

MANCHESTER
1824

The University of Manchester



LITERATURE LIVE: SPRING 2018

These unique literature events, organised by The University of Manchester's Centre for New Writing, bring a host of international literary stars to Manchester to discuss and read from their work.

Centre for **New Writing**



10
YEARS
2007-2017

Anniversary Season

Throughout the 2017/2018 season we celebrate the Centre for New Writing's tenth year anniversary.

Manchester named as a UNESCO City of Literature



The University of Manchester is proud to be part of the city-wide consortium that led the successful bid to join UNESCO's worldwide Creative Cities network as a City of Literature.

“ This is a cause for great celebration, which will help us to strengthen our university's many partnerships with the city and its communities. Our staff and student writers know that Manchester is a City of Literature, a place whose graduates include Anthony Burgess and the war poet Alun Lewis, Jeanette Winterson, Booker winner Barry Unsworth and bestseller Sophie Hannah. We all benefit from the presence in the city of great publishers like Carcanet and Comma and from what this announcement recognises – the enormous array of literary events, festivals and opportunities for engagement with new writing and new audiences which Manchester offers. ”

Prof John McAuliffe, Centre for New Writing

The City already prides itself on a thriving live literature scene. This will be enhanced by the development of a programme of cultural events and community writing projects, to celebrate Manchester's City of Literature status. The programme, which will encourage both local and international collaboration, will include a libraries festival, the establishment of a new writers' hub and far-reaching initiatives to support new writing, promoting writing in translation, music and words, and the writing of Manchester residents.

International Mother Language Day

UNESCO supports mother language and multilingual education through International Mother Language Day (IMLD). The overall objective of the Day is to contribute to promoting not only linguistic diversity but cultural diversity as well.

The Centre for New Writing's spring 2018 season includes events to mark UNESCO International Mother Language Day. As part of these celebrations, we welcome Ugandan novelist **Jennifer Nansubuga Makumbi**, poet, novelist and photographer **Mariko Nagai** and also British author and award-winning foreign correspondent **Richard Lloyd Parry**.

Danez Smith: *Don't Call Us Dead*

Part of Manchester Literature Festival



Danez Smith

We are thrilled to welcome to Manchester acclaimed American poet Danez Smith. A founding member of the Dark Noise Collective, Danez is an electrifying performer who has twice been a finalist for the Individual World Poetry Slam. Their debut, *[insert] boy*, was widely praised and went on to win both the Lambda Literary Award and the Kate Tufts Discovery Award.

Danez's new poetry collection, *Don't Call Us Dead*, is an incredible and life-affirming collection of poems that explore race, gender, power, identity, desire, the body and mortality in the face of a HIV positive diagnosis. 'Dear White America' and 'It Won't Be A Bullet' rage and burn at a country where every day is too often a funeral and not enough of a miracle whilst the astonishing opening sequence 'Summer, Somewhere' imagines an afterlife for black men shot by police; a place where suspicion, violence and grief are forgotten and replaced with the safety, love and longevity they deserved.

The New Yorker suggest 'Danez Smith's poems are enriched to the point of volatility, but they pay out, often, in sudden joy', whilst Roxane Gay praises *Don't Call Us Dead* as 'Poetry as fierce fire... Every poem impressed me, and the level of craft here is impeccable.'

Supporting Danez is poet and performer Hafsah Aneela Bashir. Co-director of the arts collective Outside The Frame Arts, Hafsah is a member of Manchester Muslim Writers and recently wrote and performed a monologue as part of the 'Memories of Partition' project at the Royal Exchange. She has a keen interest in writing as a form of resistance and liberty.

This event is hosted by poet Andrew McMillan and is presented in partnership with **Manchester Literature Festival**.

Book on 0843 208 0500 or manchesterliteraturefestival.co.uk

Venue
International
Anthony Burgess
Foundation

Time & Date
7pm, Monday
22 January 2018
(doors open
at 6.30pm)

Price
£7 / £5



LITERATURE LIVE: Sophie Collins and Carol Mavor



Sophie Collins


Sophie Collins is a poet, editor and translator. *small white monkeys*, a text on self-expression, self-help and shame, was published by Book Works in November 2017 as part of a commissioned residency at Glasgow Women's Library. Her first poetry collection, *Who Is Mary Sue?*, will be published by Faber & Faber in February 2018. She is currently Assistant Professor of Poetry at Durham University.

Carol Mavor is a writer who takes creative risks in form (literary and experimental) and political risks in content (sexuality, racial hatred, child-loving and the maternal). She shares this provocative approach with her students as Professor of Art History and Visual Studies at The University of Manchester. Her books include *Reading Boyishly: J.M. Barrie, Roland Barthes, Jacques Henri Lartigue, Marcel Proust and D.W. Winnicott*, *Blue Mythologies* and, most recently, in 2017, *Aurelia: Art and Literature through the Mouth of the Fairy Tale*.



Carol Mavor

Venue
Martin Harris
Centre

Time & Date 
7.30pm, Monday
12 February 2018

Price
£7 / £5



UNESCO City of Literature

The University of Manchester is proud to be part of the city-wide consortium that led the successful bid to join UNESCO's worldwide Creative Cities network as a City of Literature.

