FESTIVAL OF IDEAS



MAY 2011 EVENTS

Welcome to our sixth annual May Festival of Ideas. We run events through the year, but always have 50 in May. And we have some treats for you this year. We're looking at 9/11 ten years on; the new protest movements; fashion and sustainability; religion and morality; manufacturing in Britain; philosophy and everyday life; the decline of the West; the future; the Spanish Civil War 75 years on; identity; love; cities in cinema: feminism in Bristol now and in the seventies to accompany the exhibition Sistershow Revisited; the law and terrorism: and the renewal or otherwise of British cities. And there's a special session with film director John Waters on his role models.

We also look at Bristol and ideas in a new annual programme: Bristol Genius. Bristol is a city of great ideas, historically and now. Bristol Genius looks at the people and organisations working on breakthrough ideas in the city — ones that have the potential to change how we think, live, work, eat, play; that provide new business opportunities; and that can transform the environment, justice and society. These events, along with some others, are free but need to be booked (see booking information for details).

We look forward to seeing you at the events. And please contribute to our debates on the website, on Facebook and Twitter.

Andrew Kelly Director



SPECIAL EVENTS PRE-MAY FESTIVAL

DAVID EAGLEMAN WHAT DOES THE BRAIN DO?

Watershed, Bristol

8 April 2011, 18.00-19.00, £6.00 / £5.00

Neuroscientist David Eagleman navigates the depths of the subconscious brain to illuminate surprising mysteries: Why do you notice when your name is mentioned in a conversation that you didn't think you were listening to? Why are people whose name begins with J more likely to marry other people whose name begins with J? Why is it so difficult to keep a secret? And how is it possible to get angry at yourself: who, exactly, is mad at whom? Taking in brain damage, plane spotting, dating, drugs, beauty, infidelity, synaesthesia, criminal law, artificial intelligence and visual illusions, Eagleman provides a thrilling subsurface exploration of the mind and all its contradictions.

BETTANY HUGHES ON SOCRATES TODAY

Watershed, Bristol

11 April 2011, 18.00-19.00, £7.20 / £5.60

Socrates' aphorism 'The unexamined life is not worth living' may have originated twenty-five centuries ago, but it is a founding principle of modern life. Socrates lived and contributed to a city that nurtured key ingredients of contemporary civilisation - democracy, liberty, science, drama, rational thought - yet, as he wrote nothing in his lifetime, he himself is an enigmatic figure. In The Hemlock Cup broadcaster and historian Bettany Hughes gives Socrates the biography he deserves, setting him in the context of the Eastern Mediterranean that was his home, and dealing with him as he himself dealt with the world, and relates a story that is as relevant now as it has ever been.





FRANK ROSE
THE ART OF IMMERSION: HOW
THE DIGITAL GENERATION
IS REMAKING HOLLYWOOD,
MADISON AVENUE, AND THE
WAY WE TELL STORIES

Watershed, Bristol

12 April 2011, 18.00-19.00, £7.20 / £5.60 Frank Rose, contributing editor of Wired, argues that we are no longer passive consumers of mass media - that with YouTube and blogs and Facebook and Twitter, we are media. And while we watch more television than ever before, how we watch it is changing in ways we have barely slowed down to register. No longer content in our traditional role as couch potatoes, we approach television shows, movies, even advertising as invitations to participate – as experiences to immerse ourselves in at will. Rose has talked with the people who are reshaping media for a twoway world - people like Will Wright (The Sims), James Cameron (Avatar), Damon Lindelof (Lost), and dozens of others whose ideas are changing how we play, how we communicate, how we think.

Sam Harris How Science Can Determine Human Values

St George's Bristol

13 April 2011, 18.30-19.30, £7.00 / £5.00

Sam Harris, author of the controversial The End of Faith and Letter to a Christian Nation and now The Moral Landscape. calls for an end to religion's monopoly on morality. Even though most people - from secular scientists to religious fundamentalists – agree that science has nothing to say on the subject of human values this is not only untrue; it cannot possibly be true. We know enough about the human brain and how it reacts to events in the world to say that there are right and wrong answers to the most pressing questions of human life. Harris delivers an explosive argument about the future of science, and about the real basis of human relationships.







ADAM GREENFIELD CONNECTED THINGS AND CIVIC RESPONSIBILITIES IN THE NETWORKED CITY

Watershed, Bristol

9 May 2011, 18.00-19.00, £7.20 / £5.60

Adam Greenfield is the author of Everyware: The Dawning Age of Ubiquitous Computing, former head of design direction for service and user-interface design at Nokia, and now runs his New York City-based practice Urbanscale. Greenfield will talk about urban experience design, addressing the growing range of connected objects in the urban landscape, from CCTV cameras, sensorequipped bus stops and networked bollards to Tower Bridge and its Twitter account. He will consider what life among these connected things implies for civic responsibility and 'the right to the city', explores how the capacities of these 'new urban actors' call established expectations and ideals for participation in urban life into question, and concludes by asking how we may need to re-think who or what is responsible for the performance and maintenance of civic activity.

In association with Digital Cultures Research Centre, UWE Bristol and the Pervasive Media Studio.

MAY FESTIVAL

IGNITE BRISTOL

Spike Island, Bristol

12 May 2011, 19.30-22.00, Free

Bristol Festival of Ideas is delighted to be working with Ignite Bristol — another celebration of the power of ideas in the city. Ignite invites Bristol people to 'Enlighten us, but make it quick!'. It's a fast-paced, thought-provoking, social, local, and global phenomenon. It's a high-energy evening of five-minute talks by people who have an idea — and the passion to get onstage and share it with their community. Ignite is a force for raising issues and ideas, and building connections in the city. To submit an idea, issue or topic on which you would like to speak at Ignite Bristol, and to book tickets, visit www.ignitebristol.net.





A C GRAYLING THE GOOD BOOK: A SECULAR BIBLE St George's Bristol

13 May 2011, 18.00-19.00, £7.00 / £5.00

Renowned philosopher and commentator A C Grayling draws on the wisdom of 2,500 years of contemplative non-religious writing on all that it means to be human to create a secular bible, The Good Book, a non-religious alternative for the many people who do not follow one of the world's great religions. Grayling explores traditions older than Christianity, including the nontheistic philosophical and literary schools of the great civilisations of both West and East, down through classical Rome, the flourishing of Indian and Arab worlds, the European Renaissance and Enlightenment, the worldwide scientific discoveries of the nineteenth and twentieth centuries to the present. He talks about living a good life in the absence of religion.



