ABDELLAH TAIWA
Abdellah Taïa was born in Rabat in 1973 in a poor family. He lived in the city of Salé until 1998. He lives in Paris now. Editions du Seuil published his first novel, "Kiffe kiffe demain" (1985) when she was 17 years old. It was a huge success in France, selling over 360,000 copies and translated into several languages. He was shortlisted for the prestigious French literary prize the Renaudot. Abdellah Taia is the first Moroccan and Arab writer to declare publicly his homosexuality.

ABDELLAZIZ ERRACHIDI - AGADIR

ABDERRAHIM ELKHASSAR

ABDELKADER BENALI
Abdellah Benali was born in 1970 in The Netherlands, of Moroccan origin. Benali published his first novel, "Bruidsk dart en (Wedding by the Sea)" in 1996, for which he received the Georgiusfonds Prize, Paris, his second novel, "De langverwachte" (The Long-Awaited), 2002, Benali was awarded the international literary Prize. He has since published, so far, nine more novels, "Bruidsk dart en" (1996), "De werkers" (The Workers, 1998), "De zee" (The Sea, 2000), "De tranen van Adalbert" (The Tears of Adalbert, 2002), "De valok" (The Catastrophe, 2004), "De zon" (The Sun, 2005), "De oorlog" (The War, 2006), "De getuigen" (The Witnesses, 2008) and "L'armée verte" (The Green Army, 2009). He also translates both poetry and prose and has contributed to many Arabic, English, and other cultural supplements. Since 2004 he has lived and worked in the United Arab Emirates.

YASSIN ADNAN

YASSIN ADNAN

HAMDI EL GAZZAR

MANSOUR EL SOUWAIM

MANSOURA EZ ELDINE

MANSOURA EZ ELDINE

JOUMANA HADDAD
Joumana Haddad was born in Lebanon in 1975. She is head of the Cultural pages of the prestigious "Al-Nahar" newspaper, as well as the administrator of the ENP literary prize (the "Arab Booker") and the editor-in-chief of Jadali magazine, a controversial Arabic magazine specialized in the Berber and arts of the body. Amongst her books, "Fire for a dream" (1998), "Reflections on a ruined beach" (1999), "The Wisdom of Flowers and Butterflies" (2002), "Conversations with international writers" (2006), "Death will come and it will have your soul" and "Anthology of 150 poets who committed suicide" (2007).

RAABEE JABER
Rabee Jaber, was born in 1972 in Beirut. He is the editor of the weekly cultural supplement of the daily newspaper. Since 1992 he has published 16 novels. Jaber is considered as one of the most talented young novelists.

AHMAD SAADAWI

ADANIA SHIBLI
Adania Shibli, born in Palestine in 1974, has twice been awarded the Young Writer’s Award by the AAM (Gelfen/Brodsky Foundation) for her novels "Measures" (Shukr, 2002) and "Korans and Beads (Beads at Night)" (Sin el-Eld, 2004). She has published short stories and essays in literary magazines, such as "Adaab" and "Zawaya", and Alexandria’s "Amkenah". She has published short stories and essays in literary magazines, such as "Adaab" and "Zawaya", and Alexandria’s "Amkenah". She has also published short stories and essays in literary magazines, such as "Adaab" and "Zawaya", and Alexandria’s "Amkenah". She has also translated poetry and prose into several languages, and won the Hopwood Award, the Gosling Prize, and the Arab American Book Award. She is at work on a new novel and a collection of short stories.

MOHAMMAD SALAH AL AZAB

WAFDI AL AHMAD
Wafdi Al Ahmad, born in Yemen in 1972, is the author of "Guerrière Philosopher", for which he was nominated for the Arab Literary Prize in 2008.

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Gamal al-Ghitani

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Habib Selmi

‘This is one of the most ambitious and exciting ventures Bloomsbury has undertaken and it is a real privilege to have been able to work with so many talented writers and translators on an international project of such quality’
Bill Swainson, Commissioning Editor

HAY FESTIVAL

Beirut39 Book Capital

Beirut39 is a cultural project initiated by the Beirut39 Committee and its organizers, in partnership with the Beirut International Book Fair and the BDEA (Beirut District Economic Association). Beirut39 celebrates the vibrancy of contemporary Arabic literary and cultural life through events that offer exceptional opportunities for writers to engage with their readers and other creative figures from around the world. Beirut39 is a cultural project initiated by the Beirut39 Committee and its organizers, in partnership with the Beirut International Book Fair and the BDEA (Beirut District Economic Association). Beirut39 celebrates the vibrancy of contemporary Arabic literary and cultural life through events that offer exceptional opportunities for writers to engage with their readers and other creative figures from around the world. Beirut39 is a cultural project initiated by the Beirut39 Committee and its organizers, in partnership with the Beirut International Book Fair and the BDEA (Beirut District Economic Association). Beirut39 celebrates the vibrancy of contemporary Arabic literary and cultural life through events that offer exceptional opportunities for writers to engage with their readers and other creative figures from around the world. Beirut39 is a cultural project initiated by the Beirut39 Committee and its organizers, in partnership with the Beirut International Book Fair and the BDEA (Beirut District Economic Association). Beirut39 celebrates the vibrancy of contemporary Arabic literary and cultural life through events that offer exceptional opportunities for writers to engage with their readers and other creative figures from around the world.

‘These 39 Arab writers are all under the age of 40. They have flung open the doors on Arabic culture inviting the reader to transcend cultural boundaries and land in a region known as the 'Arab World'’
Hanan al-Shaykh

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