

UNDER EMBARGO
until 7 November 2023, 12noon



Isabelle Huppert to star as Mary Queen of Scots in Barbican spring 2024 Theatre & Dance season, announced today

World premieres of homegrown and associate talent form the heart of the season, from Boy Blue and Cassa Pancho's Ballet Black

The Pit opens the programme in January with a month of visually captivating international work co-presented with MimeLondon, and culminates with the return of Zoo Co's award-winning Perfect Show for Rachel

Barbican Theatre

- **Boy Blue's [Cycles](#)**, world premiere and Barbican co-commission (UK, 30 April – 4 May)
- **Isabelle Huppert** stars in UK premiere of **Robert Wilson's [Mary Said What She Said](#)**, with music by **Ludovico Einaudi** and text by **Darryl Pinckney** (France/USA, 10 – 12 May)
- **Cassa Pancho's [Ballet Black](#)** double bill including a world premiere by **Sophie Laplane** and Barbican stage debut for **Mthuzeli November's [The Waiting Game](#)** (UK, both Barbican co-commissions, 15 – 19 May)

The Pit

- The Barbican and **MimeLondon** present the UK premieres of:
 - **[Ambergris](#)** by **Les Antliacastes** (France/USA, 23 – 27 Jan)
 - **[Antechamber](#)** by **Stereoptik** (France, 30 Jan – 3 Feb)
 - **[Entrañas \(Insides\)](#)** by **El Patio Teatro** (Spain, 6 – 10 Feb)
 - **[This & That](#)** by **Steven Wendt, Phil Soltanoff, Compagnie 111** (USA/France, 13 – 17 Feb)
- **Det Ferösche Compagnie** make their UK debut with **[Castle of Joy](#)** (Faroe Islands, 28 Feb – 02 Mar)
- Previously announced, UK premiere of **[I want to be a machine](#)** by Norwegian artist **Jenny Hval** (10 – 13 Apr)
- Returning for an extended run, **Zoo Co's [Perfect Show for Rachel](#)** (UK, 24 May – 9 Jun)

The Barbican today announces its next Theatre and Dance line-up beginning on 23 January and running until 9 June 2024. Launching alongside the acclaimed production of **[My Neighbour Totoro](#)** (21 Nov-23 Mar), the spring programme includes the launch of **MimeLondon**; world premieres from Barbican Associate Company **Boy Blue** and **Cassa Pancho's Ballet Black**; UK premieres by **Robert Wilson** (starring **Isabelle Huppert**), **Det Ferösche Compagnie** and **Jenny Hval**; and the return of **Zoo Co**.

Tickets go on sale to **[Barbican Patrons](#)** today, Tue 7 Nov; to Barbican Members Plus on Thu 9 Nov; Barbican Members on Fri 10 Nov; and on general sale on Mon 13 Nov via **barbican.org.uk**.

In the Theatre, the UK's leading hip-hop dance theatre company and Barbican Artistic Associate **Boy Blue** returns home with the world premiere of **Cycles (30 Apr – 4 May)**, the Olivier Award-winners' first new show as a company since the astonishing *REDD* in 2019. Led by choreographer **Kenrick 'H2O' Sandy** and composer **Michael 'Mikey J' Asante**, co-creators of the recent smash hit *Free Your Mind* (Aviva Studios), the cast of eight powerful dancers explore the rhythms and tenacity of our natural world in perpetual motion.

Over ten years since **Robert Wilson's** Olivier Award-winning revival of his ground-breaking production *Einstein on the Beach*, the legendary director-designer returns to the Barbican Theatre with **Mary Said What She Said (10 – 12 May)**. The avant-garde monologue exploring truth, loyalty and betrayal, makes its UK premiere, with music by **Ludovico Einaudi** and text by Wilson's longtime collaborator **Darryl Pinckney**. Performing the title role of Mary Queen of Scots is another icon, star of stage and screen **Isabelle Huppert**, who last graced the Barbican stage with *Phaedra(s)* in 2016 and reunites with Wilson after *Orlando* (1993) and *Quartett* (2006).

