



# HM

## HUMBER MOUTH

HULL LITERATURE  
FESTIVAL

2 - 8  
OCT

17

**25**  
YEARS  
HULL  
LITERATURE  
FESTIVAL

 **Hull**  
City Council

 **HULL**  
2017  
UK  
City  
of  
Culture



#### Festival Office.

City Arts Unit  
Hull City Council  
Pacific Exchange, 40 High Street,  
Hull HU1 1PS

Telephone 01482 300300

#### Festival direction:

City Arts Unit  
Shane Rhodes  
Hull Libraries

#### Festival E-mail.

cityartsenquiries@hullcc.gov.uk

#### Marketing & PR E-mail.

chrisie@wreckingballpress.com

#### Festival Website.

[humbermouth.com](http://humbermouth.com)

#### Festival Twitter.

[Humber Mouth](#)

#### Facebook.

[Humber Mouth Literature Festival](#)

#### Tickets.

Please see individual events for details.

#### Access.

Every effort has been made to ensure that festival venues are accessible for wheelchair users. If you have any specific requirements please let the venues or the festival office know.

Please see the website for information about live captioned events.

Available in large print on request.

Contact the festival office.

#### Thanks.

Thanks to everyone involved and those who have supported this year's festival.

Design: [humandesign.co.uk](http://humandesign.co.uk)

Cover image: Sarah Jane Daniels

## INTRODUCTION

2017.

### Shane Rhodes - Artistic Director

This year's Humber Mouth Festival is truly special and unique. Not only does it take place in Hull's City of Culture year and follow on from the prestigious Contains Strong Language Festival, but Humber Mouth is also celebrating its 25th anniversary.

Reflecting on a quarter of a century of literature festivals, I found myself thinking what an achievement it has been for the city. Congratulations and thanks are due to those who had the foresight and determination to give Hull the festival it deserved. It is that same vision and tenacity which has enabled the City of Culture project to take root and flourish. It is a team effort and thanks must also go to City Arts Unit, Hull City Council, Arts Council England, all the contributors and volunteers, the writers and their agents who have all made the festival happen every year. And, of course, thanks to the audience who have supported The Humber Mouth.

The Humber Mouth is now an integral feature of the city's cultural calendar and it is a real privilege to be its current artistic director. I have always seen my role as a creative one and it has been my

aim each year to present a diverse and distinctive programme which is both stimulating and accessible and not just giving a platform to writers doing the rounds flogging new titles. This year is no exception and when you browse through these pages I trust you will agree. I hope you will enjoy this year's offer and that the writers coming to Hull will experience the renewed pride we have in our city and see what makes The Humber Mouth Festival unique.

Onwards and upwards.

... and I will leave the final words to the festival's first artistic director.

*"Delighted that this wonderful Festival has lasted and blossomed over 25 years since John Osborne and I founded it in 1992. 1992 - the 350th anniversary of Hull's refusal to Charles I; 1992 - the multiple anniversary of poets resident in Hull including Stevie Smith, Philip Larkin, Douglas Dunn, Andrew Motion and Sean O' Brien; 1992 - the arrival of the Single European Market with Hull Gateway to Europe! Congratulations and here's to the next 25! Cheers."*

**David Porter - founding director  
Hull Literature Festival 1992 - 1999**

HM3.



MONDAY 2ND OCTOBER

2017.

19:30 - 21:00

Hull Central Library, Albion Street, Hull HU1 3TF

## WILDE WITHOUT THE BOY.

£5 / £4 concessions

Tickets: [humbermouth.com](http://humbermouth.com)

Booking Office: 01482 30 2017

"Wilde Without the Boy" is a dramatisation of *De Profundis*, Oscar Wilde's searing letter to his lover, written from Reading Gaol. Wilde had been imprisoned for gross indecency. Glimpse into the bruised soul of one of the greatest geniuses ever to have lived.

Performer: **Gerard Logan**  
(Olivier Nominee, Stage's "Best Solo Performer of the 2011 Edinburgh Festival").

Director: **Gareth Armstrong**

HM4.

TUESDAY 3RD OCTOBER

2017.

