

**NARRATIVE JOURNALISM CONFERENCE
TOOLS FOR STORYTELLING
JOHANNESBURG
WEDNESDAY 21 MAY – THURSDAY 22 MAY 2008**

WEDNESDAY 21 MAY 2008	
	PLENARY- AUDITORIUM
08h30 – 09h00	Registration and Morning Coffee
09h00 – 09h15	Welcome Paula Fray
09h15 – 10h45	Making Narrative Journalism Work for Your Newspaper Writer Tom French and editor Jacqui Banaszynski – who have won numerous awards for their work – share their perspectives on the challenges facing newspapers and how they can be overcome with Lizeka Mda
10h45 – 11h15	TEA
11h15 – 11h20	Message of Support Advocate Sonwabile Mancotywa
11h20 – 12h30	Justifying the Enemy – Thoughts on Building Effective Characters Zakes Mda
12h30 – 13h30	LUNCH
	AUDITORIUM GLACIER ROOM
13h30 – 15h00	Skills for Writing Profiles Online Resources for Narrative Mark Gevisser Izak Minnaar
15h00 – 15h15	TEA
15h15 – 16h30	Overcoming Writers Block: Finding the Confidence for Narrative Narrative in Community Media Gail Smith Mahmood Sanglay
16h30 – 17h30	In Conversation Mark Gevisser speaks with Fred Khumalo Followed by book signings

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WEDNESDAY & THURSDAY 21 & 22 MAY 2008**

THURSDAY 22 MAY 2008		
	PLENARY - AUDITORIUM	
09h00 – 10h15	The Narrative Life Cycle: From Idea to Publication Case Study: The Search for Looksmart	
	Dave Hazelhurst	
10h15am – 10h45	TEA	
	AUDITORIUM	GLACIER ROOM
10h45 – 12h00	Is There Room for Narrative Journalism in Finance Reporting?	Overcoming Narrative's Ethical Dilemmas
	Jacqui Banaszynski Jabulani Sikhakhane	Joe Thloloe
12h00 – 13h00	LUNCH	
13h00 – 14h15	Turning the Dull into Diamonds: How to find and tell good stories on deadline	Using Narrative to tell Complex Stories based on Scorched, South Africa's changing climate and Boiling Point
	Jonathan Ancer	Leonie Joubert
14h15 – 15h30	In Conversation	Introduction to Narrative Journalism: Skills for New Writers
	Rehana Rossouw speaks to Zakes Mda	Kelley Benham
15h30 – 15h45	TEA	
15h45 – 17h00	Getting That Nugget of Gold: Interview Skills for Narrative	The Editor's Eye: Managing Narratives and Narrative Writers
	Tom French	Jacqui Banaszynski
17h00 – 18h30	Cocktails	
	Book Signings Zakes Mda and Leonie Joubert	

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Jonathan Ancer

In 2006, after five years at *The Star* (where he had worked as a sub-editor, reporter and night news editor), **Jonathan** packed his *Billy Bunter* collection and Frank, his sausage dog, and left Johannesburg for Grahamstown. He took up a job as the youngest editor of the country's oldest newspaper – *Grocott's Mail*. The newspaper is owned by Rhodes University's Department of Journalism and Media Studies and is used as a laboratory for its journalism students. Bitten by the narrative bug, he encouraged journalism students to abandon the five Ws (as well as the H) and experiment with more creative story-telling techniques. Much to the fury of the municipality (with which the newspaper clashed), *Grocott's Mail* was declared the country's best independent community newspaper of 2007. He left Grahamstown at the beginning of this year (with Frankie and his *Billy Bunter* collection) to become the deputy editor of *Best Life* magazine. His job is to find talented journalists and give them space to tell South Africa's stories.

Jacqui Banaszynski

Jacqui holds the Knight Chair in Editing at the Missouri School of Journalism and is an Editing Fellow at the The Poynter Institute. She has worked as a reporter and editor for more than 30 years, most recently as Associate Managing Editor of the *The Seattle Times*, where she was in charge of special projects and staff development. She spent 20 years as a beat and enterprise reporter, then worked as a projects editor at newspapers in the Midwest and Pacific Northwest. While at the *St. Paul Pioneer Press*, her series *AIDS in the Heartland* – an intimate look at the life and death of a gay farm couple – won the 1988 Pulitzer Prize in feature writing and a national SPJ Distinguished Service Award. She was a finalist for the 1986 Pulitzer in international reporting for coverage of the Ethiopian famine, and won the national AP Sports Editors deadline writing contest with a story from the 1988 Summer Olympics. Her work has exposed a fraudulent developer, explored the plight of Kurdish refugees in Iraq and followed a dogsled expedition across Antarctica. She has edited several award-winning projects and has served as a Pulitzer juror.

