

ANNEX B – Singapore Writers Festival 2015 Festival Tracks



SWF STAGE

This year, the headlining events consist of SWF Lectures, ticketed performances and the ever-popular Closing Debate. 2015 will have 11 marquee events, which will come under the track of SWF Stage from this year.

What to look out for:

Six SWF Lectures

- **Michael Sandel** – Harvard political philosopher, “moral rock star” and author of the New York Times bestseller, *Justice: What’s the Right Thing to Do?* –will inspire a lively discussion of markets, democracy, and big ethical questions confronting global society today.
- Man Booker Prize 2012 nominee, **Deborah Levy**, will delve into the world of dreams, exploring the obsessions of needs and wants.
- Former Financial Times Weekend columnist **Heather McGregor, aka Mrs Money Penny**, will share her thoughts on the possibility of women having it all.
- Hong Kong columnist-broadcaster **Chip Tsao** and Chinese author-columnist **Xu Zhiyuan** will take on the subject of re-visioning China.
- **Goenawan Mohamad**, Indonesian poet, man of letters, and founder of Tempo magazine, will explore the polarised state of writing in Indonesia within the festival’s Country Focus: Indonesia.
- In *Imagine Singapore...* **Ho Kwon Ping, Bertha Henson, Pooja Nansi** will be looking inwards at Singapore, its future and their own dreams for the country.

Three Marquee Performances

- New Zealand’s **Hollie Fullbrook**, frontwoman of acclaimed **Tiny Ruins**
- A special double-bill by **In Each Hand a Cutlass** and **I am David Sparkle**
- **Dimensions and Demons** – a creative collaboration between Singaporean writers and musicians Daren Shiau x Riot In Magenta, Dave Chua x weish, and Stephanie Ye x Ferry resulting in new, original compositions

Closing Debate

- In the year of SG50, two teams comprising Oniatta Effendi, Shamini Flint, Vernetta Lopez, Joshua Ip, Hirzi Zulkiflie, Deborah Emmanuel led by Adrian Tan and Gwee Li Sui will passionately debate the motion “**This House Believes That Singaporeans Are Not Dreamers**”. Petrina Kow will moderate the debate.

What I Love about You is Your Attitude Problem

- Curated by Huzir Sulaiman and presented by Checkpoint Theatre, **What I Love about You is Your Attitude Problem** will be an exciting overnight programme of 24 text-based performances performed over 12 hours. New and specially commissioned works of Singapore drama, poetry, and prose unveiled alongside musical performances and visual arts, this promises to be an edgy celebration of words and the human connection.



SWF CLASS

SWF Class comprises not just workshops, but also masterclasses for the more experienced writers. Led by established Singaporean and international writers, these 11 immersive classes provide a forum for the exchange of ideas and knowledge among writers of different levels and experience.

What to look out for: Learn valuable tips from experienced writers of established titles such as columnists **Heather McGregor aka former Mrs Money Penny, Xu Zhiyuan** and **Dylan Jones**, GQ UK editor; award-winning experimental poet, **Christian Bök**, and songwriter **Hollie Fullbrook (Tiny Ruins)**. As a birthday gift to the nation, esteemed writer **Shirley Lim** will also be conducting a free poetry workshop only for those aged 50 and above.



SWF³

The previously-known Little Lit! programmes for our young readers have now been re-packaged under a new programme track – *SWF³*, otherwise known as SWF For Families, to cater to a larger group of audiences that now include parents, and young adults. There will be 51 *SWF³* programmes this year, which will include a wide range spanning music, storytelling, different forms of play and reading targeted specifically at young children, young adults and their families.

What to look out for: Look out for storytelling events featuring professional tellers, such as **Roger Jenkins, Kiran Shah, Sheila Wee, Karen Lee** and **Shalni Doshi**, taking place each weekend! Littlest ones can listen to award-winning authors such as **Chris Haughton, Sarah Mounsey** and **Emila Yusof**, while older kids (7 to 12 years) can learn from **Rob Cowen, Paro Anand, Lianne Ong, AJ Low** and more. There will also be an event by the **To S.I.R With Love** team, suitable for children with dyslexia or visual impairment. Not forgetting the teens (13+), the expanded *SWF³* programme features a cool new Young Adult (YA) track, starring the likes of **Rachel Hartman, Whiti Hereaka, Joyce Chng** and **Joyce Chua**.



SWF BEYOND

There are 16 SWF Beyond programmes this year. Featuring a range of events that extend your perspective of the written text, SWF Beyond includes an eclectic mix of film adaptations, musical performances, poetry readings, and explores the world of translation with partner **Select Centre**.

What to look out for: Catch ***Snowpiercer***, and ***Adaptation*** and meet their creators **Jean Marc-Rochette, Olivier Bocquet** and **Susan Orlean**. ***Utter 2015: Head Trips*** will also be screening again, with a separate panel discussion with select directors and authors of the texts they chose to adapt. **Sezairi Sezali, Joel Tan (Gentle Bones), Patrick Chng (Oddfellows), Kevin Matthews (Watchmen)** and **Eddino Abdul Hadi (Force Vomit)** will be discussing the Singaporean music industry, and

Cultural Medallion recipients **Han Lao Da** and Mrs **Santha Baskar** present a selection of cross-talk skits and a newly choreographed dance respectively.

Eye/Feel/Write

Listen to our poets' take on modern artworks at the new National Gallery, featuring **Alfian Sa'at, Chow Teck Seng, Divya Victor, Eric Tinsay Valles Gwee Li Sui, Jerrold Yam, Lee Tzu Pheng, Chow Teck Seng, Latha, Leong Liew Geok and Yong Shu Hoong**, together with National Gallery curators **Shabbir Hussain Mustafa** and **Charmaine Toh** who will walk you through two exclusive tours.



SWF POP

SWF POP is a year-long series of fun and surprising pop-up events that aim to excite audiences by bringing literary arts directly to the public beyond the 10-day long festival. These pop-ups are presented in a fun and accessible manner, taking on a multi-disciplinary approach involving collaborations across different art forms. Initiated in April this year, successful past instalments of SWF POP have resulted from creative partnerships with various like-minded industry partners like NOISE and The Projector.

During the Festival, audiences can look forward to seven free SWF POP events that will surprise and entertain.

What to look out for: Lorong Boys, Take Two!, JAWN, Jaime Wong & HubbaBubbas, and Wobology. Festival goers can also participate in story slams and the first mandarin tag poetry competition featuring acclaimed Taiwanese poet **Chen Li**.