

Monday 25 September

1 7.30pm for 8pm
An opportunity to take a ringside seat with Michael Brunson and Douglas Keay

Tuesday 26 September

2 9.30am - 12.30pm
The Travel Writers Eye with Dea Birkett

3 1.45pm - 3pm
Four Poets

4 7.30pm for 8pm
Literary Dinner with guest speaker Fay Weldon

Wednesday 27 September

5 10am - 1pm
A Furtive Imagination with Simon Brett

6 2pm
An Extraordinary Tale Phyllis Ellis

7 7.30pm
I could read the sky Timothy O'Grady / Steve Pyke

information

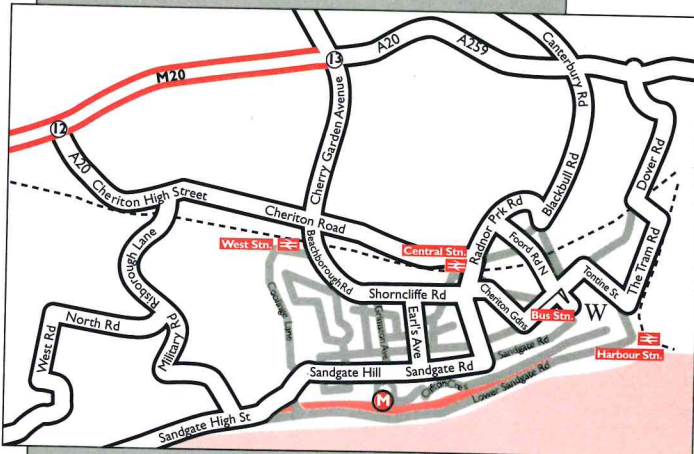
Waterstone's - 01303 221979

Rail Enquiries - Up to 2 trains per hour leave Charing Cross for Folkestone Central - journey time approx. 1hr 30 mins. Information - 0345 484950

Bus & Couch Services - National Express Couch Service - 01843 581333

Hotel & Tourism Information - Garden Coast Information Centre, Harbour Street, Folkestone. Tel: 01303 270457.

Free parking on The Leas outside the Metropole.



Thursday 28 September

8 11am
From Pitch to Publication Carole Blake

9 2.30pm
Short Story Award Ceremony

10 7.30pm
When I lived in modern times Linda Grant

11 9pm
Late Night Poetry combining the smooth with the wild

Friday 29 September

12 2pm
Libby Purves in conversation with Jill Cochrane

13 7.30pm
Alan Chalfont in conversation with John Miller

Saturday 30 September

14 10.30am for 11am
A 'bubbly' breakfast with Suzanna Leigh

15 3pm
Eccentric Britain A Guide to Britains Follies & Foibles

16 7.30pm
'Through Peru' Peter Searles

The Metropole Arts Centre
The Leas
Folkestone
Kent CT20 2LS

Waterstone's Bookshop
1-2 Guildhall Street
Folkestone
Kent CT20 1DY

Free parking on The Leas

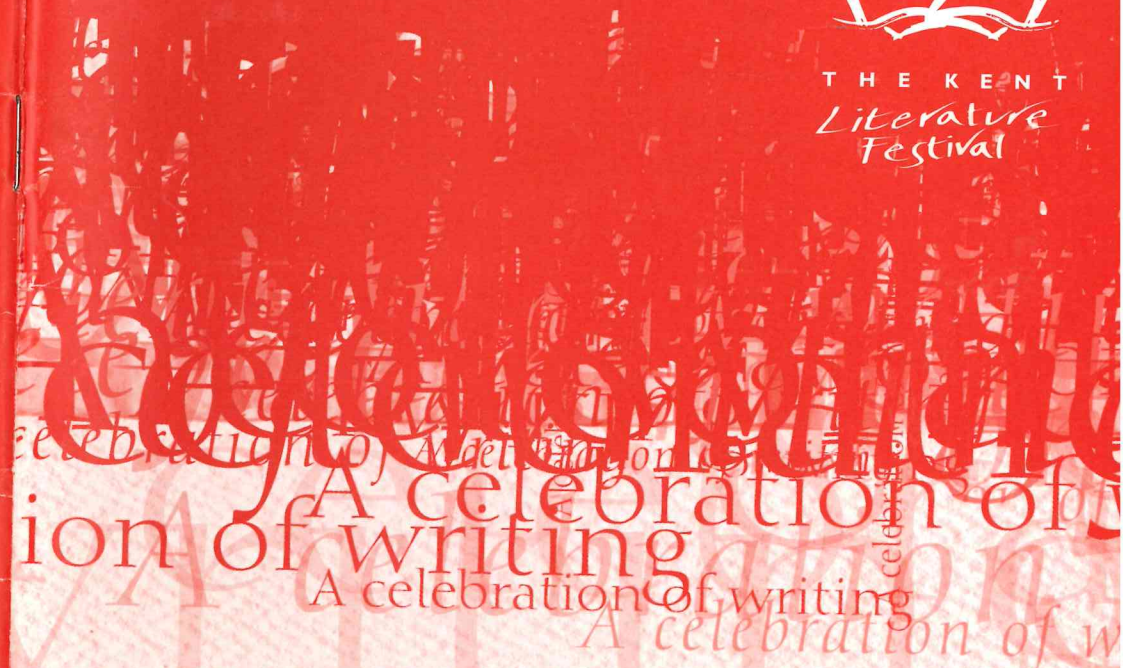
The Metropole Arts Centre is a registered charity No. 307759

