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MH 1 – HowTheLightGetsIn Festival Programme 2023

iai

The Institute of
Art and Ideas

The Institute of Art and Ideas presents

HowTheLightGetsIn

HAY 2023



26TH - 29TH MAY 2023

FIVE GET IN A FLAP



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HowTheLightGetsIn HAY 2023

Whether we like it or not, we find ourselves in a period of radical change. So it is that we chose this year's festival theme, "Error and Renaissance", identifying fundamental errors that we have made in our theories, the organisation of society and in world affairs, and seeking new forms of thought and action to rebuild afresh.

In the years since the first HowTheLightGetsIn festival, not much more than a decade ago, the world has become a very different place. At the time we highlighted fault lines that were appearing in the Enlightenment dream. The assumption that the Western approach to knowledge would carry all before it and lead us to a better society was starting to look increasingly precarious in the light of relativistic and postmodern concerns. Now, just those few years on, wars and pandemics have erupted, confidence in liberal democracy seems ever more fragile, old powers have lost their grip on global dominance and new ones are ready and waiting in the wings. The concerns we explored when we began have been made tangible and concrete and have been surpassed by new challenges.

HowTheLightGetsIn Hay 23 shines a spotlight on the next decade and asks: what are the decisions and theories that led us to the current state of affairs, and with the gift of hindsight what are the errors we can identify and how can we move forward in search of a new renaissance? Speakers from around the world put forward their vision on the unravelling of our core theories of the universe, the future of feminism, the eclipse of the West, the quagmire of morality and a host of other topics. We'll be exploring the big philosophical questions at the heart of technological change, social relationships, rationality and the paradoxes that lie at the centre of current theories. The times may be precarious but it is an opportunity to think afresh and turn the uncertainty of the present into the promise and potential of the future.

As an organisation we also seek to think anew. This time last year we brought HowTheLightGetsIn back to Hay after two years of successful online events. For many it was their first experience of a large public event since 2020. That time already seems like a

strangely distant nightmare. At the time we were nervous about returning to the real world, but thanks to the overwhelming support of festivalgoers, artists, performers and thousands of volunteers, staff and traders we were able to return stronger than ever. We build on that this year with everyone from world leading philosophers, Nobel prize winning scientists, and Mercury Prize nominees headlining at night. This is not going to be a festival to miss.

We are excited to welcome you back to our favourite tents - including the unique Inner Circle tent where you can discuss the ideas of the day with our world-leading speakers over a meal and a glass of wine. And of course there will as well be interactive Hat sessions, the latest music acts, top comedians, headline DJs and some great dancing. After an excellent debut in Hay last year, we are bringing back our children's programme to HowTheLightGetsIn 23 with a splendid array of entertaining thoughtfulness for children and young adults. Bring the whole family along for talks from their favourite authors, juggling and pottery workshops, and much more.

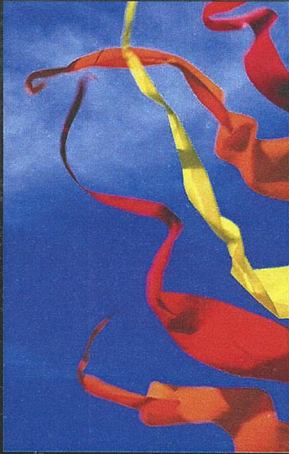
Partners are vital to the success of the festival. So a big welcome back to our national media partner the Independent, our bookshop partner Waterstones's - make sure to check out their tent for signings, performances and the chance to meet all of your favourite speakers following each event, and our documentary partner Dokbox. Nor could we do without vital financial support from a host of collaborators including AIG, The University of Nottingham, Audio Note, GWR, Theos, and The Vegan Society. A special thank you to our media partners including The Week, The Conversation, Scientific American, The New Humanist and many, many more without whom the festival would simply not be possible.

HowTheLightGetsIn truly is a festival unlike any other. Discover ground-breaking ideas from the world's leading thinkers and fresh perspectives from new voices. Be transported by the most exciting bands, legendary soloists, the hottest comedians and sensational cabaret acts. Dance until you can dance no more at our evening parties. Above all, contribute yourself and your thoughts and magic is sure to come your way.

Welcome to HowTheLightGetsIn Hay 2023.

[howthelightgetsin.org](https://www.howthelightgetsin.org)

FESTIVAL PROGRAMME



FESTIVAL SITE

Opening onto a glorious stretch of the river Wye, the festival site is set amid some of the finest scenery in the country and boasts 12 stages and exciting new venues.

The Arena and the International host headline music acts at night and key debates during the day. The Hat, our main party venue, has a new range of inspiring sessions during the day and continues to host a wicked late night party. The Stage venue stretches along the river with a cafe and music events, plus cabaret and comedy in the evening. Nearby at Riverside Disco you can dance all night long, or enjoy a drink at Paola's Garden during the day and watch the river go by.

Grab a bite at the Waterfront Kitchen, head to the DOKBOX Cinema tent which will be showing award winning documentaries, or browse the market stalls in the Fayre. If you want to unwind away from the mayhem, make your way to Bohemia and the Thirteen33 Spa. Don't leave without trying the ferris wheel for a wondrous view of Hay and the Black Mountains.

For a detailed venue guide see p.84



DEBATES AND TALKS

"Error and Renaissance" is this year's theme. Each of our debates seeks a new way forward as we explore how best to deal with an uncertain future. The biggest debates run in the Arena and the International.

HowTheLightGetsIn's debate programme spans philosophy, politics, science, culture and the arts, and features the brightest minds from every field of endeavour. Topics include everything from the future of artificial intelligence, to whether sanctions work, from the meaning of beauty, to the wonder of wormholes.

As well as the debates, you can hear our speakers in The Ring as they put forward their views on the issues they think most important.

The Hat Session programme features speakers discussing their Life and Philosophy, their ideas and their dreams for the future, and delivering masterful 'How To' sessions in a programme of intimate and experiential talks.



MUSIC & PERFORMANCE

Our Music and Performance programme takes place across eight stages showcasing the best the UK has to offer, from enchanting solo singers to exhilarating dance beats. Our headline bands, performers, DJs and nightly themed parties have become the stuff of legend.

Throughout the day, alongside the debate and talk programme, music and performance events run in the Blue Moon, Front Room, and the Stage. In the Cinema, the documentary platform DOKBOX is screening its top programming. Laugh until your sides ache with the UK's funniest comic talent. Put on your glad rags for the nightly parties and get ready to dance until your feet hurt.

Festival Tickets provide access to all music and performance events.



EXPERIENCES

Inner Circle events are a unique opportunity to discuss the day's ideas with the world leading thinkers in our programme. Set in its own beautiful tent, this is a remarkable chance to meet speakers informally over a meal and a glass of wine. Book your tickets early - our tables fit a maximum of 20 people and are often the first to sell out.

If you are looking for something properly special, don't miss our Long Table Banquets: a fabulous multi-course meal in the Waterfront Kitchen, which also hosts a range of street-food inspired gourmet outlets. And for a gentle thrill, try out our vintage rides, or unwind and relax and revitalise with a massage or yoga session in Bohemia. Or try the all-ages pottery workshops in the Mindcraft tent. These are ticketed events so book early to avoid disappointment.

Extra Experiences can be booked online or at the Box Office. They are not included in Festival Tickets.



IAI ACADEMY

IAI Academy gives you the chance to take courses led by a world leading faculty putting forward their unique takes on the ideas that matter in short, two-part courses. There is also plenty of opportunity to meet others attending the course and your lecturer over tea and coffee both before and during the course.

Those who wish to can take an end of course assessment and receive a certificate of attendance. But we welcome those who come for the ideas alone.

Topics range from the differences between the left and right brain; the crisis in cosmology, and new theories of human nature.

See p.58 for details. Academy courses are included in Festival Tickets.

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A lovely
event ...
deep issues
that matter

Steven Pinker,
psychologist and
author



Our Philosophy

If there is anything that we have learnt from the last few years it is surely that our whole world view can change more profoundly and more quickly than we usually think possible. While there is little of the future, therefore, that we can be certain about, we can nevertheless be confident that a time will come when our current beliefs and assumptions are seen as mistaken, our heroes – like the imperial adventurers of the past – are regarded as villains, and our current morality viewed as bigoted prejudice.

So it is that the IAI was founded to challenge the notion that our present accepted wisdom is the truth. Its mission to change how the world thinks by uncovering flaws and limitations in current thinking in search of new ways of seeing that provide alternative and better ways of understanding. The IAI's primary vehicle for change is the ideas and educational platform IAI, tv, with daily updates adding to thousands of debates, talks, interviews, articles, courses and podcasts. Its subscribers are found across the globe including universities, colleges and schools.

A little more than a decade ago when the IAI was founded, philosophy seemed on the brink of irrelevance. Locked in an ivory tower arguing over the meaning of words, to many it resembled the technical disputes of the medieval church with a similar level of relevance to lives and culture. Its goal then and now is to return philosophy to big ideas and put them at the centre of our culture. Not in the belief that there is a single definitive truth to be uncovered but in the belief that there are new frames to be uncovered, new lands to explore that might help to address the troubles of our time.

We all have to make sense of the strange experience of being alive whether we choose to focus on it or not. To give some account of the world we find ourselves in, to decide how to intervene and what to pursue. Some fall back on authority, be it family, social group, political party or religion. Yet philosophy is most truly itself when there are no authorities that are accepted without challenge, no beliefs that are endorsed without question. Philosophy is not a technical exercise. It is instead an urgent call to examine where we are, in order to determine what can and should be done.

A radical rethinking is necessary because the traditional modernist notion that we are gradually uncovering the one true account of reality has been undermined by an awareness that ideas are

limited by culture, history and language. In an internet age in which alternative and competing perspectives are vividly apparent, the divisiveness of this postmodern culture has left many lost and confused.

IAI research and editorial teams work around the clock to face up to this predicament and unearth fresh ways of thinking that might guide us in an uncertain world. We look not only to philosophers, but to scientists, novelists, politicians and artists. For the big questions are present in every field, and new philosophical ideas are at least as likely to appear in literature, history or science as they are in philosophy.

IAI is driven by ideas, not by status or celebrity. We are pleased to host Nobel Prize winners, leading politicians, award winning authors and cutting edge commentators. You will find many faces you recognise or individuals whose names you know. But we do not invite our speakers because of their fame. Instead we formulate our theme, identify topics and develop and construct debates that we assess are at the edge of contemporary thought, and seek out those who have the most interesting and challenging things to say. Nor do we give a platform to those who are not prepared to allow themselves to be challenged. More often than you might think the famous and renowned, or those with a carefully constructed public image, do not wish to expose themselves to debate but would rather give a solo talk in a more managed environment. We do not agree to such requests, however influential the individual, because we deem it marketing rather than a genuine attempt to contribute to a conversation.

It has been encouraging to see that since we began, we hope aided by our efforts, philosophy has undergone something of a resurgence in public life. For philosophy and big ideas are not an optional add-on to our everyday lives, but an essential determinant of who and where we are, and of what is possible.

In troubling times, our initial principles of seeking new and better ways to make sense of the world are more relevant than ever. Please join us at HowTheLightGetsIn May 2023, on iai.tv, or at any of our regular online events. Contribute your own thoughts. And help us navigate a brighter future.

Hilary Lawson
Editorial Director, IAI

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the world thinks

Join our Patron Circle

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By joining our Patron Circle, you enable ideas to flourish and increase access to ground-breaking theories and educational resources.

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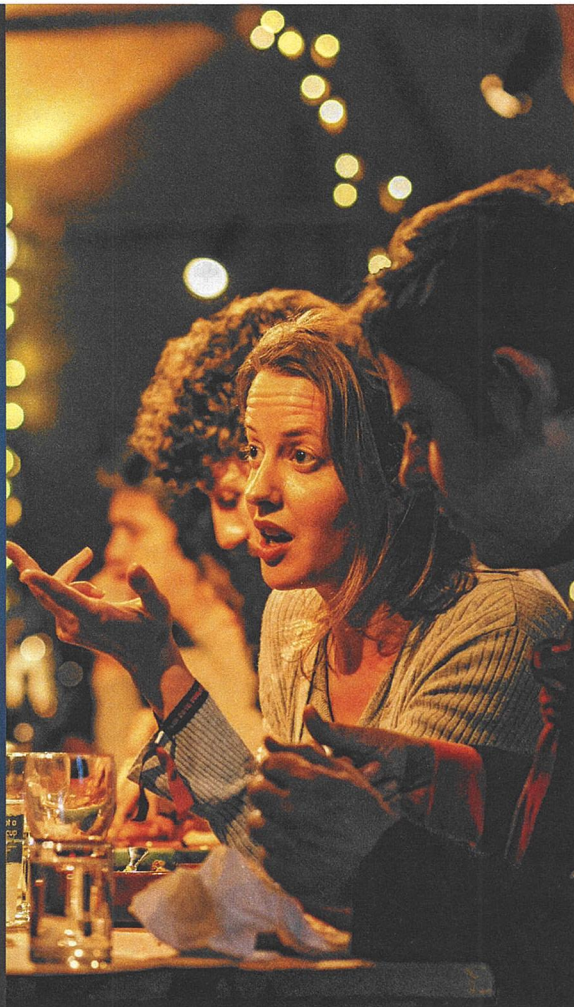
- Complimentary tickets to HowTheLightGetsIn festivals
- Exclusive access to Festival Artists & Speakers evening reception
- Priority booking: for Hay accommodation as well as Inner Circle and Salon events
- Fast track tickets: no queues and reserved seating
- Daily pass for official Festival car park in Hay
- Full 'Premium Live' subscription to IAI.tv: access to 3000+ debates and talks online

Our Patrons are changing how the world thinks.
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Full details on the website:
www.iai.tv/support-the-iai/patrons

Sign up today:
partnerships@artandideas.org

iai Changing how
the world thinks



HowTheLightGetsIn Festival Bookshop

In association with Waterstone's



www.waterstones.co.uk

Book Signings

Find us in the Stage tent. Continue the debate at our author signings. Other book signings will also be taking place after some speakers' debates and talks. These will be listed on the board outside the bookshop at the festival or announced at the end of some events.

SATURDAY 27 TH	SUNDAY 28 TH	MONDAY 29 TH
11.35 am Esther Freud	11.15am David Omand	3.35pm Helen Czerski
12:15 pm Rebecca Henderson	12.05pm David Birch	3.45PM Jesse Norman
3:35 pm Roger Penrose	1.05pm Hannah Critchlow	5.05pm Christoph Koch
5:05 pm Guy Standing	1.45pm Rowan Williams & Iain McGilchrist	6.35PM Tasneem Zehra Husain
		11.35am Lisa Randall
		11.35am Rory Sutherland
		1.05pm Cory Doctorow
		2.20pm Denis Noble

FESTIVAL PROGRAMME

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FESTIVAL TICKETS

Festival Tickets provide access to events including Debates, Talks, Music, DJ, Parties, Performances, Comedy, DOXSOX film, and IAI Academy Courses throughout the weekend.

A limited number of Festival Day Tickets are also available. Festival tickets are available on the website or during the festival at the Box Office.

FAST PASSES

Festival ticket holders can purchase Fast Passes for any debate or talk. Fast Pass holders do not have to queue and have a prime seat reserved for them in the venue.

Purchase Fast Passes on the Programme page of the website.

FESTIVAL FLEXI TICKET

Drop into the festival to see a few events on different days. The Flexi Ticket provides access to 4 headline events listed on our website Programme page. Add a Flexi Day Pass for the day / s you want to attend the festival.

You do not need to specify your four headline events in advance, just turn up and decide what event you want to attend. If you want to guarantee priority entry purchase a Fast Pass.

See website for details. Please note Flexi Day Passes are only available to Flexi Ticket holders.

TICKET PRICING

We have variable pricing on all our tickets. The earlier you book, the cheaper the ticket.

For the latest ticket information and prices, check our website.

EXTRA EXPERIENCES

Inner Circle events are your chance to discuss ideas with our speakers. Taking place over breakfast, lunch, tea, dinner, or a glass of wine and nibbles in the evening you'll have your chance to have your say on the day's ideas.

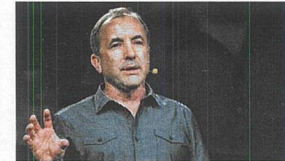
You can also join a spectacular four course Long Table Banquet in the Waterfront; relax with a Spa Session in Bohemia courtesy of Thirteen33; enjoy pottery sessions in Mindcraft; or join a free-wheeling round table discussion with nibbles and a glass of wine in our Philosophy Salon.

Please note: Extra Experiences are not included in Festival Tickets.

FESTIVAL PROGRAMME

Friday 26th May

4:15 PM	Music & Acoustic Sessions [2] 4:15 pm Drew Flanagan	BLUE MOON
5:00 PM	Music & Acoustic Sessions [3] 4:30 pm Saint Boy	HAT
5:00 PM	Music & Acoustic Sessions [4] 5:00 pm Totally Amorphous	STAGE
5:00 PM	INNER CIRCLE [5] 5:00 pm From £18 Prosecco, Cake and Philosophy Bjørn Ekeberg Live in your afternoon with a glass of prosecco, cake and conversation with some of the world's great thinkers. From the Big Bang to dark matter, the cosmos is home to many mysteries. And we assume cosmologists are solving them. But is this correct? Join philosopher of science, Bjørn Ekeberg, to discover why cosmology is in crisis.	INNER CIRCLE
5:15 PM	Music & Acoustic Sessions [6] 5:15 pm Nigel Davies	BLUE MOON
5:30 PM	TALK [7] 5:30 pm Stories of Reality Sunetra Gupta Stories ignite our emotions and profoundly influence the way we live our lives. But we often see narrative as the stuff of fiction, absent from the corridors of science. Join outspoken scientist, Sunetra Gupta, as she explores how storytelling is foundational to both our understanding of science and reality. "Brave, brilliant." - Allison Pearson	THE RING
5:30 PM	Music & Acoustic Sessions [8] 5:30 pm Jerub	HAT
5:30 PM	INNER CIRCLE [9] 5:30 pm From £18 Prosecco, Cake and Philosophy Steven Bonnell Whilst the West places its faith in capitalism, some on the left posit the need for a socialist future. But not everyone on the left sees it this way. Join famed YouTube personality, Steven Bonnell, to discuss the route to a more prosperous world.	INNER CIRCLE
6:00 PM	DEBATE [10] 6:00 pm What We Don't Know Tommy Curry, Marika Taylor, Rupert Sheldrake. Joanna Kavenna hosts. The acquisition of knowledge has been a central factor driving advance. And since Descartes, Western thought has placed the question of what we know, and how we know what we know, at the centre of philosophy. But might this focus on knowledge be a mistake? Feminist and postmodernist critics argue that in seeking to validate knowledge philosophers have merely sought to justify their own interests and prejudices. Instead they argue all knowledge is limited by perspective whether by culture, class, gender, race or the many other factors that influence understanding. Should we give up the idea that our beliefs can provide us with objective knowledge? Should we reject epistemology as an attempt to elevate and make undeniable our particular perspective, interests and prejudices and focus instead on the consequences of adopting a given framework of belief? Or is knowledge essential to culture and the notion that beliefs might be definitively true vital to progress? Philosopher of race Tommy Curry, theoretical physicist Masha Taylor and outspoken scientist Rupert Sheldrake debate the limits of what we can know.	ARENA
6:15 PM	Music & Acoustic Sessions [12] 6:15 pm Mr H	BLUE MOON
6:30 PM	TALK [13] 6:30 pm Why the Rational Believe The Irrational Michael Shermer Nothing happens by accident, everything is connected, and there are no coincidences. That is the essence of conspiratorial thinking. Join world-famous skeptic, Michael Shermer, to explore why rational people can fall into irrational belief. "Michael Shermer is a beacon of reason in an ocean of irrationality." - Neil deGrasse Tyson	THE RING
6:30 PM	LIVE MUSIC [14] 6:30 pm Seraphina Simone Few artists have made an impression on their first release quite like Seraphina Simone. Championed by The Line of Best Fit, Clash and Reflector Magazine, her glamour and grit has certainly made its mark on the pop landscape. "She has whittled a sound that's wholly her own." - The Line of Best Fit.	HAT



Michael Shermer



howthelightgetsin.org

IDEAS & CULTURE

7:00 PM

DEBATE

[15] 7:00 pm INTERNATIONAL

Ancient Traits in a Modern World
Suneira Gupta, Subrena E. Smith, Daniel Dennett, Güneş Taylor hosts

We see the remarkable evolution of the human brain as one of the driving factors behind our success as a species. Our neurobiology evolved through to solve challenges in a drastically different world than we find ourselves in today. Might our evolved traits, once advantageous, now be our Achilles heel? For human aggression, inventiveness and a determination to overcome enemies, once evolutionarily effective now risk resource, technology, and nuclear crises each with the potential to bring our species to an end.

Is our palaeolithic hardware no longer equipped for the contemporary world we have helped to create? Can we find ways to change our behaviour before it is too late? Alternatively, should we see it as inevitable that all species become extinct, and our turn may be closer than we imagine? Or is this all misguided and evolution has dealt us a brilliant hand to cope with the challenges of 21st century life?

Philosopher and cognitive scientist Daniel Dennett, professor of biology Suneira Gupta and philosopher of human nature Subrena E. Smith debate how much our neurobiology is at odds with our modern environment.

Music & Acoustic Sessions

[16] 7:00 pm STAGE
Fran Minney

Music & Acoustic Sessions

[17] 7:15 pm BLUE MOON
The Unoriginal Smirkins

7:30 PM

TALK

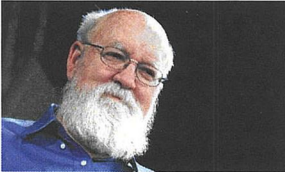
[18] 7:30 pm THE RING

The Mystery of Time
Gary Lachman

Can we see the future in our dreams? Does time flow in one direction? What is a 'meaningful coincidence'? Join former *Blonde* bassist turned philosopher, Gary Lachman, as he traverses the mysteries of time.

"Lachman creates a history of ideas that fascinates and excites." - *New York Journal of Books*

8:00 PM



Daniel Dennett

DEBATE

[19] 8:00 pm ARENA

The Matrix, Myths and Metaphysics

Eric Weinstein, Becky Parker, Hilary Lawson, Joanna Kavenna hosts.

Not so long ago philosophers and scientists were deeply critical of overall metaphysical accounts of the world, arguing that they were empty nonsense and should be consigned to the dustbin. "Metaphysics is the finding of bad reasons for what we believe on instinct" concluded the author Somerset Maugham. But metaphysics is back. Idealism, possible worlds, panpsychism all have their adherents. "We are living in a simulation" Matrix followers, like Elon Musk, intone. But is this a fundamental error, that we once had recognised and have now forgotten, that trades evidence and reality for fiction and fantasy?

Should we recognise all overall metaphysical accounts as speculative nonsense? Since there can be no empirical evidence for any of them, is contemporary science the only way to determine the nature of things? Or might metaphysics be not only necessary but unavoidable?

Podcast host, polymath and mathematician Eric Weinstein, physicist and educator Becky Parker, and post-postmodern philosopher Hilary Lawson delve into the perilous state of metaphysics.



Subrena E. Smith

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8:00 PM

LIVE MUSIC

[20] 8:00 pm HAT

Malady

Fresh from an acclaimed support run alongside indie titans Wet Leg, London risers Malady are excelling at an impressive rate. Backed by NME, The Sunday Times, as well as countless spins across BBC Radio 1 and BBC 6 Music, their heady mix of post-rave beats and indie grooves have cemented their reputation throughout the emerging landscape.

"This eclectic four-piece are slowly carving their place amongst the emerging indie elite." - *Dark*

LONG TABLE BANQUET

[21] 8:00 pm From £38 WATERFRONT

Our exclusive Long Table Banquets offer you the unmissable opportunity to tuck into a lavish four-course meal with like-minded festival goers. Expect delicious food, award-winning wine and stimulating conversation in the Waterfront, overlooking the River Wye. Book early to avoid disappointment - numbers are strictly limited.

INNER CIRCLE

[22] 8:15 pm From £24 INNER CIRCLE

Philosophy Salon

Iain McGilchrist, Gary Lachman and Mazviita Chirimuuta

Join a free-wheeling roundtable discussion kicked off by the world's leading thinkers on the biggest ideas. Enjoy a glass of wine and tasty nibbles in an intimate candlelit space.

Consciousness remains a mystery which science can't seem to solve. Dive deep into the puzzle of the human brain and inner-experience with Iain McGilchrist and Gary Lachman. Hosted by Mazviita Chirimuuta.

Music & Acoustic Sessions

[23] 8:15 pm BLUE MOON
Hawk Howard



HOWTHELIGHTGETSIN OPENING PARTY

8:30 PM

COMEDY

[24] 8:30 pm STAGE

Priya Hall

Priya Hall is a stand up comedian and writer, whose signature style has been described by Bristol 24/7 as " hilariously oversharing." Priya wrote and starred in the BBC 2 Wales sitcom *Beena and Amit* and was a semi-finalist in the BBC New Comedy Awards 2021.

9:00 PM

LIVE MUSIC

[25] 9:00 pm INTERNATIONAL

Rachel Sermanni

Heralded by The Guardian as one of Britain's most promising folk artists, Rachel Sermanni is a Scottish singer songwriter who makes the mundane moments mystical. Having shared the stage with the likes of Mumford and Sons, Elvis Costello and KT Tunstall, Sermanni has brought the magic of the Cairngorms to a wide audience across the UK and Europe. To hear her creations is to take a walk in the moonlight.

"Minimal, Murky, Magnificent." - *Mojjo*

9:00 PM

COMEDY

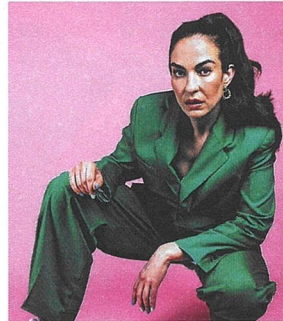
[26] 9:00 pm RING

Esther Manito

Esther Manito has enjoyed a startling ascent to fame. She has received BBC New Comedy Award nominations four years running and achieved a finalist spot in both the regional Funny Women Awards and So You Think You're Funny awards. To top it off the Anglo-Lebanese comedian was the first woman comedian to perform at the Dubai Opera House.

"Manito is an engaging and promising comic who will staunchly stand up for what she believes, and that alone makes her an interesting proposition." - *Cherlie*

9:00 PM



Esther Manito

DOKBOX

[27] 9:00 pm ART & CINEMA TENT

Carbon: The Unauthorised Biography

Narrated by award-winning actress Sarah Snook (*Succession*), this is the ultimate biography of Carbon, the most talked about but least understood element on earth. Carbon in nature, industry, culture, war and love.

