

September 2019 Events

Tuesday, September 3 / 6:00^{pm}

Madeline Miller

Circe: A Novel

@ the Brattle Theatre | 40 Brattle St.

THIS EVENT IS SOLD OUT
There will be a standby line

Tuesday, September 3 / 7:00^{pm}

Randall Munroe

How To: Absurd Scientific Advice for Common Real-World Problems

in conversation with DR. KATE DARLING

\$32-42 tickets (book included)

Science Book Talks

@ Sanders Theatre | 45 Quincy St.

Bestselling author and creator of the beloved webcomic *xkcd* Randall Munroe shares his highly impractical, yet scientifically sound, advice for everything from landing a plane to digging a hole. He'll be joined by Dr. Kate Darling, leading expert in Robot Ethics and researcher at the MIT Media Lab.

Wednesday, September 4 / 7:00^{pm}

Alan Lightman

Three Flames: A Novel

@ Harvard Book Store

The award-winning writer and theoretical physicist presents his latest novel, a vivid exploration of one Cambodian family's intergenerational struggles against a repressive society and a cruel patriarch.

Thursday, September 5 / 7:00^{pm}

Bina Venkataraman

The Optimist's Telescope: Thinking Ahead in a Reckless Age

in conversation with LISA MULLINS

@ Harvard Book Store

Bina Venkataraman—director of Global Policy Initiatives at the Broad Institute of Harvard and MIT—dispels the myth that human nature is inherently reckless with lessons learned through long-term planning. She'll be joined by Lisa Mullins, voice of WBUR's *All Things Considered*.

Friday, September 6 / 3:00^{pm}

Jean-Christophe Cloutier

Shadow Archives: The Lifecycles of African American Literature

in conversation with JESSE MCCARTHY

Friday Forum

@ Harvard Book Store

UPenn assistant professor of English Jean-Christophe Cloutier examines the struggle of black special collections to gain institutional support, and the black novel as an alternative site of historic preservation. He'll be joined by Jesse McCarthy, author and Harvard assistant professor of English and African American Studies. This event is co-sponsored by the Hutchins Center for African & African American Research.

Friday, September 6 / 7:00^{pm}

Jeanne McWilliams Blasberg

The Nine: A Novel

@ Harvard Book Store

Local writer Jeanne McWilliams Blasberg reads from her new novel, a portrait of an intense mother-son relationship and the corruption lurking beneath the prestigious veneer of a New England boarding school.

Sunday, September 8 / 7:00^{pm}

Nick Serpe, Quinn Slobodian, Alyssa Battistoni, and Adom Getachew

Dissent Magazine: Summer 2019 Issue

@ Harvard Book Store

Editor Nick Serpe, guest editor Quinn Slobodian, and contributors Alyssa Battistoni and Adom Getachew discuss the latest issue—"What is the Nation Good For?"—of the venerable leftist publication.

Monday, September 9 / 7:00^{pm}

Samantha Power

The Education of an Idealist: A Memoir

\$8 tickets

@ First Parish Church
1446 Mass. Ave.

Samantha Power—Harvard professor, Pulitzer Prize-winning author, and former U.S. ambassador to the United Nations—discusses her new memoir detailing everything from her time in the Obama White House to her childhood in Dublin with honesty, humor, and an eye towards the ways we can all work to advance the cause of human dignity.

Monday, September 9 / 7:00^{pm}

Carlos Andrés Gómez

Hijito: Poems

in conversation with
MAFAZ AL-SUWAIDAN

@ Harvard Book Store

Acclaimed poet Carlos Andrés Gómez reads from his debut collection, winner of the 2018 Broken River Prize. He'll be joined by Mafaz Al-Suwaidan, writer and PhD candidate in Religion at Harvard.

Tuesday, September 10 / 7:00^{pm}

Tatiana Schlossberg

Inconspicuous Consumption: The Environmental Impact You Don't Know You Have

@ Harvard Book Store

Journalist and former *New York Times* science writer Tatiana Schlossberg explains the unseen consequences of our choices in four areas—tech and the Internet, fashion, food, and fuel.

Wednesday, September 11 / 6:00^{pm}

Amitav Ghosh

Gun Island: A Novel

\$6 Tickets

@ the Brattle Theatre | 40 Brattle St.

The acclaimed, bestselling author of the *Ibis* trilogy reads from his new novel, the tale of a rare book dealer embarking on a journey across the changing globe and into the mythology of his childhood.

Wednesday, September 11 / 7:00^{pm}

Kimberly King Parsons

Black Light: Stories

in conversation with MARK DOTEN

New Voices in Fiction

@ Harvard Book Store

Award-winning writer Kimberly King Parsons reads from her debut collection of deeply perceptive stories about desire, self-sabotage, and Texas. She'll be joined by acclaimed novelist and editor Mark Doten. This event is co-sponsored by GrubStreet.

