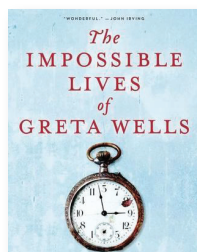




MEET THE AUTHOR



The Impossible Lives of Greta Wells

by ANDREW SEAN GREER

Tuesday, September 10, 6:00 pm

It is 1985. Greta Wells is undergoing electroshock therapy to treat her depression in the wake of two devastating losses – the death of her twin brother, and the end of a long love affair. But the “disorientation” her physician warned her about is a bit more than mental confusion. She seems to be knocked into different times – 1918 and 1941 – and living two additional lives where her brother Felix is still living and her lover, Nathan is still with her. How does the same person respond to three different realities? Andrew Sean Greer’s novel is a beautifully written and thought provoking study of fate, choices, and what might have been. **Members Free; Public \$15**

More events on page 2

BOOK'TOBERFEST

Come hoist a stein with fellow book lovers and MI members involved in the publishing industry!

Friday, September 27**5:00 pm • Trade Show & Book Fair****7:00 pm • A Conversation with Mark Coker**

Advance Tickets are required.

More information on page 8

CLASSES HIGHLIGHT

Computer Basics for Paper-and-Pencil People

**Tuesday, September 24 and Wednesday, September 25 (2-day course),
10:00 - 11:30 am**

MCNAMARA CLASS ROOM A, 3RD FLOOR LIBRARY

It is never too late to learn to use a computer, and this class makes it easy for you. This two-session class introduces basic hardware and operation of the personal computer, including Microsoft Windows navigation, the internet, and web browsing. How to use the mouse and understanding computer vocabulary will be covered. Following each class session, members will have an opportunity to receive one-on-one assistance on a Library computer. **Registration Required.**

More class listings on page 5

FALL WALKING TOURS

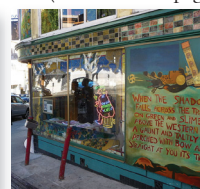
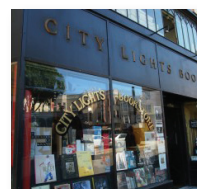
Bohemians, Beats, and Beyond

LAURA SHEPPARD,
EVENTS DIRECTOR

If you enjoyed our Allen Ginsberg –Beat Reunion in July and the exhibit *Beat Memories* at the Contemporary Jewish Museum-- this tour is a must!

Led by cultural geographer Elizabeth Vasile, this tour explores the local roots and key cultural sites of North Beach, Jackson Square, and Telegraph Hill. These neighborhoods have been home, studio and inspiration to a succession of artists, from the Bohemians of the late 19th and early 20th C, to the activist literati of the 1930s, and the Beats of the post-WWII era. Includes a hot beverage and light snack. Wireless personal listening devices are used on all tours.

(continued on page 6)



Left: City Lights Bookstore Right: Vesuvio Cafe

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CinemaLit	3
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Classes	5
Authors' Carnival	6
Chess	7

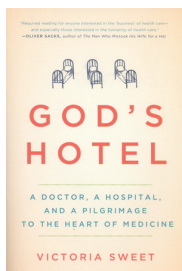
MEET THE AUTHOR

Attend these intimate and up close author programs and engage directly with local, national, and internationally known writers talking about their newly released books. **Laura Sheppard, Events Director**

Winners of the Northern California Book Awards 2013

Tuesday, September 24, 6:00 pm

This celebratory evening features readings and conversation with winners and finalists of the 32nd Annual Northern California Book Awards (held May 2013) which acknowledges the outstanding work of writers, poets and translators in our literary community. Watch our website for a complete list of participants.



CREATIVE NONFICTION

***God's Hotel: A Doctor, a Hospital, and a Pilgrimage to the Heart of Medicine* (Riverhead Books)**

BY VICTORIA SWEET



GENERAL NONFICTION

***Green Illusions: The Dirty Secrets of Clean Energy and the Future of Environmentalism* (University of Nebraska Press)**

BY OZZIE ZEHNER



TRANSLATION - POETRY

***Opera Omnia or, a Duet for Sitar and Trombone* (Otis Books/Seismicity Editions)**

BY LUXORIUS TRANSLATED FROM THE LATIN BY ART BECK



The Northern California Book Awards are presented and sponsored by Northern California Book Reviewers, Poetry Flash, Center for the Art of Translation, Red Room (redroom.com), PEN West, Mechanics' Institute, San Francisco Public Library, Friends of the San Francisco Public Library, and Readers Bookstore at the Main.

