Southbank Centre announces 2016 London Literature Festival: *Living in Future Times*, celebrating the world’s most visionary writers and artists including HG Wells, Margaret Atwood, Richard Dawkins and David Bowie

Featuring John Agard, Riz Ahmed, Naomi Alderman, Margaret Atwood, Kat Banyard, Caroline Bergvall, Lauren Beukes, Malorie Blackman, Hassan Blasim, Teju Cole, Richard Dawkins, Marcus Du Sautoy, Michel Faber, Tom Gauld, Isabel Greenberg, Xiaolu Guo, Etgar Keret, Deborah Levy, Cixin Liu, Eimear McBride, Kei Miller, Caitlin Moran, Paul Morley, Neel Mukherjee, Edna O’Brien, Iain Pears, Nikesh Shukla, Di Speirs, Chimene Suleyman, Louis Theroux, Thomas Thwaites (Goat Man), Ed Yong, Alejandro Zambra and more to be announced

5 – 16 October 2016
Southbank Centre
[Southbankcentre.co.uk/london-literature-festival](http://southbankcentre.co.uk/london-literature-festival)
#LDNLitFest @southbankcentre

Southbank Centre’s 2016 London Literature Festival explores the theme *Living in Future Times.* Now in its tenth year, the festival rediscovers far-sighted classics and examines how we are already living in an era predicted by Science Fiction, celebrating the work of the world’s most visionary established and upcoming writers and artists. London Literature Festival runs from 5 – 16 October
2016 and incorporates the final weekend of Southbank Centre’s *Power of Power* festival from 7 – 9 October. Highlights include:

- Marking 150 years since HG Wells’ birth, a reading of his classic Sci-Fi novel *The Time Machine* opens the festival and a discussion on Wells’ relationships with women is broadcast live from the Clore Ballroom at Royal Festival Hall on BBC Radio 3’s *Free Thinking* (5 October)
- World-renowned writer Margaret Atwood launches and discusses her new novel, *Hag-Seed*, a reimagining of Shakespeare’s *The Tempest* (6 October)
- An exclusive in-person Q&A screening with Louis Theroux, at the Royal Festival Hall, for his first theatrical feature documentary *My Scientology Movie*, a film which delves into one of the world’s most mysterious and powerful religions (10 October).
- Leading writers and experts from the world of science including Richard Dawkins, Marcus Du Sautoy, Ed Yong, and more
- A day featuring the best international writers of science-fiction including Hassan Blasim, Lauren Beukes, Xiaolu Guo and Cixin Liu (15 October)
- Authors including biographer Paul Morley celebrate and explore David Bowie’s life and legacy in a free event (7 October)
- Young Adult Literature Weekender offers more opportunities than ever before to the next generation of writers (15 & 16 October). Featuring the most exciting YA novelists, bloggers, vloggers, poets and spoken word artists from rising stars to legends of YA, such as Sara Barnard, Malorie Blackman, Holly Bourne, Juno Dawson, Sally Green, Sungju Lee, Hollie McNish and Harriet Reuter Hapgood.

Ted Hodgkinson, Senior Programmer, Literature and Spoken Word, said: “We’re absolutely delighted to announce that the 2016 London Literature Festival will feature an incredible programme of world-renowned writers, futurologists and transhumanists ready to face the fast-approaching future, and celebrate the power of the imagination to take us beyond our expectations as a species. At a moment of great political change and social conflict, *Living in Future Times* will look at how writers have often had the best antennae when it comes to anticipating the challenges facing humanity, both in the present and the world yet to come.”

**SCIENCE-FICTION**

Celebrating some of the world’s greatest science-fiction writers, London Literature Festival opens with two events marking the 150th anniversary of the birth of HG Wells, the father of science-fiction. In a
panel discussion exploring Wells’ relationships with women (5 October) Louisa Treger, author of the first biographical novel of Dorothy Richardson, a key woman in Wells’ life, and Matthew Sweet address Wells’ reputation as a serial womanizer and reappraise the life and legacy of this defining writer. Broadcast live on BBC Radio 3 Free Thinking, this free event is followed by a specially commissioned adaptation and live reading of The Time Machine (5 October), HG Wells’ far-sighted novel which popularised the concept of time travel and gave birth to a genre which reaches into the present and far beyond.

