

lahore literary festival

Art Exhibitions at #LLF2025:

- Backspace, at Alhamra Hall 2 Foyer, an exhibition by OCCO on Lahore Mall Road's Urban Experience and Climate Mitigation
- Struggles in Art and Radical Becoming - گزرو کر کرنی اپنی تم، art exhibition by Sarah Ahmad, Ustad Allah Bux Gallery, Alhamra
- Faceless, a solo exhibition by Khadim Ali at the COMO Museum, Gulberg
- The World is a Loose Stitch II, at Rohtas II, Model Town, showcasing the works of Ruby Chishti
- نرس: Longing, a film by Mehrosh Alam, Ustad Allah Bux Gallery 4, Alhamra

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 2025 #LLF2025 / ALHAMRA ART CENTER, MALL ROAD



@lhrllfest



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	HALL 1	HALL 2	HALL 3	HALL 4
2:30 – 4 p.m.	Opening Ceremony (Hall 1) Remarks by: Mr. Iqbal Z. Ahmed , Chairman LLF; Mr. Hameed Haroon , DAWN Media Group; Mr. Philipp Oliver Gross Deputy Head of E.U. Delegation; James Hampson , Country Director, British Council Pakistan; Fabrice Disdier , Director, Alliance Francaise Lahore; Antony Kar Hung Tam , Officer-in-Charge of UNESCO Office in Pakistan; Razi Ahmed , CEO LLF to welcome Professor Ayesha Jalal Keynote Address: Muslim Enlightened Thought in South Asia by Ayesha Jalal , the Mary Richardson Professor of History at Tufts University			
4:30 – 5:30 p.m.	Retrieving the Past <i>What constitutes historical methodologies? And what are the historical sources a Historian must obtain to proffer rigorous insights?</i> Ayesha Jalal, Eduardo Manzano Moreno , Spanish historian specializing in Al-Andalus, and Diana Darke , author of <i>Stealing from the Saracens</i> Chair: Mishal Husain , journalist and author	نواں پنجابی ادب خالد نین سکھ، صفرا صدق اور زبیر احمد نظامت: زاہد حسن	Sikh Splendour <i>Lahore Darbar Paintings, in the Princess Bhamba Collection at Lahore Fort, by the Hungarian painter August Schoefft, and V&A's treasures from the Sikh Kingdom</i> F.S. Aijazuddin , art historian; and Susan Stronge , art historian and V&A curator specializing in the Muslim and Sikh courts of the Subcontinent; with an introduction by WCLA Chairman Kamran Lashari Chaired by Nadhra Shahbaz Khan , Associate Professor of art and architectural history at LUMS	Society Girl <i>What happened to the late poet Mustafa Zaidi and Shahnaz Gul?</i> Co-author Tooba Masood in conversation with Sanam Maher , author of <i>A Woman Like Her, A Short Life of Qandeel Baloch</i> <i>In Partnership with the Embassy of France and Alliance Francaise Lahore</i> Jahanara <i>A fictional work on Jahanara, 1614-1680, princess and daughter of Shahjahan</i> Mobeena Shafqat in conversation with Lyane Guillaume , French author of over eight novels

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	HALL 1	HALL 2	HALL 3	HALL 4
5:45 – 6:45 p.m.	<p>The City as a Character <i>Writers narrate their experiences of immersing in key metropolises: Berlin, Athens and Lahore.</i></p> <p>David Wagner, writer of <i>Lives and Four Apples</i> among other works; Sofka Zinovieff, fiction writer and host of the podcast <i>Athens Unpacked</i>; Mohsin Hamid, bestselling author of <i>Exit West</i> among other titles; and Osama Siddique, author of <i>Snuffing Out the Moon</i></p> <p>Chair: Teresa Nicolau, Portuguese fiction writer and TV editor specializing in art and culture</p>	<p>Perceptions of Palestine <i>Panel discussion on how colonial violence alters visual objects, which in turn shapes how a society and culture relates to its own images.</i></p> <p>Azza El-Hassan, a Professor of media practices at the Doha Institute for Graduate Studies, filmmaker and author of the upcoming book <i>The Afterlife of Palestinian Images</i> and Hira Wasti Ahmed, founder and editor of <i>Acacia Magazine</i>, a New Print Magazine for the Muslim Left</p> <p>Chair: Ali Raza, author of <i>Revolutionary Pasts: Communist Internationalism in Colonial India</i>, narrating the anti-colonial struggles of Indian revolutionaries</p>	<p>اردو کے نئے افسانے دیار و دشت ذکی نقوی، اردو لیکچرر، چو آسیدن شاہ کیڈٹ کالج؛ نظامت: رفاقت حیات، مصنف میر واه کی راتیں</p>	<p>Interpreting Food</p> <p>Mumtaz Mustafa, New York-based award-winning art director has co-authored <i>Gather & Graze</i> that celebrates contemporary Pakistani street food, Spanish tapas and more.</p> <p>Chair: Jalal Salahuddin, entrepreneur and Hon. Consul General of Spain, Lahore</p>
7 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.	<p>Concert (7:30-8:30 p.m.)</p> <p>شفقت سلامت علی</p>		<p>Screening: <i>Ironeaters</i></p> <p>Shaheen Dill Riaz, Bangladeshi filmmaker and writer based in Berlin, has made, among other short films, <i>Ironeaters</i> (2008), and <i>Bamboo Stories</i> (2019)</p> <p>He is a recipient of the prestigious German TV award, the Grimme Preis</p> <p>Introduction by Umar Riaz, filmmaker</p>	

