

THE WORLD, IN WORDS

CHARLOTTE SQUARE GARDENS
EDINBURGH
www.edbookfest.co.uk
14 – 30 AUGUST 2010

PRESS PACK



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FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT FRANCES SUTTON, PRESS MANAGER:

frances@edbookfest.co.uk / Tel: 0131 718 5654 / Mob: 07841 579481

Thursday 17 June 2010

BOOK FESTIVAL EXPLORES NEW WORLD ORDER

The Edinburgh International Book Festival unveiled its 2010 programme this morning with a plethora of prize winning authors – and a new audience award celebrating over 40 debut writers - who will be appearing in Charlotte Square Gardens this August. With Booker, Orange, Costa, Turner and Pulitzer Prize Winners, Nobel Laureates and Poets Laureate amongst the authors, politicians, journalists, poets, photographers and artists, the Book Festival promises a summer of rich debate, entertainment and inspiration.

Nick Barley, Director of the Edinburgh International Book Festival said, “I believe that writers are fundamental to our understanding of the world; away from the barrage of instant news, writers give a more subtle perspective on everything from complex economic problems to personal issues in our day to day lives. The Book Festival gives us a wonderful opportunity to bring these perspectives into focus as we look at the world we live in today. From an extraordinarily exciting collection of debut authors to our new Unbound evening programme, we are looking forward to exploring a wealth of new talent and ideas.”

“This year we will be looking at the new world order and particularly at the USA’s place in this world with an ambitious survey of American contemporary writing. We welcome acclaimed novelists Joyce Carol Oates, Lionel Shriver, and Amy Bloom, controversial cultural theorist David Shields and Nobel Laureate Joseph Stiglitz. The American strand includes over 45 authors such as Garry Trudeau whose Doonesbury strip is one of the most published cartoons in the world, Bill Clegg, David Vann, Willy Vlautin, Leanne Shapton, Simon Rich and Adam Ross.”

The Book Festival opens on Saturday 14 August with Philip Pullman debating his re-imagined story of Christianity, *The Good Man Jesus and the Scoundrel Christ*, with Richard Harries, formerly Bishop of Oxford and Dean of Kings’ College London. The Festival closes on Monday 30 August with Portugal’s greatest living writer, and Nobel Laureate, José Saramago.

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NEWS RELEASE



Packed in between are over 750 authors from 50 different countries including James Robertson, Nicholas Parsons, Candia McWilliam, Fay Weldon, Lydia Davis and Jo Shapcott who will all be launching their new books, while Vidal Sassoon, Seamus Heaney, DBC Pierre and Roy Hattersley will be giving sneak previews of books published in September. The Poet Laureate, Carol Ann Duffy, will be previewing her new collection of poems to be published in 2011.

A programme of evening debates runs through the Festival, which will reflect discussions held in events earlier each day. In the first week, chaired by Alan Little, participants will look at geo-politics – America, China, the impact of the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan and the shape of the new Europe after the fall of the Berlin Wall - with a plenary session entitled The New World Order bringing together the conclusions of the week's debates. The second week will be chaired by Ruth Wishart and will tackle the more personal issues of happiness, fear, fun and wealth.

New innovations for 2010 include the inaugural **Readers' First Book Award** which celebrates new writing. All 47 authors bringing their first UK published novel or short story collection are eligible. The award will encourage audiences to discover the Booker Prize winners or Nobel Laureates of the future, to read the books, come to the events and to vote online for their favourites before the end of October. The Book Festival also moves into new ways of engaging with literature, with a mini-festival **Unbound**. A mix of readings, music, performance and a healthy dose of the unexpected, Unbound will take place every evening in the Highland Park Spiegel tent and will be free and unticketed. Full details of the Unbound programme will be announced in July.

In another innovation, the Book Festival has worked with **Guest Selectors** who have brought their own perspective to an area of particular interest to them. Don Paterson, the internationally renowned Scottish poet, has worked with the Scottish Poetry Library to advise on a selection of poets, while Ruth Padel, great great-granddaughter of Charles Darwin, has selected events focused on parents and their relationships with their children. Stuart Kelly, Literary Editor of Scotland on Sunday, has put together events looking at the Future of Fiction and Steve Bell, the legendary Guardian cartoonist, will explore the power of political satire.

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The theme of the **RBS Children's Programme** this year is Blast Off to Adventure, and Director, Sara Grady, has programmed a strong mix of Scottish, British and international fiction and non-fiction, looking at exploration in its broadest sense. An Australian showcase welcomes Garth Nix, Simmone Howell and Isobelle Carmody together with the Book Festival's 2010 Illustrator in Residence, Tohby Riddle. With a focus on young adult fiction, John Green, Michael Grant, Patrick Ness and Louise Rennison will be attending, together with Robert Muchamore who brings an exclusive preview of his new book.

In partnership with the British Council, the Festival will host an invited delegation of leading figures from the international literary scene to experience a selection of the best of British writing. British Council Bookcase ensures that British authors are given a platform to showcase their work to Directors of international literary festivals, foreign journalists, publishers and representatives from national Arts Councils.

