What’s On
Autumn / Winter 2018-19

Featuring...
Swan Lake
T-Rextasy
The Lost Voice Guy
Blake: The Anniversary Tour
The King & I

The Empire Theatre & Cinema
Front Street, Consett DH8 5AB
03000 262 400 | www.empireconsett.co.uk
Welcome

The Empire Theatre & Cinema has a packed programme in store this Autumn/Winter season! We’ve also been busy improving your booking experience by updating our website and introducing a brand new Box Office ticketing system.

Visit www.empireconsett.co.uk for more information about The Empire and to book live shows and cinema screenings quickly and easily!

Don’t miss... Beauty and the Beast see page 10

Cover photo: Russian National Ballet: Swan Lake see page 8

Empire Café
Our café offers the perfect place to eat and drink, with a wide selection of tasty snacks, cakes, pastries and Afternoon Tea (pre-booking required for Afternoon Tea).
Open 10am - 3pm Monday to Saturday.

Empire Cinema
Offering the latest blockbusters and outstanding Event Cinema from around the world, at great value prices.
Visit the website for film listings and details of our varied cinema programme.

Friends of The Empire
Become a Friend of the Empire and support our fantastic venue.
Benefits include discounts on selected shows and more.
Annual memberships start from only £6.
Call the Box Office for details.

Wednesday 12 September 7.00pm
The Merry Wives of Windsor
Down on his luck in the suburbs, John Falstaff plans to hustle his way to a comfortable retirement by seducing the wives of two wealthy men. For a fat Englishman, a Welshman and a Frenchman, the only way is Windsor… £14, £12 concs

Wednesday 14 November 7.00pm
Troilus & Cressida
Troilus and Cressida swear they will always be true to one another. But in the seventh year of the siege of Troy their innocence is tested, and exposed to the savage corrupting influence of war, with tragic consequences. £14, £12 concs
Saturday 15 September 7.30pm
Marty Wilde & The Wildcats
An opportunity to experience, live on stage, one of rock 'n' roll’s original pioneers.
Marty, whose career began in 1957, was amongst the very first British singers to play a leading role in the early formative and ground breaking rock ‘n’ roll years. He is also one of the few still performing in the world today.
Playing his many hits, combined with a host of magical songs from the era, Marty and his fabulous band, The Wildcats, will take you on a trip down Memory Lane and guide you through some of the most exciting musical periods this country has ever experienced.
£21

Please note that this is a live concert, not a film screening. This variety show does not feature The Greatest Showman film, cast, costumes or staging nor purports to be associated with the film in any way.

Tuesday 18 September 7.30pm
This Is The Greatest Show
Inspired by the imagination of P.T Barnum, join a cast of the finest West End singers and the LIVE Greatest Show Band as we take you on a journey through music from ‘The Greatest Showman’, ‘Moulin Rouge’, ‘Barnum’ and more.
Sit back and relax or stand up and dance to some of the most memorable songs. Including ‘This Is Me’, ‘Never Enough’, ‘Join The Circus’, ‘Your Song’, ‘The Greatest Show’ and lots more! Let us help you forget your troubles for two hours of the finest songs altogether in one feel-good show. A memorable night that will have you singing along and dancing in the aisles.
£21.50, £20 concs
Friday 21 September 7.30pm

**T-Rextasy**

Marc Bolan, with his band T.Rex, was one of the most flamboyant and charismatic stars of the original glam rock era. With Bolan’s special ingredient of Rock-a-Boogie songs, the band had a string of huge hits throughout the 1970s including ‘Love to Boogie’, ‘Telegram Sam’, ‘Jeepster’ and ‘20th Century Boy’.

T.Rextasy have now been performing around the world for over 20 years and are now accepted as the world’s only official live tribute band dedicated to Marc Bolan & T.Rex, and the only band endorsed and approved by Marc Bolan’s family, estate, original ex-members of T.Rex, and Bolan’s catalogue management.

£22

Saturday 6 October 7.30pm

**UK Pink Floyd Experience**

Recreating the sights and sounds of the legendary Pink Floyd live in concert, this highly authentic show showcases over 50 years of hits by this iconic band. Also featuring over two hours of songs from both iconic albums ‘Dark Side Of The Moon’ and ‘Animals’ as well as ‘Wish You Were Here’, ‘Another Brick In The Wall’ and ‘Comfortably Numb’. Featuring impressive video projection, a stunning light show, outstanding musicianship, superb vocals and world class production.

£22.50

Saturday 20 October 7.30pm

**Sweet Caroline**

The ultimate tribute to Neil Diamond featuring Gary Ryan, as seen on ‘Stars in Their Eyes’. Taking it back to where it began, this musical journey celebrates 50 years of a legend. From Brooklyn to Hollywood, Neil Diamond has left a legacy of great songs which have been covered by every great vocalist. Spanning all genres from the Reggae of ‘Red Red Wine’, through the ‘Country of Cracklin’ Rosie’, and the Hollywood music of ‘The Jazz Singer’. Enjoy all the hits such as, ‘Forever In Blue Jeans’, ‘America’ and ‘Love On The Rocks’ and of course, the unforgettable ‘Sweet Caroline’.

