

2014 AWP Conference Schedule

Wednesday, February 26, 2014

7:00 pm to 8:00 pm

The Heaven of Demons Reading: Jennifer Percy and David James Poissant

Elliott Bay Book Company, 1521 Tenth Avenue, Seattle, WA 98122

Cost: Free

Url: <http://www.elliottbaybook.com/event/david-james-poissant-jennifer-percy>

Join David James Poissant for the book launch of his story collection *The Heaven of Animals* (Simon & Schuster) + Jen Percy for a reading from *Demon Camp* (Scribner). Readings followed by signings. Directions: From Convention Center, head East on Pike St. Go 10 blocks. Left on 10th AVE. Store is on Left.

8:00 pm to 10:00 pm

University Of Washington CW Program Celebration

Richard Hugo House, 1634 11th Ave. Seattle, WA 98122

Cost: Free

Please join us at a reading/party to celebrate our program, students, alumni and friends. The evening will start with a reading by UW faculty members Linda Bierds, David Bosworth, Andrew Feld, Richard Kenney, Heather McHugh, David Shields, Maya Sonenberg, Pimone Triplett and Shawn Wong.

Thursday, February 27, 2014

9:00 am to 10:15 am

R108. Lives Not Our Own: The Ethics and Practice of Assuming the Voices of Others

Willow Room, Sheraton Seattle, 2nd Floor

([Alexandria Marzano-Lesnevich](#), [Nicholas Boggs](#), [Rebecca Morgan Frank](#), [Courtney Maum](#), Justin St. Germain)

A novel written from the perspective of the singer John Mayer. Memoirs told by intertwining the lives of Wyatt Earp, James Baldwin, and a pedophile murderer with those of the authors. Poems crafted from the lives of internment camp detainees and the Japanese bride of a murdered Dutchman. Each of the writers on this panel brings the story of real-life strangers into their writing. Join us as we discuss the whys, hows, research, and responsibilities of the decision to take on the lives of others.

10:30 am to 11:45 am

R136. How Far, Imagination: Writing Characters of Another Race in Fiction

Room 3A, Washington State Convention Center, Level 3

([Christine Zilka](#), Mat Johnson, Patricia Engel, [Randa Jarrar](#), Susan Ito)

Five writers discuss the politics behind the decisions they make about writing race and their thoughts on writing beyond one's own ethnicity. Is writing characters of another race a matter of imagination, as some writers claim, or verboten? The diverse panel of published and award-winning novelists, essayists, and short story writers will explore topics of social responsibility, appropriation, artistic integrity, and even cultural or ethnic loyalties around the process and research of doing so.

R148. Come Talk Story: Hawai'i Writers on Place, Politics, and Da Kine

Room 611, Washington State Convention Center, Level 6

(Kristiana Kahakauwila, Keala Francis, Robert Barclay)

Hawai'i's literary culture is unique in that it encompasses indigenous, local, Oceanic, and settler perspectives to create a layered, complex vision of place and politics. With their fiction, poetry, and nonfiction, the writers in this panel are working to break regional branding and push back against a touristic gaze. The reading will be followed by a lively discussion about how work by Hawai'i writers and from Hawai'i presses is shifting the genres of multicultural and American literature.

1:30 pm to 2:45 pm

R197. Writing Rules I Break, Presented by The Southampton Review

Room 3B, Washington State Convention Center, Level 3

(Lou Ann Walker, Susan Scarf Merrell, Dinah Lenney, Robert Wrigley, Rachel Pastan)

Writing workshop leaders often focus on the rules of narrative arc, point of view, characterization, and

punctuation. But the rule breakers of today are the rule makers of the canon. How can we know when to stretch and bend literary principles? A craft talk by writers who know the rules and know when to circumvent them, this panel, which includes fiction writers, memoirists, literary review editors, and a poet, considers when and how rule breakers are able to create livelier, more exciting work.

R209. [The I or the Eye: The Narrator's Role in Nonfiction](#)

Room 613/614, Washington State Convention Center, Level 6

(Phillip Lopate, [Elyssa East](#), [Robert Root](#), Lia Purpura, [Michael Steinberg](#))

Be it a personal or lyric essay, memoir, a work of journalism, or criticism, writers of literary nonfiction must decide how to craft their narrators to best suit the subject at hand. Why are some narrators situated center-stage as participants (the I) while others locate themselves more offstage as observers (the Eye)? This panel of writers, teachers, and editors will offer rationales for a range of approaches and suggest strategies to determine how best to present their narrators on the page.

