

PoetryWest

The Muse News

April 2011

Meeting

Poetry West meets from 10:00 a.m. to noon the first Saturday of every month. Our next meeting & workshop is April 2, 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m., at **Colorado College, in the WES Room**. A reading, featuring three poets below, will follow from 2:30 – 4:30 at **Casa Verde Commons House**, 1355 Lindenwood Grove (just east of the Dogtooth Café) in the main room.

Workshop Description

April 2, 2011: J. Michael Martinez and Mathias Svalina will lead the workshop and also present an afternoon reading, along with Denver-area poet Julia Cohen.

The first hour of the workshop, offered by Martinez, will give you practice in the techniques of textual collage and cut-up; collaborative writing; visual and concrete poetry & cancelled text; we will focus primarily on collage prose poems. We will be revamping used novels, performing erasures of our and own and others' work. Some of our work will be done individually and some will require collaboration with your fellow poets. Workshop time will include collaboration, writing exercises, and talking about the history and theory of what we are practicing.

The second half, presented by Svalina, will feature “Deformed Formalism.” This workshop will explore the use of forms to contain ideas and to explore new ways of telling familiar stories. We will discuss forms ranging from the traditional sonnet and the mytho-poetic creation myth to contemporary forms that exist outside of poetry & literature. We will discuss the use of forms as generative devices and write in and against a variety of forms. The goal of this workshop is to find new modes of uniquely expressing universal themes.

An **afternoon poetry reading** will follow from 2:30 to 4:30 that same day in the Casa Verde Commons House, by Martinez, Svalina and Julia Cohen.

J. Michael Martinez is a poet, essayist and librettist. His writings have appeared in “Puerto Del Sol,” “New American Writing,” on NPR, and in “Mandorla.” Recent work can be found in “Octopus,” “Phoebe,” “Quarterly West” and other journals. Recipient of the 2006 Five Fingers Review Poetry Prize, he has received residencies from the Ragdale Foundation, Canto Mundo, and the Vermont Studio Center. His libretto for the opera *The Autumn Orchard* premiered this past summer at CU's New Opera Workshop. His collection *Heredities* was selected by Juan Felipe Herrera for the Academy of American Poets' Walt Whitman Award, and is published by Louisiana State University Press. His website is www.jmichaelmartinez.org.

Mathias Svalina is co-editor of “Octopus Magazine” and the small press, Octopus Books. He is the author of numerous chapbooks, and has developed collaborative projects with other poets, filmmakers and artists. He has received awards and fellowships from “The Indiana Review,” the Associated Writing Program, and Breadloaf, among others. His first book, *Destruction Myth*, was recently published by The CSU Poetry Center, and his hybrid novella, *I Am A Very Productive Entrepreneur* is forthcoming from MudLuscious Books. He teaches

writing and literature in Denver.

Julia Cohen is the author of *Triggermoon*, recently released from Black Lawrence Press, and her poems can be found in journals like "Colorado Review," "jubilat," and "Columbia Poetry Review." She is the Associate Editor of "The Denver Quarterly."

Thank you to the Pikes Peak Poet Laureate Project (www.pikespeaklaureate.org) for providing funding for the afternoon readings.

Upcoming Workshops

We still need volunteer member workshop facilitators for June and July. If you have a topic not recently addressed and might be interested, please contact Julianza at julianza@comcast.net with ideas and questions. Members: If you have a particular interest (topic) for speakers to discuss, we will try and hunt down that speaker! Please contact Julianza.

Musings

NATIONAL POETRY MONTH

April 2011

WHEREAS, in 1996 the Academy of American Poets established April as National Poetry Month; and

WHEREAS, National Poetry Month seeks to: highlight the extraordinary legacy and ongoing achievement of American poets; introduce Americans to the pleasures and benefits of reading poetry; bring poets and poetry to the public in immediate and innovative ways; and make poetry an important resource of our children's education; and

WHEREAS, Colorado Springs poet, Nellie Burget Miller, was the second Poet Laureate of Colorado from 1925 to 1952, Katherine Lee Bates wrote the early drafts of *America the Beautiful* in our City, and Helen Hunt Jackson contributed several works as well; and

WHEREAS, our contemporary poets and poetry are essential resources of the arts and humanities that can enhance and enrich the lives of the citizens of Colorado Springs and all Americans; and

WHEREAS, poetry can affect many aspects of life in our community and America today, including cultural enrichment, education, the economy, and community pride and development; and

WHEREAS, poetry has produced some of the nation's leading creative artists and has inspired other artists in fields such as music, theatre, film, dance, advertising, and the visual arts

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Lionel Rivera, Mayor of the City of Colorado Springs, do hereby proclaim observance of the 16th annual

National Poetry Month for April 2011. I call upon public officials, educators, librarians, poets and artists, and the people of Colorado Springs to observe this month and to celebrate the cultural riches our community has to offer, and to recognize the important role poetry offers to create and sustain our city and great nation with appropriate ceremonies, activities, and programs.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the City of Colorado Springs to be affixed this 22nd day of March 2011.

