EMERGENCY WORLD VOICES
CONGRESS OF WRITERS

PEN AMERICA

DELEGATE DIRECTORY
Yasser Abdel Hafez is an Egyptian novelist and journalist. He is the author of three novels: On the Occasion of Life was longlisted for the 2008 Arabic Booker; The Book of Safety, the winner of the Banipal Translation Prize (English translation Robin Moger) appeared in 2017; the third, Platitude, is forthcoming. With a long career in journalism, Abdel Hafez is the managing editor of the literary magazine Akhbar al-Adab. He lives in Cairo.

Ayad Akhtar is a novelist and playwright. He is the winner of the Pulitzer Prize for Drama, the Edith Wharton Citation of Merit for Fiction, and an Award in Literature from the American Academy of Arts and Letters. Akhtar is the author of Homeland Elegies. As a playwright, he has written Junk (Lincoln Center, Broadway; Kennedy Prize for American Drama, Tony nomination); Disgraced (Lincoln Center, Broadway; Pulitzer Prize for Drama, Tony nomination); The Who & The What ; and The Invisible Hand (NYTW; Obie Award, Outer Critics Circle John Gassner Award, Olivier, and Evening Standard nominations). Akhtar is the recipient of the Steinberg Playwrighting Award, the Nestoy Award, the Erwin Piscator Award, and many others. Additionally, Akhtar currently serves as PEN America’s President.

Uwem Akpan is a Nigerian short story writer, who is currently teaching an MFA program at University of Florida. He is the author of Say You’re One of Them (2008) and New York, My Village (2021). He is the recipient of the Commonwealth Prize, the PEN/Open Book Award, and the Hurston/Wright Legacy Award. He has additionally been a fellow at the Black Mountain Institute, Institute for the Humanities, Yaddo Foundation, the Cullman Center and the Hang Center for Catholic Intellectual Heritage.

Alaa al Aswany is an Egyptian writer and founding member of the Kefaya political movement. He is well known for his novels The Yacoubian Building (2002) and Chicago (2007), as well as his journalistic contributions to Egyptian newspapers Al-Sha’ab, Al-Dustour, and Al-Masry Al-Youm. His articles have additionally been published in international newspapers such as The New York Times, M le Monde, The Independent, El Pais, and many others.

Esther Allen is an American writer and translator, as well as a professor at Baruch College and City University of New York Graduate Center. She is the recipient of the National Endowment for the Arts Translation Fellowship, Cullman Center fellowship, the Leon Levy fellowship and a Guggenheim Fellowship. Allen was additionally named a Chevalier de l’ordre des arts et des lettres by the French government. Her translation of Zama, by Antonio Di Benedetto, was awarded the National Translation Award. In 2005, Allen co-founded the PEN World Voices Festival and worked with the PEN/Heim Translation Fund from 2003 to 2010.
Eloisa Amezgua is an American poet from Arizona. She was awarded the Shelterbelt Poetry Prize for her debut collection *From the Inside Quietly* (2018). Her most recent collection, *Fighting is Like a Wife*, was released in April 2022.

Anne Applebaum was born in Washington, DC. After graduating from Yale University, she was a Marshall Scholar at the LSE and St. Antony’s College, Oxford. Her husband, Radoslaw Sikorski, is a Polish politician and writer. She is a staff writer for *The Atlantic* and a Senior Fellow at the Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies and the Agora Institute, where she co-directs a program on disinformation and 21st century propaganda. A former columnist and correspondent, she is the recipient of the Lionel Gelber Prize, Duff Cooper prize. Other honors include the Pulitzer Prize, Cundill Prize for Historical Literature, the Duke of Westminster Medal, and a National Book Award finalist.


Khadija Abdalla Bajaber is a fiction writer and editor from Kenya. She has had writing published in *Enkare Review, A Long House, Lolwe, and Down River Road*, among other publications. An associate editor for *Sahifa Journal*, she was, in 2018, the winner of the new Graywolf Press Africa Prize for her debut novel *The House of Rust*.

Elif Batuman is an American author, academic and journalist. Her latest novel, *Either/Or* is expected to be released at the end of May 2022. Her first novel, *The Idiot* (2017), was a finalist for the Pulitzer Prize. Her previous book, *The Possessed: Adventures with Russian Books and the People Who Read Them* (2010) was a finalist for a National Book Critics Circle Award in Criticism. She has been a staff writer at *The New Yorker* since 2010, and holds a PhD in comparative literature from Stanford University.
Christopher Beha is an American writer and editor at Harper’s Magazine. He is the author of *The Whole Five Feet* (2009), *Arts & Entertainments* (2014), *What Happened to Sophie Wilder* (2012), and *The Index of Self-Destructive Acts* (2020), which was nominated for the National Book Award.

Bill Buford is an American author and journalist, best known for *Among the Thugs* (1990) and *Heat* (2006). He was the recipient of a Marshall Scholarship, a James Beard Award, and the Comune di Roma’s Premio Sandro Onofri. Buford was the founding editor of literary magazine *Granta* and publisher of *Granta Books*. After living in the UK and France, Buford lives in New York with his family, and is a contributor to *The New Yorker*.

Executive Director since October 2020, Romana Cacchioli joined PEN International in March 2014 as Director of International Programmes. She works closely with the International Board and manages the day-to-day operations of the Secretariat based in London. Cacchioli has over twenty-five years’ experience working in human rights, including at Anti-Slavery International where she led their Programmes and Advocacy team in advocating for reform in law and policy and redress through national courts for those affected by slavery. As well as Programmes Coordinator with Interights the International Centre for the Protection of Human Rights where she coordinated programmes in Asia and Africa.

