

Writers Week XXX

February 1 through 14, 2007

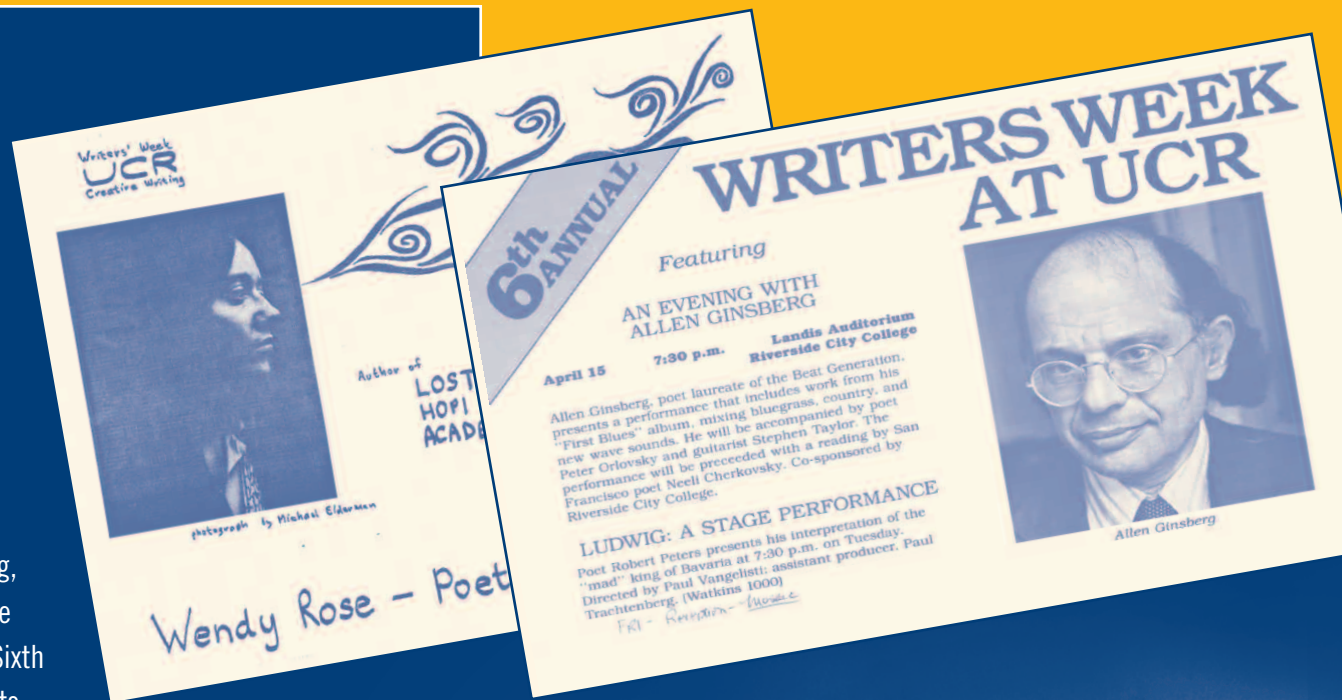
THIRTY

University of California, Riverside, Department of Creative Writing, College of Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences

Writers Week Circa 1983 — a Mini-Memoir

By Judy Kronenfeld, Department of Creative Writing

I thought I had Writers Week posters from the beginning, so much for memory. But I do have them from 1983, the first year of my involvement with Writers Week — the Sixth Annual — when I read as part of the “UCR Younger Poets Series.” (I note now with a nod to the swift passage of time.) Many of these “Younger Poets,” including myself, were part of an informal writing workshop that met on campus for a number of years under the informal (and generous — she was unpaid in that role) direction of the nurturant and insightful Ada Schmidt — progenitrix of the Creative Writing department in many ways, and shaper of the original 56 classes (the only ones the creative writing program had for quite some time). In 1983 Writers Week was in April — it settled into February afterwards — and boasted no less an eminence than Allen Ginsberg at Riverside Community College’s Landis Auditorium. He brought along Peter Orlovsky (though I don’t now remember if Peter read much of his own work), strummed those Blakean rhyming quatrains, and genially endeared himself to a nearly capacity crowd in that very large venue. Other readers included Wendy Rose and Carobeth Laird; our Writers Week progenitor and impresario, the autodidact and novelist Harry Lawton, had feet in many disciplines, especially anthropology and creative writing. Harry had a gift for drumming up enthusiasm among his wide net of friends and acquaintances. You felt you were part of something important when you joined the bandwagon. We patched together the publicity for individual events (although we already had a classy poster for the whole week). My husband, a professor in anthropology, got to practice his rarely practiced (but good!) graphic art in posters for Wendy, Carobeth, a student poetry reading and awards presentation, and to reproduce one of his dad’s drawings in a poster for my own reading. Many of us contributed to the celebratory party at the end of the week which was held, then, and for quite a few years afterwards, at the UCR faculty club. Harry hunted out bargain cookies at Costco, and collected oranges from somewhere on campus; others prepared dips or donated bagels. My dad used to be in the gift business and I had been the lucky recipient of lots of attractive wooden serving platters, which I initialed with sticky labels on the underside and offered for use. It was definitely a communal project!



