



CHARLESTON — TO — CHARLESTON

LITERARY FESTIVAL

NOVEMBER 2-5 2017

An International Festival
Celebrating Literature,
Ideas and Creativity.

CHARLESTONTOCHARLESTON.COM

WELCOME



Welcome to an exciting new trans-Atlantic literary festival hosted by two remarkable sites named Charleston. The partnership between two locations with the same name, separated by a vast oceanic expanse, is no mere coincidence. Through the past several centuries, both Charleston, SC and Charleston, Sussex have been home to extraordinary scholars, authors and artists. A collaborative literary festival is a natural and timely expression of their shared legacies.

Established in 1748, the Charleston Library Society is the oldest cultural institution in the South and the country's second oldest circulating library. Boasting four signers of the Declaration of Independence and hosting recent presentations by internationally acclaimed scholars such as David McCullough, Jon Meacham, and Justice Sandra Day O'Connor, its collections and programs reflect the history of intellectual curiosity in America.

The Charleston Farmhouse in Sussex, England was home to the famed Bloomsbury group - influential, forward-looking artists, writers, and thinkers, including Virginia Woolf, John Maynard Keynes, Vanessa Bell, Duncan Grant and frequent guests Benjamin Britten, E.M. Forster and T.S. Eliot. For almost thirty years, Charleston has offered one of the most well-respected literary festivals in Europe, where innovation and inspiration thrive.

This year's Charleston to Charleston Literary Festival inaugurates a partnership dedicated to literature, ideas, and creativity. With venues as historic as the society itself, the new festival will share Charleston's famed Southern hospitality while offering vibrant insights from contemporary speakers from around the globe. Thank you for joining our first year's curated series of stimulating, enriching, and entertaining conversations with some of today's brightest thinkers.

Anne Cleveland
Executive Director, Charleston Library Society



CHARLESTON - WHAT'S IN A NAME?



In Shakespeare's *Romeo and Juliet*, Juliet (a Capulet) poses the question, "What's in a name?" She is referring to the danger of loving a Montague! She even suggests that

Romeo should 'doff' his family name, knowing that this alone will be the barrier which keeps them apart. For The Charleston Trust, Sussex and the Charleston Library Society, South Carolina this will never be a problem. Quite the opposite, we share 'a name' that has brought us together!

Artists Bell and Grant came to Charleston, a Sussex farmhouse, in 1916 and attracted many creative minds to join them. Soon after Grant died in 1978, its unique art, culture and heritage value was recognised. Dedicated campaigners founded the Charleston Trust and fought tirelessly to raise sufficient funds, some through arranging international seminars in the US, to

secure Charleston's permanent survival.

The artists and scholars that created the Bloomsbury community in Sussex were by nature internationalists. So, to collaborate with an esteemed, long-established literary society in the US has become a key component of our mission; there could be a no better partner than the Charleston Library Society, SC. We are delighted to bring to the partnership our near 30-year experience of running an annual literary festival in May, and a short story festival, *Small Wonder*, in September. We look forward to seeing you at our debut joint festival in November with writers from both sides of the Atlantic.

Let's celebrate the name 'Charleston' and use it to its full advantage!

Michael Farthing
Chair, The Charleston Trust



Charleston Library Society, SC. Charleston Festival © A Hessenberg



INTRODUCTION TO THE FESTIVAL



Literary festivals have become part of the cultural landscape in the UK and the US. They satisfy an ancient urge to share stories and ideas in a communal fashion. Writers being

seen as well as read and engaging in lively conversations provide an antidote to digital remoteness. Literature has always been the greatest source of learning about empathy, teaching us what it feels like to be in someone else's shoes, and in turbulent times writers and artists frequently assume the role of protectors of the ethical high ground. Literary festivals are also fun and an excuse to socialize with others who have been involved in a similar experience: listening to authors talking to each other and to an audience.

Given the volatile period in which we are living, it seemed a positive gesture to reinforce the special cultural relationship between the UK and the US, and the unifying and humanizing values of literature and art, by founding a new international festival: a partnership between Charleston, SC and Charleston in England, both bastions of progressive ideas and innovation. The program includes UK writers who have participated in the Charleston Festival in Sussex over the years as well as authors local to Charleston, SC. The themes vary from Shakespeare to modernism, creativity to middle-aged crises. We are sure it will be a true meeting of minds between the speakers and their audiences. Come along and be inspired.

Diana Reich

Chair, Artistic Committee,

Charleston to Charleston Festival and

Artistic Director, Charleston Festival UK

BREATHE

WILLIAM NICHOLSON

TIMES:

**6:00PM - Red Carpet and Private VIP
Champagne Reception**

7:00PM - Introduction and Screening

**9:00PM - Q&A with William
Nicholson**

**TICKETS: INTRODUCTION,
SCREENING, Q & A: \$25
(STUDENT \$15)**

**VIP RECEPTION, INTRODUCTION,
SCREENING, Q&A: \$60**

VENUE: CHARLESTON MUSIC HALL

The Charleston to Charleston Literary Festival will host a red carpet premiere screening of *Breathe*, a highly anticipated fall release with lead actors Claire Foy (*The Crown*) and Andrew Garfield (*The Amazing Spider-Man*; *Hacksaw Ridge*) plus a supporting cast including Hugh Bonneville (*Downton Abbey*) and screen legend Diana Rigg (*Game of Thrones*; *The Avengers*). The film has been chosen to open the BFI London Film Festival this October. The premiere includes an exclusive introduction before the screening by its distinguished screenwriter **William Nicholson** with a question and answer session to follow.



