



MALTA BOOK FESTIVAL 2020

11-15 November

ONLINE EVENT

VIRTUAL EDITION

Streamed on
NATIONAL BOOK COUNCIL (MALTA)

PROGRAMME OF EVENTS

OPENING HOURS

Wednesday 11 09.00–21.00
Thursday 12 09.00–21.00
Friday 13 09.00–21.00
Saturday 14 09.00–21.00
Sunday 15 09.00–21.00

KTIEB.ORG.MT

More info on events and streaming links at ktieb.org.mt/programme

TUESDAY**10/11****19:00** OPENING NIGHT AND TERRAMAXKA NATIONAL BOOK PRIZE AWARDS CEREMONY - NBC

Join us for the opening of the 2020 Malta Book Festival - virtual edition with the announcement of the winners of the National Book Prize for children's and adolescents' literature - the Terramaxka Prize.

**WEDNESDAY****11/11****09:30** THE WONDROUS WORLD OF CHILDREN'S LITERATURE - AGES 0-7 - NBC

Introduce your students to the magical and adventurous worlds from the pen of Malta's best children's authors and ensure a memorable experience with our performances curated especially for schools!

15:30 FIRST EPISODE OF THE NEW SERIES BY DANUSAN: EVERY DAY A DIFFERENT BOOK! - DANUSAN

Who said reading can't be fun? DANUSAN will spontaneously read out and animate books in public areas during the week prior to the Malta Book Festival.

16:00 HIS EXCELLENCY, THE PRESIDENT OF MALTA, SPEAKS ABOUT BOOKS AND READING - MILLER DISTRIBUTORS

His Excellency, the President of Malta Dr George Abela, interviewed by presenter John Demanuele about the importance of books and reading at all stages of life. His Excellency will also read from a book of his choice.

17:00 MARK GRENSIDE INTERVIEWED BY JO CARUANA - MILLER DISTRIBUTORS

Mark Grenside reveals the inspiration for the book *Fall Out* and the outline of the story. He also peppers the interview with stories of Hollywood, some famous names and outrageous anecdotes – a true insider lifting the veil on Tinseltown.

18:00 ALBERT CAMUS' SELECTED WORKS TRANSLATED BY TONI AQUILINA - FARAXA PUBLISHING

Professor Toni Aquilina from the Department of Translation and Terminology Studies of the University of Malta will be giving a talk on the importance of research when translating established authors.

19:00 L-AHHAR SAJF TA' BERLIN - MERLIN PUBLISHERS

This event is being led by Mark Vella and is targeted to an adult audience. Book for this event on info@merlinpublishers.com to receive a Zoom access code.

19:30 SALMAN RUSHDIE AND ALFRED SANT IN CONVERSATION - NBC

The special guest of the 2020 Malta Book Festival and one of the most celebrated authors of our time, Sir Salman Rushdie will be joining another towering figure of Maltese literature, Dr Alfred Sant. The discussion will be moderated by Prof. Clare E Vassallo.



THURSDAY

12/11

09:30 THE WONDROUS WORLD OF CHILDREN'S LITERATURE - A SHOW FOR KIDS AGED 8-12 - NBC

Introduce your students to the magical and adventurous worlds from the pen of Malta's best children's authors and ensure a memorable experience with our performances curated especially for schools!

15:30 SECOND EPISODE OF THE NEW SERIES BY DANUSAN: EVERY DAY A DIFFERENT BOOK! - DANUSAN

Who said reading can't be fun? DANUSAN will spontaneously read out and animate books in public areas during the week prior to the Malta Book Festival.

16:00 BOOK PRESENTATION OF VADO A VIVERE A MALTA (MORRONE) AND MEET THE AUTHOR CARLO MORRONE - IIC

Conversation with the author of the book *Vado a vivere a Malta*, Carlo Morrone, introduced by Massimo Sarti (Director, Istituto Italiano di Cultura). The discussion will be in Italian.

16:30 PRESENTATION OF LA CIRCONFERENZA DELL'ALBA | THE CIRCUMFERENCE OF DAWN (FELTRINELLI) TA' FEDERICA BRUNINI - IIC

A conversation with the author of *La circonferenza dell'alba | The circumference of dawn* (Feltrinelli), Federica Brunini, with an introduction by Massimo Sarti (Director of Istituto Italiano di Cultura).

The discussion will be in Italian.

