

OK! THIS WEEK



MUSIC ANASTACIA 'RESURRECTION'

She's one of the most underrated voices of the last 15 years – and even after six albums and two battles

with breast cancer, you can always rely on Anastacia for an album of powerful belters. Recent single *Stupid Little Things* sets the tone, featuring tub-thumping percussion and insightful lyrics about focusing on the things that matter, recalling the passion of the star's biggest single *Left Outside Alone* (meaning yes, the material's a tad dated). Other standout tracks include the emotive *Staring At The Sun* and the intimate *Lifeline*. A strong comeback. **JT** ★★★★★☆ OUT XXXX

HOT TICKET! THE ROUTE LESS TRAVELLED EXHIBITION



The Route Less Travelled, curated by Sascha Bailey from The Something Else Collective, is a new exhibition displaying works from eight talented artists – none of whom have received a formal degree

education. Part of Covent Garden's pop-up concept, Floral Street Goes Pop, visitors can enjoy a host of installations where the artists prove that a degree isn't a prerequisite when exploring creativity. With sculptures by Damien Hirst's son Connor, and exciting works by photographer Fenton Bailey, this event promises fun, exciting exhibits proving education doesn't always have to come from inside the classroom. **SD** ★★★★★☆

UNTIL MAY 19 AT 17 FLORAL STREET, COVENT GARDEN, LONDON. THE SOMETHING ELSE COLLECTIVE WILL BE DONATING 10 PER CENT OF PROFITS TO THE PRINCE'S TRUST.



FILM

'BELLE' (PG)

With amazing performances from the entire cast, *Belle* is one of the best British period films we've seen in a long time. The script is based on the inspiring real-life story of Dido Elizabeth Belle – the illegitimate mixed-race daughter of Admiral Sir John Lindsay and an African slave. The charismatic young woman is raised alongside her cousin Elizabeth by her great-uncle and Lord Chief Justice, the Earl of Mansfield. Despite both girls being brought up with the same high-class social standing, Belle discovers that she is still a victim of racism when the girls are old enough to find husbands. But then she meets a young vicar with some very modern ideas, and the two not only form a close friendship but join forces to convince Lord Mansfield to rule against slavery in an historic legal case. This is a beautiful story that will bring a tear to your eye, and is set to make newcomer Gugu Mbatha-Raw (far right), who plays Dido, a household name. **NA** ★★★★★☆ OUT MAY 13



THIS WEEK'S TELLY PICKS

'THE EUROVISION SONG CONTEST GRAND FINAL'

BBC1, SATURDAY MAY 10, 8PM

Get out the bunting and pop open a bottle of fizz! All eyes will be on Copenhagen as 26 countries take to the stage with the aim of lifting the Eurovision crown. Going for the UK is singer/songwriter Molly Smitten-Downes with her anthemic tune *Children Of The Universe*. Surprisingly, her song is among the frontrunners to take the title this year. At the time of going to press, the Armenian entry Aram MP3, singing *Not Alone*, is the favourite. But Norway, Sweden and last year's champs Denmark all have songs that are expected to do well. The winner will be decided by a mixture of jury and public phone votes.

BOOK: 'BESSARABIAN NIGHTS'

BY STELA BRINZEANU

Larisa is determined to set up a new life in London and escape the confinement of her homeland in Moldova. But when she learns that her best friend Ksenia has been abducted and sold into prostitution, she sets out to find her. Larisa's search eventually leads her back to her roots – but will she be able to save Ksenia? *Bessarabian Nights* is a touching story and a definite must-read.

LW ★★★★★☆



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