R210. [Henry at 100: A Centenary Tribute to John Berryman](#)

Room 615/616/617, Washington State Convention Center, Level 6

(David Wojahn, Peter Campion, Kathleen Graber, J. Allyn Rosser, Kevin Young)

This panel celebrates the lasting legacy of one of the latter 20th Century's most original figures, John Berryman, whose epic poem, "The Dream Songs," occupies a unique place in American literature. Yet Berryman remains a controversial figure, and our panel will commemorate his accomplishment while at the same time confronting the more fraught elements of his writing, among them matters of gender, race, and the limitations of the confessional mode.

R211. [How to Do It Now: New Trends in Literary Publishing](#)

Room 618/619/620, Washington State Convention Center, Level 6

([Jeffrey Lependorf](#), Jon Fine, [Rob Spillman](#), [Rachel Fershleiser](#), Ira Silverberg)

Hear from some of America's leading publishing experts on what's new now and what's likely to happen next for independent literary publishers.

R216. [Under-the-Radar Trends in Contemporary American Poetry](#)

Room 301, Western New England MFA Annex, Level 3

(David Roderick, Tomas Morin, Shara Lessley, [Paul Otremba](#), Rachel Richardson)

What cultural forces are shaping how younger writers compose and imagine their poems? How have recent political events, social dynamics, and technological advances influenced their aesthetic and ethical concerns? While it is impossible to map out the entire landscape of contemporary American poetry, members of this panel will report on current developments that have not yet come to our collective critical attention.

R217. [From Borges to the Gnostics: Tribute to the work of Willis Barnstone](#)

Room 302, Western New England MFA Annex, Level 3

([Sholeh Wolpe](#), Yusef Komunyakaa, Stanley Moss, Robert Stewart)

For sixty years, Willis Barnstone has been opening up American poetry to the rest of the world through his more than seventy books of poetry, translation, memoir, criticism, and religious scholarship. Winner of numerous awards, mentor to generations of younger writers, Willis Barnstone is a national treasure. The panelists will share anecdotes and analyses and read from his work, followed by a reading by Willis Barnstone himself.

3:00 pm to 4:15 pm

R230. [The Narration of Identity and the Cuban-American Experience with Richard Blanco and Cristina Garcia, Sponsored by Blue Flower Arts](#)

Ballroom E, Washington State Convention Center, Level 6

([Forrest Gander](#), [Richard Blanco](#), Cristina Garcia)

Richard Blanco and Cristina Garcia give a rare glimpse into their forbidden country, Cuba, through the literary voice of the American immigrant experience. Reading poetry, fiction, and memoir—and in lively conversation with Forrest Gander—they each illuminate the struggles of living in-between two cultures. Throughout their search for a cultural identity, they explore issues of language, gender, family, exile, and history—and discover what it means to truly become an American.

R249. [The Kenyon Review 75th Anniversary Reading](#)

Room 304, Western New England MFA Annex, Level 3

([David Lynn](#), [Kimiko Hahn](#), Charles Baxter, Jaquira Diaz)

A reading from writers featured in the Winter 2014 issue of *The Kenyon Review*, our 75th anniversary issue. The Winter 2014 issue marks our ongoing commitment to publish the very best writing from established and emerging writers. Founded in 1939 at Kenyon College and first edited by poet-critic John Crowe Ransom, *The Kenyon Review* continues in its 75th year to celebrate writing that maps the spiritual, intellectual, and

emotional tides of our contemporary culture.

4:30 pm to 5:45 pm

R267. [CW at the U: A Poetry Reading](#)

Room 609, Washington State Convention Center, Level 6

([Andrew Feld](#), Linda Bierds, Richard Kenney, [Heather McHugh](#), [Pimone Triplett](#))

Founded in 1947 by Theodore Roethke, the University of Washington Creative Writing Program is one of America's oldest MFA programs and the preeminent literary institution in the Pacific Northwest. Current faculty members will read their own work along with selected poems by former UW CW faculty members Theodore Roethke, Elizabeth Bishop, William Matthews, Denise Levertov, and David Wagoner.

