

NOVEMBER 1 — 7, 2019



PRESENTS

“EXACTLY!” THEY SAID



A
FESTIVAL
of
SHORT
STORIES
by
California
WRITERS

brought straight to THE Stage



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NOVEMBER 1 – 7, 2019

Welcome to our first

SHORT STORY FESTIVAL!

Having transformed short stories verbatim to the stage for the past 26 years, we wanted to extend this singular experience to writers throughout California.

Festival activities begin with our Festival Launch, November 1, featuring Greg Sarris (*Grand Avenue*, *Watermelon Nights*, *How a Mountain Was Made*) and Amy Tan (*The Bonesetter's Daughter*, *The Joy Luck Club*). November 2 and 3 feature staged readings of stories by Adult Winners. November 7 features stories by our Teen Winners. We thank everyone who submitted their work. It has been a thrill to see such enthusiasm for the short story and an honor to have so many talented writers submit!

FESTIVAL COMMITTEE

Vanessa Flores, Susan Harloe, Annette Koehn, Amy Kossow,
Shafer Mazow, Amy Prosser, JoAnne Winter

LITERARY COMMITTEE

Amy Kossow, Amy Prosser, Wendy Radford

FESTIVAL PRODUCTION MANAGER

Annette Koehn

FESTIVAL STAGE MANAGER & ASM

Geneviève Pabon and Maria Kosta

FESTIVAL DESIGNERS

Sound/ Lighting Designer/Master Electrician: Brittany Mellerson

FESTIVAL READERS

Abigail Pañares, Adrian Elfenbaum, Amy Hosa, Amy Kossow, Amy Prosser, Anne Galjour, Becca Wolff, Dan Wolf, JoAnne Winter, Joel Mullennix, Josh Ende, Patricia Silver, Paul Finocchiaro, Ryan Tasker, Molly Benson, Shafer Mazow, Siobhan Doherty, Stephanie Hunt, Susan Harloe, Valerie Weak, Vanessa Flores, and Wendy Radford

Special guests of the festival

GREG SARRIS AND AMY TAN

"I am so in love with Word for Word and what they do. I come from a community who generally does not read. After my American Indian community had seen "Slaughterhouse", they were inspired to read."

—Greg Sarris



Greg Sarris is a renowned author, scholar, teacher, and Tribal Chairman of the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria (FIGR), formerly the Federated Coast Miwok. He co-authored bill H. R. 5528, which President Clinton signed on 12/27/2000, restoring the FCM as a recognized American Indian Tribe. Sarris' books include *Keeping Slug Woman Alive: A Holistic Approach to American Indian Texts*; *Grand Avenue*, (adapted for an HBO Miniseries); *Watermelon Nights*; and *How a Mountain Was Made*. Word for Word has produced his stories "Slaughterhouse" and "Joy Ride," and created two children's touring shows from his collection, *How a Mountain Was Made*. Currently, we are working with Greg and FIGR to provide a summer arts camp for Native youth.

"Word for Word is a marvel. While respecting the author's every word, the company also manages to create something completely new, going well beyond the page into an art that has no words. I was completely bowled over by...the sheer power of the experience of watching words come to life."

—Amy Tan



Amy Tan is the author of *The Joy Luck Club*, *The Kitchen God's Wife*, *The Hundred Secret Senses*, *The Bonesetter's Daughter*, *The Opposite of Fate: Memories of a Writing Life*, *Saving Fish from Drowning*, *The Valley of Amazement*, *Where the Past Begins: Memory and Imagination*, and two children's books, *The Moon Lady* and *The Chinese Siamese Cat*, which was adapted into a PBS television series. Tan was also a co-producer and co-screenwriter of the film version of *The Joy Luck Club* and was librettist for the opera version of *The Bonesetter's Daughter*. Her essays and stories have appeared in numerous magazines and anthologies, and her work has been translated into thirty-five languages. She lives with her husband in San Francisco and New York.



"EXACTLY, THEY SAID"

Festival Launch

FRIDAY NOV 1

7 PM

**A collaboration with the
Jewish Community High School of the Bay
1835 Ellis Street, San Francisco**

Word for Word revisits moments
from past productions of:

"CITIZEN" BY GREG SARRIS

Directed by Gendell Hernández and JoAnne Winter
with

Gendell Hernández*

Lisa Hori-Garcia*

Anna Maria Luera*

Armando Rodriguez*

Ryan Tasker*

Dan Wolf*

"IMMORTAL HEART" BY AMY TAN

Directed by Delia MacDougall
Original score composed by Randall Wong
with

Michael Cheng

Julia Cho

Tina Huang

Melissa Wong Renati

Brian Rivera*

Dennis Yen

Conversation with Greg Sarris and Amy Tan

**Presentation of Adult and Teen
Festival Winners**

Reception to follow

*Member, AEA

"EXACTLY, THEY SAID"