Kenneth Williams

LETTER FROM AN Unknown Woman (U) And Stefan Zweig

Watershed, Bristol

14 May 2011, 13.00-14.00 (talk); 14.30-16.00 (film), £7.20 / £5.60 (talk and film)

Stefan Zweig, an Austrian-Jewish writer who committed suicide immediately after delivering the manuscript of his compelling memoir *The World of Yesterday* (described by David Hare as 'one of the greatest memoirs of the twentieth century') to his publisher in 1942, is one of the finest writers of the twentieth century now being rediscovered by a new generation. Anthea Bell, the acclaimed translator of his work, talks about Zweig and this is followed by the classic film of one of his best stories, *Letter from an Unknown Woman* (Dir: Max Ophuls, USA 1948).



CHRISTOPHER STEVENS ON KENNETH WILLIAMS Watershed, Bristol

15 May 2011, 13.00-14.30, £7.20 / £5.60

Kenneth Williams was the stand-out comic actor of his generation. Beloved as the manic star of *Carry On* films and as a peerless raconteur on TV chat shows, he was also acclaimed for serious stage roles. In *Born Brilliant*, Christopher Stevens draws on rare material and Williams' diaries to trace the complex contradictions that characterised an extraordinary life, presenting the first full portrait of the star. With clips from the films and radio shows this will be a fun and enlightening event.

FOCUS ON PATRICK KEILLER



Watershed, Bristol, 4-16 May 2011

This season, presented in partnership with Watershed, draws attention to the work of Patrick Keiller, one of the most distinctive voices in British cinema. His series of film essays bring together psychogeography, architecture, French literature, nature, fine art, Surrealism, photography, geography, history, Thatcherism, deindustrialisation, sociology and economics, especially the most recent economic crisis. Leading up to his talk on 16 May, we present three of his films which look at London in 1992, various sites across England in the mid-1990s, and, his latest, the South of England after the financial crash and facing the threat of climate change.



Robinson in Space

TALK: PATRICK KEILLER

Patrick Keiller's journey is almost as mysterious as that of Robinson, the enigmatic intellectual travelling through Tory Britain in his wryly subversive documentaries. A trained architect-turned filmmaker, Keiller draws on a wide range of influences and disciplines — architecture, history, art, philosophy, poetry. This is a rare opportunity to hear him discuss his extraordinary body of work, including *Robinson in Ruins*, the long-awaited sequel to his two 1990s film. All ticket holders to Patrick Keiller film screenings get £1 off the talk.

LONDON (U)

Dir: Patrick Keiller, UK 1994, 85mins 4 May 2011, 18:00, £7.20 / £ 5.60

Keiller's feature-length debut is a brilliant patchwork tour of London during the 1992 General Election. Part fiction, part documentary, it charts the meandering journey of an unnamed and unseen narrator (voiced by Paul Scofield) and his friend Robinson through

the city, reflecting on literature, history and architecture with wry wit and surreal insight. An electrifying, completely original portrait of the city and its many mysteries.

ROBINSON IN SPACE (PG)

Dir: Patrick Keiller, UK 1997, 80mins 7 May 2011, 13:00, £7.20 / £ 5.60

Robinson returns with his travelling companion on a voyage to discover 'the problem of England' on seven trips around the country in 1995: to the west and east of London; Oxford and Bristol; the West Midlands; Birmingham and Liverpool; Manchester and Hull; Scarborough and Whitby; and Blackpool and Sellafield. Offbeat, witty, unpredictable, always compelling and genuinely thought-provoking — this is a fascinating exploration of England's vast cultural and economic landscape.

ROBINSON IN RUINS (U) Dir: Patrick Keiller, UK 2010, 101 mins

11 May 2011, 18:00, £7.20 / £ 5.60

A decade after *London* and *Robinson in Space* our titular guide returns to journey through Keiller's own home of Oxfordshire and Berkshire, investigating the possibility of 'life's survival on the planet'. Set around the global financial crash of 2008, this is an imaginative, beautifully shot vision of England's past, present and future frankly narrated by Vanessa Redgrave. An erudite examination of economic and ecological disaster and a timely (as well as surprisingly optimistic) tour of the South of England.





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FESTIVAL OF IDEAS PRIZE EVENING Watershed, Bristol 16 May 2011, 19.30-21.00, Free but booking required

In this special event we announce the winner of the 2011 Festival of Ideas book prize. The prize is given annually to the book which presents new, important and challenging ideas and which is engaging, accessible and rigorously argued. Who will join Nick Davies (winner in 2009 with Flat Earth News) and Kate Pickett and Richard Wilkinson (winners in 2010 for The Spirit Level)? Given our commitment to new work we also announce tonight the winner of script space IV, our new writing competition organised with the Tobacco Factory Theatre. There's also the launch of our Bristol Book Prize and our essay writing competition.

Book Prize shortlist:

Kat Banyard The Equality Illusion: The Truth about Women and Men Today
Ha-Joon Chang 23 Things They Don't Tell
You About Capitalism
Cordelia Fine Delusions of Gender: The
Real Science Behind Sex Differences
Dan Hind The Return of the Public
David Shenk The Genius in All of Us: Why
Everything You've Been Told About Genes,
Talent and Intelligence is Wrong
Gary Younge Who Are We — And Should It
Matter in the 21st Century?

EVAN DAVIS *MADE IN BRITAIN* **St George's Bristol**17 May 2011, 18.00-19.00, £7.00 / £5.00

Both optimists and pessimists believe that Britain is no longer an industrial nation. Optimists rejected manufacturing to survive on finance and other services; pessimists cling to as much old industry as possible. In his new television series and book Made in Britain, broadcaster Evan Davis asks what Britain is good at, where it creates value and how it can pay its way in the world. In this event, Evan busts some of the myths that have sprung up in recent decades: Britain remains a manufacturing powerhouse, the sixth biggest in the world, with productivity doubling in the last decade, and the sector employing four million people. And he shows how we can continue to grow and compete.

