



OXFORD
LITERARY
FESTIVAL
MEDIA PARTNER
The Telegraph

NETFLIX

Saturday 16th to Sunday 24th March 2024



Val McDermid



William Hague



Zeinab Badawi



Ruby Wax



Paul Lynch



Ali Smith



Paul Nurse



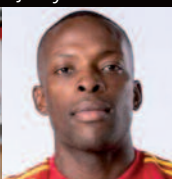
Jocelyn Bell Burnell



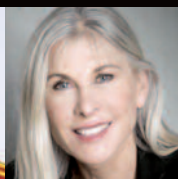
Venki Ramakrishnan



Jacqueline Wilson



Nedum Onuoha



Sharron Davies



Amir Khan



Katie Melua



Chris Bryant

POCKET GUIDE



International Radio Partner



European Union

Box Office 0333 666 3366 • www.oxfordliteraryfestival.org

Tickets

Tickets can be booked up to the last minute before the event.

Online: www.oxfordliteraryfestival.org

Telephone box office: **0333 666 3366***

Festival box office: The box office in Blackwell Hall, Weston Library, will be open during the festival*, Mon-Tues 11am-12pm and 1pm-5pm, Weds-Sat 9.30am-12pm and 1pm-5pm, Sun 9.30am-12pm and 1pm-4pm.

* An agents' booking fee of £2.00 will be added to all sales at the festival onsite box office and through the telephone box office.

This pocket guide was correct at the time of going to press. Venues are sometimes subject to change, and a few more events may be added to the programme. For all the latest times and venues, check our website at www.oxfordliteraryfestival.org

General enquiries (except ticketing): **07931 560223.**

Email: info@oxfordliteraryfestival.org

Ticket enquiries: tickets@oxfordliteraryfestival.org

Festival hub in Blackwell Hall

This year's festival will have a new hub in Blackwell Hall, Weston Library, Broad Street. The hall will host the box office, a café, toilets, seating areas, exhibitions and some free talks.

Festival bookshop

The festival bookshop is in Blackwell's bookshop opposite the Sheldonian Theatre. It will be open throughout the festival – browse a wide range of books by festival speakers, and enjoy some refreshments from the coffee shop.

Blackwells pop-up bookshops

You will find a book desk for buying the works of each author at individual festival events where you can your copy signed by the author.



Festival 25 Appeal

We are the only one of the big literary festivals not to receive UK government or public grants and rely on private sponsors and donors. Please scan the QR code for more details and to donate now.

Help us to secure the future of the festival.

WALKS AND LIBRARY TOURS

SATURDAY 16 MARCH, WEDNESDAY 20 MARCH
AND SATURDAY 23 MARCH

Literary Oxford with Alastair Lack

2pm / Meet outside St John's College Lodge, St Giles / £25

Walk lasts two hours

SATURDAY 16 MARCH, TUESDAY 19 MARCH, THURSDAY
21 MARCH AND SATURDAY 23 MARCH

Bodleian Guides

Literary Oxford with the Bodleian

1pm / Weston Library steps / £22

SUNDAY 17 MARCH and SUNDAY 24 MARCH

Bodleian Guides

Children's Stories: A Family Walking Tour

1pm / Weston Library steps / £20 (£10 under 16s)

SUNDAY 17 MARCH

Oxford Poets with Alastair Lack

2pm / Meet outside St John's College Lodge, St Giles / £25

Walk lasts two hours

MONDAY 18 MARCH AND TUESDAY 19 MARCH

Bodleian Libraries

Typesetting and Printing on the Hand-press

1pm and 5pm and 11am and 3pm / Bodleian: Schola Musicae /
£30 (£20 student)

Two hours

MONDAY 18 MARCH, TUESDAY 19 MARCH
AND FRIDAY 22 MARCH

Bodleian Libraries

Old School Tour

5.30pm, 6pm, 7pm, 7.30pm / Bodleian: Great Gate / £11

30 minutes

WEDNESDAY 20 MARCH

Richard Ovenden

Bodleian: a VIP Experience

6pm / Weston Library / £250

FRIDAY 22 MARCH

The Oxford of Morse, Lewis and Endeavour with Alastair Lack

2pm / Meet outside St John's College Lodge, St Giles / £25

Walk lasts two hours

FRIDAY 22 MARCH

Bodleian Curators

A Drink with a View: Tour of Chaucer Here and Now and Write,
Cut, Rewrite

5.30pm / Weston Library: Blackwell Hall / £15

Three hours

FESTIVAL LITERARY DINNERS

Tickets for four festival literary dinners will be on sale from early February – please check website for full details.

A wonderful opportunity to dine in beautiful historic college halls and meet festival speakers.

All tickets are priced at £130 each, to include: drinks reception, 3-course dinner, wines and coffee. Dress code: jacket and tie/smart.

SATURDAY 16 MARCH

Festival Opening Dinner Exeter College Great Hall

TUESDAY 19 MARCH

Institute of Hospitality Dinner at the festival New College Great Hall

FRIDAY 22 MARCH

Dinner in honour of Nobel Prize winner Professor Sir Paul Nurse OM, hosted by Owen Mumford Ltd Exeter College Great Hall

SATURDAY 23 MARCH

Festival Closing Dinner Exeter College Great Hall



Exeter College Great Hall – 17th-century



New College Great Hall – 14th-century. The oldest hall in either Oxford or Cambridge

STOP PRESS

The following events were added as the pocket guide went to press.



THURSDAY 21 MARCH

Alessandro Barbero

The Middle Ages in Revolt

2pm / Exeter College: Chapel / £15
(£8 student)

Italy's best-known historian Professor Alessandro Barbero talks about his latest book, *All'arme! All'arme! I priori fanno carne*, the story of popular uprisings of the Middle Ages including the English revolt of 1381.



International
Radio Partner

BBC World Service will again be broadcasting from Worcester College on Saturday 23rd and Sunday 24th March. Tickets are free but have to be booked in advance. **Please check the website for precise details and timings.**

THURSDAY 22 FEBRUARY (Preview Event)



Olivie Blake

The Atlas Complex

7.30pm Pusey House: Chapel / £13.50
(£7 student)

Novelist and screenwriter and writer of stories about the paranormal and supernatural Olivie Blake talks about the conclusion to her Atlas Six trilogy of novels, *The Atlas Complex*.

Photo: James Brittain

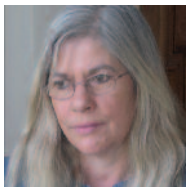


Blackwell Hall, Weston Library – the new festival hub

SEE PAGE 51 FOR CHILDREN'S EVENTS



Jem Poster



Sarah Burton

Jem Poster and Sarah Burton

**Creative Writing Course.
Writing Short Stories**

**9.30am / Wadham College:
Locke Access Centre / £95**

Apart from the obvious matter of the wordcount, what is it that differentiates the short story from the novel? In this one-day course we will consider the subjects and approaches that make for a good short story, examining the advantages of a form that Erskine Caldwell called 'the essence of writing', adding that a writer 'should always write short stories before he [or she] tries to write a novel'. By the end of the day, you should have enhanced your understanding of this rewarding form of fiction; you may also have mapped out the ground for a successful short story of your own.

Cara Hunter and Victoria Selman. Chaired by Triona Adams

Ain't That the Truth: Where Crime Fact Meets Crime Fiction

10am / Lincoln College: Oakeshott Room / £15 (£8 student)



Cara Hunter



Victoria Selman

Sunday Times bestselling authors Victoria Selman and Cara Hunter explore our apparently unquenchable thirst for true crime and ask why the genre is often stranger than fiction.

Graham Harvey, Tim Bentinck and Rosamund Young.

Chaired by Philip Lymbery

The Good, the Bad and the Ugly of Farming

10am / Pusey House: Chapel / £15 (£8 student)

Journalist Graham Harvey, Archers actor Tim Bentinck and farmer and author Rosamund Young discuss good and bad farming practices and what the future holds for sustainable and environmentally friendly food production.



Graham Harvey



Tim Bentinck



Rosamund Young



**Joseph Silk Back to the Moon:
The Next Giant Leap for Humankind**

**10am / Weston Lecture Theatre / £13.50
(£7 student)**

Astrophysicist Professor Joseph Silk says a new space race to the Moon is underway and argues that scientific discovery should be at the forefront of this new phase of lunar exploration.

Joyce D'Silva, George Carey and Amir Khan.

Chaired by Francine Stock Religion and Animal Welfare

12 noon / Pusey House: Chapel / £13.50 (£7 student)

Writer and former chief executive of Compassion in World Farming Joyce D'Silva discusses her book, *Animal Welfare in World Religion: Teaching and Practice*, with panellists from different faiths including former Archbishop of Canterbury Lord George Carey and television doctor Amir Khan, who is a Muslim.



Katja Hoyer

Katja Hoyer and John Kampfner.

Chaired by Richard Ovenden

Berlin, the Wall and Modern Germany

**12 noon / Weston Lecture Theatre / £15
(£8 student)**

German-British historian Katja Hoyer and leading journalist John Kampfner discuss German history and its impact on the country in the post-war period and today.



Pen Vogler

Pen Vogler talks to Diane Purkiss

**Stuffed: A History of Good Food and
Hard Times in Britain**

**12 noon / Oxford Martin School:
Lecture Theatre / £13.50 (£7 student)**

Food writer Pen Vogler tells the story of the food and drink at the heart of social upheaval in Britain and how they have led to today's extremes of plenty and want, of roast beef and food banks, and allotment-fresh vegetables and ultra-processed food.



Vaseem Khan

Vaseem Khan and Carolyn Kirby.

Chaired by Triona Adams

Empires and Crimes

**12 noon / Lincoln College:
Oakeshott Room / £15 (£8 student)**

Crime writers Carolyn Kirby and Vaseem Khan debate crimes and injustices occasioned by empire-building, ranging from Germany and Russia's impact on Poland in World War II to Britain's long tenure of the Indian subcontinent. What happens when empires charge blithely into foreign cultures? What crimes are normalised in the shadow of colonisation and occupation?



Carolyn Kirby

Cara Hunter, Andrew Thompson and Joey Giddings

Watching The Detectives: Dishing the Forensic Dirt on Crime on the Telly

2pm / Oxford Martin School: Lecture Theatre / £15 (£8 student)

DI Andy Thompson and former crime scene investigator Joey Giddings return to the festival by popular demand to discuss with crime fiction writer Cara Hunter the realities of police investigations, and what makes them laugh, or scream, about crime on television.



Andrew Thompson



Joey Giddings

Gavin Francis, Michèle Roberts and Philip Davis

My Reading: What is it Like to Love a Book?

2pm / Weston Lecture Theatre / £13.50 (£7 student)

Three writers, Dr Gavin Francis, Michèle Roberts, and Professor Philip Davis discuss what it means to really love a book. What is it like to feel that the writer is a vital part of your life long after you've finished reading a book. And what is it like to experience live, in the very act of reading, a thought, idea, doubt or memory.



Gavin Francis



Michèle Roberts



Philip Davis

Jacob Mikanowski Goodbye Eastern Europe: An Intimate History of a Divided Land

2pm / Oxford Martin School: Seminar Room / £13.50 (£7 student)

Writer and academic Jacob Mikanowski argues that there is more to the 20 nations grouped as Eastern Europe than the bonds they forged under the Soviet empire, they have tragicomic character like no other.



Mike Brearley

Mike Brearley talks to Nick Higham

Turning over the Pebbles: A Life in Cricket and in the Mind

2pm / Sheldonian Theatre / £20-£15 (£10-£8 student)

One of England's greatest cricket captains Mike Brearley talks about his life both on and off the field.

Henry Dimbleby, James Bailey and Philip Lymbery.

Chaired by Francine Stock The Politics of Food

2pm / Pusey House: Chapel / £15 (£8 student)

Co-founder of the Leon restaurant chain and author of the National Food Strategy Henry Dimbleby, executive director of Waitrose James Bailey and chief executive of Compassion in World Farming Philip Lymbery discuss the world of growing, rearing, manufacturing and selling food.



