

# SLAPSTOCK



JANUARY 25-28

STARRING...

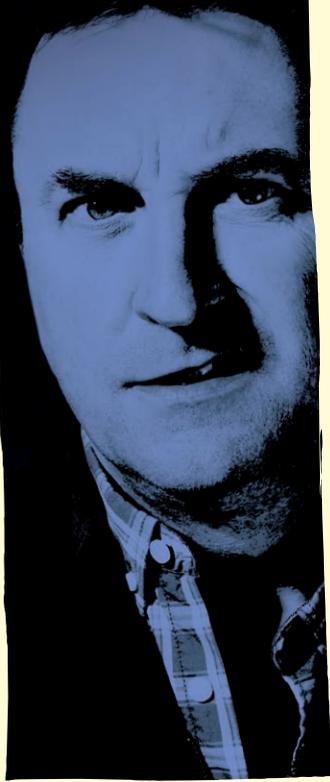
BUSTER  
**KEATON**



ROCKY  
**HORROR**



LEE  
**MACK**



FESTIVAL GUIDE

WELCOME TO

# SLAPSTICK FESTIVAL 2018

To an increasingly crazy world, comedy brings solace and sanity and Bristol's SLAPSTICK now stands as Europe's biggest and best festival of comedy, bringing together classic screen clowning with today's finest living laughter-makers from British stage and television. This year is the 14th and our biggest edition yet.

This edition of Slapstick festival is dedicated to our dear friend Tony White (1937-2017). His devotion, enthusiasm and contribution to Slapstick was always a highlight each year for us and he will be sorely missed by us all.

Comedy is timeless and this year's SLAPSTICK celebrates the centenary of Buster Keaton's debut in pictures: a hundred years later he stands with Chaplin – an icon, more funny and relevant than ever. More than half a century ago British television saw an explosion of comedy genius – from Monty Python to Dad's Army, from Peter Sellers to Eric & Ernie – that still leaves its indelible mark on the best new laughter-makers today. At SLAPSTICK, today's comedy creators merrily and passionately confront their comic ancestry for new audiences.

Several events – notably our opening night screening of SPITE MARRIAGE - recall the making and mastery of Buster Keaton. Oscar-winning historian, restorer and film-maker Kevin Brownlow presents some Keaton surprises, while historian David Robinson reveals the vaudeville world that produced the young Keaton. Bristol will also have an early opportunity to see James Dangerfield's "one-man musical", When You Fall Down, in tribute to Keaton's life and work. A premiere programme of films rediscovered after disappearing for more than a century – most from the collection of Anthony Saffrey, who will be present for the event - shows the evolution of the comic star: from Andre Deed and Max Linder to lesser-known geniuses like Marcel Perez and Karl Valentin. In addition Chris Serle introduces us to the unjustly long-forgotten Austrian

clowns, Coel and Seff.

Stand-up comedian, actress and writer Lucy Porter celebrates the great female comics of the screen, Betty Balfour and Constance Talmadge (Buster Keaton's sister-in-law!) and the unparalleled Jo Brand chooses her top funny moments whilst comedian Lee Mack celebrates Laurel & Hardy in a special event on Saturday at Colston Hall.

A special feature of this year's SLAPSTICK is the role that music has played in comedy. A celebratory late-night screening of The Rocky Horror Picture Show will be introduced by original cast member, 'Transylvanian guest' Christopher Biggins. The musical theme continues with a series of programmes fronted by the patron saint of SLAPSTICK, Barry Cryer, whose unparalleled contribution to British comedy writing includes The Two Ronnies. Barry's frequent partner in comedy crime, Ronnie Golden appears in a solo show and veteran Goodie and wildlife champion Bill Oddie will reveal the secrets of song writing for The Goodies. There is a rare reunion of the mock heavy-metal band "Bad News," from The Comic Strip Presents, with Adrian Edmondson and Nigel Planer in an onstage discussion. "Raw Sex", the comedy musical double act with Rowland Rivron and Simon Grint, also features as Rowland discusses their rise from French & Saunders house band to cult comedy legends today.

A brand new event for which we anticipate a big future is "Young Slapstick Saturday" at Colston Hall which combines screenings of classic comedy short films with a comedy workshop for 8-11 year olds and Punch-and-Judy shows in between. Slapstick offers fun and laughter for all the family and all the South West.

There could be no better way to start the year 2018!

Chris Daniels, Director,  
Slapstick Festival

## HOW DO I BOOK?

Tickets for Slapstick Festival 2018 can be bought from the individual venue box offices hosting the events with the exception of *Spite Marriage* and *The Kagools* (on Thursday) which are both Arnolfini events. Tickets for these events can only be bought from Colston Hall.

## FESTIVAL PASSES

If you're as passionate about slapstick and silent comedy as we are then you might consider booking one of our festival passes to save money on events.

Colston Hall are selling all Slapstick Festival passes and there are two options: the Silent Comedy Pass featuring all 12 events held from Thursday to Sunday at Watershed and Arnolfini and our - not for the faint hearted- Full Pass which includes tickets to all 25 Slapstick events over five days and has the additional bonuses of premium seating at Bristol Old Vic and Colston Hall (i.e. great seats!) and a free 2018 Festival T-Shirt as a big 'thank you' for supporting the festival.

### SILENT COMEDY PASS

Tickets to all 12 events at Watershed and Arnolfini. Only £72.00 including all booking fees.

### SLAPSTICK FULL PASS

Tickets to all events held at Watershed and Arnolfini PLUS all remaining tickets from the Friday night gala\* at Colston Hall to the final event on Sunday evening at Bristol Old Vic (all 25 events) Only £220.00 including all booking fees.

