

# 2010 Spring Calendar

## REGISTRATION NOW OPEN



We are located upstairs at **Paperbacks Plus** at 6115 La Vista Drive, Dallas, TX 75214, one block NE of the Skillman-Live Oak intersection in Lakewood / Old East Dallas  
EARLY BIRD EVENTS ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE, so visit our website at [www.writersgarret.org](http://www.writersgarret.org)

### STONE SOUP Peer Workshops Location: Upstairs at Paperbacks Plus

- Prose & Mixed Genre 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesdays 7-9 PM; Poetry only, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesdays 7-9 PM
  - Prose & Poetry 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Saturdays 10 AM – Noon
- First visit is FREE and \$3 thereafter

### Monthly Poetry Discussion Group

- Location: Upstairs at Paperbacks Plus
- 2nd Thursday of Every Month, 7-9 PM FREE

Prepare for Stone Soup or the Poetry Discussion Group by calling (214) 828-1715

## Still in January

### YOU'RE INVITED to our Winter OPEN HOUSE & POTLUCK DINNER!

Sunday, Jan. 24, 1-3 PM Location: Upstairs at Paperbacks Plus, 6115 La Vista Dr., Dallas 75214

Had an interest in being part of a literary community, but really didn't know where to go? Then join OURS for a special "Open House" preview party! Bring a dish and hear about our Winter/Spring line-up from some of our instructors, visiting speakers, and others. You'll also get a preview of our new on-line programs to better serve learning communities near and far. **Members who sign up for classes or buy tickets at our Open House get a special 10% discount!** Like so many of our community events, it's FREE, but we love donations!!!

### "I Know Jack: Writing For, Writing To, Writing About a Great Influence" Special Topics Course *with*

Brian Clements Sunday, Jan. 31, 1-4 PM Location: Upstairs at Paperbacks Plus, 6115 La Vista Dr., Dallas 75214

\$55 Members / 75 Others

BRIAN CLEMENTS is the, MFA Coordinator, Professor of Writing, Linguistics, and Creating Writing at Western Connecticut University. Author of over half a dozen books of and about poetry, including most recently *An Introduction to the Prose Poem* (anthology), and *And How to End It* (prose poems from Quale Press), and *Disappointed Psalms* (Meritage Press). Editor of *Sentence: a Journal of Prose Poetics* and of the small press *Firewheel Editions*, Prof. Clements also has worked professionally in technical communications, marketing, corporate communications, grant-writing, and non-profit administration.

## FEBRUARY & MARCH

### "Vort Ting"\* Poetry & Prose Discussion Group (16 weeks: four separate sections, with four weeks per section)

Mondays, Feb. 1 - May 24, 7-9:30 PM Location: Upstairs at Paperbacks Plus, 6115 La Vista Dr., Dallas 75214

\$15 per visit with advance RSVP; Members' discounts: \$50 each section; \$185 full series

Feb 1 – Feb. 22: "The Persistence of Myth," led by PAUL SAMPSON; March 1 – March 29: "Pound on Eliot, or Eliot by the Pound..." led by GREG THOMPSON; April 5- April 26: "Witness Poets of Africa," led by JOAN CANBY; May 3 – May 24: "Yehuda Amichai: Exploring Israel's Best Known Generation I Poet," led by VALERIE TAYLOR. \*"Vort Ting" is Danish for "Our Thing"

**Section I : "The Persistence of Myth"** - Myths, mainly of the Olympian pantheon, have furnished stock stories and characters in every age since ancient times. In English, Chaucer, Shakespeare (and many Elizabethans), the authors of the Augustan Age and the Romantics, the Victorians—all used the themes and personae of Classical, Norse, and Celtic (especially Arthurian) mythology. Modern writers have drawn from the same well, and have also discovered some other springs, including the myths of "primitive" peoples. Some names: James Frazier (*The Golden Bough*), Sigmund Freud, C.G. Jung, Thomas Moore (*Care of the Soul--myth as therapy*), W. B. Yeats (Celtic myths), Joseph Campbell, Louise Glück, Margaret Atwood, James Joyce (*Ulysses*), John Updike (*The Centaur*), Mary Renault, Louise Erdrich (Native American myths), T. H. White (*Once and Future King*) and, Arthurian sources, incl. Tennyson. Besides the stories usually regarded as myth, there is an enormous body of folklore, both tales and songs, that also serves the mythic purpose of helping a people define itself in stories. But first and last, myth is metaphor made flesh. These stories are part of everyone in a culture. From the Parables of Jesus to the iconic superheroes of the comics, myths run through all our stories and all our lives.

