

HAY FESTIVAL DHAKA

PROGRAMME

DAY 1

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 20

10.30 – 11.00 AM | WELCOME | Lawn

11.00 – 12.30 PM | INAUGURAL | Lawn

Inaugural address by Pen International President John Ralston Saul. Speakers include William Dalrymple and Syed Shamsul Haq. Music: Bangla Choir.

12.45 – 1.45 PM | RANA DASGUPTA: CITIES | Main Stage

Rana Dasgupta talks to Javed Jahangir and Somnath Batabyal about capitals, globalization, and big money.

12.45 – 1.45 PM | THE GREAT ADVENTURER | KKTea Stage

Award-winning historian and intrepid wanderer Patrick French talks to Alex Clark about his extensive body of work in South Asia.

12.45 – 1.45 PM | POWERFUL VOICES | Lawn

Fakrul Alam in conversation with Iranian born award-winning poet Mimi Khalvati.

12.45 – 1.45 PM | ছোট গল্পের বড় জগৎ | Cosmic Tent

Featuring Selina Hussein, Papri Rahman and Wasi Ahmed. Moderated by Parvez Hussein.

12.45 – 1.45 PM | ON THE BRINK : হারিয়ে যাচ্ছে | Bottola

Languages nearing extinction. Hear them before they are lost forever.

2.00 – 3.00 PM | IN THE AGE OF THE AGGREGATOR | Main Stage

Eminent journalists Dwight Garner, Carolyn Kellogg, Jonathan Shainin and Isaac Fitzgerald discuss the future of journalism. Chaired by Tahmima Anam.

2.00 – 3.00 PM | ELECTRIC SHADOWS | KKTea Stage

Aamer Hussein discusses three decades of his writing life and stories drawn from personal experiences, and his deep connection with Bangladesh. Chaired by Ahsan Akbar. Marking the launch of his collection of short stories by Bengal Lights Books.

2.00 – 3.00 PM | PHILOSOPHICAL EXCURSIONS | Lawn

South Asia has witnessed the confluence of Sufi and Tantric practices which have both informed and enriched each other. Shankar Nair, Lubna Marium, and Arunava Sinha explore these traditions.

2.00 – 3.00 PM | BENGAL PUBLICATIONS HOUR | Cosmic Tent

Launch of books by Neeman Sobhan and Javed Jahangir. Chaired by Farah Ghuznavi.

2.00 – 3.00 PM | REVISITING RAZIA KHAN | Bottola

Rediscovering this multi-talented poet. With Kaiser Haq, Hameeda Hossain, Munize Manzur, Elita Karim and Anika Hossain.

3.15 – 4.15 PM | LESSONS FROM THE SLUSHPILE | Main Stage

Alexandra Pringle (Group Editor-in-Chief of Bloomsbury), Meru Gokhale (Editor-in-Chief, Literary Publishing, Random House India) and Dwight Garner (Book Critic, The New York Times) discuss what they look for in new writing. Chaired by Olivia Smith.

3.15 – 4.15 PM | DISCOVERING BANGLADESH | KKTea Stage

Marking 25 years of Drik, this anniversary book is the first of a series presenting Bangladesh today.

3.15 – 4.15 PM | RECITATIONS BY JOY GOSWAMI | Lawn

Recitations of favourites on the Bangla Academy Lawn. Chaired by Sajjad Sharif.

3.15 – 5.45 PM | GRAPHIC WORDS | Cosmic Tent

Katie Green and Joelle Jolivet discuss the intangible link between words and images.

4.15 – 4.45 PM | WITHOUT BORDERS | Bottola

Urdu poet Fatema Hassan and French Indian poet and dancer Karthika Nair recite from their work.

4.30 – 5.30 PM | MICHAEL PUETT | Main Stage

Renowned China scholar Michael Puett delivers the lecture that has made him one of the most popular professors at Harvard University.

4.30 – 5.30 PM | THE FUTURE OF THE INDEPENDENT | KKTea Stage

Naveen Kishore, Dwight Garner and Olivia Smith discuss the future of the Indie press and publishing in general. Chaired by Carolyn Kellogg.

4.30 – 5.30 PM | সামাজিক মাধ্যমে সাহিত্য | Lawn

Adda with Farid Kabir and others on social networking and literature.

4.30 – 5.30 PM | FAULT LINES | Cosmic Tent

A newly edited collection of short stories on 1971 by Karachi Lit Fest co-founder Asif Farrukhi and publisher Niaz Zaman. In discussion with UPL's Mahrukh Mohiuddin.

5.00 – 6.00 PM | BHOOT FM | Bottola

Ghost stories under the Banyan Tree. From Radio Foorti's most popular show, with RJ Russell.

