



## For Immediate Release

### 37<sup>th</sup> EDITION OF THE INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL OF AUTHORS BEGINS TONIGHT

**TORONTO, October 20, 2016** ---- The 37<sup>th</sup> edition of the International Festival of Authors begins tonight with an interview with Pulitzer Prize winning author **Viet Thanh Nguyen**, followed by over 80 events featuring more than 100 participants from 16 countries around the world. The Festival runs until **October 30**.

For a complete list of authors and events at this year's festival visit [ifoa.org](http://ifoa.org).

Some of this year's programming highlights include:

- International bestsellers **Yann Martel**, **Linwood Barclay**, **Guy Gavriel Kay**, **Hisham Matar**, **Margaret Atwood** and **Emma Donoghue**.
- Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist and writer **Chris Hedges** will present *The Price of Truth in Journalism in a Post-Fact World*, this year's keynote address as part of Humber Liberal Arts @ IFOA.
- **Robert Kanigel**, **Nathan Storring**, and **Samuel Zipp** discuss Jane Jacobs' legacy and how she changed perceptions of the neighborhood and the city with former Toronto **Mayor David Miller**.

### Festival Spotlights

Over the next week and a half, audiences have the opportunity to see acclaimed graphic novelists, contemporary Irish writers and a great selection of non-fiction among some of the best poetry and fiction in the world.

- **Ireland @ IFOA** - A spotlight on contemporary Irish literature featuring contemporary Irish poets **Julie Morrissy** and **Ciarán O'Rourke**, Poetry Ireland's rising generation. Learn more about the writer's creative process in **Paul B. Muldoon's** Artist Talk in partnership with *Quill and Quire*, see *NOW Magazine's* **Susan G. Cole** interview **Emma Donoghue**, or hear **Catriona Crowe** give a lecture on Ireland's revolution.
- **Graphic Novels - Five Ways** exhibition, curated by acclaimed Canadian cartoonist and previous Harbourfront Festival Prize winner **Seth**. This exhibition spotlights five diverse contemporary artists - **Nina Bunjevac**, **Michael DeForge**, **Nick Drnaso**, **Jon McNaught**, and **Chris Oliveros** – and their unique approach to the graphic novel as a medium of artistic expression.

Also meet the five cartoonists as they discuss the complex work of contemporary graphic novelists in the **Five Artists, Five Ways: The Modern Graphic Novel** round table moderated by **Seth**.

- **Stranger Than Fiction** - Get inspired by Deborah Campbell's travels undercover in Damascus reporting on the exodus of Iraqis into Syria, or learn about ecological issues

through the lens of science-fiction with Jeff VanderMeer. Alexandra Risen's memoir on gardening sees soil as the new Prozac and Laurence Scott discusses the effects of technology on human behaviour and identity.

### **YoungIFOA**

This year YoungIFOA welcomes Toronto Public Library's Children's Literature Festival, Book Bash, featuring Elise Gravel, Rukhsana Khan, Thao Lam, JonArno Lawson, Ruth Ohi, Kenneth Oppel, Sydney Smith and Joel A. Sutherland among other exciting performers.

Events take place at Toronto's Harbourfront Centre: 207 & 235 Queens Quay West. Tickets to most events are **\$18/\$15 for supporters** and **free for students & youth 25 years and under** with valid ID (subject to availability). Some exceptions apply. Please refer to individual event listings.

The Festival will be covered extensively on the IFOA blog, with author interviews and special guest posts. Visit the blog at [\*\*ifoa.org/blog\*\*](http://ifoa.org/blog).

To purchase tickets and for more information, call the **Harbourfront Centre Box Office** at **416-973-4000** or visit [\*\*ifoa.org\*\*](http://ifoa.org). For information on IFOA's touring programme, **IFOA Ontario**, visit [\*\*litontour.com\*\*](http://litontour.com).

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