

To: SA PEN Members

E-Newsletter No. 14/2013 – 15/08/2013



THE SOUTH AFRICAN CENTRE OF

PEN INTERNATIONAL

A World Association of Writers

P O Box 732, Constantia, 7848, Cape Town

email: rudebs@icon.co.za (Secretary), anthonyvf@icon.co.za (President)

www.sapen.co.za or <http://www.facebook.com/southafricanpen>

CONTENTS:

- South African author shortlisted for PEN International's inaugural New Voices Award – SA PEN press release 15/08/2013
- Book Launch – *Of Cops & Robbers* by Mike Nicol, **Cape Town, 22nd August**
- Congratulations to Lauren Beukes & Don Pinnock
- PEN International joins the world in celebrating Youth on 12th August 2013
- Publications received
- Forthcoming events
- Members' Publications: *ANN AND ALAN: The End and the Beginning. Pure Love, Pure Sex, In Love and Loving* by Ann Cluver-Weinberg

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South African author shortlisted for PEN International's inaugural New Voices Award

SA PEN press release 15/08/2013

The South African PEN centre of PEN International (SA PEN) is pleased to announce that local writer **Masande Ntshanga** is one of three young writers from around the world to have made the shortlist for **PEN International's inaugural New Voices Award**. The annual award was established to encourage new writing in the countries in which PEN International operates and to provide a much needed space for young and unpublished writers to submit their work. The award will actively encourage entries from diverse linguistic regions and communities.

The shortlist of three writers will be invited to attend the 79th PEN International annual Congress, to be held in Iceland in September, to read from their work. **The \$1,000 USD award will be presented to the winning writer on the 11th September during the Reykjavík International Literary Festival.** The winning entry will be published in *PEN International* magazine and a selection of the texts submitted for the award will appear in a special e-anthology.

The award is open to unpublished writers aged 18-30 and PEN International invited PEN centres around the world to submit works from one male and one female writer of their choice. SA PEN asked notable members of the literary community to

nominate writers and subsequently twenty-one writers were invited to submit a work of prose or poetry. A judging panel read the submissions “blind” (i.e. they were not aware of the author of each piece) and selected two works to send on to PEN International. Similarly, the submissions that PEN International received were judged “blindly” by a panel consisting of Hephzibah Anderson, Bibi Bakare-Yusuf, Carole Blake, Alain Mabanckou, Sjón, and Luisa Valenzuela.

PEN International/New Voices Award 2013 shortlist:

- ‘Space’ by **Masande Ntshanga** (South African PEN)
- ‘Temporada de halcones/Falcon Season’ by **José Pablo Salas** (PEN Mexico. English translation by Jennie Rothwell.)
- ‘The Collective Name for Ninjas’ by **Claire Battershill** (PEN Canada)

Read the shortlisted stories here: <http://www.pen-international.org/pen-internationalnew-voices-award/>

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Book Launch – *Of Cops & Robbers* by Mike Nicol, Cape Town, 22nd August

Venue: Leopard’s Leap winery, R45, Main Road, Franschhoek

Time: 6.00 p.m.

Cost: R350,00. This includes a signed copy of Mike’s book plus a welcome cocktail and light Rotisserie supper.

Bookings: via email at reservations@leopardsleap.co.za or telephonically at +27(0)21 876 8002. Tickets are limited to 50 guests.

Mike Nicol, one of South Africa’s foremost and most respected crime fiction writers, will be interviewed by Deon Meyer, luminary of the Afrikaans writing community, about his new book, writing, and life in general.

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Congratulations!

To Lauren Beukes on making the longlist for the Crime Writers’ Association 2013 Gold Dagger Award for her novel *The Shining Girls*. The winner will be announced later in the year.



To Don Pinnock on being shortlisted for the 2013 City Press Nonfiction Award. The annual R60 000,00 prize is sponsored by City Press and Tafelberg Publishers and awarded to the winner to fund the research of a nonfiction book. The winner will be announced on the 10th September, at the Open Book Festival.

