

Franschhoek Literary Festival 2017: Programme

Printable version

FRIDAY 19 May

FRIDAY 10h00-11h00

- [1] **Measuring the rift** (New School Hall): Politically, socially and economically, it seems there is an ever-widening rift between South Africans. **Rebecca Davis** (*Best Whites*) asks journalist and agricultural economist **Tracy Ledger** (*An Empty Plate*) and international relations and African diplomacy scholar **Oscar van Heerden** (*Consistent or Confused*) how far we are from equality, and what it looks like.
- [2] **An appetite for success** (Old School Hall): **Tamara LePine-Williams** (ClassicFM) peels back the layers of Groendal's own **Reuben Riffel** (*Reuben at Home*) and his author **Sam Wouldige** to reveal this remarkable 'local to legend' story.
- [3] **Finding the plot** (Church Hall): **Paige Nick** (*Dutch Courage*) is on a quest to find a plot, with **Francois Bloemhof** (*Double Echo*), **Mike Nicol** (*Agents of the State*) and **Martin Steyn** (*Dark Traces*).
- [4] **Writers in 140 characters** (Congregational Church): **Victor Dlamini** meets up with **Joanne Harris** (*A Different Class*), **Joanne Macgregor** (*Recoil Trilogy*) and **Pamela Power** (*Delilah Now Trending*) to ask about using social media to connect with readers.
- [5] **A colonial legacy** (Council Chamber): **Rustum Kozain** in conversation with **Antjie Krog** about one of her most acclaimed poetry collections, recently re-released, *Lady Anne: A Chronicle in Verse*.
- [6] **Authors in conversation:** (Hospice Hall) **Michiel Heyns** (*I Am Pandarus*) and **SJ Naude** (*The Third Reel*) discuss their writing, their new books and what it means to be a professional author.
- [7] **Worlds apart:** (Elephant & Barrel): Speculative fiction authors **Helen Brain**, **Marcus Low**, **Diane Awerbuck** and **Alex Latimer** use their genre to explore the modern crises of isolation and social disparity.

FRIDAY 11h30-12h30

- [8] **History on trial** (New School Hall): **Judge Dennis Davis** hears the stories of two extraordinary writers, **Deborah Lipstadt** (*Denial: Holocaust History on Trial*) and **Philippe Sands** (*East West Street*), whose works chronicle the fight to establish and defend international laws for human rights and justice.
- [9] **Hawk's eye view** (Old School Hall): General **Johan Booysen** and author **Jessica Pitchford** (*Blood on Their Hands*) share his side of the story in this shocking true tale power and politics, deceit and betrayal, with BDFM Editor-in-chief **Peter Bruce** asking the questions.
- [10] **Love reading, love writing** (Church Hall): **Joanne Hichens** (*Die Laughing*) speaks to **Nandipha Tshabane**, **Ndibulele Sotondoshe** and **Sicelo Kula** about how their writing came to be published in *Love Reading*, an anthology of poetry, prose and nonfiction, published by the FundZa Literacy Trust and Cover-to-Cover.
- [11] **Writing the past; imagining the future** (Congregational Church): **Thandeka Gqubule** (*No Longer Whispering to Power: The Story of Thuli Madonsela*) speaks to **Mamphela Ramphele** (*Dreams, Betrayal and Hope*), **Mary Ingouville Burton** (*The Truth and Reconciliation Commission*) and **Rafique Gangat** (*Bending the Rules*) about how their experiences influence their thoughts on South Africa's future.

FRIDAY 11h30 – 12h30

[12] **Is there a shortage of black fiction authors?** (Council Chamber) This is the question publisher **Michele Magwood** (*Sunday Times* Contributing Books Editor) asks of fellow publishers **Phehello Mofokeng** (Geko Publishing), **Thabiso Mahlape** (BlackBird Books) and short story writer **Lidudumalingani Mqombothi** (2016 Caine Prize Winner).

[13] **The stories of history** (Hospice Hall): How do we understand our human past? Historian **Bill Nasson** (*History Matters*) asks researcher **Christa Kuljian** (*Darwin's Hunch*), **Francis Wilson** (*Dinosaurs, Diamonds & Democracy*) and novelist **Harry Kalmer** (*A Thousand Tales of Johannesburg*) about the search for truth through science and fiction.

[14] **Giving Back Childhood** (Ebony Gallery): Contributors, and organisers of the Red Cross Children's Hospital Fund, discuss the childhood memories and recipes of 50 South African heroes, in a beautiful collection commissioned by the Fund to celebrate the 60th anniversary of the hospital. Includes yummy snacks! R100 through Webtickets.

