

New England College MFA Program Reading Series: Summer 2023

Friday, July 7

7:30 PM | John Lyons Learning Commons | Jennifer Militello and David Ryan



Jennifer Militello is the author of the poetry collection *The Pact* (Tupelo Press/Shearsman Books, 2021) and the memoir *Knock Wood* (Dzanc Books, 2019) and is winner of the Dzanc Nonfiction Prize. She is also the author of four previous collections of poetry, including *A Camouflage of Specimens and Garments* (Tupelo Press, 2016), called “positively bewitching” by *Publishers Weekly* and *Body Thesaurus* (Tupelo Press, 2013), named one of the best books of 2013 by *Best American Poetry*. Her poems and nonfiction have appeared in *Best American Poetry*, *Best New Poets*, *The Nation*, *The New Republic*, *The Paris Review*, *POETRY*, and *Tin House*.



David Ryan is the author of the short story collection, *Animals in Motion* (Roundabout Press) and *Malcolm Lowry's Under the Volcano: Bookmarked* (Ig Publishing). His fiction has appeared in *Esquire*, *Tin House*, *BOMB*, *Fence*, *Denver Quarterly*, and *Alaska Quarterly Review*, among others, and has been anthologized in *Flash Fiction Forward* (W.W. Norton), *Boston Noir 2: The Classics* (Akashic Books), and *The Mississippi Review: 30 Years*. His essays, reviews, and interviews have appeared in *The Paris Review*, *Tin House*, *BOMB*, *BookForum*, *The Oxford Encyclopedia of American Fiction* (Oxford University Press), and others. A founding editor of the literary magazine, *Post Road*, he currently edits the Fiction and Theatre sections.

Saturday, July 8

7:30 PM | John Lyons Learning Commons | Chen Chen and Tara Ison



Chen Chen is the author of *When I Grow Up I Want to Be a List of Further Possibilities* (BOA Editions, 2017), which was longlisted for the National Book Award and won the Thom Gunn Award, among other honors. Bloodaxe Books has just released the UK edition. He is also the author of four chapbooks, most recently *You MUST Use the Word Smoothie* (Sundress Publications, 2019) and *GESUNDHEIT!* (with Sam Herschel Wein and out now from Glass Poetry Press). His work appears in many publications, including *Poetry*, *Poem-a-Day*, *The Best American Poetry* (2015 and 2019), and *The Best American Nonrequired Reading* (2017). He has received a Pushcart Prize and fellowships from Kundiman and the National Endowment for the Arts. He holds an MFA from Syracuse University and a PhD from Texas Tech University. He teaches at Brandeis University as the Jacob Ziskind Poet-in-Residence and co-runs the journal, *Underblong*. He lives in Waltham, Massachusetts, with his partner, Jeff Gilbert, and their pug, Mr. Rupert Giles.



Tara Ison is the author of three novels: *A Child out of Alcatraz*, *The List*, and *Rockaway*; the essay collection *Reeling Through Life: How I Learned to Live, Love, and Die at the Movies*; and the short story collection *Ball*. Her work has appeared in *Tin House*, *BOMB*, *The Kenyon Review*, *Salon*, *Black Clock*, *O, the Oprah Magazine*, *Electric Lit*, and several anthologies. She is the recipient of multiple Yaddo fellowships, the PEN Southwest Award for Creative Nonfiction, and two NEA fellowships. She is also the co-writer of the cult classic movie *Don't Tell Mom the Babysitter's Dead*. Ison is a Professor of Creative Writing at Arizona State University.

Sunday, July 9

7:30 PM | John Lyons Learning Commons | Anaïs Duplan and Anna Qu



Anaïs Duplan is a trans* poet, curator, and artist. He is the author of a book of essays, *Blackspace: On the Poetics of an Afrofuture* (Black Ocean, 2020); a full-length poetry collection, *Take This Stallion* (Brooklyn Arts Press, 2016); and a chapbook, *Mount Carmel and the Blood of Parnassus* (Monster House Press, 2017). He has taught poetry at the University of Iowa, Columbia University, Sarah Lawrence College, and St. Joseph's College.

