

Sunday, April 13

9:30-11:30

Workshop:

Epic Writing Workshop (Poets House)

Maureen Owen, the author of nine poetry books, provides an overview of epic poetry, from traditional to postmodern, with in-class writing and discussion. (No pre-registration required.)

10:00-10:45
(FREE)

Reading:

Poetry and Prayer (Cooper Union Great Hall)

Celebrate the spirituality of the word and meditate on the relationship of poetry to prayer and words to silence. Bring a poem to share. Led by Jackie Johnson. (FREE)

11:00-11:45

Memory Circle (Cooper Union, Great Hall)

Committed to Memory? Revive the lost tradition of memorizing verse by other poets. Spend an hour with Carol Conroy exploring the joys and consolations of learning poems by heart. (FREE)

Paired Reading:

Mark Doty and Lawrence Joseph (Cooper Union, Wollman)

11:30-12:30

Lecture:

Glyn Maxwell on Dante's Inferno (Poets House)

Glyn Maxwell, author of the book-length, Dante-inspired poem *Time's Fool*, discusses *The Inferno*, the first section of Dante Alighieri (1265-1321)'s *Divine Comedy*, an epic journey through hell, purgatory, and paradise.

Noon-12:45

Paired Readings:

John Balaban and Kishwar Naheed (Cooper Union, Wollman)

Reading:

Women on War: International Poems for Peace (CB's 313 Gallery, upstairs)

Daniela Gioseffi will be reading from *Women on War: International Poems for Peace* with Kimiko Hahn, Rochelle Ratner, and Pwu Jean Lee, among others.

Open Mic:

with Ron Kolm of the Unbearables (Cooper Union, Engineering Building, Room 509)

Sign-up sheets will be located on a table outside the classroom.

Noon-1:45

Performance/Lecture:

"Singing the News": Broadside Ballads (Bowery Poetry Club)

Presentation of broadside ballads or "sung newspapers" from Puerto Rico, Mexico, the West Indies, and the Anglo-American tradition featuring Juan Barco, Wrickford Dal Getty, Dianne Dugaw, Indalescio Gonzalez, and Segunda Quimbamba, and others.

Reading:

Exiled in the Word—3,000 Years of Jewish Poetry (CB's 313 Gallery, downstairs)

With Ammiel Alcalay, Charles Bernstein, Barbara Einzig, Pierre Joris, Robert Kelly,

Jackson MacLow, Jerome Rothenberg, Charles Stein, Anne Tardos, Anne Waldman.

12:45-1:45

Lecture:

Donald Hall on Thomas Hardy and the Ballad Tradition (Poet's House)

Poetry and critic Donald Hall explores the influence of ballads on the poetry of Thomas Hardy (1840-1928), whose verse in turn influenced such poets as Robert Frost, W.H. Auden, Dylan Thomas, and Philip Larkin.

1:00-1:45

Paired Reading:

Marilyn Hacker and Vénus Khoury-Ghata(Cooper Union, Wollman)

Performance/Lecture:

Ballads of the Supernatural (CB's 313 Gallery, upstairs)

By Tony Barrand and John Roberts

Open Mic:

with The Welfare Poets (Cooper Union, Engineering Building, Room 509)

Hosted by Hector Rivera. Sign-up sheets will be located on a table outside the classroom.

1:00-5:00
(FREE)

Marathon Reading of the Poetry of June Jordan (Teachers & Writers Collaborative)

With Samiya Bashir, Wesley Brown, Xochiquetzal Candelaria, Cheryl Clarke, Carol Conroy, Morgan Cousins, Alexis DeVeaux, Cornelius Eady, Kathy Engel, Laura Flanders, Bea Gates, Marilyn Hacker, Suheir Hammad, Joelle Hann, Bob Holman, Patricia Spears Jones, Jan Heller Levi, Donna Masini, Walter Mosley, Honor Moore, Grace Paley, Junichi Semitsu, Adrienne Torf, Urban Word NYC, and more! FREE

2:00-2:45

Performance:

Dueling Calypsonians (Bowery Poetry Club)

Improvised song contest by two Calypso singers, Wrickford Dal Getty and Tuna Puna Scanty.