5.45 – 6.45 PM | THE COLONEL WHO WOULD NOT REPENT | Main Stage

Marking the Launch of Salil Tripathi's book on repercussions of the Bangladesh war. In conversation with freedom fighter A Qayyum Khan.

MAIN
STAGE

5.45 – 6.45 PM | 10 WAYS OF STORYTELLING THROUGH FILM: NUPU PRESS | KKTea Stage

Storytelling through cinema is given a fresh perspective in this interactive session.

KKTEA
STAGE

5:45 – 6:45 PM | THE LITERARY PAGES : অলস দিনের হাওয়া | Lawn

Discussion on the importance of literary pages.

LAWN

COSMIC
TENT

6.00 – 7.00 PM | A HISTORY OF CLOUDS | Bardhaman House

Music and poetry. Marking the 85th birthday of the author, poet, translator and editor Hans Magnus Enzensberger.

BOTTOLA

7.00 – 8.15 PM | THE LAST MUGHAL | Main Stage

Author of *The Last Mughal* William Dalrymple and artist Vidya Shah bring us an evening of readings and music that take us back to the splendour of a bygone era.

BARDHAMAN
HOUSE

DAY 2

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 21

8.45 – 9.45 AM | SPIRITUAL SONGS | Lawn

Gofur Hali with Sufi-based mystical songs.

9.30 – 10.30 AM | PAST LIVES | Main Stage

Three writers talk about their multiple identities and how they came to writing. With Zia Haider Rahman, Namita Gokhale and Shashi Tharoor. Chaired by Salil Tripathi.

10.00 – 5.00 PM | INTERACTIVE SCIENCE | Cosmic Tent

Interactive sessions throughout the day.

11.00 – 12.00 PM | SPHERES OF CRICKET | Main Stage

Award-winning journalist Gideon Haigh discusses the real stories that equally shaped and disturbed the world of cricket in the last decade. Chaired by Ahsan Akbar.

11.00 – 12.00 PM | TREASURES IN TEXTS | KKTea Stage

Conceptual Artists Po Po and Mustafa Zaman discuss the artistic power of found texts. Chaired by Diana Campbell Betancourt.

11.00 – 12.00 PM | READING THE SOUL | Lawn

The Self as a sacred text in different traditions. With Patrick Laude and others.

11.00 – 12.00 PM | THE NUMBER MYSTERIES | Cosmic Tent

Oxford Maths Professor Marcus du Sautoy and Maths Olympiad's Munir Hasan talk about the magic of numbers in this bilingual session.

12.15 – 1.15 PM | A LOVE DIVINE | Main Stage

Expressions of devotional yearning in Hindu, Buddhist, Christian and Islamic traditions are discussed by David Burrell, Patrick Laude and Shankar Nair.

12.15 – 1.15 PM | FREEDOMS OF EXPRESSION | KKTea Stage

Featuring Salil Tripathi, C R Abrar and John Ralston Saul. The panelists discuss the new pressures on freedom of expression. Chaired by Nilanjana Roy.

12.15 – 1.15 PM | A CONNECTED PAST | Lawn

Bangla, English and Urdu poetry – with Muneeza Shamsie, Asad Chowdhury, Fatema Hassan and Kaiser Haq. Chaired by Pritha Kejriwal.

12.30 – 1.15 PM | AGAINST ALL ODDS | Cosmic Tent

Kosal Khiev talks to Ikhtisad Ahmed about survival and poetry.

1.00 – 2.00 PM | BREAK FOR FRIDAY PRAYER

1.15 – 1.45 PM | TOP TEN BUZZES OF THE YEAR | Main Stage

Isaac Fitzgerald, the Literary Editor of BuzzFeed gives us a speedy introduction to the addictive, impossible to resist top 10 format.

2.00 – 3.00 PM | SCIENCE MATTERS | Main Stage

Lucy Hawking, popular sci-fi writer Muhammad Zafar Iqbal, and Marcus du Sautoy discuss the challenges and excitement of making science popular. Moderated by Hossain Zillur Rahman.

2.00 – 3.00 PM | THE WOMAN AS A WRITER | KKTea Stage

Manju Kapur, Nilanjana Roy and Muneeza Shamsie discuss some of the challenges and opportunities faced by women writers. Chaired by Tahmima Anam.

2.00 – 3.00 PM | WRITING THE REGION: IS THERE A SOUTH ASIAN IDENTITY? | Lawn

Aamer Hussein, Namita Gokhale and Fakrul Alam explore cross border connections and the possibilities of a South Asian identity. Chaired by Asif Farrukhi.

2.00 – 3.00 PM | MYSTICAL POETRY: VERSES FOR SPIRITUAL TRANSFORMATION | Bottola

Patrick Laude and Anisuzzaman with Rezaul Karim. Moderated by Karthika Nair.

2.00 – 2.30 PM | HIMAL | Cosmic Tent

The veteran literary journal from Nepal launches its landmark edition on militarization in South Asia.

