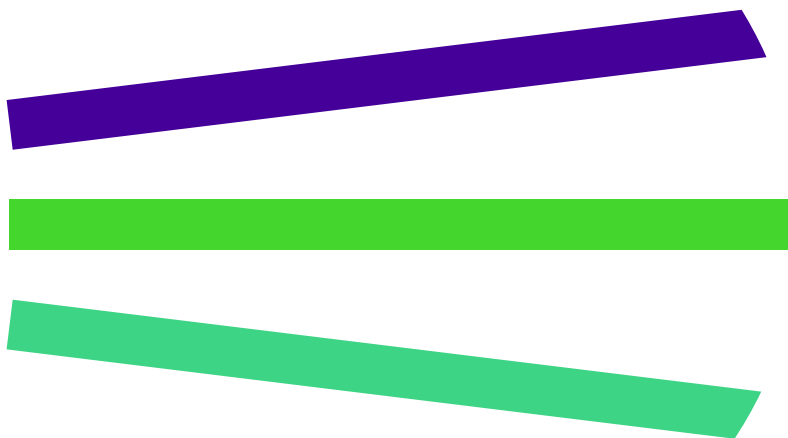


# **BARE LIT 2017**

**22-23 April**

**Toynee Studios, London**



**#BareLit17**

**Buy your copy of the BARE LIT anthology for a special introductory price & help support our writers!**

# SATURDAY

## Main Theatre

**Hope in Times of Hopelessness**  
Sat, Apr 22, 10.00am - 11.30am

A panel discussion bringing together journalists and commentators to discuss the political challenges of today. How can we use this moment to inspire change, assert ourselves and bring less heard groups into the conversation?

Panelists: **Hussein Kesvani** (VICE), **Reni Eddo-Lodge** (*Why I'm No Longer Talking to White People About Race*, 2017), **Lola Okolosie** (The Guardian), **Stephen Bush** (New Statesman), **Nafeez Ahmed** (VICE).

**Letters From Yesterday**  
Sat, Apr 22, 11:45pm - 1:00pm

A panel discussing different approaches to exploring and presenting histories of culture, food, music and community. We ask how to find these stories and what's at stake in preserving and discussing them today.

Panelists: **Yasmin Gunaratnam** (*Go Home!: The Politics of Immigration Controversies*, 2017), **Riaz Philips** (*Bellyfull*, 2017), **Jeffrey Boakye** (*Hold Tight*, 2017), **Louisa Adjoa Parker** (*Dorset's Hidden Histories*, 2007).

**The Art of Editing**  
Sat, Apr 22, 2:00pm - 3:30pm

We delve into the process of editing, from compiling anthologies to getting a manuscript ready for publication. Our panellists address questions on the role of the editor and their relationship to the writer.

Panelists: **Margaret Busby** (Allison & Busby), **Bibi Bakare-Yusuf** (Cassava Press), **Sabrina Mahfouz** (*The Things I Would Tell You*, 2017), **Vivek Shahnbag** (Ghachar Ghochar, 2017), **Bobby Nayyar** (Limehouse Books), **Rukhsana Yasmin** (Commonwealth Writers).

**How to Write a Cookbook**  
Sat, Apr 22, 3:45pm - 5:00pm

A panel discussion on the process of writing a cookbook, from finding inspiration to testing recipes and the publication process. Where does innovation meet tradition?

Panelists: **Mehrunnisa Yusuf** (come-con-ella), **Lopè Ariyo** (*Hibiscus*, 2017), **Zoe Adjonyoh** (*Zoe's Ghana Kitchen*, 2017), **Dina Mousawi** (*Recipes From Home*, 2017), **Omer Eltigani** (*Sudanese Kitchen*, 2017).



## Old Courtroom

**Women on Women**  
Sat, Apr 22, 10.00am - 11.30am

Women writers talk about their work, and about how writing by women is often marketed as writing for women. Why has the 'chick lit' label persisted? And should it be embraced or challenged?

Panelists: **Samira Sawlani** (Media Diversified), **Frances Mensah Williams** (*From Pasta to Pigfoot*, 2016), **Ayisha Malik** (*Sophia Khan Is Not Obligated*, 2016), **Rasheda Ashanti Malcolm** (*Swimming with Fishes*, 2017), **Sarvat Hasin** (*This Wide Night*, 2016).

**New Print Cultures**  
Sat, Apr 22, 11:45am - 1:00pm

A collaborative session with the creators of a new wave of radical, activist and community print publications. We ask why there's been a resurgence in print, and the role of the physical object in a world of digital media.

Panelists: **Priscilla Baffour**, **Sharan Dhaliwal** (Burnt Roti), **Anu Henriques** (Skin Deep), **Charlie Brinkhurst-Cuff** (gal-dem), **Sofia Niazi** (OOMK).

**Sexy Times (+18)**  
Sat, Apr 22, 2:00pm - 3:30pm

A panel discussion exploring writing on themes of sex and erotica. We talk about changing desires, and trends in appetites, as well as sexual variation through society

Panelists: **Arifa Akbar** (The Independent), **Valisa Iskandar** (Fixi), **Leone Ross** (*Come Let Us Sing Anyway*, 2017), **Meena Kandasamy** (*When I Hit You*, 2017).

