Oxford's DAILY INFO

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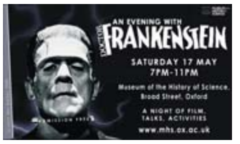
Next issue: Sat 17th May
Deadline: 10am, Fri 16th May

Thu 15th & Fri 16th May 2008 (4th week)

WHAT'S ON / COMING SOON



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Saturday 17 May, 7.30pm

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Oxford Music Network

Sat 17 May, Christ Church Cathedral, 8pm
MUSIC AT OXFORD
Dame Gillian Weir
Tickets £20
www.musicatoxford.com

Sat 17 May, North Aston Farms 5.30pm
OXFORD CONTEMPORARY MUSIC
Kimmo Pohjonen - Earth Machine Music
Tickets £10-£13.50/family £25-£30
www.ocmevents.org

Booking: 0870 750 0659
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Green Onions

The UK Blues Brothers Tribute Band

The Jericho Tavern, Sat 17th May. Doors 8pm.

Tickets £6 from the venue and
www.wegottickets.com/event/28779

www.ukbluesbrothers.com
www.myspace.com/ukbluesbrotherstributeband

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CINEMA
Until Fri 16th May

Vue Cinema (08712 240 240)

WHAT HAPPENS IN VEGAS [12A] A couple wake up married and wealthy.	Thu: 2.30, 4.45, 7.15, 9.30pm Fri: 2.15, 4.30, 6.45, 9.10, 11.30pm
NIM'S ISLAND [U] Fiction and reality blend in fantasy adventure.	Thu: 12.45, 3.15, 5.30pm Fri: 12.40, 3.20, 5.45pm
FORGETTING SARAH MARSHALL [15] ✍ A man copes without his famous girlfriend.	Thu: 1.00, 3.20, 5.45, 8.15pm Fri: 12.30, 3.30, 6.15, 8.45, 11.20pm
DOOMSDAY [18] Future Scotland with cannibals.	Thu: 1.30, 4.00, 6.30, 9.00pm Fri: 1.15, 3.45, 6.30, 9.20, 11.40pm
THE OXFORD MURDERS [15] ✍ A student and his tutor are drawn into a murder mystery.	Thu: 8.00pm Fri: 8.30, 11.10pm
SPEED RACER [12A] Action adventure based on the comic book.	Thu: 1.30, 2.30, 4.30, 5.30, 7.30, 8.30pm Fri: 2.30, 5.30pm
IRON MAN [12A] ✍ Arms dealer becomes superhero.	Thu: 12.00, 1.00, 2.00, 3.00, 4.00, 5.00, 6.00, 7.00, 8.00, 9.00pm Fri: 12.00, 1.00, 2.00, 3.00, 4.00, 5.00, 6.00, 7.00, 8.00, 9.00, 10.00 11.00pm
SMART PEOPLE [15] A professor's life falls apart.	Fri: 12.50, 3.10, 5.20, 7.30, 9.40, 11.50pm
MADE OF HONOUR [12A] Wedding-based love triangle.	Fri: 8.15, 10.45pm

Ultimate Picture Palace (245288)

AWAY FROM HER [12A] Adaptation of Alice Munro's short story The Bear Came Over The Mountain.	Thu: 6.00pm
GARAGE [18] Tragedy and comedy in rural Ireland.	Thu: 8.30pm
THE OTHER BOLEYN GIRL [12A] ✍ Curious reworking of the story of Henry VIII's wife.	Fri: 6.30pm
DIARY OF THE DEAD [18] The latest of George Romero's zombie classics.	Fri: 9.00pm
FANTASTIC PLANET [PG] The surreal world of the Draags and the Oms.	Fri: 11.30pm

Odeon George St (0871 2244 007)

SPEED RACER [PG] Action adventure based on the comic book.	Thu: 1.00, 4.15, 8.00pm Fri: 1.00, 4.00, 7.15pm
WHAT HAPPENS IN VEGAS [12A] A couple wake up married and wealthy.	Thu: 2.45, 5.30, 8.15pm Fri: 2.45, 5.45, 8.45pm
THE OXFORD MURDERS [15] ✍ A student and tutor are drawn into a murder mystery.	Thu: 3.00, 5.45, 8.30pm Fri: 2.30, 5.30, 8.30pm
IRON MAN [12A] ✍ Arms dealer becomes superhero.	Thu & Fri: 1.30, 4.30, 7.30pm
MADE OF HONOUR [12A] Wedding-based love triangle.	Thu: 3.45, 6.15, 9.00pm Fri: 3.00, 6.00, 9.00pm
FORGETTING SARAH MARSHALL [15] ✍ A man tries to survive without his famous girlfriend.	Thu: 3.15, 6.00, 8.45pm Fri: 2.15, 5.15, 8.15pm