\* If you have already purchased your Gala ticket please call Colston Hall Box Office to pay a discounted rate for this pass.

## HOTELS

Please check [www.slapstick.org.uk](http://www.slapstick.org.uk) for the latest information and great deals for festival attendees.

Left to Right Daan van den Hurk, Elizabeth-Jane Baldry, Günter A. Buchwald, Frank Bockius, John Sweeney, Romano Todesco, Richard Williams.

## THE MUSIC

Slapstick is proud, as ever, to present world class live music accompaniments for its projected silent film screenings from solo piano improvisations to full orchestral scores and this year is no exception. At our gala, Charles Chaplin's *A Dog's Life* (1918) is being accompanied by the 16-piece Bristol Ensemble performing with Chaplin's own score conducted by Slapstick's Musical Director, maestro Günter A. Buchwald. The unstoppable four-piece ensemble European Silent Screen Virtuosi (ESSV) return with special guest musicians including Oscar®-winner Richard Williams on cornet and Roger Huckle (Bristol Ensemble) to accompany Keaton's *Sherlock Jr.* They will also provide accompaniment for *Battle of the Century* (1927) on Saturday night and *Spite Marriage* (1929) on Thursday evening.

In addition multi-instrumentalist Stephen Horne will be accompanying classic Keaton shorts at Bristol Old Vic on Saturday afternoon and we are delighted to welcome back the world's foremost silent film harpist Elizabeth-Jane Baldry who'll be accompanying short comedies for us on solo harp on Saturday. Pianist and composer Daan van den Hurk returns to Slapstick Festival on piano and other solo performers include John Sweeney and Günter A. Buchwald.



# FESTIVAL DIARY

# SPECIAL GUESTS

DATE	TIME	EVENT	VENUE
<b>THURS 25</b>	1100hrs	Her Night of Romance (1924) <b>U</b>	Watershed
	1330hrs	Buster's Greatest Movie (and Biggest flop)	Watershed
	1530hrs	Skinner's Dress Suit (1926) <b>PG</b>	Watershed
	1830hrs	Spite Marriage (1929) <b>PG</b>	Arnolfini
	2100hrs	LIVE: The Kagools: Tutti	Arnolfini
<b>FRI 26</b>	0930hrs	The Young Keaton	Watershed
	1100hrs	The Vagabond Queen (1929) <b>U</b>	Watershed
	1330hrs	Cocl & Seff: Austria's Laurel and Hardy	Watershed
	1530hrs	Lost and Found	Watershed
	1740hrs	Keaton: The MGM Years <b>U</b>	Watershed
1930hrs	Silent Comedy Gala hosted by Tim Vine <b>U</b>	Colston Hall	
<b>SAT 27</b>	0930hrs	Three Ages (1923) <b>U</b>	Watershed
	1115hrs	Why I Love... The Two Ronnies	Bristol Old Vic
	1330hrs	Buster Keaton: Classics & Rarities	Bristol Old Vic
	1530hrs	LIVE: When You Fall Down	The Lantern
	1730hrs	LIVE: Ronnie Golden: First A Fender	The Lantern
	1900hrs	Lee Mack's Laurel & Hardy Classics <b>PG</b>	Colston Hall
	2115hrs	The Rocky Horror Picture Show (1975) <b>12A</b>	Colston Hall
YOUNG SLAPSTICK SATURDAY See programme for details			
<b>SUN 28</b>	0930hrs	The Goodies: The Musical Phenomenon	Watershed
	1115hrs	'Raw Sex' with Rowland Rivron	Bristol Old Vic
	1400hrs	Jo Brand's Top Comedy Moments	Bristol Old Vic
	1730hrs	Bad News: The Four Horsemen of the Rock Apocalypse	Bristol Old Vic
	2000hrs	Classic Comedy Double Bill	Bristol Old Vic



LEE MACK



ADE EDMONDSON



JO BRAND



CHRISTOPHER BIGGINS



ROWLAND RIVRON



TIM VINE



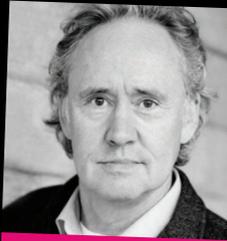
BILL ODDIE OBE



GRAEME GARDEN OBE



JAMES DANGERFIELD



NIGEL PLANER



THE KAGOOLS



TIM BROOKE-TAYLOR



LUCY PORTER



RONNIE GOLDEN



BARRY CRYER OBE



ROBIN INCE

## OTHER SPECIAL GUESTS

MARK OLVER, DAVID ROBINSON, ROBERT ROSS, KEVIN BROWNLOW, MATTHEW SWEET, CHRIS SERLE, TONY SAFFREY, PETER KRAMER, ANDREW KELLY AND PETER LORD CBE

JAN 25 | THURSDAY



**“I mean, we’d be as rich as the Stones if only we’d sold as many records as them”**

Vim Fuego (Bad News)



Her Night of Romance

Rediscoveries and Revelations

**HER NIGHT OF ROMANCE (1924)**

THURS 25 JAN 1100hrs

Watershed £8.00/£6.00

Dir: Sidney Franklin UK 70mins U

The Talmadge sisters were huge stars during the silent era but they all retired from films once the talkies arrived and are almost forgotten today.

In this film, American Dorothy Adams (Constance Talmadge) is the sole heiress to her father’s fortune but she has no intention of being romanced for her money after she arrives in London. An impoverished British Lord (Paul Menford) impersonates a doctor to woo the heiress. The Lord is in love but his business associate (Joe Diamond) is only interested in the money. A funny, charming film with the unforgettable Constance Talmadge, a favourite at Slapstick Festival and an actor whose comic timing is impeccable. Introduced by stand-up comedian Lucy Porter and with live piano accompaniment by John Sweeney.



