

THE MALTA
*Book
Festival*
2017

PROGRAMME OF EVENTS

8-12 NOVEMBER



WITH ITS LONG LIST OF PARTICIPANTS FROM ALL SECTORS OF THE BOOK INDUSTRY AND A CULTURAL PROGRAMME THAT FEATURES MORE THAN FIFTY MAJOR EVENTS IN BOOK LAUNCHES, BOOK PRESENTATIONS, DRAMATIC PERFORMANCES, WORKSHOPS AND CONFERENCES, THE MALTA BOOK FESTIVAL IS WITHOUT DOUBT 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 (8-12 November) at the Mediterranean Conference Centre in Valletta. For five days, publishers, book sellers 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, some of whom are big names in the international literary scene.



Wednesday

18:00 GĦAQDA TAL-MALTI PRESENTS: KONT TAF LI...?

In this event, organised by Għaqda tal-Malti - Università, a number of local authors will present the audience with three objects that somehow define them. The audience will be invited to participate by guessing the significance of those objects; a unique opportunity to get an inside glance at an author's personality and life. — **Activity Area**

18:00 FARAXA TRANSLATION SERIES: A DISCUSSION

Discussion with the editor of the series Prof. Toni Aquilina, together with other translators whose work forms part of the series, about the importance of translating great literary authors (Albert Camus, Guy de Maupassant, Franz Kafka, Molière, Erin Emmanuel Schmitt, Annie Enaux etc.) in the Maltese language. — **Faraxa Stand**

19:00 LAUNCH OF THE FIFTH VOLUME OF *THREADS*: *A JOURNAL OF PHILOSOPHY*

The Society for Philosophical Scholarship (formerly the Students' Philosophy Society) will be launching the fifth volume of its peer-reviewed journal, *Threads*. This year, *Threads* will feature contributions from around the world, including Malta, Ireland, the United States of America and Germany. The launch will feature interventions from the Society's Honorary President and the general editor of *Threads*. A reception will follow. — **SPS Stand**

19:00 THE NBC PRESENTS 'TRUTH IN FICTION AND NON-FICTION - A CONFERENCE'

A number of special guests of the Festival - Alex Vella Gera, Shahd Alshammari, Ros Barber and Gilbert Sinoué - will take part in a discussion with BBC journalist Rosie Goldsmith about the notion of truth as it appears in literature, both in fiction and non-fiction. How does one define truth in literature and why is the definition of the truth in literature in any way important? — **Temi Zammit Hall**

Thursday

17:30 THE NBC PRESENTS ROSIE GOLDSMITH AND MAX EASTERMAN - 'A RIVETING WORKSHOP'

A great opportunity to join top UK journalists Rosie Goldsmith and Max Easterman for their 'Riveting Workshop' on book reviewing and promotion. Participants in this intensive workshop will be shown examples, receive advice and engage in short writing exercises. — **M.A. Grima Hall**

17:30 BOOK PRESENTATION

Quando Dio ci mette lo zampino by Anna di Marco, with Silvio Aliffi.
— **Activity Area**

18:00 BOOK PRESENTATION

Introduzione alla Kabbala by Ignazio Vecchio and Cristina Tornali with Silvio Aliffi. — **Istituto Italiano di Cultura Stand**

18:00 THE NBC AND FARAXA PRESENT KUWAITI AUTHOR SHAHD ALSHAMMARI

In this event, set up by the NBC in collaboration with Faraxa, author and poet Shahd Alshammari will be talking to Prof. Toni Aquilina about her latest publication *Notes on the Flesh*, which deals with the representation of minority groups in literature. — **Activity Area**

18:30 BOOK PRESENTATION

Medicina Medical Humanities by Cristina Tornali, with Ignazio Vecchio.
— **Istituto Italiano di Cultura Stand**

18:30 TREVOR ŽAHRA IN NORWEGIAN: THE NBC PRESENTS KRISTINA QUINTANO

Norwegian/Maltese publisher, translator and journalist Kristina Quintano will be meeting members of the public for a discussion on her translation of Trevor

Žahra's *Il-Hajja Sigrieta tan-Nanna Genoveffa* into Norwegian. The discussion will also touch upon the representation of Malta as a cultural, gastronomic and historical destination for Norwegian readers. Accompanying Quintano, six Norwegian journalists will participate in the discussion. — **Temi Zammit Hall**

19:00 MEET SHAHD ALSHAMMARI

Dr. Alshammari will be on the stand to sign books of her recent publication *Notes on the Flesh*, a collection of short stories that unravel the intricacies of identity, love and illness in the Middle East. — **Faraxa Stand**

19:00 BOOK PRESENTATION

Una mano nel buio by Franza Guarino, with Carlo Morrone. — **Istituto Italiano di Cultura Stand**

19:00 GHADHOM JINTERESSAWNA HAJJIET IL-QADDISIN

Deer Publications will present an analysis of annual publications by local parishes and Maltese band clubs. We will see how these publications evolved from small leaflets into voluminous books, with varying standards of production and content, but which often reach very high levels. The discussion will also aim at suggesting any possible improvements to these books so that they might make a more valuable contribution to local literature. The lecture will also aim at giving proper credit to the editors and volunteer writers who contribute to these interesting publications. — **Deer Publications Stand**

19:30 MERLIN PUBLISHERS PRESENT: TREVOR ŽAHRA: 70 YEARS. CONGRATULATIONS, TREVOR!

