

BATTERSEA LITERATURE FESTIVAL



2014

PROGRAMME OF EVENTS

Waterstones

THE BRIGHTER BOROUGH
Wandsworth

Introduction

Welcome to the 2014 Battersea Literature Festival!

The festival is organised by the Clapham Junction Town Centre Partnership and Waterstones, supported by Wandsworth Council.

A huge thank you to all the writers – there wouldn't be a festival without you! Thank you for taking part in our Battersea festival, and thank you for enriching our lives. The festival gives book lovers the opportunity to meet some of their favourite writers, but also the opportunity to discover new ones, to attend workshops and to meet up with others who share their interest.

We are delighted to revive the festival after a three year break – and are happy to promote it under its new name, the Battersea Literature Festival. The support from **Wandsworth Council** and **Waterstones** make the festival possible, as well as the support from our sponsors. This festival is a highlight of the year in Battersea.

Thank you to Pete Fagan, manager of Waterstones Clapham Junction and all his staff, Isabel Losada who is our Artistic Director at this year's festival and also the writer in residence in the window of Waterstones, and Emma Clark from Getrude&Ivy.

Enjoy the Festival!

Lorinda Freint
Clapham Junction Town Centre Manager

Author In Residence in Window



Script Surgeries. 15 minutes. 5 minutes longer than the NHS.

This year Best-selling Author Isabel Losada will be returning to her home in the window of Waterstones Clapham Junction for the duration of the Festival Mon-Sat. (No Sunday Surgery)

Isabel will be doing what most authors do all day.

Attempting to write while being distracted a lot. You may help distract her. This year Isabel is offering Script-Surgeries. That is - you will have the opportunity to talk to her for up to 15 minutes and she will offer advice on writing, being published or anything else you'd like to ask her. But if you bring life questions - be warned - she is a stern life coach.

No need to book - just show up 12pm -5pm. If there is a queue you'll be offered a numbered ticket and have to wait your turn.

Each person is limited to only one 15 minute session - unless you buy one of Isabel's books in which case you earn the special privilege of being allowed to return for a second 15 minutes. Bring your receipt.

For your 15 minutes you do not have to sit in the window. (Although you may if you wish to) You can also sit beside the window if you feel self conscious.

As you only have 15 minutes you are advised to think carefully about and be precise with your questions rather than launching into the entire plot of your oeuvre or use your time up with unfocussed waffling.

Isabel will accept an optional donation of £3 for the Battersea Cats and Dogs home for each session. Coins to be placed in a collecting box in the window.

Monday 1 September 7pm



Everyday Sexism with Laura Bates

Battersea Arts Centre, Lower Hall, Lavender Hill

After experiencing a series of escalating sexist incidents, Laura Bates, a young journalist, started a project called 'everyday sexism' to raise the profile of these previously untold stories.

Astounded by the response she received and the wide range of stories that came pouring in from all over the world, she quickly realised that the situation was far worse than she'd initially thought.

Enough was enough. From being harassed and wolf-whistled at on the street, to discrimination in the workplace and serious sexual assault, it was clear that sexism had become normalised. Bates decided it was time for women to lead a real change.

Bold, jaunty but always intelligent, *Everyday Sexism* is a protest against inequality that provides a unique window into the vibrant movement sparked by this juggernaut of stories - often shocking, sometimes amusing and always poignant. With an Introduction by Sarah Brown, this book is a manifesto for change; a ground breaking, anecdotal examination of sexism in modern day society.

Come and hear Laura speak and be prepared not only to be entertained but also to have your world view challenged and changed.



© Clarissa Schneider

Tuesday 2 September 7pm



Investigating Battersea – with Paul McCue, Simon McNeil-Ritchie, Andrew Wilson

Waterstones, 70 St John's Road

Join us for an evening of celebrating Battersea, the local history, the beauty, the quirkiness, and the process of recording it.

Using a selection of old and new photographs, local historians **Simon McNeill-Ritchie** and **Ron Elam** trace Battersea's unique journey over the past century in their book '*Battersea Through Time*'. Featuring landmarks such as Battersea Power Station,

Battersea Dogs & Cats Home and Battersea Park, this book is essential reading for anyone who knows and loves Battersea.

