

# CULTURE COMMS

## 2018 Speaker Biographies



**Conference Chair: Tracy Jones** is the Strategic Communications Advisor at the National Gallery, where she has worked in Press & PR for 13 years. She dovetails her National Gallery role with her own PR Consultancy, Brera, which she started in 2008. Brera specialises in the arts / culture sector, delivering fantastic results for clients such as Compton Verney, Jerwood Gallery, Waddesdon Manor, Holburne Museum, Laing Art Gallery and Art UK at regional, national and international levels. And yes – she was a contestant on ‘Come Dine With Me’ ... @brerapr

**Reuben Braithwaite** – stage name (Abstract) ‘Benna’ - is a spoken word artist born and raised in South London. He fuses observations from his environment with deep analysis to paint pictures with multiple colours for people from all walks of life to decipher. He has worked with The National Lottery, National Gallery, Roundhouse, Evening Standard and many more. @AbstractBenna



## Meet the Journalists



**Lisa Grainger** is the Deputy Editor and Travel Editor, Sunday Times LUXX Magazine, and has worked in London as a journalist and editor for nearly 30 years, covering news, business, interiors, fashion and travel, as well as penning profiles on people from Bushmen of the Kalahari and Kristin Scott-Thomas to young Indian fashion designers. When she is not working for The Times six months of the year, she works as a freelance travel writer for publications such as Travel + Leisure and Conde Nast Traveller in the US and consults for brands from St Regis hotels (for whom she produced a bi-annual magazine for six years) to ethical African safari camps. Having grown up in Zimbabwe, she considers herself both an African and a Londoner and lives in Peckham "which to me feels a little bit like both worlds".  
@LisaGrainger4

**Matilda Battersby** is a freelance journalist and editor specialising in art, science, travel, property and tech. Formerly arts and culture editor for The Independent website, she has also worked at the i, Evening Standard and The Times and written for most national newspapers. She helped launch BBC Earth magazine as managing editor.  
@matildabattersby



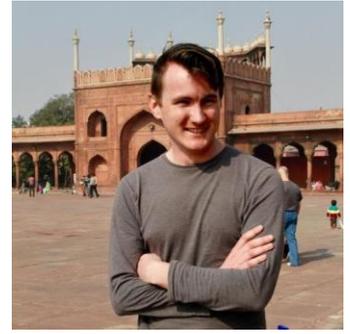
**Maev Kennedy** FSA, Dublin born and London resident, writes and broadcasts on culture and heritage, and was for many years Arts and Heritage Correspondent for the Guardian. She wrote *The Bones of a King*, the official account of the discovery of Richard III, with the academics of Leicester University.

**Jenny Coad** is the Deputy Travel Editor and Property and Interiors Editor at the Daily Mail. Jenny covers exhibition and gallery openings on the travel and interiors pages and is especially interested in textile design. Twitter: @jennycoad / Instagram: Jenny.coadtravel



## Beyond the Press Release?

**Adam Koszary** is Programme Manager and Digital Lead for Museums Partnership Reading, an Arts Council England National Portfolio Organisation consortium. He works across the Museum of English Rural Life and Reading Museum delivering a programme of digital literacy, content and digital marketing strategies, exploring new digital technologies and keeping the museums audience-focused. He also knows far more about English farm wagons than he ever expected or needs to. @AdamKoszary



**Jenny Mabbott** is Head of Collections and Engagement, People's History Museum, and is responsible for overseeing the way that PHM marks the centenary of the Representation of the People Act (1918). In addition to talking about this approach, she can share her insight into the museum's rich collections and archives. @JenMabbott

**Jesse Ringham** is the Director of Marketing and Digital at Sutton, a leading cultural communications company promoting creativity across the globe. Jesse works with museums, galleries, fairs, biennales and corporate brands in delivering impact through creativity, strategy and technology. Jesse has 15 years' experience transforming brands, building reputation and reaching audiences across both commercial and the creative industries. At Sutton, he manages teams working across strategy, editorial and digital media production and a wide range of clients from MCH Group, UBS Arts, The Kochi-Muziris Biennale, Newport Street Gallery and The Courtauld Institute of Art. Previously, Jesse worked at Tate, where he launched Tate's new approach to communicating with audiences through digital innovation, brand partnerships, advocacy, analytics and social media. As a result, Tate gained and continues to be one of the largest social media followings in the world for a cultural brand. Jesse continues to work with major international cultural brands throughout US, Europe, Asia, Middle East and Russia.' @JesseRingham



**Chair: Gareth Beedie** is Head of Communications at National Theatre Wales (Wales' English language national theatre), having joined the Company in May 2017. Prior to that, he spent a decade working for National Theatre of Scotland and has also held comms posts at Scottish Opera, Scottish Youth Theatre and Scottish Ballet. @Gareth\_ntw

## Meet the BBC

**Amanda Lewis** is a senior journalist in the team which produces the daily news programmes World at One, PM and the weekly current affairs shows Broadcasting House and The World This Weekend on BBC Radio 4. She has worked in radio since the late 1980s and has produced 'phone-ins on LBC, request programmes on Classic FM and general election coverage on BBC Radio 2's Jimmy Young Show. Prizes include several Sony Awards for programmes produced at Classic FM and TRIC Radio Programme of the Year.



**Simon Pitts** is Commissioning Editor at BBC World Service. He's responsible for arts commissions including In The Studio, The Arts Hour on Tour, The Cultural Frontline and ad-hocs. He also looks after Music programmes, factual ad-hocs and editorial partnerships including the Sundance Institute/BBC World Service audio documentary collaboration. He also commissions the faith strand Heart and Soul as well as other docs and digital programming.

