

An Evening to Celebrate Black and Asian British Writing

Venue: Lecture theatre Jo1, Johannisstr. 4, Münster

On Thursday 29 September 2016 from 7pm

Join us at this special event with readings from renowned authors, showcasing literature from the UK's Black and Asian writers, who have been a part of the country's arts scene for generations.

Featuring award-winning poet **Moniza Alvi**, crime writer and activist, **Mike Phillips**, acclaimed novelist **Kerry Young** and poet, playwright, and novelist **Gabriel Gbadamosi**, the reading will be chaired by **Susheila Nasta**, Founding Editor of *Wasafiri*, the well-known magazine of international contemporary writing that has championed Black and Asian writing since its inception in 1984.

A discussion follows the readings covering topics such as the politics of publishing, prize culture, as well as the challenges facing writers after Brexit; it will be chaired by Mark Stein, Chair of Postcolonial Studies, University of Münster, and Susheila Nasta.

This event is hosted by the English Department of the University of Münster and has been organised in partnership with *Wasafiri: The Magazine of International Contemporary Writing*. All are welcome.

The first of a series of lively events planned to parallel the compilation of the first *Cambridge History of Black and Asian British Writing*, its Editors, Professor Susheila Nasta (Open University) and Professor Mark Stein (University of Münster) are committed to profiling new writing and encouraging lively interaction between creative practitioners and critics. Drawing on pioneering research from over 40 international scholars, some of whom will be in attendance at this special Munster event, the book will be published in 2018.

Authors will be available to sign books after the event. Copies of *Wasafiri* will be on sale at a discount.



Wasafiri



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Moniza Alvi was born in Pakistan and grew up in Hertfordshire. Her first collection *The Country at My Shoulder* (Oxford University Press, 1993) was shortlisted for the T.S. Eliot and Whitbread poetry prizes and selected for the Poetry Society's 'New Generation Poets' promotion. Her later collections have all been published by Bloodaxe Books and include *Europa* (2008) and *At the Time of Partition* (2013) both Poetry Book Society Choices and shortlisted for the T.S. Eliot Prize. Moniza received a Cholmondeley Award in 2002.



Writer **Mike Phillips** was born in Georgetown, Guyana. He came to Britain as a child and grew up in London. He was educated at the University of London (English), the University of Essex (politics), and at Goldsmiths College London (education).



He has written full-time since 1992. He is best known for his crime fiction, including four novels featuring black journalist *Sam Dean: Blood Rights* (1989), which was adapted for BBC television, *The Late Candidate* (1990), winner of the Crime Writers' Association Silver Dagger Award, *Point of Darkness* (1994) and *An Image to Die For* (1995). Subsequent novels are *The Dancing Face* (1998), *A Shadow of Myself* (2000) and *The Name You Once Gave Me* (2006). Non fiction works are *Windrush: The Irresistible Rise of Multi-Racial Britain* (1998), and *London Crossings: A Biography of Black Britain* (2001). Recently he has written 2 operas with orchestra leader Julian Joseph, and is currently in the process of writing the libretto for a new work reinterpreting Tristan and Isolde, trialed at the ROH in 2013 and to be launched on BBC TV in 2018. He is also working on the script of a film – *The Expendable Man*, in production with EON Productions.

Gabriel Gbadamosi is a poet, playwright and essayist. His London novel *Vauxhall* (2013) won the Tibor Jones Pageturner Prize. He was AHRC Creative and Performing Arts Fellow in European and African performance at the Pinter Centre, Goldsmiths, a Judith E. Wilson Fellow for creative writing at Cambridge University and Royal Literary Fund Fellow at City & Guilds of London Art School. His plays include *Eshu's Faust* (Jesus College Cambridge), *Shango* (DNA, Amsterdam), *Hotel Orpheu* (Schaubühne, Berlin) and for radio *The Long, Hot Summer of '76* (BBC Radio 3) which won the first Richard Imison Award. He is a director of *Wasafiri* literary magazine and a trustee of the Arcola Theatre, London.



Kerry Young was born in Kingston, Jamaica, to a Chinese father and mother of mixed Chinese-African heritage. She came to England in 1965.

Kerry has a history of non-fiction writing and editing on issues relating to youth work. She also has Master's Degrees in organization development and creative writing, and a PhD.

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* recently published by Bloomsbury in June 2016.

Kerry is a Reader and Mentor for The Literary Consultancy and a tutor for the Arvon Foundation. She is a Fellow of the Royal Literary Fund, Honorary Assistant Professor in the School of English at The University of Nottingham, and Honorary Creative Writing Fellow at the University of Leicester.