

To: SA PEN Members
E-Newsletter No. 20/2013 – 09/11/2013



THE SOUTH AFRICAN CENTRE OF
PEN INTERNATIONAL

A World Association of Writers

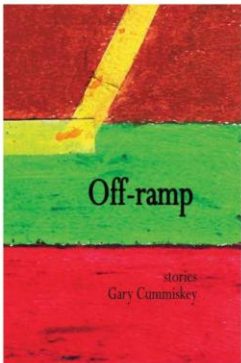
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Book Launch – *Off-ramp* by Gary Cummiskey, 13th November, Johannesburg



LOVE BOOKS & DYE HARD PRESS
invite you to the launch of

Off-ramp

the debut short fiction collection
by Gary Cummiskey



Cummiskey will be in conversation about the book with award-winning author and *Sunday Independent Lifestyle* editor Arja Salafranca.

DATE 13 November 2013 **RSVP** info@lovebooks.co.za or 011 726 7408

VENUE Love Books
The Bamboo Centre,
53 Rustenburg Road
Melville, Johannesburg

TIME 5:30 for 6:00 pm

RSVP info@lovebooks.co.za
or 011 726 7408



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SlipNet @ the Book Lounge, Thursday, 14th November, Cape Town

Join SLiP for an evening of poetry readings at the Book Lounge this Thursday.



SLiP, or the Stellenbosch Literary Project, was set up in February 2011 as a public media and events platform to advance literary and performance culture in all languages in South Africa. A project of the Department of English at Stellenbosch University, SLiP also acts as a hub for community engagement in both the literary and performance spheres.

SLiP, via www.slipnet.co.za, engages the talents of both professional and graduate-student writers, providing a public, professional media platform in which emerging scholars are able to cut their teeth as commentators in civil society at large, following the example of the professionals.



SLiP seeks to bridge divides in South Africa, and more immediately in the Western Cape, between academia and civil society, and between races and languages, sparking connections in the real social locales of performative interaction where people meet and learn to listen to each other.

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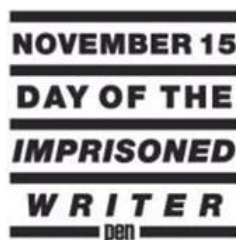
Forthcoming events

- ❖ **PEN International Day of the Imprisoned Writer** – 15th November 2013
- ❖ **International Data Privacy Day** – 28th January 2014

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Had a book published recently? Attended or participated in a Festival? Won an award? Achieved a personal milestone of note? The compiler would welcome any news of your activities for future issues of the SA PEN e-newsletter. Please e-mail your contributions to rudebs@icon.co.za.

SA PEN & Kalk Bay Books invites you to commemorate International Day of the Imprisoned Writer, Friday, 15th November, Cape Town



**Kalk Bay Books and SA PEN
invite you to an evening of rousing music, poetry and free speech
to commemorate the International Day of the Imprisoned Writer.**

Join master of ceremonies **Ann Donald** as she hosts an event that will include the voices of **Roger Lucey, Rhoda Kadalie, Ingrid de Kok, Jeremy Blackburn and Finuala Dowling.**

The aim of this event is to draw attention to the plight of all detained authors, but especially to the five specially selected cases of 2013:

Rodney Sieh (Liberia) - editor of the daily news website FrontPage Africa whose indefinite imprisonment was ordered after he was unable to pay US\$1.5 million in libel damages for a story about a former government minister

Kunchok Tsephel Gopey Tsang (Tibet) - arrested in February 2009 and serving a 15-year prison sentence after conviction of ‘disclosing state secrets’

Dina Meza (Honduras), of the Committee of Relatives of the Detained and Disappeared in Honduras, has received numerous text message and phone threats to her safety

Fazil Say (Turkey) - writer, composer and musician, convicted of “publicly denigrating the religious values of a section of the population” for various tweets and retweets, including lines of a poem attributed to Omar Khayyam

Rahnavard (Iran) - Academic and author, wife of Mir Hossein Mousavi, a candidate in the 2009 presidential election in Iran, held without charge or trial under unofficial house arrest along with her husband since February 2011, after he circulated a call on social media for demonstrations in support of the people of Egypt and Tunisia

Date: Friday 15 November

Time: 6 for 6.30pm

Place: Kalk Bay Books, 124 Main Road, Kalk Bay

This is a free event but space is limited, so please RSVP by calling 021 788 2266 or by emailing books@kalkbaybooks.co.za.

Wine and juice will be for sale.

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Congratulations!

