

JFS Journal

JFS School

Issue 10 - London Edition

March 2022



From the Editor's Desk...

*With spring in the air
there is nothing for it but
to pay homage to the city
we live in. Our writers
have looked at food, music,
exhibitions and more –
London we salute you!*

*And if you happen to
experience something we
have shared be sure to
let us know and perhaps
write about it yourself?*

Ms Wolfson

Elizabeth Line - Opening Soon?

The opening of Elizabeth Line is one of the most significant events in London this year. According to Crossrail, the creator of this new £14.8 billion Underground Line, they claim it will connect 1.5 million people within 45 minutes of travel. Also, it will have 200 million people travelling on it per year!

The stations run to and from Abbey Wood, Reading, Shenfield and Heathrow. It has 100km long train tracks, with 42km of it being a tunnel. It will pass through 41 stations, 10 new and 30 upgraded.

The Elizabeth Line is planned to support and create housing and jobs in London, Berkshire, Buckinghamshire and Essex. It is

expected that it will also increase Central London's rail capacity by 10%. This is the largest increase by a single line in 70 years! This will not only benefit TfL and Crossrail as it will bring £42 billion to the UK's economy annually! This will clearly prove that the 130+ million hours worked on this project have been worth it.

It seems the benefits will be great and all the numbers it creates are significant too. We see that TfL and Crossrail have put time, money, and effort into making something extraordinary and amazing to help us in our everyday lives, and even boost our economy.

By Elijah Pillemer Y8

ELIZABETH LINE

Cirque du Soleil

Wows Again!

Cirque du Soleil reopened its doors to audiences again at the Royal Albert Hall with the show Luzia, a waking dream of Mexico. It opened on Wednesday 12th January and ran to Sunday 27th February 2022 and has succeeded in amazing and enchanting the public with its acrobatics.

My family and I went to Cirque du Soleil on Sunday the 23rd of January 2022, When we entered there was a beautiful array of flowers set on the circular stage with a clock behind it. Before the show even started the actors came out and performed Mexican themed music to introduce

us. This was a brilliant way to start the show.

The show has marked 25 years of entertainment for Cirque du Soleil and is called Luzia because the word Luzia originated from the Spanish words 'luz' and 'lluvia' which mean



light and rain. These words describe the experience as there was a giant waterfall on the stage and many other water effects, as well as lots of shadow play and colourful lighting. The two words couldn't be more perfect to describe the show.

The acts included stunts like dividing and throwing hoops on treadmills, balancing acts, contortion, water tricks with a waterfall, aerial (mid-air) stunts and Cyr wheel (this is when the performer stands inside the Cyr wheel and holds the rim so it spins) and trapeze stunts as well. My favourite act was the contortionist since he really baffled me and the audience with his ability to bend and twist his body to the extreme.

As well as beautiful lighting, water play, stunts and acrobatics out of this world there was also the music which led the show along. The music was a key part of the show and helped tie the show together through baffling and awing the audience with their portrayal of Mexico. From clowns to contortionists Cirque du Soleil was a night to remember with my family and has caused a sensation in London at the Royal Albert Hall. I highly recommend when Cirque du Soleil reopens again in the winter, to go and see the new show!

By Hannah Pillemer Y9

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The London Concert Scene

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Freedom – fun – fantastical. Concerts are a highlight for many people. London especially is a hotspot for all artists to come and play for the unique audiences it can offer. The London sound is a reflection of its history, its diversity, and the

creativity that comes with living in one of the most vibrant cities in the world. Whether you want Indie, Pop, Rock, Classical or Jazz, London is a place with concerts for everything.

London has long been synonymous with the greatest artists of each and every genre, for example, The Beatles, Michael Jackson, Elton John, Taylor Swift, Madonna, to name just a few.

Over the years, concert venues have changed quite a lot. From super large venues like Wembley Stadium or the O2 (with or without the roof!), to smaller more intimate venues like the Brixton Academy. London has a venue to suit all types of people and all types of artists.

During the past few decades, ticket prices have changed dramatically. For many long-term fans, this ticket price rise means many fans can no longer afford to support and view their favorite artists, with prices sometimes over £100!

I, myself, love music and have always wanted to go to a concert. I had got tickets and planned my outfit for a Taylor Swift concert but then COVID-19 sent those plans out the window. But now, in a few weeks' time, I am going to see George Ezra in concert at the London Palladium, but even this has already been moved once due to him getting Chicken Pox! I apparently don't have much luck with concerts!

No matter what you are into, whoever your favorite artist is, whatever genre you like, London has something to offer for everyone. You can just walk through Camden and will see many bars and clubs with different artists and bands with their array of fans going wild for their music.

So next time you go out with your friends in London, make sure to be on the lookout for these special venues and artists!

