

MANCHESTER LITERATURE FESTIVAL

4—14 October 2007



**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.

COME RAIN OR SHINE

Welcome to the second annual Manchester Literature Festival. Whatever the season, we know that Manchester audiences never let the weather come between them and a great cultural event, so this autumn, we invite you to leave your books on the shelf and come and experience our fantastically eclectic line up of internationally-renowned poets, novelists and screen writers, including: Paul Abbott, Roddy Doyle, Carol Ann Duffy, Kevin Crossley-Holland, Linton Kwesi Johnson, Jackie Kay, Galway Kinnell, Andrew Motion, Les Murray and Rose Tremain.

As part of our inaugural Independents Day at The Lowry, we will be showcasing hot-off-the-press talent from the region and beyond, providing inspiration for DIY production, and debating the future of the independent publishing industry.

Over the past few months, we've been facilitating numerous mixed media collaborations between artists, cross-pollinating the written word with music, visual art, the moving image and new technology. You can experience the exciting results through our innovative Freeplay programme of events and happenings.

We've also got some tasty food-themed events and comedy specials, and the whole festival kicks off on National Poetry Day with a dream of an event featuring Rosie Lugosi and Kei Miller performing from a four-poster bed in the window of Heal's department store.

We are immensely grateful to all our partners, participating artists, funders, sponsors, freelance associates, volunteers and our board of directors for their enthusiasm and whole-hearted support in bringing this year's festival to fruition.

Cathy Bolton

Festival Director

**WORD ON THE
STREET EXHIBITION**
FREEPLAY



Visual artist **Tamzin Forster** has compiled a catalogue of found words from street and shop signs, whose job it is to direct, advertise, inform or warn. Her photographs, transforming the banal to the beautiful, have then been composed by the poet **Suzanne Batty** to form a poetic narrative running along the first floor corridor of Central Library. Rediscover our urban landscape in this spiritually reaffirming exhibition.

5th September — 13th October
9am — 8pm Mon to Thurs,
9am — 5pm Fri and Sat
Manchester Central Library
Free entry

MANCHESTER BLOG STORY
WHAT WOULD YOU DO?
FREEPLAY



Help shape the festival's specially commissioned Blog Story, *What would you do?* which will be published in weekly episodes starting on **Tuesday 4th September**. Elizabeth Baines will be unfolding a witty tale of urban life set in real time Manchester. Each week readers will be able to vote on future plot direction, moving characters into venues and scenarios of their choosing. The final installment will be performed live at the Manchester Blog Awards on Wednesday 10th October. To find out more visit: manchesterblogstories.blogspot.com

Elizabeth Baines is the author of prizewinning plays and prose fiction. Her new book, *Balancing on the Edge of the World* (Salt) is a collection of short stories exploring the nature of power: children struggle without it, adults fight to gain or keep it, and most discover that when it comes to power, nothing is ever quite what it seems. Elizabeth's website is at: elizabethbaines.blogspot.com

This project is sponsored by richardfair.co.uk

GET BLOGGING
WORKSHOPS
FREEPLAY



In the run up to the main event, Manchester Literature Festival and Manchester Digital Development Agency are delighted to offer you the opportunity to participate in these bespoke workshops, designed to enhance your blogging skills.

Blogging for Writers
11am — 1pm

With writer and blogger Elizabeth Baines and Kate Feld of The Manchizzle and the Manchester Blog Awards

Putting your work online gives you a chance to flex your creative muscles and reach a whole new readership. This workshop, aimed at creative writers, will take participants through starting a blog; explore fiction, poetry and non-fiction blogs; and look at how some writers have used blogging to their best advantage.

So You Wanna be a Blogstar?
2 — 4pm

With Kate Feld of The Manchizzle and the Manchester Blog Awards and Chris Horkan of the Mancubist blog

What makes a blog work? This workshop will look at the elements that go into successful blogs and discuss the finer points of style, design, focus, and attracting readers. Perfect for a blogger or aspiring blogger who's familiar with the basics but needs a little inspiration.

Each workshop is limited to ten participants, so book early to avoid disappointment. Computer stations and wireless internet available.

Saturday 29th September

Manchester Digital Development Agency
Tickets £2 per workshop
Book on 0870 428 0785 or
www.manchesterliteraturefestival.co.uk

POETRY BED
ROSIE LUGOSI & KEI MILLER
INDEPENDENT



Take a break from work or shopping to celebrate National Poetry Day with us. Performing from a four-poster bed in the luxurious surroundings of Heal's department store, Manchester's Vampire Queen **Rosie Lugosi** and former festival slam champion, **Kei Miller** will be sharing their poetic dreams and nightmares. Rosie Lugosi, winner of an Erotic Oscar and Diva Award for Solo Performer, has published three collections of poetry, including *Creatures of the Night*. Jamaican-born Kei Miller's first collection of short fiction, *The Fear of Stones*, was short-listed in 2007 for the Commonwealth Writers First Book Prize. He is also the editor of Carcanet's *New Caribbean Poetry*.

Thursday 4th October

12 noon — 3pm
(on the hour and half-hour)

Heal's Department Store
Tickets are free
No pre-booking required

SPOKEN IMAGE
FEATURING CHRIS WOODS
& DIANA SYDER
FREE PLAY



As part of the region-wide Adaptation project, twelve Northwest filmmakers have been commissioned to interpret short literary texts as stand-alone films, all premiering this evening. Featuring the poetry of Simon Armitage, David Constantine, Julian Daniel, Joolz Denby, Mike Garry, Gaia Holmes, Segun Lee French, Shamshad Khan and Rebecca Goss, alongside short stories by Tim Cooke, Zoe Sharpe and Rob Shearman. With films by Sarah Eyre, Gwen Osmond, Kate Jessop, Charlotte Caetano, Scott Davenport, Sharon Keighley, Mark Haig, Fiona Collins, Christine Flannery, Lisa Risbec, Rob Dunne and Tom O'Grady. Screenings will be accompanied by live readings from **Chris Woods** and **Diana Syder**.

