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**PRESENTS** 

# BATTLE bIDEAS

SHAPING THE FUTURE THROUGH DEBATE

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### **CAMELOT**

TWO DAYS OF HIGH-LEVEL THOUGHT-PROVOKING PUBLIC DEBATE

### **FREE SPEECH ALLOWED!**

13-14 OCTOBER 2018 BARBICAN CENTRE, SILK STREET, LONDON EC2Y 8DS

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The Battle of Ideas is an annual festival that brings together 400-plus speakers for over 100 debates over the course of a single weekend at London's premier cultural centre, the Barbican.

In addition, the festival comprises a series of standalone satellite events that take place in UK and European cities from September to November. These satellite events are listed briefly on pages 55–59. For full details, visit <a href="https://www.battleofideas.org.uk">www.battleofideas.org.uk</a>.

This brochure will help you plan and navigate your visit to the festival. The debates are primarily organised by themed topic areas that we call 'strands' with strand debates running across the day in the same room. For example, the 'Biomedical Dilemmas' strand covers contemporary issues in genomics, medical science and healthcare. You can choose to follow one strand throughout the day, or pick and choose debates from different strands on the topics that interest you.

Whatever you decide to do, with such a wide range of debates and discussion, we are sure there will be plenty for everyone to think about.



- 2 Ticket prices and festival information
- 3 Why the Battle of Ideas?
- 3 Registration times

### **SATURDAY**

- 4 Welcome Address
- 4 Saturday Keynote Controversies
- 6 Eye on the World
- 8 Identity Wars: Feminism After #MeToo
- 10 Battle for the Economy
- 12 Arts and Culture
- 14 Technology and Society
- 16 Moral Matters
- 18 Countercultural Concerns
- 20 Future Thinking
- 22 Law and Order
- 23 Battle Specials

### **FESTIVAL ATTRACTIONS**

- 24 Book Club Salons
- 25 Lunchtime Shorts
- 26 Festival Attractions and Entertainment

### **ESSENTIAL INFORMATION**

- 28 Battlefields: Barbican maps
- 30 Saturday Timetable
- 31 Sunday Timetable

### **SUNDAY**

- 32 Sunday Keynote Controversies
- 34 Identity Wars: Race and Society
- 36 Sexual Revolutions
- 38 Scientific Skirmishes
- 40 Modern Family
- 42 Battle for Education
- 44 Biomedical Dilemmas
- 46 Whose Business is it Anyway?
- 48 Studio Conversations
- 50 Place and Identity
- 52 Culture Wars
- 54 Contemporary Controversies

### **BATTLE SATELLITE EVENTS**

- 55 UK Satellites
- 57 Battle of Ideas Europe
- 60 Thanks

The Battle of Ideas takes place at the Barbican, London, on Saturday 13 and Sunday 14 October.

### **WEEKEND TICKETS**

Standard ticket	£100
Standard concession ticket	£45
Academy of Ideas associate ticket - standard	£60
Academy of Ideas associate ticket - concession	£40
School Students	£20
Camelot Student Champion	£27.50

### **DAY TICKETS**

### (Saturday or Sunday)

Standard ticket	£55
Standard concession ticket	£30
Academy of Ideas associate ticket – standard	£40
Academy of Ideas associate ticket - concession	£25
School Students	£10

Tickets are available from the Barbican Box Office or online at <a href="https://www.battleofideas.org.uk/tickets">www.battleofideas.org.uk/tickets</a>

### **CAMELOT STUDENT CHAMPION**

### SPECIAL TICKET OFFER FOR STUDENTS

We are offering current undergraduate and postgraduate students a limited number of Camelot Student Champion 2018 weekend tickets for just £27.50 – a saving of 40% on the normal concession rate. To take advantage of this offer, visit our tickets page <a href="www.battleofideas.org.uk/tickets">www.battleofideas.org.uk/tickets</a> and follow the Camelot Student Champion link.

### CAMELOT

### SPECIAL TICKET OFFER FOR SCHOOL PUPILS

### HARGRAVE FOUNDATION SCHOOLS CHAMPION

A limited number of FREE ONE-DAY tickets are available to school pupils.

Just email schoolschampion@academyofideas.org.uk stating which day you would like to attend free, the name of your school and give a postal address to send your free ticket to. Pupils wanting to attend the whole weekend can do so for just £10 for the other day!



### **GETTING TO THE BARBICAN**

The Barbican is located in the heart of the City of London and is accessible by rail, road and underground. The nearest underground stations are Barbican, Moorgate and St Paul's.

For more information about accessibility and travel options, visit <u>barbican.org.uk/your-visit</u>

### **INTERNET ACCESS**

Free wifi: search for WiFi Zone - The Cloud

### **TWITTER**

The festival hashtag is #battleofideas and you can follow the Academy of Ideas @instofideas

### PRESS, PARTNERS AND SPONSORSHIP

For partnership enquiries or to arrange press passes, request interviews and for general media enquiries, please contact

Jacob Reynolds:

jacobreynolds@academyofideas.org.uk / +44 (0)20 7269 9220

### **FURTHER ENQUIRIES**

If you have any questions about Battle of Ideas tickets, contact:

Geoff Kidder:

geoffkidder@academyofideas.org.uk / +44 (0)20 7269 9220

or Barbican Box Office:

+44 (0) 20 7638 8891

### **BOOK ONLINE**

www.battleofideas.org.uk/tickets

### **WELCOME TO THE BATTLE OF IDEAS 2018**

Fifty years on from the protests and turmoil of 1968, today's turbulent times are at least a match for those of the Sixties. In 2018, Western societies appear to be in the midst of seismic change. From the apparent tearing up of the international rule book on economic and political relations to the emergence of new 'populist' parties challenging established political norms, everything seems in flux.

Undoubtedly, we face novel challenges. Ten years after the financial crisis, we confront the threat of trade wars while economists and politicians seem incapable of solving our longstanding 'productivity puzzle'. Traditional liberalism seems to be eating itself, with today's 'progressives' leading the charge in illiberal assaults on free speech. The UK government's sluggish response to delivering Brexit seems driven by avoiding disruption at all costs, yet the vote seemed to reflect a desire for a shake-up. Big Tech and social media, once heralded as offering exciting possibilities, now stand accused of subverting democracy, making our children mentally ill, degrading political discourse and facilitating hate speech.

### GRASPING THE POSSIBILITY OF CHANGE

This turbulent atmosphere can be unsettling. The future feels uncertain, the old guidelines seemingly useless. In these circumstances, it can be too easy to become confused and fearful. But we should be wary of scaremongering, such as when commentators compare current events to pre-Nazi 1930s Germany or talk ominously of toxic, irreconcilable civil tensions.

Perhaps we need a new approach: to grasp such changes as an opportunity, as a way of escaping social and political stagnation. At the very least, the unravelling of the technocratic era of TINA – There Is No Alternative – presents us with new possibilities to reboot society. Political norms may have come unstuck, but that does give us all the chance to shape the future.

The 2018 season at the Barbican - our festival home - has adopted the theme 'The Art of Change' precisely to explore how artists respond to, reflect and potentially effect social and political change. In turn, this year's Battle of Ideas aims to understand today's turbulence and encourage attendees to grasp this historic moment with hope and optimism.

### **WE NEED TO TALK**

However, just when it seems opportune to assess new ideas about the best way forward and listen to the perspectives of others, too frequently people retreat into 'echo chambers' or lash out against adversaries. In public life, it seems that our 'tribes' keep to their own, reinforcing each other's views and rarely listening to, never mind understanding, the views of others. When we do interact, it is more often to trade insults – 'fascist', 'cuck', 'misogynist' – than to seriously argue, even empathise, with each other.

The Brexiteer / Remainiac divide can feel insurmountable. And now that the Culture Wars have arrived in the UK with a vengeance, antagonism around identity politics seems perniciously divisive. Not only are those with a different point of view vilified – rather than challenged through debate – but there are frequent attempts to silence opponents from speaking at all, especially if taboo topics are broached by someone from the 'wrong' identity.

The Battle of Ideas strives to break out of these 'identity silos'. Indeed, exploring the Identity Wars is one of this year's festivals key themes, from feminism after #MeToo to the new politics of race. Our 400-plus international speakers, with a wide range of expertise and points of view, come together in good faith to test their ideas in public, precisely to enhance the quality of public discourse.

### JOIN THE DEBATE

This is not an invitation for you to come along and passively listen to panels of experts. One of the most distinctive aspects of the Battle of Ideas is the level of audience engagement, where the most searching questions and smartest insights often come from the floor, not the panelists. If you are worried about the quality of public debate and want to really be part of the discussion, come along and join in.

We aim to kick-start passionate, serious-minded public conversations with free-thinking, inquisitive, opinionated attendees. Between us all, we will try and untangle everything from the bastardisation of political language to understanding international relations - both beyond and including Brexit. We'll be tackling the ethical rows that embroil science, medical research and technology. We will probe the effect of change on the modern family, ask thorny questions about arts funding, examine the impact of drill music on violent crime, and much more.

Since 2005, the festival's slogan has been FREE SPEECH ALLOWED, a crucial retort to today's climate of offence-taking. If you're willing to challenge and be challenged, and leave the comfort of your bubble, see you at the Barbican on 13 & 14 October.

Claire Fox, director, Academy of Ideas on behalf of the Battle of Ideas Committee 2018

REGISTRATION: SATURDAY FROM 08:30, SUNDAY FROM 09:00, LEVEL -1

### KEYNOTE CONTROVERSIES

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These sessions take on some of the big ideas and themes of our time, setting the tone for the festival as a whole.

### WELCOME ADDRESS FREE STAGE 9.30-09:50

The fourteenth annual Battle of Ideas festival will open with a Welcome Address.

### **CLAIRE FOX**

director, Academy of Ideas; author, I STILL Find That Offensive!

SIR NICHOLAS KENYON managing director, Barbican Centre

CHAIR: ALASTAIR DONALD associate director, Academy of Ideas; convenor, Living Freedom

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# FROM SJW TO GAMMON: WEAPONISING POLITICAL LANGUAGE

10:00-11:30

Language has always been a source of political controversy as much as a medium for discussing politics. Terms like 'terrorist' and 'freedom fighter' reveal the politics of the speaker as much as the nature of those described. But recent years have seen the proliferation of completely new terms: white Brexit voters are 'gammons', women critical of feminism have 'internalised misogyny', students are 'snowflakes'. It can be hard to keep up. But is the way we talk about politics simply changing, or becoming impoverished? What's the line between the natural evolution of political language, and its degeneration into trendy slurs?

### PROFESSOR FRANK FUREDI

sociologist and social commentator; author, How Fear Works: culture of fear in the 21st century and Populism and the European Culture Wars

### **SOPHIA GASTON**

director, Centre for Social and Political Risk, Henry Jackson Society; visiting research fellow, London School of Economics

### SIMON LANCASTER

speechwriter; author, Winning Minds: secrets from the language of leadership and You Are Not Human: how words kill; TEDx speaker

### PROFESSOR DR ROBERT PFALLER

philosopher, University of Art and Industrial Design, Linz, Austria; author, (in German) Adult language: about its disappearance from politics and culture

### **CHAIR: CLAIRE FOX**

director, Academy of Ideas; author, I STILL Find That Offensive!

Produced by Claire Fox

### **CULTURE: WHO PAYS?** 12:00 - 13:15

Should funding for cultural projects be scaled back in a time of fiscal crisis? As we approach the National Lottery's 25th anniversary, many are asking questions about where funding for culture should come from. Some anti-austerity campaigners say that new projects like the V&A museum in Dundee, at a cost of £80million, put unnecessary pressure on already stretched budgets. Others argue that a vibrant cultural scene is key to building confidence in communities and creating social cohesion, threatened by visible inequalities in wealth, housing, health and education. What about private funding? Could that compromise artistic freedom? And should we view culture as a luxury or a necessity in a modern-day society?

### **SPEAKERS INCLUDE:**

### **ALEXANDER ADAMS**

artist, writer and art critic; author, Culture War: art, identity politics and cultural entryism (forthcoming)

### **DR TIFFANY JENKINS**

writer and broadcaster; author, Keeping Their Marbles: how treasures of the past ended up in museums and why they should stay there

### **BARB JUNGR**

award-winning singer, songwriter, composer and writer

### **SEAN GREGORY**

director of learning & engagement, Barbican Centre and Guildhall School of Music & Drama

### **CHAIR: CLAIRE FOX**

director, Academy of Ideas; author, I STILL Find That Offensive!

Produced by Claire Fox

CAMELOT

### ALL CHANGE: NAVIGATING THE NEW POLITICAL DISRUPTION 14:00–15:30

With Brexit and the election of new challengers, from President Trump in America to Five Star in Italy, politics is in a phase of hectic change. Rules-based economic and diplomatic arrangements are being torn up. Traditional gatekeepers to information and expertise, from economists to the 'mainstream media', are no longer the last word. Such change means society can seem out of control. But when today's challenges to the status quo are described as leading to a repeat of Weimar Germany or even another world war, is this just fearmongering, creating a climate of fatalism, or is today's turbulence an opportunity to shape the future for the better?

### PROFESSOR FRANK FUREDI

sociologist and social commentator; author, How Fear Works: culture of fear in the 21st century and Populism and the European Culture Wars

### **DR ELIANE GLASER**

writer; radio producer; senior lecturer, Bath Spa University; author, Anti-Politics: on the demonization of ideology, authority, and the state

### **MATTHEW GOODWIN**

professor of political science, University of Kent; senior fellow, Chatham House; author, National Populism: the revolt against liberal democracy

### STEPHEN KINNOCK MP

Labour MP for Aberavon; member, Exiting the EU Select Committee and EU Scrutiny Committee; co-editor, Spirit of Britain, Purpose of Labour

### **CHAIR: CLAIRE FOX**

director, Academy of Ideas; author, I STILL Find That Offensive!

Produced by Claire Fox

# NATIONAL IDENTITY AND BELONGING: WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BE A CITIZEN? 16:00–17:15

From the 'Windrush scandal' and blue passports to the future rights of EU nationals in the UK, questions of citizenship have been hitting the headlines. In some respects, we are seeing a clash between a cosmopolitan view of citizenship and a national one. But citizenship has traditionally entailed special rights and duties with regards to a particular place. Is this model of citizenship a relic of a less-connected world? Is it really possible to be a 'citizen of the world'? Should we understand citizenship primarily as a practical matter of rights and responsibilities, or as a more elevated matter of identity and allegiance?

### **KATE ANDREWS**

associate director, Institute of Economic Affairs; columnist, City A.M.

### MIHIR BOSE

journalist; author, Lion and Lamb: a portrait of British moral duality

### JACOB MCHANGAMA

executive director, Justitia, a think tank focusing on human rights in Copenhagen; host and narrator, Clear and Present Danger: a history of free speech podcast

### DR JAMES PANTON

head of upper sixth and head of politics, Magdalen College School; associate professor of philosophy, Open University; co-editor, From Self to Selfie

### **CHAIR: ANGUS KENNEDY**

convenor, The Academy; author, Being Cultured: in defence of discrimination

Produced by Claire Fox and Angus Kennedy





### THE ACADEMY



University as it should be: our annual, residential two-day summer school. Organised annually by the Academy of Ideas, The Academy brings together a wide range of people of all ages and educational backgrounds to cultivate ourselves with good books, good guides and in good company.

### THE ACADEMY – 20/21 JULY 2019 THE CULTURE WARS

This year's Academy will look at the way culture has become the principal political battleground of the early twenty-first century with intensely polarised debates around the family, religion, education, identity and tradition pitting people against each other. What are the prospects for a democratic political culture emerging when we can see each other only as friends or enemies?

For more details, visit academyofideas.org.uk/theacademy



### **EYE ON THE WORLD**

President Trump has certainly made his presence felt in the past year. His interventions into international affairs have created waves, from his apparently warm relations with Russia's President Putin to treading on the toes of his NATO allies. But Trump is not alone in ditching the long-game rituals of traditional diplomacy, which many now argue is in crisis. Trump's 'America First' policy is also threatening the 'new world order' at just the time when Russia and China have become more assertive. His carrot-andstick approach to North Korea over nuclear weapons has made headlines, but what does the unfreezing of relations between North and South mean for the future of Korea itself? And closer to home, both Brexit and the liberalisation of social policy in the Republic of Ireland have raised both old and new questions about the Irish border.

### THE CRISIS OF DIPLOMACY IN THE ERA OF TRUMP 10:00-11:30

Visiting Europe in the summer, President Trump lambasted Germany's relationship with Russia, took a dig at Theresa May's Brexit strategy and seemingly sided with Vladimir Putin against America's own intelligence agencies. The UK's former foreign secretary, Boris Johnson, also famously made numerous diplomatic gaffes. Once diplomacy was regarded as a careful art, furthering national interests through back-channels and coded language, and pursued by highly educated diplomats. But in recent years, politicians have seemed keener to make loud public statements at the expense of cool negotiation. Why do politicians seem to respond to events on the hoof rather than pursuing a long-term strategy? Are they playing with fire?

### MARY DEJEVSKY

former foreign correspondent in Moscow, Paris and Washington; special correspondent in China; writer and broadcaster

### PROFESSOR BILL DURODIÉ

chair of international relations, University of Bath

### DR SEAN LANG

senior lecturer in history, Anglia Ruskin University; author, First World War for Dummies

### **CARNE ROSS**

author, The Leaderless Revolution; executive director, Independent Diplomat

### **CHAIR: JOEL COHEN**

associate fellow, Academy of Ideas

Produced by Joel Cohen

# HOW DO YOU SOLVE A PROBLEM LIKE KOREA? 12:00–13:00

North Korea has metamorphosed from embodiment of evil into symbol of hope. At the start of 2018, President Donald Trump was threatening Kim Jong-un with a nuclear attack and US analysts were predicting 100,000 dead within the first day of the ensuing war. Yet two months later, Trump was heralding Kim as a 'very honourable man', laying the basis for June's Singapore love-in. Pictures of Kim holding hands with South Korea's president, Moon Jae-in, have raised hopes of Korean reunification. What's going on? What should we make of what one Korean American writer, Suki Kim, has called the 'the world's most inscrutable country'?

### **JIEUN BAEK**

author, North Korea's Hidden Revolution

### MARY DEJEVSKY

former foreign correspondent in Moscow, Paris and Washington; special correspondent in China; writer and broadcaster

### **DR CATHERINE JONES**

lecturer, University of St Andrews; author, China's Challenge to Liberal Norms

### **CHAIR: AUSTIN WILLIAMS**

senior lecturer, Dept of Architecture, Kingston University, London; honorary research fellow, XJTLU, Suzhou, China; author, China's Urban Revolution

### **Produced by Austin Williams**

# FROM ITALY TO SWEDEN: WHAT'S BEHIND TODAY'S ANTI-ESTABLISHMENT REVOLT?

### 14:00-15:30

How should we understand the recent populist upsurge in Europe? From the Brexit vote to the rise of the Sweden Democrats, Italy's Five Star Movement and Germany's AfD, explicitly anti-establishment parties are gaining support. Many anti-populist commentators assume that radical rightwing parties are beneficiaries of pre-existing racism and anti-immigrant sentiment. But could there be other, more positive explanations? If ordinary people are asking for political change and revolting against the establishment, isn't that a good thing? Is the alienation of a significant section of the electorate from the party-political mainstream to be welcomed or feared?

### JAMES BALL

journalist; author, Bluffocracy and Post-Truth: how bullshit conquered the world

### **DR RUTH DUDLEY EDWARDS**

journalist and writer; award-winning author

### **JOHN KING**

author, The Football Factory, The Liberal Politics Of Adolf Hitler and Slaughterhouse Prayer

### DR SASHA POLAKOW-SURANSKY

deputy editor, Foreign Policy; author, Go Back to Where You Came From: the backlash against immigration and the fate of Western democracy

### DR VANESSA PUPAVAC

associate professor; co-director, Centre for the Study of Social and Global Justice, University of Nottingham

### **CHAIR: TOM SLATER**

deputy editor, spiked; frequent commentator on TV and radio; editor, Unsafe Space

Produced by David Axe, director, Invoke Democracy Now





### TEARING UP THE RULE BOOK: THE END OF THE NEW WORLD ORDER? 16:00-17:15

Since the fall of communism, the dominant narrative around international politics and economics has been that of a stable order defined by liberal, free-market values and agreements. In recent years, faith in the liberal international vision seems to have been shattered. In response to the rise of China and resurgence of Russia, populists across the world, most famously President Trump, have denounced freetrade agreements and collective security arrangements. Are we really moving into a more protectionist world, or will freetrade ideology make a comeback? How will the rise of China and the 'global south', alongside the apparent slow decline of the US, change things?

### **CAMERON ABADI**

deputy editor, Foreign Policy

### **REMI ADEKOYA**

PhD researcher on identity politics, Sheffield University; columnist; member, Editorial Working Group, *Review of African Political Economy* 

### PROFESSOR BILL DURODIÉ

chair of international relations, University of Bath

### DR TARA MCCORMACK

lecturer, international politics, University of Leicester

### **CHAIR: JACOB REYNOLDS**

partnerships manager, Academy of Ideas; co-convenor, Living Freedom; organiser, Debating Matters

### **Produced by Jacob Reynolds**



### THE NEW IRISH BORDER QUESTION 17:30–18:45

Brexit has reopened the debate about the border between the Republic of Ireland and Northern Ireland. The possibility of a 'hard border' is said to threaten the 'constructive ambiguities' in the Good Friday Agreement. Unionists welcomed the agreement as confirming partition, while nationalists saw the new 'soft border' as a stepping stone to reunification. Recent votes in the South in favour of gay marriage and abortion, both currently banned in the North, have raised new dilemmas, too. How will the Irish and British governments negotiate tensions arising from any change to border arrangements? Will the Brexit debate be a determining factor in the whole island's future or a footnote in its history?

### **DR RAY BASSETT**

columnist, Sunday Business Post; senior fellow on EU Affairs, Policy Exchange; former Irish ambassador

### DR KEVIN BEAN

lecturer, Institute of Irish Studies, University of Liverpool

### **ANGELA NAGLE**

cultural critic; author, Kill All Normies: from 4chan and Tumblr to Trump and the Alt-Right

### JUSTIN SMYTH

librarian; co-founder, Dublin Salon

### **CHAIR: PAULINE HADAWAY**

arts and heritage consultant, University of Manchester; co-founder, Liverpool Salon; former director, Belfast Exposed Photography

Produced by Pauline Hadaway

### IDENTITY WARS: FEMINISM AFTER #METOO



The 100 years anniversary of the introduction of women's suffrage reminds us that the question of gender inequality has been around for a long time. Enormous progress has been made in relation to politics, the workplace and the family. But has there ever been a controversy with as wide an impact as the fallout from the revelations about Hollywood mogul Harvey Weinstein? The #MeToo hashtag became widely used around the world and gave new momentum to contemporary feminism. But with the focus on harassment and rape, is what modern feminists argue for really what women want - and does it bear any relation to the demands of feminists in the past? Is it true that there is much to do to achieve equality, for example over equal pay? Has #MeToo created an unhelpful atmosphere in which to discuss the relationships between the sexes? Is it even appropriate anymore to talk about just two sexes? What does it mean to be a woman today?

