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Thursday 27th October 7 p.m.

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Jackie Kay was born in Edinburgh in 1961 and grew up in Glasgow. She has written all her life. Several of her adult poetry collections have won or been shortlisted for awards across the board. Her first novel *Trumpet* won the Author's Club First Novel Award and the Guardian Fiction Prize. Her first novel for children, *Strawgirl*, a lyrical slice of magical realism, was a huge critical success. Jackie lives in Manchester with her son. Her most recent poetry collection *Fiere* was a companion piece to the her memoir *Red Dust Road* which was this year's Scottish Book of the Year

Donny O'Rourke is a poet and singer-songwriter, Donny O'Rourke, having had overlapping careers in broadcasting, journalism and academe, teaches Film and Poetry at Glasgow University where he holds an Honorary Fellowship. The recipient of several bursaries, residencies and visiting professorships, he has taught at Cambridge, Yale, Glasgow School Of Art and at other leading institutions in Britain, on the continent and in North America. As author or editor, Donny has more than a score of books and CDs to his name. His performances are influenced by Broadway musicals, Celtic folk song, Scottish music hall and European cabaret.

Sheila Templeton was born and brought up near Aberdeen, but left her north-east roots to teach in West Lothian for nearly thirty years. She has recently moved to Glasgow after 10 years in Ayrshire. She's a widely published poet and her poetry prizes include the Robert McLellan Poetry Award from the Arran Literary Festival and the James McCash Award for Poetry in the Scots Language, both 2007. She has two published collections to date - a pamphlet *Slow Road Home*, 2004 Makar Press; and more recently, *Digging For Light*, 2011 New Voices Press.