

Coming soon

Out from Friday...
Tom Hiddleston plays the Hank Williams songbook in **I Saw The Light...** Christian Bale leads Terrence Malick's **Knight Of Cups...** Meryl Streep squawks in **Florence Foster Jenkins...**
In two weeks... College days fondly remembered in **Everybody Wants Some!**... From app to big screen for **The Angry Birds Movie...**
In three weeks... The mutants suit up for **X-Men: Apocalypse...** Tom Hanks deals with the Saudis in **A Hologram For The King...**
In a month... Disney fantasia sequel **Alice Through The Looking Glass...** George Clooney's TV pundit is a hostage to fortune in **Money Monster...**

Booking now film fests and events

Rooftop Film Club
Outdoor cinemas are back - though overcoats and umbrellas might be sensible precautions for the time being. This well-established operation restarts this week across three open-air venues in east London, showing classics as well as recent titles such as Amy, Room and The Force Awakens. **Bussey Building, SE15; Queen Of Hoxton, EC2; Roof East, E15, Tue to 31 May**

Richard Linklater
Having given us a sensitive study of growing up with *Boyhood*, Linklater provides a completely different take on American youth with his latest, *Everybody Wants Some!*. It's an affectionate satire of 80s student life, capturing the hedonism, the machismo, the hairstyles and - of course - the soundtrack of the era. File alongside *Dazed And Confused* if you must, but Linklater continues to defy overpopulation and wildlife extinction. But cheer up, it might never happen - especially if we take note of what's going on. Besides, it's not all bad news. *Racing Extinction* (pictured), for example, is an exciting exposé of the illegal trade in endangered species from the makers of dolphin-slaughter documentary *The Cove*. The festival plays in 15 cities this week.
Various venues, Sun to 8 May
Steve Rose



In a secluded forest, folk singer Sam Lee introduces his feathery new workmates

Song birds

Gigs don't come much more secret than this. Deep in a Sussex wood, at the approach of midnight, a dozen musicians and fans are gathered around a blossoming blackthorn bush. The latter have been waiting all evening to hear the headline act, while the former are standing by to collaborate with nature's most celebrated singer. They've all read the early reviews ("Singer of summer in full-throated ease" - Keats; "As if some sudden gale had swept at once a hundred airy harps!" - Coleridge), but no one's prepared for the strange music that erupts in surround sound from the shadows.

"It's like a shot in the arm, like nature rinsing through

you," says Mercury-nominated folk singer Sam Lee, who is tonight performing alongside a nightingale in a unique and slightly futuristic collaboration between man and bird. A meditative trek into the mud and moonlight and a communion with nature, Lee's performances are also designed to extol mindful presence and the power of deep listening.

The window for such a concert is small. Nightingales winter in Africa and make their famous mating calls in Europe for just a few weeks in spring. They can be temperamental performers and save their flashiest repertoire - around 200 motifs from eerie whining through to manic chaffing - for darkness.

Get the timings right, though, and a nightingale makes for an amazingly responsive musical partner. The males can throw their voices for miles, and will react to some human-made music. Essentially the birds are on the pull but, according to Lee, "they still have a lot to teach us about space and silence".

Bella Todd

In May 1924, a nightingale starred in the BBC's first live outside broadcast, "duetting" with cellist Beatrice Harrison as she played in her garden. It was the 90th anniversary of this event two years ago that inspired Lee's first nightingale walk. This year he has returned to perform 15 shows with a fuller and more ambitious set of musicians. One, an improvisational saxophonist, looks a little apprehensive as she unzips her tenor from its case and tiptoes towards the bush.

"As a lonely folk singer I've developed a bit of a relationship with these birds," says Lee, who offers his audience a haunting ballad about longing for a fumble where the buds blossom. "Last year, on the last night, I wept inconsolably all the way back to camp. It was like leaving a lover."

Lee plans to make his musical trysts with the birds an annual occurrence. The magic, he says, shows no signs of wearing off. **Sam Lee's Singing With Nightingales is at a secret Sussex location to 21 May**

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