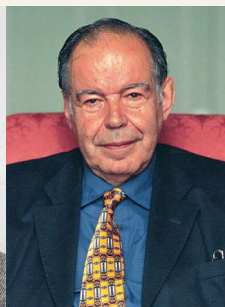


BRISTOL
FESTIVAL OF IDEAS
SUMMER 2009
EVENTS



BRISTOL FESTIVAL OF IDEAS

This year's May Festival may be over, but we have some special events coming up in June, July and into the Autumn. For full programme details visit our website at: www.ideasfestival.co.uk. You can also sign up to our mailing list to hear first about new events. Please see the back page for information on how to book and where to find each venue.

JOHN ARMSTRONG IN SEARCH OF CIVILISATION: REMAKING A TARNISHED IDEA

In association with Arup

29 June 2009, 18.00-19.00

ARUP, BRISTOL

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

John Armstrong, Philosopher in Residence at the Melbourne Business School, and author of books on art, aesthetics and philosophy including *The Secret Power of Beauty, Love, Life, Goethe and Conditions of Love*, explores civilisation – the grandest, most ambitious idea that humanity has devised. The promise of civilisation is great; it can be a way of reconnecting grand, societal forces – economic liberty, social freedom – with the more intimate and deeper needs of life – wisdom, maturity, a flourishing of culture. In his new book, *In Search of Civilisation*, Armstrong argues that our sources of wisdom, maturity and happiness are rapidly drying up. Only by reviving a conversation about civilisation can we put in place the conditions for our renaissance.

CHRIS ANDERSON FREE: A RADICAL VISION OF THE NEW ECONOMY

In association with the South West Regional Development Agency

1 July 2009, 18.00-19.00

EXPLORE AT-BRISTOL, BRISTOL

Price: £6.50 / £4.50

Chris Anderson, Editor-in-Chief of *Wired Magazine*, author of *The Long Tail*, unveils his radical vision of the new economy. What happens when advances in technology allow many things to be produced for more or less nothing, and what happens when those things are then made available to the consumer for free? Anderson presents a brave new world where the old economic certainties are being undermined by a growing flood of free goods – newspapers, DVDs, T shirts, phones, even holiday flights. He explains why this has become possible – why new technologies, particularly the internet, have caused production and distribution costs in many sectors to plummet to an extent unthinkable even a decade ago. In the future, he argues, when we talk of the 'money economy' we will talk of the 'reputation economy' and the 'time economy' in the same breath, and our world will never be the same again.

EDWARD DE BONO THINK! BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE

In association with UK Trade & Investment
and ERDF

8 July 2009, 18.00-19.00

ARNOLFINI, BRISTOL

Price: £17.50 (limited availability)

A workshop with the world's leading creative thinking guru, showing how we think and how we can think better. The world is full of problems and conflicts. So why can we not solve them? World-thinking cannot solve world problems because world-thinking is itself the problem. De Bono uses some of his famous thinking techniques and new ideas to show us how to change the way we think.

KAREN ARMSTRONG THE CASE FOR GOD: WHAT RELIGION REALLY MEANS

14 July 2009, 18.00-19.00

ST GEORGE'S, BRISTOL

Price: £6.50 / £4.50

Why has the modern God become incredible? Has God a future in this age of aggressive scientific rationalism? Karen Armstrong suggests that if we draw creatively on the insights of the past, we can build a faith that speaks to the needs of our troubled and dangerously polarised world. Answering the 'new atheists' such as Richard Dawkins and Christopher Hitchens, she argues that faith still has a fundamental role in the modern world.



Amartya Sen



Karen Armstrong

AMARTYA SEN THE IDEA OF JUSTICE

29 July 2009, 18.00-19.00

ST GEORGE'S, BRISTOL, BRISTOL

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

Amartya Sen, University Professor at Harvard, winner of the Nobel Prize in Economics in 1998, and one of the world's leading public intellectuals, proposes a new theory of justice, highlighting the importance of public reasoning and making explicit room for accommodating distinct points of view. It is in the nature of reasons of justice that it does not allow all questions to be settled on grounds of justice alone, and the focus has to be on settling those questions which can be definitively resolved. He also argues that in our interdependent world, a system of justice has to take note of the assessment, not just of the community involved, but also of others, whose lives are affected, or who might have valuable perspectives to offer.

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. Full programme details and booking information can be found on our website at: www.ideasfestival.co.uk.

This programme is subject to change and additional events may be added. Please check our website for updates.

FORTHCOMING EVENT MARGARET ATWOOD THE YEAR OF THE FLOOD 9 September 2009

An evening of readings and music to launch Margaret's new book: *The Year of the Flood*. More details will be published on the website soon.

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

BCDP culture | ideas | arts and sciences



VENUES AND BOOKING

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.

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

ARUP

63 St. Thomas Street, Bristol BS1 6JZ
Book online at: www.ideasfestival.co.uk

EXPLORE AT-BRISTOL

Harbourside, Bristol BS1 5DB
Tel: 0117 915 5000 (09.00-17.00 weekdays)
www.at-bristol.org.uk

ST GEORGE'S, BRISTOL

Great George Street, Bristol BS1 5RR
Tel: 0845 402 4001 (12.00-18.00 weekdays)
Book online at: www.stgeorgesbristol.co.uk

WILLS MEMORIAL BUILDING

Queens Road, Bristol BS8 1RJ
Book online at: www.ideasfestival.co.uk

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