

**THURSDAY 25 APRIL**

**FESTIVAL WELCOME**

The 2013 NGC Bocas Lit Fest officially kicks off! **Writers vs. Politicians** with Martin Daly, Paula Gopee-Scobon, Sunity Maharaj, and Ralph Maraj Looking ahead to our Edinburgh World Writers' Conference debates, local luminaries read portraits of politicians — hilarious, ironic, tragic — from classic and contemporary works of Caribbean fiction by Jamaican John Hearne, Barbadian Austin Clarke, Trinidad-born Monique Roffey, and Guyanese Pauline Melville *9-10 am • Old Fire Station*

**WORKSHOP**

**Getting started** with Marlon James For new writers: how to find your subject and voice, and break through the barrier of the opening line *10 am-12.30 pm • 1st Floor Seminar Room*

**FATHER FIGURES**

**Colin Grant and Hannah Lowe** chaired by Ruth Borthwick Prose and verse portraits of Jamaican fathers, by the authors of *Bageye at the Wheel* and *Chick* *10.30-11.30 am • Old Fire Station*

**POETRY**

**Marion Bethel and Cyril Dabydeen** chaired by Nicha Selvon-Ramkissoon Readings by poets from the Bahamas and Guyana *10.30-11.30 am • AV Room*

**NEW TALENT SHOWCASE**

**Danielle Boodoo-Fortuné** The first of our New Talent Showcase writers reads from her poems and discusses her work *12-12.45 pm • Old Fire Station*

**PERFORMANCE POETRY AND OPEN MIC**

**Lunchtime jam** A selection of performance poets take their vibe to the streets of the city. Plus a chance for budding writers to share their work *12-1 pm • Abercromby Street Arcade*

**FILM**

**Barbado'ed**, dir. Shane Brennan and Paul Arnott The poorest community in Barbados is the Redlegs, the direct descendants of Scots transported to Barbados in the 17th century. Scottish author Chris Dolan discovers what they know about their roots, and what their prospects are *12-1 pm • AV Room*

**FORGOTTEN STORIES**

**Andrea Stuart and Chris Dolan** chaired by Margaret Busby Forgotten parts of the history of Barbados, retold by the authors of *Sugar in the Blood* and *Redlegs* *1.00-2.00 pm • AV Room*

**WORKSHOP**

**Length matters** with Cyril Dabydeen There are stories that need a few dozen pages, and some that need a few dozen words. An introduction to short-short fiction *1.30-4 pm • 1st Floor Seminar Room*

**DISCUSSION**

**Beyond a Boundary at 50** with Deryck Murray and Arnold Gibbons, chaired by Kenneth Ramchand C.L.R. James's great book on sport, politics, and society celebrates its half-century in 2012. A panel of sportsmen and scholars discuss its continuing relevance *1.30-2.30 pm • Old Fire Station*

**MUSIC**

**Lovey and Co.** with John Cowley The first Trinidadian musicians ever to be recorded were Lovey's Original Trinidad String Band, in 1912. The author of *Carnival, Canboulay, and Calypso* tells the story, and discusses Lovey's legacy with *Trinidad Express* features editor Deborah John *2-3 pm • AV Room*

**FICTION**

**Courtia Newland and Ifeona Fulani** chaired by Ryan Durgasingh A reading of new fiction by the authors of *The Gospel According to Cane* and *Ten Days in Jamaica* *2.30-3.30 pm • Old Fire Station*

**FICTION**

**Kerry Young and Diana McCaulay** chaired by Giselle Rampaul Jamaican family histories transformed into fiction by the authors of *Pao* and *Huracan* *4-5 pm • Old Fire Station*

**SHORT TALK**

Alison Donnell and Michael Bucknor talk to Barbara Lalla about the *Routledge Companion to Anglophone Caribbean Literature*, and our evolving literary canon *4-5 pm • AV Room*

