UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, DAVIS CREATIVE WRITING PROGRAM

The Tomales Bay Workshops

Writers' Conference

October 21-25, 2009

UC DAVIS EXTENSION

ARTS AND HUMANITIES

CONTINUING AND PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION

Welcome to the fifth annual Tomales Bay Workshops!

We are thrilled to have each of you here. Brought to you by the University of California, Davis, English Department and UC Davis Extension, we have a very special week ahead of us—from tonight's Albert and Elaine Borchard Foundation keynote presentation and Ficklin Vineyards port-and-cheese reception, to in-depth craft talks and dynamic workshops, to Saturday's afternoon readings and Maurice Prize announcement and reception. We cannot wait to get things started!

In order for each individual writer to feel comfortable and confident in workshop, and throughout the conference, we at the Tomales Bay Workshops would like to remind our participants that *heartfelt respect for one another is of utmost importance.* One way we can help each other to be respectful is by using each other's names, so *please wear your name badge throughout the conference.* The opportunity to experience new people, and their unique ways of writing and being in the world, is one of the key reasons to participate in an event like ours. Let us be cognizant of our differences as sources of creative energy.

We heartily invite you to enjoy the natural beauty of the Marconi Center, and we ask that you remember other guests as you do so. Please *be considerate* as you walk in the early morning and late night, as others may be resting or writing. Please take care of your own trash, so that we may keep the grounds as pristine as they are now. To help guide your exploration of the Marconi Center and the Tomales Bay area, please find inside this packet some of the Marconi Center's welcome materials. These welcome pages include lists of local activities, services and restaurants, as well as information about Marconi Center's policies, check-out and so forth. Also inside please find the schedule of events, and *please note mealtimes and workshops times, especially on Sunday.*

If you have a question and find that the information here fails to answer it, or in the event that problems or concerns arise, please contact one of the following people:

Kate Asche, *poet/essayist and event coordinator*
Tristen Chang, *fiction writer and graduate student assistant*

If one of these people is unable to answer your questions, she will speak with event director Pam Houston, or other appropriate individuals, to get answers.

Again, we want you to know how excited we are to finally be here writing and learning with each of you. Let us all work together to make this event as fun and effective as it can be!

Pam Houston

Pam Houston, *event director*

Kate Asche

Kate Asche, *event coordinator*

Schedule of Events

Please check the bulletin board in the lobby of Buck Hall for updates.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 21

3-5 p.m.	Registration, Buck Hall
5-5:45	Mandatory Orientation*
5:45-6	Meet Your Workshop (break out to classrooms)
6:15-8	Dinner
8-9:30	Robert Hass, Albert and Elaine Borchard Foundation Keynote Speaker, Reading*
9:30-11	Ficklin Vineyards Port and Cheese Reception (Buck Hall Lobby)

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 22

7-9 a.m.	Breakfast
9-12 p.m.	Workshops
12-1:30	Lunch
2-3:30	Modes of Meaning: The Narrative, the Associative and the Lyrical (Mary Gaitskill, Dana Levin and Jess Walter)*
4-5:30	Fellowship/Scholarship Winners Reading*
6-8	Dinner
8-9:30	Fenton Johnson, Robin Romm and Greg Glazner Readings*
9:30-11	Reception (Buck Hall Lobby)

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 23

7-9 a.m.	Breakfast
9-12 p.m.	Workshops
12-1:30	Lunch
2-3:30	Narrative Strategies: Five Things I Know for Sure (Robin Romm, Fenton Johnson and Greg Glazner)*
4-5:30	Agent and Editor Panel: How to Get There from Here*
6-8	Dinner
8-9:30	Mary Gaitskill, Dana Levin and Jess Walter Readings*
9:30-11	Reception (Buck Hall Lobby)

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 24

7-9 a.m.	Breakfast
9-12 p.m.	Workshops
12-1:30	Lunch
2-3:15	Open Mic Reading*
3:30-4	Kate Asche Reading*
4-5:30	Maurice Prize Winner Announcement and Oyster Reception with Special Thanks to John Lescroart (Buck Hall and Buck Hall Lobby/Patio)
6-7:30	Dinner
8-9:30	Pam Houston and Shawna Yang Ryan Readings, Point Reyes Books, 11315 State Route 1 in Pt. Reyes Station

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 25

7-9 a.m.	Breakfast
9-9:30	Check out of rooms at Marconi Center Office (Marconi Office can hold some luggage, for those who do not have cars/carpools)
9:30-12:30 p.m.	Workshops
12:30-1:30	Lunch
2-3	Book signings and closing activities (McCargo Hall)

*These events take place in Buck Hall.

