

AT HOME EVERYWHERE

The
ICORN
Network
Meeting
& PEN
International
WiPC
Conference

Rotterdam 29 30 31 May '19

Organisers

ICORN - International Cities of Refuge Network
PEN International

Official hosts

Verhalenhuis Belvedere
City of Rotterdam

Cooperation partners

PEN Netherlands Centre

Venues

SSROTTERDAM
Verhalenhuis Belvedere
Rotterdam Theatre

Accommodation

SSROTTERDAM (main hotel)
Intel Hotel



PROVISIONAL PROGRAMME

PR. 10 APRIL 2019 (subject to change)

TUESDAY 28 MAY

The Folk Kitchen at Verhalenhuis Belvedere

For Tuesday's conference arrivals

18:00-22:00

Early arriving participants are welcome to attend a varied programme and enjoy stories, film, music, poems and more. Current ICORN writer Hamed Ahmadi in Rotterdam tells his story and reads from his own work. Musicians and poets from the ICORN and PEN network perform and there will be an opening of an exhibition about migration developed by Verhalenhuis on the theme *At Home Everywhere*. A meal is served at 19:00, at 7.50 pr person.

WEDNESDAY 29 MAY

REGISTRATION

10:00 AM -14:00/ 2 PM

LUNCH

(12:00-13:30)

13:30

Official opening of the ICORN Network Meeting & PEN WiPC Conference

Welcome greetings, cultural interventions, testimonies by ICORN writers/artists, PEN empty chair, presentation of programme. Special greeting by Bangladeshi photojournalist Shahidul Alam.

COFFEE BREAK

(15:00-15:30)

15:30-17:00

Group discussions

People from different backgrounds and with diverse experiences come together to share, debate and work towards the same goal. These are group discussions on relevant topics, suggested and driven by the conference participants.

Facilitated by Julia Farrington for ICORN/PEN.

AT HOME EVERYWHERE

Welcome Dinner Reception

At the Invitation of Mayor of Rotterdam Mr. Ahmed Aboutaleb

Rotterdam Theatre at 19:00/ 7 PM (Arrive early! Welcome drinks 18:30)

Transforming the grand stage of the Rotterdam Theatre into Verhalenhuis Belvedere for just one night, our excellent host frames the theme *At Home Everywhere* in a local perspective - with speakers and musicians and a Syrian chef, on small and large components that make home home.

21:30

Concert

A gathering with music and performances by musicians from our joint international & local network. (TBA)

