

THIS CHANGES EVERYTHING
:: January Readings & Talks at Elliott Bay Book Company 2012 ::

CHILDREN'S STORYTIME ages 2 and up

Tuesday, January 3 at 11:30 a.m.

Our twice-a-week Children's Storytimes, set for Tuesday and Saturday mornings each month, commence for January (and the new year) with this morning's reading from picture- and storybook favorites out of our children's section. One of our Elliott Bay bookfolk will do the reading and telling honors. Go to the castle in the children's section ... and the stories begin! Please join us.

ELLIOTT BAY BOOK GROUP

Tuesday, January 4 at 6:30 p.m.

This month's selected novel is Miguel Syjuco's debut novel, *Ilustrado* (Picador). Please see www.elliottbaybook.com for more information – and please join us.

OMAR BARGHOUTI

Wednesday, January 4 at 7 p.m. at Elliott Bay Book Company

Thursday, January 5 at 7 p.m. at St. Mark's Cathedral

Among those here for the Modern Language Association's Seattle meeting is noted independent Palestinian commentator, activist, and author Omar Barghouti. Besides the MLA, he'll be making a number of appearances, among them a talk at Elliott Bay on Wednesday evening, as well as an evening at St. Mark's Cathedral, north of Elliott Bay on Capitol Hill, on Thursday – that evening is sponsored by the Mideast Focus Group of St. Mark's. He has a timely book in hand, *BDS: Boycott, Divestment, Sanctions: The Global Struggle for Palestinian Rights* (Haymarket Books). “No one has done more to build the intellectual, legal, and moral case for BDS than Omar Barghouti. The global Palestinian solidarity movement has been transformed and is on the cusp of major breakthroughs.” – Naomi Klein. “I have been to Palestine where I've witnessed the racially segregated housing and the humiliation of Palestinians at military roadblocks. I can't help but remember the conditions we experienced in South Africa under apartheid. We could not have achieved our freedom without the help of people around the world using nonviolent means of boycotts and divestment to compel governments and institutions to withdraw their support for the apartheid regime. Omar Barghouti's lucid and morally compelling book is perfectly timed ...” – Archbishop Desmond Tutu. **St. Mark's Cathedral is at 1245 -10th Avenue E.**

CLIFFORD BERNIER & CECILIA MARTÍNEZ-GIL

Thursday, January 5 at 7 p.m.

A duo of poets published by Gival Press, an Arlington, Virginia-based literary press that publishes in English, French, and Spanish, visit Seattle as part of the Modern Language Association's national convention gathering in the city this week, and read together here this

evening. Clifford Bernier, founder and former host of the Washington D.C.-area poetry series, Poesis, reads from his collection *The Silent Art*, which has been nominated for a 2011 Pushcart Prize. Joining him is poet and screenwriter Cecilia Martínez-Gil, with her new collection, *Psaltery and Serpentes*. “Clifford Bernier’s *The Silent Art* is a beautiful jazz symphony sweetened with the zen of everydayness and a ‘double bass blues for Trane’ ... This cat has great chops in the poetry and jazz of life.” – M.L. Lieber. “*Psaltery and Serpentine* kisses its readers on the mouth so that the poetry become ‘the ripe fruit to ... lips’ ... Cecilia Martínez-Gil welcomes the reader into the world of poetry as a partner in the creative act, and readers engage this book-length seduction as tango partners and ‘symphonic creatures.’” – Rich Murphy.

JUDITH HALBERSTAM & CHANDAN REDDY

Friday, January 6 at 7 p.m.

A good and lively evening is in store as eminent visiting University of Southern California professor Judith Halberstam and University of Washington professor Chandan Reddy discuss recent, related books. Judith Halberstam is the author of *In a Queer Time and Place*, *Female Masculinity*, *Skin Shows*, and, recently, *The Queer Art of Failure* (Duke University Press). “Failure abounds all around us: economic collapse, nation-states falter, and malfeasance rules. In the face of our dismal situation, Judith Halberstam distills and repurposes the negative in order to think outside the tyranny of success. *The Queer Art of Failure* finds a new vitality in not winning, accumulating, doing, or knowing ... this compelling book pushes beyond many of the impasses and blockages that limit critical horizons today.” – José Esteban Muñoz. Professor Halberstam also edits the Perverse Modernities series for Duke University Press, of which Chandan Reddy’s *Freedom with Violence* is one of the newest releases. To wit: “*Freedom with Violence* is a one of a kind, once in a generation book. Chandan Reddy argues that ‘American political modernity’ depends absolutely on a notion of freedom crafted out of a constitutive violence which takes the form of race ... he pulls his argument into tighter and tighter spirals, connecting his thesis about race to brilliantly original accounts of sexuality and making stunning connections between North American racial politics and European colonialism. This is a classic, landmark study.” – Judith Halberstam.

CHILDREN’S STORYTIME

Saturday, January 7 at 11:30 a.m.

Join us for this fun round of readings from picture and storybooks. Go to the castle in the children’s section ... and the stories begin!

