

The poster features a textured, light brown background with abstract white and blue circular and linear patterns. The main title 'FESTIVAL OF IDEAS' is written in large, bold, pink, distressed block letters. The dates '9-30 MAY 2007' are centered in a smaller, blue, distressed font.

# FESTIVAL OF IDEAS

9-30 MAY  
2007

Bristol Cultural Development Partnership

[www.ideasfestival.co.uk](http://www.ideasfestival.co.uk)

# FESTIVAL OF 9-30 MAY 2007 IDEAS



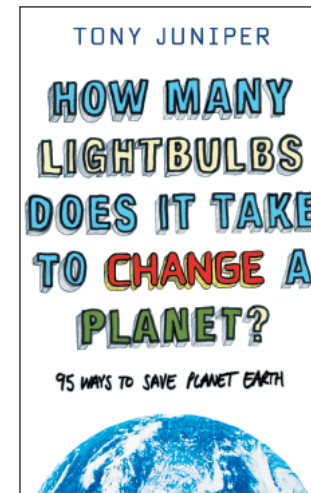
(Clockwise from top) Kiran Desai, Graham Swift and Billy Bragg

The 2007 Festival of Ideas aims to ignite the hearts and minds of the people of Bristol, exploring questions on the arts, Englishness, happiness and affluence, Africa, big business, spirituality, crime and justice, science and peace. We have some great speakers including two Booker Prize-winning novelists, Kiran Desai and Graham Swift, one Nobel Prize winner for Literature, Wole Soyinka, musician Billy Bragg, cartoonist Steve Bell, psychologist Oliver James and civil rights campaigner Clive Stafford Smith.



In addition to this broad assembly of thinkers, speakers and writers lined up to share their ideas, the festival and Watershed present two film strands to offer audiences food for thought – a season on spirituality and film, and a documentary series of screenings and debates which explore contemporary issues affecting people today, from corporate corruption to globalization and climate change.

(Film stills from top) Non-Fat and Enron: The Smartest Guys in the Room



The documentary programme includes screenings of *Black Gold* and *Fast Food Nation*, films that argue that we must radically change industry, economics and society if we hope to continue our way of life. Introducing some of the films are leading speakers including Colin Skellet, chairman of Wessex Water, once owned by Enron, talking about working for the company with a showing of *Enron: The Smartest Guys In The Room*. We are also hosting a panel of leading green campaigners, including Tony Juniper, Director of Friends of the Earth, talking about *An Inconvenient Truth*, looking at what we can do to avert climate change.

I look forward to joining you in hearing some inspiring talks and participating in the debates.