Venue: The Rotterdam Theatre

THURSDAY 30 MAY

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| 08:00—09:30 | <p>Slow dating Organized on each and everyone's own initiative - space for individual/regional/national meetings and other initiatives.</p> |
| 09:30-11:00 | <p>Separate ICORN and PEN Plenary Sessions For ICORN: Updates from ICORN Board and Secretariat, cities and artists, incl. cultural interventions.</p> |
| <p>COFFEE BREAK (11:00-11:30)</p> | |
| <p>PARALLEL PROGRAMME SESSIONS I x5 ICORN & PEN (11:30-13:00)</p> | |
| <p>Wellbeing for Human Rights Defenders (wellbeing I) The wellbeing of people promoting and protecting human rights is a critical but often neglected issue in the human rights movement. Cultures of human rights practice tend to value deep commitment and sacrifice, prompting feelings of guilt in relation to 'self-care'. Together with the University of York, and other relocation programmes, ICORN has been part of a research on these issues. The findings of the programme will be presented and discussed in this workshop. This is the first of two workshops on this topic. With Dr. Alice M. Nah Centre for Applied Human Rights CAHR/University of York.</p> | |
| <p>Digital Security Training (rep.) Information technology and digital media/social networks have become instrumental in culture- and human rights work. Artists, human rights defenders and media professionals effectively use it to promote their work and cause. At the same time oppressors use the same tools to suppress opposing voices. How can we work more secure and more effectively with the right tools and awareness? Manon Muti, Training Coordinator & Trainer for Human Rights Defenders and Security at Justice and Peace provides practical advice and simple strategies to a more secure online presence.</p> | |
| <p>Campaigning for Free Expression (rep.) What can an organisation of writers specifically bring to campaigning? Which sort of campaigning do PEN Centres find effective in their national contexts, and which work internationally? How can ICORN cities, writers and artists work to contribute? Come ready to discuss your experiences and suggestions for effective campaigning to this session. With ICORN Cartoonist Ali Dorani/Mr. Eaten Fish, and Terry Anderson, Deputy Executive Director of Cartoonists Rights Network International (CRNI), who was part of the campaign to get Eaten Fish out of Manus Island, Add a Fish. Facilitated by Rebecca Sharkey, Director of Campaigns and Communication at PEN International.</p> | |
| <p>When Two Nations Make Peace... Country Report on Eritrea/Ethiopia In July 2018, Ethiopia and Eritrea signed a peace agreement, bringing to an end thirty years of conflict between the two countries. Later that year, the Ethiopia-Eritrea border was re-opened, inspiring hopes that this might signal a new openness of attitude in both countries and a potential improvement in their respective human rights situations. However, only Ethiopia has shown any inclination towards reform. Dessale Berekhet (Eritrea), Girma Fantaye (Ethiopia) and Elisabeth Löfgren will discuss these recent changes, and explore what PEN and the international community can and should be doing to in terms of advocacy for human rights and free expression in both countries. Moderator: Wolfgang Martin Roth, Austrian PEN.</p> | |
| <p>Protect & Make Space (rep. I) Protection is a key factor in the work that PEN and ICORN carry out for persecuted writers and artists, so they can continue to work from a safe place. Get a peek into the protection work done by PEN & ICORN, including how to build international</p> | |

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| support. With PEN Protection Manager Cathy McCann, Protection Officers Patricia Diaz and Basim Mardan, and ICORN Protection Manager Marianne Hovdan |
| LUNCH (13:00-14:00) |
| PARALLEL PROGRAMME SESSIONS II x5 ICORN & PEN (14:00-15:30) |
| At Home Everywhere? – Writing and Literary Culture in Exile (rep.II) Exile writing has marked the development of modern literature as a whole, at least from the beginning of the 20th century: from James Joyce to Herta Müller, from Jean Rhys to Salman Rushdie. What is the place of exile, and what does it leave on the work of literature? How do we facilitate participation of exiled writers and artists in the literary scene in their new places of residence and broader? Workshop with readings and discussions. (TBA) |
| <i>- What is to give light must endure burning. How to Adapt and Develop after Trauma (wellbeing II)</i> Małgorzata Różańska-Mglej, ICORN coordinator from Krakow, presents her recent research on how ICORN residents can adapt after trauma and develop their professional/artistic work in exile. Based on this and the previous session on wellbeing, participants will work in groups to exchange experiences and best practice about needs and tools for i.e. enhancing wellbeing, coping with and developing after trauma. |
| Music and Arts residencies ... |
| PEN Resolutions (for PEN members only) Resolutions are passed by the PEN International Assembly of Delegates annually to alert the PEN membership and public to serious violations of freedom of expression or other threats to rights as defined in the PEN Charter. How ensure that PEN resolutions remain relevant and achieve maximum impact in terms of the PEN family and the people we campaign and work for. Workshop and Discussion facilitated by: Salil Tripathi and Rebecca Sharkey. |
| COFFEE BREAK (15:30-16:00) |
| PARALLEL PROGRAMME SESSIONS III x5 ICORN & PEN (16:00-17:30) |
| The Role of the Writer in Countering Xenophobia PUBLIC Recent years have seen the rise of a number of political parties and governments promoting discrimination and the language of hate; the Writers for Peace Committee of PEN International recently warned Europeans of this trend ahead of national elections, but it is a global problem. This panel will explore how writers can combat xenophobia and hate speech in the context of defending freedom of expression. |
| At Home Everywhere? – Writing and Literary Culture in Exile (rep.II) Exile writing has marked the development of modern literature as a whole, at least from the beginning of the 20th century: from James Joyce to Herta Müller, from Jean Rhys to Salman Rushdie. What is the place of exile, and what does it |