Henry Dimbleby



James Bailey



Philip Lymbery



Adam Sisman

Adam Sisman introduced by Henry

Woudhuysen Lincoln Lecture:

The Secret Life of John le Carré

4pm / Lincoln College:

Oakeshott Room / £15.00 (£8 student)

John Le Carré's biographer Adam Sisman reveals the secret life of the man that he was not able to write about in his definitive 2015 portrait of the writer.

Amin Ghaziani and Diarmuid Hester. Chaired by Matt Cook

Queer Identity and a Creative Life

4pm / Oxford Martin School: Seminar Room / £13.50 (£8 student)

Sociologist Professor Amin Ghaziani and cultural historian and activist Dr Diarmuid Hester discuss common themes of displacement, courage, determination and freedoms won in their books about gay life and queer identity.



Amin Ghaziani



Diarmuid Hester

Amir Khan talks to Philip Lymbery Transforming Food

Production: The Peter Roberts Memorial Lecture

4pm / Sheldonian Theatre / £20-15 (£10-£8 student)



Amir Khan

NHS GP, writer and television personality Dr Amir Khan talks about his passion for wildlife conservation and support for wildlife friendly and healthy farming practices. The event is the festival's fourth annual hosting of Compassion in World Farming's Peter Roberts Memorial Lecture, named in honour of the charity's founder, a British farmer, who became horrified at the development of factory farming.



Andrew Wilson

Andrew Wilson talks to Jake Kerridge

A Talent for Murder: The Lives and Crimes of Agatha Christie and Patricia Highsmith

4pm / Pusey House: Chapel / £15 (£8 student)

Crime writer and biographer Andrew Wilson discusses two very different crime writers, Agatha Christie and Patricia Highsmith, that are both central to his work and asks what, if anything, they have in common.

Owen Davies, Sarah Wise and Louisa Treger

Locked Away in the Asylum: Two Centuries of Mental Health Scandal

4pm / Weston Lecture Theatre / £15 (£8 student)

Social historians Professor Owen Davies and Professor Sarah Wise and novelist Louisa Treger discuss attitudes to mental health over the last two centuries and how they often led to scandalous cases of injustice.



Owen Davies



Sarah Wise



Louisa Treger



Phil Ball **How Life Works: A User's Guide to the New Biology**

4pm / Oxford Martin School: Lecture Theatre / £15.00 (£8 student)

Popular science writer and broadcaster Phil Ball explores new thinking on biology that is revealing life to be a far richer and more ingenious affair than we had guessed and opening extraordinary new possibilities.



Angela Saini **The Patriarchs: How Men Came to Rule**

6pm / Weston Lecture Theatre / £15 (£8 student)

Science journalist and author Angela Saini looks back at how male domination became embedded in society and spread across the globe from prehistory until today.



Barry Cunliffe **Facing the Sea of Sand: The Sahara and the Peoples of Northern Africa**

6pm / Lincoln College: Oakeshott Room / £15 (£8 student)

Archaeologist Professor Sir Barry Cunliffe tells the story of those living around the Sahara Desert and explains how the land was not always desert.

Anne Berest **The Postcard**

6pm / Pusey House: Chapel / £13.50 (£7 student)

French actor and author Anne Berest talks about her award-winning book, *The Postcard*, an epic story about her maternal great-grandparents and their family and the horrors of the Holocaust in France.

Owen Ensor, Ira van Eelen, Jim Mellon and Philip Lymbery. Chaired by Francine Stock

Will Cultivated Meat Save the World?

6pm / Oxford Martin School: Lecture Theatre / £15 (£8 student)

Chief executive of cultivated pet food manufacturer Meatly, supporter of innovation in cultured meat Ira van Eelen, private investor Jim Mellon and Compassion in World Farming chief executive Philip Lymbery discuss cultivated meat and whether it will take over from traditionally reared meat.

Val McDermid and Ann Cleeves. Chaired by Alan Johnson **Some Places Cry out for Murder**

6pm / Sheldonian Theatre / £20-£15 (£10-£8 student)

Two of our leading crime writers Val McDermid and Ann Cleeves discuss the evocation of place in their work, from DI Matthew Venn's foray to the wild shore of a remote Devon village to Karen Pirie navigating the COVID-stricken streets of Edinburgh. McDermid and Cleeves have been at the top table of crime writing for more than 30 years.



Val McDermid



Ann Cleeves



Alan Johnson

Em Strang and Emma Hinds. Chaired by Suzi Feay **New Writers of Fiction: Quinn and The Knowing**

6pm / Oxford Martin School: Seminar Room / £13.50 (£7 student)

Debut novelists Em Strang and Emma Hinds talk about their first works and their approaches to writing, under the chairmanship of *FT* critic Suzi Feay.



Em Strang



Emma Hinds

SEE PAGE 51 FOR CHILDREN'S EVENTS

Jem Poster and Sarah Burton

Creative Writing Course. Getting to Know Your Characters

9.30am / Wadham College: Locke Access Centre / £95

This one-day course will highlight the importance of character in fiction-writing, addressing such matters as the relationship between character and plot, how we create rounded characters, and how characters reveal themselves both to the writer and the reader.

Fintan O'Toole talks to Richard Ovenden We Don't Know Ourselves: A Personal History of Ireland Since 1958

10am / Weston Lecture Theatre / £15 (£8 student)



Fintan O'Toole



Richard Ovenden

Writer, Irish Times journalist and Princeton University academic Professor Fintan O'Toole reflects on a period of dramatic change in Ireland that has coincided with his lifetime.



Sally Bedell Smith

George VI and Elizabeth: The Marriage That Saved the Monarchy

10am / Lincoln College: Oakeshott Room / £15 (£8 student)

Bestselling writer about the Royal Family Sally Bedell Smith gives an illustrated talk about her account of the marriage between George VI and Elizabeth and the raising of their daughter Elizabeth II that she says saved the monarchy.

Gavin Esler and Grace Blakeley. Chaired by Stephen Law Oxford Debate: Is the British Political System Lost?

10am / Department for Continuing Education: Lecture Theatre / £15 (£8 student)



Gavin Esler



Grace Blakeley

Journalists and authors Gavin Esler and Grace Blakeley discuss whether the British political system is broken or operating as designed and what can be done to improve it.



Anne Marie O'Dwyer The Cancer Guide

12 noon / Weston Lecture Theatre / £13.50 (£7 student)

Psychiatrist Professor Anne Marie O'Dwyer combats myths and misinformation around cancer and offers advice on dealing with the emotional burden for those living with the disease and those supporting them.

Jen Cownie and Fiona Lensvelt

Wild Card: Let the Tarot Tell Your Story

12 noon / Lincoln College: Oakeshott Room / £13.50 (£7 student)



Jen Cownie

Fiona Lensvelt

Friends and non-psychic tarot readers Jen Cownie and Fiona Lensvelt describe the meaning and history behind the tarot deck and explain how you can use your own imagination and instincts to read them yourself.



Lars Chittka The Mind of a Bee

12 noon / Oxford Martin School: Seminar Room / £15 (£8 student)

Biologist Professor Lars Chittka says the intelligence of bees goes far beyond the traditional idea of the 'hive mind'. They also have a unique and individual intelligence.

Lawrence Freedman and Hew Strachan.

Chaired by Angela Saini The New Makers of Modern Strategy: From the Ancient World to the Digital Age

12 noon / Oxford Martin School: Lecture Theatre / £15 (£8 student)



Lawrence Freedman



Hew Strachan

Military historians Professor Sir Lawrence Freedman and Professor Sir Hew Strachan talk about military strategy and their contributions to a new version of the definitive work on strategy and the key figures who have shaped the theory and practice of war over the centuries.



Paul Lynch Prophet Song

12 noon / Sheldonian Theatre / £20-£15 (£8-£7 student)

Booker Prize-winning Irish novelist Paul Lynch talks about his winning novel, *Prophet Song*, a deeply moving exploration of what happened to ordinary people caught up in terrible events.





Bengt Jangfeldt The Nobel Family: Swedish Geniuses in Tsarist Russia

2pm / Oxford Martin School: Seminar Room / £13.50 (£7 student)

Prize-winning Swedish historian and writer Bengt Jangfeldt explains how the lives of the family that gave its name to the Nobel Prize are fundamentally intertwined with the histories of Sweden and Russia and the economic development of Europe.



Chris Bryant

Chris Bryant talks to David Isaac Provost of Worcester College Lecture: A Westminster Life and a Writing Life

2pm / Sheldonian Theatre / £15 (£8 student)

MP, former Anglican priest and writer Sir Chris Bryant talks about his life and why he is drawn to writing – including his two most recent books, *Code of Conduct: Why We Need to Fix Parliament and How to Do it* and *James and John: A True Story of Prejudice and Murder*.



Andrey Kurkov The Kyiv Mysteries: The Silver Bone

2pm / Department for Continuing Education: Lecture Theatre / £13.50 (£7 student)

Leading Ukrainian novelist and journalist Andrey Kurkov discusses his latest novel *The Silver Bone* and the situation in the war-torn country.



David Edmonds

David Edmonds talks to Nigel Warburton Parfit: A Philosopher and His Mission to Save Morality

2pm / Oxford Martin School: Lecture Theatre / £13.50 (£7 student)

Writer and philosopher Dr David Edmonds talks about Derek Parfit, a man he says is the most famous philosopher nobody has heard of.



Mary Morrissy

Mary Morrissy talks to Clare Hutton Penelope Unbound

2pm / Lincoln College: Oakeshott Room / £13.50 (£7 student)

Irish novelist Mary Morrissy talks about her new work, *Penelope Unbound*, a fictional imagining of what would have happened if Norah Barnacle, muse and wife of James Joyce, had not stuck around after Joyce got into trouble in Italy.



Peter Taylor Operation Chiffon: The Secret Story of MI5 and MI6 and the Road to Peace in Ireland

2pm / Weston Lecture Theatre / £15 (£8 student)

BBC journalist and documentary-maker Peter Taylor tells the story of the MI5 and MI6 operation that set Northern Ireland on the road to peace and the signing of the Good Friday Agreement.



Amber Husain

Amber Husain talks to Gary Francione Meat Love: An Ideology of the Flesh

4pm / Lincoln College: Oakeshott Room / £13.50 (£7 student)

Writer Amber Husain offers a critique of our romantic view of animals and questions whether it is compatible with eating their flesh.

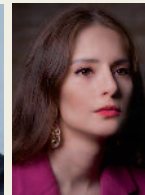
Grace Blakeley, Liam Fox, Hardeep Matharu and Peter Osborne. Chaired by Yasmin Alibhai Brown Oxford Debate: You Ask The Questions

4pm / Sheldonian Theatre / £15 (£8 student)

Join our panel of leading political and media figures for some lively debate on the hot topics of the hour under the watchful eye of journalist and commentator Yasmin Alibhai Brown. Ticketholders will be invited to email questions shortly before the event, and we'll pick a representative range of the best for members of the audience to ask on the day.



Sir Liam Fox



Hardeep Matharu



Peter Osborne



Kevin Mitchell

Kevin Mitchell talks to Phil Ball Free Agents: How Evolution Gave us Free Will

4pm / Oxford Martin School: Lecture Theatre / £13.50 (£7 student)

Geneticist and neuroscientist Dr Kevin Mitchell looks back over billions of years of evolution to see if science can answer the question of whether humans have free will.

Paul Bew talks to Ian McBride

Ancestral Voices in Irish Politics: Judging Dillon and Parnell
4pm / Oxford Martin School: Seminar Room / £15 (£8 student)



Paul Bew



Ian McBride

Political historian Lord Professor Paul Bew looks at the stories of one of the greatest Irish leaders of the 19th century Charles Stewart Parnell and his lieutenant, John Dillon, and explores the divisions they exposed in Irish politics and that still live on today.

Derek Owusu, Guy Gunaratne and Carys Davies.
Chaired by Suzy Feay **Novelists in the Limelight:**
Three Award-Winning Writers

4pm / Weston Lecture Theatre / £13.50 (£7 student)

Three newly feted writers, Derek Owusu, Guy Gunaratne and Carys Davies, discuss their different writing styles and the impact of their work being thrust into the limelight after they were shortlisted for or won major awards.