Honorable Mayor Lionel Rivera

National Poetry Month Venues – Poets: Please attend as many venues as you can. You do not need to RSVP. The goal is to have at least three poets at every scheduled date. Bring 3-5 poems. If you would like to be the guest poet at any venue, please write julianza@comcast.net so updating can be done on the website. Guest poets get slightly longer reading-times.

Mar. 25 – April 20: "Art into Words, Cottonwood Center for the Arts, 427 E Colorado Ave, 520-1899; opening night, Mar. 25th, 5-8 pm. Participating PW poets as of Mar. 18th, the deadline, include (i.e., may not be limited to) Pat Nolan, Ben Humphrey, Ron Truax, Autumn Hall, and Julie Shavin.

April 1– 30: "Music of the Moment," an ekphrastic art and poetry show featuring work by Autumn Hall, Pat Kennelly, Pat Nolan, and Rhonda Van Pelt, will be on display at Marika's Coffeehouse, 739 Manitou Ave, Manitou Springs, (685-4438).

April 2, 10:00 – noon: J. Michael Martinez and Mathias Svalina workshop – CC WES room (Suggestion for National Poetry month: bring poem in pocket to Apr. 2nd meeting to trade with others who also bring a poem.).

2:30-4 pm: Martinez, Svalina and Julia Cohen Readings/ Discussion/ Autographing, Commons House, Casa Verde, 1355 Lindenwood Grove east of Dogtooth Cafe at Columbia/Wasatch

April 3,,2:00 - 4:00 pm: Poor Richard's Open Mic, Poor Ricard's Bookstore, 320 N. Tejon St., 578-0012

April 4, 7:00 – 9:00 pm: Goddess Open Mic/NPM with guest poet, Black Cat Books, 720 Manitou Blvd. Manitou Springs, 685-1589

April 7. 7:00 – 9:00 pm: Open mic Black Cat Books with featured poet

April 10, 3:00-5:00 pm: Carnegie Room at Penrose: bring your favorite Shakespeare sonnet/soliloquy/snippet to read or recite.

April 15, 7:30 pm: Open mic with Abby: Iver Arnegard, guest author, Black Cat Books

April 16, 7:00 – 9:00 pm: the entire poetry community is invited to participate in an Ekphrastic Expression Open Mic to be held at Marika's Coffeehouse, 739 Manitou Ave, Manitou Springs,(685-4438). Please bring an ekphrastic poem by a favorite poet and one of your own to share (PW members; perhaps your piece from Brian Barker's March workshop?)

April 18, 7:00 – 9:00 pm: Goddess Open Mic, Black Cat Books

April 20, 6:00 – 8:00 pm : Poor Richard's Bookstore – open mic with featured poet

April 23, 7:00 pm: Dr. David Rothman poetry reading: screening room of Cornerstone Building, Colorado College, 825 N. Cascade Ave, 328-6000.. This is a reading, which can include discussion and q/a. As it is Shakespeare's birth/death date, he may surprise us with some Bard discussion as well.

April 24, 3:00 – 5:00 pm: Open Mic, Poor Richard's Bookstore: theme is Earth Day, since April 22 occurs between these two PR dates.

April 29, 8:00 pm: Modbo , Open mic and guest poet Jamari Beasley: arts alley south of Bijou between Tejon and Cascade

April 30, 7 pm: Closing NPM night – Open Mic, Black Cat with potluck refreshments; spirits are sold in-house.

Autographings/Book Releases

Friday, April 1st, 7:30 pm: Release and autographing of "Searching for Eurydice: poetry by

Orphios," words by Harold Isaac Katz; photography, graphic design, and artwork by Leah Miryam Katz. This is as much an art as a poetry book. Black Cat Books, 720 Manitou Blvd., Manitou Springs. 685-1589 or word@orphios.com

Julianza's third book, a collection, "Of Mortality a Music," will be released on or before Apr. 3rd. Signing TBA.

