URBAN LIFE AND MEGACITIES

WELTEMPFANG – Centre for Politics, Literature and Translation

Hall 5.0 E 81

www.book-fair.com
Dear friends of the Weltempfang at the Frankfurt Book Fair,

Cities have long been the bastions of civil society. In the Europe of the Middle Ages, in the words of a German saying, city air made you free. Cities were the centres of communication, places from where political deals, commercial innovations and cultural embodiments gained visibility far beyond the bounds of the city itself. At the same time, the cities’ development was largely conditioned by the collective understanding of the local people and place.

More recent developments, however, including the evolution of megacities clearly show that this process has long since reached its limits. This brings considerable challenges. As their growth runs out of control, such cities become structurally, ecologically and socio-culturally hazardous spaces, with a global impact that even touches on education and health matters. So-called gated communities now stand adjacent to slums and shanty towns that are often home to more than half of a city’s inhabitants. Attempts to regulate the expansion commonly fail in the face of bureaucracy and corrupt authorities. It is no longer possible to deal with these giant manifestations of globalised urbanity with the idealised Western concept of „municipal administration“.

This year, the Weltempfang will attempt to present the challenges and the opportunities of this urbanising process as an unfurling potential for experimentation – without glossing over the risks involved. As always, you can once again expect an exciting, topical tightrope walk, with no easy recipes, but with plenty of first-hand contextual information.

Besides our focal topic “Urban Life and Megacities”, a large number of other events also awaits you, providing an international take on many aspects of life and society. I welcome you warmly to all of these events.

I wish you a fascinating experience at the Frankfurt Book Fair, and I look forward to seeing you in the Weltempfang.

Tobias Voss  
Frankfurt Book Fair, Vice President International Markets, Project Manager Weltempfang

Organisation and implementation:  
Litprom – Society for the  
Promotion of African, Asian and  
Latin American Literature

Antje te Brake  
Phone: +49 (0) 69 2102-246  
E-mail: tebrake@book-fair.com

For the latest information:  
www.book-fair.com/weltempfang

EXHIBITION

Post-Oil City. The History of the City’s Future

At a time when more than half of the world’s population is living in cities, the effects of climate change on urban life can no longer be ignored. The exhibition “Post-Oil City: The History of the City’s Future”, presents innovative projects in Asia, Africa, and America that address urgent questions: How will the transition from fossil fuels to renewable energy affect the process of urban planning and the city? How will the use of renewable energies affect urban metabolism and the politics of sustainability and mobility?

“The History of the City’s Future” – every vision of the future is based on a vision of the past. By contrasting eleven current projects in the field of sustainable urban planning with nine from the past, the exhibition aims to show that many of today’s developments have their roots in the urban utopias of mid-20th century modernism. Today, urban planners are returning to these concepts and adapting them to the challenges posed by climate change, a limited supply of fossil fuels, economic recession, and global systemic crisis. That way, urban planning provides a laboratory for social as well as ecological change.

© Masdar Plaza, Courtesy-LAVA, Laboratory for Visionary Architecture, Stuttgart

An exhibition by the ifa (Institut für Auslandsbeziehungen), Stuttgart, in cooperation with ARCH+, Zeitschrift für Architektur und Städtebau, Berlin.
1.00–2.00 PM, STAGE
A fresh look at German foreign policy
Talk
German
How can Germany shape its cultural relations and education policy so that it presents a positive image of the country abroad, while also getting society involved at home? Is German foreign policy fit for the 21st century? What should be the objectives of foreign education policy? How can the “new media” be integrated effectively? A talk with the head of the Directorate-General for Culture and Communication of the German Federal Foreign Office.
Taking part: Dr Andreas Görgen (Berlin), head of the Directorate-General for Culture and Communication of the German Federal Foreign Office
Cooperation: German Literary Translators’ Association (VdÜ)

