

**WRITING ON THE WALL PRESENTS**

**WOWFEST19**  
**WHERE ARE**  
**WE NOW?**

**MIKE LEIGH**

**JO BRAND**

**PETER TATCHELL**

**WILL SELF**

**STUART MACONIE**

**BRIAN READE**

**MUNROE BERGDORF**

**BEN OKRI**

**KIT DE WAAL**

**HELEN PANKHURST**

**MAGID MAGID**

**KERRY HUDSON**

**MAY 2019**

## Welcome to WoWFest19

**Where are we now?:** All that is solid, like the icecaps, is melting into air. Things fall apart – can the centre hold? The rich are getting richer, but otherwise uncertainty is the order of the day: Brexit, climate change, class, feminism, gender, race, populism, fake news, digital surveillance, and more, much more, are changing and challenging all our old conceptions. The stage is now set at WoWFest19 to seek answers to the question ‘Where Are We Now?’



WoW 2019 has a strong commitment to showcasing women’s creativity and activism and includes powerful events on women’s rights, women’s equality and feminism. 2019 is Liverpool’s Year of the Woman and we are proud to be part of Culture Liverpool’s RISE programme.

We dedicate WoWFEST19 to the memory of Alison Code, script editor. A fund raiser in memory of Alison has been set up – for details visit [gofundme.com/our-campaign-for-writing-on-the-wall-limited](https://gofundme.com/our-campaign-for-writing-on-the-wall-limited)

Writing on the Wall is part of Enterprise Hub who offer expert business start-up advice and support to residents of the Liverpool City Region. For an appointment please email [enterprisehub@writingonthwall.org.uk](mailto:enterprisehub@writingonthwall.org.uk)



Special thanks to our partners & venues & our Festival hotels; Hope Street Hotel and Radisson Blu.

hope street hotel



**#WOWFEST19**

## **Will Self: 'Where Are We Now?'**

### **Festival Keynote Speech**

**Wednesday 1st May, 7pm**

#### **Bluecoat**

Will Self, one of the UK's most admired and widely read writers and political commentators, launches WoWFest19 with a keynote speech responding to our festival theme 'Where Are We Now?' Will has written twelve novels, including *Phone*, *Umbrella* (shortlisted for the Booker Prize) and *Shark*. His nonfiction and journalism regularly appears in *The Guardian*, *Harper's*, *The New York Times* and the *London Review of Books*. Always outspoken, often controversial, join Will Self and WoW to try and work out some answers to where we are now and where we might be going. *Festival Keynote Sponsored by The Institute for Creative Enterprise, Edge Hill University's practice-led and interdisciplinary research forum connecting us with the digital and creative economy and cultural institutions.* **Tickets £15/£8**

## **Exhibition Launch: 1919 Race Riots**

**Thursday 2nd May, 12.30pm. Runs until Monday 24th June**

**3rd Floor, Central Library**

**Free entry**

*For full details please see centre pages*

## **Common People:**

### **Working Class Writers.**

**Kit De Waal, Laura Waddell,**

**Lynsey Hanley**

**Thursday 2nd May, 7.30pm**

**Toxteth Library**

Kit De Waal, (*My Name is Leon*, editor of Unbound's *Common People: An Anthology of Working Class Writing*) discusses class representation in writing and publishing, with Lynsey Hanley (*Estates: An Intimate History*) and writer Laura Waddell, contributor to Dead Ink's *Know Your Place: Essays On The Working Class.* **Tickets £6/£3**



## **Bess: Now That I Have Found The Words**

### **Rose Thomas**

**Friday 3rd May, 6.30pm**

**Gilmour Room, Guild of Students, University of Liverpool**

Bess, young, black and growing up in post-war Liverpool, faces age-old racism amidst new opportunities for work, alongside the threat of social and sexual exploration. This ground-breaking debut novel charts Bess' journey from call-girl in a 70s club to the aftermath of the Toxteth Uprising of '81, and the joys and troubles of her life in between. A University of Liverpool partnership. **Admission Free**

## **La Violette Records presents: If They Don't Read, Don't Fuck Them**

**Toria Garbutt, Roy, Louise Fazackerley, Nathan O'Hagan**

**Friday 3rd May, 7.30pm**

**Studio 2**

La Violette Società presents Roy, Nathan O'Hagan, Louise Fazackerley and Toria Garbutt. La Violette Records, launched in 2013 by Michael Head (The Red Elastic Band) and friends, has won acclaim for its democratic ethos and eclectic mix of high-quality music and spoken word artists.

Book early, tickets fly out.