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| <p>leave on the work of literature? How do we facilitate participation of exiled writers and artists in the literary scene in their new places of residence and broader? Workshop with readings and discussions. (TBA)</p> | |
| <p>New legislation curtailing artistic expression ARC/Laura Kauer?</p> | |
| <p>Planning is Resilience Artists, human rights defenders and media professionals sustain their work and activism at high costs. Risks are an inherent part of the work they do and building resilience to mitigate those risks takes a lot of work and energy. This workshop facilitates a method that will allow individuals to improve their security from a holistic perspective. You can think of security as “well-being in action” to sustain your work and build resilience. Adopting a holistic approach to security means that rather than looking separately at our digital security, well-being and organizational security processes, our security management should integrate all those aspects and interrelate them. We will look into the steps to develop a risk assessment and a security plan, in an interactive workshop.</p> | |
| <p>New Country - New Colleagues Whether temporary or long-term, exile can offer great opportunities for writers forced to flee their home country. However, it can equally become a serious limitation to exercising their freedom of speech if appropriate networks and strategies to work in their new location are lacking. With the goal to find sustainable, long term methods to ensure that writers can continue working in their new setting, Reporters Without Borders Sweden (RSF) has initiated the project <i>Colleague to Colleague</i> together with Swedish PEN, Swedish Writers' Union, the Swedish Union of Journalist, ICORN and three regions in Sweden. The project connects the target group with established writers in Sweden and aim to research which practical and professional support mechanisms journalists and writers who arrive in Sweden need to continue their work and reach new and existing audiences.</p> | |
| <p>THE ART OF LOSING A HOME, THE ART OF FINDING A HOME Keynote speech by Yiyun Li ssRotterdam’s Theatre at 18.00</p> <p>Yiyun Li is the author of four works of fiction – <i>Kinder Than Solitude</i>, <i>A Thousand Years of Good Prayers</i>, <i>The Vagrants</i>, and <i>Gold Boy</i>, <i>Emerald Girl</i> – and the memoir <i>Dear Friend, from My Life I Write to You in Your Life</i>. A native of Beijing and a graduate of the Iowa Writers’ Workshop, she is the recipient of many awards, including a PEN/Hemingway Award and a MacArthur Foundation fellowship. Li teaches at Princeton University, USA.</p> | |
| 19:00 | <p>Dinner ssRotterdam’s Grand Ball Room</p> |
| 21:00 | <p><i>Belvedere Club - The Start of New Memories</i> Mingle, talks, literature, music, open mic & Katendrecht International Film Festival (kiff) Special Edition Verhalenhuis BELVEDÈRE and ssRotterdam</p> |

