

## **Press release**

### **25-July-2011**

#### **Melvin Burgess: in conversation**

The [Manchester Salon](#) is holding a special evening with award-winning author Melvin Burgess to celebrate the launch of his new, hard-hitting book.

The former Manchester writer – famed for novels such as *Junk* and *Doing It* – will be talking about his latest venture, *Kill All Enemies*, which gives voice to children alienated from society and often dismissed as hopeless cases.

For the book, Melvin visited several Pupil Referral Units in the North West talking to young people excluded from mainstream education, to find out their personal stories.

In the book he has explored what it means to be a young person at the margins of society, a theme which fans of his gritty work will instantly recognise.

Melvin says: "Every writer knows that editing, dramatising, and interpreting events is an essential part of storytelling. For me, writing is an exploration. You set up your events and characters and then try to explore them as best you can, via the imagination, and some surprising results come up."

"Exploring people and their stories imaginatively can lead to more interesting and revealing truths than the bald facts. Imaging how being a different person in a different situation is the best possible way to understand things that we know very little about."

The discussion hosted by the Salon will be a chance to question Melvin on the impulses behind his work and what motivated him to take on his latest literary project.

**Date:** Tuesday, 6 September, 2011, at 6.45pm, £5 charge to cover costs (£3 conc)

**Venue:** Blackwell University Bookshop, The Precinct, Oxford Road, Manchester

For further details on the event and Manchester Salon's activities, contact Simon Belt at [events@manchestersalon.org.uk](mailto:events@manchestersalon.org.uk)