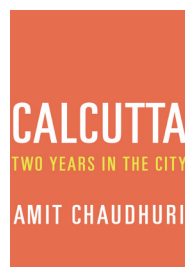
Members Free; Public \$15

OCTOBER PREVIEW

***Calcutta: Two Years in the City* (Knopf)**

Tuesday, October 1, 6:00 pm Co-sponsored by Asia Society, Northern California

BY AMIT CHAUDHURI



In his first non-fiction book, Chaudhuri masterfully merges the genres of memoir, reportage and history as a way to describe the transformations of this ancient city and modern India. Amit guides us through not only the historical and political trajectory and turmoil of this city, but also the various streets, teashops, music stores and more. His personal narrations and stories offer an intimate, richly sensual portrait of the city.

Members of MI and ASH Free; Public \$15



Information & reservations: 415.393.0100 or www.milibrary.org/events. All Events are held in the 4th floor Meeting Rooms and require advance registration unless otherwise noted.

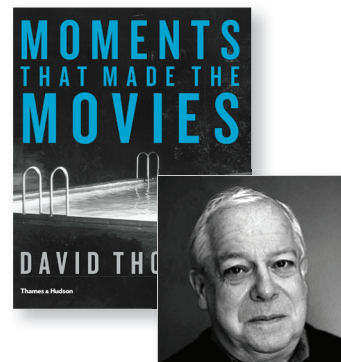
Moments that Made the Movies (Thames and Hudson)

Wednesday, October 9, 6:00 pm

BY DAVID THOMSON

A sultry con artist trips up a wealthy and naïve young heir and inveigles him into her stateroom; a thief seduces the woman who caught him trying to steal her mother's car; in the aftermath of a dinner party, a middle-aged American woman in Paris reveals too much about the insecurities and lies that will destroy her marriage. These are just a few of the moments in cinema included by film critic David Thomson in this lavishly illustrated work that not only celebrates, but analyzes film as a visual medium. This engrossing book by famed cinema writer David Thomson is an indispensable addition to any film lover's library.

Members Free; Public \$15



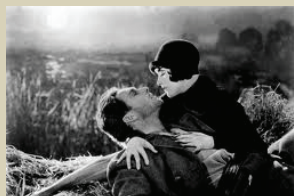
CINEMALIT

CURATED & HOSTED BY MICHAEL FOX

Fridays: Cafe 5:30 pm; Program 6:00 pm.

Members Free; Public suggested donation \$10

SEPTEMBER: RARE GEMS



Friday, September 6

***Sunrise* (1927)**

DIRECTED BY F.W. MURNAU

George O'Brien,
Janet Gaynor

A city woman tempts a farmer to murder his wife in this pinnacle of silent cinema that retains every iota of its beauty and power.



Friday, September 13

***A Star Is Born* (1937)**

DIRECTED BY WILLIAM WELLMAN

Janet Gaynor,
Frederic March

An aging, self-destructive actor on the way down helps an actress on the way up in this extraordinary portrait of love and ambition in '30s Hollywood that inspired two remakes.

For thirteen years Mechanics' Institute's CinemalIt has offered a monthly mini-film festival/salon, showcasing directors, stars, film genres, and classics. Each film is introduced by film critic and CinemalIt curator Michael Fox, or by guests who include local film writers, critics and aficionados. Come for the movie. Stay for the discussion!



Friday, September 20

***Portrait of Jennie* (1948)**

DIRECTED BY WILLIAM DIETERLE

Jennifer Jones, Joseph Cotton

A mysterious, otherworldly girl inspires a penniless artist in this gorgeously photographed, marvelously acted and movingly iconoclastic film.

OCTOBER PREVIEW

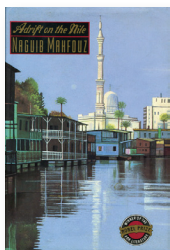
Haunted Hollywood

Watch website for details!

Information and registration: 415.393.0100 or www.milibrary.org/events.

BOOK DISCUSSION GROUPS

Our member-only Book Groups select, read, and discuss books of a particular type or genre. Members lead the discussions, new members are always welcome, and registration is not required (unless otherwise specified). Please note that Book Groups are not author events and the authors will not be present during the discussions.



