# EM FORSTER THEATRE



TONBRIDGE SCHOOL

**SPRING 2020** 







### HOW TO BOOK

**BOX OFFICE**: 01732 304241

**ONLINE BOOKING:** www.emftheatre.com

EMAIL: boxoffice@tonbridge-school.org

Booking fee of £1 is included in the ticket price.

The Box Office is open 9.30am – 12.30pm and 1.00pm – 2.30pm Monday – Friday (term time only) and one hour before our shows.

For group bookings, terms and conditions and further enquiries please check our website or contact the Box Office.



Parking for the theatre is at Tonbridge School Centre or in nearby town car parks.



When you book via the Box Office please let us know if you have any additional requirements which would make your visit more enjoyable.

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# WELCOME

"There are no disasters, only opportunities. And, indeed, opportunities for new disasters!" Boris Johnson

As I write these words, parliament has just voted to hold the general election on I2th December to try to break the seemingly endless deadlock around Brexit. It seems appropriate that the programme for the Spring term has plenty of light-hearted comedy to lift our spirits. A modern take on Wodehouse's Jeeves and Wooster stories should transport us to a simpler time and the NT live showing of Present Laughter, starring Fleabag's Andrew Scott, has received rave reviews. On a political theme NT will also be offering Hansard, a warts and all imagining of life in a fictional MP's family.

For families we have a post-Christmas pantomime in the form of Sleeping Beauty as well as two classic stories adapted for the stage: Julia Donaldson and Axel Scheffler's much loved *Room on the Broom* and a 45th anniversary staging of Pam Adams' *There was an Old Lady who Swallowed a Fly.* Both shows promise to provide plenty of laughs for young and old alike.

Musical entertainment will be varied and features a visit by Ronnie Scott's All Stars, who will hopefully provide inspiration to the school's own budding jazz musicians as they create their own club a fortnight later. Get ready to be transported back to the 1950s in the sing-a-long showing of classic 70s film Grease. Dance is represented by a triple bill from the contemporary dance group, Emergence, promising a range of technical styles and there will be a showcase of modern ballet pieces performed by Ballet Central. Finally, in the Old Big School Gallery we have Beast, an exhibition looking at the human/animal divide. As part of this Mark Fairnington will be visiting to speak and there will be a drop-in family art workshop.

There is much to look forward to and I hope to see you over the coming months.