Derek Owusu



Guy Gunaratne



Carys Davies

Katie Melua, Aka Morchiladze and Dato Turashvili.
Chaired by Maya Jaggi

Out of Stalin's Shadow: Writing the New Georgia
6pm / Sheldonian Theatre / £20-£15 (£8-£7 student)

Two of Georgia's leading cultural figures, the multi-award-winning writers Aka Morchiladze and Dato Turashvili, launch the festival's new programme of Georgian literature and culture with a discussion of Stalin's legacy, their own writing, and personal experience of the Soviet and post-Soviet eras. The event includes performance by Georgian-British singer-songwriter Katie Melua, winner of 56 platinum awards.



Katie Melua



Aka Morchiladze



Dato Turashvili

Justin Schlosberg, Yasmin Alibhai-Brown and Pedro Serrano **Oxford Debate: Fog Of War: Who Can We Trust, And Why, When Conflicts Arise?**

12 noon / Sheldonian Theatre / £15 (£8 student)

Media expert Professor Justin Schlosberg, journalist and commentator Yasmin Alibhai Brown and EU Ambassador to the UK Pedro Serrano discuss how recent major conflicts are being reported in the media and ask whether we can trust what we are being told.



Justin Schlosberg



Yasmin Alibhai-Brown



Pedro Serrano

Emma Smith

The Making of Shakespeare's First Folio
12 noon / Weston Lecture Theatre / £13.50 (£7 student)

Leading Shakespeare expert Professor Emma Smith explains the processes and history behind the publication of the Bard's First Folio.



Jem Poster and Sarah Burton

Eliza Mace: Uncovering the Truth

12 noon / Oxford Martin School: Seminar Room / £13.50 (£7 student)

Novelists and creative writing tutors professor Jem Poster and Sarah Burton talk about their new co-authored novel, *Eliza Mace*, and offer insights about historical and detective fiction to both readers and aspiring writers.

Gelong Thubten **Meditation Workshop**

12 noon / Exeter College: Chapel / £15 (£8 student)



Buddhist monk, teacher and author Gelong Thubten explains the benefits of meditation and how to practise it. There will be helpful advice on how to deal with a distracted mind during meditation and how to establish a habit of daily practice, as well as how to bring moments of mindfulness into a busy day.

Jürgen Renn and Hanoch Gutfreund **The Einsteinian Revolution: The Historical Roots of His Breakthroughs**

12 noon / Oxford Martin School: Lecture Theatre / £15 (£8 student)

Physicist Professor Hanoch Gutfreund and science historian Jürgen Renn argue that Einstein was far from a lone genius and the revolution he sparked in physics was the culmination of a long-term evolution in science.

Emma Smith Shakespeare's First Folio: Show and Tell

1.30pm / Weston Library: Blackwell Hall / free, no ticket required

Join author and Professor of Shakespeare Studies Emma Smith to see the copy of Shakespeare's First Folio held in the Bodleian archives. In an informal talk, Smith will reveal what this volume can tell us about Shakespeare, his theatre, and the printing industry, bringing to life the hidden stories of labour, investment, and entrepreneurialism that preserved Shakespeare's plays for posterity.



Alicia Foster Gwen John: Art and Life in London and Paris

2pm / Weston Lecture Theatre / £13.50 (£7 student)

Art historian and novelist Dr Alicia Foster introduces her biography of the artist Gwen John and looks back at her life, including her long affair with Auguste Rodin, her passionate friendships with women, and her place in art history.



Fuchsia Dunlop Invitation to a Banquet: The Story of Chinese Food

2pm / Oxford Martin School: Seminar Room / £15 (£8 student)

Celebrated chef and food writer Fuchsia Dunlop draws on 30 years of travelling around China and cooking and writing about the food to tell the story of the country's cuisine.

Martin Thomas and Matthew Parker

The Shadow of Empire in a Globalised World

2pm / Oxford Martin School: Lecture Theatre / £13.50 (£7 student)

Historians Professor Martin Thomas and Matthew Parker discuss decolonisation and the end of empires and how they have profoundly shaped the globalised world we live in today.



Martin Thomas



Matthew Parker

Nikhil Krishnan

A Terribly Serious Adventure: Philosophy at Oxford 1900-60

2pm / Bodleian: Divinity School / £13.50 (£7 student)

Philosopher Dr Nikhil Krishnan looks at the questions dominating the minds of Oxford philosophers in the early 20th century including: What are the limits of language? How to bring philosophy closer to everyday life? What is a good human being?



Ruby Wax

Gelong Thubten and Ruby Wax

Hard Times and Fearless Living

2pm / Sheldonian Theatre / £20-£15 (£10-£8 student)

Bestselling author, comedian, actress and mental health campaigner Ruby Wax and Buddhist monk, meditation teacher and author Gelong Thubten discuss their recent books with the common theme of dealing with hard times.

David Wyn Jones talks to Gwenan Edwards

The Strauss Dynasty and Habsburg Vienna

4pm / Weston Lecture Theatre / £13.50 (£7 student)

Biographer Professor David Wyn Jones offers new and fascinating insights into both the Strauss family and Viennese musical life.

Harry Freedman Shylock's Venice: The Remarkable History of Venice's Jews and the Ghetto

4pm / Bodleian: Divinity School / £15 (£8 students)

Historian Dr Harry Freedman explains the truth behind one of Shakespeare's most famous characters and explores the story of the Jews in Venice.



A C Grayling Who Owns the Moon? In Defence of Humanity's Common Interests in Space

4pm / Sheldonian Theatre / £15 (£8 student)

One of the UK's best known philosophers Professor A C Grayling looks to the moon and other celestial bodies and asks what rights of ownership we have as the superpowers and big corporations begin to consider the wealth of natural resources they contain and how do we avoid competition in space becoming conflict on Earth.

Ken Costa and Colin Mayer Can Capitalism Fix the World?

4pm / Oxford Martin School: Lecture Theatre / £15 (£8 student)

Investment banker and philanthropist Professor Ken Costa and business expert Professor Colin Mayer look at the future of capitalism. How will a younger generation with a different perspective on capitalism and the planet use the vast wealth it is about to inherit? And how can we change the way businesses operate so they solve the world's problems rather than cause them.



Lizzie Pickering

Lizzie Pickering and Tamarin Norwood Perspectives on Grief

4pm / Oxford Martin School: Seminar Room / £13.50 (£7 student)

Bereaved parent Lizzie Pickering and writer and academic Dr Tamarin Norwood discuss their experiences of grief and the work they do to help others experiencing loss.



Boris Akunin

Boris Akunin talks to Maya Jaggi
Mysteries of a Russian Exile

6pm / Bodleian: Divinity School / £13.50 (£7 student)

Detective novelist and historian Boris Akunin discusses his writing, his father's 'exotic' ancestry, how Putin made him feel more Georgian, and being a Russian exile during the Ukraine war.

Netta Weinstein and Heather Hansen

Solitude: The Science and Power of Being Alone

6pm / Oxford Martin School: Seminar Room / £13.50 (£7 student)

Psychologist Professor Netta Weinstein and science writer Heather Hansen explain how time alone can boost wellbeing.



Netta Weinstein



Heather Hansen

Richard Dannatt Victory to Defeat: The British Army 1918-40

6pm / Weston Lecture Theatre / £15 (£8 student)



Former chief of the general staff General The Lord Richard Dannatt explains how the winning British Army from World War I was later mismanaged and found itself unprepared for the outbreak of World War II. And he explains how the UK risks a repeat of the 1930s, unless its armed forces are seriously strengthened

Justin Schlosberg, Gary Francione and Marina Purkiss

Oxford Debate. Free Speech, Woke, and Cancel Culture

6pm / Oxford Martin School: Lecture Theatre / £15 (£8 student)

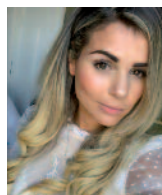
Media professor Justin Schlosberg, professor of philosophy and law Gary Francione and political commentator and campaigner Marina Purkiss discuss the issues around cancel culture and free speech.



Justin Schlosberg



Gary Francione



Marina Purkiss

John Bowers Downward Spiral: Collapsing Public Standards and How to Restore Them

10am / Exeter College: Chapel / £13.50 (£7 student)

Employment and human rights lawyer John Bowers looks at the decline in ethical standards before, during and after the Johnson government and asks how it came about and what can be done to reverse it.



Michael Collins Lost Masterpieces

10am / Lincoln College: Oakeshott Room / £13.50 (£7 student)

Vatican historian and Dublin priest Father Michael Collins looks behind the stories of famous works of art that have either vanished from the record or disappeared for long periods only to turn up again or be recovered.

Anna Motz, Donna Freed and Matt Johnson.

Chaired by Stephen Law Oxford Debate: True Crime

12 noon / Oxford Martin School: Lecture Theatre / £15 (£8 student)

Forensic psychologist Anna Motz, Donna Reed (daughter of a pair of notorious criminals) and crime writer and former Metropolitan Police officer Matt Johnson discuss their different perspectives on crime and criminals.



Anna Motz



Donna Freed



Matt Johnson



Josh Littlejohn Paying it Forward:

How to be a Social Entrepreneur

12 noon / Exeter College: Chapel / £13.50 (£7 student)

Leading social entrepreneur, philanthropist and campaigner Josh Littlejohn looks back at how he became a successful social entrepreneur and founder of Social Bite and offers some advice about putting purpose ahead of profit in business.



David Keen Shame: The Politics and Power of an Emotion

12 noon / Weston Lecture Theatre / £15 (£8 student)

Social anthropologist Professor David Keen looks at the shame spiral that pervades everything from politics to social media and asks whether it works and, if so, for whom.



Chris French The Science of Weird Shit: Why our Minds Conjure the paranormal

12 noon / Lincoln College: Oakeshott Room / £15 (£8 student)

Psychologist Professor Chris French offers some examples of seemingly paranormal behaviour and provides psychological explanations for belief in and the experience of 'weird shit'.

Thomas Perridge, Gordon Campbell and Alison Strachan

A Bible Fit for a King: A Behind-the-scenes Look at the Coronation Bible

12 noon / Pusey House: Chapel / £15 (£8 student)

Leading authority on the King James Bible Professor Gordon Campbell, lead editor of the Coronation Bible Thomas Perridge, and Alison Strachan, managing director of traditional bookbinding business Shepherds, Sangorski & Sutcliffe, discuss the production, craftsmanship and inspiration needed to produce a bible fit for a king.



Phil Roberts

Cardinal Wolsey: For King and Country

12 noon / Bodleian: Divinity School / £13.50 (£7 student)

Tudor historian and writer Dr Phil Roberts tells the story of Cardinal Thomas Wolsey, the man who rose to become Lord Chancellor of England but was accused of treason after failing to secure Henry VIII's divorce from his first wife.



Pia Östlund Capturing Nature

12 noon / Oxford Martin School: Seminar Room / £13.50 (£7 student)

Designer and printmaker Pia Östlund talks about reviving the lost art of nature printing and about her work with Oxford Botanic Garden.

Bianca Bellová and Alex Zucker. Chaired by Maya Jaggi

The Lake and the EBRD Literature Prize Shortlist

2pm / Bodleian: Divinity School / £13.50 (£7 student)



Bianca Bellová



Alex Zucker

Novelist Bianca Bellová and her translator Alex Zucker discuss her novel *The Lake*, winner of the 2023 European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) Literature Prize. They will talk to writer and critic Maya Jaggi, this year's chair of judges of the EBRD Literature Prize, who will unveil the shortlist for the 2024 award.

David Crystal talks to Samuel Fanous

British Academy Lecture A Date with Language: Fascinating Facts, Events and Stories for Every Day of the Year

2pm / Weston Lecture Theatre / £13.50 (£7 student)



David Crystal



Samuel Fanous

Linguist David Crystal celebrates the creativity of all those who have illuminated our understanding of language with a series of facts and stories for every day of the year.



