



CSG SIXTH FORM MASTERCLASSES

AUTUMN PROGRAMME 2016

CAMDEN SCHOOL FOR GIRLS SIXTH FORM
SANDALL ROAD
LONDON
NW5 2DB

CSG SIXTH FORM MASTERCLASSES

No exams.

No grades.

No measurement or quantification of either students or teachers.

Just interesting speakers and stimulating discussions.

- A masterclass is an extra-curricular lesson delivered by teachers from CSG or visiting experts in various fields.
- Each masterclass will either provide an introduction to a subject which is not taught at A Level – or explore a new aspect of a subject you are familiar with - taking you beyond the confines of the A Level syllabus.
- Most sessions should be accessible and of interest to students who study the subject in question, as well as those who do not. We hope that a student who is studying sciences would still be interested in poetry and music, and a student of the arts would be interested in scientific questions.
- Hopefully attendance will encourage students to read further and perhaps inspire some to pursue a subject at university.
- Aim to arrive at S18 (Sixth Form Hall) soon after 3.35pm – usually there will be tea, coffee and biscuits – the session will begin just before 4pm and finish by 5pm - but watch out for occasional exceptions.

Also find us on Facebook: [CSG Masterclasses/History of Ideas](#) – click ‘like’ to get updates and reminders.

Unfortunately, due to severe and ongoing government cuts to the funding of state education since 2010 (and particularly of post-16 state education), it is with regret that we feel we have to make a charge for certain extra-curricular opportunities such as these.

- **Attendance is free for students on bursaries or free school meals.**
- For students who are not on free school meals or a bursary the cost is £10 for a ‘season ticket’ to attend as many masterclasses as you like in one term – so if you come to all 10 that is only £1 per session!
- Parents also welcome - £5 for one masterclass or £20 for a one term ‘season ticket’
- Pay through Parent Pay

We hope that you will find something of interest in these masterclasses - and that you enjoy them as much as we enjoy preparing and delivering them.

JON STUBBINGS

CSG MASTERCLASS PROGRAMME CO-ORDINATOR

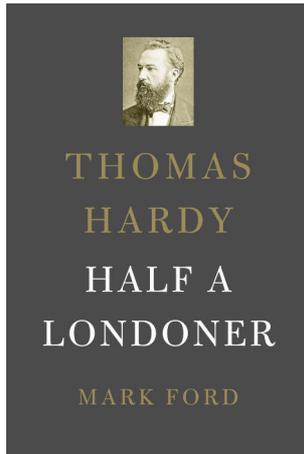
THOMAS HARDY - NOVELIST AND POET

MARK FORD

THURSDAY 3RD NOV 3.40PM

S18

Thomas Hardy arguably succeeded Charles Dickens as the most popular novelist of the second half of the Victorian period. Although most associated with the South of England (referred to as Wessex in his novels) he also spent important formative years in London before achieving fame and success. His loss of faith in Christianity, combined with his willingness to challenge the sexual double standards of his day, however, resulted in increasingly hostile reviews of his later novels, as a result of which he abandoned writing novels in order to concentrate on writing poetry for the last 40 years of his life. Mark Ford is a poet and professor of English at UCL. He has edited *London: A History in Verse* and two collections of his own poetry are published by Faber and Faber. His latest book, *Thomas Hardy – Half A Londoner* has just come out. In this masterclass he will explore the reasons why Hardy is considered to be a master of both prose and verse.



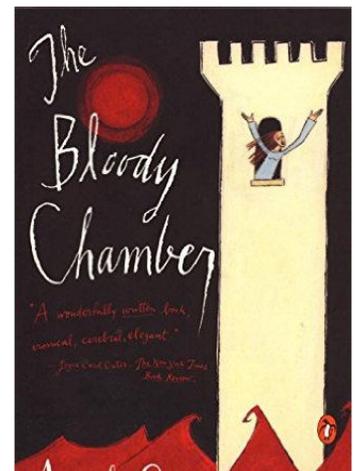
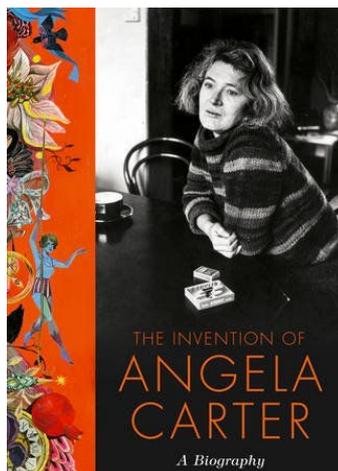
ANGELA CARTER AND *THE BLOODY CHAMBER*

