

Cambridge Literary Festival

Spring 2015
14–19 April

In partnership with

NewStatesman

Festival highlights

Omid Djalili

Maggi Hambling

Jane Hawking

Anthony Horowitz

Will Hutton

Celia Imrie

Judith Kerr

Robert Macfarlane

Roger McGough

Mary Portas

Michael Rosen

Graham Swift

Book at

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**CAMBRIDGE
LITERARY
FESTIVAL**



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Director's Welcome

Welcome to our thirteenth spring festival. Lucky for us we will be joined by a wealth of writers, thinkers, creators, provocateurs, artists, dreamers and challengers. We are delighted to be inviting back old friends Graham Swift, Celia Imrie and Maggi Hambling, and excited to be welcoming new friends Omid Djalili, Jeremy Bowen and Mary Portas.

Love it or hate it the next General Election is just around the corner and as the two-party *ancien-régime* of British politics crumbles our focus is on the state of the nation and wider international affairs. Joining us to discuss the condition of British politics and the pressing issues of the day are some of our most experienced practitioners and insightful commentators. The jewel in the crown of this pre-election theme is acclaimed journalist, historian and cross-bench peer Peter Hennessy talking to grandees Norman Tebbit, Shirley Williams and Roy Hattersley who will bring their wisdom to bear on the altogether different political landscape that now faces them. We look at the legacy of a coalition government, growing inequality and the situation facing the younger generation with the help of Will Hutton, Polly Toynbee, Danny Dorling and Zoe Williams. The New Statesman debate – now a firm fixture in the programme – will focus on an increasingly polarised European Union and Britain's place within it. And savage and funny political cartoonist, Steve Bell, will provide his razor sharp spin.

Our children's programme has some truly exceptional highlights including beloved Judith Kerr (*The Tiger Who Came to Tea* and *When Hitler Stole Pink Rabbit*); best-selling author of teen-spy series Anthony Horowitz, and the utterly fabulous Michael Rosen with his latest family show.

And it wouldn't be Cambridge without the appearance of an academic or two and our new *Meet the Professor* strand will provide intimate encounters with three Cambridge Professors who will share their ground-breaking wisdom.

Join us for a spectacular 6 days of inspiration, challenge and merriment.

Cathy Moore, Festival Director

Diary Dates

Winter Festival 2015

29 November

Spring Festival 2016

6–10 April

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Festival Team

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Ruth Scurr

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Frances Spalding

Anna Whitelock

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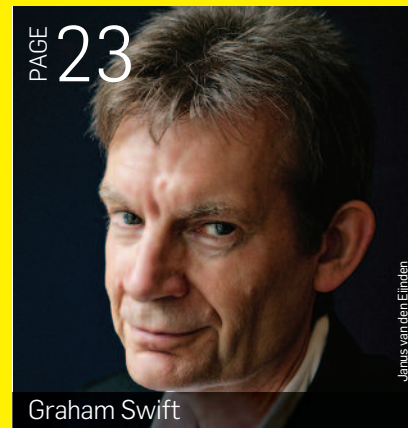
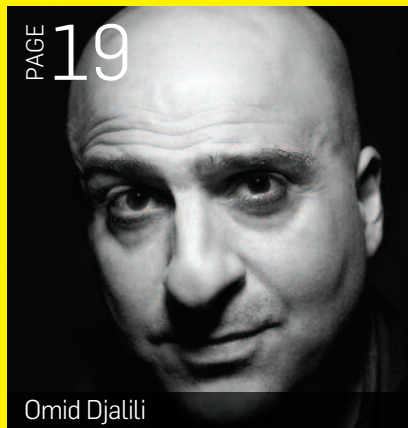
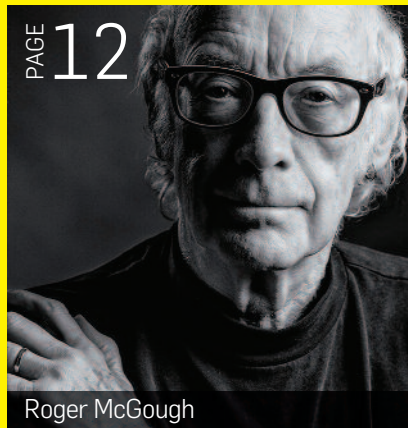
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Festival highlights

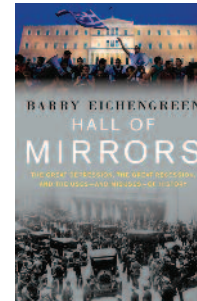




Picture by Martin Bond www.acambridgediary.co.uk

Tuesday 14 April

6–7pm
The Winstanley
£10/£6



Edward Caldwell

Meet the Professor: Barry Eichengreen

Visiting Berkeley Professor of Economics, Barry Eichengreen, talks about his book, *Hall of Mirrors: The Great Depression, The Great Recession, and the Uses – and Misuses – of History*. Our Professor argues that lessons of the past may have been applied too literally and a wiser response will be needed if a third great financial crisis is to be avoided.

'Hall of Mirrors is destined to change the way we think about both the Great Depression and the Great Recession. Commentators and scholars will debate its thesis for many years to come.' FT

WORLD AFFAIRS

With thanks to Baillie Gifford



Carlin Mcgridge



Anna-Lena Ahlstrom

7.30–8.30pm
The Winstanley
£10/£6



Caroline Criado-Perez & Katrine Marçal

In this inspiring event and call-to-arms for doing it like a woman, Caroline Criado-Perez, feminist activist and author of *Do It Like a Woman*, and Katrine Marçal, journalist and author of *Who Cooked Adam Smith's Dinner?*, discuss the lack of positive female representation in society – from the media through to the world of work and come up with some suggestions as to what we can do about it.

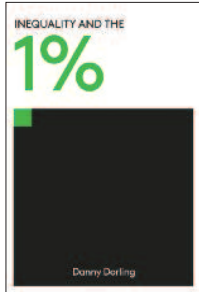
Chaired by festival patron, Anna Whitelock.

WORLD AFFAIRS

Main Programme

Wednesday 15 April

6–7pm
The Winstanley
£10/£6



Danny Dorling

Leading social thinker, Danny Dorling, examines one of the most urgent issues of our day – the growth of the super-rich and its consequences for our society. His latest book, *Inequality and the 1%*, contains chilling new research on the growing gulf of inequality between rich and poor and shines a spotlight on the damage wreaked by increasing economic inequality.

'A convincing picture of the epic insulation of the 1%' Mary O'Hara, author of *Austerity Bites*.

Chaired by David Runciman, political scientist, author and professor at the University of Cambridge.

