

**6<sup>th</sup> Wednesday 2019**  
**Thursday**

**Morning Music**

Wednesday, 6<sup>th</sup> November 2019  
10:00am-10:30am

**1. #Tharoorisms**

Wednesday, 6th November 2019  
10:45am-11:45am

*Shashi Tharoor in conversation Stephen Smith*

Prolific writer and politician Shashi Tharoor has a predilection for long words and telling phrases. His unerring sense of humour lightens up the serious oeuvre of his work, which includes a powerful indictment of colonialism, a philosophical appreciation of the Hindu religion and hard-hitting political critiques. In conversation with Stephen Smith, he speaks of the personal and the political and the beliefs and ideas that have anchored him in his public life and literary career.

**2. The Crow Eaters**

Wednesday, 6th November 2019  
12:00pm-1:00pm  
Ben Stubbs in conversation

A compelling session that explores journeys across Asia and Australia. Ben Stubbs is the author of the recent *The Crow Eaters: A Journey Through South Australia*, a record of his voyage of discovery in his own backyard and home state. He follows the history of the camels and cameleers who travelled to the Outback from Afghanistan and India in the 1860s. In conversation, Stubbs explores changing notions of

travel and new ways to look at places far and near.

### **3. The Anarchy**

Wednesday, 6th November 2019

1:15pm-2:15pm

William Dalrymple introduced by Sanjoy K. Roy

In August 1765, the East India Company defeated the young Mughal emperor and forced him to set up in his richest provinces a new administration run by English merchants who collected taxes through means of a ruthless private army, what we would now call an act of involuntary privatisation.

The East India Company's founding charter authorised it to 'wage war' and it had always used violence to gain its ends. But the creation of this new government marked the moment that the East India Company ceased to be a conventional international trading corporation dealing in silks and spices, and became something much more unusual: an aggressive colonial power in the guise of a multinational business. In less than 500 years, it had trained up a security force of around 200,000 men and had subdued an entire subcontinent, conquering first Bengal and finally, in 1803, the Mughal capital of Delhi itself. The Company's reach stretched until almost all of India and was effectively ruled from a boardroom in London.

The Anarchy charts how one of the world's most magnificent empires disintegrated and how it came to be replaced by a dangerously unregulated private company. In his most ambitious and riveting book to date, William Dalrymple tells the story of the East India Company as it has never been told before.

#### **4. Waste of a Nation**

Wednesday, 6th November 2019

2:30pm-3:30pm

Robin Jeffrey in conversation

An impactful session on garbage and growth in India that examines the traditional 'kabaadiwalas' (recyclers) and ragpickers, the stigmatised sanitation workers dealing with sewage and toxic chemicals and the solutions that can arise through changes in social attitudes and innovative technology. Robin Jeffrey, co-author of *Waste of a Nation: Garbage and Growth* in India in conversation.

#### **5. Aladdin and Other Marvellous Tales**

Wednesday, 6th November 2019

3:45pm – 4:45pm

Paulo Lemos Horta in conversation with Sanjoy K. Roy

Writer and translator Paulo Lemos Horta explores the cultural and literary history of the *Arabian Nights* and of the travellers, storytellers and translators who gave the world these unforgettable tales. Horta's most recent book, *Aladdin: A New Translation*, is an elegant edition of one of the best-loved folktales of all time. He is also the author of the illuminating *Marvellous Thieves: Secret Authors of the Arabian Nights*. In conversation with producer of the Jaipur Literature Festival, Sanjoy K. Roy, he speaks of the stories along with the stories behind the stories and provides a fascinating glimpse of the great cultural reservoir of Arab, Persian and Indian narratives.

#### **6. How to be a Dictator: The Cult of Personality**

Wednesday, 6th November 2019

5:00pm-6:00pm

Frank Dikötter in conversation

A timely discussion with historian Frank Dikötter on his recently published book *How to be a Dictator: The Cult of Personality in the Twentieth Century*. He discusses the ideological constructs and pathologies from the past as well as from modern dictators. In conversation he speaks of charismatic leaders and how their influence takes hold and sustains itself to create the cult of personality.

