

## femiNAMING Writing Festival II (15-24 November 2019)

### Theme: Actually

At such a time when we find ourselves in a hurry to say a great deal of things all at once, this topic opens up a wide space before us and encourages us to a new way of thinking away from exhausted concepts. With its ambiguity, it allows for originality and creativity. For although the phrase “actually” always has a claim to speak of the truth, this is a mere claim, and it carries the awareness of it more than any other phrase. That's why it stands right at the threshold. Is there really an “actual” that we can all agree on? Is there a way to know what “actual” is? When we begin a sentence with “actually,” do not we also put an emphasis on what is not “actual”? What does this dichotomy show us? When we say “actually,” do we exercise our right of objection? When we use this term, do we insist on repeating the already-said or do we give voice to the not-yet-said, perhaps the already-said but not-heard? In Sevgi Soysal's novel *Yürümek* (Walking) “*the helps that tend to see more clearly behind the glass;*” “*the ones who easily use the phrases ‘actually,’ ‘what I do know is,’ ‘the actual reason is’*” are ones who “*bring into line*” those who got out of the line. If this is so, inquiring into the possible meanings of “actually” is important to better understand the feminaming writing. For this reason, we allocate the four days of the festival to the discussion of four concepts around this theme: The Body, Actually; Home, Actually; Secret, Actually; Rebellion/Objection, Actually.

### Friday, 15 November

(Venue: MSGSÜ Fındıklı Sedat Hakkı Eldem Auditorium)

Time: 14.30-16:00

*Opening of the festival*

Opening speeches

Video display

Title: Moments and Memories from femiNaming Writing Festival 2018

Speakers: Necmiye Alpay, Berfin Atlı

16.00-16.15

*Break*

16.15-17.15

*Panel*

Title: The Woman Writer, Actually

Moderator: Müge Sökmen

Speakers: Birgül Oğuz, Meltem Ahıska, Nüket Esen

## **Saturday, 16 November**

(Venue: The Women's Library and Information Centre Foundation - WLICF)

### **Theme of the Day: The Body, Actually** (*gender, love, family, violence*)

My body: What actually is it and what is not? Who does it actually belong to? Does love have an actual side? Who do the subject and object of desire signify? Who do we become when we are claimed to be of this or that gender? Who do we become different from as such? My body, your love, her gender, our sexuality, your life, their... are these actually mere fictions? What actually is family? Who constitutes our actual family? Is there an "actual" "we" that the family signifies? What actually is violence and is it possible to exclude it? Is body the locus most vulnerable to violence? Where does violence locate in the family? How do these four concepts actually relate to "writing"?

Time: 12.00-13.30

#### *Panel*

Title: Putting Violence into Words

Moderator: Süreyya Karacabey

Speakers: Mine Söğüt, Niyazi Zorlu, Zehra Çelenk

13.30-14.30

#### *Lunch Break*

14:30-16:00

#### *Panel*

Title: Poetry and the Body I

Moderator: Asuman Susam

Speakers: Nur Alan, Zeynep Arkan, Mihrap Aydın

16:00-16:30

#### *Break*

16:30-17:30

#### *Conversation*

Title: Poetry and the Body II

Birhan Keskin, Zeynep Köylü

## **Sunday, 17 November**

(Venue: The Women's Library and Information Centre Foundation - WLICF)

### **Theme of the Day: Home, Actually** (*home, city, nature, immigration*)

Is the place we live actually our home? Where is our actual home? Does it come after us wherever we go? Is home actually a shelter, a breath of fresh air or does it leave one breathless? Who has a room of one's own? My city, your city, her city: Are these all the same city? What actually is a city? Where does it begin and where does it end? And where does the nature begin? Is nature our first home actually? Can we speak of the true nature of anything? Is the nature of a human being the country in which she lives? Are the borders of the country the place where one belongs? Who actually immigrates? When one goes to a place outside the borders, is her home left behind or does the place she goes become a home for her? Where is her home now? In what way does one become integrated into the "we" of another country? How do these four concepts actually relate to "writing"?

