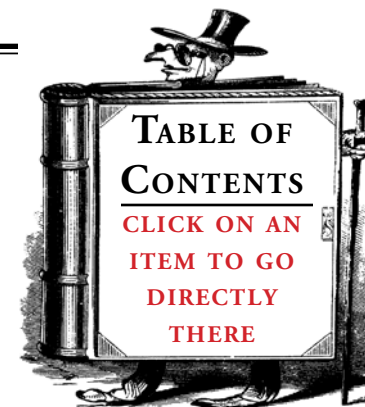


COMMUNITY OF WRITERS



OMNIUM GATHERUM & NEWSLETTER

2004-2006 **ISSUE 11**



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Community of Writers at Squaw Valley

A Non-Profit Corporation #629182
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with support and advice from
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The ads which appear in this issue represent the work of Community of Writers staff and participants. These ads help to defray the cost of the newsletter, and help the authors by sharing news of the books' publication with Newsletter readers. If you have a forthcoming book, please contact us about advertising in our forthcoming issue, due out in June 2007. Many publishers are happy to advertise in this newsletter, and we also have special rates for authors advertising their own books.

Deadline:

Contact Maxima Kahn for a Rate Sheet and more information.

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This is our first online issue of the Omnium Gatherum & Newsletter. Every effort was made to make the websites and email addresses mentioned in the ads and text interactive, so that you can click on the link to go to the book or site that is mentioned. Roll your pointer over the link slowly and click in order to activate it.



A Note from the Editor

Welcome to the Omnium Gatherum & Newsletter!

It has been three years since we had the resources to publish this wonderful compendium of the successes of our past participants and staff, and so this issue gathers news from those past three years. And what a lot of news there is! And how impressive it all is. We were delighted to hear from so many of you, and we apologize to those of you who were left out of this issue. We hope the return of the Newsletter will bring many more past participants out of the woodwork with news for our next issue.

In addition to covering three years' worth of news, this issue has the distinction of being our first online publication. We hope that you will enjoy this new format, which allows us to save trees and substantial cost and, we hope, to reach more people by making the newsletter available on our website. **For those who still love to hold something in their hands while reading, or who want a copy of this to keep, you can print out this newsletter on 8.5 x 11 paper. Just be sure you've selected landscape/horizontal orientation in your page setup dialogue box.**

IN THIS ISSUE, you'll find profiles of some of our past participants, as well as enjoyable tidbits of news and trivia, and a passage from Sands Hall's invaluable writing guide, *Tools of the Writers Craft*. We also bring you excerpts from the upcoming *Writers Workshop in a Book*:

The Squaw Valley Community of Writers on the Art of Fiction, due out this summer from Chronicle Books. We are excited to publish our first book collecting the wit and wisdom of our staff. Now you can enjoy the Community of Writers all year.

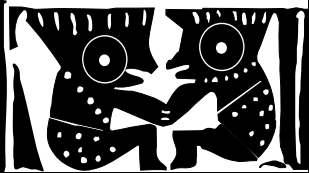
We hope you enjoy this issue. Let us know! info@squawvalleywriters.org



PAST-PARTICIPANT OR STAFF?

Do you have news you would like us to include in the newsletter? We print publishing credits, awards and similar writing-related achievements, and also include births. **News should be from the past year only.** Please compose it in third person, using complete sentences. Include titles, periodicals, publisher, and publication dates, as needed. See examples in this issue. Deadline: April 1, 2007 for next issue. We are moving to an annual Spring/Summer publication date.

COMMUNITY OF WRITERS



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2007

POETRY WORKSHOPS

July 21 - 28

Jimmy Santiago Baca · Robert Hass
Brenda Hillman
Sharon Olds · Claudia Rankine

FICTION & NARRATIVE NONFICTION:

August 4-11, 2007

Max Byrd · Michael Carlisle · Ron Carlson
Alan Cheuse · Mark Childress
Alev Lytle Croutier · Leslie Daniels
Gill Dennis · Karen Joy Fowler · Lynn Freed
Dagoberto Gilb · Sands Hall
James D. Houston · Michael Jaime-Becerra
Sue Miller · Varley O'Connor
Gregory Spatz · Al Young
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With Alumni Readings by:
Alex Espinoza · Beatrice Motamed
Katayoon Zandvakili and more
Plus Special Guests:
Rabih Alameddine · Oakley Hall
Diane Johnson · Persis Karim · Amy Tan

SCREENWRITING WORKSHOPS:

August 4-11, 2007

Eugene Corr · Pamela Gray
Michael Lehmann · Christopher Monger
Judith Rascoe · Tom Rickman
Lisa Rosenberg · Camille Thomasson
Tom Schlesinger

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Lucille Clifton: BOA Editions published her collection, *Mercy*, in 2004.

Robert Hass: His new book of poems, *Time and Materials*, will be published by Ecco Press and a collection of his columns for the *Washington Post*, *Now & Then: The Poets Choice Columns 1997-2000*, will be out this spring from Shoemaker & Hoard. He recently co-edited, with Jessica Fisher, *The Addison Street Anthology: Berkeley's Poetry Walk*, published by HeyDay Books in 2004.

Brenda Hillman: Her collection, *Pieces of Air in the Epic*, was published by Wesleyan University in 2005.

Richard Howard: His newest collection, *Inner Voices: Selected Poems 1963-2003*, was published by Farrar, Straus and Giroux in 2004.

Galway Kinnell: *Strong is Your Hold* was published by Houghton Mifflin in November, 2006.

Yusef Komunyakaa: In 2004 his collection *Taboo: The Wishbone Trilogy, Part 1* was published by Farrar, Straus and Giroux. *Pleasure Dome: New And Collected Poems* was published by Wesleyan University Press, also in 2004. With dramaturg and theater producer Chad Gracia he wrote a dramatic adaptation of *The Epic of Gilgamesh*. The play was published in October 2006 by Wesleyan University Press.

Dorianne Laux: Her collection, *Facts*

About the Moon was published by W. W. Norton in 2005.

Li-Young Lee: Earl Ingersol edited and BOA Editions will publish *Breaking the Alabaster Jar: Conversations with Li-Young Lee* in September 2006.

Sharon Olds: Her most recent collection, *Strike Sparks*, was published in 2004 by Knopf. She was named the 2003 James Merrill Fellow of The Academy of American Poets.

Harryette Mullen: Her collection, *Recyclopedia*, was published by Graywolf Press in October 2006.

Len Roberts: University of Illinois Press published his book of poems, *The Disappearing Trick*, in late 2006. He won first prize ("Poison Sumac") in *River Styx's* International Poetry Contest and second prize ("Wassergass, 2006") in the *Paterson Review's* Allen Ginsberg International Poetry Contest.

Gerald Stern: His collection, *Everything Is Burning: Poems*, was published by W. W. Norton in December 2006. *Not God After All* was published in 2004 by Autumn House Press.

C.D. Wright: Her book, *Cooling Time: An American Poetry Vigil*, was published by Copper Canyon Press in 2005. In 2003 she published *One Big Self: Prisoners of Louisiana*, a collaboration with photographer Deborah Luster. It was awarded the Doro-

thea Lange-Paul Taylor Prize for a work in progress from the Center for Documentary Studies at Duke University. She is a 2004 recipient of a MacArthur Fellowship, and is newly elected to the American Academy of Arts and Sciences.

Dean Young: His collection, *Elegy on Toy Piano*, was published by Pittsburgh University Press in 2005. A new book, *embryo*, will be published by McSweeney's in 2007.



Galway Kinnell Strong Is Your Hold

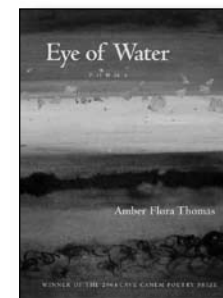


This striking and various collection by Galway Kinnell, whom the *New York Times* has called "one of the true master poets of his generation,"

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by Amber Flora Thomas
ISBN 0-8229-5893-7 • Paper \$14.00 • 96 pp.



Elegy on Toy Piano

by Dean Young
ISBN 0-8229-5872-4 • Paper \$12.95 • 105 pp.



Speedwalk and Other Stories

by Suzanne Greenberg
ISBN 0-8229-4217-8 • Cloth \$24.00 • 184 pp.

800.621.2736 upress.pitt.edu

Participant Profile: Amber Flora Thomas



Amber Flora Thomas attended the Community of Writers' Poetry Workshop for the first time in 1993; in 2002 she was back for more, and again in 2005. She organized the annual Benefit Poetry Reading from 2003-2005.



Thomas has a MFA in Poetry from Washington University in St. Louis, where she won an Academy of American Poets prize and a post-graduate teaching fellowship.

She is the recipient of several major poetry awards, including the Rella Lossy Poetry

Award, the 2001 Ann Stanford Poetry Prize, and the 2004

Richard Peterson Prize. Also in 2004 she was awarded the

Cave Canem prize by Harryette Mullen for her manuscript,

Eye of Water, which was published in 2005 by University

of Pittsburgh Press. Her work has appeared in *Cloud View*

Poets: An Anthology, *Gathering Ground: A Reader Celebrating*

Cave Canem's First Decade, *Crab Orchard Review*, *Runes*, *Borderlands:*

Texas Poetry Review, *Sycamore Review*, *Phoebe*, *Columbia Poetry Review*, *Calyx*,

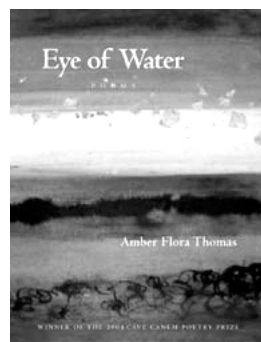
Marlboro Review, *Southern Poetry Review*, *Gulf Coast* and elsewhere. She is currently

an assistant professor of creative writing at the University of Alaska Fairbanks.



Of her debut book of poems, Yusef Komunyakaa writes, "It is wonderful to see that Amber Flora Thomas' *Eye of Water* isn't a blurred vision, that it indeed enlightens through mature reflection and measured insight. This lyrical voice knows water as life and redemption, and each line here seems like a divining rod that shows us where personal and public truths are found. *Eye of Water* is a rewarding tour de force."

Eye of Water was recently a finalist for a PEN USA Literary Award, as well as the Lambda Literary Awards.



For *Eye of Water*, click on www.powells.com.



The Sounds of Summer 2006 Music Heard in the Office

—Lisa Alvarez

Dan Zanes – *Catch That Train* (Festival Five)

Former lead singer of the Del Fuegos back in the day, Dan Zanes grew up like the rest of us and now plays children's music with his pals. This latest album features the Blind Boys of Alabama, Natalie Merchant, Nick Cave and the Kronos Quartet playing old and new songs.



combining the hope for peace and justice with the hope for love. Yes, he made a love song out of it – which is only right.

Jackson Browne – *Solo Acoustic, Vol. 1* (Inside Recordings)

With just a piano or his guitar, Browne reprises some of his greatest hits as well as songs like "The Barricades of Heaven" that we may have overlooked. Recorded live.



Oakley Hall* – *Gypsum Strings*

What can we say? The name chosen by this sextet of Brooklyn says it all. *Rolling Stone* describes the band's music like this: "mixes pristine coed harmonies and banjo-and-fiddle arrangements with shambling folk and fuzzy rave-ups." Check them out: www.oakleyhall.net



The Little Willies – *The Little Willies* (Milking Bull Records – EMI)

The Little Willies are Lee Alexander, Jim Campilongo, Norah Jones, Richard Julian and Dan Rieser. On this their debut, they cover a range of songs by Willie Nelson, Kris Kristofferson, Graham Parsons and Townes Van Zandt, as well as originals. Our favorite line: "Now we don't mean to sound like we're tripping, but we swear to god we saw Lou Reed cow-tipping."



Madeline Peyroux – *Careless Love* (Rounder Records)

She sings covers of Hank Williams, Bob Dylan, Leonard Cohen and Elliot Smith with a voice reminiscent of Billie Holliday. We like her.



Bob Dylan – *Modern Times* (Sony)

Bob Dylan does Bob Dylan and it's good.



Bruce Springsteen – *We Shall Overcome: The Seeger Sessions* (Sony)

We loved these old tunes when we first heard Pete Seeger sing them decades ago and we love how Springsteen rocks and swings through them again. His take on "We Shall Overcome" transforms the original ballad,



Dave Alvin – *West of the West* (Yep Roc Records)

The boy rocker from Downey, California (co-founder of The Blasters) celebrates California songwriters and his home state in this collection which ranges from Merle Haggard and Kate Wolf to Jerry Garcia, Brian Wilson and Los Lobos.



*Named after SVCW co-founder Oakley Hall.



POETWATCH

POETRY PARTICIPANTS

Kazim Ali ('98): See Participant Profile page 26.

Joan Baranow ('98): She and her production team have just completed a video documentary called *Healing Words: Poetry and the Art of Medicine*, an hour long film that celebrates the Arts in Medicine program at Shands Hospital in Gainesville, Florida.

Elaine Bartlett ('02): She is a Poe-Faulkner Fellow at the University of Virginia. Her poems and stories have appeared in the *Antietam Review*, the *South Carolina Review*, the *Comstock Review*, and *Calyx*, among others. She won the 2003 Yemassee prize in fiction. Her second daughter, Susannah Grier Bartlett, was born in August 2005.

Jill Battson ('94,'06): She has recently written two poetic librettos for operas that were produced at Tapestry New Opera Works in Toronto. *Netsuke* was written in a haiku form, and *Asblike On The Cradle Of The Wind* was written in freeverse. She is currently finishing a spoken word/dance project, *Hard Candy*, with the choreographer D.A. Hoskins.

Michelle Bitting ('05): She has work forthcoming or published in *Glimmer Train*, *Swink*, *Prairie Schooner*, *Small Spiral Notebook*, *Nimrod*, *The Southeast Review*, *Clackamas Literary Review*, *Many Mountains Moving*, *Poetry Southeast*, *Slipstream*, *Dogwood*, *Salt Hill*, *Pearl*, *Rattle*, and others. She has won the Glim-

mer Train, Rock & Sling—Virginia Brendemeuhl Award, and Poets On Parnassus Poetry Competitions.

Bruce Bond ('97): His collection, *Cinder*, published by Etuscan Press in 2003, was a finalist for the TIL Best Book of Poetry Prize. His sixth book, *Blind Rain*, is forthcoming from LSU Press. His book, *The Anteroom of Paradise*, has just been reissued in a revised edition.

Annie Boutelle ('03): Two poetry collections were published in 2005: *Becoming Bone: Poems on the Life of Celia Thaxter* (University of Arkansas Press); and *Nest of Thistles*, which won the Morse prize from Northeastern University Press, and was published by University Press of New England.

Jennifer Swanton Brown ('89,'99,'01): Poems published or forthcoming in *Sand Hill Review*, *Disquieting Muses*, *Convergence*, *Tangents*, *Tundra* and the *Waverley Writers Anniversary Anthology*.

Melisa (Misha) Cahnmann ('00,'03): Poems published or forthcoming in *Anthropology & Humanism*, *Journal of Bellevue Literary Review*, *Sow's Ear Poetry Review*, *Latinos and Education*, *Language Arts*, and *Puerto del Sol*. She won prizes in the 2004 (top prize) and 2005 (award prize) Dorothy Sargent Rosenberg contest for poets under 40 and was a finalist for the Barbara Mandigo Kelly Peace and *Sow's Ear Poetry* Contests. In June 2006, she was married in Athens, Georgia.

Jay Laton Carter ('96,'98): Carter's first collection of poems, *Leaving* (University of Chicago Press), was published in 2004 and won the 2005 Stafford-Hall Oregon Book Award, selected by Mark Doty. Poems are forthcoming in *Notre Dame Review*, *Burnside Review*, and *Faultline*.

Katherine Case ('04): Since 2004 she has published poetry in *Parthenon West* and *Urthbona*. In 2005 she was a finalist for the Pablo Neruda Poetry Prize.

Brandon Cesmat ('99,'01,'04): He has published poems in *Comet*, *Homestead Review*, *ONTHEBUS*, *Perigee*, *Pemmican*, *ROADSpoe* and *San Diego Reader*. His poem was nominated for a Pushcart Prize by *Red River Review*. His first full-length collection, *Driven into the Shade* (Poetic Matrix Press) received the San Diego Book Award.

Elizabeth Biller Chapman ('00,'04): Arkansas Press published her book, *Candlefish*, in 2004. The title poem of her manuscript, "Light Thickens," was written at Squaw Valley in 2000. That poem was just audio-recorded, along with some others, by Poetry Foundation (Austin, AWP meetings, 3/06).

Sharon Charde ('01,'03): Her book, *Bad Girl At The Altar Rail*, won First Prize in the 2005 Flume Press Chapbook Contest and was published last September. It can be ordered by email from flumepress@csuchico.edu. Her collection, *Four Trees Down from Ponte Sisto*, a chapbook, won the Dallas Community Poets prize.

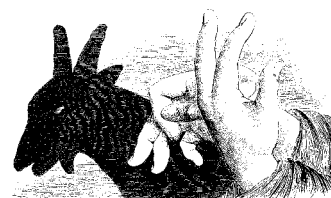
Jeffrey Coleman ('00): His debut collection, *Spirits Distilled*, was published in March 2006 by Red Hen Press. He also re-

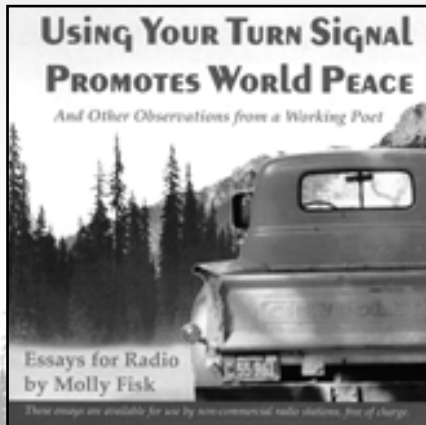
ceived a George A. and Eliza Gardner Howard Foundation Sabbatical Fellowship in March 2004 from Brown University for the 2005-2006 academic year.

Marlon Fick ('96,'05): He received the National Endowment for the Arts, Individual Grant for Poetry in 2005. Also in 2005, his edition/translation *The River Is Wide: Twenty Mexican Poets* was published by The University of New Mexico Press.

Ann Fisher-Wirth ('92,'00): Her book, *Blue Window* was published by Archer Books (2003) and her book *Five Terraces* was published by Wind Publications (2005). She has also published two chapbooks: *The Trinket Poems* (runner-up for the Quentin R. Howard Chapbook Competition, Wind Publications) and *Walking Wu Wei's Scroll* (online, The Drunken Boat). Since 2003 she has won a *Malabat Review* Long Poem Prize, the Rita Dove Poetry Award, a Mississippi Arts Commission fellowship, and the poetry award from the Mississippi Institute of Arts and Letters, and has received two Pushcart nominations. Recent or forthcoming poems in *Runes*, *Poetry International*, *Natural Bridge*, *The Connecticut Review*, *VOX*, and *Poetry Kanto*. She is the 2006-7 Liberal Arts Faculty of the Year at the University of Mississippi. On January 6, 2006, she became a grandma!

Molly Fisk ('92,'95,'98,'04): Her poem "Little Songs for Antoinette" won the 2005 Robinson Jeffers Tor House Prize. A CD of her radio commentary, *Using Your Turn Signal Promotes World Peace, and Other Observations of a Working Poet*, was released in 2005. She has had recent work in 88 and *Artworks*, an interview and poems in the spring 2006 issue of the trilingual Algerian literary magazine *Arabesques Review* (Arabic, French, and English), and she has read two of her essays on *The California Report*. She runs Poetry Boot Camp, an on-line workshop for people who want





POET MOLLY FISK writes radio commentary for NPR and KVMR-FM, Nevada City, CA.

Using Your Turn Signal Promotes World Peace collects fourteen of her unique, humorous and thought-provoking essays: available for \$10 through cdbaby.com or mollyfisk.com

You can hear Molly's essays weekly at 89.5 FM in Northern California and worldwide at kvmr.org, at 6:55p.m. Thursdays (Pacific Time), at the end of the News Hour.

Molly's essays render the common uncommon. I think that what she really talks about is the art of noticing. Beautiful language, beautifully spoken.

—Utah Phillips, Songwriter, Folksinger, Anarchist, Poet

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—L.S.M

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to write a poem a day when they're not at Squaw Valley (www.poetrybootcamp.com), with participants from all over the world, including the South Pole.

Gretchen Fletcher ('05): Her poems have recently won Palm Beach's Society of the Four Arts competition and Nob Hill Pen Women's contest in San Francisco, and have been published in Chicago's Woman Made Gallery date book 2006, Ghost Road Press's *Open Windows*, and the online journal www.seastories.org.

