

NOIRWICH

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Biggest names in crime writing will headline city-wide festival

A star cast of crime writers has been confirmed for the fifth Noirwich Crime Writing Festival - the fastest growing literary festival in the East of England - organised by the National Centre for Writing (formerly Writers' Centre Norwich) and the University of East Anglia.

Authors including Benjamin Black, Val McDermid, Nicci French and Paula Hawkins will be part of a city-wide celebration of events and fringe activity from 13 – 16 September in Norwich, England's first UNESCO City of Literature.

The 2018 Noirwich Festival includes a fascinating behind-the-scenes look at how real-life forensics and post-mortem evidence can make writing more compelling, a discussion on witchcraft and superstition, crime themed cocktails and even a murder mystery musical - suitable for the whole family!

Chris Gribble, Festival Co-Director and Executive Director of the National Centre for Writing, said: "Crime fiction is phenomenally popular and Noirwich is a wonderful celebration that brings people from far and wide to our UNESCO City of Literature for a four-day spectacular of the most exciting and diverse crime writing that the world has to offer."

Henry Sutton, Festival Co-Director and Senior Lecturer in Creative Writing at the UEA added: "Noirwich is at the cutting edge of the most exciting, dynamic and popular literary and filmic genre in the world. But it's so much more as well; it's a place for great, timely and

entertaining discussions in the friendliest of environments. Meet the people who shape imaginations and who can make you laugh. Crime writers know how to have fun.”

Val McDermid, one of the headliners, whose novels have sold over 15 million copies worldwide, said: “Norwich is a fantastic city for a writer. Every time I come here I find something new.”

Festival events take place at Dragon Hall, home to the new National Centre for Writing, the Jarrold Department Store, the Enterprise Centre at the University of East Anglia and The Murderers pub.

Cafes and bars will join in the celebrations with local food with a crime twist and there will be writing workshops where people can try their hand at writing the next bestselling thriller.

For line-up and ticket information see: www.noirwich.co.uk and follow @NOIRwichFest

Notes to Editors:

1. For comment and interviews contact Alice Kent, Communications Director at alice@nationalcentreforwriting.org.uk / 01603 877177
2. About National Centre for Writing (NCW)
NCW is a literature development organisation based in Norwich, England’s first UNESCO City of Literature. The National Centre for Writing at Dragon Hall promotes great literature, inspires communities through the power of writing, reading and literary translation, nurtures literary talent and hosts world-class events. www.nationalcentreforwriting.org.uk
3. The University of East Anglia (UEA) is a UK Top 15 university. Known for its world-leading research and outstanding student experience, it was awarded Gold in the Teaching Excellence Framework and is a leading member of Norwich Research Park, one of Europe’s biggest concentrations of researchers in the fields of environment, health and plant science. www.uea.ac.uk