

Surfwriters Newsletter

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K. C. Johnson, Editor & Publisher

November 2006

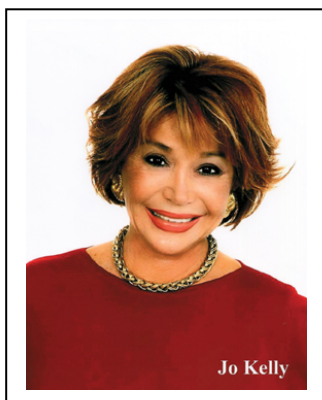
-- Announcements --

LIGHTS! CAMERA! ACTION! BOOK!

Author Jo Kelly

Presentation Followed by Q&A Session

Friday, November 17 - 11:00 a.m.



Meet Jo Kelly, and learn about her book, *The Truth About Being an Extra: How to Become a Good Background Actor*. Says Ms. Kelly, "If you are new to the movie industry and hope to break into acting, starting as a background actor or movie extra, this is a book you shouldn't be without."

Jo Kelly shares the secrets to making it as a movie extra, working "the background" and advancing your movie career. You'll learn how she got started in the business and how you can, too. Where are the legitimate casting agencies? How do you register your child or yourself for background work and commercials? Her book gives valuable tips --finding a photographer, avoiding scams, learning terminology, tools to get you started, and more.

Business Meeting - 10:00 a.m.

See you there!

Palos Verdes Art Center
5504 W. Crestridge Road
Rancho Palos Verdes
(310) 541-2479

-- Announcements: Coming Events --

Special Art Jam Night! Featured Poets and Musicians

Saturday, December 2

7:00-9:30 p.m. (No Open Mic)

Visual Art, Poetry/Prose Readings
Music and Song, Refreshments

Art/Craft Fair December 2 & 3

10:00 a.m. -5:00 p.m.

(including kids' art activities)

Free of Charge

Summer Studios Arts Academy

25004 Narbonne Ave.

Lomita 90717

Call David Parsons for information.

(310) 325-8801

Poetry Reading

Featured Readers and Open Mic

Saturday, December 2, 2:00-4:00 p.m.

at the

The Artists' Studio Gallery

Bring a favorite poem or two!

Enjoy poetry, art and refreshments!

Free of Charge

Suite 300C The Village

627 Silver Spur Road

(just west of the library)

Rolling Hills Estates 90274

Call for information.

(310) 265-2592

◊Δ◊-- *Literature*-- ◊Δ◊

Writers Guild of America, west
presents
Writers On Writing
with
Guillermo Arriaga
Thursday, November 16, 7:30 p.m.
at the Writers Guild of America, west
Corner of Third & Fairfax in Los Angeles
WGAw, Second Floor.



"Arriaga's most recent screenplay, *Babel*, his third collaboration (following *Amores Perros* and *21 Grams*) with director Alejandro Gonzales Inarritu, was described by Rolling Stone as "the year's richest, most complex and ultimately heartbreaking film" and is tipped by many for Academy nomination. Arriaga also won the Golden Palm for Best Screenplay at the 2005 Cannes Film Festival for *The Three Burials of Melquiades Estrada*.

Born and raised in Mexico City, where he is a college professor, Arriaga is the author of three novels, a book of short stories and other works. His writings, which appear in many languages, are highly praised by critics and audiences worldwide.

Writers On Writing features intimate interviews with top screenwriters about their careers, their insights into the craft, and strategies for success in a difficult industry. Each evening includes audience Q&A."

Moderated by F.X. Feeney
Champagne Reception to Follow
Tickets/Info: www.wgfoundation.org
or (323) 782-4692
Parking is included.



The Lives of the Muses
Nine Women & the Artists They Inspired
By Francine Prose

"Tracing the paths of nine women who became counterparts to some of the world's most intriguing creative geniuses, National Book Award finalist Francine Prose has crafted a unique work of biography, history, cultural commentary, romance, literary criticism and wry humor."