Back for a seventh year, **Cassa Pancho's Ballet Black** bring their latest double bill **HEROES (15 – 19 May)**. Choreographer **Sophie Laplane** returns, following her dazzling 2019 work, *CLICK!*, with a second world premiere at the Barbican. The piece (title TBA) will explore the complexity of humanity, heroism and self-acceptance. Originally co-commissioned by the Barbican and screened on the BBC during lockdown, **Mthuthuzeli November's The Waiting Game**, an exhilarating piece about the meaning of life, will now receive its Barbican stage debut.

The Pit kicks off the Barbican's 2024 Theatre and Dance season with a month of visually entrancing contemporary performance from four international companies, in association with **MimeLondon**, marking the twentieth year of collaboration with Helen Lannaghan and Joseph Seelig, the directors behind the former London International Mime Festival.

The four UK premieres are: **Ambergris** by **Les Antliacastes**, a mesmerising tale of transformation set in the belly of a whale, told through a unique blend of puppetry, music and machines (**23 – 27 Jan**). The international premiere of **Antechamber**, combining cartoon, stop-motion, painting, object theatre and music in a tender and nostalgic love story about the power of the imagination, by French musician-artist duo **Stereoptik (30 Jan – 3 Feb)**; the international premiere of **Entrañas (Insides)** by Spanish theatremakers **El Patio Teatro** which takes the shape of a curious anatomy class with a philosophical twist, examining the mysteries of what makes us human (**6 – 10 Feb**); and the international premiere of **This & That**, a playful hour of shadow puppetry, abstract digital projection and music mixed live on stage, performed by **Phil Soltanoff** (winner of the 2023 Jim Henson Award for Innovation) and **Steven Wendt** (Blue Man Group) (**13 – 17 Feb**).

Further productions in The Pit include: the UK premiere of **Castle of Joy (28 Feb – 02 Mar)**, an intensely physical portrait of love, loss and independence by Faroese theatre company **Det Ferösche Compagnie**, who will perform in the UK for the first time, and the previously announced **I want to be a machine** by Norwegian musician **Jenny Hval** (10-13 April). Wrapping up the season, Croydon's **Zoo Co** return for an extended three-week run following last year's sold out and award-winning world premiere of **Perfect Show for Rachel (24 May – 9 Jun)**.

Toni Racklin, Head of Theatre & Dance at the Barbican, said: "As we launch this new season, we dedicate our main stage to partnerships that we have cherished for many years, with new work from *Boy Blue*, *Robert Wilson* and *Ballet Black*. We also make room for change and new voices, continuing to work closely with the team behind *London International Mime Festival* on their new venture, *MimeLondon*, welcoming back the equally joyful collaboration with *Zoo Co Theatre*, winner of the *Oxford Samuel Beckett Theatre Trust Award* in 2022, and inviting *Det Ferösche Compagnie* from the *Faroe Islands* to perform on our stage for the first time. We are honoured to share work from some of the most important companies making exhilarating work here in the UK and continue our mission to bring the most celebrated and boundary breaking artists from across the world."

Throughout the Barbican Centre, further highlights taking place this spring include:

- **Emerging Film Curators** programme where young and emerging programmers curate four screening events, focussing on the theme of 'Change' through a variety of cinematic stories and perspectives embedded in global cinema past and present

- Artist Spotlight residency with the boundary-breaking cellist **Abel Selaocoe**
- The blending of art, music and science in electronic musician **Max Cooper**'s latest project **Seme**
- Free offers from **Julianknxx: Chorus in Rememory of Flight** in the Curve to **Ranjani Shettar: clouds songs on the horizon** in the Conservatory and **Squish Space**, a sensory area for babies, toddlers and their guardians
- The highly anticipated exhibition **Unravel: The Power and Politics of Textiles in Art** in the Gallery

Claire Spencer, Barbican Centre CEO, said: “We are so excited to share our spring offer of dance, theatre & live performance. At times such as these, it is especially important to remember the power of the arts to bring people and ideas together, to share different perspectives and to bring joy to our audiences and artists alike. The season is strongly rooted in our purpose across the Barbican - as London’s creative catalyst for arts, curiosity, and enterprise - presenting new, daring and joyful programming in our venues and connecting the artists to audiences.

Launching alongside the wide variety of cultural events, talks and so much more taking place across the Centre, I can’t wait to welcome back visitors returning or those exploring the Barbican for the first time, drawn in by the range of companies and highest quality work on offer.”

