

THURSDAY, MAY 30, 2024

Registration, open 12:00 pm - 2:15 pm and 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm, *Lower Lobby* | The Mysterious Bookshop, open 9:00 am - 6:30 pm, *Flatiron*

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| 6:30 pm - 8:00 pm | THRILLERFEST OPENING RECEPTION Co-Hosted by TOR/Forge, Minotaur & St. Martin's New York Ballroom |
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THRILLERFEST FRIDAY, MAY 31, 2024

Registration, open 7:30 am - 6:30pm *Lower Lobby* | The Mysterious Bookshop, open 9:00 am - 6:30 pm, *Flatiron Room*

| ROOM | EMPIRE EAST | GRAMERCY | BOWERY | EMPIRE WEST |
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| MORNING COFFEE - 8:00 am - 10:30 am Hosted by ITW Foyer | | | | |
| 8:00 am - 8:50 am | BEAU, FOE OR NO? Dynamic Character Relationships Moderator: A.J. Tata Margot Douaihy Alex Finlay Shari Lapena Tosca Lee Clare Mackintosh Wanda Morris | CONFLICT, CLOCK OR CRUCIBLE? What Makes a Good Thriller Moderator: Terry Shames John Dobbyn Joseph LeValley Jode Millman Joshua Moehling Polly Stewart | HEADBUTT, DROPKICK OR CHOKEHOLD? Writing Realistic Fight Scenes Moderator: Ruth Church Chris Grall T.R. Hendricks Isabella Maldonado Stephen Mann Gregg Podolski | IMPOSSIBLE ESCAPES, UNPREDICTABLE TWISTS OR MISBEHAVING CHARACTERS? When the Unexpected Works Moderator: Hank Phillippi Ryan Allison Buccola Reed Bunzel Matthew Quinn Martin William Maz Thomas Shawver Tessa Wegert |
| 9:00 am - 9:50 am | HARDCOVER, PAPERBACK OR E-BOOK? Thriller Award Nominees Moderator: Tosca Lee S.A. Cosby J.T. Ellison Tess Gerritsen Lisa Gray Lisa Unger | GASLIGHTING, INTIMIDATION OR STALKING? Psychological Thrillers Moderator: Samantha Skal Samantha M. Bailey Karen Dionne Alex Finlay Robyn Harding Kate White | NARRATOR, SPECIAL EFFECTS OR FULL CAST? Audiobook Trends Moderator: Stacy Creamer Scott Brick Suzanne Freeman Hillary Huber Saskia Maarleveld Ellen Quint | SWEET, SOUR OR BITTER? The Taste of Revenge Moderator: Tessa Wegert S.K. Andrews Jaime Lynn Hendricks Amy Impellizzeri Sarah Zachrich Jeng Bonnie Kistler |
| 9:50 am - 10:20 am | Authors from morning sessions will be signing in Lenox Ballroom. | | | |
| 10:20 am - 11:10 am | ThrillerMaster Tess Gerritsen interviewed by Karin Slaughter, <i>Empire East</i> | | | |
| 11:20 am - 12:10 pm | MURDER, MAYHEM OR PSYCHIATRY? The Twisted Women's Book Club Moderator: K.J. Howe Steve Feldberg Joseph Finder Heather Gudenkauf Gregg Hurwitz Shari Lapena Clare Mackintosh Karin Slaughter | LIARS, THIEVES OR MURDERERS? Developing Antagonists Moderator: Allison Brennan Mysti Berry Marco Carocari Vanessa Cuti Lawrence Light Hannah Morrissey | PICTURESQUE, BUSTLING OR REMOTE? International Settings Moderator: Jeffrey Wilson Traci Abramson Simon Gervais Puja Guha Don Helin Tullan Holmqvist A.J. Tata | SINGLE, SERIAL OR SPREE? Types of Murder Moderator: Tammy Euliano Esme Addison Robert Bailey Mindy Carlson Doug Grad Deborah J. Ledford Lev Rosen |
| 12:10 pm - 12:40 pm | Authors from the midday sessions will be signing in Lenox Ballroom including ThrillerMaster Tess Gerritsen | | | |
| 12:40 pm - 1:30 pm | Spotlight Guest Steph Cha interviewed by Walter Mosley, <i>Empire East</i> | | | |
| 1:40 pm - 2:30 pm | ITW MEMBERSHIP MEETING, <i>Empire East</i>. Win Prizes! | | | |
| 2:40 pm - 3:30 pm | SLUSHPILE FINDS, BREAKOUTS, OR GENRE-BENDING SUCCESSES Stories from the Front Lines Moderator: Samuel Octavius Dan Conaway Tara Gavin Sandy Lu Kelley Ragland John Talbot | VISUAL, EPIC OR THREE-ACT STRUCTURE? Writing Cinematic Structure Moderator: Brian Andrews Rachel Koller Croft Simon Gervais Nic Izzi Melissa Larsen Jon McGoran Stephanie Wrobel | GOODREADS, NEW YORK TIMES OR KIRKUS? Book Reviews Moderator: Jon Land Sam Boush Vannessa Cronin Elizabeth French Ayo Onatade Conner Reed Henrietta Thornton | SUBTERFUGE, COVERT OR DOUBLE AGENT? The World of Espionage Moderator: Jamie Freveletti I.S. Berry Susan Ouellette Jonathan Payne Roman Rozhavsky (FBI) |
| 3:40 pm - 4:30 pm | Spotlight Guest Ruth Ware interviewed by Lisa Unger, <i>Empire East</i> | | | |
| 4:40 pm - 5:30 pm | ACCOLADES, AWARDS OR LEGACY? The Life of a ThrillerMaster Moderator: Jeff Ayers Tess Gerritsen Heather Graham Charlaine Harris David Morrell Walter Mosley John Sandford R.L. Stine | TROT, CANTER OR GALLOP? Pacing Your Plot Moderator: Paula Munier Joe Clifford Jennifer Fawcett Carl Vonderau Jennifer Wilkov | INSTAGRAM, FACEBOOK OR TWITTER/X? Building Your Social Platform Moderator: Sara DiVello Stephanie Hockersmith Tabrizia Jones Geneva Rose Kate Vocke | INDIE, SMALL PRESS OR HYBRID? Successful Publishing Routes Moderator: Carter Wilson Trevor Firetog Caryl Janis Meryl Moss Darden North Robert Rogers Michael Stagg |
| 5:30 pm - 6:00 pm | Authors from late afternoon sessions will be signing in Lenox Ballroom including Spotlight Guests Steph Cha and Ruth Ware | | | |
| 6:30 pm - 8:00 pm | FRIDAY NIGHT COCKTAIL PARTY sponsored by Kevin Anderson & Associates, <i>Metropolitan West Ballroom</i> | | | |

