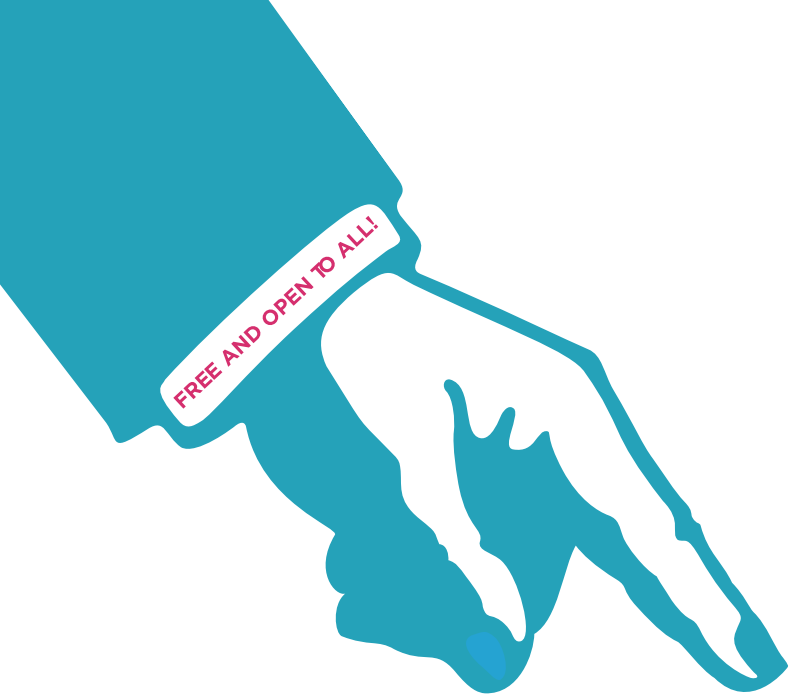


NGC Bocas Lit Fest 6

23 APRIL TO 01 MAY 2016

PORT of SPAIN, TRINIDAD

FESTIVAL GUIDE



From Energy to Industry

In the right hands, oil and natural gas are more than natural resources. They are a foundation. As prime architects of Trinidad and Tobago's natural gas-based energy sector, The National Gas Company of Trinidad and Tobago Limited (NGC) has helped build an industrial powerhouse from our nation's raw hydrocarbon wealth. Since 1975, we have pioneered a model of natural gas-based utilisation that adds maximum value for the benefit of the nation and its people. And though every nation is different, the principles and practices that guide our operations can be applied across the globe.



NGC is an integrated group of companies with an asset base of over US$6 billion, making it one of the largest companies in the Caribbean and Latin America by assets. Strategically positioned in the midstream of the local natural gas value chain, its customers include power generation, global scale petrochemical and iron and steel plants, and a wide range of light manufacturing and commercial enterprises. Our credit rating is A- from Standard and Poor's, Baa2 from Moody's and AAA from CariCris rating agencies.



NGC is engaged in natural gas-based development and merchandising; natural gas compression, aggregation, transportation and distribution; natural gas pipeline construction, operation and maintenance; Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) production, marketing and shipping; offshore oil and gas production; development and management of industrial sites and port and marine infrastructure; aggregation, fractionation and marketing of Natural Gas Liquids (NGLs); and marketing of Compressed Natural Gas (CNG).



Through our strategic approach, we have successfully ensured both the profitability of the gas-based energy sector, as well as contributed to the social, economic and industrial development of Trinidad and Tobago. Through our investments, strategic partnerships and pioneering gas-pricing model, we have made a tremendous impact on the country's natural gas sector and economy.



We are dedicated to sustainability, community and Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR). NGC's CSR programme is one of the most extensive in the nation. We focus on Sports, Civic Life, Empowerment and the Environment, the latter being a 10-year 'no net loss' reforestation programme.

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THE NATIONAL GAS COMPANY
OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO LIMITED

National Energy
CORPORATION OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

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THE NGC GROUP OF COMPANIES

WELCOME

2016 is a special year for literature lovers.

Two of the world's most beloved writers, William Shakespeare and Miguel de Cervantes, died 400 years ago, and were buried just days apart. Did they ever meet, or even think that centuries later millions of us would be reading their work as if it were of our time?

We are very pleased to join the rest of the English and Spanish-speaking world to celebrate these two literary greats and bring them together at this year's festival. We have put together an eclectic programme of events, including getting you actively engaged in celebrating these giants of literature. Some of it needs preparation, so check our website and the relevant pages of this Guide.

Bringing English and Spanish literature together takes another unique turn at Bocas 2016, with CineLit, the first Latin American and Caribbean Literary Film Festival, starting on 23 April and continuing throughout the festival. Few of these films have been seen in T&T before, among them some international film award winners, based on books and the lives of the incredible people who wrote them.

The celebrations continue with events commemorating 200 years of the Merikins, 125 years of cricket with the Queen's Park Cricket Club, 95 years of Wilson Harris, 50 years of *Wide Sargasso Sea*, 60 years of the Mighty Sparrow's "Jean and Dinah" and his brilliant career, and 40 years of the art of Trini talk with Paul Keens-Douglas. We rediscover the work of Victor Questel and Phyllis Shand Allfrey and we highlight the new in conversations, launches, and prizes.

Children have a wonderful, special day at the Queen's Park Oval and lots of activities at the Children's Library. Young Adults have three new Burt Award-winning books to get their teeth into, while Writers First is dedicated to debut and self-published writers. Crime and speculative fiction are on the agenda again, as two exciting literary genres drawing Caribbean writers. We explore the *Ramayana*, that epic of world literature, and discover a Caribbean epic, *Hiroona*.

And there's more in the mix — a host of the very best Caribbean writers, new ideas, debate about such hot themes as calypso and human rights, workshops. The Bocas oral tradition features the Bookman, Black Indians, Midnight Robbers, an extempo duel, and adult storytelling. Spoken word goes to the Breakfast Shed, so catch the poets there. And this year the National Library team is offering library tours and advice on caring for your literary gems.

The Bocas team wishes you a happy festival.

Marina Salandy-Brown
Founder and Festival Director

NGC Bocas Lit Fest 6

23 APRIL TO 01 MAY 2016

PORT OF SPAIN, TRINIDAD

SPONSORS & PARTNERS

The NGC Bocas Lit Fest and our year-round programmes for writers and readers would not be possible without the support of our generous sponsors and partners. We're especially grateful to the National Gas Company of Trinidad and Tobago, title sponsor of Trinidad and Tobago's annual literary festival.

The Bocas Lit Fest is a non-profit organisation entirely funded by private sector and public sector sponsorship. Thanks to all our sponsors and partners.



THE NATIONAL GAS COMPANY OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO LIMITED

INSPIRED WORKS, CAPTIVATING STORIES

NGC Bocas Lit Fest 6
23 APRIL TO 01 MAY 2016
PORT OF SPAIN, TRINIDAD

We are a nation of storytellers. There are stories in our songs: our calypso, soca, and chutney. There are stories in our mas, our drama, and our dance. We engage in word-play outside of eateries and on street corners, and in chance meetings at the marketplace. And who's to say that a well-timed googly from one of our top cricketers isn't poetry in motion?

As a Trinbagonian company born and bred, The National Gas Company of Trinidad and Tobago Limited (NGC) recognises, elevates, and celebrates the innate skills of our storytellers, our writers, poets, and dramatists, through our ongoing sponsorship of the NGC Bocas Lit Fest.

"NGC Bocas", as it is fondly known, gives a voice to local — and even regional — authors, writers, spoken word artists, and more. This premier literary event is eagerly anticipated by book-lovers, writers, and students who comprise an increasingly global audience.

The Festival's high standards of excellence are applied to every element of its packed schedule, from workshops and guest presentations to live readings and book displays. The children are specially catered for, with the encouragement of the Festival's mascot, Dragonzilla, ensuring that even in the digital age the next generation will appreciate the joys to be found between the covers of a book.

NGC is thrilled to play such an important role in an event that excites and inspires thousands of readers and writers alike. The rewards for the writers and artists are not just creative but financial, as the Festival provides valuable business opportunities for members of the creative sector.

NGC's title sponsorship of the NGC Bocas Lit Fest is a vital element of our Corporate Social Responsibility programme, through which we support local development in areas such as sport, culture, education and training, community development and enhancement, environmental awareness, and youth empowerment. We are grateful to the Festival organisers for the opportunity to partner in such a prestigious and dynamic project.

A very happy "NGC Bocas" to one and all!

BASICS

Except where otherwise indicated, daytime events take place in the National Library and Old Fire Station on Abercromby Street and Hart Street, and are free of charge. Evening events take place at venues around the city.

The foldout Festival programme gives full details of all events, venues, dates, and times.

DATES AND TIMES

Saturday 23 April–Sunday 1 May, CineLit: Latin American and Caribbean Literary Film Festival. *See separate programme*
Wednesday 27 April, 10 am–4 pm / Queen's Park Oval 9 am–6 pm
Thursday 28 April, 9 am–9 pm
Friday 29 April, 10 am–10 pm
Saturday 30 April, 10 am–8.30 pm
Sunday 1 May, 10 am–8 pm

GETTING TO THE FESTIVAL AND PARKING

Shuttle service Wednesday to Friday from the Queen's Park Savannah Grand Stand to the National Library, Abercromby Street. Grand Stand parking is free and secure. Paid parking is accessible in downtown Port of Spain during weekdays. Street parking is free weekends and after 6 pm weekdays. See our website for shuttle schedule. In partnership with the NCC.

ONLINE

Listen to live audio streaming of all events in the Old Fire Station at *mixlr.com/bocaslitfest*. Support for festival wi-fi and livestreaming is provided by Flow.

READINGS AND PANELS

Readings with Q&As and panel discussions take place in the Old Fire Station and the AV Room on the lower ground floor of the National Library, and the 2nd Floor Seminar Room.

BOOK SIGNINGS

After readings, talks, and discussions, authors will be signing copies of their books at designated tables.

WORKSHOPS

These take place in the 1st Floor Seminar Room of the National Library.

FILMS

Screenings are free in the AV Room on the lower ground floor of the National Library.

PERFORMANCE AND OPEN MIC

The Library Arcades on Abercromby Street and Hart Street are the venues for these popular sessions. There will also be lunchtime weekday performances at The Breakfast Shed café on the Port of Spain waterfront.

NGC CHILDREN'S BOCAS LIT FEST

Children's events take place at the Queen's Park Oval on Wednesday 27 April and in the Children's Library on the ground floor of the National Library, Thursday to Saturday.

BOOKSELLERS AND BOOTHS

Books by participating authors and others are on sale from official booksellers — Paper Based Bookshop, Metropolitan Book Suppliers, RIK Services Ltd, and Nigel R. Khan Booksellers — alongside booths from Hodder Education, the Caribbean Book Foundation, and NALIS on the ground floor of the Library.

EATING AND DRINKING

Beverages, sandwiches, and pastries are available from Rituals on the ground floor of the library and full meal service is available on the ground floor of the Old Fire Station (entry through patio area).

T-SHIRTS AND BAGS

2016 NGC Bocas Lit Fest t-shirts and bags are on sale at the Festival Reception desk in the Library Rotunda.

HASHTAG

Tweeting, blogging, or posting photos from the Festival? Our 2016 hashtag is #bocas2016.

FEEDBACK

We want your feedback! Please leave completed forms in the feedback box at the Festival Reception desk, or email your feedback to us at info@bocaslitfest.com.

FRIENDS OF BOCAS

Sign up for our mailing list via our website so we can keep you informed about our events!



- Free access to NALIS website for local information
- Free Internet access at all libraries
- Free wireless connection in and outside of libraries
- Free access to research databases
- Free services to the visually impaired
- Free library membership
- Free access to books and other library material
- Free participation in literacy and other programmes
- Free access to NALIS eBooks

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FOOD & BEVERAGE SERVICE WILL BE SERVED AT THE HISTORIC OLD FIRE STATION ON THE EXISTING PREMISE AT NALIS

OUR MENU

THURSDAY • ASIAN

FRIDAY • EAST INDIAN

SATURDAY • ITALIAN

SUNDAY • CREOLE

28TH APRIL – 1ST MAY 2016

Taste our caribbean flavours daily 9:30am to 6pm daily and priced at TTD$50.
An a la carte menu is also available.

Rituals Coffee House
Grounds for enjoyment.

FESTIVAL HIGHLIGHTS

A celebration of the living legacies of **Shakespeare and Cervantes**, considered the greatest writers in the English and Spanish languages, through film, readings, performance, and discussions. *See page 26*

CineLit: the first Latin American and Caribbean Literary Film Festival. For the first time in T&T, nine days of films based on books and their great authors, from Cervantes to García Márquez, including film classics *Black Orpheus* and *Like Water for Chocolate*.
Saturday 23 April to Sunday 1 May • AV Room

Writers First, a special day of events for budding and debut writers, including an afternoon of free seminars and recognition of T&T's 2014–2015 first-time authors by our partner NALIS. *See page 22*

A day of events for adults and children at the landmark Queen's Park Oval, commemorating the **125th anniversary of the Queen's Park Cricket Club**.

