

theatre



The Nutcracker, English National Ballet

MK Theatre, November 23-26 Prepare to be swept up in the magic of Christmas when English National Ballet's delivery brings its sparkling production of Nutcracker to town from Wednesday, writes Georgina Butler. The company's dancers have been carefully rehearsing the dazzling festive favourite – which is guaranteed to enchant family members of all ages – to ensure their usual superb technique and artistry is showcased at its very best. Masterful Tchaikovsky's



sumptuous score, Wayne Eagling's exuberant choreography and Peter Farmer's exquisite designs effortlessly transport us to a frost-dusted Edwardian London. It is Christmas Eve and young Clara is thrilled to receive a painted wooden nutcracker doll from a rather mysterious

relative who attends her parents' seasonal soiree. When she creeps downstairs in the middle of the night to check on her special gift, she discovers that the now-empty living room is not the safe haven it used to be – something is amiss. The clock strikes midnight and Clara finds herself battling with a terrifying Mouse King before meeting a handsome stranger and being whisked off to the glistening Land of Snow. With more surprises to come, the only certainty is that this fantasy world is full of adventures.... www.atgtickets.com

Frankenstein

Stantonbury Theatre, Nov 22 To mark the bicentenary of the creation of Frankenstein, Blackeyed Theatre bring their brand new stage adaptation of Shelley's gothic horror masterpiece to town. Geneva, 1816, and Victor Frankenstein obsesses in pursuit of nature's secret, the elixir of life itself. But nothing can prepare him for what he creates. So begins a gripping life or death adventure taking him to the ends of the earth and beyond. This world premiere fuses bold ensemble storytelling, live music, puppetry and stunning theatricality to create a fresh telling of what has become a landmark work of literature. A unique feature of the production is the use of Bunraku-style puppetry to portray The Creature. The full size puppet needs up to three people to manipulate it, and adds an exciting new dimension to the retelling of the classic story. stantonburytheatre.co.uk



Circus of Horrors

Grove Theatre, Dunstable, November 18 Welcome to the Never-Ending Nightmare. An amazing amalgamation of bizarre, brave and beautiful acts all woven into an Alice in Horrorland type story driven by a mainly original soundscape and performed with a forked tongue firmly in each cheek! www.grovetheatre.co.uk



Dr Faustus

Stantonbury Theatre, November 17 Exquisite puppetry and circus artistry throw petrol over the flames of Marlowe's hellish pride tale and the battle for one circus leader's soul. Under the straining tent poles of the world's most famous circus, Dr Faustus employs the one show tactic not yet undertaken to achieve glory – black magic. stantonburytheatre.co.uk



Josh Widdecombe

Aylesbury Waterside, November 22 That curly haired fella from a plethora of comedy shows is back, and he has a heap of minor things that have annoyed him that he wants to share with you. It'll be funny, mind you. If you have seen him in the past and like it, you'll like this. If you didn't like him then, you won't like this, he says. atatickets.com/aylesbury

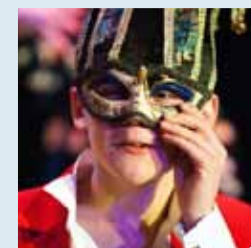


The Music Hall Tavern Theatre

The Venue, November 18 This popular family themed musical drag show has been playing in the Canary Islands for more than two decades where it has established itself as a firm favourite with UK visitors – more than 120,000 of them check in for a performance annually! And now Paul Carroll and the crew play directly for you. musichalltavern.com/uk



Stephen K Amos
Northampton Royal
November 18



Shakespeare For Schools

The Core at Corby Cube
November 22 & 23



Rich Hall
The Stables, Wavendon
November 22

