



# The Writer's Access

September-October, 2003

News from the Lane Literary Guild

www.laneliteraryguild.org

## Windfall Mixes It Up for Fall

In its ongoing effort to entertain and enlighten listeners, Windfall is bringing four bright lights of the literary scene to the Eugene Public Library this fall.

On September 16, George Hitchcock and Meg Kearney open the 2003-04 season. Jorge (George) Hitchcock is a North American writer and painter. He is also known as the outspoken, big-hearted small-press impresario who founded and edited the avant-garde magazine *kayak*, which brought an astounding number of good writers to light from 1964-1984.



George Hitchcock and Meg Kearney

Since 1984, Hitchcock has lived and worked for part of each year in La Paz, Mexico. He is the author of two novels, *Another Shore* and *The Racquet*, plus several volumes of poetry, including *The Wounded Alphabet*, and a number of plays. This year, Story Line Press released *One-Man Boat*, which brings together a selection of Jorge's poetry, fiction, drama, interviews, essays, and his infamous and unrepentant testimony before the House Un-American Activities Committee, reprinted from the Congressional Record. In the forward, Philip Levine sings high praise for the works of this extraordinary artists.

Meg Kearney's first collection of poetry, *An Unkindness of Ravens*, was published by BOA Editions, Ltd. in 2001. Her poetry has appeared in such publications as *Agni*, *Ploughshares*, *The Gettysburg Review*, *DoubleTake*, *Black Warrior Review*, *Third Coast*, *Tar River Poetry*, *Passages North*, and the anthologies *Where Icarus Falls* (Santa Barbara Review Publications, 1998); and *Urban Nature* (Milkweed Press, 2000).

Meg is the Associate Director of the National Book Foundation, sponsor of the National Book Awards, headquartered in New York City. Before joining the Foundation in 1994, she organized educational programs and conducted power plant tours for a gas and electric utility in upstate New York.

Recipient of a 2001 Artist's Fellowship from the New York Foundation for the Arts, Meg also received a New York Times Fellowship and the Alice M. Sellers Academy of American Poets Award in 1998.

On October 21, Michael Kroetch and Laura Moran will read--or perform--their work.

**Michael Kroetch's** credits include the 1990 groundbreaking THIS IS NOT A CONDOM, honored by the American Film Institute as among that year's top 20 art videos in the world; a 1991 NEA Fellowship; the Sony Corporation selecting five of his videos as among the nation's finest from 1990-94; two of his plays earning top prizes in national contests at Nat Horne Theater in New York and Red Octopus Theater in Newport; his fiction and poetry appearing in *Northwest Review*, *NW Edge Fiction* (books 1 & 2), *Stringtown*, *Two Girls Review*, *Helios*, and *Timberline*.



Michael Kroetch and Laura Moran

## October Windfall - cont.

**Laura E. J. Moran** is the 1992 recipient of the Jean Garrigue Award. She travels throughout the country and abroad headlining at numerous universities, elementary schools, festivals, competitions, women's organizations, literacy groups, coffee houses, churches, and nightclubs. In addition, in 1992 Laura became Providence's first Grand Slam Champion and in 1996, Seattle's Grand Slam Champion. She has represented both Seattle and Providence on various national teams from 1996-1998.

For four years as vice-president of Projective Verse, Inc., she introduced children of all ages to the wiles of poetry and hosted the Providence 2000 National Poetry Slam. Several of her pieces appear in such publications as *Defined Providence*, *Revival: Spoken Word from Lollapalooza 1994*, *Children Remember Their Fathers*, *Chokecherries: SOMOS Series Anthology 2002*, and *Quix Quarterly*. She is featured on PoetrySuperHighway.com.

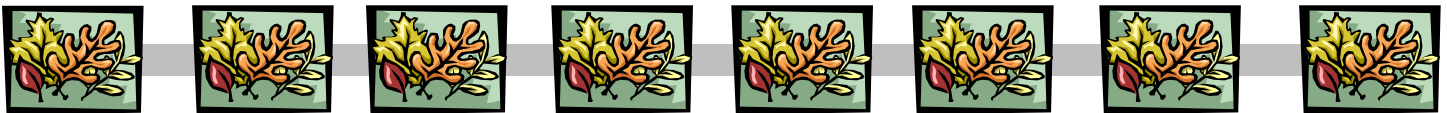
Moran's work has been performed in collaboration with Words and Letters: RI Calligraphers and Poets and with

Island Moving Company's production of *Out of the Box*. In 1999, she received the Mayor's citizen's citation for artistic contribution in Providence, RI. In September 2002, her work was the subject of a half-hour poetry documentary that aired on MNN in NYC. She currently resides in Callicoon, NY

"If one should wonder where the 'poetry' in 'performance poetry' has gone, one need look no further than the work of Laura Moran." - Daniel Solis, national award-winning poet..

