



Come to a
Weekend Conference
in Beautiful Guernsey:
Victor Hugo's
The Man who Laughs

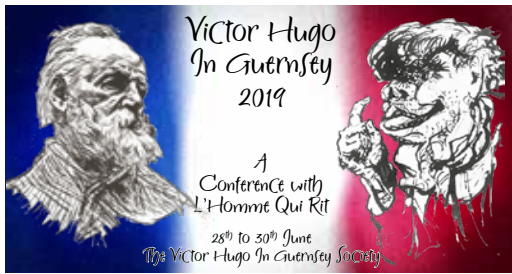


The Victor Hugo In Guernsey Society
Victor Hugo in Guernsey Conference 28th to 30th June 2019

Join leading international Victor Hugo experts for a weekend about Victor Hugo's life and work, particularly while in exile in Guernsey. The Conference will be themed to celebrate the 150th Anniversary of the publication of Hugo's *L'Homme qui rit* - *The Man who Laughs*.



Supported by the
Guernsey
Arts
Commission



The Victor Hugo In Guernsey Society Victor Hugo in Guernsey 2019 Conference 28th to 30th June 2019 PROGRAMME

Friday 28th June

ISLAND & TOWN TOURS. During the day, Island and St. Peter Port Tours will be available with Hugo accredited guides in attendance.

Booking: Please email: sec@victorhugoinguernsey.gg



17:30 CONFERENCE OPENING VIN D'HONNEUR

In the Priaulx Library, Candie Road, St. Peter Port.

Guernsey's centre of local history and Victor Hugo in particular.

By invitation only. Free for all conference delegates.

Kindly supported by Ricketty Bridge Winery.

18:30 BARBEQUE SUPPER in the grounds of the Library.

Two course buffet supper provided by Les Cotils.

In the event of rain this event will be at Les Cotils Centre.

20:00 SCREENING OF 'L'HOMME QUI RIT' in French with English subtitles.

The critically acclaimed film by Jean-Pierre Améris, starring Gérard Depardieu, Marc-André Grondin, Emmanuëll Seigner and Christa Theret.

Gwynplaine has a scar on his face, giving him a kind of permanent smile. Abandoned by the Comprachicos, who had kidnapped and slashed his face a few years earlier, he is taken in by Ursus together with a blind girl, Déa. They move from village to village, performing a show whose star is the now grown-up Gwynplaine. Everywhere he goes his smile evokes laughter and emotion in the audience that adores him. Everyone wants to see the famous "smiling man". Life goes on until it is discovered that this scarred man is the heir to a large and noble family: Giddy with this sudden wealth and the carnal passions of a duchess, he distances himself from the only two people who have ever loved him for what he is.



Saturday 29th June

9:00 CONFERENCE registration in the Harry Bound Room at Les Côtils Centre.

9:30 BEAUTIFUL INSIDE & OUT, by GÉRARD AUDINET

'Beautiful inside and out.' Does the soul have a face? We are all familiar with the concept of 'inner beauty,' but how do artists approach the problem of depicting it? This illustrated talk will reflect on the representations of ugliness and beauty in later arts and media of Victor Hugo's 'The Man who Laughs.'



10:30 Break for discussion, Coffee or tea.



11:00 JUSTICE IN THE MAN WHO LAUGHS, by MYRIAM ROMAN

The representation of justice in 'The Man who Laughs' passes through a series of images and myths. The singularity of this novel seems to be to ask the last question of a possible divine injustice through a series of metaphors that project, on the cosmos, terrifying images of the process and the punishment.

12:00 VICTOR HUGO & THE SEA by GREGORY STEVENS COX

Book launch. At the start of his exile, Hugo set himself a grand project – to study l'Océan. He threw himself into the project with enthusiasm - he learned about all aspects of the sea. He wove his knowledge, sentiments, and observations into his poetry and into two great novels – 'The Toilers of the Sea' and 'By Order of the King.'



12:30 Buffet Lunch.



1:30 L'HOMME QUI RIT & ITS MANY FACES, by BRADLEY STEVENS

150 Years of Grins and Grimaces. This illustrated talk discusses the story's diverse appeal and various guises in print, on screen, and on stage, including Bristol Old Vic's acclaimed musical entitled 'The Grinning Man'. Drawing on his interviews with the show's cast and creative team.

2:30 DISABILITY & DEFORMITY IN L'HOMME QUI RIT, by HANNAH THOMPSON

'L'Homme qui rit' is a novel about the power of non-normative bodies. This illustrated talk will argue that Hugo's depictions of his characters' disabilities and deformities are surprisingly modern: rather than seeing disability as a problem, Hugo celebrates it as a radical and politically progressive way of life.



3:30 Break for discussion, tea or coffee.



4:00 HOW 'L'HOMME QUI RIT' WAS RECEIVED, by GÉRARD POUCHAIN

The verdicts of Juliette Drouet and the caricaturists'. How did Victor Hugo's masterwork go down with his most acute, but very different, critics?

4:30 - 5:00 SPEAKERS PANEL, Q & A

6:00 CONFERENCE SUPPER on Les Côtils Terrace.

8:00 AN EVENING CELEBRATING THE MUSIC OF

BOUBLIL AND SCHÖNBERG at St James Concert Hall

Together with lyricist Alain Boublil, Claude-Michel Schönberg created two of the greatest international successes in the history of musical theatre, 'Les Misérables' and 'Miss Saigon.' In a rare public encounter, Claude-Michel Schönberg will sit down with writer and broadcaster Edward Seckerson to discuss his journey from songwriter, record producer and singer.



Sunday 30th June

HAUTEVILLE HOUSE Victor Hugo's home in exile is an outstanding work of art created by the poet and has recently been restored at a cost of £4.5m.

The Victor Hugo in Guernsey Society has reserved accompanied, hour long tours for conference delegates in groups of just 10 persons at £10 each payable on arrival. French language tours at: 11:20 & 14:00. English tours at: 12:00 & 14:40.

Booking is essential: Please email: sec@victorhugoinguernsey.gg

Travel & Accommodation

FROM FRANCE BY SEA:

Manche Isles Express Contact: www.manche-iles.com

From Dielette at 09:00 on 28th, returning 18:00 on 30th June

Condor Ferries Contact: www.condorferries.co.uk

From St. Malo at 12:55 on 28th, returning at 13:50 on 1st June.

Jerseytour, Contact: www.jerseytour.com

The French tour agency has a visitor package for 28th to 30th June that includes accommodation.

FROM FRANCE BY AIR:

FlyBe flies daily from Charles de Gaule. Contact: www.flybe.com

FROM BRITAIN BY SEA:

Condor Ferries Contact: www.condorferries.co.uk

From Poole every morning, returning late afternoon.

FROM BRITAIN BY AIR:

Aurigny Contact: www.aurigny.com. **FlyBe** Contact: www.flybe.com

Daily flights from all over the UK including London, Exeter, Southampton.

WHERE TO STAY:

A wide choice of hotels and guest houses all of which can be found on: www.visitguernsey.com

Contact & Booking

BOOK YOUR DELEGATE PLACE

Delegates can book and pay for conference places as a whole or choose individual elements.

Online: www.victorhugoinguernsey.gg

Or contact the Society Secretary Roy Bisson

Tel: 07781 100 296 or email: sec@victorhugoinguernsey.gg



The **Victor Hugo in Guernsey Conference** is organised by The Victor Hugo In Guernsey Society, a registered charity dedicated to promote the study and celebration of the life and works of Victor Hugo and his family during the years of exile in Guernsey.