◊Δ◊ -- *Art* -- ◊Δ◊

New Exhibits Opening at LACMA!

November 16, 2006-February 25, 2007

Picasso's Greatest Print:

The Minotauromachy in All Its States

"On view together for the first time in the U.S., the eight etchings that comprise this focused exhibition represent the only existing suite of all the states...and give the opportunity to trace Picasso's creative process."

November 19, 2006-March 4, 2007

Magritte and Contemporary Art:

The Treachery of Images

"...featuring sixty-eight paintings and drawings by Magritte, including many international loans of his signature works, and sixty-eight works in diverse media by thirty-one contemporary artists..."

In addition, the exhibition installation is specially designed by conceptual artist John Baldessari.

This exhibition is only on view in Los Angeles.

<http://www.lacma.org/>



Third Annual "Art in Our Library"
Community Art Show and Opening Reception

This year's theme,

'A Picture Tells a Thousand Words'

features art work

from local and Southern California artists.

Saturday, November 18, 2006, 5:00 p.m.

Free and Open to the Public

Peninsula Center Library

701 Silver Spur Road

Rolling Hills Estates 90274

The exhibit will run through January 8, 2007.



Art Exhibition at The Judson Gallery

October 7, 2006 - January 5, 2007

The S-Word:

The State of Spirituality in Contemporary Art

The Judson Gallery

of Contemporary & Traditional Art

For directions and more information

(800) 445-8376

www.judsonstudios.com



◊Δ◊ -- Drama -- ◊Δ◊

Palos Verdes Village Players

(Surfwriters and Guests)

present

Monologues

on

Love and Death and Everything Else

Saturday, November 25, 2:00 p.m.

Free and Open to the Public

The Artists' Studio Gallery

Suite 300C The Village

627 Silver Spur Road

Rolling Hills Estates

(310) 265-2592

◊Δ◊ -- Music -- ◊Δ◊

Sunday, November 19

Jazz At The Ruskin

Dwight Tribble

and Friends

3:00 p.m. / Reception following

\$15

additional information

and visit

dwighttribble.com

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Sunday, December 3

Chamber Music Concert

Cello & Piano Recital

David Speltz, cello

Theodora Primes, piano

3:00 p.m.

\$15

additional information

The Ruskin Art Club

800 S. Plymouth Blvd.

Los Angeles, 90005

For information:

(323) 755-3530 or (310) 669-2369

www.ruskinartclub.org

◊Δ◊ -- Lecture/Discussion -- ◊Δ◊

**The Library Foundation of Los Angeles and
Los Angeles Public Library**

Present

Bill Morgan, Author of

I Celebrate Myself:

The Somewhat Private Life of Allen Ginsberg

Lecture and Panel Discussion with

Jason Shinder, Eileen Myles, and Marjorie Perloff

on

Ginsberg's epic poem "Howl"

on the 50th anniversary of its publication

Thursday, November 16, 7:00 p.m.

Free and Open to the Public

Central Library - Mark Taper Auditorium

Fifth & Flower Streets, Downtown Los Angeles

For reservations, please visit www.aloudla.org

or call (213) 228-7025

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Writing Groups

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Millie Ames Writing Workshop

Tuesdays, 1:00-3:00 PM

Peninsula Center Library

Conference Room (Main Level)

701 Silver Spur Road

Rolling Hills Estates 90274

Purpose: To help writers get published

Facilitator: Jean Shriver

Frequency: Meets Weekly

(no meeting the last week of the year)

Genre: Fiction and Non-Fiction

(no drama or poetry)

Writing Workshop/Critiquing Group

Thursdays, 1:00-3:00 p.m.

Community Room at Christ Episcopal Church

400 So. Broadway (at Pearl Street)

(Between PCH and Catalina Ave.)