RIVERSIDE DISCO

[28] 9:00 pm to late RIVERSIDE DISCO

Max Galactic, Jet Boot Jack and George G-Force

HowTheLightGetsIn favourite Max Galactic returns for 2023. Having taken Wilderness, Boomtown and Latitude by storm, the sequins, smiles and soul-shaking dance floor debauchery are set to push the boundaries of disco and house all night long. Expect a particularly soul-shaking night on Friday when Jet Boot Jack and George G-Force also join the party.

9:15 PM

Music & Acoustic Sessions

[29] 9:15 pm BLUE MOON
Ceri Ridge Hillbillies

9:30 PM

LIVE MUSIC

[30] 9:30 pm ARENA

All Day Breakfast Café

Landing performances at Boardmasters, The Royal Albert Hall and Boomtown Fair, All Day Breakfast Club are on a mission to spread disco-joy and get everyone dancing! This seven-piece all female group have featured on BBC Radio 1 Xtra, BBC 6 Music and Jazz FM and are set to be your next favourite disco band.

"An outstanding performance." - *Farmilk*



All Day Breakfast Café



HOWTHELIGHTGETSIN OPENING PARTY

9:30 PM

LIVE MUSIC

[31] 9:30 pm

HAT

The Last Dinner Party

Opening the Hyde Park main stage for The Rolling Stones last year, The Last Dinner Party have burst forth gloriously into the guitar music renaissance.

Having already shared a bill with Nick Cave and the Bad Seeds, this avant garde, flamboyant group have rapidly made a name for themselves - backed by their inclusion on the NME 100 this year.

You are cordially invited.

"Your next favourite band." - Dark

"An astounding performance." - Earmlilk

10:00 PM

COMEDY

[32] 10:00 pm

STAGE

Erika Ehler

Erika's razor-sharp, dark and visceral writing paired with precise delivery makes her one of the most exciting young comedians on the circuit. She has quickly become a much in demand writer and comedian working on numerous high profile shows.

In 2019, she was crowned winner of the Charlot Student Comedy Award, was the recipient of the Mike Craig Comedy Award, and the Hot Water Roast Battle Champion. She has performed at the Edinburgh Fringe, Latitude Festival, and the Toronto Sketch Festival.

"If you think Frankie Boyle's too soft, Ehler could be the comic for you." - Charlot

DOKBOX

[33] 10:00 pm

ART & CINEMA TENT

Super Telescope

The inside story of the James Webb Space Telescope follows the NASA team building the £8 billion telescope and the scientists taking its first images of distant stars and galaxies.

10:15 PM

Music & Acoustic Sessions

[34] 10:15 pm
Brent Wakeford

BLUE MOON



The Last Dinner Party

10:30 PM

COMEDY

[35] 10:30 pm

RING

Milo Edwards

Milo Edwards is a critically acclaimed stand-up comedian and podcaster. With a string of sold-out shows at the Edinburgh Fringe, Milo is also the host of the popular political comedy podcast Trashfuture - with guest appearances from Rob Delaney, Mark Watson, Owen Jones and Franz Ferdinand.

"An incredibly high-quality stand-up show." - Broadway Baby

11:00 PM



Erika Ehler

LIVE MUSIC

[36] 11:00 pm

HAT

Zero 7 (DJ)

Platinum selling, Mercury Prize nominated trip-hop legends Zero 7 return to HowTheLightGetsIn. Their seminal album Simple Things featured vocals from a then-undiscovered Sia alongside blissful synths, dappled melodies and assured electronics, and had an astonishing impact on the British music scene - standout singles 'Destiny' and 'In the Waiting Line' have racked up 11 million plays in the UK alone.

"Downtempo kingpins... Superhumanly slick vocal tracks." - Pitchfork

"Dazzling... something special!" - Clash



Zero 7



HOWTHELIGHTGETSIN OPENING PARTY

11:00 PM

DOKBOX

[37] 11:00 pm

ART & CINEMA TENT

Atlas of a Changing Earth

This is the story of how a revolution in one of the most basic of all human enterprises - the making of maps - is shedding new light on our planet's evolution in the wake of rising global temperatures.

11:15 PM

LIVE MUSIC

[38] 11:15 pm

ARENA

Anna Meredith

Releasing her Mercury Prize shortlisted album to critical acclaim, Anna Meredith is a classically trained composer and producer who creates incredible electronic soundscapes. With a string of sell out shows across the UK and stunning performances at Glastonbury, Latitude and Green Man, she was awarded an MBE for Services to Music in the 2019 Queen's Birthday Honours List.

"One of the most innovative voices in British music." - Pitchfork

"A careering getaway ride from musical convention." - The Guardian

Music & Acoustic Sessions

[39] 11:15 pm

BLUE MOON

Benjamin Parker



Anna Meredith

11:30 PM

LIVE MUSIC

[40] 11:30 pm

STAGE

Abigail Collins

Cabaret sensation and queen of burlesque comedy Abigail Collins has twice been nominated for Best Specialty Act at the London Cabaret Award and was crowned both Best Comic at the London Cabaret Award, and Best Actress at the Comedy Film Festival of America. Currently sharing the stage at Proud Cabaret with stars such as Julian Clary, Bill Bailey and Denise Van Outen, her playful characters, sensational dances and whip-smart wit are not to be missed.

"Beat-perfect comic delivery." - Erotic Review

"Terrific." - Time Out

"Absolutely brilliant." - Alan Davies

12:00 AM

DOKBOX

[41] 12:00 am

ART & CINEMA TENT

Killer Asteroid: Defending Earth

When natural disasters threaten, we turn to science and technology to warn us to seek shelter or get out of the way. But can they face the ultimate threat: speeding projectiles from the depths of space?

Music & Acoustic Sessions

[42] 12:15 am
Andy Grant

BLUE MOON

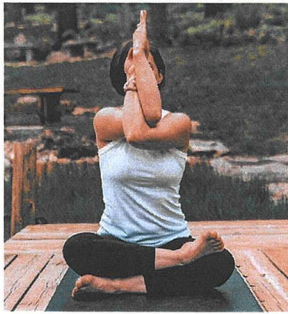


Abigail Collins



howthelightgetsin.org

 EXPERIENCES



SPA & WELLNESS

Escape the hustle and relax for a moment at the serene Spa including Meditation, Massage and Yoga for all ages.

3:00 pm BOHEMIA

Spa events are booked and paid for separately - online or in person.

FAYRE

3:00pm FAYRE

FAYRE

The market is full of surprises. Artisan food producers, vintage clothes, cocktails and sequins, as well as some truly original workshops.



RIDES

3:00pm RIVERSIDE

Vintage Rides

Our vintage rides aren't only for children. Take in the wonderful views of the Black Mountains from the Ferris Wheel or head down from on high on the Heller Skeller. We're sure Wittgenstein would approve.



Front Room & Riverside Disco

3:00 pm to Late FRONT ROOM

The People's Front Room

A team of wonderfully talented musicians create a truly unique vibe as they extemporise classic tracks of every genre along with their own wicked tunes. Throughout the day and to close of play in the evening.

FIRE & FOLK

9:00pm to late RIVERSIDE DISCO
Riverside Disco

Opening up onto the river bank, you can dance inside the tent or under the stars to the hottest DJs. Find the secret entrance - there's a café area open all day hidden inside and the big tunes start from 9pm and don't stop until the early hours.



PROSECCO, CAKE AND PHILOSOPHY

INNER CIRCLE

[5] 5:00 pm From £18 WATERFRONT
Prosecco, Cake and Philosophy

[9] 5:30 pm From £18 WATERFRONT
Prosecco, Cake and Philosophy

Enhance your tea time with cakes, Prosecco, and conversation with the world's great thinkers.



The best two days of my year



Michael Crick, broadcaster



IDEAS & CULTURE

9:00 AM

INNER CIRCLE

Start your day with a shot of inspiration with your favourite speakers. Expect stimulating ideas along with fresh postures and coffee.

[45] 9:00 am From £16 INNER CIRCLE
Philosophy Breakfast with Myriam François
Narratives can shape our lives. But how can we find the stories which are worth telling? Join Broadcaster, Journalist and Filmmaker, Myriam François, to discuss the art of storytelling.

[46] 9:00 am From £16 INNER CIRCLE
Philosophy Breakfast with Peter Tatchell
Tolerance is a quality which we praise in politics, and life generally. But is there a point where tolerance becomes a vice, rather than a virtue? Join Peter Tatchell to investigate how tolerance is weaponised across the political landscape.

10:00 AM

TALK

[47] 10:00 am THE RING
The Dark Side Of Feminism
Tommy Curry

Feminism has been instrumental in addressing the plight of women around the world. But few know of its dark side, and many are uncomfortable exploring some of its troubled history. Join pioneering philosopher of race, Tommy Curry, as he argues that feminism has been tarnished by racial ideology and explains how we can create a more inclusive world for all.

"An impassioned protest against orthodoxies." - Charles W. Mills

IAI ACADEMY COURSE

[48] 10:00 am - 12:30 pm ACADEMY TENT
How the Brain Works
Iain McGilchrist

Iain McGilchrist's groundbreaking and radical theory of 'The Divided Brain' has had a widespread impact in both neuroscience and philosophy. In this academy course, he provides an introduction to his theory and the implications which arise from it. He explores how his ideas challenge our current accepted accounts of the world, and offers a new perspective on what it means to be human.

See page 58 for Part One and Two.



Iain McGilchrist

10:30 AM

DEBATE

[49] 10:30 am ARENA
The Quantum Hoax
Joscha Bach, Ruth Oulton, Dominic Walliman.

If we believe the headlines, quantum computing is going to revolutionise the world. It has attracted tens of billions of dollars in investment involving the largest global tech companies. But leading scientists are arguing it is little more than a hoax. Quantum computers, they claim, have fundamental problems that show no sign of being addressed or in principle of being solvable. The technology relies on qubits, only a handful have been made, need to operate barely above absolute zero, and cohere for a mere 50 microseconds. No result they claim has been calculated that is of any practical consequence.

Should we recognise that few understand quantum buzzwords like 'entanglement' and 'superposition' so that even the sophisticated are at risk of being taken in by hype? Should funders, investors and governments be highly sceptical of quantum vocabulary, along with the rest of us when reading articles promoting a quantum future? Or are these sceptical challenges to the quantum world a threat to a vital breakthrough, that risk undermining funding and allowing others including China to take a global lead?

AI researcher Joscha Bach, Professor in Quantum Technologies Ruth Oulton, and science communicator Dominic Walliman debate quantum computing.

DEBATE

[50] 10:30 am INTERNATIONAL
Based on a True Story
Remi Adekoya, Peter Egan, Esther Freud, Eliane Glaser hosts.

From Wolf Hall and Saving Private Ryan to The Crown, 'based on a true story' helps drive the success of a book, film or TV series. We are critical of historical errors and assume there could be a correct version. But many argue that there can be no one true story, no correct history. 'Not only is history written by the victors', but all stories and accounts of events are written from a perspective, highlighting what seems important, interesting or entertaining to the author. For one person Churchill is a hero, for another a villain.

Should we give up the idea that there can ever be a single true story of events, and abandon the idea of a correct version of something like The Crown? Should we nevertheless seek to provide accurate accounts while knowing others will declare them false and misleading? Is a triumphant imperial version of British history no less true than the story of colonialism and slavery, or is this an immoral approach that denies the truth and encourages conflict?

Professor of the politics of race Remi Adekoya, actor Peter Egan and novelist Esther Freud debate the nature of true stories.

10:30 AM

HAT SESSIONS

[51] 10:30 am THE HAT
The Life and Philosophy of Fiona Hill
Fiona Hill with Isabel Hilton

Serving under three US presidents, Fiona Hill is one of the most highly distinguished foreign affairs specialists in the world. Born and raised in a Durham coal mining town, her father said 'there is nothing for you here'. But from there to the White House and becoming one of the key figures behind the West's strategy towards Putin, hers is a remarkable journey. Join interviewer Isabel Hilton to uncover Fiona Hill's fascinating insights.

"Her testimony, at Trump's impeachment hearing, revealed a compelling combination of integrity, intelligence and dry humour." - Gideon Rachman FT.



11:00 AM

TALK

[52] 11:00 am THE RING
When Myth Becomes Reality
Janne Teller

Once factitious narratives can become startlingly real. In today's world, it is easier than ever to generate myths that quickly become dangerous realities. Join ground-breaking author, Janne Teller, to explore how we can bust these myths and return to reality.

"An extraordinary gift of art." - Rolling Stones Magazine

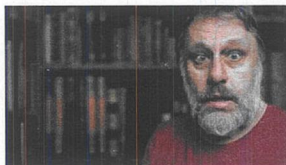
11:00 AM

Children's Programme

[53] 11:00 am MINDCRAFT
Outside the Box ... (See p.60)

Music & Acoustic Sessions

[54] 11:00 am BLUE MOON
Dangerous Flamingo



Shari Žižek

11:30 AM

HAT SESSIONS

[55] 11:30 am THE HAT
How to Build a Moral Capitalism
Rebecca Henderson

Capitalism has been heralded as one of humanity's greatest inventions, lifting billions out of global poverty. But this success has been costly. Join Harvard business school economist, Rebecca Henderson, as she explores how to reimagine a capitalism on the verge of destroying the planet and destabilizing society.

"Lucid and optimistic." - Publishers Weekly



Rebecca Henderson

Music & Acoustic Sessions

[56] 11:30 am STAGE
Nancy Ackroyd

12:00 PM

DEBATE

[57] 12:00 pm ARENA
The Game of Life
Slavoj Žižek, Steven Bonnell, Lisa Miller, Myriam François hosts.

Games are everywhere. And not just on the football field. Workplaces, dating lives, education and even friendships are being packaged as games. Tinder makes love a swiping game of snap, AI claims to have solved long-standing scientific problems by 'converting them into games'. But critics argue games distort life and empty it of meaning. And games can be dangerous. The World was created initially as an alternative reality game, and the anon is not made safer by understanding military build up as 'an arms race'.

Do we need to eradicate the relentless gamification of life? Should we recognise life has no clear goal, no way to win, no measures of success, no extra lives or second chances? Should we see games as furthering inequality - creating winners and losers? Or have games always been with us, from the system of money to the hierarchies of education, and for the very good reason that they are a remarkably powerful motivator for action?

World-leading philosopher Slavoj Žižek, radical internet personality Steven Bonnell, and bestselling author and psychologist Lisa Miller grapple with the gamification of life.

DEBATE

[58] 12:00 pm INTERNATIONAL
The Blame Game
Lola Young, David Livingstone Smith, Guy Standing, Claire Ogley, Isabel Hilton hosts.

"If everyone is guilty then no one is to blame" argued Greta Thunberg. So from climate change to global poverty, one of the first questions many ask is, 'who is to blame?' Most agree that not enough is being done, yet governments, corporations and individuals tend to point to someone else who should be doing it. But could this be a mistake? Recent studies show that individuals and companies are far more likely to take action as a result of positive messaging about the future, rather than campaigns that shift the responsibility of crises onto others. And when the NHS recently adopted a 'No Blame Culture', patient safety standards improved significantly.

Should we realise that we can inspire positive change, without blaming or pointing the finger at any one government, business or individual? Should we seek to reward and praise companies that take constructive, positive action - like moving solely to renewable and recycled materials - rather than incite those who don't? Or should we accept that blame is a vitally useful tool that stops bad behaviour and reckless risk-taking and that some - whether they be governments, businesses or individuals - are more deserving of it than others?

House of Lords member Lola Young, philosopher David Livingstone Smith, The Vegan Society's Claire Ogley and economist Guy Standing debate the social sanction of blame.

In partnership with The Vegan Society

IDEAS & CULTURE

12:00 PM

TALK

[59] 12:00 pm THE RING
The Evolution of Mind
Daniel Dennett

For centuries, poets, philosophers, psychologists, and physicists have wondered how the human mind developed its unrivalled abilities. Join one of the world's leading philosophers, Daniel Dennett, to explore how evolutionary thinking can explain everything from bacteria to Bach, and concertos to consciousness.

"Brilliant ...a torrent of stimulating thought." - Richard Dawkins

Music & Acoustic Sessions

[60] 12:00 pm BLUE MOON
Kate Dagggett

12:30 PM

HAT SESSIONS

[61] 12:30 pm THE HAT
Head to Head: The Edges of Knowledge
Rupert Sheldrake and Michael Shermer

What is it possible to know? Is the physical universe all there is, or is the immaterial part of reality too? Join radical scientist Rupert Sheldrake and world-leading skeptic Michael Shermer, as they go head-to-head on where the edges of knowledge lie.

"An excellent scientist, the proper, imaginative kind." - New Scientist

"Our most fearless explorer." - Steven Pinker

Music & Acoustic Sessions

[62] 12:30 pm STAGE
Seaweed

Children's Programme

[63] 12:30 pm MINDCRAFT
Pottery Workshop (See p.60)

IDEAS & CULTURE

1:00 PM

TALK

[64] 1:00 pm THE RING
The Quest for Freedom
 Katarina Schwarz

The past centuries have seen rapid improvements in health, poverty, literacy and violence. Yet despite this progress, few are aware that 50 million globally still live in modern slavery, the largest group ever in human history. Join fearless professor Katarina Schwarz as she explores how we can free the oppressed of our world.

"Modern slavery touches all of our lives." - Daily Otago Times

In partnership with



INNER CIRCLE

[65] 1:00 pm From £18 INNER CIRCLE
HowTheLightGetsIn Lunch with Samson Kambalu

In an age where art has become a largely commercial exercise, many have lost faith in the power it holds. But are they mistaken? Join award-winning artist, Samson Kambalu, to explore how art can change the world.

Music & Acoustic Sessions

[66] 1:00 pm BLUE MOON
 Alan Maskell

1:15 PM

DEBATE

[67] 1:15 pm ARENA
Guesses, Errors, and Economics
 Gillian Tett, Guy Standing, Richard Werner.
 Linda Yueh hosts.

Across the Western world sharply rising prices, static or declining salaries, and a decade of low growth have pushed the economy to the top of the political agenda. Pundits and politicians on all sides claim to have the answer, while governments and bankers put forward precise predictions for the economy. But is this an illusion? Predictions are frequently wildly wrong. Central banks and governments failed to predict inflation. While a recent IMF study showed that out of the last 150 recessions, economists failed to predict 148.

Should we conclude that we don't understand the economy and see economic predictions as random guesswork? Do we need a new economic theory that moves beyond Keynesian demand management, supply-side reform and tight monetary control, or is the very idea of a mathematically precise economic theory a pipedream? Or can we jettison the pretence of precision, while seeing our current broad brush framework as essentially right and a powerful insight into the economy?

FT economist Gillian Tett, radical economist Guy Standing and outspoken economist Richard Werner delve into economic models.

In partnership with



1:15 PM

DEBATE

[68] 1:15 pm INTERNATIONAL STAGE
Virtue Ethics and the Mob
 Sophie Scott-Brown, Simon Blackburn, Peter Tatchell. Rana Miller hosts

From politicians taking moral stances to increase popularity, to companies denounced for 'greenwashing' to boost revenue, we see the flouting of virtue as a perversion of morality. Something to be avoided. But studies show humans are twice as likely to act morally if they are seen as virtuous by others. And when a social media campaign encouraged people to 'virtue signal' about taking in Ukrainian refugees, thousands more were given safe housing.

Should we see the promotion of 'ethical' acts for personal status and to look good, not as a perversion of morality, but as a useful tool to aid social progress? Should we move away from the notion that morality is a private act and instead adopt the Aristotelian view that virtues are to be encouraged in the public domain? Or is the acceptance of virtue signalling and more widely virtue ethics a dangerous slide to mob morality capable of terrible acts while assured of the rightness of their cause?

Anarchist Sophie Scott-Brown, activist Peter Tatchell and philosopher Simon Blackburn debate the value of virtue signalling.

INNER CIRCLE

[69] 1:15 pm From £18 INNER CIRCLE
HowTheLightGetsIn Lunch with Christof Koch

Consciousness remains one of the great mysteries of life. But whilst we tend to view inner-experience as confined to living beings, could a conscious machine be on the horizon? Join leading neuroscientist, Christof Koch, to explore the mystery of consciousness.

1:30 PM

LONG TABLE BANQUET

[70] 1:30 pm From £38 WATERFRONT

Join fellow festival-goers at our Long Table Banquets overlooking the river at the Waterfront. Expect a lavish four-course meal, and excellent company. Book early to avoid disappointment - numbers are limited.

TALK

[71] 1:30 pm THE HAT
The Life and Philosophy of Slavoj Žižek
 Slavoj Žižek with Joanna Kavenna

Slavoj Žižek is the iconoclastic philosopher of our time, known for giving voice to the profound, the absurd, and everything in between. His work on Hegel and dialectics is renewed. Join interviewer, Joanna Kavenna, to explore how Slavoj Žižek became Slavoj Žižek and discover what he really thinks.

"The most dangerous philosopher in the West." - American Magazine



1:30 PM

Music & Acoustic Sessions

[72] 1:30 pm STAGE
 Chloe Levaillant

IAI ACADEMY COURSE

[73] 1:30 pm - 4:00 pm ACADEMY TENT
Welcome to Priapalandia
On the Philosophy and Future of Sex
 Isabel Miller

The strange, fractured and alienated relationship we have to our bodies today suggests that we require a new paradigm to understand how it's not just biological life or political death that power administrators, but regimes of enjoyment. This is Priaplandia, from the Latin 'priap' - to suffer, which for psychoanalysis is also to enjoy. In this talk, Isabel Miller offers her vision of how we should approach the future of sex through a unique lens of philosophy, popular culture and psychoanalysis. See page 58 for Part One and Two.

2:00 PM

TALK

[74] 2:00 pm THE RING

Climate, Culture and Creativity
 Lola Young

Most accept that tackling climate change requires better science and cleaner technology. But what if part of the answer lay in harnessing the power of artistic and cultural sectors? Join actress, author, and crossbench peer, Lola Young, as she charts out a radically new vision for sustainability and social justice.

"An amazing woman who has had a fascinating career." - Dvara, Fashionista

Children's Programme

[75] 2:00 pm MINDCRAFT
 Brilliant Biology with Güneş Taylor! (See p.60)

DOKBOX

[76] 2:00 pm CINEMA
 Quentin Blake: The Drawing of My Life (See p.62)

Music & Acoustic Sessions

[77] 2:00 pm BLUE MOON
 Peiriant



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opportunities are rare
and they're becoming
even rarer.

Jess Phillips,
Labour MP

“



IDEAS & CULTURE

Saturday 27th May

2:30 PM

DEBATE

[78] 2:30 pm ARENA
Imagining the Universe
Iain McGilchrist, Roger Penrose, Esther Freud.
Eliane Glaser hosts.

We see imagination and creativity as central human qualities vital to technology and innovation as well as the arts. Yet the scientific account of the universe, operating with immutable laws and strict cause and effect, appears to leave little room for anything genuinely new, and thus truly imaginative or creative. Is creativity an illusion or is the scientific model itself critically flawed?

Should we conclude that imagination and creativity escape the corset of cause and effect, creating new worlds that we are then able to inhabit? Or is imagination merely the combination of prior experiences, forming nothing essentially original? Is more at stake here than the character of creativity and instead do we need to reframe the very nature of reality and our role in it?

Polymath psychiatrist Iain McGilchrist, Nobel Prize winning mathematical physicist Roger Penrose and novelist Esther Freud debate the boundaries.

DEBATE

[79] 2:30 pm INTERNATIONAL
Brains, Beauty and Bad Judgement
Rory Sutherland, Janne Teller, Remi Adakoya.
Rana Mitter hosts.

In contemporary Western culture we take it for granted that discrimination is always unacceptable and often abhorrent. Yet we discriminate on the basis of personality, appearance and intelligence when choosing a partner. Factors which are largely immutable. We expect authorities to discriminate on the basis of skill and experience, when choosing to appoint a surgeon or an airline pilot. We certainly don't expect individuals to be chosen at random.

Should we view a society free from all discrimination as an illusion, or a vital political goal? Should we see intelligence, skill and experience as acceptable forms of discrimination and deserving of merit, or are they unacceptable being the product of background, education and opportunity? Should we strive to create a level playing field while knowing that this is unattainable, or is the very idea of equality a mistake?

Economic guru Rory Sutherland, outspoken politics professor Remi Adakoya and novelist Janne Teller wonder at whether a society free from discrimination is possible.

Music & Acoustic Sessions
[80] 2:30 pm STAGE
Fran Lusty

3:00 PM

TALK

[81] 3:00 pm THE RING
When Markets Fail
Linda Yueh

There is very little that is certain in economics and we always know that the next devastating financial crisis could be just around the corner. Join LSE and Oxford economist, Linda Yueh, to explore how we can predict and contain the next financial crash.

"Yueh knows her stuff." - New Statesman

HAT SESSIONS

[82] 3:00 pm THE HAT
China and India: The Future of the Next Century
Bhavna Dave and Cindy Yu

For the past year, the West's attention has been transfixed by Russia and Ukraine. Yet China and India may be key players not only in this conflict, but the future of the global order. Join lecturer in Central Asian Politics, Bhavna Dave, and China-expert, Cindy Yu, to explore China and India's growing global influence and their increasingly tense relationship.

"One of the most refreshing new voices about China." - The China Project

Music & Acoustic Sessions

[83] 3:00 pm BLUE MOON
Fiddlebop

Music & Acoustic Sessions

[84] 3:30 pm STAGE
Chessi O'Dawd

Children's Programme

[85] 3:30 pm MINDCRAFT
Keep it Up! Juggling and Diabolo... (See p. 60)

INNER CIRCLE

[86] 3:45 pm From £18 INNER CIRCLE
Prosecco, Cake and Philosophy with Rana Mitter

The war in Ukraine has sparked a major discussion about the global future as Russia's alliance with China shapes a new world order. Join leading historian Rana Mitter to discuss the changing face of global politics, and why the West continues to misunderstand China at its peril.

howhighlightgetsin.org

4:00 PM

DEBATE

[87] 4:00 pm ARENA
New Powers and Fading Forces
Shashi Tharoor, Malcom Rifkind, Fiona Hill.
Mary Ann Sieghart hosts.

Despite the rise of China, it is still widely assumed that global politics revolves around the West, and emerging nations are clamouring to be its allies. But might this be fundamentally mistaken? As Russia and China declared a new world order in early 2022, India, shortly to have the largest population in the world with the fastest growth rate, has remained neutral trading with both blocks, along with sixteen African countries and many others.

Is it time to recognise that the West is no longer the dominant power in the world? Is India a new leading global power holding the balance, rather than simply a valuable ally? Should the West recognise its weakness and forge new alliances across the world? Or with the highest standard of living is the West's decline overdue and the role and influence of the West secure for generations to come?

