

MOTIVE

CRIME & MYSTERY FESTIVAL

CHILLING THRILLERS, FORENSIC SCIENTISTS AND TRUE CRIME MASTERMINDS: MOTIVE CRIME & MYSTERY FESTIVAL RETURNS

MOTIVE brings the best crime and mystery writing from Canada and around the world,
June 7-9

Lineup includes CSI-inspired forensic science workshops, a film screening of a beloved Agatha Christie novel, fascinating author conversations, free events, and much more.

Passes on sale April 23

TORONTO, April 17, 2024 – The **Toronto International Festival of Authors (TIFA)** today announced the lineup for the third annual **MOTIVE**, Canada's premier crime and mystery festival, taking place **June 7 to 9** at Harbourfront Centre. Attendees can put on their detective hats to explore over 40 events all weekend long and meet some of the best crime and mystery writers from Canada and around the world including **Ashley Audrain, Linwood Barclay, Kellye Garrett, Maureen Jennings, Shari Lapena, Walter Mosley, Abir Mukherjee, Nita Prose, Antti Tuomainen**, among many others. Kicking off MOTIVE, there will be a special pre-Festival in conversation with best-selling British author **Clare Mackintosh** on April 29 at the Young Centre for the Performing Arts.

From cosy crime to police procedural, psychological thriller to true crime, these page-turning genres have produced some of the most celebrated storytellers worldwide, who are loved by readers everywhere. MOTIVE will bring together crime storytellers of all forms from writers to investigators, scientists to podcasters, from around the world including Canada, USA, United Kingdom, Finland, Iceland and Korea. Passes go on sale on April 23 at FestivalofAuthors.ca/Motive and through the Harbourfront Centre Box Office by phone at 416-973-4000.

“With an international array of authors and a wonderfully diverse range of events, this year's MOTIVE Festival offers experiences for all crime and mystery fans whether you get your thrills on the page, screen or podcast. It's a special opportunity to get behind the scenes on how the most captivating stories are created. Now in its third consecutive year, we are looking forward to bringing together authors and audiences to celebrate and explore this captivating, fascinating genre,” said **Roland Gulliver**, Director, Toronto International Festival of Authors.

Below are some events to expect at this year's MOTIVE. For more information, visit FestivalofAuthors.ca/Motive.

CONVERSATIONS AND READINGS

MOTIVE will welcome thrilling award-winning authors speaking on a range of topics from comedic crime to family secrets, supernatural to historical fiction. Highlights include **Walter Mosley** presenting the latest book in his popular Ezekiel "Easy" Rawlins detective series, **Ashley Audrain** and **Shari Lapena** discussing their complex domestic thrillers, and **Yun Ko-eun** and **Katrín Júlíusdóttir** on corruption, greed and villainous companies uncovered in the stories.

See below for full lineup:

- The Past Never Says Goodbye with **Walter Mosley**
- *I Will Ruin You* with **Linwood Barclay**
- Feather Dusters and Foul Play with **Nita Prose**
- Tea, Cake & Murder with **Elizabeth Renzetti** and **Kate Hilton** (Coffee, tea and sweet treats will be served at this event)
- Twisted Tales of Family Secrets with **Ashley Audrain** and **Shari Lapena**
- Murder, Mayhem & Mysteries with **Antti Tuomainen** and **Leonie Swann**
- When the Monsters Are Real with **Drew Hayden Taylor** and **Kelley Armstrong**
- Daring Destinations with **Catherine Mack** and **Roz Nay**
- Crime Writing Through the Ages with **Otto Penzler** and **Margaret Cannon**
- To Speak For The Dead with **Laurah Norton** and **Sarah Weinman**
- Caught in the Frame: Revealing Canada's Art Fraud with **Jon S. Dellandrea** and **Charles Reeve**
- Stirring Up The Past with **S.G. MacLean** and **Jeffrey Round**
- The Business of Being Bad with **Yun Ko-eun** and **Katrín Júlíusdóttir**
- The Fear Within Us with **Rick Mofina** and **Abir Mukherjee**
- Thrills from Start to Finish with **Ian Hamilton** and **Steve Urszenyi**
- Resilience Rewritten: Women's Stories of Justice and Survival with **Elizabeth Flock** and **Sarah Weinman**
- Protagonists Push Back with **Conor Kerr** and **Kellye Garrett**
- In Pursuit of Revenge with **Hannah Mary McKinnon** and **Jonathan Whitelaw**
- Spies and P.I.s: Women on the Move with **Maureen Jennings** and **Roberta Rich**
- Partners In Fictional Crime with **Alie & Hejsa Christense** and **Michael & Zack Urlocker**

