

COMMUNITY  
OF WRITERS



Squaw Valley, CA

OMNIUM GATHERUM  
& NEWSLETTER

2010-2011

ISSUE 15

COMMUNITY OF WRITERS AT SQUAW VALLEY  
OMNIUM GATHERUM & NEWSLETTER  
2010-2011, Issue 15

### Community of Writers at Squaw Valley

A Non-Profit Corporation #629182  
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[www.squawvalleywriters.org](http://www.squawvalleywriters.org)

Newsletter edited and designed by  
**Maxima Kahn**  
with support and advice from  
**Brett Hall Jones**

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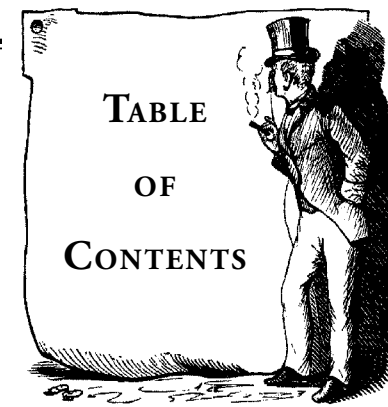
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PLEASE NOTE: *We are not able to fact-check  
the submitted news. We apologize if any  
incorrect information is published.*



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# COMMUNITY OF WRITERS



Squaw Valley  
California

## SUMMER WRITING WORKSHOPS

Financial Aid available

Application Deadlines

May 10 for Poetry

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May 1 for Screenwriting

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# 2011

## POETRY WORKSHOPS: July 16 - 23

Robert Hass · Brenda Hillman  
Cathy Park Hong · Major Jackson · Sharon Olds  
& Special Guest Galway Kinnell

## WRITERS WORKSHOPS: August 6 - 13

David Bajo · Elise Blackwell · Max Byrd  
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## SCREENWRITING: August 6 - 13

*Production commitments will determine the  
availability of staff members and guests.*

Eugene Corr · Pamela Gray · Toney Merritt  
Patricia Meyer · Christopher Monger · Judith Rascoe  
Tom Rickman · Lisa Rosenberg · Tom Schlesinger  
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## A Note from the Editor

**W**elcome to the *Omnium Gatherum & Newsletter!*

Jack Kerouac in his "Belief and Technique for Modern Prose: List of Essentials" gives as number 19: "Accept Loss Forever." Number 20 is "Believe in the holy contour of life." We've had to weather some very heavy losses in the Community of Writers in recent years: first our co-founder Oakley Hall II, then beloved staff members James D. Houston and Lucille Clifton, and now suddenly Oakley "Tad" Hall III, as well as Pokey, mascot for so many years. It's not so easy to accept that loss is woven into the fabric of our lives, and from that acceptance to find our renewed belief in the holy contour of those lives. But that is precisely part of the enduring work of great writing. One of the earliest and longest-standing tasks of our poets and writers has been to help us grieve, acknowledge and celebrate what we've lost and help us find the holy contour in it all, the beauty and mystery, the thread of sense, the story.

Thank you to each of you who continues this grand tradition of meaning-making, story-weaving and bringing out the sometimes-obscured holy contour. I hope this issue inspires and helps you to continue through the inevitable losses and gains, the celebrations and tragedies, and to remember that community is essential to our well-being.

—Maxima Kahn

maxima@squawvalleywriters.org



### PAST PARTICIPANT OR STAFF?

Do you have news you would like us to include in the next newsletter? The *Omnium* is published once a year. We print publishing credits, awards and similar new 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. **Deadline: September 1, 2011 for next issue.**

*We dedicate this issue of the Omnium Gatherum & Newsletter to the memories of long-time staff member and friend Lucille Clifton and our own beloved Oakley Hall III.*



# Lucille Clifton: 1936-2010

Beloved and admired friend and staff member, Lucille Clifton died Saturday, February 13, 2010. She had been invited back again to Squaw Valley for the summer of 2010 as a Special Guest. We had so looked forward to seeing her again. She had been a regular staff member since 1991 and continued to return almost every other year since then.



Lucille was a major figure in American letters. She was an award-winning poet, fiction writer and author of children's books. BOA Editions published her most recent collection, *Mercy*, as well as *Blessing the Boats: New and Selected Poems 1969-1999*, which won the 2000 National Book Award for Poetry. Two of Clifton's BOA poetry collections, *Good Woman: Poems and a Memoir 1969-1980* and *Next: New Poems*, were chosen as finalists for the Pulitzer Prize in 1988, while Clifton's *The Terrible Stories* (BOA) was a finalist for the 1996 National Book Award. Clifton served as Distinguished Professor of Humanities and holder of the Hilda C. Landers Endowed Chair in the Liberal Arts at St. Mary's College of Maryland until her retirement in the fall of 2005. She continued to serve St. Mary's as Professor Emeritus and Friend to the College. She was appointed a Fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, and elected as Chancellor of The Academy of American Poets in 1999. In 2007 she was awarded the Ruth Lilly Poetry Prize, which honors a living U.S. poet whose lifetime accomplishments warrant extraordinary recognition. This year, 2010, she was awarded the Frost Medal from the Poetry Society of America to honor "distinguished lifetime service to American poetry."

At the Poetry Workshop in Squaw Valley, she was a warm and wise presence, a listener as well as a storyteller. She wrote new poems each day along with the other staff poets and participants, and even her rough drafts were fine examples of her work. Lucille composed her daily poems on a typewriter, working on one of Oakley Hall's shabby IBM Selectrics.

We still remember her final poem of the 2008 week, how it achieved what Lucille's work did so well – three spare lines that captured the spirit of the previous night's party at the Hall House, the week itself – and much more. That poem, the last, as it turned out, that we would see from our old friend, went something like this:

over the mountains  
and under the stars it is  
one hell of a ride

There is an empty place where once there was Lucille, but we are fortunate to have her words to help us fill it. ■



photo by Tracy Hall



**Kazim Ali:** *Orange Alert: Essays on Poetry, Art and the Architecture of Silence* was published by the University of Michigan Press in the fall, and *Fasting for Ramadan: Essays on Spiritual Practice* will be published in April 2011 by Tupelo Press. [www.kazimali.com](http://www.kazimali.com)

**Cornelius Eady:** He received an honorary Doctor of Fine Arts Degree from the University of Rochester.

**Forrest Gander:** He has a book of poems and two books of translations coming out in Spring 2011: *Core Samples from the World* (poetry, photos, haibun) from New Directions; *Watchword, Poems of Pura Lopez Colome* from Wesleyan; *Spectacle & Pigsty, Poems of Kiwao Nomura* from OmniDawn. His poem "Witness" was set to "PoemFlow," available as an iTunes app: [www.poemflow.com/776](http://www.poemflow.com/776)

**Galway Kinnell:** The Chancellors of the Academy of American Poets selected Galway Kinnell as the recipient of the 2010 Wallace Stevens Award, recognizing outstanding and proven mastery in the art of poetry.

**Harryette Mullen:** She was the recipient of Poets & Writers' fourth annual Jackson Poetry Prize. Poets & Writers says of the \$50,000 prize that it "honors an American poet of exceptional talent who deserves wider recognition."

**Evie Shockley:** Her second poetry book, *the new black*, was just released from Wesleyan University Press in March 2011. She also has a book of poetry criticism, *Renegade Poetics: Black Aesthetics and Formal Innovation in African American Poetry*, forthcoming in the University of Iowa Press's Contemporary North American Poetry Series later in the year.

**C.D. Wright:** Her collection *One With Others* (Copper Canyon Press) was a finalist for the National Book Awards.

**Robert Hass:** His most recent volume, *The Apple Trees at Olema: New and Selected Poems*, was published by Ecco in spring 2010. He selected the poems, wrote the introduction, and with Paul Ebenkamp provided annotations for "Song of Myself" for a new edition of *Song of Myself: And Other Poems* by Walt Whitman, published in February by Counterpoint.

**Brenda Hillman:** *Practical Water* (2009) won the Los Angeles Times Book Award for Poetry.

**Yusef Komunyakaa:** *The Chameleon Couch: Poems* will be released by Farrar, Straus and Giroux in March 2011. *Conversations with Yusef Komunyakaa* (published in April 2010 by University Press of Mississippi) brings together over two decades of interviews and profiles with the poet.

**Dean Young:** A new collection of poems, *Fall Higher*, is scheduled for release from Copper Canyon in April. His book on poetics, *The Art of Recklessness: Poetry as Assertive Force and Contradiction*, was published by Graywolf in 2010.

**Gerald Stern:** His *Early Collected Poems: 1965-1992* was published by W. W. Norton & Company in July.


**Kevin Young:** He won the Graywolf Nonfiction Prize for *The Grey Album: Music, Lying, & the Blackness of Being*, a collection of essays. He edited an anthology of contemporary elegies, *The Art of Losing: Poems of Grief & Healing*, which was published by Bloomsbury in March 2010 and was chosen as one of the IndieNext top ten poetry books for 2010. ■

## Dean Young Needs Our Help

Our brilliant Dean Young came very near to complete cardiac failure this fall. Dean's heart condition is congenital and he'd been living with it for a while. His doctors were in the process of preparing him for a heart transplant when his heart began to fail. So they implanted external heart pumps as a temporary expedient. Dean is now out of intensive care and awaiting a heart transplant. That's the good news.

The difficult news is that, though insurance covers most of the costs of a heart transplant operation, there are typically between \$100,000 and \$250,000 in expenses before and after surgery not covered by insurance. In response to this, there exists a National Foundation for Transplants through which friends of transplant patients can make tax-deductible donations to help cover their uncovered medical expenses. Dean's friends have signed him up for the NFT website and want you to know that they are grateful for help in any amount.

Go to: [www.transplants.org/donate/deanyoung](http://www.transplants.org/donate/deanyoung). Click on "Donate Today" and make sure to put in Dean's name where it says, "My gift is in honor of the following patient."



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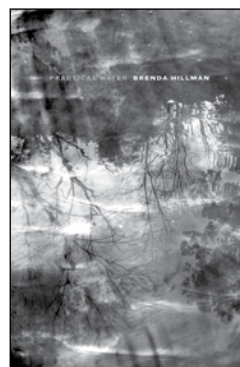
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## Participant Profile: Keetje Kuipers



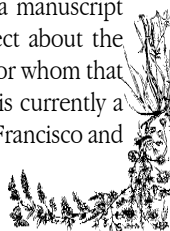
Keetje Kuipers was born in Pullman, WA to a fishing guide and a sociologist. Though she's pursued all manner of careers—from midnight baker to Google desk jockey, publisher's assistant to Off-Off-Broadway actress—poetry has been her passion for many years. She earned her B.A. at Swarthmore College, starting out as a theater major. The experience influenced her poetry: "I believe that poetry is best when recited. Therefore, I believe it should be written to be read aloud. It needs drama, music, and character—all performative elements. It also needs a story. Poems are tiny plays: they have individual personas, voices, monologues." She went on to earn an MFA at the University of Oregon.

In 2007 Keetje was the Margery Davis Boyden Wilderness Writing Resident. She spent seven months in the wilderness in a cabin two miles down a dirt road, working on her book *Beautiful in the Mouth*. Perhaps not surprisingly, given the circumstances, the book explores themes of loneliness, loss and longing, as well as geography, but it also contains, in the words of Daisy Fried, "'Brooklyn parties and Montana creeks. Merle Haggard and girls' soccer teams. Hurricanes and gullies, eviction notices and women's shoes.'" The isolation not only helped Kuipers develop confidence in her own process and judgment of her work, the book was awarded the prestigious A. Poulin, Jr. Poetry Prize and was published in 2010 by BOA Editions. Poet Thomas Lux wrote of the collection, "'I was immediately struck by the boldness of imagination, the strange cadences, and wild music of these poems.'"

Kuipers attended the Community of Writers in 2005. She says, "I went looking for community, and that's exactly what I found there. Never before or since have I shared poems with such a positive, celebratory, and enthusiastic group of writers. There are plenty of summer writing conferences, but none of them places such marvelous emphasis on the role of a loving community in a writer's life."

She started writing poems in high school when she "fortuitously stumbled upon Dorianne Laux's first book, *Awake*, and completely fell in love with her poems, and poetry in general." She says, "I like to think of my poems as equations that I'm working out... it's a puzzle that in some alternate reality already has a solution, I just need to work it out. If that's struggling, then I welcome it, the same way I welcome a hike up a very steep hillside — what a feeling of accomplishment (not to mention a rewarding view) waits at the top."

Still obsessed with restlessness and isolation, Kuipers is currently at work on a manuscript entitled *The Keys to the Jail*, and this past summer started a non-fiction project about the cabin in the wilderness where she lived and the woman, Margery Davis Boyden, for whom that fellowship is named. Kuipers teaches writing at the University of Montana and is currently a Wallace Stegner Fellow at Stanford University. She divides her time between San Francisco and Missoula. [www.keetjekuipers.com](http://www.keetjekuipers.com)



## POETWATCH POETRY PARTICIPANTS

**Lauren Alleyne (08):** Her poetry won first prize in the Small Axe Literary Competition and will be published in *Small Axe* next July. Poems of hers were also published in *The Caribbean Review of Books* and are forthcoming in *Connotation Press*.

**Stella Beratis (07):** Her poem "The Place That Inhabits Us" was included in *The Place That Inhabits Us: Poems of the San Francisco Bay Watershed*, released last spring by Sixteen Rivers Press.

**Bruce Bond (97):** His recent collections of poetry include *The Visible* (LSU, forthcoming) and *Peal* (Etruscan Press).

