



MASTERCLASS

15 November 2018

2-4.30pm

108 Napier Building,
University of Adelaide

WRITING LIVES:

Masterclass with Sisonke Msimang

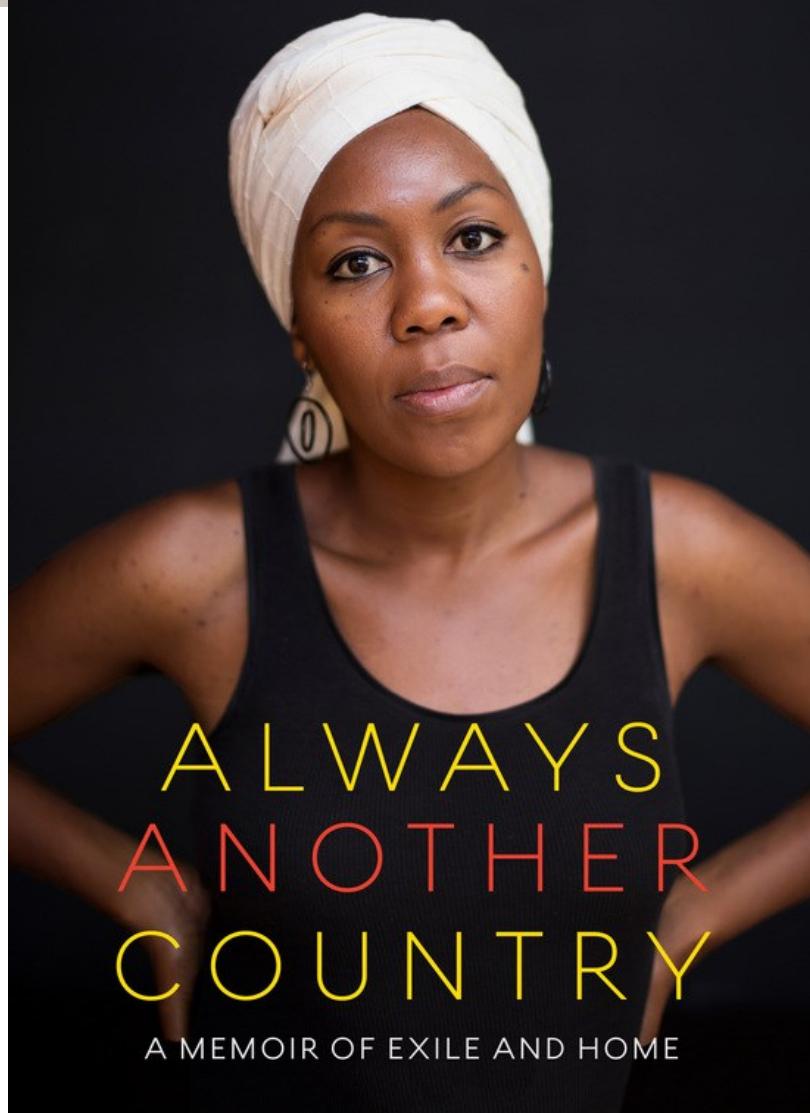
What is entailed in bringing others to life on the page and in writing your life for others? In this masterclass, Sisonke Msimang will lead a discussion on the practice of life writing through reflections on her recent memoir of exile and home and her forthcoming biography of Winnie Mandela. Teasing out the challenges of writing complicated and contradictory lives and of negotiating between private lives and public cultures, the discussion will engage with topics such as the relationship between the biographer and her subject as well as between the memoirist and those for whom she writes her life; how life writing can be utilized to create space for the self and for others; the art of crafting intersectional life stories and of articulating feminist accounts of damage and resilience; resurrecting challenging subjects to unsettle dominant discourses; the contribution of life writing to social justice activism; and the impact of social media on writing lives.

This masterclass is aimed at students and practitioners of life writing in its various forms, including memoir, biography, fiction and on social media, as well as journalism, political commentary, historiography and gender studies.

Sisonke Msimang is an internationally acclaimed South African essayist, memoirist and biographer. *Always Another Country: A Memoir of Exile and Home* was published in South Africa in 2017 and shortlisted for its premier nonfiction prize, the *Sunday Times* Alan Paton Award. It was published in Australia by Text 2018. *The Resurrection of Winnie Mandela: A Biography of Survival* will be launched in South Africa in October 2018, and published in Australia next year. Msimang's essays and public commentary have appeared in a range of international publications including *Al Jazeera*, the *Guardian*, the *New York Times* and the *Washington Post*. She is head of oral storytelling at the Centre for Stories in Perth.



SISONKE MSIMANG



Presented by the J.M. Coetzee Centre for Creative Practice & the Department of English & Creative Writing, the University of Adelaide.

This event is FREE but [registration](#) is essential



Where inspiration, invention
and ideas come together