



**DE MONTFORT
UNIVERSITY**
LEICESTER • BEDFORD

CLEPHAN

events week



MONDAY 18 – FRIDAY 22 NOVEMBER 2002

De Montfort University Leicester

welcome ▶ ▶ ▶ ▶ ▶ ▶ ▶ ▶

Welcome to De Montfort University's week of cultural events. 'Cultural eXchanges' has now become a regular feature in the University and the city calendar. The week-long programme of lectures, exhibitions, performances, concerts, workshops and debates is an opportunity to showcase the cultural life of the University and to celebrate the diversity of talent that we embrace. It is also an opportunity for participation and dialogue as we open the doors of the Clephan Building and invite you to join the changing world of the arts and engage in discussion of those changes.



The playwright, Sir Tom Stoppard, commented recently that the UK tends to talk about culture and society as if they were different things. Yet culture is society and its study remains central to university life. This year's programme reflects the importance of all forms of cultural expression in the contemporary world. We are proud to play host to some of the most influential figures in British cultural life today, who will interact with local celebrities, academics and students in a stimulating and lively exchange.

Do come and join us in this exciting week of events. I look forward to seeing you there.

Professor Judy Simons

Pro Vice-Chancellor and Dean,
Faculty of Humanities

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Noel Greig: Peter Czajkowski
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Textology: Robert Richardson

BOOKING

It is expected that there will be a high level of interest in the programme. Although most of the events are free, the only way to ensure a place is to book in advance. To do so, please ring (0116) 250 6199 (Promotion and Recruitment) leaving a note of your name, address, a contact telephone number, the event you wish to attend and the number of places required. For events at the Phoenix please ring the Box Office (0116) 255 4854.

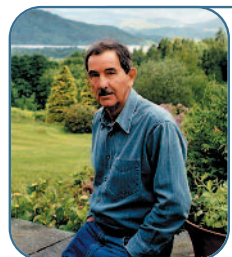
This programme is correct at the time of going to press and we will do everything we can to present it as shown here. But in the unlikely event that speakers/performers have to withdraw, then we reserve the right to make changes as needed.



HUNTER DAVIES: A life in football

Room 2.13, 1pm

Hunter Davies is the author of over 30 books, including the only authorised biography of The Beatles. He has published six books on football and a seventh is being written. He also writes for several papers including a regular column on football for the New Statesman. In this talk he will offer a wry reflection on the game and



Hunter Davies

on his career as a writer on football, and will offer some alternative views on the current game, based on a very personal analysis of its history.

THEATRE: WHO IS IT FOR?

Room 2.13, 3pm

National demography is changing, bringing issues of cultural diversity, access and participation to the forefront of the social and political agenda. In this context, what role does a regional theatre like the Haymarket play in a diverse city such as Leicester? Colin Chambers (Senior Research Fellow, De Montfort University) will chair a distinguished panel of experts:

Tariq Ali (historian, writer and broadcaster), Naseem Khan OBE



Colin Chambers



Naseem Khan



Noel Greig



Kully Thiarai



Tariq Ali

(Arts Council of England), Kully Thiarai (Artistic Director, Haymarket Theatre), Noel Greig (actor and playwright), from whom we can expect to receive controversial views on the place, role and nature of theatre in contemporary British society.

DISABILITY AND THE HOLOCAUST: A HISTORY REVEALED

PHOENIX ARTS

7pm, £3

During the Holocaust Dr Josef Mengele, the infamous doctor of Auschwitz, conducted notorious 'scientific' experiments on thousands of victims of the Nazi regime. Amongst these were the members of a Hungarian Jewish family of actors and musicians, all people of short stature. Fifty years later this story is revealed in the award winning film *Liebe Perla*. Chaired by Dr Simi Linton, the programme will consist of an introduction, screening and panel discussion about a lost history,

that of disabled people in Nazi Germany, and consider its relevance for contemporary society.

TRIONYS

TRINITY HOUSE CHAPEL

7.30pm

Rainer Bürck (keyboards and electronics), Günter Marx (violin and electronics) and Martin Bürck (gongs, percussion and electronics): the artistic roots of TRIONYS go back to the late seventies and eighties, when Rainer Bürck and Martin Bürck explored the boundaries between experimental rock music and experimental contemporary music in a trio under the same name. The current trio came together in 1998. Since then it has developed a distinctive approach which combines gestural instrumental actions and interactions between the musicians and live electronics into an overall dramatic form.



TRIONYS

DISABILITY STUDIES: RESEARCH SEMINAR

Room 2.15, 11am

An emerging academic discipline, Disability Studies is explored and examined in this seminar by Simi Linton, who is a long-time disability rights scholar and the author of *Claiming Disability: Knowledge and Identity* published by New York University Press (1998). She is President of Disability Arts in New York, a consultant on disability and the arts, and the co-director of the Disability Studies Project at Hunter College, New York.

