

פסטיבל הסופרים ירושלים JERUSALEM WRITERS FESTIVAL 25-28.5.2016



משכנות שאננים

MISHKENOT SHA'ANANIM

FULL PROGRAM

This year's Festival centers around the theme of removing barriers and challenging the boundaries of the discourse, and around explorations, investigations, and surprising discoveries. The contemporary world of literature is no longer restricted to the printed word inside a book, and many writers expand the field in new and exceptional directions. For one culture-packed weekend, the festival will offer musical performances, lectures, tours, writing workshops, events for children, and conversations with prominent Israeli and international artists and writers. You are invited to read the program, order tickets, and secure your seat for the various events.

WEDNESDAY, 25.5

11:00-12:00 / **Authors Talking Art: The Writers Festival at the Israel Museum**

The Wide Open Eyes of the Angel of History | Michal Govrin

Prof. Michal Govrin embarks on a journey inspired by the exhibitions **Twilight Over Berlin** and **New Types**. A conversation with Benjamin and Scholem, Beckett and Agnon, Celan and Derrida, on the fine line between devastation and redemption.

Moderator: **Shua Ben-Ari**
The Israel Museum, Jerusalem

Meeting point: entrance pavilion. We recommend that you arrive 15 minutes early
Tickets are available by phone: 02-6771300 on the Museum website, or at the box office
In collaboration with the Israel Museum, Jerusalem

16:00-17:00 / **Literary Inheritance | Anita Desai, Kiran Desai, and Zeruya Shalev in conversation with Tamar Merin**

The renowned award-winning novelists, **Anita Desai** and her daughter **Kiran Desai** (India), in conversation with the Israeli novelist, **Zeruya Shalev**, about literary family dynasties, personal writing and national writing, love and pain.

The event will be held in English

In collaboration with the Beracha Foundation

16:00-17:00 / **A Workshop for Creativity Unblocking | Shelly Oria**

Shelly Oria is a New York based author and teacher of creative writing. She also works as a personal coach, specializing in creativity unblocking. In the workshop, Oria will demonstrate how creativity and imagination can change our life.

16:00-19:00 / **Story Booth | Alex Epstein**

The novelist **Alex Epstein** offers festival visitors a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity: to gain immortality by becoming a character in his stories.

Free. Registration required.

In collaboration with Genesis Philanthropy Group and the Beracha Foundation

16:00-17:30 / **Madness and Obsession: Rethinking Don Quixote**

400 hundred years after Cervantes' death, his ingenious masterpiece **Don Quixote** is still as powerful and poignant as ever. **Tal Nitzan** will talk with **Jesús Carrasco** (Spain) and **Juan Gabriel Vásquez** (Colombia) about Quixotical traces of madness and obsession in contemporary literature in general and in their works in particular.

Greetings: **Fernando Carderera Soler** – Spain's Ambassador to Israel

Fernando Alzate Donoso – Colombia's Ambassador to Israel

Moderator: **Tal Nitzan**

Special guest: **Sasha Demidov**, who plays in Geshur Theatre's **I Am Don Quixote**, will read selected excerpts from the piece

The event will be held in English

In collaboration with the Cervantes Institute on the occasion of the 30th anniversary of establishing diplomatic relations between Israel and Spain

In collaboration with the Embassy of Colombia

17:00-18:00 / **The Writers Festival and The Cultural Brigade present: Life According to Nabokov**
Lila Azam Zanganeh in conversation with Sivan Beskin

What made **Lila Azam Zanganeh**, a young Parisian novelist of Iranian origin, choose to delve into the life of Vladimir Nabokov, learn Russian, and even write a book about him? With the poet **Sivan Beskin**, and co-presented with **The Cultural Brigade of Generation 1.5**. The group members **Alex Rif** and **Shmuel Zeltser** will accompany the event with live music and singing.

Moderator: **Noa Mennhaim**

In collaboration with Genesis Philanthropy Group

17:30-19:00 / **Yair Garbuz - Solo Exhibition Opening followed by The Chicken and the Egg: Yair Garbuz in conversation with Shimon Adaf**

A conversation between the artist **Yair Garbuz** and the author, poet, and musician **Shimon Adaf** on the occasion of Garbuz' new solo exhibition **Logic has Its Own Sorrow**. The event will also feature poetry reading and live music by Adaf.

