

**A DATE FOR YOUR DIARY**  
**THE FIRST**  
**JOHN LA ROSE**  
**MEMORIAL LECTURE**

**David Abdulah**  
**'Politics and People's Power  
after Obama'**

**SATURDAY 20 MARCH 2010, 2.00 pm**  
**Followed by discussion forums, 4.00-6.00pm**  
**LOGAN HALL, INSTITUTE OF EDUCATION**  
**BEDFORD WAY, LONDON WC1**



This first of an initial series of three John La Rose Annual Memorial Lectures commemorates the life and work of John La Rose, (1927 – 2006). John was an inspirational presence in black British and Caribbean political and cultural activism who touched lives across all five continents. His many achievements included being a writer, publisher, cultural and political activist, trade unionist, founder of New Beacon Books and director of the International Book Fair of Radical Black and Third World Books.

One of John's major contributions was to take what he called a 'mercilessly realistic' approach, avoiding unrealistic idealism and grounding theory in action on a local and national scale. Throughout his life he was central to numerous cultural, educational and political campaigns. The issues that he engaged with remain relevant and will continue to be so for the foreseeable future.

These three cutting edge memorial lectures (2010 to 2012) are dedicated to taking forward John La Rose's work and ideas. The First John La Rose Annual Memorial Lecture will be given by John's close friend and comrade David Abdulah, the General Secretary of the Oilfields Workers' Trade Union (OWTU) in Trinidad & Tobago, the leading trade union in the Caribbean. The OWTU has a long history of democratic organisation and struggle and John worked closely with the union throughout his life.

David Abdulah will be examining '*Politics and People's Power after Obama*' and what lessons can be learnt in our constant quest to increase social justice and popular power. The lecture will be followed by discussion forums to examine further the issues raised.

**Organised by the George Padmore Institute in liaison with the Centre for Rights Equalities and Social Justice, directed by Professor Heidi Mirza at the Institute of Education, and the Thomas Coram Research Unit, co-directed by Professor Ann Phoenix, also at the Institute of Education.**

The 2011 Lecture will be hosted by Leeds Metropolitan University and the 2012 lecture by the Caribbean Studies Centre at the London Metropolitan University

**For further details contact the George Padmore Institute, 76 Stroud Green Road, London N4 3EN 020 7272 4889/8915. email: [info@georgepadmoreinstitute.org](mailto:info@georgepadmoreinstitute.org); [www:georgepadmoreinstitute.org](http://www.georgepadmoreinstitute.org)**



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