

VISITING LECTURE SERIES

26 FEBRUARY, 5.30PM
MARY BEARD

(Professor of Classics, University of
Cambridge)

**“Joking Apart: Making Sense Of A Late
Roman Joke Book”**

Venue: Wolfson Medical Building,
seminar room 2

An informal reception will follow

ALL WELCOME

Go to the Graduate
School's website [http://
www.gla.ac.uk/faculties/
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contact Fiona Darroch
F.Darroch@arts.gla.ac.uk for
more information



ARTS AND HUMANITIES GRADUATE SCHOOL

WINTER 2009

26 FEBRUARY, 5.30PM
MARY BEARD
'JOKING APART: MAKING SENSE OF A LATE
ROMAN JOKE BOOK'

Mary Beard is an ancient historian of international repute, best known for her ground-breaking work on Roman culture and religion. She is also an active and much-read blogger, both on Classical and other subjects. As Classics editor for the *Times Literary Supplement* she plays a unique role in bringing Classics to a wider readership. In the Autumn she delivered the Sather Classical Lectures at Berkeley, on the theme of Roman Laughter. Her most recent book, *Pompeii: The Life of a Roman Town*, is both a critical success and a best-seller.

“Being Mary Beard is a difficult balancing act. On the one side is the unrepentant scholar, trained in Latin epigraphy in the rigorous school of Joyce Reynolds, passionately determined to get things exactly right, ready to weigh probabilities judiciously, and thoroughly informed about the contents of the latest Dutch festschrift. On the other is the ardent blogger, and the writer (and TLS Classics editor) determined to communicate with audiences larger than a Roman historian or archaeologist can normally reach. *Pompeii: The Life of a Roman Town* combines these two personae, often triumphantly, sometimes a little uneasily. Beard’s knowledge of what has been written about Pompeii – a huge amount – is encyclopedic and up-to-the-minute.”

Review of *Pompeii: The Life of a Roman Town*, W.V. Harris, *Times Literary Supplement*, December 17th, 2008.

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