

INDUSTRY APPOINTMENT SESSIONS - book from 6th June

Please do not send any material until your appointment has been confirmed!

This year there are opportunities for ten-minute appointments with various industry professionals. Please read their potted biographies along with what they are looking for, and if you are interested in booking appointments with any of them, let Elaine Everest know your first, second and third choices by email at elaineeverest@aol.com **from midday 6th June onwards**. Anything received earlier will be ignored.

No more than two choices of the same 'type', please. (eg, 2 agents+1 publisher, 2 publishers+1 independent editor etc). In the interests of fairness, you may not get all you ask for, but you should hear by the end of the week if you have been successful.

All appointments will require the first chapter (max 5000 words) plus a one-page synopsis and a cover letter to be emailed to Elaine **as soon as possible** after an appointment has been confirmed. Delay in sending material may result in your slot being re-allocated to another delegate.

Publishers:		pref		pref		pref
Bookouture	Sunday 9-10 Abigail Fenton, Leodora Darlington		Sunday 10.30-11.30 Abigail Fenton		Sun 11.45-12.45 Leodora Darlington	
Ebury	Saturday 9-10 Gillian Green, Katie Seaman		Saturday 10.30-11.30 Gillian Green, Katie Seaman			
HarperCollins	Sunday 11.45-12.45 Kate Bradley		Sunday 2-3 Kate Bradley			
Head of Zeus (Aria)	Saturday 1.45-2.45 Lucy Gilmour		Saturday 3-4 Lucy Gilmour			
Head of Zeus (Aria)	Saturday 3-4 Hannah Smith		Saturday 4.30-5.30 Hannah Smith			
Mills & Boon (series romance)	Saturday 10.30-11.30 Sareeta Domingo, Nic Caws		Saturday 11.45-12.45 Sareeta Domingo, Nic Caws			
Mills & Boon (Longer length)	Saturday 11.45-12.45 Anna Baggaley		Sat 1.45-2.45 Anna Baggaley			
My Weekly Pocket Novels	Saturday 1.45-2.45 Maggie Swinburne					
Quercus	Friday 2-3 Emily Yau		Saturday 9-10 Emily Yau			
Sapere	Saturday 1.45-2.45 Amy Durant		Sunday 10.30-11.30 Amy Durant			
Agents:						
Jo Bell	Friday 2-3		Friday 4.30-5.30			
Isobel Dixon	Sunday 9-10		Sunday 11.45-12.45			
Amy Fitzgerald	Friday 2-3		Friday 4.30-5.30			

Agents continued:					
Hattie Grunewald	Saturday 1.45-2.45		Sunday 10.30-11.30		
Federica Leonardis	Saturday 9-10		Sunday 10.30-11.30		
Oli Munson	Friday 3-4		Friday 4.30-5.30		
Judith Murdoch	Friday 4.30-5.30		Saturday 11.45-12.45		
Kate Nash	Friday 3-4		Saturday 4.30-5.30		
Juliet Pickering	Friday 4.30-5.30		Saturday 9-10		
Julia Silk	Sunday 9-10		Sunday 11.45-12.45		
Tanera Simons	Friday 2-3		Friday 4.30-5.30		
Felicity Trew	Friday 3-4		Friday 4.30-5.30		
Independent editors:					
Laura Gerrard	Saturday 4.30-5.30		Sunday 9-10		
Alex Hammond	Friday 2-3		Friday 3-4		

Industry appointments are being offered by:

PUBLISHERS...

Bookouture : **Abigail Fenton** is Commissioning Editor at Bookouture where she publishes across the breadth of commercial fiction, including crime and thriller, psychological suspense, romance, saga and historical. She is currently looking for escapist romantic comedies, high-concept smart women's fiction, female-led series crime and domestic psychological thrillers.

Leodora Darlington enjoys working on high-quality commercial fiction at Bookouture. When it comes to acquiring titles, she loves commercial fiction that stays with her, whether it's a thriller that leaves her gasping at the ending, or a romance that truly pulls on the heartstrings. She is also hugely passionate about books written by or featuring diverse voices, across the whole spectrum of diversity. She'd love to find a diverse romance novel to take on.

Ebury : **Gillian Green**: I oversee fiction on Ebury Press and Del Rey at Ebury, part of Penguin Random House UK. We publish authors including Caitlin Moran, Rowan Coleman, Mandy Baggot, Lola Jaye, Maggie Hope and Sheila Norton on our Ebury Press list, as well as a handful of speculative authors on our Del Rey list including Andy Weir, John Marrs and Katherine Arden. I like high concept novels as much as uplifting stories with an emotional heart. (I've been publishing Up Lit since before it had a label!) I love funny, quirky fiction as well as dark, twisted fairy-tales.