Odeon Magdalen St(0871 2244 007)

IRON MAN [12A] ✍ Arms dealer becomes superhero.	Thu & Fri: 2.30, 5.30, 8.30pm
NIM'S ISLAND [U] Fiction and reality blend in fantasy adventure.	Thu: 3.45, 6.00pm, Fri: 12.30, 2.45pm
21 [12A] ✍ A man turns to blackjack to fund med school.	Thu: 8.15pm, Fri: 5.00, 8.00pm

Phoenix Picture House (0870 758 3218)

YOU THE LIVING [15] Swedish tragi-comic vignettes.	Thu: 2.15, 6.40pm
HONEYDRIPPER [PG] The birth of rock and roll in 50s America.	Thu: 4.00, 6.30pm
JOY DIVISION [15] Documentary including newly discovered material.	Thu: 1.45, 9.00pm
PERSEPOLIS [12A] ✍ Animation of one Iranian woman's struggle for identity.	Thu: 4.30, 8.50pm, Fri: 1.45, 4.00pm
CARAMEL [PG] Five women meet in a beauty salon in Beirut.	Fri: 2.00, 4.15, 6.30, 8.45pm
TIBET: A BUDDHIST TRILOGY [PG] Recut version of 1979 classic. Includes Q&A.	Fri: 6.00pm
DUEL [PG] Death by truck. Part of the Spielberg festival.	Fri: 8.45pm

THEATRE
until Sat 17th May

Oxford Playhouse (305305)

EDUCATING AGNES ✍ Dark satirical remake of old play about What Wives Ought To Do. £10.50-£23.50	Wed 14th: 7.30pm Thu 15th, Sat 17th: 2.30, 7.30pm, Fri 16th: 8pm

Merton College Chapel

THE CLANDESTINE MARRIAGE ✍ Long-neglected play by David Garrick. True love battles marrying for money.	Tue 13th - Sat 17th: 7.30pm

St Michael at the North Gate(255776/240940)

TRIAL BY JURY + G&S CONCERT A satirical take on the British judiciary, plus a selection of G&S favourites. £6/£4	Thu 15th - Sat 17th: 8pm

New Theatre, Oxford (0870 6063500)

HORRIBLE HISTORIES: THE VILE VICTORIANS Bringing history to life. £10.50-£14.50	Thu 15th: 10.30am; Fri 16th: 7.00pm; Sat 17th: 2.00pm

OFS Studio (297170)

ASSASSINS ✍ Student production of Sondheim's musical "Assassins" £9/£7	Tue 13th - Fri 16th: 7.30pm, Sat 17th: 2.30 pm, 7.30 pm

Burton Taylor Studio (305305)

THE BALD PRIMADONNA A new production of Ionesco's highly acclaimed play. £5/£4	Tue 13th - Sat 17th: 9.30pm

O'Reilly Theatre, Keble College

SWING! by Lauren Bensted. A (not-so-)subtle satirical celebration of Bar Mitzvahs, vegetable allotments and sexual obscenities. £8/£5.50	Fri 16th & Sat 17th: 7.30pm

✍ = review on dailyinfo.co.uk

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THEATRE REVIEW

The Clandestine Marriage

Merton College Chapel, Tue 13th - Sat 17th May, 7.30pm

I was pleasantly surprised by this thoroughly delicious confection. Mid-eighteenth century comedy can be a bit of an acquired taste, but thanks to the excellence of director Helen McCabe's adaptation – judicious deletions here, subtle modernizations there – the script came across as witty, fresh, and modern enough in tone to make it perfectly accessible, while not losing the charm and cadence of the original.

Money-grubbing nouveau-riche merchant Mr Sterling wants to buy his way into the aristocracy by marrying off his elder daughter Betsey to impoverished young baronet Sir John Melvil. Unfortunately Sir John takes more of a shine to his younger daughter Fanny, and though Mr Sterling is perfectly amenable to brokering a new deal with Sir John for the delectable Fanny, there is an unfortunate spanner in the works – Fanny is already married, in secret, to his clerk Mr Lovewell (you see what I mean?). Cue huge complications equal to the height of early twentieth century bedroom farce, with Sir John's randy old uncle Lord Ogleby (really) getting in on the act, and Betsey and her horrid rich aunt Mrs Heidelberg determined to ruin Fanny's chances and get their revenge on her.