J. 115he

James Fisher, Chair of Tonbridge Arts Committee



#### **JANUARY**

### FRI 10TH – SUN 12TH SLEEPING BEAUTY

EMF Theatre Fri & Sat 7.00pm Sat matinee 2.00pm Sun 12.00pm & 4.00pm

### SAT 18TH – SUN 23RD FEB BEAST EXHIBITION

Old Big School Gallery 12.00pm – 4.00pm Sat & Sun

# WED 22ND IGCSE MUSIC PERFORMANCES RECITAL

Recital Room 7.30pm

# WED 22ND NT ENCORE: HANSARD

EMF Theatre 7.00pm

# FRI 24TH TONBRIDGE COMEDY NIGHT

EMF Studio 7.30pm

# SAT 25TH THE RONNIE SCOTT'S ALL STARS

EMF Theatre 7.30pm

#### WED 29TH NT ENCORE: PRESENT LAUGHTER

EMF Theatre 7.00pm

#### FRI 31ST EMERGENCE DANCE TRIPLE BILL 2020

EMF Theatre 7.30pm

#### FRI 31ST LOWER SCHOOL MUSIC SCHOLARS' CONCERT

Recital Room 7.30pm

#### **FEBRUARY**

# SAT ISTAND SUN 2ND ROOM ON THE BROOM

EMF Theatre Sat 2.00pm, 4.00pm, Sun 11.30am & 2.00pm

# SUN 2ND DROP-IN FAMILY ART WORKSHOP

Old Big School Gallery 12.00pm – 4.00pm

# MON 3RD ARTIST'S TALK – MARK FAIRNINGTON

Cawthorne Lecture Theatre 7.30pm

### TUE 4TH ENGLISH TALK

Cawthorne Lecture Theatre 7.30pm

# FRI 7TH JAZZ & ACOUSTIC NIGHT

Big School 8.00pm

# FRI 14TH TONBRIDGE COMEDY NIGHT

EMF Studio 7.30pm

# TUE 25TH ARTIST TALK – CAROLINE BUGBY

Cawthorne Lecture Theatre 7.30pm

# WED 26TH PRE-U MUSIC PERFORMANCES RECITAL

Recital Room 7.30pm

# THU 27TH TALK – CALMER, EASIER, HAPPIER PARENTING

EMF Theatre 7.30pm

#### FRI 28TH GREASE SINGALONG FILM NIGHT

EMF Theatre 7.00pm

#### **MARCH**

# SUN IST ALLAN BUNNEY CONCERT – THE TONBRIDGE ORGANISTS

Chapel of St Augustine 8.15pm

## MON 2ND & TUE 3RD JEEVES & WOOSTER

EMF Theatre 7.30pm

# SUN 15TH THERE WAS AN OLD LADY WHO SWALLOWED A FLY

EMF Theatre 2.30pm

# THU 19TH & FRI 20TH WHOLE SCHOOL CONCERT

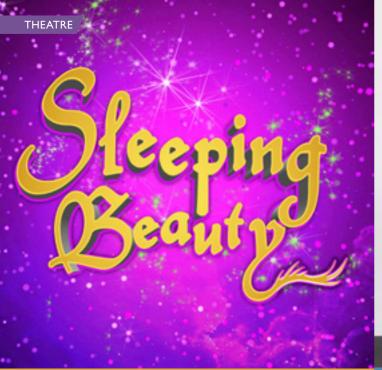
Chapel of St Augustine 7.30pm

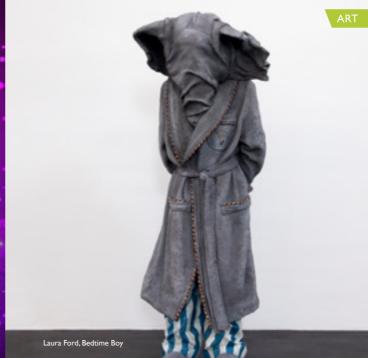
# FRI 20TH TONBRIDGE COMEDY NIGHT

EMF Studio 7.30pm

### SAT 28TH BALLET CENTRAL

EMF Theatre 7.30pm





#### Friday 10th - Sunday 12th January

THE TALENTZ PRESENTS

### SLEEPING BEAUTY

The Talentz return with their third youth theatre pantomime.

In a tale of exploding cakes and magic wands, full of romance and adventure, Sleeping Beauty transports you to the wonderful world of Pantoland...

Join Princess Aurora, Nanny Knickerbocker and JoJo Jangles the Jester for the pantomime of your dreams! Will true love's kiss save the day? Can evil Carabosse's wicked plan be foiled? Who will save Talentzia from its slumbering fate...

Featuring a West End band, stunning sets and a devilishly dazzling dragon, don't get caught napping, wake up and book your tickets for this beauty of a panto!

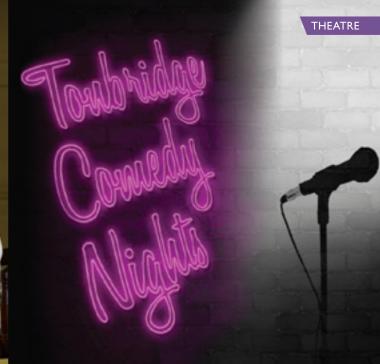
# Saturday 18th January – Sunday 23rd February

### **BEAST**

Large scale drawings of a gorilla using sign language to communicate, a 5ft sculpture of an elephant boy standing awkwardly in pyjamas and a round oil painting depicting a minotaur's eye in exquisite detail, come together in *Beast* to remind us that our relationship with animals is both complex and conflicted.

Using photography, painting, sculpture, drawing and film, the artists explore the human/animal divide. They use their skills to seduce us and humour to disarm us, enticing us to question our assumptions and beliefs. The exhibition features work by internationally celebrated artists Edwina Ashton, Nicky Coutts, Mark Fairnington, Laura Ford and Kay Walsh.





#### Wednesday 22nd January

NT ENCORE

HANSARD

by Simon Wood

Hansard; noun

The official report of all parliamentary debates.

See two-time Olivier Award winners, Lindsay Duncan (*Birdman*, *About Time*) and Alex Jennings (*The Lady in the Van*, *The Queen*), in this brand-new play by Simon Wood, broadcast live from the National Theatre in London.

It's a summer's morning in 1988 and Tory politician Robin Hesketh has returned home to the idyllic Cotswold house he shares with his wife of 30 years, Diana. But all is not as blissful as it seems. Diana has a stinking hangover, a fox is destroying the garden, and secrets are being dug up all over the place. As the day draws on, what starts as gentle ribbing and the familiar rhythms of marital scrapping quickly turns to blood-sport.