In association with Literature Northwest and Comma Film.

Thursday 4th October

6.30pm

Cornerhouse
Tickets £3.50 / £2.50 concessions
Book via Cornerhouse box office
0161 200 1500

**GALA EVENT IN PARTNERSHIP
WITH DAVIS BLANK FURNISS
ROSE TREMAIN
READ**



For our opening night event, in association with the Centre for New Writing at the University of Manchester, we are delighted to welcome one of the UK's favourite authors, **Rose Tremain**, to talk about her new novel, *The Road Home*. It tells the story of Lev, on his way to Britain to seek work in order to send money back to his family in Eastern Europe. Dealing with the hardships of displacement, Lev's story gives us a fresh view of modern Britain. Rose Tremain has won many prizes including the Whitbread Novel of the Year; *Restoration* was shortlisted for the Booker and made into a film; and *The Colour* was shortlisted for the Orange Prize. Her most recent collection, *The Darkness of Wallis Simpson*, was shortlisted for both the First National Short Story Award and the Frank O'Connor International Short Story Award.

Thursday 4th October

7pm

The Whitworth Art Gallery
The University of Manchester
Tickets £6 / £4 concessions
Book on 0870 428 0785 or
www.manchesterliteraturefestival.co.uk

**CHILDREN'S BOOKSHOW
BOORI MONTY PRYOR, LILLI THAL
& KEVIN CROSSLEY-HOLLAND
READ**



Once again, the Literature Festival is pleased to collaborate with The Children's Bookshow and the Library Theatre to bring some of the most popular and interesting children's authors face to face with their readers in two special events for Children's Book Week. The morning event will feature storyteller, **Boori Monty Pryor**, author of *The Binna Binna Man* – the story of an aboriginal family living between two worlds. The afternoon show features German author, **Lilli Thal** and our own prize-winning **Kevin Crossley-Holland**. Their fantastic tales, drawing on medieval legends, take audiences on a magical journey into the unknown.

Friday 5th October

10.30am & 1.30pm

The Library Theatre
Tickets for schools audience only.
Free, but please book
Call Kate Tull on 0774 0256330

DAVIS • BLANK • FURNISS



The University of Manchester
The Whitworth
Art Gallery

manchester
library
theatre



The Children's Bookshow

**'WILD MARY' —
THE LIFE OF MARY WESLEY**
PATRICK MARNHAM & TOBY EADY
READ



Patrick Marnham has written the authorised and astonishing story of popular author Mary Wesley and will be joined by Mary Wesley's son, literary agent **Toby Eady**, to discuss their work and life. Together they give a fascinating talk on the intriguing, talented 'Wild Mary'. She famously began writing at the age of seventy. Her ten bestselling novels, including *The Camomile Lawn*, won her thousands of fans, and described a world that she had known in her youth – the world of war-time London, with its fear and high-spirits and casual sex. Mary Wesley lived a life more fascinating, scandalous and passionate than any she created for her heroines – come and discover it for yourself.

Friday 5th October

1pm

Central Library (Committee Room, 2nd Floor)

Tickets are free, but please book

Book on 0870 428 0785 or

www.manchesterliteraturefestival.co.uk

BLOODAXE POETS
JACKIE KAY, SUZANNE BATTY
& CLARE SHAW
READ



Manchester Literature Festival, in association with the Poetry School Manchester, is delighted to present this trio of Bloodaxe poets, who with their latest works, whet their imaginations on the twin edges of desire and identity. They write with humour, passion and an urgency of voice that can leave you emotionally winded. **Jackie Kay**, author of four previous collections of poetry, the award-winning novel *Trumpet* and two highly acclaimed short story collections, will be reading from her new collection, *Darling: New & Selected Poems*. **Suzanne Batty** and **Clare Shaw** will both be reading from their first full-length collections, *The Barking Thing* and *Straight Ahead*. Join us in the shadow of the museum's resident T-Rex for a truly memorable night!

Friday 5th October

7.30pm

The Manchester Museum

(The Prehistoric Life Gallery)

Tickets £7 / £5 concessions

Book on 0870 428 0785 or

www.manchesterliteraturefestival.co.uk



INDEPENDENTS DAY
IN ASSOCIATION WITH
DAVIS BLANK FURNISS AND
LITERATURE NORTHWEST
INDEPENDENT



In the late 1980's the Madchester Indie music scene made Manchester the city young people flocked to. In more recent times it has become home to a flourishing network of independent publishers and new media producers, harnessing the creativity and entrepreneurial spirit of the city's diverse and ever-evolving population. Independents Day is a celebration of that spirit. Whether you are a writer, a publisher or a fan of cutting-edge contemporary literature, we welcome you to:

MEET the editors of some of the UK's most innovative small presses and magazines, including representatives of Comma, Route, Templar, Suitcase, Transmission and Matter.

DISCOVER hot-off-the-press talent in our Performance Showcases featuring:

Elizabeth Baines

(Balancing on the Edge of the World),

Ian Clayton

(Bringing It All Back Home),

Shamshad Khan

(Megalomaniac),

Janet McDermott

(Dancing Cows),

Chloe Poems

(Li'l Book O'Manchester),

Jane Weir

(Before Playing Romeo) and

Chris Woods

(Dangerous Driving).



CREATE your own publication in our DIY Workshop facilitated by 'zine queen Michelle Green.

GEN UP on imaginative and viable ways to publish and disseminate work, from print on demand to fiction blogs to hand-crafted books and poetry jukeboxes, in our Alternative Publishing Seminar.

