

MEDIA RELEASE

SPRING SEASON OF TORONTO LIT UP BOOK LAUNCHES AND NEW CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS ANNOUNCED BY TIFA

Toronto, April 1, 2022 – Today, the **Toronto International Festival of Authors (TIFA)** announced the **Spring 2022 Season of Toronto Lit Up**, a joint initiative with **Toronto Arts Council** to spotlight Toronto writers, and also **opened the call for submissions for the programme’s next season**. The Spring Season, taking place now through to June, will feature digital and in-person events that celebrate the launch of eight new books by nine local authors/illustrators.

The selected authors and books for the Spring 2022 Season are:

- **Mahak Jain** and **Anu Chouhan** (Illustrator), *Bharatanatyam in Ballet Shoes* (Annick Press)
- **Robert McGill**, *Suitable Companion for the End of Your Life* (Coach House Books)
- **Neil Besner**, *Fishing With Tardelli: A Memoir of Family in Time Lost* (ECW Press)
- **Terri Favro**, *The Sisters Sputnik* (ECW Press)
- **Adrienne Todd**, *City of Sensors* (Now Or Never Publishing)
- **S.L. Klassen**, *Menno-Nightcaps: Cocktails Inspired by that Odd Ethno-Religious Group You Keep Mistaking for the Amish, Quakers Or Mormons* (TouchWood Editions)
- **Margaret DeRosia**, *Eight Strings* (Simon & Schuster)
- **Sonya Singh**, *Sari, Not Sari* (Simon & Schuster)

As of today, the call for submissions is open for the next season of Toronto Lit Up, which will take place between July 2022 and March 2023. This is an extended season, taking into account that many book launches were delayed during the past two years as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. Torontonians who will be published authors within the season dates, and their publicists, are invited to apply to the programme for book launch support. Submissions will be accepted between April 1 and 30, 2022. For eligibility details and submission instructions, please visit FestivalofAuthors.ca/Toronto-Lit-Up.

“Toronto Lit Up is a valuable initiative that gives Toronto writers the spotlight they deserve, providing them with much needed resources to celebrate and promote their accomplishments after publishing a book. Toronto Arts Council is pleased to partner with TIFA as we salute the nine authors/ illustrators for the spring season, and we look forward to new and exciting submissions in the future.” – **Claire Hopkinson, Director & CEO, Toronto Arts Council** and **Toronto Arts Foundation**.

“Toronto has an abundance of sparkling literary talent and we are delighted to present some of it this spring through Toronto Lit Up. We are also very much looking forward to seeing new books submitted for Toronto Lit

Up's fall season. It is always exciting, in often wonderfully surprising ways, to see how Torontonians represent the world and the times through their strong, vivid writing. Whether they're debut authors or established in their genre, we are proud to support Toronto authors by bringing their work to wider audiences." – **Ayesha Chatterjee, Toronto Lit Up committee member.**

All submissions will be reviewed by the Toronto Lit Up Committee, composed of **Ayesha Chatterjee** (past president, League of Canadian Poets), **Alison Jones** (*Quill and Quire*) and **Hazel Millar** (Literary Press Group).

For event listings and details, visit FestivalofAuthors.ca/Toronto-Lit-Up. As always, Toronto Lit Up events are open to the public and free to attend.

Toronto Lit Up is produced with the support of the City of Toronto through the Toronto Arts Council.

ABOUT TORONTO LIT UP

Toronto Lit Up is a multi-year initiative, started in 2016 by the Toronto International Festival of Authors and Toronto Arts Council, to spotlight Toronto writers and empower local artists with career-building opportunities. Between April 2016 and January 2022, Toronto Lit Up has produced 128 events to launch 152 books by 226 Toronto authors. Launches are always open to the public and free to attend.

ABOUT THE TORONTO INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL OF AUTHORS (TIFA)

The Toronto International Festival of Authors (TIFA) inspires, empowers and connects through the art of stories, offering book lovers a breadth of bold, ambitious and accessible literary experiences. As Canada's largest literary festival, the charitable organization provides engaging opportunities to meet, hear and learn from the world's best contemporary writers and thinkers. Since 1974, TIFA has presented thousands of authors, including 22 Nobel Laureates, who represent diverse perspectives and a range of literary genres for all ages. TIFA's creative programmes continue to adapt to changing times, capturing the most innovative and enlightening forms of storytelling, on stage and online. Based at Harbourfront Centre, TIFA delivers a year-round programme of events and activities that reflect Toronto to its residents, its literature to the nation and its creative ambition to the world. TIFA will hold its first crime and mystery festival June 3–5, 2022. The 43rd edition of TIFA's flagship festival will take place September 22 – October 2, 2022. Visit FestivalofAuthors.ca for more.

TIFA is grateful for the support of the Government of Canada – Department of Canadian Heritage; the Canada Council for the Arts; the Government of Ontario – Ontario Ministry of Heritage, Sport, Tourism and Culture Industries; the Ontario Arts Council; the Toronto Arts Council; and Ontario Creates, as well as the generosity of its donors.

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