JENNY COLGAN: Workshop on Chick-Lit

Room 2.29, 11am

Jenny Colgan has published three novels and two more are scheduled for release in 2003. All have enjoyed popular and critical success. She is a bright young talent. But there is a problem – she writes in the area known as Chick-Lit, which is often



Jenny Colgan

represented as the antithesis to good literature. Jenny believes that this view misses the point and in this workshop will offer an alternative perspective on this much maligned genre.

JENNY COLGAN: How to get published

Room 2.13, 2pm

Drawing upon her experience as a journalist and writer, Jenny Colgan will offer a light-hearted insight into what writers need in order to be successful in today's publishing industry. After graduating from Edinburgh University, Jenny worked for six years in the health service whilst moonlighting as a cartoonist and doing stand-up in the outer fringes of London's comedy circuit.

MATTHEW SWEENEY: Elephan Artist-in-Residence



Matthew Sweeney

Each year the Faculty includes in Cultural eXchanges an artist-in-residence. This year Matthew Sweeney will be with us for two days, during which he will run workshops on writing poetry, as well as giving two readings of his own work. Matthew is active as a reviewer, a teacher and a writer-in-residence. Through his writing he has built a place for himself in British letters as a daringly inventive, caustically witty and precise poet. His numerous poetry collections testify to an imagination both profound and

engagingly comic – an imagination he has also brought to writing fiction and poetry collections for children. Matthew's programme for today is:

WORKSHOP: Writing poetry

Room 1.17, 4 – 5.30pm

Matthew Sweeney will introduce ways of writing poetry.

Poetry Reading

Room 0.03, 6 – 7pm

Matthew Sweeney will read from his *Selected Poems* and other works.

DR STUART PRICE: Rhetorical Masculinity

Room 2.13, 4pm

This lecture will examine a number of scenes from Hollywood movies, in the belief that the 'crisis of masculinity' is expressed through certain propositions contained in the speeches given by male 'anti-heroes' to their followers.



Stuart Price

Film excerpts will include material from *Fight Club*, *American History X*, *In the Company of*

Men, *Southern Comfort*, and others. Stuart Price is a Senior Lecturer at De Montfort University. He is currently writing a book about the news coverage of September 11th for Pluto Press.

ZENOBIA RAZIS: Reflections on city lighting

Room 0.03, 4 – 5.30pm

Book launch and panel discussion on an artistic and culturally sensitive approach to urban lighting, drawing on experiences from Europe, North America and Japan. This event is jointly organized by the International Cultural Planning and Policy Unit, De Montfort University, and by Comedia.

Zenobia Razis is a visual artist based in Athens. She was awarded the MA in European Cultural Planning with Distinction by De Montfort University in July 2002.

DAVID EDGAR: From Babel to Pentecost (and back again?)

Room 2.13, 7pm

In this lecture, David Edgar asks why the fall of the Berlin wall failed to deliver on its promise. He concludes that hope for the future lies neither in the dream of a universal human identity nor in a return to fundamentalism and nationalism but in the hybrid nature of all cultures.

David Edgar is one of Britain's major political playwrights. The author of over sixty plays for the stage and for film, television and

radio, he is perhaps best known for his Tony-award-winning adaptation of *Nicholas Nickleby*. Other critical success has come through his work for the Royal National Theatre, the Royal Shakespeare Company and his trilogy of plays about Eastern Europe after the Cold War. *Pentecost* won the esteemed Evening Standard Play of the Year Award in 1995.



David Edgar

MATTHEW SWEENEY: Elephan Artist-in-Residence

Writing workshop for school students (11-14 year olds)

Room 1.19, 11am – 12.30pm

Matthew Sweeney will discuss how he works, by reference to his forthcoming novel *Fox*. Participants will have the chance to do some writing themselves.

Poetry Reading for school students

Room 1.19, 12.30 – 1pm

Matthew Sweeney will read from *Fox* and *Up On The Roof*, a collection of poetry for children.

GéNIA: Contemporary music – piano recital

TRINITY HOUSE CHAPEL

1pm

GéNIA has a highly eclectic repertoire, embracing both mainstream classics, new music and multimedia projects. Her approach is to innovate and startle. She believes in the syncretism of the arts and often brings visuals and staging into her live performances. Her latest work includes a solo CD, *GéNIA Unveiled*, with music of Russian women composers, and guest soloist appearances in soundtracks for films *Paradise Grove* and *Bookcruncher*. For this concert GéNIA's programme will include a world premiere of works by Howard Skempton and John Richards, as well as works



GéNIA

by Andrew Hugill, Arvo Part, Somei Satoh, Hayden Parsey and Ton Bruynel.