FRIDAY 31 MAY

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| 08:00-09:00 | Slow Dating Organized on each and everyone's own initiative - space for individual/regional/national meetings and other initiatives. |
| 09:00 | Separate ICORN and PEN Plenary Sessions For ICORN: Updates from ICORN Board and Secretariat, cities and artists, incl. cultural interventions. |
| COFFEE BREAK (10:30-11:00) | |
| PARALLEL PROGRAMME SESSIONS III x5 ICORN & PEN (11:00-12:30) | |
| <p>Towards Inclusive Cities and Societies PUBLIC</p> <p>The cities of Europe find themselves in a crucial role regarding the challenges of protection, housing, work and education opportunities for newcomers. If Europe shall succeed, its cities must succeed. For the past three years, European cities, national governments, the European Commission and civil society organizations have been working together under the <i>Urban Agenda Partnership on Inclusion</i> to develop ideas and concrete actions to support the inclusion of refugees and other migrants in Europe. The City of Amsterdam have invited colleagues/deputy mayors from Helsinki, Berlin and Athens for a panel session, to discuss challenges and lessons learned with colleagues in ICORN and PEN.</p> | |
| <p>Silence 2.0: Digital Surveillance and Self-Censorship</p> <p>What drives self-censorship? What forces encourages writers to put down their pen, delete their drafts or step away from covering something? In this session, Scottish PEN will outline their recent ground-breaking study, <i>Scottish Chilling: Impact of Government and Corporate Surveillance on Writers</i> to explore how digital surveillance, national security policies, corporate tracking and big data affects writers' willingness to explore complex and challenging issues. Surveillance is often used against at-risk writers to exert power and dominance, target vulnerable communities and encourage self-censorship. In this session we will bring together writers to discuss what topics may be being avoided, why writers need to know more about surveillance and what steps they can take to protect themselves.</p> | |
| <p>Campaigning for Free Expression (rep.II)</p> <p>What can an organisation of writers specifically bring to campaigning? Which sort of campaigning do PEN Centres find effective in their national contexts, and which work internationally? How can ICORN cities, writers and artists work to contribute? Come ready to discuss your experiences and suggestions for effective campaigning to this session. With ICORN Cartoonist Ali Dorani/Mr. Eaten Fish, and Terry Anderson, Deputy Executive Director of Cartoonists Rights Network International (CRNI), who was part of campaign <i>Add a Fish</i> to get Eaten Fish out of Manus Island. Facilitated by Rebecca Sharkey, Director of Campaigns and Communication at PEN International.</p> | |
| <p>Translation</p> <p>Establishing oneself as an author in a new country entails numerous possibilities, but also challenges. Language is foreign, social and professional codes are different, audience and literary arenas are new, publishers or other actors in the cultural field are unknown. How can relevant and mutually fruitful relations and networks to be established?</p> | |
| <p>Protect & Make Space (rep.II)</p> <p>Protection is a key factor in the work that PEN and ICORN carry out for persecuted writers and artists, so they can continue to work from a safe place. Get a peek into the protection work done by PEN & ICORN, including how to build international</p> | |

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| LUNCH (12:30-13:30) | |
| 13:30-15:00 | Homerun: ICORN - PEN Plenary Round up ICORN writers & artists gather with external guests on stage, rounding up this year's event, opening our minds for dreams, visions and challenges for the future. |
| CULTURAL WEEKEND PROGRAMME 31 MAY-2 JUNE | |
| FRIDAY 31 MAY | |
| 15:00 | Literary tours at Katendrecht At home, Everywhere Literary tours by Verhalenhuis BELVEDÈRE and Juan Heinsohn Huala. A literary tour along four 'stages' - at homes, in cafes, and public spaces - where poets recite their poems and writers tell their stories, sometimes accompanied by musicians. Participants walk in groups along the stages, following different routes through the Katendrecht area. |
| 15:00- | Option organised tours in Rotterdam Info will follow |
| 18:00 – 19:00 | Folk Kitchen With Aktas Erdogan and Fusan Erdogan <i>programme by Juan Heinsohn Huala, Aktas Erdogan & Els Desmet</i> . Meals served for 7,50 eur. Verhalenhuis BELVEDÈRE |
| 20:00-22:00 | Talks & After Music Belvedère Club with guest of the day. Verhalenhuis BELVEDÈRE |
| SUNDAY 2 JUNE | |
| 16.00 – 19.00 | Special Edition Al Rewaq At Katendrecht AL REWAQ # 22: At home, everywhere at Verhalenhuis BELVEDÈRE with Adnan Alaoda and invited guests. Programme by Adnan Alaoda & Els Desmet Verhalenhuis BELVEDÈRE |