Around Town

April 6: 3:30 pm

Lecture: Robin Price, the visiting book artist teaching this block at the Press at Colorado College, will offer a slide-illustrated talk entitled "From Idea to Art: In-Depth Stories of Making Letterpress Artists' Books." Price is a renowned and widely collected letterpress printer, designer, editor and publisher. Her work breaks down the distinction between fine press and artists' books in its diversity of content and form, and in the intensity of her collaboration with contemporary artists, writers, and artisans. Robin Price describes her oeuvre as "a lifelong, interdisciplinary liberal arts education." All are welcome to this lecture by a printer who has been both a long-time friend and inspiration to the Press at CC. Sponsored by The Press at Colorado College at the Screening Room, Edith Kinney Gaylord Cornerstone Arts Center, 825 N. Cascade Ave, free

April 13: 7:30 pm:

Lecture: Amy Tan: "Maybe She Was Born With It"

Acclaimed author Amy Tan is the 2011 Cornerstone Arts Initiative keynote lecturer, wrapping up the question "Maybe She Was Born With It?" offering a highly personal talk on women, creativity, and the arts and humanities. Tan is the author of many bestselling novels, including "The Joy Luck Club," "The Kitchen God's Wife," "The Hundred Secret Senses," "The Bonesetter's Daughter," and "Saving Fish from Drowning." She is also the author of a memoir, two children's books, numerous short stories and essays, the screenplay for "The Joy Luck Club," and the opera libretto for "The Bonesetter's Daughter." Tan appeared as herself in "The Simpsons" and belongs to the literary garage band, the Rock Bottom Remainers, whose members include Stephen King, Dave Barry, and Scott Turow. She is truly representative of the interdisciplinary arts. 2011 marks the 10th anniversary of the Cornerstone Arts Keynote Event. Sponsored by the National Endowment for the Humanities Distinguished Professorship in Teaching and the Colorado College drama and dance department. Edith Kinney Gaylord Cornerstone Arts Center, 825 N. Cascade Ave., free

April 14: 7:00 pm:

Reading: Poet and editor C. Dale Young

Poet and editor C. Dale Young's collections include "Day Underneath the Day," "The Second Person," and "Torn." Gates Common Room, third floor of Palmer Hall, 1025 N. Cascade Ave. (east of Tutt Library), free

April 28: 7:00 pm:

Reading: Novelist Nino Ricci

Celebrated Canadian novelist and two-time winner of the Governor-General's Award, Nino Ricci is the author of "Lives of the Saints," "Testament," and "Origin of Species." Sponsored by Colorado College department of North American studies, the government of Canada, and

the MacLean Visiting Writers Endowment. Gates Common Room, third floor of Palmer Hall, 1025 N. Cascade Ave. (east of Tutt Library), free

On the Web

Colorado Poetry Calendar

Lynn Wagner has constructed a Colorado Poetry Calendar, integrating all poetry events on the Front Range. Although many readings are posted on this site (see "Readings"), Lynn's calendar is an alternative for events the CPC may have missed. See <http://poetz.com/colorado>

Best of the Blogs

Joe Hutchison, a recent PW workshop facilitator, and who keeps literary things going with his daily blog, The Perpetual Bird, has started writing articles for a website called Suite 101. In the current article he suggests 13 literary blogs that poets and readers might check out, including Don Wentworth's "Issa's Untidy Hut," Ron Silliman's blog (2.5 million visitors for his link-rich essays), and a group gathered around Best American Poetry. Most of the blogs let readers post comments on the entries, and, Joe says, "as a rule the comments are lively and intelligent." His article is currently at:

http://resourcesforwriters.suite101.com/article.cfm/poetry_blogs_a_bakers_dozen_of_the_best

The Eleventh Muse

If you are interested in working on this publication, please contact julianza@comcast.net. The committee is forming now!

Member News

Autumn Hall recently learned that her work was selected to appear in Contemporary Haibun Volume 12, due out April 1. From Jim Kacian, editor of Red Moon Press: "Contemporary Haibun is a series dedicated to the best haibun and haiga written each year in English from around the world. It is a unique publication in the annals of the world poetry press." Autumn wishes to acknowledge the Pats (Nolan and Kennelly) for introducing her to and encouraging her in this form.

