



OCT. —  
DEC. 2023

# LETTER FROM THE DIRECTORS

Dear friends,

With autumn upon us and winter just around the corner, we are pleased to offer this final round of programs to close out 2023.

It's a fall full of happy returns. We're overjoyed to welcome home former volunteer **RS Deeren** to celebrate the publication of his first book of short fiction; to partner with Boswell Books once again to present poet and essayist **Ross Gay** (who joined us for an incredible virtual program in 2020); to team up with Madison's Arts & Literature Lab for another **Midwest Video Poetry Fest**; and to bring back from overseas our steadfast partners in musical mayhem, **The Bridge**, for another concert featuring improvisors from Chicago and France.

This season, we're likewise looking forward to **QWERTY Quarterly's** winter issue release party and the next installment of our *Unwriting Borders* series with **Imani Elizabeth Jackson**, along with several readings by Milwaukee and Wisconsin writers who have long been fixtures in this community—including **Stacy Blint**, **Lisa Fishman**, **Kwabena Nixon**, and **Rick Meier**, among others. Also starting up this fall is **Everything Wants to Be Loved**, a new group led by **Nakeysha Roberts Washington**, which will be reading and writing around Alice Walker's acclaimed novel *The Color Purple* in anticipation of a new film adaptation, and though dates are not yet confirmed, we will additionally have in store for you several upcoming **Revolutionary Arts & Culture Residency** events in collaboration with Nakeysha and Genre: Urban Arts. Be sure too to visit our gallery and take in *Here I Am, Standing*, a new solo exhibition from Chicago visual artist **Haerim Lee**.

And as if that weren't enough, on October 1st registration opens for our **30th Annual Poetry Marathon**! If you're already planning on participating but would prefer to first create some fresh new work, please consider also signing up for "A Line, a Poem, and a Joke Walk into a Bar," led by UWM Professor Emeritus of Creative Writing, excellent poet, and hilarious person **Mauricio Kilwein Guevara**.

While there's plenty that feels light and airy about this season at Woodland Pattern, many of us are also

experiencing a heaviness as the days darken toward solstice. In July, our community suffered the consecutive loss of two brilliant artists, each of whom separately nourished us with their own indomitable creative energies—**Jahmés Tony Finlayson** and **Jenny Janzer**. We close our letter by dedicating it to them.

With gratitude and heart,



Jenny & Laura

## ON THE COVER



Haerim Lee, *60610*, approximately 10 x 10" (various sizes), ceramics, 2022

# SPECIAL EVENTS

## 30th Annual Poetry Marathon & Benefit—SAVE THE DATE!

**\*ONLINE\* Sat. & Sun., Jan. 27 & 28  
10 am–10 pm CST (\$Give What You Can)**

**Registration for poets opens Sunday, October 1, 2023!**

Woodland Pattern's most highly anticipated annual event, the Poetry Marathon is a two-day, 24-hour lyrical extravaganza with performances from more than 300 individual poets, musicians, and moving image artists.

In addition to being an extraordinary event and a beloved tradition for poets of all ages, the Poetry Marathon serves as a community-driven fundraiser. Participating poets are asked to raise a small amount of funds among family, friends, neighbors, co-workers, etc., and/or via social media, with a goal of \$50 in pledges on each reader's behalf. Those contributions are then matched by a sponsor for the hour and supplemented by major sponsorships. Thanks to our community, funds raised through the Marathon each January have kept Woodland Pattern going strong for decades, providing fuel for all our programmatic activities in the year ahead.

**REGISTER TO READ:** To learn more or to sign up as a poet, register on our website or give us a call. Registration opens Saturday, October 1, 2023. **Deadline to register is Monday, November 20, 2023. Deadline for materials submission is Friday, December 1, 2023.**

**SPONSOR A POET:** Visit our website or give us a call to sponsor a reader. You can make your donation on the behalf of a particular poet, or if you're unsure who to sponsor, consider a "Pledge a Reader" donation. Money received through these donations will go directly to a poet who is unable to meet the \$50 pledge goal.

**SPONSOR AN HOUR:** Each hour of the Marathon is matched by a sponsor for that hour. To underwrite an hour of the Poetry Marathon, contact Programming Director Michael Wendt at michaelw@woodlandpattern.org or call the center's main line.

**MAJOR SPONSORSHIPS:** In addition to hour sponsorships, the Poetry Marathon is supported by major sponsors at the presenting, premier, and supporting levels. To learn more, visit our website to download our sponsorship flyer, or call the center and ask for Executive Directors Jenny Gropp and Laura Solomon.

## MILWAUKEE YOUTH POET LAUREATE EVENTS

*Upcoming event featuring 2023–24 Milwaukee Youth Poet Laureate Emily Igwike*

**Fri. Nov. 3 | 5–11 PM** (\$50)

**\*IN PERSON\*** at House of Rad, in support of Feeding America Eastern Wisconsin, 900 E. Keefe Ave.

### **Feed Your Soul Fundraiser**

Feed Your Soul is a group of artists, designers, and organizers coming together to solve hunger with art. This immersive event defies simple explanation so get your party pants on, grab your friends, and check out the talent and generosity in person!

## WORKSHOPS FOR POETS AGES 13–19

*Workshops will be led by 2023–24 Milwaukee Youth Poet Laureate Emily Igwike. Workshops will also serve as info sessions, where students can learn more about the MYPL program. Exact times to be announced soon—check our website for updates about these and additional forthcoming events!*

**Sat. Oct. 21 | TIME TBD CDT** (FREE)

**\*IN PERSON\* Youth Workshop at Mitchell Street Library**, 906 W. Historic Mitchell Street

This generative workshop will be focused around food—as a sensory experience, as a way to bring people together, and as a way to forge and relive memories. Hosted at Milwaukee Public Library's Mitchell Street branch.

**Sun. Nov. 12 | TIME TBD CST (FREE)**

**\*IN PERSON\*** Youth Workshop at Central Library, 814 W. Wisconsin Ave.

This hybrid generative and editing workshop will take advantage of Milwaukee Public Library's Central Branch's extensive media collection to introduce a variety of "found poetry" techniques that will help poets learn how to use existing texts to create new poems or to find starting points for their own poetry.

