

## July Newsletter 2008

Hi all,

I hope you're all enjoying the sunshine! At THE SOUTH we're coming to the end of our **Write Club Training** workshop season and things are quietening down. We've got this month a two-week workshop on the use of plot with the brilliant poet and novelist Anthony Joseph, and to round the season off we will have a one day workshop with Catherine Smith on finishing your work. Details are on our website: [www.thesouth.org.uk](http://www.thesouth.org.uk). The Brighton Writers' Centre is also available to hire for your own workshops and as a writing or meeting space, so if you're in need of a **room to hire** do have a look online.

If you're short of space to write, on the same note, THE SOUTH is opening up its workshop space at Brighton Writers' Centre this month for local writers. The first **Writing Room** will open for the day on **Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> July**. You can come use the new creative space at the Centre to write, to work, or simply to meet other writers and get the chance to talk shop: a wise option if you're a little short of rooms of your own... Have a look below for more details, or check out the website!

Also this month sees the launch of a new anthology of writing, from emerging queer-identified writers in the South East, by our sister organisation Queer Writing South. Tickets for this **Queer Writing South Launch Party** are free. *Whoosh!*, the anthology, is the product of a year-long project, working with a group of new writers from around the region. A mix of poetry and prose, it will be launched at Cella at the Sanctuary Café on Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> July, with readings from anthology contributors, music from Al Start, DJs and guest poetry from the marvellous Jay Bernard. To find out more, and to check out Queer Writing South, go to [www.thesouth.org.uk/queerwritingsouth.html](http://www.thesouth.org.uk/queerwritingsouth.html)

For information about all our activities and opportunities for your greater involvement please see our website [www.thesouth.org.uk](http://www.thesouth.org.uk) or if you have any other questions give Cara or me a call.

Best wishes

Nathan O'Donnell  
Co-ordinator & Project Manager  
[nathan@thesouth.org.uk](mailto:nathan@thesouth.org.uk)

**CONTENTS**  **PROJECTS**  **EVENTS**  **WORKSHOPS AT THE SOUTH**  **OTHER NEWS**

**PROJECTS**

### Writing Room

Come use the new creative space at Brighton Writers' Centre this summer to write, to work, or simply to meet other writers and get the chance to talk shop. THE SOUTH is opening up its workshop space this summer for writers to come, for a morning, an afternoon, a whole day, and get your writing in gear. The Brighton Writers' Centre is a great creative space, and the wise option if you're a little short of rooms of your own; you can get down to work and focus in our quiet zone, or break out and compare notes and network in our social area. We'll provide you with free tea and coffee as well as access to information about local writing events, competitions and festivals. We've got reading materials and WiFi access too. And pens. And paper, should you happen to run out...

Pilot day: Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> July, 10 am – 12.30 pm and 12.30 pm – 3 pm. £10 per session or £15 for the whole day. To reserve a place call 01273 571700 or email [nathan@thesouth.org.uk](mailto:nathan@thesouth.org.uk)

### **The High Weald Forest Ridge Project**

Are you a creative writer based around the area of the Weald Forest Ridge, bordered by Tunbridge Wells, Crowborough, Uckfield, Horsham and Crawley? Or have you found this area, the old forest areas in particular (St Leonards, Worth, Ashdown and Waterdown), a source for your ideas? An inspiration? We are currently seeking, as part of a long term creative writing project in this area, to make contact with local writers and those whose work has been generated out of the Forest Ridge. If you'd like to get in touch please email Nathan at: [nathan@thesouth.org.uk](mailto:nathan@thesouth.org.uk)

### **Creating the Map**

As part of our LIPS (local information providers) initiative we are creating a unique 'map' of all poetry groups, circles and collectives in the south of England. We want to find out where and when you meet, what you do, if you have a 'house style' and any other details you can give us. Please get in touch and tell us about what you're doing. Email Tom Cunliffe at [tom@thesouth.org.uk](mailto:tom@thesouth.org.uk). We'll be doing the same for other writers in due course

