



The BZS 2024 Zimbabwean Book Festival: *I Write, Therefore I Am*

Thursday 14 (in-person) and Saturday 16 March (online) 2024

Siyalemukela! Mauya! Welcome!

PROGRAMME

Thursday 14 March 2024, 12.00-18.30 GMT

Venue: 11 Bedford Square, London WC1B 3RF

Free in-person event in partnership with Royal Holloway, University of London

Programme – Day One

12.00-14.00: Doors open – networking and book displays

14.00-14.15: Welcome and Introductions

Dr Knox Chitiyo, President, Britain Zimbabwe Society, Senior Associate Fellow, Chatham House, writer

Professor Tim Unwin CMG, Royal Holloway, University of London; author and editor

14.15-15.30: Panel 1 *Introducing New and Established Diasporan Writers and Publishers*

Speaker 1: Brian Chikwava, author, musician

Speaker 2: Godess Bvukutwa, Mambakwedza Women's Centre, Global Voices Scholar, University of East Anglia, editor, author

Speaker 3: Sheka Tarawalie, former Sierra Leone Deputy Communications Minister, journalist and novelist

Chair: Professor Tim Unwin

15.30-16.30: Keynote Session

Speaker: Rutendo Mutsamwira, Cultural Attache, Dzimbanhete Arts and Cultural Interactions

Speaker: Peter Molife, author, educationalist

Chair: Dr Knox Chitiyo

16.30-17.30: Panel 2 *New Frontiers in Zimbabwean and African Writing*

Speaker 1: Rudo Manyere, book reviewer, author and booktuber

Speaker 2: Masimba Musodza, CEO Fairfield Media, novelist

Speaker 3: Sondliwe Pamisa, poet, painter, musician

Chair: Dr Rhoda Molife, pharmaceutical physician and medical oncologist, writer, publisher, editor

17.30-18.30: Networking/Close

Saturday 16 March 2024, 09.50-17.00 GMT (11.50-19.00 CAT)

Venue: Online

Free virtual event

Programme – Day Two

9.50 - 10.00: Welcome and Introduction:

Dr Knox Chitiyo, President, BZS

Portia Mushambi, Co-founder and Director, NanisoCreate

10.00- 11.00: Panel 1 *Writing and the Creative Arts*

Speaker 1: Ethel Kuuya, founder and CEO, Advisory K, author and entrepreneur

Speaker 2: Caroline Mutanhaurwa, MD, CAZ Interiors, creative artiste

Speaker 3: Tendai Sokostina Garwe, host NRTV, author, media consultant

Chair: Portia Mushambi, Co-founder and Director, NanisoCreate; writer, public speaker and creative

11.00 - 11.15: Break

11.15 - 12.45: Panel 2 *Writers and Publishers and their Work*

Speaker 1: Tau Tawengwa, Chief Editor, Harare-Streets Publishing, author

Speaker 2: Professor Brian Jones, co-director, amaBooks

Speakers 3 and 4 (joint presentation): Wadzi Garwe, Economist FAO (UN), author and editor, with Debbie Fadzisai Patterson, legal and communications consultant, author

Chair: Dr Tanaka Chidora, Research Fellow, University of the Free State

12.45 - 14.00: Break

14.00- 15.00: Panel 3 *In Conversation with ...*

Belvin Tawuya, Communications Director, The Africa Centre,

Chiedza Musengezi, Director, Zimbabwe Women's Writing, author, editor and creative

Host: Pelagia Nyamayaro, BZS

15.00-16.00: Panel 4 *Zimbabwe and Beyond: Wider African Voices*

Speaker 1: Niki Igaroola, Campaigns Manager, Jacaranda Books

Speaker 2: Brigitta Zwani, Founder and CEO, Brigitta Zwani Trust, author

Speaker 3: Tawona Sithole, Artist in Residence, Glasgow University, writer, performer and musician

Chair: Simiso Velempini, Founder and Managing Director, Vele Africa Advisory; Board Trustee, Caine Prize Africa

16.00-17.00: Spoken Word Open Mic

17.00: Close

For further information please contact

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Promotion and registration: Margaret Ling <margaret.ling@geo2.poptel.org.uk>