NGC Bocas Lit Fest

01 MAY – 05 MAY 2019

PORT OF SPAIN TRINIDAD

#bocas2019

Except where otherwise indicated, events take place in the National Library and Old Fire Station, Abercromby and Hart Streets, Port of Spain. All events (except workshops and First Citizens National Poetry Slam Finals) are free to the public — no tickets required. Register in advance for workshops.

www.bocaslitfest.com

WEDNESDAY 1 MAY

WRITERS FIRST
A series of free seminars for budding and self-published authors on crucial aspects of the book business

- **What every fiction publisher is looking for**, with Jacob Ross, author and associate fiction editor at Peepal Tree Press
- **Are writers born or made? And how can workshopping nurture your talent?**, with Muli Amaye, head of the creative writing MFA programme at UWI, St. Augustine

10 am–12 pm • AV Room

NEW VOICES
A special showcase of debut books by emerging self-published authors. Featuring readings by **Prithiviraj Bahadursingh**, **Regina Dumas**, **Derry Sandy**, and **Jennifer Thomas-Straker**
12–1 pm • AV Room

WRITERS FIRST
- **The five most important things you don't know about publishing**, with Ian Randle, eminent Jamaican publisher
- **The art of the blurb**, with UK editor Margaret Busby
- **Writing to the world**, with Janet Steel and Emma D'Costa of Commonwealth Writers

1–4 pm • AV Room

NEW VOICES
Featuring readings by **Theresa Awai**, **Motilal Boodoosingh**, **Lesley-Ann Brown**, **Esbeth Callender-Braithwaite**, **Nicola Ramsaran**, and **Tristan Walker**
4.30–6 pm • AV Room

FILM
Roma (2018)
Cleo is a domestic worker who helps Antonio and Sofía take care of their four children in 1970s Mexico City. Complications arise when Antonio runs away with his mistress and Cleo finds out she's pregnant. Directed by Alfonso Cuarón; winner of three 2019 Academy Awards
6.30–9 pm • AV Room
In partnership with the Embassy of Mexico and courtesy Netflix

COMMONWEALTH WRITERS CONVERSATIONS
We Mark Your Memory
Presenting the latest Peekash Press anthology, collecting new writing from around the Commonwealth reflecting on the experience of Indian indenturership. With readings by **Patti-Anne Ali**, **Stella Chong Sing**, **Gabrielle Hosein**, and **Kevin Jared Hosein**, a conversation chaired by **Janet Steel**, and a musical performance by **Sharda Patasar**
6.30–8.30 pm • The Writers Centre, 14 Alcazar Street, St. Clair
In partnership with Commonwealth Writers

THURSDAY 2 MAY

BIG IDEAS
An equal place?
Do T&T's laws and traditions undermine the promise of equality in our anthem? A hard-hitting debate on issues of gender, class, ethnicity, sexuality, religion, and human rights, with **Mariano Browne**, **Sofia Chote**, **Andy Johnson**, and **Attillah Springer**, chaired by Colin Robinson
10–11.30 am • Old Fire Station

CODE BURT AWARD
2019 winners showcase
Readings by and conversation with 2019 finalists **Jeanelle Frontin**, **Tamika Gibson**, and **Diana McCaulay**, chaired by Jasmin Simmons, and the announcement of the winner by chief judge Ian Randle
10–11.30 am • AV Room
In partnership with CODE

WORKSHOP
Writing for comics,
with Nalo Hopkinson
With comics and graphic novels now firmly established as literary forms, many writers dream of exploring the genre — but how do you get started? Nalo Hopkinson, writer of DC Comics' *House of Whispers* series, leads a seminar to guide you through the first steps
10 am–12.30 pm • 1st Floor Seminar Room

EXTEMPO DEBATE
Every creed and race
Master calypsonians **Black Sage** and **Brian London** debate the theory and reality of equality in T&T
12–12.30 pm • Abercromby Street Arcade
In partnership with the Ministry of Community Development, Culture and the Arts

