



Literature Festival at Sea



In partnership with

THE TIMES | THE SUNDAY TIMES | TIMES RADIO

CHELTENHAM

Literature
Festival

19-26 November 2023

QUEEN MARY 2



Welcome

We're delighted to welcome you on board the magnificent Queen Mary 2 for the Literature Festival at Sea, in partnership with Cheltenham Literature Festival, *The Times* and *Sunday Times*.

Find yourself absorbed in a true literary haven, surrounded by fellow book lovers. This event, curated by the programming team of Cheltenham Festivals, sees authors, journalists, comedians, critics, and historians unite, bringing the spirit of the Festival to your voyage.

Celebrate the written word in all its variety thanks to this seven-day programme of inspiring events – details of which can be found throughout this booklet.

Find bookish delights around every corner, as well as fabulous dining, impeccable service and a varied enrichment programme, on this voyage that promises to both elevate and inspire.



Our partners



The Times and Sunday Times Cheltenham Literature Festival is the world’s longest-running Literature Festival and continues to lead the way in celebrating the written and spoken word. The Festival presents the best new voices in fiction, non-fiction and poetry alongside literary greats and high-profile speakers, while inspiring over 15,000 school children in our year-round national reading programme.

Cheltenham Literature Festival is part of Cheltenham Festivals – a charity delivering a pioneering year-round educational programme culminating in four internationally-acclaimed Jazz, Science, Music and Literature Festivals. Cheltenham Festivals creates experiences which bring joy, spark curiosity, connect communities and inspire change.

As proud partners of Cunard, The Times and Sunday Times Cheltenham Literature Festival is pleased to present the Literature Festival at Sea, an exclusive programme of events, curated especially for this voyage and underpinned by the quality of delivery that is Cheltenham Festivals’ hallmark.



Credit: Still Moving Media for Cheltenham Festivals



Quality journalism is at the heart of *The Times*, *The Sunday Times* and *Times Radio*. Offering balanced, trusted and insightful coverage so readers and listeners can navigate the world around them feeling well-informed. Access world-class journalism wherever you are, whatever you’re doing; from reading the daily edition on the Classic app to staying up-to-date throughout the day with The Times Live app. Go beyond the headlines by listening to insight and analysis on *Times Radio* and Times podcasts for free.

Join journalists from *The Times*, *The Sunday Times* and *Times Radio* on board this voyage for a series of engaging events and talks.



Our speakers

We're joined on board by literary experts who will offer their unique insight on topics ranging from politics, history and current affairs to fashion, and their favourite reads.

In addition each of our authors will be offering book signings in the Grand Lobby throughout the week. Visit the on board shops to browse and purchase from their collection of works.



Marcus Brigstocke

A multi-award-winning actor, writer and stand-up comedian, Marcus has appeared on *Have I Got News For You*, *Live At The Apollo* and *Question Time* and is a regular on BBC Radio 4. He has also written and directed the award-winning play *The Red*.



Matt Chorley

Matt presents the weekday political show on *Times Radio*, and writes a column for *The Times* drawing on almost two decades of covering Westminster. He has turned his journalism career into two standup tours, *This Is Not Normal* and *Who Is In Charge Here?*



Clare Clark

Author of seven critically acclaimed novels, Clare's books have been translated into seven languages. Her debut novel was shortlisted for the CWA Debut Dagger. She regularly reviews fiction and non-fiction for *The Guardian*, *New York Times* and *Washington Post*.



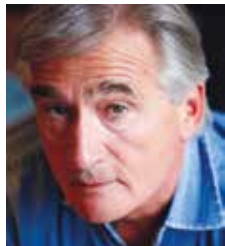
Chris Clark

Chris has an extensive background in advertising and financial services working with Saatchi & Saatchi, Aviva and HSBC. His brand strategy and marketing expertise have led him to speak on live television and radio and even at The Pentagon.



Yvonne Battle-Felton

An accomplished author and academic, Yvonne's novel, *Remembered* was longlisted for the Woman's Prize for Fiction and shortlisted for the Jhalak Prize. She has published six children's titles and is Senior Commissioning Editor at John Murray.



Antony Beevor

With an impressive roster of prize-winning books, including *Crete*, *Stalingrad* and the international best seller *Arnhem*, Antony's work has sold more than 8 million copies. He has been awarded the Chevalier des Arts et Lettres accolade and was knighted in 2017.



Alison Bonomi

Alison is the founder of LBA Books, one of the UK's leading small literary agencies. An author herself, she writes Regency romance novels such as *The Runaway Heiress* and *The Second Lady of Silverwood*, under the pen name Emma Orchard.



Luigi Bonomi

Responsible for launching many literary careers, Luigi is a former Editorial Director turned literary agent. In 2005 he co-founded the LBA Literacy Agency with his wife Alison, representing household names such as Kirstie Allsopp, Fern Britton, Alan Titchmarsh and Sir Terry Wogan.



Artemis Cooper

Artemis is a prolific author whose books include *Cairo in the War, 1939-1945*; *Writing at the Kitchen Table*, *Elizabeth Jane Howard: A Dangerous Innocence*, and *Paris After the Liberation 1944-1949*, which she wrote with her husband, the author Antony Beevor.



Daniel Finkelstein

Daniel Finkelstein is the Associate Editor, Columnist and Lead Writer for *The Times*. He has a political column in the comment section and writes the *Fink Tank* for the *Saturday* paper. He also sits in the House of Lords as Lord Finkelstein.



Andrew Hunter Murray

An author, comedian and broadcaster, Andrew's *Sunday Times* bestselling novel *The Last Day* was a top ten fiction debut in 2020. He is co-host of the podcast *No Such Thing As A Fish*, and has written for *QI* and *Private Eye* magazine.



Alan Johnson

Alan's political career saw him serve as Home Secretary, Health Secretary and Education Secretary under Labour. His various memoirs have won the Royal Society of Literature Ondaatje Prize, the Orwell Prize, and the Parliamentary Book Award for Best Memoir.



Paterson Joseph

A beloved British actor and writer, Paterson has starred in *Vigil*, *Noughts and Crosses* and *Peep Show*. He plays the role of Arthur Slugworth in the forthcoming *Wonka* movie. *The Secret Diaries of Charles Ignatius Sancho* is his debut novel.



Peter Kemp

Peter is the chief fiction critic of *The Sunday Times* and has been a judge for numerous literary prizes including the Booker Prize and the Whitbread Novel Of The Year. He often broadcasts for the BBC for *Open Book* and *Saturday Review*.



Lynda La Plante

Actress and writer, Lynda made her writing breakthrough with the hugely successful TV series, *Widows*. She has written and produced over 170 hours of international television and has written numerous internationally bestselling novels.



Clare Mackintosh

The multi-award-winning author of the crime novel *I Let You Go*, Clare's subsequent novels, *I See You* and *Let Me Lie*, were also number one *Sunday Times* bestsellers. Clare's books have been published in more than 40 countries.



Anna Murphy

Anna was the launch editor of *Stella* magazine at the *Sunday Telegraph* and joined *The Times* as Fashion Director in 2015. She regularly writes about fashion and its social role. Her latest book is called *Destination Fabulous*.



Rachel Parris

Rachel is a BAFTA award-nominated comedian, musician and improviser, known for her satirical segments from BBC2's *The Mash Report*, and her performances on *Live At The Apollo*, *Mock The Week*, *QI*, and as an actress on *The IT Crowd*.