20:00 - 22:00

Hull Central Library, Albion Street, Hull HU1 3TF

## MONICA ALI: WHOSE STORY IS THIS?

£7 / £5 concessions

Tickets: [humbermouth.com](http://humbermouth.com)

Booking Office: 01482 30 2017

Who does a story belong to? Should writers be concerned about 'cultural appropriation'? Should they stick to the old adage, 'write what you know'? Is authenticity important or irrelevant? Monica Ali delivers a brief talk that explores these issues, and seeks to answer the question: what is fiction for? She will also be reading from her work, and taking questions from the audience.

Monica Ali is an award-winning, bestselling writer whose novels include *Brick Lane*, *In the Kitchen* and *Untold Story*. She was chosen as one of Granta's 2003 Best of Young British Novelists. Her work has been translated into 26 languages, and she has judged a number of literary prizes including as Chair of the International Man Booker. She is a Fellow of the RSA and of the Orwell Prize, and she is currently Distinguished Writer in Residence at the University of Surrey.

Photo © Liz Emerson

HM5.



WEDNESDAY 4TH OCTOBER

2017.

16:00 - 18:00

Hull Central Library, Albion Street, Hull HU1 3TF

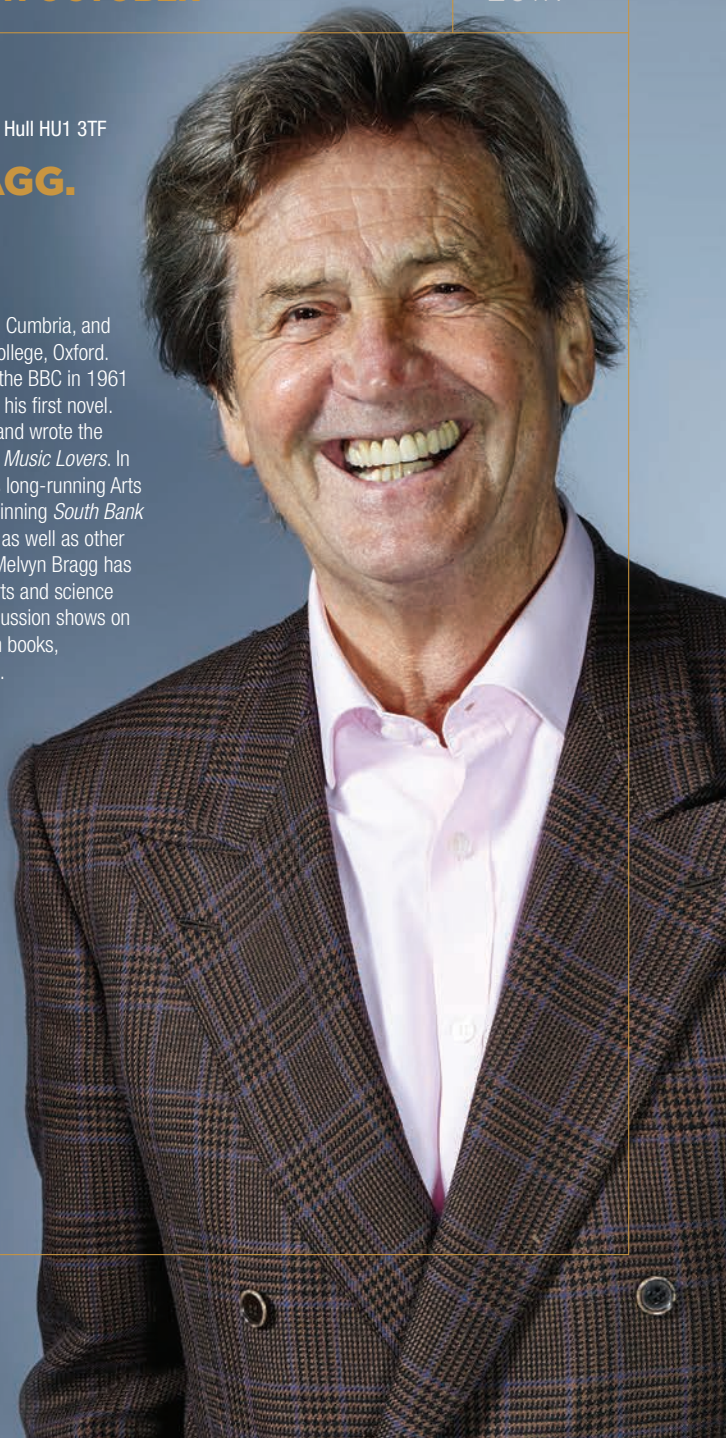
## MELVYN BRAGG.

