

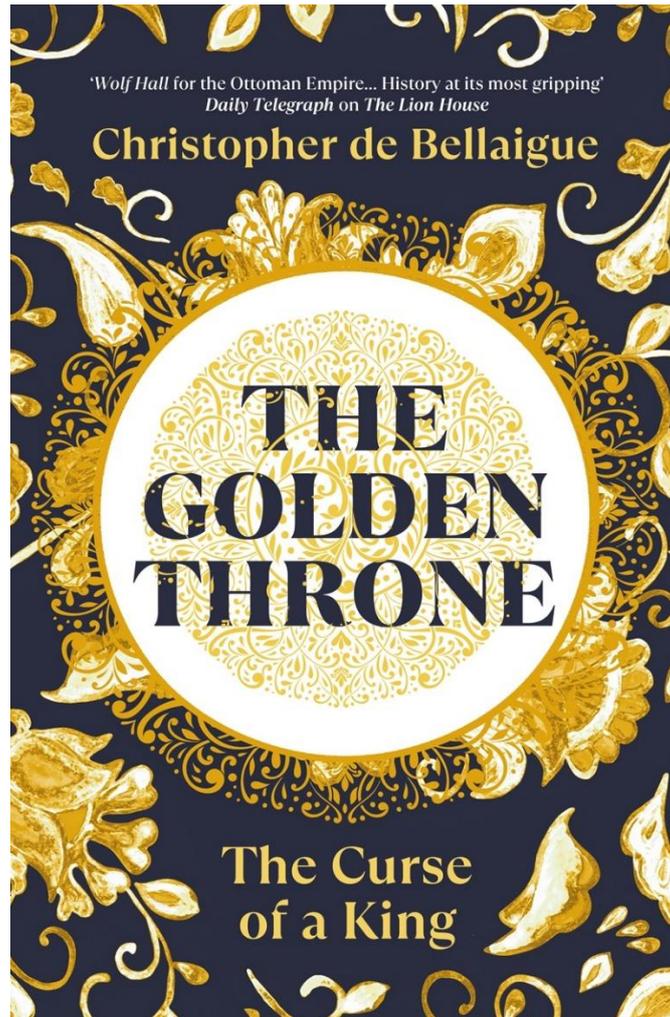


38th Levantine Heritage Foundation / Anglo-Turkish Society hybrid presentation in London with guest speaker Christopher de Bellaigue, 7 October 2025 6 pm (UK time)  
venue: Royal Anthropological Institute, 50 Fitzroy St, Fitzrovia, London W1T 5BT  
***Suleyman the Magnificent***



Arguably the most important monarch of the sixteenth century, Suleyman the Magnificent of the Ottomans has been unjustly overshadowed by his priapic contemporary, England's Henry VIII. Christopher de Bellaigue tells the story of Suleyman's imperial pomp, taking us into the room with many of the key figures of the era - from Martin Luther to Iran's Shah Tahmasp and Charles V of the Hapsburgs - and behind the walls of the royal palace in Istanbul where Suleyman's beloved wife Hurrem wages pitiless war against his eldest son, born to her predecessor in the royal bed, culminating in a chilling act that will define his legacy.

Booking is essential: <https://38th-lhf-gathering.eventbrite.co.uk>



In a career as a journalist that has spanned twenty-five years and five continents, Christopher has covered revolutions and wars and written and broadcast on subjects as diverse as loneliness and religious radicalisation, the environment and being a tour guide in Iran.

Building on the success of *The Lion House*, his acclaimed history of the rise of Suleyman the Magnificent, in March the Bodley Head published *The Golden Throne*, the second part of his landmark trilogy on the great sultan. In 2023 Columbia Global Reports published Christopher's *Flying Green*, on the decarbonisation of aviation, and he is currently researching *The Future of Farming*, also for Columbia, which will take him to South America, Africa and Asia. In 2024 Christopher founded the Lake District Book Festival which will debut in the village of Cartmel, Cumbria, in June 2026. He is an honorary fellow of the University of St Andrews and in 2026 will take up a visiting fellowship at All Souls College, Oxford.

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