



# Ideas for Freedom 2013

**Marxist ideas to turn the tide**

**A weekend of socialist education, debate, and  
discussion hosted by Workers' Liberty**

**22-23 June**

**University of London Union,  
Malet Street**



**Event guide**



# Ideas for Freedom 2013

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### Welcome to Ideas for Freedom 2013

The event takes place at the University of London Union, Malet Street, in the following rooms:

- Upper Hall (third floor) • Room 3D (third floor) • The Venue (second floor) • Rooms 2A, 2B, 2C (second floor)
- Bloomsbury Suite (second floor) • The Gallery Bar (second floor) • The Library Bar (second floor)

There is a free creche in Room 3B, which runs from 12-6.10 on Saturday, and from 10am to the close of the event on Sunday.

### Sessions by location

#### Upper Hall (third floor)

Saturday, 12-1.30 — Opening plenary: Marxist ideas to turn the tide: liberation, workers' control, workers' government, expropriate the banks.

Saturday, 2.40-2.50 — Fundraising appeal

Saturday, 2.50-4.20 — After Taksim Square: workers in the Turkish revolt

Saturday, 4.40-6.10 — Marxist feminism: Challenging sexism in the labour movement

Saturday, 6.20-7.50 — The cleaners' revolt

#### Room 2A (second floor)

Saturday, 2.50-4.20 — Introduction to workers' power: the Paris Commune, 1871

Saturday, 4.40-6.10 — *The Rest of the Cod*: the story of Clay Cross council

Saturday, 6.20-7.50 — Marxist feminism: sexual violence, the global picture

#### Room 2B (second floor)

Saturday, 2.50-4.20 — The IS/SWP tradition: what went wrong?

Saturday, 4.40-6.10 — Introduction to workers' power: the 1913 Dublin lock out

Saturday, 6.20-7.50 — The 54th Massachusetts: Black soldiers in America's Second Revolution

#### Room 2C (second floor)

Saturday, 2.50-4.20 — Marxist feminism: women and the rise of capitalism

Saturday, 4.40-6.10 — Are Greek workers still moving left?

Saturday, 6.20-7.50 — Can benefits workers defy the government's attacks on claimants?

#### Bloomsbury Suite (second floor)

Saturday, 2.50-4.20 — How can we revolutionise the labour movement?

Saturday, 4.40-6.10 — Lessons from the Communist International: transitional demands and the workers' united front

Sunday, 10-12 — Introduction to workers' power: Solidarnosc 1980-81

Sunday, 1-2.25 — *Sicko*: how markets ruin healthcare

Sunday, 2.35-4 — Antonio Gramsci: a Marxist for difficult times

#### The Venue (second floor)

Sunday, 10-12 — Hugo Chavez's legacy

Sunday, 1-2.25 — Lenin vs. "Leninism"

Sunday, 2.35-4 — Organising against racism and fascism after the Woolwich murder

Sunday, 4-4.30 — Closing plenary

#### The Gallery Bar (second floor)

Saturday, 1.40-2.40 — Exhibition from artist Robert Ford on *Captivicus Religicus Magica*, his ongoing project to illustrate Marx's *Capital* (followed by a presentation in Room 2C)

Sunday, 10-12 — Theatre of the oppressed

Sunday, 1-2.25 — The Warsaw Ghetto uprising

Sunday, 2.35-4 — Marxist feminism: Judith Butler and her discontents

#### Room 3D (third floor — N.B. room will be split from 12pm on Sunday and two sessions will take place in it simultaneously)

Sunday, 10-12 — Fighting victimisation in the construction industry

Sunday, 1-2.25 — The AWL tradition: what is Workers' Liberty and where does it come from?

Sunday, 1-2.25 — Lessons from the Communist International: the workers' government

Sunday, 2.35-4 — Introduction to workers' power: the real Chinese Revolution, 1925-7



# Ideas for Freedom 2013

## Marxist ideas to turn the tide

**A weekend of socialist education, discussion, and debate hosted by Workers' Liberty**

## Guide to sessions

**Saturday, 12-1.30, Upper Hall (third floor) — Opening plenary: Marxist ideas to turn the tide: liberation, workers' control, workers' government, expropriate the banks.**

Unite activist Elaine Jones, RMT Executive member Janine Booth, Unison shop steward Ed Whitby, and Greek revolutionary socialist Theodora Polenta will give short presentations on different "Marxist ideas to turn the tide". There will be time for questions and discussions afterwards. Chaired by Alison Brown, Workers' Liberty Sheffield and Unison activist.