International Mother Language Day (IMLD) event: LITERATURE LIVE: Jennifer Makumbi in conversation with Ellah Wakatama Allfrey



Jennifer Nansubuga Makumbi



Ellah Wakatama Allfrey

UNESCO supports mother language and multilingual education through **International Mother Language Day (IMLD)**. The overall objective of the Day is to contribute to promoting not only linguistic diversity but cultural diversity as well.

As part of the International Mother Language Day celebrations we are delighted to welcome Ugandan novelist and short story writer **Jennifer Nansubuga Makumbi**. Her short story *Let's Tell This Story Properly* won the 2014 Commonwealth Short Story Prize. Her first novel, *Kintu*, was first published in Kenya in 2014 and is a modern classic, multi-layered narrative that explores Uganda's national identity through the cursed bloodline of the Kintu clan.


In an ambitious tale of a clan and a nation, Makumbi weaves together the stories of Kintu's descendants as they seek to break from the burden of their shared past and reconcile the inheritance of tradition and the modern world that is their future.

Kintu won the Kwani? Manuscript Project in 2013 and was longlisted for the Etisalat Prize in 2014. Jennifer Makumbi lives in Manchester with her husband, Damian, and her son, Jordan.

Ellah Wakatama Allfrey is a London-based editor and critic and is the founding Publishing Director of The Indigo Press. A former Deputy Editor of *Granta* and former Senior Editor at Jonathan Cape, Random House, she has been a judge for the Dublin International Literary Award, and the Man Booker and Caine Prizes. She was Visiting Professor & Global Intercultural Scholar at Goshen College, Indiana and was Guest Master for the 2016 Gabriel Garcia Marquez Foundation international journalism fellowship in Cartagena, Colombia. Her journalism has appeared in *The Telegraph*, *The Guardian* and *The Observer* and she is a regular contributor to the book pages of NPR and BBC Radio 4's Saturday Review.

This event will be introduced by Geoff Ryman, author and Honorary Senior Lecturer in Creative Writing at The University of Manchester and is presented in partnership with **Manchester Literature Festival**.

Venue
Martin Harris
Centre

Time & Date 
7.30pm,
Wednesday
21 February 2018

Price
£7 / £5



UNESCO City of Literature

International Mother Language Day (IMLD) event:

LITERATURE LIVE: Mariko Nagai and Richard Lloyd Parry



Mariko Nagai

How do writers – both natives and ‘outsiders’ – respond to tragedy and recount the lived experience of survivors?

Mariko Nagai is a poet, novelist and photographer whose latest book *Irradiations*, sifts through landscape and history to present the contemporary life of four Japanese cities, each marked by catastrophe.

Richard Lloyd Parry's *Ghosts Of The Tsunami* is a painstaking dispatch from the 2011 Japanese tsunami and the spiritual and psychological landscape left in its wake, described as ‘a brilliant, unflinching account’ by Rachel Cooke in the *Observer*.

Together the books present a poignant picture of Japanese society today.



Richard Lloyd Parry



Venue

Martin Harris
Centre

Time & Date 📅

7.30pm, Monday
26 February 2018

Price

£7 / £5



City of
Literature

LITERATURE LIVE: Joe Dunthorne and Luke Kennard



© Tom Medwell

Venue

Martin Harris
Centre

Time & Date 📅

7.30pm, Monday
5 March 2018

Price

£7 / £5

Joe Dunthorne

Joe Dunthorne was born and brought up in Swansea, South Wales. His first novel, *Submarine*, was translated into sixteen languages and adapted for film by Richard Ayoade. His second, *Wild Abandon*, won the 2012 Encore Award. A pamphlet of his poems was published by Faber and Faber. He teaches on the MA in Prose Fiction at the University of East Anglia.



Luke Kennard

Luke Kennard is the author of five collections of poetry and a novel. His latest, *Cain*, was shortlisted for the International Dylan Thomas Prize in 2017. His first novel, *The Transition*, was published by 4th Estate in 2017 and longlisted for the Desmond Elliott Prize. He lectures at the University of Birmingham.

John Rylands Research Institute – Annual Lecture by Professor Jeanette Winterson

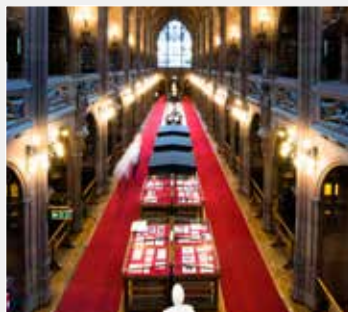
“Reading the Future: Books, power,
people, robots, and Dante”

The importance of the University Library’s Special Collections will be highlighted in this year’s annual lecture, which will be delivered by the University’s Professor of New Writing, Jeanette Winterson..


This is a FREE event – but booking is essential as places are limited.

Please see the website for more information and booking details:

www.jrri.manchester.ac.uk/connect/events



Venue
John Rylands
University Library,
Deansgate

Time & Date 
6pm, Monday
12 March 2018

Price
FREE

Literature Live: Patrisse Khan-Cullors in Conversation about #Blacklivesmatter

Part of Manchester Literature Festival

Join us to hear **Patrisse Khan-Cullors** discuss her illuminating memoir, *When They Call You a Terrorist: A Black Lives Matter Memoir*.

