

Welcome to the 4th Annual Manchester Literature Festival

Once again we'll be presenting some of the most original and inspiring authors from across the globe alongside the very best home-grown talent. Our distinguished line-up includes Martin Amis, Simon Armitage, Margaret Atwood, Kate Atkinson, Eoin Colfer, James Lasdun, Michelle Magorian, Val McDermid, Jimmy McGovern, Jeff Noon, Frederic Raphael, Fay Weldon and Guo Yue.

This year, we give special focus to the short story as part of our Short Weekend, with leading exponents of the form sharing stories inspired by science, The Smiths, political exile, and above all, what it is to be human.

So, come and encounter your favourite writers and discover new ones over afternoon tea at the Midland Hotel, between the exhibits at Manchester Museum and Manchester Art Gallery, or download them onto your iPod and take them with you as you wander the city. With everything from Football Detectives to Darwin-inspired poetry, plus plenty of interactive activities and creative workshops, there's sure to be something to spark your imagination.

Cathy Bolton
Festival Director

MLF is programmed under three strands:

Read presents the most influential and inspirational authors writing in the world today in prestigious venues across Manchester. *Independent* showcases the best in regional and national independent publishing, writing and production.

Freeplay is a series of events and happenings exploring the spaces where new writing meets new technology and other media.

Booker-winning, Canadian author Margaret Atwood will be appearing at a unique literary performance with music to launch her new novel *The Year of the Flood*. Set in the same dystopian world as her previous novel *Oryx and Crake*, it tells the story of God's Gardeners – a religion devoted to the preservation of all species. The Gardeners have long predicted the *Waterless Flood*, which arrives in the form of a global pandemic obliterating most of human life. The survivors are left to battle over an existence amongst themselves and the other gene-spliced life forms now running amok – will the human race make it, and more to the point, should it? This event is part of a UK tour to support the work of the RSPB & BirdLife International and to raise awareness of species decline.

Tuesday 1st September, 7.30pm
Manchester Cathedral
Tickets: £8 / £6 concessions
Book on 0843 208 0500 or
www.manchesterliteraturefestival.co.uk



Martin Amis's appearances in Manchester are always sell-out events and this time he is joined by critically-acclaimed novelist and essayist Will Self to debate and share thoughts on the sometimes complex relationship between the world's great literature and sex. How has the erotic domain of human experience inspired authors and readers across the centuries, and how have authors writing about sex prevailed over the mores, prejudices and taboos of their times? Join Amis and Self to find out.

Monday 12th October, 6.30pm
The Martin Harris Centre for Music and Drama
Cosmo Rodewald Hall
Tickets £5 / £3 concessions
Book on 0843 208 0500 or
www.quaytickets.com



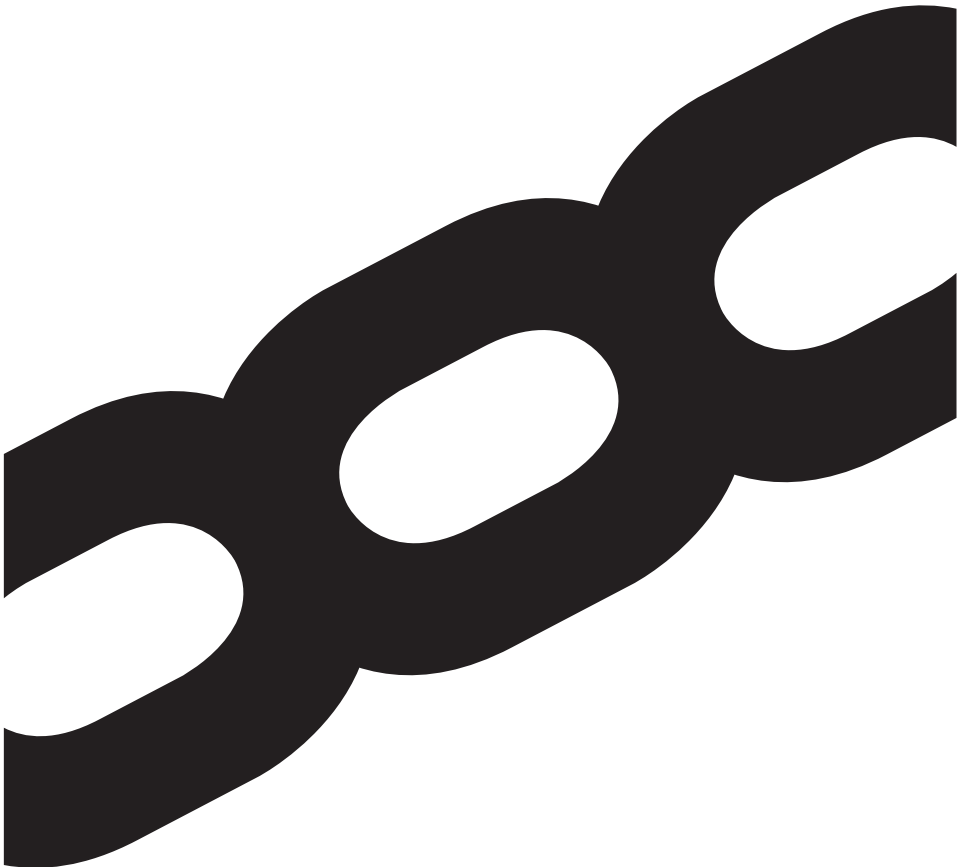
Tom Palmer is the author of Puffin's Football Detective and Football Academy series, and was shortlisted for the 2009 Blue Peter Book Award. School football teams will be invited to combine football, sleuthing and literary knowledge in this fun-packed event at Borders Manchester Fort. More information on Tom Palmer can be found at: www.tompalmer.co.uk

Thursday 15th October, 10.30am & 1.30pm
Borders Manchester Fort
Free event for schools only
Book on 0161 833 0208 or email
supervisor.manchesterfort@borders.co.uk



Join our two acclaimed writers for some poignant and fascinating insights into lives affected by the transatlantic slave trade. Cynthia McLeod will be talking about her novel *The Free Negress Elisabeth*, which draws on historical research into the real life of an eighteenth century black Surinamese woman, exploring the mystery of her great wealth and her dream of marrying a forbidden white man to gain the acceptance of Dutch colonial society. Dorothea Smartt will be reading from her new poetry collection *Ship Shape*, which grew from a Lancaster LitFest commission to write a contemporary elegy for 'Sambo's' Grave, on Sunderland Point. Her poetic re-imagining gives powerful and moving voice to an enslaved African on his journey from the Caribbean.

Thursday 15th October, 1pm
Manchester Central Library, Committee Room
Tickets are free, but booking is advised
Book on 0843 208 0500 or
www.manchesterliteraturefestival.co.uk



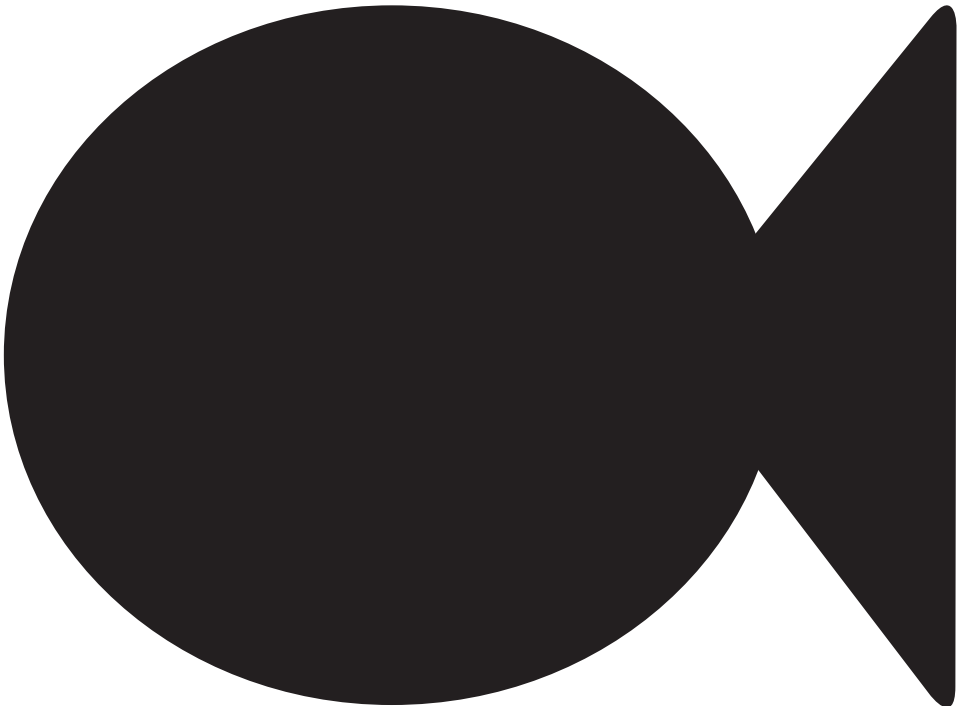
Joan Bakewell's career spans forty-five years as a broadcaster and journalist. She wrote her autobiography a few years ago, but waited till she was in her mid-70s before penning her first novel, *All the Nice Girls*. The book, set in World War Two, is a wonderful evocation of period, time and place. Some of the narrative is set in Manchester, and one scene takes place at The Midland Hotel. To find out which one, and to meet this fascinating writer and cultural icon, book your ticket now for this very intimate event.

Thursday 15th October, 3pm
Midland Hotel, French Restaurant
Tickets £12 (includes afternoon tea and scones)
Book on 0843 208 0500 or
www.manchesterliteraturefestival.co.uk



Highly esteemed poet Ruth Padel will be reading from her most recent collection, *Darwin – A Life in Poems*, a poetic biography of her great-great-grandfather, capturing the significant moments and experiences in the life of our greatest scientist. As well as eight collections of poetry, Padel is also the author of the very popular introductions to poetry, *52 Ways of Looking at a Poem* and *The Poem and the Journey*, and is a Fellow of the Royal Society of Literature and the Zoological Society of London. This unique event takes place at Manchester Museum, which is hosting a major Darwin exhibition this autumn.

Thursday 15th October, 7.30pm
Manchester Museum, Animal Life Gallery
Tickets: £7/ £5 concessions
Book on 0843 208 0500 or
www.manchesterliteraturefestival.co.uk



Celebrated author of the Artemis Fowl novels, Eoin Colfer was given the task of penning a 30th Anniversary sequel to the late, great Douglas Adams's phenomenally successful series *The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy*. Adams's final book ended (as it began) with the complete destruction of Earth – not much of an opening for Eoin Colfer to start the newest book in the series, *And Another Thing*. So how does Colfer bring the eternal pessimist Arthur Dent, his alien best friend Ford Prefect and the two-headed Galactic President Zaphod Beelbebrox back from the dead? Come to this special event, presented in association with the Manchester Comedy and Science Festivals, and find out!

Thursday 15th October, 8pm

Contact

Tickets: £7/ £5 concessions

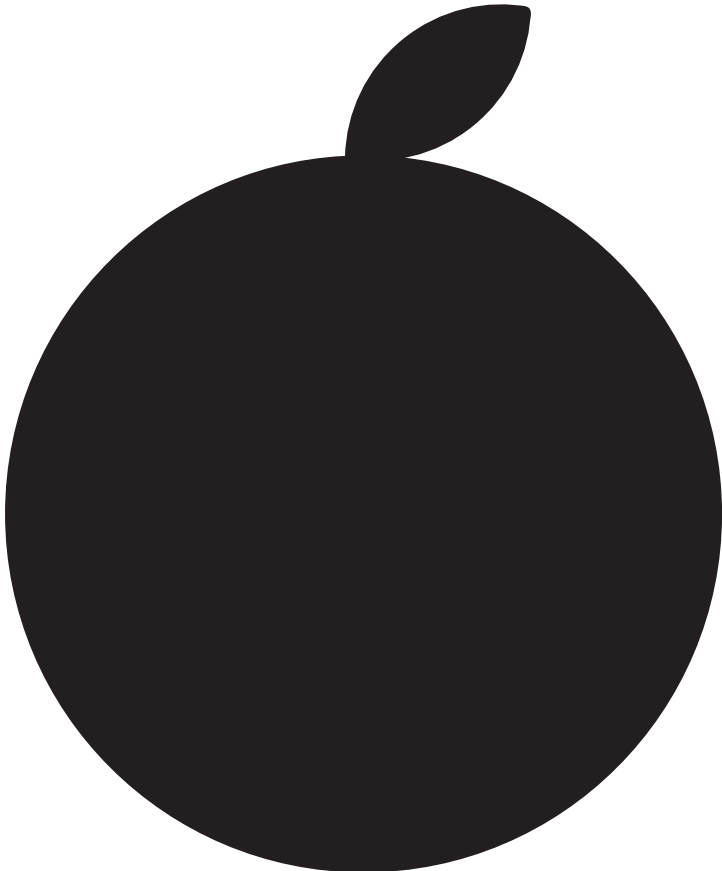
Book on 0161 274 0600 or

www.contact-theatre.org



Don't miss this fascinating talk on the relationship between writers and artists. Jenny Uglow is an historian, editor and author of several critically acclaimed books, including *Words & Pictures: Writers, Artists and a Peculiarly British Tradition*, which explores the illustrations of Milton's *Paradise Lost* and Bunyan's *Pilgrim's Progress* amongst others. Her previous books include the biographies *Elizabeth Gaskell: A Habit of Stories*, *Hogarth: A Life and a World* and *The Lunar Men: The Friends who Made the Future*. Her most recent book is *A Gambling Man: Charles II and the Restoration*.

Friday 16th October, 1pm
Manchester Art Gallery
Tickets: £5 / £3 concessions
Book on 0843 208 0500 or
www.manchesterliteraturefestival.co.uk



Kate Atkinson shot to fame with her first novel, *Behind the Scenes at the Museum*, which won the 1995 Whitbread Book of the Year award. More recently, she has turned her talents to crime fiction. *When Will There Be Good News?* is her third novel to feature ex-cop turned PI Jackson Brodie, and the story explores the terrible traumas that children and young people must endure when people they love die violently. Come and hear one of Britain's most popular and talented authors read and talk about her work.

Friday 16th October, 4pm

Friends Meeting House

Tickets: £7/ £5 concessions

Book on 0843 208 0500 or

www.manchesterliteraturefestival.co.uk



Fay Weldon launches her new novel *Chalcot Crescent*, which tells the story of Frances, the author's never-born younger sister, an unreliable narrator who blends history and fiction to create a sparkling and prophetic portrait of a once and future Britain – told with Weldon's celebrated wit and imagination. New Zealand-born, Weldon is best known for her novels *Praxis*, *Life and Loves of a She-Devil* and *Worst Fears*. She is also the creator of the slogan 'Go to work on an egg', writer of the first ever episode of *Upstairs Downstairs* and current Professor of Creative Writing at Brunel University.