By Pascale Measures Y12





London's Kosher Restaurants

Do you ever see luscious cheeseburgers with decadent fries, engulfing your social media feed, day in day out? Watching bloggers eat their way through what cities have to offer, don't you ever think to yourself, "That looks delicious"? Nope? Well I do!!!! I guess that explains my lockdown weight gain! Fortunately, or unfortunately, London homes itself to an array of Kosher restaurants which for some of them definitely fulfil eager customers' social media based food needs.

In the 21st Century, we are beginning to see a rise in cuisines within our Kosher restaurants. We have Chinese restaurants (Metsuyan and Kaifeng), Sushi Restaurants (White Fish, Sushi Haven), we're even beginning to see some fine dining Kosher restaurants such as Island Grill by Tony Page and Tish. But what makes these restaurants special?

The positive ambience awaits you as you enter the luxurious temple of a restaurant, surely that's nicer

than a dirty, greasy restaurant full of children running around screaming (and, no this is not the JFS canteen!)

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The quality is key, and whether you're renaming your schnitzel to Milanese, or your ribeye steak to your 28 day dry aged, Jews love something new, and with all these new options out and about, boasting luxury and high prices, people want a slice of the cake.

Is the food actually better? Well, in some cases yes! With new restaurants comes new opportunities, and new restaurants have to make a top impression on their guests, so providing top food is essential.

So Should you try the new restaurants? YES! It can't hurt anyone, worst comes to worst, you don't enjoy the food and you don't return. All that matters is, we are helping the local economy and supporting independent businesses.

So go out and eat out!

By Sam Field Y11

South of the River



The Premier League arguably boasts some of the most talented players that have ever graced world football. With the rising generation of young players emerging onto the global scene, one area epitomises the 'swagger and confidence' that we see on the pitch week in week out. South London is notorious for children, teenagers, and adults playing football on any surface they can find. Whether it be a patch of grass in a local park, or a concrete pitch to play five a side on. When the stars have been asked what their earliest memories of football are, it is always with friends in these areas.

It is no coincidence that the once schoolmates, now thriving footballers have reached heights that no-one can imagine they would have done together. In a recent BT Sports documentary titled 'South of the River', it explored the various areas that the UK's top footballing talent hailed from. For example, before Declan Rice was scouted by Chelsea as a teenager, he was playing in a small recreational ground in Kingston-upon-Thames. Emile Smith Rowe, Arsenal's top

goal scorer, and recent England international, was scouted playing football in a small recreational ground in Croydon, before moving to North London. Both start for Premier League sides, and both have been called up to the England national team. In fact, England's most recent squad announcement for their

“It's all about London now”

international fixtures at the end of March 2022 included nine players from London. Nine. That's just under 50% of the full squad!

Previously, it was all about Merseyside. Everyone wanted to be the next Wayne Rooney. A Merseyside boy living the dream

at a young age playing for his local team, having been a supporter all his life. Before, there was Ian Wright. Born and raised in London. Crystal Palace and Arsenal legend. He was the epitome of London football, arguably one of the pioneers to do so as well. He scored 90 goals for the Eagles and over 120 for the Gunners in 400 games total. He is now an inspiration for youngsters making the big step up. Every player has a good relationship with him, including Arsenal's new talented youngsters. Wright said in a post-match interview, that Saka was 'his guy' and 'burdened with glorious purpose'. The 58-year-old continues to have a huge influence on the 'London-style' football, even when he's not on the pitch himself.

Every area has a unique playing style, and it is incredible to watch the upcoming generation of players that have their own stories and experiences to share from their childhood backgrounds. Gone were the days where Merseyside was the place to be to get into an elite club, it's all about London now.

By Aaron Jaffe Y11

Changes to Buses



Is it good or bad, and what do the changes to TfL buses mean for Londoners?

Transport for London, TfL, are constantly making changes to the London buses. In Autumn 2020, TfL said that any new single deck buses that will be replacing older ones will have zero emission. Some of the most recent changes that have come into effect are that the new buses are electric, or run on Hydrogen and that USB charging points have been added to buses. The new buses are now a lot quieter, and they are helping to improve our air quality. Additionally, on the 507 and 521 bus routes, the electric buses now have live information boards that notify how long it will take to get to each bus stop, and they also have live status updates across the network.

This affects JFS because the buses on the 183 and 125 route, that many JFS students take to and from school, have been changed to run on electricity and are now both 'cleaner and greener'. In particular, on the new 183 buses, there are more seats and the bus is a lot quieter due to it using electricity as a fuel. The most evident difference is the USB charging points which a Year 10 student stated is, "So cool!"