One of India's foremost politicians Shashi Tharoor, distinguished former British Foreign Secretary Malcolm Rifkind and world-renowned foreign affairs specialist Fiona Hill debate the ever-changing nature of global politics.

DEBATE

[88] 4:00 pm INTERNATIONAL
Reality, Models and Mayhem
Bjarn Ekeberg, Michael Shermer, Sunetra Gupta.

In the last 100 years, some of the greatest minds - from the founders of quantum mechanics such as Heisenberg and Planck to Hawking - have moved away from thinking science can capture an objective ultimate reality. And yet from Dark Matter to String Theory, we still look for the correct answer, sure that the next theory might be the one. Is this a fundamental mistake? It harking in his final book certainly concluded it saying, 'There is no unique picture of reality' arguing that the competing models of science each frames its own version of reality.

Should we give up on a single true account and accept that there are many alternative scientific accounts of the world each with their own effectiveness? Would this enable a greater plurality of theories and enable faster technical advances? Or does an account of science as mere models risk encouraging the pursuit of empty alternatives with no way to choose between them, threatening the whole edifice of science itself?

Radical philosopher Bjarn Ekeberg, sceptic Michael Shermer and Professor of theoretical epidemiology Sunetra Gupta debate whether there can even be a true description of reality.

IDEAS & CULTURE

4:00 PM

TALK

[89] 4:00 pm

THE RING

The Moral Failing of Our Time
Peter Egan

Many of us believe in moral progress; the abolition of slavery and the emancipation of women are examples. But when in a century's time humanity looks back to the present day, what moral failures will they point to? Join Downton Abbey actor, Peter Egan, as he argues the moral failure of our time is animal cruelty.

"Actor Peter Egan helps dogs in war zones, welcomes foxes to his garden and is deeply moved by the plight of moon bears." - *Compassion in World Farming*

TALK

[90] 4:00 pm

THE HAT

The Future of Sex
Zoe Strimpel

Sex plays a starring role in human nature. But the human animal has been displaced. We now live in a world of smartphones, internet dating and pornography - the days of first meeting a person in physical reality are seemingly vanishing. Join outspoken author Zoe Strimpel to explore the philosophy and future of sex in the modern age.

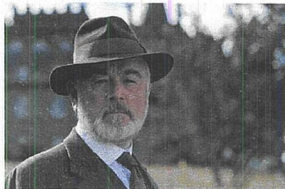
DOXBOX

[91] 4:00 pm

ART & CINEMA TENT

The Secret Life of Seals

Dive into the magical underwater world of the grey seal in the Stockholm archipelago. Once on the brink of extinction, the seal population in the Baltic Sea has now recovered. But we still know so little about these magnificent mammals.



Peter Egan

4:00 PM

Music & Acoustic Sessions

[92] 4:00 pm
Jon Sanders

BLUE MOON

INNER CIRCLE

[93] 4:30 pm *From £24*
Wine Tasting and Philosophy
with Barry C. Smith

INNER CIRCLE

Join philosopher, raconteur and author of *Questions of Taste* Barry C. Smith for a uniquely philosophical wine tasting session.

Music & Acoustic Sessions

[94] 4:30 pm
Dangerous Flamingo

STAGE

5:00 PM

TALK

[95] 5:00 pm

THE RING

Protest, Democracy and Power
Peter Tatchell

Protest is essential to democracy. Protest allows us to fight for justice without resorting to radical forms of conflict or even civil war. But governments are often tempted to give police powers to shut down disruptive protest. Join civil rights campaigner, Peter Tatchell, as he argues that without protest, democracy is lost.

"A National Hero." - *Sunday Times*

IAI ACADEMY COURSE

[96] 5:00 pm - 7:30 pm

ACADEMY TENT

The History and Philosophy of Human Nature
Subrena E. Smith

Human nature continues to fascinate sociologists and philosophers alike. It seemingly tells us who we truly are, and highlights the limits of human possibility. But whilst many view human nature as governed by evolution, this may no longer be accurate. Join leading philosopher, Subrena E. Smith, to uncover a radical new take on why the 'very idea of "human nature" is flawed.

See page 58 for Part One and Two.

5:00 PM



Lisa Miller

Children's Programme

[97] 5:00 pm

Fantastic film-making!

MINDCRAFT
(See p.60)

Music & Acoustic Sessions

[98] 5:00 pm
Alex Seal

BLUE MOON

5:30 PM

DEBATE

[99] 5:30 pm

ARENA

Philosophy at War
Hilary Lawson, Daniel Dennett, Marika Taylor,
Maria Balaska hosts.

For more than a century, a war of ideas has been taking place. One side regards science as the arbiter of all knowledge. Among their ranks many analytic philosophers including Bertrand Russell, "whatever science cannot discover, mankind cannot know". The other side, including continental philosophers such as existentialism and postmodernism, more commonly see philosophy as the ultimate arbiter. "Science is the new religion" argued Heidegger. "Science ... is largely useless for philosophical purposes" argued Rorty.

Might philosophy and science be two sides of the same coin and would we be better to see scientists as a type of philosopher, once called natural philosophers, and philosophers a type of scientist, engaged with reality, consciousness, language and society? Or is the divide fundamental, and science, its method and its goals of no relevance to philosophy and vice versa? Then again, should we give no special status to either, and place them alongside the many other ways of making sense of the world?

Renowned philosopher and cognitive scientist Daniel Dennett, theoretical physicist Marika Taylor and outspoken philosopher and critic of realism Hilary Lawson debate the ongoing war between philosophy and science.

5:30 PM

DEBATE

[100] 5:30 pm

INTERNATIONAL

Beyond the Boundary
Lisa Miller, Nick Lane, Paul Bickley,
Güneş Taylor hosts.

Less than a third of those in the UK believe in an afterlife. And of those rather more believe in heaven than hell. In a scientific, secular age stories of the after life strike many as empty, anachronistic wish fulfilment. But is it a mistake to think that life is prosaic, earthly and simply over when we die? There is, after all, no scientific explanation of consciousness, nor any notion of how material matter could create experience and thought. We don't have an account of how consciousness comes into being and, while some propose that AI might at some point acquire consciousness, there are many philosophers and scientists who argue that no combination of physical machinery will ever be capable of creating thought, consciousness and life.

Have we denied the mystery of life and death because such talk has been tarred by association with specific and implausible religious beliefs? Should we re-engage with the profound strangeness of death and accept that it is beyond our understanding? Or is the mundane and harsh reality that we are a chance combination of organic material that has a limited lifespan and once over is never to return?

Biochemist Nick Lane, New York Times bestselling author Lisa Miller, and Research Fellow at Theos, Paul Bickley, delve into the depths of life after death.

In partnership with

THEOS



5:30 PM

Music & Acoustic Sessions

[101] 5:30 pm
Torture and the Desert Spiders

THE HAT

Music & Acoustic Sessions

[102] 5:30 pm
Laura Dickinson

STAGE

6:00 PM

TALK

[103] 6:00 pm

THE RING

Saving Nature and the Economy
Guy Standing

The world faces two major crises. Climate change and the economy. But many argue we can't solve one without solving the other. Those in poverty prioritise looking after their families rather than looking after the planet. Join trailblazing economist, Guy Standing, to explore how to save nature and pay for basic income.

"Compelling and thoughtful." - World Economic Forum

In partnership with



Audio Note



Guy Standing

DOXBOX

[104] 6:00 pm

Extraordinary Ecosystems

CINEMA
(See p. 62)

Music & Acoustic Sessions

[105] 6:00 pm
Lilian Grace

BLUE MOON

howthelightgetsin.org

IDEAS & CULTURE

6:30 PM

LIVE MUSIC

[106] 6:30 pm

THE HAT

Tapestri

Championed by BBC 6 Music and BBC Radio 2, two-piece Tapestri are fuelled by their passion for Roots and Americana music. Performing everywhere from Greenman, Underneath the Stars and Festival Number 6, the duo sing in harmony from the heart.

"Brilliant every time. Not many bands are as good live as an act." - Tom Robinson (*Fresh on the Net*)

Music & Acoustic Sessions

[107] 6:30 pm
Deito Kenzie

STAGE

Children's Programme

[108] 5:00 pm

MINDCRAFT

Pottery Workshop

(See p.60)

6:45 PM

DEBATE

[109] 6:45 pm

ARENA

The Morality of Sex
Steven Bonnell, Myriam François, Isabel Millar,
Maya Oppenheim. Sophie Scott-Brown hosts.

Sex and moral constraints tend to go hand in hand. For example, even though monogamy is no longer the norm, it is still the case that monogamy and lifelong commitment hold the moral high ground. But might this be a mistake? Critics of marriage argue that traditional societies such as the Iroquois and Maasai tribes built strong and stable relationships based on large polygamous family structures. Furthermore, they argue such structures foster an egalitarian culture in which women enjoy greater security over property and land.

Should we no longer see certain forms of sexual relationship involving commitment and monogamy as more moral than others? Might a society which abandoned the norm of traditional 'couples' help to eradicate hierarchies and inequality between the sexes and build a communal sense of 'family' that we lack in contemporary cultures? Or are morality and relationships necessarily linked, and long term commitment morally justified and essential for personal and social harmony?

Radical internet personality Steven Bonnell, filmmaker Myriam François, journalist Maya Oppenheim and philosopher of psychoanalysis, sex and AI Isabel Millar debate the state of sex in contemporary society.

In partnership with

The INDEPENDENT

 THE SATURDAY SHINDIG

7:00 PM

TALK

[110] 7:00 pm THE RING

Where Science Meets Spirituality
Lisa Miller and Tom Hodgkinson

Can we use scientific methods to understand the spiritual? Jain psychologist and New York Times best selling author Lisa Miller to explore where science meets spirituality and how everything from MRI studies to genetic research to epidemiology, can help us understand the awakened brain.

"A new revolution of health and well being." - Deepak Chopra

In partnership with *A Drink with Idler*



Music & Acoustic Sessions

[111] 7:00 pm BLUE MOON
Peter Hutchinson



7:30 PM

LIVE MUSIC

[112] 7:30 pm INTERNATIONAL

Tara Lily

Catching the attention of the late Virgil Abloh, BBC 6 Music's Gilles Peterson and Motown Records UK, British-Bengali multi-instrumentalist Tara Lily has developed a unique perspective on music and global culture. Throwing the traditional boundaries of musical genre out the window, expect an eclectic set ranging from alternative R&B to traditional Bengali folk music.

"Spellbinding." - The Guardian

8:00 PM

LIVE MUSIC

[113] 8:00 pm THE HAT

Sans Soucis

Praised by BBC 6 Music, BBC iXTRA and The Independent, Sans Soucis's timeless and unique songwriting is interspersed with melancholy and hope. Drawing inspiration from Laura Mvula, St Vincent and Lianne La Havas, she bridges the gap between the pop and jazz world, with an all-embracing soulful and folk flavour.

"Exudes pop excellence." - The Line of Best Fit

COMEDY

[114] 8:00 pm STAGE

Hannah Platt

Finalist of the BBC New Comedian of the Year Award in 2019. Merseyside-via-Manchester's finest misanthrope has already been making her mark as a comic, never shying away from sensitive topics with brutal honesty and quick wit. She prides herself on her ability to take difficult and complex topics and turn them into sharp, refreshing gags.

"A voice of a new generation" - The Skinny



8:00 PM



Sams Soucis

DOK BOX

[115] 8:00 pm CINEMA
Your 100 Year Life (See p.62)

LONG TABLE BANQUET

[116] 8:00 pm From E44 WATERFRONT

Our exclusive Long Table Banquets offer you the unmissable opportunity to tuck into a lavish four-course meal with like-minded festival goers. Expect delicious food, award-winning wine and stimulating conversation in the Waterfront, overlooking the River Wye. Book early to avoid disappointment - numbers are strictly limited.

Music & Acoustic Sessions

[117] 8:00 pm BLUE MOON
The Hallelujah Joes

8:30 PM

COMEDY

[118] 8:30 pm ARENA

Felicity Ward

Nominated for Best Comedy Act at the Edinburgh Fringe and named Charlie Club's Best Comic of the Year, you can catch her comedy special What if There is No Toilet? On Netflix. Felicity is a London-based comedian, actor, writer and knucklehead. Born in a small town just a podcast north of Sydney, Australia, she wrote and starred in The Ronnie Johns Half Hour sketch show before starting her stand-up career.

"Ward is a high-energy, animated, endearing stand-up." - The Guardian

 THE SATURDAY SHINDIG

9:00 PM

LIVE MUSIC

[119] 9:00 pm INTERNATIONAL

Æ MAK

Sonically similar to Sia, Grimes and Paul Simon with the limbs of a young David Byrne if he were captain of the Battleship, Dublin's Æ MAK defies classification. cerebral, physical, conceptual, poppy, she has supported Tune Yards, Django Django and Warpaint across the globe.

"Breaks the mould, extraordinary." - The Line of Best Fit

9:00 PM



Tom Ward

COMEDY

[120] 9:00 pm THE RING

Tom Ward

Award winning comedian, Tom Ward has appeared on a number of critically acclaimed shows including 'Live at the Apollo', 'Live from the BBC', 'Roast Battle' and 'Stand up Central'. He also recently presented the LAD Bible series 'In My Personal Space', interviewing celebs such as Kyle Walker, Lady Leschurr and Jamie Laing, as well as supporting Jack Whitehall, Joe Lycett and Sindhu Vee on tour.

"A star in the making" - TimeOut

DOK BOX

[121] 9:00 pm ART & CINEMA TENT

Why Do We Even Work?

Across the world, people are re-evaluating what it means to go to work. In a new era of remote working, many employees now value flexibility and work-life balance over promotions or financial gains. But the big question is, Why do we even work?

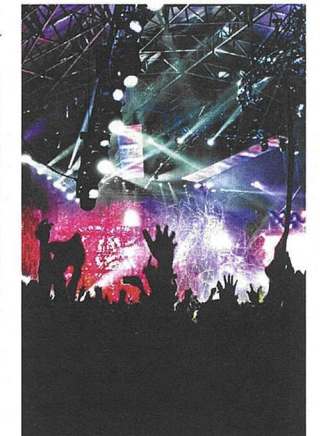
9:00 PM

RIVERSIDE DISCO

[122] 9:00 pm to late RIVERSIDE DISCO

Max Galactic and Vivid People Disco

Party all night long with Vivid People Disco! Joining Max Galactic behind the decks, as they bring the nostalgia of the discotheque back, with a focus on 80s, 90s and disco anthems connecting clubbers of every age.



Music & Acoustic Sessions

[123] 9:00 pm BLUE MOON
Smith & Johnson

 THE SATURDAY SHINDIG

9:30 PM

LIVE MUSIC

[124] 9:30 pm

THE HAT

Tungz

With support from Dark and Louder Than War, psych-pop quartet Tungz are quickly making a name for themselves as one of the most vibrant emerging acts of the year. Self-producing and with a notable psychedelic swagger throughout, their debut album is set to see them rise from cult notoriety to your new favourite band.

"Undiluted, indulgently fun music." - Dark

10:00 PM

LIVE MUSIC

[125] 10:00 pm

ARENA

Nerina Pallot

Platinum-selling, BRIT and Ivor Novello-nominated Nerina Pallot's bewitching vocals and lyrical tales have earned her comparisons to Kate Bush and Tori Amos. The brains behind huge chart hits from the likes of Kylie Minogue, she has built a name as one of the best songwriters in the UK. Come and discover why this "potently brilliant" (Popjustice) singer-songwriter is becoming one of the most recognisable artists of her generation.

"One of Britain's brightest singer-songwriters." - The Telegraph
 "Impeccably conceived and expertly rendered." - The Skinny



Nerina Pallot

10:00 PM

COMEDY

[126] 10:00 pm

STAGE

Joz Norris

Joz Norris is one of the most acclaimed auteurs of the alternative comedy scene. His 2019 show, Joz Norris Is Dead. Long Live My Fruit Salad, was one of the word-of-mouth smash hits at the Edinburgh Fringe that year, winning the Comedians' Choice Award for Best Show. Joz was also nominated for the Charlie Award for Best Music & Variety Act, and longlisted for the prestigious Edinburgh Comedy Award, as well as selling out its Fringe run.

"A brilliant show that is not short of ambition... it packs a terrific punch." - The Evening Standard

10:30 PM



Joz Norris

COMEDY

[129] 10:30 pm

THE RING

Tatty Macleod

Tatty Macleod is a French/English bilingual stand-up comedian, actor and writer. She has gained a huge online following thanks to her extremely popular French vs English sketches which have amassed over 3.5 million views across Instagram and TikTok. She has opened for Sebastian Marx at the Apollo Theatre and was a 2021 Funny Women Awards Semi Finalist and "One to Watch".



Tatty Macleod

DOKBOX

[127] 10:00 pm

ART & CINEMA TENT

Castro's Spies

The thrilling story of an elite group of Cuban spies sent undercover to the US in the 1990s. From their recruitment, training and eventual capture on US soil, this film peers into a secret world of false identities, love affairs and betrayal.

Music & Acoustic Sessions

[128] 10:00 pm

BLUE MOON

Paddy Fraire

iai
 the Institute of
 Art, Architecture & Design

 THE SATURDAY SHINDIG

11:00 PM



LIVE MUSIC

[130] 11:00 pm

THE HAT

Belle & Sebastian (DJ)

With a remarkable legacy, Belle and Sebastian have truly earned their place in music history. Winners of a BRIT and featuring in an array of award-winning films, Belle and Sebastian have secured their place as one of Scotland's most influential and critically acclaimed bands. Since 1996, the fiercely loved band have consistently dazzled with their wistful pop, releasing their surprise twelfth studio album in January of this year, gaining millions of plays online.

"Joyously irresistible." - The Guardian

"Burst onto the scene 20 years ago and continue to offer musical surprises." - Mojo

DOKBOX

[131] 11:00 pm

ART & CINEMA TENT

The Bowraville Murders

Through the lens of one of Australia's worst unsolved murder cases, this powerful documentary examines the treatment of Aboriginal people under a legal system marred by systemic racism and police misconduct.

Music & Acoustic Sessions

[132] 11:00 pm

BLUE MOON

The Hanging Bandits

11:30 PM

LIVE MUSIC

[133] 11:30 pm

ARENA

TC & The Groove Family

Landing notable radio plays on BBC 6 Music, TC & The Groove Family are a 10-piece collective whose music celebrates the coming together of cultures. Their live shows are powerful and dynamic - exploring grooves and genres from the UK and around the world.

"A new holistic UK jazz sound with a thrilling future." - Backseat Mafia



TC & The Groove Family

CABARET

[134] 11:30 pm

STAGE

Abigail Collins

Last chance to catch Abigail Collins in her second performance of the weekend! For her Saturday night showcase, the multi award-winning cabaret star invites you to get thoroughly floored up and join her Congregation.

"Abigail's work is skilful, sexy and very, very silly." - The Glee

12:00 AM

MIDNIGHT MAYHEM

Midnight Mayhem sees philosophers and comedians join forces in our late night intellectual showdown with a twist. A carnivalesque procession kicks off the show, before audience members pick a side, and make their voice heard alongside speakers and comedians from our star-studded programme.

[135] 12:00 am

THE RING

Sex, Drugs Or Rock and Roll?

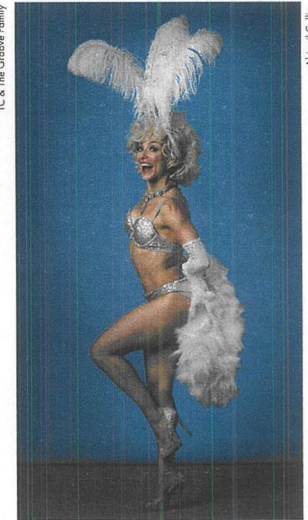
Pick your side and put on your boxing gloves for debauchery and debate. Anyone can step into the ring! Tonight, which could you live without... Sex, Drugs Or Rock and Roll?

Music & Acoustic Sessions

[136] 12:00 am

BLUE MOON

Rhuddin



Abigail Collins

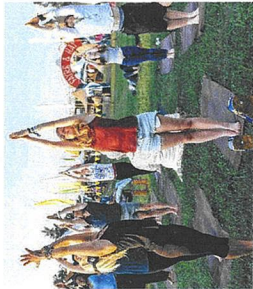
howthelightgetsin.org

EXPERIENCES

SPA & WELLNESS

Escape the hectic and relax for a moment at the serene Spa including Meditation, Massage and Yoga for all ages.

9:00 am
BOHEMIA
 Spa events are booked and paid for separately - online or in person.



FAYRE
10:00am
FAYRE

The market is full of surprises. Alison food producers, vintage clothes, cocktails and sequins, as well as some truly original workshops.

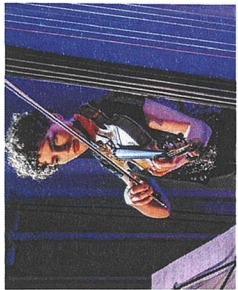


RIDES

11:00 am

Vintage Rides

Including a helter-skelter and a trolley where you can catch spectacular views of the festival site, the river and the Black Mountains.



From Room & Riverside Disco

11:00 am to late

The People's Front Room

A team of wonderfully talented musicians create a truly unique atmosphere as they wend their way through the festival site with their own wicked tunes. Throughout the day and to close of play in the evening.

9:00 pm to late

Riverside Disco

Opening up onto the river bank, you can dance inside the tent or under the stars to the hottest DJs. Find the secret entrance - there's a coffee area open all day hidden inside and the big tunes start from 9pm and don't stop until the early hours.



FIRE & FOLK

9:00pm to late

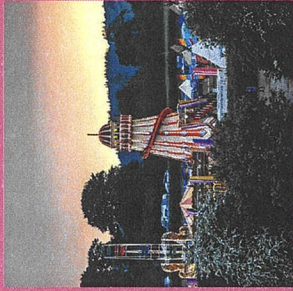
Fire & Folk

With music by some wonderfully talented acoustic performers and DJs, there are very special guests. Join fellow festival goers for a night of folk, acoustic and fire and enjoy watching night fall over a day full of ideas.

BOHEMIA FIRE

I am on record as being against travel. The only reason I ever travel is to come to HowTheLightGetsIn

Stanley Fish,
 Legal Scholar and
 Literary Critic



9:00 AM

INNER CIRCLE

Start your day with a shot of inspiration. Expect stimulating ideas along with fresh pastries and coffee.

[137] 9:00 am From £16 INNER CIRCLE
Philosophy breakfast with Janne Teller
 Do our films and novels need to be grounded in the everyday, or can and should the best take us into an imaginary world? Join best-selling novelist, Janne Teller, to explore how we can find truth in fiction.

[138] 9:00 am From £16 INNER CIRCLE
Philosophy breakfast with Mary Ann Sieghart
 Despite a century of progress, sexism and unconscious bias continue to plague modern society. Join author of 'The Authority Gap', Mary Ann Sieghart, to discuss the route to equality.

10:00 AM

TALK

[139] 10:00 am THE RING
Bodies, Brains and Mental Health
 David Healy

We think the brain controls our behaviour and emotions. But antidepressants are changing this narrative. They numb both emotional and genital areas in the body within minutes of the first pill. Join outspoken psychopharmacologist David Healy as he argues the body, not the brain, is our behavioural and emotional centre.

"Provocative, challenging, and informative." - Robert Whitaker

IAI ACADEMY COURSE

[140] 10:00 am - 12:30 pm ACADEMY TENT
Current Theories of the Universe: The Flaws and the Future
 Bjørn Ekeberg

Few scientific theories are as accepted as the Big Bang. But the theory increasingly relies on hypothetical inventions like dark energy, and many now argue that the consensus should be questioned more seriously. Join scientist and philosopher Bjørn Ekeberg, as he proposes a new direction for cosmology. See page 58 for Part One and Two.



Thangam Debbonaire

10:30 AM

DEBATE

[141] 10:30 am ARENA
The Centre of the Universe
 Martin Cohen, Neil Turok, Lisa Randall, Fran Chadha-Day hosts.

We see Copernicus as a providing a key moment in history where we moved on from seeing ourselves at the centre of the universe. But our scientific accounts of the universe are inevitably constructed from our own human perspective. In so doing do we not still inadvertently place ourselves at the centre? For example, our account of the universe describes human consciousness and intelligence to be uniquely special, the universe to be strangely fine-tuned for our existence, and human size and scale to be midway between the smallest things and the largest expanses.

Should we accept that the science carries an inherent anthropomorphic bias? Is this a fundamental distortion and can we seek to overcome it? Might new forms of understanding such as AI provide a new way for the universe to understand itself? Or is the way we see the universe in fact the correct and ultimate account of how it really is?

Philosopher and journalist Martin Cohen, Higgs Chair of Theoretical Physics Neil Turok and theoretical physicist Lisa Randall debate our anthropocentric perception of the universe.

DEBATE

[142] 10:30 am INTERNATIONAL
Democracy in the Dock
 Ruth Kinna, Jesse Norman, Thangam Debbonaire, Hilary Lawson hosts.

Democracy is in trouble. In the US, 85% think it needs major or complete reform. Spain, South Korea and Italy have even higher levels of dissatisfaction. Many argue the system has created a highly divisive and potentially violent culture, with wild claims, undeliverable promises and leaders of little or sometimes no experience trying to run highly complex economies.

Is the current form of liberal democracy fundamentally flawed? Could it be reformed by constraining demagogues, or electing individuals for longer periods, or by limiting the influence of political parties? Could we require ministers to have expertise, and voters to be sufficiently informed? Or is it time to stop whingeing and recognise western democracy as a marvel of enlightenment principles that should be nurtured rather than abandoned or reformed?

Political philosopher Ruth Kinna, leading Conservative Party politician Jesse Norman and leading Labour MP Thangam Debbonaire debate the dire state of liberal democracy.

10:30 AM

HAT SESSIONS

How To...
 They've been there, done that, and are here to teach you how at these unique workshops

[143] 10:30 am THE HAT
How to Think Like a Spy
 David Omand

The name's Omand... David Omand. In life or death situations, spies work with contradictory and often incomplete information to discern the best course of action. Join former head of GCHQ and permanent secretary of the home office, Professor Sir David Omand, and find out how to think like a spy.

"One of the most able people to have served in British government since the Second World War." - TLS



David Omand

11:00 AM

TALK

[144] 11:00 am THE RING
Surplus Happiness
 Slavoj Žižek

Contemporary life is defined by excess. There must always be more, but there is never enough. Join firebrand philosopher, Slavoj Žižek, as he argues the joys of excess are flimsy and futile and asks whether we can ever find a way out.