**Tickets £5 in advance, £7 on the door (gift tickets available)**

### **Exhibition: The Nazi Persecution of Central German Sinti and Roma**

**Saturday 4th - 13th May, 8am-6pm**

**Anglican Cathedral**

This exhibition tells the story of nine interconnected German families from the Roma and Sinti communities, about 70 men, women and children, whose persecution began when they were forced to move from the town of Dessau-Roßlau in Central Germany and sent to an internment camp at the beginning of 1938. *Guided tours daily. See [www.wowfest.uk](http://www.wowfest.uk) for details.*

**Free event**

### **Book Launch: Remembered by Yvonne Battle-Felton**

**Saturday 4th May, 3pm**

**Kuumba Imani Millennium Centre**

*Remembered* is the highly acclaimed debut historical fiction novel by Yvonne Battle-Felton, a story where Spring, an emancipated slave, is forced to relive a haunting past in order to lead her dying son home. Hosted by Laurence Westgaph, historian and leader of the Liverpool Black Research Group.

**Tickets £5/£3**

### **Riyadh Khalaf: Yay! You're Gay! Now What?**

**Saturday 4th May, 6pm**

**Video Odyssey, Toxteth TV**

*Yay! You're Gay! Now What?* asks Riyadh Khalaf, presenter of BBC3's *Queer Britain* documentary, in his debut guide for young queer guys. Riyadh's YouTube channel has amassed over 33 million views and been featured on *BuzzFeed*, *MTV*, *BBC*, *Channel 4*, *Huffington Post*, *Vanity Fair*, *E! News*, *Upworthy* and *The Guardian*.

**Tickets with book £13/£11, without book £4/£2**

### **Walking Tour: Liverpool & Slavery**

**Sunday 5th May, 12pm**

**Assembly Point: St George's Plateau**

This fascinating tour led by Laurence Westgaph, local historian, journalist and broadcaster, will visit sites where a number of the enslaved population of Liverpool were buried, along with many other important places of remembrance related to Liverpool's involvement in the slave trade.

**Payment by donation**

### **Walking Tour: Where Are We? with Roger Hill**

**Sunday 5th May, 1pm and 3pm**

**Assembly Point: Ropewalks Square outside FACT**

Broadcaster and writer Roger Hill leads a walk through the streets to discover the city that never was, but always is. Expect to see Liverpool in a new, maybe fantastical, light. In a period of uncertainty and competing realities, what should we believe about our city? **Tickets £5/£3**

### **Munroe Bergdorf**

**In Conversation with Lady Phyll**

**Tuesday 7th May, 7.30pm**

**Radisson Blu Hotel**

Join Munroe Bergdorf and Lady Phyll (co-founder of UK Black Pride) for a frank discussion on the challenges and opportunities of online activism, body image and carving out your own space. Munroe is familiar for her insight into 'white privilege', diversity and the LGBTQI+ community. In partnership with Radisson Blu. **Tickets £12/£6**





**What Is To Be Done?:  
Environment and Action  
Magid Magid, Fred Pearce, Ben  
Gardiner, Roscoe Blevins**

**Tuesday 7th May, 7.30pm  
Toxteth Library**

The UN has issued a distress call: in 12 years the effects of climate change will become irreversible. Action is needed now, but when will 'now' start? We discuss what needs to be done with author Fred Pearce, Sheffield Lord Mayor Magid Magid, journalist Beth Gardiner and anti-fracking protester Roscoe Blevins. **Tickets £8/£4**

**My City: Creative Writing and Storytelling  
Persian Focus Workshop**

**Wednesday 8th May, 5pm  
Toxteth Library**

Persian poetry and storytelling's rich imagery, metaphors, imaginative rhythm, tone, playful satire and comedy, has had a huge influence on the West. This workshop will encourage writers to explore these themes through creative exercises and group storytelling. In partnership with Comma Press, the Iranian Cultural Society of Liverpool and Visiting Arts.

**Free event, booking essential**

**The Young, Cosmopolitan City of Stories You've Been Missing: Tehran Now  
Hosted by Sophie Victoria**

**Wednesday 8th May, 7pm  
Toxteth Library**

Orkideh Behrouzan, Vahid Davar and Niloo Sharifi celebrate the launch of this new short story collection which explores the beautiful city of Tehran. Join us for discussion and performances inspired by Iranian culture and literature. In partnership with Comma Press, the Iranian Cultural Society of Liverpool, Visiting Arts and Awesome Liverpool. **Tickets £6/£3**

**Calling All Magic Children: Scarlett  
Thomas' Worldquake  
Scarlett Thomas**

**Wednesday 8th May, 1pm-3pm  
Central Library, Discovery Room**

Calling all magic children, have you heard of *Worldquake*? It's 'the most exciting debut in children's fiction since Harry Potter!' Join author Scarlett Thomas as we find out if we're mages or hunters, tricksters, heroes or any of the other legendary karakters adventuring in the mysterious world of Galloglass?

