

UCSD's Archive for New Poetry and Literature Department sponsor "New Writing Series"

March 16, 1990

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UCSD'S ARCHIVE FOR NEW POETRY ANNOUNCES "NEW WRITING SERIES"

Contemporary poets will read from their works on six separate dates through May in a series sponsored by the Archive for New Poetry and the Department of Literature at the University of California, San Diego.

The poets are Wanda Coleman (April 18), Nick Piombino (May 2), David Meltzer (May 9), Aaron Shurin (May 16), Lyn Hejinian (May 23) and Leslie Scalapino (May 30).

All readings will be on Wednesdays at 4:30 p.m. in the UCSD Price Center, Gallery B. Admission is free and the public is invited.

Coleman is an African American poetry and fiction writer who also has been active in the writing and production of plays. She has published "Mad Dog Black Lady" (1979), "Imagoes" (1983), "Heavy Daughter Blues" (1987) and "A War of Eyes and Other Stories" (1988). She is the recipient of fellowships from the National Endowment for the Arts and from the Guggenheim Foundation.

Holly Prado, a Los Angeles Times critic, has said, "Coleman's heated and economical language and head-on sensibility take her work beyond brutality to fierce dignity."

Piombino is an up-and-coming poet who recently published a collection of 31 poems, titled "Poems." He is also a practicing psychoanalyst. In the late '70s and '80s, Piombino became known for his essays on poetics. A new book of essays and prose from Sun & Moon Press is due out this year.

Meltzer has been writing for more than three decades. He is the author of more than 30 books of poetry and fiction, and has edited "Tree," a bi-annual journal which explores themes in Jewish mysticism. Some of his more recent works include "The Name: Selected Poetry" (1973-'83), "Two-Way Mirror, A Poetry Notebook" (1977), and "The Art, The Veil" (1981). A self-proclaimed lover of jazz and backyard gardens, Meltzer lives in San Francisco.

Shurin has published four books of poetry in the past decade: "A's Dream" (1989), "Elsewhere" (1988), "The Graces" (1983), and "Giving Up the Ghost" (1980). His work has also appeared in several anthologies. He received a 1989 California Arts Council Literary Fellowship; currently he teaches at San Francisco Community College.

Hejinian, in addition to being an experimental poet, has made her mark as the publisher of Tuumba Press, an acclaimed publisher of chapbooks of contemporary American poetry. She has served as a co-editor of Poetics Journal. Among her most recent publications are "Individuals: A Book of Twenty-Four Poems Written Individually in the Fall of 1986" (1988), and "My Life" (1987). Hejinian lives with her spouse, composer-musician Larry Ochs, and her two children, in the San Francisco area.

Scalapino, another Bay Area poet, has attracted the praise of poets Philip Whalen, Robert Creeley and Charles Bernstein. She is co-publisher of O Books (known for its endorsement of many experimental poets); she has been a Woodrow Wilson Fellow and a National Endowment for the Arts Senior Fellow. In 1988 she edited "O One: An Anthology," and published a book of poetry entitled "Way." Other publications include "O and Other Poems" (1975), "Instead of an Animal" (1978), "Considering How Exaggerated Music Is" (1982), and "That They Were at the Beach" (1985).

The New Writing Series is also sponsored by the UCSD Central Library and University Events/Student Activities. The Archive for New Poetry publishes a quarterly newsletter which contains additional information about, and samples of, the poets' works. It is available upon request on the eighth floor of the Central Library. For additional information call 534-5619.

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