[15] **A fabric of society** (Elephant & Barrel): *isiShweshwe The History and Indigenisation of Blueprint in Southern Africa*, as presented by the author **Juliette Leeb-Du Toit**.

[16] **Workshop: Travel and feature writing with Paul Ash** (Franschhoek Library): Seasoned journalist and editor of the *Sunday Times* Travel supplement **Paul Ash** takes participants on a journey in which they learn to distil their own life experiences into words that will entertain readers. The workshop will include practical advice on travel writing, how to write a personal story that speaks to others, how to structure a humorous column, plus tips on approaching media outlets with a view to publication. Participants will learn how to write in a way that shows - not tells - the reader the story. R150 through Webtickets. [11h30-14h00]

FRIDAY 13h00-14h00

[17] **Event to be announced**

[18] **Why are we still talking genre?** (Old School Hall): **Fred Strydom** (*Inside Out Man*) leads the conversation with **Steven Boykey Sidley** (*Free Association*), **Lesley Pearce** (*Dead to Me*) and **Richard Mason** (*Who Killed Piet Barol?*) as they discuss labels, boxes and literature, and the books they have chosen to write.

[19] **Eating Africa** (Church Hall): From what we eat, to whether, one day, we'll have anything left to eat, author **Tracy Ledger** (*An Empty Plate*) opens the discussion with **Leonie Joubert** (*The Hungry Season*) and **Anna Trapido** and **Mpho Tshukudu** (*Eat Ting*) to consider the place food has in our lives and wellbeing.

[20] **Are writers born or made?** (Congregational Church): **Bronwyn Law-Viljoen** (The Printmaker) considers the ways writers find to practice their craft, with **Ekow Duker** (*The God Who Made Mistakes*), **Miranda Sherry** (*Bone Meal for Roses*) and **Sindiwe Magona** (*Chasing the Tails of My Father's Cattle*, and translator of *Dinosaurs, Diamonds, and Democracy*).

[21] **Harry Potter on the couch** (Council Chamber): Prolific author and psychologist **Joanne Macgregor** (*Recoil Trilogy*), delves into the mind of one the world's most beloved fictional heroes.

[22] **The power to move us** (Hospice Hall): **Ishara Maharaj** (*Namaste Life*), author **Karina Szcurek** (*Invisible Others*) and **Dennis Cruywagen** (*The Spiritual Mandela*) discuss the joys and challenges of writing of spiritual matters in a contemporary world.

FRIDAY 13h00 – 14h00

[23] **I write short stories because...** (Elephant & Barrel): Are they easier than long fiction, more lucrative than nonfiction, more popular than Harry Potter? **Jolyn Philips** (*Tjieng Tjang Tjerrie*) asks fellow writers **Harry Kalmer** (*A Thousand Tales of Johannesburg*), **Ken Barris** (*The Life of Worm and Other Misconceptions*) and **Marita van der Vyver** (*You Lost Me*) what it is about this form that appeals to them as they discuss the challenges of writing in the short form.

FRIDAY 14h30-15h30

[24] **The making of a judge** (New School Hall): **Justice Malala** explores the people and places that helped define one of the country's top legal minds, **Judge Dikgang Moseneke** (*My Own Liberator*).

[25] **Writing their continent** (Old School Hall): **Darrel Bristow-Bovey** invites **Philippa Namutebi Kabali-Kagwa** (*Flame and Song*) and **Abubakar Adam Ibrahim** (*Season of Crimson Blossoms*) to share how they reveal their love and knowledge of Africa through fact and fiction.

[26] **Killer women** (Church Hall): **Joanne Hichens** asks crime writers **Irna van Zyl** (*Dead in the Water*), **Karin Brynard** (*Our Fathers*) and **Sally Andrew** (*Tannie Maria & the Satanic Mechanic*) about the role of women in detective and crime fiction, which fictional crime characters they love or hate, and how their own characters fit into this history.

[27] **Researching history** (Congregational Church): With historian **Bill Nasson** (*History Matters*) in the chair, biographer **Elsabe Brits** (*Emily Hobhouse: Beloved Traitor*), **Mary Ingouville Burton** (*The Black Sash: Women for Justice and Peace*) and **Oscar van Heerden** (*Consistent or Confused*) share how they go about researching the history of their stories of the past.