**Andrew Kelly**



9 MAY

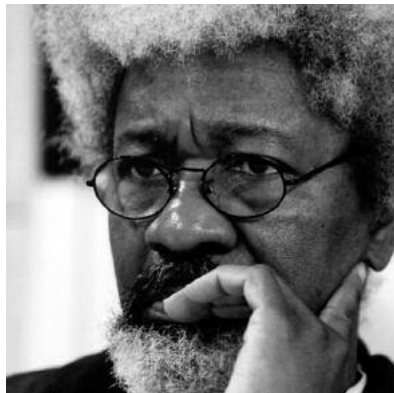
**WOLE SOYINKA**

12.30-14.00

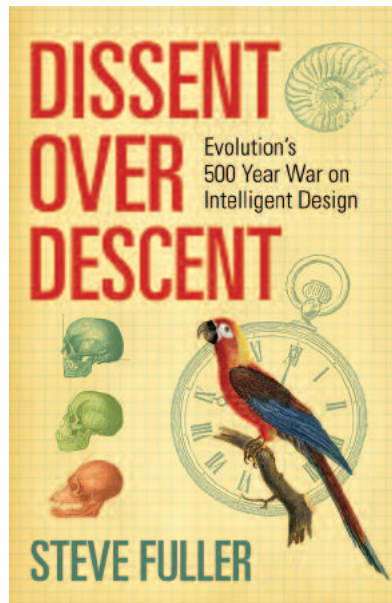
British Empire and Commonwealth Museum

£6.00/£4.00

Wole Soyinka is a courageous voice for human rights, democracy, and freedom. The first African to receive the Nobel Prize for Literature, as well as a political activist of prodigious energy, Wole Soyinka follows his modern classic *Aké* with an equally important chronicle of his turbulent life as an adult in (and in exile from) his beloved, beleaguered homeland, Nigeria, in his new book *You Must Set Forth at Dawn*. The book is an intimate chronicle of his thrilling public life, a meditation on justice and tyranny, and a testament to a ravaged yet hopeful land. A rare opportunity to hear a world-leading speaker.



Wole Soyinka



**PROFESSOR STEVEN FULLER ON INTELLIGENT DESIGN**

18.00-19.00

Watershed

£3.00/£2.00

Bristol and the South West have big plans for celebrating the life and work of Charles Darwin in 2009, the bicentenary of his birth. Both Darwin and evolution are coming under increasing attack, however, the latest riposte being Intelligent Design. Steven Fuller, Professor of Sociology at the University of Warwick, is the author of a forthcoming book defending Intelligent Design: *Dissent over Descent*. He believes Intelligent Design has driven science for 500 years, being responsible for the 17th century's scientific revolution and helping build modern histories of physics, mathematics, genetics and social science. Steven Fuller's revisionist history is essential reading for anyone who wants to gain a deeper understanding of science's most vociferous debate. Chaired by Julian Baggini, author of *Atheism*.

10 MAY

**CLIVE STAFFORD SMITH ON CRIME AND JUSTICE**

18.00-19.00

Watershed

£3.00/£2.00

Clive Stafford Smith is the Legal Director of Reprive (www.reprive.org.uk). He spent 20 years fighting for the lives of people facing the death penalty in the Southern United States, and now represents 36 of the prisoners held out of reach of the law in the US prison in Guantánamo Bay. Clive was one of the first lawyers to visit Guantánamo and has now written a book about his clients and his experiences, *Bad Men – Guantánamo Bay and the Secret Prisons*, published in 2007. His book shines a bright, unblinking light into the darkest corners of illegality that are being justified by governments in the name of the War on Terror. A devastating story that will make you cry, laugh and shake your head in disbelief. Clive Stafford Smith is one of the heroes of our age, an optimist in bad times, dedicated to achieving justice for his clients.



Clive Stafford Smith

11 MAY

**Museum of Bristol Lecture**

**ADAM SISMAN ON BRISTOL AND THE ROMANTIC POETS**

18.00-19.00

Bristol City Museum and Art Gallery

Free

A chance meeting between two young poets in Bristol more than two hundred years ago was to have momentous consequences, kick-starting the Romantic Movement in England. The revolution inaugurated by William Wordsworth and Samuel Taylor Coleridge continues to have a profound effect on our culture in the twenty-first century.

In 1795 both were intensely involved in political arguments that resonate today – among them resistance to government oppression and opposition to a foreign war. Coleridge was notorious in Bristol for delivering a passionate speech denouncing slavery, so much so that slave-owners hired thugs to silence him. In the years that followed these two would withdraw from active involvement in politics, developing an alternative philosophy of respect for all living things and a reverence for nature that now seems astonishingly modern.

The Museum of Bristol, opening in 2009, will provide a social history of the life and times of this great city. In the first annual Museum of Bristol lecture, Adam Sisman discusses the origins of the marvellously fertile friendship between Wordsworth and Coleridge.

## 12 MAY

### STEVE BELL AND THE IF CARTOON

14.00-15.00

Watershed

£6.00/£4.00

Steve Bell was described by the *Sunday Times* as 'the best political cartoonist we have'. Tony Benn said his 'instinctive radicalism places him clearly on the side of the poor and the oppressed, and against the might of the rich and powerful'. His daily *If...* cartoon strip in *The Guardian* is required reading as a commentary on our life and times and as a great start to the day. In an illustrated presentation, he talks about the history of *If...* and his new book, *My Vision for You*, the ultimate self-help guide using the Blair method.

