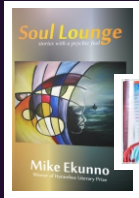
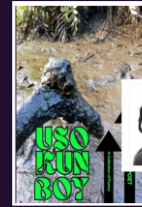
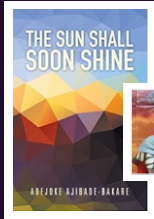
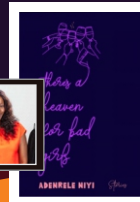
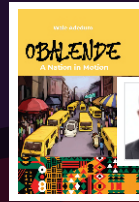
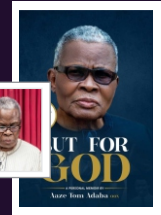
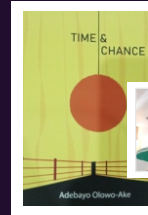


CORA BookTrek



JOY of READING



✉ coralabaf@gmail.com @labaf1 @labaf1
 @facebook.com/LagosBookArtFestival
 @www.lagosbookartfestival.com

Hosted by



Promoted by:



BOOKTREKS @ LABAF

The CORA BOOKTrek is a focal project of the **Committee for Relevant Art (CORA)**. Essentially a book readings and reviews session, it deliberately chooses the text considered most engaging of extant issues in the Nigerian nation and, by extension, the continent of Africa. It is part of CORA's extension services to promoting **READING CULTURE**, deepening **LITERARY APPRECIATION** and **AUDIENCE ENGAGEMENT** with the published text, as well as spreading campaign for **LITERACY** towards boosting citizens' **EDUCATION**, **ENLIGHTENMENT** and **EMPOWERMENT**. In principle, it is designed to achieve CORA's fundamental mission of increasing **HUMAN CAPITAL** capacity of the nation and the continent.

Usually, the BOOKTrek is staged in select Bookstores where chosen text could be seen and bought and the author able to have direct engagement with the public. However, due to the support of Hawthornden Foundation, the **Community Literacy Outreach** variant of

the BOOKTrek was launched in September 2023. This involves the book and the author moving into select communities, which is the birth-meaning of BOOKTrek – the book walking to the people.

Still in its pilot scheme the **CORA BOOKTrek: Community Literacy Outreach (CLO)** is schemed to have two editions per month in different communities. So far four iterations have been held in a planned 6-pronged scheme. In September, the CLO launched out in Lagos Island with Freedom Park as host; then moved to Magodo (Mainland) hosted by Unchained Vibes Africa. In October, it was the turn of Ejigbo (hosted by iRead Foundation), and Shomolu-Bariga axis hosted by Crown Art Factory. The CLO plans to be in Ajegunle and Ikorodu in its next iteration.

However, at the LABAF, the BOOKTrek assumes its traditional character of celebrating the text and the author at the big “Feast of LIFE and IDEA” – as outlined below:

Day 3, WED NOV 15

3 pm: READERS FORUM @1st Floor, Kongi's Harvest Gallery

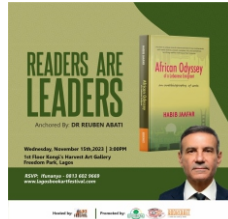
Concept: Joy of Reading

Theme: LEADERS ARE READERS: WHY I READ WHAT I READ

A notable Business Leader in Nigeria's economic space, shares his Literary taste and preferences with the audience.

Feature: Author of *African Odyssey of a Lebanese Immigrant*, **Habib Jafaar**, in conversation with the journalist-writer-public intellectual, **Dr Reuben Abati**.

(Produced by CORA with support of BookCraft Africa)



*5pm: BOOKTREK (1) @CORAVille

Concept: Joy of Reading

Theme: Poetry is Life

➤ *Usokun Boy* (2023)

A collection of poetry that elevates the mentality of a people, inspire the younger generation towards greatness and motivates the youth to become audacious ambassador of his/her village whether small or big.



Otatane-oso Freeman Andrew, who is professionally known as **2'WYTH GBEDUPOET**, is a Spoken Word poet, author, singer, songwriter, photographer, videographer, among other skills. He was born and raised in Usokun, River State.

➤ *Joe's Collectanea* (2023)

An anthology of 31 poems, the author attempts to overview societal norms, by incorporating reality and figures of speech in a standard practice in several of the poems.

Joshua Omeke is a youth of mystical fingers that composes works of poetry as Igor Stravinsky since he has composed masterpieces in almost every topic he had written. Aside writing, he is also a paint artist who draws inspiration from cubism and surrealism.