Bestselling author Margaret Atwood launches and discusses her new novel, Hag-Seed, a re-imagining of Shakespeare’s The Tempest, published as part of the VINTAGE Hogarth Shakespeare series (6 October). A true visionary, Atwood’s many works of fiction, poetry and nonfiction include her seminal dystopia The Handmaid’s Tale and is in conversation with Erica Wagner. Wagner also joins Neel Mukherjee and Salley Vickers to explore the work of Alan Garner whose novels from The Weirdstone of Brisingamen to Red Shift and beyond have fascinated and inspired readers and writers alike for more than fifty years (10 October).

In an exclusive preview event before publication, Naomi Alderman reads from her new novel The Power (16 October), telling the story of four girls and women who struggle against daily oppressions and sexism until one day they find their lives radically altered by the power to inflict lightning bolts of pain, and even death, at the flick of their fingers.

SCIENCE WRITERS

In a special event celebrating the publications of four landmark books The Selfish Gene (1976), The Blind Watchmaker (1986), Climbing Mount Improbable (1996) and The God Delusion (2006), Richard Dawkins gives a keynote address which looks back across the span of his previous work, and explores how his own thought has evolved in Richard Dawkins: Selfish Genes, Future Memes (11 October).

Award-winning science writer and author of I Contain Multitudes Ed Yong introduces us to the 100 trillion microbes which call our bodies home, protect our health, and grant us incredible abilities in a free event (12 October) whilst Professor of Mathematics at the University of Oxford and Simonyi Chair for the Public Understanding of Science Marcus Du Sautoy offers insights into the boundaries of scientific understanding in a keynote address and asks if we are at the limits of knowledge (16 October).
Author of *Goat Man*, Thomas Thwaites discusses *Transhumanism*, a movement that uses modern technology to tap into an ancient longing for humans to transcend their bodily boundaries, and shares his experience of using prosthetic limbs to transform himself and live as a goat (11 October).

**INTERNATIONAL WRITERS DAY (15 OCTOBER)**
London Literature Festival features a number of exciting international writers of science fiction.
China’s most celebrated science fiction author **Cixin Liu** (nine times the winner of China’s most prestigious prize for science fiction, the Galaxy Award) is in conversation with filmmaker and novelist **Xiaolu Guo** to explore the concerns and fantasies of the world’s most populous country.
Award-winning Iraqi author and editor of a new anthology **Iraq+100** Hassan Blasim considers what Iraq will look like in the year 2103, 100 years on from the American and British-led invasion with translator **Jonathan Wright**. In a rare London event, internationally-acclaimed writer **Lauren Beukes** reads her fiction and talks about the relationship between the present and the future in South African Sci Fi (15 October).

Further international highlights include Caribbean-British poet and celebrated performer, **John Agard**, in his one-person show **Roll Over Atlantic** (14, 15, 16 October) which fuses elements of calypso, cabaret and spoken word and Israeli writer **Etgar Keret** discussing his new book of essays, **Seven Good Years**, named for the years between the birth of his son and the death of his father (16 October).

**YOUNG ADULT**
There are a number of events for younger readers including **Caitlin Moran** who returns to Southbank Centre with her *Moranifesto* for girls on International Day of the Girl (11 October). The festival culminates in the **Young Adult Weekender** (15 & 16 October) featuring the most exciting YA novelists, bloggers, vloggers, poets and spoken word artists from rising stars to the legends of YA, such as **Malorie Blackman**, **Hollie McNish**, **Juno Dawson**, **Sally Green**, **Holly Bourne**, **Sara Barnard**, **Sungju Lee** and **Harriet Reuter Hapgood**. The Young Adult Weekender offers audiences an opportunity to meet their favourite writers, and learn how to become a writer with workshops, the YA Market and drop-in mentoring.

