



PERFORMING ARTISTES

THE BUSINESS

OF SPEAKING

AI - Artificial intelligence • GEO Politics • Case Studies • Keynotes

Conferences & Seminars • Sport • Music • Comedy • Environment

2026-2027

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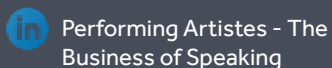
Performing Artistes act as consultants; we agree fees, issue contracts and offer advice. We do not act as agents for all of the personalities listed in this guide, however our knowledge and reputation is such that a number of artistes seek our advice and knowledge for individual projects.

Performing Artistes is a trading name of:

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Welcome to Performing Artistes

We supply people to give speeches at corporate events. The business is broadly split between what we refer to as the serious stuff, people to moderate conferences, give keynote speeches and the like, and the lighter stuff such as after dinner speakers, comedians to host awards and bands and general entertainment.

Whichever category your event falls into, you can be assured of our upmost attention, diligently taking your brief, supplying a long list of options, before helping you to narrow down to a shortlist and eventual contract. Once the talent is confirmed, we will guide you through the build up to your event, with our expert team arranging briefing calls and arranging logistics.

Everyone in the company has worked in events, so we know first hand the challenges you face, and are dedicated to ensure the Talent you book through us is not one of them!

Not only do we pride ourselves in our knowledge, professionalism and efficiency, we also aim to provide creative ideas and solutions to your event needs. This isn't just an event, it's *your* event, and you are our client.

As we've been saying for nearly 35 years – we work for you!



AI

Artificial Intelligence

If there has been one subject to usurp all others over the last few years, it must be Artificial Intelligence. Many would be forgiven for thinking it all started with the launch of ChatGPT, however it's been around much longer. Anyone who has used Google Maps is using AI – it's taking real time data from a variety of sources and adjusting the route for you. It launched in '05...

Long before then, insurance companies have used various algorithms to work out premiums for everything from car insurance to annuities. That was essentially AI. And Alan Turing was working on, and writing about AI back in the '40s!

In short, it's not new, however exponential advancements in computing power in recent years has brought it to the fore, forcing it to the top of all business leaders' agendas.

There are a host of speakers who talk on the topic, and we've decided to focus on 4 with disparate, but complimentary approaches to the subject.



Chris Roebuck - is a leadership expert. Following a decorated military career, he held senior leadership roles in a variety of

financial institutions, before becoming a professor at UCL, and working with many C Suites. He helps companies to understand the leadership challenges of managing transformation and developing leaders to get the best from their people. For many years now, Millennials and Gen Z have been described as Digital Natives, but the new cohort will also be AI natives. Chris's keynote "Leading through

Relentless Change." gives leaders the Capability and Confidence to meet these challenges.



Priya Lakhani - is the founder and CEO of CENTURY Tech, she has revolutionised learning through artificial intelligence,

helping schools and organisations worldwide enhance teaching and training. A passionate keynote speaker, Priya shares insights on AI, leadership, and the future of work, drawing from her experience as a successful tech business leader and government advisor on artificial intelligence, technology, and regulation.

Where Chris can focus on the leadership challenges and opportunities that AI pose, Priya is very much your nuts and bolts.



Andrew Grill - describes himself as digitally curious, and encourages his audience to be the same. In fact, he starts his

presentations by challenging his audience with a series of questions to see if they are, and illustrating why they should be (i.e. he is an advocate for 2 factor authorisation – essentially getting sent a text message or similar to confirm identity – for all logins such as email and social media so to avoid being hacked by AI). Through this curiosity, he empowers his audience to try out various AI tools to see how they can streamline their work – he's the first to admit, not everything is right for everyone, but through curiosity, you can find what suits you, and enhance your worklife.



Andy Lopata - Andy Lopata's *Relationship Intelligence in the Age of AI* speech helping leaders and teams strengthen the

human relationships that drive trust, influence, collaboration and stakeholder buy-in at a time when technology is accelerating rapidly but human connection is often weakening. The central message is simple: AI can provide intelligence at scale, but Human Interaction (HI) is what turns strategy into action.

