June 2018 Events

Friday, June 1 / 6:00pm
John Hodgman
Vacationland:
True Stories from Painful Beaches
$5 Tickets
@ the Brattle Theatre | 40 Brattle St.
Writer, comedian, and actor John Hodgman discusses the paperback release of Vacationland, a memoir of his travels through New England and his midlife transformation from an idealistic youth to an eccentric family man.

“This book is genuinely it-will-make-you-laugh funny . . . and it is always wiser than it seems.” —Neil Gaiman

Friday, June 1 / 7:00pm
Stacy Horn
Damnation Island:
Poor, Sick, Mad, and Criminal in 19th-Century New York
@ Harvard Book Store
Nonfiction writer Stacy Horn discusses the history of modern day Roosevelt Island, which was once used as a lunatic asylum, prison, hospital, and workhouse. This event is co-sponsored by Mass Humanities.

“An important piece of history in public medicine, Damnation Island weaves a compelling narrative with threads of thorough research and realism.” —Julie Holland

Monday, June 4 / 7:00pm
Victor J. Seidler
Making Sense of Brexit:
Democracy, Europe, and Uncertain Futures
@ Harvard Book Store
Victor J. Seidler—Emeritus Professor of Sociology at Goldsmiths, University of London—discusses the causes and implications of Brexit and the need for new political imaginations across race, class, religion, gender, and sexuality.

“Seidler cogently highlights the potential of a politics of voice and the urgency of the ethical project of listening.” —Shani Orgad

Tuesday, June 5 / 7:00pm
James Wood
Upstate:
A Novel
@ Harvard Book Store
Acclaimed writer and New Yorker critic James Wood discusses his latest novel, in which a British property developer faces philosophical questions about family and suffering when one of his daughters falls into a severe depression.

Tuesday, June 5 / 7:30pm
Jasmine Guillory
The Wedding Date
in conversation with MARGARET H. WILLISON
with an opening reading by MEREDITH GOLDSTEIN
$10 Tickets (at cluboberon.com)
@ Oberon | 2 Arrow St.
Debut novelist Jasmine Guillory discusses her celebrated novel, The Wedding Date, in which pediatric surgeon Drew Nichols asks mayoral chief of staff Alex Monroe to be his fake date at his ex's wedding. This event will feature a book swap! Bring a used copy in good condition of a favorite romance and receive a copy of someone else's.

Wednesday, June 6 / 7:00pm
Michael Eric Dyson
What Truth Sounds Like:
Robert F. Kennedy, James Baldwin, and Our Unfinished Conversation About Race in America
in conversation with DERAY MCKESSON
$5 Tickets
@ First Parish Church
1446 Mass. Ave.
Award-winning writer and academic Michael Eric Dyson discusses America’s torturous racial politics and how many of today’s arguments can be traced back to the 1963 meetings that included James Baldwin, RFK, and Jerome Smith. This event is co-sponsored by Mass Humanities.

Wednesday, June 6 / 7:00pm
Lillian Fademan
Harvey Milk:
His Lives and Death
@ Harvard Book Store
Distinguished scholar and author Lillian Fademan discusses her latest book, a biography of Harvey Milk—the first openly gay man elected to public office in the United States.

“Meticulously researched and beautifully written . . . provides context to Milk’s life as a gay icon and illuminates how his experience was deeply informed by his own Jewish identity.” —Cleve Jones

Thursday, June 7 / 7:00pm
Tommy Orange
There There:
A Novel
New Voices in Fiction
@ Harvard Book Store
Tommy Orange, a recent graduate of the MFA program at the Institute of American Indian Arts, discusses his highly anticipated debut novel. This event is co-sponsored by GrubStreet.

