



International Crime Culture Festival
2020

Houston Crime Festival (HCF) is a 4 day event designed and organized by Ernesto Mallo, international writer, journalist and playwright. He is the founder and curator of the successful festival **BAN! - Buenos Aires Negra**, in Argentina since 2011, and **Zeitgeist Barcelona**, Festival of the Thought, going for its 3rd edition; among other .

This is a festival about crime culture and noir literature. Its motto is

- Where real crime mingles with fiction crime -

This means that the event gather together not only writers and artists but also:

- Journalists and reporters who work on crime news.
- Professionals in educational, legal and legal subjects, judges, forensic doctors, psychiatrists, researchers, criminologists, sociologists, police officers and experts in the different fields of real crime.
- Former criminals. Men and women who made a criminal career and paid with their freedom, will come to tell their experience in the underworld and to be trapped in the networks of justice.

OBJECTIVES

Submotto:

- The book is the best friend of humans -

The purpose of HCF is to stimulate quality literary production, to contribute to the dynamisation of the publishing industry, to favor the commerce of bookstores and to add people to a fundamental activity: reading.

Reading, while entertaining, broadens horizons, exercises the imagination, helps to understand the human condition and teaches to transcend the appearances that are constructed through non-literary discourses.

In addition to promoting literary creation, HCF proposes a reflection on real crime and its links with literary and artistic. It is configured as an opportunity to discuss the pressing problem of crime in relation to power, society, economy and education.

Crime is a problem that concerns not only lawyers, law enforcement officers and the police, but the entire society.

INTERNATIONAL IMPORTANCE

HCF will be part of the international noir circuit generating links of reciprocity and collaboration with **BAN! Buenos Aires Negra**, in Argentina; **Semana Negra de Gijón**, **Barcelona Negra** and **Getafe Negro**, in Spain; **Mord & Hellweg**, in Germany; **Polars du Sud**, in France; **Theakstons Old Peculier Crime Writing**, of the United Kingdom, among many others that all over the world call the attention of the public and the press.

Given the experience and contacts of **BAN!**, **HCF's** activities will be followed by important press media from all over America and Europe and a very important presence will be promoted in social networks and blogs around the world.

HCF PRINCIPLES

A festival of free access that is made thanks to the joint effort of institutions and people, and is not for profit. **HCF** is democratic, all guests receive the same treatment no matter how famous they may be. Promotes gender equality. **HCF** is also a festival of solidarity that firmly believes in the ancient ideals of freedom, equality, fraternity. Is a non discriminatory event that makes no unfair or prejudicial distinction between different categories of people or things. Those of us who organize **HCF** firmly believe in non-violence and peaceful methods for the resolution of conflicts.

VALIDITY OF CRIMINAL LITERATURE

Crime fiction confirms our belief, despite some evidence to the contrary, that we live in a rational, comprehensible and moral universe.

P.D. James

The crime novel is the great moral literature of our time.

Jean Patrick Manchette

The primary duty of literature is to tell us the truth about ourselves by telling us lies about people who never existed.

Stephen King

Book marketing is like opening doors for your readers to find you, not a stick you hit them with.”
Heather Hart

ACTIVITIES

Round Tables - Lectures - Public Interviews - Performances - Dramatic Action - Photo Exhibition.

24 lectures will be scheduled with a duration of 25 minutes each.

4 visits to places of interest related to literature or real crime.

1 exhibition of photographs, paintings or drawings related to criminal matters.

Lecturers Mix

12 men – 12 women

12 writers – 12 professionals

Participants wish list (Writers)

USA

Patricia Cornwell
Attica Locke
Kathy Reichs
Meg Gardiner
Cormack McCarthy
Don Winslow
Nick Pizzolatto
Philip Mayer
David Simon
Laura Lippman

Europe

Domingo Villar – Spain
Jo Nesbo – Norway
Inge Schilperoord – Netherlands
CL Taylor – UK

Americas

Elmer Mendoza – México
Guillermo Martínez – Argentina
Mercedes Rosende – Uruguay
Marçal Aquino – Brasil

Professionals

Neill Franklin – Former Baltimore Police Chief
Luis Arturo Sanchez, M.D. - Executive Director & Chief Medical Examiner – IFS,
Harris County.
Art Acevedo – Police Chief, Houston
Steven Nelson – Sociologist University of Houston
Jia Wang, MD – Criminal Psychiatrist
Dr. Joycelyn M. Pollock, Criminologist – Texas State University
Cristina Manresa – Spain – Superintendent of Police – Catalunya, Spain.
L. Cristina Griffith - Assistant Director – Federal Bureau of Prisons.
Lise Olsen – Investigative Reporter, Houston Chronicle
Vanessa Legget - freelance journalist, author, lecturer.

Art Exhibition

Photography / paintings / sculptures crime related.

Performances

Group of 3 actors representing 5 minutes funny pieces as separators between the conferences.

Documentaries

4 Documentaries on crime related subjects.