

HALPERN {hotlist}

april 2015



"This month's Hotlist introduction comes from Richard Florida, international bestselling author, professor and urbanist who amongst many other pursuits founded the [Creative Class Group](#). He is an all-round global think tank genius."

Jenny Halpern Prince



London is the city other cities dream to be. It is important to finance, media and the pop culture. New York but walkable, green and affordable. So many cities suffer from edifices competing to be taller and taller towers to become world class. Succeeding mainly in creating dead zone suburbs blocking out the sun and serving as tunnels, London has the perfect mix of vibrant neighbourhoods, and density. Like others I adore the city's restaurants, night

galleries, museums and theatres. But what I truly love and recommend about London is the beaten path - to walk its incredible streets, to explore its many and varied neighbourhoods. I am amazed by the remarkable transformation of the city's east end (east, Shoreditch) which has transformed into a hopping zone of start-ups and high tech. Marvel at how special this city is and ponder how hard it is to emulate its remarkable urban formula.

Richard Florida

Food: The Billingsfield Kitchen



From the 9th - 11th April, [The Billingsfield Kitchen](#) are hosting their second popup dining extravaganza at [Beehive Place](#) in Brixton. After the sold out success of their first run they are set to recreate the experience with a new chef with a fine history in Michelin kitchens and in a beautiful restaurant loft conversion. The evening costs £35 per person and for that you will dine like kings on a seven dish set menu of modern British sharing plates. The price also includes a cocktail on arrival. It's a BYO affair so a £5 corkage fee applies to those who wish to continue on with alcoholic beverages but they have teamed up with Market Row Wines in Brixton and diners get a 10% discount so no need to rush to Sainsbury's before you get there. The food is being brought to you by Lee Skeet, former head chef at Michelin starred Hedone. He perfected his craft under the watchful and expert eyes of Tom Aikens, Marcus Wareing and Gordon Ramsay. All we know is that this is an event not to be missed...we will be seeing lots more from these guys in future. So with that said, I think our work persuading you, is done. All you need now is to buy your tickets [here](#).

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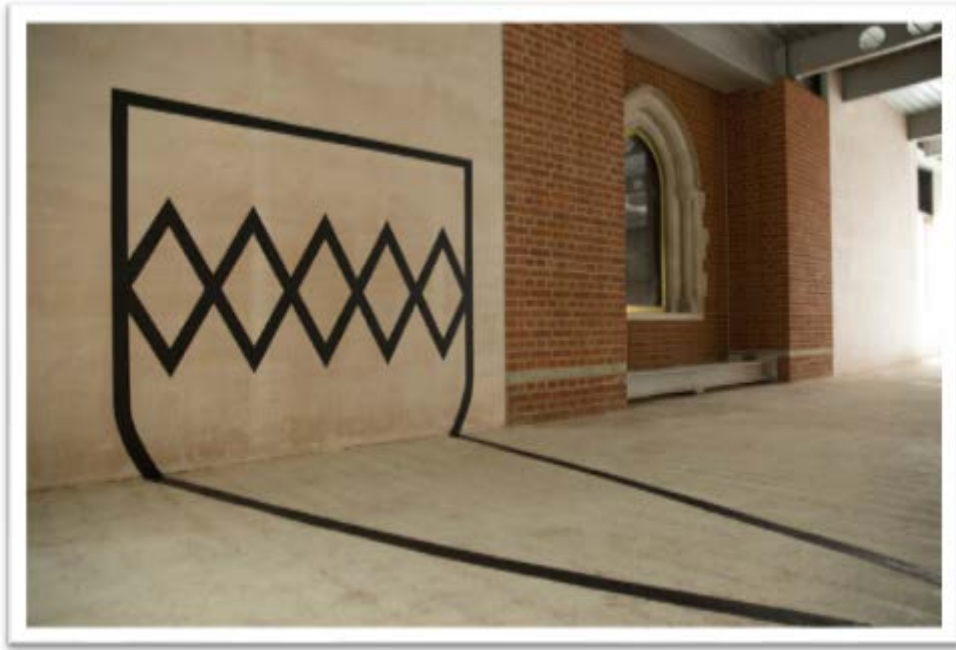
Children's Theatre: The Twits



“Mr and Mrs Twit are not very nice. In fact they’re extremely nasty. They’re nasty to each other, and they’re VILE to everyone else.” With this in mind if you wish to terrify your children with a theatrical experience take them to the Royal Court theatre from the 7th April till the end of May for an Enda Walsh adaptation of one of Roald Dahl’s most famous stories, [The Twits](#). Aimed at brave 8 year olds and above, this production is likely to link arms in the popularity stakes with the two West End Dahl musicals, Matilda and Charlie and the Chocolate Factory. Accompanying the production will be a full roster of free [writing workshops](#) for all the family. Budding authors can learn the tricks of the trade so spark their imagination and take them along.