## 14 MAY

### ENRON: THE SMARTEST GUYS IN THE ROOM

18.00-20.30

Watershed

£6.00/£4.00

After their fall from grace in 2001, Enron executives Ken Lay and Jeff Skilling refused to speak to the media, but the company archives contain a number of revealing phone conversations and video tapes. With expert commentary Alex Gibney reveals how Enron's defrauding of investors, employees and the entire state of California was not so much the product of a few bad apples as the ultimate result of a deregulated free-market system. A fascinating chronicle of arrogance and greed. Showing with the short film *72 Faced Liar*. Introduced by Colin Skellett, chairman, Wessex Water, which was owned by Enron at one time.

### JOHN TUSA ON THE FUTURE OF THE ARTS

18.00-19.00

Arnolfini

£6.00/£4.00

Sir John Tusa has been Managing Director of London's Barbican Centre for more than a decade and has been a notable controversialist, speaking up for the need for the arts, defending their achievements and arguing for more funding. In his new book, *Engaged with the Arts: Writings from the Frontline*, he provides passionately argued, candid and challenging essays on the arts in Britain today, seeking out the ways in which they can be made to blossom in this cultural and political climate, with cuts in arts funding ever threatened. His is a call for us to think about why art matters so crucially for us all.

### BILLY BRAGG AND JULIAN BAGGINI ON ENGLISHNESS

19.30-21.00

Arnolfini

£6.00/£4.00

National pride and Englishness are coming to the forefront of political argument. In his book *The Progressive Patriot*, Billy Bragg provides a passionate and brilliant polemic on the meaning of national identity in modern Britain. His exploration of what it means to be English looks at the cross of St. George, religious fundamentalism, patriotism, inclusivity and belonging. He talks about Englishness with philosopher Julian Baggini, whose latest book, *Welcome to Everytown*, is the account of six months he spent in postcode area S66 on the outskirts of Rotherham – an area which reflected most accurately the full range of the nation's inhabitants, its most typical mix of urban and rural, old and young, married and single.

## 15 MAY

### BLACK GOLD

18.00-19.30

Watershed

£6.00/£4.00

With retail sales estimated at \$80 billion, coffee is the second most actively traded commodity in the world after oil. This eye-opening documentary traces the coffee trade from its agricultural birthplace in Ethiopia (where it generates 67 percent of the country's export revenue) to your cup in Starbucks. English filmmakers Nick and Marc Francis explore the discrepancy between the skyrocketing profits of multinational coffee companies and the all-time low prices paid for coffee harvests, all the while following Tadesse Meskela on his determined mission to secure a fair deal for Ethiopia's 70,000 coffee farmers. Also showing is the short film *Non-Fat*, the winner of the 2006 Depict! Competition.

### GRAHAM SWIFT

18.00-19.00

Arnolfini

£6.00/£4.00

Graham Swift won the 1996 Booker Prize for *Last Orders*. His new novel, *Tomorrow*, tells Paula's story – a magical exploration of coupledom, parenthood and selfhood, and a unique meditation on the mystery of happiness. On a midsummer's night Paula lies awake, Mike, her husband of 25 years asleep beside her, her two teenage children, Nick and Kate, sleeping in nearby rooms. The next day, she knows, will redefine all their lives. Her story is both a glowing celebration of love possessed and a moving acknowledgement of the fear of loss, of the fragilities, illusions and secrets on which even our most intimate sense of who we are can rest.