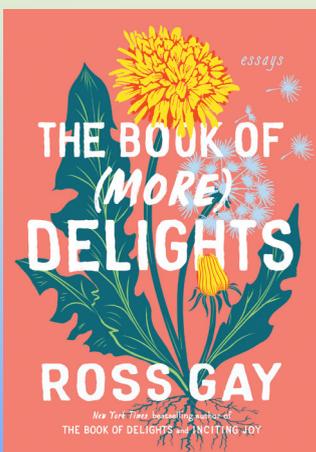
## READINGS & CONVERSATIONS

**Wed. Oct. 4 | 7:30 pm CDT** (This event is free with registration: [rossgaymke.eventbrite.com](https://rossgaymke.eventbrite.com))

**\*IN PERSON\*** at Boswell Book Company  
2559 N. Downer Ave.

**Boswell Book Company** presents an evening with **ROSS GAY**, author of *The Book of (More) Delights* (Algonquin Books, 2023). Cosponsored by Woodland Pattern.

**ROSS GAY** is the author of the essay collections *The Book of Delights* (2019) and *Inciting Joy* (2022), both from Algonquin Books, as well as four books of poetry. Gay is a founding board member of the Bloomington Community Orchard, a non-profit, free-fruit-for-all food justice and joy project, and he has received fellowships from Cave Canem, the Bread Loaf Writers' Conference, and the Guggenheim Foundation. He teaches at Indiana University.



**Wed. Oct. 11 | Doors open at 7 pm CDT; event start time 8 pm \*IN PERSON\*** at The Cooperage, 822 S. Water St.

**PU 20: Poetry Unplugged 20th Anniversary Reunion Showcase**

In celebration of two decades of Poetry Unplugged, Milwaukee's longest-running open mic experience and spoken word collective, founder and host **KWABENA NIXON** curates an evening filled with mesmerizing performances from an all-star line-up of local and national poets and special guest performers, backed by one of Milwaukee's favorite live bands, Cigarette Break.

Presented by Milwaukee Film as part of the 2023 Cultures & Communities Festival. Ticketing information available at: <https://mkefilm.org/events/pu-20-poetry-unplugged-20th-anniversary-reunion-sh>

**Fri. Oct. 20 | 7 pm CDT** (\$Give What You Can)

**\*HYBRID\*** In person at Woodland Pattern and livestreaming via Crowdcast

**Poetry Reading** featuring **DAVID ABEL**, **STACY BLINT**, and **GRACE MITCHELL**.

**DAVID ABEL** is a writer and editor, and the proprietor of Passages Bookshop in Portland, Oregon. A founding member of the Spare Room reading series, now in its twenty-second year, his recent publications include a chapbook of poems, *Equifinality* (Crane's Bill); two books based on verbal performance scores—*XIV Eclipses* (Couch Press), and *Selected Durations* (Black Rock Press)—and the visual narrative *Carrier* (Redfoxxpress). The first volume of an ongoing hybrid-genre serial work, *Sweep*, is forthcoming from Chax Press in Tucson.

**STACY BLINT** is an artist and writer living in Wisconsin. Her poems have appeared in the *Brooklyn Rail*, *Big Bridge*, *Elderly*, the *White Wall Review*, *Blazing Stadium*, and *Matchbook Magazine*, among others. Her chapbook *Infinity Heart* was published in 2019 by Adjunct Press.

**GRACE MITCHELL** (b. 1992, MN) is an artist and educator living in Milwaukee. She's an instructor at UW-Milwaukee and Milwaukee Institute of Art & Design. With Michael Lagerman, Mitchell co-runs Underscore, an artist-run project space, screening room, and queer operation emphasizing risk-taking in art, film, installation, and performance.

AUCTION



POEMS  
QUAN BARRY



Photo © Jim Barnard

**Thurs. Oct. 26 | 7 pm CDT** (\$Give What You Can)

**\*HYBRID\*** In person at Woodland Pattern and  
livestreaming via Crowdcast

**Poetry Reading** with **QUAN BARRY** in celebration of her  
latest collection, *Auction* (University of Pittsburgh Press,  
2023). Cosponsored by Boswell Book Company.

A poet, novelist, and playwright, **QUAN BARRY** is the author  
of four previous poetry collections: *Asylum*, winner of the  
2000 Agnes Lynch Starrett Poetry Prize; *Controvertibles*  
(2004); *Loose Strife* (2015); and *Water Puppets*, winner of  
the 2010 Donald Hall Prize in Poetry. Her novels include  
*She Weeps Each Time You're Born* (2014); *When I'm Gone*,  
*Look for Me in the East* (2022); and *We Ride Upon Sticks*  
(2019). In addition to several awards, including a 2021 Alex  
Award from the American Library Association, Barry has  
received fellowships from the National Endowment for the  
Arts in both poetry and fiction. Born in Saigon and raised  
on Boston's north shore, she is Professor of English at UW–  
Madison.

**Sat. Nov. 4 | 7 pm CST**

**\*IN PERSON\*** at Woodland Pattern

**I'm Lichen You: Celebrating the Life of JENNY JANZER**

In her time, poet and zinester Jenny Janzer's infectious  
spirit and swirling, ethereal poetry affected many in the  
Milwaukee area poetry community, as well as those fighting  
Pulmonary Hypertension around the world. On November  
4th, join us for a night featuring numerous writers, reading  
poetry in the spirit of Jenny, and celebrating a person  
whose impact will continue on within all of those who knew  
her.

## JENNY JANZER

### Blood Music

I am a conduit for  
blood music  
let my organs bleed  
whole notes  
the heart makes more  
my deep bass drum of  
blood music  
your feet beat little tymps in  
blood music  
capillaries pulse piccolo harmony  
oboe blow  
blood music  
I'll lose it to  
blood music  
on arteries—blow low  
fog horn, tuba—tub-tub  
blood music  
lungs, let's be a harmony  
hundreds of notes at once  
add staccato tongue  
veins are the frets in  
blood music  
feel it tick stomp pump  
push bump  
gushing arteries  
sweet wind flow,  
reed instruments know  
blood music  
slice open the skin  
little flaps flip and slap  
flute filleted  
in three-four time  
it's a palpitation of  
blood music  
a combination of  
in-takes and  
out-takes all gathered  
at the base of  
blood music  
my heart composes.