Friday 16th October, 6pm
Friends Meeting House
Tickets: £7/£5 concessions
Book on 0843 208 0500 or
www.manchesterliteraturefestival.co.uk



Start your weekend in the calm setting of the Manchester Buddhist Centre with some spiritually inspired poetry. Grevel Lindop has published six collections of poems, including *Selected Poems* and *Playing With Fire*. *Touching the Earth* is his poem-in-progress on the life of the Buddha. Linda Chase has published two collections of poetry, *The Wedding Spy* and *Extended Family with Carcanet*, and is the director of *Poets & Players*. Vishvantara Julia Lewis is a seasoned performer of her work and teaches meditation and Buddhism at the London Buddhist Centre. Stephen Parr has published a number of collections including *North of the Future* and is the founder and co-leader of *Wolf at the Door* writing courses.

Friday 16th October, 6pm

Buddhist Centre

Free event but booking advised

Book on 0843 208 0500 or

www.manchesterliteraturefestival.co.uk



Don't miss this rare opportunity to encounter two of our finest women authors discussing their latest, war-themed novels. Kate Mosse, founder of the Orange Prize, is the author of the hugely popular novels *Labyrinth* and *Sepulchre*. Her new novel *The Winter Ghosts* is again set in the south of France, but this time in the years following the Great War. By turns thrilling, poignant and haunting, this is a story of two lives touched by war and transformed by courage. Jill Dawson's novel concerns the war poet Rupert Brooke. In *The Great Lover* she gives poignant voice to Brooke through a dual narrative that unfolds in both his own words and those of her spirited fictional character, Nell, a seventeen year old housemaid.

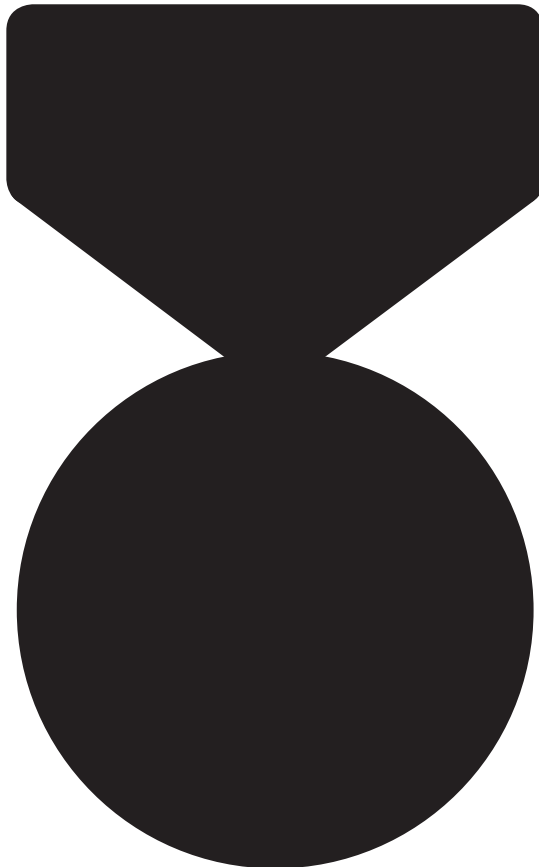
Friday 16th October, 7.30pm

Friends Meeting House

Tickets: £7/ £5 concessions

Book on 0843 208 0500 or

www.manchesterliteraturefestival.co.uk



This two-day course will enable participants to use the current Angels of Anarchy: Women Artists and Surrealism exhibition at Manchester Art Gallery as a source of inspiration for their writing, as well as providing them with guidance for developing their craft. Participants will spend time looking at the exhibition, and through discussion and practical exercises, experiment with surrealism in their own writing. The course is designed for people with some prior experience of creative writing and will be led by our specially commissioned writer Suzanne Batty, whose published work includes the poetry collection *The Barking Thing* (Bloodaxe).

Saturday 17th & Sunday 18th October, 11am – 4pm

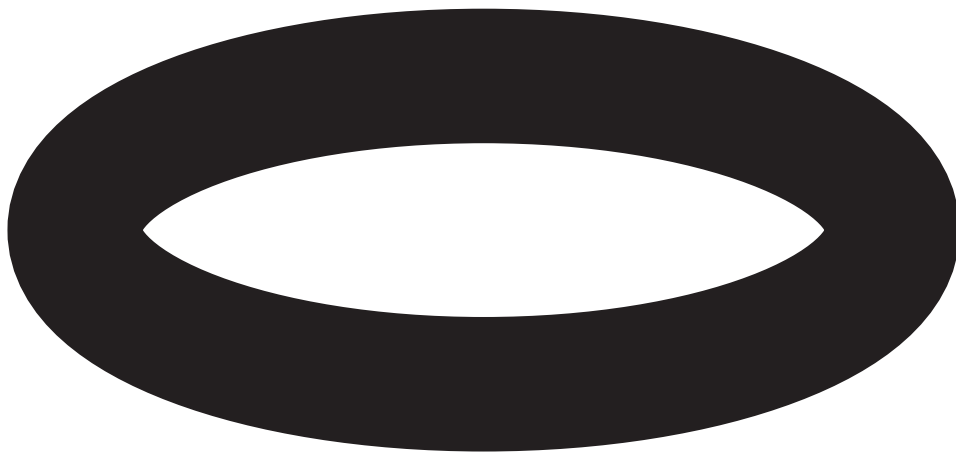
Manchester Art Gallery

Tickets: £36 / £29 concessions

(includes materials and exhibition ticket)

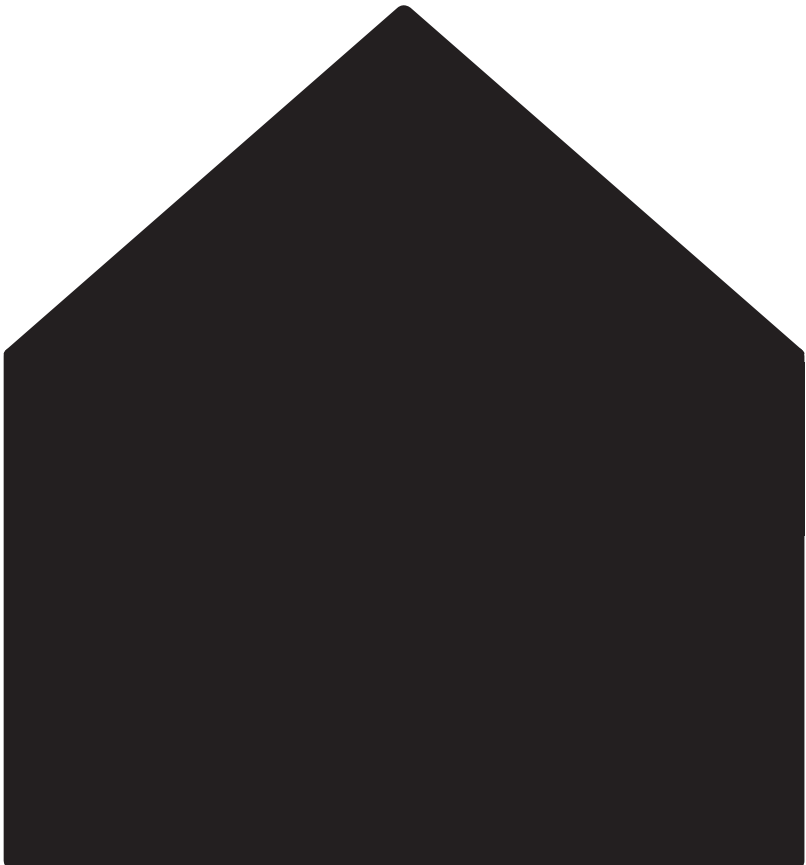
Book on 0161 235 8888 or email

magevents@manchester.gov.uk



Commonword and Manchester Literature Festival have been seeking out the most exciting new fiction voices in the North West and now six unpublished hopefuls will be pitching their novel to a panel of movers and shakers in the publishing world, including Dan Franklin (Canongate), Rebecca Swift (The Literary Consultancy) and novelist Sherry Ashworth. The panel's favourite will win £250 and the opportunity for more extensive feedback on their work. If you think you have a novel in you and want to know how to get it published, come along for some top tips from those in the know. For more information contact: admin@cultureword.org.uk

Saturday 17th October, 11am–1pm
Manchester Central Library, Committee Room
Tickets are free, but booking is advised
Book on 0843 208 0500 or
www.manchesterliteraturefestival.co.uk



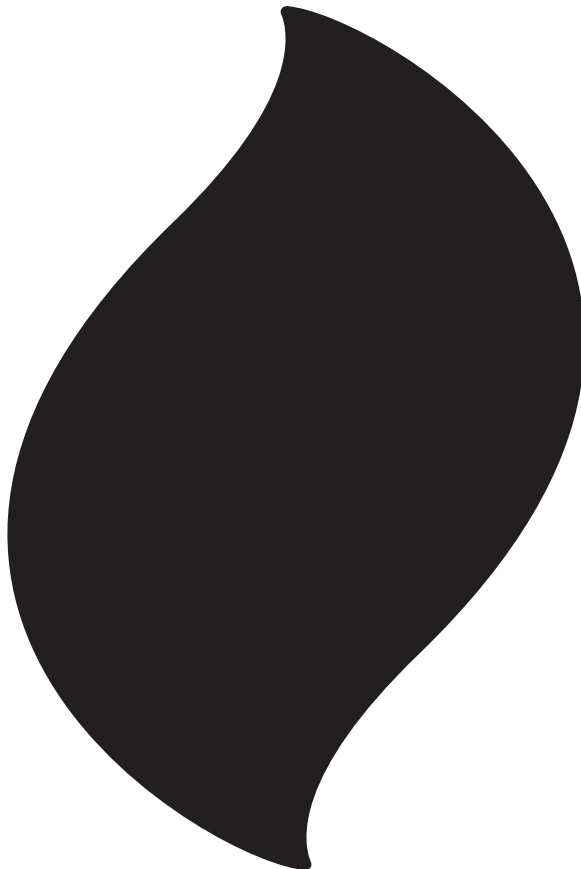
Maya Chowdhry and Segun Lee-French, winners of Commonword's recent '30 Poems' competition, will be launching their debut collections with a joint reading. Maya Chowdhry's collection, *The Seamstress and The Global Garment* shows a poet 'uniquely alive to the possibilities of multiple identities, fused mother tongues and the interweaving of myths' (Chroma). Segun Lee-French's collection *Praise Songs For Aliens* unveils a poetic voice 'bathed head and toe in the historical waters of the Negritude champions and in the oeuvre of the great African-American firebrand Amiri Baraka... His words grow tall and strong into magical song' (Kevin Le Gendre).

Saturday 17th October, 1.30pm
Manchester Central Library, Committee Room
Tickets are free, but booking is advised
Book on 0843 208 0500 or
www.manchesterliteraturefestival.co.uk



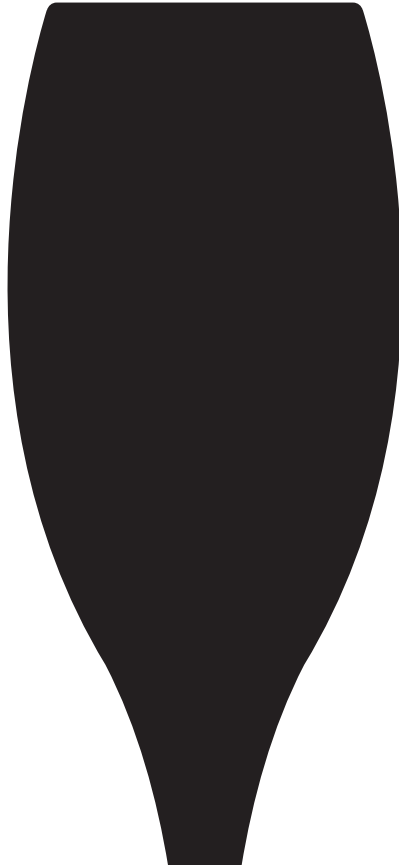
Even if everything were taken from you, you'd still have the stories that mattered and the poetry that had moved you. With power to change, the written word can quicken the heart and lay bare feeling and experience. On the International Day for the Eradication of Poverty John Amaechi, motivational speaker and political activist, shares poems and prose which demand dignity for those enduring the insecurity, exclusion and voicelessness associated with poverty. These works are often full of hope, at times angry, but always inspirational.

Saturday 17th October, 3–4pm
St Ann's Church
Tickets £6 / £4 concessions
(all proceeds from this event go to Amnesty)
Book on 0843 208 0500 or
www.manchesterliteraturefestival.co.uk



We invite you to come and toast one of Manchester's most distinguished literary figures, Michael Schmidt, as he launches his new *Collected Poems* in the suitably sophisticated Epernay Champagne & Cocktail Bar. Michael Schmidt OBE FRSL is the founder and editorial director of Carcanet Press and *PN Review* and is Professor of Poetry at the University of Glasgow. He is a poet, novelist, critic and anthologist. His *Selected Poems* and acclaimed *Resurrection of the Body* are published by Smith/Doorstop. Michael is an authoritative figure in contemporary poetry, a hugely experienced public speaker and a powerful and engaging reader of his own work.

Saturday 17th October, 6pm
Epernay Champagne & Cocktail Bar
Tickets £5 / £3 concessions
(includes free glass of champagne)
Book on 0843 208 0500 or
www.manchesterliteraturefestival.co.uk



Top cartoonist and children's author John Byrne believes everyone can draw, and for over ten years he has been proving it with his hilarious live cartoon class which has turned countless kids (and their families) into instant artists at libraries and festivals all over the country. With nothing but a flipchart, a pen and a sense of humour, John shows how the simplest shapes and lines can be used to create caricatures, comic strips and animation – even by people who are convinced they ‘can’t draw a straight line’. This is a wonderfully entertaining and interactive event for all the family, and is brought to you in conjunction with the Manchester Comedy Festival.

Sunday 18th October, 3pm
Manchester Comedy Store
Tickets: £5 adults / £3 children & concessions
Book on 0843 208 0500 or
www.manchesterliteraturefestival.co.uk



Don't miss this showcase of Northern talent, all published by leading independent publisher Salt. Elizabeth Baines is a prizewinning writer of prose fiction and plays for radio and stage. Her haunting new novel, *Too Many Magpies*, is a timely exploration of our fears and desires in a newly precarious world. Robert Graham is the author of the novel, *Holy Joe*, a new short story collection, *The Only Living Boy*, and co-author of three *Creative Writing* handbooks. Novelist and TV writer Mark Illis's latest work, *Tender*, is a series of linked short stories. John Siddique is the author of *The Prize* (Rialto), *Poems from a Northern Soul* (Crocus Books) and co-author of *Four Fathers* (Route). His new collection *Recital – An Almamac* explores love and politics throughout a year of lunar cycles.

