

THE LONDON BOOK FAIR UNVEILS MASTERCLASS EXPERTS FOR 2010

The London Book Fair, in association with the Daily Mail and FOYLES, is delighted to announce two Masterclass seminars for aspiring authors and scriptwriters this year. Bestselling authors **Meg Rosoff** and author **Lionel Shriver** will join journalist **Danuta Kean (Chair)**, **Carole Blake (Agent, Blake Friedmann)** and **Mark Booth (Publisher, Hodder and Stroughton)** as panellists for the **2010 HOW TO GET PUBLISHED MASTERCLASS**.

In addition to this class, **bestselling author and acclaimed TV writer David Nicholls**, **Dr Craig Batty (author and Senior Lecturer in Screenwriting, Bournemouth University)**, **Paul Ashton (Producer at BBC writersroom)** join Chair **Julian Friedmann (Blake Friedman, Literary, TV & Film)** for the **HOW TO WRITE FOR SCREEN: FILM & TV MASTERCLASS**.

The London Book Fair Masterclass sessions have established themselves as must-attend events for the public and are designed to place a focus on creative writing and provide invaluable tips for aspiring authors on how to get their work published.

The events will take place on **Saturday 17th April** at Earls Court Conference Centre, (accessible via West Brompton entrance) London. The programme will run as follows:

HOW TO GET PUBLISHED MASTERCLASS 2010:

Saturday 17th April from 11.00am – 1.00pm

Chaired by **Danuta Kean - Freelance Journalist and Publishing Commentator**; **award winning and bestselling authors Meg Rosoff** and **Lionel Shriver** will talk about their publishing experiences. **Carole Blake, Agent, Blake Friedmann** will speak about the role of an agent in publishing and what they look for in a prospective new author; **Mark Booth, (Publisher, Hodder & Stroughton)** will speak on what a publisher looks for and what goes into making a new author known.

HOW TO WRITE FOR SCREEN: FILM & TV MASTERCLASS:

Saturday 17th April from 2.30pm – 5.00pm

Chaired by **Julian Friedmann, Blake Friedman, Literary, TV & Film** this session will teach you all you need to know about writing for film and television. How do you go about learning the best way to tell your stories in script format? What books (and scripts) should you read? Do you need to do a degree in scriptwriting (courses are springing up all over) or can you do short courses? Who should you submit to and what should you submit? Are film and television writers different from novelists? This Masterclass will answer all these questions and more. So if you want to write for film or television, don't miss this event with a distinguished panel to include **bestselling author and acclaimed TV writer David Nicholls**, **Dr Craig Batty (author and Senior Lecturer in Screenwriting, Bournemouth University)** and **Paul Ashton (Producer at BBC Writersroom)**

Alistair Burtenshaw, The London Book Fair says,

"Our Masterclass sessions have been such a fantastic success. This year, once again we are looking forward to giving all those interested in creative writing an opportunity to receive first-hand professional advice from experts in their fields".

Further information:

- ❖ The London Book Fair Masterclasses take place in the Earls Court Conference Centre (accessible via the West Brompton entrance) Warwick Road, London SW5
- ❖ Press wanting to attend the Masterclasses can email Emma Draude at Midas PR on emma.draude@midaspr.co.uk or call 020 7361 7860 for tickets
- ❖ The cost of the Masterclass tickets for the public are £35 inc VAT and can be booked online or by phone. Visit www.londonbookfair.co.uk/masterclass and click on the booking form button and fill in the registration form with your payment details. Or call the LBF booking line on 020 8271 2124

SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES:

HOW TO GET PUBLISHED:

MEG ROSOFF- AUTHOR

Meg Rosoff was born in Boston, educated at Harvard and St Martins College of Art, and worked in New York City for ten years before moving to London permanently in 1989. She worked in publishing, politics, PR and advertising until 2004, when she wrote her first novel, *How I Live Now*, which won the Guardian Children's Fiction Prize (UK), The Michael L Printz Prize (US), The Luchs Prize (Germany) and was shortlisted for the Orange first novel award. Her second novel, *Just in Case*, won the 2007 Carnegie Medal and the Jugendliteraturpreis in Germany. Meg's latest novel is *The Brides Farewell*.

LIONEL SHRIVER – AUTHOR

Lionel Shriver was the winner of the Orange Prize for Fiction in 2005 with the highly acclaimed *We Need to Talk About Kevin*. Her writing has appeared in *The Guardian*, *The New York Times*, *The Wall Street Journal*, and many other publications. Her next novel, *So Much For That*, is being published in March 2010, and has been described as 'classic Lionel Shriver...in the great American literary tradition, it uses the family as a vehicle to tackle the bigger themes of modern life'. Lionel is also the author of *The Post-Birthday World*, *A Perfectly Good Family*, and *Checker and the Derailleurs*.

MARK BOOTH – Publisher – Hodder & Stoughton

Mark Booth is a publisher at Hodder and Stoughton, where he will shortly be launching his own list. He started work in the book trade working in Waterstones, later working as an editor and publisher with a very wide range of authors including Chris Ryan, Lorna Byrne, Auberon Waugh, Derek Jarman, Tina Brown, Peter Kay and Katie Price. For many years he was in charge of the century imprint at Random House, which featured authors including John Grisham, James Ellroy and Dawn French. He is also the author - under the pseudonym Jonathan Black - of *The Secret History of the World*, published all round the world.

