

BRISTOL  
**FESTIVAL OF IDEAS**  
**AUTUMN 2009**  
**EVENTS**



# BRISTOL FESTIVAL OF IDEAS

Welcome to the Bristol Festival of Ideas' autumn season 2009. This autumn we are collaborating with Arnolfini on the 100 Days project – a major season of events marking the Countdown to the Climate Change Conference in Copenhagen (COP 15) in December – with a programme looking at green issues, place, waste, consumerism, cities and the economy. As well as a range of speaker events and panel discussions, this includes a film season on life, work, travel, food and meaning.

In addition, we look at the future of America with Simon Schama, address liberties and the law, the war in Iraq and Afghanistan, God and superstition, globalisation, and the value and fun in growing old. The fun continues with Vic Reeves, Shappi Khorsandi and Alan Davies who come to Bristol to talk about their new books at the end of October.

Our events take place in venues across Bristol city centre. See page 14 for information on how to book and where to find each venue. Full programme details and booking information can be found on our website ([www.ideasfestival.co.uk](http://www.ideasfestival.co.uk)), which also offers an online booking service for selected free events.

**Andrew Kelly**  
Director

Cover photographs (left to right): Vic Reeves (by Scott Wishart), Gillian Tett (by Charlie Hopkinson), Alan Davies, Shappi Khorsandi and Hugh Fearnley-Whittingstall (by Tom Beard).

## GRACIELA CHICHILNISKY SAVING KYOTO

**2 October 2009, 18.00-19.00**

WATERSHED MEDIA CENTRE, BRISTOL

**Price: £6.50 / £4.50**

The 1997 Kyoto Protocol was the first of its kind – the creation of a new market based on trade in user rights to the global atmospheric commons. Graciela Chichilnisky worked extensively for Kyoto, creating and designing the carbon market that became international law in 2005, and acted as a lead author on the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), which received the 2007 Nobel Peace Prize. In this lecture, Chichilnisky explains why it is imperative that the Kyoto Protocol is extended beyond 2012, offering two proposals (modest extensions of the Kyoto Protocol's carbon market and its Clean Development Mechanism) which she believes will resolve the impasse between China and the US, and not just halt global warming, but reverse it; in doing so, redistributing global wealth.

## SARAH DUNANT SACRED HEARTS

**6 October 2009, 18.00-19.00**

WATERSHED MEDIA CENTRE, BRISTOL

**Price: £6.50 / £4.50**

Author of the international bestsellers *The Birth of Venus* and *In the Company of the Courtesan*, novelist, critic and broadcaster Sarah Dunant completes her renaissance trilogy with *Sacred Hearts*, bringing voice to the lives of three different women in three different historical contexts. Dunant's books are known for their research and immense readability, resulting in vivid reconstructions of womens' secret histories in the characters of a Florentine noblewoman, a Venetian courtesan and, with *Sacred Hearts*, the spellbinding and fascinating lives of the Sisters of Santa



Graciela Chichilnisky



Sarah Dunant

Caterina. Sarah will be in discussion with writer and former artistic director of the Bath Literature Festival, Sarah LeFanu.

## PATRICK HENNESSEY THE JUNIOR OFFICERS' READING CLUB

**6 October 2009, 19.30-20.30**

WATERSHED MEDIA CENTRE, BRISTOL

**Price: £6.50 / £4.50**

British soldiers are again fighting at close quarters, serving on international peacekeeping missions, or counter insurgency. Sometimes, they do all three in the same country. In *The Junior Officers' Reading Club* Patrick Hennessey tells his story, through the testosterone-heavy Sandhurst, the war-pockmarked Balkans, the nightmare of Iraq and Afghanistan's Helmand Province, pinned down by the Taliban, living only from moment to moment. Already hailed as a modern classic, Hennessey experiences frenetic violence and periods of stifling and (sometimes) comic boredom, living inside an army caught between a world that needs it and a society that no longer understands it.