A reception in the presence of the artist and the curator will be held in Dwek Gallery, Mishkenot Sha'ananim, at 17:30.

The conversation will be held in Gilbert De Botton Auditorium, Mishkenot Sha'ananim, at 18:00

18:00-19:00 / **Dystopias and Utopias in the Temple | Ruby Namdar and Yishai Sarid**

About the Temple and its destruction on the personal and national level, as it is reflected in the novels of **Ruby Namdar** (USA) and **Yishai Sarid**. Is it possible that the very act of writing about the Temple is another tier in its construction?

Moderator: **Sarah Blau**

Jerusalem Music Center, Mishkenot Sha'ananim

19:30-20:30 / **Opening Event Small World | David Grossman in conversation with Colum McCann**
David Grossman and **Colum McCann** (Ireland), one of the most important Irish writers in contemporary literature, will talk about the art of writing and the role of writers in times of crisis.

Moderator: **Kobi Meidan**

The event will be held in English

THURSDAY, 26.5

10:30-11:30 / **"Jeremiah, what seest thou?" | Dror Burstein in conversation with Rabbi Binyamin Lau**

In his new book **Mud**, the novelist **Dror Burstein** rewrites the story of Jeremiah, which unfolds against a backdrop of a simultaneously ancient and contemporary Jerusalem. Burstein will talk with **Rabbi Dr. Binyamin Lau**, the author of **Jeremiah: The Fate of a Prophet**, about prophets, kings, redemption, and devastation.

10:30-11:15 / **Creative Couples – Children's Edition | Etgar Keret and Shira Geffen in a special Lag BaOmer activity for children**

Etgar Keret and **Shira Geffen** will read from their beloved children's book **Moonless**

Night, followed by a conversation with the children, and a special debut reading of a new story by Keret.

For 5-9 year olds

11:00-13:00 / **Superman on the Light Rail: Creative Writing Workshop for Children and Teens | Galit Dahan Carlibach**

Galit Dahan Carlibach will hold a workshop dedicated to superheroes in fantasy and realistic fiction. We will learn how these figures are characterized and developed from a literary perspective, and create our own character.

Workshop for children aged 10+

In collaboration with "Hamegera", Kinneret-Zmora-Dvir Creative Writing School

Authors Talking Art: The Writers Festival at the Israel Museum

A Parabola of Success | Leonid Pekarovsky talks about Albrecht Dürer

11:00-12:00 / **in Hebrew**

12:30-13:30 / **in Russian**

The novelist, intellectual, and art critic **Leonid Pekarovsky** will talk about Albrecht Dürer – the great master whose art has touched his heart and affected his writing.

Moderator: **Tanya Sirakovich**

The Israel Museum, Jerusalem

Meeting point: entrance pavilion. We recommend that you arrive 15 minutes early

Tickets are available by phone: 02-6771300 on the Museum website, or at the box office

In collaboration with the Israel Museum, Jerusalem

In collaboration with Genesis Philanthropy Group

12:00-13:00 / **Moonless Night: Shlomi Frige and Shira Geffen in a Literary-Musical Show for Children**

Shira Geffen will read from her beloved book **The Heart-Shaped Leaf** with musical accompaniment by the composer **Shlomi Frige**. The reading will be followed by the world premiere of an opera for children created by Frige, based on **Etgar Keret** and **Shira Geffen's** book **Moonless Night**.

Composer and conductor: **Shlomi Frige**

Reading: **Uri Hochman**

Piano: **Andy Feldbau** | Cantilena Ensemble:

Hadar Beiser, soprano | **Dana Kazma**, mezzo soprano | **Inbal Shilor**, alt

For 5-9 year olds

16:00-17:00 / **Of Birds and Men | Birdwatching with Nell Zink and Dror Burstein**

The novelist **Nell Zink** (USA/Germany), a rising star in the international literary scene, has been a bird conservation activist for many years. Zink and the novelist **Dror Burstein** will meet at the **Jerusalem Bird Observatory** for a conversation about the poetic nature of birds and men. The event will also feature birdwatching and a demonstration of bird ringing process.