16:45 360 WAYS OF TELLING A STORY - MIDSEA BOOKS LTD

Newcomer Josianne Block presents her new novel for young adults *360°* - an innovative narration of a complicated relationship through letters. The author is a winner of the award for young writers.

17:30 MARYROSE MIFSUD (AUTHOR OF ID-DJARJU TA' ANN FRANK) INTERVIEWED BY PROF. TONI AQUILINA - FARAXA PUBLISHING

In this interview we meet Mary Rose Mifsud, translator of *The Diary of Anne Frank* as edited by Otto Frank and Mirjam Pressler and translated into English by Susan Massotty.

18:15 LAUNCH OF MUŻAJĊI TAT-TAFAL BY JOE CAMILLERI

These short stories present us with mosaics of ordinary characters we encounter every day.

18:30 Q&A WITH SIR SALMAN RUSHDIE - NBC

Book your place at a virtual Q&A with Sir Salman Rushdie by sending in the question you'd like to ask!

You should submit your question by email to michael.mercieca@gov.mt by 31 October with the subject line 'MBF2020 Q&A' and include your name, surname and contact number.

UOM students wishing to join the Q&A, are invited to send in the question they would like to ask Sir Salman Rushdie to DESA at desa.uom@gmail.com, including their full name, course, year of study and contact number also by 31 October.

Moderated by Prof. James Corby.

19:00 L-INVENTARJU TAL-KAMRA L-KAĦLA - MERLIN PUBLISHERS

A poetry event led by Leanne Ellul and targeted to an adult audience. Book for this event on info@merlinpublishers.com to receive a Zoom access code.

19:50 BOOK LAUNCH OF XENATI MINN FUQ IL-PALK, ĆAJT TA' WARA L-KWINTI BY RON BRIFFA AND STAND-UP BY THE AUTHOR - KITE GROUP

Xenati mill-palk is a collection of funny, comical and humorous incidents that happened to veteran and not so veteran actors.

19:50 BOOK LAUNCH OF *COUNTRY VILLAS IN XVIII CENTURY MALTA* - KITE GROUP

Book launch of *Country Villas in XVIII Century Malta* by Carmel Spiteri and interview with the author and Conrad Thake.

20:00 BEYOND BORDERS: TRANSLATION'S POWER TO TAKE US ELSEWHERE - NBC

This event seeks to explore how translated works travel across cultures and languages, reaching out to wider audiences, and in the process building bridges across borders.

Moderated by Norbert Bugeja – with Eran Katz, Chris Gruppetta, Katrina Storage, Walid Nabhan and Kristina Quintano.



09:30 SECRETS OF A SUPER MEMORY - A SHOW BY ERAN KATZ - NBC

With a load of humor, excitement and full of surprises, Eran Katz, the renowned memory trainer and bestselling Israeli author, reveals extraordinary techniques to boost memory power.

This show is in English and targeted to children of 8 years and older.

15:30 THIRD EPISODE OF THE NEW SERIES BY DANUSAN: EVERY DAY A DIFFERENT BOOK! - DANUSAN

Who said reading can't be fun? DANUSAN will spontaneously read out and animate books in public areas during the week prior to the Malta Book Festival.

16:00 BOOK PRESENTATION OF *IL RUOLO GEOPOLITICO DI MALTA NEL CONTESTO EUROMEDITERRANEO* (MORRONE) - IIC

A conversation with the author of the book *Il ruolo geopolitico di Malta nel contesto euromediterraneo* (Morrone), Silvio Aliffi, and Arnold Cassola, Professor of Maltese and Comparative Literature. The event will be led by Carlo Morrone.

This event is in Italian.

16:30 BOOK PRESENTATION OF *CROSSROADS, UN TUFFO NELLA VITA* (DRAGO, 2019) AND MEET THE AUTHOR ALICE PASQUINI - IIC

A conversation with the author of the book *Crossroads, un tuffo nella vita* (Drago, 2019), Alice Pasquini and the publisher, introduced by Massimo Sarti (Director, Istituto Italiano di Cultura).

This event is in English and Italian.

17:00 LAUNCH OF THE MALTA ILLUSTRATION ANNUAL - MCOI

Following the success of the online exhibition Artna, the Malta Community of Illustrators is now launching an illustration annual, which will be the first illustration annual ever produced that focuses on Maltese or Malta-based illustration, and which is proudly sponsored by the National Book Council.