Our official Festival Tribute, celebrating the provocative legacy of **the Mighty Sparrow**, "Calypso King of the World," and the 60th anniversary of his breakthrough song "Jean and Dinah."
Thursday 28 April, 9–10 am
• Old Fire Station

Announcing the winner of the **2016 CODE's Burt Award for Caribbean Literature**, recognising Caribbean writers of young adult literature.
Friday 29 April, 6–8 pm
• Old Fire Station
By invitation

Announcing the winner of the **2016 OCM Bocas Prize for Caribbean Literature**, the leading award for Caribbean writers of poetry, fiction, and non-fiction; and the presentation of the **2016 Bocas Henry Swanzy Award** to publisher and editor Jeremy Poynting of Peepal Tree Press.
Saturday 30 April, 7.15 pm
• Old Fire Station
By invitation

Tributes to literary giants from the Caribbean, to mark the 95th birthday of Guyanese writer **Wilson Harris** and the 50th anniversary of Dominican **Jean Rhys**'s landmark novel *Wide Sargasso Sea*. Plus the long-awaited launch of the *Collected Poems* of late Trinidadian poet **Victor Questel**, and a special celebration of master storyteller **Paul Keens-Douglas**.

Where there's a Will: a rollicking Friday-night jam welcoming William Shakespeare to Port of Spain, with music, readings by T&T writers, and a sung duel between two masters of extempo.
Friday 29 April, 8–10 pm
• Big Black Box, Murray Street

River of Freedom, marking the 200th anniversary of the arrival of the Merikins in T&T with a musical performance, film screening, discussion, and book launch.
Saturday 30 April, 4–7 pm
• AV Room and Holy Trinity Cathedral
Supported by the US Embassy

Sunday Launch, a festival tradition, featuring the debuts of three new books of fiction, poetry, and non-fiction by writers from Trinidad.
Sunday 1 May, 1–4 pm
• Old Fire Station

The hotly contested finals of the **First Citizens National Poetry Slam**, where the most talented spoken word poets compete for a top prize of TT$20,000.
Sunday 1 May, 6–8 pm
• Globe Theatre, Park Street

Plus a packed programme of readings, discussions, and performances!

AUTHORS, SPEAKERS, PERFORMERS

Michelene Adams returned to Trinidad in 2010 after 27 years abroad. She teaches English at UTT's Centre for Education Programmes.

Merissa Aguilleira, Trinidadian right-handed batsman, plays for the West Indies women's cricket team and is a former captain.

Ibrahim Ahmad is senior editor at Akashic Books, an award-winning Brooklyn-based independent publishing company.

Ararimeh Aiyejina is a Trinidadian writer, featured in the anthology *New Worlds, Old Ways: Speculative Tales from the Caribbean.*

Ian F. Ali teaches English at the secondary level. He is currently working on his second novel, a sequel to his as yet unpublished first.

Kurt Allen, a.k.a. "The Last Bardjohn of Calypso", is the only calypsonian who has been crowned International Soca Monarch, National Calypso Monarch, and Young King.

June Aming's work has appeared in *Moving Right Along, The Caribbean Writer*, and elsewhere. She was shortlisted for the 2014 *Small Axe* Literary Competition.

A.S.F. Andrews, writer, musician, and academic, is fulfilling his goal of re-inventing the Caribbean intellectual. He has been in love with words for as long as he can remember.

Melanie Archer is a freelance graphic designer, and co-editor of Robert & Christopher Publishers. She also writes on art, design, and culture.

Claire Armitstead is books editor for the UK *Guardian* and *Observer*. She presents the weekly *Guardian* books podcast and is a regular commentator on radio, and at live events across the UK and internationally.

Carolina Arrieta Castillo is a visiting lecturer in Spanish at UWI, St. Augustine, and a doctoral candidate in applied linguistics at the University of Salamanca.

Tracy Assing is a writer, editor and filmmaker. Her documentary *The Amerindians* is the first film made from the perspective of Trinidad and Tobago's indigenous community.

Andre Bagoo is a Trinidadian poet and journalist. Author of two books of poems: *Trick Vessels* (2012) and *Burn* (2015).

elisha efua bartels is a Trinidadian writer, editor, teacher, performer, and director. Formerly based in Washington, DC, she performed there with the Washington Shakespeare Company.

Ty N. Batson's crime thriller *Mr Big* (2010) remained on the Trinidad and Tobago bestsellers list for over ten weeks. He is currently working on the sequel.

Gerard Besson is a Trinidadian historian, writer, and founder of Paria Publishing. His latest novel is *Roume de St. Laurent: A Memoir.*

Reginald Dwayne Betts is the author of three books. His latest is the poetry collection *Bastards of the Reagan Era. (In partnership with the US Embassy)*

Rhoda Bharath is a Trinidadian author who teaches and blogs about politics and culture. Her debut collection of short stories, *The Ten Day's Executive*, was published in 2015.

Jacqueline Bishop, born in Jamaica, is a photographer, painter, and writer. She teaches at New York University. Her latest book *The Gymnast & Other Positions*, is winner of the 2016 OCM Bocas Prize, non-fiction category.

Dionne Brand is a renowned poet, novelist, and essayist. She was Poet Laureate of the City of Toronto, 2009–2012. Her most recent novel, *Love Enough,* was nominated in 2015 for the Trillium Book Award. She is the chief judge of the 2016 OCM Bocas Prize for Caribbean Literature.



"Youth Is Above All A Collection Of Possibilities " - Albert Camus

First Citizens continues to sponsor development programmes

Each child has the potential for greatness. All we need is to give them a push in the right direction and let them run free.

First Citizens

Bridget Brereton is Professor Emerita of history at UWI, St. Augustine, and author of *Race Relations in Colonial Trinidad* and *A History of Modern Trinidad*, among other books.

Stephen Brown is a qualified educator with a passion for creativity and creative learning.

Miguel Browne, storyteller, dialect poet, rhythm rhymer, Talk Tent star, and history teacher, is a popular performer of long standing.

Vahni Capildeo is a Trinidadian writer based in the UK. She has published four poetry collections, most recently *Measures of Expatriation*, shortlisted for the 2015 T.S. Eliot Prize.

Michael Cherrie, actor, drama coach, and UTT lecturer, won a Cacique Award in 1994 for his performance in Derek Walcott's *Joker of Seville*. His work has taken him to the USA, UK, Canada, and around the Caribbean.

David Codling is the British Council Regional Arts Director, Americas. The interplay between the arts, politics, and social issues is a constant feature of his work.

Nikki Crosby is a popular broadcaster, stand-up comedienne and a multiple Cacique Award winner for her work in theatre.

Martin Daly is a Senior Counsel of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago and a former independent senator. *The Daly Commentaries* is a collection of the best of his *Trinidad Express* columns, spanning 2002 to 2015.

J. Michael Dash, born in Trinidad, has worked extensively on Haitian and French Caribbean writers. His books include *Literature and Ideology in Haiti*, and *Haiti and the United States*, as well as English translations of Glissant.

Tishani Doshi is an Indian writer of poetry and fiction. Her first book, *Countries of the Body*, won the Forward Prize for Best First Collection. Her latest is *The Adulterous Citizen*, poems, stories and essays.

Elspeth Duncan is a published writer (Daisy Chain, 2011 and Tobago Peeps, 2015), Kundalini Yoga instructor, photographer, musician, and restauranteur.

Summer Edward, poet, writer and artist, is the founder and managing editor of *Anansesem* Caribbean children's literature e-zine. Her fiction is published in the anthology *New Worlds, Old Ways: Speculative Tales from the Caribbean*.

Garfield Ellis is the Jamaican author of six books, most recently *The Angels' Share*. He is a two-time winner of Jamaica's Una Marson Prize, and the Canute A. Brodhurst prize for Fiction.

Ramabai Espinet was born in Trinidad and lives in Toronto. She is an academic, writer, and critic. Her books include the novel *The Swinging Bridge* and the poetry collection *Nuclear Seasons.*

Sonia Farmer is a Bahamian writer who uses the crafts of bookbinding, letterpress printing, and printmaking. She is the founder of Poinciana Paper Press, based in Nassau. She won the 2011 poetry prize in the *Small Axe* Literary Competition.

Andrew Fitt is an artist whose account of his life with cerebral palsy was published in 2015.

Danielle Fraser has served as the Library Conservator and the Head of the Preservation and Conservation (PAC) Laboratory at the Heritage Library Division, NALIS, since 2009.

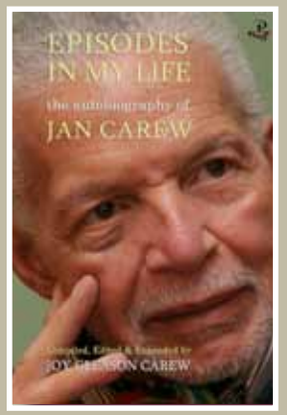
Debbie Goodman is Manager, Corporate Communications, at the National Library and Information System Authority (NALIS).

Marsha Gomes-McKie is the Founder of the Caribbean Books Foundation and the Regional Advisor for the Caribbean South Chapter of the Society of Children Book Writers and Illustrators. She is also the author of an illustrated children's book series.

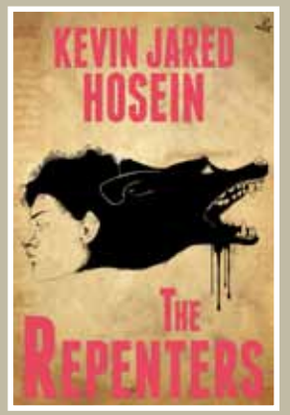
Tony Hall is an award-winning Trinidadian playwright, screenwriter, actor and director. His play *Jean and Dinah* (1994) is a critically acclaimed work in West Indian theatre.

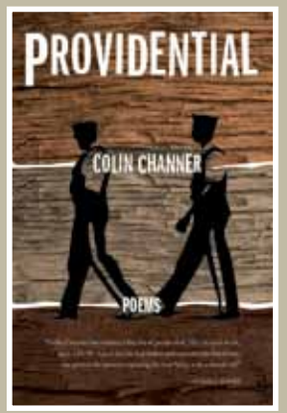
Darlington Henry has been a prominent figure in Black Indian mas for over 50 years. He was long associated with the legendary Narie Apro. He still portrays this mas every year as a member of Warriors of Hurracan.

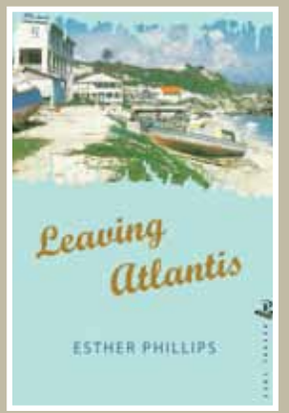
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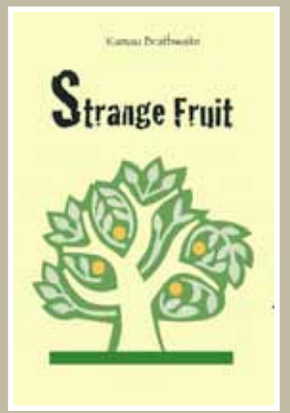




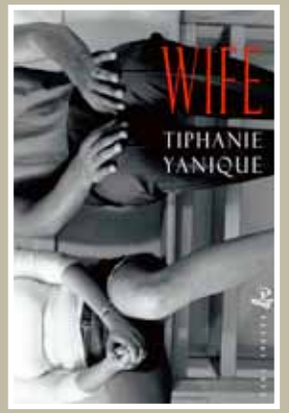


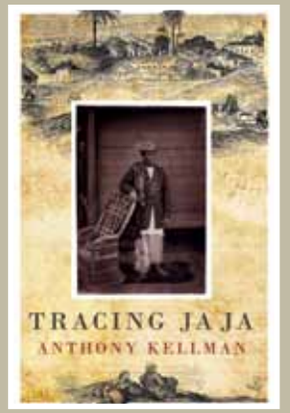












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Kevin Jared Hosein, born in Trinidad and Tobago, was the winner of the 2015 Commonwealth Short Story Prize. He is featured in the anthology *New Worlds, Old Ways: Speculative Tales from the Caribbean.* His novel *The Repenters* is launched at this year's festival.

Riyad Insanally has been the OAS Representative in Trinidad and Tobago since 2008. Prior to his appointment, he was an Adviser to the OAS Assistant Secretary General in Washington, DC.

Rikki Jai is a Trinidadian chutney soca artiste. He has won Chutney Soca Monarch a record-breaking six times.

Marlon James was born in Jamaica in 1970 and is author of three novels. His most recent, *A Brief History of Seven Killings*, won the 2015 Man Booker Prize, the American Book Award, the OCM Bocas Prize for Caribbean Fiction, and many others.

