



Festival Programme

Look for the rooster icon to see which events are included in the Festival/Day Pass



06
Thursday

09:30 - 12:30

Sri Yoga Shala

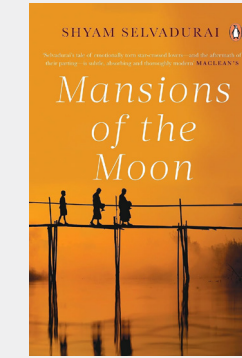
Your Life in Words
Marguerite Richards
Workshop



10:15 - 11:15

Maritime

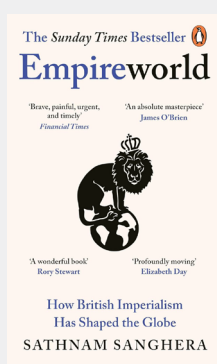
Decolonising My Body
Afua Hirsch
with Kalpanee
Gunawardana
In Conversation



10:15 - 11:15

Hall De Galle

Mansions of the Moon
Shyam Selvadurai
with Ameena Hussein
In Conversation



11:30 - 12:30

Hall De Galle

Empireworld
Sathnam Sanghera
with Nihal Arthanayake
In Conversation



11:30 - 12:30

TBA

Lyrical Landscapes: Crafting Narrative across Mediums
Sharanya Manivannan, Shyala Smith & Justin Whyte with Vikrom Mathur
Panel



11:30 - 12:30

Maritime

Dystopia: Our Fascination with an Alternative Future
Greg Mosse, Helen Macdonald & Yudhanjaya Wijeratne with Kiran Dass
Panel

12:30 - 14:00

The Charleston

Razeen Sally
Literary Lunch

12:30 - 14:00

TBA

Growing Up Wild
with Saba Douglas-Hamilton & Frank Pope
Literary Lunch

Special thanks to Heather Christiansen

14:00 - 15:00

Hall De Galle

30 Years in Print
Kate Mosse
with Julia Wheeler
In Conversation



14:00 - 15:00

Maritime

Reshaping the Modern-Day Museum: Digital Collections in South Asia
Aanchal Malhotra & Johann Peiris
with Anisha Dias Bandaranaike
Panel



14:00 - 16:00

Fort Printers

Urban Illustration
Devni Jayakody
Workshop

Sponsored by iDiscover

15:15 - 16:15

Hall De Galle

Running in the Family: Unravelling Trauma through Memoir
Peter Godwin, Helen Macdonald & Sathnam Sanghera with Jill Macdonald
Panel



15:15 - 16:15

Maritime

Nicolas Bouvier's The Scorpion-Fish: 70 Years After the Author's Stay in Galle
Adrien Krause
Solo (Free Event)



Sponsored by Embassy of Switzerland

15:15 - 16:15

The Galle Fort Art Gallery

Tea & Poetry: Tea Stained Lines
Annal Glory, Jeyakantha Janu, Mylvaganam Thilakarajah, & Pathum Wickramaratne
Tea & Poetry

Sponsored by CATA

16:30 - 17:30

Hall De Galle

Morning TV to Murder Mystery
Louise Minchin
with Hen Tatham
In Conversation



16:30 - 18:00

Maritime

Vietnam Through Time: A Nat Geo Photographer's 25-Year Journey
Catherine Karnow
Solo



16:30 - 18:30

TBA

Galle Fort Photo Walk
The Streets of Colombo
Photo Walk

Sponsored by Streets of Colombo

18:00 - Onwards

Doornberg

30 Years of Reef
Romesh Gunasekera & Rashmika Mandawala
with Savithri Rodrigo
Cocktails

Sponsored by IDL

18:00 - 19:00

Radisson Blu

Twilight Songbook with Justin Whyte
Recital

Sponsored by IDL

18:00 - 19:00

10 Leyn Baan Street

Celebrating the Art of Slow Textiles
Shamji Vankar Vishram Valji
Solo (Free Event)



19:30 - 21:45

Fort Printers

Jayaflava
Tasha Marikkar
Literary Dinner

Sponsored by IDL

19:30 - 21:45

TBA

Philippe Sands
Literary Dinner

19:30 - 21:45

Villa Sielen Diva

Afua Hirsch
Literary Dinner



Philippe Sands



Kate Mosse



07
Friday

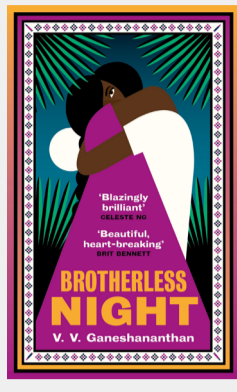
07:00 - 08:00
Garden Stage
Morning Yoga
Sri Yoga Shala
Yoga & Meditation (Free Event)