“There There is a miraculous achievement, a book that wields ferocious honesty and originality in service of telling a story that needs to be told. This is a novel about what it means to inhabit a land both yours and stolen from you, to simultaneously contend with the weight of belonging and unbelonging.” —Omar El Akkad

Friday, June 8 / 7:00pm
Michael Turk
Historical Narrative, Urban Space, and a New Cast to Urban Economics
@ Harvard Book Store
Economist and historian Michael Turk discusses his latest book, in which he examines the rethinking of urban economics and the mathematical, social, and historical challenges therein, as well as the critique of standard models used in urban economics today.

Monday, June 11 / 7:00pm
Howard Bryant
The Heritage:
Black Athletes, a Divided America, and the Politics of Patriotism
@ Harvard Book Store
ESPN writer and NPR sports correspondent Howard Bryant discusses the history of the athlete activist and how the relationship between sports and politics has always been more complicated for Black athletes.

Tuesday, June 12 / 7:00pm
Molly Crabapple
Brothers of the Gun:
A Memoir of the Syrian War
in conversation with JONATHAN GUYER
@ Harvard Book Store
Award-winning artist and writer Molly Crabapple discusses her illustrated collaboration with Syrian war journalist Marwan Hisham, which details Hisham’s coming-of-age amidst the chaos of the Syrian revolution.

Wednesday, June 13 / 7:00pm
Lauren Groff
Florida
@ Harvard Book Store
Celebrated writer Lauren Groff, the bestselling author of Fates and Furies, discusses her latest book—a collection of stories spanning centuries of time in mercurial Florida that examine the decisions behind life-changing events.

Thursday, June 14 / 7:00pm
Oren Harman
Evolutions:
Fifteen Myths That Explain Our World
@ Harvard Book Store
Renowned professor and author Oren Harman discusses the latest understandings about the birth of the universe, the evolution of the human mind, and how they connect science to our oldest existential questions.
Tuesday, June 19 / 7:00pm
Anna-Lisa Cox
The Bone and Sinew of the Land: America’s Forgotten Black Pioneers and the Struggle for Equality
@ Harvard Book Store

Award-winning historian Anna-Lisa Cox discusses the lesser-known story of America’s black pioneers—the thousands of free African Americans who built hundreds of settlements in the Northwest Territory. This event is co-sponsored by the Hutchins Center for African & African American Research.

“We uncover a rich history that may surprise even those most devoted to the study of African American history.”
—Henry Louis Gates, Jr.

Wednesday, June 20 / 7:00pm
Terrance Hayes
American Sonnets for My Past and Future Assassin
@ Harvard Book Store

National Book Award–winning poet Terrance Hayes discusses his latest book of poetry: a collection of seventy sonnets bearing the same title that, written during the first 200 days of the Trump presidency, are haunted by the country’s past and future eras and errors.

Thursday, June 21 / 7:00pm
Joseph A. Esposito
Dinner in Camelot: The Night America’s Greatest Scientists, Writers, and Scholars Partied at the Kennedy White House
@ Harvard Book Store

Historian, writer, and educator Joseph A. Esposito discusses a famed White House dinner held at the height of the Cold War in which prominent scientists, artists, writers, and Nobel laureates were in attendance—symbolizing a time when divergent views could be respectfully discussed at the highest level.

Friday, June 22 / 7:00pm
Lise Weil
In Search of Pure Lust: A Memoir
@ Harvard Book Store

Writer, editor, translator, and educator Lise Weil discusses her new memoir, written through the lens of her personal experiences as a lesbian coming of age in the ’70s and ’80s, that documents an important chapter in lesbian history.

“Weil’s quest to split the world open and recreate it anew takes her on a physical and spiritual journey that helps shape a movement—and ultimately lands her on a Zen cushion where she begins to recognize the gifts, as well as the limitations, of her own desire.”
—Donna M. Johnson

Saturday, June 23–24
10:00am—8:00pm
Our Summer Warehouse Sale: Days One and Two
@ Harvard Book Store Warehouse

Tickets for events requiring them are available online at harvard.com/events; at Harvard Book Store; and over the phone with a credit card (617.661.1515). Unless otherwise noted, venues are in Cambridge.

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