

International Writing Program 40th Anniversary
October 7-12, 2007
The University of Iowa
Iowa City, IA

Schedule of Events as of Saturday, September 29, 2007

* = not open to the public

Sunday, October 7

5:00 – 6:00 pm **Prairie Lights Reading:** Daniel Weissbort, Matvei Yankelevich, Michael Judd
Prairie Lights
Poets and translators Weissbort and Yankelevich read from their work along with Judd, a poet and Writers' Workshop student.

7:00 pm – 12:00 am **Films:** "Jellyfish" (2007, Israel), "The Magic Gloves" (2003, Argentina)
Bijou Theater
"Jellyfish", Camera D'Or winner at this year's Cannes Film Festival, was directed by Etgar Keret (IWP '01) and is being co-sponsored by Hillel. "The Magic Gloves" was written, directed, and co-produced by Martin Rejtman (IWP '00). Both films shown with English subtitles.

Monday, October 8 –

Tuesday, October 9

12:00 pm – 12:00 pm* **Global Play Collaborative**
North America, South America, Europe, Asia, Africa, Australia
IWP alumni playwrights from around the world work together to create a play within a 24-hour period.

Monday, October 8 –

Thursday, October 11

1:00– 3:00 pm* **Renga Sessions**
SHSE Library
Poets (including Tomaž Šalamun, Marvin Bell, and Chris Merrill) collaborate to create a traditional Japanese poem.

Monday, October 8

- 12:00 – 1:30 pm **Panel: World Lit Net: Writing in the Age of Global Communication** AJB E105
Editors and writers (Matvei Yankelevich, Michael Orthofer, Chad Post, Cris Mattison, Dedi Felman, and Eliot Weinberger; Russell Valentino and Nataša Durovičová, moderators) discuss the value of the Internet as a tool of dissemination, a locus of literary community, and a potential engine for (or roadblock to) “world literature.”
- 3:30 – 4:30 pm **ILT Panel: Reading the Other** 140 Schaeffer
In the first hour of this class, which will be open to the public, poets Tomaz Šalamun, Marvin Bell, and Eliot Weinberger discuss the impact of world literature on their work in particular and on their native literature in general.
- 7:00 – 8:00 pm **Reading:** Ersi Sotiropoulos, Hamdy el-Gazzar Prairie Lights Bookstore
Greek novelist Ersi Sotiropoulos (IWP '81) reads from her fifth novel, *Zig-Zag Through the Bitter Orange Trees*. Egyptian novelist and IWP 2007 resident Hamdy el-Gazzar reads from his first novel, *Black Magic*.

Tuesday, October 9

- 12:00 – 1:30 pm **Discussion: The World's Voice In Our Ear: Influences of World Literature on Writing and Writers** 140 Schaeffer
Panelists, including Eliot Weinberger and IWP 2007 resident István László Geher (Hungary), discuss the influence of world literature on their work and on their native literature.
- 4:00 – 5:30 pm **Russian-Language Reading** SHSE
Open World participants Maria Galina, Leonid Kostyukov, Vladimir Sovetov, and Ekaterina Taratuta read from their work in this bilingual event.
- 8:00 – 9:00 pm **Reading:** Eliot Weinberger, Kiran Nagarkar SHSE
Poet and essayist Weinberger and Indian novelist and IWP 2007 resident Nagarkar read from their work.