2.30–3.30 PM, STAGE
Publishing in times of conflict
Talk
English
In many countries people are affected by different forms of sustained conflict that disrupt their societies and sometimes threaten their lives. Often, it is impossible to think any more in terms of everyday life. Nevertheless, there are publishers everywhere who continue to publish books, thereby keeping alive their countries’ culture. Three guests of the Frankfurter Book Fair’s Invitation Programme for publishers discuss the ways in which they manage to keep on working.
Taking part: Dr Andreas Görgen (Berlin), head of the Directorate-General for Culture and Communication of the German Federal Foreign Office
Taking part: Dr Andreas Görgen (Berlin), head of the Directorate-General for Culture and Communication of the German Federal Foreign Office
Cooperation: German Literary Translators’ Association (VdÜ)

4.00–5.00 PM, STAGE
Opening of the Weltempfang: the city as a challenge
Panel discussion
English | German
How best to approach the escalation of the conflict between Ukraine and Russia, and what is the distorting effect propaganda has on the value of words? What role can culture play in the face of violence and censorship? A group of distinguished writers and PEN members discuss these questions.
Taking part: Patricia Klobusíčky (Prague), translator from German to French and English; literary editor; critic
Katy Derbyshire (Berlin), translator to English from German; owner of the blog “love german books” on German books, translation and life in Berlin
Werner Richter (Austria), translator to German from English
Chair by: Dr Joachim Scholl (Berlin), literary critic; radio presenter with Deutschlandradio Kultur
Cooperation: German Literary Translators’ Association (VdÜ)
1.30–2.30 PM, STAGE
Democratic transition in the Muslim world: Indonesia and Egypt
Panel discussion
English | German | Arabic
To what extent has Islamic culture influenced political transition in both countries? Islam is often considered incompatible with democracy, but over the last 15 years the situation has been changing. Democracy took hold in Indonesia, in 1998, following the downfall of Suharto’s military regime. The wave of democratisation in the Arab World culminated in Egypt with the ousting of President Mubarak.
/ Taking part: Mohamed El-Baaly (Egypt), Sefsafa Publishing; guest of Frankfurt Book Fair’s Invitation Programme
Dr Luthfi Assyaunkani (Indonesia), co-founder of the Liberal Islam Network; lecturer at Paramadina University, Jakarta
/ Chaired by: Stefan Weidner (Germany), specialist in Islamic studies; author; publicist and translator

2.30–3.30 PM, SALON
International literature in Germany, France and the United Kingdom – a comparison
Talk
English
The United Kingdom is the largest source of book translations into other languages, while being the least receptive to writing from other cultures. A study by Literature Across Frontiers takes a comparative look at the position of international writing in the three major European language territories, providing a starting point for a debate on the wider topic of cultural exchange.
/ Taking part: Christopher MacLehose (UK), publisher; MacLehose Press
Pierre Astier (France), literary agent; former publisher
Florian Höllerer (Germany), director of the Literarisches Colloquium Berlin
/ Chaired by: Alexandra Büchler (UK), director of Literature Across Frontiers
/ Cooperation: Literature Across Frontiers – European platform for literary exchange, translation and policy debate

3.00–4.00 PM, STAGE
2030: Surviving in megacities
Panel discussion
English | German
By 2030, some 60 per cent of the world’s population will reside in cities. Lives lived so close together produce a collision of contrasting social realities. A new fight for resources is emerging. How can we meet these challenges? What strategies are citizens developing to help them survive? What can we learn from the energy and innovative power of megacities?
/ Taking part: Ronald Grätz (Germany), secretary general of ifa (Institut für Auslandsbeziehungen)
Valentina Rojas Loa Salazar (Mexico), curator of the Mexican-German urban art collective “Citámbulos”
Raoul Bunschoten (Germany), professor with the Technische Universität Berlin; founder of the research institute “CHORA city and energy”
/ Chaired by: Adelheid Feilcke (Bonn), director of strategic partnerships with Deutsche Welle
/ Cooperation: ifa (Institut für Auslandsbeziehungen), Deutsche Welle

