



University of
Leicester

DAVID WILSON LIBRARY
SCHOOL OF ENGLISH

Wednesday 11 November – Saturday 14 November 2009

Literary Leicester

JOHN CAREY **SARAH WATERS** JACQUELINE WILSON
 PEKKO'S PUPPETS **MEG ROSOFF** MICHAEL EATON
 BILLY IVORY **JACQUELINE WILSON** STEPHEN LOWE
 LARAINÉ PORTER PHIL NODDING **PETER PORTER**
LEICESTER UNIVERSITY THEATRE R.J.ELLORY
 JOHN CAREY SARAH WATERS **JACQUELINE WILSON**
PEKKO'S PUPPETS MEG ROSOFF MICHAEL EATON
 BILLY IVORY **JACQUELINE WILSON** STEPHEN LOWE
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LEICESTER UNIVERSITY THEATRE R.J.ELLORY

www.le.ac.uk/literaryleicester

Welcome

Join us to celebrate the written word at the second Literary Leicester festival in the inspiring surroundings of the award-winning David Wilson Library at the University of Leicester.

This year's programme features a powerful mix of writers and performers working in a range of genres – the novel – crime – biography – poetry – drama – writing for children and young adults – puppetry. Between events there is an opportunity to meet the writers, have a book signed, enjoy a tour of the David Wilson Library or browse the shelves of our independent University Bookshop.

We look forward to welcoming you to what promises to be an inspiring and stimulating literary event.

Festival organisers:

David Wilson Library: Christine Fyfe

School of English: Holly Furneaux, Martin Halliwell, Martin Stannard



Information

Tickets

Entry to all events is free. Some of the events are ticketed and these are highlighted in the programme. For tickets please contact Rebecca Vickerman on 0116 252 2320 or rv40@le.ac.uk.



Venue

The events are taking place in the Fielding Johnson Building South Wing and the David Wilson Library (see map on back cover). Both are fully accessible for disabled visitors.

Book signings and Bookshop

Opportunities to meet the writers and have a book signed are highlighted in the programme. The University's independent bookshop within the David Wilson Library will offer a sales point at many of the events.



Children

The Saturday afternoon events are particularly suitable for children. The remaining events are unsuitable for children below the age of 12.

British Sign Language Interpretation

The BSL interpreters are provided by Leicester based Action Deafness Books. www.actiondeafnessbooks.org.uk



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How to find the LibraryBack cover

Parking

Limited parking is available on campus and at the satellite car park on Welford Road – see map on the back cover. Visitors are advised to use public transport.

Refreshments

The David Wilson Library Café is open throughout the Festival.

For information contact Rebecca Vickerman on 0116 252 2320 or rv40@le.ac.uk

Wednesday 11 November

6.00 pm

New Lecture Theatre, Fielding Johnson Building South Wing

Opening of the Literary Leicester Festival

Professor Robert Burgess

Vice-Chancellor, University of Leicester

followed by



Peter Porter reads from his poetry

Chair: Nick Everett

Peter Porter, born in Brisbane in 1929, arrived in Britain fifty years ago and has lived here ever since. He worked in bookselling and advertising before becoming a freelance writer and broadcaster in 1968, writing on poetry for *The Observer*. He has published sixteen poetry collections and four further volumes with the Australian painter Arthur Boyd. His *Collected Poems* (1983) was



Photo: Jemimah Kuhfield www.jemimahkuhfield.co.uk

awarded the Duff Cooper Memorial Prize and *The Automatic Oracle* (1987) won the Whitbread Poetry Award. His most recent collection, *Better Than God*, has been shortlisted for the Forward Prize for Best Poetry Collection of the Year.

Peter Porter was awarded the 2002 Queen's Gold Medal for Poetry. His work has been the subject of a special issue of *Poetry Review*.

"Porter is one of the most distinguished poets at work in Britain today"

– William Sieghart



Some of the events are ticketed and these are highlighted in the programme...