Mick Brown The Nirvana Express: How the Search for Enlightenment Went West

2pm / Oxford Martin School: Seminar Room / £13.50 (£7 student)

Broadcaster and journalist Mick Brown investigates the West's love affair with Indian spirituality from the orientalism of empire to modern counterculture.



Philip Goff

Why? The Purpose of the Universe

2pm / Oxford Martin School: Lecture Theatre / £13.50 (£7 student)

Philosopher Dr Philip Goff argues that it is time to move on from God and atheism when we consider the great questions of meaning and purpose: Why are we here? What's the point of existence?



Richard Harries The Shaping of a Soul: A Life Taken by Surprise

2pm / Pusey House: Chapel / £13.50 (£7 student)

Former bishop of Oxford The Right Rev Lord Richard Harries looks back at his 'surprise' calling to the Church and explains how 50 years later he retains his faith despite a highly secular and sceptical society.



Dominic Selwood

Anatomy of a Nation: A History of British Identity in 50 Documents

4pm / Weston Lecture Theatre / £13.50 (£7 student)

Historian and barrister Dominic Sellwood blends human stories with 50 documents that tell the story of the British identity.

Polly Morland and Penelope Campling.

Chaired by Stephen Law

Oxford Debate. NHS: Why Can't We See a Doctor?

4pm / Exeter College: Chapel / £13.50 (£7 student)

Author and documentarian Polly Morland and doctor, psychiatrist and psychotherapist Penelope Campling discuss how the NHS got into a crisis over appointments and waiting times and what we need to do to fix it.



Joanna Moorhead

Surreal Spaces: The Life and Art of Leonora Carrington

4pm / Oxford Martin School: Seminar Room / £13.50 (£7 student)

Journalist Joanna Moorhead gives an illustrated talk on the life and art of her cousin, the Surrealist artist Leonora Carrington, who befriended the likes of Max Ernst, Man Ray, Salvador Dali and Pablo Picasso, and carved a reputation as a leading woman artist.



Robert Douglas-Fairhurst

Metamorphosis: A life in Pieces

4pm / Lincoln College: Oakeshott Room / £15 (£8 student)

Award-winning writer and English lecturer Professor Robert Douglas-Fairhurst explains how a diagnosis of multiple sclerosis took him deep into his hopes, fears, loves and losses and talks about the books that sustain him.



Ruben Andersson

Ruben Andersson and David Keen

Wreckonomics: Why It's time to End the War on Everything

4pm / Oxford Martin School: Lecture Theatre / £15 (£8 student)

Social anthropologists Professors Ruben Andersson and David Keen look at why politicians continue with failing policies such as the fights against terror, migration and drugs when they often have the opposite effect to what they are seeking.



Sarah Sands **The Hedgehog Diaries: A Story of Faith, Hope and Bristle**

4pm / Bodleian: Divinity School / £15 (£8 student)

Writer, journalist and broadcaster Sarah Sands explores the world of the hedgehog and finds a source of deep solace and wisdom.

Amanda Craig talks to Suzi Feay **The Three Graces**

6pm / Bodleian: Divinity School / £13.50 (£7 student)

Novelist and critic Amanda Craig talks about her new work, *The Three Graces*, a story of how the realities of modern life intrude on a Tuscan spring.



Avi Shlaim

Three Worlds: Memoir of an Arab-Jew

6pm / Oxford Martin School: Lecture Theatre / £15 (£8 student)

Acclaimed historian of the Arab-Israeli conflict Professor Avi Shlaim tells the story of Iraqi Jews caught in a crossfire of Zionism and nationalism.



Derek Gow **Hunt for the Shadow Wolf**

6pm / Oxford Martin School: Seminar Room / £13.50 (£7 student)

Nature conservationist and well-known "guerilla rewilder" Derek Gow says wolves may have been around in the UK longer than we thought and says his dream of their return may not be so far-fetched.

Faye Begeti **The Phone Fix: Building Healthy Digital Habits and Breaking Bad Ones**

6pm / Weston Lecture Theatre / £13.50 (£7 student)

Neuroscientist and practising neurologist Dr Faye Begeti explains what is going on in your brain when you use your phone and why we have formed fixed and negative habits around them.



Nicholas Janni **Leader as Healer: A New Paradigm for 21st Century Leadership**

6pm / Exeter College: Chapel / £13.50 (£7 student)

Transformational coach and leadership development expert Nicholas Janni calls for a new form of leadership with healing qualities.

Joanna Kusiak and Jolyon Maugham.

Chaired by Stephen Law

Oxford Debate: **Is the Rule of Law Becoming Fragile?**

6pm / Lincoln College: Oakeshott Room / £15 (£8 student)

Researcher and scholar-activist Joanna Kusiak and lawyer and founder of governance watchdog Good Law Project Jolyon Maugham discuss how the ordinary citizen can still use the law to fight back.



Joanna Kusiak



Jolyon Maugham



Stephen Law



Anthony Seldon

Impossible Office: The History of the British Prime Minister

10am / Lincoln College: Oakeshott Room / £13.50 (£7 student)

Historian of Number 10 Downing Street Sir Anthony Seldon explains why the office of UK prime minister has endured longer than any other democratic political office in the world.

Dirk van Hulle and Mark Nixon. Chaired by Samuel Fanous
Write Cut Rewrite

10am / Weston Lecture Theatre / £13.50 (£7 student)

Modern book historian Professor Dirk van Hulle and co-director of the Beckett International Foundation Dr Mark Nixon explain how the drafting techniques of authors such as Samuel Beckett, Kafka, Jane Austen and Alan Bennett give valuable insight into their creative processes.

Jane Corry and Simon Mason. Chaired by Triona Adams
From College Quad to Prison Yard: Crime Fiction of Town and Gown

10am / Bodleian: Divinity School / £15 (£8 student)



Jane Corry



Simon Mason

Award-winning crime fiction writers Jane Corry and Simon Mason have both lived in, and written about, Oxford. How has living and working in this extraordinarily multi-faceted city informed their work?

John Guy and Julia Fox **Hunting the Falcon: Henry VIII, Anne Boleyn and the Marriage that Shook Europe**

10am / Pusey House: Chapel / £15 (£8 student)

Renaissance historian professor John Guy and author and historical researcher Julia Fox look afresh at one of the most dramatic and consequential marriages in history between Henry VIII and Anne Boleyn.



Anne Murphy **Virtuous Bankers: A Day in the Life of the Eighteenth-Century Bank of England**

12 noon / Oxford Martin School: Seminar Room / £13.50 (£7 student)

Historian and former City trader Professor Anne Murphy explains how the 18th-century Bank of England became a 'great engine of the state'.



Arash Azizi **What Iranians Want: Women, Life, Freedom**

12 noon / Oxford Martin School: Lecture Theatre / £13.50 (£7 student)

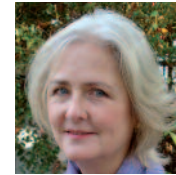
Historian Dr Arash Azizi explains how Iranians are risking everything to bring down the country's regime and describes what the future might look like for Iran.

Artemis Cooper

Inside the Pol Roger Duff Cooper Prize for Non-fiction

12 noon / Bodleian: Divinity School / £15 (£8 student)

Biographer and historian Artemis Cooper discusses the prestigious Duff Cooper Prize (named in honour of her grandfather) with some recent winners and judges.



Peter McCullough

Be Something. Be Somebody: A Sermon by John Donne

12 noon / Lincoln College: Chapel / Free, booking essential

English fellow Professor Peter McCullough talks about the poet John Donne's powerful prose sermons and why Lincoln College Chapel is suited to their delivery before giving a reading of an original Donne sermon first preached before the Court of Charles I on the first Friday in Lent, 1628.



Jocelyn Bell Burnell

Jocelyn Bell Burnell and Chris Impey
Why Space is for Everyone

12 noon / Pusey House: Chapel / £15 (£8 student)

Astronomers Dame Jocelyn Bell Burnell and Professor Chris Impey discuss how efforts to bring thinking from a greater diversity of backgrounds can enhance astronomy and provide insight into the universe and the search for life in space.



Bettina Chua Abdullah

To Nourish with Love: Flavours and Memories from Mussoorie to Malaysia

12 noon / Lincoln College: Oakeshott Room / £13.50 (£7 student)

Writer and editor Bettina Chua Abdullah talks about the new food memoir she has written with her friend and chef Manu Saigal and offers some tastings.

Olivia Horsfall Turner

Owen Jones and the V and A: Ornament for a Modern Age

12 noon / Weston Lecture Theatre / £13.50 (£7 student)

Curator Olivia Horsfall Turner talks about the 19th-century architect, designer, illustrator and printer Owen Jones and his influence on art and design and on the early years of the Victoria and Albert Museum.



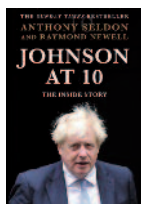
Adrian Goldsworthy

The Eagle and the Lion: Rome, Persia and an Unwinnable Conflict

2pm / Oxford Martin School: Seminar Room / £15 (£8 student)

Historian Adrian Goldsworthy tells the story of rivalry between the two greatest empires of the ancient world and of their rise and fall.

Anthony Seldon talks to Simon McDonald Johnson at 10



2pm / Pusey House: Chapel / £15 (£8 student)

Historian of Number 10 Downing Street Sir Anthony Seldon talks to Lord Simon McDonald, former Head of The Diplomatic Service, about his bestselling book on Boris Johnson's period as prime minister during one of the most turbulent times in modern British history.



Claudia de Rham **The Beauty of Falling: A Life in Pursuit of Gravity**

2pm / Oxford Martin School: Lecture Theatre / £13.50 (£7 student)

Influential theoretical physicist Professor Claudia de Rham explains the true nature of gravity and describes how she has found wisdom by embracing its force in her own life.



Monique Charlesworth **Mother Country: A Story of Love and Lies**

2pm / Bodleian: Divinity School / £13.50 (£7 student)

Novelist and dramatist Monique Charlesworth explains how she uncovered the truth about her mother Inge, who spent her lifetime denying she was German, half-Jewish and a Holocaust survivor.

Georgina Moore and Lauren Beukes

Family Lives: The Garnett Girls and Bridge

2pm / Weston Lecture Theatre / £13.50 (£7 student)



Georgina Moore

Lauren Beukes

Bestselling novelists Georgina Moore and Lauren Beukes discuss family relationships, particularly between mothers and daughters, and their portrayal in their family dramas *The Garnett Girls* and *Bridge*.



Sharon Blackie **Hagitude: Reimagining the Second Half of Life**

2pm / Lincoln College: Oakeshott Room / £13.50 (£7 student)

Award-winning writer and teacher at the interface of psychology, mythology and ecology Dr Sharon Blackie celebrates the unique power of women in the second half of their lives.

Gary Francione, Kate Levey, Richard Canning and Gerri Kimber **Remembering Brigid Brophy: Visionary Writer, Feminist and Animal rights Campaigner**

4pm / Bodleian: Divinity School / £13.50 (£7 student)

Law and philosophy professor Gary Francione, Brigid Brophy experts Professor Richard Canning and Dr Gerri Kimber and Brophy's daughter Kate Levey discuss the life and work of the novelist, essayist, feminist, and animal rights campaigner Brigid Brophy.



Gary Francione



Kate Levey

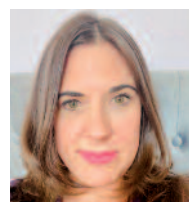


Richard Canning



Gerri Kimber

Caroline Wheeler **Death in the Blood: The Inside Story of the NHS Contaminated Blood Scandal**



4pm / Oxford Martin School: Lecture Theatre / £13.50 (£7 student)

Lobby journalist and *The Sunday Times* political editor Caroline Wheeler, whose two-decade coverage of the contaminated blood scandal helped to trigger a public inquiry, tells the stories of the 5000 infected individuals and their families caught up in the tragedy and the ensuing fight for justice.



Liam Byrne **The Inequality of Wealth: Why it Matters and How to Fix It**

4pm / Lincoln College: Oakeshott Room / £15 (£8 student)

Former Labour Treasury minister Liam Byrne MP warns that inequality of wealth threatens our society, economy and politics and sets out a plan to rebuild a wealth-owning democracy.