R269. [The AWP George Garrett Award: Who Exactly was George Garrett?](#)

Room 612, Washington State Convention Center, Level 6

([Erika Seay](#), [Richard Bausch](#), Robert Bausch, Kelly Cherry, Casey Clabough)

This panel, consisting of several celebrated writers who knew Garrett intimately, as well as his biographer, relates the work and life of this AWP co-founder and former president with a conceptual focus on educating younger conference participants about the person and qualities which lie behind an important AWP award. Interspersed with lively tales from Garrett's career, topics broached include his wide-ranging writings, his tireless and prodigious support of younger writers, and his immense service to the profession (including the co-founding the Fellowship of Southern Writers). The panel hopes to articulate Garrett's unfailing dedication to professional service and personal encouragement in the writing life as models for younger writers.

R277. [Literary Matriarchs: Thinking Through Our \(Writerly\) Mothers](#)

Room 301, Western New England MFA Annex, Level 3

(Karen Brennan, Nina Swamidoss McConigley, Robin Romm, Joan Leegant)

Tolstoy, Chekhov, Hemingway, Joyce, Carver, Roth... it's not uncommon for us to discuss the patriarchs of contemporary fiction. This panel will pay homage to the women who have been just as crucial to growing and cementing our literary tradition. Who are our literary matriarchs and what debts do we owe them? Panelists will discuss Welty, Bowen, Fox, Roy, Gallant, Woolf, and others. What do we stand to learn through close study, and how do we strike out on our own?

R279. [Wesleyan University Press Reading](#)

Room 303, Western New England MFA Annex, Level 3

(Yusef Komunyakaa, [Brenda Hillman](#), Peter Gizzi, Brenda Coultas, Joseph Harrington)

Since 1959, Wesleyan University Press has demonstrated a continued dedication to the literary arts. Best known for its award-winning poetry series, the press has also ventured into fiction and hybrid works. This reading shares the diversity of voice and style that is characteristic of Wesleyan. From jazz poetry and politically charged verse to provocative fiction and forms that blur the lines between poetry and prose, Wesleyan continues to nurture exceptional literature in a variety of forms.

5:30 pm to 7:30 pm

Con Tinta Celebration

Mexico Cantina y Cocina, 600 Pine St. #402 Seattle, WA 98101

Cost: Free

A meeting and celebration of Con Tinta, an organization of Latina writers from across the country, will be recognizing regional writers from Northwest. This year, the work of Jesus "El Flaco" Maldonado and Kathleen Alcalá will be honored. Entertainment by eSe Theatre.

6:00 pm to 8:00 pm

Cave Canem & Copper Canyon All-Stars: A Poetry Reading

Sorrento Hotel, 900 Madison St, Seattle, WA 98104

Cost: Free

Url: <http://www.cavecanempoets.org/calendar?month=February&year=2014>

Just a short walk from the AWP conference, find spectacular views of downtown Seattle and an all-star can't-miss poetry reading featuring this incredible line-up: Mark Bibbins, Jericho Brown, Cyrus Cassells, Natalie Diaz, Fady Joudah, Deborah Landau, Lisa Olstein & Roger Reeves.

8:30 pm to 10:00 pm

R287. [#AWP14 Keynote Address by Annie Proulx, Sponsored by the University of Washington Creative Writing Program](#)

Ballroom ABCE, Washington State Convention Center, Level 6

(Annie Proulx)

Annie Proulx is the author of eight books, including the novel *The Shipping News* and the story collection

Close Range. Her many honors include a Pulitzer Prize, a National Book Award, the *Irish Times* International Fiction Prize, and a PEN/Faulkner award. Her story "Brokeback Mountain," which originally appeared in the *New Yorker*, was made into an Academy Award-winning film. Her most recent book is *Fine Just the Way It Is*. She lives in Wyoming.

Friday, February 28, 2014

9:00 am to 10:15 am

F117. Tupelo Press 15th Anniversary Reading

Room 607, Washington State Convention Center, Level 6

([Jeffrey Levine](#), Ilya Kaminsky, [C.M. Burroughs](#), Amaud Johnson, [Stacey Waite](#))

This showcase reading by four important American poets of diverse aesthetic, regional, and ethnic backgrounds celebrates 15 years of independent literary publishing on the part of Tupelo Press. Tupelo authors write for and speak to issues national and international and explore questions of migration and immigration, slavery, racial, gender, and national identity, and ultimately, of life in the balance.