**Fri. Nov. 10 | 7 pm CST** (\$Give What You Can)

**\*HYBRID\*** In person at Woodland Pattern and  
livestreaming via Crowdcast

**Reading** featuring **LISA FISHMAN**, author of *World Naked Bike Ride* (Gaspereau Press, 2022), and **RICHARD MEIER**, author of *A Duration* (Wave Books, 2023).

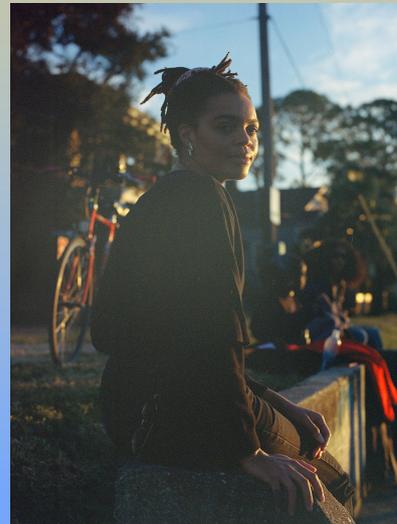
**LISA FISHMAN'S** recent fiction debut is *World Naked Bike Ride*, a collection of hybrid stories that blur boundaries between prose and poetry (Gaspereau Press, 2022). She is also the author of eight collections of poetry including *Mad World*, *Mad Kings*, *Mad Composition* (Wave Books, 2020) and *24 Pages and other poems* (Wave, 2015). Her earlier books on Ahsahta Press include *The Happiness Experiment* and *F L O W E R C A R T*. Fishman's work is anthologized in *Best American Experimental Poetry*, *The Arcadia Project: Postmodern North American Pastoral*, *The Ecopoetry Anthology*, Fence Books' *Not for Mothers Only*, and elsewhere. She has recent work in the current *Granta* and a new book of poetry, *One Big Time*, forthcoming on Wave. She lives on a farm in Orfordville, Wisconsin, and teaches at Columbia College Chicago.

**RICHARD MEIER'S** most recent book is a selection of poem/essays, *A Duration* (Wave Books, 2023). A related book, *A Companion*, will be published by Wave in spring of 2025. These were preceded by four books of poetry: *February March April April* (Oxeye Press, 2017), *In the Pure Block of the Whole Imaginary* (Omnidawn, 2012), *Shelley Gave Jane a Guitar* (Wave Books, 2006), and *Terrain Vague*, selected by Tomaž Šalamun for the Verse Prize and published by Verse Press in 2001. In recent years he has practiced and taught workshops on writing and walking and other daily and durational writing practices. He is Professor of English and Writer-in-Residence at Carthage College and lives in Somers and Madison, Wisconsin.

**Sat. Nov. 18 | 7 pm CST** (\$Give What You Can)

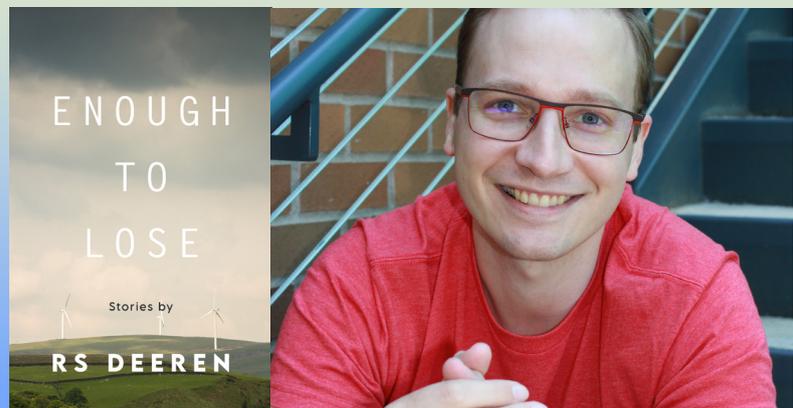
**\*HYBRID\*** In person at Woodland Pattern and  
livestreaming via Crowdcast

**Reading** featuring **IMANI ELIZABETH JACKSON**, author of *Flag*, forthcoming from Futurepoem, for which she received the press's 2020 Other Futures Award. This program is part of *Unwriting Borders*, an ongoing series sponsored by the National Endowment for the Arts.



**IMANI ELIZABETH JACKSON'S** writings appear in *Apogee*, *BOMB*, *TriQuarterly*, the *Paris Review*, *Poetry*, *Triple Canopy*, and elsewhere. Under the name mouthfeel, she co-authored the poetry-cookbook *Consider the Tongue* (2019) with S\*an D. Henry-Smith; she also contributed to Francesca Capone's *Weaving Language I:*

*Lexicon* (Essay Press, 2022). In addition to her forthcoming full-length book *Flag*, she is the author of two chapbooks, *saltsitting* (g l o s s, 2020) and *Context for arboreal exchanges* (Belladonna\*, 2023).



**Thurs. Dec. 7 | 7 pm CST** (\$Give What You Can)

**\*HYBRID\*** In person at Woodland Pattern and  
livestreaming via Crowdcast

**Fiction Reading** celebrating **RS DEEREN'S** short story collection, *Enough to Lose* (Wayne State University Press, 2023).

**RS DEEREN** received his MFA from Columbia College Chicago and his PhD from UW–Milwaukee. For the three years he lived in Milwaukee, he volunteered as much as he could at Woodland Pattern, losing a toenail in the basement. He is the author of *Enough to Lose*, and his fiction, nonfiction, and poetry appears in the *Great Lakes Review*, *Joyland*, *Midwestern Gothic*, and elsewhere. He is from rural Michigan, where he worked as a line cook, a substitute teacher, a landscaper, a banker, and a lumberjack. He is Assistant Professor of Creative Writing at Austin Peay State University in Clarksville, Tennessee.

**Fri. Dec. 15 | 6–9 pm CST**

**\*IN PERSON\*** at Woodland Pattern

Join us for the **QWERTY Quarterly** winter issue release party!

