NCLA | Creative Writing Courses

Creative Saturdays

The course fee is £30 full-price and £15 concession. Further information and how to book can be found at ncl.ac.uk/ncla. Full details will be sent out on booking.

3 November 2018
Chloé Daykin | Writing for Young People
Join children's author Chloé Daykin for a day of magical writing at the wonderful Seven Stories and take your imagination on an exciting adventure.
Chloé’s debut Fish Bay (Faber & Faber, 2017) was shortlisted for the Branford Boase Prize, the UKLA and nominated for the Carnegie Medal. Her second novel The Boy Who Hit Play (Faber & Faber, 2018) was researched thanks to a Julia Darling Travel Fellowship.
Venue: Seven Stories, The National Centre for Children’s Literature, Ouseburn, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE1 2PQ

8 December 2018
Margaret Wilkinson | Monologue Magic
Monologue is a vital feature of contemporary stage and radio writing, prose writing and even, because of its intensity, lyricism and focus, poetry. This course will offer inspiration, structural, technical and tonal advice, exercises and feedback.
Margaret Wilkinson is a Senior Lecturer on the MA in Creative Writing at Newcastle University. She writes script for stage and radio, is a prose writer, mentor and regular contributor to Mslexia.
Venue: Percy Building, Newcastle University, NE1 7RU

24 November 2018
Christy Ducker | Poetry and Medicine
This course explores creative cross-fertilisations between poetry and medicine. We will consider how poetry might transform some of the loneliest aspects of human experience into the most connective.
Christy Ducker’s first collection, Skipper, includes work commended by the Forward Prize judges. Her pamphlets are Armour (a PBS Pamphlet Choice), Heroes, and Messenger. Commissions include residencies with Port of Tyne and York University’s Centre for Immunology and Infection.
Venue: Percy Building, Newcastle University, NE1 7RU

NCLA | Spring School

Monday to Friday 1–5 April 2019
Strange Meeting | Poetry’s Encounters with the World Around Us
This week of intensive creative practice will explore poetry as a site of encounter with the world around us, focusing on history, visual art, music and translation as sources of poetic inspiration.
Informal workshops will involve on-the-spot writing exercises, time to experiment, readings and discussions. The course finishes with a group reading and dinner (included in the course fee: £300/£250 concession). To book a place: www.ncl.ac.uk/ncla

Spring School Tutors

Gillian Allnutt’s most recent collections, both from Bloodaxe, are Inwalking (2013) and wake (2018). How the Bicycle Shone: New & Selected Poems (Bloodaxe, 2007) was a Poetry Book Society Choice. She has been shortlisted for the TS Eliot Prize twice, and was awarded the Queen’s Gold Medal for Poetry in 2016.
Tara Bergin’s second collection of poetry, The Tragic Death of Eleanor Marx (Carcanet Press, 2017) was shortlisted for the Forward Prize for Best Collection. This is Yarrow (Carcanet, 2013), won the Seamus Heaney Centre Prize for Poetry in 2014. Tara is a Lecturer in Creative Writing at Newcastle University.
Olivia McCannon’s Exactly My Own Length (Carcanet/Oxford Poets, 2011) was shortlisted for the Seamus Heaney Centre Prize and won the 2012 Fenton-Aldeburgh First Collection Prize. Her translations from French include Blázquez’s Old Man Goriot (Penguin Classics, 2011), and modern poetry in Poetry of Place: Paris (Faber, 2013).
Sinéad Morrissey’s On Balance (Carcanet, 2017) was a Poetry Book Society Choice and winner of the Forward Prize for Best Collection. Her fifth collection Parallax (Carcanet, 2013) won both the TS Eliot Prize and the Irish Times Poetry Prize. Sinead is Professor of Creative Writing at Newcastle University and Director of NCLA.

NCLA welcomes you to its October to December 2018 events and courses programme.

EVENING EVENTS are FREE to attend but ticketed – please register in advance at www.ncl.ac.uk/ncla
The running time for events is usually one hour without interval. Please note events may be fully booked – to avoid disappointment do register in advance.

FIRST THURSDAY Lunchtime readings are free to attend, no need to book!