On *Original Skin* by Laura Moran: *Laura Moran is that rarity: an intense stage performer whose work is imagistic, writerly, compressed and modulated. Her CD plus booklet is bare-bones but pure, Laura's voice carrying loon and hawk, Penelope, Leda, Kali, and the other women of "Western Civ" "Liberty Walking" straight into your inner ear.*

Both readings start at 7:00 p.m. in the Eugene Public Library's Bascom-Tykeson room. Windfall readings are sponsored by the Lane Literary Guild, the Friends of the Library, and the Cultural Services Division of the Lane Arts Council and are always free - and so are the refreshments.



## Poet's Paradise: The People's Poetry Gathering

New York City, April 11-13, 2003

- by Amanda Powell

"A Pride of Lions, a Gaggle of Geese, a Woodstock of Words, **A PARADISE OF POETS**" proclaimed the brochure, without exaggeration. In mid-April, despite somber news of war, Manhattan rang with poems, protest, praise, and applause. From around the world, the U.S., and the boroughs, hundreds of poets, spoken-word artists, story tellers, singers of epics and folk songs, and aficionados gathered for readings, recitals, rants, panels, jams, and conversations from early until all hours.

For a poetry lover this is three-day outburst is heaven indeed. The People's Poetry Gathering offered a marathon reading of the *Odyssey*, led by translator Robert Fagles, on a tall ship in NY harbor; a singer from Kazakhstan intoning fierce battles with Cossacks across wind-swept steppes; *Gilgamesh*, *Beowulf*, and the *Sundaiata* brought to voice and life; Edgar Allen Poe at midnight in the Marble Cemetery; poems and saxophone by Muskogee poet Joy Harjo; Juan Barco delivering news from fields and barrios, in *corridos* from New Mexico and the Pacific Northwest; not to mention late-night drinking songs and erotic poetry in the Bowery. Of course, there were also readings - by featured Mideast poets including Abdellatif Laabi from Morocco, Vénus Khoury-Ghata from Lebanon, Kishwar Naheed from Pakistan, and Sa'adi Youssef from Iraq (who came videotaped, since no U.S. visa could be obtained). "Hip Hop Ambassador" Toni Blackman, *Polyverse* ballad-reshaper Lee Ann Brown, and perennial favorites like folksinger/activist Pete Seeger and poet Mark Doty delivered SRO performances. Hand-held puppets performed *archy and mehitabel*. And this is only a smattering.

Every other year, two New York organizations sponsor the streets-to-salons Gathering. City Lore's director Steve Zeitlin and Poet's House director Lee Bricetti organized this year's edition with coordinator Elena Martínez, focusing on "oral and written poetry traditions from around the globe and from our own backyards": ballads, epics, and traditional verse and song forms, integrated with an homage to folk-music maven Alan Lomax. Elena received her master's in Folklore here at the University of Oregon before returning to hometown NYC and taking her vision and energy to CityLore. She credited Prof. Dianne Dugaw (U.O., English and Folklore; LLG member) as "essential to the genesis of this Gathering on ballads and epics, as the teacher who showed me the resources to make it possible." During the weekend, Dianne presented a concert and took part in three panels. I went along to help carry bags and guitars, navigate subways and the East Village, and savor the poetry.

Can I make it to NYC in April 2005 for the next Gathering? If so, I'm there. Hope to see you too.

- For the full text of this excellent article, including more about the performers, visit [laneliteraryguild.org](http://laneliteraryguild.org)

## Guild Offers Craft Workshops for Poets & Fiction Writers

On Saturday, October 11, poet Christopher Howell will lead a workshop from 10 am. to 3 pm. on Stress and Balance in Poetry. The focus will be on the points of stress and balance between *Voice* and *Image*, and between *Sentence* and *Line*. Because these are critical technical negotiations in the working of organic poetic form, each of the four elements will also receive some separate examination. The workshop is open to poets working at all levels.

**Christopher Howell** has seven collections of poems, including *Just Waking*, released in June 2003 from Lost Horse Press, and *Memory and Heaven* from Eastern Washington University Press. He teaches in the MFA program in Creative Writing at Eastern Washington University, where he edits *Willow Springs*. Since 1975 he has been director and principal literary editor for Lynx House Press.

On November 8, **Craig Wright** will teach a fiction workshop from 10 am. to 3 pm. Craig teaches writing in the English Department at Southern Oregon University. Many of his short stories can be read at his website, [www.sou.edu/english/CWright](http://www.sou.edu/english/CWright). You'll also want to check out his band, The Horsefeathers, and listen to a few of their songs — Craig plays guitar and sings! If you're a fiction writer who's been wondering why all the good LLG workshops are for poets or memoirists, now's your chance.

The cost for each workshop is \$50 for Guild members. If you're not a member, joining costs as little as \$15. One scholarship is available for each workshop. Contact [tonipoet@cmc.net](mailto:tonipoet@cmc.net) for more information about the workshops or to sign up, or send your check to LLG, PO Box 11035, Eugene, OR 97440. Enrollment in both workshops is limited, so sign up soon.