# THE F WORD: WHAT'S THE POINT OF FEMINISM TODAY? 10:00—11:30

Feminism today seems to be focused around young women. From #MeToo to #EverydaySexism, generational divides are widening. While many younger feminists used #MeToo to argue that wolf whistling harmed women's mental health, older feminists have criticised the movement as puritanical. Younger women argue that older feminists are unaware of the challenges their daughters and granddaughters face, that the older generation can't understand what it's like to be a young woman in the twenty-first century. Is it time for older women to take a back seat, and let the youth define the fight for women's freedom?

### **LAURA CORYTON**

campaigner, End Tampon Tax Campaign

### **IZZY LYONS**

journalist, Telegraph

### DR JAN MACVARISH

visiting research fellow, Centre for Parenting Culture Studies, University of Kent

### SOPHIE WALKER

leader, Women's Equality Party

### **CHAIR: ELLA WHELAN**

journalist and frequent commentator on TV and radio; author, What Women Want

Produced by Ella Whelan

### GENDER PAY GAP: MYTH OR REALITY? 12:00-13:00

The gender pay gap has long been an issue for feminists, but recently it has hit the headlines. The BBC pay scandal resulted in several high-profile male presenters taking a voluntary pay cut, while new government policy forced all businesses with more than 250 staff to state the difference in average pay between male and female employees. There has been much confusion between equal pay and the gender pay gap, as most of the statistics quoted fail to take into consideration different skill levels, working hours and job roles. Is the world of work hostile to women or are any barriers women face more complicated?

### KATE ANDREWS

associate director, Institute of Economic Affairs; columnist, City A.M.

### JESSICA BUTCHER MBE

co-founder, Blippar / Inspiral; non-exec director and Angel investor; author, TEDx talk, 'Is Modern Feminism starting to undermine Itself?'

### FIONA MACTAGGART

chair of trustees, Fawcett Society

### **REBECCA REID**

columnist, Telegraph online; features writer, Metro.co.uk; author, Perfect Liars

### **CHAIR: ELLA WHELAN**

journalist and frequent commentator on TV and radio; author, What Women Want

Produced by Ella Whelan

### WHAT IS A WOMAN ANYWAY? 14:00-15:30

What does it mean to be a woman? For some it's about motherhood, others femininity, and some reject the whole idea of 'womanhood' outright. The Conservative Party's proposed changes to the law around gender recognition have caused a fair amount of controversy around the question of what gender means and what it takes to be a woman. Is it about experience? Is it simply an identity which can be picked up by anyone? And, beyond the trans debate, is there anything worth defending in the idea of 'womanhood'? Do women share a collective identity? What is a woman anyway?

### **HEATHER BRUNSKELL-EVANS**

academic and writer; co-editor, Transgender Children and Young People

### **CHRISSIE DAZ**

schoolteacher; cabaret performer; writer on transgender and gender variant identity

### **KATHY GYNGELL**

co-editor, The Conservative Woman

### **JOANNA WILLIAMS**

head of education and culture, Policy Exchange; author, Women vs Feminism; associate editor, spiked

### **CHAIR: ELLA WHELAN**

journalist and frequent commentator on TV and radio; author, What Women Want

Produced by Ella Whelan

# HAS #METOO KILLED THE OFFICE ROMANCE? 16:00–17:15

From film sets to the Houses of Parliament, the #MeToo movement has made its way into all kinds of workplaces. Bosses have been pressured to do something to make the workplace safer for women. Netflix has instituted a policy that prohibits co-workers from asking each other out more than once and warns against staring at anyone for more than five seconds. Some argue that the #MeToo movement has created a panic about workplace relations, and that what constitutes sexual harassment has become too broad to take seriously. Can good relationships between the sexes survive in a more controlled, uptight workplace?

### **DEBORAH ANNETTS**

chief executive, Incorporated Society of Musicians; employment lawyer, specialising in sexual harassment and discrimination law

### JIM BUTCHER

reader in geography, Canterbury Christ Church University; co-author, Volunteer Tourism: the lifestyle politics of international development

### **BECKY HOLLOWAY**

programme director, Jericho Chambers

### SHELAGH MCNERNEY

senior manager, built environment and construction sector

### **CHAIR: ELLA WHELAN**

journalist and frequent commentator on TV and radio; author, What Women Want

Produced by Shelagh McNerney and Ella Whelan



# CROSS-EXAMINING UK RAPE LAWS

17:30-18:45

In recent years, activists have claimed that the criminal-justice system is unfair to complainants in rape cases. However, the flip side of this is that innocent men are being wrongly accused and even imprisoned. It seems we have a system that is criticised both for not being active enough in its support for victims, and for being too focused on believing the victim. Is the current law doing a good job of preventing rape from happening? Do we need to reform our rape laws? Or is the politicisation of rape threatening to hamper the pursuit of justice?

### **LIAM ALLAN**

co-founder, Innovation of Justice, miscarriages of justice campaign

### **ROB BECKLEY**

assistant commissioner, Metropolitan Police

### **DR HANNAH BOWS**

assistant professor in criminal law, Durham Law School, Durham University; deputy director, Centre for Research into Violence and Abuse

### **MATTHEW SCOTT**

barrister, Pump Court Chambers; blogs at www.barristerblogger.com; writer, Quillette

### **ELLA WHELAN**

journalist and frequent commentator on TV and radio; author, What Women Want

### **CHAIR: IZZY LYONS**

journalist, Telegraph

Produced by Claire Fox and Izzy Lyons

### BATTLE FOR THE ECONOMY



### CITYA.M.

The discussion about the UK's post-Brexit economy remains as heated as ever, with discussions of trade policy now centre stage. But is it time to take a step back and consider the future of world trade more generally? With President Trump's imposition of tariffs on Chinese and European goods, are we facing global trade war? Brexit has also highlighted the continuing weakness of the UK economy. What do we do about Britain's historically low productivity growth? Can the rise of new technologies in financial services - 'fintech' - provide part of the answer? Meanwhile, big business seems to keep on getting bigger. Do we need to worry about the concentration of wealth - and power - enjoyed by the biggest companies? Perhaps new technology won't save capitalism but provide the basis for its replacement. Is capitalism itself running out of time?

# THE PRODUCTIVITY PUZZLE: TOO MUCH LIKE HARD WORK?

10:00-11:30

Longstanding worries about the stagnation of productivity - the fundamental basis for increasing economic growth - have increased since the economic crisis of 2008. Yet while there is unanimity that there is a problem, economists disagree about the barriers to restoring productivity growth. There are new technologies that could improve productivity, like robots harvesting crops and automated drones making deliveries. But while these are available, they are not yet making a difference and are often seen as controversial. Is stagnating productivity the 'new normal', with little prospect of improvement? Why does the UK seem to have a particular problem? Will Brexit worsen the problem or provide a muchneeded shake-up?

### DR VICTORIA BATEMAN

fellow in economics at Gonville & Caius College, University of Cambridge

### DR ANDREW FRANCIS

chief economic adviser, National Farmers' Union

### **JOHN MILLS**

economist and entrepreneur

### **PHIL MULLAN**

economist and business manager; author, Creative Destruction: how to start an economic renaissance

### **ANNE WILLIAMS**

global product manager tomato, Bayer

### **CHAIR: HILARY SALT**

actuary; founder, First Actuarial

### Produced by Rob Lyons



# FINTECH: SHOULD WE BELIEVE THE HYPE? 12:00–13:00

Advocates of new technology believe it can 'democratise' financial services, with smartphone apps and peer-to-peer lending services enabling consumers and businesses to bypass the big financial institutions. Critics are sceptical about whether fintech can really do more than produce incremental gains. Moreover, trust issues remain in relation to peer-to-peer lending and the use or abuse of customer data. Does the excitement around fintech merely highlight the UK's dependence on financial services and the lack of innovation elsewhere in the economy, or does it demonstrate continuing innovation in a globally important sector where the UK is a world leader?

### **AMALI DE ALWIS**

CEO, Code First: Girls; chair, BIMA Diversity panel; fellow, RSA

### **KATIE EVANS**

head of research and policy, Money and Mental Health

### **DR NORMAN LEWIS**

director, Futures-Diagnosis Ltd; co-author, Big Potatoes: the London manifesto for innovation

### CHAIR: DAVID BOWDEN

associate fellow, Academy of Ideas

### Produced by David Bowden



# PROTECTIONISM: CAN WE AVOID TRADE WARS?

14:00-15:30

Since March, the US has started acting on President Trump's 'America First' policy with regular announcements of new tariffs on imports, mainly directed at China, but also against Europe, Canada and Mexico. For some, Trump's policy and his disdain for multilateral trade bodies are long overdue. For others, it represents a new trade war, perhaps even leading to military conflict. The majority of economists hope for a change in policy in favour of free trade, but achieving that seems beyond multilateral institutions such as the World Trade Organisation. Is Trump a 'loose cannon' or is he simply making transparent the real tensions over trade and investment - and fulfilling a democratic mandate, too?

### **VICTORIA HEWSON**

counsel to the International Trade and Competition Unit, Institute of Economic Affairs (IEA)

### **DANIEL MOYLAN**

former deputy chairman, Transport for London; co-chairman, Urban Design London

### **ALLEN SIMPSON**

financial policy analyst; director of strategy, London and Partners

### JAMES WOUDHUYSEN

visiting professor, London South Bank University; co-author, Energise! A future for energy innovation; co-author, Why is construction so backward?

### **CHAIR: ROB LYONS**

science and technology director, Academy of Ideas; convenor, AoI Economy Forum

Produced by Rob Lyons and James Woudhuysen

### MONOPOLY MONEY: IS BIG BUSINESS TOO BIG? 16:00—17:15

Tax them. Regulate them. Break them up... Large corporations are increasingly coming under the cosh. The domination of the economy by big corporations is thought to be aggravating many contemporary economic, social and political problems. It is claimed the financial system crashed a decade ago because the banks were deemed 'too big to fail'. Most prominently and controversially of all, Big Tech has become the new Big Oil. Yet firms like Netflix and Amazon are providing new and attractive services for customers. Do big businesses deserve their bad reputations? And is the decline in business start-ups a consequence or a cause of concentration?

### **TORSTEN BELL**

director, Resolution Foundation

### FRANCES COPPOLA

financial writer, Coppola Comment and Forbes

### **ALI MIRAJ**

social entrepreneur; DJ; political activist; financier; founder, the Contrarian Prize

### **PHIL MULLAN**

economist and business manager; author, Creative Destruction: how to start an economic renaissance

### **CHAIR: ROB LYONS**

science and technology director, Academy of Ideas; convenor, AoI Economy Forum

Produced by Rob Lyons and Phil Mullan

# FROM ROBOTS TO UBI: IS CAPITALISM DIGGING ITS OWN GRAVE?

17:30-18:45

After the fall of the Soviet Union, a broad political consensus emerged that 'there is no alternative' to capitalism, which even the 2008 financial crash did little to disturb. But now things appear to be changing, with support for politicians like Jeremy Corbyn and Bernie Sanders who call for a new way of organising the economy. A slew of recent books, epitomised by Paul Mason's Post-Capitalism, argue that technological innovations have opened up ways to transcend capitalism from within. Are we now seeing the arrival of capitalism's 'undertaker' in the shape of artificial intelligence (AI) and automation? Could it be true - is capitalism's time nearly up?

### **AARON BASTANI**

co-founder, Novara Media; author, Fully Automated Luxury Communism: a manifesto (forthcoming)

### **ROBERT HARRIES**

membership coordinator, education trade association

### **WENDY LIU**

software developer; editor, economics section, New Socialist

### **NIKOS SOTIRAKOPOULOS**

lecturer in sociology, York St John University; author, The Rise of Lifestyle Activism: from new left to Occupy

### PROFESSOR GUY STANDING

professorial research associate, SOAS, University of London; author, Basic Income: and how we can make it happen

### **CHAIR: ROB LYONS**

science and technology director, Academy of Ideas; convenor, AoI Economy Forum

**Produced by Robert Harries** 

### **ARTS AND CULTURE**

### barbican



Debates about how culture both reflects and shapes our world are ever-present in the news. What are the responsibilities of the artist today in the context of debates about identity, free speech, cultural appropriation and more? Should avoiding offence take precedence over artistic freedom? Such questions even impinge on art from the past, particularly in light of the #MeToo campaign. Is it right to criticise or even remove paintings depicting female nudes? When the cultural community seems overwhelmingly in favour of remaining in the EU, how can UK society's Brexit divisions be reflected on stage? More broadly, can culture heal divisions in society and bring communities together - or is using art in this way actually undermining it? Indeed, with the left seemingly giving up on campaigning around economic issues, is culture now the vehicle of choice for changing the world?

# CAN CULTURE HEAL FRACTURED COMMUNITIES? 10:00–11:30

Artistic initiatives from visual artists, actors and musicians seem to be increasingly central to conversations on the future of communities. The idea of using art to 'heal' post-conflict cities such as Belfast or Beirut is well-established, but in the face of gang culture and rising knife crime this ethos has become more mainstream. Sceptics are busy debunking many claims policymakers make about art's capacity to regenerate economies or improve health. Some even allege developers use art as part of the process of gentrification. Is community art in danger of over-claiming, or even neglecting the value of art for its own sake?

### **PAUL BRISTOW**

director, Strategic Partnerships, Arts Council England

### **SEAN GREGORY**

science and technology director, Academy of Ideas; convenor, AoI Economy Forum

### **ASH KOTAK**

curator, playwright, filmmaker; executive producer, Punched by a Homosexualist

### **MO LOVATT**

writer and researcher specialising in arts and culture policy; co-chair, The Great Debate

### SALLY MACKEY

professor of applied theatre and performance, Royal Central School of Speech and Drama

### **CHAIR: SIMON MCKEON**

archivist; 20 years experience of working in local authority culture departments

Produced by Simon McKeon

### CULTURAL MARXISM: THREAT OR MYTH? 12:00-13:00

Accusations of 'cultural Marxism' have increasingly been hurled at the left. The term is supposed to signify a vaguely conspiratorial march through the institutions by left-wingers who want to undermine traditional Western values, such as marriage or authority itself. But aside from being a term of abuse, what does this accusation really mean? Left wingers are more likely to complain about 'problematic' adverts than the stalled wage growth of the working classes. Is this not a shift away from Marxism itself? Why does the term enjoy such widespread currency?

### **DR TIM BLACK**

editor, spiked review; columnist, spiked

### MARK LITTLEWOOD

Director General, Institute of Economic Affairs

### **HELEN PLUCKROSE**

editor, Areo

### MARTIN ROBINSON

educational consultant and teacher; author, Trivium 21c: preparing young people for the future with lessons from the past

### **CHAIR: JACOB REYNOLDS**

partnerships manager, Academy of Ideas; co-convenor, Living Freedom; organiser, Debating Matters

Produced by Jacob Reynolds



# DO THE RIGHT THING? THE MORAL RESPONSIBILITY OF THE ARTIST

14:00-15:30

'There is no such thing as a moral or an immoral book. Books are well written, or badly written. That is all.' Oscar Wilde's view of art as essentially an aesthetic pursuit, one concerned with transcendent beauty and the human condition, has arguably now been superseded. Artists are routinely being 'called out' if their work represents minority groups in a light that is perceived as negative. Theatre directors, such as the Globe's Michelle Terry, have been applauded applauded for using blind casting to combat alleged inequality in the arts. Should art be judged on whether or not it is sending the right message? What are the implications for artists themselves?

### **JAMES DREYFUS**

award winning television, film and theatre actor

### **MO LOVATT**

writer and researcher specialising in arts and culture policy; co-chair, The Great Debate

### KIMBERLY MCINTOSH

policy officer, The Runnymede Trust and Race on the Agenda; writer, *Guardian*, *gal-dem* 

### **VINAY PATEL**

playwright, True Brits and An Adventure; writer, Murdered By My Father; contributor, The Good Immigrant; BAFTA nominee

### SAMEER RAHIM

managing editor, Prospect Magazine; judge, Costa Poetry Book Prize

### **CHAIR: ANDREW DOYLE**

writer and comedian; co-author, Jonathan Pie: Off The Record

Produced by Andrew Doyle

# BREXIT ON STAGE: CAN WE ONLY BE FRIENDS WITH PEOPLE LIKE US?

16:00-17:15

'In a safe space, no one can hear you scream...' How far would you go to save your closest friendships from being washed away by the tide of history? This is the question that confronts the characters in a new play, People Like Us, by Julie Burchill and Jane Robins. It examines the true cost of daring to pop one's own social bubble and ask the question – can we only ever really be friends with like-minded people? Its writers will discuss theatre as a venue for debating politics and ask why so many in the arts seem not to 'get' why people voted Brexit.

### **CLAIRE FOX**

director, Academy of Ideas; author, I STILL Find That Offensive!

### IN CONVERSATION WITH:

### JULIE BURCHILL

journalist; author; broadcaster; co-writer, People Like Us

### **JANE ROBINS**

author, White Bodies; journalist; co-writer, People Like Us

Produced by Claire Fox

### PEOPLE LIKE US

By Julie Burchill and Jane Robins Union Theatre 2nd – 20th October 2018 Tuesday to Saturday 7.30pm Saturday 2.30pm T: 020 7261 9876 W: uniontheatre.biz/

# CAN THE FEMALE NUDE SURVIVE THE #METOO ERA? 17:30–18:45

The nude represents something unique about Western art: idealisation of the human form and a visual language and expression of the erotic and sensuous in human experience. Yet there are increasing calls for paintings that might be seen as objectifying women and girls to be removed or carefully contextualised by museum labels. Feminist art critics have long drawn attention to the dubious sexual conduct of artists such as Picasso and Gauguin, and the #MeToo movement has raised the temperature of these debates. Is it time to reassess the place of the nude in the Western artistic canon?

### **SPEAKER:**

### **DIDO POWELL**

painter; lecturer and tutor in art history and painting

### **RESPONDENTS:**

### **JJ CHARLESWORTH**

art critic and editor; senior editor, ArtReview

### **CLARE GANNAWAY**

curator, contemporary art, Manchester Art Gallery

### JEAN WAINWRIGHT

director, Fine Art and Photography Research Centre, University for the Creative Arts; interviewer and presenter

### **CHAIR: DR WENDY EARLE**

convenor, AoI Arts and Society Forum; former impact development officer, Birkbeck, University of London

Produced by Dr Wendy Earle

### TECHNOLOGY AND SOCIETY

While we generally welcome new technology and the possibilities that it brings, new capabilities throw up practical challenges and moral dilemmas. The rise of social media has led to criticism of its impact on young people. Are Facebook and Instagram depriving our youth of valuable face-to-face interactions while creating a variety of pressures, from the competition for 'likes' and 'shares' to worries about body image? Drone technology has brought stunning aerial photography to the masses - but will fears about safety or privacy restrict its application across society? With Bitcoin and other cryptocurrencies, is money itself being transformed? If so, what will be the consequences? Then there is perhaps the biggest question of all: what does it mean to be human when we use technology to enhance ourselves?

# IF DATA RUNS THE WORLD, WHO IS IN CONTROL? 10:00—11:30

In the closing years of the twentieth century, the emergence of the internet heralded a new age of freedom and opportunity. In many ways, with the development of smartphones and social media, this promise has been realised. A world of readily accessible information, communication and consumption is now at our fingertips. Yet many are gloomy about the IT revolution and pessimistic about future trends. Data manipulation threatens privacy and fake news destabilises the political order. Campaigners demand measures to protect cybersecurity and prevent identity theft and data leaks. But can the law protect us while respecting our privacy? Can the old centres of authority

retain control of this new data-driven world?

### **PETRA ABBAM**

publications editor, BBC Proms; researcher, ethics and technology

### **TIMANDRA HARKNESS**

journalist, writer and broadcaster; presenter, FutureProofing; author, Big Data: does size matter?

### **CARL MILLER**

research director, Centre for the Analysis of Social Media, Demos; author, The Death of the Gods: the new global power grab

### **LAUREN RAZAVI**

managing director, Flibl; award-winning writer and consultant

### **CHAIR: SANDY STARR**

communications manager, Progress Educational Trust

Produced by Timandra Harkness and Sandy Starr



# SOCIAL MEDIA: THE PUBLIC SQUARE OF THE 21ST CENTURY?

12:00-13:00

Democracy is increasingly digital. People get news from Facebook, hash out ideas on Twitter and petition the government on sites like Change.org. But as political activity seems to be moving online, some have called for the regulation of this new 'virtual town hall'. Can democracy thrive with a totally free web, or should governments step in to protect the citizens they serve? Can we solve new problems like filter bubbles and the transformation of our public sphere with a more open online framework? What can we learn from the success stories of democratic digitalisation overseas?

### **DONALD CLARK**

EdTech entrepreneur; CEO, WildFire

### **NICO MACDONALD**

visiting fellow, School of Arts and Creative Industries, London South Bank University; co-author, Big Potatoes: the London manifesto for innovation

### **CHARLIE PARKER**

journalist; recent awardee, Winston Churchill Memorial Trust travel scholarship to research digital democracy initiatives in Iceland and Estonia

### **ALICE THWAITE**

founder, Echo Chamber Club

### **CHAIR: MARTYN PERKS**

digital business consultant and writer; coauthor, Big Potatoes: the London manifesto for innovation

Produced by Charlie Parker and Martyn Perks



### SOCIAL MEDIA: CORRUPTING YOUNG MINDS?

14:00-15:30

Are social media corrupting the younger generation? A recent report found children and young people are becoming anxious because they believe that they need to gain 'likes', maintain their online image and keep up appearances. These concerns have led to the growing popularity of 'digital detox' holidays. An Ofcom survey found that 34 per cent of respondents had tried a period of abstinence from their smartphones. What is the role of social media in the lives of young people? Have virtual networks replaced real-world social interactions? Can new media be used to promote more positive causes? Or does social media's focus on image merely encourage self-obsession?

### DR BERNADKA DUBICKA

chair, Faculty of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry, Royal College of Psychiatrists; consultant psychiatrist and research lead, Pennine Care Foundation Trust

### JULIA HOBSBAWM OBE

honorary visiting professor, workplace social health, Cass Business School; founder, Editorial Intelligence; author, Fully Connected

### DR KEN MCLAUGHLIN

senior lecturer in social work, Manchester Metropolitan University; author, Surviving Identity: vulnerability and the psychology of recognition

### **JEN PERSSON**

director, defenddigitalme

### **CHAIR: CHRISTOPHER BECKETT**

Holy Family Catholic School, Walthamstow

**Produced by Christopher Beckett** 



# DRONES: WILL THEY EVER TAKE OFF?

16:00-17:15

Drones are flying everywhere, offering novel angles for photographers, helping farmers to inspect crops and livestock and even delivering illicit drugs to prisons. Given the lack of regulation of these devices, drones are the focus of considerable controversy. How can we deal with concerns about safety and ethics, while fostering an environment that allows the exciting promise of this technology to be fulfilled? Will the use of drones lead to gains in efficiency and convenience? Or will a wider mood of risk-aversion keep drones firmly on the ground?

