



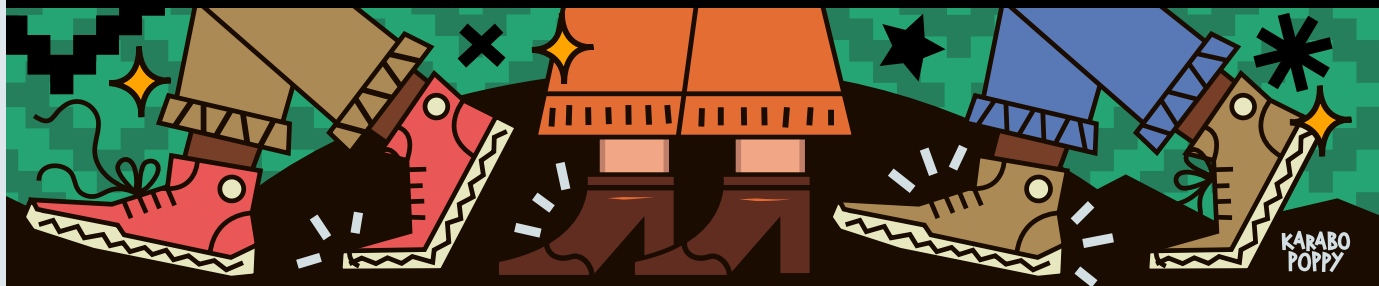
2022
THEMES

South Africa
The Climate Crisis
Crimetime
Voices from Ukraine

2022
22-25
SEPT

GOTHENBURG BOOK FAIR

THE SWEDISH EXHIBITION
& CONGRESS CENTRE
GOTHENBURG



KARABO
POPPY



Guest of Honour 2022

SOUTH AFRICA



UBUNTU
/ BOTHO

The ties that bind us to a
better and brighter future

The word 'ubuntu' points to an African philosophical standpoint that can be interpreted in context as "I am because you are" or recognising each other in each other. It is said in isiZulu that: Umuntu ngumuntu ngabantu – a person is a person because others are. A similar phrase resonates in other African languages. Motho ke motho ka batho (Sesotho/Setswana) – A person is a person through other people.



sport, arts & culture

Department:
Sport, Arts and Culture
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



The cultural epicentre of the Nordics is back

On Sunday September 29th, 2019, we gathered with our colleagues in a restaurant for our traditional closing dinner. Little did we know that a virus would prevent us from bringing together the industry and our visitors for several years. In 2020, the fair was wholly virtual. In 2021, we staged a hybrid event with a limited number of visitors joining us in person.

This year, we are finally able to once again welcome international writers back to Gothenburg. More than 90 guests hailing from 35 countries beyond the Nordic region will feature in this year's seminar programme. We are particularly delighted to welcome our guests of honour from South Africa.

A number of international guests will also feature as part of our Crimetime theme, where we let the crime fiction festival take the limelight.

In our Climate Crisis theme, we will also shed light on the serious situation our planet finds itself in. Over the course of some twenty seminars, we bring together literature and science to engage on this fateful issue of our time.

For us, it is an incredibly special feeling to be back. No other book fair in the world offers such a comprehensive seminar programme. Writers, scholars, Nobel Laureates, politicians and thinkers from around the world appear in readings, talks and high profile debates. See you very soon – finally!



Frida Edman
Director

Oskar Ekström
Programme Director

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General information:

For tickets, opening hours and further information visit www.goteborg-bookfair.com

Forthcoming fairs

2023: 28 September–1 October

2024: 26–29 September

2025: 25–28 September

2026: 24–27 September

Gothenburg Book Fair would like to thank all exhibitors, publishing houses, institutes and organisations for their contribution to this year's seminar programme.

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2022
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THEMES

South Africa



This year's guest of honour at the Book Fair is South Africa. Here, our partners at the National Library of South Africa explain why the watchwords for their venture are *umuntu ngumuntu ngabantu*.

Text: National Library of South Africa
Illustration: Karabo Poppy



In Southern Africa, there is a word called ubuntu. It is derived from the Nguni languages and points to a philosophical standpoint that can be interpreted as “I am because you are”. It is based on a quest for community, to see oneself in one's neighbor and to acknowledge our mutual need for one another.

FOR THOSE WHO have not previously encountered the multi-layered expression, it can be difficult to grasp.

Many South Africans still experience hardship and violence which denies them basic happiness and well-being. The establishment of a democracy has brought fundamental gains to South Africa's people after decades and centuries of anti-apartheid and anticolonial struggle. While great progress has been made, the struggle for a truly and fully free, non-racist, non-sexist and just society is still a work in progress.

Action is underpinned by a civic or communal spirit undergirded by ubuntu.

UBUNTU IS NOT just about the past or present but also a strategy for the future: It is a core value when we raise our children, a lifestyle that we pass on to the next generation by telling stories that emphasize how we are all connected. Consequently, ubuntu is also a

description of both the role of parents and the purpose of education and the relationship to the environment.

Ubuntu thus also gives us a strong sense of belonging, it teaches us that we build the future together with mutual care and generosity. This does not mean that you yourself are marginalized as an individual, on the contrary, your relationships are enriched because your own personality is lifted by others.

A CENTRAL MAXIM within ubuntu is *umuntu ngumuntu ngabantu*. Similar phrases resonate in many African languages, and can be translated in several different ways. One meaning is: A person is a person through other persons. Another reads: We are linked for a better future.

The maxim reminds us to see the human in each person we meet and to share each other's suffering and values. Both on a philosophical level and on an everyday level: in the classroom, in the shopping center, the sports facility or in the theater.

Putting human value first in order to achieve common goals is also central to South Africa's presence at Gothenburg Book Fair.

So dear Swedish visitors, we are *umuntu ngumuntu ngabantu* - linked for a better future. ●



BECOME OUR GUEST OF HONOUR

Every year Gothenburg Book Fair welcomes a guest country which presents its literature and culture at the Fair and gives it a new face.

GUEST OF HONOUR participation contributes to the establishment of international cultural relations and promotes cultural exchange, dialogue and tourism. This is an excellent opportunity to get to know new authorships from different parts of the world and it is also a great opportunity for buying and selling rights.

OVER THE YEARS we have welcomed countries such as Brazil, the UK, the Netherlands and Flanders, Estonia, South Korea, the entire continent of Africa, and countries with the same language such as Germany, Austria and Switzerland to mention a few.

GOTHENBURG BOOK FAIR is one of the biggest book fairs in Europe and the largest cultural event in the Nordic countries. It gives access to the Nordic market and provides a meeting place for publishers, literary agents, media, institutes, organisations, writers and readers. 1,000 accredited journalists cover Gothenburg Book Fair, generating approximately 7,000 articles, TV and radio spots. It is the event with the largest media coverage in Scandinavia.

Ways to participate

"Voices from ..."

A guest country at Gothenburg Book Fair can also participate at a smaller scale with the aim of raising interest in its contemporary literature and writers, promoting book exports to the Nordic region, and vice versa. Larger scale participation is to be the Guest of Honour at the Fair, and smaller scale participation is to be a "Voices from" country. In recent years we've presented Voices from Iceland, Catalonia, Ireland, Italy and Bangladesh. The "Voices from country" participates with a stand and a cultural programme.



Voices from Ukraine

This year, Gothenburg Book Fair has taken the initiative to feature Voices from Ukraine as an additional theme. This is a way to give dedicated space to Ukrainian writers and narratives in these difficult times. The thematic focus will be delivered in partnership with stakeholders including the Embassy of Ukraine in Sweden, Swedish PEN, the Global Square, the Church of Sweden and several publishing houses and other organisations.

2022
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THEMES

The Climate Crisis



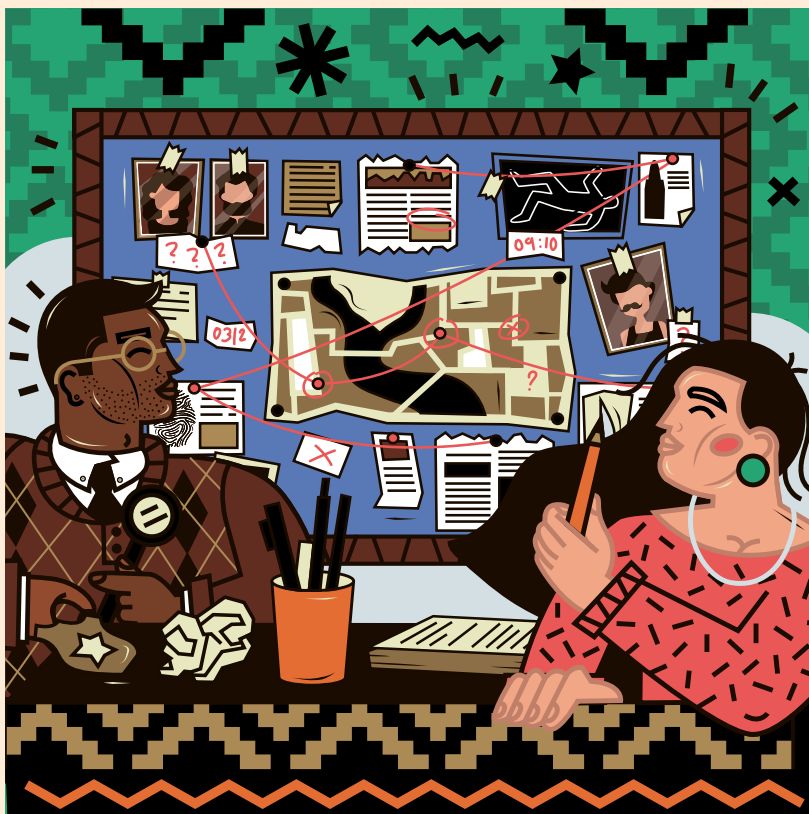
THE CLIMATE TRANSITION must take place here and now. Scientists agree that the climate is changing. Fires, droughts, heatwaves and torrential rain have escalated in recent years, including in Sweden. These problems will only increase as temperatures rise. Emissions must be significantly reduced as a matter of urgency in the coming years. It is an enormous challenge – but we still have a chance. Change requires everyone's commitment. This is why the Climate Crisis is one of the 2022 Book Fair themes. Writers, researchers, politicians, activists and other stakeholders from around the world will shed light on this fateful issue affecting all of humankind.

