

Knots

Isabel Hilton looks at the cultural history of knots, from the myth of the Gordian Knot of Alexander the Great to mathematical knot theory and from Chinese artwork to the Tibetan Endless Knot.



Wallace Shawn

Isabel Hilton talks to the American playwright and actor Wallace Shawn, the subject of a season of plays at the Royal Court Theatre, currently showing his new play *Grasses of a Thousand Colours*.

Grasses of a Thousand Colours is on at the Royal Court Theatre Upstairs in London until 27 June

Gazmend Kapellani

Albanian writer Gazmend Kapellani tells a personal story of his own experience of immigration to the West, and talks about how the experience of the migrant tells a vital chapter in the history of Europe.

A *Short Border Handbook* by Gazmend Kapllani is published by Portobello

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Are knots the perfect form in both science and art? A new exhibition and series of talks explores the science and aesthetics, and the cultural and spiritual symbolism of knot work. Isabel is joined by neuroscientist Daniel Glasert, and by the artist Naheed Raza, whose work is featured in the exhibition. They tackle every knotty issue from the Gordian problem to chaos theory.

Ravelling, Unravelling - an exhibition and series of talks - is on at the Royal Institution in London until 28 May

Sleep Furiously

Gillian Clarke, poet laureate of Wales, joins Isabel to review *Sleep Furiously* - a new film set in a small Welsh farming community close to the fictional location of Dylan Thomas's *Under Milk Wood*.

Sleep Furiously opens on 29 May, certificate U

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Mon 18 May 2009

21:15

BBC Radio 3

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An episode from

Night Waves

Duration

45 minutes

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