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PEN International joins the world in celebrating Youth on 12th August 2013

Giving a voice to young people has always been an integral part of PEN’s work over the last 90 years. In early 1917, Catherine Amy Dawson Scott who would go on to establish PEN in 1921, set up the Tomorrow Club as a space for young aspiring writers to meet already established writers, publishers and agents. The club immediately attracted speakers such as Siegfried Sassoon, T.S. Eliot. and H.G. Wells. In 1928 Herman Ould, International Secretary, felt strongly that it was important for PEN to maintain focus on helping emerging writers, and so established a ‘Young PEN’ chapter.

Today, recognising that engaged citizenship, reading, writing and speaking out from an early age provide the basis for healthy civil societies where literature and freedom of expression can blossom PEN Centres around the world continue to create programmes that give young people a platform through which to develop. Our Centres run school clubs, organise human rights summer schools, build school libraries, translate children’s literature into minority languages, hold creative writing workshops, and continue to create opportunities for young people to freely express themselves.

Alongside this, PEN’s education policy builds on the PEN Centres’ work on youth engagement and is guided by the importance of ideas, of literature and of writing – of freedom of expression – in forming engaged citizens and civil societies. Our goal is to empower individuals and communities across all languages and cultures through reading and writing and the exchange of ideas. Our education policy and advocacy work has three main areas of focus: improving the quality of education; widening community access to literature, in particular minority language literature; and promoting human rights education.

As part of our work with young people around the world PEN International recently launched the annual New Voices Award to encourage new writing and to provide a much needed space for young and unpublished writers. We are very excited to have received the first group of entries from young PEN writers and are looking forward to announcing the winners at the upcoming PEN International Congress in Iceland in September 2013.

You may also like to read PEN International’s blog at <http://www.pen-international.org/08/2013/international-youth-day-access-to-education-is-a-right-denied-to-many-children/>. Information on SA PEN’s youth programme can be found at <http://www.pen-international.org/newsitems/pen-international-celebrates-international-youth-day/>

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Publications received

SA PEN has received the following publications. Should you wish to read any of them please contact Deborah on rudebs@icon.co.za

- *Beyond the Tide*, The Story of Miranda by Pieter Scholtz
- *The Enchanted Forest* by Pieter Scholtz

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Forthcoming events

- ❖ **Edinburgh International Book Festival** – 10th to 26th August 2013.
<https://www.edbookfest.co.uk>
- ❖ **Jozi Book Fair** - 25th to 26th August 2013, Johannesburg.
www.jozibookfair.co.za
- ❖ **Mail & Guardian Literary Festival** – 30th August to 21st September 2013.
<http://mg.co.za/report/mg-literary-festival-2013>
- ❖ **National Book Week** – 2nd to 8th September 2013. www.sabookcouncil.co.za
- ❖ **International Literacy Day** – 8th September 2013
- ❖ **International Festival of Literature Berlin** - 4th to 15th September 2013.
www.literaturfestival.com
- ❖ **Open Book Festival** - 7th to 11th September 2013, Cape Town.
www.openbookfestival.co.za
- ❖ **International Literacy Day** – 8th September 2013
- ❖ **PEN International Congress** - Reykjavic, Iceland from 8th to 11th September 2013.
- ❖ **Reykjavik International Literary Festival** – Reykjavic, Iceland from 11th to 15th September 2013. www.bokmenntahatid.is
- ❖ **International Translation Day** – 30th September 2013
- ❖ **Frankfurt Book Fair** – 9th to 13th October 2013.
<http://www.buchmesse.de/en/fbf/>
- ❖ **Poetry Africa Festival** - 14th to 19th October 2013, Durban.
<http://www.cca.ukzn.ac.za/index.php/festivals>

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Members' Publications

***ANN AND ALAN: The End and the Beginning. Pure Love, Pure Sex, In Love and Loving* by Ann Cluver-Weinberg**

This book describes the development of a pure and Christian girl into a joyful lover, and a boy with a troubled start who could get nothing right. There are glorious photographs, including three of Ann's daughter, Joanna, who was Desdemona in a famous production of *Othello*."

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