

SEPTEMBER 2012

Fashion Week and the Design Festival return while patriotism soars with Last Night of the Proms as Juliette Binoche and Michael McIntyre take to the stage.



Great Court at British Museum

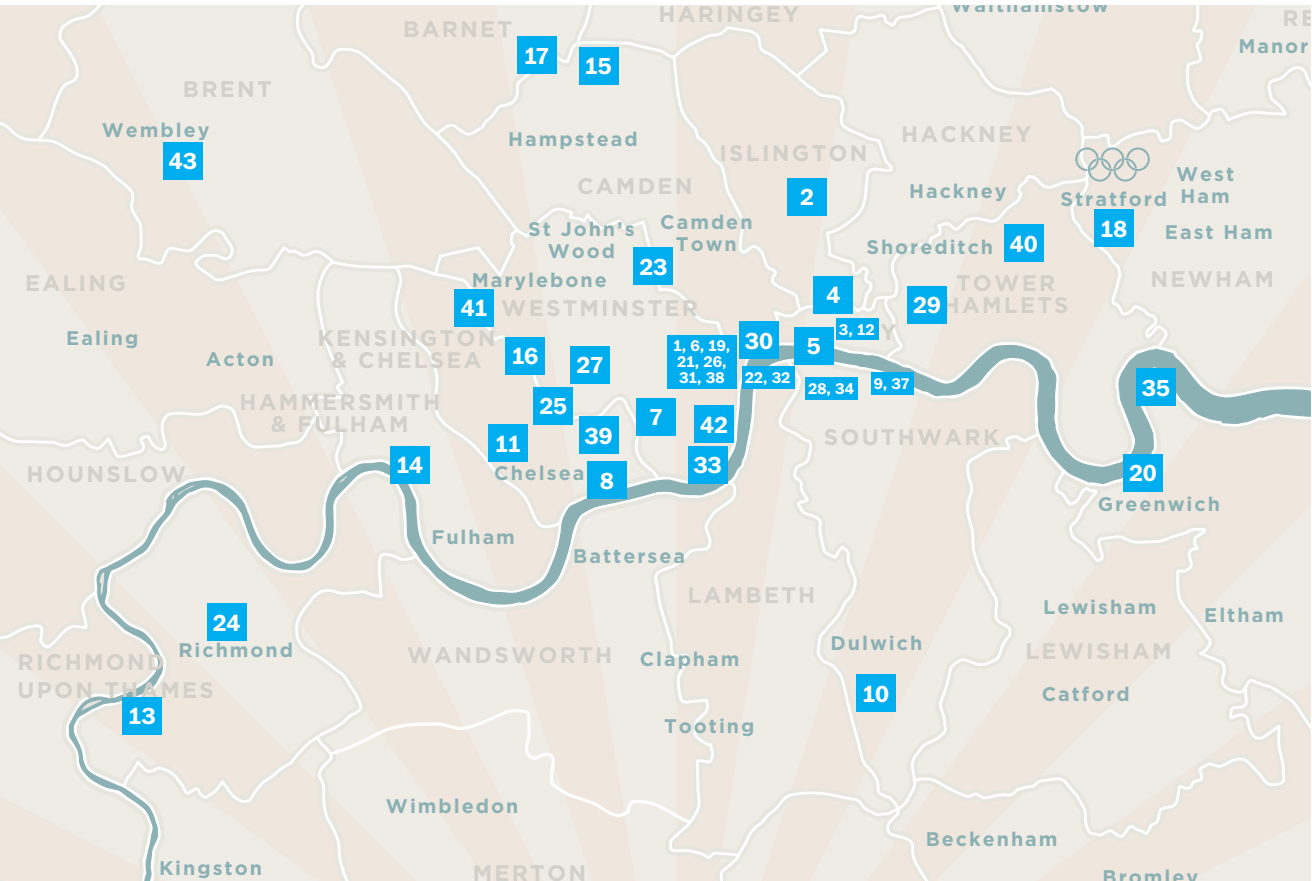
IMAGE COURTESY OF THE BRITISH MUSEUM

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BEHIND THE SCENES

Scores of properties across the city open their doors for curious onlookers in the ever-popular Open House Weekend – the capital's largest architectural festival **PAGE 127** Participating once again is the Foreign Office & India Office at Whitehall, the lavish Italianate-style edifice that was completed in 1868. Designed by George Gilbert Scott, the Grade I-listed building is renowned for its ornate ceilings and glorious staircases, as well as the magnificently decorated Durbar Court.