It is no small tribute to the cast and director that they managed to create and sustain the imaginary world of the play and invoke the emotional involvement of the audience in such a difficult venue. The ante-chapel of Merton chapel, though beautiful in a forbidding, late-medieval way, is a huge, cold, dark, echoey space, a natural amplifier with plenty of reverb for even the tiniest human voice. Heavy with the patriarchal past and the presence of the dead, it doesn't feel like a place that has been at home to any proceedings more jolly than early-modern choral music, but it does resonate with the more sombre themes underlying the sparkling repartee – for fathers treating their daughters as commodities is by no means an issue confined to the past, with sixty thousand forced marriages of teenage girls in our own dear country in recent years. Tip Top Productions has adopted the sensible measure of importing older actors to leaven the mix with their talented students; resulting in a cast strong enough to transcend the wobbly scenery and inhabit the imaginary chambers, galleries, and gardens of Mr Sterling's country house. They had to work hard for their success, but they certainly did it and by the second half tentative titters had developed into actual laughing out loud, and a delicious anticipation of what catastrophes would befall the hapless hero and heroine next.

Arabella Lawson was a scrumptious Fanny - pretty, slender, sympathetic - and she suffered exquisitely in company with Edmond Boullé as her very appealing husband. Lavinia Singer managed to be both very funny and beautiful as the mercenary, selfish and vindictive Betsey, delivering the play's famous line, "Love and a cottage? Give me indifference and a coach-and-six." with squeaky panache. Michael Dacre was splendid as Mr Sterling, pitching his oafish plebeian vigour against the effete aristocrats with a touch of Ray Winston-esque menace, and Colin Barrie was a delight as elderly roué with a heart of gold Lord Ogleby, constantly self-medicating and applying his own makeup – you just know that if he were around now he'd be munching Viagra like popcorn. Sir John Melvil was brilliantly personated by Laith Dilaimi, as a man in whom inbred charm barely conceals his many anxieties, and who convincingly develops a conscience by the end of the play. I haven't space to commend everyone. A superb production of a very warm and charming and funny play – dress warm, and go see it! Strongly recommended.

Andrea Hopkins

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MEETINGS AND LECTURES

Thu 15th

OXFORD & THE PRE-RAPHAELITES / Colin Harrison, Curator of British Art / 2pm-4pm. £5 / Headley Lecture Theatre, Ashmolean Museum, Beaumont St.

BURIALS, BONES & BEHEADINGS / Dr Louise Loe: burial archaeology & Oxon history. / 6pm-7.30pm £5 pp / www.oxfordcastleunlocked.co.uk / 260668 / The Key Learning Centre, Oxford Castle.

ATTITUDINAL HEALING / Non-judgemental circle. / www.attitudinalhealing.org / 19.30 - 21.30. £4.50 / Ann 01869 246839 / 43 St. Giles

GO / BADUK / WEIQI: PLAY & LEARN / Oriental board-game - play or watch; also free lessons / Oxford City Go Club / Free - Visitors welcome. 7pm 248775 / 273928 / Freud's, Walton St

AFTER HOURS / Local businesses networking opportunity - come down after work! / 5pm - late, free / 241261 / The Regal, 300 Cowley Rd, (the old Bingo Hall), OX4 1US

ISIS SPEAKERS CLUB / Watch & practice in a friendly group! / 7.00pm - Visitors free! / www.isisspeakers.co.uk / Oxford Town Hall, 109-113 St Aldate's

LAND OF SILENCE AND DARKNESS / Talk & action day connecting movies, blindness, drawing, perception & neuroscience. / 10.30am - 4.30pm / www.ruskin-sch.ox.ac.uk / 276940 / Science Oxford, 1 - 5 London Place, St Clements

DIGITAL TECHNOLOGIES & their Role in Achieving our Ambitions for Education / Prof. Diana Laurillard / 4pm-5.30pm. Free / Oxford Learning Institute, Littlegate House, St Ebbe's

HE EDOUARD BALLADUR & THE RT HON JACK STRAW: The Fifth Republic at Fifty: New Constitutional Settlement in Britain and France? / European Studies / 5pm / Dahrendorf Room, St Antony's College, Woodstock Rd

ISAIAH BERLIN AND THE CHALLENGE OF MULTICULTURALISM / Timothy Garton Ash / 6pm / Wolfson College Hall, Linton Road

Fri 16th

MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS / Introductory talk, booking essential. Meet in Randolph Gallery (Rm 1). / 1.15 - 2pm. Free, optional donation £2 / 278015 to book / Ashmolean Museum, Beaumont St