JOHN KAMPFNER AND  
BEN WILSON  
THE ATTACK ON LIBERTY

8 October 2009, 18.00-19.00

ARNOLFINI, BRISTOL

Price: £6.50 / £4.50

For 60 years it had been assumed that capitalism was intertwined with liberal democracy – that the two not only thrived together but needed each other to survive. But what happens when both are undermined? John Kampfner, author of *Freedom for Sale*, discusses liberty with Ben Wilson, whose book *What Price Liberty?* takes us through four centuries of British, American and European history, showing not only how civil liberties were constructed in the past, but how they were continually rethought – and re-fought – in response to modernity. If liberty is to survive now, it must adapt, but it is up to us to agree upon the value we place on it.

TIM DEE  
THE RUNNING SKY:  
A BIRD-WATCHING LIFE

8 October 2009, 19.30-20.30  
followed by drinks

ARNOLFINI, BRISTOL

Price: £6.50 / £4.50

Storm petrels fly from a midnight sea in June to their nesting holes in a 2000-year old stone tower; a million starlings gather to roost from all points across a freezing winter sky; migrant redstarts, only weeks out of their nest, set off over alien seas on their way to Africa; a pair of airborne swifts lie together for an instant as they mate hundreds of feet up in the sky. Birds are still wonderful to watch though numbers are down and species are disappearing. Tim Dee, radio producer at the BBC in Bristol, talks about his life-long love of birds in the launch of his memoir *The Running Sky*, and his anthology *The Poetry of Birds*.



Hugh Fearnley-Whittingstall

HUGH FEARNLEY-  
WHITTINGSTALL  
RIVER COTTAGE EVERYDAY

10 October 2009, 11.00-12.00

ST GEORGE'S, BRISTOL

Price: £7.50 / £6.00

Putting food on the table for the family quickly and economically doesn't mean compromising quality. Celebrated chef and food campaigner Hugh Fearnley-Whittingstall wants to tempt us towards a better life with food with a set of irresistible recipes that are seasonal and ethical. Following on from the success of *The River Cottage Cookbook*, *The River Cottage Meat Book* and *The River Cottage Fish Book*, Fearnley-Whittingstall's latest offerings in *River Cottage Everyday* are the most accessible, recipe-led River Cottage meals yet. He talks about his approach to food, his new recipes, and about his food campaigns which have seen him take on intensive farming and Tesco in recent months.

SIMON SCHAMA  
THE AMERICAN FUTURE

13 October 2009, 13.00-14.00

ST GEORGES, BRISTOL

Price: £7.50 / £6.00

Simon Schama has taken history to a huge audience with his successful TV series and books such as *A History of Britain*. His most recent book, *The American Future*, explores two centuries of American history and assesses what the future might bring. In this special appearance, he looks at the most compelling issues facing America now – power and war, race, immigration, and the problematic promise of *e pluribus unum*; the intensity of religious conviction in public life; the mystique of American land and its battles with the imperatives of profit. As Barack Obama begins to meet the challenges of power, Schama provides an essential guide to America now and into the future.

ANNA MINTON AND  
CAROLYN STEEL  
FUTURE CITIES

In association with The Architecture Centre, 100 Days and SWRDA

13 October 2009, 18.00-19.00

ARNOLFINI, BRISTOL

Price: £6.50 / £4.50



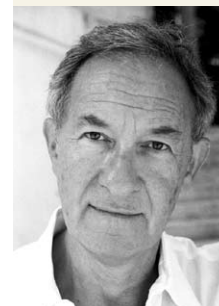
The Architecture Centre



Supported by



Cities cover just two percent of the world's surface, but consume 75 per cent of the world's resources. As the majority of people move to live in cities, it is here where key answers to the environmental, political and social issues of our time will be found. But who owns cities? Has regeneration in recent years, with new business districts and the growth of gated housing, improved the lives of city-



Simon Schama



Carolyn Steel

dwellers, and how can we better feed cities in the future? Anna Minton, author of *Ground Control*, discusses these critical questions with Carolyn Steel, author of *Hungry City*. Chaired by Bristol architect George Ferguson.