SHIRO KASHIBA

Saturday, January 7 at 2 p.m.

Kyoto-born, Ginza-trained, revered Seattle chef Shiro Kashiba founded Seattle’s first full-service sushi bar in 1967 at Nikko. Since 1994, he has been serving some of the nation’s best sushi at his namesake Belltown restaurant (2401 2nd Avenue), and mentoring generations of

sushi chefs. Today he'll appear in conversation with Bruce Rutledge, co-founder with Yuko Enomoto, of Chin Music Press. Chin Music has just published *Shiro: Wit, Wisdom, & Recipes from a Sushi Pioneer* in beautiful, loving form, Part-memoir, fine art book, and cookbook, it's filled with photos, ephemera, sushi-making tips, recipes, and stories from Shiro's life. More of that here today. *And, following the onstage conversation, we'll have a drawing for a limited number of tickets for tasting some of Shiro's sushi here.*

JANE BORDEN

Saturday, January 7 at 7 p.m.

North Carolina debutante Jane Borden grew up in genteel Greensboro, where manners mattered and smiles were mandatory. Like many before her, she then set out for Manhattan – first to visit, and then, following a series of jobs such as undercover investigating illegal, Canal Street-fashion knock-offs, ended up staying. This how-I-got-here story is told in her hilarious, smart, thoroughly enjoyable memoir, *I Totally Meant to Do That* (Broadway). Jane Borden has contributed to *Saturday Night Live*, *New York Times Magazine*, and Comedy Central. “Out of all the North Carolina greenhorns who ever navigated the funky streets of twenty-first century New York, she may be my favorite.” – Gary Shtyngart.

ERIC UTNE on BRENDA UELAND

Sunday, January 8 at 2 p.m.

Founder of *Utne Reader* magazine and active on a variety of cultural and civic fronts in his home city of Minneapolis and beyond, Eric Utne was also step-grandson to the late, great Brenda Ueland (1891 – 1985), an iconic figure in the American cultural landscape, most known to readers here for her enduringly popular book, *If You Want to Write*. Eric Utne is here today to talk about Brenda Ueland – and one of the great loves in a life that had many, the Norwegian explorer, scientist, statesman, athlete Fridtjof Nansen (1861- 1930). *Brenda My Darling: The Love Letters of Fridtjof Nansen to Brenda Ueland* (Utne Institute) is a fascinating trove of correspondence, edited by Eric Utne. “What is remarkable about these letters is how Nansen opens up and exposes himself for Ueland, who was younger than him by 30 years ... Over 80 years after they were written, these letters take us far from the mists and glaciers of Nansen's Arctic adventures. They give us the opportunity to admire the literary Fridtjof Nansen and his abilities as a writer of love poetry.” – Per Egil Hegge, from the Foreword.

ERIC A. STANLEY, LORI SAFFIN, RALOWE T. AMPU, & TOSHIO MERONEK

Sunday, January 8 at 5 p.m.

Also in Seattle for the MLA convention are the editors and many contributors to a major new anthology of writing addressing the intersections of race, gender, ability, class, and sexuality with the prison industrial complex to argue for trans/queer liberation and prison abolition. *Captive Genders: Trans Embodiment and the Prison Industrial Complex* (AK Press), edited by Eric A. Stanley and Nat Smith, is a collection of writing by current and former prisoners, activists, and academics. Joining Eric A. Stanley tonight are contributors

Lori Saffin, Ralowe T. Ampu, and Toshio Meronek. “*Captive Genders* is at once a scathing and necessary analysis of the prison industrial complex and a history of queer resistance to state tyranny.” – Mattilda Bernstein Sycamore. “An exciting assemblage of writings – analyses, manifestos, stories, interviews –that traverse the complicated entanglements of surveillance, policing, imprisonment, and the production of gender normativity ... the contributors to this volume create new frameworks and new vocabularies that surely will have a transformative impact on the theories and practice of twenty-first century abolition.” – Angela Y. Davis.

XI CHUAN with PAUL MANFREDI

Monday, January 9 at 7 p.m. at Microsoft Auditorium, Seattle Public Central Library

Co-presented with the WASHINGTON CENTER FOR THE BOOK AT THE SEATTLE PUBLIC LIBRARY. A welcome Seattle return is made this evening by one of the foremost poets at work in China today, Xi Chuan. He read with Zhou Zan this past September at the Seattle Asian Art Museum as part of a U.S. tour for an anthology of contemporary Chinese poetry, *Push Open the Window* (Copper Canyon Press). Later in spring 2012, New Directions will publish the first major collection of his to appear in English, *Notes on the Mosquito: Selected Poems*, translated by Lucas Klein. A chapbook which would include some of this work, *Yours Truly & Other Poems* (Tinfish), may be on hand for this evening. “In 1988, when he was twenty-five, Xi Chuan and some friends launched an unofficial literary journal, *Tendency*. At the time he was translating Ezra Pound and Tomas Tranströmer, Czeslaw Milosz and Jorge Luise Borges, and his own writing suggests a corresponding sophistication and aesthetic range.” – Robert Hass, *The Believer*. Xi Chuan lives in Beijing, where he teaches classical Chinese literature at the Central Academy of Fine Arts. His awards include the Modern Chinese Poetry Award, the Lu Xun Prize, and the Zhuang Zhongwen Prize for Literature. With Xi Chuan this evening will be Pacific Lutheran University professor Paul Manfredi. This should be thoroughly engaging, as those who attended his September reading can attest. **Free admission is on a first-come, first-serve basis. The Seattle Public Central Library is at 1000 Fourth Avenue (between Madison and Spring). For more information, please call Elliott Bay at 206.624.6600, The Seattle Public Library at 206.386.4636, or see www.spl.org.**

