



Poetry at the Albany Library

2nd Tuesdays Featured Poets & Open Mic *

Tuesday May 13, 2014 7:00 - 9:00 pm

featuring: Brenda Hillman, Angela Hume, Sara Larsen, Melissa Mack & Jessie Sandoval

Brenda Hillman brings to Poetry at the Albany Library work that creates conversation within the political and ecological environments and the human experiences of community, spirit, and place. She also introduces to Albany four emerging poetic voices: "All of these poets have been participants in social and environmental justice actions locally. Their innovative poetry reflects an engagement with the political as well as the personal, and showcases a remarkable range of new writing."



Brenda Hillman's latest book, *Seasonal Works with Letters on Fire*, earned the Northern California Book Award for Poetry and was long-listed for the National Book Award. It completes her tetralogy on the four elements (all from Wesleyan University Press), which includes *Practical Water* (2009, winner of the *Los Angeles Times*

Book Award for Poetry), *Cascadia* (2001), and *Pieces of Air in the Epic* (2005, winner of the William Carlos Williams Award).

In addition to her nine full-length collections of poetry, Hillman has published chapbooks with Penumbra Press, a+bend press, and EmPress. With Patricia Dienstfrey, she edited *The Grand Permission: New Writings on Poetics and Motherhood* (Wesleyan, 2003).

An activist for social and environmental justice, Hillman teaches at St. Mary's College of California, where she is the Olivia C. Filippi Professor of Poetry. For more, go to <http://brendahillman.net>.



Sara Larsen's chapbooks include *NOVUS*, *A,a,a,a,a*, *The Hallucinated*, *Merry Hell*, and, most recently, *After Sappho*. Her full-length book, *All Revolutions Will Be Fabulous*, is forthcoming from Printing Press in fall 2014.

Larsen (sara-larsen.blogspot.com) is a member of the organizing collective of the Bay Area Public School, an autonomous free school in Oakland, (www.thepublicschool.org or bayareapublicschool.tumblr.com).



Angela Hume has published two poetry chapbooks, *Second Story of Your Body* (Portable Press at Yo-Yo Labs, 2011) and *The Middle*, which won the 2012 Omnidawn Chapbook Poetry Prize (Omnidawn, 2013). Her first full-length book of poetry is forthcoming from *Omnidawn* (spring 2016).

As a scholar and teacher, [Angela Hume](#) examines the transformation of poetry in response to

environmental crisis conditions of the late 20th and early 21st centuries. Her critical writing appears in *ISLE: Interdisciplinary Studies in Literature and Environment*, *Evental Aesthetics*, and *Jacket2*. With two other scholars, Hume organized the first-ever Conference on Eco-poetics, hosted by U.C. Berkeley's English Department in February 2013.



Melissa Mack's chapbook, *Includes All Strangers*, was published by Hooke Press in 2013. Her work has appeared in *Catechism: Poems for Pussy Riot* (English PEN) and in the collective publications *The Feeling Is Mutual: A List of Our Fucking Demands* (Small Press Traffic) and *What Is Called Violence*. A student of the Bay Area Public School, Mack is also a yoga teacher and an organizer.



Jessie Sandoval works as a literary editor and translator. She writes of herself: "In awe of both Tibetan Singing Bowls and Crazy Ants... I'm learning about doing things deliberately, finding opportunities (tapping the energy of spontaneity) and recognizing between chance and purpose... to balance spiritual intention and the brutality of physical mass."

*** Open Mic contributions to the evening's themes encouraged, but all subjects welcome.**

<http://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLvkmU5XW8KobrQGrpEwgajI5xdbJnh09R> (playlist archive) <http://albanylibrary.wordpress.com>

Albany Library 1247 Marin Avenue 510-526-3720

Sponsored by Friends of the Albany Library. Wheelchair accessible. ASL interpreter provided with 7 working days notice (510-526-3720 or TTY 510-663-0660). Produced by Alameda County Library, Albany 5/14 www.aclibrary.org

