The Lewis Center for the Arts Performance Central presents

Richardson Auditorium
Princeton University • Princeton, NJ

Friday, March 13 and Saturday, March 14, 2015

we salute the festival poets

Bring in your program for a 15% discount on any book of poetry.

We’re across the street from the campus gates and have a wide selection of books by poets in the festival and many others...

122 Nassau Street
Princeton NJ 08542
609.497.1600

www.labyrinthbooks.com

Open M - Fr: 9AM - 8PM
Sa: 10AM - 6PM
Su: 11AM - 6PM

www.labyrinthbooks.com
A very warm welcome to the fourth Princeton Poetry Festival.

Yet again, I hope you’ll agree that one of the main attractions of a Festival such as this is its international scope. We have an opportunity over these two days to develop some greater sense of the range of what poetry may achieve in other cultures, to consider the differences in how the art is perceived in Vietnam or the Meskwaki Nation, as well as what we hold in common.

As regards the panel discussions, I thought it would be illuminating to invite our guests to share their ideas on the place of poetry. It’s an idea that resonates for most writers, given the extent to which we understand who we are at least partly through where we come from. That place is not only a literal territory but a metaphorical one. How do writers position themselves within, or against, a tradition? What role does poetry play in a world where so much else tugs at our hearts and sleeves?

Paul Muldoon
Friday, March 13

Morning
10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
New Jersey State Finals of Poetry Out Loud

Afternoon
2:00 p.m.
Gala Opening
*Introduction by Paul Muldoon*

Winner and Runner-up in Poetry Out Loud
Ellen Bryant Voigt
Kwame Dawes
Paul Farley
Major Jackson
Kathleen Jamie
Ada Limon
Maureen N. McLane
Valzhyna Mort
Michael Robbins
Tomasz Rozycki with translator Mira Rosenthal
Ocean Vuong
Ray Young Bear

3:15 p.m.
Intermission

3:30 p.m.
Panel - The Place of Poetry (1)
*Moderated by Paul Muldoon*
Ellen Bryant Voigt
Major Jackson
Valzhyna Mort
Tomasz Rozycki with translator Mira Rosenthal
Ocean Vuong
Ray Young Bear

4:45 p.m.
Intermission

5:00 - 6:00 p.m.
Lecture
*Introduced by Susan Wheeler*
Maureen N. McLane on
“Compositionism: Plants, Poetics, Possibilities”

Evening
6:00 - 7:30 p.m.
Break

Reading
*Introduced by Michael Dickman*
Kwame Dawes
Paul Farley
Ada Limon
Michael Robbins

Saturday, March 14

Afternoon
2:00 p.m.
Reading
*Introduced by Rowan Ricardo Phillips*
Kathleen Jamie
Maureen N. McLane
Tomasz Rozycki with translator Mira Rosenthal
Ocean Vuong

3:15 p.m.
Intermission

3:30 p.m.
Panel - The Place of Poetry (2)
*Moderated by Paul Muldoon*
Kwame Dawes
Paul Farley
Kathleen Jamie
Ada Limon
Maureen N. McLane
Michael Robbins

4:45 p.m.
Intermission

5:00 - 7:00 p.m.
Reading
*Introduced by Tracy K. Smith*
Ellen Bryant Voigt
Major Jackson
Valzhyna Mort
Ray Young Bear
PAUL FARLEY (UK) has received widespread acclaim for his poetry, including the Whitbread Prize, the Somerset Maugham Award, the Cholmondeley Prize, the E.M. Forster Award and the Sunday Times Young Writer of the Year. From 2000-2002 he was poet-in-residence at the Wordsworth Trust in Grasmere, and as a broadcaster he has made many programs with the BBC on art, landscape and literature, including Auden: Six Unexpected Days, The Larkin Tapes and Children of the Whitsun Weddings. He also presents Radio 4’s contemporary poetry program The Echo Chamber.

MAJOR JACKSON (US) is the author of four collections of poetry: Roll Deep; Holding Company; Hoops; and Leaving Saturn, which was awarded the Cave Canem Poetry Prize and was a finalist for the National Book Critics Circle Award in Poetry. His poems and essays have appeared in AGNI, American Poetry Review, Callaloo, The New Yorker, Ploughshares, Poetry, Tin House, and in Best American Poetry. He is a recipient of a Pushcart Prize, a Whiting Writers’ Award, and has been honored by the Pew Fellowship in the Arts and the Witter Bynner Foundation in conjunction with the Library of Congress.