GEORGE MONBIOT'S LEFT HOOK

St George's Bristol

17 May 2011, 19.30-21.30 (30 minute interval), £7.00 / £5.00

George Monbiot is in pugnacious mood. One of our foremost thinkers and environmentalists, unbeaten intellectual champion of free speech, and polemicist supreme, Monbiot comes to Bristol for a special double bill. In the first half he addresses a hot topic of the day and then, in the second, takes on all comers in bouts of verbal fisticuffs with the audience. Possible issues range from the Avonmouth biofuel plan to badger culling, short-selling and the banks to climate change deniers, and why he tried to arrest an American neoconservative when he spoke in Britain.





PHILOSOPHY AND EVERYDAY LIFE: DOUBLE BILL RICHARD DAVID PRECHT, ANGIE HOBBS, ROBERT ROWLAND SMITH, NIGEL WARBURTON

Watershed, Bristol17 May 2011, 18.00-21.00 (with 30 minute interval), £7.00 / £5.00

What is philosophy and who needs it? Is life meaningless? What do the great philosophers tell us about birth, love, being wise and death? What can philosophy say about free speech and happiness, the impact of new technology, work and shopping? Is there a God? Drawing on neuroscience, psychology, history, and pop culture, Richard David Precht, author of the international bestseller Who Am I? And If So, How Many?, looks through the work of great philosophers at truth, meaning and goodness. At 19.30, a panel debates philosophy and everyday life with Angie Hobbs, Senior Fellow in the Public Understanding of Philosophy, Warwick University; Robert Rowland Smith, whose latest book is Driving With Plato: The Meaning of Life's Milestones; and Nigel Warburton, lecturer in philosophy at the Open University and co-founder of the podcast Philosophy Bites. Chaired by Julian Baggini, founder of The Philosophers' Magazine and author of many books on philosophy.

ALEXANDRA HARRIS
ROMANTIC MODERNS:
ENGLISH WRITERS, ARTISTS
AND THE IMAGINATION
FROM VIRGINIA WOOLF
TO JOHN PIPER

Arnolfini, Bristol

18 May 2011, 18.00-19.10, £7.00 / £5.00 English art in the 1930s has often been seen as the opposite of the battles going on in France and Spain: quaint and obsessed with old churches and tea shops. In a major reassessment, which won the Guardian First Book Award for 2010, Alexandra Harris looks back at the early twentieth century at how English writers, painters, gardeners, architects, critics and composers imbued the artistic revolutions coming across the channel with a nostalgic sense of place and explored what it meant to be alive at that moment and in England. She talks about the artists and their work in this special illustrated session including: John Betjeman, Florence White, Evelyn Waugh, Elizabeth Bowen, the Sitwells, John Piper, Cecil Beaton and more.

In association with the Department of History of Art (Historical Studies), University of Bristol.

JULIE HILL AND LUCY SIEGLE THE REAL COST OF FAST FASHION

Watershed, Bristol

18 May 2011, 19.30-20.30, £6.00 / £5.00

How do we create a new world when we have so much waste? Is our passion for clothes ruining the world? Julie Hill, government adviser, campaigner and now author of *The Secret Life of Stuff: A Manual for a New Material World*, loves 'stuff', but we've gone too far. Whether it's 'affluenza', hoarding, replacing not repairing, we all have too much. Clothes are a special problem. Lucy Siegle, ethical columnist for *The Observer*, looks at the global epidemic of unsustainable fashion,

taking stock of our economic health and moral accountabilities to expose the pitfalls of fast fashion. Refocussing the debate squarely back on the importance of basic consumer rights, Siegle reveals the truth behind cut-price, bulk fashion and the importance of purchasing decisions, advocating the case for a new sustainable design era where we are assured of value for money: ethically, morally and in real terms.

DAVID MARQUAND THE END OF THE WEST: THE ONCE AND FUTURE EUROPE

The 2011 Louis Sherwood Memorial Lecture Arnolfini, Bristol

18 May 2011, 19.30-21.00, £7.00 / £5.00

As the UK, Belgium, France, Italy, and former Soviet Bloc countries experience ethnic or religious disturbances, Greece, Ireland, and Spain are menaced by financial crises and the euro is in trouble, it seems that Europe's extraordinary post-war recovery has limped to an end. David Marguand, a former member of the British Parliament, argues that Europe's problems stem from outdated perceptions of global power, and calls for a drastic change in governance to halt the continent's slide into irrelevance. As China, India, and other nations rise, Europe must abandon ancient notions of an enlightened West and a backward East. Calling for Europe's leaders and citizens to confront the painful issues of ethnicity, integration, and economic cohesion, and to build a democratic and federal structure, the continent must draw on all its reserves of intellectual and political creativity to thrive in an increasingly turbulent world where the very language of "East" and "West" has been emptied of meaning. Followed by a panel discussion (see www.ideasfestival.co.uk for details).

JAMES ATTLEE SEARCHING FOR THE NIGHT Watershed, Bristol

19 May 2011, 18.00-19.00, £7.00 / £5.00

The moon and the light it casts have been a muse for writers, artists, composers and visionaries throughout history. But today, in our increasingly urbanised world, the spread of artificial lighting seems set to rob the moon of its power. In *Nocturne: A Journey in Search of Moonlight*, James Attlee provides an illuminating traveller's tale about a search for the all-but-vanished light of the moon — and a passionate plea to turn off the lights and repossess the stolen night.

DAVID BABBS, DAN HIND, SHIV MALIK AND LAURIE PENNY THE NEW PROTEST MOVEMENTS

Arnolfini, Bristol

19 May 2011, 18.00-19.00, £7.00 / £4.00

Since the coalition was formed in May 2011, and as it responds to the crash and implements the largest programme of public expenditure cuts ever, new forms of protest have emerged. Whether it's traditional demonstrations or new online campaigns, the results have been significant and in some cases, such as the proposal to sell off forests, have already resulted in change: large numbers of students have been radicalised. MPs have been inundated with email letters of protest, banks have been raided and there's much more to come. But will it change things significantly? Is online activism just 'slacktivism'? Will student protest fizzle out? And what's next? David Babbs, Executive Director, 38 Degrees, discusses the new protest with Dan Hind (author of The Return of the Public), Shiv Malik, activist and co-author of the book on intergenerational conflict. The Jilted Generation, and Laurie Penny, journalist and activist whose reports often come from the front line of protest.