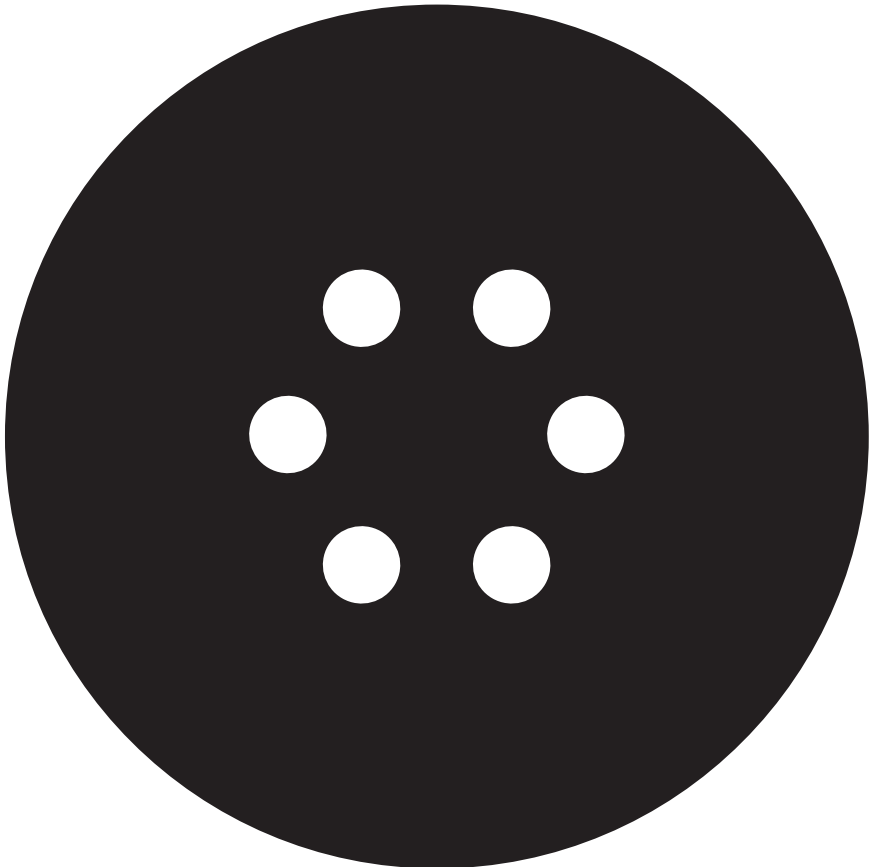
Sunday 18th October, 3pm

Whitworth Art Gallery

Tickets are free, but booking is advised

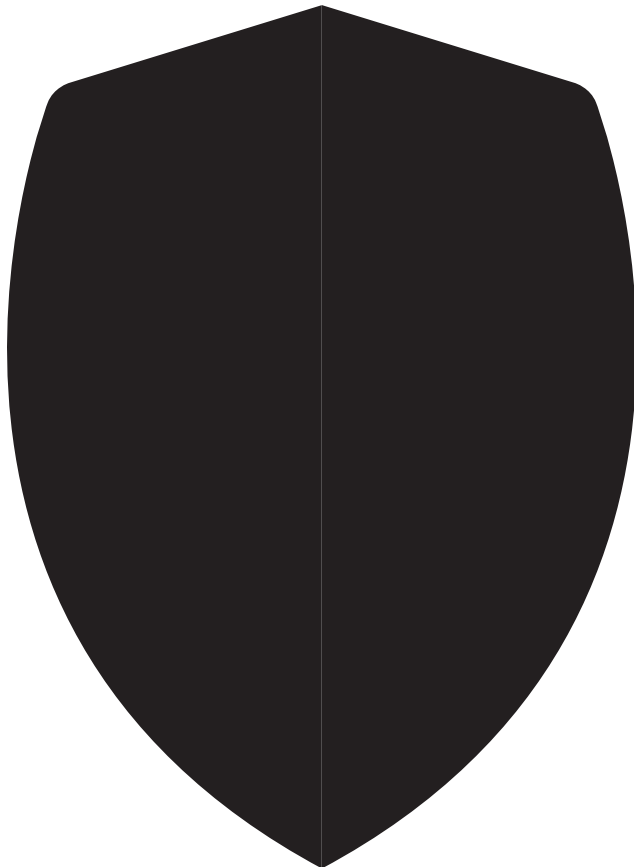
Book on 0843 208 0500 or

www.manchesterliteraturefestival.co.uk



MLF is delighted to present two of the UK's most acclaimed crime writers. Mark Billingham's series of London-based novels featuring D.I. Tom Thorne has won him the Sherlock Award, the Theakston's Crime Novel Of The Year Award and been nominated for five Crime Writer's Association Daggers. The newest novel in the series is *Bloodline*. Val McDermid is a winner of The Gold Dagger and many more literary awards throughout the world. Her novels featuring clinical psychologist Dr Tony Hill have been adapted for the popular ITV drama, *Wire in the Blood*. The latest in this series is *Fever of the Bone*. Her psychological thriller *A Darker Domain* was a hardback Top Ten bestseller and won universally admiring reviews.

Sunday 18th October, 5pm
Whitworth Art Gallery
Tickets: £7/ £5 concessions
Book on 0843 208 0500 or
www.manchesterliteraturefestival.co.uk



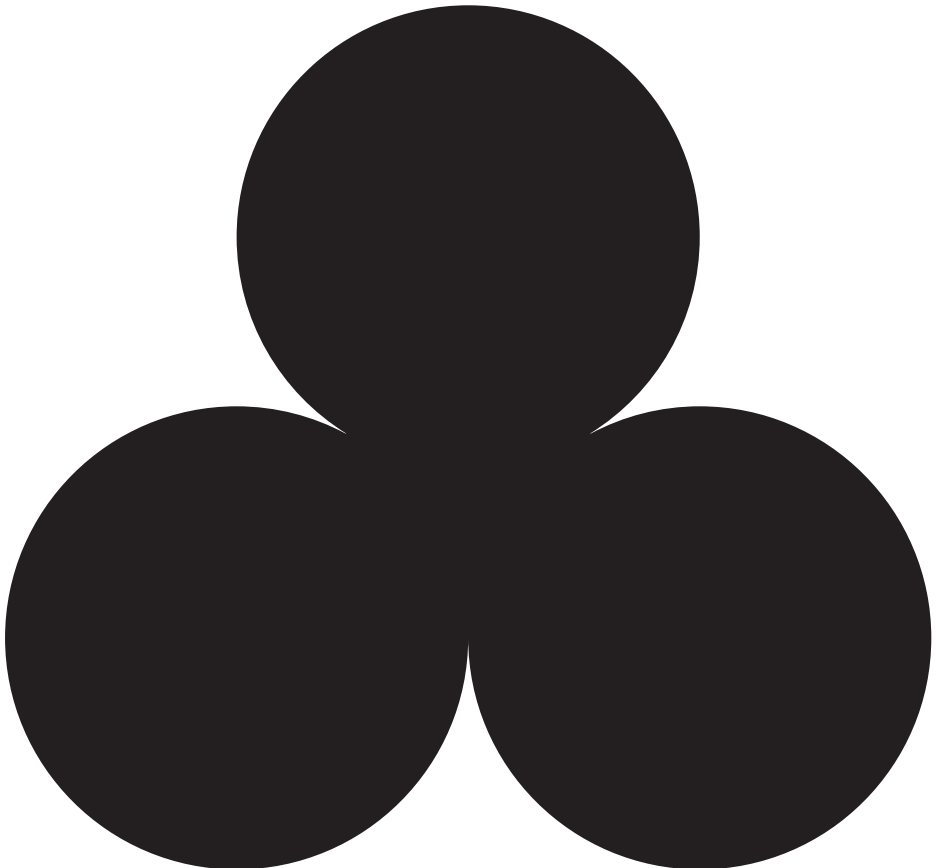
Editor Matthew Hollis introduces a rich array of rising poetry stars. As part of the Faber New Poets programme, in association with Arts Council England, talent-scouted young writers Fiona Benson, Heather Phillipson, Toby Martinez de las Rivas and Jack Underwood are launching their hot-off-the-press pamphlets. They are joined by Wordsworth Trust Poet in Residence Emma Jones, winner of Australia's prestigious Newcastle Poetry Prize, who will be reading from her new collection *The Striped World*.

Monday 19th October, 1pm–2.30pm
Manchester Central Library, Committee Room
Tickets are free, but booking is advised
Book on 0843 208 0500 or
www.manchesterliteraturefestival.co.uk



Michael Longley has been described as ‘an elegant voice in Irish poetry, whose stature is now beyond challenge’ and ‘a master in an old, great tradition’. In 2007, he was appointed Professor of Poetry for Ireland, and his inaugural lecture, *A Jovial Hullabuloo*, was published in pamphlet form in the same year. Tom French was born in Kilkenny in 1966 and raised across the border in Tipperary. He received a bursary in literature from An Chomhairle Ealaíon/The Arts Council, Ireland in 1999, and his first collection *Touching the Bones* (Gallery Press, 2001) was awarded the Forward Prize for First Collection 2002. He lives with his family close to the coast of County Meath where he earns his living in the county library service.

Monday 19th October, 6pm
The Martin Harris Centre for Music and Drama
John Thaw Studio
Tickets £5 / £3 concessions
Book on 0843 208 0500 or
www.quaytickets.com



Presented in collaboration with the Instituto Cervantes, this is a unique opportunity to find out about the art of graphic fiction from the Spanish-speaking world. Cartoonist and illustrator Paco Roca (Valencia, 1969) is a regular contributor to the Spanish comics review *El Vibora*. He has also worked with SF author Juan Miguel Aguilera to create *Road Cartoons*, a mix of drawings and 3D. Dario Adanti (Buenos Aires, 1971) began his career publishing in Argentine magazines. His humorous work deals with the absurd and the dark side of underground popular culture. Besides his comics work, Dario Adanti does animation work for MTV Latino and has produced various short animated movies. Join them both for this fascinating interactive event.

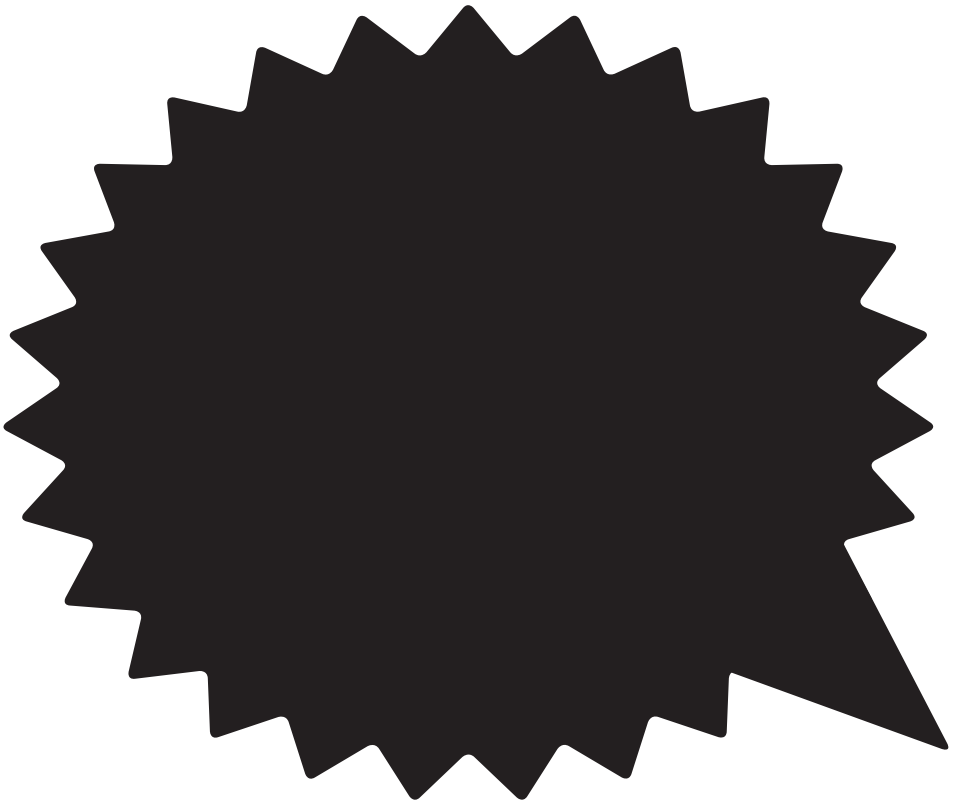
Monday 19th October, 6.30pm

Instituto Cervantes

Tickets are free but booking is required

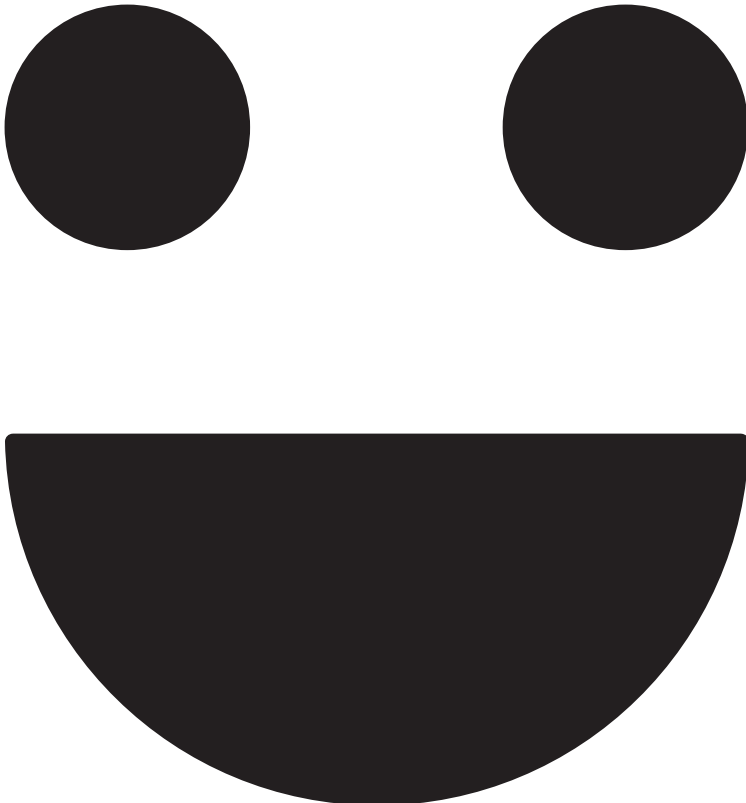
Book on 0161 661 4212 or

cultman@cervantes.es



MLF joins forces with No Point in Not Being Friends, the popular live literature event with an enviable reputation for showcasing exciting new talent, for this festival special. Readers include Jacob Polley (selected as one of the Next Generation of British poets in 2004 and author of debut novel *Talk of the Town*), Adelle Stripe (poet and editor whose solo collection *Some Things Are Better Left Unsaid* is published by Blackheath Books) and Matthew Welton (winner of the Jerwood-Aldeburgh First Collection Prize for *The Book of Matthew*, he has just published his second collection with Carcanet, *'We needed coffee but...'*). There will also be an open mic segment, and live music from Jo Lewis. For more information email nopointinnotbeingfriends@gmail.com