ROSE GEORGE AND  
TRISTRAM STUART  
WASTE

In association with 100 Days and SWRDA

13 October 2009,  
19.30-20.30

ARNOLFINI, BRISTOL

Price: £6.50 / £4.50



Supported by



We waste food and our waste is affecting the environment. The world has a food problem – or thinks it does. Farmers, manufacturers, supermarkets and consumers in North America and Europe discard up to half of their food – enough to feed the entire world's hungry at least three times over – destroying forests and releasing unnecessary greenhouse gases. The social and environmental problems of human waste mean that poor sanitation kills more children than HIV or malaria. Tristram Stuart, author of *Waste*, discusses these issues with Rose George, author of *The Big Necessity*, who looks at the social and environmental problems of human waste. Both show how we can turn waste to the advantage of a better environment. Chaired by Carolyn Steel, author of *Hungry City*.



**ZAC GOLDSMITH**  
THE CONSTANT ECONOMY  
In association with 100 Days and SWRDA

**14 October 2009,  
13.00-14.00**

ARNOLFINI, BRISTOL

Price: £6.50 / £4.50



We have to change: the Earth's resources are finite, climate change threatens to dramatically transform how and where we live, and the global economic system is in disarray. But what to do? Zac Goldsmith, editor of the *Ecologist* and influential Conservative, argues for a 'constant economy' in which resources are valued not wasted, where food is grown sustainably, goods are built to last, energy security is based on the use of renewable sources, and communities are valued as a country's strongest hedge against social, economic and environmental instability. The 'constant economy' operates at the human scale, and above all recognises nature's limits.

**GILLIAN TETT**  
THE CRISIS AND THE SOLUTIONS

**14 October 2009, 18.00-19.00**

ARNOLFINI, BRISTOL

Price: £6.50 / £4.50

The Queen recently asked why no-one saw the financial crisis coming. Gillian Tett, Financial Journalist of the Year, did, predicting crisis long before it happened. How could the bankers get things so badly wrong and how could the regulators fail us? Tett, Assistant Editor for the *Financial Times*, commentator and author of the bestselling *Fool's Gold* which, using exclusive access to bankers, told for the first time the astonishing story at the heart of the economic meltdown, takes us deep into the shadowy world of complex finance. More importantly, she explores what we do now.

**NEAL LAWSON AND  
JOHN NAISH**  
TURBO CONSUMERISM  
In association with 100 Days and SWRDA

**14 October 2009,  
19.30-20.30**

ARNOLFINI, BRISTOL

Price: £6.50 / £4.50



Our shopping habits helped bring about the financial crisis, but were rich times really happy times? If shopping got us into this mess, should we really be encouraged to shop our way out of it? Neal Lawson, author of *All Consuming*, discusses turbo consumerism and the answers with John Naish, author of *Enough*, which explores how we are hard-wired to build a world of overabundance. Naish himself shows, however, that we can say enough is enough and lead a better and happier life that has less impact on the environment.

**MICHAEL MANSFIELD**  
THE OSBORNE CLARKE LAW  
LECTURE: THE RADICAL LAWYER

**16 October 2009, 18.00-19.00**

WILLS MEMORIAL BUILDING, BRISTOL

Price: Free of charge, but must  
be booked in advance



Radical lawyer Michael Mansfield QC is committed to human rights and civil liberties, driven by anger at injustice and hypocrisy, and has torn down the citadels of arcane legal conventions for more than 40 years, winning many cases, often against the odds. In *Memoirs of a Radical Lawyer* and this special lecture, he looks at many of them – the Angry Brigade, the Birmingham Six, the Bloody Sunday Inquiry, Angela Cannings, Jill Dando, Ruth Ellis, Stephen Lawrence, the Price Sisters, Judith Ward, Arthur Scargill and the miners, Dodi Fayed and Jean Charles de Menezes – and reflects on the need to construct a democratic legal system.



Zac Goldsmith



Gillian Tett



Vic Reeves



Shappi Khorsandi

**VIC REEVES**  
VAST BOOK OF WORLD  
KNOWLEDGE

**21 October 2009, 18.00-19.00**

ST GEORGE'S, BRISTOL

Price: £7.50 / £6.00

Think you know your Vanilla Ice from your Leonardo da Vinci? Think you can tell the *X-Factor* from the *X-Men*? Think again. At last, one of Britain's most remarkable and idiosyncratic minds presents an illustrated guide to all you really need to know about everything. Vic Reeves' *Vast Book of World Knowledge* takes us on an irresistible visual romp through his world – from exploding jellyfish to revolving toupées. It's an education – with pictures! – a revelation, a celebration, a pontification, and an entirely magnificent aberration. Prepare to go where no-one has been before – into the world of Vic Reeves.