Jai Chakrabarti is the author of *A Play for the End of the World* (2021), which won the National Jewish Book Award for debut fiction, was an Association of Jewish Libraries Honor Book and was long-listed for the PEN/Faulkner Award. His upcoming book entitled *A Small Sacrifice for an Enormous Happiness* will be published in 2023. His short fiction has appeared in numerous journals and has been anthologized in *The O. Henry Prize Stories*, *The Best American Short Stories*, and awarded a Pushcart Prize and also performed on Selected Shorts by Symphony Space. Originally from India, Chakrabarti resides in NYC with his family.

Molly Crabapple is an artist and writer. She is the author of *Brothers of the Gun*, an illustrated collaboration with Syrian war journalist Marwan Hisham, which was a NY Times Notable Book and long-listed for the 2018 National Book Award. Her memoir, *Drawing Blood*, received global praise and attention. Her animated films have been nominated for three Emmys, and won an Edward R. Murrow Award. She was the 2019 artist-in-residence at NYU’s Hagop Kevorkian Center for Near Eastern Studies in 2019, and a New America fellow in 2020. She currently is a Puffin Fellow at the Economic Hardship Reporting Project.
Kiran Desai was born in India in 1971 and grew up there before moving to England, aged fourteen years. She was educated in India, England and the US. Her first novel, *Hullabaloo in the Guava Orchard*, won a 1998 Betty Trask Award, and her second novel, *The Inheritance of Loss* (2006), set in the mid 1980s in a Himalayan village, won the 2006 Man Booker Prize for Fiction.

Nataša Šurovičová divides her time between editing, teaching, scholarly work, and translating. She is the editor of IWP’s imprint 91st Meridian Books at Autumn Hill Books, and the program’s journal 91st Meridian. She has also co-edited *World Cinemas, Transnational Perspectives* (2010; the winner of SCMS’s 2011 Best Edited Collection award) and the essay collection *At Translation’s Edge* (2019).

Omar El Akkad is an author and journalist. His journalism has earned a National Newspaper Award for Investigative Journalism and the Goff Penny Award for young journalists. His writing has appeared in *The New York Times*, *The Guardian*, *Le Monde*, *Guernica*, *G*, and many other publications. His debut novel, *American War*, is an international bestseller and has been translated into 13 languages. His new novel, *What Strange Paradise*, was released in July 2021 and won the Giller Prize. It was named a Best Book of the Year by *The New York Times*, *The Washington Post*, NPR, and several other publications.


Ashley Dawson is currently Professor of Postcolonial Studies in the English Department at the Graduate Center, City University of New York (CUNY), and at the College of Staten Island/CUNY. He currently works in the fields of environmental humanities and postcolonial ecocriticism. He is the author of three recent books relating to these fields: *People’s Power* (O/R, 2020), *Extreme Cities* (Verso, 2017) and *Extinction* (O/R, 2016).

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Luíza Fazio is a Brazilian screenwriter and fiction writer. She is the author of the screenplay for Sintonia (Netflix), the most-watched Brazilian TV series of 2019. Other recent work was on Samantha! (Netflix) and Sentence (Amazon Prime) and on a feature-length adaptation of the LGBTQIA-themed children’s book A Princesa e a costureira [The Princess and the Seamstress], which won a script development grant from the Brazilian Ministry of Culture. Her 2010 story collection O Laboratório do escritor [The Writer’s Lab] received funding from the São Paulo State Department of Culture. She participates courtesy of the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs at the U.S. Department of State.

Camonghne Felix, poet and essayist, is the author of Build Yourself a Boat (Haymarket Books, 2019), which was longlisted for the 2019 National Book Award in Poetry, shortlisted for the PEN/Open Book Award, and shortlisted for the Lambda Literary Award. Her poetry has appeared or is forthcoming in Academy of American Poets, Freeman’s, Harvard Review, LitHub, The New Yorker, the PEN Poetry Series, Poetry Magazine, and elsewhere. Felix’s next book, Dyscalculia: A Love Story of Epic Miscalculation, is forthcoming in February 2023 from One World, an imprint of Penguin Random House.

Hugh Ferrer (M.F.A. in fiction, The University of Iowa Writers’ Workshop) is the associate director of The University of Iowa International Writing Program. For more than fifteen years, he was an editor at The Iowa Review, and he has taught a variety of courses at The Iowa Review, introducing undergraduates to fiction writing, international literature, journal publishing, and Iowa City’s literary culture.

Álvaro Enrigue was a Cullman Center Fellow and a Fellow at the Princeton University Program in Latin American Studies. He has taught at New York University, Princeton University, the University of Maryland, and Columbia University. He is the author of the novels La muerte de un instalador; El cementerio de sillas; and Vidas, perpendiculares; and the short story collections Virtudes capitales and Hipotermia. Enrigue was born in Mexico and lives in New York City.