*QWERTY Quarterly* is the official publication of QWERTYFEST MKE, a festival founded in 2023 in honor of the typewriter, which was invented in Milwaukee 150 years ago by Christopher Latham Sholes. The *Quarterly* features poetry, fiction, articles, columns, and art by local writers and artists. Come celebrate the release of our winter issue, which has a theme of *hygge*, the Dutch word for finding coziness and comfort in small things. Our hygge-themed party will feature readings from the zine, refreshments, and entertainment. More details will be posted at: [qwertyfest.com](http://qwertyfest.com)

## WORKSHOPS

*A limited number of scholarships are available for each of our workshops. Writers who are low-income and/or of marginalized identities are particularly encouraged to apply.*

**Tues. Oct. 3, 10, and 17 | 6–7:30 pm CDT**

(\$100 | \$90 for members)

**\*IN PERSON\*** at Woodland Pattern

***A Line, a Poem, and a Joke Walked into a Bar: Comedy Writing and Performance***, a workshop with **MAURICIO KILWEIN GUEVARA**

Jerry Seinfeld said that poems and jokes are very similar, except that poems aren't funny. In this supportive workshop, we're going to see what we think about his claim. During

our first session, we'll discuss a number of characteristics that people associate with comedy. In particular, we'll look at director Steve Kaplan's useful way to think about comic tendencies in individual characters, which he describes as "straight line/wavy line." We'll also sample several decidedly comic poems to inspire us. In week two, you'll come to the workshop with a spanking-new comic poem of your own making. You'll read/perform it for the group. We'll also sample a number of very different stand-up comedians and styles. Some tell jokes; others weave wild story tapestries. In the final session, feel free to bring a little snack or beverage to share. You'll each perform a very, very short stand-up set or a comic story/monologue. The house will be supportive and full of love. (Warning: Any hecklers will be consigned to live out the rest of their days as a character in a Nicholas Sparks novel.)

**MAURICIO KILWEIN**

**GUEVARA** was born in Boyacá, Colombia, and raised in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. He has published four collections of poetry, and a book of translations was published in Spain. His magical realist comedy, *The Last Bridge/El último puente*, received a fully staged reading Off-Broadway. He taught fiction writing, poetry, and comedy for many years in the creative writing program at UW–Milwaukee.



## CONCERTS

**Sun. Oct. 8 | 7 pm CDT** (\$15 General | \$13 Members)

**\*HYBRID\*** In person at Woodland Pattern and livestreaming via Crowdcast



**Alternating Currents Live** presents **KATIE ERNST** for a solo set of double bass and voice.

**KATIE ERNST** is described by the *Chicago Tribune* as "a versatile young bassist who plays in far-flung bands and sings with uncommon delicacy

and authenticity.” Her solo set for double bass and voice combines her own songwriting and improvisations and weaves them together with distinctive reimaginings of folk, jazz, and contemporary songs. Katie’s current projects also include freewheeling jazz group Twin Talk (Dustin Laurenzi, Andrew Green), experimental folk jazz duo Wayfaring (James Falzone), and ‘Little Words,’ a song cycle of Dorothy Parker poetry for jazz quartet.

**Thurs. Oct. 19 | 7 PM CDT** (\$10)

**\*HYBRID\*** In person at Woodland Pattern and livestreaming via Crowdcast

**Formations Series for New and Improvised Music**, artists TBA



**Sun. Nov. 5 | 7 pm CDT** (\$15 General | \$13 Members)

**\*HYBRID\*** In person at Woodland Pattern and livestreaming via Crowdcast

**Alternating Currents Live** presents  
**CANCEL RESCUE MISSION [THE BRIDGE #2.6]**

Featuring

**COREY WILKES**—trumpet, electronics

**QUENTIN BIARDEAU**—tenor sax, synths

**JUSTIN DILLARD**—keys, vocals

**ETIENNE ZIEMNIAK**—drums

Jazz at its peril, with its balancing acts and magic tricks, between the expanses that are crisscrossed and into the depths that are explored. Music for surveyors and speleologists, and no doubt, music for vulcanologists. Biardeau, Ziemniak, Wilkes, and Dillard have attended the best schools: from the ones they have given themselves, where everything is allowed, to artist collectives that have taken over what used to be called “a scene”: the TriCollectif in Orleans, the CapsulCollectif in Tours, and the AACM

in Chicago. They can be very respectful—they know their history, from Guillaume de Machaut to Ornette Coleman, and from nu soul to Malagasy Tsapiky—and they can be very irreverent, taking malicious pleasures. Expect a few outbreaks!

**Thurs. Nov. 16 | 7 PM CDT** (\$10)

**\*HYBRID\*** In person at Woodland Pattern and livestreaming via Crowdcast

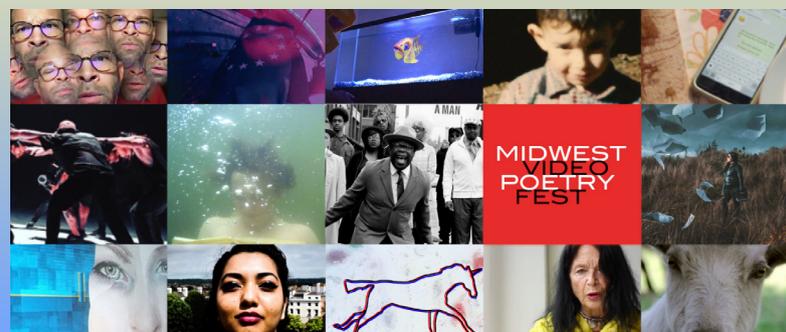
**Formations Series for New and Improvised Music**, artists TBA

**Thurs. Dec. 21 | 7 PM CDT** (\$10)

**\*HYBRID\*** In person at Woodland Pattern and livestreaming via Crowdcast

**Formations Series for New and Improvised Music**, artists TBA

## SCREENING



**Sat. & Sun., Oct. 14 & 15 | 7 pm CDT**

(\$Give What You Can)

**\*IN PERSON\*** at Woodland Pattern

Join us for the 4th annual **Midwest Video Poetry Fest**, which will feature two screenings of new poetry videos from around the world. These films include original poems, experimental works, animation, translations, and more. Each evening’s screening will be unique and will include a selection of works from the open call alongside works by artists especially invited by the Curatorial Team.