Peter Stothard

Palatine: An Alternative History of the Caesars

4pm / Weston Lecture Theatre / £13.50 (£7 student)

Writer and former editor of *The Times* Sir Peter Stothard tells the story of the lesser known imperial clan of the Vitelli and uncovers some neglected truths about the lasting legacy of Rome.



- | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|
| 1 Blackwell's Festival Bookshop | 7 Department for Continuing Education |
| 2 Sheldonian Theatre | 8 Pusey House |
| 3 Divinity School | 9 Mathematical Institute |
| 4 Oxford Martin School Lecture Theatre | 10 Worcester College |
| 5 Oxford Martin School Seminar Room | 11 Lincoln College |
| 6 Weston Library – Festival Hub, Box Office, Lecture Theatre, Exhibition Galleries, and Café and Toilets | 12 Exeter College |
| | 13 New College |
| | 14 Wadham College |
| | 15 St John's College |
| | 16 Bus Station |

Festival 25 Appeal

We are the only one of the big literary festivals not to receive UK government or public grants and rely on private sponsors and donors. Please scan the QR code on the right for more details and to donate now. Help us to secure the future of the festival.





Steven Parissien Building Britannia: A History of Britain in 25 Buildings

4pm / Oxford Martin School: Seminar Room / £15 (£8 student)

Architectural and cultural historian Dr Steven Parissien explains how he picked 25 buildings that tell the history of Britain.



Athene Donald Not Just for the Boys: Why We Need More Women in Science

6pm / Oxford Martin School: Seminar Room / £13.50 (£7 student)

Leading physicist Professor Athene Donald says women still face many barriers to a career in science and argues that we must improve representation.



Nabila Ramdani Fixing France: How to Repair a Broken Republic

6pm / Oxford Martin School: Lecture Theatre / £13.50 (£7 student)

French-Algerian journalist Nabila Ramdani gives a perspective on crisis-ridden France that is very different from that held by the establishment elites.



Simon McDonald Beyond Britannia: Reshaping UK Foreign Policy

6pm / Weston Lecture Theatre / £15 (£8 student)

The head of the Diplomatic Service during the Cameron, May and Johnson years Baron Simon McDonald looks at what future British foreign policy should look like given uncomfortable truths about the decline in our military capability.

Liz Hyder and Lucy Barker. Chaired by Suzi Feay Magic, Illusions and Mediums: Two Historical Novels

6pm / Bodleian: Divinity School / £13.50 (£7 student)

Novelists Liz Hyder and Lucy Barker talk about their latest books set in a Victorian world of magic, illusions and mediums.



Liz Hyder



Lucy Barker



Suzi Feay



Leo Vardiashvili

Leo Vardiashvili talks to Maya Jaggi Memories of Flight: Fictionalising Georgia's 2008 War with Russia

10am / Pusey House: Chapel / £13.50 (£7 student)

Novelist Leo Vardiashvili talks about war, fiction and memory and his much-anticipated debut novel *Hard By a Great Forest*.



Marion Turner Chaucer Here and Now

10am / Weston Lecture Theatre / £15 (£8 student)

Chaucer expert Professor Marion Turner talks about a new collection of essays on Geoffrey Chaucer that uncover many facets to the life and work of the 'father of English literature'.



Sam Gwynne His Majesty's Airship: The Life and Tragic Death of the World's Largest Flying Machine

10am / Lincoln College: Oakeshott Room / £13.50 (£7 student)

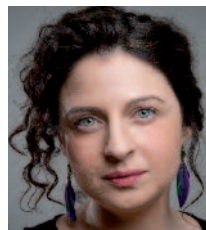
Award-winning historian and journalist Sam Gwynne talks about the rise and fall of the world's largest airship and about the love story between a British officer and a married Romanian princess at the heart of it.



Andy Verity Rigged: The Whistleblowers Jailed after Exposing the Rotten Heart of the Financial System

12 noon / Oxford Martin School: Lecture Theatre / £15 (£8 student)

Award-winning BBC economics correspondent Andy Verity argues for the innocence of 19 financial traders convicted of rate rigging and says the real culprits have gone unpunished.



Christy Lefteri

Christy Lefteri talks to Peter Stott The Book of Fire

12 noon / Oxford Martin School: Seminar Room / £15 (£8 student)

International bestselling author of *The Beekeeper of Aleppo* Christy Lefteri talks about her new novel, *The Book of Fire*, the story of a family devastated by a fire on a tiny Greek island.



David Kynaston

David Kynaston talks to Triona Adams

A Northern Wind: Britain 1962-65

12 noon / Pusey House: Chapel / £15 (£8 student)

Historian Professor David Kynaston explains how everything changed in Britain in the space of two-and-a-half years in the early 1960s that saw the coming of the Beatles, a sex scandal that rocked the government and the arrival of Harold Wilson, a new style of prime minister, at Number 10.



Rachel Cockerell Melting Point: A Jewish Promised Land in Texas

12 noon / Weston Lecture Theatre / £13.50 (£7 student)

Author Rachel Cockerell illuminates the forgotten moment when 10,000 Jews fled from Russia to Texas before World War I led by Cockerell's great-grandfather, David Jocheleman.



Ulinka Rublack Dürer's Lost Masterpiece: Art and Society at the Dawn of a Global World

12 noon / Lincoln College: Oakeshott Room / £15 (£8 student)

Award-winning historian Professor Ulinka Rublack looks at the story and legacy of the German artist Albrecht Dürer including an often overlooked but seminal moment in his career when he stopped painting altarpieces after falling out with the Frankfurt merchant Jacob Heller over a commission.

Fiona Sampson

Starlight Wood: Walking Back to the Romantic Countryside

2pm / Oxford Martin School: Seminar Room / £13.50 (£7 student)

Biographer and poet Professor Fiona Sampson explains how she spent a year walking in the footsteps of the Romantics to discover how the Romantic poets, writers, artists and philosophers were shaped by their environment.



John Blashford-Snell

From Utmost East to Utmost West

2pm / Pusey House: Chapel / £13.50 (£7 student)

Famed explorer Colonel John Blashford-Snell tells of some of the hair-raising and hilarious exploits from his lifetime of adventure and exploration.

Peter Apps Deterring Armageddon: A Biography of NATO



2pm / Weston Lecture Theatre / £13.50 (£7 student)

Reuters journalist Peter Apps looks at the history of the military alliance that binds 30 member states and asks how it will overcome the pressures of conflicting interests and remain relevant in the future.



Sharron Davies

Sharron Davies talks to Andrew Billen
Unfair Play: The Battle for Women's Sport

2pm / Sheldonian Theatre / £20-£15 (£10-£8 student)

Sports commentator and Olympic medal swimmer Sharron Davies says that while women's sport appears to be on the rise progress is still stalling or falling back in many areas.



Stephen King We Need to Talk About Inflation: Six Urgent Lessons from the Last 2,000 Years

2pm / Lincoln College: Oakeshott Room / £13.50 (£7 student)

Economist Stephen King looks at why inflation has returned when we thought it was dead and buried and says our gullible central bankers and finance ministers have failed to learn from history.

Tomiwa Owolade and Tony Sewell

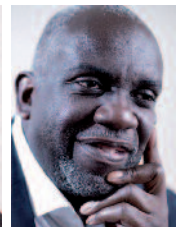
Black Lives and Success in Britain

2pm / Oxford Martin School: Lecture Theatre / £15 (£8 student)

Literary and cultural critic Tomiwa Owolade and charity founder and government advisor Dr Tony Sewell discuss the history, challenges and successes of increasingly diverse black populations in the UK and ask what lessons can be learned.



Tomiwa Owolade



Tony Sewell

Ambrogio Caiani Losing a Kingdom, Gaining the World: The Catholic Church in the Age of Revolution

4pm / Oxford Martin School: Lecture Theatre / £13.50 (£7 student)

Historian Dr Ambrogio Caiani looks at the history of the Catholic Church in the modern age and its encounters with modernity including democracy, the nation state, science, literature and secular culture.



Asad Qureshi

165 Days: Prisoner of the Taliban

4pm / Weston Lecture Theatre / £15 (£8 student)

Documentary filmmaker Asad Qureshi explains how he found himself at the point of a gun and with a \$10 million price on his head after setting off to film secret interviews with the Taliban.



Camilla Nord

The Balanced Brain:
The Science of Mental Health

4pm / Lincoln College: Oakeshott Room / £15 (£8 student)

Brain scientist Dr Camilla Nord explains her groundbreaking work on mental health and offers knowledge, tools and questions that can help us find our own personal way to a balanced brain.



Emily Cockayne

Penning Poison:
A History of Anonymous Letters

4pm / Oxford Martin School: Seminar Room / £13.50 (£7 student)

Social historian Dr Emily Cockayne looks back at the history of the poison pen and explains how nasty unsigned messages can turn into an epidemic and that the anxieties of the internet age may not be as new as we think.



Lu Min

Lu Min talks to Angus Phillips

China Lecture: Dinner for Six

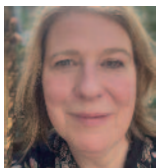
6pm / Weston Lecture Theatre / £13.50 (£8 student)

Multi-award-winning Chinese novelist Lu Min talks about her newly translated novel *Dinner for Six* and about her life and writing career.

Jill Burke and Emma Dabiri. Chaired by Paola Diana.

The Power and Tyranny of Female Beauty

6pm / Lincoln College: Oakeshott Room / £15 (£8 student)



Jill Burke



Emma Dabiri

Art historian Professor Jill Burke and visual sociologist Emma Dabiri discuss the pressure on women past and present to be beautiful. Where do our ideals of beauty come from, should women live up to them, or are there other ways of looking at beauty that are less tyrannical?



Ali Smith

Ali Smith talks to Richard Ovenden

The Bodley Lecture and Award of the Bodley Medal: Life and Work

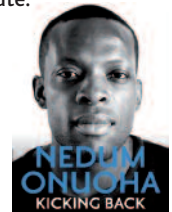
6pm / Sheldonian Theatre / £20-£15 (£10-£8 student)

Author, playwright, academic and journalist Ali Smith talks about her life and work in conversation with Bodley's Librarian Richard Ovenden and receives the Bodley Medal for her outstanding contribution to literature.

Nedum Onuoha Kicking Back

6pm / Oxford University Mathematical Institute: Lecture Theatre 1 / £13.50 (£7 student)

BBC football pundit and former Manchester City and Queens Park Rangers footballer Nedum Onuoha talks about life on and off the pitch, including minority groups in football, how to approach the end of a professional sporting career and the importance of having an identity outside the game.



Richard Susskind, Verity Harding and David Runciman. Chaired by Stephen Law

Artificial Intelligence is Here: For Good or Ill

6pm / Oxford Martin School: Lecture Theatre / £15 (£8 student)

Expert on professions and technology Professor Richard Susskind, public policy leader Verity Harding and politics lecturer and writer Professor David Runciman explore some of the ethical and political issues raised by increasingly powerful artificial intelligence.



Richard Susskind



Verity Harding



David Runciman



Robert Peckham Fear: An Alternative History of the World

6pm / Oxford Martin School: Seminar Room / £13.50 (£7 student)

Cultural historian Professor Robert Peckham says fear and panic have long been driving forces in world history and may even be 'the' driving force.



Fiona Maddocks

Fiona Maddocks talks to Gwenan Edwards Goodbye Russia: Rachmaninoff in Exile

10am / Pusey House: Chapel / £15 (£8 student)

Observer classical music critic Fiona Maddocks discusses Rachmaninoff's years in exile and the composition of his last great work *Symphonic Dances*.



Lesley Smith

Lesley Smith talks to Samuel Fanous Handwritten: Remarkable People on the Page

10am / Weston Lecture Theatre / £13.50 (£7 student)

Politics tutor Professor Lesley Smith looks at examples of the handwriting of extraordinary people through the ages held at the Bodleian Libraries and explains what it tells us about them.