"The most dangerous philosopher in the west." - Vice

11:00 AM

Children's Programme
 [145] 11:00 am MINDCRAFT
Adventures in Thinking (See p.60)

Music & Acoustic Sessions
 [146] 11:00 am BLUE MOON
Rhiannon Scull



Jessica Berlin

11:30 AM

HAT SESSIONS

[147] 11:30 am THE HAT
The AI Enigma
 Joscha Bach, Mazviita Chirimuuta and Cory Doctorow

AI and ChatGPT took the world by storm this year. But should we believe the hype? Will AI intelligence replace human intelligence or is this apocalyptic fantasy and the AI era one of human abundance and prosperity? Cognitive scientist Joscha Bach, and AI sceptic and philosopher Mazviita Chirimuuta grapple with the future of intelligence. Hosted by author Cory Doctorow.

"The development of full AI could spell the end of the human race." - Stephen Hawking



Billy Bragg

Music & Acoustic Sessions
 [148] 11:30 am STAGE
BBC Hereford Showcase

12:00 PM

DEBATE

[149] 12:00 pm ARENA
Diplomacy, Deception and Disaster
 Jessica Berlin, Laurie Bristow, David Omand, Malcolm Rifkind, Sasha Polakow-Suransky hosts.

Cynics argue that diplomacy is the art of not saying what you think. In the case of Taiwan, US and Western policy has taken exactly this approach for the last half century explicitly maintaining a policy of 'strategic ambiguity'. But in the light of the Russian invasion of Ukraine ambiguity in foreign affairs looks mistaken. Is the West making a fundamental error with Taiwan that risks catastrophe?

Is clarity in diplomacy more important than tact? Should the US make its stance towards Taiwan transparent so that China is not tempted to invade? Should the US and its allies support formal independence and back it with military commitments? Or does effective diplomacy require the West to keep its opponents guessing and hold its cards close to its chest?

Former head of GCHQ David Omand, British diplomat Laurie Bristow, and foreign policy analyst Jessica Berlin debate the value of 'strategic ambiguity' within the art of diplomacy.

In partnership with



DEBATE

[150] 12:00 pm INTERNATIONAL

Me, My World and I
 Gary Lachman, Christof Koch, Hannah Critchlow, Barry C. Smith hosts.

We see experience as quintessentially subjective, the perception and thoughts of a single individual. But while we take this for granted might it be an error? From parliament and politics, festivals and football stadiums, to weddings and funerals, some of our most significant experiences occur in moments shared in collective experience with others. Crowds can be more intelligent than any of the individuals and more foolish than any of its members. Moreover, language is social, and in using language we adopt the thoughts of others, and we are therefore no longer fully ourselves.

Should we conclude that experience is always shared and mediated through others whether they are present or not? Would a new paradigm in which we view experience as collective and social help bring about a more harmonious society? Or is collective experience and behaviour a dangerous idea that can be used by authority to impose subservience, and subjectivity essential to imagination, liberty, and creativity.

Pioneering neuroscientist Christof Koch, internationally-acclaimed neuroscientist Hannah Critchlow, and Blonnie bassist and philosopher Gary Lachman, debate the subjectivity of our shared existence.

12:00 PM

TALK

[151] 12:00 pm THE RING
The Truth of Fiction
 Jesse Norman

To uncover truth, we must look to fiction. And to live in the present, we must engross ourselves in the past. Join MP and author of the widely-acclaimed historical fiction 'The Winding Stair', Jesse Norman, to explore the power of story, and how the past provides us with a fresh perspective on contemporary issues.

"Engrossing and compelling." - Stephen Fry

Music & Acoustic Sessions
 [152] 12:00 pm BLUE MOON
Tia Meraki

12:30 PM

HAT SESSIONS

[153] 12:30 pm THE HAT
The Life and Philosophy of Billy Bragg
 Billy Bragg with Myriam François

Billy Bragg's pioneering music has helped inspire a younger generation to engage with the social and political causes of our time. From 'Talking With The Taxman' to 'Marmad Avenue', Bragg has spent over four decades writing and performing protest songs, fighting everything from fascism to war, and corruption to capitalism. Join interviewer Myriam François to discover the life and philosophy behind Billy Bragg.

Music & Acoustic Sessions
 [154] 12:30 pm STAGE
BBC Hereford Showcase

Children's Programme
 [155] 12:30 pm MINDCRAFT
Pottery Workshop (See p.60)

IDEAS & CULTURE

1:00 PM

TALK

[156] 1:00 pm THE RING
Politics is broken
 Thangam Debonnaire

Apathy and cynicism about politics is widespread. Over 50% of parliamentary seats are 'safe seats' and many feel their vote no longer counts for anything. Join shadow cabinet rising star, Thangam Debonnaire, as she argues politics is broken, and offers a way to fix it.

"Determined to sway minds." - The Guardian

INNER CIRCLE

[157] 1:00 pm From £18 INNER CIRCLE
HowTheLightGetsIn Lunch with Michael Shermer

Since Hobbes and Rousseau, the questions of whether humans are naturally good or evil continues to burn bright. Join leading sceptic, Michael Shermer, to delve into the fundamental nature of humanity.

Music & Acoustic Sessions

[158] 1:00 pm BLUE MOON
 Charlie James

1:15 PM

DEBATE

[159] 1:15 pm ARENA

The Best and Worst of All Possible Worlds
 Paul Horwich, Ben Burgis, Tasneem Zehra Husain, Niki Seth-Smith hosts.

Judging by the success of many novels and Hollywood films, we are attracted by the idea of multiple or alternate realities. And is not just in fiction, in philosophy, possible world theorists argue for a vast number of parallel worlds some marginally different from ours all of which are held to be real. But an increasing number of critics argue this is extravagant fantasy. They contend not only is there no evidence for such alternative possible worlds but they are not even thinkable from our world for we can make no sense of a universe outside of the universe.

Should we see talk of alternative and possible worlds as fundamentally misguided? Are they the metaphysical consequence of wanting to hold on to a realist account of language and make sense of modal logic, while instead we should be adopting a radically different approach? Or can we use other worlds to give us a better account of our own world, and cast light on the deep puzzles of language and reality?

Philosopher of physics Paul Horwich, philosopher and author Ben Burgis and theoretical physicist Tasneem Zehra Husain debate the continued attraction of many worlds theory.

In partnership with **New Humanist**

1:15 PM

DEBATE

[160] 1:15 pm INTERNATIONAL

Life, Death and Specialisation
 David Healy, Caitlan Gainty, Nick Lane, Mark Salter hosts.

Once, the doctor would diagnose anything from a broken leg to bronchitis. Now students can choose from over 200 medical specialisations. In the past decade alone, referrals to specialists have doubled. Most see this revolution as a huge win. But is this a mistake? You are no more likely to survive in a specialist cardiac unit than you are at home. While medical errors have become the third biggest killer in the US and UK, and specialisation contributes through poor communication and incorrect diagnosis.

Do we need to give up the idea that the specialist is always the best answer and redirect funding elsewhere? Is it possible that the health of the body is not divisible into separate discrete units, but needs to be seen as a whole? Or is this to undermine the radical advances specialist medicine has contributed and which will drive the breakthroughs of the future?

Outspoken psychiatrist David Healy, historian of medicine Caitlan Gainty, and biochemist Nick Lane debate the risk of specialization within healthcare.

INNER CIRCLE

[161] 1:15 pm From £18 INNER CIRCLE
HowTheLightGetsIn Lunch with Ruth Kinna

Anarchy is often viewed as a state of lawless chaos. We like to think our political institutions, while flawed, are preserving. But could a radically new, decentralised vision for the future be possible and effective? Join Ruth Kinna to explore the character and potential of an anarchist future.

1:30 PM

TALK

[162] 1:30 pm THE HAT

In Conversation: The Nature of Reality
 Rowan Williams and Iain McGilchrist

Who are we? Why are we here? Does life have a meaning beyond itself? Join former Archbishop of Canterbury, Rowan Williams, and groundbreaking psychiatrist, literary scholar and author of 'The Matter with Things', Iain McGilchrist, to explore the nature of meaning, and why we should move beyond the assumptions of a materialist worldview, from radically divergent perspectives.

"Rowan constitutes, a calm, courteous and circumspect appreciation of the depth and difficulty of philosophical problems." - New Humanist

"McGilchrist is a subtle and clever thinker." - FT

Music & Acoustic Sessions

[163] 1:30 pm STAGE
BBC Hereford Showcase

1:30 PM

IAI ACADEMY COURSE

[164] 1:30 pm - 4:00 pm ACADEMY TENT

Understanding Race: Origins and Solutions
 Remi Adekoya

Racial divisions must be overcome and we need a new vision for the future. Author of the bestselling book, *Biracial Britain*, Dr Remi Adekoya has been praised for his fresh and insightful approach to race. Join him to uncover the fundamental questions raised by racial identity, as well as deconstructing the reasons behind racial tension. See page 58 for Part One and Two.

LONG TABLE BANQUET

[165] 1:30 pm From £38 WATERFRONT

Our exclusive Long Table Banquets offer you the unmissable opportunity to tuck into a lavish four-course meal with like-minded festival goers. Expect delicious food, award-winning wine and stimulating conversation in the Waterfront, overlooking the River Wye. Book early to avoid disappointment - numbers are strictly limited.

2:00 PM

TALK

[166] 2:00 pm THE RING

The TikTok Uprising
 Cindy Yu

TikTok has gone beyond media platforms into wider culture, online censorship and even mass behaviour change. The US and UK moved to ban it. Join China expert and host of the Chinese whispers podcast, Cindy Yu, to chart how TikTok stole our attention, and how it could be a major player for China on the global political stage.

"Bring a unique perspective to the China debate." - Quartz

Children's Programme

[167] 2:00 pm MINDCRAFT

Blast off to the Universe with Or Grau (See p.60)

DOXBOX

[168] 2:00 pm CINEMA

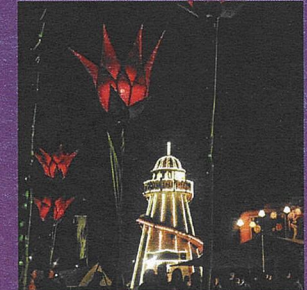
Jack B. Yeats: The Man Who Painted Ireland

Music & Acoustic Sessions

[169] 2:00 pm BLUE MOON
 Gareth Rees

Asking real questions ... orchestrated much more precisely than is usual in our field

Gerard T'Hooft, physicist and Nobel Prize winner



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IDEAS & CULTURE

Sunday 28th May

2:30 PM

DEBATE

[170] 2:30 pm

ARENA

Capitalism and the Climate
Rebecca Henderson, Mike Berners-Lee, Helen Czerski, Linda Yueh hosts.

With the world's largest corporations responsible for 71% of global greenhouse gas emissions, many particularly on the left have taken it for granted that climate change and capitalism are intimately linked. But with corporations and the right backing action to reduce emissions, the assumption is under challenge. Former governor of the Bank of England, Mark Carney went so far as to say 'the goal of net zero is the greatest commercial opportunity of our time.' And according to the World Economic Forum, the value of green bonds traded could soon hit \$2.36 trillion. So proponents of capitalism argue the very economic system that instigated climate change is also the way to end it.

Should we conclude there is no necessary connection between capitalism and climate change? Will this realisation result in a shift on the left away from green politics and climate change and back to heartland socialist goals? Or is the link between climate change and capitalism essential and the claims of bankers and conservatives to be in favour of reducing emissions insincere and illusory?

Economist and Harvard professor Rebecca Henderson, climate author and futures professor Mike Berners-Lee, and physicist and BBC broadcaster Helen Czerski debate the tangled relationship between capitalism and climate change.

In partnership with



DEBATE

[171] 2:30 pm

INTERNATIONAL

The Meaning Puzzle
Samson Kambalu, Rebecca Roache, Hilary Lawson, Sophie Scott-Brown hosts.

Much reasoned and often heated debate goes into the correct meaning of words. The meaning of feminism, gender, or socialism for example, but also the seemingly absurd, such as whether a biscuit might be a cake. But are these disputes mistaken? Critics argue there are no correct meanings. Meaning is a function of social agreement and not a guide to the nature of reality or a pure form of description.

Should we stop arguing over meaning and recognise that while the way we use words is critical to our understanding and our politics, there is no right answer? Should we use words and language as about achieving an outcome or seeking to communicate a way of seeing rather than being a description that might be true or false? Or is the close attention to the precise and correct use of language essential to social well-being, technological success and effective decision-making?

Artist and Oxford Professor Samson Kambalu, radical philosopher Rebecca Roache and non-realist philosopher and closure theorist Hilary Lawson debate the quagmires of language and meaning.

Music & Acoustic Sessions

[172] 2:30 pm

BBC Hereford Showcase

STAGE

3:00 PM

TALK

[173] 3:00 pm

THE RING

Mental Health Re-Imagined
Mark Salter

We often view depression as a disorder. But could this be a mistake? Join front-line psychiatrist, Mark Salter, as he argues that depression is not an illness, rather a process, a verb, not a noun. And how this fundamental shift of perspective could revolutionise our understanding of mental health for the better.

"Mark Salter moves the anti-psychiatry debate forward." - The Royal College of Psychiatrists

HAT SESSIONS

[174] 3:00 pm

THE HAT

In Conversation: How To Break The Cycle
Pragya Agarwal, Anders Sandberg, Miriam Frankel, and Matt Warren

Cognitive biases, habits, genetics, personality and even the bacteria in our gut, profoundly influence our beliefs and render it difficult to reshape our worldview. This session investigates the obstacles to amending our perspective to find new ways to hold the world. Join The Conversation's Miriam Frankel and Matt Warren, alongside special guest speakers behaviour and data scientist Pragya Agarwal and futurist Anders Sandberg.

In partnership with

THE CONVERSATION

Music & Acoustic Sessions

[175] 3:00 pm

Delta Kenzie

BLUE MOON

Music & Acoustic Sessions

[176] 3:30 pm

Morning Tourist

STAGE

Children's Programme

[177] 3:30 pm

The Big Sensation with David Birch

MINDCRAFT

(See p.60)

INNER CIRCLE

Enliven your afternoon with a glass of prosecco, cake, and conversation with some of the world's most interesting thinkers.

[178] 3:45 pm From £16

INNER CIRCLE

Prosecco, Cake and Philosophy with Ben Burgis

From JK Rowling to Jordan Peterson, the debate around cancel culture and who and what is acceptable continues to rumble on. But what impact does it have on debate and free speech? Join philosopher and author Ben Burgis to explore how cancel culture is shaping the future.

4:00 PM

DEBATE

[179] 4:00 pm

ARENA

The End of Good and Evil
Slovoj Žižek, Richard Wrangham, Rowan Williams, Maria Balaska, Myriam François hosts.

Whether we see humans as essentially good or essentially selfish and violent has been central to our politics, our account of society, and our vision for social progress. But is this very distinction itself a mistake? Recently, Harvard scientists have shown humans to be both the kindest and most malevolent species on the planet. While figures like Hitler and Stalin though responsible for tens of millions of deaths were also remarkably empathetic in respects of their private lives.

Should we give up the idea that humans are either inherently good or bad and conclude that all of us are both with potentially profound consequences for our political beliefs? Or is it vital to retain the distinction to alert us to danger and to drive personal and social change? Or more profoundly, are the categories of good and bad themselves the underlying error and unhelpful, and even dangerous, ways of categorising human behaviour?

Friar and philosopher Slovoj Žižek, Harvard primatologist Richard Wrangham, philosopher Maria Balaska, and former Archbishop of Canterbury Rowan Williams explore the end of good and evil.

DEBATE

[180] 4:00 pm

INTERNATIONAL

Your True Self
Joanna Kavenna, Betty Sue Flowers, Christof Koch, Bahar Gholipour hosts.

"To thine own self be true" wrote Shakespeare. For generations, surveys find this the most frequent advice given to new students. While yoga retreats and self-help advice encourage us to 'become our authentic selves'. Yet many argue the idea is fundamentally flawed. Recent studies have uncovered contrary evidence that we feel our most authentic self when we align with others rather than holding to our own ideas. While many neuroscientists and philosophers challenge the very existence of single true self.

Should we conclude the authentic self is an empty fantasy and the mistaken product of an individualistic culture? Should we aim to escape from the self, as Buddhists and more collectivist cultures have proposed? Or is this a dangerous notion, put forward by China amongst others, that perpetuates dominant authority and undermines the individual and personal growth?

Award winning author Joanna Kavenna, academic and myth expert Betty Sue Flowers and neuroscientist and consciousness researcher Christof Koch debate the one true self.

howthelightgetsin.org

IDEAS & CULTURE

IDEAS & CULTURE

4:00 PM

TALK

[181] 4:00 pm THE RING

How Oceans Shaped the World
Helen Czerkisi

Earth is home to a huge story that is rarely told - that of our ocean. What it does, why it works, and how it's influenced human civilisation. Join leading oceanographer and broadcaster, Helen Czerkisi, as she argues that the ocean is not merely a feature of our planet, but an extraordinary engine on which we all depend - a phenomenal blue machine.

"Czerkisi's enthusiasm is infectious because she brings our humdrum everyday world to life." - Jim Al-Khalili

TALK

[182] 4:00 pm THE HAT

Philosophy of the Senses
Barry C. Smith

Can you taste a colour? Or touch a sound? In this exhilarating workshop, The Centre for the Study of the Senses will offer a range of sensory experiences to explore how our senses work and put us in deeper touch with our surroundings and ourselves. Expect to see the world differently when you leave. With philosopher, wine expert and multisensory maestro Barry C. Smith.

"Brings together ancient philosophy and modern neuroscience." - Getty Centre

DOK BOX

[183] 4:00 pm CINEMA
Malaysia's Last Tigers (See p.62)

INNER CIRCLE

Enliven your afternoon with a glass of prosecco, cake, and conversation with some of the world's most interesting thinkers.

[184] 4:00 pm From £16 INNER CIRCLE
Prosecco, Cake and Philosophy with Suchitra Sebastian

Quantum mechanics continues to baffle many, but is responsible for the technological advances that make modern life possible. Join multi award-winning physicist Suchitra Sebastian to discuss how new discoveries in quantum mechanics could revolutionise our understanding of the world.

4:00 PM

Music & Acoustic Sessions

[185] 4:00 pm BLUE MOON
Bowen

Music & Acoustic Sessions

[186] 4:30 pm STAGE
The Rabbits

5:00 PM

TALK

[187] 5:00 pm THE RING

Electricity Creates Consciousness
Nick Lane

How could calcium ions rushing through a membrane generate the taste of coffee, the smell of a rose or the feeling of love? Join celebrated biochemist, Nick Lane, as he argues that the deep logic of life is at root a chemical phenomenon.

"His theories are ingenious, breathtaking in scope, and challenging in every sense." - The Guardian

IAI ACADEMY COURSE

[188] 5:00 pm - 7:30 pm ACADEMY TENT

The Metaphysics of Naturalism
Fiona Ellis

The idea that forces, matter and scientific laws are all there are has been a hallmark of modern science. But could this naturalism ever explain our purpose or meaning? In this academy, philosopher, Fiona Ellis highlights the limits of the scientific account, and puts forward a new radical theory of 'expansive naturalism' to best account for the world.

See page 58 for Part One and Two.



Suchitra Sebastian

5:00 PM



Helen Czerkisi

Children's Programme

[189] 5:00 pm MINDCRAFT
Life in Space with Professor Astrocat (See p.60)

Music & Acoustic Sessions

[190] 5:00 pm BLUE MOON
Revue

5:30 PM

DEBATE

[191] 5:30 pm ARENA

The Trouble with String Theory
Roger Penrose, Brian Greene, Tasneem Zehra Husain, Eric Weinstein. Fran Chadha-Day hosts.

String theory, heralded as a potential theory of everything, has been dominant in theoretical physics for thirty years with more scientific papers arising from it than any other theory. But critics argue the theory has held undue influence and it is an error to pursue it. String theory proposes 11 dimensions and a vast landscape of possible universes without any evidence. Moreover, a theory of everything has not been forthcoming, and predictions of supersymmetry particles have not been confirmed.

Is it time to move on from string theory, recognise that the search for supersymmetry has failed, and seek alternative accounts of the universe that are supported by observation and experiment? More fundamentally should we see mathematics without a connection to the physical world as little more than fantasy? Or is the continued dominance of string theory justified by its potential to unify our understanding of the universe once and for all?

Nobel prize-winning physicist Roger Penrose, renowned string theorist and best selling author Brian Greene, groundbreaking scientist Tasneem Zehra Husain, and polymath mathematician Eric Weinstein debate the cosmological theory.

5:30 PM

DEBATE

[192] 5:30 pm INTERNATIONAL

Manners Maketh Man
Billy Bragg, Zoe Strimpel, Sophie Scott-Brown, Grafon Tanner. Eliane Glaser hosts.

The 15th century motto declares: 'Manners maketh the man'. But politeness is not the important trait it once was. From social media to parliament, our discourse has become angry, harsh and inconsiderate. But is our abandonment of manners more than a superficial error? Critics argue politeness is the foundation of a civil society, and enables dialogue between those with different, and sometimes opposite views. Polarisation, division and breakdown in communication is the price they claim we are paying for our bad manners and these threats have the potential to undermine culture as a whole.

Should we renew our attachment to politeness and reinstate it as one of our core values? Should our institutions enforce certain rules of politeness? And if so, what might these look like, and would they help create a more cohesive and collaborative society? Or is politeness an archaic value, designed to re-enforce the authority of the dominant whilst at the same time controlling dissent?

Activist and musician Billy Bragg, journalist, author, and commentator Zoe Strimpel, philosopher Sophie Scott-Brown and author and academic Grafon Tanner debate the value of manners in the modern world.



Richard Wrangham

5:30 PM

Music & Acoustic Sessions

[193] 5:30 pm THE HAT
Cerys Hafana

Music & Acoustic Sessions

[194] 5:30 pm STAGE
Nancy Ackroyd

6:00 PM

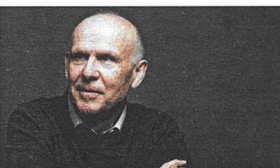
TALK

[195] 6:00 pm THE RING

The Goodness Paradox
Richard Wrangham

Humans are a paradox. Full of the finest ideals and not infrequently the most vicious of actions. Join Harvard primatologist, Richard Wrangham, to explore how humans evolved to be good and evil at the same time, and why it matters and what we can do about it.

"Plain-spoken and thoroughly gripping. Presents nothing less than a new theory of evolution." - New York Times



DOK BOX

[196] 6:00 pm ART & CINEMA TENT

Saving the Wild: Elephants

We come face to face with a herd of Wild African Elephants in South Africa, and the pain caused by man-made threats to the animals and their habitat. A 'problem' herd of elephants have learned to break fences and do significant damage to human infrastructure, threatening to destroy the project that's protecting them.

Music & Acoustic Sessions

[197] 6:00 pm BLUE MOON
Still Ear

6:30 PM

LIVE MUSIC

[198] 6:30 pm THE HAT

Allysha Joy

Winner of 'Best Soul Album' at the Music Victoria Awards and 'Best Jazz' at Worldwide, Allysha Joy's potent lyricism, unique musicianship and killer vocals have garnered a legion of fans the world over. Having already established herself across Australia and Europe performing on the live circuit alongside the likes of Sampa the Great and Ezra Collective, prepare for influences from jazz, hip hop and R&B, all glazed with Melbourne soul.

"A blissful labour of love." - The Pitt LDN

Music & Acoustic Sessions

[199] 6:30 pm STAGE
Cara Knox

Children's Programme

[200] 6:30 pm MINDCRAFT
Sensory Superpowers with Barry C. Smith (See p.60)

6:45 PM

DEBATE

[201] 6:45 pm ARENA

Beyond Reasonable Doubt
Emma Bryson, Zoe Strimpel, Harriet Wistrich, Peter Tatchell. Mary Ann Sieghart hosts.

Since the 18th Century, UK criminal courts have required proof 'beyond reasonable doubt' to convict. But with convictions for rape falling, now less than 1% of accusations, there are a growing number who argue this core judicial principle is mistaken. "We do not require such a strong burden of proof in civil courts which instead apply the principle of 'the balance of probabilities'. 'Beyond reasonable doubt' has been adopted on the Blackstone principle that 'it is better that ten guilty persons escape than one innocent suffer'. But is it better that a hundred guilty persons escape?"

Should we end 'beyond reasonable doubt' for sex crimes? Should we adopt civil court levels of proof, perhaps in combination with lower sentences, but with the benefit of far higher levels of conviction? Or is essential that we retain the principle of 'beyond of reasonable doubt' for crimes that have such a profound effect on those found guilty as well as the victims?

Columnist, author, and commentator Zoe Strimpel, LGBT rights activist Peter Tatchell, and advocate for justice reform Emma Bryson explore the burden of proof.

HOWTHELIGHTGETSIN SUNDAY PARTY

7:00 PM

TALK

[202] 7:00 pm

THE RING

The Secrets of Quantum Emergence
Suchitra Sebastian

Quantum mechanics has existed for over a century. Yet the physics is still shrouded in mystery and many outside the field remain utterly bewildered. Join the acclaimed winner of the New Horizons in Physics Prize, Suchitra Sebastian, as she explores the science of quantum mechanics, and demonstrates why we may be on the verge of discovering a completely new type of matter.

"A world-class physicist." - Wired

Music & Acoustic Sessions

[203] 7:00 pm
Ian James

BLUE MOON



Melin Melyn

7:30 PM

LIVE MUSIC

[204] 7:30 pm

INTERNATIONAL

House of Figs

Fresh from Green Man and WOMAD, House of Figs is a powerful collaboration of Bristol based artists. Beth Colverley and Bethany M. Roberts conjure vocal soundscapes, that cocoon tender, dynamic poetry.

"Hypnotic... radiates tenderness and awe." - Sabotage Reviews
A great collection with an honest, real theme." - Benjamin Zephaniah

8:00 PM

LIVE MUSIC

[205] 8:00 pm

THE HAT

Melin Melyn

Melin Melyn are one of the most exciting acts to emerge from this next golden generation of Cymru artists. Applauded by NME, DIY and The Independent for their joyous tracks, the six-piece are not so much round pegs in square holes as they are determined to throw the whole box out.

"Idiosyncratic surf-poppers." - NME

COMEDY

[206] 8:00 pm

STAGE

Sara Barron

Sara Barron is one of the fastest-rising comedians of her generation. Since her 2018 debut at the Edinburgh Fringe, she's starred on shows including Live at the Apollo (BBC), Would I Lie to You? (BBC) and Frankie Boyle's New World Order (BBC). A powerhouse live act, she was nominated for 'Best Newcomer' at the Edinburgh Comedy Awards and at the Charlie Awards, as well as receiving rave reviews from publications including The Times, The Guardian, The Independent, The Evening Standard and The Scotsman.

