

OMNIUM GATHERUM
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2011-2012

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COMMUNITY OF WRITERS AT SQUAW VALLEY
OMNIUM GATHERUM & NEWSLETTER
2011-2012, Issue 16

Community of Writers at Squaw Valley

A Non-Profit Corporation #629182
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Maxima Kahn
with support and advice from
Brett Hall Jones

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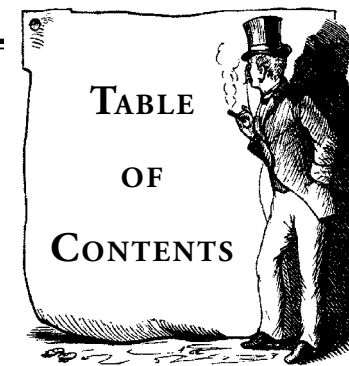
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PLEASE NOTE: *We are not able to fact-check
the submitted news. We apologize if any
incorrect information is published.*



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COMMUNITY OF WRITERS



Squaw Valley California SUMMER WRITING WORKSHOPS

Financial Aid available

Application Deadlines

April 2 for all programs

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2012

POETRY WORKSHOP: JUNE 23-30

Kazim Ali • Robert Hass • Sharon Olds
Claudia Rankine • C.D. Wright

WRITERS WORKSHOPS: July 7 - 14

Max Byrd • Ron Carlson • Mark Childress
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SCREENWRITING: July 7 - 14

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

Eugene Corr • Jacob Forman • Pamela Gray
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A Note from the Editor

Welcome to the *Omnium Gatherum & Newsletter!*

I hope you find our latest issue informative, engaging and enjoyable. In addition to the usual remarkable smorgasbord of news from past participants and staff, which shows us that the publishing of worthy literature is *definitely* still happening and interesting film projects *are* being made, we also have some profiles of past participants to inspire you, and some fun articles, some remembrances, photos, musical tips and more. Just enough to give you a leisurely few coffee breaks and then we hope you'll get back to writing!

I want to extend a special thanks to those who make it possible for us to publish the *Omnium* each year by advertising in our pages. We are very grateful for your support.

We all know that writing is a solitary activity. Yet, at the same time, writing is a form of communication with at least one intended reader, even if that reader is only imagined. Balancing the need for solitude and for community is a challenge that faces every artist. We cannot neglect the communal aspect of writing if we expect our writing to continue to flourish. In the lively exchange of ideas and expression, in the daring act of sharing our words, we grow, learn, are shaped and enriched by our confluence with others. It is

our hope that you find some sense of community in these pages and that you also join us this summer for a much deeper experience of the Community of Writers. —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. **Deadline: October 1, 2012 for next issue.**

*We dedicate this issue of the
Omnium Gatherum & Newsletter
to the memory of our co-founder
Blair Fuller and to the memory of
dear friend and colleague Henry
Carlisle.*

C.D. Wright Receives Lenore Marshall Award

In August, Squaw Valley staff member C.D. Wright's *One With Others* was awarded the 2011 Lenore Marshall Poetry Prize, which is given by the Academy of American Poets in recognition of the most outstanding book of poetry published in the previous year. Poets Mei-me Berssenbrugge, D.A. Powell, and Martha Ronk were the judges.

Chronicling her mentor 'V,' the only white woman to join a protest march through Arkansas in 1969, the book has been described by judge Martha Ronk as "passionate, funny, and elegiac... Wright's graceful and startling ability to move seamlessly from the elegant to the down-to-earth, from racial history to the cost of a head of lettuce, and from her words to the words of others creates an all-encompassing world including both V's feisty heroism—"Just to act, was the glorious thing"—and 'the long-lingering olfaction of home, whether from the faint cut of walnuts spoiled in the grass or a sour work shirt on a rotted railing'. Wright describes V as a mind on fire; as readers we witness this throughout: 'Harry says, What we really want from our time on this planet, is that which is not this, we want the ethical this; we want to feel and transmit.'"

About poetry, Wright has remarked: "Poetry is a necessity of life. It is a function of poetry to locate those zones inside us that would be free, and declare them so."



Photo: Tracy E. Hall

Dean Young Gets a New Heart

This past April was eventful for Dean Young. After a decade of living with a degenerative heart condition he received a heart transplant. A few days later his latest collection, *Fall Higher*, was published by Copper Canyon Press.

In *Fall Higher* Dean confronts death. He told NPR's Renee Montagne: "I think that's one of the jobs of poets: They stare at their own death and through it they still see the world — the world of 10,000 things," Young says. "Poetry is about time running out, to some extent. You can think of that purely formally — the line ends, the stanza ends and the poem itself ends."

But the book is not gloomy. In a preface to an interview with Dean in August, Failbetter.com states, in this book "he pairs absurdity and tragedy, creating moments of comic delight with moving revelations." Discussing the title, Dean says: "I certainly don't believe in the making of art as a pursuit of perfection, rather the exploration of errors and stumbles, smudges and yips. In *The Art of Recklessness*, I write about getting better at not knowing what you're doing.... Art may be made carefully but it's never made by the careful."

We're very glad you're still with us and still writing, Dean.



Kazim Ali: In 2011 Tupelo Press published his new book *Fasting for Ramadan: Notes from a Spiritual Practice*. Also in 2011 Omnidawn published his translation of Iranian poet Sohrab Sepehri's poem *Water's Footfall*. In spring 2012 the University of Michigan Press will publish *Jean Valentine: This-world Company*, edited by Kazim Ali and John Hoppenthaler.

Jimmy Santiago Baca: His newest collection, *Breaking Bread with the Darkness: Book 1: The Esai Poems*, was published by Sherman Asher in April. He co-authored, with ReLeah Cosset Lent, *Adolescents On The Edge*, a guidebook for teaching at-risk adolescents. (Heinemann, 2011). Daniel Califf-Glick is directing a feature length documentary based on Baca's memoir, *A Place to Stand* (www.aplacetostandmovie.com).

Lucille Clifton: BOA Editions will release *The Collected Poems of Lucille Clifton* in September. The collection will include all of her published poems, plus a few unpublished ones, edited by Kevin Young with an introduction by Nobel laureate Toni Morrison.

Forrest Gander: He is the recipient of the 2011 Library of Congress Witter Bynner Fellowship. His book of poems *Core Samples from the World* (poetry, photos,

haibun) was published by New Directions in June and has been nominated for the National Book Critics Circle Award. His translations of the poems of Pura Lopez Colome, *Watchword*, was published by Wesleyan University Press in February 2012. His translation of *Spectacle & Pigsty*, *Poems of Kiwao Nomura* was released by OmniDawn in September.

Robert Hass: *What Light Can Do: Essays on Art, Imagination, and the Natural World* will be published by Ecco Press/HarperCollins in May.

Cathy Park Hong: Her third collection, *Engine Empire* will be released by Norton in May. The summer issue of the *Paris Review* included a series of her poems.

Yusef Komunyakaa: His latest collection of poems, *The Chameleon Couch*, was released by Farrar, Straus and Giroux in 2011 and has been nominated for the National Book Critics Circle Award. He is the recipient of the 2011 Wallace Stevens Award.

Dorianne Laux: Her latest collection of poems, *The Book of Men*, was published in February 2011 by W. W. Norton & Company and was awarded the Roanoke-Chowan Award for Poetry.

Claudia Rankine: She is the winner of the Busboys and Poets prize of Virginia's

Fall for the Book Festival, joining Amy Tan, Stephen King and Mary Karr as the prize winners for this year's festival.

Evie Shockley: Her critical book, *Renegade Poetics: Black Aesthetics and Formal Innovation in African American Poetry*, was published in October 2011 by University of Iowa Press. Her most recent poetry collection, *the new black* (Wesleyan), was named by Library Journal as one of the Best Books of 2011.

C.D. Wright: The Academy of American Poets announced that her collection *One With Others* (Copper Canyon Press) was chosen by poets Mei-mei Berssenbrugge, D.A. Powell, and Martha Ronk to receive the 2011 Lenore Marshall Poetry Prize,

for the most outstanding book of poetry published in the previous year. New Directions has published a facsimile of the 1923 edition of William Carlos Williams' *Spring and All* with a new introduction by C.D. Wright.

Dean Young: After a successful heart transplant, his newest collection of poems, *Fall Higher*, was published by Copper Canyon Press in April. He had a poem in the Fall issue of *The Threepenny Review*.

Kevin Young: His newest collection, *Ardency: A Chronicle of the Amistad Rebels*, was published by Alfred A. Knopf. He had a poem in the September 2011 issue of *Poetry*. ■

Spring Reign By Dean Young

Thank you whoever tuned the radio
to rain, thank you who spilled
the strong-willed wine for not
being me so I'm not to blame. I'm glad

I'm not that broken tree although
it looks sublime. And glad I'm not
taking a test and running out of time.
What's a tetrahedron anyway? What's

the sublime, 3,483 divided by 9,
the tenth amendment, the ferryman's name
on the River Styx? We're all missing
more and more tricks, losing our grips,

guilty of crimes we didn't commit.
The horse rears and races then moves no more,
the sports coupe grinds to a stop, beginning
a new life as rot, beaten to shit, Whitman

grass stain, consciousness swamp gas,
the bones and brain, protoplasm and liver,
ground down like stones in a river. Or does
the heart's cinder wash up as delta froth

out of which hops frog spawn, dog song,
the next rhyming grind, next kid literati?
Maybe the world's just a bubble, all
philosophy ants in a muddle,

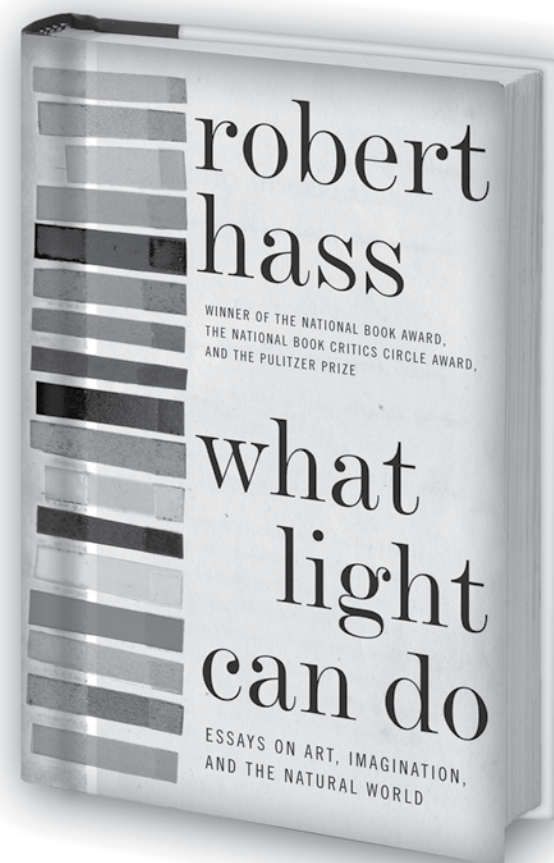
an engine inside an elk's skull on a pole.
Maybe an angel's long overdue and we're
all in trouble. Meanwhile thanks whoever
for the dial turned to green downpour, thanks

for feathery conniptions at the seashore
and moth-minded, match-flash breath.
Thank you for whatever's left.

Source: *Poetry* (February 2012).

FROM RENOWNED POET ROBERT HASS, A WIDE-RANGING COLLECTION OF ESSAYS ON WRITERS, POETRY, AND PHOTOGRAPHY.

COMING
AUGUST
2012



FROM THE WINNER OF
THE NATIONAL BOOK AWARD
THE NATIONAL BOOK CRITICS CIRCLE AWARD
AND THE PULITZER PRIZE



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Participant Profile: Sarah Maclay



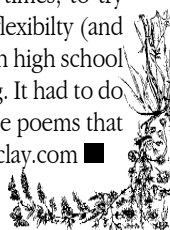
Sarah Maclay was born in Montana, where she grew up surrounded by the Sapphire and Bitterroot mountains. As a child she began to write early, but also to sing, play the piano and guitar, dance, paint, draw and act. She wrote passionately through high school and in her early twenties, majoring in English at Oberlin, exploring photography and performance art and performing as a singer/songwriter. Her first chapbook, a letterpress edition in hardback and paper, was released by Black Stone Press in 1979. Then she worked at the *Seattle Sun*, the Seattle International Film Festival and Egyptian Theatre before moving to Los Angeles to pursue an interest in film.



It was in Los Angeles that poetry came back into her life full force. In 1996 she started attending weekly workshops at The Midnight Special and Beyond Baroque and going to readings in the thriving poetry community there. "I also found that every other art form I'd spent time with and loved, and all the life experience—none of this was wasted. Poetry opened to include everything," she admits. Soon, she found herself giving readings, leading workshops, helping to host readings, publishing and editing. She went on to get an MFA from Vermont College, which gave rise to her first full-length collection, *Whore*, which was published in 2004.

Now she is the author of three poetry collections—*Music for the Black Room* (2011), *The White Bride* (2008) and *Whore* (all from University of Tampa Press), three chapbooks, and *Fugue States Coming Down the Hall* (collected in *Scenarios: Scripts to Perform*). Her poems and criticism appear widely, in such publications as *APR*, *Ploughshares*, *FIELD*, *The Writer's Chronicle*, *VerseDaily*, *The Best American Erotic Poems: from 1800 to the Present*, *The Laurel Review*, and *Poetry International*, where she serves as Book Review Editor. A Grisham Visiting Writer in 2009, her honors include a special mention in *Pushcart Prize XXXI*, an Albert and Elaine Borchard Fellowship and the Tampa Review Prize in Poetry (for *Whore*). She has taught creative writing and literature courses in poetry at Loyola Marymount University since 2005, as well as conducting workshops at Beyond Baroque, the Ruskin Art Club and for LMU Extension. She is currently completing "*She*", a braided collaboration of fifty poems each, with the poet Holaday Mason (a Squaw Valley alum).

Sarah Maclay attended the Community of Writers Poetry Workshop in 1997 and again in 2006. Of the experience she says, "The requirement of writing a poem a day taught me lessons I still use, most notably: pay attention to what you're paying attention to. The wall most people hit on about day four was very productive for me because it forced me, both times, to try new ways to generate work. It's a lovely form of desperation—forces an internal flexibility (and sometimes sense of humor)." In discussing what she values in poetry, she says, "In high school it became clear to me that what felt like a "poem" had nothing to do with rhyming. It had to do with being carried into a certain deep space. I've broadened my definition, but the poems that move me most are still the ones that allow this kind of transport." www.sarahmaclay.com ■



POETWATCH POETRY PARTICIPANTS

Tory Adkisson (11): His poems are forthcoming in *Cave Wall*, *Hayden's Ferry Review*, *Painted Bride Quarterly*, *Cream City Review*, *Pebble Lake Review*, *Hawai'i Review*, *Rougarou*, *Quarterly West*, *Salamander* and *Third Coast*.

Andrew Allport (03): He won the 2011 New Issues Poetry Prize for his manuscript *the body | of space | in the shape of the human*. David Wojahn judged. The book was published in early 2012.

Jill Battson (06,94): Her new collection of poems, *The Ecstatic Torture of Gratitude*, was published in October by Guernica Editions.

Judy Bebelaar (10,08): Her poems have been published this year in four online magazines: *Folly.com*, *Stickman Review*, *Canary* and *decomp*. She is also co-host of a reading series in Berkeley, sponsored by the Bay Area Writing Project, where a group of fellow Squaw poets read this year.

Lucy Diamond Biederman (11): Her chapbook *The Other World* will be published by dancing girl press in May 2012.

Toby Bielawski (09,02): *Five Kinds of Fences* won the New Word Order

Chapbook Contest and has been published by Drafty Attic Press. She also has poems appearing in *Spillway*, *Verse Wisconsin* and *Madroad: The Breadline Press West Coast Anthology*, and has been selected as Poet Laureate of Albany, California.

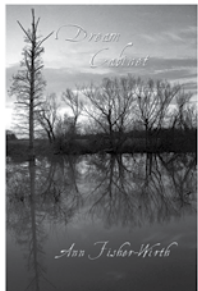
Michelle Bitting (05): Her latest manuscript, *Notes to the Beloved*, won the Sacramento Poetry Center Book Award. She is making poem-films (two new ones recently debuted online in *Zines*), and she won the Beyond Baroque Foundation Award for her poem "Permeable, Smitten." www.michellebitting.com

Brent Calderwood (11): Mark Doty chose one of his poems as the winner of the 2011 AQLF Broadside Contest. Altqueerlitfest.blogspot.com

Fran Castan (92): Her collection of poems *Venice: City That Paints Itself*, with paintings by Lewis Zacks, was published by Canio's Editions in February 2011.