Design by Sagittarius - www.sagittarius-online.com

A celebration of writing



THE KENT
Literature
Festival



25th September - 30th September 2000

Box Office 01303 255070

The Metropole Arts Centre, The Leas,
Folkestone, Kent, CT20 2LS

- Michael Brunson
- Linda Grant
- Simon Brett
- Libby Purves
- Douglas Keay
- Dea Birkett
- Peter Searles
- Cheryl Martin
- Robert Minhinnick
- Shamshad Khan
- John Powell Ward
- Sheenagh Pugh
- Owen Sheers
- Lord Chalfont
- Jill Cochrane
- Timothy O'Grady
- Suzanna Leigh
- FAY WELDON

SAGA
Saga Group Limited

SHEPWAY
DISTRICT COUNCIL

W
WATERSTONE'S

meet

Angela Arney



the festival resident author

This year we are pleased to welcome Angela Arney as the Festival Resident Author. Angela will host many of the events in this year's programme.

She has been a published writer since 1984. Her novels include *Cast The First Stone*, *Light Me The Moon*, *Secrets* and the latest novel is *The Second Wife*. Before that she had a varied career ranging from verbatim shorthand writer, cabaret singer and teacher. Angela is a former Chairman of The Romantic Novelist Association (1997 - 1999) She divides her time between her homes in England and France and is currently working on her 19th novel.

BOX OFFICE

To reserve tickets
telephone Box Office
01303 255070

Festival Organiser:
ANN FEAREY

& another thing

THE FESTIVAL BOOKSHOP

Waterstone's will be selling books at all events indicated. You can also buy books from their branch at Old Town Hall, 1-2 Guildhall Street.

email:
enquiries@folkestone.waterstones.co.uk



And remember, where you see a **W** in the text, signing sessions have been arranged.

Friends

Friends of the Metropole pay less to get in. See inside back cover for details



Festival Pass for 13 events

£57 Friends £38 Get a pass and get in free to all events marked

Concessions

Full-time students, ES40, FC.
Group bookings of ten or more pay Friends' ticket price except event 2, 4, 5

FESTIVAL OPENING

Michael Brunson has been one of the best-known and most-admired television journalists for over thirty years. As a commentator for ITN, and for News At Ten in particular, he has had a ringside seat during one of the most remarkable periods in British (and world) history.

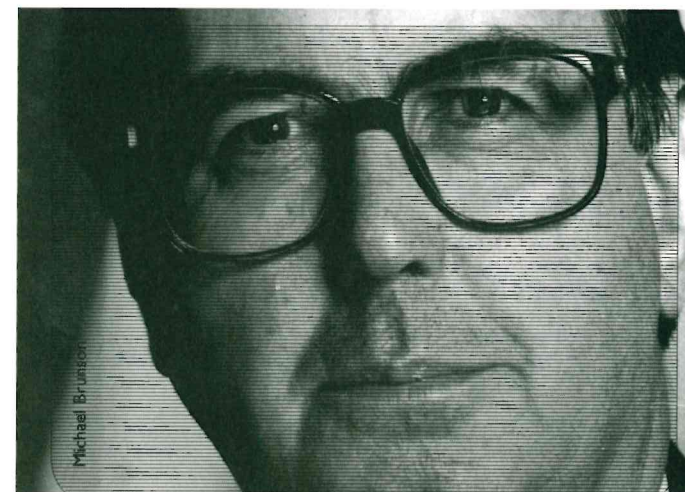
His book, *A Ringside Seat* is often hard-hitting in its opinion - about individuals, events, the media, and our parliamentary system - is fascinating and entertaining (and frequently funny) and gives a fresh and clear-sighted inside look at many of the great events of our times.

A Ringside Seat is published by Hodder & Stoughton.
'A true insider's chronicle of our recent history'

Michael Brunson is a regular monthly contributor to Saga Magazine

An opportunity to take a ringside seat with

Michael Brunson and Douglas Keay



Photograph: Mike Lawn
Saga Magazine

Douglas Keay is a journalist, author, and television producer and commentator who has written a number of books and has also written and produced for television and radio. For the last two years he has been a frequent contributor to SAGA magazine. His interviews with such well known figures as Baroness Thatcher, Lord Carrington, Sir Robin Day, John Major, and Mo Mowlam have attracted world wide attention.

The Travel Writers Eye

with Dea Birkett

There are no such things as travel writers, there are only writers who travel. You don't need to go to Bhutan or canoe up a tropical river to be a travel writer. You can write about your own neighbourhood, as long as you can write.

This practical workshop will look at what counts as travel writing, how to keep notes, how to avoid clichés, and the travel writer's eye.