DAVID AARONOVITCH, YASMIN ALIBHAI-BROWN, MARK MALLOCH BROWN AND DOMINIC STREATFEILD 9/11 TEN YEARS ON

Arnolfini, Bristol

19 May 2011, 19.30-21.00, £7.00 / £5.00

The 9/11 massacre touched the lives of millions of people around the world. It led to a war in Afghanistan, extraordinary rendition, Guantanamo Bay and - some argue – contravention of international law. Is it, as some say, the defining moment of this generation whose impact will be felt for even more decades to come? To discuss the impact of 9/11 Dominic Streatfeild, author of A History of the World Since 9/11 (which looks at how 9/11 has affected the lives of members of an Afghani wedding party, a gas station proprietor in Texas and a planespotter in Mallorca), joins David Aaronovitch and Yasmin Alibhai-Brown, both authors, broadcasters, and journalists, who have written about many aspects of the impact of 9/11 on all sectors of society over the past decade, and Mark Malloch Brown, former foreign office minister and UN Deputy Secretary-General and author of The Unfinished Global Revolution.

SISTERSHOW REVISITED FEMINISM IN 1970S BRISTOL AND NOW

Watershed, Bristol

19 May 2011, 19.30-21.00, £7.00 / £5.00

What was it like to be a feminist in seventies Bristol and what is it like now? Bringing together Bristol feminists from the 1970s and today, and coinciding with the exhibition Sistershow Revisited (Centrespace Gallery 7-26 May), this is a unique opportunity to hear the stories of grassroots activists who have worked, and continue to work, to improve the quality of women's lives in Bristol. What kind of issues did women raise in the 1970s? How different was it to today's feminist agenda?

How do today's feminists ensure that vital services created by seventies feminists, such as Women's Aid, are protected?

KEVIN WARWICK ROBOTICS, AI AND THE FUTURE

Arnolfini, Bristol

20 May 2011, 18.00-19.00, £7.00 / £5.00

Kevin Warwick is one of our leading thinkers on the future when it applies to Artificial Intelligence, cybernetics and robotics. He took the ultimate step of implanting artificial intelligence into his nervous system to record and read his emotions and experiences. He has been working on using intelligent computer methods to predict the onset of Parkinsonian tremors so that they can be stopped by means of a deep-brain implant. His rat-brain robot (using artificially grown rat-brain tissue) drives a robot round a laboratory which helps us understand more about how our brains work. and even to develop treatments for diseases such as epilepsy, Parkinson's and Alzheimer's Disease. He is a leading figure in the plans to celebrate the centenary of the birth of Alan Turing in 2012, and The Institute of Physics selected him as one of only seven eminent scientists to illustrate the ethical impact their scientific work can have (the others being Galileo, Einstein, Curie, Nobel, Oppenheimer and Joseph Rotblat). In this special event he discusses his work with Robin McKie, science and technology editor for The Observer.

'VAMPIRISM' AND LET THE RIGHT ONE IN (15)

Watershed, Bristol

20 May 2011, 18.30-22.00, £10.00 / £8.00

Bram Stoker's *Dracula* – a much plundered text – is one that refuses to die. It is not Stoker's prose that explains the narrative's popularity but rather the story is kept alive because it satisfies a human wish that good vanquish evil. Stoker's Dracula is a primal father, a

figure of unequivocal evil who is pursued to death by a band of 'good brave men', but how can we account for the fascination that the 'nosferatu' still holds in the twenty-first century? Two leading psychoanalysts from Severnside Institute for Psychotherapy, Jane Cheshire and Elizabeth O'Loughlin, explore the resonant themes of the 'nosferatu' in the twenty-first century from a psychoanalytical perspective. Followed by a screening of *Let the Right One In*.

In association with Severnside Institute for Psychotherapy.

DIANE COYLE, MARK STEVENSON AND JON TURNEY CREATING A FUTURE WITHOUT DESTROYING THE PRESENT Arnolfini, Bristol

20 May 2011, 19.30-21.00, £7.00 / £5.00 How do we continue to live well and not damage the future? Is economic growth the problem, not the solution? Who is planning for the future and what kind of future will this be? Enlightenment economist, writer and blogger Diane Coyle, author of The Economics of Enough: How to Run the Economy as if the Future Matters, shows how we can be happy and prosperous now without cheating the future. She looks at the fundamental questions about the way the economy is organised and about the links between the economy and the kind of society we want and need, so that we can provide our children with a decent future. Mark Stevenson, in An Optimist's Tour of the Future, tours the world to make sense of what's in store for us all. He looks at the amazing work of scientists, robots that think, re-engineering of humans, science that will solve the energy crisis and the ideas of great visionaries. They discuss their work with Jon Turney, author of *The Rough Guide to* the Future.





John Gray Cheating Death – Making Humans Immortal

Arnolfini, Bristol21 May 2011, 11.00-12.00, £7.00 / £5.00

thinkers.

John Gray is one of our leading political philosophers. He talks about his work and especially his latest book, The Immortalization Commission: Science and the Strange Quest to Cheat Death. For most of our history, religion provided a clear explanation for life and the afterlife. But in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries this framework came under relentless pressure as new ideas - from psychiatry to evolution to Communism - seemed to suggest that our fate was now in our own hands. We would ourselves become God. The refusal to follow Darwinian logic and to insist instead on our immortality resulted in a series of experiments that carry on to the present day, some of which ravaged whole countries and some of which generated more private forms of pain. Gray raises a host of questions about what it means to be human in his usual provocative and compelling way as

one of our most interesting and unpredictable





Gareth Peirce

STEVE BELL FROM THE DEATH OF NEW LABOUR TO THE CONLIBDEMOLITION

Arnolfini, Bristol 21 May 2011, 12.30-13.30, £7.00 / £5.00

Steve Bell is our funniest cartoonist on politics, media and life. In a talk illustrated by his brilliant cartoons he covers politics from the death of New Labour to the arrival of the ConLibDemolition, Marvel at Gordon Brown's progress from saviour of the world to the Rochdale disaster, ogle Silvio Berlusconi's false breasts, celebrate the end of Dubya and cheer as Obama bounds on stage, thrill at the three party leaders' hairstyles and gasp as Nick Clegg is buried beneath a humping heap of toads.