No matter who you are and how old you are, you have surely read at least one of this Maltese author's books. Trevor Žahra is the most popular author among generations of readers, an author and illustrator of all book genres, from children's books to adult novels and short stories from school textbooks to poems. And this year, on the occasion of his 70th birthday, Merlin Publishers will be celebrating his achievements in an unforgettable evening. We invite you to come and cheer for Trevor with us. During the same evening, we will also launch an anthology of his short stories, which along the years have etched the fame of Trevor Žahra in the Maltese literary scene. — **Temi Zammit Hall**

19:45 THE NBC PRESENTS GILBERT SINOUE

Renowned French-Egyptian novelist Gilbert Sinoué will be talking to Prof. Toni Aquilina about his work and career as the author of immensely popular historical novels. The audience will assist to readings, an interview and a Q&A session with the author of *The Egyptian*, *The Sapphire Book* and *The Last Pharaoh*, amongst many others. — **M.A. Grima Hall**

20:00 THE NBC PRESENTS ALEX VELLA GERA

One of the main contributors to contemporary Maltese fiction and a special guest of this edition of the Festival, Alex Vella Gera will be talking to journalist and fellow writer Teodor Reljić about his career as a writer, as well as his interests in music and film-making. There will be readings of excerpts from his work and a Q&A session with members of the audience. The author will be available for book signing and there will be a reception following the event.

— **Activity Area**

20:30 MEET GILBERT SINOUE

All readers are invited to get their book signed and chat with Gilbert Sinoué in a small reception held at the stand of the French Embassy.

— **French Embassy Stand**

Friday



17:45 LUPETTIN MA JRIDX JAQSAM MAL-OHRAJN

Another adventure for Lupettin, the youngest relative of Lupu Lupettu. This time he does not want to share his toys. What about you, do you know how to share with others? With Clare Azzopardi. Ages 3-6. Bookings on first-come first-served basis from info@merlinpublishers.com. — **Merlin Publishers Stand**

18:00 NATIONAL POETRY CONTEST MONS. AMANTE BUONTEMPO

Organized by the National Book Council in collaboration with Għaqda Poeti Maltin, this event will feature selected poetry readings. In addition, the winners of the *Mons. Amante Buontempo National Poetry Contest 2017* will be announced. NBC chairman Mark Camilleri and the president of Għaqda Poeti Maltin, Jesmond Sharples, will address the audience. — **Temi Zammit Hall**

18:00 BOOK PRESENTATION

La donna dello sbarcadero by Pippo Bufardecì, with Corrado Di Pietro. — **Activity Area**

18:00 / AM MALALA: BOOK PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION

The story behind the youngest Nobel Prize winner Malala Yousafzai, who stood up for education and was the target of an attack by the Taliban and left for dead. Godwin Ellul, translator of the Maltese version of the book, will also be present on the stand. — **Faraxa Stand**

18:30 BOOK PRESENTATION

Promontorium Pachyni by Nello Lupo, with Corrado Di Pietro. — **Activity Area**

18:45 HORIZONS - CELEBRATING POETRY FROM THE MALTESE ISLANDS

Horizons celebrates its authors' poetry - an event focusing on the work of Prof. John P. Portelli, Prof. Kenneth Wain, Carmel Scicluna, Achille Mizzi, Andrew Sciberras, John Buttigieg. — **Temi Zammit Hall**

18:45 ĠANNI J'ZUR LONDRA

Come and meet little Ġanni, the newest character to join the Merlin family. Last year Ġanni visited London. Let's discover what he did and what he saw there together. With Sherise Zammit. Ages 3-6. Bookings on first-come first-served basis from info@merlinpublishers.com. — **Merlin Publishers stand**

19:00 BOOK LAUNCH: HUMILISSIMA CIVITAS

Book launch of *Humilissima Civitas*. — **Heritage Malta Publishing Stand**

19:00 BOOK PRESENTATION

Gli Esagoni di Borges by Corrado Di Pietro, with Arnold Cassola. — **Istituto Italiano di Cultura Stand**

19:00 BOOK LAUNCH OF MELITA CLASSICA

Malta Classics Association presents *Melita Classica*. Launch of Volume 4 of the Malta Classics Association academic journal *Melita Classica* and its website. There will be a discussion related to two of the articles in the Journal: 'The *Kantilena* of Pietru Caxaru', 'A Greek inscription of the first century B.C.' — **SPS Stand**