Breathe is an original screenplay based on a true love story of universal resonance: the life of adventurous and charismatic Robin Cavendish who, paralyzed with polio while in Africa, with his whole life still ahead of him, refused to be limited by medical advice. *Breathe* is directed by Andy Serkis (*The Lord of the Rings Trilogy*; *Rise of the Planet of the Apes*) and produced by Jonathan Cavendish (*Bridget Jones's Diary*), upon whose parents' story the film is based: two indomitable spirits who defy the odds and the skeptics to pave the way for change.

William Nicholson is a twice Academy Award-nominated screenwriter for *Shadowlands* and

Gladiator (for which he was co-writer). His other film credits include *Les Misérables*, *Mandela: Long Walk to Freedom*, *Unbroken*, and *Everest*. He is also a successful writer of plays for the theatre and television.

A unique opportunity to enjoy the film and gain more inside knowledge from William Nicholson about the true story behind it as well as the trials and tribulations of making it happen.

The VIP ticket includes admittance to a pre-screening champagne hour with passed hors d'oeuvres and access to priority seating. Tickets for this event available only from Charleston Music Hall (p22 for details)

SMALL WORLD: Charleston Connections

CHARLES ANSON AND JULIET NICOLSON

TIME: 12PM

TICKETS: \$25

LECTURE AND RECEPTION \$50

VENUE: ST. STEPHENS EPISCOPAL CHURCH,
POST LECTURE RECEPTION: MCCANN
RESIDENCE, 56 SOCIETY STREET



Images: [top] Admiral of the Fleet George Anson [below] Dawn Pepita

Charleston UK and Charleston SC epitomize the theory of six degrees of separation. **Charles Anson** and **Juliet Nicolson**, who live close to Charleston, Sussex, have unexpected local connections. Charles Anson, former British Diplomat and Press Secretary to the Queen, is a descendant of Admiral George Anson, who was stationed in Charleston, SC in the 1720s. The Admiral was a popular figure in 1720s Charleston, where he acquired land, built a home and sold plots forming the residential area of Ansonborough. He subsequently became First Lord of the Admiralty and was known as the father of the modern British Navy when it was at its most powerful.

Juliet Nicolson, granddaughter of author and gardener Vita Sackville-West (to whom Virginia Woolf's gender shifting novel, *Orlando*, was dedicated) also has an unusual link to Charleston

in SC. The son of two of her grandmother's servants at Sissinghurst Castle resided in Charleston, SC in great luxury and style in the 1960s. Having lived



as a man for thirty years, he was one of the first to undergo gender re-assignment in 1968, with financial help provided by the actress Margaret Rutherford and the heiress Isabel Whitney. On Whitney's death, Dawn Pepita, as the former Gordon was now known, inherited a fortune and bought an 1840s mansion in Charleston's Ansonborough district, where she wed her much younger butler in the first legal inter-racial marriage in South Carolina, raised a daughter, published books and scandalized local society.

Charles Anson and Juliet Nicolson will elaborate on their intriguing ties with Charleston SC.

FRIDAY NOVEMBER 3

BLOOMSBURY AND CHARLESTON:

Tradition and Modernism

**BARBARA BELLOWES ROCKEFELLER
AND FRANCES SPALDING**

TIME: 3PM

TICKETS: \$25

VENUE: CHARLESTON LIBRARY SOCIETY

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Charleston, SC at that time. **Barbara Bellows Rockefeller** and **Frances Spalding** consider the circumstances that led to the burgeoning of radical new art forms and alternative ways of living in such disparate parts of the globe - Sussex UK and the American Deep South.

Professor Frances Spalding is an art historian and biographer of Vanessa Bell, Duncan Grant and Roger Fry. A historian of the American South and a former professor at Middlebury College, Barbara Bellows Rockefeller's publications on the Charleston Renaissance include a biography of Josephine Pinckney.