(Clockwise from top) Tobias Jones, Jay Griffiths and Tom Hodgkinson

### THE POLITICS OF AFFLUENCE AND WELLBEING WITH JAY GRIFFITHS, TOM HODGKINSON, OLIVER JAMES AND TOBIAS JONES

19.30-21.00

Arnolfini

£6.00/£4.00

What makes us happy is now a major area of science and both happiness and wellbeing are rapidly becoming hot political issues. Psychologist Oliver James, author of *They F\*\*\* You Up* and *Britain on the Couch*, has spent the last 12 months travelling the world to investigate why, despite the fact that we are getting richer, we don't seem to be getting any happier. He debates his book *Affluenza* with Tom Hodgkinson, editor of *The Idler* and author of *How to be Free*, Jay Griffiths who has written on the nature of time and whose new book, *Wild*, explores the need for wild places for happiness, and Tobias Jones, whose *Utopian Dreams* looks at alternative communities.

16 MAY

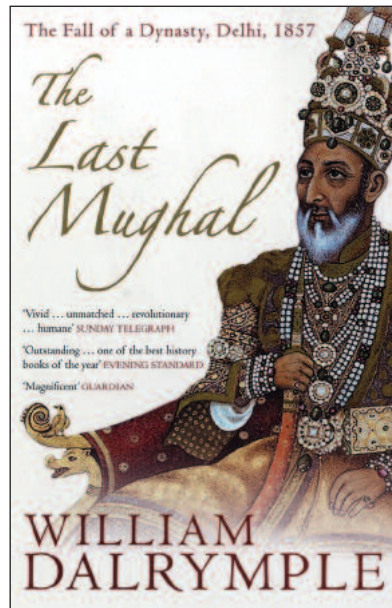
### FAST FOOD NATION

18.00-20.30

Watershed

£6.00/£4.00

Inspired by the bestselling book by journalist Eric Schlosser, *Fast Food Nation* delves into the murky world of the fast food industry while exploring the contradictions of contemporary American life. Centred around a fictional Colorado town, the film focuses on various links in the food production chain: a young Mexican couple working illegally in a perilous meat-packing plant, a restaurant-chain executive undergoing a crisis of conscience, and a teenage burger-slinger drawn into political activism. With an all-star cast featuring Greg Kinnear, Ethan Hawke, Catalina Sandino Moreno and Bruce Willis, Richard Linklater majestically weaves these stories into a hard hitting look at the fast food industry, touching on wider environmental and social consequences. Showing with the short film *Kitchen*, in which a young woman prepares a recipe for her husband which turns out to be far from easy! Introduced by Carl Honore, author of *In Praise of Slow*.



### WILLIAM DALRYMPLE ON INDIA

19.00-20.00

British Empire and Commonwealth Museum

£6.00/£4.00

William Dalrymple is one of our leading writers on Indian history. His latest book, *The Last Mughal*, is a portrait – using extensive new material – of Bahadur Shah Zafar II, the story of the last days of the great Mughal capital and its final destruction in the catastrophe of 1857. *The Last Mughal* is an extraordinary revisionist work with clear contemporary echoes. It is the first account to present the Indian perspective on the siege, and has at its heart the stories of the forgotten individuals tragically caught up in one of the bloodiest upheavals in history as well as telling the remarkable story of Zafar who, though starved of power, nevertheless succeeded in creating a court of brilliance, and presided over one of the great cultural renaissances of Indian history.

17 MAY

### AN INCONVENIENT TRUTH

18.00-20.35

Watershed

£6.00/£4.00

Davis Guggenheim's riveting Oscar-winning documentary charts former presidential candidate Al Gore's efforts to raise the public's awareness of climate change and global warming. Based on over 1000 lectures on the environment which Gore has given around the world since 2000, Guggenheim showcases the man's wit, humour and intellect. Gore pleads that we can no longer afford to view global warming as a political issue – rather, he argues that it is the biggest moral challenge facing our civilization if humanity is to survive. Showing with the short film *ARKive* – a web resource creating a lasting audio-visual record of life on Earth. Following the film a panel will debate the practical things to be done to halt climate change and environmental disaster with Tony Juniper, Director, Friends of the Earth, Peter Madden, CEO of Forum for the Future and Chris Priest, non-exec director of Green Light Trust and of the DEFRA-funded ClimateSpace project, and lead scientist on the Climate Futures investigation at Hewlett Packard Labs.



