

INFLECTION

SALON SERIES 01
STARTS JUNE 2024



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Enlightened Enterprise Academy

“Many of today's biggest challenges were not challenges during the first Enlightenment. So, when it comes to addressing them, the thinking from a time long past leaves us in the dark. A “New Enlightenment” is essential if we are to address our 21st century challenges, therefore. And we must be willing to challenge the way we think and understand the world.” Paul Barnett, CEO Enlightened Enterprise Academy

These arguments are central to the way the Enlightened Enterprise Academy thinks and what it does. And a core element of what it does is run the salon, bringing together the leading thinkers of our day, from a very broad range of disciplines, to explore the challenges of our time.

A Salon for a Global Audience

The salons of Paris were a catalyst for, or at the very least gave great impetus to, the Enlightenment in the 18th Century. The Enlightened Enterprise Academy makes the case we need a New Enlightenment for the 21st Century, and we hope our salons will be a catalyst for it. Our salons will be for the participation of a global audience which we will reach online. In the future we will also support in-person events offline.



Salon Series 1: Inflection as the Theme

“Inflection” is the title of the first salon series. It will explore in detail the reasons we are at an inflection point in human history. In our past, pivotal moments have irrevocably reshaped our societies and propelled us forward. The first Enlightenment and the Industrial Revolution that followed, were such moments.

The changes we are now living through will come to be recognised as such an inflection point. If we make the right decisions, we can achieve another leap of progress in the human story. But the nature of the challenges we face mean the future of humanity is threatened if we make the wrong decisions. And the quality of our existence during the transition is also threatened. In this context, our ability to make the right choices has never been more important.



The Existential Crisis



Warnings, that our survival is in jeopardy are not new, but global warming and climate change related natural disasters mean we really do face an existential crisis. We are at an inflection point and must take significant and immediate action. Additionally, the changes needed are numerous, large in scale, and highly complex in nature.

The crisis is felt at all levels, from the individual to the nation, and in businesses and organisations of all types.

Many individuals are seeing incomes and living standards stagnate or decline. Suicide, substance abuse, mental illness and many other related problems are on the increase.

Companies often find themselves on a “burning platform”. Few survive. The very short lifespan of companies offers is evidence of that. And research by PwC indicates 45% of CEOs recognise the company they lead will not survive a decade without transformational change.

Confidence in the leaders of nations, and national performance are also declining in many countries. So is confidence in most institutions.

Crises and the 'Burning Platform'

Many of us recognise a “New Enlightenment” is needed, to identify pathways to a future beyond the Polycrisis, Permaworld and Metacrisis, as the challenges we face have been called. They are need to move beyond the “burning platform.”

The term, “burning platform,” first used by Nokia CEO Stephen Elop in a memo, refers to a situation where significant and immediate action is required due to impending danger or crisis. That was the situation Nokia had found itself in, as many companies do.



Complex Systemic Problems

The climate emergency caused by global warming is creating a growing number of disasters, and eco-systems are threatened. Many of these problems are man-made. And many of our other man-made systems are also failing us or pose real risks to our wellbeing: healthcare, energy, education, the economy, technology, politics, transports etc. All these systems are interrelated and interdependent in ways most people cannot comprehend. The “systems thinking capabilities gap” is one we must address.



“What help can decision-makers expect when tackling the “messes” and “wicked problems” that proliferate in this age of complexity? They are usually brought up on classical management theory that emphasizes the need to forecast, plan, organize, lead, and control. This approach relies on there being a predictable future environment in which it is possible to set goals that remain relevant into the foreseeable future” and other assumptions that do not hold. “In the modern world classical management theory provides the wrong prescriptions.”



Dr Mike C Jackson
Author of Critical Systems Thinking and
the Management of Complexity

Practical Perspectives from Leading Thinkers

Our first Salon Series will make the case, explain how we got to the position we find ourselves in, and what we need to do about it. We will explore the issues systematically and from multiple perspectives, with experts from a wide range of disciplines. Given the issues are global in nature, we will engage experts from many parts of the world and invite our global audience to take part in the interactive dialogues.

Since our focus is to find practical solutions and pathways for a brighter future, we will also consider the implications, and invite contributors to suggest actions that can be taken by individuals, organisations and country leaders.



What to Expect



Live Dialogues



BI-WEEKLY*
EACH TUESDAY FROM JUNE 9
2 HOURS
14.00 - 16.00 BST

* With Breaks during holiday seasons

From June 2024 we will publish a regular bi-weekly video interview with a leading thinker.

The pre-recorded interviews will be stimulus of a future bi-weekly live online dialogues to include the expert, our faculty, and salon subscribers.

Panel discussions will be followed by an extensive and moderated Q&A session for you to engage in.

Each live sessions will also be recorded for subscribers who cannot attend, and for all subscribers to view again at their leisure.

At the end of the series, we will also host an online conference featuring the experts that took part in the series in dialogue with each other and our subscribers. We also plan to publish a book related to each series.



Subscription Includes Membership

JOIN BEFORE 30th June 2024 and get a free annual Standard Membership of the Enlightened Enterprise Academy for your first year.

The initial range of benefits is limited but will expand over the coming months as we introduce new events, programmes, workshops and other services. You will also gain access to other members via our online hub where lots of discussion will take place.

We deliver online for a global audience, and with a focus on practical ways in which individuals, organisations and societies can make necessary changes and become enlightened decision makers and action takers, thereby avoiding the all-too-common consequences of the crises we face in the 21st century. New ways of thinking, new competencies and capabilities, new ways of leading and organising are all needed.



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Who Should Subscribe?

You should subscribe if you recognise that many of the old ways of thinking and doing things are no longer working, and if you want to discover what needs to change and how to make the changes.

The Enlightened Enterprise Academy exists to support people like you, the change-makers, who will be the pioneers of the New Enlightenment.

The first Enlightenment pioneers were people with intense interest, curiosity and imagination, which they directed that to solving the problems of their day. Their ambition was progress. Their focus, prosperity for themselves, their organisations and the nations they lived in. People with a similar spirit and vision are the people we wish to serve.



What is the Cost?

Subscription to the Salon is £19.99 per month or £199.00 for the year. Buy annual membership before June 30th, 2024, to get a free membership of the Enlightened Enterprise Academy for one year.

Subscribe

Yearly ▾

ANNUAL Standard EEA Membership + Salon Subscription

Join the Enlightened Enterprise Academy at the Standard Membership rate for a year. The price includes your subscription to the Salon and renews annually.

£199 per year

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*Join us and be a pioneer of the New Enlightenment
as a subscriber to the Salon and a member of the
Enlightened Enterprise Academy. Help us ensure we
transcend our existential crisis.*