

For immediate release



Huddersfield Literature Festival announces its 2022 programme

The award-winning [Huddersfield Literature Festival](#) returns this spring with a blended programme of online and venue-based events. The Festival will run from 24 March – 3 April 2022, with a theme of ‘One World’, focusing on our shared responsibility for the wellbeing of our planet and its people.

Established in 2006, The Festival was launched to offer a diverse programme of author talks, workshops, discussion topics, performance poetry, multi-arts performances, wellbeing projects, events for young people and family-friendly events.

The 2022 programme has a wealth of headline acts, including:

[In Conversation with Dr John Cooper Clarke](#), (Sun 3 April, 8pm)

The Poet Laureate of Punk, Bard of Salford, fashion icon, TV and radio presenter, social and cultural commentator will be interviewed by Johnny Green, the former road manager of The Clash to discuss stories from his rock ‘n’ roll and performing career, along with his encyclopaedic take on popular culture over the centuries.

Don’t Ask the Dragon – Lemn Sissay & Greg Stobbs (Sat 19 March, 11am-12pm & 2pm-3pm)

Festival Patron and No. 1 bestselling author Lemn Sissay will be showcasing his debut children’s book ‘Don’t Ask the Dragon’ with illustrator Greg Stobbs. Lemn’s first-ever children’s book is a fun and heart-warming story featuring Alem, a young boy who goes on an adventure to search for a place to celebrate his birthday.

Landscape and Setting with Joanne Harris and Rupert Thomson (Sun 3 April, 3pm-4pm)

Award-winning authors Joanne Harris and Rupert Thomson discuss ideas around place, landscape and belonging in their work - from French village life in Joanne Harris’s *Chocolat*

series and northern England in *A Narrow Door* (the latest in her St Oswald's Grammar School series) to various locations in Rupert Thomson's novels, from Florence, Paris, Mexico and Amsterdam to his latest *Barcelona Dreaming*.

The Festival will also present a range of family activities, in-person and online events, along with special community projects, workshops and a chance for aspiring writers to pitch their work to publishers. Other key performers will include musician **Sarah Jay Hawley**, music journalist **Pete Paphides**, **Annapurna Indian Dance**, actor **Adrian Lukis**, forensic scientist **Professor Angela Gallop**, and crime writers **RC Bridgestock** and **Jonathan Hall**.

Online events will feature Young Women's Trust ambassador **Toni Tone**, Paralympian and Dancing on Ice finalist **Libby Clegg**, bestselling thriller writer **Erin Kelly** and a discussion on decolonising your bookshelf with the editors of **This is the Canon**, Joan Anim-Addo, Deirdre Osborne & Kadija Sesay.

The Stafflex Free Family Day will return to North Huddersfield Trust School, with a host of stalls and activities, and the Festival will also run venue-based and online activities for families with special needs and disabilities.

The Festival will take over a Temporary Contemporary Hub in the Piazza in Huddersfield, launching with a Free Family Preview on Saturday 5 March, to be opened by Yorkshire Mayor Tracy Brabin and featuring a Meet and Greet with Julia Donaldson's gentle dragon **Zog** and a visit from **Grandad Wheels**, with a 'Design a Futuristic Wheelchair' competition.

Festival Director Michelle Hodgson said: "Our 2022 programme showcases a wide representation of voices and events, with activities for all the family and events with diverse and upcoming performers as well as major names. After a challenging couple of years, we're hoping that audiences will find plenty to enjoy and experience, whether online or in-person."

Find the full 2022 programme and book tickets: <https://www.huddlitfest.org.uk/>

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Notes to Editors:

About [Huddersfield Literature Festival](#)

Huddersfield Literature Festival (HLF) is an award-winning 10-day Festival held annually in the spring. A blended Festival of 50+ digital, outdoor and venue-based events, HLF champions accessibility, diversity and under-represented groups. Showcasing emerging writers and artists

alongside major names, the Festival offers a diverse programme of author talks, workshops, discussion topics, performance poetry, multi-arts performances, wellbeing projects and family-friendly events.

Innovative special projects and commissions, often inspired by local community partnerships, are designed to promote community cohesion, improve wellbeing and proactively engage with under-represented artists, performers and audiences. With many free and low-cost events, including some with live subtitling, and Access Guides to key venues, HLF promotes accessibility with a view to offering more opportunities for a wider range of people to enjoy arts and culture.

Established in 2006, HLF is a major fixture on the town's cultural calendar. The Festival has been selected as a finalist in the prestigious Welcome to Yorkshire White Rose Awards on three occasions (2016, 2017 & 2020), and in 2017 won the Examiner Community Award for Arts.