How can we increase the pace of the climate transition? How can we engage and mobilise people to do their bit? And what is the role of culture and literature in these endeavours? As part of our Climate Crisis theme, the Book Fair explores these issues together with some of the greatest minds engaging with this topic from around the world. Collaborations with a wide range of publishers, non-profits and other organisations allow us to connect culture, science and politics together to work towards finding ways forward as we address this fateful issue of our time. ●

The Climate Crisis theme is presented in partnership with the Stockholm Resilience Centre and the Global Challenge think tank, with funding from Formas.

2022
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THEMES

Crimetime



DO YOU SEEK EXCITEMENT in your daily life? This year Crimetime is one of the Book Fair's themes. Crimetime is Sweden's biggest forum for the masters of the crime fiction genre. Revel in suspenseful page-turners in all their guises as the crème de la crème of crime fiction and thrillers gather to showcase their latest books. Crimetime at the 2022 Book Fair is presented in collaboration with headline partner BookBeat. Thanks to its upgrade as a full theme in 2022, Crimetime will be a day longer and feature even more exciting programming.

Crimetime Gothenburg is a partnership between the Book Fair and Bonnierförlagen, with its point of departure being a mutual desire to create Sweden's biggest forum for those who love suspense-filled page-turners, authors and readers alike. The festival was launched in 2015, when it took place on Gotland, in the Baltic Sea. In its first year at the Gothenburg Book Fair in 2018, Crimetime was a smash success, drawing superstar authors from both the Swedish and international crime fiction scene. ●

BookBeat

Crimetime is presented in collaboration with headline partner BookBeat.

A NORDIC MEETING PLACE

Gothenburg Rights Centre is the most important market place for Nordic literary rights and offers a unique opportunity to get an overview of the Nordic market.

RIGHTS CENTRE IS a hub for agents and companies from across Europe. Publishers and literary agents book meetings to buy and sell rights, get an idea of the supply of titles and meet international colleagues with a specific interest in Nordic literature.

At the Fair you will find the industry's largest representation of publishing companies, agents and authors from the Nordic region. This unique opportunity to survey the market is what makes Gothenburg Book Fair the foremost venue for trading in Nordic literary rights.

RIGHTS CENTRE WAS established in the 1990s and has since grown in significance. This is where you take the pulse of the hottest trends in Northern Europe. The premises offer a secluded and comfortable spot for your meetings. The Fair's placement in central Gothenburg ensures an experience that can continue beyond Rights Centre. In the evenings restaurants and bars in the vicinity fill with people from the industry.



Do you want to participate at Gothenburg Book Fair? Please contact me for more information.

Oskar Ekström

Programme Director

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You can also find information on goteborg-bookfair.com

FELLOWSHIP PROGRAMME

GOTHENBURG BOOK FAIR

offers together with the Swedish Arts Council a fellowship programme for foreign publishers, sub-agents and translators who are interested in working with Swedish literature. Travel costs, accommodation for three nights, and entrance card to all seminars at the Fair are included in the offer.

The programme is partly booked, with round table meetings, lectures about the Swedish book market and new Swedish literature, and evening activities, and partly open to individual meetings with agents in the Rights Centre. There will be both separate activities for translators and publishers as well as joint activities.

The fellowship is a great opportunity to get an overview of the Swedish and Nordic literature scene in just a couple of days.

PHOTO: NIKLAS MAUPDIX



Seminars

The seminar programme is the heart of the Fair. Writers, illustrators, translators, scholars, scientists, politicians, philosophers and journalists from around the world appear in readings, talks and high-profile debates on almost every conceivable topic. The following seminars are held in non-Nordic languages. A complete list of this year's seminars can be found at our website.



This symbol indicates that the seminar will be available online at goteborg-bookfair.com.

THURSDAY 10:00–10:45 HALL G3

OPENING SEMINAR: LITERATURE GIVES A VOICE TO UKRAINE

VOICES FROM UKRAINE What role does literature play in disseminating experiences from war-torn Ukraine? What sets it apart from news reporting and opinion pieces? This session is a round-table with poets **DARYNA GLADUN**, **LESYK PANASIUK** and prosaist and essayist **OKSANA ZABUZHKO**, who all feature in the PEN/Opp literary journal's recently published Ukraine issue. Author **SARA GORDAN** will give a reading. Further participants to be confirmed. Moderator: **STEFAN INGVARSSON**, cultural writer and analyst at the Swedish Institute of International Affairs. Language: English
ORG: SWEDISH PEN AND THE GOTHENBURG BOOK FAIR

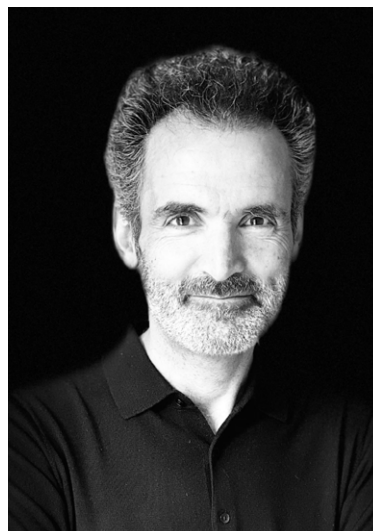
THURSDAY 11:00–11:30 HALL F5 / ►

OLIVIER SIBONY

Harmful noise

Random interruptions to human thought – noise – affect medical diagnoses, legal judgments, financial forecasts and just about every other part of society and business. How do we identify this noise? How can we avoid it or protect ourselves against it? The world-renowned French professor of strategy **OLIVIER SIBONY**, who co-authored the groundbreaking *Noise* together with Cass Sunstein, legal scholar and advisor to Joe Biden, and the Nobel Laureate Daniel Kahneman, will give an astute lecture exploring a shockingly widespread yet simultaneously invisible problem. Language: English

ORG: VOLANTE

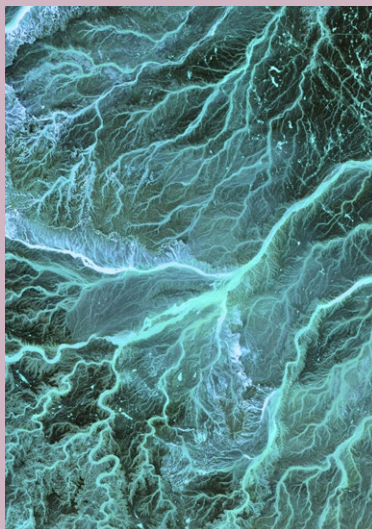


THURSDAY 11:00–11:45 HALL R2

MISSION: CLIMATE

THE CLIMATE CRISIS How is climate change and its impact portrayed in contemporary European literature? And do writers have a particular responsibility to depict and deal with what is the “greatest challenge of our times”? A round-table with authors **JULIE GUINAND** (Switzerland), **VAIVA GRAINYTĖ** (Lithuania), **MICHAL HVORECKÝ** (Slovakia) and **VALDUR MIKITA** (Estonia) on how the climate issue affects their writing, and more widely on the public discourse and literary scene in their respective countries. Moderator: **JENS LILJESTRAND**, author. Language: English

ORG: EUNIC



THURSDAY 12:00–12:30 HALL R2

OKSANA ZABUZHKO

A culture of fear and oppression

VOICES FROM UKRAINE Ten years after it was published, *Fieldwork in Ukrainian Sex* was named “the most influential Ukrainian book for the 15 years of independence”. **OKSANA ZABUZHKO**'s 1996 novel tells the story of a visiting professor in Slavic Studies at Harvard University and her desire to break free from Ukrainian conventions. Despairing at the end of a love affair, she begins to see what has defined her as a Ukrainian woman, which at the same time reveals a culture permeated by fear and oppression. Oksana Zabuzhko and the author **ULRIKA KÄRNBORG** will be discussing this novel that spent several years in the Ukrainian bestseller lists. Language: English

ORG: NORSTEDTS

THURSDAY 12:00–12:45

HALL J1 / ►

THE GENDER AGENDA

SOUTH AFRICA Violence against women perpetuated by men is a major problem around the world, including in South Africa. In recent years, the silence surrounding this issue has increasingly been broken, and more aspects of the female experience are depicted in art, literature and media. Participants: the South African author and former UN official **SINDIWE MAGONA** and the South African filmmaker, writer and journalist **SYLVIA VOLLENHOVEN**. Moderator: **ALEXANDRA PASCALIDOU**, journalist and author. Language: English