STATE OF THE NATION

Thursday 16 April



Courtesy of Dots

6–7.30pm
Union Chamber
£11/£6

The Condition of British Politics: Roy Hattersley, Shirley Williams & Norman Tebbit

The jewel in the crown of our *State of the Nation* strand, three grandees of British politics bring the weight and wisdom of their political experience to bear in an informed discussion about the British political landscape on the eve of the most unpredictable of general elections. The proceedings will be expertly steered by Peter Hennessy, Attlee Professor of Contemporary British History at Queen Mary University of London and author of *Establishment and Meritocracy*.

STATE OF THE NATION



Graham Jepson

7.30–8.30pm
The Winstanley
£10/£6

S.J. Watson & Christobel Kent

Two terrific writers of gripping, darkly atmospheric thrillers, are here to introduce their new novels. S.J. Watson, whose international best-seller, *Before I Go to Sleep*, has been made into a Hollywood film starring Colin Firth and Nicole Kidman, his latest is *Second Life*; Christobel Kent, author of the *Sandro Cellini* series has set the chillingly atmospheric *The Crooked House* in an English coastal town. They will be talking about their new books and the grip of the psychological thriller with festival patron Rowan Pelling.

NEW FICTION



8–9pm
Union Chamber
£11/£6

A Tribute to Kate Gross

Kate Gross was working at 10 Downing Street in her twenties as the youngest ever advisor to Tony Blair. At thirty, she was CEO of a charity working in Africa, married and the mother of twin boys. Aged thirty-four she was diagnosed with advanced colon cancer and died peacefully at home on 25 December 2014. Kate's book, *Late Fragments*, is testament to her ability to create, even as her body self-destructed. It is a book about the wonder to be found in the everyday, what it means to die before your time, and how to fill your life with hope and joy even in the face of tragedy.

Kate's mother, Jean Gross, and husband, Billy Boyle, are here to pay tribute to a remarkable woman and a beautiful book.

MEMOIR



Main Programme

Friday 17 April

1–2pm
Union Chamber
£10/£6

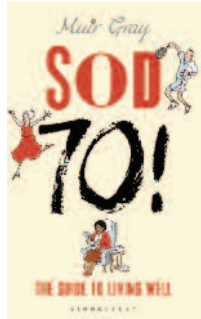


Vanessa and Her Sister Priya Parmar & Philippa Gregory

A fascinating conversation about the glittering circle that became known as *The Bloomsbury Group* and the relationship and rivalry of devoted, gifted sisters: Vanessa Bell, the painter, and Virginia Woolf, the writer. Joining Priya Parmar, author of *Vanessa and Her Sister*, is international best-selling doyenne of historical fiction, Philippa Gregory, author of *The King's Curse*, *The Other Boleyn Girl*, and *The White Queen*.

NEW FICTION

2.30–3.30pm
Union Chamber
£10/£6

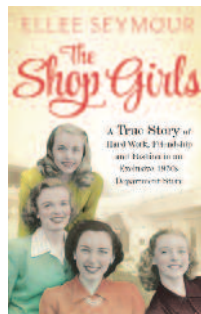


Sod 70 Muir Gray

By keeping our bodies and our brains fit we can live longer and better, argues Muir Gray. *Sod 70*, part exercise book, part manifesto for a happier, healthier life, encourages us to shake off the stereotypes and embrace our seventies. Director of Better Value Healthcare and one of Britain's most senior medical figures, Muir Gray is here to argue that it is our loss of fitness and wrong attitudes that cause many of the problems in old age.

HEALTH OF THE NATION

2.30–3.30pm
The Winstanley
£10/£6



The Shop Girls Ellee Seymour

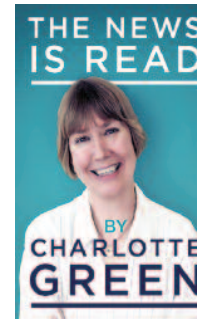
Set against the backdrop of the closing years of the Second World War and the 1950's, *The Shop Girls* is a true story capturing the camaraderie and friendship of five ambitious young women who find escape from the drudgery of their wartime childhoods working at Heyworth's department store in Cambridge. Ellee Seymour is a journalist and ghostwriter.

Chaired by Leigh Chambers, writer and broadcaster.

REAL LIVES

Friday 17 April

4–5pm
Union Chamber
£10/£6



The News is Read by Charlotte Green

Calling all Radio 4 and Classic FM devotees for an hour in the company of one of the nation's best-loved radio voices, Charlotte Green. Here to introduce her entertaining and touching autobiography, *The News is Read* by Charlotte Green, and talk about her life on and off the radio waves.

Chaired by critic, Alex Clark.

MEMOIR

4–5pm
The Winstanley
£10/£6



English Eccentrics Rick Stroud & Henry Hemming

This event is dedicated to two real-life World War II adventurers, Geoffrey Pyke and Patrick Leigh Fermor whose audacious lives in the first half of the 20th century could hardly have been dreamt up. Henry Hemming, author of *Churchill's Iceman*, *The True Story of Geoffrey Pyke: Genius, Fugitive, Spy* and Rick Stroud, author of *Kidnap in Crete*, *The True Story of the Abduction of a Nazi General* present the astounding stories of both men. In conversation with Michael Prodger, Assistant Editor, *New Statesman*.

REAL LIVES

5.30–6.30pm
Union Chamber
£11/£6



Will Hutton

Celebrated journalist Will Hutton provides a golden thread in our *State of the Nation* strand. In his new book *How Good We Can Be* he examines shocking inequality, capitalism that extracts value, shrinking opportunity and a society organised to benefit the top 1%. With his hallmark intelligence, integrity and rigour, Hutton suggests how to create an economy, society and democracy, in which the mass of citizens can flourish.

Chaired by Dame Barbara Stocking, President of Murray Edwards College and former CEO of Oxfam GB.

STATE OF THE NATION

Main Programme

Friday 17 April

5.30–6.30pm
The Winstanley
£10/£6



Patrick Barkham

One of the UK's leading nature writers joins us to discuss his latest project. *Coastlines, The Story of Our Shore* is a beguiling portrait of the British coastline published to coincide with the 50th anniversary of Enterprise Neptune, the National Trust's campaign to protect and preserve our coastal heritage.

To tell the story of Britain's most beautiful 742 miles of coastline, Patrick is joined by Dame Fiona Reynolds, Master of Emmanuel College and former Director-General of the National Trust.