TAKE TWO
Haitian writer **Néhémy Pierre Dahomey** and Trinidadian **Ayanna Gillian Lloyd** read from and discuss fictions where family ties intersect with history and politics, chaired by **Marie Abdulah**
1–2 pm • Old Fire Station

BIG IDEAS
Our music too
We claim calypso and steelpan as T&T's "national" musical forms, but what about other genres in which we excel? A discussion on the prospects for jazz, traditional Indian music, rock, and classical music. With **Sharda Patasar**, **Gary Hector**, **Ruth Osman**, and **Mark Lyndersay**, chaired by Nigel A. Campbell
1–2.30 pm • AV Room

WORKSHOP
Writing as a stranger,
with Nick Makoha
The Forward Prize-shortlisted UK poet leads a hand-on session exploring the "metic experience," exploring issues of identity, race, and migration through the eyes of foreigners and exiles
1.30–4 pm • 1st Floor Seminar Room
In partnership with the British Council

ONE ON ONE
Gary Younge, British writer and *UK Guardian* editor-at-large, talks to Kevin Adonis Browne about how race continues to shape politics in Britain and the United States
2–3 pm • Old Fire Station

FILM
My Name Is Celia Cruz (1988)
Meet the late, great queen of Cuban music in this documentary from director Anthony Wall
2.30–3.30 pm • AV Room
Co-produced by Speaking Volumes and Lucy Hannah, as part of the Your Local Arena series. In partnership with the British Council

ONE ON ONE
Krystal Sital, author of the hard-hitting memoir *Secrets We Kept: Three Women of Trinidad*, talks to Angelique Nixon about her book and the sometimes unspoken traumas that lurk within families
3–4 pm • Old Fire Station

TAKE TWO
Marina Warner (*Fly Away Home*) and **Abigail Parry** (*Jinx*) read from their stories and poems inspired by a rich tradition of fairy tales, folklore, spells and curses; chaired by Shivanee Ramlochan
4–5 pm • Old Fire Station

BORDER CROSSINGS
Reading in tongues
Despite our geographical proximity, the contemporary literature of the non-Anglophone Caribbean is little known to T&T readers. Bibliophile, arts festival director, and ambassador of the Dominican Republic to T&T **José Serulle** joins scholars **Nicole Roberts**, **Ivette Romero**, and **Elizabeth Walcott-Hackshaw** for an informal conversation about regional literature and the challenges faced by our literary neighbours
4–5 pm • AV Room

FILMS
Gilberto Gil: Back to Bahia (1990)
The life and times of Brazil's most popular musical icon, in a documentary directed by Francis Hanly and Tim May
5.30–6.30 pm • AV Room
Co-produced by Speaking Volumes and Lucy Hannah, as part of the Your Local Arena series. In partnership with the British Council

BOOK LAUNCH
New Daughters of Africa
The successor to the groundbreaking anthology of African and African-diaspora women writers has its Caribbean debut, introduced by editor **Margaret Busby** and **Marina Salandy-Brown**, with readings by T&T writers **Lisa Allen-Agostini**, **Alake Pilgrim**, and **Attillah Springer**, plus **Diana Evans**, **Ifeona Fulani**, and **Nalo Hopkinson**
6–7.30 pm • Library Amphitheatre
In partnership with the British Council

BACKCHAT
Drinks, music, poems, stories, and a sizzling open mic: come and lime with some of T&T's best LGBT writers, plus some surprise guests
9 pm until • Euphoria Lounge, 58 Dundonald Street

FRIDAY 3 MAY

BIG IDEAS
***Capitalism and Slavery* at 75**
Three quarters of a century ago, Eric Williams's groundbreaking historical study changed our understanding colonialism, slavery, and the rationale for Emancipation. Historians **Heather Cateau** and **Selwyn Cudjoe** and writer **Caryl Phillips** discuss its legacy. Chaired by Gabrielle Hosein
10–11.30 am • Old Fire Station

