



## PRESS RELEASE



### Udderbelly and Southbank Centre announce even more world class performers for Udderbelly Festival and London Wonderground at Southbank Centre in 2014

Udderbelly and Southbank Centre are delighted to unveil a further selection of shows to go on sale Wednesday 19 March at 10am. Both the Udderbelly Festival and London Wonderground are part of Southbank Centre's Festival Of Love.

**Udderbelly Festival - 10 April to 13 July**  
**London Wonderground - 7 May to 28 September**  
**Festival of Love – 30 May to 7 September**  
**All Tickets on general sale - 10am, 5<sup>th</sup> March**

#### Udderbelly Festival (10 April - 13 July)

Now in its 6<sup>th</sup> year, the big upside-down purple cow has become an iconic feature on London's Southbank with over 127,000 tickets sold in 2013. The festival's laid-back atmosphere and packed programme of comedy, circus and family shows means that there's something for everyone to enjoy at the Udderbelly Festival.

**Comedy has always been at the heart of the Udderbelly Festival, highlights from this year's programme include:**

- **Omid Djalili:** For one night only, the renowned comedian and star of stage and screen makes his Udderbelly Festival debut.
- **Tony Law:** Join the multi award-winning Mr Tony Law for some absurd, shout-y and powerful – yet meaningful – nonsense. Five nights only.
- **Susan Calman:** The *QI*, *Have I Got News For You* and BBC Radio 4 regular returns to the Cow to follow up on her previous sell-out performances.
- **Andy Zaltzman:** The renowned author, comedian and political satirist returns to Udderbelly Festival with his brand new show, *Cricket Vs The World*.
- **The Horne Section:** Hot on the heels of their very own BBC Radio 4 series and three years of sell-out shows in the West End, the Horne Section lands on London's South Bank to rock the Cow.
- **Festival of The Spoken Nerd:** Fresh from a national tour, the sell-out comedy phenomenon returns to Udderbelly with a show for the insatiably sci-curious.
- **Abandoman: Moonrock Boombox.** Abandoman are stepping up their award-winning game. Now with a full band they present their newest and biggest show to date.
- **Ed Byrne: Roaring Forties.** Come join him hot off his long running UK Tour, as he truly comes of age and gives out his clarion cry: "I am in my Forties. HEAR ME ROAR!".
- **Nina Conti: Dolly Mixtures.** The star of BBC's *Live at the Apollo*, *QI* and HBO's *Family Tree* returns to the Udderbelly Festival with her groundbreaking ventriloquism show.
- **Stephen K Amos is The Spokesman:** As seen and heard on *Live At The Apollo (BBC1)*, *Have I Got News For You (BBC 1)*, *Life: An Idiots Guide (Radio 4)*. Expect an evening of fun, warmth, big laughs and audience interaction from the master of feel-good comedy.
- **Beardyman: One Album Per Hour.** This vocal shaman emits and manipulates any conceivable sound with a manic wit that will have you rocking with laughter and shaking your tail feather as a whole album is created live within an hour, based on your suggestions.
- **Brendon Burns:** The critically acclaimed Australian comedian is back. For two decades now the adopted Australian has been Britain's most outspoken and number one cult comic.

## Come and run away to the Circus! Highlights from this year's exciting circus programme include:

- **Smashed (22 April - 19 May):**  
Four crockery sets, nine jugglers and 80 apples; welcome to Smashed, the dark art of juggling. Gandini Juggling have been at the forefront of contemporary circus for over 20 years and, having performed in over 40 countries, now bring their award-winning sensation to London for a limited season. A mesmerising mix of circus and theatre inspired by the work of Pina Bausch. Don't miss the first major London season of this smash-hit show from one of the world's foremost juggling companies.
- **A Simple Space (30 May - 6 July):**  
We welcome the London premiere of a show that has captivated sell-out festival audiences around the world. Seven young acrobats will compete for your laughter, gasps and applause with non-stop, mind-boggling feats of breath-taking acrobatics. Get up close and personal with one of Australia's hottest young circus ensembles, Gravity And Other Myths, as they push themselves to their physical limits and beyond with this captivating show of physicality, skill and daring.
- **Circus Maximus (8 – 12 July):** The UK's foremost circus competition returns this July – live from the giant purple cow. In a week of exciting heats, 20 of the UK's hottest circus acts perform for your applause, adoration and votes to win a place in the grand final. Saturday night is the live grand final where the winners from each heat compete for the title of Circus Maximus 2014, the £5,000 cash prize and the chance to create a new show with Underbelly Productions and The National Centre For Circus Arts. Presided over by our resident MC, and featuring special guest performers throughout the week, Circus Maximus is an exhilarating and exciting night of dazzling hula-hoopers, daring aerialists and dynamic acrobats. See them all and vote for your favourite in a week of unbridled circus entertainment like no other.