KATHLEEN JAMIE (Scotland) is a native of Scotland. Her poetry collections to date include The Overhaul (Picador, 2012), winner of the Costa Prize for Poetry in 2012; The Tree House (Picador, 2004), winner of both the Forward prize, and the Scottish Book of the Year Award. Mr. and Mrs. Scotland are Dead which was shortlisted for the 2003 Griffin Prize. Her collection of prose essays, Findings (Sort of Books, 2006) is considered a landmark in nature writing. Richard Mabey wrote of it: “Kathleen Jamie is a supreme listener … in the quietness of her listening, you hear her own voice: clear, subtle, respectful, and so unquenchably curious that it makes the world anew. This is as close as writing gets to a conversation with the natural world.” Sightlines, the highly

ELLEN BRYANT VOIGT (US) has published nine collections of poetry, most recently Headwaters (2013), which was a finalist for the National Book Award; Messenger: New and Selected Poems 1976-2006; and Kyrie (1995), which was a finalist for the National Book Critic’s Circle Award. She has also written essays on the craft of poetry, including “The Flexible Lyric” and “The Art of Syntax.” Her honors include fellowships from the Guggenheim Foundation, Lila Wallace-Reader’s Digest Foundation, National Endowment for the Arts, and the Academy of American Poets, where she has served as a Chancellor since 2003. A finalist for the Pulitzer Prize, she received the 2002 O. B. Hardison, Jr. Poetry Prize and a Pushcart Prize. Voigt currently teaches in the MFA Program for Writers at Warren Wilson College in Asheville, North Carolina.

KWAME DAWES (Ghana) is the author of sixteen collections of poetry, including, most recently, Duppy Conqueror, Wheels, Back of Mount Peace, and Hope’s Hospice. He has also published two novels, Biafraic and She’s Gone, winner of the 2008 Hurston/Wright Legacy Award for Best First Novel. An accomplished actor, playwright, and producer, fifteen of his plays have been produced, and he has acted in, directed, or produced several of these productions himself, most recently One Love at the Lyric Hammersmith in London. His essays have appeared in numerous journals including Bomb Magazine, The London Review of Books, Granta, Essence, World Literature Today, and Double Take Magazine. Until July 2011, Dawes was Distinguished Poet in Residence, Louis Frye Scudder Professor of Liberal Arts, and founder and executive director of the South Carolina Poetry Initiative.
anticipated sequel to *Findings*, (Sort Of Books, 2012) has been described as “a work of intense purity and quiet genius” by the Sunday Telegraph, and “a lyrical work of profound insight” by Kirkus Reviews. It won both the 2014 John Burroughs medal and Orion award on publication in the USA. Jamie is Professor of Poetry at Stirling University. She lives with her family in Fife, Scotland.

**ADA LIMÓN** (US) is the author of three books of poetry, *Lucky Wreck*, *This Big Fake World*, and *Sharks in the Rivers*. She received her Master of Fine Arts in Poetry from New York University where she studied with Philip Levine, Sharon Olds, Mark Doty, and Marie Howe among others. Limón has received fellowships from the New York Foundation for the Arts, the Provincetown Fine Arts Work Center, and was one of the judges for the 2013 National Book Award in Poetry. She is currently working on a book of essays and a novel. Her new collection of poems, *Bright Dead Things*, is forthcoming from Milkweed Editions. She works as a freelance writer and creative writing instructor while splitting her time between Lexington, Kentucky and Sonoma, California (with a great deal of New York in between).

**MAUREEN N. McLANE** (US) is the author of three books of poetry, including *Same Life* (FSG 2008), *World Enough* (FSG, 2010), and *This Blue* (FSG, 2014), a Finalist for the National Book Award in Poetry. Her book *My Poets* (FSG, 2012) — an experimental hybrid of memoir and criticism — was named a New York Times Notable Book and a Finalist for the National Book Critics Circle Award in Autobiography. Currently a professor of English at New York University, she has written poems on “weird life” and two books on British romanticism.

**VALZHyna MORT** (Belarus) writes poetry that has been praised for its urgency and vitality. She made her American debut in 2008 with the poetry collection *Factory of Tears*, co-translated by the husband-and-wife team of Elizabeth Oehlkers Wright and Pulitzer Prize-winning poet Franz Wright. Her second book is *Collected Body* (2012). Mort received the Crystal of Vilenica Award in Slovenia in 2005 and the Burda Poetry Prize in Germany in 2008. In 2010, she received the Lannan Foundation Literary Fellowship and the Bess Hokin Prize from Poetry magazine. Her poems have appeared in *Best American Poetry 2014*, *New European Poets*, and *The Ecco Anthology of International Poetry*, as well as such literary magazines as *The Common*, *Guernica*, *New Letters*, *Poetry*, *Poetry International*, *VQR* and others.