insightful
Oranges
Nurturant
Classy
Eminence
Memory
Drumming up
WIDE NET OF FRIENDS
communal
bargain cookies
Fabulous
mega-wow
Dazzling
informal
attractive
generous
Blakean
Enthusiasm

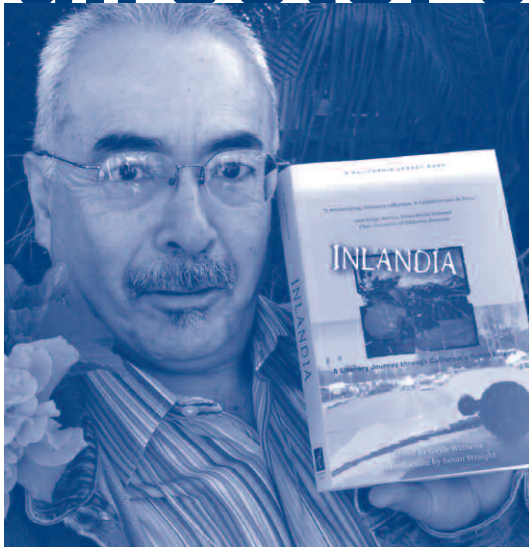


Francis Wong will perform
at the Verbal Coliseum #2
See page 7

Writers Week director's Welcome

¡Bienvenid@s to

The early waves of UCR Writers Week momentum that brought us Allen Ginsberg, N. Scott Momaday, Lucille Clifton, Jeanne Wakatsuki Houston, Joyce Carol Oates, Marilyn Chin, T.C Boyle and Cristina García among others, now unfolds in full force with 40 presenters, authors, agents and publishers to celebrate our 30th anniversary of stories, poems, images and words of and for Inlandia and the West Coast at large. As in the early pioneering efforts, this 30th forum also radiates out into a wide panorama for writers-in-community. For venues and extended community families, we join hands with ARTSblock, our new UCR downtown initiative, the Riverside Public Library, the Riverside Art Museum, the UCR/California Museum of Photography and the new Palm Desert



Writers Week #30!

Graduate Center. We also join efforts with Chancellor France Córdova's prestigious Distinguished Lecture Series and our very own College of Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences' theme-book project of the year, which features the voice and work of the writer lê thi diem thúy.

In a time of much global turmoil, reality spin and corporate speak, we feel the hour has arrived to turn to the writer's poetic heart again in order to authentically touch upon our experience, our complex conditions, to decipher, delight in and rediscover ourselves, our song-painted voices, that is, to find our lives again – in many ways, of and for peace. ¡Bienvenid@s!

– Juan Felipe Herrera,

Tomás Rivera Endowed Chair, Department of Creative Writing

Welcome from the chair of Creative Writing

The Department of Creative Writing is pleased to welcome you to Writers Week, for 30 years a signature event for the department. The department is growing, having welcomed Juan Felipe Herrera as the Tomás Rivera Chair a year ago, and Tom Lutz both here and as director of our satellite M.F.A. program at the Palm Desert Graduate Center this academic year. A talented young novelist, Goldberry Long, will be joining us as a visiting assistant professor in the spring and we are searching for a new faculty member in nonfiction with an emphasis in Middle Eastern and Islamic writing. As we are getting bigger, our renown is getting wider as well: you may have been reading our work, or about our work in the New York Times, the Los Angeles Times and elsewhere. Write on!

– Charles Whitney, Professor and Chair, Department of Creative Writing



Ann Maxwell

Elizabeth Lowell is one pen name for Ann Maxwell. Individually and with co-author/husband Evan, Ann Maxwell has written more than 50 novels and one nonfiction book. There are 23 million copies of these books in print, with reprints in 21 foreign languages. She has had more than 20 New York Times bestsellers. When asked why she writes something as “unrealistic” as romances, she answers; “I write what I know. The enduring love of a good, intelligent, hard-headed man is very much a part of my life.” Evan is the only man she has ever loved.

The Maxwells, who both graduated from UCR, live half the year in Sedona, Arizona, and half the year in Anacortes, Washington. Both are avid salmon fishers and fish each year in Southeast Alaska.

(adapted from authors website: <http://elizabethlowell.writerspace.com>)

Ann & Evan Maxwell

A Conversation “On the Subversive Impact of Popular Culture on the Novel”

Date: Friday, Feb. 9

Place: University Lecture Hall

Time: 6:30 p.m.

Evan Maxwell

In 1985, the first A. E. Maxwell crime novel featuring a couple called Fiddler and Fiora was published by Doubleday. Ann and Evan have published four suspense novels, the most recent of which is “Shadows and Silk.” These novels appeared on nation-wide bestseller lists. In recent years, Evan has concentrated on managing the couple's business affairs and on researching and creating story lines for the Elizabeth Lowell novels. The most recent in that series is set in the border country of San Diego and Tijuana, often the setting for Fiddler novels and always one of Evan's favorite journalistic landscapes. Evan Maxwell's new novel is “The Wrong Hostage.”

