

Redsea Cultural Foundation with Partners

*Presents* Bandhigga Caalamiga ah ee Buugaagta Hargeysa

8th Hargeysa  
International  
Book Fair

1st - 6th  
August

Gulaid Hotel



[www.redsea-online.com/dhaxalreeb](http://www.redsea-online.com/dhaxalreeb)

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# The Programme



## SATURDAY 1st AUGUST

08.30-9.30 - Opening session

Authorities, Welcome message, Opening speech:

*Edna Adan Ismail*

*Salute from Minister of Information, National Guidance and Culture*



## 9.30.00-10.30 – Panel on SPACES: The theme of the year

In this session panellists will discuss the theme of this year's festival from various angles informed by their own personal experiences, and their academic and professional experiences. Edna Adan, a passionate leader, multi-awarded social activist who dedicated a whole life to support through a hospital focused on care of women and children, will



introduce the theme from her perspective as a health worker and a campaigner for human rights. She will be joined by Sheekh Mohamoud Dalmar (eminent scholar) and Amina-Milgo Mahamud (celebrated rights activist). Finally, Hoodo-Ayaan Suldaan and Mahamed Omar will reflect on the theme SPACES and what it means for young Somalilanders.



Facilitator: **Quman Akli**

### 10.30-11.00 - Book display – buying and browsing available books



### 12.00-1300– Exhibitions

Touring through the multiple photo exhibitions: All that remains - Hargeysa is a grave site and Flowers of Hargeysa by Alison Barkerville (UK), Portrait by Samira Al Baroud, UNICEF Photo Exhibition by Kate Holt(UK-Kenya),Hargeysa International Book Fair by Kate Stanworth (UK),Paintings and drawings (Bahja M Duale and Nagib Arab Ibrahim (Somaliland)

Facilitator:  
**Mustafa Saeed**



## 16.00-17.00 - 1 year later:Hargeysa Cultural Centre Tour and Art Gallery Launch

In less than a year the Hargeysa Cultural Centre has established itself as an important cultural and intellectual hub in Somaliland. The staff of the HCC is proud to present new activities planned for the upcoming year and to launch the new display at the art gallery.

Facilitator: **Staff of the HCC**



## 17.00-18.00 – Panel on “Conservation of ancient Islamic manuscripts in Somaliland.”

As in other regions of Sub Saharan Africa, the Horn has a rich written literary tradition produced by the different communities and peoples of the area. This written literature parallels and intermingles with the oral literature representing another fascinating manifestation of the culture of the Horn. This panel will focus on the current situation in Somaliland and share ongoing research activities on the subject.

Alessandro Gori (University of Copenhagen), Dr. Michele Petrone (University of Florence) and JamaMusseJama (Hargeysa Cultural Center).

Chair: **Ahmed I Awale**



## 19.30-20.30 - Book presentation

“Geeljire iyo Aqoonjire”, Maxamuud Axmed Cali, 1903-1983. Translated and edited by Maxamed Axmed Caynaanshe. Maxamuud Axmed Cali was the man known also as the father of modern Somali education. This book is based on his biography written in the Arabic language by Ibraahim Mahamoud Ahmed and translated and edited by Maxamed Axmed Caynaanshe. With the editor, the book will be presented by Maxamed Jaamac Kayd (poet), Ambassador Yuusuf Gaydh (former student of Maxamoud Axmed Cali), and scholars Rashiid Sheekh Cabdillaahi, Siciid Jaamac Xuseen.

Chair: **Cabdishakuur Xaaji Muxumed Muuse (Heersare)**



20.30-21.30 –Riwaayad aamusan / Silent Play by playwright and director  
Cabdiraxmaan Yuusuf Cartan





Women have been playing an important role in Contributing processes of development democracy, rule of law and peace-building in Somaliland. However, in recent years overall women's political participation in Somaliland has not been significantly improved remains very low compared to the number of men in decision making bodies at all levels. This panel examines the reasons behind the low political participation of women despite female voters making up the largest electorate in the country. What are the structural barriers preventing women from competing in elections? How do negative attitudes and portrayal of women in public life shape their chances of success? What kinds of reforms -legal, social and institutional - are needed to create a fair playing field and help advance access for women in politics?

