

# A Festival of Feminist Ideas and Actions 2016

## 6 March-29 April

### **"Deeds Not Words" – Suffragette Walk**

The walk launches the 2016 Festival of Feminist Ideas and Activism (FFIA) which features a range of events and talks during March and April.

Walking tour celebrating the women who campaigned for the right to vote, delivered by Newcastle City Guides. Find out where Emily Wilding Davison was arrested in Newcastle and how local women met, marched and behaved badly, in order to win the vote. To book, please visit the Newcastle City Guides' website: [NewcastleGateshead.com/City-Guides](http://NewcastleGateshead.com/City-Guides) Prices are £4 per person and £3 for seniors (60+). Places are limited, so please book early.

**6 March, 2.30pm, meet at Haymarket**

### **International Women's Day Screening – Suffragette (dir: Sarah Gavron, 2015)**

The film will be introduced by Carol Stephenson (Northumbria University) and after the screening, there will be an opportunity to discuss how the Suffragettes' struggle remains relevant in the 21st century.

**Organisers:** Sue Regan and Carol Stephenson (Northumbria University).

**Q/A Panel:** Carol Stephenson (Chair) with Karen Ross and Sue Regan (all Northumbria University)

**Tyneside Cinema**

**8 March, 5.30pm – for tickets, please book directly with the Tyneside [tynesidecinema.co.uk](http://tynesidecinema.co.uk)**

### **Feminist Magazines and Print Culture**

What is the relation between writing, publishing and activism? To what extent do we need to read and visualise feminism in print? To what extent is the history of feminism bound up with the history of magazines? How can feminist periodicals be understood as feminist spaces? Has feminist periodical culture moved online and into digital spaces and if so, does this matter? This session brings together researchers and activists to discuss the relation between feminism and periodical culture.

**Speakers:** Victoria Bazin (Northumbria University), Rosie Lewis (Angelou Centre) Penny Remfry, Anne Torode (*Scarlet Woman*) and Mel Waters (Northumbria University)

**City Library**

**16 March, 6.30-7.30pm (refreshments available from 6pm)**

### **Feminism, Activism and Social Media**

Once heralded as a haven for free speech and democratic dialogue, the online world has come to be characterised by the same gender inequalities as the offline world. This session will present new information from current research projects about women's experiences online, how they explore the potential of social media for political activism and their strategies for responding to and resisting online abuse.

**Speakers:** Marloes Jansen, Ruth Lewis and Jessi O'Donnell (all Northumbria University)

**City Library**

**12 April, 6.30-7.30pm (refreshments available from 6pm)**

### **Lesbians in Feminism**

Lesbians have made, and continue to make, vital contributions to the feminist movement, as leaders, activists and sisters. This conversation with a panel of local women will explore and celebrate the diversity and significance of lesbians' work and activism generally, as well as its importance to the North East in particular.

**Speakers:** Caroline Airs, Louise Evan-Wong and Jen Remnant

**Organisers:** Sue Regan and Julie Scanlon (Northumbria University)

**City Library**

**20 April, 6.30-7.30pm (refreshments available from 6pm)**

### **"Words to inspire Deeds" Pop-up Feminist Reading Group**

Have you been looking for a Feminist Book Club? Here's our 'pop-up' version, revisiting one of the enduring debates of feminism: Is feminist work best organised and carried out in mixed-gender groups or as women-only groups? This session will be an informal discussion on this debate based around two or three short extracts from feminist texts from the 1970s/80s and from the present. Participants will be encouraged to read the extracts in advance and the readings will be made available for free after booking a place on the session.

**Organisers:** Julie Scanlon and Sue Regan (Northumbria University)

**City Library**

**25 April, 6.30-7.30pm (refreshments available from 6pm)**

### **Murder She Wrote: Gender and Crime Writing**

'Dead women sell books' – this commonly held notion reinforcing violence against women as a staple of crime fiction appears at odds with feminist principles and values. Yet many of the most gruesome crime thrillers containing graphic depictions of violence against women are written by women. This session will take the form of an 'in conversation' with two contemporary crime fiction authors, Yrsa Sigurdardottir and Denise Mina, exploring the challenges of writing crime fiction as feminists.

**Organiser:** Jacky Collins (Northumbria University)

**City Library**

**28 April, 6.30-7.30pm (refreshments available from 6pm)**

### **Representing the Women's Movement: Films from the Sisterhood and After project**

*Sisterhood and After: The Women's Liberation Oral History Project* is a major oral history project charting the lives and activism of 60 women who fought for equality in the 70s and 80s. Lizzie Thynne (director), Sussex University, will show selected films from the project including *YBA a Wife?* (with Zoe Fairbairns), *On Tools* (on Barbara Jones, pioneering woman builder) and *Voices in Movement* (2014). She discusses the challenges and pleasures of documenting this key period of feminism and its relevance for today.

*Sisterhood and After* was funded by The Leverhulme Trust and is archived at the British Library

<http://www.bl.uk/sisterhood/interviews?formats=video&page=1>

**Organiser:** Rosie White (Northumbria University)

**City Library**

**29 April, 6.30-7.30pm (refreshments available from 6pm)**

For further information, please contact Jessi O'Donnell – [jessica.odonnell@northumbria.ac.uk](mailto:jessica.odonnell@northumbria.ac.uk)