**Free event**



**Imagination and Inspiration: Writing for Children and Young People  
Scarlett Thomas, Sally-Anne Tapia-Bowes, Jude Lennon**

**Wednesday 8th May, 6pm  
Waterstones Liverpool ONE**

Now more than ever, bookshops are teeming with diverse and exciting books for children. There is a boom in hit shows and film adaptations and we don't have to look far for branded merchandise. Award-winning writer Scarlett Thomas discusses the magic of capturing young readers' imaginations alongside local writers Jude Lennon and Sally-Anne Tapia-Bowes. **Tickets £3/£2**

### **Junk Mail: The Power of Fake News**

**Brian Reade, Dawn Foster, Des Freedman, Brian Cathcart**

**Thursday 9th May, 7pm**

**Bluecoat**

News is information and information is power. But where does that power end up when the news is fake? To discuss the influence and impact of fake information, we bring together former Columnist of the Year, Brian Reade; *Guardian* columnist, Dawn Foster; Professor of Media and Communications at Goldsmiths, Des Freedman; and founder of Hacked Off and author Brian Cathcart (*Everybody's Hacked Off*). **Tickets £8/£4**

### **Rita Tushingham**

**Friday 10th May, 3pm**

**The Arts Centre, Edge Hill University**

The iconic Liverpool screen actor, a key performer and face of UK cinema in the '60s, will be discussing her films (*A Taste Of Honey*, *The Knack*, *Girl With Green Eyes*) and reflecting on class, cinema and the north with Danny Leigh, Senior Curator for Fiction at the British Film Institute and Professor Roger Shannon, Edge Hill University.

**Free event, register at [www.edgehill.ac.uk/ice/may-rita](http://www.edgehill.ac.uk/ice/may-rita)**

### **I, Maybot: The Rise and Fall**

**John Crace**

**Friday 10th May, 6pm**

**Waterstones**

'Did you shed a tear at the result?' asked the interviewer. Had it been a tear or had she just sprung an oil leak? *The Guardian's* parliamentary sketch writer John Crace, who coined the term 'Maybot', tells the hysterical tale of her first turbulent year in No 10. In partnership with Waterstones.

**Tickets £3/£2 for Waterstones card holders**

### **Out-Spoken Live**

**Anthony Anaxagorou, Joelle Taylor, Karim Kamar, Amina Atiq, Doras Seb**

**Friday 10th May 2019, 7.30pm**

**Studio 2**

Out-Spoken Live is a radical, rousing and lyrical poetry and music gig featuring some of the UK's most prolific and exciting independent artists. Prepare to be moved like never before by these powerhouse poets and musical masters. 'The golden standard of spoken word' - *The Guardian*.

**Tickets £12/£8**

### **Walking Tour: George Garrett**

**Saturday 11th May and Saturday 25th May, 2pm-4pm**

**Assembly Point: The Women's Organisation**

George Garrett, seaman, activist, writer, spent his formative years living amongst seafarers drawn from all over the world in an area of Liverpool colloquially referred to as 'Sailortown'. Join us as we explore the hidden history of this uniquely diverse neighbourhood and its influence on George's travels and writing. **Tickets £10/£5**

### **Book Launch: Home Ground**

**Alan Gibbons**

**Saturday 11th May, 11am-12.30pm Sefton Park Library and**

**1.30pm Norris Green Library**

*Home Ground*, the latest novel from award-winning children's writer Alan Gibbons, tells the story of Sam, who invites talented footballers Hasan and Faisal to play in his failing, bottom of the league team. The trio must overcome their team captain's bad attitude towards his new teammates to save the team! Particularly suitable for struggling, reluctant or dyslexic readers aged 8+.

**Free event, booking essential: email [info@writingonthewall.org.uk](mailto:info@writingonthewall.org.uk)**

### **Pulp Idol Grand Final**

**Saturday 11th May, 7.30pm**

**Toxteth Library**

Join the novelists of the future at WoWFest19's Pulp Idol Grand Final. Finalists will compete in the hopes of WoW-ing the judges, being crowned Pulp Idol Winner 2019 and having their novel read by a professional literary agent. Guest judges include Charlotte Humpherys, editor of Chatto & Windus and Laura Williams, literary agent Greene & Heaton.