4.00–5.00 PM, SALON
National literatures revisited: making other literary topographies in Europe visible
Talk
English
In a Europe marked by an increasing number of linguistically complex societies, the concept of national literatures should be revisited. What literature policies are needed in bilingual societies? How can we reinforce the literary industries in smaller languages? Is internationalisation possible? Are literatures, besides main European states, as national literatures visible? An attempt to promote ‘other literary topographies’.
/ Taking part: Mari Koli (Finland), CEO of Schildts & Söderströms
Mari Jose Olaziregi (Basque Country), director for the Promotion and Diffusion of the Basque Language, Etxepare Basque Institute
/ Chaired by: Mikko Fritz (Finland), director of the Goethe-Institut Helsinki
FRIDAY, 10 OCTOBER 2014

10.30–11.30 AM, STAGE
Cairo Short Stories
Award ceremony, reading and talk
English | German | Arabic

The Cairo Short Stories project comes to a splendid conclusion with the awarding of the promotional prize of the KfW Foundation to Areej Gamal. In Cairo, author Abbas Khider led workshops in which young authors could collectively improve their writing techniques and discuss their short stories. A talk about Cairo’s young literary scene, about freedom of opinion, and about the courage of raising one’s voice in today’s Egypt.

/ Taking part: Abbas Khider (Berlin), writer; most recent work: "Brief in die Äußere Republik" (Nautilus, 2013, “Letter to the Eggplant Republic”, not available in English translation)

Areej Gamal (Cairo), winner of the promotional prize of the KfW Foundation
Dr Stephan Milich (Cologne), specialist in Islamic studies; translator to German from Arabic
Dr Ulrich Schröder (Frankfurt a.M.), CEO of the KfW Foundation; welcoming address
Maria Dragus (Berlin), actress; reader of the German text
/ Chaired by: Iris Radisch (Hamburg), chief editor of the arts desk with the paper Die Zeit
/ Cooperation: KfW Foundation; Litprom – Society for the Promotion of African, Asian and Latin American Literature; Goethe-Institut Cairo

11.00 AM–12.30 PM, SALON
Distant reality close up – a child flees the war
Picture-book cinema and talk
German | French

The book nominated for the German Children's Literature Award “Akim court” (“Akim runs”) uses delicate pencil drawings and just a few words to tell the story of a boy whose village has been destroyed in the war. All the adults he trusts have gone; he runs away in panic, is captured by soldiers but then makes it, after all, to a refugee camp where he is reunited with his mother. The powerful images communicate the enormity of the misery experienced by people in flight, and clearly demonstrate the importance of protection and asylum.

/ Taking part: Claude K. Dubois (Belgium), author and illustrator of “Akim court” (“Akim runs”, not available in English translation)

Tobias Scheffel (Germany), German translator of “Akim court”
/ Chaired by: Heike Brandt (Berlin), translator, author
/ Introduction: Dr Elke Fettweis (Düren), publisher; deputy chair of the Association for Children's and Youth Literature (AKJ)
/ Cooperation: AKJ; German Literary Translators’ Association (VdÜ)

NOON–1.00 PM, STAGE
Between South and North: the young generation of Central American writers
Panel discussion
English | German | Spanish

For a long time, the literature of Central America was characterised by its willingness to address themes like oppression, dictatorship, resistance and revolution. But are these topics still paramount? What is on the agenda today? And what does it look like, the younger generation’s quest for a place in the ranks of international literature?

/ Taking part: Vanessa Núñez Handal (El Salvador), lawyer; writer; publisher; university lecturer
Denise Phé-Funchal (Guatemala), writer; sociologist
Warren Ulloa (Costa Rica), writer; arts journalist

/ Chaired by: Julia Farrington (United Kingdom), works for the Belarus Free Theatre as well as the human rights organisation “Index on Censorship”, which was awarded the 2013 Hermann Kesten Prize by the German PEN Center
/ Cooperation: German PEN Center; Index on Censorship (London)
1.30–2.30 PM, STAGE
Who designs the cities?
A look at Johannesburg, Lagos and Dakar
Panel discussion
English | German
Around 35 per cent of Africans live in cities. Every year, millions more people make their way to the urban centres, driven by the consequences of climate change and population growth, and attracted by the prospects of happiness and better opportunities. How can (mega)cities be designed as good places to live? How can art help us reflect on the developments and provide new impetus?
/ Taking part: Akinbode Akinbiyi (Germany), photographer
Maguèye Kassé (Senegal), sociologist; German scholar
Alexander Opper (South Africa), architect; artist
Emeka Udembia (Nigeria/Germany), conceptual artist
/ Chaired by: Arne Schneider (Germany), Goethe-Institut
/ Cooperation: Goethe-Institut