ORG: NATIONAL LIBRARY OF SOUTH AFRICA

THURSDAY 12:00–12:45

HALL F5 / ►

ECOCIDE AS AN INTERNATIONAL CRIME

THE CLIMATE CRISIS Causing serious damage to nature harms the very basis of our existence. Faith for Ecocide is working to make ecocide a crime on a par with genocide in international law. The Pope, the Swedish Conference of Bishops and other religious organisations have given their backing to the campaign. What does international ecocide legislation entail and why are religious communities leading the charge? Featuring **JOJO MEHTA**, Executive Director of Stop Ecocide International, Reverend **JAMES BHAGWAN**, General Secretary of the Pacific Conference of Churches, and **TOVA LINDQVIST**, Policy Developer on Climate Issues at the National Council of Swedish Youth Organisations (LSU). Moderator: **PELLA THIEL**, Chair of End Ecocide Sweden. Language: English

ORG: THE CHURCH OF SWEDEN

THURSDAY 12:00–12:45

HALL J2 / ►

PICTUREBOOK MAKERS

How do you create tension in, and between, text and image? How does a story emerge? What are the stages between a sketch and the finished picture? In the book *Picturebook Makers*, some of the world's foremost creatives liberally share their wisdom and experiences, and we find out how picturebooks come into being. Two contributors are Belgian-born author and illustrator **KITTY CROWTHER** and the Irish author and illustrator **CHRIS HAUGHTON**. The book's editor is **SAM MCCULLEN**, who runs the Picturebook makers blog and picturebook platform dPictus. In this conversation, they will be exploring the question of how to create the best picturebook. Language: English

ORG: LILLA PIRATFÖRLAGET

THURSDAY 12:45–13:15

HALL R2

JOHN KEENE**The other story of America**

A sensitive boy discovers the world, becoming aware of which parts he has access to as well as which are dangerous for him to be in. *Annotations* is the award-winning American writer **JOHN KEENE**'s debut exploring the flipside of growing up in the shadows of the American Dream. It is an account of childhood in St Louis amid the emergence of the civil rights movement as the Vietnam War rages on. While *Annotations* is concentrated and personal, the collection of accounts found in *Counternarratives* expands to a fresco ranging from the 17th century up to the present day, each told from a perspective not ordinarily accommodated by the annals of history: children, women and slaves. John Keene in conversation with the journalist **LAWEN MOHTADI** about his work. Language: English

ORG: NIRSTEDT / LITTERATUR



PHOTO: NIRSTEDT LITTERATUR (KEENE). KITTY CROWTHER (PICTUREBOOK MAKERS)



THURSDAY 12:45–13:30

HALL F3 / ►

SOLIDARITY – WRITING FOR PEACE AND HUMAN RIGHTS

What does solidarity mean in Europe today? War, conflict and the emergence of authoritarian forces all threaten freedom of expression and open dialogue. What role can literature and writers play in giving a voice to persecuted and oppressed peoples and groups? How can we help imprisoned writers? Four prominent international authors, **ALAIN LALLEMAND** (Belgium), **STEVEN ROBINS** (South Africa), **BURGHARD BALTRUSCH** (Portugal) and **PETER JOHNSON** (Sweden), discuss literature's power for change. Moderator: **KHOLOD SAGHIR**, Editor-in-chief of PEN/Opp. Language: English

ORG: EUNIC



THURSDAY 13:00–13:45

HALL J1 / ▶

POETRY: RESISTANCE AND RESILIENCE

SOUTH AFRICA The explosive force of the contemporary South African poetry scene is directed both inward, towards the cracks in the rainbow nation, and outward, towards the disheartening state of affairs globally. Poet **KOLEKA PUTUMA**, who made her international breakthrough at the age of 24 with her poetry collection *Collective Amnesia*, talks with cartoonist and poet **NATHAN TRANTRAAL** about defending the right to express one's reality, hopes and dreams, and about how poetry can be used to resist injustice. Moderator: **JENNY TUNEDAL**, poet and literary critic. Language: English

ORG: NATIONAL LIBRARY OF SOUTH AFRICA



THURSDAY 15:00–15:30

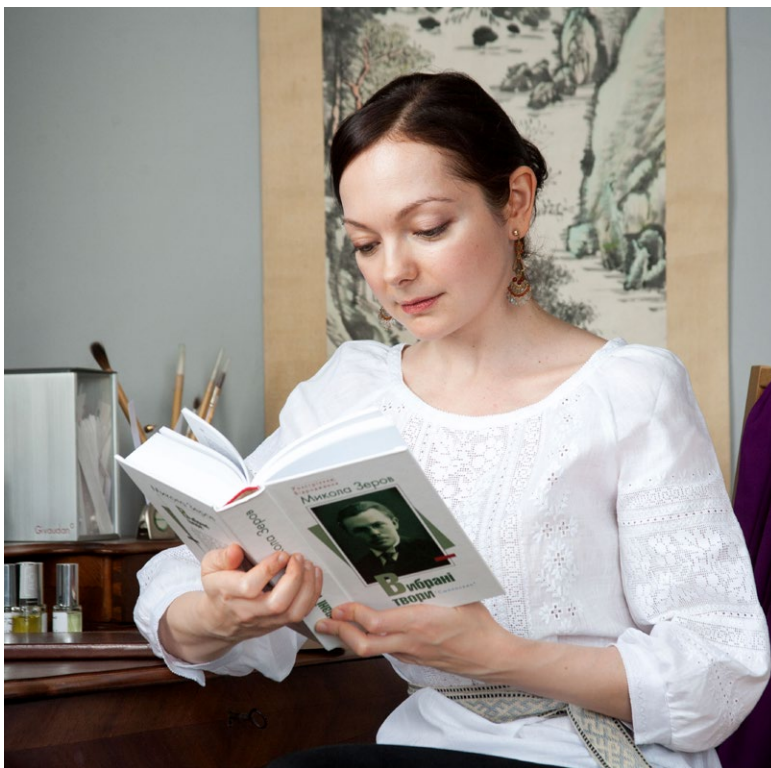
HALL F3 / ▶

VICTORIA BELIM

Ukrainian family secrets

VOICES FROM UKRAINE Why is Uncle Nikodim's mysterious disappearance in the 1930s still shrouded in obscurity? How can it be that his life story remains taboo even today, almost a century later? Ukrainian author **VICTORIA BELIM** returns to the Ukraine of 2014 to find out what lies hidden behind a family secret that has been kept for generations. Her autobiographical work, *Red Sirens*, is a portrayal of Ukraine's twentieth century history seen through the dramatic fate of one family. Moderator: **MATS ALMEGÅRD**, journalist. Language: English

ORG: BROMBERGS



THURSDAY 15:00–15:45

HALL G3

POST-POST-APARTHEID AND ITS LITERATURE

SOUTH AFRICA If the years after 1994 were post-apartheid, then the present is sometimes referred to as "post-post-apartheid". Disappointment and frustration have often characterised the political climate. What role does literature play in this situation? **MASANDE NTSHANGA**, author of *Triangulum* and one of the most high-profile young writers in South Africa today, will be in conversation with **ASHLEIGH HARRIS**, Professor of English Literature at Uppsala University, author of *Afropolitanism and the Novel: De-Realizing Africa*. Language: English

ORG: NATIONAL LIBRARY OF SOUTH AFRICA

THURSDAY 15:00–15:45

HALL R2

DREAMS AND TURNING POINTS

A woman is obsessed with climbing Mount Everest. A man disappears from a semi-deserted hotel. A young writer helps an aged theatre director to stage a play. Brazilian **EMILIO FRAIA**'s collection of short stories, *Sevastopol*, sees people fight for their dreams no matter how much they fail. In **LINA WOLFF**'s *Djävulsgreppet* [*The Devil's Grip*], a woman arrives in Florence. Everything seem foreign and overwhelming to her. The roof tiles, the church spires, the many loving couples. The man she has met. She comes from a barren wasteland – but she thinks he may be the one to thaw her frozen soul. A conversation about dreams and turning points in life. Moderator: **HANNA NORDENHÖK**, author and translator. Language: English

ORG: ALBERT BONNIERS FÖRLAG, TRANAN AND THE EMBASSY OF BRAZIL IN STOCKHOLM

THURSDAY 16:00–16:45

HALL F5 / ▶

RECONCILIATION AND THEN WHAT?