Abdelaziz Errachidi is a fiction and non-fiction writer from Morocco, as well as a professor of Arabic literature at Ibn Tofail University in Kenitra and the director of the publishing house AlKassaba. Among his numerous novels and story collections are Body of clouds (2018), Kitchen of Love (2013), Foreigners at my Table (2009) and Childhood of a Frog (2005). A recipient of many awards including the Al Sharjah Arabic Novel Prize, Egypt’s Sakyat Essaw Prize and UAE’s Ibn Battuta Prize for his 2014 travel book Sindbad of Sahara, he has had his works translated widely.
Aminatta Forna is the Scottish and Sierra Leonean author of Happiness (2018), The Hired Man (2013), The Memory of Love (2011) and Ancestor Stones (2006), and The Devil that Danced on the Water (2022). Notable nominations include the Commonwealth Writers Prize Best Book Award and the Windham-Campbell Prize. She is currently Director and Lannan Foundation Chair of Poetics at Georgetown University and a professor at Bath Spa University. In addition to her writing endeavors, Forna established the Rogbonko Project to build a school in a village in Sierra Leone.

John Freeman is an executive editor at Alfred A. Knopf, and founder of the literary annual Freeman’s. The former editor of Granta, he teaches in the MFA program at NYU and lives in New York City. He is the author and editor of a dozen books, including Dictionary of the Undoing, The Park, and, with Tracy K. Smith, There’s a Revolution Outside, My Love. His next collection of poems, Wind, Trees, is forthcoming from Copper Canyon in October. His work has been translated into more than twenty languages.

Liesl Gerntholtz is a South African human rights lawyer who spent the early part of her career working for the South African Human Rights Commission and the Commission on Gender Equality in post-apartheid South Africa. She was the head of the HIV Litigation Unit of the AIDS Law Project and the Director of the Tshwaranang Legal Advocacy Centre. Liesl worked for Human Rights Watch in different capacities. She was the executive director of the Women’s Rights Division for nearly ten years. Most recently, she was the Chief Programme Officer for The Little Market where she led work to support opportunities for women from under-served communities to access dignified work. Liesl holds a BA (LLB) from the University of the Witwatersrand in Johannesburg, South Africa.

Keith Gessen is a founding editor of n+1 and a contributor to The New Yorker, the New York Times Magazine, and the London Review of Books. He is the editor of three nonfiction books and the translator of a collection of short stories, a book of poems, and a work of oral history. Gessen the author of two novels, All the Sad Young Literary Men and A Terrible Country, as well as a book of essays, Raising Raffi. Gessen was born in Moscow and grew up outside of Boston. He graduated from Harvard with a B.A. in History and Literature and subsequently received an M.F.A. in Creative Writing from Syracuse University. He was a Fellow at the Cullman Center for Writers and Scholars at the New York Public Library.

Phoebe Giannisi, born in Athens, is a poet and an architect with a PhD in Classics. Her work expands in several mediums, investigating the poetics of voice, land and place, identity, and metamorphosis. Giannisi has presented her work in poetic installations in several venues in Europe. She is the author of eight books of poetry in Greek, with the more recent ones focusing on the personas of animal poets. Her English-language releases, both translated by Brian Sneeden, include Homerica, chosen by Anne Carson as a Favorite Book of 2017, and Cicada, recently published by New Directions.
Aleksandar Hemon is a Bosnian-American writer and critic. He is best known for *Nowhere Man* (2002) and *The Lazarus Project* (2008) in addition to the film *The Matrix Resurrections* (2021) which he co-wrote. Notable nominations include the National Book Award, the National Book Critics Circle Award, a Guggenheim fellowship, and the PEN/W.G. Sebald Award.

Jean Guerrero is an award-winning investigative journalist and author of *Hatemonger: Stephen Miller, Donald Trump and the White Nationalist Agenda*. Her first book, *Crux: A Cross-Border Memoir*, won a PEN/Fusion Emerging Writers Award. She is an Emmy-winning border reporter, contributing to *NPR*, *the PBS NewsHour*, and more. She is a former foreign correspondent in Mexico and Central America, trekking through mountains with coffee smugglers, opium poppy producers, and more. She was named the 2019 Journalist of the Year by the San Diego chapter of the Society for Professional Journalists and one of the California Chicano News Media Association’s most influential Latina journalists in the region.

David Greenberg is a professor of history and of journalism and media studies at Rutgers University. He is the author or editor of several books on American history and politics including *Nixon’s Shadow: The History of an Image; Republic of Spin: An Inside History of the American Presidency; Calvin Coolidge; and Alan Brinkley: A Life in History*. Formerly acting editor of the *New Republic* and columnist for *Slate*, he now writes for *Politico*, among many other popular and scholarly publications. At the Cullman Center, he will be writing a biography of Congressman John Lewis, the civil rights leader, for Simon & Schuster.

Philip Gourevitch, American writer, is a long time staff writer for *The New Yorker*, and former editor of *The Paris Review*. He is best recognized for his books *We Wish to Inform You That Tomorrow We Will Be Killed with Our Families* (1998) on the Rwandan genocide of 1994 and *The Ballad of Abu Ghraib* (2008) on Iraq’s Abu Ghraib prison under the American occupation. Gourevitch’s work has received numerous awards, including the National Book Critics Circle Award, the George Polk Book Award, the Los Angeles Times Book Award in addition to the Whiting Creative Nonfiction Grant.

Katie Holten is a visual artist and environmental activist. She has created ‘Tree Alphabets’ for New York City and Ireland and in 2015, published the book *About Trees*. Holten represented Ireland at the 50th Venice Biennale. Her work has been exhibited in museums internationally, including in solo exhibitions at the Contemporary Art Museum St. Louis, New Orleans Museum of Art, Bronx Museum, Nevada Museum of Art, and Dublin City Gallery The Hugh Lane. She is currently creating *How to Live Forever*, a children’s picture book about a nonbinary time-traveling tree bud. Her book, *About Trees*, will be reissued by Tin House in 2023.

