

Borges and Swedenborg

a talk by WILLIAM ROWLANDSON

on the publication of his new book

Imaginal Landscapes: reflections on the mystical visions of Jorge Luis Borges and Emanuel Swedenborg



THURSDAY 19 MARCH 2015 | Doors open, refreshments and piano accompaniment from 6.30 pm | Talk starts at 7.00 pm | FREE ADMISSION

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- **TIME:** 7.00 pm
(Doors open 6.30 pm)
 - **DATE:** 19/03/2015
 - **ADMISSION:** Free
 - **VENUE:**
Swedenborg Hall
20/21 Bloomsbury Way
London WC1A 2TH
 - **NEAREST TUBE:**
Holborn /
Tottenham Court Road
 - **RSVP:**
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William Rowlandson will present an exciting exploration of the labyrinthine worlds of two of literature's greatest and most original minds—Jorge Luis Borges and Emanuel Swedenborg—to celebrate the publication of his new book *Imaginal Landscapes*. William's book is a concise yet deep-reaching study which describes and contextualizes Borges's often undervalued appreciation of Swedenborg. William will show how Swedenborg's visionary influence has gone a long way to explain Borges's preoccupations with parallel existences, the infinite, and the mystery of language. *Imaginal Landscapes* is also an investigation into the problematic semantics of mysticism (and its surrounding scholarship), and it raises important questions about the criteria we use to assess the lives and works of those thinkers and writers who have come to be labelled as 'mystics'.

WILLIAM ROWLANDSON is Senior Lecturer in Hispanic Studies at the University of Kent. He is the author of *Borges, Swedenborg and Mysticism* (Peter Lang, 2013) and has published widely on Latin American cultural and political history including the history of Guantánamo Bay and Cuba during the War on Terror. He has written for the *Guardian* and has also recently edited *Daimonic Imagination: Uncanny Intelligence* with Angela Voss (Cambridge Scholars Publishing, 2013).

