

Most Recent Manchester Salon Discussions

The wide range of social, political and cultural topics covered this year are listed below. Any requests for subjects to be dealt with in future are welcomed, so please pass on your ideas.

Sept 'Cycling: four wheels good, two wheels bad?'

Mark Birbeck, Gabriele Schilwa, Helen Nugent and Nick Vaughan explored the trend to promote cycling above motorised transport options.

Sept 'Curators and their audience'

Pauline Hadaway, Sarah Perks and Wendy Earle examined what effect the changing role of curators is having on gallery and museum presentations of art.

June 'First World War: origins and warnings for the 21st Century'

James Woudhuysen and Terry Jackson opened a discussion on the origins and warnings of the First World War.

May 'There's art in them there hills'

James Heartfield, Ann Jackson and John Siddique explored why visual and literary art is so popular in the Pennines.

May 'Mediation: a degradation of the law?'

Michelle Simpson, Luke Gittos and Tanya Greaves examined the impact mediation is having in family and employment disputes.

Feb 'How will universities deal with MOOCs?'

Dennis Hayes, Claire Beecroft, John Hutchinson and Joe Gazdula introduced a discussion on the way online degrees are changing the delivery and character of degree level learning.

Jan 'Abortion: a choice for a woman or society?'

Ann Furedi, Peter D. Williams and Christine Fidler introduced a discussion on qualifications to being pro-choice on abortion.

Get involved in discussing social and political trends with

The Manchester Salon



Join our Facebook group to continue discussion and receive calendar event invitations to events at www.manchestersalon.org.uk/facebook



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Comment on current affairs and life around Manchester

Get involved in discussion and display your analytical and writing skills through the current affairs forum on the first Tuesday of each month. Or write for the reviews section on aspects of life in and around Manchester, including theatre, film, music, books, food or lifestyle issues - see www.manchestersalon.org.uk/reviews.html for full details.

Join the mailing list

To receive advance notice invitations and RSVP reminders a couple of days before discussions, join the mailing list at www.manchestersalon.org.uk/contact-the-salon.html or email Simon Belt, the salon coordinator, at events@manchestersalon.org.uk.

Leaflet design by **KARL SINFIELD**,
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The Manchester Salon is a public discussion forum, meeting most months to engage and debate ideas relating to contemporary social, political and cultural life.

The Manchester Salon

Inspired by the quality of discussions organised by the Institute of Ideas through its annual Battle of Ideas festival (www.battleofideas.org.uk) and the Debating Matters Competition (www.debatingmatters.com), with some of the spirit of salons from the enlightenment period, critical enquiry is at the core of the **Manchester Salon**.

The aim is to capture the essence and nuances of the intellectual and moral problems facing society, challenge modern prejudices and debate possible solutions. With as many views as there are participants, discussions are often ongoing and carry on more informally in the bar afterwards.



"Reading from Molière" by Jean-François de Troy

www.manchestersalon.org.uk

Forthcoming Discussions

Wednesday 8 October 2014

'North and South: a siren call to tame industrial ambition?'

As part of the Manchester Literature Festival, Angelica Michelis, Helen Nugent, Alan Shelston and Vanessa Pupavac will discuss what Elizabeth Gaskell's North and South tells us about today

Venue and Time: Elizabeth Gaskell House, 84 Plymouth Gove, Ardwick, Manchester M13 9LW. Tickets are £10 (£8 concessions) which includes a guided look at the restored rooms and need to be booked online **in advance**. Arrive around 6:00pm for tour and complimentary drink, ready for a prompt 7:00pm start.

Saturday 25 October 2014

'Writers and war: reflecting or shaping our perceptions?'

As part of the Rochdale Literature Festival and a Battle of Ideas satellite event, Shirley Dent, Jonathan Ali, John Greening and Jane Porter will look at how literature shapes our perceptions of war before and after the First World War

Venue and Time: Rochdale Central Library, Number One, Smith Street, Rochdale, OL16 1XU. Tickets are free but should be booked online **in advance**. Arrive by 11:15am for a prompt 11:30am start.

Tuesday 28 October 2014

'Playing God? The ethics of biomedicine'

As part of the Manchester Science Festival and a Battle of Ideas satellite event, Andy Miah, SORCHA UI Chonnachtaigh, Steve Fuller and Anna Bergqvist will introduce a discussion on the ethics of biomedical enhancements

Venue and Time: Cross Street Chapel, Cross Street, Manchester M2 1NL. Tickets are £5 (£4 concessions) and need to be booked online **in advance**. Arrive before 6:30pm for a prompt 6:45pm start.



The recent Salon / Love Architecture festival discussion on City 2.0 at Manchester Craft & Design Centre

Discussion format and organisation

Like the subjects tackled by the Salon, the day of the week, venue and start times can vary from month to month.

Please make a note of the start times and venues in your diary for those discussions you don't want to miss, and as discussions start on time, please arrive early.

Room size and layout varies depending on the venue and numbers in attendance. The style of debate is open, and we encourage contributions from everyone, allowing issues to be engaged by attendees and speakers alike.

Discussions usually start with introductions from the

speakers followed by some challenging questions from the chair. The speakers' comments are then duly opened up to critical analysis, and attendees are invited to add their own comments for consideration by all.

There's no dress code, age limits or party lines to adhere to, and although you're welcome to come along and just listen to the arguments, your opinions are preferred and your engagement will be encouraged.

To cover speakers' travel costs and venue hire, discussions usually cost £5 per person but are occasionally free when sponsored. Donations and sponsorship towards Salon costs are more than welcome.