PAUL PRESTON THE SPANISH CIVIL WAR 75 YEARS ON

Arnolfini, Bristol

21 May 2011, 14.00-15.00, £7.00 / £5.00

Seventy-five years ago the Spanish Civil war started. Often seen as the first great battle of the Second World War, volunteers from around the world flocked to Spain to fight for democracy. Ultimately, with the help of Hitler and Mussolini, Franco won and the Left, split anyway, was defeated. Paul Preston is our greatest historian on Spain and the war: with books on the war itself, biographies of Franco and King Juan Carlos, the war correspondents that went to Spain and, later this year, The Spanish Holocaust. He looks back on the war and the impact that it had internationally, as well as on Spain and Europe, in the twentieth century.

SIMON BARON-COHEN ZERO DEGREES OF EMPATHY Arnolfini, Bristol

21 May 2011, 15.30-16.30, £7.00 / £5.00 Lack of empathy lurks in the darkest corners of human history as people treat others as mere objects. Simon Baron-Cohen argues that we need a radical shift, turning away from evil and on to the central factor, empathy. Unlike the concept of evil, empathy has real explanatory power. He explores four new ideas: first, we all lie somewhere on an empathy spectrum, from high to low, from six degrees to zero degrees. Secondly, deep within the brain lies the 'empathy circuit'. How this circuit functions determines where we lie on the empathy spectrum. Thirdly, that empathy is not only something we learn but that there are also genes associated with empathy. And fourthly, while a lack of empathy leads to mostly negative results, is it always negative? In Zero Degrees of Empathy, he presents a new way of understanding what it is that leads individuals down negative paths, and challenges all of us to consider replacing the idea of evil with the idea of empathystarvation. By bringing cruelty into the realm of science, he at last delivers us from 'evil'.

Gareth Peirce and Helena Kennedy The Law and Human Rights

Arnolfini, Bristol

21 May 2011, 17.00-18.00, £7.00 / £5.00

Lawyer Gareth Peirce represents individuals subject to rendition and torture, held in prisons in the UK on the basis of secret evidence, and interned in secret prisons abroad under regimes that continue to practice torture. Clients include the Birmingham Six, Judith Ward, the family of Jean Charles de Menezes, and Moazzam Begg. In Dispatches From the Dark Side: On Torture and the Death of Justice, she looks at the British government's involvement in torture which, if not accounted for, will destroy much of the moral and legal fabric it claims to be protecting. She discusses her work with Helena Kennedy QC, who has spent her professional life giving voice to those who have least power within the system, championing civil liberties and promoting human rights.

LISA APPIGNANESI On Love

Arnolfini, Bristol

21 May 2011, 18.30-19.30, £7.00 / £5.00

Unruly, unpredictable, love is a maddening deity. It has us singing in the rain or tearing our hair out. Or duelling with its shadows, hate, jealousy and loss. Lisa Appignanesi, author of, most recently, Mad, Bad and Sad: Women and the Mind Doctors and now All About Love, tangles with the paradoxes of love through the span of our lives – from rapturous love to love in 'marriage', in the family and in friendship. She investigates love's shifts and continuities from the Greeks to the present and examines our present hyper-sexualized predicament. Without the varying attachments love puts in place, we would have little of our individuality, less literature, and arguably no society.

JACKIE KAY On Identity

Arnolfini, Bristol

22 May 2011, 14.00-15.00, £7.00 / £5.00

Jackie Kay is one of our finest writers and poets and has now written a remarkable memoir, Red Dust Road. From the moment when, as a little girl, she realises that her skin is a different colour from that of her beloved mum and dad, to the tracing and finding of her birth parents, her Highland mother and Nigerian father, the journey that Jackie Kay talks about is full of unexpected twists, turns and deep emotions. From Glasgow to Lagos and beyond, she discovers that inheritance is about much more than genes: that we are shaped by songs as much as by cells, and that our internal landscapes are as important as those through which we move. She discusses her work and issues of identity with philosopher Julian Baggini, author of The Ego Trick: What Does it Mean to be You?

MARY WARNOCK KEEPING RELIGION OUT OF POLITICS

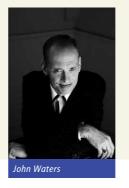
Arnolfini, Bristol

22 May 2011, 15.30-16.30, £7.00 / £5.00

Mary Warnock, philosopher and writer, in her new book *Dishonest to God: On Keeping Religion Out of Politics* and in this event argues that religious and theological issues should have no place in issues of public morality, including euthanasia, assisted suicide and abortion, and tries to clarify the foundation of morality in a society largely indifferent to and ignorant of religion. She argues that to value religion as the essential foundation of morality is a profound and probably dangerous mistake. Religions and morality must be prised apart as morality is increasingly a public and not just a private matter.







Arnolfini, Bristol

22 May 2011, 18.30-19.30,



William

Golding

OWEN HATHERLEY
THE NEW RUINS OF
GREAT BRITAIN

Arnolfini, Bristol
22 May 2011, 17.00-18.00 (talk); 18.30-19.30 (boat tour), £7.00 / £5.00 (talk only),
£9.00 / £7.00 (talk and boat tour)

New Labour came to power in 1997 amid much talk of regenerating the inner cities left to rot under successive Conservative governments. Over the next decade, urban environments became the laboratories of the new enterprise economy. In A Guide to the New Ruins of Great Britain, Owen Hatherley explores the wreckage of the architecture that epitomised greed and selfish aspiration. From riverside apartment complexes, art galleries and amorphous interactive 'centres' to shopping malls, call centres and factories turned into expensive lofts. Hatherley maps the derelict Britain of the 2010s, an emphatic expression of a failed politics. Owen is currently working on a second volume, which includes Bristol, and he provides a preview here. Owen is in discussion with former RIBA President and architect George Ferguson and there is an optional boat tour of the city's docks guided by Owen and George, in which they discuss the Harbourside development and dockside developments generally.