Sharon Charde (07,03,00): This past year her poems were published (or are forthcoming) in *Broad River Review*, *The Poet Touchstone*, *Mudfish 17* and the *Sow's Ear Review*. She received Honorable Mention in the 2011 Passager contest for her poem "Paper Dolls" and first prize

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



Ann Fisher-Wirth reminds us that the earth's uncertain passage is inextricable from our own as she deftly interweaves the political with the personal—crafting again and again “the made thing out of the sheltering darkness.”

—Claudia Emerson, author of *Late Wife*

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—Camille T. Dungy, author of *Smith Blue*

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dissolve

poems by Holaday Mason

“Mason is a poet who knows ‘the limits of language/fill the sky,’ and it is into that vastness that she breathes these daring, beautiful words.”

—Natasha Trethewey



NEW RIVERS PRESS 2011 WWW.NEWRIVERSPRESS.COM

in the New Hampshire Poetry Society's 2011 contest for “What It Was,” as well as receiving honorable mention for “Feasting On Our Detritus.” The BBC has adapted her book *Branch In His Hand* and related poems as a radio play, to be broadcast in 2012, starring Meryl Streep.

Amanda Chiado (Poetry 04; WW 03): She has poems in the journals *Forklift*, *Ohio* and *Sweet and Witness*.

Ewa Chrusciel (10,08): Her book of prose poems, *Strata*, was the winner of the Emergency Press International Book Contest and was published in March 2011.

Catharine Clark-Sayles (11,09): Tebot Bach will publish her second book of poetry, *Lifeboat*, in 2012. Five poems from her upcoming chapbook, *All Hallows Eve at the Edgewater Inn*, were published online at Locuspoint.org in October.

Judy Brackett Crowe (Poetry 08; Screen 90; WW 89-86): One of her poems appeared in the Spring/Summer 2011 issue of *A Prairie Journal*; another poem will be included in the 2012 anthology *The Untidy Season: Nebraska Women Poets* (The Backwaters Press). She had short stories published in *Front Porch Review* and *The Waterhouse Review*.

Shira Dentz (05): One of her poems was selected for the Poem-A-Day on Poets.org.

Charles Douthat (09,04): In February 2011 his first book of poems, *Blue for Oceans*, won the L.L. Winship/Pen New England Award for the best book of poetry by a New England writer. Three poems from the book have since been featured on Garrison Keillor's Writers Almanac, and two others online at Poetry Daily and Verse Daily. www.charlesdouthat.com.

Kasia Drake-Hames (04): She gave birth to a baby boy, Charles Severus, in July.

Rebecca Farivar (08): Her full-length poetry collection, *Correct Animal*, was published by Octopus Books in July, and her chapbook *American Lit* was published by dancing girl press in May. Individual poems appeared in *Denver Quarterly*, *RealPoetik* and *Truck*.

Ann Fisher-Wirth (09,00,92): Her fourth book of poems, *Dream Cabinet*, is forthcoming from Wings Press in April; it was completed during a residency at Hedgebrook. Her coedited *Ecopoetry: A Contemporary American Anthology* will appear from Trinity UP in spring 2013. Recent poems appear in *Cerise*, *Copper Nickel*, *Interim*, *Sentence*, *Poecology*, *Poemeleon* and *Adanna*.

CB 'Lyn Follett (04,00,95): She had two books published this year. The first, *Houses*, was released last spring by Tebot Bach Press. It is a poem in several sections about building imaginative houses out of creative materials. The second, a collection of poems, *One Bird Falling*, came out in October from Time Being Books.

Stephanie Ford (11): Her poems have appeared or are forthcoming this year in *Tin House*, *Lo-Ball*, *La Petite Zine* and *Harvard Review*. She was a finalist for the Iowa Review Award for Poetry.

Marcene Gandolfo (03): Her poems have recently appeared in *DMQ Review*, *Inertia Magazine*, *California Quarterly*, *Red Rock Review*, *Sow's Ear Poetry Review*, *Georgetown Review* and *Inkwell Magazine*.

Sandra Giedeman (95,93): Her poem “Autumn Flight” was published in *Assisi*.

Veronica Golos (09): *Vocabulary of Silence*, her latest poetry book, has won the New Mexico Book Award.

Hillary Gravendyk (10): Her book of poems *Harm* was published by Omnidawn Press in the fall of 2011. The book includes several poems written at Squaw. She also received the Lana Turner open poetry prize for her poems "Night Wing" and "Exuberance."

Judy Halebsky (06,03): Her chapbook *Space, Gap, Interval, Distance* will be published this spring by Sixteen Rivers Press. Her poems have recently appeared in *Ping Pong*, *Sow's Ear* and *Hotel Amerika*.

Christine Hemp (06): Her debut collection of poems, *That Fall*, was released in May by Finishing Line Press. Several of the poems were written at Squaw Valley. www.christinehemp.com

Brad Henderson (06): He has recently published poems in *The Journal*, *The Asheville Review*, *Fourteen Hills* and *The Louisville Review*. His poetry book manuscript, *The Secret Cowboy: the Life and Times of the Rebel Poet Beau Hamel*, was named a semi-finalist for University of Arkansas Press' 2011 Miller Williams Poetry Book Prize. Brad will be co-directing the 2012 San Francisco Writers Conference's poetry track. www.bradhenderson.net

Christina Hutchins (06,03): Her debut collection of poems, *The Stranger Dissolves*, was released by Sixteen Rivers Press in April.

Linda Jaffe (11): Her poem "Eventide" was published in the on-line journal, *Locuspoint*. Another poem, "1962," appeared in *Generations*.

Alice Jones (89,88): Her new book, *Plunge*, came out in February 2012 from Apogee Press. Her poems have recently appeared in *The Denver Quarterly* and *Interim*. ajones.apogee@gmail.com

Maxima Kahn (WW 10,06; Poetry 07): She has poems forthcoming in the *Tule Review*.

Marilyn Kallet (05,98,96): Her translation of Surrealist poet Benjamin Péret's *The Big Game (Le grand jeu)*, was published by Black Widow Press.

Athena Kashyap (03): Her first book of poems, *Crossing Black Waters*, is a finalist with Stephen F. Austin State University Press and will be published in April.

Andrew Kaufman (08,01): Grey Sparrow published his collection *Both Sides of the Niger*, the first poetry book by this press.

Danusha Laméris (00): Her poems have recently appeared (or are forthcoming) in *The Sun*, *Cold Mountain Review*, *Alaska Quarterly Review*, *Caesura* and the anthology *A Bird Black As the Sun: California Poets on Crows & Ravens*.

Shara Lessley (02): *Two-Headed Nightingale*, a collection of her poetry, is forthcoming from New Issues in May. Recent work has appeared in *The Missouri Review*, *The Southern Review*, *Alaska Quarterly Review*, *The Rumpus* and *Crab Orchard Review*.

Jami Macarty (10): Her poems were published online in *Interrupture* (editor, Curtis Perdue, a Squaw Valley Poetry Workshop alum from 2010) and in *Scythe Literary Journal*, Issue V; in print in *Qwerty*, Spring 2011; and forthcoming in *Beloit Poetry Journal*, *Disquieting Muses Quarterly Review* (edited by Squaw alum Sally Ashton) and *The Fiddlehead*.

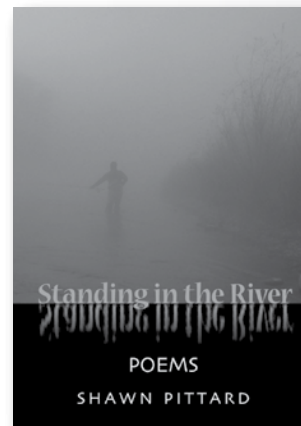
Sarah Maclay (06,97): *Music for the Black Room*, her new poetry collection, is out from the University of Tampa Press. Her poems and criticism have appeared recently in *Poetry Daily*, *FIELD*, *The Offending Adam*, *Zocalo Public Square*, *Slope 47*, *Summerset Review*, *The Nervous Breakdown*, *Mental Shoes*, *The Laurel Review* and *Poetry International*, and are slated to appear in *Parthenon West Review* and *Askew*.

Holaday Mason (06,00): Her second full length collection, *Dissolve*, was published by University Of Minnesota Moorhead's New Rivers Press in October. www.holadaymason.com

Dawn McGuire (07,04,01,99,97,95): She is co-winner of the 2011 Campbell Corner Poetry Prize, sponsored by Sarah Lawrence College for "poems that treat larger themes with lyric intensity."

Patricia McMillen (06): One of her poems and a piece of her creative nonfiction will be coming out soon in *Poetry East* and *nor*, respectively.

Richard O. Moore (97): His collection of poems, *Writing the Silences*, edited by Brenda Hillman and Paul Ebenkamp, with a foreword by Brenda Hillman, was published in 2010 by The University of California Press.



www.tebotbach.org

WINNER OF TEBOT BACH'S 2010 CLOCKWISE CHAPBOOK COMPETITION

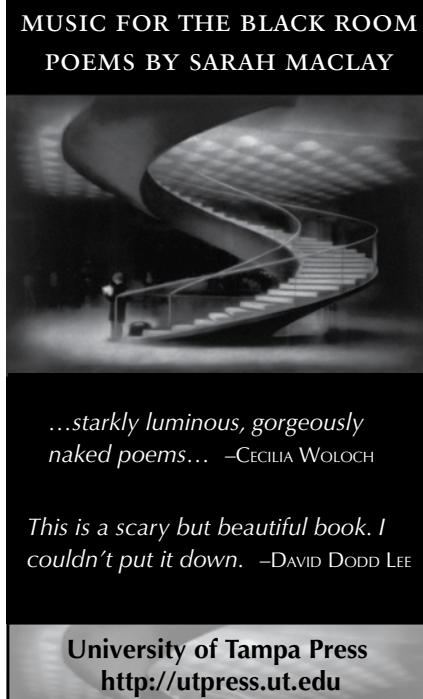
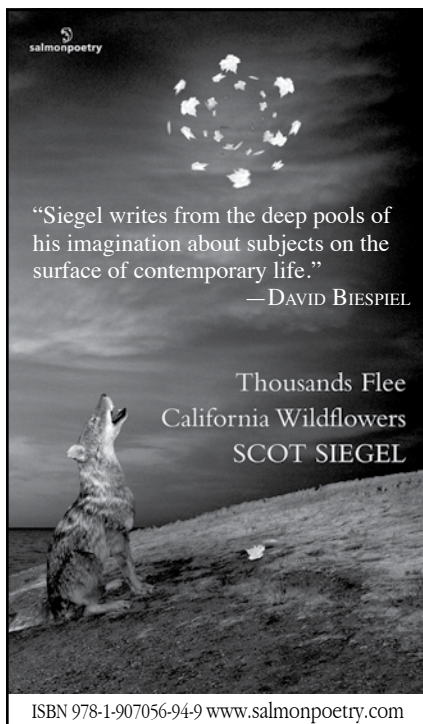
"...the **mythic and visceral** world of a precise and knowledgeable poet ... **a poet of tremendous ability**, deadpan humor, **a vast but always grounded imagination**, a poet of both **innocence and experience** ..."

—from the Introduction
by Gail Wronsky, Contest Judge

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Community of Writers page: www.facebook.com/pages/Community-of-Writers-at-Squaw-Valley/1824301317



Rusty Morrison (96,95): Noemi Press has published her latest collection of poems, *Book of the Given*. Her collection *After Urgency* won Tupelo's Dorset Prize (forthcoming in 2012). One of her poems was a Poem-a-Day from poets.org.

Jennie Orvino (05): Her book of memoir, poems and personal essays, *Poetry, Politics and Passion*, was published by Piece of Mind in January 2012.

Coco Owen (05): She had an "instant chapbook" entitled *My Engl-ish is a Suffix* *Langu-age* published by Binge Press.

Melinda Palacio (09): Bilingual Press published her first novel, *Ocotillo Dreams*, in the summer of 2011. This year, she also has new poems in *Southern Poetry Anthology IV: Louisiana* (Texas Review Press), *San Diego Poetry Annual*, *PALABRA*, *Naugatuck River Review*, *Hinchas de Poesia* and *A Bird Black As The Sun: California Poets on Crows & Ravens*. Tia Chucha Press will publish her first full-length poetry book, *How Fire Is A Story*, *Waiting*, in fall 2012.

Natalie Peeterse (06): Gold Line Press selected her *Black Birds: Blue Horse, An Elegy* as the 2011 poetry chapbook competition prize winner.

Charlotte Pence (08): Black Lawrence Press selected her *Branches* as the winner of the Black River Chapbook Competition.

Emily Perez (10): Her first chapbook, *Backyard Migration Route*, was published this past fall by Finishing Line Press. Three poems appeared in the Summer 2011 edition of the *Crab Orchard Review*. www.emilyperez.org

Shawn Pittard (07,05): *Standing in the River* won Tebot Bach's 2010 Clockwise Chapbook Competition and is now available at www.tebotbach.org.

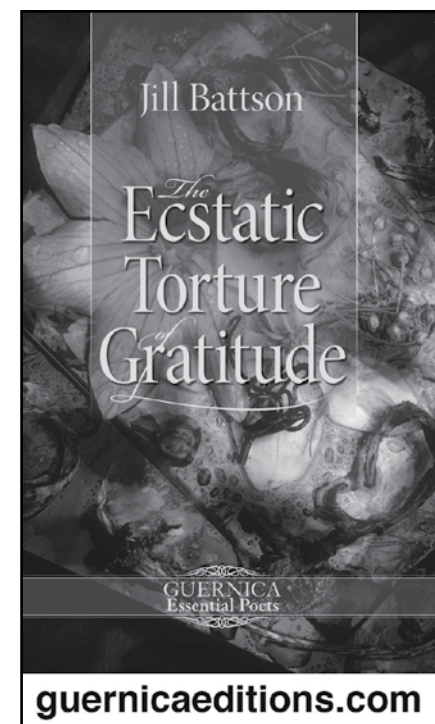
Khadijah Queen (09): Her second collection, *Black Peculiar*, won the 2010 Noemi Book Award for Poetry and was released in fall 2011 from Noemi Press. New publications include *jubilat*, *Eleven Eleven*, *Tuesday: An Art Project*, and *Best American Nonrequired Reading 2010*.

Ruben Quesada (07): His debut collection of poetry, *Next Extinct Mammal*, was published by Greenhouse Review Press in August. His poems "Store," "Tamale Serenade," and "The Last Text" were published in *American Poetry Review* in the September/October issue. www.rubenquesada.com

Zara Raab (10): Her poetry collection *Swimming the Eel* was published by David Robert Books. In the past year, she also published poems in *Crab Orchard Review*, *The Evansville Review* and *River Styx*. www.zararaab.com

Rachel Richardson (01): Her first book of poems, *Copperhead*, was published in March 2011 by Carnegie Mellon University Press. In 2010 she was awarded a Dorothy Sargent Rosenberg Prize. Recent poems can be found in *Connotation Press: An Online Artifact*, *cellpoems* and *The Hopkins Review*. www.rachelbjrichardson.com

Marilyn Ringer (10,07,05): Her chapbook *Island Aubade* has been accepted for publication by Finishing Line Press. Her poems have appeared or are forthcoming in: *River Oak Review*, *Eclectica*, *RiverSedge*, *Schuylkill Valley Journal of the Arts*, *Meridian Anthology of Contemporary Poetry*, *Milk Money*, *PMS poemmemoirstory*, *Pearl*, *DiverseVoices Quarterly*, *Eclipse*, *Pisgab Review*, *Clackamas Literary Review*, *decomp magazinE* and *Sanskrit*.



Renato Rosaldo (02,00): His second collection of poems, *Diego Luna's Insider Tips*, was published by Many Mountains Moving and is available from Small Press Distributors (www.spd.org).

Monika Rose (WW 00; Poetry 97): She published her 212-page collection of poems, *River by the Glass* (Glen Hill Publishing, May 2011). www.monikarosewriter.com

Deborah Ruth (08,01,00,98,95,93-91): Her poem, "A Villanelle for Hard Times," appears in the just-published *Liberty's Vigil, The Occupy Anthology: 99 Poets Among the 99%*. Her full-length play, *A Routine Procedure*, was given a staged reading at the San Francisco Playhouse in February 2012.

