

NEWS RELEASE: Thursday 24 May 2018

Hay Festival and *The Pool* unveil #VOTE100BOOKS selection celebrating literature by women from the past 100 years

On the opening day of Hay Festival Wales (Thursday 24 May), organisers have announced the results of their #VOTE100BOOKS campaign with *The Pool* to select and celebrate 100 essential books by women writers from the last 100 years in honour of the votes for women centenary.

Hundreds of readers nominated their favourite titles online over the last three months. The resulting selection merges great books of all genres, fiction and non-fiction, written by women and published in 1918 or later, from *Enough Rope* by **Dorothy Parker** (1926) to **Mary Beard's** *Women & Power* (2017). Blending modern classics with lesser-known masterpieces the full list features books by **JK Rowling, Virginia Woolf, Vera Brittain, Tove Jansson, Anne Frank, Patricia Highsmith, Françoise Sagan, Sylvia Plath, Maya Angelou, Toni Morrison, Jung Chang, Hilary Mantel, Helen Fielding, Marjane Satrapi, Nigella Lawson, Chimamanda Ngozi Adiche, Naomi Klein, Elena Ferrante, Caitlin Moran, Yaa Gyasi and Leila Slimani**, along with Hay Festival 2018 speakers **Margaret Atwood, Mary Beard, Elif Shafak, Jacqueline Wilson, Lionel Shriver, Germaine Greer and Laura Bates**.

Titles will be discussed and celebrated in a special event hosted by *The Pool* at Hay Festival on Monday 28 May, while the discussion will continue at Hay Festival events in Mexico, Peru, Spain and Colombia throughout the year.

Sam Baker, co-founder, CEO and editor of *The Pool*, said: "I am delighted to see 100 books by women – all of them smart or thought-provoking or hilarious or important or all of these things at once – rounded up in one place. I look forward to this list starting conversations, prompting debates and encouraging thousands and thousands of readers to pick up a brilliant book by a brilliant woman."

Peter Florence, Director of Hay Festival, said: "There are books here that have changed lives, and changed the world. The list is an extraordinary testament to the power of ideas and stories. And a testament to the wisdom of crowds. What a fabulous bedside book-pile of empowering and enlightening treasures. Race you to the library!"

#VOTE100BOOKS selection (ordered by date of first publication)

Enough Rope: Poems by Dorothy Parker (1926)
Orlando by Virginia Woolf (1928)
Cold Comfort Farm by Stella Gibbons (1932)
Testament of Youth by Vera Brittain (1933)
Frost in May by Antonia White (1933)
Gone With the Wind by Margaret Mitchell (1936)
Their Eyes Were Watching God by Zora Neale Hurston (1937)
Rebecca by Daphne du Maurier (1938)
The Body in the Library by Agatha Christie (1942)
The Moomins and the Great Flood by Tove Jansson (1945)
Pippi Longstocking by Astrid Lindgren (1945)

- The Pursuit of Love* by Nancy Mitford (1945)
The Diary of a Young Girl by Anne Frank (1947)
Train to Nowhere by Anita Leslie (1948)
I Capture the Castle by Dodie Smith (1948)
The Second Sex by Simone de Beauvoir (1949)
Babette's Feast by Karen Blixen (1950)
A Book of Mediterranean Food by Elizabeth David (1950)
Strangers on a Train by Patricia Highsmith (1950)
Under the Net by Iris Murdoch (1954)
Bonjour Tristesse by Françoise Sagan (1954)
The Fountain Overflows by Rebecca West (1956)
The Human Condition by Hannah Arendt (1958)
The Haunting of Hill House by Shirley Jackson (1959)
To Kill a Mockingbird by Harper Lee (1960)
The Country Girls by Edna O'Brien (1960)
The Prime of Miss Jean Brodie by Muriel Spark (1961)
The Golden Notebook by Doris Lessing (1962)
The Feminine Mystique by Betty Friedan (1963)
The Passion According to G.H. by Clarice Lispector (1964)
Ariel by Sylvia Plath (1965)
Wide Sargasso Sea by Jean Rhys (1966)
I Know why the Caged Bird Sings by Maya Angelou (1969)
The Left Hand of Darkness by Ursula K. Le Guin (1969)
The Female Eunuch by Germaine Greer (1970)
Mrs Palfrey at the Claremont by Elizabeth Taylor (1971)
Into That Darkness by Gitta Sereny (1974)
Ain't I a Woman by Bell Hooks (1981)
The House of the Spirits by Isabel Allende (1982)
The Secret Diary of Adrian Mole Aged 13 ¾ by Sue Townsend (1982)
The Color Purple by Alice Walker (1982)
Heartburn by Nora Ephron (1983)
The Handmaid's Tale by Margaret Atwood (1985)
Standing Female Nude by Carol Ann Duffy (1985)
Oranges Are not the Only Fruit by Jeanette Winterson (1985)
Henry and June: From the Unexpurgated Diary of Anaïs Nin by Anaïs Nin (1986)
Beloved by Toni Morrison (1987)
Bad Behaviour by Mary Gaitskill (1988)
The View from the Ground by Martha Gellhorn (1988)
Like Water for Chocolate by Laura Esquivel (1989)
Possession by A. S. Byatt (1990)
Regeneration Trilogy by Pat Barker (1991)
Wise Children by Angela Carter (1991)
Wild Swans by Jung Chang (1991)
How we Survived Communism and Even Laughed by Slavenka Drakulic (1992)
A Greater Place of Safety by Hilary Mantel (1992)
The Secret History by Donna Tartt (1992)
The Land of Green Plums by Herta Müller (1994)
Bridget Jones' Diary by Helen Fielding (1996)