**Saturday, 2.40-2.50, Upper Hall (third floor) — Fundraising appeal**

A short appeal for Workers' Liberty's fund drive. Fundraising is essential to allow Workers' Liberty to carry on our activities and organise events like Ideas for Freedom.

**Saturday, 2.50-4.20, Upper Hall (third floor) — Working-class internationalism: After Taksim Square — workers in the Turkish revolt** (With speakers from UID DER, the Association of International Workers Solidarity, via Skype. Chaired by Ed Maliby, Workers' Liberty London Colleges, who recently visited Istanbul.)

Activists from the Turkish rank-and-file trade union network UID DER explain their activity in Turkey's new democracy protests and wider class struggle, via a Skype link, before taking questions. Some knowledge of the protests in Turkey will be helpful to engage in this session, but an in-depth understanding is not required.

**Saturday, 2.50-4.20, Room 2A (second floor) — Introduction to workers' power: the Paris Commune, 1871** (Rosie Huzzard, Workers' Liberty Sheffield and NUS Executive-elect. Chaired by Kieran Miles, Workers' Liberty West of London.)



What was the Paris Commune? Why is it so significant for the formation of Marxist ideas of democracy? Discussion will focus on the framing a discussion around the concept of the "workers' government" as a transitional

form of workers' power, its strengths and weaknesses, and how the ideas of a workers' government were embodied within the short-lived Paris Commune of 1871, when Parisian workers took over the government of their city.

Expect some background and history of The Paris Commune itself, an introduction to the idea of a workers' government, and what we can learn from it for our demands today. The session will include a speech and PowerPoint presentation, followed by small-group discussions. No previous knowledge is required.

**Saturday, 2.50-4.20, Room 2B (second floor) — The IS/SWP tradition: what went wrong?** (Sean Matgamna, Workers' Liberty, and Guardian journalist John Palmer, both of whom sat on the IS National Committee in the early 1970s. Chaired by Caroline Henry, Workers' Liberty Sheffield)

The Socialist Workers Party is Britain's biggest would-be revolutionary group, but is currently in crisis following a revolt against its leadership's handling of a rape allegation against a senior member. Some members split to form the International Socialist Network, claiming to more authentically represent "the IS tradition" than the SWP itself. What is that tradition? The speakers, both of whom sat on the National Committee of the International Socialists before IS became the SWP in 1976, will discuss their experiences in IS and their thoughts on its "tradition", before taking questions and comments. This session is aimed at people with an interest in the history and current practise of Britain's revolutionary left and some prior knowledge of its development.

**Saturday, 2.50-4.20, Bloomsbury Suite (second floor) — How can we revolutionise the labour movement?** (Laura Rogers, Workers' Liberty South London and an activist in the Local Associations National Action Campaign, a rank-and-file network for school workers, and Daniel Randall, Workers' Liberty North East London)

This interactive workshop will look at different approaches to fighting for reform and transformation in our unions. It will involve brainstorming exercises, small-group discussion, and focus on specific case studies. It is aimed at trade union activists, or people who want to become trade union activists.

**Saturday, 2.50-4.20, Room 2C (second floor) — Marxist feminism: women and the rise of capitalism** (Cath Fletcher, Workers' Liberty Sheffield and UCU activist)

An introduction to (and critique of) Silvia Federici's book *Caliban and the Witch: Women, the body and primitive accumulation*. Federici aims to rethink Marx's analysis of the beginnings of capitalism from a feminist viewpoint. She explores the rise of the "housewife" and the phenomenon of witch-hunting.

Cath Fletcher will lead discussion and debate about the book and Federici's assertion that Marx could never have presumed that capitalism paves the way to human liberation had he looked at its history from the viewpoint of women. Some prior engagement with socialist-feminist politics will be important for this session, but it is not necessary to have read the book.