WHAT'S ON WHERE IN SEPTEMBER



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1-2-3-4 SHOREDITCH, COURTESY OF 1-2-3-4 SHOREDITCH LAST NIGHT OF THE PROMS © BBC PICTURES

September

Paralympics cap London's splendid summer

1st
1-2-3-4 Shoreditch
Saturday 1st September 2012
Shoreditch Park, Hoxton, London N1 6TA
The 1-2-3-4 Shoreditch music festival in Shoreditch Park returns for a fifth outing and this year it has come over all autumn, bringing you the best new underground music alongside inspirational international acts. Given the fashionable East London location, it's no surprise that this whippersnapper of a festival is branded as one for 'stylish bands, stylish fans and stylish sounds'. Perhaps the least corporate music festival you'll get all summer, the 1-2-3-4 will no doubt throw up a bevy of 'heard-them-here-first' bands alongside (in equal measure) many 'will-never-hear-of-again' offerings. After the live music comes to an ever so cool close in the park the fun moves on to some nearby venues, usually including Hoxton Square Bar & Kitchen, Electricity Showrooms, Bar Music Hall, Queen Of Hoxton, Old Blue Last, The Joiners Arms and Mother. Last year tickets cost a mere £22.50 and your festival wristband got you into all the after parties for free, working out as a damn good deal. We're looking forward to another night of autumn mayhem.

1st - 18th
Portobello Film Festival
1st - 18th September 2012 (Provisional dates)
Westbourne Studios, Ladbroke Grove, London W10 5JJ
Created in 1996 as a reaction to the state of the British Film industry, the Portobello Film Festival aims to provide a platform for new exciting filmmakers and to give daring and ground-breaking directors a chance to get their films seen. The festival hasn't had an easy ride and has even found itself without a cinema screen at times - but screenings in parks,

theatres, clubs and bars have all added to the diverse nature of the event. With annual premieres of shorts, documentaries and animations and lots of talks and workshops with top film directors the Portobello Film Festival is a must for any film fanatic's diary.

2nd
Sky Ride
2nd September 2012 (Provisional)
Throughout London
Major roads in the city are closed to traffic for the Mayor of London's Skyride, formerly known as London Freewheel. It's a day when everyone can enjoy the city on two wheels as major roads along the 15km route are closed to cars. Arteries like the Victoria Embankment will be free from the usual hum of traffic as up to 50,000 pedalling enthusiasts take to the roads. Sign up and you can cycle along the Thames taking in some stunning London landmarks in the City including St Paul's Cathedral. Details are yet to be confirmed but, judging by last year, there'll be a festival atmosphere with music, cycling angels and jugglers.

6th - 8th
Worlds Together
6th - 8th September 2012
Tate Modern, Bankside, London SE1 9TG
Worlds Together is an ambitious project aimed at exploring the



Revellers get into the groove at the 1-2-3-4 Shoreditch festival



Rule Britannia: out come the flags at the Last Night of the Proms

8th
Last Night of the Proms
Saturday 8th September 2012
Royal Albert Hall, London SW7 2AP
THE WORLD FAMOUS LAST NIGHT OF THE PROMS at the Royal Albert Hall brings the terrific summer season of The Proms (see also: The Proms - Royal Albert Hall - 13th July - 8th September 2012 **PAGE 98**) to a fitting finale. Described by conductor Jiri Belohlavek as "the world's largest and most democratic musical festival", the much-loved classical celebration now encompasses more than 100 concerts each year. The Last Night is traditionally very different from the eight weeks that precede it, following a lighter, 'winding-down' vein and often pandering to popular classics and Patriotic Anthems (Rule, Britannia!, anyone?). Tickets are almost as hard to come by as Centre Court passes for the Wimbledon finals, but like the tennis, the whole thing is broadcast live on the BBC - and all round the world. Plus there's the simultaneous Proms in the Park party, usually hosted by Terry Wogan.