**SHAPPI KHORSANDI**  
A BEGINNER'S GUIDE TO  
ACTING ENGLISH

**22 October 2009, 18.00-19.00**

TOBACCO FACTORY THEATRE, BRISTOL

Price: £7.50 / £6.00

Stand up comic Shappi Khorsandi had a childhood like any other kid – swings in the park, school plays, kiss-chase, terrorists and checking under the car for bombs. She and her mad eccentric clan fled Tehran to 1980s Britain

after the fall of the Shah. In 1976, three-year old Shappi and her beloved brother Peyvand arrived with their parents in London – all cold weather and strange food – without a word of English. If adapting to a new culture wasn't troubling enough, they were exiled from Tehran following the 1979 revolution and it soon became clear that the Ayatollah's henchmen were in pursuit. With the help of MI5, a plot to kill her journalist father was foiled and Shappi's family went into hiding. Brilliantly funny, Khorsandi's new book, *A Beginner's Guide to Acting English* describes growing up an outsider in 1980s England.

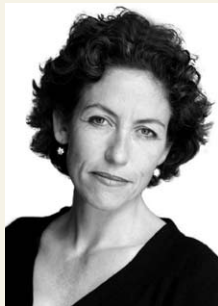
**ALAN DAVIES**  
MY FAVOURITE PEOPLE AND ME

**26 October 2009, 18.00-19.00**

ST GEORGE'S, BRISTOL

Price: £7.50 / £6.00

One of our best comedians and actors (*QI*, *Jonathan Creek*, *The Alan Davies Show* and *The Best Show in the World... Probably*), Alan Davies attracts millions of listeners and viewers. He has now written about his early life. Alan did his best to pursue life outside of school. His bedroom walls reflected his enthusiasms. From *Charlie's Angels* to Paul Weller, pictures and posters were put up and pulled down with indecent haste as Alan's interests veered wildly through Debbie Harry, nicking stuff, Adam and the Ants, tagging the back of bus seats in indelible marker, chicken's lib and Jimmy White. But always football... and always Arsenal.



Madeleine Bunting



Virginia Ironside

## BRUCE HOOD SUPERSENSE: WHY WE BELIEVE THE UNBELIEVABLE

30 October 2009, 18.00-19.00

ST JOHN THE BAPTIST CHURCH\*, BRISTOL

Price: £6.50 / £4.50

Book through St George's, Bristol

Halloween used to be a religious festival. Today its purpose is lost. Are all supernatural beliefs destined to be eventually abandoned? The recent neo-atheist movement in the West believes that this is possible, but Bruce Hood (University of Bristol), author of *SuperSense: Why We Believe the Unbelievable*, will present an alternative viewpoint that supernatural belief is natural and inevitable. He argues that the human brain is predisposed to common supernatural beliefs and that humans are not as rational as we would like to believe. This will be an atmospheric evening of wonderment and illusion to trick the senses and the mind.

\* Unfortunately, due to the nature of this historical venue, toilets and wheelchair access will not be available at this event. £1.00 from every ticket sold will be donated to the Churches Conservation Trust.

## JOHN MICKLETHWAIT GOD IS BACK: HOW THE GLOBAL RISE OF FAITH IS CHANGING THE WORLD

3 November 2009, 18.00-19.00

ARNOLFINI, BRISTOL

Price: £6.50 / £4.50

Since the Enlightenment, intellectuals have assumed that modernisation would kill religion, and that religious America is an oddity, but religion is surging all over the world: nations that swore off faith in the last century, or even tried to stamp it out, are now run by avowedly religious leaders, and the de-stabilising effects of religion can be seen far from Iraq or the ruins of the World Trade Centre. *God is Back* argues that religion and modernity can thrive together, and that the American way of religion is becoming the norm, sparked by the failure of communism, the rise of globalisation and fuelled, above all, by market competition and a customer-driven approach to salvation.

