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Opening extract from  
**Travels with My Sketchbook**

Written & Illustrated by  
**Chris Riddell**

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*Also by Chris Riddell from Macmillan*

100 Hugs

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*Goth Girl and the Ghost of a Mouse*

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*Goth Girl and the Wuthering Fright*

*Goth Girl and the Sinister Symphony*

# Travels with My Sketchbook



Chris  
Riddell

Children's Laureate 2015–2017

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THE CHILDREN'S LAUREATE IS A POSITION AWARDED ONCE EVERY TWO YEARS TO A WRITER OR ILLUSTRATOR TO PROMOTE AND ENCOURAGE CHILDREN'S INTEREST IN LITERATURE AND READING AND STEMMED FROM A CONVERSATION BETWEEN THE POET LAUREATE TED HUGHES AND CHILDREN'S WRITER MICHAEL MORPURGO, ALMOST TWENTY YEARS AGO. AS THE NINTH CHILDREN'S LAUREATE I HAVE TRAVELLED FAR AND WIDE: SARDINIA, SOUTH AFRICA, BOLOGNA, BIRMINGHAM, BELFAST, HAY-ON-WYE, CHELTENHAM, EDINBURGH AND BATH... WHERE EVER I HAVE GONE I'VE TAKEN A SKETCHBOOK AND DRAWN SKETCHES OF WHAT I'VE BEEN UP TO. COMPILING THESE DRAWINGS INTO THIS BOOK HAS BEEN A GREAT PLEASURE. I HAVE INCLUDED ILLUSTRATIONS, POLITICAL CARTOONS, CARD GAMES AND POEMS WHICH I HAVE DRAWN OVER THE HECTIC TWO YEARS OF MY LAUREATESHIP. I WANT TO THANK EVERYONE WHO HAS SUPPORTED ME IN MY TRAVELS - BOOK TRUST, WATERSTONES, MACMILLAN CHILDREN'S BOOKS, THE OBSERVER NEWSPAPER, LIBRARIANS EVERYWHERE AND MY LONG-SUFFERING AND EVER LOYAL WIFE, PRINCESS JOANNA OF NORFOLK.

CHRIS RIDDELL



# IT BEGINS ...



↑ THE  
SKETCHBOOK  
MY  
MOTHER GAVE  
ME

JUNE 2015



8<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2015.

LOADING MY LAUREATE LUGGAGE ON MY METAPHORICAL MULE READY FOR A LONG JOURNEY...



THIS AFTERNOON 'BUMPED INTO MY FAVOURITE BRIGHTON BAND THE LEISURE SOCIETY JUST AFTER POSTING A DRAWING ILLUSTRATING ONE OF THEIR SONGS...



HAVING A LOVELY INTERVIEW WITH MICHELLE FROM THE GUARDIAN AND HER BABY DAUGHTER FINISTÈRE...



