

ITALIAN STYLE STEPS
ONTO THE PODIUM

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RE:VIEW

THE SUMMER OF MUSIC BEGINS WITH
THE RETURN OF THE BBC PROMS

Plus +

- Earl Spencer dives into English history
- HOFA Gallery celebrates the mothers of mankind
- Start your engines for Salon Privé
- Save the Date: your luxury events calendar



Summer of sound

The world's biggest classical festival returns to the Royal Albert Hall for six weeks of music

This year, the Royal Albert Hall marks its 150th anniversary, and what better way to celebrate than by welcoming the BBC Proms – with a live audience – back into its hallowed halls? The 2021 Proms, which began on 30 July, will showcase an impressive 52 concerts over a span of six weeks, making it the highlight of the UK's classical music calendar as well as the world's biggest music festival.

Opening in fine style with a programme featuring Vaughan Williams, Poulenc and a world premiere by acclaimed Scottish composer Sir James MacMillan – all performed by the BBC Symphony Orchestra and principal guest conductor Dalia Stasevska – the First Night of the Proms was a euphoric celebration for music lovers delighted to experience live music at long last after the rigours of lockdown.

First founded in 1895 by impresario Robert Newman and English conductor Sir Henry Wood, the Proms were designed to bring classical and modern music to a wider audience by emulating the summer promenade concertsheld in London's pleasure gardens. For Wood, who opened the very first Prom with Richard Wagner's *Rienzi* overture,

it was an opportunity to build a repertoire of rare and under-performed works, as well as introducing new composers.

That ethos is still in play today, with the Proms captivating even the biggest classical music fans, and standing audience of 'prommers', with its surprising programmes. The Proms first moved temporarily to the Royal Albert Hall in 1944, during the Second World War, and it became their permanent home in 1947.

Each season now includes concerts in the Royal Albert Hall, Cadogan Hall, events for children and, of course, the celebrated Proms in the Park events that so perfectly capture the festival's promenade roots.

The most famous event, the Last Night of the Proms, is a celebration of popular, patriotic music, featuring Wood's arrangement of *Fantasia on British Sea-Songs*, Arne's *Rule Britannia*, Elgar's *Pomp and Circumstance March*, and *Jerusalem* for the most resoundingly uplifting prom possible. Here are our programme highlights for this outstanding series...

bbc.co.uk/proms

PARALLEL UNIVERSES

Composer Britta Byström presents a world premiere inspired by the notion of a 'hierarchical multiverse' and violinist Jennifer Pike takes on Sibelius' *Violin Concerto in D minor, op.47*.
10 August

STRAVINSKY FROM MEMORY

The Aurora Orchestra returns to the Proms to mark the 50th anniversary of Igor Stravinsky's death with a rendition of his *Firebird Suite*, performed entirely from memory.
11 August

ABEL SELAOCOE: AFRICA MEETS EUROPE

South African cellist Abel Selaocoe redefines his instrument in this blend of traditional styles with improv, singing and body percussion. A delight of boundary-crossing fusion.
15 August

THE BBC SINGERS & SHIVA FESHAREKI

Experimental composer and turntable artist Feshareki joins conductor Sofi Jeannin and the BBC Singers for a choral playlist that brings the Renaissance to the present day.
19 August

WAGNER'S TRISTAN & ISOLDE

Glyndebourne Festival Opera's sumptuous production of *Tristan and Isolde* is led by music director Robin Ticciati.
31 August

BBC CONCERT ORCHESTRA

Organ virtuoso James McVinnie performs Philip Glass's *Mad Rush*. Works by Judith Weir and Jóhann Jóhannsson, and a Samy Moussa premiere, also feature.
6 September

LAST NIGHT OF THE PROMS

Outstanding tenor Stuart Skelton joins the BBC Symphony Orchestra and conductor Sakari Oramo open the Proms' spectacular finale with the premiere of Gity Razaz's *Mother*.
11 September

The White Ship

Conquest, anarchy and the wrecking of Henry I's dream

In 1120, Henry I was the most formidable king in Europe. He had just defeated the French and accrued immense land, wealth and power, and was preparing to hand it all to his son and heir, William Aetheling.

But on 25 November, as Henry sailed to England at the head of a triumphant fleet, a disaster occurred that plunged England into years of violence.