Philip Gourevitch

David Greenberg

Jean Guerrero

Aleksandar Hemon

Katie Holten
Silvia Hosseini is a Tampere-based teacher, literary critic, and media commentator, and the author of essay collections *Pölyn ylistys* [In Praise of Dust] (2018) and *Tie, totuus ja kuolema* [The Way, The Truth, and Death] (2021). Hosseini was awarded the Kalevi Jäntti Prize and has been nominated for both the Helsingin Sanomat Literature Prize and the Toisinkoinen Literature Prize.

Siri Hustvedt is primarily a novelist and essayist. She is best known for *What I Loved* (2003), *The Summer Without Men* (2011) and *The Blazing World* (2014). Her work has been long-listed for the Man Booker Prize, and she is a recipient of The Los Angeles Book Prize for fiction and the International Gabarron Prize for Thought and Humanities. She is currently working as a lecturer in psychiatry at Weil Cornell Medical College in New York.

Jewher Ilham is an author and advocate for the Uyghur community and for her imprisoned father, Uyghur economist Ilham Tohti. She has testified before the U.S. Congressional-Executive Committee on China, published op-eds in *The New York Times*, *CNN* and *The Guardian*, and received numerous international awards on behalf of her father. In 2015, she recounted her experiences in her book, *Jewher Ilham: A Uyghur’s Fight to Free Her Father*. Her second book, *Because I Have To: The Path to Survival*, the Uyghur Struggle has been released in spring of 2022. Ilham currently works at the Worker Rights Consortium and serves as a spokesperson for the Coalition to End Uyghur Forced Labour. She is also assisting on the production of a documentary film, *Static and Noise*, about Uyghurs.

Marlon James is a Jamaican writer, teacher at Macalester College in Minnesota, and faculty lecturer at St. Francis College in Brooklyn for creative writing. James is the author of *John Crow's Devil* (2005), *The Book of Night Women* (2009), *A Brief History of Seven Killings* (2014), winner of the 2015 Man Booker Prize, *Black Leopard, Red Wolf* (2019), and *Moon Witch, Spider King* (2022). Notable nominations include the National Book Award for Fiction, NAACP Image Award, and the National Book Critics Circle Award among others.

Shehan Karunatilaka is a novelist and screenwriter from Sri Lanka. He has authored the novels *Chinaman: The Legend of Pradeep Mathew* (2010) and *Chats with the Dead* (2020) as well as the children’s book *Please Don’t Put That in Your Mouth* (2019). The recipient of the 2008 Gratiaen Prize, the 2012 Commonwealth Book Prize, and the 2012 DSC Prize for South Asian Literature, he also writes on sport, music, and travel for major newspapers and magazines.
Halyna Kruk is a Ukrainian poet, fiction writer, and scholar of Ukrainian medieval literature. She is the author of four books of poetry and collected some of Ukraine’s top awards for young poets. She also writes books for children and young adults. In 2003 Kruk was the recipient of the Gaude Polonia Fellowship from the Polish Ministry of Culture. She teaches literature at the Ivan Franko National University. She was awarded the prestigious Litakcent Prize in 2021 for her book of short stories.

Iya Kiva is a Ukrainian poet, translator and journalist. Her poems, translations and reviews have been featured in foreign and Ukrainian press and anthologies such as Українська надзія, Anthology of Young Ukrainian Poetry of the III Millennium, and others. Additionally, she is the author of the poetry collections A Little Further from Heaven (2018) and The First Page of Winter (2019). She is the recipient of the Yuri Kaplan Literary Prize (2013), the Emigrant Lyra International Poetry Festival (2016), Smoloskyp Publishing House Literary Contest (2018, IV Prize), The Crow International Poetry Contest (2019). She has also been shortlisted for Metaphora Ukrainian Translation Award (2018).

Jonas Hassen Khemiri is the author of five novels, six plays, and a collection of essays, plays, and short stories. His work has been translated into more than thirty languages and has appeared in the New York Times and the New Yorker. He received a Village Voice Obie Award for his first play Invasion! and in 2015 he was awarded the August Prize, Sweden’s highest literary honor, for the novel Everything I Don’t Remember. Khemiri’s latest novel, The Family Clause, was published in the US by FSG and was a finalist for the National Book Award for Translated Literature in 2020. At the Cullman Center he will work on a new novel.

Katie Kitamura’s most recent novel is Intimacies. One of The New York Times’ 10 Best Books of 2021 and one of Barack Obama’s Favorite Books of 2021, it was longlisted for the National Book Award and the PEN/Faulkner Award, and was a finalist for the Joyce Carol Oates Prize. Her third novel, A Separation, was a finalist for the Premio von Rezzori and a New York Times Notable Book. She is also the author of Gone To The Forest and The Longshot, both finalists for the New York Public Library’s Young Lions Fiction Award. She was a recipient of fellowships from the Lannan, Santa Maddalena, and Jan Michalski foundations. She teaches in the creative writing program at New York University.