Join Eritrean-born British journalist and curator Hannah Pool in conversation with the following distinguished guests:

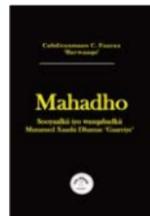


Her Excellency Shukri Ismail Bandare, Minister of Environment; Her Excellency Samsam Abdi Adan, Minister of Finance; and Amina-Milgo Warsame, a long-time activist and researcher. These three guests will present their priceless

experiences as they jointly reflect on their own political careers and how more doors can be opened for women to participate in politics.

### 11.30-12.30 - Book launch:

"Mahado: Waxqabadii Maxamed Xaashi Dhamac "Gaariye". Mahadho – this publications looks at the life journey and literary work of "Gaariye", edited by Abdiraxmaan C. F. "Barwaaqo" of Gaariye School of Languages, University of Hargeysa.

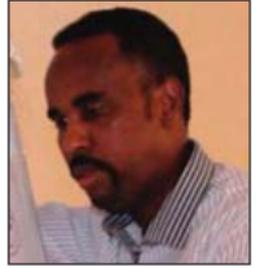


Chair: **Maxamed Xirsi Guuleed**

## 16.00-17.00 - New Books

Sayid Axmed M Yuusuf and Cabdillaahi Cawed Cige will present new books published in Somaliland and elsewhere. Check the list of titles from the notice board.

Facilitators: **Sayid Axmed M Yuusuf and Cabdillaahi Cawed Cige.**



## 17.00-17.30 – Reflections:

Siciid Jaamac Xuseen, “The essence of the HIBF, the choice of themes, the relationship between these themes”. This event will explore the objectives and aspirations of the Hargeysa International Book Fair. What is the essence of the BookFair? How have the themes been identified over the years and what are their underlying messages and linkages?

Siciid Jaamac is the author of several books, including *Shufbeel* and *Safar aan jiho lahayn*. As the lead translator of Anthon Chekhov, he was instrumental in bringing classical titles to Somali speaking audiences.

Facilitator: **Maxamed Xirsi Guuleed**



## 17.30-18.00–Reflections:

Rashiid Sheekh Cabdillaahi 'Gadhweyne' "Spaces: why is this our theme of the year?" Rashiid 'Gadhweyne' is an esteemed scholar, social scientist and literary critic and Chairman for the War Crimes Investigation Commission in Hargeysa, Somaliland. His most recent book published by RedSea as part of the Cursiyo Series is entitled Aduuniyo Taladii, and explores the themes of freedom, tolerance, righteousness and equality, in which he considers their normative and ethical foundations in the Somali context. He has also recently edited a collection entitled 'War and Peace: An Anthology of Somali literature'.

Facilitator: **Cabdillaahi Cawed Cige**



## 19.30 - 21.00: Whose Somaliland is it?

War, peace, displacement, return, destruction and recovery; Somaliland's recent history is one filled with seismic events. However, there is limited reflection on how this turbulent history has impacted the lives of women in Somaliland. Their experiences, sacrifices and stories are however not forgotten. We ask how the birth of a new democratic state has touched the lives of women. Have there been unfulfilled promises? What does it really mean to be a woman or girl in present day Somaliland?

Join Dr. Siham Riyaale, Faduma Bihi, and prominent disability rights activist who lost both her legs after stepping on a mine, Hibo Salah, the first female to be ranked Major in the Somaliland Police Force and others join our panel to reflect on their experiences and on the dynamic role of women in Somali society.

Chair: **Zahra Jibriel**



## 21.00-21.30 – WOW- Hargeysa:

Readings and performances: Sahrallays, SahraHalgan.

**MONDAY 3rd AUGUST**

**8:30-9:30 - Intergeneration talk: carving spaces for the next generation - Girls, future and leadership**



Hibo Jama will be in conversation with Nadifa Mohamed, an acclaimed British novelist of Somaliland heritage; Muna Ahmed Omar, a young female writer; Hawo Jama Abdi, a young female poet and a disability rights activist who was born blind; and Yasmin M. Kahin, playwright, and a poet. Together they will explore generational changes in women's writing, the importance of controlling one's own narrative and the importance of role models in inspiring the next generation of leaders.



**09.30-10.00- Keynote by the first lady of Somaliland: Amina Mahamud Jirde**



Her Excellency Amina Mahamud Jirde, first lady of Somaliland is a vocal proponent on women's issues in Somaliland. She graduated from Burao Girls School, before moving to London with her children. Once in London, she completed her higher studies and worked for a number of public sector organizations, her most prominent role being the Deputy of Head of the Refugee Council in the UK.