Dea Birkett is an award winning travel writer and broadcaster. Her most recent book, *Serpent In Paradise*, about her time spent on the remote South Pacific Island of Pitcairn, was shortlisted for the Thomas Cook Travel Book Maugham Award. She was awarded a Winston Churchill Travelling Fellowship to run away and join an Italian circus.



Four Poets

With Sheenagh Pugh / Owen Sheers / Robert Minhinnick and John Powell Ward

Sheenagh Pugh is known to thousands of poetry readers for 'Sometimes' her much anthologised "poem on the underground". She is also well known as a novelist and critic and has read her poetry at major literary festivals and on television and radio.

Stonelight, the Arts Council of Wales Book of the Year 2000 is Sheenagh Pugh's ninth collection.

'Sheenagh Pugh is a remarkable, sometimes brilliant poet. Her great gifts are accessibility, wit, subtle rhyme schemes and the power to illuminate half-forgotten corners of history.' – Merryn Williams

Owen Sheers, educated at Oxford, with an MA in Creative Writing, now lives in London and works in television. He has received an Eric Gregory Award for Poetry (1999) and won the Vogue Young Writer Award. Shortlisted for the Forward Prize for the debut collection. *The Blue Book* (Seren) is a startlingly good first collection by a young writer of considerable talent.

Chosen by Andrew Motion as *The Times* poet of the new millennium

One of the best poets of his generation in Britain, **Robert Minhinnick** has also become the pre-eminent English-language essayists in Wales. As editor of *Poetry Wales*, Robert has strengthened the magazine's international outlook, arranging launches in New York, Amsterdam, London and Canada. He won the 1999 Forward Prize for Best Individual Poem for *Twenty-Five Laments for Iraq*.

Formally inventive and philosophically fresh, **John Powell Ward's** new collection *Late Thoughts in March* deals with subjects as public and social as global warming, and as private and personal as one man's thoughts while looking for a lost dog.

'J. P. Ward's poems ring with integrity's steel.' Peter Gruffydd, N.W.R.

**Free admission for Senior School groups.
To reserve a group booking telephone 01303 255070**

Stonelight

Sheenagh Pugh

John Powell
Thoughts

Event **4** Tuesday 26 September | 7.30pm for 8pm | **W**
£22 friends £20 4 course dinner & coffee
ADVANCED BOOKINGS ONLY

Literary Dinner with guest speaker FAY WELDON

Fay Weldon is one of our best-loved writers. She has published twenty one novels including *Down Among the Women*, *Praxis*, *Puffball*, *The Life and Loves of a She-Devil*, *The Hearts and Lives of Men*, *The Cloning of Joanna May*, *Worst Fears* and, most recently, *Big Women*, a fictional account of feminism over the last 25 years. Many have been adapted for film and radio, and *Big Women* was recently a major Channel 4 production.

Her work sells worldwide in translation. After a highly acclaimed BBC television adaptation, *The Life and Loves of a She-Devil* was made into a Hollywood film. She is a writer in the tradition of Dickens, concerned with social questions, but also believing that readers should have a good time when turning the page.

Fay Weldon's
Rhode Island Blues published
18 September by Flamingo


Flamingo


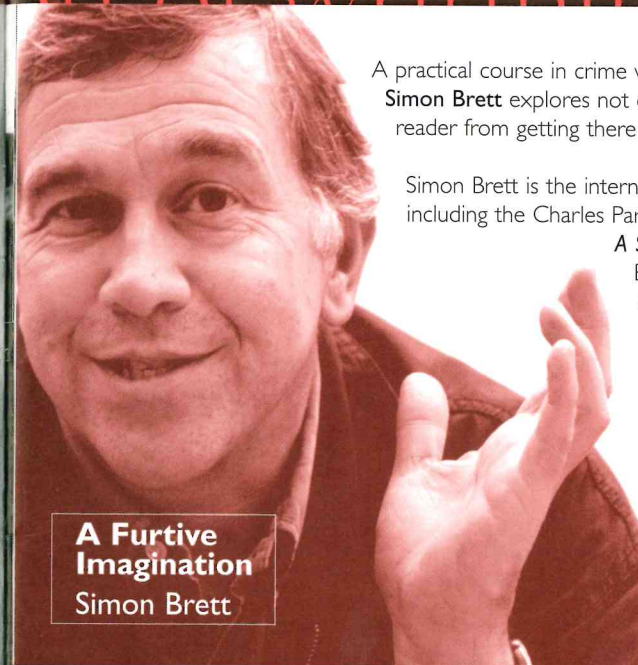
 Sponsors

Table flowers
Usher and Daughters, Folkestone

W Wednesday 27 September | 10am - 1pm
£9 concessions £6
ADVANCED BOOKINGS ONLY



**A Furtive
Imagination**
Simon Brett

A practical course in crime writing.
Simon Brett explores not only writing whodunnit, but also stopping the reader from getting there too early.

Simon Brett is the internationally successful author of over fifty books, including the Charles Paris, Mrs Pargeter and the Fethering series.

A Shock to the System was nominated for an Edgar by the Mystery Writers of America, and filmed starring Michael Caine. He writes and broadcasts for radio. Simon Brett is a former Chairman of the Crime Writers' Association and of The Society of Authors.