£10 / £8 concessions

Tickets: [humbermouth.com](http://humbermouth.com)

Booking Office: 01482 30 2017

Melvyn Bragg was born in Wigton, Cumbria, and educated there and at Wadham College, Oxford. His broadcasting career began at the BBC in 1961 and soon afterwards he published his first novel. He collaborated with Ken Russell and wrote the 1970 film about Tchaikovsky, *The Music Lovers*. In 1977 Melvyn Bragg started LWT's long-running Arts programme, the multiple award-winning *South Bank Show*, making about 750 editions as well as other documentaries. In the meantime Melvyn Bragg has expanded his range, presenting arts and science programmes and marshalling discussion shows on BBC Radio, and writing non-fiction books, and several award-winning novels. He is an Honorary Fellow of the Royal Society and of The British Academy, and was given a Peerage in 1998.



HM6.

THURSDAY 5TH OCTOBER

2017.



20:00 - 22:00

Hull Central Library, Albion Street, Hull HU1 3TF

## KATHRYN WILLIAMS & LAURA BARNETT.

£5 / £4 concessions

Tickets: [humbermouth.com](http://humbermouth.com)

Booking Office: 01482 30 2017

Artists Laura Barnett and Kathryn Williams are welcomed back to Hull with their acclaimed collaboration based on Laura's novel *Greatest Hits*. The novel tells the story of Cass Williams, a fictional singer who had great success in the early 1970s, only to retire mysteriously at the height of her fame. Decades later, she decides to put

together a Greatest Hits album which causes her to reflect on her past. Laura says "It was clear to me that I wanted my character's musical output to have a life beyond the page." This desire led to the collaboration with Mercury Prize nominated singer-songwriter Kathryn Williams and the eponymous accompanying album to the novel *Greatest Hits*. This promises to be a great evening for fans of literature and music alike, with Laura reading from the novel and Kathryn performing songs relating to each reading.

Laura Barnett's debut novel *The Versions of Us* was a number one best seller with over 200,000 copies sold in the UK alone. Kathryn has enjoyed an 18 year career, having recently written songs inspired by Sylvia Plath's *The Bell Jar* which received much critical acclaim.

HM7.



FRIDAY 6TH OCTOBER

2017.

20:00 - 22:00

Hull Central Library,  
Albion Street, Hull HU1 3TF

## SARA PASCOE.

£10 / £8 concessions

Tickets: [humbermouth.com](http://humbermouth.com)

Booking Office: 01482 30 2017

Here to talk about her first book *Animal*; Sara Pascoe is a comedian who has appeared on *Live at The Apollo*, *Mock the Week*, *QI*, *Room 101*, *Never Mind the Buzzcocks* and *8 out of 10 Cats* as well as acting in *Twenty Twelve* and *The Thick of It* and writing columns for *The Guardian*. *Animal* explores theories of how the female body evolved alongside cultural analysis and personal experience. The book provides a fascinating insight into the forces that mould and affect modern women - and it's packed full of jokes too.



HM8.

SATURDAY 7TH OCTOBER

2017.

10.30 - 11.15

Hull Central Library, Albion Street, Hull HU1 3TF

## LEIGH HODGKINSON.

FREE / 3 to 7 years old

Tickets: [humbermouth.com](http://humbermouth.com)

Booking Office: 01482 30 2017

Leigh Hodgkinson writes and illustrates books for children. Her books have been translated into oodles of different languages around the world and have even won some awards too. She is art director and co-creator of an inventive new animated show called "*Olobob Top*" for CBeebies. Leigh likes swimming, buttons and cheese, but she's not so keen on slugs, tidying or parking. Come to Leigh's Troll Swap workshop, for some troll related stories and activities.



HM9.



SATURDAY 7TH OCTOBER

2017.



12:00 - 12:45

Hull Central Library, Albion Street, Hull HU1 3TF

## JARVIS.

FREE / 3 to 7 years old

Tickets: [humbermouth.com](http://humbermouth.com)

Booking Office: 01482 30 2017

Once upon a time, a guy decided to become a picture book maker. He tried really hard and even learnt how to do colouring in. And after meeting a whole load of really amazing characters he got to make some books. Come and join the winner of the 2017 V&A Award for Best Picture Book, Jarvis, for some fun, funny and brightly coloured picture book activities.



HM10.