Thursday, September 12 / 7:00^{pm}

Nell Zink

Doxology: A Novel

@ Harvard Book Store

Acclaimed novelist Nell Zink shares her latest book, the chronicle of "the worst punk band on the Lower East Side" coming of age in the lead-up to, and the aftermath of, a world fractured by 9/11.

Thursday, September 12 / 7:30^{pm}

Malcolm Gladwell

Talking to Strangers: What We Should Know about the People We Don't Know

in conversation with NOAH FELDMAN

\$32.00 tickets (book included)

@ Back Bay Events Center
180 Berkeley St., Boston

Bestselling author and *New Yorker* staff writer Malcolm Gladwell examines the tools we use when interacting with strangers and why they often malfunction. He'll be joined by acclaimed author and Harvard Law professor Noah Feldman.

Friday, September 13 / 3:00^{pm}

Jay Wexler

Our Non-Christian Nation: How Atheists, Satanists, Pagans, and Others Are Demanding Their Rightful Place in Public Life

Friday Forum

@ Harvard Book Store

Jay Wexler—author, humorist, and professor at the Boston University School of Law—discusses his travels across America engaging with champions of free religious expression from a wide array of minority faiths.

Friday, September 13 / 7:00^{pm}

Benjamin Aldes Wurgaft

Meat Planet: Artificial Flesh and the Future of Food

@ Harvard Book Store

Writer and historian Benjamin Aldes Wurgaft explores the quest to generate "cultured meat" in the lab, whether it is the panacea it seems, and the implications it holds for the future of our food industry, ecology, and population.

Friday, September 13 / 7:00^{pm}

Salman Rushdie

Quichotte: A Novel

\$29.75 tickets (book included)

@ First Parish Church
1446 Mass. Ave.

Internationally renowned author Salman Rushdie reads from his take on Cervantes' *Don Quixote*, centered around a salesman with an imaginary son and an impossible crush on a TV star.

September 2019 Events, *continued*

Monday, September 16 / 7:00^{pm}

Elizabeth Ames

The Other's Gold: A Novel

New Voices in Fiction

@ Harvard Book Store

Debut local author Elizabeth Ames reads from her new novel, which follows four freshman year roommates—each dealing with their own terrible mistake—through college to their days as new parents.

Tuesday, September 17 / 6:00^{pm}

Emma Donoghue

Akin: A Novel

\$6 tickets

@ the Brattle Theatre | 40 Brattle St.

The critically acclaimed, bestselling author of *Room* presents her latest novel, the story of a retired chemistry professor forging an unexpected bond with his great-nephew on a trip to France.

Tuesday, September 17 / 7:00^{pm}

Kevin Barry

Night Boat to Tangier: A Novel

@ Harvard Book Store

Award-winning writer Kevin Barry shares his new novel, about two aging Irish drug smugglers ruminating on their shared and checkered histories in a sketchy Spanish ferry terminal. Support for this event is also provided by Culture Ireland.

Wednesday, September 18 / 7:00^{pm}

Petina Gappah

Out of Darkness, Shining Light: A Novel

@ Harvard Book Store

Award-winning, widely translated author Petina Gappah reads from her carefully researched novel, reimagining the long journey across the African continent to return Dr. Livingstone's body to England.

Wednesday, September 18 / 7:00^{pm}

Jacqueline Woodson

Red at the Bone: A Novel

\$8 tickets

@ First Parish Church
1446 Mass. Ave.

The renowned, bestselling author of *Another Brooklyn* and *Brown Girl Dreaming* presents her latest adult novel, in which she traces the reverberations of an unexpected pregnancy through the pasts, presents, and futures of two families from different social classes.

Wednesday, September 18 / 7:00^{pm}

Josh Campbell

Crossfire Hurricane: Inside Donald Trump's War on the FBI

in conversation with JULIETTE KAYYEM

\$6 tickets

@ First Church Cambridge | 11 Garden St.

The former special assistant to FBI director James Comey shares his gripping behind-the-scenes perspective of the Russia investigation. He'll be joined by homeland security expert and analyst Juliette Kayyem.

Thursday, September 19 / 7:00^{pm}

Eric Foner

The Second Founding: How the Civil War and Reconstruction Remade the Constitution

in conversation with
HENRY LOUIS GATES, JR.

\$8 tickets

@ First Parish Church
1446 Mass. Ave.

Pulitzer Prize-winning historian Eric Foner delivers a compact, insightful overview of the Reconstruction amendments, from their origin in pre-Civil War black activism to their effective nullification in the late 19th century. He'll be joined by preeminent scholar, literary critic, and filmmaker Henry Louis Gates, Jr.