The Edinburgh International Book Festival opens in Charlotte Square Gardens on Saturday 14 August and the public programme runs until Monday 30 August, with the RBS Schools Gala day closing the Festival on Tuesday 31 August. Full details of the 2010 programme can be found at www.edbookfest.co.uk. Tickets go on sale at 8.30am on Saturday 26 June either online (www.edbookfest.co.uk), by telephone on 0845 373 5888 or in person at the Edinburgh International Conference Centre on Morrison Street (Saturday 26 June) and then at The Hub on Castlehill (from Sunday 27 June to Thursday 13 August).

- ends -

For further information, please contact:

Frances Sutton, Press Manager
frances@edbookfest.co.uk
0131 718 5654 or 07841 579481

Amartya Sen
Philip Pullman
Brian Keenan
Vidal Sassoon
Ian Blair
Bill Clegg
Nicholas Parsons
Norman Foster
Tom Bingham
John Banville
Anthony Bourdain
Roddy Doyle
Fay Weldon
John Simpson
Fatima Bhutto
Lionel Shriver
Garry Trudeau
D B C Pierre
James Robertson
Ruth Padel
Ian Rankin
Andrew O'Hagan
Carol Ann Duffy
Amy Bloom
Jeannette Winterson
Simon Callow
Emily Woof
Don McCullin
Reginald Hill
Alasdair Gray
Deyan Sudjic
Martin Bell
Robert Winston
Joanne Harris
Douglas Hurd
Andrea Levy
Chloë Schama
Owen Sheers
James Shapiro
Shappi Khorsandi
David Mitchell
William Dalrymple
Stephen Poliakoff
Hanif Kureishi
Prue Leith
Tariq Ali
Niall Ferguson
Margaret Drabble
Fergal Keane
Frederick Forsyth
Simon King
Michael Frayn

And many more . . .

- With BP hitting the headlines on a daily basis, former CEO John Browne speaks of his time at the oil giant, and how he re-established his reputation after his perjurious attempt to conceal a gay relationship.
- Festival favourite, Candia McWilliam regains her sight and rediscovers her voice as she launches her first book for ten years. *“What to Look for in Winter”* is her memoir of two years of blindness.
- Christos Tsiolkas, Australian author of *The Slap* is the inaugural Edinburgh UNESCO City of Literature Author in Residence, and will be speaking in Charlotte Square on the opening day.
- Edinburgh MP and former Chancellor of the Exchequer, Alistair Darling, will deliver the National Library of Scotland Donald Dewar Memorial Lecture.
- We welcome seven voices from South Africa, including Keorapetse ‘Willie’ Kgositsile the South African Poet Laureate, Mandla Langa who is regarded as one of the country’s great literary figures and Kopano Matlwa who recently won the Wole Soyinka Prize for African Literature.
- Turner Prize winning artist, Martin Creed, will join us to discuss two new books which provide a powerful overview of nearly twenty years of artistic endeavour.
- In original Book Festival dramatised readings, actor David Rintoul will read from A J Cronin’s *Dr Finlay’s Casebook* and discuss one of his best loved roles; Alexander McCall Smith will be joined by Andrew Sachs who voiced the audiobook edition of *Corduroy Mansions*, and acclaimed Scottish playwright David Greig will join Raja Shehadeh to discuss a dramatised reading of *An Imagined Sarha*.
- Award winning writer and activist Heather Brooke, who worked tirelessly for five long years to break the parliamentary expenses scandal, discusses her books *The Silent State* and *Your Right to Know*.
- Two of literature’s top prizes will be announced at the Book Festival – the Edwin Morgan International Poetry Prize on Wednesday 18 August and the James Tait Black Memorial Prize on Friday 20 August.
- We delve into the iniquitous depths of rock music with industry insider Barry Miles, journalists John Harris and Nick Kent and musician Jah Wobble. Willy Vlautin, lead singer of Richmond Fontaine, will join us to discuss his novel, *Lean on Pete*.
- Record breaking Scottish cyclist Mark Beaumont talks not only of his remarkable journey around the world, but also of his more recent adventure cycling from Alaska to Patagonia along the length of the Pan American Highway.
- We launch **Elsewhere** – a series of specially commissioned short stories supported by the Scottish Government’s Edinburgh Festivals Expo Fund. The first work from Louise Welsh, Michel Faber, Eleanor Thom, A L Kennedy and Allan Radcliffe will be available on the website - www.edbookfest.co.uk - from Thursday 17 June. New work, from an additional 45 authors, will be released at regular intervals up until March 2011.

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NEWS RELEASE



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BLAST OFF TO ADVENTURE WITH THE RBS CHILDREN'S PROGRAMME

The RBS Children's Programme of the Edinburgh International Book Festival blasts off to adventure this year with the emphasis on exploration in its broadest sense. The programme includes a strong mix of Scottish, British and international fiction and non fiction and will feature the Festival's first e-book launch, events on robots, social networking, vampires and the Alaskan wilderness and a special focus on young adult fiction.

An Australian Showcase welcomes Garth Nix to Charlotte Square Gardens in his only UK visit this year. Garth will be giving a sneak preview of his new book and a brand new collaboration. He will be joined by fellow Australians Simmone Howell and Isobelle Carmody together with the Book Festival's 2010 Illustrator in Residence, Tohy Riddle.

