

APPAREL AND ACCESSORIES

Miu Miu inaugurates literary club

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Famed female writers from around the world are coming together to discuss the lasting impact of two late women authors. Image credit: Miu Miu

By LUXURY DAILY NEWS SERVICE

Italian fashion house **Miu Miu** is making a bid for luxury-buying bookworms.

The label's inaugural literary club, Writing Life, is gearing up for its first gathering. On April 17 and April 18, the group will come together in Italy to read the work of Alba de Cspedes and Sibilla Aleramo, both late female writers.

Women writers

The organization will meet from 3 p.m. to 9 p.m. at the Circolo Filologico Milanese, or the Milanese Philological Circle, at Via Clerici 10 in Milan.

The writings of the Italian literary master duo will be discussed. Over the two days, their major titles, *A Woman* by Ms. Aleramo and *Forbidden Notebook* by Ms. de Cspedes, will specifically be explored.



Miu Miu has championed feminism in the past, often embarking on women-focused philanthropic efforts. Image credit: Miu Miu

These two works are testaments to the power of writing as a means for women to express their desires, ideas and thoughts. The creative medium has also been a way for female members of society to assert their independence and inspire others to do the same.

This will be the main topic delved into throughout the club events, which include conversations, live performances and entertainment.

On the first day, a discussion entitled “Alba De Cspedes: Creative Spaces, Creative Time” will be hosted by Miu Miu. Panelists include British-American writer Jhumpa Lahiri, Italian writer and translator Claudia Durastanti, and Canadian writer Sheila Heti. Lou Stoppard, an author and curator appearing in the *Financial Times*, the *New Yorker* and *Vogue*, will moderate.

Participants are slated to investigate what it means for women to find their voice beyond gender roles, such as spouse, mother and housewife.

Published in 1950, *Forbidden Notebook* came out at a time when men held power and women were confined to domestic spaces. Today, the work continues to be influential and is often a central piece of modern debates over what it means to be female, and the spaces they define in the larger culture.

The rest of the day’s schedule will consist of live performances by international artists and readings.

On April 18, a conversation entitled “Sibilla Aleramo: Our Brilliant Sisters” will be moderated by Singaporean journalist and author Zing Tsjeng.



Peer maisons such as Dior have hosted book clubs in the past, even dropping literary-themed products like the Book Tote. Image credit: Dior

American author Selby Wynn Schwartz, Italian author Viola Di Grado, and Chinese-British novelist and memoirist Xiaolu Guo will complete the panel. Each having written popular books, the three will break down *A Woman*.

The work is considered to be Italy’s first feminist novel. Published in 1906, it is an intimate memoir that discusses marriage, freedom and motherhood.

Love, and its part to play in the lives of empowered women, is a focus. Female friendships and the legacy of past women writers will also drive the conversation between the trio for the event.

Like the day before, readings and live performances will follow the conversation.

According to Miu Miu, the literary club affirms its commitment to “contemporary thought.” As many in luxury have recently turned to the world of books to do just that ([see story](#)), it seems that the house is in good company ([see story](#)).

Those wanting to register for Writing Life can do so on the brand’s [website](#) from April 6 onward.