



**Kayd Somali Arts & Culture
and Partners**

Present

Somali Week Festival 2016



Friday 21st - Sunday 30th October 2016

Oxford House, Derbyshire Street, London E2 6HG



Somali Week Festival 2016: Leadership and Creativity



Kayd Somali Arts and Culture, in collaboration with its partners, is proud to present Somali Week Festival (SWF) 2016. This year's festival will run from Friday 21st October to Sunday 30th October at Oxford House, Derbyshire Street, London, E2 6HG and at various other venues across London.

Somali Week Festival is an integral part of Black History Month and offers the best of Somali arts and culture, both old and new. The festival offers a mix of events including poetry, literature, panel discussions, documentary film screenings and music. Through these different artistic forms, SWF has explored a variety of themes in past years and has become a widely recognised and anticipated annual event in the UK.

Theme of the Year:

Leadership and Creativity

"Leadership and Creativity" has been chosen as the main theme for this year's Somali Week Festival programme of activities. Throughout history, art has had a profound impact on the daily lives of Somalis in the Horn; few significant events in the fields of politics, economics, or social affairs that have not been expressed through poetry or other forms of expression. Artists have deeply shaped public attitudes and opinions and consequently the social and political fabric of Somali society. While poetry has always been a dominant artistic medium, the influences of other mediums of expression such as theatre



and music have fluctuated over time, depending on the social-political climate.

Given the importance of artists in Somali public life, Kayd Somali Arts and Culture will explore the theme of leadership and creativity from a range of different angles by inviting some of the most popular and established artists to this year's Festival. While we have

invited several contemporary and more traditional high-profiles guests from the Somali Horn, we also plan to showcase Somali artists who have been born or raised in Europe or North America. Together these different generations and groups of artists have greatly enriched Somali arts.

This year, we are delighted to welcome a number of highly esteemed international guests, including scholars, activists, poets, writers and playwrights, musicians and other artists from the Somali region, the UK and the wider diaspora. Our guests include: Prof Ahmed I Samatar, founding Dean of Macalester's Institute for Global Citizenship; Prof Ali Jimale Ahmed, Queens College and the Graduate Center of the City University of New York; writer Nuruddin Farah; Ahmed Naji Saad, singer, musician, and songwriter; Yurub Mohamed Abdi "Yurub Geenyo", and Ahmed Wali Ibrahim Mohamoud "Furinle", lead members of Xidigaha Geeska; Said Salah Ahmed, esteemed playwright, poet and teacher; Ali Beshir Abdi "Ali Dhaanto", singer songwriter; Donia Jamal Adam, development worker, and human rights activist; Mona Kosar Abdi, Somali-American multimedia journalist; Fathia Absie, journalist, filmmaker,

and storyteller; Abdikarim Farah Qarey "Abdikarim Jir", music composer, and Director General of the Somali National Theatre; Mahamed Mahamud Yasiin "Dheeg", poet and member of Somaliland's Upper House of Parliament, the House of Elders; Andrew Harding, journalist and writer; Abdi Roble, Founder and Executive Director of the Somali Documentary Project; Aabi Mirre Da'ar, singer and musician; artist Khadra Muse Yusuf; poet Luqmaan Ali Waraabe; and independent researcher Bodhari Warsame.

These guests will be sharing a platform and collaborating with the following UK artists and guests: Sheikh Mohamoud Sheikh Dalmar, Nadifa Mohamed, Aar Maanta, Sagal Ibrahim Shire, Fatuma Khaireh, Mahamed Muhumed Abdi "Haykal", Abdirahman Mohammed Abtidoon, Abira Hussein Abdisalam Hereri, Asha-Luul Mohamed, Clare Pollard, Mohammed Shire, Aisha Farah, Zainab Dahir, Dr Martin Orwin, Ismail A. Ubah, Rashid Sheikh Abdillahi, Dr. Idil Osman, Mohammed Abdullahi Artan, and many more.





The Programme

Friday 21st October 2016

Launch of Somali Week Festival: Leadership & Creativity

5:15-8:30pm | British Museum

Chaired by Donia Jamaal

Fee £5 | Language : English

Artists are leading public figures in the Somali region, and artistic forms of expression offer the public a means of engaging with new values and ideals, including ideas of good leadership. In the launch event of Somali Week Festival 2016, Prof Ahmed I Samatar will introduce the theme, the interconnections between leadership and creativity and the importance of creativity for the Somalis in the Horn and the diaspora. Scholar Ahmed I. Samatar will be joined by singer-songwriter Ahmed NajiSaad.

