



New Daughters of Africa

Saturday 6 July, 19:00 – 20:30

£15 / £12 / £10 / £9 for RAS Members [BOOK NOW](#)

Twenty-five years after Margaret Busby's landmark anthology, *Daughters of Africa*, this new companion volume brings together the work of over 200 writers from across the globe. Bernardine Evaristo, Nadifa Mohamed, Ayòbámi Adébáyò and Namwali Serpell join Margaret Busby in conversation to celebrate the global sweep, diversity and extraordinary literary achievements of Black women writers at Africa Writes 2019.

Photo: Margaret Busby photographed by Adrian Pope



AFRICA WRITES

FRIDAY 5th - SUNDAY 7th JULY 2019

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ARTS COUNCIL ENGLAND



Our Bodies Speak Poetry

Friday 5 July, 19:00 – 21:00 (Doors: 18:30)

£12 / £8 / £7.20 for RAS Members [BOOK NOW](#)

An evening of intergenerational poetry, storytelling and movement exploring the body as a site of power, possibilities and resistance. With Raymond Antrabus, Adesola Akinyele, Caleb Femi, Jessica Horn, Miss Jacqui, Fatimah Kelleher, Nick Makoha, Sitawa Namwalie, Koleka Putuma and Belinda Zhawi. Music curated by BORN::FREE. The event will be BSL interpreted.

Photo: Koleka Putuma photographed by Andy Mkosi

About Africa Writes

An exciting summer weekend of literature. Now in its eighth year, Africa Writes is the Royal African Society's annual literature festival in association with the British Library. Whether you are a savvy enthusiast or curious to explore new writing and learn more about Africa and literature, Africa Writes will be a rich, entertaining and exciting experience for you! Please purchase your tickets online via bit.ly/AW2019Tickets or call the British Library box office: 01937 546546

Venue

The British Library is the national library of the United Kingdom and one of the world's greatest research libraries. Africa Writes events take place in the Knowledge Centre and the Learning Centre at the Library.

Partners

The festival has been made possible through the financial support of Arts Council England, British Council and the Miles Morland Foundation, and the partnership of these institutions and organisations: British Library, AFREADA, Africa Book Centre, Africa in Words, Afrikult, Book Love, Books & Rhymes, bookshy books, BORN::FREE, Canongate, Cassava Republic, Embassy of Angola, Hurst, Huza Press, Igbo Conference, Kinna Reads, Little, Brown and Company, Mayor of London, Myriad, New Beacon Books, New Perspectives, October Gallery, One Dance UK, One World Publications, Royal Society of Literature, Shubbak Festival, Storymoja, Penguin Random House, Taste Black History, The Caine Prize for African Writing, The Literary Consultancy, Trapeze, Writivism and 4th Estate.

Chigozie Obioma in conversation and *The Fishermen*

Sunday 7 July, 15:30 – 18:30

£20 / £18 / £15 / £12 for RAS Members [BOOK NOW](#)

Photo: Chigozie Obioma photographed by Jason Keith

FESTIVAL PROGRAMME

An exciting summer weekend of contemporary African literature and thought. Unless otherwise stated, the sessions below are included in the day tickets and weekend passes, available to buy through our website. Members of Royal African Society receive a 40% discount on all tickets. **Join today at www.royalafricansociety.org**

SATURDAY 6 JULY

Our Daughters' Fathers
11:15 - 12:30

Theresa Lola, Keisha Thompson, Sitawa Namwalie & Fatimah Kelleher discuss writing daughters' relationships with their fathers & grandfathers.

Africa in London
11:30 - 12:15

Exploring the thoughts and experiences of Africans living in London today through sounds and conversation in partnership with Mayor of London and the British Council.

Africa Writes Young Voices Education Surgery
11:15 - 12:45

Joanna Brown shares Africa Writes: Young Voices booklists and creative teaching ideas for primary and secondary school classrooms.

SAFE: Black British Men
12:30 - 13:45

Taking up space with their own words. Discussion with Derek Owusu, Yomi Sode, Okechukwu Nzelu and Alex Wheatle. **Open to all. Aimed at young people 16+.**

The Old Drift by Namwali Serpell
12:45 - 13:15

Launch of Serpell's debut epic set in Zambia. A playful panorama of history, fairy-tale, romance & sci-fi. With Kayo Chingonyi.

Family Storytelling Workshops
13:00 - 14:00 (ages 2-5)
15:00 - 16:00 (ages 6-11)

FREE
Interactive storytelling workshops for families: Storytime with Book Love and A Lesson in Honesty – Jaadehl with Robtel Pailey.