3.15 – 4.15 PM | CHINA OLD AND NEW | Main Stage

Jung Chang and Michael Puett talk about the rapid transformations underway in China, and how these transformations are being represented in literature. Chaired by Patrick French.

3.15 – 4.15 PM | THE LONG FORM | KKTea Stage

Rana Dasgupta, Gideon Haigh and Jonathan Shainin discuss the unique possibilities of long form in journalism. Chaired by Alex Clark.

3.25 – 4.15 PM | RECITATIONS IN ENGLISH (1) | Lawn

Featuring Kosal Khiev, TJ Dema, Sabrina Mahfouz and Laksmi Pamuntjak.

4.30 – 5.30 PM | কথোপকথনে জয় গোস্বামী ও শামীম রেজা | Main Stage

Joy Goswami in conversation with Shamim Reza.

4.30 – 5.30 PM | DISOBEDIENT CHILDREN | KKTea Stage

Daman Singh, who has just published a memoir about her parents Manmohan Singh and Gurshan Kaur, in conversation with award-winning author Manju Kapur. Chaired by Sandip Roy.

4.30 – 5.30 PM | আমাদের কবি | LAWN

Our favourite Bangladeshi poets recite.

5.45 – 6.45 PM | RETURN OF THE KING | Main Stage

William Dalrymple tells us about his explosive new book, about the First Anglo-Afghan War and its many repercussions. Followed by Q&A with Somnath Batabyal.

5.45 – 6.45 PM | সাহিত্যের নতুন মানচিত্র | KKTea Stage

Bangla session with up-and-coming talented writers.

5.45 – 6.45 PM | COMEDY WITH NAVEED | Lawn

Daily Star Books launches *Humorously Yours* by comedian Naveed Mahub.

6.00 – 8.00 PM | MAIZ BHANDAR MUSIC | Bottola

Sufi-based music from Chittagong.

7.00 – 8.00 PM | TOWARDS LIGHT | Main Stage

Dance and recitations celebrating the prose, poetry and music of Rabindranath Tagore. Production by Shadhona.

7.00 – 8.00 PM | STORYTELLING IN THE DIGITAL AGE |

KKTea Stage

Shahidul Alam provides insights into the craft of storytelling through pictures in this digital age.

CHILDREN'S PROGRAMMES

9.45 – 10.45 AM | HONEY HUNTERS | KKTea Stage

Karthika Nair and Joelle Jolivet launch their beautifully illustrated book on the Sundarbans. With Munize Manzur.

11.00 – 12.00 PM | মধু শিকারী পালা | Bottola

A performance based on traditional Bangla storytelling, set in the Sundarbans. Production by BotTola Theatre Company.

12.00 – 1.00 PM | CANVAS | Bottola

Tell your own story of the *Bonbibi* myth through painting. Interactive session for children 6-14 years.

1.00 – 1.30 PM | TIGER, TIGER AND OTHER SHORT STORIES | Bottola

Marks the launching of Sanjana Sadique's book by Bengal Publications.

4.00 – 5.30 PM | COSMIC ADVENTURES | Cosmic Tent

Discover the universe with Lucy Hawking, who has co-written books for children with her world-famous cosmologist father, Stephen Hawking. Interactive session for children 6-12 years.

DAY 3

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 22

9.00 – 10.00 AM | SPIRITUAL SONGS | Lawn

Morning Raga based songs by Tanveer Alam Shawjeeb.

10.00 – 11.00 AM | IN THE LIGHT OF WHAT WE KNOW |
Main Stage

Zia Haider Rahman talks to Firdous Azim about his lauded debut novel and his connection to Bangladesh.

10.00 – 11.00 AM | ছড়া | Lawn

Bangla rhymes.

10.00 – 12.00 PM | সিসিমপুর | Bottola

Bangla Sesame Street.

11.15 – 12.15 PM | FAMILY MATTERS | Main Stage

Mirza Waheed, Sandip Roy and Manju Kapur discuss the politics of writing about families, real or imagined. Moderated by Muneeza Shamsie.

11.15 – 12.15 AM | যে কথা যায় না বলা : THAT WHICH
CANNOT BE SAID | KKTea Stage

Inspired by the Vagina Monologues, this performance is based on the lives of Bangladeshi women. Production by Naripokkho.

11.15 – 12.15 AM | ARCHITECTURE OF CULTURAL SPACES
| Lawn

Curator of Architecture of Centre Pompidou, Aurelien Lemonier and Architect Kashef Chowdhury discuss the crossover between Art and Architecture and how to move past traditional tensions between the two fields. In conversation with Diana Campbell Betancourt.

11.15 – 12.15 AM | THE ART OF MATHS/THE MATHS OF
ART | Cosmic Tent

Marcus du Sautoy explores the interconnections of mathematics with the world of literature and art. In conversation with Safi Khan.