2.30–3.30 PM, SALON
The next generation: Cairo Short Stories meets sexyunderground
Talk
German | Arabic
Six young authors from Frankfurt and Cairo come together for a talk. What they have in common? They have all taken part in a writing workshop. And they all share the dream of publishing their own book. Besides these things, what other similarities are there? How did they find the workshops? How do they assess their chances in their respective literary markets? What challenges, opportunities or problems do they have in common – and what are the differences?
/ Taking part: Areej Gamal, winner of Cairo Short Stories, an initiative of the KfW Foundation, Litprom and the Goethe-Institut Cairo to promote Egypt’s next literary generation

3.00–4.00 PM, STAGE
India’s contemporaneous non-contemporaneities
Panel discussion
English | German
On the one hand, there are opulent megacities, the IT boom and rapid economic growth; on the other, grinding poverty, an explosive ethnic and religious mix, the collision of modern and ancient traditions. A discussion about India’s excessive hunger for future promises – and about the price the country is paying for this.
/ Taking part: Raj Kamal Jha (India), editor-in-chief of the “Indian Express”; author of “Fireproof” (Picador 2007)
Atif Tyrewala (India), poet; author of e.g. "No God in Sight" (Penguin Books India 2005) and “Ministry of Hurt Sentiments” (HarperCollins India 2013)
/ Chaired by: Claudia Kramatschek (Berlin), freelance literary critic; arts journalist
/ Cooperation: Berlin Artists-in-Residence programme of DAAD

4.00–5.00 PM, SALON
“Travel agencies of literature”: international cooperation between the translation funds
Talk
English
Since 2010, representatives of the organisations that promote translation have met here to talk about their work. They propose new projects and discuss opportunities for international networking.
/ Chaired by: Bärbel Becker (Frankfurt), Frankfurt Book Fair and Bas Pauw (Netherlands), Dutch Foundation for Literature

4.30–5.30 PM, STAGE
Centroamérica Cuenta: literature from Central America
Panel discussion
English | German | Spanish
In many parts of Central America the culture of books and reading is very fragile. However, the literary strengths of many authors and literary figures offer considerable potential for change in the context of civil society. What role do literature and culture play in the societies of Central America? What functionality can an organisation like the Goethe-Institut perform?
/ Taking part: Sergio Ramírez (Nicaragua), writer, literary scholar
Klaus-Dieter Lehmann (Germany), president of the Goethe-Institut
Michi Strausfeld (Germany), literary scholar; translator
Óscar Castillo Rojas (Costa Rica), independent publisher
/ Chaired by: Lutz Kliche (Germany), literature promoter
/ Cooperation: Goethe-Institut

10.30 AM–12.30 PM, SALON
The Transparent Translator: Tales of the City
Interactive presentation
English | German
Since 1978, in his cycle of novels “Tales of the City”, Armistead Maupin has been writing the story of his city, San Francisco, and its (sub)cultures. Witness live how Michael Kellner finds the German voices for the final part of the cycle, “The Days of Anna Madrigal” (to be published by Rowohlt).
/ Taking part: Michael Kellner (Hamburg), German translator of works by Allen Ginsberg, William Burroughs, Brian Conaghan and others
/ Cooperation: German Literary Translators’ Association (VdÜ)
NOON–1.00 PM, STAGE
Ungovernable cities: incubators for creativity?
Talk, caricatures and rap
English | German
Cities are ambivalent places. Millions of people move to cities from the country, including artists of all kinds. But many of the great urban sprawls are barely controllable or governable. Life here can become a daily challenge. What happens then to the creativity? Do megacities inspire creative potential? Do they perhaps even act as incubators for new forms of artistic interaction?
/ Taking part: Khaled Harara
(Palestine/Sweden), politically engaged rapper; organiser of youth workshops in the Gaza Strip; currently living as ICORN guest author in Gothenburg
Mana Neyestani (Iran/France), comics illustrator; political caricaturist; he worked under rigid religious restrictions until 2006 when, following 50 days under arrest, he was able to leave the country
/ Chaired by: Peter Ripken
(Germany), ICORN – International Cities of Refuge Network
/ Cooperation: ICORN; Litprom – Society for the Promotion of African, Asian and Latin American Literature