TEN MINUTE TREASURE TALKS / One of the objects on display. Suitable for all / 12.15pm. Free. / Ashmolean Museum, Beaumont St / 278000

LAND OF SILENCE & DARKNESS / As Thursday, but 10am - 6pm

GLOBAL MORTALITY AT THE BEGINNING OF THE MILLENNIUM: THE 2006 GLOBAL BURDEN OF DISEASE STUDY / Alan D Lopez, Professor of Medical Statistics / 1.30pm / Richard Doll Building, Old Road Campus, Headington, OX3 7LF

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GIGS

Thu 15th

THE KING'S SHILLING, TELEGRAMME, THE SHANKS / 8pm £5 / Jericho Tavern, 56 Walton St.; Tel: 311775

EX-MODELS, ELAPSE-O, ICE SEA DEAD PEOPLE / Cellar Bar, Frewin Court / 244761

LITTLE MAN TATE + MORE / 7pm / £10 adv / The Zodiac ‰ Carling Academy Oxford, 190 Cowley Road, OX4 1UE / 0844 477 2000

CATWEAZLE CLUB / Performance space for music, poetry and story. / 8-11pm / £4/£3 / www.catweazleclub.org / East Oxford Community Centre, 44b Princes Street (corner of Cowley Rd), OX4 1DD

SECRET SKYLARKIN' SESSIONS / Reggae, Soul, Ska, Funk, Rhythm & Booze. / 8.30pm - midnight, free / The Brickworks, 182 Cowley Road

SPIERS & BODEN / Local folk favourites / Bullingdon Arms, 162 Cowley Road, Tel: 244516

THE WIND UP MERCHANTS / Spinning Red Hot R&B and Jazz from the 1920's to the 1950's / 8.30-12.30am. Free / The Brickworks, Cowley Road

THE GATHERING / Acoustic open mic night - all welcome. / 9-11.30pm / Free / The Flowing Well, Sunningwell, OX13 6RB; Tel: 01865 735846

TREVOR WARREN'S DISASSEMBLER / Premier contemporary jazz unit. / 9pm. £8 / £6 / www.spinjazz.com / The Wheatsheaf, Wheatsheaf Alley, 129 High St, OX1 4DF / 721156

PETE LAY'S GAMBIT JAZZMEN + CHRIS TYLE / Jazzmen & American guest. / £8 / 8pm / Jazz at Lains Barn, 1 mile east of Wantage, off A417; Tel: 01993 811678/01235 765648

SCARLET'S WELL, THE LODGER, DIAL F FOR FRANKENSTEIN / Indie rock and more / 8pm £3 / Exeter Hall, 1 Oxford Rd (corner of Cowley & Marsh Rds.) 776431

KEELING CURVE, AGENTS OF JANE / Amnesty International Benefit Gig / 8pm / Port Mahon, St. Clement's

Fri 16th

TOM BLISS / A popular troubadour / 8.30pm / www.oxfordfolkclub.com / Folly Bridge Inn, Abingdon Road / 790106

DUBWISER, DUBHEART / Reggae double-bill / 8pm £5 / The Wheatsheaf, Wheatsheaf Alley, 129 High Street, OX1 4DF / 721156

NOT MY DAY, EVERYTHING EVERYTHING, SHAKELLERS, DANIEL FRIDHOLM / Rock, pop and more / 8pm £5 / Jericho Tavern, 56 Walton St.; Tel: 311775

ALVIN ROY'S REEDS UNLIMITED / Swing/Mainstream jazz / 8.30-11pm free 792718 / Old Orleans Bar, George St,

AQUASKY, CONFIDENTIAL COLLECTIVE, HORIZONTAL LIFE / 9pm-3am. Door shuts at 12pm sharp. / www.wegottickets.com/event/30700 / The Regal, 300 Cowley Road, (the old Bingo Hall), 241261

INDIAN CLASSICAL MUSIC / Pandit Vishwamohan Bhatt, creator of Mohan Veena (modified guitar) / 7pm, £10, £5 students / www.vishwamohanbhatt.com / JdP Music Building, St. Hilda's College, Cowley Place / 276821

SELF INFLICTED CONFUSION, THE CRUSADERS / 9pm £3 / Exeter Hall, 1 Oxford Rd (corner of Cowley & Marsh Rds.) / 776431

THE SMITHS INDEED / Tribute to the masters of moody / 7pm £10 / Carling Academy Oxford, 190 Cowley Road, OX4 1UE / 0844 477 2000

DESMOND CHANCER & THE LONG MEMORIES, CHARLIE KHAN / Bluesy rock / 8pm / Port Mahon, St. Clement's