Spotlight Event:

UCR Writers Week Keynote Preview: The Work of Ann & Evan Maxwell

An INLANDIA event
for book clubs and book
lovers at Riverside
Public Library

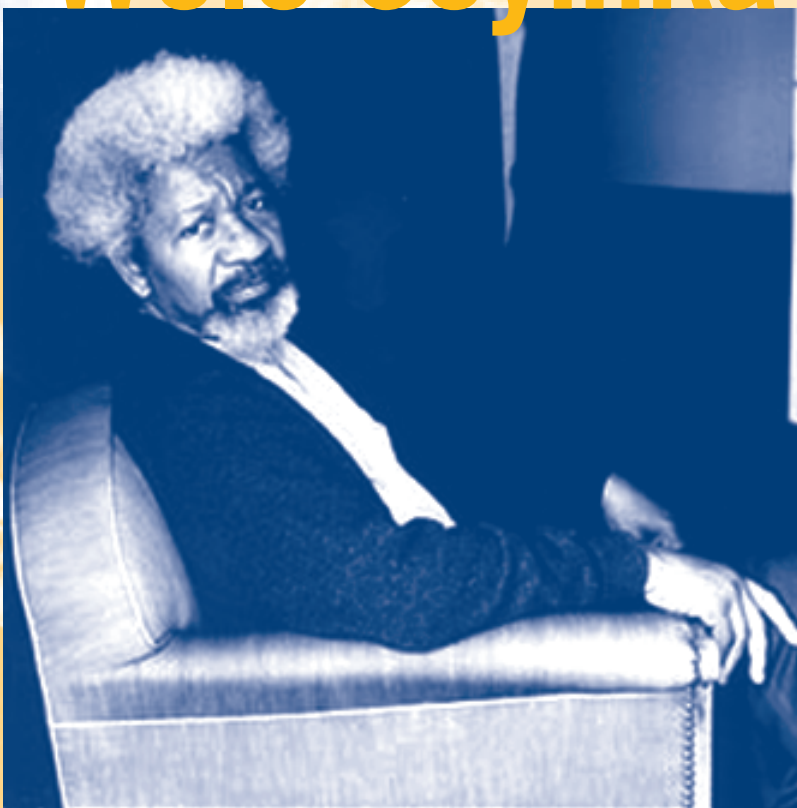
Riverside Public Library,
3581 Mission Inn Ave.,
Riverside

Date: Friday, Feb. 9

Time: 3 p.m.

Phone: (951) 826-5369

Wole Soyinka



Nobel Prize Winner

Chancellor's Distinguished Lecture

When: Wednesday, Feb. 7

Where: University Theatre

Time: 8 p.m.

By Chris Abani, Associate Professor, Creative Writing, UC Riverside

Wole Soyinka was already a legend when I first heard about him when I was 7. Over the course of 32 years, his example has shaped my sense of conscience, integrity and engaged art. It is a rare thing in this century (early as it is) to meet a public intellectual whose life and growth, as an artist and voice of conscience, mirrors the growth of an entire nation – in this case, Nigeria. More than any other activist or political individual, he has been able to remain firmly entrenched and committed to his belief in justice for all humanity.

With unflinching courage and a life full of contradiction (as any led with integrity must be), this novelist, poet, playwright, guitarist and Nobel laureate reveals, with uncanny honesty, what it takes to be a public intellectual and activist for justice. I would not have become a political activist if it were not for him I would perhaps not have begun to think in terms of a human struggle were it not for him. I would certainly not be the socially engaged but artistically driven writer that I am. It is doubtful that any Nigerian in my generation would be. Perhaps the singular most luminous example of what it means to be human, Soyinka's work and words are as relevant here in Riverside as anywhere else in the world.

The facts of his life are listed below, adapted from an archive on the Nobel Prize Web site. But the meaning of his life is more personal, written on the hearts of the people who follow after him.

He was born in 1934 in Abeokuta in southwestern Nigeria. He studied at the Government College in Ibadan, and the University of Leeds, and then served as a playwright at the Royal Court Theatre in London. In 1960, he was awarded a Rockefeller grant to study African drama. That same year he founded the theatre group, The 1960 Masks and four years later, he founded the Orisun Theatre Company. He has served as a visiting professor at Cambridge, Sheffield, and Yale universities.

During the civil war in Nigeria, after he wrote an essay calling for a cease-fire, Soyinka was arrested, accused of conspiring with the Biafra rebels and held as a political prisoner for 26 months until 1969. He has published numerous works of drama, novels and poetry. He writes in English and his literary language is marked by great scope and richness.

Soyinka is an admirer of, among others, the Irish writer J.M. Synge, but Soyinka's work is most influenced by the dance, music and action of traditional popular African theatre. He wrote his first plays during his time in London, "The Swamp Dwellers" and the light comedy "The Lion and the Jewel" and later, satirical comedies such as "The Trial of Brother Jero" and its sequel, "Jero's Metamorphosis." His "Opera Wonyosi" is based on John Gay's "Beggar's Opera" and Brecht's "The Threepenny Opera." Soyinka's later dramatic works include "A Play of Giants" (1984) and "Requiem for a Futurologist" (1985).

Soyinka has written two novels. "The Interpreters" (1965) is a complicated work in which six Nigerian intellectuals discuss and interpret their African experiences. It has been compared to Joyce and Faulkner. His novel, "Season of Anomy" (1973) confronts the Orpheus and Euridice myth with the mythology of the Yoruba religion. Purely autobiographical are "The Man Died: Prison Notes" (1972), "Aké" (1981), "Isara, Ibadan—The Penkelele Years" and "You Must Set Forth At Dawn" (2006).