**FURTHER HIGHLIGHTS**
Against the backdrop of a growing refugee crisis and the UK’s vote to leave the EU, the festival presents the timely world premiere of readings from a new crowd-funded anthology **The Good Immigrant** (6 October). Compiled by **Nikesh Shukla**, the anthology features contributions from **Riz**
Ahmed, Chimene Suleyman and Kieran Yates and explores why immigrants come to the UK, why they stay, and what it means to be ‘other’ in a country that doesn’t always seem to want you.

Renowned filmmaker Louis Theroux’s first theatrical feature documentary My Scientology Movie (10 October) is screened at the Royal Festival Hall; a film which delves into one of the world’s most mysterious and powerful religions in what he regards as ‘The Holy Grail of Stories’. The screening is followed by an exclusive in-person Q&A with Theroux.

**Women Writers of the Future:** the inaugural SI Leeds Prize is a national, biennial award for black and Asian women writers in the UK, addressing the fervently-debated and problematic issue of lack of diversity in the world of publishing (9 October). Acclaimed author and literary critic Bernardine Evaristo hosts a roundtable discussion with the shortlisted authors of the 2016 SI Leeds Literary Prize.

From Ziggy Stardust to Blackstar, David Bowie invented the future in his music and his writing, anticipating future concerns and capturing the imaginations of millions. A panel of experts and authors celebrate and explore Bowie’s life and legacy in a free event, including biographer Paul Morley, the author of *The Age of Bowie: How David Bowie Made a World of Difference* and Tiffany Murray, editor of *Fill Your Heart, anthology of Writers on Bowie* (7 October). This event is followed by a Bowie Big Sing in partnership with BBC Radio 3.

London Literature Festival also explores the future of literature itself. A panel of graphic novelists including award-winning Isabel Greenberg and Tom Gauld discuss pushing the boundaries of the art form, and how to find playful and provocative new ways of telling stories in *The Future of Graphic Novels* (13 October). Acclaimed authors Alejandro Zambra and Iain Pears present groundbreaking works which offer distinctive new ways for a reader to engage with a text from Zambra’s new novel *Multiple Choice* which invites the reader to answer multiple-choice questions to Pears’ most recent work *Arcadia*, both a physical book and an app which allows the reader full control of the narrative (12 October). Award-winning Jamaican poet Kei Miller and Books Editor at the BBC Di Speirs, judges for the 2016 BBC National Short Story Award, lead a panel on the future of the short story alongside the winner of the award (5 October).

To close the 2016 London Literature Festival, Literary Death Match (16 October) offers a comedy-rich futuristic evening featuring four authors reading their most electric writing for seven
minutes or less before a panel of three all-star judges. Two finalists compete in the Literary Death Match finale to decide the ultimate winner.

From writing a letter to your future self to a Futuristic Big Sing, London Literature Festival offers a diverse range of free events including workshops, panel discussions and live performances for all ages as well as a number of free events celebrating National Poetry Day (6 October).

POWER OF POWER WEEKEND (8 – 9 OCTOBER)
The festival also includes the final weekend of Power of Power (8 – 9 October) which explores the forces which control our world today. Highlights of the weekend include a conversation between two great Irish writers Edna O’Brien, author of the controversial and groundbreaking The Country Girls and Eimear McBride, author of Bailey’s Prize winner A Girl is a Half-formed Thing who also read from their new novels; Booker shortlisted author Deborah Levy leads a panel discussion on the dangers and delights of desire; Nigerian-American writer Teju Cole talks about his new collection of essays which gathers together Cole’s writing on subjects as diverse as Virginia Woolf and Boko Haram; and in an exclusive London event Michel Faber discusses his new collection of poems, Undying, which explore his coming to terms with the loss of his wife. Further panel discussions over the weekend explore issues such as The Rise of Sex Robots with author and activist Kat Banyard, Tales from the Refugee Crisis with French-Norwegian poet Caroline Bergvall and Sex in South Asia.