Jerusalem Bird Observatory, 2 Rothschild Street

The event will be held in English

Please register in advance by phone *6226. Tickets will not be available on site

In collaboration with the Jerusalem Bird Observatory

16:00-17:00 / **A Possibility of Violence: Life in the Shadow of Terrorism | Dror Mishani, Ayman Sikseck, and Juan Gabriel Vasquez**

On societies forced to live in the shadow of terrorism and violence, as these are reflected in the works of **Vasquez** (Colombia), **Mishani**, and **Sikseck**. A captivating conversation about unsolved murders, small and big fears, and the relentless obsession to find the "truth" of the story, in a world where even the truth becomes fiction.

Moderator: **Netta Ahituv**

The event will be held in English

16:00-17:00 / **Show Me the Money: On Employment Relations and Economics in Israeli Literature**

The panel will explore different aspects of the socioeconomic struggles in Israel and their manifestation in Israeli literature. A conversation with writers who represent unconventional voices in the literary scene: **Roy "Chicky" Arad**, a poet, writer, journalist and magazines editor, **Leonid Pekarovsky**, a brilliant writer and essayist who works as a security guard, and **Noga Albalach**, a writer and editor, who left a career in finances for a life of literature and writing.

Moderator: **Einat Fishbain**

In collaboration with The Hottest Place in Hell

16:00-19:00 / **Story Booth | Alex Epstein**

The novelist **Alex Epstein** offers festival visitors a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity: to gain immortality by becoming a character in his stories.

Free. Registration required

In collaboration with Genesis Philanthropy Group and the Beracha Foundation

17:00-18:30 / **Creative Writing Workshops in collaboration with HaMegera**

Sarah Blau: The Secrets

A group of strangers will share secrets and discover that sometimes, writing is the best way to break free from them.

Noa Yedlin: Who is a Hero?

How do you turn a character from a collection of traits to an actual person who lives and breathes between the pages of the story?

Ronny Someck: Guillotine

A workshop on the art of deleting.

In collaboration with "Hamegera", Kinneret-Zmora-Dvir Creative Writing School

18:00-19:00 / **The Power of the Word: Literature as an Engine for Social Change**

Are we naïve enough to think that the written word can transform reality? The participants will discuss questions surrounding the responsibility of writers and literature, and their involvement in times of conflict and crisis.

With **Colum McCann** (Ireland), **Lila Azam Zanganeh** (France/Iran), **Nir Baram**, and **Assaf Gavron**.

Greetings: **Dr. Michael Borchard**, director of Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung Israel

Moderator: **Neta Halperin**

The event will be held in English

In collaboration with the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung Israel

18:00-19:00 / **Contemporary Chinese Literature | Mai Jia in conversation with Evan Fallenberg**

Mai Jia (China), president of Zhejiang Writers Association and one of the most successful novelists in contemporary Chinese literature, chats with novelist and translator **Evan Fallenberg** about Mai's bestselling novel **Decoded**, the reading habits of Chinese readers, and their exposure to this literature in light of censorship in China.

The conversation will be held in English and Chinese. Interpreter: **Ohad Nevo**

19:00-20:00 / **A Literary Evening at Tmol Shilshom | Anita Desai and Kiran Desai**

An intimate evening with award-winning authors **Anita Desai** and **Kiran Desai**. A rare opportunity to meet two renowned writers in an informal setting, and hear first-hand about their life and their writing. With an introduction by **Dr. Ruben Borg**, head of the English Department at the Hebrew University, followed by an interview and a conversation with the audience.

Moderator: **Noa Erez**
Tmol Shilshom Café, 5 Yoel Solomon St., Jerusalem

Tickets will be available on site
The event will be held in English
In collaboration with the Beracha Foundation

19:00-20:30 / **Happy Ending Jerusalem New York's successful literary series comes to Mishkenot Sha'ananim**

A new international collaboration with New York's successful literary series, **Happy Ending**, which combines literature, music, and art on one stage.