### **DONALD CLARK**

EdTech entrepreneur; CEO, WildFire

### DR OWEN MCAREE

senior research officer, Liverpool John Moores University; member, UK Government's Drone Industry Action Group

### **ALASTAIR MUIR**

safety director, NATS; chair, United Nations International Civil Aviation Organisation

### **DR SOPHIE ROBINSON**

flight physicist; lead engineer, Kopter Group AG

### **CHAIR: TIMANDRA HARKNESS**

journalist, writer and broadcaster; presenter, FutureProofing; author, Big Data: does size matter?

**Produced by Timandra Harkness** 





### DEBATING MATTERS 2018: ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE 17:30—18:45

The Battle of Ideas hosts a special Debating Matters championship. Debating Matters is known for its rigorous and intellectually challenging format that values substance over style. This special event will showcase debaters from two UK schools who have been involved in Debating Matters over recent years.

### **MOTION:**

'Humanity should fear advances in artificial intelligence'

### **DEBATE TEAMS:**

FOR: RICHMOND UPON THAMES COLLEGE,

AGAINST: SIR WILLIAM PERKINS'S SCHOOL

### JUDGES:

### **CLAIRE BENNISON**

head, ACCA (Association of Chartered Certified Accountants)

### JUSTINE BRIAN

director, Civitas Schools

### SIMON WARR

communications director, NATS

### **CHAIR: ADAM RAWCLIFFE**

associate fellow, Academy of Ideas; prison officer

Produced by Geoff Kidder and Adam Rawcliffe







### **MORAL MATTERS**

How should we go about protecting vulnerable groups in society? The outrageous cases of abuse in Rotherham and elsewhere show that there are children and young people who are not receiving the protection they need from the authorities. Yet those same authorities are intervening ever more in family life in other ways. How can we get the balance right? Similar concerns affect those receiving aid from charities in the developing world. Earlier this year there were multiple accusations of NGO workers paying locals for sex, even underage girls. Have charities lost sight of their mission - and their authority? Fifty years ago, the greatest concern in poorer countries was not lascivious aid workers but overpopulation and the spectre of mass starvation as the number of people boomed. Were such neo-Malthusian fears misplaced or simply mistimed? Whereas, in the past, major religions dominated society, today those who hold religious beliefs seem increasingly marginalised. Do we need to protect their freedom of conscience or are such beliefs used to deny other groups their own rights?

# CHARITIES: HAS THE HALO SLIPPED? 10:00-11:30

From sex scandals over the use of prostitutes in Haiti and harassment within organisations, to questions about spending and funding, charities are in a panic as donors stop giving and public opinion turns sour. But the aid sector is hardly a stranger to scandal. Public trust and confidence in aid has been falling amid disquiet about the ways large charities operate. More profoundly, some claim that aid-generated dependency has fuelled a 'white saviour' complex, skewing relations between the West and developing world. Have recent sex scandals distorted our view of charities? Or has this crisis been a long time coming?

### JUDITH BRODIE

interim chief executive officer, BOND (British Overseas NGOs for Development)

### THEO CLARKE

founder and chief executive, Coalition for Global Prosperity

### PATRICK CUSWORTH

head of policy and public affairs, Chartered Institute of Building

### MIGUEL VEIGA-PESTANA

head of corporate affairs and chief sustainability officer, RB plc

### DR TOM YOUNG

senior lecturer in politics and international relations, SOAS; author, Neither Devil Nor Child: how Western attitudes are harming Africa

### **CHAIR: BRÍD HEHIR**

writer, researcher and blogger; retired nurse and fundraiser

Produced by Brid Hehir

# HAVE WE DEFUSED THE 'POPULATION BOMB'? 12:00–13:00

Fifty years ago, Paul and Anne Ehrlich's bestseller, The Population Bomb, claimed overpopulation would lead to hundreds of millions of deaths from starvation in the 1970s. In fact, while the population has more than doubled, to 7.5 billion, major famines are now largely a thing of the past. The proportion of people living in extreme poverty has plummeted. Nevertheless, some fear disaster was delayed rather than averted. Can we really go on blithely adding billions of people to the planet without eventually bumping up against natural limits? Should we be celebrating the triumph of humanity or striving to rein in unsustainable population growth?

### **ANN FUREDI**

chief executive, BPAS; author, The Moral Case for Abortion

### **ED GILLESPIE**

co-founder, Futerra; author, Only Planet: a flight-free adventure around the world; cohost, Futurenauts

### **DAVID ALBERT JONES**

director, Anscombe Bioethics Centre; professor of bioethics, St Mary's University, Twickenham

### **ROBIN MAYNARD**

director, Population Matters

### **CHAIR: MARTIN WRIGHT**

writer and speaker; director, Positive News; formerly editor-in-chief, Green Futures

Produced by Martin Wright

### FROM BAKERS TO BURQAS: RELIGIOUS FREEDOM TODAY 14:00—15:30

Historically, religious freedom was considered an essential right, associated with freedom of conscience, and the eighteenth century saw significant expansion of the right of individuals to practise different religions as they saw fit. Today, through controversies over 'gay cakes' and, in the US, providing health insurance for contraception, we often see religious freedom pitted against other basic liberties like free speech and gender equality. Can these freedoms coexist? How do we ensure the freedom of faith communities to exercise their beliefs? Where should we draw the line when religious exercise threatens to impinge on other fundamental freedoms?

### **ED HUSAIN**

senior fellow, Civitas; global fellow, Woodrow Wilson Center, Washington DC; author, The House of Islam: a global history and best-selling memoir The Islamist

### STEPHEN KNIGHT

podcaster, blogger, reporter, The Godless Spellchecker

### SIMON MCCROSSAN

head of public policy, Evangelical Alliance; contributor, An Employer's Guide to Christian Beliefs and Speak Up

### HELEN PLUCKROSE

editor, Areo

### CHAIR: JON O'BRIEN president, Catholics for Choice

Produced by Jon O'Brien and Cynthia Romero, director of communications, Catholics for Choice

CATHOLICS FOR CHOICE

### FROM SAFEGUARDING TO GROOMING GANGS: IS CHILD PROTECTION WORKING? 16:00–17:15

In Rotherham, Rochdale and elsewhere, evidence has emerged of widespread abuse of girls, with local agencies accused of turning a blind eye. Yet at the same time, there has been a surge in interventions in families. Local authorities are applying to the courts for care orders at twice the rate of 10 years ago, and there are twice as many children in care today as there were 20 years ago. Is the problem one of riskaverse social workers intervening too much or are vulnerable young people in some communities not being protected at all?

### **DAVE CLEMENTS**

local government adviser; author, Social Care for Free Citizens

### **DR JEREMY SAMMUT**

director, culture, prosperity and civil society programme, Centre for Independent Studies, Sydney

### **DR ANDY BILSON**

emeritus professor of social work, University of Central Lancashire; associate director, The Centre for Children and Young People's Participation

### **AMANDA NAYLOR**

assistant director, Impact, Barnardos, the UK lead on child sexual abuse and child sexual exploitation

### **CHAIR: DR HELENE GULDBERG**

lecturer in psychology, Open University; author, Reclaiming Childhood: freedom and play in an age of fear and Just Another Ape?

### **Produced by Dave Clements**







### COUNTERCULTURAL CONCERNS

The protests of 1968 were a highpoint of opposition to the status quo. The old, boring, materialistic certainties of the postwar world would be overthrown in youthful revolt. While the impact on government was minimal -Richard Nixon was elected in the same year, for example there is no doubt that the Sixties radicals had an important effect on politics and culture. What is their legacy today? Have the attitudes of the counterculture filtered through even to that last bastion of patriotism and discipline, the military? Fifty years on, what is today's counterculture? Could it mean the rise of the 'intellectual dark web', most famously associated with Jordan Peterson? Are the left-field artists of the past now the cultural elite, using their fame to comment and campaign on every facet of life? Or is there still a place for youthful campaigning, like the antifirearms campaigns in the US?

### THE PETERSON EFFECT: A NEW RELIGION OR FREE-SPEECH ROCK STARS? 10:00—11:30

Psychology professor and YouTube star Jordan Peterson encourages his legions of fans to take responsibility for their own lives and strive to achieve worthwhile life goals. For critics, however, his ideas are dangerously reactionary and his following cult-like. Many have bracketed him as part of the 'intellectual dark web', along with neuroscientist Sam Harris and psychologist Steven Pinker. What they have in common is a rejection of 'political correctness', an avowed belief in science and facts over ideology and a preference for psychology as a way of understanding human nature. What is it about these thinkers that gets fans and foes alike so excited?

### **DOLAN CUMMINGS**

author, That Existential Leap: a crime story; associate fellow, Academy of Ideas; cofounder, Manifesto Club

### **CHARLOTTE GILL**

journalist; commentator on topics such as feminism, politics and psychology

### HELEN PLUCKROSE

editor, Areo

### DR GREGORY SALMIERI

fellow, Anthem Foundation for Objectivist Scholarship; co-editor, A Companion to Ayn Rand

### CHAIR: MAX SANDERSON

audio producer, Guardian

### Produced by Max Sanderson



### FROM 1968 TO 2018: THE CHANGING FACE OF COUNTERCULTURE 12:00-13:00

The radicalism of the 1960s offered a sense of energy, imagination and optimism in the face of the intellectual stasis and political impasse that gripped postwar societies. But what counts as counterculture today? Is it to be found among modern feminists, queer collectives, decolonising campaigners, culture jammers, anti-fascist protesters and transgender activists? These activists often espouse mainstream liberal values and attract corporate, and even royal sponsorship. Is real non-conformism to be found on the alt-right or with 'intellectual dark web' figures like Jordan Peterson? Is a counterculture even possible when conventional norms and values are widely derided? At a time when conforming and playing it safe is rife, do transgressive, countercultural acts remain valuable?

### **DR GREG SCORZO**

director and editor, Culture on the Offensive; host, The Art of Thinking

### STEVE SODEN

director, Best Interests Ltd

### **NIKOS SOTIRAKOPOULOS**

lecturer in sociology, York St John University; author, The Rise of Lifestyle Activism: from new left to Occupy

### DR MAREN THOM

researcher in film; education adviser, Queen Mary, University of London

### **CHAIR: LIZZIE SODEN**

creative director / strategy and development, Culture on the Offensive

### Produced by Lizzie Soden



# #MARCHFOROURLIVES: ARE YOUNG PEOPLE LEADING AMERICA'S WAR ON GUNS? 14:00-15:30

On Valentine's Day 2018, a 19-year-old former student committed one of the worst mass shootings in recent US history at a school in the affluent suburb of Parklands, Florida. In response, surviving school students launched the #NeverAgain movement, demanding the reform of gun laws. Politicians, celebrities and media commentators across the world applauded the young protesters for tackling issues that they argued adults had failed to address. Why are adults so ready to defer to young people? Are the #NeverAgain generation following in the footsteps of young radicals before them? Or is this teenage protest more about playing the victim than challenging the status quo?

### JAMES DELINGPOLE

columnist, Breitbart News and Spectator; presenter, Delingpole podcast

### DR RICHARD JOHNSON

lecturer in US politics, Lancaster University

### NANCY MCDERMOTT

writer; adviser to Park Slope Parents; author, The Problem with Parenting: a therapeutic mode of childrearing (forthcoming)

### KARIN ROBINSON

former vice chair, Democrats Abroad UK; senior strategist, Ogilvy

### **DR KEVIN YUILL**

senior lecturer in American history, University of Sunderland; author, The Second Amendment and Gun Control

### **CHAIR: JEAN SMITH**

specialist development consultant; co-founder and director, NY Salon

Produced by Jean Smith

# THE MILITARY: MUSCLE OR MINDFULNESS? 16:00—17:15

Market research has revealed that millennials view the Army as elitist and non-inclusive. As a result, the Army launched a campaign answering questions like 'Can I be gay in the Army?' and 'What if I get emotional in the army?' Some feel this campaign will help counter misogyny, homophobia, Islamophobia and hate crimes. But many serving and past soldiers remain staunch supporters of traditional Army culture, arguing that removing the 'be the best' ethos would undermine the military. Should we stick up for what was once a great institution or celebrate the passing of a culture out of step with the modern world?

### **BEVERLEY HENSHAW**

postgraduate student and former soldier

### LT GEN SIR SIMON MAYALL KBE

retired British Army officer; Middle East adviser, Ministry of Defence

### **CHARLIE PETERS**

writer and broadcaster; British Army reservist

### **DOLLY THEIS**

programme director, Big Tent Ideas Festival; ambassador, Forward Assist, the military veterans charity

### PROFESSOR SIR SIMON WESSELY

Regius chair of psychiatry, Institute of Psychiatry, Psychology and Neuroscience, King's College London; president, Royal Society of Medicine

### **CHAIR: DENNIS HAYES**

professor of education, University of Derby; founder and director, Academics For Academic Freedom (AFAF)

Produced by Professor Dennis Hayes and Beverley Henshaw

### FROM BONO TO KANYE: HOW SERIOUSLY SHOULD WE TAKE CELEBRITIES? 17:30—18:45

This year's royal wedding seemed a happy merging of the British royal family and Hollywood. And from reality TV star Donald Trump's presidency to the floating of Oprah as his successor, it seems the worlds of politics and celebrity are just as porous. While celebrities have always backed their own favoured causes, the status 'celebrity' now seems to bring with it a new kind of authority. Is there anything wrong with celebrities championing causes they believe in? Given that Trump won despite the weight of celebrity opinion against him, do we really care what the rich and famous have to say?

### MARK BORKOWSKI

founder, Borkowski PR; author, The Fame Formula: how Hollywood's fixers, fakers and star makers created the celebrity industry

### **GEORGE HARRISON**

writer, Sun Online

### DR MAREN THOM

researcher in film and education adviser, Queen Mary, University of London

### DR CARLTON BRICK

lecturer in sociology, School of Media, Culture & Society, University of the West of Scotland

### **CHAIR: DR GRAHAM BARNFIELD**

senior lecturer in journalism; communications project director EARA; author Once Upon a Time in Hollywood: five years of Quentin Tarantino (forthcoming)

Produced by Dr Carlton Brick and Maren Thom

### **FUTURE THINKING**

This strand looks at a variety of issues, from politics to new technology, where society faces new challenges and fresh ideas. With older political parties struggling, where will the new political movements come from and what will they stand for? That question is particularly pertinent in many states across Europe where the political establishment is in meltdown so what's going on and what does the future hold? Air travel has become a microcosm of many wider issues in society. While flying has been 'democratised' in recent years thanks to budget airlines and cheap flights, how do we cope with the challenges that creates, from managing traffic to assuaging the concerns of those living under the flight paths? How do we get the benefits of flying while minimising the problems? Ten years on from the financial crisis, have the failings of traditional banking and financial services provided a space for the rise of new currencies freed from government control - and what are the implications for society as a whole?

# OUT WITH THE OLD: WHAT'S THE FUTURE FOR PARTY POLITICS?

10:00-11:30

Over the past two years, both the Labour Party and the Conservatives have been to the brink of civil war. Brexit is perhaps an obvious cause, but not the only problem. The Labour Party has just about survived claims of anti-Semitism causing splits within the party, but the rise of Momentum and reselection clashes suggest deeper schisms. Within the Tory party many MPs are now gunning for Theresa May. Meanwhile, UKIP and Lib Dem numbers have tanked following the EU referendum and there is talk of a new centrist party, headed up by Tony Blair, and including a mixture of pro-EU Lib Dem, Tory and Labour MPs. Could we be on the brink of a new political landscape?

### **KATY BALLS**

political correspondent, Spectator

### **RACHEL CUNLIFFE**

comment and features editor, City A.M.

### MARTHA GILL

political journalist

### **NEIL STEWART**

editorial director, *The City View*; former political secretary to Neil Kinnock, leader of the Labour Party, 1989–1992

### **DOLLY THEIS**

programme director, Big Tent Ideas Festival; ambassador, Forward Assist, the military veterans charity

### **CHAIR: ALASTAIR DONALD**

associate director, Academy of Ideas; convenor, Living Freedom; co-director, Future Cities Project

**Produced by Alastair Donald** 

### WHERE IS EUROPE GOING? 12:00-13:00

The UK is not the only European country to be undergoing tumultuous change. In Italy, a populist coalition has been elected. In Poland and Hungary, elected governments appear to be cementing their power by taking control of state broadcasters or the judiciary. Belgium has been shaken by corruption scandals while in Germany, the populist AfD has been on the rise since the 2015 immigration crisis. In Scandinavia, the reviled Sweden Democrats are now mainstream while in Denmark controversial new sanctions are proposed to deal with so-called 'ghetto neighbourhoods'. What do European states have in common and where do they diverge? What are the implications for freedom and democracy?

### **SABINE BEPPLER-SPAHL**

chair, Freiblickinstitut e.V; CEO, Sprachkunst36; Germany correspondent, spiked

### **PETER HANKE**

conductor and artistic director, Voces Academy; associate fellow, Oxford University

### MÁRTON MATYASOVSZKY-NÉMETH

part-time legal adviser; phd student, Faculty of Law, Eötvös Loránd University, Budapest

### DR DOMINIC STANDISH

lecturer; author, Venice in Environmental Peril? Myth and reality

### **XANDER STROO**

programme officer, Vlaams-Nederlands Huis deBuren

### **CHAIR: BRUNO WATERFIELD**

Brussels correspondent, The Times; co-author, No Means No

### Produced by Alastair Donald



# UP IN THE AIR: THE FUTURE OF FLYING

14:00-15:30

For many of us, one of the positives of modern living is our ability to fly. Aviation creates a globalised world, forging relationships between nations for work, leisure and trade. It's no wonder that any restrictions on our mobility - whether by Brexit, volcanic ash or those seemingly perennial strikes - are always met with dismay. But are we being complacent, assuming that aviation opportunities will simply carry on growing? From the need to address climate change to growing congestion in the skies, there are numerous challenges facing aviation today. What can be done to ensure we continue to enjoy the benefits of flying?

### **ED GILLESPIE**

co-founder, Futerra; author, Only Planet: a flight-free adventure around the world

### **KEVIN MCCULLAGH**

founder, Plan; writer and commentator on innovation

### **DR PAUL REEVES**

engineering software designer, SolidWorks R&D

### DR SOPHIE ROBINSON

flight physicist; lead engineer, Kopter Group AG

### **MARTIN ROLFE**

chief executive officer, NATS

### **JOHN STEWART**

chair, Heathrow Association for the Control of Aircraft Noise; author, Why Noise Matters

### **CHAIR: JIM BUTCHER**

reader in geography, Canterbury Christ Church University; co-author, Volunteer Tourism

Produced by Jim Butcher and Claire Fox

### NATS

### CRYPTOCURRENCIES: BITCOIN AND THE NEW GOLDRUSH

16:00-17:15

After almost a decade in existence, Bitcoin burst on to the public stage in 2017. The online cryptocurrency saw its market price soar, discussion of Bitcoin hit the front pages of the financial press and it was listed on major financial exchanges. Its price has been very unstable, however, hitting a then-record high in December 2017 before crashing to less than half that value a few months later. What are the pros and cons of having a currency free from government oversight? Is Bitcoin a threat to the current financial world order or an unstable asset that will always be prone to short-term price bubbles? A libertarian dream, or a financial con?

### **DOMINIC FRISBY**

writer; comedian; author, Bitcoin: the future of money?

### **SHIV MALIK**

head of strategy and communications, Streamr; co-author, Jilted Generation: how Britain has bankrupted its youth

### **VICKY PRYCE**

chief economic adviser and board member, Centre for Economics and Business Research; member, Economic Advisory Group, British Chambers of Commerce

### NIKOS SOTIRAKOPOULOS

lecturer in sociology, York St John University; author, The Rise of Lifestyle Activism: from new left to Occupy

CHAIR: TOM BAILEY staff writer, Money Observer

**Produced by Tom Bailey** 



# DEBATING MATTERS

Organised by the Academy of Ideas, Debating Matters presents schools with an innovative and engaging approach to debating. Grappling with real-world issues and utilising a unique 'substance over style' format, Debating Matters encourages young people to go beyond the headlines of key moral, political and scientific issues and helps create the next generation of thinkers.

Debating Matters Regional
Championships will run throughout 2019.

For further information, visit <u>debatingmatters.com/</u>

or contact Bernie Whelan 020 7269 9230



### **LAW AND ORDER**

In recent years, the answer to many perceived social problems has been to create a new law regulating or even criminalising activities. Is resorting to the law the best way to deal with such problems, particularly in situations where there is controversy over whether there is really a problem at all? What is the proper role of prison for those who do get sent there - rehabilitation, punishment or deterrence? Is the idea of rehabilitation a salve for guilty liberal consciences or a worthwhile attempt to turn prisoners' lives around?

# CREATING NEW CRIMES: THE TRIVIALISATION OF LEGISLATION?

14:00-15:30

Preoccupations with Brexit haven't stopped the government legislating on matters closer to home. New laws have been proposed to ban or regulate smacking, nuisance calls, corrosive substances, drones, laser pointers and 'upskirting'. Yet this proliferation of new offences sits alongside recent figures showing that more traditional crimes are being policed less than ever. Police forces are closing investigations without identifying a suspect in the majority of cases of burglary, vehicle theft and shoplifting, yet find time to trawl Twitter for potential hatespeech cases. Are we devoting too many resources to politically fashionable new laws at the expense of tackling traditional crime - and undermining traditional civil liberties?

### SUSAN EDWARDS

professor of law; director of external relations, University of Buckingham; author, Sex and Gender in the Legal Process

### **JODIE GINSBERG**

chief executive, Index on Censorship

### **LUKE GITTOS**

criminal lawyer; director, Freedom Law Clinic; legal editor, spiked; author, Why Rape Culture is a Dangerous Myth

### **ANNABEL MULLIN**

leadership team, new political party Renew; sitting magistrate, Central London Bench; former policer officer

### **RUPERT REID**

director of research and strategy, Policy Exchange; author, Ambitious for Recovery

### **CHAIR: ADAM RAWCLIFFE**

associate fellow, Academy of Ideas; prison officer

Produced by Adam Rawcliffe



### REHABILITATION: INCARCERATED SOCIAL WORK OR HUMANE PRISON REFORM?

16:00-17:15

One of the concerns about the present, headline-grabbing prison crisis is that rehabilitation is being sidelined by staff shortages, overcrowding and spending cuts. Frequently caricatured as a soft approach to penal policy, today's advocates of rehabilitation often present it as a silver bullet to stop reoffending. But is prison just about rehabilitation? For many, the role of prison is for punishment and deterrence rather than to cut reoffending. Can the system do both? Others complain that prison officers are being co-opted into acting as social workers. Is it utopian thinking to expect prison to solve prisoners' social problems that are so often neglected 'outside'?