PLEASE NOTE:

- **Bookstore (Buck Hall Lobby)** will generally be open daily 30 minutes before and after every reading and panel:
  - 1:30-2 p.m.
  - 3:30-4 p.m.
  - 5:30-6 p.m.
  - 7:30-8 p.m.
  - 10-10:30 p.m.
- **Open Mic sign-up sheets** are posted on the Buck Hall lobby bulletin board. Please be considerate of other readers by keeping selections to one page. Sign-ups are on a first-come, first-served basis.
- **Consultation sign-up sheets** are located on the Buck Hall bulletin board.

THE ALBERT AND ELAINE BORCHARD FOUNDATION KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Robert Hass, U.S. Poet Laureate from 1995-1997, is a poet of great eloquence, clarity and force, whose work is rooted in the landscapes of his native Northern California. His most recent book, *Time and Materials,* won both the National Book Award and the Pulitzer Prize. Widely read and much honored, Hass brings the same kind of energy found in his poetry to his work as an essayist, translator and activist on behalf of poetry, literacy and the environment. He has published several books of poetry and translated many of the works of Nobel Prize-winning Polish poet, Czeslaw Milosz. Hass is a professor of English at UC Berkeley.

THE TOMALES BAY WORKSHOPS FACULTY

Mary Gaitskill is the author of the novels *Two Girls, Fat and Thin* and *Veronica,* which was nominated for the National Book Award, the National Critic's Circle Award and the *Los Angeles Times* Book Award. She is the author of the story collections *Bad Behavior* and *Because They Wanted To,* a PEN/Faulkner Award nominee. Her work has appeared in *The New Yorker, Harper's, Esquire, Best American Short Stories* and The *O. Henry Prize Stories.* In 2002 Gaitskill received a Guggenheim Fellowship for fiction. Her latest story collection, *Don't Cry,* was released in March 2009.

Fenton Johnson is the author of the novels *Crossing the River and Scissors, Paper, Rock* as well as the memoir *Geography of the Heart.* His most recent book, *Keeping Faith: A Skeptic's Journey among Christian and Buddhist Monks,* received a Kentucky Literary Award and a Lambda Literary Award. Johnson has served as a contributor to Harper's and the New York Times Magazine and is the recipient of numerous awards, among them a James Michener Fellowship from the Iowa Writers' Workshop, National Endowment for the Arts Fellowships for fiction and nonfiction, and a Guggenheim Fellowship. Johnson is an associate professor in the Creative Writing Program at the University of Arizona.

Dana Levin's *In the Surgical Theatre* received nearly every award given to first books and emerging poets, including the American Poetry Review/ Honickman First Book Prize. Levin's poetry has appeared in many anthologies and magazines, including *Poetry, Conduit* and *The Kenyon Review.* She has received fellowships and awards from the National Endowment for the Arts, PEN, the Witter Bynner Foundation, the Library of Congress, the Rona Jaffe Foundation and the Whiting Foundation. A 2007 Guggenheim Fellow and poetry teacher for more than 17 years, Levin chaired the Creative Writing and Literature Department at the College of Santa Fe.

Robin Romm is the author of two critically acclaimed books, her collection of stories *The Mother Garden* and *The Mercy Papers,* a memoir. *The Mother Garden* was a finalist for the PEN and the Northern California Independent Bookseller's Book of the Year awards. *The Mercy Papers* received a cover review by the *New York Times Book Review,* calling it "a furious blaze of a book."

Jess Walter is the author of four novels, including *The Zero,* which was a finalist for the National Book Award and Citizen Vince, winner of the Edgar Allan Poe Award. He has also won the Pacific Northwest Booksellers Award and was a finalist for the *Los Angeles Times* Book Prize and the PEN in both fiction and nonfiction. His books have been *New York Times, Washington Post* and NPR best books of the year and have been published in 20 countries. He lives in Spokane, Washington.

SPECIAL GUESTS

Greg Glazner's books of poetry are *From the Iron Chair,* which won the Walt Whitman Award from the Academy of American Poets, and *Singularity.* His awards and honors include a 2005 National Endowment for the Arts Fellowship, the Bess Hokin Award from *Poetry* magazine, the Fairfax Award for Excellence in Teaching and residencies from the Lannan and the Ucross foundations.

Shawna Yang Ryan is the author of *Water Ghosts*, a Northern California Book Award finalist. Formerly a Fulbright Scholar in Taiwan, Ryan now lives in Berkeley.

EVENT DIRECTOR AND COORDINATOR

Pam Houston is the author of two collections of linked short stories, *Cowboys Are My Weakness* (W. W. Norton) and *Waltzing the Cat* (W. W. Norton), which won the Willa Award for Contemporary Fiction. Her stories have been selected for volumes of *Best American Short Stories*, The O. Henry Awards, The Pushcart Prize and *Best American Short Stories of the Century*. Her first novel, *Sight Hound,* was published in January 2005. Houston is the Director of Creative Writing at the University of California, Davis, and teaches at many writers' conferences and festivals in the U.S. and abroad.