Barbara Jenkins is a Trinidadian writer, author of the short fiction collection *Sic Transit Wagon*. Her work has won her many awards including the 2013 Hollick Arvon Caribbean Writers Prize.

Sylvan Joseph plays the traditional Carnival character of the Bookman.

Caitlyn Kamminga teaches the double bass at the University of Trinidad and Tobago. She is the librettist for *River of Freedom,* which she will be performing with her fellow UTT musicians at the festival.

Paul Keens-Douglas is an actor, author, and storyteller. A leading exponent of Caribbean oral traditions, he is founder/producer of the annual Tim Tim Storytelling Show and the Carnival Talk Tent. He holds the Zora Neale Hurston Award, the Caribbean American Intercultural Organisation Award, and the Beryl McBurnie Foundation for the Arts Award.

Sterling A.C. Kent, a.k.a. **Gamma Ghost**, has been writing and performing as a lyricist and vocalist since 1998.

Anu Lakhan is a writer and editorial triage consultant. She writes about books and food. She facilitated a writing course at UWI, St Augustine, for eight years.

Barbara Lalla, Professor Emeritus of Language and Literature, UWI, St Augustine, is the author of three novels, *Uncle Brother, Cascade* and *Arch of Fire.*

John Robert Lee is a St. Lucian writer and cultural archivist who has published several collections of poetry, most recently *City Remembrances* (2016).

Nell Leyshon is a British novelist and playwright, author of four novels, most recently *Memoirs of a Dipper* (2015).

Anna Levi is an MFA student at UWI, St. Augustine. Her 2016 debut novel is *Madinah Girl.*

Alscess Lewis-Brown is the editor in chief of the literary journal *The Caribbean Writer*, and an educator and children's author from the US Virgin Islands
.

Ayanna Gillian Lloyd is a fiction and creative non-fiction writer from Trinidad and Tobago. Her work has shortlisted for the *Small Axe* Literary Competition and the *Wasafiri* New Writing Prize. She is a consulting fiction editor of *Moko* magazine.

Karen Lord, Barbadian author, is known for her multiple-award-winning novels *Redemption in Indigo* and *The Best of All Possible Worlds*. She is the editor of the anthology *New Worlds, Old Ways: Speculative Tales from the Caribbean*.

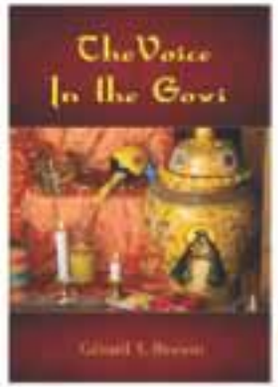
Che Lovelace is a Trinidadian artist who has shown his work in numerous local and international exhibitions.

Earl Lovelace is a Trinidadian writer. His books include the classics *The Dragon Can't Dance*, and *Salt*. His novel *Is Just a Movie* won the 2012 OCM Bocas Prize for Caribbean Literature.

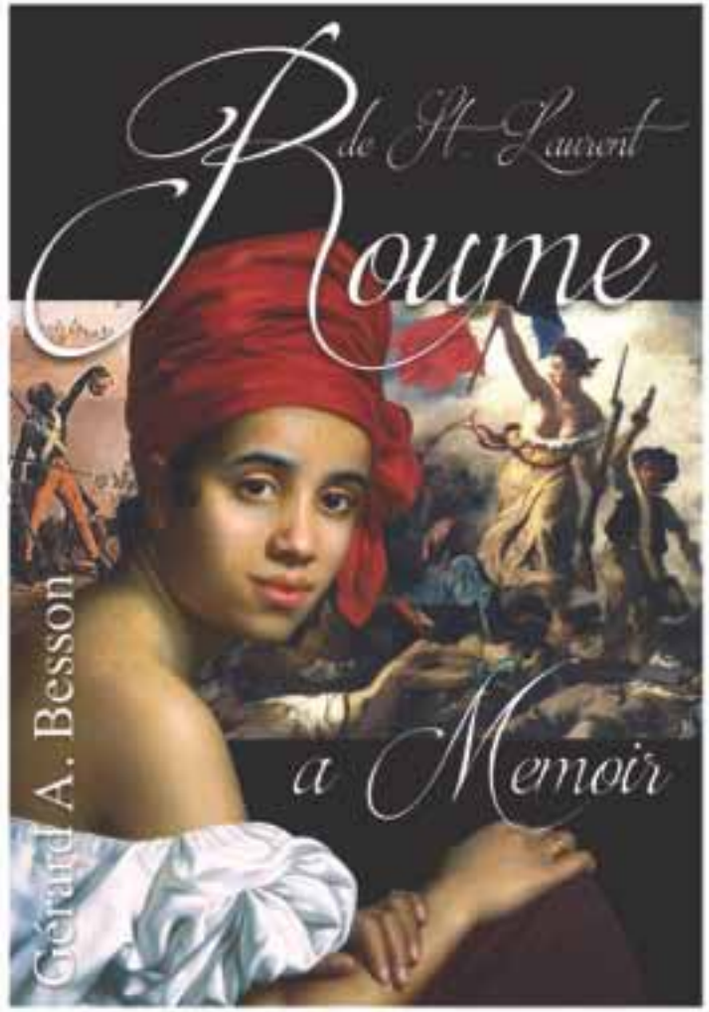
Hannah Lowe's first poetry collection *Chick* was shortlisted for the Forward, Aldeburgh, and Seamus Heaney Best First Collection Prizes. Her family memoir *Long Time, No See* featured as Radio 4's Book of the Week. Her 2016 book of poems is *Chan.*

Sunity Maharaj is a media professional of thirty-five years' experience. She is Director of the Lloyd Best Institute of the West Indies.

Hazel Manning is a former Minister of Education and a board member of the Merikin Ltd.







HISTORICAL FICTION

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Foundation. She has conducted extensive research on their history.

Wendell Manwarren is one of Trinidad's best known actors and musicians, and a member of the rapso group 3Canal.

Jeanne Mason is a Trinidadian resident who has promoted reading, writing, and drama since her arrival in 2002. She is the co-editor of *Trinidad Noir* (2008) and *Salt & Pines* (2010), and both editor of and a contributor to the new anthology *16*.

Karen McCarthy Woolf is a Londoner with an English mother and Jamaican father. Her poetry collection *An Aviary of Small Birds* was shortlisted for the 2015 Forward Prize's Felix Dennis Prize for Best First Collection.

Sharon Millar is the Trinidadian author of *The Whale House and Other Stories*, longlisted for the 2016 OCM Bocas Prize. She is the winner of the 2013 Commonwealth Short Story Prize and the 2012 *Small Axe* Short Fiction Award.

Pauline Melville is a Guyanese/British writer. She has won numerous literary awards, including the Commonwealth Writers' Prize, the *Guardian* Fiction Prize, the Whitbread Prize, and the Guyana Prize for Literature.

Fazeer Mohammed is a Trinidadian television current affairs host and cricket commentator.

Julie Morton, publisher, writer and teacher, is the owner of Morton Books, a children's bookstore and publishing house in St. James, Trinidad.

Nazma Muller is a journalist, writer and advocate for marijuana legalisation. Ahead of T&T's 2015 general election, she formed a political party, the Caribbean Collective for Justice, to lobby for reforms in the education and criminal justice systems.

Deryck Murray is President of the Queen's Park Cricket Club and former wicketkeeper for the West Indies cricket team, 1963–1980. His 1963 record for the most dismissals by a West Indies wicketkeeper in a Test series is unbroken.

Philip Murray, aka **Black Sage**, is a calypsonian renowned as a master of extempo singing, and a three-time national extempo champion.

Vivek Narayanan was born in India and raised in Zambia. His poetry collections include *Universal Beach* and *Life and Times of Mr S*. He is a 2015–16 Cullman Fellow at the New York Public Library.

Glenda-Rose Nassoma is a professional storyteller and coordinator for Culture in the Division of Community Development and Culture for the Tobago House of Assembly.

Anton Nimblett is a Trinidadian living and writing in Brooklyn, author of a collection of short stories, *Sections of an Orange*.

Angelique V. Nixon is a writer, artist, teacher, scholar, activist, and poet, born and raised in The Bahamas. She lectures at the Institute for Gender and Development Studies, UWI, St Augustine. Her book *Resisting Paradise: Tourism, Diaspora, and Sexuality in Caribbean Culture* was published in 2015.

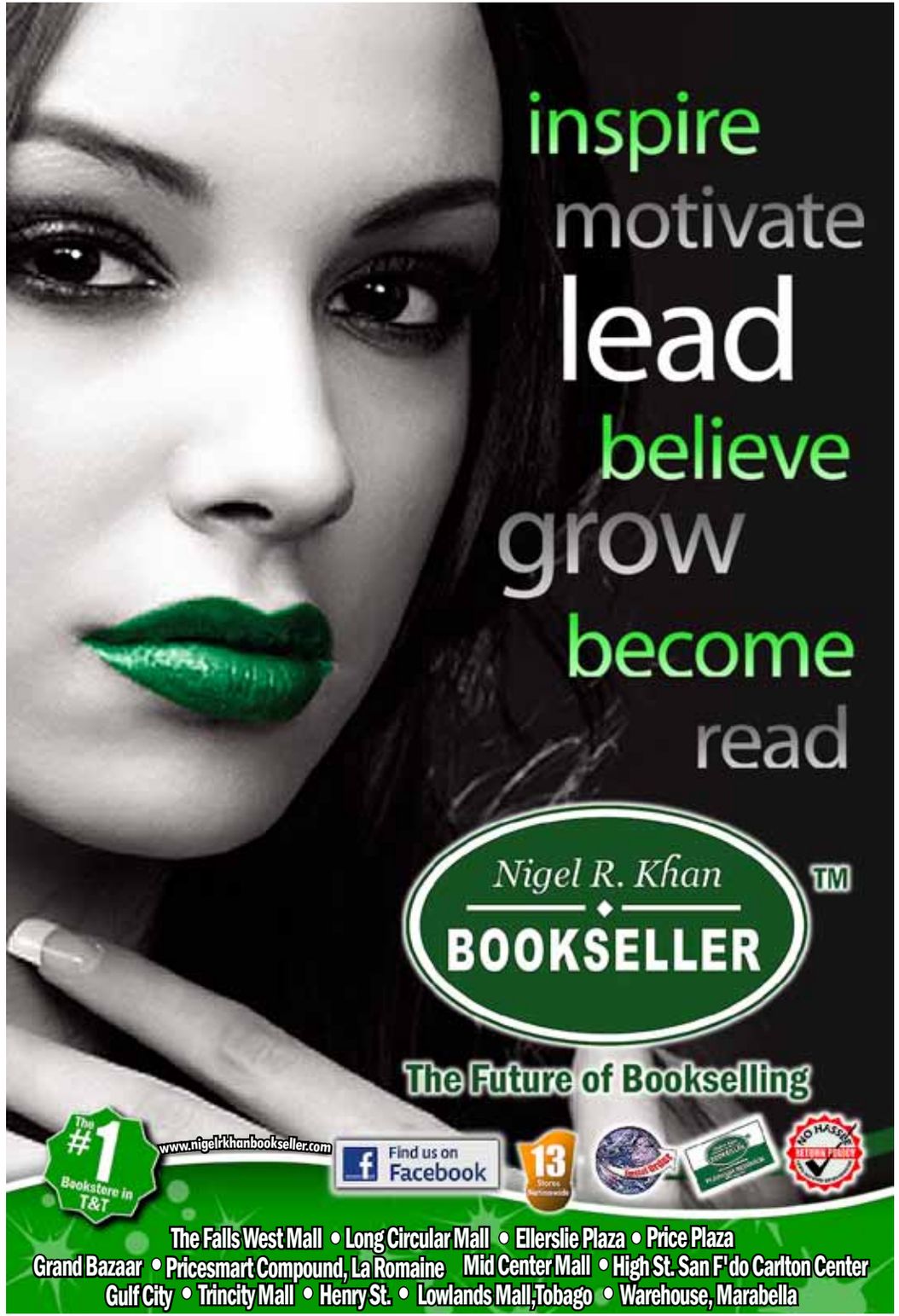
Maria Nunes is a photographer and producer in Trinidad and Tobago who works extensively in the field of cultural heritage, specialising in imagery of Carnival-based traditions and the work of performing artists.

Brandon O'Brien is a Trinidadian performance poet and writer, featured in *New Worlds, Old Ways: Speculative Tales from the Caribbean*. In 2014 he was shortlisted for the *Small Axe* Literary Competition.

Brendon O'Brien is an activist, writer, director and performer who's been performing spoken word for several years.

Evelyn O'Callaghan is Professor of West Indian Literature at UWI, Cave Hill. She has has published extensively on West Indian literature, particularly on women's writing.

Daniel José Older is a Brooklyn-based writer, editor, and composer. He is the author of the *Bone Street Rumba* novels, including *Half-Resurrection Blues*; the ghost noir collection, *Salsa Nocturna*; and the Young Adult novel *Shadowshaper.*



Désha A. Osborne teaches at Queens College and Hunter College, CUNY. Her critical edition of *Hiroona,* the epic 19th-century poem by Horatio Nelson Huggins II, was published in 2015 by UWI Press.