Scot Siegel (07): His second full-length book of poems, *Thousands Flee California Wildflowers*, is due out from Salmon Poetry in early 2012. His poems were recently anthologized in *Open Spaces: Voices from the Northwest* (University of Washington Press, 2011) and *Before We Have Nowhere to Stand - Israel/Palestine: Poets Respond to the Struggle* (Lost Horse Press, forthcoming).

Kevin Simmonds (10): His debut collection, *Mad for Meat*, was published by Salmon Poetry in September. He edited the anthology *Collective Brightness: LGBTIQ Poets on Faith, Religion & Spirituality*, published by Sibling Rivalry Press in October. In spring 2012, University of South Carolina Press will publish *Ota Benga Under My Mother's Roof*, his edition of Carrie Allen McCray-Nickens' final collection. kevinsimmonds.com

Patricia Spears Jones (99,94,92): Her third chapbook, *Swimming to America*, was published by Red Glass Books.

Melissa Stein (Poetry 99; Art of the Wild 96,95): *Rough Honey*, her first collection of poetry, won the 2010 APR/Honickman First Book Prize, selected by Mark Doty and was selected as one of the Top 10 in *The Believer's* reader survey of favorite poetry books of 2010.

Jeanine Stevens (10,07): Her first book of poems, *Sailing on Milkweed*, will be released in March by Cherry Grove Collections. New work is forthcoming in *Cider Press Review*, *Ophidian*, *North Dakota Review*, *Pearl* and *Centrifugal Eye*. In 2011 four of her poems written in Squaw Valley were accepted for publication.

William Stobb (09): This past fall his fifth book, *Absentia*, was published by Penguin Books. Of the five poems he wrote while in Squaw Valley, four are included in the book, one got published in *American Poetry Review*, and another, published in a smaller zine, was nominated for the Pushcart Prize.

Ann Tweedy (07,04,00,96): She has poetry forthcoming in *Literary Mama*, *Fire On Her Tongue: An eBook Anthology of Contemporary Women's Poetry*, edited by Kelli Russell Agodon and Annette Spaulding-Convy (Two Sylvias Press), and *When Lawyers Talk...*, edited by James Elkins (Pleasure Boat Studio Press). In 2011 her poetry was published in *Untitled Country Review* and *Clackamas Literary Review*, and her creative nonfiction was published in *Legal Studies Forum*. www.anntweedy.com

Sally Van Doren (06,03,01): Her second book of poems, *Possessive*, will be published by LSU Press in fall 2012. Her poems appeared recently in *The Normal School*, *No Tell Motel*, *Southwest Review*, *Storyscape* and *UCity Review*.

Valerie Wallace (10): Her chapbook, *The Dictators' Guide to Good Housekeeping*, was published by dancing girl press.

Ian Wilson (Poetry 08,93; WW 04): His short story "Sons of Adam" was published by Hollyridge Press on Kindle.

Sholeh Wolpe (04): She edited *The Forbidden: Poems from Iran and its Exiles*, which was published in February 2012 by Michigan State University Press.

Joyce E. Young (93): Her poem "Lizard" appeared in the anthology *New Poets of the American West* (Many Voices Press). She was awarded a writing fellowship to Vermont Studio Center in April 2011.

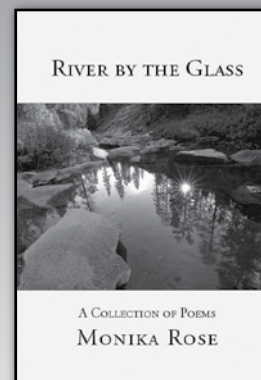
Javier Zamora (10): His chapbook *Nine Immigrant Years* won the 2011 Organic Weapons Arts Press Chapbook Contest. It will be available in early 2012 at www.organicweaponsarts.com.

Sondra Zeidenstein (98-95): Her new collection of poems, *Contraries, New and Collected Poems*, was published in October by Chicory Blue Press. www.chicorybluepress.com ■

Asked in August by the *New York Times* what would she do if she were president, Sharon Olds replied:

I'd grant the very rich the boon of helping them help others, as a form of gratitude for their good fortune. I'd also connect every creative writing program with a hospital, a school, a library, a prison, a neighborhood center — workshops in the supermarkets! ("Aisles full of husbands! Wives in the avocados, babies in the tomatoes!")

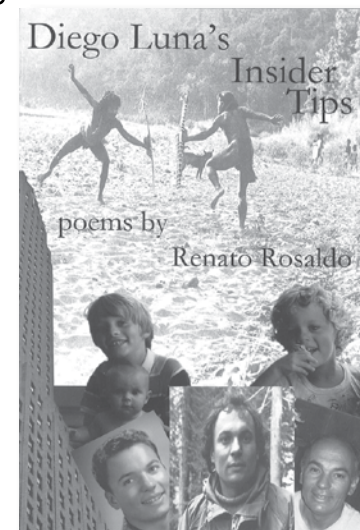
Rose's poetry captures the texture and currents of the river, translating water into words. —Mary Mackey



Like glass, her poetry offers both a reflection of the physical world and a window into our human experiences of its shifting beauty and mystery.
—Pattiann Rogers

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Summer 2011 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** (8) helping out, making hand-lettered signs and providing witty commentary all the way; to **Stacey Knapp** for running the bookshop with warmth and style. Thanks also to **Tracy Hall, Hunter Jones** and **Zoey Walls** for coordinating



Published Alumni Readers: Sara J. Henry, Alia Yunis, Michael David Lukas, Alma Katsu, Jessica O'Dwyer

our snack bar. (Zoey and Hunter also served as Poetry Elves.) Thanks also to **David Womack** for bartending, driving, and helping with manuscripts at registration.

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 **Tory W. Adkisson, Jessica Rae Bergamino, Lucy Biederman, Marcelo Hernandez, Terry Lowe, and Rocky Wilson**; for their work during the Writers Workshops, our gratitude goes to **Q. Lindsey Barrett, John Desimone, Allison Doyle, Kristin FitzPatrick, Mike Medberry** and **Benton Sen.**



Screenwriting Workshop

Thanks also to our stalwart friends **Tom Taylor** and **Steve Susoyev**. Thanks also to the Screenwriting surround staff: **Jason Wolos, Jason Boyce, Tracy Loth and Christopher Upham**. Thanks to our interns **Eva Melas** and **Christie Kaplan** who were wonders of efficiency and good humor, as well as local volunteer **Ethan**. And thanks to **Sands Hall** for the inimitable Follies and her assistance with registration and the Poetry dinner. Thanks also to **Maxima Kahn** for editing and designing the *Omnium Gatherum & Newsletter*. **Liz**



Lisa Alvarez, Lynn Freed, Andrew Tonkovich, Michelle Latiolais, Ron Carlson



Thiem and **Storey Rafter** graced our staff picnic and Poetry party with delicious food.



Screenwriters

Many thanks to **Robert Hass, Brenda Hillman, Cathy Park Hong, Major Jackson** and **Sharon Olds** for participating in the Benefit Poetry Reading in Sacramento. And thanks also to **Moira Magneson, Shawn Pittard** and their band of volunteers for making it one of the most successful Benefits ever. **Molly Fisk** and **Theresa McCourt** were essential in getting the word out. Sacramento was a wonderful and welcoming city for the event.



Janet Fitch, Malcolm Margolin, Joy Harris

where a conference such as ours is possible; and to his wonderful staff: **Tom Kelly, Julie Maurer, Brandon Sirstins, Christine Horvath, Amelia Richmond, Hubi Alber, Dave Benge, Kaitlyn Johansen** and the **Security Team** (who are superb ambassadors).



Jason Roberts

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

—Brett Hall Jones, Executive Director



Robert Hass and participant



Sharon Olds, Robert Hass, Brenda Hillman, Major Jackson, Cathy Park Hong

SCREENWRITING STAFF NEWS



Jason Boyce: He is currently finishing his album *Believe or Die Trying* to be released this spring. He is teaching film production to middle-school and high school students and freelancing as a filmmaker. He is in pre-production on a documentary to be filmed in El Salvador, and in production on a documentary on travel by train.

Greg Cala: He recently signed with Stars Agency, San Francisco's largest actors' agency. Examples of some of his recent work can be seen on his youtube channel at www.youtube.com/xclubmed, including humorous national ads for the "Popular Vote Initiative."

Diana Fuller: She is developing a documentary feature, *Racing To Zero*, with director Chris Beaver, special effects director Eli Noyes, consulting producer Vivian Kleiman and sound designer Jim McKee. racingtozero.org

Nancy Kelly: She produced and directed *Trust: Second Acts in Young Lives*, which

screened at the San Francisco International Women's Film Festival in April.

Frank Pierson: He won the Kanbar Award for excellence in screenwriting at the 54th San Francisco International Film Festival.

Lisa Rosenberg: She is writing a historical drama set in the 1940s for Front Row Productions.

Christopher Upham: His feature -length documentary *War Within* was awarded Pacific Pioneer and Fleishhacker grants and is in fine-cut stage. His current writing projects include a feature narrative for Cambodian-American director Daron Ker.

Jason Wolos: He is finishing the sound mix on his feature film *Trattoria*, starring Tony Denison (*The Closer*, *Crime Story*) and John Patrick Amedori (*Butterfly Effect*, *Gossip Girl*) and notable Bay Area chefs Elizabeth Falkner, Traci Des Jardins, Craig Stoll, and Douglas Dale. The film will begin the festival rounds this year. ■



Participant Profile: Gayla Kraetsch Hartsough

Gayla Kraetsch Hartsough is unstoppable. She was honored among the Top 50 Women over 50 in Los Angeles by BTW. She is President of KH Consulting Group, specializing in strategic planning and organizational design. She's a mother and an avid traveler, and she holds a Ph.D. from the University of Virginia. But that's not all.

About ten years ago on a whim she took a course in screenwriting at UCLA and fell in love with the process. She went on to complete UCLA Extension's feature screenwriting certificate program and a two-year Peer Program at Writers' Bootcamp.

Since then she has written 14 feature scripts, several of which have placed in screenwriting competitions (BlueCat, Moondance, Acclaim, Monterey, 20/20, and Big Bear among others). Noticing how rarely scripts get made, she decided to put her business and management skills to use and become her own producer. So, four years ago she found a director and produced her first short, *A Pig's Ear*, which screened at fifteen festivals and garnered her the funding for *Heloise*. In between, she made *Slap*, a 7-minute political slapstick, which became, as she says, "sort of a darling of the festivals because it is edgy and different." *Slap* was screened at approximately 35 festivals, including Tribeca's 18-month, 18-city tour with their America: Now and Here program, and won various awards (WorldFest-Houston, WILDsound-Toronto, Syracuse Film Festival, "Best of Taos Shortz," and Lady Filmmakers). In 2010 she made *Heloise*. Now she is ready to make a feature.

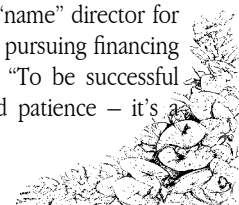
In 2011 she attended the Community of Writers' Screenwriting Workshop. She says of the experience: "Coming to

the Squaw Valley Writers' Program was a complete indulgence... Although I've taken screenwriting classes and been writing screenplays for about a decade, I had never taken a week off from work to just focus on screenwriting... I was completely impressed by the caliber of the faculty... Not only were they accomplished screenwriters themselves with a portfolio of films that had been made, they were kind-hearted and cared about each and every screenwriter. They created a nurturing environment that opened my eyes to new ways of conveying stories in more cinematic ways."



Three of her feature scripts have been optioned, including a full length *Heloise + Abelard*, about "the greatest sex scandal of the 12th century"; *Blood and Water*, a political thriller set in Guatemala; and *Last Days of the Caterpillar* about a young girl who befriends a war veteran. In an interview with Matthew Tuffolo, Gayla said, "In my consulting firm we do a lot of studies on social issues." In film too she sees an arena in which she can raise awareness of social issues in a powerful way. Nonetheless, she recognizes that it doesn't work to be didactic. "You have to tell a story. You have to show the hero's journey... You can't be preachy."

In October Gayla went to London with a producer for one of her optioned scripts. They secured a "name" director for the project and are now pursuing financing and talent. She admits, "To be successful requires persistence and patience – it's a long process." ■





Jill Ackles (09): Her short educational documentary *Sonnet* was an official selection in the Woods Hole Film Festival on Cape Cod. She was nominated for a daytime Emmy for directing work on the soap *All My Children*. Her original story *Playing God* was a finalist in the *Fade-In Magazine* screenwriting awards and has attracted serious interest from producers.

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

Marie Amsler (07): Her feature film *Puppe*, directed by Sebastian Kutzli, had its world premiere at the Solothurn Film Festival in January 2012. The film was nominated for the Prix du Public.

Eva Benedikt (10,09): Her screenplay *Fidelita!*, a satire on telenovellas, was an official selection of the Oaxaca International Film Festival. She is currently negotiating with financing partners to produce/direct her feature script *The Winner* in Rome.

Christy Chan (10): She is currently working as co-curator of *The Non-Starving Artist Project*, a video series in which artists from around the world videotape themselves eating as part of a commentary

on stereotypes about the arts. The launch date for the website of the project is anticipated for August 2012.

David Corbett (Screen 2001; WW 99,91,89,88): See Writers Workshop Participant News.

Judy Brackett Crowe (Poetry 08; Screen 90; WW 89-86): See Poetry Participant News.

Sheri Davenport (08): *Lucky Christmas* aka *Kiss Me Lucky* (the screenplay she worked on at Squaw Valley) was a featured Hallmark Christmas movie for 2011, starring Elizabeth Berkley and Jason Gray-Stanford. Her latest screenplay, *Furies Rising*, was the grand prize winner of the 2010 Cynosure contest and won her one of four writers' residences at the Writers Ranch in Colorado in June.

Skye Dent (94): She has just completed a multimedia workshop in Kentucky and is currently rewriting a short film script.

William Farley (08): His new film, *The Walk*, was screened at the Mill Valley Film Festival in 2011 as part of the fiftieth anniversary of San Francisco's Canyon Cinema, and also screened at the Mendocino Film Festival. Two earlier films, *Tribute* and *Sea Space*, were presented at

the International Latino Americano Film Festival in Havana, Cuba, in December.

Megan Feldman (10): She is co-writer with Stacy Keane of *Tesoro*, a Latin American action thriller, which was a second-round finalist in the January 2012 Sundance Screenwriter's Lab, placed in the 10th Annual Filmmaker's International Screen-writing Awards, and is a semi-finalist (1 of 15) in the 2012 Vail Film Festival. Her most recent article, "What Happened to Abbey's Mom," is in the August 2011 issue of *5280 The Denver Magazine*.

Anton Gill (11): His directorial debut, *Ketheron's Bucket Mending & Hymen Emporium*, completed in November 2010, has already been accepted to three film festivals including the Desperado Film Festival (Arizona), the Mardi Gras Film Festival (Sydney) and the Melbourne Queer Film Festival. www.antonhgill.com

Lisa Gold (08): Her short film *The Death of Toys* won her a Best Director award at the Toronto International Film and Video Awards and has been screened at twenty film festivals.

R. J. Daniel Hanna (08): He created a web-series "Jeff & Ravi Fail History" for Subway Restaurants. *The Maiden & the Princess*, a short film that he edited, recently played at the Palm Springs International Film Festival and will play at the Director's Guild of America as part of Los Angeles Outfest. He is currently in post production on a web-series he directed for singer Jessie Malakouti in conjunction

with her new album and tour with Britney Spears. www.rjdanielhanna.com

Gayla Kraetsch Hartsough (11): Three of her scripts—*Blood and Water*; *The Last Days of the Caterpillar*; and *Heloise + Abelard*—have been optioned.

Bethany Jacobson (11): She staged a reading of the most recent version of *Hotel Bleu* in February 2012 at the Flea Theater in New York and is looking for investors for production in 2012. She has just completed a freelance job as a story producer on the MTV series *Made*.

Buzzy Jackson (97,93): See Writers Workshop Participant News.

Jennifer Juelich (11): Her feature film *Neon Sky* will start the festival route in late 2012. *Skins*, a script she workshopped at Squaw Valley, is currently in development. She is also working with Bryan Gambogi on funding for *Carnival Road*, a documentary about carnival workers. She has also been invited to direct the *Vagina Monologues* for the Bankhead Theatre in Livermore in April.

