

Adrienne Rich and Josephine Miles will deliver a poem commissioned for the Mandeville festival

February 28, 1975

Two outstanding American poets will give readings of their work at the University of California, San Diego as part of the 11-day opening festival for UCSD's new Mandeville Center for the Arts March 6 through 16.

Adrienne Rich will read at 4 p.m. Monday, March 10, in the center's Recital Hall. Josephine Miles will deliver a poem commissioned for the Mandeville festival at 4 p.m. Friday, March 14, also in the Recital Hall.

Both programs are free and open to the public.

Rich won the Yale University Press annual competition for beginning poets with her first book, "A Change of World," when she was 22.

Her early poetry used fixed metrical forms and the views she expressed were existential. She published in the "Nation," "Harpers," "The New York Review of Books" and "New Republic," travelled abroad and translated poetry from several foreign languages.

In her third book, "Snapshots of a Daughter-in-Law" (1963), she abandoned rhyme and conventional meter. The change in style has been accentuated by her involvement in radical politics in recent years. Many of her current poems explore the theme of revulsion from traditional cultural and social values.

Her published verse includes "The Diamond Cutters," "Necessities of Life," "Selected Poems" and "Leaflets." Her poetry appears in the anthologies "Contemporary American Poetry" (1962), "A Controversy of Poets" and "Poems of Our Moment."

Rich, 45, was born in Baltimore and received a bachelor of arts degree from Radcliffe College in 1951. She has taught at Swarthmore College, Columbia University and the City College of New York.

She has won two Guggenheim Fellowships, the American Institute of Arts and Letters Award for poetry and the Bollingen Foundation commission for translation of Dutch poetry.

Currently she lives in New York City.

Miles, 63, is both a scholar and a poet. She has been a professor of English at the University of California, Berkeley since 1940 and in 1973 was the first woman to be named a University Professor in the University of California system.

Published collections of her work include "Lines at Intersections.." "Poems on Several Occasions," "Local Measures," "Prefabrications" and "Kinds of Affection."

Miles' poetry appears in the anthologies "Trial Balances," "American Decade" and "Fifteen Modern American Poets" (1956).

She is credited, along with William Carlos Williams, with bringing the American idiom into the standard language of poetry. She writes about the American scene-- its speech, jazz, billboards, comics and assassinations. Miles also emphasizes the interdependence of people through obligation and gratitude.

Born in Chicago, Miles was graduated from UCLA in 1932 and received her master of arts and Ph.D. degrees from UC Berkeley in 1934 and 1938 respectively.

The Mandeville festival also includes concerts, dramatic productions, lectures, art and dramatic exhibits and films. The events were planned to allow the public to take part in a kaleidoscope of events ranging from early works of art and music to the most avant-garde realism and electronic performances.

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