

Kate Atkinson
Carlos Ruiz Zafón
Garrison Keillor
Dave Gorman
Elaine Showalter
Richard Price
Tariq Ali
Jeremy Paxman
Neil Gaiman
Alexander McCall Smith
Cherie Blair
Henning Mankell
David Simon
William Fiennes
David Peace
Griff Rhys Jones
Antony Beevor
Will Self
Gerald Scarfe
Dan Cruickshank
Sebastian Coe
A C Grayling
Christopher Brookmyre
James Kelman
John Carey
Iain Banks
Melvyn Bragg
Alain de Botton
Frank Gardner
Marina Lewycka
Kate Summerscale
Antonia Fraser
Monica Ali
Simon King
Magnus Mills
Raj Persaud
Ma Jian
Gavin Esler
Margaret Drabble
Charley Boorman
Aeronwy Thomas
Joel Joffe
Graham Swift
Paddy Ashdown
Carl Pedersen

And over 650 more

2009 Highlights

- Margaret Atwood launches her new novel, *The Year of the Flood*, with a unique performance of music and song which will be presented in the inspiring surroundings of St John's Church on Princes Street
- Joining us with much anticipated brand new books are William Boyd, Richard Dawkins, Tom Kitchin, Michael Mansfield, Tracy Chevalier, Liam McIlvanney, Valerie Martin, Nicholson Baker, Colum McCann, Humphrey Hawksley, Alexander McCall Smith, Ian Rankin and Douglas Coupland among others
- One of the most dynamic female politicians of our time, Shirley Williams, will deliver the National Library of Scotland Donald Dewar Lecture
- In this, Scotland's Year of Homecoming, we examine Scottish history, literature, culture, society, and exploration and of course, celebrate our National Bard – Robert Burns
- New volumes of short stories are brought to Charlotte Square by A L Kennedy, Irvine Welsh and Ben Okri
- Giants of British theatre joining us in Charlotte Square Gardens this year include Joss Ackland, Diana Quick, Richard Eyre and Antony Sher
- James Lovelock, creator of the Gaia hypothesis, invigorates the debate on nature and the environment, a strand that includes Richard Hamblyn, Alastair McIntosh, Stuart Sim and Graeme Gibson
- We introduce some of Scotland's newest creative talent, and take a look at some of the finest unpublished writers from across the creative writing schools of Scotland, supported by the Scottish Government's Edinburgh Festival's Expo Fund
- New writing from Africa includes stories from Malawi, Sudan, Eritrea, Nigeria and Zimbabwe
- We explore the implications of the global economic downturn with experts including Vince Cable, Philip Augar, Paul Mason, Gillian Tett, Dan Atkinson and Andrew Simms
- We celebrate the International Year of Astronomy, the 200th anniversary of the birth of Charles Darwin, the 150th anniversary of the birth of Arthur Conan Doyle, the 20th anniversary of the fall of the Berlin Wall, the 70th anniversary of the end of the Spanish Civil War and 10 years of the Scottish Parliament
- Authors visit Charlotte Square Gardens from over 45 countries including Albania, Bosnia, Burma, Canada, China, Colombia, Croatia, Egypt, France, Greece, Iceland, Italy, Japan, Malaysia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Pakistan, Poland, Romania, Spain, Sudan, Turkey and Ukraine

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