SOUTH AFRICA South Africa's Truth and Reconciliation Commission paved the way for a free and democratic post-apartheid society. At the same time, the most challenging task of all was left for future generations to overcome: the redistribution of wealth and the reduction of social inequalities. So, given the political situation that the country now finds itself in, how should the nation handle the legacy of the apartheid regime? And what work is still to be done for democracy and human rights? A round-table with the South African journalist **KHADIJA PATEL**, the most Reverend Doctor **ANTJE JACKELÉN**, Archbishop of Sweden, and **FRANK CHIKANE**, former civil servant, writer and cleric. Moderator: **ERIK LYSÉN**, Moderator of the ACT Alliance. Language: English

ORG: THE CHURCH OF SWEDEN

THURSDAY 16:45–17:15

HALL G4 / ▶

LUCY DIAMOND

Sparkling tales of love, family and friendship

Writing under the pseudonym **LUCY DIAMOND**, the British author Sue Mongredien has enjoyed worldwide success. Her recurring themes are love, family and friendship. This year, Lucy Diamond has two new books out in Swedish translation. *The Promise* is a poignant, entertaining page-turner about finding love, hope and joy in even the darkest moments. *The Year of Taking Chances* is a true winter corker about realising your New Year's resolutions. She will be in conversation with the journalist **TITTI SCHULTZ**. Language: English

ORG: PRINTZ PUBLISHING

THURSDAY 16:45–17:30

HALL F3 / ▶

ARTISTIC FREEDOM IN A CHANGING WORLD

Artists and cultural practitioners in many countries face restrictions and attempts to control their work – a trend that has been reinforced by the pandemic and the tense political landscape. Also in the Nordic countries, the need has arisen to revise a number of the institutional mechanisms in place that are designed to safeguard the free practice of art while also underpinning its role in the development of society. A conversation about artistic freedom. Speakers: **ELINE SIGFUSSON**, Director of think tank a/nordi/c, **MIKA ROMANUS**, Director of the Swedish Arts Grants Committee, and **ZIV NEVO KULMAN**, Israel's Ambassador to Sweden. Moderator: **ELLEN WETTMARK**, Executive Director of the Bonniers Konsthall art gallery. Introduction: **BENNY MARCEL**, Director of the Nordic Culture Fund. Language: English

ORG: THE NORDIC CULTURE FUND

THURSDAY 17:00–17:45

HALL F5 / ▶

SPOKEN WORD AS AN ART FORM

SOUTH AFRICA They experiment with spoken word, music, theatre and film. They blend their art into new forms, mix media, and use multilingualism and traditions as valuable assets. They write poetry and perform – while also curating festivals and organising literary salons. They are South Africa's young literary avant-garde, renewing and bringing poetry to new spaces. How do they regard their own role and that of literature in contemporary South Africa? Speakers: **SIPHOKAZI JONAS**, **MODISE SEKGOTHE** and **PHOMOLO SEKAMOTHO**. Moderator: **ATHENA FARROKHZAD**, poet. Language: English

ORG: GÖTEBORGS LITTERATURHUS AND HEAR MY VOICE

FRIDAY 10:30–11:15

HALL F5 / ▶

FINDINGS FROM THE PAST

CRIMETIME In **ELLY GRIFFITHS'** latest book in Swedish translation, *The Night Hawks*, forensic archaeologist Ruth Galloway excavates the remains of a giant dog at a remote farm in the English county of Norfolk. In **JOHAN THEORIN's** *Weathered Bones*, human remains are found buried on a beach on the Baltic island of Öland, while in **ANNA JANS-SON's** *Tala med de döda* [*Speak to the Dead*], the skeleton of a 9-year-old girl is discovered in a nature reserve in Bergslagen. These gruesome finds mean that crimes in the past take on a physical form. Why have these bodies been hidden away, and how has so much time passed without them being discovered? The three authors will be discussing historical finds, murder and mythology under the moderation of journalist **PEKKA HEINO**. Language: English

ORG: BOKFÖRLAGET FORUM, NORSTEDTS, WAHLSTRÖM & WIDSTRAND

THURSDAY 17:00–17:45

HALL J2 / ▶

SILENT BOOKS – A SAFE PLACE IN TROUBLED TIMES

Recent times have seen picture books without any text increasingly in demand. In a world where people are regularly forced to move to completely new places with different languages, books where the narrative is driven by illustrations can bridge language divides and unite readers. The gravity of the Iranian illustrator and author **MASOUD GHAREBAGHI's** works lies in this very form of engaging pictorial storytelling. The illustrated worlds of **SVEN NORDQVIST** in turn have left their impression on the childhood of several generations. See them in discussion about their wordless picture books *When the Snowman Moved In* and *The Dog Walk*, and find out their perspectives on the power of the image to carry a story. Moderator: **JENNY ASCHENBRENNER**, cultural journalist. Language: English

ORG: BOKFÖRLAGET OPAL





FRIDAY 11:00–11:45

HALL F3 / ►

SWEDEN AND SOUTH AFRICA: SOLIDARITY AND EXCHANGE

SOUTH AFRICA Sweden contributed more financial support on a per capita basis to the anti-apartheid movement than any other country in the world. Strong bonds of solidarity and exchange were formed as a result. How has this exchange endured, and which new forms of cooperation now exist between the two countries? **SINDIWE MAGONA**, the South African author and former UN official, **WALLY SEROTE**, a South African poet and ANC member, **NATHI MTHETHWA**, Minister of Sports, Arts and Culture of South Africa, **BRIGITTE SYLVIA MABANDLA**, South African Ambassador to Sweden, and the author **PER WÄSTBERG** on Sweden and South Africa's relationship in the past and present. Moderator: **GÖRREL ESPELUND**, journalist. Language: English

ORG: NATIONAL LIBRARY OF SOUTH AFRICA



FRIDAY 12:00–12:45

HALL J1 / ►

MIRRORS AND WINDOWS IN CHILDREN'S LITERATURE

SOUTH AFRICA One legacy of colonialism is that the books children encounter in the classroom do not reflect their identity, language or home environment. The "mirrors and windows" method highlights the importance of representation in literature so that children can see their place in the world. **SIYA MASUKU** writes children's book in his mother tongue of isiZulu in order to diversify this learning process. He will be in conversation with the storyteller, children's book author and developer of bilingual teaching materials **XOLISA GUZULA**, as well as **ULRIKA CAPERIUS**, who is responsible for promoting literacy at Bonnierförlagen. They will discuss initiatives to prevent the segregation of society in both Sweden and South Africa. Moderator: **ELAF ALI**, journalist. Language: English

ORG: NATIONAL LIBRARY OF SOUTH AFRICA

FRIDAY 11:00–11:45

HALL J1 / ►

THE LONG STRUGGLE FOR FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION

SOUTH AFRICA Independent journalism in South Africa plays a crucial role in democracy – a democracy that has long been burdened by a gulf between classes and corruption of power. This event brings together several of the leading figures in the constant struggle for freedom of expression: **KHADIJA PATEL**, one of South Africa's leading investigative journalists, **NIREN TOLSI**, who has gained global recognition for his unique reporting on the Marikana massacre, and the South African filmmaker, writer and journalist **SYLVIA VOLLENHOVEN**. Moderator: **HEDDA KRAUSZ SJÖGREN**, Sweden's Cultural Attaché to South Africa, 2017–2021.

ORG: THE FOJO MEDIA INSTITUTE AT LINNAEUS UNIVERSITY AND THE CHURCH OF SWEDEN

FRIDAY 11:00–11:45

HALL R2

CLOSENESS IN A SHATTERED WORLD

How do you write about the inherently personal experience in a world that is globalised by migration, capitalism and modern technology? Argentinian **SAMANTA SCHWEBLIN** is a leading figure in the new generation of Latin American women conquering the world of literature. In her novel *Kentukis*, just released in Swedish, homes around the world are infiltrated by small mechanical plushies with cameras for eyes and wheels for feet. For those who possess or control one of these plushies, life tends to change. In *Åsnans år [Donkey Days]*, poet **ATHENA FARROKHZAD** writes about the daily existence of the first person narrator – a donkey – the proletarian of the animal kingdom who is never permitted to set down his load. Moderator: **HANNA NORDENHÖK**, author and translator. Language: English

ORG: ALBERT BONNIERS FÖRLAG AND TRANAN

FRIDAY 12:00–12:30

HALL R2

AMITAV GHOSH

British drug barons in the service of colonialism

The novels in award-winning Indian author **AMITAV GHOSH**'s magnum opus *Ibis* trilogy is set during the mid-19th century at the height of Britain's aggressive opium trade with China. On board the *Ibis*, a former slave ship, are people from all corners of the world. In a powerful narrative arc exploring migration and colonial trade, we follow them through the events leading up to the First Opium War and the ceding of Hong Kong to the British. The first two instalments, *Sea of Poppies* and *River of Smoke* are now available in Swedish translation. Join **PER J ANDERSSON**, editor at Vagabond, for a conversation with Amitav Ghosh about his trilogy and how the opium trade came to be part of British foreign policy. Language: English

ORG: PALAVER PRESS



FRIDAY 12:45–13:15

HALL F3 / ►

STEVEN ROBINS

Family destiny in the shadow of racial laws

SOUTH AFRICA *Letters of Stone: From Nazi Germany to South Africa* is both a reconstruction of one family's fate in an increasingly terrifying and deadly Nazi state and a study of the way that racial biology laid the groundwork for the persecution of Jews, compelling countries such as South Africa to close its borders to fleeing Jews. **STEVEN ROBINS** is a Professor in the Department of Sociology and Social Anthropology at Stellenbosch University. He will be discussing his book with the writer **ELISABETH ÅSRINK**. Language: English

ORG: JUDISK KULTUR I SVERIGE



FRIDAY 13:00–13:45

HALL J1 / ►

IN THE AFTERMATH OF APARTHEID

SOUTH AFRICA Throughout history, the Sámi have been subjected to abuse by the church. In November 2021, Archbishop Antje Jackelén issued the Church of Sweden's formal apology to the Sámi in a reconciliation ceremony at Uppsala Cathedral. Now work continues to find mutual paths to the future and to re-establish relationships. What can Sweden learn from the South African truth and reconciliation process and the measures that were – and were not – implemented in that nation? A round-table with **KAISA HUUVA**, researcher at Umeå University, the most Reverend Doctor **ANTJE JACKELÉN**, Archbishop of Sweden, and **SINDIWE MAGONA**, author and former UN official. Moderator: **KARIN SARJA**, Head of Administration at the Church of Sweden. Language: English