**Tickets £5/£3**

### **Walking Tour: 1919 Race Riots**

**Sunday 12th May and Sun 26th May, 1.30pm-3.30pm**

**Assembly Point: Chinese Arch**

**Tickets £10/£5**

For full details see centre pages.

### **Slam and Deliver: Wirral Poetry Festival Slam**

**Hosted by Anna Saunders & Ciarán Hodgers**

**Sunday 12th May, 7pm**

**West Kirby Arts Centre, Wirral**

A fast and furious spoken-word stand-off, 12 of the UK's hottest slammers will compete in the first ever Wirral Poetry Slam! Expect adrenaline-fuelled performances and electrifying live literature. Hosted by Director of Cheltenham Poetry Festival, Anna Saunders, and multi award-winning poet, Ciarán Hodgers. In partnership with Wirral Poetry Festival.

**Tickets £5**

### **Screening: *Peterloo***

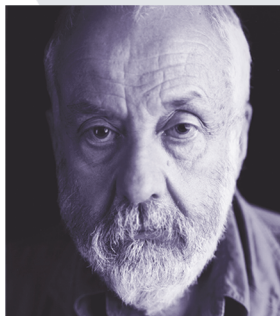
**Plus Q&A with Mike Leigh**

**Monday 13th May, 6.30pm**

**Crosby Plaza Cinema**

The 1819 massacre in St Peter's Fields, brought graphically to life in Mike Leigh's latest epic film *Peterloo*, sent shockwaves throughout Georgian society. Legendary director Leigh, whose credits include *Abigail's Party*, *Secrets and Lies*, *Vera Drake* and *Mr Turner*, joins WoW for a unique screening followed by Q&A.

**Tickets £10/£5**



### **Born Lippy:**

**Jo Brand In Conversation  
with Eithne Brown**

**Tuesday 14th May, 8pm**

**Liverpool Philharmonic Hall**

Comedy's finest Jo Brand gets gobby as she brings her straight-talking, darkly funny guide to life to WoWFest. *Born Lippy* is a gathering of all the things Jo wishes she'd known, all the things she's learnt, and all the things she hopes for the future. Join her in conversation with one of Liverpool's finest actors, Eithne Browne (*Sometimes, Always, Never, Emmerdale, Brookside*). Sometimes it's hard to be a woman and sometimes it's time to be a hard woman... This is a book for all those times.

**Tickets with book £23.50/£17.50**

**Without book £16/£10**

# THE CENTENARY OF THE 1919 RACE RIOTS

In 1919, race riots broke out in seaports across the UK, fueled by competition for jobs and casual racism, inflamed by the press, politicians and union leaders. Glasgow was the first to witness anti-black violence in January, followed by South Shields in February, with London witnessing serious levels of violence from April to August. In June, Newport and Barry saw rioting, while in Cardiff, three men were killed. In Liverpool, Charles Wotten, a young Bermudian seafarer was murdered by an angry white mob.

**Thursday 2nd May, 12.30pm**

**Exhibition Launch: 1919 Race Riots**

**3rd Floor, Central Library**

A collaboration between Writing on the Wall, the Liverpool Record Office and the National Archives which brings together letters from black workers, the Lord Mayor of Liverpool and central government revealing the British establishment's attitude to those who had come to the aid of the 'motherland' in post-WW1 Britain. *Exhibition runs from 2nd May to 24th June 2019*

**Free entry**

**Saturday 25th May, 12pm-7pm**

**1919: Remembering the Riots**

**A National Conversation**

**Reid Room, St George's Hall**

In partnership with Liverpool University, we bring together academics, activists and community members from around the UK where the 1919 race riots took place, including Liverpool Cardiff, Glasgow and South Shields, to reflect on the events in each port city. The day will conclude with a panel discussion featuring pioneering historian Ron Ramdin (*The Making of the Black Working Class in Britain*), which will consider race and racism in the UK 100 years on.

**Tickets £16/£8**

**Sunday 12th & Sunday 26th May, 1.30pm**

**1919 Race Riots Centenary Walking Tour (approx. 2 hours)**

**Assembly Point: Chinese Arch**

Join us as we walk the streets where the 1919 race riots took place, visiting the residences of those involved as well as trailing the tragic last movements of Charles Wotten. Ends with refreshments at Toxteth Library, Windsor Street

**Tickets £10/£5**



Charles Wotten

### Queer Are We Now?

**Peter Tatchell, Cheryl Martin**

**Wednesday 15th May, 7.30pm**

**LEAF**

The Stonewall Riots in 1969 sparked the momentous gay liberation movement, one of the most important events in LGBTQI+ history. Fifty years on, as Trump turns the clock back and Chechnya systematically detains and tortures its supposed 'non-existent' LGBTQI+ citizens, WoWFest19 asks 'Queer Are We Now?' with a unique keynote speech from human rights activist, Peter Tatchell.

