

in association with **TheObserver**

BRISTOL FESTIVAL OF IDEAS



MAY 2012 EVENTS

www.ideasfestival.co.uk

The Bristol Festival of Ideas – eight years old this year – enters a new era as the *Observer* joins us as partners. We're delighted with this partnership with the best newspaper and website of ideas and look forward to working with them in the years to come.

Our May programme addresses many issues, from Israel and Palestine to feminism in Bristol; from religion for atheists to contemporary protest; from the works of Dickens to the ideas of today's crime writers; and from big science in the Higgs boson to the micro science looking at the brain. We have a focus on Bristol writers and writing with films, television and the life and work – some of it associated with Bristol, as she lived in the city in the 1960s – of Angela Carter, who liked 'anything that flickers'. We're partnering with CrimeFest and Big Green Week to bring you the best crime writers and green commentators. And also with The Festival of Transition, a key theme for us, with a new series, *What if?* We're surrounded by huge economic and environmental threats that can make the world feel out of control, and leave us feeling powerless. There are systemic problems out there but *What if?* shows that by asking different questions we can begin to imagine a better world beyond the threats in front of us.

Please do check the website for details of all events, film and audio interviews, biographies of speakers and detailed information on ticket buying and booking for free events. And please help spread the message by taking brochures and passing them to friends, neighbours and colleagues.

Andrew Kelly
Director

SPECIAL EVENTS PRE-MAY FESTIVAL

JONAH LEHRER

IMAGINE: HOW CREATIVITY WORKS

Watershed, Bristol

24 April 2012, 18.00-19.00, £7.00 / £6.00

Jonah Lehrer, author of *How We Decide*, *Proust Was a Neuroscientist* and now *Imagine*, shows that creativity is not a 'gift' that only some possess; it's a term for a variety of distinct thought processes that we can all learn to use more effectively. He helps us fit our creative strategies to the task and considers how this new science can also make neighbourhoods more vibrant, companies more productive and schools more effective.

DAVID GOLDBERG

THIS IS NOT THE WAY: JEWS, JUDAISM AND THE STATE OF ISRAEL

Watershed, Bristol

24 April 2012, 19.30-20.30, £7.00 / £6.00

Few subjects invoke such passion as the history and current situation of Jews in Western societies. David Goldberg, a progressive rabbi with many years' experience of dealing with other faiths and other Jews, takes the most difficult issues of this fraught relationship and confronts them head on. Forthright, challenging and witty, his presentation and new book will spark debate and criticism in equal measure.

MAY FESTIVAL

JEANETTE WINTERSON

WHY BE HAPPY WHEN YOU COULD BE NORMAL?

Watershed, Bristol

1 May 2012, 18.00-19.00, £7.00 / £6.00

Jeanette Winterson's memoir, *Why be Happy When You Could be Normal?*, is the story of a life's work to find happiness. It is also a book about other people's stories, showing how fiction and poetry can form a string of guiding lights, a life-raft which supports us when we are sinking. Funny, acute, fierce and celebratory, this is a tough-minded search for belonging, for love, an identity, a home, and a mother. The shocking, heart-breaking – and often very funny – true story behind *Oranges Are Not the Only Fruit*.

RUCHIR SHARMA

BREAKOUT NATIONS: IN SEARCH OF THE NEXT ECONOMIC MIRACLE

Watershed, Bristol

1 May 2012, 19.30-20.30, £7.00 / £6.00

Is the West in decline and where are the new markets of the future? Ruchir Sharma looks at the imminent entry of two big Muslim democracies into the select club of trillion-dollar economies; the model economies of the EU that are success stories; and how an industrial revolution in Asia is redefining the limits of what manufacturing can do for a modern economy.



Jeanette Winterson



Jonah Lehrer

MARK WALLINGER

Arnolfini, Bristol

2 May 2012, 18.00-19.00, £7.00 / £6.00

Over the past quarter-century Turner Prize-winning Mark Wallinger has become known as an artist who never repeats himself. His art has ranged from meticulous paintings of racehorses to a presentation of the first public statue of Jesus Christ in England since the Reformation, and from a performance while dressed in a bear suit to installing a full-scale copy of peace protestor Brian Haws' antiwar display at Parliament Square in Tate Britain. He talks about and shows his work.

PAUL DURCAN

NEW WORK

Arnolfini, Bristol

2 May 2012, 19.30-20.30, £7.00 / £6.00

An unmissable opportunity to hear Paul Durcan, regarded by many as the great poet of Ireland, read from his new collection. Durcan contemplates the fall of the Celtic Tiger while railing against bankers and 'bonus boys'. Here are poems of love lost and won, the memory of friends and relatives now passed balanced by the joy at the birth of a grandson, and praise for the modest heroism of truckers, air traffic controllers and nurses.



Robert Shiller



David Harvey

ROBERT SHILLER

FINANCE AND THE GOOD SOCIETY

Watershed, Bristol

Sponsored by Rathbone Greenbank Investments

4 May 2012, 12.30-13.30, £7.00 / £6.00

New York Times bestselling economist Robert Shiller is no apologist for the sins of finance, but in *Finance and the Good Society* he argues that, far from being a parasite on society, finance is one of the most powerful tools we have for solving our common problems and increasing the general well-being. Ultimately, Shiller shows how society can once again harness the power of finance for the greater good.



RATHBONE GREENBANK INVESTMENTS
ETHICAL AND SUSTAINABLE INVESTMENT SERVICES

DAVID HARVEY

REBEL CITIES: FROM THE RIGHT TO THE CITY TO THE URBAN REVOLUTION

At-Bristol, Bristol

11 May 2012, 18.00-19.00, £7.00 / £6.00

David Harvey's *Rebel Cities* places the city at the heart of both capital and class struggles, looking at locations ranging from Johannesburg to Mumbai, and from New York City to Sao Paulo. By exploring how cities might be reorganized in more socially just and ecologically sane ways, Harvey argues that cities can become the focus for anti-capitalist resistance.

WRITING THE WEST

In association with UWE's Regional History Centre and M Shed, Bristol

M-Shed, Prince's Wharf, Bristol

11-12 May 2012, £12.00 to £30.00 per day

A two-day public conference exploring the historical contribution of writers and writing to the making of the English West Country. From Arthurian legend to the Romantic poets and Thomas Hardy's Wessex, and from dialect verse and folk song to the Bristol novels of Angela Carter, this conference celebrates and interrogates the region's broad and diverse literary culture in all its many forms.

JENNY WILLIAMS

HANS FALLADA

Watershed, Bristol

12 May 2012, 11.00-12.00, £5.00 / £4.00

Hans Fallada was one of the most remarkable writers of the twentieth century. He led a contradictory, flawed and fascinating life, saw the worst of humanity, yet maintained his belief in the decency of the 'little man'. His biographer Jenny Williams chronicles his turbulent life as a writer, husband and father, shadowed by mental torment and long periods in psychiatric care. She shows how his decision to remain in Nazi Germany in 1939 led to his self-destruction, but also made him a unique witness to his country's turmoil. His *Alone in Berlin* was a recent bestseller.

MARTIN PALMER

SACRED BRISTOL – A GUIDED WALK

Arncliffe, Bristol

12 May 2012, 10.30-12.45, £7.00 / £6.00

Join Martin Palmer, author of *Sacred Land: Decoding Britain's Extraordinary Past Through its Towns, Villages and Countryside*, for a guided walk of sacred Bristol, a journey to and from Arncliffe via College Green, St Stephen's church, St John on the Wall, St Peter's, St Nicholas, King Street and other sites, with stories of their significance and history along the way.

CLAUDIA HAMMOND

TIME WARPED

Watershed, Bristol

12 May 2012, 12.30-13.30, £7.00 / £6.00

Drawing on the latest research from the fields of psychology, neuroscience and biology, and using original research on the way memory shapes our understanding of time, Claudia Hammond delves into the mysteries of time perception. She shows us how to manage time more efficiently, speed time up and slow it down at will, plan for the future with more accuracy and use the warping of time to our own advantage.

