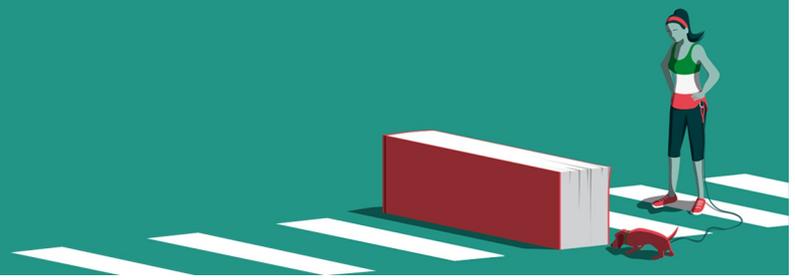


# Festival of Italian Literature in London



## The Festival of Italian Literature in London is back on October 27-28

Last year, an independent literary festival conceived in London by a group of Italians sold out all seats and gathered some 1,500 people. FILL brought prominent Italian, British, and international authors together in a treasured Victorian theatre. This year, the Festival of Italian Literature in London (FILL) is back on **27-28 October** with an even stronger and timely programme.

**FILL – What about it?** The festival is the brainchild of a group of London-based Italian authors, journalists, translators, academics, and publishing professionals. It is Italian in its mind and international by heart, with a curated line-up of voices from different backgrounds discussing literature and politics, migration, translation, contemporary culture. This is a festival of literature and ideas that tries to reflect on the the current political moods in London, in Italy and Europe.

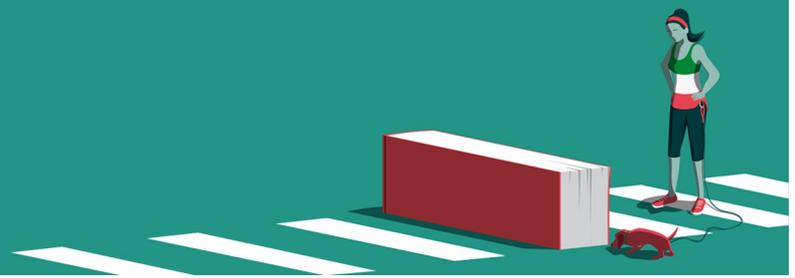
**Communities at stake.** As the Italian community in London faces a double challenge – the uncertainties of Brexit and the illness of Italian democracy – it is no surprise that migration and issues of belonging are at the core of the festival. FILL is a young festival based on a strong sense of community and an enthusiastic network of partners, consultants and supporters. Most importantly, the festival can count on a spectacular multilingual audience. FILL is a cross-cultural event that speaks to the entire community of Londoners, and all events are in English or with English translation provided.

**The programme – FILL 2018.** Two days, 15 events, 40+ speakers and performers, an impressive line-up of award-winning voices and exciting new authors. The festival opens with a panel on the representation of black voices in Italian and British publishing featuring Italian author **Igiaba Scego** and editor **Sharmaine Lovegrove**. A master of Italian literature, Strega Prize winner **Walter Siti**, will discuss how the format of the novel can seize the present with authors **Olivia Laing** (“The Lonely City”) and **Ali Smith**, who wrote the very first “post-Brexit novel”. Historian **Donald Sassoon** will discuss the threat of nationalism in Italy and Europe with philosopher **Lorenzo Marsili** and filmmaker **Annalisa Piras**; Hungarian-born poet **George Szirtes** joins a poetry performance of foreign-born authors living in the UK; **Veronica Raimo** and **Sophie Mackintosh** will talk feminist dystopias. Plus **Paolo Berizzi** from *La Repubblica* and **Joe Mulhall** on new fascist waves; Prix Goncourt winner **Mathias Énard** and Strega Prize winner **Nicola Lagioia** in an extraordinary conversation on the European novel; **Forensic Oceanography** – the affiliate research agency of Forensic Architecture investigating into migrants' deaths in the Mediterranean – will join FILL for a special event. Author **Michela Murgia** in conversation with Booker Prize winner **Ben Okri** on “Postcards from reality”, “The politics of translation”, “London as a second language”, and **Haydn Gwynne** reading from Elena Ferrante to celebrate the upcoming release of the new HBO TV series based on “My brilliant friend”.

**Full programme:** <https://fill.org.uk/events/>

**Where.** FILL takes place at the Coronet Theatre in Notting Hill. Print Room at the Coronet has teamed up with the organisers and with the Italian Cultural Institute in London (co-organiser of the festival) to host the festival sessions in their beautiful spaces (Auditorium, Studio, and Bar).

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**Programme and tickets** are available on the festival's website, <https://fill.org.uk/events/>

**The poster** of the festival is available to download from <https://fill.org.uk/press/>

**Team & partners.** The organising group is coordinated by Marco Mancassola (author) and includes Claudia Durastanti (author and translator), Marco Magini (author), Giorgia Tolfo (publisher), Barbara Barbieri (literary agent), Livia Franchini (author and translator), Leonardo Clausi (journalist and translator), Paolo Nelli (author), Stefano Jossa (Royal Holloway University of London), Angelo Boccato (journalist), Ilaria Albani (bookseller), Severino Antonelli (editor), Arianna Manzin (publishing rights professional), Gemma Trevisani (literary scout), Olga Campofreda (University College London), Eleonora Sammartino (King's College London), Maddalena Vatti (editor) and a network of other volunteers and consultants.

**The Italian Cultural Institute in London**, directed by Marco Delogu, is the official co-organiser of the festival. FILL has been included in the British Council's programme Italy-UK Partners for Culture. Among the other partners of the festival are King's College London and Institut français in London.

## **Contacts:**

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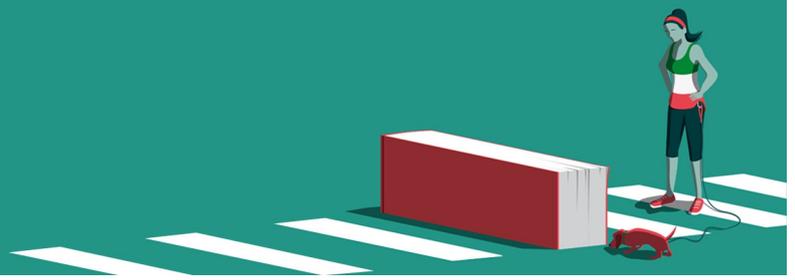
### **Print Room at the Coronet**

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L'INDIPENDENTE

