



FESTIVAL OF HOPE

A Global Virtual Poetry Initiative by Versopolis

Press Release

Versopolis is a European poetry platform that creates new opportunities for emerging European poets and is supported by the European Commission's Creative Europe program.

In normal times, Versopolis supports about 30 European poetry and literature festivals, authors and poets in their work. With the outbreak of covid-19 the majority of poetry festivals found themselves in an urgent state, their future is threatened: 1000 hours of work and invested funds have been lost, whereas with their existence the existence of the majority of authors is threatened as well.

With the "Festival of Hope" Versopolis has now succeeded to unite with about forty partners worldwide, starting on "The World Book Day" on April 23rd to organize the first global virtual poetry festival that will speak of hope, future and possibilities. It is not about seeding false optimism in dark times, but about conducting quality content which addresses the most pressing questions.

Together with about forty partners from 25 countries worldwide, Versopolis is from April 23rd onward hosting the diversity of the literary and poetic community. Partners have created new meaningful content or have carefully selected existing ones that deserve to be shared in this moment with a global audience. On the available digital channels of Versopolis and its partners an intense program for literature will be hosted.

The Festival of Hope will kick off with a panel on Thursday April 23, 6 PM including
Ales Steger, Versopolis, Slovenia
Yan Lian, author, China
Carolyn Forché, author, USA
Sharmistha Mohanty, poet, India

„For millions of people around the globe poetry is as important as air, water or bread. It is among the essential goods that make us live a human life. For many much more poetry becomes important in times of crisis. In times of crisis we have the urge to reach out for the most essential, elementary that makes us humans truly human. Language, especially the poetic creative use of language, is our common ground, it is a powerful unifying force for people from all continents, different cultures, systems of belief and religions. Poetry is our food, it gives us power to strive on, it creates new ideas and initiatives. It gives us hope and energy to go on, to change and create the world a better place.“

Ales Steger, Versopolis, on the occasion of Festival of Hope



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where
poetry
lives

www.versopolis.com/festival-of-hope

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About Versopolis

Versopolis is a European poetry platform that creates new opportunities for emerging European poets and is supported by the European Commission's Creative Europe program.

Versopolis was designed as a poetry platform that creates opportunities for emerging European poets by financially and organizationally supporting translations of their poetry into English and other European languages and publishing them in printed booklets, e-books and on the www.versopolis.com website along with full profile descriptions. Versopolis also supports the poets' mobility by organizing a number of guest appearances at different European literary festivals, which creates countless opportunities for networking with foreign publishers, literary agents, the press and other actors in the field of literature. This helps the excellent poets to breakthrough to the European and global poetry scene. At the moment Versopolis joins 30 festivals with 270 poets.

About Versopolis Review

Versopolis Review is a platform that publishes opinions of a range of authors on urgent social, political and cultural questions concerning Europe. It wishes to lead a debate that is oriented towards intersectional thought, feminisms, the importance of de-growth in the time of the climate deregulation, and towards a necessity of a self-reflexive view on the European colonial and imperial history.



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Partner of Festival of Hope



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EUROPEAN POETRY FESTIVAL



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stadtbibliothek



SARDAM - interdisciplinary literature festival



szépirodalom
társasága

THEPOETRYSOCIETY



Trafika Europe



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FESTIVAL

VILNIUS REVIEW



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