**Saturday, 4.40-6.10, Upper Hall (third floor) — Marxist feminism: challenging sexism in the labour movement** (Becky Crocker, Workers' Liberty London Tube and RMT activist, Maria Exall, TUC LGBT Committee, and Jenny Lennox, National Union of Journalists organiser. Chaired by Lynne Mofatt, Workers' Liberty South London and Unison activist.)

As well as facing economic and social attacks working-class women are also facing increased everyday sexism; more alarming still is the rising incidence of domestic violence. Unfortunately all of this is being met by indifference by some in the labour movement. Some on the left have even put their own perceived organisational interests before the need to defend women.

Indifference and hostility to "women's issues" in the trade unions was a familiar story 30 years ago. Was there a point when the labour movement became more "enlightened"? What has changed now?

How can we get our unions fighting fit? We need good policies on all issues, not just the economic ones, which affect women. We need the structures, which represent women in the unions to be democratic and dynamic. And yes, in the first place, we need to fight sexism in our own ranks.

The speakers will address these questions and talk from their own experience as left women activists in the trade union and labour movement. Speeches will be followed by questions and discussion.

**Saturday, 4.40-6.10, Room 2A (second floor) — Socialism, art, and culture: The Rest of the Cod — the story of Clay Cross council** (Playwright Edd Mustill presents the first London reading of his play *The Rest of the Cod*, previously staged at Chesterfield's Pomegranate Theatre.)

The story of how a left-wing Labour council in Clay Cross, Derbyshire, defied the Tory government and refused to implement rate rises in the 1970s.

The play, which was staged at the Pomegranate Theatre in Chesterfield in March 2013 but has never been publicly presented in London, is based on interviews and testimonies from participants in the Clay Cross struggle. It will be read by labour movement activists rather than professional actors. The session will open with a reading of the play, which will last around 30 minutes. It will be followed by a talk from Edd and questions/discussion.



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**Saturday, 4.40-6.10 — Introduction to workers' power: the 1913 Dublin lock out** (*Patrick Murphy, Workers' Liberty Leeds and NUT activist. Chaired by Daniel Cooper, Workers' Liberty London Colleges.*)

Come and learn the story of the 1913 Dublin Labour War, when poor and hyper-exploited Irish workers took on their bosses, pioneering tactics like the solidarity strike. The presentation will involve PowerPoint and film clips. No prior knowledge is required.

**Saturday, 4.40-6.10, Room 2C (second floor) — Working-class internationalism: Are Greek workers still moving left?** (*Spiros, from Greek socialist group OKDE, will speak via Skype. Chaired by Vicki Morris, Workers' Liberty North West London.*)

A talk, via a Skype link, from a member of Greek socialist group on OKDE on recent workers' struggles in Greece, followed by questions and discussion.

**Saturday, 4.40-6.10, Bloomsbury Suite (second floor) — Lessons from the Communist International: transitional demands and the workers' united front** (*Tom Harris, Workers' Liberty West of London. Chaired by Jack Saffrey-Rowe, Workers' Liberty West of London.*)

Before it was destroyed by Stalinism, the Communist International (the "Third International") functioned as a university for the production, discussion, and development of Marxist ideas and theory. Tom Harris will present on two of its key ideas — the "transitional demand" and the "workers' united front". This session is aimed at people with some knowledge of revolutionary history, but will also be suitable for people who want to learn about these ideas "from scratch".

**Saturday, 6.20-7.50, Upper Hall (third floor) — The cleaners' revolt** (*Speakers include Robinson from the 3 Cosas Campaign and IWGB University of London branch and Richard Crane, London Underground cleaner and RMT rep. Chaired by Ellie Clarke, Workers' Liberty London Colleges.*)



Cleaning workers from different industries will give speeches about their recent struggles, and lead a discussion on how cleaners in different sectors can support each other and how other trade unionists can support cleaners' struggles.

**Saturday, 6.20-7.50, Room 2A (second floor) — Marxist feminism: sexual violence, the global picture** (*Camila Bassi, Workers' Liberty Sheffield and UCU activist. Chaired by Cathy Nugent, Workers' Liberty and Women's Fightback.*)

This session will examine the global geographies of sexual violence, using India as a case study. It will look at the protests in December 2012 and January 2013, sparked by the Delhi gang rape, and the international response. What can a Marxist analysis of the relationship between gender, class, caste, patriarchy and capitalism offer to our understanding of sexual violence and how to fight it in an era of intense globalisation? The session will involve a presentation followed by questions/discussion.



