

A series of poetry readings and lectures presented by Regents Lecturers Edmond Jabes and Rosmarie Waldrop and is being sponsored by the Literature Department

February 28, 1983

A series of poetry readings and lectures will be offered by Regents' Lecturers Edmond Jabes and Rosmarie Waldrop March 7 through 10 at the University of California, San Diego. Their appearance on the UCSD campus is sponsored by the Department of Literature.

Jabes is one of the foremost figures currently writing in French. He was born in Cairo, Egypt, and lives in Paris. Waldrop, a poet and critic and currently a visiting associate professor at Brown University, serves as the American translator for Jabes.

Jabes' work might rightly be called unmistakably his own, the sort of writing that can be by no one else. He is best known for a series of seven volumes with the global title "Le Livre des Questions" (The Book of Questions), and another series of three volumes entitled "Le Livre des Ressemblances" (The Book of Resemblances).

He has also written a number of other works consisting of autobiographical interviews and has published a book of criticism. Broad recognition of Jabes' work began in the mid-1960s with the publication of the first volume of "The Book of Questions". In 1967, at the Montreal Expo, the French Pavillion presented an exhibit concerning culture which included only four writers: Satre, Camus, Levi-Strauss and Jabes.

In 1970 Jabes' work was granted the coveted "Prix des Critiques" and in 1982 he was accorded the French Judaism Foundation's Prize for Arts, Letters and Science.

Waldrop, who was born in Germany, received an M.A. and Ph.D. in comparative literature from the University of Michigan. She served as an assistant professor of German and comparative literature at Wesleyan University for six years and as a visiting lecturer at Southeastern Massachusetts University, Brown University and Tufts University.

She currently serves as an editor and printer of Burning Deck Press and has served on the translation panel for the National Endowment for the Arts. She translated the first volume of Jabes' "The Book of Questions" in 1976 and translated volumes II and III in 1977. The translation of other volumes are forthcoming.

Waldrop will present a poetry reading at 4:30 p.m. Monday, March 7, in the Revelle Formal Lounge. A joint lecture titled "Writing and Reading" will be presented by Jabes and Waldrop at 4 p.m. Tuesday, March 8, in room 142 of the Third College Humanities Building.

A joint poetry reading with Jabes reading in French from his works with English translations given by Waldrop will be presented at 4:30 p.m. Wednesday, March 9, at the International Center on the campus. Jabes will lecture on "From the Book to the Book" at 4 p.m. Thursday, March 10, in room 142 of the Third College Humanities Building.

Both Jabes and Waldrop will also hold informal class meetings with students and literature faculty during their stay on the campus.

For more information contact: Paul W. West, 452-3120

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