

SOUTHBANK CENTRE

Press Release

Date: Wednesday 3 April, 2019, 11.00am

Contact: David Bloom, david.bloom@storyhourspr.co.uk / 07980 297 299 or press@southbankcentre.co.uk / 0207 9210 888

JEAN PAUL GAULTIER FASHION FREAK SHOW COMES TO LONDON THIS SUMMER

Gaultier's spectacular revue show to make UK Premiere

50 years of pop culture through the eyes of fashion's enfant terrible

See trailer [here](#)

Performances begin Tuesday 23 July | Southbank Centre's Queen Elizabeth Hall



(Fashion Freak Show © BOBY)

Eccentric, scandalous, provocative, exuberant and funny as ever, **Jean Paul Gaultier** is shaking up London with his stunning new creation, ***Fashion Freak Show***. The production, an explosive combination of a revue and fashion show, will play **Southbank Centre's Queen Elizabeth Hall** from Tuesday 23 July for 13 performances only (Press Night: Wednesday 24 July at 7:00pm).

Fashion Freak Show is currently enjoying an acclaimed run in Paris at the iconic Folies Bergère, before transferring to Southbank Centre to make its UK premiere. Tickets for *Fashion Freak Show* go on sale to Southbank Centre members tomorrow, Thursday 4 April, and on general sale on Friday, 5 April.

In this extraordinary production, actors, dancers and circus artists take to the stage and play

outlandish, passionate, larger than life, rude, sexy, sassy creatures and personalities.

Set against the backdrop of a giant video wall, a key part of the production features vignettes of special guest stars - including a number of Gaultier's long-term, iconic supporters and friends. Rosy de Palma plays the young Gaultier's unforgiving schoolteacher, who harbours secret fashion fantasies of her own, while Catherine Deneuve reads out the hysterical names that Gaultier gave the creations in his fabulous men's couture show of the early '90s.

As author, director and costume designer, Jean Paul Gaultier takes a look at our times in both an extravagant and tender way, and invites us behind the scenes into his world filled with excess, poetry and magic.

From his childhood to his early career, from his greatest fashion shows to the wild nights in Le Palace or London, Jean Paul Gaultier shares his journal of the times and pays tribute to those who have inspired him in film (Pedro Almodovar, Luc Besson), music (Madonna, Kylie Minogue, Mylène Farmer) and dance (Régine Chopinot, Angelin Prejlocaj).

In the show, conceived like a grand party, Jean Paul Gaultier will surprise us yet again. He has designed hundreds of new exclusive outfits, incorporated within an exuberant set – without forgetting to invite his most iconic creations!

He has collaborated with the best in their field, such as actress, scriptwriter and director Tonie Marshall, who co-directs the show, and choreographer Marion Motin (Madonna, Christine and the Queens, Stromae, RESISTE, the musical...).

From disco to funk, from pop to rock and new wave and punk, the *Fashion Freak Show* is an explosive playlist of hits that have inspired the artist throughout his life.

Jean Paul Gaultier said:

"I am honoured that my Fashion Freak Show will premiere at Southbank Centre. London is dear to my heart and a constant source of inspiration. I have been coming here since my youth and have been greatly influenced by British music, theatre and cinema throughout my career from the Rocky Horror Show through Punk and New Wave and I keep coming back. I hope that audiences will enjoy the show as much as I did creating it."

Rupert Thomson, Senior Programmer for Performance and Dance, Southbank Centre, said:

"Jean-Paul Gaultier is an idiosyncratic visionary, and his Fashion Freak Show comes with all the quirkiness, sexiness, French-ness and brio of the man himself. We are delighted to be presenting this run at Southbank Centre direct from its triumphant opening at the Folies Bergère in Paris, to give London audiences a chance to encounter, live, the great good fun, genius fashion, and raucous influences of Gaultier's life."

Southbank Centre in association with TS3 (A Fimalac Entertainment Company) and RGM Productions presents *JEAN PAUL GAULTIER - FASHION FREAK SHOW*.

ENDS

PRESS IMAGES [HERE](#)

Tickets can be bought online at www.southbankcentre.co.uk or on the phone on 0203 879 9555.

For further press information and images please contact:

David Bloom, david.bloom@storyhousrpr.co.uk / 07980 297 299

Southbank Centre press office, press@southbankcentre.co.uk / 0207 9210 888



NOTES TO EDITORS

VENUE

Southbank Centre's Queen Elizabeth Hall
Southbank Centre
Belvedere Road
London
SE1 8XX

PERFORMANCE DATES & SCHEDULE

Tuesday 23 July – Friday 2 August 2019
Press Night: Wednesday 24 July
Tuesday 23 July – 8:00pm
Wednesday 24 July – 7:00pm

Thursday 25 July – 8:00pm
Friday 26 July – 6:00pm & 9:30pm
Saturday 27 July – 6:00pm & 9:30pm
Sunday 28 July – 7:00pm
Tuesday 30 July – 8:00pm
Wednesday 31 July – 8:00pm
Thursday 1 August – 8:00pm
Friday 2 August – 6:00pm & 9:30pm

Press Night: Wednesday 24 July at 7:00pm

TICKETS

From £30

Box Office: 0203 879 9555

Website: www.southbankcentre.co.uk

Tickets for *Fashion Freak Show* go on sale to Southbank Centre members Thursday 4 April, and on general sale on Friday 5 April.

SOCIAL MEDIA

Social media @ JPDFASHIONFREAKSHOW

Join the Conversation: @southbankcentre

ABOUT SOUTHBANK CENTRE

Southbank Centre is the UK's largest arts centre, occupying a 17 acre site that sits in the midst of London's most vibrant cultural quarter on the South Bank of the Thames. The site has an extraordinary creative and architectural history stretching back to the 1951 Festival of Britain. Southbank Centre is home to the Royal Festival Hall, Queen Elizabeth Hall, Purcell Room and Hayward Gallery as well as the National Poetry Library and the Arts Council Collection.

Jean Paul Gaultier Fashion Freak Show forms part of a buzzing summer at Southbank Centre which includes Kiss My Genders at the Hayward Gallery - a group exhibition celebrating more than 30 international artists whose work explores and engages with gender fluidity, as well as non-binary, trans and intersex identities. Meltdown will offer some incredible artists and music from the world of Nile Rodgers who has been instrumental in the careers of some of the biggest artists in the history of popular music, including David Bowie, Madonna, Duran Duran, Daft Punk and Diana Ross. A high energy dance show from Zonation called Tales of the Turntable traces the recent history of dance whilst a free outdoor stage will feature late night cabaret and events including celebrated LGBTQ+ artists, free outdoor film screenings and family events. For further information please visit www.southbankcentre.co.uk.