17:00 MUSTAĊĊI MA TIDHAQX BIH - MERLIN PUBLISHERS

An activity led by Clare Azzopardi and targeted at children between 4-6 years. Book for this event on info@merlinpublishers.com to receive a Zoom access code.

18:00 THE REVIVAL OF THEATRE IN MALTESE - GHAQDA TAL-MALTI - UNIVERSITÀ

What is the story behind Maltese theatre? How did Maltese theatre regain its popularity? Why is it relevant?

18:00 IL-FAMILJA FRATTARIJA - MERLIN PUBLISHERS

Activity led by Simone Inguanez and targeted at children aged 10 or more. Book for this event on info@merlinpublishers.com to receive a Zoom access code.

19:00 THE 2020 DOREEN MICALLEF NATIONAL POETRY CONTEST AWARDS CEREMONY - NBC

Join us for the announcement of this year's winners and illuminating readings by the winning poets of the 2020 Doreen Micallef National Poetry Contest.

19:00 IL-MANIFEST TAL-KILLER - MERLIN PUBLISHERS

Attività mmexxija minn Karl Schembri u immirata għal udjenza adulta. Ibbukkja post għal din l-attività fuq info@merlinpublishers.com biex tirċievi kodiċi ta' access għal Zoom.

19:30 BOOK LAUNCH OF IN-NAR GĦANDU ISEM BY GIOELE GALEA - HORIZONS MALTA

“Kienet lin-nar / l-ewwel talba li qatt għamel. / Snin wara, / kien in-nar li hadlu l-menti. / Dan hu r-rakkont / ta' żagħżuġh / li l-hajja afha sa mill-bidu / ġibda waħda / lejn xifer l-irdum.”

(From the book *In-Nar għandu Isem*)

20:00 AN INTERVIEW WITH THE AUTHOR OF WIDNET IL-BAHAR U STEJGER OHRA, JOE FRIGGIERI - KITE GROUP

In this new collection of fifty short stories, Joe Friggieri weaves a colourful tapestry of characters from all walks of life, set against different backgrounds and within a wide range of time frames.

20:15 LITERATURE IN LOCKDOWN - MIDSEA BOOKS LTD

Immanuel Mifsud and Toni Sant discuss their joint title inspired during lockdown and what made them approach the pandemic in such a different way.

20:20 AN INTERVIEW WITH THE AUTHOR OF ĠREJJEJ, ĠRAJJET TAL-ĦREJJEJ, LAURENCE MIZZI - KITE GROUP

Without any embellishment whatsoever this collection includes a rare glimpse into the author's not commonly known love for practical jokes. This collection is being published with the aim of eliciting at least a smile.



SATURDAY

14/11

09:30 PUBLISHERS HAVE THEIR SAY - GHAQDA TAL-MALTI - UNIVERSITÀ

In this discussion local publishers will speak about their role in the industry, what is being sold and what isn't, what they need to constantly keep in mind when publishing, and finally how has the pandemic affected the industry.

10:00 ORS FL-ISPAZJU - MERLIN PUBLISHERS

Activity led by Deborah Abela and Marjorie Crosby-Fairall and targeted at children aged 3 to 6. Book for this event on info@merlinpublishers.com to receive a Zoom access code.

11:00 FUNERARY ART IN MALTA: THE ADDOLORATA CEMETERY - MIDSEA BOOKS LTD

A presentation by Prof Conrad Thake and guests about the latest publication by Midsea Books on the Addolorata Cemetery: its history and art.

11:00 AMAZING MALTESE WOMEN - MERLIN PUBLISHERS

Activity led by Kristina Chetcuti and Marisa Attard and targeted at children between 8 and 10 years of age. Book for this event on info@merlinpublishers.com to receive a Zoom access code.

12:00 BOOK LAUNCH OF LEHEN IL-MALTI GHADD 39 - GHAQDA TAL-MALTI – UNIVERSITÀ

Ghaqda tal-Malti – Università launches the 39th issue of *Lehen il-Malti*, its annual publication since Ghaqda's inception in 1931.

12:00 IL-PJAN SIGRIET TA' EDUARDO - MERLIN PUBLISHERS

Activity led by Antoinette Borg and targeted at children between 5 and 8 years of age. Book for this event on info@merlinpublishers.com to receive a Zoom access code.

