

LSE *space for thought*
LITERARY FESTIVAL

RELATING CULTURES

Wednesday 29 February –
Saturday 3 March 2012

lse.ac.uk/spaceforthought

Welcome

We are delighted to be hosting a 4th Literary Festival at LSE from Wednesday 29 February – Saturday 3 March 2012. This year's programme is designed to explore the relationship between the academic cultures of the arts and social sciences, as well as the interaction between global cultures, and the art of communication and language. Discussions will cover a wide range of topics from storytelling and translation to the media's portrayal of science; from terrorism in film to money in the novel; from censorship in literature to the importance of poetry in everyday life. The Festival will also include a series of creative writing workshops for adults and storytelling events for younger children.

We do hope you enjoy what promises to be another lively and stimulating Festival. Further details on all events, as well as updates to the programme, can be found at lse.ac.uk/spaceforthought

Please check the website to see the latest information about the events you wish to attend, as details may change.

Louise Gaskell
Literary Festival Organiser

Sponsors



We would like to thank Cato Stonex and the LSE Annual Fund for their kind support of this event.

Ticket Information



All events in the Festival are free to attend and open to all, but an e-ticket is required. Tickets will be available to request from Monday 6 February. Full details on requesting tickets can be found online lse.ac.uk/spaceforthought

Booksales



Independent bookseller, Pages of Hackney, will be selling books for signing throughout the Festival.

Look out for other events taking place at LSE, outside the Festival, which continue exploring our Festival's theme.



Refreshments

Café 54 will be open throughout the Festival, located on the ground floor of the New Academic Building. A selection of sandwiches, hot and cold wraps, soup, pasta, fresh baked pastries and cookies, coffees and cold drinks will be available.

Events

Wednesday

Wednesday 29 February

1-2.30pm, Sheikh Zayed Theatre

European Institute Literary Festival event

The Culture of Europe

Speaker: **Professor Roger Scruton**

What are the distinctive features of European culture today? To what extent can we lean on our European cultural inheritance, in an age when its Christian foundations are crumbling? And is it one inheritance or many?



photo © Pete Helme

Roger Scruton is an adjunct scholar of the American Enterprise Institute in Washington DC, a new position he took up in July 2009. He has written widely in the press on political and cultural issues. Recent publications include *Green Philosophy*, *The Uses of Pessimism*, *Beauty*, *Understanding Music* and *I Drink Therefore I Am*.

4.30-6pm, Wolfson Theatre

LSE Health and Social Care Literary Festival event

The Medicine Chest of the Soul: arts and health

Speakers: **Jane Davies, Tim Joss, David McDaid, Margaret Perkins, Jeanette Winterson**

This session explores the substantial role that arts can play in improving health and wellbeing.

Jane Davies is Founder and Director of the Reader Organisation, a national charity 'dedicated to bringing about a reading revolution'.

Tim Joss has been Director of the Rayne Foundation since 2005, and was previously Artistic Director and Chief Executive of festivals in Bath. **David McDaid** is Senior Research Fellow in Health Policy and Health Economics at LSE Health and Social Care. **Margaret Perkins** is Research Officer within the Personal Social Services Research Unit at LSE. **Jeanette Winterson** is an award-winning author, her books including *Oranges are Not the Only Fruit* and most recently *Why Be Different When You Can Be Normal?*



Jane Davies



Tim Joss



Jeanette Winterson

5.15-6.45pm, Sheikh Zayed Theatre
Hire Intelligence LSE Literary Festival event

Hire
Intelligence
The intelligent speakers agency

Science in the Media

Speakers: **Professor Jim Al-Khalili**, **Professor Pedro Ferreira**,
Professor Elaine Fox

Chair: **Professor George Gaskell**

Media reporting of the sciences can shape public opinion. While it may be insightful and revelatory, it can also be misleading and sensationalist, even irresponsible. This distinguished panel will examine the positives and negatives of the media in science communication.

Jim Al-Khalili is a British scientist, author and broadcaster. He is a Professor of Physics at the University of Surrey and Chair of Public Engagement in Science. **Pedro Ferreira** is a Professor of Astrophysics at the University of Oxford. **Elaine Fox** is Professor of Psychology and Cognitive Neuroscience at the University of Essex.