BAFTA

9<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2015

INTRODUCING THE MASKED CHAMPION OF DRAWING FOR FUN - THE DOODLER

HERE I AM TAKING OVER FROM MALORIE BLACKMAN AND BECOMING THE NINTH UK CHILDREN'S LAUREATE

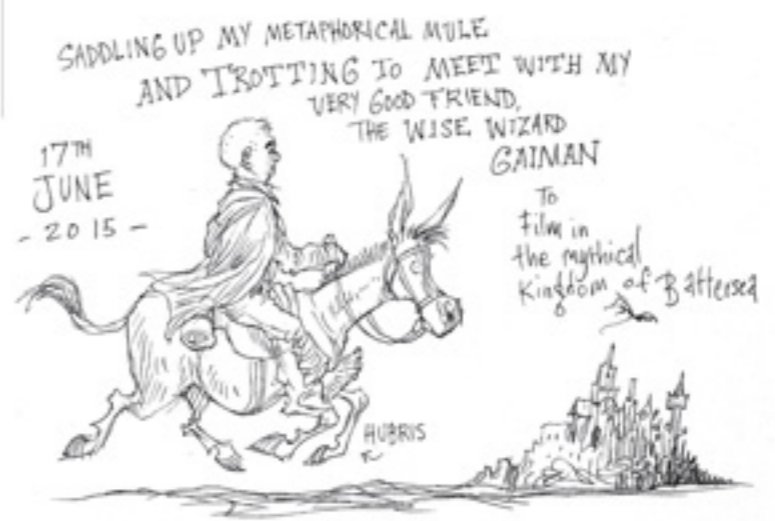


I WORE THIS MASK FOR A NUMBER OF VISITS TO WATERSTONES BOOK SHOPS TO DRAW ON THEIR WALLS BUT I KEPT BEING RECOGNISED...





