FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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European Literature Night (ELN) returns to New York for its 8th annual edition on Thursday, October 28, 2026!

October 12, 2025 –The Czech Center New York, in coordination with European Union National Institutes for Culture (EUNIC New York), is thrilled to be presenting the 8th annual European Literature Night (ELN 2026) at the Ukrainian Institute of America on Wednesday, October 28th at 6:00PM ET. This one-of-a-kind event, free and open to the public, will bring together fourteen award-winning authors, each from different European countries, who will be celebrating the English translations of their latest works during an evening of performances, readings, and panel discussions moderated by PEN America.

Nik Quaife, President of EUNIC New York and Head of Cultural Affairs for the Irish Government in New York, says, “At a time of many divisions, translation is more than a literary endeavor; it is an act of understanding, empathy, and connection. Translators and interpreters are among our most vital human technologies, bridging languages, cultures, and communities, and their work has never been more important. I am particularly proud that this year’s European Literature Night will bring together 17 languages in New York City, a city of multiple cultures, to celebrate the extraordinary richness and diversity of European literature. And I am especially pleased that we are gathering at the Ukrainian Institute of America, an opportunity to express our solidarity with Ukraine and reaffirm our shared commitment to cultural exchange, freedom of expression, and the power of words to transcend borders.”

Tereza Porybná, Director of the Czech Center New York, adds, “This evening represents the power of literature to bridge cultures, languages, and histories. We invite translators, scholars, and literary professionals to engage with these remarkable European voices.”

ELN 2026 will explore four urgent themes that are currently shaping contemporary European Literature:

- **In the Land of Women:**
  Feminist movements across the world have made undeniably significant strides in the last century. But in spite of this, women and mothers—even in the countries considered the most liberated—must contend with their value being contingent on external considerations.
- **Breaking the Mold:**
  What happens when a book refuses to stay in its lane?
- **Resilience & What the Earth Reveals:**
  Rivers, earthquakes, gardening - our most enduring images and metaphors for how we live often evoke the natural world around us reflecting the tenacity and resilience of the human spirit.
- **Europe’s Haunted Century:**
  Europe's 20th century began with upheaval as World War I, World War II and the Holocaust reshaped and reconfigured its landscape and borders.

The fourteen participating authors and their new books are:

- **Austria:** Tanja Paar – *The Trembling World*

- **Czechia:** Petra Hůlová – *The Long Version*
- **Estonia:** Carolina Pihelgas – *The Cut Line*
- **Flanders:** Jean-Claude van Rijckeghem – *Daughter of Doom*
- **Germany:** Michael Lentz – *Schattenfroh*
- **Ireland:** Tadhg Mac Dhonnagáin – *Madame Lazare*
- **Italy:** Nadia Terranova – *The Night Trembles*
- **Lithuania:** Marius Burokas – *The Seismograph*
- **The Netherlands:** Raoul de Jong -- *Jaguarman*
- **Poland:** Mikołaj Łoziński – *My Name is Stramer*
- **Portugal:** paulA neves – *PASSAIC: Poems*
- **Spain:** Sara Cordón – *Para español, pulse 2*
- **Switzerland:** Laura Vogt – *Woman, Idle*
- **Ukraine:** Yuri Andrukhovych – *Radio Night* presented by Mark Andryczyk

For one extraordinary evening, some of Europe's most compelling literary voices come together under one roof in New York, offering a rare chance to experience the continent's rich and diverse storytelling in a single night. The evening's events will include 14 live readings, four panel discussions, Q&A sessions with the authors, on-site book sales and signings, networking with translators, scholars, and cultural professionals, and more.

Details for the event can be found here: LINK

RSVP and Registration: LINK

Participating institutions:
EUNIC New York Cluster · Instituto Cervantes New York · Austrian Cultural Forum New York · Estonian Ministry of Culture · Consulate General of Sweden · Goethe-Institut New York · Lithuanian Cultural Institute · Italian Cultural Institute of New York · Consulate General of Belgium / Delegation of Flanders to the USA · Czech Center New York · Consulate General of Switzerland · Instituto Camões / Consulate General of Portugal · Polish Cultural Institute New York · Consulate General of Ireland · Consulate General of Sweden · Consulate General of the Netherlands · Ukrainian Institute of America · Consulate General of Denmark · Villa Albertine – French Institute for Culture and Education, Delegation of the European Union to the United States

The Czech Center New York:
The mission of the Czech Center New York (CCNY) is to actively promote the Czech Republic by highlighting its rich culture, innovation, and creativity in the United States. CCNY offers a **diverse program** encompassing visual and fine arts, film, literature, music, architecture, design, fashion, science, and social innovation. In addition to hosting its own events, CCNY collaborates with other organizations to **facilitate intercultural initiatives** that bring together Czech and American partners. CCNY also **promotes the Czech language** by offering a range of language courses. CCNY is **part of the Czech Centres**, a network of cultural institutions funded by the Czech Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

EUNIC:
Created in 2007, the New York cluster of EUNIC, bringing together 38 cultural missions from the European Union, is working in partnership to strengthen the transatlantic dialogue and cultural cooperation and showcase European values and creativity. EUNIC – European Union National Institutes for Culture – is the European network of organizations working in 90 countries

worldwide through a network of 125 clusters and acting as a platform for promoting European values, sharing knowledge, building capacity amongst its members and partners, and engaging local partners in dialogue and common cultural projects.

PEN America:
PEN America stands at the intersection of literature and human rights to protect free expression in the United States and worldwide. We champion the freedom to write, recognizing the power of the word to transform the world. Our mission is to unite writers and their allies to celebrate creative expression and defend the liberties that make it possible. Founded in 1922, PEN America is the largest of the more than 100 centers worldwide that make up the PEN International network. PEN America works to ensure that people everywhere have the freedom to create literature, to convey information and ideas, to express their views, and to access the views, ideas, and literatures of others. Our strength is our Membership—a nationwide community of more than 4,500 novelists, journalists, nonfiction writers, editors, poets, essayists, playwrights, publishers, translators, agents, and other writing professionals, as well as devoted readers and supporters who join with them to carry out PEN America's mission.

ALTA:
ALTA was founded in 1978 by a cohort of translators at the University of Texas, Dallas to develop cultural communication and understanding through the art and craft of literary translation. ALTA has since expanded into a nonprofit arts membership association that provides resources, community, support, and advocacy to the translation community.