

UCSD presents contemporary poets reading their works as part of "The New Writing Series," beginning October 18

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The "New Writing Series" at the University of California, San Diego will present six contemporary writers who will read from their works on Wednesdays, Oct. 18 through Nov. 15, at 4:30 p.m., in UCSD's Center for Research in Computing and the Arts (CRCA). All readings are free and open to the public.

The writers are Harryette Mullen, Rae Armantrout, Rodrigo Toscano, Carla Harryman, Bruce Andrews, and Ron Padgett.

Harryette Mullen, the author of three books of poetry, "Tree Tall Women," "Trimmings," and "S*perm*Ici," will read on Oct. 18. Mullen has been described by poet Bernadette Mayer as an heir to Gertrude Stein's tradition, while Pulitzer prize-winning poet Gwendolyn Brooks calls her poetry "short but powerful picture poems with their own special music."

On Oct. 25, both Rae Armantrout and Rodrigo Toscano will read. UCSD lecturer Armantrout is a key figure in the Language Poetry movement and a mainstay of the university's writing program. She is the author of many poetry books, including the recent "Made To Seem." Writer Elaine Equi says: "...for all their rigor, these poems are wonderfully playful. Armantrout makes you believe there is still such a thing as originality."

Toscano's first two published books, "The Disparities" and "Arbiter," will be out in 1996. Selections from both works have appeared in magazines such as "Chain," "Proliferation," "The Washington Review," "Ribot," "Prosodia," "Situation," and "The Little Magazine."

Carla Harryman is a playwright and fiction writer whose work is often read as poetry. She will read Nov. 1. Her work, "Memory Play," was staged this year in the Bay Area and she recently directed Leslie Scalapino's "Goya's L.A." at New Langton Arts in San Francisco. A collection of her writing, "There Never Was a Rose Without a Thorn," has just been published by City Lights.

Bruce Andrews is an experimenter, performer, theorist and a founding editor of L A N G U A G E, the magazine of poetics. He will read Nov. 8. His books of poetry and poetics include "I Don't Have Any Paper So Shut Up (or, Social Romanticism)," "Tizzy Boost," "Strictly Confidential," and a collection of performance scores entitled "Ex Why Zee."

Reading on Nov. 15 will be Ron Padgett, a founder of and a major figure in the New York School of poetry. He has written poetry books such as "Great Balls of Fire" and translated important works from Apollinaire, Duchamp, and Larbaud, as well as the "Complete Poems of Blaise Cendrars." His "New & Selected Poems" is a 1995 publication from David R. Godine.

The Center for Research in Computing in the Arts is located in Building 408, University Center. 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. For more information, call Special Collections at 534-1276.

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