importance of arts in young people's lives. The London based conference will combine the efforts and resources of the Tate Modern, the British Museum, the National Theatre and the Royal Shakespeare Company. This mass collaboration draws on every medium of art from digital technologies to Shakespeare and takes a particular interest in new emerging art forms and practices. The three-day event will provide a platform for teachers, artists and professionals to come together to discuss the way different artistic disciplines affect young people's cultural experience. The forum will be held in the Tate's brand new Oil Tanks. and is part of both the Unilever Series and the London 2012 Festival's World Shakespeare Festival. Visit the Tate website to book your ticket, as spaces are limited and demand will no doubt be high.

8th - 9th Mayor's Thames Festival

8th - 9th September 2012

Blackfriars Bridge, London EC4V 3QR

The Mayor's Thames Festival takes place in September each year celebrating the main waterway which winds its way through the heart of the city. This year the festival is taking place on the closing weekend of the London 2012 Paralympic Games; so expect big crowds and a euphoric atmosphere. There's a carnival ambience to the two-day event with street entertainment, art installations, music and dancing all performed at various riverside locations between Westminster Bridge, Tower Bridge and beyond. All this fun entertainment is free and, for the grand finale, there's a colourful night procession featuring



Celebrating our great river at the Mayor's Thames Festival

costumed performers with tambourines and whistles travelling along Victoria Embankment and via Blackfriars Bridge, culminating in a massive fireworks display, with more than a ton of pyrotechnics exploding over the River Thames in just ten minutes. Large crowds line up along the river for the fireworks display but with the stretch from the two barges between Blackfriars and Waterloo Bridge spanning almost half a kilometre, there's plenty of opportunity to find a space.

9th Generations Walk

Sunday 9th September 2012

Hampstead Heath, London NW3 7JR

Raising both money and awareness for Breast Cancer, the Generations Walk returns for 2012, having raised £35,000 last year. The grand total raised from the annual charity walk has now reached over £300,000 and this year the event will be supporting a new project, one which aims to develop new drugs to overcome resistance to chemotherapy. Chemotherapy allows 60% of patients to return to work and is a challenging but vital treatment for many breast cancer patients - the money raised by walkers will be put towards the research for this project. The walk will be 5 kilometres across Hampstead Heath and will finish with a picnic lunch for all participants.

9th - 11th Hampstead & Highgate Literary Festival

9th - 11th September 2012

London Jewish Cultural Centre, Ivy House, London NW11 7SX

Organised and hosted by the London Jewish Cultural Centre, this festival has quickly become a much loved event in London's literary calendar since launching back in 2009. Book lovers arrived in their thousands last year to join in with creative workshops and to hear from some of the literary world's leading figures. Sarah Brown, Esther Freud, Raymond Blanc, Peter Snow, Diana Athill, Nicholas Parsons and Alan Hollinghurst were all among the names that made an appearance in 2011. Held in the former home of prima ballerina Anna Pavlova in a picturesque part of north London, the three-day event is certain to get those creative juices flowing.

9th London Duathlon

Sunday 9th September 2012

Richmond Park, London TW10

The world's biggest duathlon returns to Richmond Park as athletes prime themselves to run, bike and run a little bit more on closed roads around this area of outstanding natural beauty. This double-discipline endurance test is split into three categories and is ideal for sporty types (17 years or above) who fancy doing a triathlon but are put off by the cold water of the Thames! While 50% of the 3,500 entrants are competing for the very first time, top athletes will also be able to take part in separate elite and junior elite sprint races. Those wishing to race must apply by late August and pay an entrance fee.

9th - 16th

Tour of Britain

9th - 16th September 2012

The Mall, London SW1Y 5AH

The UK's biggest professional cycling race, the Tour hits the roads of Britain for nine days of two-wheeled action offering spectators a chance to see first hand the pedal power of Olympic medallists fresh from the Games. The 2012 race will be the ninth edition and runs throughout England, Scotland and Wales over the eight days, usually culminating with a final stage finish on The Mall in front of Buckingham Palace. Now an established highlight of the British sporting year, the race is Britain's largest free-to-watch live sporting event. Last year, Britain's Mark Cavendish won the final bunch sprint in London - just days before becoming World Champion in Copenhagen.