His latest book in the Fethering Mysteries series *The Body on the Beach* is out now and *Death on The Downs* is due out in January 2001

 **W** Wednesday 27 September | 2pm
£4 friends £3 concessions £2

An Extraordinary Tale

Writer, actress and teacher, **Phyllis Ellis** who spent two years as Governess for the Saudi Royal Family, will tell of her unique and sometimes risky experiences cloistered in a heavily guarded marble Palace.

Desert Governess is published by TravellersEye 'This is a thoroughly regal personal memoir written by an exceptional lady.....Phyllis's beautifully fluid prose unlocks an enchanting and exotic tale...she explores a society with customs and beliefs so refreshingly alien to our own.' Stephanie Thorburn The Womens Writers Network

www.desertgoverness.co.uk



TravellersEye Ltd

Desert Governess

Phyllis Ellis



I Could Read The Sky

I Could Read The Sky won the Encore Award for the best second novel of the year.

In *I Could Read The Sky* an old man from the West of Ireland lies in his bed and remembers his life – a rapturously remembered childhood,

“I felt so overwhelmed, so exhilarated by this beautiful book, one of the most beautiful I’ve read in years. It’s a novel and at the same time it’s a poem.”

Studs Terkel

years of wandering as a migrant in the potato fields and building sites of England, the camaraderie of bars and boxing booths, and finally the music he played and the woman he loved.

This is an emigrant story of innocents defeated, of loss and madness and of redemption through music and memory and love. Writer Timothy O’Grady and Photographer Steve Pyke present phases of this life in words and pictures with music accompaniment

This award winning book uses Steve Pyke’s photographs and portraits as a parallel, fragmentary narrative to the written fictional text. The book has been made into a feature film, which will be released in the UK this autumn. Steve Pyke lives and works in Hastings and New York.

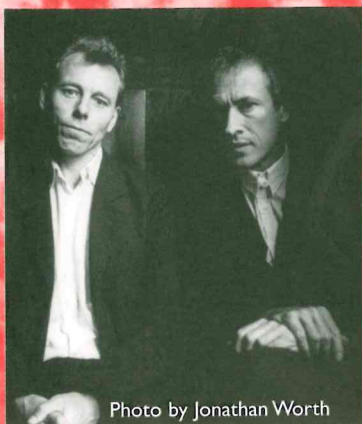
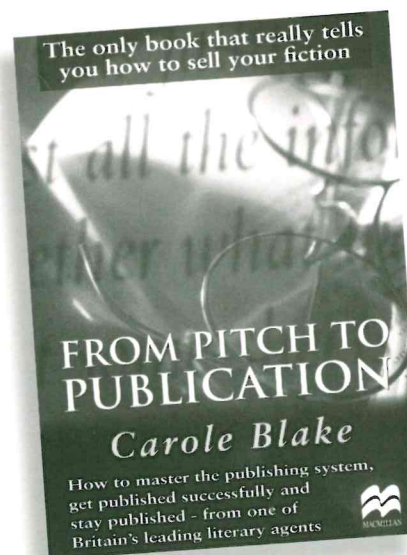


Photo by Jonathan Worth

An exhibition *Life in Art* by celebrated photographer, Steve Pyke will be on display in the Gallery from 16 September to 8 October.

Full details about the exhibition - see page 18



From Pitch to Publication

Carole Blake

Carole Blake, one of Britain's foremost literary agents, will discuss what agents want, what a publisher will – and won't – do for your book. Carole Blake has been responsible for launching the international careers of many bestselling novelists She is past President of the Association of Authors' Agents and is the past Chair of the Society of Bookman, only the second female Chair since the Society was founded in 1921.

Carole is the final judge in this years Short Story Writing Competition and will present the Prizes at the Award Ceremony – for details see event 9.

‘Carole Blake writes lucidly and with a light touch... an invaluable guide.’
Daily Mail

Short Story

Writing competition Award Ceremony

First prize £350

and Short Story Writing
Competition Award Cup

Second prize £175

Third prize £100

A bumper year
for entries -
highest since
competition began

A warm invitation is extended to members of writers' groups and individuals interested in writing to join the winners of this year's competition in an afternoon of celebration.

HSBC

The winning story will be published in the Autumn issue of Connections, the magazine covering the literary scene in the South East. To order a copy, please ask for a form at the Box Office or send £3.25 (incl p&p) to Connections, 13 Wave Crest, Whitstable, Kent CT5 1EH.

Meet the judges



Hilary Johnson runs a well-known Author's Advisory Service, primarily offering appraisals of typescripts. She is consulted by both aspiring and established authors and she is proud to include best-selling novelists, Katie Fforde and Christina Jones among their number; also Orange Prize long-listed author Leila Aboulela.



Peter Guttridge is the critically acclaimed author of five comic novels and a number of short stories. A broadcaster and literary journalist for a number of years, he currently reviews regularly for The Observer. Peter is a regular participant in the Kent Literature Festival.



Carole Blake started her own literary agency in 1977 which merged with Julian Friedmann's agency to become Blake Friedman in 1983. The Agency represents 140 writers as well as several North American Agencies and one of America's largest publishers.