[28] **I read what I like** (Council Chamber): **Sue de Groot** (*Sunday Times Lifestyle* Editor) considers the trends in fiction and poetry and asks **Antjie Krog** (*Lady Anne*) and South African-Filipino poet **Jim Pascual Agustin** (*Wings of Smoke*) how these influence their reading and writing.

[29] **Agents of change** (Hospice Hall): **Anastacia Tomson** (*Always Anastacia*) leads the conversation with **Sean Christie** (*Under Nelson Mandela Boulevard*) and **Sylvia Vollenhoven** (*The Keeper of the Kumm*) about their experiences in writing their own stories.

[30] **Through my eyes** (Elephant & Barrel): **Obie Oberholzer** (*Obie - A Photographic Story Book*) finds the words to tell you about his life in pictures.

FRIDAY 16h00-17h00

[31] **Science in Africa** (New School Hall): **Palesa Morudu** contemplates the impact of science on the broader issues of race, space, identity and colonialism, with philosopher **Jacques Rousseau** and researcher **Christa Kuljian** (*Darwin's Hunch*).

[32] **Double lives** (Old School Hall): Most writers can't survive on writing alone. **Mario Cesare** (*Heart of a Game Ranger*) leads the conversation with lawyer **Andrew Brown** (*Good Cop, Bad Cop*), advertising executive **Mark Winkler** (*The Safest Place You Know*) and banker **Tuelo Gabonewe** (*Sarcophagus*) talk about how they survive as writers, and why they keep writing.

Friday 16h00 – 17h00

[33] **Heroes at the end of the world** (Church Hall): For every dystopian horror, there is a hero. **Fred Strydom** (*Inside Out Man*) asks fellow writers **Diane Awerbuck**, **Helen Brain** and **Sam Wilson** (*Zodiac*) about their favourite heroes and the role their own lead characters play in their latest works.

[34] **Writing millennials** (Congregational Church): **Africa Melane** asks authors **JT Lawrence** (*Grey Magic*), **Kiprop Kimutai** (*The Water Spirits*) and **Miranda Sherry** (*Bone Meal for Roses*) how they speak to and through this generation, and the challenges they face in doing so.

[35] **The André Brink Memorial Lecture** (Council Chamber): **Karina Szczurek** welcomes you to the third annual lecture in honour of her late husband. **Victor Dlamini** will deliver the lecture on: “André Brink, dissident, lover, dreamer had this to say: 'A country can't love you. At most it may need you. It's much the same as people.'”

[36] **Stories in words and pictures** (Hospice Hall): Journalist/illustrator/cartoonist **Carlos Amato** leads the conversation with writer/illustrator **Alex Latimer** (*South*), **Dale Halvorsen** (graphic novelist *Joey Hi-fi*) and **Mieke van der Merwe** (*Beautiful South Africa*) on how pictures create stories, and words create pictures in the mind of the reader.

[37] **World building** (Elephant & Barrel): Where do writers start when creating a fictional world? **Pamela Power** exchanges ideas about the creative impetus, the lifeblood of storytelling, with **Marcus Low** and **Qarnita Loxton** (*Being Kari*).

Friday evening events

[38] **The Sudden Shark** (Hospice Hall, 17h30-18h30): Journeying lightly through psychology, palaeontology, popular culture and the movie *Jaws*, **Darrel Bristow-Bovey** discusses fear, creativity, risk-taking and the artistic imperative of vulnerability, as well as his travels around the world to find and confront the shark that is predestined to eat him. R100 through Webtickets.

[39] **Poetry: Grounding Sessions** (Elephant & Barrel, 17h30-19h30): Cape Town poet **Roché Kester** brings **Kyle Louw**, **Vusumuzi Mpofo** and **Chrystal Williams** to her unique Grounding Sessions show. All poets and lovers of the spoken word are invited to join in the open-mic session, or just sit back and enjoy the magic. (To participate in the open mic, email Roche at groundingsessions@gmail.com.) R50 through Webtickets.

[40] **Autumn music weekend concert #1: The French Piano** (NK Church, Friday @ 19h00) **Christopher Duigan** plays a classical recital of French music by Claude Debussy, Maurice Ravel and Jean-Phillippe Rameau with compositions drawing inspiration from the East, the exotic underworld, and reflections of the magical world that surrounds us. R100 through Webtickets or pay at the door.