JUDY GOLDING WILLIAM GOLDING AND LORD OF THE FLIES (PG)

interval then film, £7.00 / £5.00 Bestselling novelist and author of Lord of the Flies (read by millions worldwide), William Golding was one of the most important English novelists of the twentieth century. Awarded the Nobel Prize for Literature in 1983 and the Booker Prize in 1980, his writing continues to touch every country in the world. It was he who suggested to James Lovelock that his hypothesis of the earth's biosphere being a self-regulating entity should be called 'Gaia'. His daughter, Judy Golding, in the centenary of his birth, has now written about her father, describing the process that saw him change from an impecunious schoolteacher to a famous novelist. The Golding family life, both ordinary and extraordinary, always kept its characteristic warmth, humour, complexity, anger and love, danger and insecurity. Eventually, as an adult, his daughter came to understand some of the internal conflicts which lay behind Golding's writing. Based on that understanding, she discusses William Golding and his work, including material he wrote about Bristol. Following the talk, there is a showing of the classic Peter Brook film of Lord of the Flies.

NIALL FERGUSON THE SIX KILLER APPS OF WESTERN CIVILISATION

St George's Bristol

25 May 2011, 18.00-19.00, £7.00 / £5.00

If in the year 1411 you had been able to circumnavigate the globe, you would have been most impressed by the dazzling civilizations of the Orient. The Forbidden City was under construction in Ming Beijing; in the Near East the Ottomans were closing in on Constantinople. By contrast, England was a miserable backwater, the other quarrelsome kingdoms of Western Europe were little better and fifteenth-century North America was an anarchic wilderness compared with the realms of the Aztecs and Incas. The idea that the West would come to dominate the Rest for most of the next half millennium would have struck you as wildly fanciful. And yet it happened, based on six 'killer applications': competition, science, democracy, medicine, consumerism and the work ethic. But has the West now lost its monopoly and are we living through the end of Western ascendency? Niall Ferguson looks back on what made the West great and considers the future of the West.

JOHN WATERS THE ROLE MODELS IN MY LIFE Watershed, Bristol

27 May 2011, 18.00-19.00, £7.20 / £5.60

The incomparable John Waters, renowned cult film director, artist and writer, in his memoir *Role Models* and this event provides a paean to the power of subversive inspiration. He tells us the story of his life through intimate and literary profiles of his favourite personalities which have helped him form his own brand of neurotic happiness. Waters muses on Johnny Mathis, Comme Des Garcons founder Rei Kawakubo, actress Patty McCormack, writers Tennessee Williams, Lionel Shriver and Ivy Compton-Burnett, insane martyr Saint Catherine of Siena, English novelist Denton

Welch, ex-Manson follower Leslie van Houten, lesbian stripper Zorro, artist Cy Twombly and outsider pornographers Bobby Garcia and David Hurles. From the sublime to the extreme, John Waters' *Role Models* provides a personal invitation into one of the most unique, perverse and hilarious artistic minds of our time.

BJØRN LOMBORG Putting Global Warming In Perspective

At-Bristol, Bristol

31 May 2011, 18.30-20.30, £7.20 / £5.60

Bjørn Lomborg believes that global warming is real, man-made and will have a serious impact on humans and the environment toward the end of this century. In a range of books (including The Skeptical Environmentalist and Cool It), articles and now a film, Lomborg argues that we need to look at the costs and benefits of the proposed measures. He demonstrates that drastic, here-and-now measures are the worst way to spend money as climate change is a 100-year problem that cannot be fixed in ten years. Instead we should focus on the smartest solutions to the problems that the world faces. whether we're dealing with climate change, communicable diseases, malnutrition, or agricultural subsidies. If we want to help the world to the greatest extent we can, we do need to fix the climate, but should do so smartly and effectively, and we should also remember there are many other important things we can focus on right now, like micronutrient supplementation and fortification, community nutrition programmes, expanded vaccination coverage for children, elimination of financial barriers to education, improving agricultural technology that would do amazing things at very low cost. He presents his case and then debates it with local experts including Juliet Davenport (CEO and founder of green power firm, Good Energy), Professor Jim Longhurst (University of the West of England) and Peter Madden, Director, Forum for the Future.

HELEN BROWNING HOW WE CAN FEED BRISTOL IN THE FUTURE 20 May 2011, 18.00-19.00

How will cities feed themselves in the future without endangering the future of the planet? Is there a role for greater production locally? The Soil Association is 65 this year — and it's based in Bristol. Helen Browning, director, looks at where our food comes from, and how cities can become more self-sufficient and make food production more sustainable and welfare-friendly. This builds on considerable work being undertaken currently in reducing Bristol's food miles and food wastage.

DALE TEMPLAR TECHNOLOGY IN HUMAN PLANET 21 May 2011, 12.30-13.30

Bristol's Natural History Unit continues to innovate. *Human Planet* is the first BBC natural history series to turn the camera on the human species. It reveals the extraordinary human ability to adapt to every environment, becoming the most successful species on earth. Dale Templar, producer, talks about the series and shows some of the most extraordinary film ever made — a breathtaking celebration of the power of nature and human ingenuity, showing us at our most beautiful, adaptive, cooperative, courageous, compassionate and profoundly connected to our environment. *In association with BAFTA*.

MICHAEL NAUGHTON THE INNOCENCE PROJECT 21 May 2011, 14.00-15.00

Dr Michael Naughton established the Innocence Network UK (INUK) in the School of Law, University of Bristol, in September 2004 to undertake casework, research and communications in the area of wrongful convictions. He established the first innocence project in the UK, the University of Bristol Innocence Project (UoBIP), which sees undergraduate and postgraduate law students investigating cases of long-term prisoners maintaining their innocence under close academic supervision with the pro bono assistance of practicing lawyers, forensic scientists and other experts. He talks about this work and its success in helping to identify miscarriages of justice.

COL NEEDHAM THE INTERNET MOVIE DATABASE (IMDB) 21 May 2011, 15.30-16.30

If you want information on movies, the IMDb is the source for millions. It was created in Bristol and continues to be run from the city. Col Needham, founder and CEO of IMDb, talks about how it came to be, where it is today, what it does and its future development.

PAUL RAINGER RETROFITTING BRISTOL TO MAKE A GREEN CAPITAL 21 May 2011, 17.00-18.00

The task of retrofitting cities is set to become an important part of managing our transition to a low-carbon future. We know what future green cities look like – 'cities of short distances' where you can reach work and services within walking or cycling distance of home; a series of denser communities linked together by 'green infrastructure' corridors of wildlife, food growing and rapid public transport. Easy if you are building a new city from scratch, but how do we retrofit a city like Bristol to become a green capital? This future vision requires a new approach to planning.