*When I Lived In
Modern Times is a
beautifully told
and erotically
charged love
story and an
elegy for a
lost time when
the future was
more important
than the past; an
exceptional novel of
passions and ideas.*



Linda Grant

Linda Grant will read from and talk about her latest novel.

Winner of the Orange Prize

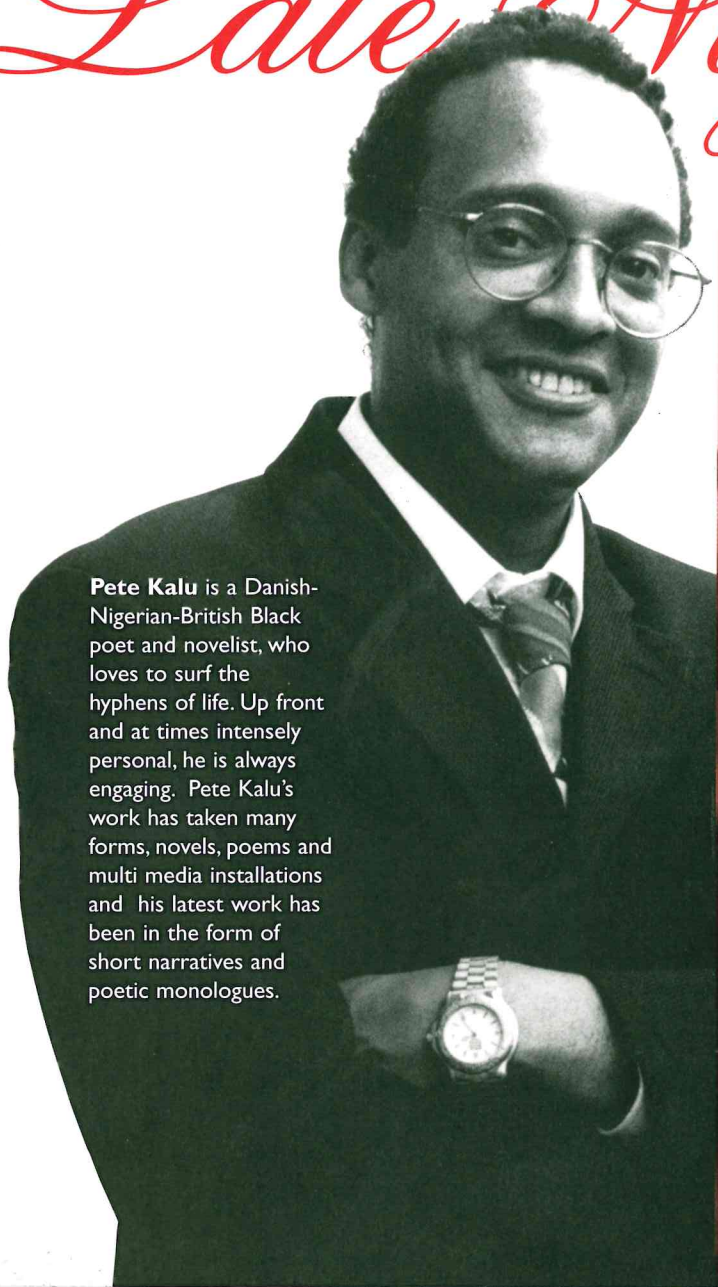
'With this her fourth book, Linda Grant becomes a serious player... A meaty, witty novel. It is the mix of intellectual argument and teasing frivolity that gives her writing its weird individual flavour' Victoria Glendinning, Literary Review

Linda Grant was born in Liverpool and read English at University of York. She is feature writer on the Guardian; her books include *Sexing the Millennium*, *The Cast Iron Shore*, which won the David Higham Award in 1996, and *Remind Me Who I Am, Again*, her award-winning account of her mother's dementia