Hari Kunzru is a novelist and journalist. He began his writing career with travel and cultural journalism before his debut novel, The Impressionist. His other novels include Transmission, and My Revolutions, and he is the recipient of the Somerset Maugham Award, the Betty Trask Prize from the Society of Authors, a British Book Award, and the Pushcart Prize. He was additionally a Fellow at the Cullman Center and Writers. His short stories and journalism have appeared in The New York Times, The Guardian, The New Yorker, the London Review of Books, Wired, and the New Statesman.
Yiyun Li was born in 1972 in Beijing. She is the author of four novels, two story collections, and a book of essays, including PEN/Jean Stein Award-winning *Where Reasons End*, and her most recent novel, *Must I Go*. Her work has appeared in The New Yorker, A Public Space, The Best American Short Stories, The Best American Essays, and other places. She has received a fellowship from the MacArthur Foundation and Guggenheim Foundation, and is a 2020 winner of the Windham Campbell Prize. She teaches at Princeton University.

Andrey Kurkov is a writer, journalist, and the current president of PEN Ukraine. Having graduated from the Kiev Foreign Languages Institute, he worked for some time as a journalist, did his military service as a prison warder in Odessa, then became a writer of screenplays and author of critically acclaimed and popular novels, including the bestselling *Death and the Penguin*. Kurkov has long been a respected commentator on Ukraine for the world’s media, notably in the U.K., France, Germany, and the United States.


Canisia Lubrin is a writer, editor, and critic with work published in eight languages. Her books are *Voodoo Hypothesis*, *The Dyzgraphxst*, and *Code Noir* (Knopf, 2023). In 2021, Lubrin was awarded, among others, the Griffin Poetry Prize, OCM Bocas Prize for Caribbean Literature, and a Windham-Campbell Prize. She is a 2022 Civitella Ranieri fellow and LCB Literature Haus resident, and poetry editor at McClelland & Stewart. She teaches at the University of Guelph.

Summer Lopez has served as PEN America’s senior director of Free Expression Programs since November 2017. She previously worked for the United States Agency for International Development (USAID). She was most recently posted to Zimbabwe, where she served as the deputy director of the Office of Democracy, Human Rights, and Governance. Earlier, she focused on the Middle East and Asia in the Center of Excellence on Democracy, Human Rights, and Governance. Lopez played a leading role in advocating for effective integration and promotion of democratic and human rights principles in U.S. policy, strategy, and programming in the Middle East and Asia, including during the period of the Arab Spring.

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Jidanun Lueangpiansamut is a fiction writer from Thailand who has published more than 20 novels, largely in the sci-fi and romance genres. The youngest-ever winner, in 2017, of the Southeast Asian Writers Award, she specializes in dystopian and LGBT themes, and YA literature. Her novel เฝ อ่ง น ค ร [City of Stars] has been translated into English and Chinese, and will be the basis of a TV series.

Valeria Luiselli was born in Mexico City and grew up in South Korea, South Africa, and India. An acclaimed writer of both fiction and nonfiction, she is the author of the essay collection Sidewalks; the novels Faces in the Crowd and The Story of My Teeth; and, most recently, Tell Me How It Ends: An Essay in Forty Questions. Her work has appeared in The New York Times, Granta, and McSweeney’s, among other publications, and has been translated into more than twenty languages. Her second novel, Lost Children Archive was published in 2019.

Raghavendra Madhu is an Indian poet and activist. He has authored three books of poetry: Make Me Some Love to Eat, Stick No Bills, and Being Non-essential, all published by Red River (New Delhi). The founder of Poetry Couture, a movement to create free spaces for poetry in many cities of India, he regularly curates events at American Center libraries in India and conducts performance poetry workshops for young adults. His poems have been widely published and translated.

Allison Markin Powell is a literary translator, editor, and publishing consultant. She has been the recipient of grants from PEN and NEA for her translations. She has translated works by Hiromi Kawakami, Osamu Dazai and Fuminori Nakamura, among others. Her works have been nominated for the Man Asian Literary Prize and the Independent Foreign Fiction Prize. She was awarded the 2020 PEN America Translation Prize for The Ten Loves of Nishino by Hiromi Kawakami. She currently represents the committee on PEN America’s Board of Trustees, and she maintains the database Japanese Literature in English.

Dru Menaker is a committed advocate for free expression as a fundamental right that underpins democratic, economic, and social development. She has spent the last 13 years strengthening media sectors and advancing access to information in closed, transitioning, and conflict-affected countries worldwide. Most recently, Menaker was the Senior Media Advisor for IREX, an international nonprofit organization specializing in improving media sectors, promoting civil society, and expanding technology use. Menaker is a former journalist, editor, and media manager. As a foreign correspondent, she had postings in Warsaw, Johannesburg, Cairo, and Moscow.
Dinaw Mengetsu is an Ethiopian and American writer. He is the author of All Our Names (2014), How To Read the Air (2010), and The Beautiful Things That Heaven Bears (2007). Among his many accolades, he is a MacArthur Fellow and recipient of Lannan Literary Fellowship for Fiction, and a Los Angeles Times Book Prize winner. He has been teaching at Bard College since 2016.

Nadifa Mohamed was born in Hargeisa, Somaliland, in 1981 and moved to Britain at the age of four. Her first novel, Black Mamba Boy, won the Betty Trask Prize and was shortlisted for the Guardian First Book Award, the John Llewellyn Rhys Prize, the Dylan Thomas Prize, and the PEN Open Book Award. Her second novel, Orchard of Lost Souls, won a Somerset Maugham Award and the Prix Albert Bernard. Nadifa Mohamed was selected for the Granta Best of Young British Novelists in 2013, and is a Fellow of the Royal Society of Literature. Her book The Fortune Men was shortlisted for the 2021 Booker Prize and the Costa Novel Award and longlisted for the Walter Scott Prize for Historical Fiction. She is currently Distinguished Writer in Residence at New York University.