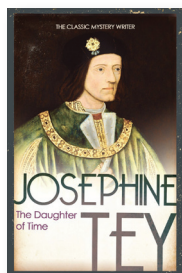
Adrift on the Nile

by NAGUIB MAHFOUZ

Thursday, September 5, 6:00 pm

Forgotten Classics

It's summer! Spend some lazy time on a houseboat with Mahfouz and take an unhurried look at a "decent man" living in a troubled society. This is lesser known work by Egypt's finest writer, the first Arab author to win the Nobel Prize for literature. **Registration required. Free.**



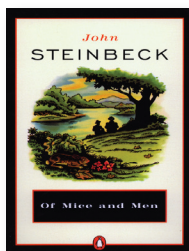
The Daughter of Time

by JOSEPHINE TEY

Monday, September 9, Noon

Brown Bag Mystery Readers

In this literary mystery, Scotland Yard Inspector Alan Grant is bedridden in the hospital after being wounded on the job. Despite the good intentions of his friends, who have inundated him with books to keep him busy during his convalescence, Grant is bored silly until his professional curiosity is piqued by a portrait of King Richard III in one of the books. He begins an investigation into the truth behind the murder of Richard III's nephews, known as "the princes of the Tower", who disappeared and were presumed killed by King Richard. **Members only. Free.**



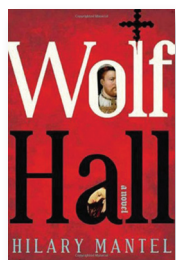
Of Mice and Men

by JOHN STEINBECK

Thursday, September 12, 4:00 pm – 5:30 pm

California Dreamers

During the Depression, two itinerant farm-workers try to psychologically escape from their dismal circumstances by sharing an extremely modest but still unlikely version of the California dream: finding a few acres of land, a minimal house, vegetables to live on, freedom from the brutality and uncertainty of the agricultural world through which they are drifting, and above all, companionship rather than loneliness and isolation. **Registration required. Free.**



Wolf Hall

by HILARY MANTEL

Tuesday, September 17, Noon

Fiction You Wish You Had Read

In Mantel's historical fiction novel, King Henry the VIII demands that his marriage to Queen Catherine of Aragon be annulled so that he can marry Anne Boleyn. To handle the situation when the Pope and other religious leaders refuse to accede to Henry's wishes, the King turns to Thomas Cromwell, a self-made, ambitious man from humble origins in 1520's England. **Members Only. Free.**

For Proust group see page 8

Information & registration: For more information contact Diane Lai at 415.393.0118 or dlai@milibrary.org. A copy of each book is available at the 2nd floor Circulation desk. All Book Discussions are held in the 4th floor Board Room. **Register online at milibrary.org/discussion.**

CLASSES AT THE LIBRARY

1st Tuesday TED Talk

**Tuesday, September 3,
Noon - 1:00 pm**

4TH FLOOR MEETING ROOM

September Topic: Internet Censorship.

Watch TED Fellow and journalist Evgeny Morozov puncture what he calls "iPod liberalism" – the assumption that tech innovation always promotes freedom, democracy – with chilling examples of ways the Internet helps oppressive regimes stifle dissent. An informal discussion will follow the twelve minute long video.



eMagazine Workshop

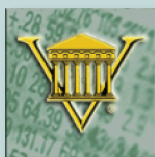
**Wednesday,
September 4, Noon or 5:00 pm**

The Mechanics' Institute offers 19 popular magazine titles in full cover-to-cover digital format that can be read on your computer, iPad, iPhone, Android device, and more. Come to this half-hour, hands-on workshop to learn how to access and read our digital magazines. **Walk-ins Welcome.**

eBook Workshop

Wednesday, September 4, 12:30 pm or 5:30 pm

Want to make more use of your membership and iPad, iPhone, or Android device? Learn to download free eBooks from the library. This half-hour workshop provides hands-on experience. **Walk-ins Welcome.**



Investment Information on the Web

Thursday, September 12, 10:00 - 11:00 am

Learn how to access free and authoritative investment information focused on publicly traded companies, covering stocks, mutual funds, and industry surveys. We'll explore company profiles, corporate developments and earnings prospects, valuation, stock rating services and screeners, trading statistics and financial reports. Websites that are surveyed include Yahoo! Finance, MSN Money, Marketwatch, Google Finance, Bloomberg.com, SmartMoney, and Morningstar. Also presented is a brief overview of two web-based Library subscriptions - ValueLine Resource Center and Standard & Poor's NetAdvantage. **Registration Required.**

Introduction to Twitter

Wednesday, September 18, 2:30 - 3:30 pm

Are you curious about Twitter? Twitter can be a valuable tool to keep up with news and current events, as well as to communicate with others. In this class, each student will set up a Twitter profile, learn the interface on twitter.com, and start sending out tweets. In order to set up a new Twitter account, please have a working email account prior to attending this class. **Registration Required.**



Computer Basics for Paper-and-Pencil People

Tuesday, September 24 and Wednesday, September 25 (2-day course), 10:00-11:30 am

It is never too late to learn to use a computer, and this class makes it easy for you. This two-session class introduces non-users to the basic hardware and operation of the personal computer, including Microsoft Windows navigation, introduction to the internet, and web browsing. How to use the mouse and understanding computer vocabulary will be covered. Following each class session, members will have an opportunity to receive one-on-one assistance on a Library computer.