The General

**BUSTER’S GREATEST MOVIE (AND BIGGEST FLOP)**

with Peter Kramer

THURS 25 JAN 1330hrs Watershed £8.00/£6.00

On its initial release, Buster Keaton’s ‘The General’ (1927) was not a financial or critical success, but is now considered his finest onscreen achievement. Slapstick Festival is delighted to re-examine the classic comedy more than ninety years after its premiere, and to welcome to Bristol Peter Kramer, Senior Fellow in the School of Art, Media and American Studies at the University of East Anglia, and author of the BFI classic on ‘The General’. Using illustrative clips from the film, Peter Kramer explores how Keaton chose and realised his most ambitious project.

JAN 25 | THURSDAY

JAN 26 | FRIDAY

Rediscoveries and Revelations

**SKINNER'S DRESS SUIT (1926)**

THURS 25 JAN 1530hrs

Watershed £8.00/£6.00

Dir: William A. Seiter USA 70 min PG

Excited by her husband's career prospects, Honey (Laura La Plante) starts making plans for spending the extra salary. His prospects fall through, and Honey's husband fails to tell her. A suit is bought and a tailor must be paid. This film stars Laura La Plante, Reginald Denny and Hedda Hopper. La Plante, a well-known star at the time, almost always received top billing. Hedda Hopper later made her name as one of the entertainment industry's most famous gossip columnists. Introduced by film historian and Academy Award winner Kevin Brownlow. With live piano accompaniment by Daan van den Hurk.



Skinner's Dress Suit

**SPITE MARRIAGE (1929)**

THURS 25 JAN 1830hrs

Arnolfini £10.00/£8.00

Dir: Edward Sedgwick, Buster Keaton USA 76mins PG

SPITE MARRIAGE is Buster Keaton's last silent film and one of his most underrated. Keaton plays a lovestruck fan of an actress who agrees to marry him. What he does not know is that the actress is only using Keaton to make her old flame jealous. A famous scene from this film depicts Keaton trying to put his drunk wife to bed which was recreated by Keaton later in his career. Keaton intended for this film to be a talkie, but MGM made the ultimate decision to keep it as a silent. Accompanied live by Günter A. Buchwald, Frank Bockius and Romano Todesco performing as The European Silent Screen Virtuosi.



Spite Marriage



**THE YOUNG KEATON (1895-1917)**

FRI 26 JAN 0930hrs

Watershed £8.00/£6.00

David Robinson traces the making of the Buster we know and love, starting with Keaton's childhood training in vaudeville, and his subsequent transformation of all that he had learned of comedy and stagecraft to the new and very different medium of film. The talk will recall Keaton's appearances in English music hall - a bumpy week at the Palace in 1909 and a nostalgic tour in 1951 - and is illustrated with rare early pictures of the Keatons in vaudeville, and examples of Buster's first film essays, in happy partnership with Fatty Arbuckle. Hosted by David Robinson.

Rediscoveries and Revelations

**THE VAGABOND QUEEN (1929)**

FRI 26 JAN 1100hrs

Watershed £8.00/£6.00

Dir: Géza von Bolváry UK 62mins U

The Vagabond Queen is a 1929 British comedy film directed by Géza von Bolváry and starring Betty Balfour, referred to as "Britain's Queen of Happiness." It was the final film directed in Britain by Bolváry before he returned to Germany. Balfour was a popular screen actress most widely known for her Cockney flower girl character, 'Squibs'. Balfour also appeared in Alfred Hitchcock's Champagne (1928). She never made the move to Hollywood and her career was largely comprised of British and European films. In The Vagabond Queen she plays a young woman who takes the place of a Princess who is a target for an assassination with hilarious consequences. A rare opportunity to see Balfour at her finest. Introduced by comedian Lucy Porter.



The Vagabond Queen



The Young Keaton



**THE KAGOOLS: TUTTI**

THURS 25 JAN 2100hrs Arnolfini £12.00/£10.00

The Kagools are a multi-award winning physical comedy double-act fresh from making a real splash on the comedy festival circuit. 'Under the hoods' are: Claire Ford and Nicky Wilkinson. Bringing silent comedy to the stage, The Kagools are a high energy comic duo who perform internationally. They've had successful runs at comedy festivals and we are delighted to welcome them to Slapstick. This is a unique show full of spontaneity and anarchic fun for everyone! Completely wordless and with interactive film, this will be a lively romp!

JAN 26 | FRIDAY

Rediscoveries and Revelations

### COCL & SEFF: AUSTRIA'S LAUREL & HARDY

FRI 26 JAN 1330hrs Watershed £8.00/£6.00

Chris Serle unearths one of the first slapstick duos of film history – Cocl & Seff, the character names played by Rudolf Walter and Josef Holub who performed together from 1913. The core element of their comedy was the play-off between a larger more intelligent character and one that was thinner and more stupid. Sound familiar? This was obviously seen more famously in Laurel & Hardy. Only a few Cocl & Seff films have survived to this day. The Filmarchiv Austria has made a few discoveries in its search for Austrian productions in the world's film archives. This is a rare opportunity to see this pair in action.

With live accompaniment from John Sweeney (piano) and Elizabeth-Jane Baldry (harp) and presented by Chris Serle. With special thanks to Horst Claus.

