

the
big Blake
project
PRESENT

BlakeFest 2016

Saturday 17th & Sunday 18th September 2016
Bognor Cricket & Sports Club, Bognor Regis, West Sussex PO21 2UU



Designed & printed in West Sussex





* BLAKE'S SALON *

Blake's Salon is run by **STELLA BAHIN** an exciting creative practitioner who hosts this popular fortnightly gathering combining open mic poetry with guest speakers, music and performance.

HIGHLIGHTS

Saturday 17th September

ROCKAFELLA SKANK

Saturday 8th October

ADRIANA DIAZ-ENCISO

Mexican Poet &
Blake Cottage Campaigner

Monday 28th November

TAMSIN ROSEWELL

Broadcaster/Writer/Historian:
Blake & the History of Chocolate

the
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project

SeaFiSh
café • bar • venue

49 Aldwick Rd, Bognor Regis
West Sussex PO21 2NJ
www.seafishvenue.co.uk



--Welcome to BlakeFest 2016--

The Big Blake Project is designed to celebrate the life and work of William Blake, who lived in Felpham for three years, in an exciting and relevant way.

The aim is to use arts and education to both beautify, inform and promote genuine local regeneration, in particular to focus on enhancing our open public spaces in and around Bognor Regis.

"The fool who persists in his folly will become wise."

WILLIAM BLAKE

ON THE SERAGLIO STAGE

SATURDAY

20:30 - 21:30

DODGY

19:15 - 20:00

DAVID DEVANT &
HIS SPIRIT WIFE

18:15 - 19:00

17:15 - 18:00

The Speak || Bella Estelle

16:30 - 17:00

15:30 - 16:15

14:30 - 15:15

13:30 - 14:15

Tobias
Churton

Country
Bandits

Niall
McDevitt

DJ
Rob Filter

4.

ON THE SERAGLIO STAGE

SUNDAY

20:30 - 21:30

THE LIGHTNING
SEEDS

19:15 - 20:00

18:15 - 19:00

DEBORAH | SOUND-
ROSE | ITIONS

17:15 - 18:00

16:15 - 17:00

15:15 - 16:00

14:15 - 15:00

New Gentlemen
of the Old School

SKYE

Atilla the
Stockbroker

DJ
Tony Mac

5.



THE LIGHTNING SEEDS

The Lightning Seeds frontman Ian Broudie originally emerged from the post punk Liverpool music scene of the late seventies playing in the band 'Big in Japan' alongside fellow band members Bill Drummond (KLF) Holly Johnson (Frankie Goes to Hollywood), Budgie (The Slits/Siouxsie and The Banshees) and Jayne Casey (Pink Military). The Lightning Seeds have released eight albums and had 14 top 40 singles in the UK, including 'Three Lions' that reached number one twice.



DODGY

The first time round, Dodgy were only together for seven years but in that time they sold over a million records worldwide, released three albums and enjoyed 12 top 40 singles, including 'Staying Out for the Summer', 'In a Room', 'If You're Thinking of Me' and the top five hit 'Good Enough' - still a staple of radio playlists everywhere. They sold out the Brixton Academy for three nights in a row and were awarded an unprecedented 90 minute Saturday evening slot on the Pyramid stage at Glastonbury in 1997 just before Radiohead.



David Devant & his Spirit Wife

The absurdist majesty of early David Devant & his Spirit Wife performances is an experience that has left devotees still rubbing their eyes to this day. That no other pop combo has taken up this gauntlet, to create a state-of-the-art, live 360 degree wonder remains a mystery. Heralded as "the future of pop music" by the Sunday Times Style supplement, Brighton's own art school theatrical rockers perform a set see-sawing their patented camp Victorian cardboard-core, through to their latter day mystically-tinged psyche pop. I think that pretty much covers the entire musical spectrum!



Deborah Rose & Mari Randle

Deborah and Mari have toured extensively with new songs and recordings, which focus on Mari's soul/rock/blues colours with Deborah's etherea. The duo create songs that chronicle the interconnectedness of their experiences, their mutual love of nature and landscapes, as well as their spiritual musings on the cycles of life, birth and rebirth. Deborah said, "I was inspired to write the song 'Tyger Tyger' by setting Blake's words to music while singing in St. Jame's Church in London's Piccadilly, where Blake was baptised - his spirit was certainly in the air! It's an honour to be performing at this festival, dedicated to one of history's greatest romantic thinkers, and in the words of William Rossetti, "a glorious luminary".