"A wicked, spiky wit in the vein of a young Joan Rivers, Sara Barron is one of America's most exciting comedic exports." - The Telegraph



House of Figs

iai The Institute of Art and Ideas

8:00 PM

DOKBOX

[207] 8:00 pm

ART & CINEMA TENT

Sex, Mind and the Menopause

Building on the incredible impact of her previous documentary, Davina McCall investigates the numbers of experienced women who quit, miss promotion or are sacked due to lack of support and understanding of the perimenopause and menopause at work.

INNER CIRCLE

Join a freewheeling roundtable discussion kicked off by the world's leading thinkers on the biggest ideas. Enjoy a glass of wine and tasty nibbles in an intimate candlelit space.

[208] 8:00 pm From £20

INNER CIRCLE

Philosophy Salon
Grafton Tanner, David Livingstone Smith and Eliane Glaser

Should we always look on the bright side of life? Or does a healthy dose of pessimism offer the path to progress? Join Grafton Tanner, David Livingstone Smith and Eliane Glaser to decide whether the glass should be half empty, or half full.

LONG TABLE BANQUET

[209] 8:00 pm From £42

WATERFRONT

Join a table of fellow festival-goers at our Long Table Banquets overlooking the river at the Waterfront. Expect a lavish four-course meal, and excellent company.

Book early to avoid disappointment - numbers are strictly limited.

Music & Acoustic Sessions

[210] 8:00 pm
Mark Richards

BLUE MOON

HOWTHELIGHTGETSIN SUNDAY PARTY

8:30 PM

COMEDY

[211] 8:30 pm

ARENA

Sean McLoughlin

Sean McLoughlin is an acclaimed stand-up and writer based in London. Highly in-demand in the UK and internationally, he has made appearances on live At The Apollo, Mock The Week, The Stand-Up Sketch Show and Kevin Hart's LOL Network among others.

He has recently supported Ricky Gervais on his international arena tour having previously opened for Bill Burr at the Royal Albert Hall and appeared at a gala show at the Sydney Opera House.

"An impassioned and uniquely brilliant talent." - The List

INNER CIRCLE

[212] 8:30 pm From £20

INNER CIRCLE

Philosophy Salon
Bjørn Ekeberg, Marika Taylor and Bahar Ghalipour

Science is often viewed as gradually uncovering the truth. But when scientific fact fails to solve mystery of the origin of existence, where should we turn? Join Bjørn Ekeberg, Marika Taylor and Bahar Ghalipour to explore the mysteries of the universe.

9:00 PM

LIVE MUSIC

[213] 9:00 pm

INTERNATIONAL

Jally Kebba Susso

Playing sold out shows at The Royal Albert Hall, Wilderness Festival and Shambala, kora playing maverick Jally Kebba Susso is a UK based griot - forging a new trajectory for the West African harp. Jally Kebba blends the traditional sounds of the kora into his own heady jazz concoction that is immediately accessible - expect an electric live performance.

"London's favourite griot." - Songlines

9:00 PM

COMEDY

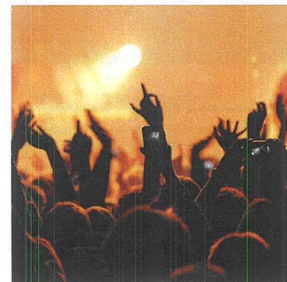
[214] 9:00 pm

THE RING

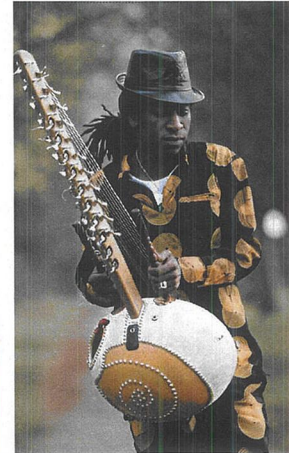
Jordan Brookes

Edinburgh Comedy Award winner Jordan Brookes first came to attention when he won the Welsh Unsigned Comedy Award in 2012. Since then he has gone on to win the 2019 Dave's Edinburgh Comedy Award and the Comedians' Comedian award at the 2018 Charlie Awards.

"Jordan Brookes is just crazy, adorably funny. You should see him!" - The Scotsman.



9:00 PM



Jally Kebba Susso

RIVERSIDE DISCO

[216] 9:00 pm to late

RIVERSIDE DISCO

Max Galactic, MyMateKate, Honey B McKenna

Jump on the disco express for our Sunday night finale with superstar DJ MyMateKate and new kid on the block Honey B McKenna! Performing sold out shows at Latitude and Wilderness, expect an evening of delicious grooves, disco infused bangers and feel good party anthems to see out the weekend.

DOKBOX

[215] 9:00 pm

ART & CINEMA TENT

Good Grief

Priest and former popstar Rev Richard Coles opens up the conversation around bereavement. Setting off on a personal journey, he tests out unconventional activities to tackle grief, from laughter yoga to surfing, to indoor skydiving and alpaca therapy. He even heads on a Grief Cruise!

Music & Acoustic Sessions

[217] 9:00 pm
Bob Gaillie

BLUE MOON

HOWTHELIGHTGETSIN SUNDAY PARTY

9:30 PM

LIVE MUSIC

[218] 9:30 pm

THE HAT

Mr Bruce

HowTheLightGetsIn favourite and one of Britain's most in-demand festival acts, Mr Bruce creates a unique and unparalleled live experience. Typically candid yet flamboyant in delivery, the tenacious performer's solo show is nothing short of spectacular.

"Music grooves like a bastard." - Tom Robinson (BBC 6 Music)

10:00 PM



Gruff Rhys

DOK BOX

[221] 10:00 pm

ART & CINEMA TENT

Ukrainian Women

The war in Ukraine has brought about unimaginable suffering to millions. This timely series puts a human face on the conflict through focusing on four remarkable women and the life-changing decisions they have been forced to make.

Music & Acoustic Sessions

[222] 10:00 pm
MoJam

BLUE MOON

10:00 PM

LIVE MUSIC

[219] 10:00 pm

ARENA

Gruff Rhys

BAFTA-winning, Mercury Prize nominated musician Gruff Rhys is a figurehead for Cymru with his fuzz-filled rock, pure harmonies and cutting edge electronics. The former front man of Super Furry Animals has since joined Welsh legends Manic Street Preachers on the O2 Arena stage and performed at the BBC 6 Music Festival. A true craftsman, he has consistently sought out a variety of outlets for his creative flights.

"An idiosyncratic gem." - NME

"A masterpiece." - The Guardian

COMEDY

[220] 10:00 pm

STAGE

Tadiwa Mahlunge

Billed as one of the country's "top new comedy acts" by The York Press, Tadiwa Mahlunge has performed at Greenman, Brighton Comedy Garden, Camp Willfire, Aberystwyth and Greenwich Comedy Festivals, as well as providing tour support for Kiri Pritchard-McLain, and TV warm up for Desiree Burch's Amazon Prime special.

"Very bloody funny. And neither too tall nor too short, which is great." - Aisling Bea



Tadiwa Mahlunge

10:30 PM

COMEDY

[223] 10:30 pm

THE RING

Ben Pope

Ben Pope was the Piccadilly Comedy Club New Comedian of the Year Winner 2017 and was placed as a finalist in So You Think You're Funny and Comedy Cafe New Act of the Year. He is also one third of the cult sketch group Princes of Main, with sell-out runs at the Edinburgh Fringe.

"Left the audience gasping for breath." - Varsity

HOWTHELIGHTGETSIN SUNDAY PARTY

11:00 PM



Club de Fromage

LIVE MUSIC

[227] 11:30 pm

ARENA

Onipa

Playing major live shows at Glastonbury, The Great Escape and SXSW, Onipa was born out of a collaboration between long-time friends Kwesi of Ghana and Tom Excell. Favored by MOJO, BBC Radio 1 and BBC Radio 6 Music, their deep grooves, electronics and fierce energy combine in an effervescent celebration.

"Riotous beats and irresistible delirium." - The Guardian

"Indescribably joyous." - Louder Than War

LIVE MUSIC

[224] 11:00 pm

THE HAT

Club de Fromage

An anarchic stage show? Ginormous pop tunes? Sing-alongs so huge you can see them from space? It can only be Club de Fromage, London's premier (and most fun) pop party!

Wowing the crowds with multiple arena headlining sets at Glastonbury and Latitude, this is pop as it should be: huge, glorious and silly. Bring your dancing shoes for a riotous time with confetti, huge balloons and a set that'll have your face sore from grinning from ear to ear.

"One of the least pretentious and most entertaining nights." - Evening Standard

DOK BOX

[225] 11:00 pm

ART & CINEMA TENT

Female Death Riders

This extraordinary film follows the groundbreaking story of some of the first women in Indonesia to perform on the 'Wall of Death' - a high-flying act of riding a motorcycle on the vertical walls of a gigantic cylinder, also known as the Tong Setan or Satan's Barrel.

Music & Acoustic Sessions

[226] 11:00 pm
Johanna Warren

BLUE MOON

11:30 PM

LIVE MUSIC

[227] 11:30 pm

ARENA

Onipa

Playing major live shows at Glastonbury, The Great Escape and SXSW, Onipa was born out of a collaboration between long-time friends Kwesi of Ghana and Tom Excell. Favored by MOJO, BBC Radio 1 and BBC Radio 6 Music, their deep grooves, electronics and fierce energy combine in an effervescent celebration.

"Riotous beats and irresistible delirium." - The Guardian

"Indescribably joyous." - Louder Than War

12:00 AM

MIDNIGHT MAYHEM

Midnight Mayhem sees philosophers and comedians join forces in our late night intellectual showdown with a twist. A carnivalesque procession kicks off the show, before audience members pick a side, and make their voice heard alongside speakers and comedians from our star-studded programme.

[229] 12:00 am

THE RING

Dreams vs Reality

Pick your side and put on your boxing gloves for debauchery and debate. Anyone can step into the ring! Tonight's motion "Dreams or Reality?"

Music & Acoustic Sessions

[230] 12:00 am
Robert Whyte

BLUE MOON



Onipa

CABARET

[228] 11:30 pm

STAGE

Isabella Bliss

Isabella Bliss is undeniably one of the most popular burlesque artists on the UK cabaret scene. Her residency at Proud Cabaret sees her star alongside Desiree Van Outen, Rachel Stevens and Julian Clary as iconic Bland Bombshell Marilyn Monroe. Expect a fully immersive, laugh out loud show taking you on a journey of the life of the Hollywood icon in this up close and personal live performance.



Isabella Bliss

 EXPERIENCES

SPA & WELLNESS



Escape the hustle and relax for a moment at the serene Spa including Meditation, Massage and Yoga for all ages.

9:00 am BOHEMIA
Spa events are booked and paid for separately - online or in person.

FAYRE

10:00 am FAYRE

The market is full of surprises. Artisan food producers, vintage clothes, cocktails and sequins, as well as some truly original workshops.



RIDES

11:00 am RIVERSIDE

Vintage Rides

Including a heller skeller and a ferris wheel where you can catch spectacular views of the festival site Hay and the Black Mountains.

1:00 pm - late FRONT ROOM

The People's Front Room

A team of wonderfully talented musicians create a truly unique vibe as they extemporise classic tracks of every genre along with their own wicked tunes. Throughout the day and to close of play in the evening.



9:00 pm to late

Riverside Disco

Opening up onto the river bank, you can dance inside the tent or under the stars to the hottest DJs. Find the secret entrance - there's a café area open all day hidden inside and the big tunes start from 9pm and don't stop until the early hours.

FIRE & FOLK

9:00 pm to late BOHEMIA: FIRE

Fire & Folk

With music by some wonderfully talented acoustic performers and friends along with some very special guests. Join fellow festivalgoers round the light and warmth of the wood fire and enjoy watching night fall after a day full of ideas.

PROSECCO, CAKE AND PHILOSOPHY



INNER CIRCLE

[178] 3:45 pm *From £16* WATERFRONT
Prosecco, Cake and Philosophy with Ben Burgess

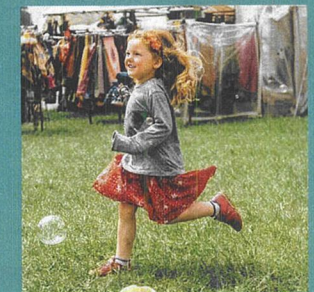
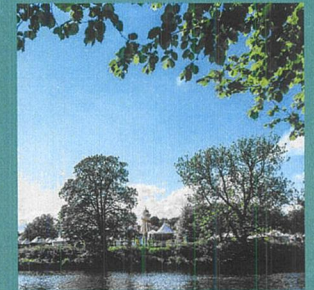
[184] 4:00 pm *From £16* WATERFRONT
Prosecco, Cake and Philosophy with Suchira Sebastian

Enhance your tea time with cakes, Prosecco, and conversation with the world's great thinkers.



A stunning event ...
so engaged,
so well informed,
so switched on

Shoshana Zuboff,
Psychologist and
Author



IDEAS & CULTURE

9:00 AM

INNER CIRCLE

Start your day with a shot of inspiration. Expect stimulating ideas along with fresh pastries and coffee.

[231] 9:00 am From £16
Philosophy Breakfast with Güneş Taylor
 Gender is a hotly debated topic in contemporary culture. But we rarely discuss the biological evidence that underpins it. Join genetic researcher Güneş Taylor, from the Francis Crick Institute, to discuss the truth about sex.

[232] 9:00 am From £16
Philosophy Breakfast with Grafton Tanner
 We human beings have an odd relationship with time. We are either longing for the past, or anxiously yearning for the future. Join author Grafton Tanner to explore our desire to live forever.

10:00 AM

TALK

[233] 10:00 am THE RING

Terrorism, Trauma and Reconciliation
 Myriam François

Terrorism has traumatised the world. Join film-maker and journalist Myriam François, as she shares what she learnt about healing the schisms from families engaged in societal restorative justice.

"Myriam is immensely knowledgeable about contemporary issues of Islam and Western culture." - Woman's network

IAI ACADEMY COURSE

[234] 10:00 am - 12:30 pm ACADEMY TENT
The Power of Myths
 Betty Sue Flowers

In a world where leading thinkers and political leaders appeal to "fact" and "truth", it seems that the power of the myth has been lost. Yet in this academy, Betty Sue Flowers will explore why this is a mistake, showing how myths help us to access a higher truth, and provide us with a pathway to a greater understanding of both the self and the world around us.

See page 58 for Part One and Two.

DOKBOX

[235] 10:00 am CINEMA
We Don't Play Dolly
 (See p.62)

10:30 AM

DEBATE

[236] 10:30 am ARENA

Down the Wormhole
 George Ellis, Lisa Randall, Matt O'Dowd.
 Katie Robertson hosts.

At the highest speeds of current rockets it would take more than 100,000 years to reach the nearest star. For Hollywood and the many who want to believe in the possibility of space travel across the galaxy, the solution is wormholes, swifty tubes that allow us to cross vast tracts of the universe and time in a magical jump. Compatible with Einstein's theories, scientists have been reported to have even created them. But critics claim this is false, arguing that we have no evidence for such a thing. The experiment was a simulation of a wormhole and was not real. And even if holes in space time existed travel along them would be impossible.

Should we accept that wormholes are an invention we want to believe but for which there is no evidence? Should we reluctantly conclude that space travel to habitable planets is never going to take place and we will always be alone in the universe? Or is it just possible that our sci-fi imaginings will successfully drive invention?

Stephen Hawking collaborator, George Ellis, theoretical physicist Lisa Randall and astrophysicist Matt O'Dowd debate the reality of wormholes.

DEBATE

[237] 10:30 am INTERNATIONAL

Taking Leave of Reason
 Rory Sutherland, Rebecca Roache, Joanna Kavenna, Bahar Gholipour hosts.

Most see reason as a vital element in making good decisions. Philosophers from Spinoza and Hegel to Bertrand Russell went further making logic and reason the key to understanding the world and the primary philosophical tool. But is this a fundamental error? Reason after all led them to radically different conclusions. And recent studies show that reason in business and personal relationships does not lead to more successful outcomes, nor does rational economics lead to the greatest entrepreneurial success.

Should we abandon the idea that reason is the key either to truth or successful action? Or should we see reason as vital to follow through the consequences of our beliefs? In an increasingly chaotic intellectual age, do we need reason more than ever to contain conflict and mis understanding, or is reason no more than a justification of prejudice?

Economics guru Rory Sutherland, novelist and essayist Joanna Kavenna and philosopher Rebecca Roache debate the fall of reason.

10:30 AM

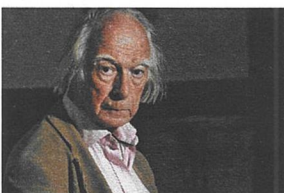
HAT SESSIONS

How To...
 They've been there, done that, and are here to teach you how of these unique workshops

[238] 10:30 am THE HAT
How to Use Adventure for Well-being
 Belinda Kirk

Talk of happiness and welfare can often be surrounded by comfort and safety. But it is not safety that satisfies us. Join explorer, entrepreneur and author of best-selling book *Adventure Revolution*, Belinda Kirk, to discover how adventure can improve our well-being.

"A testament to the spirit of exploration that resides in all of us." - Levison Wood



Denis Noble

11:00 AM

TALK

[239] 11:00 am THE RING

Biology Beyond Genes
 Denis Noble

We tend to think that genes make us who we are. But what if this is the wrong way around? Rather than bottom-up, might nature work top-down? Join biologist, Denis Noble, to explore how organisms create their own destiny using genes.

"Noble's narrative is sweeping, covering everything from cosmology to symbiogenesis and epigenetics." - Barbara Kiser

11:00 AM

Children's Programme

[240] 11:00 am MINDCRAFT
Philosophy of Time Travel...
 (See p.60)

Music & Acoustic Sessions

[241] 11:15 am BLUE MOON
 Owen Harris



Güneş Taylor

11:30 AM

HAT SESSIONS

[242] 11:30 am THE HAT

The Future of Physics
 Suchitra Sebastian and Neil Turok

From ongoing puzzles in quantum gravity, to disagreements about cosmic inflation and multiverses, physics is in turmoil. Join ascendant physicist Suchitra Sebastian and the Higgs Chair of Theoretical Physics, Neil Turok, to discuss the crises of theoretical physics.

"Diverse and fascinating." - New Humanist

Music & Acoustic Sessions

[243] 11:30 am STAGE
The Eclectic Shed Experience

DOKBOX

[244] 11:45 am ART & CINEMA TENT
Lost and Found

On March 2011 Japan was hit by the largest earthquake in its history. The ensuing tsunami engulfed 90 cities, killing over 18,000 people. One year later Japanese objects started washing ashore in North America. This film follows the ordinary beachcombers across the Pacific North West as they set about trying to reunite these cherished items with their owners.

12:00 PM

DEBATE

[245] 12:00 pm ARENA

The Weapon that Failed
 Simon Jenkins, Pauline Neville-Jones, Bronwen Maddox, Michael Clarke. Hilary Lawson hosts.

"The most severe sanctions ever imposed on a major economy" was how Western governments described sanctions on Russia. "It will cripple Russia's war machine" and influence Putin "to end his brutal war" claimed the UK government. In May 2022, Biden asserted "sanctions are devastating their economy". But a year on and the rouble has risen against the dollar. Russian income from oil is substantially greater than before the war. While the impact on the West has been profound, inflation the highest for a generation and deepening recession. What's more there's evidence sanctions almost never work - just 7% of the time according to a recent study.

Must we reluctantly accept that economic threats are not a replacement for military strength? Are sanctions an empty threat and should we conclude that sanctions on China will not deter an attack on Taiwan, or in Afghanistan change Taliban policies? Is a new global arms race an inevitable outcome, or can we find an alternative?

Commentator, journalist and historian Simon Jenkins, Baroness Pauline Neville-Jones, think tank director Bronwen Maddox, and defence analyst for Sky News Michael Clarke debate the geopolitical soundness of sanctions.

DEBATE

[246] 12:00 pm INTERNATIONAL

The Danger and Desire of the Frontier
 Nolen Gertz, Bahar Gholipour, Cory Doctorow. Güneş Taylor hosts.

Before the decade is out, humans will be living on Mars. Or so claims Elon Musk. And in the next fifty years the vision is to populate Mars with more than a million people. It would be a laudable proposal if it were not for the fact that Musk seems to be actually making it happen, initiating a global race to plant the flag first. But is the very idea a fundamental mistake? Critics argue the human race is no safer on another planet than is barren, inhospitable and which will itself soon be a focus of competition and potential conflict.

Should we conclude that the desire to travel to an extraordinarily hostile location is not driven by a higher motive but simply because we might in principle be able to do it? If the real goal is a technological journey into the unknown, will we at some point decide that exploring a desolate dead rock is just not that exciting? Or is adventure, for no purpose and no end, one of the wonders of being human and being alive?

Philosopher of technology Nolen Gertz, tech and science journalist Bahar Gholipour and author, activist and journalist Cory Doctorow dissect our desire for space travel.

12:00 PM

TALK

[247] 12:00 pm THE RING
Inside Anarchy
 Sophie Scott-Brown

Absolute freedom of the individual? Or chaotic dystopia? Anarchy is one of the most violently divisive political ideas going. Join outspoken theorist, Sophie Scott-Brown, as she sets out her vision of anarchy for everyone.

"[Sophie Scott Brown] is well known for her work on the left, in Britain especially." - Richard Whitmore

Children's Programme

[248] 12:00 pm MINDCRAFT
Living Forever with Annie Webster
 (See p.60)

Music & Acoustic Sessions

[249] 12:15 pm BLUE MOON
Tess Mayglothing

HAT SESSIONS

[250] 12:30 pm THE HAT

How to Heal a Divided Nation
 Grafton Tanner

We are more polarised than ever before. On almost every major issue we are split down the middle, and then shout across the divide violently. Join rising star author, Grafton Tanner, to explore how to divide a nation and how to put it back together again.

"Mixing personal history and anecdote with political theory, Tanner offers an illuminating examination of our now." - Los Angeles Review of Books

Music & Acoustic Sessions

[251] 12:30 pm STAGE
Liv Dawn

TALK

[252] 1:00 pm THE RING
An African Story of Time and Art
 Samson Kambalu

Samson Kambalu's artwork 'Antelope' currently rests on Trafalgar Square's Fourth Plinth. Join the artist to explore how an African conception of time is central to the subtle, subversive work which highlights an underrepresented figure in the history of the British Empire in Africa.

"Iconoclastic professor." - The Guardian

1:00 PM

Children's Programme

[253] 1:00 pm

What's Mine? What's Yours?

MINDCRAFT
(See p.60)

INNER CIRCLE

Tuck into a delicious lunch with our inspiring speakers over a glass of award-winning wine.

[254] 1:00 pm

From £18

INNER CIRCLE

HowTheLightGetsIn Lunch with Rory Sutherland

Advertisements can often seem superficial. But they nonetheless grab our attention. Why is this? Join leading author and founder of Ogilvy ad firm, Rory Sutherland, to explore the truth about our unconscious desires.

1:15 PM

DEBATE

[255] 1:15 pm

Justice in Jeopardy
David Livingstone Smith, Harriet Wistrich,
Myriam François. Isabel Hilton hosts.

ARENA

From Plato to the Magna Carta, justice and the rule of law has been seen as integral to western culture, and today remains essential to our notion of how society should be run and underpins how we think our leaders and institutions should behave. But some critics argue this is a mistake. Innocence and guilt are central to the notion of justice but they argue these categories are damaging and immoral because behaviour is the outcome of genetics and the environment and in neither case is the individual responsible for them or able to influence them.

Should we abandon the vocabulary of justice, innocence and guilt as misguided, in favour of seeing crime as akin to illness or malfunction requiring repair rather than sanction? Can we restructure society to be not reliant on judgment, reward and punishment, and in doing so could we create a less hierarchical and more egalitarian culture? Or is justice as vital and important to us today as it was for the barons at Runnymede?

Solicitor and radical feminist Harriet Wistrich, interdisciplinary philosopher David Livingstone Smith and journalist Myriam François debate the centrality of justice in today's society.

1:15 PM

DEBATE

[256] 1:15 pm

INTERNATIONAL

Beauty and the Meaning of Life
George Ellis, Suchitra Sebastian, Denis Noble,
Joanna Kavenna hosts.

For centuries the beauty of the universe was seen as evidence for a divine creator. Now we are more likely to see beauty as an adornment to life, a colourful addition but at root a side-show. But might our rejection of the importance of beauty be a profound mistake? Mathematicians call on beauty to explain the quality of a proof. Cosmology and particle physics employ theories chosen for their elegance and beauty. Einstein concluded, "the only physical theories we are willing to accept are the beautiful ones". While we all seek beauty in key aspects of our lives, from geography to fashion, from what we eat to who we live with.

Should we conclude that beauty is not a subjective or passing cultural fashion but instead an objective and vital quality of the universe? Does the centrality of beauty tell us something about the very character of the universe and reality? Should we place the pursuit of beauty at the centre of our lives or are we right to have relegated beauty to a passing entertainment, valuable and even important but essentially superficial?

Mathematician and Hawking collaborator George Ellis, particle physicist Suchitra Sebastian and renowned Oxford biologist Denis Noble debate whether beauty is an inherent feature of the universe.

INNER CIRCLE

[257] 1:15 pm

From £18

INNER CIRCLE

HowTheLightGetsIn Lunch with Matt O'Dowd

Join leading broadcaster and physicist, Matt O'Dowd, to consider why science might demonstrate that we are truly free.

Music & Acoustic Sessions

[258] 1:15 pm

BLUE MOON

Rebecca Hurst

TALK

[259] 1:30 pm

THE HAT

Russia, China and the New World Order
Laurie Bristow and Michael Clarke

Ukraine defied expectations by holding Russia at bay. But it is far from over. And the stakes are rising as both sides are declaring they cannot afford to lose. Meanwhile, there is talk that China may provide military support to Russia threatening an escalation that could develop into global conflict. Join former British Ambassador to Russia, Laurie Bristow, and renowned defence expert, Michael Clarke, to explore what happens next and how to avoid catastrophe.

1:30 PM

Music & Acoustic Sessions

[260] 1:30 pm

STAGE

Hawk Howard

IAI ACADEMY COURSE

[261] 1:30 pm - 4:00 pm

ACADEMY TENT

Medicine: The Need for a New Paradigm
David Healy

Health and how to deliver medical services is a central topic that continues to polarise both experts and the general public. And from doctors claiming knowledge they don't have, to pharmaceutical giants co-opting academic opinion, our relationship with medicine is fraught with difficulty. Join David Healy, a world-leading Professor of Psychiatry, as he highlights how "evidence-based medicine" has led to unscientific medical practice and the need to shift to a new paradigm.

See page 58 for Part One and Two.



