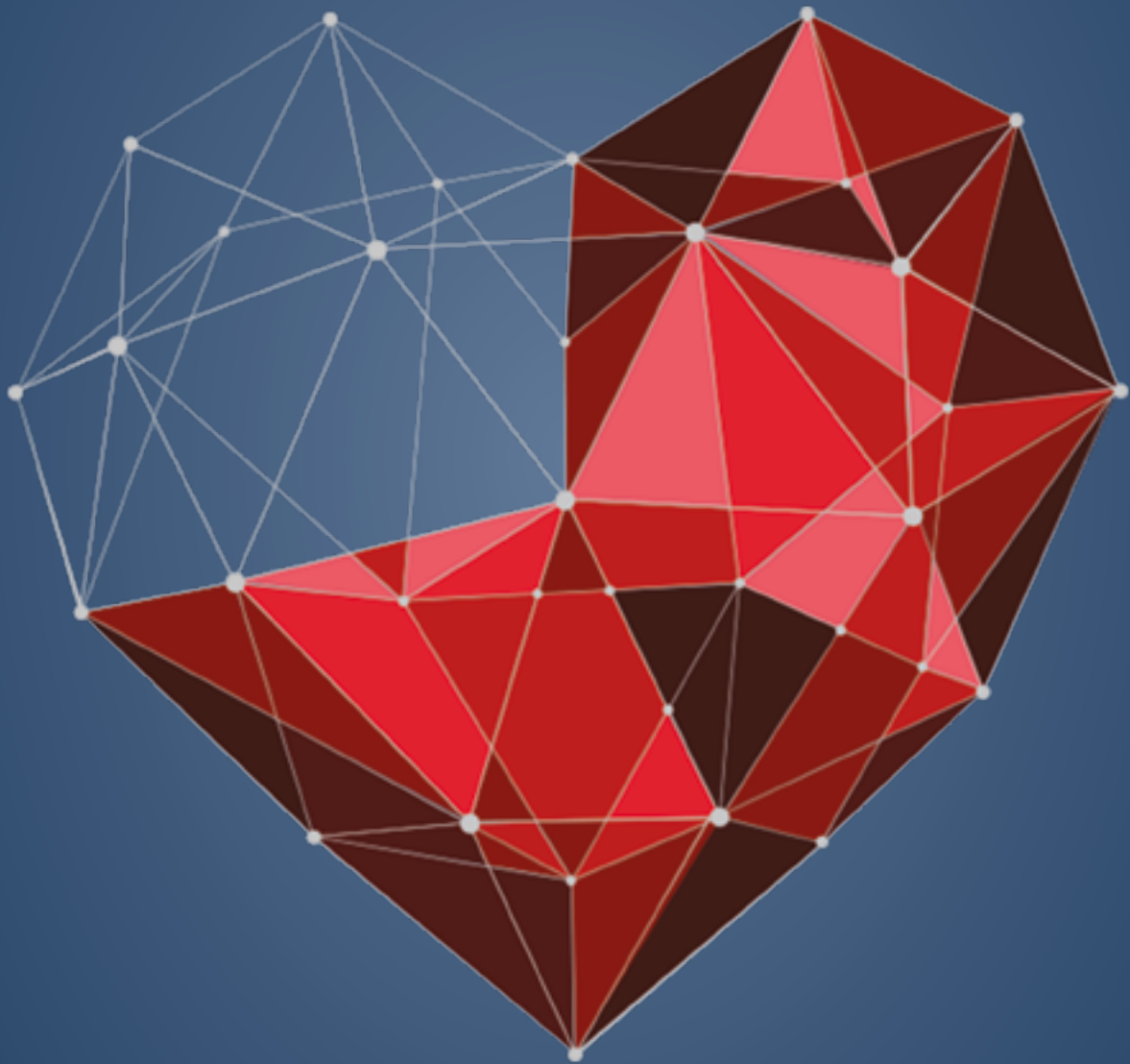


The Greatest Adventure

Love in the Time of Tinder

29th – 30th April 2017

The Globe, Hay-on-Wye



Make meaningful change in your life, love and relationships in this empowering weekend of debates and workshops

Ticket price includes all teaching, light refreshments and live music

Supported by

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Book Tickets**

Welcome

Technology has transformed society. With the rise of dating apps and new technologies, connecting with others has never been easier. But whilst Tinder reached 50 million users last year, studies show that we are lonelier than ever.

Once, the study of love was deemed of vital importance, considered by Plato the greatest of all subjects. But modern philosophy has seen discourse on love fall largely by the wayside. With 1 in 3 couples now meeting online, has romance changed forever? Does technology pose a threat to our relationships? Or can it be harnessed to improve not just our personal connections but society as a whole?

The Greatest Adventure seeks to answers these questions and many more. Hear from world-leading thinkers on issues like: Can love be engineered? Are relationships really necessary? And how is technology changing the nature of intimacy? As well as a complimentary welcome drink and live music, you'll get the unique chance to put your questions to the best in the field.

Your hosts

We're delighted to announce that Robert Rowland Smith – philosopher and author of *Breakfast with Socrates* – and Romantic academic and writer Shahidha Bari will be our hosts for the weekend.



Robert Rowland Smith



Shahidha Bari

Friday



Welcome Drinks Reception

8:00pm – Lower Gallery

Welcome to The Greatest Adventure. Help yourself to a complimentary drink, mingle with speakers, and get to know your fellow attendees. After an official welcome from your host, head upstairs for a night of live music exclusive to the event.



