The London Gallery Weekend Guide nobody asked for...

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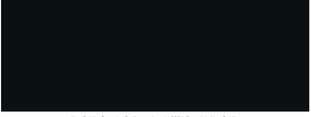
It's London Gallery Weekend and we have a guide for you. This time, we decided to let other people do the hard work for us and write the recommendations. Don't worry, they really know what they're talking about.

Installation view of Barbara Kruger, "Will and Testament", courtesy Lisson Gallery. Photo: Jack Hems. © Barbara Kruger.



Nan Goldin, Gagosian Burlington Arcade, 2024. Copyright Nan Goldin.

Nan Goldin, Gagosian Burlington Arcade, 2024. Copyright Nan Goldin.

Maria Bernheim

Director of Bernheim Gallery

See: Nan Goldin at Gagosian Burlington Arcade

At Burlington Arcade, you have the chance to see works that are genuine and sincere, photographs of Goldin's transgender friends in the 70s. Cool before their time, more relevant than ever. Then, put your walking shoes on and check out her show 'Sisters, Saints, Sibyls' at the Welsh Chapel, 83 Charing Cross Road, part of Gagosian Open.

Eat: Cecconi's

Better food than Cipriani, you can always sit at the bar and why try to reinvent the wheel when their appetisers are the best in the city.

Drink: Chiltern Firehouse

Is there even another place in the city?

Vincent Fecteau, 'untitled', greengrassi, 2024. Photos © Mel Duarte. Courtesy of the artist and greengrassi, London.

Joe Scotland

Director of Studio Voltaire (which celebrates its 30th anniversary this year)

See: Vincent Fecteau at Greengrassi

I think Vincent Fecteau's sculptures are so weird and brilliant, they seem to both talk to the world while being completely happy in their own existence and singularity. This contradictory-ness seems to continue throughout his work, the sculptures are generous to the audiences with their multiple references which give so many layers of inferences, but at the same time, they are somewhat closed off to communication and dialogue. I could look at them for hours.

Drink: Retro Bar

I have such fondness for Retro Bar. It is queer pub tucked away down a little alley just off The Strand. I first went there when I moved to London in the late 1990s. Its kitsch-y interior with its rock 'n' roll gallery walls and retro pop and indie hits has always made this place feel a bit out of step. It felt retro back in the 1990s, and it certainly does now, but that is a massive part of its charm.

Eat: Bistro Freddie

I wanted to recommend Crispin at Studio Voltaire, our new fantastic restaurant which opened a couple of months back in Clapham. I don't want to be seen as too nepotistic, so I am recommending its sister restaurant Bistro Freddie in Shoreditch. The restaurant is pure comfort, both with its food and drink offer and its dining experience. They do the best chips and mayo in London – and their pies have already become a thing of infamy. I'd also recommend their desserts and great wine list.

Bistro Freddie

Information

All galleries participating in London Gallery Weekend 2024 are open Friday 31 May: 11 am – 6 pm, Saturday 1 June: 11 am – 6 pm, and Sunday 2 June: 12 – 5 pm. londongalleryweekend.art

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