

MALTA BOOK FESTIVAL 2019

6 – 10 November

Mediterranean Conference Centre, Valletta



Programme of events



With its long list of participants from all sectors of the book industry and a cultural programme that features more than eighty major events in book launches, book presentations, dramatic performances, workshops and conferences, the Malta Book Festival is the largest and most extensive celebration of the book culture in Malta.

People from all walks of life, young and old, eagerly await the Festival, which always takes place in the second week of November (this year, from 6–10 November) at the Mediterranean Conference Centre in Valletta. For five days, publishers, booksellers and authors gather under one roof to make the most of this unique opportunity to promote and sell their books to the public. In addition to local talent, the Festival also features interventions by foreign guests, including big names in the international literary scene.

WEDNESDAY

06/11

9:00–10:00 FRENCH IS FUN! – FOREIGN LANGUAGE LEARNING

Organised by the UM Department of French, this session proposes a number of ludic activities aimed at young learners of French and will be led by MTL student teachers. These activities will be based on English translations of French narrative excerpts and will engage students in guessing, visualization and creative writing activities. The winners will be awarded a French reader, while students present will be given a certificate of participation. – **David Bruce Hall**

9:30–12:30 ONGOING MEET JANET MALLIA – BDL

Author Janet Mallia will be signing books and engaging in a reading session from her books from the series *L-Avventuri f'Hal Xuxa* and other e-books. – **Octavo stand**

9:30–13:00 ONGOING CONSERVATION AND RESTORATION DEMO – NATIONAL LIBRARY OF MALTA RESTORATION LAB

Situated in the centre of Valletta, the National Library is one of the major treasures of the Maltese Islands. It is a reference and research library preserving the memory of the nation with collections that span the centuries from medieval times to the digital age. As the guardian of the written memory of Malta for current and future generations, the National Library promotes research and makes its vast collections available to researchers and visitors alike. Join Marco Micallef (head of the Restoration Unit) and his team for an intricate manuscript-binding demonstration, Q&A session and more. – **Malta Libraries stand**

10:00–11:00 ONGOING HOW ITALIAN ARE YOU? #1 – FOREIGN LANGUAGE LEARNING

Italy is renowned worldwide and holds a special place in the collective

imagination for its breathtaking landscapes, immortal monuments, irresistible food and alluring fashion, but also for its proverbially fiery and entangled history, its chequered folklore, not to mention its literary heritage, and its still relevant influence on (and within) popular culture. By means of a light-hearted multiple-choice quiz organised by the UM Department of Italian, the audience will be able to put its own 'Italianness' to the test... and the winners will be rewarded with a special prize. – **Foreign Language Learning stand**

10:00–12:30 ONGOING LANGUAGE ACTIVITIES – GERMAN-MALTESE CIRCLE / UM DEPARTMENT OF GERMAN

Writing Competition: Organised in advance of the Festival; winners will be announced at the Festival and best entries displayed at the stand. Quiz: One question will be chosen for this quiz to be completed at the stand.

Facts about Germany / German in Malta: "Did you know that...?" Ongoing Power Point presentation about interesting facts about German language and culture / Second Power Point presentation with images of traces of German in Malta.

Germany from above: "Deutschland von oben" (documentary) – Experience Germany from the Baltic Sea to the Alps from a bird's eye view. Don't miss out on these beautiful images!

German-English word pairs: Due to their Germanic origin, English and German are surprisingly similar. So-called 'Cognates' show that you already know more German than you might be aware of. Try the Word Match game! For those with some knowledge of German, there will also be an advanced level game. – **German-Maltese Circle / UM Department of German stand**

10:00–12:30 ONGOING BOOK READINGS: CZECH AND SLOVAK LITERATURE FOR CHILDREN – MILAN HALUSKA

Mole and other stories from the books of Czech and Slovak authors published in English. Children literature is very strong in Central Europe and connects tightly the old traditions with modern lifestyle. This is why it is very catchy and popular around the world. The texts will be read by the members of Czech and Slovak community in Malta. – **Milan Haluska stand**

11:00–12:00 ONGOING LEARN TO PLAY AND PLAY TO LEARN WITH FOREIGN LANGUAGES #1 – FOREIGN LANGUAGE LEARNING

The Foreign Language Department lecturers within the Junior College

shall enact a ludic vocabulary activity intended for primary/secondary/post-secondary learners. It shall focus on games related to those lexical terms which Maltese and English have borrowed from Italian, French, German and Spanish. – **Foreign Language Learning stand**

17:30–18:30 ITALIAN JUKEBOX – FOREIGN LANGUAGE LEARNING

Over the last five or six decades Italy has been a hothouse of highly successful pop and rock songs, some being short-lived, others turning into evergreen hits. This session, organised by the UM Department of Italian, is meant as a voyage of discovery into a variegated number of Italian tunes proving significant snapshots of historically decisive events and years, from the 1960s to the present day. –

Foreign Language Learning stand

12:00–13:00 ONGOING IBN BATTUTA: A MEDIEVAL GLOBETROTTER – FOREIGN LANGUAGE LEARNING

Organised by the UM Department of Oriental Studies (Arabic), this session presents a video of the travelogues of Ibn Battuta, a native of Morocco. In 1325, Ibn Battuta set out on a pilgrimage to Mecca. It was to become an odyssey from one end of the then known world to the other. In all, he travelled 75,000 miles, more than three times the distance covered by Marco Polo. In all, he visited forty countries, meeting holy men, magicians, dervishes, fire-eaters, and other travellers from three continents. Ibn Battuta was also a businessman, scholar, mystic and warrior. He was imprisoned many times, he was married ten times, and he had countless concubines. When he returned to his native Morocco, after 29 years, he wrote it all down.

– **Foreign Language Learning stand**

17:30–18:30 BOOK LAUNCH AND TALK: TRITONI - THE REBIRTH OF AN ICONIC FOUNTAIN – MINISTRY FOR TRANSPORT, INFRASTRUCTURE AND CAPITAL PROJECTS

Tritoni provides the reader with an in-depth account of the history behind Malta's iconic Tritons fountain: the events leading to its initial operation in 1959, its fateful collapse in 1978 and the decision to restore it to its former glory. The book provides both a historic account and a technical narrative on the challenges in the process of the fountain's restoration. The event will also feature an audio-visual production, a presentation on Ċensu Apap and Victor Anastasi, as well as a talk on the social impact of the Tritons fountain today. –

Theatre Hall

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Foreign Language Learning stand

18:00–19:00 QUEER IN MALTESE LITERATURE – L-GĦAQDA TAL-MALTI – UNIVERSITÀ

Romario Sciberras will be leading a discussion with writers Tyrone Grima and Immanuel Mifsud about queer elements in Maltese literature, also addressing their novels in particular, *Bep* and *Jutta Heim*. – **Activity Area La Vallette Hall**

18:00–19:00 A NEW LIFE FOR MALTESE HISTORICAL NOVELS – MIDSEA BOOKS & KLABB KOTBA MALTIN

During this year, Klabb Kotba Maltin published the adapted version of nine historical novels, making them ideal readers for 11 year old and over. These novels have been given a new look to make them more accessible. These include the works of Ġużé Galea, Ġuże Bonnici and Ġuże Muscat Azzopardi amongst others. During the event we will discuss the relevance of the historical novel in today's context. – **David Bruce Hall**

18:00–19:00 THE FUTURE OF TRANSLATION – FARAXA PUBLISHERS

Plan for more great literary translations with Faraxa.. Discussion by a panel of translators chaired by Prof. Toni Aquilina. – **Faraxa Publishers stand**

18:30–19:30 CHINESE TEA CEREMONY AND ITS ANCIENT PHILOSOPHY – FOREIGN LANGUAGE LEARNING

The first of the four activities that the Department of Oriental Studies, in collaboration with the Confucius Institute at the University of Malta, will prepare for the Malta Book Festival is a traditional Chinese tea ceremony. This will be a distinctive way to express one of the unique aspects of Chinese culture. There will be a demonstration showing how to brew tea using the traditional Chinese method. Chinese tea is not flavoured with any additives – all the flavour and aroma come straight from nature. We will serve Chinese tea to the participants

while giving some basic notions about its origin, social importance, ancient remedy and philosophy. – **Foreign Language Learning stand**

19:00–21:00 'STRANGE NEW WORLDS': A CONFERENCE ON FANTASY AND SCI-FI LITERATURE – NBC

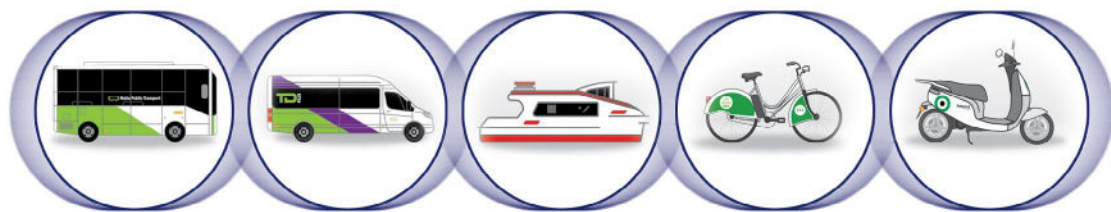
The NBC presents 'Strange New Worlds'. The conference will see the participation of four international and Maltese guest writers – Lorraine Vella, the Brussels-based Maltese writer and winner of the 2018 National Book Prize with *Rokit* (Merlin Publishers); Malta-born and UK-based author Jon Courtenay Grimwood; American novelist Kali Wallace; and Irish writer Dave Rudden. Writer and translator Mark Anthony Fenech will be moderating the discussion on the role and perception of genre literature in the literary world. – **Theatre Hall**

19:30–20:30 MEET THE AUTHOR: JUAN ANTONIO GARRIDO ARDILA – FOREIGN LANGUAGE LEARNING

J. A. Garrido Ardila will talk about his book *Sus nombres son leyenda. Españoles que cambiaron la Historia* (Espasa, 2018), a personal reflection on heroes and heroism in Spanish History in the manner of Thomas Carlyle (publisher's page: <https://www.planetadelibros.com/libro-sus-nombres-son-leyenda/267440>. Review in Zenda Libros: <https://www.zendalibros.com/heroes/>). The event is organised by the UM Department of Spanish & Latin American Studies. Garrido Ardila is a Resident Academic at the University of Malta, a scholar of Spanish and comparative literature, and a regular guest columnist in the Spanish press. – **Foreign Language Learning stand**



ENJOY REDUCED FARES WHEN PAYING WITH YOUR TALLINJA CARD!