Don't miss this witty and devastating portrait of the governing class, directed by Simon Godwin (NT Live: *Antony & Cleopatra*, *Twelfth Night*) and part of National Theatre Live's 10th birthday season.

Certificate 12A

Friday 24th January Friday 14th February Friday 20th March

## TONBRIDGE COMEDY NIGHTS

Our popular comedy nights sell out quickly so book fast to join us and start your weekend.

Full line ups on our website.

Our comedy nights are in the studio with cabaret seating and we sell snacks supplied by The Bakehouse 124.



**EMF THEATRE** 7.00pm £15, £13 conc **EMF STUDIO** 7.30pm £1





#### Saturday 25th January

THE RONNIE SCOTT'S ALL STARS PRESENTS

### THE RONNIE SCOTT'S STORY: 60TH ANNIVERSARY TOUR

The Ronnie Scott's All Stars take to the road to celebrate the 'Ronnie Scott's Story' in honour of the club's 60th anniversary.

Direct from London's world-famous jazz club and combining world class live jazz alongside rare archive photos and video footage, The Ronnie Scott's All Stars, take you on a guided, musical tour of this music institution. Set amongst the dive bars and jazz jook joints of London's Soho, we hear about the desperate hand-to-mouth finances of the early years and the frequent police raids. Life at Ronnie's is evocatively re-imagined through tales of the club's past visitors, from pop stars, film stars and politicians to comedians and royalty, but above all, the musicians.

'Full on brilliance' The Guardian

#### Wednesday 29th January

#### NT ENCORE

# PRESENT LAUGHTER

by Noël Coward

Matthew Warchus directs Andrew Scott (BBC's Sherlock, Fleabag) in Noël Coward's provocative comedy Present Laughter.

As he prepares to embark on an overseas tour, star actor Garry Essendine's colourful life is in danger of spiralling out of control. Engulfed by an escalating identity crisis as his many and various relationships compete for his attention, Garry's few remaining days at home are a chaotic whirlwind of love, sex, panic and soul-searching.

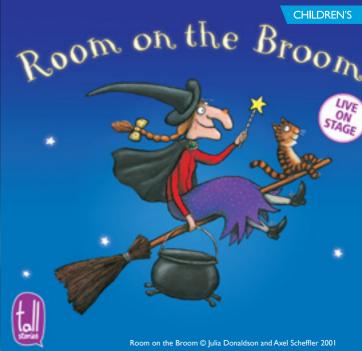
Captured live from The Old Vic in London, Present Laughter is a giddy and surprisingly modern reflection on fame, desire and loneliness.

#### \*\*\*\*

'Andrew Scott is wondrous in this revelatory update of Noël Coward's classic comedy' Time Out

EMF THEATRE 7.30pm £25, £20 students EMF THEATRE 7.00pm £15. £13 cond





Friday 31st January

## **EMERGENCE** TRIPLE BILL 2020

Following a hugely successful inaugural tour, Emergence, the postgraduate dance company of loss Arnott Dance and the University of Salford, returns with a new cohort of 12 dancers, two new works and the chance to see a reimagining of one of Arnott's acclaimed productions.

Wubkje Kuindersma presents FUEL, a work inspired by the energy of this young, vital company whilst James Wilton's physical and detailed An Event was inspired by Margaret Atwood's The Handmaid's Tale and asks how we feel in that moment between everything being fine and everything falling to pieces.

Joss Arnott completes the bill with When Worlds Collide, his exhilarating, technical masterclass featuring an original, cinematic music score and stunning lighting.

jossarnottdance.com/emergence

#### Saturday 1st & Sunday 2nd February

TALL STORIES PRESENTS

# BROOM

LIVE ON STAGE

#### **IGGETY ZIGGETY ZAGGETY ZOOM!**

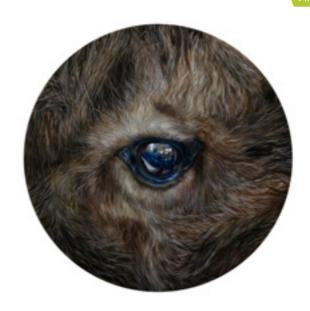
Jump on board the broom with the witch and her cat in Tall Stories' fun-filled adaptation of Room on the Broom, the bestselling picture book by Julia Donaldson and Axel Scheffler.

The witch and her cat are travelling on their broomstick when they pick up some hitch-hikers – a friendly dog, a beautiful green bird and a frantic frog. But this broomstick's not meant for five and - CRACK - it snaps in two... just as the hungry dragon appears!