Rediscoveries and Revelations

### LOST AND FOUND

FRI 26 JAN 1530hrs Watershed £8.00/£6.00

Slapstick is privileged to premiere an unprecedented group of star comedies just rediscovered after a century in limbo. The Cinematheque Francaise offers a new Max Linder film. The collector Anthony Saffrey presents four films: two hitherto unknown titles by the cinema's first comic star Andre Deed, along with THE LADY SKATER, a near prehistoric but hilarious British chase film, and LOVE AND LUNCH, an early film by William A. Seiter (later director of SKINNER'S DRESS SUIT) starring an unrecorded Chaplin imitator, Ray Hughes. Also works by Spanish/Italian/US comic star Marcel Perez and German genius Karl Valentin. Presented by Anthony Saffrey and historian David Robinson.

Accompanied live by Daan van den Hurk on piano and Elizabeth-Jane Baldry on solo harp.

### KEATON: THE MGM YEARS U

with Kevin Brownlow & David Robinson

FRI 26 JAN 1740hrs Watershed £8.00/£6.00

Kevin Brownlow presents a fascinating insight into this period of Keaton's onscreen career in a presentation which includes a full screening of: SO FUNNY IT HURT: BUSTER KEATON AND MGM (2004). In this fascinating documentary from filmmaker Kevin Brownlow, we see Buster Keaton's successes and struggles to achieve his Hollywood dream. It chronicles the comedian's MGM period which lasted only five years but shows his artistic compromise with the studio, money and relationship troubles and his growing dependency on alcohol as he attempts to adjust to the arrival of the talkies. The film features fascinating rare footage, including interviews with Buster himself and is narrated by Keaton's colleague and friend James Karen. Kevin will be in discussion with film historian and author David Robinson.



Cocl & Seff

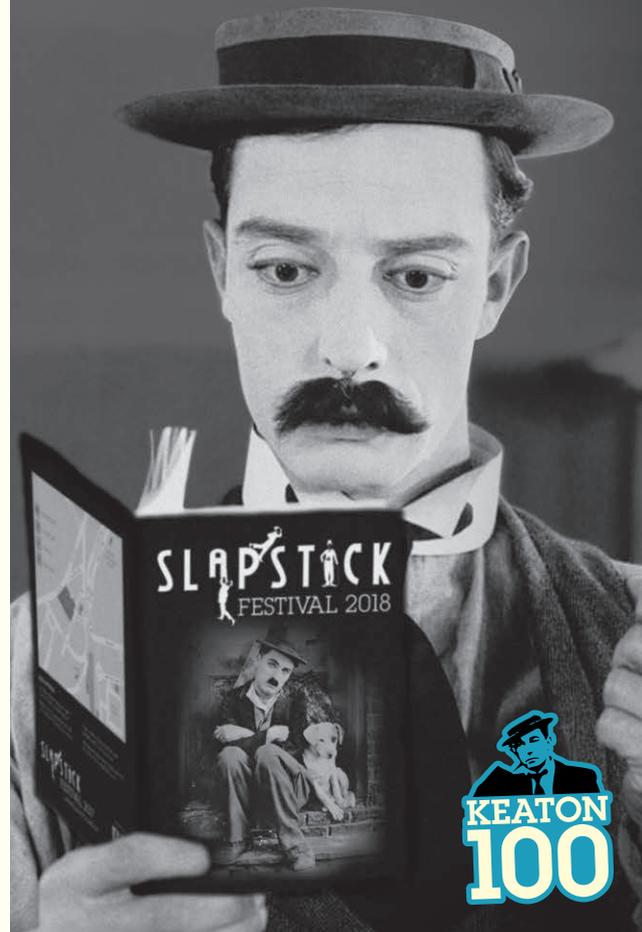


Lost and Found



Keaton: The MGM Years

JAN 26 | FRIDAY



### Silent Comedy Gala Hosted by Tim Vine

With very special guests The Kagools

FRI 26 JAN 1930hrs

Colston Hall £10.50 – £29.50 (premium packages available).

Bristol's stand-out annual comedy edition at Colston Hall – a unique celebration of the best onscreen classic silent comedy, live music and guest appearances by living legends of British comedy.

Our host for this year's gala show is the award-winning punster Tim Vine who introduces an incredible triple-bill of laugh-out-loud comedy classics all accompanied by world-class live music. Tim said: 'I can't wait to host the Slapstick Gala. What an absolute treat to see these classic comedy films the way they're supposed to be seen – on a big screen with live music.'

Buster Keaton's best-loved and most innovative film SHERLOCK JR. (1924) joins Charlie Chaplin's A DOG'S LIFE (1918) to headline the show with live music

SHERLOCK JR is accompanied by the world premiere of a new, semi-improvised score composed by Günter A. Buchwald and performed by the renowned European Silent Screen Virtuosi and members of Bristol Ensemble. A DOG'S LIFE features Chaplin's own composition for the film and will be performed by a 15-piece Bristol Ensemble conducted by maestro Günter A. Buchwald.

Plus: Laurel & Hardy's hilarious comedy short ANGORA LOVE (1929) and live performance from innovative, award-winning visual comedy performers The Kagools. This looks like being our finest and funniest Gala to date!

Bristol Post writes The Slapstick Gala is "a much loved Bristol Institution".