JOIN the Inpress Debate chaired by the writer and critic, **DJ Taylor** to discuss whether independent presses are providing an exciting alternative to the profit-led mainstream publishing houses, and whether it's possible to be truly independent and also reliant on public subsidy. Speakers include Bloodaxe editor, **Neil Astley**.

And if you want to take time out there'll be plenty of opportunity for browsing the Indie book market, networking in the bar or simply taking in the impressive surroundings of the Lowry and canal side area.

For full details check the Festival website.

Saturday 6th October

11am — 7pm

The Lowry (Hexagon Room and Circle Bar)

Tickets £8 / £6 concessions

Book on 0870 428 0785 or

www.manchesterliteraturefestival.co.uk

SPEAKEASY
FEATURING EL CRISIS
INDEPENDENT



Speakeasy is one of Manchester's most vibrant spoken word and music nights. There is a special youth focus to this festival Speakeasy which features **Young Identity** – a group of South Manchester writers aged 13–19, who meet regularly at Moss Side Millennium Powerhouse. As **Inna Voice** they compete in poetry slams and attend performance poetry events across the country, and have won accolades as well as medals. There will be a special guest appearance from **El Crisis** who will be performing his hypnotic mixture of rap, spoken word, power and chant. Any young performers who want to take to the stage themselves can book an open mic slot by phoning Shirley May on 0794 411 6390.

Saturday 6th October
8pm (doors open at 7.30pm)
Green Room
Tickets £5 in advance / £6 on the door
Book on 0161 615 0500 or
www.greenroomarts.org

LES MURRAY
READ



Manchester Literature Festival and Poets & Players present Les Murray – Australia's leading poet and one of the greatest contemporary poets writing in English. His work has been published in ten languages. He has won many literary awards, including the prestigious T.S Eliot Award (1996) and in 1999 he was awarded the Queen's Gold Medal for Poetry on the recommendation of Ted Hughes.

Join us for this rare experience as Les Murray conjures rural Australia in the calm surroundings of the Tai Chi Village Hall. Please book early as places are limited for this sure to be sold-out event.

Saturday 6th October
8pm
The Tai Chi Village Hall
Tickets £7 / £5 concessions
Book on 0870 428 0785 or
www.manchesterliteraturefestival.co.uk

GRAPHIC NOVEL WORKSHOP

AL DAVISON
FREEPLAY



Learn how to develop characters and story boards in this hands-on workshop aimed at 12–16 year olds. The workshop will be led by **Al Davison**, who turned his own experience of living with spina bifida into the landmark graphic novel, *Spiral Cage*. Places are limited so please book early to avoid disappointment.

For more information on Al's work in the graphic novel arena visit:
www.astralgypsy.com

Sunday 7th October
12.30 — 2.30pm

The Whitworth Art Gallery
The University of Manchester
Tickets are free, but please book
Book on 0870 428 0785 or
www.manchesterliteraturefestival.co.uk

BETWEEN THE PANELS

PAUL GRAVETT (CHAIR),
SIMONE LIA, BRYAN TALBOT
& RUTU MODAN
READ



The director of Comica Festival, **Paul Gravett**, interviews Jonathan Cape's graphic novelists about their work and the future of the form.

Rutu Modan's laconically styled *Exit Wounds* creates a portrait of modern Israel, a place where sudden death mingles with the slow dissolution of family ties. **Simone Lia's** *Fluffy* is a graphic novel of love, despair and happiness which will have you laughing out loud one minute and pondering the meaning of life the next. **Bryan Talbot's** *Alice In Sunderland* takes inspiration from the city of Sunderland and the story of Lewis Carroll and Alice Liddell to create a new myth.

More details can be found at
www.paulgravett.com

Sunday 7th October
3pm

The Whitworth Art Gallery
The University of Manchester
Tickets are free, but please book
Book on 0870 428 0785 or
www.manchesterliteraturefestival.co.uk



CAROL ANN DUFFY
WITH JOHN SAMPSON
READ



We are delighted to be hosting this family-friendly event featuring one of British poetry's superstars, **Carol Ann Duffy**. With musical accompaniment from **John Sampson**, Carol Ann will be performing from her various children's collections, including her latest, *The Hat*, which follows the mischievous journey of Hat blown through history, from one literary head to another, quoting its owner's most famous lines as it goes. These charming, witty and infectiously enjoyable poems are sure to be a hit with people of all ages. Duffy has won many prizes for poetry, including the T.S Eliot Prize for *Rapture* and the Signal Prize for Children's Poetry for *The Oldest Girl in the World*.

Sunday 7th October

5pm

The Whitworth Art Gallery

The University of Manchester

Tickets £6 adults / £3 children (under 16)

Book on 0870 428 0785 or

www.manchesterliteraturefestival.co.uk

AT SWIM TWO BIRDS
ROGER QUIGLEY
& SOPHIA LOCKWOOD
FREEPLAY



This is a rare opportunity to experience a live music performance in the magnificent Great Hall of Manchester Central Library. Guitarist and singer-songwriter, **Roger Quigley** has drawn inspiration from Flann O'Brien's novel *At Swim Two Birds* to devise this superb composition evoking the alcohol-blurred vision of early morning. The prevailing theme of the piece is relationships on the brink of collapse and Quigley's lyrics are characterised by a dark humour. Backed by classically trained cellist **Sophia Lockwood**, this intimate and profoundly moving performance is bound to stay with you long after you've left.

Sunday 7th October

5pm

Central Library (The Great Hall)

Tickets are free, but please book

Book on 0870 428 0785 or

www.manchesterliteraturefestival.co.uk



The University of Manchester
**The Whitworth
Art Gallery**

manchester library
& information service



SWEET AND SOUR STORIES

LISA TSE

READ



Manchester Literature Festival and the Manchester Food & Drink Festival invite you to celebrate the launch of the audio version of the inspirational book *Sweet Mandarin* – a family memoir charting the history of three generations of Tse women: their struggles for survival, salvation through food and an event-filled journey from East to West. Experience such sumptuous recipes as Lily Kwok's famous curry and Mabel's Clay Pot and learn about the family heirlooms of *Sweet Mandarin*.