NATURE WRITING

7–8pm
Union Chamber
£11/£6



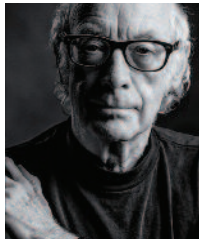
Mary Portas

Britain's foremost authority on retail and brand communication, advocate of the British High Street, TV presenter and columnist, Mary Portas, will talk about her moving and hilarious memoir, *Shop Girl*. The fourth of five siblings born to Irish immigrant parents, Portas brings to life her loud, loving, chaotic family, evoking people and events that laid the foundations for her future as Mary, Queen of Shops.

Chaired by festival director, Cathy Moore.

MEMOIR

8.30–9.30pm
Union Chamber
£13/£7



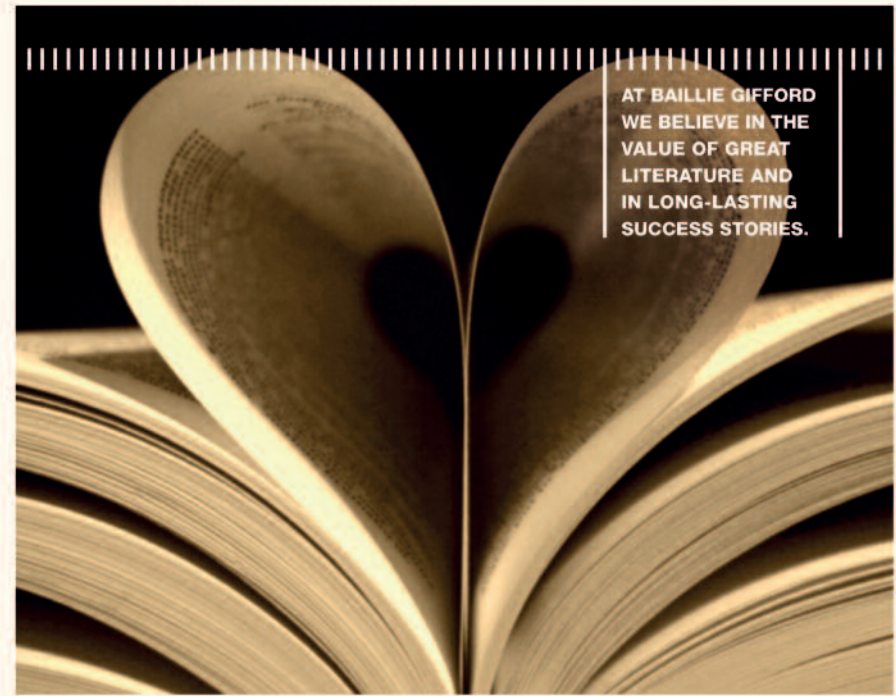
Colin Clarke

Roger McGough

A new book of poems by Roger McGough is always an event, but *As Far As I Know* is truly a cause for celebration. And the only thing better than a new collection? To hear the man himself reading from it. Hilarious and surreal, McGough is a poet of many voices. Menace and melancholy there may be, but with plenty of his characteristic wit and wordplay too.

'Profound surprises and lasting images on almost every line'
Siân Hughes *TES*

POETRY



We love great work that stands the test of time.

Baillie Gifford is delighted to continue to sponsor some of the most renowned literary festivals throughout the UK. We believe that, much like a classic piece of literature, a great investment philosophy will stand the test of time.

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Main Programme

Saturday 18 April

10–11am
Union Chamber
£11/£6



Polly Toynbee & David Walker

How has a party that failed to win a Commons majority been so devastatingly effective, rendering Britain a meaner, harsher place? Toynbee and Walker argue that despite coalition promises Cameron has turned out to be more radical than Margaret Thatcher; while she privatised industries he set about dismantling the welfare state. Are these changes irrevocable? Join the discussion.

'This is the book we should throw at Cameron.' John O'Farrell

Chaired by Jackie Ashley, journalist and broadcaster.

STATE OF THE NATION

10–11am
The Winstanley
£10/£6



Henry Marsh

What is it like to be a brain surgeon, to drill down into the stuff that creates thought, feeling, and reason? How do you live with the consequences when it all goes wrong? Henry Marsh, Fellow of the Royal College of Surgeons, Consultant Neurosurgeon at Atkinson/Morley St George's, and the subject of two major documentary films, offers an extraordinarily candid, gripping and tender account of a life on the frontline of healthcare in his compelling book *Do No Harm*.

'Painfully honest...a superb achievement.' Ian McEwan

Chaired by Helen Lewis, Deputy Editor, *New Statesman*.

HEALTH OF THE NATION

11.30am–12.30pm
Union Chamber
£7



Judith Kerr

One of our most treasured children's writers and creator of classic picture books *The Tiger Who Came to Tea* and the much-loved *Mog* stories, Judith Kerr has inspired young readers for over 40 years. Born in Berlin she was forced to flee Germany aged 9, a story which is told in the semi-autobiographical *When Hitler Stole Pink Rabbit*. Judith Kerr is still producing iconic children's books whilst in her nineties, most recently *The Crocodile Under the Bed* and *Creatures*. Join a remarkable author for a remarkable event for every age.

Chaired by Erica Wagner, writer and critic.

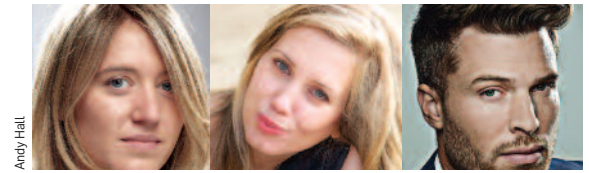
REAL LIVES

With thanks to *St. Mary's School*



Saturday 18 April

11.30am–12.30pm
The Winstanley
£10/£5



Andy Hall

What Future for the Younger Generation?

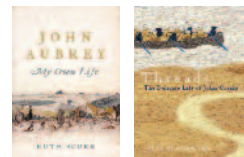
Join our expert panel to discuss how widening social inequality, political apathy and economic uncertainty are affecting our young people. Facing a narrowing job market, high housing costs and less financial reward, it has never been more urgent for young people to find a political voice.

Georgia Gould is a Labour Party Councillor; Chloe Combi, former teacher is a columnist and writer; and Rick Edwards, presenter, journalist and scriptwriter.

Chaired by Zoe Williams, *Guardian* Columnist.

