

**An Introduction to Caribbean Literature
By Lynne Macedo**



“SEPTEMBER 30, 1659. I, poor miserable Robinson Crusoe, being shipwrecked, during a dreadful storm...came on shore on this dismal unfortunate island, which I called the Island of Despair...” Daniel Defoe, 1719

This talk will provide a brief survey of English writing about and from the Caribbean, and chart some of the highs and lows over the past 300 years. It will range from early depictions of the region during the time of slavery to looking at the rapid growth of Caribbean literature in the 20th and 21st centuries. Lynne will discuss how the region’s literary works have moved from being provincial and inward-looking to a unique cultural hybrid with international appeal, stretching from the lyrics of Bob Marley to the 2015 Man Booker Prize via the winners of the Nobel Prize for Literature in both 1992 and 2001.

Lynne is a Fellow of the Centre for Caribbean Studies at the University of Warwick, and has researched and taught Caribbean and post-colonial studies at the Universities of Warwick, Aston and London Metropolitan. More recently she worked as editor for the Caribbean Press and Guyana Classics Library, and still continues to edit novels and poetry for writers from the region.

This event will take place in the coffee room at St Matthew's Church. Please arrive shortly before 10.30. The usual entrance fee of £2 will be charged. Refreshments will not be provided.

The lecture is open to all U3A members and there is no need to book in advance. It will be of particular interest to those in the following groups: Book Clubs, Literature and Society, Poetry, Writing for Pleasure.