



THE
STAFFORD
LONDON
EST 1912

ASK ALAN... WHAT'S ON STAGE

The best-selling and most anticipated new shows



"LEMONS LEMONS LEMONS LEMONS LEMONS"

Harold Pinter Theatre

A zesty new romantic comedy with a really strong pair of lead actors: Jenna Coleman (Dr Who) and Aidan Turner (Poldark). As an idea for a play, it's bold and brilliant – the couple live in a strange world where you're only allowed to speak 140 words per day! So, restricted by the Quietude Bill, they have to work out how else they can express their feelings under this totalitarian regime. It's clever and inventive.

"STANDING AT THE SKY'S EDGE"

National Theatre

This is one of the most exciting new British musicals in years, well-deserving of the 5 star reviews it has already received. Set in the Park Hill flats in Sheffield, it follows a line of three families who have lived in the same flat over the course of six decades, from the hopefulness of the 60's, through the dilapidation of the 80's to the gentrification of the 2010's. It's complicated, but so cleverly directed that the intricacies of their different lives are easy to follow. There are vivid, remarkable performances all round - it really is a must-see.

"THE LEHMAN TRILOGY"

National Theatre

This play has returned to the West End after successful runs in both 2018 and 2019. It is an epic piece of drama that reminds us why we go to the theatre - for great acting. The three leads play numerous different roles - they trace the history of the Lehman brothers from their arrival in the US in the 1840's as Jewish immigrants from Bavaria through to the collapse of the bank that bore their name in 2008. It's electrifying, and you're glued from beginning to end. Long, but so worth it!

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"SYLVIA" Old Vic Theatre

An uplifting musical that tells the story of Sylvia Pankhurst and the Suffragette movement as they battle to overcome the oppression of women in the early 20th century. Beverley Knight, who gives a powerhouse performance as Sylvia's mother Emmeline, leads the outstanding cast as they sing their hearts out and dance their socks off! Exhilarating and different, it's the kind of show that will, hopefully, pull in a new demographic of younger theatre-goers.

"NOISES OFF" Phoenix Theatre

Michael Frayn's behind-the-scenes-at-the-theatre farce is celebrating its 40th anniversary with this production, and it has a cast to savour, including Felicity Kendal, Tracy-Ann Oberman, Matthew Kelly and the brilliantly funny Joseph Millson. The idea was surely the inspiration for 'The Play That Goes Wrong' but, unlike that play, it revels in the absurdity of its characters and their emotional baggage, rather than the slapstick comedy of The Play That Goes Wrong. Although it does have some of that too!

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