RUNNYMEDE INTERNATIONAL LITERARY FESTIVAL

Tuesday 19 March to Saturday 23 March 2013

Programme of Events

Patrons: Sir Andrew Motion and Hilary Mantel

Royal Holloway programme

Runnymede Festival in London programme

Welcome to R:Fest:

I want to extend a very warm welcome to the eighth Runnymede International Literary Festival. Thanks to the work of Nancy Bentley and the support of Procter & Gamble, we have again been able to offer a substantial programme of events and creative workshops in schools. I am also grateful to the Royal Holloway publicity team for their work in publicising the Festival. Dr Eric Langley very kindly agreed to give a talk on 'Shakespeare, medicine and illness to launch the Festival on campus on 19 March. Following the success of the 'Runnymede Festival in London' over the last two years, there will be a full programme of readings in Central London at the Centre for Creative Collaboration in Acton Street from March 21-23. I am very grateful to the administrators at the Centre for their assistance and support.

This year's festival features readings from new novels by Doug Cowie, Joe Treasure and William Searle; a reading by contributors to *Bedford Square* 6; and a full day of readings from a range of poets – from Prue Chamberlain to William Rowe.

I wish you a very enjoyable time at this year's festival.

Professor Robert Hampson

(Festival Director)

Tuesday, 19 March 2013:

Eric Langley: Shakespeare, Medicine and Illness

Dr Langley is the author of *Narcissism and Suicide in Shakespeare and his Contemporaries* (Oxford University Press, 2009) and teaches on the Department's MA in Shakespeare. This promises to be a stimulating and informative talk.

5- 7pm: Management Building Lecture Theatre, Royal Holloway, Egham, Surrey TW20 OEX

Thursday, 21 March 2013:

Launch of *Bedford Square 6* Anthology

The launch of this year's *Bedford Square* anthology features readings by former students of the MA in Creative Writing (directed by Sir Andrew Motion). Since the MA in Creative Writing was started at Royal Holloway, there has been a series of anthologies of work by its students under the title *Bedford Square*. These volumes have included early work by poets and fiction writers who have gone on to publish novels and individual collections of poetry.

6.30-9pm: The Centre for Creative Collaboration
16 Acton Street
London WC1X 9NG

Friday, 22 March 2013

a) New Fiction and Poetry:

Come and hear a reading of new fiction and poetry by current students from the MA in Creative Writing programme at Royal Holloway. Graduates of the MA programme include Taminah Anam, whose first novel, *A Golden Age* (2007), was shortlisted for the Costa First Novel Prize and her second novel, *A Good Muslim* (2011), was nominated for the Man Asian Literary Prize, and Adam O'Riordan, whose first collection, *In the Flesh*, won a Somerset Maugham Award.

Readers include: Belinda Buckley, Alexandra cannon, Jennifer Carey, Adrian Hornsby, Sara Jones, Ross Malin, Arike Oke, Yosola Olorunshola, Amelie Skoda, Annie Stogdale, Mariam Tareen, Sandra Walmsley and Ray Wood.

6.00-7.35: The Centre for Creative Collaboration
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b) Work in Progress:

A reading from their current novels by Doug Cowie, Joe Treasure and William Searle

Douglas Cowie is a graduate of Colgate University and completed his practice-based PhD at the University of East Anglia. He is the author of the cult novel, *Owen Noone and the Marauder* (2005). He is currently working on a novel, *Even Across the Ocean*, about the American writer Nelson Algren and his affair with Simone de Beauvoir, which he will read from this evening.

Joe Treasure graduated in English from Oxford and subsequently moved to Los Angeles on a Fulbright Scholarship. He was a graduate of the Royal Holloway MA in Creative writing and subsequently published two novels: *The Male Gaze* (2007) and *Besotted* (2011). He will be reading from his latest novel this evening.

William Searle recently completed a practice-based PhD at Royal Holloway. His poetry has been published by various magazines, including *Agenda*, and he is included in two anthologies, *Days of Roses* and the forthcoming *Salt Book of Younger Poets*. He is currently working on a fantasy novel, due to be published next year, which he will read from this evening.