An Inconvenient Truth



Paddy Ashdown

### PADDY ASHDOWN ON MAKING PEACE

19.30-21.00

Council House

Free

Between 2002 and 2006 Sir Paddy Ashdown, former leader of the Liberal Democrats, was the High Representative for Bosnia-Herzegovina, seeing at first hand the effects of war. His latest book *Swords and Ploughshares: Bringing Peace to the 21st Century*, reflects on that experience. The British armed forces are currently engaged in Afghanistan, Iraq and the Balkans in 'peacekeeping operations': how do we avoid these missions turning into long-term entanglements? How do we bring our soldiers home? And what do we do about failed states that are havens for gangsters and terrorists? Paddy Ashdown fears we will soon see major wars between nation states, many beginning as minor conflicts that will expand into full-scale wars unless the international community intervenes. The way to stop the big wars is to deal promptly with the small ones. There have been 15 UN-led interventions since 1946, and there are 74 wars in progress today. Ashdown is uniquely qualified to investigate the successes and failures of peacekeeping operations, reveal what lessons have been learned – and what lessons keep being forgotten.



## 18 MAY

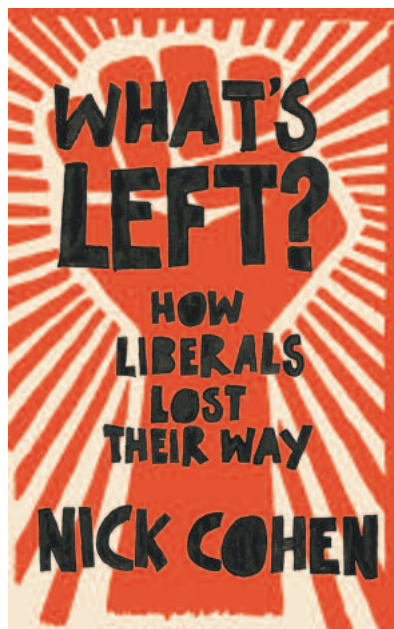
### NICK COHEN ON WHAT HAPPENED TO THE LEFT?

18.30-19.30

Watershed

£3.00/£2.00

Nick Cohen always felt that to be good you had to be on the Left. Now he is confused: the Left apologises for a militant Islam, supports Palestine but not change in China, the Sudan, Zimbabwe or North Korea. In one of the most talked about books of the year, *What's Left? How Liberals Lost Their Way*, Nick Cohen reclaims the values of democracy and solidarity that united the movement against fascism. *The Observer* called it 'a moving account of a long personal journey carried off with wit, verve, considerable literary skill and compassion'.



### WHO KILLED THE ELECTRIC CAR?

18.00-20.00

Watershed

£6.00/£4.00

Fast, sleek, efficient and fun to drive – the electric car, most notably the General Motors EV-1, seemed to have been beamed from the future. Then, seemingly just as quickly as it arrived, it disappeared. The cars were recalled by the manufacturers and the vehicles were destroyed, despite the valiant efforts of dedicated electric enthusiasts. Fashioned like a tongue-in-cheek murder mystery, this provocative look at the intersection between the auto industry, oil interests, the government, science and consumers will make your next walk to the parking lot feel like a distinctly political act. Showing with the short film *Clown Children*, an 'ordinary' day in the life of two brothers in Guatemala City.



Jasper Fforde

## 19 MAY

### JASPER FFORDE

14.00-15.00

Arnolfini

£6.00/£4.00

Jasper Fforde is a remarkable writer. His first novel *The Eyre Affair*, introducing the detective Thursday Next, is set in Swindon in 1985, in a world that is similar to our own, but with a few crucial – and bizarre – differences (Wales is a socialist republic, the Crimean War is still ongoing and the most popular pets are home-cloned dodos). Over the next three years Jasper became a phenomenon across the world, with his novels receiving effusive praise and huge sales. In July 2005 Jasper began a new series of books – called Nursery Crime – with the publication of *The Big Over Easy*, a police procedural into the universal mystery *Who Killed Humpty Dumpty?* The second book in the series, *The Fourth Bear*, was published in July 2006. Jasper will return to the Thursday Next series – and Swindon – with the publication of the fifth book in the series *First Among Sequels*, next year. Jasper lives and writes in Wales and has a passion for aviation. He talks about the ideas in his books.

