

PEN South Africa newsletter / Issue 7, 2018 / *PEN SA pushes to decriminalise defamation throughout Africa; UCT art timeline; members at FLF; calls for submissions, events, and more!*

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SECOND MEMBERSHIP FEES NOTICE

Please note that your **PEN SA membership fees are now due.** (Members who joined PEN SA between October 2017 and now are exempt.)

Please help us continue our important advocacy and community-building work. For Professional Members, the annual fee is now R280. Supporter fees remain R150.

SA PEN CENTRE, Standard Bank, Blue Route Centre, Bank Code 025 609, Account Number 07 204 681 3. Please ensure that your full name is reflected as the reference/depositor.

Please be in touch at **communications@pensouthafrica.co.za** for any queries.



PEN South Africa Pushes to De-Criminalise Defamation at Pan-African Parliament

PEN South Africa – together with colleagues from PEN International, PEN Nigeria, PEN Uganda, the Press Council of South Africa and attorney Simon Delaney – recently attended the Sitting of the Permanent Committees of the Pan-African Parliament (PAP), convened in Midrand from 2-9 March 2018. The following brief is drawn from a substantive report compiled by PEN South Africa’s Centre Co-Ordinator, Nokukhanya Mncwabe.

PEN representatives addressed the Pan African Parliament’s Committee on Justice and Human Rights, calling for the repeal of insult and criminal defamation laws in all AU member states. PEN appealed to African states to abolish criminal defamation and insult laws, which stifle free expression and press freedom, and to adopt in their stead a civil approach so that defamation is recognised as a legal dispute between two private parties, incurring only pecuniary sanction.

Read more



Curation or Censorship? A Timeline of Events and Articles Relating to Art at UCT

As promised in our official statement about the ongoing contestations **about the role and place of artworks at UCT**, as well as the **UCT Works of Art Committee**, PEN SA is providing a timeline of UCT art-related events and notable articles from the past few years.

In lieu of an unequivocal statement on an issue that, given its complexity, cannot easily be defined as as an instance of censorship, and in the interests of deepening and furthering the debate around Freedom of Speech and Expression in post-Apartheid South Africa, PEN SA present this resource.

We hope this will allow people to detangle the intersecting narratives and make up their own minds about the various factors and elements at play.

[See the full timeline here](#)



PEN SA Members at the 2018 Franschhoek Literary Festival

The 2018 edition of the Franschhoek Literary Festival is hosting – well – a host of PEN SA members. This year's festival, held from 18-20 May in the eponymous Western Cape town, promises an exciting array of events, including a Saturday full of poetry (only R30 a ticket!), visits from politicians, and numerous visiting writers from around South Africa and overseas.

The long list of PEN SA members taking part are: Jim Pascual Agustin, Michele Betty, Lauren Beukes, Darryl Bristow-Bovey, Karin Brynard, James Clarke, Jenny Crwys-Williams, Achmat Dangor, Victor Dlamini, Ann Donald, Finuala Dowling, Maya Fowler, Kerry Hammerton, Mark Heywood, Philippa Anne Namutebi Kabali-Kagwa, Ronnie Kasrils, Fred Khumalo, Mandla Langa, Michele Magwood, Niq Mhlongo, Helen Moffett, Kobus Moolman, Sally Partridge, Jolyn Phillips, Pamela Power, Claire Robertson, Henrietta Rose-Innes, Jacques Rousseau, Beverly Rycroft, Karin Schimke, Fiona Snyckers, Rahla Xenopoulos, and Zapiro.

Additionally, PEN SA Board Members Sisonke Msimang and Karina Szczurek, as well as Head of Communications Nick Mulgrew, will be participating.

The **full programme of events is available on the FLF website**. Tickets may be booked via **Webtickets**.

Congratulations to Board Member Yewande Omotoso, whose book *The Woman Next Door* was shortlisted for the 2018 International Dublin Literary Award, one of the fiction world's most prestigious international prizes. **Read more**

Congratulations to Jolyn Phillips, whose book *Tjieng Tjang Tjerries and Other Stories* won the Best Fiction (Single Author) at the third annual Humanities and Social Sciences Awards. **Read more**

As always, a whole host of PEN SA members made the longlists for the *Sunday Times* Literary Awards this year. Congrats and good luck to Tammy Baikie, Achmat Dangor, Dawn Garisch, Michiel Heyns, Fred Khumalo, Marcus Low, Dominique Botha, Fiona Snyckers, Ingrid Winterbach, George Bizos, Mark Heywood, Ronnie Kasrils, Mandla Langa, and Sisonke Msimang. **Read more**

UPCOMING EVENTS

Check our calendar of literary events in April – including launches by Niq Mhlongo, the start of the ICA Great Texts/Big Questions lecture series, and a host of events in Johannesburg – by clicking [here](#).

Please submit your literary events for conclusion on our events calendar by e-mailing newslettereditor@pensouthafrica.co.za.

NEW MEMBERS' TITLES

Please send new releases to newslettereditor@pensouthafrica.co.za.

CALLS FOR SUBMISSIONS

[YA Manuscript Submissions Open for 2018 Maskew Miller Longman Awards](#) (Deadline 4 May)

[Enter the 2018 South African Literary Awards](#) (Deadline 31 May)

[The Bodley Head/FT Essay Prize 2018](#) (Deadline 31 May)

[The 2018 Dinaane Debut Fiction Award is Open for Submissions](#) (Open to all SADC Citizens; Deadline 30 June)

[Stellenbosch University Museum Calls for Creative Submissions on the Future of Universities](#) (Deadline 16 July)

[Entries Open for SCrIBE Scriptwriting Competition](#) (Deadline 31 July)

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

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