14:30 - 15:30

Hull Central Library, Albion Street, Hull HU1 3TF

## ALEX WHEATLE YOUNG ADULT WRITING WORKSHOP.

FREE

Tickets: [humbermouth.com](http://humbermouth.com)

Booking Office: 01482 30 2017

Alex Wheatle, winner of the Guardian Children's Fiction Prize for his 2016 book *Crongton Knights* will run a writing workshop for teenagers aged 14-18. Alex was awarded an MBE for services to literature in 2008. His first YA book, *Liccle Bit*, was nominated for a Carnegie Medal in 2015. "Wheatle's writing is poetic, rhythmic and unique, remaking the English language with tremendous verve" - S. F. Said

SATURDAY 7TH OCTOBER

2017.



16:00 - 17:30

Hull Central Library, Albion Street, Hull HU1 3TF

## SALLY GARDNER.

£5 / £4 concessions

Tickets: [humbermouth.com](http://humbermouth.com)

Booking Office: 01482 30 2017

Sally Gardner is a multi-award-winning novelist whose work has been translated into more than

twenty-two languages. Her novel *Maggot Moon* won both the Costa Children's Book Prize and the Carnegie Medal 2013. Sally's genre-defying novel *The Double Shadow* was also longlisted for the Carnegie Medal 2013. Sally also won the 2005 Nestle Children's Book Prize for her debut novel *I, Coriander*. Aside from her many children's novels and series, Sally also writes adult fiction under the pseudonym Wray Delaney. Simultaneously educational and infectiously entertaining; Sally will be talking about dyslexia and creativity.

HM11.



SATURDAY 7TH OCTOBER

2017.

18:00 - 19:30

Hull Central Library, Albion Street, Hull HU1 3TF

## ALEX WHEATLE IN CONVERSATION.

£5 / £4 concessions

Tickets: [humbermouth.com](http://humbermouth.com)

Booking Office: 01482 30 2017

Alex Wheatle is the author of several novels, some of them set in Brixton, where he grew up. Born in London of Jamaican parents, his first book, *Brixton Rock* (1999), tells the story of a 16-year old boy of mixed race in 1980s Brixton. His second novel, *East of Acre Lane* (2001), has a similar setting, and won a London Arts Board New Writers Award. He was awarded an MBE for services to literature in 2008.



Photo © Kim Gibbon

HM12.

SATURDAY 7TH OCTOBER

2017.



## IN PERSON: WORLD POETS

FILMED & EDITED BY  
PAMELA ROBERTSON-PEARCE & NEIL ASTLEY



20:00 - 21:30

Hull Central Library, Albion Street, Hull HU1 3TF

## PAMELA ROBERTSON- PEARCE & NEIL ASTLEY.

£5 / £4 concessions

Tickets: [humbermouth.com](http://humbermouth.com)

Booking Office: 01482 30 2017

Award-winning filmmaker Pamela Robertson-Pearce and Bloodaxe Books editor Neil Astley appear to talk about *In Person: World Poets*, an international collaboration and a sequel to *In Person: 30 Poets* (2008), the world's first poetry DVD-anthology. Pamela Robertson-Pearce's films include *IMAGO: Meret Oppenheim* (1996), winner of the Swiss Film Board's Prize for Outstanding Quality and the Gold Apple Award at the National Educational Film and Video Festival in America. Bloodaxe editor and founder Neil Astley's many books include the *Staying Alive* trilogy of anthologies.

HM13.



SUNDAY 8TH OCTOBER

2017.



12:00 - 16:00

Hull Central Library, Albion Street, Hull HU1 3TF

## HANDS ON!

FREE

Get creative with hands-on family activities inspired by the shortlist of the Royal Society Young People's Book Prize 2017. Join our scientists from the University of Hull for an afternoon filled with fun and take part in exciting drop-in activities: surprising

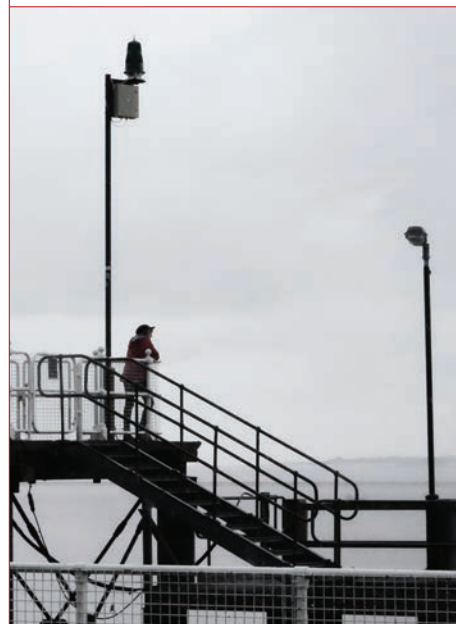
science experiments, arts and crafts, and the fantastic 2017 shortlist await. You will also have the unique opportunity to cast your vote for the winner of the prize, announced in November 2017.