EDMUND GORDON

MONDAY 7TH NOV 3.40PM

S18

The writer Angela Carter has become something of a feminist icon in recent years but, although it would be true to say that sex and gender are important concerns in her fiction, it would be a mistake to stereotype her work in any potentially reductive way. Carter was playful, mischievous, and provocative (she had no time for setting up feminist myths as replacements for patriarchal ones for example) – and these qualities are present in abundance in her short story collection *The Bloody Chamber*. Edmund Gordon, Lecturer in Creative Writing at King's College London, whose new biography of Carter has just been published, will give an outline of Carter's life and work with special reference to her re-workings of gothic tropes and fairy tale archetypes in *The Bloody Chamber*.



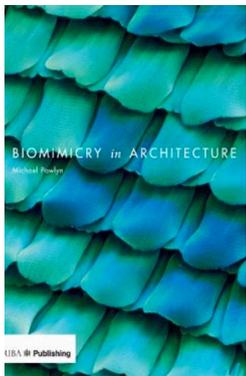
DESIGNING ECO-UTOPIAS USING BIOMIMICRY

MICHAEL PAWLYN

MONDAY 14TH NOV 3.40PM

S18

Most people now accept the case for environmental sustainability and many wonder how the debate will move forward over the next few decades. Some commentators have asserted that biomimicry (using natural patterns and structures found in nature) will be one of the main design tools that facilitate the shift from the industrial age to the ecological age of mankind. In this talk architect Michael Pawlyn will outline what biomimicry is as a design discipline and then describe a number of projects that illustrate what can be achieved by using biological adaptations as a source of inspiration. He will present a new concept for an office building, a radical design for a data centre that uses a fraction of the energy of conventional approaches and the ambitious Sahara Forest Project. The last of these is a scheme that brings together a cluster of synergistic technologies in desert areas and offers the potential to grow crops in some of the most water-stressed parts of the world while generating clean energy and reversing desertification.



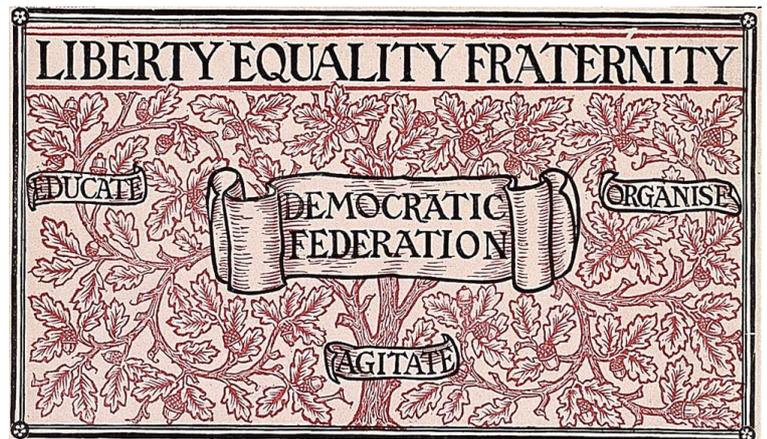
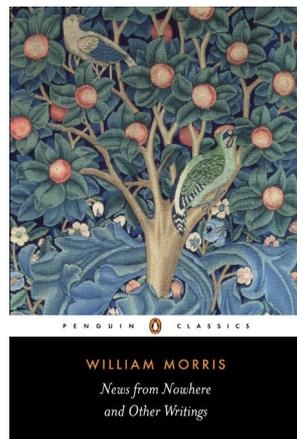
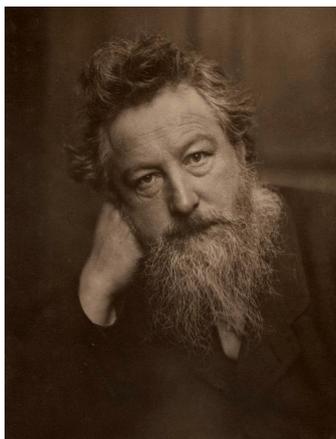
THE UTOPIAN VISION OF WILLIAM MORRIS

DAVID ARONSOHN

THURSDAY 17TH NOV 3.40PM

S18

William Morris (1834-96) was an artist, designer (of furniture, wallpaper, tiles and textiles), a craftsman, a businessman, poet, political activist and all-round visionary. Recoiling in horror from the filth, squalor and exploitation of advanced industrial capitalism (with its nightmarish mixture of machinery and back breaking toil) he imagined instead a better world in which the power of art, design and craftsmanship could enrich and improve people's lives – allowing them to live in harmony with nature. In this masterclass David Aronsohn will talk about Morris's art and design while Jon Stubbings will contribute a section about his environmentalism and socialism as expressed in the Utopian novel *News From Nowhere*.