THURSDAY

07/11

9:00–10:00 | ONGOING „EINS, ZWEI ODER DREI“: FUN QUIZ ABOUT GERMAN LANGUAGE AND CULTURE – FOREIGN LANGUAGE LEARNING

A fun interactive quiz about the German language and culture will be conducted by members of the Department of German. This activity is intended for children and youths; no prior knowledge of German is required. – **Foreign Language Learning stand**

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10:00–11:00 | ONGOING HOW ITALIAN ARE YOU? #2 – FOREIGN LANGUAGE LEARNING

Italy is worldwide renowned and holds a special place in the collective imagination for its breathtaking landscapes, immortal monuments, irresistible food, and alluring fashion, but also for its proverbially fiery and

entangled history, its chequered folklore, not to mention its literary heritage, and its still relevant influence on (and within) popular culture. By means of a light-hearted multiple-choice quiz organised by the UM Department of Italian, the audience will be able to put its own 'Italianness' to the test... and the winners will be rewarded with a special prize. – **Foreign Language Learning stand**

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Mole and other stories from the books of Czech and Slovak authors published in English. Children literature is very strong in Central Europe and connects tightly the old traditions with modern lifestyle. This is why it is very catchy and popular around the world. The texts will be read by the members of Czech and Slovak community in Malta. – **Milan Haluska stand**

11:00–12:00 | ONGOING THE CHARM OF ARABIC CALLIGRAPHY – FOREIGN LANGUAGE LEARNING

It is a common saying in the Middle East that the Holy Quran was revealed in Mecca, recited in Egypt and written by calligraphers in Istanbul. Islam

prohibits figurative art and therefore Muslim artists express themselves artistically by focusing on the twenty-eight letters of the Arabic alphabet. Islamic and secular calligraphy has been practiced in different parts of the world, but it was the calligraphers in the Ottoman empire who brought it to high levels of perfection with their distinct styles and techniques. This session, organised by the UM Department of Oriental Studies (Arabic), presents a short video covering the story of Islamic calligraphy from the point of view of some renowned Turkish calligraphers. Moreover, a calligrapher will be present on stand to illustrate the basic calligraphic techniques. Members of the public will have an opportunity to give calligraphy a try. – **Foreign Language Learning stand**

11:00–13:00 SEMINAR WITH JUDGE ROSEMARIE AQUILINA: FAMILY COURT PRACTICES IN MALTA AND THE U.S. – NBC

MBF 2019 special guest Judge Rosemarie Aquilina will be speaking to law students, gender studies students, media and communication students and the general public as part of a panel of expert practitioners, who will be sharing their experiences with the functions of family law, in Malta and the US. Since 2008 Aquilina has been serving on the 30th Circuit Court for Ingham County, Michigan, and is an adjunct professor at Thomas M. Cooley Law School, where she teaches classes on Family Law, Advanced Trial Practice-Family Law, Defending Battered Women, and Legislative Processes. – **Vassalli Hall**

12:00–13:00 ONGOING LEARN TO PLAY AND PLAY TO LEARN WITH FOREIGN LANGUAGES #2 – FOREIGN LANGUAGE LEARNING

The Foreign Language Department lecturers within the Junior College shall enact a ludic cultural activity intended for primary/secondary/post-secondary learners. It shall help students discover the affinities of aspects of Maltese culture with Italy, Spain, France and Germany. – **Foreign Language Learning stand**

17:30 MEET RONALD BUGEJA – BDL

Author Ronald Bugeja will be at the stand to sign copies of his book for the public. – **BDL stand**

17:30–18:30 THE FRENCH-SPEAKING WORLD – FOREIGN LANGUAGE LEARNING

French is the fifth most spoken language in the world, with 300 million

speakers. It is expected that by 2050 more than 600 million people will speak French. This session, organised by the UM Department of French, is a presentation of the diversity of the Francophonie, and is open to the general public. – **Foreign Language Learning stand**

18:00–19:00 MEET KALI WALLACE – NBC

U.S. author Kali Wallace will be talking to Teodor Reljić about her already-prolific output, which includes the Young Adult cult favourites *Shallow Graves*, *The Memory Trees* and *City of Islands*. Their talk will touch upon the dynamics of genre fiction and publishing, the difference between writing for young adults and adults, the legacy of space-horror thrillers such as the 'Alien' franchise and their influence on her most recent work and debut novel for adults, *Salvation Day*. Because it is only right, a portion of the conversation will also be dedicated to a consideration of both interlocutors' undeniably adorable fluffy cats. – **Theatre Hall**

18:00–19:00 MEET THE AUTHOR – FARAXA PUBLISHERS

Meet Leon Zawadzki, author of *Son of a Reluctant Immigrant*. – **Faraxa Publishers stand**

18:00–19:00 BOOK PRESENTATION – ISTITUTO ITALIANO DI CULTURA

Federica Flocco, *Il coraggio di Amadou*. – **Istituto Italiano di Cultura stand**

18:00 & 19:00 READING CHAMPIONS – NATIONAL LITERACY AGENCY

In the Reading Champions ceremony, the National Literacy Agency gives recognition to students who excel in their reading ability, students who help other students learn the value and pleasure of reading and to students who register progress in their reading skills. Students are selected from Year 7 of state and non-state schools by the school librarians, language teachers and the Heads of Schools respectively. – **Activity Area La Vallette Hall**

18:30–19:30 IT ALL LOOKS CHINESE TO ME! CHINESE CHARACTERS AND CALLIGRAPHY – FOREIGN LANGUAGE LEARNING

In this session, organised by the UM Department of Oriental Studies (Chinese), we will show the basic elements of Chinese writing. The Chinese

script is made up of thousands of singular characters that have been in use for millennia and still have many stories to tell. The audience will discover how a language even today can function without an alphabet, and how people can still convey deep concepts by simply using ideograms and pictograms. This session will also have a practical component where all participants can try to draw simple Chinese characters in the traditional way: using a brush and ink. – **Foreign Language Learning stand**

19:00–20:00 MEET DAVE RUDDEN – NBC

The young Irish author of the celebrated *Knights of the Borrowed Dark* fantasy trilogy Dave Rudden is being dubbed as the 'next J.K. Rowling'. He will be interviewed by Robert Pisani about his take on fantasy literature, his numerous appearances in schools talking about becoming a writer and overcoming bullying, and being trusted with reinventing the classic sci-fi saga in his book, *Twelve Angels Weeping - Twelve stories of the villains from Doctor Who*. – **Theatre Hall**

19:00–21:00 ONGOING CONSERVATION AND RESTORATION DEMO – NATIONAL LIBRARY OF MALTA RESTORATION LAB

Situated in the centre of Valletta, the National Library is one of the major treasures of the Maltese Islands. It is a reference and research library preserving the memory of the nation with collections that span the centuries from medieval times to the digital age. As the guardian of the written memory of Malta for current and future generations, the National Library promotes research and makes its vast collections available to researchers and visitors alike. Join Marco Micallef (head of the Restoration Unit) and his team for an intricate manuscript-binding demonstration, Q&A session and more. – **Malta Libraries stand**

19:00–21:00 EDITING AND PUBLISHING FOR YOUNG PEOPLE – AĠENZIJA ŻĠHAŻAGH AND NBC

An exhibition showcasing previous winning publications commemorating the ten-year collaboration between Aġenzija Żġhażagh and the National Book Council will serve as the backdrop for an editing and publishing workshop for authors who aspire to publish locally and abroad. Guest speakers: Irish publisher and writer Sarah Davis-Goff (Tramp Press) and editor Kristina Chetcuti (Merlin Publishers). With the participation of established authors. Workshop will close with the launch of Konkors Kitba Letteratura għaž-Żġhażagh 2020. – **Vassalli Hall**

19:00–20:00 BOOK PRESENTATION MALTA MEDITERRA: MY YOUTH BY DOM MINTOFF – BDL

Book presentation of Dom Mintoff's autobiography *Malta Mediterra: My Youth*. – **David Bruce Hall**

19:30–20:30 LANGUAGES ARE FUN! & EUROVISION AND BEYOND! – FOREIGN LANGUAGE LEARNING

Languages ARE fun!: We shall present several FUN language games including these five languages (taught at our school): Italian, Arabic, Spanish, German and French. The intention behind these games is to encourage more students to opt for foreign languages conveying the fact that learning languages can be fun!

Eurovision and beyond!: Several students from GCHSS, some of which are already well known, will sing several well-known songs in foreign languages (some of which ex Eurovision songs) and will also discuss the meaning behind the lyrics of these songs.

