

Haus für Poesie  
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[www.haus-fuer-poesie.org](http://www.haus-fuer-poesie.org)

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**für\_**  
**Poesie**

Press Release

13.4.2023

## **Call for entries: 31st open mike – competition for young literature**

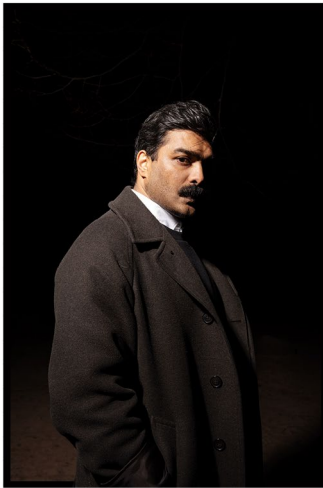
From **April 17, 2023**, the 31st open mike – competition for young literature is open for submissions either in the category prose or poetry. Anyone who is not older than 35 and whose texts have not yet been published can participate. Texts must be submitted in German, but may be translations from other languages.

All details concerning the submission on [haus-fuer-poesie.org](http://haus-fuer-poesie.org).  
**Deadline is June 4, 2023.**

### **Jury of the 31st open mike: Shida Bazyar, Senthuran Varatharajah and Anja Zag Golob**

**Shida Bazyar, Senthuran Varatharajah and Anja Zag Golob** will select the winners at the final of the 31st open mike – competition for young literature, taking place at Heimathafen Neukölln from November 3-5, 2023.

The jury will award three prizes, at least one of them in the category of poetry. The prizes are endowed with a total of € 7,500.



Credits: Shida Bazyar (c) Tabea Treichel, Senthuran Varatharajah (c) Tigran Hovhannisyán, Anja Zag Golob (c) Žan Koprivnik

## Biographies of the jury

**Shida Bazyar**, born in 1988 in Hermeskeil, studied literary writing in Hildesheim and, in addition to writing, worked for many years in youth education. Her debut novel *Nachts ist es leise in Teheran* was published by Kiepenheuer&Witsch in 2016 and was awarded the Blogger Prize for Literature, the Ulla Hahn Authors' Prize, and the Uwe Johnson Sponsorship Prize, among others, and translated into several languages. *Drei Kameradinnen* followed in 2021 and was on the longlist for the German Book Prize.

**Senthuran Varatharajah**, born in 1984 in Jaffna/Sri Lanka, is a writer, philosopher and theologian. In 2016, his first novel *Vor der Zunahme der Zeichen* was published by S. Fischer Verlag. His second novel *Rot (Hunger)* was published in 2022, also by S. Fischer. Varatharajah's work has received many awards, including the Adalbert Chamisso Förderpreis, the Bremer Literaturförderpreis, the Kranichsteiner Literaturförderpreis, the Rauriser Literaturpreis, and the Villa Aurora Residency Fellowship in Los Angeles. Varatharajah lives in Berlin.

**Anja Zag Golob** (1976) is a Slovene poet, translator and columnist for the national radio. For 12 years she worked as a theatre critic. She is co-founder of the independent publishing house *VigeVageKnjige*, where she now works as editor-in-chief. So far, she

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has published 4 poetry collections and received 3 prizes, twice for the best poetry collection of the past 2 years (The Jenko Prize - 2014, 2016), and once for the best book of the year (The Kritiško sito Prize - 2020). Her books have been translated into German, Polish, Serbian and Croatian, and her poetry has also been translated into 9 other languages. She is regularly invited to festivals at home and abroad as well as included in anthologies.

**November 3 – November 5, 2023**  
**31st open mike – competition for young literature**

Friday, November 3: Debut Readings  
Saturday and Sunday, November 4 – 5: Competition Readings and Award Ceremony  
Heimathafen Neukölln, Karl-Marx-Str. 141, 12043 Berlin

**For further information**

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**Social Media**

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**The open mike is an event organised by Haus für Poesie in cooperation with Heimathafen Neukölln.**