

## PROGRAMME OF EVENTS



# Malta Book Festival 2015

4<sup>th</sup>–8<sup>th</sup> November 2015  
Mediterranean Conference Centre, Valletta

## PROGRAMME OF EVENTS



### WEDNESDAY 4<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER

- 17:30 Common Area.** Morrone Editore present the book *Italian Satyricon* by Romano Garofalo (EPSIL Edizioni) in an event with Giuseppe Giudice.
- 18:00 Temi Zammit Hall.** SKS launch *Biografija ta' Umberto Colosso* by Giorgio Peresso.
- 18:00 Faraxa Publishing Stand.** A discussion about *Oscar u s-sinjura r-roża* by Éric-Emmanuel Schmitt and translated by Claudine Borg with an introduction by Toni Aquilina. An uplifting tale of a boy coming to terms with death; a small fable with a big heart.
- 18:00 Common Area.** Morrone Editore, Ray Bondin and Elena Napoli will be discussing *In vino veritas* by Concetto Scandurra (Morrone Editore).
- 18:45 Common Area.** Morrone Editore and Silvio Aliffi invite you to the Common Area for a presentation of the book *I Maltesi di Trapani* by Arnold Cassola, Henry Frendo.
- 19:00 Temi Zammit Hall.** The NBC proudly presents French author Marie Darrieussecq (*Pig Tales. A Novel of Lust and Transformation, A Brief Stay With the Living, Tom est mort - Tom is Dead*). Join her and Toni Aquilina for a reading and a discussion.
- 19:30 Dom Communications Stand.** You are invited to 2 book launches: *Duminku Mintoff u l-Partit Laburista* and *Minn Fomm il-Bniedem*.
- 20:00 Temi Zammit Hall.** Morrone Editore invite you to *La Lingua Italiana a Malta*, a round table discussion curated by the Istituto Italiano di Cultura di Malta and the Associazione Siciliana Editori. Speakers: Salvatore Schirmo (Director, Istituto Italiano di Cultura di Malta), Salvatore Granata (President, Associazione Siciliana Editori), Martin Micallef (President, Società Dante Alighieri di Malta), Joseph Brincat (Member, Accademia della Crusca), Mario Pace (responsible for the Ministerial Project for Language Instruction), Marion Pace Ascjak (responsible for Religious Schools at the Education Ministry of Malta), Anna Porcheddu (docente and translator), Carlo Morrone (Editor and Vicepresident, Associazione Siciliana Editori).
- 20:00 Common Area.** Presentation of *This Fair Land*, a Maltese literary anthology by Charles Briffa and publisher Clive Boutle.

## THURSDAY 5<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER

- 11:00 Faraxa Publishing Stand.** A reading session from *The Adventures of Joe Fenek / L-Adventuri ta' Joe Fenek* by Graham Bayes. Meet Joe and his animal friends, Jimmy the rat, Digger the shrew, Tony the rat, Horace the horse, Mario the mouse and Spikey the hedgehog; all of which share in Joe's Adventures around the Maltese islands.
- 17:30 Common Area.** A presentation of *Il segreto di Bukir - E se provassimo a clonare l'uomo che è stato avvolto nella Sacra Sindone?* by Angelo Ciurcina organised by Morrone Editore and Liliana Nigro.
- 17:45 Temi Zammit Hall.** Kite Group will be launching their new novel *Iż-Żejt f'qiegħ l-Ilma* by author Martin Bugelli about four generations of a Maltese family in the shadow of an unlucky star. Guest speakers: Mr. Martin Bugelli, Magistrate Joe Mifsud and President Emeritus Ugo Mifsud Bonnici.
- 18:00 Faraxa Publishing Stand.** Launch of *Il-Kullana ta' Stejjer għat-Tfal u Adoloxxenti* with authors and translators for children's books Lydia McKay (*L-Adventuri ta' Sammy – Il-Battalja kontra Titus*), Jennifer Spagnol (*L-arloġġ tal-futur, Il-pittura maġika, Avventura fi żmien il-Milied*) and Toni Aquilina (*Il-ġgant id-dhuli*).
- 18:30 Common Area.** Rosario Lo Bello, Antonella Biscardi and Giacomo Lo Bue di Lemos invite you to a presentation of the book *Concetto Lo Bello - Un uomo di rigore* (Morrone Editore).
- 19:00 Common Area.** *Karti, Kotba, u Kuluri* – A discussion by Dr William Zammit about the production and printing of books organised by Għaqda tal-Malti – Università.
- 19:00 Faraxa Publishing Stand.** A discussion about *Tifkiriet ta' Tfulija fil-Furjana: Malta fil-Paċi u fil-Gwerra 1939–1950* by Joe Bugeja and translated by Godwin Ellul. These are memories of a boy growing up in a crucial time in Malta's history.
- 19:30 Dom Communication Stand.** Launch of the biography of *Pawlu Curmi* written by Sergio Grech.
- 19:30 Temi Zammit Hall.** *Writers for Peace – Kittieba għal Paċi* – A conference to encourage dialogue between authors present about literature's role in the context of current developments taking place in Europe with particular reference to the war in Syria and the immigration crisis. Guest speakers: Antoine Cassar, Dan Sociu, Maram al-Massri, Marie Darrieussecq and Walid Nabhan.