Full programme information

MimeLondon

Les Antliaclastes: [Ambergris](#)

Tue 23 – Sat 27 Jan 2024

The Pit

Press performance: Tue 23 Jan, 7.45pm

UK premiere

Ambergris is a mesmerising retelling of the story of Pinocchio inside the belly of a whale, an entrancing, shocking and spooky exploration of our response to the twists and turns of life. Set inside a giant perfume cabinet, which is part ribcage, part musical organ, a cunning perfumer dissects a lump of ambergris, a rare ingredient used in perfume-making found in the intestines of a sperm whale.

Told through a unique blend of puppetry techniques and styles, along with masks, machines and music, a perfumer distils their perfect scent, and unbottles the very essence of being from some of literature’s most life-changing journeys.

French company **Les Antliaclastes** return to the Barbican following *Waltz of the Hommelettes* in 2019. Founded in 2010 by American puppeteer and puppet-maker **Patrick Sims**, they make extraordinary wordless performances which contain countless surprises and draw from the worlds of theatre, installation, music, and multimedia electronic opera.

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MimeLondon

Stereoptik: [Antechamber](#)

Tue 30 Jan – Sat 3 Feb 2024

The Pit

Press performance: Tue 30 Jan, 7.45pm

International premiere

An animated, silent film is brought to life in **Antechamber**, as two masters in music and performance create a transformative love-story live on stage through sketching, painting and film.

Imagination knows no bounds in this remarkable love-letter to the creative process. *Antechamber* is the start of an idea, an animated film, a show and an exhibition all at once. It tells the tale of a hard-working young man who reconnects with his childhood and falls in love after coming across an old photograph.

Led by visual artists and musicians **Romain Bermond** and **Jean-Baptiste Maillet**, every one of **Stereoptik**'s shows are built under the eyes of its audience, live. They return to The Pit following

Stellaire in 2022, another of their handmade mini spectacles. Stereoptik use few words but have an acute sense of narrative. They have travelled the world and its major festivals with their repertoire of multi-sensory productions since 2011, from Vienna to Hong Kong and from New York to Avignon.

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MimeLondon

El Patio Teatro: [Entrañas \(Insides\)](#)

Tue 6 – Sat 10 Feb 2024

The Pit

Press performance: Tue 6 Feb, 7.45pm

International premiere

Unravel the mysteries of the human body in **Entrañas (Insides)**, an imaginative and poetic journey to our very essence from renowned Spanish puppet company **El Patio Teatro**, “one of the most interesting and prodigious companies on Spain’s creative scene” (Putxinelli magazine). The international premiere transcends language and reminds you what it means to be human.

Join an anatomy class like no other, where questions about what makes us human come to life. What are we made of? What is a body? Where does it go when we die?

Entrañas (roughly translated to *Insides*) is a beautiful piece of visual theatre that explores different aspects of the body in a profoundly personal way using handcrafted objects, images and a moving original soundtrack.

Founded in Logroño in 2010 by the visionary duo **Izaskun Fernandez** and **Julian Sáenz-Lopez**, **El Patio Teatro** are passionate about sharing stories of everyday life. Their debut work, ‘*A Mano (By Hand)*’ an intimate performance piece that combines ceramics and theatre, won several awards across Europe. Since 2013 the company has performed in prestigious venues and festivals throughout Spain and has toured in Europe, Asia, America, Australia and Africa.

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MimeLondon

Phil Soltanoff/Steven Wendt/Cie 111: [This & That](#)

Tue 13 – Sat 17 Feb 2024

The Pit

Press performance: Tue 13 Feb, 7.45pm

International premiere

“A welcome gust of weird” (New York Times)

“Wordless, light and carefree... utterly convincing” (The New Yorker)

Meet cowboys, pianists, disco-dancers and more in **This & That**, a new, playful puppetry performance about the universe and everybody in it, from award-winning duo **Phil Soltanoff** and **Steven Wendt**.

Shadow puppetry, animation, music and projection combine as one performer manipulates objects live on stage, while another mixes atmospheric sounds and orchestrates live music. Observe the creation of each event, act and gesture on the spot in this dream-like production, which puts its creators' search to make and discover meaning and beauty on show.

Directed and performed by New York-based artists **Phil Soltanoff** and **Steven Wendt**, **This & That** has been developed over several years and embraces the pair’s explorative deeply intuitive approach to performance-making. Their partnership is inspired by what John Cage calls “purposeful purposelessness”; fundamentally curious and full of wonder.