ANGELA CARTER ON FILM (1)

THE HOLY FAMILY ALBUM (26M), ANGELA CARTER'S CURIOUS ROOM (50M) AND THE MAGIC TOYSHOP (107M)

Watershed, Bristol

12 May 2012, 13.00-17.20, £12.00 / £10.00

(for full programme see website)

The first event in our Angela Carter celebration, co-presented with Watershed, is an afternoon of films. *The Holy Family Album* is a controversial television documentary written and narrated by Angela Carter that treats representations of Christ in Western art as if they are photographs in God's photo album. The BAFTA Award-winning film *Angela Carter's Curious Room* includes the last interview Angela Carter gave before her death. Angela Carter wrote the screenplay for the 1987 film based on her novel *The Magic Toyshop* starring Tom Bell. Speakers include John Ellis and Kim Evans, who worked on the films and Charlotte Crofts, University of the West of England.

BRUCE HOOD

THE SELF ILLUSION: WHY THERE IS NO 'YOU' INSIDE YOUR HEAD

Watershed, Bristol

12 May 2012, 14.00-15.00, £7.00 / £6.00

In *The Self Illusion* Bruce Hood provides a fascinating examination of how the latest science shows that our individual concept of a self is in fact an illusion. Rather than a single entity, the self is an ever-changing character, created by the brain to provide a coherent interface between the multitude of internal processes and the demands from the external world that require different selves.

TALI SHAROT

THE OPTIMISM BIAS

Watershed, Bristol

12 May 2012, 15.30-16.30, £7.00 / £6.00

It is estimated that 80 per cent of the population are optimists. But how do we maintain a positive outlook in the face of reality? In her latest book, *The Optimism Bias*, Tali Sharot, one of the most innovative neuroscientists at work today, investigates the neural basis of our tendency to look on the bright side.

MARIAN STAMP DAWKINS

WHY ANIMALS MATTER

Watershed, Bristol

12 May 2012, 17.00-18.00, £7.00 / £6.00

Using latest scientific research, Marian Stamp Dawkins argues that if animal welfare is to be taken seriously, it needs a complete rethink. Are we justified in projecting human emotions on to animals? What can science tell us about their quality of life? She concludes that we need to place less emphasis on the conscious experience of suffering in animals, and more emphasis on the practical importance of animal welfare to human health and human well-being.

BANKSY – PRANKSTER OR PAINTER?

Watershed, Bristol

12 May 2012, 18.30-19.30, £7.00 / £6.00

Banksy has risen to world stardom as the preeminent street artist of his generation. Formerly condemned for vandalism, cities – especially his home town of Bristol – now take great pride in his work. But is this art? Is he a great street artist? And what is his legacy? Paul Gough and Anna Farthing, contributors to a new book on the remarkable impact of the Bristol 2009 Banksy exhibition, discuss this with Will Ellsworth-Jones, author of a new biography of Banksy.

NOO SARO-WIWA

LOOKING FOR TRANSWONDERLAND

Watershed, Bristol

13 May 2012, 13.00-14.00, £7.00 / £6.00

In *Looking for Transwonderland* Noo Saro-Wiwa rediscovers and comes to terms with Nigeria, the country her father, murdered activist Ken Saro-Wiwa, loved. She found the country as exasperating as ever. But she also discovered that it was far more beautiful and varied than she had ever imagined, and was seduced by its rainforest, its ancient palaces and monuments and, most engaging of all, its people.

BRISTOL FILMS OF THE 1960S AND 1970S

Watershed, Bristol

13 May 2012, 13.00-17.45

(with intervals), £10.00 / £8.00

As part of the festival's celebration of Bristol writers, we look back at some classic BBC productions of the 1960s and 1970s. At this time, Bristol had some of the leading television and theatre writers working in the city. Our three films reflect this. Guests involved in the productions will introduce the films.

DRUMS ALONG THE AVON (75M)

Produced by Tony Garnett and written by Charles Wood, it was directed by James MacTaggart. It features Leonard Rossiter and the TV debut of Norman Beaton. First broadcast in 1967. Rossiter, appalled by the racism of his wife and friends, impersonates an Asian man. Described by the British Film Institute as 'a playfully satirical tale of racial integration in Bristol'.

THE GORGE (75M)

Produced by Tony Garnett and written by Peter Nichols and broadcast as *The Wednesday Play* in September 1968. A teenage boy accompanies his ghastly family from Bristol on a bank-holiday day out to local beauty spot and tourist trap, the Cheddar Gorge. They take suburban living with them, to his disgust.

THE BRISTOL ENTERTAINMENT (75M)

Produced and directed by Michael Croucher and written by John Hale, with Colin Rose as film director, this story of Bristol looks at maritime history, slavery, the aerospace industry, architecture, myths and legends, the city and its arts and more. First broadcast 23 December 1972.



Ed Vulliamy



Natalie Haynes

ED VULLIAMY

THE WAR IS DEAD, LONG LIVE THE WAR: BOSNIA: THE RECKONING

Watershed, Bristol

13 May 2012, 14.30-15.30, £7.00 / £6.00

Ed Vulliamy's latest book is a startling examination of the legacy of the Bosnian war published on the 20th anniversary of its outbreak. A hurricane of violence was unleashed by Serbian President Slobodan Milošević and his allies, the Bosnian Serbs, in pursuit of a 'Greater Serbia'. Ed Vulliamy saw this at first hand and has reported from the country ever since. The world moves on, but in Bosnia there has been no thaw in the hatred; no reckoning. The war may be over, but the war lives on.

JULIAN BAGGINI, NATALIE HAYNES AND NIGEL WARBURTON

WHY ISN'T OLD PHILOSOPHY JUST HISTORY?

Watershed, Bristol

13 May 2012, 16.00-17.00, £7.00 / £6.00

We're constantly told to look at the wisdom of the old philosophers. But shouldn't they now be consigned to history? Julian Baggini, author of *The Ego Trick: Philosophy and the Meaning of Life*, among many books, joins Natalie Haynes (*The Ancient Guide to Modern Life*) and Nigel Warburton, author of *A Little History of Philosophy*, to debate whether the old still offers something for today.

STEPHEN ARMSTRONG, KATHARINE QUARMBY AND GUY STANDING

ARE WE GIVING UP ON THE POOR AND VULNERABLE?

Watershed, Bristol

13 May 2012, 17.30-19.00, £7.00 / £6.00

We have seen a considerable growth in unemployment, poverty, part-time working and welfare budget reductions as well as increasing reports of the poor treatment of elderly and disabled people. Guy Standing (*The Precariat: The New Dangerous Class*) looks at the plight of the millions plunged into a life of precariousness and lack of opportunity to develop themselves through their work. He discusses society's attitudes to the vulnerable with Katharine Quarmby (*Scapegoat: Why We Are Failing Disabled People* – described by the *Sunday Times* as a 'shocking account of how society's most vulnerable are let down by the UK authorities') and Stephen Armstrong (*The Road to Wigan Pier Revisited* in which 75 years on he repeats Orwell's classic journey to find that many things have changed, but not always for the better). All picture a state of the nation that is ignoring the vulnerable but all offer hope that a better society can be created.

PAUL KINGSNORTH

DARK MOUNTAIN

Watershed, Bristol

13 May 2012, 19.30-20.30, £7.00 / £6.00

The Dark Mountain Project is a network of writers, artists and thinkers in search of new stories for troubled times. In an age of ecological decline and economic contraction, they seek writing, art, music and culture rooted in place, time and nature. Paul Kingsnorth, the project's director, talks about how writing and art can respond to our global 'age of consequences' with honesty and integrity.