Monday 8th October

1pm — 2.30pm

Sweet Mandarin

Tickets are free with pay-as-you-go bar,

but please book

Book on 0161 832 8848 or

sweetmandarin@gmail.com

CZECH POETS

PETR BORKOVEC

& KATEŘINA RUDČENKOVÁ

INDEPENDENT



Following on from our hugely popular 'poets in translation' events in previous years, the Literature Festival joins with Literature Across Frontiers to bring you two highly-regarded contemporary Czech poets, here to promote *Six Czech Poets* (Arc Publications). **Petr Borkovec's** latest collection, *Vnitrozemí* (Hinterland) was published in 2006. His selected poems in English translation by the poet Justin Quinn will be published in 2008 by Seren.

Kateřina Rudčenková's first collection *Ludwig* was published to general acclaim in 1999. Her latest book of poems is *Popel a slast* (Ashes and Pleasure, 2005). Her first theatre play has won her a residency at the Royal Court Theatre in London and will be staged in Prague in 2008. Don't miss this rare chance to experience the language of life from another country.

Monday 8th October

1pm

Central Library (Committee Room, 2nd Floor)

Tickets are free, but please book

Book on 0870 428 0785 or

www.manchesterliteraturefestival.co.uk

A TASTE OF NEW ZEALAND
BILL MANHIRE, ANNA SMAILL
& CARL SHUKER
READ



This triple bill event presented in association with the Centre for New Writing is sure to whet your appetite for New Zealand literature. **Bill Manhire** was New Zealand's inaugural Poet Laureate and is the author of many volumes of poetry including the recent *Lifted* – a volume full of richness, courage and surprise, containing poems which turn from grief to curiosity. **Anna Smail** is the author of the observant *Violinist in Spring*, a volume infused with an intrinsic knowledge of music. At once lyrical and acute, her poems are among the best of young, contemporary New Zealand. **Carl Shuker** created waves with his first novel, *The Method Actors*, described as 'Lost in Translation for the noir crowd'. His second novel, *The Lazy Boys*, is no less audacious in tone and style – a nihilistic tale of a brutal drop-out, desperate to escape his middle-class background.

Monday 8th October
6pm

Martin Harris Centre for Music and Drama
Tickets £5 / £3 concessions
Book on 0870 428 0785 or
www.manchesterliteraturefestival.co.uk

BASQUE POETRY AND MUSIC
FELIPE JUARISTI
& KIRMEN URIBE
FREEPLAY



The Literature Festival is pleased to join forces with Literature Across Frontiers and the Cervantes Institute to present a rare opportunity to experience the work of leading Basque writers. **Felipe Juaristi** is a renowned poet and translator. **Kirmen Uribe** is also a poet and writer for children. Both writer's oeuvres are shot through with Basque sensibilities and an acute sense of the region and its culture. The work of both poets is included in the new anthology of contemporary Basque poetry by Arc Publications. The readings will be followed by a performance of Basque music.

Monday 8th October
6.30pm

Cervantes Institute
Tickets are free, but please book
Book on 0161 661 4200 or
cultman@cervantes.es

**ADAM MAREK
& ROBERT SHEARMAN**
INDEPENDENT



The Literature Festival joins with Comma Press to launch debut short story collections from two writers with a shared fascination for the fantastical: **Robert Shearman** is a playwright and TV writer, best-known for his Hugo-nominated contribution to the Christopher Eccleston season of *Doctor Who*. His collection *Tiny Deaths* is a gravity-defying examination of our approaches to mortality and the grieving process. **Adam Marek** is a new writer whose collection *Instruction Manual for Swallowing* draws us down into the subconscious engine room of modern man, conjuring a bestiary of animals, mythical creatures and unlikely hybrids from the distant future/ancient past. Join us in the heavenly surroundings of the Godlee Observatory for this unique event.

Monday 8th October

8pm

Godlee Observatory

Tickets £5 / £4 concessions

(ticket price deductible from the price of a book)

Email ra.page@commapress.co.uk

leaving your name, address and contact details.

MODERN LITERARY TOUR
JONATHAN SCHOFIELD
FREEPLAY



Take a mosey through Manchester's recent literary past from World War Two onwards as imagined or related by Anthony Burgess, Howard Jacobson, Val McDermid, David Constantine and Carol Ann Duffy. The walk starts at Central Library and finishes at Urbis. *Manchester Confidential* editor and Blue Badge Guide, Jonathan Schofield will be your tour leader. Please book early as this is sure to be a popular event.

Tuesday 9th October

1.30 — 3pm

Meet at the main entrance to Central Library, St Peter's Square

Tickets £6 / £4 concessions

Book on 0870 428 0785 or

www.manchesterliteraturefestival.co.uk







**PAUL ABBOTT FACE TO FACE
WITH KATE ROWLAND**
FREEPLAY



Calling all budding screenwriters! The Literature Festival and BBC's writersroom team up to present the multi-talented **Paul Abbott** in conversation with **Kate Rowland**, the BBC's Creative Director New Writing. Paul has a unique ability to connect with an audience and tell stories we can all relate to. The success of his work demonstrates the continued appetite for original 'authored' drama in British Television. This insight into Paul's work will be followed by the chance to put your questions to him in a rare Q&A session. Paul Abbott is one of British Television's leading writing talents. His multi-award winning work includes *Shameless*, *Clocking Off*, *Linda Green*, *State of Play* and *Cracker*. Paul has also been pioneering in bringing numerous other talented writers onto our screens.

