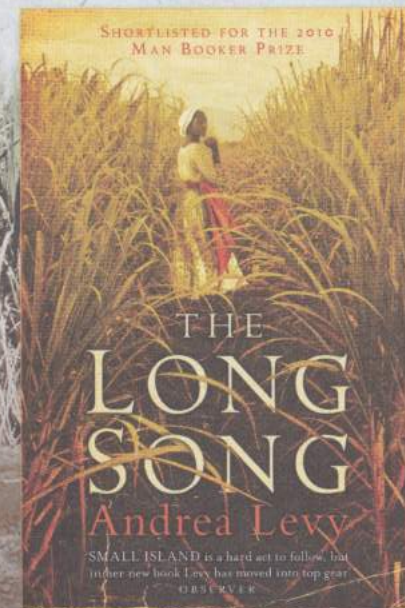


ONE CITY. ONE BOOK. A THOUSAND CONVERSATIONS.

# BRIGHTON & HOVE CITY READS 2011

17 September – 9 October



CITYREADS.CO.UK

## What is City Reads?

City Reads is Brighton & Hove's annual big read – think one giant citywide book group with events programmed around it. This year, we invite you take part in a celebration of Andrea Levy's new Man Booker-shortlisted novel *The Long Song*. Read it, enjoy it, discuss it, debate it – with your neighbour, with your book group, with your hairdresser, with your friends. And then, share your experience over a series of special events.

### Where is City Reads?

The Old Market in Hove forms the hub of this year's live programme. There are also free events in the city's libraries.

The Old Market, 11a Upper Market Street, Hove. Visit [theoldmarket.com](http://theoldmarket.com) for full directions. Nearby buses are the 1, 1A, 2, 2A, 5, 5A, 5B, 6, 20X, 24, 25, 46, 49, 49A, 81 and the N25 (night bus). Visit [buses.co.uk](http://buses.co.uk) for timetables.

City Books is City Reads' official bookseller. Visit their stall at every event in The Old Market.

### Who is City Reads for?

City Reads is for everyone, occasional reader or book group addict alike. It's about opening up the world of words and ideas to all.

### How do I get started?

Simple! To take part just pick up a copy – from your local library or bookshop (or look out for one of the free 'book-crossed' editions across the city) – and start reading\*. You can download a free Reader Guide from [cityreads.co.uk](http://cityreads.co.uk). Over 60s can join our free Read Aloud Group at Hove Library at 2pm on Thursdays. Contact Nicola Benge on 07727 006538/[strikealight@rocketmail.com](mailto:strikealight@rocketmail.com) for details.

*\*Brighton & Hove Libraries have free audio versions of The Long Song available for community organisations and groups. Please contact Ann Stainsby on (01273) 296984 (limited availability).*

## Why this book?

### *The Long Song* by Andrea Levy

*'Beautifully written, intricately plotted, humorous and earthy... A marvel of luminous storytelling.'*

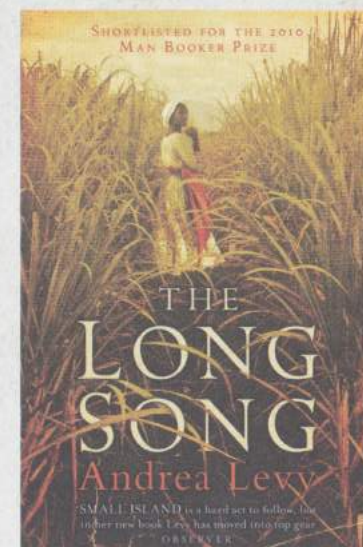
Financial Times on *The Long Song*

Having one book for one city brings readers together and *The Long Song* – the follow-up to Andrea Levy's multi-prize-winning bestseller *Small Island* – has all the ingredients for a great collective read. It is the story of July, a black house slave on a Jamaican sugar plantation in the early 19th century, but this is not a typical 'slavery' novel. Wry, humorous, and ultimately optimistic, it chronicles the life of an ordinary woman in extraordinary times. It is also a tale of the resilience of the human spirit, of courage and defiance, and of our collective impulse to discover who we are and where we come from. Finally it is a celebration of the power of storytelling itself.