Selected Stories by Alice Munro (1996)
Rachel's Holiday by Marian Keyes (1997)
The God of Small Things by Arundhati Roy (1997)
The Poisonwood Bible by Barbara Kingsolver (1998)
Tipping the Velvet by Sarah Waters (1998)
The Gruffalo by Julia Donaldson (1999)
The Crusades: Islamic Perspectives by Carole Hillenbrand (1999)
How to Eat by Nigella Lawson (1999)
Close Range: Wyoming Stories by Annie Proulx (1999)
Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban by J. K. Rowling (1999)
White Teeth by Zadie Smith (1999)
Persepolis by Marjane Satrapi (2000)
Noughts & Crosses by Malorie Blackman (2001)
Unless by Carol Shields (2002)
Brick Lane by Monica Ali (2003)
Notes on a Scandal by Zoë Heller (2003)
What I Loved by Siri Hustvedt (2003)
We Need to Talk About Kevin by Lionel Shriver (2003)
The Illustrated Mum by Jacqueline Wilson (2003)
Small Island by Andrea Levy (2004)
Gilead by Marilynne Robinson (2004)
The Year of Magical Thinking by Joan Didion (2005)
The Glass Castle by Jeannette Walls (2005)
Half of a Yellow Sun by Chimamanda Ngozi Adiche (2006)
The Bastard of Istanbul by Elif Shafak (2006)
The Shock Doctrine by Naomi Klein (2007)
The Road Home by Rose Tremain (2007)
At the Source: A Writer's Year by Gillian Clarke (2008)
Three Strong Women by Marie Ndiaye (2009)
My Brilliant Friend by Elena Ferrante (2011)
Gone Girl by Gillian Flynn (2012)
How to be a Woman by Caitlin Moran (2012)
A Girl is a Half Formed Thing by Eimear McBride (2013)
Everyday Sexism by Laura Bates (2014)
Dept. of Speculation by Jenny Offill (2014)
Headscarves and Hymens by Mona Eltahawy (2015)
The Argonauts by Maggie Nelson (2015)
Homegoing by Yaa Gyasi (2016)
Falling Awake by Alice Oswald (2016)
Lullaby by Leila Slimani (2016)
Women & Power by Mary Beard (2017)

View the full list with title descriptions at hayfestival.org/vote-100-books/

Featuring over 600 of the world's greatest writers, global policy makers, pioneers and innovators in 800 events across 11 days, Hay Festival Wales (24 May-3 June) showcases the latest ideas in the arts, sciences and current affairs, alongside a rich schedule of music, comedy and entertainment.

A galaxy of literary stars gathers to launch new work, while the biggest ever HAYDAYS and #HAYYA programmes give young readers the opportunity to meet their heroes and get creative.

Explore the 2018 programme and book tickets at hayfestival.org or call 01497 822 629.

The Festival site is free to enter, with ticketed events in 10 tented venues, plus a range of sites to explore, including the Festival Bookshop; the HAYDAYS courtyard; the Hay Festival Wild Garden; creative workshops in the Make and Take Tent, the Scribblers Hut, The Cube and the Mess Tent; and market stalls, cafés and restaurants.

In an age increasingly characterised by abbreviated content and algorithmic recommendation, Hay Festival promotes serendipitous discovery through the long-form, immersive experience, offering a platform for informed conversation and the chance for inspiration to take hold.

The Festival runs a wide programme of education work supporting coming generations of writers and culturally hungry audiences of all ages – Hay Festival Wales opens with two free Schools Days of programming, the Beacons Project gives students aged 16–18 the chance to learn from internationally acclaimed writers, students in tertiary education can get free tickets, and Hay Compass is a special space on site to learn and discover, with free access to inspiring speakers.

PROGRAMME IN BRIEF

Award-winning novelists discuss their work, including **Margaret Atwood, Ian McEwan, Alexander McCall Smith, Asne Seierstad, Anuradha Roy, Colm Tóibín, Jilly Cooper, Andre Aciman, Maggie O'Farrell, Rose Tremain, Salman Rushdie, Marian Keyes, Lionel Shriver, Kamila Shamsie, Alan Hollinghurst, Jojo Moyes, Jack Zipes, Philip Pullman, Ruth Jones, Simon Mayo, Juan Gabriel Vasquez and Javier Cercas.** Poets **Tishani Doshi, Owen Sheers and Mererid Hopwood** join **Margaret Atwood** in a special commemoration of Armistice 100.