Kavita Puri

An award-winning journalist, executive producer and broadcaster, Kavita wrote and presented the landmark series *Partition Voices* for BBC Radio 4. She also created and presents the Radio 4 series *Three Pounds in My Pocket* as well as *The Inquiry*.



Hugo Rifkind

Columnist, critic, writer for *The Times* and presenter on *Times Radio*, Hugo's career includes writing for *The Spectator* and *GQ*. As a journalist, he has won two Press Awards, three Comment Awards and one Stonewall Award.



Val McDermid

One of the UK's most accomplished and respected novelists, Val McDermid has sold over 19 million books. Best-known for her *Wire in the Blood* series, she has also published several award-winning novels and regularly features on TV and radio.



Hashi Mohamed

A broadcaster, author and barrister at Landmark Chambers, Hashi presents documentaries on BBC Radio 4 and writes for *The Times*, and *Prospect Magazine*. His book *People Like Us* was published in 2020, and *A Home of One's Own* followed in 2022.



Greg Mosse

Greg is a published poet, novelist and non-fiction writer and prolific stage writer. Plays include *Self Help*, *Who Cares* and *The Highwayman*. His extensive experience has led him to run writing workshops for Guardian Masterclasses and the Southbank Centre.



Kate Mosse

An internationally bestselling novelist, playwright and non-fiction writer, Kate is behind the multimillion-selling Languedoc Trilogy (*Labyrinth*, *Sepulchre* and *Citadel*). Her books have been translated into 37 languages. She is also the Founder Director of the Women's Prize for Fiction.



Richard Rogan

Richard has been editing the cryptic crosswords for *The Times* since 2014. He does an annual stint at the Cheltenham Literature Festival, where he leads an informal café session, taking solvers through the day's cryptic and quick cryptic crossword.



Douglas Stuart

Douglas is known for his first novel *Shuggie Bain*, written largely in secret over 10 years and which won the Man Booker Prize in 2020. His second novel *Young Mungo* was a number one bestseller. Both novels are being adapted for television. He is working on his third book.



Alan Titchmarsh

Gardener, writer, novelist and broadcaster, Alan is best-known for television programmes such as *Ground Force*, and *Secrets of the National Trust*. He is also an author of over fifty gardening books and twelve novels, including ten *Sunday Times* best-sellers.



Julia Wheeler

An experienced journalist, Julia once worked as the BBC's Gulf Correspondent. A frequent chair at various festivals including Cheltenham (Literature and Science), she is an author herself and wrote the award-winning book *Telling Tales: An Oral History of Dubai*.

Day planner: Monday 20 November

| | Royal Court Theatre | Illuminations | Commodore Club | Carinthia Lounge |
|------|---|---|-----------------------------------|--|
| 9am | | | | |
| 10am | Val McDermid: A Life of Crime | <i>The Times</i> : Behind the Headlines | <i>The Times</i> Crossword Solver | |
| 11am | Antony Beevor: Russia, Revolution and Civil War | Behind the Scenes: How We Put a Festival Together | | |
| 12pm | | Yvonne Battle-Felton: Writing Remembered | | |
| 1pm | Cheese and Whine | | | |
| 2pm | | Destination Fabulous | | |
| 3pm | The Beatles: A Musical Memoir | | | |
| 4pm | | | | |
| 5pm | | | | |
| 6pm | | | | |
| 7pm | | | | Alan Titchmarsh: Marigolds, Myrtle and Moles |

Join a literary masterclass

Throughout the voyage, you can join a series of insightful workshops led by best-selling authors, journalists and historians. Perhaps you'll enjoy a masterclass in brainstorming plots with writer **Greg Mosse** and literary agent **Luigi Bonomi** or learn to structure a novel with award-winning author **Clare Mackintosh**.

All our workshops are designed for small groups, are by sign up only and are at an additional charge. Events that require sign up are highlighted throughout this booklet. Unless stated, all other events do not require prior sign up.

You can reserve your place via My Voyage, our on board digital planner, from 9.00am on Monday 20 November. Hover your smart device's camera over the QR code below* or go to myvoyage.cunard.com to book. Workshops can be found in the Entertainment section.



*Smart devices must be connected to the ship's Wi-Fi network Cunard_Guest_WIFI. Log-in required. Access to My Voyage is complimentary and does not require an internet package.

Monday 20 November

9.45-11.45am

Val McDermid: A Life of Crime

Time: 9.45-10.30am

Venue: Royal Court Theatre

One of the UK's most accomplished and respected crime writers, **Val McDermid** has sold over 19 million books across the globe and is translated into more than 40 languages. She talks to critic **Peter Kemp** about her amazing career and compelling writing.



Val McDermid

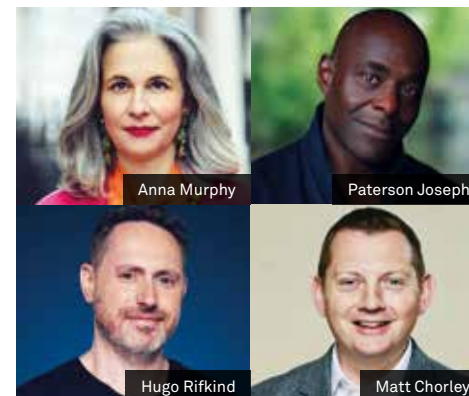
Peter Kemp

The Times: Behind the Headlines

Time: 10.00-10.30am

Venue: Illuminations

Join journalists from *The Times* and *Sunday Times* and some of our speakers as they delve into the day's news, looking at the headlines and the stories behind them. Chaired by **Matt Chorley**.



Anna Murphy

Paterson Joseph

Hugo Rifkind

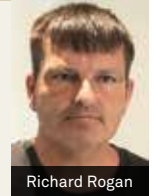
Matt Chorley

The Times Crossword Solver

Time: 10.15-11.00am

Venue: Commodore Club

If you're someone who likes the idea of being able to complete *The Times* cryptic crossword, but doesn't know where to start, or you attempt them, but need a bit of help learning the lingo, then **Richard Rogan**, *The Times* crossword editor, is on board to lend a hand and give advice. With a different crossword to solve every day, this is a must for all you lovers of confusing clues and dastardly descriptors.



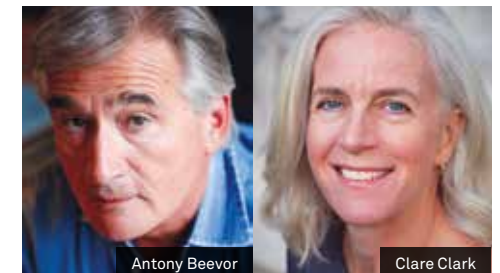
Richard Rogan

Antony Beevor: Russia, Revolution and Civil War

Time: 11.00-11.45am

Venue: Royal Court Theatre

The chaos that followed the collapse of the Tsarist regime of Nicholas II in 1917 coloured Russia's fortunes for decades to come. Author **Antony Beevor** talks to **Clare Clark** addressing the complexities of 20th century Russian history and discussing how events of that time are mirrored in the world today.