Lizabeth Paravisini-Gebert is Professor of Caribbean Culture and Literature at Vassar College. Her books include *Phyllis Shand Allfrey: A Caribbean Life* and *Creole Religions of the Caribbean*. She co-edits Repeating Islands, a blog on Caribbean culture.

Anderson Patrick has been performing Black Indian mas for over 30 years. He is the King or Okenaga of the band Warriors of Hurracan.

Polly Pattullo, a British former journalist, is the co-founder of Papillote Press, a small publishing house based in Dominica and in London.

Betty Peter is a recipient of NALIS' First Time Authors Award for *Brown Sugar and Spice* (2010). She spends much of her time interacting with young people and reading at schools and libraries.

Winston Edward Peters, aka **Gypsy**, is a Trinidadian calypsonian, recognised as one of the world's best extempo artistes, and the reigning champion. He is a former Minister of Arts and Multiculturalism.

Kenny Phillips is a Trinidadian music producer and owner of the production outfit KMP Music Lab. He is also the CEO of WACK Radio, a radio station whose content is 100 per cent local.

Rowan Ricardo Phillips is the author of *Heaven*, longlisted for the 2015 National Book Award, and *The Ground: Poems*, which won him a 2013 Whiting Writers' Award and the 2013 PEN/Joyce Osterweil Award.

Jeremy Poynting is the founder of UK-based publishing house Peepal Tree Press, the leading publisher of contemporary Caribbean writing.

Guyanese **Vanda Radzik** is a longtime social activist and cultural organiser, and co-editor of the literary journal *Kyk-over-al*.

Kenneth Ramchand is one of the Caribbean's most distinguished literary critics, author of the seminal study *The West Indian Novel and Its Background*. He is Professor Emeritus of West Indian literature at the University of the West Indies.

Shivanee Ramlochan is a Trinidadian poet, arts reporter, literary reviewer, and official Bocas blogger. Her poems appeared in the 2015 Peekash anthology *Coming Up Hot*.

Giselle Rampaul is a lecturer in the Literature in English programme at UWI, St. Augustine.

Geeta Ramsingh (Vaahini) is President of the Hindu Prachaar Kendra and a full-time community worker. She conducts poojas and satsangs throughout Trinidad.

Judy Raymond has practised as a journalist for many years, and is a former editor in chief of the *Trinidad Guardian*. Her latest book is *The Colour of Shadows: Images of Caribbean Slavery*, launched at the 2016 festival.

Colin Robinson's writing has appeared in numerous journals and anthologies, and his debut book of poems, *You Have You Father Hard Head*, is launched at the 2016 festival.

Gemma Robinson is Senior Lecturer in English at the University of Stirling. She edited Martin Carter's *University of Hunger: Collected Poems and Selected Prose*. Her many other publications include articles on Guyanese writers and Caribbean protest writing.

Julian Rogers, MBE, is a veteran broadcast journalist and the CEO of Caribbean New Media Group (CNMG).

Gordon Rohlehr is a Professor Emeritus of West Indian Literature at UWI, St. Augustine. He has published extensively on calypso, West Indian literature, and popular culture in the Caribbean. His latest book, *My Whole Life Is Calypso,* is about the Mighty Sparrow.

Jacob Ross is a UK-based Grenadian writer. His critically acclaimed works include *Pynter Bender*, *Song for Simone* and *A Way to Catch the Dust*. His latest novel is *The Bone Readers*.

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Gillian Royes is the creator of the Shad series of detective novels. The latest, *The Rhythm of the August Rain*, was published in July 2015. She lives in Atlanta and on the island of St. Croix, where she lectures at the University of the Virgin Islands.

Kizzy Ruiz, Trinidadian performer and calypsonian, is a past winner of the National Calypso Queen Competition and many times a National Calypso Monarch finalist.

Kwame Ryan is a Canadian-Trinidadian conductor, currently teaching at UTT's National Academy of Performing Arts.

Lynette Seebaran-Suite, Chairman of the Trinidad and Tobago Equal Opportunity Commission (EOC), has been a litigator for over 35 years, and an influential advocate for the rights of women and girls.

Carolyn S. Seereeram-Harnanan is a former Head of the English Department at St. Augustine Girls' High School. Since 2011, she has lived in Nova Scotia, Canada.

Colleen Selvon-Rampersad is secretary of the Writers Union of Trinidad and Tobago (WUTT). Her work is published in *Voicing Our Vision 1, These Heavenly Shores, Prism,* and more.

Kamila Shamsie is the Pakistani author of six novels, most recently, *A God in Every Stone*, shortlisted for the Baileys Prize, the Walter Scott Prize for Historical Fiction, and the DSC Prize for South Asian Literature. In 2013 she was named a *Granta* Best of Young British Novelist.

Gillian Slovo is a South African writer, author of thirteen novels and a family memoir. Her novel *Red Dust* won the RFI Temoin du Monde prize, and *Ice Road* was shortlisted for the Orange Prize. Her newest novel is *Ten Days*.

Penelope Spencer is an award-winning Trinidadian actress, well-known in local theatre and film production. She is a director with the Necessary Arts Company.

Rhoma Spencer, Trinidad-born, Canada-based thespian, has produced, directed and acted in many productions. Her company, Theatre Archipelago, seeks to develop theatre from the Caribbean and its diaspora.

Attillah Springer is a writer and activist born in Trinidad. She is a Director of IDAKEDA, a family company that uses cultural forms to address social issues.

Elizabeth Solomon, a former journalist and human-rights activist, is a peace and development adviser with the United Nations. Her weekly columns appear in *Newsday.*

Portia Subran is a Trinidadian artist and writer. Her fiction features in the new Peekash anthology of speculative fiction, *New Worlds, Old Ways: Speculative Tales from the Caribbean*.

Judith Theodore is an artist, author, playwright and actress. She is a contributor to *Trinidad Noir* and *Moving Right Along: Caribbean Stories in Honour of John Cropper*.

Marjorie Thorpe is a former Dean of the Faculty of Arts and General Studies at UWI, St. Augustine. She is the Vice Chair of the 2016 OCM Bocas Prize judges and a Director on the board of the Bocas Lit Fest.

Elizabeth Walcott-Hackshaw is a Trinidadian writer, author of the short story collection *Four Taxis Facing North* and the novel *Mrs. B*. She is senior lecturer at UWI, St Augustine, specialising in francophone Caribbean literature.

Rose-Ann Walker is a Trinidadian literary scholar based at the University of Trinidad and Tobago.

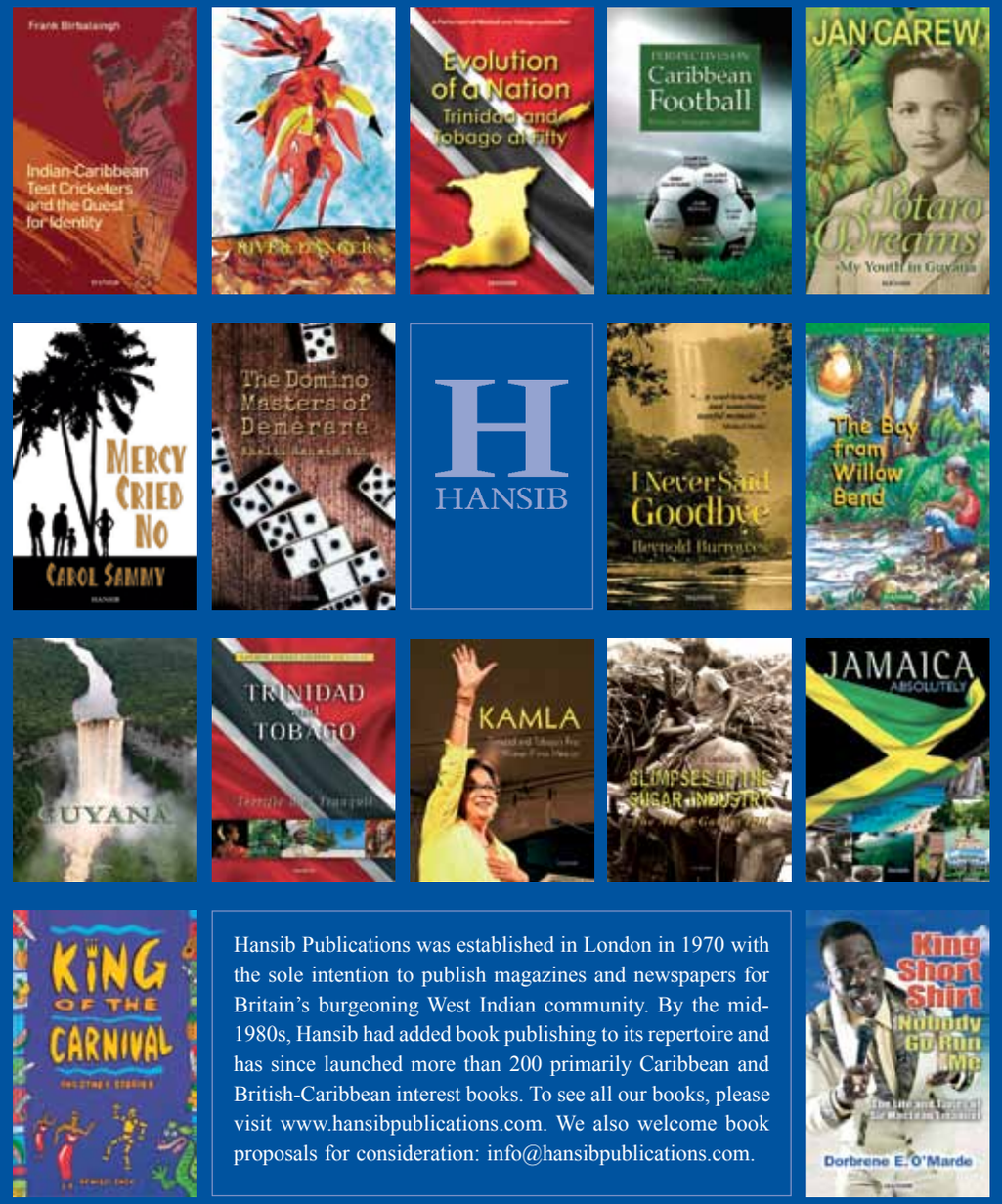
H.K. Williams is a writer from Trinidad and Tobago. Her writing appears in the new anthology *New Worlds, Old Ways: Speculative Tales from the Caribbean*.

Damian Whiskey is a multiple-title Midnight Robber champion, and the current 2016 title holder.

Paula Williams Madison is Chairman and CEO of Los Angeles-based media consultancy Madison Media Management LLC. *Finding Samuel Lowe* is her account of searching for her Chinese-Jamaican heritage.

HANSIB PUBLICATIONS

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Hansib Publications was established in London in 1970 with the sole intention to publish magazines and newspapers for Britain's burgeoning West Indian community. By the mid-1980s, Hansib had added book publishing to its repertoire and has since launched more than 200 primarily Caribbean and British-Caribbean interest books. To see all our books, please visit www.hansibpublications.com. We also welcome book proposals for consideration: info@hansibpublications.com.

www.hansibpublications.com

WORDS ALIVE

The best of contemporary poetry and fiction, from an extraordinary lineup of writers from the Caribbean and around the world

At the heart of the NGC Bocas Lit Fest are readings and conversations with some of the best writers from Trinidad and Tobago, the Caribbean, and further afield— from world-famous authors to prizewinning newcomers. At these events, writers read from and discuss their recent books and answer questions from the audience. A book-signing session follows each reading. Authors' books are available from the participating booksellers.

