



BLenheim PALACE FESTIVAL OF LITERATURE FILM & MUSIC

Pocket Guide

Speakers include



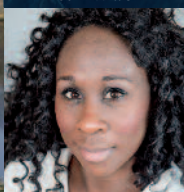
Sam Willis



Jacqui Dankworth



Cyles Brandreth



Esi Edugyan



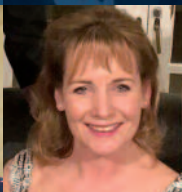
Adrian Lukis



Robert Daws



Nicholas Parsons



Caroline Langrishe



Wilfred Emmanuel-Jones

Thursday 11 – Sunday 14 October 2018

In partnership with



Welcome to your pocket guide to the 2018 Blenheim Palace Festival of Literature, Film & Music

FESTIVAL TICKETS

Your ticket includes entry to the park and gardens of the estate and free parking on the day of the event (price normally £16).

Tickets can be bought online, at the telephone box office or in person before the event. You will receive an email ticket, which is all you require for entry. We will also have a record of your name and purchase on the door. Mobile tickets and posted tickets are also available for a small extra charge for those who purchase online or at the telephone box office.

ONLINE Please visit www.blenheimpalaceliteraryfestival.com

IN PERSON Oxford Visitor Information Centre, Broad Street, Oxford (an agents' booking fee of £1.75 will be added to all sales through the visitor centre). They will also be available at the Bear Hotel in Woodstock. Check website for timings.

TELEPHONE 0333 666 3366 (an agents' booking fee of £1.75 will be added to all telephone sales).

FESTIVAL BOX OFFICE The box office at Blenheim Palace will be open during the festival.

Note: We strongly recommend that all festival-goers purchase their tickets well before the events to avoid disappointment.

Disabled access: All venues have disabled access with the exception of The Bear hotel. Wheelchair spaces can be booked through all outlets.

General information: Unless otherwise stated, events last approximately one hour.

This pocket guide was correct at the time of going to press. Events are sometimes subject to change, and a few more events may be added to the programme. For all the latest details, check our website at

www.blenheimpalaceliteraryfestival.com

Enquiries

Tel 07444 318986

General email

info@blenheimpalaceliteraryfestival.com

Ticketing queries:

tickets@blenheimpalaceliteraryfestival.com

FESTIVAL UPDATES

**PLEASE CHECK THE WEBSITE REGULARLY FOR
DETAILS OF NEW SPEAKERS OR EVENTS**



Wilfred Emmanuel-Jones

Wilfred Emmanuel-Jones talks to Nick Higham

Jeopardy: The Danger of Playing It Safe On The Path To Success

12 noon / Blenheim Palace: Marlborough Room /
£6.50-£12.50

Child of the Windrush generation and one of Britain's most successful black entrepreneurs Wilfred Emmanuel-Jones argues that caution is one of the biggest barriers to realising our dreams and urges us to embrace jeopardy.



Chris Thorogood Weird Plants

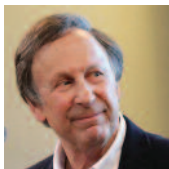
2pm / Blenheim Palace: Marlborough Room /
£6.50-£12.50

Author, artist and botanist Dr Chris Thorogood shares his passion for the bizarre in the plant world from the well-known Venus fly trap to the lesser-known parasitic devil's guts, monkey-face orchid and a tropical tree with flowers that resemble a pair of red lips.

Jeremy Robson, Jacqui Dankworth and Charlie Wood Under Cover: A Poet's Life in Publishing

2pm / Blenheim Palace: Orangery / £6.50- £12.50

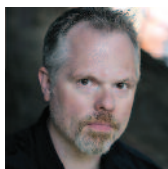
Jeremy Robson talks about his life as a successful poet and publisher that saw him work with many bestselling authors and occupy a place at the heart of the UK's poetry scene. Vocalist Jacqui Dankworth and singer/songwriter and pianist Charlie Wood will join him to provide some musical celebration. Event lasts 90 minutes



Jeremy Robson



Jacqui Dankworth



Charlie Wood



John Blair Building Anglo-Saxon England

4pm / Blenheim Palace: Marlborough Room /
£6.50-£12.50

Historian and archaeologist Professor John Blair draws on the latest discoveries to present a radically new view on the origins of Anglo-Saxon towns, manor houses and castles and how they shaped the lives of the people of the day.