Paul Rainger, Forum for the Future, guides us through this, but needs your help as well. Bring your own demolition ball.



RICHARD HULL CALVIUM: PERVASIVE MEDIA 22 May 2011, 14.00-15.00

Calvium brings together digital content and the physical world in pervasive media. Working for Hewlett Packard and through collaboration with local artists, educationalists and members of the community, Richard Hull created experimental examples of pervasive media, including Riot:1831 (about the Queen Square riots of 1831). Calvium turns this work into a commercial reality with the key breakthrough being the mass-market adoption of handheld devices, such as the iPhone, which finally allows this new medium to move out of research labs and artists' studios into everyday life. Richard talks about these early experiments, the explosive growth in the mobile web and mobile apps, and the democratisation of the creation of digital content.

IOANNIS A IEROPOULOS THE ECOBOT

22 May 2011, 15.30-16.30

Ioannis A Ieropoulos is a Senior Research Fellow at the Bristol Robotics Laboratory where he has been working on autonomous robots. To be truly autonomous, robots will be required to incorporate in their behavioural repertoire actions that involve searching, collecting and digesting food. The robot will be designed to remain inactive until sufficient energy has been generated to complete its next task. Three robots, EcoBot-I, EcoBot-II and EcoBot-III, have been developed, which – to some extent – exhibit this type of behaviour. Dr Ieropoulos talks about the project and its applications.

ALAN WINFIELD CAN ROBOTS TEACH US ANYTHING ABOUT CULTURE? 22 May 2011, 17.00-18.00

'How does culture emerge?' is the question at the heart of a project led by the Bristol Robotics Laboratory at University of the West of England. The project is an attempt to build a working model, using robots, of the way behaviours change – literally evolve – as they spread through a group of social agents. In this talk Bristol roboticist Alan Winfield will introduce the robots together with new results that appear to demonstrate the emergence and evolution of new behavioural memes. But can these robots – highly abstracted embodied models of social interaction – teach us anything about how animals, including humans, make the transition from social to cultural?

CLARE REDDINGTON BREAKING OUT OF THE SCREEN 22 May 2011, 18.30-19.30

As technologies become cheaper and networks become more accessible, a wealth of digitallydriven experiences are being created which do not rely on cinema, TV or mobile phone screens. Ranging from magical installations to games which take place in the street, site-specific performances to spectacular projections on buildings, the work shares an aspiration to get people engaged and thinking differently about their surroundings. Pervasive Media Studio Director Clare Reddington shows a selection of cutting-edge projects produced in Bristol (and around the world) which all blend digital technologies with physical experiences to break out of the screen and transform the real world.

CINEMA AND THE CITY 1-29 May 2011



'Find a city. Find myself a city to live in.' Talking Heads, Cities.

Cinema is a potent medium for defining the way we think about cities whether it is the futuristic cityscape of Fritz Lang's *Metropolis* or the realism of Rossellini's war-torn *Rome Open City*. The city in cinema offers both a real and imaginary space.

Cinema and the City Sunday Brunches: Every Sunday at 12:00 throughout May at Watershed

As part of Festival of Ideas, Watershed presents five films that each rely on the city they are set in but also shape and define it in our imagination – from London (*Night and the City*) to Shanghai (*Code 46*) via New York (*Do the Right Thing*) to Mumbai (*Slumdog Millionaire*) and Berlin (*Wings of Desire*). All Sunday Brunch titles £4.60 full / £3.60 concessions and get £1 off all meal orders over £6.95 in the Café/Bar on the same day with your ticket.

NIGHT AND THE CITY (PG) (LONDON)

Dir: Jules Dassin, UK 1950, 1hr 32mins 1 May 2011

Adapted from the lowlife novel by Gerald Kersh, Night and the City is the supreme example of London noir. Much of the filming was done in actual after-midnight hours, shooting night scenes in a London still shattered and skeletal from wartime bombings. Richard Widmark delivers an indelible performance as Harry Fabian, a small-time hustler and desperate dreamer who tries to worm his way into the wrestling rackets of post-war London. But there is no easy money in this underworld of shifting alliances, bottomless graft and pummelled flesh — and Fabian soon learns the horrible price of his ambition.

DO THE RIGHT THING (18) (NEW YORK)

Dir: Spike Lee, USA 1989, 1hr 55mins 8 May 2011

Simmering racial tensions explode at the end of a sweltering summer's day in Brooklyn's Bedford-Stuy neighbourhood when one of the locals agitates for a boycott of Sal's Pizzeria because he resents the absence of black sports stars and actors on Sal's 'Wall of Fame'.

Samuel L Jackson appears as smooth-talking DJ Senor Love Daddy whose on-air invocations to 'chill' fail to quell the escalating tension. Lee's powerful break-out hit was like a cinematic Molotov cocktail when it was released, exploding popular American mainstream myths about racial solidarity and togetherness in the post-civil rights era. Twenty-two years on, its message still resonates.

SLUMDOG MILLIONAIRE (15) (MUMBAI)

Dir: Danny Boyle, UK/USA 2008, 120mins 15 May 2011

A kaleidoscopic race through the jumble and hustle of Mumbai, Boyle's multiple Oscar®-winning feature is a vibrant and compelling account of an orphan from the slums who attempts to become a millionaire on a television game show, rediscovering his destiny and the love of his life in the process. Boyle uses this extraordinary premise to paint a neo-Dickensian portrait of a society built around survival of the fittest. *Slumdog Millionaire* is Boyle's liveliest fusion of style and content since *Trainspotting*, playing on the tension between gritty, street-level reality and fairy-tale invention to electrify this rollercoaster romance.



Slumdog Millionaire

Wings of Desire (PG) (Berlin)

Dir: Wim Wenders, W Germany/France 1987, 2hr 7mins

22 May 2011

One of cinema's most hauntingly beautiful city symphonies, *Wings of Desire* transcends concrete barriers to explore a Berlin of the imagination. A dispassionate angel stands atop a statue on a winter morning, watching over Berlin. His name is Daniel (Bruno Ganz). He renounces pastoral care of the city's sad and lonely (and the immortality that goes with it) to find love with trapeze artist Marion. A film about the wall and the fall, it's full of astonishingly hypnotic images (courtesy veteran Henri Alékan) and manages effortlessly to turn Wenders' and Peter Handke's poetic, literary script into pure cinematic expression.