Antony Beevor

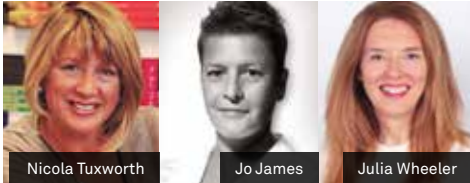
Clare Clark

**Behind the Scenes:
How We Put a Festival Together**

Time: 11.15am-12.00pm

Venue: Illuminations

How does an event like the Literature Festival at Sea take shape? Programmer and Festival Manager **Jo James** and Cheltenham Literature Festival's Head of Programming **Nicola Tuxworth** talks to **Julia Wheeler** about how meticulous planning, juggling and trouble-shooting are part of the roller-coaster ride of Festival planning, and it's all part of the fun!



**Yvonne Battle-Felton:
Writing Remembered**

Time: 12.30-1.15pm

Venue: Illuminations



Novelist **Yvonne Battle-Felton** talks to **Kate Mosse** about her book *Remembered*, which highlights the issues and long-term effects of enslavement, from the harsh realities of life for slaves in 19th century America to the struggle to find family, self, and belonging in a post-emancipation America.



Cheese and Whine

Time: 1.15-2.00pm

Venue: Royal Court Theatre

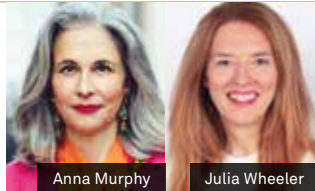
After a sell out run at the Edinburgh Festival in August **Marcus Brigstocke** is delighted to bring 'Cheese and Whine' to Cunard. An international cheese judge and an award-winning comedian – Marcus will be pairing some of the world's finest cheeses with your whines in his hilarious and delicious show.

Destination Fabulous

Time: 2.00-2.45pm

Venue: Illuminations

Celebrating rather than dreading our advancing years can be a challenge. But Fashion Director of *The Times* **Anna Murphy** has provided a toolkit to embrace your age and the wisdom and inner beauty that goes with it in her book *Destination Fabulous*. She talks about the pleasures of growing older and gives tips on making the most of it. Chaired by **Julia Wheeler**.



The Beatles: A Musical Memoir

Time: 2.45-3.30pm

Venue: Royal Court Theatre

Political columnist and commentator **Daniel Finkelstein** and former Labour MP **Alan Johnson** are huge fans of The Beatles. Here they discuss the Fab Four's music and the impact they had on 20th century social and cultural life, with the broadcaster and columnist from *The Times* **Hugo Rifkind**.



Alan Titchmarsh: Marigolds, Myrtle and Moles

Time: 7.15-7.45pm

Venue: Carinthia Lounge

Famous for sunflowers rather than sonnets, gardener **Alan Titchmarsh** is also a prolific poet as he demonstrates in his book of verse *Marigolds, Myrtle and Moles*. Join him as he recites some of his own poems, many of which reflect his love for the beauty of the natural world.

Day planner: Tuesday 21 November

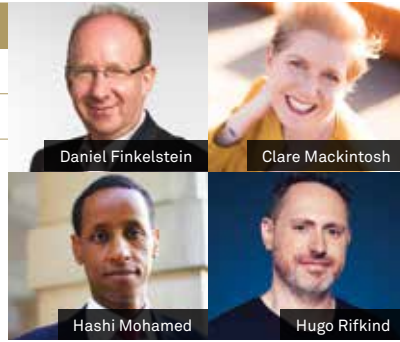
| | |
|-------------|----------------------|
| Grand Lobby | |
| From 2.45pm | Author Book Signings |

| | Royal Court Theatre | ConneXions 4 | ConneXions 5 | Illuminations | Commodore Club | Carinthia Lounge |
|------|--|-----------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------------|--|
| 9am | <i>The Times: Behind the Headlines</i> | | | | | |
| 10am | | How to Get a Literary Agent | How to Write Dialogue | | <i>The Times Crossword Solver</i> | |
| 11am | Poetry Please | | | Peter Kemp: Retroland | | |
| 12pm | | | | | | |
| 1pm | In Conversation with Kate Mosse | | | | | |
| 2pm | In Conversation with Paterson Joseph | How to Write Cosy Crime | | | | |
| 3pm | | | | | | |
| 4pm | | | | | | |
| 5pm | | | | Publishing Unpacked | | |
| 6pm | | | | | | |
| 7pm | | | | | | All at Sea: Improv in the Carinthia Lounge |



The Times: Behind the Headlines
Time: 9.15-9.45am
Venue: Royal Court Theatre

Join journalists from *The Times* and *Sunday Times* and some of our speakers as they delve into the day's news, looking at the headlines and the stories behind them. **Daniel Finkelstein**, **Clare Mackintosh**, **Hashi Mohamed** and chaired by **Hugo Rifkind**.



Tuesday 21 November

9.15-11.45am

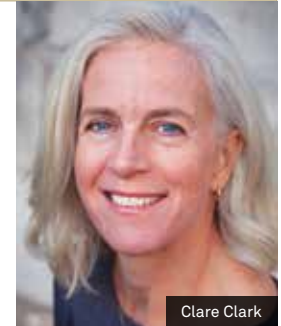
How to Get a Literary Agent SIGN UP REQUIRED \$
Time: 9.45-11.45am
Venue: ConneXions 4


How do you approach an agent? What makes your manuscript attractive among so many others? Join literary agent **Luigi Bonomi** who will share tips and guide you on your initial covering letter, your synopsis and your submission package, so by the end of the workshop, you will be fully equipped to send your work off to agents.



How to Write Dialogue SIGN UP REQUIRED \$
Time: 9.45-11.45am
Venue: ConneXions 5

Good dialogue is indispensable. It drives plot forward and brings characters to life on the page. But it can be difficult to get right. In this session award-winning author **Clare Clark** will show you how to write convincing dialogue that engages readers and draws them deep into the world of your story.



The Times Crossword Solver 
Time: 10.15-11.00am
Venue: Commodore Club

Your daily cryptic crossword awaits, hosted by *The Times* crossword editor, **Richard Rogan**.

Poetry Please
Time: 11.00-11.45am
Venue: Royal Court Theatre

A panel of poetry lovers including novelist and former MP **Alan Johnson**, gardening guru and part-time poet **Alan Titchmarsh**, actor and author **Paterson Joseph** and novelist **Yvonne Battle-Felton** come together to choose and read some of their favourite poems and discuss what makes them so important.



Peter Kemp: Retroland

Time: 11.15am-12.00pm

Venue: Illuminations

Are writers preoccupied with the past? Writer and critic **Peter Kemp**, author of *Retroland*, discusses why so many novels dwell on times gone by rather than the here and now and the many factors that colour and influence our favourite contemporary fiction. Chaired by **Julia Wheeler**.



Peter Kemp

In Conversation with Kate Mosse

Time: 12.45-1.30pm

Venue: Royal Court Theatre

Where better than at sea to celebrate **Kate Mosse's** latest No 1 international bestselling novel, *The Ghost Ship*, a 17th century pirate novel set in the Atlantic Ocean inspired by the female buccaneers Anne Bonny and Mary Read. Kate burst onto the literary scene with *Labryinth* in 2005, and also writes plays and non-fiction - including *Warrior Queens & Quiet Revolutionaries* and a memoir about caring, *An Extra Pair of Hands*. Join the Founder and Director of the Women's Prizes for Fiction and Non-Fiction, Kate, in conversation with **Julia Wheeler**.