SATURDAY 20 May

SATURDAY 10h00-11h00

[41] **On being a 'bookclub' writer'** (New School Hall): The publishers' term 'a bookclub book' is commonly used when promoting books to booksellers. But what defines it, and do authors benefit from the distinction? **Carol Mashigo** (Mohale Mashigo, *The Yearling*) puts the questions to **Joanne Harris** (*A Different Class*), **Lesley Pearce** (*Dead to Me*) and **Sophie Hannah** (*The Narrow Bed*).

SATURDAY 10h00 – 11h00

[42] **The media, bound and gagged** (Old School Hall): For years, the threat of gagging the South African media has hovered. **Rebecca Davis** discusses the implications of such a move and whether the public appreciates the importance of a free media with **Advocate Tembeka Ngcukaitobi**, **Thandeka Gqubule** and **Zapiro** (*Dead President Walking*).

[43] **Crime in the beloved country** (Church Hall): **Andrew Brown** asks **Anine Kriegler** (*A Citizen's Guide to Crime Trends in South Africa*), **Hennie van Vuuren** (*Apartheid, Guns and Money*) and **Ralph Mathekga** (*When Zuma Goes*) how deep the criminal genes flow in the South African body politic.

[44] **Can we make Africa great?** (Congregational Church): **Victor Dlamini** asks former Nigerian President **Olusegun Obasanjo** and author **Greg Mills** (*How to Make Africa Great*) for their answers.

[45] **The transformative power of reading** (Council Chamber): **Jacques Rousseau** discusses the intellectual, social and personal impact of reading, with **Bronwyn Law-Viljoen** (*The Printmaker*) and **Philippa Namutebi Kabali-Kagwa** (*Flame and Song*).

[46] **Straddling worlds** (Hospice Hall): **Wamuwi Mbao** delves into stories of families with feet in the present and past, as told by **Ekow Duker** and **Sindiwe Magona**.

[47] **Workshop: Writing your family history** (Library Hall, 10h00-11h30): **David Hilton-Barber** has a decades-long career in researching, compiling and writing family histories. In this informative and inspiring workshop, he shares his wealth of knowledge with those who believe they have their own true tales to tell. Tickets R120 at Webtickets.

[48] **My translator and me** (Elephant & Barrel): In a global world, authors whose books are translated into many languages rely on the skill and sensitivity of another to do justice to their work. **Ann Donald** asks **Ingrid Winterbach** (*The Shallows*) and her translator **Michiel Heyns** (whose own work has been translated by others) about this critical relationship.

[48a] **Autumn music weekend concert #2: Two Flutes and Guitar** (NGK Church, Saturday @ 11h00) **Duo Zomari**, **Bridget Rennie-Salonen** (flute) and guitarist **James Grace**, are joined by **Catherine Stephenson** (flute) in a programme of music ranging from JS Bach to music with a strong Latin-American flavour. This includes Maximo Diego-Pujol's 'Suite Buenos Aires' and Piazzolla's 'Histoire du Tango'. R100. Book at Webtickets or pay at the door.

SATURDAY 11h30-12h30

[49] **A series of extraordinary coincidences** (New School Hall): Practising barrister, human rights activist and 2016 winner of the UK Baillie Gifford Prize for Non-Fiction, **Philippe Sands** (*East West Street*) shares how he came to write this gripping part historical detective story, part family history and part legal thriller set around the Nuremberg Trials.

[50] **I started writing when...** (Old School Hall): **Tamara LePine-Williams** takes novelists **Neil Sonnekus** (*Son*), **Marita van der Vyver** (*You Lost Me*) and **Richard Mason** (*Who Killed Piet Barol?*) back to the beginning.

[51] **Movement of Objects** (Church Hall): Movement Cape Town editor **Zahira Asmal** leads **Albie Sachs**, **Bonita Bennett**, **Wandile Kasibe** and **Chumani Maxwele** in conversation about the impact of forced removals, repatriation, human remains and colonial statues, and why history must be represented and remembered equally for justice to be served and for society to progress.

SATURDAY 11h30-12h30

[52] **The columnist party #1** (Congregational Church): **Michele Magwood** leads the conversation with **Justice Malala, Tom Eaton** and **Marianne Thamm** as they discuss the power and responsibilities of opinion pieces – and why readers should always keep an open mind.

[53] **Whose right to write?** (Council Chamber): Cultural appropriation is the subject of controversy across the world. **Hagen Engler** (*In the Maid's Room*) considers the issues with **Anastacia Tomson** (*Always Anastacia*) and **Lerato Tshabalala** (*The Way I See It*).

