

# in other words

2017 ICORN Network Meeting & PEN International WiPC conference

Lillehammer 31 May-2 June

Hosted by the City of Lillehammer and in close cooperation with Norwegian PEN and the Norwegian Festival of Literature

Accommodation and main Venue: [Lillehammer Hotel](#)



Last Updated May 8

# PROGRAMME

(subject to change)

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(Festival begins Tuesday 30 May)

## WEDNESDAY 31 MAY

**10:00-14:00** Registration at Lillehammer Hotel

**10:00 – 12:00 tbc** PEN America ARC Advisory Committee Meeting (Invite by PEN American only)

**12:00-13:30** Lunch

**13.30 – 15.45** Separate ICORN / PEN WiPC sessions

**15.45-16.00** Coffee break

**16.00-17.30** Speed dating (by ICORN & PEN WiPC)

In exchange of competences, experiences and challenges, selected ICORN writers, member cities and international cooperation partners are invited to present their work to the participants.

**Venue:** Lillehammer Hotel

**18:00** Welcome dinner reception (garden party?)

The Mayor of Lillehammer welcomes all participants from ICORN and PEN International + invited partners and other guests.

**Venue:** Lillehammer Hotel

**20:00 – 21:30** Official opening event (public/with NLF? Org. by ICORN/PEN)

**Venue:** Maihaugen

**21:30** Mingling at hotel/centre/festival

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## THURSDAY 1 JUNE

**10:00 – 11:00** Keynote speech/Bjørnson lecture by Kamila Shamsie, introduced by Salil Tripathi, PEN International

**Venue:** Maihaugen

**11:30 – 12:45** PEN WIPC/ICORN joint workshop session I

<b>PUBLIC</b> <b>Safeguarding freedom of expression in Turkey: What next?</b>	Freedom of expression and media freedom in Turkey have deteriorated sharply since the failed coup attempt in July 2016. Hundreds of media outlets and publishing houses have been shut down and over one hundred writers are in jail following an unprecedented crackdown. Join Turkish writers as they discuss prospects for freedom of expression in Turkey following the landmark referendum in April 2017.
<b>PUBLIC</b> <b>Across the great divide</b>	During the US Presidential election campaign 2016, Larry Siems and Anders Heger crossed the US from east to west and back again, discovering a striking difference in narratives through which politics is understood, a divide that after the election of Donald Trump has become only more evident.
<b>Freedom of Expression in the Horn of Africa</b>	ICORN has received a steady number of applications from Ethiopia for the past few years. With focus on certain countries or regions where human rights are challenged and freedom of expression under attack, Ethiopia will be scrutinized by international experts and Ethiopian writers/journalist in ICORN residencies.
<b>The landscape of protection</b>	PEN International and ICORN cooperate closely on protection of writers and artists at risk. In this workshop we highlight possibilities and best practices of cooperation for protection, both for writers/artists at risk in their home countries, and those who have had to leave their homes but are still not safe.
<b>Dialogue-the way to peace</b>	The Nansen Center for Peace and Dialogue is a unique resource pool for anyone engaged with promoting human rights and democracy. Join them for a crash course in how to develop tools for dialogue that can transform situations of hate and division to peaceful co-existence and constructive communication

**12.45 – 14.15** Lunch

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## 14.15 -15.45 PEN WiPC/ICORN joint workshop session II

(The sessions consist of workshops, panels, debates, screenings, interviews, presentations, conversations)

<p><b>PUBLIC</b>  <b>Ngũgĩ wa Thiong'o in conversation with Grace Mutandwa</b></p>	<p>Zimbabwean writer Grace Mutandwa will explore with one of Africa's greatest writers, Ngũgĩ wa Thiong'o, his journey into exile. How did language, identity and displacement influence and shape his creativity? What cultural elements are needed to make space for writers and communities living the reality of asylum, exile, or forced migration, to have their voices and stories heard?</p>
<p><b>PUBLIC</b>  <b>A conversation with Mohamedou Ould Slahi</b></p>	<p>Mohamedou Ould Slahi, author of <i>Guantánamo Diary</i> in conversation with Larry Siems.</p>
<p><b>The landscape of residencies</b>  <i>Sequel from: The landscape of protection</i></p>	<p>PEN International and ICORN cooperate closely on temporary relocation of writers and artists. In this workshop we highlight possibilities and best practices of cooperation for establishing and running shorter and longer term residencies for writers and artists at risk.</p>
<p><b>Building Bridges for Artist Safety</b></p>	<p>Engaging Arts and Culture Groups in the Development of New Initiatives for Artists at Risk: How can we get more organizations, whose primary function is artistic or cultural, involved in actions for human rights with their unique ability to contribute? What is the role of arts and cultural institutions in promoting and defending artistic freedom of expression at the international level?</p>

15:45 – 16:15 Coffee Break

## 16:15 - 17:45 PEN WIPC/ICORN joint workshop session III

<p><b>PUBLIC</b>  <b>«One day in Aleppo»</b></p>	<p>Syrian journalist, writer and documentary filmmaker, Ali Al-Ibrahim, has survived both Assad's prisons and ISIS' captivity. "One day in Aleppo" is his new documentary premiering at a Swiss film festival in April 2017. Following a screening of the film, he will talk with renowned Norwegian writer and journalist Åsne Seierstad about the art of reporting, and the challenges of telling the truth about Syria, from the inside and from outside.</p>
<p><b>PUBLIC</b>  <b>The PEN debate: Free Expression in a Post-Truth World</b></p>	<p>What happens when falsehood and distortions are expressed in the name of free speech? Should there be restraints? How can lies be countered in the post-truth world? And is it possible to define 'truth' and 'falsehood' in a world where alternative facts are as accessible as official histories?</p>
<p><b>What happens after 2 years residency?</b></p>	<p>The ICORN residency is temporary, but not all who participate in the programme can or feel comfortable returning to their country/region of origin. Is there anything ICORN and her partners can do to make the transition easier and safer? We hear from writers who have returned, and organisations who have experience with protection.</p>

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<b>Freedom of Expression/Country report: Iraq/Mosul</b>	Mosul is the home-town of many writers and artists in the ICORN network. At the time of the network meeting, the Iraqi forces will have recaptured the city of Mosul from ISIS, or are close to doing so. They have formed a working group to discuss the future prospects of the city based on their experiences.
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**18:00-20:00** Dinner buffet

**19:00 – 24:00** Xpress Freedom: ICORN & PEN engage with the Norwegian Festival of Literature in a rich programme of performances, readings, concerts and debates throughout the City of Lillehammer

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## **FRIDAY 2 JUNE**

**09:30 – 11.30** Separate ICORN / PEN WiPC sessions

**11:30 – 11.45** Coffee Break w/a bite

**11.45-13.00** Separate ICORN / PEN WiPC sessions

**13.00 -14.00** Lunch

**14:00 - 16:00** PEN WiPC sessions

## **WEEKEND 2 -4 JUNE**

Festival continues / PEN International Board meeting