



**FESTIVAL
NEUE
LITERATUR**
MARCH 23-25, 2018

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

**FNL SIGNATURE TRANSLATION EVENT HIGHLIGHTS WORKS THAT
HAVE COUNTERED POLITICAL AND CULTURAL ISOLATIONISM**

New York, March 16, 2018 – On March 24th at 2pm, **Festival Neue Literatur’s** signature translation event returns and takes up this year’s theme INSIDER | OUTSIDER. Taking place at the **Goethe-Institut Library**, 30 Irving Place, the event, titled “Inside Translations | Outside Ourselves,” will feature three brief one-on-one conversations between writers, publishers, and translators examining translations that have enlarged our lives and countered literary, political, and cultural isolationism.

The speakers for the event include Yoko Tawada, author of *The Emissary* (translated by Margaret Mitsutani), in conversation with Barbara Epler, Publisher of New Directions; Ann Goldstein, translator of Elena Ferrante and Primo Levi, in conversation with Jenny McPhee, translator; and John Wray, this year’s chair of the Festival and author of *The Lost Time Accidents*, in conversation with Tess Lewis, translator and Guggenheim Fellow.

Former festival chairperson and celebrated author of *The Book of Salt* Monique Truong noted that, “when I think of how much smaller my world would be without literary translations, I am bereft.” This year’s translation event will highlight the importance of translation to each speaker.

The translation event is just one of the events featured at the **Festival Neue Literatur (March 23-25)**, which is the first and only festival to spotlight German-language and U.S. fiction together. The 9th annual event brings together high-profile U.S., Austrian, German, and Swiss authors and publishing luminaries as part of the program.

The 2018 festival is curated by Peter Blackstock, senior editor at Grove Atlantic and will feature writers and publishing luminaries **Lisa Ko, Ruth Franklin, Atticus Lish, Yoko Tawada, John Wray, Karen Phillips, Ann Goldstein, Barbara Epler, Nava Ebrahimi, Robert Prosser, Philipp Winkler, Fatma Aydemir, Ursula Fricker, and Meral Kureyshi** who will explore in their work questions of identity and belonging in a fracturing Europe and beyond. Conversations throughout the weekend will focus on race, religion, immigration status, politics, and even football hooliganism as lenses to explore contemporary society and the recent past.

For more information about Festival Neue Literatur or to download the FNL Reader, a booklet featuring English-language excerpts of the featured German-language works, please visit the website at www.festivalneueliteratur.org.

ABOUT FESTIVAL NEUE LITERATUR: Festival Neue Literatur (FNL) is a collaborative project of New York's leading German-language cultural institutions: the Austrian Cultural Forum, the German Consulate General New York, the Consulate General of Switzerland, Columbia University School of the Arts, Deutsches Haus at NYU, the Frankfurt Book Fair New York (formerly the German Book Office New York), the Goethe-Institut New York, and Pro Helvetia. All FNL events are free of charge, though RSVPs are required. The 2018 festival will take place from March 22 to 25, 2018. Festival Neue Literatur 2018 is made possible through generous support from BMW North America, the German Federal Foreign Office, and Radeberger Gruppe.