



Rise and Shine

Sun 3 & Mon 4 Sep, 7am – 8am
Royal Pavilion Garden

Stretch into gear in the beautiful Royal Pavilion Garden with two dawn calls of Yoga and Tai Chi, with live musicians creating an atmospheric soundtrack to this very special free event.

With the sun rising behind the dreamlike Royal Pavilion as a backdrop, you will awaken the spirit of the Estate. The Estate's Indian and Chinese decorative and architectural influences will be enjoyed and enhanced in this special place with our fusion of meditative movement and music.

Sun: Dionne leads an hour of creative yoga, set to live Indian classical music performed by Pete Yelding (Sitar) and Udit Pankhania (Tabla)

Mon: Simon Robins leads a Tai Chi class, accompanied by internationally renowned Chinese musician Cheng Yu.

Dionne - Yoga

Based between the UK and Norway, Dionne is a creative coach, yoga and meditation teacher, dj, writer and spacemaking event maker.

She runs community events, retreats and experiences in both countries and beyond as well as working one to one with creative coaching clients all over the world.

You can find out more about her work via her website: dionne.space

Pete Yelding - Sitar

Pete is an upcoming sitar player of the younger generation. Having learnt to play under the tuition of Clem Alford of the one of the most prominent schools of North Indian Classical music - Maihar Gharana – he has gone on to perform at a number of venues.

Udit Pankhania - Tabla

Udit has accompanied several maestros and performed in India, Dubai, Europe and in the UK. Known for his aesthetic playing and sound production, his repertoire covers all six gharanas (schools of playing) of tabla.

Simon Robins – Tai Chi

Simon leads the School of Tai Chi Chuan and Internal Arts, a group of instructors who teach a complete system of traditional taijiquan (tai chi).

Cheng Yu – Pipa and Guqin

Cheng Yu is an internationally renowned pipa and guqin virtuoso, scholar and specialist in Chinese music. She holds degrees in Chinese music from the Xi'an Conservatory of Music, China (BMus.) and the School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS), University of London (MMus, PhD). She performs, records and researches both traditional and contemporary Chinese music, and does cross-cultural music collaborations. She is the founder of the UK Chinese Music Ensemble and London Youlan Qin Society and currently teaches the *pipa* and *guqin* at SOAS.

Asian influence on the Royal Pavilion Estate

In the late 1780s George, the Prince Regent, hired architect Henry Holland to transform his Brighton lodging house into a modest villa which became known as the Marine Pavilion. With his love of visual arts and fascination with the mythical orient, George set about lavishly furnishing and decorating his seaside home. He especially chose Chinese export furniture and objects, and hand-painted Chinese wallpapers.

In 1808 his magnificent stables (now housing Brighton Museum and Brighton Dome's concert hall) was completed. It was one of the first major buildings in Europe built in the Indian style and was designed by William Porden.

In 1815, George commissioned John Nash - who proposed an Indian style in response to the design of the new stable block - to begin the transformation of his lodging house from modest villa into the magnificent oriental palace that we see today.

The Pavilion account books and inventories are full of intriguing entries relating to so-called 'India papers' (in reference to the East India Companies). The earliest entry dates from 1802, for £2 5s 'expended For 12 pieces of Fine India Paper'. George IV is known to have attended the hanging of Chinese wallpaper on several occasions, for example in August 1815, which shows how important these exotic papers were to him.

Around the time Chinese wallpapers were in high fashion (the late 1700s and early 1800s), many exotic plants and seeds were being imported from the Far East, especially China. In the very early 1800s, when the Pavilion interiors received their first oriental make-over, newly-arrived Chinese plants were being successfully propagated at Kew. By 1813 the Royal Gardener at Kew, William Townsend Aiton, recorded a total of 120 species that had recently been introduced from China. In the same year Aiton planted the garden at Carlton House for the Prince Regent. Two years later the Brighton gardener John Furner met with the architect John Nash and Aiton in London to discuss the new planting of the Pavilion gardens, which included many of the newly imported and propagated Chinese plants. In his beautifully illustrated and researched book *Set for a King* (2005) Mike Jones

describes the challenges of importing live plants and seeds and identifies many of the plants painted on the yellow Chinese wallpaper from the Saloon. It is easy to imagine Regency guests marvelling at the flowery wallpaper or walking through rooms that emulated Chinese courtyards later trying to spot the same exotic flowers in the garden.

During WWI the Royal Pavilion was the first Indian hospital to open in Brighton. The former palace, along with Brighton Dome's Concert Hall and Corn Exchange, were converted into a state of the art medical facility for wounded Indian soldiers.

The heart of the city, restored and reunited

A symbol of Brighton's unique eccentricity, the Royal Pavilion Estate is cherished by local people and is a destination for millions of visitors each year. But it can only be maintained for future generations with ongoing care and support.

Combining a royal palace and Regency garden, a museum and art gallery and three performing art spaces, this historic Estate is Brighton & Hove's cultural heart, and the Royal Pavilion its internationally recognised icon. Its magnificence, bold design and daring experimentation with form helped establish the city's reputation two centuries ago.

Our Vision

Brighton Dome & Brighton Festival, the Royal Pavilion & Museums, Brighton & Hove, and Brighton & Hove City Council are working together on a plan to continue to protect and restore this rich heritage, starting with a major refurbishment of Brighton Dome Corn Exchange and Studio Theatre.

Our aim? To reconnect and revitalise the historic buildings and gardens as one; to create a world-class cultural destination for heritage, culture and the performing arts infused with the vibrant spirit of Brighton past, present and future.

For more about the wider vision for the Royal Pavilion Estate visit brightondome.org/our_future/



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