

# HAY FESTIVAL

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NEWS RELEASE

## Hay Festival Querétaro unveils 2017 programme

Speakers include: award-winning writers **César Aira, Hanif Kureishi, Lionel Shriver, Nelida Piñon, Paolo Giordano, and Guillermo Arriaga**; Nobel Peace Prize-winner **Jody Williams**; global activists **Nadya Tolokonnikova and Lydia Cacho**; journalists **Jon Lee Anderson, Óscar Martínez, Mark Thompson and Anabel Hernández**; scientists **Julia Carabias, Maria Teresa Ruiz and Christophe Galfard**; historians **Simon Sebag Montefiore, Andrea Wulf and Norman Ohler**; acclaimed thinkers **David Rieff and Enrique Krauze**; and performances from **James Rhodes, Haydée Milanés and Systema Solar**



Hay Festival has today announced the full programme of over 100 writers and thinkers appearing at Hay Festival Querétaro in Mexico, 7 – 10 September 2017.

The programme highlights some of the world’s best new writing, addresses issues from US policy to climate change, showcases the Bogotá39-2017, and celebrates Hay Festival 30th anniversary projects: 30 Reformations and the Hay 30.

HAY JOVEN for students, HAY FESTIVALITO for young people, and a series of events in Querétaro’s communities ensure writers will reach the broadest possible audiences.

Tickets, on sale Monday 10 July at midday, will be available online at: [www.hayfestival.org/queretaro](http://www.hayfestival.org/queretaro)

**Cristina Fuentes La Roche, international director of Hay Festival, said:** “Hay Festival Querétaro maintains our focus on the world’s greatest writers while extending our breadth to explore the greatest challenges of our time. It is exciting to continue our work in Mexico – offering a platform for ever-widening conversations – at a time when Mexico, and the world, reimagines a future with hope.”

**Marcos Aguilar Vega, mayor of the city of Querétaro, said:** “With this festival, we bring literature to everyone. We collaborate with artists to allow audiences to enjoy and experience the transformative power of words. We want to develop the potential of our community, because we know that an innovative, critical and free society is necessarily connected with literary experiences.”

Award-winning writers will discuss their latest work and their careers, including: playwright and filmmaker **Hanif Kureishi**, Italian writer **Paolo Giordano**, Brazilian author **Nelida Piñon**,

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Argentinian writer **César Aira**, award-winning American journalist and writer **Lionel Shriver**, acclaimed Colombian novelist **Hector Abad Faciolince**, Mexican filmmaker **Guillermo Arriaga**, and some of the **Bogotá39-2017** group of emerging Latin American writers under 40.

Leading thinkers and activists will interrogate the issues of the moment, from the climate to Trump, including: American Nobel Peace Prize-winner **Jody Williams**, Pussy Riot's **Nadya Tolokonnikova**, American policy analyst **David Rieff**, editor of *the New York Times* **Mark Thompson**, and Mexican intellectual **Enrique Krauze**.

Scientists offer the latest insights into their fields, including: Mexican ecologist **Julia Carabias**, Chilean astronomer **Maria Teresa Ruiz**, and French physicist **Christophe Galfard**; while historians **Simon Sebag Montefiore** and **Andrea Wulf** offer another take on the past.

Key strands of programming will draw on the Festival's 30th anniversary year in the UK:

**30 REFORMATIONS** mark 500 years since Martin Luther sparked a theological revolution with his 95 Theses, as world-leading writers and thinkers imagine a better world in conversations, lectures and essays. At Hay Festival Querétaro, **Andrea Wulf** discusses the distinction between arts and sciences and **Gabrielle Walker** reforms our response to climate change. Catch up on the reformations at: <https://www.hayfestival.com/discover/thirty-reformations>.

**HAY 30** is a selection of young novelists, scientists, philosophers, performers and activists who will help imagine and shape the world in the next 30 years. HAY 30 star **Nadya Tolokonnikova** will represent the selection at Hay Festival Querétaro. Catch highlights of their events at: <https://www.hayfestival.com/discover/hay-30>.

Meanwhile, the **Bogotá39-2017** selection will be celebrated on site. A selection of the best fiction writers under 40 from across Latin America, Bogotá39-2017 is the latest in the Hay Festival *39s* series supporting the next generation of great writers around the world. These writers will be showcased in a new anthology of work, published in collaboration with independent publishers across Latin America and translated and published in the UK by Oneworld in January 2018. For more information visit [www.hayfestival.org/bogota39/](http://www.hayfestival.org/bogota39/)

Late night music and entertainment will see the party of ideas continue with British pianist **James Rhodes**, Cuban singer **Haydée Milanés**, and Caribbean collective **Systema Solar**.

The eighth Hay Festival in Mexico, Querétaro follows editions in Zacatecas, Xalapa and Mexico City. One of the northern hemisphere's fastest growing cities, Querétaro's historic centre, quaint *andadores* and acclaimed cuisine make it a unique cultural haven, and a major cultural attraction boosted further by this celebration of literature.

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[www.hayfestival.org/queretaro](http://www.hayfestival.org/queretaro)  
#HayQueretaro17

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### Notes to editors

For IMAGES, INTERVIEWS or FURTHER INFORMATION, contact Hay Festival publicity director Christopher Bone at [christopher@hayfestival.org](mailto:christopher@hayfestival.org) or 07506 522540.

### About Hay Festival

[www.hayfestival.org](http://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 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 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, the Woodland Trust 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 and Dunlop, is Chair of the Festival board.

### Hay Festival - coming up...

- Hay Festival Querétaro, Mexico (7– 10 Sep 2017)
- Hay Festival Segovia, Spain (16–24 Sep 2017)
- European Children's Literature Hay Festival Aarhus, Denmark (26–29 Oct 2017)
- Hay Festival Arequipa, Peru (9–12 Nov 2017)
- Hay Festival Wales Winter Weekend, UK (23 – 26 Nov 2017)
- Hay Festival Cartagena de Indias, Colombia (25–28 Jan 2018)
- Hay Festival Wales, UK (24 May – 3 June 2018)