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The University of Manchester

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City of  
Literature

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Manchester  
Literature  
Festival

## LITERATURE LIVE: AUTUMN 2019

These unique literature events, organised by The University of Manchester's Centre for New Writing, bring a host of international literary stars to Manchester to discuss and read from their work.

## Centre for **New Writing**



# Centre for New Writing

“ The Centre for New Writing brings together writers who excel in a range of different kinds of fiction, playwriting, poetry and screenwriting, bringing their individual talents to bear on the work of all our students. ”

**Jeanette Winterson CBE**  
Professor of New Writing,  
Centre for New Writing



Jeanette Winterson CBE

Higher Education Partner for  
**Manchester Literature Festival**



We are proud to be the official Higher Education Partner for Manchester Literature Festival. This partnership for over a decade has included many co-programmed events featuring some of the brightest literary stars from across the globe.



**City of Literature**

Centre for New Writing is proud to be a key partner in Manchester UNESCO City of Literature

## To Book:

Tickets can be purchased on **0843 208 0500** or via [www.quaytickets.com](http://www.quaytickets.com)  
You can also purchase tickets through the Martin Harris Centre box office on **0161 275 8951** (opening times 12.30pm-2.30pm)  
Join our mailing list by emailing [info-cnw@manchester.ac.uk](mailto:info-cnw@manchester.ac.uk)  
For up to date event information, visit [www.alc.manchester.ac.uk/cnw](http://www.alc.manchester.ac.uk/cnw)



**The Manchester Review** is the Centre for New Writing's online journal, showcasing new work by both world-leading and emerging writers and artists. The Review's agenda-setting reviews section is regularly updated with views on the latest books, films, exhibitions, theatre and music.

[www.themanchesterreview.co.uk](http://www.themanchesterreview.co.uk)

The **Manchester Review**

## LITERATURE LIVE: Paul Muldoon and Alice Oswald

Join us for a reading by two of the finest English-language poets at work in the world today.

**Paul Muldoon** was born in County Armagh in 1951 and, since 1987, has lived in the United States, where he is the Howard G.B. Clark Professor in the Humanities at Princeton University. He is the author of thirteen books of poetry, including *Moy Sand and Gravel*, for which he received the 2003 Pulitzer Prize for Poetry and, this autumn, *Frolic and Detour* (Faber), another collection which shows "[Muldoon's] technical and linguistic brilliance is probably second to none; the poems are the textual equivalent of a high-wire act, with juggling." (Guardian).

**Alice Oswald** lives in Devon and is married with three children. Carol Ann Duffy describes her as "the best UK poet now writing, bar none" and her collections include *Dart* (2002 T.S. Eliot Prize), *Woods etc.* (Geoffrey Faber Memorial Prize), *A Sleepwalk on the Severn* (Hawthornden Prize), *Weeds and Wildflowers* (Ted Hughes Award), *Memorial* (Warwick Prize for Writing), and *Falling Awake* (2016 Costa Poetry Award and the Griffin Prize for Poetry). Just elected as Oxford Professor of Poetry, *Nobody*, her latest work, is out this autumn.



Paul Muldoon



Alice Oswald

## LITERATURE LIVE: David Nicholls in Conversation

Remember the summer you left school and fell in love for the first time? Charlie Lewis, the protagonist of David Nicholl's excellent new novel *Sweet Sorrow* does. But Charlie also has to grapple with his parents' divorce, his dad's depression and what sort of person he wants to be. An award-winning British novelist and scriptwriter whose work includes *One Day* and *Us*, David Nicholls will discuss his work for the page and screen and why he writes about love, friendship and relationships; the art of balancing comedy, drama and tragedy, and adapting work for film and television, including the BAFTA-winning *Patrick Melrose*. Hosted by Alex Clark.

**Presented by Manchester Literature Festival in partnership with the Centre for New Writing and Creative Manchester.**

Doors open at 6.30pm.

