



*Seeing the Capital Differently*

## **Theatrical Memorabilia**

### **Welcome to *CityThemes***

By printing this leaflet you have decided to discover, or rediscover, the sights and delights of **London** in a different way. We hope that you enjoy your explorations of our fascinating and historical capital city.

This leaflet has been designed to allow you to explore as the mood takes you. Both well-known and lesser-known attractions are included and they are randomly listed so that you plan your own itinerary and visit as many or as few as you wish.

Please note:- some places restrict entry and ask for prior application either in writing or by telephone. This is indicated where known. Others may change opening days and hours with little warning – it may be worth checking by phone if they are off the beaten track.

A very brief description of the reason for the choice of site is given but because of space it is not possible to include much detail. Again a telephone call to the site may help you to decide on whether a visit is worthwhile. Remember there may be other items that interest you at the same site.

Themes are constantly being updated and new titles added so please keep looking at our website or get in touch with us by e-mail or letter. We welcome your comments especially if you feel that some site should be included or details are incorrect/inaccurate. Contact details are

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### **Enjoy Your Explorations**

## National Sound Archive

British Library, 96 Euston Road, NW1  
020 7412 7332 [www.bl.uk/collections/sound-archive](http://www.bl.uk/collections/sound-archive)  
transport: King's Cross/St Pancras & Euston u/g & rail;  
buses 10,20,73,91  
facilities: *disabled access by arrangement; library; shop*  
opening: Mon-Fri 10.00-17.00, Thur 10.00-21.00  
admission free

*formerly the British Institute of Recorded Sound and now part of the British Library, the archive includes drama repertoires of the National Theatre, the Royal Shakespeare Company and selected other stage companies. It has collected since 1963 spoken word recordings including performances and interviews. It is the reference point for the BBC Sound Archives*

## Pollocks Toy Museum

1 Scala Street, W1P  
020 7636 3452 [www.tao2000.net/pollocks](http://www.tao2000.net/pollocks)  
transport: Gooch Street & Tottenham Court Road; buses 7,10,24,29,73,134  
facilities: *disabled access by arrangement*  
opening: Mon-Sat 10.00-17.00 UNDER THREAT OF CLOSURE MARCH 2004 - PLEASE CHECK  
admission charge

*Benjamin Pollock (1856-1937) owned a shop selling toy theatres and this museum was established in 1956 from his collection of toy theatres, mechanical and constructional toys, dolls and pre-1910 teddy bears*

## Mander and Mitchenson Theatre Collection

Beckenham Place Park, Beckenham, Kent, BR3  
020 8658 7725 [www.mander-and-mitchenson.co.uk](http://www.mander-and-mitchenson.co.uk)  
transport: Beckenham Junction, Ravensbourne & Beckenham Hill rail, Croydon Tramlink; buses 54,162, 227,367  
admission free - please ring the theatre to arrange a visit  
*a marvellous collection of memorabilia relating to the theatre and its history - theatre programmes, china, manuscripts, paintings, posters, photographs and much more*

## Globe Theatre

21 New Globe Walk, Bankside, SE1  
020 7902 1500 (exhibition), 020 7401 9919 (box office)  
[www.shakespeares-globe.org](http://www.shakespeares-globe.org)  
transport: Southwark & Mansion House u/g, London Bridge & Blackfriars u/g & rail; buses 344,381; boat Bankside Pier  
facilities: *limited disabled access; Globe Café (daily Oct-Apr 10.00-18.00, May-Sept 10.00-15mins after last performance), Globe Restaurant (daily Oct-Apr noon-14.30,17.30-20.00; May-Sept 17.30-23.00); giftshop (Oct-Apr 10.00-18.00, May-Sept 10.00 to end of evening performance); guided tours every half hour except afternoons in summer*  
opening: exhibition daily 10.00-17.00  
admission charge  
*a replica of the 16<sup>th</sup> century playhouse rebuilt in 1996 to commemorate Shakespeare and his plays. It was the inspiration of Sam Wanamaker (1919-93), the actor and film director. It is a polygonal structure with a thatched roof, natural light and minimal of scenery. There is an exhibition about the Elizabethan theatre and Shakespeare in the Undercroft of the Theatre. Plays, mainly Shakespearean, are performed regularly. A bronze bust of Shakespeare and a panoramic view of the Globe (1598-*

