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# HowTheLightGetsIn

HAY 2023

HAY-ON-WYE, HEREFORD

26<sup>TH</sup> – 29<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2023

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World's largest festival of music and philosophy returns to Hay

SLAVOJ ŽIŽEK, FIONA HILL, DANIEL DENNETT, AND BRIAN GREENE

**HowTheLightGetsIn**  
**HAY 2023**  
THE WORLD'S LARGEST MUSIC & PHILOSOPHY FESTIVAL

**MUSIC & PERFORMANCE**

ANNA MEREDITH | BELLE & SEBASTIAN (DJ)  
ZERO 7 (DJ) | NERINA PALLOT  
ALL DAY BREAKFAST CAFÉ | THE LAST DINNER PARTY  
MELIN MELYN | CLUB DE FROMAGE  
TC & THE GROOVE FAMILY | RACHEL SERMANNI  
TUNGZ | ALLYSHA JOY | MALADY | AE MAK  
QUEER HOUSE PARTY | JALLY KEBBA SUSSO  
MR BRUCE | ONIPA | JERUB | TAPESTRY  
SERAPHINA SIMONE | THE PEOPLE'S FRONT ROOM  
SEAN MCLOUGHLIN | FELICITY WARD  
TATTY MACLEOD | SARA BARRON | ESTHER MANITO | ABIGAIL COLLINS  
BEN POPE | TOM WARD | JORDAN BROOKES | ERIKA EHLEH | JOZ NORRIS  
HANNAH PLATT | TADIWA MAHLUNGE | PRIYA HALL | MAX GALACTIC

**SPEAKERS**

SLAVOJ ŽIŽEK | FIONA HILL | BRIAN GREENE  
ESTHER FREUD | DANIEL DENNETT | GILLIAN TETT  
SHASHI THAROOR | THANGAM DEBBOAIRE  
MALCOLM RIFKIND | MATT RIDLEY | BILLY BRAGG  
ROGER PENROSE | LISA RANDALL | LIV BOEREE  
ROWAN WILLIAMS | JOHN MCDONNELL | OWEN JONES  
LOUISE PERRY | PETER EGAN | HELEN CZERSKI  
NEIL TUROK | CRISTOF KOCH | LAURIE BRISTOW | HANNAH CRITCHLOW  
IAIN MCGILCHRIST | SUNETRA GUPTA | GARY LACHMAN | SUBRENA E.SMITH  
TAMAR GENDLER | MYRIAM FRANÇOIS | STEVEN BONELL  
MICHAEL CLARKE | PHILIP COLLINS | ISABEL HILTON | DAVID OMAN | NICK LANE  
SOPHIE SCOTT-BROWN | HILARY LAWSON | LINDA YUEH | HANNAH DAWSON  
BARRY SMITH | GÜNEŞ TAYLOR | PAUL HORWICH | MARTIN COHEN

AND MANY, MANY MORE!

**iai**  
The Institute of  
Art and Ideas

MAY 26<sup>TH</sup> - 29<sup>TH</sup> | HAY-ON-WYE, WALES

**HowTheLightGetsIn**, the world's largest music and philosophy festival, has released its full programme for the HowTheLightGetsIn Hay 2023 event, taking place from the 26-29<sup>th</sup> May 2023 in the idyllic booktown of Hay-on-Wye, Wales. From Nobel Laureates and Pulitzer-Prize winners to political activists, HowTheLightGetsIn boasts an unparalleled gathering of the world's leading thinkers. This year will see none other than firebrand philosopher **Slavoj Žižek**, key adversary to Trump **Fiona Hill**, celebrated philosopher **Daniel Dennett**, superstar string-theorist **Brian Greene**, podcast host and polymath **Eric Weinstein**, visionary economist **Gillian Tett**, and masterful novelist **Esther Freud**, amongst a wealth of other notable speakers.

Following the theme **Error and Renaissance**, the festival will see thinkers across the fields of philosophy, science, politics and art come head to head to work through our present moment, find new ways of understanding the world and rebuild afresh.

With over 300 speakers and performers spread across 12 stages, each debate is set up to scrutinize the ideas behind the news stories and our approach to the world. Some of the highlights will be **Slavoj Žižek** locking horns with **Rowan Williams** and **Richard Wrangham** over *The End of Good and Evil*, alongside Nobel Prize-winning physicist **Roger Penrose**, string theorist **Brian Greene** and **Eric Weinstein** going head-to-head on the fundamental structure of the universe in *The Trouble With String Theory*. Other debates not to miss are *Ancient Traits in a Modern World*, *Taking Leave of Reason*, *Philosophy at War*, *Me, My World and I*, and *New Powers and Fading Forces*.

Despite the festival's wealth of cutting edge debates, inspiring solo talks and thought-provoking interviews, HowTheLightGetsIn is not just for the mind. From Welsh Music Prize-winning songwriting legend **Gruff Rhys** and Mercury-nominated experimental composer **Anna Meredith** to BRIT Award-winning indie legends **Belle and Sebastian** and Mercury-nominated Radiohead collaborators **Zero 7**, every taste is catered for with the festival's eclectic and forward-thinking music lineup.

HowTheLightGetsIn is not about exclusivity or VIP parties – everyone at the festival takes part in the debate to play a key part in the conversation and challenge the ideas put forward to them. Whether you're discussing string theory with a Nobel Laureate in a coffee queue or dancing next to a groundbreaking philosopher, every corner of HowTheLightGetsIn has an unmissable experience in store.

**Get 20% off festival tickets with discount code PHILNEWS23. Tickets are [available now](#). Students and under 25s are eligible for a 30% discount.**

For details please visit <https://howthelightgetsin.org/festivals/hay>. Explore the [full programme](#).

*"A UK first. Back to big thinking"* – **The Guardian**

*"The philosophy festival where you bump into a Nobel Prize winner in the coffee queue"* – **The Independent**

*"Asking vital questions about life"* – **The Telegraph**

*"Not to be missed"* – **The New Statesman**

*"A multi-faceted gem"* – **Time Out**