PAGE TO SCREEN

On Saturday, June 8 MOTIVE will feature two special screenings with conversations about adapting books to film and television:

- **Murdoch Mysteries**: creator and writer **Maureen Jennings** will reminisce on the journey from idea, to page, to CBC television's hit show followed by a screening of an episode Jennings wrote herself.
- **Agatha Christie's And Then There Were None**: a tribute to the grand master of the genre. Author **Jeffrey Round** and Editor **Otto Penzler** will discuss the immense impact of Agatha Christie in the literary and film worlds, before settling in for a screening of the 1945 classic film.

TRUE CRIME

New this year, MOTIVE spotlights the popular True Crime genre through thoughtful conversations and interactive workshops. Highlights include:

- **FREE Forensic science workshops** in partnership with University of Toronto:
 - Forensic Science: The Real CSI – As Not Seen on TV!
 - The Secret of Blood: From Spatter to Science
 - Right Down to the Bone: The Identity of Jane Doe
- **FREE Toronto Crime Tours** where former Toronto Police Officers walk you through the city's crime history.
- **Critical Conversations:**
 - Through a Mirror Darkly: Why we Love True Crime **Kristi Lee** and **Kevin Donovan**
 - The Real World of Interrogation
 - Looking for a Familiar Face: The Justice System and Canada's Diverse Communities
 - From Prescription to Peril: A Forensic Toxicologist's Insight into the Opioid Crisis

MASTERCLASSES

- Ask the Expert:
 - Pitch Perfect with publishing powerhouses **Karen Sullivan** and **Lisa Highton**
 - Research with authors **Hannah Mary McKinnon** and **Jonathan Whitelaw**
 - Talking Tropes with **Otto Penzler** and **Margaret Canon**
- Creative Writing Masterclasses:
 - Plot with **Abir Mukherjee**
 - Writing for Podcasting with **Laurah Norton**
 - Setting with **S.G. MacLean**
 - Characters with **Leonie Swann**
 - Dialogue with **Kimberley Howe**

Attendees can purchase a **Festival Pass** to explore as much of the Festival as they wish (Adult: \$54.99, Student / Youth \$34.99) or a **Day Pass** (Adult: \$18.99, Student / Youth \$15.99). New this year, attendees will have the opportunity to purchase Walter Mosley's new book *Farewell, Amethystine* at a discounted rate with their Festival Pass or Friday Day Pass for \$35. **Masterclass** tickets can be purchased separately for \$49.

Visit FestivalofAuthors.ca/Motive to view the full programme lineup and to book passes.

Toronto International Festival of Authors

The Toronto International Festival of Authors (TIFA) inspires, empowers and connects through the art of stories, offering book lovers a breadth of bold, ambitious and accessible literary experiences. The charitable organization provides engaging opportunities to meet, hear and learn from the world's best contemporary writers and thinkers, and to celebrate the power of stories. Since 1974, TIFA has presented thousands of authors, including 22 Nobel Laureates, who represent diverse perspectives and a range of literary genres for all ages. TIFA's creative programmes continue to adapt to changing times, capturing the most innovative and enlightening forms of storytelling, on stage and online. Based at Harbourfront Centre, TIFA delivers a year-round programme of events and activities that reflect Toronto to its residents, its

literature to the nation, and its creative ambition to the world. The 45th edition of TIFA's flagship festival will take place September 19 – 29, 2024.

TIFA is grateful for the support of the Government of Canada – Department of Canadian Heritage; the Canada Council for the Arts; Ontario Creates; the Ontario Arts Council; and Toronto Arts Council; as well as the generous support offered by our many Patrons, donors and supporters.

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