Marjorie Kaptanoglu (07): Her short Slamdance-produced film, *Dead in the Room*, was screened at major festivals in 2011, including at Slamdance, Nashville, LA Shorts, Woodstock, San Diego and Red Rock. It also won Best Short Film at the Big Bear Lake and Breckenridge Festivals. *Dearlly Departed*, another short, premiered at the Santa Barbara Film Festival and also screened at Cinequest, Ventura, LA Shorts,

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

and La Femme. Her feature screenplay *The Precipice* was a finalist in Creative World Awards and a quarter finalist in PAGE, Scriptapalooza, and Cynosure. Her feature film *Graves Light* placed in the top 10% of the Nicholl Fellowships and was a finalist in the Atlanta Film Festival Screenplay Contest. In December she was awarded a fellowship to the Writers Boot Camp.

Stacy Keane (10): *Sadie Hawkin's Day* AKA *Campy Lesbian Horror Movie!* won Grand Prize in the Barren Branches GLBT Competition in the 2011 Rhode Island International Film Festival Screenplay Competition. *Sadie Hawkin's Day* was a finalist (1 of 15) in the 2011 Atlanta Film Festival Screenplay Competition, a quarter-finalist in the 5th Annual StoryPros Screenplay Competition, and a finalist in the Movie Script/Golden Brads Awards. She is co-writer with Stacy Keane of *Tesoro*, a Latin American action thriller, which was a second-round finalist in the January 2012 Sundance Screenwriter's Lab, placed in the 10th Annual Filmmaker's International Screenwriting Awards, and is a semi-finalist (1 of 15) in the 2012 Vail Film Festival. She is currently at work adapting her memoir into a screenplay.

Nancy Kelly (01,83): Her documentary *TRUST: Second Acts in Young Lives* premiered at the 2010 Mill Valley Film festival and received the United Nations Association Film Festival Youth Vision Award.

James Kohlberg (Screen 04; WW 03): His film *The Music Never Stopped* was chosen to play at the Opening Gala Weekend for the Sundance Film Festival 2011. It was picked up by Roadside Attractions (Winter's Bone distributor) and opened in theaters in March. www.themusicneverstopped-movie.com

Joe Kuhl (11): He is co-writing a new pilot with Squaw Valley staff member Patricia Meyer.

Tiffany Laufer (06): Her short film *The Acorn Penny* premiered on ShortsHD this past September for World Peace Day, and she made two very short films for Bellaboo Books. www.tiffanylaufer.com

Carmen Madden (07): Her film *Everyday Black Man* was on Showtime in August and can be found on Netflix, iTunes, Amazon, Best Buy, Walmart and more. She is currently working on producing her next film, *Shadow Fight*.

Erica Milsom (10): She is working on her film *Best Intentions*, doing research in Cambodia with young women who have escaped from sex-trafficking and are working with local non-profits to redefine their lives. She is also at work on *Maria, Lucia and the White Lions*, the story of returning Iraqi war veteran Maria Chacon.

Margaret Murray (87): Her novel *Dreamers* was published by WriteWords Press. www.margaretcmmurray.com

Holly Payne (07): Her novel *Kingdom of Simplicity* won the Grand Prize at the 19th Annual Writers Digest International Self-Published Book awards and will be featured in the March/April 2012 issue of Writers Digest. She was invited to speak at the Writers Digest Conference in New York in



January. The book also won the Benjamin Franklin Award for Best First Book From a New Press (2010) and sold foreign rights to presses in the Netherlands and Taiwan. Her small press, Skywriter Books, recently published the revised edition of Caroline Paul's critically acclaimed memoir, *Fighting Fire*.

Kimberly Reed (06): Following the international release of her autobiographical documentary *Prodigal Sons*, her story was featured on The Moth, a live storytelling event with podcast and broadcast. She produced, edited and wrote the documentary *Paul Goodman Changed My Life* about the radical thinker and author of *Growing up Absurd*. The documentary was released by Zeitgeist Films. She continues to develop her projects through her company Big Sky Film (bigskyfilm.com).

Nancy Robison (07): She has just started working for Intrigue Entertainment in Santa Monica.

Keri Schreiner (10): Her screenplay *Laura Looks Up* won the 2011 Exposurama Screenplay competition. She is currently rewriting the script she brought to Squaw Valley, *Cage*, which made the quarterfinals in the 2011 Scriptapalooza contest and placed in the top 25% in the 2011 Page International.

Sherry Shahan (99): Her young adult novel, *Purple Daze*, was published by Running Press Kids last spring.

Stephanie Storey (09): She just wrapped season eight of *Tavis Smiley*, where she is the consulting producer. Season nine begins January 2012 with a brand new set, a live panel discussion about poverty in America, and a two-night conversation about Haiti with actor Sean Penn. In

addition, she and her writing partner, Mike Gandolfi, an Emmy-winning comedy writer, have a feature film in development, with producers, a director and talent attached.

Kaherawaks Thompson (04): She has two short films in pre-production and is hoping to complete *Close To Death* (which she brought to Squaw Valley) this year, pending final funding.

Cliff Traiman (09): This past year he has been a Director of Photography for numerous projects and has been developing his new business, Little Giant Lighting & Grip.

Mabel Valdiviezo (05): Her documentary project, *Prodigal Daughter*, is in production and was recently a finalist with the Latino Public Broadcasting Production Fund. Her narrative project *Soledad's Awakening*, being produced by Julia Steinweg of Steinweg Emotion Pictures, is seeking international funding in Spain and Germany.

C. C. Webster (10): Pilots for both her fiction and non fiction TV series are being pitched to networks. The script she brought to Squaw Valley is with producers in Sweden and she has been asked to direct a feature and a short.

Tim Wendel (Screen 05; WW 89-86): See Writers Workshop Participant News.

Annika Wood (09): An action-adventure script she wrote in 2011 was the winner of a small contest.

Myrton Running Wolf (05): *Black Warrior of Pyramid Lake*, which he co-wrote, was one of the Feature Screenplay winners of the Moondance International Film Festival. ■

Published Alumni Reading Series

The Community of Writers is delighted to celebrate the success of these writers and to present them to the participants, staff, and the public this coming summer 2012.

Photo: Twin Lens Images



RAMONA AUSUBEL ('07) is the author of the novel *No One is Here Except All of Us* and the collection of stories *A Guide to Being Born*, both forthcoming from Riverhead Books. Her work has appeared in *The New Yorker*, *One Story*, *Best American Fantasy* and elsewhere. www.ramonaausubel.com



HEATHER DONAHUE ('08): At 24, she was one of the filmmakers of *The Blair Witch Project*. Her memoir *Growgirl: The Blossoming of an Unlikely Outlaw* was recently published by Gotham/Penguin. www.heatherdonahue.com



SUSAN HENDERSON ('09) is a two-time Pushcart Prize nominee and the recipient of an Academy of American Poets award. Her debut novel, *Up From The Blue*, was published by HarperCollins in 2010 and has been selected by many print and online editors as a top pick of the year. www.litpark.com



KRYSS LEE ('10) is the author of *Drifting House*, published by Viking/Penguin in February 2012. Viking/Penguin will also publish her novel-in-progress in 2013. Her work has appeared in the *Kenyon Review*, *Narrative magazine*, *Granta online*, the *Guardian*, and elsewhere. www.krysslee.com

Photo: Matt Douma



ISMET PRSIC ('07) is a Bosnian American writer who received a 2010 National Endowment for the Arts Literature Fellowship for fiction. His first novel, *Shards*, which is nominated for the Flaherty-Dunn First Novel Prize, was published by Black Cat (Grove, Atlantic) in 2011. www.ismetprsic.com

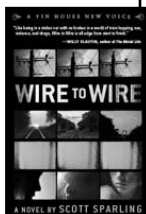
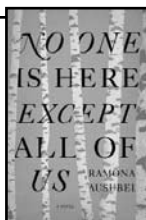
Photo: Melissa Prsic



SCOTT SPARLING ('86/'92) *Wire to Wire*, his first novel, was published by Tin House Books in 2011. Since 1997, he has written and maintained Segerfile.com, one of the oldest and largest music sites of its kind on the Internet. www.scottsparling.net



MARY VOLMER's ('03/'04) first novel, *Crown of Dust*, first published by HarperCollins UK, was released in the US by Soho Press in 2010. Her short story "Canyon" was a finalist for the 2010 Orlando Prize and featured on Sacramento's "Stories on Stage." www.maryvolmer.com



The Sounds of Summer 2011 Music Heard in the Office

—Lisa Alvarez



Sharon Isbin: Journey to the New World

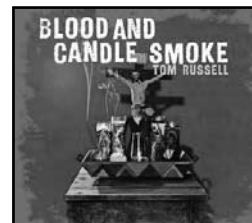
Classical guitarist Sharon Isbin begins in the Renaissance (think "Greensleeves") and ends with American folk tunes but at the heart of this collection are selections from "The Joan Baez Suite," inspired by songs made famous by the singer.

Tom Russell: Blood and Candlesmoke

We've admired Russell's songs through the years as covered by the likes of Johnny Cash, Dave Alvin and Nanci Griffith. This album showcases the singer-songwriter at his best – an elegiac, eclectic storyteller rooted in the Southwest. On several cuts he is backed by members of Calexico.

Betty Roche: Lightly and Politely

Originally released in 1961, when Brett and Lisa were born, this collection seems timeless. Roche, who sang with Duke Ellington's band and recorded only three albums, offers bluesy ballads and jazz standards ranging from "Someone to Watch Over Me" to "Rocks in my Bed." Lovely.



Steep Canyon Rangers with Steve Martin: Rare Bird Alert

Bluegrass – really – with only touches of the stand-up comedy one might expect from Steve Martin and his banjo. Purists can savor "More Bad Weather on the Way" while others will turn right away to the hilarious "Atheists Don't Have No Songs" and – yes, the reprise of the classic "King Tut."

Kate and Anna McGarrigle: Tell My Sister

The three CDs here are remasters of the Canadian duo's first two albums plus previously unreleased songs and demos. Emerging from the folk scene in the 1970s, the McGarrigles always offered more, these women who wrote, played and sang and harmonized like nobody's business. Check out the hit they penned for Linda's Ronstadt – "Heart Like A Wheel" – but then see where they take it.



Malcolm Margolin: Heyday Books

Frances Dinkelspiel and Pete Rosos

Originally published in *Berkeleyside* on January 11, 2012

“Hierophantic,” was how the noted historian Kevin Starr described Malcolm Margolin, the publisher of the Berkeley-based Heyday Books, in a 2004 article in the *San Francisco Chronicle*. “Manifesting sacred power, a power larger than life, a savant. There’s something rabbinical about him.”

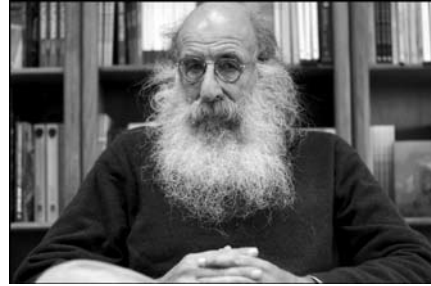


photo by Pete Rosos

When *Berkeleyside* approached Margolin about being featured in our “Snapshot” series, he was completely uninterested in answering our questions about himself (as you can see below) and effectively declined to do so. But don’t think that means Margolin doesn’t have any opinions. In fact, he has so many ideas and notions that any casual meeting with the man with the trademark white beard is often the occasion for a torrent of ideas.

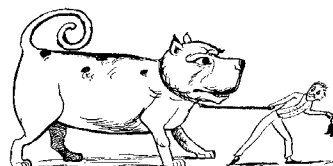
Margolin has lived in Berkeley since 1970 when he moved from New York with his wife, Rina. He started Heyday in 1974 with the self-published *The East Bay Out*, a guide to the East Bay Regional Parks. The success of that book launched a company that has significantly contributed to the understanding of California.

Margolin’s own *The Oblong Way: Indian Life in the San Francisco-Monterey-Bay Area* shed light on an important part of the state’s history. The non-profit Heyday has published hundreds of other tomes that illuminate the state’s culture, history, ecology, literature and art. At the center is Margolin, one of the Bay Area’s biggest champions of writers, journalists, artists, and illustrators.

Below is Margolin’s response to a request by Pete Rosos for a photo shoot and for his answers to the “Proust Questionnaire”-style questions we put to all our “Snapshot” interviewees:

Dear Pete: Thanks for the reminder. I’ll be around, and the photo shoot sounds ok. But you’ll find me mute, surly, and uncooperative about the interview. The underlying problem is that I haven’t the vaguest idea how to answer the questions. I don’t think like that, Pete; I don’t seem to have developed the ability to give hierarchy to things. Where and when am I happiest? I have no idea; happiness seems to come and go mysteriously, a gift rather than something earned or in any way predictable. Which living person do I most admire? I have no idea. It never occurred to me to create a scale in which I measure my admiration from most to least. And so it goes. I feel these questions are artificial questions, developed in an attempt to make dull people look interesting and I have no desire (or more to the point no capacity) to deal with them at all. If these questions are essential to the project, why don’t I save us both some time and frustration and drop out now. It’s not that I’m unwilling to talk about my life and my values; I simply don’t know how to talk about things in the language you present.

Kindest regards, Malcolm



Random Writing Tips from Squaw

By Ilana DeBare

I’m back from the Squaw Valley Community of Writers, feeling a bit like a space station astronaut returning to Earth, exhausted and wobble-legged....After my last blog post, some folks asked me to share what I learned about writing from Squaw....Here are some snippets of my notes from the week:

- Dialogue in fiction is different from dialogue in real life. Tighter, sharper, with every exchange adding to the story in some way. In real life, people spend a lot of time saying things like “Nice earrings.” “Thanks.” “Where’d you get them?” “Macy’s.” “Really?” “Uh huh.” But if you fill your novel with such stuff, readers won’t need Sominex. Novelist **Janet Fitch** pointed out that good dialogue is about conflict, reveals character, and illuminates the relationship between the speakers (who is stronger, weaker etc.) “In real conversation, people do everything to avoid conflict,” Fitch said. “In fictional conversation, you want to find the conflict.”

- Characters who are most similar to you — modeled on you, the author — tend to be flat.

- The most interesting characters are internally conflicted.

- Every sentence can probably be shorter. (Thank you, **Max Byrd**.)

- When describing a place, don’t just describe that place: Give the protagonist’s sense of that place. (Is that shady forest menacing or relaxing? It’s in the eye of the beholder.) “Use tactile perceptions to tell us about the internal life of a character,” **Sands Hall** told my workshop group.

- The final item in a string of adjectives, nouns or anything else is the most powerful. “If you make a list,” Byrd said, “place the most important item at the end.” I flashed on the final line of Tennyson’s poem *Ulysses*: “To strive, to seek, to find, and not to yield.”

- Each scene needs to change your main character in some way. This was Janet Fitch again, leading the workshop session that discussed my manuscript. “Once a protagonist has been through a scene, he or she can’t go back to the way they were before,” she said. “If they can go back, you don’t need the scene. A scene needs to start in one place emotionally and end in another.”

- **Jason Roberts** on writing essays: “Every essay addresses a question. But if you have a complete answer, it’s not an essay. It’s a manifesto.”

- Time and again, we were told the key to being a writer is... writing. That means writing every day, every week, for years, regardless of whether your manuscripts are praised or rejected or utterly ignored by the outside world.

- **Mark Childress**: “Writing is about putting your butt in that chair and outlasting the urge to read the *New York Times* cover to cover or to sign up on Facebook again under a new name.”

- **Anne Lamott**: “A writer’s life is about nothing happening for a very, very long time except you sit down in the same place.”

- And **Ron Carlson**: “The Internet is the enemy of all writers. Just stay away from it until after two in the afternoon. The Internet is an entertainment and research device for after two in the afternoon.”

Of course, while giving us a week’s worth of rules, the Squaw Valley staff also told us that any rule can be broken for the right reason. **Lynn Freed** reminded my workshop group of the famous quote from W. Somerset Maugham: There are three rules for writing the novel. Unfortunately, no one knows what they are.

