

What is poetry?-Festival hits South Africa's Shores from 21st April to 4th May

Programme announcement:

„A celebration of Language“, a Festival of Poetry and the Arts is happening from the 21st April to 4th May, 2013 and will travel Northern South Africa and Zimbabwe soon!

The schedule:

Johannesburg: 21st April - Mahikeng 22nd April - Johannesburg 23rd to 25th April - Polokwane 26th April- Makhado 27th April - Hifa Festival Harare 29th – 3rd May

it is a follow up on the hugely successful festival that took place in Indonesia in 2012. The festival brings together poets from South Africa, Indonesia, China and many other countries of the world. This two-week celebration of language will focus not only on how poets use language, but how they adapt and change it.

We celebrate the ways how poets all over the world reinvent language to express new ideas and insights and thus provoke change and reflection. Through the work of poetry we dare a comparative analysis over its importance for cultural identity and change.

The core of the festival are readings, workshops, reflections and performances with 25 renowned poets. The discussions will incorporate poets, visual artists, dancers and composers.

The programme of „What is Poetry?“ 2013, the annual International Festival of Poets and Artists, is now available on our website **www.whatispoetry.net**.

Participants include Toeti Herty, Samar Gantang, Rosa Herliany and Saut Situmorang from Indonesia, Sujata Bhatt (India), Chirikure Chirikure (Zimbabwe) Mindy Zhang (China), Raphael Urweider (Switzerland) Sylvia Geist and Michael Augustin from Germany, Kae Morii (Japan), Stanislav Lvovsky (Russia) from overseas and the South African poets Vonani Bila, Kgafela oa Magogodi, Rustum Kozain, Charl Pierre Naudé, Mbali Kgosidintsi Alan Finlay and Lesego Rampolokeng.

The artists Paul Emmanuel, Stephan Erasmus, Volker März, Cedric Nunn, Katharina Rohde and Minnette Vari, dancer Tumi Mokgope and pianist Jill

Richards join the poets.

This two-weeks event is curated by Indra Wussow, director of the Sylt Foundation (based in Johannesburg and Sylt/Germany) and editor of a series of African fiction for the German publisher AfrikAWunderhorn.

Whats is Poetry?- Festivals are an initiative by: Dudy Anggawi, Michael Augustin, Silke Behl, Indra Wussow

For further information please visit our website www.whatispoetry.net or visit us on facebook and twitter.

Please direct all enquiries and requests for interviews to the curator
Indra Wussow | indra@jozi-artlab.co.za | 076 501 42 91 | 011 482 98 77