Kate Asche, M.A., a graduate of the UC Davis Creative Writing Program, is a poet/essayist and creative writing teacher. She received two Elliot Gilbert Prizes in Poetry and was nominated for University of California Poet Laureate and for Best New Poets 2006 (*Meridian* magazine). She is a Sacramento Poetry Center board member.

PUBLISHING CONSULTANTS

Jonathan Bohr Heinen began working on literary magazines as a reader for *The Cimarron Review.* He has since served as the managing editor for *Blue Mesa Review* and is currently the senior associate editor for *Iron Horse Literary Review.* He is in the Ph.D. program at Texas Tech. His work has recently appeared in *The Florida Review.*

Jay Schaefer is an editor at large for Workman Publishing, acquiring fiction, memoirs, and narrative nonfiction for Algonquin Books; humor, pop culture, business and sports titles for Workman; and illustrated books for Artisan. Schaefer joined Workman in early 2009 after more than 20 years with Chronicle Books, where he edited *Under the Tuscan Sun, The Worst-Case Scenario Survival Handbook* series, and fiction by well-known and new writers.

Elizabeth Wales is the co-founder of Seattle-based Wales Literary Agency, Inc., which represents 65 award-winning writers of fiction and nonfiction, including Bruce Barcott, Karen Brennan, Rebecca Brown, Leela Corman, Lyanda Lynn Haupt, Jean Hegland, Nancy Lord, David Mas Masumoto, Dan Savage, Eric Scigliano, Robert Spector, Bill Streever, Michelle Tea, Duff Wilson and Carol Kaesuk Yoon. Her agency's titles have appeared on the *New York Times, Publishers' Weekly* and other national bestseller lists.

The Marconi Conference Center

The Marconi Center is a unique haven that boasts a magnificent hillside setting on 62 acres of wooded hillsides overlooking pristine Tomales Bay. Scenic trails and vistas offer opportunities for exercise, contemplation and relaxation.

To make your visit as comfortable and satisfying as possible, please take a few moments to review the following.

DINING

Meals are served in Redwood Dining Hall. See Schedule of Events for mealtimes.

LODGING

Please note that cooking and other appliances, candles and incense are not allowed. Food should not be kept in your room as it attracts insects.

PARKING

Please park in designated parking spaces only and observe the law regarding spaces for the handicapped.

DRIVING

Please drive slowly and carefully, yielding to pedestrians, bicyclists and animals. The speed limit is 15 mph, and all signs and barriers must be observed.

GAS STATIONS

The closest gas station is located in Point Reyes Station, 15 minutes to the south.

TELEPHONES

Your room has a private telephone number, which you can give callers after you check in. For long distance calls, use your calling card (dialing 1-800, not 0). Your room also has a port for your modem. See the information card in your room for details. **Note:** Most cellular phones DO NOT work at the Marconi Conference Center.

MESSAGES, FAXES AND MAIL

If callers would like to leave a message, give them this **phone** number:

- Front Desk telephone: (415) 663-9020

You may also want to give them your lodging building, room number and name of conference to expedite receiving emergency messages. Messages for guests will be posted on the message board. *Emergency messages will be delivered.*

If you wish to receive a **fax,** use this number: (415) 663-1731. A notice will be posted on the message board when your fax arrives, and the service charge collected when you pick it up.

If you wish to receive **mail**, use this address:

Your name, your conference name
c/o Marconi Conference Center
P.O. Box 789
18500 State Route 1
Marshall, CA 94940

A notice will be posted on the message board and your mail will be held at the Front Desk.

EMERGENCIES

Between 11 p.m. and 7 a.m., the recorded message on (415) 663-9020 tells callers how to contact a guest or a Marconi staff member in an emergency.

GUEST SERVICES

We have games, reading material and a VCR with a selection of movie videos; volleyball, badminton and horseshoe equipment; ice, irons and ironing boards, all at no charge. The commissary sells snacks, cold drinks, personal hygiene items, flashlights, batteries, writing supplies and stamps.

BUSINESS CENTER

The Business Center is located in the Pelican Building lounge and is open 7 a.m.-11 p.m. For your convenience we are pleased to provide **free of charge** the following services:

- Internet/Email
- Computer with MS Office
- LaserJet printer
- Photocopier

WALKING AND EXPLORING

We suggest walking on designated footpaths to avoid poison oak. The pine needles can be slippery—so please use caution. We recommend flashlights at night. The Marconi Conference Center is a unit of the California State Park system, and all natural elements such as branches, pine cones, mushrooms and flowers are protected by state law and may not be removed. Camping and campfires are not permitted.

SMOKING

State law prohibits smoking in or within 50 feet of Marconi Conference Center buildings. Ash trays are located at entrances, on decks and on patios. Smoke only in paved areas, and please use caution when smoking on the property. Also, please no candles or flames in lodging rooms.

