



FOR RELEASE 2nd SEPTEMBER 2013

## Festival of Children's Literature

In celebration of the receipt of the Eleanor Farjeon Award, **The Federation of Children's Book Groups** is delighted to announce that booking opens today for a Festival of Children's Literature.

The Federation of Children's Book Groups  
celebrates receipt of the  
**Eleanor Farjeon Award**  
with a one day  
**Festival of Children's Literature**  
Birmingham Conservatoire  
9 November 2013

Clara Vulliamy      David Almond  
Storytelling      Michael Morpurgo      Music  
James Mayhew      Emma Chichester Clark

Book signings ● Stalls ● Talks ● Workshops

Join us for an exciting day exploring stories across the arts,  
an ideal opportunity for families and schools to meet  
the very best in children's literature!

Tickets go on sale September 2nd. All tickets £5, except James  
Mayhew's workshop, £11. See website for details:  
<http://www.fcbg.org.uk/festival-of-children's-literature/>  
E-mail: [festival@fcbg.org.uk](mailto:festival@fcbg.org.uk) ● Tel: 07814 741043



The theme for the day is stories across the arts, exploring how children's literature has fed into and off music, theatre, film and even puppetry!

**James Mayhew** will be running a fascinating workshop, from **10.00-12.00**, aimed at children 10-14 years old, all about illustrating to live music (performed by musicians from the Conservatoire), using Benjamin Britten's music for T. H. White's King Arthur book, *The Sword in the Stone*.

At 1pm there will be a unique and magical concert performance of *The Sword in the Stone*, featuring live illustration and readings by James, musicians from the Conservatoire and

workshop participants.

(Please note, workshop participants will also be taking part in the concert performance at 13.00. They do not require a ticket for the concert, but their family and friends will need to purchase tickets for the 1pm performance to see the results of the morning workshop.)

**David Almond** will be celebrating 15 years of *Skellig*, including exploring its adaptation for opera, theatre and film. All welcome, 11am.

**Clara Vulliamy** will be hosting an exciting mini puppet toy theatre workshop based on *Bubble and Squeak*, a book specially written for her to illustrate, by James Mayhew. Suggested age 4-7, 11.30am.

[Michael Morpurgo](#) and [Emma Chichester Clark](#) will draw the day to a close at 3pm with an engaging insight into their new collaboration, a retelling of *Pinocchio*.

The FCBG is grateful for the **Eleanor Farjeon Award** which has helped with funding for this day.

Tickets for each event cost £5, (free tickets for adults accompanying children for Clara's event), except James Mayhew's workshop, £11.

Tickets will be on sale from September 2<sup>nd</sup>. You will be able to buy them in advance online via <http://www.fcbg.org.uk/festival-of-childrens-literature/> or in person in central Birmingham at the box office inside the new Library of Birmingham. There will also be tickets available on the day at the Birmingham Conservatoire.

*The logo for the festival was designed by Gaida Giusti and was chosen from over 50 entries to a competition run by the FCBG via the website and twitter account.*



For more information please contact Zoe Toft [festival@fcbg.org.uk](mailto:festival@fcbg.org.uk)

Notes for editors:

1. FCBG website: <http://www.fcbg.org.uk/> Twitter #brumbookFCL
  2. The FCBG is run entirely by volunteers. It has over 150 official members reaching out to children and parents in their local area, and 27 groups across the country. In the past year in addition to its annual conference and the Red House Book Award (which the FCBG owns and coordinates) more than 190 events have been held by the Federation and its constituent groups, involving over 110 authors and illustrators, and more than 16,000 children and adults across the country. More information about the FCBG, its aims and its history can be accessed at: <http://www.fcbg.org.uk/about/>
  3. The Federation of Children's Book Groups wins the Eleanor Farjeon award: [http://www.literacytrust.org.uk/news/4162\\_the\\_federation\\_of\\_childrens\\_book\\_groups\\_wins\\_award](http://www.literacytrust.org.uk/news/4162_the_federation_of_childrens_book_groups_wins_award)
  4. David Almond: <http://www.davidalmond.com/>
  5. Michael Morpurgo: <http://www.michaelmorpurgo.com/>
  6. Emma Chichester Clark: <http://www.emmachichesterclark.co.uk/>
  7. James Mayhew: <http://james-mayhew-author-illustrator.blogspot.co.uk/>
  8. Clara Vulliamy: <http://claras.me/>
  9. Birmingham Conservatoire: <http://www.bcu.ac.uk/pme/conservatoire>
- The FCBG is a registered charity no. 268289