

Nordic events at the 2019 Edinburgh International Book Festival.

Tuesday 13 August

THROWING VOICES:

LINNÉA AXELSSON, TAQRALIK PARTRIDGE & KATE YOUNG

15:45— A SAMI-INUIT MUSICAL 17:15 CONVERSATION

THE SPIEGELTENT, £15.00 [£12.00]

Throwing Voices is a unique collaborative project looking at how local language, culture and tradition can resonate across linguistic divides. Using selected objects and words, Sami writer Linnéa Axelsson and Inuit poet and throat singer Taqralik Partridge share their experiences in a special event featuring music, verse and discussion. The authors have worked with leading folk musician Kate Young to create a boundary-crossing performance exploring the similarities and differences between Sami and Inuit cultures. *Supported by the Scottish Government's Festivals Expo Fund.*

Wednesday 14 August

TRANSLATION DUEL

12:15

SWEDISH FICTION

BAILLIE GIFFORD CORNER THEATRE, £8.00 [£6.00]

What happens to a story's essence when it is translated from one language to another? Two acclaimed translators, Nichola Smalley and Saskia Vogel, present their own interpretations of the same text by Swedish novelist Lina Wolff, author of *The Polyglot Lovers*, who joins them in this event. Together they prove that each translation is a creative work in its own right. No knowledge of Swedish is required to enjoy this event. Hosted by Daniel Hahn.

Thursday 15 August

AYELET GUNDAR-GOSHEN & LINA WOLFF

12:00 LOVE IN THE TIME OF #METOO

THE SPIEGELTENT, £12.00 [£10.00]

Hear from two incendiary novels exploring sex, consent and violence by two ferociously talented women. Bestselling Israeli author Ayelet Gundar-Goshen discusses her outrageous satire *Liar*, about a sexual assault scandal, alongside Swedish writer Lina Wolff, whose *The Polyglot Lovers* takes down the male literary establishment and has been published in 17 languages.

Saturday 17 August

HELEN FITZGERALD & HELGA FLATLAND

12:00 OPENING UP FAMILY AFFAIRS

THE SPIEGELTENT, £12.00 [£10.00]

Glasgow-based Australian Helen FitzGerald struck gold recently with the BBC adaptation of *The Cry*; her latest novel *Worst Case Scenario* covers equally disturbing ground as a family murder is investigated. In Norwegian Helga Flatland's *A Modern Family*, adult siblings must come to terms with the news that their elderly parents are divorcing. Together they ask: is it possible to know everything about those closest to us?

SOFIE HAGEN

15:15

TACKLING FIGURES OF FUN

THE NEW YORK TIMES MAIN THEATRE,
£PAY WHAT YOU CAN

Danish comedian Sofie Hagen burst onto the UK stand-up scene in 2015 by taking the Best Newcomer Prize at the Edinburgh Festival Fringe, and she's gone on to establish herself as a sensitive and urgent voice for outsiders. Join her in Charlotte Square Gardens as she discusses body image and the notion that being fat is wrong in a society obsessed by shrinking – the topic of new book *Happy Fat*

DONALD S MURRAY & STEVE SEM-SANDBERG

17:00 NOTES FROM A VERY SMALL ISLAND

WRITERS' RETREAT, £8.00 [£6.00]

Two writers discuss profound truths about island life. Donald S Murray's *As the Women Lay Dreaming* is set on the Isle of Lewis in 1936 and centres on a grandfather grieving for the wife he lost in the sinking of *HMY Iolaire*. *The Tempest* is award-winning Swedish author Steve Sem-Sandberg's haunting tribute to Shakespeare, set on a remote island off the Norwegian coast.

ARNE DAHL & ALEX GRAY

20:45 WHEN HUNTER BECOMES HUNTED

SPARK THEATRE ON GEORGE STREET, £12.00 [£10.00]

Two of the finest Eurocrime writers combine for an event exploring humanity's darker side. Scandi author Arne Dahl puts Stockholm police officer Desiré Rosenkvist in the firing line in new novel *Hunted*, while Alex Gray's DS William Lorimer series continues in *The Stalker*, in which the Glasgow cop shields his novelist wife while investigating the murders of two young women. Join them for a foray into criminal investigation.

Sunday 18 August

RAGNAR JÓNASSON & DENZIL MEYRICK

17:45 CRIME COUNTS

GARDEN THEATRE, £12.00 [£10.00]

Set on the isolated Icelandic coast, Ragnar Jónasson's *The Island* tells the story of two crimes a decade apart with curious links, and a killer who could be stalking the barren outpost. Glasgow-born Denzil Meyrick's *A Breath on Dying Embers* is his latest DCI Daley thriller, which fans of police drama, startling twists and bleak humour will love. They discuss the building blocks of gripping crime writing.

ERLING KAGGE

20:45 SLOW EXPEDITIONS

SPARK THEATRE ON GEORGE STREET, £12.00 [£10.00]

Norwegian explorer Erling Kagge was the first in history to reach the 'three poles' – North, South and the summit of Everest. He's also the bestselling author of *Silence*. His latest book is *Walking*, an illuminating, quietly life-changing celebration of putting one foot in front of the other. Kagge draws observations from his own life: walking in cities like Oslo and LA, his Polar expeditions and even his journey walking the New York sewer system. He discusses the joys of his travels with Gavin Francis.