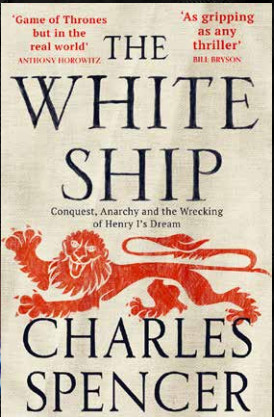
Following in the fleet's fastest vessel, the White Ship, the revelling prince and his comrades were set on overtaking the King's ship until, in the early hours, the drunken crew drove the ship into rocks.

With Henry's heir dead, a bloody civil war erupted between factions within England, Normandy, Wales and Scotland – and the outcome changed the course of European history for ever.

Written by historian and author Charles Spencer – the ninth Earl Spencer and brother of the late Diana, Princess of Wales – *The White Ship* brings the twists and turns of this brutal period to life in the style of the very best thrillers.

The Sunday Times bestseller showcases the Earl's flair for historic storytelling as it charts Henry's aspirations, the White Ship disaster, and the descent into violent civil war with confidence and verve, bringing long-lost characters to vibrant life. A compelling page-turner that will rightfully bring this exceptionally dramatic period of history to a wider audience.

Available now in hardback and paperback



Mother of Mankind

The largest ever exhibition of all-female artist of African descent, *Mother of Mankind*, has come to Mayfair's HOFA Gallery (right). The ground-breaking exhibition of 18 black female artists is curated by celebrated international gallerist Adora Mba, the founder of ADA Contemporary Art Gallery, based in Accra, Ghana.

This rich showcase, featuring well-known and emerging artists, is designed to showcase the rich cross-continental dialogues on the subject of black femininity: how it is created, perceived, and deconstructed through art.

Award-winning artists including Emma Prempeh, Jamilla Okubo and Adebunmi Gbadebowill appear alongside 15 other artists from Nigeria, Canada, US, South Africa, Ghana, France and the UK.

"The women presented in this show are in the early days of their artistic careers, yet already making waves and drawing attention amidst an industry which tends to be more supportive of their male counterparts," says Mba. "ADA and HOFA are instituting a space for their – for our – voices to be heard; our stories to be told; our creative spirits to conceive, unbound, forging our own narratives."

HOFA Gallery, 22 July – 31 August
houseoffineart.com



Salon Privé

Concours d'Elegance

This classic and supercar event, set against the picturesque background of Blenheim Palace, is surely one of the most elegant Concours events in the calendar. This September, the palace's South Lawn will once again play host to historic classic cars, from former race winners to painstakingly restored originals.

Four days of events, hospitality and entertainment is kicked off with the Concours d'Elegance, where more than 100 vintage vehicles will be displayed over nine curated classes – from the Edwardian era to futuristic supercars. Thursday is Boodles Ladies' Day, followed by the Club Trophy and finally the Classic and Supercar showcase, which features a Supercar Manufacturers Parade.

Once you've marvelled at the historic cars on display and delighted at the modern motorcades, fine dining at one of the event's stunning pavilions is the only way to complete the afternoon. The Churchill Pavilion offers private dining, while the Glass House is serving up an exceptional five-course tasting menu courtesy of guest-Chef Phil Howard. Elsewhere, a range of champagne and shopping is available for guests to peruse in the event's luxury retail village. 🍷

Blenheim Palace, Oxfordshire; 1-5 September
salonpriveconcours.com



SAVE the DATE

Your London luxury events
calendar for August and September 2021



11-15 AUGUST

HENLEY ROYAL REGATTA

All eyes on the Henley Royal Regatta, which it's hoped will return to Henley-on-Thames in mid-August. Established in 1839 and the most elegant regatta event in the calendar, rowing events combine with a festival atmosphere.

hrr.co.uk



21-28 AUGUST

HAMILTON ISLAND RACE WEEK

Australia's largest offshore sailing event is back this year in a scaled-back form. Prepare for a unique yachting experience with plenty of entertainment, in the picturesque setting among the 74 Whitsunday Islands and the edge of the Great Barrier Reef.

labienmale.org



1-11 SEPTEMBER

VENICE INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL

Expect glitz and glamour from one of the world's most exciting festivals. This year's jury is led by Parasite director Bong Joon Ho, with stars such as Jessica Chastain and Timothée Chalamet expected to attend.

labienmale.org



21-26 SEPTEMBER

RHS CHELSEA FLOWER SHOW

London is back in bloom as the Chelsea Flower Show returns, albeit slightly later in the year. Expect show-stopping gardens curated by famous faces, expert growers and nurseries, and the usual superb hospitality and shopping galore.