Prof Ahmed I. Samatar is the founding Dean of Macalester's Institute for Global Citizenship and has lectured at many universities and colleges across the globe. Samatar, whose expertise is in the areas of global political economy, political and social thought, and African development, is the author/co-author/editor of five books and over forty articles and reviews. His current research interests are in the areas of leadership and the state in Somaliland.



Ahmed Naji Saad is one of the most established and cherished of Somali artists. Born in Mogadishu, he is a singer, songwriter and music composer. Ahmed has dedicated himself to the preservation, education and promotion of Somali culture and music. His work has been highly influential for many Somali through independence, the civil war, and exile abroad.

Saturday 22nd October

Somali Games

2-4pm | Oxford House

Free £5 | Language : English /Somali

A fun, interactive and educational session for accompanied 5-13 year olds. Zaynab Dahir, a Somali storyteller, entertainer and educator will lead the activities, which will include Somali story-telling, face-painting, arts and crafts, clowns and more! This year she will be showcasing a play that she has worked on with Somali children. Zaynab is an activist and promoter of the Somali language among Somali children raised in the UK. She runs her own organisation, GaloolSomali, which publishes teaching materials for learning Somali.



Community based approaches to reconciliation, peace and humanitarian assistance

4pm-5:30pm | Oxford House

Free | Language : English / Somali



In the wake of a disaster, diaspora's involvement is invaluable. Many times they offer material and cash assistance. As we look at rebuilding societies, the diaspora also continues to be key in offering relative and necessary support. Take part in this event showcasing various ways the diaspora can offer assistance to their home societies through in-kind donations and community owned dialogue and reconciliation. Barlin Ali, Dr. Khadijo, Dr. Yusuf Omar and Safiya Khalid will present various approaches to bring peace to societies anchored in culture.

Barlin Ali is the Program Coordinator for USAID (United States Agency for International Development) – Center for International Disaster Information.

Dr. Yusuf Omar holds a PhD from La Trobe University, Melbourne, Australia in refugee studies. He and Dr. Khadijo have been working alongside universities in the Somali regions to increase peace capacity building process. Their work is strongly anchored in community based open dialogue.

Saturday 22nd October

Pioneering Creativity

6-10pm | Oxford House

Chaired by Farhia Obsiye

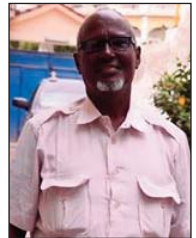
Fee £6 | Language : Somali

Over the last few decades rural to urban migration has increased exponentially across the Somali regions and profoundly impacted the arts. Artists have sought to engage with these transformations in their work, and urbanisation has also brought them into contact with different individuals, artistic genres and new sources of inspiration. This event features urban-based innovators in the arts, including poets, writers and musicians.



Mahamed Mahamud Yasiin "Dheeg" is a poet, playwright, and songwriter, born and bred in the suburbs of Hargeysa district. He is a former member of the first artist troupe established in the city in the early 50s called Walaalaha Hargeysa. His literary production is acclaimed for its variety and combination of the serious poetic style conforming to tradition, and the modern song poem known for its captivating appeal and easiness. Dheeg is a symbol of the older generation and its passion for poetry, but also an entertainer who appeals to the young urban middle classes.

Abdikarim Farah Qarey "AbdikarimJiir" is undoubtedly one of the most brilliant living Somali music composers. His musical works are very popular among Somalis across the globe. He rose to eminence in the 70s with his remarkable performance of the famous song of "Beledweyn" written by M I Hadraawi. This song was received with unprecedented jubilation by the Somali public and set a new standard for Somali musicians. Serenity and quietude are generally said to be natural conditions in which the creativity of the artist flourishes, yet Abdikarim lives permanently in Mogadishu and continues to work undeterred.



Luqmaan Cali Waraabe is one of our visiting poets, and his work mainly addresses the youth, religion, and other social issues.

Mahamed Muhumed Abdi “Haykal” is a poet, and his work explores social issues such as khat. He is the writer of Masiibada Cagaaran (“The Disaster of the Green Leaf”).