**Book on 0843 208 0500 or [manchesterliteraturefestival.co.uk](http://manchesterliteraturefestival.co.uk)**



David Nicholls

**Venue**  
Cosmo Rodewald  
Concert Hall

**Time & Date**  
7.30pm, Thursday  
3 October 2019

**Price**  
£8 / £6

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**Venue**  
Cosmo Rodewald  
Concert Hall

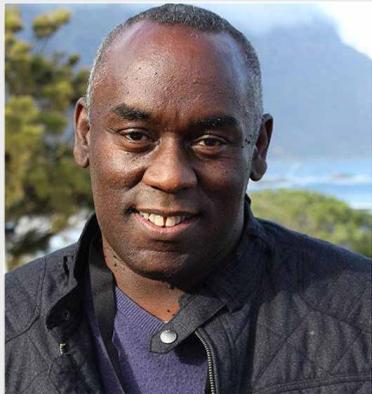
**Time & Date**  
7pm, Friday  
4 October 2019

**Price**  
£10 / £8



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Alex Wheatle



Stuart Maconie



Lisa Blower



Adam Sharp

**Venue**  
Cosmo Rodewald  
Concert Hall

**Time & Date** 📅  
3pm, Saturday  
5 October 2019

**Price**  
£8 / £6



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### LITERATURE LIVE: Common People

Where are all the working-class writers? Right here. In the anthology *Common People*, editor Kit de Waal, author of *My Name Is Leon* sets out to convey the diversity of working-class lives and experiences, pushing beyond the stereotypical portrayals often found in literature and the media. From knowing too many big words, to playing pool, to growing up on a council estate, join host **Alex Wheatle**, author of *Brixton Rock*, broadcaster **Stuart Maconie** (*Pies and Prejudice*), Mancunian author **Adam Sharp** and Stoke author **Lisa Blower** (*It's Gone Dark over Bill's Mother's*) as they read their work and discuss what it means to be working-class.

**Presented by Manchester Literature Festival in partnership with the Centre for New Writing and Creative Manchester.**

Doors open at 2.30pm.

**Book on 0843 208 0500 or manchesterliteraturefestival.co.uk**

**Venue**  
RNCM Theatre

**Time & Date** 📅  
7.30pm, Saturday  
5 October 2019

**Price**  
£16 / £14



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Jeanette Winterson

### Jeanette Winterson: Frankissstein

Manchester Literature Festival and the Centre for New Writing are delighted to host one of our most innovative contemporary writers, **Jeanette Winterson**, performing a unique, one-woman show based around her superb new novel *Frankissstein*.

In 1816, Mary Shelley is sequestered on Lake Geneva writing the book that will become *Frankenstein*, while in the present day Dr. Ry Shelley is researching the effects of Artificial Intelligence. Through discussions about robots, sex bots and gender transition, Jeanette explores what it means to have agency over your own body and whether our preserved brains will be the ones to run the future. Professor of New Writing at The University of Manchester, Jeanette is the author of the memoir *Why Be Happy When You Could Be Normal?*, ten critically acclaimed novels including *Oranges Are Not The Only Fruit* and several screenplays.

**Presented by Manchester Literature Festival in partnership with the Centre for New Writing and Creative Manchester.**

Doors open at 7pm.

**Book on 0843 208 0500 or manchesterliteraturefestival.co.uk**



Stephen Sexton



Isabel Galleymore

### LITERATURE LIVE: Stephen Sexton and Isabel Galleymore

We are delighted to welcome two of the most exciting debut poets of 2019, both shortlisted for this year's Forward Prize. **Stephen Sexton's** *If All the World and Love Were Young* (Penguin Press) was described by Sally Rooney as 'a work of almost miraculous depth and beauty,' while the poems in **Isabel Galleymore's** brilliantly inventive *Significant Other* (Carcenet) were praised in the Telegraph for being 'as perfectly self-contained as the molluscs they describe.'

**Presented by Manchester Literature Festival in partnership with the Centre for New Writing and Creative Manchester.**

Doors open 6.30pm.

**Book on 0843 208 0500 or manchesterliteraturefestival.co.uk**

### LITERATURE LIVE: Jonathan Safran Foer

Climate change is the greatest threat the world faces. In his brilliant new book, *We Are the Weather: Saving the Planet Starts at Breakfast*, **Jonathan Safran Foer** demystifies the science and statistics about why we are in the midst of a crisis and discusses how one small change – not to eat meat before dinner – could help save the planet. Animal agriculture is a contentious topic, but Jonathan approaches it with insight and humanity.

