

PEN South Africa newsletter / Issue 20, 2018 / Mohale Mashigo on "afrofuturism"; Oleg Sentsov event in Pretoria; calls for submissions, new releases, news, and more!

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Issue 20
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‘Afrofuturism is not for Africans living in Africa’ - Read Mohale Mashigo's Essay on Afrofuturism on the *JRB*

I believe Africans, living in Africa, need something entirely different from Afrofuturism. I'm not going to coin a phrase but please feel free to do so. Our needs, when it comes to imagining futures, or even reimagining a fantasy present, are different from elsewhere on the globe; we actually live on this continent, as opposed to using it as a costume or a stage to play out our ideas. We need a project that

predicts (it is fiction after all) Africa's future 'postcolonialism'; this will be divergent for each country on the continent because colonialism (and apartheid) affected us in unique (but sometimes similar) ways. In South Africa, for instance, there needs to exist a place in our imaginations that is the opposite of our present reality where a small minority owns most of the land and lives better lives than the rest.

PEN SA member Mohale Mashigo starts her new collection of stories *Intruders* with a provoking essay on global Afrofuturist trends, and how they do not, in her opinion, serve the imaginary needs of people in and from Africa. The *Johannesburg Review of Books* has published this essay in its entirety online.

Read the rest of Mashigo's essay [here](#).





UKRAINIAN
PRISONERS OF
CONSCIENCE:
CONTINUING THE
STRUGGLE
(GUEST POET MYROSLAV LAIUK)

MOVIE SCREENING, POETRY READING
AND DISCUSSION

OCTOBER 12, 2018
14:00

EMBASSY OF UKRAINE IN SA
398 MARAIS STR., BROOKLYN 0181, PRETORIA

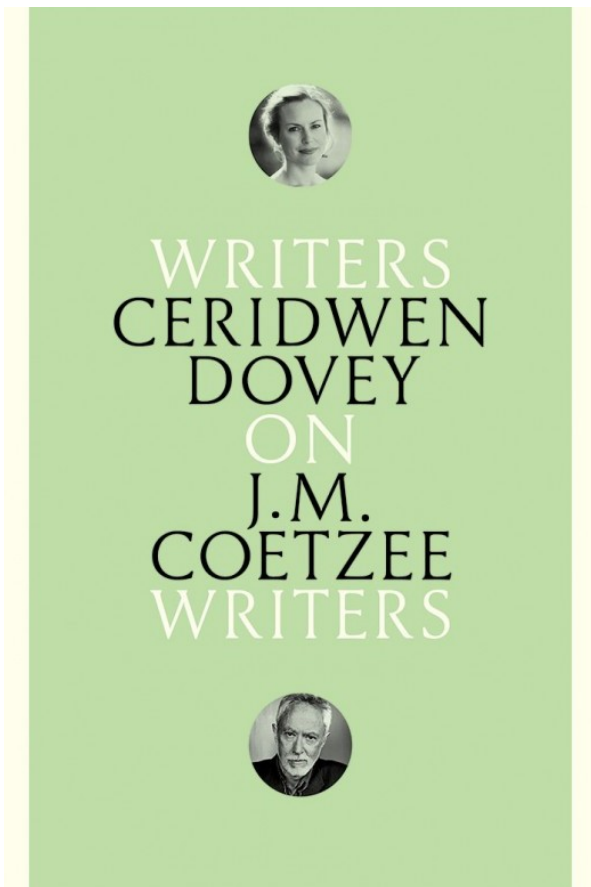


Join the Ukrainian Embassy Event on Writers in Prison on 12 October in Pretoria

Ukrainian filmmaker Oleg Sentsov and activist Olexandr Kolchenko were both detained in the occupied Crimea on May 10, 2014. They were accused of plotting terrorist acts, taken to Russia and convicted. Kolchenko was sentenced to 10 years in prison and Sentsov to 20. Oleg Sentsov stopped his hunger strike after 145 days, but the struggle for freedom and justice is going on.

The event will consider the ways in which the international community can consolidate their efforts against the Kremlin's suppression of criticism. Ukrainian poet Myroslav Laiuk will be the special guest, and a movie will be screened.

Embassy of Ukraine, 398, Marais St, Pretoria, on Friday October 12, 2018, 2 p.m.



MEMBERS' NEW TITLES

New and upcoming releases from PEN SA members include *Green Valley* by Louis Greenberg, *Landscapes of Light and Loss* by Stephen Symons, and *On J. M. Coetzee* by Ceridwen Dovey.

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

MEMBERS' NEWS

Congratulations to PEN SA member **Kirsten Miller**, whose unpublished novel *Comfortable Skin* has won the 2017 Aziz Hassim Literary Award (Main category), presented by the Minara Chamber of Commerce in Durban on 21 September 2018.

Congratulations to PEN SA member **Ronnie Kasrils** and PEN SA Head of Communications **Nick Mulgrew** for their nominations for the 2018 South African Literary Awards.

As noted above: following the news that PEN SA member **Fred Khumalo's** novel *Dancing the Death Drill* had been made into a critically acclaimed play by the Isango Ensemble in collaboration with Nuffield Southampton Theatres in England, it has been announced that the play will transfer to London's Royal Opera House next autumn.

CALLS FOR SUBMISSIONS

JOB! Jacana Media is Recruiting a Desk Editor

NEW! Publishers: Apply to the 2019 Istanbul Fellowship Program (Deadline 30 November)

NEW! Playwrights: Apply for the Berliner Festspiele's Worldwide Call for Texts and Performances (Deadline 11 November)

Africa Centre's Artists In Residency Programme Opens for 2018 Applications (Deadline 15 October)

The 2018 Short Story Day Africa Prize, Hotel Africa, is Open for Entries (Deadline extended to 31 October)

The 2019 Commonwealth Short Story Prize is Open for Entries (Deadline 1 November)

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

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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