

Location

British Library Conference Centre (Eliot Room)
96 Euston Road, London NW1 2DB

Tickets

£10 (£6 Senior, Student, Registered Unemployed)

How to book

Online <https://boxoffice.bl.uk/>

T +44 (0)1937 546 546.

Monday to Friday 09.00 – 17.00

In person at the Box Office.

How to get here

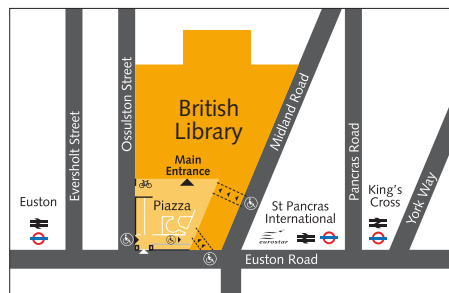


Image and cover:

Traditional Balkan carpet © iStock



Balkan Day II: A Rich Heritage of Stories

Friday 24 June 2016

10.00 to 18.00

followed by a reception

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In association with


istrosbooks

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Balkan Day II: A Rich Heritage of Stories

A British Library Seminar

Following on from the hugely successful Balkan Day event in June 2014, (Balkan Day: A Celebration of Culture and Identity), the organisers are again partnering with the British Library for another day of in-depth discussion. This time, the focus will be on the south-eastern countries of the region, reaching to the very shores of Turkey, whose influence on this history of these lands has been profound.

Built upon a synthesis of influences and histories, the Balkans is home to a great number of fascinating stories and traditions, many of which remain untold in English. This event will bring together some of the leading contemporary academics, writers and translators to talk about writing and creating in this fertile cultural space.

This event forms part of the 'Best of the Balkans/Promoting Balkan Writing' project initiated by Istros Books and the British Library, and partly funded by the Arts Council, England and supported by the Romanian Cultural Institute, the Bulgarian Cultural Institute and the Yunus Emre Cultural Centre



Programme

10.00 – 11.00 Key Note speeches and discussion

Kapka Kassabova (Author and poet, Bulgaria/Britain)

Borderland: Notes from a Journey to Europe's Last Frontier, where Bulgaria and Turkey Meet

Robert Elsie (Writer, translator and specialist in Albanian studies)

The Chaotic Course of Albanian Literature

(Chair: Susan Curtis-Kojakovic, Publisher, Istros Books)

11.00 – 11.30 Coffee break

11.30 – 13.00 Authors as Cultural Ambassadors:

How does the history and mythology of the homeland influence the stories we tell today?

Ioana Parvulescu (Author and editor, Romania)

Aleksandar Prokopiev (Author and lector, Macedonia)

(Chair: Fiona Sampson, Poet and editor)

13.00 – 14.00 Lunch break

14.00 – 15.30 Translators speak:

Bringing the Balkans Westward. Should translators of 'small languages' aim to be invisible or consider themselves a second author?

John Hodgson (Translator and interpreter from Albanian)

Christopher Buxton (Author and translator of Bulgarian literature)

Christopher Moncrief (Translator from Romanian, German and French)

Mevlut Ceylan (Poet and translator from Turkish)

(Chair: Christina Pribichevich Zoric, Literary translator)

15.30 – 16.00 Coffee break

16:00 – 18:00 Documentary Film Screening:

Balkan Sprit

German filmmaker and director Hermann Vaske takes us on a rollercoaster ride through the creative world of the Balkans. Followed by a Q&A session, and an 'open mike' session between audience and all the participants

18.00 – 19.00 Reception

Join us for a glass or wine or juice and mingle with the participants in today's event. (Our event closes at 19.00)