Tuesday 9th October

6pm — 7.30pm

(please check time on booking)

Cornerhouse

Tickets are free, but please book

Book via Cornerhouse from 20th September

(max 2 tickets per person)

on 0161 200 1500 or

www.cornerhouse.org

ELSEWHERE
STORIES FROM SMALL
TOWN EUROPE
INDEPENDENT



The launch of Comma's second translation anthology, *Elsewhere*, provides a rare opportunity to experience the true internationalism of the short story, with stories read in three different languages, accompanied by simultaneous translations. *Elsewhere* features stories from ten small, but defining European towns, and explores the ambivalent position that the small town occupies in our collective literary imagination. It is home to snug communities and strange, unnerving events, post-industrial torpor and Utopian imaginings all at once. Tonight's readers will be the Brudge award-winning author **Frode Grytten** (Norway), the renowned author, editor, and hellraiser **Roman Simic** (Croatia), and acclaimed North West poet, **Jean Sprackland**.

With the kind support of the Granada Foundation and The Golsoncott Foundation.

Tuesday 9th October

7pm

John Rylands Library

Tickets are free, but please book

Book on 0870 428 0785 or

www.manchesterliteraturefestival.co.uk

DANISH INVASION

LEIF DAVIDSEN, MORTEN
RAMSLAND & JANNE TELLER
READ



With Danish literature flourishing and more of its novels being translated into English than ever before, the festival is very excited to be hosting the Manchester leg of this UK tour of contemporary Danish writers.

Leif Davidsen (The Serbian Dane), **Morten Ramsland** (Doghead) and **Janne Teller** (Odin's Island) have won prestigious awards and prizes in their native land, and critical acclaim all over Europe. Their books are an eclectic mix, ranging from a thriller to a modern-day take on Nordic mythology and a tragic-comic family saga. What they all have in common is vivid characterisation and unusual settings – from coolest Copenhagen to the icy Nordic landscape.

Wednesday 10th October

1pm

Central Library (Committee Room, 2nd Floor)

Tickets are free, but please book

Book on 0870 428 0785 or

www.manchesterliteraturefestival.co.uk

MANCHESTER BLOG AWARDS

IN ASSOCIATION WITH
MANCHESTER DIGITAL
DEVELOPMENT AGENCY
FREEPLAY



For the second year running, the Manchester Blog Awards will recognise the best of the city's online writing. Prizes will be awarded in a number of categories including best creative writing on a blog. The event will feature blog readings, music from the city's MP3 bloggers and a special guest appearance from author and blogger, **Caroline Smailes**. Smailes is one of an increasing number of authors who have been snapped up by publishers on the strength of their blogging. Her novel *In Search of Adam* was recently published by The Friday Project.

To nominate blogs, send URLs to manchesterblogawards@googlemail.com by 7th September. For full details check the Festival website.

Wednesday 10th October

7pm

MohoLive

Tickets are free, but please book

Book on 0870 428 0785

or www.manchesterliteraturefestival.co.uk



KUNSTRÅDET
Kunstnernes Hus



manchester library
& information service



Project Part-financed
by the European Union
European Regional
Development Fund



MDDA
Manchester Digital Development Agency

Manchester
blog
Awards
2007

BALTI STORIES
VIJAY MEDTIA & ZAHID HUSSAIN
INDEPENDENT



Manchester Literature Festival and the Manchester Food & Drink Festival present a simmering three course selection of stories around Asian food, told by two master purveyors of fiction, the UK novelists, **Vijay Medtia** (The House of Subadar, Arcadia) and **Zahid Hussain** (The Curry Mile, Suitcase). The evening's menu comprises: for starters a fun, food-themed writing competition; the main course readings from the two hot novelists; followed by refreshments, questions, the competition winner's readings and signings by the two novelists. A festive, bacchanalian atmosphere is guaranteed.

Wednesday 10th October

8pm

Indus 5 restaurant

Tickets £5 (includes a buffet selection of foods)

Book on 0870 428 0785 or

www.manchesterliteraturefestival.co.uk

VICTORIAN LINES
A PERFORMANCE
BY DAVID GAFFNEY
INDEPENDENT



'Art Treasures in Manchester' marks the 150th anniversary of the largest art show ever seen in Britain. The original exhibition, held in 1857, was an incredible achievement for the city and an extraordinary artistic event. It was visited by eminent Victorian writers such as Elizabeth Gaskell and Charles Dickens. Discover how contemporary short story writer, **David Gaffney** responds to the 2007 exhibition at Manchester Art Gallery. Gaffney's collection of ultra-short fiction, *Sawn Off Tales* is published by Salt and his new collection *Aromabingo* is out in Autumn 2007, followed by his novel, *Skip Trace*, in 2008.

Thursday 11th October

1pm — 1.45pm

Manchester Art Gallery, Mosley Street

Tickets are free, no pre-booking required.

ANDREW MOTION

READ



The Poet Laureate, **Andrew Motion** will be reading and talking about his work in the impressive surroundings of the John Rylands Library, whose literary archives contain Motion's early correspondence with Carcanet, which published his first collection, *The Pleasure Steamers*. In addition to his many Faber collections of poems which include: *Love in a Life*, *The Price of Everything* and *Public Property*, Motion is also distinguished as the biographer of Philip Larkin and John Keats. His own biography, *In the Blood*, was recently published by Penguin.

Thursday 11th October
7pm (drinks reception 6.15pm)

John Rylands Library
Tickets are free, but booking essential
Book with Stella Halkyard on 0161 275 3541
or stella.halkyard@manchester.ac.uk

URBAN MYTHS RE-TOLD

FREEPLAY



Urbis and the Manchester Literature Festival present the winners of our national Urban Myths micro-fiction competition in a unique live art and installation performance throughout Urbis. These chilling and witty tales of what happens in the dark alleys and nightclubs of our towns and cities have been interpreted by students from the Interactive Arts Degree at MMU and will be produced in a range of media including performance, film, photography, sculpture, installation and online. The audience will be led around the Urbis building as darkness falls... and the Urban Myths are re-told.