Paul McCue is a military historian and author who works as a senior manager in Local Government. His books cover a number of interesting topics: *Dunsfold, Surrey's Most Secret Airfield*, *SAS Operation Bulbasket*, *Behind Enemy Lines with the SAS*, *Wandsworth and Battersea Battalions in the Great War*. His current project, with the aim of publication is the compilation of the stories of the 91 men and 13 women listed on the Valençay Memorial in the Indre department of France which commemorated the agents who did not return from active service in the Second World War.



Andrew Wilson has over 30 years publishing experience; having worked for a consumer magazine publisher for 20 years, in 2003 he moved on to start his own publishing consultancy, Unity Print and Publishing. As a print specialist, working mainly in area of production, Andrew has published many books on the technical side of print, including *The Print Manager's Handbook*. Never one to sit still, he has over the past 5 years taken his hobby of photography to new heights and published several coffee table books on his home area, South West London, including one on Battersea, *Between The Commons*. Taking his love of nature as a lead, his books all come under the Wild banner and he is planning some new ones for 2015



Tuesday 2 September 7pm

£7

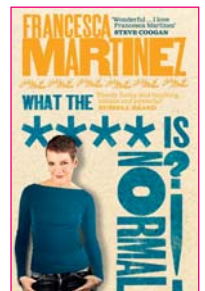
“What the ** is Normal with Francesca Martinez**

Battersea Arts centre, Lower hall, Lavender Hill

What do you do when you're labelled abnormal in a world obsessed with normality? In a world where wrinkles are practically illegal, going bald is cause for mental breakdown, and women over size ten are encouraged to shoot themselves, what the **** do you do if you're, gasp... disabled?

Whatever body you're born into, the pressure to be 'NORMAL' is everywhere.

But have you ever met a normal person?



What do they look like? Where do they live? What do they eat for breakfast?

And what the **** does normal mean anyway?

Multi-award-winning Francesca Martinez is the first and only woman to win the Open Mic Award at the Edinburgh Festival, and has since become one of the top comedians of her generation. As well as touring internationally with sell-out runs around the world, Francesca is a TV and radio regular, making popular appearances on such varied programmes as The News Quiz, Russell Howard's Good News, The Jonathan Ross Show, The Frank Skinner Show, Ricky Gervais's Extras (in a role written specially for her), Newsnight, This Week, Free Speech (where she was voted most popular guest) and Channel 4 News. Currently, Francesca is in the middle of a 55-date UK/Ireland tour of her award-winning show, also called 'WHAT THE **** IS NORMAL?!', which has just been nominated for Best Show at Dave's Leicester Comedy Festival 2013 – the UK's largest comedy festival.

Wednesday 3 September 7 pm

£5

Writing a Novel, the Inside Story by Bobbie Darbyshire and Personal Experience and the Novel, Nadifa Mohamed interviewed by Alex Wheatle

Waterstones, 70 St John's Road

How does a novelist imagine a new fictional world, then persevere, clocking up the words and solving its problems? What are the secrets for keeping a reader hooked, appreciative and finally satisfied? Prizewinning local author **Bobbie Darbyshire** will share what she has learned about practice and craft. Her two entertaining novels, *Love, Revenge & Buttered Scones* and *Truth Games*, will be joined soon by a third gripping read, *Oz*, due out in November, and she is putting finishing touches to a fourth.



Nadifa Mohamed was born in Hargeisa in 1981. In 1986 she moved to London with her family in what she thought was a temporary move but a couple of years later it became permanent as war broke out in Somalia. Her first novel, *Black Mamba Boy*, was longlisted for the Orange Prize, shortlisted for the Guardian First Book Award, the John Llewellyn Rhys Prize, the Dylan Thomas Prize, and the PEN Open Book Award. It won the Betty Trask Prize. In 2013 she was selected as one of Granta's Best of Young British Novelists and the *Orchard of Lost Souls* recently won the Somerset Maugham Award. She was judge for the Independent Foreign Fiction Prize 2014 and is a regular contributor to the Guardian, Granta, and BBC radio. Nadifa lives in London and is currently working on her third novel. The author Alex Wheatle (aka the Brixton Bard) will interview Nadifa at this event, and will be concentrating on the personal and experience as expressed in her work.