Registration Required.



Company Information on the Web

Thursday, September 26, 10:00 - 11:00 am

Learn how to find up-to-date information or focused lists of public and private companies using specific parameters. Discover authoritative resources that report on company news and recent developments, growth prospects, industry overviews, key competitors, and lists of company officers. Locate information about companies as reported in magazines, trade journals, and newspapers by utilizing the Library's full-text databases; a great resource for researching small, regional, or recently established companies.

Registration Required.

Information and Registration: 415.393.0102, or go to our website at www.milibrary.org/class and click on the class title. Classes are open to Mechanics' Institute members and guests, and are free. All Classes are held in the 3rd floor Class Rooms and require advance registration unless otherwise noted.

FALL WALKING TOURS

(continued from page 1)



Bohemians, Beats, and Beyond

with Tour Leader LIZ VASILE

Saturday, September 7, 10:00 am - 1:30 pm

Features:

- 3 – 3.5 hours, 3 miles, on mostly flat terrain
- Small groups – limited to 10 people
- Coffee and comfort stop

Highlights include:

- City Lights, landmark independent bookstore and publisher of Allen Ginsberg's HOWL and other works of courage
- Site of Monkey Block, home to a generation of writers, artists, and activists
- Grant Avenue, with its unique galleries, cafes, artisan shops, performance spaces
- Washington Square, San Francisco's original village green, where Dante meets Tai-Chi
- Upper Montgomery Street, a mix of high finance, high design, and fay royalty
- Murals and sculptures celebrating words, music, protest, zaniness, and baseball



Tour Tickets: MI Members \$35; Public \$45. Use discount code MILBB9713 for special members' ticket. For more information: www.geniuslocitours.com.

To Register: <http://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/418972> or call 415.509.4543.

UPCOMING: Watch for details for the *Italy in the City* tour on Thursday, October 10, 2013.

LITQUAKE



LITQUAKE PANEL: Get Real: Perception and the Nature of Reality Wednesday, October 15, 6:30 pm

3RD FLOOR LIBRARY

Is there an absolute reality? Some real reality independent of perception? If so, how do we access it? If not, how do we know that what's out there is really out there? We've assembled a

neurologist, an artist, an alternate reality game designer, a psychologist, and a physicist to answer these questions and yours! Participants include Robert Burton, MD, Jonathon Keats, Tania Lombrozo and Jane McGonigal, moderated by Ransom Stephens. **Members and Litquake "Bestsellers" Free; Public \$15.**



Artists Wanted

The Mechanics' Institute is looking for artists who have portable art to display at our first public art show (scheduled for November 5). If you are interested please contact: **Taryn Edwards** at 415.393.0103 or tedwards@milibrary.org. **This offer is extended to Mechanics' Institute members only.**

AUTHORS' CARNIVAL

Readings, workshops, and camaraderie in celebration of our members' creative achievements.



Write Now!

Tuesday, September 10, Noon

4TH FLOOR BOARD ROOM

Writing is more fun in a group and the key to good writing is lots of practice. Come explore a couple of writing prompts at this low key scribble session. Whatever your genre, you'll have fun putting pen to paper with others who want to gain flexibility and spontaneity in their prose or poetry. Bring your lunch and favorite writing utensil. **Members only. Free.**

Tua and the Elephant

Thursday, October 10, 6:00 pm

4TH FLOOR BOARD ROOM

Join MI member author Randal Harris and his editor Tamra Tuller (Chronicle Books) as he presents and reads from *Tua and the Elephant* and shares his writing and publishing experience. *Tua* has been reviewed by the New York Times. It also is a Texas Bluebonnet Award Nominee for 2013-2014. If you are interested in Children's publishing this event will provide a unique insight into the process. If you are working on a similar project this is a great opportunity to learn from Randal's experiences. **Members Free; Public \$15.**

Chess

INTERNATIONAL MASTER JOHN DONALDSON, DIRECTOR OF THE CHESS ROOM

Seventeen year-old Daniel Naroditsky of Foster City is the youngest Grandmaster in the United States after tying for third in the Balaguer Open in Benasque, Spain, this past July. Naroditsky, who will start his senior year of high school this fall, didn't lose a game in the 10 round competition despite facing a half dozen Grandmasters. Daniel started playing at the Mechanics's Chess Club in 2004 and has played for the M.I.'s US Chess League team since 2006. He will be back this year for his 8th season and finds himself in an unusual situation as one of the older players on the team with six of the ten under 18 including four under 14! All team members are rated Masters or above.

