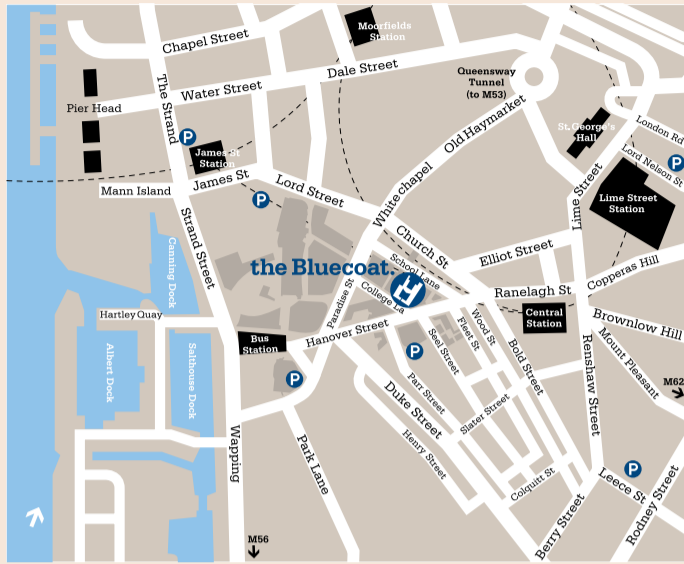


How to find us?

The Bluecoat is situated in the centre of Liverpool, just behind Church Street, down Church Alley (directly opposite Marks & Spencer) and in front of Liverpool ONE.

You can enter the Bluecoat from either School Lane or College Lane (the entrance is just along from BBC Radio Merseyside). The Bluecoat is 5 minutes walk from Liverpool Lime Street Station and close to Liverpool ONE bus station.



Find us online at www.thebluecoat.org.uk

And you can follow us on:

Facebook: [facebook.com/thebluecoat](https://www.facebook.com/thebluecoat)

Twitter: [@thebluecoat](https://twitter.com/thebluecoat)

The Bluecoat, School Lane, Liverpool, L1 3BX
Tickets & Information
0151 702 5324



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Illustrations by Neil Keating

Season Funders:



Thanks to the City of Liverpool for its financial support

Event Partners



Alliance of Radical Booksellers
Liverpool Irish Festival
NorthEnd Writers
Philosophy in Pubs
North West Somaliland Youth Forum

The festival is running a programme of participation events with Liverpool's Arabic and Somali communities, MerseyCare, the Reader and the Blue Room.

Literature Festival at the Bluecoat.

CHAPTER & VERSE



Wed 12 - Sun 16
October
2011

Literature Festival at the Bluecoat.

Wednesday 12 – Sunday 16 October

Welcome to Chapter & Verse



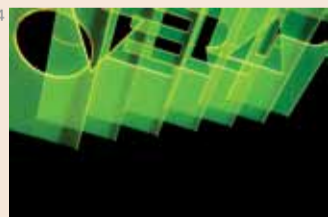
This, the fourth Chapter & Verse festival at the Bluecoat, presents a breadth of literature that we hope will appeal to all interested in the power of the word, spoken, written, reported and performed. We are pleased to welcome over 40 writers and others working across the literature spectrum: novels, poetry, non-fiction, journalism, short stories, biographies, histories, children's books, bookmaking, storytelling, comic books, spoken word performance, publishing and bookselling.

Over five days there are more than 35 events as well as offsite projects, making this year's festival as packed and diverse as ever. There is much for audiences to engage with – listening to authors read and talk about their latest book, taking part in discussions, hearing about the newest developments in publishing in the digital age, experiencing new forms of performance poetry, participating in workshops, and much more.

Some of this year's events are responding to Liverpool's theme for 2011, City of Radicals. We look at writers who have challenged the status quo in their work; from Malcolm Lowry to Bob Marley, to a new generation of spoken word innovators and writers getting beneath the surface of the turbulent political and economic times we are experiencing.

We would like to thank all our partners, funders and supporters for helping to make what promises to be a dynamic and enjoyable Chapter & Verse this year. Special thanks go to Maura Kennedy who planned much of the programme and to Helena McConnell, our festival project manager.

