

Laura Calder's Speaking Topics:

THE INVITING LIFE

insights into hosting and homemaking that will change your life

These are difficult times to admit to an interest in the apparently lowly and frivolous topics of hosting and homemaking. But, Laura Calder defends not just the wide-reaching importance of these pursuits, but the importance of approaching them with integrity and intelligence. You'll never host a brunch or scrub down your front steps the same way again.

THE POWER OF HOSPITALITY

reframing the value of hosting

For thousands of years, people have understood the importance of hospitality in every area of life from family to business to community to intercultural relations. So why now has it largely fallen from grace into some sort of dismissed category of inconsequentially lunching ladies? This talk reframes the true value of hosting in the world and shows the many ways we can work it to positive advantage.

HOST-THINK

harnessing the leadership qualities of hosting for personal empowerment

The leadership qualities of great hosting can help us perform better anytime, anywhere. Learn to identify and harness the key traits of a great host to improve how you function in the world, how you're perceived, how you are treated - and the results you get.

POWER-CHARGED SPACES AND PLACES

setting scenes for success

Our environments dramatically influence our moods, productivity, sense of self worth, behaviour, and position in the world. It is essential to learn how to "read" our spaces and places and how to "set the stage" in each so that it's most beneficial to us. From your front entrance to your bedroom, from your office to your favourite neighbourhood haunts, learn how to curate and optimize your work and living spaces and how to create a web of destinations that reflect the story you want to be living.

KING/QUEEN OF THE CASTLE

the true scope and influence of a châtelain(e)

Our houses are like our second layer of skin, and it's vital to be comfortable in them if we want to thrive. At the same time, they are only personal spaces to a degree; they also serve as vital links to the outside world that must remain well-greased in order to support our lives in the best way they can. This talk will give you a new perspective on the meaning of running a house or workspace and on the importance of doing it in a way that creates firm foundations for your other projects, relationships, and dreams.

RECIPES AND REPERTOIRE 101

capturing your food story

For anyone who eats with awareness, recipes hold a special place in our hearts. They are storehouses of memories, ties to the people and places we love - and a tragedy to lose. Perhaps you want to write a cookbook. Maybe you hope to wrangle a cherished recipe out of a friend who has never written it down. Or, possibly you just want to get your own household recipes in order and properly recorded so you can hand them on to the next generation intact. If any of those scenarios hits a nerve, this talk is for you. Learn recipe literary; recipe capturing, testing, writing, and editing; organizing a house repertoire; and how to put together a cookbook that works.

A DIPLOMATIC DEFENSE OF ETIQUETTE

because manners actually do still maketh man

Etiquette today is often regarded with suspicion, and yet human beings are wired to judge each other on the basis of behaviour. It's a question of survival; and whether we like it or not, our success in the world depends on our being able to grasp the intelligence behind social standards and put it to good use. This talk builds a modern case for why etiquette still matters today - at home, in social life, and in business - and how leveraging it can work to your competitive advantage with quite miraculous results.

"Laura Calder's charming voice transforms the idea of making our homes feel more inviting into something that is not only easy and enjoyable but a vital part of our day-to-day happiness."
GRETCHEN RUBIN, author of *The Happiness Project* and *Better Than Before*

The Inviting Life



AN INSPIRATIONAL GUIDE TO HOMEMAKING,
HOSTING and OPENING THE DOOR TO HAPPINESS

Laura Calder