Stewart Florsheim ('91,'92): He wrote the poetry chapbook, *The Girl Eating Oysters* (2River, 2004). In 2005, Stewart won the Blue Light Book Award for *The Short Fall From Grace* (Blue Light Press, 2006) www.stewartflorsheim.com.

CB ('Lyn) Follett ('91,'93,'95,'00,'04): She has a new collection of poetry, *Hold and Release*, due out at the end of this year from Time Being Books in St. Louis. She is co-editor, with Susan Terris, of *RUNES*, now in its sixth year. Poems from *RUNES* have been included in *Best American Poetry* and awarded a Pushcart Prize. In 2007, the theme is Connection, and will be judged by Robert Hass and Brenda Hillman.

Julie Gamberg ('02,'05): Her first book of poetry, *The Museum of Natural History*, won the Blue Lynx Poetry Prize and was just published by Eastern Washington University Press.

Joanne Gardner ('96,'91): Her collection, *La Florida*, received the Weldon Kees Award for 2005 and was published by The Backwaters Press in Spring 2006.

Gail Ghai ('03): Poems were published in *New Orphic Review*, *Loyalhanna Review*, *Windsor Review*, *White Wall Review*, *The Comstock Review*, *The New Yinzer* and *Only the Sea Keeps: Poetry of the Tsunami* (short listed for the 2006 Benjamin Franklin Award). She did a collaboration, *Earth's Bounties: Paintings, Drawings and Prints*

with Pittsburgh artist, Robert Qualters based on the imagery in her poetry. Her poem "Green Pulses" is a finalist in The Sandburgh Livesay Contest. She is poet-in-residence for the Peace River Writers.

Colette Anderson Gill ('02): Her poem "First Light" is forthcoming in *The Texas Review*. She was a finalist for the 2003 Chapbook Contest of Blue Light Press.

Lise Goett ('88,'90,'92,'94): She was awarded the D.H. Lawrence Fellowship to the Taos Summer Writers Conference in 2004, and her collection *Waiting for the Paraclete* (Beacon 2002) won the 2005 PEN Southwest Book Award in Poetry. One of her poems, "Space Age," was anthologized in *Air Fare: Stories, Poems, and Essays on Flight* (Sarabande 2004), edited by Squaw Valley alum Judith Taylor with Nickole Brown.

Elizabeth Gonzalez ('00): Her poetry, fiction or creative nonfiction recently appeared in *Heliotrope*, *Plum Ruby Review*, *So Luminous the Wildflowers: An Anthology of California Poets*, and *Women on the Edge: Writing from Los Angeles*. Her recent awards include the Arts Council for Long Beach's 2005 Professional Artist Fellowship, a fiction-writing grant from The Elizabeth George Foundation and a residency at Hedgebrook: A Retreat for Women Writers. www.lizgonzalez.com

Jennifer (Allen) Gresham ('99): Poems published or forthcoming in *New York Quarterly*, *Main Street Rag*, *Gargoyle*, and *MARGIE*. Her collection, *Diary of a Cell*, won the 2004 Steel Toe Books Poetry Prize and was featured by Garrison Keillor on his NPR show "The Writer's Almanac."



Lara Gualarte ('05): She won several James D. Phelan Literary Awards and the 2005 Anne Lillis Award for Creative Writing. Gualarte's poems have been translated into Portuguese by the University of the Acores and featured in the literary supplement *Suplemento Acoriano de Artes e Letras*, da revista *Saber/Acores*. Her work was presented in the Acore Islands at an international conference on storytelling and cultural identity in June 2005.

Quinton Hallett ('91): *Shiver Quench Slake*, a poetry chapbook, was published in 2004 by Fern Rock Falls Press. Two of her poems appeared in *Dona Nobis Pacem*, a chapbook published by Lane Literary Guild, 2006. A poem of hers was published in *Windfall: Journal of Poetry of Place* in 2006.

Forrest Hamer ('92,'97,'02): A new book, *Rift*, is forthcoming from Four Way Books.

Saskia Hamilton ('89,'92): Her newest collection, *Divide These*, was published by Graywolf in 2005. She is also the editor of *The Letters of Robert Lowell* (FSG, 2005). Her poetry has appeared in the *Kenyon Review*, the *New York Times Book Review*, the *New Yorker*, and elsewhere. She teaches at Barnard College.

Lois Hirshkowitz ('92,'93,'94,'95): Her fourth poetry collection, *3.14159+*, was published by Barrow Street Press in 2004.

Alicia Hokanson ('86-88,'90,'93,'97,'99): She has poems in the anthology, *Blessing the Animals* (Skylight Paths Publishing, 2006) and on Seattle Metro Poetry Bus, 2005. She was named "River of Words" Poetry Teacher of the Year in 2003, and received the award from Bob Hass.

Christina Hutchins ('03): Recent poems appear in *The Antioch Review*, *The Comstock Review*, *Cream City Review*, *Prai-*

rie Schooner, *The Southern Review*, and *Tampa Review*. Awarded a 2005 Money for Women/ Barbara Deming Memorial Award and 3rd place in the 2006 St. Petersburg Summer Literary Seminars contest, her manuscript, *The Stranger Dissolves*, was a finalist for the May Swensen Award. Her manuscript, *Interregnum*, is currently a finalist for the New Issues Poetry Prize and the National Poetry Series.

Alice Jones ('88): She was on the staff of Writing the Medical Experience in 2003. Her most recent book is *Gorgeous Mourning* from Apogee Press. She won the 2006 Lyric Poetry Award from the Poetry Society of America. Recent magazine publications included *ZYZZYVA*, *Isotope* and *Volt*.

Patricia Spears Jones ('92,'94,'99): Her second poetry collection, *Femme du Monde*, is due April 2006 from Tia Chucha Press, which is distributed by Northwestern University Press (www.poets.org/npmbooks.php). Poems in *Femme du Monde* first appeared in *Blood and Tears: Poems for Matthew Shepard* and in the following journals: *Agni*, *Callaloo*, *Barrow Street*, *Ploughshares*, the *Poetry Project Newsletter*, *Bomb* and *Crab Orchard Review*. Recent poems are in *TriQuarterly*, *nocturnes review*, and *Barrow Street*. She played Circe in John Ashberry's *The Heroes* at the Bowery Poetry Club in April.

Marilyn Kallet ('96,'98,'05): She published two books in 2005, *Circe*, *After Hours*, BkMk Press/UMKC (poetry), and *The Art of College Teaching: 28 Takes*, UT Press (co-edited with April Morgan). Her translations of Paul Eluard's *Last Love Poems* came out in a new edition from Commonwealth Books/Black Widow Press in June 2006.

Andrew Kaufman ('01): His collection, *Earth's Ends*, published in 2005 won the 2003 Pearl Poetry Award. His poems have also appeared in *Nimrod*, *Spoon River*

Poetry Review, *A Gathering of the Tribes*, *Pavement Saw*, and *Skidrow*.

Ann Keniston ('96,'03): She has published a poetry collection, *The Caution of Human Gestures* (David Robert Books), as well as poems in *Southwest Review*, *North American Review*, and *Epoch*.

Barbara Koons ('03): Her first poetry collection, *Night Highway*, was published by Cloudbanks Books in 2005. It contains two poems written at Squaw Valley in 2003.

Michelle Koukhab ('05): Her work appear in *Let Me Tell You Where I've Been: New Writing By Women of the Iranian Diaspora*, an anthology published in May 2006 by the University of Arkansas Press.

Keetje Kuipers ('05): Poems published or forthcoming in *West Branch*, *Parthenon West Review*, *Painted Bride Quarterly*, *Faultline*, *Red Rock Review*, and *Southern Hum*. Six of her poems are forthcoming from *Ellipsis* where she has been chosen as the featured poet for their August 2006 issue. She was recently awarded the C. Hamilton Bailey Poetry Fellowship, an Oregon Literary Fellowship provided by Literary Arts, which will fund her proposal to run a week-long series of bilingual poetry workshops for Mexican women working in maquiladoras on the border of Texas and Mexico.

Danusha Laméris ('00): Poems published in *Alaska Quarterly Review*, *Atlanta Review*, *Crab Orchard Review* and the anthology *In A Fine Frenzy: Poets Respond to Shakespeare*. She also received an honorable mention in *Water-Stone's* Jane Kenyon Prize.

Ted Lardner ('98,'02): *African American Literacies Unleashed: Vernacular English in the Composition Classroom*, co-written with Arnetha Ball, was published in the Series in Writing and Rhetoric by Southern Illinois University Press (2005). Poems are forthcoming or have recently appeared



"Dazzling poems, wholly taken in by where the words are going." —ADAM PHILLIPS

NIGHT HIGHWAY



poems by
Barbara Koons

Barbara Koons' fine first book of poetry, published by Cloudbank Books, an imprint of Bedbug Press, was one of the two finalists in the 2006 Best Books of Indiana competition.

Barbara wrote two of the poems in Night Highway at the 2003 Poetry Workshop at Squaw Valley, and she was again there in 2006.

To order Barbara's book, please go to
www.bedbugpress.com

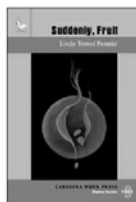


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in *Rhino*, *5am*, and *Arsenic Lobster*.

Anthony A. Lee ('01): He collaborated with Dr. Amin Banani and Dr. Jascha Kessler on the translation of the poems of Tahrih, a nineteenth-century Iranian feminist poet, *Tahrih: A Portrait in Poetry: Selected Poems of Qurratu'l-'Ayn* (Kalimat Press, 2004). His first full book of poems, *This Poem Means*, won the Naomi Long Madgett Poetry Award for 2005 and was published by Lotus Press (Detroit).

Jeffrey Thomas Leong ('97, '00, '02): Poems published or forthcoming in *Crab Orchard Review* and *The Asian Pacific American Journal*. His daughter, Mariya, was adopted in China in 2003, and now is a rambunctious 4 year old.

Shara Lessley ('02): Poems appeared or forthcoming in *The Kenyon Review*, *Threepenny*, *Blackbird*, *Gulf Coast*, *The Southeast Review*, *Bellingham Review*, *Hayden's Ferry* and *Third Coast*, among others. Recent fellowships include the Stegner (Stanford University 2003-5), O'Connor (Colgate University 2005-6), and Tickner (Gilman School 2006-7). Twice nominated for the Pushcart as well as Best New Poets, Shara was recently awarded the 2006 Discovery/*The Nation* prize.

Nina Lindsay ('97): Her first collection, *Today's Special Dish*, will be published by Sixteen Rivers Press in Spring 2007.

Robert Lipton ('95,'03): His book of poems, *A Complex Bravery*, has just been published by Marick Press.

Glenna Luschei ('99): Essays dedicated to Luschei appeared in *Prairie Schooner*, Winter 2004. An Artist Book of Sor Juana Inés de la Cruz's *Enigmas* was published in 2006. Recent poems in *Chance of Ghost*, Helicon Press, 2005; *The Sorrow Psalms*, University of Iowa Press, 2006; *Pembroke #37*, 2005; *Art Life*, 2003-06 and *APR*. Her publishing company Solo Press has published the following: *Solo 7*, 2004; *Solo*



The Caution of Human Gestures Poems by Ann Keniston

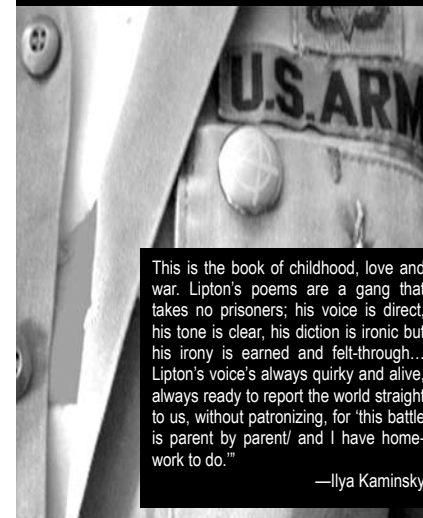
The textures of music and memory form circles that ripple ever outward in Ann Keniston's *The Caution of Human Gestures*. Keniston is a poet for whom careful craft is a means to subtle vision, a knowledge that even the smallest of human gestures has larger resonances both within and outside an individual life.

"Frost speaks of the process of writing poems as starting with an emotion, the emotion finding a thought, and the thought finding a word. At every part of this process, Ann Keniston's passionate, wonderfully intelligent voice finds a way to give emotion, thought, and word a quiet gravity and grace that is unique in American poetry. Keniston is one of the very few poets, like Emily Dickinson, who have the gift for dramatizing the mind in motion, as opposed to the mind at rest. These poems are superb exemplars of the mind in motion, in which transparency of word matches exactly the density of thought and integrity of emotion." — Tom Sleigh

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—Ilya Kaminsky

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Cafe 1: Songs of the Goddess, 2005; *Cafe Solo: 40th Anniversary Issue* and a chapbook by Lynn Strongin, *Dovey & Me*, 2006.

Sarah Maclay ('97): Her poems, essays and reviews have appeared or are soon to appear in *American Poetry Review*, *Swink*, *The Journal*, *FIELD*, *Ploughshares*, *Hotel Amerika*, *Ninth Letter*, *The Writer's Chronicle*, *Pool*, *The Laurel Review*, *Washington Square Review*, *Solo*, *Tampa Review*, *Los Angeles Review*, *forPoetry.com*, *Parthenon West Review*, *Runes*, *Pearl*, *Spillway*, *ON-THEBUS* and *Poetry International*, where she now serves as book review editor. Her debut full-length, *Whore*, won the 2003 Tampa Review Prize for Poetry and was released in 2004 from University of Tampa Press. She has received several Pushcart nominations, won the dA Center for the Arts Poetry Contest in 2003, and was a finalist for the Blue Lynx Prize for Poetry and a semi-finalist for the Kenyon Review Prize in Poetry, the Cleveland State University Prize in Poetry and the Tupelo Press first book prize, and she received a 2005 Albert and Elaine Borchard Fellowship.

Sandra Cohen Margulius ('01): Her poem "Women and Birds" won the first place prize and publication in *RUNES, a Review of Poetry* for Fall/Winter 2005. Another poem, "Aunt Betty," has been accepted for publication in the forthcoming Holocaust anthology being edited by Charles Fishman to be released in 2007.

Judy Rowe Michaels ('91,'92,'01): She was awarded a fellowship at the MacDowell Colony, summer of 2005. Her poems were finalists in *Kalliope's* Sanie Sue Elkind Contest and *The Atlanta Review's* contest and won Honorable Mention in the *Nimrod/Hardman Pablo Neruda* competition. Poems also appeared this year in *Ekpbrasis*, *US-1*, and *English Journal*.

Norman Minnick ('06): His book of poems, *To Taste the Water*, won a first book contest and will be published by Mid-List

Press of Minneapolis in early summer 2007. Mary Logue was the judge. Two of the poems were written at Squaw this past summer.

Joan Monheit ('02): She was awarded an Honorable Mention in poetry by the Astraea 2004 Emerging Lesbian Writers Fund.

Berwyn Moore ('90,'92): Her collection, *Dissolution of Ghosts*, was published in 2005 by Cherry Grove Collections. Recent poems in *Nimrod International Journal of Poetry and Prose*, *River Walk Journal*, and *Schuylkill Valley Journal of the Arts*. An interview with Berwyn about her work appears in *Eclectica* (www.eclectica.org).

Linda Joy Myers ('94): *Don't Call Me Mother: Breaking the Chain of Mother-Daughter Abandonment* was published by Two Bridges Press in 2005. Excerpts from the book won the Jack London First Non-fiction Prize and second prize at the *East of Eden* contest. *Becoming Whole: Writing Your Healing Story* was released by Two Bridges Press in July 2006. The short memoir *Who Am I?* won first prize for memoir for the lifewriting contest through Story Circle Network.

Kathy O'Fallon ('02): In December, 2005, Finishing Line Press published her new collection, *At Higher Elevations*, which includes poems written at Squaw Valley. Her poems have also appeared in *Rough Places Plain: Poems of the Mountains*, an anthology edited by Margot Wizansky from Salt Marsh Press, 2006, *Rattle, Tidepools*, *Magee Park Poets Anthology*, 2006, and *Poets Against the War*, 2003.

Jude O'Nym ('95,'02): She received a 2003 Fellowship in Literature (Poetry) from the Texas Writers' League. Her poem "The Beginning" was one of two runners up in the 2005 *RUNES* Award Competition. A poem, "Blue in the Face," which she wrote while at Squaw Valley, was published in *Hanging Loose* # 85.

Kathleen O'Toole ('05,'03,'01): Her new collection, *Ties that Bind*, is due out from Finishing Line Press. Her chapbook, *Practice*, was also published by Finishing Line Press (www.finishinglinepress.com).

Jennie Orvino ('05): Poems published in the following anthologies: *Cloud View Poets: David St. John Masterclass*; *Marin Poetry Center Anthology*; *Present at the Creation: Poets Write About Writing Poetry*; *Slow Trains*; and *From Porn to Poetry*. Letterpress chapbook from Clamshell Press titled *Jennie Orvino: A Sampler of Her Poems*. Erotic prose at www.cleansheets.com and www.sextoytale.com. And appearance in the Libido Films documentary *Orgasm: Faces of Ecstasy*.

Rachel Richardson ('01): She is currently finishing a Wallace Stegner Fellowship in Poetry at Stanford University. She has poems recently published and forthcoming in *Shenandoah*, *Michigan Quarterly Review*, *Ninth Letter*, *Antioch Review*, *Witness*, and *Washington Square*.

Barbara Riley ('02): Poems published or forthcoming in *Central Avenue*, *Sin Fronteras*, *Just Outside the Frame: Anthology of Santa Fe Broadside Contributors*. Her book, *The Rising of the Wind*, was published by Lumen Books in 2005. www.rileyreader.com

Ariel Robello ('02): Her collection, *My Sweet Unconditional: Poems*, was published in 2005 by Tia Chucha.

Renato Rosaldo ('00,'02): His bilingual (Spanish-English) collection of poems entitled *Prayer to Spider Woman/Rezo a la mujer araña* was published in Saltillo, Mexico by ICOCULT in 2003. The collection received a Before Columbus Foundation American Book Award, 2004. A poem of his won the *Many Mountains Moving* poetry contest, 2005. Recent poems of his will appear in *Prairie Schooner*, *Puerto del Sol*, and *Many Mountains Moving*.

www.mmminc.org

Monika Rose ('97): She is the editor of *Manzanita: Poetry and Prose of the Mother Lode and Sierra*, a journal for nature writers and artists inspired by our region. 1,500 copies of Volume 5 were printed this summer. Several Squaw Valley Community of Writers participants are featured in this publication. For more information, contact mrosemanza@jps.net.

Lois Rosen ('01,'99): Her first book of poetry, *Pigeons*, was published by Traprock Books in 2004. Quite a few of the poems were written at Squaw.

Yiskah Rosenfeld ('01,'03): New poems published in *Comet Magazine*, *the Bitter Oleander*, *Lilith Magazine*, and *Schuylkill Valley Journal of the Arts*. She was twice a finalist for the Frances Locke Memorial Award and second prize winner for the Seacoast Writers Association 2006 contest. No births, but she did acquire a small wonderdog named Paz.

Elizabeth Rosner ('99): See Writers Workshops Staff News.

Deborah Dashow Ruth ('91,'92,'95,'98,'00,'01): In 2005 "Unfinished," a poem she wrote with Brenda Hillman, appeared in *Oyez*, published by Roosevelt University (Chicago). It was also nominated for a Pushcart Prize. And in 2005, a reading of her play by professional actors was held at the Berkeley City Club.

Larry Ruth ('00,'02,'04): Poems published in *The Berkeleyan*, *Ibid.*, *Berkeley Poetry Review*, and in *Hail to California*:



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The University of California at Berkeley in Verse and Story (an anthology). In 2005 he was awarded a Lili Fabilli and Eric Hoffer Essay Prize by the University of California, Berkeley.

Shelley Savren ('01): In 2004, her book of poems, *The Common Fire*, was published by Red Hen Press.

Laura Secord ('00,'03): Her poem cycle/stage play *Sanapia's Courage Medicine*, much of which was written at Squaw in 2003, was first performed in May 2005 (<http://wbhm.org/tapestry/May12-05.html>) It will be featured at Goddard College's Power of Words Conference. "The Burning," written at Squaw Valley, was published in *PoemMemoirStory*, April 2006.

Evie Shockley ('99): Her collection of poems, *half-red sea*, was published by Carolina Wren Press in September 2006.

RUNES
A Review of Poetry

RUNES is an annual themed anthology. The theme for '07 is: "Connection," which should be interpreted in traditional as well as metaphorical, metaphysical, and imaginative ways.