Conversations around internationalism, democracy and peacekeeping feature world leaders, policy makers and award-winning journalists, including: political strategist **Donna Brazile**, General Secretary of the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs **Maurice Gourdault Montagne**, *Fire and Fury* author **Michael Wolff**, **Sarah Churchwell, A. C. Grayling, Gordon Brown, David Miliband**, the British Army's **Adrian Bradshaw**, former Israeli Prime Minister **Ehud Barak, Shashi Tharoor** and peace builder **Scilla Elworthy**. Gender equality and race dominate conversations on Britain today that include **Akala, Afua Hirsch, Rose McGowan, James O'Brien, Laura Bates, Helen Pankhurst, Germaine Greer and Robert Webb**.

The past is reimagined by leading historians including **Anthony Beevor, Helen Rappaport, Sujit Sivasundaram, Alison Weir, Melvyn Bragg, David Olusoga, Simon Schama, Bettany Hughes, Emily Wilson and Amy Lamé**. Meanwhile, education is interrogated as **Amanda Spielman** discusses Ofsted and the future of education.

Health and wellbeing take centre stage in sessions with **Ruby Wax, Suzanne O'Sullivan, Johann Hari, Edmund de Waal, Daniel Davis**, Alzheimer's Society ambassador **Wendy Mitchell** and **Bryony Gordon**. Meanwhile, **Nigel Shadbolt, Ella McPherson, Philip Ball,**

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Akram Khan, Marcus du Sautoy, Richard Dawkins, Elisa Passini and Anne-Marie Imafidon showcase the latest ideas in STEM with talks.

Hay on Earth looks at innovations in sustainability and the future of farming, with Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs **Michael Gove** and Google's sustainability lead **Kate Brandt**. Meanwhile, nature and travel writers take audiences around the world, including **Monty Don, Horatio Clare, Patrick Barkham**, and adventurers **Bear Grylls, Ursula Martin, Andy Kirkpartick** and **Chris Bonington**.

Stars of stage and screen appear including **Andrew Davies** (*Les Misérables*), **Bill Nighy** (*The Bookseller*), actors **Jim Broadbent, Simon Russell Beale** and an all-star **Letters Live** cast. There's comedy from **Russell Kane, Shazia Mirza, David Baddiel, Dara O'Briain** and **Bridget Christie**, with music from **Jake Bugg, Laura Mvula, Les Amazones d'Afrique** and **Gabrielle Aplin**, while **Goldie** presents his memoir *All Things Remembered*.

HAYDAYS and #HAYYA events feature **Ed Vere, Michael Morpurgo, Judith Kerr, David Walliams, Beverley Naidoo, Jacqueline Wilson, Cressida Cowell, Lucy Worsley, Lauren Child, Katherine Rundell, Juno Dawson, Holly Bourne, Patrick Ness, Patrice Lawrence** and **Alex Wheatle**. Workshops blend creative writing, illustration, textiles, coding, dance, drumming and animation, while RSPB Cymru and Rooted Forest School take young people outdoors.

Keep up to date with Hay Festival news by signing up to the newsletter [here](#) or follow:

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Notes to editors

For IMAGES, INTERVIEWS, FURTHER INFORMATION or to apply for PRESS ACCREDITATION, please contact Hay Festival publicity director Christopher Bone at christopher@hayfestival.org or 07506 522540.

Hay Festival

www.hayfestival.org

Hay Festival brings readers and writers together to share stories and ideas in sustainable events around the world. The festivals inspire, examine and entertain, inviting participants to imagine the world as it is and as it might be.

Nobel Prize-winners and novelists, scientists and politicians, historians and musicians talk with audiences in a dynamic exchange of ideas. The Festival's global conversation shares the latest thinking in the arts and sciences with curious audiences live, in print and online. Hay Festival also

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runs wide programmes of education work supporting coming generations of writers and culturally hungry audiences of all ages.

In 1987, the festival was dreamt up around a kitchen table in Hay. Thirty-one years later, the unique marriage of exacting conversations and entertainment for all ages has travelled to editions in 30 locations, from the historic town of Cartagena in Colombia to the heart of cities in Peru, Mexico, Spain and Denmark. The organisation now reaches a global audience of hundreds of thousands every year and continues to grow and innovate, building partnerships and initiatives alongside some of the leading bodies in arts and the media, including the BBC, Welsh Government Department of Education, Visit Wales, ACW, the British Council, Oxfam, TATA, Friends of Hay Festival, Baillie Gifford, Good Energy, NERC and the National Trust.

Acclaimed author, actor and writer **Stephen Fry** is President of the organisation; **Peter Florence** is Director; and **Caroline Michel**, CEO of leading literary and talent agency Peters Fraser + Dunlop, is Chair of the Festival board.

Coming up...

- Hay Festival Wales, UK (24 May-3 June 2018)
- Hay Festival Querétaro, Mexico (6-9 September 2018)
- Hay Festival Segovia, Spain (20-23 September 2018)
- Hay Festival Arequipa, Peru (8-11 November 2018)
- Hay Festival Wales Winter Weekend, UK (22-25 November 2018)
- Hay Festival Cartagena de Indias, Colombia (31 January-3 February 2019)