

# Vinnie H.'s introductory speech at the Winter Cambridge Literary Festival 2024


“Good afternoon and welcome to the Cambridge Literary Festival. My name is Vinnie. I am an Art and Drama Scholar at St Mary’s School, Cambridge. I am delighted to be here today to introduce an award winning author AND acclaimed art critic, and her latest book, ”Thunderclap”.

“Laura and I actually share a similar background. I moved from Edinburgh to Cambridge in 2021, and I am so glad I did. St Marys, today’s sponsor, has supported me and helped me to grow. Being at an all-girls’ school has giving me the confidence to be who I am, and to study what I have passion for.

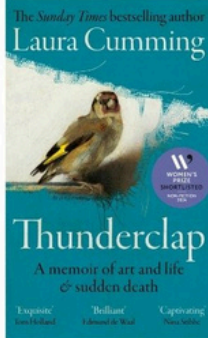
“I am so glad that Mrs Helliard, our new Head, has provided me with with an opportunity like this, to meet Laura Cummings, an inspirational women who is succeeding in her career, as it shows me that my future aspirations can be endless. I find it so encouraging being surrounded by strong female role models to help me grow and learn.


“There was one thing in the book that I thought was particularly powerful. This was the generational love and curiosity for the Dutch masters like Carel Fabritius. I loved the memories and personal experiences that Cummings links to her views on the paintings. It has really made me reflect on how I view paintings, and how with more depth and perception, you can really appreciate the power that art holds.


“Now please join me in extending a warm welcome to Laura Cummings as she shares her insights on “Thunderclap” and the transformative power of art and memory.”

  
St Mary's School  
CAMBRIDGE

“What you see is what you see, yours alone and always true to you, no matter what anyone else contends”.

  
The Sunday Times bestselling author  
Laura Cumming  
Thunderclap  
A memoir of art and life & sudden death  
Esquise Brilliant Captivating  
from the author of The Love of Books



 Laura Cumming | Thunderclap  
4pm, Saturday 23 Nov