CODE 46 (15) (SHANGHAI)

Dir: Michael Winterbottom, UK 2003, 1hr 32mins

29 May 2011

Winterbottom's futuristic, sci-fi love story portrays a dauntingly possible and near future world of gated urban-city states and desert slums, extrapolated from contemporary urban reality and a collage of Dubai, Shanghai and the Jubilee Line. Checkpoints divide those with 'papelles' (a form of identity card) from those without, who are banned from entering cities. The government also enforces Code 46: a law that regulates genetic compatibility and, therefore, sex. Set against this Orwellian conclusion to the rapid urbanisation of the globe, an illicit love affair between a government inspector (Tim Robbins) and a woman (Samantha Morton) plays out.

Also part of Cinema and the City

CIVIC LIFE (18)

Dirs: Christine Molloy and Joe Lawlor, various 2010, 73 mins

6 May 2011, 18:00, £7.20 / £5.60

Civic Life is an intriguing insight into the compelling work of filmmakers Christine Molloy and Joe Lawlor, directors of the critically acclaimed debut feature Helen. Since 2003, the pair have been working on a unique and richly cinematic series of short films made in negotiation with local residents and community groups. At their centre is the relationship these communities have to the environments in which they live and work. With Civic Life Molloy and Lawlor have generated a meditative and visually arresting body of work that is both experimental and highly accessible. Followed by a Q&A with the directors.

How Much Does Your Building Weigh, Mr. Foster? (PG)

Dirs: Carlos Carcas and Norberto López Amado, UK/Spain 2010, 1hr 18mins 21 May 2011, 14:30, £7.20 / £5.60

One of the world's most prolific modern architects, Sir Norman Foster has designed renowned buildings and landmarks such as the Great Court of the British Museum, New York's Hearst Building, Berlin's Reichstag building and London's 'The Gherkin'. In How Much Does Your Building Weigh, Mr Foster? Deyan Sudjic, director of the Design Museum in London, narrates a journey through Foster's life work. Coupled with sweeping shots and breathtaking views of Foster's most well-known buildings, this film looks at what makes the great man tick, and unearths the sources of his many inspirations.





ADVANCE NOTICE JUNE EVENTS

AMY CHUA AND JUSTINE ROBERTS THE TIGER MOTHER AND MODERN PARENTING

Watershed, Bristol

6 June 2011, 18.00-19.00, £7.00 / £5.00 In her controversial Battle Hymn of the Tiger Mother, Amy Chua relates her experiences raising her children the 'Chinese way'. Her daughters were polite, interesting and helpful, they were two years ahead of their classmates in maths and had exceptional musical abilities. The Chinese-parenting model certainly seemed to produce results. But what happens when you do not tolerate disobedience and are confronted by a screaming child who would sooner freeze outside in the cold than be forced to play the piano? Chua is in discussion with Justine Roberts, co-founder of Mumsnet whose The Mumsnet Rules provides dozens of dos and don'ts that will lead through the minefield that is twenty-first-century parenting, from tantrums to teenagers, parasites to parties, competitive parenting to choosing the right school, all based on submissions to Mumsnet.

AMANDA FOREMAN TALES OF HEROISM, TALES OF TERROR: THE BRITISH IN THE AMERICAN CIVIL WAR

Watershed, Bristol

6 June 2011, 19.30-20.30, £7.00 / £5.00 The acclaimed author of the international bestseller Georgiana has now, in A World on Fire, looked at the remarkable story of the involvement of the British in the American Civil War: both sides wanted British support, British volunteers fought on both sides; Britain armed the fighters. She tells a remarkable story – including one with a Bristol connection. Antonia Fraser called this 'an iridescent book: vivid like a rainbow but rather more substantial...like Gone With The Wind but with the true history inserted...Anger, resentment, sympathy, loyalty, all the emotions that characterise Anglo-American relations today, can be traced back to this period."





JON RONSON THE PSYCHOPATH TEST St George's Bristol

23 June 2011, 19.00-20.00, £7.00 / £5.00

One day Jon Ronson is contacted by a leading neurologist, who, with others, has recently received a cryptically puzzling book in the mail. Jon is challenged to solve the mystery behind it and soon finds himself, unexpectedly, on an utterly compelling and often unbelievable adventure into the world of madness. He meets a Broadmoor inmate who swears he faked a mental disorder to get a lighter sentence but is now stuck there, with nobody believing he's sane; some of the people who catalogue mental illness, and those who vehemently oppose them; the influential psychologist who developed the industry standard Psychopath Test and who is convinced that many important CEOs and politicians are in fact psychopaths. Learning from him how to ferret out these high-flying psychopaths and, armed with his new psychopath-spotting abilities, Jon heads into the corridors of power... As ever, Ronson unearths dangerous truths and asks serious questions about how we define normality in a world where we are increasingly judged by our maddest edges.

MARCUS BRIGSTOCKE GOD COLLAR

St George's Bristol

28 June 2011, 19.00-20.00, £7.00 / £5.00

Following the death of his best friend, comedian Marcus Brigstocke found a 'Godshaped hole' had opened up in his life.

Exploring his own issues surrounding faith — his lack of it, his need for it, some people's waste of it and what good purposes it might serve if he could get hold of it — he rails against the holy trinity of Abrahamic religions (Islam, Christianity and Judaism) while atheists, agnostics and believers of all faiths get it in the neck too. 'There's probably no God...' he says, 'but I wish there was. I've got some things I need to ask him.'

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 (10.00-18.00 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 GENIUS/PRIZE EVENING

These events are all free, but need to be pre-booked. Please register for the event at ideas@gwebusinesswest.co.uk. Please provide the name of the event you wish to attend and contact 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.

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

BCDP culture | ideas | arts and sciences





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Photo credits: Front cover (left to right): Lucy Siegle, Helena Kennedy, Niall Ferguson, John Waters (by Greg Gorman) and Jackie Kay. Back cover (left to right): Richard David Precht (by Andreas Kühllken), Angela Hobbs, Lisa Appignanesi, John Gray (by Eamonn McCabe) and Steve Bell. Text pages (in order of appearance): David Eagleman (by Brandon Thibodeaux), John Waters (by Greg Gorman), Bjørn Lomborg (by Emil Jupin) and Amanda Foreman (by Bibi Basch).