Several testimonials from ex students of GCHSS will be given during the sessions. – **Foreign Language Learning stand**

20:00–21:00 MEET JUDGE ROSEMARIE AQUILINA – NBC

Judge Rosemarie Aquilina is most notable for presiding over the USA Gymnastics sex abuse scandal in 2018 and serves on the 30th Circuit Court in the state of Michigan. She is also the author of two classic detective novels *Feel No Evil* and *Triple Cross Killer*. Speaking to *Times of Malta* editor Herman Grech, she will be discussing her legal career, Maltese ancestry and the inspiration behind her crime fiction. – **Theatre Hall**



FRIDAY

08/11

9:00–10:00 | ONGOING FRENCH MODERN AUTHORS OF MALTESE ORIGIN – FOREIGN LANGUAGE LEARNING

Given Malta's small size, it has always been important for us to learn foreign languages. In the past, Maltese individuals or writers of Maltese origins have expressed themselves in written French. Their texts reveal a beautiful mastery of the French language. During this session, organised by the UM Department of French, we will mention such individuals and explore why they chose to write in French. Usually they did not live in Malta. There will also be selected readings of their works translated in Maltese. This session, which shall be held in Maltese, is intended for secondary (Forms 3, 4, 5) and post-secondary students of French. – **Foreign Language Learning stand**

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9:30–12:30 | ONGOING MEET CLAUDIA CINI – OCTAVO

The author Claudia Cini will be engaging in a reading session from her e-books. – **Octavo stand**

10:00–11:00 | ONGOING THE WISDOM OF ARABIC PROVERBS – FOREIGN LANGUAGE LEARNING

This session, organised by the UM Department of Oriental Studies (Arabic), focuses on the linguistic relationship between the Arabic and Maltese

languages. For this purpose, a multiple-choice quiz will present a number of Arabic proverbs for possible identification by the visitors to the stand. Some of the Arabic proverbs will be quite straightforward, as they are perfectly reflected in corresponding proverbs in Maltese. Others will be of a more challenging nature. The presence, in these proverbs, of cognate Arabic and Maltese words will make it possible for visitors to guess the right answers. Successful participants will receive token gifts. – **Foreign Language Learning stand**

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11:00–12:00 | ONGOING READING THE SOUNDS OF BEAUTY – FOREIGN LANGUAGE LEARNING

In this session, organised by the UM Department of Italian, students and members of the public will be invited to read poems by famous Italian authors.

The main aim is to create a soundscape in striking contrast with the urban one to which we are accustomed. Academic staff and students of the department of Italian will help out, also through the use of video clips of readings by high-profile actors. – **Foreign Language Learning stand**

11:00–13:00 SEMINAR: TRANSLATING MINORITY LANGUAGE LITERATURE – NBC AND UM DEPARTMENT OF TRANSLATION STUDIES

The seminar, of particular interest to students of translation studies and all those interested in the intricacies of publishing, will bring together the founder of Irish indie publishing house Tramp Press, Sarah Davis-Goff, translator and academic at the University of Malta Prof. Clare Vassallo, and the author of National Book Prize winning novel *Is-Sriep Reġghu Saru Velenużi*, Alex Vella Gera. The seminar will address the challenges of bringing works from a minor language, such as Gaelic and Maltese, to a wider audience, especially when the phenomenon of code-switching is reflected or emphasised in works of fiction. – **Vassalli Hall**

12:00–13:00 ONGOING „EINS, ZWEI ODER DREI“: FUN QUIZ ABOUT GERMAN LANGUAGE AND CULTURE – FOREIGN LANGUAGE LEARNING

A fun interactive quiz about the German language and culture will be conducted by members of the Department of German. This activity is intended for children and youths; no prior knowledge of German is required. – **Foreign Language Learning stand**

17:00–21:00 MEET THE AUTHORS – FARAXA

Various Faraxa authors will be at the stand for book signing. – **Faraxa Publishers stand**

17:30–18:00 BOOK PRESENTATION – ISTITUTO ITALIANO DI CULTURA

Carlo Parini, *Mare Monstrum*. – **Istituto Italiano di Cultura stand**

17:30–18:30 ANITA ZERAFA: HISPANIC AMERICA – FOREIGN LANGUAGE LEARNING

During this session, organised by the UM Department of Spanish & Latin American Studies, visitors will familiarize themselves with the nineteen Spanish-speaking

countries found in the American continent. For this reason, besides audio-visual items on display, there will also be activities for different ages presenting geographical, environmental, historical, cultural and linguistic information about these countries in an entertaining way through puzzles, matching games, flip-cards, etc. Anita Zerafa is a member of staff of the Department of Spanish & Latin American Studies, University of Malta. – **Foreign Language Learning stand**

17:30–19:30 BOOK SIGNING SESSION WITH KENNETH GAUCI – BDL

Author Kenneth Gauci will be signing copies of his books from popular series *In-Nanna Se*. – **BDL stand**

17:45–18:30 META MMUR GĦAND SIEĦBI CARLOS – MERLIN PUBLISHERS

Activity led by Clare Azzopardi. Ages 5-8. Bookings on first-come first-served basis from info@merlinpublishers.com. – **Merlin Publishers stand**

18:00–18:30 BOOK PRESENTATION – ISTITUTO ITALIANO DI CULTURA

Umberto lacono, *Orizzonti sospesi*. – **Istituto Italiano di Cultura stand**

18:00–19:00 MEET JON COURTENAY GRIMWOOD – NBC

Malta-born British author Jon Courtenay Grimwood is a trinity of fluid literary personae. He first made his name as the author of thirteen sci-fi and fantasy novels. He is also Jonathan Grimwood, author of the culinary-obsession-driven *The Last Banquet*, set in pre-revolutionary France, and spy thriller writer Jack Grimwood. All three will be speaking to Jon Grech on the numerous real life influences behind his fictional worlds. – **Theatre Hall**

18:00–19:00 BOOK PRESENTATION: NUIT DE FEU – EMBASSY OF FRANCE IN MALTA

Presentation of the translation by Prof. Tony Aquilina of the book *Nuit the Feu* by Éric-Emmanuel Schimtt. – **David Bruce Hall**

18:00–19:00 (FAQQA') POEŽIJA (FAQGĦA) – L-GĦAQDA TAL-MALTI – UNIVERSITÀ

Everyone is invited to attend the first ever slam poetry event in Maltese in the spirit of traditional Maltese *għana* (traditional folk music). – **Activity Area La Vallette Hall**

18:00–19:00 A POETRY EVENT WITH IMMANUEL MIFSUD – NBC

A selection of Immanuel Mifsud's poetry has recently been published in English under the title *The Play of Waves* by Arc Publishers. The book won him the English PEN Award. Immanuel and his UK publisher Tony Ward will be presenting the book and discussing what it takes for Maltese poetry to enter the English-speaking publishing market. – **Vassalli Hall**

18:30–19:30 HIDDEN ASSETS OF FOREIGN LANGUAGE LEARNING #1 – FOREIGN LANGUAGE LEARNING

The Foreign Language Department within the Junior College shall host four testimonials from academics, working professionals and tertiary level students that shall tackle the importance of foreign language learning in their careers. This activity is intended for the general public. – **Foreign Language Learning stand**

18:45–19:30 IL-LUKANDA TA' MARTINA – MERLIN PUBLISHERS

Activity led by Antoinette Borg. Ages 7-9. Bookings on first-come first-served basis from info@merlinpublishers.com. – **Merlin Publishers stand**

19:00–20:00 MEET LORANNE VELLA – NBC

Loranne Vella is a Brussels-based Maltese writer, translator and performer. Between 2007-2009 she co-authored the three volumes of the *Fiddien* Trilogy. Each won the National Book Prize. Her first novel for adults, *Rokit*, was published to critical and public acclaim and won the National Book Prize in 2018. She will be interviewed by fellow author Walid Nabhan on her multidisciplinary creative career, including her upcoming collection of short stories *mill-bieb 'il ġewwa* [take a look inside (me)], due for publication in November 2019 by Ede Books. – **Theatre Hall**

19:00–20:00 BOOK PRESENTATION: GUŽE ELLUL MERCER, SOTTO IL FUOCO – ISTITUTO ITALIANO DI CULTURA

Sotto il fuoco. Malta bombardata dagli italo-tedeschi. Diario del primo anno di guerra (1940-1941) was translated from Maltese into Italian by Isabella Ellul Mercer Cefai and published by Morrone Editore (Siracusa). The presentation will be led by Arnold Cassola. – **Vassalli Hall**

19:00–20:00 'IN THE BEGINNING, THERE WAS THE IMAGE...' – GRAPHIC NOVELS LIBRARY MALTA & MALTA LIBRARIES

Lecture by Raphael Borg organised by Graphic Novels Library Malta & Malta Libraries. A brief introduction to the history of graphic storytelling and the first lecture in the series of GNLM Public Library Lectures. This session will lay the foundations for all the consequent sessions, giving us insight on the evolution of comics, with a particular bearing on the mainstream. – **Malta Libraries stand**

19:00–21:00 ONGOING CONSERVATION AND RESTORATION DEMO – NATIONAL LIBRARY OF MALTA RESTORATION LAB

Situated in the centre of Valletta, the National Library is one of the major treasures of the Maltese Islands. It is a reference and research library preserving the memory of the nation with collections that span the centuries from medieval times to the digital age. As the guardian of the written memory of Malta for current and future generations, the National Library promotes research and makes its vast collections available to researchers and visitors alike. Join Marco Micallef (head of the Restoration Unit) and his team for an intricate manuscript-binding demonstration, Q&A session and more. – **Malta Libraries stand**

19:30–20:30 BOOK LAUNCH: QUEST OF THE MALTESE ŻAQQ BY KARL PARTRIDGE – MIDSEA

During the Seventies a study was carried out on the Maltese żaqq and its bagpipers. This seminal work on this traditional Maltese musical instrument remained unknown until the project was taken up by the National Archives and together with the help of the book fund by the Malta Book Council, Midsea Books will be publishing this book. – **David Bruce Hall**