1.00–2.00 PM, SALON
Film screening: The Rooftops of Cairo
German
Small corrugated iron shacks, clean washing on the line and children playing with goats – a village scene at the heart of the millions-strong city of Cairo. This is a rooftop settlement of the kind that can be found on nearly all the old residential blocks of the city centre. A film about a rooftop community that is merely tolerated, for rent agreements are rare here.
ARTE 2006 (running time: 52 mins.)
/ Cooperation: ARTE

1.30–2.30 PM, STAGE
Megacities: spaces for art – spaces for experimentation?
Panel discussion
English | German
A host of innovative spaces are emerging in the world’s great urban centres, called into being by artists and used by them for new concepts and formats. In these places, dialogues and ideas crystallise, especially at times of upheaval. What role do these creative laboratories play in Cairo, Moscow and other megacities? What influence are they having on their societies? How is the Goethe-Institut collaborating with these creative places and their actors? What is their significance for German cultural relations and education policy?
/ Taking part: Mikhail Gnedovsky
(Russia), director of the Cultural Policy Institute Moscow
Karima Mansour (Egypt), dancer; choreographer
Johannes Ebert (Germany), secretary general of the Goethe-Institut
/ Chaired by: Anne-Bitt Gerecke
(Germany), Goethe-Institut
/ Cooperation: Goethe-Institut

2.30–3.30 PM, SALON
Translation Slam
English | German
Good ideas and a talent for improvisation provide the motor for translation. Watch three translators finding spontaneous solutions for unprepared translation tasks. In doing so, they must achieve differing registers and styles. How would the same sentence sound if spoken by a youth of today, by an 18th-century author, or by a child? Is it possible to provide a new linguistic interpretation for famous sentences from world literature?
/ Taking part: Isabel Bogdan
(Hamburg), translator from German to English; author; blogger
Ingo Herzke (Hamburg), translator from German to English
Peter Torberg (Bad Griesbach), translator from German to English
/ Chaired by: Annette Kopetzki
(Hamburg), translator from German to Italian
/ Cooperation: German Literary Translators’ Association (VdÜ)

3.00–4.00 PM, STAGE
Transforming the city: European literature as social commentary
Talk
German | French | Italian | Spanish
A city gives rise to gaps with unseen residents, “profane” districts that serve no recognisable purpose. Here, a French writer, a city and country planner from Italy, and a Spanish architect lend those spaces a new significance and give them a voice. How can you narrate the story of a big city and its stratifications? What can poetry contribute to municipal politics?
/ Taking part: Yannick Haenel
(France), author whose radical and poetic novel “Les Renards pâles” (“The Pale Foxes”, not available in English translation) describes outsiders and marginalised people in cities
Nicolo Bassetti (Italy), curator of the “Sacro GRA” project, involving a book, film and photo exhibition about Rome’s urban motorway
basturama (Spain), architectural collective of the School of Architecture in Madrid, which is developing new approaches to dealing with resources, consumption and production
/ Chaired by: Michele Sciuvera
(Frankfurt), Galerie Art Virus Frankfurt a. M.
/ Cooperation: EUNIC Frankfurt, European Union National Institutes for Culture

4.00–5.00 PM, SALON
Images of disasters: natural forces and cities, in the past and the present day
Talk
German
Since classical antiquity, people have aspired to control the forces of nature. Yet repeatedly, cities thought of as safe places to live and as fixed parts of civilisation have been hit by natural disasters. How do people deal with disasters that destroy urban environments? What mythologies have developed surrounding the forces of nature? Have these concepts differed at different periods and on different continents?
/ Taking part: Gerrit Jasper Schenk
(TU Darmstadt), mediaeval historian
Jacob Birken (Staatliche Hochschule für Gestaltung, Karlsruhe), art historian
Christoph Lind (Reiss-Engelhorn Museums, Mannheim), art historian
/ Chaired by: Martin Gieselmann
(Heidelberg), executive secretary of SAI
/ Cooperation: South Asia Institute (SAI), Heidelberg University