CREATIVE WRITING COURSES Creative Saturdays and Spring School please book at: www.ncl.ac.uk/ncla

For further information about events and courses, including any changes to schedule: www.ncl.ac.uk/ncla
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melanie.birch@ncl.ac.uk

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NCLA | Spring School
First Thursday readings offer a chance to hear up and coming new writers, and run from 1.05pm to 1.50pm. Please visit www.ncl.ac.uk/ncla for venues.

### NCLA | First Thursdays

**Thursday 4 October 2018**

**Olivia McCannon and David Spittle**

Celebrate National Poetry Day with poets Olivia and David

Olivia McCannon’s collection Exactly My Own Length (Carnegie/Oxford Poets, 2011) was shortlisted for the Seamus Heaney Oscar Pollock Prize and won the Foston Aldeburgh First Collection Prize.

David Spittle’s poetry has been published in Blackrock Manifold, Databheet, 3am, The Literate, Zarf and he has been shortlisted twice for the Melita Hume Prize.

**Thursday 1 November 2018**

**Claire Askew and Alex Lockwood**

Claire Askew is a poet, novelist and community educator. She will be reading from her debut novel All The Hidden Truths (Rodset & Stoughton, 2018), winner of the Lucy Cavendish Prize for Fiction.

Alex Lockwood is a writer, artist and activist. He will be reading from his debut novel The Choreoboy Privileges (Roundstone Books, 2018), a compelling, wry and sharply intelligent book (Nicholas Royle).

**Thursday 8 December 2018**

**Elizabeth Bostock and Lucie Brownlee**

Both Elizabeth Bostock and Lucie Brownlee have recently completed their PhDs in Creative Writing at Newcastle University. Elizabeth will be reading from her novel-in-progress Seabirds of Jutland which is inspired by her Danish family history. Lucie was awarded a Northern Writers’ Award 2018 for her novel in progress The Song of Annie Chapman.
NCLA | Evening Events
FREE to attend, but please book in advance (see back page)

Thursday 4 October 7:15pm | Culture Lab
National Poetry Day: Poetry Translation Duel
Join us on National Poetry Day 2018, when we celebrate this year’s theme of Change with a Poetry Translation Duel in association with Modern Poetry in Translation.

Jennie Feldman and Jade Cuttle, hosted by Olivia McCannon, will cross swords by presenting translations of the same French-language poem to the audience. Join in the conversation about what makes a poem work in English. No knowledge of French required.

Thursday 11 October 7:15pm | Culture Lab
Alibhe Darcy and Finuala Dowling
In Irish poet Alibhe Darcy’s new collection Insistence (Bodacca, 2018) the private world of home, love and first childhood is threatened by the public one of global crisis and environmental disaster. Finuala Dowling is renowned in South Africa for her innovative and poignant poetry of loss and desperation – ‘the domestic sublime’ – featured in her first UK selected poems, Pretend You Don’t Know Me (Bodacca, 2018).

Thursday 18 October 7:15pm | Culture Lab
Kayo Chingonyi and Nick Laird
Kayo Chingonyi’s latest book, Kumukanda (Chatto & Windus, 2017) won the Dylan Thomas Prize 2018 and was a Guardian and Telegraph book of the year. He is Poetry Editor for The White Review, and an Assistant Professor of Creative Writing at Durham University.

Nick Laird’s poetry collections, published by Faber and Faber, are To a Fault (2003), On Purpose (2007) and God Giants (2013). He has been awarded the Aldeburgh Poetry Prize, the Somerset Maugham Award and the Geoffrey Faber Memorial Prize. His latest novel is Modern Gods (Fourth Estate, 2018). A Fellow of the Royal Society of Literature, he teaches at Columbia University in New York.

Monday 29 October 7:15pm | King’s Hall, Newcastle University
Booker Prize Foundation Event: Exit West
Mohsin Hamid is the author of four novels: Moth Smoke, The Reluctant Fundamentalist, How to Get Rich and Exit West, and a book of essays, Discontent and Its Civilizations. His writing has been featured on bestseller lists, adapted for the cinema, twice shortlisted for the Man Booker Prize, selected as winner or finalist of more than thirty awards, and translated into over thirty-five languages.