*1613) and the River Thames can be seen in the theatre foyer*

*a tablet marks the site of the original Globe Theatre at nearby Park Street.*

*alongside the Globe is the Inigo Jones Theatre which was built according to Jones's drawings and is now used for concerts, poetry readings and workshop productions*

## The Macbeth pub

Hoxton Street, N1  
020 7739 5095  
transport: Old Street u/g & rail; buses 55,67,149,242,243  
opening: all permitted hours  
*named after the Shakespearean character one wall of this pub has a display of scenes from the play. It is unusual for the name to be used for a pub or restaurant as the theatrical profession believe it brings bad luck. This is a friendly gay pub*

## Theatre Museum

Russell Street, Covent Garden, WC2E  
020 7943 4700 [www.theatremuseum.org](http://www.theatremuseum.org)  
transport: Covent Garden & Leicester Square u/g, Charing Cross u/g & rail; buses 1,6,9,11,13,15,23,59,68, 77A,91,168,171,176,188  
facilities: *disabled access, library with research room by appointment; shop for theatrical books and children's novelties; tours (daily 11.00,14.00,16.00 of 30mins duration); booking service for West End shows; costume workshops for children; theatre make-up demonstrations (daily 11.30,13.00,14.30,15.30,16.30, of 30 mins. duration)*  
opening: Tue-Sun 10.00-18.00 (last admission 17.30)  
admission charge  
*this is Britain's National Museum of the Performing Arts and there is a semi-permanent exhibition on the history of theatre with other changing exhibitions devoted to all aspects of entertainment - theatre, opera, ballet, pantomime, music hall, variety, circus, rock and pop music. Material collected includes posters, programmes & playbills (over 1 million dating from 1704), 18<sup>th</sup> century cartoons, engravings, Victorian advertisements, theatrical costumes and portraits of celebrities  
costume workshops are held for children and there are daily theatre make-up demonstrations*

## The Golden Grove pub

146-148 The Grove, Stratford, E15  
020 8519 0750  
transport: Stratford u/g & rail, Maryland rail; buses 25, 69,86,104,108,158,238,241,257,262,308,473,D8,S2  
opening: Mon-Sat 11.00-23.00, Sun noon-22.30  
*this pub has pictures of the local Theatre Royal*

## Chelsea Antiques Market

King's Road, SW3  
020 7352 5689  
transport: Sloane Square u/g; buses 11,19,22,49,211, 319  
opening: Mon-Sat 10.00-18.00  
*the covered market has stalls with film & theatre memorabilia*

## Stage Door pub

3 Allington Street, SW1  
020 7834 7055  
transport: Victoria u/g & rail; buses 8,11,16,24,38,52, 73,82,185,211,239,C1,C10

opening: all permitted hours

*theatrical bric a brac decorates this pub while the story of how the pub got its name can be found on the outside*

### **Cecil Court, WC2**

transport: Leicester Square u/g, Charing Cross u/g & rail; buses 24,29,176

*this interesting court has shops for antique books, maps, stamps and theatre posters*

### **King's Head pub**

115 Upper Street, N1  
020 7226 1916

transport: Angel u/g, Highbury & Islington rail; buses 4, 19,30,43

*facilities: snacks at lunchtime; meals in the evening for theatre goers only*

opening: Mon-Thur 11.00-midnight, Fri-Sat 11.00-01.00, Sun noon-midnight

*this pub displays playbills and posters and presents a Supper Theatre where you can eat supper while watching a play*

### **Dress Circle**

57-59 Monmouth Street, WC2  
020 7240 2227

transport: Covent Garden & Leicester Square u/g, Charing Cross u/g & rail; buses 6,9,11,13,14,15,19,23,24, 29,38,77A,91,176

opening: Mon-Sat 10.00-19.00

*a shop specialising in books & cds, tapes, t-shirts and mugs on every West End and Broadway musical*