With a focus on young adult fiction, international superstars John Green, Michael Grant, Meg Rosoff and Patrick Ness will be joined by best seller Robert Muchamore for the exclusive launch of the last instalment in his *CHERUB* series. Louise Rennison will be bringing *Withering Tights*, the first in her new series, to Edinburgh and John Boyne previews his new novel *Noah Barleywater Runs Away*.

The Festival also celebrates some old favourites; Tove Jansson's niece, Sophia, celebrates 65 years of the Moomins while David Benedictus brings back some much loved characters in his collection of stories from *Return to the Hundred Acre Wood*, commissioned by the Milne estate. Master storyteller and illustrator, David McKee, will be drawing Elmer the Patchwork Elephant, Judith Kerr's Mog the Cat turns 40 and Thomas the Tank Engine celebrates his 65th birthday.

Sara Grady, Director of the RBS Children's Programme, said "This year, we invite children and families on a journey of discovery: to ask questions and be challenged. We're exploring territory both familiar and foreign with a dazzling array of world class writers and illustrators. I am thrilled to welcome back Festival favourites such as Garth Nix and Cornelia Funke this year, and delighted to introduce young audiences to some wonderful new talents from Scotland and abroad. I'm especially pleased with our celebration of bookmaking and craft, including a range of inspiring workshops for budding writers."

The Edinburgh International Book Festival opens on Saturday 14 August and the public programme runs until Monday 30 August, with the RBS Schools Gala day closing the Festival on Tuesday 31 August. Full details of the 2010 programme can be found at www.edbookfest.co.uk.

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RBS CHILDREN'S PROGRAMME HIGHLIGHTS



Garth Nix
Carol Ann Duffy
Patrick Ness
Cornelia Funke
Cressida Cowell
Michael Rosen
Jacqueline Wilson
Meg Rosoff
Mairi Hedderwick
Linda Chapman
Judith Kerr
David Almond
Cathy Cassidy
Mary Hoffman
Polly Dunbar
Mal Peet
Andy Stanton
Babette Cole
The Moomins
Julia Donaldson
Julia Golding
Kristina Stephenson
Louise Rennison
Simon Bartram
Horrible Histories
Marcus Sedgwick
Sally Gardner
Keith Gray
Tony Ross
William Nicholson
The Very Hungry
Caterpillar
Sophie McKenzie
Philip Ardagh
David Roberts
Thomas the Tank
Engine
Nick Sharratt
Eleanor Updale
Michael Grant
Catherine Rayner
Francesca Simon
Anthony Browne
Peter Pan
Steve Hartley
Lauren St John
Dirty Bertie

And many more . . .

- John Boyne, author of the best-selling *Boy in the Striped Pyjamas*, exclusively reveals his forthcoming *Noah Barleywater Runs Away*, which won't be in the shops until 2011. We will have exclusive pre-release proof copies to give away in the event.
- *The Gadget Show's* Jason Bradbury is joined by Mariann Hardey in a lively chat about friendship in the age of social networking and digital media and asks are we personally connected or just sharing information?
- One of the last speakers of the Ahtna Athabaskan language, Alaskan John Smelcer talks about his own journey through his country's wilderness and the myths and legends of his people.
- Australian Simmone Howell takes us through Zine publishing, a major cult phenomenon in Australia and America, in one of our new writing workshops for teens.
- Two masters of fantasy Philip Reeve and Ian Beck get together to discuss building their imaginary worlds with no boundaries. Our supernatural strand also features Matt Haig, Ross Collins, Chris d'Lacey, knock-out debut Barry Hutchison, Darren Shan and Steve Feasey who bring vampires, werewolves, zombies and dragons to the Gardens.
- Booker winning Roddy Doyle's children's books are comedic genius – the adventures of Rover and the Mack family will be recounted in a special family event.
- We welcome top twitterer, best selling US author and cult phenomenon John Green who will be talking about his latest coming of age teen novel.
- A unique collection of Masterclasses to learn more about the work, illustration style and artistic approach of some of our favourite illustrators, including Axel Scheffler, who introduces his new illustrated edition of T S Eliot's *Old Possum's Book of Practical Cats*.
- Alexander McCall Smith brings his new book on Mma Ramotswe's early years, *Precious and the Puggies*, translated into Scots by James Robertson. The English language edition will be available in 2011.
- Andrew Lane's *Young Sherlock Holmes*, David Benedictus' *The Return to the Hundred Acre Wood* and Liz Pichons' *The Real Cinderella* all feature in Classics: Revisited
- Bestselling US Author Betty G Birney pays an exclusive visit to the Festival with Humphrey, the very observant classroom hamster.
- Mick Manning remembers his mother's secret work cracking the German's Enigma code at Bletchley Park during the Second World War with a new picture book.

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NEW TITLES AUGUST LAUNCHES



The Edinburgh International Book Festival is always a key occasion to catch major books as or before they are published. Some of the hot-off-the-press titles this year include:

JAMES ROBERTSON 14 August 17.00
In *And The Land Lay Still* Robertson has created the definitive fictional representation of Scotland's modern history as he charts the story of one family through the second half of the 20th century.

KARL MARLANTES 14 August 20.00
The decorated Vietnam veteran discusses a book that was thirty years in the writing, and which is set to be one of the literary talking points of the year.