We’re excited to present a Milwaukee screening of the Fest in partnership with the **ARTS + LITERATURE LABORATORY**, who launched the **MIDWEST VIDEO POETRY FEST** in 2020 as an expansion of the collaborative and experimental work we seek to support in Wisconsin

# OCTOBER 2023

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
<b>1</b> Poetry Marathon Reg. Opens	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> Mauricio Kilwein Guevara Workshop	<b>4</b> Ross Gay Readshop Ping Pong	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>8</b> Alternating Currents Live	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> Mauricio Kilwein Guevara Workshop	<b>11</b> PU 20: Poetry Unplugged Showcase	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b> Midwest Video Poetry Fest
<b>15</b> Midwest Video Poetry Fest	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> Mauricio Kilwein Guevara Workshop	<b>18</b> Readshop Ping Pong Book Club	<b>19</b> Formations	<b>20</b> Abel Blint Mitchell	<b>21</b> Youth Workshop
<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> <i>The Color Purple</i> Book Group	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b> Quan Barry	<b>27</b> resound return	<b>28</b>
<b>29</b> Reception & Artist Talk: Lee	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>				

# NOVEMBER

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			<b>1</b> Readshop Ping Pong Book Club	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> Feed Your Soul Fundraiser	<b>4</b> Celebrating Jenny Janzer
<b>5</b> Alternating Currents Live	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> Fishman Meier	<b>11</b>
<b>12</b> Youth Workshop	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> Readshop Ping Pong Book Club	<b>16</b> Formations	<b>17</b> resound return	<b>18</b> Imani Elizabeth Jackson
<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> Poetry Marathon Reg. Deadline	<b>21</b> <i>The Color Purple</i> Book Group	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b> Readshop Ping Pong Book Club	<b>30</b>		

# DECEMBER

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					<b>1</b> Poetry Marathon Materials Deadline	<b>2</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> RS Deeren	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> <i>The Color Purple</i> Book Group	<b>13</b> Readshop Ping Pong Book Club	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> <i>QWERTY Quarterly</i>	<b>16</b>
<b>17</b> Closing: <i>Here I Am, Standing</i>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b> Formations	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>24</b> closed	<b>25</b> closed	<b>26</b> closed	<b>27</b> closed	<b>28</b> closed	<b>29</b> closed	<b>30</b> closed
<b>31</b> closed						

## QUAN BARRY

### 90° And It's Still Only Spring

I paint my nails mint in an attempt to cool myself.  
 High winds and the Strawberry moon paddle is canceled.  
 At the all-day retreat at Deer Park, the lama tells us we must wish that all sentient beings have the tools to achieve happiness. Bub, look around, I silently think.  
 We are of a nature to burn. We have not gone beyond burning.  
 Behind me, the kid with the prayer wheel like a god with a world.

and beyond. The video poetry festival, which invites new audiences to discover (or rediscover) poetry, is the first of its kind in Wisconsin. In the first three years, it has attracted over 2000 submissions from over 91 countries.

# EXHIBITION & ARTIST TALK

**Sun. Oct. 29 | Reception 1–5 PM**

**Artist Talk at 2 PM** (Open to the public)

**\*IN PERSON\*** at Woodland Pattern

**Reception and Artist Talk**, featuring **HAERIM LEE**

This event celebrates Haerim Lee's exhibition *Here I Am, Standing*, which investigates the excavation of site-specific memories surrounding the whitewashed mural *All of Mankind* (1972), painted by community muralist Bill Walker. During the talk, Lee will provide perspective on the future trajectory of her art practice. She will also discuss her personal experiences related to the mural and working as a community muralist, and how various encounters she and others have had with the mural have informed their artistic practices in creating inclusive spaces. She will also share the future direction of her practice related to the idea of mark-making in urban space.

***Here I Am, Standing*, new work by HAERIM LEE**

**October 3–December 17, 2023**

*Here I Am, Standing* in front of the Strangers Home Missionary Baptist Church in Chicago's Cabrini Green, remembering the stories surrounding Bill Walker's mural *All of Mankind* (1972) that used to be here. On December 10th, 2015, the new owner whitewashed the mural while a small group was in the midst of raising funds to preserve it. I have been conducting field trips here since 2017, and while doing so, I discovered someone scraped the whitewashed mural to see the imagery underneath. I also tried to see underneath but only found layers of paint skin peeling from the wall. This disappeared image marks an important oral history, a collective memory. It is a history that is polyvocal—in a way, it is authentic, genuine, and a shared story. Through my studio practice, I question how to preserve oral histories and how to create inclusive spaces through examining counter-narratives. I question the idea of visibility and invisibility—who gets honored and remembered in history and who gets forgotten.

**HAERIM LEE'S** art stimulates dialogue with communities through painting, public murals, ceramics, artist books, and photography. Her practice is rooted in ethnographical research, and critiques institutionalized demarcations of power. Originally from S. Korea, a monoethnic country, she is interested in multi-racial dynamics, particularly in the South Side of Chicago where she is currently living—a neighborhood with diverse ethnicities from different backgrounds and cultural heritages. Living in this particular environment, as opposed to within a homogenous culture, helps her to learn the stories of her neighbors and to work alongside them to create localized learning spaces born from a shared vision.

Lee graduated from the School of the Art Institute of Chicago (SAIC) with an MFA in Painting and Drawing and an MA in Visual and Critical Studies, and she was an instructor in Arts and Street Culture at SAIC. She has had solo shows at Parlour and Ramp (2021), Gallery Noone (2017), and Kasia Kay Art Project (2012) in Chicago, and Youngeun Museum of Contemporary Art (2012) in S. Korea. She has participated in group shows including *Autoethnography* (2021) at Heaven Gallery Chicago, *Artists Run Chicago 2.0* (2020) at the Hyde Park Art Center, *Young Eunji Keeps Memories: Consistently* (2020) at Youngun Museum of Contemporary Art in S. Korea, *Korean Eye: 2020* (2019), *Out of Context* (2019) at Chicago Artist Coalition, *The Art of Being Dangerous* (2018) at the Hyde Park Art Center, and *The Body* (2010) as a part of the Chicago Humanities Festival.