Chair: **Her Excellence Rakia H Duale**

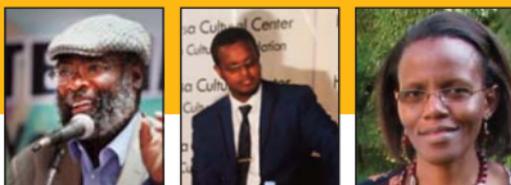
**10.00-10.30 –Closing remarks from Jude Kelly, Artistic Director of Southbank Centre, London, and founder of the WOW - Women of the World festival movement**



Jude Kelly was appointed Artistic Director of Southbank Centre, Britain's largest cultural institution, in 2006. She founded Solent People's Theatre and Battersea Arts Centre, and was the founding director of the West Yorkshire Playhouse. In 1997, she was awarded

an OBE for her services to theatre, and in 2015 she was made a CBE in the New Year's Honours for services to the Arts. She has directed over 100 productions; from the Royal Shakespeare Company to the Châtelet in Paris. Jude is a member of the London Cultural Strategy Group, and was part of the Cultural Olympiad which was responsible for the ongoing framework for delivering the creative, cultural and educational aspects of London's Olympic and Paralympic Games in 2012. In 2011, Jude created WOW, the Women of the World Festival, which is now in its 5th year at Southbank Centre and has grown to be a movement, with festivals happening in 15 countries across.

**10.15 – 11.30 Poetry reading:  
Phyllis Muthoni and  
MpaliveMsiska**



Chair: **Barkhad M. Kariye**

**11.30- 12.30 - Panel: The guest country – Nigeria**



Nigeria is fittingly the country of focus for this year's festival. With over five hundred languages and ethnic nations, Nigeria is home to not just one in four Africans, but also one in four African ethnic nations. With a world famous cultural history stretching from the Fifth Century BC, through the Nok, Ife, Oyo, Benin, Bornu and Igbo Ukwu among others, Nigeria is also home to a contemporary foment of creativity, demonstrated in her vibrant arts, music, film and literature which is recognized not just in Africa but around the world. At the same time, critical challenges face this vibrant country. Guest artists from Nigeria will share their scholarly and creative insight on how the country's political, cultural and social spaces can respond to the aspirations of the largest nation in Africa.

Chair: **Rashid Garuf**



15.00 – 15.30

Focus on new books published by the members of regional readers clubs, who will read together



Chair: **Adnan S. Hagoog**



16.00-17.00 - The life, poetry and legacy of CilmiBoodheri

This panel will examine how Somali oral and written literature describes love and has been inspired by the legacy of Cilmi Boodhari. Panellists include Rashiid Maxamed Shabeelle, author of “Ma dhabbaa jacalayl waa loo dhintaa” [Is it true people die of love] (1975, second edition 2015); Maxamed Xirsi Guuleed, author of “Cilmi Boodhari iyo Caashaqiisii” [Cilmi Boodhari and his love]; and Idris Yousouf Elmi, translator of “Cilmi Boodheri: L'histoire d'un amour absolu” [the story of absolute love] (by Abdriscid Ismail Mahamed).



Chair: **Maxamuud Cabdi Cali Ducaale**



## 17.00-18.00 – Meeting the author: In conversation with Hannah Pool

British–Eritrean writer and journalist and author of “My Fathers' Daughter”, will speak with Quman Akli about her book.

Chair: **Quman Akli**



## 19.30-20.30 – Meeting the author: In conversation with OkeyMdibe

Novelist, political columnist, and essayist, Okey Mdibe is the author of Arrows of Rain among the others and he will speak to Maimouna Jallow about his recent literary works.



Chair: **Maimouna Jallow**



## 20.30-21.30 – Meeting the author: Faarax Gaamuute, introduced by Rashiid Sh. Abdillahi

Farah is a writer and poet and literary scholar based in Canada, who has spent many years researching metrical structure of Somali poetry, which culminated in publication of his latest book “Coming of age: an Introduction to Somali Metrics” published by Redsea. Farah Gamuuteis currently working with Redsea Cultural Foundation on a study on concordance list of poetry of Mohamed Ibraahim Warsame “Hadraawi”.