Sponsored by Sri Yoga Shala

08:00 - 10:00
TBA
Galle Fort Photo Walk
The Streets of Colombo
Photo Walk

Sponsored by Streets of Colombo

09:00 - 10:00
Maritime
Catalysts of Creativity: Why Writing Prizes Matter
Romesh Gunsekera, Maduranga Kalugampitiya & Kate Mosse with Louise Minchin
Panel



09:00 - 10:00
Hall De Galle
Brotherless Night
V.V. Ganeshanathan with Shyam Selvadurai
In Conversation



10:15 - 12:15
TBA
Writing Poetry
Ramya Jirasinghe
Workshop

10:15 - 12:15
Radisson Blu
How to Write a Children's Book
Shyala Smith
Workshop

10:15 - 12:15
AQUA Forte
Ceylon Artisanal Tea Tasting
Ceylon Artisanal Tea Association
Workshop

Sponsored by CATA

10:15 - 11:15
Maritime
Legacy: Who do we choose to remember?
Afua Hirsch, Simon Lister & Ben Macintyre with Julia Wheeler
Panel



10:15 - 11:15
When In Galle
Storytelling as Peoples' Histories
Radhika Hettiarachchi, Aanchal Malhotra & Eithne Nightingale with Johann Peiris
Panel



11:00 - 12:00
Galle Fort Hotel
Andi Oliver
Gourmet Galle Masterclass



11:30 - 12:30
Maritime
The Landscape of a Lost Kingdom
Sunela Jayewardene with Razeen Sally
In Conversation

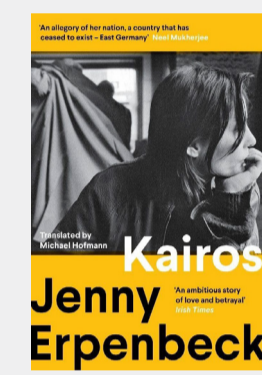


11:30 - 12:30
When In Galle
Connecting Cultures: The Art of Literary Translation
Michael Hofmann, Rashmika Mandawala & Aube Rey Lescure with Amita Arudpragasam
Panel (Free Event)



12:30 - 14:00
79 Leyn Baan St
Shyam Selvadurai
Literary Lunch

12:30 - 14:00
Halle de Galle
The Fusion of Dreams & The Forbidden Gift
Sunera Foundation
Performance (Free Event)



14:00 - 15:00
Maritime
Beyond Kairos: Opera, Literature & Language
Jenny Erpenbeck with Julia Wheeler
In Conversation



14:00 - 15:00
Hall De Galle
Foreigner, Expatriate, Immigrant
Peter Godwin, Sashi Perera & Aube Rey Lescure with Nihal Arthanayake
Panel



14:00 - 16:00
TBA
Songwriting: Turning Ideas into Music
Justin Whyte
Workshop

15:15 - 16:15
Maritime
Tattoo: Reclaiming Ancestral Traditions
Afua Hirsch & Nicholas Thomas with Radhika Hettiarachchi
Panel



15:15 - 16:15
Hall De Galle
The Future of War
Peter Frankopan & Philippe Sands with Adam Rutherford
Panel

Sponsored by Asia Securities

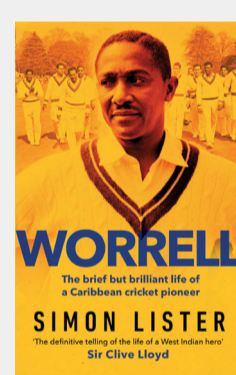
15:15 - 16:15
When In Galle
Plastic Emotions
Shiromi Pinto with Selva Sandrapragas
In Conversation



15:15 - 16:15
Elliot House
Tea & Poetry
Nguyễn Phan Quế Mai & Ramya Jirasinghe with Curtis Jobe
Tea & Poetry

15:30 - 17:30
Ambalama, Court Square
Galle Fort Heritage Walk
Yasiru Epsa
Tour

Sponsored by Southern Mystique



16:30 - 17:30
Maritime
Worrell: Cricket & Caribbean Identity
Simon Lister with Simon Parker
In Conversation



16:30 - 17:30
Hall De Galle
The Pepperpot Diaries
Andi Oliver with Susan Jung
In Conversation



16:45 - 17:45
When in Galle
Shaking Things Up: Mr Lyan and Modern Cocktail Culture
Ryan Chetiyawardana with Dilin Peiris
In Conversation



