

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Hugo House Releases Literary Series Lineup for 2014-2015

Dates:

Friday, Sept. 19, 7:30 p.m.

Friday, Oct. 17, 7:30 p.m.

Friday, Feb. 6, 7:30 p.m.

Friday, March 13, 7:30 p.m.

Friday, May 29, 7:30 p.m.

SEATTLE, WA—Hugo House announced the 2014-15 Hugo Literary Series today, featuring *Casebook* author **Mona Simpson**, Pulitzer finalist and poet **Dean Young**, writer of the pseudo-novel *How Should a Person Be?* **Sheila Heti**, *Beautiful Ruins* author **Jess Walter**, *New York Times* best-selling author **Meg Wolitzer**, and others.

“It’s my first year booking the Lit Series and I’m thrilled to be having all of these top-notch writers coming through the House,” Events Curator Peter Mountford said. “We handpicked writers who could renew and energize common themes in writing, from sex to parenting to death.”

Three writers and one musician per event are commissioned to write a piece or song on a particular theme and prompt given to them by Hugo House. Three writers and a musician present new pieces they have written in response to a prompt sent to them by Hugo House. Each writer is apt to put a wildly different spin on the topic, making for an entertaining night. Past Lit Series writers have gone on to have their commissioned pieces published or anthologized.

Each series writer will also teach a class—on a topic of their choice—on the day following the Lit Series event in which they read.

The bar will be open, and books will be for sale by Elliott Bay Book Company at each event. Seating begins at 7 p.m. and the events begin at 7:30 p.m.

Quick Look

The 2014-15 season begins on Sep. 19, 2014, with writing based on the theme “**Backseats and Bedrooms**” (i.e. sex). The event features novelist **Mona Simpson**; poet and *Thunderbird* writer **Dorothea Lasky**; and Lambda Literary Emerging Writer Award–winner **Carter Sickels**. Seattle band Drop Shadows will provide the music.

On Oct. 10, 2014, the writing is based on the theme “**Rough Day**” and features poet **Dean Young**; Sri Lankan author of *On Sal Mal Lane* **Ru Freeman**; memoirist and writer of *My Body*

is a *Book of Rules* **Elissa Washuta**; and musician, poet, and former Hugo House writer-in-residence **Ed Skoog**.

2015 begins with, “**Laugh After Death**” (i.e. humor’s role in death) on Feb. 6, featuring innovative novelist **Sheila Heti**; **Richard Kenney**, UW professor and formally inventive poet; and **Anastacia Tolbert**, local poet and Cave Canem fellow. **Tai Shan** provides the music.

On March 13, “**The Parent Trap**” will be the theme of the night; the event features **Jess Walter**, National Book Award finalist and *The Financial Lives of Poets* writer; Caribbean fiction writer and poet **Tiphonie Yanique**; and **Megan Snyder-Camp**, local author of the Tupelo Press/Crazyhorse First Book Award winning *The Forest of Sure Things*. Poet and composer **Alicia Jo Rabins** will provide the music.

The final Literary Series event, on May 29, 2015, is “**One Hour**,” a prompt that requires the writers to have their story span one hour of fictional time. The night features **Meg Wolitzer**, author, most recently, of *The Interestings*; **Justin Torres**, debut novelist of *We the Animals* and Stegner fellow; and **Amelia Gray**, author of *THREATS*, which was a finalist for the PEN/Faulkner Award for fiction.

NOTE: Please email Kristen Steenbeeke at kristens@hugohouse.org to request press passes to any of the events.

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About Richard Hugo House

Hugo House is for writers—from their first words to their last. It’s a place to read words, hear words, and make your own words better.

HH is a center for and ally to writers providing creative-writing classes, residencies, and events.

More info

Hugohouse.org
Facebook.com/HugoHouse
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Open hours: Monday through Saturday, 12 p.m. to 6 p.m.