**Saturday, 6.20-7.50, Room 2B (second floor) — The 54th Massachusetts: Black soldiers in America's Second Revolution** (*Sacha Ismail, Workers' Liberty South London.*)

Created in 1863, the 54th Massachusetts was the first Northern black regiment in the US Civil War — a conflict which

began with both sides insisting they would preserve slavery, and black volunteers turned away by being told it was a "white man's war". But, against the will of Lincoln and other conservative US leaders, the logic of the struggle pushed slavery and black rights to the fore, transforming the Civil War and its aftermath into an explosive revolutionary struggle.

How did slaves and ex-slaves, other black Americans and their white radical allies make that happen? And why, despite the fall of slavery, was their struggle against racism and exploitation defeated?

We'll be showing excerpts from *Glory*, the 1989 film about the regiment, and drawing the broader lessons of America's second – unfinished – revolution. This session is aimed at people with some prior knowledge of American history.

**Saturday, 6.20-7.50, Room 2C (second floor) — Can benefits workers defy the government's attacks on claimants?** (*Charlie McDonald, Workers' Liberty London PCS branch and PCS London regional organiser;*

*Helen Flanagan, PCS National Executive Committee; Rob Hearn, Boycott Workfare. Chaired by Paulette Romain, Workers' Liberty London PCS branch.*)

With the government's vicious attacks on benefit claimants, exemplified by the work-capability assessment, welfare-cap, bedroom tax and workfare programmes, what can workers involved in the implementation of these policies do?

At this year's PCS conference, civil servants were stopped by their union debating a motion calling for DWP workers to refuse to sanction claimants as an act of working-class solidarity.

What scope is there for such action? What is the state of consciousness about these issues among Jobcentre and DWP workers? How can class-struggle activists in the workforce begin to shift things?

How can claimants and workers build campaigning links to take on the government together? The session will involve a panel discussion followed by questions/comments from the floor. It is aimed at people with an interest in and engagement with welfare rights and/or benefits workers' struggles.



# 3cosas

## Saturday night social: fundraiser

### for 3 Cosas Campaign

#### 8.30-late, The Library Bar, second floor

The 3 Cosas (3 Things) Campaign, which is fighting for sick pay, holidays and pensions for outsourced workers at the University of London, and Workers' Liberty are coming together for a Latino night on the Saturday evening of Ideas for Freedom 2013. The night will include drinks, a film showing, speeches, discussion, live music, salsa classes and dancing! It will be an opportunity to relax and socialise, but also raise money for an extremely important cause!



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**Sunday, 10-12, The Venue (second floor) — Hugo Chávez's legacy** (Paul Hampton, Workers' Liberty. Chaired by Stephen Wood, Workers' Liberty Hull.) Much of the left viewed Hugo Chávez as a beacon of hope, who gave a voice to the oppressed, a democrat who won numerous elections, brought welfare to the poor and even put socialism back on the agenda. The AWL believes Chávez was a bourgeois politician and a Bonapartist who undermined independent working class politics in Venezuela. This session, which takes the format of a talk followed by questions/discussion, will argue that "Chavismo" is a snare that the left internationally must repudiate if it is to move forward and renew itself. Some prior knowledge of Venezuela is recommended.

**Sunday, 10-12, The Bloomsbury Suite (second floor) — Introduction to workers' power: Solidarnosc 1980-81** (Tony Byrne, Workers' Liberty Nottingham and RMT activist. Chaired by Omar Raii, Workers' Liberty London Colleges.)

Solidarnosc, the mass union movement at the head of a social upheaval against Stalinist totalitarianism in Poland, was a model of independent working-class self-organisation. How did it grow, and why was its left wing eventually defeated? No prior knowledge is required, as the session will explain the history. It will involve a presentation including film clips.