Kelley Benham

After joining the *St. Petersburg Times* in Florida in the US in 2002, **Kelley** covered local beats for 10 months before moving to the Floridian staff in 2003. She is now Features Editor of the *St. Petersburg Times*.

She attended the University of Florida on a scholarship from the *St. Petersburg Times* and the Poynter Institute, receiving degrees in political science and journalism in 1997. She taught high school journalism for three years, then earned a master's degree in 2002 from the University of Maryland's Philip Merrill College of Journalism. She is the winner of the 2003 Ernie Pyle award for human interest writing and the 2005 National Headliner Award for feature writing.

Paula Fray

Paula is the founder of **fray**intermedia and a former *Saturday Star* editor. She has more than 20 years' experience in the print media as a reporter, news editor and editor at Independent Newspapers. During that time, she was the winner of several awards and fellowships including the Checkers/Shoprite Investigative Journalism Award and the prestigious Nieman Fellowship. She is a member of the Nieman Society of Southern Africa. A Poynter-trained media trainer and coach, Paula was appointed a trustee on the Kgolo Trust which seeks to encourage diversity and empowerment in the media. She is a mentor for Health-e, a health news agency. She has been a judge for various media awards, including the SAB Sports Journalist of the Year. She has recently been appointed Regional Director: Africa for the Inter Press Service (IPS).

Tom French

Tom won the 1997 Pulitzer Prize for feature writing for his series *Angels and Demons*. Two of his series became books: *Unanswered Cries* and *South of Heaven*. At the *St. Petersburg Times*, he specialises in writing serial narratives. He has also won many other awards for excelling at his craft.

He is a writing fellow at the Poynter Institute, a school for excellence in journalism in the United States and on his appointment, Poynter Institute Dean Keith Woods, had this to say about French: "Tom brings to his teaching a genuine curiosity and the kind of reflection and analysis that make magical writing seem achievable. Whenever he speaks, I'm compelled to grab a pen and start taking notes." French says: "I'm especially interested in the possibilities of narrative reporting and writing under a breaking deadline." French's latest project, *Zoo Story* – part of which takes place in southern Africa – was published last December.

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Mark Gevisser

Mark was educated in Johannesburg and at Yale University, worked in New York (writing for *Village Voice* and *The Nation*) before returning to South Africa in 1990. His work has appeared in the *Mail & Guardian*, the *Sunday Independent* and the *Sunday Times*. He has published widely on South African politics, culture and society in *Vogue*, the *New York Times* and *Foreign Affairs and Art in America*. In 2001 he won a Mondi award for his series of articles in *GQ* on cities and space in South Africa. He co-edited *Defiant Desire, Gay and Lesbian Lives In South Africa* (Routledge, 1994), and an anthology of his *Mail and Guardian* columns, *Portraits of Power: Profiles in a Changing South Africa* was published by David Philip in 1996. His documentary *The Man Who Drove With Mandela* has been broadcast internationally, and won the Teddy Documentary Prize at the Berlin Film Festival in 1999. His 2007 biography of Thabo Mbeki, *Thabo Mbeki: The Dream Deferred* has received wide critical acclaim.

Dave Hazelhurst

Dave started at 18 as reporter on *Rand Daily Mail* in 1956 before moving on to become a sub-editor at *World* from 1959-60. He was senior reporter on *Sunday Express* in 1961, then worked as chief sub-editor of *Golden City Post* 1961-1962, assistant editor of *Drum* 1962-63 and then editor of *Drum* between 1963-64. He was working as deputy editor of *Golden City Post* in 1971 when it was bought by the Argus Company and closed down as a national newspaper selling 290 000. Hazelhurst then served as the editor of *Sunday Times Extra* edition in 1972, followed by a stint as chief sub-editor of *Rand Daily Mail* 1972-74, and deputy editor of *Sunday Express* 1975-77. He acted as chief assistant editor on *Rand Daily Mail* from 1977-78, and then managing editor from 1978-85 when the *Mail* was closed. He then moved on to take up the post of assistant editor and deputy editor of *Sunday Star* between 1985-91, rising to editor of the newspaper between 1991-94 when it closed. He has served as creative director and an executive editor of *The Star* from 1994 until today, and as convener of the judges for the Fuji Press Photo Awards for seven years.