From 12th Pre-Raphaelites: Victorian Avant-Garde

12th September 2012 - 13th

January 2013

Tate Britain, Millbank, London SW1P 4RG

The Pre-Raphaelites were the rebels of the mid-nineteenth century, a collection of avant-garde artists who overturned orthodoxy and set the tone for modern

art. Opposed to the triviality represented by the Royal Academy's tastes, they were inspired predominantly by John Ruskin's theories of nature, realism and religion, love and death. The Tate has now brought together a collection of over 150 pieces of art showcasing the very best of the Pre-Raphaelite movement. Paintings, sculpture, photography and applied arts will sit alongside rare masterpieces including Ford Madox Brown's controversial Work 1852-1865. Don't miss this unique chance to view work from Britain's original modern art movement.

14th - 18th London Fashion Week

14th - 18th September 2012

Somerset House, Strand, London WC2R 1LA

This September London Fashion Week will once again inject a burst of style into Somerset House; the iconic building with its famous courtyard is a magical setting for this high profile fashion industry event. The week features 200 of the industry's most creative designers and businesses, in the UK and internationally, with catwalk shows, exhibitions and award ceremonies. It's all wildly exclusive, of course, and if you don't have any connections with the fashion industry there's no chance

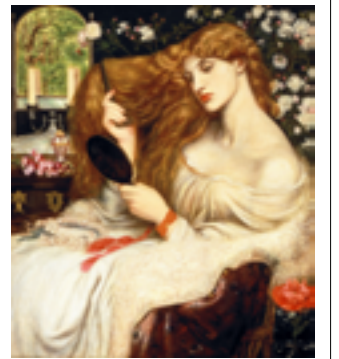
of acquiring tickets to the main event, however the whole capital will no doubt be bustling with fashion fever and the streets could become your very own catwalk.

14th - 16th Empire Presents... Big Screen

14th - 16th September 2012

The O2 Arena, Greenwich, London SE10 0BB

Following its debut in 2011, Empire's Big Screen is returning for another movie extravaganza. Spread across three days, this is a chance for all movie lovers to experience exclusive footage of upcoming blockbusters and full length movie previews. On top of this, there will also be discussions with A-list stars, live entertainment in the O2's FX arena and movie master classes. Audiences in 2011 were treated to footage from major films including The Amazing Spider-Man, The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo and Mission Impossible: Ghost Protocol. Daniel Craig, Guy Ritchie and Steven Spielberg were among the stars that dropped by for the shows. Visitors will also have the chance to see original props, costumes and memorabilia - different ticket packages are available depending on how much you want to see.



Rebels with a cause: the Pre-Raphaelites at Tate Britain

15th - 23rd London Design Festival

15th - 23rd September 2012

Various locations throughout London

The London Design Festival is an ambitious project. Hundreds of events, locations, shops, universities and design agencies are involved in the nine days of talks, exhibitions, competitions and activities. It's a true celebration of the capital's all-encompassing design industry, taking in sectors as diverse as fashion, architecture, retail, typography, photography, textiles, interior decoration and manufacturing. There's a huge amount to see but don't be put off by the volume: inclusion here is based on the quality of the design. Events come in all shapes and sizes from product launches in tiny boutiques to massive trade shows. Details have yet to be released but, judging by what we've seen in years gone by, the programme is likely to centre on hubs at the Southbank Centre, the V & A and St Paul's Cathedral. The scope is far-reaching and you'll be hard pressed to cover all of it but it's fun trying. Check the official website for full details.

15th The Great River Race

Saturday 15th September 2012

Ham, London TW10 7RS

Regarded as the rowing equivalent of the London Marathon, the Great River Race is bursting with colour, spectacle, intense competition and casual fun. Due to tides, the 2012 race will be run upstream for the fifth successive year, starting at Millwall Slipway in London's Docklands



London Fashion Week: models hit the Royal Opera House catwalk

LONDON FASHION WEEK © PRESS ASSOCIATION MAYOR'S THAMES FESTIVAL FREEDOM STAGE ON JUBILEE GARDENS © MATT FARROW

KARL LAGERFELD DIET COKE COURTESY LEXIS PR DANIE GABRIEL ROSSETTI LADY LUITH 18661808 © DELAWARE ART MUSEUM, SAMUEL AND MARY R. BANCROFT MEMORIAL, 1935