Sunday 23rd October

Writing Online: Media, Storytelling, and Self-expression

6-10pm | Oxford House

Chaired by Quman Akli

Fee : £7 | Language : English



Given the relatively recent origins of the Somali written script, literature is a young and rapidly evolving art form in the region. In the diaspora context, many young Somalis have taken to writing, publishing, storytelling, and broadcasting their work online, transforming modes of communication and exchange, and reaching new audiences. This event celebrates the work of journalists, filmmakers, and storytellers who are writing, blogging, showcasing, and reporting online.

Fathia M Absie, former Voice of America (VOA) broadcaster and reporter, is a Somali-American writer and film-maker. She has been an active social worker for many years, but is also an inspiring storyteller. Her first film, *Broken Dreams*, is a collective outcry on identity and the plight of young people joining extremist groups. In 2014 Absie also published the graphic novel *The Imperceptible Peace-Maker*, an allegory on vigilante justice. Her second film is a narrative called *The Lobby*, a story about friendship and cultural differences. Absie is currently working on her third



film, *Grapes of Heaven*, a story about the human resilience, finding faith and being given a second chance at love. Absie hopes to inspire change through the power of storytelling. She considers herself a humanist and a citizen of the World.



Mona Kosar Abdi is a Somali–American Multimedia Journalist. She is a reporter at the ABC television network, and a contributing writer at the Al Jazeera Media Network and CNN News Cable. Abdi also founded and was the Editor-in-Chief of the Gazzetta media outlet.

Sagal Ibrahim Shire is a Somali fashion and lifestyle blogger based in the UK. Her discussion will focus on the role of Muslim-Somali fashion and hijab-wearing women in the UK and in the west. She blogs at sagaleeyaa.com.



Popular vocalist and musician Aabi Mirre Da'ar will conclude the evening with a performance. Aabi is a renowned oud player and vocalist. He is also brother of Abdilahi Mirre Da'ar, a visiting artist for the 2014 Somali Week Festival, who passed away early this year in Hargeysa.

Monday 24th October

Soomaalinimo in the 21st Century
6-9.30pm | UCL
Chaired by Michael Walls
Fee £6 | Language : English



This evening event continues a long tradition of debating Somali affairs at the University of London, bringing some of the most renowned scholars together in conversation with one another, and with lively audiences. This year we are exploring the meaning of Soomaalinimo (Somaliness) and the ways in which it has evolved historically since it first emerged in anti-colonial struggles in the 1940s. Speakers will investigate the multiple and contested political, cultural and social meanings of Soomaalinimo, and reflect on what it means today for younger generations.

Prof Ali Jimale Ahmed is from Queens College and the Graduate Center of the City University of New York. Prof Jimale is the Chair of Comparative Literature at Queens College, and teaches courses in African, Middle Eastern,



and European literature. His books include: *The Invention of Somalia* (Red Sea Press, 1995); *Daybreak Is Near: Literature, Clans, and the Nation-State in Somalia* (Red Sea Press, 1996); *Fear Is a Cow* (Red Sea Press, 2002); and *When Donkeys Give Birth to Calves: Totems, Wars, Horizons, Diasporas* (Red Sea Press, 2012) and he was one of the first scholars to challenge and deconstruct the politicised narratives around Somali identity and culture and homogeneity.



Nadifa Mohamed is a renowned Somali-British novelist and author of two books, *Black Mamba Boy* and *The Orchard of Lost Souls*. She was awarded Granta's 'Best of Young British Novelists' award in 2013, and was nominated for the Guardian First Book Award.

Donia Jamal Adam is a fervent storyteller, curious amateur photographer, human rights advocate and campaigner. She is an ardent proponent of the rights of women, with a strong focus on girls' empowerment. Her belief in the healing power of storytelling is firmly rooted in her past working experience with refugees – a role which saw her work and travel through many regions globally. She holds a Masters from Yale University and she is the Co founder of Somalifaces an online project that shares everyday stories of ordinary Somali people from around the world.



Mohammed Shire is an author, blogger, and historian living in the United Kingdom. Born in war-torn Somalia, his family moved to provide a better life for themselves when he was only six years old. He spent his youth in the Netherlands before deciding to pursue his education in the UK where he is working towards a PhD at Loughborough University. Shire is especially interested in Somali history, and runs a blog devoted to exploring the past events of the country.