14:30 FOURTH EPISODE OF THE NEW SERIES BY DANUSAN: EVERY DAY A DIFFERENT BOOK! - DANUSAN

Who said reading can't be fun? DANUSAN will spontaneously read out and animate books in public areas during the week prior to the Malta Book Festival.

14:30 BOOK PRESENTATION OF LA GUERRA FASCISTA (MONDADORI) BY GIANNI OLIVA AND MEET THE AUTHOR - IIC

Conversation with the author of *La guerra fascista. Dalla vigilia all'armistizio, l'Italia nel secondo conflitto mondiale* Gianni Oliva and Giovanni Firera (President of Associazione Vitaliano Brancati) with an introduction by Massimo Sarti (Director, Istituto Italiano di Cultura).

This event is in Italian.

14:45 A SHORT FILM ABOUT THE CENTRAL BANK OF MALTA LIBRARY - CBM

In this short in-house production, learn about the Library's vision to become Malta's principal depository of banking, economic, financial and social scholarship and a hub of debate and research in these fields.

15:00 BOOK LAUNCH OF THIRD BOOK BY RUTH FRENDO L-GHOĠOL TAD-DEHEB - MILLER DISTRIBUTORS

The popular writer and television personality Ruth Frendo, will be talking about the first Maltese books ever featuring augmented reality – the Golden Calf trilogy.

15:00 ĠANNI JŻUR RUMA - MERLIN PUBLISHERS

Activity led by Sherise Zammit and targeted at children between 3 and 6 years of age. Book for this event on info@merlinpublishers.com to receive a Zoom access code.

16:00 BOOK PRESENTATION OF CARNE MANGIA CARNE (BUENDIA BOOKS) BY ANDREA MONTICONE AND MEET THE AUTHOR - IIC

Conversation with the author of the novel *Carne mangia carne*, Andrea Monticone and Giovanni Firera (President of Associazione Vitaliano Brancati) with an introduction by Massimo Sarti (Director, Istituto Italiano di Cultura).

This event is in Italian.

16:00 **TAL-FORN - MERLIN PUBLISHERS**

Activity led by Noel Tanti and Matt Stroud and targeted at children between 5 and 8 years of age. Book for this event on info@merlinpublishers.com to receive a Zoom access code.

16:30 **BOOK PRESENTATION OF *IL PROCURATORE E LA BELLA DORMIENTE* (NEOS) BY GIORGIO VITARI AND MEET THE AUTHOR - IIC**

Conversation with the author of the novel *Il procuratore e la bella dormiente* by Giorgio Vitari and Giovanni Firera (President of Associazione Vitaliano Brancati) with an introduction by Massimo Sarti (Director, Istituto Italiano di Cultura).

This event is in Italian.

17:00 **BOOK PRESENTATION OF THE REPUBLISHING OF THE MALTESE EDITION OF *LA DIVINA COMMEDIA* - IIC**

Presentation of the new edition of Dante Alighieri's *La Divina Commedia* which will be published in 2021, on the occasion of the 700th anniversary of Dante's death.

This event is in Italian.

17:00 ***IL-WIED TAL-LUPU LAHMAR (IS-SHAHAR TA' PETUT 2)* - MERLIN PUBLISHERS**

Activity led by Clare Azzopardi and targeted at children between 7 and 10 years of age. Book for this event on info@merlinpublishers.com to receive a Zoom access code.

18:00 **CALCULATORS WITH ILLUSTRATORS - MCOI**

Various illustrators will be having a casual discussion on the business of illustration. The discussion will also include a run through the process of creating one of Zack Ritchie's artworks, from concept stage to completion.

18:00 ***KELMA GHAL KELMA* - MERLIN PUBLISHERS**

Activity led by Dwayne Ellul and targeted at children aged 10 and over. Book for this event on info@merlinpublishers.com to receive a Zoom access code.

19:00 **WORDS OF PROTEST - NBC**

The various forms of literary expressions of protest in Malta will be discussed during this conversation moderated by Adrian Grima with the participation of Karl Schembri, Wayne Flask, Nadia Mifsud Mutschler and Zvezdan Reljić.

20:15 **BOOK LAUNCH OF *EASEFUL DEATH* BY MARTA OBIOLS FORNELL, TRANSLATED BY MARK MONTEBELLO**

Amanda, the girl with whom the story of this book invites you to travel, is not teasing. Her voyaging explores the very meaning of Life.