## FRIDAY 6<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER

- 10:30 Aġenzija Żgħażaġh Stand.** Żerniq u Ghodwiet Ohra - A reading by Rita Saliba organised by Għaqda tal-Malti – Università for visiting school children.
- 11:00 Temi Zammit Hall.** Horizons launch *X'Ahna Smart* by Stephen Lughermo, winner of Konkors ta' Kitba – Letteratura għaż-Żgħażaġh 2014, organized by Aġenzija Żgħażaġh and the National Book Council.
- 17:45 Temi Zammit Hall.** Deer Publications invites you to a discussion by Kan. Dr. Jesmond Manicaro about *Ir-Relikwi tal-Qaddisin u festi tagħhom*. Dr Manicaro takes us on a historical journey built on evidence gathered from priceless texts about the subject.
- 17:45 Merlin Publishers Stand.** *Kamilla tixtieq familja ġdida* – Meet Kamilla as she searches for an ideal family – an activity led by Clare Azzopardi (Ages 4-7).
- 18:00 Common Area.** Heritage Malta invites the general public to the launch of the first issue of the *Heritage Malta Journal*.
- 18:30 Faraxa Publishing Stand.** Launch of *Il-Kullana ta' Stejjer għat-Tfal u Adoloxxenti* with authors and translators for children's books Tony C. Cutajar (*Il-Ħares tal-Fortizza*), David Pace (*Il-Wied tad-Dinosawri*), Matthew Scerri (*Nofs u Ħażin*).
- 18:45 Merlin Publishers Stand.** *Mingu* – Bet you've never seen a picture book like this one! A collaboration between two of the best artists in the field: Clare Azzopardi and Lisa Falzon (Ages 5-8).
- 18:45 Temi Zammit Hall.** Re-launch of *Qabel tiftah l-Inkjest* by Alfred Sant (SKS) in a discussion with Marco Galea, Joyce Grech and Toni Sant.
- 19:00 Common Area.** The NBC invites you to meet special guest Dan Sociu (Romania) – author of *URBANCOLIA* and *Special needs* who will read a selection of his work and discuss further with Immanuel Mifsud.
- 19:00 Miller Distributors Ltd. Stand.** Book launch of *The National Portrait Gallery of Malta* by Nicholas De Piro. Come and join us for a Q&A session followed by book signing for the general public until 21:00.
- 19:30 Faraxa Publishing Stand.** A discussion about *Jottings* by Michael Grech with guest speaker: Paul Mayo. Popular writing ought to be provocative without either promoting protagonism or

## SATURDAY 7<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER

being frivolously polemical. It ought also to occasion dialogue, criticism and engagement.

**19:45 Common Area.** *Bejn Linja u Ohra* Clare Azzopardi is interviewed by Kristy Borg. A certified interpreter for the hard of hearing will be interpreting the interview organised by Ghaqda tal-Malti – Università.

**20:00 Temi Zammit Hall.** Horizons invite you all to *POEŻIJA*. An evening dedicated to poetry and the launch of 3 books: *Eternita'* by Paul P. Borg with visuals by artist Gabriel Caruana, *Imsiebañ* by Alfred Degabriele and *Bla Qjegħa, Poeżija mit-Trab* by Joe P. Galea.



**09:45 Merlin Publishers Stand.** *X'qed tara?* – Everyone's looking up 'n' up. But what do they see? And you, what do you see? Join us to discover more. An activity led by Rachel Portelli (Ages 3-6).

**10:00 Temi Zammit Hall.** Salesians of Don Bosco (Malta) invite you to a keynote presentation with photography by Daniel Cilia about *The Culture and Beauty of Malta and Gozo*.

**10:00 Faraxa Publishing Stand.** An interactive presentation, exploring the book *L-Avventuri ta' Sammy - Battalja kontra Titus* by Lydia McKay. An interesting introduction featuring multimedia and devices, creating a rich experience when reading the book.

**10:30 Common Area.** Children are invited to join the “Who wants my Broccoli?” illustration workshop by Italian team *Spoonfactory* – let's embark on an amazing adventure between strange recipes and bizarre characters whilst focusing on the importance of a good diet and good friends - don't forget to bring your colours and your scissors (Ages 5-8).

