

## If you only see one thing today

### POP JMascis

VARIOUS VENUES

Old dude-rockers don't fade away, they just dust down the acoustic guitar. Quiet is the new loud for Dinosaur Jr's piercing guitar-wrangler, who strips away (most of) his trademark squall for gentler, introspective forays on *Tied to a Star*, forays well suited to his eternally wounded voice and, indeed, to seasonal casualties in need of a cushioning January. *Motion, Bristol* (0871 220 0260) tonight; *Scala, London N1* (0871 220 0260) Thur; *Haunt, Brighton* (0871 220 0260) Fri

the artistic and identity crisis of a washed-up superhero actor has lots of layers and is about many things. And it is very, very funny. *Nationwide release*

### The Theory of Everything

12A, JAMES MARSH, 123MINS  
Eddie Redmayne gives a terrific performance as Stephen Hawking.

## COMEDY

### Stewart Lee

LEICESTER SQ THEATRE, LONDON WC2  
Stewart Lee gives a run-out to work destined for a fourth series of his BBC show, *Comedy Vehicle*, and prepares for a nationwide gadabout. It's work-in-progress, then, officially – but don't expect anything less than furiously meticulous material and expertly refined invective. (08448 733433) to 31 Jan

### Beasts

SOHO THEATRE, LONDON W1  
This rambunctious threesome have been directed by Tom Parry from knockabout sketch kings Pappy's – and that mark of quality runs throughout *Solo*. The conceit is that rather than performing together, each member is pursuing a solo career. The resultant jostling for the limelight makes for an anarchic, thoroughly entertaining show. (020 7478 0100) to Sat

## WORLD MUSIC

### Tashkezar

JAMBOREE, LONDON E1  
The London-based Balkan and Gypsy five-piece combine bazouki, brass, bass and violins, with the singer Mariam Ali leading from the front with eclectic tunes from Eastern Europe and Latin America. (020 7791 5659) tonight

## JAZZ

### Louis Moholo Quartet

## London Schools Symphony Orchestra

BARBICAN CENTRE, LONDON EC2  
ENO music director Edward Gardner conducts London's finest young orchestral musicians in Nielsen's philhellenic *Helios Overture*, Grieg's Piano Concerto (soloist Louis Schwizgebel) and Rachmaninov's soaring Second Symphony. (020 7638 8891) tonight 7.30pm

## FOLK & ROOTS

### Brian Peters

SPALDING FOLK CLUB, LINCOLNSHIRE  
The English concertina, melodeon and guitarist performs the great old songs, ballads and tunes from the tradition. (07711 688864) tonight

## THEATRE

### White Christmas

WEST YORKSHIRE PLAYHOUSE, LEEDS  
Nikolai Foster's bold reprise of the Irving Berlin musical is guaranteed to leave you humming. Star of the show is former tabloid bad boy Darren Day, who takes effortlessly to the role of straight-laced Bob Wallace, made famous by Bing Crosby. (0113 213 7700) to 24 Jan

### King Charles III

WYNDHAMS THEATRE, LONDON WC2  
Mike Bartlett's bracingly provocative and entertaining new play is a politically thoughtful speculative drama about the future of the monarchy, beginning with the funeral of the present queen. In Rupert Goold's pitch-perfect production, Tim Pigott-Smith



AMANDA HARMAN

## Start the conversation

### The Life and Times of Fanny Hill

BRISTOL OLD VIC

**What's going on?** Caroline Quentin (above) stars in this new production based on the infamous, banned novel, written in 1748. It follows the rise and fall of the eponymous heroine and her life in the brothels of Georgian England.

### Why should I be interested?

It's directed by rising star Michael Oakley (Chichester Festival Theatre, JMK Award for Young Directors).

**Watch out for** Original music by Pete Flood from *Bellowhead*.

5 February to 7 March  
(bristololdvic.org.uk)

PARTNERS



# Need to transfer