

OSTANA PRIZE

Writings in Mothers Languages / escrituras en lenga maire

special online edition

on Friday 5th and Saturday 6th June 2020

Programme of the event

We are pleased to invite you to a very special edition of the 2020 Ostana Prize Writings in Mothers Languages, for the first time in its history, streamed online. Held on the 5th and 6th of June, it will bring once more the attention to the celebration of linguistic and cultural biodiversity of humanity. The Ostana Prize was recognised within the initiative International Year of Indigenous Languages 2019 by UNESCO. We invite you to check the website (www.premioostana.it) and discover the details. The programme is available now in English, Italian and French! Spread the voice seize and the opportunity to follow more than 20 hours of precious insights from experts of minority languages from all over the world.

Note: institutional presentation and moderation will be done in Italian. The authors will speak in their mother language. Summaries of the talks/gatherings will be available in English after the event

Friday 5th June 2020

4.30 pm

GREETINGS, ROLL OF HONOUR, PRESENTATION OF THE FIRST DAY

*Institutional greetings from Ostana - with **Silvia Rovere**, Mayor of the Municipality of Ostana and **Giacomo Lombardo**, President of the Chambrà d'Occident*

Roll of honor - Videoclip with faces, countries and languages of the authors awarded in the 11 past editions of the Ostana Prize

Presentation of the first day of gatherings - Ines Cavalcanti, artistic director of the festival, presents the special edition of the Ostana Prize: birth of the online project and sharing of the programme. Preparation for the International Decade of Indigenous Languages 2022-2032.

16:50

INDIGENOUS WRITINGS: POETS AND NARRATORS OF CENTRAL-SOUTHERN AMERICA

Lecture by Maurizio Gnerre, linguistic anthropologist

More and more young generations of indigenous peoples write in their mother tongues and produce literary, poetic and narrative texts.

Maurizio Gnerre is Full Professor of General Linguistics and Ethnolinguistics at the University of Naples L'Orientale. He is a United Nations consultant on issues of indigenous and minority cultures, and he deals with the linguistic-cultural rights of European and Latin American minorities. Author of numerous essays, he has proposed the "Adopt a minority language" project to UNESCO, which is currently in a phase of expansion. In his talk he will speak about his experience on this field and, in particular, he will introduce the world of the Shuar poet Maria Clara Sharupi Jua, of whom he is curating the Italian edition of the poetry book "Tarimiat".

18:00

CHEYENNE POETRY. The moment which founds the survival of a language.

Conversation with **Lance David Henson** - International Award 2014

"In my tribe our language is a vehicle of knowledge. Poetry is the preferential messenger of the first ancient peoples who forged themselves through the daily struggle for survival".

Lance David Henson is a Cheyenne poet. He was raised in Calumet, Oklahoma. Henson is headman in the Brotherhood of the Cheyenne Dog Soldiers, of the Native American Church and of the American Indian Movement. He has published 32 collections of poetry, his poems have been translated into 23 languages and his works taught in 9 countries. He is the most published and translated living Native American poet.

Conversation curated by Valentina Musmeci, writer

18:30

PEOPLES, ENVIRONMENT AND INDIGENOUS LANGUAGES

Lecture by Valentina Musmeci, writer

Native peoples are under attack all over the world and where they are most strongly attacked, the ecosystem around them is also a serious danger. In their case, defending a culture and a language means defending an ecosystem. **Valentina Musmeci** has conducted some photographic research on the native peoples, on the feeding of the reindeer and on the relationship between the Sami breeders and this special animal, as well as on the pastoralism in the Dolomite valleys and in the Native American reserves. In the Ostana Prize, she will illustrate her travels and the stories she has encountered in the journey.

18:50

POETRY IN THE WORLD, THE WORLD IN POETRY

by Aurelia Lassaque, poet

Aurelia Lassaque, Ostana Award in Occitan Language on 2011, will share her experience in the "universe of poets" and her contribution to the "Ostana Prize network" thanks to meetings with Mehmed Altun, Niilas Holmberg, Tsead Bruinja, Josephine Bacon.