Bryan Biggs
Artistic Director at the Bluecoat



1. Malcolm Lowry, 1945. Courtesy University British Columbia Library
2. Matt Simpson. Image courtesy of Leila Romaya and Paul McCann
3. Tim Quinn (Cartoon Workshop)
4. Mercy: Electronic Voice Phenomena
5. Sarah Hall. Image courtesy of Richard Thwaites

Tickets & Information
0151 702 5324

Find us online at www.thebluecoat.org.uk



Wednesday 12 October
10.30 – 11.30am

Children's Bookshow
presents Jessica
Souhami

A firm favourite with Bookshow audiences over the years, Jessica Souhami specialises in retellings of traditional tales from all over the world. Her work ranges from the Hindu tale of Rama and the Demon King to African folklore.

Please note, this event is for schools.

Wednesday 12 October
1.30 – 2.30pm

Children's Bookshow
presents Patrick Benson

This year The Children's Bookshow is delighted to welcome Patrick Benson, the award-winning illustrator of the classic picture book *Owl Babies*, who has worked with some of the finest children's writers, including Roald Dahl.

He will talk about the creative process involved in illustrating *The Minpins*, Roald Dahl's last children's story.

Please note, this event is for schools.



Wednesday 12 October
11am – 1pm

Literature North West
presents App-ter and
Verse: Independent
Publishing and the App
with Sam Easterby-Smith

Are you involved in literary publishing or the promotion of contemporary literature? Is the book really about to be replaced by the App? How can small publishers, individual writers and artists make the most of iPhone and Android technologies? Two leading developers of smartphone applications present a How to Guide to App publishing including Sam Easterby-Smith who was part of the team that developed the Sunday Times App. **Free, ticket required.**

Wednesday 12 October
2 – 4pm

Clare Sambrook and
Paul Lewis: The Future
of Journalism

In these troubled times for the media, journalism is a bold yet exciting career choice.

Join award-winning reporters Clare Sambrook and Paul Lewis in a lively debate about the future of journalism. Sambrook talks about how curiosity and anger drive her work and the craft of investigative journalism. Paul Lewis will show how the use of social media drives his investigations and makes the news as it happens. **Free, ticket required.**

Wednesday 12 October
6 – 7.15pm

Ed Vulliamy:
The Feral Elite

Award-winning global journalist Ed Vulliamy, the grandson of department store pioneer, TJ Hughes, returns to his Liverpool roots. His book, *Amexica: War along the Borderline*, traces the causes and bloody consequences of Mexico's drug war and uncovers wholesale laundering of the proceeds by the mainstream 'legitimate' banking system. Here, Vulliamy brings his theme home to Britain, and will consider the corruption of ties between international finance, politics and the media which has exploded with MPs' expenses, the banking crisis and the phone-hacking scandal, leaving a toxic legacy at the core of British society. In partnership with Writing on the Wall. **Tickets: £3 / £2.**

Wednesday 12 October
8 – 9.30pm

Comma Press presents
European Short Story
Night with special
guests Emil Hakl (Czech
Republic), Gregory
Norminton (Scotland),
and Milos Ilic (Serbia).

A rare chance to hear three leading exponents of the short story read their work, and discuss just what makes the European short story such a distinct and exciting literary form. **Tickets: £3 / £2.**

Literature Festival at the Bluecoat.

Book at www.thebluecoat.org.uk or 0151 702 5324 School Lane, Liverpool, L1 3BX
dance eat & drink join in literature live art & comedy music visual art who's who

Thu 13 October 1.30 – 2.30pm

Alliance of Radical Booksellers Symposium

Introducing a day of debate about the past, present and future of the radical book-trade, News from Nowhere and other radical bookshops will discuss its future prospects.

The Current State of Radical Bookselling

11.45am – 12.45pm
Join Mandy Vere from Liverpool's radical and community bookshop, News from Nowhere, as she chairs a discussion about the current state of radical bookselling.
Free, ticket required.

The History of the Radical Book Trade

1.15 – 2.00pm
Ross Bradshaw of Five Leaves Publications will delve into the rich history of the radical book trade and share the delights and difficulties of small press printing. More at www.fiveleaves.co.uk
Free, ticket required.

Bread and Roses Prize Announcement

2.00pm
Announcing the first radical book prize - Bread and Roses - a national award for the best radical book published in 2011. The winning nomination will receive £1,000 in prize money. For more details visit www.bread-and-roses.co.uk

Thu 13 October 2.30 – 3.30pm

Philosophy in Pubs:

Join in and enjoy a spontaneous open forum exploring the festival's themes.
Free, no ticket required.