Jonathan is the author of three critically acclaimed novels – *Everything Is Illuminated*, *Extremely Loud & Incredibly Close*, *Here I Am* – and one previous book of non-fiction, *Eating Animals*. Hosted by Erica Wagner.

**Presented by Manchester Literature Festival in partnership with the Centre for New Writing and Creative Manchester.**

Doors open 6.30pm.

**Book on 0843 208 0500 or manchesterliteraturefestival.co.uk**



Jonathan Safran Foer

**Venue**  
Blackwells,  
University Green

**Time & Date**  
7pm, Monday  
7 October 2019

**Price**  
£8 / £6



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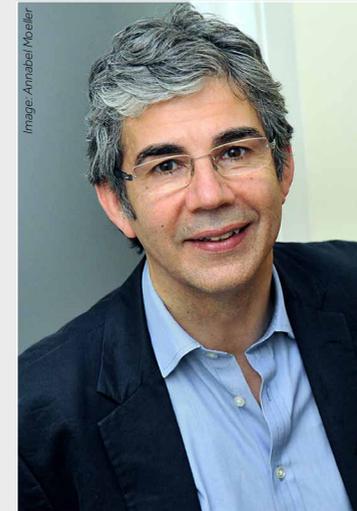
### David Nott: War Doctor

**David Nott** is the most experienced trauma surgeon in the world. In his fascinating book, *War Doctor*, he recounts learning to perform an emergency caesarean section in Kabul, following directions sent by text to amputate an upper arm and shoulder in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, and removing a detonator from a woman's leg in Syria. Driven not only by the desire to help others but also the thrill of danger, David discusses his many close encounters with death and the decisions that led to him establishing the David Nott Foundation with his wife, Elly. Hosted by Erica Wagner.

**Presented by Manchester Literature Festival in partnership with the Centre for New Writing and Creative Manchester.**

Doors open 6.30pm.

**Book on 0843 208 0500 or manchesterliteraturefestival.co.uk**



David Nott

**Venue**  
RNCM Theatre

**Time & Date**  
7pm, Wednesday  
9 October 2019

**Price**  
£14 / £12



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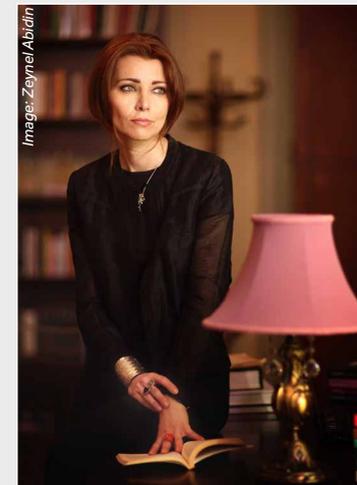
### LITERATURE LIVE: Elif Shafak

Does anyone care about a sex worker, murdered and abandoned in Istanbul? Tequila Leila's friends do. In her superb new novel *10 Minutes 38 Seconds in this Strange World*, **Elif Shafak** considers the meaning of family – the one we're born into and the one we create – the restrictions society places on anyone deemed different, and what it really means to live. Elif is an award-winning British-Turkish novelist (*Honour, The Bastard of Istanbul*) and the most-read female author in Turkey. An advocate for women's rights, LGBTQ+ rights and freedom of speech, Elif is an inspiring public speaker. Hosted by Erica Wagner.

**Presented by Manchester Literature Festival in partnership with the Centre for New Writing and Creative Manchester.**

Doors open 6pm.

**Book on 0843 208 0500 or manchesterliteraturefestival.co.uk**



Elif Shafak

**Venue**  
Central Library

**Time & Date**  
6.30pm, Thursday  
10 October 2019

**Price**  
£8 / £6



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### 2019 Booker Prize Shortlist

Meet some of the authors of the 2019 Booker Prize for Fiction shortlist at this special event at Manchester Literature Festival. The Booker Prize is a byword for the finest literary fiction, with its canon containing some of the greatest writers since 1969, from Hilary Mantel and Kazuo Ishiguro to Marlon James and Anna Burns. A few days before the 2019 winner is unveiled on Monday 14 October, join this year's shortlisted authors for an evening of readings and conversation around their novels. The 2019 Booker Prize for Fiction is chaired by Peter Florence and the judges are Afua Hirsch, Liz Calder, Xiaolu Guo and Joanna MacGregor. Hosted by Ella Wakatama Allfrey.