Kate Mosse

Julia Wheeler

How to Write Cosy Crime

SIGN UP REQUIRED \$

Time: 2.00-4.00pm

Venue: ConneXions 4

A classic mystery story imagines a closed world into which murder erupts. The detective - amateur or professional - must solve the puzzle and reinstate the previous status quo. Justice must be served for 'cosiness' to reign once more. Writer **Greg Mosse** will reveal how to make the puzzle solvable, without too many readers guessing the ending!



Greg Mosse

In Conversation with Paterson Joseph

Time: 2.15-3.00pm

Venue: Royal Court Theatre

Author, actor and Chancellor of Oxford Brookes University, **Paterson Joseph** talks to biographer **Artemis Cooper** about his life and work, and his debut novel, *The Secret Diaries of Charles Ignatius Sancho*.



Paterson Joseph

Artemis Cooper

Author Book Signings

Time: From 2.45pm

Venue: Grand Lobby

The authors speaking at the Literature Festival at Sea will be signing their books during the crossing. Browse and purchase yours in the on board shops and get them signed today by **Antony Beevor**, **Yvonne Battle-Felton**, **Val McDermid** and **Alan Johnson**.



Antony Beevor

Yvonne Battle-Felton

Val McDermid

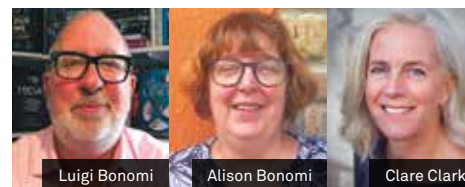
Alan Johnson

Publishing Unpacked

Time: 4.45-5.30pm

Venue: Illuminations

What does an agent do? Do you need a traditional publisher? And just how long does it all take? Literary agent **Luigi Bonomi** and author **Alison Bonomi** answer all your questions about the publishing process from the first submission of a manuscript to publication and promotion. Chaired by novelist **Clare Clark**.



Luigi Bonomi

Alison Bonomi

Clare Clark



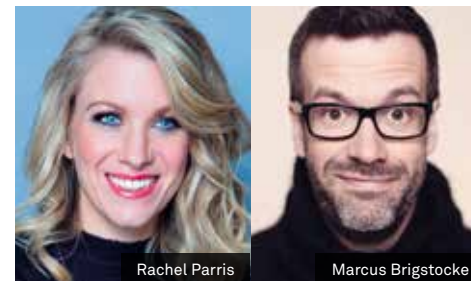
Carinthia Lounge

All at Sea: Improv in the Carinthia Lounge

Time: 7.00-7.45pm

Venue: Carinthia Lounge

Join us for hilarity and high jinks as husband-and-wife comedians **Rachel Parris** and **Marcus Brigstocke** put on an improvised comedy show, with the topics decided by you, the audience.



Rachel Parris

Marcus Brigstocke

Day planner: Wednesday 22 November

| | |
|-------------|----------------------|
| Grand Lobby | |
| From 2.45pm | Author Book Signings |

| | Royal Court Theatre | ConneXions 4 | ConneXions 5 | Illuminations | Commodore Club | Carinthia Lounge |
|------|---|-------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--|-----------------------------------|------------------|
| 9am | | | | | | |
| 10am | Daniel Finkelstein: Hitler, Stalin, Mum and Dad | How to Create Your Characters | How to Tell a Tale | <i>The Times: Behind the Headlines</i> | <i>The Times Crossword Solver</i> | |
| 11am | Growing Old(er) Disgracefully | | | Artemis Cooper: The Biographer's Art | | |
| 12pm | In Conversation with Lynda La Plante | | | Scotland: A Literary Landscape | | |
| 1pm | What's So Special About Jane Austen? | | | In Conversation with Hashi Mohamed | | |
| 2pm | | Dessert Island Dishes | Inside <i>The Times</i> Crossword | | | |
| 3pm | British Politics Unpacked | | | Finding Your Style | | |
| 4pm | | | | | | |
| 5pm | | | | | | An Actor Recites |

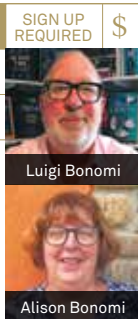


Grand Lobby

How to Create Your Characters SIGN UP REQUIRED \$

Time: 9.45-11.45am

Venue: ConneXions 4



Luigi Bonomi

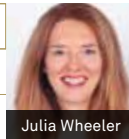
Alison Bonomi

A strong character often leads and drives a plot. How do you create such a character? From Sherlock Holmes to Jack Reacher, Hercule Poirot to Hannibal Lecter, look at some iconic characters and how they are portrayed in film with literary agent **Luigi Bonomi** and author **Alison Bonomi** and gain a better understanding of how they are introduced for dramatic effect.

How to Tell a Tale SIGN UP REQUIRED \$

Time: 9.45-11.45am

Venue: ConneXions 5



Julia Wheeler

Try your hand at oral storytelling in a small, supportive group. Discover why we're hard-wired to use stories to connect with each other. Uncover autobiographical stories that you had forgotten you knew, and learn techniques to bring them to life for your audience. In this workshop, **Julia Wheeler**, former BBC foreign correspondent, journalist and writer will encourage participants to explore and tell personal stories – for family, friends or perhaps as part of a journey towards memoir.

Wednesday 22 November

9.45am-12.00pm

Daniel Finkelstein: Hitler, Stalin, Mum and Dad

Time: 9.45-10.30am

Venue: Royal Court Theatre



Daniel Finkelstein

Antony Beevor

The horrors of his parents' suffering at the hands of both Hitler and Stalin are addressed in **Daniel Finkelstein's** brilliant work *Hitler, Stalin, Mum and Dad*. He joins historian and author **Antony Beevor** in reflecting on a generation's experiences of persecution, resistance and survival during the Second World War.

The Times: Behind the Headlines

Time: 10.00-10.30am

Venue: Illuminations

Join journalists from *The Times* and *Sunday Times* and some of our speakers as they delve into the day's news, looking at the headlines and the stories behind them. Chaired by **Matt Chorley**.



Kate Mosse

Marcus Brigstocke

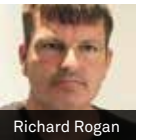
Kavita Puri

Matt Chorley

The Times Crossword Solver

Time: 10.15-11.00am

Venue: Commodore Club



Richard Rogan

Your daily cryptic crossword awaits, hosted by *The Times* crossword editor, **Richard Rogan**.

Growing Old(er) Disgracefully

Time: 11.00-11.45am

Venue: Royal Court Theatre



From left to right: Lynda La Plante, Alan Titchmarsh, Alan Johnson and Anna Murphy

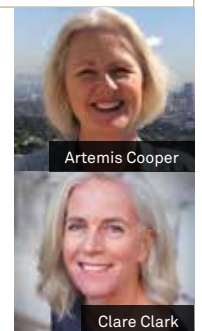
Does the thought of growing old fill you with fear? **Lynda La Plante**, **Alan Titchmarsh** and **Alan Johnson** are here to reassure you that you can join them in growing old disgracefully and demonstrate the fun (and naughtiness) that can be had along the way. Chaired by **Anna Murphy**.

Artemis Cooper: The Biographer's Art

Time: 11.15am-12.00pm

Venue: Illuminations

How do biographers approach the challenge of writing about another's life and experiences? Biographer **Artemis Cooper** talks with novelist **Clare Clark** about the art of getting under someone's skin.