**ONE-ON-ONE**

**Marina Warner** The British author of *Alone of All Her Sex* and *Stranger Magic* talks to Lawrence Scott about myths, history, and stories *5-6 pm • Old Fire Station*

**FILM**

**A Dream to Change the World: A Tribute to John La Rose**, dir. Horace Ové, CBE A documentary about the life of the late John La Rose, poet, essayist, publisher, trade unionist, cultural and political activist, and founder of New Beacon Books and chairman of the George Padmore Institute in London *5-7 pm • AV Room*

**BOCAS HENRY SWANZY AWARD**

The presentation of the inaugural Bocas Swanzy Award, recognising distinguished service to Caribbean letters, to John La Rose (posthumously) and Sarah White of New Beacon Books *7-8.30 pm • AV Room*

**FRIDAY 26 APRIL**

**POETRY**

**Roger Robinson and Hannah Lowe** New poems by two British-based writers *10-11 am • Old Fire Station*

**DISCUSSION**

**Writing back: the new post-imperial history** with Pankaj Mishra and Richard Drayton, chaired by Bridget Brereton

How are historians and writers from formerly colonised nations changing the ways we understand our past and present? The Indian author of *From the Ruins of Empire* and the Barbadian Rhodes Professor of Imperial History at King's College London share their views with a distinguished Trinidadian historian *10-11.30 am • AV Room*

**SHORT TALK**

Jackie Hinkson talks to Marsha Pearce about his memoir of a life in art *11 am-12 pm • Old Fire Station*

**WORKSHOP**

**History as fiction** with Lawrence Scott and Kerry Young How do you turn real stories of the past into fictions in the present? *10 am-12.30 pm • 1st Floor Seminar Room*

**PERFORMANCE POETRY AND OPEN MIC**

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**FILM**

**Wuthering Heights**, dir. Andrea Arnold A poor unknown boy of "of gypsy stock" is rescued from poverty and taken in by the Earnshaw family, where he develops an intense relationship with his young foster sister, Cathy. This most recent adaptation of the classic novel by Emily Brontë casts Heathcliff as a former slave destined to a doomed cross-racial love affair *12-2 pm • AV Room*

**NEW TALENT SHOWCASE**

**Sonia Farmer** The second of our New Talent Showcase writers reads from her poems and discusses her work *12.30-1 pm • Old Fire Station*

**WORKSHOP**

**Where does "inspiration" come from?** with Vahni Capildeo As a beginning poet, where do you look for ideas, images, themes?

Does "inspiration" exist, and how can you provoke it? *1.30-4 pm • 1st Floor Seminar Room*

**ONE-ON-ONE**

**Olive Senior** The Jamaican author of contemporary classics like *Summer Lightning* and *Gardening in the Tropics* talks to Michael Bucknor about how her life in and out of Jamaica influences her work *2-3 pm • Old Fire Station*

**DISCUSSION**

**Same old or same new?: how technology will or won't change the way writers tell stories** with Elise Dillsworth, Courttia Newland, and Joanne Gail Johnson, chaired by Ibrahim Ahmad New publishing media are already shaping how writers write and how readers read. But will the fundamentals of storytelling remain the same? Two writers and a literary agent discuss the question with a fiction editor *2.30-3.30 pm • AV Room*

**SHORT TALK**

Fr. Anthony de Verteuil talks to Angelo Bissessarsingh about writing Trinidad and Tobago's social history *3-4 pm • Old Fire Station*

**PERFORMANCE**

**Midnight Robber showdown** Three sharp-tongued Midnight Robbers — Johnny Stollmeyer, Kurtis Gross and Fedon Honoré — face off and argue the question, "Should the arts be political?" *4-5 pm • Abercromby Street Arcade*

**ONE-ON-ONE**

**Irvine Welsh** The bestselling writer talks to B.C. Pires about being the "voice" of contemporary Scotland, and seeing his fiction blown up on the cinema screen *4-5 pm • AV Room*