Paired Reading:

Etel Adnan and Daniela Gioseffi (Cooper Union, Wollman)

Performance:

Western Ballads: Juan Barco, Indalescio Gonzalez, and Hal Cannon (CB's 313 Gallery, upstairs)

Mexican *corridos* and cowboy songs from America's west.

Open Mic:

with Veronica Golos of the 14th St. Y (Cooper Union, Engineering Building, Room 509)

Sign-up sheets will be located on a table outside the classroom.

2:00-3:00

Lecture:

Mark Doty on Hart Crane's epic, *The Bridge* (Poets House)

Poet Mark Doty discusses Hart Crane's (1899-1932) epic masterpiece, *The Bridge*, which is a tribute to New York and America.

2:00-3:45

Hip Hop Seder (CB's 313 Gallery, downstairs)

The Socalled Seder is a passover service set to the toe-tapping rhythms of the modern teenager. It's a hop-hop Haggadah with beats, raps, niggunim, and readings that rock the story of the Exodus from Egypt in a contemporary setting. Set to the whimsical, funky productions of Montreal's Socalled (Josh Dolgin), this performance of the Seder will feature Brooklyn singer/performer Aron Waxman and Philadelphia's klezmer trumpetess extraordinaire, Susan Hoffman Watts.

Performance:

***Spring Essence* by John Balaban (American Museum of Natural History, Linder Theater—FREE with museum admission)**

Spring Essence, poems of an 18th century concubine from Vietnam, are presented by translator John Balaban with Ho Xuan Huong and Ngo Thanh Nhan.

3:00-3:45

Paired Reading:

Donald Hall and Glyn Maxwell (Cooper Union, Wollman)

Open Mic:

with Danny Shot of Long Shot Productions (Cooper Union, Engineering Building, Room 509)

Sign-up sheets will be located on a table outside the classroom.

3:00-4:45

Performance/Lecture:

Ballads Wisely Expounded (Bowery Poetry Club)

A look at the Child ballads and other traditional ballads of the Anglo-American tradition. With Tony Barrand, Dianne Dugaw, John Roberts, and Heather Wood.

Reading:

Walt Whitman's epic, *Song of Myself* by Galway Kinnell (Cooper Union, Great Hall)

Acclaimed poet Galway Kinnell brings "Song of Myself," an excerpt from Walt Whitman's epic *Leaves of Grass*, to life with selected readings of this seminal work of American literature.

3:30-4:30

Reading:

Joy Harjo (Poets House)

4:00-4:45

Paired Reading:

Carolyn Forché and Semezdin Mehmedinovic (Cooper Union, Wollman)

Open Mic:

with Bruce Weber of ABC No Rio (Cooper Union, Engineering Building, Room 509)

Sign-up sheets will be located on a table outside the classroom.

4:00-5:45

Reading:

Yiddish Poetry (CB's 313 Gallery, upstairs)

Organized and led by Itzik Gottesman with Chaim Beider, Sholem Berger, Leyb Borovik, Beth Anne Cole, Gella Schweid Fishman, Yoel Matveyev, Albert Rosenblatt, Mindl Rinkewich, Bella Schaehter-Gottesman, Aaron Taub, and Josh Waletzky. The event is co-sponsored by *The Congress for Jewish Culture*.

4:00-5:30

Film Screening:

The Land Where the Blues Began (Two Boots Pioneer Theater)

Produced and Directed by Alan Lomax, John Bishop and Worth Long, (USA, 1978, 60 min.)

A penetrating and moving look at the land, culture and above all the people who gave the blues to the world. Filmed in churches, fields, porches and bars, with R.L. Burnside, Jack Owens, Sam Chatamon, Eugene Powell, Napoleon Strickland, and Lonnie Pitchford.