The evening will close with a concert by Aar Maanta, the voice of the new generation of Somali musicians here in the UK. He will perform with his band. Aar Maanta is a Somali-British singer-songwriter and instrumentalist. He is popular with Somali and non-Somali audiences of all ages as he fuses contemporary music with traditional Somali rhythms to produce an eclectic sound.



Tuesday 25th October

Anglo-Somali Event

A talk and discussion with Somaliland's Minister of Environment and Rural Affairs, Mrs. Shukri Haji Ismail

6-7:30pm | Oxford House

Free | Language : English

Mrs. Shukri Haji Ismail will outline some of the major problems relating to environmental degradation, such as the process of desertification, and the role of the Somaliland government in trying to deal with them.

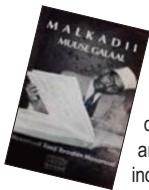


Book Launch and Discussion: Malkadii Muuse Gaalaal by Mohamoud Haji Ibrahim Mohamoud and Conversation with Said Salah

7:30pm- 10:00 | Oxford House

Fee £5 | Language : Somali

Said Salah, esteemed playwright, poet and teacher, will talk about Leadership in Somali Traditional Culture. He will recite poetry that pictures the image of the leader in the minds of Somali people, and he will also read some of his most famous and intriguing stories. This will be followed by the performance of his one-act play featuring his 50-year journey as an artist, which he has produced specifically for this year's festival.



Malkadii Muuse Gaalaal is a new book written by Mohamoud Haji Ibrahim Mohamoud on the life and academic legacy of late Muuse Haji Ismail Galaal. The panel, led by Rashid Sheekh Abdillahi, historian and writer, will consider the life and works of the scholar, a Somali literary champion whose role in the preservation and promotion of Somali literature and culture is recognized by all. Personalities who knew Musa Galaal, including playwright Said Salah Ahmed, linguist Dr. Martin Orwin, and Rashid Sheekh himself, will recount the story of the man and the scholar.

Mohamoud Haji Ibrahim is a poet, oral literature connoisseur and collector and his previous works, including a book on the traditional way Somalis manage their camels.

Tuesday 25th October

Somali Week SOAS

6-9:30pm | SOAS, University of London

Chair by Dr Idil Osman

£5 | Language : English



SOAS in collaboration with Bloomsbury Somali Studies and the Centre for Migration and Diaspora Studies presents *Somali Week at SOAS, "A conversation with Prof. Ali Jimale Ahmed" and a panel discussion "Multiculturalism Post-Brexit.

Panel 1 : In conversation with Prof Ali Jimale Ahmed

An opportunity to converse and discuss Prof. Ali Jimale Ahmed's poetry, literature, and academic writings, and his thoughts on education, teaching, and the arts.

Prof Ali Jimale Ahmed is from Queens College and the Graduate Center of the City University of New York. Prof Jimale is the Chair of Comparative Literature at Queens College, and teaches courses in African, Middle Eastern, and European literature. His books include: *The Invention of Somalia* (Red Sea Press, 1995); *Daybreak Is Near: Literature, Clans, and the Nation-State in Somalia* (Red Sea Press, 1996); *Fear Is a Cow* (Red Sea Press, 2002); and *When Donkeys Give Birth to Calves: Totems, Wars, Horizons, Diasporas* (Red Sea Press, 2012) and he was one of the first scholars to challenge and deconstruct the politicised narratives around Somali identity and culture and homogeneity.



Panel 2 : Multiculturalism Post-Brexit

The Brexit vote was a shock to many, with a key underlying reason being that this new and rising English nationalism is anti-immigration and even anti-multiculturalist in its orientation. Up until recent years, especially under New Labour, definitions of Britishness emphasised that modern Britain was a multi-national, multicultural society. There are many ways to be British and these ways were fluid and changing. Ethnic minorities, have to a certain extent, become more woven into the life of Britain and they were redefining what it meant to be British. Brexit has arguably put a dent on this progress. There is mounting evidence now that the result of Brexit have led to an uptick in racial abuse and harassment, generating a need to rebalance what it means to be British in order to give due emphasis to what we have in common as well as respect for difference. This session brings together panel members well-versed in matters related to multiculturalism and aims to shed light on the state of multiculturalism post-Brexit.