This & That is supported on tour by **Compagnie 111** (aSH, 2022) led by the visionary director Aurélien Bory. The French company works with a range of collaborators on new work that focuses on the relationship between space, bodies and physics.

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Det Ferösche Compagnie: [Castle of Joy](#)

Wed 28 Feb – Sat 2 Mar 2024

The Pit

Press performance: Wed 28 Feb, 7.45pm

UK premiere

Castle of Joy is a moving new play by innovative Faroese theatre company **Det Ferösche Compagnie** inspired by the life and work of Pól Jóhannus Poulsen, also called Joy. Born in 1925, Pól Jóhannus lived in a small village in the Faroe Islands and was excluded from his society because he was considered to be different. However, this didn't stop him from pursuing his dreams of constructing a world of tangled jumble.

Featuring intense physicality, an imaginative set and a tender score with live piano music, this epic tale of love, loss and art draws parallels with the Faroe Islands' own struggle for independence against colonisation.

Det Ferösche Compagnie (DFC) is a Faroese theatre group established in 2012 that strives to create innovative and experimental work with research and devising as vital parts of the process. All core members of DFC come from the Faroe Islands, have studied abroad and worked internationally. Previous DFC productions include contemporary adaptations of *Hamlet*, *Woyzeck* and *King Lear*, and original stories *Operation Valentine* and *A Voyage Out Into The Feroes*, exploring the complex and unique identity, culture and history of Faroese people.

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Jenny Hval: [I want to be a machine](#)

Wed 10 – Sat 13 Apr 2024

The Pit

UK premiere

Following her sold-out performance at Milton Court in 2019, Norwegian composer and musician, **Jenny Hval**, returns to the Barbican with a multifaceted new show and new music in ***I want to be a machine*** taking place over four nights in The Pit in April 2024.

I want to be a machine is performed by Hval alongside **Håvard Volden**, **Jenny Berger Myhre**, and **Linn Nystadnes** and weaves new music, video, scenography and a wasteland of material into a meditation on the purpose of art. The interdisciplinary, inventive piece is a theatrical extension of her playful, provocative and intensely personal creative journey and full of technical surprises. Written in response to Heiner Müller's post-dramatic play *Hamletmachine*, Hval explores what the artist is, reviewing the apocalyptic world of current cultural politics, recounting her youth, her relationship to music and other art forms, and her relationship with herself and her body.

Jenny Hval is a composer, singer-songwriter, and novelist with eight studio albums under her belt that seamlessly interweave musical, literary, visual, and performative modes of expression. Combining electronics, pop and aesthetics, she has been creating boundary-pushing music for over fifteen years.

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Boy Blue: [Cycles](#)

Tue 30 Apr – Sat 4 May 2024

Barbican Theatre

Press performance: Wed 1 May, 7.45pm

World premiere, Barbican co-commission

The Olivier award-winning dance theatre company **Boy Blue** returns to the Barbican Theatre with ***Cycles***, a world premiere that celebrates change and the beauty of perpetual motion.

Resolutely and unapologetically hip hop, eight powerful dancers fill the space in what feels like unending motion. Celebrating the repetition and tenacity of our natural world, from day to night, birth and death, the tides, the ticking of time on a clock, the seasons and the steady rhythms of 1,2,3,4, *Cycles* is movement at its most fluid, distilled and skilled. Full cast and creative team to be announced.

Founded by Michael 'Mikey J' Asante and Kenrick 'H2O' Sandy, the company – a Barbican Artistic Associate – has earned critical acclaim and multiple awards for their work including *Pied Piper*, *Blak Whyte Gray* and *REDD*, while their short film *Emancipation of Expressionism* is the first hip-hop dance theatre piece to be included in the Key Stage 4 Dance syllabus. They have wowed audiences from New York to Taiwan and recently co-created the smash hit *Free Your Mind* in Manchester.

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Théâtre de la Ville-Paris: [*Mary Said What She Said*](#)

Fri 10 – Sun 12 May 2024

Barbican Theatre

Press performance: Fri 10 May, 7.45pm

UK premiere

Following acclaimed adaptations of Virginia Woolf's *Orlando* (1993) and Heiner Müller's *Quartett* (2006), Academy Award nominee **Isabelle Huppert** reunites with American theatre visionary **Robert Wilson** for *Mary Said What She Said*, charting the life and torments of Mary Stuart, the sovereign whose passions cost her a crown. Théâtre de la Ville's production receives its UK premiere at the Barbican Theatre in May 2024.