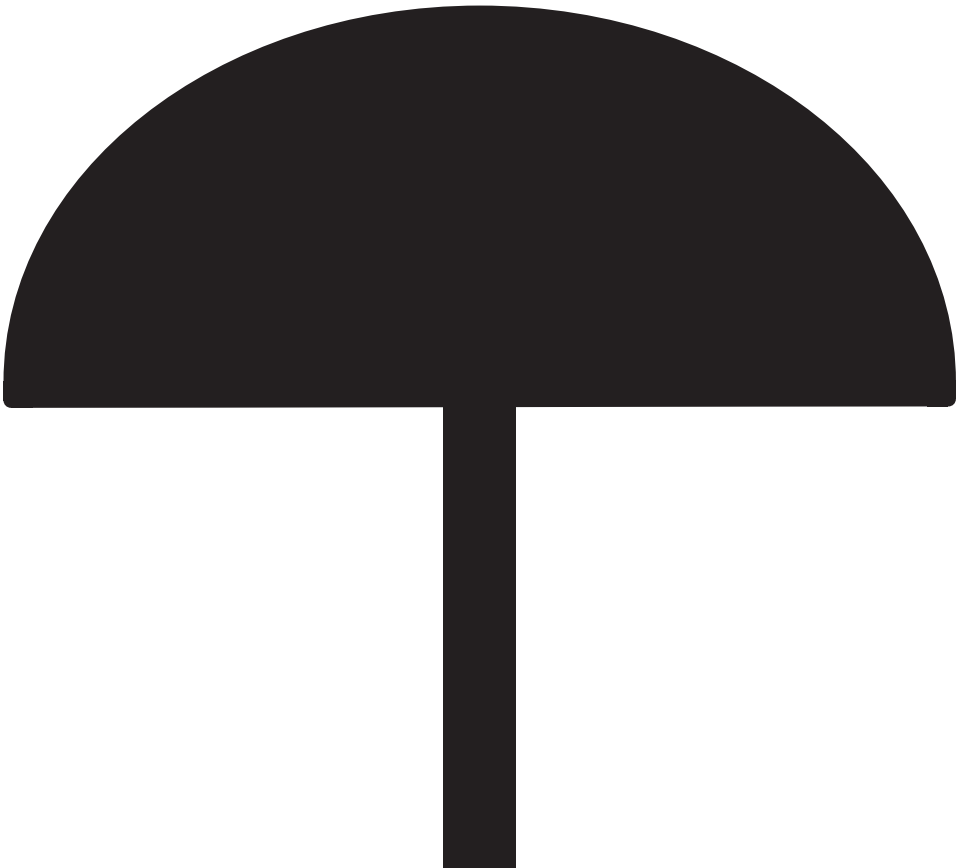
Monday 19th October, 7.30pm
Matt & Phred's Jazz Club
Tickets £3
Book on 0843 208 0500 or
www.manchesterliteraturefestival.co.uk



Launched during last year's festival, Rainy City Stories publishes writing linked to locations in Manchester via an online, interactive map of the city. It features contributions from some of the city's best-known authors alongside the work of talented newer writers. In this live literature event, we take a small group of intrepid readers on a journey across the city centre to hear Rainy City writers read their stories and poems in the very locations that inspired them. Places are limited, so early booking is advised.

If you are unable to make the live event, you can download a free podcast and map from www.rainycitystories.com and tour the city at your leisure.

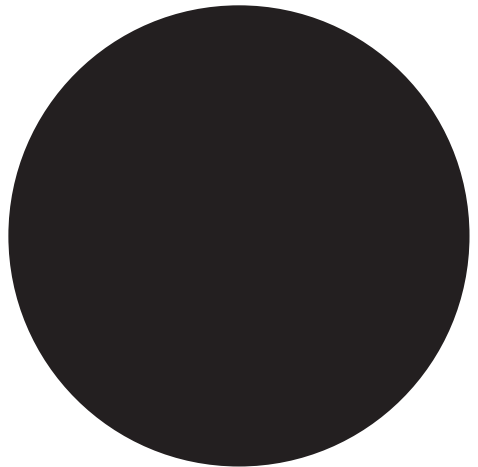
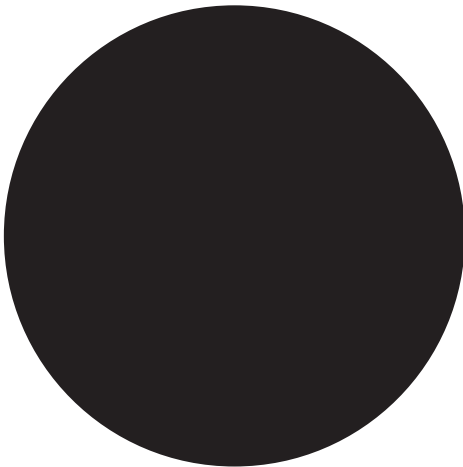
Tuesday 20th October, 1pm
Tour starts from outside Urbis
Tickets £5 / £3 concessions
Book on 0843 208 0500 or
www.manchesterliteraturefestival.co.uk



Liverpool-born Jimmy McGovern has built a formidable reputation writing powerful dramas for the stage and screen, often based on real events or socially vital issues. His writing credits read like a list of classic television. Having honed his skill working on Brookside, his major breakthrough came with Cracker, one of the best-loved UK TV shows of recent history. With The Lakes and The Street, McGovern has continued to give us great drama but it was with his BAFTA award-winning writing for Hillsborough that his craft was perfected. This is your chance to put your questions to one of Britain's leading screenwriters. Chaired by Kate Rowland, BBC Creative Director, New Writing, the event is run in partnership with BBC writersroom and is designed to offer professional insight for talented emerging writers.

Tuesday 20th October, 6–7.30pm
Cornerhouse

Tickets are free (max 2 per person) and can be reserved on a first come first served basis by emailing the writersroom.events@bbc.co.uk with Jimmy McGovern in the subject header. Tickets available from 1st September.



Since the publication of his first poetry collection *Zoom* in 1989, Simon Armitage has been acclaimed as one of Britain's best writers. During his eclectic writing career he has produced award-winning novels (*Little Green Man* and *The White Stuff*), memoirs (*All Points North and Gig*) and numerous dramas for stage, radio and film. He has also published poetic translations of Homer's *Odyssey* and *Sir Gawain and the Green Knight*. Tonight, he will be treating us to a selection of poetry from his rich back catalogue in the serene surroundings of St Ann's Church.

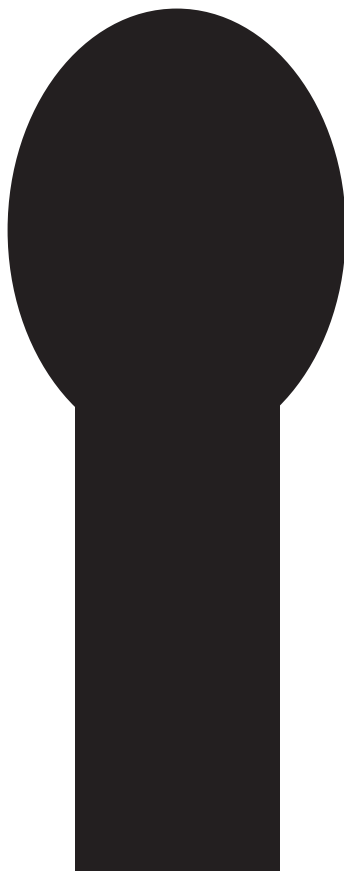
Tuesday 20th October, 7.30pm

St Ann's Church

Tickets £7 / £5 concessions

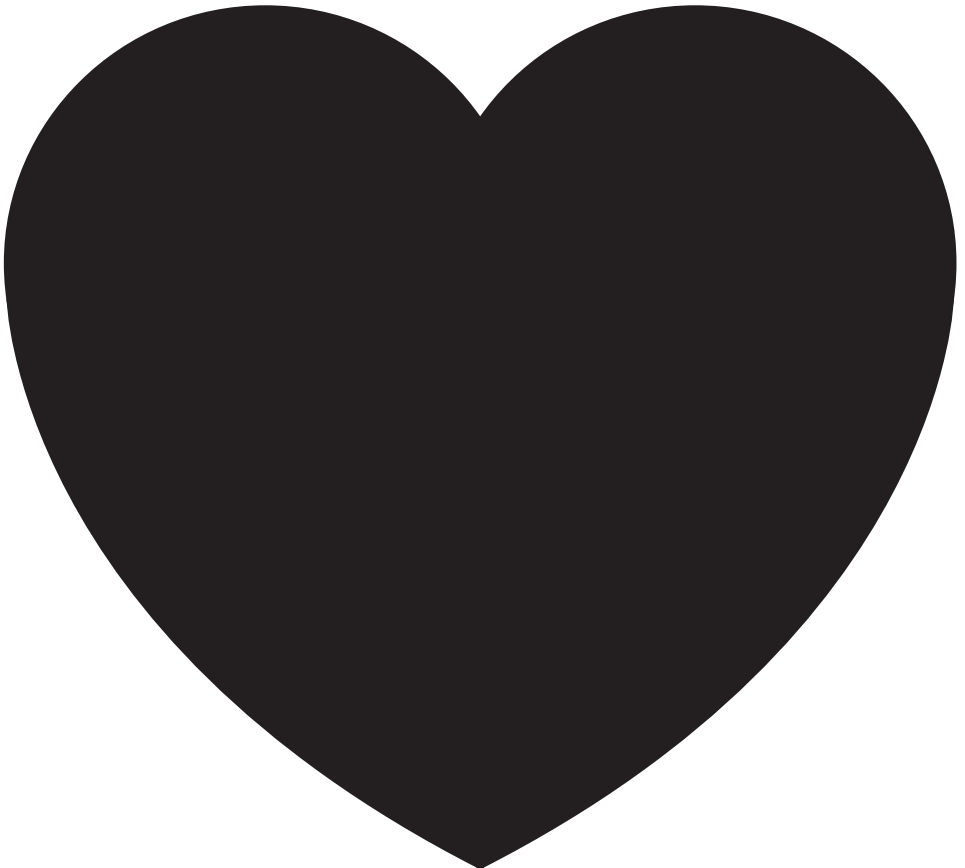
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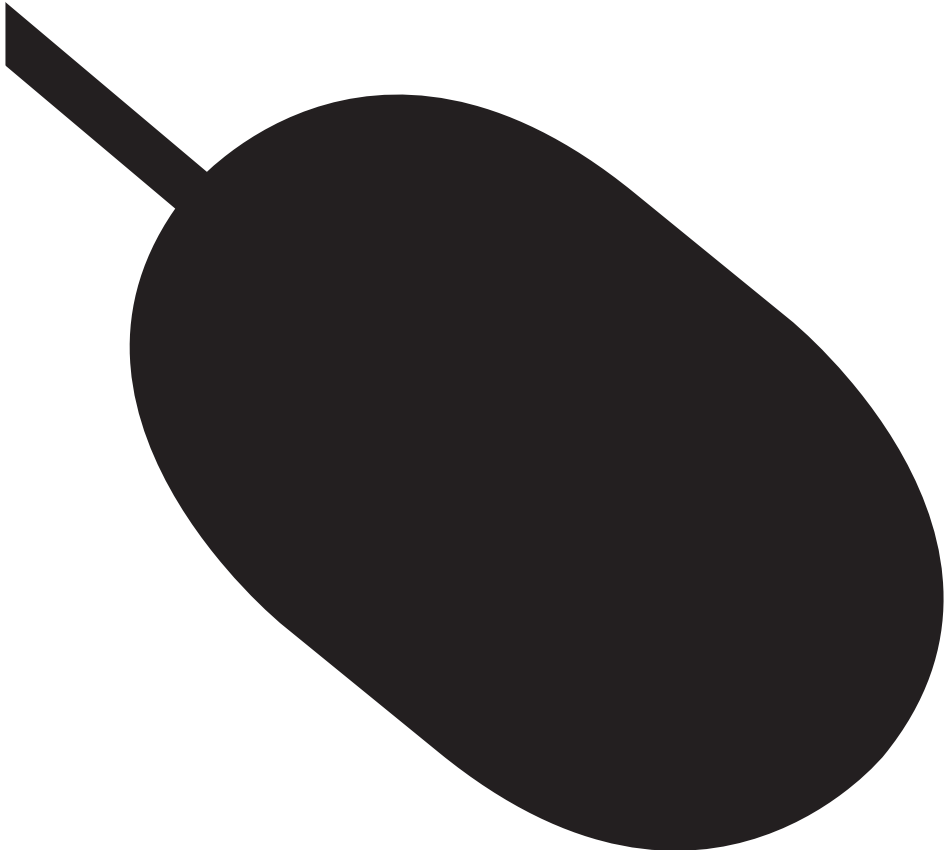
Award-winning biographer Professor Claire Harman shares her insights into the life and reputation of one of British literature's most famous figures, Jane Austen. Her latest book, *Jane's Fame*, part biography and part cultural history, not only tells a fascinating story but is essential reading for anyone interested in Austen's life, works and remarkably potent fame. Come and discover family intrigue, and how Austen's legacy has influenced contemporary phenomena such as chick-lit, romantic comedy, the heritage industry and film. Harman's earlier biography of the novelist Sylvia Townsend Warner won the John Llewellyn Rhys prize, and her biography of the eighteenth-century novelist Fanny Burney was shortlisted for the Whitbread Prize.