# ENDS #

FULL EVENT LISTINGS BELOW

For more information on ticket onsale dates please see listings below, visit the Southbank Centre website southbankcentre.co.uk/london-literature-festival or call 020 7960 4200

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Please find a link to press images here.

LISTINGS

We Are All Human: Art by Offenders, Secure Patients and Detainees from the 2016 Koestler Awards
Curated by Benjamin Zephaniah
15 September - 13 November 2016, Spirit Level, FREE
An exhibition showcasing artwork produced in the UK’s prisons, secure hospitals and immigration removal centres, and by ex-offenders in the community. The display includes painting, music, writing and ceramics as well as traditional prison crafts such as matchstick modelling. This year’s exhibition has been curated by the critically acclaimed writer and poet Benjamin Zephaniah who has selected from over 6,000 artworks submitted to the 2016 Koestler Awards.
**WEDNESDAY 5 OCTOBER**

**The Great Time Machine Challenge**  
5 - 16 October 2016, 10am-11pm, Clore Ballroom, FREE  
Throughout September, school children will be designing and building a Time Machine which will be in residence during London Literature Festival. Visit the Time Machine and leave a message to tell us what your Time Machine would do.

**Wells’ Women**  
5 October 2016, 6.30pm, Clore Ballroom, FREE  
On the 150th anniversary of Wells’ birth, a panel of experts including Louise Treger and Matthew Sweet reappraise the life and legacy of this genre defining writer.

**The Time Machine**  
5 October 2016, 7.30pm, Royal Festival Hall, On sale to members 12 July, General Public 13 July  
Listen to a rehearsed reading of HG Wells’ classic work of science fiction read by a cast of three actors.

**The Future of the Short Story – Revolution or Evolution?**  
5 October 2016, 7.45pm, Level Five Function Room, On sale to members 12 July, General Public 13 July  
In celebration of the 2016 BBC National Short Story Award with Booktrust we are delighted to welcome a panel including the 2016 BBC NSSA winner plus judges Kei Miller and Di Speirs.

**The Resonance FM Poetry Library Takeover**  
5 October 2016, 8pm, Poetry Library, On sale to members 2 August, General Public 3 August  
Join us as Resonance FM take over the library for an evening, inviting special poetry-loving guests from across the arts to delve into the shelves and explore what poetry means to them. The event will be aired live to Resonance FM.

**THURSDAY 6 OCTOBER**

**National Poetry Day**  
6 October 2016, All Day, Clore Ballroom, FREE  
Celebrate National Poetry Day with a range of free events exploring the theme ‘Messages’ throughout the day.

**Margaret Atwood: Hag-Seed**  
6 October 2016, 7.30pm, Royal Festival Hall, On sale to members 12 July, General Public 13 July  
Come and spend an evening with the bestselling novelist Margaret Atwood as she discusses her new novel, Hag-Seed, a reimagining of Shakespeare’s The Tempest. In conversation with Erica Wagner.

**Cosmic Ashoke: An Evening of Afro-Futurism**  
6 October 2016, 7.30 - 9pm, Blue Room, On sale to members 2 August, General Public 3 August  
Cosmic Ashoke will explore the rhythm of afro-futuristic poetry, music and micro-lectures through unique visual and auditory experiences. Produced by ARTIVIST UK & Afro Futures UK.

**The Good Immigrant**  
6 October 2016, 7.45pm, Level Five Function Room, On sale to members 12 July, General Public 13 July  
Hear readings from a new crowd funded anthology, The Good Immigrant, which shines a light on the experiences of immigrants who have arrived in the UK. Featuring contributors Nikesh Shukla, Riz Ahmed, Chimene Suleyman and Kieran Yates.