Tariro Ndoro is a Zimbabwean writer, poet, and storyteller. She received an MA in Creative Writing from Rhodes University. Her debut poetry collection, Agringada: Like a Gringa, Like a Foreigner received the inaugural NAMA Award for Outstanding Poetry Book. Her poetry, short fiction and creative nonfiction have appeared in a wide range of literary magazines and journals. She was shortlisted for the 2018 Babishai Niwe Poetry Prize, the DALRO Poetry Prize and the Intwasa Short Story Prize. Tariro has made appearances at Pagya! Literary Festival, Page Poetry Alive, Paza Sauti: Poems for the end of the world and Wordfest.

Felix K. Nesi, Indonesian fiction writer and activist, is the author of Orang-Orang Oetimu [People of Oetimu], which won the 2018 Jakarta Arts Council Novel Competition, and, in 2016, the story collection Usaha Membunuh Sepi [Effort to Kill the Quiet]. With the support of the Indonesian National Book Committee, he has researched Timorese slavery in the Netherlands. He is also the founder of a street bookstore, a library, and the book festival Kencan Buku Fesek, all in West Timor.

Patrice Nganang is a Cameroonian author, poet and professor interested in the “colonial archive” and the aftermath of violence. Nganang's books include La Promesse des Fleurs (1997), Temps de chien (1999) which was awarded the Prix Littéraire Marguerite Yourcenar and the Grand prix littéraire d’Afrique noire, Dernières nouvelles du colonialisme (2006), Empreintes de Crabe (2018), Mboudjak: Les Aventures du Chien-Philosophe, (2021). He is also the author of several essays as well and currently teaches at Stony Brook University.
Michel Nieva is an Argentine writer. He is known for his poetry collection *Papelera de reciclaje*, the novels ¿Sueñan los gauchoides con ñandúes eléctricos? and *Ascenso y apogeo del imperio argentino*, and the essay collection *Tecnología y barbarie*. In 2021, he was named one of the best young writers in the Spanish language by *Granta* magazine.

Suzanne Nossel currently serves as the Chief Executive Officer of PEN America and she is author of *Dare to Speak: Defending Free Speech for All*. She is a leading voice on free expression issues in the United States and globally, writing and being interviewed frequently for national and international media outlets. She has served as the Chief Operating Officer of Human Rights Watch and as Executive Director of Amnesty International USA. Nossel is a featured columnist for *Foreign Policy* magazine and has been featured in *The New York Times*, *Washington Post*, *LA Times*, and dozens of other outlets, as well as scholarly articles in *Foreign Affairs*, *Dissent*, *Democracy*, and other journals.

Idra Novey is the author of *Exit, Civilian*, a 2011 National Poetry Series selection, and *The Next Country*, a finalist for the Foreword Book of the Year Award in poetry. She has received awards from the Poetry Society of America, *Poets & Writers Magazine*, and the PEN Translation Fund. Her recent translations include Clarice Lispector’s novel *The Passion According to G.H.*

Okezie Nwoka hails from Washington D.C. where they are currently based. Nwoka is the author of *God of Mercy* (2021). They are a Brown University graduate, and attended the Iowa Writers’ Workshop as a Dean Graduate Research Fellow.

Achiro Patricia Olwoch hails from Gulu, in Northern Uganda and is currently an artist at risk in residence at Westbeth. She is the creator and writer of the TV series *Coffee Shop* and is the head writer at *Yat Madit*. Her short films include *The Surrogate*, *The Mineral Basket*, and *Maraya Ni*. She is currently working on many projects including a documentary due for release in 2023, the completion of her late father’s manuscripts, her first novel *Sex or Slave*, and a memoir about her life as a lesbian in Uganda and her eventual escape.
Tochi Onyebuchi is the author of Goliath. His previous fiction includes Riot Baby, a finalist for the Hugo, Nebula, Locus, and NAACP Image Awards and winner of the New England Book Award for Fiction, the Ignyte Award for Best Novella, and the World Fantasy Award; the Beasts Made of Night series; and the War Girls series. His nonfiction work includes the book (S)kinfolk and has appeared in The New York Times, NPR, and the Harvard Journal of African American Public Policy, among other places.

Paminder Parbha is a human rights worker, artist, and a keen advocate of culture as a driver for social change and cohesion. Her key focus during her 25 years plus career has been on addressing systemic forms of discrimination and violations targeted at individuals and groups based on gender, race, caste etc., as well as advocating for women’s rights. She has also been a management committee member for a South Asian women’s group based in the UK, which run refuges for women escaping domestic violence. She joined PEN Secretariat in November 2020. One of her key roles has been to mainstream gender and diversity throughout PEN International.

Jose Manuel Prieto is a Cuban novelist, translator, and scholar. He is the author of the following novels: Enciclopedia de una vida en Rusia Barcelona (2005); Livadia Barcelona (1999); Nocturnal Butterflies of the Russian Empire (2000); Rex (2007). Prieto is additionally recognized for his translations of Russian writers Anna Akhmatova, Josef Brodsky, Andrey Platonov, and Vladimir Nabokov among others. He has been a fellow at the Cullman Center, Sistema Nacional de Creadores, Santa Maddalena Foundation, and Guggenheim. Prieto is currently teaching at Seton Hall University.