7.45-9pm: The Centre for Creative Collaboration
16 Acton Street
London WC1X 9NG

Saturday, 23 March 2012:

a) An Afternoon of Poetry:

1– 2pm: Simon Smith, Adrian Clarke, S.J. Fowler

Simon Smith, after a number of years in Pennsylvania, worked in the Poetry Library from 1991 to 2007. He has published translations of Martial, Catullus and Pierre Reverdy in journals such as *PN Review*. His own collections of poetry include *Fifteen Exits* (2001), *Reverdy Road* (2003), *Mercury* (2006) and *London Bridge* (2010). He teaches Creative Writing at the University of Kent.

Adrian Clarke: In the 1980s Clarke began a long association with Bob Cobbing and Writers Forum. He co-edited the Writers Forum magazine *AND* and (with Robert Sheppard) the anthology of London-based poets, *Floating Capital* (1991). His most recent publications include *Skeleton Sonnets* (2002), *Former Haunts* (2004), *Possession: Poems 1996-2006 (2007)* and *Eurochants* (2010).

S.J. Fowler: Has published four collections of poetry including *Fights* and *Minimum Security Prison Dentistry*. He has collections forthcoming from *Penned in the Margins* and *Eggbox publishing.* He curates the Enemies project, supported by the Jerwood Charitable Foundation, and Maintenant, a series of readings and interviews focussing on contemporary poetics and collaboration. He is currently working on a PhD at the Contemporary Poetics Research Centre at Birkbeck.

2.00-3.00: Redell Olsen, Drew Milne, Stephen Mooney

Redell Olsen: Director of the MA in Poetic Practice at Royal Holloway and co-organiser of the POLYply reading series. Between 2006 and 2010, she was editor of the e-journal *how2*, which publishes modernist and contemporary poetry and poetics by women writers. Her poetry publications include *Book of the Insec*t (1999), *Secure Portable Space* (2004) and *Punk Faun: a bar rock pastel* (2012). Her recent projects have involved film, texts for performance and collaborations – including *Bucolic Picnic (or, Toile de Jouy Camouflage)* (2009), *Newe Booke of Copies* (2009-10) and *SPRIGS and Spots* (2011-12). She also makes work in collaboration across a range of media that includes bookworks, visual installation, film and performance.

Website: redellolsen.co.uk/wordpress
Film poems: filmpoems.wordpress.com
Electric Crinolines: instituteofelectriccrinolines.org

Drew Milne: Since *Sheet Mettle* (1994) and *Bench Marks* (1998), he has published *The Damage: New and selected Poems (*2001), *Mars Disarmed* (2002) and *Go Figure* (2003). His most recent books are *The View from Royston Cave* (2012) and equipollence (2012). His poetry was included in the anthology *Conductors of chaos* (1996) and in Keith Tuma's *Oxford Anthology of British and Irish Twentieth-Century Poetry* He is the Judith E Wilson Lecturer in Drama and Poetry, Faculty of English, University of Cambridge. He edits the important journal *parataxis*.

Website: drewmilne.tripod.com

Stephen Mooney: Poet in Residence and Lecturer in Contemporary Literature and Creative Writing at the University of Surrey. He is part of the performative poetry grouping 'London Under Construction', UK editor of the amazing *VLAK Magazine* and on the organising committee of the Contemporary Poetics Research Centre at Birkbeck. He is the author of *DCLP* (2008) and co-author of *Shuddered* (2010).

3.15-4.15: Poetic Practice:

Readings and performances by current students from the MA in Poetic Practice: Jennie Cole, Rachel Dakin, Annie Runkel, Juliet Troy, Emma Wootton.

MA Poetic Practice: rhul.ac.uk/english/coursefinder/mapoeticpractice.aspx

4.15-5.15: Jeff Hilson, Nat Raha, Sophie Robinson

Jeff Hilson's publications include *stretchers* (2006), *Bird bird* (2009), and *In the Assarts* (2010). He edited *The Reality Street Book of Sonnets* and runs the reading series Xing the Line. He teaches Creative Writing at Roehampton University and is currently working on a long poem called 'Organ Music'.