Katie Seaman works across the Ebury Press and Del Rey lists at Ebury. She's always on the lookout for funny and relatable voices, especially those that speak to twenty-somethings and thirty-somethings, perhaps in the vein of a millennial Bridget Jones. She can't resist a sweeping love story, especially if it has an interesting, unique structure or epic timespan as with *One Day* or *The Versions of Us*. She'd also love to find a quirky, character-led novel that is laugh-out-loud funny like *The Rosie Project*. Above all, she loves fiction that gives you all the feels by being both heartbreaking and heartwarming and making you laugh and cry, often on the same page.

HarperCollins: **Kate Bradley** is a Senior Commissioning Editor working for HarperFiction. Kate has worked across all aspects of the book industry in her 20 year career before settling on an Editorial role. Her current authors include

Alex Brown, Cressida McLaughlin, Joanna Hickson, Anne Bennett and many more. She feels incredibly lucky to have the privilege of working with her wonderfully talented authors and loves going to work every day. Kate loves to read books that will make her think, laugh, cry and touch her heart. Follow her on twitter @katebradleySW6

Head of Zeus (Aria): Lucy Gilmour editorial director, says: Do you think you might have, even just the kernel of, a brilliant, unique and commercial story? Because that's really all I'm looking for. I certainly don't need the manuscripts to be perfectly polished - after all, then I'd be out of a much-beloved job! The Aria team are currently looking for commercial women's fiction - including book-club reads, sagas, domestic suspense, issue-led fiction, contemporary romance and tear-jerking epic love stories - that they can be passionate about publishing to as wide a readership as possible. There's no better feeling than the 'I've discovered a real jewel in the submissions pile' goose-bumps... and my next dazzling debut author could very well be you!

Hannah Smith is a newly-appointed commissioning editor with Aria, having previously been with HQ for two years. She has had successes across her digital list from global bestseller Rebecca Raisin, to US bestseller Rachel Burton's THE MANY COLOURS, and UK top 100 title WINTER AT WEST SANDS GUEST HOUSE, plus others. She is looking for hook-led romance with sassy heroines.

Mills & Boon: Anna Baggaley is a Senior Editor at M&B. Anna began her publishing career with the company over ten years ago and has also worked on the commercial fiction imprint HQ before recently returning to Mills & Boon. In her new role, she looks after the Mills & Boon reprint collections, the North American acquired series and the new Mills & Boon Trade list, where she is looking for longer romance titles.

Sareeta Domingo is the Editor on the M&B Modern team, working with authors across all the UK-acquired series.

Nic Caws is Associate Editor on M&B Historical team and works with authors across all of the UK-acquired series.

My Weekly Pocket Novels: Maggie Swinburne acquires romantic and dramatic stories 50,000 words in length. She is looking for fast, thrilling reads taking the reader on an emotional or adventurous journey, arriving at a positive and upbeat romantic ending.

Quercus: Emily Yau is Editorial Director on Quercus's commercial fiction list, having previously worked at PRH. She works on all commercial fiction genres, currently with authors such as Joanna Bolouri, Tracy Rees and Linda Green. She loves big stories with big heart - those that give you an emotional reaction, be it laugh, cry, fall in love... She particularly likes high-concept novels or those with a 'hook' (her first acquisition for Quercus was The Flatshare - a quirky romance where two people share a one bed flat, despite never meeting).

Sapere: Amy Durant started her career in digital publishing and has edited best-selling Kindle firsts from authors including Michael Arnold, David Boyle, Deborah Swift and Priscilla Masters. She's passionate about historical fiction, and also has a keen interest in crime fiction and romantic fiction. Amy is one of the Editorial Directors and co-founders of Sapere Books, a digital-first publisher that launched in 2018.

AGENTS...

Jo Bell began merchandising books on family holidays at the age of 6, showing that publishing has always run in the family! Now with nearly 20 years of experience working in the publishing industry, she brings her wealth of knowledge to helping storytellers find their place. Jo enjoys reading stories with a strong narrative packed with passion, intrigue and of course, full of heart. Jo is looking for writing that gently surrounds the reader, taking them on a journey that they'll never forget featuring love, loss, laughter and a huge helping of family dynamics, please!

Isobel Dixon's Dixon is Head of Books and Director of the Blake Friedmann Literary Agency where she and her colleagues represent a diverse list of authors from around the world. She's proud to work with bestselling and prize-winning authors like Barbara Erskine, Elizabeth Chadwick, Ann Granger, Peter James, Deon Meyer, Joseph O'Connor, Sheila O'Flanagan, Zakes Mda, Manu Joseph, Sisonke Msimang and David Gilman. Her list is open to work across many genres and she is drawn to distinctive voices and strong storylines – page-turners both for the quality of the writing and characters readers will want to follow on their journeys. Isobel is also a poet, with her most recent work published by Nine Arches. Read more about her clients here <http://blakefriedmann.co.uk/isobel-dixon> and her poetry here <http://www.isobeldixon.com/> On Twitter you can find her @isobeldixon

Amy Fitzgerald is with The Blair Partnership, working across their diverse roster of fiction and non-fiction clients. She is currently building her list in contemporary fiction and YA. Before joining the company, Amy worked at WME and Nelson Thornes, an educational publisher which is now part of OUP. Her tastes are varied, but the main thing she looks for is a fresh and distinct voice that not only provokes an emotional response but stays with her long after finishing a novel. She wants to be fully absorbed by great storytelling, whether that is an enchanting historical novel, an unconventional romance or powerful and moving book club fiction that tackles big themes.