Redondo Beach 90277

Purpose: To help writers get published

Facilitator: Edith Battles

(group first organized by Jody Wilkinson)

Frequency: Meets Weekly

Genre: Fiction, Non-Fiction, Drama

Questions? Call Edith at (310) 540-2331

New Writing Workshop

Genre: Poetry/Short Prose

Frequency: Meets Bi-weekly

Mondays 3:00-5:00 p.m.

Rolling Hills Estates

Purpose: Explore voice, form, and style;

support/critique work;

share publishing opportunities

Facilitator: rotating

Questions? Contact kcjohnson@starnetdial.net.

-- Members in the News --**October Meeting at Surfwriters**

Thanks to panelists Jean Shriver, Ruth Adams, Sylvia Thompson, and Edith Battles for their tips on writing for children and young adults--and getting published! A special note of thanks to Librarian Marisa Perley for her insights about what children and teens are reading these days.

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JoBeth McDaniel

Did you know...?

JoBeth McDaniel has written for *Life* magazine off and on "since the late 1980s." Look for her article on the day jobs of Las Vegas showgirls in a recent issue of *Life*. JoBeth says that she wrote the article nearly two years ago, that it's now one tenth the length and barely resembles the original. It's the shortest piece she has ever done for *Life*. But JoBeth's talents extend beyond articles. She's writing screenplays and anticipating great things in the near future!

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-- Ongoing Activities --**Spoken Word at Coffee Cartel**

Featured Guests and Open Mic Readings

***Sarah Maclay and Workshop Poets
November 21!***

1820 South Catalina Avenue
Riviera Village
Redondo Beach 90277
Tuesdays 8:00 PM until...
(Sign up for open mic at 7:45)
Hosts Jim Doane & Larry Colker
www.redondopoets.com
Call (310) 316-6554 for information.

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-- A Different Take on Ekphrasis --***Slam poets will rap at the Louvre!***

"The Louvre is inviting slam poets...to rap about paintings. With Toni Morrison as guest curator this month, the museum is dreaming up new ways to look at art. The Nobel laureate has helped the Louvre conceive a series of lectures, readings, films, concerts, debates and slam poetry that will continue through Nov. 29. All center on her theme, 'The Foreigner's Home,' touching on national identity, exile and the idea of belonging."

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-- Call for Entries --**Crazyhorse****Poetry and Fiction Prizes**

Two prizes of \$2,000 each and publication in *Crazyhorse* are given annually for a single poem and a short story. Submit up to three poems or a story of no more than 25 pages with a \$15 entry fee, which includes a one-year subscription to *Crazyhorse*, by **December 16**.

Send an SASE, call, e-mail, or visit the Web site for complete guidelines.

Crazyhorse, Poetry and Fiction Prizes,
Department of English, College of Charleston,
66 George Street, Charleston, SC 29424.
(843) 953-7740.

Garrett Doherty, Editor.

crazyhorse@cofc.edu; crazyhorse.cofc.edu**Ellen Meloy Fund****Desert Writers Award**

A prize of \$1,000 will be given annually to provide support to poets, fiction writers, and creative nonfiction writers to spend creative time in a desert environment. Submit up to 10 pages of poetry, fiction, or creative nonfiction, a project description, and a biography by **December 31**.

There is no entry fee.

Call or visit the Web site for complete guidelines.
Ellen Meloy Fund, Desert Writers Award, P.O. Box
484, Bluff, UT 84512, (435) 669-5326.

Greer Chesher, Contact.

www.ellenmeloy.com**Glimmer Train Press****Fiction Open**

A prize of \$2,000 and publication in *Glimmer Train Stories* is given twice yearly for a short story. A second-place prize of \$1,000 is also awarded. Submit a short story of any length and theme with a \$15 entry fee by **January 15, 2007**. Visit the Web site for complete guidelines.

