

The Children's Bookshow, a national tour of the best children's writers and illustrators from around the world, travels this year across the country to 15 cities ranging from London to Newcastle, Plymouth to Leicester. With funding and support from Arts Council, England as a National Portfolio organisation, the Unwin Charitable Trust, the Marsh Christian Trust, the European Commission Representation in London, the Japan Foundation, L'Institut Français and publishers, we're delighted to present a line-up of 12 wonderful writers and illustrators in 16 performances across England together with 55 free workshops in schools.

#### THE TOUR:

##### De La Warr Pavilion Bexhill

Kit Wright  
Wednesday September 24th 10.30am  
Children £4 Teachers free

##### The Courtyard Hereford

Alexis Deacon  
Thursday September 25th 11am  
Children £4.50 Teachers free

##### The Curve Leicester

Kit Wright  
Tuesday September 30th 11am  
Children £4 Teachers free

##### King's Hall Ilkley

Catherine Rayner  
Tuesday October 7th 1.30pm  
Children £4 Teachers free

##### Arnolfini Bristol

Patrick Benson 10.30 am  
Benji Davies 1.30 pm  
Wednesday October 8th  
Children £4 Teachers free

##### People's Theatre Newcastle

Jessica Souhami  
Wednesday October 8th 10.30am  
Children £3 Teachers free

##### Royal Exchange Theatre

Manchester  
Daniel Morden  
Friday October 10th 10.30am  
Children £4 Teachers free

##### Theatre Royal Plymouth

Valerie Bloom  
Wednesday October 15th 10.30am  
Children £5 Teachers free

##### Stafford Gatehouse Stafford

Michael Rosen  
Monday October 20th 10.30am  
Children £4 Teachers free

##### New Wolsey Theatre Ipswich

Michael Rosen  
Thursday October 23rd 11am  
Children £5 Teachers free

##### Warwick Arts Centre Coventry

Rachel Rooney  
Thursday November 6th 11am  
Children £4 Teachers free

##### Oxford Playhouse Oxford

Satoshi Kitamura  
Friday November 14th 10.30am  
Children £5 Teachers free

##### L'Institut Français London

Michael Rosen and Jean François Dumont  
Thursday November 20th 10.30am  
Children £5 Teachers free

##### Europe House London

Michael Rosen and Jean François Dumont  
Friday November 21st 1.30pm  
Children free Teachers free

##### Bloomsbury Theatre London

Kit Wright  
Monday November 24th 10.30am  
Children £5 Teachers free



## THE CHILDREN'S BOOKSHOW COMPETITION

The Children's Bookshow and The Independent offer you a chance to win:

**A SIGNED COPY OF A BOOK BY EACH OF THE 12 AUTHORS IN THIS YEAR'S TOUR!  
PLUS £150 OF FREE BOOKS FOR YOUR SCHOOL!**

We asked brilliant writer and illustrator Jessica Souhami to set you a creative challenge that will inspire you all to get drawing. So pick up your crayons and pencils and put your thinking caps on. Jessica will be waiting to choose the winning entries.

### COMPETITION

Jessica asks you to pretend that you're a travelling storyteller. Choose your favourite fairy tale or folk tale, for example Cinderella or The Three Little Pigs and set it in an extraordinary place.

It could be under the sea, or on a distant planet, or in a magical kingdom.

You may travel in time, to the distant future or back to the time of the dinosaurs.

Retell your fairy tale or folk tale to suit its new home.

Tell your tale in pictures and in words. It can be in a picture book or comic book format.

It can be any length and size and you can use any drawing and colouring materials.

Your tale can be any length, very short or long – not too long!

Just send it to us by November 30th 2014 for a chance to win our fabulous prizes.

**There are 2 categories for the competition:**

Under 9 years old

9-13 years old

**To submit your entry** please email your tale to: [thechildrensbookshow@gmail.com](mailto:thechildrensbookshow@gmail.com). You must include the following information:

your name

your age

your address and telephone number

the name of your school.

Alternatively, you can **post** your entry to:

The Children's Bookshow  
PO Box 72011  
London  
NW6 9SA

The winners for each category will receive a signed copy of a book by each of the 12 authors involved in this year's tour PLUS £150 worth of books for their school classroom or library.