F119. Where Witness Meets the Page: Why We Write What We Write

Room 609, Washington State Convention Center, Level 6

(Naomi Benaron, [Lorraine Adams](#), [Nayomi Munaweera](#), [Ru Freeman](#), Julie Wu)

To bear witness to atrocity through fiction implies a commitment to both narrative and truth. In the social media age, atrocity often reaches us in 140-character packages. Conversely, witness literature focuses a wide narrative lens on the subject. Why write fiction over nonfiction? What moral and ethical questions do writers confront along the way? How do craft and truth intersect? Five authors with varying degrees of closeness to their subjects discuss how they bear witness through fiction.

F128. Happy Endings that Won't Jerk You Around

Room 202, Western New England MFA Annex, Level 2

(Ian Stansel, Amber Dermont, Danielle Evans, [Rebecca Makkai](#), Kyle Minor)

While stories of hope are often derided as contrived or suspected of emotional manipulation in workshops, they are in actuality some of the hardest to write. How do we instill glimmers of hope while remaining true to realism? How do we avoid sentimentality while still allowing a positive outcome for our characters? Five writers discuss the concept of the happy ending in contemporary and classic novels and stories and talk about their own approaches to crafting the final movements of their work.

F130. The Influence of the International: Four Writers Talk

Room 302, Western New England MFA Annex, Level 3

([Edward Gauvin](#), Maaza Mengiste, [Forrest Gander](#), [Willis Barnstone](#), Susan Harris)

Many writers limit their reading to other English-language authors and as a result are unfamiliar with other literatures. Four writers talk about how reading international literature, in both the original language and translation, has influenced and shaped their writing. Panelists will discuss various works and writers and their respective literary traditions; consider language, style, narrative conventions, and subjects; and reveal how their reading informs their writing.

10:30 am to 11:45 am

F136. The Well-Feathered Nest: Family as Fodder in Southern Fiction

Willow Room, Sheraton Seattle, 2nd Floor

([Nicole Louise Reid](#), Jill McCorkle, Bret Anthony Johnston, [David James Poissant](#))

A survey of Southern fiction reveals a common thread. From Twain to Faulkner, from Welty to Wendell Berry, Southern writers can't escape the anxiety, the complexity, or the gift of family. Whether blood family or the families we make for ourselves, Southerners have long been cognizant of the foundational struggle of the family unit. Five writers will explore the power and peculiarity of family in Southern fiction, observing how sometimes the best drama is the drama we find on our own doorstep.

F140. Magic and the Intellect

Room 3B, Washington State Convention Center, Level 3

(Lucy Corin, Rikki Ducornet, Kate Bernheimer, [Sarah Shun-Lien Bynum](#), Anna Joy Springer)

In her essay "The Deep Zoo" Rikki Ducornet writes: "the work of the writer is to move beyond the simple definitions or descriptions of things... and to bring a dream to life through the alchemy of language; to move from the street—the place of received ideas—into the forest—the place of the unknown." On this panel five fiction writers intend to describe, depict, illustrate, and otherwise expose this movement from known to unknown in order to ask: what do we mean when we say "magic"?

F153. [New Stories from the Southwest](#)

Room 613/614, Washington State Convention Center, Level 6

(Justin St. Germain, Claire Vaye Watkins, Paula McLain, Ron Carlson, D. Seth Horton)

Road to Nowhere and Other New Stories from the Southwest is the second volume in the Southwest anthology series, which was published in July 2013 by the University of New Mexico Press. Four award-winning contributors gather to read from their recently anthologized work. They will be introduced by the founder of the series.

F154. [Graywolf Press 40th Anniversary](#)

Room 615/616/617, Washington State Convention Center, Level 6

(Tess Gallagher, [Ru Freeman](#), [Justin Hocking](#), [Tree Swenson](#))

In 2014, Graywolf Press celebrates forty years of publishing essential works of contemporary literature. From the Press's beginnings in Port Townsend, Washington, in 1974, to its current roster of award-winning writers, Graywolf has been recognized as one of the leaders in independent publishing. Please join the publisher and director of Graywolf and these fiction writers, nonfiction writers, and poets for a reading in celebration of the next forty years of Graywolf Press.

