

Poetry in Motion: Mechanics' Institute Celebrates National Poetry Month

San Francisco Poet Laureate Kim Shuck with poet Tongo Eisen-Martin:
readings and a conversation



Mechanics' Institute is proud to welcome San Francisco's seventh Poet Laureate, Kim Shuck, who succeeds Alejandro Murguía and Jack Hirschman. As a fifth generation San Francisco resident of Cherokee and Polish heritage, Ms. Shuck is devoted to giving voice to the city's diversity through the power of language and culture, as exhibited in her full-length collections *Rabbit Stories* and *Smuggling Cherokee*. Kim will be joined by poet Tongo Eisen-Martin, whose work confronts issues of injustice and incarceration, power politics, and struggles for survival.

April 19, 6:30 pm
Members Free; Public \$15
4th Floor Meeting Room



Kim Shuck (above); Tongo Eisen-Martin (below)

Take a Closer Look: MI Library's Poetry Collection

The Library has amassed some 2000 items in our poetry collection, by authors from Chris Abani to Rachel Zucker. You'll find works by U.S. Poet Laureate and Pulitzer Prize winner Tracy K. Smith, Nobel Prize winner Derek Walcott, and Pulitzer Prize winner and MacArthur Foundation fellow Charles Simic. Alongside these superstar poets, you'll find the work of emerging poets of distinction such as Amber West, Emily Berry, and others.

Bloomsday Celebration

Eat, drink, read, and walk on the wild side of Dublin! Join fellow *Ulysses* enthusiasts at DADA Art Gallery & Bar for a special Bloomsday menu, lively musical interludes featuring a Celtic music ensemble, and an open-mic community reading of James Joyce's master work. Advance reservations are required; check our website for details!

Writerly Pursuits

Lunch and Learn, Mingle and Mix at Monthly Writers Lunches

Writers Lunch arose from the desire of MI member writers to interact on a more casual basis. During these monthly brown-bag BYO lunch events, member authors and guests with expertise in the field speak on topics from sustaining a fledgling practice to monetizing your writing. You'll hear from a mix of established and emerging writers, enjoy coffee, tea, and snacks provided by Mechanics' Institute, and mingle with fellow MI writers. Upcoming meetings will feature the National Writers Union, where **September Williams** will discuss *Why Novelists Might Need a Press Pass*, and in May we'll host a **Writers Mixer**. This networking event will connect writers who may want to form a critique group, and will allow them to learn about existing groups at MI who may be looking for new members.

Third Friday of each month, 12:00 – 1:00 pm
Members and Public Free; 4th Floor Meeting Room

More information: milibrary.org/events

More information on writers groups: tedwards@milibrary.org

The Creative Writer's Professional Toolkit



Want to be taken seriously as an author, even though you have yet to establish a record of impressive publishing credits or complete the Great American Novel?

Instructor Lyzette Wanzer says, "Believe it or not, one of the best ways of getting the literary world to notice you

is to manage the less-sexy aspects of your practice. That means realizing that writing is a business, not just an art. Marketing is a critical, often overlooked aspect of our craft." Lyzette will introduce you to several tools that will enable you to boost your writing career.

April 28, 10:30 am - 4:30 pm; MI Members
\$29; Public \$39; 4th Floor Meeting Room



Supported in part by the San Francisco Arts Commission

Upcoming Writing Classes Hosted by Mechanics' Institute

In Partnership with the San Francisco Writers Conference

The Character of Plot with David Corbett

April 14, 10:30 am - 4:30 pm
MI Members \$189; Public \$219

The Perfect Pitch and the Quintessential Query with Carlisle Webber

April 21, 10:30 am - 12:00 pm
MI Members \$39; Public \$49

Workshopping Your Perfect Pitch and Quintessential Query with Carlisle Webber

April 21, 1:00 pm - 4:30 pm
MI Members \$99; Public \$119

The Acorn Class: Growing Your Writing Ideas with Victoria Zackheim

May 12, 1:00 pm - 4:30 pm
MI Members \$149; Public \$179

Comics and Graphic Novels with Trina Robbins

May 19, 1:00 pm - 4:30 pm
MI Members \$89; Public \$109

Aboutness: A Workshop for Novelists and Narrative Memoirists with Sandra Scofield