ANGELA CARTER ON FILM (2)
THE COMPANY OF WOLVES (18)
Watershed, Bristol

14 May 2012, 20.00-22.00, £8.00 / £6.50

The film of Angela Carter's *The Company Of Wolves* is a psychologically-themed retelling of the age-old fable Little Red Riding Hood, which director Neil Jordan (*The Crying Game*) has approached from a Freudian and feminist angle. Angela Lansbury plays Grandma, who tells her dreaming granddaughter (Sarah Patterson) bizarre stories of handsome yet heavily eye-browed strange men, spouses who disappear during full moons, and storks and eggs. Introduction and Q&A by producer Stephen Woolley.

A C H SMITH
LAUNCH OF *WORDSMITH*
Foyles, Cabot Circus, Bristol

14 May 2012, 18.00-19.30, Free but bookable

Bristol writer A C H Smith, whose memoir *WordSmith* is to be launched at this event, has pieced together a literary living for more than half a century – from fiction, theatre, television and screenplays, to poetry, novelising and journalism – with only an occasional excursion into well-paid academic life. He talks about his making a life in the arts in Bristol over the past 50 years.

NICK COHEN
YOU CAN'T READ THIS BOOK: CENSORSHIP IN AN AGE OF FREEDOM
Watershed, Bristol

14 May 2012, 18.00-19.00, £7.00 / £6.00

From the fall of the Berlin Wall to the advent of the Web, everywhere you turn you are told that we live in age of unparalleled freedom. Nick Cohen argues that this view is dangerously naïve. The traditional opponents of freedom

of speech – religious fanaticism, plutocratic power and dictatorial states – are thriving, and in many respects finding the world a more comfortable place in the early twenty-first century than they did in the late twentieth.

WHAT IS THE SCIENCE BEHIND THE BADGER CULL?

At-Bristol, Bristol

14 May 2012, 19.30-21.00, £7.00 / £6.00

Various attempts have been made to deal with bovine tuberculosis in cattle. Many blame the badger (some badgers do carry the disease); others point to transmission between cattle arising from intensive farming and cattle movements. The UK government has proposed a badger cull; the Welsh Assembly, along with some wildlife trusts, are vaccinating badgers. All base their decisions on science – so who is right? Speakers include Nigel Gibbens, Defra Chief Veterinary Officer and Dr Gordon McGlone, Chief Executive, Gloucestershire Wildlife Trust.

PAUL SEABRIGHT
THE WAR OF THE SEXES: HOW CONFLICT AND COOPERATION HAVE SHAPED MEN AND WOMEN FROM PREHISTORY TO THE PRESENT
Watershed, Bristol

14 May 2012, 19.30-20.30, £7.00 / £6.00

As countless love songs, movies, and self-help books attest, men and women have long sought different things. Yet we belong to the most cooperative species on the planet. Isn't there a way we can use this capacity to achieve greater harmony and equality between the sexes? Drawing on biology, sociology, anthropology, and economics, Paul Seabright shows that we need to understand the mixed inheritance of conflict and cooperation left to us by our primate ancestors if we are finally to escape their legacy.



Nick Harkaway



John McCarthy



Will Hutton



Zohra Moosa

NICK HARKAWAY
THE BLIND GIANT: BEING HUMAN IN A DIGITAL WORLD
Watershed, Bristol

15 May 2012, 18.00-19.00, £7.00 / £6.00

In *The Blind Giant* novelist and tech blogger Nick Harkaway challenges the notion that digital culture is the source of all our modern ills, while at the same time showing where the dangers are real and suggesting how they can be combated. Ultimately, the choice is ours: engage with the machines that we have created, or risk creating a world which is designed for corporations and computers rather than people.

JOHN MCCARTHY
YOU CAN'T HIDE THE SUN: A JOURNEY THROUGH PALESTINE
St Georges Bristol

15 May 2012, 18.00-19.00, £8.00 / £6.50

Drawing on his own experiences of the Middle East, John McCarthy travels through Israel to uncover the hidden story of the Palestinian struggle. This very small area has been fought over since the dawn of time. For trade, for politics, for God, nations, empires and faiths have demanded the right to control Palestine. So what is it like for modern people to live in that hall of mirrors, with its myriad distorted visions? How do you keep a sense of perspective, a sense of self? He talks about this journey.

WILL HUTTON
THE OBSERVER LECTURE 2012: CAN THERE BE A RESPONSIBLE CAPITALISM?
St George's Bristol

15 May 2012, 19.30-20.30, £8.00 / £6.50

Few would deny that capitalism is in crisis. As economies stumble, the Eurozone tries to deal with chaos, major expenditure cuts are made, bonuses increase for the wealthy, and mass unemployment returns, questions are raised about the very nature of market economies. There seems little alternative to capitalism, however, so a more responsible capitalism needs to be created. Will Hutton has addressed this issue over many years and brings together this work and experience in this inaugural *Observer* lecture.

THE FUTURE OF FEMINISM
Watershed, Bristol

15 May 2012, 19.30-21.30
(with interval), £7.00 / £6.00

What inspires women and men to become feminists? Bristol-based writer and activist Sian Norris' new book, *The Light Bulb Moment*, seeks to answer this question. Contributors share their funny, moving and inspiring stories. A panel discussion on the future of feminism follows. Speakers include Natasha Walter (Women for Refugee Women); Zohra Moosa (Actionaid); Chitra Nagarajan (Southall Black Sisters); Anna van Heeswijk (Object), and Mara Clarke (Abortion Support Network).

ALAIN DE BOTTON
*RELIGION FOR ATHEISTS:
A NON-BELIEVER'S GUIDE TO
THE USES OF RELIGION*

St George's Bristol

16 May 2012, 18.00-19.00, £8.00 / €6.50

Alain de Botton argues that the boring debate between fundamentalist believers and non-believers should end. While he believes that the supernatural claims of religion are entirely false, religions still have important things to teach the secular world. For too long non-believers have faced a stark choice between either swallowing peculiar doctrines or doing away with consoling and beautiful rituals and ideas. Alain de Botton proposes a far more interesting and helpful alternative.

RAYMOND TALLIS
APING MANKIND

Watershed, Bristol

16 May 2012, 18.00-19.00, £7.00 / €6.00

In *Aping Mankind* Professor Raymond Tallis mounts an all-out assault on the claims made by many contemporary thinkers that neuroscience and evolutionary theory together explain human consciousness, behaviour and society. Combative, rigorous, witty and thought-provoking, *Aping Mankind* is an important book: a must for all those who sense that men and women are infinitely more interesting and complex than they appear in the mirror of biologism.

JULIA NEUBERGER
*IS THAT ALL THERE IS?:
THOUGHTS ON THE MEANING OF
LIFE AND LEAVING A LEGACY*

Watershed, Bristol

16 May 2012, 19.30-20.30, £7.00 / €6.00

Julia Neuberger considers what it is that makes life worthwhile. Drawing upon her considerable experience as a religious leader and social reformer, passionately concerned

with the issues that affect society's wellbeing, she offers practical ways to give our own lives a renewed sense of significance and direction.

GRAHAM FARMELO AND
PETER HIGGS
*THE HIGGS BOSON AND
PAUL DIRAC*

St George's Bristol

16 May 2012, 19.30-20.30, £8.00 / €6.50

Two of the giants of modern physics were educated in Bristol's schools. Paul Dirac, who co-discovered quantum mechanics and predicted the existence of anti-matter, always regarded the excellent education he was given in Bristol – in physics, mathematics and engineering – as crucial to his career. Dirac's success inspired the young Peter Higgs, who attended Cotham school, and later predicted the particle now named after him and the subject of worldwide attention. Graham Farmelo, author of *The Strangest Man: The Life of Paul Dirac* is in discussion with Peter Higgs and Robin McKie, science editor of the *Observer*.

TARIQ RAMADAN
*THE ARAB AWAKENING: ISLAM
AND THE NEW MIDDLE EAST*

Arncliffe, Bristol

17 May 2012, 16.30-17.30, £7.00 / €6.00

In *The Arab Awakening* Tariq Ramadan explores the opportunities and challenges across North Africa and the Middle East, as they look to create new, more open societies. Arguing that the debate cannot be reduced to a confrontation between the modern and secular and the traditional and Islamic, Ramadan demonstrates that not only are both of these routes in crisis, but that the Arab world has an historic opportunity: to stop blaming the West, to jettison its victim status and to create a truly new dynamic.