Written by Wilson's longtime collaborator, novelist and playwright **Darryl Pinckney**, featuring an evocative classical score by the Italian composer **Ludovico Einaudi**, the whirlwind stream of thought contains the testimony of Mary Queen of Scots, drawn from her letters about her involvement in some of the most notorious plots of her time. She is lying, but on the eve of execution, has fear persuaded her that she is telling the truth?

Mary Stuart is a woman who battled the forces of history in order to control her own destiny. Even as she faces martyrdom after nineteen years in captivity, her spirit remains unbroken.

Alongside an illustrious film career, **Isabelle Huppert's** lauded stage performances have won recognition including the French Molière Lifetime Achievement Award and the 16th Europe Theater Prize. She returns to the Barbican Theatre following *Phaedra(s)* (LIFT, 2016). More recently she has been seen in Florian Zeller's *The Mother* (New York) and *The Glass Menagerie* by Tennessee Williams directed by Ivo van Hove (ITA).

Robert Wilson is among the world's foremost theater and visual artists. His productions have earned the acclaim of audiences and critics worldwide, including Philip Glass the seminal opera, *Einstein on the Beach* (1976), winning the Olivier Award for Best New Opera in its 2012 revival at the Barbican Theatre.

Darryl Pinckney's work for theatre includes *The Forest*, *Orlando*, *Time Rocker*, *The Old Woman*, *Garringha: A Street Opera* and *Letter to a Man*. He is an award-winning author, a long-time contributor to the New York Review of books, and is currently Distinguished Writer in Residence at New York University.

Ludovico Einaudi has composed music for ballet, cinema, theatre, orchestra and ensembles. Notable works include 'Le Onde' (1996), which attracted great interest in the world of the piano. His soundtracks for film and television have drawn international recognition and prestige (including *This is England*, 2004, 2010), and more recently his music memorably featured in *Nomadland* and *The Father*.

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Ballet Black: [*HEROES*](#)

Wed 15 – Sun 19 May 2024

Barbican Theatre

Press performance: Thu 16 May, 7.45pm

Includes a world premiere and Barbican co-commission (title TBA)

Now in their 22nd year, **Cassa Pancho's Ballet Black** return to the Barbican Theatre with a double bill featuring new and innovative work.

Award-winning choreographer, **Mthuzuzeli November** (*Nina: By Whatever Means, Ingoma*) contemplates the purpose of life in ***The Waiting Game***, his exciting and energetic work about the meaning of life originally created in 2020, infused with a dynamic soundtrack featuring the voices of the Ballet Black artists.

Sophie Laplane, Franco-British artist and Choreographer in Residence at Scottish Ballet creates a new piece for Ballet Black, after her dazzling 2019 BB ballet, *CLICK!* Laplane's new work (title TBA) explores the complexity of humanity, heroism and self-acceptance.

Cassa Pancho's Ballet Black has transformed the landscape of British ballet, creating a prominent platform for dancers and artists of Black and Asian descent, as well as establishing a new canon of ballet repertoire that resonates with audiences around the world.

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Zoo Co: [*Perfect Show for Rachel*](#)

Fri 24 May – Sun 9 Jun 2024

The Pit

Press performance: Fri 24 May, 7.45pm

Step into Rachel's world as this experimental show returns following a critically acclaimed run. Discover how a learning-disabled artist has the power to lead the creation of her 'Perfect Show'.

Rachel is a theatre-loving, enigmatic 33-year-old who loves Kylie Minogue, heckling from the front row and seeing people falling over. She is a learning-disabled care-home resident, and sister to Flo, Zoo Co's Artistic Director.

Sitting on her on-stage throne with her custom-built tech desk, she takes charge as the director of every unique performance in real-time. A touch of a button can trigger music, lighting, theatrical scenes or choreography, brought to life instantly by a company of performers.

Perfect Show for Rachel was developed with Rachel, to create a show on her own terms. It explores who defines artistic taste, and questions who that currently excludes. The original production won the 2022 Oxford Samuel Beckett Theatre Trust Award and the Off West End Award for Best Access. It was created by **Zoo Co**, a multi-award-winning company creating theatre that loudly champions access, with **Improbable**, a pioneering company of improvisers and theatre-makers.