Special Feature: *Masterclass for young writers on developing skills for literary career by Joshua Omeke*

Day 4, THURS NOV 16

4pm: BOOKTREK (2) @CORA Library & Resource Centre

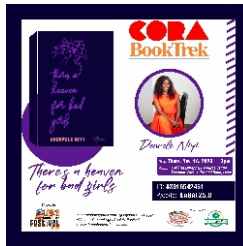
Concept: Joy of Reading

Theme: Stories empowers humanity

➤ **There's a Heaven for Bad Girls**, by Denrele Niyi

A collection of stories of four young women and one young man struggling to carve their own paths in a complex trado-modern Nigerian environment. From the nuanced interplay between individuals and systems, religion and culture, love and desire, to the hopelessness of aborted dreams, the stories in "There's A Heaven for Bad Girls", offer a refreshingly youthful perspective on contemporary social problems.

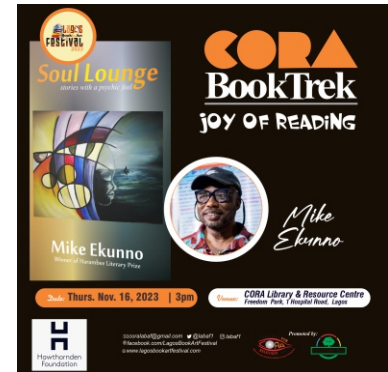
Writer, culture journalist, Denrele's has been, among other roles, an Arts Editor of a newspaper and the Associate Producer for the All Africa Music Awards (AFRIMA). A Nigeria Media Merit Award (NMMA) Entertainment Writer of the Year finalist, she is passionate about people, learning and adventure. She is also a member of the National Institute of Marketing of Nigeria (NIMN).



➤ **Soul Lounge**, by Mike Ekunno

A collection of stories that mirror man in his elements with a strong infusion of the Igbo belief system and cosmology. Fascination with Black feminine mystique remains an on-going quest of many of the stories which are written to be felt not just read with Nigeria's social conundrum all the while providing the stage on which everything plays out.

Winner of the inaugural Harambee Literary Prize, Mike is a freelance book editor and creative writer with vast media experience in print, electronic and online media. He is published in over 50 international literary journals.



DAY 5: FRIDAY NOV. 17

5.30 pm: BOOKTREK (3) @Food Court

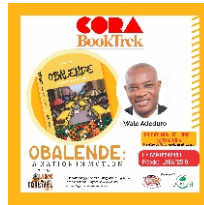
Concept: Joy of Reading

Featuring

➤ **Wale Adeduro: *Obalende: A Nation in Motion***

A creative narrative about the childhood experiences of Affiong, *Obalende* highlights the emotional struggle of the girl child in the over politicised environment of Nigeria. Growing up with little or no care in Obalende, Affiong ended up contacting HIV/Aids as a result of the pressures of living in a one-room apartment which exposed her to several negative influences. Bewildered, she did not know how to get the emotional support she needed from the same society that hijacked her dream.

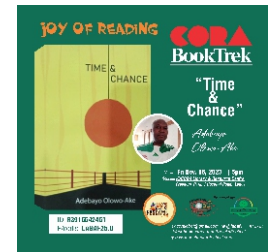
Fondly called Dr. WAO, Dr Adeduro is a writer and an author whose works have been published since 1986 in several newspapers and journals, including *The Guardian*. He has multiple doctorate degrees in Productivity, Christian Education as well as Theology and Philosophy. He is also a Maxwell Leadership Certified Coach, Speaker and Trainer from the USA.



➤ **Bayo OlowoAke: *Time & Change***

Lyonga Damisa, Nigeria's engineering graduate boxer and an electrifying Light Heavyweight hopeful goes up against South Africa's Oscar Malan — the African champion — a traditional pound-for-pound pugilist who has a reputation for taking no prisoners. If all goes well, the impending showdown looks set to become the digital age version of the iconoclastic 'rumble in the jungle' of the mid-1970s. *Time & Chance* is a story of adventure, suspense and drama, then you'd love Adebayo Olowo-Ake's *Time and Chance*.

Adebayo Emmanuel Olowo-Ake holds a Bachelor's degree in Anthropology from the University of Ibadan, as well as a postgraduate degree in History (International Relations) from the University of Lagos. His other works include *Mermaid on the Island Thunder*, *Lightning & Stor*, *Combat Zulu*, and others.



DAY 6: SAT. NOVEMBER 18 (Culture Icons Day)

3.00pm: AUTHOR'S ASSEMBLY @CORAVille

Event: Authors of books that have featured in past CORA's *Community Literacy Outreach* engagement are presented to new audiences attending the festival. Here the contents of the book is further exposed to the general public.

