BAM and the National Book Foundation present Eat, Drink & Be Literary, Feb 16—Jun 8

The 12th season welcomes literary luminaries Marlon James, Eileen Myles, Zadie Smith, Darryl Pinckney, Yiyun Li, Karl Ove Knausgaard, Sally Mann, and Bill Clegg

Bloomberg Philanthropies is the Season Sponsor

Brooklyn, NY/Dec 29, 2015—BAM’s popular Eat, Drink & Be Literary series, presented in partnership with the National Book Foundation, will host eight award-winning writers from February 16 through June 8. The diverse group of participants have produced award-winning novels, literary histories, plays, poems, and short stories. Several, including Bill Clegg, Karl Ove Knausgard, and Darryl Pinckney, find inspiration in their personal histories, reflecting on themes of addiction, family, and race. The works of Marlon James, Yiyun Li, and Zadie Smith capture the vibrant patois and culture of Jamaica, China, and London, respectively, while photographer Sally Mann and poet Eileen Myles find evocative ways to explore feminism and sexuality.

Authors will read from their work and share inspirations, creative processes, and anecdotes with the audience over dinner in BAMcafé. These evenings offer literary devotees—writers and readers alike—the opportunity to socialize in an informal setting that also encourages in-depth discussion.

Doors open at 6pm and dinner begins at 6:30pm. The meal—featuring a seasonal menu devised by Great Performances with James Beard chefs and local Brooklyn chefs—includes dessert, wine, and live music. The evening continues with a reading by the author, a moderated discussion, a Q&A with the audience, and a book signing. The Greenlight Bookstore at BAM kiosk provides books for purchase.

Tickets for Eat, Drink & Be Literary are $60, which includes admission to the reading, dinner, wine, tax, and tip. Subscription (four or more) tickets are $51.

Tickets can be purchased by calling BAM Ticket Services at 718.636.4100 or by visiting BAM.org. Tickets also may be purchased in person (except for subscription tickets) at the BAM Box Office, Peter Jay Sharp Building, 30 Lafayette Avenue from 12pm-6pm Monday through Friday; 12pm-6pm on Saturday; and 12pm-4pm on Sundays with scheduled performances in the Howard Gilman Opera House.
Tuesday, Feb 16
Marlon James, Author
Lorin Stein, Moderator

Jamaican-born novelist Marlon James is the winner of the 2015 Man Booker Prize for *A Brief History of Seven Killings*, which was also a finalist for the National Book Critics Circle Award and a *New York Times* Notable Book. He is also the author of *The Book of Night Women* and *John Crow's Devil*, which was a finalist for the *Los Angeles Times* Book Prize for first fiction and the Commonwealth Writers Prize. James lives in Minneapolis.

Tuesday, Mar 1
Eileen Myles, Author
Alexander Chee, Moderator

Celebrated poet and essayist Eileen Myles has written 19 books, including the recent collection *I Must Be Living Twice* and the 1994 autobiographical novel *Chelsea Girls*, which was reissued this year. She is the recipient of numerous accolades, including a Guggenheim Fellowship, a Creative Capital/Warhol Foundation Art Writers’ Grant, a Lambda Literary Award, the Clark Prize for Excellence in Art Writing 2015, and the Shelley Memorial Award from the Poetry Society of America. Her writing has appeared in *Artforum, The New Yorker, Harper's, The Believer*, *The Nation*, and *The Paris Review*. Myles divides her time between Marfa, TX, and New York.

Tuesday, Mar 15
Darryl Pinckney, Author
Deborah Treisman, Moderator

Darryl Pinckney is a longtime contributor to *The New York Review of Books*. He is the author of the forthcoming novel *Black Deutschland; High Cotton*, which won the *Los Angeles Times* Book Prize; *Blackballed: The Black Vote and US Democracy*; and *Out There: Mavericks of Black Literature*. Pinckney has worked with the director Robert Wilson on several theatrical projects and he is a recipient of the Harold D. Vursell Award for Distinguished Prose from the American Academy of Arts and Letters. Pinckney lives in Harlem with his partner, the English poet James Fenton, and is currently at work on a collection of essays about African-American literature in the 20th century.

Tuesday, Mar 22
Zadie Smith, Author
Lorin Stein, Moderator

London-born novelist Zadie Smith is the author of *NW*, which was named one of *The New York Times* “10 Best Books of 2012”; *On Beauty*, which won the 2006 Orange Prize for Fiction; *The Autograph Man*; and the 2009 essay collection *Changing My Mind*. Her acclaimed first novel, *White Teeth*, won the *Guardian* First Book Award, the Whitbread First Novel Award, the James Tait Black Memorial Prize for Fiction, and the Commonwealth Writers Prize, and has been translated into more than 20 languages. Smith writes regularly for *The New Yorker* and *The New York Review of Books* and is currently a tenured professor of creative writing at New York University.

Tuesday, Apr 19
Yiyun Li, Author
Deborah Treisman, Moderator
Chinese-American fiction writer Yiyun Li is the author of *The Vagrants*, *Kinder Than Solitude*, *Gold Boy*, and *Emerald Girl*. Her debut short story collection, *A Thousand Years of Good Prayers*, won the Frank O’Connor International Short Story Award, the PEN/Hemingway Award, and the Guardian First Book Award, among other accolades. She is the recipient of a 2010 MacArthur fellowship and was named among *The New Yorker’s* “20 Under 40.” Li is a contributing editor at *A Public Space* and teaches at the University of California, Davis.