**Alexander Booth (03):** Translations of poems by the Italian poet Sandro Penna appeared in the Summer 2009 issue of *FreeVerse* as well as in the Winter 2009/2010 issue of *The Journal of Italian Translation*. Translations of the Nobel prize winning German poet Nelly Sachs were used in the exhibit *Flucht und Verwandlung in Berlin*. An article, "In whose shadow? Pasolini, Gramsci & Shelley in the Non-Catholic Cemetery," appeared in the Spring 2010 issue of the newsletter of the Friends of the Non-Catholic Cemetery in Rome. He also keeps a blog on things Rome, literary and otherwise at: [miserastupendacitta.wordpress.com](http://miserastupendacitta.wordpress.com)

**Susan Browne (10,88):** Her second book of poetry, *Zephyr*, recently won the Editor's Prize at Steel Toe Books ([www.steeltoebooks.com](http://www.steeltoebooks.com)) and was published in June 2010. A poem from that collection, "The Nose on Your Face," is on *Writer's Almanac*, a daily e-newsletter and podcast from Garrison Keillor.

**Elizabeth Chapman (09,07,04,00):** Her daughter, Maggie, gave birth to a baby girl on April 6. Her ensuing poem, "Stella", was accepted by *Rattle* magazine for their Winter issue.

**Sharon Charde (07,03,00):** This year, she has been published in *PMS (poememoirstory)*, *The Poet's Touchstone*, *Poet Lore*, *Cadeuceus*, *CT River Review*, *The Homestead Review*, *The Naugatuck River Review* and *Rattle*. In addition, she won third prize in the New Hampshire Poetry Society 2010 contest, Honorable Mention in contests sponsored by *CT River Review* and *Naugatuck River Review*, Special Merit in *The Comstock Review's* annual contest, and first prize in the Matt Clark Poetry Contest sponsored by the *New Delta Review*. A review of her collection, *Branch in Hs Hand*, was published in *Calyx*. She was awarded a full fellowship to the Virginia Center For The Creative Arts.

Visit our new Notable Alumni page and learn how to nominate yourself or a friend:  
<http://squawvalleywriters.org/NotableAlumniPoets.html>

**Amanda Chiado (Poetry 07; WW 06):** She was most recently published in *Eleven Eleven* and has work forthcoming in *Forklift, Ohio*.

**Catharine Clark-Sayles (09,03):** Her second book, *Lifeboat*, is due out from Tebot Bach Press in January 2011.

**Claudette Cohen (00):** Her poem "The Lightning Rod Salesman" appeared in the Spring 2010 issue of *storySouth* ([www.storysouth.com](http://www.storysouth.com)) under the pen name of Claude Limoges. Her novel, *The Seasoning of Rebecca*, is now available through [claudelimoges.blogspot.com](http://claudelimoges.blogspot.com).

**Shira Dentz (05):** Her book of poetry, *black seeds on a white dish*, was published in November by Shearsman Books.

**Charles Douthat (09,04):** His first collection of poems, *Blue for Oceans*, was published by NHR Press in November. [www.charlesdouthat.com](http://www.charlesdouthat.com)

**Sharon Fain (04):** She received the 2009 Robinson Jeffers Tor House Prize, as well as a Paumonak Visiting Writer's Prize from Farmingdale State College in New York. She had one-month residencies at the Anderson Center and at I-Park in 2010. Her work is forthcoming in *Arts & Letters* and *Best New Poets 2010* from the University of Virginia Press.

**Rebecca Farivar (formerly Guyon) (08):** Her chapbook *American Lit* was released by Dancing Girl Press.

**Molly Fisk (04,99,95,92):** She read a poem from her new collection *The More Difficult Beauty* as part of TEDxSanFrancisco. Her poem "Hunter's Moon" from the Sixteen Rivers Press anthology *The Place That Inhabits Us* was featured on Ted Kooser's American Life in Poetry. She won a Corporation for Public Broadcasting grant for her radio commentary "Observations of a Working

Poet," and has been nominated for a Pushcart Prize.

**Mark Fitzgerald (09,06):** His debut collection of poems, *By Way of Dust and Rain*, was published in May 2010 by Cinnamon Press.

**CB ('Lyn) Follett (04,00,95):** She has been named Poet Laureate of Marin County for a two year term which started in April of 2010. Her chapbook *And So, Through the Years She Builds Her Houses*, an Editor's Choice from Tebot Bach Press, is forthcoming. In 2011, Time Being Books will publish her collection of poetry *One Bird Falling*.

**Shirley Gaines (04,01):** She was published in *Love Over 60: an anthology of women's poems* (Mayapple Press, 2010). She was also selected by Nils Peterson, Santa Clara County Poet Laureate, as the thirtieth poet of *Thirty Poems in 30 Days*.

**Sandra Giedeman (95,93):** Her work was included in a British anthology of summer-themed poetry, *Crab Lines Off the Pier*, and her poem "On Reading Lorca" was published by *Paris/Atlantic*, the journal of the American University in Paris. A collaborative poem was published in *Poemeleon*.

**Daniela Gitlin (05,02):** She launched a humor blog: [shrinkunwrapped.com](http://shrinkunwrapped.com)

**Veronica Golos (09):** Her new poetry book, *Vocabulary of Silence*, is due for release this February by Red Hen Press. [veronicagolos.wordpress.com](http://veronicagolos.wordpress.com)

**Lara Gulate (WW 06,03; 05 Poetry):** She was nominated by Bitter Oleander Press for *Best New Poets 2010*. One of her poems was published by the Canadian Centre for Azorean Studies and Research. Her poetry is included in a book of essays called *Imaginarior Luso-Americanos e Acorianos* by Vamberto Freitas.

**Judy Halebsky (06,03):** She is the Artist-in-Residence for Theatre of Yugen in San Francisco. She has poems forthcoming in *Poetry Kanto* and *Yomimono*. Her book, *Sky=Empty*, was published in April by New Issues.

**Quinton Hallett (91):** Her third chapbook, *Refuge from Flux*, was published in 2010 by Finishing Line Press. She also has work in *The Medulla Review*, *Tiger's Eye*, and forthcoming in the anthology *Collecting Life: Poets on Objects Known and Imagined*.

**Christine Hemp (06):** Her debut collection of poems, *That Fall*, was chosen for publication in Finishing Line Press' New Women's Voices series. [www.christinehemp.com](http://www.christinehemp.com)

**Niki Herd (02):** Main Street Rag published her debut collection of poems, *The Language of Shedding Skin*, as part

of the MSR Editor's Select Poetry Series in December 2010. [www.mainstreetrag.com/NHerd.html](http://www.mainstreetrag.com/NHerd.html)

**Maxima Kahn (Poetry 07; WW 10,06):** She had poems published in *Spillway*, *Untitled Country Review* (edited by Squaw Valley alum Scot Siegel) and *Sacred Fire Magazine*.

**Keetje Kuipers (05):** See Profile on page 10.

**Nadine Lockhart (05):** She was one of five finalists in last winter's *Sonoran Review* Poetry Contest. She was also one of three poets published in *Blue Mountain Review*, vol. 3, an anthology series. Her work has also appeared in *Sin Fronteras* 2008, 2009, 2010, and in the upcoming 2011.

**Margaret Mackinnon (09):** She has new work in *Poet Lore*, the *Valparaiso Poetry Review*, and the *South Carolina Review*.

## Unfurl, Kite, and Veer



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The second collection from this Northwest ecologist, traveler, and story-singer is a feast of "meditation and laughter, learning offered up by a generous spirit, science made to sing—these poems feel like a true gift inviting us to live and love between the stars and the mites."

—Derek Sheffield

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## Meanwhile

Poems by Kathleen O'Toole

Available February 2011  
from David Robert Books  
[www.davidrobertbooks.com/otoole.html](http://www.davidrobertbooks.com/otoole.html)

In February, she was invited to read at the Library of Congress as part of the Poetry at Noon series. She was awarded a residency at the Vermont Studio Center.

**Matt Mauch (08):** His first full-length poetry collection, *Prayer Book*, was released in January of 2011 by Lowbrow. His first chapbook, *The Book of Modern Prayer*, came out in late 2010 (Palimpsest). He is the editor of *Poetry City, USA, vol. 1* (Lowbrow), an anthology of poems (plus essays) read at the inaugural Great Twin Cities Poetry Read, which will be available in April of 2011.

**Theresa McCourt (08):** She co-edited (with Linda Collins) the Summer 2010 *Tule Review*, funded by the Sacramento Poetry Center. She is also co-editor of the Winter issue of *Tule Review*, due out January 2011. [www.sacramentopoetrycenter.org/tulereview.htm](http://www.sacramentopoetrycenter.org/tulereview.htm).

**Judy Michaels (01,92,91):** Her new poetry collection, *Reviewing the Skull*, was published by WordTech Editions in January 2010. Her poems appeared or are forthcoming in *Nimrod*, *Lips*, *The Literary Review* and *Thatchwork: Delaware Valley Poets*. Her women's critique and performance group, Cool Women, published an anthology, *Cool Women, vol. 4*, and issued a new CD.

**Sara Michas-Martin (08,03):** She was a finalist for the Gulf Coast Prize in Poetry, and her work has recently appeared or is soon forthcoming in *The American Poetry Review*, *The Believer*, *Denver Quarterly*, *Harvard Review*, *Indiana Review*, *Jubilat*, *Mare Nostrum*, *Word For/Word* and the *Harp & Alter Anthology*. She also received full residency fellowships from Ragdale and Virginia Center for the Creative Arts.

**Sawnie Morris (07):** A selection of her poems won the 2010 Poetry Society of

America's George Bogin Memorial Award. She had poems published in the *Denver Quarterly*, and her manuscript of poems was one of four runners-up for the Marsh Hawk Press Prize.

**William Notter (95):** His collection *Holding Everything Down* (Southern Illinois University Press, 2009) won the 2010 High Plains Book Award for Poetry and was a finalist for the 2010 Colorado Book Award.

**Kathleen O'Toole (09,05,03,01):** Her first full-length book of poetry, *Meanwhile*, will be published in February 2010 by David Robert Books.

**Coco Owen (05):** She had poems appear in two new journals this year, *Cirque* and *Tidal Basin Review*.

**Melinda Palacio (09):** Her novel *Ocotillo Dreams* will be published by ASU Bilingual Press in Spring 2011. An excerpt appears in the anthology *Strange Cargo: An Emerging Voices Anthology, 1997-2010*, PEN USA. Her poem "El South-Central Cucuy" appears in *New Poets of the American West: An Anthology of Eleven Western States*, Many Voices Press 2010. She also had new poems published in *Quercus Review*, *Askew Poetry Journal*, *El Tecolote*, *San Pedro River Review* and in *Pilgrimage Magazine*. *Pilgrimage* will also reprint, "Names and Numbers," a poem from her chapbook *Folsom Lockdown*, winner of Kulupi Press' Sense of Place competition.

**Natalie Peeterse (06):** Her poem "Mercado Oriental" was included in *I Go to*



*the Ruined Place: Contemporary Poems in Defense of Global Human Rights*, edited by Melissa Kwasny and M.L. Smoker, and published by Lost Horse Press last year.

**Curtis Perdue (10):** His poems can be seen in the Fall/Winter 2010 issues of *Cloudbank*, *The Common Ground Review*, and *H\_NGM\_N*.

**Emily Perez (10):** She gave birth to Wylan Alado McFadden on September 17.

**Zara Raab (10):** Her chapbook, *Book of Gretel*, was published in spring 2010 by Finishing Line Press. *Swimming the Eel* will come out in 2011 from David Robert Books. She has new work forthcoming in *Common Ground Review*, *Cafe Review*, *Poetica*, *Meadowlands Review*, *Borderlands Press*, *Critical Flame* and *Poet Lore*. [zararaab.com](http://zararaab.com)

**Douglas Ray (05):** He received an M.F.A. in poetry from The University of Mississippi in May 2010. He was a 2010 Lambda Literary Foundation Poetry Fellow. He now teaches literature and writing at Indian Springs School, a boarding and day school in Birmingham, Alabama.

**Renato Rosaldo (02,00):** He won the Many Mountains Moving Poetry Book contest. His collection, *Diego Luna's Insider Tips*, will be released by Many Mountains Moving Press in the fall of 2011 and will be available through Small Press Distribution.

**Monika Rose (WW00; Poetry 97):** Her new volume of poems, *River By the Glass*, was published by GlenHill Publishing in November. The sixth volume of *Manzanita: Poetry and Prose of the Mother Lode and Sierra* books, which she edited, was released this past Fall. This volume is called *Wild Edges*.



**Yiskah Rosenfeld (03,01):** She won the 2009 Anna Davidson Rosenberg prize for poetry. New poems have appeared in *Lilith Magazine*, *Maggid* and *Kerem*. She gave birth to a baby boy, Noam, on August 19.

**Elizabeth Rosner (Poetry 99; WW 87,83,82):** See Writers Workshop Staff News.

**Deborah Ruth (08,01,00,98,95,93,92,91):** In June, her short play *True Colors* was produced as part of the Foothill College 2010 New Works Festival, her short play *Aptitudes* was included in a showcase of staged readings called New Writers, New Works, and five of her short plays were given a staged reading as part of a monthly series called Friday Night Footlights, sponsored by The Dramatists' Guild. She was also invited to write the theatre column for *The East Bay Monthly*.

**Larry Ruth (08,06,04,00):** His poems were published in *Everyone's Sense Of The World Is Invaluable* (Guardian News & Media, UK) and are forthcoming in *The Healing Art of Writing, Vol. One*, edited by Joan Baranow, Brian Dolan & David Watts.

**Marjorie Saiser (00):** She has a new chapbook, *Rooms* (Pudding House Publications), and a full-length collection, *Beside You at the Stoplight* (The Backwaters Press).

**Eliot Schain (Poetry 07,02,98; WW 99):** He was published in the anthology *The Place That Inhabits Us: Poems of the San Francisco Bay Watershed* from Sixteen Rivers Press.



**David Scronce (08,05,03):** Red Berry Editions published his chapbook *Letters to Liam*. Over the last year, his poems have appeared in *The Chaffin Journal*, *CONFRONTATION*, *Hayden's Ferry Review*, *The Portland Review*, *The Queen City Review*, *RHINO*, *Salamander*, *Sanskrit*, *Sierra Nevada Review* and *Tweets*, and online at [www.Softblow.org](http://www.Softblow.org) and [www.thestraddler.com](http://www.thestraddler.com).

