



For immediate release

The International Festival of Authors presents Toronto Lit Up: *The Unpublished City*

TORONTO, Tuesday, June 13, 2017 – The Toronto Arts Council (TAC), the International Festival of Authors (IFOA) and BookThug are proud to announce the release of *The Unpublished City* as part of the Toronto Lit Up book launch series.

The Unpublished City is an anthology of prose and poetry from Toronto's emerging writers curated by Dionne Brand—chair of the Toronto Lit Up committee, Canadian poet, novelist, essayist, and Toronto's third Poet Laureate from 2009 to 2012.

This project was designed to provide a unique opportunity for Toronto-based writers to feature their previously unpublished work. In the process, *The Unpublished City* became a captivating collection of voices from eighteen of Toronto's up-and-coming literary talents.

"I am so struck by these young and exciting writers living in the city, lending the city a new energy and a bigger imagination. They are telling the stories of the many and intricate worlds of the city," said Brand.

Join us at the launch of *The Unpublished City* for an evening of celebration. This FREE event takes place on Thursday, June 22nd at 7:30pm at Harbourfront Centre's Lakeside Terrace.

The participating writers are: Diana Biacora, David Bradford, Nicole Chin, Simone Dalton, Dalton Derkson, Doyali Islam, Laboni Islam, Ian Kamau, Adnan Khan, Shoilee Khan, Canisia Lubrin, Sofia Mostaghimi, Nadia Ragbar, Rudrapriya Rathore, Sanchari Sur, Katheryn Wabegijig, Phoebe Wang and Chuqiao Yang.



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LIT UP



Toronto Lit Up is a three year initiative, spearheaded by the TAC and the IFOA, designed to spotlight Toronto's writers and empower local artists with career-building opportunities. For more information, please visit <http://.ifoa.org/toronto-lit-up>.

Toronto Arts Council (TAC) is the City of Toronto's funding body for artists and arts organizations. Since 1974, TAC has played a major role in the city's cultural industries by supporting a very broad range of artistic activity. From the emerging artist to the most established, from celebrated institutions to arts that challenge convention, TAC is typically the first funder to offer support. Today, TAC grants lead to exhibitions, performances, readings, and workshops seen annually by over 7.5 million people.

Since its inception in 1974, **the International Festival of Authors (IFOA)** has hosted over 9,000 authors from more than 100 countries, including 22 Nobel Laureates. Our season runs from September to June and includes the annual International Festival of Authors (October 19-29, 2017), IFOA Ontario, IFOA Weekly and the annual ALOUD: a Celebration for Young Readers with Forest of Reading Festival of Trees. IFOA's Toronto Lit Up programme runs year-round.

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