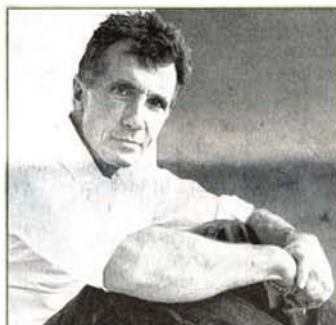


SINGAPORE WRITERS FESTIVAL HIGHLIGHTS



In The Beginning, There Was The Story...

What: A lecture by Pulitzer Prize-winning author Michael Cunningham (above) of *The Hours* (1998) fame, who will speak on the ancient and fundamental act of storytelling. The American writer will explore the origins of storytelling – from members of a prehistoric tribe listening to a man telling a tale of the day's hunt – and trace it to its various incarnations today, from a barely incoherent Internet rant to the greatest and most complex novels.

Where: Drama Theatre, School of the Arts

When: Nov 4, 4 to 5pm

Admission: \$20

Marina Mahathir in Conversation with Catherine Lim

What: Two of the region's leading female writers and social commentators talk about what it means to use the written word to engage in civic society. How do they deal with naysayers and critics, and what keeps them awake at night

Where: The Salon, National Museum of Singapore

When: Nov 4, 2.30 to 3.30pm

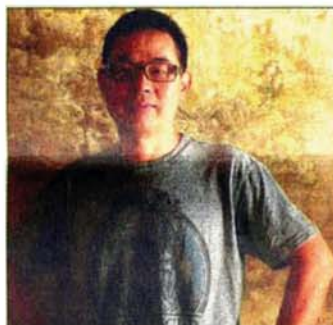
Admission: Festival Pass

Singapore Writers Festival Publishing Symposium and Singapore Book Publishers Association Rights Salon

What: This is an industry event for publishers and serious writers wanting to know more about the art of writing and getting published. Events include a panel discussion on how ebooks can change the nature of the publishing industry, and a talk on intellectual property for authors wanting to know what to expect in an international publishing contract.

Where: The Salon, National Museum of Singapore

When: Nov 8 and 9, 9am to 5.30pm
Admission: \$20 per panel, \$60 per day pass, \$100 for a two-day pass



Meet the Author: Jimmy Liao

What: This is your chance to get up close and personal with famed Taiwanese illustrator and writer Jimmy Liao (above), whose book *A Chance Of Sunshine* (1999) and other works have been adapted into films, animated flicks and plays. This session is in Mandarin.

Where: The Salon, National Museum of Singapore

When: Nov 11, 10 to 11am

Admission: Festival Pass

Closing Debate: Sinking Roots Here Is Little More Than Shopping And Eating

What: The popular Singapore Writers Festival Closing Debate, which saw packed houses last year, is back.

This time, two teams of writers and friends debate the very topical motion on the issue of Singapore identity and what makes us call this Little Red Dot home.

Expect side-splitting, tongue-in-cheek, possibly illogical arguments, good-natured heckling and plenty of fun.

Speakers include writers Gwee Li Sui (above right) and Neil Humphreys, as well as playwrights Ovidia Yu (right) and Zizi Azah.

Where: ilovebooks.com Pavilion, Campus Green, Singapore Management University

When: Nov 11, 7 to 9pm

Admission: Free



NOTE: A Festival Pass, which covers entry to more than 100 programmes, costs \$15 from Sistic (call 6348-5555 or go to www.sistic.com.sg). An early-bird price of \$10 will apply until Sept 28. Some events, such as the SWF lectures, are priced individually. Ticket sales start on Friday. For more information, go to singaporewritersfestival.com