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[www.WillowLit.net](http://www.WillowLit.net)

## NATIONAL ARTS FESTIVAL IN EAST HARLEM JUNE 2

*LITFEST 2018 NYC Brings World Poetry & Music to Cassava House*

(New York) The national LitFest will take place Saturday, June 2, 2018 starting at 7 p.m. at Cassava House, 2270 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue in East Harlem. The event will feature poetry readings, a book fair and live music.

Since 2012, LitFest has appeared in Chicago, Washington, D.C., Seattle, Minneapolis and Los Angeles. 2018 is the first New York appearance. A pioneer in the live streaming of literary events, LitFest is a signature program of Willow Books, a publisher that develops and promotes poets and writers of color.

“The goal of LitFest is access to quality arts programs for all,” said Heather Buchanan, co-founder of Willow Books. “Our reach is worldwide now, but our first priority remains providing the underserved areas of America the opportunity to see and hear a world-class caliber of diverse artists.”

LitFest 2018 NYC performers include National Endowment for the Arts fellows **Randall Horton** and **Reginald Flood**, **Sokunthary Svay**, co-founder of the Cambodian Literary Arts Association and American Opera Projects Fellow, **Roberto Carlos Garcia**, founder of Get Fresh Books, **Qiana Towns**, winner of the Gwendolyn Brooks Poetry Prize and **Keisha-Gaye Anderson**, Brooklyn Public Library Artist-in-Residence.

Several Willow authors are international fellows. Partnerships include New York’s Cave Canem and Poets House and D.C.’s Busboys & Poets and PEN/Faulkner, as well as the African Libraries Collective. Willow readings take place internationally, most recently in Montreal, the Philippines, Rwanda and Cambodia.

LitFest will take place on the patio of Cassava House, a popular eatery in East Harlem.

Live entertainment will be provided by **Os Clavelitos**, a New York-based band that has topped the world music charts.

For a full roster of performers and more information about LitFest, visit [www.WillowLit.net](http://www.WillowLit.net).

### **Event Details**

**LitFest 2018 NYC**

**Saturday, June 2, 2018**

**Cassava House, 2270 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue, New York, 10035**

**7 p.m. - until**

Co-sponsored by Willow Books

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