Neelam Srivastava is a Reader in Postcolonial and Comparative Literature at Newcastle University. This event is the culmination of the Booker Prize Foundation One Book project designed to encourage students to appreciate and engage with the very best contemporary literary fiction, regardless of their chosen field of study.

Thursday 1 November 7:15pm | Culture Lab
Jacob Polley Lamanyi
Fusing film, music and spoken word, Lamanyi tells the story of a childhood house that becomes the site of an alternative personal history and dream-vision of boyhood and the North of England. With remarkable music and soundscapes created by John Alder, Lamanyi is a live performance by Jacob and John that movingly explores how we might hold on to what matters.

John Alder is an award-winning composer, sound designer and video artist. Jacob Polley’s south poetry collection Jackself (Picador, 2016) won the TS Eliot Prize. He is Professor of Creative Writing at Newcastle University.

Thursday 8 November 7:15pm | Culture Lab
Women Writing Television
Gaby Chiappe, Ann Cleeves and Elaine Collins in conversation with Stacy Gillis
Ann Cleeves, Elaine Collins and Gaby Chiappe will be discussing their work as writers and producers of the hugely successful crime fiction hit series Vera (ITV) and Shetland (BBC), both based on novels of the same name written by Ann Cleeves. They will also be talking about the role of women working in the field of contemporary television in the UK and beyond.

Stacy Gillis is a Senior Lecturer in Modern and Contemporary Literature at Newcastle University.

Thursday 15 November 7:15pm | Culture Lab
Mary Shelley: The Girl Who Wrote Frankenstein
Fiona Sampson in conversation with Rachel Hewitt
Fiona Sampson is a prize-winning poet and writer. She has been published in more than thirty languages and received an MBE for services to literature and is a Fellow of the Royal Society for Literature. Fiona will be discussing her biography of Mary Shelley (Profile Books, 2018).

Rachel Hewitt’s A Revolution of Feeling (Granta, 2017) is a history of 1790s radicals, including Mary Shelley’s mother, Mary Wollstonecraft. Rachel is a Lecturer in Creative Writing at Newcastle University and a Fellow of the Royal Society for Literature.

Thursday 6 December 7:15pm | Culture Lab
A. L. Kennedy
A. L. Kennedy is a writer, performer and academic. Her work includes short stories, drama, non-fiction, stand-up comedy, journalism and novels, of which Day won both the Costa and the Salten Book of the Year Awards. She is a Fellow of the Royal Society of Arts and the Royal Society of Literature and is an Associate Professor at the University of Warwick.

Thursday 13 December 7:15pm | Culture Lab
Preti Taneja in conversation with Sinéad Morrissey
Preti Taneja will be reading from, and in conversation about, her debut novel We That Are Young (Galley Beggar Press, 2017) a powerful re-telling of King Lear set in contemporary New Delhi and winner of the Desmond Elliott Prize 2018. She has worked as a human rights reporter and filmmaker in Jordan, Rwanda, and Kosovo, co-founded ERA Films, and is an AHRC/BBC Radio 3 New Generation Thinker.

Sinéad Morrissey is Professor of Creative Writing at Newcastle University and Director of NCLA.

Thursday 20 December 7:15pm | Culture Lab
Rachel Hewitt in conversation with Olivia McCannon
Olivia McCannon’s collection Exactly My Own Length (Carcanet/Oxford Poets, 2011) was shortlisted for the Seamus Heaney Oxford Prize and won the Fenton Alburgh First Collection Prize.

David Spittle’s poetry has been published in Blackbrook Manifold, Datableed, 3am, The Literatuer, Zarf and he has been shortlisted twice for the Malfa hune Prize.

Thursday 27 December 2018
The Chernobyl Thread
Olivia McCannon and David Spittle will celebrate National Poetry Day with poets Olivia and David.

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Spring School is open to everyone, although those attending should be committed writers. The ideal candidate is an aspiring writer who possesses a serious creative intent to see their work develop. Beginners and writers with more experience are equally welcome.

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