Happy Ending Jerusalem #1

Hosted by the series' curator **Amanda Stern** (USA), with **Anthony Marra** (USA), **Etgar Keret**, **Colum McCann** (Ireland), and **Nell Zink** (USA/Germany)

Music: **Tamar Eisenman**
Illustrator: **Michal Bonano**
The event will be held in English
In collaboration with the Embassy of the United States and the American Center

20:30-22:00 / **A Tribute to Sami Michael**

A tribute celebrating the writer Sami Michael on the occasion of his 90th birthday. Turning a spotlight on poetry, this special evening will feature some of Israel's most acclaimed poets, who will dedicate their poems to Michael, and debut new works created especially for the event. Special performances by **Arkady Duchin** and the dancer **Bar Alteras**.

With the poets **Noam Partom**, **Shlomi Hatuka**, **Ronny Someck**, and **Tal Nitzan**
Music: **Arkady Duchin** | Dance: **Bar Alteras**
Reading: **Ofer Shalchin** | Narration: **Rasha Nahas** | Emcee: **Liad Mudrik**

FRIDAY, 27.5

10:00-12:00 / **Story Booth | Alex Epstein**

The novelist **Alex Epstein** offers festival visitors a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity: to gain immortality by becoming a character in

his stories.

Free. Registration required.
In collaboration with Genesis Philanthropy Group and the Beracha Foundation

10:00-11:00 / **Creative Couples I Married life: Tamar Merin and Matan Hermoni in conversation with Bilhah Ben-Eliyahu**

Tamar Merin and **Matan Hermoni** in conversation with **Bilhah Ben-Eliyahu**. What happens when the muses call just when the kids are sick? About the good and the not so good moments in the daily life of two authors, who also happen to be married to each other.

11:00-12:00 / **Authors Talking Art: The Writers Festival at the Israel Museum Creative Couples I Yaara Shehori and Guy Ben-Ner, The Lives of Others**

A conversation with **Yaara Shehori**, a novelist and an editor, and **Guy Ben-Ner**, an acclaimed video artist. The two will talk about mutual influences and meeting points between their medium of choice, as well as the dialogue between the written text and the image. The conversation will be accompanied by a screening of excerpts from Ben-Ner's videos.

Moderator: **Dr. Amitai Mendelsohn**
The Israel Museum, Jerusalem

Meeting point: entrance pavilion. We recommend that you arrive 15 minutes early

Tickets are available by phone: 02-6771300 on the Museum website, or at the box office

In collaboration with the Israel Museum, Jerusalem

11:15-12:15 / **A Family Affair | Gary Shteyngart and Etgar Keret in conversation with Dikla Keidar**

Is there such a thing as a "Jewish family?" Following their autobiographical novels **Little Failure** and **The Seven Good Years**, **Gary Shteyngart** (USA) and **Etgar Keret** will talk with **Dikla Keidar** about family stories that are best left untold.

The event will be held in English
In collaboration with Genesis Philanthropy Group
In collaboration with the Embassy of the United States and the American Center

12:30-14:00 / **Remembering Almost Everything | A special Words and Music session with Ehud Banai**

The novelist and musician **Ehud Banai** in a first of its kind literary-musical session, in which he will talk about his art and allow the audience to see and hear how the worlds of word and sound merge into one another.

SATURDAY, 28.5

10:00-11:00 / **Hit-Lit | Kong Fu with Asaf Schurr and Dror Mishani**

Known mostly as an acclaimed novelist, **Asaf Schurr** also practices and teaches non-classical Kung Fu. Schurr will talk with **Dror Mishani** about the permeation of violence into literary writing and how martial arts and writing influence one another. Schurr will invite the audience to punch equipment provided on site, as well as each other, and occasional literary critics. Wear comfortable clothes!

10:00-13:00 / **Jerusalem Plays Hide and Seek: Literary Walking Tour and Writing Exercise for Adults**

A walking tour through the spectacular landscapes surrounding Mishkenot Sha'ananim and the twilight zones of creation, legend, history, and folklore. During the tour, the participants will experience time and space based writing.

Guide: **Galit Dahan Carlbach**

In collaboration with "Hamegera", Kinneret-Zmora-Dvir Creative Writing School

10:00-10:45 / **Creative Couples – Children's Edition | Going on Adventures with Meir Shalev and Ayelet Sade**

Meir Shalev and **Ayelet Sade** will tell the children tales of little and big adventures, and read from Sade's book **Born from a Crocodile Egg**, and from Shalev's books **The Engine That Wanted to Go to Rome**, and **A Louise Named Thelma**.