Literary essays are collected in, among others, "Myth, Literature and the African World" (1975) and "Climate of Fear." (2005)

Soyinka's poems, which show a close connection to his plays, are collected in "Idanre, and Other Poems" (1967), "Poems from Prison" (1969), "A Shuttle in the Crypt" (1972) the long poem "Ogun Abibiman" (1976) and "Mandela's Earth and Other Poems" (1988). His latest collection is "Samarkand and Other Markets I have Known" (2002).

Coming Full Circle

By Kris Lovekin

Harry W. Lawton, a self-taught historian, author and longtime journalist, founded UCR's Writers Week 30 years ago. He died in 2005, but his legacy lives on. This year, his son screenwriter **Jonathan Lawton** is one of the featured speakers.

Harry Lawton's book-length account of a desert manhunt was the basis for the 1969 movie "Tell Them Willie Boy Is Here," which starred Robert Blake, Katharine Ross and Robert Redford.

He was an award-winning journalist at The Riverside Press-Enterprise before earning his degree in English in 1969 and holding a variety of jobs at UC Riverside between 1965 and 1991. He served as the chair of the program in creative writing while it was still an offshoot of the Department of English. He also taught classes in the creative writing program and served on numerous campus committees during his time as an employee.

"Harry Lawton, who worked in the College of Natural and Agricultural Sciences, started Writers Week specifically for the community," said Susan Straight, a professor of creative writing at UCR and an acclaimed novelist who remembers getting her chance to meet her writing role models at early Writers Week sessions. "He thought, how cool it would be if we could have an entire week of writers like Peter Mathiessen, Joyce Carol Oates, and Ken Kesey. Harry Lawton made that happen. He got the funding. He invited all the authors. There was openness here to try new things."

Now the torch has passed to a new generation. It is Jonathan Lawton's turn to make things happen at Writers Week. On Friday, Feb. 2 at 6:30 p.m. in the University Lecture Hall, the author of Garry Marshall's blockbuster film "Pretty Woman" (1990) will show something of his work and talk about what it is like to be a Hollywood screenwriter. And in this 30th year, UCR's Writers Week will come full circle.

UCR Creative Writing is “a gre

By Kris Lovekin

They are writing novels about Louisiana bayous, and African ghettos, and abusive parents. They are composing poems about gardeners working in 120-degree desert heat and torture in Nigerian prisons and fathers dying of Alzheimer's disease. They are writing plays about angst in Riverside's citrus groves. And they are winning major awards.

In fact, so many talented writers teach and study at UC Riverside, that KPCC public radio personality Kitty Felde once questioned if it might not be “something in the water out there.” But look behind the casual remark, and you'll find that interesting new stories emerge from UCR's Department of Creative Writing because UCR students and faculty are armed with fascinating raw material.

“It's the diversity of the students, their imagination and intensity,” explained D. Charles Whitney, a professor who teaches journalism classes.

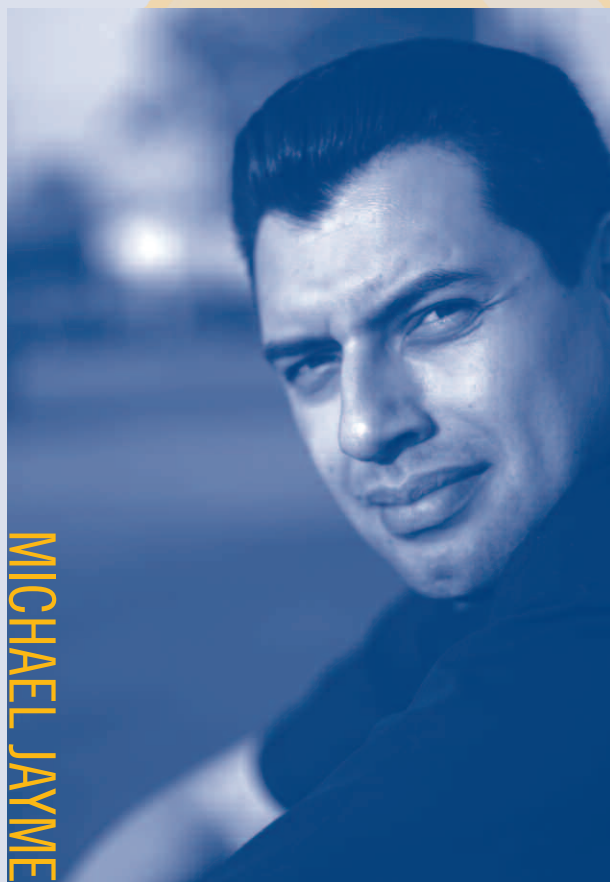
“It's unpredictable what we will produce here and I think that's a delight,” added Dwight Yates, a longtime lecturer at UCR. “Students are telling their own stories. It's a great stew.”

In 1991, Michael Jayme arrived at UCR as a student. The first member of his working-class El Monte family to go to college, he immersed himself in his poetry, and then short fiction workshops at UCR, even while he worked night shifts at UPS. His mentors, Maurya Simon and Susan Straight, are two of the department's original professors. They encouraged him to tackle any genre he found inspiring.