£21.50

Sunday 21 October

**The Lost Voice Guy: Homecoming**

The Lost Voice Guy captured the hearts of a nation when he won ITV’s Britain’s Got Talent 2018. Now heading back to his hometown of Consett where it all began, The Empire is delighted to play host to two celebration ‘homecoming’ gigs. He may not be able to talk but he definitely has something to say, and his comedy will leave you speechless! Join us for an unmissable evening packed full of fun and laughter. Also starring two more fantastic acts and hosted by Matt Reed.

PG Family Friendly  £12, £8 Under 16s
18+ Edition  £18

"incredibly talented" Simon Cowell
"consistently hilarious" Broadway Baby ★★★★★
Friday 26 October 7.30pm

**Some Guys Have All The Luck**

Back by popular demand after a sell-out concert in 2017, this fantastic theatrical production celebrates the career of one of rock's greatest icons, Rod Stewart - from street busker through to international superstar!

Paul Metcalfe performs all the massive hits from classic rockers like ‘Maggie May’, ‘Baby Jane’ and ‘Da Ya Think I’m Sexy’ through to big ballads such as ‘Sailing’, ‘You’re In My Heart’, and ‘Tonight’s The Night’.

£21.50

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Saturday 3 November 7.30pm

**Russian National Ballet: Swan Lake**

Russian National Ballet is back to the UK with the most famous ballet of all time and one of Tchaikovsky’s best works featuring some of ballet’s most memorable music and breath-taking dance.

Swan Lake is the compelling legend of a tragic romance in which a princess, Odette, is turned into a swan by an evil curse. Full of mystery and romance, it has captured the imagination of timeless generations and continues to attract worldwide audiences, young and old.

£21, £19.50 concs, £16.50 under 16s

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Saturday 10 November 7.30pm

**Joe McElderry in Concert**

Following his UK tour playing the lead as Joseph in Bill Kenwright’s production of Joseph and The Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat, Joe received 5-star acclaim from critics. After releasing his fifth album ‘Saturday Night at the Movies’ with a successful tour last year and with numerous appearances at The London Palladium - he is now embarking on his very own concert tour.

£22

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Thursday 22 November 7.30pm

**Blake - The Anniversary Tour**

Brit Award-winning vocal trio Blake celebrate 10 years together with a special UK tour. Featuring songs from their 10th anniversary album including Elgar’s ‘Nimrod’, the Beatles’, ‘Here There and Everywhere’, ‘Somewhere’ from West Side Story and more popular anthems in powerful three-part harmony.

£22.50

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Friday 23 November 7.30pm

**A Christmas Carol**

Charles Dickens’ classic ghost story is brought to life in this most traditional of productions, complete with beautiful period costume, song, dance and a magnificent, original musical score. Join critically acclaimed theatre company Chapterhouse for this fantastic festive treat for the whole family.

£16, £12 concs, £50 family (2+2)
Saturday 26 January 7.30pm
**Dirty Dusting**
Starring Crissy Rock (Benidorm, I’m a Celebrity), Leah Bell, Dolores Porretta and Andrew Green.
Treat yourself to an evening of pure theatrical Viagra when Dirty Dusting returns to the stage after three sell out UK tours. A chance wrong number, gives three cleaning ladies, a great idea 'why not run a sex chat line?' after all, their age and appearance won’t matter on the phone and providing they can keep this a secret from their boss, they could be on to a winner. This is a heart-warming, feel good comedy which will have you rolling in the aisles and smiling every time you answer the phone.
Recommended age 16+
£21, £20 concs

Friday 1 February 7.30pm
**The Lionel Richie Songbook**
Winner of ‘Best Newcomer’ in 2018 at the National Tribute Awards. Starring a stellar line-up of world class musicians including Talon’s own Jonny Miller and the awesome talent of Malcolm Pitt as the voice of Lionel Richie in this high octane show which includes all the greatest hits - ‘Easy’, ‘Say You Say Me’, ‘Stuck On You’, ‘Dancing On The Ceiling’, Three Times A Lady’, ‘Hello’, ‘All Night Long’ and lots more. Join us for a magical evening of pure Lionel Richie and the Commodores!
£20, £19 concs

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**Live**

Saturday 1 to Monday 31 December
**Beauty and the Beast**
Consett’s smash hit family pantomime returns in partnership with Leah Bell and Durham County Council. Packed full of fun, magic, surprises, songs and audience participation for the whole family. Starring Leah Bell, Jason Jones, Finbar Healy and full supporting cast.

1 December 3.00pm
2 December 3.00pm
4 December 10.00am
5 December 10.00am
6 December 10.00am
7 December 10.00am & 1.30pm
8 December 3.00pm & 6.30pm
9 December 3.00pm
11 December 10.00am
12 December 10.00am
13 December 10.00am
14 December 10.00am, 15 December 3.00pm & 6.30pm
16 December 3.00pm
18 December 10.00am
19 December 10.00am
20 December 10.00am & 1.30pm
21 December 6.30pm
22 December 11.00am & 3.00pm
23 December 11.00am & 3.00pm
24 December 1.00pm & 4.30pm
26 December 3.00pm
27 December 3.00pm
28 December 3.00pm
29 December 3.00pm
30 December 3.00pm
31 December 1.30pm

£16, £14 concs
Group & Family Discounts Available.