### **ALICE DAWNAY**

co-founder and CEO, Switchback; winner, Robin Corbett Prisoner Reintegration Award 2016

### DR DAVID MAGUIRE

British Academy postdoctoral fellow, Centre for Education in the Criminal Justice System, UCL; editorial board member, *Prison Service Journal* 

### **JERRY PETHERICK**

managing director for custody and detention services, G4S

### **NATASHA PORTER**

chief executive officer, Unlocked Graduates

### **ADAM RAWCLIFFE**

associate fellow, Academy of Ideas; prison officer

### **CHAIR: PAMELA DOW**

chief reform officer, Catch22; former director of strategy, Ministry of Justice

Produced by Pamela Dow



### THE NOVEL IS DEAD: LONG LIVE THE BOX SET? 14:00–15:30 BARBICAN LIBRARY

The death of the novel has been announced many times. It was supposed to have been eclipsed by the cinema, TV, the internet, even video games. But while it hangs on, spending on novels dropped by 23 per cent between 2012 and 2017. Even more ominously, it is argued that the novel has met its match in a new golden age of television. Do dramas like Breaking Bad and The Americans give us the depth we once sought in books, or is there something about prose on the page that goes deeper than anything that can be shown on screen?

### **SARAH BARTLETT**

freelance writer

### **PETER BOXALL**

professor of English, University of Sussex; author, The Value of the Novel

### RUPERT CLAGUE

director; producer

### MARK RICHARDS

publisher, John Murray

### CHAIR: DAVID BOWDEN

associate fellow, Academy of Ideas

### **Produced by Sarah Bartlett**





### BURQA BATTLES 17:30—18:45 LEVEL G FREE STAGE

Denmark is the latest European country to ban wearing the Islamic burga and nigab in public, joining Austria, France, Belgium and Bulgaria. Britain's former foreign secretary, Boris Johnson, in his infamous Telegraph article on the ban, may have used gratuitously insulting language to say why he disapproved of the wearing of face veils, but he was nevertheless critical of Denmark for betraying its own 'spirit of liberty'. How should we respond to bans on wearing certain religious garments in the name of integration? Is the burga an issue about women's equality, social cohesion or religious freedom? And is it possible to abhor the burga while insisting on the right to wear it?

### **LATIFA AKAY**

director of education, Maslaha; board member, Inclusive Mosque Initiative

### DR SARIYA CHERUVALLIL-CONTRACTOR

research fellow in faith and peaceful relations, Centre for Trust, Peace and Social Relations (CTPSR), Coventry University; feminist sociologist of religion

### **NAOMI FIRSHT**

journalist; co-author, The Parisians' Guide to Cafés, Bars and Restaurants

### JACOB MCHANGAMA

executive director, Justitia, a Copenhagen based human-rights think tank; host and narrator, Clear and Present Danger: a history of free speech podcast

### **CHAIR: ANN FUREDI**

chief executive, BPAS; author, The Moral Case for Abortion

Produced by Claire Fox



### IS COMEDY TOO SAFE? 17:30—18:45 LEVEL G STUDIO

Comedy used to crackle with a rebellious, punk-like spirit. Lenny Bruce, Bill Hicks, Alexei Sayle and Rik Mayall didn't care if they offended. They revelled in people's discomfort. Nowadays, it seems that comedians have lost their edge and make predictable jokes, from the same perspective against the same targets. Can Comedy Unleashed, London's comedy club set up to embolden free-thinkers, nurture a new revolution in comedy? Or has 'edgy comedy' just passed its sell-by date? Are there any topics so taboo we should refrain from laughing, or should the only taboo be those jokes that just aren't funny?

### ANDREW DOYLE

writer and comedian; co-author, Jonathan Pie: Off The Record

### **WILL FRANKEN**

satirist; contrarian; academic

### **LISA GRAVES**

satirist; freelance graphic designer; artist; co-writer, Godfrey Elfwick

### KONSTANTIN KISIN

comedian; co-host, TRIGGERnometry podcast

### **RIA LINA**

award-winning standup comedian; former forensic IT investigator, Serious Fraud Office; former research scientist, Herpesvirus bioinformatics

### CHAIR: ANDY SHAW

co-founder, Comedy Unleashed

Produced by Andrew Doyle and Andy Shaw





# THE DANGEROUS RISE OF THERAPEUTIC EDUCATION: 10 YEARS ON

### SATURDAY, 10:00-11:30

Since the early 1990s, the education system has been required to address myriad psychological and emotional problems. What have been the long-term effects of this trend? Does 'therapeutic education' reflect the difficult reality of young people's lives today, or have they learned to pathologise normal feelings associated with growing up?

Speakers: Kathryn Ecclestone, visiting professor of education, University of Sheffield; co-author, The Dangerous Rise of Therapeutic Education Dennis Hayes, professor of education, University of Derby; co-author, The Dangerous Rise of Therapeutic Education

Respondents: David Perks, founder and principal, East London Science School Calvin Robinson, assistant principal, St Mary's and St John's CE School

Chair: Louise Burton, history teacher

**Produced by Professor Dennis Hayes** 







### QUESTIONING DIVERSITY: DISCUSSING THE TRIBE SATURDAY, 12:00–13:00

In The Tribe, former Labour Party activist Ben Cobley describes a new 'system of diversity' that offers favour and protection to some people based on things like skin colour and gender. Is there a risk that by focusing on 'prejudice, bias and stereotyping', we may undermine the merit-based, equal society we all seek?

**Speaker: Ben Cobley**, author, The Tribe: the liberal-left and the system of diversity; blogger, A Free Left Blog

Respondents: Dr Christine Louis-Dit-Sully, writer; former research biologist with a life-long interest in social and political issues Dr James Panton, head of upper sixth and head of politics, Magdalen College School; associate professor of philosophy, Open University

Chair: Jon Holbrook, barrister & writer on legal issues

**Produced by Jon Holbrook** 

### WILFRED OWEN 100 YEARS ON: WHAT IS WAR POETRY GOOD FOR? SATURDAY, 14:00-15:30

It's 100 years since Armistice Day and the death of Wilfred Owen, our most celebrated war poet. How should we assess his 'poetry of pity' against the tradition of patriotic poetry? Has past war poetry affected our attitudes today? Is modern war poetry any match for the Great War poets?

Speakers: James Heartfield, lecturer; author, Blood Stained Poppy Dr Sean Lang, senior lecturer; author, First World War for Dummies Richard Swan, ex-teacher; author, Melody's Unicorn Dr Merryn Williams, poet; literary adviser, Wilfred Owen Association

Chair: Cliodhna Ni Ghadhra, trainee solicitor, Arthur Cox

**Produced by Richard Swan** 

### FRANKENSTEIN, 200 YEARS ON: BRINGING MARY SHELLEY'S CLASSIC BACK TO LIFE

### SATURDAY, 16:00-17:15

What can we learn about attitudes to human morality, mortality and ambition from Frankenstein, the brilliant flash in the dark which spawned a powerful myth but began in the teenaged Mary Shelley's imagination? Is it a gothic novel or the birth of science fiction? Why does Frankenstein still resonate today?

Dr Tim Black, editor, spiked review; columnist, spiked

Chair: Bernie Whelan, events coordinator, Academy of Ideas

Produced by Bernie Whelan



# THE INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION ILLUMINATED SATURDAY, 13:10–13:50 GARDEN ROOM

It has been claimed that the Industrial Revolution was the biggest turning point in human history. Yet today it is often either seen with scepticism or as a historical accident, a result merely of technological factors. This talk explores the crucial relationship between the Enlightenment and the Industrial Revolution, what can happen when people assert their capacity for independent thought and then set about turning their ideas into action.

Nikos Sotirakopoulos author, lecturer in sociology, York St John University

Chair: Luke Gittos, criminal lawyer; director, Freedom Law Clinic; legal editor, spiked

### FREE SPEECH IN AN AGE OF SOCIAL MEDIA SUNDAY, 13:10-13:50 GARDEN ROOM

In recent years, social media have frequently become the focus of debates about free speech. Prominent figures have been banned from Twitter. In the US top executives from major social media companies were called before Congress, while in the UK, a new parliamentary bill aims to regulate online forums. With bans, content removal and even prosecutions in recent months, where does this leave free speech online?

**Dr Gregory Salmieri**, fellow, Anthem Foundation for Objectivist Scholarship; co-editor, A Companion to Ayn Rand

Chair: Martyn Perks, digital business consultant and writer



### VANITY VON GLOW: IN CONVERSATION ON FREE SPEECH AND PERFORMANCE

SATURDAY, 13:10–13:50 FREE STAGE

Well-known drag queen Vanity von Glow found herself at the centre of a Twitter storm that seemed designed to destroy her career after performing at a London demonstration this year labelled 'Day of Freedom'. Her crime? Sharing a platform alongside speakers, the majority of whom hailed from the right of the political spectrum, at an event organised by the controversial former head of the EDL, Tommy Robinson. How did Thom Glow - the lifelong Labour voter who performs as Vanity - react to his peers on the left accusing him of affiliation with bigots and the alt-right? Vanity will also perform some songs.

Vanity von Glow, cabaret performer

Chair: Andrew Doyle, writer and comedian; co-author, Jonathan Pie: Off The Record





# TIME TO QUESTION THE POPPY'S APPEAL?

### SUNDAY, 13:10-13:50 LEVEL G STUDIO

November 2018 is an opportunity to commemorate the end of the First World War but also to question the politics of commemoration. A new book, *Blood Stained Poppy* by Kevin Rooney and James Heartfield contends that Britain's many wars, including the First World War, are nothing to be celebrated, and that the poppy is not a neutral, non-political symbol. Should we reject official war commemorations and the poppy as symbols of imperialism? Come along to question the authors.

Kevin Rooney, convenor, AoI education forum; politics teacher; co-author, Who's Afraid Of The Easter Rising? and Blood Stained Poppy

Chair: James Heartfield, lecturer; author, The Equal Opportunities Revolution; co-author, Blood Stained Poppy

### 'POWER TO THE PEOPLE': THE ART OF THINKING ABOUT PROTEST

SUNDAY, 13:10-13:50 FROBISHER 4-6

The year 1968 has become celebrated as a period of unprecedented civil unrest. But isn't democracy about convincing society to change, rather than simply protesting where society has done wrong? Focusing on the theme of protest, join us for an informal, thought-provoking talk and audience conversation. Test your intuitions and see which type of protest (if any) you find most compelling.

Dr Greg Scorzo, director and editor, Culture on the Offensive Lizzie Soden, director, Culture on the Offensive



### **BOOKSHOP BARNIES**



Bookshop Barnies reinvent the book launch format to create salon type discussions that challenge the author to explain and defend their work. Unlike most book launches where the most challenging task for the author is to sign so many autographs, Bookshop Barnies force them to take a stand for their ideas.

Chair: Austin Williams, senior lecturer, Dept of Architecture, Kingston University, London; honorary research fellow, XJTLU, Suzhou, China; author, China's Urban Revolution

### MATTHEW GOODWIN ON NATIONAL POPULISM SATURDAY 13 OCTOBER, 16:00–17:15, FREE STAGE

In his new book Matthew Goodwin makes a compelling case for serious, respectful engagement with the supporters and the ideas of what he calls 'national populism'. He describes how marginalised people operating in a system that seems to encompass a lack of democratic accountability are enlivened to challenge institutions that operate above the nation state. So is populism good or bad? What causes it, and why has it become so unpopular to be populist? Are populist movements merely 'morbid symptoms' of a dying political order or the first signs of a democratic renewal?

Matthew Goodwin, professor of political science, University of Kent; senior fellow, Chatham House; author, National Populism: The Revolt Against Liberal Democracy and Revolt on the Right



### JOHN LLOYD ON THE POWER AND THE STORY SUNDAY 14 OCTOBER, 16:00—17:15, FREE STAGE

In his latest book, John Lloyd presents a panoramic survey of the global news media. Journeying from Putin's Russia to Trump's America, from Saudi Arabia to Israel, from Mexico to China, Lloyd shows how the power of investigative journalism matters now more than ever. Lloyd, who is co-founder of the Reuters Institute for the Study of Journalism at the University of Oxford, explains what has happened to the mainstream media. Is journalism in jeopardy from social media? Are we really in a post-truth age where the reliability of news itself is in crisis?

John Lloyd, contributing editor, Financial Times; columnist, Reuters.com; chairman, School of Civic Education, Russia; author, The Power and the Story: the global battle for news and information

### FESTIVAL BOOKSHOP LEVEL G

Visit the Level M Barbican Shop to find a curated selection of publications featuring key festival topics and speakers.

Look out for signings on the mezzanine level throughout the weekend, come along and browse, buy or takeaway some new ideas to mull over post-Battle.

### barbican



### IDEAS MARKET 2018 SATURDAY, 10:00-17:30 SUNDAY, 10:00-17:30 LEVEL G

Come and have a coffee while browsing a range of stalls promoting ideas to get you thinking and talking – with Camelot, Comedy Unleashed, NATS, Prospect, WORLDbytes and more.

### **BATTLE OF IDEAS 2018 FESTIVAL DRINKS** RECEPTION

### SATURDAY, 18:45-21:00 CONSERVATORY

A chance for festival attendees to relax, continue the debates informally and enjoy a drink on behalf of Diageo. Listen to musicians from the Guildhall School of Music & Drama, one of the world's leading conservatoires and drama schools, which offers musicians, actors, stage managers and theatre technicians an inspiring environment in which to develop.

### **CLAIRE FOX**

director, Academy of Ideas

With

### DAN ENACHESCU

head of public policy for Europe, Diageo plc

### **SEAN GREGORY**

director, Creative Learning, Barbican/ Guildhall School of Music & Drama

### CATHERINE MCGUINNESS

chairman, policy and resources, City of London Corporation

### MUSIC BY THE MCCONKEY **JAZZ TRIO**

Daniel McConkey, saxophone Joe Lee, bass Curtis Volp, guitar

### academy of ideas

### barbican DIAGEO

CAMELOT



The City of London Corporation is the founder and principal funder LONDON of the Barbican Centre

### **ARCHITECTURE TOUR** SATURDAY, 17:30-19:00

Free for Battle of Ideas attendees. Limited capacity - tickets available on a first come first served basis.

### Tour departs from Mezz Level, Ticket Information Desk

Explore the architecture of the Barbican via the highwalks and discover its history, the origins of its designs, and the ideas, values and agendas that shaped the vision of this unique architectural endeavour.

### barbican

### **FESTIVAL** SPEAKERS' SUPPER

Tony Matharu, managing director, Grange Hotels, will give a welcome address at the private supper for speakers and sponsors following the reception on Saturday.



### **BATTLE OF IDEAS 2018 END** OF FESTIVAL PARTY: FREE SPEECH, FREE DRINKS SUNDAY, 18:45-20:30 CONSERVATORY

Following the final festival panel debates, come have a drink on us, offer a toast to liberty and carry on the debates informally in a special drinks reception.

### academy of ideas |

### barbican DIAGEO

Pagefield

CAMELOT

### LIVE MUSIC: SHE CHOIR LONDON

### SATURDAY, 11:30-12:00 BARBICAN LIBRARY

In celebration of Libraries Week, the vibrant and collaborative women's choir SHE Choir London will perform a set of a cappella pop arrangements ranging from Beyoncé to Teenage Dirtbag! All welcome.



### REFRESHMENTS

Coffee and selection of snacks and meals available on almost every floor, including:

### **LEVEL G**

Barbican Kitchen offers hot meals, pizza, salads and cakes throughout the day. Benugo serve a great range of coffee, cakes and sandwiches to take away from their espresso bar on the foyer.

### LEVEL 1: BONFIRE 12:00-21:00

Bonfire is an industrial-chic eatery with a focus on seasonal, great quality ingredients. Wholesome burgers, fiery chicken wings and indulgent milkshakes can be enjoyed in a relaxed, rustic setting overlooking the Barbican's lakeside.

### LEVEL 2: OSTERIA 12:00-10:30

Open on Saturday only, Osteria by Searcys is a modern Italian restaurant offering spectacular views. The generous Italian cooking emphasises seasonality, paired with reinvented classic Italian cocktails and wines.

LEVEL 4 / CINEMA FOYERS Coffee and snacks available.

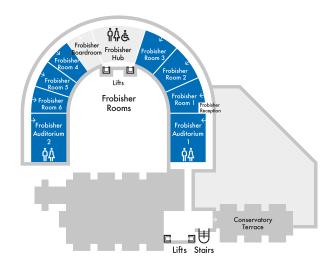
### **BEECH STREET CINEMA FOYERS**

Coffee and snacks available

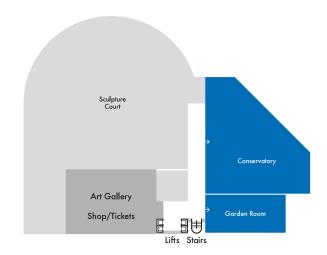
Level 4

### Frobisher Auditorium 1–2 Frobisher Rooms 1– 6

Frobisher Boardroom Frobisher Hub Frobisher Reception Conservatory Terrace

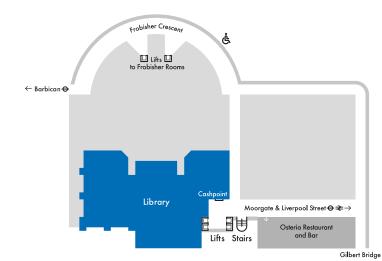


Level 3
Art Gallery
Garden Room
Conservatory



Level 2
Library

Osteria Restaurant and Bar



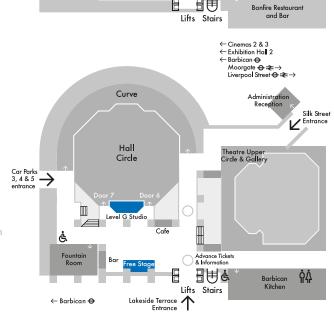
# Level 1

Hall Balcony Bonfire Restaurant & Bar Members' Lounge Martini Bar

**Level G** 

Hall Circle Theatre Upper Circle Theatre Gallery Curve Gallery Advance Tickets & Information Barbican Kitchen

Level G Studio Free Stage



Hall Balcony

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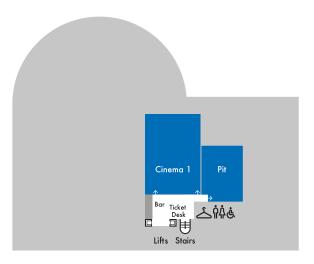
Members'

Lounge

Martini



Cinema 1 Pit



### **CINEMA 2, CINEMA 3 AND EXHIBITION HALL 2**

These venues are on Beech Street. Turn left out of Barbican Silk Street entrance, and walk to the end of Silk Street to reach these venues.



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# 09:30–09:50: BATTLE OF IDEAS 2018 WELCOME ADDRESS LEVEL G FREE STAGE SEE PAGE 4

		LUNCH	Greating new crimes: the trivialisation of legislation? p22	Rehabilitation: incarcerated social work or humane prison reform?	
Out with the old: what's the future for party politics? (Members' Lounge) p20	Where is Europe going? (Members' Lounge) p20	FUNCH	The novel is dead: Up in the air: the ong live the future of flying sox set? (Beech St Cinema 2) Barbican Library) p23	Cryptocurrencies: Bitcoin and the new goldrush (Beech St Cinema 2) p21	
		Vanity von Glow in conversation on free speech and performance 13:10–13:50 p25		Bookshop Barnie: Matthew Goodwin on National Populism p26	Burqa battles p23
The dangerous rise of therapeutic education: 10 years on p24	Questioning diversity: discussing The Tribe p24	LUNCH	: Wilfred Owen 100 years on: what is war poetry good for?	Frankenstein, 200 years on: bringing Mary Shelley's classic back to life p24	Is comedy too safe? p P23
The Peterson effect: a new religion or free-speech rock stars? p18	From 1968 to 2018: the changing face of counterculture p18	Lecture: the Industrial Revolution illuminated 13:10–13:50 p25	#MarchForOurLives: are young people leading America's war on guns? p19	The military: muscle or mindfulness? p19	From Bono to Kanye: how seriously should we take celebrities? p19
Charities: has the halo slipped? p16	Have we defused the 'Population Bomb'? p16	LUNCH	From bakers to burqas: religious freedom today p17	From safeguarding to grooming gangs: is child protection working	
If data runs the world, who is in control? p14	Social media: the public square of the 21st century p14	H	Social media: corrupting young minds? p15	Drones: will they ever take off? p15	Debating Matters 2018: Artificial Intelligence
Can culture heal fractured communities? p12	Cultural Marxism: threat or myth? p12	LUNCH	Do the right thing? The moral responsibility of the artist	Brexit on the stage: can we only be friends with people like us?	Can the female nude survive the #MeToo era? p13
The productivity puzzle: too much like hard work p10	Fintech: should we believe the hype? p10	LUNCH	Protectionism: can we avoid trade wars p11	Monopoly money: is big business too bi <i>g?</i> p11	From robots to UBI: is capitalism digging its own grave?
The crisis of The Fword: diplomacy in the what's the point era of Trump of feminism p6 today? P8	Gender pay gap: believe the hype? p8	LUNCH	What is a woman anyway? p9	Has #MeToo killed the office romance? p9	Cross- examining UK rape laws? p9
The crisis of diplomacy in the era of Trump	How do you solve a problem like Korea p6	HONOH	From Italy to Sweden: what's behind today's antiestablishment revolt? p7	Tearing up the rule book: the end of the new world order?	The new Irish border question p7
From SJW The to gammon: diple weaponsing erapolitical language p6 p4	Culture: who pays? 12:00-13:15 p4	LUNCH	All change: navigating the new political disruption p5	National identity and belonging: what does it mean to be a citizen?	
10:00-	12:00-	13:00-	14:00-	16:00- 17:15	17:30- 18:45

To HATON TO STONE	Understanding anti-semitism today p54	Crowded out: is there too much tourism? p54							
Stand Stand	Cultural Unde appropriation anti in literature: toda, whose voice is p54 it anyway?	How free is Crov the media? is the Question Time mucl p52	HONCH E	FILM PREMIERE Women: A	Success Story 13:30–15:30 p53	Art, music, protest: the cultural legacy of 1968 p53			
Not to Not the lift to Share the Share to Share the state of the state	Regeneration: urban renewal or social cleansing? p50	From the 'Cricket Test' to Three Lions: sport and identity p50	LUNCH		Can we revive Britain's 'Rust Belt'? p51	London Town or Global City? p51	Me, me, me! narcissism and the new politics of identity? p51		
SNOILE STATES			LUNCH				Brexit: dealor no deal? p54	BookshopBarnie: John Lloyd on The Power and the Story p26	
SNOINS STANDO OF STORMS SOUNDS	Après Brexit: tackling the UK's language learning deficit p48	How fear works p48	Time to question the poppy's appeal?	p25	Can libertarianism set us free? p49	The rise of the far right: back to the thirties?			
WINGOUT OF THE PROPERTY OF THE	s Big business in the developing world: friend or foe? p46	Rule book Britain: are we in love with legislation? p46	Free speech in an age of social media 13:10–13:50	p25	Advertising: all-powerful or overrated? p47	War on plastic: a load of rubbish? p47	Brexit and the law: is Britain really 'taking back control'? p47		
JA Ja	From anti-vaxers to Alfie's army: have we lost faith in medical science?	Why can't medical drugs be free? p44	LUNCH		Can genomics revolutionise the NHS? p45	Disease, lifestyle choices and risk: untangling myth from reality p45			
Makan Andrews	Dowe need a new curriculum for the 21st century? p42	Mental health on campus: is university making us sick? p43	'Power to the people': the art of thinking about protest	13:10-13:50 p25	Have we lost faith in faith schools? p43	Inspire or discipline: schooling tomorrow's citizens	Universities: cant get no satisfaction? p43		
Charle Clark Sail Sign	Adoption: making or breaking families? p40	Surrogacy: undermining motherhood? p40	LUNCH		Mum, dad and teenage kicks p41	Grandparents: role models or bad influences? p41	Looking after Granny: the crisis in elderly social care p41		
THING ON TO SHAPE TO	Publish or perish: the crisis of research today p38	Does our DNA define us? p38	LUNCH		Optimistic bees and anxious fish: the animal sentience debate p39	Transhumanism: who wants to live forever? p38	Humanity and nature it's complicated p39		
THO S ON TO THE PARTY OF THE PA	Consent classes: from school to parliament and beyond	Let's talk about sex, baby? p36	LUNCH		ls porn corrupting sex? p37	Contraception: a hard pill to swallow? p37	Automatic lovers: should we be worried about sex robots? p37		
SANTE	From Windrush to Yarl's Wood: the immigration debate today	Decolonising society p34	LUNCH		Black and white vision: are we seeing racism everywhere?	Drill, crime and race: what is inciting violence on London's streets?	The left behind: white working class kids and educaton p35		
SIFSHER ON TOWN ON THOMAS OF THOMAS	Democracy under siege p32	Trust: 10 years after the financial crisis 12:00–13:15 p32	LUNCH		Identity crisis p33	Is free speech a fiction? In conversation with Lionel Shriver p33			
	10:00-	12:00-	13:00- 14:00		14:00- 15:30	16:00– 17:15	17:30-		

# 18:45–20:30: END OF FESTIVAL PARTY LEVEL 3 CONSERVATORY – SEE PAGE 27

### KEYNOTE CONTROVERSIES

These sessions take on some of the big ideas and themes of our time, setting the tone for the festival as a whole.