## COMMUNITY

*For more details or to join a community group, please contact Programming Director Mike Wendt ([michaelw@woodlandpattern.org](mailto:michaelw@woodlandpattern.org)). All community sessions are free and open to the public.*

**Fri. Oct. 27 and Nov. 17 | 7 pm CDT**

(\$Give What You Can)

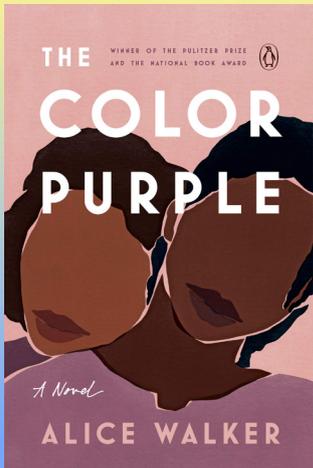
**\*IN PERSON\*** at Woodland Pattern

**Open Mic: resound return**

Join us for our recently inaugurated open mic series, **resound return!** A place to incubate new work and dust off old poems. Hosted the last Friday of every month. Sign-up upon arrival.

**Tues. Oct. 24, Nov. 21, Dec. 12, Jan. 16, and Feb. 13 | 6–7 pm CDT/CST** (Open to the public)  
**\*IN PERSON\*** at Woodland Pattern

**Everything Wants to Be Loved: *The Color Purple* Book Group and Writing Workshop**



Join us as we prepare for the December 2023 release of *The Color Purple* movie! In partnership with *Genre: Urban Arts'* Nakeysha Roberts Washington, we are hosting a book group and writing workshop centered on the masterpiece by Alice Walker. This group will meet once a month beginning on October 24th and ending in February. If you love *The Color Purple* like

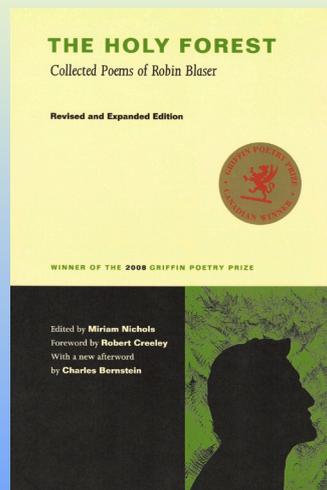
we do, only saw the movie, or haven't read it at all and want to finally know this story of endurance and growth, please contact us to register.

**Wed. Oct. 4 & 18; Nov. 1, 15, & 29; Dec. 13**  
**6–7:15 pm CDT/CST** (Open to the public)  
**\*ONLINE\*** on Zoom

**Reading Group: Readshops**

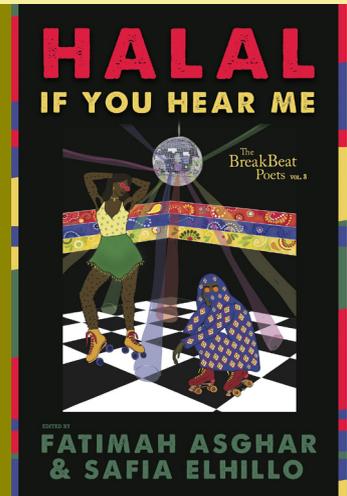
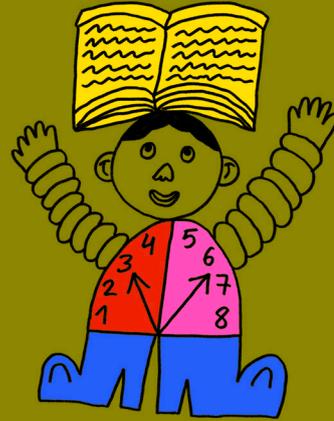
Led by poet and Woodland Pattern co-founder **KARL GARTUNG**, Readshops are community sessions dedicated to exploring poetry texts from the 20th century that are often labeled “difficult.” Participants take turns reading the poetry aloud, discussing it as questions arise—on the spot, as deeply as needed. No preparation is needed; the only prerequisite is curiosity.

The group is reading from Robin Blaser's *The Holy Forest*, which, spanning five decades, is Blaser's highly acclaimed lifelong serial poem. “Blaser plays his poems like an instrument. The glorious phrases that come forth ring with the memory of fairy tale, myth, gospel, but hang hard on to the modern



world in his variety of measure and stress. Blaser is moving us all forward to a less certain result through a forest that has few resting places where the sun stays for longer than a minute.” —Fanny Howe

**Ping Pong Book Club**



**Wed. Oct. 4 & 18; Nov. 1, 15, & 29; Dec. 13**  
**6–7 pm CDT/CST** (Open to AAPI)  
**\*IN PERSON\*** at Woodland Pattern

**Reading Group: Ping Pong Book Club**

The **PING PONG BOOK CLUB** invites AAPI people to read together in an environment of solace and nourishment—to connect and share in conversation through literature, especially during times of distress. Our goal is to exchange thoughts, experiences, and feelings among one another, a back-and-forth, like table tennis, or simply *ping pong*. The reading material will focus on fiction and nonfiction literature specifically by female, BIPOC, and LGBTQIA+ writers, with a focus on art and artists writings. The Ping Pong Book Club is led by artist **NOMKA ENKHEE**, who lives and works in Milwaukee. The group is currently reading *Halal If You Hear Me*, edited by Fatimah Asghar and Safia Elhillo.

The Ping Pong Book Club recognizes the term AAPI as a huge umbrella that covers many global diasporic communities including different languages, religions, and cultures. We understand this term designed to encompass such a vast and multifaceted group has its limitations and want to create a community that is diverse and truly representative. Therefore we welcome everyone whose identities are tied in location to South Asia, Southeast Asia, Central Asia, West Asia, the Pacific Islands, and East Asia.

# OPPORTUNITIES

## MILWAUKEE EMERGING POET FELLOWSHIPS

Woodland Pattern is accepting applications for the second year of its Milwaukee Emerging Poet Fellowship program.