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- Special Session: (3 – 4 p.m.) The Future of Reading by the British Council – Alhamra Mural

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 2025 #LLF2025 / ALHAMRA ART CENTER, MALL ROAD



	HALL 1	HALL 2	HALL 3	HALL 4
11 – 11:55 a.m.	<p>East is East <i>New Silk Roads: Is Power Shifting Eastwards?</i></p> <p>Peter Frankopan, Professor of Global History at Oxford University, with Hasan Karar, specialist of China and Central Asia</p> <p>Peter's books <i>The Silk Roads: A New History of the World</i>, <i>The New Silk Roads: The Future and Present of the World</i> and <i>The Earth Transformed</i> have been translated into 40 languages</p>	<p>مہاندر امور تاں دا</p> <p>فوزیہ اسحاق، سلیم سہیل،</p> <p>زاہد حسن، انور زاہد</p> <p>اور رائے محمد خان ناصر</p>	<p>Feminist Climate Justice <i>How the climate crisis adversely impacts women's livelihoods</i></p> <p>Muhammad Zahir, historian; Syrrina Ahsan Ali Haque, assistant professor, Kinnaird College; Atteq ur Rehman, professor Lahore College for Women</p> <p>Chair: Shabbir Hassan</p>	<p>Resilient Architecture <i>Environmental activists share insights on indigenous solutions to sustainable living amid Climate Crisis</i></p> <p>Sunela Jayawardene, Sri Lankan environmental architect and the author of <i>A Line of Lanka</i>; Tariq Alexander Qaiser, Karachi-based expert on Mangroves and architect; Rina S. Khan, climate change reporter</p> <p>Chair: Cristina Menegazzi, UNESCO</p>
12 p.m. - 1 p.m.	<p>Paradise Regained <i>Artists and activists' response to climate change affecting Pakistan's ecosystem and our collective way forward</i></p> <p>Abdullah Fadil, UNICEF representative; Abuzar Madhu, artist and activist; Nadia Jamil, actor; Samiya Mumtaz, actor; and Nyal Muenuddin, filmmaker</p> <p>Chair: Catherine Weibel, U.N. Information Center Director</p>	<p>کلیاتِ مصطفیٰ زیدی</p> <p>مرحوم پاکستانی اردو شاعر مرکز توجہ</p> <p>فاطمہ حسن، ناصر عباس نیر</p> <p>اور فراست رضوی</p> <p>نظامت: رخسانہ صبا</p>	<p><i>In Partnership with the Embassy of Spain</i></p> <p>Utopian Umayyad?</p> <p>Eduardo Manzano Moreno, one of Spain's leading historians, who has co-edited <i>Madinat al-Zahra: The Radiant Capital of Islamic Spain</i> and written extensively on Al-Andalus. We spotlight his book <i>The Court of the Caliphate of Al-Andalus: Four Years in Umayyad Cordoba</i></p> <p>Chair: Ilona Yusuf, editor and poet</p>	<p>Art, Rebellion and Subversion: Does Money Matter?</p> <p>Clemens Berger, Austrian writer and contributor to the <i>European Review of Poetry, Books and Culture</i>; Lucy Fricke, author of <i>Daughters and The Diplomat</i>; Teresa Nicolau, Portuguese fiction writer and TV editor specializing in art and culture; and Hira Wasti Ahmed, founder and editor of <i>Acacia Magazine</i>, a New Print Magazine for the Muslim Left</p> <p>Chair: Awais Khan, author of <i>In the Shadows of Love</i></p>
1 - 2 p.m.	LUNCH (Launch of جشن: Pakistan Youth Poet Laureate Anthology in Alhamra Courtyard)			

