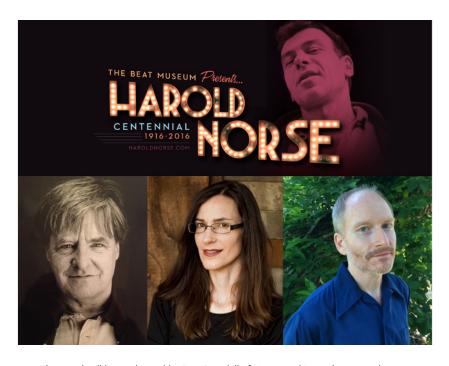


# Mechanics'

www.milibrarv.org

VOL. 6, NO. 7 JULY 2016

# Harold Norse Centennial Celebration Sponsored by The Beat Museum



The panel will be moderated by Tate Swindell of Unrequited Records. pictured above, L-R: Kevin Killian, San Francisco poet and writer; Regina Marler, editor of Queer Beats; Todd Swindell, editor of Selected Poems of Harold Norse. pictured at right: Harold Norse in Union Square, photo by Frances McCann.

This series of centennial events sponsored by The Beat Museum held in San Francisco and Los Angeles offers a look back at Harold's legacy as an unheralded voice in Beat poetry via panel discussions with writers and artists who knew him.

Free to Members of Mechanics' Institute and The Beat Museum | Public \$15 Register at milibrary.org/events or 415.393.0102

For more information visit kerouac.com/beat\_event/harold-norse-centennial

WEDNESDAY, JULY 6 7:00 pm | CAFÉ OPENS AT 6:30 PM 4TH FLOOR MEETING ROOM

"Well, it was life," Beat Generation poet Harold Norse told the Gay and Lesbian Review in 2003. "I thought everyone was living like that." From World War II era Manhattan, to the expatriate scenes of Tangier and Paris, to San Francisco during gay liberation, Norse documented his time in visionary poetry conveyed in a gutsy American vernacular. Longtime partner of poet and librettist Chester Kallman, Norse's friends included William Carlos Williams, W.H. Auden, and James Baldwin. On the hundredth anniversary of his Brooklyn birth, three Bay Area queer authors will discuss the impact of his life and work.



# Programs at the Mechanics'

Call 415.393.0102 or visit milibrary.org/events to see what's coming up next and to make reservations.



Thursday, July 14 | 7:00 pm (café opens at 6:30)
4TH FLOOR MEETING ROOM

#### Bastille Day Celebration with Le Jazz Hot

Come celebrate *liberté*, *égalité*, *fraternité* with Le Jazz Hot of the Francisco Hot Club featuring band leader Paul Mehling (solo guitar), Isabelle Fontaine (rhythm guitar & vocals), Sam Rocha (bass), and Jeff Magidson (melodica). Le Jazz Hot brings to the stage the passion and sizzle of French Gypsy Jazz created by the guitarist Jean "Django" Reinhardt of the world famous Hot Club de France in Paris circa 1920. Dress up, down, or in tri-colour for this festive night of exuberant music. French wines and cuisine will be available throughout the evening for *une bonne soireel* 

Reservations required. MI members \$15; Public \$25

Friday, July 15 | noon

4TH FLOOR MEETING ROOM

Writers' Lunch

How to Professionalize Your Writing Practice with Lizette
Wanzer



Do you long to be taken seriously as an author? Believe it or not, one of the best ways of getting the literary world to take you seriously is to actively manage the less-sexy aspects of your practice. At this month's Writers' Lunch, local author Lizette Wanzer will introduce you to several practices that will enable

you to grow your writing career.

The Writers' Lunch is a casual brown-bag lunch activity on the 3rd Friday of each month. Look forward to minireviews on books that have been added to our "literary craft" collection, informal presentations by member writers, and excellent conversation.

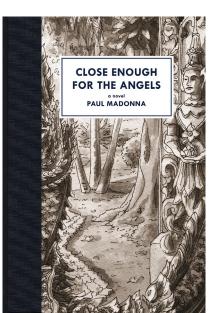
No Reservations required. MI Members Only: Free

Wednesday, July 20 | 7:00 - 9:00 pm

OFFSITE: THE DRYANSKY GALLERY 2120 UNION STREET,

SAN FRANCISCO 94123

**Out and About: Gallery Visit** 



Meet artist and author Paul Madonna to view his new work Close Enough for the Angels - an exhibition of original drawings from Thailand, China, and Japan - along with a limited edition book release.