**Writing to be Seen**  
Sat, Apr 22, 3.45pm - 5.00pm

A panel discussion with performance poets, playwrights and screen writers exploring the process and significance of taking words to the stage. variation through society

Panelists: **Be Manzini** (*Love In Motion*, 2016), **Lucy Sheen** (*Call The Midwife*, 2017), **Jay Bernard** (*The Red and Yellow Nothing*, 2016), **Nadia Latif** (*Homegrown*, 2017), **Rikki Beadle-Blair** (*Blackbird*, 2014).



# SUNDAY

## Main Theatre

### From Real to Unreal and Back Sun, Apr 23, 10:00am – 11:30am

A panel discussing how fiction can use fantastical elements to talk about the real world. We'll be exploring how the authors create these elements for their work, and also how they envisage their readers translating the fantastical back into their own realities.

Panelists: Inua Ellams (*Afterhours*, 2016), Irenosen Okojie (*Speak Gigantular*, 2016), Ali Bader (*Iraq +100*, 2016), Irfan Master (*Out of Heart*, 2017).

### When Bad Things Happen Sun, Apr 23, 11:45am – 1:00pm

A panel discussion on writers' experiences of creating fiction addressing themes of violence and trauma. How and why do we tread the difficult ground when we might be accused of triggering readers, making light of suffering or sensationalism?

Panelists: Guilaine Kinouani (*The Independent*), Robyn Travis (*Mama Can't Raise No Man*, 2016), Olumide Popoola (*When We Speak of Nothing*, 2017), Nasrin Parvaz (*Words and Women: Four*, 2017), Stephen Thompson (*No More Heroes*, 2015).

### How to Judge a Book Prize Sun, Apr 23, 2:00pm – 3:30pm

Representatives from the judging panel of the newly-established Jhalak Prize For Book Of The Year By A Writer Of Colour talk about their experiences of judging the literature award in its first year.

Panelists: Sunny Singh (Jhalak Prize), Yvette Edwards (*The Mother*, 2016) Catherine Johnson (*The Curious Tale of the Lady Caraboo*, 2015).

## Old Courtroom

### Readings & Storytelling Sun, Apr 23, 10.00am – 11.30am

Authors will be reading excerpts from their latest work, and storyteller Jordan Campbell (TellUsAll) will be performing a prominent West African tale about the significance of remembrance.

### In Experts We Trust Sun, Apr 23, 11:45am – 1:00pm

This session explores writing about scientific topics, and the role of the expert in communicating these to audiences. Where do creativity and the technical meet? And are they at odds with one another?

Panelists: Shirley Wang (*The Wall Street Journal*) Angela Saini (*Inferior*, 2017), Sam Wong (*New Scientist*), Momtaza Mehri (*Ten: Poets of the New Generation*, 2017).

### Finding a Way to the Audience Sun, Apr 23, 2:00pm – 3:30pm

A panel discussion about new the ways of getting stories to audiences that are emerging all around us, from crowd-funding to self-publishing and everything in between. Are some routes from writer to reader better than others?

Panelists: Wei Ming Kam (BAME in publishing), Gautam Malkani (Financial Times), Annette Brook (Royal Society of Literature), Joelle Owusu-Sekyere (Unbound).



## Keynote Speech by Kerry Young



Royal Literary Fund

### Main Theatre Sunday April 23, 3:30pm – 4:00pm

Join us for our Keynote speech held this year by award-winning novelist **Kerry Young**.

Kerry Young is the author of three novels: *Pao* (Bloomsbury, 2011) shortlisted for the Costa First Novel Award, the Commonwealth Book Prize and the East Midlands Book Award; *Gloria* (Bloomsbury, 2013) longlisted for the OCM Bocas Prize for Caribbean Literature, shortlisted for the East Midlands Book Award and nominated for the 2015 International IMPAC Dublin Literary Award; and *Show Me A Mountain* (Bloomsbury, 2016).

In this talk, Young will explore some of the personal, social and political responsibility of writers.

This exclusive talk is sponsored by *The Royal Literary Fund*. The Royal Literary Fund was set up in 1790 to help professional authors. Past beneficiaries have included Coleridge, Joseph Conrad, D H Lawrence and Dylan Thomas. Last year it helped 200 writers, though not all of them are quite so famous yet. In 1999 a Fellowship scheme was established to place writers in universities to help students with their writing skills. Since it began it has placed 450 writers in posts at 120 higher education institutions across the UK.

For more information visit: [www.rlf.org.uk](http://www.rlf.org.uk)

## SATURDAY

Main Theatre

9.00–10.00

Registration

10.00–11.30

Hope in Times of Hopelessness

11.45–13.00

Letters From Yesterday

13.00–13.45

Lunch Break

14.00–15.30

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13.00–13.45

Lunch Break

14.00–15.30

How to Judge a Book Prize

15.30–16.00

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Old Courtroom

Readings & Storytelling

In Experts we Trust

Lunch Break

Finding a Way to the Audience



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