WENDY CALL

Monday, January 9 at 7 p.m.

Co-presented with ONE EQUAL HEART FOUNDATION. Seattle writer Wendy Call returns to Elliott Bay this evening for a special book presentation and discussion sponsored by local NGO One Heart Foundation, as part of their ongoing series exploring various aspects of “El Buen Vivir,” an indigenous vision for living sustainably. Wendy Call’s book, *No Word for Welcome: The Mexican Village Faces the Global Economy* (University of Nebraska Press), recently won the Grub Street National Book Prize for Nonfiction. One Equal Heart Foundation raises funds to support programs of health, sustainable development, indigenous rights, and education among the Tseltal Maya in Chiapas, Mexico. For more information, please see www.oneequalheart.org.

CHILDREN'S STORYTIME

Tuesday, January 10 at 11:30 a.m.

Join us for this fun round of readings from picture and storybooks. Go to the castle in the children's section ... and the stories begin!

ELLIOTT BAY GLOBAL ISSUES & ETHICS BOOK GROUP

Tuesday, January 10 at 6:30 p.m.

This month's selected title is Steve Coll's *Ghost Wars: The Secret History of the CIA, Afghanistan, and bin Laden, from the Soviet Invasion to September 10, 2001* (Penguin). Please see www.elliottbaybook.com for more information – and please join us.

CAROL GUESS & KEVIN SIMMONDS

Tuesday, January 10 at 7 p.m.

Tonight two esteemed queer writers of both prose and poetry share our stage. Carol Guess' most recent reading here was from her novel, *Homeschooling*, a Lambda Award finalist for Lesbian Fiction. This visit, she'll read from *My Father in Water* (Shearsman Books), an interlinked collection of essays about her relationship with her late, scientist father. "As they float across regions right now and bodies back then' these essays refuse to distinguish between life and labor, love and loss. Guess proves herself to be – yet again – a consummate recorder of our collective queer heart." – Scott Herring. Traveling here from San Francisco to read is poet, musician, and past Jack Straw Foundation writer Kevin Simmonds. He will read from his new book of poems, *Mad for Meat* (Salmon Poetry/Dufour). "As sharply and carefully honed as his poems are, Kevin Simmonds has managed to preserve a quality of urgency, spontaneity and surprise in his poems through his unquestionable sense of music, and above all, his willingness to take risks in subject and form." – Kwame Dawes.

WINIFRED GALLAGHER

Thursday, January 12 at 7 p.m.

With such books as *Rapt: Attention and the Focuses Life*, *The Power of Place*, and *Just the Way You Are*, Winifred Gallagher has been writing insightfully about how we perceive and know different things in different ways. Her newest book brings a bit of a smile with it: *New: Understanding Our Need for Novelty and Change* (Penguin Press) is a new book that we are delighted about, one that probes beyond the surface of matters such as being excited about the newest book, to behavioral and neuroscientific reasons for our affinity for novelty. "A bright look at our fascination with the new and different. Gallagher examines how we deal with the ever-increasing amount of novelty and rate of change in our lives ... 'we already crunch four times more data ... than we did just 30 years ago,' writes the author ... Engaging and cautionary." – *Kirkus Reviews*.

SARAH VAN GELDER

Friday, January 13 at 7 p.m.

From locally-based, internationally-influential *Yes!* Magazine, comes *This Changes Everything: Occupy Wall Street and the 99% Movement* (Berrett-Koehler). This newly-published anthology, edited by Sarah Van Gelder of *Yes!*, is one of the first primers and printed accounts of the movement that arose in this country this past year. Contributors to the book include Naomi Klein, Rebecca Solnit, Ralph Nader, David Korten, and others, along with early Occupy activists such as David Graeber (here at Elliott Bay on January 25), Marina Stern, and Hena Ashraf. This evening should be a good way to look at what has happened, and how things might develop in an eventful New Year.

CHILDREN'S STORYTIME

Saturday, January 14 at 11:30 a.m.

Join us for this fun round of readings from picture and storybooks. Go to the castle in the children's section ... and the stories begin!

JOHN BURGESS, STEPHEN ROXBOROUGH, JOANNIE STANGELAND

Saturday, January 14 at 2 p.m.