For 2006, the theme is "Hearth." We will be publishing poets Mary Jo Bang, Mark Doty, Barbara Hamby, Ilya Kaminsky, W. S. Merwin, and David St. John, along with 94 others known and less well-known.

Poems from **RUNES** have been featured in *Best American Poetry* and in the *Pushcart Prize* anthologies.

RUNES also offers an annual competition: the **RUNES Award** with a prize of \$1000. Theme of the competition is also: "Connection." Final judges in '07 will be Robert Hass and Brenda Hillman. Submissions for **RUNES** and for the **RUNES Award** are accepted only during April and May. For additional information visit the website:

<http://members.aol.com/Runes>

—CB ('Lyn) Follett & Susan Terris, editors

Gary Short ('81,'90): His newest collection of poems, *10 Moons and 13 Horses*, was published by University of Nevada Press in 2004.

Edgar Silex ('95,'02): Curbstone Press published his *Acts of Love* in 2004. His most recent poems appear in *The Alembic*, *Rattle*, *The Baltimore Review*, and *The New American Poets: A Breadloaf Anthology*.

Elizabeth Sullivan ('02,'05): Recent publishing credits include poems in the *Atlanta Review*, *Primavera*, and several poems in www.mamazine.com.

Susan Terris ('04): Her poem, "Goldfish: A Diptych," published last fall in *FIELD Magazine*, was just awarded a Pushcart Prize. She is co-editor, with 'Lyn Follett, of *RUNES*, now in its sixth year. Poems from *RUNES* have been included in *Best American Poetry* and awarded a Pushcart Prize. In 2007, the theme is Connection, and

will be judged by Robert Hass and Brenda Hillman.

Amber Flora Thomas ('93,'02,'05): See Participant Profile page 9.

Lisanne (Stouder) Thompson ('99): Poems are forthcoming in *Xantippe* and *Five Fingers Review*. Her first child, Nina Louise, was born in February.

Sally Van Doren ('01,'03): Her poems have appeared recently, or are forthcoming, in *Barrow Street*, *Cincinnati Review*, *Columbia Poetry Review*, *Delmar*, *LIT*, *Parthenon West Review*, *Pool and Snow Monkey*. She was named a semi-finalist in the 2005 Discovery/The Nation prize. Her manuscripts were finalists in contests at Barrow Street Press, InTuit House and Story Line Press.

Nicola Waldron ('01,'04): Her baby boy, Brook, born on Christmas Day 2004, is now running, though not yet reciting poetry!

Lucinda Watson ('98,'02,'04): She has published poems in *The Louisville Review*, *Phantasmagoria*, *Inkwell* (semifinalist award) *MacGuffin*, and *The Griffin* in 2004 and 2005.

David Watts ('99,'02,'04): His book of essays, *Bedside Manners*, was published by Random House in 2005; the paperback appeared in 2006. He is a regular commentator on NPR's *All Things Considered*. He is founding director of the writers conference, Writing the Medical Experience, which is now held at Sarah Lawrence College. www.sl.edu.

Niama Leslie Williams ('00): Poems and/or prose pieces published in *XConnect*, the University of Pennsylvania's literary magazine (print and web edition); blackfemlens.org; *Acts of Emancipation: An Anthology of Teachers' Writing*; *Mind-Fire Renewed*; *My Soul to His Spirit – Soulful Expressions from Black Daughters to Their Fathers*; P.A.W. (Philadelphia Arts

Writers) *Prints*; *Midnight Mind Magazine*; *Poetry Ink*; and *Mischief, Caprice and Other Poetic Strategies* (Red Hen Press).

Ian Randall Wilson ('93): See Writers Workshop Participant News.

Sholeh Wolpe ('04): Her collection, *The Scar Saloon*, was published by Red Hen Press and her CD of poems read to modern and ancient Persian music was released by Refuge Studios and distributed by Red Hen Press. Recent anthologies in which her poems have appeared, or are due to appear, are: *Contemporary Poetry of the Eastern World* (Norton, 2007), *Evensong: Contemporary Poems of Spirituality* (Bottom Dog Press, 2007), *Inlandia: A Literary Journey Through California's Inland Empire* (Heyday, 2006), *Let Me Tell You Where I've Been: New Writing by Women of the Iranian Diaspora* (University of Arkansas Press, 2006), *The Other Side of Sorrow* (Poetry Society of New Hampshire 2006), and *Java Monkey Speaks* (Poetry Atlanta Press, 2006). Her short story, "Aging the Horses," was one of this year's *Glimmer Train* Open Fiction competition finalists. www.sholehwolpe.com

Ernie Wormwood ('98,'00,'02): Poems published in *Convergence* (2005), *Belthway* (2006) *Innisfree Poetry* (2006), *Raintiger* (2005), *The Cafe Review* (2006), *Rhino* (2006), and in the anthologies *Poetic Voices Without Borders* (2005) and *Only the Sea Keeps: Poetry of the Tsunami* (2005). Her poem "Pizza" written at Squaw Valley in 2002 and dedicated to Galway Kinnell appears online at www.innisfreepoetry.org. She was a finalist in 2005 for the Dogfish Head Poetry prize.

Toni Wynn ('95): Toni's poem "Good News from the River" was published in Cave Canem's *Gathering Ground*, University of Michigan Press, 2006, edited by Toi Derricotte and Cornelius Eady.

Bill Yake ('98): His collection, *This Old Riddle: Cormorants and Rain*, was published by Radiolarian Press. In recent years his poems have won *Alligator Juniper's* poetry prize, *Fine Madness'* inaugural James M. Snyder prize, and a Pushcart nomination. Recent or forthcoming poems in *Wings: Essays on Invertebrate Conservation*, *Open Spaces Quarterly*, *Entelechy: Mind & Culture*, *The Bear Deluxe Anthology*, *Fine Madness*, *Chronogram*, *Artful Dodge*, *HazMat Review*, and *Red Rock Review*.



The poem below came after Harryette Mullen's craft talk...

HAPPY HOUR

Line and shadow an eccentric conflict between plot and something else, a bird in hand is worth two null hypotheses striving to recall the present imagination, motivation, allegory, all the new thinking about loss gone west, creative misinterpretation east taking refuge behind some ironic curtain in a show of solidarity, hilarity, and anti-personnel pronouns

there's no limit anymore, just a hard listless presence on the plane of words; syllables, diphthongs, vowels and consonants slowly disaggregate, dissolving lines, paragraph, meaning and multiverse, rebutting presumptions of contingency, order and expansion of space and string as a way to fathom text and time—surrealism, arc, sphere, there, here, plots against mime.

Larry Ruth



Summer 2006 Special Thanks!

There are many people who work to make the conference happen each summer; some have a formal relationship with the Community of Writers, and some are friends and family.

First of all, we thank our magnificent staff who make the conference what it is. Many thanks to **Lisa Alvarez, Andrew Tonkovich, Louis B. Jones**, who despite their roles as directors and/or teaching staff are to be seen in the days before the conference moving tables and chairs; to **Kaitlin Klaussen**, who coordinated housing for us with Audrey Rose on her hip; to **Stacey Knapp** for running the bookshop with good cheer. We'd also like to thank **The Book Seller in Grass Valley** who helped us tremendously with the book orders, as well as **Debbie Lane of The Bookshelf at Hooligan's Rock** for filling in the gaps. **Joan Klaussen** for running the snack-bar during both programs, and her husband **Peter** who put up with it all and carried many cases of wine.



Many thanks to members of the Board and Squaw Valley locals who have been tremendously generous with their time over the years: **Eddy and Osvlado Ancinas, Amy Tan and Lou; Barbara and Oakley; Maria VonderAhe; Mimi & Burnett Miller; Don and Geri Thayer; and Max Byrd.**

Thanks also to our friends **Justin Bailey, Tad Hall, Tracy Hall, Amanda Holsoption, Hunter Jones, Margot Miller, Tom Taylor**, and especially to **Thomas Estler, Arianne Simard, and Steve Susoyev**. And **Sands Hall** for the Follies.

Great appreciation to **Justin Casey and Tom O'Neill of the Olympic Plaza Food and Beverage** for their lovely venues; and **Ena Arbueza** for her remarkable dinners. Thanks also to **Raine Howe of the Squaw Valley Institute** who helped us present some terrific fundraisers this summer. Thanks to staff members **Mark Childress, Gill Dennis, Alice Sebold, Amy Tan**, who generously donated their time for these events.

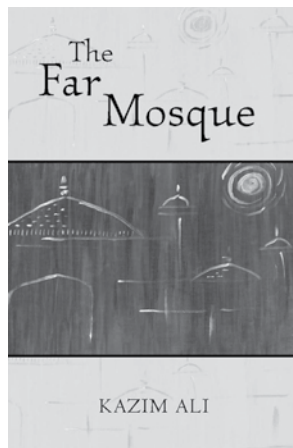
Thanks to our work-waivers in Poetry: **Amanda Chiado, Melissa Mack, Karyna McGlynn, Natalie Peeterse, Eliza Rotterman, Joanna Solfrain, Sara Wallace, and Mary Jane White**. And thanks to our work-waivers in Writers Workshops: **Sally Abbot, Lori Brown, Rebecca Cummings, Parissa Ebrahimzadeh, Claudia Errington, Sara Hove, Maxima Kahn, Anna Mills, Bob Pomeroy, Sandhya Rao, Cora Stryker, Craig Tepper, Carrie Thovson, and Yunshi Wang**. Thanks also to **Emily Baldwin and Seth Fleisher**. Thanks also to the Screenwriting helpers: **Rebecca Rufer, Jason Wolos, Jason Boyce, and Chris Upham**.

The Board and Staff of the Community of Writers would especially like to thank the late, great **Alexander Cushing**, Chairman of the Squaw Valley Ski Corp who has had faith in us all these years; **Nancy Wendt**, his wife and President of the company who has continued to create an environment where a conference such as ours is possible; and to their wonderful staff: **Ernst Hager, Tom Kelly, Christine Horvath, Cynthia Braga** and the **Security Team** (who are superb ambassadors).

And thanks to our many friends and donors without whom the Summer Workshops would not happen.

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The careful matching of the papers' edges was a road back

One night Muhummad was borne aloft by a winged horse
Taken from the Near Mosque to the Far Mosque

Each book likens itself to lichen,
stitching softly to tree trunks, to rocks

what was given into the Prophet's ears that night:
A changing of directions—now all the scattered tribes must pray:

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Well you be found here, foundered and found*

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Participant Profile: Kazim Ali



Kazim Ali attended the Squaw Valley Poetry Workshop in 1998, and has said, "My experience at Squaw Valley really was the beginning of my life as a poet." Since then he's been busy writing and publishing poetry and fiction and giving readings. He also teaches English and Creative Writing at Shippensburg University and is a member of the permanent faculty of Stonecoast, the MFA program of the University of Southern Maine.

Ali was born in London, England and grew up in Canada and in the United States. He grew up hearing Qura'an recitations in Arabic and sung poems in Urdu. "So the earliest poetry to me was rhythm and sound but without meaning. A beautiful way (I think) to begin."

His early inspirations were novelists like Marguerite Duras and Anais Nin, as well as the theory of Roland Barthes, so he began by writing short, fragmented pieces of fiction. Then, he says, "I started political organizing and began writing performance-oriented poetry."

He lists among his many eclectic influences visual artists like Agnes Martin, the art, politics and performances of Yoko Ono, as well as countless poets, and admits to a penchant for breaking the rules, but in the next breath, he adds that he has great respect for his formal education as well; "I write in meter—disjunctive manic meter perhaps, but

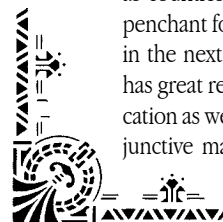
meter nonetheless."

His debut book of poems, *The Far Mosque*, was published by Alice James Books in October 2005 and won the New England/New York Prize. *Library Journal* wrote, "If one of the poet's tasks is to revive the mythological powers in things, Ali does so skillfully here. . . . His poetry is reminiscent of the works of French poet René Char in its surrealistic style and lyrical fragmentations. In addition, the mystic voices of the East, which express a passionate yearning for a harmonious unity with absolute beauty, are echoed throughout most of his poems."

His novel *Quinn's Passage* (BlazeVox Books) was named one of The Best Books of 2005 by *Chronogram!* Novelist Michael Joyce says, "The novel combines a deft, poetic ear and nimble erudition and poetry to evoke the rhythm of time, a tidal succession of events, memories, visions, and passions which embody 'the ocean dance' that its title character 'choreographs under his breath.'"

His new book of poetry, *The Fortieth Day*, is forthcoming from BOA Editions. He has poems forthcoming or recently published in *Colorado Review*, *Barrow Street*, *Painted Bride Quarterly*, and *New Orleans Review*. With Squaw alum Jennifer Chapis he co-founded the small press Nightboat Books (www.nightboat.org).

www.kazimali.com



SCREENWRITING STAFF NEWS



Gene Corr: He is co-writing *Butte, America*, with Ed Dobb for Pam Roberts and his documentary of Cuba, *From Richmond to Regla*, is scheduled to begin shooting in April 2007.

Pamela Gray: She is currently writing a comedy feature for Paramount and will be making her directorial debut with an original project she's developing for Fox Searchlight.

Camille Thomasson: Her most recent television credits include, *The Magic of Ordinary Days* (2005), and *The Valley of Light* (2007). She is currently adapting Regina Louise's memoir, *Somebody's Someone*, for Lifetime. (See Regina Louise in Screenwriting Participant News.)

Michael Lehmann: He directed the new Diane Keaton movie, *Because I Said So*, which will be released by Universal in February. Currently he is completing an episode of *Big Love* for HBO.

Christopher Monger: He is marketing his award winning documentary, *Special Thanks to Roy Landon*, which premiered at Tribeca Festival in 2006. It can be ordered through www.specialthankstoroylondon.com.

Judy Rascoe: She was the story consultant on Roger Spottiswood's film, *Shake Hands With the Devil*, which is in post production and is currently the story consultant for the *Bang Bang Club*, a feature about young conflict photographers in South Africa.

Tom Rickman: He has completed a 12 hour mini-series for Universal-NBC on the story of Motown, and is currently involved in a miniseries about Hurricane Katrina to

be aired on NBC in the winter.

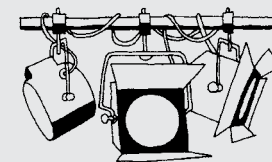
Thomas Schlessinger: He has collaborated with Doris Dorrie on *The Fisherman and his Wife* which will be released in Spring 2007, and is currently producing the feature film, *Playground*, written and directed by Caroline Link.

Erika Szanto: Her new documentary, *For the Good of the Nation*, premiered in Budapest this year and her original screenplay, *Dog Story*, was optioned by a Hungarian film company.

Christopher Upham: He is in post production on his feature documentary, *The War Within*, and has received two grants in support of the project, from Pacific Pioneer and Fleishhacker. It is produced by Teri Lang (Screenwriting Guest '06). His short story, "Nothing To Crow About," has been anthologized by Koa Books in *Veterans of War, Veterans of Peace* (second printing!) which was edited by Maxine Hong Kingston.



An Extraordinary Opportunity for Screenwriters



DEAR NORTHERN CALIFORNIA WRITERS,

Some of you know I taught a screenwriting class at San Quentin last Spring. Twenty-six classes offered under the auspices of the Prison University Project, administered by Patten University in Oakland. It's an excellent program, run by a wonderful, dynamic woman, Jody Lewen. All teachers at Prison University work on a volunteer basis because all state funding has long been cut for such programs. Prison U is the only remaining program in the California State Prison system that offers convicts college level classes on site.

Screenwriters such as Pamela Gray and Jeremy Lerner, among others, came to the prison, showed their films, and spoke to the class. I think they can both attest to what a worthwhile experience it was.

The class was a great experience. Most of the students were enthusiastic and put forth exceptional effort. A couple had real talent. I was able to create a portable San Quentin screenplay library (most from the donations from Diana Fuller and the Squaw Valley Community of Writers, also from individual writers). Some San Quentin students devoured the screenplays, reading as many as twenty over the course of the semester. Two students wrote complete screenplays, and four continued to write after the classes ended.

After talking with four or five of the more committed students, who were determined to keeping writing, we decided to form a San Quentin Writers Group. The plan was that I would read their work and would go over once a month and meet with the Writers Group.

The "problem": they're turning out far more work than I can read. And last Friday, 9 students showed up. I came back from last Friday's meeting with over five hundred pages of screenplays and a finished novel. It was clear to me I had two choices: abandon the program or get help.

I am writing to appeal to Northern California screenwriters to consider mentoring one or two San Quentin writers. Your choice. By mentoring one student it not only makes the workload manageable, it also allows the development of a richer relationship between mentor and student. I believe you will find this a manageable and deeply satisfying commitment.

As mentor, you would read their work in progress, offer comments, discuss ideas, movies, life, whatever comes up. Much of the written work can be sent through the mail (via Jody Lewen and the Prison U office), but occasionally the mentoring writer would need to come to San Quentin to meet with his or her student. The meeting could be once a month, once every two months, once every three months, or how ever often seems right. The mentor, along with the student, can decide on the best schedule.

Please contact me if you're interested in participating in the program, and we can discuss it further.

Send an email to info@squawvalleywriters.org with "FOR EUGENE CORR" in the subject line, and SVCW will forward your email to me.

All the best, *Eugene Corr*

SCREENWRITING PARTICIPANT NEWS



Joan Baranow ('98): She and her production team have just completed a video documentary called *Healing Words: Poetry and the Art of Medicine*, an hour long film that celebrates the Arts in Medicine program at Shands Hospital in Gainesville, Florida.

Jan Baross: Her first novel, *Jose Builds a Woman*, was published by Ooligan Press in August. She has had a film offer on the book. Her newest book, *Ms. Baross Goes To Paris*, is a guide to Paris that she wrote and illustrated. www.barossmedia.com

Greg Bills ('94): See Writers Workshops Participant News.

Carroll Parrott Blue ('99): Her experimental memoir, *The Dawn at My Back*, won a 2004 Sundance Film Festival Jury Award (www.dawnatmyback.com), and will become *The Dawn Installation* at Project Row Houses while Blue is a University of Houston Visiting Professor and Project Row Houses Artist-in-Residence (www.project-rowhouses.org) June 2006 through May 2007.

Denise Bostrom ('89,'93): She has been advising Denise Zmekhol on her documentary, *Children of the Amazon*, soon to be aired at film festivals nationally.

Jason Boyce ('05): His film, *Barry Johnson*, won 2nd place in the Iron Filmmaker

Contest, part of the California Independent Film Festival.

Eugenie Chan ('04): Her play, *Kitchen Table*, was presented by the Magic Theatre in August as part of the 2006 Bay Area Playwrights Festival. She recently co-wrote the San Francisco Mime Troupe's *GodFellas* with the Troupe.

Mark Coggins ('01): See Writers Workshop Participant News.

David Corbett ('01): His third novel, *Blood of Paradise*, will be published in spring 2007 as part of Random House's new Mortalis imprint. His short story, *Bobby the Prop Buys In*, appeared in the Springsteen-inspired anthology, *Meeting Across the River*, and his story, *It Can Happen*, was included in San Francisco Noir, both collections published in 2006. Director Elie Udel (*Last Exit to Brooklyn*) has purchased the film rights to his first novel, *The Devil's Redhead*. www.davidcorbett.com

Patty Dann ('89): In 2003, her second novel, *Sweet & Crazy*, was published by St. Martin's Press. St. Martin's Griffin republished her 1999 novel, *Mermaids*, which was made into a feature film starring Wilona Rider and Cher, in 2004. A new book, *The Goldfish Went on Vacation: Shambhala/Trumpeter* will publish *A Memoir of Loss* in January of 2007.

Skye Dent ('94): She has produced/written several documentaries for Discovery Channel, sold a film script to Showtime, and written columns for several major newspapers.

Melanie Dixon ('05): Her horror script, *Frost*, is in development at Lions Gate UK. She adapted fellow alumnae, Tim Wendel's novel, *Castro's Curveball*, for the screen; the script is currently with William Morris. Wendel's novel has recently been republished.

Deepa Donda ('03): With Dwayne Humeyestewa she wrote and produced the 2004 short film *Echoes from Juniper Canyon*. Their new production company, Red Elephant, has just completed its first feature film, *California Indian*, written by Timothy Ramos.

Jack Estes ('05): He won first place in the FilmMarkers Sixth Annual International Screenplay Competition. He is in the final ten for *Scriptshark*.

Vibeke Gad: She has completed a mini-series for Danish Radio/TV Drama, *To Live the Truth*, and a TV-Series, *The Train*. Her docudrama, *The Harmonica*, was screened on television.

Lisa Ginsberg ('06): Her short film, *Joystick Blues*, had wide festival showing and *Girlltalk* was picked up for distribution.

