

34th Annual Writers Week Conference
February 8 - 12, 2011

Writers Week Readers

PHILIP LEVINE
JONATHAN GOLD
Kathleen Alcalá
Belle Boggs
Jo Scott Coe
Jennifer Kwon Dobb
Ben Ehrenreich
Adam Gallari
Daniel Hernandez
Christopher Howell
Richard Katrovas
Douglas McCulloh
Allison Benis White
Andrew Winer



Tuesday, February 8th—INTS 1128

1:00 Daniel Hernandez

3:00 Distinguished Alumnus Reading: Jo Scott Coe

5:00 Inlandia Presents: Douglas McCulloh

Wednesday, February 9th—INTS 1128

1:00 Kathleen Alcalá

3:00 Ben Ehrenreich

5:00 Richard Katrovas

7:30 Hays Press-Enterprise Lecture: Jonathan Gold (held at the University Theatre)

Thursday, February 10th—INTS 1128

1:00 Jennifer Kwon Dobbs

3:00 Allison Benis White

5:00 Christopher Howell

7:30 Keynote Presentation: Philip Levine

Friday, February 11th—INTS 1128

1:00 Distinguished Alumnus Reading: Adam Gallari

3:00 Belle Boggs

5:00 The Stephen Minot Reading: Andrew Winer

Tom Lutz

Department of Creative Writing



Welcome to Writers Week XXXIV, now as venerable a literary institution as we have in these parts. Some things remain the same as they were in Writers Week 's first incarnation in 1977. Punk rocker Patti Smith, who this year won the National Book Award for memoir *Just Kids*, was in the news then, as well, having fallen off a stage in Tampa, Florida, opening for Bob Seger. She received 22 stitches and while recovering wrote her fifth volume of poetry. Keith Richards, whose autobiography also made a splash this year, was busted in Toronto for heroin and cocaine possession, and was tried in England for similar charges after a car wreck. Elizabeth II was the Queen and James Dobson was running Focus on the Family, Apple was introducing innovative consumer electronics, and peace talks were underway in the Middle East. In other ways, 1977 is worlds away: Jimmy Carter succeeded Gerald Ford as president, Elvis Presley, Charlie Chaplin, Anais Nin, and Vladimir Nabokov died, the Son of Sam was on his rampage in New York, Kiss and the Bee Gees were the biggest bands in America, and Fonzie jumped the shark.

In the ensuing years, there has been great continuity in the purpose and dedication of Writers Week, a time for the literary community of the Inland Empire to gather and enjoy and celebrate the best writing in the region and the country. This year we are especially pleased to have Jonathan Gold, the first food critic to ever win a Pulitzer Prize, deliver the Riverside Hays-Press Enterprise Lecture and to have Philip Levine deliver our keynote address. Levine has won the Pulitzer, too, as well as two National Book Awards and two National Book Critics Circle Awards. This year we also have the first in what will be a regular reading honoring Professor Stephen Minot, who passed this year and was instrumental in founding the Creative Writing department at UCR. This year's Stephen Minot Lecture will be delivered by our colleague Andrew Winer. In 1977 Stephen Minot had published three of his nine books, Philip Levine seven of his twenty, Jonathan Gold was about to join his first punk band and start college, Andrew Winer was a school child, and our younger writers, like Belle Boggs and Adam Gallari, were years away from being born. All are united by a love of language and the written word, and we are honored and pleased to have them all with us this year.

Welcome, once again, to Writers Week! And once again I'm proud to share so much great writing with you. The entire week promises to be special, from the very first event (journalist Daniel Hernandez reading from his collection of essays on the day it comes out!) to the very last one (Professor Andrew Winer, my distinguished colleague, reading at the inaugural Steven Minot Reading).

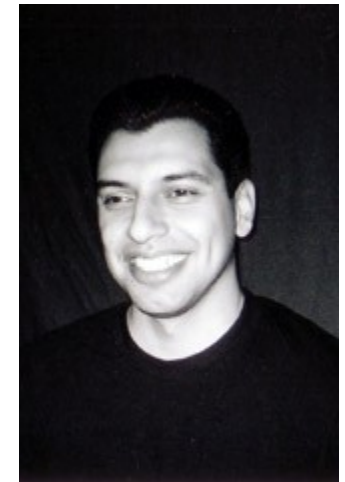
I'll also take this opportunity to call your attention to two of our own, Adam Gallari and Jo Scott Coe, recent graduates from our MFA program, who are returning as distinguished alumni. There is more information about their books and accomplishments in this brochure, but I'll say here that we're thrilled to have them back, and to know that their work is finding its place in the world.

