nancy Carline. Until December 14.

**Photographic Competition Winners.** Lauderdale House, Highgate Hill, N6. A wide and varied selection of works from photographers of all backgrounds – professional, recreational and student – using a range of techniques. There's an open category and a heritage-themed category. Until Monday, August 4. Also at Lauderdale House: **Pride in the House.** Work by gay and lesbian artists selected from Lauderdale's national competition, chosen for their talent, skills and demonstrating an original and personal voice. Until Monday, August 4.

**Shelagh Wakely – A View From A Window.** Camden Arts Centre, Arkwright Road, off Finchley Road, NW3. Print, video, unfired ceramics, delicate drawings in pencil and wire and an intricate floor installation. Plus other artists with whom Wakely shared creative concerns. Until September 28. Also at Camden Arts Centre: **Jesse Wine – Ceramics.** Work stemming from a fascination with objects and materials.

## McCrorry magnetic in an electrifying production



■ Helen McCrorry as Medea

### MEDEA National Theatre ★★★★☆

It's an "unthinkable" crime, yet all too fathomable in Carrie Cracknell's electrifying production. Her modern setting for Euripides' masterpiece is unobtrusive, allowing the discomfort that comes from viewing horror in a familiar setting to creep upon us during a riveting 90 minutes.

Assisted by Ben Power's lucid, resonant adaptation, Cracknell builds a fascinating mental framework for Medea (Helen McCrorry), who embraced exile and murder for her beloved Jason (Danny Sapani), only to be abandoned for another woman.

The terrible inevitability stems not from the fates, but from the psyche of someone brutalised

by conflict, shattered by betrayal and left dangerously isolated, her identity ripped from her. The strong, empathetic Chorus (with Jane Wymark a standout) urges Medea away from grave action even as they draw vicarious satisfaction from it, and our similar complicity makes the bloody outcome deeply unsettling.

Magnetic McCrorry gives a performance of devastating power, believably cycling through Medea's jarring emotions. She begins a darkly sarcastic shell, but as grief fuels her, she savours the deadly logic that leads her to retake control at a terrible cost, primal vengeance paired with heartrending anguish.

McCrorry expertly employs Medea's feminine weapons, extracting mercy from Kreon (Martin Turner) with weeping, trembling

and swooning, and transforming her "woman's weakness" into strength, most chillingly when coaxing her children to deliver death to her enemy. Sapani's Jason is stubborn and unfeeling, then quietly moving when his self-assurance is demolished. Dominic Rowan's credulous Aegeus is effective, but Nurse (Michaela Coel) lacks gravity in her framing speeches. The accessible drama gains a mystical quality through Goldfrapp's music, with its insistent pulse, throbbing strings, operatic cries and fugue-like climax. Lucy Guerin's figurative choreography is intriguing, but pulls focus. It's an unnecessary addition to such a shrewd reading, with a villain who is all the more harrowing for her palpable humanity. Until September 4.

**Marianka Swain**

Until Thursday, July 31.

**Rembrandt Etchings.** Sylvester Fine Art, 64 Belsize Lane, NW3. The etchings were printed from the original copper plates. Wednesday to Saturday, 11am-6pm, Sunday, noon-5pm.

**Max Weber: An American Cubist in Paris and New York 1905-1915.** Ben Uri Gallery & Museum, 108a Boundary Road, off Abbey Road, St John's Wood, NW8. The first major UK museum show of Weber's work and the first to examine his career and influence within a European context. Until October 5.

**Yan Tan Tethera: The Connections Between Textile-making and Song.** Cecil Sharp House, 2 Regent's Park Road, NW1. Along with David Litter's exhibition of his archival exploration of the subject, artists Freddie Robins, Shane Waltener, Stewart Easton and the McGrath Makers' Group showcase new work. Free. Until Thursday, September 25.

### Talks, Music & Walks

**Camden Beach – NW1's very own seaside resort.** Roundhouse's terrace, Chalk Farm Road, NW1. Summer in the city has just got better – with 150 tonnes of sand, deckchairs, beach huts, ping-pong, live music, tasty food and ice-cold drinks. Free entry. Noon-11pm (Mondays 5pm-11pm). Saturday, July 26 – Saturday, August 23.

**Children's Workshops: Pick 'n' Mix Week.** London Jewish Cultural Centre,

94-96 North End Road, Golders Green, NW11. ljcc.org.uk, 020 8457 5000. Including movie madness, team building, comedy, chocolate factory and adventure days. Sessions for eight to 10-year-olds and 11 to 14-year-olds. 10am-3.30pm. Monday, July 28-Friday, August 1.

**The Misty Moon Film Society Presents... An Audience with Robin Askwith.**

Upstairs at the Gatehouse, Highgate Village N6. Part of The Camden Fringe Festival 2014. A raucous evening of stories about the career of one of Britain's best loved comedy legends of the 70s Robin Askwith as told by the man himself. From smoking dope with Jimi Hendrix & experiencing the real *Withnail and I*, to rolling around with Charlotte Rampling, Linda Bellingham, Pamela Stephenson and Princess Margaret – it will have you in stitches. 7.30pm, Friday, August 1, 9.15pm, Saturday, August 2.