ONE-ON-ONE sessions turn the spotlight on eminent authors, as they read from their work and discuss their ideas, influences, and inspirations:

Gillian Slovo
The South Africa-born writer talks to Claire Armistead about her career, grappling with questions of justice and violence in her novels and memoirs
Thursday 28 April, 1–2 pm
• Old Fire Station

Vahni Capildeo
The author of the T.S. Eliot Prize–shortlisted *Measures of Expatriation* traces her devious route through the landscapes of language, in conversation with Anu Lakhan
Thursday 28 April, 2–3 pm
• Old Fire Station

Kamila Shamsie
The Pakistani-British writer talks to Shivanee Ramlochan about writing across national, cultural, and historical borders
Thursday 28 April, 4–5 pm
• Old Fire Station
In partnership with the British Council

Paul Keens-Douglas
T&T's beloved storyteller talks to Miguel Browne about a lifetime of making people laugh while tackling serious concerns
Friday 29 April, 10–11 am
• Old Fire Station

Dionne Brand
The Trinidad-born former Poet Laureate of Toronto talks to Shivanee Ramlochan about her life in literature across genres, from poetry to fiction to memoir
Friday 29 April, 4–5 pm
• Old Fire Station

Pauline Melville
The Guyana-born author reveals how history and Amerindian myth inform her compelling fictions, in conversation with Vanda Radzik
Saturday 30 April, 1–2 pm
• Old Fire Station

Marlon James
The 2015 Man Booker Prize winner discusses the power of stories, the pitfalls of fame, and the motivations of music, in conversation with Bocas festival director Marina Salandy-Brown
Saturday 30 April, 2–3 pm
• Old Fire Station

The Festival's **TAKE TWO** sessions pair off writers for readings and Q&As on topics of current interest. ***Check the foldout Festival Programme for a full list.***

PEEKASH PRESENTS
The launch of *New Worlds, Old Ways: Speculative Tales from the Caribbean,* a new anthology featuring readings by Ararimeh Aiyejina, Summer Edward, Kevin Jared Hosein, Brandon O'Brien, Portia Subran, and H.K. Williams, introduced by editor Karen Lord.
Thursday 28 April, 7.30–10 pm
• De Nu Pub, French Street, Woodbrook
Presented in partnership with Peekash

16
A new anthology of Trinidadian short fiction makes its debut. Featuring Ian F. Ali, June Aming, A.S.F. Andrews, Ty N. Batson, Stephen Brown, Elspeth Duncan, Jeanne Mason, Betty Peter, Carolyn S. Seereeram-Harnanan, Colleen Selvon-Rampersad, and Judith Theodore
Friday 29 April, 11 am–12 pm
• 2nd Floor Seminar Room

SUNDAY LAUNCH
Three new books of fiction, poetry, and non-fiction by Trinidadian writers make their debut:

The Repenters, by Kevin Jared Hosein (Peepal Tree Press)
You Have You Father Hard Head, by Colin Robinson (Peepal Tree Press)
The Colour of Shadows, by Judy Raymond (Caribbean Studies Press)
Sunday 1 May, 1–4 pm
• Old Fire Station

WRITERS' UNION PRESENTS, a Bocas tradition, is a showcase for readings by members of the Writers' Union of Trinidad and Tobago. This year's feature speaker is scholar Michelene Adams, discussing the intersections of creative writing and literary scholarship.
Saturday 30 April, 3–6 pm
• 2nd Floor Seminar Room.
Presented in partnership with the Writers Union of Trinidad and Tobago

ORAL TRADITIONS

From folk tales to song lyrics, T&T's oral traditions enrich and inform our written literature.

Celebrating Sparrow
60 years ago, his classic song "Jean and Dinah" won the Mighty Sparrow his first Calypso Monarch title. We celebrate the anniversary of this milestone through readings, drama, and music. With Kurt Allen, Penelope Spencer, Rhoma Spencer, Rikki Jai, and Nikki Crosby
Thursday 28 April, 9–10 am • Old Fire Station

Pistols drawn!
Run for cover! It's a Midnight Robber duel, as two masters of the traditional Carnival masquerade trade their spine-tingling robber talk. With Sterling A.C. Kent, a.k.a. Gamma Ghost, and Damian Whiskey
Friday 29 April, 12–1 pm • Old Fire Station

Beware the Bookman
What are the wages of sin? The wandering Bookman, Sylvan Joseph, with his book of the damned will tell you how the bill gets settled
Friday 29 April, 1.30–3.30 pm • Library Rotunda and other public areas

Extempo Duel
Extempo masters Gypsy and Black Sage battle it out on the theme of political betrayal à la *Julius Caesar*, part of our series of events celebrating the legacy of William Shakespeare
Friday 29 April, 8–10 pm • Big Black Box, Murray Street

War chants
Black Indians, traditional masquerade characters of Trinidad Carnival, are known for their fierce costumes and war-like songs, composed in a secret language known only to initiates. Anderson Patrick and Darlington Henry demonstrate the art of the Black Indian, and discuss their tradition with Maria Nunes
Saturday 30 April, 12–1 pm • Hart Street Arcade

Sunday Lime
Storytellers Nasoma and Paul Keens-Douglas liven up your Sunday afternoon, plus Wendell Manwarren as Don Quixote and Michael Cherrie as Sancho Panza
Sunday 1 May, 1–2 pm • Library Rotunda

The Jewelled Deer
Ascribed to the "first poet" Valmiki, the *Ramayana* is one of the epic works of world literature, and has been translated into numerous languages over the centuries. Poet Vivek Narayanan presents his adaptations of the Sanskrit original, and Geeta Ramsingh performs the 16th-century Awadhi version of Tulsidas familiar to many Trinidadians
Sunday 1 May, 2–3.30 pm • AV Room

WRITERS FIRST

Over the past six years, the NGC Bocas Lit Fest has become the Caribbean's major annual showcase for emerging writers, thanks to events that seek out and support promising new talent.

In 2016 we debut a new programme of activities for budding and debut authors, **Writers First**, on Wednesday 27 April. This includes a series of free seminars for budding and self-published writers on key areas of the book business, led by publishing experts:

Don't sell yourself short: marketing and promotion for authors, by Marina Salandy-Brown
What an editor does, and why it matters, by Jeremy Poynting
Judging books by their covers: why book design is crucial, by Melanie Archer
Get your book on the shelf: what booksellers look for, by Nigel R. Khan Booksellers
1–4 pm • AV Room

Writers First also includes the First-Time Authors' Appreciation Programme by our partner NALIS (the National Library and Information System Authority), recognising all T&T authors who published their debut books from 2014 to 2016.
10 am–12.30 pm • Heritage Library and Library Rotunda

OPEN MICS

Lunchtime Jams

Featuring some of T&T's best young spoken word poets and musicians — free and open to all!
Wednesday 27 to Friday 29 April, 12–1 pm daily • The Breakfast Shed, Wrightson Road

Stand and Deliver

Calling all writers of prose and poetry! With featured readings by Anna Levi, author of *Madinah Girl*, poet and artist Sarah Beckett, and Gregory Diaz introducing *Tobago in Print*. MC'd by Brendon O'Brien
Thursday 28 April, 12–2 pm • Abercromby Street Arcade

14 lines or less

Forsooth! It's a special Shakespearian open mic. Read your sonnet-length adaptations of Shakespeare's stories and themes, and compete for the approval of judges elisha efua bartels and Giselle Rampaul. Plus a guest performance by UWI students of a scene from *Much Ado About Nothing*
Sunday 1 May, 12–1 pm • Hart Street Arcade

T&T'S MASTER STORYTELLER

For sheer popularity, it's impossible to compete with **Paul Keens-Douglas**, writer and storyteller extraordinaire. Inspired by Jamaican legend Louise Bennett, Keens-Douglas has been performing around the Caribbean since 1974, with a signature style of humorous tales based on current events.

At Bocas 2016 we pay tribute to this master wordsmith at a special One-on-One event, where he will discuss his life and career with Miguel Browne, and perform excerpts from his best-known pieces.
Friday 29 April, 10-11 am • Old Fire Station

Experience the narrative magic of Paul Keens-Douglas again at our Sunday Lime event for story-lovers of all ages.
Sunday 1 May, 1–2 pm • Library Rotunda

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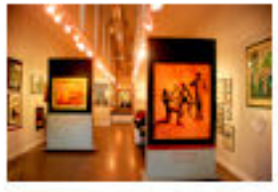
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BIG IDEAS

Debate the questions of the day or of the ages with our panels of writers and thinkers, and join intimate salon conversations

The 2016 NGC Bocas Lit Fest includes a series of panels and talks exploring diverse topics ranging from current affairs to sport, led by some of our sharpest writers and thinkers.

WEDNESDAY 27 APRIL

Cricket then, now, and when

To commemorate the 125th anniversary of the Queen's Park Cricket Club, a panel of players and expert observers debate the importance of the game to the Caribbean's past and present, and possibilities for the future. With Kieron Pollard, Merissa Aguilleira, QPCC president Deryck Murray, and literary scholar Kenneth Ramchand; chaired by journalist Fazeer Mohammed

5–6 pm • Ballroom, Queen's Park Oval

In partnership with the Queen's Park Cricket Club

THURSDAY 28 APRIL

Is the calypso dream dead?

Calypso is often called T&T's national artform, but has its time passed? Does survival mean a return to roots, or reinvention? Calypsonians Kurt Allen and Kizzy Ruiz, scholar Gordon Rohlehr, and producer Kenny Phillips debate the question; chaired by Sunity Maharaj

10.30 am–12 pm • Old Fire Station

Wide Sargasso Sea at 50

It's a canonical work of "writing back" to literary tradition, and a popular classic tackling hard questions about history and race. Claire Armitstead, Sharon Millar, Polly Patullo, and Elizabeth Walcott-Hackshaw, read from and discuss the enduring provocation of Jean Rhys's novel; chaired by Shivanee Ramlochan

10.30–11.30 am • AV Room

A passage to China

Hannah Lowe and Paula Madison Williams read from and discuss their family memoirs, tracing ancestral routes from Jamaica back to China; chaired by Tracy Assing

3–4 pm • Old Fire Station

FRIDAY 29 APRIL

When writers become politicians

What happens when literary authors enter the political fray? The lives and times of Phyllis Shand Allfrey, Martin Carter, and Aimé Césaire, as told by Lizabeth Paravisini-Gebert, Gemma Robinson, and J. Michael Dash; chaired by Barbara Lalla

1–2 pm • Old Fire Station

When history meets fiction

Gerard Besson, author of the novel *Roume: A Memoir*, and Desha Osborne, editor of Horatio Nelson Huggins's epic poem *Hiroona*, discuss literature's ability to bring history to life; chaired by Bridget Brereton

3–4 pm • Old Fire Station

SATURDAY 30 APRIL

Welcome to the 21st century:

the frontiers of human rights in Trinidad and Tobago

As our society evolves, are our laws and judicial systems keeping up? Who's leading the way in current debates on human rights, and who's lagging behind? Ambassador Amery Browne, attorney Lynette Seebaran-Suite, activist Nazma Muller, and journalist and former UN officer Elizabeth Solomon debate these questions; chaired by Julian Rogers

10–11.30 pm • AV Room

Aching to Be

Andrew J. Fitt discusses his memoir about life with cerebral palsy with actor and musician Nikolai Salcedo

1–2 pm • 2nd Floor Seminar Room

The most important readers of all: why children's publishing matters

The future of publishing, and literature itself, depends on creating a new generation of readers. Summer Edward, Marsha Gomes-McKie, and Julie Morton discuss key issues in Caribbean children's publishing; chaired by Ramabai Espinet

2–3 pm • AV Room

SUNDAY 1 MAY

Shakespeare and me

Four writers discuss the Shakespeare plays, characters, and lines that have influenced them. With Vahni Capildeo, Martin Daly, Marlon James, and Rowan Ricardo Phillips; chaired by Funso Aiyejina

10–11 am • Old Fire Station

Resisting Paradise

Angelique Nixon talks to Attillah Springer about her study of Caribbean tourism, and how artist and activist suggest other paths for social development

10–11 am • 2nd Floor Seminar Room

Lunatics, Lovers, and Poets

Writer Nell Leyshon reads from her story in a new anthology celebrating the legacies of Shakespeare and Cervantes, and discusses why their classic works have weathered the centuries and still shape our imaginations with scholars Giselle Rampaul and Carolina Arrieta Castillo; chaired by David Codling of the British Council

11 am–12 pm • Old Fire Station

In partnership with the British Council

Peepal Tree Press at 30

How did Peepal Tree Press become the leading publisher of Caribbean writing? Founder and 2016 Bocas Swanzy Awardee Jeremy Poynting and his colleagues Hannah Bannister and Jacob Ross talk to Nicholas Laughlin about their role in keeping Caribbean literature alive and well

11 am–12 pm • 2nd Floor Seminar Room



SHAKESPEARE + CERVANTES

In 2016, with readers and writers around the world, we mark the 400th anniversary of the greatest writers in the English and Spanish languages: William Shakespeare and Miguel de Cervantes, who both died on 23 April, 1616.

In a series of special events, we celebrate and debate the legacies of these classic writers.

Where there's a Will...
Make way for Mr. Shakespeare! In his quatercentenary year, T&T's writers and musicians bring us news from one of the English language's greatest writers. With an extempo duel between Gypsy and Black Sage on political betrayal à la *Julius Caesar*, and new writing prompted by Shakespeare's most famous lines, by writers Lisa Allen-Agostini, Andre Bagoo, Rhoda Bharath, Ariana Herbert, Arielle John, Sharon Millar, Brendon O'Brien, and Colin Robinson. Plus a surprise closing act . . .
Friday 30 April, 8 pm until • Big Black Box, Murray Street, Woodbrook

Shakespeare and me
Writers Vahni Capildeo, Martin Daly, Marlon James, and Rowan Ricardo Phillips discuss the Shakespeare plays, characters, and lines that have influenced them. Chaired by Funso Aiyejina
Sunday 1 May, 10–11 am • Old Fire Station

Lunatics, Lovers, and Poets
Writer Nell Leyshon reads from her story in a new anthology celebrating the legacies of Shakespeare and Cervantes, and discusses why their classic works have weathered the centuries and still shape our imaginations with scholars Giselle Rampaul and Carolina Arrieta Castillo; chaired by David Codling of the British Council
11 am–12 pm • Old Fire Station
In partnership with the British Council

14 lines or less
Calling all bards! Read your sonnet-length adaptations of Shakespearean stories and themes, and compete for the approval of judges elisha efua bartels and Giselle Rampaul, at a special Shakespeare-themed open mic. Plus a guest performance by UWI students of a scene from *Much Ado About Nothing*
Sunday 1 May, 12–1 pm • Hart Street Arcade

DON QUIXOTE ON SCREEN

Our Cervantes anniversary programme includes an adaptation of his classic novel, and a documentary about an intriguingly failed attempt to get *Don Quixote* on film.

