



Dear Friends of Sangam House,

We hope this finds you all well and thriving. We've had several busy months since last updating all of you. As you know, we completed our most recent residency session at the end of January. It's hard to believe this was the five-year anniversary for Sangam House. Still seems as though we've just begun!

Our season was filled with many readings and public events, highlighted by Lekhana 2013, our annual literary weekend, which brings Sangam House writers together with writers and readers from Bangalore. Lekhana, which took place from January 18-20, featured several discussions, performances and readings—all centered on the theme of “Writing for the Spoken Word.” Many new works and new writers were featured as well as a performance of 'The Dog Logs' by Christopher Johnson, directed by Arundhati Raja of Jagriti Theatre, especially for Lekhana. We were also able to persuade resident Denise Kumani Gannt to close the weekend with a performance of her work, 'Eve's Lament' -- a real show stopper, if there ever was one. We've put together a small film to give a sense of the weekend and you can view that by [clicking here](#). We couldn't have put together such a massive project without terrific collaborations so much thanks is due to all of our Lekhana partners: **Bhoomija**, a public trust for performance arts; **Out Of Print Magazine**; **Jagriti Theatre** and **BooksTALK Audio Books**. **Bhoomija** also supported our readings in the city for the season.

At the Jaipur Literary Festival in January, Sangam House was proud to launch WILD GIRLS WICKED WORDS, a provocative and affecting collection of Tamil poetry from Salma, Kutti Revathi, Malathi Maithri, and Sukirtharani. Sangam House was proud to co-publish this special book with Kalachuvadu Press, the leading Tamil language publisher. This project would not have been realized without the hard work of the award-winning translator, Lakshmi Holmstrom. The book received excellent reviews and was featured in [The Caravan](#) and can be purchased through [Flipkart](#).



Later this month, we'll be releasing our second publication of the year, the second volume of the multi-lingual Sangam House Reader, "Other Places," which will feature work from all residents who were with us during seasons three and four, as well as a special Tranquebar section, featuring the work of the Danish and Indian writers who were a part of our special [Tranquebar Project](#) in 2011, sponsored by the **Danish Arts Council** and **Neemrana Hotels**. The publication of the volume is supported by **InKo Centre, Chennai**.

We continue to collaborate with the InKo Centre in Chennai to offer a residency opportunity for one Indian alumnus of Sangam House at the Toji Cultural Center in Wonju, Korea. Because of the success of our collaboration with InKo, Sangam House has now broadened its array of residency exchanges. We are proud to announce two new collaborations: beginning in 2014, the **Chennai Mathematical Institute** (CMI) will host two non-Indian alumni of Sangam House for two month-long residencies at Studio Arnawaz, as part of CMI's Art Initiative Program. Studio Arnawaz is located in the Cholamandal Artists Village in Chennai, once again placing our residents in the heart of a creative and artistic community. Also beginning in 2014, two Sangam House alumni will be chosen for four-weeks at the **Jacaranda Home Stay** in Nairobi, Kenya, supported by the Jacaranda Press. Details for all of these exchanges can be found on our website.

Be sure to also check out our latest online program, [Poetry at Sangam](#), which showcases the work of Indian and Indian-origin poets, as well as poetry-related essays and news. The page is edited by poet Priya Sarukkai Chabria and brings together both older and younger poets. We are delighted that Priya chose Sangam House as the new and exclusive platform for this poetry site which she has edited for nearly a decade. Also on our website, you'll find [Sangam Playhouse](#), an online exchange of play scripts for producers, directors, actors, and playwrights.



As you can see, Sangam House continues to grow. We renewed our commitment to Indian languages with the inclusion of a Kannada writer at Sangam House last year -- hopefully, we will find support for more and more Indian writers who work outside English. Further, InKo Centre (with the Korean Arts Council and the Korean Institute for Literary Translation) now sends us two Korean writers each year. The Singapore Arts Council has joined us to support two writers from Singapore at Sangam House. In fact, demand for residency space has become so high that we have added a second session for the upcoming year. In addition to our annual winter residency session (which will run from November 4, 2013-January 26, 2014) we have added a second, shorter spring session from April 30, 2014-June 12, 2014. Applications will be accepted until July 31st of this year.

So our hands are full with many exciting projects! We thank you all again for your support and welcome all ideas and input as we press ahead.

As always, with much good feeling,

Arshia Sattar, DW Gibson and Rahul Soni