ONE ON ONE
Earl Lovelace, T&T's eminent novelist, reads from his classic novel *The Dragon Can't Dance* and discusses how its concerns and ideas have remained relevant after 40 years. Introduced by Funso Aiyejina
10–11 am • AV Room

WORKSHOP
Performance and stagecraft for writers, with Janet Steel
Contemporary writers are expected to be masterful performers of their own work. But what if you lack the dramatic skills to pull it off? Actor and director Janet Steel leads a hand-on session
10 am–12.30 pm • 1st Floor Seminar Room

BORDER CROSSINGS
Across the Bocas del Dragon
Panelists from Latin America discuss contemporary politics and society in Central and South America, against a backdrop of shifting political tides. With **Juan Aníbal Barría**, Ambassador of Chile; **Javier Carbajosa**, Ambassador of Spain; and **José Serulle**, Ambassador of the Dominican Republic, chaired by Cuban scholar Jacqueline Laguardia.
11–12 pm • AV Room

TALES FOR THE BOOKMAN
T&T Carnival's traditional Bookman character never speaks, but he carries a huge volume containing the names of condemned souls. Following our riveting tribute to the Midnight Robber at our 2018 festival, at Bocas 2019 we commission writers **Kevin Jared Hosein**, **Anton Nimblett**, and **Alake Pilgrim** to write new short stories for the Bookman's Book of the Damned
11.30 am–12.30 pm • Old Fire Station
In partnership with the Ministry of Community Development, Culture, and the Arts

STAND AND DELIVER
Our signature event for new and budding writers welcomes young voices to share their stories and concerns. With guest feature reader **Amanda McIntyre**
12–1 pm • Abercromby Street Arcade

FILM
Promise at Dawn (2017)
From his childhood in Poland to his years as a student in Paris and his training as a pilot during World War II, this tragi-comedy tells the story of Romain Gary, famous French novelist. Directed by Eric Barbier
12.30–3 pm • AV Room • In partnership with the European Union

ONE ON ONE
Celebrated Kittitian-British writer **Caryl Phillips** reads from his novel inspired by the life of Jean Rhys, and discusses his life in letters with *Granta* online editor Luke Neima
1–2 pm • Old Fire Station
In partnership with the ANSA Foundation

WORKSHOP
Creating memorable characters, with Marcia Douglas
Characters who seize the reader's imagination: that's every author's goal. Here's how to get started
1.30–4 pm • 1st Floor Seminar Room

TAKE TWO
St. Lucian writers of two generations, **Kendel Hippolyte** (*Wordplanting*) and **Canisia Lubrin** (*Voodoo Hypothesis*) read from their new books of poetry, rooted in island soil but extending their branches across history and geography; chaired by Amílcar Sanatan
2–3 pm • Old Fire Station

BORDER CROSSINGS
Breaking Borders
Writers reflect on a world where political anxieties restrict freedom of movement for all. With **Diana Evans**, **Yuri Herrera**, and **Nick Makoha**; chaired by Jane Bryce
3–4.30 pm • Old Fire Station • In partnership with the British Council

FILM
Sun, Sea, and Science (2018)
The expertise of T&T's scientists is a major untapped resource, argues this documentary, profiling microbiologist Adesh Ramsubhag, computer scientist Patrick Hosein, and medical researcher Paul Teelucksingh. Introduced by director Raymond Ramcharitar
3–4 pm • AV Room

TAKE TWO
Muli Amaye (*A House with No Angels*) and **Geoffrey Philp** (*Garvey's Ghost*) read from their novels in which momentous events and individuals from the past influence the lives of characters in the present; chaired by Desirée Seebaran
4–5 pm • AV Room