Original Hogarth Press cover image - supplied by Peter Grogan. Porgo image (top) by Kerri Harding

The city of Charleston in South Carolina and Charleston, a small farmhouse in Sussex, England, share the reputation of being epicenters of modernism in the first half of the 20th century. Charleston in the UK, the rural home of the Bloomsbury group painters Vanessa Bell and Duncan Grant, was a hub of creative and intellectual activity as well as social and domestic experimentation. Frequent guests included innovative artists and writers such as Virginia Woolf (Bell's sister), Leonard Woolf, Clive Bell, John Maynard Keynes, Lytton Strachey, Roger Fry, as well as T.S. Eliot, E.M. Forster and Benjamin Britten. Charleston in South Carolina is also associated with an explosion of creativity and artistry during a similar period. Pioneering writers, artists and musicians, such as Josephine Pinckney, Alfred Hutty, DuBose Heyward and George Gershwin lived and worked in

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REIMAGINING SHAKESPEARE:

The Bard at Home and Away

**BERNARD CORNWELL AND
DOMINIC DROMGOOLE
WITH NAN MORRISON**

TIME: 5.30PM - Lecture Venue:
Circular Congregational Church

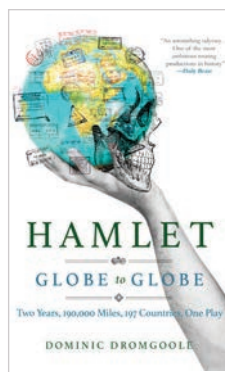
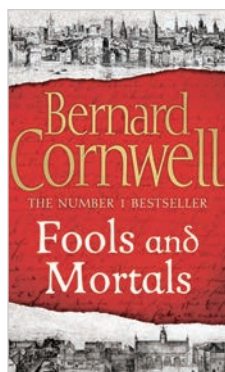
7.30PM - Post Lecture Reception:
Charleston Library Society

**TICKETS: LECTURE \$50,
LECTURE & RECEPTION \$150**

Shakespeare is both omnipresent and mysterious. In his new novel, *Fools and Mortals* (published in the States early next year), **Bernard Cornwell**, the internationally bestselling author, explores the legends surrounding Shakespeare by recreating the life of the playwright's younger brother Richard. Taking readers into the heart of the Elizabethan era, Cornwell portrays Richard as a struggling actor in a company dominated by his estranged older brother, William. The dramatic plot centers on rivalry, conflict, intrigue and betrayal, as in so many Shakespearean dramas. By making history come alive through the prism of Shakespeare's brother, Cornwell brings us closer to the enigma of the Bard and his times.

Dominic Dromgoole, Director of London's Globe Theatre for 11 years, had the inspired idea of taking a production of *Hamlet* to every country in the world to mark the 450th anniversary of Shakespeare's birth. His fascinating book, *Hamlet Globe to Globe* (a *New York Times* Book Review Editor's Choice), is the behind-the-scenes story of this incredible project which involved performing in 190 countries, with audiences ranging from UN ambassadors to Syrian refugees. The players endured food poisoning in Mexico, Ebola in Africa, political upheaval in Ukraine and many other misadventures. Nevertheless, the experience revealed the enduring power of Shakespeare to transcend borders, touch the heart and help our understanding of a changing world.

Dr. Nan Morrison is a professor emerita of English at the College of Charleston where she taught Shakespeare and Southern Literature.



DIVIDED WE STAND:

The Battle Over Women's Rights

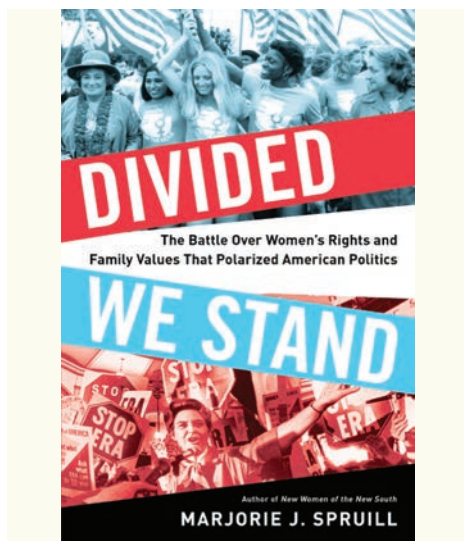
MARJORIE SPRUILL AND BELINDA GERGEL
WITH MARGARET BRADHAM THORNTON

TIME: 11AM

TICKETS: \$25

VENUE: CHARLESTON LIBRARY SOCIETY

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Marjorie Spruill's recent book *Divided We Stand* charts the history and aftermath of "the most important event nobody knows about" (Gloria Steinem): the National Women's Conference which took place in Houston in 1977. Did it pave the way for an irrevocable split between feminists and their conservative challengers, dividing the nation, as Democrats continue to support women's rights and Republicans cast themselves as the party of family values to this day? A reappraisal of the pivotal and polarizing events that transpired in Houston and immediately after feels especially charged given the current political climate. Marjorie Spruill, teacher of women's history, southern history and recent American history at the University of South Carolina, and author

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of *The South in the History of the Nation*, will be in conversation with **Belinda Gergel**, who is the former Chair of the History and Political Science Department at Columbia College. The author of numerous works on SC history, she was co-editor of *Matthew J. Perry: The Man, His Times, and His Legacy*. She has served as President of the Historic Columbia Foundation and the SC Jewish Historical Society. She currently serves on the Board of Trustees of Claflin University in SC and chairs the board of the Fort Sumter-Fort Moultrie Trust. **Margaret Bradham Thornton** is the award-winning Editor of the *Notebooks of Tennessee Williams*. She recently published her first novel, *Charleston*.