19:00 MEET CHARLES CASHA

Short talk with the author about his books; reading of excerpts and story telling based on his books and a Q&A session with the audience. — **Merlin Library Stand**

19:30 GĦAQDA TAL-MALTI - UNIVERSITÀ AND MALTA CLASSICS ASSOCIATION PRESENT ECHO - EKUN, A TRANSLATION WORKSHOP

Translation is the father of civilization. It allows human intelligence to ripple out across borders, so that, through a sense of profound liberty, human beings may discover themselves. The Malta Classics Association, in collaboration with

Għaqda tal-Malti – Università, are organizing a bridge translation workshop that seeks to shed light on the translation of classical texts into Maltese, not omitting their translation into English. Special guest Michael Zammit will be present to answer questions about his translation of Ovid's *Metamorphoses* into Maltese. What is the real process of transformation from Latin into English and Latin into Maltese, and what sort of challenges does the translator face? Ovid's famous myth of *Narcissus and Echo* – *Narċissu u Ekun* will be examined in an attempt to answer these and the many other questions that arise when translating a literary work. — **Għaqda tal-Malti – Università Stand**

20:00 CELEBRATING MARIO AZZOPARDI

An event to honour last year's winner of the National Book Prize Lifetime Achievement Award, poet Mario Azzopardi. This is a unique opportunity for members of the public to get to meet the renowned author in person. There will be a panel discussion, selected readings and a Q&A session with the audience.

— **Temi Zammit Hall**

20:00 MERLIN PRESENTS: KTIEB U TAZZA NBID – MEET THE AUTHORS

Join us in raising a toast to some of the best authors who will be published by Merlin Publishers in the coming months. Take a sneak peek of some of the most exciting upcoming books: Clare Azzopardi's first adult novel; the brilliant debut of Wayne Flask; Nadja Mifsud's novel, winner of the second edition of #abbozz; *Iżżewwiġt Vegana*, a book of hilarious wit and humour; and Marco Cremona's memoirs of his Everest adventure. — **Merlin Publishers Stand**

Saturday

9:45 BABÙ, IL-HUTA-BUFFU

Meet Babù, the clown fish. He is a friend to Serafin, Kukku, Ġakki, Bertu and of course Lupu Lupettu. You will grow to love him as much in no time. Come and make friends with him and discover how talented he is. With Clare Azzopardi. Ages 5–8. Bookings on first-come first-served basis from info@merlinpublishers.com. — **Merlin Publishers Stand**

10:00 TIME FOR STORYTELLING AND SOME COLOURING ACTIVITIES

Come and meet the author and illustrator of *We're the new Superheroes*. The author, Sabrina Mulligan, will be joining us for story time and a book-signing session followed by a colouring activity where children will learn how to colour their very own eye-popping *We're the New Superheroes* book cover and watch artist Emma Galea Naudi sketch the book characters Jake and Emily. Ideal for ages 5–8, but all are welcome. — **Faraxa Publishing Stand**

10:00 AQRA MIEGHI/READ WITH ME

An 'Aqra Miegħi/Read with Me' two-hour storytelling session in English organised by the National Literacy Agency of the Ministry for Education and Employment. The session will include sharing of storybooks, singing of nursery rhymes and other fun activities for babies and toddlers up to the age of 3 years and their parents. — **Activity Area**

10:30 GĦAQDA TAL-MALTI LAUNCHES LEĦEN IL-MALTI

The Għaqda tal-Malti – Università will host the launch of the 36th edition of *Leĥen il-Malti*, including several literary, linguistic, as well as historical writings. Some of the writers will also be present to read their work. — **Temi Zammit Hall**

10:45 MINDFULNESS GHAT-TFAL

These days, it is not easy to be fully present and enjoy the moment because of the many distractions we have around us. This session will provide some ideas for activities that can be done with children to help them become conscious of their senses. We suggest that parents also attend this session, as they can get some useful tips on activities that they themselves can do with the children. With Claudine Slater. Ages 4-8. Bookings on first-come first-served basis from info@merlinpublishers.com. — **Merlin Publishers Stand**

11:00 MEET CHARLES CASHA

Short talk with the author about his books; reading of excerpts and story-telling based on his books and a Q&A session with the audience. — **Merlin Library Stand**

11:00 BOOK PRESENTATION

Il funerale del Grande Coglione by Pancrazia Buzzurro. — **Istituto Italiano di Cultura Stand**

11:30 BOOK PRESENTATION

I nemici del Cavaliere by Davide Gambale. — **Istituto Italiano di Cultura Stand**