**Dave Seter (03):** His debut chapbook, *Night Duty*, was published by Main Street Rag Publishing Company. His poem "Windows," which appeared in *Raven Chronicles* (Vol. 14 No. 2), was nominated for a Pushcart Prize in 2009.

**Gary Short (Poetry 91; WW 81):** He was awarded a Fellowship in Creative Writing for 2011 from the National Endowment for the Arts.

**Scot Siegel (07):** His new chapbook, *Skeleton Says*, was published by Finishing Line Press. Salmon Poetry will publish his second full-length collection in 2012. New poems appeared in *High Desert Journal*, *MiPOesias*, *Naugatuck River Review*, *Press 1*, *Right Hand Pointing* and *The Oregonian*.

**Kevin Simmonds (10):** His first poetry collection, *Mad for Meat*, from Salmon Poetry in 2011. He received a San Francisco Arts Commission grant for *Orient*, a multimedia theater work about Asian-Black relations in America.

**Minton Sparks (06):** She released a new recording of spoken word, *Minton Sparks Live*, in October 2010. The Fellowship of Southern Writers awarded her the 2011 Award for Spoken Word.

**Melissa Stein (99):** Her poetry collection *Rough Honey* won the 2010 APR/Honickman First Book Prize, selected by Mark Doty, published by *American Poetry*

*Review with Copper Canyon Press.* Her poems appeared in *Harvard Review*, *Best New Poets 2009*, *North American Review*, *Alaska Quarterly Review*, *32 Poems* and *Spoon River Quarterly Review*. [www.melissastein.com](http://www.melissastein.com)

**Jeanine Stevens (10,07):** She won the 2009 Ekphrasis Prize for "Frida in a White Dress," which also received a Pushcart Nomination. Her poem "Salt Lick" received first place in the Maggie Meyer Poetry Contest. Her chapbook *Caught in Clouds* was published in November by Finishing Line Press. She had poems in *Pearl*, *PMS poem-memoir-story*, *Quercus* and *Cosmunes River Review*.

**Catherine Strisik (00,92):** Her collection of poems *Thousand-Cricket Song* was published by Plain View Press. Poems will be included in *Studio* and *Canteen*.

**Francine Toff (02):** Her first full-length collection of poems, *Rain, Lilies, Luck*, was published in 2010 by North Star Press. North Star also published her memoir, *Joliet Girl*. She received an Elizabeth George Grant this year as well as a fellowship from the Ragdale Foundation. "Tonight and other poems", a selection of ten poems, was awarded an Honorable Mention in the 2010 Pablo Neruda Poetry Prize Competition.

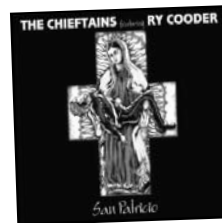
**Sholeh Wolpe (04):** She recently won the Lois Roth Persian Translation Prize for her translation of *Sin: The Selected Poems of Forugh Farrokhzad* (University of Arkansas Press, 2007). [www.sholehwolpe.com](http://www.sholehwolpe.com)

**Bill Yake (96):** His second full-length collection, *Unfurl, Kite, and Veer*, was released this year by Radiolarian Press. His poem "Aging..." was chosen as one of four to kick off a one-man play at the Washington Center for the Performing Arts, and a poem of his was printed in the Capitol Land Trust newsletter. ■



## The Sounds of Summer 2010 Music Heard in the Office

—Lisa Alvarez



### San Patricio: the Chieftains featuring Ry Cooder

An inspired collection of old and new songs about the oft-overlooked connection between Mexico and Ireland — the battalion of soldiers (The San Patricios) who left America and joined General Santa Ana to fight in the Mexican-American War. Guest artists include Lila Downs, Los Tigres del Norte, Los Folkoristas, Linda Ronstadt — and Liam Neeson.



### John Prine: In Person and On Stage

A lively live collection of this singer-songwriter's greatest hits — plus a few new tunes. Guest musicians include Emmylou Harris, Iris DeMent and Josh Ritter.



### Genuine Negro Jig: Carolina Chocolate Drops

Old time music—banjos, fiddle and guitars—and more. The trio of Dom Flemons, Rhiannon Giddens and Justin Robinson revive and reinterpret the African-American roots of string band music.



### K.D. Lang: Recollection

These two CDs span the singer's career from county ("Western Stars") to nightclub ("Love for Sale") and presents longed for highlights: "Crying" with Roy Orbison, "Calling All Angels" with Jane Siberry and two—count 'em two — versions of Leonard Cohen's "Hallelujah."

### Love is Strange: En Vivo con Tinto: Jackson Browne and David Lindley

Recorded live in Spain, this two CD collection showcases Browne and Lindley's solo and collaborative work. Spanish colleagues appear throughout. Check out Luz Casal's exquisite rendition of "These Days."

### Creedance Clearwater Revival: 20 Greatest Hits

We forgot how good they were. How is that possible?

### Van Morrison: Moondance

Once again, Van Morrison's album got a workout last summer. This classic collection served our needs. We never got tired of it and we hope you didn't either.



## Summer 2010 Special Thanks and Photo Gallery

First of all, we thank our magnificent staff that makes the conference what it is, and our many donors who make it possible. Many thanks to **Lisa Alvarez, Diana Fuller, Andrew Tonkovich** and **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** (6) helping out, providing witty commentary all the way; to **Stacey Knapp** for running the bookshop with warmth and style. Thanks also to **Tracy Hall, Nicolas and Aleksandra Bailey** for coordinating our snack bar. Thanks also to **David Womack** for bartending, driving, and helping with manuscripts at registration.



Stacey Knapp

Many thanks to members of the Board and Squaw Valley locals who have been tremendously generous with their time over the years: **Eddy & Osvaldo Ancinas, Amy Tan & Lou Demattei; Joan & Peter Klaussen; Barbara Hall; Mimi & Burnett Miller; Geri Thayer; and Max Byrd.**

Our work waiver crews make each conference run smoothly. For their labor during Poetry we thank **Claire Blotter, Molly Damm, Kat Factor, Lisa Jones, Sara Michas-Martin, Curtis Perdue, Katie Quarles, and David Spataro**; for their work during the Writers Workshops, our gratitude goes to **Andrea Avery, Emily Curtin-Phillips, Patrick Holian, Maxima Kahn, Kim Palchikoff, Benton Sen, and Kenny Tanemura.**

Thanks also to our friends **Adam Haight, Hunter Jones, Zoey Walls, Margot Miller, Tom Taylor** and especially to **Steve Susoyev** for his unflagging energy. Thanks also to the Screenwriting surround staff: **Fiona Burgess, Jason Wolos, Jason Boyce, and Christopher Upham.** Thanks to **Chelsea Snell** for childcare. And thanks to **Sands Hall** for the inimitable

Follies. Thanks also to **Maxima Kahn** for editing and designing the *Omnium Gatherum & Newsletter*.

The Board and Staff of the Community of Writers would especially like to thank **Nancy Cushing**, former President of the Squaw Valley Ski Corp. 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, Linda Law and the Security Team** (who are superb ambassadors).



Lisa Alvarez, Brett Hall Jones, Tracy Hall

And of course we couldn't do it without our donors. As we are a fully independent organization, your support makes it happen.



Glen David Gold

On a final note, I would like to acknowledge my brother, **Oakley Hall III**, known to many as Tad. He died February 2011. Tad was a brilliant writer-playwright-director who founded his own critically acclaimed summer-stock theatre company in upstate New York, before his accident in 1979, which left him with traumatic brain injury. His story is long and full of tragedy and, especially recently, triumph. Most of you know him as the guy who gruffly (and simultaneously, sweetly) drove you to your



Oakley "Tad" Hall III

houses on registration day, or the one who helped to move tables and chairs, anything, really that needed to be done during the conference. He was a tremendous asset, and for that we are grateful. Of course, the irony never escaped any of us, especially him, that but for that fall in 1979, he very well might have been a successful writer or playwright who might have had my role at the Community of Writers, if it had been his wish. Instead, his little sister would ask him to do this, and fetch that. It was with great joy that we celebrated the publication of his novel, *Jarry and Me* (Absintheur Press, 2010) and he was to finally return to Squaw this summer as an author! And he was to go to read from his novel to his fellow writers and friends. I can't begin to express my regret that we weren't able to see that moment, and congratulate him after.

—Brett Hall Jones, Executive Director



Kaitlin Klaussen & Michelle Latiolais



2010 Poetry Staff



Ann Close & BJ Robbins

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## SCREENWRITING STAFF NEWS



**Jason Boyce:** He is back in the Bay area after a year in England, working on a variety of social documentaries as well as creating an original film and music album entitled, *Believe or Die Trying*, due out by 2012. Other projects include a documentary shot for Jim Kerns, *Destination: Rossport, Ireland*, which opened at the Boston Film Festival and recently screened at the Globians Doc Fest in Stuttgart, Germany.

**Eugene Corr:** He is producing a documentary feature, *From Ghost Town to Havana*.

**Diana Fuller:** She is developing a documentary feature, *TRASH24*, with Debbie Brubbaker, Eli Noyes and Banker White.

**Pamela Gray:** She wrote the screenplay for *Conviction*, starring Hilary Swank, Sam Rockwell, Minnie Driver, Melissa Leo, and Juliette Lewis. The film was released by Fox Searchlight in the fall, had gala premieres at the Toronto and London Film Festivals, was the opening night film at the Mill Valley Film Festival, and was named Best Picture at the Boston Film Festival.

**Patricia Meyer:** Her family comedy, *The Ex-Boy*, will star young Jae Head (*Blind Side, Hancock*) and is slated for production in 2011. Packaging for her noir/thriller *Waikiki* is in progress, and she has a new one-hour drama series in development.

**Christopher Monger:** He wrote the screenplay for *Temple Grandin*, which aired in February on HBO, starring Clare Danes as Temple Grandin. The film garnered seven Emmys, a Voice Award, the Monte Carlo TV Festival Amade Prize

and three Satellite Awards, and Monger received a Humanitas Prize and was nominated for a Writer's Guild Award.

**Tom Rickman:** He is currently writing the Miles Davis story for producer Rudy Langrich (*Hotel Rwanda*).

**Lisa Rosenberg:** She is writing an American historical drama work-for-hire and marketing her adapted psychological drama, *Crawl Space*, for European producers.

**Camille Thomasson:** Her latest film, *Stacey Bess*, will air in April in a Hallmark Hall of Fame production for CBS. She is working with producer Bryan Gambogi on a feature film about Shirley Chisholm.

**Christopher Upham:** His feature-length documentary, *War Within*, was awarded grants from Pacific Pioneer and the Fleishhacker Foundation, and is in fine-cut stage. Current writing projects include a feature narrative for Cambodian-American director Daron Ker, and story consulting for arms trafficking expert Kathi Austin's African memoir for Paramount Pictures.

**Michael Urban:** He is currently working on a dark comedy, produced by Then Production and Bold Pictures, with David Duchovny attached to star. He is in post production on his first feature as director, *Longer Lasts Longer*. He has a television series with Warner Brothers that was slated to go to the networks at the end of 2010.

**Jason Wolos:** He is in post-production for his feature debut, *Trattoria*, produced in partnership with Jeremiah Birnbaum of Fog City Pictures. ■

Three of our screenwriting mentors penned stories that earned their leading actors SAG nominations this year: Claire Danes in Christopher Monger's *Temple Grandin*, Winona Ryder in Camille Thomasson's *Lois Wilson*, and Hilary Swank in Pamela Gray's *Conviction*.





**Massoud Alemi (09):** He was selected for the second round for the 2011 January Screenwriters Lab at Sundance for his script, *Dear, Dirty D.C.*

**Pamela S. Beason (07,04):** She signed a 3-book deal for her Summer "Sam" Westin mysteries from Berkley Prime Crime. The first book in the series, currently titled *Wild*, is scheduled to come out in autumn of 2011; the sequels in 2012. Her romantic suspense novel, *On Shaky Ground*, will be published by The Wild Rose Press ([www.thewildrosepress.com](http://www.thewildrosepress.com)) in ebook and POD forms in August 2011.

**Eva Benedikt (10,09):** She has written a trilogy of comedy features set in Italy, which was selected for a MEDIA development workshop in Europe last May and is now in preproduction.

**Sheri Davenport (08):** Her screenplay *Furies Rising* was the Grand Prize Winner in Cynosure's National Screenwriting Competition in the Female Category. *Lucky Christmas*, was just picked up by the Hallmark Channel.

**Skye Dent (94):** Her newly-created production company, The Roxbury Projects, is in development on a romantic war epic starring Dennis Haysbert, as well

as a contemporary romantic comedy and a sci-fi film noir. She also optioned the remake rights to Sidney Poitier's *A Warm December*. [www.theroxburyprojects.com](http://www.theroxburyprojects.com)

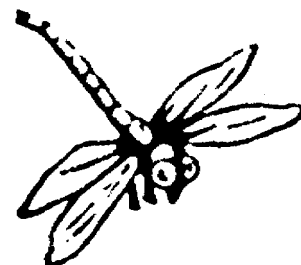
**William Farley (08):** Currently he is directing a documentary about one of San Francisco's own luminaries, Jerry Barrish, filmmaker, artist and bale-bondsman, produced by Janis Plotkin.

**Megan Feldman(10):** She is co-writer with Stacy Keane of *Tesoro*, a Latin American action thriller which made the second round at the Austin film festival and was a semi-finalist in Write Movies International. She was named a finalist for the PEN Literary Award in Los Angeles, for her cover story "Gimme Shelter."

**Noelle Foster (09):** *Martha and Dee Visit the Fifth Dimension*, which she wrote and directed, won Best Short Film at the San Francisco New Media Festival.

**Christina Ferguson (08):** Her original screenplay *The Last Trip* was a Sundance finalist in 2009, and a Nicholl semi-finalist and Austin finalist in 2010. Her new script is *Sensitive New Age Guys*.