Leonie Joubert

Leonie is a freelance science journalist, columnist and author, specialising in the environment and climate change, biodiversity, natural history, agriculture and energy. She is the author of *Scorched: South Africa's Changing Climate* (winner of an Honorary 2007 Sunday Times Alan Paton Non-Fiction Award) and *Boiling Point*, an exploration of vulnerable communities in South Africa, in the context of climate change. As a freelance journalist, Leonie has been published widely, including in the *Sunday Independent*, *Sunday Argus*, *Sunday Tribune*, *African Decisions*, *Africa Geographic*, *Getaway*, *Progress*, *EarthYear*, *Farmers Weekly*, *Engineering News*, *Cape Times*, *SA4x4*, *Xplore* and the *Mail&Guardian*, amongst others. She is also completing her third term on the committee of the Southern African Freelancers Association and sits on the steering committee for the Project 90x2030, a climate change-related initiative of the Goedgedacht Forum for Social Reflection.

Fred Khumalo

Fred works as the Insight & Opinion editor for *The Sunday Times*, for whom he also writes a popular weekly socio-political column. A journalism graduate from Technikon Natal, Durban, Khumalo was a runner-up for the Nadine Gordimer Short Story Award in 1991. In 1996, he was a runner-up for the Bertrams V.O Literature of Africa Award and in 2004 the manuscript for his novel, *The Oneness of Two in Three*, received an honourable mention in the inaugural European Union Literary Awards. The following year his novel, *Bitches' Brew* was joint winner of the same award. Khumalo has worked for a variety of newspapers including *UmAfrika*, *City Press*, *ThisDay*, *Sunday World* and *Toronto Star* in various capacities as a reporter, columnist and editor. He has also published numerous short-stories in commercial magazines and literary journals including *Staffrider*, *Tribute*, *Drum* and *Pace*. Last year his autobiographical novel *Touch My Blood*, a no-holds-barred account about coming of age in a Durban township, was published to excellent reviews. Khumalo is currently working on a novel called *Seven Steps to Heaven* which features some of characters introduced in *Bitches' Brew*. He has also been commissioned by Penguin Publishers to write an autobiography on Jacob Zuma.

Lizeka Mda

Lizeka is deputy editor of *City Press*. Previously she was editor of *Sawubona*, the inflight magazine for South African Airways. Other positions she has held include executive editor at *The Star*, senior writer at

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Mail & Guardian and deputy editor of *Tribute* magazine. She has worked as a journalist since the beginning of 1985, mostly in magazines and newspapers. However, she has also put together radio programmes for the British and Canadian Broadcasting Corporations and did a monthly column on SABC radio's current-affairs program, "PM Live" and was occasional host of Radio 702's "Talk at 9" evening show. She has had works of fiction and non-fiction published in book form and has presented papers at international conferences, with a special focus on African Media. She is a Nieman Fellow (2004), Ron Brown Fellow (1997) and a World Press Institute Fellow (1993).