19:30–20:30 IT ALL SOUNDS CHINESE TO ME! THE MELODIC CHARACTERISTICS OF MANDARIN – FOREIGN LANGUAGE LEARNING

Mandarin Chinese is a tonal language: the same syllables can be pronounced with a different pitch tone in order to differentiate their meaning. In this session, organised by the UM Department of Oriental Studies (Chinese), the audience will hear the sounds of Mandarin and attempt to discern the four tones through some quizzes and games. – **Foreign Language Learning stand**

19:00–20:30 IL-KOTBA JIEĦDU L-ĦAJJA (BOOKS COME TO LIFE) – DANUSAN

The popular comedy duo DANUSAN and the National Book Council have once again teamed up to present a family-friendly show celebrating stories and reading. The performances of 'Il-Kotba Jieħdu l-Ħajja' will bring the hilarious touch of DANUSAN to award-winning works for children and young adults. Tickets starting at €5 are on sale at showshappening.com. – **Republic Hall**

19:30–21:00 HISTORICAL FICTION IN THE MEDITERRANEAN – SPANISH EMBASSY AND NBC

Historical fiction is increasingly popular and often a great source of inspiration for cinematic adaptations. The Mediterranean's history, no less, has proven an endless treasure trove for a writers' imagination drawn on in Alfred Sant's the epic-historical novel *La Bidu, La Tmiem, 1599* (PEG, 2001) and Jon Courtenay Grimwood's alternate history Arabesk trilogy. At the invitation of the Spanish Embassy in Malta, Grimwood and Sant will be joined by award-winning Spanish writer Jorge Molist to discuss the historical and mythical connections that make the Mediterranean and literature's usefulness to connect us to our histories. Molist will also be presenting his upcoming novel, set around the 13th century Mediterranean and an important chapter for Maltese-Spanish relations - the 1283 Battle of Malta between the Aragonese navy, commanded by Admiral Roger de Lauria, and the French Angevins armed by Charles of Anjou. The discussion will be moderated by Maltese historian Vincent Zammit. – **Activity Area La Vallette Hall**

20:00–21:00 AWARD CEREMONY: DOREEN MICALLEF NATIONAL POETRY CONTEST – NBC

NBC Chairman Mark Camilleri will be announcing the winning entries of the first edition of the Doreen Micallef National Poetry Contest, named in honour of the confessional Maltese language poet. The announcement will be followed by an intimate set of poetry readings by Nadia Mifsud, and Louis Briffa. – **Theatre Hall**

20:15–21:30 BOOK PRESENTATION: ALESSANDRO BASILE, BLOCKCHAIN: LA NUOVA RIVOLUZIONE INDUSTRIALE – ISTITUTO ITALIANO DI CULTURA AND MALTESE-ITALIAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Book presentation of Blockchain: La nuova Rivoluzione Industriale, organised by the Istituto Italiano di Culturo and the Maltese-Italian Chamber of Commerce, will be led by the author, Alessandro Basile. – **Vassalli Hall**

20:30–22:00 THOSE DARNED GREEK NAMES! – FOREIGN LANGUAGE LEARNING

The translation of classical Greek and Roman proper names has been a perennial problem to translators of every language, including Maltese. This session, organised by UM Department of Classics and Archaeology, is open to the general public and discusses how previous Maltese translators have dealt with the difficulty and proposes a number of measures for better uniformity and standardisation. – **Foreign Language Learning stand**



Il-Kotba Jieħdu l-Ħajja will be held at Republic Hall, MCC.
The tickets for the three shows (Friday 8 Nov at 7pm, Saturday 9 Nov at 8pm and Sunday 10 Nov at 3pm) are now available for sale from ktieb.org.mt and showshappening.com.
The starting price is 5€.

SATURDAY

09/11

9:30–10:30 MALTA AND SPAIN... WHAT DO WE HAVE IN COMMON? – FOREIGN LANGUAGE LEARNING

Malta and Spain have walked parallel paths along the centuries. At first glance these two countries might look different in many ways yet they share many similarities. An overview of the historical, cultural and linguistic aspects that reflect this reality. Activity led by Antoinette Zammit Bugeja is a member of staff of the Department of Spanish & Latin American Studies, University of Malta. – **Foreign Language Learning stand**

9:30–11:00 ONGOING MEET CHARLES B. SPITERI – BDL

Author Charles B. Spiteri will be meeting the public and signing his books on stand. – **BDL stand**

9:45–10:30 IR-REGOLI TA' DANNY – MERLIN PUBLISHERS

Activity led by Claudia Gauci. Ages 4-6. Bookings on first-come first-served basis from info@merlinpublishers.com. – **Merlin Publishers stand**

10:00–11:00 'AQRA MIEGHI/READ WITH ME' – NATIONAL LITERACY AGENCY

An 'Aqra Miegħi/Read with Me' one-hour storytelling session in English organised by the National Literacy Agency within the Ministry of Education and Employment. The session will include the sharing of storybooks, singing of nursery rhymes and other fun activities for babies and toddlers. – **Activity Area La Vallette Hall**

10:00–11:00 'SEHER L-ISTEJJER/THE MAGIC OF STORIES' – NATIONAL LITERACY AGENCY

A 'Seher l-Istejjer/The Magic of Stories' reading-for-fun session in Maltese organised by the National Literacy Agency within the Ministry of

Education and Employment aimed at children aged 4 to 7 years. Storybooks will be animated in a way which stimulates the children's imagination, motivating children to read books for fun and encourage parents to read and share books with their children. – **Activity Area La Vallette Hall**

10:00–12:00 MEET MIREILLE SCICLUNA – OCTAVO

Author Mireille Scicluna, one of the leading voices of Octavo, will conduct a reading session for children – **Octavo stand**

10:00–12:00 BOOK READING AND CREATIVITY SESSIONS FOR CHILDREN IN COLLABORATION WITH ŻEBBUĠ LEARNING STUDIO – FARAXA PUBLISHING

Parents and children are invited to discover the pleasure of stories followed by activities such as games and crafts to enhance comprehension. Children will develop their fine motor, hand-eye coordination, social, emotional, language, numeracy and creativity competences while having lots of fun. Children's authors Florina Silvio, author of *The Pin and the Tin*, and Naila N., author of *The Giraffe's New Scarf*, will be present at the stand. – **Faraxa Publishing stand**

10:00–12:30 ONGOING LANGUAGE ACTIVITIES – GERMAN-MALTESE CIRCLE / UM DEPARTMENT OF GERMAN

Writing Competition: Organised in advance of the Festival; winners will be announced at the Festival and best entries displayed at the stand. Quiz: One question will be chosen for this quiz to be completed at the stand.

Facts about Germany / German in Malta: "Did you know that...?" Ongoing Power Point presentation about interesting facts about German language and culture / Second Power Point presentation with images of traces of German in Malta.

Germany from above: "Deutschland von oben" (documentary) – Experience Germany from the Baltic Sea to the Alps from a bird's eye view. Don't miss out on these beautiful images!

German-English word pairs: Due to their Germanic origin, English and German are surprisingly similar. So-called 'Cognates' show that you already know more German than you might be aware of. Try the Word Match game! For those with some knowledge of German, there will also be an advanced level game. – **German-Maltese Circle and UM Department of Malta stand**

10:30–11:30 „EINS, ZWEI ODER DREI“: FUN QUIZ ABOUT GERMAN LANGUAGE AND CULTURE – FOREIGN LANGUAGE LEARNING

A fun interactive quiz about the German language and culture will be conducted by members of the Department of German. This activity is intended for children and youths; no prior knowledge of German is required.

– **Foreign Language Learning stand**

10:45–11:30 NEW CHILDREN'S BOOKS – MERLIN PUBLISHERS

Activity for children. Ages 7-9. Bookings on first-come first-served basis from info@merlinpublishers.com. – **Merlin Publishers stand**

11:00–12:30 ONGOING MEET SHARON CALLEJA – BDL

Author Sharon Calleja will be meeting the public and signing her books at the stand. – **BDL stand**

11:00–11:30 BOOK PRESENTATION – ISTITUTO ITALIANO DI CULTURA

Angelo Magnano, *Diario di Bordo*. – **Istituto Italiano di Cultura stand**

11:30–12:00 BOOK PRESENTATION – ISTITUTO ITALIANO DI CULTURA

Vittoria De Marco Veneziano, *Vivian, Maxima... e le altre donne*. – **Istituto Italiano di Cultura stand**

11:30–12:30 EPIPHANIES FROM FOREIGN LITERATURE(S) #1 – FOREIGN LANGUAGE LEARNING

A panel of lecturers from the Foreign Language Department within the Junior College shall recite, discover and discuss the beauty of a short poem in Italian, French, German and Spanish, whilst revealing the multi-faceted layers of meaning and motifs in the text. This activity is intended for the general public with a keen interest in literature. – **Foreign Language Learning stand**

11:45–12:30 NEW CHILDREN'S BOOKS – MERLIN PUBLISHERS

Activity for children. Ages 8-10. Bookings on first-come first-served basis from info@merlinpublishers.com. – **Merlin Publishers stand**

12:30–13:30 „EINS, ZWEI ODER DREI“: FUN QUIZ ABOUT GERMAN LANGUAGE AND CULTURE – FOREIGN LANGUAGE LEARNING

A fun interactive quiz about the German language and culture will be conducted by members of the Department of German. This activity is intended for children and youths; no prior knowledge of German is required.