Artemis Cooper

Clare Clark

In Conversation with Lynda La Plante

Time: 12.15-1.00pm

Venue: Royal Court Theatre

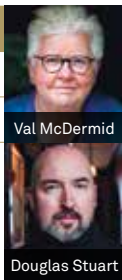


Born in Liverpool, **Lynda La Plante** trained for the stage at RADA and worked with the National Theatre and on the small screen. Turning to writing, she made her breakthrough with the phenomenally successful series *Widows*. Her thrilling crime novels have all been international bestsellers and her much-acclaimed BAFTA and Emmy award-winning *Prime Suspect* broke new ground for TV heroines, with Helen Mirren unforgettable as DCI Jane Tennison. She reflects on her amazing journey with fellow crime writer **Clare Mackintosh**.

Scotland: A Literary Landscape

Time: 12.30-1.15pm

Venue: Illuminations



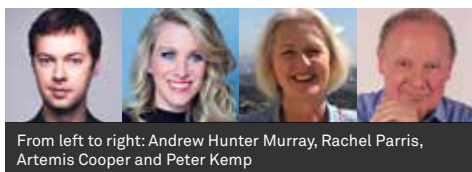
Join Scottish novelists **Val McDermid** and **Douglas Stuart** as they celebrate and reflect on the history, diversity and enduring popularity of all aspects of Scottish literature.

What's So Special About Jane Austen?

Time: 1.30-2.15pm

Venue: Royal Court Theatre

With her legions of fans across the globe, why do Jane Austen's novels continue to enthrall us? Writer, comedian and co-founder of improvised hit show *Austenatious*, **Andrew Hunter Murray**, joins writer, comedian and fellow *Austenatious* co-founder, **Rachel Parris**, biographer **Artemis Cooper** and critic **Peter Kemp** as they reflect on what makes the 18th century novelist so special.

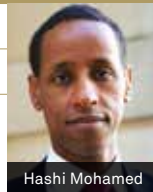


From left to right: Andrew Hunter Murray, Rachel Parris, Artemis Cooper and Peter Kemp

In Conversation with Hashi Mohamed

Time: 1.45-2.30pm

Venue: Illuminations

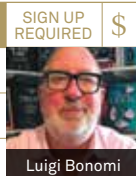


Hashi Mohamed came to Britain aged nine, as an unaccompanied child refugee. He attended some of Britain's worst schools and was raised exclusively on state benefits. Yet today he is a successful barrister, documentary maker and author. He talks to **Clare Clark** about his extraordinary family history, his campaigning work and his books: *People Like Us* and *A Home of One's Own*.

Dessert Island Dishes

Time: 2.00-4.00pm

Venue: ConneXions 4



Taste and smell are two of our most evocative senses. What better way to kick start writing about your life, than taking six dishes, and telling the story of each one. The journey down your very own food memory lane, which can help you reflect on life's special moments. Agent and foodie **Luigi Bonomi** will be your guide along this particular road, sharing some of his own life-defining dishes.

Inside *The Times* Crossword

SIGN UP REQUIRED \$

Time: 2.00-4.00pm

Venue: ConneXions 5



Ever wondered what those cryptic clues underneath *The Times* crossword mean? Come along and go from bafflement to enlightenment: from anagrams and charades, to homophones and double definitions, **Richard Rogan** will decode the devious devices of the devilish *Times* crossword setters, taking you inside their twisted minds. For more experienced solvers, there will be tips on how to improve and for all, a few insights into the job of the crossword editor.

Author Book Signings

Time: From 2.45pm

Venue: Grand Lobby

The authors speaking at the Literature Festival at Sea will be signing their books during the crossing. Browse and purchase yours in the on-board shops and get them signed today by **Paterson Joseph**, **Hashi Mohamed**, **Kate Mosse** and **Alan Titchmarsh**.

British Politics Unpacked

Time: 2.45-3.45pm

Venue: Royal Court Theatre



One of the UK's most widely read columnists and member of the House of Lords **Daniel Finkelstein** unravels the complicated world of politics and provides some illuminating insights into how the system works.

Finding Your Style

Time: 3.00-3.45pm

Venue: Illuminations

Do you want to liven up your wardrobe, but need some inspiration? Join **Anna Murphy**, Fashion Director at *The Times*, as she picks out her favourite trends from this season's catwalks, and shows you how to make them work in the real world. Sharing top tips and styling tricks, Anna will suggest some easy ways to add a splash of brilliance to your autumn/winter look.



An Actor Recites

Time: 5.30-6.00pm

Venue: Carinthia Lounge

Hear a master at work! Actor and author **Paterson Joseph** recites some of his favourite speeches from life and literature.



Day planner: Thursday 23 November

| | |
|-------------|----------------------|
| Grand Lobby | |
| From 2.45pm | Author Book Signings |

| | Royal Court Theatre | ConneXions 4 | ConneXions 5 | Illuminations | Commodore Club | Carinthia Lounge |
|------|--|---------------------------------|--------------------------|---|-----------------------------------|---|
| 9am | | | | | | |
| 10am | Books of the Year | Brainstorming Plots | How to Write a Memoir | <i>The Times: Behind the Headlines</i> | <i>The Times Crossword Solver</i> | |
| 11am | Alan Johnson: From Politics to Prose | | | Clare Clark: Trespass | | |
| 12pm | Thanksgiving: The Books That I'm Most Grateful For | | | Andrew Hunter Murray: Fantastic Fiction | | |
| 1pm | Behind the Scenes on Queen Mary 2 | | | In Conversation with Greg Mosse | | |
| 2pm | | How to Write Historical Fiction | How to Structure a Novel | In Conversation with Douglas Stuart | | |
| 3pm | Planes, Trains and Toilet Doors | | | | | |
| 4pm | | | | | | |
| 5pm | | | | | | |
| 6pm | | | | | | |
| 7pm | | | | | | An Old-Fashioned... |
| 8pm | | | | | | |
| 9pm | | | | | | |
| 10pm | | | | | | I Knew That! The Ultimate Late Night Quiz |

Brainstorming Plots SIGN UP REQUIRED \$
Time: 9.45-11.45am
Venue: ConneXions 4

Agents and their authors regularly brainstorm plots together. In this workshop, hosted by writer **Greg Mosse** and literary agent **Luigi Bonomi**, you will be devising brand new plots in a variety of genres including romance, crime, thrillers and family dramas.



How to Write a Memoir SIGN UP REQUIRED \$
Time: 9.45-11.45am
Venue: ConneXions 5

We are constantly weaving our private, family and working lives into stories: but how do you shape the story you want to tell into a memoir? Biographer

Artemis Cooper talks you through the choices and challenges of memoir writing, and gives you the tools to get started.



Thursday 23 November

9.45am-1.00pm



From left to right: Peter Kemp, Nicola Tuxworth, Kate Mosse and Julia Wheeler

Books of the Year
Time: 9.45-10.30am
Venue: Royal Court Theatre

Critic **Peter Kemp**, Cheltenham Literature Festival's Head of Programming **Nicola Tuxworth** and author and Founder Director of the Women's Prizes **Kate Mosse** discuss their favourite reads of the year, and the books they're looking forward to reading next. Chaired by **Julia Wheeler**.

The Times: Behind the Headlines
Time: 10.00-10.30am
Venue: Illuminations

Join journalists from *The Times* and *Sunday Times* and some of our speakers as they delve into the day's news, looking at the headlines and the stories behind them. **Alison Bonomi**, **Andrew Hunter Murray**, **Alan Johnson** and chaired by **Marcus Brigstocke**.

