

The Battle of Ideas is an annual festival which brings together 400-plus speakers for over 100 debates over the course of the weekend, and through stand-alone satellite events held from September to November throughout the UK and Europe. You can find out more about these satellite events on pages 52–59.

This brochure will help you plan and navigate your visit to the festival weekend. The debates are organised by room or by themed topic areas we call ‘strands’. For example, the ‘Science and Ethics’ strand covers contemporary issues in medicine, genetics and space exploration. The festival is organised so that you can follow one strand throughout the day, or pick and choose debates from different strands on 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.



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The Battle of Ideas takes place at the Barbican, London, on Saturday 28 and Sunday 29 October.

WEEKEND RATE

Standard ticket	£100
Standard concession ticket	£45
Standard lol associate ticket	£60
lol associate concession ticket	£40
School Students	£20
Immunocore Student and STEM Under-30 Champion	£27.50

DAY TICKETS

(Saturday or Sunday)

Standard ticket	£55
Standard concession ticket	£30
lol associate ticket	£40
lol associate concession ticket	£25
School Students	£10

Tickets are available from the Barbican Box Office or online at www.battleofideas.org.uk/tickets

IMMUNOCORE STUDENT AND STEM UNDER-30 CHAMPION

SPECIAL TICKET OFFER FOR STUDENTS

A limited number of CUT-PRICE weekend tickets for undergraduate and postgraduate students are available for £27.50.

SPECIAL STEM UNDER-30 TICKET OFFER

If you are 30 or under, and work in any STEM activity, leading biotechnology company Immunocore is sponsoring weekend tickets for this year's Battle of Ideas for £27.50.

IMMUNOCORE
targeting T cell receptors

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@instituteofideas.com stating which day you would like to attend free, the name of your school and give a postal address to send the free ticket to. And if you want to attend the whole weekend you 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: barbican.org.uk/your-visit

INTERNET ACCESS

Free wifi: search for WiFi Zone – The Cloud

TWITTER

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

PRESS, PARTNERS AND SPONSORSHIP

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

adamrawcliffe@instituteofideas.com / +44 (0)20 7269 9231

FURTHER ENQUIRIES

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

geoffkidder@instituteofideas.com / +44 (0)20 7269 9220
or Barbican Box Office:
+44 (0) 20 7638 8891

WELCOME TO THE BATTLE OF IDEAS 2017

Society in 2017 is in a very fluid state. There is a palpable sense of momentous change in the air. Recent events have shown that political life doesn't follow a preordained script, that democracy throws up unexpected results and voters are not a stage army to be called up to give a mandate and then be returned to barracks. If once we were told that we had reached the 'end of history', now there is a sense that the centre will not hold - a widespread feeling that, after years of political failure, the status quo is not good enough. Whether you are inspired by the likes of Brexit as a democratic rebellion against the establishment, or worried about its consequences for stability, this sense of the world order unravelling, of history being made, can be as disorientating as it is exhilarating.

DEALING WITH UNCOMFORTABLE QUESTIONS

This new period creates both new uncertainties and possibilities right across society. We face uncomfortable questions about everything from Western values to national sovereignty, from the alleged rise of the far right in Europe and America to the pros and cons of automation and Big Data. Establishing a space and willingness to discuss these shifting trends is an essential antidote to knee-jerk posturing, whether in response to Islamist terror attacks or the horrific tragedy at Grenfell Tower. If ever we needed a sense of solidarity, a shared project of opening up public dialogue, to weigh up future options, to reflect on which philosophical and intellectual values matter, it is now. And yet contemporary trends seem inhospitable to this much-needed robust, grown-up debate. The free speech wars are intensifying, with ever more restrictions emerging daily on what we can and cannot say. Accusations of that weasly notion 'hate speech', cultural appropriation, whitewashing, mansplaining, triggering, etc are frequently used to chill our ability to discuss freely at the very time when we need to talk openly about how we respond to unprecedented challenges.

You don't have to be a Conservative to agree with Prime Minister Theresa May when she declared to her party conference (between coughs and pranks): '[We] must come together... to win the battle of ideas in a new generation ...at stake are the very things we value'. Yes, the stakes are high and the importance of a battle of ideas has never been more pressing. However, despite such rhetoric, battling over ideas is in jeopardy. Winning others' hearts and minds means a commitment to persuading those you don't agree with and

holding people to account by critically engaging with their views and policies. Yet too often, we walk away, throwing out cavalier insults as we leave.

BREAKING OUT OF THE ECHO CHAMBERS

When new Labour MP Laura Pidcock told an interviewer she would never hang out with Tory women because they are 'the enemy', she caused controversy. But she is not alone in preferring to avoid engaging her opponents. Too many are happy to be confined to the safety of 'echo chambers', unwilling to hear and discuss other points of view. As a consequence, there is an increasing tendency to caricature and defame those 'on the other side'. We promiscuously brand people as terfs, deplorables, white supremacists or Nazis for raising awkward questions about identitarian orthodoxies. Brexit voters, who have suffered the consequences of a stagnating economy for years, are accused of wrecking UK plc by billionaire business leaders or written off as poorly educated, xenophobic dupes by enlightened professors.

In response, it is too easy to lash out and label millions who voted Remain as traitors and elitists if they query the fiasco that passes for Brexit negotiations. Yet whatever side we are on, ascribing the most malign of motives to each other can mean debate is reduced to shallow name-calling and lashing out at straw men. This is less a battle of ideas than a negation of the very enterprise of intellectual inquiry and political change.

JOIN THE CONVERSATION

The Battle of Ideas festival aims to be different - a uniquely open forum, where you can meet your 'enemy', listen to opinions you have never heard before, argue back, and even occasionally change your mind. We promise no off-the-shelf answers. More modestly, we bring together a vast range of international speakers to kick-start passionate, serious-minded discussion and 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 what makes modern America and Brexit Britain tick, beyond the headlines. Since 2005, the festival's slogan has been FREE SPEECH ALLOWED, a crucial rebuttal to today's climate of offence-taking. If you're willing to challenge and be challenged, and leave the comfort of the echo chamber, see you at the Barbican on 28 and 29 October.

Claire Fox, director, Institute of Ideas, on behalf of the Battle of Ideas Committee 2017

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

KEYNOTE
CONTROVERSIES**Institute of Ideas**

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
09:30–09:50

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

MUNIRA MIRZA

adviser on arts and philanthropy; former deputy mayor of London for education and culture; author, *The Politics of Culture: the case for universalism*

SEAN GREGORY

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

CHAIR: CLAIRE FOX

director, Institute of Ideas; panelist, BBC Radio 4's *Moral Maze*; author, *I Find That Offensive*

barbican**Institute of Ideas**IS THERE A CULTURE WAR
AGAINST POPULISM?

10:00–11:30

Do the votes for Brexit and Trump signal a new populism? While some identify populism with xenophobia and a lurch to the right, others see in the surge of support for Sanders and Corbyn the rise of a left-wing populist trend. Perhaps this signals a more general clash of values with distant elites. In *The Road to Somewhere*, David Goodhart perceives a rebellion by those who feel connected to a particular place against a deracinated elite. In *Populism and the European Culture Wars*, Frank Furedi presents the prevalent scorn for populism as a way of demonising those who reject the authority of technocratic elites. Is the apparent rise of populism a form of reaction or a sign of democratic renewal?

PROFESSOR FRANK FUREDI

sociologist and social commentator; author, *Populism and the European Culture Wars*, *Invitation To Terror* and *On Tolerance*

DAVID GOODHART

author, *The Road to Somewhere*; head of Demography, Policy Exchange

ELIF ŞAFAK

political commentator; award winning novelist; most widely read author in Turkey; most recent novel, *Three Daughters of Eve*

CHAIR: CLAIRE FOX

director, Institute of Ideas; panelist, BBC Radio 4's *Moral Maze*; author, *I Find That Offensive*

Produced by Claire Fox

DIVERSITY: DOES IT MATTER?
12:00–13:15

Diversity is widely celebrated in contemporary society. Big employers have adopted elaborate strategies to recruit more diverse workforces. On the world stage, diversity is posited as a progressive antidote to 'backward forces' clinging to outdated national cultures. But has diversity become an illiberal orthodoxy? When Google engineer James Damore notoriously inquired whether diversity was an incontestable virtue, he lost his job. Do diversity policies invite a permanent war of cultures, resulting in a society increasingly segmented along the lines of identity? Can we achieve fair treatment and equal access to jobs without creating discriminatory and divisive hiring practices?

JOSIE APPLETON

director, civil liberties group, Manifesto Club; author, *Officious: rise of the busybody state*; blogs at notesonfreedom.com

AMALI DE ALWIS

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

DREDA SAY MITCHELL

author, journalist, broadcaster and campaigner; winner, CWA's John Creasey Dagger for debut novel, *Running Hot*; latest novel, *Blood Daughter*

CATHY YOUNG

US journalist and commentator; weekly columnist, *Newsday*; author, *Ceasefire!: why women and men must join forces to achieve true equality*

CHAIR: CLAIRE FOX

director, Institute of Ideas; panelist, BBC Radio 4's *Moral Maze*; author, *I Find That Offensive*

Produced by Claire Fox

**SAFETY FIRST: DO WE LIVE IN
A 'COTTON-WOOL SOCIETY'?**
14:00–15:30

Safety has become one of the fundamental values of Western society. Every terrorist incident is followed by calls for higher levels of security and further restrictions on civil liberties. Parents go to extreme lengths to keep children safe, producing over-protected 'cotton-wool' kids. Is there a danger that always anticipating the worst possible outcomes results in over-reaction to unavoidable risks? Critics warn that constant official scaremongering has the effect of increasing existential insecurities. Attempting to keep us safe by imagining the worst reinforces cultural assumptions about human vulnerability. Has the dogma of 'safety first' become divorced from a commonsense assessment of risk?

RICHARD ANGELL
director, *Progress*

TERRY BARNES
principal, Cormorant Policy Advice; fellow, Institute of Economic Affairs; former special adviser to two Australian health ministers

PROFESSOR BILL DURODIÉ
chair of international relations, University of Bath; expert in risk and security

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

LENORE SKENAZY
'America's Worst Mom'; president, Let Grow; founder, *Free-Range Kids* book, blog and movement

CHAIR: CLAIRE FOX
director, Institute of Ideas; author, *I Find That Offensive*; panelist, BBC Radio 4's *Moral Maze*

Produced by Claire Fox

**CULTURAL APPROPRIATION:
COMPLIMENT OR THEFT?**
16:00–17:15

Successful societies have always been open to cultural exchange. Today, however, borrowing from other cultures is viewed with suspicion, even labelled 'racist theft'. Novelists and artists have been criticised for representing cultures other than their own. Celebrities have been denounced for 'culturally appropriating' everything from dreadlocks to bindis. In response, some now argue that the very concept of cultural appropriation threatens the essence of culture as the mixing of influences and ideas. Is cultural appropriation a zero-sum game analogous to the seizure of land or artefacts? Do particular cultures have distinct essences? Are Enlightenment notions of common humanity nothing more than a cloak for imperialism?

DR SARAH CHEANG

senior tutor, history of design, Royal College of Art; co-editor, *Hair: Styling, Culture and Fashion*

DR TIFFANY JENKINS

writer and broadcaster; author, *Keeping Their Marbles*

KUNLE OLULODE

director, Voice4Change England; creative director, Rebop Productions

BIJAN OMRANI

historian and classicist; author, *Caesar's Footprints: Journeys to Roman Gaul*

SAMEER RAHIM

managing editor, *Prospect Magazine*

CHAIR: CLAIRE FOX

director, Institute of Ideas; panelist, BBC Radio 4's *Moral Maze*; author, *I Find That Offensive*

Produced by Claire Fox

Prospect



THE POLITICS OF
THE PERSONAL

‘The personal is the political’ was a slogan of the second-wave feminist movement, and has been contested ever since. Is feminism itself now a spent force, or should it be? With some schools now discouraging ‘best friends’ for fear of other kids feeling left out, has the politics of the personal now pervaded every sphere of life? Or conversely, should we do more to help those suffering in silence from an epidemic of loneliness? Meanwhile, some have decided the new social divide is not gender but generation. Is it fair to blame the elderly for the struggles of their grandchildren? All of this and more may come up when veteran novelist Fay Weldon talks to *spiked* editor Brendan O’Neill about her life and work.

WOMEN VERSUS FEMINISM:
DO WE ALL NEED
LIBERATING FROM THE
GENDER WARS?
10:00–11:30

Girls do better at school than boys, the gender pay gap is fast disappearing and women are in positions of political leadership internationally. Though it seems there has never been a better time to be a woman, many women consider themselves disadvantaged and vulnerable. A new generation of feminists complain that women are victims of rape culture on campus, cat-calling on the street and ‘mansplaining’ in the office. Has women’s liberation been achieved, or is there still a long way to go? How equal are women and men today? Is there still a role for feminism?

ESZTER KOVATS

programme manager, Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung Budapest; general editor, *Solidarity in Struggle: feminist perspectives on neo-liberalism in East-Central Europe*

HELENA MORRISSEY

head of personal investing, Legal and General Investment Management; chair, Diversity Project; author, *A Good Time to be a Girl*

JOANNA WILLIAMS

author, *Women Versus Feminism*, *Consuming Higher Education and Academic Freedom in an Age of Conformity*; education editor, *spiked*

ALISON WOLF

author, *The XX Factor: how the rise of working women has created a far less equal world*; cross-bench peer

CHAIR: SALLY MILLARD

co-founder, lol Parents Forum

Produced by Sally Millard

BANTER AND BESTIES: IS
FRIENDSHIP IN PERIL?
12:00–13:00

Prince George has started to attend a private primary school where pupils are discouraged from having best friends because this ‘could leave other children feeling ostracised and hurt’. We are told that being rejected in the playground ‘can reduce self-esteem, a sense of control, and a sense of having a meaningful existence’. Under the Equality Act, grown-ups too can bring claims of discrimination if they believe they have been subjected to exclusionary jokes and banter at work. But are attempts to clamp down on certain forms of bonding and banter an assault on normal human relationships?

MARTIN DAUBNEY

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

DR SHIRLEY DENT

communications specialist and PR lecturer; author, *Radical Blake*

ABBOT CHRISTOPHER JAMISON

recently elected Abbot President, English Benedictine Congregation; author, *Finding Sanctuary* and *Finding Happiness*

CHAIR: DR PIERS BENN

philosopher; author, *Commitment and Ethics*; adjunct professor, Fordham University London Centre

Produced by Dr Piers Benn

barbican

See also Barbican foyer installation *Interlock: Friends Pictured Within*, a modern-day artistic response to the theme of friendship inspired by Sir Edward Elgar’s *Enigma Variations*

**FAY WELDON: IN
CONVERSATION WITH
BRENDAN O'NEILL**

14:00–15:30

Fay Weldon first made her mark on the literary scene with her 1983 novel, *The Life and Loves of a She Devil*. She returned to the limelight this year with the highly anticipated (and long overdue) sequel, *Death of a She Devil*. Dubbed 'not your typical feminist', Weldon - creator and nourisher of 34 novels and numerous TV dramas - has defied orthodoxy and convention throughout her long career. Asking the questions will be *spiked* editor, Brendan O'Neill, in a no-holds-barred discussion of feminism, literature and everything in between.

FAY WELDON CBE

novelist, playwright and screenwriter; author, *Death of a She Devil* and *The Life and Loves of a She Devil*

CHAIR: BRENDAN O'NEILL

editor, *spiked*

Produced by Izzy Lyons

spiked



Photo: Alex Baker

**ALL BY MYSELF: IS
LONELINESS A
SOCIAL PROBLEM?**

16:00–17:15

Loneliness seems to be a growing problem. The decline of the traditional family, churches and social clubs is experienced all too personally, especially by the elderly. Some studies claim loneliness is a bigger killer than cancer or heart disease. Is it time to take loneliness seriously as a social problem or would that detract from the intensely subjective nature of the phenomenon? As many a writer has observed, human creativity requires a measure of solitude. So is the experience of being alone necessarily negative, or can it be an adventure? If we do face an epidemic of loneliness, what, if anything, might be done about it?

LAURA ALCOCK-FERGUSON

director, Campaign to End Loneliness

ABBOT CHRISTOPHER JAMISON

recently elected Abbot president, English Benedictine Congregation; author, *Finding Sanctuary* and *Finding Happiness*

JOSH LOWE

staff writer, *Newsweek*

BEVERLEY MARSHALL

volunteer, The Samaritans

CHAIR: DAVE CLEMENTS

adviser to local government; blogger, *Guardian*, *Huffington Post*; founder, Social Policy Forum

Produced by Beverley Marshall

Newsweek

**SOCIAL
POLICY
FORUM**

**BED BLOCKERS AND
BIGOTS: HAVE WRINKLIES
CHEATED MILLENNIALS?**

17:30–18:45

Once respected for their wisdom and experience, the elderly are increasingly scorned as reactionaries who are likely to become a burden on welfare services. Matters came to a head following the EU referendum when it emerged that many more older than younger people had voted in favour of Brexit. Some complained that 'The young have been screwed by the older generation', others that 'They have stolen our future'. Others still suggested that 'We take pensioners' driving licences away - why not their vote?' Why have society's attitudes to older people seemingly flipped from respect to contempt? Is it wise to interpret social issues in generational terms?

PROFESSOR STEVE FULLER

Auguste Comte chair in social epistemology, University of Warwick

HILARY SALT

actuary; founder, First Actuarial

ALEX SMITH

founder and chief executive, the Cares Family

REUBEN YOUNG

director, PricedOut

CHAIR: GINNY HUME

Local authority lead commissioner, care for older people

Produced by Ginny Hume

INTELLECTUAL LIFE



It is impossible completely to separate ideas from the historical circumstances that give rise to them. But have universities in Britain and the US become captive to a particular socioeconomic group and its unquestioned ideology? And are elements of that ideology, in particular epistemic relativism, the unlikely origins of Trumpian 'post-truth politics'? When political movements claim the mantle of leaders and thinkers of the past, like Martin Luther King, do they honour or distort their intellectual legacies? Finally, will Brexit and other international developments undermine cooperation between scientists?

GROUPTHINK UNIVERSITIES
10:00–11:30

Once regarded as fusty conservatives, the professors seem to have shifted en-masse to liberalism. According to a recent report, 75 per cent of British academics are now left-liberals. A study in the US found the proportion of college faculty who described themselves as 'far left/liberal' has risen from around 40 per cent in 1989 to more than 60 per cent today. Some fear that such ideological convergence risks bias in scholarship. But are such accusations of 'groupthink' merely the complaint of old-fashioned academics who have become marginalized in the modern university? Or is there a real danger that academic homogeneity may impair critical thinking?

DR NOAH CARL

postdoctoral researcher, Nuffield College, Oxford

DENNIS HAYES

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

NICK HILLMAN

director, Higher Education Policy Institute

DR PAUL A. TAYLOR

senior lecturer in Communications and Cultural Theory, University of Leeds

CATHY YOUNG

US journalist and commentator; weekly columnist, *Newsday*; author, *Ceasefire!*

CHAIR: DR NIKOS SOTIRAKOPOULOS

lecturer in sociology, University of Loughborough; author, *The Rise of Lifestyle Activism: from new left to occupy*

Produced by Dr Nikos Sotirakopoulos

THE ACADEMIC ROOTS OF
POST-TRUTH SOCIETY
12:00–13:00

Some claim that we are living in a new age of post-truth politics. Liberal critics and academics blame right-wing politicians for disparaging the importance of expertise. But arguably the origins of 'post-truth' thinking can be traced to the radical philosophers of postmodernism, a major influence on academic life. Theorists such as Lyotard, Foucault and Derrida repudiate Enlightenment values of objectivity and universalism, claiming that they legitimise diverse forms of oppression in modern capitalist societies. If these ideas are widely accepted among the most educated sections of the public, should we look to the academy for the roots of post-truth society?

ROBERT EAGLESTONE

professor of contemporary literature and thought, Royal Holloway, University of London

JAMES HEARTFIELD

lecturer; author, *The Equal Opportunities Revolution*

HELEN PLUCKROSE

writer and researcher, *Areo Magazine* and *Conatus News*

CHAIR: DR ALKA SEHGAL
CUTHBERT

educator, writer and researcher; co-author, *What Should Schools Teach? disciplines, subjects and the pursuit of truth*

Produced by Dr Alka Sehgal Cuthbert



THE LEGACY OF MARTIN LUTHER KING: FROM CIVIL RIGHTS TO IDENTITY POLITICS

14:00–15:30

Martin Luther King famously hoped that his children would 'not be judged by the colour of their skin, but by the content of their character'. But despite the widespread reverence for King's vision, it seems at odds with today's identity politics. Anti-racists now argue that the idea of 'colour blindness' is itself racist, and some demand racially-segregated safe spaces on US campuses. Even the son of Martin Luther King says 'I don't think we can ignore race'. Is this a betrayal of King's legacy, or does it reflect the need for a more complex approach to the legacy of racism in America and beyond?

DR NICK DENNIS

deputy headteacher, Hertfordshire;
teacher historian; governor, Greenwich
Free School

VINCENT GOULD

artist, actor and satirist

COURTNEY HAMILTON

photographer and writer

RIHAM MANSOUR

trade policy expert; former community and
welfare officer, LSE Students' Union

DR TERRI MURRAY

blogger, *Conatus News*; contributor
to *Philosophy Now*; director of studies,
Hampstead College of Fine Arts
and Humanities

CHAIR: DR CHERYL HUDSON

lecturer in American history, University of
Liverpool

Produced by Dr Helene Guldberg

CONATUS NEWS

ARE SCIENCE AND MEDICINE THREATENED BY BORDERS?

16:00–17:15

Scientists and doctors have emerged as among the most vociferous critics of Brexit and Trump. The March for Science expressed the concerns of many researchers and clinicians on both sides of the Atlantic about the future of funding and about the movement of researchers and students across national borders. Many were also alarmed at the apparent lack of respect for expertise and evidence in public policy. But whose responsibility should it be to fund scientific research? How can science and medicine best be defended and pursued, in an uncertain world of shifting borders?