**MICHAEL ROBBINS** (US) is the author of the poetry collections *Alien vs. Predator* and *The Second Sex*, both published by Penguin. His poetry has appeared in *The New Yorker*, *Poetry*, and several other journals; his essays and criticism in *Harper’s*, *London Review of Books*, *Slate*, and elsewhere. He received his PhD in English from the University of Chicago. An Assistant Professor of English Literature and creative writing at Montclair State University, he is currently at work on *Equipment for Living: Poetry and Popular Music*, a collection of essays forthcoming from Simon & Schuster.

**TOMASz RÓZYCKI** (Poland) is a poet, critic and translator living in the Silesian city of Opole in southwestern Poland. He has published nine books since the mid-1990s, including the Koscielski Prize-winning epic poem *Dwanascie Stacji* (*Twelve Stations*, 2004) and the sonnet cycle *Kolonie* (*Colonies*, 2006), both of which were nominated for Poland’s prestigious NIKE award. *The Forgotten Keys*, a selection from his first five books translated into English by Mira Rosenthal, was published in 2007. His other awards include the Josif Brodski Prize, the Czechowicz Poetry Prize and the 3 Quarks Daily Prize in Arts and Literature (2010). Translation of his *Kolonie* (*Colonies*) by Mira Rosenthal into English won the Northern California Book Award in 2014. In addition to English, his work has been translated into French, Slovak, Italian, German and Serbian.
MIRA ROSENTHAL (US) is the author of the prize-winning collection of poems *The Local World*. From 2011-2013, she was a Wallace Stegner Fellow in poetry at Stanford University. Among her awards are fellowships from the National Endowment for the Arts, the PEN American Center, and the MacDowell Colony. Her translation from the Polish of Tomasz Różycki’s *Colonies* won the Northern California Book Award and was shortlisted for several other prizes, including the prestigious Griffin Poetry Prize. Her poems, translations, and essays have been published in many literary journals and anthologies, including Ploughshares, APR, Harvard Review, PN Review, and A Public Space.


RAY YOUNG BEAR (Meskwaki), is a lifetime resident of the Meskwaki Settlement in central Iowa. His poems have appeared in numerous magazines and anthologies, including the American Poetry Review, New Letters, Prairie Schooner, Iowa Review, and The Best American Poetry. He was written three books of poems and two in fiction. In 2015, Open Road Integrated Media will publish *Manifestation Wolverine*, new poems, and it will reprint *Black Eagle Child*, a 1992 novel that combines prose with poetry. Young Bear has taught creative writing and Native American literature at schools across the United States, including the University of Iowa, Eastern Washington University, and the Institute of American Indian Arts. A singer as well as an author, he is the co-founder of the Woodland Singers and Dancers, which performs tribal dances throughout the country.

Special thanks to the staff of Richardson Auditorium, University Services, Parking and Transportation, and Public Safety for their assistance in making the Princeton Poetry Festival possible.

Special thanks to Mary O’Connor and the Lewis Center for the Arts Communications Office.

Michael Cadden, Chair
Marion Young, Administration Director
Mary O’Connor, Assistant to the Chair

PROGRAM IN CREATIVE WRITING (2014-15)
Susan Wheeler, Director and Professor
Catherine Barnett, Lecturer
Susan Choi, Lecturer
Michael Dickman, Lecturer
Jeffrey Eugenides, Professor
A.M. Homes, Lecturer
Steven Katz, Lecturer
Lawrence Konner, Lecturer
Christina Lazaridi, Lecturer
Chang-rae Lee, Professor
Ben Lerner, Lecturer
Fiona Maazel, Lecturer
Patrick McGrath, Lecturer
Paul Muldoon, Howard G.B. Clark ’21 University Professor in the Humanities
Idra Novey, Lecturer
Sigríður Núñez, Lecturer
Joyce Carol Oates, Roger S. Berlind ’52 Professor of the Humanities
Rowan Ricardo Phillips, Visiting Associate Professor
Hanna Lydén, 2014-16 Princeton Arts Fellow
James Richardson, Professor
Tracy K. Smith, Professor
Darcey Steinke, Lecturer
Edmund White, Professor
Colson Whitehead, Lecturer
Monica Youn, Lecturer
Kevin Young, 2014-15 Theodore H. Holmes ’51 Visiting Lecturer

Poets’ books will be available for purchase, courtesy of Labyrinth Books, on Friday from 2:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. and Saturday from 3:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. in the lobby.

For more information about the Lewis Center for the Arts please visit: arts.princeton.edu
Or contract: Director of Communications, Steve Runk at srunk@princeton.edu