June 9, 10:30 am - 4:30 pm
MI Members \$129; Public \$159

Become an AUTHORpreneur: Turn Your Book into a Paying Business with Sam Horn

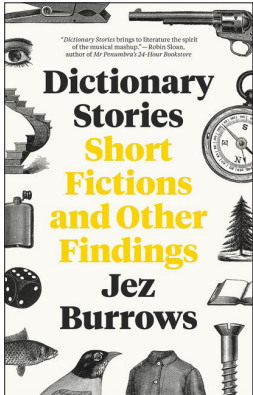
June 30, 10:30 am - 4:00 pm
MI Members \$149; Public \$189

Classes are hosted in the 4th Floor Meeting Room unless otherwise specified. Pre-registration is required. For more information on SFWC Workshops at Mechanics' Institute, visit milibrary.org/classes.



David Corbett (above); Trina Robbins (below).

Comfort Lit



Litquake announces a new lunchtime series at Mechanics' Institute.

Comfort Lit: Books That Make You Feel Better aims to provide a much-needed break from fighting the powers that be and help recharge from the grim realities of the day. **Jez Burrows**, author of *Dictionary Stories: Short Fictions and Other Findings* will appear in discussion with lexicographer **Jane Solomon** on **April 17**. Check our website for events throughout this spring and summer, including **Jonathan Kauffman** discussing his book, *Hippie Food: How Back-to-the-Landers, Longhairs, and Revolutionaries Changed the Way We Eat*, and **September Williams** presenting her novel, *Chasing Mercury*.

Noon; Members and Public Free; 4th Floor Meeting Room

CinemaLit

CinemaLit starts a new season of **Spring Flings** with films celebrating new love, new discoveries, and new roles for women. Check our website for CinemaLit's May line-up.

Fridays, Doors at 5:30 pm, Program at 6:00 pm
Registration required

April 6 **Easter Parade**

April 13 **Hard to Get**

April 20 **Brigadoon**

April 27 **A League of Their Own**



Monsters & Magic, a librarian led seminar



Victorian society firmly believed in science and rationalism; meanwhile, the popular imagination and the arts became obsessed with monsters and magic – things that weren't real. Or were they?

In this seminar, attendees will read and discuss Victorian literature, starting with Christina Rossetti's controversial poem "Goblin Market". Participants will look at how real-life events influenced the literature of the time, and examine how authors responded to one another in their novels. Explore the grotesque, the gothic, and the horrifying threads that stuck in the Victorian consciousness and refused to be ignored!

April 9, April 23, May 21, and June 18; 6:00 - 7:00 pm ; 4th Floor Board Room

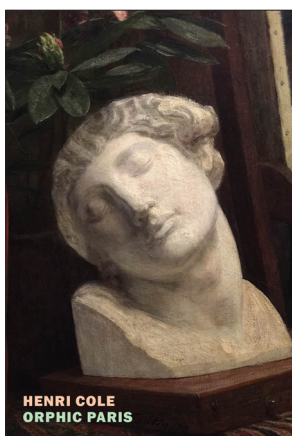
Registration strongly recommended to ensure a spot; walk-ins welcome as space allows
Contact Lia at lryland@milibrary.org with questions about this seminar. Check milibrary.org for readings and to register.

Featured Upcoming Events

Orphic Paris

Author Henri Cole in conversation with Dr. Mark Calkins

Cosponsored by City Lights Bookstore & Publishers



The true star of this collection of poetic essays is Paris itself. The city reveals its secrets to Cole at every turn. From the café with an Old-World atmosphere frequented by Hemingway to the paint shop where Cezanne and Monet bought supplies, this is a Paris bursting with art and culture. Cole's vivid prose and the photos that accompany it let us imagine ourselves sitting at the table sipping coffee or wandering cobbled streets with him; candid descriptions of each day provide plenty of fodder for dreaming of a Paris trip of your own!

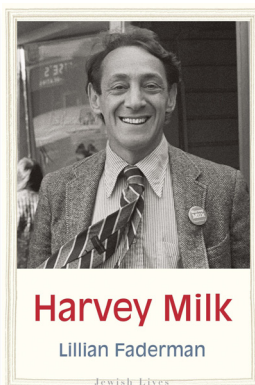
April 5, 6:30 pm; Registration required; 4th Floor Meeting Room

Harvey Milk Day

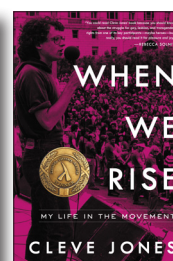
Author Lillian Faderman in conversation with author and activist Cleve Jones

Charismatic, eloquent, and a bit of a smart-aleck, Harvey Milk was elected to the San Francisco Board of Supervisors in 1977. He had served for less than a year when he was gunned down by a homophobic fellow supervisor. Countless tributes, including a posthumous Medal of Freedom, honor Milk's legacy. On May 22, ML welcomes Lillian Faderman to discuss her book, *Harvey Milk: His Lives and Death*, with author and activist Cleve Jones. This special celebration of the life of a progressive trailblazer will be held on the 2nd floor of the library.