Wednesday 21st October, 1pm
Manchester Central Library, Committee Room
Tickets are free, but booking is advised
Book on 0843 208 0500 or
www.manchesterliteraturefestival.co.uk



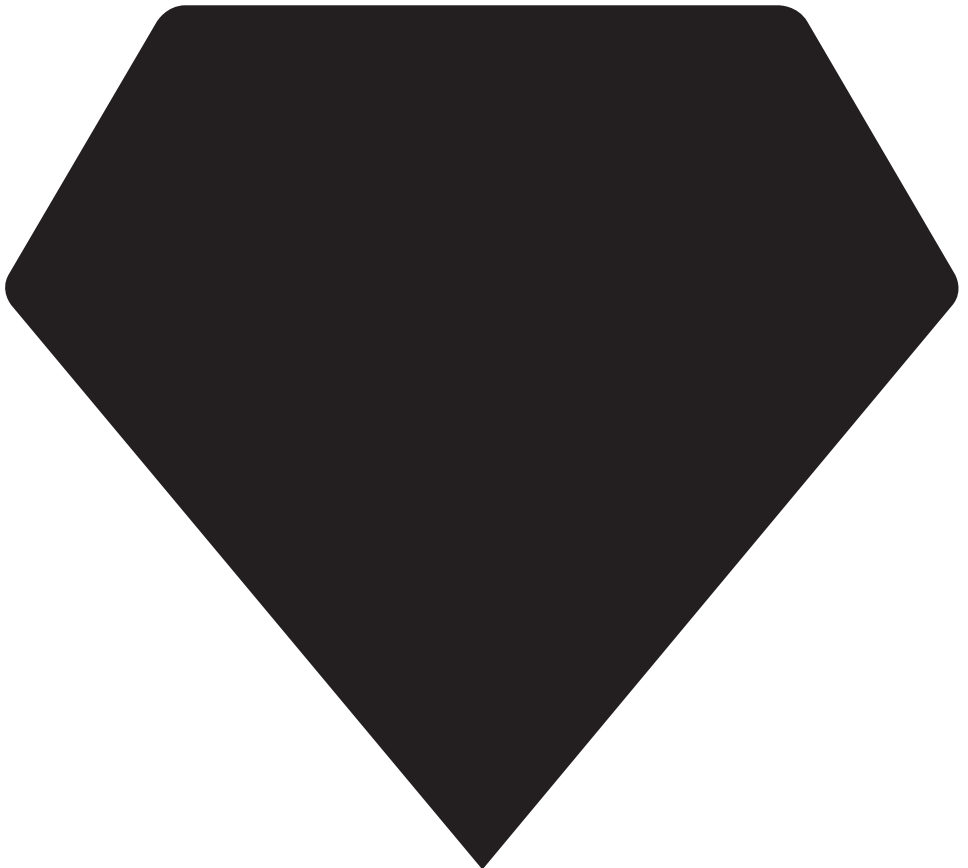
In partnership with Arts Council England and Manchester Digital Development Agency, the Manchester Blog Awards are back for a fourth year, celebrating the best of the city's independent online writing with an entertaining evening of live readings, music and talk. This year's event will be at the brand new Band on the Wall, and promises to be the biggest and best yet. Author Jenn Ashworth will read from her new book *A Kind of Intimacy* and talk about blogging and writing. With the compère stylings of Maria Ruban, readings from Manchester bloggers and music from the city's mp3 bloggers. For more information, visit manchesterblogawards.com

Wednesday 21st October, 7pm
Band on the Wall
Tickets £4 / £3 concessions
Book on 0845 2500 500 or
www.bandonthewall.org



Finalists from the Manchester, Liverpool, Leeds, Oldham, Bolton, Wigan and Hebden Bridge heats come together to do battle. The winner – chosen by the audience and our panel of celebrity judges – will receive a £250 cash prize, and get their hands on the Dike Omeje Slam Champion Trophy. It promises to be a vibrant night, full of twists, turns, spills and metaphorical leaps. All the performers have beaten off keen opposition to win their own heats. Who will be primer inter pares? Who will rise to take the crown? Not a performer? Not a problem – the Slam is a fantastic spectator sport, so come along to unwind after a hard day in the office and help us crown the 2009 Northern slam champion! For further details call Commonword on 0161 832 3777 or email admin@cultureword.org.uk

Wednesday 21st October, 8pm (doors open 7.30pm)
greenroom
Tickets £5 / £3 concessions
Book on 0161 615 0500 or
www.greenroomarts.org



Poet and short story writer Suzanne Batty has been jointly commissioned by Manchester Literature Festival and Manchester Art Gallery to respond to the current Angels of Anarchy: Women Artists and Surrealism exhibition. At this unique event she will read from her newly inspired work alongside some of the participants on last weekend's Angels of Anarchy Creative Writing Workshop. Suzanne Batty teaches creative writing at Sheffield Hallam University, is the co-editor of Rain Dog poetry magazine, and the author of the poetry collection *The Barking Thing* (Bloodaxe).

Thursday 22nd October, 1–1.45pm
Manchester Art Gallery
Free event, no need to book
(For more information about this event and tickets for the
Angels of Anarchy exhibition please ring 0161 235 8888)



Come and hear two of Britain's brightest literary talents. MJ Hyland's third novel, *This is How*, is one of *The Guardian's* 'Treats of 2009'. When his fiancée breaks off their engagement, Patrick Oxtoby leaves home and moves into a boarding house in a remote seaside town. But in spite of his determination to build a better life, nothing goes to plan and Patrick is soon driven to take a desperate and chilling course of action. Nick Laird's second novel, *Glover's Mistake*, is set in the London art scene awash with new money and intellectual pretension. This insightful and drolly satirical novel vividly portrays three people whose worlds gradually fracture along the fault lines of desire, truth and jealousy.

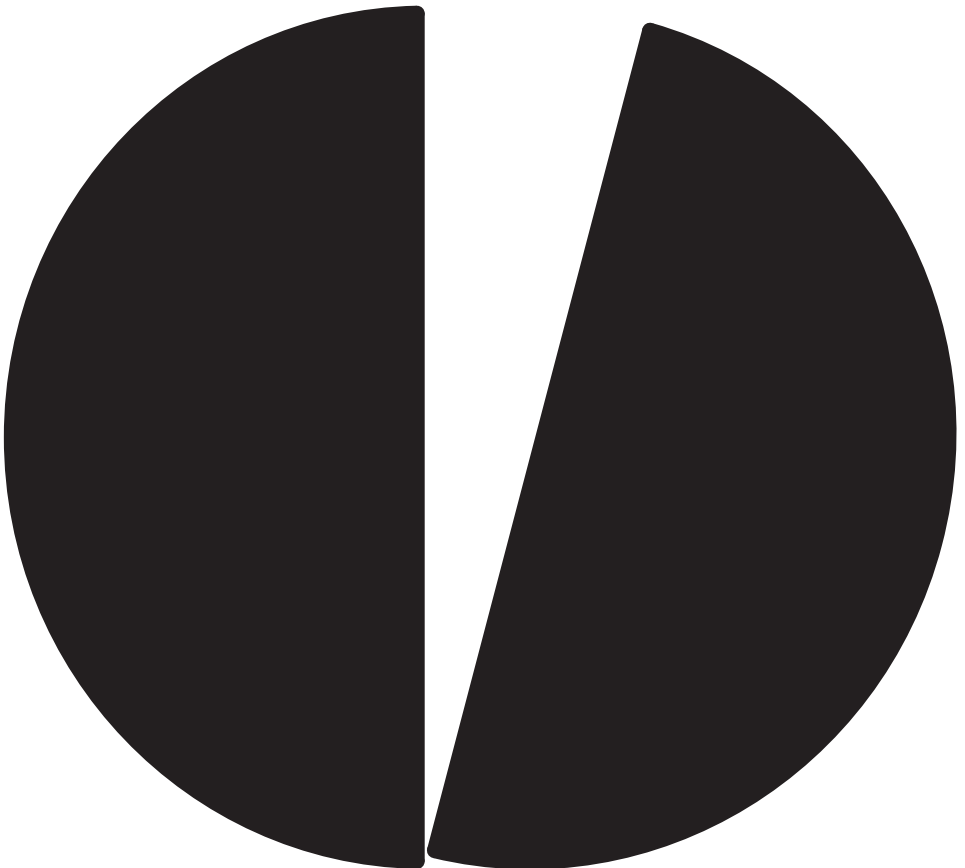
Thursday 22nd October, 6pm

The Martin Harris Centre for Music and Drama, John Thaw Studio

Tickets £5 / £3 concessions

Book on 0843 208 0500 or

www.quaytickets.com



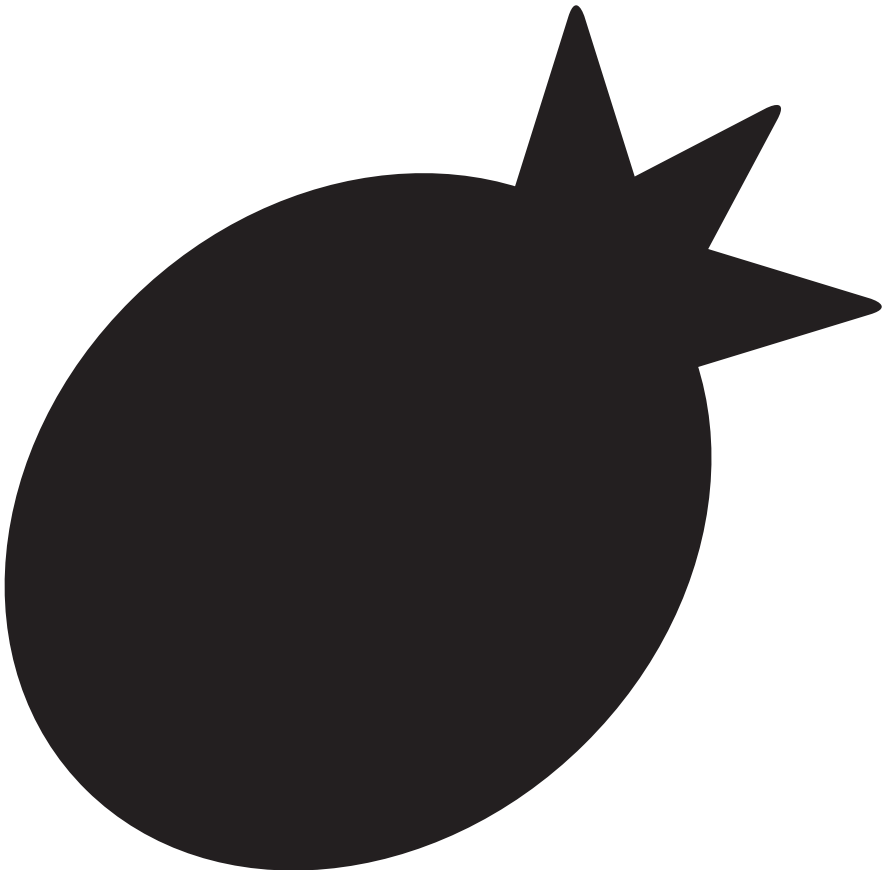
Darwin. School Bullies. Natural Selection. Eugenics. Evil Genes. The Dating Game. Mothers. Individual Significance... and everything in between. Manchester poets Shirley May and Ali Gadema have been working with the vibrant Young Identity young people's collective to create poetry that explores how Darwin's science connects to our 21st century lives. Come and witness the results at this one-off special event that we'll all leave talking about.

Thursday 22nd October, 7.30pm
Manchester Museum, Animal Life Gallery
Tickets are free but booking is advised
Book on 0843 208 0500 or
www.manchesterliteraturefestival.co.uk



In the majestic setting of the Baronial Hall at Chetham's School of Music, one of our greatest novelists and screenwriters, Frederic Raphael, talks to Michael Schmidt, founder of Carcanet Press and editor of PN Review, about the poems that have moved and inspired him during his long career. Frederic Raphael's novels include *The Glittering Prizes* (1976), *Coast to Coast* (1998) and *Fame and Fortune* (2007); he has also written short stories, and biographies of Somerset Maugham and Byron. His screen work includes the Academy Award-winning *Darling* (1965), *Two for the Road* (1967), *Far from the Madding Crowd* (1967), and the screenplay for Stanley Kubrick's last film, *Eyes Wide Shut*. Carcanet has published four volumes of his acclaimed memoirs, including the most recent, *Ticks & Crosses* (2008).

Thursday 22nd October, 8pm
Chetham's School of Music, Baronial Hall
Tickets £7/ £5 concessions
Book on 0843 208 0500 or
www.manchesterliteraturefestival.co.uk



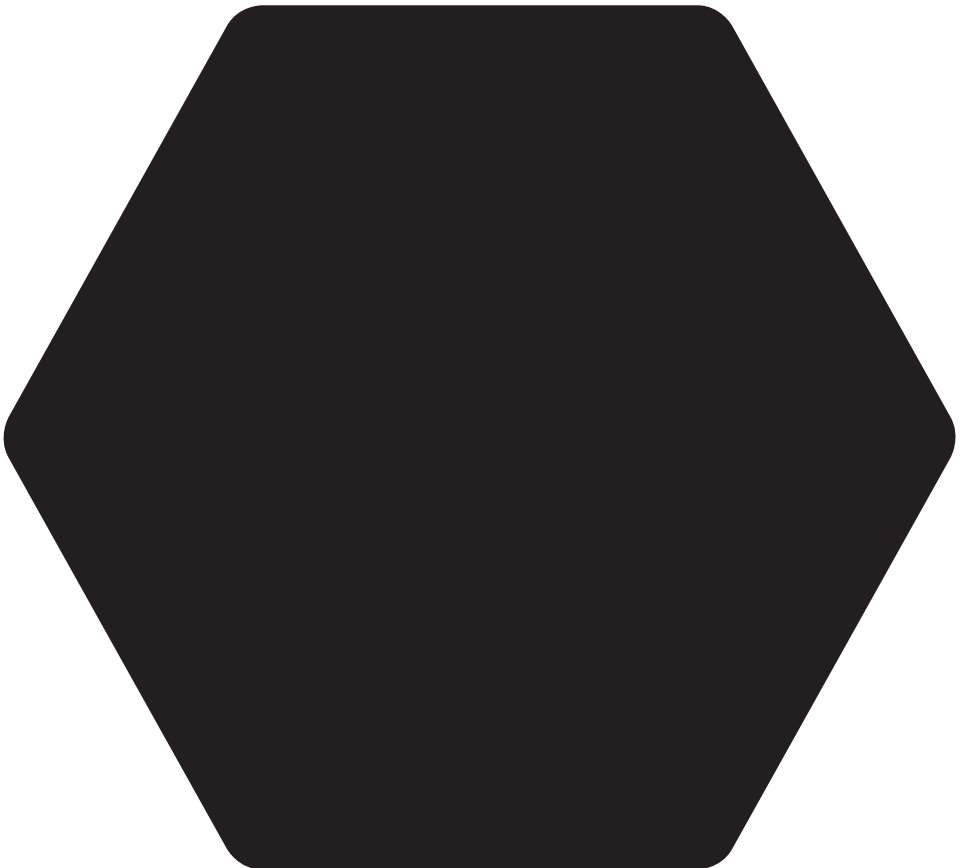
Multi award-winning American poet and translator Marilyn Hacker has published many renowned books, including the erotically-charged verse novel *Love, Death, and the Changing of the Seasons* and *Essays on Departures, New and Selected Poems 1980–2005*. She will read a selection of her recent work, including her new translations of the verse of Lebanese-French poet Venus Khoury-Ghata, published in *Alphabets of Sand: Selected Poems* (Carcanet).