The Times Crossword Solver
Time: 10.15-11.00am
Venue: Commodore Club

Your daily cryptic crossword awaits, hosted by *The Times* crossword editor, **Richard Rogan**.



Alan Johnson: From Politics to Prose
Time: 11.00-11.45am
Venue: Royal Court Theatre

Former Labour Home Secretary, keen music fan and writer **Alan Johnson** endured a deprived childhood but rose to one of the highest offices in the land and is now an award-winning memoirist and novelist. He sits down with journalist and *The Times* columnist **Hugo Rifkind**.



Clare Clark: Trespass
Time: 11.15am-12.00pm
Venue: Illuminations

When your past is all a lie – who are you? Award-winning novelist **Clare Clark** talks to fiction critic **Peter Kemp** about her latest book, *Trespass*, a provocative, moving and timely examination of lies and duplicity, based on shocking real events.

Andrew Hunter Murray: Fantastic Fiction
Time: 12.15-1.00pm
Venue: Illuminations

Andrew Hunter Murray is an author, comedian and broadcaster. He is one of the co-hosts of the podcast *No Such Thing As A Fish*, which has racked up 450 million downloads and toured the world. He also spent 14 years as one of the writers behind BBC2's *QI*, and part of the team writing jokes and journalism at *Private Eye* magazine. He talks to **Julia Wheeler** about his gripping dystopian novels *The Sanctuary* and *The Last Day*.

12.30-4.00pm

Thursday 23 November

Thursday 23 November

2.45-11.00pm



Royal Court Theatre

Thanksgiving: The Books That I'm Most Grateful For

Time: 12.30-1.15pm

Venue: Royal Court Theatre

Everyone has a few books that have particularly influenced, inspired or even changed them. To celebrate Thanksgiving, **Kate Mosse**, **Hugo Rifkind** and **Kavita Puri** talk about the books for which they are most thankful. Chaired by **Clare Clark**.

Behind the Scenes on Queen Mary 2

Time: 1.30-2.15pm

Venue: Royal Court Theatre

Discover what goes on behind the scenes of our remarkable flagship Queen Mary 2. How many pets cross the Atlantic with us each year? How many bottles of wine are drunk? How many crew members are on board, and what do they all do? Find out the answers to these questions and more, as **Julia Wheeler** talks to the people in the know.

In Conversation with Greg Mosse

Time: 1.45-2.30pm

Venue: Illuminations

Writer and director **Greg Mosse** joins **Hashi Mohamed** in this wide-ranging conversation. They discuss writing in its many forms, as well as Greg's novels: the "cli-fi" thriller *The Coming Darkness* which he wrote in lockdown, and his latest cosy crime mystery, *Murder at Church Lodge*.

| | | |
|--|---------------------|----|
| How to Write Historical Fiction | SIGN UP REQUIRED | \$ |
| Time: 2.00-4.00pm | | |
| Venue: ConneXions 4 | | |

Actor and author **Paterson Joseph**, whose debut novel *The Secret Diaries of Charles Ignatius Sancho* is set in the 18th century, shares some tips on how to research the past to write credible and compelling historical fiction.

| | | |
|---------------------------------|---------------------|----|
| How to Structure a Novel | SIGN UP REQUIRED | \$ |
| Time: 2.00-4.00pm | | |
| Venue: ConneXions 5 | | |

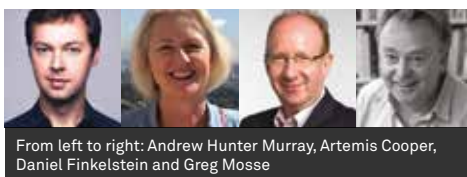
From building a plot, positioning characters and developing a story, novelist **Clare Mackintosh** gives advice on how to structure a novel in this intimate workshop.



Clare Mackintosh

| |
|-----------------------------|
| Author Book Signings |
| Time: From 2.45pm |
| Venue: Grand Lobby |

The authors speaking at the Literature Festival at Sea will be signing their books during the crossing. Browse and purchase yours in the on board shops and get them signed today by **Andrew Hunter Murray**, **Artemis Cooper**, **Daniel Finkelstein** and **Greg Mosse**.



From left to right: Andrew Hunter Murray, Artemis Cooper, Daniel Finkelstein and Greg Mosse

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|--|
| In Conversation with Douglas Stuart |
| Time: 2.45-3.30pm |
| Venue: Illuminations |

Meet the Scottish-American writer **Douglas Stuart**, whose debut novel, the haunting and tender *Shuggie Bain*, was 12 years in the writing and had an unusual road to publishing, full of rejection and pandemics. It went on to win the Booker Prize in 2020 and became an international best-seller translated into over 40 languages. His second novel *Young Mungo* was published in 2022 and he is currently researching a third. Chaired by **Julia Wheeler**.



Douglas Stuart

| |
|--|
| Planes, Trains and Toilet Doors |
| Time: 3.00-3.45pm |
| Venue: Royal Court Theatre |

Forget Downing Street and the so-called 'corridors of power', some of the biggest highs and lows of British political history have taken place in car parks, village halls and seaside resorts. From chance meetings, untimely deaths, and snap (sometimes daft) decisions, join **Matt Chorley**, radio presenter and journalist, for this hilarious journey through 50 places that *really* changed politics.



Yvonne Battle-Felton

| |
|---|
| An Old-Fashioned Thanksgiving: Louisa May Alcott |
| Time: 7.00-7.30pm |
| Venue: Carinthia Lounge |

Best known for her novel *Little Women*, Louisa May Alcott also wrote a simple short story, *An Old Fashioned Thanksgiving* about a poor country family in 19th century New Hampshire. Novelist and voice-over artiste **Yvonne Battle-Felton** reads from the heart-warming tale.

| |
|--|
| I Knew That! The Ultimate Late Night Quiz |
| Time: 10.00-11.00pm |
| Venue: Carinthia Lounge |

Pit your wits at a late-night quiz as comedian and writer **Andrew Hunter Murray** and radio presenter and journalist **Matt Chorley** test your literary and news knowledge. It's bound to get fiercely competitive!



Andrew Hunter Murray



Matt Chorley

Day planner: Friday 24 November

| | |
|-------------|----------------------|
| Grand Lobby | |
| From 2.45pm | Author Book Signings |

| | Royal Court Theatre | ConneXions 4 | ConneXions 5 | Illuminations | Commodore Club | Carinthia Lounge |
|------|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------|---|-----------------------------------|----------------------|
| 9am | | | | | | |
| 10am | Our Favourite Fictional Detectives | How to be a Successful Author | How to Write Parody | <i>The Times: Behind the Headlines</i> | <i>The Times Crossword Solver</i> | |
| 11am | In Conversation with Alan Titchmarsh | | | Partition Voices | | |
| 12pm | Between Fact and Fiction | | | Romances, Sagas and Chronicles | | |
| 1pm | | | | | | |
| 2pm | Getting Away with Murder! | | | Wicked! Literature's Most Notorious Women | | |
| 3pm | The Great Fruit Machine Panel | How to Self Edit | Quick Pitches | Stalingrad | | |
| 4pm | | | | | | |
| 5pm | | | | | | |
| 6pm | | | | | | |
| 7pm | | | | | | Rachel Parris Sings! |

How to be a Successful Author SIGN UP REQUIRED \$

Time: 9.45-11.45am

Venue: ConneXions 4

What are your obligations as an author? It is no longer just delivering a manuscript; this is just the beginning of the journey. You are an active player in the publishing process, so what must you do to build the brand and to increase your chances of becoming successful? In this workshop literary agent **Luigi Bonomi** will share top tips on becoming a successful author.