**Section II : "Pound on Eliot, or Eliot by the Pound"** - We will read T.S. Eliot's poem *the Waste Land*. While reading, we will look at the poem in the context of biography and influence. We look at the two different versions of the "Waste Land," the first version written by Eliot, the unknown version, and the second version edited by Ezra Pound, the version we now recognize as one of the great poems written in English. We will ask such questions as how was it written, why was it written, when it was written, and who wrote and edited the poem. We will read the poem closely to understand the poem, to understand how the poem was constructed and how the construction of the poem changed the meaning and the meaningfulness of the poem.

**Section III : “Witness Poets of Africa”** - Witness Poets of Africa will be a class devoted to discussing the contemporary poets in Africa that were the witnesses to a century that liberated itself from colonialism, civil wars and apartheid. As poets they are also witnesses who have merged their concrete world of chaos to create poetry that has frozen that experience, has distilled those events, so as to be able to teach us about them. For these writers, poetry does this, these are poets who aspire towards truth. Their intention is to show us the way and to teach us. Like much good poetry, it is capable of transporting us to a place where a metaphysical truth takes place. The poets of Africa that we will discuss are all witnesses of the effects and the consequences of chaotic events on the spirit and the poet. These are the poets that we will read and discuss: Niji Osundare, Gabriel Okara, Wole Soyinka, John Pepper Clark, Ben Okri, Kofi Awoonor, Costa Andrade, Ingrid de Kok, and Syl Cheney-Coker.

**Section IV : “Yehuda Amichai: Exploring Israel’s Best Known Generation I Poet,”** - Yehuda Amichai was of the first literary generation of the State of Israel and is an unofficial national poet. Well-known outside of Israel, Amichai’s works are translated into some 33 languages with English translations by noted translators such as Ted Hughes, Benjamin & Barbara Harshav, and Stephen Mitchell. We will use readings by Amichai and other Israeli/Hebrew poets with additional source material to locate Amichai within poetical trends, examine biography and influence, and explore stylistic and thematic range. Inspirational or stylistic “leveraging” into your poetry is encouraged and we’ll have opportunity to share with the group.

## **Introduction to Creative Writing** with Holly Korbey, Jules Sears, and Lauren Ayres (10 Weeks)

■ **Wednesdays, Feb. 10 – April 21, (no class March 17) 7–9 PM** ■ **Location: Upstairs at Paperbacks Plus, 6115 La Vista Dr., Dallas 75214**  
■ **\$135 Members / \$175 Others** Members save \$10 if registered by the **Early Bird Deadline of Jan. 27**

This first course in creative writing introduces basic tenets that underscore both poetry and creative prose. Course provides students with a general overview of the workshop method, narrative techniques, ways to enrich language and metaphor, samplings of “who’s who” to read, and more. During this ten-week course, guest writers, including Joe Milazzo, will visit to share secrets and techniques **NOTE: This course is a pre-requisite for many of our other offerings.**

## **The Art of Nonfiction Storytelling** with Melissa Shultz (6 Weeks)

■ **Thursdays, Feb. 11 – March 25 (no class March 18), 7–9 PM** ■ **Location: Upstairs at Paperbacks Plus, 6115 La Vista Dr., Dallas 75214**  
■ **\$135 Members / \$165 Others**

Learn how to turn your real-life experiences into essays and articles for websites and magazines. Gain a clearer understanding of the hook you need to make your work saleable, and hone your voice along the way. A workshop and exercise intensive class, the six week course will be taught by Melissa T. Shultz of Jim Donovan Literary in Dallas. Melissa has written for print, television, video, and radio including: *The Dallas Morning News*, *The Washington Post*, *D Magazine*, *Better Health and Living*, *Ladies’ Home Journal*, *Newsweek*, and *CNN Radio*.