**Ellen Furman (08):** She has written eight screenplays since attending Squaw, one of which, *Manuel*, was optioned by HBO.



**Lisa Gold:** Her short film, *The Death of Toys*, which she made as a participant in the AFI Directing Workshop for Women, recently premiered at the Anchorage Film Festival. She just received her first writing assignment; she will be writing a documentary on Muhammad Yunus and his Nobel Peace Prize-winning microcredit lending program in Bangladesh.

**Marjory Kaptanoglu (07):** She won the 2010 Slamdance short screenplay competition for her script *Dead in the Room*. Slamdance will produce the film and premiere it at their 2011 film festival. Her short script *Dearly Departed* was a finalist in the Page Awards contest. It was produced by So Rare Productions of Oakland, CA, and is currently under consideration for a major U.S. film festival premiere. *Aces Over Eight*, based on her award-winning screenplay, *Raise You One Dead Body*, premiered in June at the Seattle True Independent Film Festival. Her suspense thriller, *Graves Light*, was a top five finalist in the Santa Fe Writers Project and made the second round in the Austin screenplay competition. Her comic thriller, *Just Kill Me Now*, was a top five finalist in the ThrillSpy film festival screenplay competition.

**Stacy Keane (10):** She is co-writer with Megan Feldman, of *Tesoro*, a Latin American action thriller which made the second round at the Austin film festival and was a semi-finalist in Write Movies International. Her script *Sadie Hawkins*

Day was a 2010 Finalist in The Movie Script/Golden Brad Awards.

**Felicia Lowe (09):** See Profile on page 25.

**Carmen Madden (07):** She wrote, directed and produced *Everyday Black Man*, now making the festival route. It has won numerous awards, including Best Narrative at the Tallahassee and PanAfrican Film Festivals, and Best Feature at the Peachtree Village International Film Festival, and it was an official selection at the San Francisco Women's and Oakland International Film Festivals and the San Diego Black Film Festival.

**Nevada McPherson (09):** Her screenplay *Piano Lessons* was the first place winner of the Honolulu Film Festival Screenwriting Competition. She recently completed her first graphic novel, *Uptowners*, which is based on one of her screenplays.

**Amanda Micheli (09):** She is developing a short documentary film for ESPN in conjunction with the women's soccer world cup in 2011, as well as a project for HBO called *One Nation Under Dog*.

**Erica Milsom (10):** She is heading off to Cambodia to do research on the principal character in her film *Best Intentions*. She will be visiting with young women who have escaped from sex-trafficking and are working with local non-profits to redefine their lives. Additionally, she has started a new project, *Maria, Lucia and the White Lions*, the story of a returning Iraqi war veteran Maria Chacon.

**Kari Nevil (09):** She has just accepted an offer to direct *Santa's Dog* in conjunction with Animal Planet's *Pit Boss* reality TV show, to be filmed in the Bay Area in 2011.

**Nicole Oliver (10):** Her film *Chicken Dreams* was a finalist in the 2010 Sundance

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<http://squawvalleywriters.org/NotableAlumniScreen.html>

Screenwriting Competition. She completed a short script, *The Life of a Writer*, which she plans to direct.

**C. J. Palmisano (10):** Her screenplay *The Grand View* received third place in Cynosure's National Screenwriting Competition in the Female Category.

**Holly Payne (07):** She had a baby girl on April 2. Her novel *Kingdom of Simplicity* won the Benjamin Franklin Award for Best First Book from Skywriter Books. It was sold to publishers in the Netherlands and Taiwan. Holly is currently at work on a new novel set in medieval Bulgaria and continues to teach screenwriting at the California College of the Arts MFA writing program in San Francisco.

**Kimberly Reed (06):** Her much-awarded film, *Prodigal Sons*, is now distributed by First Run and opened in New York City in February 2010. She plans to shoot her narrative feature, *Please Check One*, late in 2011.

**Tamaira Reid (09):** Her screenplay, *Luna's Highway*, placed as a semi-finalist (top thirty) in the 2010 Nicholl Fellowship and as a finalist in the Zoetrope Screenwriting Competition. Frances Fisher (*Titanic*, *Law of Attraction*) has agreed to star as Luna. Presently in development, *Luna's Highway* is being produced by Squaw Valley alumni Cynthia Phillips and SF Film Commission member Debbie Brubaker. Discussions are underway with several Los Angeles-based production companies.

**Erich Stonestreet (06):** His latest satire with co-author Gan Golan, *The Adventures of Unemployed Man*, was published by Little, Brown in October 2010. He writes under the pen name Erich Origin. [www.unemployedman.com](http://www.unemployedman.com)

**Stephanie Storey (09):** She is a Consulting Producer for Tavis Smiley on PBS.

**Kaherawaks Thomason (06):** She was selected as one of four 2010 Ford Foundation Fellows by the Sundance Institute. This is a two stage development program of participation in the Sundance Institute Lab, which includes year round support, financial assistance and mentoring. Her original feature is entitled *Close to Death*.

**Mabel Valdiviezo (08-05):** She has joined forces with Spain-based producer Julia Steinweg to develop her feature narrative *Soledad's Awakening*. She is also in late development with her documentary *Prodigal Daughter*, which is being shot in Peru, Japan and the U.S.A.

**Gretchen Hayduk Wroblewski (09):** She wrote, directed and edited a short narrative, *Red*, in August, co-produced with a production company in Colorado.

**Yun Suh (08):** *City of Borders*, a feature documentary, had its world premiere at the Berlin International Film Festival and won the Teddy Audience Award. The film has now screened in over 90 festivals worldwide, has won 7 awards and continues to tour. It was broadcast on PBS for Pride Month in June. Currently Yun Suh is developing her next documentary.

**Derek Zavala (06):** He has a key investor and producer for his screenplay *The Long Walk* and is currently determining a budget and shoot schedule. He hopes to be in production later this year with a 2012 release. ■



## Participant Profile: Felicia Lowe



Eagle and American Film Festival Red Ribbon Award in 1980.

Felicia Lowe is an award-winning independent television producer, director, and writer with more than 30 years of production experience. When asked what drew her to attend the Community of Writers screenwriting program in 2009, she replied, "Writing can be isolating and when you've worked on a project for a long time, one can get tunnel vision, so I welcomed the opportunity to get honest feedback in a supportive environment." Her documentary, *Chinese Couplet*, is now in post production. She worked with Lisa Rosenberg on revising a treatment for the film, which was inspired by the revelation of a family secret that led her to search for answers about the circumstances surrounding her mother's illegal emigration from China to America.

Giving voice to the Chinese-American experience has been Lowe's consistent passion in filmmaking. Growing up in Oakland's Chinatown with two immigrant parents, Lowe says, "I had this profound sense of having to tell the stories to a world that never heard them before. As a culture, we were taught to have a low profile, to become invisible. Something was lost to us because of that." She created a documentary, *Chinatown*, for KQED's series *Neighborhoods: the Hidden Cities of San Francisco*, to tell the stories of the Chinatown behind the tourist façade. It premiered in 1996 to critical acclaim and received an EMMY for Best Cultural Documentary.

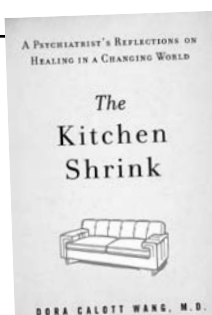
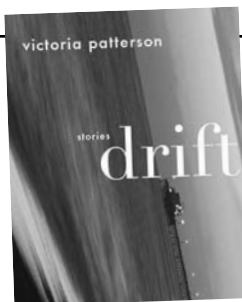
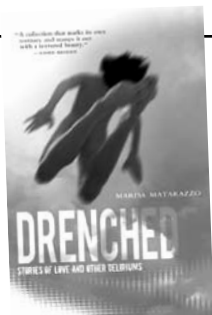
Lowe studied journalism at San Jose State and broadcast journalism at Columbia University before becoming a reporter and field producer in commercial and educational television. Her documentary *China: Land of My Father* was broadcast on PBS, received an EMMY nomination, and the CINE Golden

She went on to make *Carved in Silence*, a documentary partially funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities about the experiences of Chinese immigrants detained on Angel Island Immigration Station, where her father was held for three weeks. In the film Lowe looks at the Chinese Exclusion Act and the way Chinese immigrants were treated "almost like criminals" upon entering this country. Lowe says, "We have the most diverse population in America, and we have the most beautifully crafted ideals in terms of equality for all. And it's a story and a goal we chase after all the time. But it's not without its pimples. Those blemishes that defy some of our ideals are the very things we need to look at."

*Carved in Silence* won numerous awards, was broadcast on PBS and used in classrooms nationwide. The film helped raise awareness and funding for the preservation and restoration of Angel Island Immigration Station. In 2009 Lowe created multi-source audio track installations that are now played as part of the interpretative tour of the rooms where immigrants were detained. *Carved in Silence* will screen at the Chinese American Museum in Los Angeles on May 26, 2011. A discussion with Felicia Lowe will follow the screening.

Lowe is in the process of working on *Barefoot Historian*, which tells the story of Him Mark Lai, the "dean of Chinese-American history." Jason Boyce edited the trailer for the film which can be seen on her website: [www.lowedownproductions.com](http://www.lowedownproductions.com) ■





## Published Alumni Reading Series . . . . .

Each year, the Community of Writers has welcomed some remarkable writers back to Squaw Valley for the Published Alumni Reading Series to read from their books and talk about their journey from unpublished writers to published authors.



**In 2010 we featured these Published Alumni:**

**MARISA MATARAZZO** (06) is the author of *Drenched: Stories of Love and Other Deliriums* (Soft Skull Press, 2010). Her stories have been published in *Faultline* and *Hobart*. [www.marisamatarazzo.com](http://www.marisamatarazzo.com)



**VICTORIA PATTERSON's** (06) interlinked story collection, *Drift* (Houghton Mifflin Harcourt), was selected as one of the best books of 2009 by the *San Francisco Chronicle* and was a finalist for the California Book Award in First Fiction. Her novel, *This Vacant Paradise*, will be published in March 2011 by Counterpoint Press. [www.victoriapatterson.net](http://www.victoriapatterson.net)



**DORA WANG** (05, 04, 02, 01, 00) is the author of a memoir, *The Kitchen Shrink: A Psychiatrist's Reflections on Healing in a Changing World* (Riverhead). She has been the recipient of a Lannan Foundation writer's residency. [www.doracalottwang.com](http://www.doracalottwang.com)

**This coming summer 2011, we are pleased to feature:**

**ALIA YUNIS'** (04) novel *The Night Counter* (Random House, 2009) was chosen as a top summer read by the *Chicago Tribune* and *Boston Phoenix*. [www.aliayunis.com](http://www.aliayunis.com)

**JESSICA O'DWYER** (07,06) is the author of the book, *Mamalita: An Adoption Memoir*, published by Seal Press in 2010. [www.mamalitathebook.com](http://www.mamalitathebook.com)

**ALMA KATSU** (03) is the author of the debut novel, *The Taker* (Gallery Books/Simon & Schuster, June 2011). [www.almakatsu.com](http://www.almakatsu.com)

**SARA J. HENRY'S** (07,06) novel, *Learning to Swim*, will be published by Crown Books in February 2011. [www.sarajhenry.com](http://www.sarajhenry.com)

**MICHAEL DAVID LUKAS'** first novel, *The Oracle of Stamboul*, was published by Harper-Collins in February. [www.michaeldavidlukas.com](http://www.michaeldavidlukas.com)

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Author of *THE UNNAMED*

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# FREDERICK REIKEN

Author of *DAY FOR NIGHT*,  
coming in trade paperback, April 2011

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# ERIC ORIGEN

Co-author of *ADVENTURES OF UNEMPLOYED MAN*

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—Salon.com

# ALICE SEBOLD

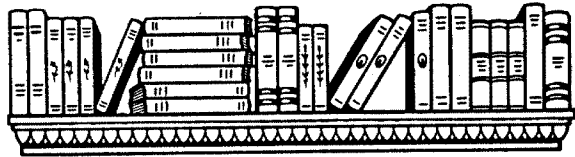
Author of *THE LOVELY BONES*

“A stunning achievement.” —*The New Yorker*

# LUIS ALBERTO URREA

Author of *INTO THE BEAUTIFUL NORTH*

“Magical.” —*Vanity Fair*



## WRITERS WORKSHOP STAFF NEWS

**Will Allison:** A second paperback edition of his first novel, *What You Have Left* (Free Press/Simon & Schuster, 2007), is being published in April 2011. His second novel, *Long Drive Home*, also from Free Press, is due out in May. [www.willallison.com](http://www.willallison.com)

**Bill Barich:** *Long Way Home: On the Trail of Steinbeck's America* was published by Walker and Co. in October.

**Michael Jaime-Becerra:** His novel *This Time Tomorrow* was released by Thomas Dunne Books in February 2010.

**Greg Bills:** His story "Before The Red" was published in *Fairy Tale Review*.

**Elise Blackwell:** Unbridled Books published her fourth novel, *An Unfinished Score* in 2010, and she had essays in *The Atlantic* and *The Chronicle of Higher Education*. The Portuguese translation of her novel *Hunger* (Fome, Livros de Areia) was chosen by *Ler* as a book of the year.

**Clark Blaise:** His 25th book, *The Meagre Tarmac*, stories of the India diaspora, will appear in April 2011 (Biblioasis). In September 2010 he was inducted as an Officer of the Order of Canada, his nation's highest civilian honor.

**James Brown:** His new memoir, *This River*, was just released by Counterpoint Press in March 2011. Counterpoint also reissued Brown's earlier memoir, *The Los Angeles Diaries*, which has been optioned

again, this time by producer Jude Prest of Los Angeles. He is Director of the M.F.A. Program in Creative Writing at Cal State San Bernardino.

**Alan Cheuse:** His newest novel, *Song of Slaves in the Desert: A Novel of Slavery and the Southern Wild*, has just been published by Sourcebooks this March.