TOM PHILLIPS
A HUMUMENT

Arncliffe, Bristol

17 May 2012, 18.00-19.00, £7.00 / €6.00

In the mid-1960s Tom Phillips took a forgotten nineteenth-century novel, W H Mallock's *A Human Document*, and began cutting and pasting the extant text to create something new. First published in book form in 1980, *A Humument* rapidly became a cult classic. A new edition follows its predecessors by incorporating revisions and re-workings, and celebrates an artistic enterprise that is nearly 40 years old and still actively a work in progress, in both print form and digital.

GRANTA EVENT

Foyles, Cabot Circus, Bristol

17 May 2012, 18.00-19.00, Free but bookable

As part of the launch of *Granta 119: Britain*, Cynan Jones joins Rachel Seiffert for an evening of readings and conversation. Both Jones and Seiffert explore British identity with stories of adolescent boys reaching towards adulthood. They explore the delicate human connections within the sometimes brutal context of historical and contemporary Britain and the moments that shape our identities.

JOANNA BOURKE
ARE WOMEN ANIMALS?

Watershed, Bristol

17 May 2012, 18.00-19.00, £7.00 / €6.00

In 1872, a woman known only as 'An Earnest Englishwoman', published an open letter entitled 'Are women animals?' She protested that women were not treated as fully human, and that their status was worse than that of animals. Joanna Bourke, Professor of History at Birkbeck College in London, and author of *What it Means to be Human: Reflections from 1791 to the Present*, talks about what it means to be 'human' rather than 'animal'.



Julia Neuberger



Joanna Bourke

TOM CHATFIELD, JOHN-PAUL
FLINTOFF, ROMAN KRZNARIC
AND PHILIPPA PERRY

THE SCHOOL OF LIFE LIVE

Arncliffe, Bristol

17 May 2012, 19.30-21.30, £7.00 / €6.00

The School of Life (TSOL) Live offers an evening of fast and furious enlightenment. Covering love, sex, work, money, emotional maturity, technology and changing the world, TSOL faculty offer invaluable advice and unexpected inspiration for facing life's biggest dilemmas. Combining rigorously researched material with common sense and a good dose of humour, these playful and highly-interactive sessions include lecture, performance, discussion and activity. No quick-fixes or easy answers, but mind-expanding conversations and fresh perspectives are promised leaving the audience energized, inspired and ready to put learning into action. Speakers include: Tom Chatfield (*How to Thrive in a Digital Age*), John-Paul Flintoff (*How to Change the World*); Roman Krznaric (*How to Find Fulfilling Work*); Philippa Perry (*How to Stay Sane*).



Elif Shafak



Kate Smurthwaite



Angela Carter



Bidisha

ELIF SHAFAK

IDENTITY, IMMIGRATION AND MULTICULTURALISM

Watershed, Bristol

17 May 2012, 19.30-20.30, £7.00 / £6.00

Elif Shafak, acclaimed bestselling author of *The Bastard of Istanbul* and *The Forty Rules of Love*, and the most widely read female novelist in Turkey, talks about the politics of immigration, fiction and identity in her recent work, including *The Happiness of Blond People*, a personal essay on immigration and multiculturalism, and her new book *Honour*, set partly in London about a half-Kurdish half-Turkish immigrant family.

RICHARD HOLLOWAY

FAITH AND DOUBT

Arnolfini, Bristol

18 May 2012, 18.00-19.00, £7.00 / £6.00

For over 40 years Richard Holloway touched the lives of many people in the Church and in the wider community. But behind his confident public face lay a restless, unquiet heart and a constantly searching mind. Now, in his newly published memoir, the acclaimed writer, respected thinker and outspoken former bishop explains how, after many crises of faith, he finally and painfully left the Church. He is in discussion with political philosopher John Gray.

ANGELA CARTER EVENING

Watershed, Bristol

18 May 2012, Lecture: 18.00-19.00;

Panel: 19.30-21.00, £10.00 / £8.00

THE ANGELA CARTER I KNEW

Christopher Frayling, former Rector of Royal College of Art and chairman of Arts Council England, knew Angela Carter for some of the time she lived in Bath. In this specially commissioned lecture, he talks about Angela's work of the 1970s, his memories of her, and reflects on how she has been interpreted since her death by readers, academics, film-makers and others.

THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF ANGELA CARTER

The tragic early death of Angela Carter 20 years ago robbed the world of a great writer, artist and commentator. Her work remains essential – and continues to be read widely. Critic and broadcaster – and the chair of the event – Bidisha, historian and critic Christopher Frayling, academic and film-maker Charlotte Crofts, and Susannah Clapp, Carter's literary executor, come together to celebrate the life and work of this unique writer.

KATE SMURTHWAITE
TIFFANY STEVENSON,
DANA ALEXANDER
AND ZAHRA BARRI

WHAT THE FROCK! A NIGHT OF WOMEN'S COMEDY

Arnolfini, Bristol

18 May 2012, 20.00-22.00, £10.00 / £8.00

There's an aching hole in the comedy circuit where women should be. All too often, panel shows like *Have I Got News For You?* or *Mock The Week* have (at best) one woman on a line-up of five or six, while live comedy nights very rarely feature women. What the Frock! changes this. Hosted by Kate Smurthwaite, entertainment for the night is provided by Tiffany Stevenson, Dana Alexander and Zahra Barri. While it's an all-women line-up, absolutely everybody is welcome in the audience.

EUGENE BYRNE

BRISTOL'S MYTHS, YARNS AND URBAN LEGENDS – A GUIDED WALK

Arnolfini, Bristol

19 May 2012, 10.00-12.00, £7.00 / £6.00

Author, journalist and historian Eugene Byrne leads a walk through central Bristol looking at landmarks and buildings associated with some of the oddest tales from the city's distant and recent past. How did unhappily married medieval women try to get rid of their husbands? Where was Princess Diana's assassination allegedly plotted, and are there really hundreds of plague victims buried under Primark? This tour of tales true and false is sure to entertain.

LLEWELYN MORGAN

THE BUDDHAS OF BAMIAN

Arnolfini, Bristol

19 May 2012, 11.00-12.00, £5.00 / £4.00

The massive Buddhas of Bamiyan in Afghanistan, carved in the sixth century AD, represented the historical Buddha as a universal saviour. In March 2001 the Taliban destroyed them. The Buddhas have a remarkable story to tell, from their creation in a melting pot of Indian, Chinese and Greek influences to their role in the lead up to the destruction of two other colossi from a different era in New York in that same year. Llewelyn Morgan, author of *The Buddhas of Bamiyan* provides a historical account of an extraordinary monument that is also of urgent contemporary relevance.

FESTIVAL OF TRANSITION

WHAT IF?

ANDREW SIMMS AND
ELIANE GLASER

WHAT IF WE CANCELLED THE APOCALYPSE?

Watershed, Bristol

19 May 2012, 11.00-12.00, £7.00 / £6.00

Some people tell us we're doomed, others that there's nothing to worry about because technology will solve everything. What if the problems are real and threaten the basis of our society, but there is something we can do about them even if it isn't about a simple techno fix? Speakers: Andrew Simms, author *Cancel the Apocalypse* (forthcoming), Eliane Glaser, author *Get Real: How to Tell it Like it is in a World of Illusions*. Chaired by Ruth Potts.



Selma Dabbagh



Tim Harford

**OWEN JONES, JAMES MILLER
AND KIERAN YATES**
YOUTH – A NEW LOST GENERATION?
Arnolfini, Bristol

19 May 2012, 12.30-13.30, £7.00 / £6.00

Are we seeing a new lost generation of young people facing high unemployment, huge debts, intergenerational conflict and urban riots? Owen Jones' *Chavs* created a huge debate and saw him established as the spokesperson of the Left, attacking greed and the causes of the riots. He joins James Miller, novelist and commentator, and Kieran Yates, author of *Summer of Unrest: Generation Vexed* – a street level report from the youth of today.