Oss Oss, Wee Oss (Two Boots Pioneer Theater)

Produced and Directed by Alan Lomax with Peter Kenney and George Pickow, (1951, 30 min.) "Oss Oss, Wee Oss" is the cheer that rises from the crowd as the hobby horse dances through the streets of Padstow, Cornwall, England every May Day in an ancient celebration of spring.

4:45-5:45

Reading:

Popol Vuh with Dennis Tedlock (Poets House)

A look at the epic creation myth of the Maya.

5:00-6:15

Reading:

World of Poetry (Bowery Poetry Club)

With Ryoko Sekiguchi, a Japanese poet who writes in French and Japanese, and Stacy Doris, Sekiguchi's English translator. Organized by Carolyn Crumpacker. (\$5, free for Gathering passholders.)

**6:00-7:30
(FREE)**

Grand Finale Peace Reading

(Cooper Union, Great Hall)

This coda to *The Gathering* weekend brings together poets from across the festival and from all over the world. The convocation includes former U.S. Poet Laureate, Vénus Khoury-Ghata, Galway Kinnell, and many others whose poetry envisions alternatives to war. (FREE)

6:00-7:15

Film Screening :

Something Wonderful May Happen: The New York School Poets And Beyond (Two Boots Pioneer Theater)

Dir. by Lard Movin and Niels Plenge 57 min, 2001 An engaging look at the "New York School of Poets," a name that was meant to be satirical, but which stuck. Wonderful readings and off the cuff commentary by John Ashbery and Kenneth Koch, remarkable footage of Frank O'Hara, poems and analysis by David Lehman, Charles Bernstein and Jordan Davis, interviews with Larry Rivers, Jane Freilicher and others. Wonderful, witty, subtle techniques tease out a poetry image track and a lucky collision of people, poetry, buildings, pigeons, and New York itself. A treat for audiences who've never heard of the poets, a party for those who have. With winning films from the Zebra

International Poetry Film Festival, Berlin, July, 2002.

15th of February (Two Boots Pioneer Theater)

6.30 min., 1995 Tim Webb, filmmaker. Peter Reading, poet (Great Britain), animation & live action. Love didn't turn out too well. A symbolic rejection and its aggressive outcome.

Poem by Ernst Jandel (Two Boots Pioneer Theater)

2.31 min., 1989 Eku Wand, filmmaker. Ernst Jandel, poet (German, Austrian). A version of the Viennese group (dada) poet's "Beastuary" using an Atari and a 5x5 mouth matrix.

8:00-9:30

Pre-performance
talk @ 7:15

Performance:

Beowulf by Benjamin Bagby (Angel Orensanz Center for the Arts)

Taking the role of the chieftan's bard, Benjamin Bagby recreates the chilling and blood-thirsty tale of Beowulf. Performed in Anglo-Saxon with supertitles. Professor Mark C. Amodio will give a **pre-performance talk at 7:15**. (\$35 premium seats, \$30 rear and side, no Gathering passes accepted.)

8:00-9:30

Film Screening:

Guimba the Tyrant (Two Boots Pioneer Theater)

Dir. by G. Sissoko (Mali, 1995, 93 min.) The tale of Guimba is adapted to film from two traditional Malian types of poetic discourse: *Kotéba*, a form of satiric street theater, and *baro*, a virtuoso public oratory. Though concerned with language, Guimba is perhaps the most visually ravishing of African films.

**8:00-
midnight
(FREE)**

Party

(At CBs313 Gallery & The Bowery Poetry Club across the street)

FREE

The party at CB's 313 Gallery features the inimitable Eugene Hütz from Gogol Bordello spinning his own brand of gypsy rock and roll. Party includes Annie Lanzillotto's *Action Writing Workshop: Songs and Poems from a Bronx Childhood*, with music provided by DJ. While at the Bowery Poetry Club highlights of the Poetry Gathering's open mic session will be read, and a world beat DJ will spin till the poets go home!