# JOIN THE ACADEMY OF IDEAS

The Academy of Ideas works to expand the boundaries of public debate. As well as the annual Battle of Ideas festival at the Barbican, we also run: Debating Matters, a national schools debating competition; The Academy, a summer residential school; and Living Freedom, a London residential school for 18- to 25-year-olds. We also have a book club and forums that meet regularly to discuss education, the economy, social policy and the arts.

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For more information, contact Geoff Kidder: geoffkidder@academyofideas.org.uk or visit academyofideas.org.uk

### academy of ideas

# BATTLE OF IDEAS 2019

Next year's festival will be at the Barbican on 2 and 3 November 2019. Early bird tickets available from 13 October 2018.

battleofideas.org.uk

### DEMOCRACY UNDER SIEGE 10:00—11:30

Over the past year, debates about democracy and its woes have been ubiquitous. There are fears tech giants and algorithms are undermining elections. Liberal democratic values such as free speech and universalism are questioned, even by liberals. Populism is variously claimed to be a threat to democracy or its very embodiment. Some claim undereducated voters were conned into voting for Brexit or Donald Trump and argue citizens should have to earn the right to vote by passing a test. Elected governments in Poland and Hungary have been censured by the EU. But our current managerial style of rule suggests antidemocratic tendencies have been developing for decades, excluding and angering voters. Many government powers are now exercised by unelected experts and quangos. Is it time to give more power to The People? What is democracy and what threatens it today? Can liberalism renew itself sufficiently to save democracy?

### **ZANNY MINTON BEDDOES**

editor-in-chief, The Economist

### **DANIEL MOYLAN**

former deputy chairman, Transport for London; co-chairman, Urban Design London

### STEVE RICHARDS

broadcaster; political commentator; presenter, BBC Radio 4's Week in Westminster; author, The Rise of the Outsiders

### **BRUNO WATERFIELD**

Brussels correspondent, The Times; co-author, No Means No

### **CHAIR: CLAIRE FOX**

director, Academy of Ideas; author, I STILL Find That Offensive!

### Produced by Claire Fox



# TRUST: 10 YEARS AFTER THE FINANCIAL CRISIS, HAVE WE LEARNT THE LESSONS? 12:00–13:15

It is a decade since the world was hit by what has become known as the global financial crisis. The subsequent downturn was arguably the worst since the Great Depression of the 1930s. With the benefit of 10 years of hindsight, how should the global financial crisis be viewed? Were the finance sector's woes the cause of subsequent economic problems or was the crisis a symptom of underlying, structural weaknesses in the economy? Is it accurate to describe the current economic policies of Western governments as 'austerity'? Is the economic fall-out from the crisis responsible for the rise of populism?

### **DANIEL BEN-AMI**

journalist; author, Ferraris for All: in defence of economic progress and Cowardly Capitalism

### **PHILIPPE LEGRAIN**

Open Political Economy Network (OPEN); author, Aftershock: reshaping the world economy after the crisis; former special adviser to WTO

### **MAGGIE MCGHEE**

executive director, governance, ACCA

### **DR LINDA YUEH**

economist, St Edmund Hall, University of Oxford and London Business School; author, The Great Economists

### **CHAIR: ROB LYONS**

science and technology director, Academy of Ideas; convenor, AoI Economy Forum

### Produced by Rob Lyons



Think Ahead



### IDENTITY CRISIS 14:00-15:30

Identity politics has become a dominant force in Western public life today. While its cheerleaders continue to create new and narrower identity groups, critics fear it threatens democracy, liberalism and free speech. Professor Frank Furedi will look at the history of society's concern with identity and its rapid politicisation in the 21st century. Is today's identity politics less focused on overcoming discrimination than its 1960s and 1970s versions were? Is it a form of collectivism or is it better understood as a kind of fragmentation? Can the ideal of universalism survive an era where society is divided into identity groups? Is identitarianism really a threat to democracy and liberalism?

### **SPEAKER:**

### PROFESSOR FRANK FUREDI

sociologist and social commentator; author, How Fear Works: culture of fear in the 21st century and Populism and the European Culture Wars

### **RESPONDENTS:**

### **REMI ADEKOYA**

PhD researcher on identity politics, Sheffield University; columnist; member, Editorial Working Group, Review of African Political Economy

### **RACHEL HALLIBURTON**

associate editor, Avaunt Magazine; author, The Optickal Illusion: a very eighteenth century scandal

### **ERIC KAUFMANN**

professor of politics, Birkbeck College, University of London; author, Whiteshift: immigration, populism and the future of white majorities

### **CHAIR: CLAIRE FOX**

director, Academy of Ideas; author, I STILL Find That Offensive!

Produced by Claire Fox

### IS FREE SPEECH A FICTION? IN CONVERSATION WITH LIONEL SHRIVER 16:00-17:15

Novelist Lionel Shriver isn't afraid of speaking her mind. At the 2016 Brisbane Writers Festival, she caused a furore by calling into question the contemporary focus on identity politics, saying 'I hope the concept of cultural appropriation is a passing fad'. More recently, she was accused of racism when arguing that diversity quotas in publishing mean literary excellence becomes secondary to ticking boxes. As well as a staunch defender of intellectual freedom, Shriver is perhaps better known as a multiple award-winning author. How difficult is it to criticise identity politics in today's climate? Is diversity in the arts something to aspire to or should we focus on the content of what's being published, rather than the writer?

### **CLAIRE FOX**

director, Academy of Ideas; author, I STILL Find That Offensive!

### IN CONVERSATION WITH:

### LIONEL SHRIVER

award-winning novelist; novels include, We Need to Talk About Kevin (2005 Orange prize winner), The Mandibles: a family, 2029 – 2047 and The Post-Birthday World; her first short story collection, Property, was published this year

### Produced by Ella Whelan





### IDENTITY WARS: RACE AND SOCIETY

ALL IN BRITAIN

Until recently, the politics of race was simply about discrimination against ethnic minorities. Many would claim racism is now so marginal that the march towards equality is well under way. Indeed, while school pupils from minority backgrounds now do well, it is white, working-class children that are the subject of concerns about underachievement. But others argue discrimination is still a serious problem, from the criminal-justice system to the ideas taught in schools and universities. The result has been a spate of race audits and calls to 'decolonise' the curriculum. If racism is dying out, what should we make of the claims that a new form of black culture, 'drill' music, is partly responsible for homicides in London?

# FROM WINDRUSH TO YARL'S WOOD: THE IMMIGRATION DEBATE TODAY

10:00-11:30

Fifty years after HMT Empire Windrush docked in Tilbury, bringing the first Caribbean migrants to make their lives in the UK, members of the 'Windrush generation' were forced out of work, denied healthcare and even deported for failing to produce documents they never knew they needed. There was a public outcry, leading to the resignation of the home secretary, Amber Rudd. Yet there seems to be public demand for a reduction in immigration more broadly. The UK deports 40,000 non-citizens each year, and many are detained in places like Yarl's Wood, where residents have protested against 'inhumane' conditions. What should be our attitude to immigration today and how should policy be enforced?

### SABINE BEPPLER-SPAHL

chair, Freiblickinstitut e.V; CEO, Sprachkunst36; Germany correspondent, spiked

### PHILIPPE LEGRAIN

Open Political Economy Network (OPEN); author, Immigrants: your country needs them

### **MUNIRA MIRZA**

director, HENI talks; former London deputy mayor; co-founder, All In Britain

### PATRICK VERNON OBE

social commentator; founder, 100 Great Black Britons; editor in chief, Black History Magazine

### **CHAIR: FRASER MYERS**

writer, spiked; producer, spiked podcast

Produced by Fraser Myers

### DECOLONISING SOCIETY 12:00-13:00

Student movements to 'decolonise' education have now gone mainstream. Beyond the university, there are calls to decolonise art, architecture, healthcare and even diets. For those demanding decolonisation, colonialism is not merely a historical wrong, but an enduring and pervasive feature of the present. But is it true that our culture perpetuates colonialism? Critics are alarmed by what they see as a growing tendency to entrench racial thinking and to present a degraded view of people of colour as constantly vulnerable to being assaulted by the past. What is the best way to deal with the historic wrongs of colonialism?

### DR BELLA D'ABRERA

director, Foundations of Western Civilisation Program, Institute of Public Affairs

### MANICK GOVINDA

programme director, SPACE (speaking in a personal capacity); freelance arts consultant; former member, Mayor of London's Cultural Strategy Group

### **RALPH LEONARD**

writer; student; contributor, Areo

### **CHAIR: DR TIFFANY JENKINS**

writer and broadcaster; author, Keeping Their Marbles: how treasures of the past ended up in museums and why they should stay there

### Produced by Fraser Myers



#### BLACK AND WHITE VISION: ARE WE SEEING RACISM EVERYWHERE?

14:00-15:30

While many regard Britain as a largely successful multi-racial country, others present an impression of a deeply racially divided society. Labour MP David Lammy criticises Oxford University for lacking racial diversity and the government has launched an official audit of the extent of racial disadvantage in society. No doubt Britain's racial diversity is not reflected in every sphere of life. But is this a result of racial discrimination? Is it better understood as the outcome of inherited disadvantage, social class and even cultural preference? Surveys suggest that racial prejudice has declined markedly in Britain over the past few decades. But is it complacent to suggest that racism is in retreat?

#### KATHARINE BIRBALSINGH

headmistress, Michaela Community School; author, Battle Hymn of the Tiger Teachers: the Michaela way

#### **SYD JEFFERS**

senior lecturer in sociology, University of East London; research interests, politics and theories of race and racialisation

#### **SHIV MALIK**

head of strategy and communications, Streamr; co-author, Jilted Generation: how Britain has bankrupted its youth

#### **MUNIRA MIRZA**

director of HENI talks; former deputy mayor; co-founder of All In Britain

CHAIR: FRASER MYERS writer, spiked; producer, spiked podcast

Produced by Fraser Myers

#### DRILL, CRIME AND RACE: WHAT IS INCITING VIOLENCE ON LONDON'S STREETS? 16:00-17:15

In February 2018, London was proclaimed as a 'murder capital' as its homicide rate overtook New York's for the first time in modern history. According to the Metropolitan Police, one explanation for London's wave of violent crime is the growing popularity of drill, an underground genre of hip-hop. The Met claims that videos featuring rappers insulting and taunting their rivals and posted on YouTube provoke them into gang fights. But does this focus on music distract from more complex social factors responsible for London's gang culture? Or is the nihilistic tone of drill a real problem?

#### FRASER MYERS

writer, spiked; producer, spiked podcast

#### **CRAIG PINKNEY**

freelance youth worker; writer on British multiculturalism, underground music, inequality sociological evolution of UK rap and drill for Guardian, New Statesman, Prospect, Crack, FACT and Pitchfork

#### **CIARAN THAPAR**

freelance youth worker; writer on multiculturalism, inequality, underground music, rap and drill for Guardian, New Statesman, Prospect, Crack, FACT and Pitchfork

#### **DR PATRICK TURNER**

senior lecturer in sociology, Bath Spa University; author, Hip Hop Versus Rap: the politics of droppin' knowledge

#### **CHAIR: KUNLE OLULODE**

director, Voice4Change England; creative director, Rebop Productions

**Produced by Fraser Myers** 



#### THE LEFT BEHIND: WHITE WORKING-CLASS KIDS AND EDUCATION

17:30-18:45

Children from poor and marginalised communities have often struggled at school. In the past, educationalists were concerned that ethnic minorities were at a particular disadvantage. In more recent years, it has become apparent that white working-class children are now the most prone to falling behind. According to Amanda Spielman, chief inspector of schools, children from white working-class families can 'lack the aspiration and drive' of immigrant communities. Has official support for ethnic minorities meant that the traditional working class has been neglected? Or is it less a question of race, and more the product of a culture of low expectations?

#### **NEIL DAVENPORT**

head of faculty of social sciences, JFS Sixth Form Centre

#### **ROWENNA DAVIS**

teacher and writer; author, Tangled Up In Blue: Blue Labour and the struggle for Labour's soul

#### JOE NUTT

educational consultant; TES columnist; author, John Donne: the poems, An Introduction to Shakespeare's Late Plays and A Guidebook to Paradise Lost

#### TARJINDER WILKINSON

primary school teacher; regular writer, All In Britain

#### **CHAIR: NIALL CROWLEY**

designer; writer; former East End pub landlord

Produced by Neil Davenport





#### **SEXUAL REVOLUTIONS**

The past year's furore over #MeToo has given renewed profile to issues around sex today. In particular, the question of consent has become central to court cases, the shaming of high-profile figures and even to everyday relationships. Do we need to be taught consent? Should we install smartphone apps to prove we have received consent? Do these questions and confusions reflect some of the downsides to the availability of reliable contraception, which was once regarded as a major step forward for women's liberation? More generally, we live in an era where pornography is more readily available than ever. But what are the consequences for society and morality? An even more drastic step would be if we take human beings out of sexual relationships altogether. What would be the impact of amorous androids?

#### CONSENT CLASSES: FROM SCHOOL TO PARLIAMENT AND BEYOND 10:00-11:30

The #MeToo, #TimesUp and 'I Believe Her' campaigns have focused attention on behaviour between men and women in the entertainment industry, parliament and beyond. For many this has raised the question: do we need lessons in consent? Most UK universities now run consent classes, which are increasingly becoming compulsory. From September 2019, all school children will be taught 'relationships and sex education' as the subject is renamed 'to emphasise the central importance of healthy relationships'. Is it just common sense that physical contact of any kind needs positive consent? Or are we overcomplicating personal relationships? Are we frightening children about sex before they even have a relationship?

#### SUSAN EDWARDS

professor of law; director of external relations, University of Buckingham; author, Sex and Gender in the Legal Process

#### **ALISHA LOBO**

community officer, University of Bath Students' Union

#### **ELIZABETH ROBERTSON**

professor and chair of English language, University of Glasgow; author, Chaucerian Consent: women, religion and subjection in Late Medieval England

#### **JOANNA WILLIAMS**

head of education and culture, Policy Exchange; author, Women vs Feminism; associate editor, spiked

CHAIR: SALLY MILLARD

co-founder, AoI Parents Forum

Produced by Sally Millard



### LET'S TALK ABOUT SEX, BABY 12:00—13:00

There seems to be a lot of confusion about what young people want from relationships. Sex outside of marriage is no longer taboo, and yet, in many ways, today's generation seems more preoccupied with sexual etiquette than their parents. Dating apps have redefined sex in contractual terms, and a recent survey even claimed young people were ditching sex in favour of 'sexting'. The #MeToo movement could suggest that we have a problem with sex. But many argue that 'hook-up culture' has become the norm, suggesting young people are in fact carefree about sexual etiquette. What is going on?

#### MADELINE GRANT

editorial manager, Institute of Economic Affairs

#### **EMILY HILL**

writer and journalist; former dating columnist, The Sunday Times' Style magazine; author, Bad Romance

#### **DR ZOE STRIMPEL**

historian, University of Sussex; columnist, Sunday Telegraph; author, The Man Diet: one woman's quest to end bad romance

#### **CHAIR: LUKE GITTOS**

criminal lawyer; director, Freedom Law Clinic; legal editor, spiked; author, Why Rape Culture is a Dangerous Myth

Produced by Luke Gittos



#### IS PORN CORRUPTING SEX? 14:00–15:30

More people are watching pornography than ever before. Is this a problem? Libertarians argue that consumption of pornography is a private matter, but others worry that sexist portrayals of women could be linked to sexual violence. But even if porn should be private, what about 'old-fashioned' moral objections? Does watching endless Fifty Shades of Grey inspired fantasies cheapen sex? Are we losing the importance of intimacy in sexual interaction? Is opposition to pornography a mere panic, or is it rooted in a legitimate revulsion towards the obscene depersonalisation of the human body? What should be our attitude to pornography today?

#### **JERRY BARNETT**

founder and primary writer, Sex and Censorship; campaigner; author, Porn Panic!

#### MARTIN DAUBNEY

award-winning editor; journalist; broadcaster; co-founder, Men and Boys Coalition

#### **PROFESSOR CLARISSA SMITH**

director, Centre for Research in Media and Cultural Studies, University of Sunderland

#### **JOANNA WILLIAMS**

head of education and culture, Policy Exchange; author, Women vs Feminism; associate editor, spiked

#### **CHAIR: DR PIERS BENN**

philosopher; adjunct professor, Fordham University London Centre; author, Freedom of Speech and the Flight from Reason

Produced by Dr Piers Benn

## CONTRACEPTION: A HARD PILL TO SWALLOW?

16:00-17:15

The availability from the 1960s of 'The Pill' has been widely associated with the subsequent sexual revolution and with women's liberation. This female-centred method of fertility control separated sex and conception in a truly thoroughgoing way. It turn, it has been associated with widely debated changes to gender roles, marriage and the family. Today, some argue it is very 'last century' to continue to associate the Pill with women's liberation and reproductive choice. Commentary highlights the negative effects of the Pill on women's physical and mental health. What do women need when we think about the future of contraception?

#### **DR JANE DICKSON**

vice president and consultant, Faculty of Sexual and Reproductive Healthcare, Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists SRH

#### DR LESLEY HALL

historian; retired archivist; Wellcome Library research fellow

#### **VICKY SPRATT**

journalist; campaigner; former deputy editor, *The Debrief* 

#### **ELLA WHELAN**

journalist and frequent commentator on TV and radio; author, What Women Want

#### CHAIR: ELLIE LEE

professor of family and parenting research, University of Kent, Canterbury; director, Centre for Parenting Culture Studies

#### **Produced by Professor Ellie Lee**





#### AUTOMATIC LOVERS: SHOULD WE BE WORRIED ABOUT SEX ROBOTS?

17:30-18:45

Science fiction has long explored the use of robots for sex, but the application of new technologies has been pushing the boundaries of sexuality towards the mechanical in real life. Interaction with fully functioning robotic sexual partners could soon be a practical alternative to actual sex. Advocates claim many people could benefit, from men who struggle with intimacy to women trafficked into sex work. Critics claim sex robots are a 'pornified' ideal of female sexuality and they are concerned about how these robotic partners will represent women. So are sex robots an innovation to be embraced or a step towards sexual dystopia?

#### **DR PIERS BENN**

philosopher; adjunct professor, Fordham University London Centre; author, Freedom of Speech and the Flight from Reason

#### DR KATE DEVLIN

senior lecturer in social and cultural AI, King's College London; author, Turned On: the science of the sex robot

#### SIMON EVANS

comedian; regular panellist, BBC Radio 4's The News Quiz

#### **TIMANDRA HARKNESS**

journalist, writer and broadcaster; presenter, FutureProofing; author, Big Data: does size matter?

#### **CHAIR: ELISABETTA GASPARONI**

teacher; convenor of the Future Cities Project Readers' Group

#### Produced by Elisabetta Gasparoni

www.futurecities.org.uk

#### **SCIENTIFIC SKIRMISHES**

Science frequently throws up new political and ethical questions for society. For example, as we learn more about the role of our DNA in defining us as individuals, do we need to accept that our education and upbringing are less important than we once thought? Does this undermine our autonomy, or can we use new techniques to transcend our biology, from enhancing our intelligence and physical capacities to extending our lifespans? Another problem is the torrent of often-contradictory research reports. What's gone wrong with academia and how can we fix it? Then there are more fundamental questions to be asked about our relationship with nature. Is the natural world there purely for our benefit, to be used and abused as we please? This debate is particularly heated when it comes to animals. Is sentience the correct benchmark for how we treat other forms of life? How do we define sentience?

## PUBLISH OR PERISH: THE CRISIS OF RESEARCH TODAY 10:00—11:30

Research plays an important role in contemporary political debates. 'The evidence says' or 'research tells us' have become familiar parts of public argument. In an age of 'fake news', however, some worry that poor-quality research, much of which cannot be replicated, risks duping the public. Academics complain about being under pressure to justify their employment and bring in research funding. Yet are these problems and pressures really new? Do we need a new approach to peer review to ensure the integrity of science? Should we be concerned about advocacy research and the broader politicisation of the academy?