4.30–5.30 PM, STAGE
LiBeraturpreis 2014: Raja Alem (Saudi Arabia)
Award ceremony and talk
English | German | Arabic
The LiBeraturpreis is the only German literature prize that is awarded exclusively to women from Africa, Asia, Latin America or the Arab World. In 2014, Raja Alem will receive the award for her novel “The Doves’ Necklace” (German title: “Das Halsband der Tauben”. Unionsverlag 2013). In the words of the jury, this is both a crime novel and a literary study on the female body in Muslim society – it is also a novel about the city of Mecca.
/ Taking part: Raja Alem (Saudi Arabia), author; prize winner
Karl-Markus Gauß (Austria), writer; critic; publisher; jury member for the Litprom Weltempfänger best books list; laudation
Hartmut Fähndrich (Switzerland), German translator of “The Doves’ Necklaces”
/ Chaired by: Claudia Kramatschek
(Germany), freelance literary critic; arts journalist; jury member for the Litprom Weltempfänger best books list
/ Cooperation: Litprom – Society for the Promotion of African, Asian and Latin American Literature
10.30–11.30 AM, STAGE
Urban performance: jesters' licence in South East Asia?
Panel discussion
English | German | Croatian
A history of Croatian performance art provides surprising insights into the relationships between politics and art, repression and freedom, capital and labour, intimacy and publicity. How radical, modern and expressive were the artists and their works in Yugoslavia, a country that sought a third way between West and East, but found instead the war of the 1990s? And where are those performers today?
/ Taking part: Suzana Marjanić (Zagreb), ethnologist; theatre scholar; publisher of “Chronotope of Croatian Performance Art: From Traveler to Today” (not available in English translation)
/ Boris Buden (Berlin, Vienna, Zagreb), philosopher; cultural scholar; author; works include “Zone des Übergangs. Vom Ende des Postkommunismus” (“Zone of Transition: On the End of Post-Communism”, not available in English translation)
/ Siniša Labrović (Zagreb), body art artist; performer
/ Chaired by: Alida Bremer (Munster, Split), translator; literary scholar; author; latest novel: “Olivas Garten” (“Olivas’s Garden”, not available in English translation)
/ Cooperation: TRADUKI; Croatian Ministry of Culture

11.30 AM–12.30 PM, SALON
Korea reloaded: half a century of Korean literature
Talk
German | Korean
What sets Korean literature apart? Vivid diversity. Its abundance overflows the country’s own borders – and not just since 2005, when Korea was Guest of Honour at the Frankfurt Book Fair. Lee Hochol is seen as an advocate of the small people between big ideologies, while Kim Aeran is famous for her critical humour. Together, the two of them span half a century of contemporary Korean literature.
/ Taking part: Kim Aeran (South Korea), born in 1980; writer; recently awarded the 2013 Han Mo-sook literature prize
Lee Hochol (South Korea), born in 1932; writer; numerous national and international literature prizes
/ Chaired by: Katharina Borcharl (Germany), literary journalist and presenter with the broadcaster SWR2; jury member for the Litprom Weltempfänger best books list
/ Cooperation: LTI Korea, Litprom – Society for the Promotion of African, Asian and Latin American Literature

NOON–1.00 PM, STAGE
Urban aspirations? China caught between city planning and the “Chinese Dream”
Panel discussion
English | German
More than 50 per cent of Chinese people now live in cities, and the government is planning to increase this proportion to 60 per cent. At the same time, everyone is speaking about the “Chinese Dream”. The ongoing urbanisation is clearly indivisible from that dream. In the light of this, what answers do the city planners have to the challenges of urbanisation?
/ Taking part: Jürgen Engel (Frankfurt), KSP Architekten Jürgen Engel (invited)
Professor Dr Dieter Hassenplüg (Weimar), Urban Solutions GbR; author of “The Urban Code of China” (Birkhäuser Verlag 2013)
/ Chaired by: Dr Dagmar Lorenz (Mainz), publicist
/ Cooperation: Konfuzius-Institut Frankfurt e.V.