To help make the most of *your* reading experience, we've put together a programme of discussions, debates, film showings and other activities all inspired by the book's themes. These events are designed to get under the skin of the story and to explore and celebrate the rich island culture that emerged from this turbulent period of history.

Sarah Hutchings  
Artistic Director, City Reads.

*Read on for what's on.  
Happy city reading!*



City Reads would like to thank  
Funders and Partners:



Supporters:



Thanks also to:

Jo Brooks PR | Pippa Smith at Brighton Dome and Festival | City Reads Team and volunteers  
If you are interested in supporting City Reads, please contact [sarah@cityreads.co.uk](mailto:sarah@cityreads.co.uk)



## Small Island: Big Screen

*Award-winning drama from the BBC...*

Andrea Levy's 2004 novel *Small Island* won an array of literary prizes. Then in 2009 the story of Hortense, Queenie, Gilbert and their intertwining post-war London lives was adapted for TV in the BBC's sumptuous two-part costume drama starring Naomie Harris, David Oyelowo and Ruth Wilson. Relive Levy's tale of empire, prejudice, love and belonging in this two-part screening.

Sun 18 Sep, 12noon & 2pm, Free, Jubilee Library



## Film: The Harder They Come (15)

*Jamaican movie milestone starring Jimmy Cliff...*

Perry Henzell's 1972 cult Jamaican classic is the story of aspiring young singer Ivan Martin (Jimmy Cliff) caught in the crossfire of Kingston's violent underworld soon after independence. Gritty, groundbreaking and played out to a blistering soundtrack, it sparked a global reggae revolution, made Jimmy Cliff a superstar and turned the urban outlaw into a modern-day folk hero. Almost 30 years on, it remains a defining moment in Jamaican culture and a gripping piece of social history.

Sun 25 Sep, 1pm, Free, Jubilee Library



## Film: Amazing Grace (PG)

*Powerful take on the beginning of the end of slavery*

Michael Apted's big-screen epic focuses on the key political figures and movements that helped bring about the end of the British transatlantic slave trade. Starring Ioan Gruffudd, Michael Gambon and Youssou N'Dour, this powerful film recounts how a handful of men, led by abolitionist campaigner William Wilberforce, challenged the economic and political status quo in pursuit of social justice and equality.

Sun 2 Oct, 1pm, Free, Jubilee Library

Please note that places for these free screenings are limited. Arrive early to avoid disappointment. Contact (01273) 294071 for info.

## Free City Readings

*Live readings and discussion of  
The Long Song with Peta Taylor  
and Lucy Joy...*

There's nothing like hearing a story read out loud, all the drama, inflection and nuance of the writing rendered anew in the telling... In these popular library coffee mornings actors Peta Taylor and Lucy Joy bring *The Long Song* to life, performing specially selected extracts.

With opportunities for you to share your thoughts and discuss the novel over tea and coffee, these lively library sessions add a whole new dimension to your city reading.

Sat 17 Sep, 11am, Free  
Patcham Library, Ladies Mile Rd,  
Brighton. (01273) 296912.  
Buses 5 & 5A.

Sat 24 Sep, 11am, Free  
Hangleton Library, Westway,  
Hangleton, Hove. (01273) 296904.  
Buses 5A/B, 27A, 16, 66 & 55.

Sat 1 Oct, 11am, Free  
Rottingdean Library, The Grange,  
Rottingdean. (01273) 296918.  
Buses 2 & 2A.



*'I believed my deliverance  
had come; that my maker,  
be him deity or devil,  
desired to hear my tale not  
written as some fool-fool  
book but spoken close into  
his ear...'*

July, *The Long Song*



## City Reads Book Quiz

This annual City Reads favourite returns to test your knowledge on all things bookish. From genre fiction to literary classics; from lowbrow to highbrow to no brow at all, there's conundrums and brainteasers aplenty for book lovers of all persuasions. There's also a special round on this year's City Read book. Come along and join a team or bring your own. This event always sells out, so book early to avoid disappointment. Wine and soft drinks available.