Reading and conversations around

➤ **Dotun Famoriyo: *Better Tomorrow***

Through the experiences of the main character, Dayo, the author reveals the cardinal principles of making it in life. These include having a mental disposition that change is possible, working hard, taking to the counsel of parents and responsible elders and developing a deep relationship with God.

Famoriyo: Aside being a creative writer with remarkable writing skills, Dotun is also Founder and Chairman of Cheetahs Policy Institute, a think tank aimed at promoting the ideas of public policy among the next generations of leaders.



➤ **Nora Sanya: *Dear. Mother***

Dayo has come from a difficult childhood, but nothing much prepares him for the world of uncertainty that life events suddenly hurl him into. **Dear Mother** is the first of the Loving Daddy Series.

Author: Nora Sanya is a Property and Entertainment lawyer with an intense passion for writing and teenagers. She uses the story to address social and cultural issues that affect young people in the society. She also bagged a diploma in education from Tai Solarin University of Education. She lives in Lagos, Nigeria with her family, where she writes and practices.



DAY 7: SUNDAY NOV. 19 (CORA Advocacy Day)

2pm: BOOKTREK @Kongi's Harvest Gallery

Event: CORA VOLUNTEERS' CORPS Converge

Theme: Contemplating the Future

The young literary-culture activists and intellectuals that constitute the **CORA Volunteers Corps, CVC**, engage texts that discourse prospects of Nigeria's future.

Featured Texts:

➤ *Sycamore*, by Betty Zainab

Sycamore questions why people will be allowed to trip and fall; blaming themselves for the greed and selfishness of others, especially when there is a child involved, and adults who should know better.

Poet and writer Betty Zainab Omotola's (Sparkles) works are centred around issues such as abuse, faith, self-discovery, love and mental health. Her poems and short story are featured in *Scratch Poetry Magazine*, *Top 100 Anthology of the Nigerian Students' Poetry Prize (NSPP)* and *AFAS Review*.



➤ *The Sun Shall Soon Shine*, by Adejoke Ajibade—Bakare

The Sun Shall Soon Shine embodies life in its different phases and faces. It sheds a new light on life through the eyes of the author as she glides seamlessly and sometimes sharply through her various life stages. It is a representation of the dreams we all aspire to achieve from the womb, to childhood, as a nation, as individual souls, and through life's palaver.

Author: Poet and newspaper columnist, Adejoke Ajibade-Bakare's Hpassion for poetry was born in 2009 during a transitional phase of her life into motherhood.



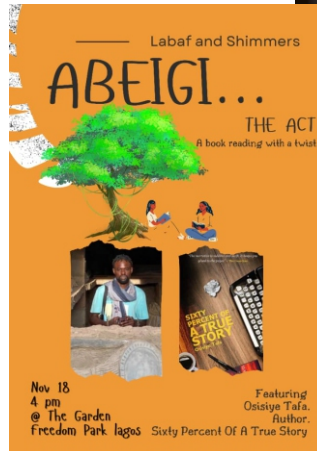
SPECIALS

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 17

4pm: JOY OF READING @The Garden

Concept: ABE-IGI... The Act

The event is curated in the format of theatrical agit-prop – which means that the reading and conversations can happen in unusual spaces. This maiden edition features 'Sixty Percent of a True Story' by Labaf and Shimmers. 'Sixty Percent of a True Story' follows three undergraduates, Osisiye, Korede, and Chris, as they navigate the challenges of university life in Lagos, Nigeria. Osisiye dreams of high grades, while Korede is a depressive introvert. Chris, an internet fraudster, is a staple in Nigeria's urban lore. The story explores personal choices, societal expectations, and the complexities of Lagos.



CORABOOKTREK

ABEIGI... THE ACT
A book reading with a twist.

Osisiye Tafa

Date: Sat. Nov. 18, 2023 | 4pm

Venue: @The Garden
Freedom Park, 1 Hospital Road, Lagos

Produced by:
SHIMMERS

Produced by:
@coralabaf@gmail.com @labaf1 @labaf1
@facebook.com/LagosBookArtFestival
www.lagosbookartfestival.com

Promoted by:
COMMITTEE ON RELEVANT ART
FREEDOM PARK

(Curated by Lucia Ikediashi for Shimmers & CORA)



BOOKTREA
LAGOS CIRCLE OF CRITICS
ARTHOUSE FORUM

ARTS STAMPEDE
COMMITTEE FOR RELEVANT ART
LAGOS THE CITY ARTS GUIDE
CULTURE COM
LAGOS CAL

LABAE

THE Res
History and the Darkling

READERS *are* LEADERS

respect their space



Library & Resource Centre
C/o Freedom Park, 1 Hospital Road, by Broad Street,
Lagos Island | +234 813 602 9669

With support of