GéNIA: The aesthetics of live piano and electronics

Room 3.01, 3pm

In this lecture, GéNIA will share a personal view on performance practice and the aesthetics of live piano and electronics.

EXILE, ASYLUM, BELONGING

Room 0.03, 4pm

The words 'asylum seeker' and 'refugee' have become highly loaded words in the vocabulary of politicians and the popular press. This session will explore the reality for people directly involved and, in particular, how they retain their sense of belonging and of cultural identity in a foreign land.

Amongst the speakers will be Debbie Le Play (De Montfort University), who will give a paper entitled 'Rai music – an expression of North African cultural identity', and Bilfer Ecin (Women's Development Officer, Refugee Action), who will explain what it means to be a refugee.

Members of Leicester's refugee community will also contribute to the discussion.

NEW RESEARCH INTO CULT AND EXPLOITATION FILMS

Room 3.03, 1–5pm

This mini conference will feature four illustrated talks on new work into cult and exploitation films and their fans, followed by a screening of *Evil Dead* at Phoenix Arts. The talks will be: 'Trashmongering: academic research and *extremely* bad films' by Dr Ian Hunter (De Montfort University). 'Getting a life?: representing cult fans in cult films' by Dr Matt Hills (Cardiff University). 'Using the force: *Star Wars* fan films' by Dr Will Brooker. 'Black Sex, Bad Sex: Monstrous Ethnicity in the *Black Emanuelle* films' by Xavier Mendik. All four speakers have published extensively on cult films and have helped to redefine our understanding of their importance for fans and film-makers.



Evil Dead

continued overleaf...

THE EVIL DEAD

Film screening

PHOENIX ARTS

6.05pm, £4.40/£3.40

Sam (Spiderman) Raimi's debut is one of the great cult films. Some all-American kids stumble across a shack in remote mountains. Driven crazy by demonic possession, they are threatened by every living thing and turned into blood-spattered zombies or psychos. Shocking, scary and judged to manipulative perfection. A rip-roaring cinematic triumph.

MICHELENE WANDOR:

False relations

Room 3.03, 6pm



Micheline Wandor

Words and Music; different conventions in performance. Keeping them apart, or bringing them together? A talk and reading by Micheline Wandor.

Micheline Wandor is a poet, playwright, performer, cultural commentator, critic, musician and teacher. Among her many achievements she is renowned for her seminal book *Carry on Understudies*, on the status and

struggles of women in the theatre, and for her work in bringing contemporary British women playwrights to public notice.

SUE MacGREGOR:

Live in five seconds

Room 2.13, 7pm



Sue MacGregor

Sue MacGregor was for forty years one of the most recognised and respected voices in British broadcasting. In a freewheeling talk she will reflect on her life in radio and will explore how the media has changed during that time. Sue started her broadcasting career with the South African Broadcasting Corporation and then joined the BBC as a reporter in 1967. She subsequently became the longest-serving presenter of Radio 4's *Today* programme. An accomplished writer, with a wry sense of humour, she has recently published her autobiography, *Woman of Today*.

thursday 21 november

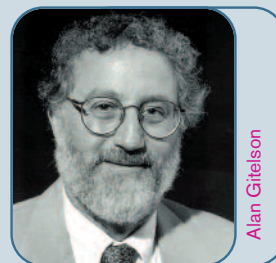
PROFESSOR ALAN GITELSON:

The 2002 congressional mid-term elections: the context and its consequences

Room 2.29, 10am

In the next months America will have elections for the Senate, the House of Representatives and a number of key state governorships. Has President Bush's foreign and anti-terrorist policy converted into solid strength for the Republicans? Have concerns over the domestic economy given the Democrats an opportunity to maintain divided control of federal government? What will the results mean for the future?

Alan Gitelson is Professor of Political Science at Loyola University, Chicago. His books include *American Political Parties: Stability and Change*, *Public Policy and Economic Institutions* and a recent volume on the rules of American elections. Prof Gitelson is a frequent political commentator on US radio and television. He has received an impressive array of awards during his academic career.



Alan Gitelson

DR STUART PRICE:

Launch event for new magazine

Room 1.17, 10am

As part of Cultural eXchanges, the University is pleased to host the launch of a new student-oriented magazine. The magazine will cover politics, education and travel and has been produced in order to address both national and international issues which the editors feel have suffered some neglect in the mainstream press. The editorial board consists of four UK editors and associate editors in Italy, Greece, the USA and New Zealand. Copies of the magazine will be available at the launch.

TREVOR PHILLIPS OBE:

A message from our ancestors

PHOENIX ARTS

1.30 – 3.30pm

Schools Event: £2

Secondary school students are invited to join Chair of the Greater London Assembly and broadcaster Trevor Phillips OBE for a screening of an episode from his series *Untold: Britain's Slave Trade* and to listen to this award-winning broadcaster who is now one of Britain's rising political stars.