The London Design Festival includes some of designer Karl Lagerfeld's limited-edition Diet Coke bottles



The Great River Race features 300 boats carrying over 2,000 competitors and racing for 35 trophies

at 10.30am and finishing with a spectacular riverside party at Ham. The extensive 21-mile course takes crews from the industrial cityscape of Docklands all the way along the Thames to the idyllic semi-rural Richmond shores. Since launching in 1987, entries have snowballed from a mere 72 entrants to a massive 300 boats carrying over 2,000 competitors, racing for 35 trophies. Festivities along the river at Richmond will begin at noon with live music, a children's beach, donkey rides and food and drink stalls.

19th - 23rd Chelsea Antiques Fair

19th - 23rd September 2012
Chelsea Old Town Hall, London SW3 5EE
The Chelsea Antiques Fair has been a popular annual fixture on



Funny bones: the comedian Michael McIntyre

the Kings Road since 1950, catering for all sorts of budgets – from £20 to tens of thousands. The antiques are presented against the gilded opulence of Chelsea Town Hall, with its marble columns, chandeliers and original oil paintings. The fair has 36 specialist dealers this year, and a quick browse will reveal 19th and early 20th century porcelain and pottery, fine gem set jewellery, oak furniture, silverware, Chinese antiquities, Art Deco furniture, fine maps and prints, Persian carpets and rare glassware and much, much more.

20th - 29th Mademoiselle Julie

20th - 29th September 2012
Barbican Theatre, London EC2Y 8DS
The naturalistic play Mademoiselle Julie is one of Swedish playwright August Strindberg's most famous; this spring, the Barbican is presenting a modern version of the 1888 play. Starring Juliette Binoche and based on a battle between the sexes as a young woman encounters her father's footman and has an agonising evening consisting of lust, sex, and lies, the performance aims to be intimate, emotional and engaging. The play will be performed in French with English surtitles, and will be predominantly based on a fight for

power between the lead male and female who differentiate in class, sex and values.

22nd Nada - Music of the Divine

Saturday 22nd September 2012
Royal Albert Hall, South Kensington, London SW7 2AP
Five of India's most celebrated musicians come together at the Royal Albert Hall for a wonderful night of Music, Meditation and Healing. Nada is a South-Asian musical commemorating 25 years of the music of the divine. The famous five on the bill are Guinness World Record holder, Dr Yella Venkateswara Rao on the Mridangam, 'Pele of Percussion', Vaidyanathan Suresh on the Ghatam, respected composer Jaitra Varanasi on the violin, Sri Ganapathy Sachidananda Swamiji on the synthesiser and Dr Natesa Ramani on the flute. Whether you're interested in spiritual well being or you just enjoy Asian music then this could be just the night for you.

22nd - 23rd The Cake and Bake Show

22nd - 23rd September 2012
Earls Court Exhibition Centre, London SW5 9TA
The Cake and Bake Show has all the ingredients needed for

a delicious day out. With new celebrity chefs and baking shows constantly bursting onto the scene, baking has become more popular than ever. Embracing the rise in popularity, Earls Court will be hosting the first live event dedicated to the world of cakes, breads and the art of baking. The day will offer an array of tempting and tasty features including: Sugarcraft Showcase, icing demonstrations and classes from the country's top cake artists; Chocolate Unwrapped, a sweet tooth's heaven with chocolate tastings and demos; and The Science Lab, expert advice that looks at the techniques of many cake conundrums. There will also be an English Tea Room offering tea and cakes to support the Macmillan Cancer Support team.

22nd Great Gorilla Run

Saturday 22nd September 2012
Tower Bridge, London SE1 2UP
There's some serious monkey business going on this September; back for its 10th year the Great Gorilla Run will be bounding through the streets of the capital. Aiming to raise money to save the world's remaining gorillas, hundreds of people will be pulling on their gorilla costumes and running, jogging or walking the 7km City and Bankside route. Expect to see many humorously adapted costumes, including cheerleading gorillas prancing across Tower Bridge and ballerina gorillas perfecting their poise by the Tate Modern. Runners hoping to participate need to pay a registration fee of £80 which can be done through The Gorilla Organisation website (a gorilla costume is included!).