Sheldon Gleisser ('05): His short story, *Souvenir*, was a runner up in the Mary Shelley awards published by *Rosebud* magazine.

Jenny Hedley ('05): Her story, *Equatorial Lines*, appears in the book *Surfing's Greatest Misadventures*, published in Spring 2006 by Casagrande Press. Editorial Production Assistant credit on Fox film

Walk the Line, Fall 2005.

Dwayne Humeyestewa ('02): With Deepa Donda he wrote and produced the 2004 short film *Echoes from Juniper Canyon*. Their new production company, Red Elephant, has just completed its first feature film, *California Indian*, written by Timothy Ramos.

Buzzy Jackson ('93): See Writers Workshops Participant News.

Penelope Karageorge ('03): She won seventh place out of more than 3000 submissions in Final Draft's Big Break Contest for her film script, *The Neon Jungle*.

Nancy Kelly ('84,'85): *Smiten*, which she wrote, produced and directed was aired nationally on PBS in July 2006. *Smiten* has received the Audience Award for Best Documentary from the DC Independent Film Festival, shared the Audience Award at the Aspen Shortsfest, and received Honorable Mention for Best Short Documentary from the Nashville Film Festival. She is currently also producing and directing a documentary called *Moments in Time*, in partnership with KRCB Public Television as Executive Producer.

James Kohlberg ('04): He has published short stories in the *South Dakota Review* and *The Distillery*. His 2005 film, *Runaway*, was the winner of the Austin Film Festival. *Trumbo*, a documentary on the life and letters of Dalton Trumbo, starring Liam Neeson, is in production. He has started an international film sales and finance company, Essential Entertainment, to expand the scope of his production company, Essential Productions.

Tiffany Laufer ('03): She served as cinematographer and co-producer for *Christ-*



mas at Maxwells, to be screened at selected theaters starting in December. She is co-founder of the production company LauferFilm, chaired by her father, William Laufer, who is also co-producer of the film.

Laura Glen Louis ('88): See Writers Workshops Participant News.

Regina Louise: ('02): Her memoir, *Somebody's Someone*, was published by Warner Books in 2003. Staff member Camille Thomasson wrote the screenplay for the Lifetime Television adaptation of *Somebody's Someone*, which is currently in production. In 2004 her long-lost friend, Jeannie Kerr, who was a young counselor at the Contra Costa children's shelter where Regina lived as a teen, adopted her. She was appointed National Spokesperson for Foster Care Awareness Month (May). Her one- woman show will premiere in May 2007 with the Sacramento Theatre Company. www.reginalouise.com

Moses Ma ('06): He has founded Little Taoist Films to produce independent films. His most recent film is *The Feynman Lectures*.

Anne Makepeace ('90): She won a national primetime Emmy Award in 2003 for her American Masters documentary, *Robert Capa in Love and War*. Her previous film, *Coming to Light*, also broadcast on American Masters, was short-listed for the feature documentary Oscar. She has just finished *Rain in a Dry Land*, a feature documentary on Somali Bantu refugees in America that won the Full Frame Working Films award last month, and will be broadcast on the PBS's P.O.V. series in 2007.

Aparna Malladi ('06): She plans to go into production with *Hanglider* in 2007.

Robert McEwen ('04): He has accepted an invitation as resident playwright at Chicago Dramatists. Collaboration Theatre

will open its Spring season with a production of his play *The Pull Toy ... And His Paisán*.

Rhoderyc Charles Montgomery ('01): He was the producer on the Fox SearchLab film, *Broadcast 23*, which made its premiere at the Sundance Film Festival.

Leena Pendharker ('04): Her short film, *This Moment*, screened at a number of festivals from the Hamptons to Ojai, including the Diaspora Festival of Black and Independent Film at UNC-Chapel Hill. Currently she is in preproduction for her feature film, *Raspberry Magic*.

Owen Prell ('02/'03): He and Tracy Wheeler have joined together under Story Hawk Productions to produce Tracy's screenplay, *Improvising Desire*. They are in negotiations with Lars Von Trier's production company, Zentropa, to form a Danish/American partnership for the production. Zentropa is in the process of attaching a Danish director to the project while Story Hawk begins to raise the American portion of the budget.

Richard Raucci ('03): He has finished his fourth feature script this year, and is currently working with a producer, formerly with CAA and SONY Pictures, to get one or more of his scripts produced.

Kimberly Reed ('06): Her documentary, *Prodigal Sons*, is in postproduction and she plans to shoot her narrative feature, *Please Check One*, late in 2007.

Matthew Riutta ('06): His short film, *Dress Up*, was screened at the 2006 Indianapolis Gay and Lesbian Film Festival. He is looking for a producer for his current film, *Just Wanabe*, which he plans to direct.

David Rouda ('04): Two of his plays, *Sperm Warfare* and *Pomp and Circumstance*, premiered at the Shelton Theater

on Union Square in San Francisco. He won the 2005 Critic's Award for the San Francisco Fringe Festival for *Sperm Warfare*.

Lynda Rutledge (Stephenson) ('95): Her novel, *Brave New Wanda*, was published by Wordfarm Press in August 2004. Her creative nonfiction works have been published in the Spring 2006 issues of *Brevity* and *River Teeth*. www.lyndars.com

Rebecca Sanders ('96): She has written scripts for two independent features, *Cult* (2000) and *Love* (2004). She currently has a script, *Esther*, optioned by Omar Kaczmarczk's OK Company, Los Angeles. She is currently co-producing a feature film *Shanti* (peace in Hindi), for Smera Productions, to be filmed in India this year.

Lisanne Sartor ('00): She recently sold her screenplay, *Cleaverville*, to Lifetime, which will be shooting in December.

Michael Schulman ('05): See Participant Profile page 33.

Joni Sensel ('94): She won a grant to create a small press which has now published two children's picture books, one of which won a 2001 ASPCA Henry Bergh Children's Book Honor. She sold a middle-grade novel and a young-adult novel to Henry Holt. The first (which she wrote first as a screenplay) will be released next spring; the second, will be published in Spring 2008.

Amy Tan ('90): See Writers Workshop Staff News.

Andrew Tonkovich ('96): See Writers Workshops Staff News.

Mabel Valdiviezo ('05): Her short film, *Soledad Is Gone Forever*, will be included in the International Latino Film Festival in San Francisco. She has also been nominated for the Emerging Latino Filmmakers Award.

Nada Von Tress ('06): She is the editor of the literary magazine *On the Page*, (www.onthepage.org) which is publishing its 13th issue this fall.

Ellen Weis ('92): *Berkeley: The Life and Spirit of a Remarkable Town*, was published by North Atlantic Books in 2004.

Tim Wendel ('06): See Writers Workshop Participant News.

Tracy Wheeler ('02, '04): She and Owen Prell have joined together under Story Hawk Productions to produce Tracy's screenplay, *Improvising Desire*. They are in negotiations with Lars Von Trier's production company, Zentropa, to form a Danish/American partnership for the production. Zentropa is in the process of attaching a Danish director to the project while Story Hawk begins to raise the American portion of the budget.

Myrton Running Wolf ('03): He has been working for PBS in the research department on a five-part series on the history of the American Indian, *We Shall Remain*, due to be broadcast in the spring of 2008. He completed a stage play about the Carlisle Indian School which is being considered by UCLA Live!, the Joseph Papp Public Theater, and the Banff Performing Arts Center.

Indi Zeleny ('00): She compiled and edited the nonfiction book *Herstory: What I Learned in My Bathtub ... and More True Stories on Life, Love, and Other Inconveniences* (Adams Media, 2005). She recently published stories in *Horse Crazy* (Adams Media, 2006) and *Letters to My Teacher* (Adams Media, 2006), and is currently compiling and editing the forthcoming nonfiction book, *The I Have a Life Guide to Baby's 1st Year* (Adams Media, December 2006).

Participant Profile: Moshe (Michael) Schulman

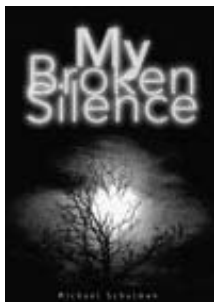
Moshe Schulman attended the Screenwriting Program at the Community of Writers in 2005. While still in high school, he completed a documentary entitled *The N Word*, which explores the use of the racial epithet. The film won for best documentary at the 2006 Tartan Road Student Film Festival and was also an official selection of the 2006 San Francisco Black Film Festival and the Rockland Film Festival.

Schulman started out attending a tiny Orthodox Jewish high school of fifty students, all male. When he transferred to a large public school of 2,000, in which 85% of the students are minorities, he found himself delving into issues of culture and identity. He is currently writing a screenplay based on his experience of switching schools entitled *Culture Shock*.

He was spurred to investigate the controversial use of "the N word" after hearing it used so much among his African-American peers as a positive term. The film explores a range of reactions and opinions to the use of

the word and has stirred discussion among teachers and students at his school. In an interview with Joelle Asaro Berman, Schulman says of the film, "I am interested in race issues and culture issues. I am a big advocate for diversity and integration amongst all cultures and all religions. The experience of making this film made me realize I could address issues through a documentary and inspire thought."

Schulman is now 19 years old and has been a film major at Five Towns College, now looking to transfer. He has created a second documentary, *Without A Voice—The Hidden Epidemic of Sexual Abuse in the Jewish Community*, exploring sexual abuse in Yeshivas and the orthodox religious community. Other screenplays include *The Bird and The Fish*, *Gentle Waves into Oblivion*, *The Path of The Righteous*, and *Dr. Lawton*. His book, *My Broken Silence* (iUniverse, 2005), features original poetry on politics, religion, divorce, and culture shock, and is available at www.barnesandnoble.com. Visit his blog at www.michaelschulman.blogspot.com.



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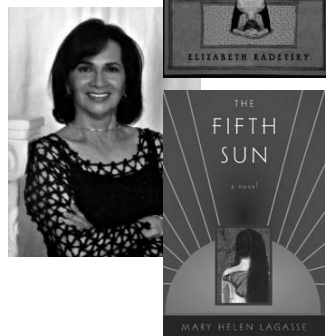
SANTA MONICA

Published Alumni Reading Series

Often referred to as the “this could be you” reading, the Community of Writers has welcomed some remarkable writers back to Squaw Valley for the Published Alumni Reading Series. Each summer, recently published alumni are invited to return to Squaw Valley to read from their books and talk about their journey from unpublished writers to published authors. The Community of Writers is delighted to celebrate the success of these writers and to present them to the participants, staff, and the public.

In 2004, we were joined by **Meg Waite Clayton** ('00) who read from her first novel, *The Language of Light*, (St. Martin's Press); **Suzanne Greenberg** ('99) whose read from the 2003 Drue Heinz Literature Prize-winning *Speed-Walk and Other Stories* (U. of Pittsburgh Press); **Michael Jaime-Becerra** ('99,'02) read from his collection, *Every Night Is Ladies' Night*, (Rayo/HarperCollins in 2003); **Elizabeth Kadetsky** ('97) read from her memoir, *First There Is a Mountain*, (Little Brown); and **Mary Helen LaGasse** ('97) read from her first novel, *The Fifth Sun* (Curbstone Press) which won the 2003 Miguel Marmol Latina First Fiction Award.

In 2005, were visited by another group of fine writers. **Kirsten Sundberg Lunstrom** ('02) read from *This Life She's Chosen: Stories* (Chronicle Books); **Kristin Ohlson** ('88,'92) read from her memoir *Stalking the Divine* (Theia/Hyperion). She won the American Society of Journalists and Authors' Nonfiction Award; **Jordan Fisher Smith** read and talked about the writing of his nature writing book, *Nature Noir: A Park Ranger's Patrol in the Sierra*, (Houghton Mifflin); **Brenda Rickman Vantrease** read from her novel, *The Illuminator*, (St. Martin's) which has been translated into 10 foreign languages.



AND IN 2006 our Published Alumna were **Christina Adams** ('00) who read from her memoir, *A Real Boy: A True Story of Autism, Early Intervention and Recovery*, (Berkley Books); **Michael Lavigne** ('01) read from his first novel, *Not Me*, (Random House), which is currently being translated into three languages; **David Lincoln** read from his novel, *Mobility Lounge*, (Spuyten Duyvil); **Lee Montgomery** ('99) read from her memoir, *The Things Between Us*, (Free Press); **Katia Noyes** ('99, '01) read from her first novel, *Crashing America* (Alyson Publications), which was a Book Sense Notable book in 2005. **Kris Saknussem** ('01) read from his first novel, *Zanesville* (Villard).

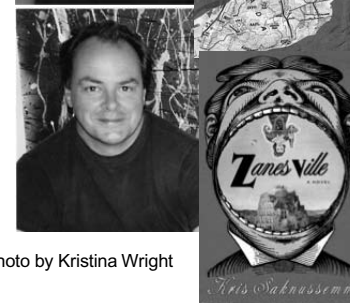
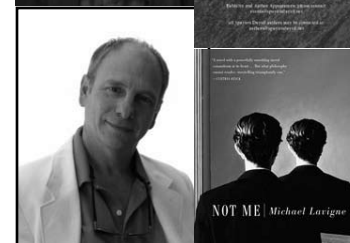
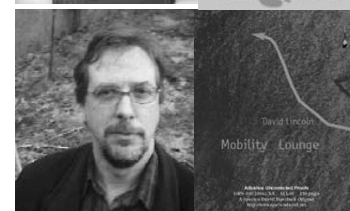
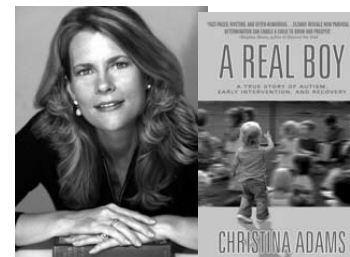
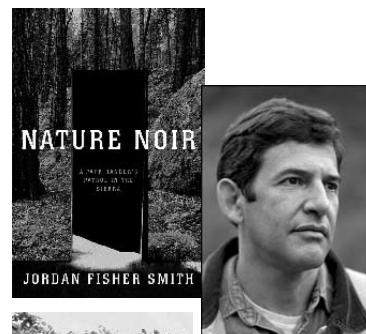


Photo of Jordan Fisher-Smith by Jim Herrington; Lee Montgomery photo by Kristina Wright



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WRITERS WORKSHOP IN A BOOK: THE SQUAW VALLEY COMMUNITY OF WRITERS ON THE ART OF FICTION

Introduction by Richard Ford; Edited by Alan Cheuse and Lisa Alvarez

FROM THE INTRODUCTION BY RICHARD FORD:

For almost forty years now the Squaw Valley Community of Writers has been doing its best to expose its students to the wonder that is or can reside in excellent writing, by employing the talents, the belief, and the experience of a mostly good-willed contingent of writer-practitioners of whom I've been one, having first been a student there myself in the late 1960s. It's very likely that by our "teachings" we have satisfied O'Connor's dictum by discouraging more than we've encouraged. There's no reason, after all, that any generation should ever produce a lot of good writers. Apart from native talent always being in short supply, writing well can seem like hard work and be solitary, and plenty of people who start out thinking writing's a good idea don't want to take things that far. Life also throws impediments in the way like a wedding guest tossing rice. You get sick, divorced, go broke, turn to booze or drugs or both or worse. You get a better deal from the advertising agency or the law firm. You have a bunch of screaming kids. You die before your opus is finished. I could go on. And most people who survive these natural pitfalls—including having some talent—still turn out not to be very good writers and never will be for some reason known only to God. And by various gentle means we writer-practitioners have accepted the challenge of explaining and sometimes even personally demonstrating this lack of worthiness, or just lack of good fortune, in workshops, in conferences, in letters, in essays, in lectures—all of which may be thought of as forms of teaching. After which these once-hopeful writer try-

outs see that their dream of writing was possibly a mistake, or was at least unfairly optimistic, and can then go home to Palos Verdes or Baton Rouge happy not to have to fret about it anymore. Or else they don't do that. Or else they go home and write a wonderful novel or a story collection that proves us all wrong, proves that wonder can't be taught but also not discouraged. And then all of us who were the teachers can quietly take satisfaction that we "had a hand" in another writer's early success.

I once sat out on a sun-shot deck of an August morning, going carefully through some extraordinary pieces of narrative submitted to me by a young Amy Tan. To my credit I saw the vivid genius in these pieces. But I could see no way that they could be made into anything but vivid pieces. Perhaps the writer, I said sagely, should think of these as evidence of genuine talent, but that since they didn't "hang together," setting them aside and commencing something more obviously cohesive might be the thing to do. Don't get stuck, I said, on what are just bits of good writing and expend time trying to make them fit together when they probably won't. Amy, whose essay appears in this volume, was very appreciative and quite polite, as I remember. I was very admiring of her nascent talents, wished her well with her work, and then went on my way. When I next saw those promising pieces of vivid writing they were magically interlocked into *The Joy Luck Club*. And that's all I need to say about that display of wonderment in its struggle with the teaching arts.

To pre-order this book: www.amazon.com

New books from Squaw Valley writers published by KNOPF

Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie

Her latest novel is *Half of a Yellow Sun*

Bill Barich

Levittown Boy, a memoir, will be published
in the Spring of 2008

Jennifer Egan

Her latest novel is *The Keep*

Richard Ford

The Lay of the Land, the final novel in the
Frank Bascombe trilogy

James D. Houston

Bird of Another Heaven will be published in March 2007

Sharon Olds

A collection of poems, *Strike Sparks*,
is available in paperback

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SANDRA SCOFIELD is the author of eight books. She is a popular workshop leader and is on the faculty of Pine Manor College and Seattle Pacific University's MFA programs.

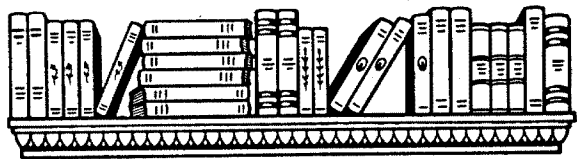
www.sandrascofield.com



THE FOLLIES SET THE STAGE FOR SUCCESS!

For those who might be tempted to discount the inestimable value of the Follies, the talent show night that closes the weeklong Writers Workshop at Squaw Valley, read on! Wendy Tokunaga and Mary Mitchell met as roommates in 2001 at the Squaw Valley Community of Writers conference. Both had been struggling for several years to see their novels published but with no success. The two women (Mary from Boston and Wendy from San Francisco) not only became fast friends but discovered their mutual talent and interest in singing. With fellow participants Ariane Simard and Sara Robinson they decided to form the Novelettes singing group to perform at the Follies. The group brought the house down with their version of “Mr. Agent” sung to the tune of “Mr. Sandman.” Mary and Wendy had such a great experience at Squaw that they signed up for the conference the following year and also performed in an encore appearance by the Novelettes.

Mary Mitchell writes, “Despite living on separate coasts, we have stayed close and supportive of each other through the rough seas of rejected manuscripts, agents who dropped us, etc., etc. Now we’ve had the wonderful tandem experience of both being picked up by St. Martin’s Press with two-book contracts! We are so grateful to Squaw for helping us believe in ourselves and improve our craft, and for affording us the opportunity to make lifelong friends.”



WRITERS WORKSHOP STAFF NEWS

Will Allison: Free Press, an imprint of Simon & Schuster, will publish his novel, *What You Have Left*, in June 2007. His short story, "What You Have Left," which originally appeared in *One Story*, was cited among the "100 Other Distinguished Stories of 2004" in *The Best American Short Stories 2005* (Houghton Mifflin; Michael Chabon, editor). "Atlas Towing," which originally appeared in *Zoetrope: All-Story*, received a special mention in the 2006 Pushcart Prize. Stories are forthcoming or recently released in *The Cincinnati Review* and *Glimmer Train*. www.willallison.com

Lisa Alvarez: An excerpt from Lisa Alvarez's novel, *A Wise Child*, will appear next year in the Bilingual Press anthology, *Latinos in Lotusland*. With Alan Cheuse, she is co-editing a collection of essays on writing by Community of Writers staff which will be published by Chronicle Books in 2007. She writes a regular column about parenting her son in *OC Family*.

Bill Barich: Knopf published *A Fine Place to Daydream: Racehorses, Romance, and The Irish* in March 2006, and will publish *Levittown Boy*, a memoir, in 2007.

Clark Blaise: His new collection of stories, *World Body*, was published by Porcupine's Quill in 2006.

James Brown: His memoir, *The Los Angeles Stories*, was published by William Morrow in 2003; Harper Perennial paperback was published in 2004. Sections of *The Los Angeles Diaries* appeared in *Santa Monica Review*.

Max Byrd: His most recent novel, *Shooting the Sun*, was published by Bantam in 2004.

