



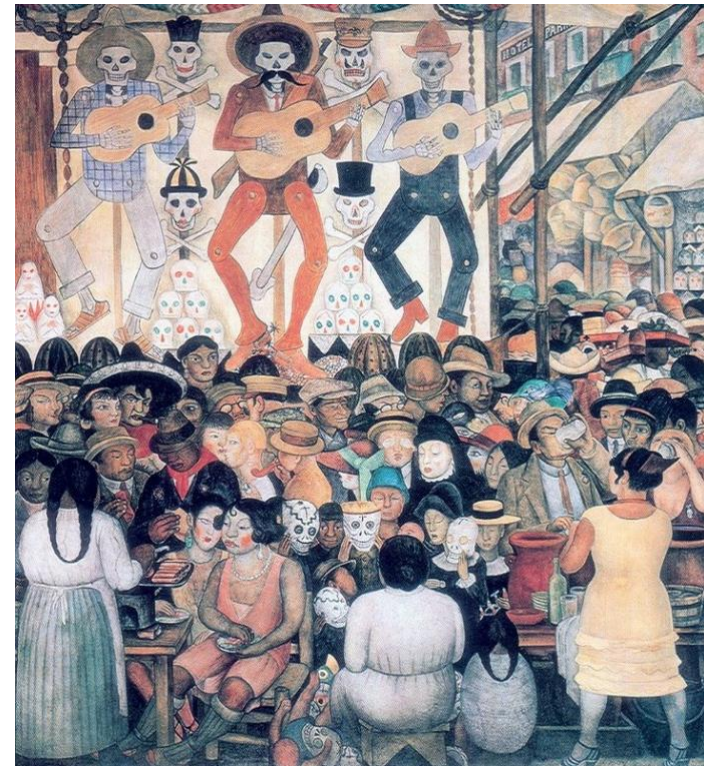
Above image: Malcolm Lowry reclining in a deck chair at Dollarton, 1945 (University of British Columbia Library, Rare Books and Special Collections, Malcolm Lowry Collection, BC 1614/07).

Front image: detail from Diego Rivera fresco, *Day of the Dead in the City* (Ministry of Education, Mexico City)

The Lowry Lounge is supported by RILCH (Research Institute for Literature and Cultural History), Liverpool John Moores University and the Heritage Fund



# The 2024 Lowry Lounge



**Saturday 2 November**  
**11am-4.30pm**  
**at the Bluecoat**

# The 2024 Lowry Lounge

Our annual celebration of Merseyside-born writer Malcolm Lowry this year falls on the Mexican Day of the Dead, the setting for his famous novel, *Under the Volcano*.

## Programme

- **Welcome, introduction and participatory altar activity**

Taking the Day of the Dead theme, we start the Lounge with a participatory activity, adding to an altar dedicated to Lowry.

You are invited to contribute offerings on the day: flowers, poems, food, photos, etc. Lowry fans unable to make the event have been invited to send postcards, containing any message or image appropriate to the occasion, to be added to the altar.

- **A tribute to John Hyatt:** the artist had a long association with the Bluecoat and was involved in the Lounge before his untimely death in 2023, contributing memorable installations, printed wall hangings, performances and participation activities.

- **Lowry and the Day of the Dead:** an illustrated talk with film clips by Wirral-based Lowry authority **Colin Dilnot** about the importance of these days (1-2 November) to *Under the Volcano*. The book is set in Quauhnahuac (Cuernavaca) in 1938 as Mexicans remember and pay their respects to family members and friends who have died.

## LUNCH BREAK

- **Adrian Henri's 'Day of the Dead, Hope Street':** this painting by the Liverpool poet and artist features Lowry among a crowd of cultural characters and Henri's friends processing along the city's Hope Street. The painting is discussed in relation to Henri's earlier composition, *Christ's Entry into Liverpool* (1962-64) by **Catherine Marcangeli** of the Adrian Henri Estate and **Bryan Biggs**, the Bluecoat's Director of Cultural Legacies.

- **The Novel is Mexican: Helen Tookey** reads extracts from her work in progress, a creative non-fiction exploration of reading Lowry, with a focus on the novel's Day of the Dead setting.

- **Open Malc:** an opportunity to contribute to the day's theme and share any information on Lowry-related activities that people are involved in.

- **Rough Passage** (40mins): the first documentary film about Lowry, made for television in 1967, directed by Tristram Powell and produced by Melvyn Bragg.

- **Finale:** a traditional toast to the writer as we play out the Lounge with a Lowry/Day of the Dead-themed DJ set.

You can find out about the Bluecoat's previous Lounges and other Malcolm Lowry-related programmes in the library section of our website: <https://www.thebluecoat.org.uk/library/event/malcom-lowry-under-the-volcano>