Lost in La Mancha
Documentary • 2002 • 93 min • UK/USA
Directors/Screenwriters: Keith Fulton and Louis Pepe
Includes: Terry Gilliam, Johnny Depp, Jeff Bridges
Lost In La Mancha offers a unique, in-depth look at the harsher realities of filmmaking. With drama that ranges from personal conflicts to epic storms, this is a record of a film disintegrating. Nominated for Best Foreign Independent Film at the British Independent Film Awards.
Sunday 1 May, 11.45 am • AV Room

El Caballero Don Quijote (Don Quixote, Night Errant)
Adventure • 2002 • 122 min • Spain
Director/Screenwriter: Manuel Gutiérrez Aragón
Based on the second half of Miguel de Cervantes' classic tale about the adventures of the eccentric nobleman Don Quixote and his devoted sidekick Sancho Panza as they set out to battle a horde of Turks.
Sunday 1 May, 4 pm • AV Room

SAY IT LOUD

First Citizens NATIONAL POETRY SLAM

Across T&T, a spoken word renaissance is under way.

Spoken word, also referred to as performance poetry, is wildly popular across Trinidad and Tobago and the Caribbean. The Bocas Lit Fest has been working with the activist spoken word youth group the 2Cents Movement to develop the genre that provides a bridge between the oral tradition and the written word.

The spotlight event is the **2016 First Citizens National Poetry Slam**, with a prize of TT$20,000. The competition takes place over several rounds. The auditions round, held in February, was open to all competitors. The top 33 performers moved on to the semi-finals in March. The climax is the final play-off between the top 12 at the National Poetry Slam Finals, the hotly contested closing event of the 2016 NGC Bocas Lit Fest.
Sunday 1 May, 6–8 pm • Globe Theatre, Park Street

The **Courts Bocas Secondary Schools Speak Out Tour** is in its third year. No other project of this scope or kind has been undertaken in Secondary Schools. The buy-in from stakeholders such as the Ministry of Education, school administration, and students serve as evidence that the project has resonated deeply and is addressing real youth developmental concerns.
Sponsored by Courts

COURTS

Since October 2015, the 2Cents Movement team has visited over 50 schools across the country and performed for over 25,000 children, some of whom went on to take part in the **2016 Courts Bocas Speak Out Intercol**. Sixteen schools vied for the top prize at the Intercol Finals in March. Winner Shineque Saunders of Pleasantville Secondary will be a guest performer at the First Citizens National Poetry Slam Finals on Sunday 1 May.

First Citizens

In 2015, First Citizens became the Bocas Lit Fest's first Lead Sponsor, proving invaluable support for the newly renamed First Citizens National Poetry Slam and the Festival's spoken word outreach programmes.

2¢ movement

WORKSHOPS

A series of lively, informative, practical sessions, led by distinguished writers and publishing professionals

Note: pre-registration required. Book via www.bocaslitfest.com

WEDNESDAY 27 APRIL

Uncovering the plot: a crime fiction masterclass, with writer and Peepal Tree Press editor Jacob Ross
An in-depth exploration of the popular crime fiction genre, offering insight into creating suspenseful plots and getting into the heads of your characters. $100
10 am–12.30 pm, 1.30–4 pm • 1st Floor Seminar Room

Binding words: an introduction to chapbook binding, with Sonia Farmer
A hands-on session in which participants will learn how to produce their own simple book structures for their work, using folded, glued, and sewn designs as well as writing exercises to explore chapbook forms. $350; includes materials and a basic binding toolkit which participants will keep.
10 am–12.30 pm, 1.30–4 pm • Granderson Lab, 24 Erthig Road, Belmont

THURSDAY 28 APRIL

Preservation and conservation workshop, with NALIS conservator Danielle Fraser
Advice on preserving treasured books, documents, and other paper-based objects. Includes a tour of the NALIS conservation lab. FREE
10 am–12.30 pm • NALIS Heritage Library and Conservation Lab

The landscape of fiction, with Sharon Millar, author of the OCM Bocas Prize–longlisted book *The Whale House*
Landscape and place are powerful tools in the writer's toolbox. Understanding the mechanisms of managing place can be crucial in the unfurling of powerful characters. $80
1.30–4 pm • 1st Floor Seminar Room

FRIDAY 29 APRIL

The radical fantastic: YA fantasy storycraft, with award-winning writer Daniel José Older. What makes a great story great? Why do we read some books in a single night and put other ones down ten pages in? This interactive seminar explores both basic and advanced elements of narrative structure, with a particular focus on speculative fiction and Young Adult literature. $80
10 am–12.30 pm • 1st Floor Seminar Room
In partnership with CODE

SATURDAY 30 APRIL

Writing critically, with Claire Armitstead, the literary editor of the UK *Guardian* leads a high-level seminar on book criticism, covering the essential elements of a review, how to apply your expertise effectively, and how to structure a piece to lay bare the soul of the subject. $80
10 am–12.30 pm • 1st Floor Seminar Room

Poetry across borders, with poet and scholar Vivek Narayanan
A workshop that crosses language boundaries, including elements of translation, improvisation, and writing poems across many tongues. Open to both multi- and unilingual participants. $80
1.30–4 pm • 1st Floor Seminar Room

FRIDAY 29 APRIL AND SUNDAY 1 MAY

Crafts of fiction: a masterclass with Marlon James
A special two-part masterclass with the winner of the 2015 Man Booker Prize, looking beyond basic elements like plot and imagery to deeper issues of voice, energy, complication, and desire. For intermediate and advanced writers. $100
1.30–3.30 pm • 1st Floor Seminar Room



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CINELIT

LATIN AMERICAN AND CARIBBEAN LITERARY FILM FESTIVAL



Films based on Caribbean literature and culture are integral to the NGC Bocas Lit Fest programme.

This year, we present CineLit: the Latin American and Caribbean Literary Film Festival, featuring adaptations of dozens of literary classics from across the hemisphere — from Oscar-winning *Black Orpheus* (1959) to *Gabo* (2015), nominated for the 2016 Gaudi Award for best documentary — many of them never seen in T&T before.

In partnership with the diplomatic missions of Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, the Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Guatemala, Mexico, Panama, Peru, Spain, and Venezuela, we are taking some of Latin America's greatest literary accomplishments to the screen, with the aim of bridging the gap between the Caribbean and our Latin American neighbours by celebrating their rich heritage of both literature and film.

Great writers are honoured on screen — Nobel laureates Pablo Neruda, Gabriel García Márquez, and Mario Vargas Llosa; Argentina's modern master of the short story, Julio Cortázar; Chile's wild and radical María Luisa Bombal; Brazil's great contemporary writer, João Ubaldo Ribeiro; not to mention Cervantes, the world's pre-eminent novelist and the most important and celebrated figure in Spanish literature.

All foreign language films are subtitled in English.

Above *Gabo: The Creation of Gabriel García Márquez* (2015) tells the story of how a boy from a tiny town on the Caribbean coast become a writer who won the hearts of millions

Facing page The all-time classic *Black Oprheus*, set during Rio de Janeiro's legendary Carnival, kicked off the bossa nova craze across the Americas

All films are screened in the Audio Visual Room on the lower ground floor of the National Library and are free and open to the public.

In partnership with

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CineLit: The Latin American and Caribbean Literary Film Festival is supported by:

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ONE CARIBBEAN MEDIA LIMITED

OCM BOCAS PRIZE FOR CARIBBEAN LITERATURE

The annual OCM Bocas Prize for Caribbean Literature — sponsored by One Caribbean Media, the largest media organisation in the Caribbean and owners of TV6, i.95.5FM and Hott 93 radio, and the *Express* newspapers in Trinidad and Tobago — is the region's leading literary award, now in its sixth year.

Books published in 2015 by authors of Caribbean birth or citizenship were eligible for the 2016 Prize, in three genre categories: poetry, fiction, and literary non-fiction.

The Prize has two stages. First, panels of distinguished judges select the best book in each of the three genre categories.

Next, the chairs of the poetry, fiction and non-fiction panels, joined by the overall chair and vice-chair of the prize, form a final prize jury to select the final winner from the three genre winners.

The 2016 longlist includes writers representing four different Caribbean countries, and the shortlisted books, comprising the winners in each genre category, represent the US Virgin Islands and Jamaica.

The overall winner of the 2016 OCM Bocas Prize for Caribbean Literature, to be announced on Saturday 30 April, will receive US$10,000. Other category winners receive US$3,000.

The first OCM Bocas Prize winner in 2011 was Nobel Laureate Derek Walcott, for his poetry collection *White Egrets*. The 2012 winner was Earl Lovelace, for his novel *Is Just a Movie*. In 2013 the Prize was won by Monique Roffey, for her novel *Archipelago*, and the 2014 winner was Robert Antoni, for his novel *As Flies to Whatless Boys*. St Lucian debut author Vladimir Lucien won the 2015 Prize for his poetry collection *Sounding Ground*.

2016 PRIZE LONGLIST

POETRY

BURN, by Andre Bagoo (Trinidad and Tobago)

Providential, by Colin Channer (Jamaica/US)

Wife, by Tiphanie Yanique (US Virgin Islands/US)

FICTION

Fifteen Dogs, by Andre Alexis (Trinidad and Tobago/Canada)

The Whale House and Other Stories, by Sharon Millar (Trinidad and Tobago)

The Pain Tree, by Olive Senior (Jamaica/Canada)

NON-FICTION

The Gymnast and Other Positions, by Jacqueline Bishop (Jamaica/US)

'Membering, by Austin Clarke (Barbados/Canada)

Ties That Bind: The Black Family in Post-Slavery Jamaica, 1834–1882, by Jenny M. Jemmot (Jamaica)

WINNER, POETRY



Wife — Tiphanie Yanique's first book of poems — looks sharply at relationships and the language we use to make and shape them. The result, write the judges, "is a collection suspended between the definitional and provisional, between criticism and comedy.... Working within the territories of family, race, sex, inequality, and love," the judges go on, "Yanique always challenges our sense of the self, the lyrical, and asks how feeling might look and sound in poetry."

Publisher: Peepal Tree Press, United Kingdom

From **"A Note to the Couple's Therapist"**:

My self-diagnosis: It's just this body
I was given.
It wants to be more.
Now it smells like rust
but I'm too young
to flake away.
Now when I'm touched
it's with a thrusting motion
as though my body
were no more than
a pail of water;
a warm place
to wash one's hands . . .



TIPHANIE YANIQUE is a poet and fiction writer from the US Virgin Islands, currently based in New York City, where she teaches at The New School. She is the author of the short story collection *How to Escape from a Leper Colony*, winner of the 2011 OCM Bocas Prize, fiction category, and the novel *Land of Love and Drowning*.

POETRY JUDGES

Chair: Gemma Robinson is Senior Lecturer in English at the University of Stirling. She edited Martin Carter's *University of Hunger: Collected Poems and Selected Prose.* Her many other publications include articles on Guyanese writers on the radio, Martin Carter, Wilson Harris, teaching "the Americas," Caribbean manuscripts, and Caribbean protest writing.

John Robert Lee is a St. Lucian writer, archivist, and cultural activist who has published several collections of poetry, most recently *City Remembrances* (2016).

Vivek Narayanan was born in India and raised in Zambia. His poetry collections include *Universal Beach* and *Life and Times of Mr S.* His honours include a fellowship from the Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Studies, Harvard University. He is a 2015–16 Cullman Fellow at the New York Public Library.

FICTION JUDGES

Chair: Ramabai Espinet was born in Trinidad and lives in Toronto, Canada. She is an academic, a writer, and critic. Her published works include the novel, *The Swinging Bridge*, the collection of poetry *Nuclear Seasons*, and the children's books *The Princess of Spadina* and *Ninja's Carnival.*

Claire Armitstead is books editor for the UK *Guardian* and *Observer*. She presents the weekly *Guardian* books podcast and is a regular commentator on radio, and at live events across the UK and internationally.

Marlon James was born in Jamaica in 1970 and is author of three novels. His most recent, *A Brief History of Seven Killings*, won the 2015 Man Booker Prize, the American Book Award, the Anisfield-Wolf Book Prize for Fiction, the OCM Bocas Prize for Caribbean Fiction, the Green Carnation Prize, and the Minnesota Book Award. He lives in Minnesota and teaches at Macalester College.