PHILIP BARUTH 15 August 14.30
It is London 1763 and James Boswell and Samuel Johnson are stalked through the streets of London by the former's unstable younger sibling.

JAMES FERGUSSON & JIM FREDERICK 16 August 10.00
There can be no meaningful peace in Afghanistan unless the US and British governments develop a working relationship with the Taliban concludes James Fergusson in his new book, *Taliban*. Jim Frederick, the Time reporter, brings his new book on Iraq, *Black Hearts*. A stark but ultimately even-handed account of some of the US army's darkest moments in the war.

FAY WELDON 16 August 13.30
A young New Zealand woman has fled to escape a past involving a murder and a suicide. But she brings with her the *kehua* – Maori ghosts of the dead New Zealanders – who have followed her across the world.

NICHOLAS PHILLIPSON 19 August 11.00
In *Adam Smith: An Intellectual Biography*, historian Phillipson explains just how much Smith's ideas helped formulate the different intellectual and commercial cultures during the Enlightenment.

CANDIA MCWILLIAM 19 August 20.30
The condition which had brought about her blindness came on top of many years of writer's block, but in recovering her sight McWilliam found she had re-discovered her voice and has written her first book for ten years.

JO SHAPCOTT 20 August 10:15
Upcoming Of Mutability promises more of Shapcott's trademark surreal, scientific and frequently surprising angles on the everyday.

LYDIA DAVIS 23 August 10:15
The publication of *The Collected Stories of Lydia Davis* represents the culmination of a lifetime's writing, and we welcome a giant of US fiction to Edinburgh.

CHARLES EMMERSON 23 August 16.00
Emmerson, formerly associate director of the World Economic Forum, has written the definitive book on the Arctic, as it moves from a peripheral location to the centre of our consciousness.

JEREMY LEWIS 23 August 17.00
Lewis describes the small town roots of Graham Greene's family, and the pioneering dynasty that grew up there.

ALEX CAPUS 23 August 19.30
Sailing by Starlight is a literary travelogue, setting out to prove that Robert Louis Stevenson's *Treasure Island* actually exists. Joined by Carsten Jensen.

MARK BILLINGHAM 25 August 15.00
From the Dead delves into the world of a vicious criminal living the high life in Spain. The winner of the Theakston's Old Peculier Crime Novel and the Sherlock Award for Best Detective Novel strikes gold once more.

JESS WALTER 25 August 18.00
The Financial Lives of the Poets captures the destruction, desperation and absurdity of life when thrown into crisis, when all that you know and believe is torn away, leaving you clutching what you love. Joined by Paul Torday.

MARTIN DAVIDSON 26 August 11.00
Davidson's discovery that his ancestor was a loyal SS officer led him to question how ordinary people became seduced by Hitler's ideology.

FRANCIS SPUFFORD 26 August 14.30
In the 1950s, there was a short time in the Soviet Union when communists believed the system would deliver a fabulous bounty that capitalism could not match. *Red Plenty* discusses the people who tried to make this dream come true. Joined by Rachel Polonksy

Plus Simon Rich, Martin Kohan, Annabel Lyon, Tom McCarthy, Stuart Neville and many more . . .

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NEW TITLES SEPTEMBER PREVIEWS



The Edinburgh International Book Festival is always a key occasion to catch major books as or before they are published. Some of the exclusive previews this year include:

ALBERTO MANGUEL 18 August 16.30
Manguel's latest novel, *All Men Are Liars*, is based on the life of a fictional literary giant of South America.

NICHOLAS PARSONS 19 August 20:00
A stalwart of British entertainment since the 1960s Parsons, who has now overtaken Humphrey Lyttelton as the oldest game show host ever, will be discussing the highs and lows of life in the public eye.

ROY HATTERSLEY 22 August 16.30
The former Shadow Chancellor and deputy leader of the Labour Party makes an impassioned critique of political memoirs, examining a precious few examples which have achieved greatness.

DBC PIERRE 22nd August 20:00
Pierre's third novel, *Lights Out in Wonderland*, asks probing questions about an era in which the endless search for pleasure has become our primary goal.

WILLIAM NICHOLSON 24 August 20:00
All the Hopeful Lovers explores seven days in the life of a family in which a fifty year old woman discovers her husband is having an affair, while her teenage children are caught in a parallel web of desire.

SEAMUS HEANEY 24 August 18.30
A rare chance to hear the great Irish poet Seamus Heaney read from his forthcoming and exquisite collection, *Human Chain*.

VIDAL SASSOON 27 August 18.30
From an impoverished childhood in East London to household name status, Sassoon's memoir also tackles battling fascists in Britain and fighting in the army of the fledgling state of Israel.

PHILIP KERR 27 August 18.45
If the Dead Rise Not, is set in inter-war Berlin and with a distinctly noir flavour. The sixth of Kerr's novels starring Gunther, it delves more deeply than ever into the geology of Berlin and emerges with a story that sees Kerr moving into top gear.

HA-JOON CHANG 28 August 12.30
How is the West going to compete with China, and will countries choose the Chinese model of capitalism rather than the Western model? Chang, a political economist at Cambridge University offers some challenging conclusions. Joined by Anatole Kaletsky.