ORG: THE CHURCH OF SWEDEN

FRIDAY 13:00–13:45

HALL G3

THE WAR AND AUTHORS

Writing in the Swedish daily Dagens Nyheter earlier this year, the Swiss-resident Russian author **MIKHAEL SHISHKIN**, who is critical of the regime, said about the war in Ukraine, "We Russians must openly and courageously acknowledge our guilt and ask for forgiveness. There is no other way to the future". There is no other way to the future". He will be in conversation about the war and the moral obligations of the author with **STEFAN INGVARSSON**, culture writer and Sweden's Cultural Attaché to Moscow, 2015–2019. Language: English

ORG: ERSATZ

FRIDAY 13:45–14:15

HALL G4 / ►

EDWARD CAREY

A multi-genre artist with a taste for the incredible

Just out in Swedish translation, **EDWARD CAREY**'s *The Swallowed Man* ties in to the story of Pinocchio and his father Geppetto. It is a dark and comic novel that addresses parenthood, loss and the art of letting go. As in his earlier novel, *Little*, Carey has written and illustrated a compelling tale. See Edward Carey on writing and artistry, finding the macabre in the everyday and portraying life inside the belly of a whale. Moderator: **JACK WERNER**, journalist and author. Language: English

ORG: SEKWA

FRIDAY 14:00–14:45

HALL J1 / ►

NELSON MANDELA'S YEARS IN POWER

SOUTH AFRICA In 1994, Nelson Mandela became the first president of a democratic South Africa. *Dare Not Linger: The Presidential Years* is the story of Mandela's five years in power. The book, which is based on draft memoirs, is written by the acclaimed South African author **MANDLA LANGA**. He will be in conversation with the author and former UN official **SINDIWE MAGONA**. What is it that made "Madiba" so iconic? How is the legacy of Nelson Mandela preserved today? Moderator: **MARIKA GRIESEL**, journalist and documentary film director. Language: English

ORG: NATIONAL LIBRARY OF SOUTH AFRICA

FRIDAY 14:30–15:15

HALL G4 / ►

AFRICANFUTURISM

SOUTH AFRICA Dystopian narratives are increasingly exploring the societal challenges found throughout the African continent. See a round-table of authors and researchers on new perspectives in science fiction. What sets this genre apart? Can writers and researchers learn from each other? Speakers: **NNEDI OKORAFOR** and **LAUREN BEUKES** whose acclaimed Binti trilogy respectively *Zoo City* have just come out in Swedish, and **PATIENCE MUSUSA**, an anthropologist focusing on urbanism in southern Africa. Moderator: **THERÉSE SJÖMANDER MAGNUSSON**, Director of the Nordic Africa Institute. Language: English

ORG: NORDIC AFRICA INSTITUTE, PALAVER PRESS AND DOPPELGÄNGER FÖRLAG





FRIDAY 15:00–15:30

HALL J1 / ►

SHEILA O'FLANAGAN

Warm relationships

SHEILA O'FLANAGAN is one of Ireland's best-selling authors and is renowned for her heartwarming novels exploring relationships. Ten of her books have been published in Swedish translation, and they have all climbed the bestseller lists. This year sees the Swedish release of *Three Weddings and a Proposal*, in which the protagonist Delphie sees her life suddenly turned upside down, forcing her to reassess her life choices. She will be in conversation with the journalist **TITTI SCHULTZ**. Language: English

ORG: LB FÖRLAG



FRIDAY 16:00–16:45

HALL F4 / ►

LANGUAGE, LITERATURE AND LEARNING

SOUTH AFRICA What role can art play in awakening the desire to learn? Can we change the world using poetry? Spoken word poet **SIPHOKAZI JONAS** will be speaking with dramatist and storyteller **GCINA MHLOPHE**, teacher **MARIA GLAWE** and author **LORATO TROK** about the way in which education and learning can be revolutionised through poetry and spoken word. Playfulness, creativity and approaches to work that develop language all give pupils a voice in both society and the world as a whole: linguistic diversity becomes a resource. Moderator: **ALLE ERIKSSON**, publisher. Language: English

ORG: NATIONAL LIBRARY OF SOUTH AFRICA

FRIDAY 16:00–16:45

HALL R2

SOCIAL CHALLENGES IN GERMAN LITERATURE

The pandemic and the political and humanitarian crisis triggered by the war in Ukraine has naturally left its mark on the social climate of Europe. Has the literature of Germany, Austria and Switzerland changed as a result of the new conditions precipitated by these crises? How do authors **ANDREA WINKLER** (Austria), **DANIEL SCHREIBER** (Germany) and **MICHAL HVORECKÝ** (Slovakia) cope with these challenges? How is their work, as well as the wider societal debate, affected? **BENITA FUNKE**, Cultural Attaché at the Embassy of Switzerland in Sweden will lead a round-table with the authors about the personal and societal aspects of the new situation we find ourselves in. Language: German

ORG: TRE LÄNDER - ETT SPRÅK AND EUNIC

FRIDAY 16:45–17:30

HALL F3 / ►

IVICA DJIKIĆ

Crimes against humanity in Srebrenica

Beara is a documentary novel that tells the story of Ratko Mladić's right-hand man, Colonel Ljubiša Beara, who was the mastermind behind the Srebrenica massacre. Croatian author **IVICA DJIKIĆ** will talk about how a Yugoslavian former naval officer was driven to commit genocide, the origins of the Yugoslav Wars and the convictions that have been secured in their aftermath. Following an unparalleled review of interrogations, reports and documents, the novel portrays these crimes against humanity, the memory of which is unfortunately all too faint. Moderator: **PER SVENSSON**, author. Language: English. Simultaneous interpretation from Croatian will be provided.

ORG: RÁMUS

FRIDAY 17:00–17:30

HALL R2

DAMON GALGUT

An unfulfilled promise

SOUTH AFRICA Can you ever escape the repercussions of a broken promise? South African author **DAMON GALGUT**'s *The Promise* – awarded the 2021 Booker Prize – sees the Swarts family gather on a farm outside Pretoria to bury the family matriarch. It is 1986 and the days of apartheid are numbered. The younger generation detest everything the family stand for – not least the failed promise to the black woman who has worked for them her whole life. After years of service, Salome was promised her own house and her own land, yet that promise remains unfulfilled. All that remain are the family farm and the unanswered questions around a promise that was never fulfilled. Damon Galgut, nominated for the Booker Prize on three occasions, will be in conversation with cultural journalist **MALIN ULLGREN**. Language: English

ORG: ALBERT BONNIERS FÖRLAG

FRIDAY 17:15–17:45

HALL J1 / ►

SARAH MOSS

The British star makes her first ever Swedish appearance

In a drab and remote Scottish cabin park, optimistic holidaymakers are forced indoors by the relentless downpour. Tensions mount as the hours slip by. No one can imagine what awaits them when darkness falls.

SARAH MOSS will be in conversation with publisher **JESPER BENGTTSSON** about her latest book to come out in Swedish translation, *Summerwater*. She has been nominated for many prizes, including the Women's Prize for Fiction, the Wellcome Book Prize and the Ondaatje Prize. Both *Ghost Wall* (published in Swedish in 2021) and *Summerwater* went straight to the top of the UK bestseller lists when they came out. Language: English

ORG: ATLAS



SATURDAY 10:00–10:45

HALL H1

LOST LAND

SOUTH AFRICA Forced displacements and restricted movement were part and parcel of the apartheid regime's abuses. A century ago, similar processes were initiated against the reindeer herding Sámi people of Sweden. **ÅSA SIMMA**, a director and screenwriter, is also the Theatrical Director of the Giron Sámi Teáhter. Author **SABATA MPHO MOKAE** has stopped writing books in English and now writes in his native language of Setswana. The two are brought together for a conversation about the legacy of a lost land, silent grief and giving a voice to those who can no longer tell stories. Moderator: **HELENA THORFINN**, author. Language: English

ORG: NATIONAL LIBRARY OF SOUTH AFRICA

SATURDAY 10:00–10:45

HALL R2

LONELINESS AND ISOLATION – FREEDOM OR IMPRISONMENT?