[54] **One voice, two authors** (Hospice Hall): **Sue de Groot** asks co-writers **Diane Awerbuck** and **Alex Latimer** (**Frank Owen, South**), and **Michael Sears** (one half of **Michael Stanley, Detective Kubu**), how they make it work.

[55] **In the beginning: page one, line one** (Ebony Gallery): Faced with a blank page, **Mark Winkler** asks **SJ Naude, Sylvia Vollenhoven** and **Tim Butcher** how they get started on a new book.

[56] **Writing through the ages** (Elephant & Barrel): The burgeoning Young Adult genre has drawn an older readership too. **Joanne Macgregor** asks authors **Helen Brain, Kiprop Kimutai** and **JT Lawrence** who they have in mind when writing, how this influences their work, and what they make of the collateral readers.

SATURDAY 13h00-14h00

[57] **Leadership in times of conflict** (New School Hall): **Victor Dlamini** asks **Khulu Mbatha** (*Unmasked: Why the ANC Failed to Govern*), **Ralph Matheka** (*When Zuma Goes*) and **Thandeka Gqubule** (*No Longer Whispering to Power: The Story of Thuli Madonsela*) what characteristics are needed in leaders during tough times, and whether our top names are up to the task.

[58] **Writing with ghosts** (Old School Hall): **Nick Mulgrew** chairs co-author **Alison Lowry** (*Shadow Play*, with Gerald Kraak), bestselling author **Sophie Hannah** (*Closed Casket, The Monogram Murders, Agatha Christie*) and biographer **Elsabe Brits** (*Emily Hobhouse: Beloved Traitor*) in a discussion about the responsibilities of representing those who are no longer with us.

[59] **Making South Africa work** (Church Hall): **Brian Kantor** (*Get South Africa Growing*) asks **Sifiso Ndlovu** (co-editor, *The Thabo Mbeki I Know*), **Chantell Ilbury** (*A Fox's Tale*, with Daryl Ilbury) and **Richard Calland** (*Make or Break*) what mindsets and strategies are necessary for creating a successful business and building a strong economy.

[60] **The Karoo as muse** (Congregational Church): The Karoo holds a special fascination, and has provided inspiration, for many writers, among them **Sally Andrew, Tom Dreyer** (*The Long Wave*) and **Marcus Low**, who share their thoughts about this region with **Kate Sidley**.

[61] **The African literary explosion** (Council Chamber): **Paul McNally** (*The Street*) and **Qarnita Loxton** (*Nommer 20 Delphi Straat*) have unique views of the country they grew up in. **Ekow Duker** (*The God Who Made Mistakes*) leads the discussion into how they truly view South Africa and what brought them to tell the stories they tell.

[62] **Telling my South Africa** (Hospice Hall): **Paul McNally** (*The Street*) and **Qarnita Loxton** have unique views of the country they grew up in. **Ekow Duker** leads the discussion into how they truly view South Africa and what brought them to tell the stories they tell.

SATURDAY 13h00 – 14h00

[63] **Dark things brought to light** (Elephant & Barrel): **Fred Strydom** (*Inside Out Man*), **Dawn Garisch** (*Accident*) and **Dale Halvorsen** (*Survivors' Club* with Lauren Beukes) discuss the darker side of human nature as reflected in their writing, and why readers feel the need to be disturbed.

SATURDAY 14h30-15h30

[64] **How powerful are Constitutions?** (New School Hall): **Tembeka Ngcukaitobi** speaks to three human rights advocates – former Constitutional Court **Judge Albie Sachs**, author **Deborah Lipstadt** and author and professor of law at University College London **Philippe Sands** – about the role of a country's constitution in protecting human rights.

[65] **Lesley Pearse in her own words** (Old School Hall): Bestselling romance writer **Lesley Pearse** (*Dead to Me*) doesn't do boring, so expect a rollicking discussion when she meets up with Jenny & Co bookclub founder **Jenny Crwys-Williams**.

[66] **This is how I write** (Church Hall): Is there a secret to writing, and what are the strategies, techniques or skills that writers draw on to practise their craft? **Daniel Browde** (*The Relatively Public Life of Jules Browde*) leads the conversation with **Claire Robertson** (*The Magistrate of Gower*), **Fiona Melrose** (*Midwinter*) and **Richard Mason** (*Who Killed Piet Barol?*).

