

To mark the appearance of his new book - *The Truth about Markets - their Genius, Limits and Follies* - which will be published by Allen Lane The Penguin Press on 1 May 2003, John Kay will be delivering a series of three lectures.

### **The Truth about Markets - Genius**

'The immediate "common sense" answer to the question "What will an economy motivated by individual greed and controlled by a very large number of different agents look like?" is probably: "There will be chaos"' (Ken Arrow and Frank Hahn, 1971)

The greatest controlled experiment in the history of social sciences - the division of Germany into two economic zones - ended with the collapse of the Berlin Wall in 1989. What are the reasons for the economic success of market economies, and the economic failure of planned ones?

Royal Society of Arts, John Adam Street, WC2  
29<sup>th</sup> April 2003, 6pm  
Chairman: Prue Leith

### **The Truth about Markets - Limits**

'Everything they told us about Communism was false, but everything they told us about Capitalism was true' (anonymous Russian, 1995)

The US misunderstood the nature of its victory in the Cold War. The dissemination of an over-simplified description of how market economies function that was at once repulsive and false, undermined both the performance and the legitimacy of triumphant capitalism.

Old Theatre, London School of Economics, Houghton Street, WC2  
30<sup>th</sup> April 2003, 6 pm  
Chairman: Lord Layard

### **The Truth about Markets - Follies**

'If the allocation of capital is the by product of the activities of a casino, the job is likely to be ill done' (J.M. Keynes, 1936)

The American boom which followed became the greatest speculative bubble in the economic history of the world. That boom and bust tore apart theories of the efficiency of market economies and the allocative role of newly liberalised financial systems. It is social institutions, not securities markets, which necessarily handle the principal risks of modern life.

Garden Quadrangle, St John's College, Oxford  
6<sup>th</sup> May 2003, 5 pm  
Chairman: Sir Michael Scholar

For information about any of these lectures please email [info@johnkay.com](mailto:info@johnkay.com)