Friday 23rd October, 1pm
Manchester Town Hall, Lord Mayor's Parlour
Tickets £5 / £3 concessions
Book on 0843 208 0500 or
www.manchesterliteraturefestival.co.uk



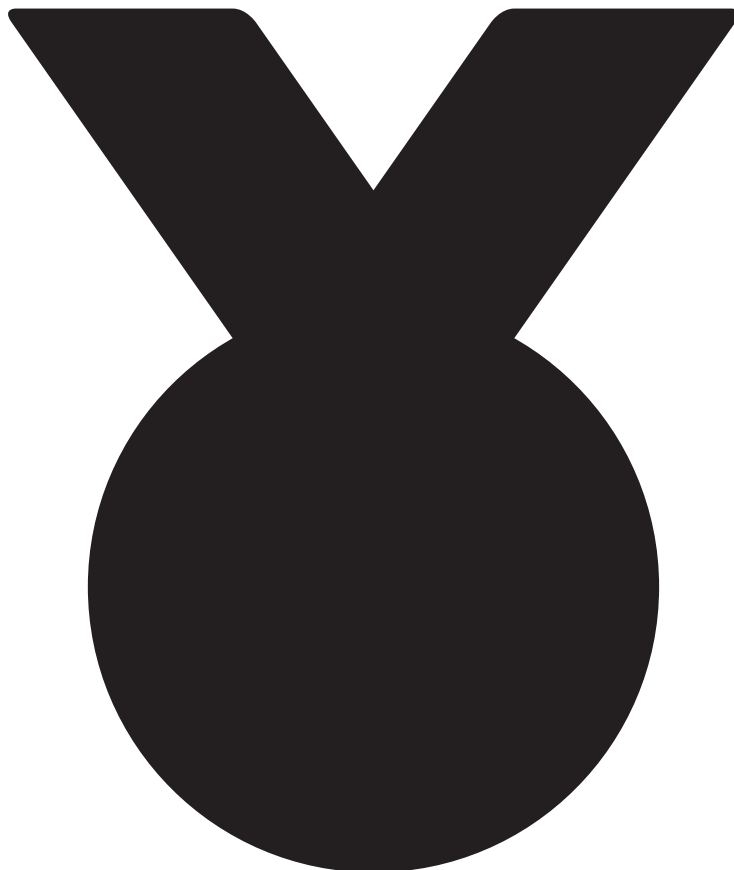
Six By Six is an exciting new publishing project which brings together MMU Cheshire's latest Creative Writing graduates with Stockport College Illustration undergraduates. Earlier this year, Alice Slater, Liz Smith, Naomi Potter, Jason Weight, Jack Boardman and Tom Heinsohn handed over their unusually accomplished short stories to the cream of Stockport College's Illustration degree programme: Alan Dalby, Liz Ardolino, Natalie Wood, Chris Madden, Libby Vickers and James Peters. The result is a stylish and cool illustrated short story anthology. Join them this evening for a special launch event featuring readings from Six By Six and an exhibition of the artwork that so vividly enhances these fictions.

Friday 23rd October, 5.30pm
Manchester Town Hall, Lord Mayor's Parlour
Tickets are free, but booking is advised
Book on 0843 208 0500 or
www.manchesterliteraturefestival.co.uk



Earlier in the year, under the direction of new Poet Laureate Carol Ann Duffy, the Writing School at Manchester Metropolitan University launched The Manchester Fiction Prize – a new literary competition celebrating excellence in creative writing and the substantial cultural and literary achievements of Manchester, enhancing the city’s reputation as one of Europe’s most adventurous and creative spaces. Hundreds of entries were received and at this Gala event, the winner of the £10,000 prize and Manchester Young Writer of the Year Award will be announced. The evening will feature readings by the shortlisted writers and the judges, distinguished novelists and short story writers Sarah Hall, M. John Harrison and Nicholas Royle.

Friday 23rd October, 7.30pm
Manchester Town Hall, Lord Mayor’s Parlour
Tickets £7/£5 concessions
Book on 0843 208 0500 or
www.manchesterliteraturefestival.co.uk



Speakeasy: where Manchester people express their soul. Run by a collective of musicians, poets and singers, Speakeasy's legendary open mic events are an essential part of Manchester's spoken word and club scene. Come and celebrate Speakeasy's tenth birthday at the newly re-vamped Band on the Wall. Showcasing live art from Lemi Ghariokwu, inspirational designer of Fela Kuti's iconic record covers, alongside the Speakeasy live band with the dopest Manchester poets and vocalists. Also featuring special guest poet Michelle 'Mother' Hubbard' with slam-winning wit and wise words, and DJs Chris Jam and Tomlyn McKinley spinning afrobeat, hiphop, R&B, neo-soul and broken beats until the break of dawn. To book an open mic slot please email info@speakeasymcr.com or call 07852 297357.

Friday 23rd October, 9.30pm – 3am

Band on the Wall

Tickets £6 on door / £5 concessions & advance bookings

Book in person from Band on the Wall box office or

www.bandonthewall.org



How do the best writers successfully evoke the unique feeling of a place? How can descriptions and telling details be used to transport the reader to a particular setting? Workshop leader David Gaffney will help writers explore new tactics and techniques in this two-hour workshop on writing about place. David Gaffney is the author of the novel *Never, Never* (Tindal Street Press) and two widely-acclaimed collections of short stories, *Sawn-Off Tales* and *Aromabingo* (Salt). Recent projects include *26 Steps to Hull*, which saw him write a micro-story set at every junction of the M62. This workshop is suitable for all levels of writer. Places are limited, so early booking is advised. To find out more or read our map, visit rainycitystories.com

Saturday 24th October, 11.30am – 1.30pm

Friends Meeting House

Tickets £5 / £3 concessions

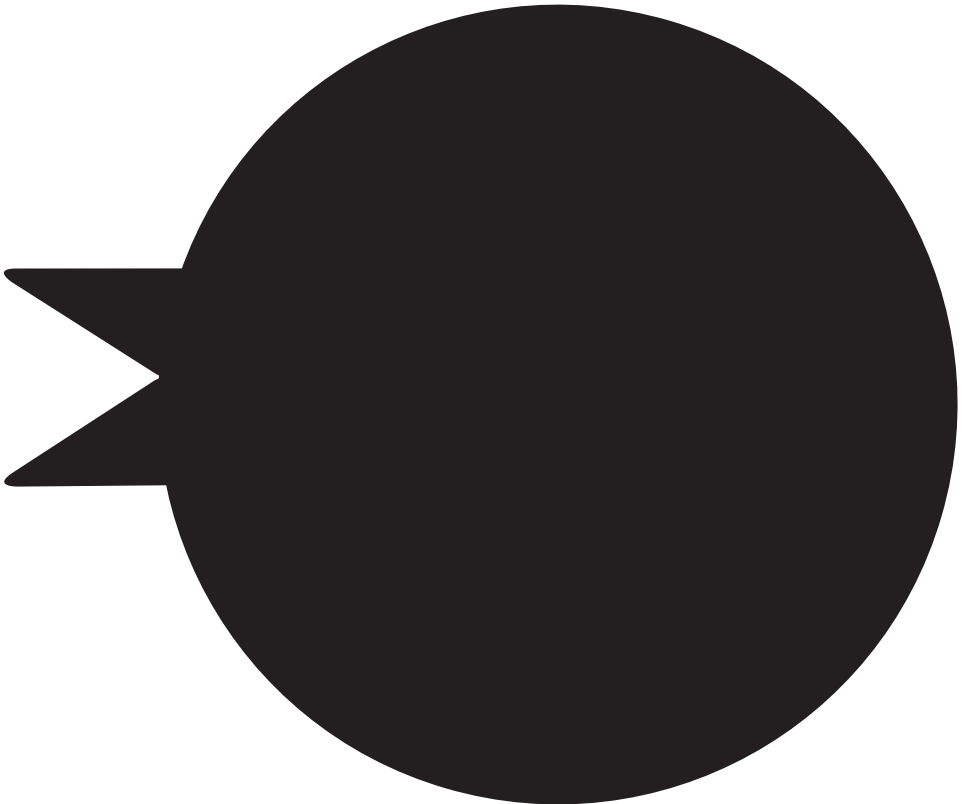
Book on 0843 208 0500 or

www.manchesterliteraturefestival.co.uk



The Bird Book is a stimulating and interactive show for young children (aged 4–9), which combines poetic storytelling, dynamic puppetry and live music. The show evokes the stages on the epic journey of an Osprey as it migrates from Africa to Britain. Two young boys embark on a great adventure to find out where the bird nests, following its trail in a hot air balloon. This enchanting event can be enjoyed by all the family. Tickets are limited so please book early to avoid disappointment.

Saturday 24th October, 12noon & 2pm
Manchester Museum
Tickets £5 (includes 1 accompanying adult per child)
Book on 0843 208 0500 or
www.manchesterliteraturefestival.co.uk

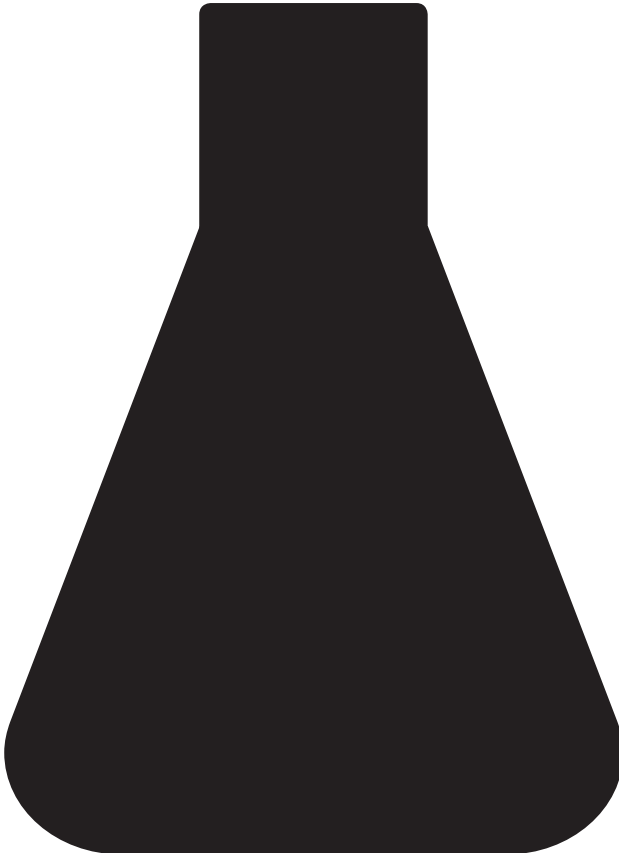


When it Changed: Science-into-Fiction Anthology Launch
Geoff Ryman, Patricia Duncker, Liz Williams,
Dr Tim O'Brien & Prof Steve Furber

Short Weekend

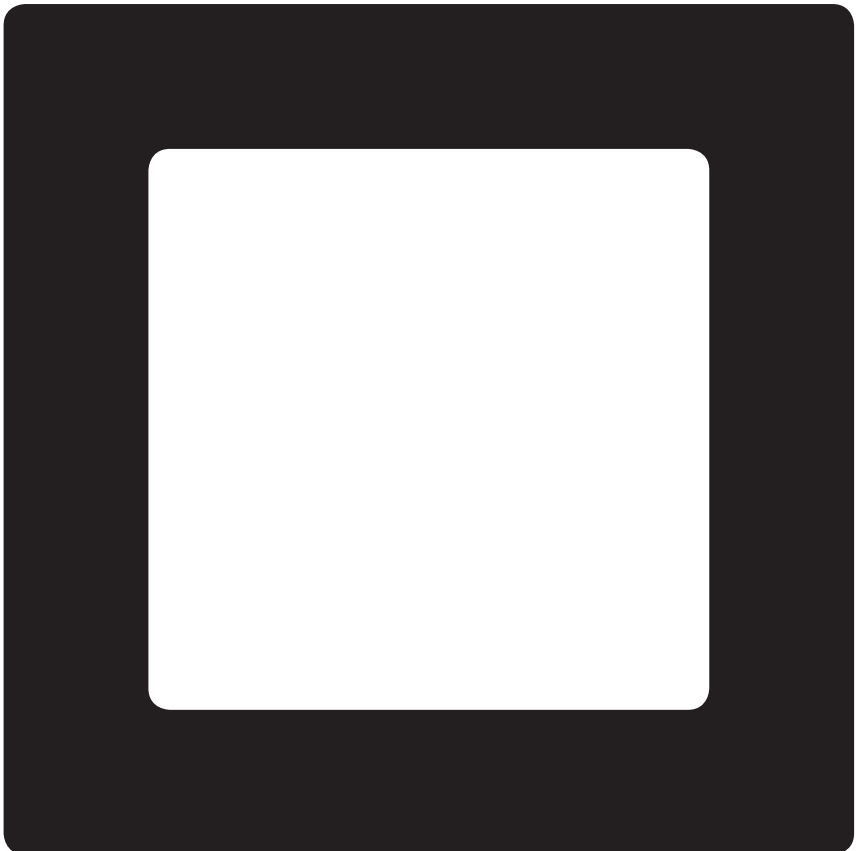
When it Changed is a collaboration between leading scientists and literary authors, coordinated by Comma Press, to create a brand new strain of the SF bug; one that extends the scientific repertoire of the genre beyond the commonplaces of space-travel, time-travel or AI, and brings it back into contact with diverse, credible, and contemporary research areas. Geoff Ryman has published ten books, most recently *Air*, and is the founder of the Mundane SF. Liz Williams's first two novels *The Ghost Sister* and *Empire of Bones* were both nominated for the Philip K. Dick Award. Patricia Duncker's first novel *Hallucinating Foucault* won the Dillons First Fiction Award and the McKitterick Prize. Dr Tim O'Brien is a Senior Lecturer at the Jodrell Bank Centre for Astrophysics. Professor Steve Furber is best known for his work at Acorn and as a designer of the ARM 32-bit RISC microprocessor.

Saturday 24th October, 1pm–2.30pm
Friends Meeting House
Tickets £5 / £3
Book on 0843 208 0500 or
www.manchesterliteraturefestival.co.uk



MLF and Poets & Players are delighted to present one of Northern Ireland's leading poets, Sinéad Morrissey. She is the author of four collections including *Between Here and There* and *The State of the Prisons*, both shortlisted for the T S Eliot Prize. Her latest book, *Through the Square Window* is published by Carcanet and the title poem took first prize in the UK National Poetry Competition. She will be joined by musicians playing traditional Irish music at this very special event against the beautiful backdrop of the Whitworth's South Gallery.

