



MEDIA RELEASE

Monday 22 February

Tickets on sale to the general public Friday 26 February

SYDNEY OPERA HOUSE PRESENTS ALAIN DE BOTTON: ON LOVE

"We are all more intelligent than we are capable, and awareness of the insanity of love has never saved anyone from the disease." – Alain de Botton

Is love just an illusion? Philosopher, bestselling author and School of Life co-founder **Alain de Botton** returns to the Sydney Opera House on **9 July** to explore what it actually means to live happily ever after.

De Botton's most recent novel, *The Course of Love*, marks his return to fiction, picking up where his first, *Essays in Love*, left off nearly a quarter of a century ago.

After sell-out Opera House talks in 2014 (*The News: A User's Manual*) and 2013 (*Religion for Atheists*), the warm and witty philosopher of the everyday will talk about how romantic myths and misconceptions shape modern relationships.

Born in Zurich and based in London, de Botton has written on travel, architecture and literature, including *How Proust Can Change Your Life*, *The Art of Travel*, *Status Anxiety*, *How to Think More About Sex* and *Art as Therapy*. His books have been bestsellers in 30 countries.

Ann Mossop, Head of Talks and Ideas at the Sydney Opera House, says *"It is always a pleasure to welcome Alain de Botton to the Sydney Opera House. We look forward to seeing new and old fans of de Botton join us in the Concert Hall for an evening about love in the 21st Century."*

View Alain de Botton's 2013 *Religion for Atheists* talk at the Sydney Opera House: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Br8m2S98HU4>

View Alain de Botton's 2014 *The News: A User's Manual* talk at the Sydney Opera House: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yKvOW6RwmFg>

Sydney Opera House Talks and Ideas presents ideas, conversation and debate from leading thinkers and culture creators from around the world, extending the reach of live events with unique content online. As well as a year-round program of inspiring events, Sydney Opera House Talks & Ideas features annual festivals *All About Women* and the *Festival of Dangerous Ideas*, and one-day talks events *For Thought* and *Carnegie Conversations*.

KEY INFORMATION:

What: Alain de Botton
When: Saturday 9 July, 8pm
Where: Sydney Opera House, Concert Hall
Tickets: Insiders From \$36 / B Reserve \$45 / A Reserve \$55 / Premium \$65
More info: http://www.sydneyoperahouse.com/whatson/alain_de_botton_2016.aspx

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To request a review copy of *The Course of Love* or an interview with Alain de Botton please contact:
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