Myriam François

DOXBOX

[262] 1:30 pm

CINEMA

Decarbonise

(See p.62)

TALK

[263] 2:00 pm

THE RING

Marx Deserves Better Critics
Ben Burgis

Marxism once revered, has had a bad press. Repeatedly blamed for everything from the horrors of communism to the cruelty of modern dictators, most in the mainstream have attempted to escape its grip. Join philosopher and public intellectual, Ben Burgis, as he argues that Marx deserves better critics than the ones we have today.

"Invaluable" - Jacobin

Music & Acoustic Sessions

[264] 2:15 pm

BLUE MOON

Chris Bradshaw

2:30 PM

DEBATE

[265] 2:30 pm

ARENA

Rhetoric and Reality
Nolen Gertz, Betty Sue Flowers, Joscha Bach,
Katie Robertson hosts.

Hugely powerful, we assume language enables us to represent reality. But some argue language, from the greatest narratives to the finest theories, not only fails to describe reality it actually distorts and misleads us. Language, the critics argue, formulates a world in its own image. The structure of language, nouns, adjectives, verbs, encourages us to imagine reality consists of their equivalent, things, qualities and actions. But there is no reason to suppose this is the case. And reason instead to conclude that reality is entirely different from the way it is represented in language.

Should we cease to see language as a means of describing the world and instead see it as a means to effect change? Have we mistaken rhetoric for reality? Or is the remarkable effectiveness of language evidence that language succeeds in describing reality even if we don't fully understand how this is achieved?

All researcher Joscha Bach, author and myth expert Betty Sue Flowers and philosopher of technology Nolen Gertz debate if language can ever truly capture reality.

In partnership with

Philosophy Now

DEBATE

[266] 2:30 pm

INTERNATIONAL

The Future of Knowledge
Samson Kambalu, Sophie Scott-Brown, Tim
Blackman. Mary Ann Sieghart hosts.

We see education as the process of learning information and facts, the acquiring of knowledge. We devise tests and exams to ensure it has taken place and these are the cornerstone of our educational system determining success and advancement. But in an internet age when everyone is able to access an encyclopaedia of information capable of answering almost any question, is this focus on knowledge and learning a mistake? Moreover, recent research has shown that even the highest achieving students forget the majority of their teaching within a year.

Have we got the whole of education and teaching wrong and failed to take account of the new era that is upon us? Should we see the acquiring of facts as a pointless exercise and instead focus on the means to assess different sources of information and the ability to critically assess claims and data? Or is the abandonment of the learning of knowledge a dangerous strategy that will lead to chaos and division, and traditional learning more vital than ever?

Artist of Trafalgar Square's Fourth Plinth Samson Kambalu, philosopher Sophie Scott-Brown and Open University Vice-Chancellor Tim Blackman debate the future of knowledge in the age of information.

2:30 PM

Music & Acoustic Sessions

[267] 2:30 pm

STAGE

Alon Maskell



TALK

[268] 3:00 pm

THE RING

A Universe of Possibility
George Ellis

The fundamental structure of the cosmos is not atoms, particles, or even thoughts or mind; the fundamental structure of the universe is possibility. Join one of the world's leading cosmologists and Hawking collaborator, George Ellis, as he argues possibilities underlie our whole physical and mental existence.

"Terrific" - Scientific American

HAT SESSIONS

[269] 3:00 pm

THE HAT

How to Do Astrophysics From Anywhere Or Graur

Every evening the stars and the wonder of the night sky draw our attention to the mysteries of the universe. Join Or Graur, Sky at Night astrophysicist, on how to demystify the wonders of the night and do astrophysics anywhere.

"Concise supernova science" Physics Today

DOXBOX

[270] 3:15 pm

CINEMA

T-Rex: An Evolutionary Journey

(See p.62)

3:15 PM

Music & Acoustic Sessions

[271] 3:15 pm

BLUE MOON

Jakey Boy Hughes

Music & Acoustic Sessions

[272] 3:30 pm

STAGE

Fiddlebop

4:00 PM

LIVE MUSIC

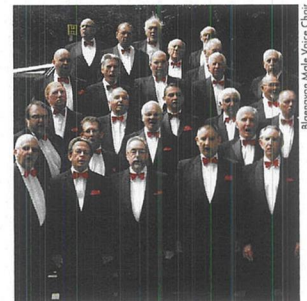
[273] 4:00 pm

ARENA

Blaenavon Male Voice Choir

Equal parts awe-inspiring and tear-inducing, the majestic Blaenavon Male Voice Choir have closed our festival every year since 2009 and this year will be no different. Founded over a century ago, the premier Welsh choir is still going strong and has toured the world to international acclaim, including from the LA Times, who raved that their voices could "move a nation."

"Show-stopping" - LA Times



Blaenavon Male Voice Choir



SPA & WELLNESS

Escape the hustle and relax for a moment at the serene Spa including Meditation, Massage and Yoga for all ages.

9.15 am - 4.45 pm BOHEMIA
Spa events are booked and paid for separately - online or in person.

FAYRE

10.15 am - 4.45 pm FAYRE

The market is full of surprises. Artisan food producers, vintage clothes, cocktails and sequins, as well as some truly original workshops.



RIDES

11.15 am - 4.45 pm RIVERSIDE

Vintage Rides

Including a helter skelter and a ferris wheel where you can catch spectacular views of the festival site Hay and the Black Mountains.

CHILDREN'S PROGRAMME

WORKSHOP

[240] 11:00 am
Philosophy of time travel with Steven Campbell-Harris

WORKSHOP

[248] 12:00 pm
The Pill of Life: Immortality with Annie Webster

HOWTHELIGHTGETSIN LUNCH

INNER CIRCLE
[254] 1:00 pm From £18 WATERFRONT
HowTheLightGetsIn Lunch with Rory Sutherland

[257] 1:15 pm From £18 WATERFRONT
HowTheLightGetsIn Lunch with Matt 'O Dowd

Break bread with our inspiring speakers over a delicious lunch and a glass of award-winning wine.

FRONT ROOM

1.15 pm - 4.45 pm FRONT ROOM

The People's Front Room

A team of wonderfully talented musicians create a truly unique vibe as they extemporise classic tracks of every genre along with their own wicked tunes. Throughout the day and to close of play in the evening.



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at the IAI Academy

Ideas are evolving. At the edge there is rarely consensus. That's why we've created a new platform for learning.

IAI ACADEMY

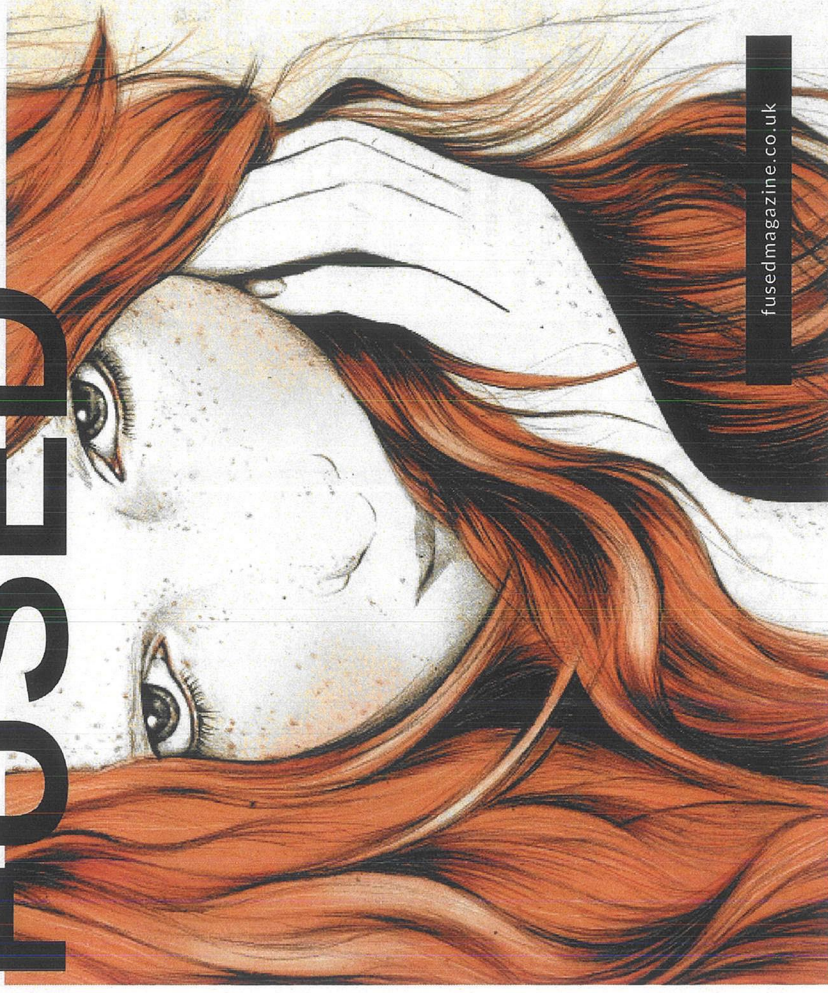
The IAI Academy breaks with the convention that lectures should be devoid of opinion. Our courses invite world-leading thinkers to present a case and a point of view rather than package opinion as knowledge.

IAI Academy courses offer fully-invigilated assessment, with credits earned towards an IAI Academy Award.

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HowTheLightGetsIn IAI ACADEMY

The IAI Academy programme offers short, two-part courses by leading thinkers from around the world. Designed to be accessible and opinionated, the courses are your chance to hear scholars from the best universities put forward their views on the problems at the cutting edge of their field. Courses take place in the Academy Field (see map p. 56). There will be welcome drinks, breaks for tea and coffee between classes, and time to meet other students and the lecturer.

Now in its tenth year, both live and online, the IAI Academy breaks with the convention that lectures can and should be devoid of opinion. In an era where information is everywhere abundant and available, its goal is not to promote one approach as settled 'objective' knowledge but to encourage lecturers to explicitly provide their own take on a field, and to offer new ways of thinking. Additional IAI Academy Courses can be found online.

IAI Academy

Saturday 27th May 2023

Olivia Robinson

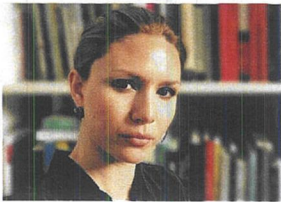
Has successfully completed an IAI Academy course at HowTheLightGetsIn



For those who wish to take an assessment we offer verified certificates of attendance and credits towards an IAI Award at the end of your session. Details can be found on the IAI Academy website. But we welcome those who come for the ideas alone.

Courses Timetable	
Welcome drinks / Course info	20 minutes
Part One	45 minutes
Tea / Coffee Break	20 minutes
Part Two	30 minutes
Optional Assessment	20 minutes

For those who would like to take the assessment, which includes your results and the certificate, fees are only £12



Isabel Mullar

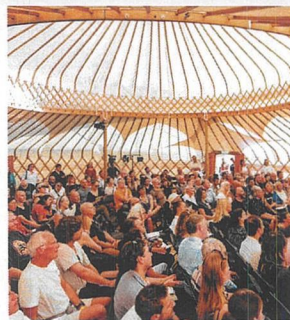
SATURDAY

[48] 10:00 am - 12:30 pm

How the Brain Works

Iain McGilchrist's groundbreaking and radical theory of 'The Divided Brain' has had a widespread impact in both neuroscience and philosophy. In this academy course, he provides an introduction to his theory and the implications which arise from it. He explores how his ideas challenge our current accepted accounts of the world, and offers a new perspective on what it means to be human.

- Part 1 - The Right Way to Live**
How does the divided brain work? Have we become too rational?
How should we balance science and intuition?
- Part 2 - A New Outlook on the Big Questions**
How does a balanced brain change our perspectives on matter, space and time? How does the meaning of our lives change?



SATURDAY

[73] 1:30 pm - 4:00 pm

Welcome to Priapolandia! On the Philosophy and Future of Sex

The strange, fractured and alienated relationship we have to our bodies today suggests that we require a new paradigm to understand how it's not just biological life or political death that power administers, but regimes of enjoyment. This is Patipolitics, from the Latin 'patior' - to suffer, which for psychoanalysis is also to enjoy. In this talk, Isabel Mullar offers her vision of how we should approach the future of sex through a unique lens of philosophy, popular culture and psychoanalysis.

- Part 1: The Current Landscape**
A Theory of the Bombshell, or, What is the relationship between sex and capitalism?
- Part 2: A New Vision for Sex**
Understanding Patipolitics, or, What psychoanalysis can still teach us about sex.

SATURDAY

[96] 5:00 pm - 7:30 pm

The History and Philosophy of Human Nature

Human nature continues to fascinate sociologists and philosophers alike. It seemingly tells us who we truly are, and highlights the limits of human possibility. But whilst many view human nature as governed by evolution, this may no longer be accurate. Join leading philosopher, Subrena E. Smith, to uncover a radical new take on why the very idea of 'human nature' is flawed.

- Part 1: Against Nature**
What do we mean by 'human nature'? What are the major problems with it?
- Part 2: A New Theory of Human Nature**
How should we change our idea of human nature? Why are evolutionary accounts of human behaviour misleading? What are the true limits of human possibility?

SUNDAY

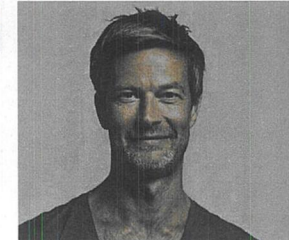
[140] 10:00 am - 12:30 pm

Current Theories of the Universe: The Flaws and the Future

Björn Ekeberg
Few scientific theories are as accepted as the Big Bang. But the theory increasingly relies on hypothetical inventions like dark energy, and many now argue that the consensus should be questioned more seriously. Join scientist and philosopher Björn Ekeberg, as he proposes a new direction for cosmology.

Part 1: What's Wrong with Our Current Theories of the Universe?
What is the standard model? Does dark matter exist and why should we be sceptical?

Part 2: Re-inventing the Universe
What is the future of the Big Bang? What is the future of cosmology?



Björn Ekeberg

SUNDAY

[188] 5:00 pm - 7:30 pm

The Metaphysics of Naturalism

Fiona Ellis
The idea that forces, matter and scientific laws are all there are has been a hallmark of modern science. But could this naturalism ever explain our purpose or meaning? In this academy, philosopher, Fiona Ellis highlights the limits of the scientific account, and puts forward a new radical theory of 'expansive naturalism' to best account for the world.

Part 1: The Limits of Science
What is Naturalism? What are the limits of the scientific account of reality? How can the Nietzschean problem of nihilism undermine scientific accounts?

Part 2: A New Model of Understanding
How can we best understand meaning and value? Why does 'expansive naturalism' offer the best account of the world?

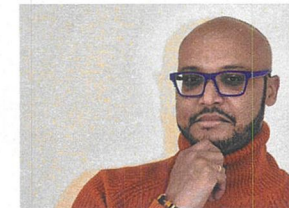
[164] 1:30 pm - 4:00 pm

Understanding Race: Origins and Solutions

Remi Adekoya
Racial divisions must be overcome and we need a new vision for the future. Author of the bestselling book, *Biracial Britain*, Dr Remi Adekoya has been praised for his fresh and insightful approach to race. Join him to uncover the fundamental questions raised by racial identity, as well as deconstructing the reasons behind racial tension.

Part 1: The Origins of Identity and Race
How has the concept of racial identity evolved? How has this shaped contemporary debates on race?

Part 2: The Future of Race
How will identity politics evolve? How can we move beyond tribal divisions?



Remi Adekoya

MONDAY

[234] 10:00 am - 12:30 pm

The Power of Myths

Betty Sue Flowers
In a world where leading thinkers and political leaders appeal to 'fact' and 'truth', it seems that the power of the myth has been lost. Yet in this academy, Betty Sue Flowers will explore why this is a mistake; showing how myths help us to access a higher truth, and provide us with a pathway to a greater understanding of both the self and the world around us.

Part 1: Myths and Truth
What are myths? How are myths connected to truth? Should we trust myths over 'facts'?

Part 2: The Power of Myths
How can myths be used in the 21st Century? How can we use myths to understand the world and the self?



Fiona Ellis

MONDAY

[261] 1:30 pm - 4:00 pm

Medicine: The Need for a New Paradigm

David Healy
Health and how to deliver medical services is a central topic that continues to polarise both experts and the general public. And from doctors claiming knowledge they don't have, to pharmaceutical giants co-opting academic opinion, our relationship with medicine is fraught with difficulty. Join David Healy, a world-leading Professor of Psychiatry, as he highlights how 'evidence-based medicine' has led to unscientific medical practice and the need to shift to a new paradigm.

Part 1: The Medicine Mistake
Is 'evidence based medicine' real or just marketing hype? Have we surrendered control of our lives to medical professionals and Big Pharma?

Part 2: A New Medical Approach
What is 'relationship based medicine'? How could the judgments we and our doctors arrive at together be more scientific than clinical trials?

Children & Young Adult Programme

For budding space scientists, bookworms, fun-lovers, and thinkers alike, HowTheLightGetsIn has plenty on offer to keep children and young adults of all ages busy in our Mindcraft area. There's a whole programme of talks and events in the Mindcraft tent with experiences to pique the curiosity of 7-12 year olds. Elsewhere on the festival site, our sandpit will keep smaller ones entertained whilst in-betweens can get serious with giant games in the Hangout along with our famed vintage rides. All events in the

Mindcraft are free to attend, with the exception of our special pottery workshop; tickets for these sessions can be purchased via our website or at the Box Office.

And for sixth formers and pre-university students, there's a whole programme available at the IAI School. Tickets though must be purchased separately and in advance.

SATURDAY

WORKSHOP
[53] 11:00 am

Outside the Box with Peter Worley

Hey there! Are you ready to take your mind on an exciting journey through some amazing thought experiments? Join us for a fun-filled session of imagination and surprise that will make you think, wonder, and question everything you thought you knew.

WORKSHOP
[63] 12:30 pm

Pottery Workshop

Bare Glazed Studio is a creative hub for budding artists and makers. Join the all new pop up, pottery workshops. You will learn three different hand building techniques: pinch pots, coiling and slab work and create something that commemorates your wonderful festival experience. All structured around different levels of ability, you'll learn to develop your design ideas into ceramic masterpieces.

Suitable for all ages.

Pricing:
Adults (16+) are £10
Under 16s are £5
Under 5s are free!

Book early to avoid disappointment.

SATURDAY



Brilliant Biology with Güneş Taylor

WORKSHOP
[74] 2:00 pm

Brilliant Biology with Güneş Taylor!

Discover the awesome world of biology with Training Fellow at the Francis Crick Institute Güneş Taylor and delve into one of the most fascinating subjects as it deals with the puzzling peculiarities of living organisms and their vital processes. Come and find your inner budding biologist and explore the secret science behind all living things.

WORKSHOP
[85] 3:30 pm

Keep it Up! Juggling and Diabolo with Charlie Barnett

Join the masterful Charlie Barnett and learn not just how to juggle but also diabolo - the game derived from the Chinese yo-yo. Come along and learn some of the huge variety of tricks that are possible such as the Whip Catch and the Star Cradle.

SATURDAY

WORKSHOP
[97] 5:00 pm

Fantastic film-making! with Adrian Abbott

Do you love watching movies more than anything? Have you ever wondered how it's all done behind the scenes? Do you want to sit in the Director's chair one day? Then come along to a film-fuelled creative bonanza and try out your filmmaking skills!

WORKSHOP
[108] 6:30 pm

Pottery Workshop

Suitable for all ages

See 12.30pm Saturday slot for details



Keep it Up! Juggling and Diabolo with Charlie Barnett

SUNDAY

WORKSHOP
[145] 11:00 am

Adventures in Thinking with David Birch

Become "adventurers and explorers of knowledge". You'll get to dive into exciting activities and games that help you discover and understand the world in creative ways. With your curious minds and sharp wits, you'll embark on a thrilling journey of exploration, unlocking secrets and solving puzzles with your new friends. Who knew that learning could be this much fun?



The Big Sensation with David Birch

WORKSHOP
[155] 12:30 pm

Pottery Workshop

Suitable for all ages

See 12.30pm Saturday slot for details

WORKSHOP
[167] 2:00 pm

Blast off to the Universe with Or Grau

Get ready to blast off into the vast expanse of the universe! Astronomy is the study of everything that exists beyond our planet, from the tiniest comets to the mightiest black holes. With its enormous distances, colossal sizes, and epic timeframes, astronomy is truly a BIG subject! But don't let that intimidate you - come along and explore with us!



Pottery Workshop

SUNDAY

WORKSHOP
[177] 3:30 pm

The Big Sensation with David Birch

Get ready to experience the ultimate sensory adventure! Everything is constantly interacting and you get to be a part of it all. With a touch, a taste, or even a lick, you'll embark on a journey of exploration like no other. Discover the power of colour and beauty as you immerse yourself in the universe and connect with all forms of life around you.

WORKSHOP
[189] 5:00 pm

Life in Space with Professor Astrocat

What is it like to live in space? Is there life on other planets? Join Professor Astro Cat and the gang as they travel across space to find out everything there is to know about our galaxy, the solar system and the Universe. From asteroids to alien life and rockets to rovers, there's so much to discover.



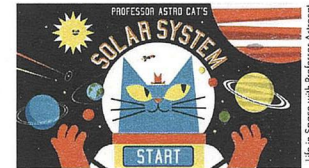
Blast off to the Universe

WORKSHOP
[200] 6:30 pm

Sensory Superpowers with Barry C. Smith

Have you ever wondered why you feel happy when you go outside? Or why the blue sky makes you feel like you're flying? If you want to explore the secrets of how our senses and emotions work together, then this interactive workshop is perfect for you! Philosopher Barry Smith has prepared a range of exciting sensory experiences that will blow your mind and open your senses to a whole new world of possibilities.

MONDAY



Life in Space with Professor Astrocat

WORKSHOP
[240] 11:00 am

Philosophy of time travel with Steven Campbell-Harris

Come and explore the philosophy of time travel (complete with a demonstration with a Time Machine!). Here we will explore what time is, and what it means to travel through it. Then another session could be on ownership- "how do we know what's mine and what's yours?" - told through a story of cowmen and women going back in time before anyone owned anything.

WORKSHOP
[248] 12:00 pm

Living Forever with Annie Webster

Hold on to your seats because this one's a biggie! There's been talk of a revolutionary new technology that could grant humans immortality in the first few decades of the 21st century - mind uploading. But the question is, would you take the Pill of Life and live forever?

WORKSHOP
[253] 1:00 pm

What's Mine? What's Yours? With Steven Campbell-Harris

Are you ready for a wild adventure through time? Join Steven Campbell-Harris as he takes us back to the days of cowmen and cowwomen, before anyone owned anything! Together, we'll discover the fascinating story of how humans first began to understand the concept of ownership. As we explore this exciting journey through history, we'll ask ourselves the question: "how do we know what's mine and what's yours?"



Art & Cinema Tent

OPEN GALLERY

Open Gallery presents 'Error and Renaissance' a video painting series commissioned exclusively for HowTheLightGetsIn - Hay 2023. Exhibited in the Art & Cinema tent during the mornings and early afternoons of the festival weekend.

Open Gallery has pioneered the medium of video painting since its inception in 2001. Video paintings encourage the viewer to abandon the assumption of narrative that typically applies to video images, and find instead an unlimited and unexpected level of detail and wonder in their multi-layered texture. The individually titled video paintings are combined into series, played out according to criteria determined by the artist or curator.

The 'Error and Renaissance' series, acts as a visual introduction to new ways of seeing the world. Modern life can understandably often lead itself to pessimism and cynical thinking. However, the scenes shown offer an alternative view of optimistic living, amongst technology that acts in our best interest, new personal freedoms and daring to challenge the status quo as never before. Bright colours, the night sky and human relationships take centre stage here and prompt viewers to ask themselves - do you dare to dream of a better tomorrow?

Instead of running on a loop, the work plays out in an order that continually evolves whilst maintaining a coherent identity. To fully appreciate this, the work is ideally viewed over a period of weeks and months; however, the installation on view will make it possible to drop in on the work over the course of the weekend to approximate a complete experience.

Open Gallery looks forward to welcoming you to this unique viewing encounter.

opengallery

DOKBOX at HOWTHELIGHTGETSIN

The hot new documentary streaming provider, DOKBOX, brings the world's best documentaries to HowTheLightGetsIn Hay 2023. Running in the afternoon and evenings in the Art & Cinema Tent, the DOKBOX programme brings together a host of award-winning films from the world's leading producers and directors.

Highlights from the programme include:

Carbon: The Unauthorised Biography

Narrated by award-winning actress Sarah Snook (Succession), this is the ultimate biography of Carbon, the most talked about but least understood element on earth. Carbon in nature, industry, culture, war and love.

Friday, 9pm [27]

The Bowraville Murders

Through the lens of one of Australia's worst unsolved murder cases, this powerful documentary examines the treatment of Aboriginal people under a legal system marred by systemic racism and police misconduct.

Saturday, 11pm [131]

Why Do We Even Work?

Across the world, people are re-evaluating what it means to go to work. In a new era of home offices and remote working, many employees now value flexibility and work-life balance over promotions or financial gains.

Saturday, 9pm [121]

Ukrainian Women

The war in Ukraine has brought about unimaginable suffering to millions. This timely series puts a human face on the conflict through focusing on four remarkable women and the life-changing decisions they have been forced to make.

Saturday, 9pm [221]

SPECIAL OFFER FOR HOWTHELIGHTGETSIN FESTIVAL GOERS:

Sign up during HowTheLightGetsIn Hay 2023 Festival and get 3 months FREE subscription to DOKBOX.

Start your 90 day free trial today by scanning the QR code, and get access to the world's best documentaries, all in one place.



HowTheLightGetsIn IAI SCHOOL

The IAI School returns to HowTheLightGetsIn 2023 with its most exciting programme yet. Targeted at pre-university students who want to grow their skills of critical thinking, analysis and verbal reasoning as well as strengthen their university applications, the IAI School is a stimulating programme of talks, discussions, and workshops led by world-leading thinkers. Our biggest lineup to date is accompanied by an in-depth Q&A with an admissions tutor from a leading UK university. The course has a strong emphasis on interdisciplinary thinking

and covers specialised areas of philosophy and science, contemporary politics and critical theory.

The school programme will take place on Saturday 27th and Sunday 28th. Students will also have access to the full HowTheLightGetsIn programme headline talks, debates, music and comedy, as well as breakfast on both days and dinner on the Saturday evening.

SATURDAY 27TH MAY

MIKE BERNERS-LEE



By now most are convinced that climate change is one of the burning problems that face humanity. But much speculation still exists about what is to be done. Do we all need to become vegetarians? How can we fly in a low-carbon world? Should we track? How can we take control of technology? Does it all come down to population? Pioneering researcher and expert on the environment, Mike Berners-Lee, sheds light on some of these questions.