Glimmer Train Press, Fiction Open
1211 NW Glisan Street, Suite 207, Portland, OR
97209 (503) 221-0836

Susan Burmeister-Brown, Linda Swanson-Davies,
Coeditors

www.glimmertrainpress.com**Call for Entries 2007**<http://www.usabooknews.com/home.html>**USA Book News Best Books Awards 2006**

Interesting!

Check out descriptions and awards.

Categories include autobiography,
children's literature, spirituality and many more.

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-- Marketing Tip --

Wondering where to market your book? Look beyond the bookstores. How about the local grocer or the garden supply store? Possibilities abound, limited only by your imagination and the topic of your book, according to Julie Bosman in her November 2 *New York Times* article "Selling Literature to Go with Your Lifestyle."

-- Newsletter Online --

Read the monthly newsletter online at the Surfwriters website:
<http://www.palosverdes.com/surfwriters/newsletters.htm>

-- Future Announcements --

Please send your announcements for future newsletters to kcjohnson@starnetdial.net.

-- A Note About Spam Blockers --

It has been requested that members open their e-mail boxes to fellow Surfwriters. Otherwise, members must take steps to provide identification or justification for writing. Thanks!

-- Membership --

Is it time to renew your membership? If you're not certain, please check with the Art Center at (310) 541-2479 or e-mail info@pvartcenter.org.

Wishing the best of good health to all our members!

Happy Writing!

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-----Surfwriters Anthology Update-----

Phase I, complete! Thanks to Debbie Paul for her dedication and hard work on initial editing. Deb has passed the anthology materials to Ildy Lee and KC Johnson, who will begin Phase II, formatting. Next, authors will review their own submissions for final corrections. With printing decisions still pending, many members think that a spring release to coincide with Poetry and Music in the Gallery will be timely and effective. Whatever the date, we plan to publish with a promotional splash!

-- Literary Miscellany --

An Excerpt from Elmore Leonard's Ten Rules of Writing

Easy on the Adverbs, Exclamation Points and Especially Hooptedoodle
from the *New York Times* Writers on Writing Series -
Being a good author is a disappearing act.

By Elmore Leonard

"These are rules I've picked up along the way to help me remain invisible when I'm writing a book, to help me show rather than tell what's taking place in the story. If you have a facility for language and imagery and the sound of your voice pleases you, invisibility is not what you are after, and you can skip the rules.

Still, you might look them over.

My most important rule is one that sums up the 10: If it sounds like writing, I rewrite it."

Thanks to JoBeth McDaniel for sharing the foregoing.

Top Ten of the 101 Best Screenplays as Voted by Writers Guild of America Members in 2005

1. CASABLANCA

Screenplay by Julius J. & Philip G. Epstein and Howard Koch.
Based on the play "Everybody Comes to Rick's" by
Murray Burnett and Joan Alison

2. THE GODFATHER

Screenplay by Mario Puzo and Francis Ford Coppola.
Based on the novel by Mario Puzo

3. CHINATOWN

Written by Robert Towne

4. CITIZEN KANE

Written by Herman Mankiewicz and Orson Welles

5. ALL ABOUT EVE

Screenplay by Joseph L. Mankiewicz. Based on
"The Wisdom of Eve," a short story and radio play by Mary Orr

6. ANNIE HALL

Written by Woody Allen and Marshall Brickman

7. SUNSET BLVD.

Written by Charles Brackett & Billy Wilder
and D.M. Marshman, Jr.

8. NETWORK

Written by Paddy Chayefsky

9. SOME LIKE IT HOT

Screenplay by Billy Wilder & I.A.L. Diamond.
Based on "Fanfare of Love," a German film written by
Robert Thoeren and M. Logan

10. THE GODFATHER II

Screenplay by Francis Ford Coppola and Mario Puzo.
Based on Mario Puzo's novel "The Godfather"

Fire Rainbow



Thanks to Wanda VanHoy Smith and friends for sharing Fire Rainbow,
the rarest of all naturally occurring atmospheric phenomena.