Thu 6 Oct, 6.15pm, £5  
Jubilee Library  
Tickets Brighton Dome Ticket Office  
(01273) 709709 brightonticketshop.com

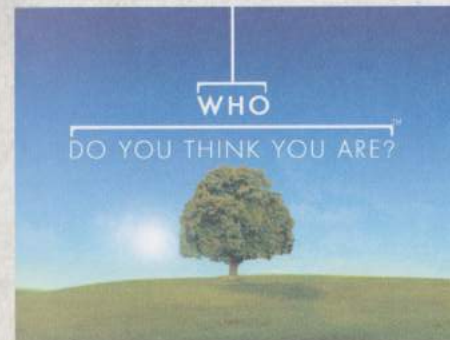


## Island Appetiser *Caribbean rum and chocolate tasting with Dave Broom...*

Get a true taste of the Caribbean and discover the remarkable histories of two of its most famous exports with drinks guru and author of the definitive *Rum* guide, Dave Broom.

Rum and chocolate have been synonymous with the Caribbean for centuries. The former traces its modern origins to the 18th- and 19th-century sugar plantations that provide the setting for Andrea Levy's *The Long Song*. The latter was introduced to the Caribbean by the Spanish in the 16th century. With plenty of both to tickle your palate and Dave on hand to lend his expertise, this is a lip-smacking celebration of a rich island culture. Dave Broom is the author of *The World Atlas of Whisky*; *Rum*; and *The Complete Bartender's Guide*.

Fri 7 Oct, 7pm, £8  
The Old Market  
Tickets Brighton Dome Ticket Office  
(01273) 709709 brightonticketshop.com



## Who Do You Think You Are? *Screening of Colin Jackson's Who Do You Think You Are?, followed by novelist Paul Crooks on tracing his Caribbean roots...*

Have you ever wondered where you come from, or sought out the hidden histories of your ancestry?

Colin Jackson's appearance on BBC1's *Who Do You Think You Are?* saw the Olympic hurdler trace his lineage to the Jamaican slave rebellion of 1831 (as featured in Andrea Levy's *The Long Song*). Relive that moment here on the big screen. Then novelist/genealogist Paul Crooks discusses his own extraordinary quest to reclaim his lost heritage with journalist/biographer Imogen Lycett Green. Over 11 years Paul undertook an amazing journey from suburban north London to the Caribbean and the Gold Coast of Africa. His account of this epic endeavour became the gripping theme of his first novel, *Ancestors*.

Sat 8 Oct, 11am, £5, The Old Market  
(Venue open from 10.30am for teas,  
coffees and pastries)  
Tickets Brighton Dome Ticket Office  
(01273) 709709 brightonticketshop.com



## Film: Fire in Babylon (12a) *How West Indies cricket hit prejudice and colonial oppression for six...*

The Caribbean story simply wouldn't be complete without cricket! In a turbulent era of apartheid in South Africa, race-riots in England and civil unrest at home, the West Indian cricketers of the late 70s and 80s made history. With Caribbean flair, a fearless spirit and a thumping reggae beat, they hijacked the genteel game of the privileged white elite and replayed it on their own terms. With dynamic archive footage and classic music, this explosive film celebrates the equalizing power of sport.

*'A riveting account of the glory  
days of West Indian cricket.  
Joyous and uplifting' \*\*\*\**

Daily Telegraph

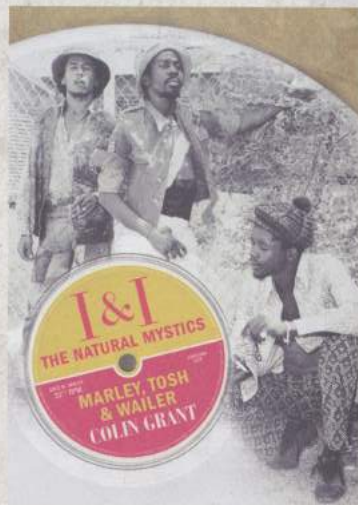
Sat 8 Oct, 1.30pm  
Adult £8, member £6, concessions £7, child £5  
Duke of York's Picture House  
Tickets Duke of York's booking line  
0871 902 5728  
picturehouses.co.uk/cinema/duke\_of\_yorks

