

Plan your week's theatre: top tickets

London's International Mime festival throws up some special treats including Gandini Juggling's Smashed, and Cinderella is still having a ball in Bolton

Up in the air ... Gandini Juggling's Smashed is at Peacock theatre, London

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Monday

The [London International Mime festival](#) begins today with a special edition of Gandini Juggling's brilliant, Pina Bausch-inspired show Smashed, at the [Peacock theatre](#). This House, James Graham's comedy about Westminster machinations, is well worth your time at [the Garrick](#), London. Michael Frayn's version of Chekhov's first play, Wild Honey, is a pleasure at [Hampstead](#). It's your last chance at [the Dorfman](#), London, tonight and tomorrow for Alexander Zeldin's Love, a story of homelessness. It moves to [Birmingham Rep](#) on 26 January. Tom Jacobson's The Twentieth Century Way at [Jermyn Street](#), London, looks at a period in Los Angeles just before the first world war when actors were hired to entrap gay men. The legacies of three conflicts – the first world war, second world war and the Vietnam war – are explored in Veterans Day, which is revived at [the Finborough](#), London.

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Alexander Zeldin's Love is at the Dorfman, London. Photograph: Sarah Lee for the Guardian

Tuesday

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Katherine Soper's Wish List, a devastating look at trying to survive when fate, health, the benefits system and zero-hours contracts conspire against you, starts at the [Royal Court Upstairs](#), London. At [the Finborough](#) you can catch the first London production in almost 30 years of Tony Harrison's The Trackers of Oxyrhynchus, a reimagining of the ancient Greek satyr play. Wild Thing, about the life and death of Oliver Reed, goes into [the King's Head](#), Islington, with a terrific performance from Rob Crouch as the hell-raiser. Giles Croft's staging of Khaled Hosseini's The Kite Runner, first seen at Nottingham Playhouse, is remade for [Wyndham's](#), London. Stuart Slade's BU21, about a group of survivors coming to terms with an attack in London, is at [Trafalgar Studios](#).

Wednesday

Sally Cookson's Cinderella: a Fairy Tale remains a joy at the [Tobacco Factory](#), Bristol. At [Theatr Clwyd](#), Mold, three- to five-year-olds will enjoy Oily Cart's In a Pickle, inspired by The Winter's Tale. French company Les Antliacastes bring Here Lies Shakespeare, a piece that is described as a cross between a Catholic mass and the Muppets, to [Jacksons Lane](#), London. Mathurin Bolze's circus piece Du Goudron et des Plumes was an astonishment and he's back with Barons Perchés at [Platform](#), London, a show inspired by an Italo Calvino story.

Thursday

Ramin Gray directs Roland Schimmelpfennig's Winter Solstice, a comedy about family betrayals, at [the Orange Tree](#), Richmond. Danai Gurira's The Convert at [the Gate](#), London, explores western cultural impositions in 19th-century Rhodesia. The Witches are still turning children into mice at [West Yorkshire Playhouse](#). Mime festival favourites Mossoux Bonté are at [the Lilian Baylis](#), London, with Whispers, a piece about doubt, secrets and ghosts.

Friday and the weekend

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Picnic at Hanging Rock is heading to the Royal Lyceum, Edinburgh.
Photograph: Pia Johnson

Burt Bacharach's and Neil Simon's 1960s musical Promises, Promises is revived at [Southwark Playhouse](#). Malthouse Theatre, Melbourne and Black Swan State's highly acclaimed version of Picnic at Hanging Rock comes to [the Royal Lyceum](#), Edinburgh. Plasticine Men's There Shall Be Fireworks, set in a 200-year-old cemetery in Kabul, is at [the New Diorama](#), London. You can still go to the ball with Cinderella at [the Octagon](#), Bolton. The Push festival starts at [Home](#) in Manchester with Louise Wallwein's story of migration, The Island, the Sea, the Volunteer and the Refugee. The annual [Devoted and Disgruntled](#) meeting is for anybody interested in theatre, either as a maker or audience member, and it's at the Passenger Shed, Bristol, all over the weekend.

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