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	HALL 1	HALL 2	HALL 3	HALL 4
2 – 3 p.m.	<p>Book Launch</p> <p><i>Broken Threads: My Family from Empire to Independence</i></p> <p>British High Commissioner to Pakistan H.E. Jane Marriott in conversation with Mishal Husain, author and journalist.</p> <p>Husain 'weaves a tender tapestry with the stories of her four grandparents in the new state of Pakistan'---<i>The Guardian</i></p>	<p>ہماری شناخت</p> <p><i>How much do the Sufi orders guide today's Pakistani state and society?</i></p> <p>نورالہدیٰ شاہ اور صغریٰ صدق</p> <p>نظامت: محمد جواد</p>	<p>Book Launch</p> <p>Seat 1C</p> <p>Zafar Masud, author and banker, with the editorial support of Syeda Amna Hasan, retells the story of his miraculous survival from a plane crash.</p> <p>Chair: Tooba Masood, author of <i>Society Girl</i></p>	<p>New Pakistani Publications</p> <p><i>Akbar in Wonderland</i></p> <p>Wajiha Hyder, literary editor, <i>The News on Sunday</i>, in conversation with Umbur Khairi, journalist and author of <i>Akbar in Wonderland</i>, explores newsroom dynamics against Pakistan's shifting sands</p> <hr/> <p>On My Way</p> <p>Mahvish Ahmed in conversation with LLF's Misha Anwar, winner of the 2023 LLF-British Council Folklore Writing Prize</p>
3:10 - 4:10 p.m.	<p>Book Discussion</p> <p><i>The Earth Transformed: An Untold History</i></p> <p>Anthropogenic Shocks to Climate</p> <p>A lecture by Peter Frankopan, Professor of Global History Worcester College, Oxford University</p> <p>Introduction by Razi Ahmed, CEO LLF</p>	<p>اردو ادب میں عورت کا عکس</p> <p>نورالہدیٰ شاہ، فاطمہ حسن، نیلم احمد بشیر اور یاسمین حمید</p> <p>نظامت: صوفیہ بیدار</p>	<p><i>In partnership with the Embassy of Italy</i></p> <p>The Golden Road through Swat</p> <p>An illustrated talk by Luca M. Olivieri (2017 Sitara-i-Imtiaz), director of the Italian Archaeological Mission in Swat, Pakistan, and Arch. Candida Maria Vassallo, Cultural Heritage Expert of the Italian Agency for Development Cooperation-AICS Islamabad</p> <p>Chair: Abdul Samad, Director of Archaeology and Museums, Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa</p>	<p>Book Launches from Sri Lanka</p> <p>Ravana's Lanka: The Landscape of a Lost Kingdom</p> <p>Author Sunela Jayawardene sifts through the myths of the reign of Ravana of Lanka in a conversation with Ayesha Tammy Haq</p> <hr/> <p>Return to Sri Lanka: Travels in a Paradoxical Land</p> <p>A blend of travel writing, memoir, history and current affairs, telling the story of Sri Lanka, Eman Omar in conversation with author Razeen Sally, paying homage to the resilience and diversity of his paternal homeland</p>

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	HALL 1	HALL 2	HALL 3	HALL 4
4:15 - 5:15 p.m.	<p>The Age of AI: Dystopian Futures <i>Our panelists present their perspectives on the threats and opportunities that artificial intelligence poses to writing history, novels and poetry.</i></p> <p>Peter Frankopan; Jessica Bruder, author of <i>Snowden's Box: Trust in the Age of Surveillance</i>; Julia von Lucadou, writer of <i>The High-Rise Diver</i> and <i>Tick Tack</i>; and Mohsin Hamid, author of <i>Exit West</i></p> <p>Chair: David S. Tonge, author and former journalist</p>	<p>In Extremis <i>Poetry and Music from Sri Lanka</i></p> <p>Maithree Wickramasinghe, Chair and Senior Professor of English at the University of Kelaniya, Sri Lanka, will read from her latest book, <i>Unexpectedly</i>, accompanied by the acclaimed pianist, Soundarie David Rodrigo</p>	<p>The Sufi Tarot, Ibn Arabi and the Mamluks <i>A history of tarot: From its Eastern origins to Western appropriation</i></p> <p>Ayeda Husain, author of <i>The Sufi Tarot</i>, and Shahnaz Aijazuddin, writer and translator</p>	<p>Abstracting the Word</p> <p>Haji Noor Deen (Mi Guangjiang) conducts a workshop on Arabic Calligraphy. Deen is an instructor in Zhen Zhou, China, and has participated in talks and workshops at the LLF, Harvard, and the Globe Theatre, London</p>
5:30 – 6:30 p.m.			<p>چٹھیاں شفق لاشاری کے ساتھ نوید شہزاد</p>	
7 – 8:30 p.m.	<p>مشاعرہ صدارت: افتخار عارف یا سمین حمید، عباس تابش، صوفیہ بیدار، صائمہ آفتاب، نسیم نازش، حماد غزنوی، فاطمہ حسن اور ناصرہ زبیری نظامت: خالد ندیم شانی</p>			