DR ELIOT FORSTER

CEO, Immunocore; chairman, MedCity

DR JOE KAPLINSKY

assistant professor, DTU Nanotech; co-
author, *Energise! a future for energy innovation*

DR JULES MONTAGUE

neurologist and writer

RAFAEL YÁÑEZ-MUÑOZ

professor of advanced therapy, Royal
Holloway University of London

CHAIR: SANDY STARR

communications officer, Progress
Educational Trust; webmaster, *BioNews*

Produced by Sandy Starr

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UNDERSTANDING
AMERICA

IN ASSOCIATION WITH

Newsweek

Donald Trump's victory in last November's presidential election has caused turmoil, not just in US politics but around the world, as an exemplar of a 'new populism'. So who voted for him and why? And while there has been much focus on Trump's sometimes erratic behaviour, is there some method in his 'madness'? But the new era of American politics is not just about The Donald, as the rise of the New South shows. How did states that were once strongly associated with slavery and racism become a new 'powerhouse' for blacks?

IS THERE SUCH A THING
AS TRUMPISM?

10:00–11:30

Donald Trump won the Republican presidential nomination despite discarding nearly every tenet of modern conservatism. He even abandoned traditional commitments to free trade and military intervention overseas. In office, however, Trump has failed to live up to his election rhetoric. He has endorsed air attacks in Syria and Afghanistan and has fired several advisers thought to be key ideological supporters. Is Trump no more than an opportunist? Now that many are speculating he will not survive his first term, the question arises whether Vice President Mike Pence would keep the Trumpist flame alive? Or does the term give Trump too much credibility?

KATE ANDREWS

news editor, Institute of Economic Affairs;
columnist, *City A.M.*

MATTHEW D'ANCONA

columnist, *Guardian*, *Evening Standard*, *New York Times* and *GQ*; author, *Post-Truth: the new war on truth and how to fight back*

JAMES MATTHEWS

New York based commentator, US politics
and current affairs

DR NATHAN PINKOSKI

Thomas W. Smith postdoctoral research
associate, Princeton University

TOM SWITZER

incoming executive director, Centre for
Independent Studies in Sydney; presenter,
Australian Broadcasting Corporation's
Radio National

CHAIR: TOM BAILEY

content editor, *Money Observer*;
columnist, *spiked*

Produced by Tom Bailey

AMERICA'S NEW SOUTH:
FROM SLAVERY TO
ECONOMIC POWERHOUSE?

12:00–13:00

Long associated with backwardness and bigotry, the American South has recently acquired a more dynamic and progressive image. Sunbelt cities, such as Dallas and Houston, Miami and Atlanta, have seen tremendous economic growth, generating new jobs in technology and finance. After decades of northward migration, many African Americans are now returning to the South. But has the region really changed? If the South has left behind its racist past, why are symbols such as Confederate flags still so contested? How should the South be understood today in comparison with other regions of America?

DR BRUCE E BAKER

lecturer, American history, Newcastle
University; co-editor, *Remembering
Reconstruction: struggles over the meaning of
America's most tumultuous era*

MICHAEL GOLDFARB

journalist and historian; founder and host,
FDRH podcast

DR ZOE HYMAN

lecturer in US history, University College
London, Institute of the Americas

DR KEVIN YUILL

senior lecturer in American history,
University of Sunderland; author, *The
Second Amendment and Gun Control:
freedom, fear, and the American Constitution*

CHAIR: TOM BAILEY

content editor, *Money Observer*;
columnist, *spiked*

Produced by Tom Bailey

**THE RUST BELT AND
THE DEPLORABLES**
14:00–15:30

Many commentators have argued that the mostly white Americans who live in the so-called 'rust belt' areas of industrial decline have legitimate grievances that have been ignored by mainstream politicians. Hillary Clinton notoriously dismissed them as 'deplorables'. It perhaps should not have been such a surprise that many of them voted for Donald Trump. Is white the new black? Are poor whites simply suffering the loss of privileges they once enjoyed? Whatever their problems, does Trump offer any solutions? Is there anything positive about the populist sentiments expressed in the electoral repudiation of the Washington elite?

NICK GILLESPIE

US journalist and commentator; editor in chief, *Reason.com* and *Reason TV*, the online and video platforms of *Reason Magazine*

GRAHAM LANKTREE

US politics reporter, *Newsweek*

JAMES MATTHEWS

New York based commentator, US politics and current affairs

ERIKA ALICE SCOTT MILLER

board member, Republicans Overseas UK

DR GREG SCORZO

director and editor, Culture on the Offensive

CHAIR: JEAN SMITH

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

Produced by Jean Smith

**FROM PEPE THE FROG TO
CHARLOTTESVILLE:
THE RISE OF THE ALT-RIGHT**
16:00–17:15

The violence and racism on public display at the 'Unite the Right' rally in Charlottesville, Virginia in August drew international attention to the American 'alt-right'. Though the Charlottesville protest attracted support from long-established far-right groups, the broader alt-right phenomenon is more novel and less clearly defined. The term was first used to describe a disparate group of 'anti-PC' internet crusaders. As it evolved, the alt-right became more explicitly political, and some of its more strident supporters backed Donald Trump's election campaign. Is the alt-right dangerous, a new American fascism, or is it merely an infantile reaction to divisive identity politics?

SPEAKER: ANGELA NAGLE

cultural critic; author, *Kill All Normies: from 4chan and Tumblr to Trump and the alt-right*

RESPONDENTS:**JAMIE BARTLETT**

director, Centre for the Analysis of Social Media, Demos; author *The Dark Net* and *Radicals*

SABRINA HARRIS

technical author; commentator on internet subcultures

CATHY YOUNG

US journalist and commentator; weekly columnist, *Newsday*; author, *Ceasefire!: why women and men must join forces to achieve true equality*

CHAIR: DR NIKOS SOTIRAKOPOULOS

lecturer in sociology, University of Loughborough; author, *The Rise of Lifestyle Activism: from new left to occupy*

Produced by Dr Nikos Sotirakopoulos



THE NEW POLITICAL
LANDSCAPE

Pagefield

Understanding your world

It's politics, Jim, but not as we know it. This year's UK general election did not go according to script. The 'Brexit election' in which Brexit hardly featured. The Tory landslide that failed to happen. Relative success for the supposed electoral liability that is Jeremy Corbyn. Are we seeing a great realignment of British politics? Or is national politics itself a thing of the past? Despite Brexit, should we see the future in multinational political formations? Some see that as the dream of the elite, while ordinary people still see themselves as citizens of a particular place. If so, which side will win out? What will happen with Brexit? This strand also includes an opportunity to ask politician and author Douglas Carswell all of the above and more.

PARTY POLITICS:
REALIGNMENT OR
DISINTEGRATION?

10:00–11:30

A run of unpredictable results has taught politicians that they 'can't take the electorate for granted'. Does the recent volatility of voters mean the end of the old party system? Can we really have arrived at a state of affairs in Britain in which the Conservatives are the party of the 'left-behind' proletariat and Labour represents the educated middle classes? Is the traditional left/right divide obsolete? Does realignment open up space for a new politics beyond career politicians and technocratic parties? Or can we expect the old party machines to make a comeback?

ALEX DEANE

managing director, FTI Consulting;
panellist, BBC *Dateline London*

PAUL EMBERY

Executive Council member, Fire Brigades
Union; National Organiser, Trade Unionists
Against the EU

RESHAM KOTECHA

Conservative parliamentary candidate,
2015 and 2017; head of engagement,
Women2Win; policy ambassador,
Conservative Policy Forum

MATTHEW GOODWIN

professor of political science, University of
Kent; senior fellow, Chatham House; co-
author, *Brexit: why Britain voted to leave the
EU and Revolt on the Right*

TOM SLATER

deputy editor, *spiked*

CHAIR: JOEL COHEN

communications manager, BeyondMe,
associate fellow, Institute of Ideas

Produced by Joel Cohen

spiked

THE NATION STATE IN THE
MODERN WORLD

12:00–13:00

The decline of the nation state has been widely regarded as the inevitable consequence of the hidden hand of globalization. Multinational corporations have encouraged borderless free trade. Supranational institutions have promoted the spirit of cosmopolitan internationalism. But recent events – including the votes for Brexit and Trump and the rise of anti-immigration parties in Europe – seem to suggest that reports of the death of the nation state have been greatly exaggerated. Is there really a revival of nationalism in the Western world? If so, is the new nationalism reactionary or a potentially progressive force? Where does the balance lie between chauvinist flag-waving and asserting democratic sovereignty?

PROFESSOR FRANK FUREDI

sociologist and social commentator; author,
Populism and the European Culture Wars,
Invitation To Terror and *On Tolerance*

ANGIE HOBBS

professor of the public understanding of
philosophy, University of Sheffield

CHAIR: NEIL DAVENPORT

sociology and politics teacher; writer on
culture; former music journalist

Produced by Neil Davenport

**FOOTLOOSE
COSMOPOLITANS OR
CITIZENS OF NOWHERE?****14:00–15:30**

When Theresa May said that people who call themselves ‘citizens of the world’ are in fact ‘citizens of nowhere’ she caused an outcry. Many interpreted her statement as a post-Brexit revival of nationalism and xenophobia. They responded by reasserting their desire to be world citizens or, indeed, ‘citizens of nowhere’. In a world in which national identities have become more fluid and borders more porous, global citizenship has widespread appeal. But is it possible to be a world citizen in any meaningful sense? Is this merely a fashionable label signalling a rejection of the obligations of citizenship in favour of a cosmopolitan lifestyle?

DOLAN CUMMINGS

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

DAVID GOODHART

author, *The Road to Somewhere*; head of Demography, Policy Exchange

ANGIE HOBBS

professor of the public understanding of philosophy, University of Sheffield

KARL-ERIK NORRMAN

secretary general, European Cultural Parliament; opera soloist; author, *The Crisis of Democracy*

CHAIR: DR JIM BUTCHER

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

Produced by Dr Jim Butcher

ECP European Cultural Parliament

BREXIT – WHERE ARE WE AT?**16:00–17:15**

As things stand, the UK will depart from the European Union on 29 March 2019. But what leaving the EU means remains a long way from being determined. Negotiations have not yet properly begun and major stumbling blocks are still to be overcome. Does the uncertainty about the meaning of Brexit hold out the prospect of a ‘soft Brexit’ that does not really amount to leaving the EU at all? If Brexit does go ahead, can it be made to succeed, and create a better future for Britain? Or is Jean-Claude Juncker right that we will soon be made to ‘regret’ our referendum vote?

JOHN MILLS

chair, Labour Future and Labour Leave; secretary, Labour Euro-Safeguards; entrepreneur and economist

DANIEL MOYLAN

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

BRENDAN O’NEILL

editor, *spiked*

CHLOE WESTLEY

campaign manager, TaxPayers’ Alliance; former head of social media, Vote Leave

CHAIR: BRUNO WATERFIELD

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

Produced by Claire Fox

**INVOKE
DEMOCRACY
NOW!**

spiked

**BOOKSHOP BARNIE:
DOUGLAS CARSWELL ON
REBEL: HOW TO OVERTHROW
THE EMERGING OLIGARCHY****17:30–18:45**

Bookshop Barnies challenge authors to justify their work. Douglas Carswell has been both a Tory and a UKIP MP and is now neither. His *Rebel* is a maverick manifesto with a twist: a critique of capitalism and of the dangers posed by anti-capitalists. It is an argument for liberal democracy and against the illiberalism of contemporary democrats. While *Guardian* accuses him of ‘exuding unwavering confidence in his own infallibility’, the *Independent* praises his ‘thoughtful, inventive mind’. Has Carswell’s credibility been undermined by his swinging between parties? Is he as much of a rebel as he thinks he is?

DOUGLAS CARSWELL

former Member of Parliament; author, *Rebel: how to overthrow the emerging oligarchy*

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

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BATTLE FOR THE
ECONOMY

IN ASSOCIATION WITH



A decade on from the beginnings of the global financial crisis, Western economies remain sluggish, and now Brexit raises further questions about the future of the British economy in particular. Some see it as an opportunity for a new industrial revolution, perhaps spearheaded by exciting new spheres such as biotech. Others contend that Brexit means retreating from the world. But with the election of the avowedly protectionist Trump in the US, is the expansion of global trade and cooperation coming to an end anyway? And what do economic developments mean for ordinary workers and consumers? Does the 'gig' economy signal the end of 'proper jobs'? Should the state guarantee everyone a basic income regardless of work?

REBOOTING BRITAIN:
INDUSTRIAL STRATEGY FOR
THE 21ST CENTURY
10:00–11:30

Last January, the Conservative government launched its 'modern' industrial strategy. This promised an exciting new economic future for Brexit Britain, with the state taking the helm rather than leaving the future of the economy to the market. But many are still to be convinced that the government is capable of delivering actions to match the hype. While there is considerable potential for new industries to create new wealth and well-paid jobs, the government seems to be relying on old remedies – R&D, skills training and infrastructure. Can this strategy produce an economic miracle, or will it merely prop up lame ducks?

ANGELA FRANCIS

acting head of economics and resources,
Green Alliance

ALI MIRAJ

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

PHIL MULLAN

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

JOHN MERRY

deputy city mayor of Salford City Council;
portfolios have included North West
Development Agency and Local and
National Learning and Skills Councils

CHAIR: ROB LYONS

science and technology director, Institute
of Ideas; convenor, Iol Economy Forum

Produced by Rob Lyons

IMMUNOCORE

targeting T cell receptors

CAN BIOTECH LEAD AN
ECONOMIC REVOLUTION?
12:00–13:00

If synthetic chemistry catalysed industrial development in the nineteenth century, could synthetic biology kickstart a new industrial revolution? Biotech promises a dazzling future of new products and services, notably in pharmaceuticals and other areas of healthcare. The fusion of biotech and information technology offers a further startling range of possibilities. But while there is much to be excited about, is the potential for biotech as a substantial, durable, and job-creating sector overstated? Now that Britain is leaving the EU, will a new regulatory framework help or hinder the industry?

DR ELIOT FORSTER

CEO, Immunocore; chairman, MedCity

PROFESSOR ROBIN LOVELL-BADGE

group leader in stem cell biology and
developmental genetics, Francis Crick Institute

BETHAN WOLFENDEN

co-founder, Bento Bio

CHAIR: SANDY STARR

communications officer, Progress
Educational Trust; webmaster, *BioNews*

Produced by Sandy Starr

IMMUNOCORE

targeting T cell receptors

**IS GLOBALISATION OVER?
THE FUTURE OF WORLD
TRADE****14:00–15:30**

Globalisation is widely acclaimed as a world-wide success story. It has improved income, raised living standards and prolonged life expectancy. But is globalisation now grinding to a halt? Many countries are imposing protectionist tariffs and negotiations over international trade deals have stalled. Yet some suggest that a retreat from globalisation might be beneficial. While President Trump promises to bring jobs back to the US, leftist critics argue that the global economy only benefits big business, at the expense of workers. Where does global capitalism now stand? If it really is reaching the end of the road, should we celebrate?

DR GERARD LYONSeconomist; co-author, *Clean Brexit***PROFESSOR MICHAEL MAINELLI**

executive chairman, Z/Yen Group; alderman, City of London

VICKY PRYCE

board member, Centre for Economics and Business Research

ALLEN SIMPSON

chief operating officer, Labour in the City; economic and financial policy specialist

JAMES WOULDHUYSEN

visiting professor, London South Bank University

CHAIR: ROB LYONS

science and technology director, Institute of Ideas; convenor, lol Economy Forum

Produced by James Woudhuysen**THE GIG ECONOMY: THE
CHANGING FACE OF WORK****16:00–17:15**

Uber, Airbnb and Deliveroo were only recently hailed as heralding a service sector revolution. These new 'sharing economy' ventures offered consumers low-cost alternatives while opening up new opportunities for individuals to earn income. But critics now argue that these firms merely offer a more sophisticated version of the low-paid, low-skilled, shift work employment that has dominated the UK labour market since the financial crisis. Is the rise of the gig economy a triumph for technology, or a hi-tech mask for a struggling economy? Should policy-makers be more willing to intervene to protect workers' rights, even at the expense of reducing their employment options?

URSULA HUWS

professor of labour and globalisation, University of Hertfordshire

ROB KILLICKCEO, Clerksell; author, *The UK After The Recession***LAUREN RAZAVI**

managing director, Flibl; award-winning writer and consultant

DANIEL TOMLINSON

research and policy analyst, Resolution Foundation

CHAIR: DAVID BOWDEN

associate fellow, Institute of Ideas

Produced by David Bowden**UNIVERSAL BASIC INCOME:
WORKFARE OR FREEDOM?****17:30–18:45**

The idea that the state should provide a basic income for all citizens has come to attract support from across the political spectrum. For those unable to work, a 'universal basic income' would provide enough to guarantee a decent living. For those who can work, it would allow them to escape the 'poverty trap'. Some propose that UBI could sustain a new contract between the individual and society, with recipients doing community service in return for the payment. For critics, this conjures up visions of Victorian workhouses and failed 'workfare' schemes. Is the concept of UBI flawed? Could it be made to work?

KATE ANDREWSnews editor, Institute of Economic Affairs; Columnist, *City A.M.***DAVE CLEMENTS**adviser to local government; blogger, *Guardian*, *Huffington Post*; founder, Social Policy Forum**STEWART LANSLEY**visiting fellow, City University; writer, broadcaster, co-author, *A Universal Basic Income: an idea whose time has come?***JOHN RENTOUL**chief political commentator, *Independent*; visiting professor, King's College, London**CHAIR: MARTIN WRIGHT**director, Positive News; former editor in chief, *Green Futures***Produced by Martin Wright**

CULTURE WARS

IN ASSOCIATION WITH



The arts and culture reflect wider ideas and debates in society, sometimes subtly, sometimes explicitly or even propagandistically. Some argue that making and enjoying 'art for art's sake' should mean steering clear of politics; others relish politics in the arts. In the centenary year of the Russian Revolution, this strand looks back on how art and artists inspired and were inspired by that political upheaval, as well as asking what role there might be for politics in the theatre, and what the popularity of detective fiction says about our society. And looking forwards, can Brexit – rather than thwarting the cultural sector – help shape and spark a new era of creativity?

PLAYING POLITICS: SHOULD THEATRE BE A SAFE SPACE?
10:00–11:30

When Vice President elect Mike Pence was booed at a Broadway performance of *Hamilton*, a protective Donald Trump tweeted 'The theater must always be a safe and special place'. Stage performers around the world responded that, on the contrary, their art form has a responsibility to make people uncomfortable. But beyond the rhetoric, some fear that there are more and more restrictions on what is acceptable in the modern theatre. Anybody who dissents from current conventions regarding race and gender risks censure. Is artistic freedom enhanced or threatened by self-consciously transgressive productions or by fashionable trends like identity politics and diversity agendas?

PAUL CAISTER

founder and director, The Poor School

PATRICK MARMION

playwright; critic, *spiked* and *Daily Mail*

STELLA ODUNLAMI

artist and director; PhD researcher, University of Hull

DR JULIA PASCAL

playwright; research fellow, King's College, London

BRODIE ROSS

acting and widening participation tutor, Guildhall School of Music and Drama

CHAIR: JOSEPHINE HUSSEY

chair, Huntingdon Drama Group; school teacher

Produced by Josephine Hussey

**GUILD
SCHOOL
HALL**
A REVOLUTION IN ART: A VISUAL APPRECIATION OF THE RUSSIAN REVOLUTION
12:00–13:00

The October Revolution shook the world. It had a particularly seismic impact on Russian artists, who, whatever their attitude to the Bolshevik cause, acquired an international reputation for their innovative works. Artists as different as Kandinsky and Malevich, Popova and Rodchenko defy political categorisation. Does their art transcend the moment in which they lived and the ideas (political and otherwise) that they explored or espoused? In this visual lecture, artist and art history teacher Dido Powell will survey a selection of key works by Russian artists working at the time of the revolution, and offer a critical appreciation of their artistic legacy.

DIDO POWELL

painter; lecturer and tutor in art history and painting

CHAIR: DR WENDY EARLE

impact development officer, Birkbeck, University of London; convenor, Institute of Ideas Arts and Society Forum

Produced by Dr Wendy Earle



IGNITING THE SPARK OF
CREATIVITY IN BREXIT
BRITAIN

14:00–15:30

For many in the creative sector, the Brexit vote proved an unexpected trauma. From architecture and design to the arts and film, there is deep anxiety that leaving the EU will damage the cosmopolitan spirit of British culture. For the artist Grayson Perry, however, Brexit offers opportunities to challenge the 'same old comfortable ideas' and 'reach new audiences'. Should the disruption caused by Brexit be embraced as a chance to reignite artists' capacity to inspire and enthral? Can creatives take advantage of the escape from EU bureaucracy to pursue imaginative ideas and new options for collaboration. Perhaps Brexit can stimulate innovation and creativity?

DR NORMAN LEWIS

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

JOHN MCRAE

director, Orms

MUNIRA MIRZA

advisor on arts and philanthropy; former deputy mayor of London for education and culture; author, *The Politics of Culture: the case for universalism*

COLIN TWEEDY

CEO, Built Environment Trust; governor, University for the Creative Arts

CHAIR: AUSTIN WILLIAMS

senior lecturer, Dept of Architecture, Kingston University

Produced by Alastair Donald and Austin Williams



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WHAT IS TO BE DONE?
LITERATURE AND THE
RUSSIAN REVOLUTION

16:00–17:15

The closing decades of Tsarist autocracy were a golden era of Russian literature. Writers such as Tolstoy, Dostoyevsky and Chekhov had a major influence on contemporary cultural controversies and have sustained an international reputation. Chernyshevsky's 1863 novel *What is to be done?* provided Lenin with the title of one his most famous polemical pamphlets. In this period, literature became a battleground of ideas about the state of Russian society and for debates about the shape of the political change that everybody knew was inevitable. What can we learn today from literature born in an age of censorship and impending revolution?