**7<sup>th</sup> November 2019**

**Thursday**

**Morning Music**

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**7. The Palace of Angels**

Thursday, 7th November 2019

10:45am-11:45am

Mohammad Massoud Morsi in conversation

In times of great political unrest often what is overlooked is the everyday existence of the individual. Mohammed Massoud Morsi's book *The Palace of Angels*, the third in a trilogy looking into the lives of people living in conflict areas, reflects human experiences at the ground level. Morsi weaves reality and politics into his fictional characters against the backdrop of devastating dispossession. In conversation, he discusses his inspirations and craft.

**8. Love Without A Story**

Thursday, 7th November 2019

12:00pm-1:00pm

Arundhathi Subramaniam in conversation

Versatile writer and poet Arundhathi Subramaniam weaves tales of culture and spirituality through her work. Subramaniam's latest book of poems, *Love Without A Story*, circles the ideas of time, intimacy and the urgency of conversations. She has authored the acclaimed *When God is A Traveller*, *Sadguru*, *More Than a Life*, *The Book of Buddha* and co-authored *Adiyogi: The Source of Yoga* with Sadhguru. She has also edited *Eating God: A Book of Bhakti Poetry*. In conversation she takes us on a journey through her words, inspirations and faith.

## **9. Android Dreams: The World That AI Made**

Thursday, 7th November 2019

1:15pm-2:15pm

Toby Walsh in conversation

A session that imagines the future and makes us realise that the future is now. Are we sleepwalking into an AI future? By 2062, we will have built machines as intelligent as us. An essential discussion with Professor of Artificial Intelligence Toby Walsh about how AI will evolve and the choices we need to make to ensure that we remain in control of the narrative.

## **10. Taboo**

Thursday, 7th November 2019

2:30pm-3:30pm

Kim Scott in conversation

Weaving together hope, despair, destruction and survival, award-winning writer Kim Scott, in his latest book *Taboo*, introduces a tale of the present heavily rooted in the past. In conversation, Scott dwells on the history of the Aboriginal people and their re-connection with their language, lore and

country.

## **11. The Empire of Enchantment: The Story of Indian Magic**

Thursday, 7th November 2019

3:45pm-4:45pm

John Zubrzycki in conversation with Sanjoy K. Roy

India's association with magicians goes back thousands of years. Conjurors and illusionists dazzled the courts of Hindu maharajas and Mughal emperors. As British dominion spread over the subcontinent, such wonder-workers became synonymous with India. Western magicians appropriated Indian attire, tricks and stage names; switching their turbans for top hats, Indian jugglers fought back and earned their grudging respect. In this session, John Zubrzycki, in conversation with Sanjoy K. Roy, tells the extraordinary story of how Indian magic descended from the realm of the gods to become part of daily ritual and popular entertainment across the globe. Recounting tales of levitating Brahmins, resurrections, prophesying monkeys and 'the most famous trick never performed', *Empire of Enchantment: The Story of Indian Magic* vividly charts Indian magic's epic journey from street to the stage.

## **12. These Wild Words**

Thursday, 7th November 2019

5:00pm-6:00pm

Omar Sakr, Melizarani T. Selva and Sukhjit Kaur Khalsa,  
introduced by Arundhathi Subramaniam

Weaving questions of politics, religion, love and identity through their words, poets make powerful storytellers and commentators. Melizarani T. Selva is a spoken-word artist, poetry educator and author of *Taboo*. Omar Sakr is the author of *The Lost Arabs* and *These Wild Houses*. Sukhjit

Kaur Khalsa is a spoken word artist, performer and playwright whose work provokes conversations on identity and feminism. They come together in a session of powerful readings that highlights the correlation of word, voice and text.