11:45 MAGNI TAŻ-ŻMIEN

This is a story about a grandson who is always stuck to his computer screen whenever he visits his grandfather. But one day there is a power cut and the grandson cannot use his computer! Oh no! Thankfully the grandfather saves the day as he shows his grandson how to survive without electricity! With Claudia Gauci. Ages 5-7. Bookings on first-come first-served basis from info@merlinpublishers.com. — **Merlin Publishers Stand**

12:00 THE NBC PRESENTS ROS BARBER

UK novelist and poet Ros Barber, the author of the novel in verse *The Marlowe Papers*, is a special guest of this edition of the Festival. In this event, she will be talking to James Corby about her two books - *The Marlowe Papers* and *Devotion*, and her work as an academic. There will readings of excerpts of her books and a Q&A session with the audience. — **Temi Zammit Hall**

12:30 THE NBC PRESENTS EGYPTIAN PUBLISHER**AHMED SAIED ABDELMONEM**

Egyptian publisher Ahmed Said Abdelmonem will be talking to the public about his experience as a publisher of subversive literature in post-Arab Spring Egypt. Ahmed Saied will be interviewed by writer Jean Paul Borg and there will be a Q&A session with the audience. — **Activity Area**

15:00 & 16:00 ST. MARTIN IN GERMAN TRADITION -**CREATE YOUR OWN PAPER LANTERN**

“Ġewż, lewż, qastan, tin, kemm inħobb lil San Martin”. The feast of St. Martin is popular both in Malta and in Germany. Based on the same legend, several customs have developed to celebrate the patron of the poor. In this activity we will stroll on the tracks of the German Saint’s tradition. Children and parents are invited to make their own paper lantern and find out more about this custom. The colourful lanterns, which form part of the processions in the nights before and on 11 November, can be taken home at the end of this handicraft activity.

— **Activity Area**

16:00 IMELDINA U L-UĊUĦ

Here’s Imeldina again in her third adventure. This time she tells us about a recurring bad dream. But with her mother’s help she finds a solution... and she discovers something new. With Sandra Hili Vassallo. Ages 3-6. Bookings on first-come first-served basis from info@merlinpublishers.com. — **Merlin Publishers Stand**

16:45 IS-SINJURA KLAWS

I am not sure you know, but last Christmas Santa Claus was ill, so he was not able to deliver your presents. So who did the job instead? With Clare Azzopardi. Ages 5-8. Bookings on first-come first-served basis from info@merlinpublishers.com.

— **Merlin Publishers Stand**

17:00 MEET THE AUTHORS

Meet publisher Salvo Bonferraro’s authors. — **Activity Area**

17:30 BOOK PRESENTATION

A publication by Armando Siciliano Editore. *Racconti dalla tenda e altre riflessioni* by Muhammad Gheddafi. — **Activity Area**

17:45 RUMANZINI - L-EWWEL PASS

Three new books in the Rumanzini series. In this first level, we have three adventures for the younger independent readers: *Se jkollna robot? Le grazzi*, *Kosmos Express 2: Il-Pjaneta Pprojbita u Lisa u l-Kejkovoru*. With Loranne Vella. Ages 7-9. Bookings on first-come first-served basis from info@merlinpublishers.com. — **Merlin Publishers Stand**

18:00 BOOK PRESENTATION

L'amore d'altri tempi profumava d'attesa by Rosa Maria Alonge, with Patricia Salomone. — **Istituto Italiano di Cultura Stand**

18:15 BOOK LAUNCH: VALLETTA... MY CITY, MY STORY AND IL-MISTERU TA' TAHT IS-SIGRA TAL-HARRUB

Book launch of two books by Heritage Malta Publishing. — **Activity Area**

18:30 BOOK PRESENTATION

Cerere. Interpretazione dei sogni, culto dei morti, riti, magia, medicina, libertà sessuali nella Sicilia antica by Liborio Centonze. — **Istituto Italiano di Cultura Stand**

18:45 TIME TRAVEL TO THE PAST, SOLVE A MYSTERIOUS INVESTIGATION AND MEET THE MISCHIEVOUS DE MOLIZZI...

Meet authors Clare Azzopardi, Roberta Bajada, John A. Bonello and Simone Spiteri. Ages 8-13. Bookings on first-come first-served basis from info@merlinpublishers.com. — **Merlin Publishers Stand**

19:00 FARAXA PRESENTS RENO MUSCAT

Talk and discussion by Reno Muscat on his new publication *Ritratti ta' Tfulija*, which is based in the village of Qormi. — **Faraxa Publishing Stand**

19:00 BOOK PRESENTATION

Fervori municipali. Feste a Malta e Messina in età moderna by Elena Gagliuzzo. — **Istituto Italiano di Cultura Stand**

19:30 BOOK LAUNCH: VALLETTA. A PERSONAL VISIT

Book launch of a publication by Midsea: *Valletta. A Personal Visit*. — **M.A. Grima Hall**