**Mark Childress:** His latest novel, *Georgia Bottoms*, as just released by Little Brown.

**John Daniel:** His essay "East to the West" appeared in the March issue of *High Country News* ([www.hcn.org/issues/42.5/east-to-the-west](http://www.hcn.org/issues/42.5/east-to-the-west)) and will be included in the anthology *In the Manner of the Country: Living and Writing the American West* (University of Texas Press, Fall 2011). The paperback edition of *The Far Corner: Northwestern Views on Land, Life, and Literature* was released by Counterpoint in April 2010. One of the essays, "The Mother of Beauty," has been published in *Open Spaces* ([www.open-spaces.com/article-v10n3-jdaniel.php](http://www.open-spaces.com/article-v10n3-jdaniel.php)). Another, "Wavewash," appears in *ISLE (Interdisciplinary Studies in Literature and the Environment)*.

**Leslie Daniels:** Her novel, *Cleaning Nabokov's House*, was just published by Touchstone (an imprint of Simon & Schuster). The book has been selected for the Indie booksellers "Great Reads" list for March.

**Carol Edgarian:** Her new novel, *Three Stages of Amazement*, just came out from Scribner. The novel has been selected for the Indie booksellers "Great Reads" list for March.

**Karen Joy Fowler:** A new collection of stories, *What I Didn't See and Other Stories*, was published by Small Beer Press in September. Her story "The Pelican Bar" won the 2010 World Fantasy Award for short story.

**Lynn Freed:** Her short story "Sunshine," originally published in *Narrative Magazine*, has been selected for the 2011 PEN/O. Henry Prize Stories and is the first story from an online magazine ever to win an O. Henry Prize. [www.narrativemagazine.com/node/75289](http://www.narrativemagazine.com/node/75289)

**Dagoberto Gilb:** His latest collection of short fiction, *Before the End, After the*

*Beginning*, will be published this fall by Grove Press. He had short fiction published in *The New Yorker* (May 10—story and interview available online) and in *Harper's* (June) and a long essay in the Spring issue of *Callaloo*, which was reprinted abroad by the *Barcelona Review*. He also had an article about the poet Ai in the Fall issue of *Cimarron Review*.

**Molly Giles:** She won this year's Arkansas Arts Council Award for an essay titled "Nobody's Friend" which was based on a craft talk she gave at Squaw in 2009. The essay has just been published in *Gulf Coast*.

**DeWitt Henry:** His memoir, *Sweet Dreams: A Family History*, was published in December 2010 by Hidden River Press.

**Louis B. Jones:** His new novel, *Radiance*, will be published in May by Counterpoint

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Press. He has been publishing fiction and nonfiction in *Open City*, *The Threepenny Review* and various anthologies.

**Teresa Jordan:** She is well along with her year-long blog project, *The Year of Living Virtuously (Weekends Off)*, a meditation on the search for meaning in an ordinary life, inspired by Benjamin Franklin's list of 13 virtues and the 7 deadly sins. She blogs at [www.yearoflivingvirtuously.com](http://www.yearoflivingvirtuously.com).

**Nancy Kelly:** *Trust: second acts in young lives*, a documentary on the Albany Park Theater Project in Chicago, premiered at the Mill Valley Film Festival in October. Nancy directed, wrote and co-produced (with Kenji Yamamoto) the film.

**Adair Lara:** *Naked, Drunk and Writing: Shed Your Inhibitions and Craft a Compelling Memoir or Personal Essay* was re-released by Ten Speed Press (Random House) in August 2010 as a paperback.

**Michelle Latiolais:** Her collection of stories, *Widow*, was published by Bellevue Literary Press in February 2011.

**Bharati Mukherjee:** Her new novel, *Miss New India*, will appear in May 2011 (Houghton-Mifflin/Harcourt).

**Alison Owings:** Her latest oral history-based book, *Indian Voices: Listening to Native Americans*, was published by Rutgers University Press in April, 2011. [www.alisonowings.com](http://www.alisonowings.com)

**Frederick Reiken:** His third novel, *Day For Night*, was published this year by Reagan Arthur Books of Little, Brown. It was also published in the U.K. and Australia, and translations are forthcoming in French, Spanish, Dutch, and Hebrew.

**Elizabeth Rosner:** The paperback edition of her novel *Blue Nude* was released by Simon & Schuster in September.

**Martin J. Smith:** His as-yet-untitled

nonfiction book about the strange and wonderful world of competitive duck painting will be published by Bloomsbury in the fall of 2012.

**Gregory Spatz:** He received a grant from Artist Trust to continue work on a new novel, *Ice Masters*. He has a story forthcoming in *Epoch*.

**Andrew Tonkovich:** Lately he is book reviewer for *Riviera* magazine, with recent profiles of authors Peter Heller (*Kook*) and Leslie Brody (*Irrepressible: The Life and Times of Jessica Mitford*) and a "Best of" survey of Orange County literature.

**Susan Trott:** Her new book, *Flamingo Thief*, is available at Amazon.com. Her novel *Sightings* is still under option with Vox3 Films.

**Luis Alberto Urrea:** He won an Edgar Award, sponsored by the Mystery Writers of America, for his short story "Amapola," published in the book *Phoenix Noir*. He was also given an award from the National Hispanic Cultural Center for the breadth of his work in non-fiction, poetry, novel, short fiction, essay and memoir. His graphic novel, *Mr. Mendoza's Paintbrush*, with illustrator Christopher C. Vardinale came out from Cinco Puntos Press in June. The paperback of his novel *Into the Beautiful North* was also released by Back Bay Books in June. In 2011, the University of Arizona will re-issue of his first novel, *In Search of Snow*, and his story "The Southside Raza Image Federation Corps of Discovery" was published in the January issue of *Orion*. You can listen to him read it at [orionmagazine.org](http://orionmagazine.org).

**Al Young:** He is included in the anthology *Working Words: Punching the Clock and Kicking Out the Jams*, edited and introduced by M.L. Liebler (Coffee House Press, Fall 2010). ■

## The Pleasures—and Necessity—of Browsing

Alan Cheuse

Originally published in the Land's End catalog

For as long as I can remember, I've been a browser. But it didn't begin for me with books. My maternal grandparents owned a series of cigar and cigarette shops—candy stores, we called them in the family—and from an early age I'd find myself standing in front of the candy counter trying to decide among various bars of chocolate and commercial candy bars and malt balls and licorices, the decision especially difficult not because I could buy only one but because I could have any one that I choose without paying.

The same went for the comic books. My grandparents didn't allow me more than one or two free comics a week, though when it came time for garnering an allowance by doing extra chores around the house or running errands for my parents, both of whom worked a forty hour week and—the case of my father—more, I'd save and purchase more and more comics. Archie, The Heap, Superman—these were some of the "books" I chose.

And when it came upon me, like a slow-mastering fever, that it was books—mainly fiction—that I really cared about, I increased my browsing to an exponential level. In junior high school I found my way to the only book store—more a narrow hole in the wall, on our Jersey town's main street—and discovered my true addiction. My first? A paperback reprint of D.H. Lawrence's novel *The Plumed Serpent* in the old Vintage paperback—one of the first trade paperbacks—series. I treated this, and all subsequent purchases of these new trade reprints—made with cash from an after school job as a stock boy at a womens' sportswear shop a few blocks west—as old wine in new bottles. First I held the pages up to my nose, to take in the bouquet of the paper. And then I lavished my attention on the covers, front and back, all this before I even attempted to read a word. And when I finally did begin to read such work as this, alone in my room or sprawled on the front stoop of our row house a block from the Raritan River where it flowed into Raritan Bay, I savored the sentences, even as I rushed forward into the story.

When I saved enough money I bought new fiction, too, particularly horror and science fiction. How did I know what I liked? I browsed the shelves of our local store, reading opening pages, and snippets here and there from the rest of these books. Richard Matheson became one of my favorites, along with Alfred Bester, and Ray Bradbury, Robert Heinlein, and Isaac Asimov. I worked harder and put in for longer hours so I could buy a book a week.

I browsed the library shelves as well. That's how I found, much too early in my life as an unsophisticated reader, a copy of Ralph Ellison's *Invisible Man*, a novel that took me a number of false starts to catch up with, though I finally did, and have since reread it a few times for emphasis.

Thus I became a browser, and yes, browsing did it all. Remember the stacks of a university library, the row upon row of unanticipated pleasures you find there if you drift among them, dreamy and a little delirious with browsing? Imagine a world without bookstores, so that

*continued on next page*

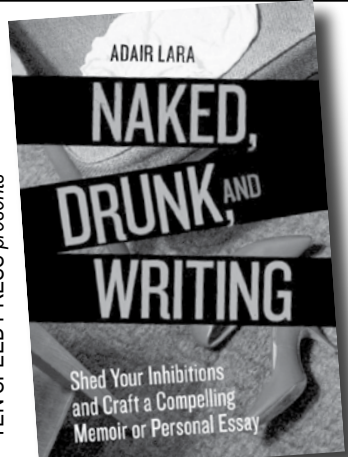


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A world of only on-line purchases is a world without serendipity, a world without accident, a world without spice and flavor. Think of all the good accidents we know in life, from our parents to our siblings to our choices—and how sorry we are that we can only be one traveler in certain circumstances—of friends and lovers and spouses.

Browsing is a form of dreaming. It's the way of the old world and new. I urge you—browse, browse! ■



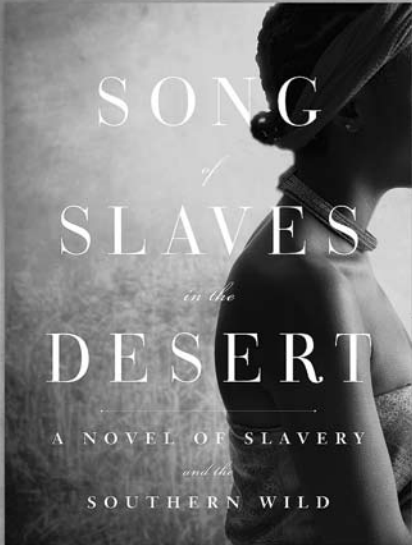
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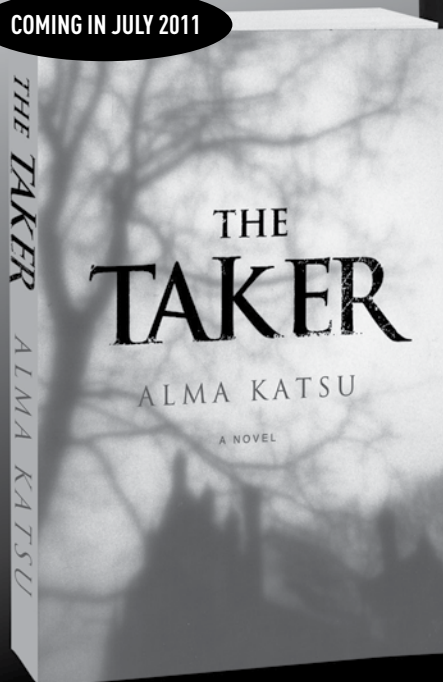
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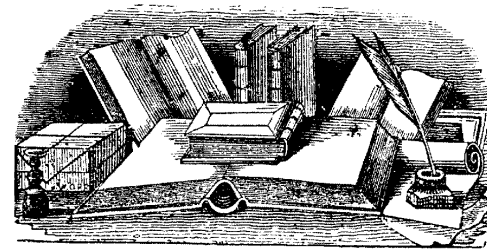
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## WRITERS WORKSHOP PARTICIPANT NEWS

**Richard Barlow Adams (93):** He published *The Parting: A Story of West Point on the Eve of the Civil War* in July.

**Emily Adelson Corngold (04):** *The Music Lover*, was a runner-up in the 2009 Miami University Press Novella Contest.

**Andrea Alban (04):** *Any's War*, her debut novel, which she brought to Squaw Valley in 2004, was just released by Feiwel & Friends/Macmillan in February 2011.

**Kate Amatruda (09,08):** "Suburbia" won an honorable mention in the 2010 Lorian Hemingway Short Story Competition, and three of her non-fiction articles were published: "Disaster in Haiti: A Personal Journey" in *The Therapist*, July/August, "Want to go to exotic (and sometimes not so exotic) places? Become a Disaster Mental Health Volunteer with the Red Cross!" in *Play Therapy Magazine*, September and "May the Force Be With You—Oh...You are the Force!" in the *San Francisco Disaster Medical Assistance Team CA-6 Chronicles*.

**Eddy Ancinas:** She won first place in the 2010 Nevada Magazine Writers' Contest for her essay "Back in the Saddle."

**Frederick R. Andresen (03):** His novella, *Dos Gringos* (workshopped at Squaw Valley), was released through Outskirts Press in April.

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

**Greg Bills (94):** See Writers Workshops Staff News.

**Elise Blackwell (90,88):** See Writers Workshop Staff News.

**Debra Borchert (05):** An essay she wrote about her experience in the South of France was published in the *San Francisco Chronicle* on May 9 as "Spirit of Resistance lives on in French village," and also in *The Writer* magazine's October 2010 Off-the-cuff column as "Not so picture-perfect."

**Denise Bostrom (WW 07; Screen 93,89):** She was one of the screenwriters for the award-winning documentary, *Children of the Amazon* ([www.childrenoftheamazon.com](http://www.childrenoftheamazon.com)), which was broadcast on PBS on Earth Day this past April. The premiere was featured on over 100 PBS stations nationwide and also carried by Link TV. One of her poems, "Meditation on the Breath," was published in the City College of San Francisco's literary journal, *City Lit Journal*, in May 2010.

**James Brown (94):** See Writers Workshop Staff News.

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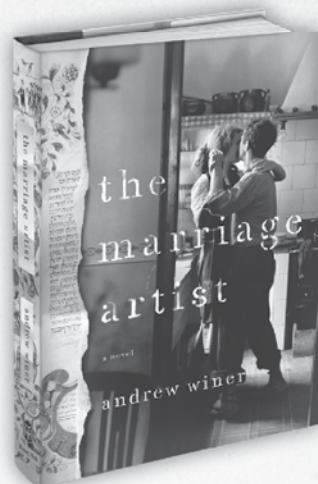
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**Colleen Morton Busch (04):** Penguin Press will publish *Fire Monks*, a non-fiction book in July 2011.