19:20

A TALE NEVER TOLD – Interview to Josephine Bacon

Unpublished documentary by Andrea Fantino based on Ines Cavalcanti's interview to Josephine Bacon - International Ostana Award 2017 - Innu-language poet (Québec, Canada): "*We had to abandon what was precious in our soul. The memory of the elderly, our language made of earth, moss, lichens, trees, caribou, rivers, lakes, mountains, sea coasts. They made us forget our original identity*".

by Andrea Fantino and Ines Cavalcanti

From 20:00 to 21:00

LETTERS FROM OSTANA – day one

> **Adil Olluri**, 2018 International Award (**Albanian language**, Kosovo)
Letter to my Italian friends

> **Aleksej Leontiev**, 2018 Translation Award (**Chuvash language**, Russia)
Nobody managed to rip the roots out of the Chuvash

> **Til Stegmann**, 2019 Special Award (**Catalan language**, Spain)
Solidarity and selfishness in the time of Covid-19

> **Diego Corraïne**, 2012 Translation Award (**Sardinian language**, Italy)
Precious generations for linguistic transmission

> **Arturo Viano**, 2010 Translation Award (**Occitan language**, Italy)
How difficult it is to summarise in two words

> **Mans de Breish**, 2018 Music Composition Award (**Occitan language**, France)
From my window I dreamed

> **Joan Ganhaire**, 2016 Occitan Language Award (**Occitan language**, France)

Diary from Perigord (read by Dario Anghilante)

> **Aurelia Lassaque**, 2011 Occitan Language Award (**Occitan language**, France)

I will become a fountain

> **Anthony Aquilina**, 2014 Translation Award (**Maltese language**, Malta)

Translation of the incipit of "The Plague" by Albert Camus

Gerard Zuchetto: a troubadour in isolation

by CIRDOC - Institut occitan de cultura

The responses of the contemporary troubadour to the global Covid-19 crisis

G rard Zuchetto (2019 Occitan Language Award) is a composer, author, publisher, director of festivals; he has dedicated his life to the art of Occitan troubadours. It will be interesting to hear their personal story of quarantine. Together with the singer, musician and composer Sandra Hurtado-R s, with whom he creates and lives, the contemporary troubadour has a smart look at the global crisis we are confronting and he will share his thoughts.

From 21:00 – **The Occitan world and epidemics**

THE PLAGUE IN THE OCCITAN MIDDLE AGES: A PORTRAIT IN MUSIC

by Simone Lombardo, musician

Artistic performance with accordion, hurdy-gurdy, flutes and bagpipes, accompanied by readings of texts by Max Rouquette.

MAX ROUQUETTE AND THE MONTPELLIER PLAGUE

Live conversation between **Matteo Rivoira** and **Monica Longobardi**, Professor of Romance Philology at the University of Ferrara.

La C rca de Pendari s is a novel by Max Rouquette (1908-2005) -one of the greatest Occitan authors of the twentieth century- focused on the plague epidemics that stroke Provence and Montpellier in the mid-sixteenth century. The protagonist is a doctor dedicated to scientific research. Rouquette, a doctor himself, gave to his character Pendari s the torments of a scholar grappling with the limits of scientific knowledge on the Great Evil that devastates his city and sickens his loved ones. His diary is indeed a merciless look at the society that speculates on the climate of terror and panic, the corruption of governors, charlatans and elixirs, superstitions and the degradation of social relations. Prophetic, in some way, about what we find ourselves living today.

Conversation curated by Matteo Rivoira, professor of Romance Dialectology at the University of Turin

ROLAND PECOUT READS MAX ROUQUETTE

curated by CIRDOC - Institut occitan de cultura and by Ràdio Lengua d'Òc

The Occitan writer Roland Pecout reads an excerpt from Max Rouquette's *La cèrca di Pendariès*.

