



## Stars turn out for 'CASS' premiere at Cineworld

New British biopic 'CASS' premiered at Cineworld in July.

Joined by Cass Pennant, the director and stars of the flick turned out for a celeb-filled evening on Broad Street. Speaking at Cielo restaurant, Brindley-place, beforehand Cass explained that he was delighted to come to Birmingham and to finally have the chance to relax and see his life story unveil on the big screen after months of hard work. Having lived through the writing and filming process in "a daze" the premiere was the first real chance Cass had to see how Nonso Anozie portrays him.

Directed by Jon S Baird, 'CASS' is the incredible true story of how an orphaned Jamaican baby, adopted by an elderly white couple and brought up in an all white area of London, became one of the most feared and respected men in Britain. Cass grew up in a time before political correctness and was forced to endure racist bullying on a daily basis, until one day when the years of pent up anger came out in a violent burst. Cass found through violence the respect he never had and

became addicted to the buzz of fighting. His way of life finally caught up with him when an attempted assassination on his life saw him shot three times at point blank range. His inner strength somehow managed to keep him alive but he was left with a dilemma; whether to seek vengeance as the street had taught him, or renounce his violent past.

Nonso Anozie (The Last Legion, Atonement) portrays Cass, alongside Tamer Hassan (Football Factory, The Business),

Leo Gregory (Green Street, Stoned), Gavin Brocker (Torchwood, Foyle's War), Robbie Gee (Snatch), Nathalie Press (Red Road, My Summer of Love) and Linda Bassett (East is East, Calendar Girls). Birmingham celebrities' former-boxer-turned-actor Joe Egan, and Radio WM presenter Danny Kelly also appear as extras in the film.

'Cass' will be shown at Cineworld, Broad Street from Friday August 1st. For more information visit [www.cineworld.co.uk](http://www.cineworld.co.uk).



Nonso Anozie & Cass Pennant on the red carpet at the 'CASS' Premiere at Cineworld, Broad Street



## 'Cabaret' comes to The Rep



Samantha Barks, the hugely popular finalist from the hit BBC series *I'd Do Anything* has been cast in the prestigious role of Sally Bowles for the UK tour of *Cabaret* which opens at The REP on 29 August.

Samantha, from the *Isle of Man*, which was renamed 'Isle of Sam' for a day in celebration of her success in the BBC reality show, will be the first of the 'Nancy' finalists to perform in a major role following the TV show. She joins a cast which includes world renowned dancer and TV favourite Wayne Sleep, who reprises the role of Emcee.

Samantha, who received rave reviews from judges including Andrew Lloyd Webber and Denise Van Outen, spoke of her delight at being cast in the role:

"I'm absolutely thrilled to get this part. *Cabaret* is one of my favourite shows ever and Sally Bowles is such a great part to play. Having met Liza Minnelli during the filming of *I'd Do Anything* I'm beside myself with excitement."

For tickets and showtimes please visit [www.birmingham-rep.co.uk](http://www.birmingham-rep.co.uk)

## Spotlight on.....Jongleurs

Jongleurs Comedy Ltd is Europe's largest chain of purpose built comedy clubs and the number one comedy brand in the UK. The company was founded by Maria Kempinska and is owned by herself and John Davy. The first Jongleurs club opened back in 1983 in Battersea, London and 2008 will see the brand celebrating its 25th Birthday.

Jongleurs Comedy Ltd has helped in launching the careers of some of the biggest names in comedy and show business such as Eddie Izzard, Harry Enfield, Al Murray, Jack Dee and Graham Norton. With over 25 years experience in the business and in excess of a 1,200 comedians, all personally selected by Maria, at our finger tips, nobody knows comedy better.

Adjacent to Bar Risa on Broad Street, Jongleurs boasts a 2,400 capacity and is spread across two floors, opening Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights.

For more information, what's on listings and Christmas bookings visit [www.jongleurs.co.uk](http://www.jongleurs.co.uk).



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## Michelin star chef opens Edmunds, Brindleyplace



Michelin starred chef Andy Waters has re-opened Edmunds fine dining restaurant in Brindleyplace. Edmunds, named after Andy's late father, was previously located in Henley-in-Arden where Andy was awarded his Michelin star and Edmunds was named Hardens Restaurant of the Year, an award sponsored by Remy Martin.

Andy's approach to cooking has attracted national interest and the classically trained chef sources the finest ingredients for his menu believing the flavours will speak for themselves. He keeps his dishes simple, with a twist, to reflect this.

Edmunds is set to put Brindleyplace and Birmingham on the culinary map.

### Did you know....?

The next "Walk of Star" will be announced on Sunday August 10th on The Danny Kelly show on BBC WM Radio.