**Tickets £12/£6**



### Book Launch: *Girl, Women, Other* by Bernadine Evaristo

**Thursday 16th May, 5pm**

**News from Nowhere**

*Girl, Women, Other*, the latest novel by award-winning Nigerian author Bernadine Evaristo, is a love song to black womanhood that crackles with life and follows the lives and struggles of modern black British women and their stories of families, friends and lovers. In partnership with News from Nowhere for Feminist Book Fortnight. **Tickets £4/£2**

### The B-Word: Where are we now?

**James Meek, Anita Sethi, Ros Wynne Jones, Costas Lapavistas**

**Thursday 16th May, 7.30pm**

**LEAF**

The B-word has haunted global headlines since June 2016 in the most unprecedented political move in modern history, resulting in swings, roundabouts and...chaos! Join writers James Meek, Ros Wynne-Jones, Costas Lapavistas and Anita Sethi to discuss what happens now.

**Tickets £8/£4**

### Methods North West Conference

**Friday 17th May, 9.30am-4.30pm**

**Rendall Building, University of Liverpool**

Postgraduate researchers from across the region come together to show and discuss the methods and methodologies at the centre of their research and exchange ideas, experiences and insights. In partnership with the University of Liverpool. **Free entry**

### Windsor Street Party for Light Night

**Friday 17th May, 6pm**

**Toxteth Library**

Windsor Street's creative organisations are throwing a street party filled with performance, spoken word, dance, music, food, film, arts and crafts, all taking place in the street's beautiful venues. Celebrating the Liverpool 8 community and highlighting the area's rich history and bright future, the party will open with the energetic Katumba drummers, a WoW writing workshop and a special George Garrett experience from the Garetteers. In partnership with Squash, 20 Stories High, Brazuka/Katumba, Video Odyssey and CineNation. **Free entry**

### How to be a Woman in TV: Alicia Eyo, Esther Wilson, Bidisha

**Saturday 18th May, 1pm-3pm**

**4th Floor Meeting Rooms, Central Library**

Doctor Who is a woman and recent comedy smash hits *Derry Girls* and *Fleabag* have stolen our hearts. Break through the glass TV screen with Esther Wilson (*Call The Midwife*, *Moving On*), Alicia Eyo (*Bad Girls*, *Emmerdale*) and writer and film-maker Bidisha (*Asylum* and *Exile: The Hidden Voices of London*, *An Impossible Poison*). In partnership with The Women's Organisation. **Tickets £10/£5**

**Where Are You Now?: The State of Grime**  
**Kayo Chingonyi, Jude Yawson, Dorcas Seb, hosted by Blue Saint**

**Saturday 18th May, 8pm**

**Video Odyssey, Toxteth TV**

From Dizzee Rascal to Skepta, from Stormzy to Lady Leshurr, grime has moved from the slipstream to the mainstream, and is now recognised as an art form, a politically conscious tool whose influence is spreading far and wide. Join Jude Yawson (*Rise Up: The #Merky Story So Far*), Blue Saint, Kayo Chingonyi (*Some Bright Elegance*) and Dorcas Seb to make sure the state won't put a shutdown on grime **Tickets £5/£3**



**Jarrow: Road to the Deep South**

**Stuart Maconie**

**Saturday 18th May, 7pm**

**Epstein Theatre**

1936, 200 men from the Tyneside town of Jarrow march 300 miles to London in protest against the destruction of their towns and industries. Eighty years on, BBC Radio 6 Music's Stuart Maconie retraces the route of the emblematic Jarrow Crusade documenting the similarities and differences of Britain today from the 30s. **Tickets £15/£8**

**Clear Lines Workshop**

**Winnie M Li, Clare Shaw**

**Monday 20th May, 2pm-4pm**

**The Women's Organisation**

Survivors and award-winning authors Clare Shaw and Winnie M Li lead two exclusive creative writing workshops addressing lived experiences of sexual trauma. These safe spaces use language to explore difficult and personal stories. Limited to individuals affected by sexual trauma. No prior writing experience necessary. In association with The Women's Organisation and Clear Lines festival.