Thu 13 October 3.30 – 4.30pm

Poetry Open Mic

Up and coming poets are invited to perform in this one-off open mic session, kicking off with new verse from Carcanet Press.
Free, no ticket required.

Thu 13 October 6 – 7.30pm

Colin Grant: I&I: The Natural Mystics – Marley, Tosh and Wailer

Author, historian and BBC producer, Colin Grant, the son of Jamaican emigrants to the UK has spent years travelling back and forth to Jamaica to research his books. I&I: *The Natural Mystics – Marley, Tosh and Wailer* is the first group biography of the Wailers - Bob Marley, Peter Tosh, and Bunny Wailer. Grant will present a lively account of this remarkable band which helped put reggae on a world stage.
Tickets: £5 / £3.

Fri 14 October 11am – 5pm

Artists' Book Fair

For the first time, the Bluecoat is hosting an Artist's Book Fair. Come along and embrace a revival of paper craft and bookbinding. Local artists will be selling the finest pick of their inventive books and zines. Pick up an affordable paper piece of inspiration from the day and tips about the craft.
Free entry.
Limited availability for artists.
To book a table email: elizabethsheart@hotmail.co.uk

Fri 14 October 2.30 – 4pm

Alexandra Harris Romantic Moderns – English Writers, Artists and the Imagination from Virginia Woolf to John Piper

Alexandra Harris is the winner of this year's Guardian first book prize for *Romantic Moderns*. Here she presents a radically new interpretation of the arts in the years between the wars, a period which left an extraordinary cultural legacy. Harris was recently announced as one of the winners of BBC Radio 3's New Generation Thinkers. Discover more about her prize-winning book, described by one judge as 'a significant contribution to English culture'.
Tickets: £3 / £2.

Fri 14 October 5 – 6.15pm

John Williams: The Liverpool Way

Historically, Liverpool Football Club has played an important cultural role in the city and beyond. Today, a new politics has emerged around the game that reaches far beyond the Liverpool pitch. Join John Williams, author of *Football Nation*, and *Red Men*, for a lively discussion about the changing relationships between Liverpool FC, its players, managers and the cultural direction this has taken over the last century.
Tickets: £3 / £2.

Fri 14 October 6.30 – 7.45pm

In Conversation with the Edge Hill Short Story Prize-winners

Graham Mort writes poetry and short fiction. After the publication of *Visibility: New and Selected Poems* he was described as 'one of contemporary verse's most accomplished practitioners'. His short story collection *Touch* won the 2011 Edge Hill prize the UK's only prize for a book length collection of short fiction.

Tom Vowler's debut short story collection, *The Method and Other Stories*, won the Edge Hill Readers' Award in 2011. His forthcoming novel is a dark thriller set on Dartmoor. Graham and Tom will read from their award winning work and converse on what the short story means to them. In partnership with Edge Hill University www.edgehill.ac.uk
Tickets: £3 / £2.

Fri 14 October 6.30 – 8.30pm

Film Screening: Barbaric Genius Showing at FACT, 88 Wood Street, Liverpool

Barbaric Genius is a riveting exploration of the life and work of writer John Healy who shot to fame in the late 80s thanks to his sensational autobiography, *The Grass Arena*, depicting his life as the son of an impoverished Irish immigrant family in London, boxing champion, street drinker, chess champion and award winning author. Followed by a conversation with John Healy.
Tickets: £6 available from FACT Box Office 0871 902 5737
In partnership with FACT and the Liverpool Irish Festival.

Fri 14 October 7.30 – 10.30pm

Commonword and Writing on the Wall present The Dike Omeje Slam Poetry Award 2011 LIVERPOOL HEAT

The Quest for Liverpool's Ultimate Slam Poet: Three minutes to rock or shock the mic
Superheroes of Slam is the quest to find the ultimate slam poet with spoken word superpowers. Open to all poets, MCs & rappers and judged by audience response this will be a slam like no other, full of glitz, glamour and comic book kitsch. The overall Superhero of Slam winner will receive a £250 cash prize and the Dike Omeje Slam Poetry Cup at a Grand Final at Yard Theatre, Manchester. www.writingonthewall.org.uk
To enter contact WoW on 0151 703 0020 or email: info@writingonthewall.org.uk
Tickets: £5 / £3 available from the Bluecoat box office.