## **Introduction to Literary Blogging** with Brad Eubanks

■ **Tuesdays, Feb. 16 – March 16, 7–9 PM** ■ **Location: This is an online course with the first meeting at the Garret to discuss objectives and activate blog clients** ■ **\$125 Members / \$150 Others; Members save \$15 if registered by Early Bird deadline of Jan. 27**

This five-week course will focus on web based literature and help beginning bloggers create, maintain, and successfully represent themselves online. By the end of the course, members will have a functional, customized blog and the knowledge and skills to keep it updated. Hosted by **BRAD EUBANKS**, an editorial intern for *The Cartier Street Review*, a literary and art journal published online. He also writes the poetry blog *Winding Down the Mad Machine* using the Wordpress blog client. His poetry has been featured online at *Zygote in my Coffee* and in the print journal *Longshot Poems of East Texas Languor*.

## **Writers’ Block Western Legends: Yesterday and Today** featuring Elizabeth Lawless

■ **Sunday, Feb. 28, 1-3 PM** ■ **Location: Upstairs at Paperbacks Plus, 6115 La Vista Dr., Dallas 75214** ■ **FREE**, but we *love* donations!  
**ELIZABETH LAWLESS** is the author of three books, Lawless has over 20 years experience as a speaker and publicist; 18 working with Cowboys of Color Rodeos. Her new book, the first in a series, was developed during her lectures on Multicultural Contributions to Texas and American History.

## **Fiction Writing I** with Lisa Lenard-Cook

■ **Alternating Mondays, March 1 – June 7, 7 – 9 PM** ■ **Location: online**  
■ **\$50 Members / \$75 Others per session; \$360 Members / \$480 Others for entire series** Members save \$40 off full series if registered by the **Early Bird Deadline of Feb. 19**

This eight-session course covers the seeds of story, character, plot, and background before moving to timing, form, style and more! **Recommended reading:** *Best American Short Stories*. **Lisa Lenard-Cook’s** *Mind of Your Story: Discover What Drives Your Fiction* was published by *Writer’s Digest Books* in April 2008 and was awarded second place in the *NM Presswomen’s Communications Contest* in the *Instructional Book Category*. *Dissonance*, her first novel, won the *Jim Sagel Prize for the Novel* while in manuscript.



## **The Power of Voice Workshop** with Chris Cleave

■ **Saturday, March 27, 10–12:30 PM** ■ **Location: Upstairs at Paperbacks Plus, 6115 La Vista Dr., Dallas 75214**  
■ **\$65 Members (book included) / \$85 Others.** Workshop is limited to 20 students.



### **Reading** with Chris Cleave

■ **Friday, March 26, 7:30 PM,** ■ **Location: The Dallas Institute for Humanities 2719 Routh St. Dallas 75201**

**CHRIS CLEAVE’S** *Little Bee* has already appeared internationally on many top ten book lists for 2009. His debut novel, *Incendiary*, won a 2006 Somerset Maugham Award, was shortlisted for the 2006 Commonwealth Writers Prize, won the United States Book-of-the-Month Club’s First Fiction award 2005 and won the *Prix Special du Jury* at the French *Prix des Lectures* in 2007. Inspired by his childhood in West Africa and by an accidental visit to a British concentration camp, Chris Cleave’s second novel, *Little Bee*, is highly praised: “Cleave at his finest” – *New York Times*, “One of the most vividly memorable and provocative.

# APRIL & MAY

## Intermediate – Advanced Creative Writing with Joe Milazzo (10 Weeks)

■ **Thursdays, April 1 – June 3, 7-9 PM** ■ **Location: Upstairs at Paperbacks Plus, 6115 La Vista Dr., Dallas 75214**

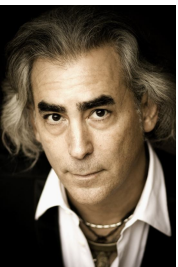
■ **\$165 Members / \$195 Others**, plus \$20 course fee to cover administrative costs associated with student chapbook (see below)

While the introductory course of which this class is an extension is quite analytical in its approach, presenting the elements of three major genres (Fiction, Poetry, and Creative Nonfiction) that constitute "literature," this INTERMEDIATE / ADVANCED class is intended to be synthetic, and to help students re-assemble the "parts" identified in the previous course into new "wholes." Students will be asked to conceive of literature in terms of its common operations (meaning-makings) and concerns, and challenged to answer for themselves: "What makes for writing of quality?" Over the course of ten weeks, we will focus on issues of language, of voice, and of form by concentrating on how those issues are at work and play in works both of contemporary literature and contemporary approaches (theoretical and craft-based) to literature. Finally, students will also have the opportunity to collaborate on the production of a class chapbook and showcase their writing with an end-of-semester reading / presentation. Joe Milazzo is co-founder of the interdisciplinary arts organization STROPHE, co-editor of the online journal *out of nothing*, Associate Editor for *Black Clock*, and the Director of Community Education and Outreach at The Writer's Garret. Joe's writings have appeared in *Electronic Book Review*, *The Dallas Morning News*, *Chronometry* (an anthology), *In Posse Review*, *Tea Party*, *Black Clock*, *Drunken Boat* and elsewhere.