– **Foreign Language Learning stand**

13:30–14:30 WRITING AND TRANSLATION WORKSHOP – FOREIGN LANGUAGE LEARNING

During this practical workshop organised by the UM Department of French, we will be looking at a selection of short texts in French (microfiction, short stories, short francophone plays) in order to discuss their problematic translation aspects and how the translator can solve such issues. This session is intended for an audience with prior knowledge of French. – **Foreign Language Learning stand**

14:00 & 15:00 THE TOWN MUSICIANS OF BREMEN: A FAIRY TALE CONCERT – GERMAN-MALTESE CIRCLE / UM DEPARTMENT OF GERMAN

During this activity, children will immerse in the fairy tale world by the famous Brothers Grimm and their narrative the *Town Musicians of Bremen* by actively creating the background sound to the story while learning about the adventures of a donkey, a dog, a cat and a rooster leaving their homes to become town musicians in Bremen. Afterwards, groups will have the possibility to participate in a small handicraft activity. – **Activity Area La Vallette Hall**

14:00–16:00 BOOK READING AND CREATIVITY SESSIONS FOR CHILDREN IN COLLABORATION WITH ŽEBBUĠ LEARNING STUDIO – FARAXA PUBLISHING

Parents and children are invited to discover the pleasure of stories followed by activities such as games and crafts to enhance comprehension. Children will develop their fine motor, hand-eye coordination, social, emotional, language, numeracy and creativity competences while having lots of fun. – **Faraxa Publishing stand**

14:30–15:30 CHINESE PAPER CUTTING AND TRADITIONAL KNOTS – FOREIGN LANGUAGE LEARNING

As a folk art, the final session at the Malta Book Festival organised by the UM Department of Oriental Studies (Chinese), will invite the audience to participate in the traditional art of paper cutting and folding as well as in the making of traditional Chinese knots. Paper cutting and Chinese knots are part of the traditional festivals, which express the happiness of family reunion and good wishes for the future. The audience will be introduced to Chinese festivals, for example, Spring Festival, and may take part in a DIY workshop. – **Foreign Language Learning stand**

15:15–15:45 MIKELIN – MERLIN PUBLISHERS

Activity led by Sandra Hili Vassallo. Ages 3-6. Bookings on first-come first-served basis from info@merlinpublishers.com. – **Merlin Publishers stand**

15:30–16:30 HELP ME FIND CHRISTMAS!, TRAVEL THE WORLD!, EUROVISION AND BEYOND! – FOREIGN LANGUAGE LEARNING

Help me find Christmas!: The student/participant has to find words related to Christmas in a grid in the five languages mentioned here. In the case of Arabic, words are written in phonetic script.

Travel the world!: The participant is presented with several pictures depicting famous landmarks, personalities, typical dishes, products and Christmas traditions; he/she will then have to sort them according to the five language groups.

Eurovision and beyond!: Several students from GCHSS, some of which are already well known, will sing several well-known songs in foreign languages (some of which ex Eurovision songs) and will also discuss the meaning behind the lyrics of these songs.

Several testimonials from ex students of GCHSS will be given during the sessions. – **Foreign Language Learning stand**

16:00–16:30 NICKY FARRUGIA IR-RAĠEL TAL-ĦADID – MERLIN PUBLISHERS

Activity led by Antoinette Borg and Nicky Farrugia. Ages 7-9. Bookings on first-come first-served basis from info@merlinpublishers.com. – **Merlin Publishers stand**

16:00–17:00 BOOK PRESENTATION – EMBASSY OF FRANCE IN MALTA AND FARAXA PUBLISHING

Meet Elizabeth Guyon Spennato, French-Maltese author of the children's book *The Dream Life of Little Paul*, published by Faraxa Publishing. Guyon will be introducing her book telling the story of Paul, a young Maltese boy with poor health, who reads a lot and dreams of fantastic adventures. –

Activity Area La Vallette Hall

16:00–17:30 BOOK SIGNING SESSION WITH KENNETH GAUCI – BDL

Author Kenneth Gauci will be signing copies of his books from popular series *In-Nanna Se*. – **BDL stand**

16:30–17:30 ITALIAN LINGUISTICS – FOREIGN LANGUAGE LEARNING

Five courses are on offer explaining the development of the Italian language from its Latin origins, its relationship with the dialects of Italy and with foreign languages, and the various ways it is written and spoken today. The session, organised by the UM Department of Italian, will briefly illustrate these aspects and will also underline the relevance of Italian to the study of Maltese History (having been an official and cultural language here for 700 years) and of the Maltese Language (60% of our vocabulary comes from Sicilian and Italian). This activity is intended for post-secondary students and for the general public. –

Foreign Language Learning stand

16:45–17:30 ĠOJJELL U S-SAHHARA – MERLIN PUBLISHERS

Activity led by Clare Azzopardi. Ages 5-8. Bookings on first-come first-served basis from info@merlinpublishers.com. – **Merlin Publishers stand**

17:00–18:00 BOOK PRESENTATION – ISTITUTO ITALIANO DI CULTURA

Salvo Salerno, *Il tuo sguardo lontanissimo*. – **Istituto Italiano di Cultura stand**

17:00–18:00 GHAQDA TAL-MALTI LAUNCHES LEHEN IL-MALTI – GHAQDA TAL-MALTI – UNIVERSITÀ

The Ghaqda tal-Malti – Università will host the launch of the 38th edition of

Leġen il-Malti, which has been published since 1931. Some of the writers will also be present to read their work. The Editorial Board of edition number 39 and the call for entries will be announced. The event will be followed by a wine reception. – **Activity Area La Vallette Hall**

17:30–18:30 MALTA AND SPAIN... WHAT DO WE HAVE IN COMMON? – FOREIGN LANGUAGE LEARNING

Malta and Spain have walked parallel paths along the centuries. At first glance these two countries might look different in many ways yet they share many similarities. An overview of the historical, cultural and linguistic aspects that reflect this reality. Activity led by Antoinette Zammit Bugeja is a member of staff of the Department of Spanish & Latin American Studies, University of Malta. – **Foreign Language Learning stand**

17:30–19:00 ONGOING MEET CHARLES MICALLEF ST. JOHN – BDL

Author Charles Micallef St. John will be meeting the public and signing his books at the stand. – **BDL stand**

17:45–18:30 KOTBA ĠODDA MIS-SENSIELA IVA NASAL! – MERLIN PUBLISHERS

Activity led by Trevor Zahra. Ages 4-7. Bookings on first-come first-served basis from info@merlinpublishers.com. – **Merlin Publishers stand**

18:00–19:00 BOOK LAUNCH: BIL-BIEB MITBUQ – PJATTAFORMA

Official launch of Kevin Saliba's Maltese translation of Jean-Paul Sartre's play *Huis Clos* (No Exit). The translator will produce the play at Spazju Kreattiv in May 2020 in collaboration with theatre director Tyrone Grima. The event will include a discussion on the Maltese translation of the text and the main philosophical themes of the play. Saliba, Grima, book publisher Pjattaforma and other distinguished speakers will be leading the discussion, while some members of the cast will read several excerpts of the script. – **David Bruce Hall**

18:00–19:00 BOOK PRESENTATION – ISTITUTO ITALIANO DI CULTURA

Jacques Derrida, *Tentazioni di Siracusa*. – **Istituto Italiano di Cultura stand**

18:00–20:00 ONGOING CONSERVATION AND RESTORATION DEMO – NATIONAL LIBRARY OF MALTA RESTORATION LAB

Situated in the centre of Valletta, the National Library is one of the major treasures of the Maltese Islands. It is a reference and research library preserving the memory of the nation with collections that span the centuries from medieval times to the digital age. As the guardian of the written memory of Malta for current and future generations, the National Library promotes research and makes its vast collections available to researchers and visitors alike. Join Marco Micallef (head of the Restoration Unit) and his team for an intricate manuscript-binding demonstration, Q&A session and more. – **Malta Libraries stand**

18:30–19:30 A TASTE OF FRENCH CINEMA – FOREIGN LANGUAGE LEARNING

French cinema has shaped film-making around the world where it is considered to be the "seventh art". During this session, organised by the department of French, the audience will be able to familiarize themselves with a variety of key French films through a quiz activity based on short film trailers. This session is open to the general public. The winner will be awarded a book on French cinema. – **Foreign Language Learning stand**

18:45–19:30 ŻANŻAN KELMA – MERLIN PUBLISHERS

Meet the authors: Clare Azzopardi and Leanne Ellul. Ages 8-10. – **Merlin Publishers stand**

19:00–20:00 THE END AND THE BEGINNING. MALTA, THE ORDER OF ST. JOHN, AND EUROPE AROUND 1800; A GERMAN PERSPECTIVE – GERMAN-MALTESE CIRCLE / UM DEPARTMENT OF GERMAN

During this session, organised by the German-Maltese Circle, Dr Thomas Freller will talk about the end and the beginning of Malta, the Order of St. John and Europe around year 1800, from the German point of view. – **Activity Area La Vallette Hall**

19:00–20:00 BOOK PRESENTATION – ISTITUTO ITALIANO DI CULTURA

Giorgio Vitari, *Il vestito nuovo del procuratore*. – **Istituto Italiano di Cultura stand**

19:00–20:00 THE RIOTS OF 1919 - 100 YEARS ON – MIDSEA BOOKS

The events leading to and following the 1919 riots are still shrouded in controversy, conjecture and sometimes speculation. During this centenary, Klabb Kotba Maltin has commemorated this anniversary with two superb publications – one with the documented account of what actually happened by Paul Bartolo and the other with a commentary edited by Henry Frendo. The event will discuss the riots, their effect and the books. – **Theatre Hall**

19:00–20:00 'A IS A - THE GOLD AND SILVER AGES AND MORAL ABSOLUTISM' – GRAPHIC NOVELS LIBRARY MALTA & MALTA LIBRARIES

Lecture by Raphael Borg organised by Graphic Novels Library Malta & Malta Libraries. The Gold and Silver age - the good ol' days! A simpler time with simpler morals... or were they? A discussion focusing on the rose-tinted lens through which we see the "good old days". Is it at all justified or does context bear more weight? The lecture will focus on: *New Gods, Mister Miracle and Machine Man* by Jack Kirby, *Marvel Visionaries: Steve Ditko, Ditko's Mr. A.: The 50th Anniversary Series*, *Amazing Fantastic Incredible: A Marvelous Memoir* by Stan Lee and other Stan Lee comics. – **Malta Libraries stand**