**Matthew Dodd** is Head of Speech programmes at BBC Radio 3 which include regular programmes such as Free Thinking, The Verb and Words and Music, as well as commissioning documentaries, dramas and essays on a wide range of cultural topics. He also oversees the Radio 3's programming of special events.



**Mark Bell** is Commissioning Editor, Arts responsible for commissioning programming across BBC One, Two, and Four. Subject areas have ranged from painting, through literature and theatre, to culture in its broad sense. Mark was executive producer of Civilisations and has commissioned numerous landmark series including The Face of Britain and The Story of Women and Art as well as returning series from Fake or Fortune? to Italy Unpacked and numerous series on BBC Four. He has been responsible for numerous acclaimed single documentaries including Paula Rego: Secrets and Stories (Grierson and RTS), the BAFTA-winning Basquiat: Rage to Riches, Harry Potter: A History of Magic, Bricks!, The Marvellous Adventures of Roald Dahl, Alan Bennett's Diaries, Joe Orton Laid Bare, Ted Hughes : Stranger than Death, Hockney and Lucian Freud: Painted Life.

## Case Studies

**Will Dallimore** is Director of Public Engagement, Royal Academy of Arts. He heads up the Royal Academy's marketing, communications, audience insight, digital, and visitor experience functions and is a member of its Executive management team. Over the past seven years, Will has driven the strategy for promoting the RA to audiences, securing its status as the UK's most successful venue for paid temporary exhibitions, as well as articulating, launching and promoting The New RA. @willskii



**Hannah Wright** has worked in arts marketing since 2014 and held positions at Edinburgh International Book Festival and Edinburgh International Science Festival before becoming Digital and Marketing Officer for Glasgow Women's Library. When she joined the team in September 2016, she was the first staff member to focus on Marketing and PR. To date, she's still the only member of the marketing team! Hannah is passionate about accessibility and experimenting with digital formats in order to get the biggest reach with little to no budget. When she's not tweeting about cake, museum collections, and feminist events over @womenslibrary, you can find her on her personal account @hanjmwright.

## Call to Action

**Neil John Griffiths** is an activist and charity director. He is known for his work with the global rights group No Sweat, and as a co-founder of Arts Emergency, a charity that defends the Arts and Humanities in education, and runs a national network of 5000 artists, academics, activists, writers, and graduates that supports young people. His work focuses on real world outcomes for individuals, and mixes community organising, use of influential personal networks, and popular campaigns fuelled by political and philosophical quotes, phrases, and slogans. In 2013, 2014, and 2015, Neil was listed among the Country's 50 most influential fundraisers by Civil Society Media and Fundraiser magazine. arts-emergency.org / @\_griff



## Culture Comms Committee



**Clea Relly** is the Chair of Culture Comms and is primary motivated by opportunities to purchase large quantities stationary and meet lovely delegates. Her years spent at Westminster, The National Archives and the Museum of London give her a solid understanding of the sector, but for now Culture Comms keeps her on her toes between school runs. She can't face pretending to be on twitter anymore so call if you need to reach her @ 079 327 323 96

**Katie Owen** has spent two-thirds of her 30-year working life in the Heritage Lottery Fund's Communications Team. Her final day there three weeks ago was uncannily also a milestone job anniversary, leading to a few confusing LinkedIn messages congratulating her on turning 21. Now on a mission to become deinstitutionalised, Katie is taking some time out and hopes the desire to thank National Lottery players at every possible opportunity will soon diminish. [ktonlondon@hotmail.com](mailto:ktonlondon@hotmail.com)



**Sagar Shah** is Press and Communications Manager at Battersea Arts Centre. Prior to that he spent five years in the comms team at the Barbican and worked at the PRS for Music Foundation. He took a circuitous route into arts communications, having previously managed a record label, promoted concerts and worked in live television. He currently juggles working at Battersea Arts Centre with occasionally pretending to DJ. [sagars@bac.org.uk](mailto:sagars@bac.org.uk) / @bloodyawfulsaga

**Charlotte Sluter** is an Account Director at Sutton, a global arts and culture communications agency with offices in London, Hong Kong and New York. At Sutton, she has worked with a wide range of inspiring organisations, including the Whitworth, Westminster Abbey, Leighton House Museum, the National Army Museum and many more. Before joining the agency, Charlotte was Press Officer at IWM (Imperial War Museums), where she was part of the in-house team that reopened IWM London in 2014. With over seven years of in-house and agency experience Charlotte has collected a wealth of memories, travelled the world and been given a thank you in a children's book. [charlottes@suttonpr.com](mailto:charlottes@suttonpr.com) / @Sutton twitter / @sutton Instagram



**Emily Philippou** is Media Manager for Wellcome Collection, where every day has been a school day for over five years. Since last year's conference she has pulled teeth, taken a merry band of journalists to visit a sanatorium in a Finnish pine forest, and asked what it is to be a machine. Next up, a new and different adventure is in store as she is leaving Wellcome, London and the UK to go and work at Mona (the museum of old and new art) in Tasmania. Please keep in touch! [ekphilippou@gmail.com](mailto:ekphilippou@gmail.com) / @Emily\_Philippou

**Jenny Stewart** is a freelance communications consultant and publicist specialising in culture and design with an emphasis on socially-engaged work. Moving steadily westwards every year she now lives on the coast of Donegal and will probably be in the middle of the Atlantic ocean by the next conference. She counts herself incredibly lucky to work with great folk like muf architecture / art, We are here Venice and the Warburg Institute. This year she survived the Edinburgh Fringe with only one small cry and managed not to break anything at a fancy Biennale party – both big wins. Read her attempts to not tweet too much about the Irish border @jennystewartpr or email [jenny@jstewartpr.com](mailto:jenny@jstewartpr.com) instead