NICHOLAS CARR 28 August 17.00
Carr shows how the Web – twenty years old this year – has become enmeshed with our lives. But does it really have profound implications for the way we think, communicate and remember?

MICHAEL FRAYN 29 August 16.30
Frayn's fascinating and often moving account of his childhood in suburban Surrey and of his father, an asbestos salesman.

POLLY TOYNBEE & DAVID WALKER
OCTOBER PREVIEW 29 August 15.00
Polly Toynbee and David Walker return with the definitive assessment of the Blair-Brown years. From gleeful consumerism to economic bust, and from Cool Britannia to Make Poverty History, Toynbee and Walker chart the rise and fall of New Labour.

DAVID CRYSTAL 29 August 19.00
As the 400th anniversary of the 1611 King James Bible approaches, David Crystal's latest book, *Begat*, examines the way English has been shaped by the language of the Bible.

WILL SELF 29 August 21.30
Self's mordant satire is at the peak of its form in a new triptych, *Walking to Hollywood*, a potent mixture of memoir and invention which centres around his passion for wandering on foot around cities.

DOUG SAUNDERS 30 August 14.30
Saunders is an award-winning Canadian journalist who, in his fascinating book *Arrival City*, visits the places where population shift is having the biggest impact: not the city centres we know, but on the margins, in places we barely notice.

FRANK DIKÖTTER 30 August 16.00
Professor Frank Dikötter has uncovered the awful, shocking extent of the catastrophe that beset China in the early 1960s, when at least 45 million people were worked, starved or beaten to death.

Plus: Claire Keegan, Jón Kalman Stefánsson and many more

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RBS CHILDREN'S PROGRAMME NEW TITLES



AUGUST LAUNCHES

CATHERINE RAYNER 15 August 13:30
The 2009 Greenaway medal winner introduces her newest creations, Isaac and Iris the polar bears, in an event packed with wildlife stories and animal wonders.

GILL ARBUTHNOTT 16 August 15:00
In a unique event for the Book Festival, Arbuthnott launches our first e-book, *Crazy Science*. Expect an event full of germ warfare and crazy experiments based on this fact-packed science book.

LAUREN ST JOHN 28 August 15:00
Introducing the first book in her brand new series, St John brings an exciting modern classic to the Festival.

JULIA DONALDSON 29 August 10:00
Julia Donaldson launches *Cave Baby*, a hairy mammoth tale with a cheeky baby who takes a thrilling ride through a moonlit landscape populated by a sabretoothed tiger, a leaping hare, a laughing hyena and a big brown bear.

MEET DAVID ALMOND 29 August 15:00
David Almond talks about his new title *My Name is Mina* – a prequel to the hugely popular *Skellig*.

Plus Chris Bradford, Sebastien Braun, John Smelcer, Deborah Allwright and Thomas Docherty.

PREVIEWS

GARTH NIX 14 August 10:00
2011 PREVIEW
Exclusive visit from Australian fantasy writer Garth Nix who will hint at his 2011 titles: one a return to the world of the Abhorsen, the other a brand new collaboration.

CAROL ANN DUFFY 14 August 11:30
OCTOBER PREVIEW
Stories and poems from our much loved Poet Laureate with music by John Sampson.

DARREN SHAN 14 August 13:30
SEPTEMBER PREVIEW
Darren Shan, the master of ghoulish demons and vampires returns with his new book. The hero in *The Thin Executioner* embarks on a dangerous journey which few have survived.

CORNELIA FUNKE 15 August 13:30
SEPTEMBER PREVIEW
Reckless, the much-anticipated novel from Cornelia Funke is a thrilling adventure inspired by the Brothers Grimm Fairy Tales.

CATHY CASSIDY 17 August 10:00
SEPTEMBER PREVIEW
Cathy Cassidy presents *Cherry Crush*, the first in her new series about five sisters.

MICHAEL ROSEN 18 August 17:00
SEPTEMBER PREVIEW
Michael Rosen's *Tiny Little Fly* will bring riotous rhymes and rollicking rhythms to Charlotte Square.

ROBERT MUCHAMORE 22 August 13:30
SEPTEMBER PREVIEW
We have the exclusive pre-publication release of Robert Muchamore's *Shadow Wave*, the twelfth, and last, title in the bestselling *CHERUB* series.

JOHN BOYNE 22 August 15:00
2011 PREVIEW
John Boyne, best selling author of *The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas* shares with the audience his forthcoming *Noah Barleywater Runs Away*.

SHARON DOGAR 24 August 18:00
SEPTEMBER PREVIEW
This poignant and challenging new novel explores life in the annex and the struggles of coming of age in a time of terror – told from the point of view of Anne Frank's first love, Peter.

FRANCESCA SIMON 29 August 13:30
SEPTEMBER PREVIEW
Creator of the infamous Horrid Henry, Francesca Simon joins us with her new book *Horrid Henry Rocks*.

MICHAEL GRANT 29 August 16:30
SEPTEMBER PREVIEW
Lord of the Flies meets *Heroes* in *Gone*, a fantasy vision of what would happen if everyone over the age of sixteen disappeared overnight. Author Michael Grant flies in from the US to give us an exclusive on the last book in the trilogy.