Professor Jim Al-Khalili



Professor Pedro Ferreira



Professor Elaine Fox

6.30-8pm, Wolfson Theatre
POLIS Literary Festival event

Censorship in an Age of Freedom

Speakers: **Charlie Beckett**, **Heather Brooke**, **Nick Cohen**

We live in an age when the Internet should make information more available than ever and yet secrecy still abounds. New media should facilitate better democratic debate than ever before, and yet, some fear that open, honest discussion is being drowned out.

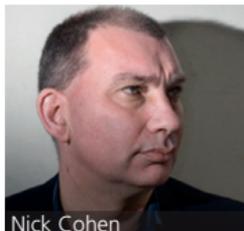
Charlie Beckett is Director of POLIS and author of *WikiLeaks: News In the Networked Era*. **Heather Brooke** is an investigative journalist and freedom of expression campaigner and author of *The Revolution Will Be Digitised*. **Nick Cohen** is a journalist and author of *You Can't Read This Book: Censorship in an Age of Freedom*.



Charlie Beckett



Heather Brooke



Nick Cohen

Wednesday 29 February

7-8.30pm, Sheikh Zayed Theatre

LSE Literary Festival event

Myths for a Modern World

Speakers: **AS Byatt, Robert Irwin**

AS Byatt and Robert Irwin discuss the enduring relevance of mythical stories and their portrayal of the human experience, and explore whether they are worth retelling time and again.

AS Byatt is renowned internationally for her novels and short stories. Her novels include the Booker Prize-Winning *Possession* and *The Children's Book*. Her most recent book is *Ragnorak: The End of the Gods*, a retelling of the Norse myth. **Robert Irwin** is the author of numerous specialised studies of Middle Eastern politics, art and mysticism, including *The Arabian Nights*, as well as novels including *The Limits of Vision* and *The Arabian Nightmare*.



AS Byatt

Events



Thursday 1 March

1.15-2.45pm, Sheikh Zayed Theatre

LSE Department of Anthropology Literary Festival event

Modernity's Contents and Discontents in India and Pakistan

Speakers: **Professor Lord Desai, Professor Anatol Lieven, Kamila Shamsie**

The panelists will discuss and compare the political, social and economic trajectories of India and Pakistan since independence through the lenses of the social sciences and of literature.

Professor Lord Desai is Emeritus Professor of Economics at LSE and a Labour peer. **Anatol Lieven** is Chair of International Relations and Terrorism Studies at King's College London and author of *Pakistan: A Hard Country*. **Kamila Shamsie** is an award-winning author, born in Pakistan in 1973. Her novels include *In the City by the Sea*, *Kartography*, *Salt and Saffron*, *Broken Verses* and *Burnt Shadows*.



Professor Lord Desai



Professor Anatol Lieven



Kamila Shamsie

5-6.30pm, Sheikh Zayed Theatre

LSE Gender Institute Literary Festival event

Class Wars/Culture Wars: Owen Jones and the chavs

Speakers: **Sue Christoforou**, **Professor Mary Evans**, **Owen Jones**

The recent riots in parts of England have focused attention on what has been described as the 'underclass' of English society. Many of the people regarded as dangerous are young and male, and one half of the 'chavs' who are the subject of Owen Jones's book. But who are 'these people' and has a social identity been created for them that sees only the negative in their behaviour?

Sue Christoforou is a policy analyst and campaigner. She has worked for national campaigning organisations including Mind, Macmillan Cancer Support and DrugScope. **Mary Evans** is Centennial Professor at the Gender Institute, LSE. **Owen Jones** is author of *Chavs: The Demonization of the Working Class*. He has worked in parliament as a trade union lobbyist and parliamentary researcher.



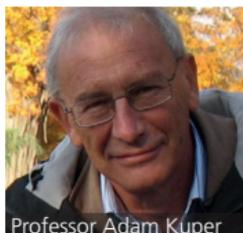
6-7.30pm, Thai Theatre

LSE Department of Anthropology and Library Literary Festival screening

Dr Seligman and the Islanders: considering Charles Seligman and his work

Speaker: **Professor Adam Kuper**

Adam Kuper, who has written widely on the history and theory of anthropology, introduces the work of Charles Seligman, founder of LSE Anthropology, pioneer of fieldwork techniques, and medical doctor who devised means of treating servicemen for shell-shock. He gives insights into Seligman's journals and research notes housed in LSE Library, and provides commentary on Jonathan Miller's documentary about the 1898 Torres Straits expedition, *Dr Miller and the Islanders*, which reveals the problematic racist overtones of the views of late 19th century anthropology. The documentary will be shown after Adam Kuper's talk.