**Presented by Manchester Literature Festival in partnership with the Centre for New Writing and Creative Manchester.**

Doors open 6.30pm.

**Book on 0843 208 0500 or manchesterliteraturefestival.co.uk**

### LITERATURE LIVE: Hanif Kureishi

From *The Buddha of Suburbia* to *The Black Album*, **Hanif Kureishi** has inspired generations of young British writers and readers. In this MLF event, he discusses his award-winning fiction, his acclaimed screenplays (from the Oscar nominated *My Beautiful Laundrette* to *Sammy and Rosie Get Laid* and *Le Week-End*) to his forthcoming book, *What Happened?* Comic, dark and insightful, his new collection of essays and fiction displays his unique observations of popular culture from social media to the ancient classics; from David Bowie to Georges Simenon.



Hanif Kureishi

**Presented by Manchester Literature Festival in partnership with the Centre for New Writing and Creative Manchester.**

Doors open 7pm.

**Book on 0843 208 0500 or manchesterliteraturefestival.co.uk**

**Venue**  
Cosmo Rodewald  
Concert Hall

**Time & Date**   
7pm, Friday  
11 October 2019

**Price**  
£10 / £8



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### Emilie Pine and Sinéad Gleeson

Women's bodies are the site of continued discussion, speculation and law-making, but in their outstanding essay collections, *Notes to Self* and *Constellations*, Irish writers **Emilie Pine** and **Sinéad Gleeson** set out to reclaim their own bodies and experiences. Emilie considers the heartbreak of fertility treatment and predatory older men, while Sinéad discusses her disability caused by monoarticular arthritis in her hip, and explores the meaning of hair and motherhood. Their preoccupations cross with death, grief and blood, and what it means to be a woman in a patriarchal world. This is guaranteed to be an empowering feminist discussion. Hosted by Kate Feld.

**Presented by Manchester Literature Festival in partnership with the Centre for New Writing and Creative Manchester.**

Doors open 4pm.

**Book on 0843 208 0500 or manchesterliteraturefestival.co.uk**



Emilie Pine



Sinéad Gleeson

**Venue**  
International  
Anthony Burgess  
Foundation

**Time & Date**   
4.30pm, Sunday  
13 October 2019

**Price**  
£8 / £6



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### LITERATURE LIVE:

### Ilya Kaminsky, Karen Solie and Vona Groarke

Three internationally acclaimed poets read from their latest work. **Karen Solie's** extraordinary new collection, *The Caiphie Caves*, is, says *The Irish Times*, 'a great exhilaration of a book, casually distributing stunning and gladdening poems from all kinds of observations and occasions.' Described by Max Porter as 'perfectly extraordinary', *Deaf Republic* by **Ilya Kaminsky** has been a BBC4 Book of the Week and one of this year's most admired collections. Praised in the *New Statesman* for her 'sophisticated blend of craft and craftiness', **Vona Groarke**, Senior Lecturer at the Centre for New Writing, launches her new collection, *Double Negative*.

**Presented by Manchester Literature Festival in partnership with the Centre for New Writing and Creative Manchester.**

Doors open 7pm.

**Book on 0843 208 0500 or manchesterliteraturefestival.co.uk**

This event will be BSL interpreted.



Ilya Kaminsky



Karen Solie



Vona Groarke

**Venue**  
Cosmo Rodewald  
Concert Hall

**Time & Date**   
7.30pm, Monday  
21 October 2019

**Price**  
£8 / £6



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## 17th Annual Rylands Poetry Reading with Kei Miller, Sinéad Morrissey and Matthew Welton

This year's Rylands Reading inaugurates a year-long celebration of the 50th birthday of Manchester independent literary publishers, Carcanet Press. Our readers are three poets discovered by Carcanet, who have gone on to be significant presences in the world of contemporary poetry.