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SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2025, #LLF2025 / ALHAMRA ARTS CENTER, MALL ROAD



	HALL 1	HALL 2	HALL 3	HALL 4
12 - 1 p.m.	<p>Book Launch <i>Ringside</i></p> <p>Nasim Ashraf, former Chairman of Pakistan Cricket Board and Chairman of the National Commission for Human Development, in conversation with Shahid Malik, former High Commissioner of Pakistan to India</p>	<p>Book Launch <i>The Enduring Hold of Islam in Turkey</i></p> <p><i>Religious revivalism in Turkiye</i></p> <p>Former reporter David S. Tonge interviewed by Umer Khairi, journalist and author of <i>Akbar in Wonderland</i></p>	<p><i>In Partnership with the Embassy of France and Alliance Francaise Lahore</i></p> <p>From the Czars to the Mughals: A Travel Mosaic</p> <p>Lyane Guillaume, French author of over eight novels, examines and engages with often misrepresented countries</p> <p>Chair: Hassan Tahir Latif, managing editor <i>Aleph Review</i></p>	<p><i>Towards the Pebbled Shore: Essays</i></p> <p>Scholar and historian Syed Nomanul Haq in conversation with writer and translator Bilal Tanweer</p> <hr/> <p><i>Telling Twilight</i></p> <p>Author Athar Tahir with Navid Shahzad, acclaimed actor and writer</p>
1:15 - 2:15 p.m.	<p>An Abundance of Wild Roses <i>Women writers and their heroic characters</i></p> <p>Feryal Ali Gauhar, activist and author of <i>An Abundance of Wild Roses</i>; Rhonda Gossen, author of <i>The Twelfth of February</i>; Lucie Azema, journalist and author of <i>Women Are Also On The Journey</i>, Sofka Zinovieff</p> <p>Chair: Mahvish Ahmed</p>	<p>Parallel Universes <i>Perspectives on writing sci-fi and fantasy fiction</i></p> <p>Karen Joy Fowler, Man Booker finalist and <i>New York Times</i> bestselling author of <i>We Are All Completely Beside Ourselves</i>, and Robert V.S. Redick, a former theatre critic and the author of <i>The Red Wolf Conspiracy</i></p> <p>Chair: Nur Nasreen Ibrahim, member of the Salam Award team</p>	<p>Book Launch <i>Islamesque: The Forgotten Craftsmen Who Built Europe's Medieval Monuments</i></p> <p>Diana Darke, author of this and other books, including <i>Stealing from the Saracens</i></p> <p>Introduction by Yaqoob Bangash, Professor of History at ITU</p>	<p>The Future of Dialects <i>Protecting indigenous languages (Pashto, Hindko, Khowar and Torwari) across Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa</i></p> <p>Inayatullah Faizi, poet and writer; Abaseen Yousafzai, poet; Hina Rauf, Hindko writer; and Zubair Torwali, campaigner for protection of Torwari poetry</p> <p>Chair: Shahida Shah, President, Pakistan Women Writers Forum KP Chapter</p>
2:15 - 3 p.m.	LUNCH (English Poetry in Alhamra Courtyard and a Short Concert of Arab Music)			