DOLAN CUMMINGS

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

JULIE CURTIS

professor of Russian literature, University of Oxford

ADAM RAWCLIFFE

director of external affairs, Institute of Ideas

MARTIN ROBINSON

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

CHAIR: EMILY HILL

writer and journalist; author, *Bad Romance*; columnist, *The Sunday Times Style*

Produced by Adam Rawcliffe

WATCHING THE DETECTIVES:
CRIME FICTION AND
THE ZEITGEIST

17:30–18:45

From Sherlock Holmes to Nordic noir, it seems that crime stories never go out of fashion. Readers have continued to enjoy detective novels, crime mysteries and cop shows regardless of the critical disdain they often attract. Some crime writers undoubtedly churn out titles according to well-established formulas. Other authors, however, have found in the crime and detective genre the raw material for genuinely creative and psychologically rich works. Are we drawn to mystery stories for the satisfaction of seeing all the pieces fall into place at the end? Is the plot less important than the atmosphere conjured up and the characters explored?

DOLAN CUMMINGS

author, *That Existential Leap: a crime story*; associate fellow, Institute of Ideas

DR RUTH DUDLEY EDWARDS

journalist and writer; award-winning author, 12 crime novels including *Murdering Americans* and *Killing the Emperors*

IMRAN MAHMOOD

barrister and writer; author, *You Don't Know Me*

DREDA SAY MITCHELL

author, journalist, broadcaster; winner, CWA's John Creasey Dagger for debut novel, *Running Hot*; latest novel, *Blood Daughter*

CHAIR: HELEN BIRTWISTLE

co-head of the history and politics, South London college

Produced by Helen Birtwistle



CITY LIFE

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City air makes you free, as they say in Germany. Taking place in one of the most bustling cities in the world, the Battle of Ideas always features debates about urbanism and city life. This year, we look at the vibrancy and ubiquity of street art, but does the coolness of the contemporary city mask deeper problems? The strand also considers whether local democracy is up to the job of city regeneration, especially after the municipal failings before and after the Grenfell disaster, the threat posed to urban living by toxic smog, and perhaps the biggest issue of all in British cities: the chronic housing shortage. What is the future of the city, and how might citizens help shape it?

HOUSING: REFORM OR
REVOLUTION?

10:00–11:30

The large scale loss of life in the fire at Grenfell Tower exposed a wider housing crisis. The blundering incompetence of the local council in arranging alternative accommodation for the displaced residents reflects the wider lack of convincing solutions to the housing shortage. Experts admit that we build barely half of the 300,000 new homes that are needed each year. According to *The Economist*, despite more than 200 new housing initiatives since 2010, 'Britain's housing market is broken'. What action do we need? More planning or less regulation? Greater public provision or increased freedom for developers? More skyscrapers in the inner city or building on the greenbelt?

SIMON ELMER

commissar for counter-propaganda,
Architects for Social Housing

KATH SCANLON

assistant professorial research fellow, LSE;
editor, *Social Housing in Europe*

DR PATRIK SCHUMACHER

principal, Zaha Hadid Architects; author,
The Autopoiesis of Architecture

LISA TAYLOR

chief executive, Future of London

JAMES WOULDHUYSEN

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

CHAIR: ALASTAIR DONALD

associate director, Institute of Ideas; co-
director, Future Cities Project

Produced by Alastair Donald and
Austin Williams

FROM BASQUIAT TO BANKSY:
STREET ART AND URBANISM

12:00–13:00

Once regarded as vandalism, graffiti has become a contemporary art form. The mainstream popularity of Americans Jean-Michel Basquiat and Keith Haring and Bristol's Banksy has provoked debate about whether respectability compromises the rebellious roots of street art. This controversy has become intensified by the growing appetite amongst public bodies for public artworks and tensions over what is acceptable in public spaces. If the 'guerrilla' element is removed, can such works still be regarded as art? Does street art offer a challenge to the sanitisation of public space, or has it simply become a form of approved 'artwashing'?

STEPHANIE BOLAND

head of digital, *Prospect Magazine*

MANICK GOVINDA

head of Artists' Advisory Services; speaking
in a personal capacity

MUNIRA MIRZA

adviser on arts and philanthropy; former
deputy mayor of London for education
and culture

KARIM SAMUELS

creative director; artist

DR RAFAEL SCHACTER

teaching fellow, University College London;
author, *World Atlas of Street Art and Graffiti*

CHAIR: DAVID BOWDEN

associate fellow, Institute of Ideas

Produced by David Bowden

barbican

Basquiat Boom for Real is the first
large-scale exhibition in the UK of the
work of American artist Jean-Michel
Basquiat (1960–1988): 21 Sep 2017 –
28 Jan 2018, Barbican Art Gallery.

**IS LOCAL DEMOCRACY
BROKEN?****14:00–15:30**

The apocalyptic images of the Grenfell Tower fire and seeming municipal impotence in response might suggest that councils lack the capacity, resilience and popular accountability to advance the interests of their communities. The disconnect between officialdom and residents is not confined to well-to-do Conservative boroughs with similar criticism directed at Rotherham's Labour administration and independent Tower Hamlets. But does media attention on individual failures blind us to a reality of robust, popular and effective local governance up and down the country? Are we at risk of missing the positive collaboration between councillors and citizens, beneath the notice of critics and centralisers?

LIAM BOOTH-SMITH

chief executive, Localis

DOUGLAS CARSWELLformer Member of Parliament; author, *Rebel: how to overthrow the emerging oligarchy***SALLY GIMSON**

councillor, Camden Council

HEATHER JAMESONeditor, *The MJ* and *TheMJ.co.uk***DANIEL MOYLAN**

former deputy chairman, Transport for London; Conservative councillor

CHAIR: MICHAEL OWENS

commercial director, Bow Arts Trust; ex head of development policy, London Development Agency

Produced by Alastair Donald

**TOXIC SMOG: HAZARD
OR HYPE?****16:00–17:15**

According to London mayor Sadiq Khan, toxic air is a major public health issue in the capital. A smog, largely attributed to diesel fumes, enveloped London in early 2017 and some schoolchildren were kept indoors. Commentators drew comparisons with the 'airmageddon' of Beijing. Reports suggest that more than half the UK population lives in areas with illegal levels of air pollution. How worried should we be? Is pollution really an 'assault on a basic right to breathe clean air' and is redesigning cities and banning cars sensible? Are 'grey plaque' health warnings on buildings in areas of high risk useful, or simply scaremongering?

FIONA HARVEYaward-winning environment journalist, *Guardian***LAURIE LAYBOURN-LANGTON**assistant editor, *Progressive Review*; senior research fellow, IPPR; founder, Bring Back the NHS**KEVIN MCCONWAY**emeritus professor of applied statistics, The Open University; former academic adviser, *More or Less*, Radio 4**AUSTIN WILLIAMS**senior lecturer, Dept of Architecture, Kingston University, London; honorary research fellow, XJTLU, Suzhou, China; author, *China's Urban Revolution***CHAIR: ALASTAIR DONALD**

associate director, Institute of Ideas; co-director, Future Cities Project

Produced by Alastair Donald and Austin Williams

**BALLOON DEBATE: WHAT
IS THE BEST CITY?****17:30–18:45****FREE STAGE**

Paris in the nineteenth century, New York in the twentieth. Sometimes one fabled city seems to be the place everyone wants to be. But what makes a city great? Should we judge greatness by the happiness of the citizens or the importance of the elites? Will cities without history always lack soul, or does a preoccupation with heritage risk creating living museums? As the balance of global power shifts, where are we likely to find the greatest cities of the twenty-first century? Do the citizens make the city, or does the city inspire greatness?

THEO DOUNAS

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

ELISABETTA GASPARONI

teacher; convenor of the Future Cities Project Readers' Group

HOLLY JOHAL

student, Queen Mary University of London

ALAN MILLER

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

JAMES MULLIGHAN

film, arts and festivals consultant

ALICE THWAITE

founder, Echo Chamber Club

CHAIR: DAVID BOWDEN

associate fellow, Institute of Ideas

Produced by David Bowden

NTIA | NIGHT TIME
INDUSTRIES ASSOCIATION

CONTEMPORARY
CONTROVERSIES

These sessions aim to dig beneath the headlines on a wide range of topical issues.



FROM FGM TO CHARLIE GARD: WHAT ARE THE LIMITS TO PARENTAL FREEDOM?

10:00–11:30

Parents' right to raise children free from state intervention used to be regarded as fundamental to family life. In recent years, however, the law and social policy have insisted on the primacy of the welfare of the child over the rights of parents. The authorities seem not to trust parents to make decisions about medical interventions, to discipline their children or teach them about sex. Professionals are authorised to report on families in which children are considered to be at risk of 'radicalisation' or FGM. Has the protection of children become a crusade disproportionate to the problem of abuse?

DR EDWARD CONDON

canon lawyer; writer, *Catholic Herald*

DR CLARE GERADA

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

BRID HEHIR

writer and researcher; blogger at *Shifting Sands*; retired nurse & fundraiser

DAVID MCKENDRICK

lecturer in social work, Glasgow Caledonian University

DR ROSEMARY RIZQ

psychologist and psychotherapist

CHAIR: DR PIERS BENN

author, *Commitment and Ethics*; visiting lecturer in philosophy, Heythrop College, adjunct professor, Fordham University London Centre

Produced by Brid Hehir



SHOULD FASHION STATEMENTS BE POLITICAL STATEMENTS?

12:00–13:00

Fashion seems to have gone political. The international Women's March featured pink 'pussy hats' and 'This is what a feminist looks like' T-shirts. Trump supporters have their 'Make America Great Again' caps. The fashion industry stands accused of failing to represent minorities. *Vogue* was condemned for 'cultural appropriation' when white model Karlie Kloss posed as a geisha in the magazine's 'diversity' issue. But should our clothes become a platform for promoting political causes? Should the fashion industry display a social conscience? Or is fashion an art form that should push our imagination beyond our contemporary preoccupations?

MAGGIE ALDERSON

novelist, editor and journalist; former editor, British *ELLE*

OLI FOSTER

journalist, Sky News

VICKY RICHARDSON

curator and writer on architecture, design and fashion; associate director, London School of Architecture

BRADLEY TUCK

contributing and general editor, *Exploding Appendix*

CHAIR: JANE SANDEMAN

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

Produced by Jane Sandeman

**CAN SATIRE SURVIVE IN THE
ERA OF FAKE NEWS?**
14:00–15:30

As the political theorist Hannah Arendt once observed, the most effective means to undermine authority is to hold it up to ridicule. But in the era of the internet, satire is increasingly misinterpreted as 'fake news'. How can comedians hold a mirror up to the world when the news - both real and fake - is often stranger than satire? The prevailing atmosphere of political correctness may limit the ways satirists can poke fun at the absurdities of politicians, censoring - or at least censoring - those who say the 'wrong thing'. Given all these pressures, is there a future for satire?

SIMON EVANS

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

WILL FRANKEN

satirist; contrarian; academic

ANDREA MANN

writer and digital creative; lead writer, comedy political podcast *Strong And Stable*

KARL SHARRO

architect; satirist; commentator on the Middle East

TOM WALKER

actor and satirist; aka the satirical character Jonathan Pie; co-author, *Jonathan Pie: off the record*

CHAIR: ANDREW DOYLE

writer and comedian; co-author, *Jonathan Pie: off the record*

Produced by Andrew Doyle

FAKE NEWS: A MEDIA PANIC?
16:00–17:15

From Donald Trump to Jeremy Corbyn, everyone is obsessed with fake news. The term caught on during last year's US election, with examples ranging from the false claim that the Pope had endorsed Trump to baseless allegations that senior Democrats were involved in a paedophile ring meeting in pizza restaurants. But the term has stuck, and is now frequently used not only about blatantly made-up stories, but also merely partisan claims that would previously have warranted a counter-argument. Should we be more discerning about what is and isn't labelled fake news, or is the very concept flawed?

GEORGE HARRISON

writer, *Sun Online*

CHARLOTTE HENRY

media commentator; author, *Not Buying It*

BENJAMIN KING

vice president, public affairs and policy, 21st Century Fox

CHRISTIAN MAY

editor, *City A.M.*

MARTIN WRIGHT

director, *Positive News*; former editor in chief, *Green Futures*

CHAIR: ELLA WHELAN

assistant editor, *spiked*; author, *What Women Want: fun, freedom and an end to feminism*

Produced by George Harrison

CITYA.M.

**NEW LIFE FOR THE UNDEAD:
WHY ARE WE FASCINATED
BY ZOMBIES?**
17:30–18:45

Since George A Romero's 1968 *Night of the Living Dead*, the zombie has become a cipher for the ills of modern society. The zombie has been depicted as the source of racism, ecological disaster, scientific excess, and rampant consumerism. In recent years, however, the zombie has lurched from the relative obscurity of B-movie cultdom to the cultural mainstream. The success of AMC's reboot, *The Walking Dead*, reflects the impact of the zombie on the popular imagination. Is our fascination with the living dead just a fad for an anxious age? Or does it say something about what it is to be human?

DR EMMA AUSTIN

senior lecturer, School of Media and Performing Arts, University of Portsmouth; researcher, horror in popular culture

DR TIM BLACK

editor, *spiked review*; columnist, *spiked*

EVELYN HUNSTON

postgraduate student, University of Southampton; researcher, representations of the zombie in contemporary British film

PHIL SMITH

author, *A Footbook of Zombie Walking*; writer and performance-maker; associate professor, Plymouth University

CHAIR: DR CARLTON BRICK

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

Produced by Dr Carlton Brick

FILM PREMIERE
1917: WHY THE RUSSIAN
REVOLUTION MATTERS
13:30–15:30
CINEMA 2

On the centenary of the October Revolution, Battle of Ideas hosts the world premiere of this new account of the Bolshevik Revolution which became a defining moment in the politics and international relations of the twentieth century. Crowdfunded and crowd-filmed by the charity WORLDwrite and a crew of volunteer citizen TV-makers, and interweaving archive film and interviews, the film explores the context, causes and consequences of what the US author John Reed famously described as *The Ten Days That Shook the World*. The film will be followed by a Q&A with a panel of contributors to the film

DR PHILIP CUNLIFFE

senior lecturer in politics and international relations, University of Kent; author, *Lenin Lives! reimagining the Russian revolution*

CERI DINGLE

director, WORLDwrite and WORLDbytes

DR MICHAEL FITZPATRICK

writer on medicine and politics; author, *The Tyranny of Health*

CHAIR: MARISA PEREIRA

assistant director, WORLDwrite and WORLDbytes

Produced by Marisa Pereira



The School of Citizen TV

SILENCING HATE SPEECH:
CENSORSHIP OR CIVILITY?
16:00–17:15
CINEMA 2

The Conservatives' 2017 General Election manifesto pledged to prevent online providers from directing users to 'hate speech, pornography or other sources of harm'. The EU-funded Hate Speech Watch encourages people to report, denounce and monitor hate speech. But what is hate speech? Who should decide what is hateful? Some claim it is hate speech to criticise Islam, to disagree with a person's right to identify as the opposite gender, or to join a Facebook group called 'I Hate Christians'. Does hateful speech lead directly to violent acts? Should we distinguish between spouting abuse and throwing sticks and stones?

YASMIN AHMED

broadcast journalist, BBC; Blavatnik scholar in public policy, University of Oxford

BENJAMIN DAVID

writer and editor in chief, *Conatus News*

EMILY DINSMORE

free speech campaigner; staff writer, *spiked*

PAUL EMBERY

Executive Council member, Fire Brigades Union; National Organiser, Trade Unionists Against the EU

CARL MILLER

research director, Centre for the Analysis of Social Media, Demos

CHAIR: IZZY LYONS

journalist, *Telegraph*

Produced by Izzy Lyons

CONATUS NEWS

DEBATING MATTERS
INTERNATIONAL 2017:
ONLINE PRIVACY
17:30–18:45
FROBISHER AUDITORIUM 1

The seventh International Final showcases the best debaters from the UK and Berlin. 2016/17 UK champions Loreto College from Manchester take on the winners of Debating Matters Berlin 2017, Nelson Mandela School, in a debate on whether privacy is an absolute that we should protect online as well as offline

MOTION:

'In a digital age we should not expect our online activities to remain private'

DEBATE TEAMS:

LORETO COLLEGE,
MANCHESTER

Nichita Matei and Francesca Sellers

NELSON MANDELA
SCHOOL, BERLIN

Julia Danneman and Alec Dent

JUDGES:

JUSTINE BRIAN

director, Civitas Schools

DR ELIOT FORSTER

CEO, Immunocore

PATRICK HAYES

director, British Educational Suppliers Association

CHAIR: NADIA BUTT

project officer, Generating Genius



IMMUNOCORE
 targeting T cell receptors

**CULTURE AND ANARCHY,
150 YEARS ON: TEACHING
THE BEST THAT IS KNOWN
AND THOUGHT?****SATURDAY 10:00–11:30**

Matthew Arnold's *Culture and Anarchy*, first published in 1867-68, was a major influence on the modern education system. For Arnold, education meant access to 'the best which has been thought and said in the world'. Is today's national curriculum capable of fostering the quality of judgment that Arnold advocated?

Hywel Jones, headteacher, West London Free School
Martin Robinson, author, *Trivium 21c: preparing young people for the future with lessons from the past*
Dr Alka Sehgal Cuthbert, co-author, *What Should Schools Teach?*
Gareth Sturdy, science teacher; co-organiser, IOI Education Forum
Chair: Dr Alex Standish, co-author, *What Should Schools Teach?*

**A PORTRAIT OF THE ARTIST...,
100 YEARS ON: JOYCE
AND THE EMERGENCE OF
MODERNISM****SATURDAY 17:30–18:45,**

James Joyce's *A Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man* shattered preconceptions of what a novel should be. It combines ideas about the life of the mind and the essence of literature itself in a way that redefined fiction in the English language. How does the novel's reputation hold up today?

Justin Smyth, librarian; co-founder, Dublin Salon
Chair: Bernie Whelan, events coordinator, Institute of Ideas

Dublin Salon
Everything begins with debate

**READ THE WORLD:
LITERARY TRANSLATION
TODAY****SATURDAY 14:00–15:30****BARBICAN LIBRARY**

To many, translation is a technical skill and the translator an anonymous wordsmith. But increasingly translation is viewed as an art to be celebrated and not concealed. The Man Booker International Prize 2016 was shared by Han Kang, author of *The Vegetarian*, and Deborah Smith, who translated it from Korean. Should we celebrate translators being recognised as artists in their own right? Or does the recognition of the creativity of the translator mean accepting a certain distance from the author? Are there limits to the freedom a translator can exercise in interpreting a text?

Gerry Feehily, Europe editor, *Courier International*
Nicky Harman, prizewinning literary translator; co-chair, Translators Association
Professor Duncan Large, academic director, British Centre for Literary Translation, University of East Anglia
Dr Vanessa Pupavac, associate professor, University of Nottingham
Chair: Dr Shirley Lawes, researcher; University teacher, specialising in teacher education and modern foreign languages



INSTITUTE OF
MODERN
LANGUAGES
RESEARCH

SCHOOL OF
ADVANCED STUDY
UNIVERSITY
OF LONDON



Barbican &
Community
LIBRARIES

**HARRY POTTER AT 20:
THE WONDER OF
CHILDREN'S LITERATURE****SUNDAY 14:00–15:30**

We remain in a golden age of children's literature, with more books and readers every year. Picture books proliferate, and the classics – by Enid Blyton, CS Lewis, JRR Tolkien and more – are alive and well. Yet some perennial questions remain. What is the purpose of children's literature, and why do an increasing number of authors choose to write it? Is it just escapism or are there important moral and social lessons imparted?

Genevieve Clarke, programme manager, The Reading Agency
Richard Swan, author, children's fantasy novel *Melody's Unicorn Chair*
Chair: Dr Shirley Dent, author, *Radical Blake*

**BURGESS AT 100: A
CLOCKWORK ORANGE
RECONSIDERED****SUNDAY 17:30–18:45**

The centenary of Anthony Burgess's birth offers an opportunity to reassess his best known novel and its relationship to the famous, and famously censored, film. Stanley Kubrick's 1971 film departs in myriad ways from the book with the visual storytelling creating a work of art which has a unique set of thematic concerns not present in Burgess's 1962 novel. Is it prophetic, visionary, or just a great movie?

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



CONSTRUCTIVISM: ART, ARCHITECTURE AND SOCIAL CHANGE

SATURDAY 13:10—13:50
FROBISHER 4-6

The geometrical purity and dynamism of Constructivism expressed the optimism of the decade following the Russian Revolution. In this illustrated talk, architect Theo Dounas reflects on the impact of Constructivism 100 years ago, and asks what it would take to create a new revolutionary style for today.

Theo Dounas, senior lecturer, Scott Sutherland School of Architecture and the Built Environment **Chair: Vicky Richardson**, associate director, London School of Architecture

MACHINE BOOKS

SCHOOLS THROUGH THE AGES: AN ILLUSTRATED HISTORY

SUNDAY 13:10—13:50
FROBISHER 1-3

This short illustrated talk traces the journey from the first grammar school, set up by Augustine of Canterbury in the sixth century, to the creation of the state education system in 1870. Shuffle in, settle down and prepare to learn.

Harley Richardson director of design and development, Discovery Education; organising committee, lol Education Forum **Chair: Gareth Sturdy** science teacher; co-organiser, lol Education Forum



SATURDAY LUNCHTIME JAZZ

SATURDAY 13:10—13:50
FREE STAGE

Esteemed jazz musicians Jekaterina Šarigina and Eduardas Armonas perform a range of songs inspired by the greats of swing and bebop, American songbook jazz standards, with the emphasis on vocal improvisations and crafty guitar accompaniment.

EDUARDAS ARMONAS

Lithuanian jazz guitarist who plays regularly throughout Europe, having completed his Masters in Music Performance from the Guildhall School of Music and Drama

JEKATERINA ŠARIGINA

award-winning jazz vocalist from Latvia. Studied at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama, won numerous awards for her singing and currently working on her debut album



GUILD HALL
SCHOOL

FILM PREMIERE:

BREXIT BAST**DS!

SUNDAY 13:10—13:50

BEECH STREET, CINEMA 2

This dark comedy encourages a fresh perspective on a divisive topic. Inspired by conversations between writer Thor Holt and two friends, a Muslim Turkish man and a gay Australian, this short film premiere challenges you to re-consider what you think about people who voted Brexit. Followed by Q&A.