22.30 pm - TRIBUTE TO THE OCCITAN LANGUAGE

The Occitan production, "confined": which ruptures, what continuity?

Curated by CIRDOC - Institut occitan de cultura and by Ràdio Lengua d'Òc

Mélanie Laupies (Paul Valéry University, Montpellier III), Bruno Cécillon (director of Ràdio Lengua d'Òc), Gisèle Naconaski (journalist) and Marion Cornet (from CIRDOC) host **four Occitan authors awarded** in previous editions at the headquarters of Ràdio Lengua d'Òc: live from the headquarters of Ràdio Lengua d'Òc in Montpellier, **Aurélia Lassaque, Mathieu Poitavin, Danielle Julien and Roland Pécout** will talk about their experience at Ostana and what the Prize has made possible over the years.

Next, a tribute to the other Occitan-language authors awarded in Ostana will follow: Max Rouquette, Yves Rouquette, Sergi Bec, Joan Larzac, James Thomas, Joan Ganhaire, Gérard Zuchetto.

Saturday 6 June 2020

16:00

Roll of honour and presentation of the second day

Roll of honour - Video with faces, countries and languages of the authors awarded in the 11 past editions of the Ostana Prize.

Presentation of the second day of gatherings - **Ines Cavalcanti**, artistic director of the festival, presents the special edition of the Ostana Prize: birth of the online project and sharing of the program.

16:10

A story for Italian children from the antipodes of the world:

WITI IHIMAERA READS A MAORI STORY unpublished in Italy

Witi Ihimaera, from New Zealand, is the first Maori author to publish both a collection of short stories, *Pounamu Pounamu* (1972), and a novel, *Tangi* (1973); in his long career he has also written for theater and cinema (the award-winning film *The Whale Rider* is taken from one of his stories, which will shortly come out in a new edition by Bompiani boys). Over the years he has received many awards, including the NZ Prime Minister's Award for Literary Achievement, and in 2017 he was named Knight of the Order of Arts and Letters in France.

He addresses Italian children from the antipodes of the world, to tell a story of hugs: **The Little Kowhai Tree**, whose flower is considered a national symbol for New Zealand.

16:20

Messages from the Basque Country: "pandemic" poetic reflections in the oldest still spoken language in Europe

Basque, a pre-Indo-European language still alive, is an example of the resistance, existence and insistence of a people who have been able to give importance to their voice and words. Basque could not be missed in this special online edition of the Ostana Prize. Apart from the contribution by the writer and poet **Harkaitz Cano** (2011 International Award), the meeting will be an occasion to reflect on Basque language, politics and society with the translator and politician **Lurdes Auzmendi** (2016 Translation Award).

curated by Maria Teresa Atorino

17:00 - **BOB HOLMAN**

The promotion of linguistic diversity in the world: the example of Khonsay

Khonsay-Poem of Many Tongues (2015, 15') by Bob Holman. A video-poem consisting of fifty verses, each of which is pronounced by a speaker of a different language.

Italian subtitles by Silvia Mentini, translator

> **BOB HOLMAN live from New York**

Live conversation with Valentina Musmeci

Born in Kentucky, he moved soon to New York; **Bob Holman** has made poetry and language his reason for living, becoming a point of reference for the American poetic community and for the defense of endangered languages around the world. According to the New Yorker, "Bob Holman has been the most active postmodern promoter in bringing poetry to cafes and bars since Ferlinghetti's time." The love for orality and the commitment as an activist of the word have permeated his entire poetic work and led him to travel the world to preserve and support cultural and linguistic heritages strongly connected to the environments and ecosystems in which they are rooted.