19:00–22:00 MEET RONALD BUGEJA – BDL

Author Ronald Bugeja will be at the stand to sign copies of his book for the public. – **BDL stand**

19:00–22:30 ONGOING CONSERVATION AND RESTORATION DEMO – NATIONAL LIBRARY OF MALTA RESTORATION LAB

Situated in the centre of Valletta, the National Library is one of the major treasures of the Maltese Islands. It is a reference and research library preserving the memory of the nation with collections that span the centuries from medieval times to the digital age. As the guardian of the written memory of Malta for current and future generations, the National Library promotes research and makes its vast collections available to researchers and visitors alike. Join Marco Micallef (head of the Restoration Unit) and his team for an intricate manuscript-binding demonstration, Q&A session and more. – **Malta Libraries stand**

19:30–20:00 MEET THE AUTHORS – MERLIN PUBLISHERS

Meet the authors: Charles Casha, Carmel G. Cauchi and Prof. Carmel Borg

and illustrator Frank Schembri. Ages 8+ – **Merlin Publishers stand**

19:30–20:30 EVERYONE KNOWS SOME LATIN! – FOREIGN LANGUAGE LEARNING

This fun, interactive workshop organised by the UM Department of Classics and Archaeology will consist in the presentation, reading, and translation of selections from classical Latin Literature in the original language. By the end of the workshop, participants will realize their knowledge of Latin is better than they previously thought. No prior knowledge of Latin needed. – **Foreign Language Learning stand**

19:30–21:30 MEET LOU DROFENIK AND JOHN PORTELLI, AND THEIR EXCITING NEW TITLES – HORIZONS

Book launch of two of Horizon's best authors, who both live abroad. Lou Drofenik's new novel *Echoes: Distant Voices, Distant Lives* and John Portelli's short stories *L-Itra ta' Osama u stejjer oħra* will be launched during the same event. – **David Bruce Hall**

20:00–20:30 MEET THE AUTHORS – MERLIN PUBLISHERS

Meet the authors: Roberta Bajada, Audrey Friggieri and Simone Inguanez. Ages 8+. – **Merlin Publishers stand**

20:00–21:30 IL-KOTBA JIEHĦDU L-ĦAJJA (BOOKS COME TO LIFE) – DANUSAN

The popular comedy duo DANUSAN and the National Book Council have once again teamed up to present a family-friendly show celebrating stories and reading. The performances of 'Il-Kotba Jieħdu l-Ħajja' will bring the hilarious touch of DANUSAN to award-winning works for children and young adults. Tickets starting at €5 are on sale at showshappening.com. – **Republic Hall**

20:15–21:30 MEET ALBERTO OSTINI – ISTITUTO ITALIANO DI CULTURA

Writer Alberto Ostini will meet the public to discuss his career as cartoonist and screenwriter. He will be interviewed by Fabrizio Foni and Prof. Irene Incarico. – **Activity Area La Vallette Hall**

20:30–21:00 MEET THE AUTHORS – MERLIN PUBLISHERS

Meet the authors: John A Bonello, Dwayne Ellul and Simone Spiteri. Ages 8+. – **Merlin Publishers stand**

20:30–21:30 SHORT- FILM PREMIERES – NBC

The NBC will be premiering two short-film productions featuring adaptations from the works of Alfred Sant. *Ġulina*, directed by Peter Sant, is an adaptation of the short-story of the same name published in the collection *Pupu fil-Baħar - Rakkonti u Divertimenti* (SKS, 2009) and produced as part of the NBC Literary Short-Film Contest. As part of the new docudrama series *Storja ta' Storja*, production company Sajjetta will also be presenting the first episode of the series focusing on the work of Alfred Sant, directed by Charlie Cauchi and Martin Bonnici. The screenings will be in the presence of Dr. Alfred Sant and the directors, and followed by a Q&A. On the same evening the NBC will also be announcing the name of the project awarded with the NBC Feature Film Adaptation Fund. – **Theatre Hall**



MALTA BOOK FESTIVAL 2019

FREE SHUTTLE SERVICE

to the **Malta Book Festival** at the Mediterranean Conference Centre!

SCHEDULE	
WEEKDAYS	WEEKEND
Wednesday 6, Thursday 7 and Friday 8 November	Saturday 9 and Sunday 10 November
🕒 From 5:30–10 pm every 30 minutes (2 buses)	🕒 From 8:30am–10 pm every 30 minutes (2 buses)

🚌 Shuttle departs from Bay A, Bus Terminus, Valletta

SUNDAY 10/11

9:45–10:30 **IL-KAPT'N SHARKY – MERLIN PUBLISHERS**

Activity led by Kit Azzopardi. Ages 7-9 (on the Merlin Publishers' stand). Bookings on first-come first-served basis from info@merlinpublishers.com. – **Merlin Publishers stand**

10:00 & 11:00 **THE TOWN MUSICIANS OF BREMEN: A FAIRY TALE CONCERT – GERMAN-MALTESE CIRCLE**

During this activity, children will immerse in the fairy tale world by the famous Brothers Grimm and their narrative the *Town Musicians of Bremen* by actively creating the background sound to the story while learning about the adventures of a donkey, a dog, a cat and a rooster leaving their homes to become town musicians in Bremen. Afterwards, groups will have the possibility to participate in a small handicraft activity. – **Activity Area La Vallette Hall**

10:00–11:00 **MEET THE AUTHOR – FARAXA PUBLISHING**

Kirsten Spiteri will be on stand for a book signing session with his latest Young Adult publication *In the Land of Marigolds*. – **Faraxa Publishing stand**

10:00–12:00 **BOOK READING AND CREATIVITY SESSIONS FOR CHILDREN IN COLLABORATION WITH ŻEBBUĠ LEARNING STUDIO – FARAXA PUBLISHING**

Parents and children are invited to discover the pleasure of stories followed by activities such as games and crafts to enhance comprehension. Children will develop their fine motor, hand-eye coordination, social, emotional, language, numeracy and creativity competences while having lots of fun. Children's author Elizabeth Guyon Spennato will be present on the stand to read from her book *The Dream Life of Little Paul*. – **Faraxa Publishing stand**

10:00–12:00 MEET MIREILLE SCICLUNA – OCTAVO

Author Mireille Scicluna, one of the leading voices of Octavo, will conduct a reading session for children – **Octavo stand**

10:00–12:30 ONGOING LANGUAGE ACTIVITIES – GERMAN-MALTESE CIRCLE / UM DEPARTMENT OF GERMAN

Writing Competition: Organised in advance of the Festival; winners will be announced at the Festival and best entries displayed at the stand. Quiz: One question will be chosen for this quiz to be completed at the stand. F

acts about Germany / German in Malta: "Did you know that...?" Ongoing Power Point presentation about interesting facts about German language and culture / Second Power Point presentation with images of traces of German in Malta.

Germany from above: "Deutschland von oben" (documentary) – Experience Germany from the Baltic Sea to the Alps from a bird's eye view. Don't miss out on these beautiful images!

German-English word pairs: Due to their Germanic origin, English and German are surprisingly similar. So-called 'Cognates' show that you already know more German than you might be aware of. Try the Word Match game! For those with some knowledge of German, there will also be an advanced level game. – **German-Maltese Circle and UM Department of Malta stand**

10:30–11:30 FRENCH QUIZ – FOREIGN LANGUAGE LEARNING

A fun interactive quiz about French language and culture will be conducted by students of the Department of French. This activity is intended for the general public, especially young learners of French.. – **Foreign Language Learning stand**

10:45–11:30 NOÈ U L-ISKOJJATTU BLA KWIET – MERLIN PUBLISHERS

Activity led by Stephanie Bugeja and Leanne Ellul. (Ages 7-10). Bookings on first-come first-served basis from info@merlinpublishers.com. – **Merlin Publishers stand**

11:30–12:30 EPIPHANIES FROM FOREIGN LITERATURE(S) #2 – FOREIGN LANGUAGE LEARNING

A panel of lecturers from the Foreign Language Department within the Junior College shall read, discover and discuss the beauty of a short text of prose in

Italian, French, German and Spanish, whilst revealing the multi-faceted layers of meaning and motifs in the text. This activity is intended for the general public with a keen interest in literature. – **Foreign Language Learning stand**

11:45–12:30 NEW CHILDREN'S BOOKS – MERLIN PUBLISHERS

Activity for children. Ages 7-9. Bookings on first-come first-served basis from info@merlinpublishers.com. – **Merlin Publishers stand**

12:30–13:30 HOW WELL CAN YOU READ ME?, EUROVISION AND BEYOND! – FOREIGN LANGUAGE LEARNING

How well can you read me?: Several other games and tasks based on knowledge of culture and different language skills, will be presented to the participants. The aim of these games is to test one's four skills mainly reading, writing, listening and speaking.

Eurovision and beyond!: Several students from GCHSS, some of which are already well known, will sing several well-known songs in foreign languages (some of which ex Eurovision songs) and will also discuss the meaning behind the lyrics of these songs.