Paul Madonna is creator of the long running series All Over Coffee featured in the San Francisco Chronicle Datebook.

No Reservations required. MI Members and Public Free

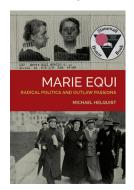
# Meet the Authors

Thursday, July 21 | 6:00 pm

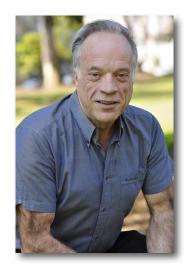
4TH FLOOR MEETING ROOM

Marie Equi: Radical Politics and Outlaw Passions

Michael Helquist



On the eve of the centennial of the San Francisco Preparedness Day parade in support of U.S. entry into World War I and the subsequent bombing, we look at a West Coast dissenter and heroine. Marie Equi was one of the first practicing women physicians in the Pacific Northwest. She was also one of the few prominent West Coast opponents of U.S. involvement in the war, a stance which earned her a three year sentence in San Quentin for sedition. This is the story of a fighter for women's suffrage, labor rights, and reproductive freedom, a woman who paid a steep personal price for living by her convictions.



Reservations required. Free to MI members; Public \$15

Thursday, July 28 | 6:00 pm

4TH FLOOR MEETING ROOM

High Spirits and Drinking the Devil's Acre

J.K. Dineen and Duggan McDonnell in conversation





Join authors J. K. Dineen and Duggan McDonnell in a spirited discussion of San Francisco's vibrant bar scene – past, present, and future – and take a romp through San Francisco, with tales of the drinks and drinking establishments at the very foundations of our fair city.

Drinking the Devil's Acre: A Love Letter From San Francisco & Her Cocktails is a mix of barman's memoir and literary journalism, with layers of spirited history and liquid wisdom. The single, saloon-soaked block within the notorious Barbary Coast of old San Francisco, known as the Devil's Acre, was the

wickedest, wildest place in the whole wide world. But, just a few short blocks away, marbled drinking palaces reigned, where cocktails were shaken in tin and served in copper mugs. Several generations later, San Francisco boasts a similar culture with the farm-to-glass movement is at its height.



High Spirits: The Legacy Bars of San Francisco leads readers on a neighborhood-by-neighborhood pub crawl in search of the city's most remarkable nightspots. Atmospheric photographs accompany descriptions of each bar's colorful history, unique architectural features, idiosyncratic owners, and quirky clientele. Whether we are following in the footsteps of Beat writers in North Beach's Vesuvio Café, tossing peanut shells on the floor of Homestead in the Mission, or selecting jukebox songs (three for a quarter) at the Silver Crest Donut Shop in the Bayview, High Spirits welcomes us as regulars at every spot, showing off the conviviality that makes San Francisco one of the great saloon towns.



# CinemaLit Hot Summer Nights

CURATED & HOSTED BY MICHAEL FOX
Fridays | 4TH FLOOR MEETING ROOM | Cafe Opens at 5:30pm | Program at 6pm
Members Free | Public Suggested Donation \$10

#### July 8

**Flying Down to Rio** (1933) 89 min. DIRECTED BY THORNTON FREELAND Starring Dolores del Rio, Gene Raymond

In this engaging screwball comedy, gorgeous Roger Bond (played by Gene Raymond) is a womanizing composer and bandleader smitten by equally gorgeous Belinha, (played by Dolores del Rio.) Hijinks ensue when he pursues her to Brazil. Everything is eventually resolved by strapping toothsome dancing girls onto a couple of small planes and flying them over Rio. Not to be missed. Fred Astaire and Ginger Rogers are also in the movie. (They dance. On the ground.)



**The Mambo Kings** (1992) 104 min. DIRECTED BY ARNE GLIMCHER

Starring Armand Assante, Antonio Banderas

The vagaries of fame and art are explored in this bravura adaptation of Oscar Hijuelo's novel. For brothers Cesar and Nestor Castillo, music is everything, and when a runin with a gangster forces them to flee Cuba for New York, they immediately set about rebuilding their careers. Armand Assante is the pragmatic, ambitious Cesar and Antonio Banderas – in his first English language role – is the quieter, more soulful brother mourning the love he left behind.



Image used by permision. Courtesy Warner Brothers.



Image used by permision. Courtesy Warner Brothers.

# Continuing in August...

August 5 Our Man in Havana (1959) 111 min.
DIRECTED BY CAROL REED | Starring Alec Guinness, Noel
Coward

A smashing adaptation of Graham Greene's sly novel about a nondescript British vacuum cleaner salesman who agrees to spy for Her Majesty's secret service.