## 21 MAY

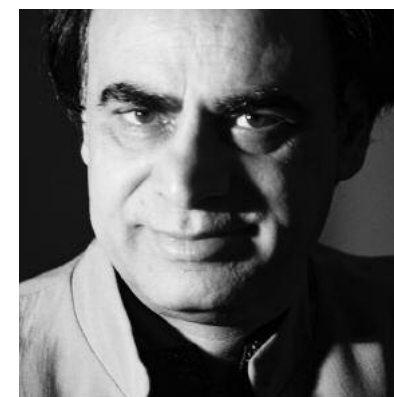
### ZIAUDDIN SARDAR ON ISLAM AND SCIENCE

18.00-19.00

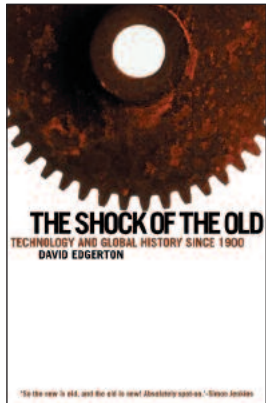
Watershed

£3.00/£2.00

Ziauddin Sardar has been called 'Britain's own Muslim polymath' and is a pioneering writer on Islam, science and contemporary cultural issues. The Qur'an and the traditions of the Prophet Muhammad place a great deal of importance on science and this close and deep relationship established science as an integral part of Muslim culture and civilisation. From the ninth to the fifteenth century, Muslim scholars pursued science as famine stricken people hanker after food. But the decline was just as spectacular. Why did Muslim societies abandon the pursuit of science? Why is science so conspicuously absent from Muslim societies? This lecture argues that a viable, dynamic culture of Islam is not possible without a serious infusion of the scientific spirit. Science belongs at the very heart of Islamic culture and the survival of Muslim civilisation itself is intrinsically linked to its troubled relationship with science.



Ziauddin Sardar



22 MAY

DAVID EDGERTON ON THE SHOCK OF THE OLD

18.00-19.00

Watershed

£3.00/£2.00

We think we live in an age of new technology. David Edgerton's new book *The Shock of the Old* challenges the idea that we live in an era of ever increasing change. Interweaving political, economic and cultural history, it will show what it means to think critically about technology and its importance. Standard histories of technology give tired old accounts of the usual inventions but *The Shock of the Old* argues that to have a full picture of the history of technology we need to know not about what a few people invented, but about what things everyday people used – and when they actually used them. It reassesses the Pill and IT, and shows the continued importance of technology such as corrugated iron and sewing machines. Simon Jenkins in *The Guardian* said this 'is a book I can use. I can take it in two hands and bash it over the heads of every techno-nerd, computer geek and neophilic futurologist I meet.'

30 MAY

KIRAN DESAI ON HER BOOKER PRIZE-WINNING NOVEL THE INHERITANCE OF LOSS

19.30-21.00

Council House

£3.00 – Book with Bristol Libraries

Kiran Desai won the 2006 Man Booker Prize for *The Inheritance of Loss*, the youngest ever woman to win the competition. At the foot of Mount Kanchenjunga in the Himalayas, lives an embittered old judge who wants nothing more than to retire in peace. But with the arrival of his orphaned granddaughter, Sai, and his cook's son trying to stay a step ahead of US immigration services, this is far from easy. When a Nepalese insurgency threatens Sai's blossoming romance with her handsome tutor, they are forced to consider their colliding interests. The judge must revisit his past, his own journey and his role in this grasping world of conflicting desires, every moment holding out the possibility for hope or betrayal. *The Inheritance of Loss* explores what it means to be an immigrant, and what happens when people move from a poor country to a wealthy one. Kiran Desai is the author of *Hullabaloo in the Guava Orchard* and she lives in the United States where she teaches writing at MIT.