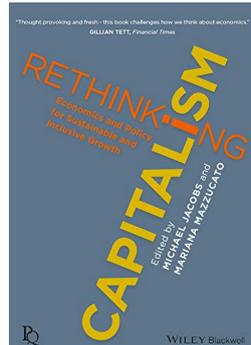
RETHINKING CAPITALISM

MARIANA MAZZUCATO

MONDAY 21ST NOV 3.40PM

S18

Leading economist Mariana Mazzucato has been described as one of the 'most important innovation thinkers' of our time. Her previous book, *The Entrepreneurial State*, set out to de-bunk myths about the public versus the private sector. In this masterclass she will be talking about the new book which she has co-edited, *Rethinking Capitalism*. She, and the contributors to the book, take as their starting point the view that there is currently a crisis in Western Capitalism and that new approaches are necessary in order to meet the challenges of inequality and climate change. She will argue that a radical rethink of Capitalism must inform future policy making if we are to achieve sustainable and inclusive growth.



Competition: Write a 300 word (maximum) radical definition of 'Rethinking Capitalism'. Email or hand in entries to Mr Stubbings. The winner will receive a free copy of the book.

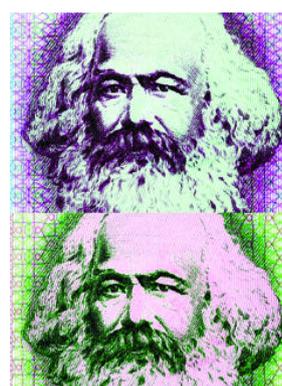
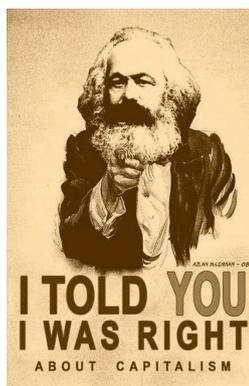
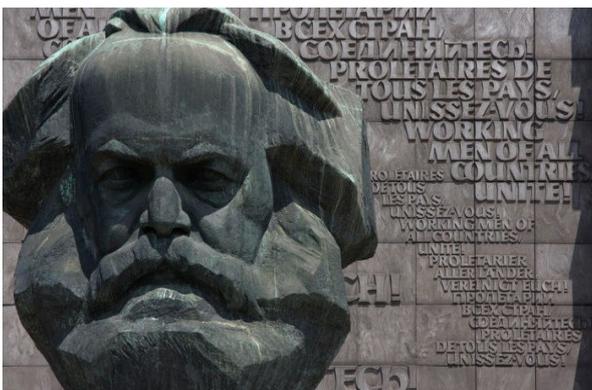
RETHINKING MARXISM

LUCIA PRADELLA

THURSDAY 24TH NOV 3.40PM

S18

When the Berlin Wall came down and the Soviet Union collapsed in 1989 many people believed that the ideas of Karl Marx, who had prophesied the inevitable triumph of communism, would be consigned to the dustbin of history. Almost thirty years on things are not looking quite so rosy for unfettered free market Capitalism however. Might the insights of the old Father Christmas lookalike still offer possible solutions to the world's problems? In this masterclass Lucia Pradella, Lecturer in International Political Economy at King's College London, will remind us what Marx was saying in the first place, and explore whether he is still relevant to these times of growing inequality and economic instability.



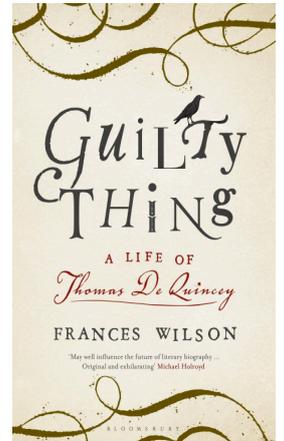
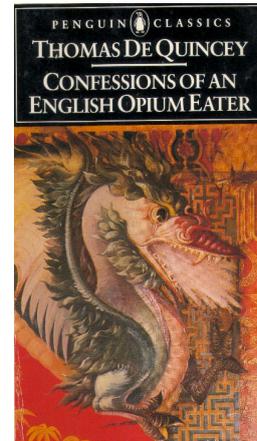
THOMAS DE QUINCEY – OPIUM FUELLED UTOPIAS AND DYSTOPIAS OF THE MIND

