

BENNINGTON COLLEGE PRESENTS

WRITERS READING

(BENNINGTON WRITING SEMINARS FACULTY AND GUESTS READING SERIES)

June 18–26, 2015

AMY HEMPEL
PETER TRACHTENBERG

Thursday, June 18
7:00 pm

Amy Hempel is the author of *Reasons to Live*, *At the Gates of the Animal Kingdom*, *Tumble Home*, and *The Dog of the Marriage*, and is co-editor of *Unleashed*. Her *Collected Stories* won the Ambassador Book Award for best fiction. Hempel is also the recipient of awards from the Guggenheim Foundation, the United States Artists Foundation, and the Academy of Arts and Letters; she has received a REA Award for the Short Story and a PEN/Malamud Award for Excellence in the Short Story.

Peter Trachtenberg is the author of 7 *Tattoos*, *The Book of Calamities*, and *Another Insane Devotion*, a 2012 *New York Times* Editors' Choice. His essays, journalism, and short fiction have appeared in *The New Yorker*, *Harper's*, *A Public Space*, *Bidoun*, and *The New York Times's* travel magazine, and he has work forthcoming in *The Virginia Quarterly Review* and *Story Quarterly*. His honors include the Whiting Award, the Nelson Algren Award for Short Fiction, a Guggenheim Fellowship, and a residency at the Rockefeller Foundation's Bellagio Center. He is an Associate Professor in the Writing Program of the University of Pittsburgh.

SUSAN CHEEVER
ASKOLD MELNYCZUK

Friday, June 19
7:00 pm

Susan Cheever's next book, *Drinking in America*, a look at American history seen through the lens of alcoholism, will be published in October 2015. Her most recent biography, *E.E. Cummings: A Poet's Life*, was published in February 2014. Her other books include *Louisa May Alcott: A Personal Biography*; *American Bloomsbury: Louisa May Alcott, Ralph Waldo Emerson, Margaret Fuller, Nathaniel Hawthorne, and Henry David Thoreau: Their Lives, Their Loves, Their Work*; *Desire: Where Sex Meets Addiction*; and *My Name is Bill: Bill Wilson, His Life and the Creation of Alcoholics Anonymous*. She has also published five novels, including *Looking for Work*, *A Handsome Man*, and *Doctors and Women*. She is a Guggenheim Fellow.

Askold Melnyczuk has received a Lila Wallace Reader's Digest Grant in Fiction, as well as the McGinnis Prize in Fiction. His first novel was a *New York Times* Notable Book, his second was a *Los Angeles Times* Best Books of the Year selection, and his most recent was chosen by the American Libraries Association's *Booklist* as an Editor's Choice. He has received the Magid Prize from PEN for his work as founding editor of *Agni*, and in 2011 he was honored by AWP with the George Garret Award. His recent work has appeared in *Glimmer Train*, *The Antioch Review*, *The Massachusetts Review*, and *The Denver Quarterly*. A chapter from his new novel, *Excerpts from Smedley's Secret Guide to World Literature, Part I*, by Jonathan Levy Wainwright the IV, Age 15, has been published as a chapbook by Anomolous Press, and he has new work out or forthcoming in *The Boston Globe*, *The Los Angeles Review of Books*, *The Antioch Review*, and *The Gettysburg Review*.

APRIL BERNARD
LYNNE SHARON
SCHWARTZ

Saturday, June 20
7:00 pm

April Bernard is a poet, novelist, and essayist. *Brawl & Jag*, her fifth collection of poems, will be published next year by W.W. Norton; *Miss Fuller*, a novel, was published by Steerforth Press in 2012. Her previous books of poems are *Romanticism*, *Swan Electric*, *Psalms*, and *Blackbird Bye Bye*. Bernard is a regular contributor to *The New York Review of Books* and other journals. She has received a Guggenheim Fellowship in poetry and the Stover Memorial Prize. She is a Professor of English and the Director of Creative Writing at Skidmore College.