We are excited to offer awards in two categories this year.

Each will run from November 2023 through June 2024. The application deadline for both categories will be **October 15, 2023**. Apply or learn more by visiting [woodlandpattern.org/opportunities](http://woodlandpattern.org/opportunities)

**ELIGIBILITY:** Open to Milwaukee poets between the ages of 20 and 35, who are not currently enrolled in an MFA or PhD program.

**PRACTICE FELLOWSHIP:** The Practice Fellowship category seeks to support an emerging poet in their writing practice through an 8-month long mentorship with an established poet. Mentor and fellow will meet monthly one-on-one to workshop writing, discuss poetry and poetics, and explore publication opportunities. Meetings will take place in person and virtually. During the fellowship period, the recipient will also receive a \$500 book allowance, may attend any Woodland Pattern workshop free of cost, and will be invited to give a culminating reading. Poets with existing manuscript projects are particularly encouraged to apply in this category. This year's mentoring poet will be Ae Hee Lee.

**PROJECT FELLOWSHIP:** The Project Fellowship category seeks to support an emerging poet in need of financial and administrative support for an ambitious literary project such as a reading series, small press, literary journal, or interdisciplinary exhibition. Both new and existing projects are eligible for consideration. The recipient will receive ongoing support from our staff, along with a \$1,500 project budget. Poets with a track record in DIY literary publishing and programming are particularly encouraged to apply in this category.

Drawing inspiration from the Mary L. Nohl Fund Emerging Artist Fellowship and the Poetry Project's Emerge Surface Be program, Woodland Pattern established the **MILWAUKEE EMERGING POET FELLOWSHIP** in 2022 to bring greater visibility and much-needed early support to Milwaukee poets through mentorships, access to opportunities that encourage a poet's practice and

development, and investment in literary projects for which younger poets frequently lack resources. The Milwaukee Emerging Poet Fellowship program also seeks to make available alternative avenues of support for emerging poets outside traditional academic-track poetry programs and environments.

## 2024–25 MILWAUKEE YOUTH POET LAUREATE COMPETITION

The search for Milwaukee's next Youth Poet Laureate will begin on December 1, 2023, with the opening of submissions!

**ELIGIBILITY:** Applicants must be a Milwaukee County resident or enrolled in a Milwaukee County High School, in either their sophomore or junior year.

**APPLICATION PROCESS:** Submit 5 poems + a CV outlining extracurricular activities, volunteer work, and/or academic honors by April 30, 2024. Finalists will be selected to compete at a juried event in May.

**THE MILWAUKEE YOUTH POET LAUREATE (MYPL) program** was established in 2022 to identify and mentor powerful youth poets with a history of civic and community engagement. The program is equally invested in supporting Milwaukee students and educators through free workshops and curricula that combine critical thinking and creative writing. This program is made possible in part with support from the Amazon Literary Partnership, the Milwaukee Public Library, and the MPS Foundation for the Arts & Humanities. Learn more by visiting [woodlandpattern.org/youthpoetlaureate](http://woodlandpattern.org/youthpoetlaureate)

# IMANI ELIZABETH JACKSON

excerpt from *Flag*, forthcoming from Futurepoem

My banner frays itself, though it is new to my life, from the inside and not an edge, and thus it forms internal edges, which I hope to stitch together once more, with appropriate thread. I write to my friend, and sometimes she does not reply, though I know she's seen.

Insofar as I listen to everything, and fail, often, at concise description and response, I understand. When my friend showed me an image, I was able to see that a landscape can be a portrait, and every portrait's instance a line cast out. The sea, in their image, rolled velvet. It was not a wave. An image of a wave supposes its motion, but I now saw the stillness of a crease.

Love expresses tide

Linked like chain to change

Leaving sense to favor sense

To move between a line

As favor to the stream

As poison leaves

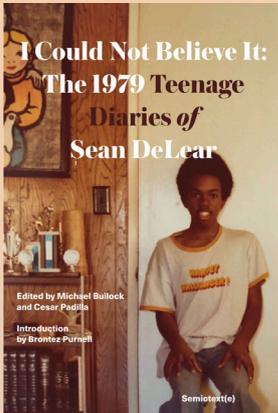
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# STAFF

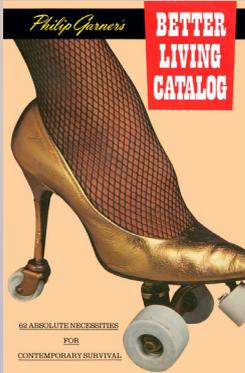
# RECOMMENDATIONS



***I Could Not Believe It: The 1979 Teenage Diaries of Sean DeLear* edited by Michael Bullock and Cesar Padilla, with an introduction by Brontez Purnell (Semiotext(e), 2023)**—

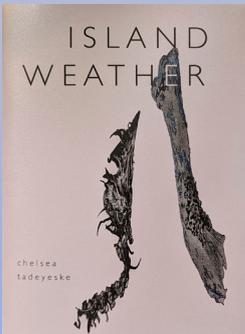
When Sean DeLear died prematurely in Vienna in 2017, his friends discovered—among other treasures—an extensive diary he kept at the age of fourteen. DeLear would go on to become the frontman for the Los Angeles punk/powerpop band Glue. He was a punk musician, visual artist, intercontinental scenester, video vixen, party host, marijuana farmer, and sometime-collaborator with artists such as Kembra Pfahler and Vaginal Davis.

