



# HAUNTINGS: The Science Of Ghosts

## SESSION 1

10.00 to 10.10 **Introduction**

10.10 to 10.45 **Investigating 'haunted' locations: A scientific approach**

Professor Richard Wiseman

University of Hertfordshire psychologist, best-selling author, and lead researcher on the record-breaking investigation into Edinburgh's Underground Vaults, uncovers the science of hauntings.

10.45 - 11.25 **The Haunted: A social history of ghosts**

Professor Owen Davies

University of Hertfordshire historian, international expert on witchcraft and magic, and author of 'The Haunted: A Social History of Ghosts', discusses ghosts through the ages.

11.25 - 11.45 **BREAK**

11.45- 12.20 **Things that go bump in the mind: The psychology of apparitions**

Dr Caroline Watt

Psychologist from the Koestler Parapsychology Unit (Edinburgh University), and co-author of the world's best-selling textbook on parapsychology, searches for the ghosts lurking deep within our brains.

12.20 - 1.00 **'No More Ghosts!': The Regency Phantasmagoria**

Dr Mervyn Heard

Historian, performer and author of 'Phantasmagoria: The Secret Life of the Magic Lantern', explores the popular predilection for ghost-raising with the magic lantern at the start of the 19th century and its unfortunate effect.



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## SESSION 2

- 2.15 - 2.50      **Imaging the impossible: The truth about spirit photography**  
Gordon Rutter  
Photographer, founder of the Edinburgh Fortean Society, and head of the Charles Fort Institute, reveals whether spirit photography is the gateway to the afterlife.
- 2.50 - 3.30      **"Dialogue with the Dead": Creating ghosts for television**  
Stephen Volk  
The writer of Ken Russell's 'Gothic', the highly controversial cult BBC hoax documentary 'Ghostwatch' , and ITV drama 'Afterlife' reveals how best to conjure spirits on the small screen.
- 3.30 - 3.50      **BREAK**
- 3.50-4.20      **Inside Most Haunted**  
Dr Ciaran O'Keeffe  
Psychologist, author ('Ghost Hunters: A Guide to Investigating the Paranormal'), and regular contributor to Living TV's Most Haunted takes you on a backstage tour of one of the most watched programmes about the paranormal.
- 4.20- 5.00      **Grappling with Ghosts: Staging ghost effects in the modern theatre**  
Paul Kieve  
Illusionist, magical consultant ('The Invisible Man', 'Lord of the Rings', 'Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban'), and author of 'Hocus Pocus: A Tale of Magnificent Magicians', explores the smoke and mirrors used to create spectres on stage.