

What's On

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Tricycle will welcome group showing work of black stage pioneer

Play tackles class and gender in 1970s

by Alex Taylor

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Kilburn's Tricycle Theatre stages a performance of *One Monkey Don't Stop No Show* – a play by the forgotten director and black arts activist, Don Evans.

Directed by Dawn Walton's Eclipse Production Company, the comedy is inspired by *The Cosby Show* as it tackles class and gender in 1970's Philadelphia.

The narrative sees the black, upwardly mobile Harrison family have their middle class world shaken when Beverley – the only daughter of Mr Harrison's recently deceased brother – arrives from the rural South.

Sitcom

It soon becomes clear she lives her life by anything other than their straight-laced Baptist values and hilarity ensues.

Cast as a live television recording, equipped with canned applause and recording gear, the production frames itself as a sitcom in recognition of the play's contemporary influences.

Tricycle's showing is part

of Eclipse's annual middle scale tour to regional theatres.

Their mission is to raise the profile of Black theatre pioneers such as Evans, whose grassroots importance often get overshadowed by the bigger picture.

Thursday will mark the

I know this is going to be a great piece, being both provocative and entertaining with an absolutely fantastic cast.

Indhu Rubasingham

London premiere for the play, despite it being almost 30 years old.

Indhu Rubasingham, new artistic director at Tricycle Theatre, said: "I am really excited that Eclipse will be bringing *One Monkey Don't Stop No Show* to the Tricycle in my first season.

"I know this is going to be a great piece, both provocative and entertaining with an absolutely fantastic cast.

"This is the first time Eclipse has been to the Tricycle and we both hope this will be just the beginning."

Acclaim

Award-winning comedian and actor Jocelyn Jee Esien stars as matriarch Myra alongside *Attack the Block*'s Karl Collins as Mr Harrison, both of whom received critical acclaim following last year's debut show in Sheffield.

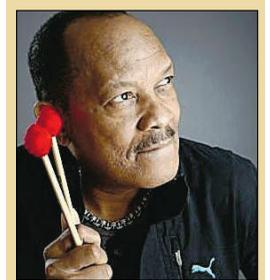
One Monkey Don't Stop No Show runs from January 16 to February 9, Monday to Saturday at 8pm.

Additional matinee performances are held on January 30 and February 6 as well as every Saturday.

Tickets cost between £20 and £22.



■ Jocelyn Jee Esien stars as Myra in *One Monkey Don't Stop No Show*
Picture: PA/Joel Ryan



■ Roy Ayres

'Godfather' Roy plays Jazz Café

Legendary musician Roy Ayres will be performing at the Jazz Café for three nights next week.

Known as the "Godfather of neo-soul", the 72-year-old vibraphonist and vocalist extraordinaire is among the best-known, most-loved and respected jazz/R&B artists on the music scene today.

In the '60s he was an award-winning jazz vibraphonist, and transformed into a popular R&B bandleader in the '70s and '80s.

His music is at the heart of the UK's Rare Groove scene which focuses on soul releases from the late 1960s to the late 1980s.

Today, he is an iconic figure still in great demand, whose music has been sampled by music industry heavyweights, including Pete Rock & Cl Smooth, Snoop Dogg, Mary J. Blige, Erykah Badu, 50 Cent, A Tribe Called Quest, Tupac, Brand Nubian, Masters at Work, Puff Daddy, The Jungle Brothers, Gang Starr, the Pharcyde, MF Doom, and Ice Cube to name a few.

He will be playing at the Jazz Café in Parkway, Camden, next Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday.

Tickets are £22.50 in advance. For more information and to buy tickets call 0207 485 6834, visit <http://venues.meanfiddler.com/jazz-cafe/home> or email boxoffice@jazzcafe.co.uk

» TAKE FIVE: Stuck for something to do? Here are our picks of the week

TO PARTY

Start 2013 as you mean to go on with a night of dancing and music at The Good Ship.

The venue, in Kilburn High Road, will be putting on a night of rock and bass tomorrow (Friday).

The evening begins at 7.30pm and tickets are £5, for more information call: 020 7372 2544.

TO KNIT

Relax and unwind at one of Brent Council's knit and natter events.

The free event, at the Town Hall Library in Forty Lane, Wembley gives residents the chance to learn the skill first hand while making some friends along the way.

The next session is at 10.30am on Saturday.

TO WATCH

Experience one of the best selling and most popular novels of recent years on the big screen in Kensal Rise's much loved Lexi Cinema.

The Life of Pi is showing this Saturday, January 5, at 2pm.

For more information on times and tickets go to www.thelexicinema.co.uk or call 0871 7042069.

TO DANCE

Dance the night away with one of London's most respected DJs at Love and Liquor, Kilburn on Saturday.

Ben Cain, a winner of numerous awards will be heading up the show at the bar in Kilburn High Road.

The evening kicks off at 8pm, tickets are £10 on the door and £7 in advance. For more, call 0208 969 0098.

TO RELAX

Whether you're an expert or a beginner why not relax and join a meditation class in Willesden.

The lessons, which take place every Friday at Global Co-operation House in Pound Lane, are open to all and promise a new experience.

The next class is at 7pm tomorrow (Friday). For more, call 020 8727 3350