STATE OF THE NATION

11.30am–12.30pm
Union Library
£10/£6



Ruth Scurr & Julia Blackburn

Unafraid to step over literary boundaries to get to the heart of their obscure, but fascinating subjects, Ruth Scurr and Julia Blackburn have expertly told the lives of two extraordinary men. Scurr's diary/biography of John Aubrey, brings to life this eccentric 17th-century collator of oral history. Rich with the London taverns and elegiac landscapes of an England he helped to preserve, the book is an extraordinary act of ventriloquism. Blackburn's *Threads, The Delicate Life of John Craske* re-imagines a Norfolk fisherman called John Craske (1881-1943) who became a painter and embroiderer when at age 36 he was too ill to go to sea. Join us for a captivating event.

Chaired by festival patron, Anna Whitelock.

REAL LIVES

1–2pm
Union Chamber
£11/£6



Rugby School

A.C. Grayling

Can philosophy say anything helpful to a world crippled by conflict and prejudice? Professor of Philosophy and Master of the New College of the Humanities, Grayling believes philosophy should engage with the world and make itself useful. His new collection of essays, *The Challenge of Things*, explores ways out of the habits and prejudices of mind that would otherwise trap us forever in the deadly impasses of conflicts of all kinds.

WORLD AFFAIRS

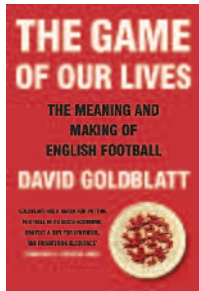
With thanks to *Baillie Gifford*



Main programme

Saturday 18 April

1–2pm
The Winstanley
£10/£6



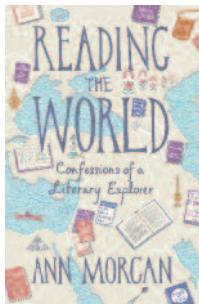
The Game of Our Lives David Goldblatt

The most authoritative voice of football and society, Goldblatt makes the case in *The Game of Our Lives*, *The Meaning and Making of English Football* for football as the last and most precious of collective pursuits. When the dust settled on post-Thatcherite Britain, its core working-class industrial and political institutions had been eviscerated. Butlins were closing their camps, social housing was sold off, and the local boozier was making way for the wine bar. Yet, amongst the rubble, football was still standing. Told through the lens of our national game, Goldblatt provides a compelling insight into the cultural, social and political changes of the last tumultuous thirty years.

STATE OF THE NATION With thanks to *Felicity Bryan Associates*



1–2pm
Union Library
£10/£6



Reading the World Ann Morgan

In 2012, the world arrived in London for the Olympics ... and Ann Morgan went out to meet it. Shocked by the realisation that she had barely touched a work by a foreign language author in years she set about reading her way around all the globe's 196 independent countries. This is a challenge to all of us to be more international in our reading choices. Ann will talk about her literary explorations with critic, Alex Clark.

WORLD LITERATURE With thanks to *Baillie Gifford*



2.30–3.30pm
Union Library
£10/£6



Matt Haig

Matt Haig, author of the best-selling *The Humans*, has been writing indirectly about depression for a long time. With his latest book *Reasons to Stay Alive*, he does it directly, telling the true story of his own crisis and struggle with an illness that almost destroyed him. With courage, humour and a deep belief in the power of words to set you free, Matt Haig introduces his moving, joyous exploration of how to live better, love better and feel more alive.

'Haig uses words like a tin-opener. We are the tin.' Jeanette Winterson

Chaired by Jo Browning Wroe.

HEALTH OF THE NATION

Saturday 18 April

2.30–3.30pm
The Winstanley
£10/£6



Dominic Lipinski/PA

The Great Experiment

100 years ago, modernism broke apart the novel form, producing some of the last century's greatest works of literature. But have readers and writers, in pursuit of a jolly good read, become less willing to challenge or be challenged? Can the novel still be a revolutionary force? Our panel discuss the role of inventiveness and daring in fiction. Goldsmiths Prize-winners Eimear McBride (*A Girl is a Half-formed Thing*) and Ali Smith (*How to Be Both*) join Josh Cohen, Professor of Modern Literary Theory at Goldsmiths University of London and chair of judges for the 2015 *Goldsmiths Prize* to discuss the role of inventiveness and daring in fiction.

Chaired by Tom Gatti, Culture Editor, *New Statesman*.

NEW FICTION

In association with the *Goldsmiths Prize* & the *New Statesman*



NewStatesman

4–5pm
Union Chamber
£11/£6



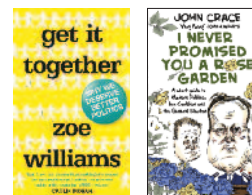
Angus Muir

Robert Macfarlane

Award-winning author (*The Old Ways*, *Mountains of the Mind*) Robert Macfarlane explores the linguistic and literary terrain of our archipelago, from the Shetlands to Cornwall, and from Cumbria to Suffolk. Discussing *Landmarks*, his fifth book Macfarlane considers the power of language to shape our sense of place in a glorious celebration and defence of the language of landscape. Joining him in conversation will be Alexandra Harris whose cultural history of English weather will be published this autumn.

NATURE WRITING

4–5pm
The Winstanley
£10/£6



Getting the Politics We Want Zoe Williams & John Crace

A short three weeks before we go to the polls, Zoe Williams (*Get it Together*) and John Crace (*I Never Promised You a Rose Garden*) meet for an hour of discussion and debate about the state of our society, the coalition and the general election. How do we get the politics and the politicians we want?

Chaired by Sian Reid, Liberal Democrat city councillor and former Leader of Cambridge City Council.

STATE OF THE NATION

Main programme

Saturday 18 April

5.30–7pm
Union Chamber
£10/£5



New Statesman Debate “This house believes that Britain should leave the European Union”

Euroscptics argue that Europe offers us nothing but headaches: immigration burdening the welfare state, debt-stricken countries demanding bail-outs, increased bureaucracy and taxes.

Europhiles say that by unhitching ourselves from the continent we will not only lose out on profitable trade and a rich shared culture, but also fundamentally weaken our position in the world.

As the general election looms, this debate will address the question: special relationship, or splendid isolation? In? Or out?

Chaired by the *New Statesman's* Deputy Editor Helen Lewis

Speaking for the motion

Melissa Kite writes for the *Daily Mail* and the *Spectator*.

Patrick O'Flynn is Member of the European Parliament (MEP) for the East of England and the UKIP candidate in Cambridge.

Brendan Simms is a Professor in the History of International Relations at the University of Cambridge. He is co-chair of the Brexit-euroexit project and author of *Europe: The Struggle for Supremacy*.

Speaking against the motion

Julian Huppert is the Liberal Democrat MP for Cambridge.

Mark Leonard is director of the European Council on Foreign Relations and author of *Why Europe Will Run the 21st Century*.