## Mayborn Prep Course with Dan Burns and guest lecturer George Getschow

■ **TBD** ■ **Location: Upstairs at Paperbacks Plus, 6115 La Vista Dr., Dallas 75214** ■ **\$85 Members / \$125 Others**

Writers studying their craft at The Writer's Garret continue to score big at the nationally recognized Mayborn Literary Nonfiction Writers Conference of the University of North Texas. Many of our writers have received publication through the conference, even taking the # 1 spot in this highly competitive summer program. Previously prepared work intended for Mayborn submission must be submitted prior to meeting. NOTE: Recommended taken Introduction to Creative Writing, Fiction or Creative Nonfiction I or II, or equivalent. Dr. Burns' memoir, *Saving Ben: A Father's Story of Autism*, won first place in the 2008 Mayborn Literary Nonfiction Writers Conference and is published by UNT Press. *Saving Ben* reached the number one Amazon sales rank in the special needs category in September, 2009, and is into its third printing; *People* magazine calls it "a great read." Dr. Burns is a veteran of Writer's Garret Stone Soup workshops. He coaches writers privately, bringing extensive experience in the tools and techniques of fiction to non-fiction projects. Dan lives in Dallas, Texas. He is looking forward to facilitating the Mayborn Prep Class.



## Reading with John Phillip Santos

■ **Friday, May 21, 7:30 PM**, ■ **Location: McKinney Avenue Contemporary, 3120 McKinney Ave Dallas 75204**

**JOHN PHILLIP SANTOS** is a widely published author and media producer who has created documentaries in sixteen countries for CBS and PBS. Mr. Santos was a Rhodes Scholar and holds degrees in English Literature and Language from Oxford University, and Philosophy and Literature from the University of Notre Dame. Santos's memoir, *Places Left Unfinished at the Time of Creation* (Viking/Penguin) was a finalist for the National Book Award in 1999, and the inaugural selection of the 1 Book 1 San Antonio project in 2006. In 2006, he launched the San Antonio-based *Liceo Mestizo*, and international interdisciplinary roundtable exploring mestizo identity and consciousness through seminars, symposia, exhibitions and performance. His first book of poems, *Songs Older than Any Known Singer* (Selected and New poems) was published in 2007 by Wings Press, and the sequel to his memoir, *The Farthest Home is in an Empire of Fire* is forthcoming from Viking/Penguin in April of 2010.

## Finding the Mestizo Voice with John Phillip Santos

■ **Saturday, May 22, 12 – 4:30PM** ■ **Location: Upstairs at Paperbacks Plus, 6115 La Vista Dr., Dallas 75214** ■ **\$75 Members / \$95 Others**

The greatest challenge of writing is to discover your voice, a quest for a treasure that can be at once elusive, illusory and irrefutable. One way of doing that is to recognize the many sources of who we are, in myth, history, literature, and memory. Using a story of Mexico's legacy of struggle to fathom and embrace mestizo identity, we'll share and develop literary strategies for revealing our own complex origins and giving them voice. Workshop is limited to 20 students.

# Big THANKS!!!!

The Writer's Garret's Spring season is made possible by our chief supporters and partners: Paperbacks Plus; National Endowment for the Arts; The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009; City of Dallas Office of Cultural Affairs; Texas Commission on the Arts; Humanities Texas / NEH; Today Foundation / Today Newspapers; George and Fay Young Foundation; James and Gayle Halperin Foundation / Heritage Auction Galleries; ArtsPartners / Young Audiences; Gardere Wynne Sewell, LLP; Adolphus Hotel; Mesquite Arts Council; Energy Production Corporation (EPCO); Wukasz Foundation; Kay Cattarulla Fund of The Dallas Foundation; Calvert K. Collins Family Foundation; **FSG (Picador)**; and our Board of Trustees, Board of Sponsors, and members.



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