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Food & Drink: Percy and Founders



We rather selfishly like to big up all the new restaurants that open up near our offices, the latest being [Percy and Founders](#). This 200 cover restaurant has opened up in the heart of Fitzrovia, offering Londoners everything from a morning coffee or breakfast through to lunch, dinner and evening cocktails. They are located at 1 Pearson Square just off Goodge Street and will serve up simple British and modern European fare with a concise list of six Starters, six Mains, Salads, Sides and 'Classics to share', all prepared by head chef Diego Cardesa who most recently was Head Chef at Angela Hartnett's Murano. Some of the dishes include Lobster and Prawn Scotch Egg, Truffle fries, Chicken Wellington and a Yorkshire Treacle Tart. The drinks menu is also not to be scoffed at with many cocktails, draft beer and owner grower wines. Percy and Founders is the first creation of Open House, the new sister company to Cubitt House, marking the groups evolution from the traditional pub to a more contemporary all day dining venue. We think it may be a new Halpern staple.

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Experience: Time Run



Do you remember the Swingers crazy golf event we had on the Hotlist late last year? It was a rip roaring success so when we heard the same people had a new event up their sleeves, we naturally had to include it. [Time Run](#) is a 60 minute whirlwind cinematic and challenge experience. In a group of 3-5 you have to complete the quest, solving puzzles and other mysterious challenges along the way. You are led by Luna Fox (pictured), an extraordinary Edwardian adventurer who alongside her robotic assistant Babbage will lead you through a series of locations, each of which you must escape from and you'll unlock a series of surprising stories as you go. It all sounds pretty cryptic but awesome. Tickets are on sale [here](#) and we imagine they will be snapped up pretty quickly so get them fast. The event is on from the 23rd of April until August at Helmsley Place near London Fields.

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Fair: Renegade Craft Fair



If you read Time Out last week you'll have seen a several page spread on the best markets to keep us all occupied this spring. Our pick of the bunch is the [Renegade Craft Fair](#) at the Old Truman Brewery on the 11th and 12th of the month. Independent craftsman from across the country have been finely curated to appear with their handmade wares for sale at this event, which is normally a stateside occasion. Everything from stationery to toys and home furnishings will be there and as well as the shopping aspect you can also take part in DIY workshops and other activities. To have a browse of the kind of thing you can expect check out the list of stall holders by clicking on this [link](#). It all looks immense!

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Flowers: RHS Lates



Spring may not have fully 'sprung' yet but its most definitely trying. So time for all the usual Easter connotations to overflow such as the lambs bouncing around the field, bunnies hiding eggs and all sorts of beautiful floral explosions, noted by the abundance of daffodils at every turn. If flowers are your thing then head to the Royal Horticultural Society (near Victoria) on the 14th April for their [spring late event](#). They will be turning the Great London Plant Fair into an English garden party for the evening with Pimm's and springtime cocktails, cucumber sandwiches and other delicious food alongside live music, lawn games and the chance to make your own springtime corsage. Oh it all sounds so terribly refined doesn't it...

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Kids: Easter Egg Hunt in Greenwich Park



Easter undoubtedly, and ashamedly, means one major thing for children everywhere - CHOCOLATE. If you wish to make them work for their loot then might we suggest the [Easter Egg Hunt](#) in Greenwich Park organised by Greenwich restaurant, Rivington, on Saturday 4th April. Over a hundred oeufs will be scattered around amongst the foliage and if you find one you can then take it to the restaurant to receive your chocolate surprise. This applies to adults too although try not to get too competitive with your young'uns. From now until the 5th April also, any child's meal ordered will come with an Easter egg to decorate. They will all go on display with a winner picked on the last day who will receive a cuddly toy (said in generation game style voice) as their first place prize. Lastly, as a small Brucey bonus, the terrace will be littered with giant games for all the family to play. Who doesn't love Easter and all the excitement *E numbers* it comes with, eh?

[Twitter](#) #RiviEggHunt

Charity of the Month: Rainforest Concern



[Rainforest Concern](#) was established the same year as Halpern, way back in 1993. Since they began they have fought to protect threatened natural habitats across the globe. They currently have 18 conservation projects in 12 different countries including Peru, Ecuador, Romania, India and Uganda. Not only do they protect the habitats but also the biodiversity within them and the indigenous people who call them their home. For full details on all the amazing work they do click [here](#) but if you want to get involved with fundraising then we recommend the 'acre sponsorship' programme. You pay £50 'per acre' which goes towards the purchase and protection of rainforest at one of their projects.



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