



WRITERS'
CENTRE
NORWICH

— National Centre for Writing —

Wednesday 8 June 2011

A.S. BYATT, JOSEPH O'CONNOR, HISHAM MATAR, TAHMIMA ANAM, JOHN BOYNE AND MORE COME TO NORWICH FOR THE WORLDS LITERATURE FESTIVAL

Monday 20th - Thursday 24th June

++Interview and Photo Call Opportunities are available with writers: please email katy.carr@writerscentrenorwich.org.uk or call 01603 877177 to book your place.++

The Worlds Literature Festival will take place from 20th-24th June in the heart of Norwich. This yearly festival run by Writers' Centre Norwich brings writers from across the globe together to celebrate the best in world writing in a city which has an international reputation for literature in many spheres.

This year's festival includes an eclectic range of events with a great line up of authors including A.S. Byatt, Joseph O'Connor, Hisham Matar and many more:

On Monday 20th June Dame A.S. Byatt (*The Children's Book, Possession*) launches Granta magazine's new edition; 'The F Word'. The event features Granta's Deputy Editor Allah Allfrey in conversation with three writers who feature in the magazine; A.S. Byatt, Urvashi Butalia and Maja Hrgovic.

The following evening Your Summer Reads with Katie Kitamura, Andrey Kurkov and Evie Wyld is a chance for readers to ask questions of the authors whose books have been leaping off the shelf due to the popular Summer Reads campaign.

The week is also Refugee Week and as such Hisham Matar, Tahmima Anam and Philo Ikonya will come together for an special evening of readings and discussion on Wednesday 22nd June. Matar's dissident father went missing 21 years ago in Libya and this informed both of his acclaimed novels; *In The Country Of Men* and *Anatomy Of A Disappearance*. Tahmima Anam's *The Good Muslim* features the fall-out from war, and is a great follow up to the successful *A Golden Age* whilst Kenyan writer in exile and activist Philo Ikonya's voice completes an inspiring line-up.

Finally, John Boyne (*The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas*) and Joseph O'Connor (*Star of the Sea*) will read at an event celebrating Norwich's bid to join UNESCO City of Literature. Boyne's latest novel, *The Absolutist* has just been serialised on Radio Four and features war time Norwich whilst O'Connor, whose *Star of the Sea* was a Richard and Judy favourite, will be reading from *Ghost Light*, a moving tale of love and loss.

As well as these public events, students from the University of East Anglia will meet the writers at a set of readings and discussion based at the UEA. The writers will also be producing short pieces of literature about Norwich, which will be used in a special project celebrating Norwich's UNESCO status in 2012.



WRITERS'
CENTRE
NORWICH

— National Centre for Writing —

For more information and to book an event please go to

<http://www.writerscentrenorwich.org.uk/worldsliteraturefestival.aspx>

www.summerreads.org.uk

/ENDS

Editor's Notes

- Photographs of all writers available on request and have been sent to the Archant picture desk.
- Interviews and photo calls available; please request details from Katy Carr (details below)

CONTACTS

For further information please contact

Katy Carr on 01603 877177 / 07919 312155 / katy.carr@writerscentrenorwich.org.uk

or Richard White on 01603 877177 / richard.white@writerscentrenorwich.org.uk

Writers' Centre Norwich seeks to lead on the exploration of the artistic and social power of creative writing through pioneering and collaborative projects with writers and other partners, regionally, nationally and internationally.

Address: Writers' Centre Norwich, 14 Princes Street, Norwich, NR3 1AE

T: 01603 877177 F: 01603 625452 E: info@writerscentrenorwich.org.uk

W: www.writerscentrenorwich.org.uk