



Comune di Roma

lgwejvus
dyalettera
ngfvbtire
odyefwla
loezkrhx

LETTERATURE

Rome's 4th International Festival
Basilica of Maxentius – The Roman Forum
May 24th – June 23rd 2005

“Fear, hope”

This is the fourth edition of **Letterature** – Rome's International Festival – a now annual and popular event for the Roman public as for many others, which, in the heart of the Roman Forum, every spring sees a collective ritual followed by tens of thousands of “listeners” (40.000 spectators last year). On the stage at Maxentius, under the vaults of the Constantinian basilica, great names of world famous literature will follow one another for ten evenings between May and June, presenting to the audiences a previously unpublished text written especially for **Letterature** on the subject proposed for the current edition, and reading their work in its original language. Immediately before this *reading*, Italian theatre and film actors will introduce the authors using their own words by reading passages from one of their novels already known to the public.

The texts and the words are therefore at the centre of attention; they are the absolute leading stars on the stage and for the audience. Music however is the third, fundamental and well-established element in this successful formula; musicians among the most well-known in Italy in fact alternate and/or accompany the readings.

This is an alchemy of fundamental elements, unchanged since 2002, with small variations that have enriched the Festival's success over the years, maintaining the audience's attention and continuing in making this an event promoting Culture and playing a leading role in also encouraging international exchange in the field of world literature.

In the 2005 edition, it is precisely this **international** characteristic that is confirmed and strengthened: the **twinning** between the Rome Festival and three other **International Literary Festivals** is an extremely important novelty. This year, the **World Voices Festival of International Literature of New York** (N.Y. April 16th -22nd), the **Festival Le Marathone des mots in Toulouse** (Toulouse May 25th – 29th) and the **Berlin Festival** (Berlin, September 2005) will be partners with the “Letterature”, in an exchange that is not only symbolic, with above all the participation of **Salman Rushdie** (president of the American Pen Center) in the opening evening for *Letterature*. Similar exchanges will also be organised with the Toulouse Festival and the Berlin Festival with the presence of Italian authors representing the Roman festival.

The Festival's international range is therefore amplified, without however forgetting, and on the contrary wishing to broaden its purpose in promoting and spreading culture and literature: there is New York, there is the world at ‘Letterature’, but there is also Rome with all its characteristics, from the heart of the ancient city, the Roman Forum, to its suburbs. This year in fact it will be in some of the city's **suburban bookshops** (recently opened thanks to the Municipality's project for using financing made available by Bill 266/97, the so-called “Bersani Law”), that we will organise some of the press conferences for presenting the authors: This will result in encounters bringing vitality to these bookshops and also allow the authors to get to know a different Rome, perhaps different to all the stereotypes.

Artistic direction :
Casa delle Letterature
www.casadelleletterature.it

Organization and production:
Zètema Progetto Cultura s.r.l.
www.zetema.it



Comune di Roma

lgwejvus
lyalettera
ngfvbtur
odyefwla
loezkrhx

This year's **theme** will be "**FEAR, HOPE**". Once again – after "alone, together" (2002); "past, future" (2003) and "real, imaginary" (2004) – this theme will act as a guideline for the authors, for their unpublished work, and in choosing the passage to read from books already published. As always it will be fascinating to listen to how the great maestros of world literature will deal with this broad and complicated subject, indicating this year, with particular emphasis – the link between literature and life, between our physical and our spiritual lives.

Fear and hope: feelings closing linked also to current events; to the days recently experienced and that still affect us, but also universal categories of the human soul regards to the nature of which the authors appearing in this Festival will ask us to reflect upon.

Artistic direction :
Casa delle Letterature
www.casadellelettere.it

Organization and production:
Zètema Progetto Cultura s.r.l.
www.zetema.it



Comune di Roma

lgwejvus
dyalettera
ngfvbture
odyefwla
loezkrbx

PROGRAM

MAY

Tuesday 24th

SALMAN RUSHDIE

Friday 27th

ANTONIO SKÁRMETA + ANDREJ MAKINE

Tuesday 31th

DAVID LEAVITT + ALI SMITH

JUNE

Friday 3rd

UGO RICCARELLI + DANIELE DEL GIUDICE

Tuesday 7th

HITOMI KANEHARA + NATASHA RADOJCIC-KANE

Thursday 9th

MURIEL SPARK + MARCO LODOLI

Tuesday 14th

MICHEL FABER + JONATHAN SAFRAN FOER

Thursday 16th

AMITAV GHOSH

Wednesday 22nd

JAVIER MARIÁS

Thursday 23rd

AMOS OZ

Festival's Press Officer:

Elisabetta Giuliani - Zètema s.r.l.

Tel. (++39)-06-82077321

Cell. (++39)-348-2696254

e.giuliani@zetema.it

Artistic direction :
Casa delle Letterature
www.casadellelettere.it

Organization and production:
Zètema Progetto Cultura s.r.l.
www.zetema.it



Comune di Roma

lgwejvds
dyalettera
ngfvbtur
odyefwla
loezkrbx

Essential information

Address

Basilica di Massenzio, Roman Forum

Entrance

Clivo di Venere Felice (Via del Fori Imperiali)

Hours

Readings start at 9 p.m. Tickets available on site from 7 p.m. Access will be granted only to people holding a ticket.

Free admittance

Please note that the number of places is limited

How to get there

Buses: 60, 75, 84, 85, 87, 117, 175, 186, 271, 571, 810, 850

Underground: Line B, Colosseo station

In the event of rain, information will be provided on alternative venues to be used

For further information please call Zètema's Call Center – ++39-06-82077304 monday to thursday from 9 a.m. till 4 p.m.; fridays from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Artistic direction :
Casa delle Letterature
www.casadellelettere.it

Organization and production:
Zètema Progetto Cultura s.r.l.
www.zetema.it