Dr Dafina Paca is a Cultural Studies scholar based at Cardiff University's School of Journalism, Media and Cultural Studies. Her research interests are in representations of ethnic minorities and asylum seekers, gender issues, identity and cultural politics. Her doctoral thesis explored the discursive construction of identity/s by Kosovo Albanians in the UK. She has given numerous talks on identity politics in a globalizing world and representations of refugees and ethnic minority audiences.

Dr Simon Goodman is a Research Fellow in psychology at Coventry University. He uses discursive psychology to address a number of issues. Much of this research explores the discursive construction of asylum seekers and refugees in which he has focussed on the ways in which potentially prejudicial arguments against asylum seekers are presented as reasonable and non-prejudicial. In addition, his work focuses on what is, and what is not, considered to be racist particularly with regard to asylum seeking. His research also explores the (largely negative) experiences of asylum seekers in the UK and the ways in which they make complaints and resist their negative presentations.

Guled Ibrahim has rapidly earned himself several university degrees .. BA from the University of Minnesota, Jurist Doctor from Mitchel Hamline Law School, and international MBA from BPP Business School in London. His personal drive in the field of public service and conflict resolutions is equally admirable. He has been selected to participate in the International Criminal Court's Assembly of States Conference in Hague in 2015, as well as the One Young World Summit in Ottawa in 2016. Besides, his activities have already taken him to many countries across the globe.



Wednesday 26th October

Diaspora Reflections

6-10pm | Oxford House

Chaired by Dr Muna Elmi

Fee £10 | Language : English



This evening will reflect on the experiences of young British-Somali writers and artists. It will feature the following young British-Somali artists, who are aspiring to publish, perform, or display their work to a mainstream English-speaking audience:

Khadra Muse Yusuf is an internally driven and emotionally charged visual artist who lives in Southern Italy. Inspired by Van Gogh, her art is contemporary and spiritual using mixed media such as recycling and collages, and expressing beauty, emotion, and colour. Khadra has been working as an artist for 8 years and within that time she has completed 15 successful shows.

Aisha Afrah is a poet whose work touches on many themes, such as nature, being a woman and a refugee. She also writes short fiction, which are mainly set in Somalia. She recently graduated with a BA in English Literature and Creative Writing, and is currently undertaking a Master's degree in African Literature at SOAS, University of London, with a focus on Somali Literature.



Hamdi Khalif is a writer, poet, and member of Bards Without Borders, an artists' collective creating responses to mark the 400th anniversary of Shakespeare "Dead Get Over it!" had sell out shows at the Southbank Centre, RichMix and Hackney showroom. Hamdi is now working on a collection of poems around the experience of Black Muslim women

Fatuma Khaireh is a playwright and contributor to OOMK Zine and a research associate at Numbi Arts. Her short plays have been performed at Oval House, Lyric Hammersmith, and Theatre 503. In July 2014 her play Baddiya was performed as part of the I Am Your Neighbour Festival in Brixton.

Sagal Sheekh is co-founder of 492, an online-based company that centres on contemporary designs celebrating individual freedom. They provoke dialogue and invoke growth under the guise of art. Their products range from clothing, accessories, playing cards and canvasprints specialising in satirical references towards political, historical, societal and cultural issues with an emphasis on East African culture.



The event will conclude with musical performances by Ali Dhaanto, a songwriter and one of the most popular Dhaanto singers. "Dhaanto" is song-dance traditionally rooted in the Somali region of Ethiopia, but now very popular among all Somalis.

Thursday, 27th October

Book Launch - In conversation with Nuruddin Farah and Reading of Translated Works
6-10pm | Oxford House
Fee £6 | Language : English /Somali



Somali culture has two lives. It lives both in the Somali language and in translation. It comes from Somali people writing in many different languages and making connections between Somali culture and the wider world.

Panel 1: Book launch and in conversation with Nuruddin Farah and Abdisalam Hereri

From a Crooked Rib by Nuruddin Farah was first published in 1970. It tells



a coming of age story about a young nomad woman escaping an arranged marriage. Farah wrote the book in English while studying in India. After the novel was published in Europe, Nuruddin Farah quickly gained international acclaim, but his work was never available in Somali.

During a book tour in Europe during the 1970's Farah was warned that Somali authorities planned to arrest him. Since then he has lived abroad, writing many more novels in English and becoming a leading figure in Somali Studies. After 46 years, *From a Crooked Rib* has now been translated into Somali by a renowned TV and radio producer, Abdisalam Hereri.

