



20 November 2023

Theme: **The Rhythm of Our Stories**

Headliners: **Dr. Sipiwo Mahala and Angela Makholwa**

After reading truckloads of fantastic home-brewed stories, we are pleased to inform you that the **2023 Gauteng International Book Festival** is confirmed for **09 December 2023** at the **Ubuntu Kraal Lifestyle, Orlando West, Soweto** with **Dr. Sipiwo Mahala and Angela Makholwa** headlining the 2023 edition.

The programme represents the diversity in our stories in form and content driven by fiction as we reimagine alternative futures and rewrite the past. The pulse of the nation is represented through the select choices in non-fiction, and we strive for non-malalignment and othering by bringing in all voices, all forms of being into one melting point.

There will be two separate programmes on offer made up of a dynamic and magical children's literacy and storytelling programme, and an engaging and inspiring new adult and adult literary programme. In this second edition, the programme is bigger (over 120 participants) and bolder buoyed by courage, and imagination and bringing as many debut and emerging authors to Soweto as possible.

As with any developing industry, established voices such as **Sihle Khumalo, Pamela Power, Khathu Maestro, Sue Nyathi, Fred Khumalo, Pumza Shabangu, Dr. Nechama Brodie, Dr. Nokuthula Mazibuko Msimang, Lorato Trok**, amongst many more illustrious authors are merged with new voices, **Magogodi oaMphela Makhene, Sizakele Nkosi, Janine Jellars, Prudence Makau, Rudzani Khashane, Lynn Joffe, Moshitadi Lehlomela** to name a few; with rising stars like **Melusi Tshabalala, Refiloe Moahloli, Farai Mudzingwa, Lebohlang Masango** amongst others, anchored by moderators from across fields such as academia, broadcasting and journalism, the book value-chain, and social entrepreneurship.

We celebrate longlisted and award-winning authors such as **Dr. Zaheera Jina Asvat, Dr. Nokuthula Mazibuko Msimang, Zukiswa Wanner, Sue Nyathi, Pamela Power, Fred Khumalo**, rising stars like **Ayanda Xaba, Barbara Adair, Bokang Maragelo, Eve Fairbanks, Melusi Tshabalala**, and **Busisekile Khumalo**, and **Bulelwa Mabasa** the winner of 2023 Sunday Times Non-Fiction Prize, whom we are honoured to be hosting for the second time.

Ubuntu Kraal is situated in Orlando West Soweto home of some of South Africa's iconic political, sort, and business Leaders – Orlando West boost sites such as the Mandela Family Museum. The Hector Petersen Memorial, Bishop Tutu's house, Walter Sisulu, Zeph Mothupeng, and the Infamous Vilakazi Precinct. The initial infrastructure of the site dates back to the late 1980s when it was used as a construction site.

Today this former ash dump is transformed into conference facilities, a cultural village, a Brewery, an Entertainment area, a Bar and Restaurants, and private overnight accommodation. The Ubuntu Kraal site covers 2.6 hectares. A precious gem tucked right in the heart of Soweto wrapped in luscious, exotic gardens that provide a tranquil home for small and large indigenous birds.

<https://www.ubuntukraal.joburg/about.html>

Closing off the evening will be two literary awards from Jacana Media, the **2023 Dinaane Debut Awards** and the **2023 Sol Plaatje European Union Poetry Awards**, followed by **The Primrose Mrwebi Poetry Extravaganza**.

Entry tickets are R100.00 and are available here <https://qkt.io/5lozcs> and free to children thirteen years and under.



Please direct all queries to Lorraine Sithole, the 2023 Festival Director
gautenginternationalbookfes@gmail.com

THE RHYTHM OF OUR STORIES