

*PEN South Africa newsletter / Issue 2, 2019 / The State of Freedom of Speech in the Nation; PEN International Statement on the Murder of Iraqi Writer; Farewell to a Legendary Literary Journal; calls for submissions; new members, and more!*

**Does this look weird?** [View this email in your browser.](#)

**Missed an issue?** [Check our archives.](#)



Issue 2  
**13 February 2019**  
ISSN 2410-2210



## **The State of Freedom of Speech in the Nation**

While President Cyril Ramaphosa's State of the Nation Address (SONA) did not specifically reference the right to freedom of expression, we were pleased to see several policy commitments that pointed to the government's recognition of the need to safeguard this fundamental right.

Read more [here](#).

# pen

## INTERNATIONAL

---

### Pen International Statement on the Murder of Iraqi Writer

PEN International condemns the assassination of Alaa Mashtob Abboud, a well-known and award-winning Iraqi novelist who was shot dead on 2 February 2019 by an unknown armed group.

Read the full statement [here](#).

---



### So Long, Aerodrome and Thanks For All the Wonderful Words

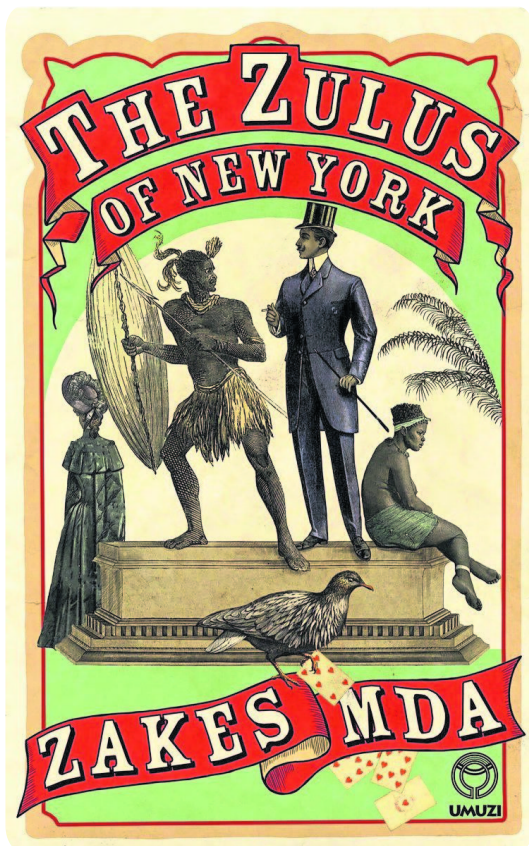
PEN SA notes with sadness the closure of South African literary journal, *Aerodrome*. Founded and edited by PEN SA member Alexander Matthews, the publication has been a refreshing source of literary inspiration and a space for writers to share their work and receive feedback from their peers. Its presence will be greatly missed.

Read more [here](#).

---

**MEMBERS' NEW TITLES**

**CALLS FOR SUBMISSIONS**



New and upcoming releases from PEN SA members include *The Zulus of New York* by Zakes Mda and *To the Fairest Cape: European Encounters in the Cape of Good Hope* by Malcolm Jack.

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

## UPCOMING EVENTS

Check our calendar of literary events this February – including book launches, panel discussions and poetry readings – by clicking [here](#).

Please submit your literary events for inclusion  
on our events calendar by e-mailing  
[newslettereditor@pensouthafrica.co.za](mailto:newslettereditor@pensouthafrica.co.za).

**NEW!** [Calling all southern African women writers: submit your manuscripts to Modjaji Books \(Submissions open 1 March\)](#)

**NEW!** [Penn Review's Winter Reading Period is now open \(Deadline 24 February\)](#)

[Dryad Press announces open submissions for poetry \(Deadline 30 April 2019; opens 1 April 2019\)](#)

[Poets: Submit your original manuscript for uHlanga's 2019 Open Submissions Call \(Deadline 28 February 2019; opens 1 February 2019\)](#)

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

---

## MEMBERS' NEWS

Congratulations to PEN SA member Christine Coates on being selected as one of the winners of [Black Letter Media's annual short story competition](#).

Congratulations to PEN SA board member Sisonke Msimang on being named a [WiSER Writing Fellow for 2019](#).

## WELCOME

Welcome to new PEN SA Professional Member, Beyers de Vos and Supporting Member, Tumelo Motaung.

---

**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)



Twitter



Website

---

*Copyright © 2018 PEN South Africa, all rights reserved. All information included in this newsletter is passed on to you as a service to PEN SA members or friends of PEN SA. Any questions regarding entry rules, entry processes, festival programmes, etc., should be sent directly to the relevant organisers.*

[unsubscribe from this list](#) [update subscription preferences](#)

---

This email was sent to <<Email Address>>  
[why did I get this?](#) [unsubscribe from this list](#) [update subscription preferences](#)  
PEN South Africa · Tokai · Cape Town, Wc 7966 · South Africa