Sat 15 October 11am – 2pm

Poetry Workshop: Motivism with Michael Egan

Michael Egan is a Liverpool based poet and runs Holdfire Press, a publisher dedicated to emerging poets. His collection, *Steak & Stations, Penned in the Margins* appeared in 2010. He was recently Highly Commended by the Forward Prize and is currently working on his second collection. In this practical workshop, participants will discover the form of Motivism and learn how to perfect its use in poetry. Bring along an image to kick-start a poem or a piece you've written inspired by place or picture.
Tickets: £8 / £5.

Sat 15 October 11am – 3pm (meet at the Bluecoat)

The 2011 Lowry Lounge & Tour

Radical Wirral-born writer Malcolm Lowry, author of *Under the Volcano*, is remembered in this annual event: a psychogeographical walk around central Liverpool in Lowry's footsteps. Led by Colin Dilnot it is based on Lowry's recently discovered 'lost' manuscript, *In Ballast to the White Sea* which is partly set in Liverpool.

The celebration continues in Lowry Lounge at the Bluecoat with the launch of *The Firminist Number 2*, an occasional journal of all things Lowry, plus talks, music and films. In partnership with The Firminists
Tickets: Tour £5 (places limited, so book early) / Lowry Lounge £3 / combined ticket £6
Contact the Bluecoat for Lounge start time.

Sat 15 October 12 – 2pm

Traditional Bookbinding Workshop with Lucy Wilson

A traditional and therapeutic craft, bookbinding combines a number of creative skills. Help revive this beautiful and precious craft, rebel against the new age of the electronic book! If you love and appreciate the physical aesthetics of the book, you may find that bookbinding is your artistic expression.
Tickets: £15 / £12.

Sat 15 October 1 – 2.30pm

Love Books: The Pram in the Hall: Motherhood in Poetry

This event will celebrate the life-enhancing power of the poetry of many women poets and their various explorations of the subject of motherhood. Poems included by Anne Bradstreet, Anna Akhmatova, Lucille Clifton, Sylvia Plath, Adrienne Rich, Anne Sexton, Kate Clanchy, Deryn Rees-Jones, Kathleen Jamie and others.
Free, ticket required.

Sat 15 October 2 – 3.15pm

Writing on the Wall, Tara Arts & Arcadia present UPRISING!

Through words and song, Alex Wheatle MBE charts the journey of his own personal uprising; from the brutality of children's homes to selling 'weed' on Brixton's 'frontline', through the 1981 riots and consequently, a brutal prison system, finally emerging as a respected and award winning author. Followed by a Q & A.
Tickets: £4 / £2 (Under 18s Free).
Please note over 14s only

Sat 15 October 4 – 5.45pm

Comma Press presents Litmus – Short Stories from Modern Science With authors Sarah Hall, Jane Rogers, Annie Clarkson and science historian James Higgerson

The Litmus anthology reflects science's love of narrative, by retelling the stories of theorists and experimenters as they stood on the brink of momentous discoveries. Litmus celebrates the 'eureka' moments that have changed the way we live.
Tickets: £5 / £3.

Sat 15 October 8 – 9.30pm

Sarah Hall: The Beautiful Indifference

Enjoy readings from a new collection of short stories by the Booker-shortlisted author. From the heathered fells and lowlands of her native Cumbria, to the speed and heat of summer London, to an eerily still lake in the Finnish wilderness, Sarah Hall evokes landscapes with extraordinary precision and grace. The characters within these territories are real-life survivors - and the human body itself provides a sensuous frame for each unfolding drama. Uniquely disturbing and deeply erotic, *The Beautiful Indifference* confirms Sarah Hall as one of the greatest writers of her generation.
Tickets: £5 / £3.
Please note Over 18's only.

Sun 16 October 12 noon – 3pm

Explore: Arabic Storytelling

Drop in at 12 noon, 12.45pm or 1.30pm. Open mic at 2.15pm.
Faiza Alasaly spent her early childhood in a tiny village high on a mountain in North Yemen. Typically the older women in her family could not read or write but nurtured Faiza with amazing stories about events that happened long ago - as if they happened only yesterday. Bring the family for an enchanting afternoon of traditional stories and costumes from the Arabic world and the chance to share your own folktales. In partnership with Writing on the Wall.
Free, no ticket required.