Thursday, September 19 / 7:00^{pm}

Gina Rippon

Gender and our Brains: How New Neuroscience Explodes the Myths of the Male and Female Minds

@ Harvard Book Store

Gina Rippon—Honorary Professor of Cognitive Neuroimaging at England's Aston University—unpacks the ways in which, rather than being deeply encoded, gendered stereotypes shape and influence our brains from birth.

Friday, September 20 / 3:00^{pm}

Lori Harrison-Kahan

The Superwoman and Other Writings by Miriam Michelson

in conversation with JOAN MICHELSON

Friday Forum

@ Harvard Book Store

Editor and professor Lori Harrison-Kahan discusses her new book, the first collection of work by best-selling novelist, revolutionary journalist, and early 20th century feminist activist Miriam Michelson. She'll be joined by Michelson's great-great-niece, acclaimed podcast host Joan Michelson.

Friday, September 20 / 7:00^{pm}

Rawi Hage

Beirut Hellfire Society: A Novel

in conversation with TEJU COLE

@ Harvard Book Store

Award-winning author Rawi Hage reads from his latest novel, about the son of an undertaker conscripted into working with an underground anti-religious sect that arranges secret burials for societal outcasts. He'll be joined by Teju Cole, author and photography critic for the *New York Times Magazine*.

Monday, September 23 / 7:00^{pm}

**Caitlin Zaloom and
Anthony Abraham Jack**

Indebted: How Families Make College Work at Any Cost

and

The Privileged Poor: How Elite Colleges Are Failing Disadvantaged Students

@ Harvard Book Store

Authors and professors Caitlin Zaloom and Anthony Abraham Jack discuss their investigations into the myriad ways our current higher education system places an undue burden of economic and sociological stress on all but the wealthiest individuals.

Tuesday, September 24 / 6:00^{pm}

Alice Hoffman

The World That We Knew: A Novel

\$6 tickets

@ the Brattle Theatre | 40 Brattle St.

The beloved, bestselling local author brings her unique brand of magical realism to a moving and wholly original story about three women (one a golem) surviving the Nazi regime in Berlin.

Tuesday, September 24 / 7:00^{pm}

Lara Prescott

The Secrets We Kept: A Novel

in conversation with MICHELLE HOOVER

New Voices in Fiction

@ Harvard Book Store

Award-winning author Lara Prescott reads from her debut novel, in which two CIA secretaries are tasked with smuggling *Doctor Zhivago* out of the USSR to share with readers around the world. She'll be joined by Michelle Hoover, head of GrubStreet's Novel Incubator program. This event is co-sponsored by GrubStreet.

Wednesday, September 25 / 7:00^{pm}

Daron Acemoglu

The Narrow Corridor: States, Societies, and the Fate of Liberty

@ Harvard Book Store

Daron Acemoglu, renowned economist and Institute Professor at MIT, explains exactly what constitutes 'liberty' in a free society and how we must strive to maintain that fragile balance.

Thursday, September 26 / 7:00^{pm}

James Verini

They Will Have to Die Now: Mosul and the Fall of the Caliphate

@ Harvard Book Store

Award-winning journalist James Verini details his time in Iraq witnessing the Battle of Mosul, "the most significant urban combat since WWII."

Friday, September 27 / 3:00^{pm}

Katrina Forrester

In the Shadow of Justice: Postwar Liberalism and the Remaking of Political Philosophy

in conversation with BRANDON M. TERRY

Friday Forum: Ethics in Your World

@ Harvard Book Store

Harvard professor Katrina Forrester shares the story of how liberal political philosophy was transformed in the second half of the twentieth century under the influence of John Rawls. She'll be joined by Brandon M. Terry, Assistant Professor of African and African American Studies and Social Studies at Harvard. This event is co-sponsored by the Edmond J. Safra Center for Ethics at Harvard University.

Friday, September 27 / 7:00^{pm}

Maaza Mengiste

The Shadow King: A Novel

@ Harvard Book Store

Acclaimed author, Fulbright scholar, and professor Maaza Mengiste reads from her latest novel: the story of Hirut, an Ethiopian maid who takes a stand against Mussolini's advancing armies.

Monday, September 30 / 7:00^{pm}

The Harvard Square Book Circle

discusses Natalia Ginzburg's *Family Lexicon*

@ Harvard Book Store

Our in-store book club discusses Natalia Ginzburg's masterpiece of autofiction, translated by Jenny McPhee.

Tickets for events requiring them are available at harvard.com/events. All venues are in Cambridge, unless otherwise specified.

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