**FESTIVAL
OF TRANSITION**
WHAT IF?

RICHARD MURPHY
**WHAT IF WE HAD A
COURAGEOUS STATE?**
Watershed, Bristol

19 May 2012, 12.30-13.30, £7.00 / £6.00

As austerity measures cut into the UK economy and the government falls back on the promise of the very markets that failed to bring about recovery, the UK's top economics blogger and leading expert on the murky world of tax avoidance, Richard Murphy, argues that it has never been more important for our elected representatives to use the powers we give them for our greater good, to mend the economy and meet environmental challenges.

BIDISHA AND SELMA DABBAGH
PALESTINE NOW
Watershed, Bristol

19 May 2012, 14.00-15.00, £7.00 / £6.00

Selma Dabbagh's novel, *Out of It*, is a gripping tale of dispossession and belonging, treachery and loyalty, endurance and bravery that re-defines Palestine and its people. She discusses Palestine with critic and broadcaster Bidisha, who toured the West Bank as a reporter in Spring 2011 and whose book, *Beyond the Wall: Writing a Path Through Palestine*, is a sharp, unflinching portrait of life in the West Bank in the twenty-first century.

TIM HARFORD
ADAPT
Arnolfini, Bristol

19 May 2012, 14.00-15.00, £7.00 / £6.00

In his groundbreaking new book, Tim Harford shows how the world's most complex and important problems – including terrorism, climate change, poverty, innovation, and the financial crisis – can only be solved from the bottom up by rapid experimenting and adapting. This is a handbook for surviving – and prospering – in our multifaceted and ever-shifting world.

MARINA WARNER
STRANGER MAGIC
Arnolfini, Bristol

19 May 2012, 15.30-16.30, £7.00 / £6.00

Marina Warner's latest book is a dazzling history of magical thinking, exploring the power of the Arabian Nights and its impact in the West, and retelling some of its wondrous tales. With startling originality and impeccable research, Warner shows how magic, in the deepest sense, helped to create the modern world, and how profoundly it is still inscribed in the way we think today.

**MARK HENDERSON AND
ANGELA SAINI**
IN DEFENCE OF GEEKS
Watershed, Bristol

19 May 2012, 15.30-16.30, £7.00 / £6.00

In *The Geek Manifesto: Why Science Matters* Mark Henderson explains why the geeks of the world are no longer apologising for their obsessive interest in science and are gradually finding an increasingly powerful public voice. Delving inside the psyche of India's science-hungry citizens, in her book *Geek Nation* Angela Saini explores the reason why the government of the most religious country on earth has put its faith in science and technology.

**FESTIVAL
OF TRANSITION**
WHAT IF?

**TONY GREENHAM AND
RUTH POTTS**
**WHAT IF WE COULD CREATE
MONEY AS WELL AS THE BANKS?**
Arnolfini Dark Studio, Bristol

19 May 2012, 15.30-16.30, £7.00 / £6.00

Virtually all the money in circulation has been lent into existence by commercial banks. When the government in effect franchised the creation of money to the banks it failed to keep an eye on what they did, or agree a proper 'quid pro quo' for the privilege. Tony Greenham, co-author of *Where Does Money Come From?*, looks at the full implications and asks what could be done differently.

MARK PAGEL
**WIRED FOR CULTURE: ORIGINS OF
THE HUMAN SOCIAL MIND**
Watershed, Bristol

19 May 2012, 17.00-18.00, £7.00 / £6.00

In *Wired for Culture* Mark Pagel shows how our facility for culture is the key to our success as a species. Pagel weaves together evolutionary biology, anthropology, natural history, philosophy and years of observing human behaviour around the globe, to shed light on everything from art, morality and affection to jealousy, self-interest and prejudice. He changes how we view ourselves, not just as individuals, but within the wider story of our species.

MARTIN JACQUES
CHINA
Arnolfini, Bristol

19 May 2012, 17.00-18.00, £7.00 / £6.00

Soon China will rule the world. But in doing so, it will not become more 'Western'. Martin Jacques' groundbreaking book, *When China Rules the World*, overturns conventional thinking about the ascendancy of China, showing how its impact will not just be economic, but cultural. He provides for the first time the deeper meaning of China's rise to power and the start of a future of 'contested modernity'.

MARGARET HEFFERNAN
**WILFUL BLINDNESS: WHY
WE IGNORE THE OBVIOUS AT
OUR PERIL**
Watershed, Bristol

19 May 2012, 18.30-19.30, £7.00 / £6.00

Margaret Heffernan examines what it is about human nature which makes us so prone to wilful blindness: What makes us prefer ignorance? What are we so afraid of? And how can we change? Ranging freely through history and from business to science, government to the family, Heffernan explains why wilful blindness is so dangerous in the globalised, interconnected world in which we live.

GABRIELLE WALKER
*ANTARCTICA: AN INTIMATE
PORTRAIT OF THE WORLD'S MOST
MYSTERIOUS CONTINENT*

Arnolfini, Bristol

19 May 2012, 18.30-19.30, £7.00 / £6.00

Gabrielle Walker, author of *Antarctica*, weaves all the significant threads of the most alien place on Earth into an intricate tapestry, made up of science, natural history, poetry, epic history, that reveals what it feels like to be there and why it draws so many different kinds of people back there again and again. It is only when all the parts come together that the underlying truths of the continent emerge.

FESTIVAL
OF TRANSITION
WHAT IF?

JAMES MARRIOTT
*WHAT IF WE LEFT THE OIL IN
THE GROUND?*

Arnolfini Dark Studio, Bristol

20 May 2012, 12.30-13.30, £7.00 / £6.00

Pristine wildernesses are being prised open in order to keep the global energy show on the road. But the latest science tells us that we cannot even afford to burn the fossil fuels that have already been discovered. Fresh from following the oil road across continents, James Marriott tells the inside story of what is happening to oil.

PETER POPHAM AND
SUE LLOYD ROBERTS
AUNG SAN SUU KYI

Arnolfini, Bristol

20 May 2012, 14.00-15.00, £7.00 / £6.00

Peter Popham's major new biography of Aung San Suu Kyi draws upon previously untapped testimony and fresh revelations to tell the story of a woman whose bravery

and determination have captivated people around the globe and who is celebrated today as one of the world's greatest exponents of non-violent political defiance since Mahatma Gandhi. Peter Popham is in discussion with Sue Lloyd Roberts. In association with Asia House Festival of Asian Literature.

TOM HOLLAND
*IN THE SHADOW OF THE SWORD:
THE BATTLE FOR GLOBAL EMPIRE
AND THE END OF THE ANCIENT
WORLD*

Watershed, Bristol

20 May 2012, 14.00-15.00, £7.00 / £6.00

How did Islam begin? In the sixth century AD the Near East was divided between two venerable empires: the Persian and the Roman. A hundred years on, and one had vanished forever, while the other seemed almost finished. Ruling in their place were the Arabs: an upheaval so profound that it spelt, in effect, the end of the ancient world. Tom Holland explores how this came about.

PAUL MASON
THE NEW GLOBAL REVOLUTIONS

Arnolfini, Bristol

20 May 2012, 15.30-16.30, £7.00 / £6.00

In his compelling new book, *Why It's Kicking Off Everywhere*, *Newsnight* presenter Paul Mason sets out to explore the causes and consequences of the current wave of revolt, illuminating the links between the economic and social crisis. He reports from the frontlines of protest, arguing that the events of 2011 reflect the expanding power of the individual and a call for new political alternatives.

MARTIN KEMP
LEONARDO

Watershed, Bristol

20 May 2012, 15.30-16.30, £7.00 / £6.00

A special event linked to the Leonardo exhibition at Bristol City Art Gallery. More than 500 years on, Leonardo's work still grips and inspires. Martin Kemp offers exceptional insights into what it was that made this Renaissance man so special, and the 'real' meaning behind such masterpieces as the *Mona Lisa* and *The Last Supper*. Bringing the story up to the present day, Martin Kemp considers what he means to us today, investigates the 'Leonardo industry', and speculates about what Leonardo would be doing if he were alive today.