**FILM**

**Trainspotting**, dir. Danny Boyle A black comedy based on the novel by Irvine Welsh, following a group of heroin addicts in late 1980s Edinburgh. *Trainspotting* was voted the best Scottish film of all time in a 2004 poll, and ranks 10th in the British Film Institute's list of the Top

100 British films of all time *5-6.30 pm • AV Room*

**ONE-ON-ONE**

**Teju Cole** The Nigerian author of *Open City* talks to Nicholas Laughlin about the lines between fiction and non-fiction, and literature beyond national boundaries *5-6 pm • Old Fire Station*

**THEATRE**

**A Midsummer Night's Dream**, presented by the Trinidad Theatre Workshop Shakespeare's classic tale of lovers, spirits, and dreamers is given new life as a parade of blue devils, jab jabs, and other traditional Carnival characters find their way into ancient Athens. Time, love, and reality are subject to change, as the worlds of spirits and humans collide. Directed by Timmia Hearn

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**NEW TALENT SHOWCASE**

**Shivane Ramlochan** The third of our New Talent Showcase writers reads from her poems and fiction and discusses her work *1-2 pm • Old Fire Station* *Runs 18 to 28 April, Sunday matinees at 6 pm*

**SATURDAY 27 APRIL**

**ONE-ON-ONE**

**Ian McDonald** The Guyana-based Trinidadian author of *The Humming-Bird Tree* talks to Nicholas Laughlin about his life and work as poet, fiction writer, and editor of the journal *Kyk-over-al* *10-11 am • AV Room*

**EDINBURGH WORLD WRITERS' CONFERENCE**

**A National Literature?** Keynote speaker: Marlon James Writers' panel: Irvine Welsh, Vahni Capildeo, Hannah Lowe Chair: Marina Warner The first of our two writers' debates, part of a worldwide series of discussions on literature's big questions *11 am-12.30 pm • Old Fire Station*

**ROMANCE FICTION**

**Roslyn Carrington and Heather Rodney-Diaz** chaired by Jessie-May Ventour Two Trinidadian writers of romance novels read from their work and discuss how to make affairs of the heart come to life on the page *11 am-12 pm • AV Room*

**FILMS**

**Selected shorts** Film adaptations of St Lucian poems and short stories by Davina Lee, and short profiles of poet Vahni Capildeo and novelist Lawrence Scott by Karen Martinez *12-1 pm • AV Room*

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**WORKSHOP**

**How to pitch your story** with Elise Dillsworth and Ibrahim Ahmad A literary agent and a senior fiction editor at Akashic Books share tips on how to talk to publishers *1-3 pm • 1st Floor Seminar Room*

**NGC BOCAS LECTURE: THE BIG IDEA**

**The winner effect: how power affects the body and mind** with Ian Robertson In the second annual NGC Bocas Lecture a distinguished neuroscientist explains what makes "winners" and "losers", and discusses how success changes the structure of the human brain with Mark Lyndersay *1.30-3 pm • AV Room*

**FICTION**

**DIY Fiction** with Helen Drayton, Beverley-Ann Scott, and Hugh Blanc chaired by Geraldine Skeete

In this showcase of the best self-published Trinidadian fiction of the past year, three authors read from their work and discuss their publishing experiences *1.30-2.30 pm • 2nd Floor Seminar Room*

**WRITERS' UNION PRESENTS**

**Homegrown talent** Members of the Writers' Union of Trinidad and Tobago read from their work, and host a talk by Carol Redhead on "Writers as visionaries" *2.30-5 pm • 2nd Floor Seminar Room*

**CARIBLIT LAUNCH**

**"The unity is submarine"** A year after the inaugural Caribbean Literature Action Group meeting, the CaribLit initiative is launched to the public with a conversation on the challenges and opportunities facing contemporary Caribbean writers. With Kellie Magnus, Kendel Hippolyte, Diana McCaulay, and Nicholas Laughlin *3-4 pm • Old Fire Station*