John Burgess reads from *Graffito*, his third collection (Ravenna Press). A Jack Straw writer in 2006 and (with Stephen Roxborough) co-founder of the original Burning Word Festival, he serves as editor for the online journal *Snow Monkey* and appears with the Band of Poets. Stephen Roxborough, aka roxword, has twice been nominated for the Pushcart Prize. His most recent book is *This Wonderful, Perpetual, Beautiful* (Neopoiesis Press). Joannie Stangeland will read from *Into the Rumored Spring* (Ravenna Press), a series of poems about the illness and recovery of a friend facing breast cancer. She is the author of two previous chapbooks (*Weathered Steps*).

ELLIS AVERY

Saturday, January 14 at 7 p.m.

A welcome Elliott Bay return is made this evening by Ellis Avery. Her beautiful, Japan-set debut novel, *The Teahouse Fire*, has been a reader and critical favorite – the recipient of the Lambda Literary Award for Debut Fiction, the ALA's Stonewall Fiction Award, and was a Kiriyaama Prize Notable Book. She is here with *The Last Nude* (Riverhead), a beguiling new novel based on the life and loves of Art Deco painter Tamara de Lempicka. "*The Last Nude* is a remarkable novel: at once a seductive evocation of Lost Generation Paris, a faithful literary rendering of Tamara de Lempicka's idiosyncratic and groundbreaking art, and a vibrant, intelligent moving story in its own right. It's also smoking hot." – Emily Barton. "As erotic and powerful as the paintings that inspired it, Ellis Avery's artist-muse love story is as much about money, class, and betrayal." – Emma Donoghue.

CATHERINE C. ROBBINS

Sunday, January 15 at 7 p.m.

Veteran journalist Catherine Robbins' articles on such subjects as native telecommunications and the Hopi station KUYI, the Pecos repatriation, and related topics. Have appeared in the *New York Times*, *High Country News*, and elsewhere for over three decades. They now appear in expanded form in her new book, *All Indians Do Not Live in Teepees (or Casinos)* (Bison Books), a collection which reports on Native Americans from a variety of backgrounds working quietly to enhance their communities. "Robbins' ability to take the all-encompassing term *Indian*, once used to stereotype a myriad of peoples, and how it not as a limiting factor but as describing a larger brotherhood, is inspiring. The capacity of artists and journalists from various tribes to form alliances and bring the Indian voice to the non-Indian public is a monumental step forward in understanding today's Indian country." – *Indian Country Today*.

OLIVIER ZUNZ

Monday, January 16 at 6 p.m. at Town Hall Seattle

Co-presented with the TOWN HALL CENTER FOR CIVIC LIFE. Visiting a city which has many people engaging in the subject matter of his study is University of Virginia professor Olivier Zunz. *Philanthropy in America: A History* (Princeton University Press) is an in-depth history and an examination of the current direction of philanthropy in this country. "A readable account of how philanthropy caught on in the United States more pervasively than any other nation ... Zunz mixes case studies, mini-biography, and academic theory to demonstrate that both the superwealthy and common folks have invested in giving to the needy as part of an effort to make America a better place ... A sterling example of how an academic author can combine high-level theory with interesting, real-world examples." – *Kirkus Reviews*. \$5 tickets are available at the door starting at 6:30 p.m., or in advance via www.brownpapertickets.com (1.800.838.3006). Town Hall Seattle is at 1119 Eighth Avenue (at Seneca). Preferred seating for Town Hall members. For more information on this evening, please call Elliott Bay at 206.624.6600, Town Hall at 206.652.4255, or see www.townhallseattle.org.

ADAM JOHNSON

Monday, January 16 at 7 p.m.

Nearly a decade after his highly praised debut novel, *Parasites Like Us* and a collection of stories, *Emporium*, Stanford writing professor Adam Johnson is here with *The Orphan Master's Son* (Random House) a major new novel that is garnering all kinds of early attention and excitement. "Johnson's novel accomplishes the seemingly impossible: an American writer has masterfully rendered the mysterious world of North Korea with the soul and savvy of a native, from its orphanages and its fishing boats to the kitchens of its high-ranking commanders. While oppressive propaganda echoes throughout, the tone never slides into caricature; if anything, the story unfolds with astounding empathy for those living in constant

fear of imprisonment – or worse – but who manage to maintain their humanity against all odds ... In this moment and a thousand others like it, Johnson juxtaposes the vicious atrocities of the regime with the tenderness of beauty, love, and hope.” – *Publishers Weekly*. “An addictive novel of daring ingenuity; a study of sacrifice and freedom in a citizen-eating dynasty; and a timely reminder that anonymous victims of oppression are also human beings who love. A brave and impressive book.” – David Mitchell.