WINNER, FICTION



The short stories in Olive Senior's *The Pain Tree* "hover around a persistent question," write the judges. "What lies just below the skin of everyday life? Lifting the veil — the caul, the face customised to the world's demands — leads to surprising discoveries about apparently ordinary lives. Cruelty, manipulation, Jamaican lore, all blend seamlessly into charting a parallel world view that is anchored in its own legitimacy."

Publisher: Cormorant Books, Canada

From **"The Pain Tree":**

The person who took care of me as a child was a woman named Larissa. The moment I arrived home, I had a vision of her, instead of my mother, standing by the front steps waiting to greet me with a gift in her hand. It startled me; though she no longer worked for my family, and it had been many years since I'd thought of her, it seemed so real. Suddenly I was a child again, so palpable was her presence. What I'd remembered were the good times we'd had together; it made me feel sad and I didn't know why. I felt cheated of the gift she hadn't delivered, though I knew that to be absurd. Larissa was a poor woman, with nothing to give . . .



OLIVE SENIOR is a Jamaican writer, currently based in Canada. She is the author of several prizewinning books, including the Commonwealth Writers' Prize-winning *Summer Lightning*, four collections of poems, and the historical work *Dying to Better Themselves: West Indians and the Building of the Panama Canal*, winner of the 2015 OCM Bocas Prize, non-fiction category.

WINNER, NON-FICTION



The Gymnast and Other Positions by Jacqueline Bishop is a hybrid collection of essays, stories, and interviews. "In a category where autobiographies abound," write the judges, "Bishop's mosaic of fragmented narratives is as original as it is insightful. Modern, spontaneous and formally innovative, it blurs the boundaries between the real and the imagined in a journey of self-discovery through the arts of the imagination in the Caribbean and elsewhere."

Publisher: Peepal Tree Press, United Kingdom

From **"Oleander"**:

It started with one tattoo. A tattoo of a flower. Or part of a flower. She came with a photograph, but it was no flower he had ever seen before. She wanted it here, she said, pointing to her navel; she wanted it surrounding what she considered the most important part of her body. She also wanted the exact same shade of colour. Since she was chocolate brown, he, the tattooist, had to play a little bit with the mixture. When they were both satisfied with what he came up with, the tattooist wrote the combination of inks and dyes into a book, so he would always remember. He knew that she would be coming back many times thereafter . . .



JACQUELINE BISHOP is a Jamaican writer based in New York City, where she teaches at New York University. She is the author of the novel *The River's Song* and two collections of poems, *Fauna* and *Snapshots from Istanbul*. She is also an accomplished visual artist who has shown her work in Belgium, Morocco, Italy, the US, and Jamaica.

NON FICTION JUDGES

Chair: J. Michael Dash, born in Trinidad, has worked extensively on Haitian literature and French Caribbean writers. His publications include *Literature and Ideology in Haiti*, *Haiti and the United States*, *Edouard Glissant*, and *The Other America: Caribbean Literature in a New World Context*, as well as English translations of Glissant's work.

Barbara Lalla, born in Jamaica and long based in Trinidad, is Professor Emerita of Language and Literature at UWI, St Augustine. She is the author of three novels, *Uncle Brother, Cascade* (winner of the UWI Press Inaugural Fiction Award) and *Arch of Fire,* and numerous scholarly publications.

Lizabeth Paravisini-Gebert is Prof of Caribbean Culture and Literature at Vassar College. Her books include *Phyllis Shand Allfrey: A Caribbean Life*; *Jamaica Kincaid: A Critical Companion*; and *Creole Religions of the Caribbean*; *Literatures of the Caribbean*. She co-edits Repeating Islands, a blog on Caribbean culture.

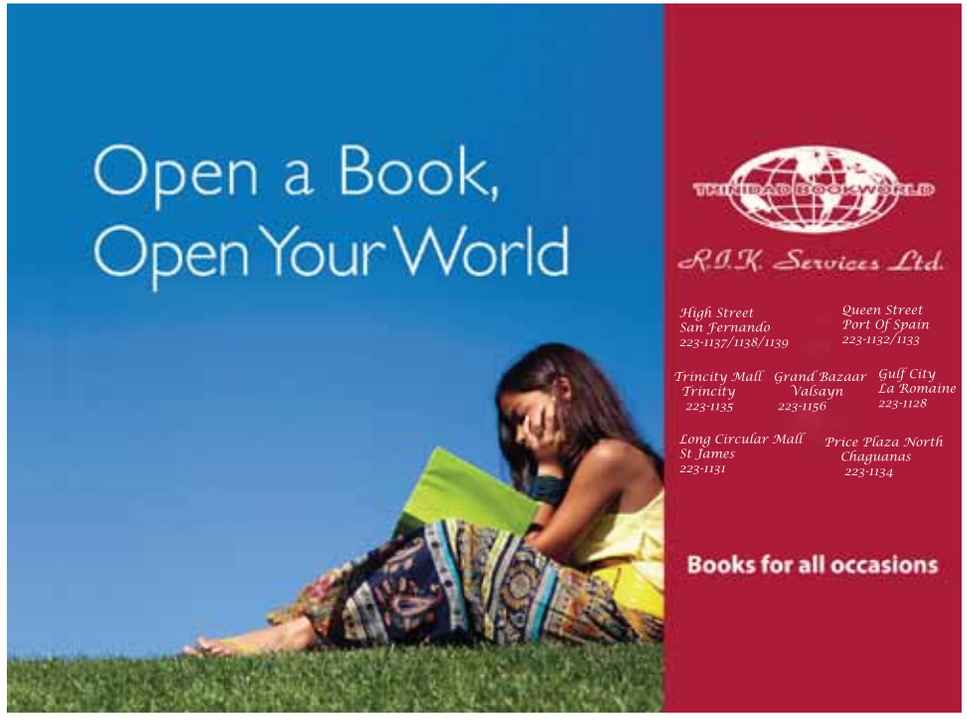
2016 OCM BOCAS PRIZE OVERALL CROSS-GENRE JUDGING PANEL



Chair: Dionne Brand, born in Trinidad and Tobago and based in Canada, is a renowned poet, novelist, and essayist. She was appointed the Poet Laureate of the City of Toronto, 2009–2012. Her work includes nine volumes of poetry, five books of fiction, and two non-fiction works. Her most recent novel, *Love Enough,* was nominated in 2015 for the Trillium Book Award.



Vice Chair: Marjorie Thorpe, representative of the OCM Bocas Prize administrators, was Regional Chair of the Commonwealth Writers' Prize (Canada and the Caribbean) from 2003 to 2005. A former Dean of the Faculty of Arts and General Studies, UWI, she has been Trinidad and Tobago's Ambassador to the United Nations, Deputy Director of the United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM), and Resident Representative of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) for Barbados and the Eastern Caribbean.



FESTIVAL T-SHIRTS

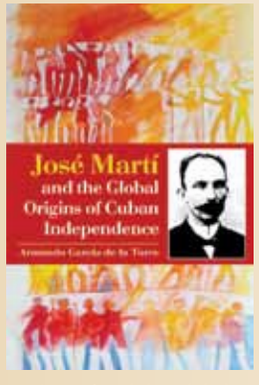
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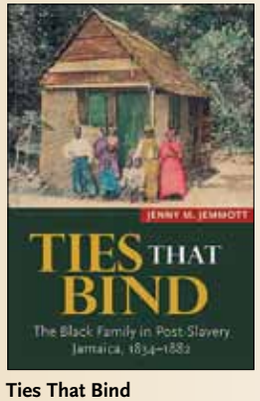


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José Marti and the Global Origins on Cuban Independence
ARMANDO GARCÍA DE LA TORRE
2015
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Ties That Bind
The Black Family in Post-Slavery Jamaica, 1834–1882
JENNY M. JEMMOTT
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CODE's Burt Award for Caribbean Literature opens for submissions on 1 June 2016.

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BURT AWARD FOR CARIBBEAN LITERATURE

CODE's Burt Award for Caribbean Literature, now in its third year, is an annual award presented to three English-language literary works for young adults (aged 12 through 18) written by Caribbean authors. Established by CODE — a Canadian charitable organisation that has been supporting literacy and learning for over 50 years — in collaboration with William (Bill) Burt and the Literary Prizes Foundation, the Award aims to provide engaging and culturally relevant books for young people across the Caribbean.

Up to three prizes are awarded each year to the authors of the winning titles: a First Prize of CAD $10,000 CAD, a Second Prize of CAD $7,000 and a Third Prize of CAD $5,000.

Publishers of winning titles will be awarded a guaranteed purchase of up to 2,000 copies. Books purchased by the programme will be donated to select libraries, schools and literacy organisations for distribution in the Caribbean.

The 2016 winners will be announced on Friday 29 April. Winning manuscripts will be published after the prize announcement.

2016 JUDGES

Alscess Lewis-Brown (US Virgin Islands) is an educator and children's author, and editor in chief of *The Caribbean Writer*, an international literary journal with a Caribbean focus published annually by the University of the Virgin Islands. She has written six books for young readers, including the popular Moko Jumbi Majorette series (published by Little Bell/ Campanita Books).

Tracey Baptiste (Trinidad and Tobago, based in the US) is the author of the critically acclaimed Young Adult novel *Angel's Grace* (Simon & Schuster, 2005), named one of the 100 best books for reading and sharing by New York City librarians, and *The Jumbies* (Algonquin, 2014), which mixes a Haitian folktale with creatures from Trinidadian lore into a high-adventure fairy tale.

Daniel José Older (US) is a Brooklyn-based writer, editor, and composer. He is the author of the Bone Street Rumba novels, including *Half-Resurrection Blues*; the ghost noir collection *Salsa Nocturna*, and the Young Adult novel *SHADOWSHAPER* (nominated for the Kirkus Prize in Young Readers' Literature).

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2016 SHORTLIST

The Demise of the Queen's College Adventure Club by Imam Baksh, Guyana (manuscript)

De First Family by Tamika Gibson, Trinidad and Tobago (manuscript)

The Truth Is by Lynn Joseph, Trinidad and Tobago (manuscript)

The Protector's Pledge by Danielle Y.C. McClean, Trinidad and Tobago (self-published)

Barberry Hill by Carol Mitchell, St. Kitts and Nevis (manuscript)

Girlcott by Florenz Webbe Maxwell, Bermuda (manuscript)



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BOCAS HENRY SWANZY AWARD

The **Bocas Henry Swanzy Award for Distinguished Service to Caribbean Letters** is named for the late BBC radio producer (1915–2004) who created a landmark platform for Caribbean writing in the 1940s and 50s. The *Caribbean Voices* programme, which broadcast fiction and poems across the region, built an audience for West Indian literature at a crucial stage in its development, and supported a generation of then-emerging writers.

Each year the NGC Bocas Lit Fest honours Swanzy's memory and recognises the achievements of other editors, broadcasters, publishers, and critics via the Bocas Henry Swanzy Award. Awardees are chosen by the festival organising committee.

The recipient of the 2016 Bocas Henry Swanzy Award is **publisher and editor Jeremy Poynting** of UK-based **Peepal Tree Press**, the leading publishing house focused on contemporary Caribbean writing.

With more than three hundred books on its list, ranging from works by debut authors to resurrected classics, Peepal Tree has arguably done more to nourish contemporary Caribbean literature than any other publisher in recent decades.

The roots of Peepal Tree Press go back to Poynting's previous career as an academic, when his PhD research into Indo-Caribbean literature took him to Guyana. The plight of talented writers there with no outlet for publication inspired him to found a literary imprint. His first book, Rooplall Monar's *Backdam People*, was published with the most basic of equipment: "'typeset' on a daisywheel printer," Poynting recalls, "and printed in the evenings at the college where I worked."

In the early days, Poynting ran Peepal Tree out of his garage, printing the books himself and managing two or three titles per year. Its growth into a powerhouse of Caribbean publishing was slow, often difficult, and even more often debt-incurring. But gradual support from the Arts Council of England, the introduction of more affordable digital printing technology, and the arrival in 1994 of Hannah Bannister as the second key member of the Peepal Tree team all helped overcome the substantial challenges involved in running a small publishing house.

Today, Peepal Tree is the publisher of first choice for many emerging Caribbean writers. It has published more winners of the three genre categories



of the OCM Bocas Prize than any other publisher, including the 2015 overall winner, Vladimir Lucien's poetry collection *Sounding Ground*. Poynting's achievements have been recognised by the University of the West Indies, which granted him an honorary doctorate in 2014.

The 2016 Bocas Henry Swanzy Award will be presented as part of the OCM Bocas Prize ceremony on Saturday 30 April, 7.15 pm, in the Old Fire Station.

CROSS, master pen makers, are the new donors of the award.

In 2013, the inaugural Bocas Henry Swanzy Award was presented to **John La Rose** (posthumously) and **Sarah White** of New Beacon Books. The 2014 winners were **Kenneth Ramchand** and **Gordon Rohlehr**, literary critics and professors emeriti of the University of the West Indies, and in 2015 the award was presented to **Margaret Busby**, OBE, publisher, editor, and broadcaster.