Nat Raha's poetry includes *Octet* (2010), *polemics for loudhailer* (2012), *mute exterior intimate* (forthcoming) and *countersonnets* (forthcoming). Her work is included in *Better than Language: An Anthology of New Modernist Poetries* (2011), *Dear World and Everyone In It* (Bloodaxe, 2013), as well as in a range of magazines including *Angel Exhaust* and *Damn the Caesars*. She is currently undertaking a PhD in Marxist queer theory and contemporary poetry at the University of Sussex.

Sophie Robinson completed an MA in Poetic Practice and a PhD in Queer Experimental Writing at Royal Holloway. She has published *a* (2009) and a collection *The Institute of Our Love in Disrepair* (2013). She was Poet in residence at the Victoria and Albert in 2011 and currently teaches at Northumbria University.

5.15-6.15: Will Rowe, Prue Chamberlain, Robert Hampson

Will Rowe is Anniversary Professor of Poetics at Birkbeck College. He is the author of ten books on Latin American Literature, including, most recently, *Cesar Vallejo: El acto y la palabra* (2010). He edited *The Salt Companion to Bill Griffith* and is the author of *Three Modern Lyric Poets: Harwood, Torrance and MacSweeney*. He founded three important institutions: the Contemporary Poetics Research Centre at Brikbeck, the web-journal *Pores*, and the publisher

Veer. His most recent volume of poetry is *The Earth Has Been Destroyed* (2009).

Prue Chamberlain completed the MA in Poetic Practice at Royal Holloway and is currently working on a practice-based PhD producing poetry of contemporary urban feminism.

Robert Hampson is Professor of Modern Literature at Royal Holloway. His selected poems, *Assembled Fugitives*, was published in 2001, and his long poem *Seaport* was re-published in 2010. His most recent publications are *an explanation of colours* (2012), *out of sight* (2012) and *reworked disasters* (2013).

6.15-7.15: David Herd, David Miller, Frances Presley

David Herd: Professor in the School of English at the University of Kent. He is the author of *John Ashbery and American Poetry* and *Enthusiast! Essays on Modern American Literature.* His poetry has appeared in various journals including *Like Starlings* and *PN Review*, and he has published three books of poetry: *Mandelson! Mandelson! A Memoir* (2005), *All Just* (2012) and *Outwith* (2012).

David Miller: Has published over fifty books and pamphlets since *The Caryatids* (1975). His Collected Poems were published by the University of Salzburg in 1997. Since then, among other things, he has published *Art & Disclosure* (1998), *Spiritual Letters, 1-12* (1999), and *The Waters of Marah* (2003). He also runs the Kater Murr Press.

Frances Presley studied literature at the universities of East Anglia and Sussex. Her publications include *The Sex of Art* (1988), *Hula Hoop* (1993), *Linocut* (1997). She collaborated with the artist Irma Irsara in a project about fashion, Automatic Cross Stitch (2000) and with Elizabeth James in an email text and performance, *Neither the One nor the Other* (1999). More recently she has published *Paravane: New and Selected Poems, 1996-2003* (2004), *Myne: new and selected poems and prose 1976-2005* ((2006) and *Lines of sight* (2009). Her latest book is *An Alphabet for Alina* (2012) in collaboration with the artist Peterjon Skelt. Her work is included in the anthologies *Infinite Difference*

(2010) and *Ground Aslant: Radical Landscape Poetry* (2011). She has also contributed to a collection of poetic autobiographies, *Cusp: recollections of poetry in transit* (2012).

b) 7.30-9.00: An Evening of Prose

Readings from prose works in progress by the *purpureus* group.

All these events are part of 'Runnymede Festival in London' at The Centre for Creative Collaboration, 16 Acton St, London WC1X 9NG

If you have enjoyed this afternoon's events, you might also like POLYply:
polyply.wordpress.com