“There were no limits on what I could do there,” said Jayme, who adds his mother's maiden name to create his pen name of Michael Jaime-Becerra. “They wanted me to write with my own voice, not just copy theirs. They encouraged me to write about my own experiences growing up.”

The results, eventually, wound up in a book of short stories called “Every Night is Ladies Night.”

MICHAEL JAYME



And now Jayme is himself a creative writing professor at UCR, a colleague to his mentors, along with professor Christopher Buckley and some relatively new faces at UCR, Christopher Abani, Andrew Winer, Dana Johnson, and Juan Felipe Herrera, who holds the brand new Tomás Rivera Endowed Chair, and Tom Lutz, new director of the M.F.A. program at the Palm Desert Graduate



ANDREW WINER

Writing is “a gre

“It's unpredictable what we will produce here and I think that's a delight,” added Dwight Yates, a longtime lecturer at UCR. “Students are telling their own stories. It's a great stew.”

Center. Add to that impressive list more lecturers, Judy Kronenfeld, Derek McKown and three new alumni lecturers, Kate Anger, Jo Scott Coe and Alex Espinoza, and you have a critical mass of creative force.

“We just blossomed,” said Simon who has been teaching poetry classes at UCR since 1984 and who served as associate dean last year. “The department went from three full-time positions to nine in the space of the last three years.” And just like first-generation college students at UCR, this particular department spent many years slogging up the steep road before finding itself.

UCR's undergraduate creative writing program is the only one in the UC system, so it has drawn dedicated undergraduate writers from around the state. The annual Writers Week brings in guest writers for free readings. And five years ago the department launched a Master of Fine Arts program in creative writing and writing for the performing arts, in partnership with the Department of Theatre. The program demands that students cross genres, from playwriting to poetry to fiction and screenwriting.

“Most M.F.A. programs actually require specialization in one genre, so this is really unusual,” said Straight.

The M.F.A. program is based in Riverside, but has expanded to UCR's new Palm Desert Graduate Center.

With the maturing M.F.A. program, as well as the undergraduate journal *Mosaic* and a graduate and professional journal called *Crate*, the department has found its rhythm.

But it wasn't always that way.

SUSAN STRAIGHT



at stew”

*at we will produce here
ght...Students are telling
reat stew.”* — DWIGHT YATES



MAURYA SIMON

The journey started with Harry Lawton, a journalist and campus science writer who was also an adjunct lecturer in creative writing on the basis of his novel, “Willie Boy: A Desert Manhunt,” which was turned into a Hollywood movie starting Robert Blake and Robert Redford.

Lawton started Writers Week at UC Riverside in 1975 with a budget of \$500. Over the years, the budget has grown, along with the guest list and the audience. Guest authors have included Joyce Carol Oates, Robert Pinsky, Ken Kesey, Russell Banks, Aimee Bender, Lucille Clifton, Dorothy Allison, Harvey Pekar and Ursula K. LeGuin, among many others. It continues to this day as the oldest free literary event in California.



CHRISTOPHER BUCKLEY

It is that event that typically draws the eyes of the outside world, including KPCC’s Felde, who interviewed writers on her show, “Talk of the City.” One of her frequent interview subjects was Susan Straight, author of six highly acclaimed novels with the latest “A Million Nightingales,” released in March.

“Writers Week has definitely been the department’s signature event,” said Straight, a Riverside native who has been teaching at UCR since 1988.



CHRISTOPHER ABANI

Even before that, she would come to UCR every February to listen to famous writers, sometimes standing in the back so she could escape quietly if one of her three daughters started to fuss.

Now, Straight has organized two years of Writers Week herself, inaugurating special days devoted to African American voices or Latino voices. In 2006 it was Jayme’s turn to organize the week. He included a tribute to the graphic novel.

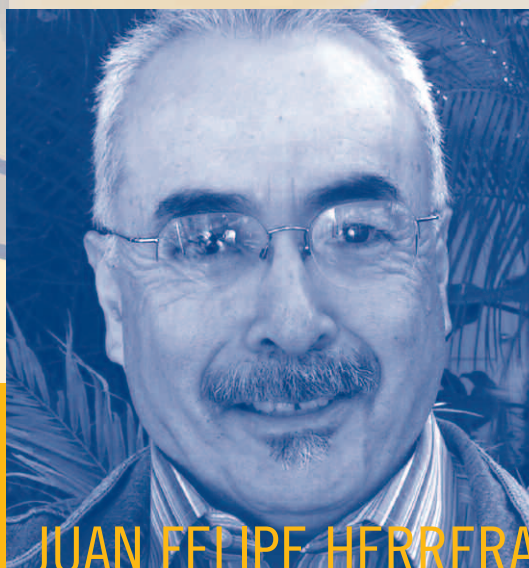
Straight said she is thrilled to have her former students as colleagues, as well as new stars like Abani, a 38-year-old writer from Nigeria who this year won the Hemingway Foundation/PEN Award for his debut American novel, “GraceLand.”

“He is not only a brilliant writer, but he is a great mentor for our students,” Straight said.