#### MARK BUCKINGHAM

corporate engagement lead, UK and Ireland, Bayer

#### **ELIOT FORSTER**

non-executive chairman, Avacta plc; chairman, MedCity; former CEO, Immunocore

#### PROFESSOR STEVE FULLER

Auguste Comte chair in social epistemology, University of Warwick

#### **ELLIE LEE**

professor of family and parenting research, University of Kent, Canterbury; director, Centre for Parenting Culture Studies

#### RICHARD MOLLET

head of European government affairs, RELX Group PLC

#### **CHAIR: JACOB REYNOLDS**

partnerships manager, Academy of Ideas; organiser, Debating Matters

Produced by Jacob Reynolds



#### DOES OUR DNA DEFINE US? 12:00-13:00

In Blueprint: how DNA makes us who we are, the world's leading behavioural geneticist, Robert Plomin, argues that our inherited DNA differences make us who we are as individuals. This conclusion is at odds with the importance ascribed to our education and the environment in which we grow up in shaping the person we become. But are there scientific or other good reasons to doubt Plomin's conclusions? If we start making predictions about people's lives and potential on the basis of their DNA, does this risk reducing their autonomy? How much can our DNA tell us about who we are?

#### DR PHILIP BALL

science writer; broadcaster; author; presenter, BBC Radio 4, Science Stories

#### **ROBERT PLOMIN**

professor of behavioural genetics, Institute of Psychiatry, Psychology and Neuroscience; author, Blueprint: how DNA makes us who we are

#### **CHAIR: SANDY STARR**

communications manager, Progress Educational Trust

Produced by Dr Fiona McEwen and Sandy Starr

#### OPTIMISTIC BEES AND ANXIOUS FISH: THE ANIMAL SENTIENCE DEBATE

14:00-15:30

The UK's Animal Welfare Bill 2017 sets out to 'embed the principle that animals are sentient beings, capable of feeling pain and pleasure'. This reflects considerable support among the public for recognising the seemingly commonsense notion that animals deserve protection from suffering. But the draft bill does not define either 'animal' or 'sentience'. How broadly should we define 'sentience'? Have we lost sight of what we mean by consciousness and lowered the bar too far? How much do we really know about animal sentience and how do we make law when even scientists don't agree on what it means?

#### **DR STUART DERBYSHIRE**

associate professor in psychology, National University of Singapore and the Clinical Imaging Research Centre

#### **ROBERT HUDSON**

author, Warhorses of Letters and The Dazzle

#### DR ADAM SHRIVER

research fellow, Wellcome Centre for Ethics and Humanities and Oxford Uehiro Centre for Practical Ethics, University of Oxford

#### **CAROLINE SPENCE**

PhD candidate, Queen Mary University of London; former policy adviser in animal welfare, DEFRA

#### **CHAIR: DR FIONA MCEWEN**

postdoctoral researcher, Queen Mary University of London; vice-president, Institute of Animal Technology

Produced by Dr Fiona McEwen

## TRANSHUMANISM: WHO WANTS TO LIVE FOREVER? 16:00–17:15

Transhumanists aspire to go beyond the biological and other limitations of our species, including the human body and the human lifespan. Recent scientific and medical developments suggest we have more control over biology than ever before, with genome editing allowing us to make precise alterations to our DNA. Does transhumanism represent a confident belief in the human potential or does it underestimate the extent to which humanity has always transcended natural limitations? Do transhumanists perceive themselves as subjects of change, consciously bringing about radical transformation, or as objects of change giving themselves over to forces that have their own inexorable logic?

#### **SANDY STARR**

communications manager, Progress Educational Trust

#### DR GÜNES TAYLOR

researcher, Francis Crick Institute

#### DR DAVID WOOD

chair, London Futurists; author, The Abolition of Ageing: the forthcoming radical extension of healthy human longevity

#### **CHAIR: NIKOS SOTIRAKOPOULOS**

lecturer in sociology, York St John University; author, The Rise of Lifestyle Activism: from new left to Occupy

Produced by Nikos Sotirakopoulos and Sandy Starr

#### HUMANITY AND NATURE... IT'S COMPLICATED 17:30-18:45

Why is 'natural' so often regarded positively, and 'man-made' and 'artificial' negatively? Many people favour 'natural' products, even though they are also a product of mass production. We worry about the use of chemicals in our homes, food, clothing and farms even when an 'artificial' intervention can be beneficial for both humans and natural flora and fauna. We worry about greenhouse gases warming the Earth while demanding evergreater economic growth. Is there a way out of such contradictions? Do they simply reflect two very reasonable if sometimes opposing goals for the future? How should we view our relationship to nature today?

#### **BEN COBLEY**

author, The Tribe: the liberal-left and the system of diversity; blogger, A Free Left Blog

#### LYNNE DAVIS

engagement lead, RSA Food Farming and Countryside Commission

#### CAROLINE DRUMMOND

chief executive, LEAF (Linking Environment And Farming)

#### **AUSTIN WILLIAMS**

author, China's Urban Revolution: understanding Chinese eco-cities

#### **CHAIR: DR HELENE GULDBERG**

lecturer in psychology, Open University; author, Just Another Ape?

Produced by Claire Fox and Dr Helene Guldberg



#### **MODERN FAMILY**



The old certainties of family life - mum, dad and '2 point 4 children' - seem long gone. How we acquire children has become more complicated, with surrogacy becoming more common and adoption increasingly encouraged by the government. When it comes to raising children, how do we deal with the dilemmas of the teenage years for parents brought up with more liberal and tolerant attitudes than in generations past, but with young people who seem less rebellious and more obsessed with social media and mental health? And as family members reach old age, are they more likely to be shut out from family life, becoming simply a burden to be cared for, and even put in a home, rather than being a source of support and wisdom?

## ADOPTION: MAKING OR BREAKING FAMILIES? 10:00–11:30

Adoption has become a highly politicised issue as successive governments have sought to reverse the long-term decline in the number of children being adopted from the care system. So-called 'adoption targets' and the fact that most domestic adoptions happen without the permission of birth parents have become a focal point for parents' rights advocates. How do we balance the rights of children and birth parents? Has adoption become a cost-cutting measure or are recent changes in policy motivated by finding new opportunities to provide a stable family life for children? What is the proper place of adoption in modern society?

#### **SPEAKERS INCLUDE:**

#### ANGELA FRAZER-WICKS

mum; trustee, Family Rights Group; co-chair, Your Family Your Voice Alliance

#### **ANNA GUPTA**

professor of social work, School of Law, Royal Holloway University of London; coauthor, Protecting Children: a social model

#### DR JEREMY SAMMUT

director, culture, prosperity and civil society programme, Centre for Independent Studies, Sydney

#### **CHAIR: DR JAN MACVARISH**

visiting research fellow, Centre for Parenting Culture Studies, University of Kent; author, Neuroparenting

Produced by Dr Jan Macvarish

## SURROGACY: UNDERMINING MOTHERHOOD? 12:00–13:00

When diver Tom Daley and his husband announced their impending fatherhood by holding up a fetal scan picture, they were criticised by some for failing to acknowledge the birth mother. Germaine Greer, commenting on Elton John's fatherhood by surrogacy, claimed motherhood as a concept has been 'emptied out'. Does such unease about surrogacy reflect a desire to maintain a distinction between contractual and familial relationships, between a belief in spontaneous bonds and families of choice? Should we welcome the greater opportunities for parenthood offered by surrogacy or are we at risk of leaving children with an identity crisis about who their parents are?

#### **JULIE BINDEL**

journalist; co-founder, Justice for Women; author, The Pimping of Prostitution: abolishing the sex work myth

#### **DR ZEYNEP GURTIN**

lecturer, Institute of Women's Health, UCL

#### **RACHEL HALLIBURTON**

associate editor, Avaunt Magazine; author, The Optickal Illusion: a very eighteenth century scandal

#### **SARAH JONES**

chairperson, board of trustees, Surrogacy UK

#### **CHAIR: DR JAN MACVARISH**

visiting research fellow, Centre for Parenting Culture Studies, University of Kent; author, Neuroparenting

Produced by Dr Jan Macvarish

#### MUM, DAD AND TEENAGE KICKS 14:00–15:30

Being a parent to a teenager has never been so confusing. Whether it's mental health, education, body image or happiness, we seem to worry more about how to raise our teens than ever before. Some parents today even spend their time worrying that their children are not having enough fun. With reports claiming that today's teenage generation are less willing to drink, smoke and have sex, some parents want to encourage their kids to do the things they did when they were young. Given our risk-averse culture, should parents be encouraging their teenagers to socialise, take risks and have fun?

#### **DR JENNIE BRISTOW**

senior lecturer in sociology, Canterbury Christ Church University; author, The Sociology of Generations and Baby Boomers and Generational Conflict

#### **DR DANIEL GLASER**

visiting fellow, Institute of Philosophy, School of Advanced Study, University of London

#### **DAMIAN LEWENS**

undergraduate, history and politics, University of Oxford

### PENNY MANSFIELD CBE director, One Plus One

CHAIR: BEVERLEY MARSHALL AOI Parents Forum; working mum of three teenage children

Produced by Beverley Marshall



#### GRANDPARENTS: ROLE MODELS OR BAD INFLUENCES? 16:00-17:15

Grandparents have traditionally been an important source of wisdom and support as their children become parents. Growing numbers of grandparents look after children when mothers and fathers who go out to work find formal childcare too expensive. While grandparents' support can be welcome, there can be tensions, too. Grandparents are told they are out of touch with modern parenting values on everything from behaviour to healthy eating. Is this tension new, or as old as the family itself? Does older mean wiser or does expertise in the latest ideas on parenting practice trump lived experience?

#### **DR JENNIE BRISTOW**

senior lecturer in sociology, Canterbury Christ Church University; author, The Sociology of Generations and Baby Boomers and Generational Conflict

#### PROFESSOR ANN BUCHANAN MBE

trustee, Grandparent Plus; author, The Role of Grandparents in the Twenty First Century

#### **RICHARD CUMMINGS**

managing director, Kingston Smith HR Consultancy

#### PETER K SMITH

emeritus professor of psychology, Goldsmiths, University of London; editor, The Psychology of Grandparenthood

CHAIR: SALLY MILLARD co-founder, Aol Parents Forum

Produced by Sally Millard



#### LOOKING AFTER GRANNY: THE CRISIS OF ELDERLY SOCIAL CARE

17:30-18:45

Millions of families are confronting the issue of how to care for granny or granddad, mum or dad. The fact that people live far longer than in the past is a wonderful development, but social and health provision is not equipped to cope. Over the past few years, there have been cuts to local services, damning inspections, abuse scandals and revelations about underpaid care workers. Is there a future for traditional care homes, or should people be supported to live independently? Should families and communities take on more of the 'burden' of caring for their older members?

#### SARAH BEDFORD

head of social policy, New Economics Foundation

#### **GINNY HUME**

lead commissioner of care for older people, Lambeth Council

#### JUDITH ISH-HOROWICZ MBE

director and principal, Apples and Honey Nightingale CIC, the first co-located nursery in a care home in England

#### MARTIN ROUTLEDGE

chief executive officer, Community Circles; convenor, #socialcarefuture

#### **CHAIR: DAVE CLEMENTS**

local government adviser; author, Social Care for Free Citizens

**Produced by Dave Clements** 



#### **BATTLE FOR EDUCATION**





The question of what we should teach our children and young people is a perennial one. With the rise of new technologies, particularly the ability to find seemingly unlimited information quickly online, are traditional subjects and methods now obsolete? Faith schools also remain both controversial and popular with parents. Should we separate religion and schools? The environment children learn in is also vital, yet there are heated debates about the best approach to school discipline and how we can best socialise the next generation of citizens. As school pupils become university students, what is the state of higher education today? Are universities satisfying the needs of students, lecturers and managers? Is the experience of university life becoming a threat to the mental health of students?

## DO WE NEED A NEW CURRICULUM FOR THE 21ST CENTURY?

10:00-11:30

Is the sole purpose of education to transmit knowledge? For some, such an attitude evades the responsibility to prepare young people for the radical challenges of the 21st century. They argue that teaching critical thinking, creativity and new technology will be more important for the future world of work than the anachronistic cultural baggage of the past. Others worry the rush to modernise the curriculum may be a fool's errand. Is it even possible to prepare pupils for jobs that don't yet exist? But can it really be that two millennia of knowledge do not need updating? Or is true knowledge always valuable in its own right?

#### **JULIAN ASTLE**

director of education, Royal Society of Arts

#### **PETER ESTLIN**

alderman, Coleman Street ward, City of London; Lord Mayor Elect, City of London Corporation; senior adviser, Barclays plc

#### **TONY GILLAND**

curriculum lead, GCSE Maths, MidKent College

#### MARK LEHAIN

director, Parents and Teachers for Excellence

#### DR ALKA SEHGAL CUTHBERT

educator, researcher, writer; co-editor, What should schools teach? Disciplines, subjects and the pursuit of truth

#### **CHAIR: GARETH STURDY**

functional skills teacher at Headmasters Partnership

**Produced by Gareth Sturdy** 



## MENTAL HEALTH ON CAMPUS: IS UNIVERSITY MAKING US SICK?

12:00-13:00

Universities UK claims that inadequate mental-health services risk 'failing a generation', as 94 per cent of universities have seen a 'sharp rise' in demand from students for support services. Leaving home for full-time education can often be a stressful experience. Yet while the cost of attending university has risen substantially, in many other respects university life has improved. Does today's focus on mental health help students, or does it generate a sense of vulnerability? Is the suggestion that anyone could be in need of therapy divert resources away from cases of real need, such as those with clinically diagnosed depression?

#### KATHRYN ECCLESTONE

visiting professor of education, University of Sheffield; co-author, The Dangerous Rise of Therapeutic Education

#### DR BETH GUILDING

academic, Goldsmiths, University of London; co-editor, Narrating the Passions: new perspectives from modern and contemporary literature

#### **RACHEL PIPER**

policy manager, Student Minds; writer, Huffington Post

#### **CHAIR: LINDA MURDOCH**

director of careers, University of Glasgow

Produced by Linda Murdoch

## HAVE WE LOST FAITH IN FAITH SCHOOLS?

14:00-15:30

Should certain schools be allowed to refuse to teach sex education? What about only allowing fathers to parents evenings? The conversation around faith schools and their practices has become more fraught than ever. The education secretary, Damian Hinds, has promised to abolish the cap prohibiting new faith schools from selecting more than half their pupils on the basis of religion. In contrast, the National Secular Society has launched a national campaign, 'No More Faith Schools', supported by national teaching unions and celebrities. Do faith schools provide diversity of choice? Is religious freedom important to defend? Or should we separate religion and education?

#### STEPHEN EVANS

chief executive officer, National Secular Society

#### **RANIA HAFEZ**

programme leader, MA Education, Greenwich University; fellow, The Muslim Institute; founder, Muslim Women in Education

#### **DR STEPHEN LAW**

philosopher; author, The War For Children's Minds

#### MICHAEL MERRICK

teacher, North Cumbria; education and social commentator

#### **CHAIR: KEVIN ROONEY**

convenor, AoI Education Forum; politics teacher; co-author, The Blood Stained Poppy

Produced by Kevin Rooney

## INSPIRE OR DISCIPLINE: SCHOOLING TOMORROW'S CITIZENS

16:00-17:15

Schools seem to be responding to complaints about poor behaviour by adopting ever more punitive measures to keep control in the classroom. The Education Select Committee in the UK believes expulsion is now so common that it recommends drastically reducing its use. At the same time, the secretary of state for defence, Gavin Williamson, recently commissioned a review into the benefits a 'military ethos' might bring to schools. How do we get kids to behave well? Have we been too soft on discipline for too long? Does forcing kids to behave a certain way make it harder for them to enjoy their learning?

#### KATHY EVANS

CEO, Children England; regular columnist, Children and Young People Now and Civil Society; trustee, Children's Rights Alliance for England

#### **FRANCIS FOSTER**

teacher and comedian; co-host, TRIGGERnometry

#### THOMAS MEEHAN

primary school teacher, Educate Together school, Ireland

#### **MARK TAYLOR**

vice-principal, East London Science School

#### **CHAIR: JANE SANDEMAN**

convenor, AoI Parents Forum; contributor, Standing up to Supernanny; director of finance and central services, Cardinal Hume Centre

Produced by Jane Sandeman



#### UNIVERSITIES: CAN'T GET NO SATISFACTION 17:30-18:45

Is anyone at university satisfied? Lecturers are striking over pensions and pay, vice chancellors and managers are fixated on league tables, students are asked to fill out annual satisfaction surveys and the government has even created the Office for Students to get universities to focus on bolstering students' career prospects. Since universities began to shift away from being public institutions to become private businesses, satisfaction has become the focus of attention, and yet it seems no one is satisfied. Has the university lost sight of its true purpose amid desperate attempts to measure satisfaction? Do we need to rethink the university?

#### DR PHILIP CUNLIFFE

senior lecturer in politics and international relations, University of Kent; author, Lenin Lives! Reimagining the Russian Revolution

#### THEO DOUNAS

senior lecturer, Scott Sutherland School of Architecture and the Built Environment

#### **NICK HILLMAN**

director, Higher Education Policy Institute

#### JHANELLE WHITE

student, King's College London; founder and chair, Political Sweep

#### **CHAIR: DR RUTH MIESCHBUEHLER**

programme leader for education studies, College of Education, University of Derby

Produced by Dr Ruth Mieschbuehler



#### **BIOMEDICAL DILEMMAS**

Science and medicine regularly throw up new possibilities - and new conundrums. Decoding our DNA for the first time took over a decade and cost billions. What does the ability to match our individual DNA to our health records relatively cheaply, as is now possible, mean for the NHS and the future of healthcare? While our understanding of genomics takes shape, how do we get to grips with the nuances of how our 'bad' habits affect our health in the meantime? How can we continue to develop new drugs to treat illness - and does the need to make a profit get in the way of progress? Perhaps, as the controversies over everything from vaccines to lifeand-death cases of childhood illness illustrate, we are actually losing faith in medical science altogether. If so, why?

## FROM ANTI-VAXERS TO ALFIE'S ARMY: HAVE WE LOST FAITH IN MEDICAL SCIENCE? 10:00—11:30

According to the 2017 Ipsos MORI Veracity Index, nurses and doctors are the most trusted people in the UK. But in certain contexts, this trust seems to evaporate. Take the ever-present antivaccination movement, which refuses to accept the medical establishment's assurances about the safety of vaccines. Or the popular reaction when medical professionals decide it is no longer right to try to keep very sick children alive, as in the cases of Alfie Evans and Charlie Gard. Is it healthy to have more sceptical intellectual currents to hold the scientific establishment to account? Or are such controversies a case of the heart ruling the head?

#### DR MICHAEL FITZPATRICK

general practitioner; writer on medicine and politics; author, MMR and Autism: what parents need to know and The Tyranny of Health

#### DR CLARE GERADA

medical director, NHS Practitioner Health Programme; former chair, Royal College of General Practitioners

#### **CLARISSA SIMAS**

research assistant, The Vaccine Confidence Project, Faculty of Epidemiology and Population Health, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine

#### **DR KEVIN YUILL**

author, Assisted Suicide: the liberal, humanist case against legalization

#### CHAIR: MAX SANDERSON

audio producer, Guardian

Produced by Max Sanderson

## WHY CAN'T MEDICAL DRUGS BE FREE?

12:00-13:00

Medicinal drugs and vaccines have helped double life expectancy in many countries, bringing some diseases under control and raising hopes of cures for others, enabling us to live healthier, richer lives. But drugs are expensive, often prohibitively so. What would happen if the pharmaceutical industry were freed from the profit-drive, and health priorities were set by what we need rather than what makes money? Perhaps the industry could develop a pro bono culture to fight the toughest diseases. Should governments, perhaps collectively, take on the task of developing new drugs? How can we remove financial barriers to saving lives?

#### **SPEAKER:**

#### **ZULFIKAR ABBANY**

senior science editor, Deutsche Welle

#### **RESPONDENTS INCLUDE:**

#### **ELIOT FORSTER**

non-executive chairman, Avacta plc; chairman, MedCity; former CEO, Immunocore

#### **CHRISTOPHER SNOWDON**

head of lifestyle economics, Institute of Economic Affairs; editor, Nanny State Index; author, Selfishness, Greed and Capitalism

#### **CHAIR: DR FRANKIE ANDERSON**

psychiatry trainee; co-founder, Sheffield Salon

Produced by Zulfikar Abbany

#### CAN GENOMICS REVOLUTIONISE THE NHS? 14:00–15:30

Genomics is the study of our biology and health in the context of our entire genomes, the full set of genetic instructions replicated throughout most of the cells of our body. The 100,000 Genomes Project was established to sequence whole genomes from consenting NHS cancer patients, rare-disease patients and their families, so that new tests and treatments can be developed. What risks, benefits and challenges are involved? What should organisations that have access to our genomic data be permitted to do with it? Can genomics revolutionise our healthcare, at a time when the state of NHS services is hotly debated?

#### DR CLARE GERADA

medical director, NHS Practitioner Health Programme; former chair, Royal College of General Practitioners

#### **NICK MEADE**

director of policy, Genetic Alliance UK

#### **SANDY STARR**

communications manager, Progress Educational Trust

#### **CLARE TURNBULL**

professor of medical genomics; clinical leader, Cancer Genomics

#### **CHAIR: TIMANDRA HARKNESS**

journalist, writer and broadcaster; presenter, FutureProofing; author, Big Data: does size matter?

Produced by Timandra Harkness and Sandy Starr



#### DISEASE, LIFESTYLE CHOICES AND RISK: UNTANGLING MYTH FROM REALITY 16:00–17:15

It is widely claimed that a woman can reduce her risk of developing breast cancer by 50 to 80 per cent by making the right lifestyle choices. But is it true? Two breast cancer experts, Professor Trisha Greenhalgh and Dr Liz O'Riordan, have questioned these claims in a new book, The Complete Guide to Breast Cancer. So how should we respond to claims about lifestyle and risk? Even if we do decide that replacing fries with salad or going for a daily run would lengthen our lifespans, should we necessarily put longevity ahead of pleasure?

#### **TIMANDRA HARKNESS**

journalist, writer and broadcaster; presenter, FutureProofi ng; author, Big Data: does size matter?

#### IN CONVERSATION WITH:

#### TRISHA GREENHALGH

professor of primary care health sciences, University of Oxford; co-author, The Complete Guide to Breast Cancer

#### DR LIZ O'RIORDAN

consultant breast surgeon, East Suffolk and North Essex NHS Foundation Trust; coauthor, The Complete Guide to Breast Cancer

Produced by Timandra Harkness



## BATTLE OF IDEAS 2019

Next year's festival will be at the Barbican on 2 and 3 November 2019. Early bird tickets available from 13 October 2018.

battleofideas.org.uk

### WHOSE BUSINESS IS IT ANYWAY?

## **Pagefield**

Understanding your world

While profit-making companies supply (almost) our every material need, the role of business in society is often controversial. We are all familiar with the ubiquity of advertising, but while many see it as harmless promotion, others argue that advertisers push their products on us, creating pointless desires, huge amounts of waste - like the tons of plastic in our oceans and even ill-health. What does this view of advertising say about us as consumers? In poorer countries, big business is accused of using its power to exploit both resources and people, but could investment by such companies actually help those societies to develop? Is business just too powerful now, and government regulation the only solution? Or is the mountain of legislation that firms must deal with holding back economic growth? Will anything even change after we formally leave the EU?