Plus Wafa' Tarnowska, Jane Cabrera, Jane Ray, Kristina Stephenson, Katie Davies and Betty G Birney . . .

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READERS' FIRST BOOK AWARD 2010



Our inaugural Readers' First Book Award celebrates new novels and short stories and every one of the 47 debut writers in the 2010 programme is eligible. The award will encourage our audience to discover the Booker Prize winners or Nobel Laureates of the future, to read the books, come to the events and to vote for their favourites before the end of October. Voting will be on-line at www.edbookfest.com

MARTIN KOHAN & DAVID TRUEBA 14 August 18:00
Trueba's *Learning to Lose* features a talented young Argentinian football star. Martin Kohan's *Seconds Out* profiles a legendary Argentinian boxer.

KARL MARLANTES 14 August 20:00
A New York Times reviewer described *Matterhorn* as 'one of the most profound and devastating novels ever to come out of Vietnam – or any war.'

LAURA BARTON & RAPHAEL SELBOURNE 15 August 16:30
Twenty-One Locks by Barton tells the story of a woman who must choose between what she wants and what everyone expects. In *Beauty*, Selbourne profiles a young Bengali woman living in Wolverhampton.

SUE PEEBLES & EMILY WOOF 16 August 18:00
Woof details a woman's relationship with her dying father in *The Whole Wide Beauty*. Peebles's *The Death of Lomand Friel* charts a successful woman and her ill father.

JÓN KALMAN STEFÁNSSON 17 August 18:00
A tale about literature and fishing becomes a matter of life and death in *Heaven and Hell*.

ANNA LAWRENCE PIETRONI 17 August 19:30
In Pietroni's *Ruby's Spoon* a teenage girl meets a mermaid and a witch.

MIGUEL SYJUCO 18 August 16:30
A novel based on the life of a fictional literary giant of the Philippines.

LARS HUSUM 18 August 20:30
Lars Husum's *My Friend Jesus Christ* has kicked up a literary storm in Denmark.

NORA CHASSLER 19 August 10:15
Miss Thing tells the story of a teenage girl embarking on a modelling career.

CHRIS KILLEN 19 August 16:30
The Bird Room profiles a man who falls in love and finds himself in a hall of mirrors.

ANNABEL LYON 19 August 18:45
The Golden Mean tells the story of the great philosopher Aristotle and his search for contentment.

ALEX PRESTON 19 August 19:00
A former trader in the City of London, Preston has written a 'credit crunch novel' named *This Bleeding City*.

MICHAL WITKOWSKI 19 August 19:30
Lovetown is the first Polish novel to portray gay life under a communist state.

SIMON RICH 19 August 20:30
Elliot Allagash is a fast-paced comedy about a chubby teenage boy and his ultra-wealthy new friend.

NEEL MUKHERJEE 20 August 18:00
Born in Calcutta and educated in Oxford, Neel Mukherjee's personal experiences have parallels with his character Ritwik in *A Life Apart*.

JONATHAN LEE & CHRISTY LEFERI 20 August 19:30
Lee's *Who Is Mr Satoshi* takes its protagonist from London to Tokyo, while Leferi's *A Watermelon, A Fish and a Bible* moves from Cyprus to London and back in search of a lost love.

EMILY MACKIE & ROBERT WILLIAMS 21 August 16:30
In Mackie's *And This is True* Nevis Gow conducts an unorthodox relationship with his father. Robert Williams writes about young men coming of age in *Luke and Jon*.

NADIFA MOHAMED 22 August 10:15
Black Mamba Boy describes a journey through war-torn East Africa to Britain in the 1930s.

ANTHONY CARTWRIGHT & MAX SCHAEFER 22 August 16:00
Max Shaeffer explores being gay and a neo-fascist in *Children of the Sun*. Anthony Cartwright looks at British-Asian tensions between football fans.

SIMON LELIC 22 August 18:00
Lelic's detective novel *Rupture* opens with a school massacre by a lonely psychopath teacher.

OLGA SLAVNIKOVA 22 August 19:30
Olga Slavnikova's *2017* is a depiction of the country a hundred years after the Soviet revolution.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT FRANCES SUTTON, PRESS MANAGER:

frances@edbookfest.co.uk / Tel: 0131 718 5654 / Mob: 07841 579481

THE WORLD, IN WORDS

CHARLOTTE SQUARE GARDENS
EDINBURGH
www.edbookfest.co.uk
14 – 30 AUGUST 2010

READERS' FIRST BOOK AWARD 2010



MARIEKE VAN DER POL 23 August 16:30
Marieke van der Pol's *Bride Flight* is based on real historical events.

AMY SACKVILLE 23 August 18:00
The Still Point by Sackville features a vanishing Arctic explorer and his great grand-niece uncovering family secrets.

DONAL MCLAUGHLIN 25 August 16:30
McLaughlin's *An Allergic Reaction to National Anthems* alternates between Irish-Scottish stories to those set in Europe.

PAOLO GIORDANO 25 August 19:30
Memory, childhood, family and lonely individuals are the themes in Paolo Giordano's *The Solitude of Prime Numbers*.

DANIYAL MUEENUDDIN 26 August 19:30
In Other Rooms, Other Wonders are characterisations of life in contemporary Pakistan.