9-20 MAY

SPIRITUALITY AND FILM SEASON

Stories have forever been used to convey philosophical and ontological truths to a wide audience, and cinema arguably plays a key role in carrying on that collective tradition. Maybe it's the visual nature of the film which allows it to transcend its entertainment and artistic appeal, sharing with the audience concepts of spirituality and the sublime. This season of screenings and discussions presented by Watershed as part of the Festival of Ideas explores whether cinema can deal with notions of spirituality, philosophical ideas and debates of the spiritual; whether it can in fact present a spiritual experience and if so, what that experience is like and what its purpose is. We revisit a selection of classics from *Raging Bull* and *Three Colours: Blue* to *Groundhog Day* and *Ghost Dog* in a more contemplative light, looking at spiritual notions such as rebirth, redemption and enlightenment. Other highlights in the programme will include a special Birdman of Alkijazz live performance to early silent Buddhist masterpiece *Light of Asia* at Arnolfini, Laurel Chiten's compelling documentary on writer Rodger Kamenetz, *Jew in The Lotus* and an Éric Rohmer double-bill. We're delighted to welcome to Watershed guest speakers Ian Christie, Anniversary Professor of Film and Media History, Birkbeck College London University, Stephen Hinde, a Buddhist teacher within the Longchen Foundation tradition, Keith Tester, Professor of Cultural Sociology at the University of Portsmouth, Dr Rupert Gethi, Director of the Centre for Buddhist Studies, University of Bristol and Father Robert King, Catholic Chaplain, University of Bristol.

For more information on the programme, visit: [www.watershed.co.uk/spirituality](http://www.watershed.co.uk/spirituality)



Three Colours: Blue

## SUMMARY PROGRAMME

DATE	EVENT	TIME	VENUE
9 May	Wole Soyinka	12.30-14.00	British Empire and Commonwealth Museum
	Professor Steven Fuller on intelligent design	18.00-19.00	Watershed
10 May	Clive Stafford Smith on crime and justice	18.00-19.00	Watershed
11 May	<b>Museum of Bristol Lecture</b> Adam Sisman on Bristol and the Romantic poets	18.00-19.00	Bristol City Museum and Art Gallery
	Steve Bell and the If cartoon	14.00-15.00	Watershed
14 May	<i>Enron: The Smartest Guys In The Room</i>	18.00-20.30	Watershed
	John Tusa on the future of the arts	18.00-19.00	Arnolfini
	Billy Bragg and Julian Baggini on Englishness	19.30-21.00	Arnolfini
15 May	<i>Black Gold</i>	18.00-19.30	Watershed
	Graham Swift	18.00-19.00	Arnolfini
	The politics of affluence and wellbeing with Jay Griffiths, Tom Hodgkinson, Oliver James and Tobias Jones	19.30-21.00	Arnolfini
16 May	<i>Fast Food Nation</i>	18.00-20.30	Watershed
	William Dalrymple on India	19.00-20.00	British Empire and Commonwealth Museum
17 May	<i>An Inconvenient Truth</i>	18.00-20.35	Watershed
	Paddy Ashdown on making peace	19.30-21.00	Council House
18 May	Nick Cohen on <i>What happened to the Left?</i>	18.30-19.30	Watershed
	<i>Who Killed the Electric Car?</i>	18.00-20.00	Watershed
19 May	Jasper Fforde	14.00-15.00	Arnolfini
21 May	Ziauddin Sardar on Islam and science	18.00-19.00	Watershed
22 May	David Edgerton on <i>The Shock of the Old</i>	18.00-19.00	Watershed
30 May	Kiran Desai on her Booker-Prize winning novel <i>The Inheritance of Loss</i>	19.30-21.00	Council House
	Spirituality and Film Season	Various	Watershed/Arnolfini