### **Museum of the Moving Image**

South Bank, SE1  
020 7401 2636 [www.bfi.org.uk/momi](http://www.bfi.org.uk/momi)

opening: closed for redevelopment until 2006

*devoted to the history of film, television and the cinema, this museum includes theatre and cinema costumes. While being redeveloped (reopening 2006) it is holding exhibitions at the London Imax Cinema at Waterloo and in the Foyer Gallery of the National Film Theatre. The exhibition 'Moving Picture' is touring the country*

### **Benjamin Pollock's Toy Shop**

44 The Market, Covent Garden, WC2  
020 7379 7866

transport: Covent Garden & Leicester Square u/g, Charing Cross u/g & rail; buses 6,9,11,13,15,23,24,29, 77A,91,176

opening: Mon-Sat 10.30-18.00

*shop selling model theatres. Please see the description under Pollocks Toy Museum as to who Benjamin Pollock was*

### **Players' Theatre**

The Arches, 14 Villiers Street, Strand, WC2  
020 7839 1134 (box office)

transport: Charing Cross u/g & rail; buses 6,9,11,13,15, 23,77A,91,176

*originally a Victorian music hall, this small theatre underneath the railway arches has memorabilia including playbills, photographs of actors and a Rex Whistler backcloth*

### **London Metropolitan Archives**

40 Northampton Road, EC1  
020 7332 3820

transport: Angel u/g, Farringdon u/g & rail; buses 19,38, 56,153,341

opening: Mon, Wed, Fri 09.30-16.45, Tue & Thur 09.30-19.30

*here you will find half a million photographs on the history & topography of London especially the Inner London area. They include negatives of schools, housing estates, parks, bridges, churches, theatres, pubs, hospitals, historic houses, areas designated for clearance and 2<sup>nd</sup> World War damage*

### **Horniman Museum and Gardens**

100 London Road, SE23  
020 8699 1872 [www.horniman.demon.co.uk](http://www.horniman.demon.co.uk)

transport: Forest Hill & West Dulwich rail; buses 63,122, 176,185,312,P4,P13

*facilities: disabled access & wcs; library (Tue-Sun 14.00-17.30); snacks; shop*

opening: museum daily 10.30-17.30; gardens Mon-Sat 07.15-dusk, Sun 08.00-dusk  
admission free

*this large collection of ethnographic material made by Frederick Horniman, a tea magnate, includes puppet theatres from Europe and Scandinavia*

### **Rule's Restaurant**

35 Maiden Lane, WC2  
020 7836 5314

transport: Temple, Embankment & Covent Garden u/g, Charing Cross & Waterloo u/g & rail; buses 1,6,9,11,13, 15,23,26,59,68,76,77A,91,168,171,172,176,188,341; boat Savoy & Embankment Piers

opening: daily noon-midnight

*the walls are decorated with caricatures and prints of the theatre and acting, and portraits of actors including Sir Henry Irving (1838-1905). The restaurant was established in 1798 and is famous for the dishes of game which come from its own estate*

### **Opera Tavern**

21 Catherine Street, Covent Garden, WC2B  
020 7379 9832

transport: Covent Garden & Leicester Square u/g, Charing Cross u/g & rail; buses 6,9,11,13,15,23,24,29, 77A,91,176

*facilities: bar food (noon-20.00)*

opening: Mon-Sat 11.00-23.00

*posters and portraits of stars decorate the walls of this pub*

### **Hackney Archives Department**

43 De Beauvoir Road, N1  
020 7241 2886 [www.hackney.gov.uk](http://www.hackney.gov.uk)

transport: Dalston Kingsland & Essex Road rail; buses 67, 76,141,149,242,243

opening: Mon, Tue, Thur and 1st & 3rd Sats each month 09.30-13.00, 14.00-17.00

*among the archives are 19<sup>th</sup> century local theatre handbills and posters. The handbills come from the old Standard, Britannia, Grecian and City of London theatres. Microfilms of posters are available for consultation*

