

MICHAEL CLARK AT THE BARBICAN



Because he was the punk choreographer who dragged ballet out of the 1800s and thrust it onto the 1980s stage to the sound of David Bowie and Iggy Pop. He gave us ballet in drag, touting 10-inch heels and wielding a chainsaw! Now, for first time in 21 years, Michael Clark has a short-run performance at the Barbican for the 25th anniversary of his dance company. There's a new sophisticated edge, but it's still rock 'n roll. 'Rock is my rock. It has been vital to me at a personal level, it has shaped me as an individual as well as an artist'. Leather-clad dancers echo Bowie's own body language between ecstatic arcs of movement and crumpled falls, strutting 70s decadence and wayward fun en pointe. This is the finest company of dancers Clark has yet possessed and after all this time, his work is still shockingly good.

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9:54 AM - 13 Aug 14

MUSEUM OF EVERYTHING

Will you be going to Rooftop Film Club Peckham tonight? : Romeo + Juliet is on @ the Bussey Building tonight from 9pm
<http://t.co/fh0FaWLXKS>



Because a gallery dedicated to "outsider art" is such a brazen paradox. Minutes away from London's Primrose Hill in a dilapidated former dairy, you'll find the "first-ever space for artists and creators living outside our modern society," according to The Museum of Everything's founding impresario, James Brett. As the Frieze Art Fair flogged its wares for loadsa' filthy lucre last week, the real buzz seemed to be around Brett's miscreant group of hermits, hobos, and the mentally challenged, all of whom have "nothing whatsoever to do with selling work or building a career." Ghostly figures sculpted from broken crockery, semi-conscious psychic doodles and nonsensical machines that wheeze and whirl: is this art too amateur to be in the Tate? I don't think so. This anti-crowd is so far out, they're definitely in.

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ROBERT MAPPLETHORPE AT ALISON JACQUES GALLERY





Because the night belonged to Patti. Famous for his portraits of men in the buck and iconic women, Robert Mapplethorpe, one of the 20th Century's most glamorous and controversial photographers is exhibited on the 20th anniversary of his death. But it wasn't Mapplethorpe's moody photographs alone that stopped traffic and raised the temperature in the crowded gallery to a sultry 35°C - the exhibition opened to the cougher's croon of his androgynous muse and intimate friend poet/rocker Patti Smith. Fans arrived at the opening in the hundreds. Her heartfelt performance began a mass sing-a-long in the street and set the tone for an exhibition that is all at once fresh and nostalgic, beastly and sublime. Don't miss this irreverent show- a nude man lying in the shape of the crucifixion, frogs arranged like a swastika and haunting portraits of himself and Patti Smith in the rocking 70s.

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