Atilla the Stockbroker

Atilla is a sharp-tongued, high energy, social surrealist, rebel poet and songwriter. Themes are topical, words hard-hitting, politics unashamedly radical, however Atilla aims to make you roar with laughter, as well as seethe with anger.



Tobias Churton

Tobias is not only a tireless writer, but also a film-maker for the BBC and other prominent TV companies. Tobias had the pleasure of interviewing the late great Blake expert Kathleen Raine three times. He has also co-written a musical with the notorious painter and composer John Myatt, about publisher and style icon Nancy Cunard and her controversial relationship with the black jazz pianist Henry Crowder in the 1920s and 30s.



The Speak

The Speak's sound continues the tradition of classic British rock, performing songs of real depth. The classic guitar, bass and drum line-up of The Speak takes up where the late sixties left off - melodic harmonies, catchy lyrics and thumping rhythms make them a fantastic band to see live.



Niall McDevitt

Niall McDevitt is the author of two London-themed poetry collections 'b/w' and 'Porterloo'. His new book, 'Firing Slits: Jerusalem Colportage' is a psycho-geographical meditation on the city of Jerusalem. He is also well regarded for his William Blake Walk and other poetopographical walks in London.



New Gentlemen of The Old School

NGOTOS is the new UK-based group of Sean Bw Parker, writer, musician and impresario. One of his many projects, including the bands Scorpio Rising, Arch Inch, SPB, as well as solo performances collaborating with experimental musician Ettuspadix. Parker has released six albums and numerous others on his Seraglio Point Productions label, including those by Mikey Georgeson (The Vessel from David Devant & his Spirit Wife) and Metamono. He lived in Istanbul for ten years until 2014, published three books and delivered a TED talk. Philosopher, writer and broadcaster Alain de Botton said of Parker's work: "Wonderful. The songs are as heartfelt as they are intelligent." The New Gentlemen's sound is described as new and old school art rock, with a percussive funk edge.

SKYE

SKYE are a power pop/rock band based in West Sussex. Formed in 2013 as a three piece band, Darren, Beth and Bobby thought something was missing. Beth then found Nathan in a cookery shop singing 'I will survive' at the top of his lungs... Three years on and SKYE are regularly gigging across the South and are often featured on local and internet radio. Their debut EP 'Infinite' has just been released and they have two upcoming music videos.



DJ Rob Filter

Rob's eclectic vinyl only DJ sets mix alt rock and rare funk, providing a cinematic soundtrack for the discerning ear.



DJ Tony Mac

Mac is the voice of old school soul on London-based Zero Radio and a regular on the Seraglio Stage at SeaFiSh in West Bognor with his 'It's a Love Thing' sets.

Bella Estelle

Bella Estelle is an emerging singer/songwriter from West Sussex. Her career recently blossomed in the music scene, with her irresistibly catchy songs and poignant lyrics that many listeners can relate to. She has successfully performed a handful of gigs, swiftly garnering a passionate and loyal fan base.

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TROT ZOMBIE TAKEOVER APOCALYPSE!

It first was a rumour dismissed as a lie
But then came the evidence none could deny
Tom Watson revealed it on the BBC -
Dead Russians are running the Labour Party!

The plotters and entrists have done it at last
The die of destruction is finally cast...
We don't think for ourselves, we're all ruled by Trotsky!
Dead Russians are running the Labour Party!

He seems quite unfazed by the fact that he's dead
With an ice pick stuck jauntily into his head
He says 'Leon the Zombie supports Jeremy...'
Dead Russians are running the Labour Party!

It must be the truth 'cos it's there in the news:
Despite being Jewish, Leon tells us 'Hate Jews.
And brick ladies' windows.' Oh no! Woe is me!
Dead Russians are running the Labour Party!

With his crap goatee beard and his poncey pince-nez
He tells thousands of young Corbyn fans 'You obey
My Transitional Programme, or you'll get no tea...'
Dead Russians are running the Labour Party!

But Jeremy's got a coalition that's broad.
Does the Smith camp not know that we've Stalin on board?
And there's old Ra Ra Rasputin too, so that's three...
Dead Russians are running the Labour Party!

An end to this madness! Please, Owen Smith now!
Oh give me blue suit, give me serious brow!
Give me same old same old, and a nice cup of tea...
Dead Russians are running the Labour Party...