Puccini at The Palace

The Lucca Philharmonic Orchestra in the Long Library

Drinks Reception in the Great Hall 6.30pm

Concert in the Long Library 7.30pm

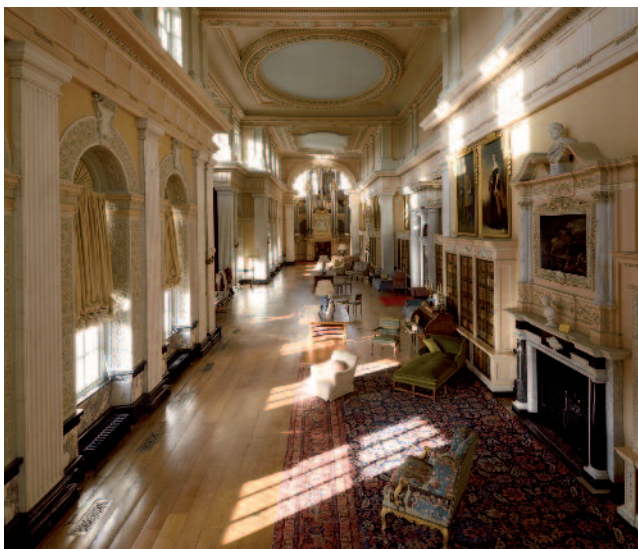
Tickets £15.00 – to include drinks reception



Giacomo Puccini

1858-1924

Legendary composer of operas *La Bohème*, *Tosca*, *Madama Butterfly*, *Manon Lescaut* and *Turandot*



The magnificent Long Library at Blenheim Palace

A concert of great opera music

Enjoy an evening of great music from the operas of Puccini and other celebrated Italian composers, performed by members of The Lucca Philharmonic Orchestra, founded by conductor Andrea Colombini from Lucca, Puccini's home city.

Colombini founded the orchestra in 2010. It performs across Italy and, since 2014, has performed every December at Vienna's iconic Musikverein.

In September 2017 Andrea Bocelli sang with the orchestra at the Verdi Theatre in Pisa.

Colombini established The Puccini International Festival in 2004, which features concerts in Lucca every day of the year. He was the subject of a Sky Arts documentary broadcast on 3rd September 2017.



Andrea Colombini conducting the Lucca Philharmonic Orchestra



Andrea Bocelli singing with the Lucca Philharmonic Orchestra, conducted by the ABB robot 'trained' by Andrea Colombini – September 2017



Jonathan Ray Drink More Fizz

12 noon / Blenheim Palace: Marlborough Room / £12.50

Leading wine writer Jonathan Ray talks about his latest book on 100 of the world's greatest champagnes and sparkling wines and offers some tastings.

Sam Willis and James Daybell Histories of the Unexpected

12 noon / Blenheim Palace: Orangery / Free-£12.50

Historians Dr Sam Willis and Professor James Daybell look at some of the unexpected and often magical links that connect events in history. To mark European Year of Cultural Heritage 2018, the European Commission is enabling the festival to offer free tickets for this event to school pupils, and all college and university students. Tickets can be booked through the usual channels.



Sam Willis (left)
and James Daybell



David Reynolds Gibraltar Lecture: Kremlin Letters: Stalin's Wartime Correspondence with Churchill and Roosevelt

2pm / Blenheim Palace: Gallery / £6.50-£12.50

Award-winning historian, broadcaster and writer Professor David Reynolds reveals what the messages between Stalin, Churchill and Roosevelt say about the relationship between them and the machinations that went on behind the scenes.



Judith Mackrell The Unfinished Palazzo: Life, Love and Art in Venice

2.30pm / Blenheim Palace: Indian Room / £6.50-£12.50

Biographer Judith Mackrell tells the stories of three extraordinary and unconventional 20th-century women who fashioned their rebellious lives in Venice's Unfinished Palazzo.



Adam Sisman **More Dashing: Further Letters of Patrick Leigh Fermor**

4pm / Blenheim Palace: Indian Room / £6.50-£12.50

Biographer Adam Sisman talks about his second selection of letters written by one of the greatest travel writers of his time, Patrick Leigh Fermor.



Robert Daws **Wodehouse in Wonderland by William Humble**

4pm / Marlborough Room / £8-£15.00

Actor and writer Robert Daws gives a performed reading of a new play based on the life and writings of P G Wodehouse with musical accompaniment featuring works composed by Jerome Kern, George Gershwin, Cole Porter and Ivor Novello and Wodehouse's lyrics. Event lasts one hour 40 minutes including a 20-minute interval.

Lord's Taverners and Lady Taverners **Blenheim Palace Dinner**

7pm / Blenheim Palace: Orangery / £250

This year's festival will host a dinner given by the Lord's Taverners and Lady Taverners and sponsored by Seabourn Luxury Cruises in the presence of the Duke and Duchess of Marlborough. Guest speaker to be announced.



The Orangery

Nicholas Parsons and Gyles Brandreth

Two Raconteurs: Stories of Life in Television and Radio

11am / Blenheim Palace: Orangery / £6.50-£12.50

Two great and funny storytellers and friends Nicholas Parsons and Gyles Brandreth come together for an entertaining chat about their lives in television and radio.