Thor Holt, writer, *Brexit Bast**ds*
Fraser Myers, producer, *WORLDbytes*
Chair: Alison Small, CEO, Production Guild of Great Britain

**INVOKE
DEMOCRACY
NOW!**

YOU CAN'T SAY THAT!

SATURDAY 13:10—13:50
FROBISHER 1-3

As new technologies give a platform to express any idea, anywhere, the potential for instant offence has grown. What limits should be placed on what we can say? Are there ideas so abhorrent that they must be eliminated from public life? Philosopher Dr Greg Scorzo uses video clips to interrogate types of censorship and restrictions on speech.

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





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.



IDEAS MARKET 2017 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 Index on Censorship, IEA, Invoke Democracy Now, Prospect, *spiked*, Thames Water and WORLDbytes.

HOT OFF THE PRESS 2017 FREE STAGE

SATURDAY
12:00–13:00
16:00–17:15

SUNDAY
12:00–13:00
13:10–13:50
16:00–17:15

On each day of the festival there will be a number of informal 'popup' conversations between Battle of Ideas speakers on topics 'in the news' or book launches on contemporary themes. These will be programmed in the days leading up to the festival to ensure they are as topical as possible.

Details of issues and speakers will be published online the week before the Battle of Ideas and look out for details over the weekend.

All Hot Off the Press sessions are free and open to non-ticket holders.

FESTIVAL BOOKSHOP MEZZ LEVEL

The new Barbican Shop stocks a range of books exploring essential ideas discussed at the festival and top titles from key festival 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

BATTLE OF IDEAS 2017 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 and Drama. The Guildhall one of the world's leading conservatoires and drama schools, offers musicians, actors, stage managers and theatre technicians an inspiring environment in which to develop.

CLAIRE FOX
director, Institute of Ideas.

With

DAN ENACHESCU
head of public policy for Europe, Diageo plc

DR ELIOT FORSTER
CEO, Immunocore; chairman, MedCity

SEAN GREGORY
director, Creative Learning, Barbican/ Guildhall School of Music and Drama

Throughout the evening, attendees will be entertained by Guildhall musicians

Institute of Ideas

barbican

DIAGEO



**GUILD
HALL
SCHOOL**

LIVE MUSIC: MAEVE FITZPATRICK PERFORMS WAKE UP ALONE SUNDAY 15:35–15:55 FREE STAGE

Enjoy some live music as Mayor of London Big Busk Competition finalist Maeve Fitzpatrick sings an eclectic mix of old jazz, throwing in the occasional pop tune. The perfect accompaniment to a coffee before the final debates of the weekend.



REFRESHMENTS

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 offers a range of burgers, rotisserie chicken, salads and shakes from noon until 10:30pm. If the weather is fine you can take advantage of their terrace with wonderful views over the Lakeside.

LEVEL 4 / CINEMA FOYERS

Coffee and snacks available.

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

DEBATING MATTERS. BECAUSE IDEAS MATTER.



**INSTITUTE OF IDEAS
DEBATING
MATTERS
COMPETITION**

JOIN SCHOOLS ACROSS THE COUNTRY FOR THE UK'S TOUGHEST SIXTH FORM DEBATING CHALLENGE

Debating Matters presents schools with an innovative and engaging approach to debating, where real-world debates and a unique 'substance over style' format encourage young people to go beyond the headlines of key moral, political and scientific issues shaping public life.

Schools with a long tradition of debating as well as others just starting can enter and use our online resources to get the most out of our local Championships across the country. Adult volunteer judges who take young people seriously play an important role in fostering intellectual curiosity and rigour.

www.debatingmatters.com

FREE BARBICAN INSTALLATIONS

SATURDAY 10:00–18:00

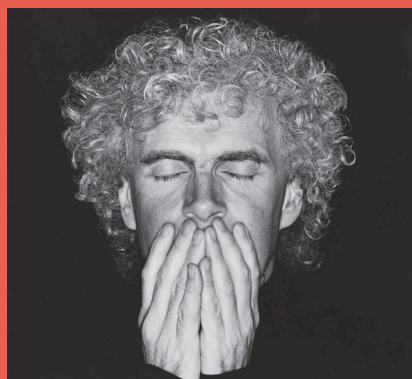
BARBICAN CENTRE

The People's Forest, by Gayle Chong Kwan; this contemporary visual art project in the Barbican foyer explores the history, politics, and people of London's ancient woodland, Epping Forest.

Rattle; a free Barbican Music Library exhibition of photos and memorabilia covering the musical life to date of Sir Simon Rattle, the new musical director of the London Symphony Orchestra.

The Conservatory; explore the hidden tropical oasis in the heart of the city

barbican



BATTLE OF IDEAS 2017 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.

Institute of Ideas | barbican

DIAGEO

LIVING FREEDOM

Living Freedom is a unique opportunity for 40 keen young advocates of freedom to participate in meaningful debate and engage in a series of intellectual challenges on the meaning and ideals of freedom in the twenty-first century.

The next Living Freedom school takes place at CIEE London Global Institute on 5 – 7 April 2018

**LIVING
FREEDOM**

THE ACADEMY

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 2018 will examine the history and significance of popular sovereignty from ancient Athens to the present day. What different forms has society and public life taken from the early appearance of democracy? What have been the trends and challenges? What does contemporary populism and the reaction against it - against national sovereignty and borders - mean for the early 21st-century?

The Academy; 21–22 July 2018

The Academy

The following are Institute of Ideas Initiatives. For more information about the Institute of Ideas or any of these events, contact Geoff Kidder on:

geoffkidder@instituteofideas.com or visit instituteofideas.com

BATTLE OF IDEAS 2018

Next year's festival will be at the Barbican on 13 and 14 October 2018. Early bird tickets available from 28 October 2017.

www.battleofideas.org.uk

JOIN THE INSTITUTE OF IDEAS

The Battle of Ideas takes place annually at the Barbican. The IoI also runs the national Debating Matters Competition, The Academy summer university and Living Freedom, a short residential school for 18-25-yr-olds.

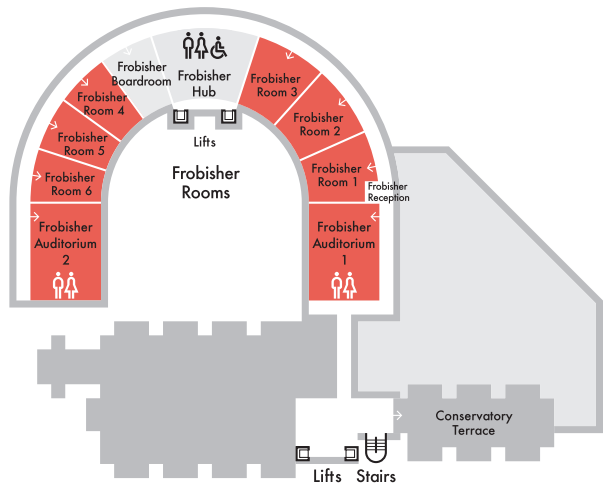
We have a range of forums which meet regularly, covering education, the economy, social policy, arts and society and a book club. IoI associates get significant reduction on ticket prices for the Battle of Ideas festival as well as other benefits. Most importantly, associates help us continue our work in shaping the future through debate.

Institute of Ideas

4

Level 4

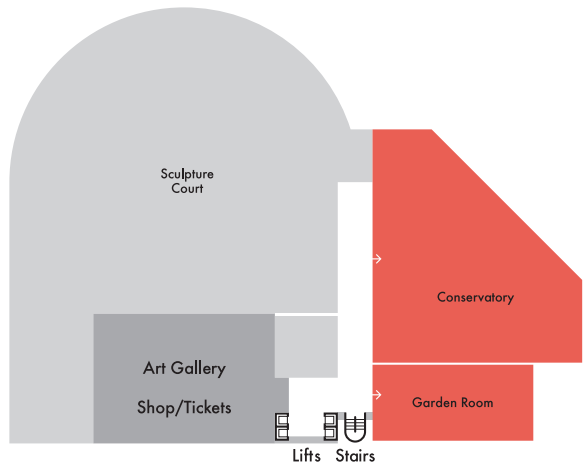
Frobisher Auditorium 1-2
Frobisher Rooms 1-6
Frobisher Boardroom
Frobisher Hub
Frobisher Reception
Conservatory Terrace



3

Level 3

Art Gallery
Garden Room
Conservatory



2

Level 2

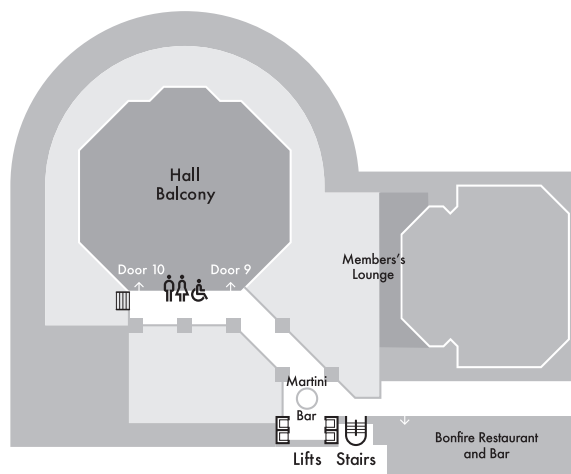
Library
Osteria Restaurant and Bar



1

Level 1

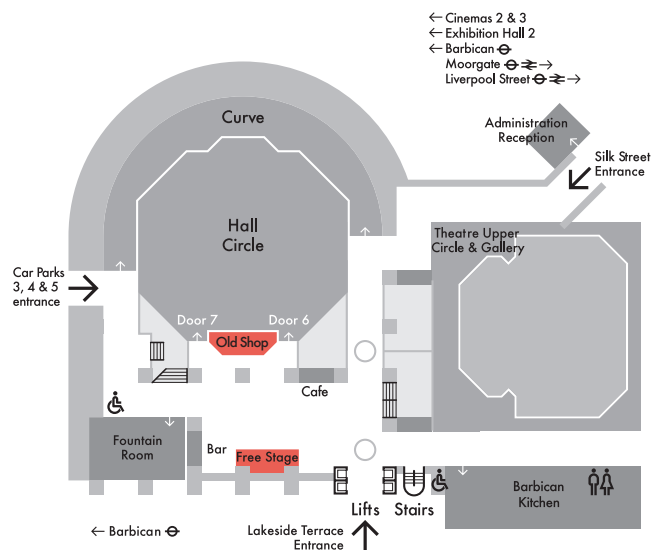
Hall Balcony
Bonfire Restaurant & Bar
Members's Lounge
Martini Bar



G

Level G

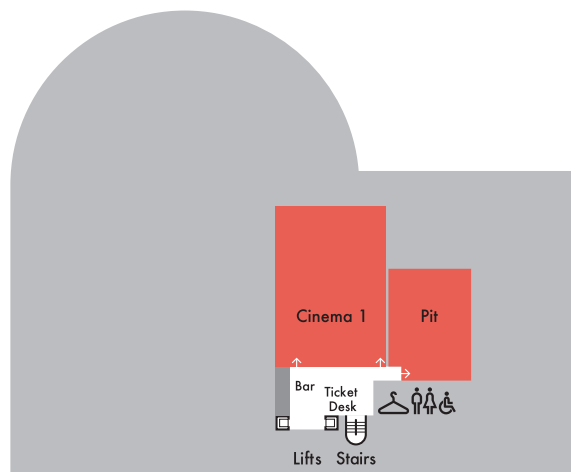
Hall Circle
Theatre Upper Circle
Theatre Gallery
Curve Gallery
Advance Tickets & Information
Barbican Kitchen
Barbican Shop
Free Stage
Old Shop



-2

Level -2

Cinema 1
Pit



CINEMA 2 and CINEMA 3

There are also debates in Cinema 2 and Cinema 3. 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.



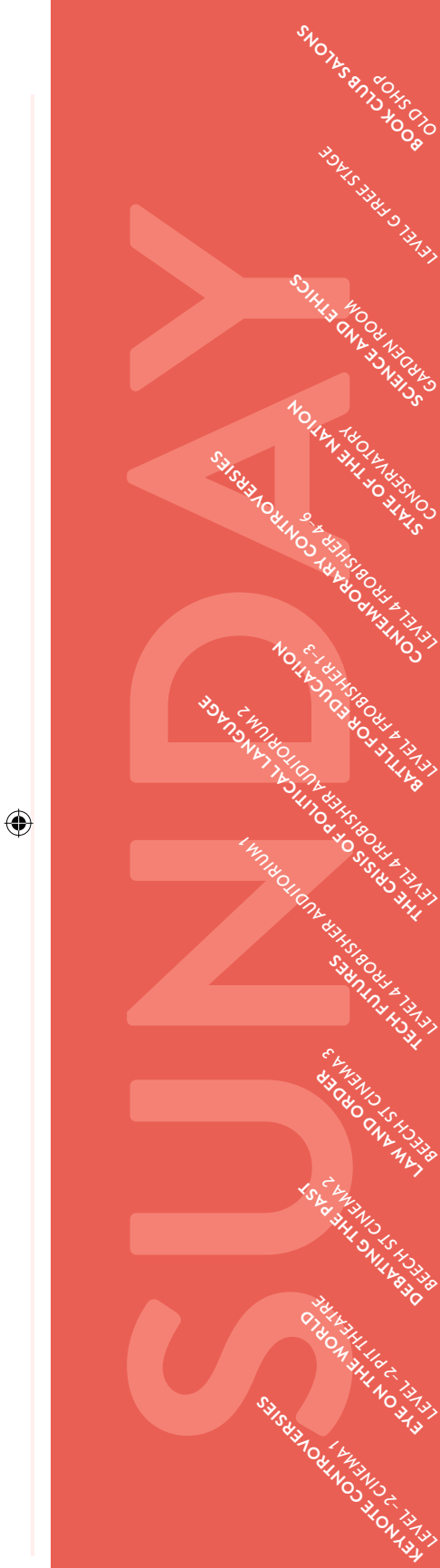
09:30–09:50: BATTLE OF IDEAS 2017 WELCOME ADDRESS

LEVEL G FREE STAGE SEE PAGE 4

10:00–11:30	Is there a culture war against populism? p4	Women versus Feminism: do we all need liberating from the gender wars? p6	Groupthink universities? p8	Is there such a thing as Trumpism? p10	Party politics: realignment or disintegration? p12	Rebooting Britain: industrial strategy for the 21st century p14	Playing politics: should theatre be a safe space? p16	Housing: reform or revolution? p18	From FGM to Charlie Gard: what are the limits to parental freedom? p20	Culture and Anarchy, 150 years on: Teaching the best that is known and thought? p23
12:00–13:00	Diversity: does it matter? 12:00–13:15 p4	Barter and besties: is friendship in peril? p6	The academic roots of post-truth society p8	America's New South: from slavery to economic powerhouse p10	The nation state in the modern world p12	Can biotech lead an economic revolution? p14	A revolution in art: a visual appreciation of the Russian Revolution p16	From Basquiat to Banksy: street art and urbanism p18	Should fashion statements be political statements? p20	Hot off the Press p25
13:00–14:00	LUNCH	LUNCH	LUNCH	LUNCH	LUNCH	You can't say that! 13:10–13:50 p24	Constructivism: art, architecture and social change 13:10–13:50 p24	LUNCH	LUNCH	Saturday lunchtime jazz 13:10–13:50 p24
14:00–15:30	Safety first: do we live in a cotton-wool society? p5	Fay Weldon: in conversation with Brendan O'Neill p7	FILM PREMIERE 13:30–15:30 1917: Why the Russian Revolution matters p22	The legacy of Martin Luther King: from civil rights to identity politics p9	The Rust Belt and The Deplorables p11	Footloose cosmopolitans or citizens of nowhere? p13	Is globalisation over? The future of world trade p15	Is local democracy broken? p19	Can satire survive in the era of fake news? p21	Read the world: literary translation today (Barbican Library) p23
16:00–17:15	Cultural appropriation: compliment or theft? p5	All by myself: is loneliness a social problem? p7	Silencing hate speech: censorship or civility? p22	Are science and medicine threatened by borders? p9	From Pepe the Frog to Charlottesville: the rise of the alt-right p11	The gig economy: the changing face of work p15	What is to be done? Literature and the Russian Revolution p17	Toxic smog: hazard or hype? p19	Fake news: a media panic? p21	Hot Off the Press p25
17:30–18:45	Bed blockers and bigots: have wrinkles cheated millennials? p7		Debating Matters International 2017: online privacy p22	Bookshop Barnes: Douglas Carswell on Rebel p13	Universal basic income: warfare or freedom? p15	Watching the detectives: Crime fiction and the zeitgeist p17	New life for the undead: why are we fascinated by zombies? p21	Balloon debate: what is the best city? p19	A Portrait of the Artist... 100 years on: James Joyce and the emergence of modernism p23	

18:45–21:00: 2017 OFFICIAL FESTIVAL RECEPTION

CONSERVATORY – SEE PAGE 25



10:00–11:30	Truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth p32	Putin's Russia: a new Cold War? p34	Statues must fall! Erasing history or righting wrongs? p36	Enemies of the people! Who rules in a democracy? p38	Was it big data wot won it? Political campaigning today p40	The corruption of political language p42	Student Voice: should we listen? p44	We need to talk: the vices and virtues of social media p46	Where will we get the workers? The battle over skills and immigration p48	Does epigenetics justify 'early intervention'? p50	
12:00–13:00	Why Luther still matters - religious conscience and individual liberty 12:00–13:15 p32	Trudeau's Canada: a liberal nirvana? p34	On the Road: the spirit of travel from the Beats to the Millennials p36	You may be a sex offender if... p38	Wearables: personalisation or surveillance? p40	What is... Identity? p42	Have we made maths too hard? p44	Political activism and protest today p46	From the Repeal Bill to Grenfell: is Britain over-regulated? p48	The final frontier: who owns space? p50	Hot Off the Press p25
13:00–14:00	LUNCH	LUNCH	Film Premiere: <i>Brexit Bastards</i> 13:10–13:50 p24	LUNCH	LUNCH	LUNCH	Schools through the ages: an illustrated history 13:10–13:50 p24	LUNCH	LUNCH	LUNCH	LUNCH
14:00–15:30	Censorship and Identity: free speech for me but not for you? p33	Macron's France: 'En Marche' to business as usual? p35	Film and debate: <i>Generation Right</i> - Legacy of Margaret Thatcher p37	After the riots: is prison reform still possible? p39	From AI to Big Data: can technology save the NHS? p41	What is... Democracy? p43	Too dumb, too young: who's qualified to vote? p45	Do you trust the media? p47	Can sustainability and environmentalism survive Brexit Britain? p49	The international abortion wars p51	Harry Potter at 20: the wonder of children's literature p23
16:00–17:15	Battle 2017 Lecture: how do we create an economic renaissance? p33	Xi's China: a new global power? p35	Best we forget? Commemorations and memorials today p37	Making a miscarriage of justice p39	Silicon Valley: from heroes to zeroes? p41	What is... Liberalism? p43	Should schools make pupils 'work ready'? p45	Who is football for: fans or big business? p47	Millennials: youthquake or snowflakes? p49	From gender to empathy: What can evolutionary psychology tell us? p51	Live Music 15:35–15:55
17:30–18:45	Islamist terror: the new normal? p35		Rage against the machines: is automation a threat to jobs? p41	What is... Fascism? p43	Can cognitive science save education? p45	Rearing generation safe space p47	Medical dilemmas: who decides? p51	Burgess at 100: <i>A Clockwork Orange</i> reconsidered p23			

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



KEYNOTE
CONTROVERSIES

Institute of Ideas

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

TRUTH, THE WHOLE TRUTH
AND NOTHING BUT THE
TRUTH

10:00–11:30

In the famous words of the US Declaration of Independence, the founding fathers considered that certain truths were 'self-evident'. In the era of 'fake news', however, there appear to be many different truths and few consider that they are self-evident. Many worry that demagoguery and populist myth-making have propelled us into a 'post-truth' era, in which objective facts are less influential than emotion and personal belief. But do current appeals to the authority of 'The Facts' or 'The Science' run counter to the liberal tradition, in which moral judgement goes beyond statistics and fact-checking? Will we ever again be able to agree on self-evident truths?

SOHRAB AHMARI

senior writer, *Commentary Magazine*;
author, *The New Philistines: how identity
politics disfigure the arts*

ANDREW BERNSTEIN

author, *The Capitalist Manifesto: the
historic, economic, and philosophic case for
laissez-faire*; affiliate, Ayn Rand Institute

DR TIM BLACK

editor, *spiked review*; columnist, *spiked*

PROFESSOR STEVE FULLER

Auguste Comte chair in social
epistemology, University of Warwick

PROFESSOR BARBARA J SAHAKIAN

University of Cambridge, School of Clinical
Medicine; co-author, *Sex, Lies, and Brain
Scans*; fellow, British Academy

CHAIR: ALASTAIR DONALD

associate director, Institute of Ideas

Produced by Claire Fox



INSTITUTE

spiked

WHY LUTHER STILL MATTERS:
RELIGIOUS CONSCIENCE
AND INDIVIDUAL LIBERTY

12:00–13:15

According to tradition, on 31 October 1517, Martin Luther nailed his 95 theses to the door of the castle church in Wittenberg, starting a process that would change the world. It is an oft-noted irony that the Reformation initiated by this devout monk paved the way for secular modernity. Is the Reformation better understood as a precursor to the Enlightenment than as a movement for reform within the Catholic church? Is Luther's legendary refusal to compromise his conscience something to be emulated today? What of our society's increasing intolerance of those who espouse religious beliefs and refuse to embrace secular orthodoxies?