Info



Receive updates on the Literary Festival programme by signing up to the Space for Thought newsletter at lse.ac.uk/spaceforthought

6.30-8pm, Wolfson Theatre

Forum for European Philosophy and LSE Department of
Philosophy, Logic & Scientific Method
Literary Festival event

Poetry Unites

Speakers: **Phillip Gross, Dr Michal Rusinek,
Sarah Salway, Ewa Zadrzynska**



Sarah Salway

Poetry readings, both live and on film, will be followed by a discussion of the importance of poetry in people's everyday lives.

Phillip Gross is an award-winning poet. His collections include *Changes of Address*, *The Water Table*, *I Spy Pinhole Eye* and *Deep Field*. **Michal Rusinek** is an author and academic at Jagiellonian University, as well as secretary to Nobel prize-winning poet Wislawa Szymborska. **Sarah Salway** is Canterbury Laureate and Chair of the Kent and Sussex Poetry Society. Her first published poetry collection is *You Do Not Need Another Self-Help Book*. **Ewa Zadrzynska** is a journalist, writer and film maker, and creator of the Evens Foundation 'Poetry Unites- My Favourite Poem' project.

7-8.30pm, Sheikh Zayed Theatre

Index on Censorship 40th Anniversary LSE Literary
Festival event

The Fight for Free Speech: forty years on

Speakers: **Pavel Litvinov, Michael Scammell**

Acclaimed writer and founding editor of Index on Censorship, **Michael Scammell** and former Russian dissident **Pavel Litvinov** discuss the nature of censorship and the future of freedom of speech. It was Pavel Litvinov's courageous public appeal to the West for help, during a Soviet show trial in 1968, that inspired the creation of *Index on Censorship* magazine, a forum for banned writers, artists and intellectuals in the struggle against censorship. Forty years on, as Index on Censorship celebrates its anniversary, this will be a rare opportunity to hear an illuminating discussion from two leading voices in the history of free speech.



Michael Scammell



Pavel Litvinov

Thursday 1 March, 7pm, NAB 2.04

LSESU Literature Society event

Speed 'Book' Dating

Would you love to go on a date with someone who loves reading and is interested in literature? Well, now's your chance! Join us for the Literature Speed "Book" Dating event on World Literature Day. Just bring your favourite book and be ready to discuss it with all your dates! Refreshments provided. Places are limited, so make sure to sign up in advance, email su.soc.literature@lse.ac.uk



Thursday 1 March

Events

Friday

Friday 2 March

12.30-2pm, Sheikh Zayed Theatre

Royal Society of Literature Literary Festival event

Charles Dickens: the best of men, the worst of men

Speakers: **John Carey, Claire Tomalin**

Claire Tomalin's biography of Charles Dickens, published to mark the bicentenary of his birth this spring, conjures up a man with as many different selves as a Russian doll. He was a performer of rock-star charisma, who mesmerized audiences of thousands before the invention of the microphone; a social reformer way ahead of his time (anything, in fact, but Dickensian); a sentimental lover; a cruel husband. She discusses his extraordinary life and work with literary critic and cultural commentator John Carey.

**The Royal Society
of Literature**



Claire Tomalin

photo © Angus Muir

12.30-2pm, Wolfson Theatre

Centre for the Study of Human Rights Literary Festival event

Terrorism on Film: propaganda and profit

Speakers: **Professor Chetan Bhatt, Professor Tony Shaw**

Many who witnessed the 9/11 terrorist attacks live on TV described it as being 'just like a movie'. Does this tell us something important about how movies have influenced our understanding of terrorism? With the aid of film clips, this event will explore how filmmakers have dealt with the subject of terrorism, and how cinema has impacted on people's conception of terrorism.

Chetan Bhatt is Professor of Sociology and Director of the Centre for the Study of Human Rights, LSE. **Tony Shaw** is Professor of Contemporary History at the University of Hertfordshire.



Professor Chetan Bhatt



Professor Tony Shaw

5-6.30pm, Wolfson Theatre

LSESU Literature Society Literary Festival event

Noughties: narrating the student experience

Speaker: **Ben Masters**

Ben Masters' debut novel *Noughties* examines the highs and lows of modern student life, which reach a climax for his characters on the last night of university. In this conversation with Aleona Krechetova, he will discuss whether there is such a thing as a 'standard' student experience, and how he approached the question of 'reliability' when writing the book.