Nicholas Parsons



Gyles Brandreth



David Lough Darling Winston: Forty Years of Letters Between Churchill and his Mother

12 noon / Blenheim Palace: Marlborough Room / £6.50-12.50

Author and Churchill expert David Lough speaks at the place of the wartime leader's birth about his new collection of letters between Sir Winston and his American mother Jennie Jerome.



Nino Strachey Rooms of their Own: Eddy Sackville-West, Virginia Woolf, Vita Sackville-West

2pm / Blenheim Palace: Marlborough Room / £6.50-£12.50

Curator and writer Nino Strachey explores the Bloomsbury Group homes of Virginia Woolf, of her lover Vita Sackville-West, and of Vita's cousin Eddy Sackville-West and shows how they reflected changing social and moral attitudes towards sexuality and gender in the 1920s and 30s.



Peter Conradi The King's War

4pm / Blenheim Palace: Marlborough Room / £6.50-12.50

Journalist and author of the bestselling book *The King's Speech* Peter Conradi explains how George VI's speech therapist Lionel Logue continued to play an important role in the life of the monarch long after the events chronicled in the first book.

Caroline Langrishe, Adrian Lukis, Camilla Pay and Rosie Lomas An Afternoon with Jane Austen

4pm / Blenheim Palace: Orangery / £6.50-£15

Actors Caroline Langrishe and Adrian Lukis bring to life some of Jane Austen's most memorable characters by performing a series of duologues and passages from the books. They are accompanied by vocalists and musicians, including harpist Camilla Pay and soprano Rosie Lomas, performing 18th-century and regency-era music that would have been heard in Austen's own household. This event will last two hours including a 30-minute interval when drinks will be available to purchase at the festival bar.



From left: Camilla Pay, Adrian Lukis, Caroline Langrishe, Rosie Lomas



Esi Edugyan *Washington Black*

**7pm / The Bear Hotel: Newbold Room /
£6.50-£12.50 (tickets include the festival drinks
party at the Bear Hotel at 6.15pm)**

Acclaimed novelist Esi Edugyan talks about her new novel *Washington Black*, which was recently longlisted for the 2018 Man Booker prize. Ticketholders for this event are invited to a festival drinks party in the Bear Hotel, sponsored by the Bear Hotel, at 6.15pm on the evening of this event.

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Free places for school pupils at festival events

Featuring writers

Wilfred Emmanuel-Jones, Dr Chris Thorogood, Dr Sam Willis
and Professor James Daybell

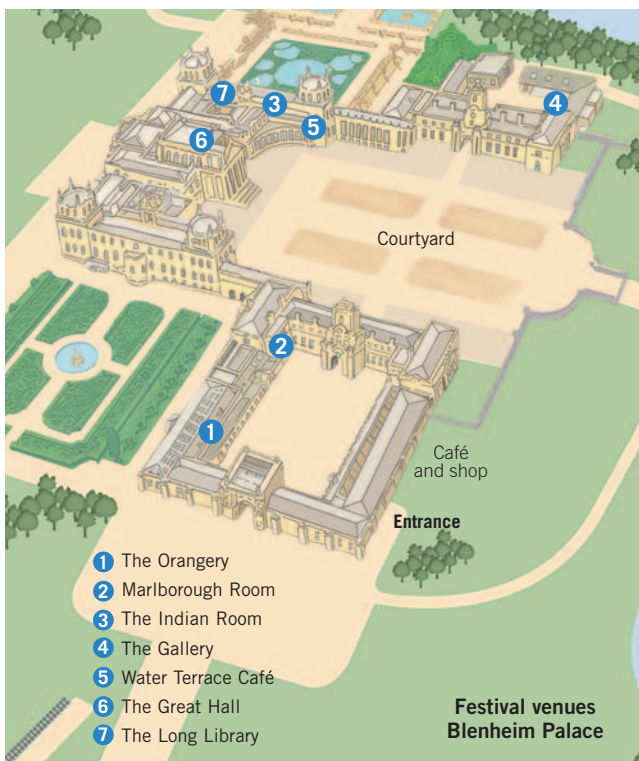
The Blenheim Palace Festival of Literature, Film and Music
The Non Fiction Essay Prize
sponsored by Blythe Campbell

A £500 non-fiction essay prize for pupils of
The Marlborough School.

The writer of the winning essay will receive £200, the runner-up
£100 and third place £50. The class of the winning writer will
also get to choose books worth £150 for the school library.

The competition is open to pupils in years 7 to 12 at The
Marlborough School, and pupils have to write a well-argued
piece on **Can humans live sustainably?**

FESTIVAL VENUES



Box office: 0333 666 3366 (Mon – Sat)
www.blenheimpalaceliteraryfestival.com

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