Sophie Duncan Searching for Juliet: The Lives and Deaths of Shakespeare's First Tragic Heroine

10am / Lincoln College: Oakeshott Room / £13.50 (£7 student)

Writer and Shakespeare expert Dr Sophie Duncan goes in search of the story and legacy of the ultimate romantic heroine, Juliet.



Will Hutton This Time No Mistakes: How Britain Was Broken and How To Fix It

10am / Sheldonian Theatre / £20-£15 (£10-£8 student)

Journalist and bestselling writer Will Hutton argues that a neoliberal consensus has broken Britain and says we need a new economic, social and political settlement to prevent the country becoming even poorer and more irrelevant.

Martin Thorley All that Glistens: Chinese Party-State Influence in Britain

12 noon / Oxford Martin School: Lecture Theatre / £15 (£8 student)

Crime analyst Martin Thorley goes behind the 'golden era' of Sino-British relations in the 2010s and uncovers a period of Chinese government influence over British affairs and corruption.



Martin Gayford Venice: City of Pictures

12 noon / Oxford Martin School: Seminar Room / £15 (£8 student)

Art critic Martin Gayford says the most interesting things to happen in Venice are art and pictures as he takes us on a visual tour of the city right up to the present day.



Nick Wallis Exposing the Post Office Horizon Scandal

12 noon / Sheldonian Theatre / £20-£15 (£10-£8 student)

Campaigning journalist and broadcaster Nick Wallis talks about his work with campaigners fighting the injustices of Post Office prosecutions and his book, *The Great Post Office Scandal*, and reflects on the sensational impact of the recent ITV docu-drama *Mr Bates vs the Post Office*.



Peter Kemp Retroland: A Reader's Guide to the Dazzling Diversity of Modern Fiction

12 noon / Pusey House: Chapel / £13.50 (£7 student)

Critic and chief fiction reviewer for *The Sunday Times* Peter Kemp says the last 50 years has brought a huge variety of English fiction but they are all linked by an obsession for the past.



Isabelle Legeron Natural Wine: An Introduction to Organic and Biodynamic Wines Made Naturally

12 noon / Lincoln College: Oakeshott Room / £25

Champion of the natural wine movement Master of Wine Isabelle Legeron explains what a natural wine is, gives advice on some of the best ones to try and offers a tasting of some natural wine.

Richard Bourke talks to Nigel Warburton Hegel's World Revolutions

12 noon / Weston Lecture Theatre / £13.50 (£7 student)

Historian Professor Richard Bourke takes a fresh look at the ideas of the 19th-century German philosopher Hegel and argues that the post-war revolt against them has impoverished our approach to history and politics.

Andrew Davison Astrobiology and Christian Doctrine: Exploring the Implications of Life in the Universe

2pm / Pusey House: Chapel / £15 (£8 student)

Theologian and trained scientist Professor Andrew Davison explores how Christians might respond to evidence of life on other planets if it is found.



Michael Wood

In the Footsteps of Du Fu: China's Greatest Poet

2pm / Sheldonian Theatre / £20-£15 (£10-£8 student)

Acclaimed historian and filmmaker Michael Wood looks at the life and times of one of the world's greatest poets, Du Fu.



Georgette Bennett

Religicide: Confronting the Roots of Anti-Religious Violence

2pm / Oxford Martin School: Lecture Theatre / £13.50 (£7 student)

Sociologist and former broadcast journalist Dr Georgette Bennett explains why she has put a new name 'religicide' to religion-related violence, the fastest spreading type of violence worldwide.



Jonathan Jones **Earthy Delights: A History of the Renaissance**

2pm / Weston Lecture Theatre / £15 (£8 student)

Guardian art critic Jonathan Jones takes a fresh look at Renaissance Europe and finds a seismic transformation in the European mentality between 1400 and 1600.



Nick Thomas-Symonds

Attlee: A Life in Politics

2pm / Lincoln College: Oakeshott Room / £15 (£8 student)

Labour MP Nick Thomas-Symonds looks at the myths around Clement Attlee, the man who created the welfare state and decolonised large parts of the British Empire.



Nick Penny

Call of the Kingfisher: Bright Sights and Birdsong in a Year by the River

2pm / Oxford Martin School: Seminar Room / £13.50 (£7 student)

Composer and wildlife recordist Nick Penny celebrates the magic and importance of connecting with nature in a love letter to a short stretch of river near his Northamptonshire home.



Ashwini Mokashi

Sapiens and Sthitaprajna: The Concept of a Wise Person in the Stoic Seneca

4pm / Oxford Martin School: Seminar Room / £13.50 (£7 student)

Philosopher Ashwini Mokashi argues there is much in common between the Hindu scripture Bhagavad Gita and Seneca's writings even though they were composed two centuries and a continent apart.

Guy Deacon **Running on Empty: My African Odyssey**

4pm / Oxford Martin School: Lecture Theatre / £13.50 (£7 student)

Former British Army officer Colonel Guy Deacon explains how he drove from his home in the UK to Cape Town in South Africa ten years after being diagnosed with Parkinson's disease and shows clips from the film that documented his journey.



Ian Goldin

Ian Goldin and Hein de Haas. Chaired by Stephen Law **Oxford Debate: How Does Migration Really Work?**

4pm / Sheldonian Theatre / £15 (£8 student)

Experts on globalisation and migration Professor Ian Goldin and Professor Hein de Haas discuss migration and how it works. Are immigrants really 'stealing our jobs'? Is the EU facing a migration crisis? Why do people migrate at all? At a time where migration seems to be in every other newspaper headline, how much do we really know about how it works? And what are its political and economic repercussions?



Hein de Haas

Maurizio Isabella **Southern Europe in the Age of Revolutions**

4pm / Lincoln College: Oakeshott Room / £15 (£8 student)

Historian Professor Maurizio Isabella says there was a popular constitutional culture running through the revolutions in Italy, Sicily, Greece, Spain and Portugal in the early 19th century.

Nicholas Perkins

Gifts and Books: From Early Myth to the Present

4pm / Weston Lecture Theatre / £13.50 (£7 student)

English tutor Nicholas Perkins discusses how books and writing describe gifts and how books can become precious gifts in themselves.

Kieran McCarthy **Fabergé: Romance to Revolution**

4pm / Exeter College: Chapel / £13.50 (£7 student)

Jeweller and Fabergé expert Kieran McCarthy looks at the history and legacy of the the Tsarist court jewellers, The House of Fabergé including the lesser known but important role played by the London branch.

Guido Alfani As Gods Among Men:
A History of the Rich in the West

6pm / Oxford Martin School: Seminar Room / £13.50 (£7 student)
Historian Professor Guido Alfani looks at rich people past and present and argues that the reluctance of today's wealthy individuals to contribute to the common good is a troubling development.



Paul Nurse

Paul Nurse talks to Nick Higham
Science and Innovation Award:
Understanding Life

6pm / Sheldonian Theatre / £20-£15 (£10-£8 student)
Nobel Prize-winning geneticist Professor Sir Paul Nurse talks about his life and work and receives the festival's science and innovation award in recognition of his contribution to our understanding of cell growth and division.

Peter K Andersson

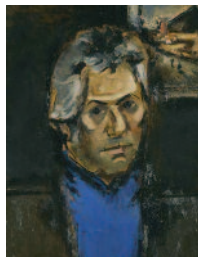
Fool: In Search of Henry VIII's Closest Man

6pm / Weston Lecture Theatre / £13.50 (£7 student)
Historian Peter K Andersson tells the story of the celebrated wit who sometimes appears next to Henry VIII on portraits and who was said to be able to raise the king's spirits and often spent many hours alone with him.

Rebecca Roache talks to Alex Farrow

For F*cks Sake: Why Swearing is Shocking, Rude, and Fun

6pm / Oxford Martin School: Lecture Theatre / £15 (£8 student)
Philosopher Rebecca Roache asks why we love to swear so much, why we get offended when others do it, and why we are more tolerant of f*** than fuck.



Dannie Abse by Josef Herman mid-20th C

Tom Conti, Jeremy Robson, Lynne Hjelmggaard and Keren Abse.
Chaired by Tony Curtis.

Dannie Abse: A Centenary Celebration
6pm / Lincoln College: Oakeshott Room / £13.50 (£7 student)

Actor Tom Conti, poets Jeremy Robson and Lynne Hjelmggaard, and Keren Abse join to discuss the work of poet Dannie Abse and to read from both his poetry and prose.

Andrew Davison Festival Evensong

6pm / Pusey House: Chapel / Free

Theologian and trained scientist Rev Professor Andrew Davison leads the festival evensong at Pusey House Chapel. **The event is free and no booking is required.**

SEE PAGE 51 FOR CHILDREN'S EVENTS



Nathan Hill
Wellness

10am / Lincoln College: Oakeshott Room / £13.50 (£7 student)

American novelist Nathan Hill talks about his latest book, *Wellness*, the story of a marriage, a city and a society over 20 years.



Bill Tara

How to Eat Right and Save the Planet: A Plant-Based Survival Guide

10am / Weston Lecture Theatre / £13.50 (£7 student)

Natural health educator and entrepreneur Bill Tara says big business, medicine, politics and advertising have created a diet that is at the root of many diseases and kills more than 70 billion land animals a year, and he argues that the food we eat can be a force for good.

Anat Admati and Martin Hellwig.

The Bankers' New Clothes: What's Wrong with Banking and What to do about it

12 noon / Oxford University Mathematical Institute: Lecture Theatre 1 / £15 (£8 student)

Stanford business school professor Anat Admati and former chair of the German Monopolies Commission Martin Hellwig discuss the new and expanded version of their seminal work on the 2008 financial crisis and explain how so little has changed in the aftermath.



Anat Admati



Martin Hellwig



Joanne Harris

Joanne Harris talks to Nick Higham
A Writing Life

12 noon / Pusey House: Chapel / £15 (£8 student)

International bestselling novelist Joanne Harris looks back on her writing life on the 25th anniversary of the publication of her most well-known novel, *Chocolat*.



Hilary Bradt

Hilary Bradt talks to Kate Humble

Taking the Risk: 60 Years of Travel

12 noon / Oxford University Mathematical Institute: Theatre 2 / £13.50 (£7 student)

Travel writer and founder of the Bradt travel guides Hilary Bradt looks back at more than 60 years of adventurous travel and the hugely successful guides she and her then husband set up 50 years ago.



Javier Cercas Life and Work:

Exploring a Difficult History

12 noon / Lincoln College: Oakeshott Room / £13.50 (£7 student)

International-award-winning Spanish novelist Professor Javier Cercas talks about his life and work as one of a group of well-known authors writing in the genre of 'historical memory' focused on the Spanish Civil War and the Franco period.



Marlene Watson-Tara Go Vegan:

A Guide to Delicious Everyday Food

12 noon / Weston Lecture Theatre / £13.50 (£7 student)

Long-time vegan and activist Marlene Watson-Tara explains why a vegan diet is good for both you, your family and the planet and offers some easy and nutritional recipes.

Miles Johnson Chasing Shadows: A True Story of Drugs, War and the Secret World of International Crime

12 noon / Oxford Martin School: Lecture Theatre / £15 (£8 student)

Foreign correspondent and investigator of organised crime and financial corruption Miles Johnson looks at the interlinked lives of three men wrapped up in a world of drugs, war and international crime.

Nii Ayikwei Parkes and Peace Adzo Medie

Azúcar and Nightbloom

12 noon / Oxford Martin School: Seminar Room / £13.50 (£7 student)

Poet, publisher and novelist Nii Ayikwei Parkes and novelist Peace Adzo Medie talk about their new novels, *Azúcar* and *Nightbloom*.



Nii Ayikwei Parkes



Peace Adzo Medie



Nichole Fazio The Julia Margaret Cameron Collection

1pm / Weston Library: Bahari Room / Free

Victorian photographer Julia Margaret Cameron is renowned for her portraiture, and her explorations of the poetic possibilities of photography. Join Nichole J. Fazio, author of *Julia Margaret Cameron: The Poetry of Photography*, for an informal talk about the artist as she explores a selection of Julia Margaret Cameron's photographs brought up from the Bodleian collections. **Booking essential**



Bryony Gordon

Bryony Gordon talks to Suzi Feay

Mad Woman: Older. Madder. Wiser?