MEDITATIONS ON GREATNESS

BEN OKRI WITH JONATHAN GREEN

TIME: 1PM

TICKETS: \$25

VENUE: CHARLESTON LIBRARY SOCIETY



Against the backdrop of our troubling times, the poet and novelist **Ben Okri** offers a timely and timeless meditation on qualities we need to survive and transcend the age in which we live. His sometimes provocative thoughts are distilled from the world of politics and culture, and they come at the role of the human from an unexpected angle. After the lecture, there will follow conversations on the themes of the talk as they relate to contemporary issues. Ben Okri's many books have been translated into 26 languages, and have won numerous international prizes including the Commonwealth Writer's Prize for Africa and The Aga Khan Prize for Fiction. *The Famished Road* won the Booker Prize in 1991. He was presented with the Crystal Award by the World Economic Forum for his outstanding contribution to the arts and cross-cultural understanding. Ben Okri will be in conversation with nationally acclaimed and awarded artist **Jonathan Green**, a visual master in capturing the positive aspects of American



and African American Southern culture, history, and traditions. His social interests and cultural commitments have brought him international recognition. He has received numerous honors and awards for his art, social, civic, academic, and cultural contributions. In recent years, he has combined his role as artist with co-creating the Lowcountry Rice Culture Project. Currently, Jonathan Green resides and paints in his studio in Charleston, SC.

Images: [top] Ben Okri [below] Jonathan Green © Charlie Smith

BABYBOOMER BLUES

WILLIAM NICHOLSON
AND MIRANDA SAWYER
WITH JULIET NICOLSON

TIME: 3PM

TICKETS: \$25

VENUE: CHARLESTON LIBRARY SOCIETY

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Image: [top] Miranda Sawyer

For some, life begins in middle age; for others, it is a time for stocktaking or even dread. Journalist and broadcaster **Miranda Sawyer's** mid-life crisis struck in her forties. It did not take a traditional form - she did not run off with her Pilates teacher - but the sudden jolt prompted an exploration of this frequently mocked life stage. Her resulting book *Out of Time* is based on interviews to discover how a wide range of artists, musicians, friends and colleagues dealt with the experience. Screenwriter and novelist **William Nicholson** believes that mid-life is a time for positive re-invention. His most recent novel *Adventures in Modern Marriage* is set very close to Charleston UK over the weekend of the 2015 Parliamentary election. It dissects the ups and downs of a long-term marital relationship and the middle-aged desire to give oneself the slip and start again. Chaired by historian, novelist and memoirist, **Juliet Nicolson**.

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REIMAGINING SHAKESPEARE:

The Gap of Time

JEANETTE WINTERSON

TIME: 5PM – Lecture Venue:
Congregational Church

7.30PM – Post Lecture Reception:
Home of Margaret and John Thornton,
Pineapple Gate House, 14 Legare Street

TICKETS: LECTURE \$50,
LECTURE & RECEPTION \$150

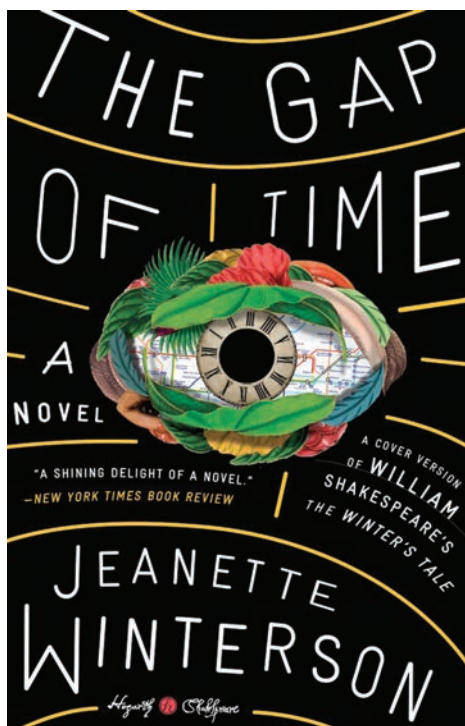
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Shakespeare was a great re-imaginer, frequently basing his plays on existing stories. **Jeanette Winterson's** *The Gap of Time* is a response to his late play *The Winter's Tale*, which revolves around lost children, jealousy and salvation. The drama has personal significance for Winterson: as an adopted child herself, the story of Perdita, the abandoned baby in *The Winter's Tale*, has resonances in her own life. She was brought up by Pentecostal adoptive parents in the North of England, an experience she wrote about in her first novel *Oranges Are Not the Only Fruit* and more recently in her memoir *Why Be Happy When You Could Be Normal?* *The Gap of Time* has echoes of *The Winter's Tale*, but tells a contemporary story of betrayal, paranoia and redemption. The result is "A shining delight of a novel" (*The New York Times*). Expect a zestful performance.

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Jeanette Winterson © Peters Fraser and Dunlop



SUNDAY NOVEMBER 5

VIRGINIA WOOLF AND BLOOMSBURY PAINTING:

When are Words Not Enough?