HM14.

SUNDAY 8TH OCTOBER

2017.



15:30

Hull Central Library, Albion Street, Hull HU1 3TF

## LOOKING FOR H.

FREE

Tickets: [humbermouth.com](http://humbermouth.com)

Booking Office: 01482 30 2017

Four Hull stories: people you want to meet, people you don't want to see, people you miss - writers and film-makers from the Writing Squad's Project H weave film out of the city's Pride celebrations, a night out, the Old Town, our waterfront. Join us for the première, no red carpet, just a wide river and a Humber Street.

17:00 - 19:00

Hull Central Library, Albion Street, Hull HU1 3TF

## THE EVOLUTION OF SCIENCE WRITING.

£7 / £5 concessions

Tickets: [humbermouth.com](http://humbermouth.com)

Booking Office: 01482 30 2017

It's the 30th anniversary of the Royal Society Insight Investment Science Book Prize, and the 25th anniversary of Humber Mouth. No better time to talk about the past, present and future of science writing. Join our exciting panel of past prizewinners and judges as they discuss the evolution of science writing over the past thirty years, and how it could evolve over the next thirty. Includes a special appearance by one of the 2017 shortlist.

HM15.



**SUNDAY 8TH OCTOBER**

2017.

**19:30 - 21:00**

Hull Central Library, Albion Street, Hull HU1 3TF

## **WILL SELF HOW WAS YOUR DAY?**

**£10 / £8 concessions**

**Tickets: humbermouth.com**

**Booking Office: 01482 30 2017**

Will Self is the author of many novels and books of non-fiction, including *Great Apes*, *The Book of Dave*, *How the Dead Live*, which was shortlisted for the Whitbread Novel of the Year 2002, *The Butt*, winner of the Bollinger Everyman Wodehouse Prize for Comic Fiction 2008, *Umbrella*, which was shortlisted for the Booker Prize 2012, and *Shark*. He lives in South London. Here talking about his latest book, *Phone*, he will also present a newly commissioned work for the Humber Mouth Festival, *How Was Your Day?*

HM16.



Photo © Chris Chase

**HOW WAS YOUR DAY?**

HUMBER MOUTH COMMISSIONS

2017.

## **A DAY IN THE LIFE OF TED LEWIS TED LEWIS GROUP.**

**Hull and Lincolnshire Novelist,  
Graphic Artist and Jazz Musician**

**Thursday 5th October  
10:00 - 12:00**

Talk: **FREE** / Trail or Film **£5** on the door

Old School Canteen, Joseph Wright Hall,  
Queen Street, Barton upon Humber DN18 5QP

### **School Doodles and Magazine Stories to Get Carter.**

Listen to the sound of Ted Lewis playing in 1958 Unity Jazz Band. Listen to a member of the Ted Lewis Group as they show the importance of Ted Lewis through novel readings, personal anecdotes and his young life and influences growing up in Barton. Trail or film to follow.

**Thursday 5th October  
16:30 - 19:30**

**FREE**

Broderick Gallery, Hull College of Art and Design,  
Wilberforce Avenue, HU1 3DG

### **Ted Lewis, After Get Carter.**

How Lewis came to write *Get Carter* and then drew on his Hull and Humber Estuary experiences to write an even darker novel, *Plender*. Screening of Eric Barbier's 2006 film thriller, *The Serpent* on which that novel was based.



**Friday 6th October  
12:00 - 14:00**

**£3** on the door

The Brew House, Nelson Street, Hull HU1 1XE

### **Ted Lewis' Life as an Art Student in 1950s Hull. Romance, Drink and Jazz.**

With others who were involved, trace Lewis' romance at the location he wrote about and learn how his exploits influenced British crime writing forever.