RYAN BOUDINOT

Monday, January 16 at 7 p.m. at Richard Hugo House

A writer who is a friend of both Elliott Bay and long active with Hugo House, Ryan Boudinot takes to the stage of the latter – a block from the bookstore – to read from his newly published second novel, *Blueprints of the Afterlife* (Black Cat/Grove). And what a second novel. “Take every high voltage future-shock you can imagine about life as it’s shaping up in the twenty-first century, process it through one of the smartest and funniest and weirdly compassionate sensibilities you’ll find on this crazy planet at this crazy moment, and you get a novel names *Blueprints of the Afterlife*. This guy Ryan Boudinot is the WikiLeaks of the zeitgeist.” – Robert Olen Butler, joined by Tom Robbins, Jonathan Evison, Will Self, Charles Yu, and others in early praise. “Boudinot’s ingenious second novel ... takes readers on a frenzied, hilarious, and paranoid trip through a hypernetworked near future. A bracing dystopian romp through contemporary dread, extrapolated.” – *Publishers Weekly*. **Free admission. Richard Hugo House is at 1634 -11th Avenue (11th, just north of Pine Street).**

CHILDREN’S STORYTIME

Tuesday, January 17 at 11:30 a.m.

Join us for this fun round of readings from picture and storybooks. Go to the castle in the children’s section ... and the stories begin!

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SPECULATIONS: ELLIOTT BAY SCIENCE FICTION & FANTASY BOOK GROUP

Tuesday, January 17 at 6:30 p.m.

This month’s selected novel are two volumes in Hal Duncan’s *The Book of All Hours*, *Vellum* and *Ink* (both Del Rey). Please see elliottbaybook.com for more information – and please join us.

WILLIAM GIBSON

Tuesday, January 17 at 7 p.m.

We are delighted to welcome back one of the most engaging, visionary, and committed novelists at work today, William Gibson, who is here from his Vancouver home with a quite different new book. Coming on the heels of his astounding tenth novel, *Zero History*, *Distrust That Particular Flavor* (Putnam) is his collected nonfiction work to date, a book covers ground from George Orwell to online watch collecting to drug trafficking in Singapore.

“Cyberpunk’s patron saint of prose proves that his reality is every bit as trippy as his fiction. Gibson’s gift for language is such that banal discussions of Steely Dan and even eBay take on otherworldly aspects ... In this case, understanding the writer a little better makes the fantastic thoughts emanating from his head all the more captivating and strange. A provocative, surprising look at the lesser-known parts of a sci-fi superstar’s writing career.” – *Kirkus Reviews*. William Gibson’s extraordinary body of work includes *Neuromancer*, *Mona Lisa Overdrive*, *Idoru*, *Pattern Recognition*, and *Spook Country*.

LEIGH STEIN

Wednesday, January 18 at 7 p.m.

Brooklyn poet and former *New Yorker* staffer Leigh Stein reads here this evening from her newly published first novel, *The Fallback Plan* (Melville House). “Stein, 26, captures the voice of the young 20-something prodigal daughter with the clarion call of authenticity in her debut novel. Esther Kohler is a burned-out recent college grad who has returned to the claustrophobic embrace of her suburban family home ... Stein’s dry humor lends a nicely angst-free tone to her misadventures ... [her] light, accessible, self-deprecating prose makes this coming-of-age story a pleasure.” – *Publishers Weekly*.

THOMAS FRANK

Thursday, January 19 at 7 p.m.

Founding editor of *The Baffler*, Thomas Frank has long been explaining what seems inexplicable – the author of *The Wrecking Crew* and *One Market Under God*, he scathingly looked at how people would vote blatantly against their own interests in *What’s the Matter with Kansas?* Now, he looks at sympathy for the rich in hard times (whose hard times?) – in his newest, *Pity the Billionaire: The Hard-Times Swindle and the Unlikely Comeback of the Right* (Metropolitan Books). “No one fools Thomas Frank, who is the sharpest, funniest, most intellectually voracious political commentator on the scene. In *Pity the Billionaire* he has written a brilliant expose of the most breathtaking ruse in American political history: how the Right turned the biggest capitalist breakdown since 1929 into an opportunity for themselves.” – Barbara Ehrenreich.

S.R. “RUDY” MARTIN, Jr.

Friday, January 20 at 7 p.m.

A founding faculty member of The Evergreen State College – over forty years ago – Rudy Martin (as he is most widely known) was a beloved and inspiring teacher over most of Evergreen’s first decades. In recent years, he has taken up serious writing – producing a family memoir, *On the Move: A Black Family’s Western Saga*; a novel, *Natural-Born Proud: A Reverie*; and a book of stories, *Seaside Stories* (Blue Nile Press) – a collection of stories set around a small Black community in coastal California in the 1950s – a pastor father ‘presiding.’

CHILDREN'S STORYTIME

Saturday, January 21 at 11:30 a.m.

Join us for this fun round of readings from picture and storybooks. Go to the castle in the children's section ... and the stories begin!

DENISE FRISINO

Saturday, January 21 at 2 p.m.