Wednesday, October 10

- 12:00 – 1:30 pm **Panel: The Business of Arabic-Language Literature** Meeting Room A, Iowa City Public Library
IWP 2007 residents Hamdy el-Gazzar (Egypt), Khaled Khalifa (Syria), Al-Mustaqeem Radhi (Malaysia) and Aziz Shakir (Bulgaria) discuss the business of Arabic-language writing and literature. Moderated by Ahmed Kanna, a UI postdoctoral fellow specializing in Middle East studies.
- 2:00 – 3:00 pm **Discussion: Publishing Books in Translation** SHSE
Discussion on publishing with Sal Robinson, an editor in the international books division of Harcourt, and Russell Valentino, UI professor and co-founder of Autumn Hill Press, which specializes in translations of foreign-language fiction.
- 4:00 – 5:30 pm **Spanish-Language Reading** SHSE
This bilingual reading, hosted by Roberto Ampuero (IWP '96, Chile), features UI assistant professor Santiago Vaquera-Vasquez, local journalist Oscar Argueta, and IWP 2007 residents Elena Bossi (Argentina) and Beaudelaine Pierre (Haiti).
- 5:30 – 7:30 pm* **Reception and Retrospective: 40 Years of the IWP** UI Art Museum
Guests, including IWP founder Hualing Engle, IWP director Chris Merrill, Daniel Weissbort, Stavros Deligiorgis, and Peter Nazareth share their memories of the IWP.
- 8:00 – 10:00 pm **Global Play Performance: “All The World’s A Page: The Global Play Project”** Theater B, UI Theater Building
The play, created by IWP alumni playwrights around the world within a 24-hour period, premieres in Iowa City.

Thursday, October 11

- 12:00 – 1:30 pm **Panel: Creating and Promoting African Literature** Meeting Room A, Iowa City Public Library
IWP 2007 residents Tom Dreyer (South Africa) and Peter Kimani (Kenya), along with former UI associate dean Sandra Barkan and Rwandan poet and UNI professor of English Pierre-Damien Mvuyekure, discuss the business of writing and literature on the African continent. Moderated by Peter Nazareth, UI professor of English. Co-sponsored by the African Studies Program.
- 5:00 – 6:30 pm **Scattered Seeds: Writers from China and the Chinese Diaspora** E105 AJB
IWP alumni Li Rui (2002, China), Xi Chuan (2002, China), Cheng Chou-yu (1968-71, Taiwan/USA), and Ya Hsien (1967, Taiwan/Canada) read and discuss their work and lives.
- 7:00 – 9:30 pm **Film and Discussion: “The Devil Came On Horseback”** Bijou Theater
“The Devil Came On Horseback” (2007) exposes the Darfur conflict through the eyes of witness and former U.S. Marine Captain Brian Steidle. Following the screening is a panel discussion featuring producer Jane Wells, former UI associate dean Sandra Barkan, UI School of Journalism associate professor Leo Eko, Kenyan journalist and IWP 2007 resident Peter Kimani, and Sudanese former journalist Abdalla Mohamed Abdalla. Co-sponsored by the African Studies Program and the UI Center for Human Rights.
NOTE: This film will also be shown on October 10 at 9:00 pm and October 14 at 8:00 pm. All screenings are free.

Friday, October 12

- 11:00 am – 12:00 pm **Tomaž Šalamun Q&A** Conroy Room, Dey House
Slovenian poet and Ida Beam Distinguished Visiting Professor Šalamun (IWP '71) answers questions from the audience.

Friday, October 12 (cont.)

- 12:00 – 1:30 pm **Panel: State of the Art: Literature From Where I Stand** Meeting Room A,
Iowa City Public
Library
IWP 2007 residents James T.C. Na
(China/Philippines), Simone Inguanez
(Malta), Nirwan Dewanto (Indonesia),
Khaled Khalifa (Syria), and Kei Miller
(Jamaica) discuss “world perspectives and
home literatures.”
- 4:00 – 5:00 pm **Panel: Cultural Diplomacy: The Writer and the World** Senate Chambers,
Old Capitol
Discussion of the roles writers and their
advocates play in increasing understanding
between cultures. Panelists scheduled to
appear include Richard Arndt, author of
"First Resort of Kings: US Cultural
Diplomacy in the Twentieth Century,"
former Congressman James Leach, UI
professor of English Harry Stecopoulos, and
IWP 2007 resident Kavery Nambisan
(India).
- 5:00 – 7:00 pm **“A Community of Writers:
Creative Writing at the University
of Iowa” Exhibit Opening and
Reception** Old Capitol
This yearlong exhibition provides an
overview of the diverse personalities and
historical circumstances that combined to
make Iowa “The Writing University.”
- 8:00 – 9:00 pm **Paul Engle Memorial Reading:** Shambaugh
Auditorium
Tomaž Šalamun
Slovenian poet and Ida Beam Distinguished
Visiting Professor Šalamun (IWP '71)
delivers the Paul Engle Memorial Reading.