Ben Masters was born in Northampton and went to Oxford University in 2005. He is currently working on a PhD in English at Cambridge University.



photo © Angus Muir

6-8.30pm, Sheikh Zayed Theatre (including interval)

Forum For European Philosophy Literary Festival event presented by Art and Adventure in association with Tara Arts

A Moment of Mishearing

Speakers: **Amit Chaudhuri, Ian Jack**

A conversation between award-winning author Amit Chaudhuri and former *Granta* and *Independent on Sunday* editor Ian Jack, will be followed by a performance of *A Moment of Mishearing*, an all-new eclectic multi-media musical production exploring Amit Chaudhuri's literary and musical ideas in an evening of music, words and images about memory, chance and a city.



photo © Eamonn McCabe

6-7.30pm, NAB 1.04

Department of Anthropology Literary Festival event

Relating the Divided City in South Africa

Speakers: **Denis Hirson, Kopano Matlwa, Dr Andrew van der Vlies**

In contemporary South African fiction, writers have found new ways of exploring connections amongst diverse languages and cultures (and pasts and presents).

Denis Hirson is author of *I remember King Kong (The Boxer)* and *The Dancing and the Death on Lemon Street*. **Kopano Matlwa** is author of *Coconut* and *Spilt Milk*. **Dr Andrew van der Vlies** is Senior Lecturer, Department of English, Queen Mary, University of London.



7-8.30pm, Wolfson Theatre

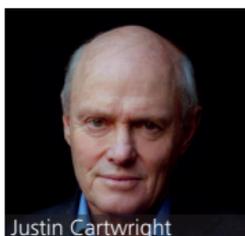
LSE Literary Festival event

Money into Art: finance and the novel

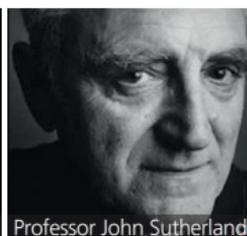
Speakers: **Justin Cartwright**, **Professor John Sutherland**, **DJ Taylor**

Recent literary responses to the financial crisis take their place in a rich tradition of novelistic portrayals of the city and finance. What do these tell us of our changing attitude towards, and understanding of, money?

Justin Cartwright's award-winning work includes *In Every Face I Meet*, *Leading the Cheers* and *The Promise of Happiness*. His most recent novel is *Other People's Money*. **John Sutherland** is Emeritus Lord Northcliffe Professor, UCL. His latest book is *Lives of the Novelists: A History of Fiction in 294 Lives*. **DJ Taylor** is the author of two acclaimed biographies, *Thackeray* and *Orwell: The Life*, and nine novels, the most recent being *Derby Day*.



Justin Cartwright



Professor John Sutherland



DJ Taylor

Events

Saturday

Saturday 3 March

11am-12.30pm, Sheikh Zayed Theatre

Centre for the Philosophy of Nature and Social Science

Literary Festival event

Wired for Culture

Speaker: **Professor Mark Pagel**

Humans are usually seen as differing from other animals because of our inherent traits of consciousness, language and intelligence, but many of these things would not exist without our propensity for culture. Pagel shows how our cultures – although an accident of birth – have outstripped our genes in determining who we are.

Mark Pagel is Head of the Evolution Laboratory in the Division of Zoology, School of Biological Sciences, at the University of Reading, and an External Professor at the renowned Santa Fe Institute.



Mark Pagel

11am-12.30pm, Wolfson Theatre

LSE Literary Festival event

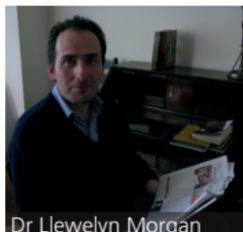
Approaches to Bamiyan: Afghanistan's cultural crossroads

Speaker: **Dr Llewelyn Morgan**

Chair: **Jonathan Steele**

Dr Llewelyn Morgan explores historical and contemporary approaches to one of Afghanistan's most famous monuments, the Buddhas of Bamiyan. Their location's strategic position, controlling passage through the Hindu Kush, has seen a fascinatingly diverse array of visitors and commentators- from Muslims and Christians, to 19th Century classicists on the trail of Alexander the Great and, more recently, UN mine-clearers.