From 22nd Twelfth Night

22nd September - 14th October 2012
Shakespeare's Globe, Bankside, London SE1 9DT
Once again The Globe welcomes back the award-winning Twelfth Night with an all-male Original Practices production from 2002. Mark Rylance steps back into the shoes of Olivia nearly ten years after the show's original premiere. With a celebrated cast in some of Shakespeare's

most loved roles you can expect comedy, cruelty and plenty of cross-dressing in this bitter-sweet production about two teams battling within the house of Olivia. On one hand, the love-sick lord Orsino plots against the heart of indifferent Olivia. On the other, a vexed alliance of servants scheme against her steward Malvolio. With traditional Shakespearean costume, music and dance this production at the Globe promises to transport you right back to 1601.

22nd & 23rd London Open House Weekend

22nd - 23rd September 2012
Various venues across London
So many of London's architectural landmarks are closely guarded secrets, off-limits to Joe Public. It's tantalising to imagine what goes on behind those closed doors. Well, thanks to the hugely popular London Open House Weekend, we need wonder no more. Almost 700 of the city's buildings - including the Bank of England - take part in this fantastic, free annual event, now in its 19th year, by opening their doors to everyone. The popular event offers a wealth of historical landmarks to choose from including some of the most beautiful architectural achievements in the city. You can also get inside



Gorilla Race: a banana in your pocket or just pleased to see me?



The annual Open House Weekend gives members of the public the chance to visit buildings like City Hall

some of the grandest private homes in your own neighbourhood - it's a voyeur's dream come true. For the more serious students of contemporary design, this is a chance to visit spaces by famous modern architects. An inspired idea and a real treat whether you're a lover of architecture or just plain nosy. Entry to some of the houses is only permitted via pre-booked tickets on the official website.

From 24th The Ring Cycle

24th September - 2nd November 2012
Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, London WC2E 9DD

The Royal Opera season opens with the complete Ring Cycle in 2012, a spectacular revival of Wagner's Der Ring des Nibelungen. The monumental scale of the production is matched with Wagner's epic musical score in a rich tale of ancient sagas, dragons, dwarfs and water nymphs. The full Ring Cycle was last brought to Covent Garden in 2007, now it returns using contemporary themes of modern science to juxtapose the timeless mythology. A powerful score, stunning international cast and bold and vivid staging, should make this emotional and uplifting production a fitting curtain-raiser to the Royal Opera season.

From 26th Michael McIntyre

26th September - 6th October 2012
The O2 Arena, Greenwich, London SE10 0DX
28th November - 3rd December
Wembley Arena, London HA9 0DH

After releasing his autobiography followed by a stint as a judge on Britain's Got Talent, Michael McIntyre is returning to what he does best this year for a long-awaited tour, stopping by The O2 Arena for an impressive eight gigs this autumn. Hailed by audiences and critics alike as the best new stand-up to emerge in years, McIntyre is, according to The Telegraph, "quite simply, top-toe hilarious". His trick is simple: an infectious enthusiasm, a hilarious voice, some exemplary observation, a perfect delivery; on top of that, he seems a genuinely nice chap.

28th - 30th Kevin Bridges

28th - 30th September 2012
Hammersmith Apollo, London W6 9QH
Dubbed "the best Scottish stand-up since Billy Connolly", Glaswegian comic Kevin Bridges has added a third night to the London leg of his UK tour at the HMV Hammersmith Apollo due to high demand. The Perrier-nominated young comedian who has become a firm fixture on TV panel shows thanks to his jet black humour from the heart of Glasgow has a 6 part BBC 1 series - 'Kevin Bridges: What's The Story', confirming his promotion from 'rising' to 'established' star of British stand-up.

30th Pearly Kings and Queens Harvest Festival

Sunday 30th September 2012
Guildhall Yard, London EC2V
What better way to celebrate the change of seasons than with Maypole dancing, Morris dancing and a marching band? Each year the Pearly Kings & Queens come together from every borough of London to welcome the new season in style, and boy what a style they have, with extravagant Smother Suits covered in sparkly buttons, badges and glitter. The festival starts in the afternoon at Guildhall Yard and continues with a parade to St Mary-le-Bow church for a Harvest Festival service at 3pm; harvest offerings are donated to the Whitechapel Mission.

