

THE LONDON ENCOUNTER 2017

# THE ADVENTURE OF THE UNEXPECTED

**Saturday, 17 June 2017**  
doors open at 10 a.m.



155 Bishopsgate, London EC2M 3YX  
*Admission is free*

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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.

For further information see [www.thelondonencounter.co.uk](http://www.thelondonencounter.co.uk)  
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**11:00 THE ADVENTURE OF THE UNEXPECTED**

Every unexpected event, good or bad, can become an opportunity to learn something new, discover something greater, and find unexpected companions on our journey. A discussion on this year's theme chaired by

**Dr Rowan Williams**, *former Archbishop of Canterbury and Patron of The London Encounter*

*Speakers include:*

**Ard Louis**, *Professor of Theoretical Physics at the University of Oxford*

**Mary Morgan**, *Professor of History and Philosophy of Economics at the London School of Economics*

**15:00 EMBRACING THE UNEXPECTED**

The unexpected can become an opportunity even when it occurs in the form of undesired personal and social crisis. This event will examine how embracing even negative circumstances can lead to the discovery of life's meaning

*Speakers include:*

**Rose Busingye**, *Director of Meeting Point International, serving those living with HIV/AIDS in Kampala, Uganda*

**Ian Campbell**, *father of James, a cherished son with Down's Syndrome*

**Samara Levy**, *Founder of Samara's Aid Appeal, supporting refugees in Syria, Iraq and the Middle East*

**19:30 JAVERT DERAILED**

In the novel *Les Misérables*, Victor Hugo's character of Javert, the police inspector who becomes obsessed with the relentless and self-destructive pursuit of justice, offers an example of how we reduce our desire to something which we can contain. This one-act play is a dramatic retelling of the timeless story of justice, mercy and redemption at the heart of *Les Misérables* from the perspective of Javert

**EUREKA! THE UNEXPECTED IN MATHS AND SCIENCE**

The unexpected plays a key role in research: at the very origin of a researcher's work there is the assumption of something unknown to be discovered. Experimental evidence can contradict the initial hypothesis, or a mistake can lead to a new discovery. This exhibition will present some 'famous' surprising discoveries as well as a collection of reflections from researchers

**THE EMBRACE OF THE PALLIUM: MERCY AND CARE**

Dame Cicely Saunders pioneered the palliative care model and shook the professional world of medicine through her originality and innovation. She is a remarkable example of someone who lived her entire life as an enthusiastic adventure, provoked by every experience, which ultimately led her to found the first modern hospice

**HOLY UNEXPECTED: THE SAINTS OF BRITAIN**

What do saints have to say to us today? Saints are not superheroes who can do incredible things, but are ordinary people who allow the 'unexpected' to forge their lives. This journey of discovery with saints throughout the history of Britain illustrates their decisions to face circumstances with courage and openness: they are the ultimate realists and highly relevant for our own times and challenges