



# MY CLASS

Newsletter of the Jozi Book Fair

Issue No. 34- May 2016

## Editorial

Dear Friends and Colleagues

We are thrilled to announce the Guests of 8th Jozi Book Fair. The Guests are young artists who have published books. The JBF chooses Guests based on the work that they do. Both the Guests link the written word with their respective art. Carol is a singer and has recently published her book and Kemang is an artist who has also published his book titled after him. *The Guests will be launched on the 28 May 2016 at 11:00.* The JBF invites you to meet the Guests and the Patrons of the Fair, Zakes Mda, James Matthews and Keorapetse Kgositse.

The Guests will participate in the JBF programs throughout the year and JBF will keep you updated on our social media.

In Solidarity

## Guests of 8th Jozi Book Fair

The 8th Jozi Book fair (JBF) is proud to announce the Guests and speakers of the annual Fair, Mohale Mashigo and Kemang wa Lehulere. The Guests of the Fair are people who reflect the aims and interests of the JBF through their work. The Jozi Book fair promotes readers in all languages and art forms hence our choice for Guests this year. JBF believes that other means of making reading exciting is linking it to other art forms, as long as they can be linked to the written word. The Guests are people that have written books and also promotes reading using other art forms for example singing and painting, which can both be linked to the written word. Mohale Mashigo is a singer and just published her book *The Yearning* and Kemang wa Lehulere is Standard Bank's young artist and has also published his book. The Jozi Book Fair will make the books of the Guests and the Patrons available for the 47 schools that we work with so they can prepare and be able to engage and discuss the books with the Guests at the Fair.

## Launch of the Guests

Jozi Book Fair will launch the Guests on the 28 May 2016, 11:00 at 123 Pritchard Street. The Guests are people whose work through their work reflects the aims of the Jozi Book Fair.

This will be an opportunity not only to meet the Guests but also to meet the Patrons Zakes Mda, James Matthews, Keorapetse Kgositse will attend. The launch will be attended by the JBF constituencies, media, artists, teachers, schools and NGO's that we work with. The

## Announcements:

- **Launch of JBF Guests:** Carol Mashigo and Kemang wa Lehulere, 28 May 2016, 11:00
- Pass on the Word, Poetry Forums - Programme for young people with Keorapetse Kgositse, every 2nd Saturday of the month
- Jazz Forums – Every Last Saturday of the Month
- Testimonies of Youth
  - # 18 June 2016, Moses Malelekwa Arts Centre, Tembisa
  - # 26 June 2016, Khanya College 123 Pritchard Street
- JBF invites you to Host events and Exhibit at the Fair, Deadline: 4 July 2016
- For information about JBF visit our Facebook and Website: [www.jozibookfair.org.za](http://www.jozibookfair.org.za)
- Contact JBF: 011 336 9190 or email: [jozibookfair@khanyacollege.org.za](mailto:jozibookfair@khanyacollege.org.za)
- To view last year's Book Fair on YouTube visit: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?> And <https://m.youtube.com/watch?>

launch will be incorporated with Live Performances and Jazz which will take place at 14:00 with Beverly King

## Mohale Mashigo *Black Porcelain*

Mohale Mashigo was born in Mapetla, Soweto, in 1983. Mashigo is a multi-disciplinary storyteller who loves exploring the unknown. Mashigo is also an award-winning singer/songwriter. She performs under moniker Black Porcelain. With no label or high budget 'marketing machine', Black Porcelain managed to get her music on the playlists of radio stations in 36 countries. Her journey into the music industry began as a singing waitress. The journey has seen her win 2 Wawela Music Awards (2013, June). The inaugural Wawela Music Awards recognised some of South Africa's best songwriters and composers. Black Porcelain was the biggest winner of the night; winning the Best Creative Album and Best Female Composer/Co-composer. She is a talented musician, radio moderator, she's also a very talented writer and multi-disciplinary storyteller who loves exploring the unknown.

