The Midwest Poets Series

Robert Bly
Michelle Boisseau
Walter Bargen
Aliki Barnstone

2011-2012

All parking lots, even those restricted, are open to Midwest Poets Series guests.

Non-Profit Organization
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Kansas City, Mo.
Permit No. 782
Robert Bly • Thursday, October 20

Robert Bly stands among the most important literary and cultural writers of our time. His dozen highly regarded volumes of poetry include Talking into the Ear of a Dog (Dover/Detour, 1971) and The Light Around the Body, for which he won the National Book Award in 1968. He is an important translator of Pablo Neruda, Antonio Machado, Rainer Maria Rilke, Thomas Merton, Hafiz and others. He has edited landmark anthologies, including Love's 800 Years, The Bag and Bone Shop of the Heart (with James Hillman and Michael Meade) and The Soul Is Here to Lose Its Body: Bly’s bestselling book-length essay from his book About Men sparked the men’s movement of the early 1990s and defined a generation’s view of masculinity. He lives in Minneapolis with his wife, Ithu.

Michelle Boisseau • Thursday, December 1

Michelle Boisseau’s latest of four books of poetry, A Sunday in God-No (U. of Arkansas Press, 2002), has been described by Brainer Wither as “a unique blend of sensuality, raw sex, insight, coping under, ongoing emotional shock.” Her latest book, (WordTech Press, 2008), has been described by Eleanor Wilner as “a unique blend of sensuality, raw sex, insight, coping under, ongoing emotional shock.” Her latest book, (WordTech Press, 2008), won the Morse Prize. She is co-author of Writing from Longman, the most widely used textbook of its kind in the country. Her poems and essays have appeared in Poetry, Gettysburg Review, Yale Review, Georgia Review, Missouri Review, New Letters. The recipient of two National Endowment for the Arts fellowships and two prizes from The Poetry Society of America, Boisseau teaches in the M.F.A. Program in Creative Writing and Media Arts at the University of Missouri-Kansas City.

Walter Bargen • Thursday, January 26

Walter Bargen served as the first poet laureate of Missouri from January 2008 to early 2010. His 13 books include Days Like This Are Necessary. New & Selected (BkMk, 2004). His writing appears in more than 100 magazines, including Boulevard, Witness, Georgia Review, Iowa Review, West of West, Days Like This Are Necessary: New & Selected (Timberline Press, 2007), The Feast and other collections. In 1999 he was named to the National Endowment for the Arts fellows. His 13 books include Days Like This Are Necessary. New & Selected (Timberline Press, 2007).

Aliki Barnstone • Thursday, March 22

Aliki Barnstone is a poet, translator, critic, editor and visual artist. Her most recent books are Bright Body (White Pine Press, 2011), Dear God, Dear Dr. Heartbreak: Sonnets on the Trial of Dr. Jack Kevorkian (WordTech Press, 2008) and The Feast (BkMk, 2004). His writing appears in more than 100 magazines, including Boulevard, Witness, Georgia Review, Iowa Review, West of West.

Readings 7 p.m. All readings in Madier Hall, Sedgwick Hall. Book signings and receptions follow readings.

For information about this series or other Rockhurst University cultural events, call the University Arts Office at (815) 501-4607 or (815) 501-4828 or visit www.rockhurst.edu/centerandletters.

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The Midwest Poets Series is sponsored by The Center for Arts & Letters and the College of Arts, Letters and Social Sciences, the literature and intellectual life of Rockhurst University, the Kansas City community and the surrounding region.

Robert Bly will present the annual Rev. Robert R. Burke, S.J., Memorial Reading on Oct. 20.

Robert Stewart, Director, Midwest Poets Series.

Cynthia Cartwright, Director, The Center for Arts and Letters.