## **□ EVENTS**

### **Whoosh!: Queer Writing South Anthology Launch, Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> July, 7.30 pm, Cella at the Sanctuary Café, East Brunswick Street**

A collection of work will be launched in July from emerging queer-identified writers in the South East region. The anthology is the product of a year-long Queer Writing South project: an innovative mix of new poetry and prose edited by renowned Brighton based poets John McCullough and Maria Jastrzemska. It will be launched during Brighton and Hove Pride, on Tuesday 29th July at the Cella Bar at the Sanctuary in Brighton. The launch party will involve readings from anthology contributors and editors, as well as some live music. Admission is free. For further details please go to: [www.thesouth.org.uk/queerwritingsouth.html](http://www.thesouth.org.uk/queerwritingsouth.html)

### **Hammer & Tongue, Rising Styles Hip-Hop Special, Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> July, 8 pm at the Komedia**

With guests from the cutting edge of the UK and international hip-hop scene. Featuring Mud Sun, GMB (Rotterdam's hip-hop genius) and internationally acclaimed poet Zena Edwards ; Canada's Baba Brinkman; & our very own Dizraeli (UK National Poetry Slam Champ; Radio 4 Slam Champ: Bad Science vocalist). Plus Hammer & Tongue MC's open slam - sign up early!

### **Short Fuse, Slings and Arrows, Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> July, 8.30 pm at the Komedia**

Smarting from the wounds of Daily Existence? Fed up with the whims of Outrageous Fortune? Come hear our World Class Ranters, Ravers and Crowd Pleasers Read bitter tales of open sores and cold dished revenge... Studio Bar, Komedia. Doors 8.30 pm. £4. (Submissions for reading welcome – between 50 and 3,000 words.) Contact: [shortfusestories@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:shortfusestories@yahoo.co.uk)

### **Tight Lip, Sunday 20 July, 5pm at the Hotel Pelirocco, 10 Regency Square**

With Cathi Unsworth (*The Not Knowing*, *The Singer*). Ex-rock-journalist Cathi Unsworth has explored the Soho of the human heart in two novels and a number of short stories. In the appropriate setting of the Hotel Pelirocco's punk-rock-inspired bar, Cathi will debut her short story 'Sheena is a Punk Rocker', part of a forthcoming anthology of stories based on Ramones song titles, to be published by Serpent's Tail. Support from Clara Kindle and The Hammett Story Agency. FREE EVENT. See [www.tightlip.co.uk](http://www.tightlip.co.uk)

**Little Green Pig Writing Project, every Tuesday, Brighton Youth Centre, Edward Street**

Got a story to tell? Come to the Little Green Pig Writing Project to tell some tales, pen some poems and share some stories. 4 – 5 pm for Piglets (7 – 11 years).

5.15 – 6.15 pm for Saddlebacks (12+). £1 a session. For more information contact: [littlegreenpig@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:littlegreenpig@yahoo.co.uk) or go to [www.littlegreenpig.org.uk](http://www.littlegreenpig.org.uk)

**□ WRITE CLUB TRAINING  
WRITING WORKSHOPS AT THE SOUTH**

**The King Died, the Queen Died: Understanding Plot with Anthony Joseph, Saturdays 12<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> July, 12 – 3 pm at Brighton Writers' Centre**

£32/£30 concs, Friends of THE SOUTH £30/£28 concs.

Plot at times takes on a mysterious quality. This workshop aims to dispel the myths and to show the universality of plotting in storytelling. Participants will work individually and in groups, examining the relationship of characterisation to plot, generating stories and taking part in writing exercises which will develop suspense and tension in their fiction.

**Anthony Joseph** is a Trinidadian born poet, novelist, lecturer and musician who has been described as 'the leader of the black avant-garde in Britain.' His publications include *Desafinado* (1994), *Teragaton* (1997) and *The African Origins of UFOs* (Salt, 2006). In 2004 he was chosen by the Arts Council as one of 50 black and Asian writers who have made major contributions to contemporary British literature, appearing in the historic 'Great Day' photograph. He was also the British Council's first poet in residence at California State University. He performs internationally and lectures in creative writing at Birkbeck and Goldsmiths College, University of London where he is completing a PhD.