Wednesday 11 November

Interval – Drinks and light refreshments are available for purchase

7.30 pm

New Lecture Theatre, Fielding Johnson Building South Wing

FREE
TICKET

John Carey

William Golding: How Novels Happen

Chair: Professor Martin Stannard

John Carey is Emeritus Merton Professor of English at Oxford University, a distinguished critic, reviewer and broadcaster, and the author of many books, including studies of Donne, Dickens and Thackeray. His guide to twentieth century literature, *Pure pleasure*, was described by James Wood in the *London Review of Books* as 'likable, wise, and often right ... One feels an attractive sense of partisanship in Carey's writing, an alliance with the ordinary, the plain spoken, the unfettered, the sympathetic and the humane. Carey writes with an Orwellian attention to decency'. He has been a regular critic on BBC2's *Newsnight Review* and is also the editor of the best-selling anthologies *The Faber Book of Reportage*, *The Faber Book of Science* and *The Faber Book of Utopias*.



Photo: Matt Writall

His latest book, published in September, is the first authorised biography of one of the foremost novelists of the twentieth century, William Golding, author of *Lord of the Flies* and a series of remarkable novels, including *The Inheritors*, *Pincher Martin* and *The Spire*. In his talk, Professor Carey will concentrate on *Lord of the Flies* and *Darkness Visible*.



For tickets please contact Rebecca Vickerman on 0116 252 2320 or rv40@le.ac.uk

Thursday 12 November

6.00 pm

Ogden Lewis Seminar Suite, Fielding Johnson Building South Wing

FREE
TICKET

Writing for Television



Chair: Laraine Porter

Director of the British Silent Film Festival, a British Film Institute award-winner, and Senior Lecturer in Film Studies at De Montfort University

This panel brings together four of the UK's most exciting professional writers, all of whom have written extensively for television: from popular shows to soaps, and from classic adaptations to original screenplays. The panelists will discuss how they entered the profession, how television scripts are commissioned, the challenges of slotting into long-running TV series, the different demands of television, film and stage, and opportunities for young writers.



Michael Eaton is a screenwriter, dramatist and film historian, with thirty years of work in television, cinema, radio and theatre. Author of the television features *Fellow Traveller*, *Signs and Wonders*, and *Shipman* starring James Bolam, he has also written episodes of *Heartbeat*, and has adapted Dickens and George Eliot for BBC radio.

William Ivory won the Royal Television Society award for *Common as Muck* and a BAFTA nomination for *The Sins* starring Pete Postlethwaite. He has written BBC dramas *Night Flight*, *A Thing Called Love* and *The Invisibles* and projects for both film and stage. Currently he is working on the film *We Want Sex*, and *Queens* for Film 4.



Stephen Lowe has worked as an actor, director and dramatist. His plays have appeared at London's Royal Court and the Royal Shakespeare Company. Film and television projects include *Ice Dance* and *FleaBites* starring Nigel Hawthorne, the BBC adaptation of *Scarlet and Black* starring Ewan McGregor, and episodes of *Coronation Street*.

Phil Nodding founded the Nottingham on-line film channel *Britfilms.tv*. He has written for the BBC drama *The Chase* and the Channel 4 comedy *Shameless*, and has recently co-written a new coming of age drama set in the Nottinghamshire coalfields. His most recent commission is *Hi-Lites*, an afternoon play for Radio 4.



Thursday 12 November

Interval – Drinks and light refreshments are available for purchase

7.30 pm

New Lecture Theatre, Fielding Johnson Building South Wing


FREE
TICKET

Sarah Waters in Conversation with Emma Parker

After her award-winning trilogy of Victorian novels – *Tipping the Velvet*, *Affinity* and *Fingersmith* – Sarah Waters turned to the 1940s and wrote *The Night Watch*, a tender and tragic novel set against the backdrop of wartime Britain. Shortlisted for both the Orange and the Man Booker prizes, it went straight to number one in the bestseller chart. In her latest book, *The Little Stranger*, she remains in the 1940s, setting her story in rural Warwickshire, in a crumbling manor house haunted by a dying way of life – and perhaps by something more sinister... *The Little Stranger* has been longlisted for the Man Booker Prize.



Photo: Charlie Hopkinson

Sarah Waters was born in Wales in 1966. She has won the Betty Trask Award, the Somerset Maugham Award, was shortlisted twice for the Mail on Sunday/John Llewellyn Rhys Award and the Sunday Times Young Writer of the Year in 2000. *Fingersmith*, her third novel, was shortlisted for both the Orange Prize and the Man Booker Prize, and won the CWA Ellis Peters Dagger Award for Historical Crime Fiction and The South Bank Show Award for Literature. In 2002, she was named Author of the Year three times: by the British Book Awards, by the Booksellers' Association and Waterstone's Booksellers. She was chosen as one of Granta's Best of Young British Novelists in 2003. *Fingersmith*, *Affinity* and *Tipping the Velvet* have been adapted for TV. 