Thursday 11th October
6pm, 7pm, 8pm or 9pm

(each performance lasts for one hour, please indicate which time you would like to attend)
URBIS
Tickets £3
Book on 0870 428 0785 or
www.manchesterliteraturefestival.co.uk

BUNCH OF FIVES

JO BELL, HARRY OWEN,
JOHN LINDLEY, JOY WINKLER,
ANDREW RUDD
INDEPENDENT



Bunch of Fives brings you all the Cheshire Poet Laureates, past and present, in a five-round bout of performance poetry. Punchy, funny, sexy and provocative. See Cheshire's finest as they flirt, shout and laugh their way through a sequence of words that will make you think, giggle and sometimes even blush.

Friday 12th October

1pm — 2.30pm

Central Library (Committee Room, 2nd Floor)

Tickets are free, but please book

Book on 0870 428 0785 or

www.manchesterliteraturefestival.co.uk

GALWAY KINNELL

READ



Manchester Literature Festival and the Centre for New Writing are delighted to present a rare appearance by the distinguished American poet **Galway Kinnell**, famous for his compelling performances. His new collection, *Strong Is Your Hold*, has the distinction of being one of the very few books by American poets to be given a Poetry Book Society Recommendation in the UK. *Strong is Your Hold* intermingles poems of the natural world, love poems, evocations of sexuality, and poems about family, friends and heroes. It also features his requiem for those who died on 9/11, *When The Towers Fell*.

Friday 12th October

6pm

The Martin Harris Centre for Music and Drama

Tickets £5 / £3 concession

Book on 0870 428 0785 or

www.manchesterliteraturefestival.co.uk

HOWARD JACOBSON

READ



Acclaimed Manchester-born novelist and broadcaster **Howard Jacobson** launches the paperback version of his seriously funny novel, *Kalooki Nights*. Described by The Times as 'the most intelligent and important novel to appear in this country in years', it tells the story of Max Glickman who, turning his back on his Jewish upbringing in Crumpsall Park, finds he can't escape a bigger history. *Kalooki Nights* won the Jewish Quarterly Wingate Literary Prize for Fiction and was longlisted for the Man Booker Prize. Jacobson's previous novels include *Coming from Behind*, *No More Mister Nice Guy*, *Who's Sorry Now*, *The Making of Henry* and *The Mighty Walzer*, which won the Bollinger Everyman Wodehouse Prize for comic writing.

Friday 12th October

7.30pm

Friends Meeting House

Tickets £5 / £3 concessions

Book on 0870 428 0785 or

www.manchesterliteraturefestival.co.uk

VICTORIAN LETTERS: AN INTRODUCTION TO CREATIVE WRITING BY DAVID GAFFNEY

FREEPLAY



Can you tell a story in less than 500 words? Inspired by the current 'Art Treasures in Manchester' exhibition, David Gaffney thinks you can. In this workshop you will: learn how to reduce ideas to an ultra-short format; condense, yet keep your story effective, powerful and easy to understand; manage character, description, point of view and dialogue in the ultra short story; and reduce a thousand words to 150 without losing a thing. Full of practical, fun exercises, this session will leave you wondering why anything has to be longer than a side of A4.

Saturday 13th & Sunday 14th October

11am — 4pm

Manchester Art Gallery

Tickets £30 / £25 concessions

Book on 0161 235 8888 or

magevents@manchester.gov.uk

VINTAGE

Manchester
Art Gallery



**GERARD WOODWARD
& ADAM THORPE**
READ



This special double bill event features two of our most accomplished contemporary authors.

Gerard Woodward wrote his first novel, *August*, in between working in the canteen and filling up chocolate vending machines at Manchester University. It was followed by *I'll Go To Bed At Noon*, shortlisted for the Man Booker Prize for Fiction. *A Curious Earth* concludes his trilogy about the inimitable Jones family – a dysfunctional, entertaining but ultimately destructive family based largely on Gerard's own.

Adam Thorpe's extraordinary new novel, *Between Each Breath*, set against the backdrop of Blair's Britain is a biting, timely satire and a powerfully moving examination of social and emotional disintegration. He has written six previous novels including *Ulverton*, two collections of stories and five books of poetry, the most recent of which, *Birds With a Broken Wing*, was published in May.

Saturday 13th October
1pm

St Ann's Church
Tickets £5 / £3 concessions
Book on 0870 428 0785 or
www.manchesterliteraturefestival.co.uk

TARIQ LATIF
INDEPENDENT



We are delighted to welcome **Tariq Latif** back to Manchester to launch his new collection, *Punjabi Weddings* (Arc Publications). Whether writing about the Pakistan of his childhood, about people (those inhabiting his imagination, as well as his family, friends or the shop-keeper down the road) or about the natural world, Latif's poetry is characterised by an engaging narrative quality.

Saturday 13th October
2.30pm

Central Library (Reception Room, 2nd Floor)
Tickets are free, but please book
Book on 0870 428 0785 or
www.manchesterliteraturefestival.co.uk



RODDY DOYLE

READ



Roddy Doyle is the author of several prize-winning and ground-breaking novels including *The Commitments*, *Paddy Clarke Ha Ha Ha*, *The Woman who Walked into Doors* and *Paula Spencer*. In his first ever collection of short stories, *The Deportees*, Doyle gives new insight into the immigrant experience, reflecting the rapid changes in Irish society in recent years. Concerned with the increasing number of racist stories about the new immigrant population, Doyle decided to make up a few stories of his own. All of them have one thing in common: someone born in Ireland meets someone who has come to live there. What ensues involves love and horror; excitement and exploitation; friendship and misunderstanding.