A Dog's Life © Roy Export S.A.S



The Kagools



Tim Vine

JAN 27 | SATURDAY

### THREE AGES (1923) U

Introduced by Peter Lord

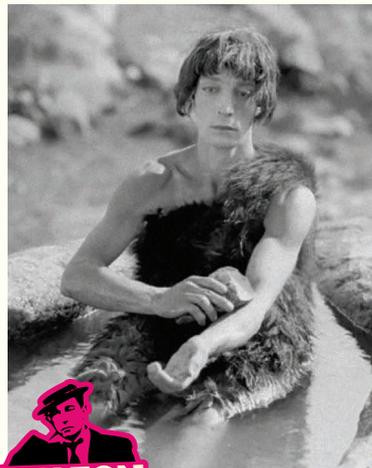
SAT 27 JAN 0930hrs Watershed £8.00/£6.00

Dir: Buster Keaton UK 63 mins

"Love is the unchanging axis on which the world revolves"

This is the first feature-length film to be directed by and star Buster Keaton – his previous films all being shorts. Set over three different historical eras; the Stone Age, Roman times and 1920s New York. In all of these periods Keaton stars as a young man, The Boy, striving for the attention of a beautiful lady, The Girl, (Margaret Leahy) against a bigger, stronger and richer suitor, The Villain (Wallace Beery). A parody of D.W. Griffith's 1916 screen masterpiece INTOLERANCE, the comedy lies in watching the same story unfold again and again over different periods in history.

As Aardman Animation's latest feature, the pre-historic Early Man (2018) hits cinema screens we are delighted to welcome their Director and co-founder Peter Lord who joins us to introduce the stone age Keaton in this rarely screened Keaton comedy. With live piano accompaniment by Daan van den Hurk.



Three Ages

### WHY I LOVE.....THE TWO RONNIES

with Barry Cryer

SAT 27 JAN 1115hrs Bristol Old Vic £15.00

'And in a packed programme...' national comedy treasure Barry Cryer discusses his working relationship and friendship with legendary comic actors Ronnie Barker and Ronnie Corbett. Illustrated with classic clips and hosted by writer and comedy historian Robert Ross, this is a rare chance to rediscover the joyous comedy of one of our best-loved comedy double acts with someone who both wrote for them and knew them well.



The Two Ronnies

JAN 27 | SATURDAY



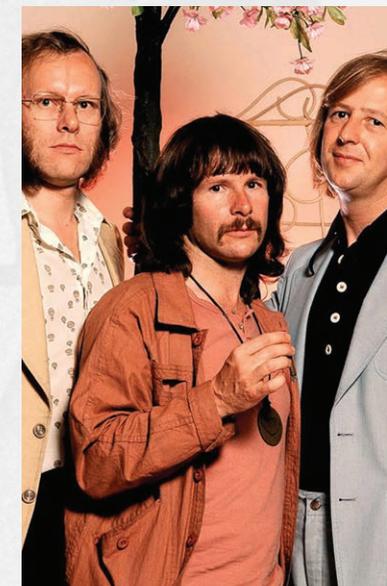
### BUSTER KEATON CLASSICS (& RARITIES)

with The Goodies

SAT 27 JAN 1330hrs  
Bristol Old Vic £15.00

Tim Brooke-Taylor, Bill Oddie & Graeme Garden, the much-loved comedy team behind The Goodies TV series (1969-1982), are all huge admirers of Buster Keaton. Here, they celebrate their mutual passion for "The Great Stone Face" by presenting three of Buster's finest and funniest silent comedy shorts, his mini masterpieces THE PLAY HOUSE (1921), THE BOAT (1921) and THE ELECTRIC HOUSE (1922), which will be screened along with rare archival clips and surprises from collectors & libraries around the world.

With live accompaniment from multi-instrumentalist Stephen Horne.



The Goodies

JAN 27 | SATURDAY

### WHEN YOU FALL DOWN

A one man musical with James Dangerfield

SAT 27 JAN 1530hrs

Colston Hall: The Lantern £12.00/£10.00

Inspired by the career of Buster Keaton, James Dangerfield has created a musical that explores the silent star's life and career. The show follows Keaton's life from his first filmmaking experiences in 1917 to his signing on with MGM 11 years later. When You Fall Down previewed this year in London, and received its premiere at the 2017 International Buster Keaton Festival in Michigan, USA. Featuring original music and songs, join us for this show celebrating "The Great Stone Face" and the magic of movie making. Show running time approx one hour.



James Dangerfield

### RONNIE GOLDEN: FIRST A FENDER - A BEGINNER'S GUIDE TO ROCK

with surprise guest or guests!

SAT 27 JAN 1730hrs

Colston Hall: The Lantern £9.00/£7.00

Often known these days as Barry Cryer's uncivil partner in comedy, Ronnie Golden is a virtuoso rock guitarist whose career has seen him play with Chuck Berry, tour with Tom Jones, Engelbert Humperdinck, and Tom Petty and the Heartbreakers. As the former leader of the cult 70s New Wave quartet Fabulous Poodles, the band famously out-sold the Jam and the Clash back in the good old, bad old, days of punk.

After a quarter of a century of helping others make their careers, Ronnie finally finds a reason to do his first solo musical comedy show.

Part rock 'n' roll guitar masterclass, part autobiography, and part complete bollocks, this is his story told with songs, chord charts, salacious tales, jokes and the odd poignant moment.

Ever dreamt of a life in Rock & Roll? This guy was there so get it from the horse's - well - Poodle's mouth! "BRISTOL, ARE YOU READY TO RAWK?"

"Funny as hell" - Daily Express



Ronnie Golden

JAN 27 | SATURDAY

### LEE MACK'S LAUREL & HARDY CLASSICS PG

SAT 27 JAN 1900hrs Colston Hall £10.00-£25.50

Slapstick Festival is delighted to welcome comedian and writer Lee Mack as he hosts this special one-off event celebrating two of his top comedy heroes; Stan Laurel and Oliver Hardy.