CHECK OUT

7-10 a.m. Bring your key. Late check out will incur an additional day's charge.

The Tomales Bay Workshops owe an enormous debt of gratitude to those individuals and organizations who donated the funds to make this conference possible.

In particular, we would like to thank **The Albert and Elaine Borchard Foundation** for once again sponsoring the keynote speaker and four full fellowships.

We would also like to thank novelist **John Lescroart**, who sponsored the fiction writing class taught by Jess Walter and the Saturday afternoon Maurice Prize Oyster Reception.

In addition, our thanks to the Phipps-Massey Foundation, Joe Kiskis and KASL Consulting Engineers, who collectively sponsored four full fellowships for deserving writers.

We are grateful to editor Jay Schaefer for his support of the conference. We are grateful as well to Point Reyes Books for providing our conference with a lovely bookstore, and for welcoming The Tomales Bay Workshops to the Point Reyes community.

We would also like to thank UC Davis alumnus Peter Ficklin and everyone at Ficklin Vineyards for once again providing their award-winning California port wines for our opening night reception.

Heartfelt thanks as well go to UC Davis Extension, especially Amanda Hale, Joanna Barnheiser, Susan Silva and Doug Miller, and the SEE Team for handling logistics, advertising, graphics and registration. We are grateful also to Charlie McComish of McComish Photography for photographing this year's conference. Special gratitude as well goes to Dennis Pendleton, dean of UC Davis Extension, and to Jim Smith, director of UC Davis Extension Arts & Humanities, for their continued commitment to this conference.

Conference director Pam Houston and conference coordinator Kate Asche would also like to thank all the graduate students who gave their time to helping this conference happen. In particular, they would like to thank conference graduate student assistant Tristen Chang.

Finally, we are deeply grateful to the UC Davis English Department and Department Chair David Robertson for supporting The Tomales Bay Workshops as the conference grows and changes. In addition, we thank Dean Jessie Ann Owens for believing in our vision for a conference and for helping us to make this vision a reality for the fifth year in a row.

We would also like to acknowledge the fellowship winners:

Albert and Elaine Borchard Foundation Fellowships
Melinda Moustakis, fiction
Brenda Nakamoto, nonfiction
Andrew Sullivan, poetry

Albert and Elaine Borchard Foundation ARC Student Editor Fellowship
Meagen Zayas, fiction

The UC Davis Undergraduate Fellowship
John Tang, fiction

The KASL Consulting Engineers Fellowship
Patricia C. Smith, fiction

The Phipps-Massey Foundation Young Writer Fellowships
Andy Perham, fiction
Jayne Wilson, fiction/nonfiction

The UC Davis Extension Tomales Bay Scholarship
Cole Krawitz, poetry

CONSULTING KASL ENGINEERS

FICKLIN Vineyards

McComish Photography

Please join us again next year.

For the latest updates, visit www.extension.ucdavis.edu/arts
or contact us at (800) 752-0881 or artsinfo@ucde.ucdavis.edu.

The Tomales Bay Area

We hope that between workshops you will have some time to appreciate
the rich human and natural history that surrounds us.
The following list can help you explore the area.

BICYCLE RENTALS

Point Reyes Station

David L. Barnett's Cycle Analysis
Main Street, Highway One
(415) 663-9164, (415) 663-1645 or
cycle@horizoncable.com

GROCERY/DELICATESSEN

Marshall

Marshall Store
19225 Highway One
(415) 663-1339

Point Reyes Station

Palace Market
10300 Highway One
(415) 663-1016

Cowgirl Cantina at
Tomales Bay Foods
80 Fourth St.
(415) 663-9335

KAYAK RENTALS

Inverness

Blue Waters Kayaking
12938 Sir Francis Drake Blvd.
(415) 669-2600

Marshall

Blue Waters Kayaking
19225 Highway One
(415) 663-1743

PARKS AND BEACHES

Inverness

Point Reyes Lighthouse
(415) 669-1543

Tomales Bay State Park
(415) 669-1140

Lagunitas

Samuel P. Taylor State Park
(415) 488-9897

Olema

Point Reyes National Seashore
Bear Valley Visitor Center
(415) 464-5100

PHARMACY

Point Reyes Station

West Marin Pharmacy
4th & A Streets
(415) 663-1121

POST OFFICE

Marshall

19200 Highway One
(415) 663-8388

RESTAURANTS

Inverness

Vladimir's Czech Restaurant
12785 Sir Francis Drake Blvd.
(415) 669-1021

Marshall

Tony's Seafood Restaurant
18863 Highway One
(415) 663-1107

Olema

Olema Farm House
10005 Highway One
(415) 663-1264

STABLES

Olema

Five Brooks Stables
9001 Highway One
(415) 663-1570

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