Luigi Bonomi

How to Write Parody SIGN UP REQUIRED \$

Time: 9.45-11.45am

Venue: ConneXions 5

For years, journalist **Hugo Rifkind's**, 'My Week' column in *The Times* has satirised those making headlines in a fictional diary. Here he talks about the art of successful parody.



Hugo Rifkind

Friday 24 November

9.45am-12.00pm

Our Favourite Fictional Detectives

Time: 9.45-10.30am

Venue: Royal Court Theatre

From hard-nosed cops to spinster sleuths, fictional detectives come in all shape and sizes. Barrister and broadcaster **Hashi Mohamed**, crime writer **Val McDermid** and author and former police officer **Clare Mackintosh** describe and discuss their favourites with chair, novelist **Andrew Hunter Murray**.

The Times: Behind the Headlines

Time: 10.00-10.30am

Venue: Illuminations

Join journalists from *The Times* and *Sunday Times* and some of our speakers as they delve into the day's news, looking at the headlines and the stories behind them. Chaired by **Anna Murphy**.

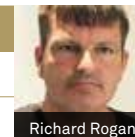


The Times Crossword Solver

Time: 10.15-11.00am

Venue: Commodore Club

Your daily cryptic crossword awaits, hosted by *The Times* crossword editor, **Richard Rogan**.



Richard Rogan

In Conversation with Alan Titchmarsh

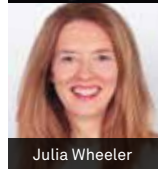
Time: 11.00-11.45am

Venue: Royal Court Theatre

Described by many as a national treasure **Alan Titchmarsh** grew up in Ilkley, Yorkshire. As a TV gardener, writer, novelist and broadcaster, his intelligent, easy-going style and gentle humour have made him hugely popular. He talks to **Julia Wheeler** about his extraordinary life and career and why, at 74, he won't be retiring any time soon...



Alan Titchmarsh



Julia Wheeler

Partition Voices

Time: 11.15am-12.00pm

Venue: Illuminations

In her book *Partition Voices: Untold British Stories*, journalist and broadcaster **Kavita Puri** uncovers remarkable testimonies of the people who were first-hand witnesses to one of the most tumultuous events of the 20th century: the partition of British India. Breaking the silence and confronting difficult truths at the heart of Britain's shared past with South Asia, she speaks to **Hashi Mohamed**, giving a vital reappraisal of empire and how its complex legacy affects us today in Britain.



Kavita Puri

Hashi Mohamed

Between Fact and Fiction

Time: 12.15-1.00pm

Venue: Royal Court Theatre



From left to right: Kate Mosse, Douglas Stuart, Paterson Joseph and Clare Clark

Many novels are inspired by real life stories. Writers **Kate Mosse**, **Douglas Stuart** and **Paterson Joseph** discuss the art, the craft and the ethics of transforming true lives into fiction. Chaired by **Clare Clark**.

Romances, Sagas and Chronicles

Time: 12.30-1.15pm

Venue: Illuminations

Is fiction “by women for women” unfairly looked down upon by the literary world? Agent **Alison Bonomi** loves to read Georgette Heyer, the prolific author of romances set in the Regency era. She joins **Artemis Cooper** the biographer of Elizabeth Jane Howard, author of the Cazalet Chronicles, to discuss both these and other women novelists often dismissed as guilty pleasures. Why do we underestimate their craft and significance? Chaired by **Peter Kemp**.



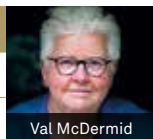
Alison Bonomi

Artemis Cooper

Getting Away with Murder!

Time: 1.45-2.30pm

Venue: Royal Court Theatre



Val McDermid



Lynda La Plante



Hashi Mohamed

Join queens of crime **Val McDermid** and **Lynda La Plante** as they talk planning the perfect murder, avoiding detection and the art of getting away with it. Chaired by crime fan, lawyer and author **Hashi Mohamed**.

Wicked! Literature's Most Notorious Women

Time: 1.45-2.30pm

Venue: Illuminations

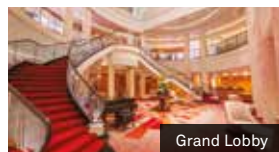
Throughout history, books have been full of devious, deceitful and downright evil female characters. Join **Artemis Cooper**, **Alison Bonomi** and **Kate Mosse** as they analyse the wicked women in literature. Chaired by **Julia Wheeler**.

Author Book Signings

Time: From 2.45pm

Venue: Grand Lobby

The authors speaking at the Literature Festival at Sea will be signing their books at some point during the crossing. Purchase yours at the on-board bookshop and get them signed by **Kavita Puri**, **Douglas Stuart**, **Anna Murphy**, **Alison Bonomi** (writing as Emma Orchard) and **Peter Kemp**.



Grand Lobby

The Great Fruit Machine Panel

Time: 2.45-3.45pm

Venue: Royal Court Theatre



Matt Chorley

Having heard our authors talk on the subjects they are experts in, what happens when nobody knows the questions, and nobody knows who is answering them? Topics suggested by the audience will be chosen at random, and then chair **Matt Chorley** will crank the handle of the (imaginary) fruit machine to find out which of the more adventurous authors will hop up and take part, before the panel and topic changes all over again. Fun, fast paced, and completely unpredictable.



Greg Mosse

How to Self Edit

SIGN UP REQUIRED \$

Time: 2.00-4.00pm

Venue: ConneXions 4

A writer needs the words to flow – but not at random. Does that mean you can't write without planning? Or do you have to expect to rewrite a dozen times before it works? Writer and director **Greg Mosse** will share examples from his latest books, *The Coming Darkness* and *Murder at Church Lodge*, from first draft to last.

Quick Pitches

SIGN UP REQUIRED \$

Time: 2.00-4.00pm

Venue: ConneXions 5

This is your opportunity to pitch your ideas to literary agent **Luigi Bonomi** on a one-to-one basis. You will have five to ten minutes to discuss your work with Luigi and to get instant feedback. Previous quick pitches have led to several authors going on to get their work published!



Luigi Bonomi

Stalingrad

Time: 3.00-3.45pm

Venue: Illuminations

Antony Beevor's international bestseller *Stalingrad* was credited with changing the way history is written. Journalists even asked 'Is history the new novel?' - a question which made the author want to scream. *Stalingrad* was the psychological turning point of the Second World War and the symbol for the horror of war. Chaired by **Daniel Finkelstein**.



Antony Beevor

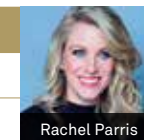


Daniel Finkelstein

Rachel Parris Sings!

Time: 7.15-7.45pm

Venue: Carinthia Lounge



Rachel Parris

Comedian **Rachel Parris** is also a talented musician and has won *The Chortle Award* for Best Music and Variety act. Join her here as she sings, plays and generally shows off...

