

The Nerve Hotlist

The best culture to enjoy this week, from Dave to a bromance in space, chosen by our team of editors and writers

Nov 4, 2025



If you're in the market for some searingly honest reflections on life, London rapper Dave's new album and *Nerve* art critic Emily LaBarge's shapeshifting debut book get our seal of approval this week. On stage, we recommend a superb production from choreographer Crystal Pite and Complicité co-founder Simon McBurney and a vibrant new take on Enda Walsh's *Arlington*. Plus, there's an unmissable TV documentary series, a podcast and more.



A still from MUSCLE by artist Karimah Ashadu

ART

Karimah Ashadu: Tendered at Camden Art Centre, London NW3

(until 22 March, free entry)

Nigerian-born, Hamburg-based artist Karimah Ashadu shows a new film that picks up where the themes of her Venice Biennale Silver-Lion winning work, *Machine Boys*, left off. *MUSCLE* focuses on men, masculinity, performance, labour - the body as it works, strains, is pushed to its limits. Bodybuilders in the slums of Lagos are shown, as per the exhibition title, with tenderness, reverence, and deep sensuality. A mesmerising show that is as much about its subject as it is about filmmaking and what the camera can do.

Emily LaBarge, art critic