## I & I: The Natural Mystics

*A celebration of Bob Marley and the Wailers with Colin Grant...*

Earlier this year Andrea Levy chose Bob Marley's *Redemption Song* as one of her *Desert Island Discs*. Now, Colin Grant, author of *I & I: The Natural Mystics*, rides the rollercoaster history of this reggae superstar and his fellow Wailers.

Over one dramatic decade Jamaican R&B crooners Peter Tosh, Bunny Wailer and Bob Marley swapped their sharp two-tone 60s suits for 1970s battle fatigues and dreadlocks to become the Wailers – one of the world's most influential bands. Colin Grant – cultural historian and author – explores the Wailers' Rastafarianism, their music, their fluctuating fortunes, and the politics and ideologies that provoked their split. Through a mix of reportage and revelatory history, he examines their quest to become not just extraordinary musicians, but also natural mystics.



*'In Grant's hands, life in Trench Town in the 1960s is energetic and theatrical, rich in comedy and tragic irony.'*

The Guardian

Sat 8 Oct, 4pm, £5  
The Old Market

### *Tickets*

Brighton Dome Ticket Office (01273) 709709  
[brightonticketshop.com](http://brightonticketshop.com)

## Linton Kwesi Johnson

*Live poetry performance plus Q&A... with support from Kei Miller*

As a poet, record producer and global reggae icon, Linton Kwesi Johnson is one of the most original and influential voices in contemporary British culture.

His verse, delivered in distinctive Jamaican patois, often over dub reggae, has provided an uncompromising commentary on our times. From his classic *Dread Beat an' Blood* (1978) to *Making History* (1983) and beyond, his work has balanced the political and personal, taking social injustice and racial inequality to task whilst also exploring a more intimate introspection. In 2003 LKJ became the first ever black poet to be published by Penguin Classics. He is a passionate and compelling performer – don't miss this rare live encounter with the original dub poet.

With support from Jamaican-born poet and novelist Kei Miller plus post-event Q&A with Linton Kwesi Johnson and Colin Grant.

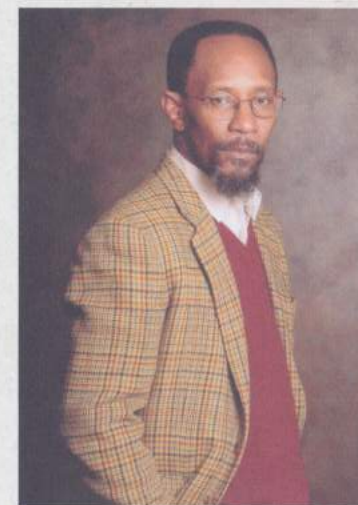
*'A warrior wordsmith whose couplets take no prisoners'*

The Times

Sat 8 Oct, 8pm, £12.50  
The Old Market  
(Bar open from 7pm)

### *Tickets*

Brighton Dome Ticket Office (01273) 709709  
[brightonticketshop.com](http://brightonticketshop.com)





## The Book Doctor

*One-to-one bibliotherapy with Laura Lockington...*

Uninspired by your bookshelf browsing? Hacked off with your holiday reading? Or bowed down by a literary low? Never fear, the doctor's here! Make an appointment with Laura Lockington – author, playwright, publisher and High Priestess of the ancient art of bibliomancy! – and she'll prescribe a book just for you...

Reading can be life affirming, inspiring, informative or simply fun... But all too often we get stuck in a rut with our books. A trip to the good doctor will shed new light on your reading habits. So if you're feeling lonely, happy, angry, romantic, bored, nostalgic, sad, stressed, relaxed or nervous ... the doctor can help!

Laura is the author of *Cupboard Love*, *Capers in the Sauce* and *Stargazy Pie*.