Llewelyn Morgan is a Classicist and Fellow of Brasenose College, Oxford. *The Buddhas of Bamiyan* will be published in the spring of 2012. **Jonathan Steele** is a *Guardian* columnist and author of *Ghosts of Afghanistan*.



Dr Llewelyn Morgan

1-2.30pm, Sheikh Zayed Theatre

LSE Literary Festival events

Rhetoric, Lies and Politicians

Speakers: **Lord Hurd, Sam Leith, Ian Leslie, Jonathan Powell**

This illustrious panel will discuss the importance of rhetoric, that famous art of persuasion, as well as the centrality of lying and self-deception to human society and politics.

Douglas Hurd retired as Foreign Secretary in July 1995, after a distinguished career in Government spanning sixteen years. His publications include, most recently, *Choose Your Weapons: The British Foreign Secretary*. **Sam Leith** is a former Literary Editor of the Daily Telegraph. His latest book *You Talkin' To Me? Rhetoric from Aristotle to Obama* is published by Profile Books. **Ian Leslie** combines careers in advertising and writing. His latest book is *Born Liars: Why We Can't Live Without Deceit*. **Jonathan Powell** worked as Tony Blair's Chief of Staff. He is author of *The New Machiavelli: How to wield power in the Modern World*.



Jonathan Powell

photo © Jane Mingay



Sam Leith



Ian Leslie



Lord Hurd

Saturday 3 March

1-2.30pm, Wolfson Theatre

LSE Language Centre Literary Festival event

Storytelling and Translation

Speakers: **Marina Lewycka**, **Jeremy Sams**, **George Szirtes**

A panel of experts discuss translation and storytelling in novels, poetry and opera. Are there fundamental elements to storytelling that are shared across cultures, languages and genres? What is lost, and what is created, in translation? Followed by a reading of the winning entry in the LSE micro-fiction student competition and a performance by students of a classic one act play.

Marina Lewycka's bestselling novels include *A Short History of Tractors in Ukrainian*, *Two Caravans*, *We are All Made of Glue* and most recently *Various Pets Alive and Dead*. **Jeremy Sams** is a translator of opera libretti as well as a lyricist, theatre director, composer, orchestrator and musical director. His latest work, *The Enchanted Island*, opened to critical acclaim at the New York Metropolitan Opera. **George Szirtes** came to England as a refugee in 1956, following the Hungarian Uprising. His award-winning books of poetry in English include most recently *Reel*, *New and Collected Poems* and *The Burning of the Books*.

photo © Ben Macmillan



Marina Lewycka



Jeremy Sams



George Szirtes

3-4.30pm, Sheikh Zayed Theatre

LSE Literary Festival event

Faith, Doubt and Certainty in a Secular Age

Speakers: **Richard Holloway**, **Alex Preston**

Richard Holloway and Alex Preston will discuss the battle between belief and doubt, which is central to both their latest books, and why people still need faith in a secular era.

Richard Holloway was Bishop of Edinburgh and Primus of the Scottish Episcopal Church. His memoir, *Leaving Alexandria*, is published in March and his new radio series on doubt will be broadcast on BBC Radio 4. **Alex Preston's** award-winning first novel, the best-selling *This Bleeding City*, has been translated into twelve languages. His latest novel, *The Revelations*, explores the power of a religious movement amongst a group of young people.



Richard Holloway



Alex Preston

photo © Lucy Preston

3-4.30pm, Wolfson Theatre

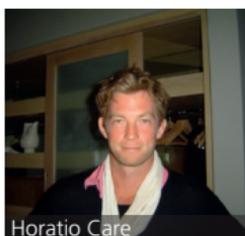
Forum for European Philosophy and LSE Department
of Philosophy, Logic & Scientific Method Literary
Festival event

Travelling the Known and the Unknown - how literature and photography change the world we see

Speakers: **Horatio Clare, Dr Alex Gillespie, Abigail King**

This panel will discuss the relationship between perceptions and realities of travel, and the influence of travel literature and photography on tourist experiences.