**10:45 Merlin Publishers Stand.** *Jake Cassar jiggieled l-ahħar battalja* – the last adventure for Jake, Mel and their friends from every magical land. Let's gather to bid Jake a good farewell (Ages 7-10).

**11:00 Temi Zammit Hall.** Bonferraro Editore invite you to the launch of Matteo Bonadies' *ANYWAY – venticinque anni dopo*.

**11:00 Common Area.** Come and meet the President of Malta, Marie Louise Coleiro Preca for a signing session of *Tisjir mill-Qalb* in aid of the Malta Community Chestfund.

**11:45 Common Area.** Arnold Cassola, Giacomo Lo Bue di Lemos and Giorgio Peresso invite you to a discussion about *Come nasce una mafia* by Angelo Migliore (Morrone Editore).

**11:45 Merlin Publishers Stand.** Would you like to meet *Il-Professur Għasfur?* – He travels from one dimension to the next with his turtle friend. Author Ġorġ Mallia will take us on this voyage (Ages 9-12).

**12:00 Temi Zammit Hall.** Bonferraro Editore invite you to the launch of Frans Sammut's *I Giovanniti - la storia dei cavalieri di Malta*.

**12:30 Common Area.** Antonella Biscardi, Giorgio Peresso and Carlo Morrone discuss *Il giornalismo sportivo da Bruno Roghi a Gianni Brera* by Aldo Biscardi.

**13:00 Temi Zammit Hall.** Launch of *Djamantini*, a project by Pembroke Secondary School,

Saint Clare College, with readings of several poems and stories, and songs by renowned personalities. Profits from the book will cover expenses for new Maltese books and resources for the Paediatric Adolescent Unit (PAU) class at the Sir Anthony Mamo Oncology Hospital.

- 13:00 Common Area.** Silvio Aliffi discusses *Perle d'inchostro* by Cristina Tornali with the author herself.
- 14:00 Sala Komuni.** A concert of Traditional Popular Sicilian Music *L'amore nei canti popolari Siciliani* with musicians Tonino Bonasera (vocals and guitar) and Antonio Bonasera (flute, sax and *friscalettu*) conducted by Corrado Di Pietro.
- 15:30 Temi Zammit Hall.** *Reading Champion Schools Award Ceremony* – the first nationwide campaign with the aim of awarding schools for their efforts to boost literacy. Organised by the National Literacy Agency, the National Book Council and the Directorate for Curriculum.
- 16:00 Faraxa Publishing Stand.** The Faraxa Publishing Stand will become a veritable Children's corner. Interactive games, book reading sessions, crafts etc. Come and have fun!
- 16:00 Common Area.** A discussion led by Maura Morrone about *Il re nudo - I Bronzi di Riace, i re di Siracusa Gelone e Ierone?* by Anselmo Madeddu (Morrone Editore).
- 16:30 Temi Zammit Hall.** *Reading Champions Award Ceremony* - the culmination of the second nationwide campaign for the promotion of reading organised by the National Literacy Agency, the National Book Council and the Directorate for Curriculum.
- 17:15 Merlin Publishers Stand.** *Bertu l-bebbuxu supereroj* – Bertu is busy trying to manage everything on time. Do you think he'll do it? An activity led by Clare Azzopardi (Ages 4-7).
- 17:30 Common Area.** Publisher Carlo Morrone invites the general public to a presentation of the book *L'amore nei canti popolari siciliani* by Corrado Di Pietro and Antonino Bonasera (Morrone Editore). Sicilian Folk Musicians *I Cori di Val d'Anapo* will also participate in this event.
- 17:45 Merlin Publishers Stand.** *Vjoletta* – The girl who has enchanted one and all. An activity led by Lorraine Vella (Ages 4-7).
- 18:00 Temi Zammit Hall.** *Id-dizzjunarju ta' de Soldanis (c. 1765)* speakers Rosabelle Carabott, Daniel Cilia, Liam Gauci, Godwin Vella, Olvin Vella and Dr William Zammit answer 'How does it differ from Vassalli's Lexicon (1796)?' 'Is it really written in Gozitan?' 'Why wasn't it published once finished?' and more - event organised by Akkademja tal-Malti.

**18:30 Common Area.** SKS launch the new edition of *Dun Kixott mill-Manċa* in a one of a kind event with Maltese folk singers (*għannejja*) and accompanying folk guitarists that will set and perform excerpts of the translated text to music.

