

AFRICA WRITES | Brought to you by The Royal African Society | 2023

THE BRITISH LIBRARY & ONLINE

29 SEPTEMBER — 1 OCTOBER

10TH EDITION

An exciting weekend of contemporary African literature and thought exploring this year's theme of *Intangible Heritage*. After switching to our new biennial format, we are excited to be back at the British Library for our 10th Edition of Africa Writes.



Blitz Bazawule in conversation with Irenosen Okojie - Friday 29th September, 19:00 – 20:30 From £5-£10

Ghanaian polymath Blitz Bazawule opens the festival in conversation with Irenosen Okojie. Africa Writes has the honour to host him for this illuminating exchange about his debut novel, *The Scent of Burnt Flowers*. The book, set in the 1960s and woven together with magic, takes us on a journey from Alabama to Accra, via harrowing escapes and dangerous journeys through a coup d'état.

In partnership with the Royal Society of Literature.



Kwame Dawes and Claudia Rankine in conversation Sunday 1st October, 19:30 – 21:00 From £5-£10

Kwame Dawes and Claudia Rankine close this year's Africa Writes with a special conversation exploring the main festival theme of *Intangible Heritage*. Don't miss out on the opportunity to engage as they share their unique perspectives, thoughts, and experiences for what is sure to be an enlightening conversation.

Followed by the announcement of the Lifetime Achievement Award

Day and weekend passes are available to buy now

Evening events are ticketed separately.

Members of Royal African Society receive 50% off.

Programme details are correct at time of printing.

Please check www.africawrites.org for updates and for information on our online Programme.

Saturday 30th September

PIGOTT THEATRE

ELLIOT ROOM

BRONTE ROOM

Limited spaces so please come early

11:00	FESTIVAL DOORS OPEN		
11:30	Apollo Africa: African Writers Series 11:30-12:45		
12:00	Celebrate the impact of authors from The Heinemann African Writers Series, first launched in 1962.		
12:30	<i>In partnership with Head of Zeus.</i>		Writing Music into the Story 12:00-13:30 Weaving melody into words with a master musical storyteller. <i>Curated by Kalaf Epalanga.</i>
13:00		Africa at the Library 13:00-14:00 Join British Library curators to explore the collections linked to the continent and learn how you can use the Library for research and inspiration. <i>In partnership with British Library.</i>	
13:30	Amplifying African Literature: Exploring the Role of Bookstagrammers and Booktokers in the Digital Age 13:30-14:45		
14:00	<i>Curated by Ainehi Egoro of Brittle Paper.</i>		Cultural Imprints: Crafting Your Intangible Heritage Stamp 14:00-15:30 Discover the essence of your cultural identity through the art of stamp-making with <i>Kazvare Made It.</i>
14:30		Pitch Your Manuscript (Children and YA) 15:00-16:00 Learn how to make a successful pitch in this interactive workshop.	
15:00			
15:30	London to Accra: British-Ghanaian Authors in Motion 15:30-16:45		
16:00	Krystal Zarah Appiah, Marie Claire Amuah & Derek Owusu. Chaired by Akua Gyamfi.		Terms & Un-Conditions 16:00-17:30 Want to write about complexities of culture and tradition but don't know how? Actor and writer, Temi Wilkey, will help you get started. <i>Curated by Yomi Sode.</i>
16:30	<i>Curated by Nancy Adimora of Afreada.</i>		
17:00		Imprint Africa: Conversations with African Women Publishers 17:00-18:15 This event brings together some of the important voices featured in this collection to continue conversations and celebrate the launch of this book which documents an ongoing and transformative literary movement. <i>In partnership with Huza Press.</i>	
17:30	2023 Caine Prize Conversation 17:30-18:45		
18:00	An evening with the AKO Caine Prize for African Writing shortlisted writers. Yejide Kilanko, Tlotlo Tsamaase, Mame Bougouma Diene & Woppa Diallo, Ekemini Pius and Yvonne Kusiima		
18:00	<i>In partnership with Caine Prize for African Writing.</i>		
18:30			



Edge of Here: Storytelling, Theatre and Music **Saturday 30th September, 19:30 – 21:00 From £5-£10**

Join us for a captivating evening of storytelling and musical brilliance, featuring a live reading from the compelling short story anthology, *Edge of Here* by Kelechi Okafor, accompanied by musician Yahael Camara Onono.

Sunday 1st October

PIGOTT THEATRE

ELLIOT ROOM

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11:00		FESTIVAL DOORS OPEN		
11:30	Welcome to the Sauúiverse 11:30-12:45			
12:00	Meet the Sauúiti collective, an African Science Fiction/Fantasy Interplanetary World-Building Project launched in 2022.			From Scent to Script: North African Spices and Herbs and the Stories They Inspire 12:00-13:30
12:30				A scent can unlock a Pandora's box of moments and memories. Let's use them to create scripts, scenes and characters with theatremaker Nada Sabet.
13:00		Pitch your Fiction Manuscript 13:00-14:00		
13:30	Those Secrets of Ours will Make Us Rich! 13:30-14:45	Pitch your manuscript to industry leaders and receive immediate feedback <i>Curated by Nancy Adimora from Afreada.</i>		
14:00	An intimate exploration of Family, Memory, and Legacy in African Literature with Nii Ayikwei Parkes, Yara Nakahanda Monteiro, <i>Curated by Kalaf Epalanga.</i>			PEN Africa Workshop 14:00-15:30
14:30				A workshop writing in response to the work of imprisoned writers and journalists from across Africa. <i>Facilitated by Azieb Pool. Thanks to PEN Eritrea & International.</i>
15:00		It's A Diasporan Ting with A Quick Ting On 15:00-16:00		
15:30	Aneephya: The Implosion of the Black Body 15:30-16:45	Magdalene Abraha, Franklyn Addo and Tskenya-Sarah Frazer. Chaired by Tobi Kyeremateng. <i>In collaboration with Jacaranda Books.</i>		
16:00	Nicola Rollock, Heather Agyepong and Ibrahim Kamara discuss survival, reflection, and alignment. <i>Curated and chaired by Yomi Sode.</i>			African Mythology and Fiction Writing 16:00-17:30
16:30				Learn how to incorporate African knowledge systems into your work and begin building a world. <i>Curated by Ainehi Edoro of Brittle Paper.</i>
17:00		Stacked Podcast recording with Peace Adzo Medie 17:00-18:00		
17:30	London In Different Languages - 17:30-18:45	Join hosts Amanda Kingsley and Ziporah Banda as they talk to Peace Adzo Medie, author of <i>Nightbloom.</i>		
	Experience London's linguistic wealth through a multilingual read-a-thon. <i>Curated by Asmara-Addis Literary Festival (In Exile).</i>			



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The UK's largest celebration of contemporary
African and diaspora literature is back !



The festival has been made possible through the financial support of Arts Council England, Afrexim Bank, Garfield Weston, Amazon, Miles Morland Foundation and the partnership of the following institutions and organisations: British Library, AFREADA, Cassava Republic, Huza Press, Royal Society of Literature, The Caine Prize for African Writing, Asmara-Addis Literary Festival (In Exile), Brittle Paper, Head of Zeus, AiAi Studios, Stacked Podcast and Orion Books.

A special thank you to this year's curators: Ainehi Egoro of Brittle Paper, Kalaf Epalanga, Maaza Mengiste, Nancy Adimora of AFREADA, Sulaiman Addonia of Asmara-Addis Literary Festival (In Exile) and Yomi Şode.