Horatio Clare is an award-winning author, broadcaster, novelist and journalist. In 2008 he journeyed from South Africa to South Wales following migrating swallows, a journey he wrote about in *A Single Swallow*. His latest expedition took him from Felixstowe to Los Angeles on a 150,000 tonne container ship. **Alex Gillespie** is Lecturer in Social Psychology at LSE, and Co-Editor of *Journal for the Theory of Social Behaviour*. **Abigail King** is a travel journalist and photographer. She has circled the globe twice, camped in the snows of Kilimanjaro and Patagonia and tracked down tigers, turtles and panda bears.



Horatio Clare



Dr Alex Gillespie



Abigail King

5-6.30pm, Sheikh Zayed Theatre

LSE Cities Literary Festival screening

Under the Cranes: literature, film and the city

Speakers: **Michael Rosen, Emma-Louise Williams**

Emma-Louise Williams' film *Under the Cranes* (2011) is based on the documentary play *Hackney Voices* by the poet and former Children's Laureate Michael Rosen. Blending rare archival footage and dreamlike sequences of present day Hackney, Williams links the everyday with the social and literary history of this difficult to define borough of East London.

Following the screening, a panel of guests join Williams and Rosen to discuss the hybridity of literature and film, as well as Hackney and the increasing attention it has received in light of the Olympics, controversial redevelopment projects and the summer 2011 riots.



Saturday 3 March

5-6.30pm, Wolfson Theatre

LSE Literary Festival event

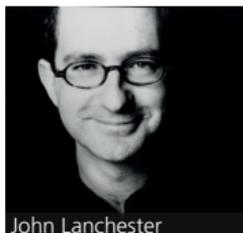
Capital: relating the financial crisis

Speaker: **John Lanchester**

Chair: **Revel Guest**

In his latest state-of-the-nation novel, *Capital*, John Lanchester tells the story of an ordinary street in the capital, but also of a global crisis. In this conversation with Hay Festival Chair Revel Guest, he will discuss the power of a fictional handling of the financial crisis in comparison to non-fictional accounts.

John Lanchester is the award-winning author of *The Debt to Pleasure*, *Mr Phillips* and *Fragrant Harbour*. His non-fiction work *Whoops! Why Everyone Owes Everyone and No-One Can Pay* was a bestseller in the UK and the US.



John Lanchester

photo © Jason Bell

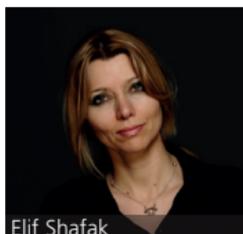
7-8.30pm, Sheikh Zayed Theatre

LSE Literary Festival event

The Happiness of Blond People: angst, immigration and the art of storytelling

Speaker: **Elif Shafak**

Elif Shafak is an award-winning novelist and the most widely read female writer in Turkey. She was born in 1971 in Strasbourg and is the author of 11 books, eight of which are novels, including *The Bastard of Istanbul* and *The Forty Rules of Love*. Her new novel, *Honour*, set partly in London about a half-Kurdish half-Turkish immigrant family, will be published by Penguin in April 2012. She writes in both English and Turkish, and divides her time between London and Istanbul.



Elif Shafak

Monday 6 February 2012

Timeless presents:

The Girl in the Shadows

A brilliant collaboration of drama, dance, and music from different cultures all over the globe builds the foundation of LSE's biggest production, taking place at the Lyceum Theatre.

Performers will also be showing off their talents during the Literary Festival, on Saturday 3 March.

lsetimeless.com



Saturday 3 March

7-8.30pm, Wolfson Theatre

LSE Literary Festival event

Latin America: between social realism and magical realism

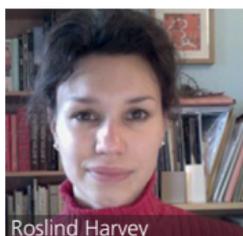
Speakers: **Rolando Bompadre, Rosalind Harvey, Matias Néspolo**

Matias Néspolo's first novel, set in Buenos Aires at the time of Argentina's financial crash, is a vivid portrayal of urban deprivation. With fellow Argentine author Rolando Bompadre, he will discuss society and politics in Latin American literature.

Rolando Bompadre teaches Spanish and Italian at the University of Aberdeen, and is author of *La vispera de los asesinatos*. **Rosalind Harvey** is a translator in residence at the Free Word Centre, translating Spanish and Latin American fiction, including Juan Pablo Villalobos' *Down the Rabbit Hole* which has been shortlisted for the *Guardian* First Book Award. **Matías Néspolo**, born in Buenos Aires, is author of *Seven Ways to Kill a Cat*, his acclaimed first novel. He was selected by *Granta* as one of their best young contemporary Spanish-language novelists.