**Email [info@writingonthewall.org.uk](mailto:info@writingonthewall.org.uk) to sign up. Tickets £2 on the door**

**Clear Lines Event**

**Winnie M Li, Clare Shaw**

**Monday 20th May, 6.30pm**

**The Women's Organisation**

Winnie M Li and Clare Shaw use poetry, fiction and memoir to capture the human truth behind trauma and challenge the injustice of gender-based violence. This event celebrates the role of creativity and the arts in fostering community and recovery from sexual violence. In partnership with The Women's Organisation and Clear Lines Festival.

**Tickets £4/£2 (Free for workshop participants)**

**Crime, Punishment and The Politics Of Fear**

**Tony Platt, Phil Scraton**

**Monday 20th May 2019, 6.30pm-8.30pm**

**Bluecoat**

Tony Platt, renowned criminologist from the University of California, (*Beyond These Walls: Rethinking Crimes and Punishment in the United States*) discusses with Professor Phil Scraton (*The Violence of Incarceration and The Hillsborough Report*) the social and political consequences of criminalisation, particularly mass incarceration, in a climate of fear and the responsibilities of researcher-archivists to prisoners, their families, their communities and to the wider public. **Tickets £12/£6**

## Lowborn Workshop

Kerry Hudson

Tuesday 21st May, 1pm-2pm

Allerton Library

Kerry Hudson, award-winning novelist (*Tony Hogan Bought Me An Ice-Cream Float Before He Stole My Ma*), delivers a fun, practical workshop sharing her tips and techniques for creating characters who live and breathe on and beyond the page. An honest, fun, inclusive session looking at the challenges and triumphs of writing memorable, effective characters. Free to attend, registration required.

**Free event, booking required. Email: [info@writingonthewall.org.uk](mailto:info@writingonthewall.org.uk)**

## Lowborn: Growing Up, Getting Away and Returning to Britain's Poorest Towns

Kerry Hudson, Nathan Connolly

Tuesday 21st May, 6pm

Waterstones

Prize-winning novelist Kerry Hudson grew up in grinding poverty, moving between care homes, B&Bs and council flats. Written 20 years later after finding herself caught between two worlds, *Lowborn* is Kerry's account of revisiting the towns of her childhood to discover what being poor means in Britain today.

**Tickets £3/£2 for Waterstones card holders**

## FACT Curator Tour: Ericka Beckman and Marianna Simnett

Wednesday 22nd May, 6pm

FACT

Join FACT's Exhibitions Team to learn more about their new exhibition from Ericka Beckman and Marianna Simnett, and contribute to FACT's year-long discussion around issues of identity, representation and gender. The tour will begin in the FACT Learning Space, the site of a newly-commissioned mural by Laura Callaghan.

**Free event, booking essential**



## The Freedom Artist:

An Evening with Ben Okri

hosted by Sarah Maclennan

Wednesday 22nd May, 6.30pm

Bluecoat

Booker Prize-winning Nigerian writer Ben Okri (*The Famished Road*) discusses his career and his latest novel, *The Freedom Artist*, an impassioned plea for justice and a penetrating examination of how freedom is threatened in a post-truth society. Join us for an inspiring evening with one of the most talented and acclaimed contemporary writers in literature today.

**Tickets £12/£6**

## I Want You to Know: A Writing Workshop for Refugees and People from Refugee Families with Linda Manheim

Thursday 23rd May 2019, 3.30pm-5.30pm

Bluecoat

Barbed Wire writing workshop is for refugees to tell their own stories. It is part of Barbed Wire Fever, funded by Arts Council England, a creative exploration of what it means to be a refugee. The workshop is led by Linda Mannheim, author of *Above Sugar Hill*. All refugees welcome.

**Free entry, register by email to [info@writingonthewall.org.uk](mailto:info@writingonthewall.org.uk)**

## Citizens of Nowhere? Writing and Belonging Between Worlds

Jennifer Makumbi, Dina Nayeri

Thursday 23rd May, 7pm

Bluecoat

How can refugees and migrants be heard in a hostile environment? Offering new insights into the experiences of resettling, award-winning writers Jennifer Makumbi (*Kintu*) and Dina Nayeri (*Refuge*) join WoWFest19 for a unique discussion on migration and refuge, reading from their much-anticipated publications *Manchester Happened* and *The Ungrateful Refugee*. In partnership with Liverpool Arabic Arts Festival. **Tickets £8/£5**

## Building A New Catalonia

Eulàlia Reguant, Mireia Vehí, Ignasi Bernat, Benet Salellas, Anna Gabriel, Valtònyc, David Whyte