Dr Emma Parker is a Senior Lecturer in English at the University of Leicester. Her research focuses on twentieth century and contemporary literature. She has published widely on contemporary women's writing, is a founding member of the Contemporary Women's Writing Network (www.cwwn.org.uk), and Associate Editor of the journal *Contemporary Women's Writing* published by Oxford University Press.

Saturday 14 November

An afternoon of fun, theatre, books and reading for all the family.

2.00 pm

New Lecture Theatre, Fielding Johnson Building South Wing

FREE
TICKET

Meet Jacqueline Wilson

8+ years

Jacqueline Wilson will talk about her life and work, read from her latest book *Hetty Feather* and answer questions from the audience.



Jacqueline Wilson's appearance is made possible through the support of The Book Trade Charity, the welfare charity for those that have worked, or work in, book publishing, sales and distribution. Visit www.btbs.org.uk

Jacqueline Wilson is an immensely popular writer. Children respond immediately to her understanding of their lives and problems and to her warm humour. A winner of numerous literary prizes, she has sold over ten million books, which have been translated into over thirty languages. Her work constantly appears among the top ten bestselling children's paperbacks.

Her books include *The Story of Tracy Beaker* (1991) and its sequel, *The Dare Game* (2000), which tell the story of a child who lives in residential and foster care; *The Bed and Breakfast Star* (1994), about a family living in bed-and-breakfast accommodation; and *The Illustrated Mum* (1999), who is covered in tattoos and has multiple boyfriends.

Saturday 14 November

Lola Rose (2003) deals with the topic of domestic violence. Her latest books are *My Secret Diary* (2009), and *Hetty Feather* (2009).

Many of her books have been highly successful adaptations for TV, radio and the stage.

In 2005 Jacqueline Wilson became the fourth Children's Laureate, a prestigious role created to celebrate outstanding contributions to children's literature. In 2007 she was made a Dame of the British Empire.



One book per person please!

Ages 3-8
DRAMA

3.00 pm

David Wilson Library, Third Floor

Pekko's Puppets

Stephen Novy, puppeteer and storyteller, presents two shows featuring well-loved stories.

Red Riding Hood

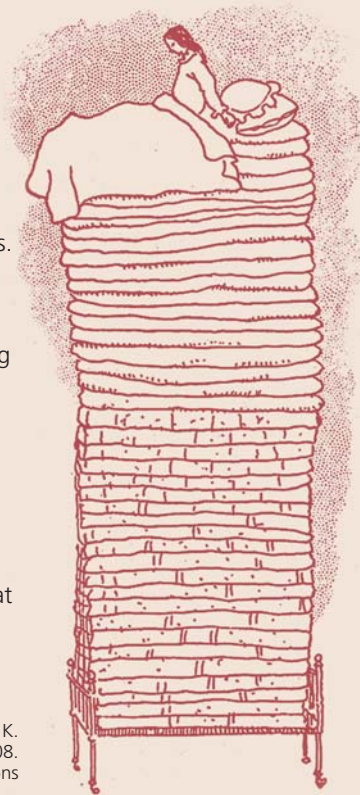
The traditional story, very funny and exciting. The villainous wolf is enormous, and Red Riding Hood has real character too. Performed in a vigorous style with glove puppets.

Running time: 25 minutes

The Princess and the Pea

Hans Christian Andersen's story with all its absurdities in full view. Performed with beautiful rod puppets, glamorous and funny at the same time!

Running time: 15 minutes



Gilbert James illustration from Fitzgerald, K. *Recueil de Contes d'Andersen*. Siegle, Hill, 1908. University of Leicester Library Special Collections

Saturday 14 November (continued)

4.00 pm

Ogden Lewis Seminar Suite, Fielding Johnson Building South Wing

FREE
TICKET

Meg Rosoff

13+ years

How I Live Now, Meg Rosoff's debut novel, won the Guardian and Branford Boase Awards and was short-listed for the Orange Prize for New Fiction as well as for the Whitbread Children's Book Award. Mark Haddon, author of *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night Time*, hailed it as 'That rare, rare thing, a first novel with a sustained, magical and utterly faultless voice.'

Born in Boston, USA, Meg has worked in publishing, public relations and most recently advertising. She also had a job writing movie titles and posters for Tristar pictures which she says was her best job ever.