F155. [Grove/Atlantic Literary Salon](#)

Room 618/619/620, Washington State Convention Center, Level 6

(Dani Shapiro, [Josh Weil](#), Patricia Engel, [Margaret Wrinkle](#), Pablo Medina)

Founded in 1917, Grove/Atlantic is one of the last remaining major independent publishers in America. Dedicated to publishing books of artistic merit and integrity and known for taking risks, Grove/Atlantic presents five award-winning authors reading from their most recent and yet-to-be-published books.

F163. [Independent Bookselling: Opportunities for Authors](#)

Room 304, Western New England MFA Annex, Level 3

([Robert Sindelar](#), Pam Cady, Chuck Robinson, Rick Simonson, Janis Segress)

As bookstore chains disappear and independent bookstores become even more important, what should writers and authors know about working with booksellers? This panel from Seattle-area bookstores—Elliott Bay, Village Books, Third Place Books, University Bookstore, and Queen Anne Book Company—will discuss how writers can work with independent booksellers to market a book. Topics will include author events, store placement, joint promotion, and how to spread the word to the book-buying public.

12:00 pm to 1:15 pm

F178. [A Reading and Conversation by Fady Joudah and Ghassan Zaqtan](#)

Ballroom E, Washington State Convention Center, Level 6

(John Donatich, Ghassan Zaqtan, Fady Joudah, [Mark Doty](#))

A reading by Ghassan Zaqtan, the most important Palestinian poet writing today, and his English-language translator, Fady Joudah, will be followed by a lively discussion (moderated by John Donatich) about poetry under siege, translation, and the importance of Palestinian literature on the world stage. Zaqtan has been a major influence for the last two decades, moving away from the lush aesthetics of his giant predecessors Adonis and Darwish. Joudah will also read some of his work that highlights the natural affinity his poetry has for Zaqtan's poetry. Mark Doty will introduce the event.

1:30 pm to 2:45 pm

F200. [Once More Unto the Breach: A Multilingual Reading of War-Informed Literature in Translation](#)

Cedar Room, Sheraton Seattle, 2nd Floor

(Nancy Naomi Carlson, John Balaban, [Erica Mena](#), Marcela Sulak, Russell Scott Valentino)

Throughout the ages, war has inspired a diverse body of literature from all across the world. This panel, translating from Bosnian, French, Hebrew, Spanish, and Vietnamese, will bring to English the human experience of love and loss with a backdrop of war from such landscapes as the deserts of Djibouti to the beaches of Vieques Island, ranging in time from the rebellion leading to the start of the Nguyen Dynasty to the present-day conflict between Palestine and Israel.

F212. [A Reading and Conversation with Chris Abani and Chang-rae Lee, Sponsored by the University of Washington Bothell MFA in Creative Writing & Poetics](#)

Ballroom ABC, Washington State Convention Center, Level 6

(Chris Abani, Chang-rae Lee, [Steph Opitz](#))

Chris Abani, author of numerous works of prose and poetry, and Chang-rae Lee, author of the novels *Native Speaker* and *The Surrendered*, will present readings of their award-winning work, followed by a discussion moderated by Steph Opitz.

F231. [Beyond the "Axis of Evil:" Shattering the Stereotypes of Iran and Iranians Through Fiction](#)

Room 303, Western New England MFA Annex, Level 3

(Persis Karim, [Anita Amirrezvani](#), Omid Fallahazad, Jasmin Darznik, Marjan Kamali)

The anthology *Tremors* collects the work of Iranian-American fiction writers for the first time. Four Iranian writers will present work that reflects some of the pain of history in Iran and the US but also offers a bracing counter-narrative to prevailing political discourse and a tenacious spirit of resilience. Discussion topics will include minorities, the Green Revolution, the post 9/11 climate, the challenges of assimilation, and the complications of otherness.

3:00 pm to 4:15 pm

F241. [Uncovering Hip Hop Poetry](#)

Room 3B, Washington State Convention Center, Level 3

([Victorio Reyes](#), Adrian Matejka, Roger Reeves, [Pamela Taylor](#), Tara Betts)

Since Kool Herc put his two turntables together in the South Bronx back in 1973, Hip Hop has evolved into an international phenomenon. As with the Black Arts Movement and the Harlem Renaissance, Hip Hop is a multi-disciplinary artistic enterprise. Yet the poetics of Hip Hop have not received the same attention as other aspects of the art-form. Five poets will discuss Hip Hop poetics, exploring form, aesthetics, messaging, and Hip Hop's position in the literary poetic conversation.