ENDS

Press Information

For further information, images or to arrange interviews please contact:

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Images

Images can be downloaded here:

<https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fo/1vp869uul78g3i99z1lls/h?rlkey=82aq1ysin4o38fkldm6a3yh0&dl=0>

Listings

MimeLondon

Les Antliacastes: *Ambergris*

Direction, scenography and puppets: Patrick Sims
Masks and puppets: Joséphine Biereye
Costumes: Camille Lamy
Set construction and mechanics: Richard Penny and Nicolas Hubert
Sound creation and designer: Karine Dumont
Lighting creation: Sophie Barraud and Jean Grison

Tue 23 – Sat 27 Jan 2024 (6 performances)

Press performance: Tue 23 Jan 2024, 7.45pm

The Pit

7:45pm on Tue 23 - Sat 27 Jan; 2.30pm on Sat 27 Jan

55mins (no interval)

Age guidance: 8+ (Content contains: smoke effects and small explosions)

From £18 plus booking fee; £5 Young Barbican tickets available

Post-show talk (BSL interpreted) on Thu 25 Jan. Hosted by Helen Lannaghan and BSL-interpreted by Anna Kitson. Free to same-day ticket holders.

<https://www.barbican.org.uk/whats-on/2024/event/mimelondon-ambergris>

Presented by the Barbican in association with MimeLondon.

Co-produced by TJP de Strasbourg / CDN – Mini Théâtre de Payerne and Festival Mondial des Théâtres de Marionnettes de Charleville.

MimeLondon

Stereoptik: *Antechamber*

Created by Romain Bermond and Jean-Baptiste Maillet

Live music played by Jean-Baptiste Maillet

Tue 30 Jan – Sat 3 Feb 2024 (6 performances)

Press performance: Tue 30 Jan 2024, 7.45pm

The Pit

7.45pm on Tue 30 Jan – Sat 3 Feb; 2.30pm on Sat 3 Feb

50mins (no interval)

Age guidance: 8+

From £18 plus booking fee; £5 Young Barbican tickets available

Post-show talk (BSL interpreted) on Thu 1 Feb. Hosted by Joseph Seelig and BSL interpreted by Samuel Rojas. Free to same-day ticket holders.

<https://www.barbican.org.uk/whats-on/2024/event/mimelondon-antechamber>

Presented by the Barbican in association with MimeLondon.

Co-produced by Théâtre de la Ville-Paris, le Trident Scène nationale de Cherbourg, Territoires vendômois, Centre National de la Marionnette-Vendôme, Le Sablier-IF Centre National de la Marionnette,, Le Parvis-Scène nationale de Tarbes Pyrénées, Lux-Scène nationale de Valence and Folimage company.

In partnership with l'Echalier-Agence rurale de développement culturel-Couëtron au Perche and Le Théâtre des 2 rives -Charenton le Pont. Stereoptik is supported by the French Ministry of Culture-Drac Ile de France and Centre Val de Loire Region.

MimeLondon

El Patio Teatro: *Entrañas (Insides)*

Artistic direction and creation: Izaskun Fernández and Julián Sáenz-López

Performers: Izaskun Fernández and Julián Sáenz-López

Script and dramaturgy: Izaskun Fernández and Julián Sáenz-López

Lighting design: El Patio Teatro

Set design: El Patio Teatro

Costume design: Martín Nalda

Music composer: Nacho Ugarte

Lighting and sound engineer: Diego Solloa

Photography: Clara Larrea

Surtitles operator: Alex López

Tour Producer and Booking Agent: Ana Sala, Ikebanah Performing Arts

Tue 6 – Sat 10 Feb 2024 (6 performances)

Press performance: Tue 6 Feb 2024, 7.45pm

The Pit

7.45pm on Tue 6 – Sat 10 Feb; 2.30pm on Sat 10 Feb

45mins (no interval)

Age guidance: 8+

From £18 plus booking fee; £5 Young Barbican tickets available

Post-show talk (BSL-interpreted) on Thu 8 Feb. Hosted by Eva Martinez and BSL-interpreted by Anna Kitson.

Free to same-day ticket holders.

<https://www.barbican.org.uk/whats-on/2024/event/mimelondon-entranas>

Presented by the Barbican in association with MimeLondon.