The two runners-up in each category will each receive a signed copy of Jessica's new book *The Strongest Boy in the World* published by Frances Lincoln Children's Books [www.franceslincoln.com](http://www.franceslincoln.com)

**The closing date for the competition is November 30th 2014.** Entries received after this date will not be accepted.

To be eligible to enter you must fall into one of the age categories above and be resident in the UK.

This competition will also appear in the Education pages of *The Independent*

[www.independent.co.uk](http://www.independent.co.uk)

for further information:

[thechildrensbookshow@gmail.com](mailto:thechildrensbookshow@gmail.com)

The  INDEPENDENT

Terms and conditions: Instructions form part of the rules. Only UK residents aged 15 and under may enter. The closing date is November 30th 2014. The winning entry is the one judged the best and the judge's decision is final. No correspondence will be entered into.

#### A BIG THANK YOU

to our supporters and to publishers who have made generous grants and donations for our work:



Wednesday September 24th to  
Monday November 24th 2014



Supported using public funding by  
**ARTS COUNCIL  
ENGLAND**

## AUTHORS AND ILLUSTRATORS in order of appearance



**Kit Wright** is one of our best and most popular poets and writers for children and adults. His books for children include the wonderful *Cat Among the Pigeons* (Puffin) illustrated with delightful drawings by Posy Simmonds. *The Magic Box: Poems for Children* (Macmillan Children's Books) was his last collection re-issued in April 2013. It contains his finest poems from books including *Hot Dog*, *Rabbiting On* and *Great Snakes*. His new adult collection *Ode to Didcot Power Station* is published by Bloodaxe Books in 2014. [www.panmacmillan.com](http://www.panmacmillan.com) [www.penguin.co.uk](http://www.penguin.co.uk) [www.bloodaxebooks.com](http://www.bloodaxebooks.com)



**Alexis Deacon** was named as one of Booktrust's top 10 illustrators. Random House published his first book *Slow Loris*, the popular favourite *Beegu* about a small lonely alien, *While You Are Sleeping*, *Jitterbug Jam: A Monster Tale* and in 2012 *Croc and Bird. A Place to Call Home* (Walker Books) was written by Alexis, and illustrated by Viviane Schwarz, his first book where he is not both author and illustrator. His new version of Oscar Wilde's *The Selfish Giant* was published by Random House in autumn 2013. Walker Books publishes *Jim's Lion* written by Russell Hoban and illustrated by Alexis in 2014. [www.alexisdeacon.co.uk](http://www.alexisdeacon.co.uk) [www.walkerbooks.co.uk](http://www.walkerbooks.co.uk)



Award winning author and illustrator **Catherine Rayner** was awarded the Best New Illustrator Award by Booktrust. Her picture book *Augustus and His Smile* was shortlisted for the Kate Greenaway Medal. Originally from Yorkshire, Catherine now lives in Edinburgh, where *Augustus* was inspired by her watching tigers in the zoo. As well as producing her award-winning picture books, which include *Abigail*, *Harris Finds His Feet*, *Sylvia and Bird*, *Iris* and *Isaac* (all published by Little Tiger Press) and

*Solomon Crocodile*, winner of the Kate Greenaway Medal, (Macmillan Children's Books) Catherine exhibits her artwork all over the world.

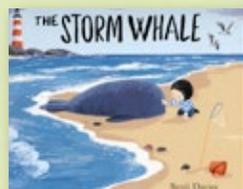
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**Patrick Benson** won the Mother Goose Award for the most promising newcomer in children's book illustration. Best known for illustrating two modern classics *Owl Babies* by Martin Waddell and *The Minpins* by Roald Dahl, he has also illustrated *Shadow* (Brubaker, Ford and Friends) and *North: The Greatest Animal Journey on Earth* by Nick Dowson (Walker Books). He has created the illustrations for many wonderful picture books including *The Tough Princess* by Martin Waddell, *Mole and Baby Bird* by Marjorie Newman, and *Squeak's Good Idea* by Max Eilenberg.

