



Culture Club

From above, Sacha Baron Cohen in *Brüno*; Robin Wright Penn and Keanu Reeves in *The Private Lives of Pippa Lee*



Don't miss out: our hot list for your leisure pleasure

**FILM** If you loved Rebecca Miller's book *The Private Lives of Pippa Lee*, you're a shoo-in for the film version starring Robin Wright Penn, who finds staid middle age is not all it seems, while Sacha Baron Cohen takes no prisoners with his hilarious swipe at pop culture through the eyes of an Austrian fashionista in *Brüno*.

**TV** Romp it up with Pre-Raphaelite gang *Desperate Romantics* (BBC2), shocking the Victorians from all angles with their decadent antics.

**MUSIC** The latest *enfant célèbre* to emerge blasting out mind-blowingly great electro-pop is *wunderkind* Dan Black – snap up his debut *Un* (A&M Records) before every telly ad beats you to it.

**BOOK** No beach would be complete without a burst of flashy social shenanigans from Tasmina Perry, so do find space to pack *Original Sin* (£12.99, HarperCollins). Meanwhile, Jane Bussmann's romantic odyssey from Hollywood to Uganda in *The Worst Date Ever* (£11.99, Macmillan) is the funniest thing we've ever read.

Clockwise from below, the cast of *Desperate Romantics*; Dan Black's debut album *Un*; *Original Sin* by Tasmina Perry; and *The Worst Date Ever* by Jane Bussmann



Hot talent Florence & The Machine

Check out just why the lady won a Brit before even releasing her first album – *Lungs* (Island) is finally out and it's utterly mesmerising. Try to catch her live before the stratosphere gobbles her up.

IT'S ALL ABOUT...

Going highbrow

Why not branch out and join the arty party this summer



What: Manchester International Festival

Why: opera goes pop, sort of. Rufus Wainwright, right, follows in fellow musician Damon Albarn's footsteps and unveils his debut operatic epic *Prima Donna*. Bring on the drama (2-9 July; 0844 815 4960).

What: Poŕt Eliot Literary Festival

Why: it's a festival, but not as you know it. And with designer Barbara Hulanicki breathing life back into your old threads (she even has her own tent), it's one for the diary (24-26 July; porteliotfestival.com).



What: Telling Tales: Fantasy and Fear in Contemporary Design

Why: it's the V&A, but with a difference and after seeing Tord Boontje's Fig Leaf Wardrobe, below, you'll never look at an Ikea flat-pack in the same way again (14 July-18 October, V&A, London W1; 020 7942 2000).