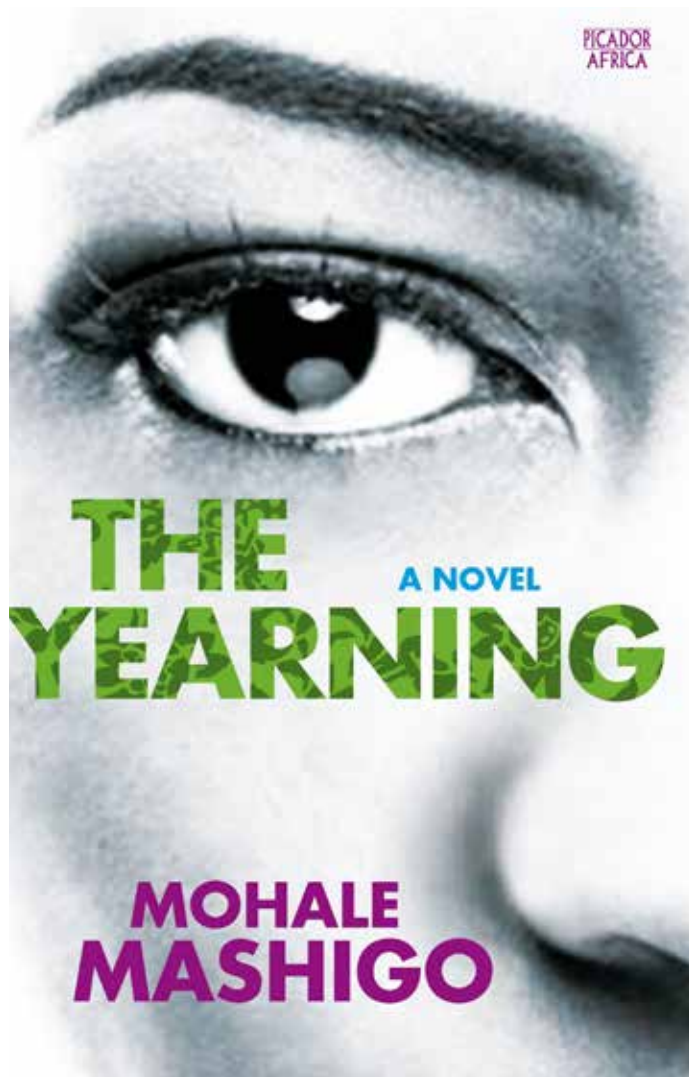


## The Yearning

*The Yearning* is Mashigo's debut novel published by Pan MacMillan. A novel she began writing in 2006 and then abandoned. In 2011 she resumed working on the novel after a friend convinced her to. Mashigo says she has always told stories and in high school she and a friend wrote Sweet Valley High fan fiction.

*The Yearning* is a memorable exploration of the ripple effects of the past, of personal strength and courage, and of the shadowy intersections of traditional and modern worlds.

<http://panmacmillan.co.za/catalogue/the-yearning/>



## The Yearning Book Launch

Carol will be launching her Book with JBF Patron Zakes Mda on the 24th of May 2016, 18:00 at Exclusive Books in Rosebank.

## Kemang Wa Lehulere : Standard Bank's young artist

Kemang Wa Lehulere was born in 1984 in Gugulethu, Cape Town. He has a BA Fine Arts degree from the University of the Witwatersrand (2011). Kemang was a co-founder of the Gugulethu (2006), an artist-led collective based in Cape Town, and is a founding member of the Center for Historical Reenactments in Johannesburg. He is the Standard Bank Young Artist for Visual Art 2015. Solo exhibitions have taken place at Gasworks, London

(2015); Lombard Freid Projects, New York (2013); the Goethe-Institut, Johannesburg (2011) and the Association of Visual Arts in Cape Town (2009), in addition to Stevenson. Kemang has done a number of exhibitions world wide. Some of his awards includes the Inaugural Spier Contemporary Award in 2007, The MTN New Contemporaries Award in 2010, The Tollman Award for the Visual Arts in 2012, 15th Balise Art Prize at Art Basel in 2013, First International Tiberius Art Award Dresden in 2014. and his written work includes Kemang Wa Lehulere (Standard Bank Young Artist Award, 2015).



## Book: Kemang Wa Lehulere Standard Bank Young Artist

Published to coincide with the Standard Bank Young Artist Award 2015, Kemang Wa Lehulere's first comprehensive monograph traces his work from 2005 to 2015 and his work in progress for the SBYA exhibition, opening at the National Arts Festival in Grahamstown and touring South Africa. Images of Kemang's drawings, performances, videos and installations are interspersed with various forms of texts by the artist, including poetry and scripts for performance, as well as a series of intimate letters between Wa Lehulere and a friend, curator/writer Khwezi Gule, and an interview conducted by Hans Ulrich Obrist, with whom the artist collaborated on an experimental video about Ernest Mancoba.

<http://www.stevenson.info/artists/walehulere.html>





## Launch of the JBF House of Literature

Jozi Book Fair will launch its first House of Literature at the House of Movements, this is to respond to the scarcity of libraries and literary spaces. There are so many cultures and spaces of entertainments in and around the City but there is no House of Literature, a space for readers to come read and interact with other readers. House of Literature is going to be a social space for readers and will play a huge role intervening in the poor culture of reading. It is open to the Book Clubs, Schools and readers. The House of Literature will be launched on the 28 May 2016 with the Jozi Book Fair Patrons and Guests. We urge people who love reading to make use of the space and to play a part in reviving the City and deepening the culture of reading in all languages.

## Jozi Book Fair Theme

The theme of the 8th Jozi Book Fair is Youth Rising which will highlight amongst others the position of youth and mobilise them to be active participants in the societies. The guests of the fair are youth themselves and will allow a broader focus on the work of young authors and artists; to expose youth to all art form. The theme commemorates the 1976 Soweto Youth Uprising and seeks to mobilise youth wherever they are; in school, studying in tertiary institutions, working and/or unemployed, to read and to write in their languages. This year's theme seeks to reflect on the work by young authors and artists for youth, to expose youth to all art forms, to develop a more comprehensive understanding of the position of youth in the South African context, and to provide youth with a platform to raise the challenges they face and engage with the possible solutions.