Laura Sandys, Chair of the European Movement UK and Conservative MP for South Thanet is stepping down in May, when Nigel Farage and Al Murray will contest her seat.

WORLD AFFAIRS

NewStatesman

5.30–6.30pm
The Winstanley
£10/£6



Meet the Professor: David Spiegelhalter

Winton Professor for the Public Understanding of Risk in the Statistical Laboratory, David Spiegelhalter talks about his new book *Sex by Numbers: The Statistics of Sexual Behaviour*. Our Professor will unravel the web of exaggerations, misdirections and lies that surround sex in modern society. Accompanying a major *Wellcome* exhibition on the same subject, *Sex by Numbers* is an informed and entertaining look at the most enduring of human obsessions.

Chaired by festival patron, Rowan Pelling.

HEALTH OF THE NATION

With thanks to the *University of Cambridge*



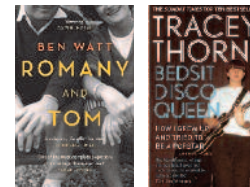
Saturday 18 April



Edward Bishop

Edward Bishop

7.30–8.30pm
Union Chamber
£11/£6



Ben Watt & Tracey Thorn

A rare and delightful session with husband and wife duo of *Everything But the Girl* fame, discussing their writing and their lives with critic Alex Clark. As well as unforgettable songs they have notched up four books between them. Watt's acclaimed *Patient* is an affecting account of his experience of a serious rare illness. *Romany and Tom* is a personal journey and a moving portrait of his parents; Thorn's *Bedsit Disco Queen*, charts the highs and lows of thirty years in pop music. Her follow-up *Naked at the Albert Hall* will be published later this year.

MEMOIR

9–10pm
Union Chamber
£12/£6



Omid Djalili

British-born Iranian comic and actor Omid Djalili's legendary performances on stage and screen have won him international audiences. Before *Gladiator*, *Sex and the City 2* and *The Shawshank Redemption*, Omid had a unique, unconventional childhood. He discusses his life story, as told in his candid humorous memoir, *Hopeful* with festival patron, Allison Pearson.

MEMOIR

Main programme

Sunday 19 April

10–11am
The Winstanley
£10/£6



Translating Némirovsky Sandra Smith

Award winning literary translator, Sandra Smith, will be talking about her latest triumph. Written in the last two years of Némirovsky's life, after fleeing Paris in 1940, *The Fires of Autumn* is the prequel to her masterpiece, *Suite Française* (released as a major film this spring). A panoramic exploration of French life, it bears witness to the greatest horrors of the twentieth century. Sandra Smith talks to festival patron, Ruth Scurr, about Némirovsky, translation and literature.

WORLD LITERATURE

In association with *English Pen*

ENGLISH
PEN

10–11am
Union Library
£10/£6



The Story of Alice Robert Douglas-Fairhurst

150 years ago, Lewis Carroll's *Alice in Wonderland* was published. To celebrate this literary milestone, Robert Douglas-Fairhurst, author of *The Story of Alice*, the definitive new biography of Carroll and Alice Lidell, will be in conversation with our resident Lewis Carroll expert and festival patron, Dame Gillian Beer.

REAL LIVES

10–11am
Union Blue Room
£10/£6

Publishing in the Digital Age

If you want to know how publishers are taking advantage of the opportunities for writers in the digital age, come and listen to insights from the newest literary imprint, Tinder Press. Mary-Anne Harrington, publisher of best-selling authors Maggie O'Farrell (*Instructions for a Heatwave*), Eowyn Ivey (*The Snow Child*) and former festival debut writer Helen Walsh (*The Lemon Grove*) will talk to literary agent Rachel Calder about how they select and market their books and build loyal readerships for their authors.

With thanks to *The Sayle Literary Agency*



Sunday 19 April

11.30am–12.30pm
Union Chamber
£11/£6



Steve Bell

Join the company of our finest political cartoonist, Steve Bell, as he introduces his new collection, *If: The Graphic Novel*. Savage, funny, rude, and beautifully drawn, the cartoons cover the five years of the Conservative-Liberal Democrat coalition government. From bondage George Osborne, to Cameron the talking condom and Clegg the butler, Bell has rendered the coalition years in typically outrageous, anarchic style.

STATE OF THE NATION

11.30am–12.30pm
The Winstanley
£10/£5



Domine Lipinski/PA



Debut Writers with Ali Smith

Our annual round up of the year's most exciting new talent, our debut writer's event is always a gem in our programme. Taking to the stage this year are Sara Taylor (*The Shore*), Claire Lowdon (*Left of the Bang*) and Sarah Bannan (*Weightless*).

Chaired by festival patron, Ali Smith.

NEW FICTION

11.30am–12.30pm
Union Library
£10/£6



A Palestinian Memoir Ghada Karmi

In the first of our Palestinian events, Ghada Karmi, founder of the first British-Palestinian medical charity, talks about her powerful memoir, *Return*. Growing up in Britain following exile from Palestine, Karmi returned to her homeland to help with the peace process and the possibility of a Palestinian state. With her family home occupied, and much of the West Bank militarised, encounters with fellow Palestinians, politicians and Israeli soldiers forced her to question whether return is truly possible.

'A very timely book in the current political situation... This should serve to remind people just what the big fuss in the Middle East is all about.' Ahdaf Soueif, *TLS*

Chaired by Ruth Padel, Resident Poet at the Royal Opera House and Fellow of the Royal Society of Literature.

WORLD AFFAIRS

Main programme

Sunday 19 April

1–2pm
Union Library
£10/£6



Ruth Padel

As a companion event to Ghada Karmi's *Palestinian Memoir*, Ruth Padel reads from her moving and profound collection of poems on the Middle East *Learning to Make an Oud in Nazareth*. The poems in this meditation on conflict and history explore the way we turn to making things in times of stress, and how conflict can trigger creativity. An uplifting and moving response to the conflict in the Middle East.

POETRY

1–2pm
Union Chamber
£11/£6



Patricia Duncker & Caryl Phillips in conversation with Margaret Drabble

Two of our most inventive and original writers come together to talk about their new novels, *Sophie and Sibyl* and *The Lost Child*, in which both draw on giants of English literature: Duncker on George Eliot and Phillips on Emily Bronte, to create their own new and exciting works, yet drenched with the genius of the past. With Margaret Drabble in the chair this is an unmissable treat for literature lovers.

NEW FICTION

1–2pm
The Winstanley
£10/£6



Meet the Professor: Joe Herbert

Emeritus Professor of Neuroscience, Joe Herbert, presents his new book, *Testosterone: Sex, Power and the Will to Win*. From rape to gang warfare among youths, understanding the workings of testosterone is critical in enabling us to manage its continuing powerful effects in modern society. Sex, aggression, winning, losing, gangs, and war: our Professor argues that the powerful effects of testosterone are entwined with them all.