Sun 16 October 12 noon – 3pm

Explore: Family Cartoon Workshop

Create cartoon characters and pick up ideas to develop your very own comic-book adventure with Tim Quinn, one-time editor, illustrator and writer at Marvel Comics. Liverpool born Tim spent thirty years with *The Beano*, *The Dandy* and *Bunty* before heading across the Atlantic to work on titles such as, *Spider-Man*, *X-Men* and the *Incredible Hulk*. This drop-in cartoon workshop is suitable for families with children aged 7+ to enjoy together.
Free, no ticket required.

Sun 16 October 12.30 – 2.00pm

Liverpool Screen School presents Deconstructing Voices

A unique collaboration in sample culture, mixing live poetry with VJ, screen and digital technologies. The words - all based on the theme of 'place' - are read live by the poets whilst being filmed and mixed with music and images. No two performances are ever the same but each engages the audience in a vital and imaginative way.
Free, ticket required.

Sun 16 October 3 – 4pm

Stories from Somalia

Somalis comprise the largest African community in Liverpool. Previously unheard stories by two new writers telling authentic Somali tales will be shared and discussed in this compelling showcase of emerging literary talent. In partnership with North West Somaliland Youth Forum
Free, no ticket required.

Sun 16 October 3 – 5pm

Liverpool Poetry Cafe and The Windows Project present Michael Murphy and Matt Simpson: A Celebration

Leading poets Gwyneth Lewis, John Lucas, Maurice Riordan, Lawrence Sail and George Szirtes present a critical tribute of verse by Michael Murphy and Matt Simpson. Liverpool-born Murphy produced much-admired poetry of great intensity, even while suffering from a brain tumour. He died in 2009 aged 43. Simpson died in 2009 shortly after his former pupil, Michael Murphy. The event will launch the publication of *Collected Poems* from both Murphy and Simpson (Shoestring Press).
Tickets: £2.

Take your ticket to the News from Nowhere Festival bookstall for £2 off a copy of either collection.

Sun 16 October 5.30 – 6.30pm

Robert Sheppard: Berlin Bursts

Part of the radical literary avant-garde sometimes called 'linguistically innovative', Sheppard combines subtle effects of language and tone with a variety of performance styles, from the direct and quick-fire to the musical. His most recent books are *Warrant Error*, a verbal intervention into the War on Terror and *Berlin Bursts*, which contains poems that explore one of his persistent themes of human unfinish. Anthologised in the OUP Anthology of Twentieth Century British and Irish Poetry he is also Professor of Poetry and Poetics at Edge Hill University.
Free, ticket required.

Sun 16 October 7 – 8.15pm

Penny Feeny: That Summer in Ischia

In the long hot summer of 1979, two best friends travel to the beautiful island of Ischia to be au pairs. But when a little boy in their care goes missing, the spell is broken and the girls find themselves under suspicion. As cracks appear in their relationship, one will betray the other, changing the course of both of their lives forever. Local writer Penny Feeny will read from her stunning debut novel which draws upon the time she spent living in Italy. Join her as she explores her particular road to publication and rise to bestseller status.
Free, ticket required.

Sun 16 October 8.30 – 10.30pm

Mercy present: Electronic Voice Phenomena

A showcase of artists mimicking and manipulating electronic processing in vocal performance. Part of Mercy's Overlap programme exploring shared territory across music/writing/performance, this event features new work by Nathan Jones with Tom Rea Smith, plus Tuvian throat singer Soriah, Holly Pester colluding in the *Uncanny Valley*, Mark Leahy operating between digital and analogue, and Emma Bennett talking like a bird. New possibilities in spoken word for the finale of this year's festival. www.mercyonline.co.uk
Tickets: £5 / £4.

Throughout the festival...

The Uncanny Valley

A computer voice is uncannily real; a real voice is eerily artificial. The 'uncanny valley' is the space where the ambiguity of real and unreal becomes abhorrent, like a life-like robot with a sinister glitch. A new installation by Holly Pester and Nathan Jones commissioned by Mercy as part of their Overlap programme.

News from Nowhere, Liverpool's radical and community bookshop will be running the Chapter & Verse Festival bookstall in the Hub. www.newsfromnowhere.org.uk