Julianza's artwork currently is featured as color cover of Ampersand Review, with a few other originals scattered inside. She recommends Ampersand as a "cool, bizarre, well-written magazine." She has had three poems accepted by a different publication, date undetermined, but within the month. Stay tuned.

Calls for Submissions

Copper Nickel's Contests: Deadline March 31

Copper Nickel's annual contests in Fiction and Poetry are now open for submissions. This year's fiction judge is Daniel Alarcon and the poetry judge is Kevin Prufer. Each entrant gets a year's subscription to *Copper Nickel* (2 issues) and a chance at a \$1000 prize in each category. \$15 fee (includes 1-year subscription). All the details, including how to use the new submission manager system, can be found at

http://www.facebook.com/ef4e9q0L8NJD6i4QZH-LK5wq_jw;www.copper-nickel.org/contest/

The Hudson Prize: Deadline March 31

The Hudson Prize is awarded annually for a collection of short stories or poems. The winner receives \$1,000 and publication. Previous winners of The Hudson Prize include Jo Neace Krause, Daniel Chacón, Abayomi Animashaun, Patrick Michael Finn, and Sarah Suzor. Please follow the link below for information on how to submit your manuscript for The Hudson Prize.

<http://www.blacklawrence.com/hudson.html>

Mark Fischer Poetry Prize: Deadline April 1

Telluride Arts invites submissions to the thirteenth annual Mark Fischer Poetry Prize. Named for Telluride's much-loved poet, lawyer, skier and raconteur, prizes will be awarded to the entry that best exhibits the qualities of originality, novelty, complex meaning, linguistic skill and wit. The wilder the better. All styles and content matter are acceptable.

Winners will be selected by a peer review committee. Awards of \$200 first prize, \$ 150 second prize, and \$100 third prize, and \$50 honorable mention will be presented at a celebratory reading in Telluride on Friday, May 20th.

Eligibility: All poets residing in Colorado, New Mexico, Utah or Arizona for at least seven months prior to the deadline. Previously published work is acceptable so long as the writer retains the copyright.

Guidelines: Submission to the contest grants one-time use rights of publication to the Telluride Arts in local papers and in any future anthology of work. Copyright is retained by the author. Include a cover letter with name, all contact information, a short bio, and the title of each work.

Submit each poem on 8.5 x 11 page in 12 point font. Do not include name on the poems. Include \$5 per poem fee (multiple entries welcome). Checks payable to Telluride Arts, or call Telluride Arts to make a credit card payment.

Email submission is preferred but not required.

Submissions By Snail Mail: Send completed submission packet to: Telluride Arts PO Box 152, Telluride, CO 81435

Submissions by Email: Please note Poetry Contest in the subject line and email your complete submission packet to info@telluridearts.org. We will notify you upon receipt. If you do not receive a notification from us we did not receive your application. Please contact us. Completed entries must be received by Telluride Arts by 5 p.m. on Friday April 1, 2011. For more information, contact Sasha at Telluride Arts <file:///localhost/about/blank970.728.8959> or sasha@telluridearts.org.

Messages from Hidden Lake: Deadline May 1

Messages From the Hidden Lake, the anthology published by Friends of the Alamosa Library, is accepting submissions of writing and artwork, with a deadline of May 1st. They are also seeking judges for both prose and poetry. If interested, please contact librarian@alamosalibrary.org or go to <http://www.alamosalibrary.org/index.html>

Poets & Writers: 34 New Writing Contest Deadlines <http://www.pw.org/grants>

Temporary Infinity

This Denver-based literary journal is open for submissions. Read the first two issues as PDFs at <http://www.ti-writes.com>. Submission information at http://ti-writes.com/?page_id=10

DreamZion Publishing: Deadline June 30.

This local house dedicated to promoting authors and artists and publishes several anthologies a year. Our genre base is expanding rapidly, and we are looking for quality, originality, and beauty of craft, in areas of prose, poetry, artwork and photography. DZP is quite selective, striving to represent new and established artists with their best work. Submission dates are open, as several themes are proffered periodically. If an accepted work does not "fit" a certain anthology, it will be held over for another, even those with call-dates to come. Current calls, with deadline June 30, 2011; "Relationships" (in the broadest, inc. out-of-box sense), and "Finagled Fairy-tales." For more information, please contact submissions@dreamzion.com.

POETRY PRISM

If you would like to submit a review of a poet's work, please contact julianza@comcast.net. Please submit May newsletter items to Suzanne at sammeyland@comcast.net by April 17 2011.