Why is it often perceived as shameful to be alone, while self-selected solitude is increasingly in demand? Is it even possible to be alone and happy, especially given the way that the pandemic has cooped up the world? A round-table of authors **CORINA OPROAE** (Romania), **DANIEL SCHREIBER** (Germany), **ANDREA WINKLER** (Austria) and **MARCIN WICHA** (Poland) about how the concept of loneliness has changed over time and how the experience of solitude varies depending on context. Moderator: **ANNINA RABE**, literary critic. Language: English

ORG: EUNIC

SATURDAY 11:00–11:30

HALL G3

MARIAN KEYES

Unexpected twists in life

It has been 25 years since the Irish author **MARIAN KEYES** introduced her readers to protagonist Rachel Walsh in *Rachel's Holiday*. Back then, Rachel's life was a mess. In the long-awaited sequel *Again, Rachel*, her life has completely changed direction. A steady job, a house with a garden, budding love and a rowdy family who never hesitate to meddle in even the smallest of decisions. But an unexpected call suddenly shakes her safe existence to its foundations. Marian Keyes has sold more than 30 million books around the world and been translated into a plethora of languages. She and journalist **IKA JOHANNESSON** will talk about the unexpected twists and turns life can throw up. Language: English

ORG: NORSTEDTS



SATURDAY 11:00–11:30

HALL J1 / ►

MONICA ALI

Love across all borders

British writer **MONICA ALI** makes a magnificent comeback with her novel *Love Marriage*, in which she returns to the themes of her breakthrough work *Brick Lane*: race, class, cultural differences, sex and love. The book is set in London and focuses on the couple Yasmin and Joe, her with Indian roots and him with a renowned feminist mother. Their families meet for the first time, and what begins as a comedy transforms into a gripping tale of two cultures, two families and two people trying to understand each other. Monica Ali will be in conversation with journalist **ALEXANDRA PASCALIDOU** about her new novel *Love Marriage*. Language: English

ORG: BOKFÖRLAGET FORUM





SATURDAY 11:00–11:45

HALL HI

THE FIGHT AGAINST APARTHEID

SOUTH AFRICA During the fight against apartheid, Sweden's clear stance stood out on the international political scene. Its support for the ANC liberation movement became a very significant issue for many Swedes, and the Swedish support was crucial for many South Africans. So what became of this engagement and cooperation following liberation? What progress has been made in terms of reconciliation in South Africa, and what relationship do the two countries have today? A round-table with **SINDIWE MAGONA**, author and former UN official, **WALLY SEROTE**, a South African poet and ANC member, **INGRID LE ROUX**, a Swedish physician based in South Africa, and **MIKAEL WIEHE**, an artist and opponent to apartheid. Moderator: **MARIKA GRIESEL**, SVT's former Africa correspondent. Language: English

ORG: THE CHURCH OF SWEDEN, THE OLOF PALME INTERNATIONAL CENTER AND VERBUM

SATURDAY 11:45–12:30

HALL F5 ►

TO THE GENRE, WITH LOVE

CRIMETIME Finnish author **ELINA BACKMAN** has a real fascination with crime fiction, and she plays with the genre in a number of ways in her books. In her book *Still Waters Run Deep*, recently released in Swedish, the protagonist launches a true crime podcast after being drawn into an investigation. In **CAMILLA GREBE**'s *Welcome to Eternity*, she uses the classic "locked room" trope of the crime fiction genre. The latest instalment in **KRISTINA OHLSSON**'s Strindberg series is *In The Shadows*. Ohlsson has turned her hand to many of the sub-genres found in the world of crime. These three authors with a passion for thrills will be in conversation about inspiration and sub-genres, as well as how they utilise and challenge the classic crime fiction form. Moderator: **LOTTA OLSSON**, journalist. Language: English

ORG: BOKFABRIKEN, BOKFÖRLAGET FORUM AND WAHLSTRÖM & WIDSTRAND

SATURDAY 12:00–12:30

HALL R2

MARLENE VAN NIEKERK

South Africa in flux



SOUTH AFRICA The white Benade family feel the winds of change as South Africa faces its first democratic elections. And they do not like what they see. In the white suburb of Triomf, where the family lives in the ruins of the black suburb Sophiatown, destroyed during the forced removal of black families, there is panic at the prospect of equal rights for all. *Triomf* is a novel about a family and society in deep decline. It is a brutal portrayal of how a family that has benefited from a racist system in every way imaginable can still collapse completely. **MARLENE VAN NIEKERK** won the hearts of readers and critics alike with *Agaat*. Alongside it, her debut *Triomf* is her most celebrated work, having won the Noma Award for Publishing in Africa. Moderator: **YUKIKO DUKE**, journalist. Language: English

ORG: WEYLER FÖRLAG

SATURDAY 12:00–12:45

HALL HI

THREATS AGAINST CLIMATE WRITERS

THE CLIMATE CRISIS As the impact of climate change is becoming increasingly palpable, writers and journalists who write about the ongoing environmental destruction are coming under increased pressure. Swedish PEN will host a panel of leading authors and writers active in countries where both democracy and climate initiatives are under heavy pressure, or have already been discarded, in a discussion with Swedish environmental journalists and politicians. Speakers: Mexican author **JENNIFER CLEMENT**, former President of PEN International, Burmese author **MA THIDA**, and **ISABELLA LÖVIN**, author, journalist and former spokesperson for the Swedish Green Party. Moderator: **SOMAR AL NAHER**, journalist. Language: English

ORG: SWEDISH PEN



SATURDAY 12:30–13:00

HALL K

ARAVIND JAYAN

Sex, shame and social media in India

The award-winning young author **ARAVIND JAYAN**'s acclaimed debut novel *Teen Couple Have Fun Outdoors* explores the themes of shame and generational conflict in Kerala, India. The narrator's older brother and his girlfriend have been unwittingly filmed while having sex outdoors – and now the clip goes viral. The standoff that ensues, with the young couple on one side and the parents on the other, becomes a salacious story for the media. But beneath the self-assured statements there lies a far more complex story of shame and human despair. How do you navigate a society where old and new values around sex, relationships and the dichotomy of public and private all co-exist in a disorderly state? Moderator: **EMELIE EBBIS ROSLUND**, journalist. Language: English

ORG: NATUR & KULTUR

SATURDAY 12:45–13:15

HALL R2

MARIE DARRIEUSSECQ

Mediterranean encounters

What does an everyday hero look like? Does helping just a single refugee actually make a difference? In author **MARIE DARRIEUSSECQ**'s novel *Crossed Lines*, a cruise ship rescues a shipwrecked boat full of refugees one cold December night in the Mediterranean. Psychoanalyst Rose, given the cruise as a Christmas present by her mother, helps one of the migrants, Younès from Niger, by giving him a mobile phone. The phone becomes a lifeline of sorts between them. Darrieussecq is one of the leading voices in contemporary French literature and made her breakthrough with her debut *Pig Tales*. She will be speaking about her novel with the psychoanalyst **PER MAGNUS JOHANSSON**. Language: English

ORG: NORSTEDTS



SATURDAY 13:00–13:30

HALL H1

LARYSA DENYSENKO

The war and children

VOICES FROM UKRAINE All children have the right to live in safety. No matter if they have lost a parent, are orphans, have been separated from their parents due to war or have fled their homes. The Ukrainian author **LARYSA DENYSENKO**'s children's book *Maya and her Friends* is a story about children from different Ukrainian families: children in families forced to flee Crimea and children whose parents have disappeared. She wrote the book in 2017 a few years after Russia's occupation of Crimea and parts of Donetsk and Luhansk. In her home country, Denysenko is a well-known author, lawyer, human rights activist and journalist. She will be in conversation with the author and journalist **JOSEFIN OLEVIK** about the impact of the war on children. Language: English

ORG: BONNIER CARLSEN

SATURDAY 13:00–13:45

HALL F3 / ▶

THE HISTORY OF PHILOSOPHY

What main forms have the philosophical exchange of ideas taken down the ages? How should we regard the philosophies of the past? What have we learned – and what remains to be sussed out? **A.C. GRAYLING**, the Master of the New College of the Humanities and a Supernumerary Fellow of St Anne's College, Oxford, sets out to describe three millennia of thought in his book *The History of Philosophy*. Joining him on stage is **SVANTE NORDIN**, Professor emeritus in the History of Ideas and Sciences at Lund University. The recently published third instalment in Nordin's Philosophers series paints a vivid picture of the age of the scientific revolution to the Enlightenment. Moderator: **USA KIRSEBOM**, scientific journalist. Language: English

ORG: FRI TANKE

SATURDAY 13:45–14:30

HALL J1 / ▶

DECOLONISATION AND RECONSTRUCTION

SOUTH AFRICA In recent years, students have increasingly demanded in voluble terms that South African literature, art and knowledge must be decolonised. **TSHEPO MADLINGOZI**, Associate Professor at the University of the Witwatersrand whose research examines postcolonial South Africa and the South African filmmaker, writer and journalist **SYLVIA VOLLENHOVEN**, who served as the Expressen newspaper's correspondent during apartheid, on the struggles faced by young South Africans today. Tearing down colonial heritage also results in the reconstruction of something else. What does the rediscovery and development of African knowledge and culture involve? Moderator: **STEFAN JONSSON**, Professor of Ethnic Studies. Language: English

ORG: NATIONAL LIBRARY OF SOUTH AFRICA

SATURDAY 14:15–14:45

HALL R2

MIKHAIL SHISHKIN

Reckoning with Russia

Russian author **MIKHAIL SHISHKIN** emigrated to Switzerland in 1995 and has since then been a tireless critic of Putin and the Kremlin. Translated into more than 20 languages, *Taking Izmail* is his third novel to be translated to Swedish. It is an account of a young man's slow farewell to the chaos in Moscow during the 1990s. The narrative develops into a strong attack on Russia, passing final judgment on the country. In the witness box are the greats of literature, such as Tolstoy's *Resurrection* and Dostoevsky's *Crime and Punishment*. Mikhail Shishkin will be in conversation with cultural journalist **ULRIKA KNUTSON** about his novel and the state of his homeland. Language: English

ORG: ERSATZ

SATURDAY 15:00–15:45

HALL R2

THE STATE OF EUROPE

Swedish authors **STEVE SEM-SANDBERG** and **MAXIM GRIGORIEV**, as well as Czech writer **JÁCHYM TOPOL**, have all examined Europe, its history and its future, in their books. Sem-Sandberg's *The Ocean*, a novel about Rousseau, portrays a philosopher who helped to shape the modern European and who was forced to flee across the continent. Grigoriev's novel *The Rain* is set in Porto, following a group who decide upon a radical response to the exploitation of the historic city centre. In his novel *A Sensitive Person*, Topol reflects present-day Europe through the journeys of an itinerant actor across a xenophobic continent and war-torn Ukraine. Is there anything European to fight for? Moderator: **GABRIELLA HÅKANSSON**, author. Language: English. Simultaneous interpretation from Czech will be provided.