**The Doris Day Songbook.** Upstairs at the Gatehouse, Highgate Village N6. Part of The Camden Fringe Festival 2014. An evening of nostalgia and celebration of the wonderful Doris Day – following on from Claudia's recent successful UK tour. Claudia Morris adds a sophisticated jazz take on many of Doris Day's hits with a voice that is pitch-perfect and beautifully interpretive with flawless diction and has an unerring sense of rhythm. Supported by Malcolm Edmonston on keys, Julian Jackson on bass and Andrew Bain on drums.

7.30pm, Saturday, August 2, 6pm, Sunday, August 3.

**Guided Walk On Hampstead Heath.**

Meet at 2.30pm by the cattle trough and flower stall, Spaniard's Road, near the Spaniard's Inn, NW3 7JJ. Sandy Heath and the upper catchment of the Highgate Ponds with update on the City of London's dams project. Led by Lynda Cook, member of the Heath & Hampstead Society, Heath Subcommittee. All welcome. £3 per head. Booking unnecessary. Enquiries to 07530 719 119. Sunday, August 3.

**Talk – Flip Your Karma.** Pirate Castle, Oval Road, Camden, London NW1 7EA. 4.30pm-6pm, Sunday, August 3.

**Hampstead Heath Croquet Club – Club afternoon** – all welcome to try this fascinating game on our lawns by the tennis courts in Golders Hill Park. Enquiries to 07943 658242 or email enquiries@hampsteadheathcroquetclub.org.uk 2pm-4pm, Sunday, August 3.

**Emily's Walking Book Club.** Daunt Books Hampstead, 51 South End Road, NW3. Join other book-lovers for a walk on Hampstead Heath to discuss Doris Lessing's bold first novel, *The Grass is Singing*. (Children, friends and dogs are all very welcome!) Please join us at our shop on South End Road, 11.30am, Sunday, August 3.

**Talk – World War One Remembered.** St James Church, St James Lane, Muswell Hill, N10. An illustrated talk followed by a short period of reflection to remember

those who died. 7.30pm, Monday, August 4.

**Lunchtime concert.** Hampstead Parish Church, Church Row NW3 6UU. Featuring Caryl Robertson, piano. 1pm, Free. Wednesday, August 5.

**Free wildlife Activities in Hampstead Heath.**

**Tuesday, August 5**

**Green and Slimy Things.** Pond dipping, fun art activities and learn about wildlife. 12-4pm, Secret Garden, Parliament Hill, NW5. For more information call: 020 7482 7073. www.cityoflondon.gov.uk/hampsteadheath

**Wild Play Day.** Play outdoors and be ready to get muddy and wet! 12-4pm, next to the playground, Golders Hill Park, NW11 7QP. For more information call: 020 7482 7073. www.cityoflondon.gov.uk/hampsteadheath

**Wednesday, August 6**

**Rookie Rangers:** explore the Heath, learn about wildlife and play outdoors, for 8-12 year olds. 10am-4pm, Hampstead Heath Education Centre, NW5. Booking essential. For more information and to book your space call: 020 7482 7073. www.cityoflondon.gov.uk/hampsteadheath

**Thursday, August 7**

**Fur and Feathers Too at the Zoo.** Fun art activities and learn about our zoo animals. 12-4pm, next to animal enclosures, Golders Hill Park, NW11 7QP. For more information call: 020 7482 7073. www.cityoflondon.gov.uk/hampsteadheath

**La Grande Illusion – Film Showing.**

Primrose Hill Community library, Sharples Hall Street, London NW1, to mark the First World War anniversary. Widely considered as one of the great films of all time, this First World War classic is set mostly in a German POW camp, where two very different French officers plot to escape: the working-class officer Maréchal (Jean Gabin, the French Spencer Tracy) and the upper-class de Boieldieu (Pierre Fresnay). This provides the story tension, but Renoir's is primary concern is with the way people treat each other, and especially with how class and nationality inform human relations. Most compelling of all the film's characters is the aristocratic German camp commander von Rauffenstein (Erich von Stroheim), who cannot help but strike up a friendship with de Boieldieu, a kindred spirit from the doomed nobility. Starring Jean Gabin, Pierre Fresnay, Erich von Stroheim, Director Jean Renoir, France 1937, 102 minutes, With subtitles. Doors open 7.30pm, Introduction 7.45pm, Film 8pm, £8 inc. glass of wine or soft drink. Tickets on sale at the Library, Sharpleshall Street, NW1 8YL (on Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays and Saturdays) or on the door. Tuesday, August 5.

**Talk – Reflections on a visit to**

**Jerusalem.** Highgate Society Hall, 10A South Grove, Highgate Village. For more information ring 0800 092 3357. 8pm, Thursday, August 7.

**Keats in London.** Meet at Moorgate tube.

Discover the London haunts of the "Cockney poet". Starting at Keats's birthplace in Moorgate, through the quiet City streets to Cheapside, walk to Apothecaries Hall and stroll along the river to London Bridge. We finish by the Keats memorial statue in Guys Hospital. £8 / £6 concessions. Booking essential – keatsevents.eventbrite.co.uk 11 am-1.30 pm, Saturday, August 9.

**Dickens in Barnet: a guided walk.** Meet at High Barnet tube station, 2.30pm. Dickens knew Barnet, Finchley and Highgate extremely well. Explore the connections on a guided walk. 020 8440 6805, pbaker54@hotmail.co.uk, www.barnetwalks.talktalk.net, £8, £4 for under 12s. Saturday, August 9.

**Afternoon Poems: War Poetry from Home.** Keats House, 10 Keats Grove,