**FRIDAY 7 OCTOBER**

**The Age of Bowie**  
7 October 2016, 6.30pm, Clore Ballroom, FREE  
A panel of experts and authors celebrate and explore Bowie’s life and legacy, including biographer Paul Morley, the author of The Age of Bowie: How David Bowie Made a World of Difference and Tiffany Murray, editor of Fill Your Heart, anthology of Writers on Bowie. This event is followed by a Bowie Big Sing broadcast live to Radio 3.

**Polari**  
7 October, 7.30pm, Weston Pavilion, On sale to members 2 August, General Public 3 August  
The London-based LGBT literary salon features its founder Paul Burston discussing his eagerly anticipated fifth novel, The Black Path. The evening will also showcase readings by Namita Chakrabarty, North Morgan, Alexis Gregory and Amy Acre plus the winner of The Polari First Book Prize 2016 will be revealed.
SATURDAY 8 OCTOBER

A Letter To My Future Self
8 October 2016, 12noon - 5pm, Clore Ballroom, FREE
Join writers and artists in these drop in creative writing and crafting family workshops and make letters to the future you.

The Kids Are The Future
8 October 2016, 4 - 5pm, Clore Ballroom, FREE
Our panel of children discuss what the future holds for them and invites families and children in the audience to take part in the debate.

Tongue Fu for Kids
8 October 2016, 2pm, Blue Room, FREE
Poet Chris Redmond (BBC Ten Pieces) created Tongue Fu with bassist/composer Riaan Vosloo (Jamie Cullum band) in 2007 to find out what would happen if they made a show with no rehearsal. Tongue Fu bring you their first offering for a younger audience, as part of London Literature Festival. Leading poets, storytellers and rappers will perform reflections on the future, with incredible improvised music from the Tongue Fu Band.

Octavia & The Handmaid’s Tale
8 October 2016, 8 - 9pm, Clore Ballroom, FREE
Poetry group Octavia respond to Margaret Atwood’s seminal dystopia The Handmaid’s Tale in an evening of poetry and spoken word.

SUNDAY 9 OCTOBER

Futuristic Big Sing
9 October 2016, 3.30 - 5pm, Clore Ballroom, FREE
Come and sing songs of the future for the Futuristic Big Sing. All ages, abilities and experiences welcome.

Women Writers of the Future: The SI Leeds Prize
9 October 2016, 7pm, Level Five Function Room, On sale to members 12 July, General Public 13 July
Acclaimed author and literary critic Bernardine Evaristo hosts a roundtable discussion on diversity in publishing with the shortlist of the 2016 inaugural SI Leeds Literary Prize (a national, biennial award for black and Asian women writers in the UK). The event will feature readings from the shortlist, plus the opportunity to meet the writers. Supported by the Southbank Centre and Peepal Tree Press.

POWER OF POWER WEEKEND, 8 – 9 OCTOBER

southbankcentre.co.uk/festivals-series/desire-weekend

Power of Power / The Rise of Sex Robots: The Future of Sex, Prostitution and Porn
8 October 2016, 1pm, St Paul’s Roof Pavilion, On Sale £8
Panel discussion with Kat Banyard, Wendy Jones, Patrick Cash and Kathleen Richardson

Power of Power / The Panama Papers: How the Powerful Hide Their Wealth
8 October 2016, 3pm, St Paul’s Roof Pavilion, On Sale £8
Panel discussion with David Whyte, Mark Greif and others.

Power of Power / Edna O’Brien and Eimear McBride in Conversation
8 October 2016, 3pm, Level 5 Function Room, On Sale £8
Two great Irish writers read from their new novels and discuss the often unexpected consequences of love.

Power of Power / Desire for Freedom: Tales from the Refugee Crisis
8 October 2016, 5pm, St Paul’s Roof Pavilion, On Sale £8
Panel Discussion with authors including Kamila Shamsie, Josh Cohen and Caroline Bergvall with readings from tales inspired by refugees. This event takes place in partnership with Refugee Tales.

Power of Power / Dangerous Desires: Deborah Levy
8 October 2016, 7pm, St Paul’s Roof Pavilion, On Sale £8
Join Booker shortlisted Deborah Levy and a panel of authors including Tommy Wieringa as they explore the dangers and delights of desire.