curated by Valentina Musmeci, writer

18:00

CONTACH. DECLINATIONS OF A SOCIAL EFFECT

Artistic and musical performance by **Blu L'Azard**: Peyre Anghilante, Flavio Giacchero, Marzia Rey, Gigi Ubaudi. From the Franco-Provençal Valleys to the Occitan Valleys, an imprecation reveals the presence of the epidemic in history and social memory. The concept of contagion is declined in its most different meanings, negative and positive, bringing together the musical genre of the ballad with narration and poetry.

performance by Blu L'Azard, musical group

18:15

DIVDAOLENN. The confinement craze

Videoclip

Antony Heulin, 2013 Youth Award, is a Breton poet. During his quarantine time, he made a fun videoclip in which he exaggerates dreams and delusions of confinement starting from a diptych: *The beautiful and hard-working Madonna* and *Il brutto homo vacansus*. The video introduces one of the memories of his participation in the Ostana Prize.

edited by Antony Heulin, Breton poet

18:30

Conversation with KOLA TUBOSUN, 2016 Special Ostana Award

"I am a linguist interested in the growth, development and sustenance of the Yoruba language and other Nigerian languages. I deal with literature, education, governance and language technology in the 21st century".

Tubosun has been carrying out important work on the Yoruba language for several years, dealing with lexicography together with Google for the translation from Nigerian to English and for the use of the Yoruba language in the media and social platforms around the world (the translation experiment conducted on Twitter got him the African Award as Honorary Innovator in 2016). In his linguistic activity he collaborates with the Google team that developed the Nigerian accent, with the addition of several Nigerian words in the English dictionary of last year. Nigeria is also home to the largest internet market in Africa and giants like Google and Twitter are focusing on specialising their services for "English Nigerian" users.

Live conversation with Valentina Musmeci, writer

19:10

ROCCAIONE: QUEEN JANA AND THE PESTILENCE OF 1348

Preview of the artistic performance taken from the reading and music show in Occitan language "Cuneo-Nice"

During her journey from Naples to Provence, Queen Giovanna d'Angiò thought it well to stop a few days at the castle of Renostia, in Roccaione, on a hill at the entrance of the Vermentina valley. In the same days, men and beasts began to die of an unknown, indefinable disease for which no cure was effective. The few who escaped thought the cause was her... A legend from the village of Roccaione tells the origins of the plague of 1348.

curated by Daniele Dalmaso and Luca Pellegrino, artists

FROM 19:30 TO 20:30

LETTERS FROM OSTANA - second day

> **Andrea Nicolussi Golo**, 2011 National Award (**Cimbrian language**, Italy)

Will it be possible?

> **Joan Isaac**, 2018 Music Composition Award (**Catalan language**, Spain)

April

> **Lurdes Auzmendi**, 2016 Translation Award (**Basque language**, Spain)

Nothing new under the sky

> **Harkaitz Cano**, 2011 International Award (**Basque language**, Spain)

Learn what you know

> **Lance David Henson**, 2014 International Award (**Cheyenne language**, USA)

I'm looking for your face

> **Franca Masu**, 2019 Music Composition Award (**Catalan language of Alghero**, Italy) *Loneliness*

> **Maria Clara Sharupi Jua**, 2016 International Award (**Shuar language**, Ecuador)

Najánamu etserkamu - The return of Etsa and Iwia

> **Tuntiak Katan**, 2011 Youth Award (Shuar language, Ecuador)

Kakàram Sunkur - Pandemic

> **Jacques Thiers**, 2015 International Award (**Corsican language**, Corsica)

Stay at home, but stay at home

20:30

VOICES AND SOUNDS FROM SALENTO GRIKO

The griko, the historical linguistic minority of the Griko people in Calabria, will be present in the special online edition of the 2020 Ostana Prize. From a land that has always been a bridge over the Mediterranean, a message for an increasingly global world. **Flavio Giacchero**, ethnomusicologist, introduces the music and words of the musician and songwriter **Rocco De Santis** and of **Salvatore Tommasi**, who has long been involved in the recovery and enhancement of the Greek-Salento language and culture. Griko lyrics composed during confinement.

curated by Flavio Giacchero, Rocco De Santis, Salvatore Tommasi

20:50

BERBER LANGUAGE OR TAMAZIGHT?