## JOHN GRAY FALSE DAWN: THE DELUSIONS OF GLOBAL CAPITALISM

5 November 2009, 18.00-19.00

WILLS MEMORIAL BUILDING, BRISTOL

Price: Free of charge, but must be booked in advance

A decade ago, in the midst of great faith and optimism in the new globalisation then sweeping the globe, John Gray wrote *False Dawn*. In the midst of the current financial crisis, Gray revisits his brilliant polemic against the forces of global capitalism and deregulation, sharply criticising the greed and unsustainable economic practices which have proved to be the seeds of a world-wide recession. How has the economic landscape shifted in a decade, and, critically, where do we go from here?

## MADELEINE BUNTING THE PLOT: A BIOGRAPHY OF AN ENGLISH ACRE

6 November 2009, 18.00-19.00

ARNOLFINI, BRISTOL

Price: £6.50 / £4.50

Madeleine Bunting is one of the most high-profile commentators in Britain. Her father was a highly regarded sculptor who bought a plot of land on the North Yorkshire moors on which he built a chapel. After his death, Madeleine began to explore this plot and her father's attachment to it. Delving into its rich history, she uncovers traces of its Neolithic inhabitants and of the Cistercian monks, learns of medieval battles, and considers the changing face of agriculture and leisure. The result, *The Plot*, is a rich portrait of one English acre, showing what a contested, layered place England is, and what belonging to a place might mean to all of us.

## VIRGINIA IRONSIDE THE VIRGINIA MONOLOGUES

16 November 2009, 19.00-20.30

TOBACCO FACTORY THEATRE, BRISTOL

Price: £7.50 / £6.00

Now journalist and agony aunt Virginia Ironside is 65 she's thrilled to be old. Growing ancient is not a loss but a gain. You're more confident, and if your memory's going, at least you forget the bad times, like all those ghastly men you slept with in the other sixties. Isn't now the time to take lots of drugs, not just all the ones you've been prescribed by the doctor (which are, now you're old, completely free)? In a one woman show, Ironside tackles the issues that face today's elegant and distinguished oldies with optimism and enthusiasm – and makes you want to cheer!



J'Accuse (PG)

## J'ACCUSE (PG)

In association with Bristol Silents  
Dir. Abel Gance, France 1919, 2h 46m  
with interval

8 November 2009, 13.00-16.00

WATERSHED MEDIA CENTRE, BRISTOL

Price: £10.00 / £8.00

The Bristol Festival of Ideas completes its season of Abel Gance classic films, which started with *La Roue* in May, with a rare showing, for the commemorations of the Armistice, of *J'Accuse*; a pacifist romantic drama set against the horrors of the First World War. Work on the film began in 1918 with some scenes filmed on real battlefields using real soldiers, many of whom were to die in later fighting. It portrays wartime suffering with incredible realism, and its climactic sequence of the 'return of the dead', made it an international success, making Gance one of the most important directors in Europe. Introduced by film historian and Gance champion, Kevin Brownlow, with live piano accompaniment by Stephen Horne.







Our Daily Bread (12A)

# LIFE ON EARTH?

In association with Arnolfini and 100 Days

**10 October - 10 December 2009**

All events (pgs. 9-12) at  
**ARNOLFINI, BRISTOL**

A series of films on life, work, travel, food and meaning, presented in association with Arnolfini and 100 Days, a major season of events (29 August - 6 December 2009) marking the Countdown to the Climate Change Conference in Copenhagen (COP 15) in December. Contact Arnolfini, Bristol for more details: [www.arnolfini.org.uk](http://www.arnolfini.org.uk).