Monday 19 August

ERIKA FATLAND

11:00 UNDER THE SHADOW OF THE SICKLE

GARDEN THEATRE, £12.00 [£10.00]

The collapse of the Soviet Union brought about new states across eastern Europe and central Asia, often routinely ignored by the West. Norwegian writer and social anthropologist Erika Fatland journeyed across the five 'Stans' which once made up the Soviet border, encountering conflicts between history and future, exhausted human rights activists and falling dictators. Hear her odyssey, detailed in *Sovietistan*, in today's discussion.

KJELL OLA DAHL & MARY PAULSON-ELLIS

13:45 THE PAST OFFLOADS ITS SECRETS

THE SPIEGELTENT, £12.00 [£10.00]

In his new book *The Courier* Kjell Ola Dahl, aka the godfather of Nordic Noir, tracks between the 1960s and the Second World War through characters haunted by betrayal and death. Mary Paulson-Ellis follows up her 2017 Waterstones Scottish Book of the Year with *The Inheritance of Solomon Farthing*, a historical mystery that sees a modern-day heir hunter in Scotland seeking the owner of a dead man's fortune. They meet to discuss the power of long-dead secrets.

ANNE SVERDRUP-THYGESON

16:00 CAN HUMANITY SURVIVE?

GARDEN THEATRE, £12.00 [£10.00]

Here's a quote to conjure with from Professor E O Wilson: 'If invertebrates were to disappear, I doubt that the human species could live more than a few months'. Award-winning Norwegian professor of Life Sciences, Anne Sverdrup-Thygeson was taken by that notion too, and investigated our ecosystem, discovering that it is indeed very fragile. Joined by palaeontologist Steve Brusatte, she has some tips to keep humanity afloat, as presented in her new book *Extraordinary Insects*.

Wednesday 21 August

SARA STRIDSBERG & NAOMI WOOD

14:00 ARTISTIC DIFFERENCES

BAILLIE GIFFORD CORNER THEATRE, £8.00 [£6.00]

The most striking art movements of the 20th century tended to be framed by the male gaze. It's time for a fresh perspective. Swedish novelist Sara Stridsberg's *The Faculty of Dreams* reimagines the last days of Valerie Solanas, author of the feminist SCUM manifesto who plotted to kill Andy Warhol. *The Hiding Game* is Naomi Wood's gripping story of love and tragedy at the legendary Bauhaus school in 1920s Germany.

NIVIAQ KORNELIUSSEN & HELEN MORT

VOTE

BAILLIE GIFFORD CORNER THEATRE, £8.00 [£6.00]

Niviaq Korneliusson's *Crimson* – a debut novel chronicling queer lives in Greenland's capital Nuuk – is now translated into English, rendering her probably the country's most widely-read living novelist. Helen Mort's *Black Car Burning* is also a debut novel – hotly anticipated due to her stellar poetry – which builds beautifully on her known passion for climbing. Enjoy a discussion on books sharing a powerful sense of place.

Friday 23 August

HAYLEN BECK &

LILJA SIGURÐARDÓTTIR

13:45

WHEN SONS DISAPPEAR

THE SPIEGELTENT, £PAY WHAT YOU CAN

Missing boys connect new books from Edgar-nominated author Haylen Beck (pen name of bestselling writer Stuart Neville) and Icelandic crime writer Lilja Sigurðardóttir. Beck's *Lost You* follows two women seeking a disappeared child whom they both claim is rightfully theirs. In *Trap*, the second entry in Sigurðardóttir's Reykjavik Noir trilogy, a young mother finds herself in the midst of a nightmare when her son is snatched. Discover gripping new fiction this afternoon.

Sunday 25 August

CLAIRE ASKEW & THOMAS ENGER

12:00 EUROCRIME SCRIBES

THE SPIEGELTENT, £12.00 [£10.00]

Our Citizen schools writer-in-residence, Claire Askew, is a major new voice in British crime fiction. *What You Pay For* is her second novel, revolving around the mysterious reappearance of DI Birch's younger brother. Norway's Thomas Enger is making waves with his latest, *Inborn*, which covers disturbing ground as a teenager is charged with the murders of two school friends. Discover a new generation of noir superstars.

Monday 26 August

MAZEN MAAROUF & DAVID SZALAY

14:00 SHORT STORIES AND TALL TALES

BAILLIE GIFFORD CORNER THEATRE, £8.00 [£6.00]

Mazen Maarouf is the foremost translator of Icelandic literature into Arabic. His own writing has been compared to Roald Dahl and *Jokes for the Gunmen* certainly delivers on that promise, featuring fantasist matadors and lost limbs. In *Turbulence*, Booker Prize- shortlisted David Szalay takes his characters on fantastical journeys to Delhi, London and Toronto. Meet two authors whose imaginative tales traverse the globe.