BOOK LAUNCH
The Naipaul inheritance
The new book of essays *Seepersad and Sons* launches with a debate about the legacies of the Naipaul literary dynasty for contemporary Caribbean writers. Featuring editor **Vijay Maharaj**, scholar **Kenneth Ramchand**, and writer **Anton Nimblett**; chaired by Andre Bagoo
4.30–6 pm • Old Fire Station

BIG IDEAS
Capturing Carnival
A panel discussion on the art and science of Carnival photography, with **Maria Nunes** (*A World of Their Own*), **Kevin Adonis Browne** (*High Mas*), and **Christine Norton** (*Minshall by Norton*), chaired by Franka Philip
5–6 pm • AV Room

FILM
The Strange Luck of V.S. Naipaul (2008)
This honest, insightful documentary on T&T's late Nobel laureate profiles the man behind the mask of literary genius. Directed by Adam Low
6–7.30 pm • AV Room
Co-produced by Speaking Volumes and Lucy Hannah, as part of the Your Local Arena series. In partnership with the British Council

TIME MACHINE
A big night of literature and music at the Big Black Box
Extraordinary writers of science fiction, fantasy, and historical fiction imagine alternative pasts and futures. Featuring **Marcia Douglas**, **Nalo Hopkinson**, **Marlon James**, **Karen Lord**, and **Danez Smith**, with music by Freetown Collective. Hosted by elisha efua bartels
7 pm until • Big Black Box, 33 Murray Street, Woodbrook

SATURDAY 4 MAY

TRIBUTE
The British author **Andrea Levy**, who died in early 2019, won acclaim for her novel *Small Island*, documenting the lives of *Windrush* immigrants in Britain. Editor **Margaret Busby**, journalist **Gary Younge**, and NGC Bocas Lit Fest founder **Marina Salandy-Brown** discuss Levy's indelible legacy
10–11 am • Old Fire Station

BIG IDEAS
One from ten leaves who?
Has the decades-long project of Caribbean regionalism gone stale? A debate on the future of Caribbean unity, featuring **June Soomer**, secretary-general of the Association of Caribbean States; **Adrian Saunders**, president of the Caribbean Court of Justice; **Paula Gopee-Scoon**, T&T Minister of Trade; and scholar **Schuyler Esprit**; chaired by Ian Randle
10–11.30 am • AV Room

WORKSHOP
Writing through trauma,
with Krystal Sital
Sometimes the most painful topics are the ones we feel most driven to write about, but how do you turn personal or family trauma into a compelling narrative?
10 am–12.30 pm • 1st Floor Seminar Room

ONE ON ONE
Diana Evans, award-winning British novelist, talks to Lucy Hannah about her books exploring contemporary London with all its contradictions of race and class
11 am–12 pm • Old Fire Station

INSPIRED BY THE ARCHIVES
Part two of this groundbreaking series, in which writers of today are commissioned to explore the Caribbean's literary archives and write new creative works. Featuring **Kendel Hippolyte**, **Celeste Mohammed**, and **Alexandra Stewart**, chaired by Alison Donnell
11.30 am–12.30 pm • AV Room
In partnership with Caribbean Literary Heritage

FOR THE LOVE OF POEMS
An alternative slam
Enjoy some of the best talent from the First Citizens National Poetry Small semi-final round, performing now without the pressure of competition, for the sheer love of poetry. Featuring **Arnaldo Conliff**, **Dennis Joseph**, **Ahmad Muhammad**, **Iyana Phillips**, and **Emmanuel Villafana**
11.30 am–12 pm • Library Rotunda

STAND AND DELIVER
Our signature event for new and budding writers. With guest feature readers **Heather Barker** and **Sharma Taylor**, both finalists for the Johnson and Amoy Achong Caribbean Writers Prize
12–1.30 pm • Abercromby Street Arcade

ONE ON ONE
Mexican writer **Yuri Herrera** reads from his fiction exploring the meaning of cultural and physical borders in the age of Trump, and talks to *Granta* online editor Luke Neima
1–2 pm • Old Fire Station