F247. [Natalie Diaz, Lucia Perillo, and Dean Young: Reading and Conversation, Sponsored by Copper Canyon Press](#)

Ballroom E, Washington State Convention Center, Level 6

([Michael Wieggers](#), Dean Young, Natalie Diaz, Lucia Perillo)

Natalie Diaz, author of *When My Brother Was an Aztec*, joins two of contemporary literature's leading poets, Lucia Perillo and Dean Young, for a reading and conversation. Perillo is a Kingsley Tufts Poetry Award winner and a finalist for the Pulitzer Prize and the National Book Critics Circle Award. Young is the current Texas Poet Laureate, and a finalist for the Pulitzer Prize and Griffin Poetry Prize. The event concludes with a conversation between the poets, moderated by the Executive Editor of Copper Canyon Press, Michael Wieggers.

F255. [Found in Translation: How Translators and Authors Translate the Untranslatable](#)

Room 612, Washington State Convention Center, Level 6

([María-José Zubieta](#), Mariela Dreyfus, Daniel Alarcón, Jorge Cornejo, [Eileen Mary O'Connor](#))

The topic of untranslatability has been discussed by many theorists, but most of these reflections stem from one perspective only, namely, the translator's. This panel offers a multidimensional discussion between a Peruvian poet and a Peruvian American narrator and their respective translators, concerning the challenges of the untranslatable, a discussion made all the more relevant and poignant by the fact that both authors are fluent in the target language.

F261. [The \(She\) Devil Inside: Unlikable Women in Fiction](#)

Room 101, Western New England MFA Annex, Level 1

([Rebecca Johns](#), [Julia Fierro](#), Samantha Chang, [Marie Myung-ok Lee](#))

"Bad men get to be king. Bad women get to swallow poison and die," wrote Lisa Santoro in the *Huffington Post*. But why should we settle for such a fate for our female characters, as readers and especially as writers? Do fictional women always have to be sympathetic to be worth reading? Using examples from multiple genres, this panel will examine how bad women can make for good storytelling.

F264. [Crossing the Veil: Engaging the Editor who Rejects your Work](#)

Room 302, Western New England MFA Annex, Level 3

(Marianne Kunkel, Jennine Capó Crucet, [Tim Johnston](#), [Stacey Waite](#))

The editor may always be right but, more importantly, he or she always has the final say. Two poets and two prose writers open up about personalized rejection notes—glimpses into literary journals' behind-the-scenes discussions—and instances in which editors wrestled with publishing their somewhat risky work. This panel will showcase accomplished authors speaking frankly about respectfully talking back to editors and will promote a submission culture of professionalism, transparency, and candor.

4:30 pm to 5:45 pm

F279. [Image & Idea: Rachel Kushner & Colm Tóibín, a Reading and Conversation, Sponsored by The Center for Fiction](#)

Ballroom ABC, Washington State Convention Center, Level 6

(Noreen Tomassi, Colm Tóibín, Rachel Kushner)

Colm Tóibín (*The Testament of Mary*) described Rachel Kushner's *The Flamethrowers* as, "an ambitious and serious American novel. The scope is wide. The political and the personal are locked in a deep and fascinating embrace." And in Tóibín's latest novel he takes on nothing less than the mother of Christ. Hear these two authors read and speak about the larger ideas that inspired them and the need for scope in the contemporary novel.

F293. Place and Ethnicity in Literary Nonfiction

Room LL5, Western New England MFA Annex, Lower Level

(Allen Gee, Geeta Kothari, [Ruben Martinez](#), Neela Vaswani, Mark O'Connor)

What occurs when ethnicity intersects with writing about varying locales? This diverse panel will discuss several of the issues that arise when writers contemplate and examine different spaces, such as rural borders, other countries, the suburbs, or urban neighborhoods. We'll speak to what extent protest can figure into one's work, how we portray specific immigrant cultures and communities, and share observations we've made about assimilation and alienation in America.

F295. Using the Gifts of the Region in an Era of Globalization

Room 202, Western New England MFA Annex, Level 2

(Keya Mitra, Tiphany Yanique, [Shann Ray Ferch](#), Cristina Henriquez, [Matthew Burgess](#))

This panel features five authors, writing about regions as distinct as the Virgin Islands, Panama, New York, India, and Montana, who have effectively incorporated what Flannery O'Connor refers to in *Mystery and Manners* as the gifts of the region in their work through inclusion of local color, dialect, and history. These writers will explore how writers convey the complexity of territories transformed by colonization, globalization, cultural hybridity, and power struggles.