Pacific Northwest native writer Denise Frisino uses a fictional story about the unsolved murder of a Prohibition-era rum-runner to tell a larger story from Seattle's past. *Whiskey Cove* (Book Publishers Network) is set during the 1970s, when a young college student stumbles into the ongoing mystery. Denise Frisino's own family history and her research into the era inform the story.

ALEXIS M. SMITH

Saturday, January 21 at 7 p.m.

Portland writer Alexis Smith helps get the New Year underway where Northwest writers and writing are concerned on a high note with her debut novel, *Glaciers* (Tin House Books). "*Glaciers*, Alexis Smith's brilliant debut novel, is filled with kaleidoscopic pleasures. Using prose as clear as pure, cold air, Smith moves the narrative vertically as well as horizontally, each ticking minute yielding more insights into a young woman's life revealed over one single day. The past, present, and imaginary future stream into beautifully unstable geometries ... Line by line, in and out of time, this is a haunted, joyful, book – a true gift." – Karen Russell.

DEBORAH E. LIPSTADT

Sunday, January 22 at 7 p.m. at Temple de Hirsch Sinai

Presented by TEMPLE DE HIRSCH as part of the Keller Lecture Series. This year's Keller Lecturer is Dr. Deborah E. Lipstadt, Dorot Professor of Modern Jewish and Holocaust Studies at Emory University, historical consultant to the U.S. Holocaust Museum, and 2005 winner of the Al Chernin Award given by the Jewish Council for Public Affairs to the person who best exemplifies protection of the First Amendment. The author of *History on Trial*, *Denying the Holocaust*, and *Beyond Belief*, her most recent book is *The Eichmann Trial* (Schocken/Nextbook). "Lipstadt has done a great service by untethering the [Eichmann] trial from Hannah Arendt's polarizing presence, recovering the event as a gripping legal drama, as well as a hinge moment in Israel's history and in the world's delayed awakening to the magnitude of the Holocaust ... Her conclusions about *Eichmann in Jerusalem* are rendered calmly and with devastating fairness." – Franklin Foer, *The New York Times Book Review*. **This free, public event is followed by a reception, book sales, and signing. Temple de Hirsch Sinai is at 1441 -16th Avenue on Capitol Hill. For more information, please see www.tdhs-nw.org.**

CHILDREN'S STORYTIME

Tuesday, January 24 at 11:30 a.m.

Join us for this fun round of readings from picture and storybooks. Go to the castle in the children's section ... and the stories begin!

STAGES: ELLIOTT BAY DRAMA BOOK GROUP

Tuesday, January 24 at 6:30 p.m.

This month's selected play for discussion is *Passion Play* (Theatre Communications Group) by Sarah Ruhl. Please see www.elliottbaybook.com for more information – and please join us.

GALYA DIMENT

Tuesday, January 24 at 7 p.m.

Published late this past autumn, *A Russian Jew of Bloomsbury: The Life and Times of Samuel Kotliansky* (McGill-Queens University Press) is University of Washington professor and chair of the Slavic Studies and Languages Department Galya Diment's revelatory biography of a key figure in the Bloomsbury literary circle that included Virginia and Leonard Woolf, Katherine Mansfield, H.G. Wells, Dilys Powell, D.H. Lawrence, and many more. His roles included translating a number of Russian classics for the Woolfs' Hogarth Press. "Part biography, part cultural history ... the book teems with vivid vignettes of the emotionally complicated Kotliansky, his close friend D.H. Lawrence ... and many more. A fascinating read for lovers of literature, culture, history, and personality." – Brian Boyd.

DAVID GRAEBER

Wednesday, January 25 at 7 p.m.

One of those at the forefront of the Occupy Wall Street activity beginning this past autumn was eminent University of London anthropologist David Graeber. His writing has long had sway and influence in academic and political circles – that has changed dramatically with Occupy Wall Street *and* with publication of his paradigm-defining book, *Debt: The First 5,000 Years* (Melville House). "Fresh ... fascinating ... Graeber's book is not just thought-provoking, but also exceedingly timely. His sweeping narrative history essentially argues that many of our existing ideas about money and credit are limited, if not wrong." – Gillian Tett, *The Financial Times*. "Terrific ... in the best anthropological tradition, Graeber helps us reset our everyday ideas by exploring history and other civilizations, then boomeranging back to render our own world strange, and more open to change." – Raj Patel. "A brilliant, deeply original political thinker." – Rebecca Solnit.

PICO IYER

Wednesday, January 25 at 7:30 p.m. at Town Hall Seattle

Presented by SEATTLE ARTS & LECTURES. A longtime favorite of Elliott Bay – and Seattle Arts & Lectures – readers, Pico Iyer is back this evening with a delightful new book in

hand. *The Man Within My Head* (Knopf) is a layering of Pico Iyer's affinity with the writer Graham Greene, layered with exploring his own relationship with his father. "Graham Greene isn't the man essayist and novelist Iyer would choose to take up residence in his head ... but it's his lifelong fascination with Greene that fuels this deeply personal journey that crisscrosses the world and his own past ... In the hands of a lesser writer, the dueling father figures would dissolve into melodrama, but Iyer weaves them together brilliantly, reminding us that 'we run from who we are ... only to discover, of course, that that is precisely what we can never put behind us.'" – *Publishers Weekly*. Tickets are \$15 general, \$5 student, \$30 patron - available, along with more information, at www.lectures.org. 206.621.2230 for more information. Town Hall Seattle is at 1119 Eighth Avenue (at Seneca).