Michael Chabon: He edited *The Best American Short Stories 2005*, published by Houghton Mifflin. *The Escapists*, a six-issue limited series from Dark Horse Comics, which is a spin-off of *The Amazing Adventures of Kavalier & Clay*, debuted summer, 2006. His newest novel, *The Yiddish Policemen's Union*, will be published by HarperCollins in 2007. Michael Chabon also writes a regular column for the magazine *Details*.

Alan Cheuse: He has four new short stories forthcoming, one each in *Prairie Schooner*, *New Letters*, *The Antioch Review*, and *Ploughshares*, and an essay on rereading *A Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man* in the Fall issue of *The Sewanee Review*. He was recently published in the *The Santa Monica Review*. *The Fires*, a pair of his novellas, will appear in September 2007.

Mark Childress: His latest novel, *One Mississippi*, was published by Little, Brown in 2006. It was a summer reading list selection of *Good Morning America*, *People Magazine*, *Entertainment Weekly*, *The Los Angeles Times*, *O: The Oprah Magazine* and *The Wall Street Journal*. www.markchildress.com

Jane Ciabattari: She has published short stories in *Ms. Magazine*; was anthologized in *The Best Underground Fiction, Volume One* (Stolen Time Press, October 2006, Scott Miles, Jeff Mikos, Eds.); published

an article in *The New York Times*; and is a frequent contributor to *Poets & Writers*, as well as having published dozens of fiction reviews in the *Los Angeles Times*, *Washington Post*, *Chicago Tribune*, *East Hampton Star* and others. She was a fellow at the Virginia Center for the Creative Arts in November/December 2005. She is a contributor to the NBCC blog, Critical Mass, <http://bookcriticscircle.blogspot.com>.

Leslie Daniels: After nearly two decades in the publishing business, she opened her own literary agency in 2006, Daniels Books, LLC. In the prior year, she took over as fiction editor of *The Green Mountains Review*. Her stories have appeared most recently in *The Santa Monica Review* and in the anthology, *The Way We Knew It*.

Gill Dennis: With James Mangold he wrote the screenplay, *Walk the Line*, based on the early days of Johnny Cash. James Mangold directed the feature film, released by Twentieth Century Fox in 2005.

Janet Fitch: Her new novel, *Paint It Black*, was published by Little, Brown in September 2006.

Richard Ford: His new novel, *The Lay of the Land*, was published by Knopf in October 2006 and was chosen by *The New York Times Book Review* as one of the "Ten Best Books of 2006."

Karen Joy Fowler: Her latest novel, *The Jane Austen Book Club*, was published by Putnam in 2004. Her new story, "What I Didn't See," can be read at www.scifi.com.

Lynn Freed: The paperback of her book, *Reading, Writing & Leaving Home* was published by Harvest (Harcourt) in September 2006. Her story "Under the House" appeared in *Best American Erotica* (2006) and will appear in *The Norton Anthology of Literature by Women* in 2007. Her essay, "Happy Birthday to Me," appeared in anthology, *Kiss Tomorrow Hello: Notes from the Midlife Underground by Twenty-*

five Women Over Forty (Doubleday, 2006). She will have essays published in the Warner Books anthology, *The Other Woman*, in Spring/Summer, 2007 and in the anthology, *Becoming American: Personal Essays by First Generation Immigrant Women (Seven Stories)* in Spring, 2007. Her story, "Ma: a Memoir," will be performed at Symphony Space, New York City, on 24th January, 2007. She was a guest writer at the Sydney Writers' Festival (Australia) in May and at the Prague Summer Program in July of this year, and in September and October, she was a guest at the House of Literature on the island of Paros, Greece.

Molly Giles: She has published fiction in *The Southern Review*, Summer 2006.

Glen David Gold: His story, "The Tears of Squonk," appeared in *The Better of McSweeney's, Volume 1*, November 2005.

Judith Grossman: Her essay, "The Craft Lecture," was published in the September 2006 issue of AWP's *Writer's Chronicle*.

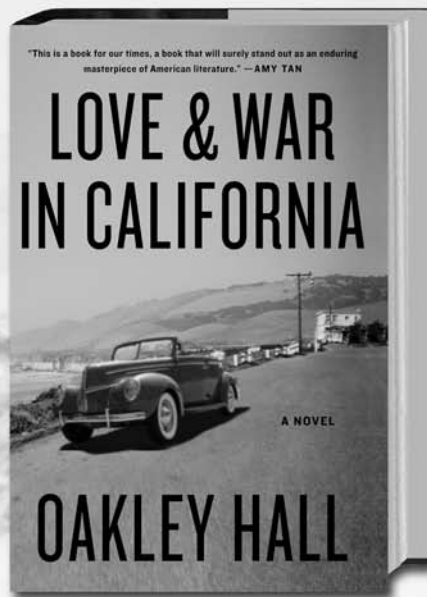
Oakley Hall: His most recent novel, *Love and War in California*, will be published by Thomas Dunne Books in April 2007. His novel *Warlock* has been republished in the *New York Review of Books Classics Novels* series. In 2004 he was awarded the *Poets and Writers Magazine* Writers For Writers Award.

Sands Hall: *Tools of the Writer's Craft* was published by Moving Finger Press in 2006. "The Literary Life of Mary Hallock Foote" was the cover story of the Winter/Spring issue of the California State Library Foundation Bulletin. The Japanese rights to her novel, *Catching Heaven*, were purchased by Blue Rain Publishing.

Mary-Rose Hayes: She co-authored, with Senator Barbara Boxer, *A Time to Run*, a novel of political intrigue set in Washington D.C. and the San Francisco Bay Area (Chronicle Books, 2005).

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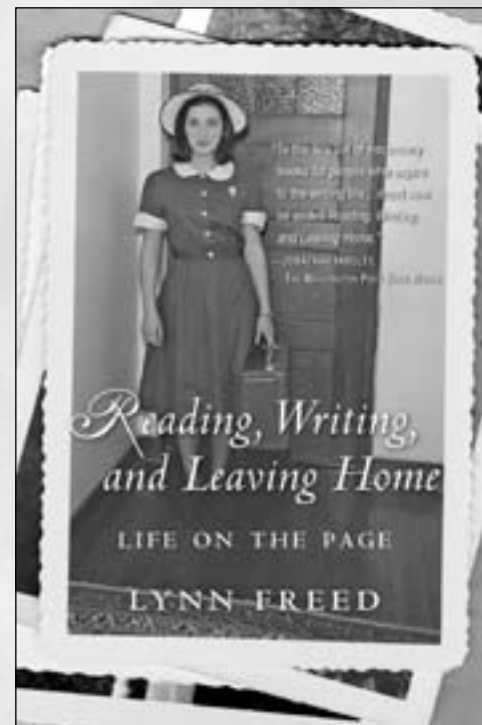
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—SAN FRANCISCO CHRONICLE

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James D. Houston: In 2005 James D. Houston received the Award of Excellence in General Hawaiian Culture and Award of Excellence in Nonfiction from the Hawai'i Book Publishers Association for his biography, *Hawaiian Son: The Life and Music of Eddie Kamae* (Ai Pohaku Press, 2004). His work appeared recently in the *Santa Monica Review*. A new novel, *Bird of Another Heaven*, is due from Knopf in 2007.

Rhoda Huffey: Her short story, "Fever," was published in *Tin House* magazine, Fall, 2005.

Michael Jaime-Becerra: His collection of inter-related short stories, *Every Night Is Ladies' Night*, was published in 2004 by Rayo, the Latino imprint of HarperCollins.

Louis B. Jones: His story, "The Epicurean," was published in the Winter issue of *The Threepenny Review*.

Ann Lamott: Her book, *Plan B: Futher Thoughts on Faith*, was published by Riverhead Books in 2005; the paperback edition appeared in March 2006.

Adair Lara: She left the *Chronicle* and is teaching and working on several projects. *Grandmother: The Rules* will be published by Chronicle Books next year. She is also putting together a website called Match-Writers.Com where aspiring writers can find partners to work with.

Michelle Latiolais: She has recently published fiction and essays in *The Antioch Review*, *Santa Monica Review*, and *ZYZZYVA*. A short story will be published in *Western Humanities Review*.

David Lukas: He revised the classic guidebook *Sierra Nevada Natural History* published by UC Press, 2004. He is one of the featured bird experts on the website www.whatbird.com

Mary Morris: Her novel, *Revenge*, was published by St. Martin's Press in 2004; the Picador paperback edition appeared

in 2005.

Bharati Mukherjee: Her novel, *The Tree Bride*, was published in 2004 by Hyperion; the paperback edition was published in 2005.

Kem Nunn: His most recent novel, *Tijuana Straits*, was published by Scribner in 2004.

Varley O'Connor: Her third novel, *The Cure*, will be published by Bellevue Literary Press in spring, 2007. Her novel, *A Company of Three*, was published by Algonquin Books in 2003.

Elizabeth Rosner ('99): Her first novel, *Speed of Light*, became a national best-seller, won several prizes in the US and in Europe, and was translated into nine foreign languages. Her poetry collection, *Gravity*, published by Small Poetry Press, is currently in its 13th printing. Her most recent novel, *Blue Nude*, was published by Ballantine Books in April 2006. www.elizabethrosner.com.

Elissa Schappell: Recently her essays have appeared in *Food & Booze: a Tin House Literary Feast of Essays and Recipes* (Tin House), *Searching For Mary Poppins* (Hudson Street Press), *Sex and the Single Girl* (St. Martins), and *The Friend Who Got Away* (Doubleday), which she co-edited with Jenny Offil. Their new anthology, *Money Changes Everything*, is forthcoming from Doubleday in January 2007. Her fiction and articles have appeared in *Swink*, *Small Spiral Notebook*, *Post Road*, *Vanity Fair*, and *Elle*. She is a frequent contributor to *The New York Times Book Review*. Her daughter Isadora's band, Care Bears on Fire, is releasing their first CD with Beautiful Records this Fall.

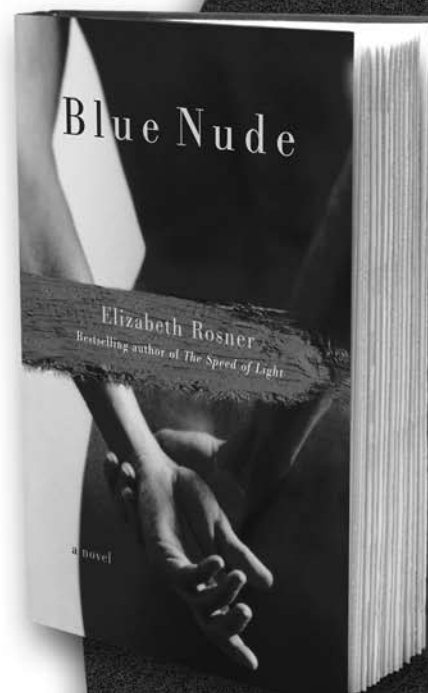
Sandra Scofield: Her essay will be included in the Loyola Press anthology, *Best Catholic Writing 2006*. She has joined the fiction faculty of Seattle Pacific University's low-residency MFA program. *The Scene*

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live the lives we're given."

—DAN CHAON, author of
You Remind Me of Me

 Ballantine Books | www.elizabethrosner.com

Book: A Primer for the Fiction Writer will be published by Penguin in March 2007.

Alice Sebold: The paperback reprint edition of her *New York Times* bestselling novel, *The Lovely Bones*, was published by Back Bay Books in 2004. Little, Brown & Co. published the hardcover.

Martin J. Smith: In 2006 Harper Collins published his non-fiction book, *OOPS: 20 Life Lessons From the Fiascoes that Shaped America*, co-written with Patrick J. Kiger. They also co-wrote *POPLOPORA: A Popular History of Fads, Mavericks, Inventions, and Lore That Shaped Modern America*, released by HarperResource in 2004.

Dava Sobel: Her novel, *Planets*, was published by Viking in 2005.

Gregory Spatz: His novel, *Fiddler's Dream*, was published in April 2006 by Southern Methodist University Press. His

story "Forks" appears in the *Santa Monica Review*, Fall 2006.

Rob Spillman: He is the editor of *Tin House* magazine, which has been honored in *Best American Stories*, *Best American Essays*, *Best American Poetry*, *O'Henry Prize Stories*, *the Pushcart Prize Anthology* and numerous other anthologies. He is also the Executive Editor of Tin House Books. In 2003 Bloomsbury USA published *Bestial Noise: The Tin House Fiction Reader*.

Anthony Swofford: *Jarhead*, his memoir of his time as a marine in the Gulf War, was published in 2003 by Scribner. It became a *New York Times* bestseller and was made into a major motion picture. His new novel, *Exit A*, was published in January 2007 (Scribner).

Amy Tan: Her most recent novel, *Saving Fish from Drowning*, was published by

Putnam in 2005; her memoir, *The Opposite of Fate*, appeared in 2003.

Jervey Tervalon: His novel, *Lita*, was published by Washington Square Press in 2004. With Gary Phillips, he co-edited the fiction anthology, *Cocaine Chronicles* (Akashic Books, 2005), which includes a story of his. Currently, he is Writer-In-Residence at Pitzer College and is a California Arts Council Fellow.

Andrew Tonkovich: His work has appeared recently in the *Los Angeles Times* and on the website Common Dreams (www.commondreams.org). An excerpt from his novel, *Being Mr. Right*, appears in an upcoming issue of *Green Mountains Review*. He is the editor of the *Santa Monica Review*, now available for purchase online at www.smc.edu/sm_review. Frequent contributor Gary Amdahl won the Milkweed Prize for a collection of short stories, *Visigoth*, many of which first appeared in SMR. Diane Lefer, another frequent con-

tributor, won a City of Los Angeles grant.

Katherine Vaz: The Aliform paperback reprint of her novel, *Marianne*, appeared in 2004.

Ayelet Waldman: Her novel, *Love and Other Impossible Pursuits*, was published by Doubleday in 2006; the paperback will appear in February 2007. Her newest Mommy-Track Mystery, *Bye-Bye, Black Sheep*, will be published by Berkley in August 2006.

Rick Wartzman: He co-authored, with Mark Arax, *The King of California: J.G. Boswell and the Making of a Secret American Empire* (Public Affairs Press, 2003). He was appointed editor of the *Los Angeles Times Magazine* in 2005, re-launching it as *West* in 2006.

Al Young: His new collection of poems, *Coastal Nights and Inland Afternoons*, will be published in November 2007.

Fiddler's Dream

by GREGORY SPATZ

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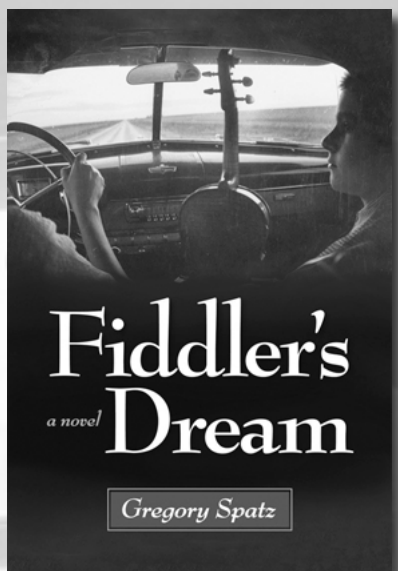
Seattle Times

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Chicago Sun-Times

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Nashville Scene



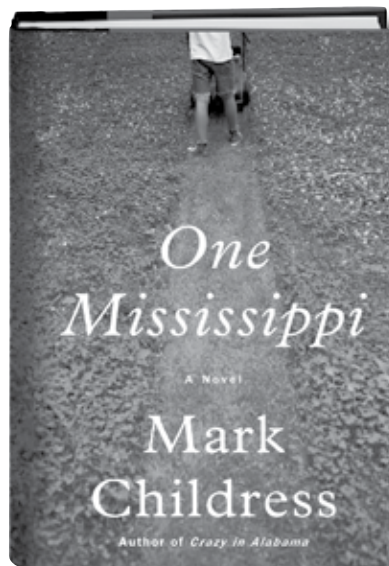
www.gregoryspatz.com

Oakley Hall voted "NEW ARTIST TO WATCH"

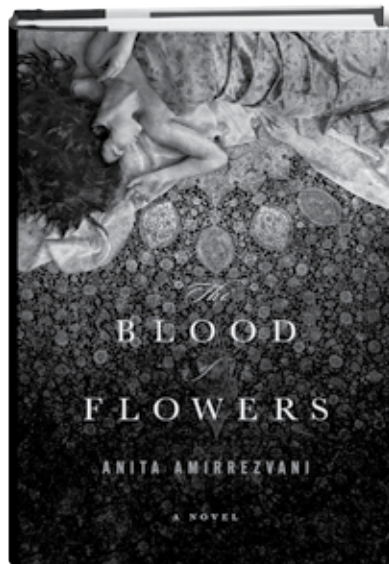
by ROLLING STONE in December 2006

"...The Brooklyn six-piece—who took their name from Thomas Pynchon's favorite cult novelist—mixes pristine coed harmonies and banjo-and-fiddle arrangements with shambling folk and fuzzy rave-ups. In 2002, singer-guitarist Pat Sullivan formed Oakley Hall with some country-curious buddies. The band recently signed with Merge Records, and judging from the excellent *Gypsum Strings*, Oakley Hall have come a long way since beginning as a ten-member collective playing honky-tonk covers in Lower East Side dives. "There was a lot of booze involved then," Sullivan says. "Gradually, we got our shit together." ...As they pared down their lineup, Oakley Hall got better at certain pure-country elements while trying some less than conventional sounds: Claudia Mogel runs her fiddle through Marshall stacks, and Fred Wallace plays a Fender electric strung up like a banjo. 'Our interest has always been in people who took country and made it their own,' Sullivan says." —*Christian Hoard*
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THE COLONIAL THEORY OF POINT OF VIEW

Sands Hall

Once upon a time... It has often occurred to me that British writers, both canonical and contemporary, seem to have an especial ability with the omniscient perspective: Fielding, Dickens, and Austen; Forster, Woolf, and Waugh; Byatt and Barker. In contrast, American writers (and I classify the expatriate Henry James as more English than American) seem to have early on developed an affinity for the narrower perspectives of first person or close third, although these narrators may emerge onto the page in highly diverse ways: Melville's "Call me Ishmael"; Twain's "You don't know about me without you have read..."; Faulkner's "Through the fence, between the curling flower spaces, I could see them hitting."

Perhaps England's writers were responding to the notion that "Britannia Rules the Waves"; after all, during the six-, seven-, eight-, and nineteenth centuries, Britain colonized the world. I see it seeing itself as this small but shining emerald at the top of the globe, looking out and down at the rest of the world, which looked up to its shining example (according to it) for everything culturally vital. After so many centuries of being top (white) dog, perhaps this tendency to view from a larger

perspective became almost atavistic, bred in the bone as it were, and made its way, as often as not humorously, into the perspectives of their novels, as when Dickens avows, "It was the best of times, it was the worst of times..." and Austen proposes that "It is a truth universally acknowledged that a single man in possession of a good fortune must be in search of a wife..." and Galsworthy maintains that "Those privileged to be present at a family festival of the Forsytes have seen that charming and instructive sight—an upper middle class family in full plumage..."

Early settlers of America were usually looking for some form of disconnection—moving away from a mother country, or out to unsettled land, seeking opportunities to make a new life, an individual mark, far from the collective empires they'd left. While Wharton and other American authors may have employed the vast perspectives of their peers across the Atlantic pond, perhaps this attitude of "don't tread on me" influenced the points of view put to use by some American writers, such as those quoted above: Twain's Huckleberry, Melville's Ishmael, and Faulkner's Curly.

I also noticed that Latin American writers—certainly their celebrated and well-known authors, but also students in classes with little or no writing experience—moved easily amidst and looked through the points of view of not only other characters, but those of ghosts, birds, butterflies, candles, fire. Who doesn't remember with joy Marquez's *One Hundred*

Years of Solitude and Allende's *House of Spirits*. It seemed to me that their writing mirrored their cultural understandings, as Britain's did theirs, and America's theirs.

This limited and highly-subjective discussion does not include the many other cultures whose people came to America, except to say that at first, for the most part, they strove for assimilation: Let my voice be yours; and in that effort perhaps their writers did not immediately strive for a larger perspective, nor a unique one. In this America became not so much a melting pot but a sort of stir-fry: a coming together while maintaining discrete forms and taste. Only gradually, in the twentieth century, did this begin to announce itself in voices, female and other-cultural, relating their views of the American experience. Tan, Morrison, Ehrlich, Lahiri and so many others.

And all of this also has to do with shifts

in philosophy, of course: swerves and upheavals in religion and science and psychology and politics. Now America has become its own colonizing force in the world. Has this contributed to the emphasis and exploration we see of the omniscient point of view by our own native writers? We have now become the "top" of the world. (And although we seem to have an appreciation for, or at least grant respect to, the perspectives of others, is it only "pretty to think so"?). In any case, in my reading in the last decade, I have noticed many more writers playing with omniscient perspectives. This may merely mirror my own interests and abilities to perceive point of view. And there are no doubt myriad explanations besides this limited and mostly-amusing notion. But there you have it: the Colonial Theory of Point of View.