- 18:45 Merlin Publishers Stand.** *It-tifel-dragun: l-ewwel fjamma* – Lorraine Vella reads from the book which has become an absolute hit with young fans of fantasy literature (Ages 7-10).
- 19:00 Yard, MCC.** Come and meet NBC's special guest poet Maram al-Masri (Syria/Paris) in the candle-lit yard for an evening of poetry. This activity will feature the launch of her poetry collection *Nisa Bħali...* translated into Maltese by Kevin Saliba.
- 19:00 Kite Group Stand.** Meet-the-authors and book signing of *Iċ-Ċirasa* by Mario Galea and *Hekk Nafhom jien* as well as *Politika bi Tbissima* by Tonio Borg.
- 19:00 Faraxa Publishing Stand.** A discussion on *Pietru Caxaru u l-Kantilena Tiegħu* by Mark Montebello followed by a book signing session. The Kantilena is the oldest poem written around 550 years ago, it is one of the most beautiful poems written in the Maltese language.
- 20:00 Temi Zammit Hall.** The NBC invites the general public to the premiere of *Dar ir-Rummien* – a film adaptation of Pierre Meilak's story from his award winning collection of short-stories *Dak li l-lejl iħallik tgħid* by 2Doors Media, winners of the *NBC PBS Short Film Contest 2015*.
- 20:00 Merlin Publishers Stand.** *Il-Fiddien* – Do you remember the 'Immarkati', Estella, Jason, Ġingo and their friends? Here's a unique opportunity to meet the two authors of the trilogy: Simon Bartolo and Lorraine Vella (Ages 10+).



## SUNDAY 8<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER

- 09:15 Merlin Publishers Stand.** *Mingu* - Bet you've never seen a picture book like this one! A collaboration between two of the best artists in the field: Clare Azzopardi and Lisa Falzon (Ages 5-8).
- 10:00 Temi Zammit Hall.** Launch of *Lehen il-Malti* (34th edition) by Għaqda tal-Malti - Università. Entrance is free and a reception will follow.
- 10:00 Common Area.** Corrado di Pietro will be presenting and discussing *Venere illusa* by Giovanna Alecci (Morrone Editore).
- 10:15 Merlin Publishers Stand.** *Ramon u Sardinellu* - another classic Carmel G. Cauchi character is re-born in a new Merlin edition. Visit the Stand to meet the author and his book. (Ages 8-10).
- 10:30 Faraxa Publishing Stand.** A discussion by their youngest author Corrine Annette Zahra. Vampires, werewolves and many other magical creatures roam throughout this book, not to mention humans and Amanda herself. Amanda Robins is an exquisite, legendary, rare and unique creature - one of a kind.
- 10:30 Common Area.** A discussion: *Una libreria italiana a Malta*. Speakers: Gloria Lauri-Lucente (Head of Italian Department at the University of Malta), Carlo Morrone (Publisher), Arnold Cassola (Professor of Comparative Maltese Literature at the University of Malta), Antonella Biscardi and Martin Micallef (President of Società Dante Alighieri di Malta).
- 11:00 Temi Zammit Hall.** Launch of a new anthology of articles by Professor Godfrey Wettinger. Published by Malta University Press in collaboration with the National Book Council.
- 11:00 Kite Group Stand.** A Book-signing of the latest Kite Group novel based on a true story, *Stolen Childhood* by Mikela Fenech Pace and Jacqueline Vassallo.
- 11:00 Common Area.** Maura Morrone and Giusy Aprile (author's daughter) will be discussing *Le penne raccontano* by Maria Concetta Leone.
- 11:15 Merlin Publishers Stand.** *Irvin Vella: Investigatur Virtwali* - In just a matter of months, Irvin Vella has possibly become Malta's most popular investigator. But of course. John A. Bonello will be reading from the book and talking about Irvin and all the adventures that await him (Ages 9-13).



# LIST OF PARTICIPANTS 2015

Aġenzija Żgħażaġh	Horizons
Agjus & Agius Bookshop	Istituto Italiano di Cultura (Valletta)
Akkademja tal-Malti	Kite Group
Associazione Siciliana Editori	Kunsill Nazzjonali tal-Ilsien Malti
Bargain Box	I-accēt
Bonferraro Editore	Meli Bookshop
Book Distributors Limited (BDL)	Mellieħa Local Council Publishers
Bookends	Merlin Library
Bookmark	Merlin Publishers Limited
Bronk Productions Limited	Midsea Books & Klabb Kotba Maltin
ĊAK	Miller Distributors Limited
Clio Books	Miranda Publishers
Deer Publications	MUT Publications Limited
Dom Communications Limited	Salesians of Don Bosco (Malta) Publishers
Faraxa Publishing	SKS Publishers
FrannyJo	Uptrend Publishing
French Embassy – “La Boucherie” Bookshop	Wise Owl Bookshop
Friends of the National Archives	Wise Owl Publications
Heritage Malta	

## Opening Hours

**Wednesday:** 09:00-13:00 and 17:30-21:30

**Thursday:** 09:00-13:00 and 17:30-21:30

**Friday:** 09:00-13:00 and 17:30-22:00

**Saturday:** 09:30-22:30

**Sunday:** 08:30-12:00

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