



festival-america.com

FESTIVAL

AMERICA®

LITTÉRATURES & CULTURES D'AMÉRIQUE DU NORD

DU 22 AU 25 SEPTEMBRE 2022

VINCENNES / FRANCE

VOIX D'AMÉRIQUE
★ 20 ★
★ ANS ★
10ÈME ÉDITION

TO CELEBRATE ITS TWENTIETH ANNIVERSARY, FESTIVAL AMERICA MAKES THE VOICES OF AMERICA HEARD

AFTER THE 2020 FESTIVAL WAS POSTPONED TO 2021 BEFORE IT WAS ALTOGETHER CANCELLED, FESTIVAL AMERICA WILL BE BACK IN VINCENNES FROM SEPTEMBER 22ND TO 25TH 2022. DURING FOUR DAYS, "VOICES OF AMERICA", THE 10TH EDITION OF THE FESTIVAL, WILL OFFER SOME ONE HUNDRED DEBATES AND THEMATIC DISCUSSIONS.

VOICES OF AMERICA

It is often said of a writer that he/she has a singular voice or one that has never been heard before. This voice is first the affirmation of a personality, of an identity, of how one relates to oneself, to others and to the world through words and literature.

It may tell stories of yesterday, today or tomorrow. It has the power to move the reader, to make him/her reflect, to allow him/her to share other lives than his/her own. It may also cry out in rebellion or indignation and raise the alarm, call for struggle, for resistance, or assert a right to be different.

For this 10th edition of Festival America, we have imagined a choir composed of 61 of these voices which tell the reality of America and of the world today, without forgetting the tragedies of the past, the fault lines of the present and the uncertainties of the future; voices of women and men who question our humanity in their books through their itineraries. 61 different personalities and journeys (novelists, short story writers, poets or essayists) will meet the public and the readers, share their view on various subjects and essentially make their voices heard.

Among the Festival guests, a number of writers will bring their views and appreciation on questions which have often become universal, and have stirred opinions and created debate in North American societies. Writers are witnesses of global warming and of its effects on the planet and on life at large, and work towards public awareness. One of the roles of literature also consists in giving an account of the complexities of life experiences, in helping deconstruct the dominant masculine narrative; women's voices in

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September in Vincennes will also include their stories and will make the power of words sound at its loudest: abortion, the question of genre, homosexuality... In a society in which acceptance and tolerance are being questioned more and more loudly, when they are not openly put into question, literature may become the advocate of those who feel they made the choice of being marginal. Festival America will be the space of these questionings, and in an America shaken by political, environmental, social and cultural questions, our Festival will put on center stage these voices who can tell, protest, remember and imagine...

ANOTHER AMERICA IN PLACE OF HONOR

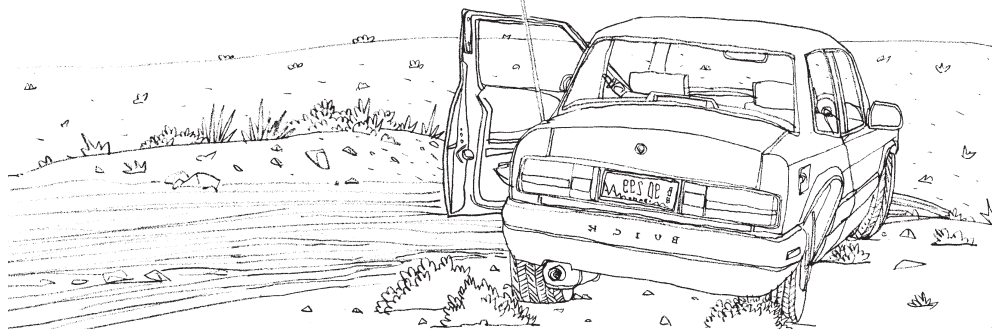
October 12th 2022 will be the five hundred and thirtieth anniversary of Christopher Columbus's "discovery" of America. The Festival will welcome an important delegation of writers belonging to indigenous communities of Canada and the United States. With about twenty writers, another history will emerge: that of peoples who nearly disappeared as they faced the battering ram of conquest and acculturation, but who continue to have a specific relation to the world surrounding them.

For a new family is born in the North American literary landscape : without any exoticism, these writers express the questions of peoples attempting to preserve their identities and their heritage, while facing contemporary challenges. They offer us powerful and inspired works in which the beauty, the originality and the strength of their universe resonate.

Indians and Inuit today are building up a living culture which naturally fits into a universal dimension while they remain the heirs to a tradition, a history and a memory which occupies a unique place in the world heritage.