[67] **The columnist party # 2** (Congregational Church): **Darrel Bristow-Bovey** (*Getaway* magazine) asks **Fred Khumalo** (*The Big Read*), **Paige Nick** (*She Said/He Said*) and **Rebecca Davis** (*Lifestyle* TV column) how writing columns changes the way they see the world, and how their columns change the way the world sees them.

[68] **The craft of reading** (Council Chamber): Is there an ideal way to read a book? **Steven Boykey Sidley** asks **Ann Donald** and **Bill Nasson** about slow reading, skim reading, deep reading, and why reading?

[69] **The perils of memoir** (Hospice Hall): Led by **Bridget Hilton-Barber** (*Student Comrade Prisoner Spy*), **Anastacia Tomson** (*Always Anastacia*), **Mario Cesare** (*Heart of a Game Ranger*) and **Rafique Gangat** (*Bending the Rules*) share their experiences of writing their own stories.

[70] **What is feminism, and who 'owns' it?** (Ebony Gallery): **Helen Moffett** (*Prunings*) asks the questions of poet and singer **Blaq Pearl** and **Thabiso Mahlape** (BlackBird Books).

[71] **Through my eyes** (Elephant & Barrel): **Obie Oberholzer** (*Obie - A Photographic Story Book*) finds the words to tell you about his life in pictures.

SATURDAY 16h00-17h00

[72] **Joanne Harris in her own words** (New School Hall): Moving with ease from the whimsical charm of *Chocolat* to writing fantasies and thrillers, including *Gentlemen and Players* and its recent follow-up, *Different Class*, **Joanne Harris** talks about her writing life with *Sunday Times* Contributing Book Editor **Michele Magwood**.

[73] **From victim to survivor** (Old School Hall): **Michelle Hattingh** (*I'm the Girl Who Was Raped*) uncovers stories of courage, faith and perseverance in the face of opposition and adversity as told by **Grizelda Grootboom** (*Exit*), **Lindiwe Hani** (*Being Chris Hani's Daughter*) and **Shamim Meer** (*Memories of Love and Struggle*).

SATURDAY 16h00 – 17h00

[74] **Wording their eats** (Church Hall): **Tamara LePine-Williams** is at the table with **Anna Trapido** and **Mpho Tshukudu** (co-authors of *Eat Ting*) and **Sam Wouldige** (*Reuben at Home*), talking of their methods and sharing titbits about writing cookbooks.

[75] **Drawn and quartered** (Congregational Church): *Mail & Guardian* cartoonist, illustrator and journalist **Carlos Amato** finds out about the people behind the pictures, with graphic novelist **Alex Latimer** (*The Space Race*), graphic artist **Dale Halvorsen** (aka Joey Hi-fi) and political cartoonist **Zapiro** (*Dead President Walking*).

[76] **Who can afford to buy books?** (Council Chamber): **Tom Eaton** considers the limits to accessing books in South Africa with **Griffin Shea** (Bridge Books) and **Palesa Morudu** (publisher, Cover2Cover).

[77] **Married to your job** (Hospice Hall): **Greg Fried** and **Lisa Lazarus** (*Die Laughing* – writing as Greg Lazarus) and **Nicoli Natrass** and **Jeremy Seekings** (*Poverty, Politics and Policy*) discuss the challenges and joys of being both life and writing partners.

[78] **Crossing the arts** (Elephant & Barrel): 'Polyartists' **Carol Mashigo** (actor/writer), **Rian Malan** (writer/musician) and **Sam Wilson** (film producer /writer) tell **Africa Melane** about the crossover between their various artistic lives and what they mean to them.

SATURDAY Evening Events

[79] **Repitwah Poetry Band** (Elephant & Barrel 17h30-19h30): Wind down with this rhythmic and enthralling artist collective specialising in music and poetry. (To participate in the open mic email Roche on groundingsessions@gmail.com). R50 through Webtickets.

[80] **Hitler, Verwoerd, Mandela and Me** (Church Hall, 18h30-19h15): A performed reading of the best-selling memoir of sorts by **Marianne Thamm**. The 40-minute show will include stand-up comedy and an audio-visual ridicule of the 20th Century. R120 through Webtickets.

[81] **You and I** (Congregational Church, 18h30-19h15): Perhaps all literature comes down to this relationship: you and I. **John Maytham** reads excerpts from authors ranging from TS Eliot to Kurt Vonnegut, with forays into Nietzsche and Cole Porter, highlighting the intimate, angry and sometimes solipsistic connection between writer and reader. Compiled by **Finuala Dowling**. R120 through Webtickets.