19:30 BOOK PRESENTATION

Di tonni e tonnare tra Sicilia e Malta by Gaetano Malandrino, with Carlo Morrone. — **Istituto Italiano di Cultura Stand**

20:00 BOOK PRESENTATION

Maledetti mercanti. Lisia 22. Contro i mercanti di grano by Emilio Galvagno, with Ignazio Vecchio. — **Istituto Italiano di Cultura Stand**

20:30 DRITT GĦALL-PUNT - FILM PREMIERE

This year's winner of the 'NBC Short-Film Literary Contest' is Charles Stroud, with his company Mitholma, who adapted Joe Friggieri's short story *Dritt għall-Punt* from the collection of short stories *Nismagħhom Jgħidu* (Kite Publications, 2016). The event, which is open to all free of charge, will present the audience with the opportunity to meet the film director, the author and others in a discussion about literary adaptation into film. The event is set up by the NBC in collaboration with Kite Publications. — **Temi Zammit Hall**

Sunday



9:00 JIEN MA NIBŻA' MINN XEJN! / KUKKUŻEJT

I am not afraid of anything! Mmm... is that true? What about you, are you afraid of something? There are animals who carry their young in their pouches, others carry them in their mouths, and others on their backs. Come play with them! With Rachel Portelli. Ages 3-6. Bookings on first-come first-served basis from info@merlinpublishers.com. — **Merlin Publishers Stand**

10:00 MMM... MOSTRI! IL-BABAW

Aah... the bogeyman is coming! But he doesn't seem so scary. Ideal stories for children who are not yet comfortable with reading in Maltese, as well as for reluctant readers. With Clare Azzopardi. Ages 7+. Bookings on first-come first-served basis from info@merlinpublishers.com. — **Merlin Publishers Stand**

10:00 ST. MARTIN IN GERMAN TRADITION - CREATE YOUR OWN PAPER LANTERN

"Ġewż, lewż, qastan, tin, kemm inħobb lil San Martin". The feast of St. Martin is popular both in Malta and in Germany. Based on the same legend, several customs have developed to celebrate the patron of the poor. In this activity we will stroll on the tracks of the German Saint's tradition. Children and parents are invited to make their own paper lantern and find out more about this custom. The colourful lanterns, which form part of the processions in the nights before and on 11 November, can be taken home at the end of this handicraft activity.

— **Activity Area**

10:00 USBORNE CORNER - HANDS-ON WORKSHOP

Children's activities using Usborne books. Hands-on workshop.

— **Merlin Library Stand**

10:00 MEET THE AUTHORS

Claudia Cini presents her book *Is-Sigriet ta' Lulù*, which was a hit with the young and also with the adults with a story that keeps you in suspense. Kirsten Spiteri, the Young Adult author of *The Wave* who won five Honorable Mentions in international competitions, will be present at the Faraxa stand to meet with the public and for book-signing of his new publication *Far From Home*.

— **Faraxa Stand**

11:00 MEET CHARLES CASHA

Short talk about the author and his books; story telling from his books and Q&A session. — **Merlin Library Stand**

11:00 BOOK PRESENTATION

L'amore nella notte dei falò e altre storie di mare e di costa ritrovate by Nicola Colombo. — **Activity Area**

11:00 RUMANZINI - PASS TA' ĠGANT

Three new books in the Rumanzini series. In this third level, we have three mysteries for aspiring investigators: *L-investigazzjonijiet ta' Arkimeda*, *Lapsi 2: Misteru fil-kamp tal-Indjani*, *Monumenti Misterjużi: L-Enigma tal-Kavallier u It-Tfal tal-Labirint*. With Lorraine Vella. Ages 9-12. Bookings on first-come first-served basis from info@merlinpublishers.com. — **Merlin Publishers Stand**

11:30 BOOK PRESENTATION

Dalla Rivoluzione Partenopea a Porta Pia - Sulle orme degli esuli by Angela Picca, with Carlo Morrone. — **Activity Area**

12:00 FRA MUDEST JĠHALAQ 50 SENA: ILTAQA' MAL-AWTUR

Fra Mudest, the most popular friar among Maltese readers, is fifty years old. Yet, although years have passed, his pranks live on. Come meet the author who created this jolly character, and listen to him recount how Fra Mudest came to life. With Charles Casha. Ages 8+. Bookings on first-come first-served basis from info@merlinpublishers.com. — **Merlin Publishers Stand**

15:00 ST. MARTIN IN GERMAN TRADITION – CREATE YOUR OWN PAPER LANTERN

“Ġewż, lewż, qastan, tin, kemm inħobb lil San Martin”. The feast of St. Martin is popular both in Malta and in Germany. Based on the same legend, several customs have developed to celebrate the patron of the poor. In this activity we will stroll on the tracks of the German Saint’s tradition. Children and parents are invited to make their own paper lantern and find out more about this custom. The colourful lanterns, which form part of the processions in the nights before and on 11 November, can be taken home at the end of this handicraft activity.

