



Will Jackson

Call for applications

Essentials of book-to-film adaptation

An intensive workshop for Caribbean arts writers interested in the art and craft of adaptation

16-18 March, 2018

NALIS, Seminar Room 1, Port of Spain, Trinidad

The British Council, working in partnership with the Bocas Lit Fest and the National Library and Information System Authority (NALIS), is pleased to announce and invite applications for a book-to-film adaptation workshop aimed at writers, screenwriters, playwrights, directors, producers seriously interested in the craft of adaptation.

Why

The Caribbean literary heritage is rich and has been the basis of several films. The recent success of the film version of Michael Anthony's *Green Days by the River*, which attracted large audiences nationwide and moved on to the international circuit, has proven our desire for our own stories and their suitability for the big screen. The Caribbean is experiencing a new wave of international prizewinning writers whose work exists in collections that contribute to the canon of our literature and have great potential for adaptation.

What

Running from 16 to 18 March, 2018, and based at NALIS, Port of Spain, the workshop will bring together up to twelve interested participants for three days of intensive, hands-on training in book-to-film adaptation. The aim is to explore and unravel the process of adaptation, by looking at some key book-to-film case studies, while also experimenting with some yet-to-be-adapted works. It will pose the questions, "Is this a film?" and "If so, how would you adapt it?" in order to help study the process through practice and cultivate the focus on Caribbean writing as potential material for film.

The workshop curriculum will cover:

- an overview of adaptation — what makes a strong screen story?
- the distinctions between adapting for features and short films
- case studies of foreign and local writing
- approaches to adaptation — how would this be a movie/TV production/short?
- rights, copyright and optioning a work

It will include and require:

- team work
- active participation.

The workshop will be led by Angeli Macfarlane, founder of Script Cube, a training, development and production consultancy in film and TV. Macfarlane has worked in script development and production with global and boutique brands, including BBC, Pathé, MOFILM, National Geographic Films, 42 Management, and Sony Pictures TV. She is currently co-producer on a number of projects and Executive Producer on six Microwave first feature films. She is currently also the exec on 20 Film London short films. Macfarlane teaches on the MA in Screenwriting and the Script Development Diploma for the National Film and Television School in the UK.

Who

Published authors, screenwriters and playwrights whose work has been produced. Directors, producers and emerging writers are strongly encouraged to apply. Participants must be able to attend the full three days of the workshop.

There is a fee of TT\$650 for each participant.

Up to three places will be reserved for Caribbean-based participants from outside Trinidad and Tobago, whose travel and accommodation expenses will be covered.

To be considered for this workshop, please send us a one-page letter of motivation including the following:

- Name and contact information: email address and telephone number
- Outline of your existing experience, including institutional affiliation if any
- How you think film adaptation could benefit the local/regional cultural industries (film, music, literature)
- What you hope to achieve from participating in the workshop and how you expect to put any new skills to immediate use

Please also send a copy of your CV (one page max.) and either links to work published online or a one-page writing sample as attachments.

The deadline for submitting application materials is **16 February, 2018**, and selected participants will be notified by 23 February. Applications should be submitted via email to **workshops@bocaslitfest.com** with the subject line “Application: film adaptation workshop”.

About the workshop partners

The **British Council** creates international opportunities for the people of the UK and other countries and builds trust between them worldwide. We are a Royal Charter charity, established as the UK's international organisation for educational opportunities and cultural relations. www.caribbean.britishcouncil.org

Based in Trinidad and Tobago, the **Bocas Lit Fest** is a not-for profit organisation working to develop the Caribbean literary sector. We produce the NGC Bocas Lit Fest, the Anglophone Caribbean's biggest annual literary festival, each April in Port of Spain. We also administer several regional literary awards, and run year-round programmes in writer and reader development, as well as promoting Caribbean writers and books at international events. www.bocaslitfest.com

The **National Library and Information System Authority** is tasked with the responsibility to preserve, promote and exploit Trinidad and Tobago's heritage information (ACT 18 of 1998). This especially includes our literary heritage. To achieve its mandate, NALIS has established a number of literary programmes and projects to promote the reading habit and foster a love for literature.