2pm / Oxford University Mathematical Institute: Lecture Theatre 1 / £13.50 (£7 student)

Telegraph journalist and author Bryony Gordon talks about the follow-up to her number one bestseller *Mad Girl* and explains what she has learnt ten years on from writing the first book.

Dieter Helm and David Stainforth. Chaired by Stephen Law

Oxford Debate. Our Climate Future and the Sustainable Economy

2pm / Oxford University Mathematical Institute: Lecture Theatre 2 / £15 (£8 student)

Experts Professors David Stainforth and Sir Dieter Helm discuss how economics can be used to protect our climate's future.



Felix Flicker

The Magic of Matter: Crystals, Chaos and the Wizardry of Physics

2pm / Oxford Martin School: Seminar Room / £13.50 (£7 student)

Physicist and astronomer Dr Felix Flicker takes us on a journey through condensed matter physics and explains how it will change everything you thought about witchcraft and wizardry.



Jennifer Carlson

Merchants of the Right: Gun Sellers and the Crisis of American Democracy

2pm / Oxford Martin School: Lecture Theatre / £13.50 (£7 student)

Sociologist Professor Jennifer Carlson says gun sellers in the US sell more than weapons, they also sell politics and helped to galvanise conservative opinion during a period of pandemic, racial unrest and a presidential election that rocked American democracy.

Robert Henderson *Troubled: A Memoir of Foster Care, Family and Social Class*

2pm / Lincoln College: Oakeshott Room / £13.50 (£7 student)

Foster child Robert Henderson reflects on his account of his challenging early life, how he overcame it to join the US Air Force and attend elite universities and on the hypocrisies of social class.

Robin Lane Fox *Homer and His Iliad*

2pm / Pusey House: Chapel / £15 (£8 student)

Ancient historian Robin Lane Fox draws on his lifetime love of Homer's *Iliad* to address the great questions about where, how and when the epic poem was composed and why it has such enduring power.



Sophia Jansson

Tove Jansson and the Moomins: A Celebration of Imagination and Writing

2pm / Weston Lecture Theatre / £13.50 (£7 student)

Sophia Jansson discusses the enduring legacy of her aunt the Finnish artist and writer Tove Jansson, creator of the famous Moomin books and of adult novels and short stories. What is the special quality of her writing that made her appeal so much to both children and adults?



Emily Hund *The Influencer Industry: The Quest for Authenticity on Social Media*

4pm / Oxford Martin School: Seminar Room / £13.50 (£7 student)

Social media researcher and consultant Emily Hund explains how the passion and authenticity of early digital bloggers spawned a profit-driven communications industry in which people we perceive as 'real' have learned to exploit authenticity.

Larisa Brown and Jamal Barak. Chaired by Nick Higham

The Gardener of Lashkar Gah: The Afghans who Risked Everything to Fight the Taliban

4pm / Weston Lecture Theatre / £15 (£8 student)



Larisa Brown



Jamal Barak

Award-winning defence correspondent Larisa Brown and Afghan interpreter Jamal Barak discuss the story of the Afghans who gave everything to support the US and the British in the country and were left behind.



Vicente Luis Mora *Centroeuropa*

4pm / Pusey House: Chapel / £13.50 (£7 student)

Spanish writer and literary critic Vicente Luis Mora talks about his award-winning novel *Centroeuropa*, a story recently published in English for the first time that digs deep into Europe's history.



Maureen Freely *My Blue Peninsula*

4pm / Oxford University Mathematics Institute: Lecture Theatre 2 / £13.50 (£7 student)

Novelist Maureen Freely talks about her latest work, *My Blue Peninsula*, which explores the truth about the Greek, Armenian and Assyrian genocides and the Turkish state's fierce denials about them.

T Colin Campbell and Ron Weiss

The Future of Nutrition: Why We Keep Getting It Wrong, and How to Start Getting It Right

4pm / Oxford University Mathematical Institute: Lecture Theatre 1 / £15 (£8 student)



Ron Weiss

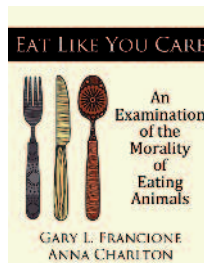
World-renowned biochemist and nutritionist Dr T Colin Campbell, pioneer of the whole food plant-based nutrition movement and co-author of *The China Study*, and Dr Ron Weiss, a physician, farmer and founder of Ethos Health, a farm-based healthcare system, reflect on nutrition research and on what our current attitude to food means for the future and for our health. Campbell will join the event via video screen.



Pepe Karmel *Looking at Picasso*

4pm / Oxford Martin School: Lecture Theatre / £15 (£8 student)

Leading US art historian Professor Pepe Karmel marks the 50th anniversary of the death of Pablo Picasso by drawing on a wealth of new scholarship to show how the greatest 20th-century artist transformed the traditional themes of western art.



Gary Francione and Anna Charlton *Eat Like You Care: An Examination of the Morality of Eating Animals*

6pm / Weston Lecture Theatre / £13.50 (£7 student)

Professors of law and experts in animal law and ethics Gary Francione and Anna Charlton argue that if you think animals matter morally then you should stop eating animal products.



Greg Mosse and Kate Mosse
Sharing the Love of Writing

6pm / Oxford University
Mathematical Institute: Lecture
Theatre 1 / £15 (£8 student)

Husband and wife writers Greg and
Kate Mosse discuss their shared love of
writing and their recent books.



Jessica Rawson

**Jessica Rawson talks to
Neil MacGregor**
Life and Afterlife in Ancient China

6pm / Pusey House: Chapel / £15
(£8 student)

Leading expert in Chinese art and archaeology
Professor Dame Jessica Rawson tells the story of
Ancient China through a dozen of its extraordinary
tombs.

Richard Reeves Of Boys and Men: Why the Modern Male is
Struggling, Why It Matters, and What To Do About It

6pm / Oxford Martin School: Seminar Room / £15 (£8 student)

Former government advisor and ex-director of the Demos think tank Richard
Reeves says the social and economic world of men has been turned upside
down and the basic social structures defining masculine maturity and success
must be reinvented.



Shamim Sarif Polarized: Same Town.
Different Worlds

6pm / Oxford University Mathematical
Institute: Lecture Theatre 2 / £13.50
(£7 student)

Award-winning independent filmmaker Shamim Sarif
introduces a screening of her film, Polarized, which
follows two contrasting lives lived in the same town,
followed by a question-and-answer session.



Teun Toebes
The Housemates: Learning about Love,
Care and Dementia from Living in a
Nursing Home

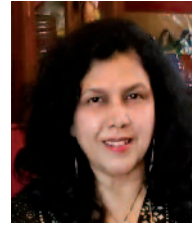
6pm / Oxford Martin School:
Lecture Theatre / £13.50 (£7 student)

Nursing student and young Dutch care innovator Teun
Toebes explains what happened when he decided to
rent a room in care home for a year at the age of 21
to find out what it was like to live as a resident.

Geoffrey Robertson and Robert Service
Oxford Debate: Russia: Past and Future

10am / Department for Continuing Education:
Lecture Theatre / £15 (£8 student)

Historian Professor Robert Service and human rights barrister Geoffrey
Robertson discuss how Russia reached this point in its history and what
could be next for this highly powerful and controversial nation.



Manjiri Prabhu
Legend of the Snow Queen

10am / Lincoln College: Oakeshott Room /
£13.50 (£7 student)

Pioneering Indian mystery writer and filmmaker
Manjiri Prabhu talks about her latest novel, *Legend
of the Snow Queen*, a love story and a tale of
international conspiracy.

C A Castle and Lex Croucher. Chaired by K J Charles
Queering the Period Drama

12 noon / Weston Lecture Theatre / £13.50 (£7 student)



C A Castle



Lex Croucher

Novelists C A Castle and Lex
Croucher discuss their
contemporary takes on the
period drama in their latest
works that feature genderfluid
protagonists and characters with
a range of queer identities.



Christopher Preston Tenacious Beasts:
Wildlife Recoveries that Change How
we think about Animals

12 noon / Department for Continuing
Education: Lecture Theatre / £13.50
(£7 student)

Environmental philosopher Professor Christopher
Preston explains what we can learn from animals
that are defying the odds and recovering from the
threat of extinction.



Kate Young

Kate Young and Ella Risbridger
The Dinner Table

12 noon / Oxford Martin School: Seminar
Room / £13.50 (£7 student)

Food writer Kate Young and writer and editor Ella
Risbridger discuss how they put together their new
collection of 100 of the finest pieces of writing on
food and who would be at their dinner party..



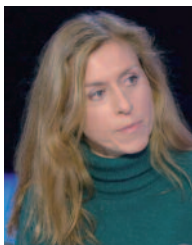
Fernanda Eberstadt Bite your Friends
12 noon / Exeter College: Chapel / £13.50 (£7 student)

Novelist Fernanda Eberstadt explores the lives of men and women who have used their wounded or stigmatised bodies to challenge society and reflects on her own story and that of her mother, whose illness-scarred body first led her to seek the connections between beauty, belief and the truths taught by bodily and psychic pain.



Zeinab Badawi
An African History of Africa: From the Dawn of Civilisation to Independence
12 noon / Oxford Martin School: Lecture Theatre / £15 (£8 student)

Well-known journalist, broadcaster and filmmaker Zeinab Badawi says Africa's history has been dominated by western narratives of slavery and colonialism or simply ignored and sets out to put the record straight.



Agnès Poirier Left Bank: Art, Passion and the Rebirth of Paris 1940-50
2pm / Lincoln College: Oakeshott Room / £13.50 (£7 student)

French journalist and writer Agnès Poirier tells the story of the original intellectual and artistic community that lived in Paris between 1940 and 1950 and whose work still has an impact on us today.



Josephine Quinn

Josephine Quinn talks to Peter Frankopan
How the World Made the West: A 4,000-Year History
2pm / Sheldonian Theatre / £15 (£8 student)

Historian Professor Josephine Quinn argues that Western civilisation was built on a set of values that stretch far wider than the classical world of Greece and Rome, in discussion with Prof Peter Frankopan.

Michael Benton Dinosaur Behaviour
2pm / Weston Lecture Theatre / £13.50 (£7 student)

World-renowned palaeontologist Professor Michael Benton brings along a few props to explain how dinosaurs evolved, how they behaved and how they became extinct in this family friendly event.

Venki Ramakrishnan and Andrew Scott
Life and Death: The Science and Challenges of Living Longer
2pm / Exeter College: Chapel / £15 (£8 student)



Venki Ramakrishnan



Andrew Scott

Nobel prize-winning molecular biologist Professor Sir Venki Ramakrishnan and economist Professor Andrew Scott discuss the science of living longer and how an ageing society is one of the most significant challenges facing the world.



Linda Yueh The Great Crashes: Lessons from Global Meltdowns and How to Prevent Them
2pm / Oxford Martin School: Lecture Theatre / £15 (£8 student)

Economist and former BBC chief business correspondent Professor Linda Yueh tells the story of ten great economic crashes and explains what we can learn from them.



Mya-Rose Craig Birdgirl: Looking to the Skies in Search of a Better Future
2pm / Oxford Martin School: Seminar Room / £13.50 (£7 student)

Young birder, environmentalist and activist Mya-Rose Craig talks about her passion for the environment and for birdwatching and about her activism.



Elizabeth Cripps Parenting on Earth: A Philosopher's Guide to Doing Right by Your Kids and Everyone Else
4pm / Exeter College: Chapel / £13.50 (£7 student)

Moral philosopher, activist and mother Elizabeth Cripps looks at what it means to be a parent in a world so out of balance.

Jancis Robinson and Julia Harding
The Oxford Companion to Wine and Wine Tasting
4pm / Lincoln College: Oakeshott Room / £25



Jancis Robinson



Julia Harding

Two of the world's most respected wine critics, Jancis Robinson and Julia Harding, talk about the latest edition of the multi-award-winning *The Oxford Companion to Wine*, alongside some wine tasting.