TOM WATSON MP
NEWS INTERNATIONAL

Arnolfini, Bristol

20 May 2012, 17.00-18.00, £7.00 / £6.00

Tom Watson MP has led the pursuit of News International in parliament. His new book tells the full behind-the-scenes story of the phone hacking scandal, revealing the connections between News Corporation, the police and politicians, and explaining how they became unravelled. With unique information and access, Watson shows what went wrong with some very prominent British institutions and marks the moment when everything began to change.

LUKE HARDING AND
MARTIN SIXSMITH
RUSSIA

Watershed, Bristol

20 May 2012, 17.00-18.00, £7.00 / £6.00

Luke Harding, *Guardian's* Russia correspondent, was expelled from the country in 2011. His *Mafia State: How One Reporter Became an Enemy of the Brutal New Russia* is a brilliant and haunting account of the methods used by a resurgent Kremlin against



Martin Sixsmith



Rebecca Stott

its so-called "enemies". He discusses Russia with BBC Russia correspondent and writer Martin Sixsmith whose new book, *Russia: A 1,000-Year Chronicle of the Wild East*, shows a country of contradictions: a nation of cultural refinement and artistic originality and yet also a country that rules by 'the iron fist'.

REBECCA STOTT
*DARWIN'S GHOSTS: IN SEARCH OF
THE FIRST EVOLUTIONISTS*

Watershed, Bristol

20 May 2012, 18.30-19.30, £7.00 / £6.00

Rebecca Stott's *Darwin's Ghosts* is a masterful retelling of the collective daring of a few like-minded men who had the imagination to speculate on nature's ways and the courage to publish at a time when to do so, for political as well as religious reasons, was to risk everything. More than a tale of mummified birds, inland lagoons, Bedouin nomads, secret police files, microscopes and curiosity cabinets, *Darwin's Ghosts* is the story of an idea that would change the modern world.

Please note that the Bristol 10k will take place on 20 May. You might wish to allow additional time to get to the events in the city centre.

HOW TO START A REVOLUTION (PG)

Arnolfini, Bristol

20 May 2012, 18.30-20.50, £7.00 / £6.00

Few people outside the world of academia have ever heard the name of Gene Sharp, but his writings on nonviolent revolution (most notably *From Dictatorship to Democracy*, a 93-page, 198-step guide to toppling dictators) have inspired a new generation of protesters living under authoritarian regimes who yearn for democratic freedom. His ideas have taken root as old orders crumble amidst the protests of their disgruntled citizens. Includes showing of this new highly praised film and on-stage interview with the film's director, Ruairidh Arrow with a live skype link with Gene Sharp.

FESTIVAL OF TRANSITION

WHAT IF?

MOLLY CONISBEE AND
FRED PEARCE

WHAT IF LAND GRABBING
WAS BANNED?

Arnolfini Dark Studio, Bristol

20 May 2012, 18.30-19.30, £7.00 / £6.00

Often exploiting the need of poorer countries for income, millions of acres of formerly sovereign territory are falling under foreign control to feed distant profits and people. Leading science author Fred Pearce's new book looks at the global impact of the rise in 'land grabbing,' while Molly Conisbee from the new social enterprise, Bread, Print & Roses, tells a more personal tale of what it means to have access to your own plot of land.



Claire Tomalin



James Sallis

BRISTOL FESTIVAL OF IDEAS PRIZE EVENING

St George's Bristol

21 May 2012, 19.00-21.00, £10.00

A festive and entertaining evening to celebrate the winners of our Foyles Best Book of Ideas 2012 and the Best Bristol Idea (in association with BBC Bristol and *Bristol Evening Post*). Join the writers, contestants and judges at a Bristolian supper including a unique 'Festival' Pie from Pieminister. A limited number of tickets are available for this special evening. £10.00 per head (drink not included, but fully licensed bar available).

CLAIRE TOMALIN DICKENS

St George's Bristol

In association with Show of Strength Theatre Company

22 May 2012, 18.00-19.30, £8.00 / £6.50

Charles Dickens was a phenomenon: a madly hardworking journalist, the father of ten children, a tireless walker and traveller, a supporter of liberal social causes, but most of all a brilliant novelist. Claire Tomalin talks about her superb biography of Dickens and there are readings from his work. A special event to mark the bicentenary of the birth of one of the world's greatest writers. See also our film season (pages 19/20).

FOYLES

DAVID EAGLEMAN INCOGNITO AND THE ART OF POSSIBILIANISM

Watershed, Bristol

25 May 2012, £8.00 / £7.00

18.00-19.00, interview with Bruce Hood
on *Incognito*

19.30-20.30, lecture on the art of
Possibilianism

Renowned neuroscientist and writer David Eagleman navigates the depths of the subconscious brain to illuminate surprising mysteries. In *Incognito*, he takes in brain damage, dating, drugs, beauty, infidelity, synaesthesia, criminal law, artificial intelligence and visual illusions, to provide a thrilling exploration of the mind and all its contradictions. This is followed by his lecture on the art of Possibilianism. Our ignorance is too vast to commit to atheism, yet we know too much to commit to a particular religion. Eagleman is a *possibilian*: someone who emphasizes the exploration of new, unconsidered possibilities, is comfortable holding multiple ideas in mind and is not interested in committing to any particular story.

JAMES SALLIS AND DRIVE

Watershed, Bristol

26 May 2012, (Talk) 14.00-15.00, Talk Ticket:
£5.50 / £4.00; break; (Film) 15.30-17.10,
Film Ticket: £5.50 / £4.00, Film + Talk Ticket:
£8.00 / £6.50

James Sallis is the author of the popular Lew Griffin novels and the recent novel *Cypress Grove*, as well as countless short stories, poems, essays and literary criticism. His novel *Drive* was made into the 2011 American film starring Ryan Gosling, Carey Mulligan, Bryan Cranston, and Albert Brooks, in which Gosling plays a Hollywood stunt performer who moonlights as a getaway driver. Sallis talks about the novel and the film, which screens at 15:30.



Edmund White



Lucy Siegle

EDMUND WHITE ARNOLFINI, BRISTOL

29 May 2012 18.00-19.00, £7.00 / £6.00

An esteemed novelist and cultural critic, Edmund White is the author of many books including the autobiographical *A Boy's Own Story*, the memoir *City Boy* and now *Jack Holmes and His Friend*. White's wonderful evocations of American society and New York in particular demonstrate narrative daring and a gifted sense of the rueful submerged drama of life, in a beautifully sculpted exploration of sexuality and sensibility.

NORMAN MACLEAN, TAMSIN OMOND, JONATHON PORRITT, CALLUM ROBERTS AND LUCY SIEGLE

HAS THE ENVIRONMENTAL
MOVEMENT MADE MUCH
PROGRESS SINCE 1962?

Arnolfini, Bristol

29 May 2012, 19.30-21.30, £8.00 / £6.50

Rachel Carson's *Silent Spring* (1962) is credited with advancing the global environmental movement. But how much progress has been made in the last 50 years? To discuss the issue we have Norman Maclean (*Silent Summer: The State of Wildlife in Britain and Ireland*); Tamsin Omond (Climate Rush); Jonathon Porritt (Forum for the Future and the Sustainable Development Commission); Callum Roberts (*Ocean of Life: How Our Seas Are Changing*); and Lucy Siegle (environment editor, the *Observer*). Chaired by Robin McKie (science editor, the *Observer*). Run in association with Big Green Week.

DICKENS ON SCREEN

Charles Dickens, most celebrated of English novelists, was born on 7 February 1812. As part of Festival of Ideas, Watershed presents a season of films and talks to mark the 200th anniversary of his birth. This includes four Sunday Brunch screenings at 12:00 throughout May (£5.50 / £4.00 and get £1 off all meal orders over £6.95 in the Café/Bar on the same day with your ticket.)