Afropean by Johny Pitts & A Stranger's Pose by Emmanuel Iduma
13:30 - 14:30

Double book launch exploring identity and crossing borders in Europe & Africa through photography and prose.

Meet the Publishers: YA Edition
14:00 - 15:15

Working on a novel, non-fiction or comic for Young Adult readers? Come and pitch your work to industry experts & hear insider tips.

Poetry & Mathematics: Workshop for Young Adults
14:15 - 15:45

Create poetry out of mathematical data: find inspiration from unlikely places with Keisha Thompson. Ages 16+.
Sign-up: bit.ly/AW2019YoungAdults

Stepping Into Our Own
14:45 - 16:00

What does it mean to be true to self? Queer writers discuss the courage and vulnerability of forging one's own path through writing. With Koleka Putuma, Okechukwu Nzelu, Olumide Popoola, Chelle O.T & Siana Bangura.

Reimagining the Gods
15:30 - 16:45

Interactive discussion on ancient African deities in contemporary spoken, written and illustrative literature with Inua Ellams, Sitawa Namwalie, Louisa Egbunike and Marion Wallace.

Manchester Happened by Jennifer Nansubuga Makumbi
16:15 - 16:45

Launch of dazzling collection on belonging & identity between Manchester and Kampala from the award-winning author of *Kintu*. With Zaahida Nabagereka.

Angolan Literature 101
16:15 - 17:30

Curious about African Lusophone literature? Join Kalaf Epalanga and Yovanka Paquete Perdigao to uncover a wealth of stories from Angolan writers.

2019 Caine Prize Conversation
17:00 - 18:15

Meet shortlisted writers Ngwah-Mho-Nana Nkweti, Meron Hadero, Cherrie Kandie, Lesley Nneka Arimah and Immanuel Tochukwu Okafor for the Caine Prize, which marks its twentieth award in 2019.

BOOK YOUR TICKETS

Weekend Pass - £20

Saturday Day Ticket: £15

Sunday Day Ticket: £12

Book online at:
bit.ly/AW2019Ticketsor call BL box office:
01937 546546**Advance booking is strongly recommended!****New Daughters of Africa**
19:00 - 20:30 | £15 - £9

BOOK NOW
Bernardine Evaristo, Nadifa Mohamed, Ayòbámi Adébayo and Namwali Serpell join Margaret Busby in conversation to celebrate landmark anthology. **Info overleaf.**

SUNDAY 7 JULY

Love & Sickle Cell in Stay With Me
11:00 - 11:45

Ayòbámi Adébayó discusses love, desire and the devastating consequences of sickle cell in her critically acclaimed debut, with Chibundu Onuzo.

Literary Innovation in East Africa
11:15 - 12:15

Showcasing some of the most exciting literary initiatives and collaborations in East Africa today, featuring Sitawa Namwalie, Huza Press, Writivism & others.

German Calendar, No December by Sylvia Ofilé
12:00 - 12:30

UK launch of Ofilé's graphic novel set between Nigeria and Germany. Exploring mixed identity and migration with humanity and humour. With Olumide Popoola.

Not My Time To Die by Yolande Mukagasana
12:30 - 13:00

Launch of Mukagasana's moving memoir, one of the first civilian testimonies of the 1994 genocide against the Tutsi in Rwanda, now translated into English for Kwibuka25.

The Reading Salon
13:15 - 14:15

Discover an imaginative space of writers reading from their work. Come, sit and listen to the wonderful depth and breadth of African literature today. With Michael Donkor, Sandra Jackson-Opoku & others.

African Books to Inspire: Mappings of Masculinity
13:30 - 14:45

Ayòbámi Adébayó, Zahrah Nesbitt-Ahmed, Sulaiman Addonia and Peter Kimani on books that have inspired and critiqued notions of masculinity.

Translating Comic Strips from North Africa
13:00 - 14:30

A beginner's introduction to the art of translation; learn the process of transforming comic strips into English with Nariman Youssef and Sawad Hussain.

Chigozie Obioma in conversation
15:30 - 18:30 | £20 - £12

BOOK NOW
Man Booker shortlisted novelist discusses Igbo cosmology and ordinary lives with Irenosen Okojie. Opens with staged reading of *The Fishermen* presented by New Perspectives.

Interrogating the Text: Workshop for Book Reviewers and Critics
11:00 - 12:30

What constitutes a 'good' and 'objective' review? Hone your inner critic with Sarah Ozo-Irabor (Books & Rhymes).

Everything You Have Told Me Is True by Mary Harper
12:45 - 13:15

The BBC Africa Editor's intimate account of everyday life under, within and alongside notorious terrorist group Al Shabaab in Somalia, with Idil Osman.

Programme details are correct at time of printing.

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www.africawrites.org