This project is supported in part by a grant from Acción Cultural Española (AC/E), a state agency.

MimeLondon

Phil Soltanoff/Steven Wendt/Cie 111: *This & That*

Co-writers: Phil Soltanoff and Steven Wendt

Director: Phil Soltanoff

Performer: Steven Wendt

Technical Director: Stéphane Chipeaux-Dardé

Tue 13 – Sat 17 Feb 2024 (6 performances)

Press performance: Tue 13 Feb 2024, 7.45pm

The Pit

7.45pm on Tue 13 – Sat 17 Feb; 2.30pm on Sat 17 Feb

1 hour (no interval)

Age guidance: 12+

From £18 plus booking fee; £5 Young Barbican tickets available

Post-show talk (BSL-interpreted) on Thu 15 Feb. Hosted by Joseph Seelig and BSL-interpreted by Samuel Rojas.

<https://www.barbican.org.uk/whats-on/2024/event/mimelondon-this-that>

Presented by the Barbican in association with MimeLondon.

Produced by The Institute of Useless Activity with co-production by The Bushwick Starr and delegated production (outside US) by Compagnie 111 – Aurélien Bory, with the support of The Jim Henson Foundation, the Alpert Award for Theatre 2020 and the Jim Henson Foundation.

Det Ferösche Compagnie: *Castle of Joy*

Actor: Kristina Sørensen Ougaard

Writer, Director and Shadow Actor: Búi Dam

Set and Costume Designer: Sámal Blak

Composer and Musician: Dánjal á Neystabø

Light Designer: Súni Joensen

Movement Director: Búi Rouch

Set and Costume Design Assistant: Anna Kristin Bæk

Sound Engineer: Jens L. Thomsen

Technician: Beinir Bergsson

Research Advisor: Bergtóra Patursson

Producer: Urd Johannesen

Producer and Tour Manager: Durita Sumberg

Wed 28 Feb – Sat 2 March 2024 (5 performances)

Press performance: Wed 28 Feb 2024, 7.45pm

The Pit

7.45pm on Wed 28 Feb – Sat 2 March; 2.30pm on Sat 2 March

2 hours (including 20min interval)

Age guidance: 12+ (Contains smoke effects and scenes of a violent nature)

From £18 plus booking fee; £5 Young Barbican tickets available

Post-show talk on Thu 29 Feb. Free to same day ticket holders.

<https://www.barbican.org.uk/whats-on/2024/event/det-ferosche-compagnie-castle-of-joy>

Presented by the Barbican

Jenny Hval: *I want to be a machine*

Performers: Jenny Hval, Håvard Volden, Jenny Berger Myhre, Linn Nystadnes

Wed 10 – Sat 13 April 2024 (4 performances)

The Pit

8pm on Wed 10 – Sat 13 April

£27.50, £10 Young Barbican tickets available

<https://www.barbican.org.uk/whats-on/2024/event/jenny-hval-i-want-to-be-a-machine>

Produced by the Barbican

Boy Blue: *Cycles*

Cast & Creative Team to be announced

Tue 30 April – Sat 4 May 2024 (7 performances)

Press performance: Weds 1 May 2024, 7.45pm

Barbican Theatre

7.45pm on Tue 30 April – Sat 4 May; 2.30pm on Thu 2 and Sat 4 May

Approx 75mins (no interval)

Age guidance: 12+

From £16, £15 Young Barbican tickets available

Post-show talk on Fri 3 May. Free to same day ticket holders.

<https://www.barbican.org.uk/whats-on/2024/event/boy-blue-cycles>

Commissioned by Barbican, London and Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts

Produced by Boy Blue

Supported using public funding by Arts Council England

Théâtre de la Ville-Paris: *Mary Said What She Said*

Direction, set and light design: **Robert Wilson**

With: **Isabelle Huppert**

Text by: **Darryl Pinckney**

Music: **Ludovico Einaudi**

Fri 10 May – 12 May 2024 (4 performances)

Press performance: Fri 10 May 2024, 7.45pm

Barbican Theatre

7.45pm on Fri 10 and Sat 11 May, 2.30pm on Sat 11 May, 3pm on Sunday 12 May

90 mins (no interval)