Subject to change

THRILLERFEST SATURDAY, JUNE 1, 2024

Registration, open 7:30 am - 2:15 pm, Awards Banquet Ticket Sales 5:30 pm - 7:15 pm, *Lower Lobby* | The Mysterious Bookshop, open 9:00 am – 6:00 pm, *Flatiron*

| ROOM | EMPIRE EAST | GRAMERCY | BOWERY | EMPIRE WEST |
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| 8:00 am - 8:50 am | REINVENTION, HARD WORK OR NEW IDEAS? Sustaining Your Writing Career Moderator: Susan Lee Don Bentley Allison Brennan J.T. Ellison Jerri Williams Jeffrey Wilson | LAND, SEA OR AIR? Settings for Action Scenes Moderator: Christianna Mason Ryan Aldred John David Mann Adam Sikes L.A. Starks Robert Swartwood | FARMHOUSE, CHALET OR CONDO? Why Setting Matters Moderator: Dwayne Goetzl Karen Dionne Carinn Jade William Jensen Vera Kurian Tony Wirt | SHOCKING, GRIPPING OR RELATABLE? Crafting Great Openings Moderator: Meredith Anthony Linda Hurtado Bond M.M. DeLuca Tracey Devlyn Kathleen Willett |
| 9:00 am - 10:00 am | ITW PRESENTS BREAKFAST WITH 2024 DEBUT AUTHOR CLASS: J.M. Adams, L.K. Bowen, A.J. Chambers, Mailan Doquang, Peter Malone Elliott, Christina Estes, Kerrie Faye, Abbott Kahler, Elise Hart Kipness, Jon Lindstrom, Megaera Lorenz, Meredith R. Lyons, Lisa Malice, Mel Mattison, Rebecca McKanna, Allison McKenzie, Kate Michaelson, K.T. Nguyen, Adam Plantinga, Brooke Robinson, Carla Seyler, Tracy Sierra, Jim Spoonhour, Pamela Statz, Jack Stewart, Travis Tougaw, Steve Urszenyi Introductions by Lisa Gardner, Metropolitan East Ballroom | | | |
| 10:00 am - 10:30 am | Authors from early morning sessions will be signing in Lenox Ballroom including 2024 DEBUT AUTHORS | | | |
| 10:30 am - 11:20 am | CHEKHOV, UNDERPINNING OR INEVITABILITY? Foreshadowing in Fiction Moderator: Jaime Levine Lynne Constantine Mark Greaney David Morrell John Sandford C.J. Tudor | AUDIOBOOK, SHORT STORY OR FIRST NOVEL? Thriller Award Nominees Moderator: Todd Gerber Jeff Buick Rona Halsall Matt Phillips J. Todd Scott Laura Wolfe Stacy Woodson | YOUTUBE, PODCAST OR INSTA-LIVE? Getting Great Coverage Moderator: Hank Phillippi Ryan Kimberly Belle Sarina Bowen Danielle Girard Heather Gudenkauf Vanessa Lillie Kaira Rouda | TRAVEL, INTERVIEW OR RABBIT HOLE? Research Techniques Moderator: Kira Peikoff Mark Alpert Mir Bahmanyar W. Michael Gear James L'Etoile Catherine McKenzie |
| 11:30 am - 12:20 pm | Silver Bullet Award Winner Louise Penny interviewed by Chris Pavone, Empire East | | | |
| 12:20 pm - 12:50 pm | Authors from the late morning sessions will sign in Lenox Ballroom including SILVER BULLET WINNER Louise Penny | | | |