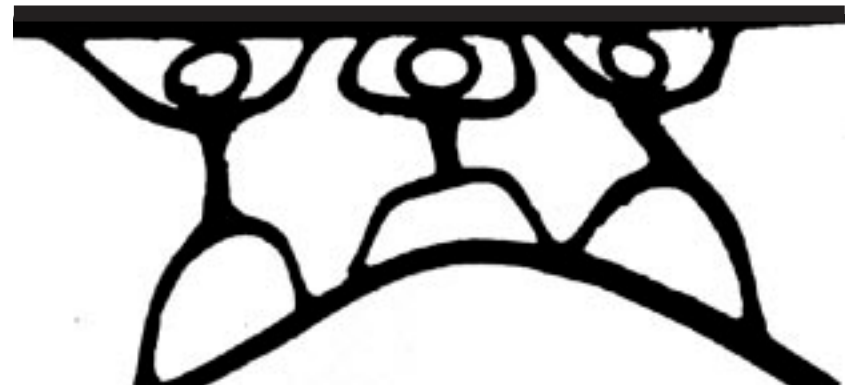
—Excerpted from *Tools of the Writers Craft* (Moving Finger Press, 2005)

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Participant Profile: Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie



Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie, who attended the Writers Workshop in 2002, was born in Nigeria in 1977. She moved to the United States to attend college, graduating summa cum laude from Eastern Connecticut State with a major in Communication and a minor in Political Science. She holds a Masters degree in Creative Writing from Johns Hopkins.

By the time she was 21, Adichie had already published a collection of poems, *Decisions* (1998), and a play, *For Love of Biafra* (1998). In the latter work, she recounts the painful experiences of a young Igbo woman, Adaobi, and her family, right before and during the Nigerian civil war of the late 1960s.

During her senior year at Eastern Connecticut State, she started working on her first novel, *Purple Hibiscus* (Algonquin, 2003). Set against the background of the political turmoil of the late 1990s in Nigeria, the story centres on Kambili Achike, a fifteen-year-old schoolgirl, and her family. The book has received wide critical acclaim: it was shortlisted for the Orange Fiction Prize (2004) and was awarded the Commonwealth Writers' Prize for Best First Book (2005) and the Hurston/Wright Legacy Award.

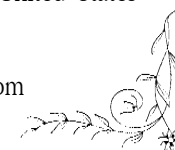
Her second novel, *Half of a Yellow Sun*, was published by Knopf in September.

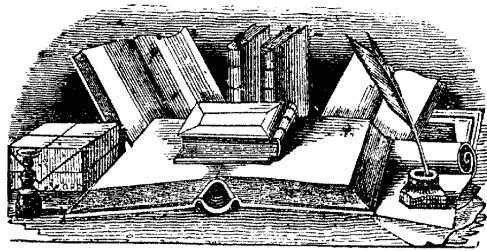
The story takes place before and during the Biafran War. *Publishers Weekly* called it "a transcendent novel of many descriptive triumphs."

Adichie displays not only a keen awareness of the importance of ethnicity in Nigeria but also, especially in her later fiction, of the hardship often endured by Nigerian immigrants in the United States and in England. Of her work, Adichie says, "I don't think that all writers should have political roles, but I do think that I, as a person who writes realist fiction set in Africa, almost automatically have a political role. In a place of scarce resources made scarcer by artificial means, life is always political. In writing about that life, you assume a political role."

Her short fiction has appeared in *Granta*, *Prospect*, and *The Iowa Review*, among other literary journals, and she received an O. Henry Prize in 2003. She was a 2005-2006 Hodder Fellow at Princeton, where she taught Introductory Fiction. An article of hers appeared in the June 12, 2006 issue of *The New Yorker*. She is presently pursuing graduate work in the African Studies program at Yale. She divides her time between the United States and Nigeria.

www.halfofayellowsun.com





WRITERS WORKSHOP PARTICIPANT NEWS

Eve Abrams ('05): Her poem, "Things I Love New Orleans," appeared in *Clamor Magazine* in January/February 2006. Her short story, "Fork in the Road," was published in *SmokeLong Quarterly Journal* in December 2005. *StorySouth Magazine* published her essay, "What Has Happened to Charmaine?," in Fall 2005.

Christina Adams ('00): Her memoir, *A Real Boy: A True Story of Autism, Early Intervention and Recovery*, was published by Berkley Books in 2006. She is a commentator for National Public Radio. Her work has appeared in the *Los Angeles Times Magazine*, *Brain Child Magazine*, *Kaleidoscope*, and *Appalachian Heritage*, among others. www.christinaadamswriter.com

Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie ('02): See Participant Profile page 54.

Lisa Alvarez ('93,'95): See Writers Workshop Staff News

Anita Amirrezvani ('01): Her novel, *The Blood of Flowers*, will be published by Little, Brown & Co. in June 2007; it has also been sold to publishers in 18 other countries.

Lea Aschkenas ('99,'02): Her first book, the travel memoir, *Es Cuba: Life and Love on an Illegal Island*, was published by Seal Press in January 2006. An excerpt of it will be included in *The Best Women's Travel Writing 2006* (Travelers' Tales).

www.leaaschkenas.com

Judy B. ('00): Her fiction collection, *Stories for Airports*, was published in 2005 by Onze/11 www.onzeproductions.com. One of the stories from this collection, "International Arrivals," was a finalist for a 2004 Glimmer Train Very Short Fiction Award.

David Bajo ('87,'88): His novel, *The 351 Books of Irma Arcuri*, is forthcoming from Viking and in several translations. Stories in the *Cimarron Review* (Pushcart nomination), *Zzyvva*, *The Sun*, and elsewhere.

Jacqueline Bautista ('93,'94): Her collection of short stories, *Fiestas*, won the George Garrett Fiction Prize for 2005 and was published late 2006 by Texas Review Press.

Aimee Bender ('97,'99): Her most recent book, *Willful Creature: Stories*, was published by Doubleday in 2005; the paperback appeared in August 2006. Her work appears in the anthology *The Secret Society of Demolition Writers*, published in 2005. www.flammableskirt.com

Krista Benjamin ('03): Her poem "Letter from My Ancestors" was selected by Guest Editor Billy Collins for inclusion in *The Best American Poetry, 2006*. She was awarded the 2007 Nevada Arts Council Artist Fellowship.

Greg Bills ('94): A chapter of his new

novel was published in *Santa Monica Review*, Fall 2005. He directs the creative writing program at University of Redlands.

Linda Blachman ('02): Her first book, *Another Morning: Voices of Truth and Hope from Mothers with Cancer*, was published by Seal Press/Avalon in February 2006. In honor of her decade of work as founder and director of the Mothers' Living Stories Project, Blachman was nominated for the 2005 Peter E. Haas Public Service Award by the UC-Berkeley School of Public Health. www.lindablachman.com

Elise Blackwell ('88,'90): She has two novels forthcoming in 2007: *The Unnatural History of Cypress Parish*, due out in May, and *Grub*. Recent stories have appeared in *Witness*, *Quick Fiction*, *Seed*, and *Global City Review*.

Carroll Parrott Blue ('01): See Screenwriting Participant News

John Brantingham ('03): He has had two poetry chapbooks published, and dozens of stories and poems in magazines. Garrison Keillor read one of his poems on his daily show on NPR, and he was nominated for a Pushcart Prize for this year.

James Brown ('85,'86): See Writers Workshop Staff News

Carl Brush ('02, '04): His Flash fiction pieces were published this last year in *The Summerset Review* and on Flashfiction.net (which also published it on coffee mugs). Another Flash fiction piece appeared in the June 2006 issue of *Right Hand Pointing*. www.righthandpointing.com

Marika Brussel ('98,'01): An excerpt from her novel, *The Motion of Memory*, recently won the Southwest Literary Center's Discovery Competition, and the Santa Fe Reporter's Fiction contest. Short stories published in *Bliss*, *Pointe*, and *Medics* (an anthology forthcoming 2007).

Craig Bueltel ('99): "Uncle Peter," an ex-

cerpt from his novel-in-progress, appeared in the May/June 2006 issue of *Narrative Magazine*. www.narrativemagazine.com

Max Byrd ('69,'70): See Writers Workshop Staff News

Kenneth Calhoun ('00,'01): His story, "Voice on a Spool," won the 2005 Italo Calvino Prize. His short story "Toast" appeared in Fall 2006 *Santa Monica Review*. www.kennethcalhoun.com

Aneesha Capur ('05): Her short story, "Lion's Teeth," won the *The Big Ugly Review* fiction contest.

Mauro Javier Cardenas ('02): His story, "Our Baby Christ: Ecuador, 1987," was published in the Fall 2006 issue of *The Antioch Review*. www.review.antioch.edu

Tom Casey ('93): His novel, *Stranger's Gate*, was published by Forge Books in 2006. www.tomcaseywriter.com

Tavia Cathcart ('96, Naturalist '97-'99): Her field guide, *Wildflowers of Tennessee, the Ohio Valley, and Southern Appalachians*, was published by Lone Pine Publishing, 2005.

Michael Chabon ('86,'87): See Writers Workshop Staff News

Anne Chadwick ('02,'04): Her book of nature photography and essays of the Pacific Coast, *Pacific in My Soul*, was published by Cypress House in 2005. www.annechadwick.com

Julie Chibbaro ('99,'01): Her novel, *Redemption*, published by Simon & Schuster in 2004, was a winner of the American Book Award in 2005, and nominated for a 2007 ABE award (Illinois H.S. Book Award). Her daughter Samsa was born on her birthday, March 4, 2005. www.juliechibbaro.com

Jane Ciabattari ('77): See Writers Workshop Staff News

Meg Waite Clayton ('00): Her first novel,

The Language of Light (St. Martin's Press) was a BookExpo 2004 Emerging Voices Selection, and a finalist for the Bellwether Prize, and has been released in Germany by Knauer. Her stories and essays have appeared in *Runner's World*, *Writer's Digest*, and numerous literary magazines, and in the forthcoming *Searching for Mary Poppins* (Penguin/Hudson Street Press, 2006). www.megwaiteclayton.com

Mark Coggins ('97,'00): His third novel, *Candy from Strangers*, was published by Bleak House Books in September 2006. www.immortalgame.com

Jonathan Cohen ('04): His work has appeared in *Santa Monica Review*, including a short story, "Marley," in the Fall issue. He works as a freelance editor.

Myfanwy Collins ('04,'05): Her work is published or forthcoming in *The Kenyon Review*, *AGNI*, *The Cream City Review*, *Swivel*, *Lilies and Cannonballs Review* and others. She received 3rd place in the Night Train Yates Fiction Contest 2005, was named a Finalist in *The Journal's* 2006 William Allen Creative Nonfiction Contest, and long listed for the 2006 Carver Awards. www.myfanwycollins.com

David Corbett ('88,'89,'91,'99): See Screenwriting Participant News.

Steve Creech: ('00,'02,'03,'05): His nonfiction book, *Hold Your Water*, co-authored by marine-life artist Wyland, was published by Andrews McMeel Publishing in 2006.

Lindsey Crittenden ('98): Her book, *The Water Will Hold You: A Skeptic Learns to Pray*, will be published by Harmony Books, an imprint of Random House in spring 2007. An excerpt of this memoir appeared in *Best American Spiritual Writing 2004* (Houghton Mifflin, 2004). www.lindseycrittenden.com

Catherine Crown ('03): Her short story,

"The Incident with the Brick," was published in the Summer 2006 issue of the *Dunes Review*.

Barbara DeMarco-Barrett ('92): Her book, *Pen on Fire: A Busy Woman's Guide to Igniting the Writer Within*, was published by Harcourt in October of 2004 and was a *Los Angeles Times* bestseller. She is editor of The ASJA Monthly, the official publication for the American Society of Journalists and Authors, and hosts Writers on Writing, a weekly radio show that airs on KUCI-FM from UC-Irvine. www.writersonwriting.com

Terry DeHart ('96,'01): Her short stories have appeared in *Vestal Review*, *Painted Moon Review*, *Ink Pot*, *Smokelong Quarterly*, *Opium Magazine*, *FRiGG Magazine* and *The Barcelona Review*.

Olivia Diamond ('96,'97): RockWay Press will publish her poetry collection, *Women at the Well*, and her novel, *Voice of Stone*, in Fall 2006. *Conquistadora*, the second in her trilogy, will be published in early 2007 by RockWay Press.

Colin Dickey ('06): His work has appeared in *TriQuarterly*, *The Journal of Aesthetics and Protest*, *Santa Monica Review*, and the anthology *Northwest Edge*.

Tyler Dilts ('00): His story was published



in the Houghton Mifflin anthology, *The Best American Mystery Stories 2003*, edited by Michael Connelly.

Frances Dinkelspiel ('03,'04): Her first non-fiction book, *Towers of Gold: Isaias Hellman and the Creation of California*, is forthcoming from St. Martin's Press in Spring 2008. Her blog, "Ghost Word," can be found at www.francesdinkelspiel.blogspot.com

Jennifer Egan ('89): Her novel, *The Keep*, was published by Knopf in 2006. www.jenniferegan.com

Cai Emmons: ('93,'94,'98): The paperback of her Kesey Award-winning novel, *His Mother's Son*, was republished by in 2004, by Harvest Books. www.caiemmons.com

Maria Espinosa ('93): Her most recent novel, *Incognito: Journey of a Secret Jew*, was published by Wings Press. Excerpts from her forthcoming novel, *Dying Unfinished*, have been published in *Tertulia Magazine* (www.tertuliamagazine.com), and "Rosa in Bloom," 1957 was published in the September, 2006 issue. www.mariaespinosa.com

Alex Espinoza ('04,'05): See Participant Profile page 75.

Jack Estes ('98): See Screenwriting Participant News.

Herta B. Feely ('03): She was awarded an Artist Fellowship in Literature for 2006 by the DC Commission on the Arts & Humanities (funded in part by NEA). She also received the 2006 James Jones fellowship for her novel *The Trials of Serra Blue*. Short stories will appear in *The Hurricane Review* and an anthology, *Enhanced Gravity*. Her essay, "A Child's Christmas," appeared in Issue #41 of *The Potomac Review*.

Merrill Feitell ('93): Her first book, *Here Beneath Low-Flying Planes*, won the 2004 Iowa Prize for Short Fiction and

was published University of Iowa Press. www.merrillfeitell.com

Rich Ferguson ('04): Recently released a spoken word/music CD entitled *Where I Come From* that was produced by Herb Graham Jr. (John Cale, Macy Gray). Tracks can be heard at www.myspace.com/richferguson and also www.richrant.com. Ferguson will also be a featured performer in the sequel to the cult multimedia sensation, *One Giant Leap*, due out in Spring 2007.

Joshua Ferris ('03): His book, *Then We Came to the End*, will be published by Little, Brown in March 2007.

Barbara Fischkin ('95): Her second novel and third book, *Confidential Sources*, was published by Bantam Dell in October 2006. Target stores has selected it as a Bookmarked Breakout Book for November and December. It is a sequel to *Exclusive: Reporters in Love...And War*, also published by Bantam Dell in June 2005. www.barbarafischkin.com

Jordan Fisher Smith ('01): His book, *Nature Noir: A Park Ranger's Patrol in the Sierra*, published in 2005, became an *Audubon Magazine* Editor's Choice and one of the *San Francisco Chronicle's* Best Books of 2005. This May it was published in paperback by Mariner Books, and was selected as a Booksense 2006 summer reading pick. www.naturenoir.com

Janet Fitch ('93): See Writers Workshop Staff News

Brenda Flanagan ('03): Her stories from the recent collection *In Praise of Island Women and Other Crimes* have been translated into Spanish, Russian and Arabic.

Richard Ford ('69,'70): See Writers Workshop Staff News

Vicki Forman ('94): Portions of her memoir, *The Premie Cantos*, which chronicles her experiences giving birth to two severely disabled children, have ap-

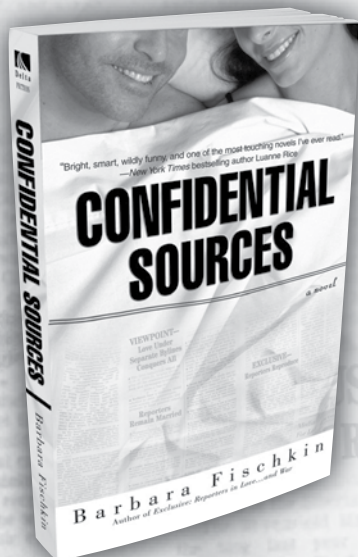
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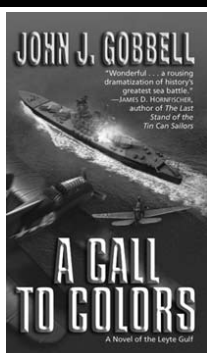


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peared in *Santa Monica Review*.

Laurie Frankel ('06): Her book, *It's Not Me...It's You!: And Can We Not be Friends?: A Modern Girl's Guide To Breaking Up* was published by Sourcebooks Hysteria in September 2004.

Aleta George ('05): Her literary essay, "Poetry and Politics Undammed," about poet activists Gary Snyder and Robert Hass appeared in *Divide: The University of Colorado's Journal of Ideas*, Fall, 2005. "At Home with Randall Sexton" was published in the *San Francisco Chronicle* in April 2006, and "Poolside Beauties: The Flower and the Bee" in the April/June issue of *Bay Nature* magazine.

Sandra Giedeman ('93,'95): Recently her poems have appeared in *Pearl* and *California Poetry Quarterly*. Her poem "Spring" was published by the *Bellevue Literary Review* (NYU School of Medicine). Her short stories, "Norco Blues" and "Stardust," appeared in the *Cortland Review* and *Prose Toad*. She won the *Mudfish* Poetry Prize for her poem "L. A. Night" in the current issue of *Mudfish* judged by Charles Simic.

Laura Glen ('87): Her second book, a novel, *Unsewn*, will be published by El León Literary Arts in 2008.

John J. Gobbell ('89): His sixth novel, *The Neptune Strategy*, was published by St. Martin's Press in 2004. *A Call to Colors*, was released by Random House/Presidio Press in 2006. www.johnjgobbell.com

Glen David Gold ('96,'97): See Writers Workshop Staff News

Michael Golding ('90,'93): Francois Girard has been shooting Michael's adaptation of Alessandro Baricco's novel *Silk*. The film, which stars Keira Knightley, Michael Pitt, and Alfred Molina, will be released in 2007. He is working on several other screenplays, including an adapta-

tion of his own novel, *Simple Prayers*, for which Martin Scorsese will be Executive Producer.

Andrea Gosline ('04): Her first book, a young adult novel, *Stars on the River*, will be published by Feiwel & Friends/Holtzbrinck Publishers in 2008. Scholastic Press will publish her children's book, *January's Child: The Birthday Month Book*, in January 2007. Her fourth children's picture book, *The Hope Tree*, will appear in Spring 2009.

Lisa Gottreich ('04,'05): Her short story "Ecce Homo" won the The Speakeasy Prize in Prose in 2006, chosen by judge Jane Hamilton. The story will appear in the Spring 2007 issue of *The Georgia Review*, as *Speakeasy* has ceased print publication. *Speakeasy* launched its online magazine www.speakeasymagazine.org in October.

Suzanne Greenberg ('99): Her collection of stories, *Speed-Walk and Other Stories* (University of Pittsburgh Press), won the Drue Heinz Literature Prize in 2003 and was a finalist for the 2004 Binghamton University John Gardner Fiction Book Award. Her story "Night Shift" appeared in *West Branch 54*, Spring 2004, and her story "Shopping for Dad" was published in the 2006 Fiction Issue of *Pearl*. Her essay "An 'A' for Effort: Where Does Talent Fit in Grading Creative Writing?" appears in *Power and Identity in the Creative Writing Classroom*, edited by Dr. Anna Leahy, Multilingual Matters, 2005.

Lev Grossman ('95): His second novel, *Codex*, was published by Harcourt in 2004 and became an international bestseller; the paperback came out last year. He is *Time Magazine's* book critic and has also written articles for the *New York Times*, *Salon*, *Lingua Franca*, *Entertainment Weekly*, *Time Out New York* and the *Village Voice*, as well as commentaries for NPR's All Things Considered. www.levgrossman.com

Lara Gualarte ('03, '06): See PoetWatch

Lise Haines ('99): Her second novel, *Small Acts of Sex and Electricity*, was published by Unbridled Books in 2006 and was selected BookSense Pick in September.

