

European Questions – Turkish Angles:

Europe's Unemployment

This event is jointly organized with the LSE Chair in Contemporary Turkish Studies

The aim of these events is to take up a theme that goes to the heart of Europe's current or historical self-understanding, and introduce into the discussions input from Turkish scholars or scholars of Turkey's history who might provide a fresh twist to an old story.

Tuesday 28 February, 6.30 – 8pm
Wolfson Theatre, New Academic Building, LSE

Sean Sayers, Professor of Philosophy, University of Kent

Marco Simoni, Lecturer in European Political Economy, European Institute, LSE

İnsan Tunali, Associate Professor of Economics, Koç University, Turkey

Chair: **Simon Glendinning**, Reader in European Philosophy, European Institute, LSE and Director of the Forum for European Philosophy

LSE Space for Thought Literary Festival: Relating Cultures

Wednesday 29 February – Saturday 3 March 2012
Venues TBC

LSE's 4th Literary Festival will explore the relationships between the academic cultures of the arts and social sciences, and between different regional cultures in an increasingly globalised space of communication and exchange. As part of this programme, the Forum will be hosting a series of events, including:

A discussion on the relevance of poetry to every day life **Poetry Unites** with prize-winning poets and novelists **Philip Gross** and **Sarah Salway**, author and translator **Michal Rusinek**, and director of the international project **Poetry Unites – My Favourite Poem Ewa Zadrzynska** on **Thursday 1 March at 6.30pm** (jointly organized with the *LSE Department of Philosophy, Logic and Scientific Method*).

A conversation with award-winning author, academic and musician **Amit Chaudhuri**, followed by a performance of his latest musical production, *A Moment of Mishearing* on **Friday 2 March at 6pm**.

And a panel event, *Travelling the Known and Unknown-how literature and photography change the world we see* with writer and journalist **Horatio Clare**, social psychologist **Alex Gillespie** and travel photographer **Abigail King** on **Saturday 3 March at 3pm** (jointly organized with the *LSE Department of Philosophy, Logic and Scientific Method*).

Full details and entry information online at lse.ac.uk/spaceforthought

Philosophy@LSE Public Lectures

The academic staff in **Philosophy@LSE** (comprising the **Forum for European Philosophy**, the **Department of Philosophy, Logic and Scientific Method**, the **Centre for Philosophy of Natural and Social Sciences** as well as **cognate faculty** in various departments) will present aspects of their research that are of interest to a general audience.

The Many-Worlds Interpretation of Quantum Mechanics

Tuesday 24 January, 6.30 – 8pm
Wolfson Theatre, New Academic Building, LSE

Foad Dizadji-Bahmani, LSE Fellow, Department of Philosophy, Logic and Scientific Method

Despite being one of our most empirically successful theories, there is still no consensus about how Quantum Mechanics is to be understood. There are various interpretations of it. This talk will explore one controversial interpretation, the Many-Worlds interpretation.

Secession, Legitimacy, and Territorial Justification

Tuesday 6 March, 6.30 – 8pm
Wolfson Theatre, New Academic Building, LSE

Amandine Catala, LSE Fellow, Department of Philosophy, Logic and Scientific Method

Do secessionists have a valid claim to the territory they are taking? This lecture will argue that to answer this question we need to go beyond the question of what makes a state legitimate.

Re-Thinking Alienation

Tuesday 13 March, 6.30 – 8pm
Wolfson Theatre, New Academic Building, LSE

Rahel Jaeggi, Professor for Practical Philosophy, Department of Philosophy, Humboldt University of Berlin

Chair: **Kristina Musholt**, LSE Fellow, Department of Philosophy, Logic and Scientific Method and Deputy Director of the Forum for European Philosophy

Does modern society cause us to be alienated from ourselves? This lecture will argue that a re-thinking of the recently neglected philosophical concept of alienation can provide us with an important resource for social critique.

Oxford Forum

The Forum organises events in Oxford as well as in London. For further information on the programme of Oxford Forum events see our website www.philosophy-forum.org

Unless otherwise stated Forum events are free and open to all, without registration.