ORG: ALBERT BONNIERS FÖRLAG AND RÅMUS

SATURDAY 15:45–16:30

HALL G3

FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION AND POETRY

A seminar exploring the writing of things that make a difference. "Literature knows no frontiers and must remain common currency among people in spite of political or international upheavals." So reads the first clause of PEN's charter. But what does this mean in a time of war? What role does lyricism play when freedom itself is at stake? History shows that literature can assume a crucial role. **JENNIFER CLEMENT**, author and former President of PEN International, will be in conversation with **OLA LARSMO**, author and PEN International Board Member, whose latest narrative non-fiction book *Lektion 11 / Lesson 11* is just out, about the role of poetry. Moderator: **PETER FRÖBERG IDLING**, author. Language: English

ORG: KAUNITZ-OLSSON





SATURDAY 16:00–16:45

HALL F5 / ►

CRIME AS A REFLECTION OF SOCIETY

CRIMETIME **SOUTH AFRICA** How do you write a page-turner imbued with a message? Can crime novels be used to kickstart debate? **DEON MEYER** has used the crime fiction novel to discuss South Africa's issues around crime and corruption, while providing a wider illustration of the country's antagonisms. **MALIN PERSSON GIOLITO** raises uncomfortable issues of class divides and segregation in her work, while **ANDERS ROSLUND** forces the reader to see how society abandons its weakest members. The trio will be in conversation about the crime fiction novel as a reflection of our time. Moderator: **ANDREAS NORMAN**, author. Language: English

ORG: ALBERT BONNIERS FÖRLAG, WAHLSTRÖM & WIDSTRAND AND WEYLER FÖRLAG

SATURDAY 16:45–17:15

HALL J1 / ►

MARC LEVY

France's feel-good favourite featuring love, humour and surprises

MARC LEVY has won the hearts of many readers with his feel-good books with a difference. His latest release, *All Those Things We Never Said*, is an entertaining and tender novel about family, love, secrets and reconciliation with a twist. And all those things we never said, even though we know that one day it will be too late. Reading Marc Levy, you can be sure of one thing – he always surprises you with incredible characters and the situations that they end up in. See him talk about humour, love and writing novels with an element of surprise. Moderator: **PEKKA HEINO**, journalist. Language: English

ORG: SEKWA

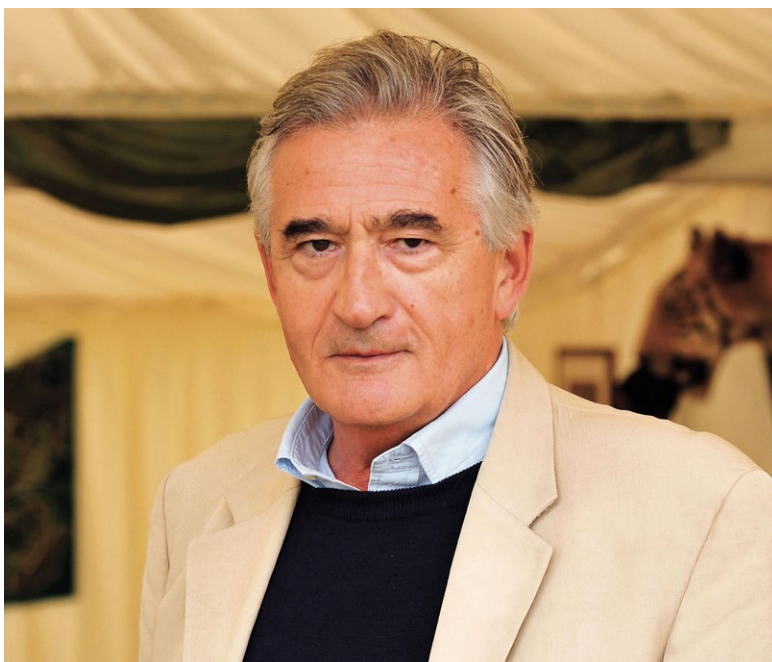
SATURDAY 16:00–16:45

HALL F3 / ►

WAR AND REVOLUTION UP CLOSE

What is our understanding of war when we acquaint ourselves with those who have experienced it? In his book *Onda natters drömmar* [*Darkness of Dawn*], **PETER ENGLUND** follows in the footsteps of housewives, servicemen, students and others who lived through the turning point of the Second World War in November 1942. Similarly, **ANTONY BEEVOR** also focuses on personal testimony in his new book *Russia: Revolution and Civil War 1917–1921* as he casts light on those involved in the Russian revolution. The reader can follow the war from many diverse perspectives, ranging from the labourer in Petrograd to the cavalry officer on the battlefield, and the female doctor in a makeshift hospital. Moderator: **KARIN PETTERSSON**, Culture Editor at Aftonbladet. Language: English

ORG: HISTORISKA MEDIA AND NATUR & KULTUR



SATURDAY 16:45–17:30

HALL G3

NATURE WRITING – BECOMING NATURE

THE CLIMATE CRISIS How do you capture in words that which lies beyond the human experience? Three writers will be in conversation about writing from the perspective of nature. **HELEN MACDONALD's** *Vesper Flights* portrays the separate worlds of animals and humans, reminding us that we are not alone on this planet. In her new novel *Arvejord* [*Inherited Land*], **MARIA TURTSCHANINOFF** explores people's changing views on nature in a small village in Finland's Österbotten over the course of four centuries. **JONAS GREN** is a well-known ecopoet. His latest book, *Kromosomparken* [*The Chromosome Park*], is written from the perspective of Nature. Moderator: **MATS SÖDERLUND**, author. Language: English

ORG: BROMBERGS, FÖRLAGET AND WEYLER



SATURDAY 17:00–17:30

HALL F5 / ►

ICY COLD TENSION

CRIMETIME **VIVECA STEN** is one of Sweden's most popular crime writers. In her acclaimed Åre Murders series, she used the dramatic mountainous landscape as the backdrop for her thrilling plots. In *The Penitent*, a woman is found murdered in her suite at the exclusive Copperhill Mountain Lodge resort, and the Åre police begin to investigate a case with ties to both the past and present. Similarly, **ILARIA TUTI** draws inspiration from the enchanting Alpine landscape in Italy for her own crime novels. In the third instalment in her beloved Inspector Teresa Battaglia series, we are again reunited with a protagonist fighting both against the evil that broods in the mountains and her own Alzheimer's disease. Moderator: **KRISTINA KAPPELIN**, author and journalist. Language: English

ORG: BAZAR AND BOKFÖRLAGET FORUM

SATURDAY 17:00–17:30

HALL F3 / ▶

NATASHA LESTER**Dreams and prejudices**

Evie is growing up in the upper-class of Boston in the roaring twenties. She wants to be a doctor but must fight against the prejudices of the world to realise her dream. When Evie moves to New York, she discovers a whole new world filled with jazz, glamour and adventure, where everything seems possible – she may even find love.

NATASHA LESTER is one of Australia's most popular and best-selling authors, and *A Kiss from Mr Fitzgerald* is the third of her historical novels to be translated to Swedish. See her in a conversation about love, drama and the price women paid to pursue their dreams a century ago. Language: English

ORG: BAZAR



SATURDAY 17:00–17:45

HALL F2 / ▶

CRITIQUE OF BLACK REASON

SOUTH AFRICA **ACHILLE MBEMBE**, who was born in Cameroon and now works in South Africa, is one of the continent's most influential thinkers and is a leading figure in the critique of the postcolonial world. One of his books, *Critique of Black Reason*, will now be released in a Swedish translation. It examines how beliefs, facts and fantasies about Africa, as well as the concept of "race", have given rise to the human category "black". Mbembe charts racial thought throughout history and provides glimpses of a different future. He will be in conversation with **STEFAN HELGESSON**, a Professor of English specialising in Africa literatures. Language: English

ORG: GLÄNTA

SUNDAY 10:00–10:45

HALL J1 / ▶

SMALL PUBLISHERS DOING GRAND WORK IN THE PERIPHERIES

SOUTH AFRICA Four anglophone publishing giants dominate the global book industry. How do small publishers and literary journals in the peripheries survive and thrive? **SIPHIWO MAHALA**, the founder and editor of Imbiza Journal for African Writing, **DANAI MUPOTSA**, a poet and the founder of Impepho Press, **NIKLAS HÄLLÉN**, a Senior Lecturer and the founder of publisher Kingoyo Books, and **ADNAN MAHMUTOVIC**, a Lecturer and fiction editor for Two Thirds North, on how small publishers and literary journals contribute to the diversity and breadth of the publishing scene in both Sweden and South Africa. Moderated by Professor **ASHLEIGH HARRIS**. Language: English

