

Julia Child biographer will speak Dec. 5 at Friends of the UCSD Libraries luncheon

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JULIA CHILD BIOGRAPHER WILL SPEAK DEC. 5 AT FRIENDS OF THE UCSD LIBRARIES LUNCHEON

Distinguished author Noel Riley Fitch, the authorized biographer of chef Julia Child, will speak Dec. 5 at a noon luncheon sponsored by the Friends of the UCSD Libraries in the Geisel Library, University of California, San Diego.

The literary historian spent five years researching the life of Child, the spirited and technically brilliant "French Chef" of public television fame and author of best selling cookbooks that revolutionized the way Americans cook and eat. The result is the recently published *Appetite for Life: The Biography of Julia Child*.

The book is Fitch's first about a living person; her previous works include *Sylvia Beach* and *The Lost Generation* (1983) and *Anais: The Erotic Life of Anais Nin* (1993).

"Biography may be based on fact," wrote Fitch, "but it also is a matter of the point of view of the biographer, the mythic nature of the subject, and the style of the biographer. I have always felt the biographer's tug between empathy and distance, but never before with such immediacy."

Child granted Fitch access to her complete files, and family and friends offered photographs, letters, diaries and clippings. In Fitch's opinion, this "honest openness to life and to others" is just one of the reasons why audiences across the globe have warmed to Julia Child.

Menu for the literary luncheon is being designed by Carolyn Yorston and Robert Armstrong and catered by the Hyatt Regency, La Jolla. Cost of the event is \$50. For information call 534-2533.

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