

NOIRWICH

'Eco-crime' fiction and ground-breaking research take centre stage at the 6th Noirwich Crime Writing Festival

NEWS RELEASE: 24 July 2019

The headliners for the sixth Noirwich Crime Writing Festival have been announced.

Organised by the National Centre for Writing and the University of East Anglia, the Noirwich programme seeks to interrogate the way we live now through the lens of the nation's favourite genre. With a focus on a growing interest in 'eco crime' writing and drawing on ground-breaking research, the 2019 Noirwich programme puts contemporary society on trial with a look at crimes against nature.

The line-up includes BBC reporter **George Alagiah** who will deliver a specially commissioned lecture on the impact of environmental change on some of the world's poorest countries and the subsequent rise in radical activism. **Professor Corrine Le Quéré CBE**, Royal Society Research Professor of Climate Change leads a discussion on environmental degradation and new avenues for writing. **Steve Burrows** and **James Henry** discuss their writing in relation to their shared passion for ornithology.

'Iceland's crime queen' **Yrsa Sigurrðardottir** headlines Sunday as the inaugural UNESCO City of Literature Writer in Residence. And an exhibition in partnership with the British Archive for Contemporary Writing (BACW) reveals the creative processes behind the work of **Denise Mina** and **Louise Doughty**.

The incredible line-up continues with **James Ellroy, Lisa Jewell, James Runcie, Erin Kelly, Mick Herron** and many more writers across 20 events and four city venues in Norwich, England's first UNESCO City of Literature

Peggy Hughes, Festival Co-Director and Programme Director at the National Centre for Writing said:

"Every year Noirwich seeks to get under the skin of this vast genre and all its variations. Through new writing and fresh collaborations from writers, artists and experts we investigate how crime writing can help us make sense of today's world."

The festival attracts visitors from all over the country for its mix of writing workshops, exhibitions and innovative programming. The Bloody Brunch is back with sponsors Big Tom tomato juice and Ghost Vodka mixing up the perfect Bloody Mary. This year there is a photography exhibition featuring the work of American artist David Drake, who has produced a series of stunning images reflecting the festival themes.

Henry Sutton, Professor of Creative Writing and Crime Fiction at the UEA, said:

"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, and cry. Crime writers know how to move you, while moving with the times."

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

The 6th Noirwich Crime Writing Festival will take place from 12 – 15th September 2019. For the full line-up and ticket information, including season tickets see: noirwich.co.uk and follow @NOIRwichFest on Twitter.

Notes to Editors:

1. For comment and interviews contact Alice Kent, Communications Director at alice@nationalcentreforwriting.org.uk / 01603 877177
2. For artist and exhibition images and full programme see the press pack at: <https://www.dropbox.com/sh/l4514gdok1vo245/AAAH6YLpVYysKNa-PFe6gEcsa?dl=0>
3. Listen to a new interview with festival co-director Professor Henry Sutton on the National Centre for Writing podcast: <https://noirwich.co.uk/podcast-henry-sutton-introduces-noirwich-2019/>
4. 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
5. 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