



■ Poet Simon van Schalkwyk with Michele Betty of Dryad Press and Dr Wamuwi Mbaao.

Wynberg-raised poet launches debut anthology

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Simon van Schalkwyk launched his debut poetry collection *Transcontinental Delay* at the Cavendish Square branch of Exclusive Books on Thursday March 18.

He was in conversation with researcher and cultural theorist, Dr Wamuwi Mbaao.

Simon grew up in Wynberg and attended St Columba's Senior Secondary in Athlone. He now lives in Johannesburg where he is a lecturer in the Department of English Studies at Wits University and is the academic editor for the Johannesburg Review of Books.

In *Transcontinental Delay*, Simon tracks experiences of immi-

grant arrival and departure, periods of waiting and suspension between destinations. He draws on localities such as Cape Town, Johannesburg, Britain, Argentina and Sweden, considering the world from a position of "transcendental homelessness" rather than more conventional expressions of estrangement, alienation, or exile.

Simon is a recipient of the Philip Stein Award for Poetry and also of the Mamphela Ramphele scholarship.

He has BA Hons and PhD degrees in English Literature from UCT and went on to obtain a Master of Arts degree in Modern and Contemporary Poetry from the University of Bristol in England.

Italian film festival



■ The 21st edition of the Italian Film Focus will take place from today, Thursday March 25, to Tuesday March 30 online. The event is promoted by ControLuce, the Italian Institute of Culture in Pretoria, the Embassy of Italy in South Africa, the Consulate of Italy in Johannesburg, the Consulate of Cape Town, the Embassy of Italy in Zambia, and the Embassy of Italy in Zimbabwe. The festival will open with the award-winning film *Hidden Away (Volevo Nascondermi)* by Giorgio Diritti about an Italian self-taught painter, Ligabue. The director will present the film with a live introduction and participate in a Q&A. The festival programme includes live interactions with a director every day and a film event to celebrate the three-time Oscar winner Federico Fellini on the centenary of his birth with the movie, *Juliet of the Spirits (Giulietta degli Spiriti)*. Visit cinekit.it/italian-filmfocus-in-southern-africa to book and for the full programme. Tickets cost US\$3.50 (R51.90 on Monday March 22) but the first 1 000 tickets are free. Tickets include access to the 12 films and participation in the live events.

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No traders please. No wine or pork is sold in our Halaal stores.

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