His video works have been exhibited by Flux Factory, Daata Editions, the 13th Baltic Triennial in Lithuania, Mathew Gallery, NeueHouse, the Paseo Project, and will be exhibited at the Institute of Contemporary Art in Los Angeles in 2021. As an independent curator, he has facilitated curatorial projects in Chicago; Boston; Santa Fe, New Mexico; and Reykjavík, Iceland. He was a 2017–2019 joint Public Programs fellow at the Museum of Modern Art and the Studio Museum in Harlem. In 2016, he founded the Center for Afrofuturist Studies, an artist residency program for artists of color, based at Iowa City's artist-run organization Public Space One. He works as Program Manager at Recess.



Anna Qu is a Chinese-American writer. Her debut memoir, *Made in China: A Memoir of Love and Labor* was published in 2021 by Catapult. *Publisher's Weekly* hailed the memoir as "the arrival of a new voice," and *Time* has called it a must-read for the summer. Her work has appeared in the *Threepenny Review*, *Lumina*, *Kartika*, *Kweli*, and *Vol.1 Brooklyn*, among others. She holds an MFA from Sarah Lawrence College and teaches workshops at Catapult and Sackett Street Writers' Workshop.

Monday, July 10

7:30 PM | John Lyons Learning Commons | Paige Ackerson-Kiely and Andrew Morgan



Paige Ackerson-Kiely is the author of three books of poetry—*In No One's Land* (Ahsahta, 2007); *My Love is a Dead Arctic Explorer* (Ahsahta, 2012); and *Dolefully, A Rampart Stands* (Penguin, 2019)—and other works of poetry and prose. Her poems have appeared in journals such as *jubilat*, *Ninth Letter*, *Bellingham Review*, *Verse*, and *Copper Nickel*. She's received grants and fellowships from such places as Poets & Writers, Boomerang, Vermont Arts Council, and others.



Andrew Morgan is a professor, poet, editor, and volunteer whose work can be found in magazines such as *Conduit*, *Verse*, *Slope*, *Stride*, *Fairy Tale Review*, *New World Writing*, *Post Road*, *Pleiades* (as part of a "Younger American Poets" feature) and is the recipient of a *Slovenian Writer's Association Fellowship*, which sponsored a month-long writing residency in the country's capital city of Ljubljana. Currently an Associate Professor of Creative Writing at New England College, his first book, *Month of Big Hands*, was published by Natural History Press in 2013.

Friday, July 147:30 PM | The Rosamund Page Putnam Center for the Performing Arts | Carmen Maria Machado
Elizabeth Yates McGreal Writer-in-Residence

Carmen Maria Machado grew up in a household where storytelling was always present, Carmen has been writing her whole life. She learned about stories through reading, as well as oral tradition in her family. She holds an MFA from the Iowa Writers' Workshop and has been awarded fellowships and residencies from the Guggenheim Foundation, Yaddo, Hedgebrook, and the Millay Colony for the Arts.

Carmen is the author of the bestselling memoir *In the Dream House*, the graphic novel *The Low, Low Woods*, and the award-winning short story collection *Her Body and Other Parties*. She has been a finalist for the National Book Award and the winner of the Bard Fiction Prize, the Lambda Literary Award for Lesbian Fiction, the Lambda Literary Award for LGBTQ Nonfiction, the Brooklyn Public Library Literature Prize, the Shirley Jackson Award, and the National Book Critics Circle's John Leonard Prize. In 2018, the *New York Times* listed *Her Body and Other Parties* as a member of "The New Vanguard," one of "15 remarkable books by women that are shaping the way we read and write fiction in the 21st century."

Her essays, fiction, and criticism have appeared in the *New Yorker*, the *New York Times*, *Granta*, *Vogue*, *This American Life*, *Harper's Bazaar*, *Tin House*, *McSweeney's Quarterly Concern*, *The Believer*, *Guernica*, *Best American Science Fiction & Fantasy*, *Best American Nonrequired Reading*, and elsewhere. She lives in Philadelphia and is the former Abrams Artist-in-Residence at the University of Pennsylvania.

To register for online viewing of this event: <https://discover.events.com/us/new-hampshire/concord/e/culture/reading-carmen-maria-machado-putnam-center-performing-arts-427115294>