A new book *Night Sky Dragons* by Mal Peet and Elspeth Graham illustrated by Patrick Benson will be published by Walker Books in 2014.

[www.walkerbooks.co.uk](http://www.walkerbooks.co.uk)  
for more information visit [www.bl.uk/onlinegallery/features/magicpencil/benson.html](http://www.bl.uk/onlinegallery/features/magicpencil/benson.html)

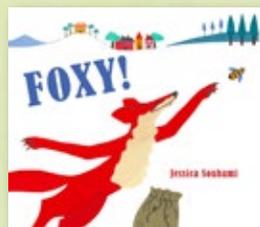


**Benji Davies** has always loved to paint and draw and from a young age could be found painting pictures at his kitchen table. He studied animation at University and went on to direct animated commercials, music promos and short films.

The first book that he wrote and illustrated himself is *The Storm Whale*, published by Simon and Schuster in 2013. To celebrate the launch of this book he created a special knitted whale that he designed in collaboration with his mum. You can buy the book and a knitted whale on his website. *The Storm Whale* has been shortlisted for the Booktrust 2014 Best Books Award and is the winner of Oscar's First Book Prize 2014.

Benji's new book *On Sudden Hill* by Linda Sarah is published by Simon and Schuster in 2014.

[www.benjidavies.com](http://www.benjidavies.com)  
[www.simonandschuster.co.uk](http://www.simonandschuster.co.uk)



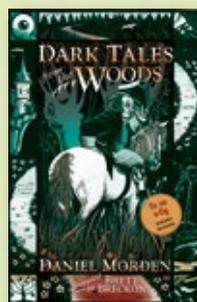
**Jessica Souhami** is a most gifted writer and illustrator who retells traditional tales from all around the world. Her picture books, with their vibrant colours and strong contrasts can be enjoyed by all

ages. They are published by Frances Lincoln Children's Books and include *King Pom and the Fox*, *No Dinner*, in which an intrepid old woman outwits the fierce animals in the forest, *The Leopard's Drum*, *The Little Little House*, *Rama and the Demon King*, *Sausages*, *Piglet's Picnic* and *Foxy!* amongst others. Her latest book *The Strongest Boy in the World* was published in 2014 by Janetta Otter-Barry Books at Frances Lincoln

Praise for *Rama and the Demon King*

*'There is vivid colour and detail besides strong silhouette: strength, action, vigour, expressiveness all shine through.'*  
The School Librarian

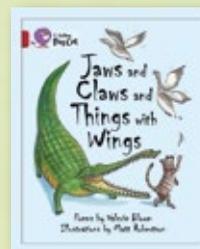
[www.franceslincoln.com](http://www.franceslincoln.com)



**Daniel Morden** is one of the best storytellers in the UK. His *The Adventures of Odysseus* (Barefoot Books) written with Hugh Lupton, won an award for "the most significant contribution to the public's understanding of the classics." His *Dark Tales from the Woods* and *Weird Tales from the Storyteller* are powerfully hypnotic, and together with

his picture books *Tuck Your Vest In*, *Iestyn* and *So Hungry* are published by Pont Books, an imprint of Gomer. His marvellous *The Adventures of Achilles* was published in 2012 by Barefoot Books and was followed in 2013 by *Theseus and the Minotaur*, *Demeter and Persephone*, *Orpheus and Eurydice*, all with Hugh Lupton and illustrated by Carole Henaff. He won the Tir na n-Og prize for his *Tree of Leaf and Flame* published by Pont Books in 2013.

[www.barefootbooks.com](http://www.barefootbooks.com)  
[www.barringtonstoke.co.uk](http://www.barringtonstoke.co.uk)  
[www.gomer.co.uk](http://www.gomer.co.uk)



**Valerie Bloom** was born and grew up in Clarendon, Jamaica. Caribbean life and culture have shaped or influenced a great deal of her writing. She was enchanted with literature from a very early age.

Valerie moved to England in 1979. Here she began writing and performing regularly,

Her work has been published in over 450 anthologies, including GCSE and A-Level syllabi. She has published several poetry collections including *The World is Sweet*, *Hot Like Fire* and *Whoop an' Shout*. Her two novels for young people are *Surprising Joy* and *The Tribe*. Her latest collection, illustrated by Matt Robertson, *Jaws and Claws* and *Things with Wings* was published in 2013 by Collins Education.

