

## DAVID CANNADINE

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# How to Write the History of Philanthropy in General, and of the Ford Foundation in Particular

### Thursday, 19 April, 6:15 p.m.

In the Thunberg Lecture Hall scas, Linneanum, Thunbergsvägen 2, Uppsala www.swedishcollegium.se

The lecture will be followed by a reception. Prior registration is required. Please contact rsvp@swedishcollegium.se no later than 16 April to sign up.

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### ABOUT DAVID CANNADINE

Sir David Cannadine is Dodge Professor of History at Princeton University, Visiting Professor at the University of Oxford and President of the British Academy. He is also the author of many books, including *The Decline and Fall of the British Aristocracy; Class in Britain; Ornamentalism: How the British Saw Their Empire; Mellon: An American Life; The Undivided Past: Humanity Beyond our Differences* and, most recently, biographies of King George V and Margaret Thatcher.

Sir David is a Trustee of the Wolfson Foundation, the Royal Academy, the Rothschild Archive, Gladstone's Library and the Gordon Brown Archive Trust. He also sits on the Bank of England Banknote Character Advisory Committee and is Vice Chair of the Westminster Abbey Fabric Commission, Vice Chair of the Trustees of Historic Royal Palaces and a Vice President of the Victorian Society. Sir David is the Editor of the Oxford Dictionary of National Biography and Vice Chair of the Past and Present editorial board. He makes frequent appearances on radio and television in the UK. Whilst in residence as a SCAS Fellow, he will begin to write his history of the Ford Foundation.

#### ABSTRACT

I'm in the process of writing the history of the Ford Foundation, which for much of its existence was the largest philanthropy in the western world, and as such an essential component of at least two thirds of what is termed 'the American century'. I shall try to set out some of the general issues in trying to write such histories of such organisations, then look in detail at some of the central and defining episodes in the Foundation's history.