FRANCES SPALDING

TIME: 1PM

TICKETS: \$25

VENUE: CHARLESTON LIBRARY SOCIETY

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"What can six apples not be?" This was the question Virginia Woolf asked herself as she watched three Bloomsbury painters subject a small picture of apples

by Cézanne to intense scrutiny. This is not the only moment when painting disturbed her. "Artists are an abominable race," she declared. But the strong colors which her sister Vanessa Bell and Duncan Grant began to use, in imitation of French post-impressionism, called for her attention. And suddenly, she too, as a writer, wanted to experiment and go modern. She began to rethink the shape and purpose of the novel, and before long she began to insist that "painting and writing have much to tell each other, they have much in common." Indeed, they have, as this talk will show.

Professor Frances Spalding is an art historian, biographer and critic. In 2014 she curated the exhibition, 'Virginia Woolf: Life, Art and Vision' for the National Portrait Gallery London, and wrote the accompanying book of the same title.



CHARLESTON AND SISSINGHURST:

Preserving Artistic and Literary Legacies

VIRGINIA NICHOLSON
AND JULIET NICOLSON
WITH CARTER HUDGINS

TIME: 3.30PM

TICKETS: \$25

VENUE: CHARLESTON LIBRARY SOCIETY

What is it like to grow up in an historic house and return years later to find tourists from all over the world wandering through the spaces you knew and loved as a child? Charleston and Sissinghurst are two of the most iconic houses in England open to the public, although entirely different in scale. Charleston, the former rural home of the artists Vanessa Bell and Duncan Grant and a meeting place for some of the most influential creators and thinkers of the early part of the 20th century, is a modest Sussex farmhouse and the last surviving example of a complete Bloomsbury-decorated interior. Sissinghurst Castle is the former home of the author Vita Sackville-West and the diplomat Harold Nicolson. The glorious garden that they created is one of the most important in the UK and part of the National Trust portfolio.

Virginia Nicholson and Juliet Nicolson will discuss sharing their childhood homes with

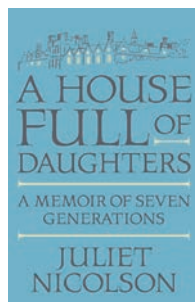


Image: Charleston, UK © T Tree

the public, tensions between preservation and embracing new ideas, and the challenges inherent in being seen as 'keepers of the flame'. Virginia Nicholson is the granddaughter of Vanessa Bell and a social historian

specializing in 20th century women's lives in the UK. Juliet Nicolson is the granddaughter of Vita Sackville-West. She has written about Vita in her recent memoir, *A House Full of Daughters*. With a slightly different perspective on historic homes, Carter Hudgins will chair the conversation.

Dr. Hudgins is the President and CEO of Drayton Hall Preservation Trust, an organization that safeguards America's earliest example of fully executed Palladian architecture and the oldest preserved plantation house in the United States still open to the public.



SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES

CHARLES ANSON

Charles Anson was in the British Diplomatic Service for 20 years, during which he served twice at the British Embassy in Washington, latterly as Embassy spokesman during the Falklands Campaign. Previously, he was posted to Tehran up to and including the Revolution of 1978/79, during which he and other colleagues in the Embassy were briefly taken hostage by Iranian revolutionaries. In London, Anson worked at Number 10 Downing Street as press officer for two Prime Ministers, James Callaghan and Margaret Thatcher, between 1979-81. From 1990-97, Anson was Press Secretary to The Queen during a difficult period (*Annus Horribilis*). He was made a Commander of the Royal Victorian Order (CVO) by Her Majesty in 1996 for services to the Royal Family.

Anson is currently a communications consultant working with the media in public and private sector roles. He is married to Juliet Nicolson, author and social historian. They live in Sussex near Charleston.

BERNARD CORNWELL

Bernard Cornwell is the author of over 50 novels published in 30 countries in 28 languages and has sold over 20 million books worldwide. His highly popular *Last Kingdom* book series, based on the Saxons and the Danes in 9th and 10th century Britain, features the enigmatic warrior Uhtred Ragnarson. Two of his novels have been made into television hits in the States and the UK. *Fools and Mortals*, which follows the life of Richard Shakespeare, is a dramatic new departure, although the Elizabethan era is one of Cornwell's favorite periods of British history. It is published in the UK this fall and in the States in early 2018.

"Cornwell really makes history come alive" (George R.R. Martin).

Bernard Cornwell was born in London. He and his American wife now divide their time between Cape Cod and Charleston, SC.

DOMINIC DROMGOOLE

Dominic Dromgoole was the Artistic Director of Shakespeare's Globe Theatre in London from 2006 to 2016. In that time the Globe grew into an international theater of progressive ambition and radical scope. Amongst other projects, Dromgoole created a UK-wide touring operation and grew this touring internationally, culminating in a two-year tour of *Hamlet* which travelled to every country in the world. In 2012, he directed the Globe to Globe Festival, which hosted companies from 37 different countries. Dromgoole is the author of *The Full Room: An A-Z of Contemporary Playwriting* and of *Will and Me: How Shakespeare Took Over My Life*. His latest book *Hamlet, Globe to Globe* was published in the US earlier this year.

