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Jam-Packed



It's finally arrived, the month Roman music-lovers look forward to all year. Namely, July, when ancient sites turn into opera houses, when parks become concert venues, and when sports centers transform into mega performance arenas. If you're lucky enough to be in the city this month, check out our summer entertainment guide and spoil yourself with a trip filled with music, dance, and theater. **Tiffany Parks** has your tickets.



2/3 David Gilmour

In 1971, Pink Floyd performed

and recorded a one-of-a-kind concert at the amphitheater of Pompeii, a historic event that was all the more extraordinary for the fact that there was no audience. Nearly half a century has passed since then, but one can only assume that the band's legendary guitarist, David Gilmour, is aiming to recreate a bit of that ancient magic with his two live performances this month at another 2000-year-old site, Rome's Circus Maximus. www.ticketone.it



27 Sting

English singer-songwriter Sting makes a stop in the Eternal City as part of his international *Back to Bass* tour. Both as a solo artist and as a member of the band The Police, he's racked up 16 Grammy awards and sold a staggering 100 million albums worldwide, making him one of the best-selling artists of all time. Catch him perform tracks off his latest album *The Last Ship* in a one-night-only concert at Parco della Musica.



28

John Williams

The first few notes of these iconic soundtracks are enough to transport you to a different time and place, to the magical world of your cinematographic memories, whether it be the bone-chilling two-note motif that heralds a great white shark, the heart-warming anthem of everyone's favorite extra terrestrial, or the swashbuckling call to adventure that is *Indiana Jones*. Conductor Frank Strobel and the Santa Cecilia Orchestra interpret John Williams' most beloved soundtracks of blockbuster Spielberg films from the '80s to today. www.santacecilia.it



All Month > Baths of Caracalla

Every year, the towering ancient site of the Baths of Caracalla transforms into a dramatic backdrop for opera, dance, world-class musicians, and more. Classical pianist Lang Lang heads up the bill on 3 July; Verdi's opera *Nabucco* (a favorite with patriotic Italians) runs from the 9th to the 30th; Rossini's perennial favorite *The Barber of Seville* plays on the 18th and the 28th; and Puccini's tragic and glorious *Madama Butterfly* opens on the 29th. But perhaps the most anticipated event of the season is *Roberto Bolle and Friends*, a showcase for the now world-famous ballet star and other top dancers and performers. www.operaroma.it



5 Beethoven's 9th
Instantly recognizable and universally uplifting, Beethoven's *Symphony no. 9 "Choral"* is one of the absolute showstoppers of the classical canon. In the first concert of its kind, Rome's own Maestro Antonio Pappano and the Santa Cecilia Orchestra perform this symphonic tour de force at the Foro Italico to a 9000-strong audience this month. Be a part of it. www.santacecilia.it

23 Queen at the Opera

While there's no doubt that the phenomenon that was Queen can never be recreated, the brains and talent behind *Queen at the Opera* come awfully close. Fifty brilliant performers come together at the Foro Italico for a one-night-only performance that combines a full symphonic orchestra, four lead singers including "The Voice"'s Jordan Trey, multimedia projections of live Queen performances, and the band's timeless hits like "Bohemian Rhapsody," "A Kind of Magic," "We Are the Champions," and more. www.ticketone.it



15 Neil Young

One of the most influential singer-songwriters of his generation, Neil Young has yet to lose the vitality and captivation of his youth, despite over 50 years in the biz. He takes to the stage at the Baths of Caracalla this month, accompanied by American rock group Promise of the Real, to perform some of his most classic hits live for the first time in decades. www.operaroma.it



WAIT, there's more!

- ❑ **4-15 July** - The Gardens of July Festival at [Sala Casella](#)
 - ❑ **11 July** - Alan Parsons at [Villa Ada](#)
 - ❑ **14 July** - Lionel Ritchie hits up the [Baths of Caracalla](#)
 - ❑ **16 July** - S. Cecilia Orchestra performs *Carmina Burana* at the [PDM](#)
 - ❑ **18 July** - Catch Joan Baez at the [PDM](#)
 - ❑ **19 July** - Carlos Santana plays the [PDM](#)
 - ❑ **23 July** - Tango Night at [Sant'Ivo alla Sapienza](#)
 - ❑ **24 July** - Iron Maiden thrills at the [Ippodromo Capannelle](#)
 - ❑ **26 July** - Massive Attack plays the [PDM](#)
 - ❑ **All Month** - Classical music at the [Theater of Marcellus](#)
- See listings on pp54-55 for a full list of events and venues



All Month

Globe Theatre

This year marks the 400th anniversary of the death of William Shakespeare. What better way to commemorate the occasion than by taking in a play at Rome's own Globe Theatre? The circular, open-air auditorium located inside lush Villa Borghese park is an exact replica of London's Globe, and peering down from the balcony under the stars on a warm summer evening is an entertaining way to step back in time. This month the Shakespeare company, run by Silvano Toti, presents three (Italian-language) performances: *King Lear* is on until the 3rd of July, and from the 8th to the 17th, *Homage to Shakespeare* features a rare appearance by one of Italy's greatest living stage actors, Gigi Proietti. The month ends on a high note with a light-hearted staging of *The Merchant of Venice* set at the turn of the last century, opening on the 22nd. www.globetheatreroma.com