As a teen, Abani earned attention in his home country for the precocious publication of a thriller whose plotline led to allegations of involvement in a military coup, triggering paranoia in his country’s political dictatorship. Abani’s ideas and his college activism resulted in prison sentences, sometimes in solitary confinement.

A collection of poems that grew out of that experience, “Kalakuta Republic,” was described as “the most naked, harrowing expression of prison life and political torture imaginable,” by playwright Harold Pinter. “Reading them is like being singed with a red hot iron.”

Juan Felipe Herrera, the writer who took on the new duties of Writers Week director, said it is a pleasure to stir this creative stew. A poet who is constantly sprinkling metaphors into conversation, Herrera said it has been amazing to wrap himself in the name of Chicano legend Tomás Rivera.



JUAN FELIPE HERRERA

“It’s been like putting on a flying carpet,” he said. “I am asked to go all over the community to write poems or read them, or speak in front of hundreds of people.”

He said it was not easy to leave his long-established career at California State University, Fresno, near where he grew up. “But this department was doing new things and producing lots of books. I just saw it as a new challenge for me, and I’m glad I came.”



JUDY KRONENFELD

Christopher Rice & the New Desert

By Tom Lutz, Director, M.F.A. Program, UCR Palm Desert Graduate Center

Christopher Rice was born into the literary life, the son of bestselling novelist Ann Rice, and poet and painter Stan Rice. He is the author of three acclaimed novels and is a columnist for *The Advocate* magazine. His first novel, “A Density of Souls,” about a murder in New Orleans involving four high school friends, was published when the author was 22 years old. The book received a landslide of media attention and became a New York Times bestseller. Shortly thereafter, Christopher followed up with a second New York Times bestselling thriller, “The Snow Garden,” about a murder and conspiracy on a New England college campus. “The Snow Garden” received a Lambda Literary Award, after which Christopher was invited to sit on Lambda’s board of directors. His third novel, “Light Before Day,” set in West Hollywood, is a complex thriller in the noir tradition. In 2001, then New York City Public Advocate Marc Green recognized Christopher as an outstanding leader in the gay and lesbian community, and the Hetrick Martin Institute gave him their Emery Award for outstanding contributions to gay and lesbian youth. After penning a guest column for *The Advocate* on the death of his father, Christopher was invited to become a regular columnist for the magazine. He also served as the fiction editor for *Genre* magazine. “Blind Fall,” the first of two novels for Scribner, will be published in 2008. He lives in West Hollywood.

The M.F.A. in Creative Writing and Writing for the Performing Arts at the Palm Desert Graduate Center of UCR is dedicated to serving the local community and the national literary scene. Like the M.F.A. program at the Riverside campus, the Palm Desert program offers screenwriting, playwriting, and television writing courses and workshops as well as in the traditional genres of poetry, fiction, and nonfiction.

The Palm Desert program is devised to serve the needs of working adult students. Most classes are offered in the evening and allow students to work at their own pace. Funding for students is provided by fellowships and teaching in the Desert Writers in the Schools Program, which brings students and professional writers into the area’s secondary schools to teach writing workshops — a proven way to empower and energize students and provide them with greater access to their own creativity. With its own dedicated faculty in many genres, a large contribution by the faculty from the Riverside campus, a wide variety of visiting faculty, colloquia and visitors, and a diverse, energetic community of students, the Palm Desert M.F.A. program is an exciting way to learn.

Our faculty includes writers Chris Abani, Eric Barr, Charles B. Evered, Tod Goldberg, Juan Felipe Herrera, Stu Kreiger, Laila Lalami, Goldberry Long, Tom Lutz, Maurya Simon, Susan Straight and Lisa Teasley.

We have a steady series of readings by poets, fiction, and nonfiction writers, Q & A sessions with screenwriters, producers, directors, actors, publishers, editors and agents, and discussions with eminent writers in many genres. In the last two months, we hosted or co-hosted Larry Gelbart, Michael Tolkin, Jessica Hendra, Robert McKee, Brendan Constantine, Mindy Netifee and Eric Stoltz, among others.



TOM LUTZ



Spotlight Event: *Christopher Rice*

When: Saturday, Feb. 10
Time: 6 p.m.
Place: UCR Palm Desert Graduate Center,
75-080 Frank Sinatra Drive
Palm Desert, CA 92211