Since its launch in 1996 the Forum for European Philosophy has gained widespread recognition for its work as an initiator and sponsor of engaging and thoughtful events open to the general public. Today, in all of our activities we aim to encourage wider participation and promote thought-provoking discussion on issues connected with contemporary cultural and intellectual life. The generosity of individuals has helped the Forum for European Philosophy. Please support the Forum for European Philosophy and its future programmes by making a donation.

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FORUM FOR
EUROPEAN
PHILOSOPHY

Forum Diary

Public Programme of the Forum for European Philosophy

Spring 2012

Director: **Simon Glendinning**
Reader in European Philosophy
European Institute, LSE

Deputy Director: **Kristina Musholt**
LSE Fellow, Department of Philosophy,
Logic and Scientific Method

Coordinator & Programme Adviser: **Juliana Cardinale**
Oxford Forum Coordinator: **Roxana Baiasu**

For further information visit
www.philosophy-forum.org
or call: +44 (0)20 7955 7539

Diary

Wednesday 11 January, 6.30-8pm;
Wolfson Theatre, NAB, LSE

**The Bodhisattva's Brain:
Buddhism Naturalized**
Speaker: **Owen Flanagan**

Tuesday 17 January, 6.30-8pm;
Wolfson Theatre, NAB, LSE

**Beyond the Eye of
the Beholder**
Speaker: **Guy Dammann**

Tuesday 24 January, 6.30-8pm;
Wolfson Theatre, NAB, LSE

**The Many-Worlds
Interpretation of
Quantum Mechanics**
Speaker: **Foad Dizadji-
Bahmani**

Thursday 2 February, 6.30-8pm;
Old Theatre, Old Building, LSE

Religion for Atheists
Speaker: **Alain de Botton**

Wednesday 8 February, 6.30-8pm;
Wolfson Theatre, NAB, LSE

**Freedom of Speech
on Campus**
Speakers: **Nicola Dandridge**
and **Sue Mendus**
Chair: **Janet Hartley**

Tuesday 14 February, 6.30-8pm;
Wolfson Theatre, NAB, LSE

**Consilience: Neuroscience,
Responsibility and the Law**
Speakers: **Roger
Brownsword, Neil Levy** and
Sir Michael Rutter
Chair: **Kristina Musholt**

Tuesday 21 February, 6.30-8pm;
Wolfson Theatre, NAB, LSE

On Friendship
Speakers: **Mark Vernon** and
Simon Glendinning

Tuesday 28 February, 6.30-8pm;
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**LSE Space for Thought
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Speakers include: **Philip
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**Michal Rusinek, Ewa
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The Bodhisattva's Brain: Buddhism Naturalized

Wednesday 11 January, 6.30-8pm
Wolfson Theatre, New Academic Building, LSE

Owen Flanagan, James B Duke Professor of Philosophy,
Duke University, USA

Chair: **Kristina Musholt**, LSE Fellow, Department of
Philosophy, Logic and Scientific Method and Deputy
Director of the Forum for European Philosophy

Many Westerners with spiritual (but not religious)
inclinations are attracted to Buddhism. But Buddhism is
hardly naturalistic. Atheistic when it comes to a creator
god, Buddhism is otherwise opulently polytheistic, with
spirits, protector deities, ghosts, and evil spirits. Its
beliefs include karma, rebirth, nirvana, and nonphysical
states of mind. Can we subtract these elements from
Buddhism and thereby discover a comprehensive
philosophy that is compatible with the rest of knowledge
and can point us to a path of human flourishing?

Beyond the Eye of the Beholder

Tuesday 17 January, 6.30-8pm
Wolfson Theatre, New Academic Building, LSE

Guy Dammann, music critic of the *Times Literary
Supplement*, and a critic and commentator for the *Guardian*.
He teaches at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama.