Lynne Sharon Schwartz is the author of 23 books, including novels, short story collections, nonfiction, poetry, and translations. Her most recent publication is a collection of essays, *This Is Where We Came In*. Her first novel, *Rough Strife*, was nominated for a National Book Award and the PEN/Hemingway First Novel Award. Her latest story collection is *Referred Pain*. She is also the author of the memoirs *Not Now*, *Voyager*, and *Ruined by Reading*, the essay collection, *Face to Face*, and two poetry collections. Schwartz has received grants from the Guggenheim Foundation, the NEA, and the New York State Foundation for the Arts.

KEVIN YOUNG

Sunday, June 21
7:00 pm

Kevin Young is the author of ten books of poetry and prose, most recently *Book of Hours*, a finalist for the Kingsley Tufts Poetry Award. Young's *The Grey Album: On the Blackness of Blackness* won the Graywolf Nonfiction Prize, was a *New York Times* Notable Book for 2012 and a finalist for the 2013 National Book Critics Circle Award for criticism, and won the PEN Open Award. He is the Charles Howard Candler Professor of Creative Writing & English and the curator of Literary Collections & the Raymond Danowski Poetry Library at Emory University. In the spring of 2015 he served as the Holmes Visiting Poet at Princeton University.

RIVKA GALCHEN

Wednesday, June 24
7:00 pm

Rivka Galchen is a regular contributor of fiction and essays to *Harper's Magazine*, *The New Yorker*, and *The New York Times*. She is an award-winning author of the novel *Atmospheric Disturbances* (FSG) and the short story collection *American Innovations* (FSG). She was named one of "20 Writers under 40" by *The New Yorker*.

DINAH LENNEY
ED OCHESTER

Thursday, June 25
7:30 pm (note later start time)

Dinah Lenney is the author of *The Object Parade* and *Bigger than Life: A Murder, a Memoir*, and she co-authored *Acting for Young Actors*. Her essays and reviews have appeared in various journals and anthologies, including *The New York Times*, the *Los Angeles Times*, *AGNI*, *Creative Nonfiction*, *Ploughshares*, the *Harvard Review*, and *The Rumpus*, and she serves as senior editor of nonfiction for the *Los Angeles Review of Books*. *Brief Encounters: A Collection of Contemporary Nonfiction*, which she co-edited with Judith Kitchen, will be published next fall.

Ed Ochester's new book of poetry is *Sugar Run Road* (Autumn House Press). His others include *Unreconstructed: Poems Selected & New*, *The Republic of Lies*, a chapbook, *The Land of Cockaigne*, *Snow White Horses: Selected Poems 1973-1988*, *Cooking in Key West*, and *Changing the Name to Ochester*. Ochester's awards include fellowships in poetry from the NEA and the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts, and a George Garrett Award from the Association of Writers and Writing Programs.

SARAH MANGUSO

Friday, June 26
7:00 pm (note change of venue to Usdan Gallery)

Sarah Manguso is the author, most recently, of *Ongoingness: The End of a Diary*. Her five other books include *The Guardians*, named one of the top ten books of the year by *Salon*, and *The Two Kinds of Decay*, named an Editors' Choice by the *New York Times Book Review* and a Best Book of the Year by the *San Francisco Chronicle* and several other outlets. She is the recipient of a Guggenheim Fellowship and the Rome Prize, and her books have been translated into five languages. Her essays have appeared in *Harper's*, *The New York Review of Books*, and *The New York Times Magazine*, and her poems have won a Pushcart Prize and appeared in four editions of *Best American Poetry*. Born and raised near Boston, she now lives in Los Angeles.

All readings but one will be held in Deane Carriage Barn at Bennington College
The June 26 reading will be held in Usdan Gallery

For more information, please contact 802-440-4452 or writing@bennington.edu

Location on campus and event dates and times are subject to change • These events are FREE and open to the public • www.bennington.edu