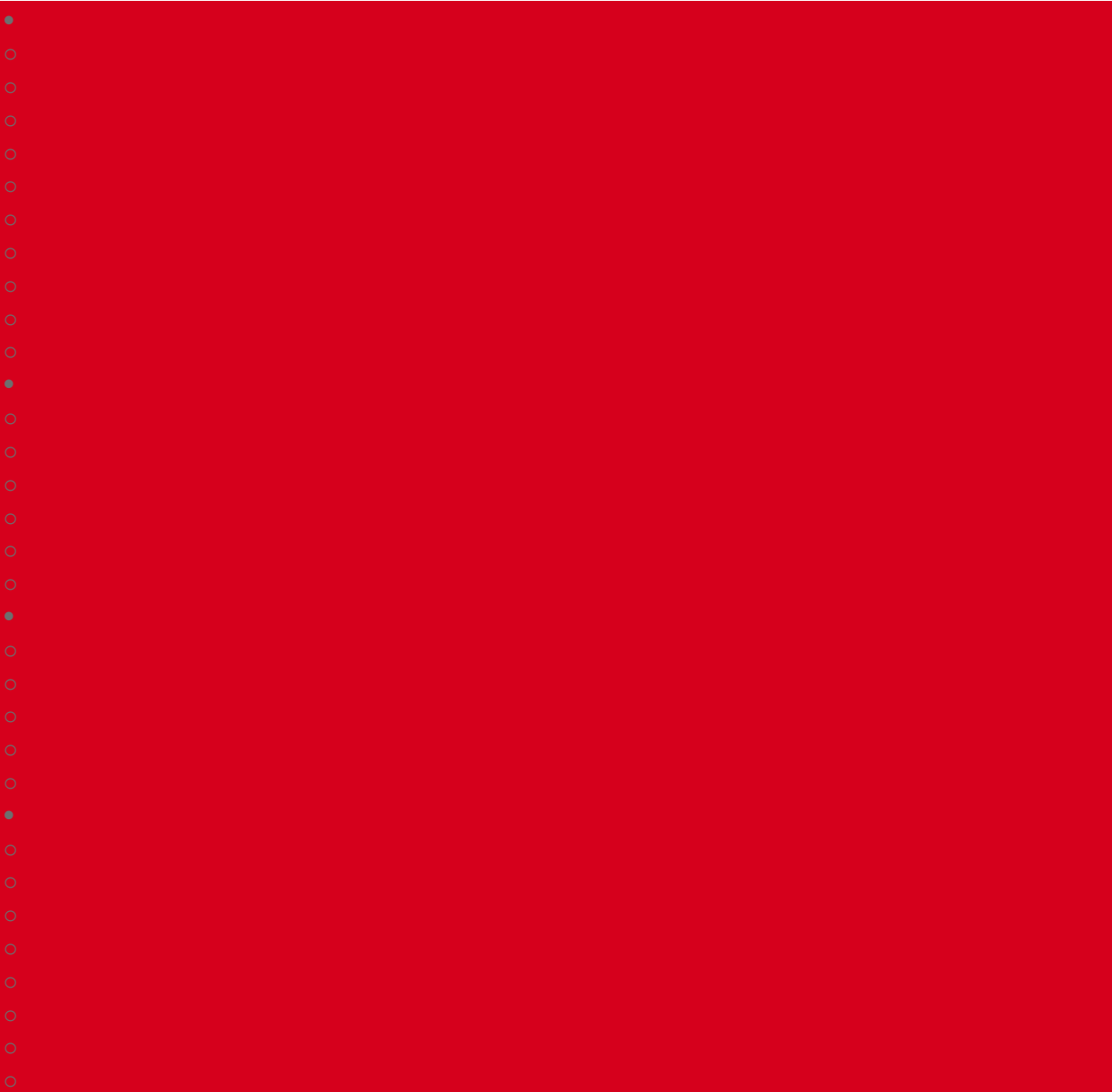




The Freedom  
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## **PEN WORLD VOICES FESTIVAL**

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*Dates for the 2018 PEN World Voices Festival will be announced this summer.*

PEN World Voices is America's only international literary festival, attracting the best known writers from across the globe. Since our founding, we have presented more than 1,500 writers and artists from 118 countries speaking 56 languages in venues across New York City in a weeklong series of literary events with a human rights focus. The Festival was founded by Salman Rushdie, Esther Allen, and Michael Roberts in the aftermath of September 11, 2001, with the aim of broadening channels of dialogue between the United States and the world—a mission that, today, has never been more relevant.