1.00–2.00 PM, SALON
Film screening: Singapore – City in a Garden
German
Singapore is an authoritarian city-state rife with contradictions. This “boomtown” sits on around 700 sq km of land, of which roughly half is green space. The city has 300 parks, and its streets and tower blocks are also planted with greenery. It calls itself the “City in a Garden”. A film about an urban planning concept that has no equal.
ARTE/HR 2009 (running time: approx. 43 Min.)
/ Cooperation: ARTE

1.30–2.30 PM, STAGE
20 years after the Rwandan genocide: literature and memory
Talk
English | German | French
Twenty years have passed since the genocide was perpetrated in Rwanda. How can literature help counteract our forgetting and ambivalence, without either downplaying the horrors or dulling the readers’ attention? Is it acceptable to use fiction to address things that cannot be told – and if so, how? With their very different novels, Scholastique Mukasonga and Lukas Bürfuss look into the abyss, and at the contradictions in the story and the people involved.
/ Taking part: Scholastique Mukasonga (Rwanda/France), in exile since 1973; “Our Lady of the Nile: A Novel” (Archipelago 2014) describes the background to the burgeoning violence; Prix Renaudot 2012
Lukas Bürfuss (Switzerland), dramatist; author; in “One Hundred Days” (Granta Books 2012) he examines European complicity in the Rwandan genocide
/ Chaired by: Dr Manfred Loimeier (Oldenburg), Federal Institute for Culture and History of the Germans in Eastern Europe; currently preparing a short history of Pilsen

2.30–3.30 PM, SALON
“Pilsen, open up!” Multicultural history and present in the 2015 European Capital of Culture
Talk
German
The projects of the Capital of Culture programme will communicate Pilsen’s multifaceted past. In what ways are the people of Pilsen open to the multicultural nature of their city’s past and present? Can we find any traces of its German or Jewish history? What do the residents say about their city in the interactive guide “The Hidden City”?
/ Taking part: Sárka Krtková (Pilsen), Capital of Culture organisation, Plzeň 2015
Terezie Vávrová (Prague), journalist
/ Cooperation: German Culture Forum for Eastern Europe; Plzeň 2015; Federal Institute for Culture and History of the Germans in Eastern Europe

3.00–4.00 PM, STAGE
Stress test in Ukraine
Panel discussion
English | German
Euromaidan demanded dignity and rights. The regime responded with violence. Russia annexed the Crimea and encouraged rebels in eastern Ukraine to start a war. The country needs a new start. But how will it be possible to regulate the political and social conflicts that have been deepened by the war, or the linguistic and cultural differences between East and West?
/ Taking part: Volodymyr Kulyk (Kiev, Ukraine), political scientist; publicist; Academy of Sciences
Tatiana Zhurzhenko (Kharkiv/Vienna), political scientist; Institute for Human Sciences
/ Presented by: Manfred Sapper, editor-in-chief of OSTEUROPA, Berlin
/ Cooperation: OSTEUROPA, Berlin
ALL EVENTS AT A GLANCE

SALON

WEDNESDAY, 8 OCTOBER 2014

1.00–2.00 pm
A fresh look at German foreign policy
Talk

2.30–3.30 pm
Publishing in times of conflict
Talk

THURSDAY, 9 OCTOBER 2014

10.30 am–12.30 pm
The Transparent Translator: crime novels
Interactive presentation

1.00–2.20 pm
“The Human Scale. Bringing Cities to Life”
Film screening

2.30–3.30 pm
International literature in Germany, France and the United Kingdom: a comparative perspective
Talk

4.00–5.00 pm
National literatures revisited: making other literary topographies in Europe visible
Talk

FRIDAY, 10 OCTOBER 2014

11.00 am–12.30 pm
Distant reality close up – a child flees the war
Picture-book cinema and talk

1.00–2.00 pm
Uprising in Turkey: the German PEN Centre introduces the author in exile, Meltem Arikan
Talk

2.30–3.30 pm
The next generation: Cairo Short Stories meets sexy underground
Talk

4.00–5.00 pm
“Travel agencies of literature”: international cooperation between the translation funds
Talk

