

Thursday in Edinburgh – what's on today



THURSDAY 3 JULY 2014

Trust: Ajay Close talks about her new novel, which follows a set of characters with very different social backgrounds over three decades, from the Miners' Strike to the banking crisis, asking some searching questions about how people adapt over time – and how they stay the same. Chaired by Ali Bowden, Director of Unesco City of Literature Edinburgh. 7-8pm, [Central Library](#), George IV Bridge. Book via [eventbrite](#).

[GENERATION Opening Lecture](#): Katrina Brown, GENERATION Associate Curator, Simon Groom, Director, Gallery of Modern Art and artists Graham Fagen and Rachel MacLean will discuss the life of an artist in Scotland and the vision for the GENERATION project, while offering a flavour of the art scene then and now. 6-7.30pm, Hawthornden Lecture Theatre, [Scottish National Gallery](#), The Mound. Free and unticketed.

[Books in Focus: Surrealist Poetry](#). The 'Books in Focus' sessions focus on artists' books held in the Special Collections of the Scottish National Gallery of Modern Art. This session will look at collaborations between surrealist artists and poets, featuring poetry by Paul Eluard, Andre Breton and Georges Hugnet and illustrations by artists such as Man Ray, Joan Miro and Hans Bellmer. 11.30am-12.30pm, Reading Room, [Modern Two](#). Free, but limited places: book by calling 0131 624 6268 or emailing: gmainfo@nationalgalleries.org

'Patriotic Porkers' and other films: Scotland's First World

War film collection. This screening showcases films from the First World War held at the Scottish Screen Archive at NLS. Senior Curator Ruth Washbrook will guide you through these historic films, which were often made by local cinema managers and which provide an insight into the war effort at home. 6pm, [National Library of Scotland](#), George IV Bridge. Free: book [online](#) or call 0131 623 3734.

[Nordic Walking Taster Session](#): Nordic Walking is a specific fitness technique that enhances everyday walking with the use of poles and is great for people with knee or back problems. Free session taught by Sam Leyton: poles provided. 12noon-1pm, East Gate, [Royal Botanic Garden](#). Booking essential: call the Education Office on 0131 248 2937.