**Endgame with Catherine Smith, Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> August, 10 am - 4 pm at Brighton Writers' Centre**

£32/£30 concs, Friends of THE SOUTH £30/£28 concs.

You've come this far with your narrative...so why is the ending proving so difficult and unsatisfactory? In this practical and supportive workshop, we'll look at some of the problems presenting themselves when writing the final part of a short story or novel, and, discussing narrative structure in general different types of endings in particular, and also looking at several examples from published work, explore practical strategies for writing satisfying and resonant endings. Please bring work in progress plus a brief synopsis/summary if you're working on a novel and be prepared to share your work and your ideas!

**Catherine Smith** writes prose, poetry and drama. She has published three collections of poetry, *The New Bride*, *The Butcher's Hands* and *Lip*. Catherine has been listed as one of the 'Next Generation' poets by the Poetry Book Society/Guardian and her short stories and drama has appeared in various anthologies and on Radio 4. She is also a highly experienced creative writing tutor and teaches at universities and schools in the region.

**For further details or to sign up for any of these workshops go to [www.thesouth.org.uk](http://www.thesouth.org.uk) or alternatively if you have any questions get in touch. Call 01273 571700 or email: [nathan@thesouth.org.uk](mailto:nathan@thesouth.org.uk)**

□ OTHER NEWS

**THE SOUTH on Facebook**

THE SOUTH has now got its own page on Facebook. Keep in touch, get updates about our new events and workshops and link up with our network of writers in the region. Check it out at: [www.facebook.com/home.php?#/pages/Brighton-United-Kingdom/The-South/9416885843](http://www.facebook.com/home.php?#/pages/Brighton-United-Kingdom/The-South/9416885843)

**Creative Non-fiction Writer's Retreat in the Heart of Rural Sussex: Sept 3-4 2008**

Day long workshops are available to schools and the retreat is also suitable for team building weekends or for advanced foreign students of English. Have a look at the website at [thehouseparty.blogspot.com](http://thehouseparty.blogspot.com)

**Call for Poetry Submissions for The Stony Thursday Book**

The Stony Thursday Book is calling for submissions from local, national and international poets for the next issue which will be published in Limerick, Ireland, as part of Cuise International Poetry Festival on 16<sup>th</sup> October 2008. This year's editor is Thomas McCarthy. Closing date for submissions is **August 8<sup>th</sup> 2008**. When submitting poems, write your name and address on each page. Send poems to: The Arts Service, Limerick City Council, City Hall, Merchant's Quay, Limerick City Ireland. Further information from: The Arts Service. Email: [artsoffice@limerickcity.ie](mailto:artsoffice@limerickcity.ie) or telephone 00353 61 407363.

**Escalator 2008: Live Literature**

Escalator 2008: Live Literature has now been launched. The writing talent scheme for the East of England will this year focus on live literature (performance poetry, spoken word, story telling, cross art form work in which the spoken word leads - anything that makes the written word live). Five writers/performers living in the East of England will be selected and will work with one of our five mentors to create their own one person live literature show. They will be guided through an Arts Council England Grants for the Arts bid to support their work and be offered places on a series of professional development workshops with stars of the live literature scene. Deadline for entries is **31<sup>st</sup> July 2008**. Full details can be found on the New Writing Partnership website: [www.newwritingpartnership.org.uk/escalator](http://www.newwritingpartnership.org.uk/escalator)

**Shedworld**

Launch of the new blog from Shedman, as part of National Shed Week, 4<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> July. Go to [www.shedman.net](http://www.shedman.net) - what do you do in your shed?



If you'd rather not receive this newsletter and updates from THE SOUTH, email us and let us know at: [takemeoff@thesouth.org.uk](mailto:takemeoff@thesouth.org.uk)