Another feature of this year's edition of Writers Week is a day devoted to cross-genre writers and writing. Those of you outside our department might not be aware of our cross-genre requirement, which asks that our students take classes in multiple genres, rounding out their experience before they graduate. In recognition of such creative flexibility, we have dedicated Tuesday to writers who work terrifically in multiple fields-fiction and nonfiction, fiction and poetry, poetry and nonfiction.

I'd like to acknowledge all the assistance I've received from colleagues, both within Creative Writing, across UCR's campus, and beyond. Their help keeps Writers Week going, making it one of Southern California's most dynamic literary celebrations.

And finally, please note that this year's keynote reading will be given by Philip Levine in an intimate setting with limited seating. Reservations are highly encouraged. They may be made by contacting Tiffany Long at (951) 827-3615 or at tlong002@ucr.edu.

Each event can't miss. As always, I hope that you can join us!

**Michael Jayme**

Director of Writers Week 2011

Visiting Writers

Journalist and blogger **Daniel Hernandez** is author of *Down & Delirious in Mexico City* (Scribner: 2011), his first book. He is a former staff writer of the L.A. Times and LA Weekly, and currently writes at La Plaza, the Latin America news blog at LATimes.com. Daniel's award-winning work has appeared in a variety of magazines, journals, and newspapers in the U.S., Mexico, and Europe. He's also produced work for television and radio. Daniel is a native of San Diego, CA and a graduate of the University of California, Berkeley. He lives in Mexico City.

Jo Scott-Coe is an Assistant Professor of English at Riverside Community College in Southern California. Her essays on education, gender, and violence have been published or are forthcoming in *Fourth Genre*, *Ninth Letter*, *So to Speak*, *The Los Angeles Times*, *River Teeth* and the anthology *(Re)Interpretations: The Shapes of Justice in Women's Experience* (Cambridge Scholars Press). She is currently working on a non-fiction book, *Hot for Teacher: Sexual Bullying in the Feminized Classroom*. A former graduate Fellow in the Creative Writing Department at UC Riverside, Scott-Coe has just been nominated for a Pushcart Prize.

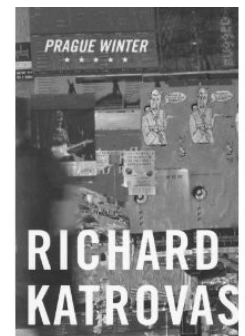
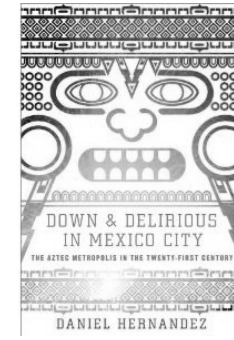
Douglas McCulloh is an honors graduate of UC Santa Barbara and holds an MFA from Claremont Graduate University. McCulloh's books include *Dream Street* (Heyday Books, Berkeley, California); *On the Beach* (Southeast Museum of Photography, Daytona Beach, Florida); *The Edge of Air* (Laguna Wilderness Press, California); and *Chance Encounters* (UCR/California Museum of Photography). A photographer and writer, McCulloh has shown internationally in over 140 exhibitions.

Kathleen Alcalá is the author of a short story collection, three novels set in 19th Century Mexico and the Southwest, and a collection of essays based on her family history. Her work has received the Western States Book Award, the Governor's Writers Award, and a Pacific Northwest Booksellers Association Book Award. She received an Artist Trust Fellowship in 2008. Kathleen lives on Bainbridge Island and teaches fiction at the Northwest Institute of Literary Arts on Whidbey Island.

Ben Ehrenreich lives in Los Angeles, CA, where he works as a novelist, essayist and journalist. His first novel, *The Suitors*, was published in 2006 and his second, *Ether*, will be published next Fall by City Lights Books. Ehrenreich's articles, essays, and short fiction have been published in *Harper's*, *The New York Times Magazine*, *The London Review of Books*, *The Nation*, *L.A. Weekly*, *McSweeney's*, and many other publications. He has taught writing at the Otis College of Art and Design and is currently a Visiting Assistant Professor at UC Riverside.

On a Fulbright fellowship, **Richard Katrovas** was in Prague, Czechoslovakia in the months preceding the Velvet Revolution, and subsequently witnessed that event. The recipient of numerous grants and awards, Katrovas is the founding academic director of the Prague Summer Program, and is the author of six books of poetry, a book of short stories, a memoir, and a novel. Katrovas, as guest editor of a special double issue of *New Orleans Review*, edited, and participated in much of the translation of the first representative anthology of contemporary Czech poetry, *Ten Years After the Velvet Revolution*. Katrovas's current projects are *Raising Girls in Bohemia: Meditations of an American Father*, a collection of essays, and *Confessions of a Waiter*, a novel.