## FORTHCOMING

Bristol Cultural Development Partnership organises many special Festival of Ideas' events throughout the year. Previous speakers have included Edward de Bono and Will Hutton. For further details go to [www.ideasfestival.co.uk](http://www.ideasfestival.co.uk)

Events for June include:

**JUNE** DATE TO BE CONFIRMED

**XIAOLU AND NICK BROOMFIELD**

Watershed

£6.00/£4.00

Filmmaker and writer Xiaolu Guo, whose latest book *A Concise Chinese-English Dictionary for Lovers*, about a Chinese woman in England, has been widely praised, discusses her work with Nick Broomfield, the filmmaker. Both Nick and Xiaolu are award winning filmmakers. Nick's latest film, *Ghosts*, is fictional (though based on a true story) about a young Chinese girl who is smuggled into the UK so she can support her son and family in China. Xiaolu's new film, *How is Your Fish Today*, is already a hit on the international film circuit. Both films will be shown and there will be a discussion focussed around the Chinese in Britain today from different perspectives.

**THE HUB SALON**

Before each screening in the documentary film season – *An Inconvenient Truth*, *Enron*, *Black Gold*, *Fast Food Nation* and *Who Killed the Electric Car?* there will be a discussion in the Bristol Hub between 17.00 and 17.50. Just turn up and join the debate. The Hub is located two doors down from the Old Vic Theatre. 35 King Street, Bristol BS1 4DZ. See [www.the-hub.net/where/bristol](http://www.the-hub.net/where/bristol)

**21 JUNE**

**JOHN GRAY ON BLACK MASS: APOCALYPTIC RELIGION AND THE DEATH OF UTOPIA**

18.00-19.00

University of Bristol, Wills Memorial Building

Free

During the last century global politics was shaped by utopian myths. Pursuing a dream of a world without evil, powerful states waged war and practised terror on an unprecedented scale. From Germany to Russia to China to Afghanistan entire societies were destroyed. Utopian ideologies rejected traditional faiths and claimed to be based in science. They were actually versions of the myth of Apocalypse – the belief in a world-changing event that brings history, with all its conflicts, to an end. The war in Iraq was the last of these secular utopias, promising a new era of democracy and producing blood-soaked anarchy and an emerging theocracy instead. John Gray argues that the death of Utopia does not mean peace; rather the resurgence of ancient myths, now in openly fundamentalist forms. Obscurely mixed with geo-political struggles for the control of natural resources, apocalyptic religion has returned as a major force in global conflict.



## BOOKING DETAILS

Tickets where there is any entry fee must be purchased at the venues where the events take place.

### Arnolfini

You can book tickets by phoning 0117 917 2300/01 (phone lines are open from 9.30am to 9.30pm daily)

or in person at the box office (open from 10am to 9.30pm daily)

If you have any enquiries, please ring or email at [boxoffice@arnolfini.org.uk](mailto:boxoffice@arnolfini.org.uk)

### British Empire and Commonwealth Museum

Station Approach, Temple Meads, Bristol BS1 6QH

T: 0117 925 4980

E: [admin@empiremuseum.co.uk](mailto:admin@empiremuseum.co.uk)

### Watershed

To book tickets, please call Box Office on 0117 927 5100. For more info, visit: [www.watershed.co.uk](http://www.watershed.co.uk)

### Kiran Desai event

Tickets are available in the Bristol Central Library or via Munawar Hussain.

T: 0117 903 7244

E: [munawar.hussain@bristol.gov.uk](mailto:munawar.hussain@bristol.gov.uk)

### Free events

Book direct for these with the Festival of Ideas at [ideasfestival@btinternet.com](mailto:ideasfestival@btinternet.com). Advance booking recommended.

### General enquiries

Call Laura Shears on 01275 370 790

The Bristol Festival of Ideas is an initiative of Bristol Cultural Development Partnership:



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