Several testimonials from ex students of GCHSS will be given during the sessions. – **Foreign Language Learning stand**

13:30–14:30 „EINS, ZWEI ODER DREI“: FUN QUIZ ABOUT GERMAN LANGUAGE AND CULTURE – FOREIGN LANGUAGE LEARNING

A fun interactive quiz about the German language and culture will be conducted by members of the Department of German. This activity is intended for children and youths; no prior knowledge of German is required. – **Foreign Language Learning stand**

14:00–16:00 BOOK READING AND CREATIVITY SESSIONS FOR CHILDREN IN COLLABORATION WITH ŽEBBUĠ LEARNING STUDIO – FARAXA PUBLISHING

Parents and children are invited to discover the pleasure of stories followed by activities such as games and crafts to enhance comprehension. Children will develop their fine motor, hand-eye coordination, social, emotional, language, numeracy and creativity competences while having lots of fun. – **Faraxa Publishing stand**

14:30–15:30 LAS SINSOMBRERO, A TRANSMEDIA PROJECT – FOREIGN LANGUAGE LEARNING

This session will present and analyse the Transmedia project Las Sinsombrero. The latter aims to revive, disseminate and perpetuate the legacy of the women of the Generación del 27 in a bid to redress their exclusion from the Spanish national, cultural and epistemological references, thus completing a distorted and fragmentary culture.

Led by Alessia Cilia Portelli, a member of staff of the Department of Spanish & Latin American Studies, University of Malta. – **Foreign Language Learning stand**

15:00–16:30 IL-KOTBA JIEHĦDU L-ĦAJJA (BOOKS COME TO LIFE) – DANUSAN

The popular comedy duo DANUSAN and the National Book Council have once again teamed up to present a family-friendly show celebrating stories and reading. The performances of 'Il-Kotba Jieħdu l-Ħajja' will bring the hilarious touch of DANUSAN to award-winning works for children and young adults. Tickets starting at €5 are on sale at showshappening.com. – **Republic Hall**

15:15–15:45 ĠANNI JŻUR RUMA – MERLIN PUBLISHERS

Activity led by Sherise Zammit. Ages 3-6. Bookings on first-come first-served basis from info@merlinpublishers.com. – **Merlin Publishers stand**

15:30–16:30 „EINS, ZWEI ODER DREI“: FUN QUIZ ABOUT GERMAN LANGUAGE AND CULTURE – FOREIGN LANGUAGE LEARNING

A fun interactive quiz about the German language and culture will be conducted by members of the Department of German. This activity is intended for children and youths; no prior knowledge of German is required. – **Foreign Language Learning stand**

16:00–16:30 LUPU LUPETTU JOHĦLOM BL-OĊĖAN – MERLIN PUBLISHERS

Activity led by Clare Azzopardi. Ages 5-8. Bookings on first-come first-served basis from info@merlinpublishers.com. – **Merlin Publishers stand**

16:00–17:00 MEET THE AUTHOR – FARAXA PUBLISHING

Meet the author: Jennifer Spagnol will be at the stand to sign copies of her latest book *Isabelle*. – **Faraxa Publishing stand**

16:00–18:00 MEET URSOLA BORG – BDL

Author Ursola Borg will be signing copies of her books from popular series *Sika u ir-Raħal tan-Nani* – **Octavo stand**

16:30–17:30 HIDDEN ASSETS OF FOREIGN LANGUAGE LEARNING #2 – FOREIGN LANGUAGE LEARNING

The Foreign Language Department within the Junior College shall host four testimonials from academics, working professionals and tertiary level students that shall tackle the importance of foreign language learning in their careers. This activity is intended for the general public. – **Foreign Language Learning stand**

16:45–17:30 NEW CHILDREN'S BOOKS – MERLIN PUBLISHERS

Activity for children. Ages 5-9. Bookings on first-come first-served basis from info@merlinpublishers.com. – **Merlin Publishers stand**

17:00–18:00 BOOK PRESENTATION – FRENCH EMBASSY AND FARAXA PUBLISHING

Meet Elizabeth Guyon Spennato, French-Maltese author of the children's book *The Dream Life of Little Paul*, published by Faraxa Publishing. Guyon will be introducing her book telling the story of Paul, a young Maltese boy with poor health, who reads a lot and dreams of fantastic adventures. – **Activity Area La Vallette Hall**

17:00–18:30 CELEBRATING LILLIAN SCIBERRAS – NBC AND MALTA LIBRARIES

Dr. Lillian Sciberras' contributions to Maltese literary culture as an author, librarian and a pioneering researcher in the field of library studies have been recognised with the 2018 National Book Prize Lifetime Achievement Award. Over the course of an event dedicated to the author, audiences will have the opportunity to appreciate her work and get to know her better. Lillian Sciberras will be present for a panel discussion, selected readings, and the screening of a new short documentary on the author by Charlie Cauchi, followed by a Q&A session with the public. – **Theatre Hall**

17:30–18:30 A TASTE OF ITALIAN CINEMA – FOREIGN LANGUAGE LEARNING

The Department of Italian offers various courses on Italian cinema, starting from the inception of this artistic discipline through postwar neorealism, and continuing to the contemporary scenario. During this session, the audience will be able to experience some of the magic that Italian filmmakers have created through the decades in a montage of sequences taken from globally acclaimed Italian films as well as others which deserve more recognition. A brief presentation by the lecturers of the department will accompany the screening. – **Foreign Language Learning stand**

17:45–18:30 KOTBA ĠODDA MIS-SENSIELA IVA NASAL! – MERLIN PUBLISHERS

Activity led by Trevor Zahra. Ages 4-7. Bookings on first-come first-served basis from info@merlinpublishers.com. – **Merlin Publishers stand**

18:00–20:00 ONGOING CONSERVATION AND RESTORATION DEMO – NATIONAL LIBRARY OF MALTA RESTORATION LAB

Situated in the centre of Valletta, the National Library is one of the major treasures of the Maltese Islands. It is a reference and research library preserving the memory of the nation with collections that span the centuries from medieval times to the digital age. As the guardian of the written memory of Malta for current and future generations, the National Library promotes research and makes its vast collections available to researchers and visitors alike. Join Marco Micallef (head of the Restoration Unit) and his team for an intricate manuscript-binding demonstration, Q&A session and more. – **Malta Libraries stand**

18:00–19:00 BOOK LAUNCH: *O.B.E.* – MIDSEA BOOKS & KLABB KOTBA MALTIN

Klabb Kotba Maltin is presenting Rita Saliba's latest novel *O.B.E.* "There are times when we feel detached from our bodies, we see ourselves from a distance, leaving our life as if it was never ours... but the past will also come back to haunt us with what we did yesterday and... with what we did... today." – **Activity Area La Vallette Hall**

18:00–19:00 BOOK PRESENTATION – ISTITUTO ITALIANO DI CULTURA

Giuliano Turone, *Italia occulta. Dal delitto Moro alla strage di Bologna*. – **Istituto Italiano di Cultura stand**

18:00–20:00 MEET MARK CALLEJA – BDL

Author Mark Calleja, winner of the Konkors Letterarju – Kitba għaż-Żgħażaġh 2018 with *Karma Red*, will be at the stand to sign copies of his book for the public. – **BDL stand**

18:30–19:30 FAC PERICULUM IN MYTHOLOGIA – FOREIGN LANGUAGE LEARNING

In this session, organised by the UM Department of Classics and Archaeology, participants of all ages are invited to join us in games which will put their knowledge of classical mythology and literature to test. Questions may even involve a nice little phrase in Latin or Greek to unravel. The winner will get a lovely book on Latin proverbs. – **Foreign Language Learning stand**

19:00–20:00 BOOK PRESENTATION – ISTITUTO ITALIANO DI CULTURA

Gianni Oliva, *Anni di Piombo e di Tritolo*. – **Istituto Italiano di Cultura stand**

19:00–20:00 MEET WALID NABHAN – MIDSEA BOOKS & KLABB KOTBA MALTIN

Walid has now established himself as one of the main authors of Maltese contemporary literature. Although not Maltese by birth, his mastery of the language is such that his stories intrigue and fascinate. During this event Walid will also be launching his latest collection of short stories. Walid is the winner of the 2017 European Union Prize for Literature. – **Activity Area La Vallette Hall**

EXHIBITORS



AGENDA BOOKSHOP

Agenda Bookshop operates as the leading books and magazines retailer and is a household name in Malta. The Agenda Bookshop stores are located in high profile, heavy footfall areas such as the Malta International Airport, the Malta University Campus and the main shopping malls. Offering the very latest International best sellers and a wide selection of new titles on a daily basis, our offer is as wide and deep as would be expected of leading bookshops in the UK.

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The Ahmadiyya Muslim Jamaat is a religious and humanitarian organisation. It encourages dialogue between different religions and believes in freedom of religion. It encompasses the principles of peace, tolerance, love and respect between followers of different beliefs. Its motto is: "Love for All, Hatred For None". The Ahmadiyya Muslim Community is also known for its active role in relief and helping those in need, through engagement in charitable and philanthropic work.

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For over 25 years, BDL Distribution has been the leading publications distributor to all bookshops and retail outlets in Malta and Gozo. BDL Publishing, the second most holding the company's sails, specializes in quality books ranging from children's fiction to prestigious Melitensia literature. The third most of the company is BDL Retail. Its outlet in San Ġwann is a large depository of quality books where one can browse and shop directly from a selection of over 20,000 titles.

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ČAK

ČAK (Animation & Communication Centre) belongs to the Franciscan Conventual Friars. Founded in 1998 with the aim of offering religious animation through social communication means, it published various leaflets, magazines and books, and in 2005 it became amalgamated the already existing Publishing House Religjon u Hajja (Religion & Life) (founded in 1967 by Fr Alexander Bonnici), which continued its work in the religious sector and lately became the official publisher of Church and Papal documents with a mutual agreement with the Maltese



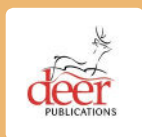
Episcopal Conference and Libreria Editrice Vaticana. ĊAK has so far published more than 280 titles..