Saturday 13th October

4.30pm

The Whitworth Art Gallery

The University of Manchester

Tickets £6 / £4 concessions*

Book on 0870 428 0785 or

www.manchesterliteraturefestival.co.uk

MAGGIE O'FARRELL

& ANNE ENRIGHT

READ



Anne Enright and Maggie O'Farrell have written novels of grace and power which grapple unflinchingly with modern concepts of family and isolation.

Anne Enright's collection of stories, *The Portable Virgin*, won the Rooney Prize, and her novel, *What Are You Like?* was shortlisted for the Whitbread Novel Award and won the Encore Award. Her latest novel, *The Gathering*, is a family epic, condensed and clarified through the remarkable lens of Anne Enright's unblinking eye.

Maggie O'Farrell's debut novel, *After You'd Gone*, was published to international acclaim, and won a Betty Trask Award, while her third, *The Distance Between Us*, won the 2005 Somerset Maugham Award. Her latest novel, *The Vanishing Act of Esme Lennox* tells the story of Esme, a woman edited out of her family's history, and of the secrets that come to light when, sixty years later, she is released from care.

Saturday 13th October

6.30pm

The Whitworth Art Gallery

The University of Manchester

Tickets £6 / £4 concessions*

Book on 0870 428 0785 or

www.manchesterliteraturefestival.co.uk

*Joint tickets for the Roddy Doyle and Anne Enright & Maggie O'Farrell events, including a complimentary glass of wine, can be purchased at the special price of £10 / £6 concessions.



The University of Manchester
**The Whitworth
Art Gallery**


headline
review

LINTON KWESI JOHNSON

READ



Linton Kwesi Johnson is known and revered as the world's first reggae poet and the UK's most celebrated black poet. He has toured the world from Japan to the new South Africa, from Europe to Brazil. His recordings are amongst the top-selling reggae albums in the world and his work has been translated into Italian and German. A Black Panther in his teens, scourge of the Thatcher Government of the 80's, Johnson has been an inspiration to generations of politically engaged poets in the UK and beyond.

Linton Kwesi Johnson will be supported by the legendary Speakeasy band. He is appearing at Contact Theatre as part of the National Black Writers Conference 2007.

More information from:
cultureword@commonword.org.uk
or www.commonword.org.uk

Saturday 13th October

8pm 'til late

Contact Theatre

Tickets £10 / £6 concession

Book through Contact Theatre box office on
0161 274 0600 (Mon — Sat, 10am — 6pm)

or www.contact-theatre.org

SCIENCE FICTION MEETS SCIENCE FACT FEATURING WRITERS FROM THE DOCTOR WHO SERIES FREEPLAY



To launch the forthcoming Manchester Science Festival and with modern technology racing ahead, we ask, 'where does fact meet fiction?' Among the stars – or closer to home? To get you in the mood, local comedian **Toby Hadoke** will perform his one-man show *Moths Ate My Doctor Who Scarf* – a bitter-sweet odyssey following Toby's life as it mirrors the ups and downs of his favourite television programme. The show, a highlight of the Edinburgh Fringe Festival, has recently been enjoying a sell-out tour.

We then present a panel debate on science fiction and science fact, featuring Toby, Doctor Who novelist **Mark Michalowski** and Doctor Who scriptwriters **Robert Shearman** and **Paul Cornell**. Come and have your say at this truly unique event...

For more information visit:
www.manchestersciencefestival.com

Sunday 14th October

3pm — 5pm

Museum of Science & Industry

Tickets £5 / £3 concessions

Book on 0870 428 0785 or

www.manchesterliteraturefestival.co.uk



Supported by



COMEDY CURTAIN CALL
SALLY LINDSAY (COMPÈRE)
INDEPENDENT



We will be signing off this year's festival with a fun-packed evening hosted by **Sally Lindsay** (aka Coronation Street's Shelley Unwin). The event will feature special guest appearances from well known local wits **Alfie Joey** and **Sarah Millican**, and our inaugural Comedy Poetry Slam, in which local poets will be competing for Manchester's Funniest Bard Award. Local talent scouts will be listening out to the audience clapometer and the brightest stars will be booked for future gigs in the city's top performance venues. So come and join the laughter at Manchester's brand new performance venue, MohoLive. To put your name in the hat for a performance slot please email: admin@manchesterliteraturefestival.co.uk

Sunday 14th October

7pm

MohoLive

Tickets £5 / £3 concessions

Book on 0870 428 0785 or

www.manchesterliteraturefestival.co.uk



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At Davis Blank Furniss we are delighted to help and support The Manchester Literature Festival - as we do with all our clients, both in the private and commercial sectors...

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**City Inn is delighted to support
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VENUES

1 Cervantes Institute

326/330 Deansgate
Campfield Avenue
Arcade
Manchester M3 4FN
0161 661 4200

2 Contact Theatre

Devas Street
off Oxford Road
Manchester M15 6JA
0161 274 0600

3 Cornerhouse

70 Oxford Street
Manchester M1 5NH
0161 200 1500

4 Friends Meeting House

6 Mount Street
Manchester M2 5NS
0161 973 5542

5 Godlee Observatory

Floor G
Sackville Building
University of Manchester
Sackville Street
Manchester M60 1QD

6 The Green Room

54–56 Whitworth
Street West
Manchester M1 5WW
0161 615 0515

7 Heal's

11 New Cathedral Street
Manchester M1 1AD
0161 819 3000

8 Indus 5

587 Stockport Road
Longsight
Manchester M13 0RX
0161 275 3311

9 The John Rylands Library

150 Deansgate
Manchester M3 3EH
0161 306 0555

10 Library Theatre

St. Peters Square
Manchester M2 5PD
0161 234 1913

11 The Lowry

Pier 8
Salford Quays M50 3AZ
0870 787 5780

12 Manchester Central Library

St Peters Square,
Manchester M2 5PD
0161 234 1900

13 The Manchester Museum, The University of Manchester

Oxford Road
Manchester M13 9PL
0161 275 2634

14 Manchester Digital Development Agency

Lower Ground Floor
117–119 Portland Street
Manchester M1 6ED
0161 255 8111

15 Manchester Art Gallery

Mosley Street
Manchester M2 3JL
0161 235 8888

16 Martin Harris Centre for Music and Drama

Bridgeford Street
University of Manchester
Manchester M13 9PL
0161 275 8951/ 8950

