

Our winter/spring programme covers international aid, the ethics of eating animals, the internet and society, the impact of offshore investments on UK finance and society, the future of public welfare under the coalition government, the future of life on earth, continental philosophy, new research in physics and the history and politics of the Middle East.

The festival also welcomes Clarence B Jones, who worked with Martin Luther King for many years and co-wrote with Dr King the 'I have a dream' speech. This launches a new strand in the festival on heroes and includes Tom Segev, the leading Israeli journalist and writer, on Simon Wiesenthal and Bettany Hughes on Socrates. The main Festival of Ideas will take place 13-22 May 2011 and the programme will be announced in March 2011.

We hope to see you at our events.

Andrew Kelly
Director

EVGENY MOROZOV

NET DELUSION: HOW NOT TO
LIBERATE THE WORLD

Watershed 18 January 2011, 18.00-19.10
£7.20 / £5.60

Evgeny Morozov, author of *The Net Delusion*, argues that for all the talk about the democratizing power of the internet, authoritarian governments are effectively using it to suppress free speech, hone surveillance techniques, disseminate propaganda, and pacify their populations. Seemingly noble initiatives like the promotion of internet freedom might have disastrous implications for the future of democracy as a whole.

JONATHAN SAFRAN FOER

EATING ANIMALS

Arnolfini 18 January 2011, 19.30-20.30
£5.00 / £4.00

Jonathan Safran Foer's *Eating Animals* exposed the price paid by the environment, the government, the Third World and animals themselves in order to put meat on tables. Safran Foer discusses with journalist Jenny Lacey the ethics of producing and eating meat. Prior to his talk (from 18.15-19.15) there will be talks by experts from the University of Bristol on the latest research on farm animal welfare. This is free to attend as part of the event.

Please note if you want to go to both the Evgeny Morozov and Jonathan Safran Foer events there will be time to get from Watershed to Arnolfini.

For further details of all events, including biographies of speakers and links to articles as well as new events see www.ideasfestival.co.uk. Sign up to the mailing list and be the first to hear about new events and see the latest news and join debates at Twitter and Facebook.

BOOKING DETAILS

Unless otherwise stated, tickets must be booked at the venues where events take place. For online booking go to the Bristol Festival of Ideas website or to the websites of the hosting venues:

Arnolfini: 0117 917 2300/01

At-Bristol: 0845 458 6499

Watershed Media Centre: 0117 927 5100

*Cover photographs (left to right): Clarence B Jones, Kristin Hersh, Brian Greene, Bettany Hughes and Gary Shteyngart (by Brigitte Lacombe).
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www.ideasfestival.co.uk

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WATERSHED

BRISTOL FESTIVAL OF IDEAS



WINTER/SPRING 2011 EVENTS

www.ideasfestival.co.uk



Linda Polman



Raja Shehadeh

THE ALTERNATIVE IRAQ ENQUIRY FILM AND PANEL

Watershed 24 January 2011, 19.00-21.00
£7.20 / £5.60

Freelance documentary maker David Lawley-Wakelin travelled to Iraq to investigate the motives of the war. His film, *The Alternative Iraq Enquiry* (18), asks the fundamental question: who is responsible for the atrocities of war? The screening will be followed by a panel discussion (check website for panellists).

KRISTIN HERSH WORDS AND MUSIC

Arnolfini 26 January 2011, 19.00-20.30
£7.20 / £5.60

A preternaturally bright teenager, by the age of seventeen Kirstin Hersh of Throwing Muses was living in her car, unable to sleep for the torment of strange songs swimming around her head. Her book, *Paradoxical Undressing*, is a playful, brave, vivid, and wonderfully warm memoir. Kristin Hersh will read from and be interviewed about her book and play some music.

NICHOLAS SHAXSON TREASURE ISLANDS: TAX HAVENS AND THE MEN WHO STOLE THE WORLD

Watershed 31 January 2011, 18.00-19.00
£5.00 / £4.00

While the main focus in the financial crisis has been on the banks, the cost to us all of offshore banking has escaped attention. Journalist and author of *Treasure Islands: Tax Havens and the Men who Stole the World*, Nicholas Shaxson, exposes the deep corruption that offshore banking has on our daily lives.

IZZELDIN ABUELAISH I SHALL NOT HATE: A GAZA DOCTOR'S JOURNEY

Watershed 23 February 2011, 18.00-19.00
£5.00/ £4.00

Izzeldin Abuelaish has devoted his life to medicine and reconciliation between Israelis and Palestinians. On 16 January 2009 his three daughters were killed by Israeli shells during the incursion into the Gaza Strip. Instead of seeking revenge, he called for the people in the region to start talking to each other. He talks about his life and work.

AN AUDIENCE WITH LUCE IRIGARAY

Watershed 23 February 2011, 19.30-21.00
£7.50 / £6.00

In association with The Centre for Legal Research, University of the West of England

Luce Irigaray is one of the most provocative thinkers of the last several decades, a leading feminist theorist and philosopher, and a truly interdisciplinary thinker of considerable originality, wit and insight. Professor Irigaray discusses the development of her ideas over the years.

TOM SEGEV SIMON WIESENTHAL

Watershed 28 February 2011, 18.00-19.00
£5.00 / £4.00

Simon Wiesenthal was the legendary 'Nazi hunter', a Holocaust survivor who dedicated his life to the punishment of Nazi criminals. A hero in the eyes of many, he was also attacked for his unrelenting pursuit of the past. Tom Segev, Israeli journalist and historian, provides the first fully documented biography of Wiesenthal, revealing the fascinating truth of his life and work.

