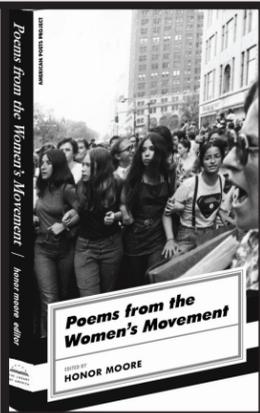


the amherst college creative writing fall reading series

reading from *Poems from the Women's Movement*

wednesday, september 16
7:30 p.m.
cole assembly room
converse hall
amherst college



“What would happen if one woman told the truth about her life?/ The world would split open.” Muriel Rukeyser’s lines epitomize the spirit of a whole generation of women poets, from the 1960s to the 1980s, who explored the unspoken truths of their lives and sparked a literary revolution. Poets Joan Larkin and Honor Moore will read their own poems and others from Moore’s anthology. Several students from the Five Colleges will join them in reading from the collection of 58 poets, which includes Sylvia Plath, Adrienne Rich, Anne Sexton, Sonia Sanchez, Alice Walker, Audre Lorde and Diane Di Prima, and which is listed in Oprah’s Book Club’s “25 Books You Can’t Put Down.” Co-sponsored by the Amherst College Creative Writing Center and English Department, *The Massachusetts Review*, the Poetry Center at Smith College, Perugia Press, and The Every-woman’s Center at the University of Massachusetts.

richard wilbur '42

thursday, september 17
8 p.m. in pruyne lecture hall
fayerweather 115
amherst college



In a review of Wilbur’s 600-page *Collected Poems 1943-2004*, *The New York Times* wrote, “The emergence of a poet like Wilbur as a hero to a new generation of critics is cause for hope: that readers, not gatekeepers, might rediscover poems written in the spirit of generosity and care, and disciplined by the idea of an uncaptive audience.” Or, as Slate put it, “Wilbur’s poems matter not because they may or may not be stylish at any given moment but because they keep the English language alive: Wilbur’s great poems feel as fresh—as astonishing, as perplexing, as shocking—as they did 50 years ago.” The former U.S. poet laureate’s vivid array of honors includes the National Book Award and two Pulitzer Prizes—as well as a 1942 BA from Amherst College. He has recently returned as a John Woodruff Simpson Lecturer to co-teach a poetry workshop.

sigrid nunez

tuesday, september 29
8 p.m. at amherst books
8 main street



Sigrid Nunez has published five novels, including *A Feather on the Breath of God*, *For Rouenna*, and, most recently, *The Last of Her Kind*. *The New York Times* described this last, set in the American counterculture of 1968, as “A remarkable novel. . .it startles and lingers long in the heart and the mind.” And *The Boston Globe* called it “a brilliant, dazzling, daring novel. Nunez has taken the old American Dream and stood it on its head.” Her work has appeared in numerous anthologies and journals, including *The New York Times*, *Harper’s*, *Tin House*, and *The Believer*. The recipient of numerous awards and fellowships, Nunez lives and works in New York City; her sixth novel will be published next year.

jedediah berry

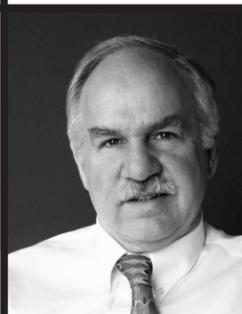
wednesday, october 14
8 p.m. at amherst books
8 main street



Jedediah Berry’s first novel, *The Manual of Detection*, was described by *The New Yorker* as “the kind of mannered fantasy that might result if Wes Anderson were to adapt Kafka.” In fact, Google “Jedediah Berry” with “Kafka” and you’ll get more than 3500 hits, with “Borges” and you’ll get 2500; the glowing comparisons abound, and *The Wall Street Journal* referred to Berry’s unique cross of hard-boiled detective fiction with absurdist art as “a surreal transmutation of a genre.” Berry’s short fiction has appeared in numerous journals and anthologies, including *Best New American Voices*, *Best American Fantasy*, *Conjunctions*, and *Chicago Review*. He lives in Northampton and works as assistant editor of Small Beer Press.

brad leithauser

thursday, november 12
8 p.m. at amherst books
8 main street



The New York Times writes, “Why devote oneself to that aggressively minor genre, poetry, when novels and screenplays and tell-all memoirs get more notice and make more money? Brad Leithauser answers that question in *Curves and Angles*.” Leithauser is the author of five novels, five volumes of poetry, a novel in verse, two collections of light verse and a book of essays. Among the many awards and honors he has received are a Guggenheim Fellowship and a MacArthur Fellowship; in 2005, Leithauser was inducted into the Order of the Falcon by the president of Iceland for his writings about Nordic literature. He and his wife, the poet Mary Jo Salter, divide their time between Amherst and Baltimore, where they both teach at Johns Hopkins.

All events are wheelchair accessible and followed by refreshments. For more information call 413/542-8200.