



**A Franco-British Festival celebrating children's literature
Under the patronage of Quentin Blake
16 - 22 November 2020 at the Institut français in London**

"I was lucky enough to be involved in our festival right from the start. I have seen this celebration of writing and reading and drawing grow – it becomes more and more amazing!" Sir Quentin Blake

The South Ken Kids Festival is back from 16 to 22 November and presents the best of children's literature with the most talented writers and illustrators from both sides of the Channel.

More creative than ever, the festival goes **digital** and features exclusive content and events, some of them produced onsite at the French Institute, most of them **streamed live**.

Kindness, fraternity and diversity are this year's festival motto. The line-up includes **Quentin Blake, Axel Scheffler, Michael Morpurgo, Dorothee de Monfreid, Claire Fauvel, Perceval Barrier, Benji Davies**, and many more.

In total **15 writers, illustrators and actors** who take part in **40 online educational workshops** organised with **20 UK schools** - including disadvantaged schools, thanks to a growing outreach programme - and in **public events ranging from live drawing and storytelling**, to virtual **exhibitions and theatre shows**.

Quentin Blake, the patron of the festival, invites us to discover his *Rencontres inattendues* (*chanced encounters*), 12 drawings currently published in French newspaper, *Le Monde*, which will be unveiled in the Festival virtual gallery on 18 November.

From author **Alison Green** and illustrator **Axel Scheffler**, comes *Kind*, a book, an exclusive digital exhibition featuring 24 works by international illustrators and an online drawing event live streamed from the French Institute!

Other highlights include **Impro**, a multi-handed virtual drawing improvisation, and a **live reading and drawing pas-de-deux** between acclaimed author **Michael Morpurgo** and illustrator **Benji Davies**, on the release of their book, *the Puffin Keeper*.

This special online edition of the festival is also the occasion to look back at 5 years of creative residencies with artists and illustrators **Delphine Perret, Barroux, Baudoin, Alexandre Franc** and **Magali Le Huche**, whose works are displayed on the Institute's social media with the hashtag **#ARTinResidence**.

www.southkenkidsfestival.co.uk | www.institut-francais.org.uk
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Press Enquiries: Natacha Antolini at natacha.antolini@institutfrancais.org.uk | 020 7871 3520