Matias Néspolo



Rosalind Harvey

photo © Doménec Umbert

8.30-9.30pm, Atrium Area

LSE Literary Festival closing night concert

The Funktionalists

Guitar/vocals: **George StClair**; Bass/ Vocals: **Deborah James**;
Trumpet: **Jans Steinmuller**; Saxophone: **Max Bolt**; Drums: **Thomas Grisaffi**; Tuba: **Tom Boylston**

The Funktionalists are anthropologists who play salsa, Cuban son, New Orleans jazz, and rock. Originally called into being by a proactive group of anthropology undergraduates, they soon transcended the status of an 'artificially created band' to become a force in their own right. They have been entertaining a committed and growing group of fans at parties, conferences and the like since early 2010.

Please note, this concert will not be ticketed. Those attending the evening's events will be welcome to attend.



The Funktionalists

Info



Member of the press? Request a press seat, email pressoffice@lse.ac.uk

Saturday 3 March

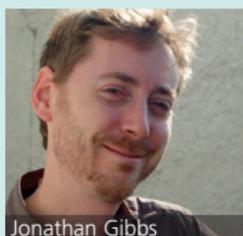
Creative Writing Workshop

10-11am, Alumni Theatre

Writing Fiction- on and off the page with Jonathan Gibbs

The introductory session to the day's workshops will be looking at ways of getting started, or restarted, in writing fiction. What approaches can you take to plot and character when you do find time to write, and how can you use your time away from your desk to make sure that, when you're there, you get the most out of it?

Jonathan Gibbs has worked as a books journalist for 10 years. He took an MA in Creative Writing at UEA, and is currently nearing the end of a PhD.



11am-12pm, Alumni Theatre

The Art of 'Relating Cultures' with Reshma Ruia

Reshma Ruia was born in India and grew up in Italy. After studying at LSE, she worked as a development economist with the United Nations in Rome and OECD in Paris. She is the author of *Something Black in the Lentil Soup* and the forthcoming *A Mouthful of Silence*.

In this session she will discuss the ways of writing about different cultures – the importance of plot, portrayal of character and narrative voice – as well as what her transition from an academic, social scientific culture to a literary one has meant for her writing.



12-1pm, Alumni Theatre

Writing in the Social Media Age with Sarah Salway

Using social media means it has never been easier to get your words out there, but how can you be sure you are being read? Sarah Salway uses personal experience and practical examples to show how you can make the internet work best for you.

Canterbury Laureate and Royal Literary Fund Fellow at the LSE, **Sarah Salway** has been blogging successfully since 2004. She is the author of three novels, including *Something Beginning With*, and a collection of short stories. Her first poetry collection, *You Do Not Need Another Self-Help Book*, will be published in March.



Children's Events

Saturday

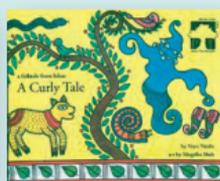
11am, 12pm and 1pm: 3 x 30 minute sessions

Vayu Naidu Storytelling Theatre
Company Presents

Dirty Tricks and Hungry Tales

Storytelling, an interactive performance with the Vayu Naidu Company. Come and explore the cinema of your mind. Here you will encounter angry snakes and generous spirits, hungry kings and humble peasants. Learn about Guru Nanak's wise choices and how Bear's belly took over his senses.

Let Ruby Sahota, Vayu Naidu Company Storyteller in Residence take you on a journey, with wonder and imagination as your guide. Stories are suitable for all ages, young and old.



Thursday 23 February, 6-7.30pm

LSE Literary Festival and First Story prize-giving event

Speakers: **Caroline Bird**, **William Fiennes**, **Meg Rosoff**, **Philip Womack**

The most popular books today are filled with vampires, ghosts, wizards and other fantasy figures. Is real life so uninspiring? Come along and join the fantasy versus reality debate.

Caroline Bird is an award-winning poet. She has had three collections of poetry published by Carcanet. **William Fiennes** is the best-selling author of *The Snow Geese* and *The Music Room*, and Director of the charity First Story. **Meg Rosoff** is author of the award-winning books *How I Live Now* and *Just in Case*. Meg's latest book is *There Is No Dog*. **Philip Womack** is the author of two critically acclaimed children's books, *The Other Book* and *The Liberators*.