One of the most prominent activists of her generation, Patrisse is an artist, organizer and freedom fighter from Los Angeles, California. She’s also a Fullbright scholar, an NAACP History Maker and a Los Angeles Times’ Civil Rights Leader for the 21st Century. Patrisse began her journey as a community organizer at sixteen and has co-founded several activist and civil rights movements in the US, including Dignity, Power Now and Black Lives Matter.

Co-written with author and journalist Asha Bandele, *When They Call You a Terrorist* is a courageous and extraordinary account of survival, strength and resistance. Informed by Patrisse’s personal story and experiences, her memoir shows what led her to become a founder of Black Lives Matter, seeking to end the culture that declares black life expendable. From accounts of the brutal treatment of family and friends by the State, to the severe socio-economic disadvantages handed to those born in black majority communities; dismaying personal experiences of racial and LGBTQ+ stigma to Patrisse’s first community campaigns as an inter-sectional feminist activist, *When They Call You a Terrorist* builds a deep understanding of the cultural drivers of structural inequality, oppression, poverty, misogyny and racism, and why they need to be actively addressed from the ground up.

This event is in partnership with **Manchester Literature Festival**.

Book on 0843 208 0500 or manchestreliteraturefestival.co.uk



© Ryan Pflieger

Patrisse Khan-Cullors

Venue
Central Library 

Time & Date
7pm, Tuesday
13 March 2018
(doors open
at 6.30pm)

Price
£8 / £6



LITERATURE LIVE: Susie Orbach in conversation with Jeanette Winterson “In Therapy”



Susie Orbach

Susie Orbach is a psychotherapist, psychoanalyst, writer and social critic. She is the founder of the Women’s Therapy Centre of London, a former Guardian columnist and visiting professor at the London School of Economics and the author of a number of books including *What Do Women Want*, *On Eating*, *Hunger Strike*, *The Impossibility of Sex*, *Bodies* – which won the Women in Psychology Prize – and the international bestseller *Fat is a Feminist Issue*, which has sold well over a million copies.

The New York Times said, ‘She is probably the most famous psychotherapist to have set up couch in Britain since Sigmund Freud’.

She lives in London and lectures extensively worldwide.

Orbach will be in conversation with Jeanette Winterson, prolific author and Professor of New Writing at The University of Manchester.

This event is presented in partnership with **Manchester Literature Festival**.



Jeanette Winterson

Venue
Martin Harris
Centre

Time & Date 
7.30pm, Monday
16 April 2018

Price
£10 / £8



Literature Live: Jesmyn Ward in conversation

Part of Manchester Literature Festival



Jesmyn Ward

'Jesmyn Ward digs deep into the not-buried heart of the American nightmare. A must read.' Margaret Atwood

We are thrilled to present a rare UK event with acclaimed American author Jesmyn Ward. Based in Mississippi, Jesmyn is the author of the memoir *Men We Reaped* and the novels *Salvage the Bones*, *Where the Line Bleeds* and *Sing, Unburied, Sing*. She is also the editor of *The Fire This Time: A New Generation Speaks About Race*, which brings together 18 influential writers to 'wrestle with the past, present and future of American race relations and the black experience.'

Championed by Marlon James, Jon McGregor and Ann Patchett, Jesmyn's new novel *Sing, Unburied, Sing* recently won the prestigious 2017 National Book Award for Fiction. An urgent and atmospheric novel set in the deep South, it's an epic tale of hope, struggle, race, poverty and loss. It's also an intimate story of family and the legacies of love, violence and belonging that we pass on to our children. To quote Celeste Ng: 'Read *Sing, Unburied, Sing* and you'll feel the immense weight of history – and the immense strength it takes to persevere in the face of it... It's hard to imagine a more necessary book for this political time.'

Join us to see why Jesmyn Ward is regarded as one of the most important writers in America today, regularly drawing comparisons to William Faulkner and Toni Morrison.

This event is presented in partnership with **Manchester Literature Festival**.

Book on 0843 208 0500 or manchesterliteraturefestival.co.uk

Venue
Central Library

Time & Date
7pm, Friday
27 April 2018

Price
£7 / £5



To Book:

Quaytickets

Tickets can be purchased on **0843 208 0500**
or manchesterliteraturefestival.co.uk

You can also purchase tickets through the Martin Harris Centre
box office on **0161 275 8951** (opening times 12.30pm-2.30pm)

Join our mailing list by emailing info-cnw@manchester.ac.uk

The **Manchester** Review

The Manchester Review is the Centre for New Writing's online journal, showcasing new work by both world-leading and emerging writers and artists. The Review's agenda-setting reviews section is regularly updated with views on the latest books, films, exhibitions, theatre and music.

www.themanchesterreview.co.uk

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Box Office: 0161 275 8951

Email: boxoffice@manchester.ac.uk

Online tickets: www.quaytickets.com

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www.alc.manchester.ac.uk/cnw