Jonathan Gold is the restaurant critic for LA Weekly, and was formerly the New York restaurant critic for *Gourmet* magazine. Although he has written about everything from \$2,000 meals in Paris to illegal hot-dog vendors working from jerry-rigged shopping carts, Gold is perhaps best-known for his coverage of small, culturally specific restaurants, the subject of his book *Counter Intelligence: Where to Eat in the Real Los Angeles*. Gold started out at the LA Weekly in 1982 as a proofreader while he was studying art and music at UCLA, and by the mid-80s became one of the paper's most popular writers. In 1999, he left Los Angeles to become *Gourmet* magazine's New York restaurant critic and was the first food writer to be honored as a National Magazine Award finalist in criticism by the American Society of Magazine Editors. In 2001, he moved back to Los Angeles, where he revived "Counter Intelligence" for the Weekly. In 2007, Gold became the first food writer to capture the Pulitzer Prize for Criticism.



Jennifer Kwon Dobb's debut collection, *Paper Pavilion* (White Pine Press 2007), received the White Pine Press Poetry Prize and the Sheila Motten Book Award, and her chapbook, *Song of a Mirror*, was a finalist for the Tupelo Press Snowbound Series Chapbook Award. Her writing has appeared in journals and magazines in Europe, North America, South Korea, and New Zealand. Currently, Jennifer is Assistant Professor of Creative Writing at St. Olaf College and is working on an essay collection about unwed mothers' realities with the Korean Unwed Mothers and Families Association and a second book of poetry.

Allison Benis White is the author of *Self-Portrait with Crayon*, winner of the Cleveland State University Poetry Center First Book Prize. Her poems have appeared in *The American Poetry Review*, *The Iowa Review*, *Ploughshares*, and *Pleiades*, among other journals. Her honors include the Indiana Review Poetry Prize, the Bernice Slot Award from *Prairie Schooner*, and a Writers Exchange Award from *Poets & Writers*. She recently completed a second manuscript, "Small Porcelain Head," which received the James D. Phelan award for a work-in-progress from the San Francisco Foundation. She teaches at the University of California, Irvine.

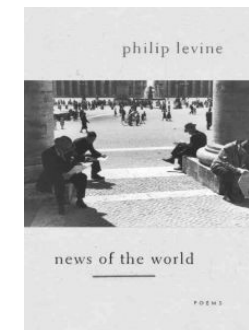
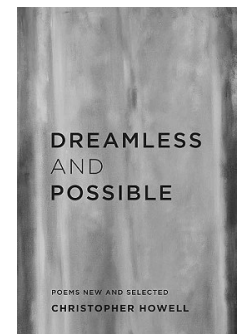
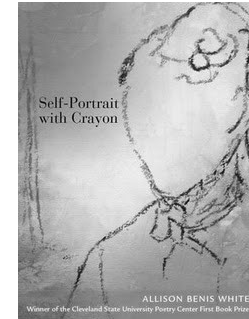
Christopher Howell has published nine collections of poems, most recently *Dreamless and Possible: Poems New and Selected*. Additionally, his poems, translations, and essays have been frequently and widely published in anthologies and journals, including *Antioch Review*, *The Beloit Poetry Journal*, and *The Southern Review*. He has received three Pushcart Prizes, two fellowships from the National Endowment for the Arts, and fellowships from the King Country Arts Commission, the Washington Artist Trust, and the Massachusetts Council for the Arts. His work has also been awarded the Helen Bullis, Vachel Lindsay, and Vi Gale prizes, and has twice received the Washington State Book Award. He teaches at Eastern Washington University's Inland NW Center for Writers, in Spokane, WA.