SATURDAY 27TH MAY

BARRY C. SMITH



Barry C. Smith is an English philosopher and Director of the Institute of Philosophy at the University of London. For much of his career, he has been fascinated by the supposed "mass-delusion" that we only

have five senses. Gathering together insights from neuroscience and philosophy, Smith will take you on an immersive tour through the other senses that you did not know you had.

SATURDAY 27TH MAY

GRAFTON TANNER



From Brexit to Biden, and right to left, society is more polarised than ever before. Rising star and young author, Grafton Tanner, explores how nations have been divided by nostalgia, how fictional universe-building has impacted the way we think, and how our recent obsession with the past might stop us from imagining a better future.

SUNDAY 28TH MAY

HELEN CZERSKI



Leading oceanographer and broadcaster, Helen Czerski, sits down and explains why the ocean is not merely a feature of our planet, but an extraordinary engine on which we all depend -- a phenomenal blue machine that will decide all of our futures.

SUNDAY 28TH MAY

CAITJAN GAINTY



In this unique workshop, famed historian of medicine, Caitjan Gainty, will take you on a captivating journey through the weird, the wonderful and in some cases, frankly terrifying world of how lives were saved and not saved throughout history.

SUNDAY 28TH MAY

DOMINIC WALLIMAN



Ground breaking Youtuber, science writer and communicator, Dominic Walliman, breaks down and simplifies some of the most fascinating and complex concepts in all of physics.

Timetable

DAY 1

9:45 AM	Introduction
10:00 AM	Grafton Tanner Talk
10:45 AM	Breakfast/Break
11:30 AM	Philosophy and the senses
12:30 PM	Headline Debate & Lunch
14:00 PM	Mike Berners-Lee
14:45 PM	Discussion Break
15:30 PM	University Admissions Tutor
18:00 PM	Welcome Dinner

DAY 2

9:45 AM	Introduction
10:00 AM	Helen Czerski talk
10:45 AM	Breakfast/Break
11:30 AM	Caitjan Gainty Talk
12:30 PM	Headline Debate & Lunch
14:00 PM	Dominic Walliman
14:45 PM	Discussion Break
15:30 PM	Peter Worley - Philosophy Foundation

SUNDAY 28TH MAY

PETER WORLEY - PHILOSOPHY FOUNDATION



Get ready to uncover the secrets of happiness with Peter Worley. In this exciting session, we'll delve into the fascinating world of ancient Greek philosophy and discover the teachings of Epicurus, the founder of Epicureanism. Epicurus dedicated his life to understanding what it truly means to be happy and what we need to achieve that state of mind.

Watch exclusive

DOKBOX

documentaries at

HowTheLightGetsIn

Art & Cinema Tent

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SCAN ME

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to request a tailored quote



SCAN ME



SPEAKERS

Remi Adekoya [50] [79] [164]

Remi Adekoya is an outspoken politics lecturer, journalist, and author of *It's Not About Whiteness, It's About Wealth*. His work focuses on the politics and emotions around identity.

Pragya Agarwal [174]

Pragya Agarwal is a behavioural and data scientist, and founder of research think-tank 'The 50 Percent Project' that examines gender and racial inequities globally.

Joscha Bach [49] [147] [265]

Joscha Bach is a computer scientist and renowned AI researcher, and cognitive science researcher at Humboldt University, Harvard and MIT.

Maria Balaska [99] [179]

Maria Balaska is a philosopher and former psychotherapist. She is author of *Wittgenstein and Lacan at the Limit: Meaning and Astonishment*.

Jessica Berlin [149]

Jessica Berlin is a pre-eminent foreign policy analyst and commentator. She focuses on transatlantic relations and recently has been reporting and fundraising in Ukraine.

Mike Berners-Lee [170]

Mike Berners-Lee is a researcher and writer on carbon footprinting. He is a professor and fellow of the Institute for Social Futures at Lancaster University.

Paul Bickley [100]

Paul Bickley is Research Fellow and Acting Head of Research at the religion and society think tank, Theos.

Simon Blackburn [68]

Simon Blackburn is a leading philosophy professor known for his work in metaethics and defender of quasi-realism. He is a member of the IAI Advisory board.

Steven Bannell [9] [57] [109]

Steven Bannell is an internet personality and political commentator, known online as *Dastiny*. Among the first to stream videogames, his political debates are streamed to 500,000.

Billy Bragg [153] [192]

Billy Bragg is a legendary singer-songwriter and political activist. His trailblazing music has helped to inspire the younger generations to engage with social and political causes.

Laurie Bristow [149] [259]

Laurie Bristow is a British Diplomat and former ambassador to Russia. Laurie Bristow was also the ambassador to Afghanistan during the fall of Kabul.

Emma Bryson [201]

Emma Bryson is passionate advocate for justice reform. She has campaigned extensively to change how our justice system fails to prosecute the vast majority of sexual offenders.

Ben Burgis [159] [178] [263]

Ben Burgis is a philosophy professor at Morehouse University Peimeter College. He is a columnist for *Jacobin Magazine*.

Fran Chadha-Day [141] [191]

Fran Chadha-Day is theoretical particle physicist at Durham and a science comedian. She focuses on new fundamental physics through astrophysical observations.



Lisa Randall



Tommy Curry

Mazviita Chirimuta [22] [147]

Mazviita Chirimuta is senior lecturer in philosophy at University of Edinburgh. She specialises in philosophy of neuroscience and philosophy of perception.

Michael Clarke [245] [259]

Michael Clarke is former Director of the Centre for Defence Studies, Director of the International Policy Institute and Head of the School of Social Science and Public Policy at King's College London.

Martin Cohen [141]

Martin Cohen is a philosopher, editor and reviewer who writes on the philosophy of science and political philosophy. He is also the author of *101 Philosophy Problems*.

Hannah Critchlow [150]

Hannah Critchlow is a leading Cambridge neuroscientist and best-selling author. Named one of Cambridge University's most 'inspirational and successful women in science'.

Tommy Curry [10] [47]

Tommy Curry is a trailblazing philosopher of race at Edinburgh University where he holds a Personal Chair in Africana Philosophy and Black Male studies.

Helen Czerski [170] [181]

Helen Czerski is a pioneer in the physics of the everyday, Helen Czerski is a physicist, oceanographer, broadcaster and author of *Blue Machine: How the Ocean Shapes our World*.

Bhavna Dave [82]

Bhavna Dave is senior lecturer in politics of Central Asia. Her research focuses on geopolitics and relations between Russia and states in the Eurasian region.

Thangam Debbonaire [142] [156]

Thangam Debbonaire is a Labour MP, member of the Shadow Cabinet and Shadow Leader of the House of Commons. Resigned as a member of Corbyn's shadow cabinet in 2016 and rejoined his frontbench team later the same year as a whip.

Daniel Dennett [15] [59] [99]

Daniel Dennett is a renowned philosopher and cognitive scientist. An outspoken atheist and secularist Daniel Dennett is described as one of the 'four horsemen of New Atheism'.

Cory Doctorow [147] [246]

Cory Doctorow is an influential journalist, blogger and science fiction author. He advocates for liberalising copyright, digital rights management and post-scarcity.

Peter Egan [50] [89]

Peter Egan is an actor, came to prominence as the Marquis of Fintshire in *Downton Abbey*. He is also an animal rights activist and prominent vegan.

Bjørn Ekeberg [5] [88] [140] [212]

Bjørn Ekeberg is a celebrated philosopher of science whose interests lie in the limits of scientific knowledge. He is the author of *erudite, Metaphysical Experiments*.

Fiona Ellis [188]

Fiona Ellis is professor of philosophy and director of the Centre for Practical Philosophy, Theology and Religion.

George Ellis [256] [268] [236]

George Ellis is an eminent theoretical physicist and professor at the University of Cape Town in South Africa. He co-authored 'The Large Scale Structure of Space-Time' with physicist Stephen Hawking.

Betty Sue Flowers [180] [234] [265]

Betty Sue Flowers is an accomplished author and pioneer of the psychological appreciation of ancient myths, and collaborated closely with Joseph Campbell whose work inspired *Star Wars*.

Myriam François [45] [109] [153] [233] [255] [265]

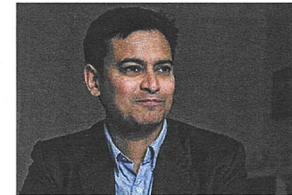
Myriam François is an author, film-maker and academic. She is founder of production company *mpwr productions*, which specialises in films which centre minority voices.

Miriam Frankel [174]

Miriam Frankel is the science editor for *The Conversation*. She has a background in education policy and a PhD in Physics and has written for *Guardian* and *BBC*.

Esther Freud [50] [78]

Esther Freud is an award-winning writer and author of 9 best-selling novels. Daughter of painter Lucian Freud and great-granddaughter of Sigmund Freud.



Ronan Miller

Caitlan Gainty [160]

Caitlan Gainty is a historian of twentieth century healthcare at King's College London. She co-runs the Healthy Scepticism project which reanalyses medical controversies to find new solutions.

Nolan Gertz [246] [265]

Nolan Gertz is a nihilism expert. His work sits at the intersection of Political Philosophy, Technology and Existential Phenomenology, and teaches at the University of Twente.

Eliane Glaser [50] [78] [192] [208]

Eliane Glaser is a writer and contributor to the *Guardian*, *Independent* and *New Statesman*. She has written on propaganda, fake authenticity and astroturfing.

Bahar Ghalipour [180] [212] [237] [246]

Bahar Ghalipour is a New York-based tech and science journalist with a background in computer science and neuroscience.

Brian Greene [191]

Brian Greene is a world renowned theoretical physicist and leading proponent of string theory. Professor of Columbia and chairman and co-founder of the World Science Festival.

Sunetra Gupta [7] [15] [88]

Sunetra Gupta is a multi-awarding winning scientist and Oxford professor of theoretical epidemiology specialising in infectious disease agents. She has also written five acclaimed novels.

David Healy [139] [160] [261]

David Healy is a professor of psychiatry at Bangor University and a psychopharmacologist and prolific author. He specializes in the contribution of antidepressants to suicide.

Rebecca Henderson [55] [170]

Rebecca Henderson is a Harvard economist and MBA professor. Her work *Reimagining Capitalism* makes the case that sustainability is paramount but also profitable.

Fiona Hill [51] [87]

Fiona Hill is a British American foreign affairs specialist. An intelligence analyst under Bush and Obama, Hill was appointed by Trump as an official to the National Security Council. Appointed Chancellor of Durham University in 2023.

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Isabel Hilton [51] [58] [255]
Isabel Hilton is a praised journalist, broadcaster and founding editor of *chroniclemag.net* - an independent, non-profit based in London, Beijing and San Francisco.

Tom Hodgkinson [110]

Tom Hodgkinson is founder of the *Idler* and author of *How to be Idle*. Tom has worked as a columnist for the *Guardian* and launched the annual *Bad Grammar Award*.

Paul Horwich [159]

Paul Horwich is a British analytic philosopher at New York University specialising in physics, time and language, and the philosophy of the later Wittgensteinian.

Simon Jenkins [245]

Simon Jenkins is a leading journalist, author and newspaper columnist. He has written extensively on British history, politics and architecture. Currently a columnist for the *Guardian*.

Samson Kambalu [65] [171] [252] [266]

Samson Kambalu is a Malawi-born artist, lecturer in fine art at Oxford university and author. His work currently sits on Trafalgar Square's fourth plinth.

Joanna Kavenna [19] [71] [180] [237] [256]

Joanna Kavenna is winner of the *Orange First Novel prize*. Kavenna's works include *A Field Guide to Reality*, *The Ice Museum* and *Inglorious*. She is a member of the IAI Advisory board.

Ruth Kinna [142] [161]

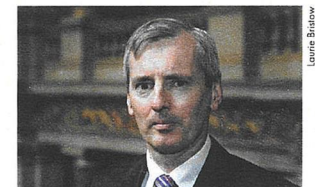
Ruth Kinna, since 2007, has been the editor of the journal *Anarchist Studies*. She is also professor of political philosophy at Loughborough University.

Christof Koch [69] [150] [180]

Christof Koch is a leading neurophysiologist and computational neuroscientist. He is the president and chief scientist at Allen Institute for Brain Science and former professor at Caltech.

Gary Lachman [18] [22] [150]

Blondie's bassist, Gary Lachman, has since the 1990s become a prolific writer in the field of mysticism, and philosophy.



Laurie Bristow



SPEAKERS

Nick Lane [100] [160] [187]

Nick Lane is a professor of evolutionary biochemistry at UCL and award winning author. His latest book: *The Deep Chemistry of Life and Death*.

Hilary Lawson [19] [99] [142] [171]

Hilary Lawson is a non-realist philosopher and author known for his theory of Closure which proposes the world is 'open'. He is Editorial Director of the Institute of Art and Ideas.

David Livingstone Smith [58] [208] [255]

David Livingstone Smith is a philosopher and prize-winning author. He won the 2012 Anisfield-Wolf Book Award for non-fiction and was a speaker at the 2012 G20 summit.

Branwen Maddox [245]

Branwen Maddox is a former journalist who has served as the director and CEO of think tank Chatham House since August 2022.

Iain McGilchrist [22] [48] [78] [162]

Iain McGilchrist is a psychiatrist and influential writer. He came to prominence with his book *The Master and His Emissary* which put forward a radically new account of the brain.

Isabel Millar [73] [109]

Isabel Millar is a philosopher, psychoanalytic theorist and author of *The Psychoanalysis of Artificial Intelligence*. She is an Associate Researcher at Newcastle University.



Linda Yueh

Lisa Miller [57] [100] [110]

Lisa Miller is a New York Times bestselling author of *The Spiritual Child* and founder of the spirituality mind body institute at Columbia University.

Rana Mitter [68] [79] [86]

Award-winning professor of History and Politics of Modern China at Oxford, Rana Mitter is a presenter of Free Thinking, and a member of the IAI Advisory Board.

Pauline Neville-Jones [245]

Pauline Neville-Jones is a politician who served on the National Security Council and was Minister of State for Security and Counter Terrorism.

Denis Noble [239] [256]

Denis Noble is a renowned Oxford Professor and biologist. He was the first to develop a viable mathematical model of the working heart.

Jesse Norman [142] [151]

Jesse Norman is Conservative MP, who serves as Minister of State for Decarbonisation and Technology. He taught philosophy at UCL and is currently a fellow of All Souls.

Matt O'Dowd [236] [257]

Matt O'Dowd is an astrophysicist and science communicator. The host of PBS Space Time and crew member of Black Rock Observatory.

Claire Ogley [58]

Claire Ogley sets the strategy for The Vegan Society campaigns and policy work. She has a background in political consulting and vegan issues in Parliament.

David Omand [143] [149]

David Omand is author of *How Spies Think: Ten Lessons in Intelligence*; a book covering his views on security intelligence and working with Thatcher and Blair.

Maya Oppenheim [109]

Maya Oppenheim is The Independent's Women's Correspondent. She covers news, social policy and global stories from a women's angle.

Ruth Oulton [49]

Ruth Oulton is Professor of Quantum Photonics and Quantum Technologies at the University of Bristol. Her work focuses on quantum technology applications.

Becky Parker [19]

Becky Parker is an award-winning physicist and educator. She is a visiting professor at School of Physics and Astronomy, Queen Mary University of London.

Roger Penrose [78] [191]

Roger Penrose is a world-renowned physicist, best known for his work on general relativity, and for winning the Nobel Prize and Wolf Prize for Physics with Stephen Hawking.

Sasha Polakow-Suransky [149]

Sasha Polakow-Suransky is a deputy editor at Foreign Policy. He was previously an op-ed editor at the New York Times and has authored several bestselling books.

Lisa Randall [141] [236]

Lisa Randall is a world leading expert on particle physics and cosmology. She is the author of *Higgs Discovery: The Power of Empty Space*.

Malcolm Rifkind [87] [149]

Malcolm Rifkind is a British politician who served in the cabinets of Margaret Thatcher and John Major. And most recently as chair of the Intelligence and Security Committee.

Rebecca Roache [171] [237]

Rebecca Roache is a lecturer at Royal Holloway University of London. She focuses on practical ethics, mind and language with a specialism in swearing.

Katie Robertson [236] [265]

Katie Robertson is a research fellow and cutting edge physicist at the University of Birmingham. Her research focuses on the role that entropy plays in black holes.

Anders Sandberg [174]

Anders Sandberg is a futurist and transhumanist and research fellow at the Future of Humanity Institute at Oxford. He is also co-founder and writer for the think tank Eudoxa.

Katarina Schwarz [64]

Katarina Schwarz is an anti-slavery legal activist interrogating the validity of our current anti-slavery legislation. She is a legal scholar at Nottingham University.

Sophie Scott-Brown [68] [109] [192] [247] [266]

Sophie Scott-Brown is Director of the Europea Institute at the University of Oxford and philosopher whose work explores anarchism and figures in the post-war British left.

Suchitra Sebastian [184] [202] [242] [256]

Suchitra Sebastian is a condensed matter physicist at University of Cambridge. She is known for her discoveries in exotic quantum phenomena.

Niki Seth-Smith [159]

Niki Seth-Smith is deputy editor of New Humanist and a fiction writer exploring how stories can help construct better futures.

Rupert Sheldrake [10] [61]

Rupert Sheldrake is a highly successful author, parapsychology researcher, and former Cambridge biochemist. His theory of morphic resonance has been controversial. He is a critic of scientism and his book *The Science Delusion* is a bestseller.

Michael Shermer [13] [61] [88] [157]

Michael Shermer is an American science writer, historian of science, executive director of The Sceptics Society and founding publisher of Scepter magazine.

Mary Ann Sieghart [87] [138] [201] [266]

Mary Ann Sieghart is a former Times leader writer and presenter of Start The Week, Chair of the Social Market Foundation and a visiting fellow of All Souls, Oxford.

Subrena E. Smith [15] [96]

Subrena E. Smith is a philosopher of biology whose work focuses on human behavioural variation. She researches new theories of human nature.

Barry C. Smith [93] [150] [182] [200]

Barry C. Smith is Director of the Institute of Philosophy at London University. He also co-directs the Centre for the Study of the Senses, and is a member of the IAI Advisory board.

Guy Standing [58] [67] [103]

Guy Standing is an economist and professor of development studies at SOAS. He has been a key proponent of Universal Basic Income, and initiated the term 'the precarious class'.

Zoe Strimpel [90] [192] [201]

Zoe Strimpel has a weekly column in the Telegraph and is the author of several bestselling books. A journalist, historian and commentator on gender and relationships.



Semira Gupta

Dominic Walliman [49]

Dominic Walliman is a YouTuber and an award-winning science writer. He writes the Professor Astro Cat science books and runs the Youtube channel domain of Science.

Matt Warren [174]

Matt Warren is a deputy editor at The Conversation and is an investigator at the International Public Policy Observatory.

Eric Weinstein [19] [191]

Eric Weinstein is an American mathematician and podcast host, former managing director of Thiel Capital and holds a PhD in Mathematical Physics from Harvard.

Richard Warner [67]

Richard Warner is the former Archbishop of Canterbury and Master of Magdalene College in Cambridge. He is a theologian, poet and philosopher.

Rowan Williams [162] [179]

Rowan Williams is the former Archbishop of Canterbury and Master of Magdalene College in Cambridge. He is a theologian, poet and philosopher.

Harriet Wistrich [201] [255]

Harriet Wistrich is a solicitor and radical feminist specialising in cases involving women who have been sexually assaulted or have killed violent partners.

Richard Wrangham [179] [195]

Richard Wrangham is an anthropologist and primatologist. He is a professor of biological anthropology at Harvard and has written on ape behaviour, violence, and cooking.

Lola Young [58] [74]

Lola Young is a British actress, author, crossbench peer, and Chancellor of the University of Nottingham. She was the former head of culture at the Greater London Authority.

Cindy Yu [82] [166]

Cindy Yu is an assistant editor of The Spectator and presenter of our Chinese Whispers podcast. She was brought up in Nanjing.

Linda Yueh [67] [81] [170]

Linda Yueh is a fellow in economics at Oxford and former Chief Business Correspondent and Contributing Editor for BBC News - she hosted *Talking Business with Linda Yueh*.

Tasneem Zehra Husain [159] [191]

Tasneem Zehra Husain is a theoretical physicist in Lahore, Pakistan, and the first Pakistani female string theorist. She is author of *Only the Longest Threads*.

Slavoj Žižek [57] [71] [144] [179]

Slavoj Žižek is an influential Slovenian philosopher and cultural theorist. A prolific writer with more than fifty books to his name, he specialises in continental philosophy, Hegel and Marxism.



PERFORMERS

Abigail Collins [40] [134]

Comedy powerhouse Abigail Collins has become well known on the cabaret circuit for her multi-talented mix of comedy and circus.

Æ. MAK [119]

Dublin's Æ. MAK defies classification. Sonically similar to Sin, Grimes and Paul Simon, she has the limbs of a young David Byrne if he were captain of the Battleship.

All Day Breakfast Café [30]

Crowning themselves as South London's favourite disco band and with support from 6Music & NPR, they are on a mission to spread disco-joy and to get everyone dancing!

Allysha Joy [198]

Well versed in poetry and performance, Allysha Joy's potent lyricism, unique musicianship and killer vocals have garnered legions of attentive fans the world over.

Anna Meredith [38]

Mercury prize nominee Anna Meredith is a genre-crossing composer and producer, whose work straddles the worlds of contemporary, classical, electronica and art-rock.

Belle & Sebastian [DJ] [130]

With a legacy spanning three decades, Brit Award-winning artists Belle and Sebastian have truly earned their place in music history.



Esther Manito

Ben Pope [223]

With sell-out runs at the Edinburgh Fringe, Ben Pope was the Piccadilly Comedy Club New Comedian of the Year Winner.

Blaenavon Male Voice Choir [273]

Founded over a century ago, the premier Welsh choir is still going strong and has toured the world to international acclaim.

Cerys Hafana [192]

Winner of the Aberystwyth Arts Centre Ian McKellen Award 2020, Cerys Hafana is a Welsh triple harpist, pianist and composer.

Club de Fromage [224]

An anarchic stage show? Ginormous pop tunes? Sing-alongs so huge you can see them from space? It can only be Club de Fromage, London's premier pop party!

Erika Ehler [32]

Erika's razor-sharp, dark and visceral writing paired with precise delivery makes her one of the most exciting young comedians on the circuit.

Esther Manito [26]

Esther Manito has received BBC New Comedy Award nominations four years running and achieved a finalist spot in both the regional Funny Women Awards.

Felicity Ward [118]

Nominated for Best Comedy Act at the Edinburgh Fringe and named Charlie Club's Best Comic of the Year, Felicity is a London-based comedian, actor and writer.

George G-Force [28]

George G-Force has been making a name for himself on the festival circuit with appearances at Wilderness, Shindig and Lakefest.

Gruff Rhys [219]

Award-winning Gruff Rhys is a songwriter, producer and BAFTA-winning storyteller, who has sought a variety of outlets for his creative flights.

Hannah Platt [114]

Never shying away from sensitive topics, Hannah is a stand-up comedian, writer and Finalist of the BBC New Comedian of the Year Award in 2019.

Honey B McKenna [216]

New kid on the block, and super talented DJ, producer and vocalist Honey B McKenna is a regular across the late night circuit in South Wales.



Melvin Melyn

House of Figs [204]

Headlining events at Bristol Poetry Festival, Greenman and Komedia Bath, House of Figs create tender, powerful poetry.

Isabella Bliss [228]

Isabella Bliss is one of the most popular burlesque artists on the UK cabaret scene, having featured in the hit series Drifters as well as BBC's Not Going Out.

Jally Kebba Susso [213]

Accomplished kara playing maverick Jally Kebba Susso is a UK based griot, forging a new trajectory of sound for the West African harp.

JERUB [8]

With support from BBC Radio 1, 6 Music and BBC Introducing, Nottingham artist JERUB is an authentic storyteller with a heart-warming take on pop and indie.

Jet Boot Jack [28]

Jet Boot Jack pushes the boundaries of disco and house - supporting The Chemical Brothers, Professor Green and Fat Freddy's Drop behind the decks.

Jordan Brookes [214]

Award-winning comedian Jordan Brookes' ambitious live shows have seen him win Dave's Edinburgh Comedy Award and the Comedians' Comedian award.

Jaz Norris [126]

Jaz Norris is one of the most acclaimed outsiders of the alternative comedy scene, nominated for the Malcolm Hardee Award for Comic Originality.

Malady [20]

With support from NME, The FADER & DIY, Malady's heady mix of post-rave beats and indie grooves have cemented their soaring reputation throughout the emerging landscape.

Max Galactic [28] [122] [216]

Expect soul-shaking disco debauchery and dance floor bangers - it's glitter, sequins, big smiles and even bigger tunes with resident DJ Max Galactic on the decks!

Melvin Melyn [205]

Pushing forward on a less travelled road between psychedelia and surf rock, Melvin Melyn has received praise from NME, DIY and The Independent.

Milo Edwards [35]

Milo Edwards is a critically acclaimed stand-up comedian and podcaster, with a string of sold-out shows at the Edinburgh Fringe.

Mr Bruce [218]

Former frontman of The Correspondents and one of Britain's most in-demand festival acts, Mr Bruce creates a unique and unparalleled live experience.

MyMateKate [216]

Superstar DJ MyMateKate will take you on a journey through delicious grooves, disco infused bangers and feel good party anthems.

Nerina Pallot [125]

With Brit Award and Ivor Novello nominations to her name, Nerina Pallot's rich and varied back catalogue suggests an artist determined on carving her own path.

Onipa [227]

Onipa represent a fiery collaboration between some of the heaviest players on the UK live scene, already playing major shows at Glastonbury and Eurosonic.

Priya Hall [24]

Priya Hall is a stand up comedian and writer, whose signature style has been described by Bristol 24/7 as "hilariously oversharing."

Sans Soucis [113]

Praised by BBC 6 Music, BBC 1XTRA and The Independent, Sans Soucis bridges the gap between the pop and jazz world, with an all-embracing soulful and folk flavour.

Rachel Sermanni [25]

Rachel Sermanni makes the mundane moments mystical. Her songs speak of the rare moments of quiet-still, found in the midst of struggle and desire.



Tara Lily

Saint Boy [3]

Saint Boy are a London based indie folk trio, delivering gorgeous three part harmonies with intricate guitar parts and stunningly emotive lyrics.

Sara Barron [206]

Sara Barron is one of the fastest-rising comedians of her generation, starring on shows including Live at the Apollo and Would I Lie to You?

Sean McLoughlin [211]

Hugely in-demand, Sean has made appearances on Live At The Apollo, Mock The Week and has supported Ricky Gervais on his international arena tour.