Dromgoole recently launched a new film company and made his first feature, *Making Noise Quietly*. He has also launched a new theater company which will present a series of Oscar Wilde plays in the West End this autumn.

BELINDA GERGEL

Belinda Gergel is the former Chair of the History and Political Science Department at Columbia College. The author of numerous works on South Carolina history, she was co-editor of *Matthew J. Perry: The Man, His Times, and His Legacy*. She has served as President of the Historic Columbia Foundation and the SC Jewish Historical Society and on the boards of Brookgreen Gardens and the Southern Garden Historical Society. She currently serves on the Board of Trustees of Claflin University in Orangeburg, SC, and chairs the board of the Fort Sumter-Fort Moultrie Trust. Dr. Gergel was elected to the Columbia City Council in 2008. She was the recipient of the Palmetto Trust/Governor's Elected Official Honor Award in 2009 for her work in support of historic preservation in South Carolina. She relocated to Charleston in 2012 to join her husband, United States District Judge Richard Mark Gergel.

JONATHAN GREEN

Jonathan Green is a nationally acclaimed and awarded artist who graduated from The School of the Art Institute of Chicago in 1982. His track record of creating art and extensive inclusions in museum collections and exhibitions throughout the world has led to Green being considered a leading contemporary American artist. His is a highly recognizable visual mastery for capturing the positive aspects of American and African American Southern culture, history, and traditions.

Green has received numerous honors and awards for his art, social, civic, academic, and cultural contributions. He serves on the International African American Museum, Gaillard Auditorium Boards in Charleston, SC, and many cultural advisory committees throughout the south. In recent years, he has combined his role as artist with co-creating the Lowcountry Rice Culture Project, which builds partnerships to explore, reveal, and reclaim the shared cultural inheritance of the Lowcountry rice industry. He currently resides and paints in his studio located in Charleston, SC.

CARTER HUDGINS

Carter Hudgins is the President and CEO of Drayton Hall Preservation Trust, which safeguards America's earliest examples of Palladian architecture and the oldest preserved plantation house still open to the public. Before working at Drayton Hall, Hudgins also served as site supervisor and archaeologist for the Jamestown Rediscovery Project in Jamestown, VA. He also taught at the University of Virginia and the College of William and Mary, and is published in *Antiques and Fine Art*, *Antiques*, *Early American Studies* and other magazines, journals and edited volumes.

NAN MORRISON

Nan Morrison is a professor emeritus of English at the College of Charleston where she taught Shakespeare and Southern Literature, wrote articles in those areas, and held the Maybelle Higgins Howe Chair. A lecturer in the Lifelong Learning Series at the Charleston Library Society, she is the author of *The History of the College of Charleston 1936-2008*.

VIRGINIA NICHOLSON

Virginia Nicholson is the daughter of art historian and writer Quentin Bell, acclaimed for his biography of his aunt Virginia Woolf, and Anne Olivier Bell, editor of the five volumes of Virginia Woolf's Diaries. She spent her childhood summers at the home of her grandmother, Bloomsbury artist Vanessa Bell, at Charleston in Sussex.

Her first book (co-authored with her father) *Charleston - A Bloomsbury House and Garden* was published in 1997. In 2002 she published *Among the Bohemians - Experiments in Living 1900-1939* to critical acclaim. Since then she has published *Singled Out - How Two Million Women Survived Without Men After the First World War*, *Millions Like Us - Women's Lives in War and Peace 1939-1949*, followed by *Perfect Wives in Ideal Homes - The Story of Women in the 1950s*.

She lives with her husband, screenwriter and novelist William Nicholson, in Sussex close to Charleston, where she is a trustee.

WILLIAM NICHOLSON

William Nicholson is a screenwriter, novelist and playwright. His plays for television include *Shadowlands* and *Life Story*, both of which won the BAFTA Best Television Drama Award. In 1988 he received the Royal Television Society's Writer's Award. His first play, an adaptation of *Shadowlands* for the stage, went on to a Tony Award winning run on Broadway. He was nominated for an Oscar for the screenplay of the film version. Since then his film credits include: *Sarafina*, *Nell*, *First Knight*, *Grey Owl*, *Gladiator* (as co-writer, for which he received a second Oscar nomination), *Elizabeth: the Golden Age*, *Les Misérables*, *Mandela: Long Walk to Freedom*, *Unbroken*, and *Everest*.

His novels for adults are *The Society of Others*, *The Trial of True Love*, *The Secret Intensity of Everyday Life*, *All the Hopeful Lovers*, *The Golden Hour*, *Motherland*, *Reckless*, *The Lovers of Amherst* - which centers on the life of Emily Dickinson - and *Adventures in Modern Marriage*. He has also written fantasy novels for children,

He lives in Sussex UK with his wife, the social historian and granddaughter of Vanessa Bell, Virginia Nicholson.

JULIET NICOLSON

Juliet Nicolson is the author of two works of history, *The Great Silence: 1918-1920 Living in the Shadow of the Great War* and *The Perfect Summer: Dancing into the Shadow in 1911*, and a novel, *Abdication*. Her current book is a memoir, *A House Full of Daughters*: "Nicolson makes it easy to see why she would be fascinated by her family, especially the women. In quick, colorful strokes, she sketches a series of vivid portraits . . . Nicolson is a marvellous writer, with a wonderful eye for detail" - New York Times Book Review. She lives with her husband Charles Anson not far from Sissinghurst, where she spent her childhood, and close to Charleston, Sussex.