**Sunday, 10-12, The Gallery Bar (second floor) — Socialism, art, and culture: Theatre of the oppressed** (Ellie Clarke, Workers' Liberty London Colleges, and Sarah Weston, Workers' Liberty Merseyside and member of the Blue Dragonfly Theatre Company.)

A practical workshop based on the ideas of the theatre practitioner and academic Augusto Boal. Does theatre have revolutionary potential? How can we use theatre in a way that is not just a passive spectatorial experience? Boal believed that by eradicating the line between audience and artist theatre became a tool of empowerment to help us analyse our world and take action against oppression in all its forms. But is it possible for theatre practice to ever go beyond just a rehearsal of the revolution? The session will involve a short lead off, followed by a workshop putting Boal's ideas into practice, with questions and discussion to conclude.

**Sunday, 10-12, Room 3D (third floor) — Working-class internationalism: Fighting victimisation in the Australian construction industry** (Bob Carnegie, Workers' Liberty Australia, via Skype. Chaired by Daniel Randall, Workers' Liberty North East London. Speaker from the Blacklist Support Group also invited.)

Via a Skype link, Workers' Liberty Australia supporter Bob Carnegie tells the story of the successful 2012 Queensland Children's Hospital construction workers' strike, and the subsequent campaign to defend him from victimisation for his role in it. There will be time for questions and discussion.



**Sunday, 1-2.25, The Venue (second floor) — Lenin vs. "Leninism"** (Cathy Nugent, Workers' Liberty/Women's Fightback and editor of Solidarity. Chaired by Joe Flynn, Workers' Liberty South London and NUT activist.)

Layers of falsifications have encrusted the biography and record of Lenin and the party he helped create. Academics of both right and left, Stalinists, and even Trotskyists have created many myths — both exaggerated claims and slanders. Uncovering the truth in order to understand the "warts and all" Lenin has been the work of scholars such as Lars Lih. The speaker will deliver an interactive lecture, aimed at people with some prior knowledge of Lenin and his ideas.

**Sunday, 1-2.25, The Bloomsbury Suite (second floor) — Sicko: how markets ruin healthcare** (Stuart Jordan, Workers' Liberty South London and health worker. Chaired by Sam Greenwood, Workers' Liberty Hull.)

This session will use clips from Michael Moore's film *Sicko* to stimulate discussion about how market forces damage healthcare provision. The speaker will give a presentation explaining how and why the Tories want to subordinate healthcare in Britain to the market.

**Sunday, 1-2.25, Gallery Bar (second floor) — The Warsaw Ghetto uprising** (Vicki Morris, Workers' Liberty North West London, and Chris Marks, Workers' Liberty West of London and PCS activist.)

This session honours the courage of the Jews who fought against the Nazis in the uprising of the Warsaw Ghetto in 1943. The speakers will present a narrative history of their battle against all the odds. The presentation will contest the view of Stalinist Russia as liberator; examine Jewish people's ideas on how to combat anti-semitism, both before and after the Holocaust; discuss the attitude taken by various strands of the left to the so-called "Jewish Question"; and explore lessons from the fight against Nazism for our struggle against fascism today. This session is aimed at people with an interest in Jewish history, Second World War history, and anti-racism. No prior knowledge of the uprising is required.



**Sunday, 1-2.25, Room 3D (third floor) — The AWL tradition: what is Workers' Liberty and where does it come from?** (Sean Matganna, Workers' Liberty. Chaired by Karen Johnson, Workers' Liberty London PCS branch.)

The speaker, a founding member of the AWL tendency, will present a narrative history of the roots of the organisation and its development over nearly 50 years, followed by questions/discussion.

**Sunday, 1-2.25, Room 3D (third floor) — Lessons from the Communist International: the workers' government** (Martyn Hudson, Workers' Liberty Teesside. Chaired by Pat Smith, Workers' Liberty Hull supporter.)

This session will look at the origin of the worker's government formula in the debates around the early Comintern, its development by American socialist Max Shachtman, the relationship of Marxist activists to social democracy and the trade unions, and the importance of the slogan in class struggles today, particularly in Greece.

There will be a short introduction about the idea of a workers' government — its history and development and then the facilitation of discussion from the floor about its application in the class struggle today and implications for revolutionary politics.