Saturday 24th October, 2.30pm
Whitworth Art Gallery
Free event, no need to book



These two fascinating writers have both drawn on their experience of growing up in divided communities. Bernard MacLavery was born in Belfast but now lives in Glasgow. He has published five collections of short stories and four novels – *Lamb*, *Cal*, *Grace Notes* (shortlisted for the Booker Prize) and *The Anatomy School*. He has also written versions of his fiction for radio, TV, screen and libretti. Atef Abu Saif was born in Jabaia refugee camp in the Gaza Strip in 1973. He is the author of four novels: *Shadows in the Memory*, *The Tale of the Harvest Night*, *Snowball* and *The Salty Grape of Paradise*, and the short story collection *Everything is Normal*. Atef Abu Saif appears courtesy of Literature Across Frontiers.

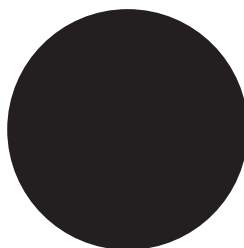
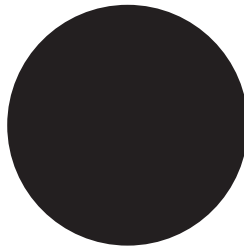
Saturday 24th October, 3–4pm

Friends Meeting House

Tickets £5 / £3 concessions

Book on 0843 208 0500 or

www.manchesterliteraturefestival.co.uk



Two remarkable talents read from their new collections, *The Madman of Freedom Square* and *The Shieling*, both from Comma Press. Hassan Blasim is a poet, filmmaker, editor and refugee of the Iraq War. His debut collection (yet to be published in the original Arabic) is a dark excursion into the chaos of contemporary Baghdad, an allegorical snapshot of recent Iraqi history (spanning over twenty years from the Iran-Iraq War through to the Occupation), and a rare critique of the refugee experience in Europe. This book has been selected to receive financial assistance from English PEN's Writers in Translation programme, supported by Bloomberg. David Constantine has been described as 'perhaps the finest of contemporary writers in this form' (*The Reader*). His previous book, *Under the Dam* was one of the most critically acclaimed short story collections of recent years and heralded by *The Independent* as 'flawless'.

Saturday 24th October, 4.30–5.30pm

Friends Meeting House

Tickets £5 / £3

Book on 0843 208 0500 or

www.manchesterliteraturefestival.co.uk



MLF is delighted to present two of the leading exponents of the short story form. SF author Chris Beckett's acclaimed collection *The Turing Test* won the Edge Hill Short Story Prize 2009. His fantastic fictions explore alien worlds, strange planets, genetic manipulation and virtual reality but their focus is on the individual rather than technology, and deal with love and loneliness, authenticity and illusion, and what it really means to be human. James Lasdun's third collection *It's Beginning to Hurt* is full of haunting and richly humane stories, including *An Anxious Man*, which won the first National Short Story Award in 2006. His stories have been adapted for the films *Besieged* and *Sunday*, which won Best Feature and Best Screenplay awards at Sundance. He is also the author of two novels, *The Horned Man* and *Seven Lies*, the recipient of a Guggenheim Fellowship in poetry, and currently teaches poetry and fiction workshops at Princeton.

Saturday 24th October, 6–7.30pm
Friends Meeting House
Tickets £5 / £3 concessions
Book on 0843 208 0500 or
www.manchesterliteraturefestival.co.uk



Paint a Vulgar Picture

Short Weekend

James Hopkin, Jeff Noon, Catherine O'Flynn,
Helen Walsh, Peter Wild

Paint a Vulgar Picture is a street-wise short story collection inspired by the music of one of Manchester's most famous bands, The Smiths. This special launch event, hosted by editor Peter Wild, features readings from contributors Jeff Noon (author of cult novels Vurt and Automated Alice), Catherine O'Flynn (author of What Was Lost, which won the Costa First Novel Award 2007), James Hopkin (up and coming author of Winter Under Water and Even the Crows Say Kraków) and Helen Walsh (author of acclaimed novels Brass and Once Upon a Time in England). It takes place at the Salford Lads Club, scene of one of The Smiths' most famous photo-opportunities. Prepare to be charmed!

Saturday 24th October, 8pm

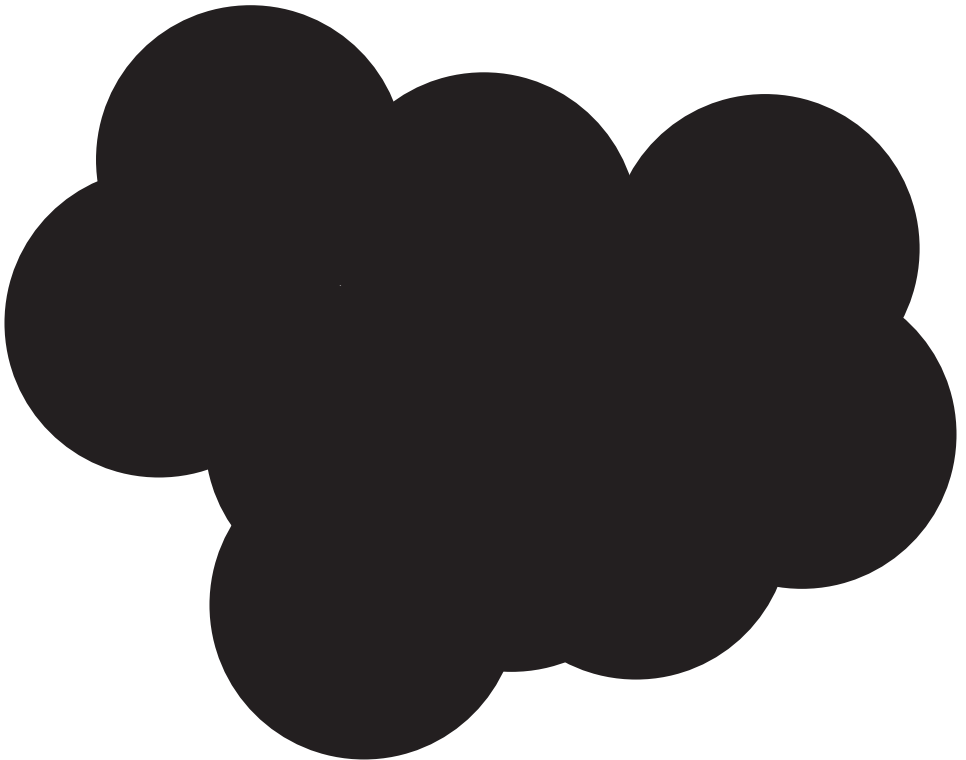
Salford Lads Club

Tickets £5 / £3 concessions

Book on 0843 208 0500 or

www.manchesterliteraturefestival.co.uk

You can also incorporate one of the famous Manchester Music Tours into your visit to the event – for more information visit: www.manchestermusicitours.com



Britain's most innovative playwright Kevin Fegan presents a practical workshop for playwrights, poets and performers, exploring how best to use contemporary verse in the theatre (suitable for ages 18+). This will be followed by a performance of his dramatic verse monologue, *Let Your Left Hand Sing*, which captures tales of migration from around the world, and was commissioned by The Long Journey Home Festival and published by Five Leaves Press. Fegan's gritty new multimedia production, *Fireflies: A Love Story Waiting to Happen*, is premièred at the Lowry this autumn.

Sunday 25th October

Workshop: 1.30 – 3.30pm,

Performance: 4 – 5pm

The Lowry

Tickets: Workshop & performance £10 / £8 concessions & Salford residents

Performance only £6 / £4 concessions & Salford residents

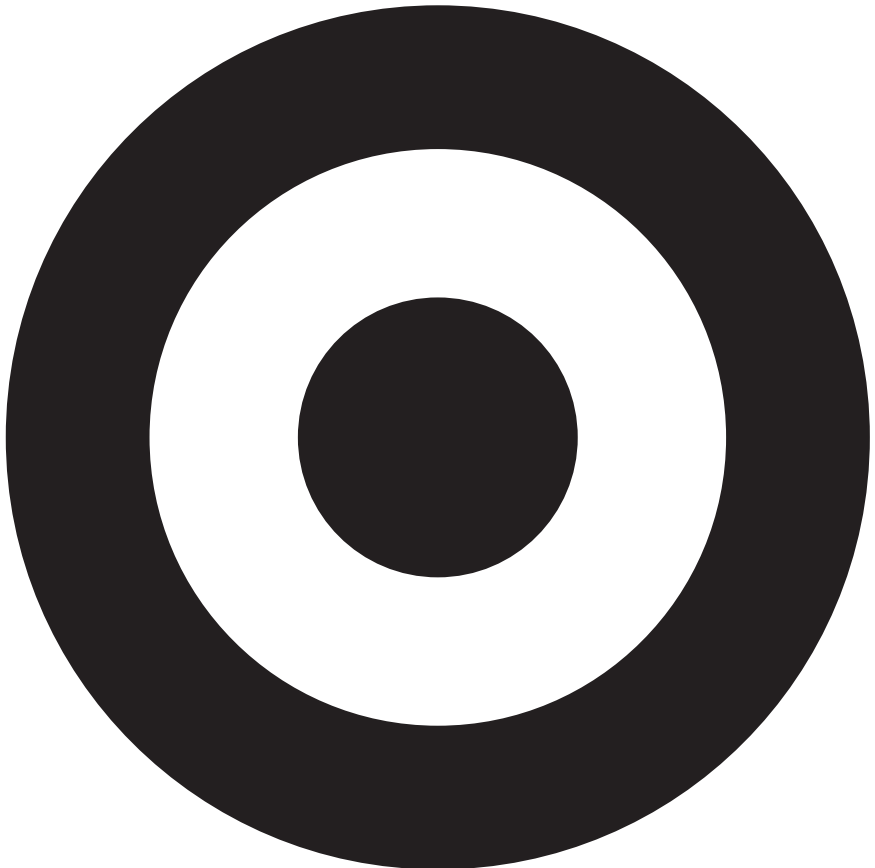
Book on 0870 787 5790 or www.thelowry.com



To end this year's festival, we have great pleasure in presenting one of our best-loved writers, Michelle Magorian. She is the author of many acclaimed books including *Goodnight Mister Tom*, adapted for the very popular TV drama, and *Just Henry*, winner of the Costa Children's Book Prize 2008. In this special event for all fans aged 8 to 80, she talks about her World War Two-set fiction in the wonderfully atmospheric setting of the Imperial War Museum in the North.

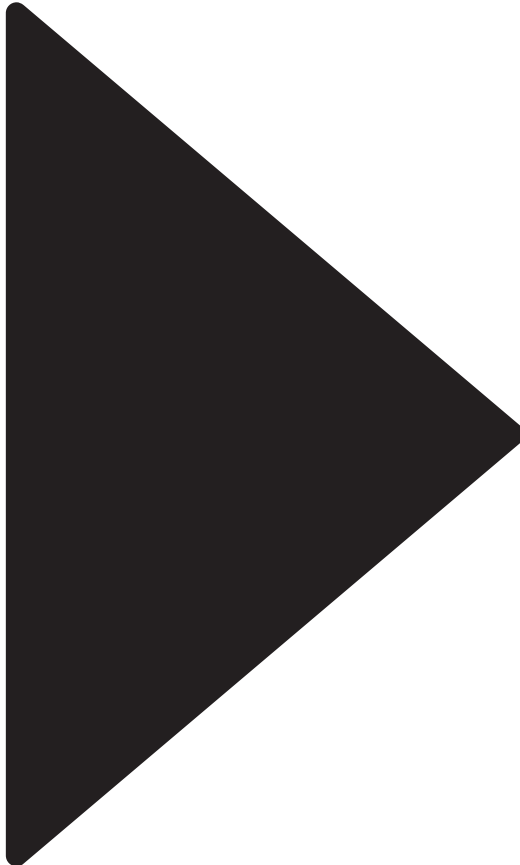
Sunday 25th October, 5.30pm
Imperial War Museum North
Tickets £5 adults / £3 children & concessions
Book on 0843 208 0500 or
www.manchesterliteraturefestival.co.uk

A special IWMN pre-booked children's Ration Bag is also available, please contact Joanne Platt on 0161 836 4042 or jplatt@iwm.org.uk for full details.



Guo Yue is a brilliant Chinese writer and flautist who has performed at Peter Gabriel's Womad festival, contributed to the soundtrack of the Little Emperor and has played at the Kremlin. He has written a wonderfully imaginative book for children with his wife Clare Farrow about the Cultural Revolution, Little Leap Forward. They both visit Manchester as part of the ever popular Children's Bookshow for this unique storytelling event for primary schools.

Wednesday 4th November, 10.30am & 1.30pm
The Library Theatre
Tickets for pre-booked schools audience only
Free, but tickets only available by calling
Sian Hardy 07789 853142 or Kate Tull 07740 256330



Throughout the festival, our virtual busker Mike Garry will be on-call in a city centre location to be announced in October. One quick phone call kick-starts a video performance of his newly commissioned poem inspired by North Manchester. Mike Garry is the author of Mancunian Meander, and his poetry focuses on the raw beauty of the city and its people. So when you're out shopping or mooching round town on your lunch break in need of some spiritual nourishment – Call Busker! Please check the festival website for full details.

This project is part of Made in England, a collaboration between BBC Manchester and Arts Council England North West, exploring the relationship between landscape and artists. For more information visit: bbc.co.uk/madeinengland.

As the system uses Skype, the only charge to the audience will be the cost of a local phone call by their service provider. Skype does not operate on a premium rate tariff and the Arts Council, BBC and Manchester Literature Festival are not in receipt of any income generated by the Skype service.

Thursday 15th October – Sunday 25th October



This very special visual art exhibition, curated by Artists and Education, explores the relationship between image and literature. It features work from school children, college and university students, and artists, who have all created drawings that respond to individual pieces of writing in keeping with the themes of both venue and festival.

Work will be shown in St Ann's Church and Borders Bookshop from 15th – 25th October and Instituto Cervantes from 19th October – 16th November.