DEBORAH KAY DAVIES & EMMA HENDERSON 27 August 16:30
Deborah Kay Davies *True Things About Me* portrays a deeply troubled relationship. Henderson's *Grace Williams Says It Loud* is an extraordinary romance.

LINDEN MACINTYRE & JIM POWELL 27 August 18:00
In MacIntyre's *The Bishop's Man*, Father Duncan MacAskill has to dig deep after covering up terrible deeds committed by priests. Jim Powell's *The Breaking of Eggs* features a Polish émigré tracing the mother who selflessly saved him from the Nazis.

MARCELO FIGUERAS & SANTIAGO RONCAGLILO 27 August 19:30
Kamchatka by Marcelo Figueras takes place during Argentina's bloody coup of 1976. Roncagliolo's *Red April* is a Peruvian political thriller.

KACHI A OZUMBA & IRENE SABATINI 28 August 19:30
Ozumba's *The Shadow of a Smile* is based on real-life courage against a backdrop of Nigerian bureaucracy. Irene Sabatini's *The Boy Next Door* looks at Zimbabwe and its journey.

NAJAT EL-HACHMI 29 August 16:00
The Last Patriarch, tells the story of a family in the midst of an east-west culture clash.

ROSIE ALISON & JULIA FRANCK 29 August 19:30
Rosie Alison's *The Very Thought of You* tells the story of evacuee Anna Sands. In Julia Franck's *The Blind Side of the Heart*, a mother abandons her seven year old son on the station platform.

ADAM ROSS & LEANNE SHAPTON 29 August 20:30
Ross's *Mr Peanut*, has been described by Stephen King as 'the most riveting look at the dark side of marriage since *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?*' Shapton's *Important Artifacts* drives its narrative through the captions in a fictional auction catalogue.

LOUISE STERN 29 August 21:00
Fourth generation born deaf in her family, Stern's *Chattering: Stories* (2010) portrays sociable and adventurous young girls who are deaf.

KEVIN BARRY 30 August 18:00
Kevin Barry's *There are Little Kingdoms* heralds a rich new voice in Irish writing.

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frances@edbookfest.co.uk / Tel: 0131 718 5654 / Mob: 07841 579481

Sunday 6th June 2010

BOOK FESTIVAL EXPLORES 'ELSEWHERE' WITH NEW WRITING PROJECT

The Edinburgh International Book Festival today launched a programme of brand new writing celebrating the best of Scottish, UK and International words and ideas. With the support of the Scottish Government's Edinburgh Festivals Expo Fund, the Book Festival has commissioned fifty authors to write short stories or essays, all on the theme of 'Elsewhere', which will be exclusively digitised on the Book Festival website.

Leading writers, including Michel Faber, Alasdair Gray, Ali Smith, A L Kennedy, Alan Warner, Roddy Doyle, Amy Bloom and David Vann together with authors best known for their writing for children and young adults - such as Michael Morpurgo, Andy Stanton, David Almond and Margo Lanagan - will be producing their work throughout this year and next and it is intended that the final collection will be collated into an anthology in 2011.

Nick Barley, Director of the Edinburgh International Book Festival, said "Edinburgh has always been a showcase for promoting the best of Scottish writing to the world, and the best international writing to Scottish audiences. Commissioning this series of new work is a major development for the Book Festival and publishing the pieces online offers a unique opportunity for us to reach a truly worldwide audience. We have selected both well known and debut authors, from a wide range of genres who hail from Scotland, the UK and further afield.

"We chose 'Elsewhere' because we wondered if it is only possible to write about 'elsewhere' if you can make a meaningful comparison with 'here'? One of the things we are hoping to reveal in this project is a fresh perspective on our identity and our sense of place in this world. The stories and essays we have received so far are varied, entertaining and generally brilliant, taking the theme of 'elsewhere' as far as the outer universe and as intimately as the hidden corners of our own imagination. We look forward to the public's reaction later this month when we publish the first ones on our website."

Minister for Culture, Fiona Hyslop, said, "The Edinburgh International Book Festival continues to celebrate and champion the very best writing from around the world. That is why we should do all we can to give Scottish-based talent the opportunity to feature at the Festival. Our Expo Fund is doing just that, enabling

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NEWS RELEASE



this imaginative commissioning project to showcase established and emerging Scottish-based writers in an exciting and innovative way.”

Michel Faber, author of one of the first ‘Elsewhere’ pieces to be released, said “I don’t usually write to commission but “Elsewhere” was the perfect theme for me. This tale already existed in skeletal form and I always believed it could be a charmer if I fleshed it out.”

The first work in the Elsewhere programme will be available on the Edinburgh International Book Festival website - www.edbookfest.co.uk - on Thursday 17th June 2010 and new work will be released at regular intervals on the site up until March 2011. In addition audio readings of the pieces will be downloadable as MP3 files throughout the year.

The Edinburgh International Book Festival will run from 14 to 30 August 2010 and the full programme of events will be launched on Thursday 17th June with tickets on sale from Saturday 26th June 2010.