— **Activity Area**

16:00 MEET JENNIFER SPAGNOL

Jennifer Spagnol will be speaking about her latest publications for children – *L-Arloġġ tal-Passat*, *Pittura Maġika 2 u Erba’ Frottiet (Big Book)*. Book-signing session at the end. — **Faraxa Stand**

16:00 X’HIN HU?

Our day is jam-packed. At school we are busy all the time. This is a book that helps children understand the concept of time. With Maria Francalanza and Marisa Khalifa. Ages 3–6. Bookings on first-come first-served basis from info@merlinpublishers.com. — **Merlin Publishers Stand**

16:00 & 17:00 READING CHAMPIONS AWARD CEREMONY

Awarding of year 8 students who are ardent readers, have improved their reading skills or have inspired their peers to read. This event is organised by the National Literacy Agency in collaboration with the National Book Council and the Department of Curriculum Management of the Ministry for Education and Employment. — **Temi Zammit Hall**

16:45 FUSETTA U S-SIGRIETI MAĠIĊI

Meet Fusetta: a cute, lively, petite caterpillar, who is always on the lookout for adventures. Fusetta likes to do magic. Then one day she goes on a journey to look for secret magic potions – shall we go with her? Let’s go! With Clare Azzopardi. Ages 5–8. Bookings on first-come first-served basis from info@merlinpublishers.com. — **Merlin Publishers Stand**

17:00 BOOK PRESENTATION

Cagliostro, la doppia vita e l'intrigo maltese by Frans Sammut and Henry Frendo, with Salvo Bonferraro. — **Activity Area**

17:30 BOOK PRESENTATION

La lunga scia di zagare lontane by Lidia Ferrigno. — **Activity Area**

17:45 L-AKKADEMJA GHALL-PRINĊPIJET PERFETTI

Prince Valentino is not happy at the Academy for Princes. Princess Sofia is also unhappy. But why? Come and meet them and learn what makes them happy. With Noel Tanti. Ages 7–9. Bookings on first-come first-served basis from info@merlinpublishers.com. — **Merlin Publishers Stand**

18:00 MEET THE AUTHORS

Siamo in viaggio by Alessia Usai, with Joseph Grech and Anna Porcheddu. — **Activity Area**

18:30 BOOK PRESENTATION

I nemici del Cavaliere by Davide Gambale. — **Istituto Italiano di Cultura Stand**

18:45 RUMANZINI – PASS PASS

Three new books in the *Rumanzini* series. In this second level, we have three books that appeal to children’s imagination and dreams: *It-tifel-dragun 2: Il-Ktieb il-Kbir tal-Lejl*, *L-Istilitini: L-ewwel sfilata ta’ Kate u Sara Ballerina: L-ewwel passi fuq il-palk*. With Loranne Vella. Ages 8–10. Bookings on first-come first-served basis from info@merlinpublishers.com. — **Merlin Publishers Stand**

19:00 MEET THE AUTHOR

Meet poet Brunella Mallia, with Corrado di Pietro. — **Istituto Italiano di Cultura Stand**

19:00 MIDSEA PRESENTS: LAUNCH OF NEW BOOK BY WALID NABHAN

Book launch of a new publication by renowned author Walid Nabhan (Midsea Books). — **Temi Zammit Hall**

19:30 BOOK PRESENTATION

Mal di mare. Traffici di vite umane e complicità occulte by Michele Giardina. — **Istituto Italiano di Cultura Stand**

Art Exhibition

This year the Perello Suite will host an art exhibition featuring paintings that were chosen as winners of the Literary Art Contest, which was launched on 18 April this year by the NBC and in which artists were asked to produce an artwork based on a Maltese literary work. The initiative is meant to encourage artists to look at Maltese literature for inspiration, which is something that would hopefully lead on to more transdisciplinary efforts in the future.

Following a careful selection process, a total of four artworks were chosen as having reached the required standard. These paintings will be for sale for the duration of the exhibition, which will be open at all times from 8–11 November. In addition to the artworks, the exhibition will also showcase a number of books that were awarded prizes for best book design in the National Book Prize. These will include examples of both adult literature and children's literature.

Exhibitors



AGIUS & AGIUS Ltd.

Agius & Agius bookshop is one of the oldest firms in the book business in Malta. The bookshop imports and sells books from its outlet in Hamrun (Blata l-Bajda). It stocks reading material for children and adults, textbooks and workbooks, and books for teachers.

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BDL

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 mast holding the company's sails, specializes in quality books ranging from children's fiction to prestigious Melitensia literature. The third mast 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 and was 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 Reliġjon u Hajja (Religion & Life) that was founded in 1967 by Fr Alexander Bonnici. The Publishing House 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. Till now ČAK published more than 280 titles.