DeLear’s forgotten diaries capture a moment in Los Angeles underground and queer history when, as his friend the writer Cesar Padilla notes, “It wasn’t cool at all to be trans, gay, queer or whatever. Those words weren’t even in the vocabulary.” *I Could Not Believe It*, Padilla continues, “is a raw fearless innocent gay Black kid’s journey coming out into life at an incredible pre-AIDS period. It’s not cognizant of being literature. It’s as naïve and forthcoming as it gets. It wasn’t written with the desire to be published so Sean didn’t hold back. Sean’s goal was to be true to himself.” [Molly]



***Better Living Catalog* by Pippa Garner (Primary Information, 2023)**—Pippa Garner’s *Better Living Catalog*, originally published in 1982, takes the form of a mail order catalog featuring clever and whimsical inventions that parody consumer goods while simultaneously critiquing America’s obsession with ingenuity, efficiency, leisure, and comfort. These works, which were made as prototypes and photographed for the publication, take the form of improbable

accessories, clothing, footwear, home appliances, and office gadgets. The artist asserts that all of the products in the book are “absolute necessities for contemporary survival.” [Marla]

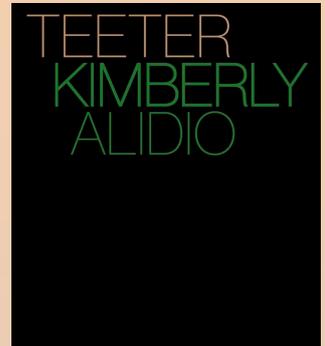


***Island Weather* by Chelsea Tadeyeske (Pitymilk Press, 2023)**—*Island Weather*, an exercise in mystic, moody ritual, materialized in its entirety throughout April 2022 during Tadeyeske’s time at Gamli Skóli’s artist residency on Iceland’s Hrísey Island. Tadeyeske examines the body cut open by rock, illuminated by sunshine and soaked in ocean, in an attempt to trace the impressions and reverberations of place in memory, viscera, and the collective

experience of loneliness. This book features 26 poems over 26 days illustrated by Czech artist Ana Tesarova. [Antonio]

***Teeter* by Kimberly Alidio (Nightboat Books, 2023)**—

Comprised of three long poems, *Teeter* knows experimental forms can be as intimate as mothering, and knows we can understand languages we do not speak. From “Hearing”’s intensities of attention, to “Ambient Mom”’s familial Filipino immigrant soundscapes, to “Histories”’s careful scrutiny of the socially-sanctioned narratives and trajectories to which we are meant to aspire, *Teeter*’s lessons in listening reverberate across career retrospectives and heritage languages, colonial histories and domestic intimacies, reattuning us to what we’ve neglected to notice in our efforts to create a life we can understand. [Mike]



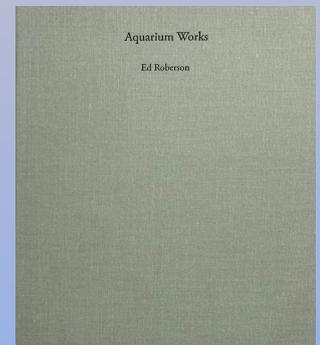
***Discipline Park* by Toby Altman (Wendy’s Subway, 2023)**—

*Discipline Park* documents the demolition of Prentice Women’s Hospital in Chicago, a landmark of architectural brutalism designed by Bertrand Goldberg in the 1970s. The hospital had an iconic twin in Marina City, the “Wilco Towers” of enduring *Yankee Hotel Foxtrot*, *The Bob Newhart Show*, and Sly and the Family Stone’s “There’s a Riot Goin’ On” fame. The poet Toby Altman was born in Prentice Women’s Hospital, and years later was employed by Northwestern University when they tore it down. His personal proximity to the site remains bound up with the cruel contradictions in which we draw sustenance from the very institutions that poison and erase our bodies, habitats, and histories. An imaginative and detailed mix of site visits, diaristic foray, and architectural photography, *Discipline Park* reinvents utopian vistas through an extended poetic engagement with Goldberg’s architectural practices. [Chuck]



***Aquarium Works* by Ed Roberson (Nion Editions, 2022)**—

For several years in the late 1960s, the great ecopoet and jack-of-all-trades Ed Roberson found himself in a job working with exotic underwater animals. Employed as a diver and tankman at the Pittsburgh AquaZoo, Roberson fed, cared for, and in some cases trained the creatures described in this collection. Through this lens, Roberson focuses on the destructive dominance of racial whiteness that has long and unnaturally lorded over our shared world and wreaked ruination on it. He provides an unwhite (and unwhiting) take on things as they are, and on language as it reaches out to them. [Jenny]



# ABOUT WOODLAND PATTERN

## THE BOOK CENTER

In addition to visiting us in person, please also visit our online book center at [www.woodlandpatternbookcenter.com](http://www.woodlandpatternbookcenter.com) to browse New Arrivals, Staff Picks, a selection of Rare and Limited Edition items, and more from our catalog. We are also always happy to field special orders. If a small-press title beckons you, please be in touch! Stop by, give us a call, or check in with us at [info@woodlandpattern.org](mailto:info@woodlandpattern.org) to place a special order. Gift certificates are also available. Thank you for your ongoing support!

## OUR MISSION

Woodland Pattern Book Center is dedicated to the discovery, cultivation, and presentation of poetry, independent literature, and the arts. Our goals are to promote a lifetime practice of reading and writing; to serve as a forum and resource center for poets and other artists in our region; to increase the audience for poetry through programs that encourage exchange across the visual, performing, and literary arts; and to act as a bridge between local and national communities of poets and other artists.

## CONTACT US:

(414) 263-5001

[www.woodlandpattern.org](http://www.woodlandpattern.org)

[@woodlandpattern](https://www.instagram.com/woodlandpattern)



## CENTER HOURS:

Tue.–Sun. 12–7 pm

Please consult our website for updates.

**Woodland Pattern is made possible through support from the following foundations and entities:** Academy of American Poets (with funds from the Mellon Foundation), Amazon Literary Partnership, Bader Philanthropies, Brico Fund, Forest County Potawatomi Foundation, Gardner Foundation, Greater Milwaukee Foundation, Greystone Foundation, Herzfeld Foundation, Camille A. Lonstorf Trust, Meyer & Norma Ragir Foundation, Lucy & Jack Rosenberg Fund, Karen & Bob Shapiro Family Fund, Christine A. Symchych & James P. McNulty Charitable Fund, Milwaukee Arts Board, Milwaukee County CAMPAC, Milwaukee City Community Development Block Grant, MPS Partnership for the Arts & Humanities, National Endowment for the Arts, Ruth Foundation for the Arts, Wisconsin Arts Board, Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction, and gifts from many generous donors. **THANK YOU!**



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