Thursday 4 September 7pm

£5

Autobiography and Excess with Lincoln Townley

Waterstones, 70 St John's Road

Lincoln Townley talks about his explosive memoir *The Hunger* with the psychologist Dr. Peter Hughes. He will discuss his life in Soho, the spiral of self-destruction that almost killed him, how he was able to rebuild his life and why he decided to tell his story in such a graphic and uncompromising style. This will be a frank and honest discussion that will take you from the Soho sex industry to the chaos of addiction, as he tells a story that is as shocking as it is entertaining.



Lincoln is a prolific painter and has lived his life on a knife-edge between survival and extinction. It is this edge that his art unleashes. Addiction, compulsion, insanity, depression and death. These are not just the themes of his art. They are the ghosts of a life he once lived that haunt him wherever he goes. To face these ghosts is the meaning of his recovery. He has currently finished a collection paintings which express the energy and madness of his extremely graphic book *The Hunger*. He is showing his work at Frieze London between the 15th and 18th October.

Friday 5 September 12.30

£30

Literary Lunch with David Mitchell

River Quarter Kitchen, Molasses House, Plantation Wharf, SW11 3TN

“To his legions of devoted fans, David Mitchell is the nearest thing to a magician that contemporary literature has to offer”

The Observer.



Join us for the highlight of the festival, our Literary Lunch. The price of the ticket includes a three course lunch and a hardback copy of David's latest book *The Bone Clocks* (shop price of book alone £20). David will talk about his book and will be available to sign copies of the book.

Born in 1969, David Mitchell grew up in Worcestershire. After graduating from Kent University, he taught English in Japan where he wrote his first novel, *Ghostwritten*.

Published in 1999, *Ghostwritten* won the Mail on Sunday John Llewellyn Rhys Prize and was shortlisted for the Guardian First Book Award. David Mitchell's second novel, *number9dream*, was shortlisted for the Booker Prize and in 2003 he was named one of Granta's Best Young British Novelists. His third, *Cloud Atlas*, was shortlisted for the Man Booker Prize in 2004, won the Richard & Judy Best Read of the Year and was made into a film in 2012. It was followed by *Black Swan Green* and *The Thousand Autumns of Jacob de Zoet*, both longlisted for the Man Booker Prize



Friday 5 September 7pm

£5

The Future of the Bookshop with James Daunt

Waterstones, 70 St John's Road

Please join us for this fascinating and timely discussion with **James Daunt**, the Managing Director of Waterstones. He took up his position in June 2011 following the acquisition of the company by A&NN Group from HMV Group PLC. He is the founder of Daunt Books, an independent bookshop chain with seven branches in London.

James Daunt is undoubtedly one of the most powerful people in bookselling today.



Saturday 6 September 7pm

£7

Satire as Reflection with Matt Haig

Battersea Arts centre, Lower Hall, Lavender Hill

Matt Haig's latest book *The Humans* tale of the ordinary, the extraordinary, and the trials and triumphs of being human.

After an 'incident' one wet Friday night where Professor Andrew Martin is found walking naked through the streets of Cambridge, he is not feeling quite himself. Food sickens him. Clothes confound him. Even his loving wife and teenage son are repulsive to him. He feels lost amongst a crazy alien species and hates everyone on the planet. Everyone, that is, except Newton, and he's a dog.

What could possibly make someone change their mind about the human race?

Matt Haig is the author of six novels, including the bestselling *The Last Family in England* which has been optioned by Brad Pitt's production company, *The Radleys* which was selected for Channel 4's TV Book Club and was voted the winner of the series in 2011 and *The Humans* for which Matt is currently writing the screenplay. His works have been translated into over twenty languages and he has also written award-winning books for children.

'A laugh-and-cry book. Troubling, thrilling, puzzling, believable and impossible' - **Jeanette Winterson**



© Chris Doyle

Anna Nyburg Emigrés: the transformation of Art Publishing in Britain

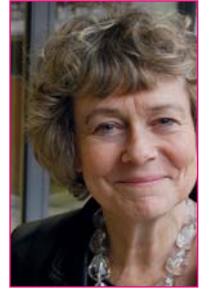
Waterstones, 70 St John's Road

British art publishing owes a great debt to Vienna: both Phaidon and Thames & Hudson were founded by émigrés who had escaped Nazi-occupied Austria and Germany to Britain. They brought with them to this country their art historical knowledge, their design, printing and reproduction techniques, employing many of their fellow countrymen in the production of their affordable art books, which were attractive and always well researched. Overcoming the trauma of the loss of their homeland, the publishing émigrés changed the British art book market for good - their publishing houses still thrive today.