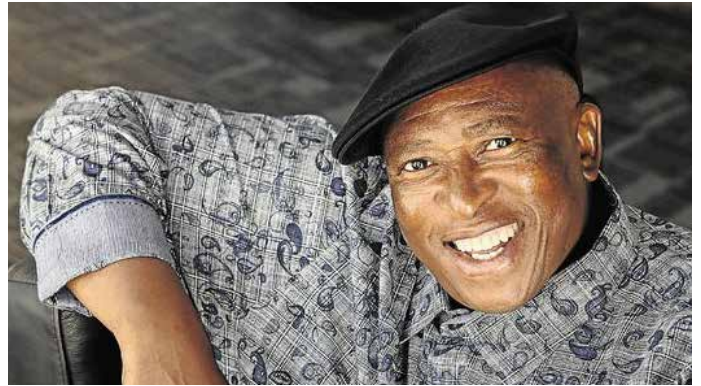


## Patrons of the Jozi Book Fair

The Jozi Book Fair chose Patrons from amongst those whose life's work and activism has been in solidarity with the struggle for human liberation and those who continue to support Jozi Book Fair and its aims in deepening the culture of reading and writing and also to make books accessible to the constituencies that we work with. The patrons are **Zakes Mda**, **James Matthews**, **Keorapetse Kgositsile** and **Luli Callinicos**. The Patrons have given JBF some of their work for JBF to reproduce and distribute cheaply to ensure that the schools and OVC's we work with have access to books and can read. The Patrons participate in events throughout the year with the constituencies.

### **Zakes Mda**

Zakes Mda, legally Zanemvula Kizito Gatyeni Mda, is a South African novelist, poet and playwright. Zakes who was the JBF Guest in 2014 has supported the Book Fair and donated his book 'Penny and Puffy' and his original illustrations in order for JBF to reproduce and make it accessible to the Poetry Buddies. The book was translated into Sesotho.



### **James Matthews**

James Matthews is South Africa's poet, writer and publisher. He has donated some of his poetry to Jozi Book Fair to reproduce and give to schools to read as part of preparations for the fair.



### **Keorapetse Kgositsile**

Keorapetse Kgositsile is a Black Arts activist and South Africa's Poet Laureate. He is hosting monthly Poetry Forums with Jozi Book Fair titled Pass on the Word, Pass on the Baton and writing workshops for upcoming Poets. JBF is reproducing some of his poetry to make available for the youth.



### ***Luli callinicos***

One of South Africa's most respected social historians, is an award-winning author, highly acclaimed for some of the country's most significant social commentaries of our times, her book *Golden workers* was reproduced by Khanya College for book clubs to read as it speaks directly to Marikana Massacre and socio-economic problems and lack of transformation.



## **Linking the Word with Different Art Forms**

The Guests and Patrons of the Fair are writers who has talents in many art forms, they are poets, painters, musicians, performers etc. JBF did an interview with Carol to get an understanding of her link to music, storytelling and being an author and this is what she had to say:

I am not really a writer. I'm a storyteller. I love telling stories... whether it's as a novel or a song, before I became a writer (of songs and novels) I was a reader. I spent many days, of my childhood, getting lost in books. Writers read. A lot. There is no way you can be a writer if you do not enjoy reading. Without knowing it, we become better writers through the stories we read. A novel is pretty much born in isolation. Music is largely a collaborative process whereas writing a novel is very lonely. A song requires a lot of musicians to bring it to life. They interpret what I've written. A novel is pretty is born in isolation. That may be why the editing process was very difficult. It felt like someone was judging my insides. There is no way you can be a writer if you do not enjoy reading. Without knowing it, we become better writers through the stories we read.

Writers read!!!

## **Pass on the Word Poetry Forum**

Jozi Book Fair held it's third monthly Poetry Forum on the 14 May 2016, House of Movements with Poet Laureate and JBF Patron Keorapetse Kgositsile. The forum was attended by over 70 people from the communities and poets. The session focused on the role Comrade Kgositsile played in the Black Arts Movement, the role that women played and the religious institutions. Mr Kgositsile argued that churches played a role in the oppression of black people during the colonialist struggle. In light of gender relations, he argued that female cadres played a huge role in the liberation struggle and that they were regarded as equal to men even though their names weren't always in the forefront. Granted this was an issue to be debated from intergenerational perspective, with the audience arguing that a lot has changed and there seem to be a great competition between the women and the men which in turn causes lot of divisions in societies. The event was incorporated with Open Mic Session which saw different performances from poets and a play from Push OVC.



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*JBF creates readers & writers in all languages & promotes affordable publishing and books*

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### **IMPRINT**

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