For 5-8 year olds

11:00-12:00 / **A. B. Yehoshua and Ruby Namdar – Reconciliation Talk**

In the 2014 Writers Festival, **A. B. Yehoshua** referred to Diaspora Jews as "partial" Jews as opposed to the "complete" Jews living in Israel. **Ruby Namdar** (USA), an Israeli novelist who has been living in the US for many years, spoke out against this perception. Now, the two meet for a "reconciliation talk". Or is it?
Moderator: **Maya Sela**

12:30-13:30 / **Human Nature | Meir Shalev in conversation with Jesús Carrasco**

Meir Shalev and **Jesús Carrasco** (Spain) in a conversation about the cruelty of nature and the cruelty of mankind, which stand at the heart of Carrasco's beautiful debut novel **Out in the Open**, as well as Shalev's latest novel **Two She-Bears**.

Moderator: **Einat Talmon**

The event will be held in English
In collaboration with the Cervantes Institute on the occasion of the 30th anniversary of establishing diplomatic relations between Israel and Spain

13:00-14:00 / **Love and the City | Zeruya Shalev and Shelly Oria**

Originally written in English, **Shelly Oria's** book **New York 1 Tel Aviv 0** was published in the US before it was translated into Hebrew and released in Israel. Oria, who lives in New York, will talk with **Zeruya Shalev**, one of Israel's most internationally acclaimed contemporary writers, about love, family, and writing that crosses borders and continents.
Moderator: **Arik Glasner**

16:00-19:00 / **Story Booth | Alex Epstein**

The novelist **Alex Epstein** offers festival visitors a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity: to gain immortality by becoming a character in his stories.

Free. Registration required.
In collaboration with Genesis Philanthropy Group and the Beracha Foundation

16:00-17:00 / **Live from the Battlefield | Anthony Marra in conversation with Oren Nahari**

Anthony Marra's (USA) award-winning novel **A Constellation of Vital Phenomena**, is set against a backdrop of the Chechen Wars. Marra and **Oren Nahari** will talk about the differences between literary writing and journalistic writing about war, and share their experiences as battlefield writers.

The event will be held in English
In collaboration with the Embassy of the United States and the American Center

17:15-18:30 / **From Teheran to Sderot: Imaginary Cities | Dorit Rabinyan, Lila Azam Zanganeh, and Shimon Adaf**

Shlomzion Kenan will talk with **Dorit Rabinyan**, **Shimon Adaf**, and **Lila Azam Zanganeh** (France/Iran), an Iranian novelist who was raised in Paris, about the hidden paths that connect imaginary cities and lost homes, and about the mark that they leave on language.

Greetings: **Dr. Michael Borchard**, director of Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung Israel

Moderator: **Shlomzion Kenan**

The event will be held in English
In collaboration with Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung Israel

19:00-20:00 / **Decoded: Espionage and Intelligence in China**

Mai Jia in conversation with **Yossi Melman**

Mai Jia (China), one of China's most successful novelists, has served for years in the Chinese intelligence service. Following his book **Decoded**, Mai will talk with **Yossi Melman** about the world of intelligence, the role of Israeli Mossad in the book, and about the connection between fiction and reality. The conversation will be held in English and Chinese. Interpreter: **Ohad Nevo**

19:30-20:30 / **Unbidden Stories | Orly Castel Bloom and Nell Zink in conversation with Rana Werbin**

An unusual meeting of two unconventional novelists: **Orly Castel Bloom**, recipient of the 2016 Sapir Award, and **Nell Zink** (USA/Germany), a new and surprising star in the international literary world. The two will talk with **Rana Werbin** about migrating birds, exceptional women, and the stories that take shape in the twilight zone between the imagination and reality.

The event will be held in English

21:00-23:00 / **Happy Ending Jerusalem I New York's successful literary series comes to Mishkenot Sha'ananim**

A new international collaboration with New York's successful literary series, **Happy Ending**, which combines literature, music, and art on one stage.