BEN OKRI

Ben Okri has published many books including *The Famished Road*, which won the Booker Prize in 1991, *The Age of Magic*, *Dangerous Love*, *In Arcadia*, and *Astonishing the Gods*. He has published ten novels, three books of short stories, two collections of essays, and three volumes of poems, the latest being *Wild*. His works have been translated into 26 languages. He has been a Fellow Commoner in Creative Arts at Trinity College, Cambridge and is a Fellow of the Royal Society of Literature. His books have won numerous international prizes including the Commonwealth Writer's Prize for Africa and the Paris Review Aga Khan Prize for Fiction. He is a vice-president of the English Centre of International PEN. Ben Okri was born in Nigeria, and lives in London.

BARBARA BELLAWS ROCKEFELLER

Barbara Bellaws Rockefeller is a writer and historian who has published books and articles on aspects of the history and culture of the American South. For many years she was a professor of history at Middlebury College. She has been a fellow of the Institute for Southern Studies at the University of South Carolina, where she received her Ph.D. Rockefeller has also been a member of the Governing Council of the Rockefeller Archive Center and was a member of the founding board of the Rockefeller Philanthropy Advisors. She is the biographer of Josephine Pinckney, a founding member of what became known as the Charleston Renaissance.

MIRANDA SAWYER

Miranda Sawyer is an English journalist and broadcaster. Besides her features and radio criticism for the *Observer* newspaper, her writing has appeared in *GQ*, *Vogue* and the *Guardian*. She is a regular arts critic in print, on television and on radio. Her most recent book is *Out of Time*. She is currently writing her third book, entitled *Long Term*, about long-term relationships, to be published in 2018. She broadcasts on BBC Radio 4 and for The Culture Show (BBC TV). She is on the board of Tate Members, the South London Gallery and Sound Women.

FRANCES SPALDING

Frances Spalding is an art historian, biographer and critic. She has written 15 books, including a centenary history of the Tate Gallery (now Tate Britain and Tate Modern). Her biographies include lives of Vanessa Bell, Duncan Grant and Roger Fry, and in 2014 she curated the exhibition 'Virginia Woolf: Life, Art and Vision' for the National Portrait Gallery and wrote the accompanying book of the same title. She taught at Newcastle University where she was Professor of Art History, and left to take on the role as Editor of the *Burlington Magazine*. She is currently a Fellow of Clare Hall at Cambridge University and a Fellow of the Royal Society of Literature.

MARJORIE SPRUILL

Marjorie Spruill teaches women's history, Southern history and recent American history at the University of South Carolina. She is the author of *New Women of the New South* and the editor and co-editor of several anthologies, including *The South in the History of the Nation*. She is on the editorial board of the *Journal of American Studies*, the journal of the British Association of American Studies. She lives in South Carolina.

MARGARET BRADHAM THORNTON

Margaret Bradham Thornton is the Editor of Tennessee Williams' *Notebooks*, for which she received the C.Hugh Holman Prize for the best volume of southern literary scholarship. Her debut novel, *Charleston*, was published in 2014. A native of Charleston and graduate of Princeton, she attended Cambridge University and worked on Wall Street.

JEANETTE WINTERSON

Jeanette Winterson was born in Manchester, UK, to a 17 year-old single mother. She was brought up by Pentecostal adoptive parents and raised to be a missionary. Shortly after graduating, she published her first book, *Oranges Are Not The Only Fruit*, a fictionalized account of her unconventional childhood and adolescent rebellion, which brought her instant critical acclaim and fame. Her subsequent books include *Sexing the Cherry*, *Written on the Body*, *Art and Lies*, *The Passion*, *Gut Symmetries*, *The Powerbook*, her memoir, *Why Be Happy When You Could Be Normal?* and *The Gap of Time*. Winterson has won numerous awards for her work and is published in 18 countries. She is Professor of New Writing at the University of Manchester.

CHARLESTON TO CHARLESTON FESTIVAL VENUES

With venues as historic as the city itself, the Charleston to Charleston Literary Festival will showcase Charleston's rich tapestry of architecture along with some of today's most vibrant speakers.

Most events will take place in the Charleston Library Society's Main Reading Room, but events will also be held at the Charleston Music Hall and the Circular Congregational Church.

CHARLESTON LIBRARY SOCIETY'S BEAUX ARTS BUILDING: 164 KING STREET

Home of the second oldest circulating library in America, the Beaux Arts Building provides a beautiful setting for literary discussion, with books and historic exhibits surrounding a large, sun-drenched space. Built in 1914 at the height of the city's Gilded Age, it holds court atop King Street and boasts an original marble checkerboard floor; vast marble steps at the entryway, and iconic Palladian windows.

