

# THE DISAPPEARANCE OF MISS BEBB

A conference on the future of women in the Law  
and a **celebrity reading of Alex Giles' play inspired**  
by the case of *Bebb v. The Law Society*



From 1pm

Sun 21st Oct 2018

University of Birmingham

£60 Combined ticket

£40 Play reading only

Concessions available

Tickets:

[www.eventbrite.co.uk](http://www.eventbrite.co.uk)



## THE DISAPPEARANCE OF MISS BEBB

From medieval times to the early twentieth century the view of women in relation to the Law was 'on the bench, in the jury box, THERE IS NO PLACE FOR THEM'. In 1913 Gwyneth Bebb, top law student of her year at Oxford (and the only woman), challenged The Law Society's refusal to allow her to become a solicitor purely based on the 'disqualification of sex'.

The pioneering women fighting the Bebb v The Law Society case had to battle extraordinary prejudice from the male legal and parliamentary establishment but despite endless setbacks over nearly a decade they finally prevailed to allow the equality of entrance we have today.

To celebrate its bi-centenary (and a century of women's suffrage), The Birmingham Law Society approached The Kalisher Trust to stage a reading of MISS BEBB in the Great Hall of The University of Birmingham. Both organisations then decided to expand the event by mounting a conference on the contemporary issues which still surround women in the law. The conference will kicked-off by Lord Judge and will include barrister Linden Ife, playwright Diane Samuels and businesswoman Julia Goodman among many others. The goal of our conversations is to generate commitments to change from participants which will promote the growth of diversity of all sorts in the legal and connected worlds.

The Kalisher Trust is a legal charity whose motto is 'inspiring advocacy'. Our goals are those of the women behind the landmark case in 1913; to seek out and support the brightest and the best future advocates whatever their gender, social, ethnic or cultural background to ensure that our justice system is as diverse and accessible as possible.

Every year we organise a fundraising gala production in the ancient heart of the legal community, Middle Temple Hall, starring our many supporters from the world of theatre, TV and film including Martin Shaw, Maxine Peake, Stanley Tucci, Felicity Kendall, Ray Fearon, Sophie Ward and Hugh Dennis to name but a few.

So what happened to the extraordinary, talented lawyer who gave her name to this landmark case? The Kalisher-Birmingham Law Society performance of Alex Giles' fascinating new play THE DISAPPEARANCE OF MISS BEBB tells her inspiring and tragic story which resonates powerfully with the work of The Kalisher Trust a century later.

The cast will be led by Kalisher Patron and Vice President, Martin Shaw and star of *Call the Midwife*, Laura Main, alongside a soon-to-be-announced cast which will be at the usual impressive level of Trust play readings.

Joe Harmston  
Artistic Director of Events  
The Kalisher Trust

Event Date:            Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> October  
                                 1300 Conference  
                                 1800 Reading

Event Location:        Great Hall, University of Birmingham

Tickets:                £40-£60 available at Eventbrite.com [BOOK HERE](#)

Contacts:              [www.thekalishertrust.org](http://www.thekalishertrust.org)