**Power of Power / Sex in South Asia**
9 October 2016, 1pm, St Paul's Roof Pavilion, On Sale £8
Panel Discussion with Seema Anand, Rachel Dwyer and Sonia Faleiro
*This event has been produced in partnership with the DSC Prize for South Asian Literature*

**Power of Power / Lonely in New York**
9 October 2016, 3pm, St Paul's Roof Pavilion, On Sale £8
Panel Discussion with Olivia Laing, Megan Bradbury and Teju Cole

**Power of Power / Aurora Orchestra with Katherine Parkinson & Samuel West**
**Kreutzer vs Kreutzer**
9 October 2016, 4pm, Royal Festival Hall, On Sale
Laura Wade: Kreutzer vs Kreutzer - a play for voices
featuring:
Leos Janácek: String Quartet No.1 (The Kreutzer Sonata)
Aurora Orchestra; Tamara Harvey, director; Katherine Parkinson, The Woman; Samuel West, The Man; Thomas Gould, violin; Ana-Maria Vera, piano.

**Power of Power / Teju Cole: Home Strange Home**
9 October 2016, 5pm, St Paul's Roof Pavilion, On Sale £8
Teju Cole discusses his new book of essays and offers provocative insights into literature, history and the most pressing issues of the moment.

**Power of Power / Michel Faber: Living in the Future and Longing for the Past Lives Matter**
9 October 2016, 7pm, St Paul's Roof Pavilion, On Sale £8
Michel Faber discusses his most recent novel *The Book of Strange New Things* and his new collection of poems, *Undying*

**MONDAY 10 OCTOBER**

**The Past is the Future Too: Alan Garner and Deep Time**
10 October 2016, 7.45pm, Level Five Function Room, On sale to members 12 July, General Public 13 July
Erica Wagner, Neel Mukherjee and Salley Vickers explore the work of Alan Garner

**The Poetry Library Book Club / Frank O’Hara: Selected Poems**
10th October, 6.30pm, Poetry Library, On sale to members 2 August, General Public 3 August
To mark the 50th anniversary of Frank O’Hara’s death, join a discussion and readings of his Selected Poems (Random House, 2009), edited by Mark Ford.

**Screening of My Scientology Movie plus exclusive Q&A with Louis Theroux**
10th October, 7.30pm, Royal Festival Hall, On sale to members 2 August, General Public 3 August
Watch a screening of Louis Theroux’s first theatrical feature documentary, from the Oscar winning producer of *Searching for Sugar Man* and *Man on Wire*, which sees the renowned filmmaker delve into the world of Scientology, followed by an exclusive Q&A with Theroux.

**TUESDAY 11 OCTOBER**

**Caitlin Moran's Moranifesto for Girls**
11 October 2016, 3pm, Royal Festival Hall, On sale to schools
Caitlin Moran returns to Southbank Centre with her Moranifesto for girls as part of our International Day of the Girl celebrations. Followed by a conversation between Caitlin and Jude Kelly, Southbank Centre Artistic Director and founder of WOW – Women of the World festival.

**Richard Dawkins: Selfish Genes, Future Memes**
In a special event celebrating the publications of four landmark books -- The Selfish Gene (1976), The Blind Watchmaker (1986), Climbing Mount Improbable (1996) and The God Delusion (2006), Richard Dawkins gives a keynote address which looks back across the span of his previous work, and explores how his own thought has evolved.

Transhumanism: Goat Man and other animals
11 October 2016, 7.45pm, Blue Room, On sale to members 12 July, General Public 13 July
Transhumanist Thomas Thwaites discusses his experience of using prosthetic limbs to transform himself into a goat alongside other speakers.

Future Planet
11 October 2016, 7.45pm, Level 5 Function Room, On sale to members 2 August, General Public 3 August
A panel of writers and experts including Gaia Vince, Khairani Barokka and Sharon Millar explore life in the age of human beings, and what may be around the corner for the blue planet.