6:45 pm to 9:00 pm

Dirty Laundry Lit Present: TERMINAL

Impact Hub Seattle, 220 2nd Ave S Seattle, WA 98104

Cost: Free

Url: <http://www.penusa.org/dirty-laundry-lit-terminal>

PEN Center USA will present Dirty Laundry Lit: TERMINAL, an ensemble reading featuring Jamaal May, Franny Choi, Matthew Nienow, Lilliam Rivera, Stephanie Janis, Mag Gabbert, and Tod Goldberg. Dirty Laundry Lit's creator Natasha Deón will host the event.

7:30 pm to 9:30 pm

StoryQuarterly, MEAD Joint & Tran(s)udies Reading

Velocity Dance Center, 1621 12th Ave. Seattle WA, 98122

Cost: Free

Url: <https://www.facebook.com/events/204965466376615/>

A celebratory group reading to launch StoryQuarterly's special double issue 46/47!

Readers: Rosebud Ben-Oni, Mark Doty, Ru Freeman, Kathleen Graber, Jason Koo, Paul Lisicky, Deborah Anne Lott, Laura McCullough, Kamilah Aisha Moon, and Antonio Ruiz-Camacho.

8:00 pm to 11:45 pm

VIDA: Women In Literary Arts Leave it to VIDA!

Hugo House, 1634 11th Ave. Seattle, WA 98122

Cost: \$10 minimum donation

Url: <http://hugohouse.org/event/2014/feb/awp-offsite-event-vida-reading>

Join us for readings by VIDA supporters Cheryl Strayed, Nick Flynn, Pam Houston, Natalie Diaz, Melissa Febos, Kate Lebo and Alexander Chee, come help VIDA lampoon the bad ol' days of the post war domestic. Readings start at 10pm. <http://www.vidaweb.org/>

Saturday, March 1, 2014

10:30 am to 11:45 am

S164. The Short Story is Dead, Long Live the Short Story: A Reading from Prize-Winning Story Collections

Room 304, Western New England MFA Annex, Level 3

(Xhenet Aliu, [Marie-Helene Bertino](#), [E.J. Levy](#), Hugh Sheehy, Chad Simpson)

Join the winners of three prestigious short story awards, The Iowa Short Fiction Award, the Flannery O'Connor Award for Short Fiction, and the Prairie Schooner Book Prize in Fiction, as they read selections from their debut collections and discuss publishing via the contest circuit rather than through traditional publishing channels.

12:00 pm to 1:15 pm

S174. Profile Writing: Telling Other Peoples' Stories

Room 400, Washington State Convention Center, Level 4

(Abe Streep, Leslie Jamison, Julia Cooke, [Mark Sundeen](#), Jennifer Percy)

This panel will explore the art of the nonfiction profile across a range of genres, from the journalistic article to the essayistic portrait. In addition to tackling questions of craft, the excitement of sculpting fully realized characters, we will address aspects of the profiling process (researching and interviewing) as well as its emotional challenges and rewards.

S189. [The Latino Short Story: Continuity, Innovation, and the Voices of Story Writing](#)

Room LL5, Western New England MFA Annex, Lower Level

(Fred Arroyo, [Lorraine Lopez](#), [Benjamin Alíre Sáenz](#), Jennine Capó Crucet, Daniel Chacón)

The short story is a vital American literary form. Through its continuity and innovation, the short story hears and reflects the individual and collective voices of culture and history. This panel of Latin@ short story writers, who have recently published collections, will consider the problems and possibilities—aesthetically, traditionally, ideologically, and culturally—of publishing short story collections, while also exploring the tensions and joys of publishing with smaller presses.

S192. [Intense/Beautiful/Devoted: Poems of Provocation & Witness](#)

Room 301, Western New England MFA Annex, Level 3

([Sarah Browning](#), Natalie Diaz, Danez Smith, [Patricia Smith](#), Wang Ping)

Leonard Bernstein wrote, "This will be our reply to violence: to make music more intensely, more beautifully, more devotedly than ever before." Poets today are looking without flinching at our world of drones, evictions, gun shows, and violence to the earth, as they tell the many stories of our lives. Happily, too, they are imagining alternatives and provoking change. A reading of intense and striking music, in the spirit of Split This Rock, with Patricia Smith providing opening remarks.