A celebration of writing

Late Night Poetry

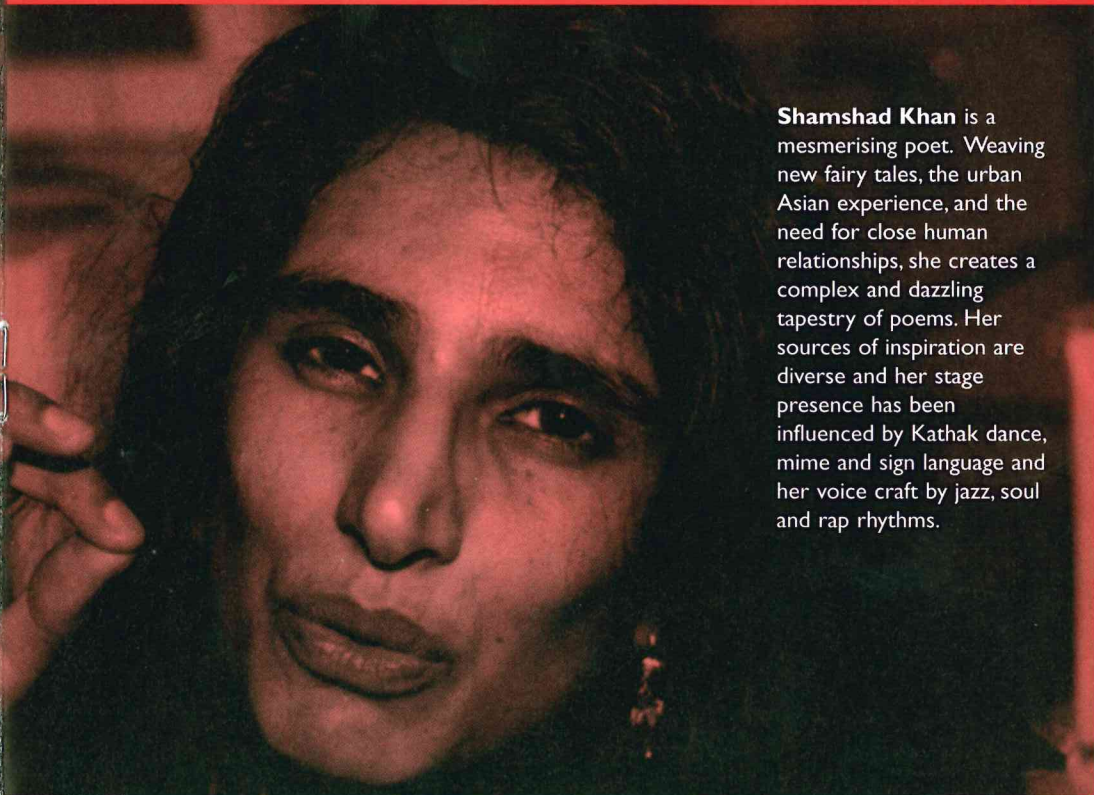
Sink sumptuously into a night of lyrical liberation. Three sharp poets combining the smooth with the wild



Pete Kalu is a Danish-Nigerian-British Black poet and novelist, who loves to surf the hyphens of life. Up front and at times intensely personal, he is always engaging. Pete Kalu's work has taken many forms, novels, poems and multi media installations and his latest work has been in the form of short narratives and poetic monologues.



Cheryl Martin has been known to hush rowdy crowds within two lines of her opening verse. Her poetry has at once intellectual bite and passion and her subjects range from Native American Indian myths to Einstein's General Theory of Relativity. Originally from Washington DC now settled in the UK, Cheryl has won a number of awards for her theatre plays and regularly has her plays broadcast on BBC Radio 4. A jazz singer as well as poet/playwright, her work is available in tape as well as book formats.



Shamshad Khan is a mesmerising poet. Weaving new fairy tales, the urban Asian experience, and the need for close human relationships, she creates a complex and dazzling tapestry of poems. Her sources of inspiration are diverse and her stage presence has been influenced by Kathak dance, mime and sign language and her voice craft by jazz, soul and rap rhythms.

Libby Purves in conversation with Jill Cochrane

Libby Purves has written six novels and her latest, *Passing Go* is her first novel to be set entirely in a city landscape and is a defiantly bittersweet tale of downfall, betrayal and ultimate redemption as the characters struggle with crises that have stalled family life. Libby Purves is a major columnist for The Times and presents 'Midweek' and 'The Learning Curve' on Radio 4. Her most recent non-fiction title is *Natures Masterpiece* and novel *Regatta* was published in paperback, June 2000



Jill Cochrane, is well known as the presenter of the ITV Series, *An Englishman's Home* and the Channel 4 series of interviews *A Full Life* with politicians, statesmen, and major contributors to 20th century life. Jill is a Fellow of the Royal Television Society and the Royal Society of Arts.



The Shadow Of My Hand Alun Chalfont In conversation with John Miller

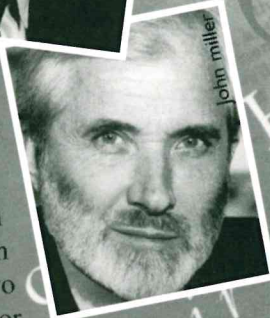
Alun Chalfont's new memoir *The Shadow of My Hand* explains how his political stance has been changed and developed over the last half century, and he discusses some of those controversial positions with John Miller.

Alun Gwynne Jones had a long and distinguished military career before becoming the Defence Correspondent of The Times. His columns created such an impression that Harold Wilson appointed him the first Minister for Disarmament in 1964, with a seat in the Upper House as Lord Chalfont. In recent years he presented a major series on world leaders in 'The Chalfont Profiles'.

John Miller is the biographer of Ralph Richardson and Judi Dench and he collaborated with John Gielgud on his memoirs for radio, television and two books; he has just written a new Epilogue to 'An Actor and his Time', bringing the story up to the recent death of Sir John in June this year.



Alun Chalfont



John Miller

Paradise, Suzanna Style

Warning!
This is not a novel

A 'bubbly' breakfast with Suzanna Leigh

'Suzanna Leigh was the Kate Winslet of her day; a beautiful, fated young British actress who made it big in Hollywood; starred opposite Elvis Presley and Tony Curtis and stepped out with Steve McQueen. She lived a champagne lifestyle.....'

Hester Lacey

The Independent on Sunday

Suzanna tells all, or almost all, about her life in Hollywood.

Limited Edition

Suzanna Leigh

Benedict le Vay, journalist and travel writer will talk about many of the thousands of eccentricities which are woven into the fabric of British life.