PROFESSOR AAQIL AHMED

media consultant; former head of religion
and ethics, BBC and Channel 4; columnist,
The Arab Weekly

DOLAN CUMMINGS

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

KATE MALTBY

critic and columnist; associate fellow,
Bright Blue; trustee, Index on Censorship

JON O'BRIEN

president, Catholics for Choice

CHAIR: ANGUS KENNEDY

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

Produced by Dolan Cummings
and Claire Fox



**CENSORSHIP AND IDENTITY:
FREE SPEECH FOR ME BUT
NOT FOR YOU?****14:00–15:30**

Free speech is no longer presumed to be an unquestionable virtue. Until recently, it was unthinkable to openly oppose free expression, even if it was often espoused with endless caveats. But in 2017, free speech is now often explicitly queried. In particular, identity politics has justified clampdowns on everything from alt-right demonstrations to university talks by leading feminists. For those who believe in free expression, it no longer seems sufficient to cite the First Amendment, quote JS Mill, or cry academic freedom in defence of free speech. How should free speech be defended today - or is it time to accept that the protection of minorities trumps the right to be offensive?

PROFESSOR FRANK FUREDI

sociologist and social commentator; author, *What's Happened to the University?* and *On Tolerance*

NICK GILLESPIE

US journalist and commentator; editor in chief, *Reason.com* and *Reason TV*, the online and video platforms of *Reason Magazine*

JODIE GINSBERG

chief executive, Index on Censorship

TREVOR PHILLIPS

writer and television producer; founding chair, Equality and Human Rights Commission

TOBY YOUNG

director, New Schools Network; associate editor, *Spectator*; editor, *Spectator Life*

CHAIR: CLAIRE FOX

director, Institute of Ideas; panelist, BBC Radio 4's *Moral Maze*; author, *I Find That Offensive*

Produced by Claire Fox**BATTLE 2017 LECTURE:
HOW DO WE CREATE AN
ECONOMIC RENAISSANCE?****16:00–17:15**

In his new book, *Creative Destruction: how to start an economic renaissance*, Phil Mullan argues that the way to ensure a better economic future is to create one. He believes that we need to promote the political and cultural change necessary to achieve comprehensive economic restructuring, instead of state intervention that fosters corporate dependency and prolongs economic stagnation. But does the process of creative destruction he recommends risk generating even more hardship for uncertain rewards? Could a state that is currently responsible for sustaining a 'zombie economy' now lay the foundations for the next industrial revolution?

PHIL MULLAN

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

CHAIR: ANGUS KENNEDY

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

Produced by Angus Kennedy

EYE ON THE WORLD

IN ASSOCIATION WITH

FOREIGN PRESS ASSOCIATION
IN LONDON

Whatever one's views on Brexit, having a wider view of the world within and beyond Europe is essential to understand broader political trends. This year's festival puts the spotlight on a selection of key international hotspots. Much has been made of Russia's changing global role, but is it really returning to superpower status or is there a danger of hyped up rhetoric creating a new Cold War? There is no doubt that China is both powerful and rising, but will it choose to take on a more global role? Following North Korea's erratic missile launches, will China be able to broker peace where the US stirs tensions? France seemingly bucked this year's populist trend with the election of Macron, but is he really popular within France, or more a liberal poster-boy beyond? Is Canada a new model of enlightened liberalism, or is Justin Trudeau just a political popstar? Finally, while the geopolitical causes behind Islamist terror are fiercely debated, it is no respecter of borders. Must we learn to live with it?

PUTIN'S RUSSIA: A NEW
COLD WAR?

10:00–11:30

Russia is now widely regarded as a threat to the West. It stands condemned for its international interventions, notably in Ukraine and Syria. It is also blamed for its alleged interference in elections in the USA and in Europe. Yet the Russian economy is still weak and highly dependent on natural resources. Without greater economic development, Russia's capacity to project military power is limited to interventions in much weaker states. Is President Vladimir Putin simply playing a weak hand well? Does Russia loom large, not because Putin is a strong leader, but because Western governments lack direction?

MARY DEJEVSKY

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

DR TARA MCCORMACK

lecturer, international politics, University of Leicester

DR ŁUKASZ PAWŁOWSKI

managing editor and columnist, *Kultura Liberalna*

SIR ADAM THOMSON KCMG

director, European Leadership Network

CHAIR: BRUNO WATERFIELD

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

Produced by Dr Tara McCormack

TRUDEAU'S CANADA: A
LIBERAL NIRVANA?

12:00–13:00

Under the charismatic and youthful Justin Trudeau, Canada has emerged as a liberal alternative to Trump's America. The chattering classes of the West swooned over his election in 2015, applauding as Canada legalised cannabis, championed equality and diversity and upheld a model of multiculturalism. But is Trudeau's PC agenda more authoritarian than it first appears? In any case, Trudeau has departed from the liberal script in allowing the exploitation of Alberta's tar sands as well as endorsing ethically dubious arms sales. Is he any more than a cosmetic prime minister in both appearance and policy? Or does Canada offer a new model for the left across the West?

DR ASHLEY FRAWLEY

senior lecturer, sociology and social policy; programme director, BSc social sciences, Swansea University

PROFESSOR ALAN HALLSWORTH

president, British Association for Canadian Studies

RACHAEL REVESZ

freelance writer and journalist

CHAIR: DR KEVIN YUILL

senior lecturer in American history, University of Sunderland; author, *The Second Amendment and Gun Control: freedom, fear, and the American Constitution*

Produced by Charlie Parker, news reporter and free speech campaigner

MACRON'S FRANCE: 'EN MARCHE!' TO BUSINESS AS USUAL?

14:00–15:30

'Victory for Macron, for France, the EU and the world' tweeted Hillary Clinton when her favourite won the French election in May. Welcomed as a riposte to Brexit and Trump, the vote for Macron was celebrated by the liberal media around the world. The French, however, do not seem to be convinced. Since the record low turnout at the polls, Macron's approval rating has plummeted. Ominously, he plans to award more power to the executive and the security state. Does Macron represent a genuine political realignment or is he simply another mainstream politician but with better PR? Is he the alternative to populism, or just another brand?

DR JOSEPH DOWNING

Marie Curie Fellow, Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique (CNRS) and School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS)

GERRY FEEHILY

Europe editor, *Courrier International*

NAOMI FIRSHT

journalist; staff writer, *spiked*; co-editor, *The Parisians' Guide to Cafés, Bars and Restaurants*

JOSH LOWE

staff writer, *Newsweek*

ROBERT TOMBS

emeritus professor of French history, Cambridge University; author, *The English and their History*

CHAIR: NATHALIE ROTHSCHILD

freelance journalist; producer and reporter for Sweden's public service radio

Produced by **Charlie Parker**

Newsweek

XI'S CHINA: NEW GLOBAL POWER?

16:00–17:15

Only 35 years ago a predominantly peasant economy, China has become the largest trading nation in the world. It is also remarkable that China has relinquished its status as environmental pariah to become a critic of the US president's rejection of the Paris climate accords. Only recently a communist outsider, China is now a capitalist power-broker, most notably in dealing with the challenge of North Korea. Can there be a peaceful adjustment of the West's global domination to accommodate the rise of the new Eastern superpower? Is the demise of the West exaggerated? Is there a serious risk of military conflict?

JONATHAN FENBY

author, *Will China Dominate the 21st Century?* managing partner, TS Lombard

JUDE HOWELL

professor of international development, LSE; co-author, *Social Change in Contemporary China*

ALAN HUDSON

visiting professor, Shanghai Jiaotong University; director, programmes in leadership and public policy, University of Oxford

DR CHUN-YI LEE

assistant professor, The School of Politics and International Relations; director, Taiwan Studies Programme

DR LINDA YUEH

economist, broadcaster and author; adjunct professor of economics, London Business School

CHAIR: AUSTIN WILLIAMS

author, *China's Urban Revolution*; honorary research fellow, XJTLU, Suzhou, China;

Produced by **Austin Williams**

ISLAMIST TERROR: THE NEW NORMAL?

17:30–18:45

According to London Mayor Sadiq Khan the threat of terrorism is simply 'part and parcel' of life in a big city today. Living in open societies that allow people to travel and mingle freely means that it is almost impossible to stop terrorists from attacking people if they are committed to doing so. But is there a danger that we shrug our shoulders and become complacent about the terrorist threat? In response to candles and calls for unity, don't we need to ask unify around what? Should we accept more authoritarian measures to prevent terrorist attacks, even if this means giving up some of our liberties? How, if at all, can we tackle the root causes of Islamist terror?

DR EMMA EL-BADAWY

head of research, Tony Blair Institute for Global Change; specialist, Middle East, Islamist extremism, and Islamist and jihadi networks

PROFESSOR FRANK FUREDI

sociologist and social commentator; author, *What's Happened to the University? Invitation To Terror and On Tolerance*

HANIF QADIR

founder and CEO, The Active Change Foundation; author, *Preventing and Countering Extremism and Terrorist Recruitment: a best practice guide*

CHAIR: CLAIRE FOX

director, Institute of Ideas; panelist, BBC Radio 4's *Moral Maze*; author, *I Find That Offensive*

Produced by **Claire Fox**

DEBATING THE PAST

'Who controls the past controls the future', wrote George Orwell in *Nineteen Eighty-Four*. Certainly, debates about the past, how it is remembered, celebrated and taught, are often fiercely contested. This summer's events in Charlottesville in the US showed that arguments about the past often reveal deep political differences in the present. Is the whole business of commemorating the past, whether it's the First World War, the Russian Revolution or even more recent events, inevitably fraught? And how have things changed today's young - assessing the legacy of Jack Kerouac's *On the Road* allows us to look at the changing attitudes to travel and adventure, while a special film screening will be followed by a discussion about whether Thatcherism still has a grip on youthful politicians today or is consigned to that very different era of 'the past'.

STATUES MUST FALL!
ERASING HISTORY OR
RIGHTING WRONGS?

10:00–11:30

In Charlottesville, a young woman was killed while protesting against a demonstration of right-wing groups angered by the proposal to remove a statue commemorating a Confederate soldier. Students at Oxford have demanded the removal of a statue of the imperialist politician Cecil Rhodes. Bristol's Colston Hall is to be renamed because its philanthropic founder made his fortune from slavery. Some now want Nelson to be removed from his Trafalgar Square column on the grounds that he was a 'white supremacist'. This raises questions about how we view history. Is this modern bout of iconoclasm a genuine attempt to set the historical record straight? Or is it merely another way of fighting contemporary battles?

DR NICHOLAS DRAPER

director, Centre for the Study of the Legacies of British Slave-ownership

TARJINDER GILL

teacher, adviser and consultant

DR CHERYL HUDSON

lecturer in American history, University of Liverpool

PATRICK VERNON OBE

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

CHAIR: CLAIRE FOX

director, Institute of Ideas; panelist, BBC Radio 4's *Moral Maze*; author, *I Find That Offensive*

Produced by Claire Fox

ON THE ROAD: THE SPIRIT
OF TRAVEL FROM THE BEATS
TO THE MILLENNIALS

12:00–13:00

This year marks the sixtieth anniversary of Jack Kerouac's iconic novel, *On the Road*, the book that launched the Beat Generation. The sense of cutting loose and taking off that permeated Kerouac's account influenced a newly mobile generation of young people who looked to the counter culture for inspiration on their own expeditions and explorations. Six decades on, the spirit of travel seems to have changed markedly. Youth travel for millennials is heavily marketed as ethical gap years, adventure travel and volunteer tourism. Has a sense of experimentation, adventure and self-reliance been lost in favour of heavily planned, socially minded 'experiences'?

DR JIM BUTCHER

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

HELEN JENNINGS

PhD candidate, University of the Arctic, Norway; campaigner, Tourism Concern

MEG KNEAFSEY

campaigner; volunteer, Raleigh International ICS

STEVE TURNER

poet; journalist; author, *Jack Kerouac: Angelheaded Hipster* and *Beatles '66: the revolutionary year*

CHAIR: JOEL COHEN

communications manager, BeyondMe, associate fellow, Institute of Ideas

Produced by Dr Jim Butcher



FILM AND DEBATE: GENERATION RIGHT – THE LEGACY OF MARGARET THATCHER

14:00–15:30

The election of the Conservative government led by Margaret Thatcher in May 1979 marked a new era in British politics. The postwar consensus was shattered, as Thatcher promised to defeat trade union power and unleash free enterprise, to revive family values and stimulate self-reliance. An award-winning film, *Generation Right*, appraises the legacy of Margaret Thatcher. After a screening of the film, a panel will introduce a discussion of her impact on British politics and society. Are the millennials still Thatcher's children, or will they throw off her legacy in favour of something as radically new as she once was?

STEPHEN FARRALL

professor of criminology, Centre for Criminological Research, School of Law, University of Sheffield

FRASER MYERS

producer, WORLDbytes

CHARLIE PETERS

secretary, Edinburgh University Conservative and Unionist Association (EUCUA); writer and broadcaster

CHAIR: IZZY LYONS

journalist, *Telegraph*

Produced by Izzy Lyons
and Stephen Farrall



The
University
Of
Sheffield.



BEST WE FORGET? COMMEMORATIONS AND MEMORIALS TODAY

16:00–17:15

The centenary of the 1917 Russian Revolution is a headache for today's patriotic but emphatically non-communist Kremlin. Last year's commemorations of the centenary of the Easter Rising in Ireland were almost as awkward for the current Irish establishment. And the British government has had its own problems marking the centenary of the First World War, being anxious to avoid striking the wrong, militarist or chauvinist, tone. Why should the past loom so large in the contemporary political imagination? What role do political and cultural institutions play in channelling the energy of conflicted and contested narratives into a force for building a shared future?

MARY DEJEVSKY

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

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*

CLIODHNA NI GHADHRA

paralegal, Arthur Cox

PETER UNGAR

Hungarian Green Party councillor, second district, Budapest

CHAIR: PAULINE HADAWAY

writer and researcher; author, *Re-imagining Titanic, re-imagining Belfast* and *Policing the Public Gaze*

Produced by Clíodhna Ni Ghadhra



LAW AND ORDER

The law is supposed to protect us, but there are always controversies about its legitimate remit and scope. In both America and Britain, tensions between politicians and the judiciary sharply focus our minds on who should have the power to make and interpret law. Should the law empower or constrain elected leaders, for example? And what happens when the legal process goes wrong and convicts the innocent or when the scope of the law ends up criminalising ever greater numbers? Are we too keen to lock people up for a greater array of behaviours dubbed criminal? If prisons continue to be over-crowded, do they work or are we even sure what their aim should be?

'ENEMIES OF THE PEOPLE!' WHO RULES IN A DEMOCRACY?

10:00–11:30

The UK Supreme Court ruled this year that, despite the referendum result, the government could not use 'royal prerogative' powers to exit the EU without the approval of parliament. Meanwhile, in the US, President Trump's attempts to use executive orders to ban immigrants from several Muslim countries and to reorganise the federal administration have been criticised as undemocratic, authoritarian and illegal. What do these cases tell us about the balance between democratic majoritarian rule and constitutional checks? Is it better to have a muddled, constrained, democratic system rather than the unrestrained rule of the majority? Or should we embrace fully fledged democracy, for better or worse?

VERNON BOGDANOR

professor of government, King's College, London

JOANNE CASH

former barrister and parliamentary candidate; policy adviser; board chair, Mind Gym and Parent Gym

IAN DUNT

editor, *Politics.co.uk*; author, *Brexit: what the hell happens now?*; host, *Remainiacs* podcast

JON HOLBROOK

barrister; writer on legal issues

DR ANNE RICHARDSON OAKES

associate professor and director, Centre for American Legal Studies, Birmingham City University

CHAIR: TESSA MAYES

documentary film director/producer

Produced by Tessa Mayes

politics.co.uk

YOU MAY BE A SEX OFFENDER IF...

12:00–13:00

On both sides of the Atlantic, sex offenders are now feared to be lurking everywhere, leading to intensifying state regulation. In the US, it is now easy to locate convicted sex offenders on a map of your area. In the UK, the Violent and Sex Offender Register includes not only those convicted of offences but those thought to be at risk of offending. New sex crimes have been codified and children as young as five have been subjected to criminal charges. In this interactive lecture and Q&A, Lenore Skenazy will show how easily you (or your child) could end up on an offenders' register and discuss the implications of these trends.

LENORE SKENAZY

'America's Worst Mom'; president, Let Grow; founder, *Free-Range Kids* book, blog and movement

CHAIR: LUKE GITTOS

criminal lawyer; director of City of London Appeals Clinic (COLAC); legal editor, *spiked*; author, *Why Rape Culture is a Dangerous Myth*

Produced by Luke Gittos

**CITY OF LONDON
APPEALS CLINIC**

**AFTER THE RIOTS: IS PRISON
REFORM STILL POSSIBLE?****14:00–15:30**

Prison riots have become a familiar feature of Britain's custodial system. Over the past 20 years, the prison population has doubled even though crime rates have fallen steadily. Some authorities claim that these riots are the result of overcrowding. Others blame underfunding and privatisation, the increasing use of synthetic drugs and the effects of the smoking ban. But are these explanations simplistic? What about problems of mental illness and political extremism? Fundamental questions persist: what is prison for - rehabilitation or punishment? Does the public even care about conditions inside as long as criminals are removed from the streets?

PAMELA DOW

chief reform officer, Catch22; former civil servant, Department for Education

HARDEEP MATHARU

prisons and criminal justice reporter, *Byline*

RACHEL O'BRIEN

consultant, editor and writer; author, *Building a Rehabilitation Culture* and *The Learning Prison*

PAUL

Stop the Knife lead, London Village Network; former prisoner

JERRY PETHERICK

managing director for custody and detention services, G4S

CHAIR: ADAM RAWCLIFFE

director of external affairs, Institute of Ideas

Produced by **Michael Baker**, Head of UK Media, G4S and **Adam Rawcliffe**

**MAKING A MISCARRIAGE OF
JUSTICE?****16:00–17:15**

Television documentaries such as *Making a Murderer* and podcasts like *Serial* have got people talking about miscarriages of justice on both sides of the Atlantic. Where should the balance lie? Is it still better, in the words of Benjamin Franklin, that a hundred guilty persons should walk free than that one innocent person suffer? Are miscarriages of justice an inevitable part of any justice system? Many hope that better procedures and rights for defendants could make wrongful convictions less common. But could the rise of victim-centred justice and the proliferation of new offences actually make matters worse?

DR RUTH DUDLEY EDWARDS

journalist and writer; award-winning author, 12 crime novels including *Murdering Americans* and *Killing the Emperors*

PENELOPE GIBBS

director, Transform Justice

LUKE GITTOS

criminal lawyer; director, City of London Appeals Clinic (COLAC); legal editor, *spiked*; author, *Why Rape Culture is a Dangerous Myth*

NAINA GUPTA

second-year law student, LSE; pro bono officer of the Law Society; student committee member, COLAC, LSE

CHAIR: ANDREW WHEELHOUSE

trainee solicitor, Bates Wells Braithwaite LLP

Produced by **Andrew Wheelhouse** and **Luke Gittos**



TECH FUTURES

Pagefield

Understanding your world

Developments in technology always have important consequences for society, both intended and unintended. Should we look to technology to solve social and political problems, or should it have a more modest role? In recent years, developments in 'Big Data' have been credited with winning elections. Is this a tool to be embraced or a threat to democracy? Might Big Data engineering solutions and other technological advances even be the key to saving the NHS? As more and more of us wear tech on our bodies in the form of fitness gadgets and smart watches, should we worry about the potential for abuse of our data? Technology has always been seen as a threat to jobs – will the new wave render millions of people surplus to requirements? And should we view the eggheads of Silicon Valley as heroes or predators?

WAS IT BIG DATA WOT WON IT? POLITICAL CAMPAIGNING TODAY

10:00–11:30

How could so many people be convinced to vote for Donald Trump? Why did so many Brits vote to leave the EU, despite almost unanimous advice from experts, political leaders and celebrities that we should remain? Some attribute these results to the power of Big Data, specifically to the high-tech psychological marketing techniques of a company called Cambridge Analytica. Can the manipulation of data really swing important votes? What are the implications of this approach for privacy and democracy? What does the assumption that a few targeted messages can influence voters' decisions tell us about elite attitudes towards the electorate?

JAMIE BARTLETT

director, Centre for the Analysis of Social Media, Demos; author, *The Dark Net* and *Radicals*; presenter, BBC's *The Secrets of Silicon Valley*

CAROLE CADWALLADR

feature writer, *Observer*

SIMON COOKE

member, Institute of Direct and Digital Marketing; leader of the Conservative group, Bradford City Council

TIMANDRA HARKNESS

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

CHAIR: SANDY STARR

communications officer, Progress Educational Trust; webmaster, *BioNews*

Produced by Sandy Starr

WEARABLES: PERSONALISATION OR SURVEILLANCE?

12:00–13:00

With a smart watch or a fitness tracker, we can now access online services or monitor our health. Potential uses include checking patients' vital signs during hospital stays and warning them when they are at risk of having a seizure. Wearables could also have a role in the workplace, to improve productivity and monitor employees' behaviour and well-being. But the advent of wearables also raises questions about privacy and security. Could affordable insurance be tied to wearing such devices and agreeing to external monitoring? Are wearables an invaluable aid to health or will they create a new breed of 'worried well'? Could they be a tool to allow employers to drive workers harder?

MARIJA BUTKOVIC

founder and CEO, Women of Wearables; digital marketing and PR strategist

DR PHOEBE MOORE

senior lecturer, Middlesex University; author, *The Quantified Self in Precarity: work, technology and what counts*

MARTYN PERKS

digital business consultant and writer; co-author, *Big Potatoes: the London manifesto for innovation*

ALEX POWLESLAND

head of proteomatics, Immunocore

CHAIR: JAMES LEE

senior policy adviser, Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport

Produced by James Lee

IMMUNOCORE

targeting T cell receptors

**FROM AI TO BIG DATA:
CAN TECHNOLOGY SAVE
THE NHS?****14:00–15:30**

Can engineering innovations help to resolve the NHS funding crisis? Patients could be given more independence by being helped to diagnose and manage their own conditions. Tele-health and smartphone apps seem set to transform the monitoring and control of illnesses such as diabetes and heart disease. But are there downsides to such technical fixes? Could we become over-dependent on networked health tools in an era of cyber-attacks? Is there a danger of putting our faith in algorithms rather than expert judgement? Is an emphasis on new technology simply a way of avoiding difficult choices about how much we should expect from healthcare?