Anna Nyburg wrote her PhD thesis on German and Austrian refugee art publishers in Britain between the wars for the University of London.

Her book examines the impact on the British illustrated publishing industry of émigrés from Germany and Austria in the first half of the twentieth century, looking in particular at the art publishing houses of Phaidon Press and Thames & Hudson.

She is presently the Humanities Erasmus Coordinator, Centre for Co-curricular Studies, at Imperial College, London.



Sunday 7 September 11am

£5

Agent led Dog Walk for Battersea Dogs and Cats home

(exact location to be announced on booking)

Your chance to meet some literary agents, tell them about the book you'd like to write or have written, and ask them for tips.

Only ten people per agent so book early.

All the money for this will be donated to the Battersea Dogs and Cats Home £5 per person (you don't have to bring a dog along, but you may. Dogs do not pay..)

Dogs, agents and people must be friendly.

The Agents are:

Jo Unwin (From Jo Unwin Literary Agency) and her dog Masie

Claire Conville (From Literary Agency Conville and Walsh) and her dog Ava

Carrie Kania (From Literary Agency Conville and Walsh) and her dog Foxy

Charles Campbell (From Literary Agency Kingsford Campbell) and his dog, Rosie.



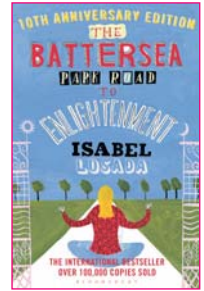
Sunday 7 September 7pm

£5

Life, Happiness and Making a Difference with Isabel Losada

Waterstones, 70 St John's Road

Our very own author in residence Isabel Losada offers an evening of entertainment on the subjects of all her books, *The Battersea Park Road to Enlightenment*, *For Tibet, With Love, Men!* and *The Battersea Park Road to Paradise*. In a mixture of comedy stand up, motivational speaking, personal story and pure fun, Isabel promises both to make you laugh and to challenge you - should you choose to be open to be challenged. If not, just come and enjoy the evening. Bring a notebook and a pen, just in case - as Isabel says, she says something useful and you want to write it down. Wine and soft drinks will be served.



Monday 8 September 7pm

£5

Crime Night with Mark Billingham and Tania Carver

Waterstones, 70 St John's Road

Mark Billingham was born and brought up in Birmingham. Having worked for some years as an actor and more recently as a TV writer and stand-up comedian his first crime novel was published in 2001.

Sleepyhead was an instant bestseller in the UK. It has been sold widely throughout the world and was published in the USA in the summer of 2002.

The series of crime novels featuring London-based detective Tom Thorne continued with *Scaredy Cat* and was followed by *Lazybones*, *The Burning Girl*, *Lifeless*, *Buried*, *Death Message*, *Bloodline*, *From The Dead*, *Good As Dead*, *The Dying Hours* and the most recent, *The Bones Beneath*. Mark is also the author of the standalone novels *In The Dark* and *Rush Of Blood*, as well as a series of children's thrillers – *Triskellion* – written under the pseudonym Will Peterson.

An acclaimed television series based on the Thorne novels was screened on Sky One in Autumn 2010, starring David Morrissey as Tom Thorne. Adaptations of both *In The Dark* and *Rush Of*



© Charlie Hopkinson

Blood are currently in development at the BBC.

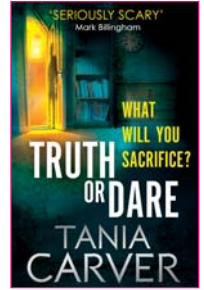
Mark lives in London with his wife and two children. He is currently writing his next novel.

Tania Carver is the pseudonym of husband and wife writing team Martyn and Linda Waites.

Tonight Tania is appearing in the form of Martyn Waites.

Martyn is an ex-actor turned writer with nine previous novels under his own name. He's still continuing as such. Linda is a critically acclaimed theatre costume designer. Martyn does most of the public appearances because, as Linda says, 'Once a luvvie always a luvvie'. As befits a designer, she prefers to be backstage rather than onstage.

'Tania Carver' is now an internationally bestselling author. The first novel, *The Surrogate*, was shortlisted for the Theakstons Old Peculier Crime Novel of the Year Award. *Doll's House*, the fifth in the series is out. And after that, well, there's plenty more where they came from.