### **HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE 2017 PEN WORLD VOICES FESTIVAL: GENDER & POWER**

While some expected 2017 to be a year of ascendancy for women at the upper echelons of political power, it risks instead becoming a time of retrenchment on rights. Taking place in New York City from May 1-7, 2017, the 13th annual PEN World Voices Festival used literature and the arts as a lens to examine how gender both enables and impairs full participation in politics and society. At a moment of unprecedented threats to freedom and truth—and of emboldened mobilization and resistance—the Festival brought together authors and artists from around the world with concerned citizens to examine bigotry, misogyny, and xenophobia, and to bolster the movement to counter them. Featuring Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie, Carrie Brownstein, Teju Cole, Ani DiFranco, Jennifer Egan, Aleksandar Hemon, Colum McCann, Nancy Morejón, Viet Thanh Nguyen, Trevor Noah, Salman Rushdie, Patti Smith, Andrew Solomon, Binyavanga Wainaina, and many more.



## **United Against Hate—2017 PEN World Voices Festival**

**Multimedia** May 25, 2017

Voices in the arts rally against hate with performances, readings, and conversations from Ani DiFranco, Marlon James, Colum McCann, and more. [More](#)



## **Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie and Trevor Noah—2017 PEN World Voices Festival**

**Multimedia** May 26, 2017

A discussion on straddling multiple cultural identities between Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie and Trevor Noah. [More](#)



## **Portraying Gay Male Life Today—2017 PEN World Voices Festival**

**Multimedia** May 31, 2017

Andrew Solomon, Garth Greenwell, Ali Asgar, and Edouard Louis discuss their take on the post-marriage equality yet homophobic state of the world in a conversation moderated by Tobin Low. [More](#)



## **Forbidden: Too Punk/Too Queer—2017 PEN World Voices Festival**

**Multimedia** May 25, 2017

Carrie Brownstein and Thomas Meinecke—both musician-authors—discuss what it means to be heard, loudly, in a conversation moderated by Kathy Tu. [More](#)



## **Shattering Taboos to Change Culture—2017 PEN World Voices Festival**

**Multimedia** May 25, 2017

Bryony Cole moderates a discussion about the stigma around rape and sexual assault featuring Ram Devineni, Jessica Luther, and Andrea Pino. [More](#)



## **Water As Weapon—2017 PEN World Voices Festival**

**Multimedia** May 25, 2017

From Standing Rock to the Niger Delta to Gaza, access to clean, safe water is at the center of conflicts that will shape the world's future. [More](#)



## **Gender, Power, and Authoritarianism in the Dystopian Age—2017 PEN World Voices Festival**

**Multimedia** May 26, 2017

Marge Piercy, Alice Sola Kim, Namwali Serpell, and Jeff VanderMeer discuss gender, power, and authoritarianism. [More](#)



## **Women in Ink—2017 PEN World Voices Festival**

**Multimedia** May 26, 2017

Cartoonists Liza Donnelly, Roz Chast, Liana Finck, Rayma Suprani, and Emily Flake discuss the unique challenges of succeeding in a male-dominated field. [More](#)



### **Arthur Miller Freedom to Write Lecture—2017 PEN World Voices Festival**

**Multimedia** May 25, 2017

Leading Russian and American journalist/author Masha Gessen gives the 2017 Freedom to Write Lecture, followed by a longer conversation with Samantha Bee. [More](#)



### **Comedy Writing in the Age of Trump—2017 PEN World Voices Festival**

**Multimedia** May 26, 2017

Members of Samantha Bee's writing team Mathan Erhardt, Ashley Black, and Patrick Cassels discuss comedy writing in the age of Trump. [More](#)



### **Queer Representation and the Media—2017 PEN World Voices Festival**

**Multimedia** May 25, 2017

Jennifer Finney Boylan, Thomas Page McBee, Saeed Jones, and Jennifer Pozner discuss the narratives of LGBTQ issues found—or not seen—in the media. [More](#)



### **Nancy Morejón and Wild Noise—2017 PEN World Voices Festival**

**Multimedia** May 25, 2017

Nancy Morejón fearlessly takes on ethnicity, gender, history, politics, Afro-Cuban identity, and the collision of cultures in the “New World” with her poetry. [More](#)



## Photo Highlights from the 2017 PEN World Voices Festival

June 5, 2017

At the 2017 PEN World Voices Festival, more than 150 authors and artists from all over the world gathered to examine bigotry, misogyny, and xenophobia and bolster the movement to... [More](#)

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