When you book you will receive a short questionnaire by email to help the Doctor with her diagnosis. Ticket price includes a complimentary 'Proustian' Madeleine and a tot of Madeira!

Sun 9 Oct, 11am, £5 per 15-minute session  
The Old Market  
Tickets Brighton Dome Ticket Office  
(01273) 709709 [brightonticketshop.com](http://brightonticketshop.com)



## Different Skins

*Writing workshop: developing multiple voices in fiction... with Kei Miller*

Fiction writers are forever required to step away from themselves: to inhabit different skins and to speak with different voices. Kei Miller has devised this special workshop exclusively for Brighton City Reads. Combining group discussion with practical and fun exercises, it will help you hone your skills and develop new techniques to move seamlessly between multiple voices and perspectives.

Kei Miller divides his time between his native Jamaica and the UK, where he teaches creative writing at the University of Glasgow. His first book of short fiction, *The Fear of Stones*, was shortlisted for the 2007 Commonwealth Writers First Book Prize. His other books include *The Same Earth*, *The Last Warner Woman* and two acclaimed collections of poetry.

*'Combines the fantastical realism of Márquez with the domestic comedy of Andrea Levy.'* The Independent on *The Same Earth* by Kei Miller

Sun 9 Oct, 10am–1pm, £20, The Old Market  
Tickets Brighton Dome Ticket Office  
(01273) 709709 [brightonticketshop.com](http://brightonticketshop.com)

## Andrea Levy in conversation with Suzi Feay

*Bring your City Reads experience full circle by joining Andrea Levy live for an intimate and exclusive celebration of The Long Song.*

Whether you've read the book, joined a book group and discussed it with friends, or you've come late to the party and are itching to know more, this is your chance to get the inside track on this year's City Read.

How did the novel come together? What was the impetus and inspiration? And how did an author who read her first novel at the grand age of 23 (and only began writing in her mid-thirties) overcome the challenges and pitfalls to become a bona fide bestseller? Find out in this special in-conversation as Andrea discusses her new novel with Suzi Feay, writer, journalist and former Literary Editor of the *Independent on Sunday*.

With the chance for you to put your own questions direct to the author herself, this is an unmissable conclusion to City Reads 2011.

*'Small Island is a hard act to follow, but in her new book, Levy has moved into top gear.'*

Observer



Sun 9 Oct, 3pm, £8  
The Old Market

Tickets Brighton Dome Ticket Office  
(01273) 709709  
[brightonticketshop.com](http://brightonticketshop.com)

## *Programme of Events*

### *Free Events*

**Small Island: Big Screen**

Sun 18 Sep, 12pm & 2pm, Jubilee Library

**Film: The Harder They Come**

Sun 25 Sep, 1pm, Jubilee Library

**Film: Amazing Grace**

Sun 2 Oct, 1pm, Jubilee Library

**Free City Readings**

Sat 17 Sep, 11am, Patcham Library

Sat 24 Sep, 11am, Hangleton Library

Sat 1 Oct, 11am, Rottingdean Library

### *City Reads Big Weekend*

**City Reads Book Quiz**

Thu 6 Oct, 6.15pm, Jubilee Library

**Island Appetiser with Dave Broom**

Fri 7 Oct, 7pm, The Old Market

**Who Do You Think You Are?**

Sat 8 Oct, 11am, The Old Market

**Film: Fire in Babylon**

Sat 8 Oct, 1.30pm, Duke of Yorks Picture House

**I & I: The Natural Mystics with Colin Grant**

Sat 8 Oct, 4pm, The Old Market

**Linton Kwesi Johnson**

Sat 8 Oct, 8pm, The Old Market

**Different Skins:**

Writing Workshop with Kei Miller

Sun 9 Oct, 10am, The Old Market

**The Book Doctor - Laura Lockington**

Sun 9 Oct, 11am, The Old Market

**Andrea Levy in Conversation**

Sun 9 Oct, 3pm, The Old Market

*Tickets* 01273 709709 | [brightonticketshop.com](http://brightonticketshop.com)

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