Hattie Grunewald graduated from UEA in 2013 and started work as an intern at Blake Friedmann the following week. She assists across the book department, handles short fiction and permissions on behalf of Blake Friedmann clients, and has been building her list of authors since January 2016. Hattie is looking for women's fiction, crime and thrillers, speculative fiction and realistic YA and middle-grade fiction. In non-fiction, she is looking for personal development, accessible books about politics, economics and science, and funny and clever narrative non-fiction.

Federica Leonardis has previously worked in the Foreign Rights department at Ed Victor Ltd, the Orion contracts department and the Rogers, Coleridge & White Literary Agency. She loves stories that keep her reading through the night. Commercial or literary, a love story, cosy crime, romantic comedy or a story of loss and grief. She also enjoys speculative and dystopian novels as well as good tales of psychological or domestic suspense. If a book has inspiring characters, a universal dilemma and a compelling plot, she'd love to read it!

Oli Munson spent nine years at Blake Friedmann where he started as Carole Blake's assistant, joining A.M.Heath in 2012 where he is now a director. Client list includes award-winning, bestselling authors of crime, romance, suspense, thrillers and speculative fiction with high concept plots. He's always looking for great writers who are blazing trails in these genres. Pace, plot and characterisation are the three cornerstones of a great commercial novel and if an author keeps him turning the pages, the chances are good he'll want to work with them.

Judith Murdoch worked as an editor before starting her agency which specialises in commercial fiction, especially sagas, reading group fiction and traditional crime. Her authors include Diane Allen, Trisha Ashley, Frances Brody, Diney Costeloe, Leah Fleming, Kitty Neale and Mary Wood. She is looking particularly for saga / historical books.

Kate Nash: As a former author, publisher, publicist and marketer, Kate has seen every side of publishing and set up her literary agency so she could do the "best job in publishing". The Kate Nash Literary Agency is now one of the UK's leading agencies for commercial fiction and in 2017 was listed in the Publishers Marketplace UK Fiction top twenty. Kate's reading tastes - from romance to thrillers - are for popular fiction and she'd love to discover the next Dilly Court or Clare Mackintosh. She's worked with a number of RNA members who are now in the bestseller lists both in the UK and overseas but also takes on two or three new writers a year. She is open to all types of popular fiction and looks for a page turning, emotionally gripping story carried by great characters. No SF or Fantasy fiction.

Juliet Pickering is an agent at Blake Friedmann Agency, representing a broad list of fiction and non-fiction. She enjoys thought-provoking novels with a big heart, and multi-dimensional characters.

Julia Silk was an editor for 15 years, most recently with Orion, before becoming an agent in 2016, working in association with MBA. She likes to read stories that expose universal truths in new ways and welcomes submissions of accessible literary and commercial fiction, crime and thriller from new and established writers. At the moment she is actively seeking high-quality reading-group fiction; top of her wish list is a sweeping multi-voice, multi generation love story, preferably with an international feel, and she also loves stories featuring unpredictable characters making unexpected choices, like Eleanor Oliphant. @juliasreading

Tanera Simons works at the Darley Anderson Agency where she is building their list of women's fiction. After graduating from Exeter University with a degree in English Literature, she worked in children's publishing before making the transition to agenting for adult commercial fiction in 2017. Tanera's authors include Mandy Baggot, Rachel Burton, Laurie Ellingham, Sandie Jones, and Beth O'Leary. She is on the look-out for strong yet fallible protagonists, fresh voices telling the funny yet gritty truth behind modern-day dating, and – of course – sweeping love stories that transcend generations.

Felicity Trew's main bio is on page 4 of the programme. Dream projects to arrive on her desk would be a stunning psychological thriller à la B A Paris, a gripping historical romance in the vein of The Tea Planter's Wife and a grippingly heartfelt, page-turning drama of a saga.

INDEPENDENT EDITORS...

Laura Gerrard is a freelance fiction editor with over nine years' experience in the publishing industry. Most recently, she was Commissioning Editor at Orion Fiction where she edited and published many award-winning and Sunday Times and New York Times bestselling authors. Laura is now a freelance editor, working with authors and publishers. Follow her on Twitter @lauragerrard

Alex Hammond Alex Hammond is an experienced editor and literary consultant, working with authors on a range of genres and subjects, both fiction and non-fiction. Formerly of Rogers, Coleridge & White Literary Agency and Cornerstones Literary Consultancy, in 2017 he established himself as a freelance editor, mentor, and consultant. He currently teaches Creative Writing and Publishing at Middlesex University. He was a judge for the 2018 RoNA Book of the Year. www.amheditorial.co.uk @AlHammond