**Friday 6th October  
19:00 - 23:00**

**FREE**

The Lairgate, Beverley, HU17 8EP

### **Ted Lewis' Jazz Days at the Lairgate.**

With a private table and reasonably priced dinner, Listen to Ted Lewis's 1950s music, his jazz days recounted by Ron Burnett, trombonist, and Tony Dugdale, clarinet, with Unity Jazz Band and others. Live music from the fantastic Climax Jazz Band featuring Dugdale and Burnett.

HM17.





**Monday 2nd October -  
Sunday 8th October**

See [humbermouth.com](http://humbermouth.com) for further information

**ON THIS DAY,  
IN THIS PLACE  
ELECTRIC ANGEL.**

**FREE**

'On this day, in this place' seeks to use memories and maps to collate 10 stories from the local community that are rooted in the locale and place them, via temporary artworks, back in the places from where the stories came.

**Monday 2nd October -  
Sunday 8th October**

**Central Library Opening Times**

Hull Central Library, Albion Street, Hull HU1 3TF

**HOW WAS  
YOUR DAY?  
MY POCKETS.  
A VISUAL DIARY IN  
PHOTOGRAPHY & FILM**

**FREE**

Young people in Hull and Sierra Leone have documented their lives by taking a picture and writing a sentence for every 15 minutes of a single day. The project lets us see life through the fresh eyes and fleeting thoughts of teenagers in these two very different but connected places.



**Wednesday 4th October**

**18:00 Drinks**

Brook St Gallery, 20-22 Brook St, Hull HU2 8LA

**19:00 Performance**

Hull Central Library, Albion Street, Hull HU1 3TF

**HULL TO ICELAND  
AND BACK:  
A VOYAGE IN  
MUSIC, POETRY  
AND PAINT.**

**FREE**

**Tickets: [humbermouth.com](http://humbermouth.com)**

**Booking Office: 01482 30 2017**

Cliff Forshaw has collaborated with the synaesthetic composer Deborah Pritchard and trumpeter Simon Desbruslais to celebrate the twin "Voyage" statues created by Icelandic artist Steinunn Thórarinsdóttir.

An exhibition of Cliff's large Hull cityscape paintings will be on show at the Brook Street Gallery, Prospect Centre. Then over to Hull Central Library for a performance of *Voyage for Solo Trumpet*, in which Cliff's poems merge with Deborah's composition and Simon's playing to transport us on an imaginative journey through time and over sea to the "Voyage" sister statue in Vik, Iceland.

**Thursday 5th October**

**18:00 - 20:00**

Hull Central Library, Albion Street, Hull HU1 3TF

**The Change Collective and  
Renaissance One present**

**HOW WE  
FEEL NOW.**

**Giving voice through poetry,  
music and straight talking**

**FREE**

**Tickets: [humbermouth.com](http://humbermouth.com)**

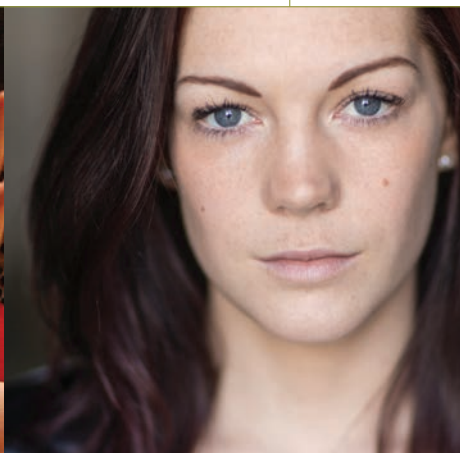
**Booking Office: 01482 30 2017**

An exploration of the state of our times and life in Hull by artists, writers and commentators. The event offers a handpicked soundtrack of words, images and music by Glynis Neslen, Andi Dakin, Cecilia Oxaal, David Okwesia, Cassandra Dalton, Asher Gammon, and a reading by poet, novelist, essayist and Forward Prize winner Kei Miller. Hosted by Melanie Abrahams of [renaissanceone.co.uk](http://renaissanceone.co.uk)





Photo © David O'Keefe



**Saturday 7th October**

**15:30 - 15:40**  
**16:30 - 16:40**

Hull Central Library, Albion Street, Hull HU1 3TF

**ONE WORLD.**

**FREE**

One World is a theatrically inspired musical show conceived and composed by award winning composer, Helen Yeomans. It explores the idea that the human race currently stands at a crossroads in its evolution. The narrative is delivered in spoken word and threads together a sequence of powerful original songs in the full show. This is a preview of the spoken word element. Watch the full show with spoken word with Helen's beautiful music performed by the One World Hull Freedom Chorus in November and December.