A.CARTER SICKELS

Thursday, January 26 at 7 p.m.

Another stellar fiction debut by a Northwest author is made this evening by Portland writer A. Carter Sickels. His *The Evening Hour* is set in mountainous country – West Virginia mountainous country, specifically coal mining country. "The troubled heart of this country, and the hearts of the deeply compelling people who populate it, beat strangely and unforgettably in *The Evening Hour*. A. Carter Sickels is a tremendous novelist with a tremendous story to tell in these pages, and he tells it with beauty and power."- Stacy D'Erasmus. "A refreshing cry from the populace, Carter Sickle's *The Evening Hour* captures the spirit of America's New Feudalism." – Tom Spanbauer.

GARY MARCUS

Friday, January 27 at 7 p.m.

As he turned forty, acclaimed scientist Gary Marcus was known for his studies of evolution, language, and cognitive development, but not for his musical talent.. He learned to play the guitar and investigated how anyone of any age might master a new skill. His new book, *Guitar Zero: The New Musician and the Science of Learning* (Penguin Press), takes readers into a deeply pleasurable journey in which the writer, as his own experimental subject, encounters experts on errors, examines why we like the songs we like, and the role machines can play in making music. Gary Marcus, now the Director of the NYU Center for Child Languages, is the author of three earlier books, including *Kluge: The Haphazard Evolution of the Human Mind*, which was a *New York Times Book Review* Editor's Choice as well as the 3-in-1 Improvisor and Chatternome apps.

CHILDREN'S STORYTIME

Saturday, January 28 at 11:30 a.m.

Join us for this fun round of readings from picture and storybooks. Go to the castle in the children's section ... and the stories begin!

DIANA E. JAMES

Saturday, January 28 at 2 p.m.

Historic preservationist Diana E. James' book, *Shared Walls: Seattle Apartment Buildings, 1900 – 1939* (McFarland), began as a collaborative project with famed local historian Jacqueline B. Williams, and in the intervening years became a solo project. Now finally complete, this fascinating and essential volume offers a comprehensive account of apartment building history, styles, designs, and an account of some key individual building histories. Diana James will give a brief overview and also provide tips for researching your own building's history. *Following the talk, Diana James will lead a short walking tour and discuss the history of some of the buildings in our Capitol Hill/First Hill neighborhood.*

RED PINE / BILL PORTER & ERIC PAUL SHAFFER

Sunday, January 29 at 1:30 p.m.

This Sunday afternoon reading features Bill Porter, renowned translator (as Red Pine) of ancient Chinese texts, and chronicler of the old ways in a China undergoing massive change (*Road to Heaven, Zen Baggage*), and poet/novelist Eric Paul Shaffer, visiting from Hawai'i. Since Red Pine/Bill Porter's last readings locally – for *Zen Baggage* and translations of *Lao-tzu's Taoteching* and *In Such Hard Times: The Poetry of Wei Ying-wu* – Empty Bowl has released a new edition of *P'u Ming's Oxherding Pictures & Verses*. We also should have on hand his newest published translation, *The Lankavatara Sutra: Translation and Commentary* (Counterpoint) – the first translation into English of the original text used by Bodhidharma. The author of five books of poetry, Eric Paul Shaffer is here for his recent novel, *Burn & Learn: Memoirs of the Cenozoic Era* (Leaping Dog Press). Set in the not-so-distant-once-upon-a-time of Albuquerque, this picaresque tale is one of young men finding – and losing their way in that deeply engrained, western American way. This should be a day of good spirits, all around.

SHARON CUMBERLAND

Monday, January 30 at 7 p.m.

Celebration is in order this evening as Seattle University Creative Writing Program director and poet Sharon Cumberland reads from her just-published first full collection, *Peculiar Honors* (Black Heron). “Sharon Cumberland knows the forceful pronouncement, but also possesses the rarer gift for quietness and gentle naming – a contemporary Adam christening the hard-to-name emotions and perceptions of grief, happiness, faith.” – Andrew Hudgins. “In these poems we meet Madonnas in jeans; Athenas in Greek widow's weeds; nosey aunts with faces displayed on Mylar birthday balloons; and medieval schoolmasters enjoining their pupils to write themes on those who have died by drowning, crucifixion, or pure joy.” – Carolyne Wright.

CHILDREN'S STORYTIME

Tuesday, January 31 at 11:30 a.m.

Join us for this fun round of readings from picture and storybooks. Go to the castle in the children's section ... and the stories begin!

JONATHAN TALAT PHILLIPS

Tuesday, January 31 at 7 p.m.