20:30 **A DOCUMENTARY ON LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD WINNER ALFRED SANT - NBC**

The National Book Council will be premiering a new short documentary feature about Dr Alfred Sant's literary life as witnessed through five of his most acclaimed works. The film is produced by Take//Two and directed by Abigail Mallia.



10:00 IRVIN VELLA: IL-KAŻ TAL-MAHŻEN MITLUQ - MERLIN PUBLISHERS

Activity led by John A. Bonello and targeted at children of 8 years and over. Book for this event on info@merlinpublishers.com to receive a Zoom access code.

11:00 KEMM SE TIRRABJA ESTER - MERLIN PUBLISHERS

Activity led by Clare Azzopardi and targeted at children from 5 to 8 years of age. Book for this event on info@merlinpublishers.com to receive a Zoom access code.

11:30 READING SESSION FROM THE BOOK ID-DINJA TAL-ORSINI BY RUTH FRENDO - MILLER DISTRIBUTORS

Ruth Frendo, the popular writer and television personality, takes a look at the series of books *Id-Dinja tal-Orsini*, featuring augmented reality.

12:30 PUPPET TALK - AVC

Join us for a puppet show and some storytelling from the book of AVC Publishers, *Stejjer ta' Klieb* by author Mandy Tabone together with puppeteer Sean Briffa.

14:30 AN INTERVIEW WITH THE ELONGATED SNAIL SPERILLU FROM THE BOOK SPERILLU U L-GAZZETTA HAMRIJA BY NATASHA TURNER - FARAXA PUBLISHING

An event aimed at children between six and eleven years old, where an elongated snail named Sperillu, a journalist and editor of the newspaper *Hamrija*, will be interviewed by children about environment protection and about the principal characters in the book.

15:30 FIFTH EPISODE OF THE NEW SERIES BY DANUSAN: EVERY DAY A DIFFERENT BOOK! - DANUSAN

Who said reading can't be fun? DANUSAN will spontaneously read out and animate books in public areas during the week prior to the Malta Book Festival.

15:30 BOOK LAUNCH OF BEJN STORJA U MITI: TREVOR ZAHRA BY SERGIO GRECH (ED.) - HORIZONS MALTA

Decorated with the Midalja tal-Qadi tar-Repubblika for his literary career, many time winner of the National Book Prize, awarded Ġieħ iż-Żejtun, the Midalja tad-Deheb Soċjetà tal-Arti and the Midalja tal-Akkademja Malti, Trevor Żahra is a key protagonist of local literature for children and adults. Most likely, no other Maltese author has ventured as widely in different literary genres and won over the acclaim of young and old. In this volume, critics and friends evaluate the personality and the literary energy of Trevor Żahra.

16:00 NISKOPRU D-DRAGUNI - MERLIN PUBLISHERS

Activity led by Noel Tanti and targeted at children between 7 and 9 years of age. Book for this event on info@merlinpublishers.com to receive a Zoom access code.

16:30 PRESENTATION OF LELI DI CASAL PICCOLO (MORRONE) BY ISABELLA ELLUL CEFAL (TRAD.) - IIC

A conversation with Isabella Ellul Cefai, translator into Italian of a classic of Maltese literature, *Leli ta' Haż-Żghir* by Ġużè Ellul Mercer.

17:00 IL-KREATURA TAL-BIR - MERLIN PUBLISHERS

Activity led by Simon Bartolo and targeted at children of 9 years and over. Book for this event on info@merlinpublishers.com to receive a Zoom access code.

17:30 DANIEL HOLMES INTERVIEWED BY LOVIN MALTA FOUNDER CHRISTIAN PEREGIN - LOVIN MALTA

A conversation between the author of the book *A Memoir From Malta's Prison: From a cage, on a rock, in a puddle*, Daniel Holmes, and Chris Peregini, the founder of Lovin Malta, which published his prison memoir.

18:30 ARE WE TOLD WHAT WE SHOULD READ? - NBC

To what extent are they influencing readers', writers' and publishers' choices? How necessary are they in the making of a thriving publishing and literary scenes?

Moderated by Teodor Reljić, with Jen Calleja, Prof. Ivan Callus, Robert Pisani.

19:30 A HUNDRED YEARS OF YOUTH - SKS

A discussion about the 20 year period (1940-1960) of the Labor Party as they are presented, historically, politically and sociologically, in the second volume of Francis Galea's *L-Istorja tal-Partit Laburista*.