Best known for his standup comedy, writing and starring in the long-running sitcom 'Not Going Out' and as a team captain in 'Would I Lie to You?' Lee hosts this unique evening of hilarious extracts, comedy and film.

Complete with full comedy shorts, clips and live music, Lee brings the timeless Stan & Ollie back to the big screen where they belong - in front of a live audience.

Including a complete screening of the newly restored, long thought-to-be-lost Laurel and Hardy silent comedy, BATTLE OF THE CENTURY (1927) featuring the world premiere of a new semi-improvised score from composer Günter A. Buchwald performed live by the European Silent Screen Virtuosi.



JAN 27 | SATURDAY

Late Night Screening

### THE ROCKY HORROR PICTURE SHOW 12A

Hosted by Christopher Biggins

SAT 27 JAN 2115hrs Colston Hall £10.00-£25.50\*

Dir: Jim Shorman US 1975 100mins

**"Don't Dream it... Be it!"**

Join us for a late night big screen experience of the classic cult musical comedy, 'The Rocky Horror Picture Show'.

This January Bristol's Slapstick Festival is celebrating the role of 'music in film' and what film better reflects the perfect amalgam of genres than this undisputed screen classic?

Along with a complete screening of the film, original cast member and Transylvanian party guest Christopher Biggins joins us onstage to reveal his fascinating behind-the-scenes anecdotes before the film commences.

From lace-up corsets and black stockings to leather jackets and shiny gold pants, fans have been giving themselves over to absolute pleasure by dressing up as their favourite "Rocky Horror" characters for over four decades, and this event will not disappoint even the most creative exhibitionists. So feel free to come dressed as your favourite character as Christopher Biggins will also be on hand before the screening to judge the best costume worn by attendees and present an award to the winner!

With pre-show live entertainment in the foyer too it's a Rocky Horror night to remember!

\*Limited VIP packages available



JAN 28 | SUNDAY

### THE GOODIES: THE MUSICAL PHENOMENON

with Bill Oddie

SUN 28 JAN 0930hrs

Watershed £8.00/£6.00

The much-loved television comedy series The Goodies drew tens of millions of fans each week in 1974-75. An exceptional feature of the show, was Bill Oddie's series of extraordinary musical compositions, which exploded into the mainstream pop charts, with songs such as 'The Inbetweeners' and 'Funky Gibbon' becoming top selling chart hits. Tim, Bill and Graeme found themselves appearing on Top of The Pops alongside the top musical acts of the time.

Bill Oddie, in conversation with author and comedy historian Robert Ross, talks candidly about his work writing songs for the long-running TV series, their chart successes, and what it was like being bona fide pop stars in the 70s.

### RAW SEX

with Rowland Rivron

SUN 28 JAN 1115hrs

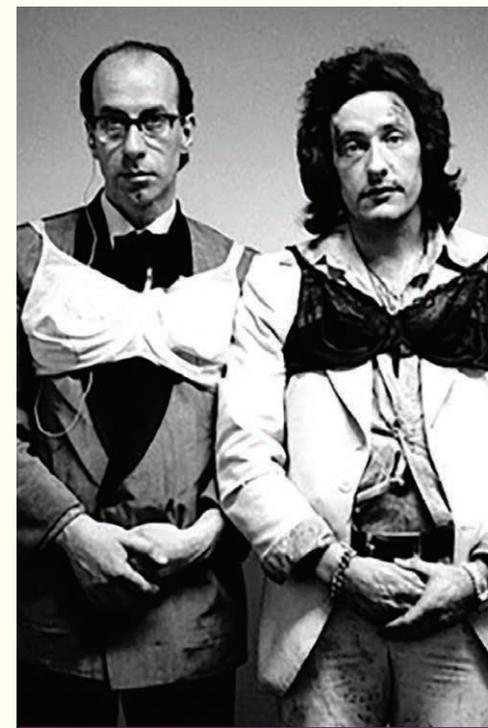
Bristol Old Vic £12.00

It was on the French & Saunders TV show that the unlikely duo Raw Sex was born. As Dawn and Jennifer's house band, Simon Brint and Rowland Rivron played father and son Ken and Duane Bishop with Ken (Brint) on keyboards and the slobby, often drunken Duane (Rivron) on bongos. During their time on the show the duo performed skits as Abba and The Pet Shop Boys but it was as the shambolic Ken and Duane that they are most affectionately remembered. The act developed as a stand-alone in its own right outside French & Saunders and such was their popularity they even made a feature film "There's No Business" (1994) which has become a cult comedy classic. In recent years Rowland and Simon became members of the Idiot Bastard Band performing live shows alongside Adrian Edmondson, Phill Jupitus and Neil Innes.

With extracts and highlights from their career, Rowland discusses this absurd, hugely influential and brilliant double act in conversation with comedian and writer Robin Ince.



The Goodies



Raw Sex

JAN 28 | SUNDAY

JAN 28 | SUNDAY

## JO BRAND'S TOP COMEDY MOMENTS

SUN 28 JAN 1400hrs Bristol Old Vic £20.00

We are delighted to welcome writer, actor, director and comedian Jo Brand to Slapstick Festival as she chooses her top comedy moments from television and film. Brand has an impressive list of credits which include appearances in Absolutely Fabulous, Getting On, Damned, QI, Have I Got News for You and much more. A comedy icon herself with an impressive stand up career in comedy, join us to discover what makes her laugh, who her comedy heroes are and what makes her top 10 comedy moments. In conversation with Matthew Sweet (Radio 3, Free Thinking).

A guaranteed sell-out highlight of the Festival!