Palm Desert office: (760) 834-0928



Enter the Verbal Coliseum II

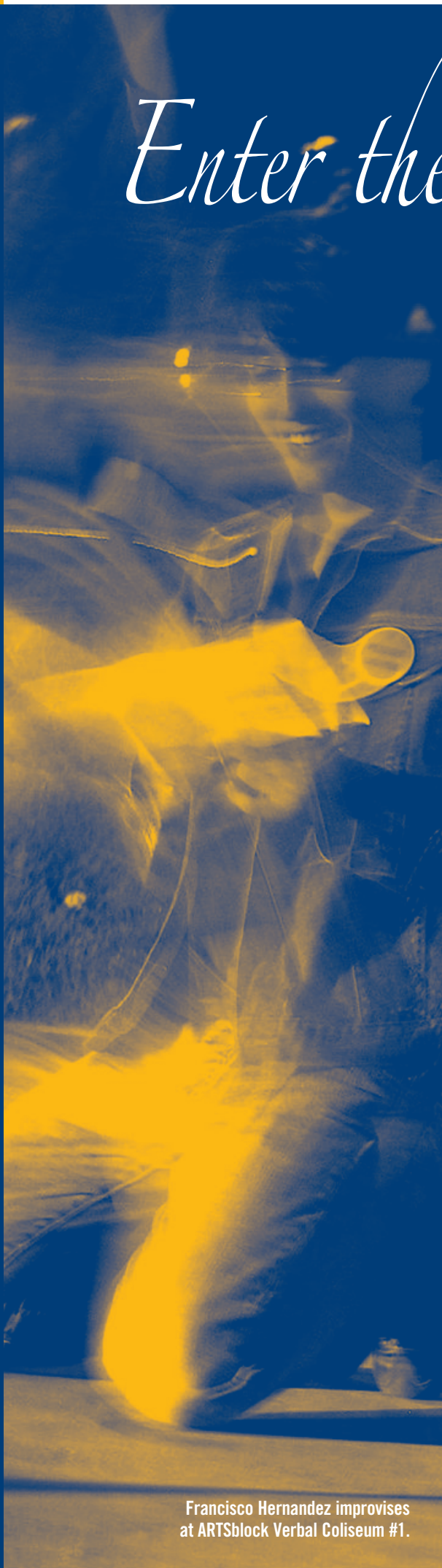
Verbal Coliseum #1 was launched on November 2, 2006 at ARTSblock, downtown Riverside in coordination with the Sweeney Art Gallery, the Department of Creative Writing and Dean Steve Cullenberg's office in the College of Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences. Shane Shukis, educational and cultural visionary of ARTSblock met with poet and professor Juan Felipe Herrera, and brainstormed and created the first open-air caldron of coliseum-style spoken word with bleachers, dangling mics and nervy soundtrack. It featured nationally known spoken wordsmiths, Mark Gonzalez, Oveous Maximus and Carla Diaz and more than 20 members of the Creative Writing department's own new verbal coliseum class. You are invited to enter Verbal Coliseum #2 on Thursday evening, Feb. 8, when the coliseum kicks it up a notch in a hot black-box studio theatre space with four nationally renowned spoken word performers blasting saxophone, spoken word streams and an evening contest of undergrad and graduate word wrestlers.

Place: UCR Studio Theatre — Olmsted Hall, Room 411

When: Thursday, February 8

Time: 6 to 9 p.m.

Welcome: Professor Rickerby Hines and Dr. Shane Shukis
Amalia Alvarez M.F.A. Grad: Open Mic Czar



Francisco Hernandez improvises at ARTSblock Verbal Coliseum #1.



Upcoming events

At Palm Desert Graduate Center:

Rachel Resnick (Feb. 15), John Rechy (Feb. 24), literary agent Betsy Amster and authors, Paul Mandelbaum and Joy Nicholson (March 8), Seth Greenland (March 15), Aimee Liu (March 29), a publishing workshop with Kate Gale, editor and founder of Red Hen Press (April 6), a mini-conference of desert writers to which we've invited Tod Goldberg, Alex Espinosa, Barbara Seranella, Kathryn Jordan, Rob Roberge, Brad Geagley, Gayle Brandeis, James Brown, and Jack Lopez (April 14), the Tomás Rivera Conference (April 28), and Michelle Huneven and Janet Fitch (May 9).

At UCR:

Creative Writing Department Reading Series directed by Professor Christopher Buckley will include (Spring) Karen Yamashita, Maxine Hong Kingston (with the Center for Ideas and Society), Micahel White (Fall) Gary Amdahl, Carolyne Wright-Seasons, and (Spring '08) Elena Karina Byrne.

The Tomás Rivera Conference will be held at the Palm Desert Graduate Center on April 28th. For more information please contact JFHerrera at (951) 827-5027.

Schedule of Events

All Writers Week events are free and open to the public

THURSDAY, February 1, 2007

2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Welcome and Opening Reception

Chancellor's Conference Room, University Village

Jim Quay - California Council of the Humanities, Executive Director

Stephen Minot - Professor Emeritus of UCR Department of Creative Writing

Readings by Al Young (California's Poet Laureate) and Stephanie Elizondo-Griest.

The UCR Andean Music Ensemble, Mayupatapi, led by UCR's Jonathan Ritter.

6:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Evening Program

University Lecture Hall

Ken Goddard, author of "Balefire," the "Alchemist," "Double Blind," and "First Evidence."

FRIDAY, February 2, 2007

Gathering Stories & Telling Stories

1:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Riverside Art Museum, 3425 Mission Inn Ave., Riverside, CA

Antonio Sacre, Los Angeles storyteller.

Translations from Korean poet Ko Un's "Ten Thousand Lives" by Gary Gach, poet, author, and editor of "What Book!? - Buddha Poems from Beat to Hip-hop"

6:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

University Lecture Hall

Jonathan Lawton - Screenwriter of "Pretty Woman" and many other films.

SATURDAY, February 3, 2007

2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Riverside Public Library, 3581 Mission Inn Ave., Riverside, CA

Allison Hedge-Coke - poet, non-fiction writer, playwright, author of "Dog Road Woman."

MONDAY, February 5, 2007

2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

HMSS Building, Room 1614

A conversation with literary agent Kendra Marcus from BookStop Literary Agency about the process of publishing fiction for young people.