THIS IS WHERE I MET THE WRITER NICKY SINGER AND WE DECIDED TO WORK TOGETHER ON 'ISLAND' SEE PAGE 21







DRAWING  
MYTHOLOGICAL  
NIGHTMARES  
FOR SUNDAY'S  
OBSERVER

Illustrating the cover of  
The Literary  
Review  
ON  
DUELLING



# Literary Review

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## Duel Identities

Jonathan Keates

STALIN'S REBEL DAUGHTER

Donald Rayfield

INDIA AGAINST THE AXIS

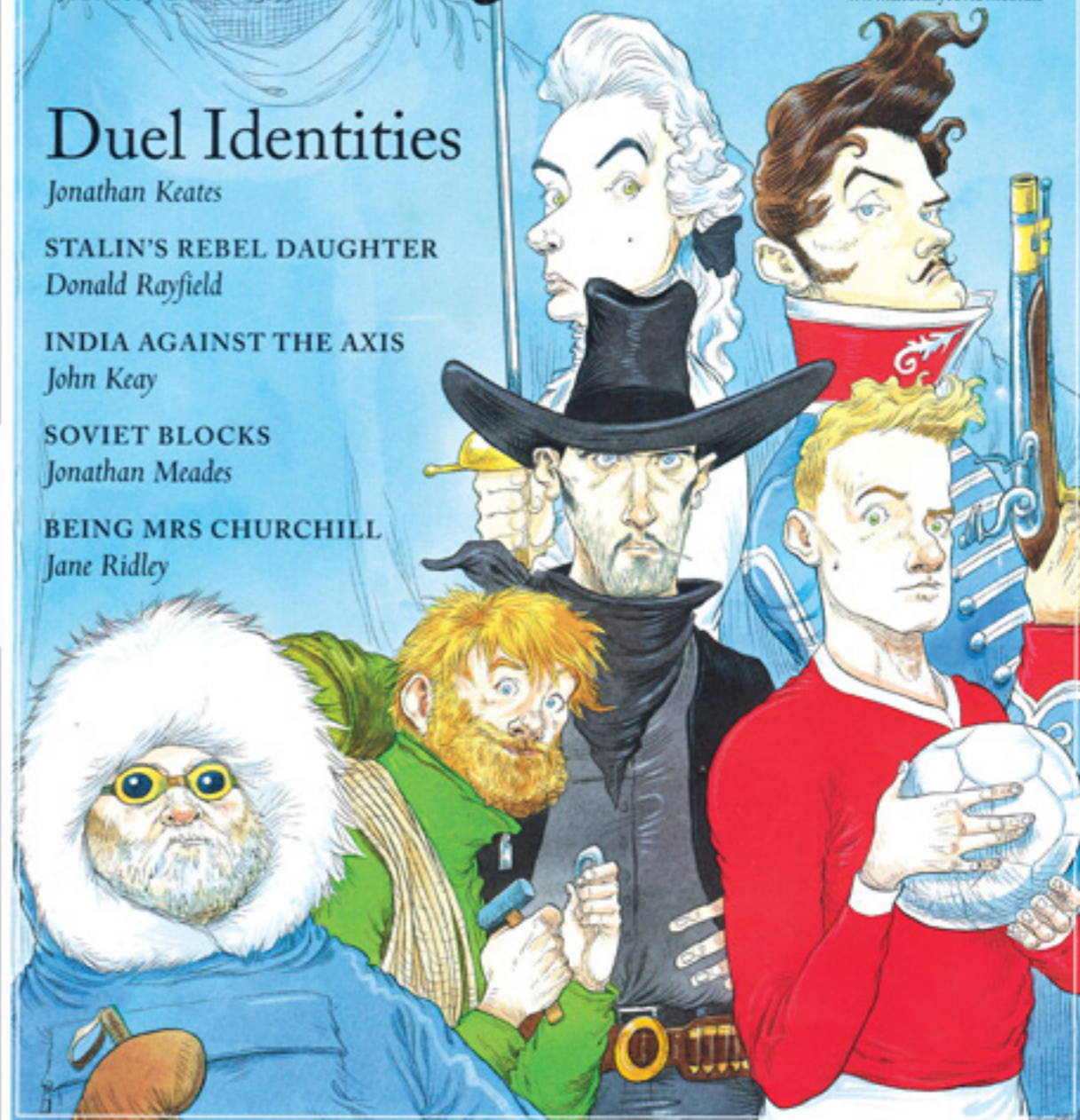
John Keay

SOVIET BLOCKS

Jonathan Meades

BEING MRS CHURCHILL

Jane Ridley



RAID ON ENTEBBE • YOGA COMES TO HOLLYWOOD • GAME OF DRONES  
A GAUCHO IN LONDON • BUCKLEY VS MAILER • TOO MUCH TECHINT?



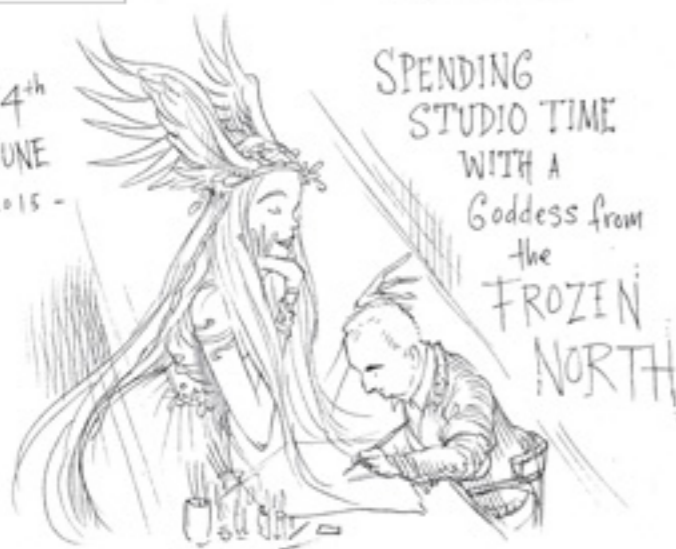


23<sup>rd</sup>  
JUNE  
-2015-



Another gruelling day  
in the service of  
Children's  
Literature

24<sup>th</sup>  
JUNE  
-2015-



SPENDING  
STUDIO TIME  
WITH A  
Goddess from  
the  
FROZEN  
NORTH

OVER THE PAGE  
ARE SOME PAGES  
FROM 'ODD AND THE  
FROST GIANTS'

SITTING  
UNDER THE  
APPLE  
TREE  
IN  
MY  
GARDEN.

25<sup>TH</sup>  
JUNE  
-2015-



GETTING THE HANG OF THIS  
LAUREATE LARK.



26<sup>TH</sup>  
JUNE  
-2015



HE'S BACK AND  
HE'S Madder  
THAN  
EVER...

DRAWING MY  
OBSERVER CARTOON  
AND FEARING  
FOR THE  
WORLD.

GREECE LEAVING  
THE E.U. WAS  
THE BIG ISSUE  
IN THE SUMMER  
OF 2015