## BAD NEWS: "THE FOUR HORSEMEN OF THE ROCK APOCALYPSE"

with Ade Edmondson and Nigel Planer

SUN 28 JAN 1730hrs Bristol Old Vic £15.00

Bad News made their television debut during 1983, in the first series of The Comic Strip Presents... (written by Edmondson). The episode, BAD NEWS TOUR, took the form of a satirical fly on the wall rockumentary, tracking the misadventures of a hapless British heavy metal band on tour. Following a screening of the film, Adrian Edmondson (Vim Fuego – vocals, lead guitar) and Nigel Planer (Den Dennis – rhythm guitar) will be joining us to discuss the phenomenal success and legacy of the film which led to a sequel, More Bad News (1988), hit singles, three albums and live shows culminating in a legendary appearance at Monsters of Rock, Castle Donnington in 1986. Adrian and Nigel will be in conversation with Infinite Monkey Cage co-host and stand-up comedian Robin Ince.

JAN 28 | SUNDAY



**CLASSIC COMEDY DOUBLE BILL**

**LAUREL & HARDY AND THE MARX BROTHERS**

hosted by Robin Ince

SUN 28 JAN 2000hrs Bristol Old Vic £12.00

What better way to end Slapstick's 14th comedy festival than to sit back and enjoy the ingenuity and downright genius of two of the world's finest comedy ensembles of all time. This classic double bill from the 1930s includes a rare big screen outing for Stan & Ollie's masterwork of double acting OUR RELATIONS (1936) where the boys find themselves in 'another fine mess' due to their identical twin brothers. The irascible Marx Brothers make their Slapstick Festival debut in their undisputed comic masterpiece DUCK SOUP (1933) featuring the famous - and often mimicked - Groucho mirror sequence. Introduced by stand-up comedian Robin Ince.

\* See slapstick.org.uk for latest festival announcements.



JAN 27 | SATURDAY

**YOUNG SLAPSTICK**

**SATURDAY**

**DISCOVER THE MAD, WILD, WORLD OF SILENT COMEDY!**

**SILENT COMEDY MAYHEM U**

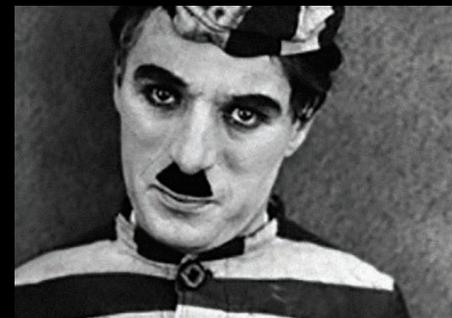
with special guest host Mark Olver

SAT 27 JAN 0930hrs

Colston Hall: The Lantern £2.50

This programme features a selection of the fastest and funniest silent comedies featuring Buster Keaton's hilarious Neighbours (1920) and Charlie Chaplin's classic The Adventurer (1917). Comedian and writer Lucy Porter hosts this special introductory event for young people and families with clips featuring fantastic prat falls, stunts and laugh out loud moments to remember.

With live piano accompaniment.  
Suggested age: 6+ but all welcome.



The Adventurer

**CIRCOMEDIA WORKSHOP**

SAT 27 JAN 1100hrs

Colston Hall: The Lantern  
Workshop and screening £5.00



Following the show there will be the opportunity for those aged 8 - 11 years, feeling inspired and wishing to hone their Slapstick skills to attend a very special pratfall and slapstick workshop with Circomedia. Please note places on the workshop are limited and will need to be booked in advance.

With special thanks to Circomedia.



Silent Comedy Mayhem

**PUNCH & JUDY IN THE FOYER**

SAT 27 JAN

1400hrs Classic Punch & Judy

1500hrs Punjeet and Judy-Gee

Colston Hall Foyer FREE

Prof Patel is Britain's first Asian Punch & Judy Professor - he performs both a traditional British style Punch show and also performs his own unique version using characters drawn from the diversity of modern day Britain. Presenting Mr Punch in a traditional style but pulling him firmly into the 21st century and multicultural Britain with a dash of Bollywood panache. For this special celebration of early slapstick we present both versions in two free performances in the foyer.

"Mayhem, laughter and the unexpected"



Prof Patel, Punch and Judy

## A BIG thank you to all our supporters!

Bristol's Slapstick Festival simply would not be possible without the support of every artist, performer and volunteer willing to give their time and share their passion for silent, visual and classic comedy.

### Sponsors



### Venue Partners



**WATERSHED** colston hall ARNOLFINI Bristol Old Vic

### Partners & Supporters



### The Festival Team

**Patrons:** Tim Brooke-Taylor OBE, Kevin Brownlow, Graeme Garden OBE, Peter Lord CBE, Matt Lucas, Paul McGann, David Robinson, Diana Serra Cary, David Sproxton CBE, Barry Cryer OBE, Michael Palin CBE, Nick Park CBE, Ian Lavender, Bill Oddie OBE, Terry Jones, Neil Innes, June Whitfield CBE  
**Festival Board:** Graeme Garden, David Sproxton, David Robinson, Imogen Sutton, Robin Ince, Lucy Porter, Marcus Brigstocke, Dr Jo Daniels, Sue Lion, Steven Coombe, Chris Daniels  
**Programming Team:** Chris Daniels, Robin Ince, Kevin Brownlow, David Robinson, Ben Model, Graeme Garden  
**Research:** Joshua Daniels, James Harrison, Rustin Allison  
**Festival Team:** Director: Chris Daniels Delivery Manager: Jacqui Ham Events Manager: Catherine Gregory Events Co-ordinator: Sue Lion Office Manager: Annette Short, Production Assistant: Rustin Allison Guest Liaison: Martin Hammond, Chris Kidd, Jessica Jardine Crymble Stage Manager: Gemma Brooks  
**Technical Manager:** Ewan Dunford  
**Musical Director:** Günter A. Buchwald  
**Photography:** Paul Lippiatt  
**Branding Consultant:** Danny Heffer  
**Social Media:** Kimba Digital Marketing, Guy Manchester, Dan Jones (Noisy Little Monkey),  
**Website:** Clear Design UK  
**Press & PR:** Pam Beddard  
**Marketing Support:** Piers Martens, MW Coms  
**Design:** Louise Kelly (Limepark Studios)  
**Film & Editing:** Aardman Machine Room, Andreas Lambis, Kathy Stringer  
**Ident:** Paule Quinlen (Aardman Animations)  
**Advisors:** Michael Daniels, Andrew Kelly, Steve Clarke  
**Copy Support:** Emma Rowlands, Rowan Sharp.