Tuesday 9 September 7pm

£5

The Brilliant under 30's with Oscar Coop-Phane, Rachael Chadwick,

Waterstones, 70 St John's Road

Oscar Coop-Phane is an award-winning French author who left home at 16 with dreams of becoming a painter. At 20, he moved to Berlin, where he spent a year writing and reading classics. His astonishing debut, *Zenith Hotel*, was the result, and it immediately won the Prix de Flore.

Zenith Hotel is narrated by a prostitute, referred to by her clients as 'Nanou'. There is no glamorisation of sex work here; she insists that she is 'a streetwalker. Not a call girl or anything like that, no, a common streetwalker with high heels and menthol cigarettes'. She has no expectation of a different life, no aspiration beyond survival. She is 'a body that's simply trying not to feel too much pain'.

Oscar Coop-Phane invents an astonishing cast of original and



'It's inspirational!'

*'Great idea, great to get kids interested,
good for the community.'*

Artists' Open House visitors 2013



Photograph © Hannah Maule-ffinch.

Great art that's right up your street!

Wandsworth Artists' Open House 2014

Over the weekends of 4-5 and 11-12 October artists and creative makers across Wandsworth will open their homes and studios to show and sell work to the public.

Last year thousands of visitors from right across London followed fun local trails to discover hidden talents in each neighbourhood. Not only will you have the chance to see and buy unique pieces ranging from sculpture to painting and from prints to jewellery, some open houses are also offering demonstrations and hands-on opportunities for all the family.

Keep an eye on www.wandsworthart.com for more information.



Forget your beard and grow a **FRINGE!**

Wandsworth Fringe arts festival will return next year from 1-17 May and is calling out now to anyone interested in taking part.

The festival is an inclusive celebration of all things arts and culture in the borough. You might be a writer, artist, group, or performer looking to showcase your talents. Or you might be a venue or business looking to host a show or activity. Taking part will help you attract new audiences, experiment with new ideas and grow your local networks.

Express your interest now and benefit from professional and peer support in realising ideas.

arts@wandsworth.gov.uk
020 8871 8711



For the kids

Northcote Library and Northcote Books are thrilled to be working in collaboration with the organisers of the Battersea Literature Festival to sponsor author visits from the very talented Children's authors below. Make sure you book a place for them at Northcote Library over the Summer.

John Dougherty

Thursday 11 September
4.15 – 5pm

Join John Dougherty, writer of the ridiculously funny *Stinkbomb & Ketchup-Face* books, for a session of silliness, songs, inspiration and badgers. Find out what inspired the series, ask those questions you've always wanted to ask an author, and hear why John thinks reading is such amazing fun! Laughter guaranteed.

Sara Grant

Monday 8 September
4.15 – 5pm

Sara Grant the writer of the marvelously funny '*Magic Trix*' books, will be taking us through the creation of the stories and answering questions about being a writer, the wonderful characters she creates and about being an 'American living in London'.

Rob Lloyd Jones

Monday 8th September
10.45 – 11.45am with Year 5
at Honeywell School

Ladies and Gentlemen take your seats, as Rob Lloyd Jones, writer of '*Wild Boy*' takes the students of Honeywell School on a wild journey through history, from mad medieval knights to the grisly freak shows of Victorian London, discovering incredible events that taught him about storytelling and influenced *Wild Boy* - the freak show performer who is also the greatest detective in the world.

These children's events are free, but to book please call Northcote Library :
020 72232336

Waterstones

Children's activities daily throughout the festival: stories, drawing, crafts. Check in-store for details.

deeply human characters – losers, defeated by the world around them – who seek solace in Nanou's arms.

Original and moving, this novel deftly paints a world of solitude and sadness, illuminated by precious moments of tenderness and acts of kindness. A series of vignettes, written in spare, elegant, yet deeply powerful prose, with an insight that defies the author's years, *Zenith Hotel* is nothing short of a masterpiece. Still in his early 20s, Oscar Coop-Phane now lives in Brussels, where he is working on his fourth novel (his second, *Tomorrow Berlin*, will be published by Arcadia Books in 2015), and has travelled to the UK specially for the Battersea Literary Festival.

On 11 February 2012 **Rachael Chadwick** lost her Mother to cancer, just sixteen days after first being diagnosed, and her world shattered right in front of her.