**Kate Campbell (08):** Her story "The Tao of Do-it-Yourself" won an Editors' Choice Award from the Fiction Writers' Platform. [www.fictionwritersplatform.net](http://www.fictionwritersplatform.net)

**Mauro Javier Cardenas (02):** An excerpt from *The Revolutionaries Try Again*, his novel-in-progress, was published by *Guernica Magazine* in their May issue.

**Julie Chibbaro (01,99):** Her second novel, *Deadly*, came out from Atheneum/Simon & Schuster in February. [juliechibbaro.com](http://juliechibbaro.com)

**Terence Clarke:** He published his newest novel, *A Kiss for Señor Guevara*, through Booklocker.com in June.

**Meg Waite Clayton (00):** Her third novel, *The Four Ms. Bradwells*, will be released by Ballantine in March. Ballantine will also release her first novel, *The Language of Light*, in paperback in June. She's working on a fourth, tentatively titled *The Wednesday Daughters*, to be published by Ballantine in 2013.

**Denise Emanuel Clemen (10,06):** Her essay "Holding Him Softly" was included in the anthology *Saying Goodbye* (Dream of Things, October 2010). <http://goodbyebook.com>

**Mark Coggins (WW 96; Screen 01):** His fifth novel, *The Big Wake-Up*, won the Independent Publishers Book Award (IPPY) in the crime fiction category. [www.markcoggins.com](http://www.markcoggins.com)

**Jody Cohan (94):** Her *What If Your Prince Falls Off His Horse?—The Married Woman's Primer on Financial Planning* won the Business Category at the 2009 San Francisco Book Festival. The book was also the runner up in the General Non-Fiction

Category at the 2009 New York Book Festival and was a finalist in the Women's Issues Category of The National Best Books 2009 Awards.

**Myfanwy Collins (05,04):** She won the Flatmancrooked Fiction Prize (judged by Benjamin Percy) and has been published most recently in *Mississippi Review*, *Potomac Review*, *Quick Fiction* and other venues. She is a consulting editor at *Narrative Magazine*. [www.myfanwycollins.com](http://www.myfanwycollins.com)

**David Corbett (WW 99,91,89,88; Screen 2001):** *Do They Know I'm Running* was published in March by Ballantine (Mortalis imprint).

**Eileen Cronin (09,06,05):** She had four stories published this year in *Slice*, *The Literary Review*, *Third Coast*, and *Coe Review*.

**Debra A. Daniel (01):** Her poetry chapbook, *As Is*, was published by Main Street Rag in 2009. She was the kick-off poet for the Sundown Poetry Series of readings at this summer's Piccolo Spoleto in Charleston, SC.

**Terry DeHart (96):** His first novel, *The Unit*, was published in July, as part of a two-book deal with Orbit Books.

**Jeanne Dickey (99):** Two of her poems, "An Elegy for Susan Atkins," and "The Shadow Man Visits a Babysitter" will appear in the April 2011 edition of *The Lineup*.

**Frank DiPalermo (09,05,04):** His short story "Body of Christ" was published in the on-line journal *Slow Trains*. [www.slowtrains.com](http://www.slowtrains.com)

**Heather Donahue (08):** Her book *Growgirl: The Blossoming of an Unlikely Outlaw* was bought by Gotham/Penguin and will be released in 2012. [www.heatherdonahue.com](http://www.heatherdonahue.com)



**Laurie Ann Doyle (09):** She won the 2010 *Alligator Juniper* national fiction contest. Her winning story "Wings Raised Up" appears in *AJ's* summer issue. Other recent publications include "Comfort" in *We Still Like* journal, "Voices" in *Dogwood Journal*, and "As If" in *Stone's Throw*.

**Merridawn Duckler (07):** She was given a National Endowment of the Arts Award for her performance piece "Guide to An Exhibitionist," which will appear at Los Angeles County Museum of Art, and her play *The Relatives* was accepted into the Emerging Female Voices Playwright Fest with the Manhattan Shakespeare Project.

**Katherine Easer (08):** Her first novel, *Vicious Little Darlings*, will be published by Bloomsbury in June 2011.

**Jennifer Egan (89):** See Profile page 51.

**Joshua Ferris (03):** His novel, *The Unnamed*, was published by Reagan Arthur Books (an imprint of Little, Brown).

**Sarah Flood (09):** The story she workshopped at Squaw in 2009 was accepted for publication in the *Santa Monica Review*.

**Jamie Ford (06):** His debut novel, *Hotel on the Corner of Bitter and Sweet*, won the 2010 Asian/Pacific American Award for Literature and has been published in 23 languages. His follow-up, *Whispers of a Thunder God*, was recently sold to Ballantine for release in Fall 2011. [www.jamieford.com](http://www.jamieford.com)

**Vicki Forman (94):** She won the 2010 PEN USA Literary Award for creative nonfiction for *This Lovely Life* (published by Mariner Books/Houghton Mifflin Harcourt in 2009).

**Amy Franklin-Willis (09,07,06):** *The Lost Saints of Tennessee* will be published by Grove Atlantic in January 2012 under the name A. E. Willis.

**Aleta George (10,05):** Her essay "Poetic Gesture: A California Crown for Lord Byron" was published in the Summer issue of *California*. Her work also appeared in *High Country News*, *Bay Nature* and the *San Francisco Chronicle*. She was the inaugural recipient of an Early California Fellowship from New Pacific Studio for her book-in-progress about Ina Coolbrith, California's first poet laureate.

**Jeff Gillenkirk (76):** He published his first novel, *Home, Away*, this year with Chin Music Press in Seattle ([www.chinmusicpress.com](http://www.chinmusicpress.com)). He has previously published the non-fiction book *Bitter Melon: Inside America's Last Rural Chinese Town* (Heyday Books).

**Lev Grossman (95):** He was married in May to the Australian novelist Sophie Gee. Their daughter, Halcyon Grossman, was born in June. His next novel, *The Magician King*, will be published by Viking in 2011. <http://themagiciansbook.com/> <http://levgrossman.com/blog/>

**Lise Haines (99):** Her third novel, *Girl in the Arena* (a young adult novel), was published by Bloomsbury in August. [www.lisehaines.com](http://www.lisehaines.com)

**Jane Hammons (08):** "All Bones," a prose poem, was published in *Poetry Quarterly*, Winter 2010, and she had short stories published in *decomp* (May 2010), *JMW* (Summer 2010), *A Twist of Noir* (August 2010), and *Crimespree Magazine* (July/August 2010).

**Michael Harris (08):** His novel *The Chieu Hoi Saloon* was published last fall by PM Press of Oakland.

**Susan Henderson (09):** Her debut novel, *Up From the Blue*, was published by Harper Collins in September 2010 and has been chosen as a 2010 Great Group Reads selection by Publishers Marketplace. Holland, Australia, and New Zealand have

bought foreign rights to the book. She has a weekly column at [thenervousbreakdown.com](http://thenervousbreakdown.com) called "The Evolution of the Book," chronicling the ups and downs of writing and selling her first novel.

**Sara J. Henry (07,06):** She has a two-book deal with Shaye Areheart. The first novel, *Learning to Swim*, was published in February. [saraainvermont.blogspot.com](http://saraainvermont.blogspot.com)

**Ann Hillesland (02):** In the past year, her fiction has appeared in *The Los Angeles Review*, *NANO Fiction*, *SmokeLong Quarterly* and in the anthology *A la Carte: Short Stories that Stir the Foodie in All of Us* from Main Street Rag Press.

**Vanessa Hua (08):** Her short story "The Deal" was published by the *Atlantic Monthly/Kindle* in September 2010. An essay of hers appeared in the *New York Times Magazine* in April, and her short fiction was published in the *Hopkins Review* in October. [www.vanessahua.com](http://www.vanessahua.com)

**Buzzy Jackson (WW 01; Screen 97,94.):** Her book *Shaking the Family Tree: Dispatches from the Frontlines of American Genealogy* was published by Touchstone in July 2010.

**Cindy Jones (07):** Her novel *My Jane Austen Summer* will be published by William Morrow/Harper Collins in March 2011. [www.cindysjones.wordpress.com](http://www.cindysjones.wordpress.com)

**Louis B. Jones (89):** See Writers Workshop Staff News.

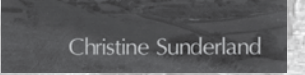
**Len Joy (09,08):** He has had short fiction pieces published in *Right Hand Pointing* (August 2009), *Pindeldyboz* (September 2009), *LITnIMAGE* (October 2009), *Dogzplot* (October 2009), *Bartleby & Stokes* (January 2010) and *The Foundling Review* (October 2010). His short story "Casualties," which was published by the Short Story Library in October 2009, was nominated for Dzanc Books "Best

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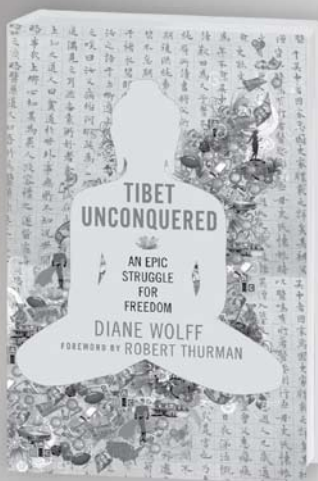
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of the Web 2010." An excerpt from his novel-in-progress, *American Jukebox*, was published in November 2009 by *Annalemma Magazine* as the short story, "Letting Go."

**Alma Katsu (03):** Her first novel, *The Taker*, was sold at auction to Simon & Schuster, who will publish it in September 2011 under the Gallery imprint. Italian rights were also sold.

**Dylan Landis (01):** She was awarded fellowships from the National Endowment for the Arts and the Virginia Center for the Creative Arts. Her debut novel-in-stories, *Normal People Don't Live Like This* (Persea Books), made *Newsday's* Top Books of 2009 and *More* magazine's Top 100 Books Every Woman Should Read.

**Jackson Lassiter (06):** He won the 26th Annual Larry Neal Writers' Award in the Fiction Category, sponsored by the DC Arts Council, PEN/Faulkner Foundation and the National Endowment for the Arts. His work has appeared this past year in *Spirits Literary Arts Magazine*, *Sin Fronteras*, *Poppyseed Kolache*, *Front Range Review*, *Tidal Basin Review*, *Gay City Volume 3*, *DuPage Valley Review*, *Yalobusha Review*, *Boiling River* and elsewhere.

**Michelle Latiolais (89):** See Writers Workshop Staff News.

**Krystn Lee (09):** Her collection of linked stories, *Drifting House*, and a novel called *How I Became a North Korean* were bought by Viking in an 8-bidder auction.

**Laurel Leigh (09):** *The Sun* accepted the story she workshopped at Squaw in 2009.

**Edan Lepucki (07):** She was featured in *Narrative Magazine's* "30 Below 30," a list of writers under 30 years old who have published exceptional work on its site. Her novella, *If You're Not Yet Like Me*, was published by Flatmancrooked Press.

**Paulette Livers (07):** She completed an MFA at the University of Colorado in May. After moving from Boulder to Chicago this summer, she visited the residency program at Artcroft, Kentucky, and was a contributor at the Sewanee Writers' Conference.

**Laura Glen Louis (WW 88; Screen 87):** A chapbook of her elegiac poetry, *Some, like elephants*, was published by El León Literary Arts in May 2010.

**Li Miao Lovett (06):** Her novel *In the Lap of the Gods* was published by Leapfrog Press in November 2010. Her essay about soul searching in Japan was a top-ten finalist in inspirational essay in the 79th annual *Writer's Digest* contest.

**Krista Lukas (03):** (formerly Krista Benjamin) She has new poems in *Margie* and the *Jewish Women's Literary Annual*. Her poem "Letter from My Ancestors" was translated into Russian by Aleksey Porvin and published in *Polutuna Magazine*.

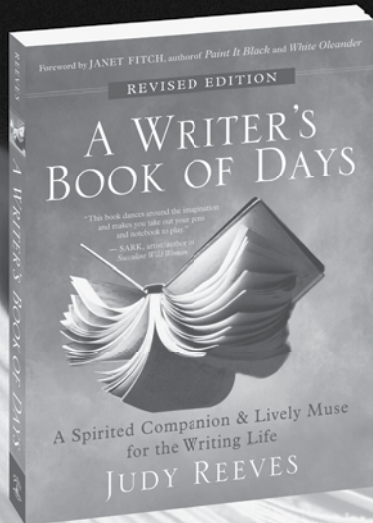
**Michael Lukas (09):** His novel *The Oracle of Stamboul* is due out in February 2011 from HarperCollins.

**Dale Madison (07):** His second book, *Sissy Sammy in the Land of WEHO 90069*, which he workshopped (and performed at Squaw during the Follies) was published in September.