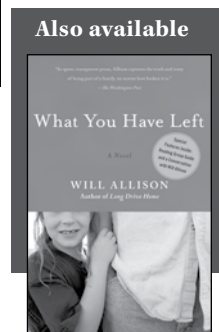
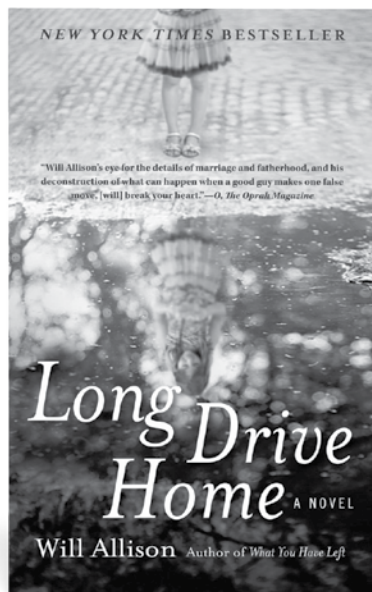
Originally published in a longer form on Ilana’s blog: <http://midlifebatmitzvab.wordpress.com>

WILL ALLISON'S *NEW YORK TIMES*
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With one disastrous decision and the turn of his steering wheel, Glen Bauer manages to destroy four lives and two families. That incident and the years of guilt and deception that follow are the subject of Allison's fine second novel." —*People*

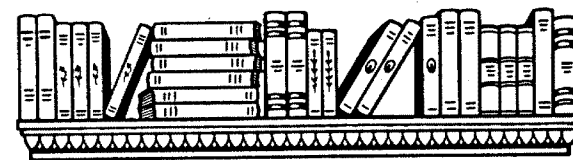
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—*O, The Oprah Magazine*



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WRITERS WORKSHOP STAFF NEWS

Will Allison: He is now a contributing editor at *One Story* magazine and will be an adjunct faculty member in Columbia University's MFA program in spring 2012. His *New York Times* bestselling novel, *Long Drive Home*, was published in paperback in February by Free Press (Simon & Schuster).

Elise Blackwell: Chicago's Lifeline Theatre premiered the dramatic adaptation of her novel *Hunger* in February 2012. Her story "Necrotic" was chosen for first place in the 2011 *Newport Review* Flash Fiction Contest, and she was elected to the Board of Directors of The Association of Writers & Writing Programs.

Clark Blaise: His latest book, *The Meagre Tarmac: stories*, (Biblioasis June, 2011) was a 2011 Scotiabank Giller Prize Nominee.

James Brown: His memoir, *The Los Angeles Diaries*, will be published in France by 13eNote Books in June 2012. Brown also served as a guest writer-in-residence at UC Riverside's Low Residency M.F.A. Program in Palm Springs in Winter 2011.

Max Byrd: His new company, Willowbank Books, has just published *The First of Hearts—Selected Letters of Mrs. Henry Adams*, with an Introduction by Cokie Roberts. His novel, *The Paris Deadline*, will be published in October by Turner Publishing.

Ron Carlson: His first book of poems as well as assorted other short pieces, *Room Service: Poems, Meditations, Outcries*,

and Remarks, was published by Red Hen Press in March 2012.

Tavia Cathcart: Her second nonfiction book, *Bernheim Arboretum and Research Forest*, was published by Butler Books, December 2010, and launched at #8 on the best-seller list in Kentucky. Over 200 of her photos are presented in this hardcover collector's edition.

Michael Chabon: *The Astonishing Secret of Awesome Man*, a children's book with illustrations by Jake Parker, was released by Balzer + Bray in September. *Manhood for Amateurs: The Pleasures and Regrets of a Husband, Father, and Son* was released in paperback in January.

Alan Cheuse: Three of his novellas—*When the Stars Threw Down Their Spears* and *Watered Heaven with Their Tears*, *Care*, and *Paradise—or, Eat Your Face*—appeared as Amazon "Singles." The textbook he edited with novelist Nicholas Delbanco, *Literature: Craft & Voice*, came out in a second edition from McGraw-Hill.

Mark Childress: The paperback of his latest novel, *Georgia Bottoms*, came out from Back Bay Books in February.

Jane Ciabattari: Her short story "Shanghai Blues" was published in *The Literary*, the Center for Fiction's new literary publication, and was nominated for a Pushcart Prize. Another short story, "Contents of House," is forthcoming in May 2012 in *Long Island Noir*, edited by Kaylie Jones (Akashic Books). She gave the "Life

in Letters" lecture at Bennington Graduate Writing Seminars in January 2012.

John Daniel: His most recent book, *The Far Corner*, won the 2011 Oregon Book Award in Creative Nonfiction. *Of Earth: New and Selected Poems, 1978-2010*, will be published by Lost Horse Press this fall.

Leslie Daniels: Her first novel, *Cleaning Nabokov's House*, was published in 2011 by Simon & Schuster/Touchstone. The paperback will be out in March.

Carol Edgarian: Her novel *Three Stages of Amazement*, which was released in early 2011 by Scribner, was an Indiebound bestseller and a Pick of the Month, an *O Magazine* Top Pick, an Amazon Pick of the Month, a "Best Summer Read" on NPR's "All Things Considered," a *New York Times* bestseller, a *New York Times* Editors' Choice, and a "Best Summer Read" in the *Chicago Tribune*.

Janet Fitch: Her essay "Cherished Memories of Mom's Kitchen" was published in the *Los Angeles Times* in December.

Richard Ford: *Blue Collar, White Collar, No Collar: Stories of Work* was released by Harper Perennial in April.

Karen Joy Fowler: Her new collection of short stories, *What I Didn't See*, was published by Small Beer Press.

Lynn Freed: She spent a month at the Bogliasco Foundation near Genoa in the Spring, working on a novel. Four of her previous novels are being reissued as ebooks. She has an essay coming out in the 2012 nonfiction edition of *Ploughshares*.

Dagoberto Gilb: A new collection of his stories, *Before the End, After the Beginning*, was published by Grove Atlantic in November. One of the stories in it was chosen for the O. Henry Prize Stories 2012.

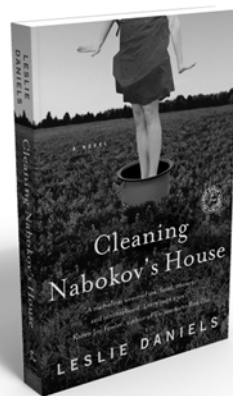
Gerald Haslam: *In Thought and Action: The Enigmatic Life of S.I. Hayakawa*, co-written with Janice E. Haslam, was published in November (U. of Nebraska Press). His article "Hayakawa: A life that defied labels" appeared in the *Bakersfield Californian* in June. His "Heart of the Valley" (*Saveur* 140, Aug/Sept 2011) has been nominated for the Bert Green Award for culinary writing. A third, paperback edition of his *Workin' Man Blues: Country Music in California* was issued in early 2012 (U. of California Press).

James D. Houston: Heyday Books has published his posthumous *A Queen's Journey: An unfinished novel about Hawaii's last monarch* with a foreword by Alan Cheuse and an afterword by Maxine Hong Kingston.

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-Karen Joy Fowler, author of
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-Minneapolis Star Tribune

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Michael Jaime-Becerra: He had a story in the debut issue of *Charlotte*.

Louis B. Jones: His essay on California appeared in the anthology *West of 98*, edited by Lynn Stegner and Russell Rowland (U. of Texas Press). His story "The Mere Mortal" was republished in the anthology *New California Writing* (Heyday) and Honorably Mentioned for a Pushcart. The paperback of his novel *Radiance* (Counterpoint, 2011) comes out this spring. Its twin, *Innocence*, will be published next winter by Counterpoint.

Anne Lamott: Her next book, *Some Assembly Required: A Journal of My Son's First Son*, co-written with Sam Lamott, will be released in March from Riverhead.

Michelle Latiolais: Bellevue Literary Press published her new collection of stories, *Widow*.

David Lukas: He self-published *Sierra Nevada Birds* (Lukas Guides).

Maile Meloy: Her first novel for young readers, *The Apothecary*, with illustrations by Ian Schoenherr, was published by Putnam in October.

Joanne Meschery: She has released a digital version of her book *In A High Place*, available at Amazon and the Selwa Press.

Bharati Mukherjee: Her new novel, *Miss New India*, was published by Houghton Mifflin Harcourt in May.

Varley O'Connor: Her fourth novel, *The Master's Muse*, will be published by Scribner in May. Her fiction craft interview with Paul Harding, author of *Tinkers*, will be published by *AWP Writer's Chronicle* in spring 2012.

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CONTINUING STUDIES

Alison Owings: *Indian Voices: Listening to Native America* was published in April by Rutgers University Press.

Frederick Reiken: His most recent novel, *Day for Night*, was released in paperback in 2011 with Back Bay Books. Foreign editions have been released or are forthcoming in six countries. The novel was a finalist for the *Los Angeles Times* Book Prize.

Elizabeth Rosner: She published book reviews in the *San Francisco Chronicle* and *New York Journal of Books* and taught writing workshops in Nuevo Vallarta, Mexico and in Swan Valley, Montana.

Elissa Schappell: Her novel, *Blueprints for Building Better Girls*, was published in September by Simon and Schuster.

Sandra Scofield: Her short short story "Staph" was published by *Narrative Online* as a Story of the Week, chosen as one of the five best of the year, and published in *Narrative's* annual print anthology. As part of Texas Tech's Plains History project, she wrote the forward for a book of columns from 1930-1960, *As a Farm Woman Thinks*, and contributed a brief essay to the scholarly collection *Woman on the North American Plains*. She contributed an essay (with Barry Lopez, Rick Bass, and others) to a book of photographs, *Llana Estacada: Island in the Sky* (Texas Tech).

Martin J. Smith: Walker & Company will release *The Wild Duck Chase*, his nonfiction book about "the vitally important, hopelessly obscure, and undeniably peculiar Federal Duck Stamp Contest" in September 2012.

Gregory Spatz: He was awarded the Individual Artist of the Year for Spokane, by the Spokane Arts Commission. He has a novel forthcoming in June 2012, *Inukshuk* (Bellevue Literary Press), as well as a book of short stories in October 2012, *Half as*

Happy (Engine Books). He was awarded an NEA Literature Fellowship Grant for 2012. He has new stories coming out in *Glimmer Train Stories*, *New England Review* and *Sycamore Review*. He also has new music out with his band, John Reischman and The Jaybirds: *Vintage and Unique* (Corvus, 2011).

Amy Tan: Her new story "Rules for Virgins" was published by Byliner Originals and is available online <http://byliner.com/originals/rules-for-virgins>.

Andrew Tonkovich: He is writing a new weekly books column for the *OC Weekly*.

Susan Trott: A film deal is developing for her newest book, *Flamingo Thief* (self-published, 2010). Ben Stiller will produce and Will Farrell will star. Her short story "About Bunin" will appear in the *The West Marin Review*, Fall 2012.

Luis Urrea: *Queen of America*, his latest novel, was published by Little, Brown in November. He has a story in the latest addition to Akashic's noir series, *San Diego Noir*. His novel *Into the Beautiful North* was chosen as one of three selections to be featured in San Diego's One Book, One San Diego program for 2012.

Ayelet Waldman: The paperback of her novel *Red Hook Road* was published by Anchor Books in May.

Rick Wartzman: *What Would Drucker Do Now?*, a collection of his columns for Bloomberg Businessweek, was published by McGraw-Hill in September 2011. Among the columns featured is one that links the Community of Writers to the concept of "management as a liberal art."

Al Young: He will appear at *Poetry Flash's* launch of the long awaited *Visions and Affiliations: A California Literary Time Line: Poets & and Poetry 1940-2005*. ■

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Author of *THE BOOK OF MADNESS AND CURES*,
debuting in hardcover in April 2012

"O'Melveny draws on her Italian artist mother's memories of Venice and
her own father's disappearance...to create a story of real longing."
—*Library Journal*

FREDERICK REIKEN

Author of *DAY FOR NIGHT*

"A fascinating, emotionally acute and, at times, mind-bogglingly complex
story to which we surrender with delight." —*Washington Post*

LUIS ALBERTO URREA

Author of *QUEEN OF AMERICA*

"A magnificent work of literary alchemy."
—Jamie Ford, author of *Hotel on the Corner of Bitter and Sweet*



Proudly published by Little, Brown and Company

Room Service: Poems, Meditations, Outcries, and Remarks by Ron Carlson

These prose poems were published in the book mentioned above by Red Hen Press in March 2012.

Ars Poetica

Hoist the steel table up onto the roof during the storm in the middle of the night. You're probably going to need a pulley and chains. Your work should be strapped to the table with sturdy straps. Rain will be lashing you and you're going to get pretty wet. You're going to have to get the table up on top of everything, higher than the chimneys. In the laboratory all of your gizmos will be boiling and sparking as they should. Listen. Move carefully up there and check everything twice, the straps and the electrical connections. You'll be able to sense the storm building, the lightning stepping heavily toward you in the sheets of rain. Keep checking things even in the dark. You'll be way up there and all soaking. This is all you can do. Go ahead. You'll be working alone. Get that big table onto the roof.

Room Service

We called room service, just to see, and they sent up a room, and it was good so we ordered another, this time with a view and it was lovely and there was plenty of, well, room, I mean this was light and airy which is what you want sometimes, and we enjoyed it every bit, and then we wanted something small and private without a terrace and we ordered that and sat closer together which was very nice. By now we'd memorized the room service number and we kept dialing. We ordered a vast, cavernous room with velvet walls and chandeliers and that led us to dancing which is always a pleasure. We ordered a room with no windows and doors and when it came it was a mystery. We ordered a glass room and classroom and a barroom and a car room. We absolutely could not stop ourselves. Room service! We ordered a showroom and we ordered a room almandine but that was crazy. We ordered garlic mashed potatoes but they didn't arrive, because this was room service not some vegetable emporium. We ordered an emporium and it was deluxe and we ordered a gymnasium and the floor there gleamed expectantly. By now it was late and we ordered a dorm room and a cloak room. Then we remembered we'd left our cloaks somewhere. The weather had changed and we'd left them on a bench or the back of a chair. We'd been out walking together, in love, and lost our cloaks, and when the cloak room arrived we held hands and cherished our history.

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A Simple Note on How Best to Use This Humble Bookmark

First, are you sure you have come to a place in your good book where it is wise and prudent to stop reading? Couldn't you, if you really applied yourself, read on, say a page or two? How have you ascertained to stop reading? If you are in bed, are all the decisions you have made in your bed, reliable decisions? Are all the decisions you have made while sleepy, truly valuable decisions? Aren't you a little skeptical of any decision you make while you are half asleep? Best would be to get out of bed and go brew some coffee while you think over your decision to use this bookmark. You can read while the coffee makes its sweet sounds in the kitchen. You've got to admit, this is a good book! When you have revived yourself enough to trust your decision-making ability, then you can properly apply this bookmark. Find the place in the book where you have finished reading, but do not put the bookmark in that place! Turn back two or three pages or four, and snug the bookmark there. Tomorrow you will have the pleasure of reading again something dear to you, something you read bravely in your kitchen with this bookmark in your hand.



In Memoriam: Henry Carlisle

We are sad to report, our friend and colleague Henry Carlisle died this past July, at home in San Francisco in his apartment on Russian Hill overlooking San Francisco Bay. He had been feeling poorly for a year or more, and Olga and Michael were with him when according to reports he went away peacefully. If anybody could exit with a debonair consideration for everybody involved, it would be Henry. Henry had the knack of happiness, and along with it, the deep resources of generosity to spread that happiness, and also make it look easy. He was so gently ironic about his own accomplishments, it was possible to forget – or never learn – how eminent he was: translator of Camus, president of PEN American Center, Knopf editor, champion and translator of Solzhenitsyn, descendant of an old Nantucket whaling family the Coffins, and novelist with six publications. Our personal favorite of his was “The Contract” (1968), which precisely skewers a certain echelon of old Nob Hill society in San Francisco, a milieu he grew up in. His last visit to us here in Squaw Valley was in 2005 when as usual he headed workshops and panels and provided the aid and correction, the model of urbanity and the charity of his humor, that once earned him a standing ovation at the end of his morning workshop. We like to imagine that scene, of twelve participants standing up around the table applauding, while Henry, still seated, would have somehow cleverly succeeded, with his typical modesty, in minimizing everyone's admiration. We will miss him.



Photo: Barbara E. Hall

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Review

SANTA MONICA



“Nodine’s cinematic novel deserves to be hailed as one of the year’s finest fiction debuts.”