Walid Hajar Rachidi is a fiction writer, publisher, and screenwriter from France. He is the co-founder and managing editor of the online magazine Frictions; Épidémiques [Epidemics], a fiction podcast he co-produced, was shortlisted for the 2020 Paris Podcast Festival. His debut novel Qu’est-ce que j’irais faire au paradis [Whatever Would I Do in Paradise] appeared in early 2022.

Iain Reid is a Canadian writer known for his novels I’m Thinking of Ending Things (2016) and Foe (2018). He was the winner of the RBC Taylor Emerging Writer award. His third novel, We Spread, is due to come out in September 2022.
Josephine Rowe is an Australian writer of fiction, poetry, and essays. She has received fellowships from the Wallace Stegner Program at Stanford University, the International Writing Program at the University of Iowa, and the BR Whiting Studio in Rome. She is the author of three story collections and a novel, *A Loving, Faithful Animal*, and has twice been named a Sydney Morning Herald Best Young Australian Novelist. At the Cullman Center she will be researching a new novel that follows a lifelong friendship based upon art and activism, set in Tasmania, Sydney, New York, and Rome.

Devyani Saltzman is a Canadian writer, curator, and arts leader. She is the author of countless works including *Grimus* (1975); *Midnight’s Children* (for which he won the Booker Prize and the Best of the Booker in 1981); *The Satanic Verses* (1988); *The Moor's Last Sigh* (1995); *Shalimar the Clown* (2005); *The Enchantress of Florence* (2008); *The Golden House* (2017); and *The Languages of Truth* (2021). He is a member of the American Academy of Arts and Letters and a Distinguished Writer in Residence at New York University. Rushdie was born in Mumbai, educated in the UK, and has lived in New York for the past two decades.

Pamela Rahn Sanchez is a Venezuelan poet and visual artist. She is the author of *La luz entre las cosas* [The light between things] (2020), *Breves poemas para entender la ausencia* [Brief poems to understand absence], the winner of the 2019 Gloria Fuertes International Young Poetry Award, *Flores muertas en jarrones sin agua* [Flowers in vases without water] (2017) and *El peligro de encender la luz* [The danger of turning on the light] (2016). Her poetry, sometimes accompanied by her collages, also appears in anthologies and in print and on-line journals.

Esmeralda Santiago was born in San Juan, Puerto Rico and lived there until she was thirteen years old. In 1961, she moved to the United States. She is the author of three best-selling memoirs: *When I was Puerto Rican*, *Almost a Woman*, *The Turkish Lover*; and of the novel, *América’s Dream*. With Joie Davidow, she has edited two anthologies of Latino literature. Santiago is also an award-winning screenwriter and essayist. Her adaptation of *Almost a Woman* for PBS Masterpiece Theatre: The American Collection won a George Foster Peabody Award.
Fatima Shaik is the author of *Economy Hall: The Hidden History of a Free, Black Brotherhood* (The Historic New Orleans Collection, February 2021). She was born in the historic Seventh Ward of New Orleans and bred on the oral histories of Black Creoles told by her family and neighbors. She spent two decades reading the journals and documenting events with real estate records, legal cases, old monographs, and articles. Shaik founded the Communication Department at Saint Peter’s University and taught as tenured faculty for 25 years. Her freelance articles appeared in *Essence*, *Nikkei Architecture*, *L’Expansion*, *The New York Times*, *In These Times*, and *The Root*. Shaik is a trustee of PEN America.

Gary Shteyngart is the New York Times bestselling author of the memoir *Little Failure* (a National Book Critics Circle Award finalist) and the novels *Super Sad True Love Story* (winner of the Bollinger Everyman Wodehouse Prize), *Absurdistan*, and *The Russian Debutante’s Handbook* (winner of the Stephen Crane Award for First Fiction and the National Jewish Book Award for Fiction). His books regularly appear on best-of lists around the world and have been published in thirty countries. He was born in Leningrad before moving to the United States in the late 1970s.

Leila Slimani is a Franco-Moroccan writer, journalist, and advocate for women’s and LGBTQIA+ rights. She is the bestselling author of *The Perfect Nanny*, for which she became the first Moroccan woman to win France’s most prestigious literary prize, the Goncourt. Her first novel *Adèle* won the La Mamounia Prize and gave rise to her nonfiction book *Sex and Lies: True Stories of Women’s Intimate Lives in the Arab World*. Slimani spearheaded a campaign—for which she won the Simone de Beauvoir Prize for Women’s Freedom—to help Moroccan women speak out, as self-declared outlaws, against their country’s “unfair and obsolete laws.”

Dana Spiotta is the author of five novels: *Wayward* (2021), *Innocents and Others* (2016), winner of the St. Francis College Literary Prize and a finalist for the Los Angeles Times Book Prize; *Stone Arabia* (2011), which was a finalist for the National Book Critics Circle Award; *Eat the Document* (2006), which was a finalist for the National Book Award and the winner of the American Academy’s Rosenthal Foundation Award; and *Lightning Field* (2001), a New York Times Notable Book. Other awards include a Guggenheim Fellowship, a New York Foundation for the Arts Fellowship, the Rome Prize in Literature, the Premio Pivano, a Creative Capital Award, and the John Updike Prize from the American Academy of Arts and Letters.