17 MohoLive

21–31 Oldham Street
(entrance on Tib Street)
Manchester M1 1JG

18 The Museum of Science & Industry in Manchester

Liverpool Road
Castlefield
Manchester M3 4PL
0161 832 2244

19 St Ann's Church

St Ann's Square
Manchester M2 7LF
Tel: 0161 834 0239

20 Sweet Mandarin

19 Copperas Street
off High Street
Manchester M4 1HS
Tel: 0161 832 8848

21 The Tai Chi Village Hall

(Behind) 163
Palatine Road
Manchester M20 2GH

22 URBIS

Cathedral Gardens
Manchester M4 3BG
0161 605 8200

23 The Whitworth Art Gallery, The University of Manchester

Oxford Road
Manchester M15 6ER
0161 275 7450

For further information on venue accessibility, please contact the venue in question.

More information can also be found on the Manchester Literature Festival website.



EVENTS AT A GLANCE

THURS 4TH OCTOBER

POETRY BED

Heal's Department Store
12 noon — 3pm

SPOKEN IMAGE

Cornerhouse
6.30pm

ROSE TREMAIN

The Whitworth Art Gallery
7pm

FRI 5TH OCTOBER

CHILDREN'S BOOKSHOW

The Library Theatre
10.30am & 1.30pm

'WILD MARY' — THE LIFE OF MARY WESLEY

Central Library
1pm

BLOODAXE POETS

The Manchester Museum
7.30pm

SAT 6TH OCTOBER

INDEPENDENTS DAY

The Lowry
11am — 7pm

SPEAKEASY

Green Room
8pm

LES MURRAY

The Tai Chi Village Hall
8pm

SUN 7TH OCTOBER

GRAPHIC NOVEL WORKSHOP

The Whitworth Art Gallery
12.30 — 2.30pm

BETWEEN THE PANELS

The Whitworth Art Gallery
3pm

CAROL ANN DUFFY

The Whitworth Art Gallery
5pm

AT SWIM TWO BIRDS

Central Library
5pm

MON 8TH OCTOBER

SWEET AND SOUR STORIES

Sweet Mandarin
1pm — 2.30pm

CZECH POETS

Central Library
1pm

A TASTE OF NEW ZEALAND

Martin Harris Centre
for Music and Drama
6pm

BASQUE POETRY AND MUSIC

Cervantes Institute
6.30pm

ADAM MAREK & ROBERT SHEARMAN

Godlee Observatory
8pm

TUES 9TH OCTOBER

MODERN LITERARY TOUR

Begins at Central Library
1.30 — 3pm

PAUL ABBOTT FACE TO FACE WITH KATE ROWLAND

Cornerhouse
6pm — 7.30pm

ELSEWHERE

John Rylands Library
7pm

WED 10TH OCTOBER

DANISH INVASION

Central Library
1pm

MANCHESTER BLOG AWARDS

MohoLive
7pm

BALTI STORIES

Indus 5 restaurant
8pm

THUR 11TH OCTOBER

VICTORIAN LINES

Manchester Art Gallery
1pm — 1.45pm

ANDREW MOTION

John Rylands Library
7pm

URBAN MYTHS RE-TOLD

URBIS
6pm / 7pm / 8pm / 9pm

FRI 12TH OCTOBER

BUNCH OF FIVES

Central Library
1pm — 2.30pm

GALWAY KINNELL

The Martin Harris Centre
for Music and Drama
6pm

HOWARD JACOBSON

Friends Meeting House
7.30pm

VICTORIAN LETTERS

Saturday 13th
& Sunday 14th October
11am — 4pm
Manchester Art Gallery

SAT 13TH OCTOBER

GERARD WOODWARD & ADAM THORPE

St Ann's Church
1pm

TARIQ LATIF

Central Library
2.30pm

RODDY DOYLE

The Whitworth Art Gallery
4.30pm

MAGGIE O'FARRELL & ANNE ENRIGHT

The Whitworth Art Gallery
6.30pm

LINTON KWESI JOHNSON

Contact Theatre
8pm 'til late

SUN 14TH OCTOBER

SCIENCE FICTION MEETS SCIENCE FACT

Museum of Science
& Industry
3pm — 5pm

COMEDY CURTAIN CALL

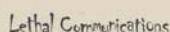
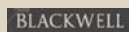
MohoLive
7pm



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Manchester Literature Festival is part of Manchester City Council's wide-ranging annual programme of spectacular events and festivals. Other highlights for the autumn and festive seasons include:

Manchester Food and Drink Festival
5—15 October

Manchester Comedy Festival
18—29 October

In The City
20—22 October

Christmas Lights Switch-on Celebration
8 November

Manchester Christmas Markets
15 November—20 December

To find out more, contact Manchester Visitor Information Centre on 0871 222 8223 or visit www.manchesterlive.co.uk

Booking: Please see individual events for booking details—tickets for most events can be booked through our box office: **0870 428 0785** or online via our website: www.manchesterliteraturefestival.co.uk

Please note that tickets are subject to a small booking fee.

Manchester Literature Festival, Third Floor,
24 Lever Street, Manchester M1 1DZ.

0161 236 5725
admin@manchesterliteraturefestival.co.uk
www.manchesterliteraturefestival.co.uk

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

Festival Director: **Cathy Bolton**
Festival Administrator/Events Manager: **Jon Atkin**
Blog Awards Director: **Kate Feld**

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