Adult Winners

SATURDAY, NOV 2

8 PM

Z Below, 470 Florida St, San Francisco

"THE 14 MISSION" BY ANITA CABRERA

Directed by Stephanie Hunt
with

Robert Ernst*

Rosie Hallett*

Dorian Lockett*

Alexander Pannullo*

Amy Prosser*

Jomar Tagatac*

Michael Torres*

"ARITHMETIC" BY MICHAEL ALENYIKOV

Directed by JoAnne Winter
Assistant Director Vanessa Flores
with

Evan Held

Aaron Kitchin*

Max Forman-Mullin*

Alexander Pannullo*

Adam Shonkwiler*

Intermission

"THE RUINS" BY LINDSEY CRITTENDEN

Directed by Jeri Lynn Cohen
with

Max Carpenter*

Anne Galjour*

Lisa Hori-Garcia*

Anne Nordlund

Josiah Polhemus*

Amy Prosser*

*Member, AEA

"EXACTLY, THEY SAID"

Adult Winners

SUNDAY, NOV 3

5 PM

Z Below, 470 Florida St, San Francisco

"BLUE RUIN" BY KATHERINE LIEBAN

Directed by Susan Harloe and Gendell Hernández

Assistant Director: Vanessa Flores

with

Robert Ernst*

Lisa Hori-Garcia*

Edwin Jacobs

Isabel Langen

Leigh Rondon-Davis

Jomar Tagatac*

Intermission

"CANCER POEMS" BY KIM ADDONIZIO

Dedicated to

Ina Faith Campbell

1937-2001

Directed by Amy Kossow

Assistant Director Shafer Mazow

with

Jeri Lynn Cohen*

Lisa Hori-Garcia*

Leigh Rondon-Davis

Nancy Shelby*

Adam Shonkwiler*

Jomar Tagatac*

Theresa Miller Horn

*Member, AEA

California writers

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"EXACTLY, THEY SAID"

Teen Winners

THURSDAY,

NOV 7

7:30 PM

Children's Creativity Museum at Yerba Buena Gardens

Creativity Theater Technical Director
and Lighting Designer: Kayla Pierce

ACT I

**“MIDDLE SCHOOL ADVICE”
BY KENZO FUKUDA**

Directed by Dan Wolf and Amy Prosser
with
Valerie Weak *
Phil Wong *

**“THE MAGNOLIA MAN”
BY STELLA PFAHLER**

Directed by Rotimi Agbabiaka
with
Siobhan Doherty
Matt Standley

**“HERE’S A THEORY DARLING”
BY SOFI ORKIN**

Directed by Valerie Weak
with
Rotimi Agbabiaka *
Jeri Lynn Cohen *
Patricia Silver *

*Member, AEA

Intermission

ACT II

**“CANCER”
BY MAYA REIHANIAN**

Directed by Dan Wolf
with
Jeri Lynn Cohen *
Patricia Silver *
Dan Wolf *

**“MATTER OF THE HEART AND MIND”
BY CHARLOTTE POCOCK**

Directed by Amy Prosser
with
Siobhan Doherty
Dan Wolf *
Phil Wong *

**“ATOP THE SALTBACK MOUNTAIN”
BY TESS HORTON**

Directed by Annette Koehn
with
Nic Sommerfeld
Matt Standley

BIOGRAPHIES OF ADULT WINNERS

Kim Addonizio — “Cancer Poems”



Kim Addonizio has published seven poetry collections, two novels, two story collections, and two books on writing poetry. Her awards include fellowships from the NEA and Guggenheim Foundation, two Pushcart Prizes, and other honors. Her collection *Tell Me* was a National Book Award Finalist. Her latest are a memoir, *Bukowski in a Sundress: Confessions from a Writing Life* and a poetry collection, *Mortal Trash*. Her story “Cancer Poems” is from *The Palace of Illusions* (Soft Skull Press).

Michael Alenyikov — “Arithmetic”



Alenyikov's *Ivan & Misha* won the Northern CA Book Award for Fiction and was a Finalist for the Edmund White Award for Debut Fiction. He received the 2013 Gina Berriault Award and a MacDowell Fellowship. His writing appeared in *The Georgia Review*, *Foglifter*, *Catamaran Literary Reader*, *Descant*, *Chicago Quarterly Review*, *The Forge*, *James White Review*, and was twice nominated for the Pushcart Prize. A NYC native and San Francisco resident, he's worked as a bookstore clerk, a Boston cabbie, a clinical psychologist, and an interactive media writer.