Live Music: Bushfold Blue

9:00pm – Globe Hall

Returning to the globe with their unique brand of upbeat folk, lead singer Kate Hardy brings a heartfelt sound and atmospheric vocals. The perfect Hay-on-Wye experience to kickstart your weekend away.

Saturday



Debate: Love Story

10:30am – Globe Hall

From love at first sight to falling head over heels, it seems love isn't something we do but something that happens to us. Yet experts say successful relationships are built on hard work. Can we construct the romantic narrative? Would power over love's story improve the experience? Or is love a wild adventure left best untamed?

CEO of Relate Chris Sherwood, BAFTA nominated director Martha Fiennes, and Romanticism expert Shahidha Bari rethink romance.



Chris Sherwood

Talk: Surviving the Digital Age

12:00pm – Globe Hall

Is technology harming our relationships? CEO of Relate Chris Sherwood reveals how to navigate the challenges of modern technology and build healthy, lasting relationships.



Kit Opie

Talk: Why Are Humans Monogamous?

12:30pm – Globe Hall

Only 3 percent of mammals are monogamous. The faithful few include beavers, wolves, bats, and, of course, humans. Why is monogamy so rare? And how did we come to practise it? UCL anthropologist Kit Opie takes you on journey back to the beginning of human relationships.



Helen Croydon

Workshop: Screw the Fairytale

2:30pm – Upper Gallery

From a young age we're sold a fairytale dream of happily ever after. Yet more people are choosing to stay single than ever before. Is single the new coupledom? *Screw the Fairytale* author Helen Croydon investigates.

Plans may be subject to change

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Saturday



Christopher Hamilton

Workshop: Desire and Devotion

2:30pm – Globe Hall

Everyone knows what it's like to love someone you don't find sexually attractive. Just as everyone has desired someone they don't love. Can desire and devotion co-exist peacefully? KCL philosopher and author of *How to Deal with Adversity* Christopher Hamilton navigates humanity's oldest minefield.



Martha Fiennes
& Lily Ashley

Performance: Love Incorporated

4:00pm – Globe Hall

How can we ensure our love is meaningful? In a unique talk that blurs the lines between poetry, philosophy and meditation, BAFTA-nominated director Martha Fiennes uses Eastern philosophy to cure the West of its romantic malaise, while performance artist Lily Ashley gives a dynamic reading of her latest poems.



Steve Carter

Talk: Blind Data

5:15pm – Globe Hall

Mathematics is rarely seen as a sexy discipline. But 30% of couples now meet using online algorithms. Could big data be the key to making love last? And if so what makes for the perfect match? eHarmony's Chief Scientist Steve Carter unveils new research into the science of love and compatibility.



Debate: A Fairytale Romance

6:30pm – Globe Hall

From *Romeo and Juliet* to *Sleepless in Seattle*, we think that love completes us. But the ancient Greeks thought this idea was the height of stupidity. Are relationships necessary for human flourishing? Are we really built to be together forever? Or should we seek radical new forms of love?

Screw the Fairytale author Helen Croydon, UCL anthropologist Kit Opie, and psychologist Susan Quilliam imagine new models for relationships.

Plans may be subject to change

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Saturday



Banquet Dinner

7:30pm - Globe Hall

Enjoy a sumptuous long-table, candle-lit dinner with fellow attendees and speakers. Let the lessons of the day sink in with good food and good company.

*Not included in ticket price.



Live Music: Climbing Trees

9:00pm - Globe Hall

Follow up your banquet dinner with a night of live music like no other. Featuring electrifying vocals from HowTheLightGetsIn favourites Climbing Trees, finish off a magical evening with an upbeat, feel good party from local DJ Max Walker.

Sunday



Anders Sandberg

Talk: The Chemistry of Desire

10:30am – Globe Hall

We're happy taking drugs to fight depression. But what about a pill for engineering romance? Oxford neuroscientist and Future of Humanity Institute fellow Anders Sandberg makes the case for chemically enhancing our love lives.



Susan Quilliam

Workshop: How to Find Love Online

11:45am – Globe Hall

One in three couples now find love on the internet. But how do you create a profile that shows the real you? Dating Expert of the Year 2015 and School of Life coach Susan Quilliam reveals her top tips for finding the perfect partner online.

Plans may be subject to change

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Sunday



Harriet Minter

Psychologies Workshop: How to Have Meaningful Conversations

11:45am & 2:00pm – Upper Gallery

On average we spend 5 years of our lives on a mobile phone and more than half of us would rather text than talk. How can we recover the art of meaningful conversation? Representing *Psychologies Magazine*, columnist Harriet Minter reveals how to improve your communication.



Christopher Hamilton

Workshop: The Art of Failure

2:00pm – Globe Hall

With the idea of “The One” looming over us, the need for the perfect relationship can feel oppressive. But what if accepting setbacks were the key to success? KCL philosopher and author of *How to Deal with Adversity* Christopher Hamilton shows you how to make the most of mistakes.



Debate: Love Me Tinder

3:15pm – Globe Hall

At 10 billion matches, Tinder has made more connections than there are people. But neuroscience reveals that too much choice can increase expectations and reduce desire. Is choice actually a bad thing? Have dating apps democratised intimacy, or are they warping our relationships beyond repair?

KCL philosopher Christopher Hamilton, eHarmony's Chief Scientist Steve Carter, and Oxford neuroscientist Anders Sandberg tackle technology's impact on our relationships.

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