TERRY BARNES

fellow, IEA; principal, Cormorant Policy Advice; former special adviser to Australian health ministers

TRISHA GREENHALGH

professor of primary care health sciences, University of Oxford

TIMANDRA HARKNESS

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

PROFESSOR MARK TOOLEY

medical technology consultant; president, Institute of Physics and Engineering in Medicine

DR IR ISABEL VAN DE KEERE

CEO and founder, Immersive Rehab

CHAIR: MARTYN PERKS

co-author, *Big Potatoes: the London manifesto for innovation*

Produced by Rob Lyons

**SILICON VALLEY: FROM
HEROES TO ZEROES?****16:00–17:15**

Silicon Valley used to be regarded as the global hub of entrepreneurship, creativity and innovation. It was the home of the world's best technologies, new products and services. Yet today, Silicon Valley's tech companies seem to have become the twenty-first-century equivalent of mediaeval robber barons. They are condemned for fleecing customers, evading taxes, and pocketing monopoly profits. Once associated with freedom, Silicon Valley is now condemned as the agency of global surveillance. Has it gone from over-hype to over-reach? Or given emerging new technologies – such as express transit systems, autonomous vehicles and biotech – is the criticism mostly unfair?

JAMIE BARTLETT

director, Centre for the Analysis of Social Media, Demos; author, *Radicals*; presenter, BBC's *The Secrets of Silicon Valley*

DANIEL BEN-AMI

journalist; author, *Ferraris for All: in defence of economic progress*

ANDREW BERNSTEIN

author, *The Capitalist Manifesto: the historic, economic, and philosophic case for laissez-faire*; affiliate, Ayn Rand Institute

LAUREN RAZAVI

managing director, Flibl; award-winning writer and consultant

CHAIR: DR PAUL REEVES

engineering software designer, SolidWorks R&D; co-convenor, *Big Potatoes: the London manifesto for innovation*

Produced by Dr Paul Reeves

**RAGE AGAINST THE
MACHINES: IS AUTOMATION
A THREAT TO JOBS?****17:30–18:45**

Are robots going to put us all out of work? Drivers are at risk of being replaced by autonomous vehicles and administrative staff face competition from intelligent assistants like Amazon's Alexa. Whereas in the past automation largely affected low-skilled jobs, smarter machines and the deployment of artificial intelligence could threaten many high-skilled workers in future. The threat of automation has been anticipated for many years – has it finally arrived? Why are so many commentators and politicians fearful of smart machines? Is growing inequality an inevitable consequence of new technology? Are we merely blaming robots for the deeper problems of the economy?

TIMANDRA HARKNESS

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

MATHEW LAWRENCE

senior research fellow, IPPR

KEVIN MCCULLAGH

founder, Plan; writer and commentator on design

JOEL TITO

programme manager, AI and the future of government, Centre for Public Impact

CHAIR: ROB LYONS

science and technology director, Institute of Ideas, convenor, Iol Economy Forum

Produced by Rob Lyons



CRISIS OF POLITICAL
LANGUAGE

IN ASSOCIATION WITH

LIVING
FREEDOM

Is political language becoming bastardised and irrelevant in a changing political landscape? Traditional terminology can seem out of sync with new realities. Left and right seem strangely redundant; terms like populism used as an insult rather than description, and what does it mean to be liberal, when liberals embrace illiberalism? And when is it really appropriate to wheel out a word like fascist? New developments give us new words altogether, like the capitalised Leaver and Remain. Having survived more than a year after the Brexit referendum, are these terms here to stay? Identity politics has created a whole new vocabulary, from cis-gender to intersectionality that can baffle those not trained in the linguistics of gender or race theory. And can we agree on a shared political language that allows us to express and debate even fiercely conflicting ideas? Or is language itself always political?

THE CORRUPTION OF
POLITICAL LANGUAGE
10:00–11:30

George Orwell claimed that ‘political language... is designed to make lies sound truthful and murder respectable’. Today, many claim that the increasing corruption of language has become detrimental to our democracy. Political labels, such as fascism and populism, right-wing and left-wing, are used promiscuously, often as insults against opponents. The rise of identity politics has given us new words, such as ‘ze’ and ‘cis’. Do such novel terms encourage discussion or help to shut it down? Should we go back to basics, and pin down what we mean by such contested terms as liberalism and nationalism, even democracy?

SPEAKER:
BRENDAN O’NEILL
editor, *spiked*

RESPONDENTS:
RACHEL HALLIBURTON
journalist and novelist

NICK HILTON
broadcast editor, *Spectator*

DR PAUL A TAYLOR
senior lecturer in communications and cultural theory, University of Leeds

CHAIR: JACOB FUREDI
journalist, *Daily Mail*

Produced by Jacob Furedi

WHAT IS... IDENTITY?
12:00–13:00

The question of identity seems ever-present and increasingly vexed in 21st century life. One cannot get a passport, job or social media account without answering a list of questions clarifying one’s gender, ethnicity or race. Theorists of intersectionality debate the relative oppression of different and overlapping identities, leading to what critics have called ‘the oppression Olympics’, and tensions abound between black women and white feminists, middle-class lesbians and working-class men. Is there any place for a universal humanism in all this? Is there any escape from the identities we’re branded with, whether in the form of racial prejudice or imputed privilege?

DR CHRISTINE LOUIS-DIT-SULLY
writer; former research biologist with a life-long interest in social and political issues

ELLA WHELAN
assistant editor, *spiked*; author, *What Women Want: fun, freedom and an end to feminism*

DR GRAEME ARCHER
writer and professional statistician; winner, 2011 Orwell Prize for blogging

CHAIR: NIAL CROWLEY
designer, writer, former East End pub landlord

Produced by Nial Crowley

spiked

WHAT IS... DEMOCRACY?
14:00–15:30

Though few question universal suffrage and parliamentary sovereignty in principle, many are increasingly inclined to question the processes and consequences of popular democracy in practice. Some viewed the majority vote in favour of Brexit as a positive expression of the will of the British people. Others questioned the wisdom of allowing a decision with such far-reaching consequences to be made by plebiscite. The Brexit debate is just one example of public discussions which have revealed the absence of a shared agreement on the meaning of democracy. While some offer a merely instrumental defence of democracy, others question whether ordinary citizens are capable of participating in government. What, then, do we mean by democracy today?

DR RACHEL HAMMERSLEY
senior lecturer, intellectual history, Newcastle University; author, *The English Republican Tradition and Eighteenth-Century France*; editor, *Revolutionary Moments: reading revolutionary texts*

MICK HUME
editor at large, *spiked*; author, *Revolting!* and *Trigger Warning*

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

CARNE ROSS
author, *The Leaderless Revolution*; executive director, Independent Diplomat

CHAIR: JACOB REYNOLDS
consultant, SHM; co-convenor, the Institute of Ideas' Living Freedom

Produced by Jacob Reynolds

WHAT IS... LIBERALISM?
16:00–17:15

What does it mean to be a liberal today? In the nineteenth century a liberal insisted on the rights of the individual before the power of the state. In the post-war era, liberalism became defined by differing stances on the role of the state. Social liberals favoured state intervention in industry and welfare. Conservative liberals, later labelled 'neo liberals', favoured privatisation and rolling back welfare provision. Both strands made a virtue of tolerance in matters of belief and conscience. More recently, some considering themselves liberals have endorsed restrictions on free speech, once a liberal shibboleth. Does the concept of liberalism now mean anything at all?

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

NICK GILLESPIE
US journalist and commentator; editor in chief, *Reason.com* and *Reason TV*, the online and video platforms of *Reason Magazine*

DR JAMES PANTON
head of upper sixth and head of politics, Magdalen College School; associate professor of philosophy, Open University

DR ŁUKASZ PAWŁOWSKI
managing editor and columnist, *Kultura Liberalna*

CHAIR: DAVID BOWDEN
associate fellow, Institute of Ideas

Produced by David Bowden

TTT Time to Talk
European Houses of Debate

OPEN SOCIETY
FOUNDATIONS

WHAT IS... FASCISM?
17:30–18:45

The term 'fascism' originated in Mussolini's Partito Nazionale Fascista in Italy, though it is more notoriously associated with Hitler's National Socialist Party in Germany. It has, however, come to be widely used as an abusive epithet, to refer to any political formation regarded with distaste. In recent months, the fascist label has been promiscuously applied to Donald Trump, to so-called 'alt-right' movements and to anti-immigrant parties in Eastern Europe. Some commentators seriously claim that fascism is making a comeback. Is this a real possibility – or should we be more circumspect in using this label?

JANE CAPLAN
professor emeritus of modern European history, University of Oxford

ROGER GRIFFIN
professor in modern history, Oxford Brookes University; author, *Fascism: an introduction to fascist studies*

KEVIN PASSMORE
professor of history, Cardiff University; author, *Fascism: a very short introduction*

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

CHAIR: JACOB FUREDI
journalist, *Daily Mail*

Produced by Jacob Furedi

BATTLE FOR EDUCATION

IN ASSOCIATION WITH



Education is always the subject of heated debates at the Battle of Ideas, touching as it does not only on questions about what is taught and how, but also on the very nature of knowledge and the relationship between the past and the future. Everyone agrees high standards are a good thing, but is the new maths curriculum too hard? Should we ask the pupils for their opinion? Or are we better looking to cognitive science to guide how we teach and learn? Should schools get kids ready for work? Or make them better citizens? This strand also includes an illustrated history of a thousand years of schooling in England.

STUDENT VOICE: SHOULD WE LISTEN?

10:00–11:30

‘Student voice’, first popularised in the 1990s, is now everywhere. More than 90 per cent of schools have their own school council. Now that Ofsted requires schools to promote active democracy, student voice initiatives are likely to increase. Advocates of procedures to allow students to express their views argue that these can empower pupils to challenge bullying, improve wellbeing, behaviour and attainment as well as promoting citizenship. But critics argue such policies have created a generation of entitled ‘student emperors’, who are used to having their views heard but not challenged. Has student voice gone too far, or not far enough?

TITUS ALEXANDER

founder, Democracy Matters; author, *Learning Practical Politics: lessons in power and democracy*

MARY BOUSTED

joint general secretary, National Education Union

JON BRUNSKILL

head of year 2, Reach Academy Feltham

RALPH LEIGHTON

senior lecturer in education; course leader for PGCE Citizenship Education, Canterbury Christ Church University

JOANNA WILLIAMS

author, *Consuming Higher Education and Academic Freedom in an Age of Conformity*; education editor, *spiked*

CHAIR: CARA BLEIMAN

Mandarin primary specialist teacher, Harris Federation

Produced by Cara Bleiman

HAVE WE MADE MATHS TOO HARD?

12:00–13:00

In 2013, Michael Gove decided that GCSE maths was no longer fit for purpose. Cue the new maths GCSE, with its 9-1 grading system, expanded content and greater focus on conceptual understanding. Now that the first set of exams is over, have we got the balance right? Given the greater difficulty of the exam, there are worries that capable students will be deterred from studying maths to a higher level. In the drive for greater mathematical rigour, have we over estimated the capacity of schools to deliver? Should we celebrate greater ambition and keep pushing teachers and students harder?

KRISTOPHER BOULTON

director of education, Up Learn

DAVID PERKS

founder and principal, East London Science School

CHARLIE STRIPP

director, National Centre for Excellence in the Teaching of Mathematics; chief executive, Mathematics in Education and Industry

HELEN WARD

journalist, *TES*

CHAIR: TONY GILLAND

maths curriculum leader, MidKent College

Produced by Tony Gilland

**TOO DUMB, TOO YOUNG:
WHO'S QUALIFIED TO VOTE?**
14:00–15:30

The electoral franchise has become increasingly contentious. Some argue that lowering the voting age would allow more progressive voices to decide the future. Meanwhile commentators denounce 'low-information' older voters, who have been duped into supporting Trump or Brexit. Political scientist David Runciman notes that 'the less-educated fear they are being governed by intellectual snobs who know nothing of their lives and experiences', while the 'educated fear their fate may be decided by know-nothings who are ignorant of how the world really works'. When it comes to ignorance and prejudice, on which side of the educational divide are such traits more likely to be found?

NEIL DAVENPORT

sociology and politics teacher; writer on culture; former music journalist

ED DORRELL

deputy editor and head of content, *TES*

CAROLINE MACFARLAND

founder and director, Common Vision (CoVi); co-author, *A Generation Apart: were young people left behind by the EU referendum?*

MICHAEL MERRICK

teacher, North Cumbria; contributor, *Blue Labour*

CHAIR: KEVIN ROONEY

politics teacher and head of social science, Queen's School, Bushey; co-author, *Who's Afraid of the Easter Rising?*

Produced by Kevin Rooney

**SHOULD SCHOOLS MAKE
PUPILS 'WORK-READY'?**
16:00–17:15

Many young people leave school unprepared for the world of work. According to Ofsted's 2016 survey, 'Getting Ready for Work', the 'nation's economic prosperity is at risk because the majority of England's schools fail to prioritise enterprise education and work-related learning'. It seems that schools are not making the cultivation of the spirit of enterprise a key part of the curriculum. Should we move away from an academic curriculum and embrace new school models such as careers colleges and university technical colleges, where pupils can go at 14 to take a vocational route?

MARY CURNOCK COOK

independent educationalist; former chief executive, UCAS

CHRIS MULLER

head, Sir William Perkins's School

KEVIN ROONEY

politics teacher and head of social science, Queen's School, Bushey; co-author, *Who's Afraid of the Easter Rising?*

JASON SMITH

careers lead, East London Science School

CHAIR: JANE SANDEMAN

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

Produced by Jane Sandeman

**CAN COGNITIVE SCIENCE
SAVE EDUCATION?**
17:30–18:45

It appears that cognitive science has finally discovered how to make teaching effective. The findings of cognitive scientists are considered so impressive that government ministers have already begun to apply their insights to educational policy. But is this really an educational no-brainer? Have we found an educational gospel that can become the salvation of slow learners? How can cognitive science be incorporated into the school curriculum? How can teacher training reflect the findings of neuroscientific research? On the other hand, should we be wary of educational programmes that claim to be innovative but have little basis in scientific evidence?

WENDY BERLINER

joint chief executive, Education Media Centre; co-author, *Great Minds and How to Grow Them*

DR NICK DENNIS

deputy headteacher, Hertfordshire; teacher historian; governor, Greenwich Free School

DAVID PERKS

founder and principal, East London Science School

NICK ROSE

senior officer, knowledge development, Teach First

CHAIR: MARK TAYLOR

vice-principal, East London Science School

Produced by Mark Taylor

CONTEMPORARY
CONTROVERSIES

These sessions aim to dig beneath the headlines on a wide range of topical issues.

WE NEED TO TALK: THE
VICES AND VIRTUES OF
SOCIAL MEDIA

10:00–11:30

We have the greatest communication infrastructure humanity has ever known. Thanks to the web and social media, publishing is now fully democratised. Access to the masses is no longer controlled by monks, aristocrats or media moguls. Yet while the capacity to communicate has never been greater, the exchange of ideas seems pitifully weak. People often seem to be stuck in intellectual silos clinging to entrenched positions. If we aren't prepared to admit the possibility that another point of view might be correct, then the testing of ideas becomes impossible. Is the nature of online communication inherently anti-intellectual?

ALEX BENSON

co-founder, Bloc festival and Bloc organisation

JAMES DELINGPOLE

columnist, *Breitbart News* and *Spectator*

ALICE THWAITE

founder, Echo Chamber Club

VAL VOSHCHEVSKA

social media editor, *Newsweek*

ELLA WHELAN

assistant editor, *spiked*; author, *What Women Want: fun, freedom and an end to feminism*

CHAIR: GEORGE HULL

co-founder, Bloc festival and Bloc organisation; contributor, *Spectator*

Produced by George Hull and Alex Benson

Bloc.

Newsweek

POLITICAL ACTIVISM AND
PROTEST TODAY

12:00–13:00

Mass street protests seem to have made a comeback. Recent demonstrations include Black Lives Matter protests in the US, Women's Marches around the world, and even an international protest organised by scientists. Protests are not confined to 'progressive' causes. Indeed, recent 'alt-right' demonstrations have prompted some to ask if certain kinds of protest should be banned. There are also questions about the nature and depth of contemporary protest. Is sharing a tweet or signing an online petition enough to constitute 'activism'? Even when protesters take to the streets, are such protests more a performance than a manifestation of a social movement?

KIRK LEECH

executive director, European Animal Research Association (EARA)

RYAN MCCHRISTAL

assistant online editor, Index on Censorship

CATHY YOUNG

US journalist and commentator; weekly columnist, *Newsday*; author, *Ceasefire!: why women and men must join forces to achieve true equality*

CHAIR: JACOB REYNOLDS

consultant, SHM; co-convenor, the Institute of Ideas' Living Freedom

Produced by Jacob Reynolds

DO YOU TRUST THE MEDIA?
14:00–15:30

Anyone who asserts ‘It must be true – I read it in the paper’, is now regarded as hopelessly naïve. Alternative news outlets have sprung up across the political spectrum, and the increasing influence of high-profile bloggers and social media ‘commentators’ reflects a wider crisis of trust. The mainstream media is regularly accused of fuelling panic about the risks we face over everything from terrorism to chlorinated chicken. How can we know whether reporting is accurate? Is it our responsibility as citizens to check the facts or should we demand that the media improve its handling of statistics and data?

DR GRAEME ARCHER

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

VANCE CROWE

director of millennial engagement, Monsanto Company

ALAN MILLER

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

FAY SCHLESINGER

head of News, *The Times*

CERI THOMAS

ex-editor, BBC Radio 4’s *Today* and BBC 1’s *Panorama*; director, public affairs, Oxford University

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

MONSANTO

**WHO IS FOOTBALL FOR:
FANS OR BIG BUSINESS?**
16:00–17:15

The beautiful game has come a long way from its working-class origins. English football has financially benefited from globalisation and the growth in popularity of the game overseas. The Premier League’s millionaire players hail from all over the world and think nothing of switching their allegiance to the highest bidder. But are fans being left behind by rising ticket prices despite their sport’s growing international success? Is money ruining the game? Should football be seen as mere entertainment for its global TV audience? Does it risk losing its soul, its deeper connection to the fans who have made it what it is?

DULEEP ALLIRAJAH

sports columnist, *spiked*

MARK ADAMS OBE

political consultant; former chief executive of a non-league football team, Gosport Borough FC

LYNSEY HOOPER

sport broadcaster; co-founder, *The Offside Rule (We Get It!)* podcast

DR STEFAN CHATRATH

professor of sports marketing, University of Applied Sciences Europe, Campus Berlin

CHAIR: GEOFF KIDDER

director, membership and events, Institute of Ideas; convenor, lol Book Club

Produced by Geoff Kidder

**REARING GENERATION
SAFE SPACE**
17:30–18:45

Once regarded as a time of innocence and delight, childhood has come to be regarded as a period of particular risk and danger. Children are now believed to be vulnerable to a wide range of threats to their physical and emotional wellbeing. Whereas once the role of parents was to guide children towards adulthood, now they are concerned about protecting them from harm. Is this shift towards more and more protection undermining the capacity of children to develop resilience? Could we be raising a generation ill-prepared to face adult responsibilities and negotiate life’s many challenges?

MARTIN DAUBNEY

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

DR ASHLEY FRAWLEY

senior lecturer, sociology and social policy; programme director, BSc social sciences, Swansea University

LENORE SKENAZY

‘America’s Worst Mom’; president, Let Grow; founder, *Free-Range Kids* book, blog and movement

LINDA DUBERLEY

publisher, broadcaster, journalist

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 Dr Helene Guldberg



BIRMINGHAM SALON

STATE OF THE NATION

This strand looks at some pressing issues facing Britain today. Brexit has created urgent questions about which laws should be repatriated from the EU. Will health and safety and workers' rights be sacrificed by the 'Great Repeal Bill' or is this liberation from hyper-regulation? Will key EU themes such as sustainability and environmentalism be sidelined in the political upheaval? Will the end of free movement create a skills gap? And with many millennials reporting increased anxiety brought on by the uncertainty of Brexit, does the so-called 'youthquake' at this year's general election suggest younger voters are beginning to see a more positive political future?

WHERE WILL WE GET THE WORKERS? THE BATTLE OVER SKILLS AND IMMIGRATION

10:00–11:30

Brexit Britain's employers are worried about where they will find their workers in future, while European nationals working in Britain are worried about whether they can stay. There also appears to be a consensus that any restriction on the free movement of labour will trigger a crisis for the British economy. How do we link the admission of migrant workers to the genuine needs of employers for workers with particular skills? Will the economy collapse if European workers face regulations similar to those currently faced by non-European immigrants? How else could employers make up the shortage if Europeans workers leave?

RACHEL CUNLIFFE

comment and features editor, *City A.M.*

FAWZI IBRAHIM

national officer, Trade Unionists
Against the EU

SEAMUS NEVIN

head of policy research, Institute of
Directors (IoD)

HILARY SALT

actuary; founder, First Actuarial

CHAIR: PARA MULLAN

senior project and business relationship
manager, Chartered Institute of Personnel
and Development

Produced by Para Mullan

CITYA.M.



FROM THE REPEAL BILL TO GRENFELL: IS BRITAIN OVER-REGULATED?

12:00–13:00

Britain's parliament is facing what many regard as its greatest ever legislative challenge. It must decide how to deal with almost 19,000 EU laws and regulations once Britain is outside the bloc. Many Leave voters are delighted that, at last, we can cut through the Brussels red tape, with its rules about everything from e-cigarettes to pesticides. Others, however, especially Remainers, fear a dangerous free-for-all. They point to the risk, poignantly dramatized by the Grenfell Tower fire, arising from inadequate regulations. What is the right balance between allowing individuals and companies to 'get on with it' and insisting upon licences, regulations and safety checks?