The team will consist of:

1. Grandmaster Jesse Kraai
2. Grandmaster Vinay Bhat
3. Grandmaster Daniel Naroditsky
4. International Master David Pruess
5. FIDE Master Yian Liou
6. FIDE Master Andy Lee
7. FIDE Master Cameron Wheeler
8. National Master Kesav Viswanadha
9. National Master Vignesh Panchanatham
10. National Master Siddarth Bannik



Vignesh Panchanatham and Yian Liou
Photos by Michael Aigner

Chess for Women

Sundays, September 1, 8, 15, 22, 29
11:00 am – 1:00 pm

TAUGHT BY EWELINA KRUBNIK

Funded by a gift in memory of R. Martin Wiskemann

Tournaments

Saturday, September 7

10:00 am – 4:00 pm

Children's Quad

Saturday, September 14

10:00 am – 8:00 pm

13th Annual Howard Donnelly Memorial G/45

Tuesday Night Events

September 3, 10, 17, 24

5:15 pm – 6:15 pm

LECTURE BY JOHN DONALDSON

6:30 pm – 10:30 pm

Neil Falconer Tuesday Night Marathon

Wednesday Night Blitz

September 4, 11, 18, 25

6:30 pm – 8:50 pm

DIRECTED BY JULES JELINEK

Thursday Night Lessons

September 5, 12, 19, 26

7:00 pm – 9:00 pm

TAUGHT BY M.I. GRANDMASTER-IN-RESIDENCE

NICK DE FIRMIAN

Saturday Morning Chess Class for Kids

September 7, 14, 21, 28

10:00 am – 12:00 pm

TAUGHT BY INTERNATIONAL MASTER

ELLIOTT WINSLOW



Information & reservations: 415.393.0110 or www.chessclub.org.

BOOK'TOBERFEST

3RD ANNUAL BOOK'TOBERFEST
FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 27



Come hoist a stein with fellow book lovers and our Mechanics' Institute members who are involved in the publishing industry. Meet **Mark Coker** from **Smashwords.com**, the staff from local book publishers and literary journals, and many indie-publishers who are eager to share their knowledge. Network with editors, writing coaches, designers, book shepherds, graphic artists, agents, and more at this trade show reminiscent of our historic industrial fairs (this time with beer). If you are a reader, writer, or a beer connoisseur, you'll love the creative vibe and selection of locally crafted beer!

5:00 - 6:30 pm - Trade Show and Book Fair

2nd floor Library

Members Free, Public \$5 • Advance Tickets are required.

7:00 - 8:30 pm - A Conversation with Mark Coker from



Smashwords™
your ebook. your way.

4th floor Meeting Room

Members \$5, Public \$12 • Advance Tickets are required.

Sponsored by



WILEY

PROUST - NEW SEMESTER



2nd & 4th Wednesdays of the Month beginning September 11th
The Proust Society of America: San Francisco Chapter

Under the leadership of Dr. Mark Calkins, Mechanics' Institute offers two bi-weekly discussion groups, on a semester basis. **The Proust Group**, 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of the month from 5:30-6:30 pm, will start the new semester with volume 5 of *"In Search of Lost Time" (The Captive & the Fugitive)*, and continue on with

volume 6. **The World Literature Group**, 2nd and 4th Wednesdays from 6:45-8:00 pm, will begin the year with *The Epic of Gilgamesh*. The new semester begins on September 11th, and both groups welcome new members.

Fees for the new semester are \$65 for MI members/\$95 for non-members, per group; payable when you register online. For more information, contact **mark@tempsperdu.com**. Online registration required at **www.milibrary.org/discussion** (scroll to the bottom of the page).



MECHANICS' INSTITUTE
LIBRARY & CHESS ROOM

57 Post Street, San Francisco, CA 94104
www.milibrary.org

Important Numbers

Circulation: 415.393.0101

Reference: 415.393.0102

Reservation hotline: 415.393.0100

E-mail: **reference@milibrary.org**

Library Hours

Monday - Thursday: 9 am - 9 pm

Friday: 9 am - 6 pm

Saturday: 10 am - 5 pm

Sunday: 1 pm - 5 pm

Taryn Edwards &
Sarah Cruz, Editors