**Annam Manthiram (10):** Her novel, *After the Tsunami*, is forthcoming from Stephen F. Austin State University Press (2011). Her short story collection, *Dysfunction: Stories*, was a Finalist in the 2010 Elixir Press Fiction Award and received Honorable Mention in the 2010 Leapfrog Press Fiction Contest. Her fiction has recently been published (or is forthcoming) in *Sierra Nevada Review*, *Monday Night*, *The First Line*, *Monkeybicycle*, *> kill author*, *Bananafish Magazine*, *Fantastique Unfettered*, *Word Riot*, *decomp*, *Jersey Devil Press*, *Moon Milk Review*, *Pank*, *Smokelong Quarterly*,



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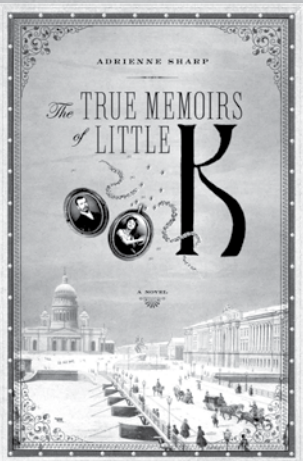
— SARK, artist/author of *Glad No Matter What*



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—Susan Salter Reynolds,  
*Los Angeles Times*

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*Grey Sparrow Journal*, *Camroc Press Review*, and three anthologies, and was nominated for the PEN/O'Henry Prize and inclusion in the *Best American Short Stories* anthology last year. Her short story "Why Won't You" also took first place in Bartleby Snopes' dialogue-only contest. [www.annammanthiram.com](http://www.annammanthiram.com)

**Robin Martin (99,97-95):** Her short story "On the Ocean Boulevard" won the Sanibel Island Writers Conference Contest and will be published in the Spring 2011 issue of *Mangrove Review*. "Same Initials as Jesse James" won First Prize in the 2010 Alabama Writers Conclave Short-Short category and received an honorable mention in the New Millennium contest. Her short story "1969" was honored at the 2010 San Francisco PEN Women Nob Hill John Keats Soul Awakening Competition and was published in the 2010 *New Orleans Review*. A 55-page segment of *Old Scores*, won Honorable Mention in the 2010 Long Story International Contest. *Old Scores* was also short-listed in the Cinnamon Press 2010 contest. She was awarded a residency from the Eastern Frontier Foundation. A short co-written screenplay, *My Happy Faces*, screened at The 2010 Los Angeles International Women's Film Festival and the 2010 Charlotte Film Festival.

**Christina Meldrum (05):** Her second novel, *Amaryllis in Blueberry*, was published by Simon & Schuster's Gallery Books in February 2011. Her first novel, *Madapple*, was a finalist for the PEN USA Literary Award and the William C. Morris Award, an ALA Best Book, a Booklist Editor's Choice and a Kirkus Best Book. [www.christinameldrum.com](http://www.christinameldrum.com)

**Anthony J. Mohr (08):** His essay "My Father Died Fifty Times" appeared in the Spring 2010 issue of *ZYZZYA*.

**J.W.M. Morgan (05):** His short story "The Patriots Are Three and Oh" will appear in

*Pearl 44* in 2011. His short story "Back Then We Knew" appeared in *The Talon Magazine* (<http://talonmag.com/>) in July. His short story "Poor William" appeared in *Schuylkill Valley Journal*, Fall 2009. [www.jwmorgans.com](http://www.jwmorgans.com)

**Lisa Braver Moss (03):** Her novel *The Measure of His Grief* was published in November 2010 by Notim Press. [lisabravermoss.com](http://lisabravermoss.com)

**Nami Mun (02):** Her story "The Anniversary" was published in *Granta 114*.

**Jessica O'Dwyer (07,06):** Her first book, *Mamalita: An Adoption Memoir*, was published by Seal Press in November 2010. [www.mamalitathebook.com](http://www.mamalitathebook.com)

**Lucia Orth (95):** "Departure," an excerpt from her second novel, was published in the *Asia Literary Review*, vol. 10 (Hong Kong). She also received an artist's grant from the Kansas Arts Commission and the National Endowment for the Arts, in support of her work on her second novel.

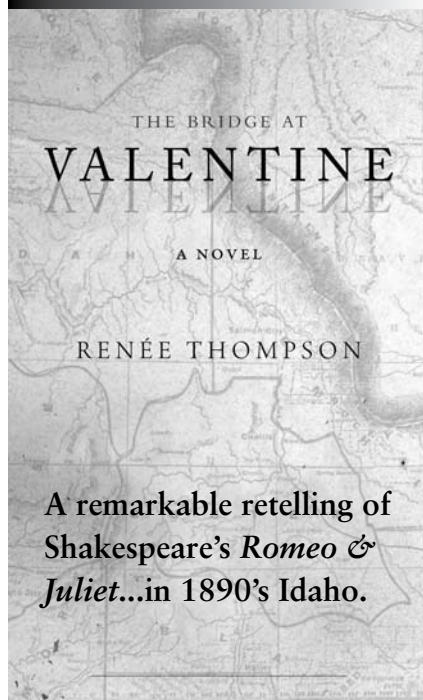
**Mary Otis (01):** She accepted a position with PEN USA as a literary advisor in The Mark Program. This past year she was invited by the NEA to attend the Guadalajara Book Festival as a fiction writer.

**Kim Palchikoff (04):** She received an National Endowment for the Humanities grant to do a large oral history on Russian circus performers in Nevada.

**Victoria Patterson (06):** Her novel, *This Vacant Paradise*, was just released in March 2011 by Counterpoint Press. *Drift*, her interlinked story collection, was selected as one of the best books of 2009 by the *San Francisco Chronicle* and was a finalist for the California Book Award in First Fiction. Her story "The Case of Violeta Lois Stokes" was in *Five Chapters*. "Nobody's Business" was published in the Fall & Winter 2010 edition of the *Alaska Quarterly Review*.



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*New York Times* bestselling author

**HARPER**

**Bill Pieper (10):** He published his new novel, *What You Wish For*, through Strategic Publishing Group.

**Shira Potash (08):** With her husband she produced and directed the documentary film *Food Stamped*, which follows a couple as they attempt to eat a healthy, well-balanced diet on a food stamp budget. The film was an official selection for the Mill Valley Film Festival.

**Yoav Potash (08,05):** With his wife he produced and directed the documentary film *Food Stamped*, which follows a couple as they attempt to eat a healthy, well-balanced diet on a food stamp budget. The film was an official selection for the Mill Valley Film Festival.

**Ismet Prsic (07):** His debut novel (... shards...) will be published in 2011 by Grove Atlantic. His short story "At the National Theater" is appearing in *McSweeney's Quarterly Concern* #36.

**Paula Priamos (97):** Her memoir, *The Shyster's Daughter*, will be coming out in spring 2012 with Etruscan Press. Her personal essays have appeared in *The New York Times Magazine*, *The Washington Post Magazine* and *The Los Angeles Times Magazine*.

**Jerry Ratch (06,05):** He published his memoir, *A Body Divided*, in November 2009 with Atelier Books of Santa Fe. [www.jerryratch.com](http://www.jerryratch.com)

**Judy Reeves (01):** The revised edition of her book *A Writer's Book of Days*, featuring a foreword by Janet Fitch, was released by New World Library, September 2010.

**Frederick Reiken (95):** See Writers Workshop Staff News.

**Sue Repko (06):** An essay, "Life from the Planet SAHM," was published in the anthology *I'm No Superwoman* from Coffeetown Press. [www.suerepko.com](http://www.suerepko.com)

**Harriet Rohmer (05):** Chronicle Books published her *Heroes of the Environment: True Stories of People Who Are Helping to Protect Our Planet* in fall 2009. It has been selected by *Booklist* as one of the 10 Best Environment Books for Children for 2010. She also received a Lifetime Achievement Award from Pen Oakland for her work with Children's Book Press, the award-winning publisher of multicultural and bilingual books, which she founded in 1975.

**Elizabeth Rosner (Poetry 99; WW 87, 83,82):** See Writers Workshop Staff News.

**Penelope Rowlands (91):** Her latest book, *Paris Was Ours: 32 Writers Reflect on the City of Light*, is due out from Algonquin Books of Chapel Hill on February 8, 2011. The book is a collection of essays about the transformative effect of living in Paris. Three of the pieces were contributed by members of the Community of Writers: Diane Johnson, Roxane Farmanfarmaian and Penelope. [www.peneloperowlands.com](http://www.peneloperowlands.com); [www.pariswasours.com](http://www.pariswasours.com)

**Kris Saknussem (00):** A thriller, *Private Midnight*, was published by the Overlook Press in 2009. It has since become a bestseller for Zanzibar Editions in France and has been sold in Italy to Rizzoli. In March 2011 Del Rey Books will bring out his third novel, *Enigmatic Pilot*. A new imprint of the Eraserhead Press in Portland will publish his collection of short stories, *Sinister Miniatures*, in May 2011. PS Publishing in the UK will publish a novella in limited edition hardcover in Fall 2011. [www.saknussem.com](http://www.saknussem.com)

**Eric Sasson (07):** In the past year, his stories have appeared in *The Nashville Review*, *The Ledge*, *The 2nd Hand*, *MARY Magazine*, *Trans*, and *The 2010 Robert Olen Butler Prize Anthology*. He was awarded a residency fellowship to the Anderson Center in Minnesota and was a

finalist for The Ivan Klima fellowship for the Prague summer program. His stories were finalists in the *Southern Indiana Review* and The Dana Awards competitions.

**Adrienne Sharp (98,88):** Her novel, *The True Memoirs of Little K*, was published by Farrar, Straus and Giroux in October.

**Laurie Sleeper (96):** Her short story "Naomi and the Writer" won the Page to Stage story contest, a collaboration between Stories on Stage and the Lighthouse Writers Workshop in Denver, CO. She won a cash prize, and her story was performed by Stories on Stage in November.

**Donald Sommerfield (03):** He wrote ten articles about his time as a homeless person for the *Ventura County Star*. He was also awarded second place in 2009 for his poem "Crashing" and first place in 2010 for his essay "Late Night Coffee" in the

writing competition Art Tales from the City of Ventura and E.P. Foster Library.

**Elaine Starkman (93):** She has a poem in the anthology *Child of My Child*, published by Literary Enterprises. She is currently teaching a poetry class for OLLI, Osher Life Long Learning Institute and will begin a prose class in January 2011.

**Janyce Stefan-Cole (04):** Her personal essay "Dad at the VA" was published in January 2010 in the journal *And Then*, volume 15. Her personal essay "My Sister's Diagnosis" was published in the Fall 2010 issue of *The Healing Muse*.

**Karen Stefano (08):** She published her first short story, "The Rule Against Perpetuities," in the journal *Ellipsis* in Spring 2009. *The South Carolina Review* published her second story, "Different But The Same," in its Spring 2010 issue. A

third story, "How To Read Your Father's Obituary" is forthcoming in *The Santa Fe Literary Review*.

**Alice Stern (09):** Her story "I Hear You Talking," workshopped at Squaw Valley in 2009, won third prize in *The Roanoke Review's* Fiction Contest.

**Brad Summerhill (04,98):** His debut novel, *Gambler's Quartet*, was released in July by Virginia Avenue Press.

**Christine Sunderland (05):** Her second novel, *Offerings* (OakTara 2009) won a bronze medal in the IPPY 2010 Awards (Independent Publishers Association). Her fourth novel, *Hana-lani* was released in December 2010 by OakTara. [www.ChristineSunderland.com](http://www.ChristineSunderland.com)

**Ellen Sussman (96,80):** Her new novel, *French Lessons*, will be published by Ballantine in May 2011.

**Luke Tennis (07,05,97):** He won a 2010 fiction writing grant from the Maryland State Arts Council. One of his stories, "Donuts," is on [Flatmancrooked.com](http://Flatmancrooked.com). His son Leo was born in December 2009.

**Renee Thompson (09,07,03):** Her novel *Bridge at Valentine* was published by Tres Picos Press in October. "The Plume Hunter" was the First Place Winner in the First Chapter/Novel category in the Focus on Writers Writing Competition, Fall 2009. Her short story "Farallon," which she brought to Squaw Valley in 2009, was a Story of the Week in *Narrative Magazine* in March. [www.reneethompson.com](http://www.reneethompson.com)

**Sheila Thorne (04):** Her short story "The Numbers Angel" was anthologized in *Texas Told'em* (Ink Brush Press, 2010).

**Jill Rosenblum Tidman (09):** Her short story "This is How I Saw It" was published in *14 Hills* in Fall 2009, subsequently won the magazine's Bambi Holmes Award for Emerging Writers, and was nominated for

## High Heat

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—ForeWord magazine

a Pushcart. She was also Second Runner-up in Fiction for Poets & Writers California Exchange Award.

**Lori Tobias (95,94):** One of her essays, "Going to the City," was a finalist in the *Narrative* Spring 2010 Story Contest.

**Andrew Tonkovich (WW 95,93; Screen 96):** See Writers Workshop Staff News.

**Jessica Maria (J.M.) Tuccelli (08):** Her novel *You Daughter Delicious* will be published by Viking Penguin in 2012. In June, she gave birth to her first child, Viviana Amélie.

**Martha Ture (95):** She married Jim Hill on October 21, 2009.

**Cynthia Walker (08,07):** A short story of hers, which she workshopped at Squaw Valley, placed second in the Rick Di Marinis short fiction competition. It was published in the February issue of *Cutthroat*.

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**David Walton (73,72):** University of Georgia Press has reissued *Evening Out*, his collection of stories, in paperback.

**Spring Warren (03):** Her book about growing her family's food in her yard, *The Quarter Acre Farm*, just came out from Seal Press. [www.thequarteracrefarm.com](http://www.thequarteracrefarm.com)

**Sheldon Weinstein (07):** He self-published *Comin' Up*, the book he workshopped at Squaw Valley in 2007.

**Tim Wendel (Screen 05; WW 89-86):** His latest book, *High Heat: The Secret History of the Fastball and the Improbable Search for the Fastest Pitcher of All Time*, will be out in trade paperback in February 2011. He recently signed to do a nonfiction narrative entitled *Sixty-Eight* for Da Capo Press. In addition, he received the Distinguished Professional Achievement Award from Johns Hopkins University for 2009-2010. [www.timwendel.com](http://www.timwendel.com)

**Naomi Williams (05):** She has had short stories appear in *A Public Space* and *One Story*. She was also a resident at Hedgebrook during the summer of 2010.

**Robert Steven Williams (06,04):** He had a story published in the comic book *CBGB OMFUG*, which is part of a series he executive produced. NPR picked it as Top Five Must Read out of this summer's Comic Con convention in San Diego.

**Andrew Winer (98,97):** His second novel, *The Marriage Artist*, was published

by Henry Holt & Co. in October.

**Diane P. Wolff (screen 84, ww 83):** Palgrave MacMillan published her *Tibet Unconquered: An Epic Struggle for Freedom* in September 2010, with a foreword by Robert Thurman. The book has been nominated for the PEN/John Kenneth Galbraith Prize for nonfiction.

