café culture 2019-20

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NEW VENUE
The Brunswick Centre
NOW ON TUESDAYS

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Café Culture North East welcomes you to café-style thoughtful public discussions on culture, politics, philosophy and science. Open to all, just turn up, no need to book. No prior knowledge needed, just a like-minded desire for convivial and lively banter in an inclusive, welcoming setting. Events are free. There is a collection at the event.

**The Brunswick Centre**

**Events run 5.30–8pm** *(Talk begins at 6pm)*

**Brunswick Methodist Church**, Brunswick Place, Newcastle Upon Tyne NE1 7BJ.

Refreshments are available in the short break at 7pm. 2 mins walk from Monument Metro, free Newcastle City Council Car Park on Dean Street NE1 1PG after 5pm. The venue is wheelchair accessible and has an induction loop.

Talks are generally held on **the first Tuesday of each month**, with exceptions highlighted in **purple**. Please note some events may be held at another venue where specified.

**Miss an Event?** Listen to the Café Culture North East cafeculturene podcast channel on **YouTube**
It’s Time To Tell: A look at how we tick

Time can flash by when we’re enjoying ourselves, and slow to a crawl when we’re bored. Why? Does time exist, or is it an illusion? How real are our memories? When is now? **Ronald Green**, philosopher, linguist and author, will explore the philosophical and scientific ramifications of time. Join us for a journey that goes to the heart of what it means to be human.

Rewriting Motherhood: Egg freezing, solo motherhood, later motherhood and reproductive anxiety

The UK is experiencing unprecedented changes on when and how women (and of course men too) are having babies and forming families. **Dr Zeynep Gurtin**, **UCL Institute for Women’s Health**, will explore how many women are entering motherhood later, and that there are increasing numbers of women choosing to become solo mothers with the help of official or unofficial sperm donors, creating new family forms with same-sex or co-parents, deciding to remain childfree, or choosing to freeze their eggs. Why? Are we really more empowered than ever?

Rethinking Capitalism: Is a sustainable and inclusive economy possible?

The British economy is failing: living standards have stagnated, inequalities have grown and climate change is not being addressed. Do we need a radical change in the way we think about economic policy? **Michael Jacobs**, **Professor of Political Economy, University of Sheffield**, editor of **Rethinking Capitalism: Economics and Policy for Sustainable and Inclusive Growth** and formerly Director of the IPPR Commission on Economic Justice.
**Tuesday 19 November 2019 caféscientifique**

**change of venue Great North Museum**

**Hidden in Plain Sight:**
Why breathlessness is invisible

Come and explore the many ways breath is invisible, in society and politically. **Prof Jane MacNaughton, Director of the Institute for Medical Humanities, Durham University**, will explore the ways in which the breath is unseen, especially for those with conditions that affect their breath, such as asthma, bronchitis and heart failure. Be prepared to experiment with your breath! This is part of PEALS’ 20th anniversary celebrations. The night will include a welcome drink and a chance to look around the PEALS20 exhibition.

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**Tuesday 3 December 2019 caféphilosophique**

**A 100 Year Life:**
Coming to terms with growing older in an ageing world

Many people find it hard to imagine their own old age. This might be due to ageism, if people fear or devalue old age we may not want to put ourselves in the category of an older person. Our society is increasingly segregated by age. It is possible not to know, live near or socialise with older people; beyond perhaps our family. Images of old age offer pessimistic visions of suffering loneliness, boredom and powerlessness such as being home alone or in a care home. How are we to imagine later life? Is it just an extended mid-life or does it have different characteristics? In this talk, **Prof Rose Gilroy, Newcastle University**, draws on her experience of being a gerontologist in a time of changing ideas.

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**Tuesday 4 February 2020 caféculturel**

**The Failure of Public Art:**
Size isn’t everything

Drawing on the recent failure of a number of proposed monumental sculptures, **Prof Vee Pollock, Dean of Culture and Creative Arts, Newcastle University** will give a talk questioning the role of public art within regeneration contexts. Is the heyday of large scale public sculpture over?

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**Events run 5.30–8pm (Talk begins at 6pm)**
Everyday Islamophobias

Rising levels of anti-Muslim hatred and hostile accounts of Islamophobia litter contemporary politics, society and cultural affairs. Prof Peter Hopkins, Newcastle University discusses research about Islamophobia to explore the challenges of living with difference.

Virtual Reality: Data visualisation in new dimensions

Virtual Reality is commonly portrayed as a high-tech entertainment and gaming platform. Becca Wilson from the Data to Knowledge Research Group, Newcastle University will demonstrate how it can be used to lower the “skills bar” to explore and understand complex health data.

Rethinking Trans and Intersex Treatments: Queer Perspectives on Bioethics

Bioethics can be defined as a field of philosophy invested in ethical inquiry of social sciences and bio-sciences, using both theoretical and pragmatic tools. Queer bioethics offers unruly ways of discussing topics of gender and sexual diversity, including trans and intersex treatments as governed by the WHO’s International Classification of Diseases (ICD). Tiia Sudenkaarne, University of Turku, Finland will consider bioethical sustainability and how current treatment practices can be improved by considering queer perspectives.

The Blue Shield: The Protection of Cultural Property in Armed Conflict

The destruction of cultural property in armed conflict has received worldwide condemnation. Professor Peter Stone and Dr Emma Cunliffe, Cultural Property Protection and Peace, Newcastle University will give a talk introducing the Blue Shield, an international NGO based in Newcastle dedicated to the protection of cultural heritage during conflict and from natural disaster.

Events run 5.30–8pm (Talk begins at 6pm)
Donations Welcome

As a voluntary organisation, Café Culture’s future relies on donations so we can keep running inclusive events open to all. Individual donations or organisational partnership donations are welcome. Your support will enable us to continue to hold free events for thinkers.

You can donate securely using PayPal. Visit www.cafeculturenortheast.org.uk