Facing daily milestones and reminders of the death, in December of that year Rachael decided she would do something different and created a project based around her late Mother's approaching 60th Birthday. To spread the word about the wonderful person she had lost, Rachael leaves postcards around Paris in her memory. When she returns to her London home, she tries to stop wondering whether she might actually hear from a postcard finder. And then, they started flowing in... *Sixty Postcards* is a book about sudden bereavement and the ever present nature of loss. About how we begin to let go of someone and yet how we never quite live without the presence of someone we love and have lost. A beautiful and healing book and speaker for anyone who has lost someone they love more than they love themselves.

Sixty Postcards is Rachael's first book and is published by Simon and Schuster.

Abigail Tarttlin comes from Grimsby and lives out of a small, red suitcase. She writes about books, feminism and stuff like saving libraries for both paper and onscreen publications. Her first novel, *Flick*, was released in 2011 with a free soundtrack of independent British music, and her second novel, *Golden Boy*, the story of beautiful intersex teenager Max Walker, came out in 2013 with a dustcover.

Since then, Abby has been featured in *Vogue*, *Cosmopolitan*,



Glamour, Vanity Fair and several other magazines and *Golden Boy* has won an American Library Association ALEX award for adult books that have special appeal to teens, and is shortlisted for the LAMBDA Award for Best Debut LGBT Fiction. The book has been named a Booklist Top 10 First Novel of 2013 and a School Library Journal Best Book of 2013.

Abby was also named one of the capital's 'Power 1000' and '25 under 25' Londoners to watch by the London Evening Standard. At BLE, Abby will talk about gender in fiction, the commercial vs. the literary and satisfying the delicate and sometimes fraught relationship between voice and plot.

Abby is currently writing her third novel in coffee shops, all-night casinos and hotel lounges with her red suitcase stowed at reception.

Wednesday 10 September 7pm

£5

Money Mania - Inside the Banking Crisis with Hugh Pym and Bob Swarup

Waterstones, 70 St John's Road

Hugh Pym is one of the few leading broadcasting correspondents to have covered the financial crisis continuously since 2007 when the credit crunch struck and Northern Rock was crippled. He reported on developments in the summer of 2008 when the UK plunged into recession followed by the global meltdown triggered by the collapse of Lehman brothers. He covered the dramatic Government banking bailouts and was part of the BBC News team which won a Royal Television Society award for coverage of the financial crisis.

Hugh has worked as a BBC correspondent since 2001. He won Commentator of the Year awards from the British Venture Capital Association and the Business Services Association.

Inside the Banking Crisis is the first 'inside' account of the UK banking crisis – the as yet untold story of what really happened behind the closed doors of key players in Downing Street and the City. The UK economy is still bearing the scars of the banking crisis, businesses struggle to get credit and appetite remains high



for explanations of what happened. This book is the definitive guide to the drama and characters involved in the astonishing collapse of some of the major pillars of British banking, informed by those involved at the highest levels in Whitehall, the Bank of England and the City.

Bob Swarup is an investor, thought leader and commentator on financial markets, investments and regulation. He has managed investments at financial institutions, sat on the boards of hedge funds and private equity firms, worked closely with leading think tanks, advised policymakers and industry alike, and is an award-winning journalist.

Money Mania is a sweeping account of financial speculation and its consequences, from ancient Rome to the Meltdown of 2008. Acclaimed journalist and investor Bob Swarup tracks the history of speculative fevers caused by the appearance of new profitable investment opportunities; in short, what makes us human. He has managed investments at financial institutions, sat on the boards of hedge funds and private equity firms, worked closely with leading think tanks, advised policymakers and industry alike, and is an award-winning journalist.



Thursday 11 September 7pm

£5

The art of the Manifesto with Mark Thomas

Waterstones, 70 St John's Road

Mark Thomas is an English comedian, presenter, political activist and reporter. Fresh from his show at The Edinburgh Festival but before his National Tour Mark returns to the Battersea Literature Festival to entertain us all with his particular brand of comedy and wake up call. Tonight he will not be speaking about any one of his books - he'll be speaking about whatever he thinks we most need to hear about that night. Come prepared to laugh and be challenged.