Seraphina Simone [14]

With dreamy and effervescent earworm pop with hooks that lodge themselves into your brain, Seraphina has generated support from The Line of Best Fit and Clash.

Tadiwa Mahlunge [220]

Billed as one of the country's 'top new comedy acts' by The York Press, Tadiwa Mahlunge has performed at Greenman, Brighton Comedy Garden and Camp Wildfire.

Tapetri [106]

Championed by BBC 6 Music and BBC Radio 2, two-piece Tapetri have performed everywhere from Greenman to Festival Number 6.

Tara Lily [112]

Tara Lily's intriguing blend of sounds and her deep understanding of the worlds they come from have caught the attention of Gilles Peterson and Matown Records UK.

Tatty Macleod [129]

Gaining a huge online following thanks to her extremely popular French vs English sketches, Tatty Macleod is a French/English bilingual stand-up comedian and writer.

TC & The Groove Family [133]

With numerous plays on BBC 6Music, the 10-piece collective explore grooves and genres from the UK and around the world.

The Last Dinner Party [31]

Opening the main stage for The Rolling Stones last year, The Last Dinner Party have burst forth gloriously into the guitar music renaissance.

Tom Ward [120]

Appearing on a number of critically acclaimed shows including 'Live at The Apollo', Tom is an award-winning comedian from London.

Torture and the Desert Spiders [101]

Fronted by Anna Kunz, Torture and the Desert Spiders have shared the stage with The Lounge Society, ARXX and Pillow Queens - proving their esteemed live talent.

Tungz [124]

A self produced band emitting funk grooves and emotional dance tracks, Tungz's core values are sleek minimalism, clean lines and future-funk breakdowns.

Vivid People Disco [122]

Vivid People Disco bring the nostalgia of the discotheque back to party heads, with their focus on 80s, 90s and disco anthems connecting with clubbers young and old.

Zero 7 [DJ] [36]

Described by NME as the British Air, Zero 7 have been nominated for a Grammy, the Mercury prize and a Brit Award.



Festival Information

- Food & Drink
- Venues
- Festival Tickets
- Maps



Festival Team

IAI TEAM

COMMUNICATIONS & PUBLICITY

Dylan Caines Content Executive; Charlotte Churcher Press & PR Senior Executive; Marianna Chrysanthou Web Analyst; Bryony Holdsworth Press & Performer Senior Executive; Ioana Pencea Marketing Executive; Julie Su Performance Marketing Executive; Adam Tait Marketing Lead

EDUCATION & DEVELOPMENT

Hannah Bailey Education and Development Lead; Emma Lelo Senior Education Development Executive; Rachel Williams Senior Development Executive; Katie Lee Development Consultant

MEDIA PRODUCTION

Camille Caloni Film Team; Mickey Dimitrova Media Production Lead; Victor Elgersma Film Team; Louis Norris Film Team; Taylor Purcell Film Team; Olivia Robinson Design Lead

PRODUCTION

Charlie Barnett Senior Producer; Darcy Bounsall Producer; Harry Carlisle Production Team; Simon Custer Production Team; Rae Doyle Production Team; Omari Edwards Assistant Producer; Eve Hammond Green Room; Nour Khairi Production Team; Hilary Lawson Editorial Director; Ella Mackenzie Green Room Lead; Alex Murphy Production Team; Kristina Nazariyan Talent; Ben Oswald Producer; Elinor Skinner Production Team; Mia Sorenti Production Team; Beth Sullivan Green Room; Ricky Williamson Festival Manager & Events Production Lead

HOWTHELIGHTGETSIN TEAM

FESTIVAL SITE

Jamie Atherton Site Design and Management; Max Cheyney, Miguel Diaz, Colin Cameron, Darren Elliot, Jez Bailey, Monica Diaz, Joe Doyle, Hazel Houghton, Henry Yeomans, Ethan Little-Col, Sean Sampson Site Team

FOOD & DRINK

Kirsten Aitken Inner Circle; Nikki Burns Burger Me; Colin Cameron Thirsty Thinker & Site Team; Monica Diaz F&B Manager & Site Team; Dan Kean F&B Manager; Lauren Mulhearn Design & Paoka's Garden; Bob Stirling Thirsty Thinker & Site Team

GLOBE TEAM

Mandy Houghton Globe and Festival Manager; Linda Kelly Hospitality Manager; John Morgan Publicity; Bill Parkes Sound Engineer; Elsa Thomas Box Office Manager; Mely Vera Publicity

KITCHEN

Nyoman Ardiha Chef de Partie; Wieslaw Janik Head Chef; Piotr Michalski Executive Chef; Sylwia Michalska Kitchen Assistant; Ashley Street Chef de Partie; James Street Chef de Partie; Dan Whitlock Head Chef

STEWARDS

Jed Hartley Steward Captain; Naya Lovegood Steward Captain; Amy McMillan Steward Captain; Jasmine Payne Steward Captain; Vicki Stone Steward Captain; Sophie Phillips Head of Stewards

TECHNICAL & ACCOUNTS

Jazz Bhakar Finance Director; Lisa Duong Ticket Control Manager; Albina Erganokova Stock Control Manager; Gianluca Ferrazzano IT Executive; Beth Fitzpatrick Office and Talent Manager; Sam Goulden Financial Control Lead; Anushan Kulendren Head of Ticket Control; Sam Murphy Festival Shop Manager; Kristina Nazariyan On-site Communications Lead; Will Sowerbutts IT Guru

ADVISORY BOARD:

Simon Blackburn, Nancy Cartwright, Philip Collins, Kimberlé Crenshaw, Hannah Dawson, Stanley Fish, Joanna Kavenna, Laura Mersini Houghton, Rana Mitter, Carlo Rovelli, Robert Rowland Smith, Barry Smith

ART AND IDEAS TRUST

Kathryn Bennett IAI Trust Lead; Anatole Kaletsky Trustee; Joanna Kavenna Trustee; David Lebor Trustee;

We would also like to thank everyone who has helped us with setting up the festival site; loaned us technical or catering equipment; helped us with publicity, stewarding and PR; helped with guest hospitality and transport; donated advertising space and practical assistance; and the many whose contribution and support, in work or in kind, have enabled HowTheLightGetsIn to happen but print deadlines have prevented us from naming.

howthelightgetsin.org

WINE TASTING & PHILOSOPHY

at HowTheLightGetsIn

iai.tv
SUBSCRIBER
Discount



SCAN ME

Watch your emails for your exclusive
subscriber discount coming soon...

Not a subscriber yet?
Get 3 months free with your festival ticket.

FRANCE  1743

MOËT & CHANDON
CHAMPAGNE

Inner Circle

HowTheLightGetsIn

Discuss the biggest ideas with the world's
leading thinkers across the dining table



SCAN ME

Book your place at the office
or book online

Pookas Garden

at HowTheLightGetsIn



Cocktails • Pizza • Dancing
by the Rive Wye

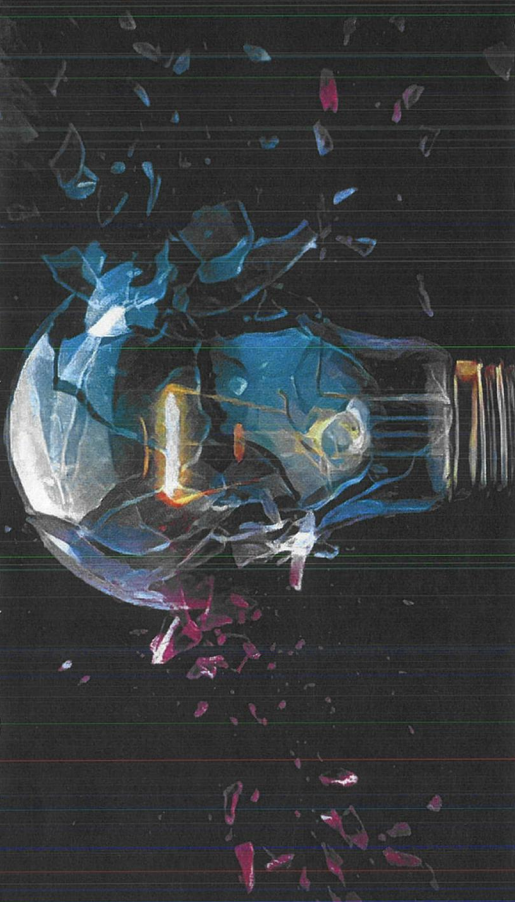
Find us by the Waterfront



SCAN ME

23RD - 24TH September

HowTheLightGetsIn LONDON 2023



SUPER EARLYBIRD TICKETS

ON SALE FOR 24 HOURS ONLY

AT HOWTHELIGHTGETSIN HAY 23 BOX OFFICE ONLY
4PM SUNDAY 28TH MAY

Food & Drinks

Whether you're after exotic world foods or a quick snack between sessions, a glass of Champagne or a slice of homemade cake, you'll find a whole range of exceptional venues across the festival site.

THE PARK

The Waterfront

With stunning views of the River Wye, The Waterfront offers a delicious array of artisan food including gourmet burgers, fresh summer salads, Persian street food, organic steaks and South Indian street food. Alongside this you'll find local beers and ciders, perfectly chilled prosecco and a soundtrack of vintage soul. We're open for breakfast, lunch and dinner from 8am till 1am.

Inner Circle

As the finest minds of our time gather for a drink and a meal, take your seat alongside them for a truly unique experience. Converse with leading politicians, challenge top columnists and explore the universe with particle physicists. Be part of the company, not merely an observer. You might not get another chance. Experiences include Philosophy breakfasts, lunch and dinner as well as Champagne Afternoon Teas and the Philosophy Salon.



Pookas Garden

Come on down to Pookas Garden to enjoy a truly magical experience whilst soaking in the Welsh mythology of Hoy on Wye. Located next to the beautiful River Wye... By day, relax, unwind and take in the riverside views with wood-fired pizza. As night falls, expect incredible hand crafted cocktails, chilled beers and dancing with the Pookas - mischievous creatures reaping havoc on The Wye Valley.

Marble & Green

From fresh Summer salads to barbequed meats and artisan baked breads, Marble & Green boasts a delicious array of freshly prepared and sustainably sourced food. We use ingredients from the Brecon Beacons. Find us in The Waterfront - open for Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner 8am - 12am

Chapter & Holmes

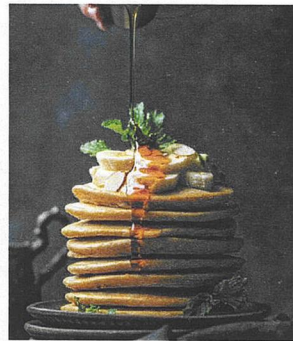
Exquisite single estate coffee and delicious cakes. Perfect for a morning pick me up.

Blue Moon Café

Blue Moon is an ethical world café with a strong focus on organic and vegan foods. Here you can also experience a live soundtrack of some of the best local musical talent Hay has to offer.

The Thirsty Thinker

A HowTheLightGetsIn favourite, The Thirsty Thinker is where everybody goes to wind down. You'll find some great local beers and ciders from Westons in Muchmarcle including the much acclaimed Rhubarb Cider and Butty Bach from Wye Valley. If that's not your thing, enjoy a perfectly made Plymouth Gin & Fevertree G&T.



Burger Mel

You haven't tried a burger until you've tried Burger Mel. There are burgers to suit all tastes whether it's been made with 100% organic beef, free range chicken or the award winning Moving Mountains vegan burger. Whatever your pleasure, enjoy with a cold beer. Find Burger Mel at The Waterfront from 12noon till midnight. Pookas Garden



THE FAYRE



Open Sesame

A new kind of kebab, fusing flavours from the Mid-East and beyond with the best local ingredients and fire cooking. Bringing super fresh flavours to the festival foodie.

Lalia's

Also located in the Waterfront, Lalia's offers delicious vegan, south Indian street food. They serve home cooked food made from the soul with love and passion.

Rolling Dough

Our pizzas are created using the highest-quality Italian ingredients, and cooked in our 500°C wood-fired oven in less than 90 seconds, so you can experience an authentic taste of Italy without having to book the flights.

Gower Coffee Cart

Superb coffee from a super team at the little coffee trailer from The Gower

Charity: Water

charity: water is a nonprofit organisation bringing clean and safe water to people around the world. At HowTheLightGetsIn we are supplying fresh, filtered & chilled drinking water directly to you.

The Stage - The Festival Bookshop, Gin Bar and Champagne

Home to the festival bookshop as well as a comedy, cabaret and music stage, you'll also find some great coffee alongside deliciously delightful cakes. Fancy something a little more uplifting? Treat yourself to The Ultimate Gin & Tonic or a glass of Champagne while you peruse the books and take in the captivating musical talent.

Moët Chandon Champagne Bar

The Moët Chandon Champagne Bar in the Stage tent, is the perfect place to watch the world go by with a Champagne Afternoon Tea to enjoy on the riverside.

YUMS Treats

Delicious brownies, crepes and shakes to perk you up throughout the day.

Meats

All of our meats are farm assured and free range. Our beef is from the native Ruby Red breed, sourced in Hereford. Pork is from West End Farm, Bishop Cannings. Our lamb is reared by Lizzy Withers of Claverham.

Bread

All of our breads, cakes and pastries are baked on site by our kitchen team each day.



MARBLE & GREEN

AT THE WATERFRONT TENT

BREAKFAST BY THE RIVER

8 AM-10 AM

Enjoy your breakfast by the beautiful River Wye. We'll have a selection of croissants and pastries, toasted sourdough sandwiches, and healthy crunchy granola bowls with a variety of toppings on offer to start your day the right way.

CHANDON
Garden
©PRITZ

LONG TABLE BANQUETS

JOIN A TABLE OF FELLOW FESTIVAL-GOERS AT OUR LONG TABLE BANQUETS
OVERLOOKING THE RIVER AT THE WATERFRONT.

EXPECT A LAVISH FOUR-COURSE MEAL, AND EXCELLENT COMPANY.



FRIDAY
8:00 PM

SATURDAY
1.30PM & 8.00 PM

SUNDAY
1.30PM

Book your place at the Box Office or Online at:

HOWTHELIGHTGETSIN.ORG

Book early to avoid disappointment - numbers are strictly limited.

Venue Guide

The festival site opens onto a glorious stretch of the River Wye. Home to twelve stages including four debate and talk venues, eight live music stages and our new Mindcraft area for children and young adults and much more.

THE PARK

The Hat

Our biggest party venue. Home to the Hat Sessions during the day - a range of inspiring talks, in depth interviews and interactive workshops. In the evening it plays host to wicked tunes and DJs to keep you dancing into the night.

The International Tent

In the International Tent you'll find the world's leading thinkers debate the biggest global issues each day. In the evening, the International transforms into a headline music venue with soloists and upbeat bands.

The Ring

Meet the great thinkers and performers of our time in the Ring, an intimate venue hosting our programme of inspiring solo talks. In the evening you'll find cutting edge comedy and Midnight Mayhem.

Riverside Disco

Opening up onto the river bank, you can dance inside the tent or under the stars to the hottest DJs. Find the secret entrance - there's a café area open all day hidden inside and the big tunes start from 9pm and don't stop until the early hours.

The Waterfront

With a spectacular view over the River, the Waterfront Restaurant is the place to go to feed your soul with a delicious array of freshly prepared artisan cuisine. Book your place at the spectacular four course Long Table Banquets, limited places, so book early! Waterfront is open from 9am till 11pm daily.

Vintage Rides

Including a helter skelter and a ferris wheel where you can catch spectacular views of the festival site Hay and the Black Mountains.

YOUNG ADULTS AND CHILDREN

Mindcraft Area

A range of activities and a full programme for young adults and children. At the centre the Mindcraft tent hosts talks from leading thinkers, tech workshops and interactive philosophy. It's got something for everyone.

Pop-ups

There are pop-up activities running all day every day; create games using magical lanterns, leaf rubbings with the National Trust, a masterpiece out of sand or design animal masks.

YOUNG ADULTS AND CHILDREN

Hangout and Sandpit

At the other end of the site from Mindcraft there's a play area for children of all ages with a sandpit by the river for the younger children and a hangout tent with table football and giant games for the in-betweens.

IAI ACADEMY FIELD

The IAI Arena

The IAI Arena hosts the festival's biggest debates. After the day's philosophy sessions, the IAI Arena erupts with our live music and performance programme - a wondrous collection of the UK's hottest bands and finest DJs.

Academy Tent

The IAI Academy gives you the chance to take courses led by the world's leading thinkers. For more information see p. 58

DOKBOX Cinema Tent

DOKBOX, the new documentary streaming service, brings its hottest films to HowTheLightGetsIn. Streaming in the Cinema tent in the afternoon and evening, the programme features award-winning, critically acclaimed films from some of the most innovative and creative producers from around the globe.

BOHEMIA

Blue Moon

Featuring live music throughout the day with a café space to relax. Enjoy the atmosphere away from the pace of the bigger venues.

Thirteen33 Spa & Wellbeing

Escape the hustle and relax for a moment at the serene Thirteen33 Spa. Offerings include massage, facials, Reiki and yoga. You'll feel invigorated, if you want to, or blissful if that's your need, enveloped in luxurious, organic scents, oils and balms enhancing all your senses. To book, visit our website.

Fire and Folk

Acoustic musicians lead our nightly folk sessions round a fire. 9pm till late.

THE FAYRE

The Stage - Festival bookshop

You'll find the Waterstone's Festival Bookshop in the Stage tent open throughout the day. Talk to speakers here after each event and get signed copies of their books. A book signing timetable can be found in the venue. In addition there's a café, a champagne bar and a comedy and music stage. Browse the books, find a sofa, order a glass of wine and great conversation is sure to follow.

The Market

The market is full of surprises. Artisan food producers, vintage clothes, cocktails and sequins, as well as some truly original workshops. And try out the games!

The People's Front Room

A team of wonderfully talented musicians create a truly unique vibe as they extemporise classic tracks of every genre along with their own wicked tunes. Throughout the day and to close of play in the evening.

YURT AND CAMPING FIELDS

Yurt Field

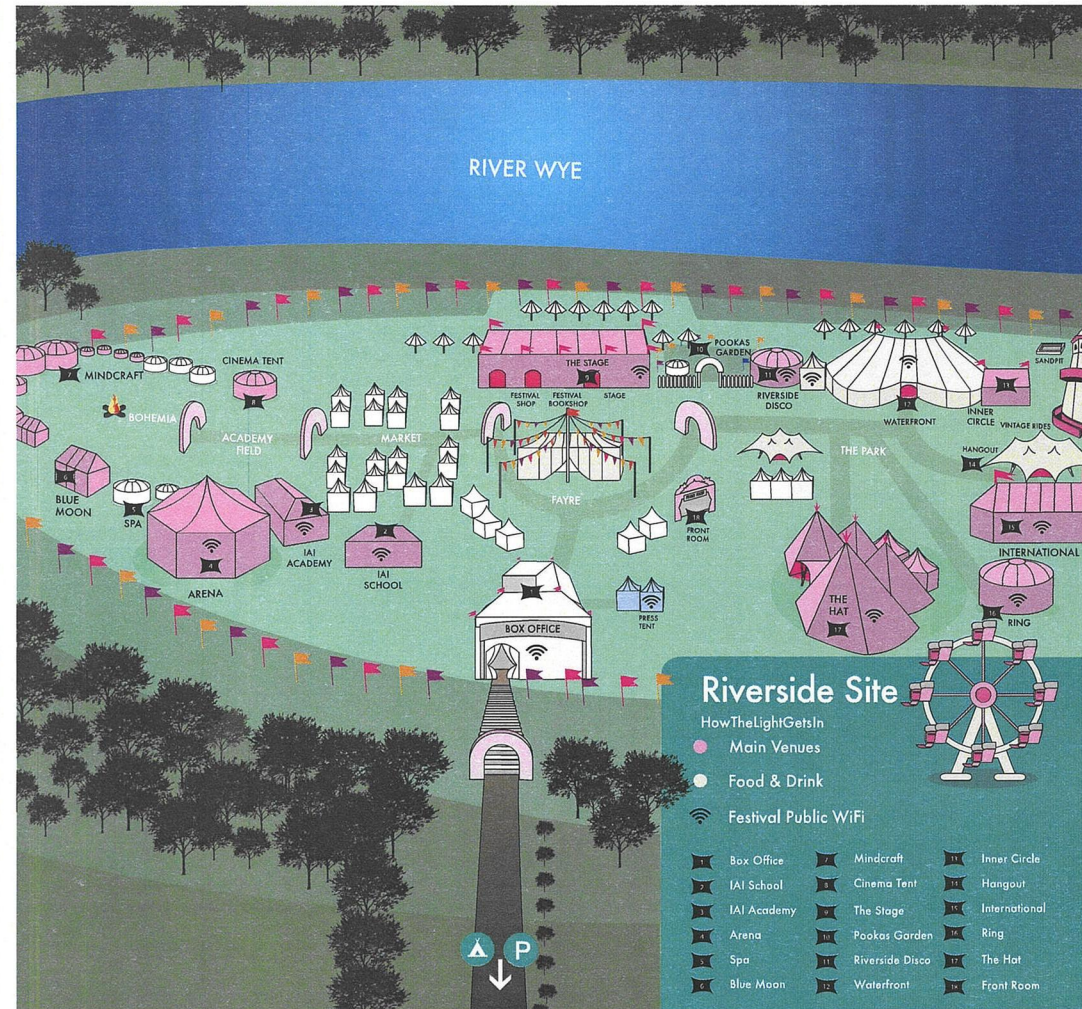
With all the luxuries of a hotel in a splendid countryside setting, the Yurt Field hosts camping like you never experienced before. Visit our website for details

Camping Field

For those looking to pitch up and enjoy a traditional summer festival experience, look no further than the Camping field. There are also pre-pitched tents if you want to avoid fighting with the guy ropes.

Box Office

Get the latest information and updates. Festival Tickets, Fast Passes for upcoming events, and tickets for Extra Experiences such as Inner Circle events or Philosophy Salons can be purchased here.



Festival Tickets / Info & Travel

For latest prices and to book tickets visit the HowTheLightGetsIn website or visit the Festival Box Office

TICKETS

Festival Tickets

From £178
Festival tickets provide access to all events aside from 'Extra Experiences' and the IAI School. Valid from 1pm on Friday 26th May to close of play on Monday 29th May.

The site opens at 1pm on Friday and at 8.30am on other days.

See website for latest prices and availability.

Under 25s and Students: 30% off Festival Tickets.

Children under 12: free.
Children must be accompanied by an adult at all times and must register in advance via the website.

Festival Day Tickets

Friday from £46
Saturday from £76
Sunday from £76
Monday from £38

Valid for each day of the festival from first thing to site close.

Festival Flexi Tickets

Drop into the festival and see a few events on different days. The Festival Flexi Ticket gives you access to 4 of our headline events (debates, talks, music, comedy, HoiDocs, and IAI Academy sessions). Combine with a Flexi Day Pass for the day/s you want to attend the festival.

You do not need to specify your four headline events in advance - decide on the day if you like.

In addition to the headline events, the Flexi Day Pass gives you access to the festival site and a host of unticketed events that run throughout the day and evening.
See our website ticket page for details and prices

Fast Passes

Fast Passes provide fast entry to an event and reserve a prime seat in the venue skipping all queues. Fast Passes for each event are strictly limited. Fast Passes are only valid with a Festival Ticket, Day Ticket, or Flexi Ticket.

To purchase Fast Passes visit the Programme Page of our website.

BOOKING INFO

Book online: www.HowTheLightGetsIn.org

Book in person

Throughout the festival the Box Office has the latest information on events, prices and any updates or special additions to the programme. You can get passes or tickets for any event at the Box Office. The Box Office is open until midnight each day and until 4pm on Monday.

Extra Experiences

Events involving food & drink, Inner Circle events, Pottery workshops and Wellbeing sessions are booked and paid for separately. Inner Circle events are a unique opportunity to dine and discuss ideas with the world leading thinkers you'll find in our programme. Sample menus will be available on our website. Tickets are available online or at the Box Office during the festival.

See programme pages for details of each event which can be booked in advance.

Seating

Seating is on a first come first served basis. We cannot guarantee entry to an event if it is already full. If there's something you are really keen to see, make sure you get there in good time or get a Fast Pass.

We reserve the right to refuse entry to latecomers or restrict this to standing room only.

Terms and Conditions

All events and speaker performer details are correct at the time of going to press. We reserve the right to change the programme and artists if circumstances dictate. In the event of cancellations of Extra Experiences, tickets will be refunded. Fast pass tickets will be refunded if associated events are cancelled. Otherwise tickets cannot be accepted for refund or resale.

Access

To book wheelchair access or our designated parking area for those who disabilities please get in touch via enquiries@howthelightgetsin.org. The Festival Site has disabled access via the vehicle and service entrance and not via the main pedestrian entrance since this involves a long flight of steps. The festival site has some gentle slopes and there is matted pathway across some of the site only. In the case of adverse weather we cannot guarantee the condition of the ground.



IAI The Institute of Art and Ideas

ACCOMMODATION & TRAVEL

With the majestic Black Mountains as a backdrop, our accommodation options provide a cosy haven and comfortable beds to retreat into, rest up and relax between the jam-packed days and nights. With access to plenty of luxury showers, toilets and a pamper parlour, glamping never felt so glamorous.

To book visit:

<https://howthelightgetsin.org/festivals/hay/accommodation/boutique-yurts>

Thinking of staying longer? Our yurts are bookable for stays from 25th May - 4th June.

Getting to Hay

The nearest railway station is Hereford, about twenty miles away. Our Travel Partner GWR runs trains to Hereford. Book your train travel now at GWR.com.

Train times from key UK cities include:
Birmingham New Street (1 hr 30min)
Bristol Temple Meads (1 hr 30 min)
Cardiff Central (1hr)
London Paddington (3 hrs)
Manchester Piccadilly (2hrs)
Oxford (3hrs)
Swansea (2hrs)
Sheffield (3hrs)

The bus service from Hereford to Hay-on-Wye (T14) is frequent with additional services for the period of the festival. Or share a taxi with another festival visitor!

By Car

Hay-on-Wye is situated between Brecon and Hereford, off the A345. Cross the bridge into Hay and turn left. Follow signs to the Festival Site. See map opposite.

Camping & Parking

Parking and the Yurt and Camping Fields are immediately opposite the Festival Site. Enter by the East Gate when arriving by car.

Taxis

A1 Cabs 07910 931 999
A2B Taxis 01874 458 899
Julie's Taxis 07899 846 592

WiFi Access

There are WiFi hotspots throughout the site (see map previous page).

Network name: HowTheLightGetsIn Free WiFi

Password: philosophy



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