THE NATIONAL GAS COMPANY OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO LIMITED

NGC Children's Bocas Lit Fest 6

CHILDREN'S PROGRAMME

The NGC Children's Bocas Lit Fest is a special programme of events for young readers. During the month of April, our Children's Storytelling Caravan travels all around Trinidad and Tobago, as children get to meet our expert storytellers and share their wonderful stories with us. It culminates in the four-day Children's Festival, a treat of readings from children's books by their authors, creative writing workshops, films, and the last stop of the Storytelling Caravan.

All events take place in the Children's Library on the ground floor of the National Library, Port of Spain.

IMAGINE NEW WORLDS

Wednesday 27 April, 8.30–11.30 am • Queen's Park Oval

Every year the NGC Children's Bocas Lit Fest offers a special children's event. In this special 125th anniversary of Trinidad and Tobago's most famous cricket club, the Queen's Park Cricket Club (QPCC), Imagine New Worlds goes to the Queen's Park Oval, where the QPCC has been playing for over a century. Children from schools all over the country are invited for a day of creative fun with some leading children's entertainers, artists, and musicians, and a close focus on cricket. The programme features:

- The art and history of cricket – the rules of the game with star cricketers and tours of the Oval's cricket musuem.
- Music by the St. Margaret's Boys' Anglican Primary School Steelpan Orchestra, winners of multiple National Junior Panorama titles, and other local musicians.
- Storytelling with Lylah Persad, director of LP Entertainment Theatre and creator of Once Upon a Toy Shop.
- Workshops in writing and performing poetry.
- Comedy and performance with Wendell Manwarren, Nikki Crosby and Penelope Spencer.
- An array of fantastic prizes, including autographed cricket memorabilia.

In partnership with

THURSDAY 28 APRIL

Workshop
Traditional Japanese Storytelling: Kamishibai (Paper Theatre) Performance and Tachi-e Puppets, with Summer Edward
Multicultural storyteller Summer Edward presents a performance of the Japanese narrative art of kamishibai (literally "paper drama"), a form of visual and participatory storytelling that combines the use of hand-drawn visuals with the engaging narration of a live presenter.
9.30–10.15 am

Workshop
Creativity Workshop, with Lisa Allen-Agostini
A writing workshop to develop creativity and storytelling skills.
10.30–11.30 am

Interactive Reading
Tyrell Learns a Lesson, with Eintou Pearl Springer
The story of two children Tyrell and Keisha, a brother and sister who learn important lessons one adventurous Carnival.
12.30–1.15 pm

Workshop
The Art of Poetry, with Sufia Giza Amenwahsu
This workshop uses poetry and art to stimulate creativity. It starts with basic grammar exercises, and leads to brainstorming techniques for writing inspiration. Students will perform their poetry pieces for the group to learn to share the stage and appreciate the work of others.
1.20–2 pm

FRIDAY 29 APRIL

Reading
Marvin and the Race to the Nest, by Carol Mitchell
A beautifully illustrated book about hummingbirds. The book includes a short story, a poem, and facts about hummingbirds.
9–9.30 am

Reading
Promise of the Pomegranate, by Alscess Lewis-Brown
Follow the adventures of ten-year old Lexi, who dreams of being a moko jumbie majorette, but soon learns that getting what you want can come at a price. A story filled with valuable lessons about friendship, community, family, loyalty, and the importance of accepting responsibility for our actions.
9.35–10.10 am

Reading
Dragon Boyz, by Jillian Carreira
On a small Caribbean island, two boys, Dylan and Christian, discover what appears to be a large magical egg which leads to the start of great adventures. This children's novel centers around friendship and unity between two friends.
10.15–10.45 am

Workshop: I Sing What I Feel
Everyone has a voice, but everyone does not know this. This endows its participants with the confidence and basic technical know-how to create their own songs. With Muhammad Muwakil and Lou Lyons of Freetown Collective.
11 am–12 pm

Reading
Hatch, by Jeunanne Alkins
A charming story about Hatch, a competitive little Leatherback Turtle. He and his tiny hatchling brothers and sisters are racing wildly to crack out of their eggs and be first to the sea!
1–1.30 pm

Interactive Presentation/Film
Bim and Bam, with Jeunanne Alkins
A preview of the upcoming children's animated adventure series. Twin siblings Bim and Bam have free reign when it comes to adventure, and there are a million things to get your imagination working overtime when exploring exotic countries.
1.30–2 pm

SATURDAY 30 APRIL

Reading
The Princess of Spadina, by Ramabai Espinet
A wonderful tale of magic and adventure, celebrating diversity and multiculturalism on the streets of Toronto.
9.15–9.45 am

Storytelling Caravan
Bush Fire in the Northern Range, with Auntie Thea
Experience the magic of

literature through storytelling. Children are encouraged to craft a story based on the suggested title, unleashing and guiding their creativity and inspiring them to value self-expression through the written word. Pre-registration required.
10 am–12 pm

Film
Super Me (docudrama), by Jaime Lee Loy
At a time when their nation and world is in crisis, young heroes from Trinidad and Tobago discuss their individual powers, their methods of coping with adversity, and their personal solutions for positive change.
1–2 pm

Reading
If I Can You Can Too, by Marsha Riley
The true stories of some of our local heroes — stories of perseverance, hard work and eventual success.
2.15–2.40 pm

AUTHORS, PERFORMERS AND WORKSHOP FACILITATORS

Jaime Lee Loy is a writer and contemporary artist who has exhibited in Trinidad and internationally. She owns a social enterprise, HOMESTUDIO, and is founder of a not-for-profit programme, SUMMER HEROES, which pursues art as a tool for self-therapy in children. She is also a writer of children's content, and the producer of several films. Jaime's work with children promotes youth leadership and social responsibility and her personal art and projects focus on socially relevant concerns such as domestic violence and abuse. She has won several awards and grants for both her art and her writing.

Jeunanne Alkins is an artist and founder of design studio, Everything Slight Pepper and ESPjr, a multimedia brand of universally appealing, Caribbean content for children. Her debut self-authored and illustrated picturebook *Ready, Set . . . Hatch!* teaches children about the endangered leatherback turtle. Through ESPjr, Jeunanne is determined to use her communications skills and design talent to effect social change.

Marsha Riley, author, coach, motivational speaker, is a single "mumtrepeneur," who still manages to home-school her six-year-old daughter. She wrote *If I Can You Can Too*, a visually appealing book that tells children the true stories of some of our local heroes — stories of perseverance, hard work, and eventual success. Marsha also created a seminar that helps equip parents to identify and harness the natural intelligences and passions of their children and is now in the processing of unveiling her umbrella foundation. Currently, Marsha is building Piece of Me — a Foundation geared towards mentoring children and continuing her social work.

Jillian Carreira was born in Trinidad and Tobago. She has a degree in literature from the University of the West Indies, Trinidad. She now teaches at a private school in Port of Spain, and recently acquired a Masters in Education from the University of Framingham, USA. Her first book, *Dragon Boyz*, was a collaboration with her son, the first of a three-part series.

Sufia Giza Amenwahsu is an ancestrally inspired artist with strong links to her Gullah-Geechee Roots. Originally from Southern California, she resides between South Carolina and Tobago. In 1991 she co-founded The Riverside Renaissance Writers Group. From 1996-2007 she produced and hosted SANKOFA Times TV in Los Angeles, CA and is a member of Cave Canem South Literary Group. Sufia is a Poetess, Filmmaker & Certified Yoga Instructor.

Lou Lyons is a founding member of the band Freetown Collective. He is a musical innovator, adept guitarist, and producer.

Lisa Allen-Agostini is a poet, playwright and fiction writer from Trinidad and Tobago. She is the editor of the *Sunday Guardian* arts section and founder of The Allen Prize for Young Writers. She is co-editor of *Trinidad Noir* (Akashic Books) and the author of the *The Chalice Project* (part of Macmillan Caribbean's Island Fiction children's series) and the poetry collection *Swallowing the Sky*.

Carol Ottley-Mitchell, from St. Kitts and Nevis, is the author of eleven children's books including the innovative Caribbean Adventure Series and the follow up series Chee Chee's Adventures. She is a professional editor, and the Founder of CaribbeanReads Publishing, which focuses its work on publishing books by authors of the Caribbean.

Muhammad Muwakil is a musician, poet, and actor, and a founding member of the band Freetown Collective.

Eintou Pearl Springer is a former Poet Laureate of Port of Spain. In her work with The Idakeda Group she explores social issues using traditional performance forms. Her publications include four collections of poetry for adults, three for children, and *God Child*, a collection of children's stories.

Summer Edward, poet, writer and healing artist is the founder and Managing Editor of *Anansesem* Caribbean children's literature e-zine. Her fiction is featured in the anthology *New Worlds, Old Ways: Speculative Tales from the Caribbean.*

Alscess Lewis-Brown is an educator and children's author from the US Virgin Islands. She is editor-in-chief of *The Caribbean Writer*, an international literary journal with a Caribbean focus published annually by the University of the Virgin Islands. She has written six books for young readers, including the popular Moko Jumbi Majorette series (published by Little Bell/Campanita Books).





WHO'S WHO

Meet the members of the 2016 NGC Bocas Lit fest team

Marina Salandy-Brown is the founder and Festival Director of the NGC Bocas Lit Fest. She was the first Executive Director of the Trinidad and Tobago Film Festival. Since 2005 she has been a *Newsday* columnist. She is a former BBC prize-winning programme maker with a publishing background She was awarded a Doctor of Letters (DLitt), *Honoris Causa* by the University of Westminster in 2005, and by the University of the West Indies in 2013. She is a Fellow of the Royal Society of Arts.

Funso Aiyejina is the Deputy Festival Director of the NGC Bocas Lit Fest. He is the former Dean of the Faculty of Humanities and Education at the University of the West Indies, St. Augustine, and now Professor Emeritus. He is also a prize-winning poet and short story writer, whose awards include the 2000 Commonwealth Writers Prize (Africa). Born in Nigeria, he has been based in Trinidad and Tobago since 1989. Since 2000 he has co-run the Cropper Foundation Writers Workshop, for Caribbean writers.

Nicholas Laughlin is the Programme Director of the NGC Bocas Lit Fest. He is the editor of *The Caribbean Review of Books* and the arts and travel magazine *Caribbean Beat*. He is also co-director of the contemporary art space and network Alice Yard. His book of poems *The Strange Years of My Life* was published in 2015.

Danielle Delon is Director of the NGC Children's Bocas Lit Fest. She is the editor of *The Letters of Margaret Mann* and author of *Bridges of Trinidad and Tobago: Side to Side*.

Anna Lucie-Smith is the Festival's Programme Coordinator.

Marielle Forbes is the Festival's Hospitality and Business Manager, and the main liaison for visiting writers.

Ardene Sirjoo is Marketing Coordinator.

Kathleen Tompsett is Special Events Coordinator.

Shivanee Ramlochan, Festival Blogger and Social Media Coordinator, is a writer who blogs about books at novelniche.wordpress.com.

Jean-Claude Cournand is the Bocas Youth Outreach Coordinator and founder of the 2 Cents Movement.

Joan Dayal is Festival Booksellers' Coordinator and owner of Paper Based bookshop, which for 28 years has specialised in Caribbean literature and post-colonial writing.

Lucita Esau, Merchandising Coordinator, runs her own design business.

Kenrick Attale is the Festival's Marketing Director.

Marjorie Thorpe is Vice Chair of the OCM Bocas Prize judging panel.

Malene Joseph is the Festival's Award Ceremony Coordinator.

Natacha Jones and **Ariana Herbert** are the NGC Children's Bocas Lit Fest Storytelling Assistants.

Marlon James, official Festival Photographer, is a well-known Jamaican artist currently based in Trinidad.

Richard Mark Rawlins, Festival Designer, has worked in various areas of graphic design, and his work as a visual artist has been shown in several exhibitions. He is the publisher of the contemporary art and design e-magazine *Draconian Switch*.

Melanie Archer is the designer of the CineLit programme.

Cedric Smart, Technical Coordinator, is a consultant providing a complete service in sound design and production.

James Barber is the administrator of the NGC Bocas Lit Fest website.

Krystal Smart is a Guest Coordinator for the Festival.

Linda Leona Lee is the Festival's Workshop Coordinator.

Maurice Chevalier is the Festival Decor Coordinator.

Stefan Rampersad is the Festival Village Coordinator.

Veronique Majani is the OCM Bocas Prize After-Party Coordinator.

Ghislaine Agostini, **Gem Rowe**, and **Lisa Huggins** are principal Festival volunteers.

Vincent O'Neil is the Festival Livestream Coordinator and Bocas Technical Advisor.

North Eleven are the Festival's audio visual and film screening partners.

Thanks to all the hardworking members of the Festival team!

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CREDITS & THANKS

The Bocas Lit Fest is a non-profit company incorporated and registered in Trinidad and Tobago.

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