

**The National Writers Union, The Harry Van
Arsdale Jr. Center for Labor Studies and La Casa
Azul Bookstore Invite you to...**

***“WRITING ACROSS
BORDERS”***

**An International Writers
Conference**

**Saturday, June 1, 2013, 8:00 am – 6:00 pm
Empire State College
325 Hudson Street (entrance on Van Dam Street)
New York, NY**

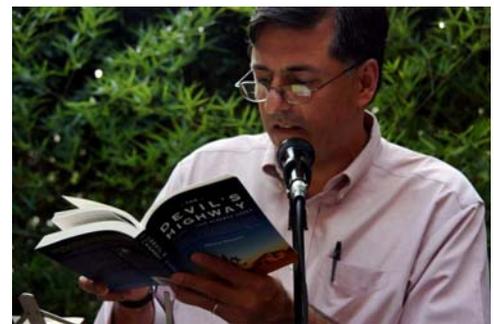
Opening Plenary Speakers:



Ninotchka Rosca



Esther Armah



Sergio Troncoso

To register for the conference: www.nwuny.org

Or call 917 428 1352

Cost: \$30.00 for the day, includes breakfast, lunch & cocktail party.

"WRITING ACROSS BORDERS"

At a time of unprecedented migration, when families are divided and communities shattered, writers can provide a vital historical record, a public voice of protest at social injustice and a healing balm. Writers are able to bridge the gaps among communities through depicting the experiences of diverse people that often prove to be more similar than different, while, at the same time, attempting to fight widespread injustices of forced deportation and economic migration.

Writers now have the additional tools of Internet publishing and social media, which provide a window on the world, enabling the virtual crossing of borders and, perhaps, the redefining of personal loyalties and the exploration of such issues as nationalism, internationalism and tribal or ethnic loyalties.

The conference will explore all of these issues, as well as engage the writing community in a discussion of our role and responsibilities at this moment of economic upheaval and unprecedented movement across borders.

8:00-9:00 am Registration, Continental Breakfast, Visit Literature Tables

9:00-11:00 THE OPENING PLENARY

Breaking out of an ethnic readership to a mainstream audience - IS there a mainstream anymore, or is that a myth upheld by agents and publishers? If publishers still pitch their books to a mainstream audience, how difficult is it for writers who tell the story of ethnic minorities to overcome this in order to reach a wider (majority) audience? Or is it necessary to cross over to be a successful author?

How can writers introduce readers to the lives of migrants from other regions/ethnicities in order to break down borders and overcome stereotypes? How can writers help build international solidarity and reduce prejudice and discrimination against immigrants? Does introducing readers to the lives and experiences of migrants overcome stereotypes? Do these stories engender compassion and understanding for migrants in our community? Or is this a myth? Ninotchka Rosca, Esther Armah, & Sergio Trancoso.

11:00-11:30 Book signing by panelists

11:30-1:30 CONCURRENT PANELS

2a. Migration and Immigration: Memoir and Historical Fiction about leaving home, establishing new communities, adapting to new cultures while holding on to your own. Dahlma Llanos Figueroa, moderator.



Dahlma Llanos Figueroa



Danielle Georges



Tiziana Rinaldi



Elsie Augustave

2b. New Writers Workshop: new writers will bring the first 10 pages of their work, a 100- word back-of-the-book summary, an estimate of the target audience, and a marketing plan. Veteran writers will listen to the pitch and first couple of pages and provide feedback, encouragement, and guidance.



Peter Benjaminson



Cecilia McCall, moderator.

2c. Lost in Translation: Translation is more than simply rendering words and sentences in another language. Regional or culture-specific uses of language must also be transferred across cultures. We will discuss the challenges and opportunities of translating creative works, how translation affords a chance to discover other ways of looking at the world, and how translators make regional expressions & cultural beliefs accessible to readers of the translated text. Adam Wier, Alta L. Price, Barbara Junwirth.



Adam Wier,



Alta Price



Barbara Junwirth, Moderator.

1:30-2:30 Lunch; visit literature tables.

2:30-4:30 CONCURRENT PANELS

3.a Race & Gender: The legacy of slavery and the oppression of women. Stories of escape from abuse and the struggle for equal rights around the world. Herb Boyd, moderator.



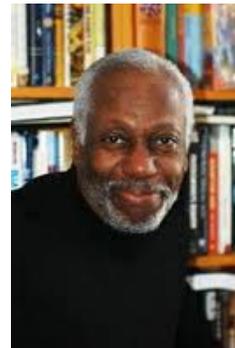
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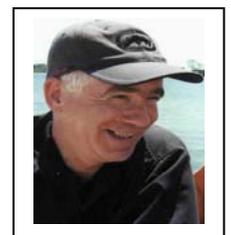


Marva Allen



Herb Boyd

3b. Self-publish & Reprint Your Book: The nuts and bolts of self-publishing print and E-books, including how to prevent piracy of your work. Tim Sheard, Publisher.



4:30-6:00 Cocktail Party & Book Table Visit.