TUESDAY, February 6, 2007

Fiction & Non-Fiction

2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

HMSS Building, Room 1500

Daniel Alarcón - Fiction

Mary Beth Rogers - Non-fiction

WEDNESDAY, February 7, 2007

10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Brave New Works by Creative Writers of Riverside, Showcasing UCR Faculty

HMSS Building, Room 1500

Featuring Alex Espinoza reading from his debut novel, "Still Water Saints"

Nancy Best - New Works

Christopher Buckley - "And the Sea" (Sheep Meadow Press)

Michael Jayme - "Every Night is Ladies' Night" (Rayo/Harper Collins)

Dana Johnson - "Break Any Woman Down" (Anchor)

Judy Z. Kronenfeld - "Ghost Nurseries" (Finishing Line Press)

Tom Lutz - "Doing Nothing: A History of Loafers, Loungers, Slackers & Bums in America" (Farrar, Strauss and Giroux)

Malcolm Margolin - Publisher, "Inlandia," (Heyday Books)

Derek McKown - New Works

Sharyn Obsatz - New Works

Jo Scott-Coe - New Works

Maurya Simon - "Ghost Orchid" (Red Hen Press)

Andrew Winer - New Works

Dwight Yates - "Bring Everybody - Stories" (University of Massachusetts Press)

CHANCELLOR'S DISTINGUISHED LECTURE

8:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.

University Theatre

Wole Soyinka - Nobel Prize Winner

"A Writer's Journey: An Evening with Nobel Prize Winner Wole Soyinka."

THURSDAY, February 8, 2007

6:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Verbal Coliseum II

UCR Studio Theatre

Four featured performers, Francis Wong, Ginny Lim, Arlene Biala, and Margarita Robles, will join in an evening of spoken word jazz, led by Rickerby Hines, Shane Shukis, and Amalia Alvarez, and joined by undergrad and graduate word-wrestlers.

6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Inlandia @ The Barn

The UCR Book Store offers a book signing and reception for the authors featured in "Inlandia: A Literary Journey through California's Inland Empire," an anthology of writing about this region from Heyday Books.

FRIDAY, February 9, 2007

1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

New Performance, New Poetry

HMSS Building, Room 1500

Tim Miller - Performance artist

Deb Bogen - Poet

3:00 p.m.

UCR Writers Week Keynote Preview

The Work of Ann & Evan Maxwell
Riverside Public Library, 3581 Mission Inn Ave., Riverside, CA

An INLANDIA event for book clubs and book lovers at the Riverside Public Library.

6:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Keynote Presentation

University Lecture Hall

Ann & Evan Maxwell - Novelists
A Conversation "On the Subversive Impact of Popular Culture on the Novel."

Welcome by D. Charles Whitney, chair of the Department of Creative Writing, and J.F. Herrera, Writers Week director.

SATURDAY, February 10, 2007

6 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Christopher Rice - Novelist

Welcome, Dr. Tom Lutz, director of Palm Desert Graduate Center's M.F.A. Program.
UCR Palm Desert Graduate Center, 75-080 Frank Sinatra Drive, Palm Desert, CA.

MONDAY, February 12, 2007

Short Stories & Poets

1:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Humanities and Social Sciences Building, Room 1500

Cheryl Klein - Short stories

Joseph Millar - Poet

Dorianne Laux - Poet

WEDNESDAY, February 14, 2007

Closing event

6:10 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

University Lecture Hall

Immigration Theme Lecture

lê thi diem thúy - Novelist, author of "The Gangster We Are All Looking For," selected as the theme book for students in the College of Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences.

SPONSORS & ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS:

We wish to thank our Chancellor France Córdova; our Executive Vice Chancellor, Ellen Wartella; all of our Creative Writing faculty; our staff - Yvonne Howard, Amanda Labagnara, and student workers; Creative Writing Chair Charles Whitney; Dean Steve Cullenberg; Associate Dean Georgia Warnke; Tom Lutz, our new Palm Desert MFA Program Director; our development wizard, Ginny Davis; Eric Barr, Chair of Theatre; Brian Murphy, Chancellor's Office; Jonathan Ritter, Professor of Music; our very own Stephen Minot; sponsors and co-hosts, Kathryn Morton from the Riverside Public Library, Shane Shukis from ARTSblock, Daniel Foster from the Riverside Art Museum, Jonathan Green, director of the UCR/California Museum of Photography; the Riverside Arts Council; "Imagine That!" Bookstore; Estella Acuña from UCR Chicano Student Programs; the Riverside Metropolitan Art Museum; the great book clubs of the region; Jim Quay from the California Council of the Humanities, Malcolm Margolin, publisher of Heyday Books; our talented Creative Design Services team; Latino Network; our genius grads and undergrads; Bill Tarbi from the University of Redlands; Gabriela Jáuregui, graduate student representative, Amalia Alvarez, Tomás Rivera Graduate Fellow; My Nguyen, Tomás Rivera Research Fellow; and Linda Rodriguez, scheduling assistant; as well as all our generous presenters. Most of all, we thank you for walking shoulder to shoulder with us for 30 years. Write on!

WRITERS WEEK #30 CONTACTS:

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