Double Bill: The Power of Folklore and Mythology with Joanne Harris and Shaping the Romantic Comedy with Richard Curtis

Battersea Arts Centre

Joanne Harris (MBE) was born in Barnsley in 1964, of a French mother and an English father. She studied Modern and Mediaeval Languages at Cambridge and was a teacher for fifteen years, during which time she published three novels, including *Chocolat* (1999), which was made into an Oscar-nominated film starring Juliette Binoche and Johnny Depp.

Since then, she has written 14 more novels, two collections of short stories and three cookbooks. Her books are now published in over 50 countries and have won a number of British and international awards. She is an honorary Fellow of St Catharine's College, Cambridge, has honorary doctorates in literature from the universities of Sheffield and Huddersfield, and has been a judge for the Whitbread Prize, the Orange Prize, the Desmond Elliott Prize and the Royal Society Winton Prize for Science.

Her hobbies are listed in *Who's Who* as: "mooching, lounging, strutting, strumming, priest-baiting and quiet subversion of the system", although she also enjoys obfuscation, sleaze, rebellion, witchcraft, armed robbery, tea and biscuits. She is not above bribery and would not necessarily refuse an offer involving exotic travel or pink champagne. She works from a shed in her garden, plays bass in the band she first joined when she was 16, is writing a novella for *Dr Who* and lives with her husband and daughter in a little wood in Yorkshire.

Richard Curtis, the award winning TV and film writer is best known for directing *Four Weddings and a Funeral* and *Notting Hill*. He is also known for founding the British charity *Comic Relief*.

Few screenwriters, by name alone, can conjure charm, comedy and romance quite like Richard Curtis. His big screen comedic tales of contemporary British romance, society and people, held dear across the world, can almost be described as Richard Curtis-eque; his characters often inhabit "Curtis Land", as it has occasionally come to be known. Having cut his teeth on iconic British sketch



© Kyle Photography



shows before landing a worldwide hit and an Oscar-nomination in 1994 for his comedy screenplay, *Four Weddings and A Funeral*, Curtis has created some of the biggest British worldwide successes in cinema of the last 20 years such as *Notting Hill*, his adaptation of the much-loved *Bridget Jones* series and *Love Actually*. Always warm and always funny, Curtis is a true master of the British romantic comedy. (BAFTA)

Tonight Richard will speak about Screenwriting, be interviewed by a young film-maker and take questions on all aspects of screenwriting and film-making.

Saturday 13 September 10am

£10

Developing Characters and Shaping the Plot: Workshop presented by Alex Wheatle

Northcote Library, 155 Northcote Road

In this two hour workshop Alex Wheatle will give guidance and answer some of your questions. How do you know if your book or story idea is appealing? Has your opening got the right ingredients? Are you concerned about engaging your readers instantly? Do you feel unsure about what makes for a compelling plot and intriguing characters? Are you getting stuck on ideas that don't work on the page? Is your book or story finally finished and ready? Whatever you've written – whether it be crime, fantasy or literary fiction – these tips will apply to all of you, and enable you to strengthen your book and your confidence.



Alex Wheatle is the author of six novels, all of which are informed by his experience of living in London. His work centres around his childhood, which was spent in a care home, his formative years exploring the sights, sounds and smells in Brixton in the 1970s and his adult life after the pivotal Brixton Riots. Alex is currently working on a book for young adults.

Saturday 13 September 6pm

£10

Special Events & end of Festival Party with Anna Saunders,
Aoife Mannix, Jo Hemmant, Graham Clifford

Battersea Arts Centre

*Cheltenham Poetry Festival, in partnership
with Battersea Literature Festival presents*

Haiku writing workshop

At 6pm we have a special Haiku writing workshop. No experience necessary. This event inspired by HaikuJAM www.haikujam.com

Download the App - scan the appropriate QR code for your phone (see right)

Tonight in this one hour workshop we will learn about Haiku. This will be 30 minutes of writing Haiku in groups followed by 30 minutes of writing your own. Really easy and fun.

Poetry - Open Mike plus Performance Poets and Poetry Reading

An evening of Poetry brought to us by the Cheltenham Poetry Festival.

Open Mike

Why not come and share your work and meet the festival team? Come early to secure a slot?

Then we will sit back and enjoy being entertained by the following all star line up...