18:00 - 19:30
Fort Bazaar
Soviet Bus Stops
Screening

18:00 - Onwards
TBA
ARTRA Magazine Launch
Artists with Azara Jaleel
Cocktails

18:00 - Onwards
The Charleston
Growing Leaders
Vidusha Nathavitharana with Savithri Rodrigo
Cocktails

18:00 - 21:45
Radisson Collection
Ravinder Bhogal
Gourmet Galle Dinner

19:30 - 21:45
Radisson Blu
Peter Frankopan
Literary Dinner

19:30 - 21:45
TBA
Sustainably-Conscious Architecture
Channa Daswatte & Sunela Jayewardene with Shiromi Pinto
Literary Dinner

Sponsored by Asia Securities

19:30 - 21:45
The Lake House on Koggala
Peter & Georgina Godwin
Literary Dinner

Sponsored by The Lake House



Simon Lister



Andi Oliver



Channa Daswatte



Sunela Jayewardene



6 - 9 February, 2025

Experience the magic of the Galle Literary Festival!

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Disclaimer:

The program summary is subject to weekly updates. Please refer to the online program weekly for the latest schedule.

08
Saturday

07:00 - 08:00
Garden Stage
Morning Yoga
Sri Yoga Shala
Yoga & Meditation

Sponsored by Sri Yoga Shala

08:00 - 10:00
TBA
Galle Fort Photo Walk
The Streets of Colombo
Photo Walk

Sponsored by Streets of Colombo

09:00 - 10:00
Hall De Galle
Climate Crossroads: The Imperative to Act
Peter Frankopan, Sunela Jayewardene & Philippe Sands with Amita Arudpragasam
Panel (Free Event)

Sponsored by Commercial Bank

09:00 - 10:00
Maritime
LOVE: In Literature as in Life
Saraid de Silva & Aube Rey Lescure with Kiran Dass
Panel

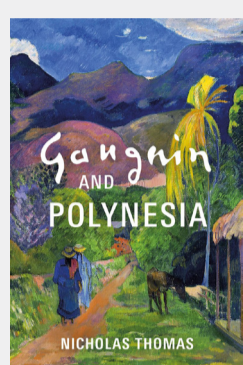
09:00 - 10:00
When In Galle
With Fresh Eyes: The Insider & Outsider in Travel Writing
Simon Parker & Razeen Sally with Simon Lister
Panel

10:15 - 12:15
TBA
Writing a Crime-Thriller: Creating a Storyboard
Greg Mosse
Workshop

10:15 - 11:15
Hall De Galle
Fusing Fact with Fiction in the Historical Novel
V.V. Ganeshanathan & Aanchal Malhotra with Artika Bakshi
Panel

10:15 - 11:15
When In Galle
Inheriting the Past: Vietnam's Legacy Through Two Lenses
Catherine Karnow & Nguyễn Phan Quế Mai with Radhika Hettiarachchi
Panel

10:15 - 11:15
Maritime
AI in Writing: Friend, Foe or Tool?
Adam Rutherford & Yudhanjaya Wijeratne with Mangala Karunaratne
Panel



11:30 - 12:30
When In Galle
Gauguin and Polynesia
Nicholas Thomas with Ghazaleh Zogheib
In Conversation

11:30 - 12:30
Hall De Galle
LGBTQ+ Identities On & Off the Page
Saraid de Silva, Rosanna Flamer-Caldera & Shyam Selvadurai with Kalpanee Gunawardana
Panel

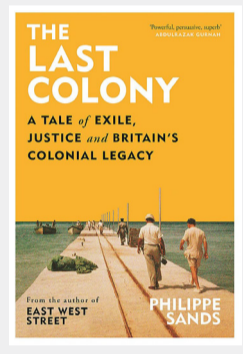
Sponsored by Asia Securities

11:30 - 13:00
Maritime
Child Migrant Voices
Eithne Nightingale & Haja Williams with Marguerite Richards
Panel (Free Event)

11:30 - 13:00
79 Lighthouse Street
Muslim Cookery Demonstration
Crescent Ladies Association
Cookery Demo

12:30 - 14:00
Fort Bazaar
Louise Minchin
Literary Lunch

14:00 - 15:00
When in Galle
A Photographic Guide to the Wildlife of Sri Lanka
Gehan de Silva Wijeyeratne with Frank Pope
In Conversation



14:00 - 15:00
Maritime
The Last Colony
Philippe Sands with Ram Manikkalingam
In Conversation