RICHARD ANGELL

director, Progress

JOSIE APPLETON

director, civil liberties group, Manifesto
Club; author, *Officious: rise of the busybody
state*; blogs at notesonfreedom.com

ABDOOL KARA

executive leader, local services, National
Audit Office

CHRISTOPHER SNOWDON

head of lifestyle economics, Institute of
Economic Affairs; editor, *Nanny State Index*

CHAIR: ALAN MILLER

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

Produced by Alan Miller



CAN SUSTAINABILITY AND ENVIRONMENTALISM SURVIVE BREXIT BRITAIN?**14:00–15:30**

Is environmentalism in retreat? After several decades during which issues of sustainability enjoyed mainstream popularity, the environment has slipped down the political agenda. Issues such as climate change and renewable energy scarcely figured in the 2017 general election. Some fear that Brexit will lead to the relaxation of EU environmental regulations, on everything from water quality to air pollution. Several high-profile Brexiteers have expressed scepticism about some of environmentalism's sacred cows. Can UK politicians be trusted to protect the environment after Brexit? Are critics of EU regulation justified in claiming that such rules are often excessive?

DR RICHARD BENWELL

head of government affairs, Wildfowl and Wetlands Trust (WWT)

YVETTE DE GARIS

head of environmental regulation, Thames Water

SOLITAIRE TOWNSEND

co-founder, Futerra; chair, UK Green Energy Scheme; author, *Happy Hero*

MARCO VISSCHER

co-author, *Ecomodernism: the new thinking on green and growth*; freelance journalist

AUSTIN WILLIAMS

author, *China's Urban Revolution*

CHAIR: ROB LYONS

science and technology director, Institute of Ideas

Produced by Claire Fox and Rob Lyons

**MILLENNIALS: YOUTHQUAKE OR SNOWFLAKES?****16:00–17:15**

Whereas earlier generations of young people provoked outrage among their elders, millennials – those born in the late 1990s and early 2000s – seem to attract merely condescension and concern. Today's youth have been labelled 'Generation Snowflake' for their declarations of emotional vulnerability and demands for protection and support. Yet, for those coming of age in an era of austerity and debt, Brexit and Trump, anxiety and apprehension may be appropriate responses. In their embrace of issues of social justice, and support for the kinder, gentler, form of politics espoused by Jeremy Corbyn and Bernie Sanders, perhaps the millennials are pointing the way towards real change in society.

BRADLEY ALLSOP

postgraduate officer, University of Lincoln Students' Union; co-editor, *Bright Green*

DR JENNIE BRISTOW

senior lecturer in sociology, Canterbury Christ Church University; author, *Baby Boomers and Generational Conflict*

DR ELIZA FILBY

historian, King's College London; founder, GradTrain

MEGAN CORTON SCOTT

vice chair, London Young Labour; events manager, Demos

CHAIR: CHRISTOPHER BECKETT

Holy Family Catholic School, Walthamstow

Produced by Christopher Beckett



SCIENCE AND ETHICS

The more science advances, the more it throws up ethical debates, particularly when it comes to medicine and questions of when life begins and ends, and what kinds of treatment can and should be made available. The emerging field of epigenetics raises the possibility of improving future health by intervening when children are still in the womb - but should we? Evolutionary psychology is another field that promises much, but has its detractors. What can and can't it tell us? If space is the final frontier, who has the right to explore and exploit it? And on the 50th anniversary of the passing of the UK's 1967 Abortion Act, how is the fight for reproductive rights faring internationally?

DOES EPIGENETICS JUSTIFY
'EARLY INTERVENTION'?

10:00–11:30

Over the past decade, research in epigenetics has challenged scientific orthodoxies and has had some public impact. Advocates claim it offers biological explanations for obesity, criminality and sexual orientation. This session draws on two new books. In one, Maurizio Meloni focuses on the troubled interface between biology and politics; the other, by Sue White and David Wastell, examines the application of the science of epigenetics to social policy. Are the claims of epigenetics enthusiasts legitimate? If not, why does such a deterministic outlook continue to have such appeal? What is the place of scientific evidence in political decision-making?

DR STUART DERBYSHIRE

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

DR MAURIZIO MELONI

senior research fellow, University of Sheffield; author, *Political Biology*

SUE WHITE

professor of social work, University of Sheffield; co-author, *Blinded by Science*

CHAIR: DR JAN MACVARISH

department of law, Birkbeck, University of London; visiting research fellow, Centre for Parenting Culture Studies, University of Kent

Produced by Dr Jan Macvarish

CPCS

Centre for Parenting
Culture StudiesTHE FINAL FRONTIER:
WHO OWNS SPACE?

12:00–13:00

We are now entering a new space race, driven not by nations, but by a global industry worth billions. From Earth observation to plain surveillance, building off-planet colonies like a Moon Village, asteroid-mining or tourism for the super-rich, space is 'open for business'. Should we worry that the private sector is making all the running? After all, there's no space law to keep commercial interests in line. Should space be viewed like 'the commons', land owned by nobody but open to all, or would that hold back investment in exploration and colonisation? Are the rich spoiling the potential of space exploration for all humanity?

ZULFIKAR ABBANY

senior science editor, Deutsche Welle

IAN CRAWFORD

professor of planetary science and astrobiology, Birkbeck College, University of London

MIKE LAWTON

founder, CEO, Oxford Space Systems

DR JILL STUART

academic, London School of Economics; researcher, politics, ethics and law of outer space exploration and exploitation; editor in chief, *Space Policy* journal

DR SASKIA VERMEYLEN

senior lecturer and chancellor's fellow, Centre for Environmental Law and Governance, University of Strathclyde

CHAIR: TIMANDRA HARKNESS

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

Produced by Zulfikar Abbany

**THE INTERNATIONAL
ABORTION WARS**
14:00–15:30

On the fiftieth anniversary of the 1967 Abortion Act, a panel of pro-choice campaigners from around the world will discuss what is at stake in the battle for abortion rights. In many countries, the trend towards extending abortion rights seems to have been reversed. What does it mean to argue for a woman's right to choose today? Is it right to think of abortion as 'just like any other medical procedure', or do wider moral issues arise? Is opposition to abortion rights the same the world over? Is such opposition essentially religious or based on a more universal moral intuition?

ANN FUREDÌ

chief executive, British Pregnancy Advisory Service; author, *The Moral Case for Abortion*

KINGA JELINSKA

executive director, Women Help Women

JON O'BRIEN

president, Catholics for Choice

AILBHE SMYTH

chair, Coalition to Repeal the Eighth Amendment, Ireland

CHAIR: DR ELLIE LEE

reader in social policy, University of Kent, Canterbury; director, Centre for Parenting Culture Studies

Produced by Dr Ellie Lee

CPCS

Centre for Parenting
Culture Studies

**FROM GENDER TO EMPATHY:
WHAT CAN EVOLUTIONARY
PSYCHOLOGY TELL US?**
16:00–17:15

Google engineer James Damore wrote a memo arguing that women were less likely to succeed in the company because of their biology. Though this resulted in him being sacked, it had the effect of bringing the claims of evolutionary psychology to wider public attention. Evolutionary psychologists claim that psychological traits persist in human behavior because they contributed to our survival in the early stages of evolutionary development. Such traits have been adduced to explain everything from gender differences to our propensity to eat unhealthy food. Critics argue that evolutionary psychology is reductionist and dehumanising. But should we reject this perspective simply because it leads to uncomfortable conclusions?

DR STUART DERBYSHIRE

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

JOHN DUPRÉ

professor of philosophy of science, University of Exeter; director, Centre for the Study of Life Sciences (Egenis)

DR DIANA FLEISCHMAN

evolutionary psychologist, associate professor, University of Portsmouth

TIM INGOLD

professor of social anthropology, University of Aberdeen

CHAIR: MAX SANDERSON

podcast producer and writer, *Guardian*

Produced by Max Sanderson

**MEDICAL DILEMMAS:
WHO DECIDES?**
17:30–18:45

The tragic case of Charlie Gard, a baby with a terminal congenital illness whose parents refused to accept the decision of medical staff to withdraw life support, highlighted the problems that may arise when there is a breakdown of trust between doctors and parents. The old adage that 'doctor knows best' is being challenged not just by patients, but from within the medical profession itself, as paternalism gives way to shared decision-making. But can patients know enough to take responsibility for major decisions about treatment? If doctors relinquish authority, does this impose an undue burden on patients. What is the role of the courts?

DR FRANKIE ANDERSON

psychiatry trainee; co-founder, Sheffield Salon

SARAH BARCLAY

founder and director, The Medical Mediation Foundation

RAANAN GILLON

emeritus professor of medical ethics, Imperial College London; president, Institute of Medical Ethics

PROFESSOR SIR SIMON WESSELY

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

CHAIR: DR FIONA MCEWEN

postdoctoral researcher, Queen Mary University of London

Produced by Dr Fiona McEwen

SUNDAY 1 OCTOBER

REVOLUTION!

BIRMINGHAM | 13:45

TUESDAY 3 OCTOBER

**STATE VS PARENT: WHO SHOULD
DECIDE WHAT'S BEST FOR CHILDREN?**

FAVERSHAM | 18:30

FRIDAY 6 OCTOBER

MIGRATIONS, THEN AND NOW

LIVERPOOL | 19:00

WEDNESDAY 11 OCTOBER

**WIMBLEDON BOOKFEST BATTLE OF
IDEAS QUESTION TIME**

LONDON | 13:30

WEDNESDAY 11 OCTOBER

**SHOULD WE STUDY DEAD
WHITE PHILOSOPHERS?**

DERBY | 19:00

THURSDAY 19 OCTOBER

**WHAT IS THE MORAL CASE
FOR ABORTION?**

LEEDS | 18:45

SATURDAY 21 OCTOBER

**DAY OF DEBATES AT THE NATIONAL
LIBRARY OF SCOTLAND**

EDINBURGH | 11:00 - 16:30

SATURDAY 21 OCTOBER

CAN THE ARTS EVER BE FREE?

LEICESTER | 14:00

MONDAY 23 OCTOBER

**BOOK LAUNCH CHINA'S
URBAN REVOLUTION**

LONDON | 18:30

WEDNESDAY 25 OCTOBER

**BANNING SMACKING: PROTECTING
CHILDREN OR ASSAULTING FAMILY LIFE?**

SWANSEA | 18:00

SATURDAY 4 NOVEMBER

**IDENTITY POLITICS: RETURN OF THE
CULTURE WARS?**

MANCHESTER | 14:00

THURSDAY 9 NOVEMBER

**GROUPTHINK: DO EAST MIDLANDS
UNIVERSITIES PUT CONFORMISM
BEFORE CRITICISM?**

DERBY | 19:00

THURSDAY 9 NOVEMBER

IS EDUCATION FAILING THE TEST?

EXETER | 18:30

FRIDAY 10 NOVEMBER

**WILL CAMPAIGNS AGAINST CULTURAL
APPROPRIATION DESTROY THE ARTS?**

LONDON | 19:00

MONDAY 13 NOVEMBER

**BREXIT HATE CRIME IN SCHOOLS:
SHOCKING TRUTH OR OVER-HYPED?**

LONDON | 19:00

SUNDAY 19 NOVEMBER

**RELIGION AND THE INDIVIDUAL IN
ART: A GALLERY TOUR**

LONDON | 10:15

TUESDAY 28 NOVEMBER

CAN CULTURE SAVE THE CITY

PAISLEY | 18:30

**REVOLUTION! THINKING
ABOUT THE CENTENARY OF
THE RUSSIAN REVOLUTION**

SUNDAY 1 OCTOBER

BIRMINGHAM | 13:45–17:45

**Centrala, 158 Fazeley Street,
Birmingham B5 5RT**

**FILM SCREENING: EVERY COOK
CAN GOVERN: THE LIFE, IMPACT,
AND WORKS OF CLR JAMES**

**DEBATE: THE CENTENARY OF THE
RUSSIAN REVOLUTION: WHAT IS ITS
LEGACY?**

Following a screening of a documentary about CLR James, we reflect on his legacy, his interest in the Haitian Revolution, and the centenary of the 1917 Russian Revolution. Is the idea of revolution still relevant?

Film introduction: **Rosamund Cuckston**, organiser, Birmingham Salon

Speakers: Dr Michael Fitzpatrick, author, *The Tyranny of Health* **Christopher Read**, author, *Lenin: a revolutionary life*. **Chair: Dr Helene Guldberg**, lecturer in psychology, Open University

**Produced by Rosamund Cuckston
and Helene Guldberg**



Centrala

**STATE VS PARENT: WHO
SHOULD DECIDE WHAT'S
BEST FOR CHILDREN?**

TUESDAY 3 OCTOBER

FAVERSHAM | 18:30–20:00

**Queen Elizabeth's Grammar School,
Abbey PI, Faversham ME13 7BQ**

The Charlie Gard case provoked strong feelings on all sides about what should happen when the wishes of parents clash with the professional opinion of doctors. Does state involvement make things better for children?

Ann Furedi, author, *The Moral Case for Abortion* **Dr Ellie Lee**, director, Centre for Parenting Culture Studies **Dr Janet Melville-Wiseman**, co-chair, Joint Universities Council Social Work Education Committee (Learning and Teaching). **Chair: Richard Dwyer**, head of additional learning support, Canterbury College

Produced by Tom Finn-Kelcey, Queen Elizabeth's Grammar School, Faversham

MIGRATIONS, THEN AND NOW

FRIDAY 6 OCTOBER
LIVERPOOL | 19:00–20:30

Unitarian Church, 57 Ullet Road,
Liverpool L17 2AA

Milos Crnjanski's 1929 novel *Migrations* is set on the Habsburg military frontier in the 1740s, an area now part of the migrant route to northern Europe. What can it tell us about the migrant experience today?

Dr Vanessa Pupavac, associate professor, University of Nottingham Dr Mladen Pupavac, post-doctoral research associate, University of Nottingham. Chair: Pauline Hadaway, co-founder, The Liverpool Salon

Produced by Pauline Hadaway



WIMBLEDON BOOKFEST BATTLE OF IDEAS QUESTION TIME

WEDNESDAY 11 OCTOBER
LONDON | 13:30–15:00

The Big Tent, Wimbledon Common

Special Question Time-style panel offers young people a chance to hold decision makers and key thinkers to account.

Liam Booth-Smith, chief executive, Localis
Jesley Faye Fantolgo, producer, Wimbledon Bookfest Afua Hirsch, writer and broadcaster
Shiv Malik, journalist; co-author, *Jilted*
Generation Tom Slater, deputy editor, *spiked*.
Chair: Claire Fox, director, Institute of Ideas

Produced by Adam Rawcliffe and
Fiona Ravzi with Sean Longhurst and
Jessica Searle



BATTLE OF IDEAS EDINBURGH SATURDAY 21 OCTOBER

National Library of Scotland, George IV Bridge,
Edinburgh, EH1 1EW



ARE WE LIVING IN A 'POST-TRUTH' SOCIETY?

11:00–12:15

The EU referendum and the election of Donald Trump were both marked by statements that were tendentious or downright false. Do voters really not care about the truth anymore? Are claims of a 'post-truth' era overblown?

LECTURE: HOW CAN WE REVIVE THE SCOTTISH ECONOMY?

12:30–13:30

Like many other countries in the Western world, Scotland's economy has stagnated in recent decades. How can it be revived? How does Brexit change things? Should we leave it to the market to decide?

WHOSE CULTURE IS IT ANYWAY? THE CULTURAL APPROPRIATION DEBATE

14:00–15:00

Should celebrities or businesses be condemned for copying elements from other cultures? Is imitation a form of flattery or is it theft? Should we see 'culture' as belonging to one group of people at all?

FROM THE SPIRIT OF SHACKLETON TO 'COTTON-WOOL KIDS': HAVE WE BECOME TOO RISK AVERSE?

15:15–16:30

Many commentators have noted how little freedom and independence children have today. Are we too risk averse or is a sense of precaution rational? What are the implications for the future of society?

SPEAKERS INCLUDE

Dolan Cummings, author, *That Existential Leap: a crime story* Dr Jennifer Cunningham, retired community paediatrician Theo Dounas, senior lecturer, Scott Sutherland School of Architecture and the Built Environment Craig Fairington, associate fellow, Institute of Ideas Annie George, writer and theatremaker Thor Holt, host, *Write With Courage!* podcast; Dr Simon Knight, vice chair, Play Scotland Rob Lyons, science and technology director, Institute of Ideas Seonag MacKinnon, director of communications and public affairs, Glasgow Caledonian University, Iain Macwhirter, columnist, *The Sunday Herald* Joyce McMillan, columnist and theatre critic, Phil Mullan, author, *Creative Destruction: how to start an economic renaissance* Charlie Peters, secretary, Edinburgh University Conservative and Unionist Association Robert Dawson Scott, author, *Consenting Adults* Dr Stuart Waiton, author, *Scared of the Kids: curfews crime and the regulation of young people*

Produced by Rob Lyons

SHOULD WE STUDY DEAD WHITE PHILOSOPHERS?

WEDNESDAY 11 OCTOBER
DERBY | 19:00–20:30

Hallmark Midland Hotel, Derby DE1 2SQ

Some student campaigners advocate ‘decolonising the curriculum’. Is their rejection of dead white philosophers a cry of liberation or a philistine rejection of philosophy itself?

Courtney Hamilton, photographer and writer **Angie Hobbs**, professor, University of Sheffield **Dr Lee Jones**, reader, Queen Mary University of London **Dr Gurnam Singh**, principal lecturer, Coventry University. **Chair: Dennis Hayes**, professor, University of Derby

Produced by **Dennis Hayes** and **Dr Ruth Mieschbuehler**, Institute of Education, University of Derby



WHAT IS THE MORAL CASE FOR ABORTION?

THURSDAY 19 OCTOBER,
LEEDS | 18:45–20:30

Room 1, Carriageworks Theatre,
Leeds LS2 3AD

Does a woman’s right to terminate a pregnancy have moral foundations? What about the status of the fetus? And do arguments over health and well-being help or hinder the fight for abortion rights?

Ann Furedi, author, *The Moral Case for Abortion* **Georgia Testa**, lecturer on medical ethics, University of Leeds **Dr Michael Thomson**, professor of law, University of Leeds. **Chair: Paul Thomas**, organiser, Leeds Salon

Produced by **Paul Thomas**



CAN THE ARTS EVER BE FREE?

SATURDAY 21 OCTOBER,
LEICESTER | 14:00–15:30

LCB Depot, 31 Rutland Street, Leicester
LE1 1RE

If money is necessary for most artistic production, does this suggest only wealthy artists can be truly free in their practice? What are the benefits and constraints of different types of economic funding for the arts?

James Burkmar, Leicester Creative Businesses **Pauline Hadaway**, author, *Re-imagining Titanic, re-imaging Belfast* **G Sian**, Attenborough Arts Centre, University of Leicester **Lizzie Soden**, Culture on the Offensive. **Chair: Dr Greg Scorzo**, Culture on the Offensive

Produced by **Lizzie Soden**



URBAN REVOLUTION: UNDERSTANDING CHINESE ECO-CITIES

MONDAY 23 OCTOBER
LONDON | 18:30–20:00

The Building Centre, 26 Store Street,
London WC1E

The new book by **Austin Williams** explores the context for China’s environmental rise and rise, describing the complexities of the race to balance the environment with industrialisation.

Austin Williams, honorary research fellow, XJTLU, Suzhou, China; author, *China’s Urban Revolution*

Produced by **Austin Williams**

www.futurecities.org.uk



The Built Environment Trust

BANNING SMACKING: PROTECTING CHILDREN OR ASSAULTING FAMILY LIFE?

WEDNESDAY 25 OCTOBER
SWANSEA | 18:00–19:30

Room West, Fulton House, Singleton Park
Campus, Swansea SA2 8PP

The Welsh government plans to launch a public consultation on effectively banning smacking. To what extent should we give parents the space to raise their children as they see fit, including smacking?

Dr Ashley Frawley, senior lecturer, Swansea University **Ronan Lyons**, director, National Centre for Population Health and Wellbeing Research **Dr Ken McLaughlin**, senior lecturer, Manchester Metropolitan University **Abbie Wightwick**, education editor, *WalesOnline*. **Chair: Kathryn Ecclestone**, University of Sheffield

Produced by **Ashley Frawley**



IDENTITY POLITICS: RETURN OF THE CULTURE WARS?

SATURDAY 4 NOVEMBER
MANCHESTER | 14:00–18:30

Texture, 67 Lever Street, Manchester M1 1FL

A day of discussion on identity politics and the return of the culture wars including a focus on the rise of the alt-right.

Speakers include: **Dr Cheryl Hudson**, lecturer in American history, University of Liverpool **Kwame Amoah Mensah**, student, MA multimedia journalism **Angela Nagle**, author, *Kill All Normies: from 4chan and Tumblr to Trump and the alt-right* **Ella Whelan**, author, *What Women Want*

Produced by **Benjamin Davies** and **William Ballantyne**, producers, INTERACT MCR



Manchester Salon

IS EDUCATION FAILING THE TEST?

THURSDAY 9 NOVEMBER
EXETER | 18:30–20:00

Hele Lecture Theatre, Exeter College,
Hele Road, Exeter EX4 4JS

If we don't have political agreement about the purpose of education, how can we have clear education policy and how can we measure success? And without clear policy objectives, isn't education bound to fail the test?

Pamela Dow, chief reform officer, Catch22; former civil servant, Department for Education Terry James, educational leadership consultant, TKJ Education George Siddons, student, University of Exeter. Chair: Martin Owen, founder, Exeter Salon

Produced by Martin Owen



GROUPTHINK: DO EAST MIDLANDS UNIVERSITIES PUT CONFORMISM BEFORE CRITICISM?

THURSDAY 9 NOVEMBER
DERBY | 19:00–20:30

Brunswick Inn, Derby DE1 2RU

Is there a danger that academic homogeneity is undermining critical thinking and transforming universities into closed-minded echo chambers? Or is this complaint just a cloak put on by reactionary thinkers who dislike being criticised?

Dr Ruth Mieschbuehler, Institute of Education, University of Derby Dr Vanessa Pupavac, associate professor, University of Nottingham Dr Nikos Sotirakopoulos, author, *The Rise of Lifestyle Activism* Dr Glynne Williams, associate professor, University of Leicester. Chair: Dennis Hayes, Academics For Academic Freedom

Produced by Dennis Hayes
and Dr Ruth Mieschbuehler



WILL CAMPAIGNS AGAINST CULTURAL APPROPRIATION DESTROY THE ARTS?

