



News from Swedenborg House

Coming up this October we have the opening of two exciting new exhibitions as well as the first of our children's activity workshops. We also have news from our friends at Test Centre and Inspiral London, who are both staging events at Swedenborg House featuring Swedenborg Society authors.



ad caput capitis: the lost skulls of Swedenborg | Iain Sinclair | Jeremy Millar | Colin Dickey

Exhibition of items from the Swedenborg Archive and talks by Iain Sinclair and Colin Dickey

Exhibition runs 18-21 October 2017, 9.30 am-5.00 pm daily | talks, Thursday 19 October 2017 6.00 pm | additional



The Humble Servant: Ceramic art inspired by William Blake and Swedenborg | Diane Eagles

18 October-30 November 2017 | Mon-Fri 9.30 am - 5.00 pm daily

| Swedenborg House Bookshop, 20-21 Bloomsbury Way, London WC1A 2TH | Free entry

Open evening Thursday 19 October 2017 | 6.00-9.00 pm | refreshments served

[BOOK TICKETS FOR OPEN EVENING](#)

artwork by Jeremy Millar | curated by
Stephen McNeilly | Swedenborg
House, 20/21 Bloomsbury Way,
London WC1A 2TH | FREE | organized
in conjunction with the Bloomsbury
Festival

[BOOK HERE](#) for tickets for Iain Sinclair
and Colin Dickey talks 19 October 6.00
pm

Swedenborg's skull has long been an object of mystery, intrigue and misappropriation. Stolen twice from his coffin in London, it was later replaced with a 'ringer'. This in turn was only discovered when the real skull resurfaced in Swansea during the 1950s. It was later put up for auction at Sothebys, and over the years both skulls have been the subject of intense literary focus, giving rise to numerous poems, essays, books, replicas and eulogies.

Organized in conjunction with the Bloomsbury Festival ***ad caput capitis: the lost skulls of Swedenborg*** offers an opportunity to explore rare and previously unseen items from the Swedenborg Archive that bear witness to this uncommon story. There will also be new works by the artist Jeremy Millar. To accompany the exhibition, London writer Iain Sinclair and author Colin Dickey will each speak of their own work, both literary and academic, in connection to Swedenborg and the strange history of his mortal remains.

IAIN SINCLAIR is a writer, poet and filmmaker known as a chronicler and critic of ever-changing contemporary London. His works include *Downriver*; *London Orbital*; [Blake's London](#); [Swimming to Heaven](#); and *The Last London: True Fictions from an Unreal City*.

[HERE](#)

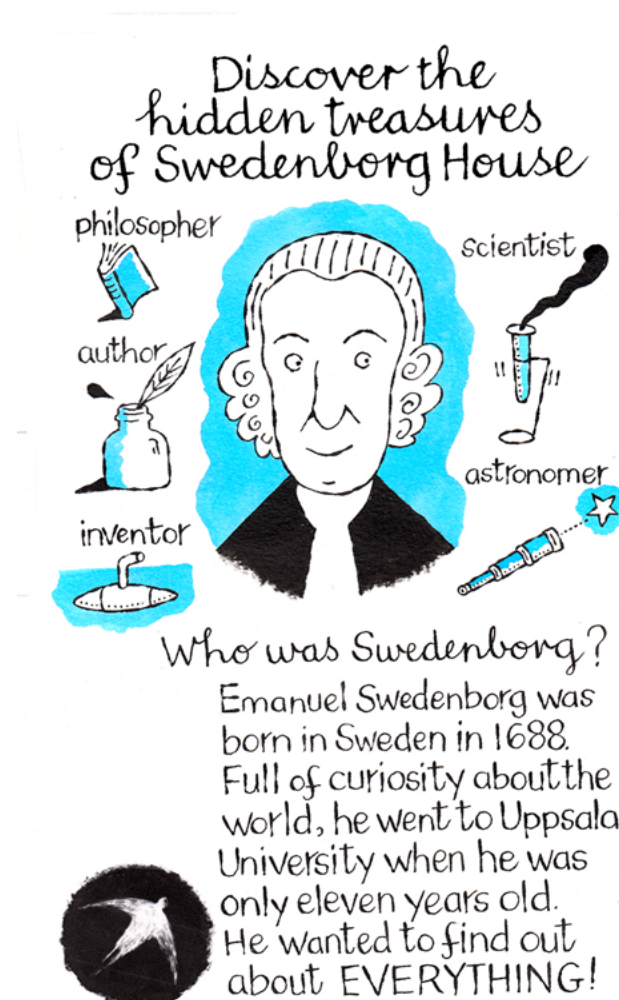
The Humble Servant is an exhibition of 4 hand-built ceramic pieces inspired by the engravings of William Blake for a pattern book of Josiah Wedgwood's queensware tableware in 1817. Adorned with quotations from Swedenborg's writings, and echoing the style of Blake's hand-coloured plates from his Lambeth poems, the ceramics replicate creamware of the period, with hand-applied, coloured lead glaze and transfer printing.

Diane Eagles is a London-based ceramic artist. Diane has exhibited work at The Wellcome Collection, Kingston Guildhall & Morley College, Draper Hall, Dulwich Artists Open House, Morley Gallery, Waterloo, and the Contemporary Crafts & Design Fair, Chelsea. Her work has also featured on the cover of *The International Journal of Art Psychotherapy*. She is also a founding member of the ceramic artists' collective, The Associated Clay Workers Union (ACWU).

COLIN DICKEY is a US writer, speaker and academic who contributes regularly to *LA Review of Books* and *Lapham's Quarterly*. His works include *Cranioklepty: Grave Robbing and the Search for Genius*; *Afterlives of the Saints: Stories from the Ends of Faith*; and *Ghostland: An American History in Haunted Places*.

