

visionary for...
 Antonio Gaudí's...
 exhibition at the Royal...
 London (020 7439 2000, Septem...
 to December 9).
 Other contemporary heavyweights
 to catch up on will be Claes Eliaeson,
 returning to Tate Modern with a
 large-scale show of his spectacular
 installations (020 7887 8888, July 11 to
 January 15, 2020), and Paula Rego,
 whose creepily psychological images
 will appear in an ambitious Scottish
 National Gallery of Modern Art
 survey in Edinburgh (0131 6246200,
 November 23 to April 26). The video
 artist Bill Viola's work is compared
 with Michelangelo's in *Bill Viola/
 Michelangelo: Life, Death, Rebirth* at
 the Royal Academy (020 7439 2000,
 January 26 to March 31) and the
 astronomically inspired Katie
 Paterson is also looked at in the
 context of a predecessor, in *Katie
 Paterson and JMW Turner* at
 Turner Contemporary in Margate,
 Kent (01843 233000, January 26
 to May 6).

The British Museum in London will
 be taking us travelling from the
 world of the Japanese comic book
 in *Manga* (020 7323 8299, May 23
 to August 6) to the ancient city
 of Troy (020 7323 8299,
 November 21 to March 8). By
 the time you get to the end of
 the year you are bound to be
 feeling bright.

Face to watch:
Marianna Simnett
 Two audience members fainted
 when a video by Marianna
 Simnett was screened at the
 Serpentine in London in 2015.
 It was perfectly understandable.



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The fable-like compositions of this
 British-born artist explore fears and
 phobias through sound and image.
 Next year a show of her recent work
 to be held at the Zabludowicz
 Collection in north London will
 include *The Udder*, which, dealing
 precisely with what its title suggests,
 stars a cow's mammary gland in a
 violent psychodrama of sibling
 rivalries. Simnett is one of the most
 psychologically powerful artists on the
 contemporary scene.

Classical

Thank God the First World War is
 over — again. Freed from
 commissions to commemorate that
 centenary, composers will be
 responding to a far bigger range of
 stimuli in 2019. I'm looking forward
 to the Britten Sinfonia's premiere of
 Joby Talbot's cantata, *A Sheen of Dew*
 on *Flowers* (Barbican, London EC2,
 020 7638 8891, April 11), celebrating
 the bicentenaries of the births of
 Queen Victoria and her beloved
 Prince Albert.

That should contrast fascinatingly
 with another celebration of
 matrimonial love: the Austrian
 composer Georg Friedrich Haas offers
 a hymn to his wife in *Solstices* (he met
 her and wed her on two solstices),
 which the Riot Ensemble plays at the
 Royal Academy of Music (London
 W1, 020 7873 7300, January 29).



notebooks (Royal Festival Hall,
 London SE1, 020 3879 9555, May 7).
 Other significant anniversaries are

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