DICKENS 2012

www.dickens2012.org



GREAT EXPECTATIONS (PG)

6 May 2012, 12.00-14.00

Widely considered to be the greatest of all the many film versions of Dickens' novels, David Lean's brilliant adaptation follows the fortunes of Pip, a blacksmith's apprentice who, as a child, befriends an escaped convict.

ADRIAN WOOTTON DICKENS IN CINEMA

8 May 2012, 18.00-19.30, £8.00 / £6.50

Dickens was a man ahead of his time, as his style lends itself to a medium that did not exist in his lifetime. Most of his novels have been adapted for cinema, and by way of celebration Adrian Wootton, CEO Film London explores how well cinema and television has treated Charles.

A TALE OF TWO CITIES (U)

13 May 2012 12.00-14.00

Impressive 1950s British adaptation of Dickens' ever-popular story of tragic self sacrifice, which saw Dirk Bogarde, playing Sidney Carton, give one of his most accomplished performances while at the height of his matinee-idol fame.

DICKENS BEFORE SOUND – SILENT SHORTS BEFORE 1914

15 May 2012, 18.00-19.30, £8.00 / £6.50

Around 100 silent films were made from Dickensian sources, two thirds of which are now lost. This selection from those which still exist includes the first version of the oft-filmed *A Christmas Carol*, *Scrooge* (UK, 1901); *The Cricket on the Hearth* (USA 1909); and *Oliver Twist* (USA 1909).



ARENA: DICKENS ON FILM

19 May 2012, 13.30-14.30, £5.50 / £4.00

A comprehensive exploration of Charles Dickens' contribution to the history of film and television, using a wealth of archive footage of classic and less familiar adaptations from 1898 to the present day.

THE LIFE AND ADVENTURES OF NICHOLAS NICKLEBY (U)

20 May 2012 12.00-13.50

Directed by Alberto Cavalcanti, the story of a young man's progress, struggling to make his way in a brutal, heartless world, in which light eventually triumphs over darkness and consideration for others finally wins out over self-serving avarice, has been unjustly overshadowed by Lean's post-war Dickens films.

OLIVER TWIST (U)

22 May 2012, 20.30-22.00, £8.00 / £6.50

After Jackie Coogan's heart-rending debut in Chaplin's *The Kid*, his father formed a company to exploit the talented seven-year-old. Helmed by Dickens aficionado Frank Lloyd and with Lon Chaney adopting one of his thousand faces, the result was a charming, spirited production. Lost for decades, the film was rediscovered in Yugoslavia in the early 70s.



OLIVER TWIST (1948) (PG)

27 May 2012, 12.00-14.00

Dickens' extravagant vision of Victorian London is perfectly balanced by superb performances and Lean's fierce grip on the sprawling narrative. Guy Green and John Bryan lend an Expressionist look to Fagin's hellish underworld and Alec Guinness, in his second major role, gives a finely judged theatrical – if controversial – depiction of Fagin himself.

DICKENS IN LONDON

Introduction by Michael Eaton

(Dickens On Screen Co-curator)

27 May 2012, 14.30, C3, £8.00 / £6.50

Dir: Chris Newby 70 mins UK 2012

Dickens' life and writing continues to inspire artists and filmmakers today. This interactive, cross-platform experiment brings together artist film-maker Chris Newby and writer Michael Eaton to form a biographical portrait of Dickens's life via film and the spoken word. Based on Dickens' journalistic essays, we present five new films by Chris Newby, which use animation, puppetry and contemporary footage to visualise the five original radio plays written by Michael Eaton with a Neil Brand score.

Bristol Festival of Ideas partners with CrimeFest – the International Crime Fiction Convention in Bristol (24-27 May 2012).

All sessions take place in the **Bristol Marriott Royal Hotel, College Green** and are 50 minutes long. Each session is **£7.50** with day and weekend passes also available at discount rates (see booking details on page 25). This is a reduction on the usual fee of £12.50 for each event.

JEFFERY DEAVER

25 May 2012, 16:30-17:20

Jeffery Deaver is a former journalist, folksinger and attorney, whose novels have appeared on bestseller lists around the world including stand-alone thrillers, crime series and a new James Bond. Interviewed by Jake Kerridge.

LEE CHILD

26 May 2012, 10:10-11:00

Lee Child, a former presentation editor for Granada TV, is the creator of the bestselling series of novels featuring man of action Jack Reacher, a drifter and ex-military policeman, unafraid to take justice into his own hands. Interviewed by Peter Guttridge.

P D JAMES

26 May 2012, 12:30-13:20

The recipient of many prizes and honors, P D James is the author of 20 novels of mystery and suspense including the series featuring Adam Dalgleish, the policeman and poet. Her new novel is *Death Comes to Pemberley*, a follow-on to *Pride and Prejudice* which introduces a detective story into Austen's world. Interviewed by Barry Forshaw.



P D James



Sue Grafton

SUE GRAFTON

26 May 2012, 14:10-15:00

Sue Grafton, the author of the Alphabet series, which has now reached *V is for Vengeance*, is an international bestseller with a readership in the millions. Interviewed by Maxim Jakubowski.

BRISTOL AND THE WORD – CRIME FICTION COMES TO TOWN

26 May 2012, 15:20-16:10

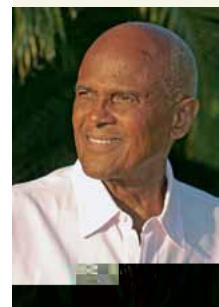
A celebration of crime authors with links to the city of Bristol: Julia Crouch, Elena Forbes, MR Hall, Christopher Wakling. Participating moderator: Andrew Taylor.

THE KILLING

26 May 2012, 16:30-17:20

The Killing was one of the most talked-about TV series of last year. Author David Hewson and surprise cast and/or crew members celebrate the launch of the novelisation of the hit Danish drama. Interviewed by Barry Forshaw.

Visit www.crimefest.com for more information.



Harry Belafonte



Ignite Bristol

HARRY BELAFONTE IN CONVERSATION

St George's Bristol

1 June 2012, 18.00-19.15, £8.00 / £6.50

In *My Song: A Memoir* Harry Belafonte lets us share in the struggles, the tragedies, and, most of all, the inspiring triumphs of his fascinating life. As both an artist and an activist, Belafonte has touched countless lives. He'll talk about his friendship and work with Martin Luther King, Jr, Paul Robeson, Eleanor Roosevelt, Sidney Poitier, John F Kennedy, Marlon Brando, Robert Kennedy, Nelson Mandela, Fidel Castro, Tony Bennett, and Bill Clinton, among others. Susanne Rostock's documentary on Harry Belafonte, *Sing Your Song*, also screens at Watershed in June. Check website for dates.

IGNITE BRISTOL 7

Tobacco Factory Theatre, Bristol

1 June 2012, Doors open 19.00,

First talk 20.00, Free

The Ignite invitation is to "Enlighten us, but make it quick!" It's fast-paced and thought-provoking; a high-energy evening of five-minute talks by anyone who pre event has submitted an idea, prepared a talk, and then has the passion to get onstage and share it. To learn more, and to submit an idea for a talk, visit <http://ignitebristol.net>.

LAURENT BINET

HHhH

Foyles, Cabot Circus, Bristol

5 June 2012, 18.30-19.30, Free but bookable

Prague 1942. Two Czechoslovakian parachutists are sent on a daring mission to assassinate Reinhard Heydrich – chief of the Nazi secret services. Laurent Binet's *HHhH* is a panorama of the Third Reich told through the life of one outstandingly brutal man, a story of unbearable heroism and loyalty, revenge and betrayal. All the events depicted are true. It is improbably entertaining and electrifyingly modern, a moving and shattering work of fiction.