Time: 12.00-13.30

*Panel*

Title: Through the Cracks: In and Out of Probable Homes

Moderator: Sevcan Tiftik

Speakers: Deniz Gezgin, Gamze Arslan, Banu Özyürek

13.30-14.30

*Lunch Break*

14.30-16.00

*Panel*

Title: Children's Literature and "Home"

Moderator: Nilay Yılmaz

Speakers: Burcu Aktaş, Gökçe Ateş Aytuğ, Sema Aslan

16.00-16.30

*Break*

16.30-17.30

*Conversation and Reading*

Speakers: Maria Warner, Özge Lena

### **Weekday Events:**

#### **Monday, 18 November**

(Venue: Goethe-Institut Istanbul, Library)

Time: 18.30

*Exhibition and Conversation*

Title: LiteraTür / Women

Speakers: Pınar Ögünç, Ula Lenze

**Tuesday, 19 November**

(Venue: Pera Museum, Pera Café)

Time: 17.00-18.30

*Five O’Clock Tea Poetry Recitation*

Speakers: Lale Müldür, Okan Yılmaz

**Wednesday, 20 November**

(Venue: The Women’s Library and Information Centre Foundation - WLICF)

Time: 18.00-19.30

*Performance*

Title: A Room of Her Own

Artists: Tiyatro Boyalı Kuş

**Thursday, 21 November**

(Venue: Pera Museum, Pera Café)

Time: 17.00-18.30

*Reading*

Title: Five O’clock Tea Poetry Recitation

Speakers: Merve Çanak, Elif Karık, Meryem Coşkunca

Time: 19.00-20.30

*Conversation with artists*

(Venue: *Karşı Sanat Gallery*)

“Actually” Group Painting Exhibition

**Saturday, 23 November**

(Venue: MSGSÜ Bomonti Conference Hall)

**Theme of the Day: Secret, Actually** (*truth, lie, domination, lynch*)

*What is the meaning of saying “actually” in our age which is considered as one of post-truth? Could any claim of truth have an actuality? How does the lie regime of our age operate? Who does the domination of tradition hit? How is the language of domination responded? Does every expression of “actually” amount to opposing the language of domination or does “actually” sometimes reproduce the very language? How does social media get involved in lie and domination? Can it be said that lynch is becoming a tradition? How do these four concepts actually relate to “writing”?*

Venue: MSGSÜ Bomonti Conference Hall

Time: 11.30-13.00

*Panel*

Title: Behind the Not-Said

Moderator: Zeynep Uysal

Speakers: Ayşegül Devecioğlu, Erendiz Atasü, Berna Durmaz

13.00-14.00

*Lunch Break*

14.00-15.00

*Panel*

Title: Life Stories: Biography, Autobiography, Letter

Moderator: Nazan Aksoy

Speakers: Rita Ender, İpek Çalışlar

15.00-15.15

*Break*

15.15-16.30

*Panel*

Title: Woman's Gaze, Woman's Voice

Moderator: Umut Tümay Arslan

Speakers: Senem Aytaç, Yeşim Tabak, Feride Çetin, Melek Özman

16.30-17.00

*Break*

17.00-18.00

*Conversation and Reading*

Katerina Poladjan, Zehra Aksu Yilmazer

**Sunday, 24 November**

(Venue: MSGSÜ Bomonti Conference Hall)

**Theme of the Day: Objection/Rebellion, Actually** (*revelation, resistance, solidarity*)

*How is the language of resistance constituted? At what point is the language of resistance actually constructive and when destructive? What is the place of revelation as objection in resistance? How to weave networks of solidarity? Is resistance with literature possible? Can literature give birth to solidarity? How do these four concepts actually relate to "writing"?*

Time: 12.00-13.30

*Panel*

Title: Language of Resistance

Moderator: Yonca Cingöz

Speakers: Feride Eralp, Selime Büyükgoze, Yalnız Yürümeyeceksin

13.30-14.30

*Lunch Break*

14.30-15.30

*Conversation and Reading*

Martina Motelius, Sevgi Hilton

15.30-15.45

*Break*

15.45-16.45

*Conversation and Reading*

Fahimeh Farsai, Gül Gürtunca

16.45-17.00

*Break*

17.00-18.00

*Closing Conversation*

Füruzan, Ayşegül Tözeren

### **Exhibitions:**

#### **1-Group Painting Exhibition (16 November-1 December)**

Karşı Sanat Gallery

#### **2- Old Book Covers**

The Women's Library and Information Centre Foundation (WLICF) (15 November-8 December)