

FORWORDS 68, Tue 9 Mar 2007

Spoken word, poetry, live literature events in the Sheffield area for the coming month. For information on forwords, listings and subscriptions, visit <http://access-space.org/forwords/>.

LISTINGS

Saturday 10 March

-Poetry Workshop led by Daljit Nagra
11.30am-1pm, Sheffield Central Library, Surrey St (£6/£3 concessions)

Suitable for new and experienced writers. Places must be booked in advance from Signposts (tel. 0114 263 4787).

-Reading by Daljit Nagra and Debjani Chatterjee
2pm, Sheffield Central Library, Surrey St (free)

Daljit, who lived in Gleadless as a teenager, looks at the modern immigrant experience in Britain, from racism, corner shops, and the mosque to Hilda Ogden and Ms Dynamite. His debut collection 'Look We Have Coming to Dover!' has attracted rave reviews and its title poem won the Forward Prize for Best Individual Poem. No need to book, and free Indian snacks and refreshments will be available.

Sunday 11 March

-Opus Unplugged: open mic + guests
8pm, Riverside Cafe, 1 Mowbray Street, Sheffield (bottom of Corporation St, over from Kelham Island). Free entry.

Opus Unplugged welcomes all manners of performance, from poets to speakers to players, every Sunday. We are also looking for local artists to exhibit each week: paintings, photographs, and the like. All is everything! For info and slots contact <opus-creations@hotmail.co.uk> or visit www.myspace.com/opus-hyphenproductions.

Tuesday 13 March

-Spoken Word Antics (www.access-space.org/antics/): open mic + Jeff Cottrill
8.30pm, upstairs at the Red Deer on Pitt St, Sheffield. Turn off West St. onto Mappin St., and Pitt St. is the second on the left. £1 donations.

This month we are joined by Canadian spoken word artist Jeff Cottrill currently on tour in 'the land of lifts and lorries'. Jeff combines performance poetry, comedy, theatre and storytelling in his act, which he describes as 'satirical, often darkly comic in flavour'. He likes to make his audiences laugh, cringe, or (preferably) both. Jeff has performed all over North America and currently organizes the Perpetual Motion Roadshow, an indie-artist tour that hits venues in several major cities. In 2005 Jeff released his first CD, Cracktastic!, which is available on

jeffcottrill.coffeehouse.ca.

Spoken Word Antics is a friendly and informal evening and is open for anyone to come and perform or read: poetry, stories, urban fairytales, beautiful lies...your own or work you admire. More info on the website: access-space.org/antics. Enquiries to antics@lowtech.org or 0114 258 7270.

Sunday 18 March

-Opus Unplugged: open mic + guests
8pm, Riverside Cafe, 1 Mowbray Street, Sheffield (bottom of Corporation St, over from Kelham Island). Free entry.

See 11 March for details.

Sunday 25 March

-John Cooper Clarke
The Boardwalk, Snig Hill, Sheffield centre (contact box office for times and prices: 0870 1451207)

In a vain attempt at bourgeois credibility, Manchester's sharp-dressed, sharp-delivering punk poet Lenny, changed his name to John Cooper Clarke and embarked on a polysyllabic excursion though Thrillsville. Clad in the slum chic of the hipster, he issued the slang anthems of the zip age in the desperate esperanto of bop. Expect a mix of hilarious anecdotes of life in a Northern town interspersed with machine-gun fast delivery of some of his best poems. 'If you think poetry is dull and boring, or posh and erudite - you haven't seen JCC!'

-Opus Unplugged: open mic + guests
8pm, Riverside Cafe, 1 Mowbray Street, Sheffield (bottom of Corporation St, over from Kelham Island). Free entry.

See 11 March for details.

Tuesday 27 March

-Creatovate (www.creatovate.com)
The Showroom Cafe, Paternoster Row, Sheffield centre

CreatOvate produces cabaret style events that showcase work from individuals who are under-represented whilst also presenting more established performers. CreatOvate events challenge and entertain. We hope that each audience member who comes to see an event for one act will be inundated with many other acts inadvertently. Email creatovate@hotmail.co.uk for times and other more details.

Sunday 1 April

-Opus Unplugged: open mic + guests

8pm, Riverside Cafe, 1 Mowbray Street, Sheffield (bottom of Corporation St, over from Kelham Island). Free entry.

See 11 March for details.

Wednesday 4 April

-Words Aloud

7.35-9.30pm (bar till 12), Runaway Girl, 111 Arundel Street, Sheffield (near Hallam Uni. city campus) (free)

Up to three minutes to read anything you like! Words Aloud is a celebration of the spoken word for writers (old hands and first-timers, dabbling poets, bloggers, copywriters, journalists...all wordsmiths), readers, speakers, or anyone with a passing interest in words. Whether it's a poem, a script extract, comedy writing, a short story, an advertising strapline, match report, blog or even, erm, a recipe for chicken and ham pie - all styles, ages and abilities are welcome. We'll be supplying a books trolley (Mrs O style) on the night for people who don't know what to read. Enquiries to Iain: wordsaloud@theworkshop.co.uk.

Thursday 5 April

-Spoken Word Antics radio show

9-10pm, www.sheffieldlive.org.uk

Including a session recorded with Jeff Cottrill, guest at Antics in the Red Deer in March, and other guests to be confirmed.
