

**pen**  
SOUTH AFRICA

**Write!**  
Africa,  
**Write!**

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## **Gabeba Baderoon's Tribute to Prof. Keorapetse Kgositsile**

*At a time of such keenly-felt loss in South African literature, we felt a generic statement of grief would not constitute a fitting tribute to Keorapetse Kgositsile, who died on 3 January 2018 after a short illness. In lieu, we asked PEN SA Board Member Gabeba Baderoon to contribute a more personal statement. We believe Gabeba's recollections say something new, unexpected and appropriately loving about the late Poet Laureate.*

On hearing the news, I was struck wordless. I couldn't move or think or even close my mouth for a time. This was an impossible loss. A sudden, breath-robbing punch

to the chest. Keorapetse, endlessly generous – and death, impervious to beseeching, abrupt. Keorapetse, whom I'd recently seen at Abantu Book Festival in the most memorable event of the three-day gathering. Whom I had the chance to greet that Sunday, but not speak with over rooibos and good coffee, not the usual nourishing occasion to ask each other about work, not hear one of his new poems.

### **Read more**

*(Image by Victor Dlamini, courtesy of the Johannesburg Review of Books)*

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### **Farewell reflections from our outgoing Centre Co-Ordinator Lindsay Callaghan**

Lindsay Callaghan joined the staff of PEN South Africa in early 2015, and has done stellar work in handling communications, project management and Centre co-ordination during her (almost) two years in an ever-shifting role. [Click here](#) to read her reflections on her time at PEN SA, a time of challenge, change, and personal progress.

*(Image courtesy of Lindsay Callaghan)*

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## **UPCOMING EVENTS**



### **International Day of the Imprisoned Writer 2017**

On 15 November 2017, PEN South Africa partnered with the University of Cape Town's Institute for Creative Arts to commemorate one of the most important dates on the PEN calendar: the International Day of the Imprisoned Writer. In solidarity with imprisoned writers, South African writers Gabeba Baderoon, Damon Galgut, Mark Gevisser, Siphokazi Jonas, Nick Mulgrew, and Toni Stuart volunteered their talent and time to give voice to the emblematic cases of 2017.

### **Read more**

*(Image by Khanya Mncwabe)*

Check our calendar of literary events in January – including book launches, exhibitions, plays, and poetry performances – by clicking [here](#).

Members are invited to submit their literary events for conclusion on our events calendar by e-mailing [newslettereditor@pensouthafrica.co.za](mailto:newslettereditor@pensouthafrica.co.za).

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## NEW MEMBERS' TITLES



Recently published and upcoming books by PEN SA members include [Under Glass](#) by Claire Robertson, [Cutting Carrots the Wrong Way](#) edited by Kobus Moolman, [Mine](#) by Sally Partridge, and [Hacked](#) by Fiona Snyckers.

Please send new releases to [newslettereditor@pensouthafrica.co.za](mailto:newslettereditor@pensouthafrica.co.za).

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## AWARDS NEWS

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## CALLS FOR SUBMISSIONS

[Ingrid Jonker Prize for English Poetry](#) (Deadline 31 January)

[Caine Prize for African Writing](#) (Deadline 31 January)

[Writivism Short Story Prize](#) (Deadline 31 March)

[Koffi Addo Writivism Prize for Creative Non Fiction](#) (Deadline 31 March)

[Click here for all calls for submissions](#)

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## CONGRATULATIONS

Stephen Symons was given an Honourable Mention for the Glenna Luschei Prize for African Poetry. [Read more](#)

David Cornwell, Bronwyn Law-Viljoen and Marcus Low have been longlisted for the 9mobile Prize for Literature. [Read more](#)

Efemia Chela has been shortlisted for the 2017 Gerald Kraak Award. [Read more](#)

Nakhane Touré was awarded the FIPRESCI Prize for Best Actor in a Foreign Film at the Palm Springs Film Festival.

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The shortlisted writers and artists for the 2017 Gerald Kraak Award [were announced.](#)

## WELCOME

The judging panel for the 2018 Caine Prize, including PEN SA member Henrietta Rose-Innes, [was announced.](#)

Welcome to PEN SA's new Newsletter Editor, Nick Mulgrew.

The longlist for the 9mobile Prize for Literature [has been announced.](#)

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## 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 let us know if your email changes so we can update our mailing list.

**Please email your contributions**  
to [newslettereditor@pensouthafrica.co.za](mailto:newslettereditor@pensouthafrica.co.za)

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