



## **INTERNATIONAL VAMPIRE FILM & ARTS FESTIVAL 2017**

### **Sighisoara, Transylvania**

### **LITERARY PROGRAMME**

**Sunday 28 May**

**Venue - Sala Sander (National Information and Tourism Center), Strada Turnului Nr.1.**

**11.00am      SESSION 1**

**Welcome from KATIE RUTH DAVIES, IVFAF Literary Programme Director**

**Interviews, Readings and Q&As with 2017 Golden Stake Award Nominees and USA TODAY Bestselling writers**

**Aaron Speer - Night Walker (Australia)**

Aaron loves writing adult paranormal fiction. Vampires, werewolves, ghosts....oh my. When not spending time with family he enjoys dragging his forever patient wife to watch his beloved St George Illawarra Dragons, going to the movies for the latest blockbusters, going to the gym for his dream body. Or just a body. Anything, really. He lives with his wife and cat in Sydney Australia, the setting for the majority of his works.

**Tima Maria Lacoba - Blood Gifted (Australia)**

Tima Maria Lacoba is a former ancient historian and archaeologist who accidentally smashed a 3,000 Egyptian vase while on her first dig! Her supervisor made her glue it back together again. It took a week. From there she went on to specialise in late Roman-British archaeology, and the military forts along Hadrian's Wall, because buildings don't smash as easily. Now she's combined her love of history with another passion—story-telling—to create a dark tale of Roman soldiers cursed by a British witch. In 2011, Bloodgifted was shortlisted in the Atlas Award and eventually came fourth place. In 2012 it was listed among the top ten in the Choelit Search for an Aussie Star Competition. In 2013, she was offered a publishing contract but

declined in favour of going indie, preferring the idea of being in charge of her own creation.

**Sloane Murphy - The Immortal Chronicles (UK) 12:15**

By day, Sloane works full time as an account manager and by night writes escapism in the form of Paranormal Romance, all while looking after her fur baby & Mr M. She was born and raised in England along with 2 sisters, 2 brothers and a plethora of cousins, and comes from a REALLY big family! Sloane is currently working on the Immortal Chronicles series, alongside some other Top Secret projects too. She likes to be busy - unless busy involves doing the dishes, but that seems to be when all the ideas come to life.

**1.30pm      SESSION 2**

**Hayleigh Barclay - reading an excerpt from her forthcoming novel, Kaskia (working title) (UK)**

Hayleigh is taking a three-year Doctorate of Fine Arts in Creative Writing at the University of Glasgow, where her primary research involves investigating the connection between Gothic literature and the Goth subculture. The creative element of the research comprises writing a full-length novel centering on a female assassin who discovers she is part of an ancient lineage of Vampires. Hayleigh has written for theatre and is in talks with a local arts group to have her script for a Gothic radio play adapted for theatre.

**Katie Ruth Davies - Blood Omen Saga (UK)**

Katie's Young Adult vampire saga, Blood Omen, has gained a solid and growing teen fanbase in her home of choice, Georgia (the one at the arse end of Russia, not the state- that'll come later!). Like most authors, she has a husband and pets- 15, actually. She also has three smart kids, the eldest of whom has just learnt to read- and has started on her mum's book. Katie finished the last of the Blood Omen Saga, number 5, last November and is now rounding off the first of a new series about angels and demons, set in Georgia- a country truly lacking in YA paranormal fiction. She finds inspiration in daily (and nightly) life, train journeys and random music. Her vampires are like a second family and she says the best thing about the whole experience of writing and publishing is having so many fans who love her vampires just as much as she does!

**Golden Stake Short Story Winner 2017 - 'TRUTH' by Timothy C. Hobbs (USA)**

**Interviews, Readings, Q&A with 2017 Golden Stake Award Nominees (Con't)****Rhiannon Frater - The Lament of the Vampire Bride (USA)**

Rhiannon Frater is the award-winning author of over a dozen books, including the *As the World Dies* zombie trilogy (Tor), as well as independent works such as *The Last Bastion of the Living* (declared the #1 Zombie Release of 2012 by Explorations Fantasy Blog and the #1 Zombie Novel of the Decade by B&N Book Blog), and other horror novels. She was born and raised in Texas where she currently lives with her husband and furry children (a.k.a pets). She loves scary movies, sci-fi and horror shows, playing video games, cooking, dyeing her hair weird colors, and shopping for Betsey Johnson purses and shoes.

**Jaye Wells - Children of Ash (USA)**

Jaye Wells is the author of several speculative fiction novels. She is best known for writing urban fantasy with her *USA Today* bestselling Sabina Kane series and the Prospero's War series. In 2012, she won the Best Urban Fantasy Reviewers' Choice Award from *RT Book Reviews* for *Blue-Blooded Vamp*, and her novels *Dirty Magic* and *Silver-Tongued Devil* were also nominated for the award. Before she became an author, Jaye was a magazine editor and freelance writer. She earned her B.A. in Art History from Southern Methodist University, and holds an MFA in Writing Popular Fiction from Seton Hill University. She belongs to International Thriller Writers, Sisters in Crime, and Horror Writers Association.

**April White - The Immortal Descendants (USA) 15:45**

April has been a film producer, private investigator, bouncer, teacher and screenwriter. She has climbed in the Himalayas, survived a shipwreck, and lived on a gold mine in the Yukon. She and her husband share their home in Southern California with two extraordinary boys, their dog, various chickens, and a lifetime collection of books. Book one in the Immortal Descendants series is the 2016 Library Journal Indie Award-winner for YA, and all five books are on the Amazon Top 100 lists in Time Travel Romance and Historical Fantasy.

**Michael Arnzen (USA)**

Hailing from Amityville, Michael is an award winning author of horror fiction and an English professor at Seton Hill University. His trophy case includes four Bram Stoker Awards, the first

being for his debut novel *Grave Markings*. He has entertained audiences around the world with his often funny but always disturbing stories.

**Karpov-Kinrade (USA), USA TODAY Bestselling writers of *Vampire Girl* – Interview, Q&A**

Karpov Kinrade is the pen name for the husband and wife writing duo of USA TODAY bestselling, award-winning authors Dmytry Karpov and Lux Kinrade.

Together, they write fantasy and science fiction and have so far created the *Vampire Girl* series, *The Nightfall Chronicles*, *The Shattered Islands* series and *The Forbidden Trilogy*.

They live in beautiful northern California with their three daughters who are brimming with their own creative magic in music, storytelling and art, and their three cats who think they're gods (and probably are).

**6pm CLOSE**