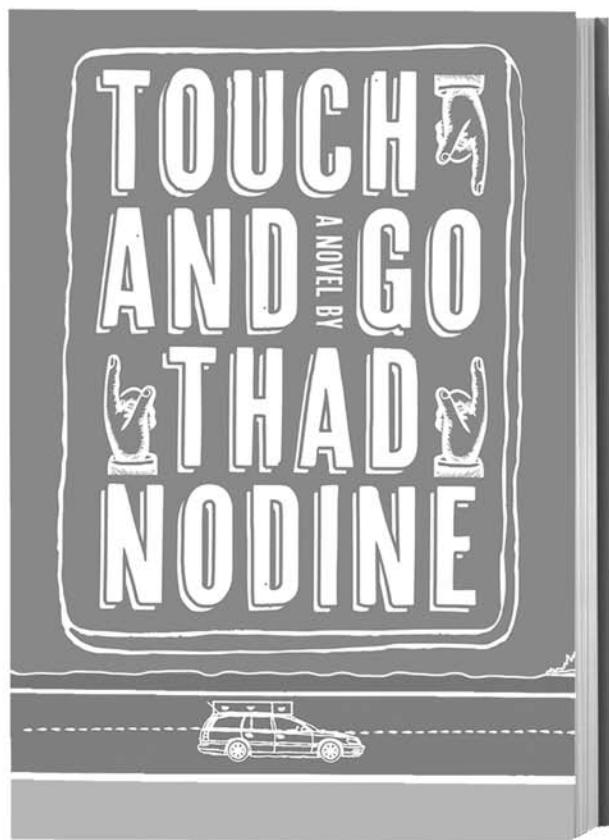
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“A stunning vision of the fractured modern American family. . .” *Booklist*

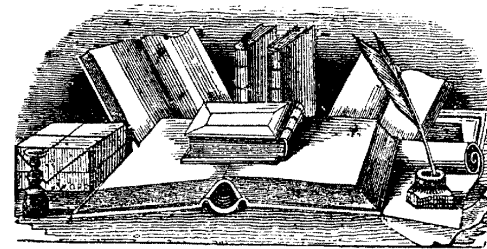


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Jonathan Franzen



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WRITERS WORKSHOP PARTICIPANT NEWS

Richard Adams (93): His historical novel, *The Parting: A Story of West Point on the Eve of the Civil War*, was republished (with a new cover). It was an iUniverse Editor’s Choice book and recipient of the iUniverse STAR award for excellence. www.richardbarlowadams.com

Andrea Alban (04): Her first novel, *Anyas War*, which she brought to Squaw Valley in 2004, was published in Spring 2011 (Feiwel & Friends/Macmillan). The Amelia Bloomer Project, part of the American Library Association, selected *Anyas War* as one of the titles to be honored this year on the Amelia Bloomer List. www.andreaalban.com

Andrew Foster Altschul (97): His new novel, *Deus Ex Machina*, was published by Counterpoint. andrewfosteraltschul.com

Anita Amirrezvani (01): Her second novel, *Equal of the Sun*, will be published by Scribner in 2012. www.bloodofflowers.com

Frederick R. Andresen (03,02,01,00): He writes weekly columns for the leading Russian news media, RIA Novosti. www.fandresen.com

Katie Amatruda (09,08): Her articles “Four Stages Of Divorce: Break-up,

Breakdown, Breakthrough and Breakover” was published by *Huffington Post* in December. Her novel *Wizzy-wig* was a semifinalist in the 2011 William Faulkner/William Wisdom Creative Writing Competition.

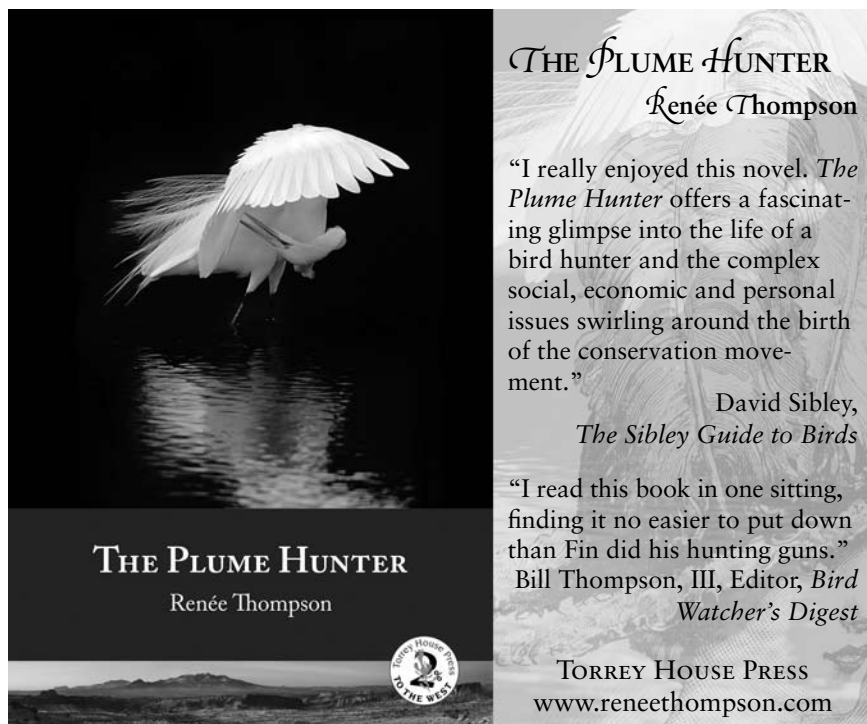
Ramona Ausubel (08): Her story “Atria” was published in the April 4 issue of the *The New Yorker*. Her first novel, *No One is Here Except All of Us*, came out from Riverhead Books in February 2012. Her son Clay Aster Grossman was born on November 9th.

Dedria Humphries Barker (08): She published an essay, “How I Attended Kim Kardashian’s Wedding,” on Salon.com in October.

Elaine Barnard (11): Her short story “Mercy” will be published in this year’s *Lighthouse Anthology*.

Judy Batalion (11): Her essays and humor pieces about religion, romance, and ricotta were published in *Salon*, *The Jerusalem Post Magazine*, *Nerve*, *The Jewish Quarterly* (UK), *Petside* and the anthology *Graphic Details* (forthcoming). She edited the collection *The Laughing Stalk: Live Comedy and Its Audiences* to

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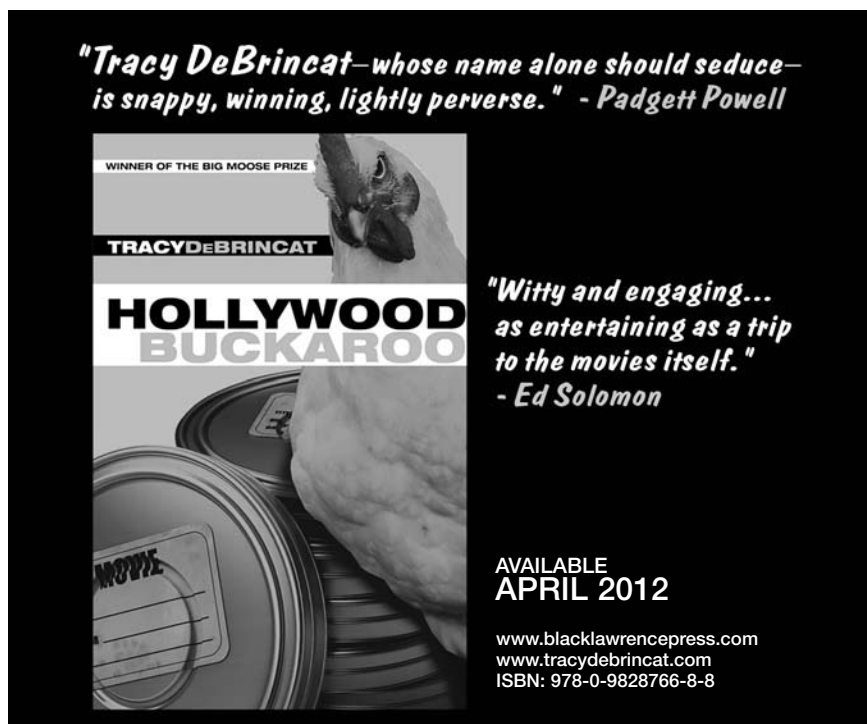
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- Ed Solomon

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be published in 2012 (Parlor Press). She also gave birth to a daughter, Zelda Anne Lightman.

Michael Boehm (10): He and his wife Simona welcomed their first child, Carina Elizabeth Boehm in December 2010. redroom.com/member/michael-boehm

Denise Bostrom (10,07): Her essay "Dignity in Losing" was published in the *Huffington Post* on November 17. She is now a regular blogger with Huff/Post 50.

Carl Brush (05,04,02): His historical novel *The Second Vendetta* will be published by Solstice Publishing in the late spring.

Nina Buckless (10): Her short story "Deer" is forthcoming in *Timbouse*, Summer 2012. She was recently accepted to the MFA program in fiction at The University of Michigan.

Colleen Morton Busch (04): Her nonfiction book, *Fire Monks*, was published by Penguin Press and named one of the top books of 2011 by the *San Francisco Chronicle*, *Publisher's Weekly*, and Barnes and Noble. www.colleenmortonbusch.com

Kate Campbell (08): Her forthcoming novel, *Adrift in the Sound*, from Hill House Press is a finalist for the Mercer Street Book Award. Her poem "Mother of Pearl" is included *Gems of Wisdom*, an anthology by AgeSong, with proceeds supporting elder care in the San Francisco Bay Area. Kate-Campbell.blogspot.com

Aneesha Capur (05): Her novel *Stealing Karma* debuted at the Beijing International Literary Festival in March 2011. *Stealing Karma* was launched by HarperCollins India in March/April and was listed in the Top 5 Fiction Picks in *The Hindu*, India's leading national newspaper, picked as Essential

Reading in the *Sunday Guardian*, featured on CNN-IBN, featured at the 2011 Ubud Writers & Readers Festival in Indonesia, and has been on WHSmith's Bestsellers List in Fiction in India since March 2011. Excerpts of *Stealing Karma* have been recognized in the Amazon Breakthrough Novel Award, *Wild River Review*, two Glimmer Train Press competitions and the *Writer's Digest* Literary Short Story award. www.aneeshacapur.com

Mauro Javier Cardenas (02): An excerpt from *The Revolutionaries Try Again*, his novel-in-progress, appeared in the January 2012 Disaster Issue of *Witness Magazine*.

Laura Cerruti: In 2011, she married Aric Bright, and on October 11, their son, Sullivan Antonio Bright was born.

Amanda Chiado (Poetry 04, WW 03): See Poetry Participant News.

Julie Chibbaro (01,99): Her book *Deadly* was published by Simon & Schuster in 2011. www.juliechibbaro.com

Meg Waite Clayton (00): Her third novel, *The Four Ms. Bradwells* (Random House's Ballantine Books), was published in hardcover in 2011, and is just out in paperback. Her first novel, the Bellwether Prize finalist *The Language of Light*, was released in paperback in June, and her second novel, *The Wednesday Sisters*, made bookmovement's Top 20 book club picks for the year, based on reader's choices. Her essays were read on public radio and appeared in the *Los Angeles Times* and the *San Jose Mercury News*. Ballantine will publish her fourth novel, *The Wednesday Daughters*, in the spring of 2013. www.megwaiteclayton.com

Jody Cohan (94): She has been signed to help producer/director Doug Wilson write a memoir about the people

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and places he encountered while spanning the globe with ABC Sports for 50 years.

Myfanwy Collins (05,04): Her debut novel, *Echolocation*, will be published in March 2012 by Engine Books (and debuted at AWP 2012 in Chicago). Her collection of short fiction, *I Am Holding Your Hand*, will be published in August 2012 by PANK Little Books. www.myfanwycollins.com

David Corbett (WW 99,91,89,88; Screen 2001): His latest novel, *Do They Know I'm Running?*, was named Best Novel in the Rising Star category by *Spinetangler Magazine*.

Judy Brackett Crowe (Poetry 08; Screen 90; WW 89-86): See Poetry Participant News.

Jasmin Darznik (09,07): Her family memoir, *The Good Daughter*, was published by Grand Central Publishing. The book was a *New York Times* Bestseller and will be published in thirteen countries. She is a 2011-2012 fellow at the Virginia Foundation for the Humanities. www.jasmindarznik.com

Tracy DeBrincat (96): Her debut novel, *Hollywood Buckaroo*, will be published by Black Lawrence Press in April 2012. Her story collection, *Moon Is Cotton & She Laugh All Night* (Subito Press), is a 2011 Next Generation Indie Book Award Finalist. Her story "Badass" received the 2011 Tusculum Review Prize and was published in the Fall 2011 issue of the *Tusculum Review*. www.tracydebrincat.com

Colin Dickey (06): His second book, *Afterlives of the Saints: Stories from the Ends of Faith*, will be published by Unbridled Books in spring 2012. He also has an essay in the Fall 2011 issue of *Lapham's Quarterly*. www.craniolepty.com

Tyler Diltz (00): His novel *A King of Infinite Space* was published by AmazonEncore.

Heather Donahue (08): Her book *Grow Girl* was published by Gotham in January 2012.

Laurie Ann Doyle (09): Her story "Wings Raised Up" was nominated for a 2012 Pushcart Prize. Another story, "Restraint," is forthcoming in *Midway Journal*.

Andrew Dugas (09): The short story he workshopped at Squaw Valley in 2009 was published by *Fiction365*.

Theresa Duve Morales (10,03): Her short story "Jacinto's Teeth" won third place in the American Fiction Contest and will be published in *American Fiction* this year.

Selden Edwards (72-69): His second novel, *The Lost Prince*, will be published by Dutton in August.

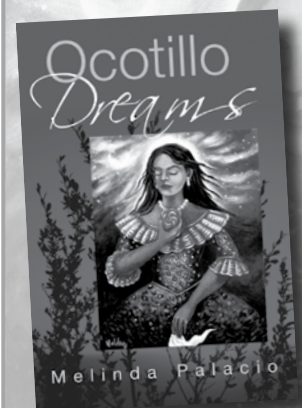
Jason Elfert (02): He published his novel *My Darla*.

Sara Flood (09): Her story "Dearly" was published in the 2011 issue of *Bat City Review*. Her essay "Toward Oceans, 101" won the Dorothy Churchill Cappon Prize and is forthcoming in the Winter 2012 issue of *New Letters*.

Amy Franklin-Willis (09,06,05): Her debut novel, *The Lost Saints of Tennessee*, was published by Grove/Atlantic in February 2012 and was an IndieBound Next Pick.

Janet Freeman (11): Her flash fiction "Helping Hand" won *Word Riot's* Flash Fiction contest and another flash, "Man on the Moon" appeared in *Dogzplot*. In March 2011 she published three stories: "Good Boyfriend" in *Necessary Fiction*,

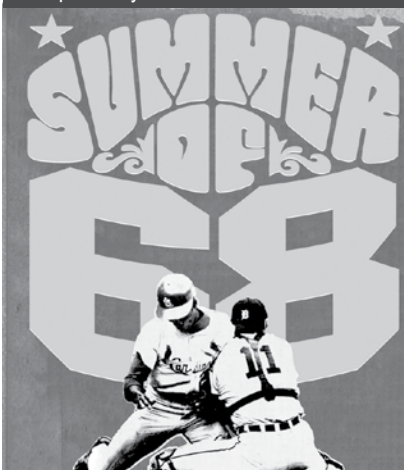
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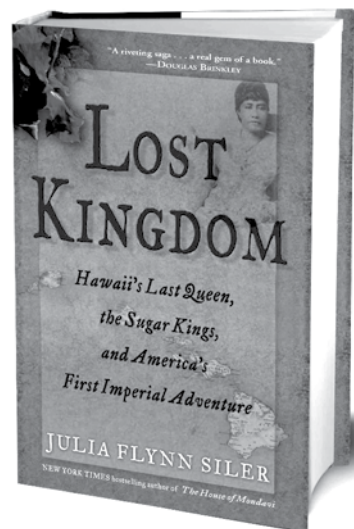
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Donna Goldman/Buzz Pictures

“Happy in California” in *Monkeybicycle* and “A Night Like This” in *Bartleby Snopes*. She also had stories in *Cottonwood* and *Breakwater Review*, and in December was the featured author with three flash fictions on Connotation Press. www.janetfreeman.com

Holly Gaglio (10): She gave birth to her first child, Abraham Julius, on March 9. Her essay “My Smother-In-Law” was published in *Orange Coast Magazine* in October 2010.

Alison Singh Gee (07,01): Her memoir *The Peacock Sings for Rain* will be published by St. Martin’s Press in fall 2012.

Darien Gee (99): Her fourth novel, *Friendship Bread* (Ballantine Books/Random House) was released in April under her own name (rather than under her previously used pen name). She also sold foreign and audio rights to the book.