May 22, 6:30 pm; Registration required; 2nd Floor Library



Lillian Faderman (left), will appear in conversation with Cleve Jones (below).

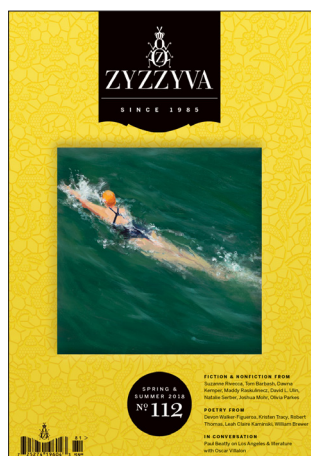


50/50 Day

MI hosts **LET IT RIPPLE** film studio's second annual 50/50 Day in support of gender equality. MI will host a panel discussion entitled **Bay Area Women on the Political Front**, one of the 20,000 events scheduled around the globe in support of a more gender-balanced world. Check our website for details.

April 26, 6:30 pm; Registration required; 4th Floor Meeting Room
For more information on #GettingTo5050, visit letitripple.org/films/50-50/5050-day/

ZYZZYVA 2018 Spring Issue Celebration



Join San Francisco's lauded literary journal, ZYZZYVA, to celebrate the launch of their newest issue, featuring readings by contributors Natalie Serber, Christopher Adamson, Greg Sarris, Mackenzie Evan Smith, and Tom Barbash. Emceed by Managing Editor Oscar Villalon.

May 3, 6:30 pm; Registration required; 4th Floor Meeting Room

And More!

Check our website for additional events, including appearances by **Susan Ronald** and **Frances Dinkelspiel!**

Recent Major Gifts

We are grateful for the support we receive from the following individuals and foundations, who make our continued growth possible. Thank you! The following contributions were received between December 1, 2017 and February 28, 2018.

Robert Mailer Anderson and Nicola Miner
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Lindsey Crittenden
Sheila Cunningham
David Jamison McDaniel Trust
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A Selection of Upcoming Events

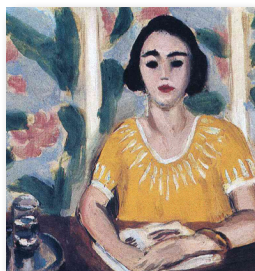
Mechanics' Institute offers a host of chess events, classes, reading and discussion groups, series events, and special author engagements each week. For program details and to register for programs, check posters and flyers throughout MI, visit our website at milibrary.org, or call the reference desk at 415.393.0102 between 10 am and 5 pm, Monday through Saturday. Below, find a partial list of offerings. Complete listings can be found on our website.

Library

Check milibrary.org for a new quarter of librarian-led book and discussion groups, activities, classes, workshops, one-on-one instruction, and much more.

Interested in nurturing your family tree? Attend a free, members-only, librarian-led class on using **Ancestry Library Edition**, or learn **how to collect and organize family and community life stories** with Basya Petnick at an all-day workshop (Members of Mechanics' Institute and California Genealogical Society \$100; Public \$125) on May 26; pre-registration is required.

Calling all readers! MI provides space for member-only book groups like **Brown Bag Mystery Readers** and **World Literature Book Group**. Upcoming selections include *The Devotion of Suspect X* by Keiko Higashino and *Middlemarch* by George Eliot. Check our website for readings and schedules. (image: *Woman Reading with Peaches*, Henri Matisse, 1923)



Knit Happens on the last Tuesday of each month. Bring a project and get to know your fellow Mechanics' Institute members.



Improve your investment knowledge using the Library's e-resource subscriptions. Learn the ins and outs of using **Morningstar Investment Research Center**, **Value Line Resource Center**, and **Mergent Intellect**. Pre-registration is recommended.