Friday 24th May, 7pm

Friends Meeting House

Catalonia's struggle for self-determination and emancipation from Spain has been met with violence, arrests and corruption. *Building A New Catalonia*, published amidst the trials of political prisoners in Spain, is a remarkable statement on fighting for an anti-capitalist, socialist and feminist Catalonia from some of the best-known leaders of the left independence movement. In partnership with the University of Liverpool. **Tickets £6/£3**

## A Self-Help Guide To Being In Love With Jeremy Corbyn

Jess Green

Friday 24th – Saturday 25th May, 7.30pm

Unity Theatre

BBC Slam Champ Jess Green has stuck by the Labour Party through Blair, Brown and Milliband. Now she's head over heels in love with Jeremy Corbyn's raw socialist magnetism – if only everyone else agreed. This 5-star take on modern politics comes to WoWFest19 on a national tour. In partnership with Unity Theatre. **Tickets £15/£10**

## May Code Club: Twine Mystery Games

Storytelling with code

Saturday 25th May, 1.30pm-4pm

Toxteth Library

Liverpool Code Club teaches 8-12 year olds to use the online 'Twine' storytelling to build interactive nonlinear storylines, where coders control every aspect of the narrative, including adding images and even conditional logic that alters the game as you play it.

**All welcome! Free, registration required**

## 1919: Remembering the Riots – A National Conversation

Saturday 25th May, 12pm-7pm

Reid Room, St George's Hall

**Tickets £16/£8**

For full details see centre pages.

## Who Cares? Justice and Campaigning for Human Rights in the Care System

Mark Neary, Deborah Coles, Sara Ryan, Aidan Pollitt

Tuesday 28th May, 6pm

The Women's Organisation

People with learning disabilities whose lives are entrusted to the state are in peril. Join campaigner and author Sara Ryan (*Justice for Laughing Boy*), whose son Connor died in care; Mark Neary (*Get Steven Home*) who fought to get his autistic son home from care; and Executive Director of Inquest, Deborah Coles, to discuss the desperate need for improvements. In partnership with Advance PSS.

**Tickets £8/£4**

### Divided Cities

**Bahriye Kemal, Gary Budden, Paul Scraton**

**Tuesday 28th May, 7.30pm**

**81 Renshaw**

If you know where to look, urban landscapes can offer journeys through the melting pots of ideas, cultures and histories built into its concrete. Bahriye Kemal, Paul Scraton and Gary Budden share vivid portraits of their cities; Nicosia, London and Berlin, encompassing militarised borders, divided pasts and the imagined places within and inspired by cities. In partnership with Liverpool Arabic Arts Festival.

**Tickets £6/£3**

### Interactive Storytelling & Storytime

**Jude Lennon**

**Wednesday 29th May, 10.30am**

**Allerton Library**

Join local author and storyteller Jude Lennon for an interactive storytelling session and book reading. As Little Lamb Tales, Jude and her mascot Lamby will encourage children and adults to join in with a range of interactive stories including traditional tales, folk lore, well-loved stories and more. Jude will also be reading from some of her self-penned books.

**Free - just turn up**

### Deeds Not Words:

**An Evening with Helen Pankhurst**

**Hosted by Maggie O'Carroll**

**Wednesday 29th May**

**6.30pm**

**The Women's Organisation**

Helen Pankhurst, granddaughter of legendary Suffragette Sylvia Pankhurst, shares findings from her book *Deeds Not Words: The Story of Women's Rights, Then and Now*, an exploration of the changes in the UK since the right to a parliamentary vote was first granted to some women in 1918. In partnership with The Women's Organisation.

**Tickets £8/£4**



### Austerity and the Public Role of Drama

**Victor Merriman**

**Wednesday 29th May, 6pm**

**Friends Meeting House**

Victor Merriman's *Austerity and the Public Role of Drama* traces how liberal economics have led to the social catastrophe of Project Austerity. Using examples from Britain, Ireland, Italy, and the US, his manifesto shows explicitly how drama's 'ethical encounters' may resist a poisonous 'deficit culture', by renewing ways of living-in-common.

**Tickets £5/£3**

### Inside Pale Eyes: a dream noir book launch

**Dave Ward, Bryan Biggs**

**Wednesday 29th May, 7pm**

**Bluecoat**

Writer Dave Ward reads from his new publication *Inside Pale Eyes* (Hawkwood Books), a unique collection of flash fiction and observations of urban life accompanied by drawings from Bluecoat Artistic Director Bryan Biggs. 'A fractured narrative of grey twilight where half-glimpsed figures flicker through a deserted cityscape. Connection is everything, but nobody connects.'