Jeff Gillenkirk (76): His 2010 novel, *Home, Away*, is the first title to be produced as an e-book by publisher Chin Music Press (Seattle). He is also publishing a column about modern fatherhood at <http://dadsatbat.blogspot.com>.

Lynn Gordon (11): Her story “Just Think of Her” was published in *Zone 3* in Spring 2011.

Janet Grillo (03): She wrote, directed and produced the independent feature film *Fly Away*, which was premiered as one of eight films chosen out of 2000 submissions in the Dramatic Competition at the South by Southwest Film Festival (SXSW) in Austin, Texas in March 2011. The film won Best Picture and Special Jury Prize for Performance at Arizona International Film Festival, before opening in April. www.flyawaymovie.com

Lev Grossman (94): His latest novel, *The Magician King*, was a *New York Times* Bestseller. www.levgrossman.com

Lise Haines (99): Her novel *Girl in the Arena* was a South Carolina Book Award nominee in 2011 and was published in the U.S. (Bloomsbury) with foreign rights sold in Turkey (Alfa-Artemis Yaynevi) and Brazil (Editora Underworld), and a movie option sold to Denver & Delilah, Charlize Theron’s production company. www.lisehaines.com

Séré Prince Halverson (06): Her debut novel, *The Underside of Joy*, was published in January 2012 by Dutton and will be published in thirteen other countries. It was one of the six Editor’s Buzz picks at BEA in May 2011. www.sereprincehalverson.com

Nina Hamberg (03): Her book *Grip: A Memoir of Fierce Attractions* was published by Route One Press in July and won the Maui Writers Conference Rupert Hughes Award and the Bay Area Independent Publishers Association Award for Best Memoir. www.ninahamberg.com

Jane Hammons (08): She received a 2011 Derringer Award from the Short Mystery Fiction Society for “The Unknown Substance,” published in *A Twist of Noir*. She also published stories in *A-Minor*, *blink ink noir*, *Camroc Press Review*, *Corium Magazine*, *Power Burn Flash*, *Pulp Metal Fiction* and *Verbicide Magazine*. She published nonfiction in *Hippocampus Magazine*.

Sara J. Henry (07,06): The paperback of her novel *Learning to Swim* (Broadway Books, Dec. 2011) was selected for the Target Emerging Authors program, named one of Best Books of 2011 by *Booklist* magazine, selected as one of the 10 best

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crime novels of 2011 in the *Boston Globe*, and has recently been nominated for the Mary Higgins Clark award (one of the Edgar awards). It was published in Germany in October 2011. The sequel is scheduled for summer 2012 from Crown. www.sarahjhenry.com

Joe Henry (74): His collection of connected stories, *Lime Creek*, came out from Random House in June.

Steve Hermanos (05): His book of poetry *O, Gigantic Victory!* was published by Straight, No Chaser Books.

Benjamin Hernandez Lang: He had a story in the debut issue of *Charlotte*.

Dwight Holing (01): His story “Gallopers” won the 2011 *Arts & Letters* Prize for Fiction and will be published in the Spring 2012 issue. His story “Spines” won honorable mention in the *Phoebe* fiction contest and was published in Fall 2011. “Matterhorn” also won an honorable mention and appeared in *Cutthroat* in Spring 2011. His story “What He Knows and Doesn’t” won second place in The Writer’s Workshop of Asheville’s 2011 Meet the Authors Contest. His nonfiction children’s book *Incredible Journeys: Amazing Animal Migrations* was published in September by Kingfisher for Animal Planet. www.holing.com.

Sacha A. Howells (09): He was selected as a 2012 Emerging Voices Fellow by PEN Center USA.

Rhoda Huffey (88): Her short story “Didwell Country” will appear in *Santa Monica Review*, Spring 2012 issue.

Gina Hyams (01): She is the creator of the Andrews McMeel Publishing book/kit series *Pie Contest in a Box* (2011), *Chili Cook-Off in a Box* (2012), and *Christmas Cookie Contest in a Box* (2012). www.ginahyams.com

Buzzy Jackson (WW 97; Screen 93): Her new novel, *Effie Perine*, is available as an ebook. She is a book critic at the *Boston Globe* and *Book Forum*. www.buzzyjackson.com.

Cindy Jones (07): *My Jane Austen Summer* was published by Wm. Morrow/Harper Collins in March 2011. www.cindysjones.com

Matthew F. Jones (90): His novel *A Single Shot* was reissued in fall 2011 by Mulholland Books as their first Mulholland Classic. His script of *A Single Shot* is set to begin filming in November 2011, starring William H. Macy, Forrest Whitaker, Juno Temple and Juliette Lewis. He also has written a screenplay of his novel *Boot Tracks* (Europa Editions, 2006), which was filmed in summer 2011, starring Michelle Monaghan, Stephen Dorff and Willem Defoe. www.matthewfjones.com

James V. Jordan (09): He has had four stories published in the past year: “Waiting for the Sun” in *North Atlantic Review* (issue 21); “The Tallis” in *The MacGuffin* (Vol. XXVI, No. 3); “Running on Empty” in *The Broome Review* (issue 3); “Sympathy for the Devil” in *North Atlantic Review* (issue 22).

Len Joy (09,08): His short story “My Father’s Ice” was published by *Johnny America* in October 2011. He won an honorable mention in the *New Millennium Writing Competition* (summer 2011) for the opening chapter of his novel, *American Jukebox*.

Maxima Kahn (WW 10,06; Poetry 07): See PoetWatch.

Lee Romer Kaplan (08): She was awarded a 2011 Sozopol Fiction Fellowship by the Elizabeth Kostova Foundation, and summer residency fellowships at Ragdale

and Art Farm. In late 2010, The Writers Center at the University of Maryland awarded Lee the Undiscovered Voices Prize, and she joined the teaching artist roster at Teachers & Writers Collaborative in NYC. Her essay “Stealing Poetry: Why We Write and Sometimes, Why We Don’t” is forthcoming at *Fiction Writers Review*.

Alma Katsu (03): Her first novel, *The Taker*, was published by Gallery Books (Simon & Schuster) in September. *Booklist* named it one of the top Debut Novels of 2011. The second novel in the trilogy, *The Reckoning*, comes out in June. www.almakatsu.com

James Kohlberg (Screen 04; WW 03): See Screenwriting Participant News.

Reese Okyong Kwon (10): Her stories “Legends of the Seoul Dogs” and “The Lord is Dead, Long Live the Lord” are forthcoming in the *Southern Review*.

Scott Lambridis (08): His novel-in-progress, *Oh, Mighty Hiccup!*, is being serialized by MonkeyMake.It. His story “Under The Peach Tree” will be published in *New American Writing* in Winter 2012. www.scottlambridis.com

Martin Lastrapes (05): His new novel, *Inside the Outside*, was published by Cannibal Press in July. www.martinlastrapes.com

Annina Lavee (09): Her piece “After the Sun Melted” was published in the May 2010 edition of the online literary journal *Brevity*.

Krys Lee (09): Her novel *Drifting House* was published by Penguin in February 2012. Her novel-in-progress is also to be published by Viking/Penguin in 2013. A story of hers received special mention in the *Pushcart Prize Anthology 2012*.

Edan Lepucki (07): She gave birth to her son Dixon Bean Brown on June 22. She also published a short story, "Take Care of that Rage Problem," in issue 37 of *McSweeney's Quarterly Concern*.

Joan Steinau Lester (03): Her first Young Adult novel, *Black, White, Other*, was published in September. Her essay "Forbidden Beds" was a Creative Nonfiction Finalist in Summer 2011 for The Susan Atefat Prize from *Arts & Letters*. www.JoanLester.com

Aimee Liu (94): Her new book, *Restoring Our Bodies, Reclaiming Our Lives*, was published by Trumpeter Books in April 2011. She also co-edited *Alchemy of the Word: Writers Talk About Writing*, published by Coimbra Editions in July 2011. www.aimeeliu.net

Dixon Long (05,03-00,99,97,94): His third novel, *Running without Lights*, was published by CreateSpace.

Li Miao Lovett (06): She was one of five finalists in A Room of Her Own Foundation's Orlando Prize for her essay "If Grandmother Had Married a Peasant." It will appear in the anthology *The Chalk Circle* in 2012. Her debut novel, *In the Lap of the Gods*, received an honorable mention at the Green Book Festival.

Michael David Lukas (09): His novel, *The Oracle of Stamboul*, was released in paperback by Harper Perennial in 2011. www.michaeldavidlukas.com

Giselle "Gigi" Lumas (04): She has three new books out: *Melody's Blues*, *Sandy Times*, and *Journal of a Cymbal Player-Freshman Year*. www.gisellelumas.com

Kerri Majors (03): YARN, the YA literary journal that she founded, won an Innovations in Reading Prize

from the National Book Foundation. www.yareview.net

Annam Manthiram (10): Her novel *After the Tsunami* was published by Stephen F. Austin State University Press in September. www.annammanthiram.com

Gretchen McCullough (08,06): *Three Stories in Cairo*, a bilingual book of short stories translated into Arabic by the Egyptian poet Mohamed Metwalli and the author, was published by the Egyptian publishers AFAQ in July. www.gretchenmccullough.com

Melanie McDonald (00): Her new novel, *Eromenos*, was published by Seriously Good Books and was a finalist for the 2011 Next Generation Indie Book Awards. www.melaniejmcDonald.com

Sharon McElhone (06): Two short stories from her collection of short stories, *The Bride's Daughter*, will be featured in The New Short Fiction Series Fall 2012. www.sharonmcelhone.com

Christina Meldrum (05): Her most recent novel, *Amaryllys In Blueberry*, was published in February 2011 by Gallery Books, an imprint of Simon & Schuster. She is writing her third novel, slated for publication by Knopf in 2013.

Deborah Michel (05): Her first novel, *Prosper in Love*, is being published in May by Berkley Books as part of a two-book deal. She is currently at work on her second novel, tentatively titled *The Idiot of Silicon Valley*. www.deborahmichel.net

Donna Miscalta (98): Her first novel, *When the de la Cruz Family Danced*, was published by Signal 8 Press. It has been nominated for the Pacific Northwest Booksellers Association Award. www.donnamiscalta.com

Anthony J. Mohr (08): His essay "Invasion USA" will be published in *War, Literature & the Arts* in the summer of 2012. His essay "My Father, in the Dark" appeared in the Fall 2011 issue of *Eclectica*.

Thad Nodine (98): His novel *Touch and Go* was released by Unbridled Books.

Regina O'Melveny (08,02; Art of the Wild 92): Her first novel, *The Book of Madness and Cures*, will be published in April by Little, Brown and Company. Foreign rights have been sold to Russia, Italy, Holland, Brazil, Serbia, Hungary, and Korea.

Kim Palchikoff (04): *The New York Times* published an essay, "The Icons That Survived Hiroshima," on August 5. The piece was first workshopped at Squaw. The Nevada Press Association awarded her second place for best freelance story for 2011 for her exposé about Russian circus performers living in Las Vegas.

Victoria Patterson (06): Her essay "Metamorphosis" appeared in *Orange Coast magazine*.

Liza (Elizabeth) Percer (05): Her first novel, *An Uncommon Education*, will be published in May by HarperCollins.

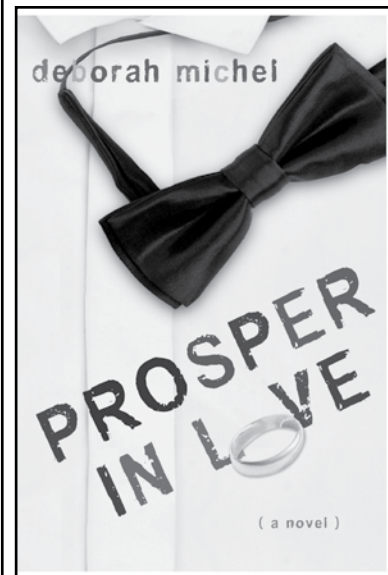
Carol Piasente (10,07,94): Her novel *Known Unto God* was a runner-up for the 20th annual James Jones First Novel Fellowship.

Bill Pieper (10): His story "Taking Care of Business," was published in *Blue Lake Review's* July 2011 issue. www.bluelakereview.weebly.com

Bill Pieper (10): His story "Liar's Dice" (workshopped at the 2010 conference) took third place in the 2011 national contest sponsored by *Scratch Magazine*.

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—*Publishers Weekly*, starred review

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It was published online this fall and in the annual printed *Scratch Anthology*. *The North State Review* included his travel piece "California Badlands" in the June issue, and two poems in the September issue. Two stories were published online: "Taking Care of Business" (*Blue Lake Review*, July) and "Had To" (*Primal Urge Magazine*, October/November).

Nadine Pinede (05): A short story of hers was published in *Haiti Noir*, edited by Edwidge Danticat, and a poem of hers appeared in *A Lime Jewel: Anthology of Poetry and Stories in Aid of Haiti*. Her novel excerpt was selected as a finalist for the 2010 Hurston-Wright Award for College Writers. Her memoir piece is forthcoming in the anthology *Becoming Woman*, and her essay appeared in the online journal *theotherjournal.com*.

Yoav Potash (08,05): His documentary film *Crime After Crime* received a national primetime broadcast on the Oprah Winfrey Network in November. An excerpt of the film was also featured on The PBS News Hour. The film was an official selection at the Sundance Film Festival and has earned top awards at a dozen film festivals including the San Francisco International Film Festival, Washington DC International Film Festival, and Heartland Film Festival. www.CrimeAfterCrime.com.

Ismet Prcic (07): His debut novel, *Shards*, (Grove Atlantic, 2011), has been short listed for the Flaherty-Dunn First Novel Prize.

Paula Priamos (97): Her memoir *The Shyster's Daughter* will be published in July by Etruscan Press. An excerpt appeared in the Spring issue 2011 of *Zyzyva*.

Andrew Roe (03,97): An excerpt from his novel-in-progress, *Believers*, recently

appeared in *The Sun*. He also has stories forthcoming in *Pank* and *Gigantic*. andrewroe.blogspot.com

Monika Rose (WW 00; Poetry 97): See Poetry Participant News.

Belinda Rule (11): Her poem "Core of Things" received second prize in Williamstown (Australia) Literary Festival's Seagull Poetry Prize 2011. She has poems forthcoming in *Hecate: An Interdisciplinary Journal of Women's Liberation*, *Visible Ink*, and *21D*. www.belindarule.com

Amy Kathleen Ryan (06): Her latest young adult novel, *Glow*, the first novel in the Sky Chasers series, (St. Martins, 2011), has been published in eight languages and has been optioned for film rights by 20th Century Fox. www.amykathleenryan.com

Kris Saknussem (00): His new novel *Reverend America* came out in February from Dark Coast Press.

Eric Sasson (07): His short story collection, *Margins of Tolerance*, is the recipient of the Tartt Award and is forthcoming from Livingston Press in May 2012. His stories also appeared in *The Puritan* and are forthcoming in *BLOOM* and *Liquid Imagination*.

Julia Scheeres (03): Her second book, *A Thousand Lives: the Untold Story of Hope, Deception, and Survival at Jonestown*, was published in October. juliascheeres.com

Erica Lorraine Scheidt (08): Her novel *Uses for Boys* was acquired by St. Martin's Press in a two book deal. Publication is slated for early 2013. *Uses for Boys* also won the 2011 Amazon Work-In-Progress Grant from the Society of Children's Book Writers and Illustrators. www.ericallorraine.com

Anne Sigmon (11,09): Her essay "Why I Still Travel to the Wild" was published in the anthology *Chicken Soup for the Soul: Find Your Happiness* (October 2011, Simon & Schuster). She has two other essays scheduled for publication in the travel anthology *Wandering in Bali*, forthcoming in Spring 2012.

Julia Flynn Siler (04,03): Her latest book, *Lost Kingdom: Hawaii's Last Queen, the Sugar Kings, and America's First Imperial Adventure*, was just published by Grove/Atlantic in January and is on *San Francisco Chronicle's* bestseller list. www.juliaflynnsiler.com.

Scott Sparling (90,86): The novel he brought to Squaw Valley, *Wire to Wire*, was published by Tin House Books in June.

Janyce Stefan-Cole (04): Her novel *Hollywood Boulevard* will be published in April by Unbridled Books. A short story of hers appeared in the anthology: *Being Human: The Call of the Wild* (Editions Bibliotekos, 2012).

