

Contemporary poets to read their works beginning Jan. 28 as participants in the New Writing Series: Winter 1998 at UCSD

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CONTEMPORARY POETS TO READ THEIR WORKS BEGINNING JAN. 28 AS PARTICIPANTS IN THE NEW WRITING SERIES: WINTER 1998 AT UCSD

The New Writing Series: Winter 1998 at the University of California, San Diego, will present six contemporary writers who will read from their works beginning Jan. 28 and continuing through March 4. All readings will be at 4:30 p.m. in the Visual Arts Facility Performance Space. They are free and open to the public.

The writers are Hiromi Ito, Charles Alexander, Carol Moldaw, Harry Polkinhorn, Charles Bernstein, and Sherley Anne Williams.

Ito is a major writer of the new Japanese generation who has brought non-classical themes and modes of expression into contemporary Japanese poetry. Her style of performance goes back to sources of poetry in ancient shamanic chant. She will read Jan. 28.

Alexander has published two books of poetry, has two more due for publication this year, and has edited a collection of essays. He is the founder and director of Chax Press in Tucson. Of his poetry, poet Ron Silliman writes: "Alexander pushes the envelope of what is possible in writing even further, to the ends of the universe. And beyond." Alexander will read Feb. 4.

Reading Feb. 11 will be Moldaw. Her work has appeared in journals and anthologies including *Partisan Review*, *First Intensity*, and *Under 35: The New Generation of American Poets*. She is the recipient of a National Endowment for the Arts Literary Fellowship. Her first book of poems, *Taken from the River*, was published by Alef Books in 1993.

The author and/or editor of more than 30 books of poetry and art, Polkinhorn will read Feb. 18. His current work focuses on the culture of the U.S.-Mexican border from which a collection of essays, original art works, and translations, *The Border of Things: Towards an Archaeology of Edges*, is emerging. Polkinhorn is the director of San Diego State University Press.

Often acknowledged as one of the leading poets of his generation, Bernstein has published 20 books of poetry, two books of essays, four librettos, and was a founding editor, with Bruce Andrews, of the journal *L-A-N-G-U-A-G-E*. He currently holds the David Gray Chair of Poetry and Letters at the State University of New York at Buffalo. He will read Feb. 25.

Concluding the winter series on March 4 will be Williams, best known for her novel *Dessa Rose* and for poetry books including *The Peacock Poems* and *Some One Sweet Angel Chile*. She has been a professor of literature and writing at UCSD since the early 1970s.

The UCSD New Writing Series is sponsored by University Events, the Literature Department, the Archive for New Poetry, and the Division of Arts and Humanities.

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