At the time of writing, the US/Iran war is still ongoing, with continued restrictions on the Strait of Hormuz. The Russia/Ukraine conflict continues, with little end in sight, while closer to home, Sir Keir Starmer is about to leave office, with Andy Burnham tipped to succeed him. Meanwhile, Reform still tops many polls, having had unprecedented success in the local elections.

Arguably, the world hasn't faced such uncertain times since the end of the cold war and break up of the Soviet Union.

Against this backdrop, demand for speakers who can discuss this uncertainty and provide analysis is sure to remain strong. Domestic briefs tend to focus on inflation and government borrowing, considering the potential impact of changes on leadership and the political landscape, whilst from a global perspective the shifting plates of international diplomacy dominate.

Anthony Zucker

The US remains the pre eminent world power, and Trump is certainly the most

unpredictable President of recent times. Anthony Zucker is the BBC's senior North American reporter, covering US politics and cultural happenings across the continent. He joined the BBC in 2013 and has covered the US Supreme Court, Congress, the technology sector and Texas state politics for more than 100 news outlets during his career.

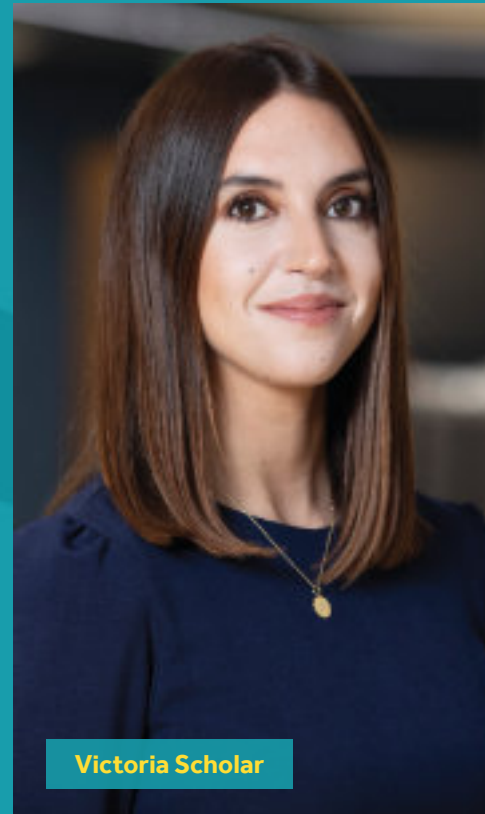
Anthony gives speeches on the state of the US today and its impact on the modern world, not least trying to bring clarity and understanding in the era of Trump!

Anthony was born in California, grew up in Texas and attended college in Washington DC. He can count the US states he hasn't visited on one hand!

Pippa Crerar

Pippa is Political Editor of The Guardian and co-presenter of the flagship political discussion programme on ITV, PESTON. She is a warm, witty and authoritative speaker who has long experience of chairing, presenting and speaking at events in the political world and beyond.

She has trusted contacts right at the heart of government, across Whitehall and in the main opposition parties so



Victoria Scholar



Pippa Crerar

has a deep insight into what is going on in British politics and society.

Victoria Scholar

Victoria Scholar is one of UK TV's foremost financial commentators, enjoying a rare combination of banking, television and journalistic experience.

A hugely popular broadcaster and expert on business, finance and economics, Victoria is the Head of Investment at Interactive Investor - the UK's second largest direct-to-consumer investment platform. She has a wide-ranging broadcast remit discussing the daily business news agenda, investment strategy and asset allocation, collective investments and direct shares, as well as macro-economics and markets.



Anthony Zucker



Case Studies

BNC Show

We've been keen supporters of the BNC Show for many years, and in recent times, hosted keynote and panel discussions. The most recent iteration saw us host a panel discussion "Creating Events in Challenging Times" which was chaired by **Nik Gowing**, and featuring environmental journalist **Lucy Siegle**, futurist and AI expert **Andrew Grill** and business journalist **Ian King**.

Nik took the lead, looking at how we can make events that are radical, both attracting and then engaging our

audiences. **Andrew** describes himself as digitally curious, and how we can all become more so, while **Lucy** looked at the importance of the environment, and framing all of our decisions within a carbon framework.