**Kei Miller** was born in Jamaica in 1978. His first Carcanet book was *There is an Anger that Moves* (2007) and his 2014 collection, *The Cartographer Tries to Map a Way to Zion*, won the Forward Prize for Best Collection, and was described by Jeremy Paxman as "a beautifully voiced collection which [strikes] with its boldness and wit." Kei has taught at the Universities of Glasgow, Royal Holloway and Exeter. He is the 2019 Ida Beam Distinguished Visiting Professor to the University of Iowa and is a Fellow of the Royal Society of Literature. His new collection is *In Nearby Bushes*.

**Sinéad Morrissey** was born in Northern Ireland in 1972. Her debut *There Was Fire in Vancouver* (1996) was followed by, among others, *Parallax* (2013), winner of the Irish Times Poetry Now Award and the T S Eliot Prize; and her sixth book, *On Balance* (2017), winner of the Forward Prize. "One of the country's leading poets" (Telegraph), Sinéad has served as Belfast Poet Laureate (2013-2014) and is currently Director of the Newcastle Centre for the Literary Arts at Newcastle University.

**Matthew Welton** was born in Nottingham in 1969. He received the Jerwood-Aldeburgh First Collection Prize for *The Book of Matthew* (Carcanet, 2003), which was also a Guardian Book of the Year. Jack Underwood wrote of his third book, *The Number Poems* (2016), "You're unlikely to read anything like it... poems are rarely so curious, precise and committed to their enquiry." He lectures on Writing and Creativity at the University of Nottingham.

**This is a FREE event – but booking is essential as places are limited. Reserve your place via Eventbrite from September.**



Kei Miller



Sinéad Morrissey



Matthew Welton

**Venue**  
The John Rylands Library, Deansgate

**Time & Date**  
6pm, Thursday  
21 November 2019

**Price**  
**FREE**



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Val McDermid



Denise Mina

## Val McDermid and Denise Mina

Queens of Crime, **Val McDermid** and **Denise Mina**, join us to discuss their brilliant new novels. In *How the Dead Speak*, Val brings Dr. Tony Hill and DCI Carol Jordan together again when the remains of a killer, who's supposedly alive and in prison, are found on a construction site. In *Conviction*, Denise weaves the break-up of Anna McDonald's marriage and a true crime podcast together to force Anna to confront her hidden past. Val is the highly acclaimed writer of over forty books including *The Wire in the Blood*. Denise won the Gordon Burn Award for *The Long Drop*.

**Presented by Manchester Literature Festival in partnership with the Centre for New Writing and Creative Manchester.**

Doors open 6.30pm.

**Book on 0843 208 0500 or manchesterliteraturefestival.co.uk**

## LITERATURE LIVE: Annual Caroline Chisholm Reading with Sara Collins

This event honours the memory of writer **Caroline Chisholm** (MA Creative Writing, 2013), who was a valued member of the Centre for New Writing community.

**Sara Collins** is of Jamaican descent and worked as a lawyer for seventeen years in Cayman, before admitting that what she really wanted to do was write novels. She studied Creative Writing at Cambridge University, winning the 2015 Michael Holroyd Prize, and began to write a book inspired by the idea of 'writing a Gothic novel where the heroine looked like me'. This turned into her first novel, of which Emma Donoghue wrote: "By turns lush, gritty, wry, gothic and compulsive, *The Confessions of Frannie Langton* is a dazzling page turner. With as much psychological savvy as righteous wrath, Sara Collins twists together the slave narrative, bildungsroman, love story and crime novel to make something new."

The winner of the 2019 PFD Prize for Best Fiction will also be announced on the night, and the winning MA graduate from the Centre for New Writing will read from their work.

**Venue**  
Central Library

**Time & Date**  
7pm, Saturday  
30 November 2019

**Price**  
£12 / £10



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Sara Collins

**Venue**  
International Anthony Burgess Foundation

**Time & Date**  
6.30pm, Monday  
9 December 2019

**Price**  
£8 / £6

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Centre for New Writing  
School of Arts, Languages and Cultures  
The University of Manchester  
Oxford Road  
Manchester M13 9PL

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