Ancient customs, peculiar buildings and anything odd or unexplained has had Ben off in hot pursuit.

The idea for **Eccentric Britain** came to Ben as a result of his job as a sub editor on the Daily Mail. He would frequently come across news stories about odd

customs or unusual places and realised that there was no reference book that included such weird and wonderful tales. Once he started the research in earnest he began compiling thousands of pieces of information. Ben le Vay is researching two more books **Eccentric London** and **Eccentric Ireland**.

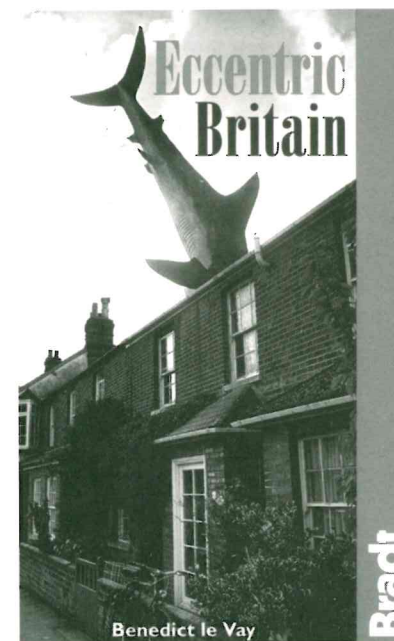


Eccentric Britain

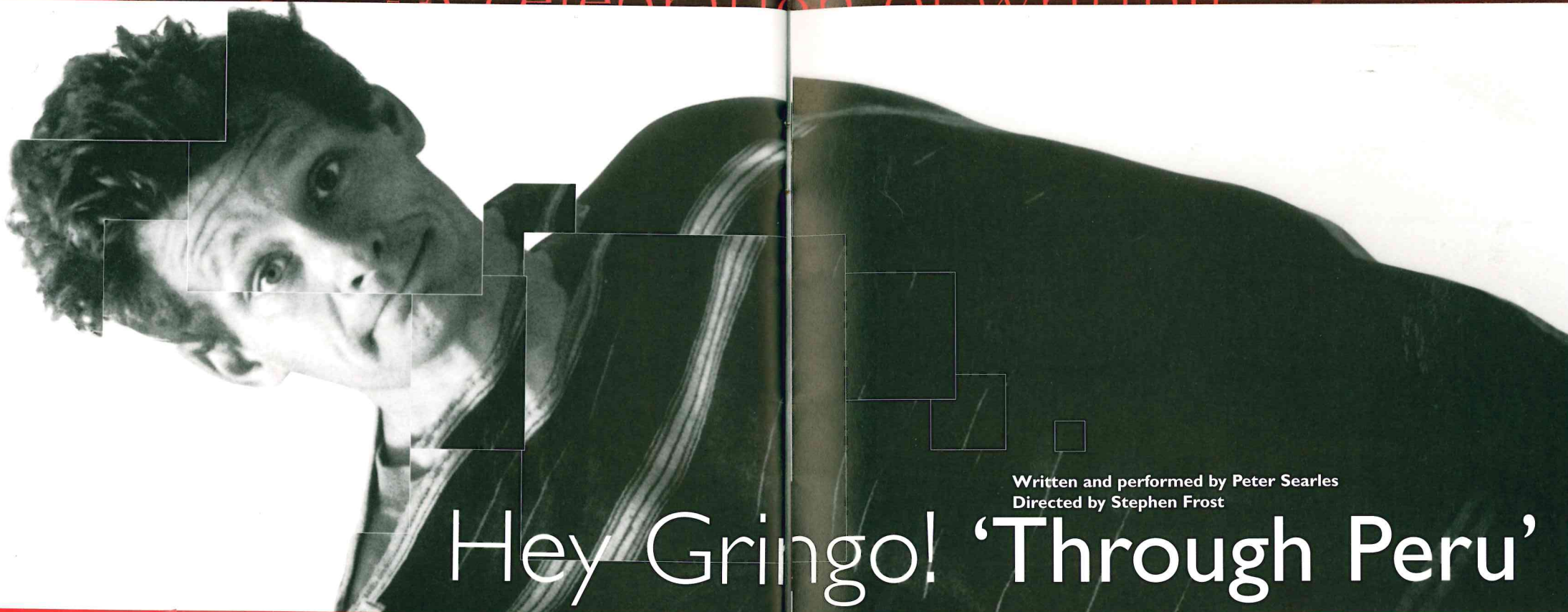
A Guide to Britain's Follies and Foibles

'Without understanding eccentricity, no one can claim to understand the British.'

Nigel Dempster.



A celebration of writing



Written and performed by Peter Searles
Directed by Stephen Frost

Hey Gringo! 'Through Peru'

**'This is the show
that every traveller
would love to be
able to give...holds
the audience
spellbound'**

Evening News

From the moment his plane lands in Caracas (without his luggage) we're on a roller-coaster ride down unexplored tributaries of the Amazon and across the snow capped peaks of the Andes. A catalogue of close scrapes and surprise encounters - drug smugglers, Dutch airline hostesses, Carmelite monks and Amazonian Indians. 'Through Peru' is one of a series of hilarious and poignant true-life travel tales brought to life for the stage.