Daniel Hallford ('05): His novel, *Pelican Bay*, was published last year. His memoir, *Upper Noe*, appeared in 2006. www.danielhallford.com

Judith Ryan Hendricks ('97): Her third novel, *The Baker's Apprentice* (William Morrow 2005) was published in trade paperback in March 2006. www.judihendricks.com

Raelynn Hillhouse ('97): Her thriller *Rift Zone*, published by Forge Books, was selected by the American Booksellers' Association as one of the best books of 2004 and by the Library Journal as one of the year's best debuts. In 2006 her short stories will appear in the anthologies *Thriller* (ed. by James Patterson), *This is Chick-Lit*, and *James Bond in the 21st Century*. Her next novel, *Outsourced*, will be published by Forge Books in May 2007. www.Raelynnhillhouse.com

Rhoda Huffey ('90, '98): Her short story "Fever" appeared in *Tin House* magazine, Fall 2005.

Nicole Hunter ('02): Her novel, *Waiting for the World to End*, published in 2004 won *ForeWord Magazine's* Book of the Year Silver Award and Independent Publisher Book Awards' Honorable Mention for religious fiction in 2005.



Gina Hyams ('00): She co-edited the anthology, *Searching for Mary Poppins: Women Write About the Intense Relationship Between Mothers and Nannies*, with Susan Davis; it was published by Hudson Street Press/Penguin USA in October 2006. She published two non-fiction books in 2005 with Chronicle Books: *In a Mexican Garden* and *Pacific Spas*. www.ginahyams.com

Buzzy Jackson ('00): She published an essay in the travel writing collection, *The Risks of Sunbathing Topless: and Other Funny Stories from the Road* (Seal Press, 2005). In 2006 her book, *A Bad Woman Feeling Good: Blues and the Women Who Sing Them* (W.W. Norton, 2005) was published in translation in Spain, Latin America, and France. www.buzzyjackson.com

Joanne Jacobs ('04): Her first book, *Our School: The Inspiring Story of Two Teachers, One Big Idea and the School That Beat the Odds*, was published by Palgrave Macmillan in November, 2005. She got married in July. www.joannejacobs.com

Benjamin Jahn ('02): Short stories published or forthcoming in *The Greensboro Review*, *ZYZZYA*, and *McSweeney's Quarterly*.

Michael Jaime-Becerra ('99, '02): See Writers Workshop Staff News

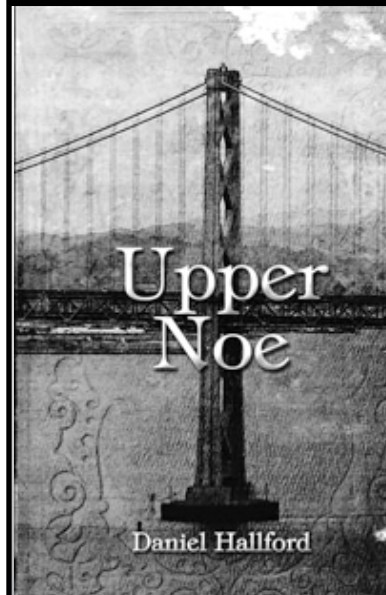
Norman Johnson ('04, '05): He was a fiction editor for the *Orange Coast Review* in 2005. The 2005 issue featured six past fiction participants of the Community of Writers.

Louis B. Jones ('83, '84): See Writers Workshop Staff News

Matthew F. Jones ('90): His sixth novel, *Boot Tracks*, was published in May, 2006, by Europa Editions. His novel, *DeepWater* (Bloomsbury, 1999), was made into a movie in 2005, starring Lucas Black, Leslie Anne Warren, and Peter Coyote. It opened

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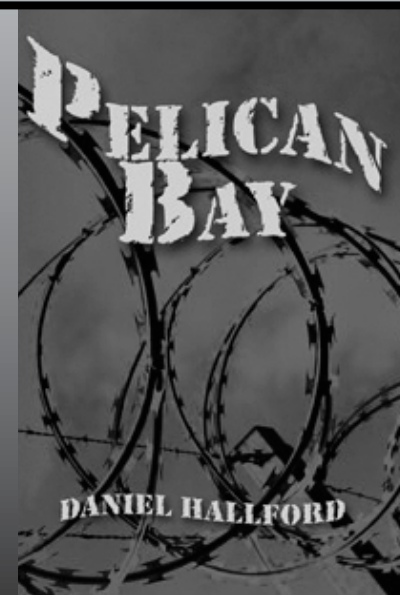
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in the juried competition at the 2005 Seattle Film Festival and was released nationally in late 2006.

Kathryn Jordan ('97): Her novel, *Hot Water*, was published in January, 2006 by Berkley, A Division of Penguin Group. She writes a monthly column, "Women Changing The World" for *The Desert Woman*.

Elizabeth Kadetsky ('97,'04): Her story, *The Poison that Purifies You*, published in the Spring 2003 *Gettysburg Review*, won a 2004 Pushcart Prize. *First There Is a Mountain: A Yoga Romance*, was published by Little, Brown and Co. in 2004. www.elizabethkadetsky.typepad.com

Vikram Kapur ('02): His first book, *Time Is a Fire*, had its second printing in India in 2003. His second book, *The Wages of Life*, was published in 2004.

Alma M. Katsu ('03): Her short story, "Pipefitter's Union," was published in *Enhanced Gravity*, an anthology of short stories by Washington, DC women writers, Paycock Press, in June 2006.

Nancy Kelly ('06): *Smitten*, which she wrote, produced and directed, was aired nationally on PBS in July 2006. *Smitten* has received the Audience Award for Best Documentary from the DC Independent Film Festival, shared the Audience Award at the Aspen Shortsfest, and received Honorable Mention for Best Short Documentary from the Nashville Film Festival. She is currently also producing and directing a documentary called *Moments in Time*, in partnership with KRCB Public Television as Executive Producer.

Dawn Kemper ('04,'05): She is editorial assistant at *Santa Monica Review*, which

published her short story, "The Parting," in Fall 2005.

David Kerns, M.D. ('05): His first novel, *Standard of Care*, is forthcoming from Sentient Publications in early 2007. www.davidkerns.com

Ruth Kirschner ('00): Her play "Remember Me" won a National Women's Theatre Development Award from the Centenary Theatre in 2004. Her essay, "What I Wore Waiting for the O'Neill," won the New Millennium Writers award in 2004, and most recently, her play, "Backlight," was chosen for development at The Last Frontier Festival in Valdez, Alaska. Ruth also did the dramaturgy and voice-over scripting for documentary film, *The Wild Parrots of Telegraph Hill*. Her book, *Too Stressed to Think? A Teen Guide to Staying Sane When Life Makes Your Crazy*, was published in 2005.

James Kohlberg ('03): See Screenwriting Participant News.

Mary Helen LaGasse ('97): Her novel, *The Fifth Sun*, won the 2004 Miguel Marmol Award; the Rudolfo Anaya Premio Atzlan Award; the 2005 Independent Publishers Award for Best Multicultural Fiction; was a *Foreword Magazine* Book of the Year Finalist; and a Best Debut Novel of 2004 by *New Orleans Times-Picayune*.

Dylan Landis ('01): She won the 2006 Writers at Work Fellowship Competition and the 2005 Nelligan Prize for Short Fiction. Short stories in or forthcoming in the *Colorado Review*, *the New Orleans Review* and *Quarterly West*.

Michelle Latiolais ('89): See Writers Workshop Staff News

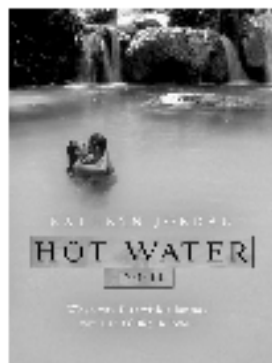
Michael Lavigne ('01): His first novel, *Not Me*, was published in 2005 (Random House), was a Book of the Month Club featured alternate, and is currently being translated into three languages. His work

in advertising received the Clio, New York Film Festival, Addy, and Communication Arts awards.

Joan S. Lester ('03): The paperback edition of her biography of Congresswoman Eleanor Holmes Norton, *Fire In My Soul*, was issued by Simon and Schuster (Atria, 2004). The book was featured for an entire hour on NPR's Fresh Air with Terry Gross.

Margit Liesche ('03): Her first novel, *Lipstick and Lies*, is forthcoming from Poisoned Pen Press in April 2007. www.margitliesche.com

David Lincoln ('98,'99): His novel, *Mobility Lounge*, was published by Spuyten Duyvil in May 2005. Recent short fiction has appeared in *The Brooklyn Rail*, and his mixed media essay, "Thing Into Being," was screened at The Lake Forest Literary Festival, in Chicago, April 2006. www.spuytenduyvil.net/fiction/mobilitylounge.htm



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Aimee Liu ('94): She received a Special
Mention in the 2006 Pushcart Prize for her
story "Faith," published in *Other Voices* lit-
erary magazine. Her work has been anthol-
ogized in *My California* (Angel City Press,
2004), *Meeting Across the River* (Blooms-
bury, 2005), and in *Why I'm Still Married*
(Hudson St., 2006). Her nonfiction book,
*Gaining: The Truth About Life After Eat-
ing Disorders*, will be published by Warner
Books, February, 2007. www.aimeeliu.net

Dixon Long ('94,'97,'99,'00-03,'05):
His co-authored book, *Markets of Paris*,
will be published by The Little Bookroom,
the publishing arm of *New York Review of
Books* in Spring 2007. In addition, he has
published the following stories recently:
"The Frog," *The Rockford Review*, Winter-
Spring 2006; "Harry Waiting," *WORDS*, May
2006; "Weekend in the Luberon" (novella
excerpt), *ZYZZYVA*, Spring 2006; "First
Born," *Fresh Boiled Peanuts*, Summer
2006; and "No Escape," *The Listening Eye*,
Summer 2006

Davi Loren ('96): She is currently editing
the *Orange Coast Review*, a journal of lit-
erature and art that places emphasis on the
interesting ways images and words play off
each other to enhance the impact of both.
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currently seeking poetry, fiction, and nar-
rative non-fiction for its Spring 2007 issue.
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www.orangecoastreview.com

Regina Louise: ('02): See Screenwriting
Participant News.

Leza Lowitz ('99): She published *Sacred
Sanskrit Words: For Yoga, Chant and*

Meditation (Stone Bridge, 2004). Her book
Yoga Poems: Lines to Unfold By, is due
out in paperback in Summer, 2006 (Stone
Bridge), and her translations of Ayukawa
Nobuo's *America and Other Poems* are
forthcoming (Kaya Press, 2007). She and
her husband Shogo Oketani received the
Japan-U.S Friendship Commission Award
for the Translation of Japanese literature
from Columbia University for this work.
Her essay on translation appeared in *The
Poem Behind the Poem: Translating Asian
Poetry* (Copper Canyon Press, 2004). She
recently published four short stories in
Wingspan, All Nippon Airways in-flight
magazine. www.lezalowitz.com

Kirsten Sundberg Lunstrum ('02): She
is the author of *This Life She's Chosen:
Stories*, published by Chronicle Books in
2005 and selected as a Barnes and Noble
Discover Great New Writers title. Her
story, *The Drowning*, published by Willow
Springs (vol. 56, Fall2005) was nominated
for a Pushcart Prize.

Kathryn Madison ('92,'96): Her novel,
Woman's Sigh, Wolf's Song, was published
by Windstorm Creative in February of 2005.
www.kathrynmadison.com

Layne Maheu ('98,'99): His first novel,
Song of the Crow, was published by Un-
bridled Books, June 2006.

Maile Meloy ('00): See Writers Work-
shop Staff News

Mary Mitchell ('01,'02): Her first novel,
Starting Out Sideways, will be published
by St. Martin's Press in May 2007, with a
second novel to follow in 2008. She and
fellow alumni Wendy Tokunaga met at
Squaw Valley and since then founded the
singing quartet The Novelettes! The Nov-
elettes have performed at two writers con-
ferences.

Lee Montgomery ('99): Her memoir,
The Things Between Us, was published by
Free Press in August 2006. Recent work

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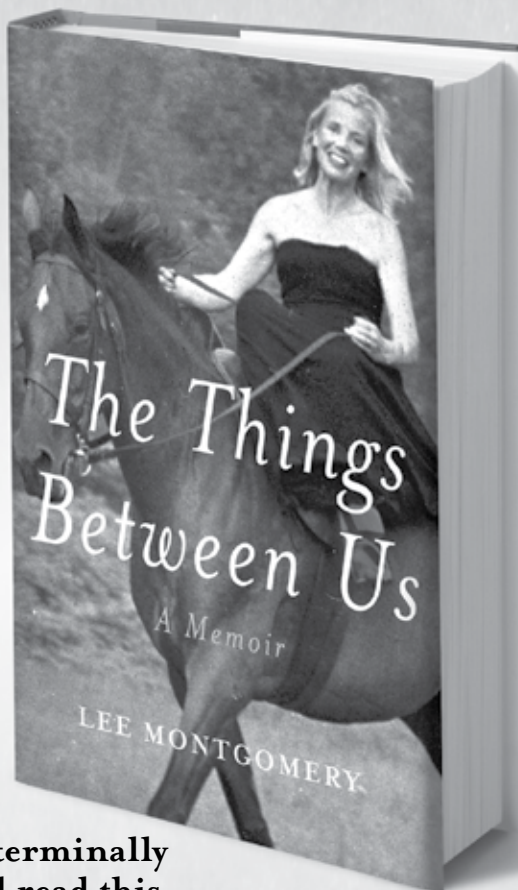
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has appeared in *Alaska Quarterly*, *Santa Monica Review*, *Tin House*, *Black Clock*, and is forthcoming in the anthology *The Honeymoon Is Over* (Warner Books, Feb 2007). She is presently the editorial director of Tin House Books and Executive Editor for *Tin House*.

Beatrice Motamedi ('04,'05): Her literary essay, "When Toys Are Us," appears in *Let Me Tell You Where I've Been: New Writing By Women of the Iranian Diaspora*, an anthology published in May 2006 by the University of Arkansas Press.

Nami Mun ('02): Her story, "On the Bus," was published in *The Iowa Review*, the Fall 2004 issue. Her story, "Blue Fly," was published in the Winter 2005 Issue of *TinHouse Magazine*.

Linda Joy Myers ('95): *Don't Call Me Mother: Breaking the Chain of Mother-Daughter Abandonment* was released by Two Bridges Press in November, 2005. Excerpts from the book won the Jack London First Nonfiction Prize and second prize at the East of Eden contest. *Becoming Whole: Writing Your Healing Story* was published by Two Bridges Press in July 2006. The short memoir *Who Am I?* won first prize for memoir for the lifewriting contest from Story Circle Network. www.memoriesandmemoirs.com

Janis Cooke Newman ('97,'98,'01): Her novel, *Mary*, was published in September 2006 by MacAdam/Cage. It was named a Booksense pick for October.

Denise Nicholas ('01): Her first novel, *Freshwater Road*, was named one of 2005's notable books by *Washington Post Book World*, *The Atlanta Journal Constitution*, *New York Newsday*, *The Detroit Free Press* and *The Chicago Tribune*. The American Library Association's Black Caucus has named *Freshwater Road* the winner of its Best First Novel award. It was included in

the October 2005 Book Sense Picks List and earned an Honorable Mention at the 2005 Gustavus Myers Outstanding Book Awards.

Katia Noyes ('99,'00): Her first novel, *Crashing America* (Alyson Publications), was a Book Sense Notable book in 2005, received nominations for three fiction awards (Northern California Book Award, Lambda Literary Award, Publishing Triangle Award), and was chosen as one of the Ten Best Gay/Lesbian Books of the Year by Amazon, the UK's Rainbow Triangle and Libertas. www.crashingamerica.com

Kem Nunn ('79): See Writers Workshop Staff News.

Kristin Ohlson ('88,'92): She is the author of the nonfiction book, *Stalking the Divine* (Theia/Hyperion, 2003; Plume, 2004). She won the American Society of Journalists and Authors' Nonfiction Award for 2004. *Salon* included her personal essay in a 2003 anthology, *Life As We Know It*. Her essay "Big Words from BrainChild" was nominated for a Pushcart Prize and listed among the notable essays of year in *Best American Essays 2005*. www.kristinohlson.com.

Todd Oppenheimer ('90): His nonfiction book, *The Flickering Mind*, was published by Random House in 2004.

Liza Palmer ('04): Her novel, *Conversations with the Fat Girl*, was published in 2005 as the launch for Warner Book's new imprint, 5 Spot. www.lizapalmer.com

Mary Otis ('00,'01): She was published in the 2005 Summer issue of *Tin House*. She has received an honorable mention for the Pushcart Prize, and Tin House Books will be publishing her short story collection, *Pilgrim Girl*, in March 2007. She was a 2006 runner-up for the H.E. Francis short story award.



Steph Paynes ('01): Her short story, "The New Nose," was published by *Gar-goyle*, Issue 47. She has momentarily swapped her pen for a guitar pick and leads the New York City-based band, Lez Zeppelin, an all-girl Led Zeppelin she-incarnation that has been gaining critical acclaim worldwide for its authentic and impassioned interpretation of Led's musical zeitgeist. The group was recently featured in a Reuters article that made the front page of CNN.com and was described by *SPIN* as being the most powerful female band in rock history. www.lezzeppelin.com

Todd Pierce ('04): His book of short stories, *Newsworld*, won the 2006 Drue Heinz Literature Prize, judged by Joan Didion, and was published in hardcover in August 2006 by the University of Pittsburgh Press. His co-authored college textbook on creative writing, *Behind the Short Story*, was published in March by Longman, a division of Pearson Education. His first novel, *The Australia Stories*, was re-issued in 2006 as a trade paperback by MacAdam/Cage with a new title, *A Woman of Stone*. He has new work recently published or forthcoming in *Willow Springs*, *Puerto del Sol*, *The Georgia Review*, *Indiana Review*, and other journals. He was recently hired as an assistant professor of English at Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo. www.toddperce.com

Steve Potter ('97,'99,'02): His writing has appeared recently in print and online publications, including *Arson*, *Big*



Toe Review, *Blue Collar Review*, *Knock, Pindeldyboz*, *Runes*, *Rumble* and *Stringtown*. He is the editor and publisher of a new journal, *The Wandering Hermit Review*, and "would love to see submissions from Squaw Valley Community folks." www.wanderinghermit.com

Mark Pritchard ('05): His essay "What I'm Giving Up" was published in the anthology, *Best Sex Writing 2006*, published by Cleis Press in June 2006.

Dina Rabadi ('03): She was awarded a Ludwig Vogelstein Foundation writing grant to conduct research for her next novel in the Middle East, and was awarded a writing residency at the Sitka Center for Art and Ecology. Her manuscript, *Mary's Wings*, was a semi-finalist for the William Faulkner Creative Writing Competition. www.dinarabadi.com

Mark Rauzon ('05): His article, "Live Ammo," was published in the November 2006 Issue of the *Los Angeles Times Magazine*, *West*.

Andrew Roe ('97,'03): His fiction has recently appeared in *One Story*, *Tin House*, and *Glimmer Train*, as well as the anthology *Where Love Is Found: 24 Tales of Connection*, published by Washington Square Press/Simon & Schuster. He was also nominated for a Pushcart Prize.

Brian Rogers ('95,'03): His manuscript, *That Social Jones*, received the 2003 Faulkner Society prize for Best Novel in Progress, and was a finalist for the 2005 Faulkner Society prize for Best Novel. He was a finalist for the Best Teleplay prize at the 2004 Austin Film Festival.

Monika Rose ('00): See PoetWatch

Elizabeth Rosner ('82,'83,'87): See Writers Workshop Staff News.

Penelope Rowlands ('94): Atria Books, a division of Simon & Schuster published her book, *A Dash of Daring: Carmel Snow*

and her *Life in Fashion, Art, and Letters*, in November 2005. It has also been published in Ireland and the United Kingdom, New Zealand, and Australia.

Deborah Dashow Ruth ('94): See PoetWatch.

Mina Samuels ('03): Her first novel, *The Queen of Cups*, is forthcoming in January 2007. She has published new memoir and fiction pieces recently in *Alimentum* and *The French Literary Journal*. www.thequeenofcups.com

Julia Scheeres ('03): Her memoir, *Jesus Land*, published by Counterpoint in October 2005 and Random House UK in March 2006, has won two awards—the American Library Association's Alex Award, and the New Visions Award granted by the Quality Paperback Book Club. www.juliascheeres.com

Mary Lou Schram ('89,'01,'03): Her novel, *KLIK*, was published online by iUniverse, Inc. in 2004.

Lynn Scott ('01): Her memoir, *A Joyful Encounter: My Mother, My Alzheimer Clients, and Me*, was published in 2005. www.lynnscottbooks.com


Alice Sebold ('96,'97): See Writers Workshop Staff News

Carla Shapreau ('05): Her literary essay, "The Lost Strad," was published in the February 12, 2006 issue of the *L.A. Times* magazine, *West*.

