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UCRIVERSIDE

M.F.A. for Creative Writing
and Writing for the Performing Arts



COLLEGE OF HUMANITIES, ARTS, and SOCIAL SCIENCES



The MFA Reading

Friday, May 15, 6 - 8 p.m. at UCR Campus HMNSS 1500

Event is free (Parking in lot #1 \$5.00)

For more information contact: ucr.mfa.reading@gmail.com



Ching-In Chen is from the North Shore of Boston. She attended Tufts University, earning degrees in English and international relations. She has worked as a community organizer in Boston, San Francisco, and Oakland, as well as serving in AmeriCorps tutoring children and building trails. Her book, *The Heart's Traffic*, was recently published by Arktoi Press. She is this year's winner of the Eaton Student Short Story Contest. She likes all types of dumplings and helping others.



Cupid Flowers is originally from Thornton, Arkansas. She earned a B.A. in Film and Video Studies from the University of Oklahoma. Her thesis is a screenplay titled *The Hands of Time*. Her work won first place in the Hang Ten Screenwriting Competition. After graduating she plans to move to Los Angeles.



Amir Friedländer is from the San Francisco Bay Area. He received a B.A. in creative writing from University of California-Riverside. Before entering the university's M.F.A. program, he folded silk shirts as a Tommy Bahama retail clerk. He is writing a novel titled *Elysium* and enjoys B-movies, urban legends, and cats.



Adam Gallari is from Long Island, New York. He received his B.A. in English from Vassar College. He is working on the collection *Chasing Adonis and Other Stories*. After receiving his M.F.A., Adam plans to pursue a Ph.D. at The University of Exeter in England, working with Sam North and Philip Hensher. He enjoys baseball, spending time in the gym, and reading W.G. Sebald.



Vanessa Hua is originally from Orinda, California, in the San Francisco Bay Area. She received her B.A. in English and M.A. in communications from Stanford University. She has worked as a journalist covering Asian American issues and tech culture for the *Los Angeles Times*, *Hartford Courant*, and the *San Francisco Chronicle*. Her fiction has appeared in the *Cream City Review*, *River Styx*, and *American Literary Review*. She was the first place winner of the 2008 *Atlantic Monthly* fiction prize. She enjoys running, cooking, and traveling.

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Nicelle Hughes is from Salt Lake City, Utah. Over ten years' time she attended six colleges—American Academy of Dramatic Arts, Westminster College, Salt Lake Community College, Glendale Community College, Antelope Community College, and California State University Bakersfield, where she earned a B.A. in English. She has worked as a waitress, stained glass artist, wedding planner, retail manager, and jazz singer for the band St. Thomas Trio. She has poetry forthcoming in *Redcations and Bad Light*. After earning her M.F.A., she plans to teach at Antelope Community College and intern for Red Hen Press. She enjoys drawing and making things out of clay.



Eva Konstantopoulos is originally from New York. She earned a double B.A. from Emerson College in media studies and writing, literature, and publishing. Prior to attending University of California-Riverside, she read screenplays in New York and Los Angeles for Plum Pictures, Lions Gate Films, Fish & Richardson, P.C., and the Nantucket Film Festival. Recent work appears in *The Salt River Review* and *Why Vandalism?* *The Virgin of Poughkeepsie* won Best Screenplay for the Gotham Screen Circleframe Screenwriting Awards in 2008. She enjoys film, hiking, sleeping, eating, and laughing.



LaSharon Mclean Perez is from Oceanside, California. She studied theatre and Italian at University of California-Riverside. She has an M.A. in theatre and in applied linguistics from the University of New South Wales at Sydney, Australia. She has worked as a hospital corpsman for the US Navy, a telecommunications assistant, a teacher, and as a study abroad advisor. After finishing her M.F.A., she plans to pursue a Ph.D. at the University of London, Royal Holloway, exploring the work of Pietro Aretino.



Elijah Mendoza is from Waco, Texas. He received a B.A. in English and history with a minor in art history from Vanderbilt University. He has been a tutor, worked in construction, a tea shop, and a resort club, among other things. His thesis is tentatively titled *The Fall of Tenochtitlán*. His interests include boxing, basketball, pre-Renaissance Western history, and the Dallas Cowboys.



Adam Pelavin hails from Washington, D.C. After receiving a B.A. in math from Pomona College, he wrote questions for standardized math tests and worked as an education researcher. Prior to pursuing his M.F.A., he completed one year of a doctoral program in math. Adam is working on the novel *All That We Really See*. He is a huge politics junkie and maintains a lingering love of mathematics.



Andy Sarouhan is from the San Francisco Bay Area. He received a B.A. from University of California-San Diego in theatre with an emphasis in playwriting. He has worked as a teacher and an improvisation trainer. He has also performed professionally with a variety of San Francisco troupes including Flash Family, Un-Scripted Theatre, and BATS. The working title of his novel is *Tales From Twixt and Tween*. In addition to acting and improvisation, he enjoys meditating and beach cruiser rides at midnight.

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