S. Sommier Street, Birkirkara BKR4611

T: +356 2149 8343

www.cakmalta.org



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 encyclopaedia 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

Facebook: Ilwien Il-Festi Maltin



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 and promotion. It offers its books for sale to the global market through its edebooks.eu online presence.

Ede Books specialises in producing 'art books' - books of predominantly visual, rich content, which touch upon architecture, photography, design and urban culture.

3a, Panorama Flats, Mattew Pulis Street, SLM 3051 Sliema, Malta

T: +356 2133 4224 / +356 7982 7522 | **E:** info@edebooks.eu

http://edebooks.eu



FARAXA PUBLISHING

Founded in 2011, Faraxa is an international publishing house producing a wide range of professionally relevant and high-quality publications in various domains. Under the direction of 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.

38, Antonio Nani Street, Rabat RBT 3047

T: +356 9982 0157 | **E:** info@faraxapublishing.com

Facebook: Faraxa Publishing | **Twitter:** @jotammir

Pinterest: pinterest.com/faraxapub

www.faraxapublishing.com



FONDAZZJONI WIRT ARTNA

Fondazzjoni Wirt Artna, the Malta Heritage Trust, is a voluntary non-governmental 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. For this reason, over the years, FWA undertook the rehabilitation and restoration of various cultural properties.

Today FWA looks after several historic buildings and sites in Malta. These properties span 700 years of Maltese history, from the Middle Ages to the 20th century. These range from a great baroque gate once serving as the main entrance into the imposing 7km-long Cottonera bastioned ramparts; and from a Victorian fort armed with the world's largest cannon to 20th century concrete defences.

Most of the cultural properties that FWA holds in trust are made accessible to the public. In line with its objectives, FWA seeks to provide the visiting public with the highest form of interpretation that will enable a better understanding and appreciation of our cultural heritage. Fondazzjoni Wirt Artna is a not-for-profit organisation. All the revenue it generates goes towards the restoration and ongoing conservation of its cultural properties.

Notre Dame Gate, St. Edward's Street, Vittoriosa, BRG 9038

T: +356 2180 0992 / +356 2180 3091

E: info@wirtartna.org

http://www.wirtartna.org/



FRENCH EMBASSY / LIBRAIRIE "LA BOUCHERIE" PARIS

Librairie "La Boucherie" is a bookshop situated in the Paris Latin quarter. Open since 1996 it specializes in different literary genres. This will mark "La Boucherie"s fifth year at the Malta Book Festival.

French Embassy, 130 Melita Street, Valletta VLT 1123

T: +356 2248 0600

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



GERMAN-MALTESE CIRCLE

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

https://www.germanmaltesecircle.org/



GHAQDA TAL-MALTI - UNIVERSITÀ

The Ghaqda tal-Malti - Università was founded by two medical students, Rużar Briffa and Ġużè Bonnici on the 26 January, 1931. In the same year, they

started publishing *Lehen il-Malti*, a journal that GħMU 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, GħMU 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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Instagram: www.instagram.com/ghaqdamalti

www.ghaqdataalmalti.org



Heritage Malta

HERITAGE MALTA PUBLISHING

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, MALTA

E: publications.heritagemalta@gov.mt

www.heritagemalta.org



HORIZONS

Horizons is one of the leading book publishers on the island, winning numerous Ktieb tal-Malti literary prizes in the different book categories. It has published well-known and established authors such as Mario Azzopardi, Charles Briffa, Lina Brockdorff, Victor Fenech, Charles Flores, Anton Grasso, Albert Marshall, Gorg Peresso, Giuseppe Schembri Bonaci and Vincent Vella, as well as introducing upcoming authors such as Eman Bonnici, Edgar Formosa, Jacqueline Mizzi, Sergio Grech, Tyrone Grima, Stephen Lughermo, Justin Schembri and Andre' Mangion.

Triq l-Iskultur, Qormi QRM 3580

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ISTITUTO ITALIANO DI CULTURA

The Italian Cultural Institute was founded in February 1971 and is 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 the organization of cultural events, of 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.

Vecchia Cancelleria, St. George's Square, Valletta VLT 1190

T: +356 21221462 | **E:** iicvalletta@esteri.it

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Kite Group is a dynamic and creative company, specialising in high quality book publishing. Home to experienced professionals, Kite Group brings also together a unique skill-set to implement marketing and communications strategies and organise unique book launches and book signing sessions. Kite Group has become synonymous with high quality content of excellent presentation, which includes biographies, art and culture books, architecture, history, academic books, novels and children's books.