Ilan Stavans is a Mexican-American writer, translator and cultural commentator. Stavans is the author of the following books, among others: *Dictionary Days: A Defining Passion* (2005), *Quixote: The Novel and the World* (2015), and *On Borrowed Words: A Memoir of Language* (2001). He is currently a Lewis-Sebring Professor of Humanities and Latin American and Latino Culture at Amherst College.
Sam Sussman is a writer whose work has been recognized by the BAFTA New Writing Award and Oxford Review of Books Short Fiction Prize. He has written for Harper’s, The Forward, Dissent, Haaretz, and the Tel Aviv Review of Books, where he is a contributing editor. Sam holds a B.A. in literature from Swarthmore University and an MPhil in politics from Oxford University.

Jen Szalai is a Canadian literary critic. She is currently the nonfiction critic at The New York Times, and has previously worked for The New York Times Book Review and Harper’s Magazine.

Tanya Talaga is an Anishinaabe journalist and speaker. Her mother’s family is from Fort William First Nation and her father was Polish-Canadian. She is now a columnist at The Globe and Mail. She is the author of two award-winning Canadian national bestsellers: Seven Fallen Feathers and All Our Relations: Finding A Path Forward. Talaga was the 2017–2018 Atkinson Fellow in Public Policy and the 2018 CBC Massey Lecturer, the first Anishinaabe woman to serve in this role. Talaga heads up Makwa Creative Inc., a production company focused on amplifying Indigenous voices through documentary films, TV, and podcasts.

Meredith Talusan (she/they) is an artist who works at the intersection of writing, visual art, and performance. Talusan is the author of the critically-acclaimed memoir Fairest, a Lambda Literary Award Finalist. She has also contributed to several essay collections, including Not That Bad: Dispatches from Rape Culture. She has been the recipient of the Poynter Fellowship at Yale, and the Marsha P. Johnson Fellowship at the Jack Jones Writers Retreat. Talusan grew up in the Philippines before moving to the United States at fifteen, then received an honors BA in English and American Literature from Harvard College. They belong to the queer, trans, disabled, albino, Asian, and immigrant communities.

Tetyana Teren is a Ukrainian journalist and supervisor of literary projects and programs at PEN Ukraine. She was previously at the head of the Ukrainian Book Institute and has worked for a variety of art and cultural centers. She is additionally the co-author of the book Simple Things: Eight conversations with Ada Rogovtseva (2018), The Anthology of Writers’ Voices (2015, 2017), and she compiled the book Chronicles of Eyewitness: Nine Months of Ukrainian Opposition (2014).
Madeleine Thien is a Canadian short story writer and novelist. She is the author of four books of fiction, which have been translated into more than twenty-five languages. *Do Not Say We Have Nothing*, her most recent novel, received Canada's two highest literary honors, the Giller Prize and the Governor-General’s Literary Award for Fiction, and was shortlisted for the Booker Prize, the Women's Prize for Fiction, and the Folio Prize. Her essays have been published in the *New York Review of Books*, *Brick*, *the Guardian*, *the New York Times*, *Granta*, and elsewhere. She teaches literature and writing at Brooklyn College. At the Cullman Center, she will be working on her fifth book, *The Happiness of the Many*, set in the Pearl River Delta and spanning past and future.

Tara Westover is a memoirist, essayist, and historian. Her first book, *Educated* (2018), debuted at #1 on the New York Times best seller list and was a finalist for a number of awards, including the LA Times Book Prize, PEN America's Jean Stein Book Award, and two awards from the National Book Critics Circle Award. Because of her book, Tara was chosen by *TIME* magazine as one of the 100 most influential people of 2019. She joined PEN America's board in 2021.

Ousman Umar is an author and social entrepreneur. He left Ghana as a child, crossed the Sahara on foot, and journeyed through eight countries and 21,333 km to reach Barcelona, which took a treacherous five years to complete. In 2012, he founded NASCO Feeding Minds with the goal of improving education in his home country and ensuring that more young people would not have to endure what he had. In 2019 he wrote the book *North to Paradise*. In 2021, he released his second book, which chronicles his experiences rebuilding a new life in Europe. Umar is the recipient of the 2021 Princess of Girona Social Award.

Jacob Weisberg is the CEO of Pushkin Industries, an audio publishing company he founded with Malcolm Gladwell in 2018. Pushkin produces audiobooks and podcasts, including “Revisionist History Presents: Against the Rules with Michael Lewis” and “Solvable,” which Weisberg hosts. He was editor of *Slate* before expanding his role by founding The Slate Group. He is the author of books including *Ronald Reagan* (2016), and *The Bush Tragedy* (2008). Weisberg is a lecturer at Yale University, where he teaches “The Ethics of Journalism.”

Alejandro Zambra is a Chilean poet, short story writer and novelist. He is recognized for *Bonsai* (2006), *The Private Lives of Trees* (2007), and *Ways of Going Home* (2013). His most recent novel, *Chilean Poet*, was published in February 2022. His nominations include Critic of Chile Award, Council of Reading and Books Award, Altazor prize, Prix du Marais, Medici Prize, and Cullman Center fellowship at the New York Public Library.
Dave Zirin is an American political sportswriter. He is currently at *The Nation*, and is the host of Edge of Sports Radio on Sirius XM. He is the author of several books including *What’s my Name, Fool?* (2005), *The John Carlos Story* (2011), and *The Kaepernick Effect* (2021). His writing has also appeared in *The New York Times*, *Vibe Magazine*, the *Los Angeles Times*, the *Washington Post*, *the New York Daily News*, *New York Newsday*, the *Baltimore Sun*, *the Pittsburgh Courier*, *The Source*, and numerous other publications.