First Story supports and inspires creativity, literacy and talent in UK schools and their communities. firststory.org.uk

photo © Claire McNamee



William Fiennes



Meg Rosoff



Philip Womack

OVERCOMING HURDLES

LSE Photo Prize Exhibition 2012

27 February – 13 April 2012



Atrium Gallery, Old Building

The 6th LSE Photo Prize Exhibition 2012 will showcase a wide range of photography by LSE students and staff. Photos will be selected by a judging panel of art professionals and LSE staff. This year's photo prize takes on the theme of 'Overcoming Hurdles'. This exhibition is supported by the LSE Annual Fund. For any queries please email arts.photoprize@lse.ac.uk or call 0207 107 5342. lse.ac.uk/arts



The British
Museum

Hajj journey to
the heart of Islam

Until 15 April 2012

Left: Hajj certificate
Nasser D. Khalili
Collection of Islamic Art
(Khalili Family Trust).
Right: The Ka'ba. AP/PA.

Student offer
2 for 1 tickets on Fridays after 18.00
britishmuseum.org/hajj



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SPRING 2012 SPEAKERS INCLUDE:

A.S Byatt

Wendy Cope

Michael Cunningham

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Jackie Kay

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**Membership of The Royal Society
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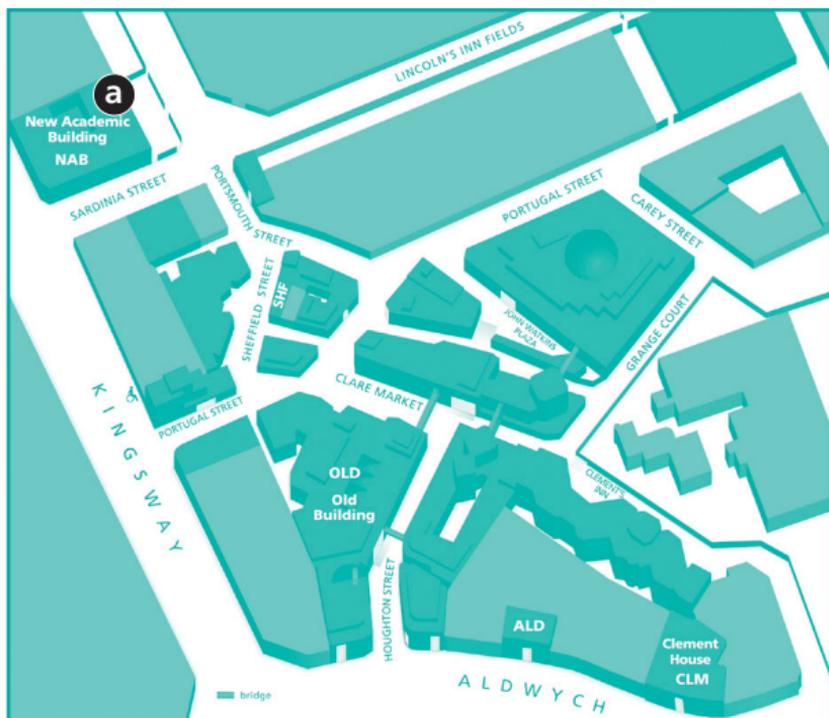
For full information about the benefits
of membership and how to join:

Telephone 020 7845 4677

Email rachel@rslit.org

Website www.rslit.org

Maps & directions



a **NAB**
54 Lincoln's Inn Fields
London
WC2A 3LJ

Disabled access

LSE aims to ensure that people have equal access to these public events.

If you have any access requirements, eg relating to sensory impairments, please contact events@lse.ac.uk in advance of the event you are planning to attend.



How to get there

Underground

Holborn (Central/Piccadilly)
Temple (District/Circle)

Buses

Buses that stop on or near the Aldwych are numbers:
1, 4, 6, 9, 11, 13, 15, 23, 26,
59, 68, x68, 76, 87, 91, 139,
168, 171, 172, 176, 188, 243,
341 and 521

Parking

NCP, Parker St (off Drury Lane)
WC2

Other than parking meters on Portugal Street, Sardinia Street, Sheffield Street and Lincoln's Inn Fields there is no parking available near the School.

The London School of Economics and Political Science, Houghton Street
London, WC2A 2AE

Link to maps

lse.ac.uk/mapsAndDirections/