## Our family programme continues to grow, with highlights this year including:

- **Pirate Gran:** Based on the Pirate Gran series of books by Geraldine Durrant and Rose Forshall, this is the brand new swashbuckling show from the creative team behind Stick Man — Live on Stage and Tiddler. An absolute treat for seafaring children aged 3+ and their shipmates of all ages.
- **Little Howard and the Magic Pencil of Life and Death:** Little Howard has discovered the pencil that drew him. But, on the other end of this magical pencil of life is the eraser of death, and a dark force is at large determined to rub him out for good. And, as if that wasn't enough, Big Howard has had a real-life baby! Can Little Howard escape his supernatural nemesis? How will he get rid of this pesky new arrival? Who knows ... but there will be danger, drama, a journey into 3D and a lot of laughs on the way. Big Howard has also written for for *Horrible Histories*, *Gumball* and *Gigglebiz*.
- Also on sale now: **The Amazing Bubbleman, The Fantastical Story Factory and Comedy Club 4 Kids**

## Follow us on

[www.udderbelly.co.uk](http://www.udderbelly.co.uk) [facebook.com/UdderbellyFestival](https://www.facebook.com/UdderbellyFestival) @UdderbellyFest

## London Wonderground (7 May - 28 Sept)

Roll up! Roll up! for the return of the award-winning London Wonderground, a summer-long celebration of

the best cabaret, circus and sideshows that the world has to offer built around a magnificent 1920s Spiegeltent.

Headline shows already announced at London Wonderground this year include:

- **LIMBO (7 May - 17 Aug):**  
The show so hot, Madonna's seen it twice.  
Back by popular demand for a strictly limited 15 week season in London.
- **Meow Meow (20 May - 7 June):**  
International singing sensation and purr-fect post, post-modern showgirl descends on Wonderground following her critically acclaimed shows in the West End and at Southbank Centre.
- **The Tiger Lillies (13 May - 17 May):**  
The Grammy nominated godfathers of alternative cabaret return to the Wonderground for five nights only.
- **Al Murray's The Pub Landlord Southbank Saloon (14, 21, 28 June & 5 July):**  
The Nation's favourite pub philosopher turns pop-up publican, bringing his unique satirical genius to London Wonderground for 4 nights only.
- **Briefs: The Second Coming (28 Aug – 28 Sept):** Described as an Aussie 'Cirque du Soleil' meets 'Ru Paul's Drag Race', the award-winning all male, all vaudeville, all trash brat-pack return to London with their cult variety hit.

**Joining this sensational list of world class performers, we are delighted to announce even more spectacular highlights of the London Wonderground programme;**

- **Dr Sketchy's Anti-Art School:** It's what art classes would be if the class was let loose in the Moulin Rouge. We've scoured this great city to find beautiful burlesque performers, bizarre circus acts, and rippling hunks of man-flesh. Then we let them loose on stage for you to sketch in an atmosphere of artistic mayhem. Hosted by Dr. Sketchy's headmaster Dusty Limits.
- **EastEnd Cabaret:** The multi-award winning musical comedy duo return to the London Wonderground for ONE NIGHT ONLY!
- **Hot Dub Time Machine:** The World's first time-travelling dance party is back, bigger than ever, and still powered by YOUR dancing. Travel back to 1954, and then Moonwalk, Mashed Potato and Macarena your way back to 2014 with a song from each year. London Wonderground welcomes back the best. party. Ever.
- **Bourgeois and Maurice: 7<sup>th</sup> Birthday Party:** Riding the zeitgeist in unmatched style since 2007, the UK's sharpest, darkest musical siblings Bourgeois & Maurice celebrate their 7th birthday with a night of scabrous musical comedy. Expect rarely-heard old songs, often-heard newer songs and never-ever heard brand new numbers.
- **This is Ceilidh:** Experience Scotland's most famous shindig as you've never seen it before. A riotous assembly of spellbinding tunes, prodigious piping and outrageous dancing.  
HOSTED BY THE AWARD-WINNING NEW ART CLUB (AKA RODEN AND SHENTON).  
**Come prepared to party. Anything could happen.**