14:00 - 15:00
Hall De Galle
The Stuff of Legend
Sunela Jayewardene & Devdutt Pattanaik with Asoka de Zoysa
Panel

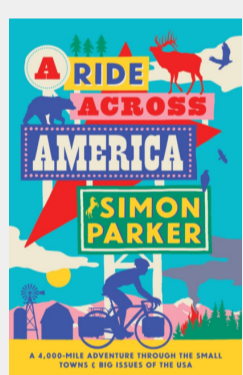
14:00 - 16:00
Sydney Hotel
Illustration Builds Character
Lalith Karunatilaka
Workshop

14:30 - 18:30
Hall De Galle
Part I: Beyond the Frame: People and Cultural Photography
with Catherine Karnow
Workshop

15:15 - 16:15
Maritime
In the Footsteps of Elephants
Saba Douglas-Hamilton
Solo

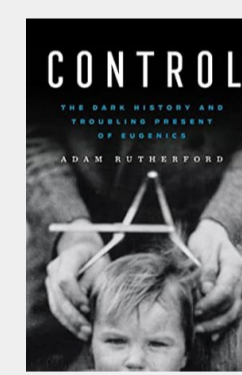
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15:15 - 16:15
When in Galle
Cuisine as Community: Tales from the Diaspora Kitchen
Ravinder Bhogal, Dom Fernando & Andi Oliver with Susan Jung
Panel



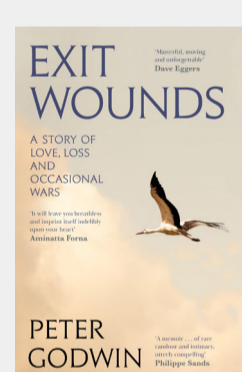
15:15 - 16:15
Hall De Galle
A Ride Across America
Simon Parker with Anushka Wijesinha
In Conversation

15:15 - 16:15
Chambers
Tea & Poetry
Michael Hofmann & Helen Macdonald with Curtis Jobe
Tea & Poetry



16:30 - 17:30
Maritime
The Dark History and Troubling Present of Eugenics
Adam Rutherford with Simon Lister
In Conversation

16:30 - 17:30
Hall De Galle
Behind the Curtain: Writing for Theatre
Michael Attenborough, Jenny Erpenbeck & Greg Mosse with Tracy Holsinger
Panel



16:30 - 17:30
When in Galle
A Story of Love, Loss and Occasional Wars
Peter Godwin with Georgina Godwin
In Conversation

16:30 - 18:30
TBA
Galle Fort Photo Walk
The Streets of Colombo
Photo Walk

Sponsored by Streets of Colombo

16:45 - 17:45
Galle Fort Hotel
Mixology Masterclass with Mr Lyan
Ryan Chetiyawardana
Gourmet Galle Masterclass

17:00 - 17:45
Garden Stage
Shringar
Swami Vivekananda Cultural Centre High Commission of India, Colombo
Dance (Free Event)

18:15 - 20:45
Galle Fort Hotel
Mr Lyan
Ryan Chetiyawardana
Gourmet Galle Dinner With Cocktails

Sponsored by Asia Securities

18:00 - Onwards
Habaraduwa House
Women's Prize for Fiction
V.V. Ganeshanathan, Aube Rey Lescure, Louise Minchin, Kate Mosse
Cocktails

Sponsored by IDL

18:00 - 18:45
Dutch Reformed Church
In Concert
Lakshman Joseph-de Saram & The Chamber Music Society of Colombo
Recital

Sponsored by Rukmini Tissanayagam Trust

19:00 - 19:45
Amangalla
Cocktails & Conversation:
Lakshman Joseph-de Saram with Rahul Jacob
Cocktails

Sponsored by IDL

19:00 - 21:00
Hall De Galle
Sashi Perera
Comedy

Sponsored by Australian High Commission & IDL

19:30 - 21:45
Fort Printers
2024 International Booker Prize
Jenny Erpenbeck, Michael Hofmann & Romesh Gunasekera
Literary Dinner

19:30 - 21:45
Wild & the Sage
Nihal Arthanayake & Sathnam Sanghera
Literary Dinner



Saba Douglas-Hamilton



Nguyễn Phan Quế Mai

19:30 - 21:45
Why House
Ben Macintyre
Literary Dinner

19:30 - 21:45
TBA
Devdutt Pattanaik
Literary Dinner



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09
Sunday

07:00 - 08:00
Garden Stage
Yoga
Yoga & Meditation (Free Event)
Sponsored by Sri Yoga Shala