CROPPER FOUNDATION AT 20
As the landmark writing workshop celebrates its 20th anniversary, celebrated Cropper alumni share their work and memories, introduced by Funso Aiyejina and Merle Hodge. Featuring **Andre Bagoo**, **Rhoda Bharath**, **Barbara Jenkins**, **Shivanee Ramlochan**, and **Colin Robinson**
1–2 pm • AV Room

WORKSHOP
Flash fiction, with Geoffrey Philp
Sometimes the best stories are the most concise. But writing short-short fiction requires a particular discipline and specific skills — as you'll learn in this session
1.30–4 pm • 1st Floor Seminar Room

TAKE TWO
Claire Adam (*Golden Child*) and **Alexia Arthurs** (*How to Love a Jamaican*) read from and discuss their debut books of fiction, tackling the tricky bonds of family and individuality. Chaired by Shivanee Ramlochan
2–3 pm • Old Fire Station

ONE ON ONE
Anthony Wall, pioneering UK director, talks to Lucy Hannah about the celebrated Arena documentary series and his life in film
2–3 pm • AV Room

FILM
C.L.R. James's First Eleven (1986)
T&T's great writer, political philosopher, and cricket enthusiast picks his all-time ultimate cricket team, in this short documentary directed by Charlie Pattinson
3–3.30 pm • AV Room
Co-produced by Speaking Volumes and Lucy Hannah, as part of the Your Local Arena series. In partnership with the British Council

THE CARIBBEAN'S BIGGEST FESTIVAL OF WORDS, STORIES AND IDEAS.

TAKE TWO
Uganda-born British poet **Nick Makoha**, author of *Kingdom of Gravity*, and Trinidadian **Danielle Boodoo-Fortuné**, author of *Doe Songs*, read and discuss their work with Ayanna Gillian Lloyd
3–4 pm • Old Fire Station

FILM
Brixton to Barbados (1981)
Pioneering dub poet Linton Kwesi Johnson leaves his home in London and travels to Barbados to experience Carifesta 1981. Directed by Anthony Wall
3.30–4.30 pm • AV Room
Co-produced by Speaking Volumes and Lucy Hannah, as part of the Your Local Arena series. In partnership with the British Council

TAKE TWO
The two biggest names in Caribbean science fiction and fantasy share a stage. **Nalo Hopkinson**, author of classics like *Brown Girl in the Ring* and *Midnight Robber*, and **Marlon James**, author of the bestselling *Black Leopard, Red Wolf*, discuss the power of imagining alternate pasts and futures with writer Karen Lord
4–5.30 pm • Old Fire Station

WRITERS UNION PRESENTS
Folklore: the supernatural and the extraordinary, featuring dramatic readings and presentations by members of the Writers Union of T&T
4.30–6 pm • 1st Floor Seminar Room

OLE MAS COMPETITION
Every creed and race
Words meet costumes and performance in T&T's traditional protest masquerade. Dedicated to the late ole mas maestro Bunny Dieffenthaller
5–6.30 pm • Hart Street Arcade
In partnership with the Ministry of Community Development, Culture and the Arts

FILM
Stefan Zweig: Farewell to Europe (2016)
This acclaimed drama charts the years of exile in the life of famous Jewish Austrian writer Stefan Zweig, and his search for a new home. Directed by Maria Schrader
5–7 pm • AV Room • In partnership with the European Union

OCM BOCAS PRIZE AND JOHNSON AND AMOY ACHONG PRIZE
2019 announcement ceremony
The festival's centrepiece awards ceremony recognises the past year's best books of poetry and fiction, and opens with a tribute to the classic novel *The Dragon Can't Dance,* by past OCM Bocas Prizewinner Earl Lovelace, on the 40th anniversary of its publication
7–8 pm • Old Fire Station
By invitation

FILM
The Other Side of Hope (2017)
Khaled, a Syrian refugee, stows away on a freighter to Helsinki. Meanwhile, Wikström, a salesman who wins big in a poker game, buys himself a restaurant with the proceeds. When the authorities turn down his application for asylum, Wikström offers Khaled a job. Directed by Aki Kaurismäki
7–9 pm • AV Room • In partnership with the European Union

Programme continues overleaf

Experience Bocas online!