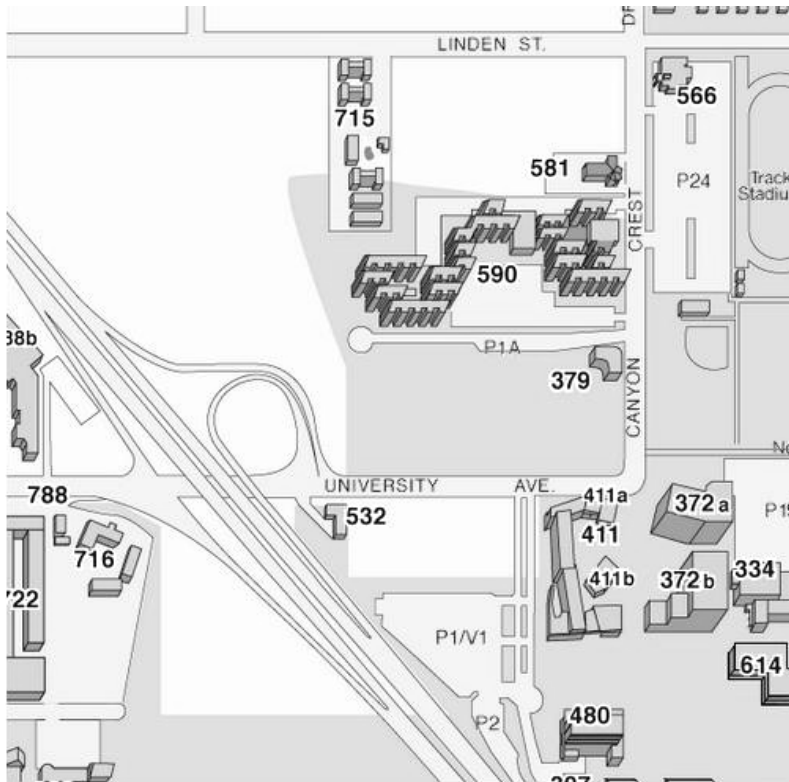
Philip Levine was born in 1928 in Detroit of Russian-Jewish immigrants, educated at the public schools & the City University of Detroit, Wayne University. Studied poetry & poetry writing with Robert Lowell, John Berryman, & Yvor Winters. In 1958 settled in Fresno & taught at Fresno State University for 22 years. In the mid-Sixties lived two years in Spain. In October of 2009 published his 17th collection, *News of the World*. His work has won many awards including two National Book Awards, the National Book Critics Award, & the Pulitzer in '95. He now divides his time between Brooklyn & Fresno.

Originally from New York, **Adam Gallari** attended Vassar College and received his MFA from the University of California, Riverside. Currently a PhD candidate at the University of Exeter, his fiction and essays have appeared in *anderbo.com*, *The MacGuffin*, *The Quarterly Conversation*, *Fifth Wednesday Journal* and others. He was short-listed for the top ten online stories of 2008 by *StorySouth's Million Writers Award* and was runner up for *Open City Magazine's 2009 Rick Rofie Trophy*. His debut collection *We Are Never as Beautiful as We Are Now*, was released in April 2010 by *Ampersand Books*. He currently lives in a strange limbo between Paris and Southern England.

Belle Boggs is the author of *Mattaponi Queen*, selected for the 2009 Bakeless Prize in Fiction by Percival Everett and published by Graywolf Press in June 2010. *Mattaponi Queen* was shortlisted for the 2010 Frank O'Connor Short Story Award, and stories from the collection have appeared in *The Paris Review*, *Glimmer Train*, *At Length*, *StorySouth*, and *Five Chapters*. She lives in Chatham County, North Carolina and is working on a novel.

Called a "formidable writer" by world-renowned author Adam Zagajewski, **Andrew Winer** is a recipient of a National Endowment for the Arts Fellowship in Fiction and teaches Creative Writing at the University of California, Riverside. His recently released novel, *The Marriage Artist*, has been praised as "riveting," "powerful," "ambitious," "audacious," and "a tour de force." Presently, he is at work on his third novel, "a very American story," as he puts it. He is married to the writer, Charmaine Craig.





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From the 10 Freeway: Take the I-10 east to the I-15 south and then to CA-60 east. Exit at University Avenue and turn left. At the second light, take a right onto West Campus Drive.

From the 60 Freeway: Take the CA-60 east. Exit at University Avenue and turn left. At the second light, take a right onto West Campus Drive.

FROM ONTARIO AIRPORT

From the 10 Freeway: Take the I-10 east, to the I-15 south and then to the CA-60 east. Exit at University Avenue and turn left. At the second light, take a right onto West Campus Drive.

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FROM ORANGE COUNTY

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Special thanks to Anne Fishbein for her photo of Jonathan Gold.

Visitor Parking

University visitors may obtain parking permits for \$6 at the Information Kiosks or self-service dispensers. Permits are valid in visitor lots or Gold parking zones. Zones are enforced 7 a.m. to 10 p.m., 7 days a week. Every vehicle, unless otherwise exempt, must display a valid parking permit when parking on UCR property.