

5TH ANNIVERSARY  
**BAY AREA**  
**BOOK**  
**FESTIVAL**

**MAY 4 + 5, 2019**  
**DOWNTOWN BERKELEY**  
**225 AUTHORS • 100 SESSIONS**  
**FREE OUTDOOR FAIR**



**FOR TICKETS + INFO:**  
**BAYBOOKFEST.ORG**

## From Mind to Shelf: Writing and Publishing Programming

Saturday, May 4

10:00 - 11:15

### **Writing The Hard Stuff (Shattuck Plaza Hotel, Boiler Room)**

Susan Burrowes, Vanya Erickson, Francine Falk-Allen, moderated by Brooke Warner

Tapping a vein is tough work, especially when writing a book means confronting the demons of one's past. These three recently published She Writes Press authors share the myriad challenges of writing memoir about pain and share tips on how to practice self-care as they revisit the hardest moments. Covering topics from disability and abuse to religious fanaticism, they open up about transforming their trauma into expertly crafted and compelling stories.

12:45 - 2:00

### **Someone Like Me: Seeing Ourselves in the Books We Read (Florence Schwimmley Little Theater)**

Cindy Pon and Lee Wind

When you open a book, do you see yourself in its pages? Do the characters look or think like you? Cindy Pon fought hard to publish one of the first Young Adult fantasy novels with an Asian protagonist on the U.S. market. Lee Wind's queer

history book was canceled by the publisher for being too controversial, but he found a way to publish it anyway. The two dig into why kids (and adults) need diverse characters and how they fight against the bias and blindspots of the publishing world.

1:30 - 2:45

### **A Celebration of the Paris Review (Freight & Salvage)**

R.O. Kwon, Kiese Laymon, Emily Nemens, moderated by Christian Kiefer

The Paris Review is one of the most esteemed and beloved literary magazines in the world. Established in 1953 in Paris, moving to New York in 1973, it became famed for its "Writer at Work" interviews, which have been anthologized, most recently into two "Women at Work" volumes. Known for promoting new talent alongside established voices, The Paris Review publishes fiction, nonfiction, poetry, graphic literature, interviews, and more in its bound quarterly issues and online Paris Review Daily. We're joined by its new editor, Emily Nemens, in a roundtable led by Christian Kiefer (the magazine's West Coast editor) along with contributors R.O. Kwon, Kiese Laymon, and others. Co-presented with The Paris Review.

3:15 - 4:30

### **Writer to Writer: Linn Ullmann and Geir Gulliksen (The Magnes Museum)**

Geir Gulliksen and Linn Ullmann, moderated by John Freeman

In our Writer to Writer series, two authors who are fans of each other's work come together for conversation. Good friends, Linn Ullmann and Geir Gulliksen are among Norway's leading novelists. Most recent by Ullmann is "Unquiet," a novel inspired by memories of her father. Gulliksen's latest is "The Story of a Marriage," a searing novel about a man who attempts to empathetically understand his wife's infidelity. Gulliksen is Ullmann's editor (along with Karl Ove Knausgaard's) at Forlaget Oktober. We've asked John Freeman, one of today's preeminent critics who knows them both, to probe this literary friendship. With the support of the Norway House Foundation, NORLA - Norwegian Literature Abroad.

5:00 - 6:15

### **100% Indie (Shattuck Plaza Hotel, Shattuck Ballroom)**

April Eberhardt, J.K. Fowler, Joel Friedlander, Mg Roberts, moderated by Brooke Warner

If your dream is to see yourself in print, there is more than one way to get there. Learn why many authors are choosing the indie route. Experts from all arenas of the industry—agenting, book design, editing, and authorship—speak to the entire process of independent publishing from cover to cover.