Visit [helenyeomans.co.uk/one-world-hull](http://helenyeomans.co.uk/one-world-hull) for further information.

**Saturday 7th October**

**19:30**

The Gulbenkian Centre, Hull University, Cottingham Road, Hull HU6 7RX

**LEXI, OR ELECTRA RETOLD.**

**Tickets: Pay What You Can (Age 13+)**  
**Tickets: [humbermouth.com](http://humbermouth.com)**  
**Booking Office: 01482 30 2017**

*By Laura Turner Directed by Jake Smith*  
*Performed by Grace Savage*  
*Original music by Grace Savage*

Featuring singer-songwriter and beatboxing champion Grace Savage, *Lexi* is a one-woman show bringing together beatboxing and music in a modern retelling of the Greek story Elektra. Hull, 2017, a smoking summer. Lexi is ready for her life to start, busting beats and singing songs. She's got big plans. Then a suckerpunch: she finds her dad dead. Obsessed with finding out the truth, her life becomes a dark path full of secrets, lies and home truths.

Date	Event	Venue	Time	Details	Page
Mon 2 - Sun 8 Oct	<b>How Was Your Day?</b>	Hull Central Library	See Library opening times	Visual Diary / Exhibition	18
Mon 2 Oct	<b>Wilde Without the Boy</b>	Hull Central Library	19:30 - 21:00	Play / Performance	4
Tues 3 Oct	<b>Monica Ali</b>	Hull Central Library	20:00 - 22:00	Reading / Talk	5
Wed 4 Oct	<b>Hull to Iceland and Back</b>	Brook St Gallery Hull Central Library	18:00 19:00	Exhibition Poetry / Music	19
Wed 4 Oct	<b>Melvyn Bragg</b>	Hull Central Library	16:00 - 18:00	In Conversation / Reading	6
Thur 5 Oct	<b>A Day in the Life of Ted Lewis</b>	Various Venues See page 17	See page 17 for more info	Various	17
Thur 5 Oct	<b>How We Feel Now</b>	Hull Central Library	18:00 - 20:00	Event	19
Thur 5 Oct	<b>Kathryn Williams &amp; Laura Barnett</b>	Hull Central Library	20:00 - 22:00	Music / Reading	7
Fri 6 Oct	<b>A Day in the Life of Ted Lewis</b>	Various Venues See page 17	See page 17 for more info	Various	17
Fri 6 Oct	<b>Sara Pascoe</b>	Hull Central Library	20:00 - 22:00	Reading / In Conversation	8
Sat 7 Oct	<b>Leigh Hodgkinson</b>	Hull Central Library	10.30 - 11.15	Workshop	9
Sat 7 Oct	<b>Jarvis</b>	Hull Central Library	12:00 - 12:45	Workshop	10
Sat 7 Oct	<b>Alex Wheatle: Young Adult Writing Workshop</b>	Hull Central Library	14:30 - 15:30	Workshop	10
Sat 7 Oct	<b>One World</b>	Hull Central Library	15:30 - 15:40 16:30 - 16:40	Performance	20
Sat 7 Oct	<b>Sally Gardner</b>	Hull Central Library	16:00 - 17:30	Talk	11
Sat 7 Oct	<b>Alex Wheatle</b>	Hull Central Library	18:00 - 19:30	In Conversation / Reading	12
Sat 7 Oct	<b>Lexi, or Electra Retold</b>	Hull University	19:30	Play / Performance	20
Sat 7 Oct	<b>Pamela Robertson-Pearce &amp; Neil Astley</b>	Hull Central Library	20:00 - 21:30	In Conversation	13
Sun 8 Oct	<b>Hands On!</b>	Hull Central Library	12:00 - 16:00	Family Activity	14
Sun 8 Oct	<b>Looking for H</b>	Hull Central Library	15:30	Event	15
Sun 8 Oct	<b>The Evolution of Science Writing</b>	Hull Central Library	17:00 - 19:00	Panel Debate	15
Sun 8 Oct	<b>Will Self</b>	Hull Central Library	19:30 - 21:00	Reading / In Conversation	16