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£20, £19 concs
Live

Saturday 9 February 7.30pm

Back to Bacharach

Celebrating ‘The Hitmaker’ behind one of the greatest American songbooks of the 20th century - Burt Bacharach. With breathtaking performances from outstanding West End vocalists and the amazing musicianship of the Magic Moments Orchestra, the show celebrates songs such as ‘Alfie,’ ‘Walk On By,’ ‘Say A Little Prayer For You,’ ‘The Look of Love’ and lots more.

£22, £20 conc

Saturday 23 February 7.30pm

The Illegal Eagles

The World’s Official No.1 Eagles tribute returns to the stage in 2019 promising more of their trademark musical prowess, acute attention to detail, and incredible showmanship. This phenomenal group of musicians have been touring for over two decades and master the Eagles’ repertoire including ‘Hotel California’, ‘Take It Easy’ and ‘Desperado’.

£24

Saturday 2 March 12pm & 3.30pm

Milkshake Live!

Milkshake Monkey’s Musical

Milkshake! Monkey is determined to put on a Musical, so spectacular, it will keep the theatre open forever! This won’t be easy, so he’ll need the help of his Milkshake friends. With plenty of laughter, great songs, funky dance routines, bags of audience interaction and bucket loads of fun, it’s the family show not to be missed.

£15.50 adults, £13.50 under16s, £54 family (2+2)

Also showing

Friday 7 September 7.30pm

Bjorn To Be Abba Sing-along

Presented by Willowburn Hospice

A night celebrating ABBA and other great songs from the 70s with lyrics on screen to sing-along. All ticket proceeds go to the Willow Burn Hospice charity.

£17, £16 concs, £8 child

Saturday 22 September 6.30pm

Saturday Night At The Movies

Presented by Inspirer La Danse

A fun filled night of dance and entertainment from children aged 2+ years.

£8

Friday 28 September 7.00pm

The Big Sing

Presented by The Salvation Army Band Consett

The Big Sing is a Christian event with hymns and worship songs accompanied by Consett Salvation Army Band. Also taking part will be Rhythms of Grace Worship Band, Consett SA Junior Singers and the SA band.

£5 full, £5 concs, free children & students.

Tues 9 - Sat 13 October 7.15pm (2pm matinee)

Oliver

Presented by Spotlight Community Theatre Productions

Spotlight CTP presents ‘Oliver’ on the 50th Anniversary of the film. This family musical showcases the talents of this large ensemble cast and brings classic characters and an undeniably popular score to life.

£9, £7 concs

Friday 2 November 7.00pm

Festival of Remembrance

Presented by The Royal British Legion Women’s Section

A short ecumenical service of remembrance is followed by a variety show performed by talented local groups, musicians, singers and dancers.

£8

Friday 16 November 7.15pm

Pack Up Your Troubles

Presented by CBS Theatre Group

A show filled with songs through the war years.

£10

Sat 17 & Sun 18 November 6.00pm

Mulan JR

Presented by Activate Theatre

Take a mystical journey to ancient China with the young stars of Activate Theatre.

£12, £10 concs

Mon 14 – Sat 19 January 7.15pm (+2.15pm Sat Matinee)

Sleeping Beauty

Presented by CBS Theatre Group

This popular children’s fairy tale is brought to life in a traditional pantomime presented by the CBS Theatre Group. Filled with fun and family frolics through music and song.

£10, Family Ticket (2+2) £30, Monday Tickets 2 for £15
Friday 15 March 7.30pm

The Drifters
Now, in their 65th Anniversary year, The Drifters are back in the UK performing with a brand-new line up and singing hits such as ‘Saturday Night At Movies’, ‘Come on Over to My Place’, ‘Up On The Roof,’ ‘Under the Boardwalk,’ ‘Kissin’ In The Back Row’ and many more.

£24

Friday 22 March 7.30pm

The Circus of Horrors
The Circus of Horrors is back! Featuring an amazing amalgamation of bizarre and fantastic circus acts all woven into a sensational horror story and the darkest of magic. A rock ‘n’ rollercoaster of a show. Ages 16+.

£21.50

Saturday 30 March 7.30pm

The Elvis Years
The UK’s number one Elvis musical. An authentic concert production, featuring Mario Kombou from the highly acclaimed West End musical ‘Jailhouse Rock’ and led by legendary producer, musical director and Ivor Novello award-winner David Mackay. Packed with over 50 golden greats and spanning three decades of hits, this breathtaking journey through the life and times of The King is simply unmissable.

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**Beauty and the Beast**

STARRING

LEAH BELL • JASON JONES • FINBAR HEALY

HARRIET POVEY • GLEN RICHARD TOWNSEND • JAMES DE LAUCH HAY

ANDY POWER-TATE • GARETH ARTHURS • MARIA MAY

Bethany Claire Rayne • Lauren Maddison • Olivia Harkness • Siobhan Kellina

Written and directed by Leah Bell • Choreographed by Harriet Povey

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