## Victoria and Albert Museum

Cromwell Road, SW7  
020 7942 2000/0870 442 0808 24hr information  
www.vam.ac.uk

transport: South Kensington u/g; buses 14,49,70,74,345,C1

facilities: *disabled access and wcs; library; café and restaurant; shop; tours*

opening: daily 10.00-17.45, Wed 10.00-22.00  
admission free

*Britain's National Museum of Art and Design was created to accommodate the contemporary works manufactured for the 1851 Exhibition and has been collecting fine and applied art from all countries, styles and periods ever since. Attached to the Museum is the specialist and important National Art Library which has amongst its treasures the Larionov Collection of documents specialising in aspects of the theatre in Russia and Europe*

## Crown Tavern

43 Clerkenwell Green, Clerkenwell, EC1  
020 7250 0757

transport: Farringdon u/g & rail; buses 45,55,63,341

opening: Mon-Fri 11.30-23.00, Sat noon-23.00

*this pub has a collection of playbills from the Crown and Apollo Company that used to perform in an upstairs room*

## Guildhall Library

Aldermanbury, EC2P  
020 7332 1868

transport: Bank & St Pauls u/g, Moorgate u/g & rail;  
buses 8,56,76,100,133,242

facilities: *shop (Mon-Fri)*

opening: Mon-Sat 09.30-16.45  
admission free

*here you can find 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> century theatre prints and playbills*

## British Museum, Department of Prints and Drawings

Great Russell Street, WC1B  
020 7323 8408 www.thebritishmuseum.ac.uk

transport: Russell Square & Tottenham Court Road u/g;  
buses 10,24,29,73,134

facilities: *in Main Musuem: audio guides for certain displays including the Parthenon Sculptures (6 languages); disabled access & wcs; licensed restaurant (self-service) and snacks (daily Mon-Sat 10.00-16.30, Sun noon-17.30); shop selling books, postcards, posters and replicas; eyeOpener gallery tours of 50mins +Spotlight talks of 20mins*

opening: Main Museum: daily Sat-Wed 10.00-17.30, Thur-Fri 10.00-20.30. Great Court Mon-Wed 09.00-21.00, Thur-Sat 09.00-23.00, Sun 09.00-18.00. Clearance 10mins before closing

Study Room: Mon-Fri 10.00-13.00, 14.15-16.00, 1<sup>st</sup> Sat each month 10.00-13.00

admission free - no appointment for Study Room necessary but you will need evidence of identification

*here you will find playbills, manuscript & unpublished plays, prints, drawings, portraits, views of theatres, stage scenes and toy theatres*

## Museum of London

150 London Wall, EC2Y  
020 7600 0807 www.museumoflondon.org.uk

transport: Barbican, St Paul's & Moorgate u/g, Liverpool Street u/g & rail, City Thameslink rail; buses 8,56,100,172,242

facilities: *audio tapes and braille sheets; disabled access via ramps; disabled wcs; library; restaurant and snacks; shop*

opening: Mon-Sat 10.00-17.50, Sun noon-17.50 (last admission 17.30)  
admission free

*among this collection on all aspects of London, its history and life, there are items of ephemera related to the theatre including playbills, playscripts and tickets. There are also displays and archives about Tudor and 18<sup>th</sup> century London theatres*

## Garrick Club

15 Garrick Street, WC2

transport: Leicester Square & Covent Garden u/g; buses 6,9,11,13,15,23,24,29,77A,91,139,176

*if you look through the windows of this private club you may be able to make out whose theatrical portraits are on the walls*

## J Sheekey (restaurant)

28-32 St Martin's Court, WC2  
020 7240 2565

transport: Leicester Square & Covent Garden u/g; buses 6,9,11,13,15,23,24,29,77A,91,139,176

opening: daily lunch Mon-Sat noon-15.00, Sun noon-15.30; dinner 17.30-midnight

*this mainly seafood restaurant is decorated with various pieces of theatrical memorabilia*

## Angels and Berman

119 Shaftesbury Avenue, WC2  
020 7836 5678

transport: Leicester Square & Poiccadilly Circus u/g;  
buses 14,19,22,24,29,38,94,176

opening: Mon-Fri 09.00-17.30

*a theatrical costumier*

A great deal of care has been taken in collecting the information in this leaflet but *CityThemes* cannot be held responsible for the accuracy of that information. It can cover only a few of the many interesting sites to be found in London and therefore must not be considered a definitive guide.

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