TfL have made very beneficial changes to the buses that are good for improving London's air quality. However, the addition of USB charging points is a disputable addition. Personally, I think it is a very practical and wise addition, provided you bring a charger with you. Your phone can charge while travelling so that if an emergency occurs, you can call the Police or Paramedics and ensure

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that you do not run out of charge. It could be argued that this will lead to Londoners spending increasingly more time on their device which is a significant concern for young people, especially after the pandemic when most days were spent on a device.

By Tami Potishman Y10



Art and Exhibitions in London

London is an amazing city due to all the museums, exhibitions, art installations and more, but what is even more interesting is all that this work inspires. I have chosen this element of London to highlight and delve into the creative aspects of art and the many different forms it comes in.

Superblue London

Superblue is an interactive experience on Old Bond Street where you can watch the formation of bubbles form from the ceiling. It has been described as 'a grove of tree-like automata releasing ephemeral bubbles that can be handled'.

After being to the exhibition I felt inspired and refreshed due to the fun and playful elements of the bubbles, it was truly fascinating to see them form and pop.

Van Gogh: The Immersive Experience

This experience is a light installation



of Van Gogh's art and paintings in projection form which actually makes one feel as if they were 'in the painting'. Inspiration is taken from the icon starry night landscape and is said to have all the qualities needed to make a 'post pandemic smash'.

This installation is a 20,000 square foot light and sound system projecting art in 360 degrees, so that when you are in the exhibition room you get the full effect of the Van Gogh experience and

feel fully consumed in what you are seeing.

This experience was so relaxing as you can just sit and get lost in the paintings and portraits.

Oscar Wilde lounge

In the Cafe Royal Hotel on Regent Street is a ballroom dedicated to luxurious afternoon high-teas, this ballroom had collaborated with the Van Gogh immersive experience to create an artisanal tea experience. This tea entails all deserts influenced by Van Gogh's work including, a starry night cheese cake, a chocolate layered self-portrait, colour changing tea and sunflower mousse.

The whole experience is inside the 'Versailles' ballroom with gold accents everywhere and floating cherubs on the Blue sky ceilings, there are so many mirrors it seems as though the room goes on forever. It is very unusual to eat art and of course it is not Kosher!

Coming up is the Queens Jubilee, so the Oscar Wilde lounge is being sponsored to do a Queen's Jubilee themed afternoon tea.

By Layla Freedman Y11

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A Tour of London's Bookshops



I've always loved reading, and the warmth and comfort that books and bookshops offer, so this weekend, I decided to drag a few friends along and visit an assortment of bookshops in London.

“Cosy reading nooks were nestled among towering stacks of shelves”

Our first stop was Brick Lane, renowned for baking the best bagels in London (no longer Kosher), and for its vast collection of vintage shops. It is also home to the Brick Lane Bookshop, a small independent bookstore. Upon arrival, we were immediately hit by the earthy smell of new books lingering delightfully



in the air and noted the tranquil and homely atmosphere. At least half an hour flew by as we leafed through a kaleidoscope of colourful paperbacks, before I picked up a copy of *The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes* and was gifted a bookmark with an illustration of the shop's modest facade along with my purchase.

Libreria, consistently rated as one of the top bookshops in London. Devoid of much natural light, the interior was bathed in a warm apricot glow, and embellished with bright yellow pillows and lamps providing a comfortable and welcoming mood. Cosy reading nooks were nestled among towering stacks of shelves and mirrors lined the walls, giving the impression that the bookshop was larger than in reality.

Though reluctant to break free from the snug embrace of Libreria, we travelled by train to Granary Square



where on Regents Canal, Word on the Water, a bookstore unusually is located on a barge. This gave it a unique and fascinating feel. Clambering on, we were met with a vast selection of genres and titles, various rustic ornaments, and slightly more unexpectedly, a grey parrot named Jazzy. The atmosphere felt cheerful and friendly, and judging by the amount of squawking, we presumed Jazzy agreed with us.

Scanning the spines, my friend bought a contemporary novel and we departed.

Notting Hill was our final destination, and by the time we stepped off the train, we were met with a torrential downpour of rain. Dashing along the puddle-strewn pavements, we pointed out the pastel-hued buildings, before we eventually arrived at Lutyens & Rubinstein Bookshop, which displayed a stripy shopfront resembling that of a sweet shop. Despite the miserable weather outside, the interior felt warm and cosy, with an eclectic mix of novels, and books suspended from high ceilings like puppets. Within walking distance



was The Notting Hill Bookshop, the same one that was central to the film 'Notting Hill'. Fake flowers and leaves snaked their way up the bookshelves, and we were amazed by the shop's extensive selection of stunning hardcovers. After purchasing a small bag and a few books between us, we headed home.

All in all, a successful and enjoyable day out!

By Sarah Trup Y12





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