SATURDAY, 11 OCTOBER 2014

10.30 am–12.30 pm
The Transparent Translator: Tales of the City
Interactive presentation

1.00–2.00 pm
“The Rooftops of Cairo”
Film screening

2.30–3.30 pm
Images of disasters: natural forces and cities, in the past and the present day
Talk

11.30 am–12.30 pm
Korea reloaded: half a century of Korean literature
Talk

1.00–2.00 pm
“Singapore – City in a Garden”
Film screening

2.30–3.30 pm
“Pilsen, open up!” Multicultural history and present in the 2015 European Capital of Culture
Talk

10.30–11.30 am
1914–2014: the First World War in the study of history and the culture of literary memory
Panel discussion

1.00–2.00 pm
Between South and North: the young generation of Central American writers
Panel discussion

4.30–5.30 pm
Multicultural history and present in the 2015 European Capital of Culture
Talk

3.00–4.00 pm
India’s contemporaneous non-contemporaneities
Panel discussion

4.30–5.30 pm
Centroamérica Cuenta: literature from Central America
Panel discussion

SATURDAY, 11 OCTOBER 2014

10.30–11.30 am
City.Life. How a new generation of Arab artists and activists are shaping their cities
Panel discussion

11.00 am–12.30 pm
Urban performance: jesters’ licence in South East Europe?
Panel discussion

3.00–4.00 pm
Stress test in Ukraine
Panel discussion

STAGE

WEDNESDAY, 8 OCTOBER 2014

10.30 am–12.30 pm
It’s all English, I suppose
Panel discussion

2.30–3.30 pm
Russia and Ukraine: new conflict, old propaganda...
Panel discussion

4.00–5.00 pm
Opening of the Weltempfang: the city as a challenge

THURSDAY, 9 OCTOBER 2014

10.30–11.30 am
In darkest Belarus? Searching for the light: the state of Belarusian literature
Talk

noon–1.00 pm
Gezi Park, Istanbul: art and artists at the heart of the protest
Panel discussion

1.30–2.30 pm
Democratic transition in the Muslim world: Indonesia and Egypt
Panel discussion

3.00–4.00 pm
2030: Surviving in megacities
Panel discussion

4.30–5.30 pm
Centroamérica Cuenta: literature from Central America
Panel discussion

FRIDAY, 10 OCTOBER 2014

10.30–11.30 am
In darkest Belarus? Searching for the light: the state of Belarusian literature
Talk

noon–1.00 pm
Gezi Park, Istanbul: art and artists at the heart of the protest
Panel discussion

1.30–2.30 pm
Democratic transition in the Muslim world: Indonesia and Egypt
Panel discussion

3.00–4.00 pm
2030: Surviving in megacities
Panel discussion

4.30–5.30 pm
Centroamérica Cuenta: literature from Central America
Panel discussion

SATURDAY, 11 OCTOBER 2014

10.30–11.30 am
City.Life. How a new generation of Arab artists and activists are shaping their cities
Panel discussion

11.00 am–12.30 pm
Urban performance: jesters’ licence in South East Europe?
Panel discussion

3.00–4.00 pm
Stress test in Ukraine
Panel discussion

SUNDAY, 12 OCTOBER 2014

10.30–11.30 am
Urban aspirations? China caught between city planning and the “Chinese Dream”
Panel discussion

11.30 am–12.30 pm
Korea reloaded: half a century of Korean literature
Talk

1.00–2.00 pm
“Singapore – City in a Garden”
Film screening

2.30–3.30 pm
“Pilsen, open up!” Multicultural history and present in the 2015 European Capital of Culture
Talk

10.30–11.30 am
In darkest Belarus? Searching for the light: the state of Belarusian literature
Talk

noon–1.00 pm
Gezi Park, Istanbul: art and artists at the heart of the protest
Panel discussion

1.30–2.30 pm
Democratic transition in the Muslim world: Indonesia and Egypt
Panel discussion

3.00–4.00 pm
2030: Surviving in megacities
Panel discussion

4.30–5.30 pm
Centroamérica Cuenta: literature from Central America
Panel discussion