As well as running writing workshops and courses in schools and elsewhere, Valerie performs across the country as well as internationally. She has appeared everywhere from local libraries to the Royal Albert Hall and is also a familiar voice on television and radio.

[www.valbloom.co.uk](http://www.valbloom.co.uk)  
[www.collinseducation.com](http://www.collinseducation.com)



**Michael Rosen's** first children's book was *Mind Your Own Business* illustrated by Quentin Blake. He has since published many more marvellous poetry collections, including *Michael Rosen's A to Z* and *Centrally Heated Nickers*,

*100 poems about science and technology*, as well as picture books and novels. He is one of our best-known and best-loved writers. Recent books are *Choosing Crumble* illustrated by Tony Ross and published by Andersen Press and wonderful retellings of *Aesop's Fables* beautifully illustrated by Talleen Hackiyani and published by Tradewind, His latest books published in 2014 are *Send for a Superhero* and *Blue* both published by Walker Books and *Wolfman* published by Barrington Stoke.

[www.michaelrosen.co.uk](http://www.michaelrosen.co.uk)  
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**Rachel Rooney** was born in London, the fifth of six children and now lives in Brighton, Sussex. She works as a special needs teacher, along with visiting schools for poetry workshops. Her first collection of poems for older children *The Language of Cat* was the 2011 Poetry Book Society children's choice.

It also won the 2012 CLPE Poetry Award and was long listed for the Carnegie Medal. Her first rhyming picture book *A Patch of Black* was published by Macmillan Children's Books in September 2012.

Her new poetry collection *My Life As A Goldfish* is published by Frances Lincoln in 2014.

[www.rachelrooneypoet.co.uk](http://www.rachelrooneypoet.co.uk)  
[www.franceslincoln.com](http://www.franceslincoln.com)

**Satoshi Kitamura** was born in Tokyo in 1956, and from a young age he enjoyed reading comics and illustrated novels.

Satoshi's books are familiar to children and teachers throughout the world.

Crowded with unforgettable drawings of sheep, rabbits, dinosaurs and cats, just to mention a few of his memorable characters, his work includes over 20 of his own books, including the wonderfully imaginative *Millie's Marvellous Hat*, and he has contributed as an illustrator to countless more. He translates all of his own work into Japanese and has also translated other authors' books including the *Elmer the Elephant* series by David McKee.

He has won the Mother Goose Award for the Most Exciting Newcomer to Illustration. *The Yes* by Sarah Bee and illustrated by Satoshi is published in 2014 by Andersen Press.

*"Kitamura is one of the world's most original and stylish children's illustrators."* The Sunday Times

[www.andersenpress.co.uk](http://www.andersenpress.co.uk)



**Jean François Dumont** is a French author and illustrator who has created many stories for children, including *A Blue So Blue* published by Sterling, which won

the 2004 Prix Saint-Exupéry, an award given annually to the best illustrated picture book in France.

In 2013, Eerdmans Books for Young Readers published Jean François Dumont's picture book *The Chickens Build a Wall*. Publishers' Weekly wrote of it: "A clever barnyard commentary on protectionism, xenophobia and over-reaction", but children will only see a funny story about how to welcome strangers and how to be unafraid of people who are different or of experiences that are unfamiliar. The book has been selected for the 2014 Notable Books for a Global Society Award List.

In spring 2014 Eerdmans published his wonderful picture book *The Geese March in Step* and will publish *The Sheep Go On Strike* in October 2014.

[www.eerdmans.com/youngreaders](http://www.eerdmans.com/youngreaders)

## OUR THANKS TO

The Children's Bookshow would like to thank all the publishers who have contributed towards their author's performances and workshops in the tour:

**Little Tiger Press** [www.littletiger.co.uk](http://www.littletiger.co.uk)  
**Simon and Schuster** [www.simonandschuster.co.uk](http://www.simonandschuster.co.uk)  
**Eerdmans** [www.eerdmans.com/youngreaders](http://www.eerdmans.com/youngreaders)  
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