Chair: **Simon Glendinning**, Reader in European Philosophy,
European Institute, LSE and Director of the Forum for
European Philosophy

It is a truism to assert that judgements about art and
beauty are subjective. That such judgements are relative,
accountable solely to direct personal experience, has long
been axiomatic to the philosophy, criticism and practice
of art. **Guy Dammann** will argue that we now exaggerate
this degree of relativity, and do so at the expense of artistic
experience. In particular, we misunderstand the meaning
of criticism if we consider it purely as the expression of
personal preference rather than as a vehicle for renegotiating
the relation between individual sensibility and the values
enshrined in culture. Art has the power to change us for
the better, but only when we agree to meet it half-way.

Religion for Atheists

Thursday 2 February, 6.30 – 8pm
Old Theatre, Old Building, LSE

Alain de Botton, author of non-fiction essays on themes
ranging from love and travel to architecture and philosophy.
He founded *The School of Life* www.theschooloflife.com
and *Living Architecture* www.living-architecture.co.uk

Chair: **Simon Glendinning**, Reader in European Philosophy,
European Institute, LSE and Director of the Forum for
European Philosophy

Is it possible to remain a committed atheist but nevertheless
benefit from the wisdom of religion? Marking the publication
of his new book *Religion for Atheists* **Alain de Botton** will
argue that religion still has some very important things to
teach the secular world even if we reject its supernatural
claims. He proposes that we look to religions for insights
into how we might live in and arrange our societies.

Freedom of Speech on Campus

This event is jointly organized with the *LSE Department
of Philosophy, Logic and Scientific Method*

Wednesday 8 February, 6.30-8pm
Wolfson Theatre, New Academic Building, LSE

Nicola Dandridge, Chief Executive of Universities UK

Sue Mendus, Professor of Political Philosophy,
University of York. She is also member of the Morrell
Centre for Toleration at the University of York and Vice
President (Social Sciences) of the British Academy

Chair: **Janet Hartley**, Professor of International History,
LSE and Pro Director for Teaching and Learning, LSE

Freedom of speech within the law is central to liberal
democratic societies in general as well as to the modern
university as a forum for vigorous debate. But when does
this liberty threaten the cohesion of social groups in general,
and universities as learning communities in particular?
Beyond the law, should any limits be put on what can be
said in a centre of learning? Is it the responsibility of a
university to teach students the value of respectful speech
and, if so, what are the limits of respectful speech?

Consilience: Neuroscience, Responsibility and the Law

In this series, a panel debates a topic with the aim of
fostering interdisciplinary communication and mutual
understanding. Emphasis will be placed on trying to
identify common questions and on seeking to integrate
knowledge from different areas of expertise.

Tuesday 14 February, 6.30 – 8pm
Wolfson Theatre, New Academic Building, LSE

Roger Brownsword, Professor of Law, King's
College London

Neil Levy, Deputy Director (Research), the Oxford
Centre for Neuroethics and Head of Neuroethics, Florey
Neuroscience Institutes, University of Melbourne

Sir Michael Rutter, Professor of Developmental
Psychopathology, MRC Social, Genetic & Developmental
Psychiatry Centre, Institute of Psychiatry, King's
College London

Chair: **Kristina Musholt**, LSE Fellow, Department of
Philosophy, Logic and Scientific Method and Deputy
Director of the Forum for European Philosophy

The prospects for our understanding of the brain and
the development of psychopathologies are steadily
increasing. What does this mean for the way we think
about criminality and responsibility? Could developments
in the neurosciences change our understanding of
morality? Could they lead to changes in our legal
system? If so, what might these changes look like?

On Friendship

This event is jointly organized with *Hire Intelligence*

Tuesday 21 February, 6.30 – 8pm
Hong Kong Theatre, Clement House, LSE

Mark Vernon, writer, broadcaster and journalist. He is an
Honorary Research Fellow at Birkbeck, University of London.

In conversation with Simon Glendinning, Reader
in European Philosophy, European Institute, LSE and
Director of the Forum for European Philosophy

A tremendous burden is being placed on friends. Friendship,
we believe or hope, is elastic enough to connect us across
the web of complex lives, and strong enough not to snap.
But is it? What, in fact, is the love called friendship? What
is the nature of its rules and perils, as well as its promise?