FRIDAY 10 NOVEMBER
LONDON | 19:00–21:00

Rich Mix, 35-47 Bethnal Green Road,
London E1 6LA

Do the public need to be made aware of the cultural theft that has been perpetrated against minority cultures? Should artists and writers be held to account?

Ivan Hewett, chief music critic, *Telegraph* Elizabeth Lynch, arts producer Kenan Malik, writer and broadcaster Dr Avaes Mohammad, writer and poet. Chair: Dr Wendy Earle, convenor, Institute of Ideas Arts and Society Forum

Produced by Dr Wendy Earle



BREXIT HATE CRIME IN SCHOOLS: SHOCKING TRUTH OR OVER-HYPED?

MONDAY 13 NOVEMBER
LONDON | 19:00–20:30

London Global Institute, 46-47 Russell Square, Bloomsbury, London

Headlines report racist hate crimes have almost doubled in schools since Brexit and the election of Donald Trump. Can this be true? What are we to make of claims of widespread hate in classrooms?

Adrian Hart, author, *That's Racist!* Zubeda Limbada, founding director, ConnectFutures Robert Posner, chief executive, The Anne Frank Trust UK Dr Alka Sehgal Cuthbert, co-author, *What Should Schools Teach?* Chair: Claire Fox, director, Institute of Ideas

Produced by Kevin Rooney



RELIGION AND THE INDIVIDUAL IN ART: A GALLERY TOUR

SUNDAY 19 NOVEMBER
LONDON | 10:15–12:00

National Gallery, Trafalgar Square,
London WC2N 5DN

In the first of a series of gallery tours Dido Powell will explore paintings of religious figures and events to show how artists from the early Renaissance to the Baroque era grappled with concepts of human agency within Christianity.

Dido Powell, painter; lecturer in art history

Produced by Wendy Earle



CAN CULTURE SAVE THE CITY?

TUESDAY 28 NOVEMBER
PAISLEY | 18:30–20:00

University of the West of Scotland, Paisley Campus, High Street, Paisley PA1 2BE

Cultural policy now plays a major part in how our cities seek to reinvent themselves, and cities like Paisley are competing to be named UK City of Culture. But is culture really the key to regeneration?

Pauline Hadaway, author, *Re-imagining Titanic, re-imaging Belfast* Christine Hamilton, consultant, cultural policy Professor Katarzyna Kosmala, co-editor, *Precarious Spaces: the arts, social and organizational change* Gayle McPherson, professor of events and cultural policy, University of the West of Scotland. Chair: Alastair Donald, Institute of Ideas

Produced by Carlton Brick



THURSDAY 28 SEPTEMBER

DO WE LIVE IN A 'POST-TRUTH' SOCIETY?
WARSAW | 18:00

TUESDAY 31 OCTOBER

DOES LUTHER STILL MATTER?
RELIGIOUS CONSCIENCE AND
INDIVIDUAL LIBERTY
BERLIN | 17:45

TUESDAY 31 OCTOBER

TRUTH, FICTION AND BELIEF IN
SECULAR TIMES
BERLIN | 19:30

THURSDAY 2 NOVEMBER

WHO AND WHAT ARE THE ARTS FOR?
PORTO | 21:30

SATURDAY 4 NOVEMBER

STATE OF THE ARTS: GLOBAL
VERSUS LOCAL
LISBON | 16:00

SATURDAY 4 NOVEMBER

PRESERVATION OR MODERNISATION?
LISBON | 18:00

WEDNESDAY 8 NOVEMBER

SAFE OR SANITISED: FREE SPEECH
AND THE RIGHT TO BE OFFENSIVE
DUBLIN | 19:00

MONDAY 13 NOVEMBER

DO WE LIVE IN A 'POST-TRUTH' SOCIETY?
ATHENS | 19:30

WEDNESDAY 15 NOVEMBER

GOOD POPULISM, BAD POPULISM?
ATHENS | 19:30

TUESDAY 10 OCTOBER

GOOD POPULISM, BAD POPULISM?
BRUSSELS | 19:30 – 21:00

SATURDAY 18 NOVEMBER

BATTLE OF IDEAS STOCKHOLM
STOCKHOLM | 11:00 – 18:30

SATURDAY 25 NOVEMBER

25 YEARS OF NOVO: THE
FREIRAUM CONGRESS
BERLIN | 14:00 – 17:30

DO WE LIVE IN A 'POST-TRUTH' SOCIETY?

THURSDAY 28 SEPTEMBER,

WARSAW | 18:00–19:30

Państwo-Miasto, Andersa 29, 00-001
Warszawa

Do we really live in a 'post-truth' society, in which 'objective facts are less influential in shaping public opinion than appeals to emotion and personal belief'? If so, what does that mean for politics and democracy?

Joanna Berendt, reporter, *New York Times*
Brendan O'Neill, editor, *spiked* Dr Łukasz
Pawłowski, managing editor and columnist,
Kultura Liberalna Ryszard Schnepf,
historian; Polish diplomat. Chair: Rob
Lyons, science and technology director,
Institute of Ideas

Produced by Rob Lyons



DOES LUTHER STILL MATTER? RELIGIOUS CONSCIENCE AND INDIVIDUAL LIBERTY

TUESDAY 31 OCTOBER,

BERLIN | 17:45–19:15

Theaterforum Kreuzberg, Eisenbahnstrasse
21, 10997 Berlin

First of two debates in this Reformation Day event looks at the legacy of Martin Luther and the Reformation, and asks what is the enduring significance of individual conscience what does free will mean today?

Professor Joe Friggieri, professor of philosophy, University of Malta; poet, playwright and theatre director Pauline Hadaway, writer and researcher; author, *Policing the Public Gaze* Alan Posener, former opinion editor, *Die Welt*; author *Benedict's Crusade: the attack of the Vatican on modern society* Dr Andreas Rauhut, pastor in training, protestant church Berlin-Brandenburg; research associate University of Johannesburg. Chair: Sabine

Beppler-Spahl, chair, Freiblickinstitut e.V.; CEO, Sprachkunst36; Germany correspondent, *spiked*

Produced by Sabine Beppler-Spahl



TRUTH, FICTION AND BELIEF IN SECULAR TIMES

TUESDAY 31 OCTOBER,

BERLIN | 19.30–21.00

Theaterforum Kreuzberg, Eisenbahnstrasse
21, 10997 Berlin

What is the truth? The question of what we should believe has become complicated in recent years as the debates about 'fake news' and the 'lying press' ('Lügenpresse') show. Can 'fact-checking' help us or is the obsession with evidence misplaced? Would abandoning the attempt to find commonly agreed truths leave society rudderless?

David Bowden, associate fellow, Institute of Ideas Tillmann Prüfer, editor, ZEITmagazin Nadja Vancauwenberghe, editor in chief and publisher, *EXBERLINER* magazine Dr Theresa Züger, associated researcher, Humboldt Institute for Internet and Society. Chair: Pauline Hadaway, writer and researcher; author, *Policing the Public Gaze*

Produced by Sabine Beppler-Spahl



WHO AND WHAT ARE THE ARTS FOR?

THURSDAY 2 NOVEMBER,
PORTO | 21:30–23:00

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

Should those who love the arts make a case for the economic and social benefits of investment in culture, or is it better make a case for art as a good thing in and of itself?

Manick Govinda, head of Artists' Advisory Services Vera Mota, artist Vania Rodrigues, cultural manager, Mala Voadora theatre company. Chair: Alastair Donald, Institute of Ideas

Produced by Alastair Donald and
Inês Soares, artist



STATE OF THE ARTS: GLOBAL VERSUS LOCAL

SATURDAY 4 NOVEMBER,
LISBON | 16:00–17:15

Zé Dos Bois Gallery, Rua da Barroca, 59
1200-047 Bairro Alto, Lisbon

First of two debates in this event focussing on cultural controversies: is the globalisation of art a good thing or a retreat from authenticity?

Patrick Dickie, artistic director, Teatro Nacional São Carlos, Manick Govinda, head of Artists' Advisory Services Sandra Vieira Jürgens, Instituto de História da Arte, Universidade Nova de Lisboa Francisco Vidal, visual artist; representative, Angolan Pavilion, Venice Biennale 2015. Chair: Alastair Donald, Institute of Ideas

Produced by Manick Govinda and
Joana Varajão



PRESERVATION OR MODERNISATION?

SATURDAY 4 NOVEMBER,
LISBON | 18:00–19:30

Zé Dos Bois Gallery, Rua da Barroca, 59
1200-047 Bairro Alto, Lisbon

Should we seek to preserve the cultural heritage of our cities, or embrace modernisation and change?

Alastair Donald, Institute of Ideas; co-director, Future Cities Project António Brito Guterres, policy programme officer and researcher, Dinâmia-Cet Iscte-IUL Rita João, designer and founder, Pedrita Studio Professor Ana Tostões, architect and architecture historian; president, DOCOMOMO International Joana Varajão, RAI Architecture and Design Studio. Chair: Manick Govinda, head of Artists' Advisory Services

Produced by Alastair Donald and
Joana Varajão



SAFE OR SANITISED: FREE SPEECH AND THE RIGHT TO BE OFFENSIVE

WEDNESDAY 8 NOVEMBER,
DUBLIN | 19:00–21:00

College Of Computing Technology, 30-34
Westmoreland Street, Dublin 2

To what extent should we be free to discuss, promote and hear controversial or unsavoury ideas argued over in the mainstream media and social media alike. Do speaker bans and attempts to enforce cultural sensitivity enhance or degrade our intellectual lives?

Speakers include: Ian O'Doherty, columnist, Irish Independent and Irish Daily Star Catherine Sanz, reporter, The Times, Ireland

edition Ella Whelan, assistant editor, *spiked*; author, *What Women Want: fun, freedom and an end to feminism*. Chair: Justin Smyth, librarian; co-founder, Dublin Salon

Produced by Justin Smyth



DO WE LIVE IN A 'POST-TRUTH' SOCIETY?

MONDAY 13 NOVEMBER,
ATHENS | 19:30–21:00

Hellenic American Union, Massalias 22,
10680, Athens

Do we really live in a 'post-truth' society, in which 'objective facts are less influential in shaping public opinion than appeals to emotion and personal belief'? If so, what does that mean for politics and democracy?

Thodoris Georgakopoulos writer and journalist; editorial director, diaNEOsis Luke Gittos, criminal lawyer; director, City of London Appeals Clinic (COLAC); legal editor, *spiked*; author, *Why Rape Culture is a Dangerous Myth* Dr Anna Nikolaou, adjunct professor, Hellenic American University Menelaos Tzafalias, freelance journalist and producer. Chair: Dr Ashley Frawley, senior lecturer, sociology and social policy; programme director, BSc social sciences, Swansea University

Produced by Geoff Kidder and Lila Manioti, director of cultural affairs, Hellenic American Union



HELLENIC
AMERICAN
UNION



GOOD POPULISM, BAD POPULISM?

TUESDAY 14 NOVEMBER,
ATHENS | 19:30–21:00

Free Thinking Zone, Skoufa 64 Str and
Grivaion, 10680 Athens

Some see in recent events across Europe, a new anti-elite political realignment, both on the left and the right. Do both or either represent the concerns of ordinary people? Are there 'good' and 'bad' populism?

Speakers include: **Dr Ashley Frawley**, senior lecturer, sociology and social policy; programme director, BSc social sciences, Swansea University. **Chair: Geoff Kidder**, director, membership and events, Institute of Ideas; convenor, lol Book Club

Produced by **Geoff Kidder and Areti Georgili**, founder, Free Thinking Zone



GOOD POPULISM, BAD POPULISM?

WEDNESDAY 15 NOVEMBER,
BRUSSELS | 19:30–21:00

Flemish-Dutch House Deburen,
Leopoldstraat 6, 1000 Brussels

Some see in recent events across Europe, a new anti-elite political realignment, both on the left and the right. Do both or either represent the concerns of ordinary people? Is there 'good' and 'bad' populism?

Jan Cornillie, political director, SP.A
Professor Frank Furedi, sociologist and social commentator; author, *Populism and the European Culture Wars* **Heather Grabbe**, director, Open Society European Policy Institute **Hans Wansink**, op-ed editor and commentator, *De Volkskrant*. **Chair: Alastair Donald**, associate director, Institute of Ideas

Produced by **Xander Stroo**, programme officer, Vlaams-Nederlands Huis deBuren



BATTLE OF IDEAS STOCKHOLM

SATURDAY 18 NOVEMBER

Kulturhuset Stadsteatern, Stockholm

KULTURHUSET STADSTEATERN

FAKE NEWS AND RIGGED ELECTIONS: MORAL PANIC OR THREAT TO DEMOCRACY?

11:00–12:15

From Donald Trump to Brexit, there has been controversy about 'fake news'. Who decides what news is fake? What should we do about it? Is there still room for satire? Is 'fake news' a fake debate?

THE URBAN-RURAL DIVIDE: DISSECTING THE CULTURE WARS

12:30–13:45

While cosmopolitan Stockholm is booming, Sweden's rural communities are becoming worse off and leaning towards populist and anti-immigrant politics. Is this divide about economics, a battle over culture and values, or a sign of democratic revival?

DRIVERLESS CARS: OUT OF CONTROL OR LIBERATING US FROM GRIDLOCK?

14:30–15:45

With the likes of Google, Tesla and Volvo all developing driverless cars, can they make driving safer, faster and more enjoyable, as claimed? Or are they a technological, economic and cultural dead end?

HATE SPEECH AND DEMOCRACY: SHOULD WE TOLERATE THE INTOLERANT?

16:00–17:15

In Sweden and in many other countries, bans on hate speech and marches by extremist groups have expanded considerably in recent years. Is this valuable protection for minorities or an attack on fundamental political freedoms?

AMERICA: WHERE NOW?

17:30–18:30

Until recently the world's undisputed superpower, America now seems economically stagnant, politically and culturally divided, and weakened internationally. Can Donald Trump really 'make America great again' or is his election a symptom of decline?

SPEAKERS INCLUDE

Alastair Donald, co-director, Future Cities Project **Michael Goldfarb**, journalist and historian, *FRDH Podcast* **Pauline Hadaway**, researcher; author, *Policing the Public Gaze* **Karin Henriksson**, journalist, *Svenska Dagbladet*, author *Trump: miljarderna, medierna och makten* **Martin Kragh**, head of Russia and Eurasia Programme, Urikespolitiska institutet **Rob Lyons**, science and technology director, Institute of Ideas **Roland Poirier Martinsson**, author, *Är Texas det nya Kalifornien?* **Nathalie Rothschild**, journalist **Lars Trägårdh**, professor of history, Ersta Sköndal Högskola **Austin Williams**, author, *China's Urban Revolution*

Produced by **Johan Wirfält**, **Oskar Ekström** and **Alex Dominici**

BATTLE OF IDEAS BERLIN

SATURDAY 25 NOVEMBER

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

CITIZEN OR CONSUMER: WHAT ABOUT OUR FREEDOM OF CHOICE? 15:00–16:15

Recent years have seen a dramatic increase in the use of consumer policy to control eating habits, alcohol intake and other consumption choices. How should enthusiasts for freedom opposition challenge these measures?

FROM HATE SPEECH TO FAKE NEWS: IS THERE TOO MUCH FREEDOM OF SPEECH? 15:00–16:15

Many people are concerned about the style of online debates and media, with offensive comments and fictitious stories, masquerading as news. Who should decide what we can say and read online? What does freedom of speech mean in these turbulent times?

EUROPE AFTER BREXIT: IS THERE A FUTURE FOR THE EU? 16:30–18:15

Brexit has alarmed many EU supporters and everyone seems to agree that the EU needs to change to survive. But should an institution that fears a public vote on its future be reformed or abolished? What exactly do we want to protect and save?

DISRUPTION OR DANGER: WHY DOES SOCIETY FEAR NEW TECHNOLOGY? 16:30–18:15

While in Germany the precautionary principle and ethical concerns inhibit innovation, elsewhere in the world new technologies are already on the starting blocks. What are the reasons for the German fear of technology? What potential does technological progress hold?

MULTICULTURALISM AND ITS DISCONTENTS 18:30–19:30

The question of immigration and integration, and that of wider social disaffection, are often linked to suggest that too much immigration helps create disaffection. What are the problems facing both minority and majority communities and how should we respond the question of migration 21st century.

SPEAKERS INCLUDE

Speakers include: Sabine Beppler-Spahl, chair, Freiblickinstitut e.V Dr Hans-Ulrich Grimm, editor, Dr. Watson Der Food Detektiv; author, Gummizoo macht Kinder froh – krank und dick dann sowieso Alexander Horn, business consultant Christoph Lövenich, editor, Novo Kenan Malik, writer and broadcaster; author, *From Fatwa to Jihad* Johannes Richardt, editor in chief, Novo Fred Cyrus Roeder, managing director, Consumer Choice Center Speake Dr Götz Ruprecht, Institute for Solid-State Nuclear Physics Berlin gGmbH Professor Dr Michael Wohlgemuth, director, Open Europe Berlin Kolja Zydatiss, Novo



25 YEARS OF NOVO: THE FREIRAUM CONGRESS SATURDAY 25 NOVEMBER, BERLIN | 14:00–19:30

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

A wide-ranging day of debates. From 'fake news' to technophobia, and from Brexit to the role of the state in protecting consumers from themselves, come and grapple with the issues of the day.

This special anniversary event is produced by Johannes Richardt and team

Novo



THE BATTLE OF IDEAS CONTENT IS CURATED BY THE BATTLE OF IDEAS COMMITTEE COMPRISING VOLUNTEER SESSION PRODUCERS

THE FESTIVAL INCLUDING WEBSITE AND BROCHURE IS PRODUCED BY THE DEDICATED STAFF TEAM AT THE INSTITUTE OF IDEAS: CLAIRE FOX, GEOFF KIDDER, ALASTAIR DONALD, ROB LYONS AND ADAM RAWCLIFFE

SPECIAL THANKS TO

EDITORIAL TEAM: DOLAN CUMMINGS, MIKE FITZPATRICK, HELEN BIRTWISTLE, DAVID BOWDEN AND NADIA BUTT

FESTIVAL ADMINISTRATION: NASSIA WILLIAMSON, SARA O'DONNELL AND BERNIE WHELAN

AN ARMY OF INTERNS, ESPECIALLY: LILY BALDWIN, ELEANOR BRADY, SETH CARTER, SASKIA CLUBB, SOPHIE GREGORY, HOLLY JOHAL, IZZY LYONS, CHARLIE PARKER, TOBIAS PARKER, CHARLIE PEARSON, TILLY PORTER, ANOUSHKA RAVAL, MILLIE SMALL, RIDHI THUKRAL, ELISABETH TSOULOUKIDSE AND CAROLINE TYKA

ORGANISATION AND CO-ORDINATION OF VOLUNTEERS: BRID HEHIR AND PARA MULLAN

REGISTRATION AND BARBICAN EVENT CO-ORDINATION: BRID HEHIR AND TEAM

WEBSITE AND BROCHURE DESIGN: WINTER DESIGN

IT SUPPORT: SIMON BELT, SIMPLY BETTER IT

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UK BATTLE SATELLITES: ALASTAIR DONALD AND UK SALON NETWORK

BROCHURE PHOTOGRAPHS: LAMEYA CHAUDHURY, ASIM DAR, TOM FENN, MARCOS BEVILACQUA, HABIE SCHWARZ AND CHRIS SHARP

BROCHURE PRINTERS: DIANE HORSFALL, CRAIG JOHNSTON, DIANE EGLIN, DEBBIE MILLS AND TEAM AT RAPSPIDERWEB

BANNERS PRINTERS: ANDY SHARROD AND TEAM AT MIRAFIELD GRAPHICS

FESTIVAL FILMING: CERI DINGLE, ANDREW HIRST, FRASER MYERS, MARISA PEREIRA AND WORLDWRITE / WORLDBYTES TEAM

WE WOULD ALSO LIKE TO THANK:

ACADEMICS FOR ACADEMIC FREEDOM: DENNIS HAYES

ARTS AND FESTIVALS EVENT MANAGER: ABI WOOD

AYN RAND INSTITUTE: ANNIE VINSTER SANZ, RIKKI NEDELKOW AND TEAM

BLOC: GEORGE HULL AND ALEX BENSON

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INDEX ON CENSORSHIP: JODIE GINSBERG, RACHAEL JOLLEY, SEAN GALLAGHER AND COLLEAGUES

INSTITUTE OF MODERN LANGUAGES RESEARCH, SCHOOL OF ADVANCED STUDY: CATHERINE DAVIES, DOMINIC GLYNN AND CATHY COLLINS

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NATIONAL LIBRARY OF SCOTLAND: EVENTS TEAM, ESPECIALLY ALICE HEYWOOD

NEWSWEEK: SIOBHAN MORRIN AND NAINA BAJEKAL

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SPECIAL THANKS TO NICK KENYON AND ALL AT THE BARBICAN AS OUR SPECIAL PARTNER FOR PROVIDING THE BATTLE OF IDEAS WITH A HOME

PARTICULAR THANKS GO TO: SEAN GREGORY, THOMAS HARDY, FRED A POUFLIS AND PHEONA KIDD

AS WELL AS: MONIKA DASKO, JO DAVIS, LEE DOBSON, LUCY DUNN, WILNA FOURIE, SAM FRANKLIN, LORNA GEMMELL, GALI GOLD, BEN JEFFERIES, LOUISE JEFFREYS, SHEREE MILLER, JENNY MOLICA, ADRIAN MORGAN, RORY NEWTON DUNN, REBECCA OLIVER, EMMA SINCLAIR, JANE THOMAS, JAMES TOWELL, ELIZABETH WILKS, RACHEL WILLIAMS, NEIL WOOLLEY AND SUZANNE ZHANG

PLUS FROM BARBICAN LIBRARY: CAROL BOSWARTHACK, JONATHAN GIBBS, GERALDINE POTE AND KEVIN STANHOPE

FINALLY, WE ARE HUGEY GRATEFUL TO OUR TEAM OF ENTHUSIASTIC AND COMMITTED VOLUNTEERS TEAM FOR THEIR HELP BOTH BEFORE AND DURING BATTLE OF IDEAS 2017