

# Thursday 25th to Sunday 28th September 2014

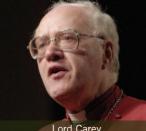
Four days of intimate discussion, debate, music and performance with leading writers and public figures in the magnificent surroundings of Blenheim Palace.



Jessye Norman



Jonathan Miller



Lord Carey



Maureen Lipman



Julian Fellowes



**Richard Dawkins** 

Blenheim Palace welcomes more than 50 leading writers, performers and public figures from home and abroad for a four-day festival celebrating literature, the arts, science, heritage, music and live performance. Listen to and meet your favourite writers in intimate surroundings. Many events include live performance, whether by established artists and orchestras or by Shakespearean actors, and you can dine in the splendour of the palace orangery. For full details and to book, visit our website.

Preview event – 6pm, Saturday 13th September Deborah Harkness All Souls Trilogy: The Book of Life

### Thursday 25th September

- 10.30am James Hamilton. Introduced by Paul Blezard A Strange Business: Making Art and Money in 19th-century Britain
  10.30am Nicholas Parsons Welcome to Just a Minute!: A Celebration of Britain's Best-Loved Radio
  - 11am A Guided Coffee-Tasting with The East India Company The Story of Coffee
    - 12pm Alice Roberts The Incredible Unlikeliness of Being
    - 12pm Ben Fergusson and Jason Hewitt. Chaired by Kate Williams Literary Debuts and World War II
    - 12pm Ken Hom, Cyrus Todiwala and Belinda Harley Food and Culture: How to Live Life Well
    - 2pm Lucy Hughes-Hallett The Pike: Gabriele D'Annunzio
    - 2pm Liam Fox and Richard Sakwa Putin and Russia: A Threat to World Peace?
    - 4pm George Plumptre The Making of English Country House Gardens
    - 4pm Kate Williams and Alison Weir. Chaired by Paul Blezard History and The Novel: Storms of War and The Marriage Game
    - 4pm A Guided Tea-Tasting with The East India Company The Finest Teas with the Tea Master
    - 4pm Paul Atterbury talks to Steven Parissien Compton Verney Lecture – Art of War: Treasures Fashioned from Conflict
    - 6pm Jessye Norman interviewed by Alan Yentob Stand Up Straight and Sing
    - 6pm Helen Macdonald H is for Hawk

### Friday 26th September

- 10.30am Hugo Vickers Cecil Beaton: Portraits and Profiles
- 12.30pm Rick Stroud Kidnap in Crete: The Abduction of a Nazi General
  - 12pm Karen Armstrong Fields of Blood: Religion and the History of Violence
  - 2pm Julian Fellowes Blenheim Palace: Great War House
  - 2pm Diarmaid MacCulloch and Anna Whitelock Henry and Elizabeth: The Creation of the Church of England
  - 2pm Tom Wilkinson Bricks and Mortals: Ten Great Buildings and the People They Made
  - 3pm Tim Stanley-Clarke A Special Tasting of Graham's Ports
  - 4pm Caroline Sandon talks to Gwenan Edwards Book Club: Burnt Norton
  - 4pm Roy Strong Remaking a Garden: The Laskett Transformed
  - 4pm Anthony and Ben Holden talk to David Freeman Tears Before Bedtime: Words and Music That Touch the Soul
  - 7pm Jonathan Miller Sixty Years of Writing: Black Tie Literary Dinner with Jonathan Miller



# Book online at blenheimpalaceliteraryfestival.com Book by phone on 01993 812291 (11am – 2.30pm)

## Saturday 27th September

- 10.30am Sofka Zinovieff talks to David Freeman The Mad Boy, Lord Berners, My Grandmother and Me
- 10.30am Fanny Blake and Lucy Atkins Storytelling: 'It's a Bit Tense...'
  - 10am Ashley Jackson The British Empire: A Very Short Introduction
  - 12pm George Carey talks to Adrian Daffern Moral Dilemmas of the 21st Century
- 12.30pm Matthew Dennison Behind the Mask: The Life of Vita Sackville-West
- 12.30pm Alex Monroe Two Turtle Doves: A Memoir of Making Things
- 1.30pm Richard Dawkins talks to Paul Blezard The Making of a Scientist to the Music of the Orchestra of St John's Conducted by John Lubbock
  - 2pm Anthony Sattin Young Lawrence
  - 2pm Mickey Harrison Gin Tasting
- 3.30pm Lynda Mugglestone Dictionaries: A Very Short Introduction
  - 4pm Sadie Jones talks to Lucy Atkins Book Club: Fallout
  - 5pm Steve Hogarth Marillion and The Invisible Man Diaries

### Sunday 28th September

- 10.30am Paula Byrne Belle: The True Story of Dido Belle
- 10.30am Shakespeare for Breakfast All You Can Eat in 90 minutes
- 10.30am Lucy Atkins and Fanny Blake Storytelling: Have You Got A Book In You?
- 12.30pm Kate Brooke, Trystan Gravelle and Amy Morgan. Chaired by Lucy Atkins Cocktails with Mr Selfridge
- 12.30pm Selina Hastings The Red Earl: The Extraordinary Life of the 15th Earl of Huntingdon
- 12.30pm Philip Marsden Rising Ground: A Search for the Spirit of Place
  - **2pm** Allan Ledger talks to Paul Blezard A Spencer Love Affair: 18th-century Theatricals at Blenheim Palace and Beyond
    - 2pm Philip Walling talks to David Freeman Counting Sheep: A Celebration of the Pastoral Heritage of Britain
    - 5pm Maureen Lipman, Jeremy Robson, Jacqui Dankworth and Butterfly Wing Blues in the Park: An Original Programme of Poetry Jazz Song and Humour

### Post-festival event - 7pm, Friday 31st October

Boris Johnson The Churchill Factor: How One Man Made History



Ken Hom



Alice Roberts



Roy Strong



Kate Williams



Diarmaid MacCulloch



Karen Armstrong



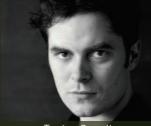
**Deborah Harkness** 



Steve Hogarth



Jacqui Dankworth



Trystan Gravell Cocktails with Mr Selfridge



Post-festival event, 31st October



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