-ends-

For further information please contact
Frances Sutton, Press Manager
Edinburgh International Book Festival
07841 579481 or frances@edbookfest.co.uk

Editors Notes:

The Edinburgh International Book Festival has been awarded £105,600 from the Scottish Government’s Edinburgh Festivals Expo Fund for the ‘Elsewhere’ project. ‘Elsewhere’ is a unique digital and physical showcase of Scottish writing newly commissioned from internationally renowned authors alongside emerging new voices.

A total of fifty authors will be commissioned to write new pieces for ‘Elsewhere’ before March 2010. Work from the following authors will be appearing on the Book Festival website over the coming months:

Denise Mina	Alan Warner	David Almond
Karen Campbell	Michel Faber	Keith Gray
A L Kennedy	Rodge Glass	Garth Nix
Doug Johnstone	Alasdair Gray	Roddy Doyle
Allan Radcliffe	Don Paterson	David Vann
Eleanor Thom	James Robertson	Amy Bloom
Ali Smith	Louise Welsh	Miguel Syjuco
Anne Donovan	Alan Garner	Alberto Manguel
Jason Donald	Andy Stanton	
Jen Hadfield	Margo Lanagan	with more to follow
Kirstin Innes	Michael Morpurgo	

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Thursday 17 June 2010

CORPORATE SUPPORT STILL STRONG AT EDINBURGH INTERNATIONAL BOOK FESTIVAL

The Edinburgh International Book Festival announced today that despite the recession, corporate sponsorship has held steady. A number of new major sponsors are recognising the value of being associated with world-class events at the Book Festival including Deloitte, the international accounting and consultancy firm (sponsoring Gavin Esler and Simon Callow), Experian, the global credit information group (sponsoring Ian Rankin and Christopher Brookmyre), Tangent, the designers of the Book Festival brochure (sponsoring David Shrigley) and the Scottish Oil Club, the national forum for discussion of views on aspects of petroleum and other energy resources (sponsoring John Browne and the Powering the Planet debate).

The relationship with RBS as the sponsor of the Children's & Schools Programmes and the Main Theatre continues, giving everyone, no matter what age, a chance to meet their favourite authors.

The Book Festival maintains strong support from its corporate sponsors across a variety of sectors, with 90% returning to build on the success of previous years. The Book Festival is proud of these long term partnerships, recognised by winning the Arts & Business Sustainability Award for the five year partnership with ScottishPower in 2009. ScottishPower continues its generous support for the Book Festival, through headline sponsorship of the Studio Theatre in Charlotte Square Gardens and through the ScottishPower Story SwapShop project, which encourages schoolchildren to share their books. Other long term partnerships include The Times, returning as the Book Festival's media partner for the fourth year, and Highland Park which engages with the literary audience at the Book Festival for the fifth year.

Lois Wolffe, Sponsorship Manager at the Edinburgh International Book Festival, said "As ever we are enormously grateful to all our partners who continue to recognise the value of being associated with this world class event. Our sponsors understand that the Book Festival can provide a cerebral sponsorship package, which adds value and delivers key benefits to them.'

Full details of all sponsors and partners can be found in the 2010 Programme and on-line at <http://www.edbookfest.co.uk/about/sponsorship2010.html>



COMING TO EDINBURGH: YOUR STARTER PACK

To learn the full picture of how to get to Edinburgh, where to stay, how to navigate your way around the city and how to make the most of the festivals start here:

<http://www.edinburghfestivals.co.uk/visit-edinburgh>

HOW TO GET THERE

Edinburgh is only an hour or so away by air from most UK airports and many of the budget airlines offer good deals. For operators and timetables, go to www.baa.com.

East Coast Train and Virgin Trains both operate mainline train services from cities such as London, Manchester and Birmingham. There's a choice of daily services, many of which are direct. Call 08457 484950 or go to www.nationalrail.co.uk for information.

WHERE TO STAY

For the latest offers and to book accommodation in Edinburgh visit www.visitscotland.com/perfectedinburgh or call 0845 22 55 121

LATE BOOKINGS

If you haven't booked accommodation yet, don't panic. Accommodation is always available, right up until and into August. To find out what's available at the last minute, call 0845 22 55 121 or go to www.visitscotland.com/perfectedinburgh.

LAST MINUTE BEDS

A good place to start if you pitch up at the main Waverley train station is the Visitor Information Centre, nearby at 3 Princes Street. Staff are used to helping people find last minute beds, and offer an accommodation booking service. The centre's open until 8pm during August but try to get there earlier when there's more choice.

WHERE TO EAT & DRINK

Edinburgh International Book Festival at Charlotte Square Gardens from 14 to 30 August, just off the West End of Princes Street. Relax between Book Festival shows with an organic Fairtrade coffee, homemade cake or glass of wine in the New Town's most beautiful garden square. No booking necessary.

Edinburgh is packed with great bars, cafes and restaurants. For a comprehensive guide to eating out in Edinburgh visit The List magazine's online Eating Out Guide at www.list.co.uk/restaurants.

WHAT ELSE TO DO:

Want to stretch your wings beyond the world of literature and ideas? Edinburgh has a packed calendar of festivals and events throughout the year. For tickets, programmes and to plan your visit go to www.edinburghfestivals.co.uk

For more information contact:

Claudia Monteiro, Media Relations Officer, Festivals Edinburgh

Email claudia@festivalsedinburgh.com or call 0131 529 7377