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CENTRAL BANK OF MALTA LIBRARY

The Library of the Central Bank of Malta specialises in banking, finance and economics. Information services are available in conventional and electronic form. The services provided by the library are aimed primarily at meeting the Bank's own specialised needs; however, the services are provided willingly to students and experts. Patrons have access to books, journals, reference material, Malta government publications, CD-ROM databases, local newspapers and several online newspapers. Patrons can also visit the Library situated in the newly built Laparelli Building. Library personnel will answer any queries and assist users on the use of the electronic collection, answer reference questions and assist patrons in locating specific research sources.

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DEER PUBLICATIONS

"As a deer longs for flowing streams, so my soul longs for you, my God" (Psalm 42). This publishing house specializes in books for children and adults on religious and local traditional themes. Its flagship publication is *Colours of Maltese Festas*, a photographic encyclopedia of Maltese traditional feasts. Deer's children's section focuses on lives of saints with colourful and vivid illustrations by Nicole Diacono. Andrew Borg is the author of most of our publications. All photographic material is by Mark Micallef Perconte.

Cervus, 72A, Triq Doni, ir-Rabat, Malta
T +356 9938 5496 / +356 7905 8691 | E deerandrew@gmail.com
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EDE BOOKS

Ede Books is a Maltese publishing venture that offers a complete service in the production of small print runs of books, consultation, editing, design, pre-press, printing, distribution



FARAXA PUBLISHING

Founded in 2011, Faraxa is an international publishing house producing a wide range of professionally relevant and high quality publications in a multitude of domains. Led by Joanne Micallef, the Faraxa team is inspired by the creativity of their global network of selected authors, their passion for books and their drive to achieve excellence in all areas of the business.

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FONDAZZJONI WIRT ARTNA

Fondazzjoni Wirt Artna, the Malta Heritage Trust, is a voluntary nongovernmental organisation active in the field of heritage preservation. One of its principal objectives is to create awareness to encourage the better understanding and preservation of the cultural heritage of the Maltese islands. Today FWA looks after several historic buildings and sites in Malta. Most of the cultural properties that FWA holds in trust are made accessible to the public. Fondazzjoni Wirt Artna is a not-for-profit organisation..

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The foreign languages departments within the University of Malta, the Junior College and Giovanni Curmi Higher



Secondary are collegially promoting foreign language and culture learning. Activities at our stand focus on promoting intercultural and linguistic competences, both amongst young learners as well as members of the general public.



Department of Foreign Languages, University of Malta Junior College
T 25907236 | E foreignlanguages.jc@um.edu.mt

f [um.jcforeignlanguages](https://www.jc.um.edu.mt/)

<https://www.jc.um.edu.mt/>

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T 21 416422 | E gcurmi.hss@gov.mt

f GCHSSnaxxar/ | @gchss.naxxar

<https://gchss.edu.mt/>

Faculty of Arts, University of Malta

T +356 2340 3082 / +356 2340 2340 | E arts@um.edu.mt

f [um.artsfaculty](https://www.um.edu.mt/arts)

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FRENCH EMBASSY



The Embassy of France is the French diplomatic representation in Malta. The Cultural Service of the French Embassy promotes cooperation between Malta and France in the context of mutual enrichment, as well as French culture and language.

French Embassy, 130 Melita Street, Valletta VLT 1123

T +356 2248 0600

<http://www.ambafrance-mt.org/>

FRIENDS OF THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF MALTA



The objective of our organisation is to raise public awareness about the work of the National Archives, and the importance of preserving records of historical value.

The National Archives, Hospital Street Rabat, RBT1043, Malta

T +356 2145 9863 | E fnamalta@gmail.com

<https://www.fnamalta.org/>



GERMAN-MALTESE CIRCLE/ DEPARTMENT OF GERMAN - UNIVERSITY OF MALTA

The German-Maltese Circle is a cultural and educational association promoting closer understanding between Germany and Malta in all appropriate fields of activity and relationship. The Department of German at the University of Malta offers courses such as the "B.A. in German", the "Certificate/Diploma in Language Proficiency" for all students and staff at the University, and the part-time evening course "Certificate/Diploma in German", reflecting the importance of German in the Maltese economy and job markets.

141, Messina Palace, Valletta, Malta

T +356 2124 6967

www.germanmaltesecircle.org/



GĦAQDA TAL-MALTI - UNIVERSITÀ

The Għaqda tal-Malti – Università was founded by two medical students, Rużar Briffa and Ġużè Bonnici on 26 January 1931. In the same year, they started publishing *Lehen il-Malti*, a journal that GhMU publishes to this day. Along the years, the organisation has been led by prominent Maltese figures such as Prof. Pietru Pawl Saydon, Ġużè Aquilina, Dun Karm Sant and Oliver Friggieri. In recent years, GhMU has sought to invest in more educational and interdisciplinary projects, especially with teenagers.

Dar l-Istudent, L-Università ta' Malta, Tal-Qroqq

T: +356 7922 1197 | E: ghaqdataalmalti@gmail.com

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HELA C/O STUDIO SOLIPSIS

Fondazzjoni HELA, the hub for excellence in the literary arts, is an autonomous platform working to foster excellence across the literary sector in Malta and Gozo. Representing and working with and for writers, translators, publishers and editors, HELA engages with local and foreign organisations, individuals and public entities to create dialogue between players in the sector and policy-makers and to advocate for good and fair practices

within the local literary field.

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HERITAGE MALTA

Heritage Malta is the national agency for museums, conservation and cultural heritage. It is appreciably active in the field of publishing as part of its education and outreach endeavours. The range of works produced includes exhibition catalogues, collected papers, conference proceedings, workbooks, project books, reading books and monographs. In autumn 2015 Heritage Malta launched also a bi-annual journal.

Ex-Royal Naval Hospital, Triq il-Marina, Bighi, Kalkara, KKR 1524

E publications.heritagemalta@gov.mt

www.heritagemalta.org



HORIZONS

Horizons is one of the leading book publishers on the island, winning various Premju tal-Ktieb literary prizes in the different book categories. It has published well-known and established authors such as Mario Azzopardi, Gorg Borg, Charles Briffa, Lina Brockdorff, Lou Drogenik, Victor Fenech, Charles Flores, Audrey Friggieri, Gioele Galea, Albert Marshall, Alfred Massa, Gorg Peresso, John Portelli, Rita Saliba, Salv Sammut, Giuseppe Schembri Bonaci as well as introducing upcoming authors such as Richard Attard, Helen Borg, Michael Cini, Lorraine Galea, Sergio Grech and Stephen Lughermo.

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Infinity Books was founded in 2018 and has its headquarters in Malta. Infinity promotes no specific literary genre. They publish Christian books and study books, novels, children's books, comics, and reprint classics of English and Italian

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ISTITUTO ITALIANO DI CULTURA

The Italian Cultural Institute was founded in February 1971 and is also the Cultural Section of the Italian Embassy in Malta. The Institute is the symbol of Italian culture in the Maltese Islands. The main objective of the Institute is the spreading of Italian art and culture. This is pursued by means of organization cultural events, the management of a library, from which all members can borrow books and of encouraging collaboration within the field of education. It has also been responsible for the establishment of a network linking Malta's University and study and research centres with Italian universities, state organisations and institutions. The Institute promotes events such as exhibitions, concerts, plays and conferences which are open to those who are interested in Italian culture and lifestyle.

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MALTA LIBRARIES

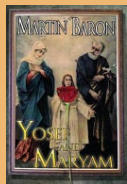
Malta Libraries is the entity responsible for the National Library (Malta), the National Library (Gozo), the Central Public Library (Malta), the Central Public Library (Gozo), all Regional and Branch Public Libraries in the Maltese Islands as well as the National Bibliographic Office. The mission of Malta Libraries is to ensure the collection and conservation of Malta's documentary heritage for present and future generations, to maintain and develop the libraries regulated under the Malta Libraries Act, and to encourage reading for study, research, self-development and lifelong-learning information and leisure purposes.

Malta Libraries Head Office, National Library of Malta, 36, Old Treasury Street, Valletta VLT 1410

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MARTIN BARON

Yosef and Maryam by Martin Baron will be available for purchase. "Yosef and Maryam were in Love. In Biblical times this was not enough. Marriages were arranged. The two lovers won the battle and were finally betrothed to each other. But God had other plans. And they became God-crossed lovers. This is the hitherto unwritten love story of St. Joseph and the Holy Mary. Were they saints or ordinary people? What is in the end the highest form of Love: the Greater Love? Love for one's friend or neighbour, one's spouse, parent or child? One's lover? Or Love of God?"

E kaduceus1@gmail.com



MELI BOOKSHOP

Meli Bookshop shops are located in the capital city, Valletta. The first shop was opened in 1965 and after some time another one was opened. One of the shops can be found at 52, Santa Luċija Street where we specialize in Melitensia books and latest novels in Maltese and in English. One can find books for children, cook books and other general coffee-table books on every subject. The other shop is situated in Old Bakery Street, number 185. In this shop we specialize in classical literature with amazing prices, where one can find novels in English, science fiction books, fantasy books, horror books, murder books and so much more! One can find cook books and other general books here as well. Travel books are our specialty and are found in this bookshop as well. For this year's National Book Festival we will be having a new sample of books in English which you can find in our shops!

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MELLIEĤA LOCAL COUNCIL PUBLISHERS

The Mellieħa Local Council helps authors publish their work through the Hanneqqa Kotba Melleħin initiative to promote reading amongst its citizens.

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Milan Haluska is representing two publishing houses from the Czech Republic that have large collections of books for children from age of 3 to 12 in the English language: Meander and Albatros Media. Their books are however for children of all ages. Czech children literature has excellent history, reputation and wonderful potential for distributors and readers: first-rate content, catchy illustrations and high-quality graphic design.

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