CAROLE BLAKE – Agent – Blake Friedmann

Carole Blake has worked in publishing for 46 years and she became the first ever Rights Manager for Michael Joseph. Headhunted to start W H Allen's first rights department (selling Andre Brink's first novels around the world among others), then became the Marketing Director of Sphere. After 14 years in publishing, she started her own literary agency which merged with Julian Friedmann's agency to become Blake Friedmann in 1983. She has been President of the Association of Authors' Agents and Chairman of the Society of Bookmen. She is the author of *FROM PITCH TO PUBLICATION: Everything You Need To Know To Get Your Novel Published*, published by Macmillan.

DANUTA KEAN – CHAIR

Danuta Kean is a journalist and acknowledged expert on publishing, who has written about the industry for the past 10 years. As well as writing for national newspapers, she writes an advice column for the writers' magazine *Msllexia* and a column for the Society of Author's magazine *The Author*. She teaches on the MA in Creative Writing at Brunel University, of which Fay Weldon is professor.

HOW TO WRITE FOR SCREEN: FILM & TV MASTERCLASS:

DAVID NICHOLLS – AUTHOR & TV Writer

David Nicholls is a renowned TV writer. He recently adapted the highly acclaimed *Tess of the D'Urbervilles* for the BBC and has also had huge hits with *Cold Feet* for ITV and a modern day adaptation of *Much Ado About Nothing* for the BBC. He took the publishing world by storm in 2004 when his debut novel *Starter For Ten* sold over 300,000 copies - being chosen for the first Richard & Judy Bookclub. Tom Hanks' production company, Playtone, snapped up the film rights and it had a cinematic worldwide release to great success. His second novel *The Understudy* had the film rights bought up again by Tom Hanks. David then went on to work on the feature film adaptation of Sam Shepard's *Simpatico* starring Jeff Bridges, Sharon Stone, Nick Nolte and Albert Finney. He then started writing for the BBC and Granada, where he worked on the third series of *Cold Feet* (for which he was nominated for a BAFTA). Following this he adapted *Much Ado About Nothing* starring Billie Piper as part of a series of modern day Shakespeare plays for the BBC and *Tess of the D'Urbervilles* again for the BBC. His dramatisation of Blake Morrison's *And When Did You Last See Your Father?* starring Colin Firth and Jim Broadbent, was released in 2007. David is currently adapting his third novel *One Day* for screen and is also working on adaptations of *Far From The Madding Crowd*, *Great Expectations* and *Tender is the Night*.

DR CRAIG BATTY – AUTHOR and Senior Lecturer in Screenwriting

Dr Craig Batty is Senior Lecturer in Screenwriting at Bournemouth University. He is a writer and script consultant, and has worked on various short film, feature film and television projects. He has written numerous articles about screenwriting and media writing, for both the popular and academic market. He is also the co-author of two books: *Writing for the Screen: Creative and Critical Approaches* (Palgrave Macmillan, 2008), and *Media Writing: A Practical Introduction* (Palgrave Macmillan, 2010).

PAUL ASHTON – Development Producer at BBC Writersroom

After graduating from University with a prize-winning First in English and an MPhil in Renaissance Drama from King's College, Cambridge, Paul Ashton directed new writing in the theatre and began his ongoing work in script and writer development across theatre, radio, film and television. Paul Ashton is Development Producer at BBC writersroom, where he seeks out and develops writers, manages the BBC unsolicited script system and produces a range of projects, schemes and partnerships across the BBC and the industry. He has worked as a literary associate, script reader, story editor, tutor, theatre director and scriptwriter across film, television, theatre and radio, and is currently writing a book about scriptwriting across all these mediums for publication by Methuen in 2010.

JULIAN FRIEDMANN –Blake Friedmann Literary Agency

Julian Friedmann is co-owner of the Blake Friedmann Literary Agency (www.blakefriedmann.co.uk) and publisher of www.TwelvePoint.com (previously ScriptWriter Magazine), Britain's only scriptwriting magazine, which has become Europe's most influential scriptwriting website. Julian has taught at many universities and film schools all over the world, he is the author of *How to Make Money Scriptwriting* and editor of two volumes on *Writing Long-Running Television* series – he is currently co-writing a book on *Writing for Television*. He designed and set up the world's first MA in Television Scriptwriting at De Montfort where he teaches regularly and has been on both the European Jury for EMMY nominations and the Jury for the Grierson Documentary Award. Julian was on the Executive Council of the Writers' Guild of Great Britain and on their Communications Committee and Television Committee. However, he resigned after a number of years to sit on an informal committee of Amnesty International, helping develop movies that will support Amnesty International campaigns.

**The London Book Fair takes place from the 19th – 21st April 2010 at Earls Court, London.
For further information on the London Book Fair Masterclass or the featured speakers please contact:**

**Emma Draude at Midas Public Relations
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www.londonbookfair.co.uk**