Peter Searles before becoming an actor worked as a rigger in the North Sea. He trained at LAMDA and has performed at the Royal National

Theatre and with numerous companies; television parts include , Eastenders, The Bill, Comedy Nation and the BBC Shakespeare Series.

Stephen Frost (Director) Veteran of the Alternative Comedy Scene, Stephen started with Mark Arden as The Oblivion Boys and appeared regularly in The Young Ones, Black Adder, Mr Bean, Whose Line is it Anyway and the BBC Classic Serial Vanity Fair. He is also a member of WOW SHOW and veteran of the Edinburgh Festival. He has also toured with Eddie Izzard in One Word Impro.



Life in Art:

New Photographers
by Steve Pyke

Life in Art: 16 Sept - 8 Oct
New Photographs by Steve Pyke

Although our society seems increasingly to prefer youth over experience, there is abundant evidence among artists to suggest that creativity survives and matures with age. In this exhibition leading British photographer Steve Pyke traces this evidence in new series of photographs of artists over fifty who live and work in the South East region. In his remarkable colour images - that combine artist's portraits with composite studies of their studios and working environments - Pyke goes against prevailing stereotypes to suggest that vigour and imagination are not solely the preserve of the young. From his beautiful portrait of painter Laetitia Yhap to the suitably unhinged study of cartoonist Ralph Steadman; from the serene profiles of potter Ursula Mommens and photographer Grace Robertson to the effusive portraits of painter Adrian Berg, Steve Pyke has found a fitting way to celebrate the new millennium. By paying respect to some all but forgotten human values; maturity, experience and integrity, the photographer also captures a vital and indefatigable spirit, one that continues to fuel each artist's working life.

Life in Art: New Photographs by Steve Pyke is curated by David Chandler and is supported by the Saga Charitable Trust, South East Arts and the Millennium Festival Fund.



Booking Form

Event No.	Title	No. of Tickets	Price	Total
Event 1				
Event 2				
Event 3				
Event 4				
Event 5				
Event 6				
Event 7				
Event 8				
Event 9				
Event 10				
Event 11				
Event 12				
Event 13				
Event 14				
Event 15				
Event 16				

Festival Pass £57 (Friends £38)

Friends Annual Membership (Single £10; Double/Family £15; Life £100)

Please enclose a cheque for the grand total of: £

Please make cheque payable to: Metropole Arts Centre Trust and send to The Metropole Arts Centre, The Leas, Folkestone, Kent CT20 2LS.

Name:	
Address:	
Postcode:	Tel No.
Friends Membership No:	

All events are bookable on an unreserved seat basis. Seats will only be reserved for event sponsors.

For office use only	Tickets issued date	Form No.
---------------------	---------------------	----------

What do you think is missing?

What do you think is missing in the Kent Literature Festival? What could we do to improve it? If you've got any ideas or suggestions for next year, now's your chance to tell us.

1. What event are you most looking forward to, and why?

2. If you were organising next year's festival, who would you invite?

3. Would you like to see...
more/less famous names more/less new writers
more/less alternative artists more/less workshops
more/less interviews more/less open debate
more/less poetry more/less novels
more/less drama more/less book signings
Other _____
4. What do you enjoy most? Please number in order of preference.
 Modern fiction Classic fiction Auto/Biography Poetry Art
 Multi-media art Music Other
(please specify) _____
5. Do you write, paint or perform yourself?
Yes, I'm an artist writer poet musician other
(please specify) _____
6. Would you pay more for an event you particularly wanted to see? Yes No
7. Do you think the prices this year are good value? Yes No
8. How did you hear about the Kent Literature Festival?
 Direct Mail Recommendation Newspaper Leaflet
 School Poster Other (please specify) _____
9. Have you attended the Kent Literature Festival before?
 Yes No. If yes, how many times?
10. Any other comments?

Thank you for completing this questionnaire. We'll be bigger and better for it.

notes & autographs

notes
autographs

Are you a friend of The Metropole Arts Centre?
Friends benefit from substantial savings on ticket prices, receive invitations to previews and social events and get regular copies of What's On, our guide to forthcoming events, exhibitions and reviews at the Metropole.

Annual: Single £10	Double/Family £15	Life: £100
---------------------------	--------------------------	-------------------

how to book

call in....

The Box Office is open
11am - 4.30pm Monday
to Saturday, 2.45pm -
4.45pm Sunday and
during Festival hours.

telephone...

Order by phone and
send a completed
booking form, cheque
and sae within 4 days.

or post...

Fill in the booking form
and send it, with a
cheque and sae, to The
Box Office, Kent
Literature Festival,
Metropole Arts Centre,
The Leas, Folkestone,
Kent, CT20 2LS

Ticket returns

In common with normal
theatre practice, the
Box Office cannot
exchange tickets or
refund money.

Liabilities

The Metropole Arts Centre
Trust cannot accept
responsibility for any loss or
damage to personal property
or any injury sustained.
The organisers reserve the
right to alter the programme
should adverse circumstances
arise.