This event is a joint promotion with Phoenix Arts as part of the Black History Season.

Room 2.13, 3pm

Room 2.13, 4pm

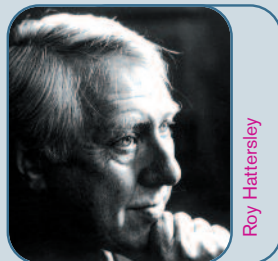
How true to the original can we be when we produce a stage version or film of one of Shakespeare's plays? Is there a point we reach when the work is no longer Shakespeare's? Does it matter? The object of this session will be to explore the ethics of such creative opportunity.

Professor Nigel Wood (University of Loughborough), who has recently worked with both the Royal Shakespeare Company and the Royal National Theatre, will commence the discussion and then Professor Russell Jackson (Shakespeare Institute, University of Birmingham) will give an illustrated talk on his work with Kenneth Branagh in adapting texts for film.

ROY HATTERSLEY: The life of John Wesley

Room 2.13, 6pm

After a distinguished political career – he served in the Cabinet and as Deputy Leader of the Labour Party – Roy Hattersley is now a full-time writer. Among his many publications are *Buster's Diaries: a true story of a dog and his man* and *Blood and Fire*, his important biography of William



and Catherine Booth and their Salvation Army. He is also a columnist for several national newspapers and a regular broadcaster, famous for his lively and often controversial views. His lecture will focus on John Wesley, the subject of his new book, *A Brand from the Burning*. Wesleyan Methodism, he argues, brought Christianity into the lives of the working poor. The result was more than a religious revival. Wesley's influence on society – including millions of men and women who were never Methodists but were affected by it – helped to shape modern Britain.

**JEAN BINTA BREEZE
PLUS DAVID 'STICKMAN'
HIGGINS:**
Performance poetry

PHOENIX ARTS

8pm, £6/£4

Internationally renowned as a dub poet and performer, Jean Binta Breeze grew up in rural Jamaica and studied acting at the Jamaican School of Drama. Best known for her striking stage presence, her performances are so powerful that she has been called a 'one-woman festival'. Originally trained to be an actress, Jean Binta Breeze has

also worked as a director and scriptwriter for theatre, television and film. She has released a number of poetry and prose publications, her most recent being *The Arrival of Brighteye*.

Nottingham based performance poet Dave 'Stickman' Higgins fuses dub and rap styles to create a unique brand of urban poetry. His mesmeric performances have led him to be in demand throughout the UK and to appear with artists such as Gil Scott Heron and Linton Kwesi Johnson.

This event is a joint promotion with Phoenix Arts as part of the Black History Season.



friday 22 novemb

KEITH HARRIS: Artists' managers – heroes or villains?

Room 2.13, 1pm



The prevailing image of artists' managers as portrayed in programmes like *Popstars* is that of the pantomime villain. Keith Harris, manager of Stevie Wonder, Chairman of the Music Managers Forum and one of the UK's most experienced artist-managers, will tell us what it is really like. In a frank analysis of what it takes to be a manager, he will discuss the challenges that the job produces and how managers interface with the rest of the music industry.

VINCENT McINERNEY: Writing for radio

Room 3.03, 2pm

Radio is the most important of all writing schools because it teaches the hardest and most enduring lessons: it requires writing without direct visuals, and the writer must learn to provide the pictures through the words. This lecture will explain the skills necessary for writing plays, adaptations and drama documentaries; it will be followed by a workshop on adapting *Little Red Riding Hood* for the radio.



COMEDY: Who's laughing now?

Natalie Haynes

comedy which is more inclusive and fully representative of British society? This discussion will explore what is 'acceptable humour' and whether comedy can be used to unite communities. This is a preview event for Leicester Comedy Festival 2003 (www.comedy-festival.co.uk). Included on the panel will be comedians Natalie Haynes (Perrier Best Newcomer Nominee in 2002), Shazia Mirza (the first female Muslim stand-up) and BBC Producer Steven Mitchell.



other events

Textology:
Robert Richardson

During the week, performances of student work (live and on video), will be showcased in different parts of the Clephan Building. This programme will be available from 11 November. Extend your time with us by including one or more of these special events.

ALL WEEK

Cultural eXchanges

How to find the Clephan Building



The Clephan Building is accessible for wheelchair users. Please contact the Promotion and Recruitment Centre on (0116) 250 6199 if you have any other requirements concerning access and we will do our best to accommodate you.

For more information on how to find us please visit the following website: www.dmu.ac.uk/locations/maps/ or request an access map when you make your booking.

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