Adrienne Sharp ('88,'98): Her novel, *First Love*, was published by Riverhead Books in 2005.

Gary Short ('81): See PoetWatch

Julia Flynn Siler ('03,'04): Her first book, *House of Mondavi*, will be published



KLIK

BY MARY LOU PETERS SCHRAM

WELCOME TO RADIO STATION KLIK

Life at KLIK is as chaotic as that in other offices. The news director is in a messy divorce. The bookkeeper is stealing.

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by Gotham Books, a Penguin imprint, Fall 2007.

Dashka Slater ('05): She is the recipient of a 2004 Creative Writing Fellowship from the National Endowment for the Arts. Two children's books, *Baby Shoes* and *Firefighters in the Dark*, will be published in 2006 by Bloomsbury Books and Houghton Mifflin, respectively. www.dashkaslater.com

C. Kevin Smith ('01,'02): He was awarded First Prize in the 2004 Short Fiction Contest by The Brown Foundation for his story, "Not the Last of the Mohicans," and a 2004 Power of Purpose Award by the Templeton Foundation for his story, "The Stone Bird." His essay, "Tomato Love," was published in the Summer 2006 issue of *Alimentum*. www.ckevinsmith.com.

Martin J. Smith ('91): See Writers Workshop Staff News

Dorothy Allred Solomon ('95): Her memoir, *Predators, Prey and Other Kinfolk: Growing Up in Polygamy*, was published by W.W. Norton. It was awarded First Prize in the 2004 Willa Award for Memoir/Essay. In 2004 Norton published a paperback version renamed *Daughter of the Saints*, which includes a Readers' Guide. www.dorothyallredsolomon.com

Elaine Starkman ('93): She has work published in *Calyx* and *The Personal Narrative in the Healing Professions*, and she won the 2005 Benicia Love Poem Contest.

Ellen Sussman ('96,'80): Her first novel, *On A Night Like This*, was published by Warner Books in 2004 and was bought by Lifetime Films. The Warner paperback edition was published in 2005. She edited *Bad Girls*, an anthology of essays by women writers, which will be published by Norton in 2007. She has an essay in *Kiss Tomorrow Hello: Tales From the Midlife Underground* (Doubleday, 2006). www.ellensussman.com

William Taeusch ('94,'97): He published a short story, "Jack and Jill: A Re-assessment Using Computer Modeling to Predict Outcomes," in *Manhattan Literary Review* in the Summer, of 2004. His story "Man Crying on a Subway" appeared in *Hurricane Review*, "Motherstuff" in *Epicenter*, and "Judy's Circ" in *Southern Indiana Review*.

Amy Tan ('87): See Writers Workshop Staff News.

Jervey Tervalon ('93,'94): See Writers Workshop Staff News.

Wendy Tokunaga ('02): Wendy's first novel, *Midori by Moonlight*, will be published by St. Martin's Press in January 2008. This is the first novel in a two-book contract. She and fellow alumnus Mary Mitchell met at Squaw Valley and since then founded the singing quartet The Novelettes! The Novelettes have performed at two writers conferences. www.wendytokunaga.com

Andrew Tonkovich ('93,'95): See Writers Workshop Staff News.

Lisa Tucker ('01): Her third novel, *Once Upon a Day*, was published in April 2006 by Atria Books/Simon & Schuster and Brilliance Audio. *Once Upon a Day* is also forthcoming in six foreign markets including Italy, Germany and Australia. www.lisatucker.com

Madeleine Van Hecke ('95,'96): Her psychology self-help book, *Blind Spots: Why Smart People Do Dumb Things*, was published by Prometheus Books, Inc. in April 2007.

Brenda Rickman Vantrease ('02): Her first novel, *The Illuminator*, was published by St. Martin's Press in 2005; the paperback edition appeared in December 2005. *The Illuminator*, was a national bestseller with over 100,000 copies in print in the U.S. and has been translated into fourteen foreign languages. A sequel, *The Mercy*

Seller, is due from St. Martin's in 2007. www.brendarickmanvantrease.com

Marci Vogel ('05): Her story, "Go," was published in *West* magazine; and the manuscript from which that story was excerpted was a finalist in *Quarterly West's* Biennial Novella Contest and a runner-up for LoFi Press's Novella Award. An essay, "Where Books Were the Bond," appeared recently in the *Los Angeles Times*.

Mary Volmer ('03,'04): Her first novel, *Crown of Dust*, was published by Harper-Collins UK in January 2006.

Monona Wali ('05): Her short story "After" appeared in *Santa Monica Review*, Fall 2005. Her story, "The Greenest Country," appeared in *Tiferet: Journal of Spiritual Literature*, Spring 2006, and "The Persian Garden," was published in *Catarmaran: A Journal of South Asian American Writing*, Fall 2006.

Dora Wang ('00,'01,'02,'04,'05): Her memoir, *The Kitchen Shrink: A Psychiatrist's Story of Changing Times*, will be published in 2007 by Riverhead Books/Penguin Group. Her short story "Monkey Goes to Hollywood" was published in the *Asian Pacific American Journal*.

Amanda Eyre Ward ('92): Her second novel, *How to Be Lost*, was published by Random House in 2004. Her third novel, *Forgive Me*, will be published by Random House in 2007. Her short stories have appeared in *Tin House*, *Story Quarterly*, *The Mississippi Review*, *The New Delta Review*, *Salon.com*, and the *Austin Chronicle*. www.amandaward.com.

Kathie Weir ('01): Her essay, "What I Learned from Connie," was included in an anthology entitled *Open My Eyes, Open My Soul*, published by McGraw-Hill in 2003. The book, edited by Yolanda King, eldest daughter of Martin Luther King, and Elodia Tate, was published in honor of the January 2004 Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday.

Ellen Weis ('04,'05): *Berkeley: The Life and Spirit of a Remarkable Town*, was published by North Atlantic Books in 2004.

Tim Wendel ('86,'87,'88,'89): See Screenwriting Participant News.

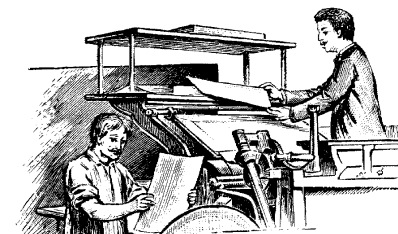
Robert Steven Williams ('03,'04): His short stories have been published in *Orange Coast Review*, *Carve Magazine*, and the Canadian anthology *Tall Tales, Volume II*. His story "The Jersey Cowboy" was a top-ten placement for the Raymond Carver short story contest, and he was a finalist for his stories "Inheritance" and "A Winter's Day." His CD, *I Am Not My Job*, was released in 2005. www.rswmusic.com

Waimea Williams ('88-96,'05): Her memoir, *Aloha, Kaua'i*, was published in October 2003 by Island Heritage. Her first poems appeared in *Bamboo Ridge* in 2004.

Ian Randall Wilson ('04): His stories have appeared in *North American Review*, *The Double Room* and *Ecletica*. He edited 12 chapbooks for the first Hollyridge Press Chapbook Series featuring works from Tony Hoagland, Jesse Lee Kercheval and Reginald Gibbons. Poems in *Puerto del Sol*, *Forklift* and *American Letters and Commentary*.

Patricia Woeber ('02,'03): She was awarded the Médaille d'Or from the French Government for her travel articles on France. Her recently published articles cover Bhutan, France, Indochina, and Thailand.

Lyndane Yang ('00,'01,'02): Her story, "The Opium Bed," was selected by Joyce



Carol Oates and Raymond Smith as a finalist for the 2003 Cooper Prize in Short Fiction. It appeared in the Spring 2004 issue of *Ontario Review*. Other stories were published in *Byline* and *ZYZZYVA*. Her story collection, *Distant Shores*, was a semi-finalist for the 2004 Spokane Prize in Short Fiction. Sally Shore of Blonde & Brunette Productions has selected *Distant Shores* to debut in the New Short Fiction Series. In September 2006, actors performed four stories before a live audience at the Beverly Hills Public Library.

Tiphanie Yanique ('05): She has had stories and novel excerpts accepted for publication or published with *The Kenyon Review*, *Prism International*, *The Global City Review* and *Sonora*, among others. Her story will be appearing this May in the *Boston Review* as the 2006 Fiction Winner. This coming academic year she will be the Creative Writing Fellow at Rice University.

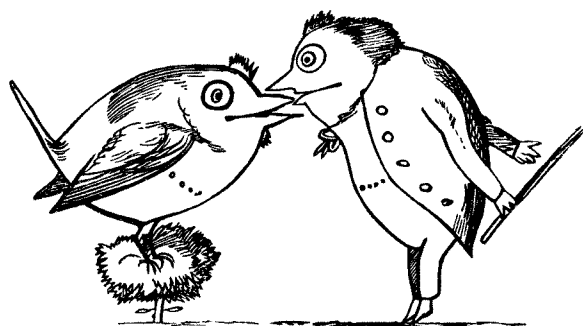
Alia Yunis ('04): She was awarded a PEN Emerging Voices Fellowship in 2005 and a

residency at Hedgebrook in 2006. She received an honorable mention at the 2006 Boston Fiction Festival. Her short story, "A Nearly Blonde Christmas," appears in the 2005 *Robert Olen Butler Prize Stories* anthology.

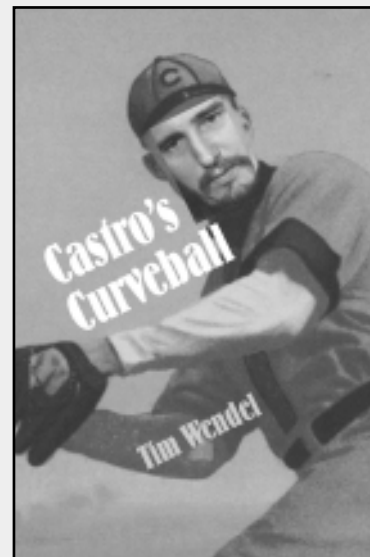
Desiree Zamorano ('05): Her short story "Mercy" appeared in the *LA Times-Magazine, West*.

Katayoon Zandvakili ('02): Her poems appear in *Let Me Tell You Where I've Been: New Writing By Women of the Iranian Diaspora*, an anthology published in May 2006 by the University of Arkansas Press. An excerpt from her memoir-in-progress was published online at Narrative Magazine www.narrativemagazine.com.

Alexi Zentner ('05): His short story, "The Adjuster," was published in the Summer 2006 issue of *The Southwest Review*, and his short story, "Touch," appears in the current issue (#29) of *Tin House*. www.alexizentner.com



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National Public Radio

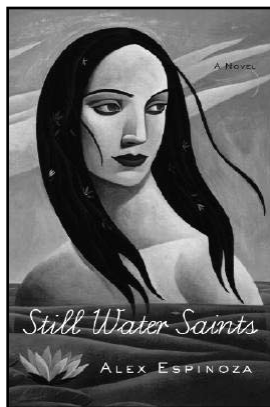
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Participant Profile: Alex Espinosa



Alex Espinoza first attended the Community of Writers in 2004 with a scholarship from UC Irvine, and returned again in 2005. This summer we will welcome him back again as part of our Published Alumni reading series. "I always had such a wonderful time at Squaw the years I attended. I feel I owe the community big time since it was there that I found my superb agent... And I look forward to being among the tall pines and fresh air once again this August," Alex recently said.

His debut novel, *Still Water Saints*, will be released by Random House early in 2007. It will also be published simultaneously in Spanish, translated by the well-regarded Liliana Valenzuela who has also worked with Julia Alvarez and Sandra Cisneros.



Lisa See describes Alex's novel as "Fresh, magical, beautiful, evocative" while Sandra Cisneros says it is "As perfect as the beads of a rosary." Barnes and Noble has chosen the novel for their Spring "Discover Great New Writers" program. *Still Water Saints* chronicles a year in the life of the community Agua Mansa, a largely Latino town outside Los Angeles and home to the Botánica Oshún, where people seek charms, herbs, and candles.

In addition, Alex's work is featured in the newly published anthology *Inlandia* (Heyday Books, 2006), and will appear in the forthcoming *Latinos in Lotusland* (Bilingual Press, 2007).

Alex was born in Tijuana, Baja California, Mexico in 1971, the youngest of 11 children. At the age of two, he migrated to southern California with his family and grew up in the city of La Puente, a suburb of Los Angeles. Earning a B.A. from the University of California at Riverside with honors, Espinoza went on to receive an MFA from UC Irvine, where he was the editor of the university's literary magazine, *Faultline*.

WRITERS WORKSHOP IN A BOOK: THE SQUAW VALLEY COMMUNITY OF WRITERS ON THE ART OF FICTION

FROM "COMING TO YOUR SENSES" BY JANET FITCH

As writers, our task is to remind people what it is to be human. Through all the lenses that we embody, we seek to explore and recreate the experience of being alive on this earth. And especially now, in our denatured times, we are in a position to give the reader back the sensual world—restore to him something fundamental which has been taken away from him, something he craves, the smells and textures of physical reality.

And it is not only the reader who suffers from this deprivation. We too suffer the same disconnect. Anyone who sits in a darkened room looking at a computer screen and microwaving dinner shares in the fate of our time.

So first, as writers, we ourselves must reconnect to the life of the senses. To give the reader back the blue of the sky, the heat of the day, the softness of the wind, the smell of newly turned earth, to bring him back to his senses, restoring him to his full humanity, so that he might even think to go outside and look at those stars, smell that wind for himself, we must first get ourselves out of the jar. We ourselves must adopt a more experimental and experiential attitude toward physical existence, and be willing to experience the whole sensual piano, not just certain predictably pleasant chords.



FROM "A WRITER'S SENSE OF PLACE" BY JAMES D. HOUSTON

In our workshops each morning, much of the conversation has focused on personal relationships and matters of kinship—the husband and the wife, the mother and the daughter, the father and the son, or the absent father, or the missing lover, or the seducer, the seducee. There are good and necessary reasons for this. It's the basic stuff of fiction: what we do to each other, and with each other.

I want to focus on another kind of kinship. Each time I drive up into these mountains, climb from sea level to six thousand feet and see this bowl of peaks rising all around us, I get re-awakened to the power and the magic of landscape and open country, and to the many ways that certain places can work on us. I think a big part of what makes this workshop such a rewarding experience is the location itself, having the chance to spend a week together thinking about stories in the presence of such majestic terrain. So while we're at this altitude, I want to say a bit more about the role of place in our stories and in our lives.

First of all, I don't mean simply names and points of interest as identified on a map. What has fascinated me for a long time now is the relationship between a locale and the lives lived there, the relationship between terrain and the feelings it can call out of us, the way a certain place can provide you with grounding, location, meaning, can bear upon the dreams you dream, can shape your view of history, sometimes your sense of self.

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**Let Me Tell You Where I Have Been:
New Writing by Women of the Iranian Diaspora
Edited by Persis M. Karim**

Reviewed by Jasmin Darznik (Writers Workshop 2006)

The first anthology of writing by women of the Iranian diaspora, *Let Me Tell You Where I Have Been*, is also a striking tribute to the literary accomplishments of Iranian-American women. With humor, rage, eloquence, and compassion, its fifty contributors of poetry and prose—including a number of past participants of Squaw Valley workshops—give voice to what it means for Iranian women to live, and to write, in the West today.

Organized in six sections—"Home Stories," "For Tradition," "Woman's Duty," "Axis of Evil," "Beyond," and "Stories Left Untold"—the entries traverse a formidable range of stories and sensibilities. The melancholy of exile is rendered with stunning sensual detail in Michelle Koukhab's (Poetry Workshop 2005) "The Persian Baths," where memories of the hamman throw a window onto "the gap" which "opens sometimes/between the places we are born and the places that we live." Longing also shades Katayoon Zandvakili's (Writers Workshop 2002) images of "sunlight in rooms of afternoon tea, the red and green/laughter over cards" ("The World Was a Couple") and her memory of a long-ago "horse of infinite feeling, infinite pain" ("Stripes").

Fitting to the times, there are also biting political commentaries from many different perspectives. Sholeh Wolpe's (Poetry Workshop 2004) prose poem "My Brother at the Canadian Border" is a sly indictment of racial profiling and airport detentions. Beatrice Motamedi's (Writers Workshop 2004, 2005) essay "When Toys

Are Us" dares to imagine the day when Iranian-American men stand proudly beside their "bros" in the American military. And then there are poems like Zara Houshmand's "Naz," which remind us of nothing so much as the value of art in these clamorous times.

In the space of three hundred pages, *Let Me Tell You Where I Have Been* manages to capture a new ethnic literature engaged not only with the most troubling questions of the day, but also with some of the most common and timeless subjects of human life.

NAZR

It has been so long,
How will you know me?

I am the one standing still in the
rush
Scanning the screen again and again
trying to find
a believable destination.

I am the one who has spread her
skirts on the grass
Like a picnic cloth, saying,
Here is trust.
And honesty.
And kindness.
Come feast.

I am the one tying poems
to the branches of a tree
whose leaves have fallen.

Zara Houshmand

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Contributors This Issue

LISA ALVAREZ is co-director of the Community of Writers' Writers Workshops and is a professor and chair of the English department at Irvine Valley College. With Alan Cheuse, she is co-editing a collection of essays on writing by Community of Writers staff.

JASMIN DARZNIK was born in Iran and came to the U.S. after the Islamic Revolution. She attended the Community of Writers in 2006. Her writing has appeared in the *West* (the *Los Angeles Times Magazine*), *San Francisco Chronicle Magazine*, *ZYZZYA*, and the *Women's Review of Books*. She won the 2006 *Zoetrope: All-Story* Short Fiction Contest.

RICHARD FORD is the author of three collections of stories and six novels, including *The Lay of the Land*, which was published in September 2006. He is a member of the American Academy of Arts & Letters, winner of the Pulitzer Prize for fiction and of the PEN-Malamud Award for Excellence in the Short Story.

JANET FITCH is the author of the novel *White Oleander*, which has been translated into 26 languages. The Warner Bros. film adaptation appeared in 2002. Fitch teaches fiction writing at the Masters of Professional Writing program at USC. Her new novel, *Paint It Black*, was published in September 2006 by Little, Brown.

JAMES D. HOUSTON has published twenty works of fiction and nonfiction including the novels *Snow Mountain Passage*, *Continental Drift*, and *The Last Paradise*, honored with an American Book Award. With his wife Jeanne Wakatsuki Houston he co-authored *Farewell to*

Manzanar, now in a 68th printing from Bantam Books. This spring Knopf brings out his new novel, *Bird of Another Heaven*.

SANDS HALL teaches for the Iowa Summer Writing Festival and the University of California Davis Extension Programs. She is the author of the novel, *Catching Heaven*, a Random House Reader's Circle selection and a Willa Award Finalist for Best Contemporary Fiction. In December 2005 Moving Finger Press published her non-fiction book, *Tools of the Writers Craft*.

BRETT HALL JONES has been the Executive Director of the Community of Writers for 15 years. Before that, she was director of catalogue photography for the San Francisco Auction House, Butterfield & Butterfield.

MAXIMA KAHN is a poet, fiction writer and essayist. She teaches workshops on writing and on creativity at U.C. Davis Extension and in Nevada County. She attended the Writers Workshop in 2006.

LARRY RUTH works as a consultant in natural resource and environmental policy. For many years he taught at the University of California. Recent poems of his have been published in *The Berkeleyan*, *Ibid.*, *Berkeley Poetry Review*, and in *Hail to California: The University of California at Berkeley in Verse and Story* (an anthology). In 2005 he was awarded a Lili Fabilli and Eric Hoffer Essay Prize by the University of California, Berkeley.

You Might Want to Consider...

These magazines are edited by Squaw Valley Staff or Participants and welcome submissions from The Community of Writers

Wandering Hermit Review, Steve Potter, editor. www.wanderinghermit.com

Orange Coast Review, Davi Loren, editor. www.orangecoastreview.com

Santa Monica Review, Andrew Tonkovich, editor. www.smc.edu/sm_review

RUNES, CB ('Lyn) Follett and Susan Terris, editors. <http://members.aol.com/Runes>

Tin House, Rob Spillman, editor. Lee Montgomery, executive editor. www.tinhouse.com

Green Mountains Review, Leslie Daniels, fiction editor. www.greenmountainsreview.jsc.vsc.edu

Manzanita: Poetry and Prose of the Mother Lode and Sierra, Monika Rose, editor. www.manzanitacalifornia.org

On the Page, Nada Von Tress, editor. www.onthepage.org

If you edit a literary journal and have participated in the Community of Writers and would like to be included in future lists of this sort, let us know! info@squawvalleywriters.org