



Press Release

13 November 2017

Celebrating the launch of Notes On My Family

A London Metropolitan University alumna is due to have her first book published later this month.

Emily Critchley, who studied Creative Writing at the Islington-based University, wrote her debut novel, *Notes On My Family*, as she was finishing her undergraduate degree. Aimed at young adults, the book explores the theme of relationships within a dysfunctional family. Louise (Lou), the central character, is a teenage girl with a sense of irony and humour. Lou and her sister, Sarah, have very little in common. Mikey, their brother, struggles with his sexuality, and the trio's father is having an affair with a sixth former. Their parents are about to undergo a "trial separation...with a view to being permanent."

Emily said: "I began writing *Notes On My Family* during my final year studying Creative Writing at London Metropolitan University. The story is a vivid present tense account of a dysfunctional family told from the perspective of thirteen-year-old, Lou, an observant outsider struggling to find her place in the world.

"I am excited that my first novel is being published and can't wait to work on future stories."

Sunny Singh, a senior lecturer at London Met and herself an award-winning author, said: "Emily's talent was evident from her first day at London Met as was her dedication to honing her craft.

"In my mind at least, there was never a doubt that she would be a published writer. What I could not have foreseen is how quickly after graduation her first book was picked up by a publisher. I am absolutely delighted that she has been able to embark on her career as a writer so successfully."

Emily's debut novel has been widely praised by a range of critics including; Anna James, an author, journalist and literary scout, and Life of Pippa, a book reviewer.

"Becoming acquainted with 13 year old Lou, the narrator of this book, was an absolute pleasure. The narrative voice was so distinctive and unique," said Life of Pippa in a book review.

Notes On My Family has been published by Everything With Words, a small independent publisher of children's books.

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Notes to Editors

Journalists are invited to attend the University launch of Notes On My Family.

The launch will start at 6:30pm on Thursday 30 November. [Please RSVP on Eventbrite.](#)

Venue London Metropolitan University, 166-220 Holloway Road, London, N7 8DB

Time 6:30pm

Date Thursday 30 November 2017

-Ends-

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About London Metropolitan University

London Metropolitan University has been providing education to people from all backgrounds since 1848, with the creation of the Metropolitan Evening Classes for Working Men. Six schools teach cutting-edge, relevant courses across the arts, sciences, business, law and humanities. Accelerator – London Met's specialist business incubator – helps graduates get their enterprises up and running and was named among the Top Five 'Most Active' accelerators in Europe in 2015, highlighting its contribution to London's booming start-up industry.

London Met is home to world-leading academics who regularly give expert comment to the media. The University scored well in the 2014 Research Excellence Framework, being ranked 4th in the country for Area Studies and performing strongly in Education and Social Studies.

The University is strongly focused on employability. In 2017, London Met recorded its highest ever graduate employment score, with 95% of all 2015/16 graduates in work or further study six months after graduation. It was also ranked above all five Russell Group universities in London for teaching quality in 2016.

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