August 19 Evita (1996) 134 min.

DIRECTED BY ALAN PARKER | Starring Madonna, Antonio Banderas

The Rice-Webber stage musical about the rise and reign of Argentine First Lady Eva Peron is transposed to the screen as a parade of pomp and pageantry.





Images used by permision. *Our Man in Havana* courtesy Columbia Pictures; *Evita* courtesy Walt Disney.

# Chess

INTERNATIONAL MASTER JOHN DONALDSON, DIRECTOR OF THE CHESS ROOM

## Naroditsky Prevails!

#### Ray Schutt Memorial Blitz Recap

Daniel Naroditsky dominated the 10th Ray Schutt Memorial Blitz (4 minutes per side plus a two second increment for each move made from the beginning of the game), scoring 11½ from 12 to finish 2½ points ahead of the 71-player field. Among his victims were fellow Grandmasters Christian Chiriila and Patrick Wolff, and International Master Vladimir Mezentsev.

International Master Ricardo De Guzman and Senior Master Arun Sharma started slowly but finished strong to share second and third at 9–3, half a point ahead of Chirila, and International Masters Yian Liou and Ganbold Odondoo.

This event, the strongest annual stand-alone blitz tournament in the United States (this year featured three Grandmasters and six International Masters), was once again made possible by the family of Ray Schutt.

### **JULY EVENTS**

#### Chess for Women

SUNDAYS, JULY 3, 10, 17, 24 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM TAUGHT BY EWELINA KRUBNIK

#### Tuesday Night Events

JULY 5, 12
5:15 PM - 6:15 PM
LECTURE BY JOHN DONALDSON
6:30 PM - 10:30 PM
SUMMER TUESDAY NIGHT MARATHON

#### **Tournaments**

SATURDAY, JULY 9 10:00 AM - 7:00 PM 16TH ANNUAL CHARLES BAGBY MEMORIAL G/455



#### Saturday Morning All Ages Chess Class

JULY 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM TAUGHT BY INTERNATIONAL MASTER ELLIOTT WINSLOW

Daniel Naroditsky pondering his fifth move in round 8 of the 2014 U.S. Chess Championship.

Photo: Chess Club and Scholastic Center of St. Louis

# Learn at the Library

#### Tech Office Hours

Wednesday, July 13 | 10 am - 4 pm 4TH FLOOR MEETING ROOM

Reserve a half hour one-on-one appointment with a librarian to work on questions regarding your email, ebook readers, making the best use of the Library's online features, safely managing your social media accounts, or other questions related to computers and technology.

To register, contact Sarah Cruz with available time frames and a brief description of your question or problem by emailing scruz@milibrary.org or by calling 415-857-6722. Walk-ins are welcome, but registration is recommended to ensure a spot.

Reservations recommended; Walk-ins may sign up for open slots



#### Virginia Woolf Readers: New Book Discussion Group

Wednesday, July 20 | 5:30 pm 4TH FLOOR BOARD ROOM

READING: A ROOM OF ONE'S OWN, PART ONE OF WOMEN AND WRITING

Known now for her novels and as a doyenne of the Bloomsbury Group, in her own time Virginia Woolf was highly respected as an essayist and critic with a special interest and commitment to contemporary literature – and women's writing in particular. We'll kick off the Virginia Woolf Readers' Group by exploring Woolf's own thoughts on writing to contextualize her fiction, which will be discussed in future meetings.

In A Room of One's Own, Woolf takes on the establishment – using her gift of language to dissect the world around her and give





voice to those who are excluded from the conversation. Her message is a simple one: women must have a fixed income and a room of their own, just as male artists do, in order to have the freedom to create.

The group will also discuss part one of *Women and Writing*, covering topics such as fiction, leisure, status, and professional development.

This is a librarian- and member-led discussion group. Books are on reserve for checkout at the 2nd floor circulation desk. Come prepared to talk about what you've read!

No Reservations required. MI Members Only: Free

# Library Book Discussion Groups



**Brown Bag Mystery Readers** 

Monday, July 11 | noon 4TH FLOOR BOARD ROOM

The Galton Case BY ROSS MACDONALD

Almost twenty years have passed since Anthony Galton disappeared, along with a suspiciously streetwise bride and several thousand dollars of his family's fortune. Now Anthony's mother wants him back and has hired Lew Archer to find him. What turns up is a headless skeleton, a boy who claims to be Galton's son, and a con game whose stakes are so high that someone is still willing to kill for them.