Rotating exhibits highlight the extensive collections found within the building's glass-floored stacks and secure vaults. From books and newspapers of colonial times, to the latest releases in contemporary fiction, the Charleston Library Society is a uniquely stunning library, research facility, and event space.



CHARLESTON MUSIC HALL: 37 JOHN STREET

Originally built in 1849-1850 as a passenger station for the South Carolina Railroad and designed by Charleston architect Edward C. Jones, the Charleston Music Hall is an anchoring presence on John Street. This Gothic Revival style building features turrets, traceried lancet windows, sunken panels, and heavy doors, giving it the feel of an ancient European castle.



The building became part of a cotton processing factory after the Civil War; until an 1886 earthquake left it in a state of sad disrepair. It remained empty, a marker of the past, until 1995, when it was restored to its original splendor and transformed into a beautiful venue for local, regional, and national performers to showcase their talents against the stunning backdrop of one of Charleston's most historic sites.

CIRCULAR CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH: 150 MEETING STREET

Charles Towne's original settlers founded this Protestant (dissenting) church in 1681 on the same site at which the Circular Congregational Church still sits today. It has existed in one state or another ever since, and boasts the City of Charleston's oldest graveyard, with burial monuments dating from 1695.

Through the years the building has undergone many transitions, due to war and fire. Its current sanctuary was completed in 1892, built in a Romanesque style that was truly modern for its times. The building's two distinct forms/shapes hold rich meaning for the church. The circular exterior symbolizes eternity and wholeness, while the Greek cross interior is a Christian symbol of death and resurrection. The worship and meeting spaces are meant to be inspirational to all attending, encouraging all to seek wholeness and community, civic mindedness and faith.



ST. STEPHENS EPISCOPAL CHURCH: 67 ANSON STREET

St. Stephen's Episcopal Church was established in 1822 as the first place of worship in the United States where pews were free to all, instead of available to purchase. Early on it was an integrated space where African Americans (both slaves and freedmen) mingled with whites in a single church space. It is a landmark of the historic Ansonborough neighbourhood and its message of inclusion remains a part of downtown Charleston's history and heritage today.

VENUE DIRECTIONS

The Charleston Library Society sits in the heart of downtown Charleston, as do our other historic venues.

From the North: Take I26 East straight into downtown Charleston.

From the South: Take I95 north to exit 33 for 17 North, and take 17 North straight into downtown Charleston.

Parking: Charleston, SC is a thriving, bustling city with plenty of metered street parking and public parking garages close to each venue. Consider the Majestic Square parking deck on Market Street or the Queen Street parking deck for events at the Charleston Library Society and the Circular Congregational Church. For events at the Charleston Music Hall, consider the Visitor's Center deck and lot on Meeting Street.

TICKET PRICES & HOW TO BOOK

TICKETS AVAILABLE FROM: MONDAY SEPTEMBER 4

Online 24/7 at
www.charlestantocharleston.com

Locally, Monday-Friday 9:30-5 p.m.,
by calling 843.723.9912

ALL EVENTS AND VIP TICKETS:

Every event and reception
(apart from Breathe): \$425

ALL EVENTS TICKETS:

Every lecture (apart from
Breathe): \$250

Please note that tickets for Breathe
are only available to buy from
Charleston Music Hall directly,
visit charlestonmusichall.com or
call 843.853.2252.



◆ CHARLESTON ◆

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HOUSE | GARDEN | LITERARY FESTIVALS | CREATIVE WORKSHOPS | EVENTS

AT A GLANCE

THURSDAY NOVEMBER 2

BREATHE with William Nicholson - 6:00 p.m.

FRIDAY NOVEMBER 3

SMALL WORLD: CHARLESTON CONNECTIONS

with Charles Anson and Juliet Nicolson - 12:00 p.m.

BLOOMSBURY AND CHARLESTON: TRADITION

AND MODERNISM with Barbera Bellows Rockefeller

and Frances Spalding - 3:00 p.m.

REIMAGING SHAKESPEARE: THE BARD AT

HOME AND AWAY with Bernard Cornwell, Dominic

Dromgoole and Nan Morrison - 5:30 p.m.

SATURDAY NOVEMBER 4

DIVIDED WE STAND: THE BATTLE OVER

WOMEN'S RIGHTS with Majorie Spruill, Belinda

Gergel and Margaret Bradham Thornton - 11:00 a.m.

MEDITATIONS ON GREATNESS with Ben Okri and

Jonathan Green - 1:00 p.m.

BABYBOOMER BLUES with William Nicholson,

Miranda Sawyer and Juliet Nicolson - 3:00 p.m.

REIMAGING SHAKESPEARE: THE GAP OF TIME

with Jeanette Winterson - 5:00 p.m.

SUNDAY NOVEMBER 5

VIRGINIA WOOLF AND BLOOMSBURY

PAINTING with Frances Spalding - 1:00 p.m.

CHARLESTON AND SISSINGHURST:

PRESERVING ARTISTIC AND LITERARY

LEGACIES with Virginia Nicholson, Juliet Nicolson and

Carter Hudgins - 3:30 p.m.

ALL EVENT TICKETS AVAILABLE – SEE P22

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