

## « Selfridges Named NO1 Department Store **Courtyard @ 51**

Once again The Courtyard at Buckingham Gate promises Arabian Nights spent under the London stars. The garden and terrace, now in its second year, has added a new raised dining veranda for the summer season. Centrepiece for the courtyard itself is a fountain adorned with cherubs and a Shakespearean frieze sweeps along the terracotta façade of the townhouses surrounding the garden.



A new menu of new boutique cocktails designed by Grand Marnier is the perfect way to lose an afternoon in style and we love the Grand Esprit (elderflower & strawberry refresher).

But it's after the sun has set that the venue really comes into its own. After dark, punters can enjoy brand new Arabian menus amid the flickering candlelight plus the standout Southern Indian dishes of Sriram Aylur from the next door Quilon restaurant.

Now, for four nights only in July and August, culture vultures can enjoy romantic opera evenings from The Covent Garden Strings company performed on the Juliet balcony. Newly written works have been inspired by the Shakespearean heritage of the Courtyard. And a three course gourmet grill menu featuring sautéed tiger prawns with garlic and tomatoes and whole baked sea bass with almond chermoula (tickets from £59.50pp) will be sure to fire the tastebuds.

Opera Under The Stars: Fridays and Saturdays, 30 and 31 July, 20 and 21 August 2010  
[www.51-buckinghamgate.com](http://www.51-buckinghamgate.com)