#### **World Literature Book Group**

Wednesdays, July 13 and 27 | 6:45 pm 4TH FLOOR BOARD ROOM

Light in August BY WILLIAM FAULKNER

Faulkner's novel about hopeful perseverance in the face of mortality features some of his most memorable characters: guileless, dauntless Lena Grove, in search of the father of her unborn child; Reverend Gail Hightower, who is plagued by visions of Confederate horsemen; and Joe Christmas, a desperate, enigmatic drifter consumed by his mixed ancestry. This book will be discussed over two meetings.



#### Summer Reading: Graphic Novel Book Club

Thursday, July 14 | noon 4TH FLOOR BOARD ROOM

Ms. Marvel, Volume 1 BY G. WILLOW WILSON; ART BY ADRIAN ALPHONA

Kamala Khan is an ordinary girl from Jersey City - until she is suddenly empowered with extraordinary gifts. But who is the all-new Ms. Marvel? Teenager? Muslim? Inhuman? As Kamala discovers the dangers of her newfound powers, she unlocks a secret behind them as well. Is she ready to wield these immense new gifts? Or will the weight of the legacy before her be too much to handle?



#### Vérité Book Group

July 5-31 | MEETS ONLINE AT milibrary.org/bookgroup

I'll Drink to That: A Life in Style, With a Twist BY BETTY HALBREICH

Eighty-six-year-old Betty Halbreich is a true original. A tough broad who could have stepped straight out of Stephen Sondheim's repertoire, she has spent nearly forty years as the legendary personal shopper at Bergdorf Goodman, where she has helped many find their true selves through clothes, frank advice, and her own brand of wisdom – but Halbreich's personal transformation from a cosseted young girl to a fearless truth-teller may be the greatest makeover of her career.

Book discussion groups select, read, and discuss books of a particular type or genre. New members are always welcome. Please note that **Book Groups are not author events and authors will not be present during the discussions.** Unless otherwise indicated, pre-registration is not required. (Book descriptions courtesy of the publishers.) A copy of each book is available at the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor Circulation desk. For additional information, contact Heather at 415.857.6727 or hterrell@milibrary.org, or visit milibrary.org/events/book-group-meetings.

Members Only. Walk-ins Welcome.

# Institute News



#### Welcome Aboard!

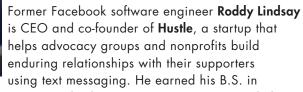
Lindsey Tonsager and Roddy Lindsay join the M.I. Board of Trustees

The Mechanics' Institute is honored to welcome two new trustees. Lindsey Tonsager and Roddy Lindsay bring a wealth of knowledge and insight as members of the board,



which steers the M.I. to continue our legacy as a leading cultural and educational center in San Francisco and the greater Bay Area.

As a partner at the law firm **Covington & Burling**, **Lindsey Tonsager** helps national and multinational clients in a broad range of industries anticipate and effectively evaluate legal and reputational risks under federal and state data privacy and communications laws. She earned her B.A. from the University of Pennsylvania and her J.D. from the University of Minnesota Law School.



Symbolic Systems – a cross-disciplinary major bridging computer science, psychology, philosophy, and linguistics – at Stanford University. He is an avid chess player, a musician, and a DJ. *(photo by Dave Morin)* 

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Library Hours
Monday - Thursday:
9 am - 9 pm
Friday: 9 am - 6 pm
Saturday: 10 am - 5 pm
Sunday: 1 pm - 5 pm

Heather Terrell, Editrix



#### School's Out For Summer

Classes Returning to Mechanics' Institute Library in September

In the first half of 2016, Mechanics' Institute Librarians have taught more than twenty-five classes and workshops on topics including:

- Investment newspapers, databses, newsletters, and magazines
- Web basics, search and browsing, email etiquette, and social media
- Library databases, including Ancestry, Hoover's, amd Consumer Reports
- Library downloads, including Ebooks, Emagazines, and Eaudiobooks

In July and August, we'll refresh and regroup, convening instructional programs in September.

#### **Member Artists: Call for Exhibitors**

If you've noticed the new display cabinet on the 4th floor of the Mechanics' Institute, you've probably also noticed the amazing art showcased there from time to time. We welcome drawings, paintings, scultpure, printmaking, bookmaking, decorative arts, fashion and industrial design, and any other representation of your art that fits into our display case. If you are a Mechanics' Institute member, an artist with visual representation of your work, and have interest in exhibiting with us, email hterrell@milibrary.org with questions, or to coordinate an exhibit so that fellow members can enjoy and draw inspiration from your creative expression.