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# Wednesday 23 July



**EXHIBITION OF THE WEEK**  
The Gemeentemuseum in the Hague, the nicest gallery in Holland, is being renovated, and the Tate has seized the chance to borrow some of their Mondrians. These range from dusky landscapes and orderly apple trees to the sparse and bright lattices of his



By  
**Jay Rayner**

**T**heatre directors direct. Drama teachers teach. Lee Strasberg menaced. 'He was a psycho,' says one of his former pupils in **Reputations: Lee Strasberg: Method Man (BBC2, 9.00pm)**. But then manic behaviour came with the territory. As a follower of the great Russian drama teacher Konstantin Stanislavski he believed that if actors were to perform emotions on stage then they had to feel them, not fake them. If that meant scaring the hell out of his pupils, so be it. Not that his students seemed to mind, judging from the names of those who passed through the Actors Studio in New York from 1947 onwards, where he taught the Method. Among their number was Robert De Niro, Harvey Keitel, James Dean, Paul Newman,

Steve McQueen and, most famously, Marilyn Monroe. This programme alone manages to include testimony from Al Pacino, Sally Field, Martin Landau and Ellen Burstyn. 'How not to act,' Burstyn says, at one point. 'That's what he taught.' Given that he was known in his own life time for being a bit of a monster, this edition of *Reputations*, the whole *raison d'être* of which lies in telling you that which you previously did not know, must rely on the strength of those interviewees. It delivers the goods.

This is an expert piece of documentary filmmaking. There is one major revelation, however: it seems family life was not all it could have been. In public the Strasbergs - wife, son, daughter - gave a marvellous performance as the happiest theatre family in New York. In reality it was a rather cold, sterile home, overshadowed by the father's caustic personality. Presumably they all had

to imagine themselves into the role. Julian Clary accepts that his whole career to date has been built on just such a leap of imagination. Under interrogation in **The Chair (BBC2, 7.10pm)** he accepts psychologist Oliver James's suggestion that he gains a grip on reality through the artifice of his public personae. On stage he is a study in flamboyance; off stage he is quiet and touchingly serious. He has a quality of stillness which makes him endlessly watchable.

And he never flinches. 'What very unexpected questions you have,' he says, in response to James's query about his sexual fantasies. 'You don't get that off Anne Diamond.' No you don't. The irony is however, that it's exactly the same question the psychologist tried on hypnotist Paul McKenna, down to the wording. Where the oleaginous McKenna seemed to wither beneath

## BBC1

- 6.00 BUSINESS BREAKFAST 65120
- 7.00 BBC BREAKFAST NEWS (T) 77878
- 9.00 BREAKFAST NEWS EXTRA (T) 3157762
- 9.20 READY, STEADY, COOK (T) (S) (R) 1588168
- 9.50 KILROY (T) (S) 5250236
- 10.30 WHO'LL DO THE PUDDING? (S) 29168
- 11.00 NEWS; REGIONAL NEWS; WEATHER (T) 7741014
- 11.05 DUE SOUTH (T) (S) (R) 4308746
- 11.50 GOOD NEIGHBOURS (S) 2768897
- 12.00 NEWS; REGIONAL NEWS; WEATHER (T) 8229507
- 12.05 WIPEOUT Game show. (T) (S) (R) 6906255
- 12.35 NEIGHBOURS (T) (S) 8654014
- 1.00 ONE O'CLOCK NEWS (T) 70965
- 1.30 REGIONAL NEWS AND WEATHER 72749323
- 1.40 PERRY MASON: THE

## BBC2

- 6.00 OPEN UNIVERSITY Structural Components
- 6.25 Living with Technology 9149878
- 7.15 SEE HEAR BREAKFAST NEWS (T) 6696052
- 7.30 CHILDREN'S BBC Teletubbies 7715410 7.55 Postman Pat (R) 6316168 8.10 The Raccoons (S) (R) 6759507 8.35 Blue Peter (T) (S) 3150168 9.05 Spiderman (S) (R) 5332052 9.35 Smart (T) (S) (R) 2244588 10.00 The Moomins (S) (R) 3766205 10.25 Fireman Sam (R) 7451897 10.40 Bump (R) 2464205 10.45 Teletubbies (S) (R) 118633
- 11.15 THE RECORD (S) 8004694
- 11.40 MOON OVER MIAMI (T) (S) (R) 9979830
- 12.30 WORKING LUNCH 38304
- 1.00 A TO Z OF FOOD 25868255
- 1.10 BEECHGROVE GARDEN: THE

## ITV Carlton

- 6.00 GMTV 2527728
- 9.25 WIN, LOSE OR DRAW (T) (S) (R) 1572507
- 9.55 JUDGE JUDY (T) 4285236
- 10.20 NEWS (T) 8070033
- 10.25 LONDON TODAY (T) 8079304
- 10.30 CHANGES (Charles Jarrott, 1991) Romantic drama based on the novel by Danielle Steel and starring Cheryl Ladd and Michael Nouri. 94762656
- 12.20 YOUR SHOUT 8218491
- 12.30 ITN LUNCHTIME NEWS (T) 8680439
- 12.55 LONDON TODAY (T) 8658830
- 1.25 HOME AND AWAY (T) (S) 37360675
- 1.50 METROLAND Jacqui Timberlake's moving film chronicling how teenager Kelly Turner and her family endured a storm

## CHANNEL 4

- 6.00 SESAME STREET Laurence Fishburne meets letter Q and number 17. (R) 6
- 7.00 THE BIGGER BREAKFAST 60588
- 9.00 CHILDREN'S PROGRAMMES Saved by Bell (T) (R) 7119588 9.35 The Secret V of Alex Mack (S) 2250149 10.05 Hang with Mr Cooper (T) (S) (R) 5366089
- 10.35 THE CRYSTAL MAZE (S) (R) 7997830
- 11.35 THE BIGGER BREAKFAST 7090743
- 12.00 HOUSE TO HOUSE (T) (S) 96830
- 12.30 MY SO-CALLED LIFE (T) (S) (R) 467914
- 1.25 THE LIVING SEA The Red Sea's Ras Mohammed reef. (R) 52357025
- 1.55 KIDNAPPED (Alfred L Werker, 1938) Adaptation of Robert Louis Stevenson's classic swashbuckling