## BIG BUSINESS IN THE DEVELOPING WORLD: FRIEND OR FOE?

10:00-11:30

Major corporations are often accused of exploiting people in developing countries. Fashion companies have been widely condemned for paying low wages, employing children and for poor working conditions. Their supporters claim that by investing in developing countries, big business is providing jobs, raising living standards, improving infrastructure and spreading valuable knowledge and expertise, from production to logistics and beyond. But is this simply the same old story of big business exploiting the developing world, while workers in the developed world lose their jobs? Or should we celebrate the multinationals that provide employment in the global south and cheaper goods for consumers in the north?

#### **DANIEL BEN-AMI**

journalist; author, Ferraris for All: in defence of economic progress and Cowardly Capitalism

#### **GILLIAN CALDWELL**

chief executive officer, Skoll Awardee Global Witness; co-editor, Video for Change: a guide to advocacy and activism

#### **DAN MOBLEY**

global corporate relations director, Diageo

#### **MARTIN WRIGHT**

writer and speaker; director, Positive News; former editor-in-chief, Green Futures

#### **CHAIR: PARA MULLAN**

operations director, EY-Seren; fellow, Chartered Institute of Personnel and Development

Produced by Para Mullan

### DIAGEO

## RULE BOOK BRITAIN: ARE WE IN LOVE WITH LEGISLATION? 12:00–13:00

Almost every aspect of life in the UK is heavily regulated, from housing and transport to food and energy. Publichealth authorities have extended the reach of government intervention into our personal consumption of cigarettes, alcohol, salt, sugar and fat. While many critics of the EU look forward to Brexit as a means of cutting regulation, most of the 'red tape' and 'nanny state' rules we face are homegrown. Why has Britain become such an intensively regulated society? Is state intrusion the price we must pay to keep big business in check - or does it simply mean higher costs and more limits on choice?

#### **ROB KILLICK**

CEO, Clerkswell; author, The UK After The Recession

#### MARK LITTLEWOOD

Director General, Institute of Economic Affairs

#### **DAN MOBLEY**

global corporate relations director, Diageo

#### **JO-ANNE NADLER**

commentator; author, Too Nice to be a Tory

#### **CHAIR: ALAN MILLER**

chairman, Night Time Industries Association (NTIA); leading campaigner, #SaveNightlife

Produced by Claire Fox

### DIAGEO

NTIA I NIGHT TIME INDUSTRIES ASSOCIATION

#### ADVERTISING: ALL-POWERFUL OR OVER-RATED? 14:00-15:30

Advertising has become a familiar target of hostile campaigners. Public health campaigners and quangos want bans or restrictions on adverts for foods and drinks that are high in sugar, salt or fat. Campaigns around alcohol, gambling and 'payday' loans demand bans on the promotion of these activities. Others seek to suppress adverts featuring models who are excessively thin - or, indeed, models who are overweight. Why are all these campaigners so convinced by the manipulative power of advertising? What is the evidence that advertising can control behaviour? Can it really do any more than influence consumers to choose one brand over another?

#### **DR SHIRLEY DENT**

communications specialist and PR lecturer; co-author, Radical Blake

#### **CARL MILLER**

research director, Centre for the Analysis of Social Media, Demos; author, The Death of the Gods: the new global power grab

#### **CHRISTOPHER SNOWDON**

head of lifestyle economics, Institute of Economic Affairs; editor, Nanny State Index; author, Selfishness, Greed and Capitalism

#### STEVE SODEN

director, Best Interests Ltd

### CHAIR: DAVID BOWDEN associate fellow, Academy of Ideas

Produced by David Bowden

### DIAGEO

#### WAR ON PLASTIC: A LOAD OF RUBBISH? 16:00—17:15

Our use of plastic has become a cause célèbre in the past year. Mass media organisations, from the Daily Mail to Sky News, have launched campaigns to reduce plastic waste. Governments and international agencies have implemented taxes, bans and restrictions, particularly aimed at stopping the pollution of the oceans. Yet critics argue that, while increasing expense and inconvenience for consumers, cutting out plastic packaging would do little to save marine life. Is the 'war on plastic' a vital campaign to protect the environment? Or are politicians pointlessly demonising useful materials to demonstrate a fashionable commitment to saving the planet? Is it time to rethink the role of plastics today?

#### **LIBBY PEAKE**

senior policy adviser on resource stewardship, Green Alliance

#### **HELEN SCALES**

broadcaster; marine biologist; author, Spirals in Time

#### DR DOMINIC STANDISH

lecturer; author, Venice in Environmental Peril? Myth and reality

#### JAMES WOUDHUYSEN

visiting professor, London South Bank University; co-author, Energise! A future for energy innovation; co-author, Why is Construction So Backward?

#### **CHAIR: ROB LYONS**

science and technology director, Academy of Ideas; convenor, AoI Economy Forum

Produced by Dr Dominic Standish

#### BREXIT AND THE LAW: IS BRITAIN REALLY 'TAKING BACK CONTROL'? 17:30—18:45

'We will take back control of our money, borders and laws' was the Brexiteers' promise during the EU referendum campaign. Under Theresa May's Chequers proposals, however, British goods may still need to conform to rules drafted in Brussels. Why is it proving so difficult to leave the EU? Has Britain developed a legal order that suits powerful multinational companies at the expense of smaller, national enterprise - and, indeed, the wishes of voters? Are worries about a total break from the EU a fear for what a sovereign Britain might do with its sovereignty leading to a bonfire of 'progressive' laws? Do proponents of European institutions have a point that sovereignty today is no longer possible or even desirable and the benefits of a 'common rulebook' outweigh making our own rules? Or is freedom worth the risk?

#### FRANCIS HOAR

barrister, Field Court Chambers; committee member, Lawyers for Britain; writer and commentator, legal process of Brexit and post-Brexit solutions

#### **MICK HUME**

editor-at-large, spiked; author, Revolting! How the establishment are undermining democracy and what they're afraid of

### REBECCA LOWE director, FREER

#### **GRAHAM STRINGER MP**

Member of parliament, Blackley and Broughton; select committee member, Transport Committee and Science and Technology Committee

#### **CHAIR: JON HOLBROOK**

barrister; writer on legal issues

Produced by Jon Holbrook



#### STUDIO CONVERSATIONS



These sessions are an opportunity to explore ideas in a more informal setting.





#### APRÈS BREXIT: TACKLING THE UK'S LANGUAGE **LEARNING DEFICIT** 10:00-11:30

Learning a foreign language is a joy - there's something wonderful about reading foreign literature in the original or engaging in spontaneous conversation abroad. However, despite the fact that we will need to start producing linguists who will be able to do business with non-European countries like China and Brazil, there is already a shortage of modernlanguages teachers. Some educational commentators are even concerned that Brexit could bring about a full-blown crisis in language teaching. How can we inspire students to pursue language skills? Will Brexit exacerbate existing problems, or force a shake-up in language provision?

#### DR SHIRLEY LAWES

researcher; consultant and university teacher, specialising in teacher education and modern foreign languages; Chevalier dans l'ordre des Palmes Academiques

#### DAN MACPHERSON

assistant headteacher, Ark Greenwich Free School; lead, Chartered College of Teaching's Languages network; examiner, GCSE French

#### YARON MATRAS

professor of linguistics, University of Manchester

#### KATE SEARLE

assistant principal, Harris Academy St John's Wood

#### **CHAIR: CARA BLEIMAN**

primary Mandarin project consultant, Swire Centre Language Centre London, Harris Federation

Produced by Geoff Kidder and Dr Shirley Lawes



**INSTITUTE OF** | SCHOOL OF LANGUAGES RESEARCH

**ADVANCED STUDY** UNIVERSITY OF LONDON

#### **HOW FEAR WORKS** 12:00-13:00

Published in 1997, Frank Furedi's book Culture of Fear was widely acclaimed as perceptive and prophetic. In his new book, How Fear Works, Furedi seeks to explore two interrelated themes: why fear has acquired such a morally commanding status in society today and how the way we fear has changed from the way it was experienced in the past. How has fear become detached from its material and physical source, so that it is now experienced as a secular version of a transcendental force? What is the role of the media in promoting fear and does anyone benefit from this culture of fear?

#### TIMANDRA HARKNESS

journalist, writer and broadcaster; presenter, FutureProofing; author, Big Data: does size matter

#### IN CONVERSATION WITH:

#### PROFESSOR FRANK FUREDI

sociologist and social commentator; author, How Fear Works: culture of fear in the 21st century and Populism and the European Culture Wars

**Produced by Timandra Harkness** 

## CAN LIBERTARIANISM SET US FREE?

14:00-15:30

Of all the political ideologies, libertarianism seems one of the hardest to define. For critics, it is little more than a justification for wealth and inequality. But for advocates it means championing individual freedom and personal liberty. In a world of campaigns against so-called junk food, attacks on the free press, minimum pricing for alcohol, and ever-expanding police and local council powers, is there a renewed need for libertarian politics? How does libertarianism sit with broader collective aims or even the notion of democracy as such? What are the limits to libertarianism and can it really set us free?

### REBECCA LOWE director, FREER

#### **ANGELA NAGLE**

cultural critic; author, Kill All Normies: from 4chan and Tumblr to Trump and the Alt-Right

#### **ED RENNIE**

political analyst, Blue Labour; former leader, virtue policy programme, ResPublica; founding member, Catholic Voices and Catholics for Labour

#### **BRUNO WATERFIELD**

Brussels correspondent, *The Times*; co-author, *No Means No* 

#### **CHAIR: JACOB REYNOLDS**

partnerships manager, Academy of Ideas; co-convenor, Living Freedom; organiser, Debating Matters

Produced by Jacob Reynolds

## THE RISE OF THE FAR RIGHT: BACK TO THE THIRTIES? 16:00—17:15

In June, the former UK prime minister, Tony Blair, warned that today's rising tide of populism was comparable to 'a return to the 1930s'. This historical allusion is now becoming commonplace in discussing contemporary trends like the electoral gains of Germany's AfD and the Sweden Democrats. The former head of the CIA has compared President Trump's policy of separating illegal immigrant families with Auschwitz. Are we sleepwalking into a 1930s-style scenario, with fascism just around the corner? Are such fears exaggerated? Is there a danger that in turning to the past to make sense of the present, we turn history into a morality tale? What is the real threat from the far-right today?

#### **JACOB FUREDI**

junior commissioning editor, Daily Mail

#### **RAZI GINZBERG**

director, Ayn Rand Centre

#### **PAUL LAY**

editor, *History Today*; fellow, Royal Historical Society and Humanities Research Institute, University of Buckingham.

#### **VICKY PRYCE**

chief economic adviser and board member, Centre for Economics and Business Research; member, Economic Advisory Group, British Chambers of Commerce

#### **CHAIR: DR TIFFANY JENKINS**

writer and broadcaster; author, Keeping Their Marbles: how treasures of the past ended up in museums and why they should stay there

Produced by Claire Fox and Jacob Reynolds



### LIVING FREEDOM APRIL 2019

Organised by the Academy of Ideas, Living Freedom is an annual threeday residential school aimed at 18 to 25-year-olds interested in exploring ideas around the past, present and future of freedom.

Fifty keen young advocates of freedom will engage in a series of intellectual challenges on the meaning and ideals of freedom in the spare space century. As well as getting to grips with the key thinkers, the school provides a social forum, offering a chance to meet and socialise with peers from throughout the UK and beyond.

Further information, visit academyofideas.org.uk/livingfreedom

or contact Alastair Donald: alastairdonald@academyofideas.org.uk



#### **PLACE AND IDENTITY**



'Home is where the heart is', goes the old saying. But when the place we live is transformed, does it continue to feel like home? What happens to those squeezed out by redevelopment? Equally, what happens when there is a lack of development, as in the UK's 'rust belt'? Will people simply leave, while the 'left behind' become increasingly resentful? Change can also increase our attachment to a place. When Brexit is combined with sporting success, do people now feel more 'English' than before? What is the relationship between sport and identity? And while London is famously praised as a 'global city', does its very cosmopolitanism undermine a sense of London as 'home'?

#### REGENERATION: URBAN RENEWAL OR SOCIAL CLEANSING?

10:00-11:30

In January, the Labour leader of Haringey Council quit after her controversial 20-year plan for housing became the subject of public protests. In a variety of large council-housing projects across the country, protests are growing over the relocation of thousands of long-term residents. Is regeneration necessary and are evictions a sad fact of life? Is this an attack on the poor and vulnerable, or is it a vital – albeit painful – process of social improvement? Is uncertainty in the very nature of a social-housing tenancy? What's so good about social housing and should it be protected?

#### **OWEN HOPKINS**

senior curator of exhibitions and education, Sir John Soane's Museum; editor, Architecture and Freedom: searching for agency in a changing world

#### **LORETTA LEES**

professor of Human Geography, University of Leicester; PI, Gentrification, displacement, and the impacts of council estate renewal in C21st London

#### JOHN MCRAE

director, Orms; writer and commentator on architecture

#### **DENIS RUSSELL**

building contractor; former history teacher in further education

#### **ASHVIN DE VOS**

director, Variant Office, a South-London based architecture and planning practice

#### **CHAIR: AUSTIN WILLIAMS**

senior lecturer, Dept of Architecture, Kingston University, London; author, China's Urban Revolution

**Produced by Austin Williams** 



## FROM THE 'CRICKET TEST' TO THREE LIONS: SPORT AND IDENTITY

12:00-13:00

Decades on from Norman Tebbit's criticisms of first- and second-generation immigrants who supported Pakistan or the West Indies at cricket, England's relative success at the football World Cup this summer reignited the debate about sport and national identity. Research found a significant increase in people saying they are proud to be English. Meanwhile, Mesut Ozil quit the German national team following negative reactions to his meeting with the Turkish president. In the US, Black Lives Matter protests by NFL players have prompted heated discussions about what it means to be a patriotic American. What, if anything, is the role of sport in shaping national identity?

#### MIHIR BOSE

award-winning journalist; author, Lion and Lamb: a portrait of British moral duality

#### **SYD JEFFERS**

senior lecturer in sociology, University of East London; research interests, politics and theories of race and racialisation; Arsenal season ticket holder

#### **KEVIN ROONEY**

convenor, AoI Education Forum; politics teacher; co-author, The Blood Stained Poppy; Celtic season ticket holder

#### **HILARY SALT**

actuary; founder, First Actuarial; Manchester United season ticket holder

#### **CHAIR: GEOFF KIDDER**

director, membership and events, Academy of Ideas; convenor, AoI Book Club

Produced by Geoff Kidder

## CAN WE REVIVE BRITAIN'S 'RUST BELT'?

14:00-15:30

In Brexit Britain, much focus has fallen on the divides that cut across generational, educational and class lines. But increasingly there is a new geographical divide that is taking shape one where voguish metropolitan regions, prosperous urban centres and university towns contrast starkly with vast swathes of territory now labelled 'left-behind Britain'. Is it still possible to rejuvenate former ports, market towns, coastal resorts and county towns? Should the focus be economic investment or a social and cultural transformation? Do we need a new urban paradigm, or should we create incentives to save, rebuild and inject new life into these urban areas?

#### **DANIEL DEWSBURY**

series director and cameraman, BBC2's critically acclaimed *The Mighty Redcar* 

#### DR RUTH DUDLEY EDWARDS

journalist and writer; award-winning author

#### **CAROLINE FLINT MP**

member of parliament, Don Valley; co-chair, Northern Powerhouse All Party Parliamentary Group

#### **DAVID GOODHART**

head of demography, Policy Exchange; author, The Road to Somewhere

#### **MO LOVATT**

writer and researcher specialising in arts and culture policy; co-chair, The Great Debate

#### **CHAIR: ALASTAIR DONALD**

associate director, Academy of Ideas; codirector, Future Cities Project

Produced by Alastair Donald and Jonathan Werran, chief executive, Localis



## LONDON TOWN OR GLOBAL CITY?

16:00-17:15

Londoners embrace the diversity and international mix of the city, while celebrating its village-like atmosphere and calling for greater localism. We want a vibrant night-time economy, but impose curfews after bedtime. We want affordable housing, but developers want to build nothing but luxury apartments. What is the essence of a global city and do such cities necessarily become victims of their commercial success? How can we reconcile the tensions seemingly inherent with being a global city? Are there international examples we can look to for inspiration and ideas about how to make the global city work?

#### **CATHERINE MCGUINNESS**

chairman, policy and resources, City of London Corporation

#### **ALAN MILLER**

chairman, Night Time Industries Association (NTIA); leading campaigner, #SaveNightlife

#### **FARSHID MOUSSAVI OBE RA**

professor in practice of architecture, Harvard University Graduate School of Design; architect; principal, Farshid Moussavi Architecture (FMA)

#### **ROHAN SILVA**

co-founder, Second Home; senior visiting fellow, London School of Economics

#### CHAIR: VICKY RICHARDSON

writer and curator in architecture and design; former director of architecture, design and fashion, British Council

#### Produced by Vicky Richardson





#### ME, ME, ME! NARCISSISM AND THE NEW POLITICS OF IDENTITY

17:30-18:45

Today, everything seems to be an expression of contemporary 'narcissism', from dismissing millennials as Generation Me to describing Donald Trump as the 'narcissist in chief'. It seems your boss or co-workers, everyone on Tinder, celebrities, even your parents are all 'narcissists'. But has it become a lazy cliché? Or is it an accurate diagnosis of today's identity-driven politics, which puts the self and self-esteem centre stage? Why do we reach so quickly for therapeutic categories to understand politics? Why has the idea of narcissism become so pervasive?

#### DR GRAEME ARCHER

writer; professional statistician; winner, 2011 Orwell Prize for blogging

#### **DR BETH GUILDING**

academic, Goldsmiths, University of London; co-editor, Narrating the Passions: new perspectives from modern and contemporary literature

#### CAROLINE MACFARLAND

director, Common Vision (CoVi)

#### **JACOB REYNOLDS**

partnerships manager, Academy of Ideas; co-convenor, Living Freedom; organiser, Debating Matters

#### **CHAIR: DR TIFFANY JENKINS**

writer and broadcaster; author, Keeping Their Marbles: how treasures of the past ended up in museums and why they should stay there

### Produced by Claire Fox and Jacob Reynolds



#### **CULTURE WARS**



This strand of debates takes up some of the hot topics in the cultural arena. Is 'cultural appropriation' essential to the creation of great fiction or an insult to cultures that are often misrepresented? What future is there for a free, open media in the 'post-truth' age of fake news and political spin? What was the role of art and music in the political turmoil of 1968 - is culture a reflection of political change or an inspiration for revolt? While many claim that women remain the victims of discrimination, has the march for equality actually been a great success?

## CULTURAL APPROPRIATION IN LITERATURE: WHOSE VOICE IS IT ANYWAY?

10:00-11:30

The publishing establishment is reeling before allegations that, as a bastion of social privilege, it is seeking to broaden its popular appeal by appropriating ethnic minority cultures. Harry Potter author JK Rowling has been criticised for writing about Native American wizards. Writer Lionel Shriver has been condemned as a 'bigot' for saying that she hoped that the concept of cultural appropriation was a 'passing fad'. As a result, some publishers are employing 'sensitivity' readers to check for inappropriate appropriation and potential offence in manuscripts. Is the concept of cultural appropriation simply censorship disguised as cultural concern, or does it represent a new sensitivity to the authentic portrayal of diverse characters?

#### JAMES CAMPBELL

writer, editor and columnist, Times Literary Supplement; author, This Is the Beat Generation and Talking at the Gates: a life of James Baldwin

#### **DOLAN CUMMINGS**

associate fellow, Academy of Ideas; co-founder, Manifesto Club; author, That Existential Leap: a crime story

#### **HELEN DALE**

columnist, Spectator, the Australian, Quillette; author, Kingdom of the Wicked and The Hand that Signed the Paper, winner of Miles Franklin Award

#### RALPH LEONARD

writer; student; contributor to Areo

#### DR NEEMA PARVINI

senior lecturer in English, University of Surrey; author, Shakespeare's Moral Compass

#### **CHAIR: DR SHIRLEY DENT**

communications specialist; PR lecturer; co-author, *Radical Blake* 

Produced by Dr Shirley Dent

#### HOW FREE IS THE MEDIA? QUESTION TIME 12:00—13:00

Thomas Jefferson, founding father of the American republic, insisted that liberty depended on press freedom, which 'cannot be limited without being lost'. Though press freedom has long been considered essential to democracy, not everybody agrees on how far that freedom should extend. From the UK's Leveson inquiry to President Trump's beef with 'fake news', state regulation is increasingly on the agenda. But in an era in which anyone with a smartphone can become a 'citizen journalist', and the idea of objective truth is considered a fallacy, what constitutes real journalism? What restrictions, if any, should be imposed on the press, and who should decide them?

#### **MICK HUME**

editor-at-large, spiked; author, There is No Such Thing As a Free Press... and Trigger Warning

#### **ELIZABETH PEARS**

news editor, BuzzFeed News UK

#### **MELANIE PHILLIPS**

columnist, The Times; regular panellist, BBC Radio 4's Moral Maze; author, The Legacy and best-selling book, Londonistan

#### **EMILY SHEFFIELD**

columnist, Evening Standard; former deputy editor, British Vogue; co-founder, ThisMuchl Know

#### **ANDREW WILSON**

journalist; partner, A Squared Media; former bureau chief, Sky News, Moscow, Jerusalem and Washington DC

#### **CHAIR: OLI FOSTER**

journalist, Sky News

Produced by Oli Foster



## FILM PREMIERE: WOMEN: A SUCCESS STORY 13:30—15:30

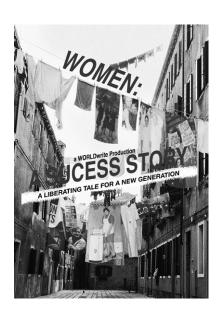
WORLDwrite's new film documents the great advances of the past 100 years and celebrates the equality of women in the West today. Confronting contemporary myths and prejudices that suggest the world is awash with predators, misogyny and discrimination, more than 50 real women give us a fresh perspective. Inspired by Joanna Williams' book, Women vs Feminism, the film proves women have indeed made history. This film urges women to revel in the progress we have made and to continue to make progress in alliance with men not against them.

#### **INTRODUCED BY:**

#### **CERI DINGLE**

director, WORLDwrite and WORLDbytes

Produced by Ceri Dingle and Marisa Pereira, assistant director, WORLDwrite



## ART, MUSIC, PROTEST: THE CULTURAL LEGACY OF 1968 16:00–17:15

'Power to the Imagination' declared graffiti in Paris in May 1968. While students and workers occupied universities and factories, street art and impromptu theatrical performances became an integral part of the political moment. In more recent years, 'real time' political theatre has won mainstream popularity. We have seen artist-led drives to challenge Brexit and campaigns such as #Grime4Corbyn. Does this mean that the radical cultural legacy of the 1960s is as alive as ever? Or has it simply become institutionalised, even neutered? Is it too easy for artists today to claim the mantle of radicalism while conforming to well-established political and aesthetic expectations?