rhs.org.uk



22-25 SEPTEMBER

MONACO YACHT SHOW

Everything from brand new megayachts to high-tech tenders and toys. The ultimate meeting for yacht owners and makers to show off their bespoke creations – or shop for new ones – before legendary parties through the night.

monacoyachtshow.com



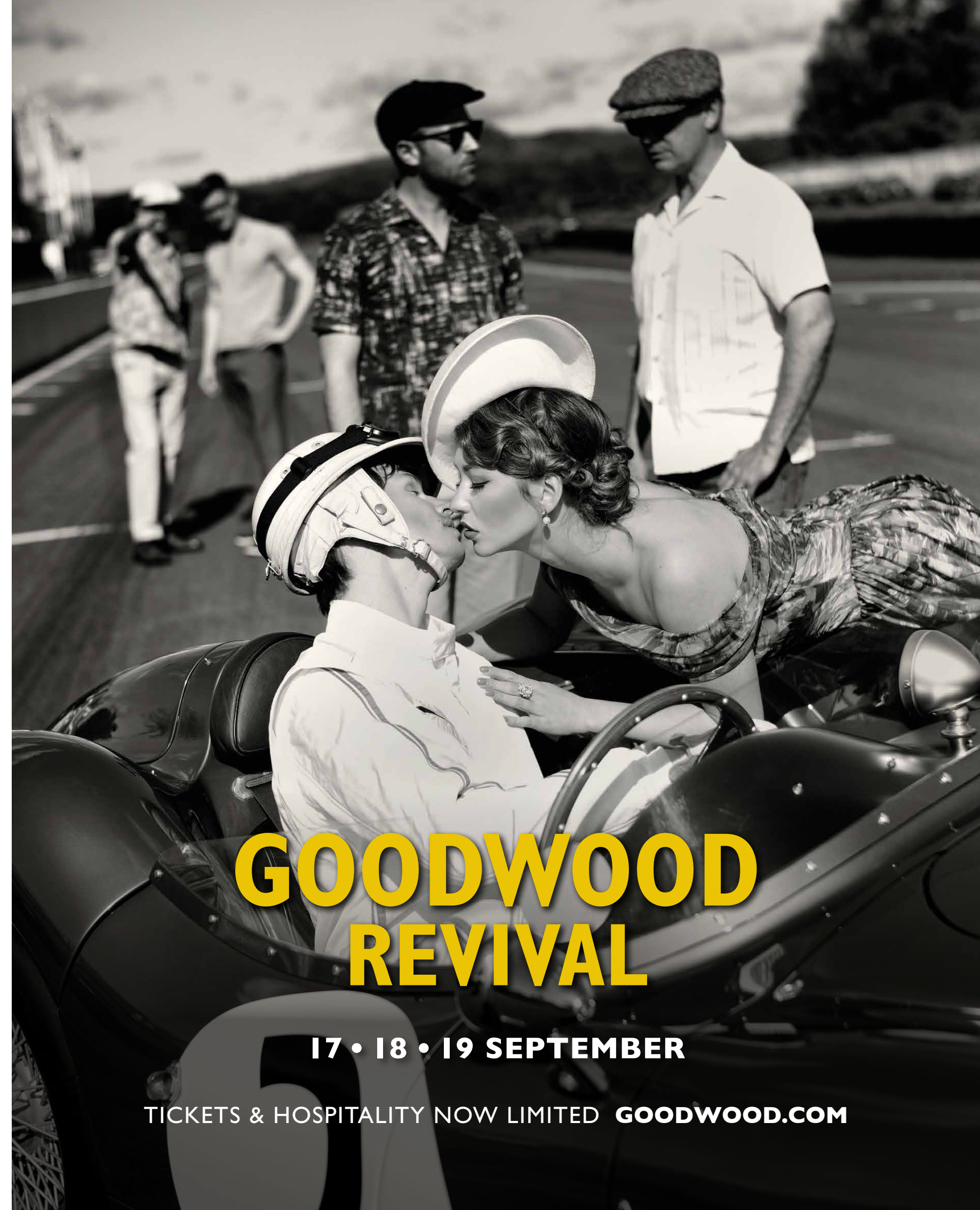
23-26 SEPTEMBER

ART BASEL

One of the world's biggest international art fairs is back as Art Basel returns to showcase the Swiss city's finest institutions, emerging artists, and established masters – as well as introducing the monumental Unlimited exhibition.

artbasel.com

While every effort has been made to ensure accuracy, changes to event calendars may occur. Please check with individual event organisers for more information.



GOODWOOD REVIVAL

17 • 18 • 19 SEPTEMBER

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