Karen Stefano (08): Her nonfiction business writing book, *Before Hitting Send*,

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was published by Dearborn in October. Her story "How To Read Your Father's Obituary" was published in the *Santa Fe Literary Review* in Summer 2011. Her story "Five" is forthcoming in the *Tampa Review* in Fall 2011. www.stefanokaren.com

Christine Sunderland (05): Her fourth novel, *Hana-lani* (OakTara, 2010), won honorable mention in the San Francisco Book Festival, the Beach Book Festival, and the Hollywood Book Festival. www.ChristineSunderland.com

Ellen Sussman (96,80): Her novel *French Lessons* spent eleven weeks on the *San Francisco Chronicle* bestseller list and four weeks on the *New York Times* extended list, and was on the Indie and NPR bestseller lists. Unique Features, headed by Bob Shaye and Michael Lynne, who were the founders of New Line Cinema, have bought the movie rights. The novel

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was also published in the UK and will be published in Germany, Portugal, China and Russia. She just completed her next novel, *The Paradise Guest House*, which will also be published by Ballantine.

A.R. Taylor (11): Her short story "A Long Time Coming" was selected as one of three winners of the Annenberg Center's Project on Independence in July. Her short humor piece, "Tips for Syncing Coffee Klatch, Your New Smartphone Application," appeared in the *Farce Haven Tribune* section of the *Cynic* online magazine on August 16.

Renee Thompson (09,07,03): Her second novel, *The Plume Hunter*, was published by Torrey House Press in November. Her short story "Fences" is forthcoming from *Arcadia*, the journal of the University of Central Oklahoma. www.reneethompson.com

Sheila Thorne (04): She has had stories published in *Magnolia*, *Evening Street Review*, *Pif Magazine* (on-line) and *Storyscape Literary Journal* (on-line) this year.

Melanie Thorne (08): She was a resident at the Hedgebrook writers' retreat during the summer of 2011, and her debut novel, *Hand Me Down*, will be published by Dutton in April. www.melaniethorne.com

Wendy Nelson Tokunaga (02,01): This spring an essay of hers will appear in the anthology *Madonna and Me* published by Soft Skull Press, and a short story of hers will be published in the Young Adult "Tomo" anthology of Japan-related fiction to be published by Stone Bridge Press.

Irene Tritel (09): She published her novel *Rosie's Gringo Palace*.

Jessica Maria Tuccelli (08): Her debut novel, *Glow*, was published by Viking/Penguin in March. jessicamariatuccelli.com

Lisa Tucker (01): She had an essay in the *New York Times* on August 22: "A Medical Thriller, With a Life in the Balance." Her sixth novel, *The Winters In Bloom*, was published in September by Atria Books. www.lisatucker.com

Ian Tuttle (11): His first book, *StretchyHead*, has been published by PAC Books, with illustrations by Jason Toney.

Irvin Tyan (11): Kieran Tyan was born on August 23, 2011, ten days after the conclusion of the Writers Workshop.

Latha Viswanathan (03): Her book of short stories *Lingering Tide and Other Stories* has just been published by Tsar Books of Toronto, Canada and will be available in the U.S. through Small Press Distribution and Amazon. All twelve stories were published in American literary magazines and several won awards. lathavis.com

Cynthia Walker (08,07): Her short story "An Interested Party" won the Rick DiMarinis Fiction Prize in *Cutthroat Journal of the Arts* and was published in spring 2011.

Amanda Eyre Ward (92): Her newest novel, *Close Your Eyes*, was published in July 2011. It was an amazon.com bestseller, won the Lettres Prize from *Elle Magazine*, and will be published in the UK, France, Germany, Skandinavia, and Norway. The paperback will be published by Random House Reader's Circle in the summer of 2012. www.amandaward.com

David Watts (04,02,99,97,93-90,88): *The Healing Art of Writing*, edited by David Watts, Brian Dolan and Joan Baranow, was published by University of California Press in 2011. The anthology includes works by Squaw Valley writers Jane Hirshfield, Louis

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B. Jones, Terese Svoboda and others. A collection of poems under his pseudonym, harvey ellis, *the color of desire*, was published by Petaluma River Press in July. His chapbook, *At High Altitude: 31 Poems of 31 Words*, was published by Pudding House Press in August and won second place in the Sunken Garden Poetry Prize contest as well as being a finalist in the Pudding House Press Chapbook contest.

Tim Wendel (Screen 05; WW 89-86): His latest book, *Summer of '68: When Baseball—and America—Changed Forever* will be out in hardcover in Spring 2012 from Da Capo Press. www.timwendel.com

Kirsten Whatley (06): Her fiction story "Heartwood" will be published in



Ho'olaule'a: Celebrating 10 Years of Pacific Writing in spring 2012.

Parker White (10): *DewPoint*, a University of Alabama undergraduate literary arts magazine founded and edited by

Parker, published its premiere issue this past spring through Creasey Printing Services, which also publishes the UA graduate magazine *Black Warrior Review*. parkerwhite3@gmail.com.

Waimea Williams (08,89): Her novel *Aloha, Mozart* will be published by Luminis Books in fall 2012. This past summer her short stories received awards from *Glimmer Train*, *Salamander Review* and in the Lorian Hemingway Short Story Competition. Her family memoir of reservation life in the early 1900s, *The Ever-Rolling Stream*, was a finalist for the Margolis/Blue Mountain Center Award. She also received a month's residency at the Ragdale Foundation.

Ian Wilson (Poetry 08,93; WW 04): See Poetry Participant News.

Mark Wisniewski (91): His second novel, *Show Up, Look Good*, was published by Gival Press in August. www.showuplookgood.com

Kim Wyatt (06): She started a small press, Bona Fide Books, which published its first release *Permanent Vacation: Twenty Writers on Work and Life in Our National Parks* in May.

Mingmei Yip (98): *Song of the Silk Road* was published by Kensington Books. She is now under contract to write her fourth novel, *The Skeleton Women*, to be published in 2012, and her fifth,

Needle of a Thousand Beauties, in 2013. www.mingmeiyip.com

Mariah Young (08): Her collection *Masha'allah and Other Stories* won the first annual James D Houston Award for Western Literature. Her collection will be published by Heyday Press and is set for release in November 2012.

Gary Young (74): He will publish two books in 2012: *Even So: New and Selected Poems* from White Pine Press; and *One For the Money: The Sentence as a Poetic Form* from Lynx House Press.

Jackie Zakrewsky (09): She received an Individual Artist Award from the Maryland State Arts Council in 2010 for her novel in progress *Losing Elsie*. She was a finalist in the Summer Literary Seminars contests for 2010 and 2011 and used the partial fellowship she received to attend the SLS writing program in Lithuania in August 2011.

Désirée Zamorano (05): Her novel *Human Cargo* was published by Lucky Bat Books in a Kindle edition in June. Marcela Landres chose it as her mystery pick for 2011 in *Latinidad*. www.desireezamorano.com

Alexi Zentner (05): His first novel, *Touch*, was published W.W. Norton in April and has also been published in Canada, the UK, Italy, Germany, France, the Netherlands, Israel, Korea, Denmark, and Brazil. *Touch* is a Barnes & Noble Discover Great New

Writers selection, a Knopf New Face of Fiction pick, was shortlisted for the Center for Fiction's 2011 Flaherty-Dunnan

First Novel Prize and for the 2011 Governor General's Literary Award, and longlisted for



the 2011 Scotiabank Giller Prize. Alexi was named by the CBC as one of 12 Canadian Writers to Watch. www.alexizentner.com

Beryl W. Zerwer (10): Her shortstory "The Coconut Popsicle" won a Hackney Literary Prize and appeared in the Spring 2011 issue of the *Birmingham Arts Journal*. Her short story "A Death in the Family" was a finalist in *Glimmer Train's* 2011 Family Matters Competition. Her novel-in-progress *Savage Woman, Savage Justice* was a semi-finalist in the 2011 William Faulkner Wisdom Competition.

Olga Zilberbourg (10): Her story "A Dark and Empty Corner" was published by *Narrative Magazine* in the Fall 2011. Other publications this year and forthcoming include *Santa Monica Review*, *Cafe Irreal*, *Prick of the Spindle*, and *elimae*. www.zilberbourg.com ■

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Remembering Blair Fuller

BY LOUIS B. JONES

This July we lost one of the Writers Conference founders and a great friend, Blair Fuller. He died of natural causes, in Petaluma, not far from the quiet coastal town of Tomales where he had been living for some years. It was in the late sixties that he and Oakley hatched the idea of a writers conference, along with the *SF Chronicle* science writer David Perlman, who also had a cabin here in the valley at the time. The summer of 1969, in a sleepy ski resort, seems to have been a time not only of tennis and parties but also a period of social and cultural ferment, when people could get up to such mischief as starting a writers conference, even way out here far west of Iowa City, christening it with the clunky but nicely accurate, invaluable name it still has today. In those days when our Squaw precincts were nothing more than a big dusty parking lot, he used to pull in on his old motorcycle.

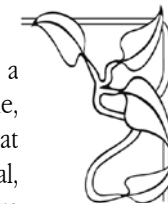
He had taught writing at Barnard College and at Stanford; and during a sojourn in Paris he had edited the *Paris Review*; and with his East Coast connections, he was able to bring in the celebrated authors that first started putting Squaw on the literary map – Alex Haley, George Plimpton, Peter Mathiessen, Robert Stone, Anna Deveare Smith. He also worked hard to arrange the purchase of the big A-frame “Opera House” building that still stands near the ski-resort entrance, which we owned for some years, and whose equity then became our nest egg. His first two novels were based on the years he lived in Africa, where in Ghana and the Ivory Coast he witnessed the effects of colonialism. Two of his published short stories won O’Henry Awards. Blair was always a sunny, patrician presence here, a George Washington in latter days.

Blair Fuller, Philip Roth, Nelson W. Aldrich Jr., and Benjamin Taylor

One lasting dividend of Blair’s association with the Community of Writers has been his wife Diana’s joining us. Diana has established connections with the movie business, and in the late seventies, with Tom Rickman, she co-founded the Screenwriting program, which she continues to run, having built it into an important lyceum for film makers.



Blair in latter years had been living with his second wife, Arlene, in a pretty little Victorian house in Tomales, on the main drag, Highway One, looking out toward Tomales Bay. Only a few months before, we saw him at the winter board meeting, where he was his usual self, genial, gently formal, courtly, unfailingly generous in his appreciation of others, as if there were always bounteous funds of admiration and optimism at his disposal. ■



Dear Friends,

You may not know that the Community of Writers is an independent group, not a project of any college or university. We are a not-for-profit organization, run by a group of writers and poets to help other writers and poets, with no institution funding our operations, managing the budget, or providing the venue. In the early days, our workshops shared the Valley with few other visitors, but as the ski resort has prospered, the Valley has become an attractive year-round destination and the costs of housing and food have risen dramatically.

We need your help to sustain this Community of Writers. Would you please contribute something to our fund and help other writers have this valuable experience?

Many of you reading this now 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, or may have a better job, or you may have even seen your book published. And in that case, perhaps your time at Squaw helped you in some way. If this is true, I hope you will consider sending us a larger donation.

Scholarships are needed, but we also are in great need of unrestricted funds for our general operations. Please give now to our Annual Fund so we can keep providing this wonderful week in the Sierras!

Best Wishes,

Brett Hall Jones
Executive Director

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Participant Profile: Lisa Tucker



Lisa Tucker is the author of six novels: *The Song Reader*, *Shout Down the Moon*, *Once Upon a Day*, *The Cure for Modern Life*, *The Promised World* and, most recently, *The Winters in Bloom*, which was published by Atria Books in September and was an Indie Next List Great Read and a *More* Editor's Pick. Her books have been published in fourteen countries and selected for Borders Original Voices, Book of the Month Club, the Literary Guild, Doubleday Book Club, *People* magazine Critic's Choice, Redbook Book Club, Amazon Book of the Year, Barnes & Noble Reading Group program, Target "Breakout" Books, and the American Library Association Popular Paperbacks. *Her short work has appeared in The New York Times*, *Seventeen*, and *The Oxford American*. She attended the Community of Writers in 2001 and returns as a staff member this year.

Lisa grew up in Missouri. After graduating from the University of Pennsylvania, she went on to receive graduate degrees in English and mathematics. While writing her dissertation in English, she decided to try writing a short story. She says, "Instead of working on my dissertation, I became obsessed with this story." The story kept growing to an unwieldy 800 pages, and Lisa kept revising until she finally saw it published seven years later in 2002 as her first novel, *The Song Reader*.

Although the flawless beauty of a math proof inspires her, the far less than perfect beauty of the human world is the subject of her stories. Lisa's novels examine the challenges of families and the struggle to overcome personal histories. She says, "That's something I'm really interested in is how people recreate themselves with a really damaging past. In some ways all my books are about this, she told WritersCast.

"I never plan my books, and so most of the issues that arise in the course of the novel are surprises to me. This is one of the things I love about writing. I feel like the characters teach me new ways to look at the world—all I have to do is follow them around and listen to their voices." (Literary Feline interview)

In the revision stage her mathematical mind is an asset. "There's a real striving for elegance in mathematics, to use only the absolute essential things. If you don't need that step, you cut it," she explains. "It helps me with the structural issue of narrative. You ask, why is this here, how does it forward our understanding?"

When she was diagnosed with a small brain aneurysm this past summer, she chose to postpone surgery despite her family's fears and wishes. The risks of surgery were high, and "I wanted to finish my novel. If anything, this goal had become urgent now that I knew this might be the last book I would ever write.

"I was fascinated by the way the book was changing as I went through all this. Though the novel I was writing had nothing to do with my aneurysm, the story kept surprising me as it became more optimistic, more engaged with the beauty of life. I changed the title from *The House of Doubt* to *The Winters in Bloom*."

Thankfully, the book was completed, the surgery went well, and when she arrived home from the hospital: "The page proofs of the new book were waiting on my porch." (from Lisa's essay "Medical Thriller, With Life in the Balance" published in *The New York Times*) Lisa has taught creative writing at the University of Pennsylvania, the Taos Writers' Conference and UCLA. She currently lives in Philadelphia. www.lisatucker.com ■



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*.

RON CARLSON is the author of *Room Service*, his first collection of poems, as well as five novels, five collections of stories, and a book on the craft of writing. His stories have been published widely and selected for Best American Short Stories and the O'Henry Prize. With Michelle Latiolais, he directs the Graduate Program in Fiction at UC Irvine.

ILANA DEBARE, a longtime newspaper reporter at the *San Francisco Chronicle* and *Sacramento Bee*, was the founding board chair of the Julia Morgan School for Girls. She is currently working on two novels as well as writing her blog.

FRANCES DINKELSPIEL is the author of the nonfiction book *Towers of Gold* (St. Martins Press, 2008). A journalist for over 20 years, most recently

with the *San Jose Mercury News*, her freelance work has appeared in the *New York Times*, *People Magazine*, *San Francisco Chronicle*, *Miami Herald*, *Detroit Free Press*, *San Francisco Magazine*, and other places.

BRETT HALL JONES has been the Executive Director of the Community of Writers for 19 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.

LOUIS B. JONES is the author of the novels *Ordinary Money*, *Particles and Luck*, and *California's Over*, all three *New York Times* Notable Books, and his most recent, *Radiance* (Counterpoint, 2011). His recent fiction and essays have appeared in *The Threepenny Review*, *Open City* and *The Sun* and received a Pushcart Prize.

MAXIMA KAHN is a poet, fiction writer and essayist. Her poems have appeared in numerous journals. She teaches workshops on writing and creativity.

You Might Want to Consider . . .

These magazines are edited by Squaw Valley Staff or Participants and/or they expressly encourage submissions from The Community of Writers. Be sure to mention your participation at Squaw.

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CANARY: Gail Entrekin, editor. www.hippocketpress.com/canary.cfm
DMQ REVIEW: Sally Ashton, Editor in Chief. www.dmqreview.com
ECOTONE: Ben George (01,99), editor. www.ecotonejournal.com
FAULTLINE: UC Irvine's literary journal. www.humanities.uci.edu/faultline
GREY SPARROW JOURNAL: Annam Manthiram (10), copy editor. <http://greysparrowpress.net>
INTERRUPTION: Curtis Perdue (10), editor. interruption.com
MANZANITA: Monika Rose, editor. www.manzanitalcalifornia.org
NARRATIVE MAGAZINE, Tom Jenks, Carol Edgarian, editors (staff). <http://narrativemagazine.com>
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