Sunday, May 5

10:00 - 11:15

**Courage in Publishing in an Age of Political Polarization (Shattuck Plaza Hotel, Shattuck Ballroom)**

Kwame Anthony Appiah, Jane Ciabattari, John Freeman, Carlos Lozada, Michael Naumann, Emily Nemens, moderated by Cherilyn Parsons

This roundtable brings together some of the leading lights in publishing to discuss the industry and the state of literature. Kwame Anthony Appiah is the weekly Ethicist columnist for The New York Times and author of "The Lies That Bind: Rethinking Identity." Jane Ciabattari is former president of the National Book Critics Circle and books columnist for BBC Culture and Literary Hub. John Freeman is a poet, author, former editor of Granta, and editor of Freeman's literary journal. Carlos Lozada is the nonfiction book critic for The Washington Post and a 2018 Pulitzer Prize finalist in criticism. Michael Naumann has been the German secretary of culture, publisher of Die Zeit, and publisher at Rowohlt Verlag; at Henry Holt & Company in the 1990s he published Rushdie's "The Satanic Verses." Emily Nemens is a writer and editor of The Paris Review. Moderator Cherilyn Parsons is the founder and director of the Bay Area Book Festival. With support from the initiative "Wunderbar Together," initiated by the German Federal Foreign Office and the Goethe Institut, and supported by the Federation of German Industries (BDI).

11:45 - 1:00

**Lawrence Ferlinghetti at 100: A Tribute (Veteran's Memorial Building Auditorium)**

Garrett Caples, Barbara Jane Reyes, Maw Shein Win, Julien Poirier, moderated by Emily Nemens

"I am awaiting / perpetually and forever / a renaissance of wonder." The legendary poet, playwright, publisher, and activist Lawrence Ferlinghetti just turned 100! Author of over thirty books, co-founder of City Lights Books and City Lights Publishers, he shaped 20th century literature and continues to influence countless poets and writers today. Join a celebration of Ferlinghetti's centennial with Garrett Caples, poet and former music and arts journalist who interviewed Ferlinghetti for the current issue of The Paris Review, and three City Lights published poets, Julien Poirier, Barbara Jane Reyes and Maw Shein Win, who will read Ferlinghetti's work. Moderated by Emily Nemens, editor of The Paris Review. Co-presented with City Lights and The Paris Review.

1:30 - 2:45

**Literature Will Save Your Life (The Marsh Cabaret)**

Jill Bialosky, Reyna Grande, Niloufar Talebi, moderated by Isheeta Ganguly

Have you ever felt that a treasured book, a poem, or even the act of writing itself saved your life? That it gave voice to your rage, sorrow, and joy, or rescued you from loneliness? Four writers will celebrate the life-saving power of words. Jill Bialosky's memoir "Poetry Will Save Your Life" presents 51 favorite poems paired with personal accounts. Niloufar Talebi's "Self-Portrait in Bloom" has been called a "brutally honest memoir of a life built by words, destroyed by words, rebuilt by words." Reyna Grande's gorgeous memoir "A Place Called Home" recounts her journey as an undocumented

immigrant who found solace in words. The conversation will be moderated by Isheeta Ganguly, playwright and singer who adapts the poetry of Tagore.

3:15 - 4:30

**Literary Bravery: Sleepwalkers, Ghosts, and Radical Storytelling from Three International Luminaries (Brower Center, Goldman Theater)**

Dorothee Elmiger, Laura Lindstedt, Mike McCormack

Seven women meet in a white void immediately after death.... A man, not realizing he's dead, narrates his entire life in a single, riveting sentence.... Voices mingle in a shadowy forest, talking of borders, illegal crossings, and the market value of human beings. Take a liminal literary journey with three writers, who will describe how they created such brave, rule-breaking works of the imagination. Winners of the Finlandia Prize, the Goldsmiths Prize, and the Swiss Literature Award respectively, these international voices are taking the literary world by storm. With the support of FILI - Finnish Literature Exchange; Culture Ireland; the initiative "Wunderbar Together", initiated by the German Federal Foreign Office, the Goethe Institut, and supported by the Federation of German Industries (BDI); Goethe-Institut's translation support program "Books First"; the Consulate General of Switzerland in San Francisco; and Pro Helvetia.

3:15 - 4:30

**San Francisco State University MFA Program Presents: Who's Got The Power? (Brower Center, Tamalpais Room)**

Nona Caspers, May-lee Chai, Michael David Lukas, moderated by Carolina De Robertis

Let's talk about power: who has it, how it flows, and how it shapes the stories we write in overt and hidden ways. What kind of universes do we build for our characters to live in? What decides the agency, authority, and control they claim or lack? Novelists Nona Caspers, May-Lee Chai, and Michael David Lukas of the San Francisco State University MFA program investigate how power shows up in their work and in their own writing practices. Sponsored by the San Francisco State University M.F.A. Program.