[81a] **Autumn music weekend Concert #3: Candlelight Soirée: Songs my mother taught me** (Café Bon Bon, Saturday @ 18h30 for 19h00). Pianist **Christopher Duigan** plays light classics that evoke a bygone world of nostalgia associated with salon music and evenings at the family piano. Included are Brahms's 'Waltz in A-flat', Dvorak's 'Humoresque', Rubenstein's 'Melody in F' and 'The Maiden's Prayer'. R600 includes a three-course meal. Book at Café Bon Bon: 021 876 3936.

[82] **Jazz in the hall** (Church Hall, 20h00-22h00): Chill with a glass or two of wine and some fine sounds from one of Cape Town's top modern jazz bands: with **Reza Khota** on guitar, **Buddy Wells** on sax, **Shane Cooper** on bass and **Jonno Sweetman** on drums. R120 through Webtickets.

Private function: Dinner Jenny Crwys-Williams (Pierneef)

Enjoy dinner with some of the cream of festival authors in one of SA's top restaurants, with Porcupine Ridge wines. Authors at all tables, party atmosphere, great winelands food. Email bookings@jennyandco.co.za.

SUNDAY 21 May

SUNDAY 10h00-11h00

[83] **Does the ANC deserve a future?** (New School Hall): As South Africa witnesses apparently unending turmoil within the ANC, **Justice Malala** asks **Khulu Mbatha** (*Why the ANC Failed to Govern*), **Pieter-Louis Myburgh** (*The Republic of Gupta*) and **Ralph Mathekga** (*When Zuma Goes*) if they think the party can, or should, survive.

[84] **Rattling the cage of discrimination** (Old School Hall): **Sifiso Ndlovu** (*The Thabo Mbeki I Know*), **Anastacia Tomson** (*Always Anastacia*), **Griffin Shea** and **Marianne Thamm** (*Hitler, Verwoerd and Me*) interrogate the systems that divide South Africans, and how we can dismantle them.

[85] **Real change, right now** (Church Hall): **Zahira Asmal** in conversation with **Jay Naidoo** (*Change: Organising Tomorrow, Today*) and **Paul Hoffman** (*Confronting the Corrupt*) about why (and what) significant, immediate, action must be taken to save our country, and what will happen if we ignore the urgency.

[86] **From plot to print and beyond** (Congregational Church): **Kate Sidley** asks **Gail Schimmel** (*The Park*), **Jennifer Friedman** (*Queen of the Freestate*) and **Richard Mason** (*Who Killed Piet Barol?*) about the path they've followed from conceptualising their books, to getting them into print, and then into the public eye and hands.

[87] **A few good editors** (Council Chamber): **Alison Lowry** and fellow editors **Helen Moffett**, **Phehello Mofokeng** and **Thabiso Mahlape** discuss the consistent criticism around the literary world of 'poor editing' and the state of the industry in South Africa.

[88] **Choosing what to remember** (Hospice Hall): **Shamim Meer** asks **Bridget Hilton-Barber** (*Student Comrade Prisoner Spy*) and **Sam Scarborough** (*Trapped*) how they decided what to leave in and what to take out when writing their memoirs.

[89] **From 500 words to 50 000** (Elephant & Barrel): **Thandeka Gqubule** finds out about the different challenges of writing journalism and writing books, with **Marita van der Vyver**, **Paul McNally** and **Rian Malan**.

SUNDAY 10h00 – 12h00

[90] **Workshop: Hide & Seek Poetry** (Ebony Gallery) Sometimes the writing comes easily, but what do you do when the spring dries up or you have more sand than compost in your head? Come and learn to hunt and gather words at a two-hour poetry workshop with poets **Jolyn Phillips** and **Karin Schimke**. Tickets R120 through Webtickets.

SUNDAY 11h30 – 12h30

[91] **Sophie Hannah in her own words** (New School Hall): Travel writer and shameless fan **Darrel Bristow-Bovey** finds out more about one of the UK's most successful crime writers, **Sophie Hannah** (*Closed Casket, The Narrow Bed*).

[92] **Mastering the past** (Old School Hall): Historian **Bill Nasson** (*History Matters*), with **Fred Khumalo** (*Dancing the Death Drill*), **Philippe Sands** (*East West Street*) and **Tim Butcher** (*The Trigger*), consider the challenges and obligations of understanding the past.