**Sunday, 2.35-4, The Venue (second floor) — Organising against racism and fascism after the Woolwich murder** (Ruth Cashman, Workers' Liberty South London and Unison activist, involved in the South London Anti-Fascist Group)

A presentation, followed by small-group discussion, on what kind of anti-racist and anti-fascist politics are necessary in the context of a racist backlash following the Woolwich murder and wider anti-immigrant sentiment.



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**Sunday, 2.35-4, Bloomsbury Suite (second floor) — Antonio Gramsci: a Marxist for difficult times** (*Martin Thomas, Workers' Liberty North East London and editor of Antonio Gramsci: working-class revolutionary*) Antonio Gramsci was a leader of the Italian Communist Party in its early, revolutionary, days. He was jailed by Mussolini's fascist regime from 1926

until his death in 1937, and wrote "Prison Notebooks" which have since become famous. His thoughts have often been interpreted as being about how socialists should operate in times of broad stable democratic advance, in contrast to the choppy and cramped circumstances of Tsarist Russia. This session will explore a contrary idea: that in fact Gramsci focused on what socialists should do in times of difficulty and setback. It will be a workshop session, with small groups collating and comparing a range of Gramsci's aphorisms, and discussing how they connect. It is designed to be accessible even if you knew nothing about Gramsci before this weekend.

**Sunday, 2.35-4, The Gallery Bar (second floor) — Marxist feminism: Judith Butler and her discontents** (*Kate Harris, Workers' Liberty North East London/Women's Fightback and LGBT+ convenor in Edinburgh University Students' Association in 2011-12*)

Judith Butler's *Gender Trouble*, alongside other books like *Bodies That Matter*, has had a profound effect on feminist academia, and a smaller but important effect on the ideas of feminists activists today. This participatory workshop will explore Butler's arguments about sex, gender and sexuality.

**Sunday, 2.35-4, Room 3D (third floor) — Introduction to workers' power: the real Chinese Revolution, 1925-7** (*Stephen Wood, Workers' Liberty Hull, and Heather Shaw, Workers' Liberty Sheffield.*)

Eight years after the Russian Revolution, Chinese workers and peasants struggled against brutal landlords, foreign capital and the emerging Chinese bourgeoisie. Two years later with the possibility of workers revolution halted, the Chinese Communist Party was in disarray and the vicious and nationalist Kuomintang Government had come to power. Despite many parallels with Russia before 1917 the Chinese workers were betrayed by the increasingly decrepit and bureaucratic Third International under the leadership of Stalin. The possibility for workers' revolution in China was crushed by the suicidal collaboration with the Kuomintang for the victory of an "anti-imperialist" government. This session will discuss the consequences of this disastrous alliance and the perspective of revolutionaries including Leon Trotsky and Chen Duxiu who fought for independent working class politics and organisation against both the Stalinists and Chinese nationalists. This session is accessible to everyone regardless of previous knowledge or reading. A short introduction and presentation will be given with plenty of opportunity for questions, followed by smaller group discussion of the key figures and events, and the lessons we can learn for today.

**Sunday, 4-4.30, The Venue (second floor) — Closing plenary** Patrick Murphy (*Workers' Liberty Leeds and National Union of Teachers Executive*), Ruth Cashman (*Workers' Liberty South London and Lambeth Unison Assistant Branch Secretary*), and Maziar Razi (*Iranian Revolutionary Marxists Tendency, via Skype*) will give short speeches drawing together the themes of the weekend. Karen Waddington will make a fund appeal for the Orgreave Justice Campaign. The session will close with the singing of 'The Internationale' (see right).



**Tiananmen Square protests, 1989**

## The Internationale

**Workers' Liberty closes its conferences and events with the singing of 'The Internationale'.**

The song is the traditional anthem of revolutionary working-class politics, and has been sung — in many languages — by activists in struggles including the 1917 Russian Revolution and the 1989 workers' and students'

Tiananmen Square democracy uprising in China. It was the anthem of the Soviet Union until 1944, when it was replaced with a nationalistic dirge by the Stalinists.

It was written in 1871 by Eugène Pottier, a participant in the Paris Commune. We sing it to celebrate revolutionary history, to maintain our connection to our movement's past, and to reaffirm our commitment to the song's message of a revolutionary and internationalist future. The singing is traditionally accompanied by the socialist "raised fist" salute.