**Follow us**

[www.londonwonderground.com](http://www.londonwonderground.com) [facebook.com/LDNWonderground](https://www.facebook.com/LDNWonderground) [@LdnWonderground](https://twitter.com/LdnWonderground)

**Ed Bartlam and Charlie Wood, Directors of Underbelly, said:**

'This will be our 6<sup>th</sup> year of Udderbelly Festival and 3<sup>rd</sup> year of London Wonderground and we've assembled a stronger than ever programme with plenty more to be announced in the coming weeks. We're delighted to be continuing our commitment to presenting genuinely affordable and accessible festivals in the very heart of London. Both festivals have their own unique identities but we strive to create a laid back, safe and

welcoming environment in both. None of this would be possible without Southbank Centre's ongoing support and collaboration on both events. We look forward to welcoming more Londoners than ever to our festivals this year.'

**Jude Kelly, Artistic Director of Southbank Centre, said:**

'A purple upside down cow at Southbank Centre has become the signal that summer's returned. Every year the programme has a whole host of exciting new ideas. There's no need to go to any other green field festival in my opinion, our small pasture has all the excitement necessary.'

**Udderbelly Festival and London Wonderground are part of the Southbank Centre's *Festival Of Love* this summer from 30 May to 7 September**

Celebrating the Gay Marriage Act becoming law in England and Wales in March 2014, Southbank Centre's summer festival in 2014 is dedicated to the theme of love. Hundreds of artists, communities and partners will participate in creating a festival that will explore the many different facets of human love - from romantic love and the breakdown of relationships, to the harmony (or disharmony) between nations and the concept of memorials. The Festival will feature a wide-ranging programme of themed weekends, performances, talks, outdoor art installations and urban greenery across the site, with one of the highlights being Proud To Be Wed, a mass wedding event for gay and straight couples.

### **Press Enquiries**

**For further information about Udderbelly Festival or London Wonderground please contact Fraser Smith on 07801 552285 or email [fraser@underbelly.co.uk](mailto:fraser@underbelly.co.uk)**

**For further information about Southbank Centre please contact the press office on 0207 921 0888 or email [press@southbankcentre.co.uk](mailto:press@southbankcentre.co.uk).**

### **NOTES TO EDITORS**

#### **About Underbelly:**

Underbelly is a UK based, live entertainment company. Their events and festivals division operates one of the largest operations at the Edinburgh Festival Fringe selling over 220,000 tickets for over 140 shows over 25 days. 2014 marks the sixth year of Udderbelly Festival at Southbank Centre and the third year of London Wonderground at Southbank Centre. Elsewhere Underbelly also produces Edinburgh's Christmas; Comedy Hullabaloo with the RSC in Stratford-upon-Avon; West End Live in Trafalgar Square for Westminster City Council and the Society of London Theatre. Through their Underbelly Productions arm they produce and promote live shows in London, throughout the UK and on tour internationally. In 2013 Underbelly sold over 750,000 tickets to their various events. [www.underbelly.co.uk](http://www.underbelly.co.uk)

#### **About Southbank Centre:**

Southbank Centre is the UK's largest arts centre, occupying a 21-acre site that sits in the midst of London's most vibrant cultural quarter on the South Bank of the Thames. The site has an extraordinary creative and architectural history stretching back to the 1951 Festival of Britain. Southbank Centre is home to the Royal Festival Hall, Queen Elizabeth Hall, Purcell Room and the Hayward Gallery as well as The Saison Poetry Library and the Arts Council Collection. For further information please visit [www.southbankcentre.co.uk](http://www.southbankcentre.co.uk).

### **BOOKING INFORMATION**

Tickets **for these** shows will be on general release from 5<sup>th</sup> March.

Online: [www.underbelly.co.uk](http://www.underbelly.co.uk)

[www.londonwonderground.co.uk](http://www.londonwonderground.co.uk)

[www.southbankcentre.co.uk](http://www.southbankcentre.co.uk)

By Telephone: 0844 545 8282

Lines are open from 9am – 8pm, 7 days a week.

In Person: Southbank Centre Box Office