In collaboration with the Embassy of the United States and the American Center

Happy Ending Jerusalem #2 – Festival Closing Event

Hosted by the series' curator **Amanda Stern** (USA), with **Alex Epstein**, **Shelly Oria** (USA/Israel), and **Gary Shteyngart** (USA)

Music: **Yali Sobol**
Illustrator: **Marina Grechanik**

The event will be held in English
In collaboration with the Embassy of the United States and the American Center



SELECTED EVENTS



Ehud Banai | Photo: Revital Topiol

Words and Music with Ehud Banai

The musician and novelist **Ehud Banai** in a literary-musical session, in which he will talk about his work and allow the audience to see and hear how the worlds of word and sound merge into one another.

Friday, 27.5 | 12:30-14:00
Festival Tent, Terraza de los Reyes de España, Mishkenot Sha'ananim

Happy Ending New York's successful literary series comes to Mishkenot Sha'ananim

The festival's first ever international collaboration with New York's Successful literary series Happy Ending. The series, which combines literature, music, and art on one stage, hosted the finest writers, musicians and illustrators, including Zadie Smith, Lena Dunham, Moby, Laurie Anderson, Suzanne Vega and Gary Shteyngart. The series is famous for its wild and witty humor and events that tend to take unexpected and exciting turns. Its founder and curator, **Amanda Stern**, asks each writer to take a risk and do something on stage they have never done before. No one knows what they will do, not even Stern, making each night in the series surprising and different. The event is accompanied by live music and an artist who draws the show as it unfolds while the results are projected in real time on a screen.

Happy Ending #1

With the writers **Anthony Marra, Etgar Keret, Colum McCann, and Nell Zink**

Music: **Tamar Eisenman** | Illustrator: **Michal Bonano**

Thursday, 26.5 | 19:00
Festival Tent, Terraza de los Reyes de España, Mishkenot Sha'ananim

Happy Ending #2 – Festival Closing Event

With the writers **Alex Epstein, Shelly Oria, and Gary Shteyngart**

Music: **Yali Sobol** | Illustrator: **Marina Grechanik**

Saturday, 28.5 | 21:00
Festival Tent, Terraza de los Reyes de España, Mishkenot Sha'ananim

(The events will be held in English)



Etgar Keret | Photo: Ewa Szatybelko



Gary Shteyngart | Photo: Brigitte Lascombe

Moonless Night: Shlomi Frige and Shira Geffen in a Literary-Musical Show for Children

The Writers Festival presents a special collaboration between **Shira Geffen** and the composer **Shlomi Frige**. Geffen will read from her beloved book **The Heart-Shaped Leaf** with Frige's musical accompaniment. The reading will be followed by the premiere of an opera for children created by Frige, based on **Etgar Keret** and Geffen's book **Moonless Night**. The piece will be performed by a chamber ensemble.

Composer and conductor: **Shlomi Frige**

Reading: **Shira Geffen, Uri Hochman**

Piano: **Andy Feldbau**

Cantilena Ensemble:

Hadar Beiser, soprano

Dana Kazma, mezzo soprano

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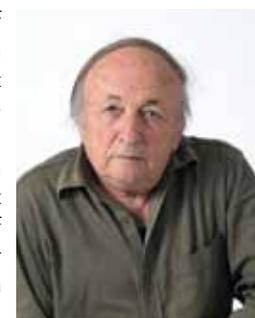
For children aged 5-9

Thursday, 26.5 | 12:00

Gilbert De Botton Auditorium, Mishkenot Sha'ananim

Exhibition Logic has Its Own Sorrow Yair Garbuz

Yair Garbuz, one of Israel's leading artists, in a new solo exhibition. It is possible to view the paintings in the exhibition **Logic has Its Own Sorrow** as an attempt to harness the power of humor and logic in order to cope with the drama of "the here and now".



Yair Garbuz | Photo: Ran Erde

The grim situations are veiled by melancholic self-deprecating humor, while the parodies, satires, and jokes make direct references to the history of art and the history of Israel.

The exhibition opening reception will be followed by a conversation between Garbuz and the writer **Shimon Adaf**.

Exhibition opening event:

Wednesday, 25.5 | 17:30

Dwek Gallery, Mishkenot Sha'ananim

Conversation:

Wednesday, 25.5 | 18:00-19:00

Gilbert De Botton Auditorium, Mishkenot Sha'ananim

Program is subject to change



For the full program and tickets: *6226 mishkenot.org.il/writersfestival/en