

The New College Literary Salon 2026

Dwelling & Travelling

Six sessions across Hilary and Trinity Terms

Mondays 8.30pm in the MacGregor Matthews Room



HILARY 2026

1. Resonance — 16 February (Monday 5th week)

Friedrich Nietzsche, excerpt from the prelude to *Daybreak* on the
'slow reader'

Emily Dickinson, 'The Tint I cannot take – is best', and 'What I see
not, I better see –'

Anne Carson, 'An Evening with Joseph Conrad' from *Wrong Norma*

Tomas Tranströmer, 'In March -79'

Gary Snyder, 'Control Burn'

2. Embodiment — 23 February (Monday 6th week)

Philippe Jaccottet, excerpt from his prose writings

Maurice Merleau-Ponty, chapter from *Eye and Mind*

Nan Shepherd, chapter from *The Living Mountain*

Christine Brook-Rose, 'The Foot'

G.M. Hopkins, 'Inversnaid'

3. Animal Languages — 9 March (Monday 8th week)

Jean-Christophe Bailly, *The Animal Side*

Benjamin, 'Butterfly Hunt' from *Berlin Childhood around 1900*

Jean-Henri Fabre, short excerpt from *Souvenirs entomologiques*

Wisława Szymborska, 'Tarsier'

Rilke, 8th Duino Elegy

Julio Cortázar, 'Axolotl'

4. Mineral and Vegetable Languages — Monday, week TBC

Emanuele Coccia, chapter from *The Life of Plants*

Alexander von Humboldt, chapter from *Views of Nature*

H.D. Thoreau, chapter 'Brute Neighbors' from *Walden*

Louise Glück, *Wild Iris*

Bernhard Malkmus, chapter from *Sky Lines*

5. Memory — Monday, week TBC

W.G. Sebald, *The Rings of Saturn*, chapters 1-5

6. Dwelling and Walking — Monday, week TBC

W.G. Sebald, *The Rings of Saturn*, chapters 6-10