

SEPTEMBER 18, 2014

Writivism Imagining the World @Storymoja 2014

The annual Storymoja Hay Festival is already on in Nairobi, the capital of Kenya. The festival started yesterday, Wednesday 17 September 2014, at the Kenya National Museum and will be on till Sunday 21 September 2014. If you are in Nairobi, make it a point to pass by the museum and engage in the feast of storytelling, ideas, writing and contemporary culture. If you are not in Nairobi, the hash-tag is #ImagineTheWorld and the Twitter handle to follow is @Storymojafest.

The Writivism programme will be launching *Fire in the Night* and other stories, the 2014 Writivism anthology in the Kanga Tent (S 149) on Sunday 21 September, starting at 3pm till 4:30pm. Come, meet some contributors to the anthology, attend their reading, a Q&A and get your personal copy signed. Join us too online, on Twitter @Writivism, the hash-tag will be #StorymojaFireLaunch.

Besides the *Fire in the Night* launch, several African writers associated with the Writivism program are present at the festival participating, facilitating and moderating various events. Below, we look at some of the events in which you will catch one or two writers associated with Writivism.

Okwiri Oduor, a mentor on the 2014 Writivism programme, inaugural Writivism Literary Festival Director 2013 and 2014 Caine Prize Winner will facilitate a Fiction masterclass on Friday (alongside Teju Cole). She will be in conversation with other Africa 39 writers (Jackee Batanda, Linda Musita and Clifton Gachagua (also a Writivism mentor and past festival guest), conversation moderated by Keguro Macharia) on Saturday, as well as participate in a reading and discussion dubbed Kenya @50 Writers on fire (alongside Kinyanjui Kombani, Juliet Barnes and Ciku Kimeria). On Sunday, you can catch Okwiri at the Meet the Winner event (alongside Doreen Baingana, Tony Mochama and Yvonne Adhiambo Owuor, in conversation with Andrea Bohnstedt and Maria Simiyu).

Clifton Gachagua, a guest at the 2013 and 2014 editions of the Writivism festival and 2014 mentor will be in conversation with other Africa 39 writers (Jackee Batanda, Linda Musita and Okwiri Oduor (also a Writivism mentor and the director of the inaugural Writivism festival), conversation moderated by Keguro Macharia) on Saturday. Clifton will also share the poetic art and insights that got him international attention in an APBF poetry reading and discussion, alongside Ladan Osman and Liyou Libsekal, moderated by Stephen Partington.

Dilman Dila, mentor on the 2014 Writivism programme twice long-listed for the Short Story Day Africa prize, and shortlisted for the 2013 Commonwealth Short Story will co-facilitate a Publish or Perish masterclass on Thursday, with Prajwal Parajuly. He will also be a panellist at the How Africans kiss, alongside Lauri Kubutsile (also a Writivism mentor), Shaleen Keshavjee and Faith Gatimi, moderated by James Murua on Saturday. He will be launching his debut collection of

short stories, A Killing in the Sun on Sunday.

Lauri Kubuitsile, a mentor on the 2014 Writivism programme, two-time winner of the Golden Boobab Prize will be in discussion on the How do Africans Kiss panel with Dilman Dila (also a Writivism mentor), Shaleen Kesgavjee and Faith Gatimi, moderated by James Murua. She will also discuss life and writing on a Celebrating Southern Africa writers panel, alongside Elizabeth Muchemwa and Vuyelwa Maluleke, moderated by Njoki Ngumi and Suhaila Cross.

Lydia Kasese Nyachiro, a 2014 workshop participant and mentee, longlisted for the 2014 Writivism Short Story Prize and a contributor to Fire in the Night and other stories, 2014 Writivism Anthology will be part of the A Thousand Voices Rising poetry anthology launch on Saturday as well as the call/response event, where poets will be provoking each other. She will also participate in the 2014 launch of Fire in the Night and other stories at the Storymoja Hay Festival on Sunday.

Ssekandi Ronald Sseguja, a contributor to Fire in the Night and other stories, the 2014 Writivism Anthology, and shortlisted for the 2014 Writivism Short Story Prize. He will be attending the Fire in the Night launch at Storymoja.

Arnold Musalia Ngodi, a contributor to Fire in the Night and other stories, the 2014 Writivism Anthology, and longlisted for the 2014 Writivism Short Story Prize. He will be attending the Fire in the Night launch at Storymoja.

Looking forward.

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