## PLATFORM PRESENTS: SHOAH (PG)

Dir. Claude Lanzmann, France, 1985 (subtitled),  
10h 30m including three scheduled intervals

**10 October 2009, 14.00-00.30**

**Price: £6.00 / £4.50**

An extraordinary film recording the most barbaric act of the 20th century. Lanzmann spent 11 years spanning the globe for surviving eyewitnesses of the Final Solution. Without dramatic enactment or archival footage, but with harrowing testimonies extracted with patience, sometimes with tenacity, *Shoah* renders the machinery of extermination step-by-step. It is an immensely disturbing, even shattering experience, yet in its solemnity and beauty there are few works of art which leave one with such a deep appreciation for the preciousness and meaning of life.



The Day the Earth Caught Fire (PG)

**DOUBLE BILL: Both films: £6.00 / £4.50**

## THE DAY THE EARTH CAUGHT FIRE (PG)

Dir. Val Guest, UK 1961, 1h 39m

**11 October 2009, 14.30-16.20**

When the Americans and Russians simultaneously test their nuclear weapons at the poles, the planet is sent hurtling towards the sun with catastrophic consequences. Filmed primarily on location, with key scenes set in the London offices of the *Daily Express*, this gritty film is scientifically flawed but utterly compelling, and boasts terrific performances from Edward Judd, Janet Munro and Leo McKern.

## LAST NIGHT (15)

Dir. Don McKellar, Canada/France 1998, 1h 35m

**11 October 2009, 16.45-18.30**

Unconcerned about the simple hows and whys of Armageddon, *Last Night* depicts the final hours of a small group of characters as they struggle to come to grips with mortality and meaning, inviting viewers to participate: what would I do in this situation? In a film that is both poignant and poetic, director Don McKellar answers these questions for each of his characters.



Last Night (15)

**DOUBLE BILL: Both films: £6.00 / £4.50**

## OUR DAILY BREAD (U)

Dir. King Vidor, USA, 1934, 1h 20m

**25 October 2009, 14.30-16.00**

A unique, politically subversive Great Depression film, offering a tantalising vision of collective life as a destitute city couple take over a farm and soon create a thriving commune. The stirring final sequence – in which the members work together to dig an irrigation ditch for their drought-ridden crops – stands as evidence of director King Vidor's cinematic genius as it pays heavy homage to Soviet cinematic greats.

## OUR DAILY BREAD (12A)

Dir. Nikolaus Geyrhalter, Germany/Austria, 2005, 1h 32m

**25 October 2009, 16.20-18.05**

By stark contrast to the previous film of the same name, this compilation of coolly framed, static shots of hi-tech farming in various colossal bio-factories throughout Europe, shows vast production lines of animals, plants and flowers being harvested in huge rows, seen from dizzying, vertiginous perspectives. Coming across like the set of a sci-fi nightmare inspired by Fritz Lang or Stanley Kubrick, this film invites terror and awe.



Bicycle Thieves (U)



Saturday Night and Sunday Morning (PG)



The 39 Steps (U)



Magnificent Obsession (U)

**DOUBLE BILL: Both films: £6.00 / £4.50**

## BICYCLE THIEVES (U)

Dir. Vittorio De Sica, Italy 1948 (subtitled),  
1h 33m

**1 November 2009, 14.30-16.15**

Applying poetry as well as politics to the lives of ordinary working people, *Bicycle Thieves* manages to transform an extremely simple premise – a father and son's attempt to locate a stolen bicycle – into the masterpiece of early neo-realism. A cinematic great.

## THE 39 STEPS (U)

Dir. Alfred Hitchcock, UK, 1935, 1h 26m

**1 November 2009, 16.30-18.10**

Adventurer Richard Hannay finds himself in the middle of an international espionage plot masterminded by a sinister coven – an imbroglio that ends with him being chased across a Scottish moor, handcuffed to a beautiful woman (Madeleine Carroll). A classic adventure, underpinned by witty, daring and exuberant direction from Alfred Hitchcock.

**DOUBLE BILL: Both films: £6.00 / £4.50**

## SATURDAY NIGHT AND SUNDAY MORNING (PG)

Dir. Karel Reisz, UK, 1960, 1h 29m

**15 November 2009, 14.30-16.10**

Alan Sillitoe wrote the screenplay for this sharp adaptation of his classic novel about a Nottingham factory worker who refuses to conform (Albert Finney, in his first major screen performance). Catching the full atmosphere of a 1950s Midland industrial town, the film is produced, directed and acted with integrity and insight.