| 1:00 pm - 1:50 pm | CHARACTER, CONFLICT OR VOICE? Immersing Your Reader Moderator: Nathaniel Marunas Lou Berney Mark Greaney Charlaire Harris Gregg Hurwitz Walter Mosley Sarah Pekkanen | JEALOUSY, GREED OR REVENGE? Motivations for Murder Moderator: Michael Bracken J. Luke Bennecke J.H. Bográn Mary Dixie Carter Deborah Levison Camille Minichino | THREE-ACT, NOVEL-TO-SCREEN OR BEAT SHEET? Structure in Writing Moderator: Boyd Morrison Steven James Darby Kane Cara Reinard Jule Selbo Tom Straw | YOU, ME OR WE? Co-Writing and Estate Writing Moderator: Lynne Constantine Don Bentley Jon Land Sonya Sargent A.M. Strong Greg Wands |
| 2:00 pm - 2:50 pm | THRILLERMASTER Dennis Lehane interviewed by Gregg Hurwitz, Empire East | | | |
| 2:50 pm - 3:10 pm | Authors from the early afternoon sessions will sign in Lenox Ballroom including THRILLERMASTER Dennis Lehane | | | |
| 3:10 pm - 4:00 pm | TWISTS, REVEALS OR CLIFFHANGERS? Satisfying Your Reader Moderator: Dervla McTiernan S.A. Cosby Joshilyn Jackson Louise Penny Karin Slaughter Lisa Unger Ruth Ware | BOURBON, CHAMPAGNE OR COCAINE? Characters and Their Vices Moderator: Michael Bradley Jamie Mason Rick Mofina Wanda Morris Drew Murray Lisa Regan | ROMANCE, THRILLER OR COZY? Success Across Genres Moderator: Heather Graham Yasmin Angoe Libby Cudmore Daryl Wood Gerber Jenna Kernan Cate Ray | FIRST, THIRD OR MULTIPLE? POV In Popular Fiction Moderator: John Copenhaver Elizabeth Crowens Cristina LePort Christina McDonald Otto Penzler Bonnie Traymore |
| 4:10 pm - 5:00 pm | IMPERFECT PARTNER, EVIL SIBLING OR CREEPY NEIGHBOR? Trends in Suspense Moderator: Steven James Chris Bohjalian Steph Cha Joseph Finder Lisa Gardner Jean Kwok Sarah Pekkanen | UNDERDOG, PRODIGY OR LONER? Writing Effective YA Moderator: Leslie Lutz Sorboni Banerjee Andrea Hannah Dominique Richardson R.L. Stine Elizabeth Wein | SNARKY, UNRELIABLE OR UNAPOLOGETIC? Developing a Unique Voice Moderator: Lee Matthew Goldberg Joanne Leedom-Ackerman Lauren Ling Brown Jennifer Moorhead Jennifer Pashley | PERSUASION, NEGOTIATION OR MANIPULATION? Effective Dialogue Moderator: James L'Etoile Daniella Bernett Jeff Cooper Laurie Elizabeth Flynn McCracken Poston, Jr. Deborah Goodrich Royce |
| 5:00 pm - 5:30 pm | Authors from the late afternoon sessions will sign in Lenox Ballroom | | | |
| 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm | PRE-BANQUET COCKTAIL PARTY, hosted by OCEANVIEW & ITW, Metropolitan West Ballroom | | | |
| 7:00 pm | ITW 19th ANNUAL THRILLER AWARDS BANQUET, Metropolitan Ballroom 2024 ThrillerMaster TESS GERRITSEN, Award Presented by 2023 ThrillerMaster Charlaire Harris 2024 ThrillerMaster DENNIS LEHANE, Award Presented by 2023 ThrillerMaster Walter Mosley 2024 Silver Bullet Award Recipient LOUISE PENNY, Award Presented by 2017 Silver Bullet Award Recipient Lisa Gardner 2024 Thriller Legend Award Recipient AUDIBLE, Award Presented by NYT Bestseller Joseph Finder Presentation of the THRILLER AWARDS | | | |
| 4:10 pm - 5:00 pm | THRILLERMASTER AFTER PARTY honoring 2024 ThrillerMasters TESS GERRITSEN AND DENNIS LEHANE, hosted by ITW – Metropolitan Ballroom | | | |

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