**FILM**

**The Mystic Masseur**, dir. Ismail Merchant Set midway through the 20th century among Trinidad's Indian population, this is the first film adapted from the work of Nobel-winning author V.S. Naipaul. Following the death of his father, idealistic teacher Ganesh strives to become a writer, but instead is propelled into national politics *3-6 pm • AV Room*

**FICTION**

**Oonya Kempadoo and Lawrence Scott** chaired by Alake Pilgrim New fiction from the authors of *All Decent Animals* and *Light Falling on Bamboo* *4.30-5.30 pm • Old Fire Station*

**OCM BOCAS PRIZE AND HOLLICK ARVON PRIZE**

**2013 announcement ceremony** The winners of the third annual OCM Bocas Prize and the first annual Hollick Arvon Caribbean Writers' Prize are announced *6.30-8.30 pm • Under the Trees, Hotel Normandie* *By invitation*

**SUNDAY 28 APRIL**

**FICTION**

**Robert Antoni and Elizabeth Walcott-Hackshaw** chaired by Antonia McDonald-Smythe A reading by the authors of *Carnival* and *Four Taxis Facing North* *10-11 am • AV Room*

**EDINBURGH WORLD WRITERS' CONFERENCE**

**Should literature be political?** Keynote speaker: Olive Senior Writers' panel: Earl Lovelace, Pankaj Mishra, Courtia Newland Chair: Ifeona Fulani The second of our two writers' debates, part of a worldwide series of discussions on literature's big questions *11 am-12.30 pm • Old Fire Station*

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**FILM**

**The Humming-Bird Tree**, dir. Noella Smith This adaptation of Trinidadian Ian McDonald's coming-of-age novel is set in Trinidad at the time of the 1946 elections, when the vote was being extended to non-whites and the call for independence growing louder. Introduced by the author *12-2 pm • AV Room*

**FICTION**

**Launch of Sic Transit Wagon, by Barbara Jenkins** chaired by Funso Aiyejina A former Bocas New Talent Showcase writer launches her debut book of fiction *1.30-2.30 pm • Old Fire Station*

**FILM**

**Biguine**, dir. Guy Deslauriers In Martinique, at the end of the 19th century, Hermansia and Tiquitague leave the plantation where they work to find fame as musicians in Saint Pierre, the cultural centre of

the Caribbean. But their plantation "folklore" loses ground to the new Western music, and as they struggle to survive, they both open up to the sounds from another world. Screenplay by Patrick Chamoiseau. Followed by a talk on Chamoiseau's life and work by Savrina Chinién *Supported by the Alliance Française and the Embassy of France* *2-5 pm • AV Room*

**DISCUSSION**

**The Books that Made Me** with Roger Robinson, Monique Roffey, James Christopher Aboud, and Lisa Allen-Agostini, chaired by Susheila Nasta To mark the launch of a special Trinidad issue of the international journal *Wasafiri*, four writers discuss their literary influences *2.30-3.30 pm • Old Fire Station*

**OCM BOCAS PRIZE**

**Celebrating the 2013 winners** Readings from the three books shortlisted for the 2013 OCM Bocas Prize: *Fault Lines*, by Kendel Hippolyte (poetry winner), *Archipelago*, by Monique Roffey (fiction winner), and *The Sky's Wild Noise*, by Rupert Roopnaraine (non-fiction winner). Introduced by Marjorie Thorpe, vice chair of the prize judges *4-5 pm • Old Fire Station*

**POETRY AND MUSIC**

**VERSES Bocas Poetry Slam finals and Bocas Farewell** The finalists in the inaugural VERSES Bocas Poetry Slam square off, and the 2013 NGC Bocas Lit Fest closes with sunset performances by Freetown Collective, Ruth Osman, Pauliana Padmore of 2 Cents Movement, and Quays *5-7.30 pm • Library Amphitheatre*

**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) are free and open to the public — no tickets are required.**