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THE WONDER OF WORDS AND THE JOY OF COMMUNITY

A Day of Ideas - 19 February | Writers Weekend - 26, 27 February

Perth Festival's Literature & Ideas Program returns for 2022 to shine the spotlight on the people who weave connection into our lives through the power of stories.

The 2022 program features two main streams to inspire, entertain and challenge across two separate weekends next February. Over a jam-packed weekend, we're focusing on writers and their words at our **Writers Weekend** and diving deeply into our theme of **At Sea** at **A Day of Ideas**.



To begin an exciting new chapter for the program, acclaimed journalist, writer and broadcaster **Gillian O'Shaughnessy** joins Perth Festival as our Writers Weekend programmer.

She joins **Sisonke Msimang**, who has programmed our Literature & Ideas Program for the past two years. For 2022, whilst writing a novel of her own, Sisonke curates a mix of conversations, panels and storytelling in **A Day of Ideas: At Sea** at **Subiaco Arts Centre** on 19 February.

In line with the 2022 Wardan (Ocean) theme, the following **Writers Weekend** of 26-27 February will make waves of connection in the lush gardens of **Fremantle Arts Centre (FAC)**.

In this tranquil setting, esteemed storytellers **Helen Garner**, **Lisa Taddeo** and **Michael Robotham** will be joining via livestream, while local heroes **Hannah Kent**, **Gina Williams & Guy Ghouse**, **Dr Cindy Solonec**, **Dr Effie Shiosaki** and many more will navigate the turbulence of the human heart on the outdoor stages at FAC.

Sunday morning at FAC will feature the ever-popular **Family Day**, where the youngest of readers can share in the magic of literature with storytime, talks, workshops and other fun activities.

‘This weekend will be a tribute to the writers, but also a love letter to the readers,’ **Gillian O’Shaughnessy** says. ‘This gathering by the sea celebrates these solitary acts that are actually one of the highest forms of community and connection. I can’t wait to share this time, these stories and these writers with you.’

To make the **Writers Weekend** accessible to all, many of our events are free and our Pay What You Can ticketing system returns for 2022. This means you can pay as little as you like but whatever you pay above the suggested ticket price goes towards helping other people attend Festival events where cost is a barrier.



Images (left to right): Hannah Kent, Helen Garner, Guy Williams & Gina Ghose AM, Lisa Taddeo, Michael Robtham.

WHAT: Writers Weekend

WHERE: Fremantle Arts Centre

WHEN: Saturday 26 and Sunday 27 February 2022

HOW MUCH: Pay what you can

A Day of Ideas: At Sea will examine ideas around the joy and pleasure of the sea, and the crisis of distance and longing. Writers, scientists and local leaders will discuss what the sea brings us – dance, culture, a vibrant aesthetic and of course, stories.

‘I’m thrilled to bring you a day brimming with ideas about the sea and its place in our hearts and our bodies and our intellectual lives,’ **Sisonke Msimang** says. ‘This year will be all about movement and patterns – from hands that braid to feet that dance to arms that hug those who arrive laden with the gifts of their hopes and dreams. Just come!’

Audiences can bring a picnic or enjoy food trucks with food from across the Indian Ocean in the lush Subiaco Arts Centre gardens.

WHAT: A Day of Ideas

WHERE: Subiaco Arts Centre

WHEN: Saturday 19 2022

HOW MUCH: \$19 per block or \$49 for full day

BOOKINGS AND FESTIVAL INFO: perthfestival.com.au

FULL LITERATURE & IDEAS PROGRAM RELEASE: 20 January 2022

Click [here](#) for images. For further information, interviews or images please contact:

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Perth Festival acknowledges the Noongar people who continue to practise their values, language, beliefs and knowledge on their kwobidak boodjar. They remain the spiritual and cultural birdiyangara of this place and we honour and respect their caretakers and custodians and the vital role Noongar people play for our community and our Festival to flourish.

ABOUT PERTH FESTIVAL

Founded in 1953 by The University of Western Australia, Perth Festival is the longest running international arts festival in Australia and Western Australia's premier cultural event. The Festival has developed a worldwide reputation for excellence in its international program, the presentation of new works and the highest quality artistic experiences for its audience. For almost 70 years, the Festival has welcomed to Perth some of the world's greatest living artists and now connects with hundreds of thousands of people each year.

Iain Grandage is the Artistic Director 2020 – 24.