Since *How I Live Now*, Meg has gone on to write several award-winning books including *Just in Case*, which won the prestigious children's book prize, the Carnegie Medal, in 2007, and *What I Was*, set in Suffolk where Meg has a second home. She will talk about her much-anticipated fourth novel, *The Bride's Farewell*, published by Penguin in September and her earlier books.



Photo: David Levenson

Library tours
will be at
2 pm, 3 pm and
4 pm.
Meet in the
Library foyer.



Saturday 14 November (continued)

6.00 pm

New Lecture Theatre, Fielding Johnson Building South Wing

Leicester University Theatre present A celebration of Harold Pinter

LUT will perform a range of extracts from Harold Pinter's plays and poems.

Harold Pinter was born in the East End of London in 1930. His first play, *The Birthday Party*, produced in London in 1958, was followed by over thirty plays, screenplays, and books of poetry and fiction that entertained, challenged and disturbed their audiences. The winner of many major awards throughout his career, Pinter was awarded the Nobel Prize for Literature in 2005. He died in December 2008.

7.30 pm

New Lecture Theatre, Fielding Johnson Building South Wing



An evening with R. J. Ellory

R. J. Ellory's latest book *The Anniversary Man*, a chilling tale of serial murder, is published by Orion in September. He is the author of six previous novels including the bestselling *A Quiet Belief in Angels*, which was a Richard & Judy Book Club selection in 2008 and won the Inaugural *Prix Roman Noir Nouvel Observateur* in France (where it was shortlisted against Dennis Lehane, James Lee Burke, Don Winslow and Carl Hiassen). It was also shortlisted for the American Barry Award for Best British Crime Fiction, the Quebec Bookseller's Prize, and the 7th Prix du Polar Award in the same year. His other novels have been translated into twenty-one languages and have been shortlisted for numerous awards.

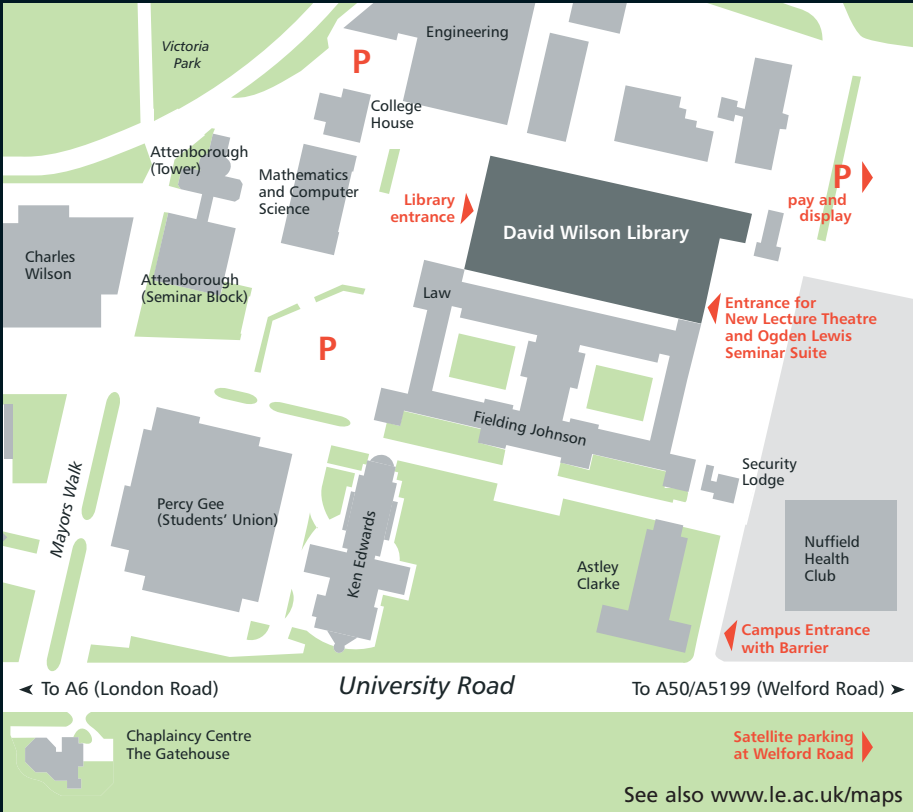


R.J. Ellory currently lives in England. www.rjellory.com



Wine reception – all welcome

How to find the David Wilson Library



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This brochure was printed by
 AVS Print, University of Leicester
 using vegetable based inks on
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