



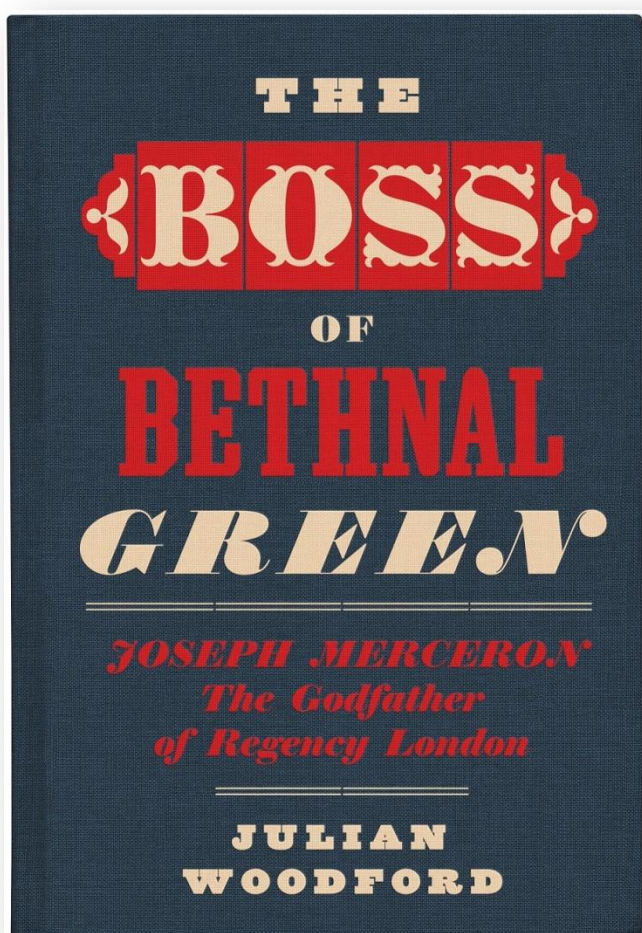
THE BOSS OF BETHNAL GREEN

Joseph Merceron: The Godfather of Regency London

JULIAN WOODFORD

3rd November 2016 • £20 CLOTHBOUND HARDBACK • SPITALFIELDS LIFE BOOKS

MEET THE REGENCY OVERLORD WHO SET THE TEMPLATE FOR
CRIMINALITY AND CORRUPT POLITICS IN THE EAST END



In his compelling and eloquent new biography, Julian Woodford uncovers the breathtakingly appalling life of Joseph Merceron (1764 -1839), gangster and corrupt magistrate, who accumulated enormous wealth while presiding over the creation of the poorest slums in Georgian London.

Ruling Spitalfields and Bethnal Green from his house in Brick Lane for half a century, he gave the East End the bad reputation that still lingers today, and the exploits of recent gangsters and political miscreants pale by comparison with Joseph Merceron's staggering violence and ruthlessness.

Julian Woodford's shrewd biography - the first on this subject - is essential reading for all those interested in eighteenth century London, anyone fascinated by the capital's criminal history and everyone who loves an exciting true story well told.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR: JULIAN WOODFORD was born in Burton-upon-Trent in 1963. Since graduating from the University of York he has combined a City career with a passion for London's history. *The Boss of Bethnal Green* is his first book. Follow him @HistoryLondon.

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