SUNDAY 11h30 – 12h30

[93] **Playing with words** (Church Hall): On knowing the rules of writing, and how to break them: **Sue de Groot** tests the boundaries of poets **Blaq Pearl** and **Shirmoney Rhode** (*Nommer 20 Delphi Straat*), and novelist **Claire Robertson** (*The Magistrate of Gower*).

[94] **The author as chemist** (Congregational Church): **Ann Donald** asks **Ekow Duker** (*The God Who Made Mistakes*), **Joanne Harris** (*Different Class*) and **Michael Sears** aka half of **Michael Stanley** (the Detective Kubu series) how they balance the elements of plot, character and theme to create literary page-turners.

[95] **Writing my family:** (Council Chamber): Negotiating the path between family sensitivities and the author's right to write the story as they choose is a skill that **Daniel Browde**, **Neil Sonnekus** and **Philippa Namutebi Kabali-Kagwa** have all developed. They tell **Hagen Engler** how they did it.

[96] **Can South Africa escape the poverty trap?** (Hospice Hall): **Peter Bruce** talks economics, policy and education with **Brian Kantor**, **Jeremy Seekings** and **Nicoli Natrass**.

[97] **Armchair refs** (Elephant & Barrel): Sometime sportswriters **Carlos Amato** and **Tom Eaton** lob a few balls around the patchy pitch of sports journalism and commentary in South Africa — whether on the page, the small screen or the airwaves.

SUNDAY 12h15

[97a] **Autumn music weekend concert #4: Trio Frontier play Beethoven and Brahms** (NGK Church)
Trio Frontier – **Junnan Sun** (clarinet) and **Aristide du Plessis** (cello) with pianist **Christopher Duigan** – play Beethoven's youthful Trio in B-flat Op. 11, contrasted with the Brahms Trio Op. 114, one of the composer's most touching and beautiful 'twilight' works. Book at Webtickets or pay at the door. Tickets at the door: R100.

SUNDAY 13h00 – 14h00

[98] **Is it hard writing for easy reading?** (New School Hall): From popular fiction to incisive commentary to evocative columns, the best writers make it seem effortless, but how much mental sweat goes into achieving this end? **Alison Lowry** asks two very different authors: **Lesley Pearse** and **Rian Malan**.

[99] **The price of honesty** (Old School Hall): Speaking your mind, sharing your thoughts, talking truth to power — the risks for those who dare are great in a Twitterised world. **Steven Boykey Sidley** asks **Lerato Tshabalala**, **Rafique Gangat** and **Zapiro** how they have handled personal attacks.

[100] **What we can learn from novels?** (Church Hall): **Richard Mason** asks **Greg Fried**, **Lisa Lazarus** and **Sally Andrew** about the extraordinary things fiction can teach readers of all ages.

[101] **The funny thing about writing** (Congregational Church): How easy is it to write funny, and how and why do writers use humour to get a message across? **Rebecca Davis** asks **Fred Khumalo**, **Gail Schimmel** and **Paige Nick**.

[102] **What publishers want** (Council Chamber): In preparation for next year's projected Porcupine's Den event (think 'Dragon's Den' for writers), would-be authors get to pick the brains of publishers **Ester Levinrad** (Jonathan Ball), **Phehello Mofokeng** (Geko Books) and **Thabiso Mahlape** (BlackBird Books), led by **Colleen Higgs** (Modjaji Books). Other publishers are welcome to attend and weigh in on the discussion.

SUNDAY 13h00 – 14h00

[103] **My first novel** (Hospice Hall): First-time novelists **Fiona Melrose** and **Kiprop Kimutai** share the pain and the pride of getting their first books on the shelf, with **Carol Mashigo** in the chair.

SUNDAY 13h00 – 14h00

[104] **The polylinguists** (Elephant & Barrel) **Tom Dreyer** asks **Abubakar Adam Ibrahim** (English/Hausa), **Jennifer Friedman** (English/Afrikaans) and **Jolyn Phillips** (English/Afrikaans/French) whether the ability to speak and write in different languages is a help or a hindrance?

[105] **Autumn music weekend concert #5: Bon Bon Finale** (Café Bon Bon, Sunday 13h00).

After the meal, **Junnan Sun** (clarinet), **Aristide du Plessis** (cello) and **Christopher Duigan** (piano) play afternoon music by JS Bach, Saint-Saëns, Bella-Kovacs, Piazzolla and the evergreen 'The Swan' from 'Carnival of the Animals' for a spirited festival music finale. R500 includes a three-course meal. Book at Café Bon Bon: 021 876 3936.