Zakes Mda

Zakes is a prolific South African writer of plays, novels, poems, and articles for academic journals and newspapers. His creative work also includes paintings and theatre and film productions. As a poet, he published in magazines such as *Staffrider*, *The Voice*, and *Oduma*, and in the anthologies *New South African Writing* (1977), *Summer Fires* (1982) and *Soho Square* (1992). His first volume of poems, *Bits of Debris*, came out in 1986. In 1978 Mda's play *We Shall Sing for the Fatherland*, written in 1973, won the first Amstel Playwright of the Year Award. The following year he won this award again with *The Hill*, a play written in 1978. The publication of *We Shall Sing for the Fatherland and Other Plays* in 1980 enabled him to gain admission to Ohio University for a three-year Master's degree in theatre. His play *The Road*, written in 1982, won the Christina Crawford Award of American Theatre Association in 1984, by which time his plays were being performed in the USSR, the USA, and Scotland as well as in various parts of southern Africa. Mda returned from the USA in 1984, joining the University of Lesotho as lecturer in the Department of English in 1985. In 1989 he was awarded a Ph.D. by the University of Cape Town and his dissertation was later published as *When People Play People* in 1993, the same year as a collection of four plays, *And the Girls in Their Sunday Dresses*. In 1991 Mda was writer-in-residence at the University of Durham, where he wrote *The Nun's Romantic Story*; in 1992 as research fellow at Yale University he wrote *The Dying Screams of the Moon*, another play, and his first novel, *Ways of Dying* (1995). By 1994 he was back in South Africa as visiting professor at the University of the Witwatersrand. Mda's plays are distinguished by the combination of a close scrutiny of social values with elements of magic realism that is even more pronounced in his novels, *Ways of Dying* and *She Plays with the Darkness* (1995), and in his novella *Melville 67* (1998). His latest novels are *The Heart of Redness* (2001), *Madonna of Excelsior* (2002), and *The Whale Caller* (2005).

Izak Minnaar

Izak is a journalist and editorial manager, specialising in news research and information management in newsrooms. He is currently head of News Research at the SABC. The unit uses computer-aided journalism techniques and tools to gather information and to run a news intranet featuring research material and other information resources. This service is used by SABC radio and TV news and current affairs programmes as well as new media services for editorial coverage planning and programme production. Before establishing the News Research unit 10 years ago, Izak worked for print media, moved to television news and magazine programmes, was involved in setting up the SABC's first online news service in 1999 and coordinated several special broadcast projects, including election coverage and high profile multilateral conferences taking place in South Africa.

Rehana Rossouw

Rehana is the editor of *The Weekender* newspaper. Her career in journalism spans nearly three decades, and began at *Grassroots* newspaper in Cape Town in 1981. She learned most of her craft in workshops in the Cape in the 1980s and has taught many journalists in similar workshops. She currently teaches a journalism course at Wits University.

Mahmood Sanglay

Mahmood is the former editor of *Muslim Views*, South Africa's leading Muslim newspaper. He is a Fulbright fellow in journalism and a media activist for previously disadvantaged, small and grassroots media in Southern Africa. As projects director of *Muslim Views* one of his recent projects includes the 20th anniversary seminar of the newspaper on the theme "The Media and Muslims: Engaging with a Changing Beast". The seminar hosted the British socialist MP George Galloway as a special guest. His current project is the transformation of *Muslim Views* based on a new business model. At present he is a researcher in Narrative Journalism at Stellenbosch University

Jabulani Sikhakhane

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Jabulani is the editor of *Business Report* and has been a financial journalist for 18 years. He has worked for a number of newspapers, magazines and electronic media, including the *Financial Mail*, *City Press Business*, *Business Times*, *Finance Week*, *Enterprise*, and Reuters. He was a Nieman fellow in 2001/2002.

Gail Smith

Gail has been the editor of *City Pulse* magazine since 2004. Previously, she was a senior Feature's writer at *ThisDay* newspaper. She has written extensively on gender, race, popular culture, the legacy of Steve Biko, the commodification of Nelson Mandela, and on Winnie Mandela from a black, feminist perspective. She has also profiled notables such as the Palestinian activist Leila Khaled, musician Me'Shell Ndegeocello, theorist and academic Paul Gilroy, and has worked on two documentaries on Sarah Baartman, the Khoekhoen woman dubbed 'the Hottentot Venus'. Gail's work experience has comprised journalism, academia, leadership training, advocacy, research and conflict resolution. She holds a Masters degree (cum laude) from London University and has recently returned from Harvard University, where she was the 2006/7 recipient of the Nieman Fellowship.

Joe Thloloe

Joe is the Press Ombudsman and previously editor-in-chief at e-tv, the independent television channel, until recently. He was responsible for its news and current affairs programming. He is also former editor-in-chief of SABC Television News. He has been a journalist since 1961 and worked for *World*, *Rand Daily Mail*, *Drum*, *Post*, *Post Transvaal* and *Sowetan*, among others. He has won several awards in his career and was a Nieman Fellow at Harvard University in 1988. He was chairperson of the South African National Editors' Forum and serves on the boards of training institutions such as the Institute for the Advancement of Journalism and the Southern Africa Media Training Trust (better known as the NSJ).

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