09:00 - 10:00
Hall De Galle
The Podcast Era
Nihal Arthanayake, Miquita Oliver & Adam Rutherford with Saraïd de Silva
Panel

09:00 - 10:00
Maritime
The Siege
Ben Macintyre with Julia Wheeler
In Conversation

09:00 - 10:00
When in Galle
A Way with Words: The Magic of the Multilingual Writer
Sharanya Manivannan & Nguyễn Phan Quế Mai with Georgina Godwin
Panel

10:00 - 12:00
Hall De Galle
Part II: Beyond the Frame: People and Cultural Photography
with Catherine Karnow
Workshop

10:15 - 12:15
Stick No Bills
The Art of Poster Design
Mads Berg
Workshop
Sponsored by Stick No Bills

10:15 - 12:15
The Merchant
Creative Writing
Nadeesha Paulis
Workshop
Sponsored by iDiscover

10:15 - 11:15
Maritime
Sati Savitri
Devdutt Pattanaik with Artika Bakshi
In Conversation

10:15 - 11:15
Hall De Galle
Kairos: The International Booker Prize
Jenny Erpenbeck, Michael Hofmann & Romesh Gunsekera with Jill Macdonald
Panel



Mads Berg



Jenny Erpenbeck



Michael Hofmann



Romesh Gunsekera

10:15 - 11:15
Maritime
A New Wave of Democracy in South Asia?
Daniel Alphonso, Peter Frankopan & Razeen Sally with Rahul Jacob
Panel

11:00 - 12:00
Galle Fort Hotel
Ravinder Bhogal
Gourmet Galle Masterclass

11:30 - 12:30
Hall De Galle
Repatriation: Objects of Empire
Naazima Kamardeen, Sathnam Sanghera & Nicholas Thomas with Georgina Godwin
Panel

11:30 - 12:30
Maritime
Seeing Ourselves: South Asian Representation in Children's Books
Lalith Karunatilaka, Sharanya Manivannan & Shyala Smith with Marguerite Richards
Panel

11:30 - 12:30
When in Galle
Comedian, Writer, Recovering Lawyer
Sashi Perera with Kalpanee Gunawaradana
In Conversation
Sponsored by Australian High Commission

12:30 - 14:00
The Sun House
Food Writing with Susan Jung
with Rahul Jacob
Literary Lunch

12:30 - 14:00
Amangalla
Kate & Greg Mosse
Literary Lunch

12:30 - 14:00
20 Middle Street
Shakespeare with Michael Attenborough
with Tracy Holsinger
Literary Lunch
Sponsored by The Chatham Collection

13:30 - Onwards
Aditya
Andi & Miquita Oliver
Gourmet Galle Lunch

14:30 - 15:30
Maritime
Wild Encounters, Wise Choices: Shaping Sustainable Wildlife Tourism
Saba Douglas-Hamilton & Manori Gunawardena with Anushka Wijesinha
Panel

14:30 - 15:30
Hall De Galle
Understanding Sri Lankan Identity through Novels
V.V. Ganeshanathan, Ameena Hussein & Shyam Selvadurai with Maduranga Kalugampitiya
Panel

14:45 - 18:00
Malabar Hill
Birding on the Hill
Gehan de Silva Wijeyeratne & Helen Macdonald
Tour



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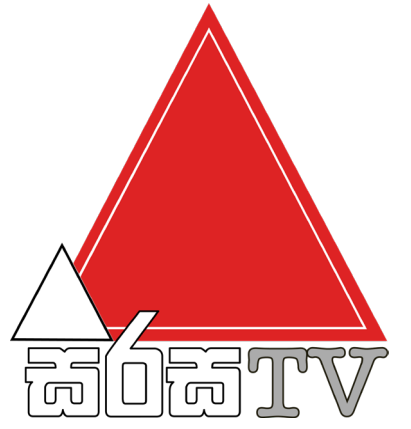
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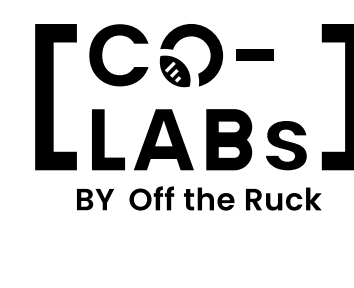
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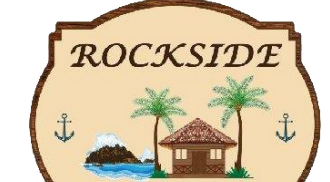
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THE MER-CHANT



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Sunethra Bandaranaike

Heather Christiansen

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