ATTILA THE STOCKBROKER

RUTH ROSEN described by the British Council as one of Britain's leading poetry and prose performers captivated us with her one-man show on William Blake - man without a Mask in Bognor Regis in 2015. Here are a few words on why Ruth loves Blake...



"The Angel that presided over my birth
said little creature formed of joy and
mirth go love without the aid of anything
on earth. "And that is exactly what
he did - and how he lived his life.
He devoted himself whole-heartedly
and uncompromisingly to the things of
the spirit - that Eternal Spirit that is
everywhere evident in his life and in his
works. He speaks to everyone and for
everyone - and always with love."

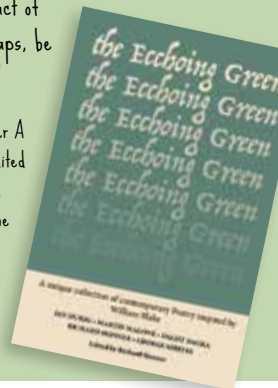
RICHARD SKINNER

Director of Fiction at the Faber Academy

The Dark insects of happiness
What peace is there in a deep place?
For the first time in years, the earth shook
today and, as it did,
I say my feet grow smaller
and my uncles come back to life.
My wife calms me. She says
"Don't run after things - let them seep in.
Build yourself on white, this quiet and
this stillness".

Richard Skinner says: "The poem 'The Cloud of Unknowing' takes its title from a mysterious and anonymous work of Christian mysticism written in Middle English in the latter half of the 14th Century. The main idea of the text was that the only way to 'know' God was to stop looking for evidence of God's presence in the world around us and, instead, abandon your ego to the realm of 'unknowing'. Only in that act of abandonment would you then, perhaps, be able to glimpse the nature of God."

the Echoing Green: Edited by Richard Skinner. A unique limited edition poetry pamphlet edited by Richard Skinner containing poems from George Szirtes, Ian Duhig, Martin Malone and Daljeet Nagra. It is published by Big Blake, in partnership with the University of Chichester and can be purchased at BlakeFest for just £1.



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BLAKEFEST WOULD LIKE TO THANK

John-Paul Walker, Beth Davis, Brooke Mia Olsen, Sue Overton, Mark Stevens, Paul Murphy, Clive Hall, Bianca Warr, Kev Neal, Fiona McNeil, Kate Pollard, Tim Hoad, Karen Sales, Hannah Strong, Chris Bird, Jennie Cooper, Sarah Jenkinson, Kye Hawkins, Sophie Dufilleul, Gill Newsom, Jan Harward, Carole Bath, Marie Paul, Tessa Burrington, Sin Nik, Rachel Searle, David Farnan, Andrew Alston, Chris Allwood, Kez Bridger, Steve Andrews, James Philips, Jim Brooks, Melanie Thomas, Mark Vincent, Kate McLaren and Sheila Penny.

AND IS SUPPORTED BY

SeaFiSh, Big Blake Project, Seraglio Point Productions, Strange World Management, GB Music, Louder Than War, The Space and Kaotic Noise.

--SeaFiSh--

Café // Bar // Venue

Situated in a Tudor-style townhouse on the characterful Aldwick Road, West Bognor, SeaFiSh Café Bar Venue is a unique, friendly, fun and community-minded place. Offering a range of beers, wines and spirits, including Peroni on draft and home brew. There is a delicious light snack menu on offer from 9am to 9pm.

SeaFiSh has different genres of live music every night on its dedicated Seraglio Stage - jazz, rock, indie, experimental, as well as local and national acts appear regularly. We also have guest DJs specialising in rare groove, funk, Motown and other blends til midnight on weekends.

SeaFiSh has an upstairs party and function room available for hire and language exchange afternoons, which we plan to develop into formal lesson with an experience English teacher if there is a demand.

SeaFiSh also provides a fully-equipped band practice space, available to book by the hour, comfortable Bed & Breakfast rooms for weary travellers too.

Both busy Bognor town centre and its famous seafront and esplanade are only five minutes walk away.

The Seraglio Stage at SeaFiSh

MONDAY - Open mic

TUESDAY - Student night
(drinks 1/2 price)

WEDNESDAY - Indie DJ

THURSDAY - Speakeasy

FRIDAY - Live band/DJ

SATURDAY - Live band/DJ

SUNDAY - Jazz (3-7pm)

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