Somali Week Festival is proud to celebrate this achievement by inviting Nuruddin Farah & Abdisalam Hereri to launch the Somali translation of *From a Crooked Rib* at the festival.

Panel 2: Somali Poetry - Readings and Panel Discussion

This evening will continue with readings of Somali poetry from visiting poet Mahamed Mahamud Yasiin "Dheeg" and other poets based in the UK. The poems will be read in Somali by the poets and in English by their translators. After the readings the poets and translators will hold a discussion of Somali poetry and translation, relating their different perspectives as poets and translators from different backgrounds working in different traditions.

Poet Mahamed Mahamud Yasiin "Dheeg" who lives and work in the Somaliland will launch his newly translated poems. The English versions have been prepared by Maxamed Hassan 'Alto' and English poet Bill Herbert thanks to our collaboration with the Poetry Translation Centre. Alto, a Somali translator and journalist and Bill have worked on many translations of Somali poets together, including poems by Hadraawi and Garriye.

They will perform alongside CaashaLul Mohamad Yusuf and Clare Pollard. Caasha grew up in Somalia but has lived in the UK since 1990. She is fast emerging as one of the most exciting young poets living in the Somali diaspora. Caasha, Clare, and Alto have worked together for years translating Caasha's poems from Somali into English and their collaboration continues.

These poets will be joined by Elmi Ali, a British born Somali writer, and spoken-word artist based in the North-West of England. He has performed his work in the Power House Library in Mosside and at the British Library, as part of the Africa Writes festival. He has been published in *Sable15* and *Critical Muslim*.



Friday 28th October

Book Launch, Recording the Past, and Performance by Dur Dur Band International

6-10pm | Oxford House

Chaired by Dr. Iqbal Jhazbay

£6 | Language : English

The Mayor of Mogadishu, by Andrew Harding

The Mayor of Mogadishu is produced by one of the BBC's most experienced foreign correspondents, Andrew Harding. It reveals the tumultuous life of Mohamud Tarzan Nur - an impoverished nomad who was abandoned in a state orphanage in newly independent Somalia, and became a street brawler and activist. When the country collapsed into civil war and anarchy, Tarzan and his young family became part of an exodus, eventually spending twenty years in north London. But in 2010 Tarzan returned, as mayor, to the unrecognizable ruins of a city now almost entirely controlled by the Islamist militants of Al-Shabab. For many in Mogadishu, and in the diaspora, Tarzan became a galvanizing symbol of courage and hope for Somalia. But for others, he was a divisive thug, who sank beneath the corruption and clan rivalries that continue, today, to threaten the country's revival. The Mayor of Mogadishu is a rare insider's account of Somalia's optimistic beginnings and subsequent unravelling, and an intimate portrayal of one family's extraordinary journey.



Dr. Iqbal Jhazbay is the author of "Somaliland: An African Struggle for Nationhood and the International Recognition". He is the former South African ambassador to the state of Eritrea. He is a current professor at the University of South Africa.



Recording the Past, and Performances by Dur Dur Band International



This session is dedicated to artists and activists who are researching, recording, and writing about the past. The workshop will provide an opportunity to discuss issues of decolonising Somali archives for the benefit of local knowledge production and the importance of creating awareness of the cultural expertise of the people whose ancestors left their mark on these collections. Also, the

discussion will address the dire lack of active Somali expertise in the field of archival and object collections, and the issue of cultural ownership of Somali archives, many of which were either destroyed during the war or scattered around the world.

Bodhari Warsame, an independent researcher, will share two kinds of sound recordings that constitute a rare treasure in the modern Somali archival heritage. The first batch was captured in 1910 from a group of Somali touring cultural entertainers employed in what was then known as völkerschauen (ethnic shows), at the time popular in Europe and beyond between the 1870s and 1930. The second batch is captured from two Somali men ensnared in the WWI hostilities in Europe who were later put in German enemy prisoners of war camps.



Abdi Roble is the Founder and Executive Director of the Somali Documentary Project. A multi-award winning and documentary photographer, and archivist who has exhibited across North America and beyond, he will share over a decade of documenting the Somali migration globally.

Abira Hussein will share her ongoing digital archive project at Autograph ABP and a survey of the Somali object collection at the British Museum. Abira is selected to be on the Transforming Archive Traineeship with the National Archives, and will be hosted by the London Metropolitan Archives.