HEALTH OF THE NATION

With thanks to the *University of Cambridge*



Sunday 19 April

2.30–3.30pm
Union Chamber
£11/£6



Janus van den Eijnden

Graham Swift

Booker prize-winning author, Graham Swift, has returned to the short form, with 25 stories, demonstrating his unerring grasp of the universal in the local and his affectionate but unflinching instinct for the story of us all. *England and Other Stories* steers us from the Civil War to the present day, from world-shaking events to the secret dramas lived out in rooms, workplaces and homes. Swift invites us to consider: What is England? Don't miss a wonderful performance from a man who reads as well as he writes.

Chaired by Michael Prodger, Assistant Editor *New Statesman*.

NEW FICTION

2.30–3.30pm
The Winstanley
£10/£6



Sue Greenhill

Antonia Fraser

International, best-selling and award-winning biographer and historian Lady Antonia Fraser talks to festival patron, Ruth Scurr, about her early life and growing love of history as described in *My History: A Memoir of Growing Up*. Her books include *Mary Queen of Scots*, *Cromwell*, *The Gunpowder Plot*, *The Six Wives of Henry VIII*, and most recently *Perilous Question: The Drama of the Great Reform Bill 1832*. Come and hear one of our finest narrative historians turn her attention to her own history.

MEMOIR

4–5pm
Union Chamber
£11/£6



Janus van den Eijnden

Celia Imrie

Star of Acorn Antiques, *Dinner Ladies*, and *The Best Exotic Marigold Hotel*, to name just a few, Celia Imrie has kept us delighted and entertained for many years and has now brought her trademark warmth, wit and vitality to writing her first novel, *Not Quite Nice*, set in the French Riviera. Join us for what can only be a delightful conversation with festival director, Cathy Moore.

NEW FICTION

Main programme

Sunday 19 April

4–5pm
The Winstanley
£10/£6



Princess, Suffragette, Revolutionary Anita Anand

Anita Anand (*BBC Any Answers*) tells the enthralling story of an extraordinary woman. Sophia Duleep Singh, princess-in-exile, suffragette and revolutionary spent her life battling injustice and inequality. Bold and fearless, she fought for Indian independence, the welfare of Indian soldiers in the First World War, and marched shoulder to shoulder with Emmeline Pankhurst in 1910. Anita Anand shines fresh light on one of history's many unsung heroic women.

Chaired by festival patron, Anna Whitelock.

REAL LIVES

5.30–6.30pm
Union Chamber
£11/£6



Reporting the Middle East with Patrick Cockburn & Jeremy Bowen

Two giants of journalism, Patrick Cockburn and Jeremy Bowen, bring an unparalleled combined knowledge and first-hand experience of this tortured and volatile region. Bowen's *The Arab Uprisings*, and Cockburn's *The Rise of Islamic State*, are both urgent and authoritative contributions to our understanding of the evolving, alarming landscape of the Middle East.

Chaired by Sian Kevill, Director, MAKE World Media.

WORLD AFFAIRS

5.30–6.30pm
The Winstanley
£10/£6



Steve Fisher

Louise Stern

Louise Stern is fourth generation deaf in her family and her debut novel, *Ismael and His Sisters*, is set in a Maya village in Mexico where there is a higher than normal percentage of deaf people. The novel conjures up a world in which sign language gives physical shape to experience, but mostly it's about love, community and being truly understood. Louise and her interpreter and artistic partner Oliver Pouliot, working with the theatre director Omar Elerian, have devised a short reading from the novel through which they will explore themes of communication – incorporating voice and body language.

Chaired by Tom Gatti, Culture Editor, *New Statesman*.

WORLD LITERATURE

Sunday 19 April

7–8pm
Union Chamber
£11/£6



Jens Marrot

Maggi Hambling

One of our most exciting and controversial artists, Maggi Hambling, is here to discuss *War Requiem* and *Aftermath* which considers her newest works and reassesses her importance within the international contemporary art scene. Published to coincide with a keynote exhibition of her work at the Cultural Institute, King's College, London, Hambling is in conversation with her project collaborator, James Cahill.

WORLD AFFAIRS

8.30–9.30pm
Union Chamber
£12/£6



Jane Hawking & Anthony McCarten

We are delighted to welcome Jane Hawking and Anthony McCarten to close the festival with a very Cambridge story. Jane Hawking's best-selling memoir, *Travelling to Infinity: My Life with Stephen*, was adapted for screen by McCarten, as the award-winning *The Theory of Everything* starring Eddie Redmayne and Felicity Jones. A one-off opportunity to spend the evening with the man who adapted this moving, true story for the big screen, and the woman who lived it. A stellar end to a fabulous festival.

Chaired by Jo Browning Wroe.

MEMOIR

With thanks to *Baillie Gifford*



8.30pm
Union Blue Room
£6



Book Aid International Quiz

Back by popular demand! Prepare to be baffled by an array of bookish questions compiled by the fiendishly clever quizmasters of *Book Aid International*. Put your literary wits to the test and enjoy a wonderful evening's entertainment.

All profits from the quiz will go to support the work of *Book Aid International*, a charity committed to increasing access to books and supporting literacy education and development in sub-Saharan Africa.

Quiz Master John Bird, Founder and Editor in Chief, *The Big Issue*.



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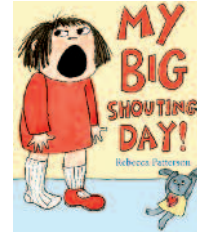
WORDFEST



Picture by Martin Bond www.acambridgediary.co.uk

Friday 17 April

11–11.45am
 Union Blue Room
 £6



My Big Shouting Day

Come and laugh and listen to stories about shouty Bella and her big shouting day! Share your own shouty stories and help create our BIGGEST SHOUTING DAY EVER. Rebecca Patterson, winner of the Roald Dahl Funny Prize 2012, will read from her hilariously funny picture books and engage small children in this lively, fast-paced session.

Ideal for small people and Mums, Dads and big siblings welcome!

Ages 2-5

12.15–1pm
 Union Blue Room
 £6



Little Bell and the Moon

Join Little Bell and her friend the Moon on a magical adventure in this touching tale for children. Listen to stories, play fun games and ask questions with author Giles Paley-Phillips as he brings this beautiful new book to life. Perfect for pre-school children ... and parents too!

