



2017 Thinkers50 Gala LONDON - 13 November 2017

THE THINKERS50 GALA

Every two years, Thinkers50 hosts a unique event in central London: A gathering of great business minds for a day of debate, discussion and networking, followed by an elegant Gala evening celebrating the very best in management thinking.

The highlights of the Gala, dubbed “The Oscars of Management Thinking” by the *Financial Times*:

- **Announcement of the newest Thinkers50 ranking of the world’s leading management thinkers**
- **Presentation of the Thinkers50 Distinguished Achievement Awards**

Since its launch in 2001, Thinkers50 has established itself as the most influential ranking of its kind.



HISTORIC VENUE

Thinkers50 2017 will be held at the Grand Connaught Rooms, at Covent Garden, in the heart of London.

Originally the Freemasons’ Tavern, the Grand Connaught Rooms combines baroque and art deco styles in a dramatic historic space. The Anti-Slavery Society was founded at the site and the rules of football were first agreed to here by the Football Association.

CONNECT with the world’s leading management thinkers, scholars, publishers and press.

JOIN THE EXCITEMENT

“Who knew management gurus could be so noisy – or so emotional? Gather business academics together in one place and they are more likely to exchange views on core competences or quietly debate the legacy of Peter Drucker. Put them in a banqueting hall and offer them the chance to win an award, though, and they go as mad as a group of middle managers at the Regional Salesperson of the Year gala luncheon!”

Andrew Hill, Financial Times

SPONSOR one of 10 international thought leadership/practitioner awards or host the traditional pre-

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will be held at [The Grand Connaught Rooms](#), London

13 November 2017

9.30-18.00: Debate, presentations, discussion, interviews, networking, filming

19.00-22.30: Cocktails, Gala Dinner, Awards

22.30: Celebration

[GALA TICKETS](#)



event dinner or breakfast. All sponsorships can be customized to meet the needs of individuals and/or organizations.

Join an international community. Among our sponsors and partners:

- Deloitte, Europe
- Fujitsu, Japan
- Google, US
- Haier, China
- IE Business School, Spain
- MCT, Turkey
- Odense & Co, Denmark
- Omnikron, US
- Speakers Associates, UK
- The Growth Faculty, Australia
- The Institute for Competitiveness, India
- The Open University Business School, UK



Clay Christensen of Harvard Business School Ranked #1 2013

WHAT THINKERS ARE SAYING

“It’s the Oscars of Management Thinking. Period. Exclamation point.”

Whitney Johnson, bestselling author, *Disrupt Yourself!*

“I want to thank Des and Stuart for creating this whole movement that Thinkers50 represents. As they have said, ideas truly do change the world. I have seen that with my own eyes all throughout my career. I also believe that management thinking unlocks value in every field, not just business.”

Michael Porter, Harvard Business School

“I love the Thinkers50. And the reason is increasingly in the world of business academics the enforced culture is to speak exclusively to other academics. That’s how you get into the top tier refereed journals. Thinkers50 actually rewards business academics and other business thinkers for speaking to the world of practitioners. We need more of that to balance business academics speaking to business academics. Thinkers50

EVENT DETAILS

8.00-9.30 Thinkers’ Breakfast
(invitation only)

9.30-10.00 Registration
and welcome coffee

**10.00-11.00 The State of Ideas
and Research in the Post-Truth
World – Panel discussion**

11.00-11.15 Coffee

**11.15-12.30 Technology and
Business Education: The Next
Frontiers – Panel Discussion**

12.30-13.30 Lunch

13.30-14.30 Radar Showcase
Selected Radar Thinkers provide
10 minute presentations on
their work

14.30-14.45 Break

14.45-16.00 Need to Know
Short and snappy sessions on
key aspects of the thought
leadership world – from
publishing online to being
featured in HBR, from TED Talks
to the latest trends in the
international speaker market

16.00-18.00 Media interviews,
filming by T50 video team, and
concurrent networking tea
(time to change for the evening,
and check messages)

19.00-20.00 Cocktail Reception

**20.00-22.30 Gala Dinner and
Awards Ceremony**
hosted by Thinkers50 founders
Stuart Crainer and Des Dearlove

22.30 Celebratory toasts
in the Thinkers’ Bar

helps encourage that and that is great for the world of business and it will actually help the business academy by drawing them out into a conversation with practitioners. Without Thinkers50 the imbalance would be much greater so it plays a very important role.”

Roger Martin, former dean, Rotman school of Management

“What excites me about Thinkers50 is it is a group looking for new approaches and celebrating the novel, the ways we are pushing forward the leading edge of our organizations today. We spend more of our time in our companies than anywhere else in our lives. If we can find better approaches to managing these organizations that’s going to change lives and ultimately change the world. Organizations are the most powerful force on this planet and if we can manage them better we can do a lot of good in the world. Organizations like this that are pushing that edge and celebrating advances inspire me.

Brian Robertson, Founder, HolacracyOne

“If a tree falls in the forest and no one hears it, does it make a sound? If we have ideas, but no one uses them or finds value in them, do they matter? Thinkers50 is a validation that ideas are at least heard by and maybe help others.”

Dave Ulrich, HR guru

IN 2017, DISTINGUISHED ACHIEVEMENT WILL BE RECOGNIZED IN THESE AWARD CATEGORIES:

- **Breakthrough Idea**
- **Digital Thinking**
- **Future Thinker**
- **Ideas into Practice**
- **Innovation**
- **Leadership**
- **Strategy**
- **Talent**

RANKING & AWARD
[NOMINATIONS](#)

MEDIA COVERAGE

Thinkers50 attracts media coverage from throughout the world. In 2015, journalists from China, Korea, Germany, France, the US and the UK attended the event.

Among many others, the ranking and awards have been featured by:

- Business Insider, US
- China Daily, China
- China National TV News, China
- Chosun Biz, Korea
- Conference Board Review, US
- Forbes, US
- Harvard Business Review, China
- Harvard Business Review, US
- Les Echos, France
- Manager Seminare, Germany
- Smart Manager, India
- The Times of India, India
- The Times, UK
- Toronto Mail, Canada
- Vedomosti, Russia
- Washington Post, US

CONTACT

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GALA [TICKETS ARE AVAILABLE](#) ON THE THINKERS50 WEBSITE