

Visiting novelist, multimedia theater artist to read works at UCSD as Regents' lecturer in Department of Literature

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VISITING NOVELIST, MULTIMEDIA THEATER ARTIST TO READ WORKS AT UCSD AS REGENTS' LECTURER IN DEPARTMENT OF LITERATURE

Jessica Hagedorn, poet, multimedia theater artist, novelist, and screenwriter, will visit the Department of Literature at the University of California, San Diego as a Regents' Lecturer Jan. 12-23. Hagedorn will read selections from her work at 7:30 p.m. Jan. 21 in room 119, Center Hall. The event is free and open to the public.

Hagedorn is the author of *Dogeaters* (Pantheon Books, 1990), which was nominated for a National Book Award and has been translated into several languages. The week prior to and following her Regents' Lectureship, Hagedorn and Michael Greif, artistic director of La Jolla Playhouse, will work with first and second year MFA acting students in private workshops to adapt *Dogeaters* into a play which La Jolla Playhouse will produce at a later date.

Of Hagedorn's most recent novel, *The Gangster of Love* (Houghton Mifflin, 1996), the *New York Times* writes: "For all its heady originality and up-to-the-minute hipness, *The Gangster of Love* functions almost like an Old Master painting. Up close, we may only see brushwork: rough, random dabs of color. But back up the brushstrokes blend into a unified whole, and we begin to comprehend the grace and lifelike accuracy with which its images have been rendered."

Hagedorn edited *Charlie Chan is Dead: An Anthology of Contemporary Asian American Fiction*, wrote screenplays including *Fresh Kill* and multimedia theater pieces including *Teenytown*, *The Art of War: Nine Situations*. Her nonfiction articles, interviews, reviews, and essays have appeared in *The New York Times Sunday Magazine*, *Harper's Bazaar*, *The Nation*, *BOMB* and *USA Weekend*.

Recent grants and awards include a 1997 Sundance Theater Lab Fellowship, a 1995 National Endowment for the Arts Creative Writing Fellowship, and a 1994 Lila Wallace- Reader's Digest Fund Writer's Award.

During her Regents' Lecturer visit Hagedorn also will look in on classes, meet with graduate students and participate in book signings. Her visit is sponsored by the UCSD Department of Literature, Women's Studies, Ethnic Studies and the Pan Asian Staff Association. For further information, call the Department of Literature at 534-4618.

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