**Tiphonie Yanique (05):** She has been named to the National Book Foundation's 5 Under 35 list, which recognizes five young fiction writers chosen by National Book Award Winners and Finalists. She also won a Rona Jaffe Writers' Award.

**Mingmei Yip (98):** Her third novel, *Song of the Silk Road*, will come out in April from Kensington Books. She is also writing and illustrating her second children's book for Tuttle Publishing. [www.mingmeiyip.com](http://www.mingmeiyip.com)

**Alia Yunis (04):** Her novel *The Night Counter* (Random House) came out in paperback in July, as well as in German and Norwegian. *The Night Counter* was selected by Target Stores as a "Breakout Novel, Emerging Authors" book for the months of September and October.

**Alexi Zentner (05):** His first novel, *Touch*, will be published this spring by W.W. Norton. *Touch* will also be published in Canada, the UK, Italy, France, The Netherlands, Israel and Korea. ■

### The Community of Writers Goes Social!

We have a page on Facebook where you can post your news, find writing partners, form groups and find out what's going on with your peers.

You can also follow us on Twitter, where we're learning to be brief!

You can access both from our website: [www.squawvalleywriters.org](http://www.squawvalleywriters.org)

## Participant Profile: Jennifer Egan



Erika Rohrbach, writing for *Kirkus Reviews*, describes Jennifer Egan's latest novel, *A Visit from the Goon Squad* (Knopf, 2010), as "the uncanny love child of conceptual insight gleaned from years of reading Proust and structural inspiration drawn from The Sopranos. Beset by time as the ultimate goon, Egan's richly eclectic cast of music-industry have and have-nots confront one another across three decades, multiple points of view, even a chapter written in PowerPoint." The book, Egan's fifth, is a finalist for three major awards—the PEN/Faulkner Award for Fiction, the *Los Angeles Times* Book Prize and the National Book Critic's Circle Award—and was on numerous top ten lists including *New York Times Book Review*, *Washington Post*, *Publisher's Weekly*, *Time Magazine*, *People Magazine*, and many others. But the writing life didn't always come easily for Egan.

Jennifer Egan made an unwavering decision to be a writer while on a trip through Europe before college: "My mother and step father were in the middle of divorcing. I just felt very alone in a big way, and at that point, in a fairly extreme state of fear and worry and just general flipping out, I became aware that writing was really critical for me."

So she focused on writing in college and started sending out stories early on, but says, "it all led to nothing for years. And then finally, I did sell a story to *The North American Review*, and then another one to *Boulevard* when I was 24." Then she wrote what she calls

"an unreadable monster of a novel" and after sending it around, remembers, "I had the horrible awakening that any writer knows of discovering that I had done something that everyone hated."

It was a difficult time. She had moved to New York, and was working as a temp. Then, at 26, she sold a story to the *New Yorker*.

This early success turned out to be a difficult experience, coming too soon in her career, she says. "That story really hung over me and cast a long shadow, and I felt that I would never even match it, much less top it." The following year, in 1989, she attended the Community of Writers. It wasn't until 1995 that her first novel, *The Invisible Circus*, was published. The story became a feature film starring Cameron Diaz in 2001. *Emerald City and Other Stories* came out in 1996, followed by her novel *Look at Me*, which was a finalist for the National Book Award in 2001. In *Look at Me*, Egan says she "set out to examine the impact of image culture on human identity. How, I wondered, has America's emphasis on display—on appearances, literal and metaphorical—altered the makeup of people's private selves?"

Playing with style and the formal structure of the novel has been important to Egan. "[In] what's come to be thought of the standard novel, there's no play at all with the artifice itself.... My impulse would be to play with that a little more." At the same time she acknowledges the importance of "emotional resonance" in the novel, and also lets enjoyment lead the process of writing. "I know that if I'm not having fun, the reader is not having fun. Fun is actually my best guide as to whether something is working or not."

In 2006 her novel *The Keep* was a national bestseller. Now she is working on a historical war novel. The mother of two children, she has published dozens of short stories and book reviews and regularly contributes investigative journalism pieces to the *New York Times Magazine* and other publications. ■





# All But Dissertation: a short short story

Janet Fitch

*From Janet Fitch's blog: [janetfitchwrites.wordpress.com](http://janetfitchwrites.wordpress.com). This is part of a weekly series of short short stories based on a writing exercise, The Word: Inspired by a simple word, chosen at random, write a two-page double-spaced story, using the Word at least once. The word for this story: CLIP.*

He sat on the sprung couch they'd found the summer before on 112th Street and clipped his nails over the floor. Maya could never convince him to do it over the wastebasket or in the toilet. You're so bourgeois, he said, resting his big foot on his knee. Like your whole family in Sherman Oaks. The invisible ironic quotation marks. Sherman Oaks.

He did it defiantly. She didn't believe only bourgeois people cut their nails over the wastebasket. Surely plumbers and bakers and machinists did too. People who worked in fast food. People who cleaned up in airports. Only a grad student of philosophy would think of it as liberation politics to cut his toenails and let the half moons fall onto the floor, those little sharp crescents gouging into her bare soles in the middle of the night.

She watched him, rain weeping down the dirty window behind him overlooking Broadway. The horns, honking out their impotency, echoed her mood. And tried to remember what she'd ever seen in him. His untrimmed beard. His glasses, taped in the middle. His habit of finishing the milk or the orange juice or the eggs and never telling her. As if food miraculously appeared in the refrigerator. His friends came over and drank whatever happened to be in the apartment, they seemed to believe in miracles as well.

She imagined Sartre. Would Sartre have done anything so disgusting as clip his nails over the floor and then accuse Simone of being bourgeois if she didn't like it? She hoped he hadn't. She knew it had been a problematic relationship. But she didn't think it was of the toenail nature. Buried in the same grave. She hoped their relationship, hers and Phil's would not last that long. Really, she hoped it wouldn't last another year. She wished she had the energy to end it, but something about him sucked the life out of her. It made her tired just thinking about it.

How long could the rain keep up? She sat on the bed, wishing Phil would go do something so she could have the apartment to herself for a while. But ever since he finished coursework for his PhD, he never left the apartment anymore. He was supposed to be working on his dissertation. But mostly he wrote long e-mails to colleagues in Germany and France, and, she suspected, watched internet porn when she was working. She'd never heard the term ABD until she'd met him. She thought you went to grad school, wrote your dissertation, you published, you began the road to tenure.

That limbo, that academic mangrove swamp. All But Dissertation. Since coming to Columbia, she learned PhD candidates could be ABD for years, becalmed between studenthood and life.

She'd once thought she and Phil would marry. She imagined brilliant, German-inflected children, Grethe and Marta and Jan. Like the Royal Tennenbaums. They would go to a progressive New York pre-school, make sculptures in clay and march against the war. Phil would play the guitar for them and take them onto the roof and point out the stars and the

George Washington Bridge.

Now she was just waiting. For the rain to stop. For Phil to go. Her friends said it must be working for her on some level, or she would leave. But they didn't understand the strange torpor that came over her.

Clip. Clip. Could you kill someone over his nail clippings? Would it be exculpatory? Please Judge, he knew all about the Tractatus Logico-Philosophicus but he never bought milk, and he clipped his nails over the floor.

She opened the window, startling two sheltering pigeons. The cacaphony of horns, the swish of the rain. It would end. It just had to. ■

## Dear Friends,

For many decades at Squaw we've been holding up a special kind of ladder. On the one hand publishers are always raking the slush pile for that elusive thing "talent" - or call it "truth and beauty" - and mostly regret its scarcity. On the other hand each summer our valley is brimming with serious writers and poets whose work may provide a full measure of truth and beauty were it to see the light. And during the week in Squaw Valley, light shines forth. And is often sent forth from our workshop tables.

Every summer we bring together poets for a week, and writers and screen-writers for another week, to explore the secrets of their crafts. We've done it in large part with financial help from people like you. Sometimes that single concentrated week seems to accomplish more than two years in graduate school (or toiling in solitude!) toward bringing creative people closer to realizing their hopes. As you will probably remember, it's an intense time, uplifting, bracing, difficult, always a learning experience.

I hope now to convince you to pay it forward for another writer. Many of you were recipients of some kind of financial aid. Some of you may still be strapped financially. Nevertheless, we hope you can send something. Or you may no longer be in school, may have a better job, or may have even seen your book published, and in such a most happy case, I hope you will consider sending us a larger donation.

We are all set for 2011, and we'll be there no matter what, unpacking the green chairs and the workshop tables and the author portraits to line our walls, preparing for the next group of writers to come up to 6200 feet. We do this in the faith that the work you do - communication, and the truth-and-beauty business - is the most wonderful, consequential work we've got.

Brett Hall Jones  
Executive Director

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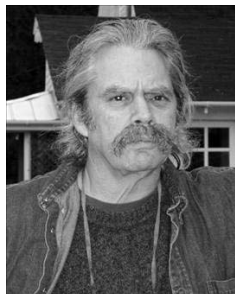
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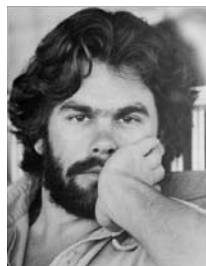
# Oakley Maxwell Hall III

## May 26, 1950 - February 13, 2011

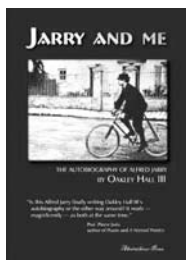


Oakley Hall III, eldest son of the late novelist Oakley Hall, was a playwright, director, and author. In the mid-70s, when he was a rising star in the New York theatre scene, his play *Mike Fink* was optioned by Joseph Papp of the Public Theatre. He founded and was the Artistic Director of the legendary Lexington Conservatory Theatre, in upstate New York, where his plays *Grinder's Stand* and *Beatrice and the Old Man*, and his adaptation of *Frankenstein* enjoyed their premiere productions. Lexington Conservatory Theatre moved to Albany in 1979 and continues today as Albany Rep.

In 1978, Oakley suffered traumatic and massive head injuries in a fall from a bridge. He eventually returned to California to live in Nevada City near his family; his play *Grinder's Stand* was produced by the Foothill Theatre Company, directed by Philip Sneed. The story of this production, entwined with Oakley's fall and the slow process of creating a new life, are movingly told in Bill Rose's award-winning documentary, *The Loss of Nameless Things*.



Oakley made a life-long study of the surrealist playwright, Alfred Jarry, and over the years translated several of his plays from the original French. In 2008, Hall moved to Albany, New York, to live with Hadiya Wilborn, who helped set in motion a collaboration with acclaimed puppeteer Ed Atkeson. This resulted in a production of one of those translated plays, *Ubu Roi*, at an Albany theater, Steamer 10, directed by Oakley, with Steven Patterson in the title role. In the fall of 2010, Moving Finger Press published Oakley's novel, *Jarry and Me*, in which Oakley intertwines a memoir of his own life with a sly "autobiography" of Jarry. One of the last sentences of the book is, "Jarry dies with a grin on his face." We are told that Oakley too had a grin on his face, at the end. As Oakley would say: "Merde."



He is survived by his two children, Oakley and Elizabeth, his mother, Barbara E. Hall, his sisters Sands Hall, Tracy Hall, and Brett Hall Jones, four loving nephews and a niece—Justin, Nico, Hunter, Dashiell, and Emma—and his chérie, Hadiya Wilborn.



## Contributors This Issue

LISA ALVAREZ is co-director of the Community of Writers' Writers Workshops and is a professor of the English department at Irvine Valley College. Her essays and short stories have appeared in journals and anthologies. With Alan Cheuse, she edited *Writers Workshop in a Book: The Community of Writers on the Art of Fiction*.

ALAN CHEUSE is the author of the novels *The Bobemians*, *The Grandmothers' Club*, *The Light Possessed*, and the award-winning *To Catch the Lightning*, collection of his travel writing, *A Trance After Breakfast*, plus several collections of short fiction. His new novel, *Song of Slaves in the Desert*, was just published this spring. Cheuse has been a regular contributor to National Public Radio's *All Things Considered* since 1982. His short fiction has appeared in *The New Yorker*, *Boston Globe Sunday Magazine*, *The Southern Review*, *The Antioch Review*, and elsewhere. His three-volume introduction to literary study, *Literature: Craft & Voice*, which he wrote with Nicholas Delbanco, came out from McGraw-Hill last year.

JANET FITCH is the author of the novels *Paint It Black* and *White Oleander*, an Oprah book selection, adapted into a feature film in 2002. Her most recent short stories can be seen in *Black Clock 7* and the anthology *Los Angeles Noir*. She teaches fiction writing in the Master of Professional Writing program at the University of Southern California. Online, she writes a blog: [www.janetfitchwrites.wordpress.com](http://www.janetfitchwrites.wordpress.com). [www.literati.net/Fitch](http://www.literati.net/Fitch)

BRETT HALL JONES has been the Executive Director of the Community of Writers for 18 years. Before that, she was director of catalogue photography for the San Francisco Auction House, Butterfield & Butterfield. She continues to be a photographer, focusing lately on author portraits.

MAXIMA KAHN is a poet, fiction writer and essayist. She teaches workshops on writing and creativity in Nevada County, California. She attended the Writers Workshop in 2010 and 2006 and the Poetry Workshop in 2007.

## You Might Want to Consider . . .

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**FAULTLINE:** UC Irvine's literary journal. [www.humanities.uci.edu/faultline](http://www.humanities.uci.edu/faultline)

**GREY SPARROW JOURNAL:** Annam Manthiram, copy editor (10). <http://greysparrowpress.net>

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**NARRATIVE MAGAZINE,** Tom Jenks, Carol Edgarian, editors (staff). <http://narrativemagazine.com>

**NIGHT TRAIN,** Alicia Gifford (04), fiction editor. [www.nighttrainmagazine.com](http://www.nighttrainmagazine.com)

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