**If this is your first time as a revolutionary socialist event, the singing of 'The Internationale' can seem a little strange. Don't feel intimidated or pressured to join in, but we feel the act of singing collectively is an important part of working-class tradition.**

### Lyrics:

Arise, ye workers from your slumber,  
Arise, ye prisoners of want.  
For reason in revolt now thunders,  
and at last ends the age of cant!  
Away with all your superstitions,  
Servile masses, arise, arise!  
We'll change forthwith the old  
traditions,  
And spurn the dust to win the prize!

So comrades, come rally,  
And the last fight let us face.  
The Internationale,  
Unites the human race.  
So comrades, come rally,  
And the last fight let us face.  
The Internationale,  
Unites the human race.



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## Session streams

There are four "session streams" at this year's Ideas for Freedom — groups of sessions themed around particular topics that attendees can follow across the weekend if they wish.



### Socialism, art, and culture

• **Saturday, 1.40-2.40, The Gallery Bar/Room 2C (during lunch)** — *Captivus Religicus Magica* (An exhibition from visual artist Robert Ford on selections from his ongoing project to produce an illuminated edition of Marx's *Capital*, followed by a presentation in Room 2C.)

• **Saturday, 4.40-6.10, Room 2A (second floor)** — *The Rest of the Cod: the story of Clay Cross council* (Playwright Edd Mustill presents the first London reading of his play *The Rest of the Cod*, previously staged at Chesterfield's Pomegranate Theatre.)

• **Sunday, 10-12, The Gallery Bar (second floor)** — *Theatre of the oppressed* (Ellie Clarke, Workers' Liberty London Colleges, and Sarah Weston, Workers' Liberty Merseyside and member of the Blue Dragonfly Theatre Company.)

### Introduction to workers' power

• **Saturday, 2.50-4.10, Room 2A (second floor)** — *The Paris Commune, 1871* (Rosie Huzzard, Workers' Liberty Sheffield and NUS Executive-elect. Chaired by Kieran Miles, Workers' Liberty West of London.)

• **Saturday, 4.40-6.10** — *The 1913 Dublin lock out* (Patrick Murphy, Workers' Liberty Leeds and NUT activist. Chaired by Daniel Cooper, Workers' Liberty London Colleges.)

• **Sunday, 10-12, The Bloomsbury Suite (second floor)** — *Solidarnosc 1980-81: workers vs. Stalinism* (Tony Byrne, Workers' Liberty Nottingham and RMT activist. Chaired by Omar Raii, Workers' Liberty London Colleges.)

• **Sunday, 2.35-4, Room 3D (third floor)** — *The real Chinese Revolution, 1925-7* (Stephen Wood, Workers' Liberty Hull, and Heather Shaw, Workers' Liberty Sheffield.)



### Lessons from the Communist International

• **Saturday, 4.40-6.10, Bloomsbury Suite (second floor)** — *Lessons from the Communist International: transitional demands and the workers' united front* (Tom Harris, Workers' Liberty West of London. Chaired by Jack Saffrey-Rowe, Workers' Liberty West of London.)

• **Sunday, 1-2.25, Room 3D (third floor)** — *The workers' government* (Martyn Hudson, Workers' Liberty Teesside. Chaired by Pat Smith, Workers' Liberty Hull supporter.)

### Marxist feminism

• **Saturday, 2.50-4.10, Room 2C (second floor)** — *Women and the rise of capitalism* (Cath Fletcher, Workers' Liberty Sheffield and UCU activist)

**Saturday, 4.40-6.10, Upper Hall (third floor)** — *Challenging sexism in the labour movement* (Becky Crocker, Workers' Liberty London Tube and RMT activist, Maria Exall, TUC LGBT Committee, and Jenny Lennox, National Union of Journalists organiser. Chaired by Lynne Moffatt, Workers' Liberty South London and Unison activist.)

• **Saturday, 6.20-7.50, Room 2A (second floor)** — *Sexual violence, the global picture* (Camila Bassi, Workers' Liberty Sheffield and UCU activist. Chaired by Cathy Nugent, Workers' Liberty and Women's Fightback.)