Anita Cabrera — “The 14 Mission”



Anita Cabrera is a San Francisco-based teacher and editor whose fiction, essays and poetry examine themes of family, addiction, and redemption. Her work has appeared in the *Berkeley Poetry Review*, *Berkeley Fiction Review*, *Colere*, *Brain*, *Child Magazine*, *MER*, *Acentos Review*, *Litro*, and *RavensPerch*. Her short story “That Thing” received *The New Guard* 2017 Machigonne Fiction Award. Characters and events in “The 14 Mission” are inspired by real people who inspired the writer.

Lindsey Crittenden — “The Ruins”



Lindsey Crittenden is the author of *The View From Below: Stories and The Water Will Hold You*, a memoir. She has published fiction and essays in the *Washington Post*, the *New York Times*, *Best American Spiritual Writing*, *Cimarron Review*, *Mississippi Review*, *Glimmer Train*, and elsewhere. Lindsey lives in San Francisco and is a member of the Writers Grotto and a trustee of the Mechanics' Institute. lindseycrittenden.com

Katherine Lieban — “Blue Ruin”



Katherine Lieban was raised in a small town on the Gulf Coast of Texas. She then spent a glorious decade in Austin when it was still fun, exciting and cheap. After that, she moved to San Francisco with a Japanese singing cowboy and began teaching English to adult immigrants. She is thrilled that Word for Word has accepted her story for a staged reading.

BIOGRAPHIES OF TEEN WINNERS

Kenzo Fukuda — “Middle School Advice”



Kenzo Fukuda is an Asian-American writer born and raised in San Francisco, California. He has been published in *Soul Lit Magazine*, *Umlaut*, and *Alchemy Literary Magazine*. He attends Ruth Asawa School of the Arts and is in the Creative Writing Department. He is a die-hard Warriors fan, listens to Kendrick Lamar, and can crack his elbow on command. Most importantly, Kenzo writes because he wants to revolutionize the world with his words.

Tess Horton — “Atop the Saltback Mountain”



Tess Horton is a student at the Ruth Asawa San Francisco School of the Arts in the Creative Writing department. Her fiction is influenced by both her Jewish and British heritages, pulling insight from literature found in both cultures. Besides writing, Tess enjoys the company of her two scholarly cats and has played the violin since an early age.

Sofi Orkin — “Here’s a Theory Darling”



Sofi Orkin is a sophomore in the Creative Writing Department at Asawa School of the Arts in San Francisco. She was named a finalist for the 2018 Writopia Bay Area Teen Writing Awards and won 3rd Place in the 2019 Tarkovsky Essay Prize for writing on film. Her poetry has been published in *Bridge Ink* and *The Ellipsis*. She likes long walks, baking, and never misses an opportunity to gaze at her dog.

Stella Pfahler — “The Magnolia Man”



Stella Pfahler graduated this year from the Ruth Asawa San Francisco School of the Arts Creative Writing department. She acted as editor-in-chief of SOTA's *Umlaut Magazine*, has published two chapbooks, and recently finished her thesis poetry collection, *Cherry Season*. As of June, she looks forward to participating in Youth Art Exchange's LGBTQ youth exhibit Be Seen and publishing zines with Wet Pigeon Collective. After a gap year, she will attend Bard College.

Charlotte Anneabelle Pocock — “Matter of the Heart and Mind”



Charlotte Anneabelle Pocock is a graduate from the Ruth Asawa School of the Arts where she was a candidate in the Creative Writing program. Her work has been published in journals such as *Really System* and *Panoply Zine*, and she is a winner of the SFUSD 2019 Literary Arts Festival in the High School Poetry category. She is currently studying at the University of California, Santa Cruz and hopes to continue her writing career.

Maya Reihanian — “Cancer”



Maya Reihanian has been passionate about writing since Kindergarten, when she'd staple together books and stories, she'd written during free time instead of playing with the other kids. Since then, her love for writing has only grown, as she has written several short stories and one manuscript. She has taken every English class and elective available at her high school and looks forward to continuing to pursue her passion at UC Davis this fall.

“THANK YOU,” THEY SAID

Thanks go to: Brad Crowell and Gary Koehler; Ellen Moore; all the writers who submitted their work; these teachers who helped us find teen actors — Elizabeth Carter, Cindy Goldfield, Jill MacLean, Dylan Russell, Matthew Travisano, Heather Woodward, Clive Worsley; Z Board Member Amie Chen for housing; our summer interns — Katie Dragone and Daniel Holzman; Production Manager Annette Koehn; and “Exactly!” Literary Committee members Amy Kossow, Amy Prosser and Wendy Radford.

In Memoriam: Alva Dale and Jacqueline Radford

Word for Word is grateful

Thanks to your generosity, Z Space and Word for Word continue to work towards our mission of empowering artistic risk, collaboration, and camaraderie amongst artists, audience, and staff in the service of creating, developing, and presenting new work.

