

In The Know

THIS MONTH...



ART *Surreal Friends, Surrealism & Sussex, Francisco Toledo* It's a cultural hat trick at Pallant House this summer. *Surreal Friends* explores the work of Leonora Carrington, Remedios Varo and Kati Horna; *Surrealism & Sussex* looks at the movement's relationship with the countryside; while art kites by Mexican artist Francisco Toledo nod to the anniversaries of the Mexican revolution and independence. At Pallant House, Chichester, from June 19 to September 12. Call 01243 774557; pallant.org.uk.



FILM *Farewell*

This cold war spy film has a roughly hewn grittiness that lends itself to an off-piste agenda: highly unorthodox international espionage – based on fact. A senior KGB official, disenchanted with communism, begins to pass top secret documents to a French engineer working in Moscow. The powers that be – Reagan and Mitterand – are left spluttering at this breach of traditional spy protocol, but they *must* work together. For those who remember the explosive dissolution of the KGB's infiltration of US intelligence, this will be a vivid evocation of the tension, danger and importance of covert international relations at the time – for those who are fresh to the story, it's a gripping political drama that beats fiction hands down.

Drink and be merry

Our accessory of choice for the festival season is this Celia Birtwell water bottle. Her designs also feature on tea cups and plates for more stay-at-home folk.



Water bottle, £9.95, Celia Birtwell. Call 01225 789909; wildandwolf.com



Siren style

Out with the skimpy thongs and embrace the sexy side of big pants, which combine blissful comfort with serious pin-up style flirtatiousness. It's never too late to unleash your inner 1950s siren.

Bra, £10; briefs, £6; both Tesco. Call 0800 505555; clothingattesco.com

PHOTOGRAPHS FULL STOP PHOTOGRAPHY, PSC PHOTOGRAPHY

BOOK *The Poison Tree* by Erin Kelly (Fourth Estate, £12.99)

It's the blistering summer of 1997 when prim student Karen meets the intriguing Biba and her peculiar brother Rex, and is swept up into their bohemian world. Jumping back and forth between that summer and ten years later, the oppressive weight of death bears down upon the narrative like the claustrophobic heat, yet both victims and killers are only revealed at the 11th hour. With forensic attention to detail, this mystery is all-consumingly addictive as it questions family loyalty, the dangers of youthful hedonism and, finally and fatally, the limitations of atonement. ■