Will there ever be room on the broom for everyone? Find out in the magical Olivier Award nominated show, get a sneak peak roomonthebroomlive.co.uk

Age 3+





Mark Fairnington, Prodigy

#### **Sunday 2nd February**

## DROP-IN FAMILY ART WORKSHOP

Inspired by the exhibition Beast this workshop is an opportunity to make animals out of a wide range of materials.

This fun and experimental workshop is led by Artist Educator Lorena Carbajal. It is free and no booking is required. The workshop is suitable for children age 4 and above.

#### Monday 3rd February

# ARTIST'S TALK — MARK FAIRNINGTON

Mark Fairnington's work explores the links between art and science with large scale paintings of mounted insects, taxidermy displays of birds and life size portraits of prize stud bulls. They are the outcomes of his investigations into museums' natural history collections and the ways that specimens are housed, stored and displayed. His paintings combine obsessive surface detail and precision with sensuous expressive marks.

Fairnington has exhibited internationally and teaches at the University of the Arts, London. He will talk about his recent research projects with the Horniman Museum, Welcome Collection and the Museum of London and focus on the extensive collection of his paintings on display in the exhibition Beast.



#### **Tuesday 4th February**

THE ANNUAL SHAKESPEARE LECTURE

### SHAKESPEARE THE PAINTER PROFESSOR CLAIRE PRESTON

Renaissance writers understood good writing as painting in words: such is the power of language that the writer can put ideas before the reader almost like pictures, pictures that appeal to the eye and convey information directly and powerfully. In Shakespeare's plays we sometimes find ourselves listening to word-pictures — instead of watching an event on stage we listen to a character describing it, usually in highly-wrought visual cues that invite us to see it in the mind's eye.

Claire Preston, Professor of Renaissance Literature at Queen Mary University of London, will be asking why painting word-pictures sometimes suits the theatre better than action, using examples from Hamlet, King Lear, The Tempest, Antony and Cleopatra and Macbeth, among others.

#### Tuesday 25th February

## ARTIST IN RESIDENCE TALK – CAROLINE BUGBY

Artist in residence Caroline Bugby talks about her practice and the work she has made during her time at Tonbridge School. Caroline will focus on how her research into archaeology has inspired her recent sculpture and installation, and examine how this new body of work fits into her practice as a whole.



#### Thursday 27th February

**ABOUT THESE BOYS PRESENTS** 

## CALMER, EASIER, HAPPIER PARENTING WITH NOËL JANIS-NORTON

Noël Janis-Norton gives parents simple steps that take the daily battles out of parenting. Her strategies resolve the main frustration that parents complain about: getting children (and teens) to listen and do what they're asked to do, the first time they're asked. As children's cooperation, self-reliance and self-esteem improves, parents become less stressed and more confident. Family life is calmer, easier and happier.

Noël is a renowned expert on the learning and behaviour of children. Over the past 45 years, the 'Calmer, Easier, Happier Parenting' strategies have transformed the lives of tens of thousands of families. Her parenting approach has been the subject of numerous articles, books, and television features.

#### Friday 28th February

## GREASE SINGALONG FILM NIGHT

Don the Pink Lady jackets and gel up those quiffs, it's time to get singing!

Let your inhibitions go, as you sing-along (with the help of onscreen lyrics) with Danny, Sandy and the rest of the Rydell High gang in the iconic 70's film, Grease.

Here's your chance to become a Pink Lady or a T-Bird as dressing up is hugely encouraged, whilst audience participation is essential for all of the classic songs that spanned generations, including Summer Nights, Greased Lightnin', We Go Together, You're the one that I want and more...

All profits go to Hospices of Hope - Making every day count for terminally ill children and adults in Romania and surrounding countries.

**EMF THEATRE** 7.30pm £12 **EMF THEATRE** 7.00pm £10, £8 con



Sunday 1st March

## ALLAN BUNNEY CONCERT – THE KING OF INSTRUMENTS

# ORGAN RECITAL WITH THE TONBRIDGE ORGANISTS

The fabulous 4-manual Marcussen organ in Chapel is world-renowned as both a recital and accompanying instrument. Its versatility is showcased in this recital, covering repertoire from the Baroque to the present day. It will be performed by students and staff of Tonbridge School and local organ students. There also will be a screen in Chapel so the audience can watch the organists in action.