## Members Make News



Some of **Gary Adams'** Ant poems are going to appear in an anthology by Littoral Press out of Berkley, CA. His poem, "At War with my Neighbor" will be published by the University of California at Santa Barbara journal *Into the Teeth of the Wind*.

**Howard W. Robertson** won the 2003 Robinson Jeffers Poetry Prize for his poem, "Not Far from the Source." Part of the prize is a cash award of \$1,000. The final judge this year was Pattiann Rogers.

**Hannah Wilson's** poem "Moon Landing: Foley's Pub" won 2nd prize in the Oregon State Poetry Association's spring contest, and **Toni Van Deusen's** pantoum "My Father at the Gate" took a third place. Hannah will also have a poem in the 2004 *Women Artists' Datebook*, printed by Syracuse Cultural Workers.

**Kelly Terwilliger** has poems forthcoming in *Calyx* and in *Elysian Fields Quarterly - The Baseball Review*.

## New & Renewing Members

Welcome to new members, and welcome back to the rest!

### NEW

Doug & Nancy Hickey  
Matt Stone  
Steven Shinn  
Lori Evans  
Amanda LeBrun  
Patricia Gripp  
Kyla Wetherell  
Sherry O'Boyle

### RENEWING

Karen McPherson  
Alan Contreras  
Hannah Wilson  
Cara McKenzie  
Elizabeth Braun  
Debra Merskin  
Quinton Hallett  
Toni Van Deusen

### LANE LITERARY GUILD INFORMATION

#### Contacts

Windfall: [windfall@laneliteraryguild.org](mailto:windfall@laneliteraryguild.org)  
Cecelia Hagen & Tim Whitsel

Events: [calendar@laneliteraryguild.org](mailto:calendar@laneliteraryguild.org)  
Deborah Narin-Wells



Membership: [membership@laneliteraryguild.org](mailto:membership@laneliteraryguild.org)  
Toni Van Deusen, Treasurer

Newsletter: [newsletter@laneliteraryguild.org](mailto:newsletter@laneliteraryguild.org)  
Cecelia Hagen


#### Ongoing Workshops:

Literary Nonfiction	Deborah Merskin	485-7246
Fiction	Steven Higgins	689-8306
Poetry 1	Deborah Narin-Wells	683-2086
Poetry 2	Michael Hanner	895-2236
Poetry 3	Gary Adams	461-0598
Writing Practice	Toni Van Deusen	685-1087
	<a href="mailto:tonipoet@cmc.net">tonipoet@cmc.net</a>	



  
**ABOUT THE WRITER'S ACCESS**  
  
*The Writer's Access* is published bimonthly by the Lane Literary Guild. Please send member news, calendar events, or other announcements to newsletter@laneliteraryguild.org. The LLC website www.laneliteraryguild.org is updated regularly. Log on to find links to Windfall readers and the latest information about the Guild.



**Lane Literary Guild**  
**P.O. Box 11035**  
**Eugene, OR 97440**


## *September - October Readings & Events*

### SEPTEMBER

- 3 Nicki Scully, author of *Alchemical Healing*. Tsunami, 5:30 pm.
- 6 Contributors to *String Town*, a Northwest literary magazine, read their work. Tsunami, 5:00 - 7:00 pm.
- 8 Wayne Harrison and fiction writer Hank Alley. Cozmic Pizza, 7:00 pm.
- 15 Poets Keli Osborn, Gail Parr and Sharon Munson. Cozmic Pizza, 7:00 pm.
- 16 Poet, playwright, painter and editor George Hitchcock & poet Meg Kearney, author of *An Unkindness of Ravens*, Windfall Reading Series, Eugene Public Library, Bascom-Tykeson Room, 7:00 - 9:00 pm.
- 23 Science fiction writer Ellen Datlow. Tsunami, 6:00 pm.
- 29 Open Mike, Cozmic Pizza, 7:00 pm.

### OCTOBER

- 3 Joseph Millar hosts a reading with George Hitchcock, Clemens Stark, and Stephen Torre. Tsunami, 7:00 pm.
- 16 Poet Pimone Triplett, faculty, Creative Writing. Knight Library Browsing Room, 8:00 pm.
- 18 Poets Hannah Wilson and Jane Glazer. Tsunami, 7:00 pm.
- 21 Spoken-word artist Laura E.J. Moran and fiction, screenplay, & playwright Michael Kroetch, Windfall Reading Series, Eugene Public Library, Bascom-Tykeson Room, 7:00 - 9:00 pm.
- 30 Fiction writer Ehud Havazelet, sponsored by Creative Writing. Knight Library Browsing Room, 8:00 pm.

Every Monday night at 7:00 pm, Cozmic Pizza will hold a reading. Look in the local papers for details. Poets, fiction, and non-fiction writers are needed. Contact Charles Thielman at [blueearth4u@hotmail.com](mailto:blueearth4u@hotmail.com) if you're interested in reading.