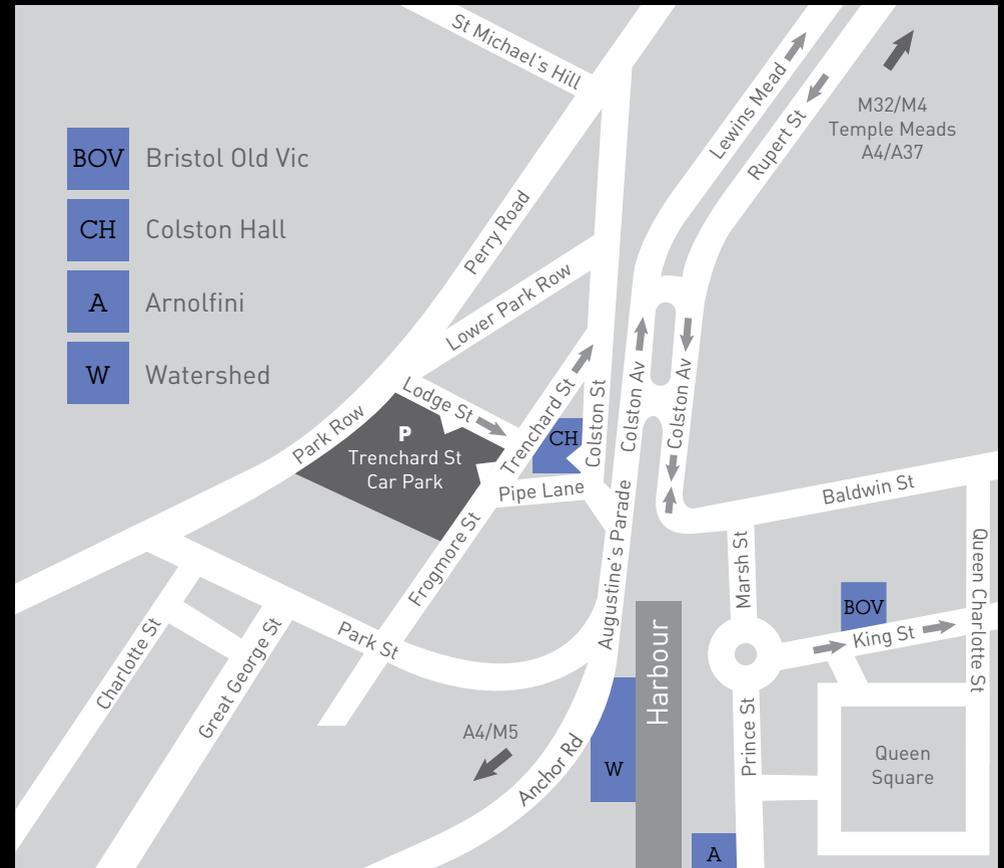
JAN 27 | SATURDAY

### ALTERNATIVE SLAPSTICK!

SAT 27 JAN 2045hrs Bristol Old Vic

Mark Olver's Best of Stand Up for up to date info see [www.slapstick.org.uk](http://www.slapstick.org.uk)

## BOOKING INFORMATION



### BOX OFFICES:

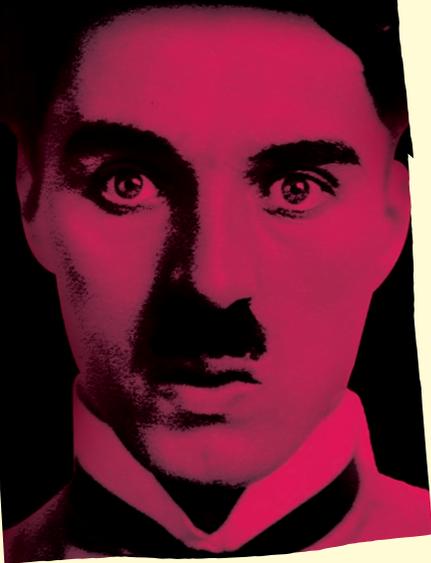
Arnolfini, Narrow Quay, BS1 4QA  
0117 917 2300 | [arnolfini.org.uk](http://arnolfini.org.uk)

Bristol Old Vic, King Street, BS1 4ED  
0117 987 7877 | [bristololdvic.org.uk](http://bristololdvic.org.uk)

Colston Hall, Colston Street, BS1 5AR  
0844 887 1500 | [colstonhall.org](http://colstonhall.org)

Watershed, Canons Road, Bristol, BS1 5TX  
0117 927 5100 | [watershed.org.uk](http://watershed.org.uk)

CHARLIE  
CHAPLIN



JO  
BRAND



SILENT • VISUAL • CLASSIC

COMEDY

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