

DON ROBERTO & SCOTLAND: international perspectives

11/12 May 2024 ~ Stirling Smith Art Gallery & Museum and Gartmore House

The speakers



Robin Cunninghame Graham is the family genealogist/historian, a role he took over from his grandfather some 40 years ago. A Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland and a member of the Scottish History Society, he co-edited, with Lachlan Munro, *The Complete Scottish Sketches of R B Cunninghame Graham*. Robin is Don Roberto's great-great-nephew.



Laurence Davies Welsh by origin, Laurence Davies now stays in Blairgowrie. He was co-author of *Cunninghame Graham: A Critical Biography* (published in 1979). More recently he has served as General Editor of *The Collected Letters of* RBCG's close friend Joseph Conrad. In his free time, Laurence cooks, writes microfictions, walks the hills, and seeks out mushrooms.



Chris Dolan has been writing for page, stage, screen and radio, and teaching creative writing (mainly in Scotland and Spain) for over thirty years. His radio play *The Golden Key* was broadcast on BBC Radio in 2023. It imagined a meeting between Don Roberto and Gabriela Cunninghame Graham, Keir Hardie and James Connolly.



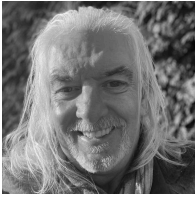
Rob Gibson was born in Glasgow and lives in Easter Ross. A former teacher, he was elected MSP 2003-2016. Interested in Highland land issues, he is a traditional singer and organiser. Publications include *The Promised Land*, *The Highland Clearances Trail*, *Toppling the Duke*, *Crofter Power in Easter Ross*, *Reclaiming Our Land*, and *Highland Touchstone for RB Cunninghame Graham*.



Conor Mark Jameson is an award-winning writer and naturalist. He is the author of the recent biography *Finding W. H. Hudson*. His other books include *Silent Spring Revisited*, *Shrewdunnit* and *Looking for the Goshawk*. He lived in Dunblane as a child, then came back to Stirlingshire to study, and was later married on Inchmahome island. He now lives and works in Norfolk.



Jamie Jauncey has published several novels and, most recently, a major new biography, *Don Roberto: the Adventure of Being Cunninghame Graham*. He grew up in Perthshire where he now lives. A former board member of the Edinburgh International Book Festival, he is chair of the organising committee for this weekend. Jamie is Don Roberto's great-great-nephew.



Gerry McGarvey Gartmore resident, Gerry has been a Cunninghame Graham aficionado for over 30 years. He brought similarly minded people together by initiating the original RBCG dedicated online presence and the organisation and promotion of RBCG events. This work culminated in his co-founding of the Cunninghame Graham Society in 2013.



Lachlan 'Lachie' Munro's doctoral thesis, *Cunninghame Graham & Scotland* (EUP), was shortlisted for 'The Best Scottish History Book of 2022'. With Robin Cunninghame Graham he has co-edited *A Careless Enchantment: The Complete Scottish Sketches of R. B. Cunninghame Graham*, due June 2024. As Research Fellow of the National Library of Scotland, he compiled the most comprehensive Cunninghame Graham archive yet.



Alan Riach is a poet and Professor of Scottish Literature at Glasgow University. Poetry books include *The MacDiarmid Memorandum* (2023), *The Winter Book* (2017) and *Homecoming* (2009). *The Times* described his critical overview *Scottish Literature: An Introduction* (2022) as 'magisterial'. *The Times Literary Supplement* named *Arts of Resistance* (2008) 'a landmark book'.



James Robertson is a poet, novelist and editor. He grew up in Bridge of Allan and studied history at the Universities of Edinburgh and Pennsylvania. His novels include *Joseph Knight*, *The Testament of Gideon Mack*, *And the Land Lay Still* and most recently *News of the Dead*, which was awarded the Walter Scott Prize for historical fiction.



Carla Sassi was Convener of the International Association for the Study of Scottish Literatures (2020-2023). In 2021 she was awarded the title of Honorary Fellow of the Association for Scottish Literary Studies. Among her publications are *Why Scottish Literature Matters* (2005) and the co-edited volume on *Empires and Revolutions: Cunninghame Graham and His Contemporaries* (2017)



Helen Smith is an Honorary Lecturer at the University of East Anglia, where she taught non-fiction and modern literature for over twenty years. Her biography *The Uncommon Reader: A Life of Edward Garnett* was published in 2017 by Jonathan Cape in the UK and Farrar, Straus & Giroux in the USA.