JANINE DI GIOVANNI

HUMAN RIGHTS AND WAR

Watershed, Bristol

8 June 2012, 18.00-19.00, £7.00 / £6.00

Janine di Giovanni – called the finest foreign correspondent of our generation – has been a witness to some of the world's most barbarous and nightmarish wars in reporting more than a dozen conflicts. Her work covers the human cost of war – working often in conflict zones that the world's press has forgotten including Bosnia, Somalia and Grozny. She talks about her work in human rights and the impact this has had on her life.

This year we're partnering with **Bristol's Big Green Week** with a series of talks and debates. The full programme is at www.biggreenweek.com. All sessions take place in **Colston Hall** except for the two on 10 June which take place in the **Bristol Marriott Royal Hotel, College Green**.

ROBIN CHASE

10 June 2012, 17.00-18.00

Robin Chase is the founder and CEO of Buzzcar, a peer-to-peer car sharing service. She talks about the future of transport in cities and elsewhere.

ROBERT LLEWELLYN

10 June 2012, 18.30-19.30

Robert Llewellyn, host of *Scrapheap Challenge* and star of *Red Dwarf*, has also worked as a screen-writer, stand-up comic and has written biographies, screenplays and four novels. He talks about his work and his new novel, *News from Gardenia*, in which he imagines a world where everything has got much better.

PRUE LEITH

11 June 2012, 12.30-13.30

One of our finest restaurateurs, writers and broadcasters on food, Prue Leith is also a campaigner determined to promote healthy food. She talks about the importance of Slow Food, sustainability, food as pleasure and the importance of teaching children to cook.

EUGENIE HARVEY

12 June 2012, 12.30-13.30

Eugenie Harvey has shown how change can happen at the everyday level. She reflects on this and on her involvement with the Olympics as a sustainability ambassador, and considers how and if an event like this can engage people in sustainability.

SARA PARKIN

13 June 2012, 12.30-13.30

Why is it proving so hard to implement sustainability solutions? Sara Parkin, founder director, Forum for the Future, offers positive ideas to help people deviate around the barriers and do the right thing despite the perversities of the world around us. Twenty-first century leadership skills for everyone, not just for leaders.

VIVIENNE WESTWOOD

14 June 2012, 12.30-13.30

Fashion designer and environmentalist Dame Vivienne Westwood has tirelessly campaigned to help tackle climate change, believing that governments have been too slow to distribute funding for green projects. She talks about her long standing interest and involvement in environmental campaigns and stresses that public opinion is the only thing that will save us.

DAN PEARSON AND FIONA REYNOLDS

15 June 2012, 12.30-13.30

Fiona Reynolds (current director the National Trust) talks to Dan Pearson (Dan Pearson Studio) about the 'nature deficit' disorder and his work in Japan developing The Millennium Forest, an ecological park.



MADELINE MILLER

THE SONG OF ACHILLES

Watershed, Bristol

8 June 2012, 19.30-20.30, £7.00 / £6.00

Profoundly moving and breathtakingly original, Madeline Miller's new rendering of the epic Trojan War is a dazzling feat of the imagination, a devastating love story, and an almighty battle between gods and kings, peace and glory, immortal fame and the human heart.

ROBERT MACFARLANE

THE OLD WAYS

Bristol Grammar School, Bristol

21 June 2012, 19.00, £7.00 / £6.00

In *The Old Ways* Robert Macfarlane sets off from his Cambridge home to follow the ancient tracks, holloways, drove-roads and sea paths that form part of a vast network of routes criss-crossing the British landscape and its waters, and connecting them to the continents beyond. He discovers that paths offer not just means of traversing space, but also of feeling, knowing and thinking. The old ways lead us unexpectedly to the new, and the voyage out is always a voyage inwards.

ANDREW KEEN

DIGITAL VERTIGO: HOW TODAY'S ONLINE SOCIAL REVOLUTION IS DIVIDING, DIMINISHING, AND DISORIENTING US

Watershed, Bristol

22 June 2012, 18.00-19.30, £8.00 / £6.50

Andrew Keen argues that the social media transformation is weakening, disorienting and dividing us rather than establishing the dawn of a new egalitarian and communal age. The tragic paradox of life in the social media age, Keen says, is the incompatibility between our internet longings for community and friendship and our equally powerful desire for online individual freedom. He shows us that the more electronically connected we become, the lonelier and less powerful we seem to be.



Robert Macfarlane



Clive Stafford Smith

ROBERT SKIDELSKY

HOW MUCH IS ENOUGH?

St George's Bristol

5 July 2012, 18.00-19.00, £8.00 / £6.50

In *How Much is Enough?* Robert Skidelsky argues that wealth is not an end in itself but a means to the achievement and maintenance of a 'good life', and that our economy should be organised to reflect this fact. He puts forward a radical new model for income redistribution – and a consideration of what human beings might really want from their lives.

CLIVE STAFFORD SMITH

INJUSTICE: LIFE AND DEATH IN THE COURTROOMS OF AMERICA

St George's Bristol

10 July 2012, 18.00-19.00, £8.00 / £6.50

Clive Stafford Smith works to release innocent prisoners from death row jails. Through the story of Kris Maharaj, who was wrongly found guilty of murder, he argues that the American justice system is actually designed to ignore innocence. His conclusions will appal and, hopefully, act as a wake-up call to those who condone legislation that threatens basic human rights. At the same time, the personal story he tells, demonstrates that determination can challenge the institutions that surreptitiously threaten freedom.

VENUES AND HOW TO BOOK

Our events take place in venues across Bristol city centre. Please contact the relevant venues below to book and purchase your tickets (prices are listed next to each event). Events start punctually and, out of consideration to other audience members and speakers, our policy is not to admit or issue refunds to latecomers. Please allow enough time to collect your ticket/s from the relevant box office (if these haven't already been posted to you), and make sure to arrive before the advertised start time to take your seat/s. All venues have online booking for events. Go to individual event details on www.ideasfestival.co.uk for links or individual venues.

Arnolfini, 16 Narrow Quay, Bristol BS1 4QA

Tel: 0117 917 2300 (08.30-17.30 daily), Email: boxoffice@arnolfini.org.uk, www.arnolfini.org.uk

At-Bristol, Harbourside, Bristol BS1 5DB

Tel: 0845 4586 499 (local rate calls) (09.00-17.00 weekdays), www.at-bristol.org.uk

St George's Bristol, Great George Street, Bristol BS1 5RR

Tel: 0845 4024 001 (12.00-18.00 weekdays), www.stgeorgesbristol.co.uk

Watershed, 1 Canons Road, Harbourside, Bristol BS1 5TX

Tel: 0117 927 5100 (10.00-20.30 daily), www.watershed.co.uk

Bristol Grammar School, University Road, Bristol, BS8 1SR

Tel: 0117 933 9836, Email: lshepherd@bgs.bristol.sch.uk, www.bristolgrammarschool.co.uk/Events

Writing the West

Tickets for this are booked online from the relevant pages on the Festival of Ideas or UWE websites.

CrimeFest

To order tickets for the CrimeFest events, please go to <http://crimefest2012.eventbrite.com> and enter the code BFOI2 in the section at the bottom which says 'Enter promotional code'. This will provide the discounted rates and then you can choose and pay for your tickets. There is also a 30% reduced rate on daypass and weekend rates. Put in code BFOI1 for this.

Free events at Foyles

Tickets for these are booked online from the relevant page on the Festival of Ideas website.

Big Green Week

Further details of bookings at www.biggreenweek.com. Tickets will be on sale at Colston Hall. Check website for details.

Festival Updates

Full programme details and booking information can be found on our website at:

www.ideasfestival.co.uk. You can also sign up to our E-newsletters and Twitter feed for advance notification of events. This programme is subject to change and additional events may be added. Please visit the website for updates and further information about those chairing and interviewing speakers.

BRISTOL FESTIVAL OF IDEAS

The Bristol Festival of Ideas aims to stimulate the minds and passions of the people of Bristol with an inspiring programme of discussion and debate. The Festival, established in 2005, covers a wide range of topics, and welcomes, among others, scientists, artists, politicians, journalists, historians, musicians, novelists and commentators on all subjects.

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