Want to improve your technological skills? Make an appointment for one of our monthly **Technology Office Hours**, or drop in with your device to the **Library Downloads Workshop** on the third Wednesday of each month.

Chess

Tournaments 10:00 am - 8:00 pm

April 7 18th Annual Imre Konig
Memorial G/40

May 5 18th Annual Charles Powell
Memorial G/40

May 6 11th Annual Ray Schutt/Stephen
Brandwein/ Jay Whitehead Memorial Blitz

June 2-3 55th Annual Arthur Stamer Memorial

June 16 18th Annual William Addison
Memorial G/40

Tuesday Night Marathon and Lecture

International Master John Donaldson

Lecture 5:15 pm - 6:15 pm

Marathon Play 6:30 pm - 10:30 pm

April 3, 10, 17, 24

May 1, 8, 29

June 5, 12, 19, 26

Wednesday Night Blitz

Directed by Jules Jelinek

6:30 pm - 8:50 pm

April 4, 11, 18, 25

May 2

Saturday Morning All Ages Chess Class

Taught by International Master Elliot Winslow

11:00 am - 1:00 pm

April 7, 14, 21, 28

May 5, 12, 19, 26

June 2, 9, 16, 23, 30

Sunday Morning Chess Class for Women

Taught by Sophie Adams and Ewelina Krubnik

11:00 am - 1:00 pm

April 1, 8, 15, 22, 29

May 6, 13, 20, 27

June 3, 10, 17, 24

"Scene" at Mechanics' Institute



In January, Daniel Ellsberg spoke to a sold-out crowd about his work as a high level defense analyst during the Cold War era, in conversation with Robert J. Rosenthal of The Center for Investigative Reporting (*above*). The two discussed Ellsberg's new book, *The Doomsday Machine: Confessions of a Nuclear War Planner* at Mechanics' Institute. Major donors were invited to meet Mr. Ellsberg at a reception preceding the event (*below*).



Emperor Norton's 200th Birthday Bash, hosted at the MI in February, was a smashing success. Not one, but TWO Emperors (*above*) were in attendance, and a biographer (*below, right*) of Emperor Norton traveled all the way from Osaka, Japan to join the festivities!



Staff (*above*) and guests (*below*) celebrated the eccentric life and times of Emperor Norton, MI member and iconic San Francisco presence!



End Notes

MECHANICS' INSTITUTE

SINCE 1854

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

Questions?

Call:
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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

Closures

April 1
Easter

May 28
Memorial Day

Editorial Staff
Heather Terrell
Cherilyn Banson

Bi-Annual Members' Meeting

Thursday, May 24, 5:30 pm Reception, 6:00 pm Meeting

Members & Guests Free

4th Floor Meeting Room



Join us for our bi-annual Mechanics' Institute community gathering to meet fellow members, staff and trustees. Hear from the staff about new plans and programs, technology updates, and our efforts to improve your experience as members.

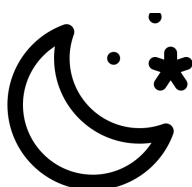
Night Tours at the MI

April 2, 6:00 pm

June 25, 6:00 pm

Members & Public Free

3rd Floor Library



Mechanics' Institute of San Francisco was founded in 1854 to serve the vocational and social needs of the city's mechanics, artisans, and industrialists. Today Mechanics' Institute continues as a membership organization boasting a fantastic general-interest library, active cultural events calendar, and world-renowned chess club. Open to new, long-time, and prospective members, this tour of the Institute will orient you to the building, include an overview of our history and mission, and outline current services and the benefits of membership. Tours typically take 60 minutes, and a wine and cheese reception will follow.

Annual Magazine Sale

Begins April 1

3rd Floor Library



Each year, the circulation department tidies our holdings – and you benefit! Travel the world from your favorite armchair with favorites such as *National Geographic Travel* or *Travel & Leisure*. Perhaps you prefer to undertake new adventures in the kitchen with the help of *Clean Eating*, Christopher Kimball's *Milk Street Magazine*, or *Delicious*. Whatever your interests or hobbies, there's something sure to please you – from *Arts Monthly* to *ZYZZYVA* literary journal, with plenty of science, history, news, and pop culture in between. Visit the 3rd floor of the library early and often to find added magazine titles for purchase.

Due to the popularity of some titles we cannot hold bundles for future purchase. Since most are priced to sell at \$2 or \$3 a bundle + tax, you'll want to take home as many as you can carry.