12.30 – 1.30 PM | CHAMPION OF THE WORD | Main Stage

John Ralston Saul, novelist, essayist and activist, talks to Peter Florence about his commitments to freedom of speech, his championing of indigenous languages and writers in exile.

12.30 – 1.30 PM | COMMONWEALTH WRITERS SESSION |
KKTea Stage

Translations coming out of the Dhaka Translation Centre workshop. With Kaiser Haq, Shaheen Akhtar and Arunava Sinha, moderated by Katie Griffin of British Centre for Literary Translation.

12.30 – 1.30 PM | KINDLE MAG | Lawn

The bookazine from Kolkata launches its hardbound edition, with topical tales from the region.

12.30 – 1.30 PM | IMAGES | Cosmic Tent

Aamer Hussein, Mimi Khalvati and Laksmi Pamuntjak discuss representation of places through the power of words. Moderated by Olivia Smith.

1.45 – 2.15 PM | WHEELS IN MOTION | Main Stage

Mimi Khalvati reads from her kaleidoscopic collection of poetry.

1.45 – 2.15 PM | DISCOVERING SYLHET | KKTea Stage

Ihtisham Kabir, showcasing his book on Sylhet through a slideshow.

1.45 – 2.15 PM | SIX SEASONS REVIEW AND JAMINI | Lawn

Launching the latest editions from Bengal Publications.

1.45 – 2.30 PM | PERFORMING POETS | Cosmic Tent

TJ Dema and Sabrina Mahfouz share the excitement of performing the spoken word with Shamsad Mortuza.

1.45 – 2.30 PM | বিশ্ব দরবার | Bottola

Anna Cocchiarella talks about her experience with the Sufi order in Mirashorai, Chittagong with Arunava Sinha.

2.30 – 4.00 PM | SHAKESPEARE IS OURS : CELEBRATING 450 YEARS OF SHAKESPEARE | বাংলার শেক্সপিয়ার : শেক্সপিয়ারের ৪৫০তম জন্মবার্ষিকীতে শব্দাজলি | Main Stage

Vignettes covering four decades of Shakespeare in Bangladesh, featuring stellar performances by Firdousi Majumdar and Sara Zaker. Followed by panel discussion with Syed Shamsul Haq and Aly Zaker. Moderated by Samina Lutfah.

2.30 – 3.30 PM | WRITING THE SELF | Lawn

Maria Chaudhuri and Abeer Hoque discuss the challenges and pleasures of the tell-all autobiography with S B Veda.

2.45 – 3.45 PM | BELONGING | Cosmic Tent

Ten years in the making, Munem Wasif's photography book on old Dhaka makes its debut in Bangladesh. In discussion with architect Salauddin Ahmed Potash and photographer Shahidul Alam.

3.00 – 4.00 PM | BILINGUAL SESSION : দুই ভাষার মেলবন্ধন | KKTea

Featuring K Anis Ahmed, Khademul Islam and Syed Manzoorul Islam. Marks launching of two translated works by Bengal Lights Books. Moderated by Razia Sultana.

3.45 – 4.45 PM | RECITATIONS IN ENGLISH (2) | Lawn
English poetry recitations featuring Ahsan Akbar, Kathryn Hummel, Ikhtisad Ahmed and Sadaf Saaz. Presented by Kaiser Haq.

4.00 – 4.30 PM | THIS OLD WORLD | Cosmic Tent
Launch of Zeeshan Khan's photo-essay book by Bengal Publications.

4.00 – 5.30 PM | ALKAP | Bottola
Satirical folk performance.

4.15 – 5.15 PM | EMPRESS DOWAGER CIXI | Main Stage
Jung Chang talks to Peter Florence about the most important woman in Chinese history.

4.15 – 5.15 PM | THE BOOK OF GOLD LEAVES | KKTea Stage
After his celebrated debut, *The Collaborator*, Mirza Waheed discusses his second novel, which is set in the Kashmiri capital of Srinagar. Chaired by Alex Clark.

4.45 – 5.30 PM | THE GUERRILLA | Cosmic Tent
Marks the launch of Bir Protik Shahzaman Mazumder's autobiography by Daily Star Books.

5.00 – 6.00 PM | আবৃত্তি: তরলতা | Lawn
Recitation of well-known Bangla poems on nature.

5.30 – 6.30 PM | THE GREAT INDIAN STATESMAN | Main Stage
Shashi Tharoor discusses the intersection of his writing and political life, the recent debate on colonialism and the book with the unforgettable title. Chaired by K Anis Ahmed.

6.30 – 8.00 PM | BANGLA POETRY RAP | CLOSING | Lawn
Featuring Bigg Spade and Black Zang from Uptown Lokolz, ABD and Rajotto with Friends.