The Electric Jesus: The Healing Journey of a Contemporary Gnostic (Evolver Editions/North Atlantic Books), edited by Daniel Pinchbeck, details Jonathan Talat Phillips' journey from defeated media activist during the 2004 election, through a harrowing spiritual/cultural awakening process that led to the founding of *Reality Sandwich*, and forty-plus "Evolver Spore" cultures around the world, follows the rise of a growing, domestic underground culture, and offers other insights for helping heal the planet. "A modern Odyssey of awakening, Jonathan Talat Phillips' journey into Gnosticism deeply resonates with the eccentric moment. *The Electric Jesus*, a spiritual autobiography, reveals a life lived in the light of transformation, searching for the mystic core of a planetary civilization." – Alex Grey.

SEARCH FOR MEANING BOOK FESTIVAL

Saturday, February 4 :: 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. at Seattle University

Co-presented by the SEATTLE UNIVERSITY SCHOOL FOR THEOLOGY AND MINISTRY, ELLIOTT BAY BOOK COMPANY, and the SEATTLE UNIVERSITY BOOKSTORE. Keynote speakers **Mary Oliver**, poet and author, most recently of *Swan: Poems and Prose Poems* (Beacon), and **Fr. James Martin**, Chaplain to Steven Colbert of *The Colbert Report* and author of *A Jesuit's Guide to Almost Anything* (HarperOne), are joined by over forty authors speaking and leading conversations on spirituality, faith, social justice, and ethical issues at this year's Search for Meaning Book Festival, now in its fourth year. The list of authors is evolving, but as of this writing include Rebecca Walker, Linda Cohen, David Guterson, Susan Rich, Michael Lisagor, Becky Selengut, George Estreich, Frances McCue, and many more. Elliott Bay will be on hand, as usual, with a wide selection of books by both the speakers and related topics. Don't miss this. **Pre-register now to receive information about event tickets. The event is free but seating is limited and pre-registration is strongly suggested. For more information, and pre-registration, please www.seattleu.edu/stm/searchformeaning/ or call 206.296.5330.**

ALSO TO NOTE:

Seattle Arts & Lectures. PICO IYER on Jan. 25 (see listing above) and SAL U programs are the only offerings in January. February brings JENNIFER EGAN (Feb. 1) and poet ALBERT GOLDBARTH, Feb. 9. Please see www.lectures.org for more information ... **Richard Hugo House.** Our neighbors around the corner at 1634 -11th Avenue have a busy January: Castalia Poetry Reading, Jan. 3; "Apocalypse Not: Seven Poets for 2012," Jan. 5; RYAN BOUDINOT's launch for *Blueprints of the Afterlife* (see listings above), Jan. 16;

MARTHA GROVER book release party, Jan. 17; DAVID SCHMADER's play, *A Short-Term Solution to a Long-Term Problem*, Jan 20-21 & Jan. 27-28, are among the slated programs. See www.hugohouse.org for information on these and more ... **Town Hall Seattle**. In addition to Elliott Bay's productions and co-productions at Town Hall, there are numerous other literary, political, cultural, scientific, musical, and other offerings to be experienced. Among the January programs Elliott Bay is not involved in to draw attention to, is a special group reading of writers in Seattle for the MLA conference on Jan. 7 at 7:30 p.m. – 60 writers are scheduled to participate. See www.townhallseattle.org for information on that, and much more.

Leaping ahead: February. February does its once-every-four years thing and goes long – we take advantage, as you can see: among those due through: KURT TIMMERMEISTER, Feb. 1; JONATHAN EVISON, Feb. 2; Search For Meaning Book Festival, Feb. 4 at Seattle University; REBECCA WALKER, Feb.5 at Northwest African American Museum; GARY GEDDES, Feb. 6; DAVID LONG for *Granta*, Feb. 7; DAVE ISAY, Feb. 7 at Town Hall Seattle; PAM HOUSTON, Feb. 8; WAEL GHONIM with D. PARVAZ, Feb. 8 at Town Hall Seattle; MATT RUFF with PAUL CONSTANT, Feb. 9; MARTHA BAYNE, Feb. 12; KATHERINE BOO, Feb. 14 at Stimson Auditorium, Seattle Asian Art Museum; J.A. JANCE, Feb. 15 at Seattle Public Central Library; PAULA BROADWELL, Feb. 16 at Town Hall Seattle; NATHAN ENGLANDER, Feb. 16; DANA STABENOW, Feb. 18; KRIS SAKNUSSEMM, Feb. 21; AMY FRANKLIN-WILLIS, Feb. 22; STEVE ERICKSON, Feb. 27; DAVID C. UNGER, Feb. 28 at Town Hall Seattle; PEGGIELENE “KING PEGGY” BARTELS, Feb. 29 at Northwest African American Museum; ERIC KLINENBERG, Feb. 29 at Town Hall Seattle.

THIS CHANGES EVERYTHING is the title of a book on Occupying Wall Street – see Friday, January 13.