Evening Standard



See art in every direction in London's West End this summer with one of the largest public art takeovers the capital

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THE REVELLE

What art and culture lovers should do in London this summer

Make the most of what the capital has to offer with these seven roaringly inspirational activities

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If filling up your spare time with as many activities as possible is a priority right now, you're not alone. Considering how restrictions over the last 18 months have made us all appreciate the things in life we may have once taken for granted, it's little wonder many of us want to make up for lost time – whether that's more impromptu dinners out with friends or afternoons spent exploring the cultural treasures the city has to offer.

However, don't fret if the pandemic has left a void where trips to galleries, exhibitions and installations once were: there's an impressive roster of cultural activities to explore over the next few months.

For instance, you won't want to miss the Art of London Season this summer: Piccadilly and its surrounds are transformed into a canvas of colourful art, celebrating London's West End as the cultural hub of the capital.

From a trail of 25 life-size sculptural lions designed by revered creatives to the opportunity to paint, draw and sketch in Trafalgar Square in a session led by artists, here are eight great ideas for your next cultural day out in the capital.



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Follow the impressive Tusk Lion Trail



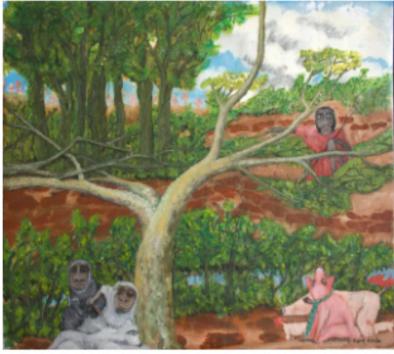
Jeff Spicer

International talent from around the world has come together for The Tusk Lion Trail, an initiative involving 25 impressive life-sized lion sculptures placed around London.

With the mission to celebrate and raise awareness of the African lion – whose population is thought to have depleted by at least 50% over the past 25 years – the trail features designs by a host of well-known figures, including artists Ian Davenport, Gavin Turk, Hannah Shergold and David Mach, as well as The Rolling Stones' Ronnie Wood. Follow the London pride around iconic landmarks in the West End.

Find out more here

Visit the Michael Armitage: Paradise Edict exhibition at the Royal Academy of Arts



Michael Armitage

Delve into the rich, multi-layered work of Kenyan-born artist Michael Armitage at the Royal Academy of Arts. One of the most exciting figures in contemporary painting, Armitage's work tackles social norms, religious ideology, politics and cultural clichés for a collection that is simultaneously colourful, dream-like and thought-provoking.

Find out and book tickets here