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MALTA CLASSICS ASSOCIATION AND SPS

The Malta Classics Association is a collaborative initiative of both the staff and the students of the University of Malta's Department of Classics and Archaeology. Malta's Classical history stretches back to the dawn of antiquity and the islands have a correspondingly long and noble tradition of Classical Studies. The Association aims to promote knowledge of Classics in all its branches to the widest audience possible, both academic and general. This includes study of the Latin, Greek and Sanskrit languages



and of the Roman, Greek and Indo-European cultures. The inclusion of Sanskrit acknowledges the close linguistic and cultural links between Latin, Greek and Sanskrit and the people who spoke them. The Malta Classics Association is especially keen to promote these languages to Maltese schools, to the general public and to build links with universities and other Associations around the world.

E: classicsmaltasoc@gmail.com

Facebook: www.facebook.com/MaltaClassicsAssociation/
www.classicsmalta.org

Malta Libraries



MALTA LIBRARIES

Malta Libraries is the entity responsible for the National Library, the Central Public Library, the Gozo Public Library, and the Regional and Branch public libraries. 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

T: +356 21243297 | **E:** customercare.nlm@gov.mt / customercare.cpl@gov.mt

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www.maltalibraries.gov.mt



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 speciality 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!

52, Triq Santa Luċija, Valletta / 185, Triq I-Ifran, Valletta

T: +356 2123 7266 / +356 9980 3601

E: transit@onvol.net

Facebook: www.facebook.com/Meli-Book-Shop-1502284266653728/



IL-MELLIEħA

MELLIEħA LOCAL COUNCIL

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

Triq il-Madonna ta' Fatima, Il-Mellieħa

T: +356 2152 1333 | **E:** customercare.mellieħa.lc@gov.mt

www.mellieħa.gov.mt/



MERLIN LIBRARY

Merlin Library of Blata l-Bajda is the name most associated with books for children in Malta. It is the biggest children's book shop stocking a vast selection of books ranging from "picture books" to books for teenagers, with regular offers for clients and special discounts for members of the Merlin Wizards Club. Merlin Library organise several free-of-charge events such as readings for kids, crafts and meet-the-author sessions. In 2003, Merlin was the first to bring over to Malta a renowned international children's author - Lynne Reid Banks - to tour a number of schools. Following that, Merlin also organised visits by Annie Dalton, Rick Riordan, Jeremy Strong, Vivian French and Lauren St John.

Mountbatten Street, Blata l-Bajda / Bisazza Street, Sliema

T: +356 2123 4438 | **E:** mail@merlinlibrary.com

Facebook: merlinlibrary

www.merlinlibrary.com



MERLIN PUBLISHERS

Set up in 1964, Merlin has grown into Malta's most innovative and exciting publisher. Home to most of Malta's key authors, Merlin prides itself on its backlist of Maltese literature, as well as on its nurturing of new authors with innovative styles and expressions.

Winner of the Best Publishing House Award for multiple years, Merlin has been at the forefront of production, design, packaging and marketing. Merlin's books have been exhibited at the Frankfurt, London and Bologna Book Fairs.

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Twitter: https://twitter.com/merlinkotba

Instagram: https://www.instagram.com/merlinkotba/

www.merlinpublishers.com



MIDSEA BOOKS LTD | KLABB KOTBA MALTIN

Midsea Books Ltd is Malta's leading publisher. It was set up in 1969 by Pawlu Mizzi. Apart from Midsea Books, there are three other imprints, Klabb Kotba Maltin, Klabb Kotba Maltin | tfal and Heritage Books.

Over the past 45 years, Midsea Books with its subsidiaries Klabb Kotba Maltin and Heritage Books have become a household name in Maltese publications and a hallmark for quality books about anything that Malta represents. A number of books published are award winners or have been short-listed for awards both in Malta and overseas.

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T: +356 2149 7046 / +356 2123 9039 | **E:** admin@midseabooks.com

Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/Klabb-Kotba-Maltin-135066206577251/

www.midseabooks.com



MILLER DISTRIBUTORS LTD

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www.millermalta.com



PANDORA

Pandora is a distributor and reseller of various children's items including books. Apart from selling books from shops, we can also be found at cultural events in different localities around Malta where we aim to encourage reading by selling Maltese and English books from our stand, especially for children. Pandora also takes into consideration everyone's budget by keeping the prices low. In fact most of our books are priced €3 or less.

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SKS PUBLISHERS

SKS PUBLISHERS was established in 1982 with the general objective of effecting change through education. Whatever books it produced, along the years it always endeavoured to encourage its readers to embrace new ideas, to stimulate their interest and intellect in progressive attitudes, and to broaden their vision of a transformed and improved society.

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WAREHOUSE BOOKSALES

Established in the 1970s, Warehouse Booksales is situated in Fgura, in Cottonera Avenue and specialises in old books, comics, cookery books, and other genres. Whatever the genre or classification, be it fantasy, scientific, romance, thrillers, mystery, horror, literature, biographies, kids and young adult literature, fiction or non-fiction, cookery or comics you can rest assured you will find what you want in our store.

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