#### **PETRA ABBAM**

publications editor, BBC Proms

#### **NEIL DAVENPORT**

cultural critic; head of faculty of social sciences, JFS Sixth Form Centre

#### **JODIE GINSBERG**

chief executive, Index on Censorship

#### RALPH LEONARD

writer; student; contributor, Areo

#### **CHRIS SHARP**

contemporary music programmer, Barbican Centre

#### **CHAIR: JOEL MILLS**

senior music programme manager, British Council

**Produced by Joel Mills** 

#### barbican







#### UNDERSTANDING ANTI-SEMITISM TODAY 10:00—11:30 BEECH ST CINEMA 2

From racist attacks to ominous propaganda, anti-Semitism appears to be making a comeback in Europe. In the UK, the Labour Party has been very publicly split over how it deals with the issue. In one respect, it looks like the simple return of what has been called 'the longest hatred'. But while anti-Semitism has long been seen as a right-wing phenomenon, particularly since the Nazis, today's anti-Semites are more likely to rail against Jews in the name of the Palestinians, a favourite cause of the left. Is hatred of Jews really on the rise? Is it re-emerging in new forms?

#### **RICHARD ANGELL**

director, Progress; formerly worked for All Party Parliamentary Group on Combatting Antisemitism

#### **DR STEPHEN LAW**

philosopher; author, Humanism: a very short introduction

#### **BRENDAN O'NEILL**

editor, spiked; columnist, Penthouse; writer, Sun and Spectator; author, A Duty to Offend

#### **JULIAN PETLEY**

professor of journalism, Brunel University; editorial board member, British Journalism Review; principal editor, Journal of British Cinema and Television

#### **MELANIE PHILLIPS**

columnist, The Times; regular panellist, BBC Radio 4's Moral Maze; author, The Legacy and best-selling book, Londonistan

#### **CHAIR: JACOB FUREDI**

junior commissioning editor, Daily Mail

Produced by Jacob Furedi



## CROWDED OUT: IS THERE TOO MUCH TOURISM? 12:00—13:00 BEECH ST CINEMA 2

Since Thomas Cook ran his first ever rail excursion from Leicester to Loughborough in 1841, tourism has grown remarkably. In recent years, however, there have been unprecedented criticisms made of the tourism industry. Protests against 'overtourism' are breaking out, with 'Tourists go home' graffitied in iconic cultural cities such as Venice, Barcelona and Amsterdam. Is an increase in tourism making locals' lives hell? Should we rein in our desire to travel for leisure? Or can cultures and economies adapt to meet the growing aspiration to see the world, be it for cultural enlightenment or just for fun?

#### JIM BUTCHER

reader in geography, Canterbury Christ Church University; co-author, Volunteer Tourism: the lifestyle politics of international development

#### **DONNA DAILEY**

travel writer; co-publisher, Pacific-Coast-Highway-Travel.com, Greece-Travel-Secrets.com and TheTravelPages.com

#### **GREG DICKINSON**

senior content editor, Telegraph travel desk; presenter, Overtourism: are we destroying the places we love?

#### DR ANDREW SMITH

reader in tourism and events, School of Architecture and Cities, University of Westminster; author, Events in the City and Events and Urban Regeneration

#### **CHAIR: PETER SMITH**

director of tourism, St. Mary's University; co-author, Volunteer Tourism: the lifestyle politics of international development

Produced by Jim Butcher

#### BREXIT: DEAL OR NO DEAL? 14:00—15:30 LEVEL G FREE STAGE

With the UK due to leave the EU on 29 March next year, the negotiations on a withdrawal agreement and future relations are reaching crunch time. Yet there are still deep divisions in parliament - even among those who campaigned to leave - on what Brexit should mean or even whether it should happen at all. Might it be better to accept that no deal is possible at the moment, given the fixed positions of all involved, and leave without one in the name of 'taking back control'? Could a 'no deal' Brexit provide the shakeup that politics and the economy need for renewal? Or have the negotiations simply brought home how disastrous Brexit could be, forcing us to reconsider

#### **HEAD TO HEAD:**

#### **DR PHILIP CUNLIFFE**

senior lecturer in politics and international relations, University of Kent; co-founder, The Full Brexit; author, *Lenin Lives!* 

#### **VICKY PRYCE**

chief economic adviser and board member, Centre for Economics and Business Research

#### **RESPONDENTS:**

#### **LUCY HARRIS**

coordinator, Leavers of London

#### **ALI MIRAJ**

social entrepreneur; DJ; political activist; financier; founder, the Contrarian Prize

#### PROFESSOR SIR SIMON WESSELY

Regius chair of psychiatry, Institute of Psychiatry, Psychology and Neuroscience, King's College London; president, Royal Society of Medicine

#### **CHAIR: ROB LYONS**

science and technology director, Academy of Ideas; convenor, AoI Economy Forum

**Produced by Rob Lyons** 

#### LONDON TUESDAY 11 SEPTEMBER

Backyard Comedy Club, 231 Cambridge Heath Road, London, E2 0EL

#### COMEDY UNLEASHED

19:30-22:00

#### PERFORMERS INCLUDE:

Julie Burchill, journalist; author; broadcaster; co-writer of a new play, People Like Us Andrew Doyle, writer and comedian; co-author, Jonathan Pie: Off The Record Jane Robins, author; journalist; co-writer of a new play, People Like Us



#### LONDON SUNDAY 30 SEPTEMBER

GROSVENOR SQUARE TO CARNABY STREET

#### WALKS 'N' TALKS: LONDON'S VIETNAM WAR HISTORY 09:45–11:00

On the 50th anniversary of the Vietnam War protests in Grosvenor Square, join the Future Cities Project for this special political history walk

#### **TOUR GUIDE:**

James Heartfield, lecturer; author, The Equal Opportunities Revolution



#### BIRMINGHAM SATURDAY 29 SEPTEMBER

The Old Joint Stock, Birmingham, B2 5NY

RACE, GENDER, CLASS? SOCIAL DIVERSITY IN THE 21ST CENTURY 11:30-13:00

THE MARCH OF THE ROBOTS 13:30–15:00

### NHS70: HOW GOOD IS OUR HEALTH SERVICE?

15:15-16:45

Birmingham Salon host three debates looking at the impact of politics, technology and public services on social class in 21st century Britain.

#### **SPEAKERS INCLUDE:**

Ben Cobley, author, The Tribe: the liberal-left and the system of diversity; blogger, A Free Left Blog Rosamund Cuckston, organiser, Birmingham Salon Chrissie Daz, schoolteacher; cabaret performer; author on transgender and gender variant identity Hector Gonzalez-Jimenez, senior lecturer, York Management School; global marketer James Heartfield, lecturer; author, The Equal Opportunities Revolution Dr Jonathan Hurlow, chair, psychiatry division, Birmingham Medical Institute; consultant forensic psychiatrist Phil Mullan, economist and business manager; author, Creative Destruction: how to start an economic renaissance



#### DERBY THURSDAY 4 OCTOBER

Hallmark Midland Hotel, Derby, DE1 2SQ

THE MILITARY: MUSCLE OR MINDFULNESS?

19:00 - 20:30

#### SPEAKERS:

Beverley Henshaw, postgraduate student and former soldier Professor Keith McLay, pro vice-chancellor/dean, College of Arts, Humanities & Education, University of Derby; author, Reassessing the British Way in Warfare Charlie Peters, writer and broadcaster; British Army reservist Chair: Dr Ruth Mieschbuehler, programme leader for education studies, College of Education, University of Derby



#### LONDON MONDAY 12 NOVEMBER

Accent Study Centre, 12 Bedford Square, London WC1B 3JA

EXCLUDED FROM SCHOOL: NEXT STOP JAIL?

19:00-20:30

#### SPEAKERS INCLUDE:

Pamela Dow, chief reform officer, Catch22; former director of strategy, Ministry of Justice Stuart Lock, executive principal, Advantage Schools Chair: Gareth Sturdy, functional skills teacher at Headmasters Partnership





#### LEEDS TUESDAY 2 OCTOBER

Millennium Room, Carriageworks Theatre, Leeds, LS2 3AD

### WHAT'S THE PROBLEM WITH IDENTITY POLITICS? 18:00–20:00

Remi Joseph-Salisbury, presidential fellow, Centre on Dynamics of Ethnicity, University of Manchester; trustee and organiser, Racial Justice Network; author, Black Mixed-Race Men; Surya Monro, professor in sociology and social policy, University of Huddersfield; author, Gender Politics: Citizenship, Activism, and Sexual Diversity and Bisexuality Ella Whelan, journalist and frequent commentator on TV and radio; author, What Women Want Chair: Paul Thomas, civil servant; qualified FE teacher; organiser, Leeds Salon



## EDINBURGH THURSDAY 11 OCTOBER

Festival of Politics, The Scottish Parliament, Edinburgh, EH99 1SP

#### **FREEDOM TO OFFEND 17.45—19.15**

Free speech was once an unquestionable virtue but now it is explicitly questioned. With universities potentially fined if they don't allow freedom of speech on campus, how do we reconcile today's sensitivities with the freedom to offend?

#### SPEAKERS:

Dr Joanna Williams, head of education and culture, Policy Exchange; author, Women vs Feminism; Gerry Hassan, writer and commentator Nik Williams, Scottish PEN Chair: Claire Fox, director, Academy of Ideas; author, I STILL Find That Offensive!



## **DERBY**TUESDAY 23 OCTOBER

Hallmark Midland Hotel, Derby, DE1 2SQ

### GENERATION WARS: MYTH OR REALITY? 19:00—20:30

#### SPEAKERS:

Dr Jennie Bristow, senior lecturer in sociology, Canterbury Christ Church University; author, The Sociology of Generations The Very Revd. Mitred Archpriest Daniel Joseph, chaplain and philosophy lecturer, University of Derby Anna Keenan, student, Bilborough Sixth Form College, Nottingham James Keith, associate lecturer, Institute of Education, University of Derby Chair: Dr Nicholas Joseph, associate lecturer, College of Arts, Humanities and Education, University of Derby





#### LIVERPOOL FRIDAY 2 NOVEMBER

Unitarian Church, 57 Ullet Road, Liverpool L17 2AA

TRUE GRIT OR GOOD CITIZENS: SHOULD SCHOOLS TEACH CHARACTER? 19:00–20:30

#### **SPEAKERS INCLUDE:**

Mo Lovatt, writer and researcher specialising in Arts & Culture policy; co-chair, The Great Debate Bernie Draper, poverty and development campaigner, member of Merseyside Peace Network Chair: Pauline Hadaway, arts and heritage consultant, University of Manchester





## LEICESTER MONDAY 8 NOVEMBER

LCB Depot, 31 Rutland Street, Leicester, LE1 IRE

#### WHAT DO WOMEN WANT? THE 'ART OF THINKING' ABOUT FEMINISM TODAY 18:30—21:30

Culture on the Offensive 'Art of Thinking' evenings centre around current cultural trends and are an opportunity to meet, think, eat and drink. Join them for this philosophical interrogation of contemporary feminism.

#### IN CONVERSATION:

Ella Whelan, author, What Women Want: Fun, Freedom And An End To Feminism and Dr Greg Scorzo, director and editor, Culture on the Offensive; host, 'The Art of Thinking'



#### SHERBORNE FRIDAY 9 NOVEMBER

Sherborne Girls School, Bradford Road, Sherborne, Dorset, DT9 3QN

#### DEBATING MATTERS CHAMPIONSHIP: DORSET 09:00–18:00

The Academy of Ideas Debating Matters competition for sixth form students emphasises substance over style. Six schools compete in the first ever regional championship in Dorset.

#### **TOPICS TO BE DEBATED:**

Universal Basic Income, Artificial Intelligence, Historical Monuments and Social Egg Freezing





#### EDINBURGH SATURDAY 3 NOVEMBER

National Library of Scotland, George IV Bridge, Edinburgh, EH11EW



### National Library of Scotland

Leabharlann Nàiseanta na h-Alb<u>a</u>

The Battle of Ideas is returning to Edinburgh for our second annual day of debates at the National Library of Scotland, covering politics, education and society.

FIGHT FOR QUEEN AND COUNTRY? MILITARY SERVICE TODAY 11:00–12:00

WHAT IS EDUCATION FOR? 12:15–13:30

WHATEVER HAPPENED TO POLITICAL PROTEST? 14:00–15:00

FROM THE SUFFRAGETTES TO FEMINISM'S GENERATION WAR: WOMEN'S RIGHTS TODAY 15:15—16:30

#### **SPEAKERS INCLUDE:**

Dr Keir Bloomer, education consultant Lucy Butler, postgraduate student, University of Dundee; editorial assistant, Shout Dr Jennifer Cunningham, recently retired paediatrician; author, The End of Apartheid? Theo Dounas, senior lecturer, Scott Sutherland School of Architecture and the Built Environment, Robert Gordon University, Aberdeen Dr Oliver Escobar, lecturer, public policy, University of Edinburgh; co-director, What Works Scotland Angela Haggerty, journalist; founding editor, Common Space Beverley Henshaw, postgraduate student and former soldier Rob Lyons, science and technology director, Academy of Ideas Seonag MacKinnon, director of communications and public affairs, Glasgow Caledonian University Charlie Peters, writer and broadcaster; British Army reservist Dr Stuart Waiton, senior lecturer, sociology and criminology, Abertay University; author, Scared of the Kids: curfews, crime and the regulation of young people Ella Whelan, author, What Women Want: fun, freedom and an end to feminism

Produced by Rob Lyons



## PORTO THURSDAY 18 OCTOBER

Maus Hábitos, Rua Passos Manuel 178, 4º Piso, 4000-382 Porto, Portugal

THE EMPIRE STRIKES BACK?
POST-COLONIALISM AND
EUROPEAN CULTURE
21:30-23:00

#### SPEAKERS INCLUDE:

Nuno Faria, artistic director, José de Guimarães International Centre for the Arts Manick Govinda, programme director, SPACE; speaking in a personal capacity Fran Xavier, freelance designer, tutor, Arts University Bournemouth Chair: Alastair Donald, associate director, Academy of Ideas



#### MALTA TUESDAY 23 OCTOBER

Lecture Centre, University of Malta, MSD 2080 MSIDA, Malta

## OVERTOURISM: IS IT OVER FOR THE GROWTH OF TOURISM? 18:00–20:00

Battle of Ideas comes to Valletta, the European Capital of Culture 2018, to explore the idea of 'overtourism'.

#### **SPEAKERS:**

Dr Marie Avellino, director, Institute for Tourism, Travel and Culture, University of Malta; chair, Island Tourism Platform Godfrey Baldacchino, pro rector and professor of sociology, University of Malta; author, Archipelago Tourism: practices and policies Dr Dominic Standish, author, Venice in Environmental Peril? myth and reality Chair: Jim Butcher, co-author, Volunteer Tourism: the lifestyle politics of international development

Supported by the Institute for Tourism, Travel and Culture, University of Malta

#### ZURICH THURSDAY 18 OCTOBER 10:00-17:30

University of Zurich, 71 Rämistrasse, 8006 Zürich

University of Zürich hosts a full day of debates at the venue where Winston Churchill made his famous United States of Europe speech in 1946.











Stadt Zürich





THE FUTURE OF EUROPE IN AN AGE OF POPULISM 10:30–12:00

ART, MUSIC, PROTEST: THE CULTURAL LEGACY OF 1968 13:30–14:45

#METOO, ONE YEAR ON: WHERE NEXT FOR FEMINISM? 13:30—14:45 IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP: IS THERE A FUTURE FOR FREE MOVEMENT? 13:30–14:45

DO WE NEED AN 'URBAN REVOLUTION'? 15:30-16:45

SHOULD WE KEEP RELIGION AND STATE SEPARATE? 15:30—16:45

#### ....

#### **SPEAKERS INCLUDE:**

Stéphane Bussard, international Geneva correspondent, Le Temps; co-author, Trump, De la Démagogie en Amérique Dr Philip Cunliffe, senior lecturer in politics and international relations, University of Kent; author, Lenin Lives! Reimagining the Russian Revolution Alastair Donald, associate director, Academy of Ideas Jacob Geuder, researcher in videoactivism, online video production and social media, University of Basel Dr Federica Gregoratto, lecturer, University of St Gall Pauline Hadaway, arts and heritage consultant, University of Manchester Dr Andreas Müller Huth, deputy general secretary, Department of Justice and Home Affairs, Canton of Zurich Pascal Gemperli, secretary general, Union Vaudoise des Associations Musulmanes (UVAM) Dr Beat Kappeler, columnist, NZZ am Sonntag Anne-Sophie Keller, author, Iris von Roten: Eine Frau kommt zu früh - noch immer?; journalist, izzy Magazine Pius Knüsel, CEO, Volkshochschule Zürich Bahar Koçal, secular Muslim Professor Stefan Kurath, director, Institut Urban Landscape, School of Architecture ZHAW Andreas Kyriacou, president, Freethinkers Association of Switzerland Michael McKay, corporate communications and public affairs consultant; founder, McKay's Ali Miraj, social entrepreneur; DJ; political activist; financier; founder, the Contrarian Prize Dr Michael Owens, commercial director, Bow Arts Trust; formerly, head of development policy, London Development Agency Frank Schimmelfennig, professor of European politics, ETH Zurich; director, Center for Comparative and International Studies, ETH and the University of Zurich Professor Dr Gerhard Schmitt, director, Singapore-ETH Centre; professor of information architecture, ETH Zurich. Dr Stefanie Walter, professor, international relations and political economy, department of political science, University of Zurich; author, Financial Crises and the Politics of Macroeconomic Adjustments Ella Whelan, author, What Women Want: fun, freedom and an end to feminism Austin Williams, senior lecturer, Dept of Architecture, Kingston University, London; author, China's Urban Revolution

Produced by Paul Seaman

### BRUSSELS TUESDAY 23 OCTOBER

Flemish-Dutch House Deburen, Leopoldstraat 6, 1000 Brussels

## WHAT SHOULD WE DO ABOUT ONLINE HATE SPEECH?

19:30-21:00

Naomi Firsht, journalist; co-author, The Parisians' Guide to Cafés, Bars and Restaurants Yasmien Naciri, entrepreneur; marketeer; columnist, de Morgen and Radio 1 Marloes van Noorloos, associate professor, Department of Criminal Law, Tilburg Law Thomas Smolders, secretary and organiser, Gent M; techno viking, In the Pocket Chair: Jacob Reynolds partnerships manager, Academy of Ideas



#### ATHENS MONDAY 5 NOVEMBER

Hellenic American Union, Massalias 22, 10680, Athens

#### SILENCING HATE SPEECH: CENSORSHIP OR CIVILITY? 19:30—21:00

Sophia Katsochi, instructor with an interest in applied linguistics, Hellenic American College Sotiris Sideris, journalist; coordinator, 'Young Journalists' project, Network for Children's Rights Stelios Virvidakis, professor of philosophy, Department of History and Philosophy of Science, National and Kapodistrian University of Athens Ella Whelan, author, What Women Want Chair: Geoff Kidder, director, membership and events, Academy of Ideas; convenor, Aol Book Club





#### **BERLIN**

#### TUESDAY 6 NOVEMBER 18:00–21:00

University of Applied Sciences Europe, Dessauer STR. 3-5, 10963, Berlin

### FREEDOM IN AN AGE OF PROHIBITION

18:00-19:30

#### **EUROPE'S CULTURE WARS**

19:45-21:00

Til Biermann, reporter, BILD / BZ Dr Stefan Chatrath, professor of sports marketing, University of Applied Sciences Europe, Campus Berlin Karin Dietrich, corporate relations director Central Europe, Diageo Germany Gmbd Professor Frank Furedi, sociologist and social commentator; author, How Fear Works: Culture of Fear in the 21st Century and Populism and the European Culture Wars Rob Lyons, science and technology director, Academy of Ideas Sascha Tamm, head of division for cross-sectoral tasks, Friedrich Naumann Foundation for Freedom; podcast host, Asozial Sabine Beppler-Spahl, chair, Freiblickinstitut e.V; CEO, Sprachkunst36; Germany correspondent, spiked Professor Dr Michael Zürn, director, Research Unit Global Governance, WZB (Berlin Social Science Center); professor, Freie Universiät Berlin; author, A Theory of Global Governance: authority, legitimacy and contestation



DIAGEO

#### **COPENHAGEN**

### SATURDAY 10 NOVEMBER 14:00–17:00

Storm20, Stormgade 20, 1555 København V

## THE ARTS VERSUS CULTURE: WHAT ARE THE ARTS FOR? 14:00–15:15

#### ARE WE SANITISING THE CITY?

15:45-17:00

Alastair Donald, associate director, Academy of Ideas; co-director, Future Cities Project Claire Fox, director, Academy of Ideas; author, I STILL Find That Offensive! Peter Hanke, conductor and artistic director, Voces Academy; associate fellow, Oxford University



#### **DUBLIN**

#### **WEDNESDAY 14 NOVEMBER**

CCT College Dublin, 30-34 Westmoreland Street, Dublin 2. Ireland

#### WHO OWNS CULTURE?

19:00-21:00

Pauline Hadaway, arts and heritage consultant, University of Manchester Dr Maria Parsons, senior lecturer, Institute of Art, Design and Technology, Dun Laoghaire Chair: Justin Smyth, librarian; co-founder, Dublin Salon





#### STOCKHOLM SATURDAY 17 NOVEMBER 11:00–18:30

Kulturhuset Stadsteatern, Stockholm

IS SOCIAL MEDIA BAD FOR SOCIETY? 11:00—12:15

FROM BREXIT TO SWEDEN: WHAT'S BEHIND TODAY'S ANTI-ESTABLISHMENT REVOLT? 12:30—13:45

#METOO, ONE YEAR ON: WHERE NEXT FOR FEMINISM? 14:30—15:45

## KULTURHUSET STADSTEATERN

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP: IS THERE A FUTURE FOR FREE MOVEMENT? 16:00—17:15

ONLY JOKING? SATIRE AND POLITICS TODAY 17:30 — 18:30

In this special fifth anniversary edition of the Battle of Ideas in Stockholm, Kulturhuset Stadsteatern hosts a series of debates covering the hot issues in contemporary politics, culture and society. The debates are free and open to all.

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Nina Åkestam, writer Alastair Donald, associate director, Academy of Ideas; Andrew Doyle, writer and comedian; Kajsa Ekis Ekman, journalist, Dagens Nyheter; author, Being and Being Bought Carl-Michael Edenborg, publisher Aron Flam, comedian and provocateur David Goodhart, author, The Road to Somewhere Madeline Grant, editorial manager, Institute of Economic Affairs Carl Miller, author, The Death of the Gods: the new global power grab Dagens Nyheter; author, Being and Being Bought Karin Pettersson, director of public policy, Schibsted Rob Lyons, science and technology director, Academy of Ideas Fredrik Segerfeldt, author Bruno Waterfield, Brussels correspondent, The Times

Produced by Johan Wirfält and Kulturhuset Stadsteatern team

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