Inside: Join the African Lit Group in reading and discussing three books written by African authors this academic year! Details inside.

Put the African Literature Group on your calendar!

Wednesday October 21, 2015 – The Hired Man
January 20, 2016 – The Heart of Redness
March 30, 2016 – TBA

Welcome

According to Muriel Ruykeyser, the universe is made of stories- not atoms. Each year we take the opportunity to explore parts of the universe that three African writers have brought to us. We try to include new authors and return to old favorites. This year we are beginning with two authors we have enjoyed in previous years: Aminatta Forna and Zakes Mda. Last year we ended the year with Mda’s The Madonna of Excelsior and thought we’d like to explore more of his work. Several years ago we read Forna’s Ancestor Stones and enjoyed the unfolding of each woman’s back-story. This year both novels explore the lives and histories of particular communities when a stranger settles in. As we have done in the past, we will offer a variety of possibilities for our third meeting. We hope that you will join us.

Introducing the Novels

Set in and around a small Croatian village, Forna’s novel, The Hired Man, explores the effects of war and the endurance and significance of memory and secrets. As with Ouwor’s Dust, this novel raises interesting questions and encourages us to identify those threads that cross the boundaries of geography.

When The Heart of Redness was published it was shortlisted for The
Commonwealth Writers Prize; this summer it was transformed into a musical for the Fugard Theater in Capetown. At the center of this novel is an expatriate returning to the New South Africa, Mda explores what happens when he becomes immersed in a community that has to grapple with the sediment of history and present day dilemmas in a time of change.

Join Us!

Please join us @ The African Studies Center for three rich, joyful conversations.

Time: 4pm - 6pm

Place: Teaching Africa Library @ Boston University
232 Bay State Rd, Boston MA 02215

Space is limited, please rsvp: bbbrown@bu.edu or ralogan2@verizon.net.

To reserve free parking, please call in advance.

The Outreach Program at the African Studies Center strengthens teaching and public understanding of Africa in the U.S.

Come visit the Outreach Library! We’re open Monday-Friday 9am-5pm. First time visitors receive a free “How Big is Africa?” poster and teaching guide.
Our address is 232 Bay State Road, Boston, MA 02215.

Please contact us at africa@bu.edu or visit our webpage at http://www.bu.edu/africa/outreach/.