THREE DAYS OF FESTIVAL AND ABOUT ONE HUNDRED EVENTS

In this 10th edition of the festival the festival-goers will thus be offered a program characterized by the diversity of cultures and origins, but also by feminism, queer identities, the environmental question... these themes will be explored through some one hundred exceptional exchanges: literary meets, special evening events, a cycle "The America of...", in which the writers will give us their vision of this vast and multiple continent, film projections, street art performances, translation jousts... The writers also accept to participate in privileged shared moments: breakfast or evening drink to exchange with their readers in more intimate gatherings. The younger Festival-goers are not forgotten, they have their own book fair, exchanges and activities specially imagined for them at the very heart of the Festival.



ABOUT FESTIVAL AMERICA

For the past twenty years, celebrating the extraordinary living and dynamic mosaic offered by the North American continent-Native, Hispanic, African, Anglo-Saxon, French or French-speaking – and giving the public the opportunity to better know and understand its societal and cultural realities has been Festival America's raison d'être.

Festival America was created immediately following the global earthquake of the 9/11 2001 assaults and since then has welcomed over 500 writers; through its biennial editions, it has established itself as the reference event of North American literatures. From Margaret Atwood to Toni Morrison, Bret Easton Ellis, Louise Erdrich, John Irving, James Ellroy, Colson Whitehead or Russell Banks and Richard Ford (two guests of the first and the 10th edition), the panel of authors invited in Vincennes is worthy of the star track! But Festival America also earned its reputation by allowing the public to discover upcoming talents: Joseph Boyden, Sherman Alexie, Laura Kasischke, Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie, Lionel Shriver, Gary Shteyngart, Philipp Meyer, Lauren Groff and Nicole Krauss... were guests of the Festival before their talent was widely acknowledged.

Every edition stands as proof that Festival America is praised by readers, but is also much anticipated by publishers and journalists as it happens so seldom that such a panel of novelists from across the Atlantic Ocean finds themselves gathered. Festival America's success and French people's interest for America is a cause for surprise even in the United States. In 2004, Sebastian Rotella, then the Paris correspondent of the Los Angeles Times, wrote in an article entitled « What the French love about Americans » : "In fact, the American dream must survive in some fashion if a book festival in France, a bastion of anti-Americanism, can draw 15,000 people to celebrate 50 writers from across the Ocean."

In 2022, Festival AMERICA means 40 000 festival-goers over four days, 300 volunteers, a Friday gathering of some 2000 school children, 40 French and French-speaking publishing houses, a book fair involving 10 independent bookstores, a huge Youth Festival, with activities, literary cafés and book signings, as well as dozens of interpreters and moderators...

60 AUTHORS FROM NORTH AMERICA

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Nana Kwame Adjei-Brenyah
Rumaan Alam
Kathleen Alcott
Mateo Askaripour
Russell Banks (video)
Angeline Boulley
Elaine Castillo
Emma Cline
Ta-Nehisi Coates
Antonia Crane
Natalie Diaz
Jennifer Egan
Louise Erdrich (video)
Richard Ford
Jonathan Franzen
Ryan Gattis
Eddy L. Harris
Nathan Harris
Stephen Graham Jones
Kristiana Kahakauwila
Jake Lamar

Karl Marlantes
Eugene Marten
Armistead Maupin
Joyce Maynard
Jason Mott
Leila Mottley
Matthew Neill Null
Julie Otsuka
Shannon Pufahl
Tiffany Quay Tyson
J. Courtney Sullivan
Brandon Taylor
Viet Thanh Nguyen
Natasha Trethewey
David Treuer
Kawai Strong Washburn
Bryan Washington
David Heska Wanbli Weiden
Margaret Wilkerson Sexton
Kevin Wilson
C Pam Zhang

CANADA

Billy-Ray Belcourt
Michael Christie
Norma Dunning
Terese Marie Mailhot
Katherena Vermette

CANADA QUÉBEC

Antoine Desjardins
Gabrielle Filteau-Chiba
Michel Jean
Kevin Lambert
Catherine Leroux
Sheila Watt-Cloutier

CUBA

Marcial Gala

HAÏTI

Jean D'Amérique
Emmelie Prophète

JAMAÏQUE

Nicole Dennis-Benn

MEXIQUE

Guadalupe Nettel
Eduardo Antonio Parra



RUSSELL BANKS



MICHAEL CHRISTIE



EMMA CLINE



TA-NEHISI COATES



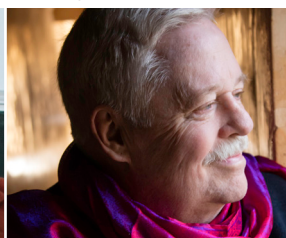
GUADALUPE NETTEL



JEAN D'AMÉRIQUE



RICHARD FORD



ARMISTEAD MAUPIN



JULIE OTSUKA



VIET THANH NGUYEN



NATASHA TRETHEWEY



JONATHAN FRANZEN



JOYCE MAYNARD



LEILA MOTTLEY



NICOLE DENNIS-BENN



LOUISE ERDRICH



KATHERENA VERMETTE



RYAN GATTIS



J. COURTNEY SULLIVAN



ANDRÉ ACIMAN