Can't make it to one of our events? Then tune in to the online festival livestream, with video of all events in the Old Fire Station via our Facebook page, facebook.com/bocaslitfest. Plus look out for post-festival coverage on our website, thanks to our team of Festival Youth Bloggers!



The world appears to be in turmoil, and few of us can do anything much, as individuals, to change that state of affairs. But together we can try to bring insights into what really is a constant. Change is always with us. It's just that sometimes things get out of tune.

Our history as a Caribbean people has been about dancing to the missed beat, inhabiting the space in between, and we have become masters of the syncopated rhythm. We excel at existing in a shifting reality. It is something our writers understand and live, and the very best capture it in their work.

At the 2019 NGC Bocas Lit Fest we acknowledge this moment in time with some of the most glorious writers these complex and often unfathomable islands have produced. Whether they continue to live at home or have moved elsewhere, their work is infused with the memory and knowledge of our uniqueness that springs not from one source, but many.

I am so very excited by the new voices that keep bursting onto the literary stage in fiction, poetry, and literary non-fiction. Their work, and that of the already celebrated, resonates with the issues of contemporary life. In programming the festival, we have taken our lead from them.

I wish you all a splendid festival, and am putting you on alert for 2020. We are counting on you to celebrate ten years of the work of the Bocas Lit Fest, all year long.

Marina Salandy-Brown
Festival Founder and Director

NGC Bocas Lit Fest FAQ

Where exactly in the National Library are the events?
Readings with Q&As and panel discussions take place in the Old Fire Station (entrance on Hart Street), the National Library's AV Room (lower ground floor, take the stairs from the Library Rotunda), and 1st Floor Seminar Room (stairs or elevator from the Library Rotunda).

Workshops take place in the 1st Floor Seminar Room. Film screenings are in the AV Room. Stand and Deliver open mic sessions are in the Abercromby Street Arcade, just outside the main Abercromby Street entrance.

Where can I park?
From Wednesday to Friday, there are limited free parking spaces for festival attendees at the parking lot at 50–52 Frederick Street (formerly Greyfriars Church). Parking tickets must be validated at the Festival Info Desk. Street parking is free in Port of Spain and unregulated at weekends.

Where can I buy authors' books?
Books by participating authors are on sale from official booksellers — Paper Based Bookshop, Metropolitan Book Suppliers, RIK Services Ltd — on the ground floor of the Library.

And how can I get an author to sign their book?
After each session, authors will sign copies of their books at designated tables — ask any member of our staff for directions.

How can I take part in the open mic sessions?
Stand and Deliver is the Festival's main platform for new writers who want to read their work for peers and the festival audience. Sign up in advance at our Festival Info Desk on the ground floor (in front of the security desk).





HOME OF THE FESTIVAL

The National Library of Trinidad and Tobago
and Old Fire Station

Limited free weekday parking available at
Greyfriars car park, 50–52 Frederick Street



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SUNDAY 5 MAY

HEROES AND VILLAINS
The authors of new biographical works discuss how and why we should remember those figures from the past who have shaped us, for better and worse. With **Selwyn Cudjoe**, author of *The Slave Master of Trinidad*, **Judy Raymond**, author of *Beryl McBurnie*, and **Funso Aiyejina**, author of *Earl Lovelace*; chaired by Bridget Brereton
10–11 am • Old Fire Station

TAKE TWO
Marcia Douglas and **Geoffrey Philp** read from their works inspired by Jamaican music, and discuss how the reggae spirit infuses broader Jamaican culture; chaired by Julie Harris
10–11 am • AV Room

