

PEN South Africa newsletter / Issue 10 2017

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**national
arts
festival**

Artistry, Critique and Activism: PEN SA Talk at the National Arts Festival

PEN South Africa will be holding a talk at the National Arts Festival's Think!Fest programme in Grahamstown titled **Artistry, Critique and Activism** on Wednesday 5 July at 10 AM. PEN SA Centre Co-ordinator and 2016 Caine Prize-winner Myolisi Sikupela, who writes as Lidudumalingani, will be looking at how artistry, critique and activism are interlinked and will discuss what freedom of speech means, not only for writers but the general public, and how this fundamental right is under threat across

the African continent.

PEN members, if you are interested in taking part in this panel please contact PEN SA on communications@pensouthafrica.co.za.

The National Arts Festival organisers are also inviting members of PEN South Africa to speak on the panels of the following two events. If you would like to take part in either of them please contact us using the above email address.

Civil Speech and Hate Speech on Monday 3 July at 11:30 AM

Fake News on Tuesday 4 July at 11:30 AM

These are important conversations and we look forward to taking part in them with you.

(Image courtesy of National Arts Festival)



**BooksLIVE Launches Monthly
Crime Fiction Feature**



**Read an Excerpt from George
Bizos' Nadine Gordimer**

BooksLIVE is launching a new monthly feature on "local sunshine noir authors", as featured in International Thrillers Writers' "Africa Scene", which was started by PEN SA member Mike Nicol and is now run by Michael Sears. BooksLIVE have shared an excerpt of Sears' recent interview with Nicol on his Barry Ronge Fiction Prize-longlisted thriller, *Agents of the State*, as a sample of what's to come...[read more](#)

(Image courtesy of [BooksLIVE](#))

PEN SA PULSE

Flemming Rose has spoken about the need for freedom of speech to be protected, an investigative radio reporter has been arrested in Madagascar and the appointment of President Robert Mugabe's daughter Bona Mugabe-Chikore to the new Censorship Board in Zimbabwe has been met with outrage...[read more](#)

NEW MEMBERS' TITLES

Lecture

PEN SA member George Bizos delivered the Nadine Gordimer Lecture at Wits University this month. The lecture, which is intended to be an annual event, was held in honour of the late Gordimer, who was a PEN International Vice-President. Read an excerpt from Bizos' lecture in which he spoke about Gordimer's long-standing campaign against censorship...[read more](#)

(Image courtesy of [South African History Online](#) and [Nobelprize.org](#))

UPCOMING EVENTS

Take a look at the literary events [coming up in June](#), including launches for new books from Achille Mbembe, Fiona Snyckers, Kobus Moolman, Koleka Putuma, Ken Barris, Mark Heywood and Steven Boykey Sidley.

The National Arts Festival in Grahamstown starts at the end of June - PEN SA Board Member Nadia David's play *What Remains* will be showing (featuring PEN SA member Buhle



New titles by PEN SA members include [Get Up! Stand Up!](#) by Board Member Mark Heywood and an older title from a newly joined member is [Life Out of the Ordinary](#) by Ntshala Mahase...[read more](#)

AWARDS NEWS

Regional winners of the 2017 Commonwealth Short Story Prize...[read more](#)

2016 Etisalat Prize for Literature winner announced...[read more](#)

The Gerald Kraak Prize winners announced...[read more](#)

Ngaba), as well as plays by former Board Member Mike van Graan and PEN SA member Ameera Patel.

CALLS FOR SUBMISSIONS

Short Story Day Africa Prize...[read more](#)

Tomorrow I'll be Twenty Competition...[read more](#)

Arts & Culture Trust grants...[read more](#)

Nova Short Story Competition...[read more](#)

CONGRATULATIONS!

The Children's Africana Book Awards Committee has named Manu Herbstein's *The Boy Who Spat in Sargrenti's Eye* a 2017 Honor Book for Older Readers...[read more](#)

Equal Education book *Amagama eNkululeko! Words for freedom: Writing life under Apartheid!* has been named as one of the Best Books for older

Media24 Boeke Literêre Pryse
shortlist...[read more](#)

readers at the 25th Annual Children's
Africana Book Awards...[read more](#)

WELCOME

Welcome to new PEN SA Professional
members Ntshala Mahase and
Samkelo Mtwana.

CENTRE NEWS

The PEN SA electronic AGM will be
sent out tomorrow. Please read through
the documents and respond before 30
June 2017.

[Send us your news](#)

Had a book published recently? Attended or participated in a festival? Won an award? Achieved a personal milestone of note? We welcome any news of your activities for future issues of the PEN SA newsletter.

Please email your contributions
to communications@pensouthafrica.co.za



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before passing this on to our members, but we cannot be held responsible should that not be the case.

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