• **Sunday, 2.35-4, The Gallery Bar (second floor)** — *Judith Butler and her discontents* (Kate Harris, Workers' Liberty North East London/Women's Fightback and LGBT+ convenor in Edinburgh University Students' Association in 2011-12)



### Working-class internationalism

• **Saturday, 2.50-4.10, Upper Hall (third floor)** — *After Taksim Square — workers in the Turkish revolt* (With speakers from UID DER, the Association of International Workers Solidarity, via Skype. Chaired by Ed Maltby, Workers' Liberty London Colleges, who recently visited Istanbul.)

• **Saturday, 4.40-6.10, Room 2C (second floor)** — *Are Greek workers still moving left?* (Spiros, from Greek socialist group OKDE, will speak via Skype. Chaired by Vicki Morris, Workers' Liberty North West London.)

• **Sunday, 10-12, Room 3D (third floor)** — *Fighting victimisation in the Australian construction industry* (Bob Carnegie, Workers' Liberty Australia, via Skype. Chaired by Daniel Randall, Workers' Liberty North East London. Speaker from the Blacklist Support Group also invited.)



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## Venue information

The University of London Union is located on Malet Street in Bloomsbury.

As well as the Tube stations shown on the map (left), it is also within walking distance from Tottenham Court Road (Central Line), King's Cross St. Pancras (Piccadilly Line, Victoria Line, Metropolitan Line, Circle Line), and Warren Street (Victoria Line).

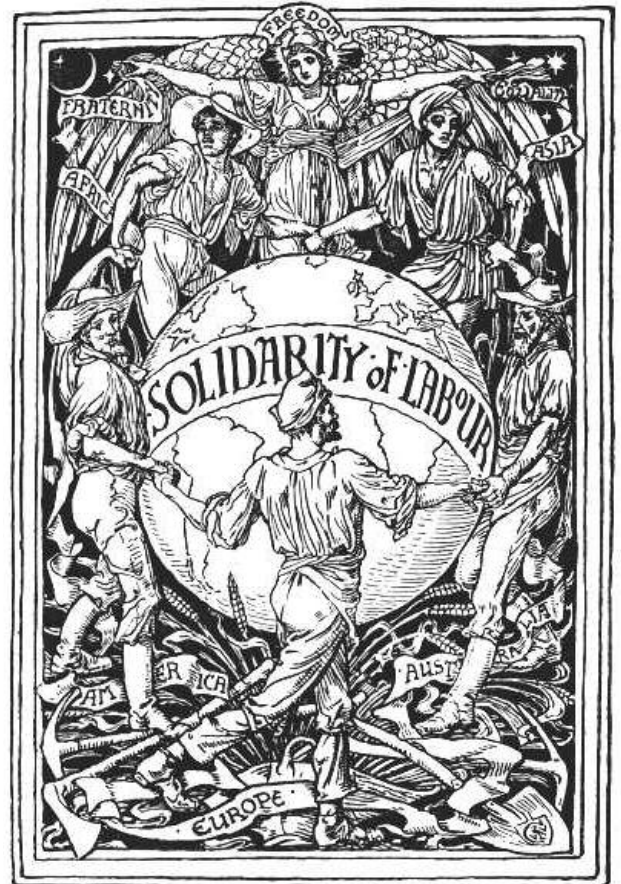
Please be aware that the Northern Line is (unfortunately!) out of operation over the weekend of IFF 2013.

ULU has an entrance ramp and an internal lift for participants in wheelchairs.

## After Ideas for Freedom 2013...

Workers' Liberty is a revolutionary socialist organisation active in the British labour and student movements. We publish a weekly newspaper, *Solidarity*, and organise meetings, reading groups, film showings, debates, and collective educationals around the country, as well as being active in a wide range of trade-union and working-class community campaigns.

If you've enjoyed Ideas for Freedom and want to find out more about our activity, or discuss joining Workers' Liberty, email [awl@workersliberty.org](mailto:awl@workersliberty.org) or ring 020 7394 8923 and we'll put you in touch with your local Workers' Liberty branch.



[www.workersliberty.org](http://www.workersliberty.org)