Age guidance: 14+

Tickets from £16, £15 Young Barbican tickets available

The show is performed in French with English surtitles

<https://www.barbican.org.uk/whats-on/2023/event/theatre-de-la-ville-paris-mary-said-what-she-said>

Presented by the Barbican

Ballet Black: *HEROES*

Double bill includes:

The Waiting Game

Originally co-commissioned by the Barbican

Choreography & composer: Mthuthuzeli November

Lighting design: David Plater

Costume design: Peter Todd

(Title TBA)

World premiere, co-commissioned with the Barbican

Choreography: Sophie Laplane

Lighting design: David Plater

Costume design: Jessica Cabassa

Wed 15 – Sun 19 May 2024 (5 performances)

Press performance: Thurs 16 May 2024, 7.45pm

Barbican Theatre

7.45pm on Wed 15 – Sat 18 May; 3pm on Sun 19 May

1 hour 35 mins (including interval)

Age guidance: 7+

From £16, £15 Young Barbican tickets available

Post-show talk on Fri 17 May. Free to same day ticket holders

<https://www.barbican.org.uk/whats-on/2024/event/ballet-black-heroes>

Presented by the Barbican

The Waiting Game was created with support from The Linbury Trust

Zoo Co: *Perfect Show for Rachel*

Original Creative Team

Director: Rachel O'Mahony

Artistic Director of Zoo Co and performer: Flo O'Mahony

Creative Access Director: Fleur Rooth

Lead Artist, Performer and Facilitator: Lee Simpson

Set and Costume Designer: Stella Backman

Lighting and Video Designer: Rachel Sampley

Musical Director: Mark Aspinall

Sound Designer: Nick Gilbert

Choreographer: Simeon Campbell

Creative Associate and Access Support Worker: Maria Laumark

Cast to be announced

Fri 24 May – Sun 9 June 2024 (15 performances)

Press performance: Fri 24 May 2024, 7pm

The Pit

7pm on Fridays, Saturdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays; 2pm on Saturdays, 2pm on Sun 2 and 9 June

70mins (no interval)

Age limit: 14+ (Strong Language)

Please note: flashing lights may be used during this performance

£18, £5 Young Barbican tickets available

All performances include creative captioning, live captioning and an integrated BSL performer in the cast, meaning it will be accessible for deaf and Hard of Hearing audiences.

Audio Description and Touch Tours will be available on Sat 1 Jun at 2pm and Thu 6 Jun at 7pm

<https://www.barbican.org.uk/whats-on/2024/event/zoo-co-theatreimprobable-perfect-show-for-rachel>

Presented by the Barbican

Co-produced by Zoo Co and Improbable

Supported by Arts Council England & Esmée Fairbairn

The original production won the 2022 Oxford Samuel Beckett Theatre Trust Award and was supported by the Trust and the Barbican.

NOTES TO EDITORS

About the Barbican

The Barbican is a catalyst for creativity, sparking possibilities for artists, audiences, and communities. We showcase the most exciting art from around the world, pushing traditional artistic boundaries to entertain and inspire millions of people, create connections, provoke debate, and reflect the world we live in.

We are an international arts and events centre rooted firmly in our own neighbourhood, collaborating with local communities and putting the City of London on the map as a destination for everybody. Central to our purpose is supporting emerging talent and shaping opportunities that will accelerate the next generation of creatives.

As a not-for-profit, we rely on the generosity of individuals and organisations, including our principal funder the City of London Corporation. Every ticket purchased, donation made, and pound earned supports our arts and learning programme and enables the widest possible range of people to experience the joy of the arts.

Opened in 1982, the Barbican is a unique and audacious building, recognised globally as an architectural icon. As well as our theatres, galleries, concert halls and cinemas, we have a large conservatory with over 1,500 species of plants and trees, a library, conference facilities, public and community spaces, restaurants, bars, and a picturesque lakeside oasis.

We are the home of the London Symphony Orchestra, and a London base of the Royal Shakespeare Company. We regularly co-commission, produce and showcase the work of our other partners and associates: the Academy of Ancient Music, the BBC Symphony Orchestra, Boy Blue, Britten Sinfonia, Cheek by Jowl, Drum Works, the Los Angeles Philharmonic, and We Are Parable.

For more information, visit our [website](#) or connect with us on [Instagram](#) | [Twitter](#) | [Facebook](#) | [YouTube](#) | [Spotify](#) | [LinkedIn](#)