The event will conclude with musical performances by Dur Dur Band International.

Dur Dur Band International is a revival band paying homage to the original band famous in the 1980s. The London based branch is composed of lead singer Fadumina Hilowleh and an 11 piece band. Dur Dur Band historically was a legendary funk, disco and soul band that was later disbanded in the 1990's.



Saturday 29th October

Hot Off the Press: Newly published Books in Somali

6-10pm | Oxford House

Chaired by Dr Jama Musse Jama

Free | Language : Somali



This session is dedicated to Somali writers and poets, providing them with a platform to interact with each other, showcase their work and present and discuss their new publications with the audience. Dr. Jama Musse Jama, prominent scholar, activist and director of the publishing company Ponte InvisibleRedSea Press Online.

Mohamud Sh. Ahmed Dalmar will share *Irdho*, his first book-length satirical work. The book consists of a poem of almost 900 verses, about an imaginary fictionalised story about the Somali language, travelling to Europe, and seeking asylum in the UK.



Ismaaciil C. Ubax is a young and emerging writer whose second novel *Indhadeeqey ku aaway?* (2016) is circulating well both in Europe and Somaliland. His first novel *Maxaan galabsadee la iga goynayaa* (2013) is well-read among recent Somali-language novels.

Professor Abdalla Mansur will present a revised edition of his classic work *Taariikhda iyo Luuqadda Bulshada Soomaaliyeed* (History and Language of Somali Society) just published by Looh Press. The new edition contains an expanded chapter on linguistics of the Horn of Africa, a map and index.

Siciid Jaamac Xuseen will read from the recently published second edition of his collection of short stories *Safar aanjiho lahayn*. This new edition is revised and extended with the addition of new stories describing new imagined travel experiences of the author.



Abdalla Osman Shafey will present his new book on the role of parents in the formation of children in formal education (*doorka waalidka ee waxbarashada carruurta*). He will also present *Mathematics Reference Book of Somali Math Terminology*, co-edited with Dr. Jama Musse Jama.



Other Somali writers, including Maxamed Xirsi Guuleed (Sweden), Cabdiraxmaan Abtidoon (Norway), and Abdalla Shafey (Sweden), who presented their works during the festival will join the audience to interact with the different publishers and printers based in Europe and the Horn of Africa. The open discussion panel, consisting of publishers (Loooh Press,



SomaliBooks.com), will focus on challenges and opportunities for the Somali-language publishing industry. The books will be on display for the whole day and the authors will be available for signing.



Sunday 30th October

Final Beats

5-10pm | Town Hall, King St, Hammersmith,
London W6 9JU

Fee £17



This closing event will bring together visiting musicians Yurub Geenyo, Ahmed Wali "Furinle", and Aabi Mirre Da'ar, with UK-based artists for a final night of entertainment at the heart of the city.

Singer Yurub Geenyo and musician Ahmed Wali "Furninle", members of the Xidigaha Geeska — the first band to emerge in Somaliland after the war—will headline this year's event, together with Aabi Mirre Da'ar. It is a rare opportunity to host these musicians and to hear them perform live for the first time in London, alongside London-based artists, such as Kaltun Ba'ado, renowned vocalist, and Faysal Salah, nasheed and spoken word artist whose work is often centred around his Islamic faith.



Somali Week Festival will migrate around various venues. We will launch the week at the British Museum, another events will take place at Oxford House, the School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS) and University College London (UCL). In addition, one of the festival days will run in partnership with the Black South West Network and local Somali organisations in Bristol.

V E N U E S

Oxford House

Bethnal Green
Derbyshire Street
London, E2 6HG

British Museum

Great Russell Street
London
WC1B 3DG

UCL

The Darwin lecture theatre
Darwin Building
Gower Street, London
WC1E 6BT

SOAS

University of London
Thornhaugh Street
Russell Square
London, WC1H 0XG

If you would like further information about Somali Week Festival, to book tickets or a stall, or volunteer, please email info@kayd.org

For the latest news and updates visit our website www.kayd.org and follow us on Twitter [@somaliweekfest](https://twitter.com/somaliweekfest)



SUPPORTED BY



LOTTERY FUNDED



KILFINAN TRUST



The Pharo Foundation



The British Museum

poetry translation centre



Royal African Society



www.aminadaan.com