**Free event but booking essential: [www.bluecoat.org.uk](http://www.bluecoat.org.uk)**

## **Speke Up: Past-Present-Future Workshop**

**Thursday 30th May, 12pm-3pm**

**Tate Exchange Liverpool**

Join young people from Speke, artist and educator Ruth Dillon, community activist Michael Carey and Paula Shaw to embark on a journey of activism and empowerment. Kids become curators, guiding you through a landscape of words and image exploring Speke, identity, social inclusion and art.

**Free - just turn up**

## **Dayglo!: The Poly Styrene Story**

**Celeste Bell, Zoë Howe**

**Thursday 30th May, 8pm**

**The British Music Experience**

Poly Styrene, punk icon and rebel queen, satirised the world with a colourful playfulness setting her apart from the monochrome nihilism of punk. Her moving story is told by her daughter Celeste Bell and music writer Zoë Howe (*Shine On Marquee Moon; Barbed Wire Kisses – The Jesus and Mary Chain story*).

**Ticket with book £34.50/£28.50. Ticket without book £12/£6**

## **WoWFest19 Afterparty**

**Friday 31st May 2019**

Check out [www.wowfest.uk](http://www.wowfest.uk) for details – announced soon.

## **List of Venues**

**81 Renshaw**, 81 Renshaw Street, L1 2SJ

**Allerton Library**, Allerton Road, L18 6HG

**Bluecoat**, 8 School Lane, L1 3BT

**Central Library**, William Brown Street, L3 8EW

**Chinese Arch**, Nelson Street, L1 5EW

**Epstein Theatre**, 85 Hanover Street, L1 3DZ

**FACT**, 88 Wood Street, L1 4DQ

**Friends Meetings House**, 22 School Lane, L1 3BT

**Kuumba Imani Millennium Centre**, 4 Princes Road, L8 1TH

**LEAF**, 65-67 Bold Street, L1 4EZ

**Liverpool Guild of Students**, 60 Mount Pleasant, L3 5TR

**News From Nowhere**, 96 Bold Street, L1 4HY

**Norris Green Library**, Townsend Avenue, L11 5AF

**Philharmonic Hall**, Hope Street, L1 9BP

**Plaza Community Cinema**, 13 Crosby Road North, Waterloo, L22 0LD

**Radisson Blu Hotel**, 107 Old Hall Street, L3 9BD

**St George's Hall**, St George's Place, L1 1JJ

**Rendall Building**, University of Liverpool, L69 7WW

**Ropewalks Square**, L1H 4HY

**Sefton Park Library**, Aigburth Road, L17 4JS

**St James' Anglican Cathedral**, St James Mount, L1 7AZ

**Studio 2**, 33-45 Parr Street, L1 4JN

**Tate Exchange**, Albert Dock, L3 4BB

**The British Music Experience**, Cunard Building, Canada Boulevard, L3 1DS

**The Rose Theatre**, Edge Hill University, St Helens Road, Ormskirk, L39 4QP

**The Women's Organisation**, 54 James Street, L1 0AB

**Toxteth Library**, Windsor Street, L8 1XF

**Unity Theatre**, 1 Hope Place, L1 9BG

**Video Odyssey**, Toxteth TV, 37-45 Windsor Street, L8 1XE

**Waterstones**, 12 College Lane, L1 3DL

**West Kirby Arts Centre**, 29 Brookfield Gardens, West Kirby, CH48 4EL

**Women's Org**, 54 St James Street, L1 0AB

# TICKETS AND INFORMATION

Ticket outlets are listed at the bottom of each event. Tickets for all events can be booked through [www.wowfest.uk](http://www.wowfest.uk) or through TicketQuarter on 0344 8000 410, unless otherwise stated. The festival events take place in venues across Liverpool city centre and all are wheelchair accessible. Venues are listed overleaf and can be found on each individual listing.

If you have any other access requirements, contact WoW on 0151 703 0020 or email [info@writingonthewall.org.uk](mailto:info@writingonthewall.org.uk)

**Gifted Tickets:** This ticket, paid for by you, will be donated to someone who is unable to purchase a ticket for themselves. All you have to do is pay for the Gifted Ticket and we will take care of finding a good home for your generous donation.

WoW are working with Fans Supporting Food Banks – put a tin in your pocket and bring it to an event. See [www.wowfest.uk](http://www.wowfest.uk) for details.



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