

SOUTHBANK CENTRE

Press Release

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Images: [here](#)

National Poetry Library to publish *Instagram Poetry For Every Day* ahead of National Poetry Day

The first ever anthology of its kind will feature contributions from over 100 poets including artists **Travis Alabanza**, **Brian Bilston**, **Nikita Gill**, **Tim Key**, **Tyler Knott-Gregson**, **Alison Malee**, **Ben Maxfield**, **Robert Montgomery** and **Christopher Poindexter**.



The Southbank Centre's National Poetry Library, with publisher Laurence King will publish the world's first anthology of Instagram Poetry, *Instagram Poetry For Every Day* on 28 September, ahead of National Poetry Day on 1 October 2020. Edited by **Chris McCabe** (National Poetry Librarian) and **Jessica Atkinson**, the book brings together some of the most exciting artists and poets to emerge from instagram in recent years and brings together over 100 poems by some of the biggest names and up-and-coming talent associated with the genre. It features well-known poets such as [Tyler Knott-Gregson](#), [Nikita Gill](#), [Alison Malee](#), [Ben Maxfield](#) and [Christopher Poindexter](#) as well as poets known in other areas such as [Brian Bilston](#); celebrities, such as comedian, [Tim Key](#), visual artist, [Robert Montgomery](#) and performance artist [Travis Alabanza](#).

Short, relatable and hard-hitting, the poems embrace contemporary themes of mental health, women's empowerment, racial prejudice, gender diversity and political turmoil, as well as the perennial poetic preoccupations of love, sex and loss. Editors Chris McCabe and Jessica Atkinson

have divided the featured works into sections focused on different emotions, which can read continuously from start to finish, or be dipped into depending on which mood suits the reader.

In 2018 the National Poetry Library curated the first-ever [Instagram Poetry exhibition](#) to great acclaim, and the concept of the anthology was born. Founded in 1953 and opened by T.S. Eliot and Herbert Read, the National Poetry Library is the largest public collection of modern poetry in the world and is housed at the Southbank Centre's Royal Festival Hall in London.

The announcement on the publication of *Instagram Poetry for Every Day* comes as the Southbank Centre's *Inside Out* programme begins; a 3-month series of multi-arts events broadcast from the Royal Festival Hall and beyond from 17 September - 30 December. Poets Claudia Rankine (9 October) and Kae Tempest (16 October) are among the lineup.

ENDS

nationalpoetrylibrary.org.uk
southbankcentre.co.uk
laurenceking.com

Instagram Poetry for Every Day

Edited by Chris McCabe and Jessica Atkinson

£12.99 hardback 128pp

ISBN 9781786277152

Available from 28 September 2020 at laurenceking.com and the Hayward Gallery shop

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For more information on the Southbank Centre and the National Poetry Library please contact:

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NOTES TO EDITORS

About the Southbank Centre

The Southbank Centre is the UK's largest arts centre and one of the UK's top five visitor attractions, occupying a prominent riverside location that sits in the midst of London's most vibrant cultural quarter on the South Bank of the Thames. We exist to present great cultural experiences that bring people together and we achieve this by providing the space for artists to create and present their best work and by creating a place where as many people as possible can come together to experience bold, unusual and eye-opening work. We want to take people out of the everyday, every day.

The site has an extraordinary creative and architectural history stretching back to the 1951 Festival of Britain. The Southbank Centre is made up of the Royal Festival Hall, Queen Elizabeth Hall, Purcell Room and Hayward Gallery as well as being home to the National Poetry Library and the Arts Council Collection. It is also home to

four Resident Orchestras (London Philharmonic Orchestra, Philharmonia Orchestra, London Sinfonietta and Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment) and four Associate Orchestras (Aurora Orchestra, BBC Concert Orchestra, Chineke! Orchestra and National Youth Orchestra of Great Britain).

About the Southbank Centre's National Poetry Library

The Southbank Centre's National Poetry Library is the largest public collection of modern poetry in the world and is housed at the Southbank Centre in London. Founded by the Arts Council in 1953 and opened by poets T.S. Eliot and Herbert Read, the library contains over 200,000 items spanning from 1912 to the present day, extensive resources for poets, academics, schools and families. Hosting exhibitions and events, as well as offering an extensive catalogue and ebook service accessible online, the library is free to use www.nationalpoetrylibrary.org.uk

The library is currently closed while social distancing measures remain in place, and while the Southbank Centre continues to respond to challenges presented by COVID-19 (see latest statement [here](#)). We are continuing to expand the poetry collection so there will be more to enjoy when the library reopens next year. We are also looking at creative ways of sharing poetry, for example, we have six new and established poets contributing to *Everyday Heroes*, a brand new free art and poetry exhibition across our site celebrating key workers from September until November 2020.

National Poetry Day - 1 October 2020

National Poetry Day is the annual mass celebration on the first Thursday of October that encourages all to enjoy, discover and share poetry. For more information please visit nationalpoetryday.co.uk