Greg Doran

My Shakespeare: A Director's Journey through the First Folio

4pm / Oxford Martin School:
Lecture Theatre / £15 (£8 student)

Former artistic director of the Royal Shakespeare Company Greg Doran looks back at his experiences of directing and producing Shakespeare's plays with help from a stage actor.



Catherine Nixey Heresy: Jesus Christ and the Other Sons of God

4pm / Oxford Martin School:
Seminar Room / £15 (£8 student)

Journalist Catherine Nixey tells the stories of the many Jesuses and says that far from 'In the beginning was the Word' there were in fact many different saviours who faded from view because they were deemed unacceptable.



Nichole Fazio Julia Margaret Cameron: A Poetry of Photography

4pm / Weston Lecture Theatre / £13.50 (£7 student)

Art historian Dr Nichole Fazio celebrates the work of pioneering Victorian photographer Julia Margaret Cameron who captured images of eminent people of her day, including John Herschel, Alfred Tennyson, Henry Taylor, George Frederic Watts, Ellen Terry and Julia Stephen.

William Hague talks to Dinah Rose

President of Magdalen Lecture: A Political Life

5pm / Sheldonian Theatre / £20-£15 (£10-£8 student)



William Hague

One of the most recognisable politicians of the last 40 years Lord William Hague talks about his political life and his writing and offers some perspectives on the current turbulent Westminster scene, with Dinah Rose KC, President of Magdalen College.



Dinah Rose

SATURDAY 16 MARCH



Michael Rosen The Incredible Adventures of Gaston Le Dog

10am / Sheldonian Theatre / £10

Join national treasure Michael Rosen for a morning of family entertainment, stories and poems, featuring new releases and classics from his incredible back catalogue. **Age: 4-7+**

E L Norry, David Farr and Nazneen Ahmed Pathak
Everyday Magic: Finding the Roots of Fantasy in Real Places and Experience

10am / Exeter College: Lecture Theatre / £10

Join our incredible panel of E L Norry, David Farr and Nazneen Ahmed Pathak as they explore how real places provided the inspiration for their fantasy writing. From Arthurian legend to occupied Europe to colonial rule in India, these stories all take root in the authors' experiences, finding a very real magic in the locations we inhabit and the communities that live there. **Age: 8+**



E L Norry



David Farr



Nazneen Ahmed Pathak

Philip Reeve and Sarah McIntyre Adventuremice

12 noon / Exeter College: Lecture Theatre / £8



Join storytelling superstars Philip Reeve and Sarah McIntyre to discover their superbly silly and endearing series for early readers, *Adventuremice*. **Age 5+**



Ben Miller Meet the Big, Bad Wolf

2pm / Exeter College: Lecture Theatre / £8

Actor, comedian and children's author Ben Miller will be in Oxford to introduce his brand-new series *The Fairytale Diaries*. Join Miller as he shares the fun he's had turning the land of fairy tales on its head and introduces the not-so-clever Big, Bad Wolf, smart Little Red Riding Hood and the brave three little pigs. Laughs guaranteed in this fun event for all the family.

EVENTS FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

SATURDAY 16 MARCH (continued)



Ruchira Gupta

Ruchira Gupta talks to Holly Bourne I Kick and I Fly

**12 noon / Oxford Martin School:
Seminar Room / £8**

Anti-sex-trafficking activist Ruchira Gupta talks about her debut novel for young adults, the story of an Indian teenager destined to be sold into the sex trade who sets out in search of a missing friend.

Age: young adult



Alasdair Beckett-King The World of Montgomery Bonbon

2pm / Lincoln College: Oakeshott Room / £8

Are you a keen detective in the making? Do you have a sharp eye for detail and a nose for hidden clues? Then this is the event for you. Author and award-winning comedian Alasdair Beckett-King invites you to meet Montgomery Bonbon, the world's finest detective. (And Bonnie Montgomery, his ten-year-old alter ego.) **Age 8-12**

Neill Cameron Mega Robo Bros Comic Workshop

4pm / Exeter College: Lecture Theatre / £8

Join us for a workshop with Neill Cameron, creator of Mega Robo Bros. Cameron will show you how to generate awesome ideas for your comics, and then how to turn those ideas into a comic story. Learn how to have awesome ideas, every time. Learn how to turn your ideas into amazing stories. And make your stories come alive with incredible artwork. children's comic *The Phoenix*.

Age 9+

SUNDAY 17 MARCH

Sam Sedgman The Clockwork Conspiracy

**12 noon / Department for Continuing Education:
Lecture Theatre / £8**

Unlock your inner mystery-solver and learn the secrets of time in this fact-packed event from bestselling author and confirmed nerd Sam Sedgman.

Age 9+



Kate Pankhurst Unlock your Inner Astronaut

**4pm / Department for Continuing Education:
Lecture Theatre / £8**

Unlock your inner astronaut and learn all about space in this fact-packed event from Kate Pankhurst – the bestselling creator of the Fantastically Great Women series. **Age 6+**

SATURDAY 23 MARCH

Greg Jenner

Totally Chaotic History: Ancient Egypt Gets Unruly

**10am / Oxford University
Mathematical Institute:
Lecture Theatre 1 / £10**



Join historian and chart-topping *You're Dead to Me* podcaster Greg Jenner for a totally chaotic trip to ancient Egypt. Jenner's whirlwind tour will bust myths, unravel mysteries and uncover mind-boggling truths about everything from Pharaohs and Egyptian gods to mummies and the pyramids. He will bring ancient Egypt to life to show you what it would really have been like to live through thousands of years of this extraordinary era. Hold on tight for a hectic, hilarious and exciting event. **Age 8-12**

Benji Davies The Great Storm Whale

10am / Pusey House: Chapel / £8

Join award-winning author and illustrator Benji Davies for this fun session based upon his much-loved Storm Whale stories. Find out how Davies creates his picture books, where he gets his ideas from, and enjoy a storytelling of the latest book in the series *The Great Storm Whale* and a live drawalong that everyone can join in. **Age 5+**

SUNDAY 24 MARCH



Jacqueline Wilson

The Girl Who Wasn't There

10am / Sheldonian Theatre / £10

Join us for a morning with the much-loved Dame Jacqueline Wilson and discover how she started her writing career, how she created some of her best-loved characters and hear about her brand new book *The Girl Who Wasn't There*, a story about siblings and friendship with a hint of ghostliness.

Age 9-12



Susie Dent Roots of Happiness: 100 Words for Joy and Hope

10am / Weston Lecture Theatre / £8

Writer and broadcaster on language Susie Dent picks out 100 words to show readers young and old how you can use words to make the world a happier place. **Age 7+**



Tom Holland The Wolf-Girl, the Greeks and the Gods: A Tale of the Persian Wars

12 noon / Sheldonian Theatre / £10

Join acclaimed historian, podcast host, and author Tom Holland as he discusses his first book for younger readers *The Wolf-Girl, the Greeks and the Gods: a Tale of the Persian Wars*. **Age: 8-12**

EVENTS FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

SUNDAY 24 MARCH (continued)



Katie and Kevin Tsang

Dragon Force

12 noon / Lincoln College:
Oakeshott Room / £8

Join bestselling authors Katie and Kevin Tsang as they welcome you to Camp Claw and invite you to join *Dragon Force*. Learn about Camp Claw, Dracordia, and the

heroes of *Dragon Force*. Imagine what your very own heartbonded dragon might look like and what secret power you might have – and together with the Tsangs, dream up a brand new dragon character. In addition to the interactive dragon activity, there will also be readings and time for a Q&A where you can ask Katie and Kevin questions about dragons, books, writing, or whatever you like. **Age 5-8**

Kiran Millwood Hargrave, Catherine Doyle and Alex Bell

Worlds of Wonder

2pm / Department for Continuing Education: Lecture Theatre / £10

Wolves, witches and pirates. Explore worlds of mystery, magic and fantasy with three best-selling authors in this not-to-be-missed Worlds of Wonder event. Join Alex Bell, Catherine Doyle and Kiran Millwood Hargrave as they discuss their writing, world-building and the inspirations behind their books, old and new. **Age 8+**

Holly Jackson talks to Katherine Webber

The Reappearance of Rachel Price

2pm / Exeter College: Lecture Theatre / £8



Holly Jackson

Don't miss the chance to hear from Holly Jackson, the UK's number one young adult author of 2023, and the mastermind behind the bestselling series, (soon to be a major BBC 3 series). In her only pre-publication festival appearance, Jackson will be discussing her highly anticipated new novel, *The Reappearance of Rachel Price*, with a behind-the-scenes look at how she crafts such fiendishly compelling crime thrillers. This event will be chaired by Katherine Webber, co-author of the bestselling *Twin Crowns* series. **Age 14+**

Lemony Snicket talks to Jack Meggitt-Phillips

A Series of Unfortunate Events

4pm / Department for Continuing Education: Lecture Theatre / £10

Join internationally bestselling author Lemony Snicket to celebrate the 25th anniversary and new collector's editions of *A Series of Unfortunate Events*. Enjoy a thought-provoking discussion for curious children and adults between Lemony Snicket, the pen name of American novelist Daniel Handler, and author of *The Beast and the Bethany* Jack Meggitt-Phillips). **Age: 8+**

FESTIVAL SPONSORS & PARTNERS

The Telegraph

Media partner



NETFLIX



EUROPEAN UNION

Supported by the Delegation of the European Union to the UK



cultural relations PLATFORM

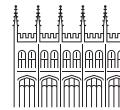
Supporter of the festival's Voices of Europe programme



International radio partner



Supporter of programme of science and medicine and annual science and innovation award



BODLEIAN LIBRARIES UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD

Festival cultural partner



Festival ideas partner



The Spanish Embassy – London Supporters of the programme of Spanish literature and culture



Cervantes Institute London



Italian Embassy Supporters of the Italian programme



THE DORCHESTER

DORCHESTER COLLECTION Festival London hotel partner



Festival literary heritage partner

BLACKWELL'S

Festival on-site and online bookseller

THE RANDOLPH HOTEL

by GRADUATE HOTELS Festival hotel



5-star hotel partners of The Oxford Collection



Mathematical Institute

FESTIVAL SPONSORS & PARTNERS

Festival Donors

Jim Mellon

John Roberts FRIBA

Lady Hatch

Patron donor for the programme of Irish literature and culture

Sir Tim & Lady Marion Stevenson

Sir Martin & Lady Elise Becket Smith

Miles Young

Masumi & Jonathan Dobson

Pank Koria

CEO of Project People

Carole & John Allen

David Isaac

Mary and Cecil Quillen

Supporters of the programme of American literature and culture

Anna Hunter

And generous anonymous donors



Exeter College

College home of the festival.
Founded 1314



NEW COLLEGE
UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD

Founded 1379



WORCESTER COLLEGE
Founded 1714



Lincoln College
UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD

Founded 1427



TRINITY COLLEGE

Founded 1555



MAGDALEN COLLEGE
OXFORD

Founded 1458



Brasenose
College
UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD

Founded 1509



WADHAM COLLEGE
UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD

Founded 1610



PUSEY
HOUSE
ST GILES, OXFORD



Festival accountants



Registered Charity Number 120615



Wines of the Douro Valley



Fine Tuscan wines



Olive oil from Sicily



Prestige publishing partner



Sponsor of the European Literature Prize since 2018



Partner of Oxford Literary Festival



Confucius Institute at Oxford
Brookes University



Local radio partner



Festival digital strategy and web design



Alumni office



OXFORD CENTRE FOR HEBREW AND JEWISH STUDIES



OXFORD CENTRE FOR ISLAMIC STUDIES



THE SHELDONIAN THEATRE



Oxford University Images



KT Bruce Photography



improving literacy • increasing life chances



The world's meeting place for writers and readers

Festival historic venues



Sir Christopher Wren's 17th-century
Sheldonian Theatre



New College 14th-century Great Hall



Worcester College 18th-century
main quad



Exeter College – founded 1314
home of the festival



The 19th-century Oxford
Martin School building



The Bodleian Library's 15th-century Divinity School