- 2013 South African Literary Awards – Congratulations to Karen Jayes (*For the Mercy of Water*) and Rosamund Kendal (*The Murder of Norman Ware*) on being nominated for the K. Sello Duiker Memorial Literary Award; Imraan Coovadia (*Transformations: Essays*) on being nominated for the Creative Non-Fiction Award. Winners will be announced today, 9th November 2013.
- To collaborators Louis Greenberg and Sarah Lotz, otherwise known as the author S.L. Gray, on signing a six figure deal with Pan Macmillian for the UK and Commonwealth rights on two new S.L. Grey books.
- To Lauren Beukes on being awarded Exclusive Books’ Book of the Year: Reader’s Choice Award for her novel *The Shining Girls*. Each month a title gets selected as ‘Book of the Month’, and then a final winner gets selected out of the ‘Book of the Month’ as ‘Book of the Year: Reader’s Choice’. It is exceptional that a novel by a South African author has been selected for this prestigious award this year



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2014 - 2015 International Writers Project Fellowship – call for applications – Deadline = 15th February 2014

The Brown Department of Literary Arts and Thomas J. Watson Institute for International Studies are seeking applications and nominations for the 2014 - 2015 International Writers Project Fellowship.

The fellowship provides institutional, intellectual, artistic and social support to writers who face personal danger, oppression, and/or threats to their livelihood in nations throughout the world. Each academic year, the fellowship is granted to one writer who is unable to practice free expression in his or her homeland. Deeply practical in nature and intention, the academic-year fellowship covers the costs of relocation and the writer’s living expenses in the U.S., and also provides an office on the campus of Brown University for ten months.

The IWP Fellowship is open to established creative writers (fiction writers, poets, or playwrights) who are persecuted in their home countries or who are actively prevented from pursuing free expression in their literary art. Writers interested in applying for the fellowship should send a case history, providing publishing history and explaining need, a writing sample (preferably in English), and a resume, to the International Writers Project, Department of Literary Arts, Box 1923, Brown University, Providence, RI 02912, or they may email materials to iwp@brown.edu The IWP **will accept applications until February 15, 2014**. More information about the IWP is available on the Literary Arts website, www.brown.edu/cw (click on IWP).

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Junkets Publishers - Competition – Deadline = 17th November 2013

Junkets Publishers, in partnership with the National Arts Festival, are about to publish two groundbreaking books:

'Now I am alone' 1 – SA Monologues F & M 16+
'Now I am alone' 2 – SA Monologues F & M 16+
both compiled by Robin Malan, Diana Wilson and David Fick

You can buy the **two books** for the Early-Bird **price of one** – if your entry wins this last-of-three competitions.

What you have to do is: read the three extracts from monologues that appear in these books, and then identify the writer of each from among the names offered below (you don't need to know the name of the play). You have to get all three right to win the prize.

No. 1: **Man** I was mowing the lawn of a Sunday and the blades of the lawnmower, which are not that even, gouged a trough in the lawn, leaving a kind of flap of skin ... I mean grass. So I pulled back the scalpel ... lawn mower, and lifted the flap-lip. The earth beneath was blood-red and damp. I put my hand in and found the texture to be smooth and yielding. Like flesh. Only strangely more so. Yielding, I mean. So much more so that my hand sank in. To the wrist. I pulled my hand out. It was quite dry. Everything appeared to be as usual. But then, no ...

No. 2: **Alice** I find all this Uhuru business so tiring. And it has nothing to do with elitism or racism. It is simply a question of standards. It is utterly absurd the way backward people dictate to us. You don't hear us clamouring to be allowed to attend Masai circumcision ceremonies, now, do you? Although actually that might not be a bad idea. I do find the Masai a rather attractive lot. Fearfully grubby and all that – they drink blood and wash their hair in cow piss – but they're so well built.

No. 3: **Stix** Yei! I wake up one morning in the ghetto, I say – no, no – aikona, uh-uh! Three hours to work. Three hours home. Three hours to sleep. Aikona! Hayi suka! (*Angrily.*) I was sick and tired of this bladdy nonsense! Ek is die moer-in met die blierie chandies! All over the place, I see signs: vacancies ... vacancies ... vacancies! Furnished apartments! Rooms to let! I say – hey, fixed up – here we go! I put on my tie ... my Florsheim shoes – two-tone – ziya-sparkela! A dash of Brylcreem ... and my extra-special Colgate Smile ...

Choose the three authors from among the following playwrights: Greig Coetzee – Juliet Jenkin – Andrew Buckland – Zakes Mda – Paul Slabolepszy – Fiona Coyne – Sue Pam-Grant – Omphile Molusi

Email your entry to Robin Malan at info.junkets@iafrica.com , with your name, email address and postal address, to reach us by noon on **Sunday, 17th November 2013.**

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