Age 3+

Children's programme

Saturday 18 April

10–11am
Union Blue Room
£6



Fitz and Will

Come and meet Fitz and Will, the Cambridge cats! Fancy-foot Fitz is a cat who loves accessories, especially footwear, while Whisker-twitch Will is passionate about food and will go out of his way to find the best in town. Join author Laura Robson Brown as she reads from the much-loved *May Ball Adventure* and newest story, the *Graduation Adventure*. There will also be the opportunity to meet our furry friends, Fitz and Will, who will be more than happy to paw print books!

Age 3+

11.30am–12.30pm
Union Chamber
£7



Judith Kerr

One of our most treasured children's writers and creator of classic picture books *The Tiger Who Came to Tea* and the much-loved *Mag* stories, Judith Kerr has inspired young readers for over 40 years. Born in Berlin she was forced to flee Germany aged 9, a story which is told in the semi-autobiographical *When Hitler Stole Pink Rabbit*. Judith Kerr is still producing iconic children's books whilst in her nineties, most recently *The Crocodile Under the Bed* and *Creatures*. Join a remarkable author for a remarkable event for every age.

Chaired by Erica Wagner, writer and critic.

Age 9+

With thanks to St. Mary's School



11.30am–12.30pm
Union Blue Room
£6



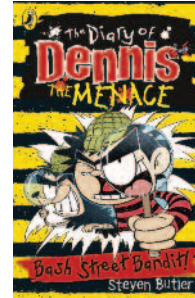
Please Mr Panda

Join hot new talent Steve Antony (graduate of the Anglia Ruskin Children's Book Illustration MA) as we follow the Queen around London and learn to say please with Mr Panda. Find out top secret illustrator tips, help Steve spot the butler and learn how to draw a panda yourself! *Please Mr Panda* was *The Times* pick of the week.

Age 4+

Saturday 18 April

1–2pm
Union Blue Room
£6



Mayhem with Dennis the Menace

Meet Dennis, Gnasher and friends (and enemies!) and explore Beanotown with Dennis as your guide. Join Steven Butler, author of *Diary of Dennis the Menace*, for a sneaky peak into the chaotic life of the naughtiest boy in the *Beano*! Expect lots of fun and games (maybe even a prank or two!) as Steven brings to life the world of Dennis the Menace.

Age 7+

2.30–3.30pm
Union Chamber
£7



Jan Cartwright

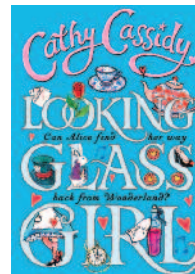
Alex Rider 15th Anniversary with Anthony Horowitz

Join award-winning author and screenwriter Anthony Horowitz as we celebrate the 15th anniversary of his internationally best-selling *Alex Rider* series, which has sold over 16 million copies. Anthony Horowitz has received an OBE for his Services to Literature, and his novels about 14-year-old MI6 super spy Alex Rider have inspired a whole generation of young readers. Packed with action, adrenaline and adventure, this is a unique opportunity to hear from one of our most thrilling and successful children's authors.

Chaired by Steve Cole, author of the new *Young Bond* series.

Age 9+

2.30–3.30pm
Union Blue Room
£6



Looking-Glass Girl with Cathy Cassidy

Take a tumble down the rabbit hole and enter the world of dreams, darkness, white rabbits and mad-hatters with *Looking-Glass Girl's* Alice. Marking the 150th anniversary of Lewis Carroll's *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland*, Cathy Cassidy's imaginative retelling of this classic children's story with a modern twist blends fantasy, dreams and half-formed memories with every girl's reality of growing up.

Age 9+

Children's programme

Saturday 18 April

CleverPrime Photography



4–5pm
Union Blue Room
£6



YA Literature – not for parents!

What books are teens reading that their parents aren't? YA Book Prize short-listers James Dawson and Sally Green talk about what makes a great book for teenagers or young adults, from sex and drugs to humour and friendship. James Dawson will be on hand to talk about *Say Her Name*, his terrifying horror story set in a girls' boarding school, while Sally Green will reveal the inspiration behind her fantasy novel *Half Bad*.

Chaired by Charlotte Eyre, Children's Editor of *The Bookseller*.

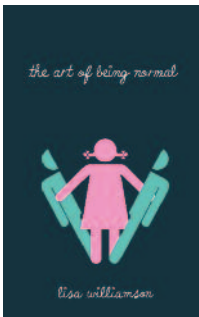
With thanks to *The Bookseller* and YA Prize

Age 11+

THE BOOKSELLER



5.45–6.45pm
Union Blue Room
£6



Lisa Williamson: The Art of Being Normal

David is funny and quirky and has always felt different from other people – but he also has a huge secret that only his two best friends know. Ever since he can remember, he has felt like a girl trapped in the body of a boy. 'Unputdownable', warm and moving, this debut novel from outstanding new YA voice, Lisa Williamson, celebrates being different in all of its colourful forms. Chaired by James Dawson, shortlisted for YA Book Prize 2015.

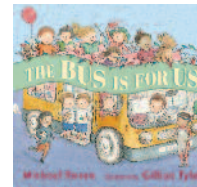
With thanks to *Felicity Bryan Associates*

Age 11+



Sunday 19 April

10–11am
Union Chamber
£7



Michael Rosen's One Man Family Show

Do you have a passion for poetry? Do you love language and rave about rhymes? Join former Children's Laureate and award-winning poet Michael Rosen in his loud and lively one-man performance show, including a mix of old and new favourites. Fun for all the family!

With thanks to *St. Faith's School*

Age 5+



11.30am–12.30pm
Union Blue Room
£6



Telling Thrilling Stories with Clémentine Beauvais

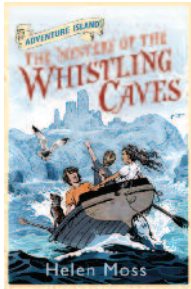
How do you become a writer? Do you need to have impeccable spelling? What if you can't yet write? Doesn't matter! Clémentine Beauvais, author of the popular *Sesame Seade* series and newest book *The Royal Babysitters*, is on hand to help. You need to be able to invent stories: fun, thrilling, interesting, quirky stories. And that's what we'll be doing in this event – each child will leave with their own original story and characters.

Age 6+

Children's programme

Sunday 19 April

1–2pm
Union Blue Room
£6



Adventures with Helen Moss

One of the best things about writing mystery and adventure stories is the chance to get your characters into precariously perilous situations. Join Helen Moss and her *Adventure Island* characters on a midnight expedition to haunted Pendragon Manor and discover the fun of writing dangerously. Could you get your readers biting their nails and jumping out of their skins? Find out in this lively, interactive session.