While there was much reflection on the uncertainties facing the world, **Ian** struck a positive note on the economy, explaining how humans are fundamentally upbeat and imaginative, and will find solutions to the problems we face.



KBSA

The KBSA are a trade association supporting independent Kitchen, Bedroom and Bathroom retailers, and we've had the pleasure of working on their annual conference for a number of years now. Each year they have an external conference moderator, series of keynotes and then a comedian to hand out awards in the evening.

Chairing duties have been undertaken by **Emma Crosby** for the last few years, while keynotes have come from the likes

of **George Clarke**. Evening hosts have seen an intriguing mix of personalities over the years from the likes of **Sally Phillips**, **Russell Kane** and **Colin Murray**. Their '27 edition already has a fascinating line up....

Keynotes

Tilly Lockey

Tilly is an inspiring keynote speaker and advocate whose extraordinary story of survival, resilience and innovation captivates audiences worldwide.

At just 15 months old, Tilly contracted a rare and severe form of meningococcal septicaemia. Given a 0% chance of survival and described as one of the most critical cases her hospital had ever seen, she defied all odds. After a week in intensive care, followed by weeks of recovery, multiple complications, and ten blood transfusions, Tilly survived but required the amputation of both arms.

As a child, Tilly began experimenting with prosthetics that prioritised appearance over functionality. Today, she is redefining perceptions of disability by celebrating prosthetics as a symbol of strength, identity, and innovation.

She is co-developer of the Hero Arm, advanced 3D-printed bionic arms created by Open Bionics. As a daily user of cutting-edge technology, she offers a rare and valuable perspective on the

intersection of human experience and technological advancement.

Tilly plays an active role in testing and refining prosthetic technology, providing vital feedback that helps shape innovations for users around the world. Her ambition is clear: to push the boundaries of what is possible and help bring real-world technology closer to what we see in science fiction.

A versatile and engaging speaker, Tilly delivers impactful talks on resilience, mindset, empowerment, diversity and inclusion, and the future of technology, leaving audiences motivated, inspired, and ready to rethink what is possible.

Simon Woodroffe

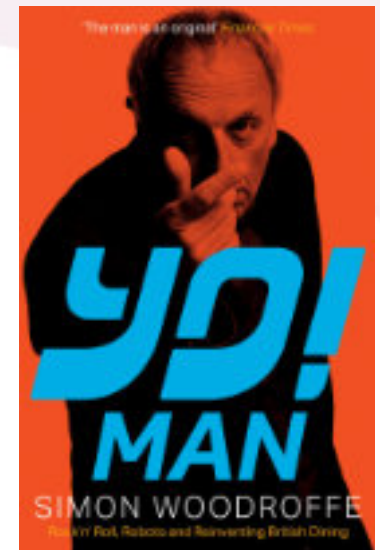
It's nearly 30 years since Simon launched Yo! Sushi, almost single handedly bringing the Japanese concept of conveyor belt sushi restaurants to the UK. He followed up the success with Yotels, and was even a Dragon on the original series of Dragon's Den. He quickly established himself as a fixture on the speaking circuit, and we've had



Tilly Lockey

the pleasure of working with him for 25 years.

It's a remarkable journey for someone who left school at 16, was convicted of drug offences at 18 and started out on a precarious career in the music industry, culminating in working on Live Aid in '85. He's now released his autobiography Yo! Man and taking on speaking engagements again, having taken sabbatical since COVID. He's as insightful as ever, a true maverick who inspires audiences and continues to challenge the status quo.



Conferences & Seminars

We've long said a good conference chair makes it look easy, but it's easy to see it done badly. When planning a conference, we always recommend to consider the chair first, as they will be able to help shape the day, set the tone, and through skillful moderation, advocate for the audience.

In today's world, clients are rightfully concerned with ensuring balance and broad representation on stage, and again a well chosen chair can help. They are seen all day long, and so if you're worried you might struggle with, for instance, too many male dominated panels, having a female presence will help with optics; the same can apply with racial balance.