WEDNESDAY 12 OCTOBER

Meet Your Microbes: Ed Yong on the Future Potential of Bacteria
12 October 2016, 6.30pm, Clore Ballroom, FREE
Award winning science writer Ed Yong introduces us to the microbes which call our bodies home, protect our health, and grant us incredible abilities.

Books with Infinite Endings: Alejandro Zambra and Iain Pears
12 October 2016, 7.15pm, Blue Room, On sale to members 12 July, General Public 13 July
Two acclaimed authors, Alejandro Zambra and Iain Pears, present groundbreaking new works which offer distinctive new ways for a reader to engage with a text.

Shared Reading: Rimbaud's Illuminations
12 October 2016, 8pm, Poetry Library, On sale to members 2 August, General Public 3 August
Live curated event allowing each member of the audience to become a part of the performance of the English translation of this text.

THURSDAY 13 OCTOBER

The Invention of Time: Simon Garfield
13 October 2016, 6pm, Clore Ballroom, On sale to members 2 August, General Public 3 August
Award winning and best-selling author of alternative histories, Simon Garfield takes us on a tour across time, from the creation of ten hour clocks, to new industrialised time arriving by steam train, to borrowed time in Calcutta to show us how everything changes, especially time itself.

The Future of Graphic Novels
13 October 2016, 7.15pm, Blue Room, On sale to members 12 July, General Public 13 July
Meet a panel of graphic novelists, including award winning Isabel Greenberg and Tom Gauld, who are pushing the boundaries of the form, and finding playful and provocative new ways to tell their stories.

FRIDAY 14 OCTOBER

Roll Over Atlantic: John Agard reimagines the New World Enterprise
14 - 16 October, 7.30pm, Blue Room, On sale to members 12 July, General Public 13 July
In a one-person show that mixes the tides of cabaret and calypso with mischievous satirical wit, Caribbean-British poet, John Agard, reimagines the notorious New World Enterprise of Christopher Columbus. Directed by Mark C. Hewitt, musical backing by Thomas Arnold (Cockney Rebel / Stomp's Lost and Found Orchestra) and supported by Tilt.

SATURDAY 15 OCTOBER

Future Cities
15 October 2016, 1pm, Level Five Function Room, On sale to members 12 July, General Public 13 July
Panel Discussion with Lauren Elkin

Chinese Sci-Fi: Cixin Liu and Xiaolu Guo
15 October 2016, 2pm, Weston Pavilion, On sale to members 12 July, General Public 13 July
Award winning author Cixin Liu in conversation with filmmaker and novelist, Xiaolu Guo
Iraqi Sci-Fi: Hassan Blasim
15 October 2016, 4pm, Weston Pavilion, On sale to members 12 July, General Public 13 July
Celebrating a new anthology, Iraq+100, a group of contributors and its editor Hassan Blasim and translator Jonathan Wright offer an insight into the fate of Iraq, and the power of science fiction to offer a glimpse of the future.

South African Sci-Fi: Lauren Beukes
15 October 2016, 6pm, Weston Pavilion, On sale to members 2 August, General Public 3 August
In a rare London event, internationally acclaimed South African writer Lauren Beukes reads her fiction and talks about the relationship between the present and the future.

SUNDAY 16 OCTOBER
The Poetry Library Open Day: Living in Future Times
16 October 2016, 12noon - 7pm, St Paul's Roof Pavilion, FREE
Explore The Poetry Library's special collections and artists' books at this year’s open day which invites you to experience the poetic future. Artist and writer Nancy Campbell will be in residence on the day inviting you to take part in her Polar Tombola.

Is Sci-Fi a Female Invention?
16 October 2016, 1pm, Level 5 Function Room, On sale to members 2 August, General Public 3 August
A panel including Naomi Alderman, Yasmin Khan and Lauren Beukes look across an international range of science fiction and discuss whether science fiction was a female invention.