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	HALL 1	HALL 2	HALL 3	HALL 4
3 - 3:55 p.m.	<p>The Art of the Play</p> <p>Clemens Berger, Austrian writer and contributor to the <i>European Review of Poetry, Books and Culture</i>; Fatima Amjed, director of the play <i>Kaur</i>; and Lucy Fricke, author of <i>Daughters</i> and <i>The Diplomat</i>; Meher Jaffri, director of the recently held play <i>The White Plague</i></p> <p>Chair: Sara Javed Rathore, author and poet</p>	<p>Mughal Lahore, Modern Tellings</p> <p>Exhibition Catalogue: The Great Mughals: Art, Architecture and Opulence</p> <p>Susan Stronge, art historian and V&A curator specializing in the Muslim and Sikh courts of the Subcontinent; Interviewed by Mehreen Chida-Razvi, Islamic Art Historian</p> <p>This major exhibition celebrates the extraordinary creative output and internationalist culture of the Golden Age of the Mughal Court (about 1560–1660) during the reigns of its most famous emperors: Akbar, Jahangir and Shah Jahan</p>	<p>Viewing Home from Afar</p> <p>Writers and a festival curator share their thoughts on what constitutes home, new homelands and the lure of nostalgia; this discussion will also look at a new literary anthology: <i>Home, It's Complicated</i></p> <p>Awais Khan, author of <i>In the Shadows of Love</i>; Fiona Razvi, Wimbledon BookFest Festival Director; Shams Haider, author of <i>2 Chamba House</i>; Osama Siddique, author of <i>Snuffing Out the Moon</i>; and Arslan Athar, short story author</p> <p>Chair: Saba Karim Khan, author of <i>Skyfall</i></p>	<p>مجموعہ</p> <p>مصنف ناصر عباس نیر کے ساتھ</p> <p>ایاز احمد، سنگ میل پبلی کیشنز</p>
4 - 4:55 p.m.	<p>Finding One's Community</p> <p><i>Dislocations, Evictions, and the Human Tenacity</i></p> <p>Jessica Bruder, author of <i>Nomadland</i>, whose adaptation won the <i>Best Picture Oscar</i>; Azza El-Hassan, David Wagner; and Karen Joy Fowler</p> <p>Chair: Nelofar Bakhtyar, LLF</p>	<p><i>In partnership with BARD</i></p> <p>Far Above the Clouds</p> <p>Naila Kiani, one of Pakistan's star mountaineers, shares her experiences of summiting eleven of the fourteen 8,000m peaks in the world</p> <p>Chair: Rhonda Gossen, writer and former diplomat</p>	<p>Art in South Asia and Across its Diasporic Community</p> <p>Painter and artist Salima Hashmi; Ruby Chishty, installation artist, and Manmeet K. Walia, independent curator, Chelsea School of Art</p> <p>Chair: Farida Batool, visual artist</p>	<p>A Reckoning</p> <p>Sofka Zinovieff, author of <i>Putney</i> (an explosive and thought-provoking novel about the far-reaching repercussions of a relationship between a young girl and a much older man) and nine other works</p> <p>Chair: Saba Karim Khan, author of <i>Skyfall</i></p> <p><i>In Partnership with Annemarie-Schimmel-Haus Lahore</i></p> <p>UNESCO City of Literature Celebrating Heidelberg, a UNESCO City of Literature since 2014</p> <p>Claudia Kramatschek, literary critic, with Julia von Lucadou, writer of <i>The High-Rise Diver</i></p>

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	HALL 1	HALL 2	HALL 3	HALL 4
5 – 6 p.m.	<p>ایک گفتگو پاکستان کے ثقافتی پہلو کی</p> <p>افتخار عارف ، نور الہدیٰ شاہ</p> <p>اور اصغر ندیم سید</p> <p>نظامت: شیبیا عالم</p>	<p>Lifting South Asia out of the Poverty Trap <i>Exploring avenues to tackle poverty in South Asia, currently the least economically integrated region in the world</i></p> <p>Razeen Sally, economist with a focus on global trade policy and Asia in the world economy; Roshaneh Zafar, development activist and founder of the Kashf Foundation; Rhonda Gossen, writer and former diplomat; and Ijaz Nabi, country director at the International Growth Centre</p> <p>Chair: John Reed, <i>Financial Times</i>' South Asia bureau chief</p>	<p>Istanbul: Three Cities, Three Stories <i>From Byzantium to Suleiman's reign and its vibrant present, Istanbul's cultural fusion and cosmopolitanism make it a city like no other.</i></p> <p>Prague-based traveler Lukas Kubin in conversation with Amna R. Ali</p>	<p>Forgotten Images: Postcards of Pre-Partition Pakistan (1890-1947)</p> <p>Forgotten Images is a curated collection of rare postcards from the pre-Partition era (1890-1947), offering a deep cultural and historical connection to South Asia</p> <p>F.S. Aijazuddin with Huzaifa, a Peshawar-based oral historian</p> <hr/> <p>Lost Elements from our Identity <i>Salvaging traces of the past through oral accounts</i> Huzaifa, Peshawar-based popular oral historian</p>
6:15 – 7:15 p.m.	<p>Haji Noor Deen (Mi Guangjiang) conducts a workshop on Arabic Calligraphy.</p>			
8 p.m.	<p>قوالی</p> <p>شیر میانداد خان</p> <p>(تمغہ حسن کارکردگی)</p>			

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