Three Kabyle intellectuals in Ostana

In 2017 the Ostana Prize hosted three prominent exponents of the Berber-Kabyle world (Algeria). The Kabyle language is part of the "Berber" or "Tamazight" language family. What is the difference? **Mohand Tilmatine**, Professor of Berber Languages and Cultures at the University of Cadiz, explained it in an unpublished documentary, made by Andrea Fantino from an interview conducted just three years ago in Ostana: "Tamazight" is the politically correct equivalent of "Berber". The Berber word has clear Greek-Latin origins: for the Romans, "barbarians" were for example the Germanic peoples, while for the Arabs they were the indigenous peoples of North Africa, which over the centuries they have subdued and dominated.

Mohand Tilmatine himself will introduce the video-interview documentary of which he is the protagonist together with the writer Salem Zenia and Samir Aït Belkacem, a director specialised in dubbing.

curated by Mohand Tilmatine and Andrea Fantino

21:30 - **Tribute to Luis Sepúlveda**

5 LANGUAGES, 1 MUSICIAN, 7 INSTRUMENTS, 1 FAIRY TALE

Marathon of cross-reading of Lucky and Zorba (in Italian) by Luis Sepúlveda in mother tongues: Sardinian (Diego Corraïne), Catalan from Alghero (Carla Valentino), Tabarchino (Margherita Crasto), Alpine Occitan (Dario Anghilante) and Franco-Provençal (Matteo Ghiotto).

Papiros edizioni (Papiros publishing house) was born more than thirty years ago to give modern writing and visibility to Sardinian, also with works by great authors of international literature aimed especially at children. In this context, the translation into Sardinian of works by Luis Sepúlveda and in particular of the emblematic work of his vision of the world, *Lucky and Zorba* ("The little seagull and the cat who taught her to fly"), seemed an obligatory choice. Later, translations into Algherese, Tabarchino, Occitan Alpine and Franco-Provençal were added, to underline the universality of its message and to bring these languages fully into the world of great literature. **Diego Corraïne** will be the Sardinian voice, **Margherita Crasto** the Tabarchinian, while Carla Valentino will lend her voice for the **Catalan-Alghero version**. From Sardinia we will move on to Piedmont, with Dario Anghilante to recite the Occitan passage, and Matteo Ghiotto to read the last part of the tale in Franco-Provençal. The readings will be soundtracked by the musician and ethnomusicologist Flavio Giacchero with a performance in between improvisation and writing.

curated by Papiros edizioni, Diego Corraïne, Andrea Fantino, Flavio Giacchero

22:00

THE RESPONSE OF MOTHER LANGUAGES TO CORONAVIRUS

The director and producer Tore Cubeddu tells the experience of Sardinian television EjaTV at the time of Covid-19, introducing a montage of video extracts collected on the net which document the liveliness and variety of responses of indigenous and minority languages in the face of the emergency, ranging from the information campaign conducted by the Chandra d'Oc in Occitan and Franco-Provençal, to the Minorcan songs by the municipal police, and including the video tutorials on hand washing made by Australian Aborigines.

curated by Tore Cubeddu

22:10

Documentary: LANGUAGE MATTERS WITH BOB HOLMAN

Written by Bob Holman, directed by David Grubin, and broadcasted by PBS in 2015, the documentary talks about the rapid extinction of many languages on the planet and their struggle for survival. Bob Holman accompanies the viewer to Australia, Wales and Hawaii to reflect on the value of linguistic diversity in the world.

First ever screening in Italy, version subtitled by Silvia Mentini.

curated by Bob Holman and Silvia Mentini

00:00 - **Final greetings**