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NEW YORK RIGHTS FAIR PUTS HOT TOPICS ON THE TABLE, GEARS UP FOR ITS DEBUT

With Its Agenda Finalized, New York Rights Fair (NYRF) Is Set to Welcome Agents, Rights Professionals, Authors, Illustrators and Publishers to New York's All-New Book Fair

NEW YORK, NY – May 22, 2018 – Seven-figure book auctions, China's literary consumers, Scandinavian crime fiction, European comics, the changing IP rules of the New Hollywood, crowdsourcing books, L.A. streaming giants on a buying spree, the boom in translated books, the boom in audiobooks. These are just a few of the hot topics the New York Rights Fair has planned for its debut next week at the Metropolitan Pavilion in New York's Chelsea neighborhood. The show kicks off at 10 a.m. on Wednesday, May 30, and runs through 3 p.m. on Friday, June 1, 2018.

Seventy NYRF speakers are due to arrive in the city from the U.S., the U.K., Europe, Australia and beyond to participate in the finalized agenda, which includes 21 panel discussions along four distinct content tracks—the Global Landscape, Page to Screen, the Pillars of Rights and TALKING PICTURES: The Visual Book Now.

The New York Rights Fair programming illustrates the depth and breadth of global licensing and rights. Other sessions include innovation in international licensing of Angry Birds, what premium diversity puts on a rights sale and a detailed look at the making of global blockbusters.

"I've been covering book deals at *Publishers Weekly* for over a decade now and, in that time, I've become fascinated by the rights side of the business. Rights—if they sell, who they sell to—play a huge part in determining the success of a book. But, interestingly, the people working in rights—agents, scouts, foreign rights associates—tend to remain out of the spotlight," said Rachel Deahl, the New York Rights Fair programming director and news director of *Publishers Weekly*. "So, for me, one of the most exciting aspects about this program is having these

professionals take center stage. The work they do is essential in determining what we read, and watch, around the world, so I'm looking forward to hearing what they have to say about the challenges, and opportunities, in the current marketplace.”

Hundreds of exhibitors, including book publishers, literary agencies, film producers and scouts from the U.S., the U.K., Europe, the UAE, Korea, China, Japan and others, will take over the Level 1 exhibit hall at the pavilion.

Two receptions are planned for May 30, opening day of the show, at 5:15 p.m. on Levels 1 and 4. On Thursday, May 31, on Level 4 at 5:15 p.m., Chad Post of Open Letter Books and founder of the Wiki-style Translation Database, will announce the winners of the first annual Books in Translation Awards.

“We are anticipating several thousand attendees for the first outing of the New York Rights Fair,” said Krista Rafanello, show manager and senior marketing director of *Publishers Weekly*, one of the sponsors of the fair along with BolognaFiere and the Combined Book Exhibit. “We’re also delighted to open our doors to BookExpo participants and thrilled to complement them with the rights-side of the publishing business.”

Exhibitors, rights professionals and members of the media holding BookExpo badges are all welcomed at no charge to the New York Rights Fair. As well, New York Rights Fair badge-holders are entitled to free access to BookExpo. Free shuttle buses will run between the Javits Center and the Metropolitan Pavilion beginning at 9 a.m. on Wednesday, May 30, 2018.

Also on display at the fair is an exhibition of the 30 books honored for excellence in book design. TALKING PICTURES: Selected Books is a juried competition to celebrate book design across five categories: architecture and graphic design, art and photography, cookbooks, comics and graphic novels and children’s picture books. The competition is a part of the New York Rights Fair’s first cultural initiative, TALKING PICTURES: The Visual Book Now, presented by NYRF, Parsons School of Design and the Bologna, Italy-based Hamelin Cultural Association. Preceding NYRF is a separate TALKING PICTURES: The Visual Book Now symposium, to be held on Tuesday, May 29, 2018 from 9:30 a.m. – 3 p.m. The symposium is free and open to the public with preregistration, to be hosted by Parsons, at Parsons School of Design, Alvin Johnson/J.M. Kaplan Hall - Auditorium Room A106, 66 West 12th Street, New York, New York.

“Bolstering the rights business in the publishing industry’s capital is part of the mission of the New York Rights Fair,” Rafanello added. “Its success is a measure of the global health of publishing itself.”

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ABOUT NEW YORK RIGHTS FAIR

The New York Rights Fair, www.newyorkrightsfair.com, is produced by BolognaFiere S.p.A, the leading European exhibition organizer, *Publishers Weekly*, the international news platform of the book publishing industry, and Combined Book Exhibit, a publishing marketing and promotion resource. It is the first trade and licensing show in the U.S. dedicated exclusively to the international rights, distribution and licensing of content, both adult and children's. The inaugural New York Rights Fair takes place May 30 – June 1, 2018, at the Metropolitan Pavilion in Manhattan. The fair offers a unique venue for U.S. publishers, agents and rights professionals across adult and children's markets to network with their global counterparts in the publishing capital of the world. The three-day fair also features educational programming, with 70 speakers across four tracks—"The Global Landscape," "Page to Screen," "The Pillars of Rights" and "TALKING PICTURES: The Visual Book Now"—covering rights sales negotiation and distribution of content across print, audio, TV, film and digital channels. #NYRF18

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