Notes

At a Glance

EVENT	VENUE / TIME
Margaret Atwood	Manchester Cathedral / 7.30pm
Martin Amis & Will Self	The Martin Harris Centre for Music and Drama / 6.30pm
Tom Palmer	Borders Manchester Fort / 10.30am & 1.30pm
Cynthia McLeod & Dorothea Smartt	Manchester Central Library / 1pm
Joan Bakewell	Midland Hotel / 3pm
Ruth Padel	Manchester Museum / 7.30pm
Eoin Colfer	Contact / 8pm
Jenny Uglow	Manchester Art Gallery / 1pm
Kate Atkinson	Friends Meeting House / 4pm
Fay Weldon	Friends Meeting House / 6pm
Buddhist Poets	Buddhist Centre / 6pm
Jill Dawson & Kate Mosse	Friends Meeting House / 7.30pm
Angels of Anarchy Workshop	Manchester Art Gallery / 11am – 4pm
Is There A Novelist In The House?	Manchester Central Library / 11am – 1pm
Maya Chowdhry & Segun Lee-French	Manchester Central Library / 1.30pm
Words on Dignity	St Ann's Church / 3 – 4pm
Michael Schmidt	Epernay / 6pm
Family Cartooning Workshop	Manchester Comedy Store / 3pm
Northern Salt	Whitworth Art Gallery / 3pm
Mark Billingham & Val McDermid	Whitworth Art Gallery / 5pm
Faber Poets	Manchester Central Library / 1pm – 2.30pm
Michael Longley & Tom French	The Martin Harris Centre for Music and Drama / 6pm
Dario Adanti & Paco Roca	Instituto Cervantes / 6.30pm
No Point in Not Being Friends	Matt & Phred's Jazz Club / 7.30pm
Rainy City Stories Live!	Starts from Urbis / 1pm
Jimmy McGovern	Cornerhouse / 6 – 7.30pm
Simon Armitage	St Ann's Church / 7.30pm
Claire Harman	Manchester Central Library / 1pm
Manchester Blog Awards	Band on the Wall / 7pm
Superheroes of Slam Final	greenroom / 7.30pm
Angels of Anarchy Performance	Manchester Art Gallery / 1 – 1.45pm
Nick Laird & MJ Hyland	The Martin Harris Centre for Music and Drama / 6pm
Evolving Words	Manchester Museum / 7.30pm
Frederic Raphael	Chetham's School of Music / 8pm
Marilyn Hacker	Manchester Town Hall / 1pm
Six By Six	Manchester Town Hall / 5.30pm
MMU Fiction Prize Gala	Manchester Town Hall / 7.30pm
Speakeasy is Ten	Band on the Wall / 9.30pm – 3am
Rainy City Stories workshop	Friends Meeting House / 11.30am – 1.30pm
The Bird Book	Manchester Museum / 12noon & 2pm
When it Changed	Friends Meeting House / 1pm – 2.30pm
Sinéad Morrissey	Whitworth Art Gallery / 2.30pm
Bernard MacLaverty & Atef Abu Saif	Friends Meeting House / 3 – 4pm
Hassan Blasim & David Constantine	Friends Meeting House / 4.30 – 5.30pm
Chris Beckett & James Lasdun	Friends Meeting House / 6 – 7.30pm
Paint a Vulgar Picture	Salford Lads Club / 8pm
Writing Verse for Theatre	The Lowry / Workshop: 1.30 – 3.30pm, Performance: 4 – 5pm
Michelle Magorian	Imperial War Museum North / 5.30pm
Children's Bookshow	The Library Theatre / 10.30am & 1.30pm

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Manchester Literature Festival 2009 Venue List

For further information on venue accessibility, please check the Manchester Literature Festival website: www.manchesterliteraturefestival.co.uk

1/ Band on the Wall
25 Swan Street
Manchester M4 5JZ
0161 834 1786

2/ Borders
Unit 29
Manchester Fort
Shopping Park
Cheetham Hill Road
Manchester M8 8EP
0161 833 0208

3/ Instituto Cervantes
326–330 Deansgate
Campfield Avenue Arcade
Manchester M3 4FN
0161 661 4200

4/ Chetham's School of Music
Long Millgate
Manchester M3 1SB
0161 834 9644

5/ Contact
Oxford Road
Manchester M15 6JA
0161 274 0600

6/ Cornerhouse
70 Oxford Street
Manchester M1 5NH
0161 200 1500

7/ Epernay Champagne & Cocktail Bar
Unit 1A
The Great Northern Towers
Watson Street
Manchester M3 4EE
0161 834 8802

8/ Friends Meeting House
6 Mount Street
Manchester M2 5NS
0161 834 5797

9/ greenroom
54–56 Whitworth St West
Manchester M1 5WW
0161 615 0515

10/ Imperial War Museum North
Trafford Wharf
The Quays
Manchester M17 1TE
0161 836 4000

11/ Library Theatre
St Peters Square
Manchester M2 5PD
0161 234 1913

12/ The Lowry
Pier 8, Salford Quays
Manchester M50 3AZ
0870 787 5780

13/ Manchester Art Gallery
Mosley Street
Manchester M2 3JL
0161 235 8888

14/ Manchester Buddhist Centre
16–20 Turner Street
Manchester M4 1DZ
0161 834 9232

15/ Manchester Cathedral
Victoria Street
Manchester M3 1SX
0161 833 2220

16/ Manchester Central Library
St Peters Square
Manchester M2 5PD
0161 234 1981

17/ Manchester Comedy Store
1a–3 Deansgate Locks
Manchester M1 5LH
0161 839 9595

18/ The Manchester Museum
The University of Manchester
Oxford Road
Manchester M13 9PL
0161 275 2634

19/ Manchester Town Hall
Lloyd Street (side entrance)
Manchester M60 2LA
0161 234 5000

20/ Martin Harris Centre for Music and Drama
Bridgeford Street
The University of Manchester
Manchester M13 9PL
0161 275 8951 / 8950

21/ Matt & Phred's Jazz Club
64 Tib Street
Manchester M4 1LW
0161 831 7002

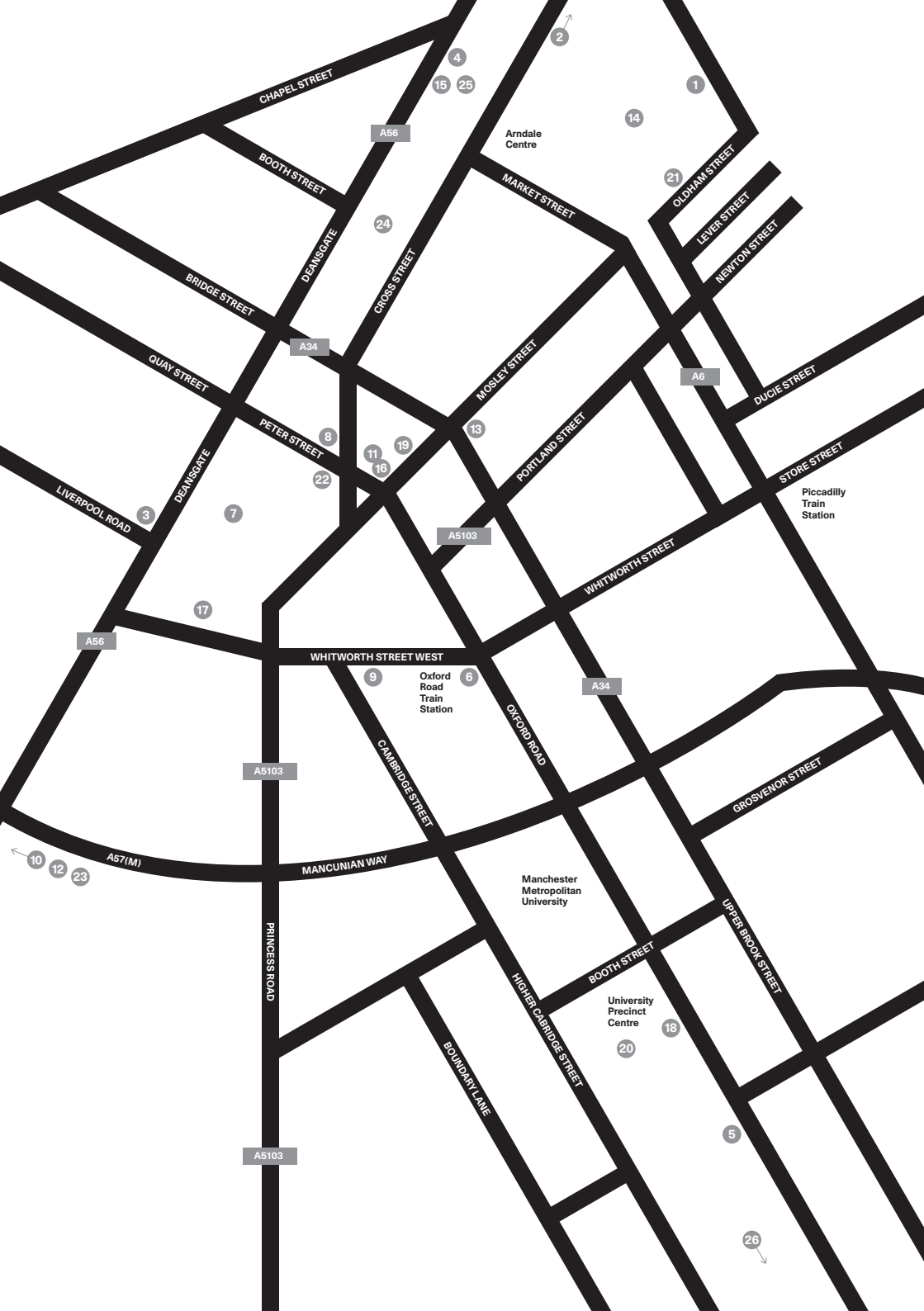
22/ The Midland Hotel
Peter Street
Manchester M60 2DS
0161 236 3333

23/ Salford Lads Club
St Ignatius Walk
(off Coronation Street)
Salford M5 3RX
0161 872 3767

24/ St Ann's Church
St Ann's Square
Manchester M2 7LF
0161 834 0239

25/ Urbis
Cathedral Gardens
Manchester M4 3BG
0161 605 8200

26/ The Whitworth Art Gallery
The University of Manchester
Oxford Rd
Manchester M15 6ER
0161 275 7450



CHAPEL STREET

BOOTH STREET

BRIDGE STREET

QUAY STREET

LIVERPOOL ROAD

A57(M)

PRINCESS ROAD

A5103

MANCUNIAN WAY

WHITWORTH STREET WEST

CAMBRIDGE STREET

BOUNDARY LANE

Manchester Metropolitan University

HIGHER CAMBRIDGE STREET

University Precinct Centre

BOOTH STREET

UPPER BROOK STREET

GROSVENOR STREET

OXFORD ROAD

Oxford Road Train Station

A34

WHITWORTH STREET

Store Street
Piccadilly Train Station

DUCKIE STREET

MOSLEY STREET

MARKET STREET

OLDHAM STREET

LEVER STREET

NEWTON STREET

Arndale Centre

DEANSGATE

CROSS STREET

PETER STREET

DEANSGATE

POYNTLAND STREET

A5103

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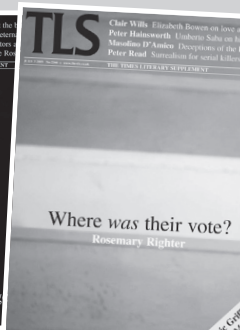
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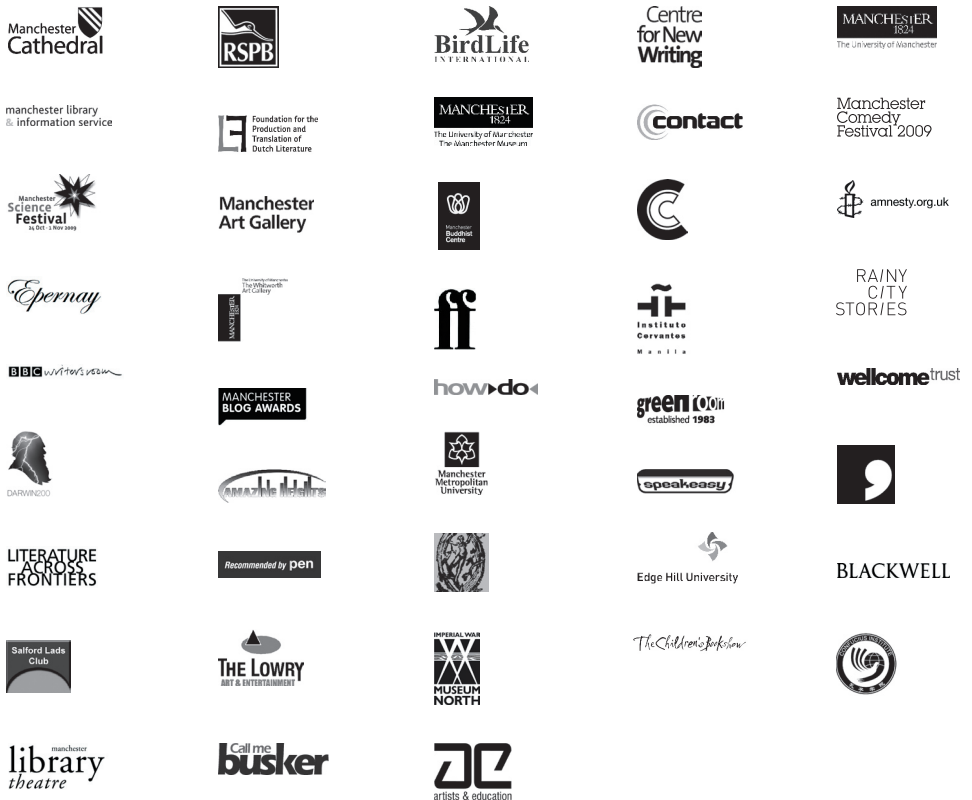
Principal Funders



Principal Partners and Sponsors



Event Partners & Sponsors



Credits and Information

Booking

Please see individual events for booking details – tickets for most events can be booked through our box office: 0843 208 0500 or online via our website: www.manchesterliteraturefestival.co.uk

There are no additional booking or processing fees for tickets booked through our main box office.

Manchester Literature Festival
Beehive Mill, Jersey Street
Manchester M4 6JG
0161 236 5555
admin@manchesterliteraturefestival.co.uk
www.manchesterliteraturefestival.co.uk

Company Registration No. 4369668
Charity Registration No. 1121276

To the best of our knowledge, all programming information was correct at the time of going to print.

Festival Director
Cathy Bolton

Festival Events Manager
Jon Atkin

Freelance Associate
(Manchester Blog Awards & Rainy City Stories) Kate Feld

Board of Trustees
Katherine Beacon, Jan Bradley, Jerome de Groot, Matthew Frost, Jane Mathieson, Colette Morgan, Alison Spencely.

Press & PR
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Lethal Communications
07971819 016 / 07947 644 110
www.we-r-lethal.com

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MARK

0161 237 3712
www.markstudio.co.uk

Media Partner
citylife.co.uk/MEN Media

Hotel Partner
The Midland Hotel
0161 236 3333
www.qhotels.co.uk

Festival Bookshop
Borders Manchester Fort
0161 833 0208
www.bordersstores.co.uk

Thanks

We are truly grateful to all our programme partners, participating artists, funders and sponsors, and our dedicated team of freelance associates, volunteers and trustees for helping us put this year's festival together. Special thanks go to Avril Heffernan at Arts Council England, and everyone at the Events Unit at Manchester City Council for their enduring belief and support.

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