Chair: **Cumar Cali Xasan “Serbia”**



## TUESDAY 4th AUGUST

### 08.30-09.15 – Meeting the author: In conversation with Jonny Steinberg.

Jonny South African writer and scholar, and Associate Professor in African Criminology at Oxford University. He will launch his most recent book, *A Man of Good Hope*, and will speak to Zahra Ahmed about his impressions after the publication of this touching story.



Chair: **Zahra Ahmed**

### 09.15-10.00 – Meeting the writer: In conversation with Michaela Maria

Michaela was born in Dachau, Germany in 1974 where she grew up on a dairy farm. She worked as a bookseller in New York and Munich. She studied history and politics at Humboldt University, Berlin. Since 2006 she has been working as a journalist for German newspapers *Sueddeutsche Zeitung* and *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*. Her first novel “*Amaal and Sameer*” is the story of a young Somali couple. She will speak to Hannah Pool about her book.

Chair: **Hannah Pool**

### 10.00-10.45 - Meet the Author: Chuma Nkolowo

This session will explore in greater depth the work of Chuma Nkolowo (*Memories of Stone*, *The Ghost of Sani Abacha*) and the lawyer behind the work. Ciku Kimeria will ask him about his upcoming works.



Chair: **Ciku Kimeria**

### 11.00-12.30 - Reading by Said Salah, poet and playwright.

Said Salah, playwright, poet, educator and filmmaker, will read from his upcoming collection of short stories.

Chair - **Barkhad M Kariye**



### 15.00-15.45 Readers Clubs Meeting

Facilitator: **BerberaReaders' Club**

## 16.00–17.00 Meet the Author. Ciku Kimeria

Co-author of “Of goats and poisoned oranges: more surprises than Thika road” with a presentation of her latest literary work.



Chair: **Nimo Jirdeh**

## 17.00-17.40 - Meet the Writer: In Conversation with Maimouna Jallow:

The collector of Stories: Writer and curator of the Ancient Tales of East Africa. Maimouna Jallow will speak with BBC journalist Mary Harper about the gift of stories and the importance of preserving traditional oral stories.



Chair: **Mary Harper**

## 17.40-18.10 - Meet the artist: In conversation with Benjamin Dix

Benjamin Dix is a professional photographer and PhD candidate in Anthropology. Creator of “Meet the Somalis” a collection of 14 illustrated stories depicting the real-life experiences of Somalis in seven cities in Europe; he will share his recent publication and his upcoming works with the audience.

Chair: **Hannah Pool**

## 17.40-18.10 - Report presentation

Somali Women & Peace: Creating conditions for a Gender just Peace - a new Oxfam research written by Dr. Siham Rayale.



## 19.30-20.30 – Xasan Xaaji Cabdillaahi “Ganey”.

Get know Xasan Ganey through the imaginary of his plays, single songs and long list of poetry. He will read from his upcoming book “Bad macaan”, edited by Cabdiraxmaan C. F. “Barwaaqo”.



Chair: **Cabdiraxmaan C. F. “Barwaaqo”**

## 20.30-21.30

Somaliland Civil Society Organization invite guests of the Hargeysa International Book Fair to welcome dinner.

Facilitator: **SONSAF**



**WEDNESDAY, 5th AUGUST**

**08.30-09.30 Joe**

Joe Addo is a renowned architect born in Ghana, West Africa who trained at the Architectural Association in London. He worked in Finland, UK and USA before setting up his own practice in Los Angeles in 1991. He was a founding partner of the A + D Museum in Los Angeles, whose mission is to advance knowledge and to enable people to understand and appreciate architecture and design. He moved back to his native country Ghana in 2004 where he is the CEO of Constructs R+D, an innovative (TM) research and Development Company and Chairman of ArchiAfrika Foundation an organization that is broadening the discourse on Africa's built environment to encompass the role of socio-cultural design inspired development.



Joe will be working with group of young Somaliland architects to reflect on the physical spaces of African cities, and particularly how the spaces in Somaliland cities are in transformation.

**09.30-10.30 Things fall apart – the book by Chinua Achebe.**

Bringing together leading scholars, Professor Niyi Osundare (New Orleans University, USA), Dr Mpalive-Hangson Msiska (Birkbeck, University of London) and Chuma Nkolowo (poet and writer and editor of African Writing Magazine), the panel will discuss the seminal novel "Things Fall Apart" (1958) by the Nigerian writer Chinua Achebe and its literary, historical and political significance.



