

UCSD poet Jerome Rothenberg wins second PEN Literary Award

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Jerome Rothenberg, poet and professor of literature and visual arts at the University of California, San Diego, is the recipient of the PEN Oakland Josephine Miles Award for Books Published in 1993. Rothenberg's award was for his book of poems, "The Lorca Variations," published by New Directions. Rothenberg also shared the PEN Center USA West 1994 Literary Award for translation of a book of poems by Kurt Schwitters.

The awards were presented in April at the James Moore Theater, in the Oakland Museum.

Other awardees include Phyllis Burke, for "Family Values," a "non-fiction" novel, Peter J. Harris, for "Hand Me My Griot Clothes," poetry; Russell Leon, "The Country of Dreams and Dust," poetry; and Clifford E. Trafzer, "Earth Song, Sky Spirit: Short Stories of the Contemporary Native American Experience."

The PEN Oakland Josephine Miles Awards are given out yearly on the basis of excellence, but also on the basis of a new perception of multiculturalism, for "a perception that involves an emphasis on the reality of the world as it is now and an avoidance of stereotypes--both positive and negative."

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