1:30 pm to 2:45 pm

S210. [Rethinking Linking: Stories and Novels, Structure and Beyond](#)

Room 607, Washington State Convention Center, Level 6

(Anne Sanow, Dylan Landis, [Clifford Garstang](#), [Imad Rahman](#), [Mary Akers](#))

Linked stories and novels in stories continue to grow in popularity, and they have opened up new possibilities in terms of considering how connections and structure work within and across not only what we might traditionally consider stories, but chapters and novel sections, too. Join us for a discussion of linking through character, setting, language, and more. Beyond the basics, we'll address ways to consider what kind of structural form your links call for and offer tips for experimentation.

S217. [Celebrating 20 Years of Extraordinary Fiction at Riverhead Books](#)

Room 618/619/620, Washington State Convention Center, Level 6

(Jynne Martin, [Manuel Gonzales](#), Jess Row, Danielle Evans, Nami Mun)

Since its founding, Riverhead Books has published the freshest, most memorable and diverse new voices in literary fiction. Riverhead authors have won Pulitzer Prizes, National Book Critics Circle Awards, Story Prizes, and been named to *Granta's* Best of Young British Novelists, the National Book Foundation's 5 Under 35, and the *New Yorker's* 20 Under 40, among many other distinctions. Four of Riverhead's acclaimed writers will read and discuss their work with Riverhead's director of publicity.

S222. [Comedy, and Errors](#)

Room 301, Western New England MFA Annex, Level 3

([Peter Turchi](#), Antonya Nelson, Steven Schwartz, [CJ Hribal](#))

Comedy isn't easy, and characters conceived in comedy often have the dual task of being both amusing and serious, either alternately or simultaneously. Their stories often achieve sharpest focus at the intersection of the comic and the solemn, and it's the author's job to make sure one quality works in tandem with the other. The panel will discuss how a variety of such characters come to reach their fullest serio-comic potential.

3:00 pm to 4:15 pm

S229. [Beyond Kimchi: Writing Through Ethnicity](#)

Redwood Room, Sheraton Seattle, 2nd Floor

(Katherine Min, [Marie Myung-Ok Lee](#), Cathy Chung, [Matthew Salesses](#), [Krys Lee](#))

Four novelists and a poet, all of Korean descent, will read from current work, followed by a discussion of how their work has evolved with respect to ethnicity, theme, and aesthetic vision. With changing publishing trends and readers' attitudes toward "ethnic" writing, panelists will also discuss various perspectives of writing toward ethnicity, of writing "beyond" it, and of other ways to approach the gift/challenge of "double consciousness."

S237. [A Reading and Conversation with Molly Gloss and Ursula K. Le Guin, Sponsored by Literary Arts and the Lyceum Agency](#)

Ballroom E, Washington State Convention Center, Level 6

([Andrew Proctor](#), Ursula LeGuin, Molly Gloss)

Molly Gloss and Ursula Le Guin are two of the greatest living writers and chroniclers of the American West. They will read from their most recent work and discuss craft, the writing life, and the role of place in their work. Moderated by Andrew Proctor.

S248. [The Business of Literary Publishing in the Twenty-First Century](#)

Room 618/619/620, Washington State Convention Center, Level 6

(Elisabeth Schmitz, Morgan Entekin, [Jill Bialosky](#), Dani Shapiro, Rick Simonson)

Leading industry professionals discuss the business of literary publishing today. A legendary independent publisher, a successful literary agent, and an award-winning executive editor talk about the nuts and bolts of the publishing industry. From conception and submission through editing, production, marketing, and beyond, these four will demystify the process from the inside out.

4:30 pm to 5:45 pm

S266. [A Reading and Conversation with Gish Jen and Tobias Wolff, Sponsored by the Oregon State University School of Writing, Literature, and Film](#)

Ballroom ABC, Washington State Convention Center, Level 6

([Gish Jen](#), [Tobias Wolff](#), Jess Walter)

Gish Jen, author of *The Love Wife* and *Typical American*, and Tobias Wolff, author of *This Boy's Life* and *In Pharaoh's Army*, will present readings of their award-winning work, followed by a discussion moderated by Jess Walter.