Day planner: Saturday 25 November

| | |
|-------------|----------------------|
| Grand Lobby | |
| From 2.45pm | Author Book Signings |

| | Royal Court Theatre | ConneXions 4 | ConneXions 5 | Illuminations | Commodore Club | Carinthia Lounge |
|------|---------------------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------------|---|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 9am | | | | | | |
| 10am | Starting Out: The Job That Made Me | How to Write Non-Fiction | Improve Your Public Speaking | <i>The Times</i> : Behind the Headlines | <i>The Times</i> Crossword Solver | |
| 11am | In Conversation with Clare Mackintosh | | | | | |
| 12pm | Casting: Getting it Right | | | | | |
| 1pm | | | | | | |
| 2pm | Advice From Strangers | How to Write for the Stage | Quick Pitches | | | |
| 3pm | Our Funniest Books Ever! | | | | | |
| 4pm | | | | Paris After the Liberation | | |
| 5pm | | | | | | Matt Chorley's Festival Farewell |



How to Write Non-Fiction SIGN UP REQUIRED \$

Time: 9.45-11.45am

Venue: ConneXions 4

Writing non-fiction requires an entirely different skill set from writing fiction. Can you present a strong enough case to sell your non-fiction book? How do you present your material? Agent **Luigi Bonomi** will help you create a pitch for your project, looking at your covering letter, your synopsis and chapter breakdowns as well as a sample chapter to entice editors.



Luigi Bonomi

Improve Your Public Speaking SIGN UP REQUIRED \$

Time: 9.45-11.45am

Venue: ConneXions 5

Whatever occasion you are asked to speak at, happy or sad, formal or casual, make sure your audience can appreciate your sentiments and clearly hear your message. Business leader **Chris Clark** explores some of the fundamentals of successful public speaking, helping you understand the strengths of your own personal style and how best to use that. With interactive exercises for all to take part in, this session is high on fun and low on skills required in advance.



Chris Clark

Saturday 25 November

9.45am-1.15pm

Starting Out: The Job That Made Me

Time: 9.45-10.30am

Venue: Royal Court Theatre



From left to right: Douglas Stuart, Marcus Brigstocke, Anna Murphy and Julia Wheeler

Fashion design was the first job for writer **Douglas Stuart**, while comedian **Marcus Brigstocke** worked on a North Sea oil rig and as a podium dancer before breaking into comedy, and **Anna Murphy** got into an actual physical fight with her first boss. They talk with chair **Julia Wheeler** about how these early jobs influenced their subsequent successful careers.

***The Times*: Behind the Headlines**

Time: 10.00-10.30am

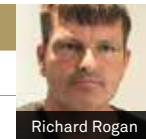
Venue: Illuminations

Join journalists from *The Times* and *Sunday Times* and some of our speakers as they delve into the day's news, looking at the headlines and the stories behind them. **Alan Titchmarsh**, **Val McDermid**, **Rachel Parris** and chaired by **Peter Kemp**.

***The Times* Crossword Solver**

Time: 10.15-11.00am

Venue: Commodore Club



Richard Rogan

Your daily cryptic crossword awaits, hosted by *The Times* crossword editor, **Richard Rogan**.

In Conversation with Clare Mackintosh

Time: 11.00-11.45am

Venue: Royal Court Theatre

After 12 years in the police service, **Clare Mackintosh** became the multi-award-winning author of seven bestselling novels, including her debut, *I Let You Go*. Translated into 40 languages, her books have sold more than two million copies worldwide. Her latest thriller is *A Game of Lies*. Hear more about her life and career as she talks to fellow author **Clare Clark**.



Clare Mackintosh

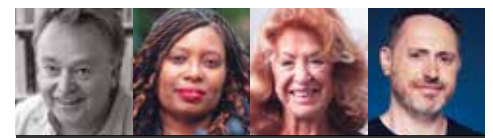
Clare Clark

Casting: Getting it Right

Time: 12.30-1.15pm

Venue: Royal Court Theatre

How do you find the perfect fit when you are casting a character or giving voice to a story? For writers and audiences alike casting is all important for the success of any production. We go behind the scenes with director and playwright **Greg Mosse**, author and voice over artist **Yvonne Battle-Felton** and writer and producer **Lynda La Plante**. Chaired by TV critic for *The Times*, **Hugo Rifkind**.



From left to right: Greg Mosse, Yvonne Battle-Felton, Lynda La Plante and Hugo Rifkind

Advice From Strangers

Time: 1.45-2.30pm

Venue: Royal Court Theatre

Rachel Parris' book *Advice from Strangers: Everything I Know from People I Don't Know* drew on advice she received from members of her live audiences. She talks to **Hugo Rifkind** about what she learned from the random nuggets of wisdom gleaned from their answers.



How to Write for the Stage

SIGN UP REQUIRED \$

Time: 2.00-4.00pm

Venue: ConneXions 4

Author of 25 contemporary and historical plays and musicals, leader of the Criterion New Writing programme live and on stage in the West End, **Greg Mosse** will illustrate how to express character and plot through dialogue and stage directions and, sometimes, songs.



Quick Pitches

SIGN UP REQUIRED \$

Time: 2.00-4.00pm

Venue: ConneXions 5

This is your opportunity to pitch your ideas to literary agent **Luigi Bonomi** on a one-to-one basis. You will have five to ten minutes to discuss your work with Luigi and to get instant feedback. Previous quick pitches have led to several authors going on to get their work published!



Grand Lobby

Author Book Signings

Time: From 2.45pm

Venue: Grand Lobby

The authors speaking at the Literature Festival at Sea will be signing their books at some point during the crossing. Purchase yours at the on-board bookshop and get them signed by **Lynda La Plante, Clare Clark, Clare Mackintosh, Rachel Parris** and **Matt Chorley**.

Our Funniest Books Ever!

Time: 3.00-3.45pm

Venue: Royal Court Theatre

We all love a good read that makes us laugh out loud. Writer, comedian and former *Q!* Elf, **Andrew Hunter Murray**, Executive Producer in TV **Tilusha Ghelani** and comedian **Marcus Brigstocke** share the books that they have found the funniest with chair **Julia Wheeler**.



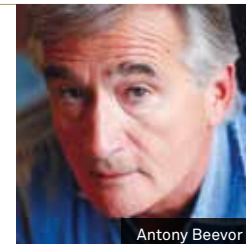
Paris After the Liberation

Time: 4.00-4.45pm

Venue: Illuminations

Post WW2 Paris was a time charged with conflicting emotions: joy but also recriminations and trauma.

Antony Beevor and **Artemis Cooper**, authors of *Paris after the Liberation: 1944-1949* talk about this fascinating era.



Antony Beevor



Artemis Cooper

Matt Chorley's Festival Farewell

Time: 5.00-5.30pm

Venue: Carinthia Lounge



Matt Chorley

What just happened?! With New York only hours away, and as we sail serenely on to our destination, join **Matt Chorley** as he packs an incredible seven days into 30 minutes in a fun-packed reminder of our literary journey on the waves, and we say goodbye... until next year!



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Keith Norton, Life Patron

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Literature Festival at Sea

13 – 20 November 2024

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Guest speakers include:



Matthew Barzan



Mark Billingham



Tracey Borman



Chris Brookmyre



Clare Chambers



Patrick Gale



Mike Gayle



Marisa Haetzman



Ayesha Hazarika



Marina Hyde



Sharmaine Lovegrove



Denise Mina



Robin Niblett



Sophie Raworth

With more names to be announced.

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