We are honored to list the donors below who have contributed to this festival:

Ida and Myles Abbott , Laura O. Bergman & Emmett Bergman, Nancy Catena, Bradford Crowell & Gary Koehler, Luise Custer, John & Paula Foley, Amy Kossow, Shafer Mazow, Barbara Newman, Greg Sarris, Gail Sinquefield.

Gifts in memory of Alva Dale and Jacqueline Radford:

Stephanie Hunt, Amy Kossow, Amy Prosser, Patricia Silver, and JoAnne Winter.



Word for Word Wish List

Local housing and airline miles for visiting artists;
Gift certificates to grocery stores for rehearsal snacks and receptions.

**Thanks to
Joe McDonald, David
Joseph, and Rabbi
Howard Ruben,
our partners at the
Jewish Community
High School
of the Bay**

**Thanks to
Children's
Creativity
Museum
and
Dave Garrett**



The mission of Word for Word

is to tell great stories with elegant theatricality, taking exciting works of fiction from the page to the stage. We believe in the power of the short story to provide solace, compassion, and insight into our daily lives.

Word for Word is a program of Z Space.

CHARTER MEMBERS

Susan Harloe,
Founding Artistic Director

JoAnne Winter,
Founding Artistic Director

Amy Kossow, *Literary Manager*

Sheila Balter

Jeri Lynn Cohen

Stephanie Hunt

Delia MacDougall

Wendy Radford

Nancy Shelby

Patricia Silver

Joan Walton, *Emeritus*

AUTHORS COUNCIL

The following writers have had their work performed by Word for Word, and lend their names in support of the work of our company.

Greg Sarris, *Honorary President*

Julia Alvarez

T. C. Boyle

Sandra Cisneros

Siobhan Fallon

Paul Fleischman

Richard Ford

Ellen Gilchrist

Joanne Greenberg

Andrew Sean Greer

Daniel Handler

Edward P. Jones

Barbara Kingsolver

Armistead Maupin

George Saunders

Octavio Solis

Amy Tan

Tobias Wolff

ASSOCIATE ARTISTS GROUP

Word for Word's Associate Artists Group is a group of talented young theatre professionals who are bringing Word for Word to a new generation of audiences:

Molly Benson, Andrea Day,
Rosie Hallett, Gendell Hing-Hernández,
Lisa Hori-Garcia, Annette Koehn,
Jill MacLean, Andrew Packard,
Ryan Tasker, and Becca Wolff.

ABOUT Z SPACE

Under Executive Artistic Director Lisa Steindler, Z Space empowers artistic risk, collaboration, and camaraderie amongst artists, audience, and staff in the service of creating, developing, and presenting new work. Operating two venues in San Francisco's historic Mission District, a main stage and a black box theater, Z Space hosts new works from a variety of performance disciplines year-round.

Z STAFF

Lisa Steindler, Executive Artistic Director

Shafer Mazow, Managing Director

Susan Harloe and JoAnne Winter,
Artistic Directors, Word for Word

Sanam Alam, Financial Controller

Jordan Battle, Patron Services Manager

Andrew Burmester, Marketing Director

Vanessa Flores, Individual Giving Associate

Taylor Griggs, Intern

Colm McNally, Technical Team

Joe Moore, Technical Director

Rose Oser, Associate Artistic Director

Abigail Pañares, General Manager

Amy Prosser, Youth Arts Program Coordinator

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San Francisco itself is art, above all literary art.
Every block is a short story, every hill a novel.
- William Saroyan

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COMING UP FOR WORD FOR WORD



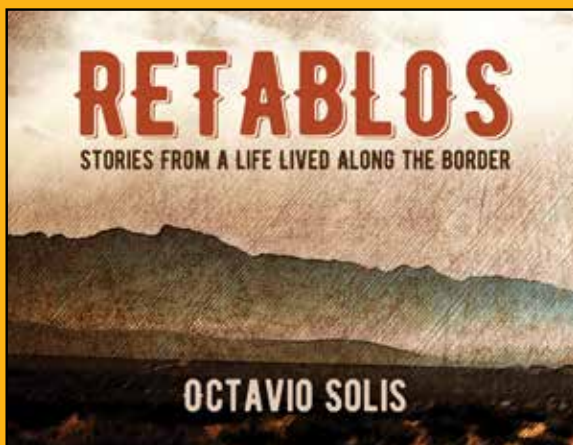
OFF THE PAGE

“Now Wait for This Week” by Alice Sola Kim

December 2, 7 pm Z Below

Directed by Isabel Langen with Sheila Balter

Word for Word’s staged reading series — our first step in bringing a work to the stage.



Retablos: Stories from a Life Lived Along the Border

By Octavio Solis

February 19-March 15, 2020 Z Below

Directed by Sheila Balter and Jim Cave

“[A] book for a better understanding of the border” —*New York Times*

INFORMATION AND TICKETS AT ZSPACE.ORG