Words of Mouth a spoken word cabaret featuring

The Mullet Proof Poet is a sharp-suited, straight talking, and savagely funny spoken word star who has made many radio and tv appearances including 6 Music's Cerys Mathews show and BBC Four's documentary Evidently John Cooper Clarke. His last collection Citizen Kaned was released in 2012. His next collection, Light At The End Of The Tenner, will be released this year.

Graham Clifford is an exciting new voice, a strikingly distinctive poet who has already published a prize-winning pamphlet and

App store
for iphone



Google play
for android



acclaimed collection. (The Hitting Game, Seren). His work has been described as 'flamboyant and unsettling, inventive and grounded, witty and vulnerable'.

Anna Saunders is the author of *Communion* (Wild Conversations Press) and *Struck* (Pindrop Press). Anna has been described as a 'poet of quite remarkable gifts' by Bernard O' Donoghue and *Struck* has been described as 'a very fine, beautifully sustained collection by a gifted poet whose work is unfolding in remarkable directions' by Nick Drake.



Jo Hemmant's poems have been published in *Magma*, *Iota*, *Dream Catcher*, *Jericho* (Cinnamon Press, 2012) and *nothing left to burn* (Ragged Raven Press, 2011) and she has won first prize in The New Writer Poetry and Prose Competition 2011 (collection category), second prize in the Torriano Poetry Competition in 2011 and runner-up in the Cardiff International Poetry Competition 2012. Her collection *The Light Know Tricks* has been published recently by Doire Press and she's been praised for her A 'cool eye, acute ear and luminous imagination'.



Aoife Mannix has become an instantly recognisable voice on the UK live literature scene for her accessible yet distinctly powerful verse. Aoife is the author of four collections of poetry: *The Trick of Foreign Words* (2002); *The Elephant in the Corner* (2005); *Growing Up An Alien* (2007) and *Turn The Clocks Upside Down* (2008). Aoife Mannix is the official blogger for Cityread London 2014.

**How to get published – from pitch to publication with
Carole Blake and Isabel Losada**

Battersea Arts Centre

Four hour workshop

Please submit, in advance, the first 1,000 words of whatever you'd like to get published, your submission letter (as you would write it to an agent) and a short synopsis of the rest of your book (maximum length 500 words).

Please mark your submission as to whether you would like Carole to critique it openly, for your benefit and the benefit of the group. 10 of those submitted will be chosen for discussion in the first part of the workshop between 3pm and 5 pm. Those not being critiqued will also learn from the feedback.

There will then be a one hour break for food (we will disperse to local cafes) and chatter and then the second half of the workshop between 6pm and 8pm will give the opportunity for some entertainment and an extensive Q & A following on from the questions raised in the afternoon session.

But it's not essential to submit anything to attend the workshop. You can also come along if you just have an idea of something you may like to write and would like to benefit from the critiques, Q&A sessions, and receive some guidelines on submitting – as well as receiving insight into the way the publishing professionals assess work.

Please send your 1st thousand words (the beginning of the book not the middle) your submission letter and synopsis (Closing date August 18th) to Lorinda Freint, Unit 5, third floor, Culvert House, Culvert Road, SW11 5AP

Please only submit your work if you are sure you can attend the workshop. Fifty places Maximum. Booking essential.

Carole Blake has worked in publishing for 50 years. She is a past President of the Association of Authors' Agents. In 2013 Carole was the recipient of the Pandora Award for 'significant and sustained contribution to the publishing industry.' She is also the author of *From Pitch to Publication: Everything You Need to*



Know to Get Your Novel Published. now in its 13th printing and still used as a training manual by publishing houses and literary agencies. She is the Joint Managing Director at Blake Friedman Literary Agency and head of the book department.

Isabel Losada is the author of: *New Habits* (Hodder & Stoughton) *The Battersea Park Road to Enlightenment* (Bloomsbury) *For Tibet, With Love* (Bloomsbury) *Men!* (Virgin) and *The Battersea Park Road to Paradise* (Watkins) plus two further titles to be published in 2015. She is also the proud owner of a huge number of rejection letters.

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Booking

Payment for tickets can be made:

In person at: Waterstones, 70 St John's Road, SW11 5TN
Battersea Arts Centre: Box Office is open for bookings in person 10am-10pm Mon to Fri and Midday-10pm Saturday.

By telephone: Between 10am-6pm Mon to Fri and Midday-6pm Sat on 020 7223 2223.

Online: www.bac.org.uk

For general information please call Lorinda Freint 020 7627 3182