

Poetry Weekend
November 16-17, 2019
Vallombrosa Center, 250 Oak Grove Ave, Menlo Park, CA 94025

The Location: The Poetry Weekend is held at the lovely Vallombrosa Conference Center, located within walking distance of downtown Menlo Park. Double and single rooms are available, each with its own private bathroom. All facilities are located within comfortable walking distance. Four buffet-style meals (lunch and dinner on Saturday; breakfast and lunch on Sunday) are included.

Please note: Vallombrosa is not fully ADA compliant. For details, contact jayne@vallombrosa.org.



The Vallombrosa Center

The Program: Join us for an intensive weekend reading and discussing poetry. Following a wine and cheese reception on Saturday evening, we will have a discussion and reading on **The Art and Craft of Translation** led by two distinguished poet/translators, Pulitzer Prize winner Forrest Gander and Marin Poetry Center Events Chair Meryl Natchez. Upon registration, you will receive a packet of the poems to be discussed as well as logistical information. Please indicate below if you would like poems to be emailed or sent by regular mail.

For further information: Contact Event Coordinator Paula Weinberger
 at p.weinberger41@gmail.com or 408-309-0855



REGISTRATION FORM

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone: _____ Email: _____

Mobility or Special Food Needs: _____

Roommate Preference: _____

Roommate Discussion Group: Different _____ Same _____

Send packet: _____ By email _____ By regular mail

New to the Poetry Weekend? Yes / No

Badge Name: _____

Weekend Cost Per Person

***Please register early as spaces are limited.
 Registration closes November 8.***

| Registration Type | Fees |
|------------------------|--------------|
| Double Occupancy Rooms | \$220 |
| Single Occupancy Rooms | \$240 |
| Commuter | \$170 |

Refunds: Refunds will be handled after the event and might have to be prorated due to our obligations with Vallombrosa Center. We hope that our participants will consider the unpaid portion as a donation to the Great Books Council of San Francisco.

Two ways to register:

Mail this form and check to:

Great Books Council of San Francisco
 Oscar and Theda Firschein, Registrars
 29 Stowe Lane, Menlo Park, CA 94025

Register online:

<https://www.greatbooksnkal.org/poetry-weekend>

Poetry Weekend 2019

Dates: November 16 – 17, 2019

Venue: Vallombrosa Center, Menlo Park, California

GREAT BOOKS POETRY WEEKEND 2019

THE RIGHT WORD

Poetry, more than any other literary form, depends on the careful selection of words. Because the form is so condensed, each word contributes to the strength of the whole. During this Poetry Weekend we will focus, among other things, on poems that center on language. The Saturday afternoon session departs from our usual methodology. As a prelude to our Saturday evening presentation, we will examine multiple translations of two quite different poems. We are privileged to have as our guest speakers two acclaimed poet-translators, Forrest Gander and Meryl Natchez, who will guide us through the challenges of translation and answer your questions. This weekend's lineup is:

WORDS AND IDEAS (Saturday am)

- *Let Them Not Say* by Jane Hirshfield
- *Fragment 113* by H.D. (Hilda Doolittle)
- *Words* by Patrick Daly
- *Special Problems in Vocabulary* by Tony Hoagland
- *Plea and Chastisement* by Frank Bidart

A PEEK INSIDE THE TRANSLATOR'S TOOL BOX

(Saturday pm)

A look at the pros and cons of multiple translations of:

- *Proem, Book 1 of The Odyssey* by Homer
- *Stalin Epigram* by Osip Mandelstam

WORDS AS SOCIAL COMMENTARY (Sunday am)

- *The Second Coming* by W.B. Yeats
- *The New Noah* by Adonis
- *Jorge the Church Janitor Finally Quits*
by Martin Espada
- *The Mercy* by Philip Levine
- *Poem for Vows* by Matthew Zapruder

Saturday evening speakers:

Forrest Gander – *winner of the 2019 Pulitzer Prize for Poetry* – and Meryl Natchez – discuss *The Art and Craft of Translation*

Gander is a writer and translator of writers from Latin America, Spain, and Japan. His translations with Kent Johnson of Bolivian poet Jaime Saenz won a PEN Translation Award, and his co-translation of *Spectacle and Pigsty* by Kiwao Nomura won the Best Translated Book Award. Gander's most recent book, *Be With*, won the Pulitzer Prize.



Meryl Natchez is a translator of Russian poets including: *Mandelstam, Akhmatova, Gumilev, Tadeusz and Borowski*. Her poems and translations have appeared in *Poetry Northwest, American Journal of Poetry, The Pinch Literary Review, The Comstock Review, Atlanta Review, Lyric, Moth, Squaw Valley Community of Writers Poetry Review*, and many others. She is on the board of the Marin Poetry Center and blogs at www.dactyls-and-drakes.com.



For further information

Contact Event Coordinators:

Paula Weinberger p.weinberger41@gmail.com, 408-309-0855

Ginni Saunders ginnisaunders@gmail.com, 415-492-1064

Register by mail or online at: <https://www.greatbooksnkal.org/poetry-weekend>