## THE LONELINESS OF THE LONG DISTANCE RUNNER (PG)

Dir. Tony Richardson, UK, 1962, 1h 42m

**15 November 2009, 16.30-18.35**

Among the most important films of the British new wave, Tom Courtenay's 'angry young man' of the title is a rebellious youth sentenced to a boy's reformatory for robbing a bakery. After he shows a predilection for running and rises to become borstal governor Michael Redgrave's favourite, he must choose whether winning races is more important to him than his own sense of pride and independence.

**DOUBLE BILL: Both films: £6.00 / £4.50**

## MAGNIFICENT OBSESSION (U)

Dir. Douglas Sirk, USA, 1954, 1h 48m

**22 November 2009, 14.30-16.30**

A playboy attempts to redeem himself after causing the death of a doctor and the incurable blindness of his widow in this Technicolor spectacular that launched the A-list careers of Rock Hudson and director Douglas Sirk. *Magnificent Obsession* is passionate melodrama, exaggerated social satire and Freudian allegory, a rich and immersive viewing experience, which is among Sirk's most beautiful and memorable.

## IKIRU (PG)

Dir. Akira Kurosawa, Japan 1954 (subtitled),  
2h 23m

**22 November 2009, 16.45-19.20**

A crabbed, middle-aged civil servant, suddenly faced with imminent death by cancer, goes through the usual stages of denial and despair, taking to drink, regretting his miserable life, before embarking on a minor scheme to turn a waste lot into a neighbourhood park for underprivileged children. The narrative is carefully paced, the central performance magnificent, and the final effect overwhelming.

## THE END OF THE LINE (PG)

Dir. Rupert Murray, UK, 2009, 1h 26m

**10 December 2009, 18.00-20.30**

**Price: £6.00 / £4.50**

Analysing the effects of our global love affair with fish as food, *The End of the Line* follows investigative reporter Charles Clover as he confronts politicians and celebrity restaurateurs across the world who exhibit little regard for the damage they are doing to the oceans. Featuring top scientists, indigenous fishermen and fisheries enforcement officials, *The End of the Line* reveals the profound and depressing implications of a world without fish. Followed by a panel to be announced in the autumn.





## UNIVERSITY OF BRISTOL CENTENARY EVENTS



Throughout 2009, to celebrate its centenary year, the University of Bristol is holding a series of lectures on key ideas which shape our thinking in the 21st century. The lectures address topics such as human rights, the role of consciousness, global health challenges and human creativity. For more information on the full centenary lecture programme, visit: [www.bristol.ac.uk/centenary](http://www.bristol.ac.uk/centenary).

The following events will take place at the Wills Memorial Building, Bristol. They are free of charge, but seats must be reserved in advance. Book online at: [www.ideasfestival.co.uk](http://www.ideasfestival.co.uk).

### PETER STEELE

FROM EVEREST TO THE YUKON: THE LIFE OF AN ADVENTUROUS MEDIC  
**19 October 2009, 18.00-19.00**

### RONALD OXBURGH

ENERGY, PEOPLE AND CLIMATE  
**26 October 2009, 18.00-19.00**

### WILLIAM WALDEGRAVE

RESTORING TRUST IN POLITICS  
**29 October 2009, 18.00-19.00**

### GRAHAM SPITTLE

A SMARTER PLANET: TECHNOLOGY INNOVATION AND WHY IT MATTERS  
**2 November 2009, 18.00-19.00**

### STEVEN ROSE

THE FUTURE OF THE BRAIN: THE PROMISE AND PERILS OF TOMORROW'S NEUROSCIENCE  
**4 November 2009, 18.00-19.00**

### NICHOLAS KENYON

NURTURING HUMAN CREATIVITY  
**24 November 2009, 18.00-19.00**

## SPEAKERS' CORNER

In association with Arnolfini and 100 Days

**29 August - 6 December 2009,  
13.00 daily**

ARNOLFINI, BRISTOL

Price: Free of charge

Contact Arnolfini to book your slot



In response to 100 Days – a major season of events (29 August - 6 December 2009) marking the Countdown to the Climate Change Conference in Copenhagen (COP 15) in December – Arnolfini offers you the chance to air your views about the environment in a daily Speakers' Corner. An open space will be provided every day throughout the autumn, where members of the public can respond to issues of climate change and alternatives to the culture of consumerism with speeches, performances, displays, offerings, presentations, recitals, reviews, spectacles, and stunts.