THE THAMES CABLE CAR

Sixty-metre-high Emirates Air-Line will provide crossings across the river every 30 seconds. *By Felix Lowe*



ONE RACE THAT LOOKS LIKE IT WILL GO DOWN TO THE WIRE before the London Olympics have even begun is Mayor Boris Johnson's bid to link both sides of the Thames by cable car.

The logistics of such an ambitious project have proved rather a marathon, peppered with many obstacles en route, not to mention false starts; and while the vast majority of the Olympic infrastructure has been completed well ahead of schedule, this is one scheme destined for a sprint finish.

On paper, the idea is brilliant: connect the area around The O2 Arena on Greenwich Peninsula to the Royal Docks near the ExCeL Centre on the other side of the Thames; not by a run-of-the-mill bridge or tunnel, but by a futuristic cable car which will not only underline London as a city of ground-breaking and innovative architecture, but also provide passengers with some of the most striking aerial views of the Olympic Park and city.

Of course, in practice things have proven rather more difficult. An initial expected outlay of £35m has nearly doubled to an estimated £60m – making it the most expensive cable car system ever built. This threw a major spanner in the

“Gondolas will transport an estimated 2,500 passengers per hour in each direction”

works for Boris, who had always promised no public funding would be needed for the project.

One of the reasons for the spiralling costs was an underestimation of the amount needed for legal advice, project management and land acquisition. After all, with City Airport so nearby, this will be the only cable car system in the world to cut through an airport's “Crash Zone”.

It's just as well Emirates have stepped onboard as the cable car's sponsor: the Dubai-based air carrier will cover £36m of the total costs on an initial 10-year sponsorship deal that will see the Thames gondola link officially called the Emirates Air Line (see what they've done there?).

Although the scheme was announced in July 2010, construction only got under way last August – prompting fears that the project would not be completed until after the Olympic Games.

CABLE CAR: ALL IMAGES COURTESY OF FEL

Should Boris silence the dissenting riff-raff in time for the whiff-whaff, then visitors to the greatest sporting show on earth will have even more reason to be wowed by what London has to offer.

Essentially, the cable car will link the North Greenwich Arena, which hosts the London 2012 gymnastic, trampoline and basketball events, to the ExCeL Centre, home to the Olympic boxing, fencing, table tennis, martial arts and wrestling events, plus a whole host of Paralympic events.

The cable car – similar to New York's Roosevelt Island Tramway, the Cologne Cable Car and the Caracas Aerial Tramway – will also help link both the Tube and London River Services to the Docklands

“The cable car should have a similar impact on the city's skyline as the London Eye”

Light Railway. It will transport an estimated 2,500 passengers per hour in each direction (the equivalent of 50 buses) and be accessible with an ever-trusty Oyster Card.

But the Emirates Air-Line will be so much more than a mere method of transportation – it will become an attraction in its own right.

As high as the tallest part of the former Millennium Dome, the cable car project should in the years to come be as much a part of London's fabled skyline as, say, the London Eye, another airline-sponsored means of leisurely transportation.

Every 30 seconds a gondola will take passengers soaring above the Thames, opening up unprecedented views over the Olympic Park, London Docklands, Canary Wharf and the centre of London beyond.

Cost concerns aside, Londoners should be proud that such a project is taking place in their city. And while Transport for London is playing it safe by claiming that the cable car is not part of the Olympic Transport Plan and so does not need to be ready in time for the Games, the route already appears on new tube maps as part of the current network under construction.

If Boris can pull this one off and the Emirates Air-Line is ready in time for the Olympic Opening Ceremony on 27th July 2012 then it could well be one of his biggest achievements. Regardless of its completion date, the Thames cable car will be an extraordinary legacy to London.



The Thames cable car will be called the Emirates Air-Line following a sponsorship deal



An artist's impression of how the £60m Emirates Air-Line will look once it's completed



It remains to be seen if the cable car will be ready in time for the Olympics this summer