Shamini Flint

Murder, Mayhem and Memory

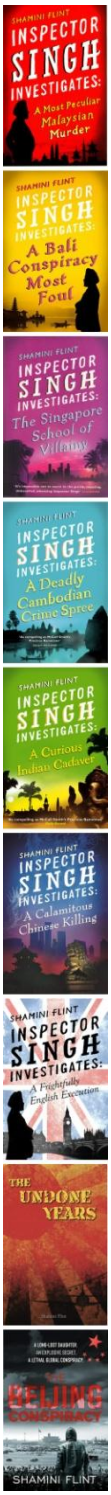
AUTHOR VISIT ▪ SECONDARY SCHOOL / ADULT

"In case you haven't seen her speak, thought you might be interested to hear how she goes in front of an audience. Which in three letters is OMG." **– Morris Gleitzman**



Shamini Flint is a Malaysian-born author of over 50 books for children and adults. She splits her time between Singapore and Sydney as she is also a practising corporate lawyer. She has a PhD in English (with Creative Writing) from the University of York and has taught both law and creative writing at Singapore's leading universities.

Her legal experience runs all through her crime fiction. Her books have been translated into languages from German to Hebrew, she has spoken at festivals from Sydney to Beijing, and she is currently working on a memoir of her parents.



Inspector Singh Investigates — Seven crime novels

Inspector Singh is a rotund, turban-wearing Sikh detective – and the despair of his long-suffering Singaporean bosses. Trusting his instincts – his only exercise is pursuing justice – Singh solves murders in Malaysia, Bali, Singapore, Cambodia, India, China and England. Funny and full of local colour, the novels confront cultural, political and social issues – and show that justice always matters, and courage comes in unlikely shapes. Published by Little, Brown (UK) and Minotaur (US) and widely translated, *Inspector Singh* is also optioned for television by BritBox International.

"It's impossible not to warm to the portly, sweating, dishevelled, wheezing Inspector Singh" – The Guardian

"Testy, impatient, impulsive Singh … resist(s) the cultural and ethnic prejudices rife in the region." – The Washington Post

The Undone Years — Historical YA novel

Malaya, on the eve of the Second World War. On a rubber plantation, three teenagers share one last summer of freedom: Matthew, the English planter's son; his best friend Rajan, son of the estate clerk; and strong-willed Mei Ling. Their parents disapprove of the friendship, but to them it feels like a friendship of equals – until the Japanese invade. Woven from real events and told from multiple perspectives, it is a story of memory, trauma and courage – and of how the "undone years" shape families for generations. Published with a grant from the National Arts Council of Singapore.

Sessions

A Life of Crime ***Inspector Singh*** **· Year 7+** Through Inspector Singh's cases in Malaysia, Singapore, Bali, Cambodia, India and China, Shamini introduces students to the complex realities of Asian societies – culture, politics, law and power – and shows how strands of the region's history still play out today. Drawing on her career as a lawyer across Southeast Asia, she also reveals how the law infuses her crime novels.

Why History Matters ***The Undone Years*** **· Year 7+** Students discover the events and impact of the Second World War in Singapore and Malaya – and how the effects of war don't end when peace is declared. People carry scars for life, and their children and grandchildren inherit those memories. Shamini talks about how she weaves family stories and real events into fiction.

Many Hats: Life, Work and Passion **Year 7 to Adult** Writer, lawyer, environmentalist, university lecturer, businesswoman, mother and avid (if untalented) footballer – Shamini talks frankly about following your passions, putting your best foot forward, and growing up in a difficult domestic and cultural environment.

Workshops Shamini also runs hands-on creative writing workshops on characterisation, plot and place.

What schools say

"In her secondary school workshops she delivered highly engaging and practical sessions on creative writing, helping students develop characterisation, tension and an authentic writer's voice … Shamini brings together the rare combination of being entertaining, highly approachable and deeply insightful."

Jane Hayes, Co-Director of Libraries, Dulwich College (Singapore)

"I haven't laughed this hard in a while, haven't been moved so deeply and inspired by an author. Her laugh-out-loud humour makes sure she gets everyone's attention, so that her important messages, about the need for books, in which readers can see their own lives … as well as seeing the world through someone else's eyes, to develop empathy aren't missed."

Tanja Galetti, Chatsworth International School

Suitability: Year 7 to Adult	**Length:** 45 min + 15 min Q&A	**Price:** Please enquire for pricing
Talks: No cap; whole cohorts welcome	**Requirements:** Microphone	**Books:** Sales and signings available

Please note that Shamini is very flexible about topics depending on the preferences of schools.

BOOKINGS & ENQUIRIES: Nexus Arts www.nexusarts.com.au
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