**Bristol Schumacher Conference 2009**  
**FROM THE ASHES OF THE CRASH**  
Rebuilding with the new economics  
Saturday 17 Oct 2009, Council House, Bristol

**CHAIR** Stewart Wallis, nef Executive Director  
**Dr. Jayati Ghosh** Professor of Economics, New Delhi

**THE MARKET THAT FAILED**  
**Andrew Simms** nef Policy Director

**THE TERRIBLE FREEDOM BEFORE DUSK**  
**Stacy Mitchell** Researcher with the Institute for Local Self-Reliance, USA

**A NEW DEAL FOR LOCAL ECONOMIES**  
**WORKSHOPS** David Boyle *Reinventing money* John Christensen *The attack on democracy: tax havens as the engines of chaos* Liz Cox & Claran Mundy *Transition to a low carbon high well being future* Nick Robins, James Vaccaro & Mark Mansley *Investing in a low carbon economy*  
Guest Artist Rory McLeod

The Schumacher Society in partnership with nef

FFI & tickets: [www.schumacher.org.uk](http://www.schumacher.org.uk) 0117 903 1081

## VENUES AND HOW TO BOOK

Our events take place in venues across Bristol city centre. For charged events, please contact the relevant venue below to book and purchase your tickets (prices are listed next to each event). For free events, book places online at: [www.ideasfestival.co.uk](http://www.ideasfestival.co.uk).

### ARNOLFINI

16 Narrow Quay, Bristol BS1 4QA  
Tel: 0117 917 2300 (10.00-18.00 daily)  
Email: [boxoffice@arnolfini.org.uk](mailto:boxoffice@arnolfini.org.uk)  
[www.arnolfini.org.uk](http://www.arnolfini.org.uk)

### ST GEORGE'S, BRISTOL

Great George Street, Bristol BS1 5RR  
Tel: 0845 402 4001 (weekdays 12.00-18.00)  
or book online  
[www.stgeorgesbristol.co.uk](http://www.stgeorgesbristol.co.uk)

### ST JOHN THE BAPTIST CHURCH

Broad Street, Bristol BS1 2EZ  
Book through St George's, Bristol  
Tel: 0845 4024 001 or book online  
[www.stgeorgesbristol.co.uk](http://www.stgeorgesbristol.co.uk)

### TOBACCO FACTORY THEATRE

Raleigh Road, Southville, Bristol BS3 1TF  
Tel: 0117 902 0344  
Email: [tickets@tobaccofactory.com](mailto:tickets@tobaccofactory.com)  
[www.tobaccofactory.com](http://www.tobaccofactory.com)

### WATERSHED MEDIA CENTRE

1 Canons Road, Harbourside, Bristol BS1 5TX  
Tel: 0117 927 5100 (10.00-20.30 daily)  
[www.watershed.co.uk](http://www.watershed.co.uk)

### WILLS MEMORIAL BUILDING

Queens Road, Bristol BS8 1RJ  
Book online at: [www.ideasfestival.co.uk](http://www.ideasfestival.co.uk)

Photo credits: Hugh Fearnley-Whittingstall (by Tom Beard), Simon Schama (by Margherita Mirabella), Carolyn Steel (by Errol Jones), Gillian Tett (by Charlie Hopkinson) and Vic Reeves (by Scott Wishart).



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.

Bristol Festival of Ideas is an initiative of Bristol Cultural Development Partnership (BCDP):

BCDP culture | ideas | arts and sciences



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## FESTIVAL UPDATES

Full programme details and booking information can be found on our website at: [www.ideasfestival.co.uk](http://www.ideasfestival.co.uk). For advance notification of events, you can also sign up here to receive our regular E-newsletters and Twitter feeds.

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.

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