ORG: SASUF, SOUTH AFRICA – SWEDEN UNIVERSITY FORUM

SUNDAY 11:00–11:30

HALL H1

CLAIRE LOMBARDO**Too much love?**

Rising star **CLAIRE LOMBARDO** has been described as the love child of Jonathan Franzen and Anne Tyler. In her critically acclaimed debut, *The Most Fun We Ever Had*, couple Marilyn and David Sorenson have been inseparable since the 1970s. Their love has been so powerful that their children have often felt excluded. Now it is 2016, and their four adult daughters doubt whether they will ever have a relationship as strong as the one their parents share. They struggle with painful relationships, alcohol, the dream of a perfect life and secrets that threaten to catch up with them. Claire Lombardo will be in conversation with **STEFAN EKLUND**, editor of *Borås Tidning*, about life, love, family ties and sisterhood. Language: English

ORG: BAZAR

SUNDAY 11:00–11:30

HALL F2 / ▶

LAUREN GROFF**Love, equality and sisterhood**

How do we shape our own narratives? As a newlywed, **LAUREN GROFF** wrote *Fates and Furies* in order to cope with her fears about the oppression of women inherent in the institution of marriage. The result was a New York Times bestseller that Barack Obama named as one of his personal favorites. Then came the Trump presidency, which made her write *Matrix*, the feminist utopia set in a medieval nunnery. In this seminar Groff talks about what we can learn from history in order to reimagine the present. She will share her findings of everything from penis doodles by 14th century nuns to Greek mythology to the flipside of successful marriages. Moderator: **MALIN ULLGREN**, literary critic. Language: English

ORG: BOOKMARK

SUNDAY 11:00–11:45

HALL K

THE COMMITTED WRITER

Something has changed about the way that we speak to each other, with threats and hatred posing obstacles to meaningful conversation. Politics and intellectual discourse are increasingly characterised by polarisation. But what role does fiction have to play in this? What does it mean to be a writer committed to society? **SIRI HUSTVEDT** writes extensively about hate speech and what it does to us, **MARIE DARRIEUSSECQ** has emerged as one of France's foremost defenders of freedom of expression since Charlie Hebdo, and **DAVID LAGERCRANTZ** continues to highlight the issue of the connection between freedom of expression, reading and democracy. Language: English

ORG: SWEDISH PEN AND NORSTEDTS

SUNDAY 12:00–12:45

HALL J1 / ▶

MORE UBUNTU FOR A MORE TOLERANT WORLD

SOUTH AFRICA Ubuntu – a word for "humanity" in Nguni Bantu – is a concept and a philosophy that rose to great prominence in post-apartheid South Africa. It is about focusing on solidarity and relationships with each other. How can we instil more ubuntu in our daily lives in a world where racism continues to rear its ugly head despite advances in equality and inclusion? **SEKGO THE MOKGOATŠANA**, Professor of History at the University of Limpopo, will be in conversation with the filmmaker and author **SYLVIA VOLLENHOVEN**. Moderator: **JOANNA SANDELL**, Director of Södertälje art gallery. Language: English

ORG: NATIONAL LIBRARY OF SOUTH AFRICA



SUNDAY 12:00–12:45

HALL K

FAITH, SCIENCE AND SUSTAINABLE DECISIONS

THE CLIMATE CRISIS Our planet is in grave danger. Through the decisions we take, humans can create a better world for the generations to come, or we can devastate the planet. The Church of Sweden seeks to facilitate dialogue that focuses on our common future on the basis of its broad climate interests. What form should this partnership take, and what roles should be played by science and faith when reaching agreements for a truly sustainable future? A round-table with Cardinal **PETER TURKSON**, Chancellor for Pontifical Academies for Sciences and Social Sciences, **GRETA THUNBERG**, climate activist, the most Reverend Doctor **ANTJE JACKELÉN**, Archbishop of Sweden, and Professor **JOHAN ROCKSTRÖM**, Director of the Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research. Moderator: **HENRIK GRAPE**, Senior Advisor on Care for Creation, Sustainability, and Climate Justice for the World Council of Churches. Language: English

ORG: THE CHURCH OF SWEDEN



SUNDAY 12:45–13:30

HALL F2 / ►

FINDING A HOME IN THE WORLD

SOUTH AFRICA Migrants are among the most vulnerable groups in the world. In South Africa, violence against new migrants has escalated in recent years, and in Sweden, the debate around migration has redrawn the political map. The poet **ATHENA FARROKHZAD**, whose new book *Äsnans år [Donkey Days]* explores the image of migrants, will be in conversation with the South African writer and journalist **JOANNE JOSEPH**, whose acclaimed novel *Children of Sugarcane* portrays the life of Indian indentured labourers on South African sugar cane plantations. How can literature provide insight into migrants' feeling of alienation, images of others and the need to find a home in the world? Moderator: **HEDDA KRAUSZ SJÖGREN**, Sweden's Cultural Attaché to South Africa, 2017–2021. Language: English

ORG: NATIONAL LIBRARY OF SOUTH AFRICA

SUNDAY 13:00–13:45

HALL G3

HUSTVEDT'S PERSPECTIVE ON OUR TRAUMATIC PRESENT

With titles such as *What I Loved*, *The Blazing World* and *The Summer Without Men*, **SIRI HUSTVEDT** has become one of the biggest names in contemporary literature – both at home in the USA and internationally. In her novels, characters are often affected by traumatic events that upset their rhythms and precipitate crises of identity. Both in her prose and as an essayist, including in the autobiographical *The Shaking Woman* or *A History of My Nerves*, she has touched upon the intersection between philosophy, psychoanalysis and neuroscience. What does Siri Hustvedt have to say about the trauma and disturbed rhythms of life in the present day? Moderator: **BJÖRN AF KLEEN**, journalist and author. Language: English

ORG: NORSTEDTS

SUNDAY 14:00–14:45

HALL J1 / ►

FAREWELL TO THE RAINBOW NATION?

SOUTH AFRICA More than a quarter of a century since Nelson Mandela became the country's first democratically elected president, the racial categories of apartheid live on in South Africa. The proud vision of the "Rainbow Nation" is now being challenged by various forms of populism, with racial thinking as the common denominator. How can one advocate for non-racism and cosmopolitanism – in South Africa and the world – without being perceived as a defender of the privileges of the white minority? **OSCAR HEMER**, Professor of Journalistic and Literary Creation will be in conversation with his South African author colleagues **MASANDE NTSHANGA**, **IVAN VLADISLAVIĆ** and **BRONWYN LAW-VILJOEN**. Language: English

ORG: REDEM (RETHINKING DEMOCRACY) AT MALMÖ UNIVERSITY

SUNDAY 14:45–15:30

HALL H1

WOMEN IN AFGHAN LITERATURE

Last year, the organisation Untold – Write Afghanistan issued a nationwide call in Afghanistan, seeking short pieces of fiction submitted by women. More than 120 women writers sent in stories written in both Dari and Pashto. Four entries have been selected for an English anthology, which is now out. Meet the founder of Untold and some of Afghanistan's leading female poets and journalists, now resident in Sweden. Speakers: **LUCY HANNAH**, the founder and Director of Untold, **NILOFAR LANGAR**, an Afghan poet and journalist resident in Sweden, **MASOMA KAWSARY**, an Afghan author and civil engineer who arrived in Sweden in 2021. Moderator: **KHOLOD SAGHIR**, Editor-in-chief of PEN/Opp. Language: English. Simultaneous interpretation from Dari will be provided.

ORG: SWEDISH PEN

SUNDAY 15:00–15:45

HALL F1

THE SOUL IN UNCERTAIN TIMES

SOUTH AFRICA During the global ravages of the pandemic, mental health in South Africa has taken centre stage just as it has elsewhere. As an author, how do you address issues of inner well-being in your books? The author, dramatist and journalist **DIPHETE BOPAPE**, the cultural policy expert, academic, author and journalist **LEBOGANG LANCE NAWA** and **LOUISE LINDFORS**, Secretary General of Afrikagrupperna, on mental health and ill health, and the perspectives of society and institutions on the well-being of the soul. Language: English

ORG: NATIONAL LIBRARY OF SOUTH AFRICA

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Gothenburg Book Fair is one of the largest book fairs in Europe. Established in 1985, the Book Fair annually attracts more than 85,000 visitors during four days in September. The Fair takes place in Gothenburg, located on the west coast of Sweden. It is held at The Swedish Exhibition & Congress Centre in the heart of the city.

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800+

EXHIBITING COMPANIES
AND ORGANISATIONS



11,000 m²

EXHIBITION AREA



40

COUNTRIES
REPRESENTED

VISITORS



85,000+

VISITORS

40%

TRADE VISITORS

60%

PUBLIC VISITORS



8h

AVERAGE TIME
PER VISITOR STAY

PROGRAMME

100+

INTERNATIONAL PARTICIPANTS

320

SEMINARS

4,000

EVENTS

18

STAGES
AND THEMED
SQUARES

MEDIA



1,000

ACCREDITED
JOURNALISTS



7,000

ARTICLES AND
BROADCASTED
MEDIA ITEMS

SOCIAL MEDIA FOLLOWERS



34,000



14,000



9,000

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- Poetry
- Translation
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