Are We At the Limits of Knowledge? Marcus Du Sautoy
16 October 2016, 3pm, Weston Pavilion, On sale to members 12 July, General Public 13 July
Keynote Address with Marcus Du Sautoy, Professor of Mathematics at the University of Oxford, and Simonyi Chair for the Public Understanding of Science, followed by a moderated Q&A.

Naomi Alderman: The Power
16 October 2016, 4pm, Level 5 Function Room, On sale to members 2 August, General Public 3 August
In an exclusive preview event before publication, Naomi Alderman reads from her visceral new novel The Power, which tells the story of four girls and women who struggle against daily oppressions and sexism. Until one day they find their lives radically altered by the power to inflict lightning bolts of pain, and even death, at the flick of their fingers.

Etgar Keret
16 October 2016, 5pm, Weston Pavilion, On sale to members 12 July, General Public 13 July
Israeli writer Etgar Keret discusses his new book of essays, Seven Good Years

Literary Death Match
16 October, 7.30pm, Weston Pavilion, On sale to members 12 July, General Public 13 July
The lit- and comedy-rich evening features four authors who read their most electric writing for seven minutes or less before a panel of three all-star judges. The judges then respond with brilliant commentary before choosing two finalists to compete in the Literary Death Match finale.

Living in Future Times Poetry Reading
16 October 2016, 8pm, Poetry Library, FREE
This live evening performance sees three contemporary poets, including Nancy Campbell and Nisha Ramayya, read exclusive work written in response to The Poetry Library Open Day.

YOUNG ADULT LITERATURE WEEKENDER, 15 - 16 OCTOBER

Saturday 15 October, 11:45am – 5pm
Hosted by Yomi Sode.
Clare Ballroom, Level 3 Function Room, Sunley Pavilion, On sale to members 12 July, General Public 13 July
Features workshops, mentoring, the YA Book Club and Market, plus talks on dystopia, love, rebels and epic adventures with writers Malorie Blackman, Holly Bourne, Steven Camden (Polarbear), Emily Drabble and Sally Green.

Sunday 16 October, 11:45am – 5pm
Hosted by Lionheart.
Clare Ballroom, Level 3 Function Room, Sunley Pavilion, On sale to members 12 July, General Public 13 July
Features workshops, mentoring, the YA Book Club and Market, plus talks on friendship, feminism and getting published with Hollie McNish, Sara Barnard, Mariam Khan, Juno Dawson, Patrice Lawrence, David Owens, and Harriet Reuter Hapgood.
NOTES TO EDITORS

About Southbank Centre
Southbank Centre is the UK’s largest arts centre, occupying a 21 acre site that sits in the midst of London’s most vibrant cultural quarter on the South Bank of the Thames. The site has an extraordinary creative and architectural history stretching back to the 1951 Festival of Britain. Southbank Centre is home to the Royal Festival Hall, Queen Elizabeth Hall, Purcell Room and Hayward Gallery as well as The Saison Poetry Library and the Arts Council Collection. For further information please visit www.southbankcentre.co.uk. Southbank Centre is carrying out vital restoration work on the Hayward Gallery, Queen Elizabeth Hall and Purcell Room to make the buildings fit for future generations to enjoy, more information can be found here: letthelightin.southbankcentre.co.uk

Let the Light In
In September 2015, our iconic Brutalist arts venues Queen Elizabeth Hall, Purcell Room and Hayward Gallery closed their doors for two years so we could give them the essential refurbishment they deserve. Renowned for their architectural significance, the buildings are most importantly recognised for the exceptional performances and exhibitions that have happened in them since they first opened nearly 50 years ago. The £25 million refurbishment project has been funded by Arts Council England, Heritage Lottery Fund and through the generous support of Southbank Centre friends. We launched the Let The Light In campaign to raise £3.9 million and have just £1.9 million left to raise so we can transform these buildings for the reopening in 2018 and for future generations to enjoy. For more information, visit: letthelightin.southbankcentre.co.uk