



THE LONDON ENCOUNTER 2018

03 . 11 . 2018

THE HUMAN BEING: A Paradox of Freedom

10AM Onwards
FREE Admission

200 Aldersgate
London EC1A4HD



The London Encounter is an annual cultural festival involving exhibitions, presentations and discussions which provoke us to ask: what do we truly desire? What are we living for? How can we best face the challenges of life? It is an invitation to a dialogue for people of all backgrounds and experiences.

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T H E E V E N T S

11:00 THE HUMAN BEING: A PARADOX OF FREEDOM

What is freedom? Is it about maximizing possibility and personal choice? An absence of outside interference? Our lived experience is usually far more complex, and we often find that what we choose does not truly satisfy us. A discussion on the nature of true freedom by



Rowan Williams, former Archbishop of Canterbury and Patron of The London Encounter
George Corbett, Senior Lecturer in Theology and the Arts at the University of St Andrews
Aleksandr Filonenko, Professor of Cultural Theory, Philosophy of Science and Theology at V.N. Karazin Kharkin National University

15:00 FREEDOM AND WORK: CAN THEY COEXIST?

This panel discussion will consider whether it is possible, despite ever-greater job insecurity and global competition, to experience fulfilment in the jungle of the modern work environment. Speakers include

Tom O'Connor, CEO of Providence Row, a London charity working with the homeless
Stefano Sala, Academy Manager of Company of Works, a project helping young people with their professional growth

19:00 THE GRAND INQUISITOR

This original one-act play is a dramatization of Dostoevsky's tale of free will from his masterpiece *The Brothers Karamazov*. A long-awaited reunion between two brothers quickly turns to talk of the eternal questions, and the gift – or curse? – of human freedom.

S N O T I B I O N S E X H I B I T I O N S

FREEDOM IN THE TRENCHES: THE POETRY AND ART OF DAVID JONES

This exhibition to mark the 100th anniversary of the end of World War I is inspired by the works of David Jones, a Welsh infantryman in the trenches of Belgium. Extracts from his epic poem *In Parenthesis* portray a story of camaraderie in the face of inhuman danger and a freedom where it was most unforeseen. Jones explained how the density of what is good is seen most evidently in companionship with others, in an awareness of the beauty which lies beyond what is merely useful.

METROPOLITAN ANTHONY OF SOUROZH: FOR ME TO LIVE IS CHRIST

Anthony Bloom, the writer and broadcaster, was Metropolitan Bishop of the Russian Orthodox Church. His vocation began as a doctor and monk in France, then as a priest, and ultimately as a bishop in Britain. For years, his was the free voice of an oppressed church, bound to silence in the atheistic Soviet Union. This exhibition follows the remarkable story of his vocation, marked by encounters and freedom, which opened the path to a deeper understanding of reality and human encounter.