

MEDIA RELEASE
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**7TH ANNUAL SUFFOLK MYSTERY AUTHORS FESTIVAL
ANNOUNCES 2019 HEADLINER**

SUFFOLK, VA (January 31, 2020): The Suffolk Division of Tourism is pleased to announce that best-selling and award-winning author **Catriona McPherson** will headline the 7th Annual Suffolk Mystery Authors Festival, slated for Saturday, August 8, 2020, at the Suffolk Center for Cultural Arts. A partnership between the SCCA and Suffolk Tourism, this unique festival appeals to avid readers and aspiring writers alike, with events such as book signings, author meet & greets, workshops, and moderated panel discussions. This popular annual event will feature an additional 39 best-selling authors of mystery, suspense, paranormal, horror, romance and women's fiction. In addition to kicking off the Opening Session, where she will be interviewed by best-selling and award-winning author Kellye Garrett, McPherson will be signing her latest and most popular titles during the afternoon signing sessions, along with all Featured Authors. Applications to be a Featured Author are being accepted until April 1.

Catriona McPherson, our headliner, is the national best-selling author of over 25 crime novels. She began with a series of preposterous detective stories, set in her native Scotland in the 1920s, and featuring gently-born amateur sleuth Dandy Gilver. These 14 books have won multiple Agatha, Macavity, and Lefty awards for best historical fiction. Soon, she branched out into contemporary writing with a strand of stand-alone psychological thrillers, the latest of which is *Strangers at the Gate*, and has won two Anthony awards for these, as well as being shortlisted for the Edgar and three times for the Mary Higgins Clark award.

Finally, after eight years as an immigrant in northern California, she embarked on the Last Ditch trilogy of comic crime capers, written with love and no judgement (honest) about her new home. The first, *Scot Free*, won the 2019 Lefty award for best humorous mystery, and the following, *Scot and Soda*, is now nominated for the same award. Publishing being what it is, Catriona is now hard at work on the fourth book of the trilogy, along with Dandy Gilver number fifteen, and an ambitious

ninth standalone, which has so far run to ten drafts. Catriona is a proud lifetime member and former national president of Sisters in Crime. Visit her website at www.CatrionaMcPherson.com.

Kellye Garrett's first novel, *Hollywood Homicide*, won the Anthony, Agatha, and Lefty for best first novel. It's also one of BookBub's "Top 100 Crime Novels of All Time." The second, *Hollywood Ending*, was featured on the *Today Show's* Best Summer Reads of 2019, and was nominated for both Anthony and Lefty awards. Prior to writing books, Kellye spent eight years working in Hollywood, including a stint writing for *Cold Case*. She now works for a leading media company and serves on the Board of Directors for Sisters in Crime. Learn more at www.KellyeGarrett.com.

To learn more about the Suffolk Mystery Authors Festival, please contact the Suffolk Visitor Center at 757-514-4130, visit www.SuffolkMysteryAuthorsFestival.com or follow us on Facebook at www.Facebook.com/SuffolkMysteryAuthorsFestival.

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