JEREMY MILLAR is an artist, writer, curator and senior tutor at the Royal College of Art, London. His recent solo exhibitions include *M/W*, Muzeum Stzuki, Lodz; *XDO XOL*, Whitstable Biennale (both 2014); and *The Oblate*, Southampton City Art Gallery (2013).

STEPHEN MCNEILLY is Museum Director at the Swedenborg Society, series editor of the Swedenborg Archive series and the Journal of the Swedenborg Society. For the Society he has curated numerous exhibitions including [Now It is Permitted: 24 Wayside Pulpits](#), *Swedenborg House: Fourteen interventions* and *D T Suzuki: manuscripts and letters*.



Discover the hidden treasures of Swedenborg House | Sally Kindberg

Children's drawing workshops |
Saturday 28 October | 2.00 - 4.00 pm |
Free refreshments | Swedenborg
House, 20/21 Bloomsbury Way,
London WC1A 2TH | FREE | For
children aged 6 to 10 | Children to be
accompanied by a parent or carer

Places are limited--1 ticket is for 1 child
(+parent /carer)

[BOOK HERE](#)

From October, we are pleased to announce the first of an exciting new series of events at Swedenborg House. The celebrated author and artist Sally Kindberg will be leading drawing workshops for children aged between 6-10 on the secrets of Swedenborg and Swedenborg House. Accompanied by artist and teacher Kylie McManus, Sally will lead the children through a unique

THE MAGIC DOOR

Please join us to celebrate the launch of
The Magic Door
the long-awaited collected edition of
Chris Torrance's life work

with

Chris Torrance

Iain Sinclair

Allen Fisher

Wednesday 4 October, 7 pm
Swedenborg House, 20–21 Bloomsbury Way
London WC1A 2TH
(Barter Street entrance)

Free entry, no tickets required

Chris Torrance

Test Centre launch for *The Magic Door*

TOMORROW

4 October 2017 | 7 pm | Swedenborg
Hall, 20-21 Bloomsbury Way, London
WC1A 2TH | Free entry (no booking
required)

Our friends at the independent Hackney-based publishers Test Centre are staging the launch for their latest publication, *The Magic Door* by Chris Torrance, in Swedenborg Hall this Wednesday. The night will feature readings from Chris, making a very rare public appearance, as well as from London poet Allen Fisher and Swedenborg Society author, Iain Sinclair. This special evening is free and Test Centre have kindly extended an invitation to members of the Swedenborg Society's mailing list.

For more on Chris Torrance and his long-awaited collection *The Magic Door*, [click here](#).

exploration of our rare collection of artefacts and treasures, including strange mechanical inventions, powdered wigs, duck feather pens and angels.

Sally Kindberg is the author and illustrator of the popular children's book series *Draw It!* and *The Comic Strip History of Space*, both published by Bloomsbury. Sally's work has appeared in numerous children's books, in comic strips for CBBC and in *The Guardian*. She has also delivered creative workshops at Edinburgh Festival, the Wellcome Collection and in places as diverse as Beijing and the Outer Hebrides. Sally is a City of London guide, the curator and founder of the Museum of Dust and is currently working on a graphic story called *Sputnik*.



Another Place: Visionary Landscapes and City Infrastructure (Inspirallondon 2017)

12 October 2017 | 6.00-9.00
pm | Swedenborg Hall, 20-21
Bloomsbury Way, London WC1A 2TH |
£6-8

[BOOK HERE](#)

The Inspirallondon Festival returns next week, with the opening once more taking place at Swedenborg Hall: *Another Place: Visionary Landscapes and City Infrastructure* presents an evening of

(Please note this is not a Swedenborg Society event.)

Coming up at Swedenborg House

26 Oct, 30 Nov 2017: [Arcana Caelestia Reading Group](#)

18-21 October 2017: [ad caput capitis: the lost skulls of Swedenborg](#) | [Iain Sinclair](#) | [Jeremy Millar](#) | [Colin Dickey](#)

18 Oct-30 November 2017: [The Humble Servant: Ceramic art inspired by William Blake and Swedenborg](#) | [Diane Eagles](#)

28 October 2017: [Discover the hidden treasures of Swedenborg House](#) | [Sally Kindberg](#)

2, 9, 16, 18 November 2017: [Swedenborg Film Festival with Ali Smith](#)

20 January 2018: [Swedenborg Birthday Lecture: David Bodanis on Isaac Newton](#)

talks that explore on the ground mapping of the metropole.

Ken Worpole presents 'Memories of the Future', research into the rise of 19th- and 20th-century communitarian settlements in the Essex landscape as outposts of East London radical politics, with a discussion on the political dynamic which sought to re-integrate the city and the country; **Sarah Spanton** (Artist Planner) discusses her recent journey from artist/performer and arts professional to planner, thinking through the artist's role in civic society, artists as activators of social change in navigating the line between the roles of planner and artist; **Charlie Fox** (InspirallLondon Director) will talk 'Spin, Spirals and Dickensian: towards a topoanalysis of homelessness'. By introducing a decentring approach to urban trail design and exploring some infamous Kent connections, this talk spins us from Swedenborg's house to the outer spaces of the metropole and into North Kent. Finally, artist **Hayley Newman** will talk about her current work in progress *Façadism*; a novella about memory, faces and building facades that takes the form of a walk.

The evening concludes with open audience discussion, chaired by **Dr. Cecilia Wee**.

For more on this year's InspirallLondon Festival, view the [full programme here](#).

(Please note this is not a Swedenborg Society event.)

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