We supply many facilitators, from well known faces on TV, to solid presenters with journalistic backgrounds. In short, people for all budgets.



Maryam Moshiri

Maryam Moshiri is a chief presenter at BBC News. Her show The World Today launched on the BBC News channel in January 2024, broadcasting to more than 100 million viewers globally making her a popular choice for international events. She also presents the national bulletins on BBC 1 at weekends, expanding her appeal to domestic clients as well.



Emma Crosby

Emma is a well known and experienced broadcast journalist. She presented Channel 5's flagship news programme for five years and is a familiar voice on LBC radio, Sky News and CNBC. In the corporate market, she is a popular conference chair, with clients often booking her year after year, thanks to her calm, unflappable manner, professional, yet warm approach.



Marco Forgione

Marco's a brilliant example of someone with real life commercial experience, which can add real value at events. He is currently Director General of the Institute of Export (IOE&T) and International Trade having previously led event industry trade body, EVCOM. He has chaired many events in his various roles, experience he brings to corporate events, while his work at the IOE&T provides him with a unique knowledge of how governments and trade associations interact for a common, highly beneficial objective.

Environment

While Net.Zero has very much become a politicised topic, businesses throughout the world accept taking account of their environmental footprint is no longer just a tick boxing exercise, but a serious issues. It's expected by increasing number of customer, while Gen Z consider it non negotiable, and when deciding on employers to work for, a major deciding factor.

Laura Tobin – Laura is best known for presenting the weather on ITV's Good Morning Britain. A trained meteorologist, with a BSc in Physics & Meteorology she is also popular keynote speaker on climate change, and has spoken at events around the world, including a summit in Australia where she memorably told the moderator "don't call me a weather girl!". Rest assured, although forthright, her content is compelling and informed.



Sport

As this booklet arrives - be it in the post or digitally – the FIFA World Cup will be coming to a climax. 2027 will be a fallow year for men's international football, however the women's game will come to the fore with the Women's Football World Cup, which grows ever more significant in the national consciousness, and by extension its impact on the corporate market.

Away from the beautiful game, The Ashes returns to England, with England fans hoping for a more impressive display from the England side, after last winter's embarrassment down under. Meanwhile, the Rugby World Cup returns to Australia, 24 years after England's triumph down under.

Following the success of Drive to Survive introducing Formula One to a new audience, it's exponential growth continues apace with many clients calling on experts from across the pit lane to speak at, or host events.



Mark Ramprakash – Mark is a former England, Middlesex and Surrey batsman who was the 25th player to score a

century of centuries. Since retirement he has appeared on various TV programmes, starting with Strictly Come Dancing which he won, and has fulfilled various punditry duties across the networks. With Anglo Asian heritage, he provides a fascinating insight into modern Britain, having excelled in a game that is simultaneously the epitome of England, yet now dominated by the sub continent.



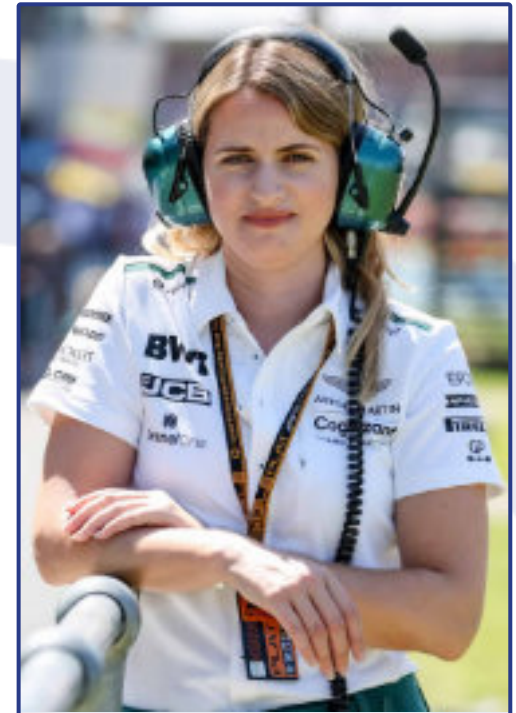
Laura Coombs - is a talented English footballer known for her role as a midfielder with Manchester City and the England women's national team. With extensive experience across various Women's Super League clubs, Laura shares her career journey and achievements with diverse audiences, making her a sought-after speaker.