***GRANTA* AT 40**
Launched in 1979, *Granta* has become one of the world's most celebrated literary magazines, and a recognised champion of new authors. As the magazine celebrates its 40th anniversary, online editor **Luke Neima** discusses its history and reveals what its editors are looking for in new submissions. With a guest reading by award-winning fiction writer **Ingrid Persaud**
10–11 am • 1st Floor Seminar Room

BOOK LAUNCH
The Peepal Tree Book of Contemporary Caribbean Short Stories
Presenting a talent-packed new anthology of some of the Caribbean's best writers, introduced by co-editor **Jacob Ross**. Featuring **Barbara Jenkins**, **Elizabeth Walcott-Hackshaw**, and a reading from the late Hazel Campbell by **Paula Lindo**
11 am–12 pm • Old Fire Station

BIG IDEAS
Why fairy tales still matter
Eminent author and critic **Marina Warner** gives a thrilling and insightful talk on the origins of the folk stories we call fairy tales, and why they remain vital today. Plus contemporary writers read their works inspired by fairy tales and folklore. Featuring **James Christopher Aboud** on the lagahoo, **Alexia Arthurs** on mermaids, **Andre Bagoo** on douens, and **Vashti Bowlah** on traditional Indian folklore
11 am–1 pm • AV Room

MEMORIES OF SHADOW
A tribute in song to the late, great calypsonian The Mighty Shadow, with classic tunes performed by his son **Sharlan Bailey**
11.30 am–12 pm • Library Rotunda

STAND AND DELIVER
Our signature event for new and budding writers. With guest feature reader **Rashad Hosein**, shortlisted for the 2019 Commonwealth Short Story Prize.
12–1.30 pm • Abercromby Street Arcade

BORDER CROSSINGS
Reading beyond boundaries
Politicians draw borders, and artists transcend them. Writers **Arielle John**, **Barbara Lalla**, and **Shivanee Ramlochan** share newly commissioned pieces reflecting on how their work has been shaped and inspired by authors from distant times and places, plus a guest reading by **Anu Lakhan**, author of *Letters to K*; chaired by Nicholas Laughlin
1–2 pm • Old Fire Station
In partnership with the British Council

TAKE TWO
Nicole Sealey and Forward Prize winner **Danez Smith** read and discuss their stellar poems challenging ideas about politics and aesthetics. Chaired by Shivanee Ramlochan
2–3 pm • Old Fire Station

BOCAS HENRY SWANZY AWARD
2019 Henry Swanzy awardee **Ian Randle** discusses his career in publishing with Margaret Busby, 2015 Bocas Henry Swanzy awardee
2–3 pm • AV Room

SUNDAY LAUNCH
Home and away
Two extraordinary new short story collections by **Breanne McIvor** (*Where There Are Monsters*) and **Anton Nimblett** (*Now, After*) make their debut. With readings by the authors and a conversation chaired by Colin Robinson
3–4 pm • Old Fire Station

FILM
Brown Girl Begins (2017)
It's 2049 on a forsaken island off the coast of Toronto, where the survival of the islanders depends on young Ti-Jeanne to risk death by a spirit so she can take her place as a Caribbean priestess and save her people. Director Sharon Lewis presents her thrilling adaptation of Nalo Hopkinson's landmark SFF novel *Brown Girl in the Ring*
3.30–5 pm • AV Room
In partnership with Brown Girl Begins

SUNDAY LAUNCH
A tribute to Gordon Rohlehr
As the beloved literary scholar and calypso expert launches his most recent book, writers and calypsonians pay tribute through their words and music
4–5.30 pm • Old Fire Station

FIRST CITIZENS NATIONAL POETRY SLAM FINAL
The grand finale of the 2019 NGC Bocas Lit Fest!
It's the year's biggest night of poetry, as T&T's top performance poets vie for the championship and the first prize of TT$50,000
6–8 pm • National Academy for the Performing Arts