**Panellists:** Mpalive-Hangson Msiska, Niyi Osundaro and Chuma Nkolowo.

Chair: **Donia Jamal**

**10.30-11.30 - Somaliland Writers Association**

from Sweden to Somaliland. Sayid Axmed former Chair of the Somaliland Writers Association will meet members of the association. Recent works by Sayid Ahmed will be presented.



Chair: **Axmed Ibraahim Awale**

## 11.30-12.30 - Book Launches:

Check the list of new books published on the notice board.



## 16.00-17.00- Panel: Sooyaal – major classical poetry and music session

HIBF dedicates a night to prominent poets, dramatists, actors, singers and musicians in every year's festival. This year the session will be dedicated to elderly artists, including Jaamac Saleebaan Tubeec, Xasan Xaaji Cabdillaahi "Ganey", Axmed Saleebaan Bidde, Rashid Bullo



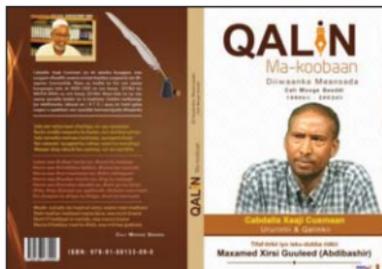
Chair: **Maxamuud Cabdi Cali "Ducaale"**

## 17.00-18.00 Djibouti Event:

Celebrating the arts and culture from Djibouti with author Cabdalle Xaaji: "Qalin ma koobaan", Buugga suugaanta Cali Mooge.

Cabdikariim Siciid: "Dhab-kahadal"

Chair: **Maxamed Xirsi Guuleed**



**19.30-20.30 Sheeko iyo Shaahid Award  
Announcement Cabdillaahi  
Cawed Cige**



**20.30-21.30 Live performance of Sitaad**

(Ancient Sufi women's religious song)

**THURSDAY 6th AUGUST**

**08.30-10.00—Readers'**

Readers' Clubs from Berbera, Burco, Borama, Ceerigaabo, Hargeysa, Laascaanood, Sheekh, Gebiley, Oodweyne present on the importance of local libraries and the role Readers' Clubs in developing a culture of reading and writing.



**10.00-11.00 Books published through readers clubs, local publishers.**

Readers' Clubs from Berbera, Burco, Borama, Ceerigaabo, Hargeysa, Laascaanood, Sheekh, Gebiley, Oodweyne present on the importance of local libraries and the role

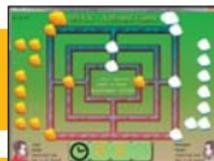
**11.00-12.00 Panel on Knowledge Production and Somali Studies:**

Structures of domination and marginalisation have persisted their time in knowledge production on and about the African continent and its peoples – stemming especially from the colonial period. A number of African and non-African academics and writers have continued to search for ways of telling the African story and ensuring knowledge about Africa is objective, truthful



and properly representative. This is the entire corpus of postcolonial and decolonisation studies. In the wake of #CadaanStudies, in April 2015, this debate comes to life again claiming and advocating a paradigm shift in knowledge production on Somaliland and Somalia, and perhaps the continent. This panel is formed to extend this conversation and provide more nuanced ways of thinking about postcolonial studies, paradigm shift and the political/logistical challenges in knowledge production on the continent over 50 years after independence. Dr. Siham Rayale, Nimo Ali and Yusuf K. Serunkuma.

12.00-13.00  
Shax Game - Final



16.00-17.00

**HIBF Junior:** storytelling for children at Hargeysa International Book Fair  
Hoodo Ayaan, Farduus M Dheere, Cabdi Falaash iyo Axmed



17.00-18.00  
Circus Somaliland



19.30-20.30

**Closing gala** – A new play on “Current social and political ills in Somaliland”, Riwaayadda “Bulsho toosan, ma taftaafa dhanxiirku”, written by Saleebaan Carab Aw Siciid, and directed by Cabdiraxmaan Yuusuf Cartan.



20.30-22.00

**Closing gala** – Live music from Da’ud Ali Masaxaf, MaxamedBK, Sahra Ilayn and more ....





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