She joined the England U19 squad in 2009, helping them win the UEFA Women's Under-19 Championship. After earning her first cap in 2015, she returned to the national team for the 2023 Arnold Clark Cup and was selected for the 2023 FIFA Women's World Cup.

As an inspiring figure for women globally, Laura is highly sought after for speaking engagements, sharing her story of

success and resilience. She was named the PFA WSL Fan's Player of the Month in 2022.

Bernie Collins - Bernie is a former Head of Race Strategy at the Aston Martin F1 team, and now presents and commentates for Sky Sports F1. She spent 15 years working within the Formula One industry, and travelled F1 races around the world in strategy and performance engineering functions. Her vast experience extracting insight from data and making decisions at high speed under pressure, makes for an excellent keynote speaker.





Music

Music has been a mainstay of the business right from the start. Every year we supply numerous function bands for events, whether it's just background music, an evening set or providing walk ups for an awards ceremony.

We also supply named acts from across the decades, and have worked with talent as diverse as Sophie Ellis-Bextor, Madness, DJ Joel Corry and Heather Small of M People fame...fun fact, her appearance at the Lionesses victory parade last year was a week after she was at the Royal Albert Hall for us!

Cabaret & Voice of God

As well as traditional music acts, we also supply various cabaret and close up acts from stilt walkers to magicians. We also regularly supply Voice of Gods whether it's for a day time conference or evening awards ceremony, working with all of the leading voices such as Jon Briggs (the original Siri), Roger Tilling (University Challenge), Alan Dedicoat (Strictly) and India Fisher (Masterchef).

Do get it touch with any requirements you might have.



Jon Briggs

Comedy

Stand Up Comedians have been a feature of corporate events for many years. Whether speaking at a conference dinner or hosting an awards ceremony, they can help bring both showbiz sparkle and hilarity to any event.

Throughout the year we attend showcases and hunt out new talent, while of course supplying established acts. In fact, there's nothing more satisfying than watching an act we spotted early on (and in many cases launched on to the circuit via our various showcases and sponsored events) become household names. Michael McIntyre, Maisie Adam and Josh Widdicombe are just a few of the talents we spotted and championed early on in their careers

Mo Gilligan – Mo is an international comedy superstar. Named 'The Funniest Man in Britain' by The Times, his debut Netflix release was released in 190 countries and his There's Mo to Life tour achieved a total sell out run, including a

remarkable 10 dates at the Hammersmith Eventim Apollo and a history making O2 Arena show. TV credits include The Lateish Show with Mo Gilligan on Channel 4 and was a long standing judge on ITV's hit show The Masked Singer.



Lou Sanders – We first saw Lou at the Edinburgh Fringe during her debut year, and have seen her comedy ascendency first hand, culminating in a break out appearance on Amazon's Last Comic Standing which brought her to the attention of a whole new audience. Unsurprisingly she has become popular at corporate events, delighting audiences with her Zany, off beat humour.



Sara Pascoe – We helped launch Sara into corporate events, and delighted to see the scale of

them increase year on year. Having had a sojourn from the scene, she's very much back and becoming a popular option for many clients.



Alan Carr – It's amazing to think it's nearly 20 years since

Alan Carr started hosting a Friday Night Show on C4, alongside Jimmy Carr. He's gone on to write a sit com, books, tour extensively and of course be the first winner of Celebrity Traitors in 2025. In the corporate world he's an amazing host at events, delivering a tailored performance and his trademark put downs to great aplomb.

New Year Speaker Drinks – 12th Jan 2027

Confex – 3 – 4 Mar 2027

The Meetings Show – 23-24 Jun 2027

Women's World Cup – 24 Jun – 25 Jul 2027

Conference & Event Awards – 2nd Jul 2027

Rugby World Cup – 1 Oct – 13 Nov 2027

Oct 2026

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