FRANCES WILSON

MONDAY 28TH NOV 3.40PM

S18

Writer and critic Frances Wilson last spoke at Camden School for Girls on the subject of Dorothy Wordsworth – and her latest book on Thomas De Quincey returns to the subject matter of the life of a troubled Romantic visionary. De Quincey, like Dorothy Wordsworth, with whom he was briefly linked as a potential marriage partner, in some ways failed to achieve his full potential as a writer. His fame today rests on a small handful of essays and the autobiographical *Confessions of an English Opium Eater*, in which he outlines both the pleasures of Opium use, which allowed him to create utopias in his mind, and the pains of opium addiction, which were decidedly more ‘dystopian’. Frances Wilson’s biography of De Quincey, *Guilty Thing*, was published earlier this year to critical acclaim – and in this masterclass she will be exploring both the extraordinary life and the work of this fascinating writer.



ENGINEERING MATERIALS

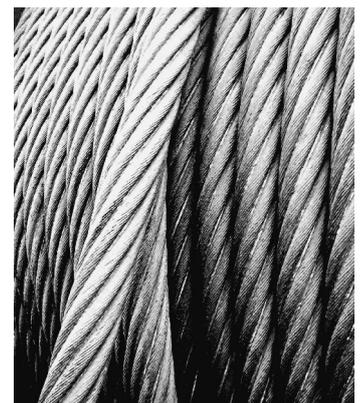
RONAN MACDONALD

MONDAY 28TH NOV 3.40PM

ROOM 313

The properties of many materials used in engineering - steel, copper, glass etc. - can be altered by controlled heating and cooling. In this practical session you will handle and change some materials, and learn how you are changing their microscopic structure. Change steel from highly plastic to brittle. Find out why car windscreens are much tougher than ordinary window glass, although they are the same substance. Why is the sharp edge of a chisel much harder than the rest of the blade? Come to this masterclass to find out.

Please note venue – the science lab Room 313 – this is the only masterclass that is NOT in S18



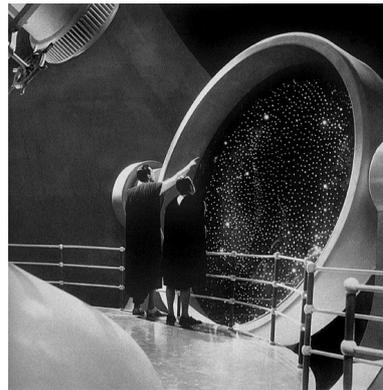
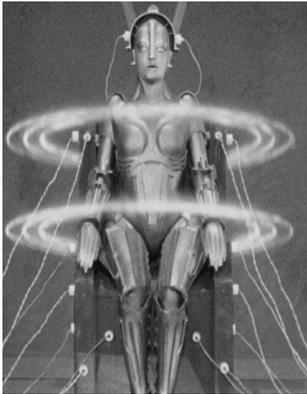
UTOPIAS AND SCIENCE FICTION

DAN SMITH

THURSDAY 1ST DEC 3.40PM

S18

Francis Bacon's *New Atlantis* and Mary Shelley's *Frankenstein* can be seen as the first examples of the crossover between Utopias/Dystopias and Science Fiction, and perhaps as instigating the Science Fiction genre itself. However, the modern author most associated with Utopian/Dystopian Science Fiction, and with influencing the development of this fertile territory in the 20th Century, is H.G. Wells, in books such as *The Time Machine*, *When the Sleeper Wakes*, *A Modern Utopia* and *The Shape of Things to Come*. Dan Smith, Senior Lecturer in Fine Art Theory at Chelsea College of Arts, will explore this fascinating crossover through a survey of the literature, the popular culture that it spawned in film and TV, and the way in which these ideas continue to be represented in contemporary art.



CARDIOTHORACIC SURGERY

PROFESSOR MARTIN ELLIOT

MONDAY 5TH DEC 3.40PM

S18

Martin Elliott is Professor of Paediatric Cardiothoracic Surgery at University College London and the 37th Professor of Physic at Gresham College London. He is Director of the National Service for Severe Tracheal Disease in Children, based at Great Ormond Street Hospital (GOSH) His most recent research project led to the first stem-cell supported tracheal transplant in a child and to expansion of research in tracheal tissue engineering. In this masterclass he will be talking about his work as a surgeon and research scientist and the intricacies of working with children. He will share some of the astonishing experiences – funny, scary, sad – that have made his job so satisfying.





Contact: jstubbings@csg.school for further information or to sign up for any of the sessions.



CSG Masterclasses/History of Ideas

– sign up to receive updates and announcements.