

A wonderful day out at this hugely popular Museum, set in idyllic gardens. Festival performances on the Bandstand and in the Conservatory, plus an opportunity to visit the Museum's unique collections from all over the world.

4 JULY BANDSTAND

1.30PM SUMAYA

Sumaya is a London-based flamenco group presenting an exciting mix of traditional and modern flamenco music and dance. Its full-blooded take on the gypsy art-form never fails to entrance audiences.

Flamenco guitarist, Steve Homes, is widely regarded as one of Britain's most highly skilled and inventive instrumentalists. His playing supports the group's two fine dancers, Michelle Carrier and Carolina Esteves, both of whom have extensive backgrounds in various dance forms, from traditional tablao flamenco to contemporary dance.



2.45PM HAI LA DRUM

Hai La Drum (Let's hit the road) is a group of four versatile musicians, led by astonishing violin virtuoso Baz Stanescu, alongside Pete Watson (accordion), Jason Henson (guitar) and Dan Sheppard (double bass). Jewish, Gypsy, Turkish, Romanian, Macedonian-Greek and Russian influences are strongly present in this eclectic and festive music.

Music has been present in Baz's family since the mid -17th century. Baz himself made the first steps towards learning this uplifting, complex music nearly 50 years ago. The Manchester Evening News reckoned him to be 'better in places than Stéphane Grappelli', the maestro folk violinist and collaborator of guitar legend, Django Reinhardt. Over the past 5 years the band has toured the Balkans, USA and Britain.

4PM MAURICIO VELASIERRA

Born in Colombia, Mauricio Velasierra is a truly innovative player of traditional Andean flutes. With influences ranging from African music to jazz, his compositions are a rich mixture of largely unexplored Andean rhythms combined with contemporary melodies and harmonies.

Mauricio's main instrument is the traditional flute, known as kena. This is normally played in one key, but Mauricio has learnt to play it as a fully chromatic instrument, which allows him to develop a truly original musical language. Supporting band members are: Henrik Jensen (bass), Jeny Adejayan (cello), Camillo Menjura (guitar), Gregorio Merchan (percussion). The band released its latest album Rodar in 2010.



5.15PM HARARE

Harare is one of only a handful of Zimbabwean dance music ensembles in Europe today. Formed by Kudaushe Matimba in 2005, an exiled musician who was once at the epicentre of Zimbabwean urban music, Harare's repertoire features high-octane urban Jit-Jive alongside the hypnotic rhythms of mbira (traditional thumb piano).

Kudaushe worked with the internationally famed Bhundu Boys in the 1980's, one of Zimbabwe's leading groups at the time. He includes both old and original new compositions and arrangements in Harare's set. Song lyrics in Shona confront the pressing social issues of the band members' Zimbabwean homeland, yet also celebrate Harare's new musical friendships in London and point to a promising future here for Zimbabwean dance music.

4 JULY CONSERVATORY

1.15PM BAILA PERU

Baila Peru is Britain's longest running and best-established Peruvian dance group. It displays the dynamic nature of contemporary Peruvian culture and its multi-rooted origins. The group's repertoire includes Afro-Peruvian coastal beats, sensual Amazonian rhythms, and the carnival spirit and ritual resonances of Andean costumed dance.

Founded in 1988, Baila Peru emerged as an expression of the London Peruvian community's wish to strengthen essential aspects of their cultural distinctiveness and contribute this to the capital's wider cosmopolitan mix. It has given over 100 performances at public events like Carnaval Del Pueblo and Thames Festival. Peru's Ambassador to the UK, Luis Solari Tudela, made a special award to the group in 2005 to recognize its contribution to Peruvian culture.



2.15PM BEEJA

'Beeja' means 'seed' in Hindi and carries a sense of transformation and the start of life. This is the name also chosen by an Indian classical dance collective that aims to generate new ideas, new understanding and fresh creative forms through dance.

Founded by Anusha Subramanyam a celebrated London-based exponent of Bharatanatyam, or South Indian temple dance, Beeja draws on its members' skills in various classical Indian dance forms, plus Bollywood, Indian folk, visual arts, music and design.

Beeja's burgeoning appeal and impressive record of achievement lies in its ability successfully to blend traditional and contemporary Indian musical and dance styles, from classical to folk to pop and hip hop.

3.30PM DEBORA ALLEYNE-DE GAZON & CREATIVE LEARNING CIRCUIT

Debora Alleyne-De Gazon is a delightful and highly experienced Trinidadian storyteller, dancer, choreographer and arts educator. She is renowned for her dynamic and engaging presentations and is greatly in demand from community festivals, museums and schools across the UK.

Debora set up the Creative Learning Circuit (CLC) in Croydon in 2004, to develop and promote her own work and that of fellow of African-Caribbean artists. She is Managing Director of this unique artistic collective. CLC offers participative learning opportunities through public performances and workshops in a range of creative and social skills that draw on the rich and multi-layered cultures of the Caribbean: drama games, improvisation techniques, choral speaking, interactive storytelling, traditional calypso and carnival costume design.



4.45PM JOSE NAVARRO

Jose Navarro is a Peruvian mime artist based in London since 1999. His first encounter with mime was in Peru at the National Festival at the age of 14. That moment was the catalyst for him to pursue his dream and become involved with mime.

Jose has participated as a soloist with his own shows, at many well-established theatre festivals and venues in Latin America, Asia, the Middle East and Europe, including the Festival Valise in Lomza, Poland, and at Tehran's Puppet Theatre Festival in Iran.

At this year's World City Music Village, Jose's performance will present a puppet show and explore strings, rods and body puppetry techniques while drawing upon on Peruvian and other world performance cultures.