**Monday, Apr 25**  
**Karl Ove Knausgaard**, Author  
**Deborah Treisman**, Moderator

Norwegian writer Karl Ove Knausgaard is the author of the six-volume, *New York Times*-bestselling autobiographical series *My Struggle*, which has been translated into more than 15 languages. *My Struggle: Book One* was a *New Yorker* Book of the Year, *Book Two* was listed among *The Wall Street Journal’s* 2013 Books of the Year, and *Book Three* was named a *New York Times* Notable Book of the Year. Knausgaard is also the author of the novels *Out of the World* and *A Time for Everything*. He lives in Sweden with his wife and four children.

**Tuesday, May 3**  
**Sally Mann**, Author  
**Lorin Stein**, Moderator

Sally Mann is one of America’s most renowned photographers, best known for her evocative landscape work in the American South and intimate portraits of her family, collected in *Immediate Family*, *Still Time*, *What Remains*, and *At Twelve*. Her recent memoir *Hold Still: A Memoir with Photographs* chronicles, in prose and images, her family history. She is represented by Gagosian Gallery and the Edwynn Houk Gallery, and is the recipient of a Guggenheim Fellowship and grants from the National Endowment for the Arts and the National Endowment for the Humanities.

**Wednesday, Jun 8**  
**Bill Clegg**, Author  
**Rebecca Mead**, Moderator

Bill Clegg is the author of the bestselling memoirs *Portrait of an Addict as a Young Man* and *Ninety Days*. His debut novel *Did You Ever Have a Family* was longlisted for the 2015 Man Booker Prize and the 2015 National Book Award. Clegg is a literary agent in New York City. His writing has appeared in *The New York Times*, *Lapham’s Quarterly*, *New York*, *The Guardian*, and *Harper’s Bazaar*.

**Moderators**  
**Lorin Stein** is the editor of *The Paris Review* and an editor at large at Farrar, Straus and Giroux. Over the years he has worked with such writers as Lydia Davis, Jonathan Franzen, John Jeremiah Sullivan, and James Wood. Stein's criticism has appeared in *Harper's*, the *London Review of Books*, and *The New York Review of Books*. His translation of Michel Houellebecq's *Submission* was published last year. In 2014 he was named a Chevalier of the Order of Arts and Letters for his service to French literature.

**Deborah Treisman** is the fiction editor at *The New Yorker*. She hosts the award-winning monthly *The New Yorker* fiction podcast, and is the editor of "20 Under 40: Stories from *The New Yorker.*" She was the 2012 recipient of the Maxwell Perkins Award for Distinguished Contribution to Fiction.
Rebecca Mead has been a staff writer at The New Yorker since 1997. She is the author, most recently, of My Life in Middlemarch, a New York Times bestseller. She lives in Brooklyn with her family.

Alexander Chee is the author of the novels Edinburgh and The Queen of the Night, forthcoming from Houghton Mifflin Harcourt in February of 2016. He is a recipient of a 2003 Whiting Award, a 2004 NEA Fellowship in prose and a 2010 MCCA Fellowship, and residency fellowships from the MacDowell Colony, the VCCA, Civitella Ranieri and Amtrak. His essays and stories have appeared in The New York Times Book Review, Tin House, Slate, The New Republic, NPR and Out, among others. He is a contributing editor at The New Republic and an editor at large for The Virginia Quarterly Review. He lives in New York.

About the National Book Foundation
The mission of the National Book Foundation is to celebrate the best of American literature, to expand its audience, and to enhance the cultural value of good writing in America. Please visit the National Book Foundation website at nationalbook.org for more information.

About BAM
BAM's mission is to be the home for adventurous artists, audiences, and ideas. America’s oldest performing arts institution, it is recognized internationally for innovative dance, music, and theater programming—including its renowned Next Wave Festival. BAM also features an acclaimed repertory film program, literary and visual art events, and extensive educational programs. The institution is led by President Katy Clark and Executive Producer Joseph V. Melillo. www.BAM.org

For press information contact Christian Barclay at 718.724.8044 or cbarclay@BAM.org.

Credits
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General Information
BAM Howard Gilman Opera House, BAM Rose Cinemas, and BAMcafé are located in the Peter Jay Sharp building at 30 Lafayette Avenue (between St Felix Street and Ashland Place) in the Fort Greene neighborhood of Brooklyn. BAM Harvey Theater is located two blocks from the main building at 651 Fulton Street (between Ashland and Rockwell Places). Both locations house Greenlight Bookstore at BAM kiosks. BAM Fisher, located at 321 Ashland Place, is the newest addition to the BAM campus and houses the Judith and Alan Fishman Space and Rita K. Hillman Studio. BAM Rose Cinemas is Brooklyn’s only movie house dedicated to first-run independent and foreign film and repertory programming. BAMcafé, operated by Great Performances, offers a dinner menu prior to BAM Howard Gilman Opera House evening performances. BAMcafé also features an eclectic mix of live music for BAMcafé Live on Friday and Saturday nights with a bar menu available starting at 6pm.

Subway: 2, 3, 4, 5, Q, B to Atlantic Avenue – Barclays Center (2, 3, 4, 5 to Nevins St for Harvey Theater); D, N, R to Pacific Street; G to Fulton Street; C to Lafayette Avenue
Train: Long Island Railroad to Atlantic Terminal – Barclays Center
Bus: B25, B26, B41, B45, B52, B63, B67 all stop within three blocks of BAM
Car: Commercial parking lots are located adjacent to BAM

For ticket information, call BAM Ticket Services at 718.636.4100, or visit BAM.org.

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