Age 8+

2.30–3.30pm
Union Blue Room
£6



What is Humanism? With Michael Rosen & Annemarie Young

Where do moral values come from? What is the purpose of life? Do you need a god in order to live a good life? Join Michael Rosen and Annemarie Young to discuss the issues raised in their new book *What is Humanism?* The book gets you to think for yourself about life's big questions, and then use your answers to make your own list of values to live by.

Ages 10-16

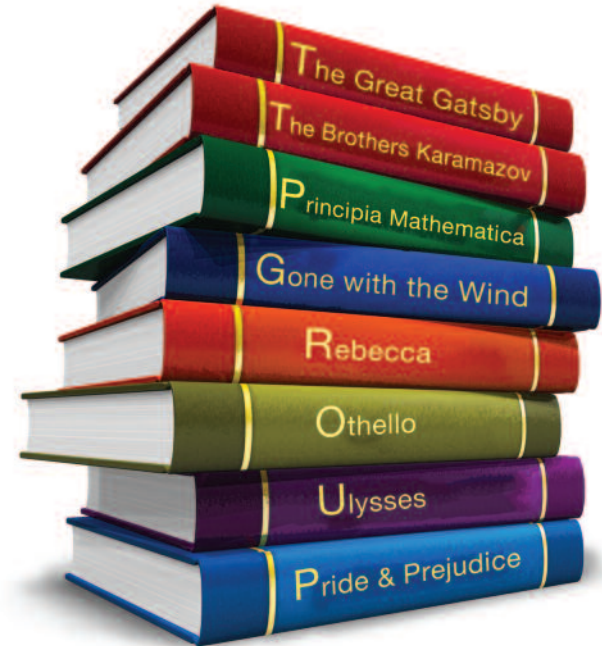
4–5pm
Union Blue Room
£6



Chris Priestley the Master of Horror

Step into a world of ghosts, graveyards, monsters and madness with Chris Priestley's gothic re-tellings of classic tales *Frankenstein*, *The Rime of The Ancient Mariner* and *A Christmas Carol* in his spine-tingling novels *Mister Creecher*, *The Dead Men Stood Together*, and his most recent novel *The Last of the Spirits*. Darkly gripping and ghoulishly good, join teen fiction's master of horror for plenty of thrills and chills. Audience beware, you're in for a scare!

Age 9+



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Susan Sontag, writer activist and critic

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To discuss becoming a festival patron (donations of over £500) call Cathy Moore on 01223 515335.



Bookings

Priority booking

Friends of the Festival can book tickets from Friday 27 February.

The Box Office opens Friday 6 March.

Box Office opening hours

Monday-Saturday, 1pm-7pm.

Book online

www.adcticketing.com

Book by telephone

01223 300085

Book in person

ADC Theatre Box Office, Park Street, Cambridge CB5 8AS

Group bookings

Please contact the Box Office by telephone for details and reservations.

Young person standby tickets

People aged 24 and under can buy tickets half-price if purchased on the day of the event. Proof of age will be required.

Ticket delivery

Tickets booked up to seven days in advance can be posted out for a charge of 70p, or can be collected from the ADC Box Office free of charge up to the day before the event.

Tickets may also be collected at the box office in the Cambridge Union gardens over the festival weekend.

Refund and exchange policy

If you inform the Box Office at least 72 hours prior to an event, we will be happy to exchange your ticket for another Spring 2015 event (subject to availability). Refunds will only be made where an event is sold out.

If your event is cancelled you can exchange your ticket for another event at the festival (subject to availability). If you don't wish to exchange, you are entitled to a refund of the ticket's value.

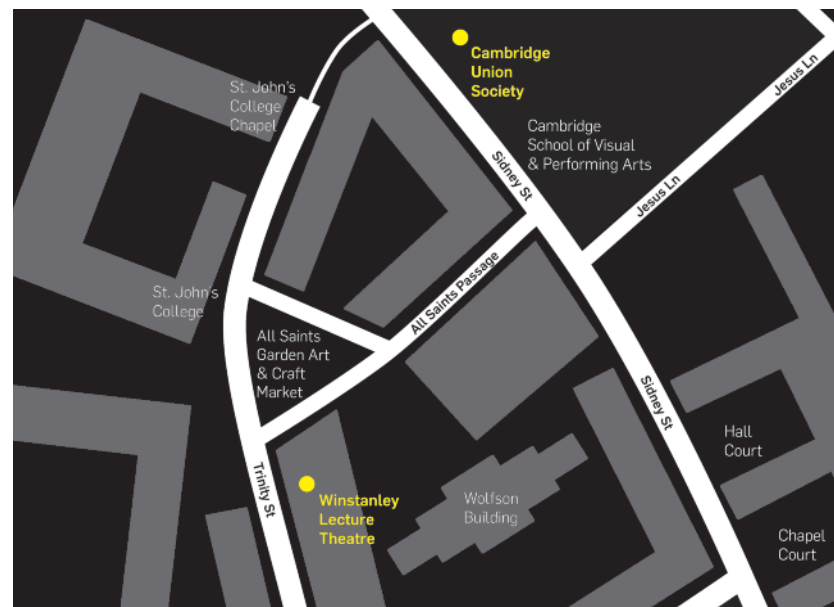
Please note

The Box Office does not keep a waiting list for sold-out events. The best way to guarantee tickets is to book well in advance.

Children's events:

All children under 11 must be accompanied at all times by an adult with their own ticket.

Venues



Cambridge Union Society

9A Bridge Street
Cambridge CB2 1UB
www.cus.org

The Winstanley

Trinity Street
Cambridge CB2 1TQ
www.trin.cam.ac.uk

(entrance between All Saints Garden and Brora, the former post office)

The **Festival Bar** is in the Cambridge Union.

Accessibility

All festival venues have wheelchair access (except the Cambridge Union Library), please request a wheelchair space when booking. For events at the Winstanley Lecture Theatre, please allow an additional 5-10 minutes to reach the venue by the wheelchair route. Front row seats will be reserved at all venues for the deaf and hard of hearing.

Please note the festival box office will be located in the Cambridge Union gardens over the festival weekend.

Festival Gardens

Visit the festival gardens for a selection of stalls including the Cambridge Champagne Company and Books for Amnesty Pop-Up Shop. Enjoy live music, local arts and crafts, or grab a bite to eat in the festival gardens between events.





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The Cambridge Literary Festival
is a charity registered in England
and Wales, no. 1153944.

Diary Dates

Winter Festival 2015
29 November

Spring Festival 2016
6–10 April