#### Monday 2nd & Tuesday 3rd March

THE THEATRE CHIPPING NORTON AND BARN THEATRE PRESENT

# JEEVES & WOOSTER IN PERFECT NONSENSE

A new play adapted from the works of PG Wodehouse Written by the Goodale Brothers

Take your seats with caution! Aristocratic buffoon Bertie Wooster has hired the theatre for the night to present his one-man show detailing a recent and rather spectacular series of misadventures, including the theft of a novelty cow creamer and a narrow escape from unwanted matrimony. The only trouble is Bertie hasn't worked out who's going to play the parts. Will the show be a disaster? Will the scenery stay upright? Or will his trusty manservant Jeeves step in and save the day?

"I have to say I'm finding this acting business rather easy Jeeves! Apart from having to do a newt impression, I think that went tremendously well."

**EMF THEATRE** 



Sunday 15th March

## THERE WAS AN OLD LADY WHO SWALLOWED A FLY

The 45th Anniversary Production! Written by Steven Lee Directed by Nick Lane

There Was an Old Lady Who Swallowed A Fly. I don't know why she swallowed a fly... But The People's Theatre Company do!

And now you can too as they use an amazing blend of live action, puppetry and animation to bring one of the world's best loved nursery rhymes to life just in time to celebrate the 45th anniversary of Pam Adams' best selling book!

This magical show has been written especially for grown ups to enjoy with their children, so come and enjoy this most charming of tales complete with a feast of sing along songs, colourful animal characters and heart warming family fun.

It's the perfect treat for anyone aged 2 to 102!

'Thoroughly entertaining and brilliant fun' - WhatsOnStage

Thursday 19th & Friday 20th March

### HYWEL DAVIES -THE ARGO

WHOLE SCHOOL CONCERT

Whole School Chorus Choristers from Tonbridge School Chapel Choir Tonbridge School Symphony Orchestra

Howard Goodall's Psalm 122 was written to commemorate the rebuilding of the Chapel in 1993 and was performed again in 2010 and 2015. This proved such a success that Hywel Davies, the school's Composer in Residence, has written a new piece for the whole school chorus (half the school will perform each night), upper voices, soloists and orchestra. It tells the story of Jason and the Argonauts, their journey to Colchis and the quest of the Golden Fleece.

Thursday 19th March: Judde, Hill Side, Ferox Hall, Smythe, Cowdrey, Oakeshott

Friday 20th March: School, Park, Parkside, Manor, Welldon, Whitworth



#### Saturday 28th March

### BALLET CENTRAL

Ballet Central presents a captivating and diverse repertoire created by internationally acclaimed choreographers: The Royal Ballet's Liam Scarlett will present Serpent, an athletic ballet featuring an all-male cast. An excerpt from Wayne McGregor's Symbiont(s) will be performed and the UK debut of Merce Cunningham's How to Pass, Kick, Fall and Run. Annabelle Lopez Ochoa's work Requiem for a Rose explores a beautiful metaphor of romance. Scottish Ballet's Sophie Laplane is creating a new work Georg(ette) with composer Philip Feeney, and Jenna Lee's Rock 'n' Roll, a ballet inspired by the upbeat music and style of the 1950's dance halls, will close the show.

'Commitment and understanding on display in abundance...
A truly entertaining night' Dance Europe

'Always excellent' The Guardian

# DATES FOR THE DIARY

Wednesday 22nd January, 7.30pm RECITAL ROOM

# IGCSE PERFORMANCES RECITAL

Tickets: Free (No need to book in advance)

Friday 31st January, 7.30pm
RECITAL ROOM

# LOWER SCHOOL MUSIC SCHOLARS' CONCERT

Tickets: Free (No need to book in advance)

Friday 7th February, 8.00pm

#### JAZZ AND ACOUSTIC NIGHT

Big School will be transformed into a Jazz club for an informal evening of Swing, Blues, Latin & Jazz Funk. Performers include the school's Big Bands, Chamber Choirs, smaller scale ensembles and solo performers. There is no bar but please feel free to bring your own refreshments. Glasses will be available.

Tickets or Tables (groups of 10): Free (Please book in advance) Doors open from 7.30pm

Wednesday 26th February, 7.30pm

# PRE-U MUSIC PERFORMANCES RECITAL

Tickets: Free (No need to book in advance)





Fresh Modern Turkish Food & Vibrant Cocktail Bar



Why not dine with us when you visit the EM Forster Theatre?

Present your theatre ticket and get a free glass of prosecco or Efes Pilsner

(Ticket must be for same day and you must have ordered food

tripadvisor\* 2017 Certificate of Excellence







boxoffice@tonbridge-school.org www.emftheatre.com f /emforstertheatre @@emftheatre