LINDA POLMAN WHERE INTERNATIONAL AID FAILS

Watershed 2 March 2011, 19.00-21.00
£7.20 / £5.50

In association with the Bristol Institute of Public Affairs, University of Bristol

In *War Games*, Linda Polman argues that from Rwanda to Afghanistan, Sudan to Iraq, the humanitarian aid industry, the media and warmongers the world over are locked in a cycle of mutual support. Polman, one of the most brilliantly incisive journalists of our times, discusses the key players in this twisted game. A panel of academics and campaigners will respond to Linda's presentation.

GARY SHTEYNGART SUPER SAD TRUE LOVE STORY

Arnolfini 4 March 2011, 18.00-19.00
£5.00 / £4.00

Gary Shteyngart's hit dystopian novel, *Super Sad True Love Story*, is set in an America in the near future. Shteyngart shows tanks in the streets, riots in Central Park, books as quaint artefacts, an indebted United States, and what's left of interpersonal relations reduced to a couple of flashing statistics on attractiveness and wealth. Gary is interviewed by Sara Davies.

RAJA SHEHADEH PALESTINE

Arnolfini 4 March 2011, 19.30-20.30
£5.00 / £4.00

When Raja Shehadeh, the celebrated Palestinian writer, was researching his family history he discovered a great uncle who had also been a writer entangled with the authorities, and who, like Shehadeh, had dedicated his life to the freedom of the Palestinian people. As he traces Najib's footsteps, he discovers that it is still possible to look towards a better future, free from oppression.

CLARENCE B JONES BEHIND THE DREAM: MARTIN LUTHER KING AND THE MAKING OF A GREAT SPEECH

**Arnolfini 8 March 2011,
18.30-19.30, £7.20 / £5.60**

In association with the Bristol Legacy Commission

With the 'I have a dream' speech in 1963, Martin Luther King, Jr firmly established himself as one of the greatest orators of all time. Clarence B Jones co-wrote that speech and was a close confidant to King himself. He tells the remarkable story of his time working with King and others on the ideas that would shape the civil rights movement.



TIM FLANNERY HERE ON EARTH: A NEW BEGINNING

At-Bristol 11 March 2011, 18.00-19.00
£7.20 / £5.60

Explorer and environmentalist Tim Flannery's new book, *Here on Earth*, is a revolutionary dual biography of the planet and of our species. Flannery shows the awesome hand of nature and the transformative power of ideas. The challenge to sustain our fragile hold on life is in our own hands. But first we have to realise who we are.

BRIAN GREENE PARALLEL UNIVERSES AND THE DEEP LAWS OF THE COSMOS

At-Bristol 15 March 2011, 18.30-19.30
£7.20 / £5.60

In *The Hidden Reality: Parallel Universes and the Deep Laws of the Cosmos*, Brian Greene explores our current understanding of the universe, its deepest laws of nature, and our continuing quest to know more. He reveals how major developments in different branches of fundamental theoretical physics have all led us to consider one or other variety of parallel universes.

DAVID ERDAL BETTER BUSINESS

Watershed 21 March 2011, 18.00-19.00
£5.00 / £4.00

David Erdal's *Beyond the Corporation: Humanity Working* tells the success stories of companies owned by their employees around the world. Erdal shows that the traditional corporate model can be radically improved by sharing wealth with the people who create it. The result is improved productivity, stronger communities and greater happiness for those involved.

FAREWELL TO PUBLIC WELFARE?

A four-part series organised in association with the Department of Health and Applied Social Studies at University of the West of England in the light of the Coalition Government's Public Spending Review.

All sessions take place **19.30-21.00** at **Watershed Media Centre** and are **£5.00 / £4.00**

THE PRICE OF CUTS 31 January 2011

Which sectors of society are likely to be most affected by public expenditure cuts? Speakers include: Ruth Lister, Emeritus Professor of Social Policy, Loughborough University; Rachel Robinson, Chief Executive, The Care Forum, Bristol; and Nicola Smith, Senior Policy Officer, TUC.

PUBLIC SERVICE IN A PRIVATISED WORLD 28 February 2011

What has been the consequence of privatisation in health, local government and other services and what is likely to happen in the future? Speakers include Allyson Pollock, Professor of International Public Health Policy, University of Edinburgh and Heather Wakefield, National Secretary for Local Government, UNISON.

BETTANY HUGHES ON SOCRATES TODAY

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

Socrates lived in 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*, Bettany Hughes gives Socrates the biography he deserves, relating a story that is as relevant now as it has ever been.

GOODBYE WELFARE, HELLO WELLBEING?

21 March 2011
Is the idea of welfare an idea of the previous century and now out of date, and is the idea of wellbeing more appropriate for the future? Speakers include: Hartley Dean, Professor of Social Policy, London School of Economics; Nic Marks, Fellow, New Economics Foundation; and Mike Zeidler, The Happy City Initiative (Bristol).

THE BIG SOCIETY OR THE SELFISH SOCIETY?

11 April 2011
What are some of the different visions of the Big Society and are British citizens and voluntary and community groups ready to take on the role being offered to them? Speakers include Matthew Taylor, Chief Executive, RSA and Marilyn Taylor, University of the West of England and involved in research on voluntary and community action since the 1970s.