

The Birchbark Books Reading Series

presents

contributors from

How Dare We! Write: A Multicultural Creative Writing Discourse

edited by Sherry Quan Lee

Wednesday, April 18, 2018

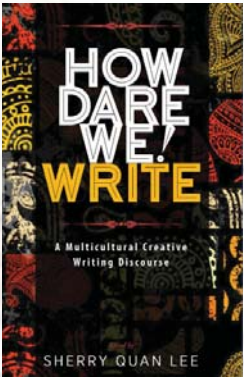
7:00 p.m.

curated by Michael Kiesow Moore and Ardie Medina

The reading will be at The Bockley Gallery

2123 W 21st Street, Minneapolis

(couple doors down from Birchbark Books) www.bockleygallery.com



Brenda Bell Brown says, *I know I've been changed*. She has a clearer focus on why she does what she does in her attempts to use art—literary, performance, visual—as a vehicle for expression. A convergence of time and effort has taken place at this point of her vocational practice. They are her forms. It is her heart. Today's climate of change has served to clarify their continuing agreement with her. From Brown University (theatre arts) to Hampton University (museum studies) to Hamline University (creative writing). She is skraight.

Sherrie Fernandez-Williams earned an MFA in writing from Hamline University and is a recipient of a Minnesota State Arts Board Artist Initiative Award, a Beyond the Pure Fellowship, and an Intermedia Arts SASE/Jerome Grant. Sherrie was a Loft Mentor Series winner for Creative Nonfiction, a Jones' Commission Award Winner through the Playwrights' Center, and selected for the Givens Black Writers Collaborative Retreat. She has been published in various literary journals and anthologies and is the author of the memoir *Soft*.

Isela Xitlai Gómez-R. is an East LA/Inland Empire transplant who writes to piece together broken stories of family, trauma, and travel a la Southern California. Her art lays its roots in the spaces between jazz and mariachi, taco trucks and chili cheese burgers, oceans and desert, and now snow. Isela is a 2015 winner of the Loft Literary Center's Mentor Series in Poetry and Creative Nonfiction.

Michael Kleber Diggs is a poet and essayist. His writing has appeared or is forthcoming in *McSweeney's*, *Poetry City*, *North Dakota Quarterly*, *Paper Darts*, *Water-Stone Review* and a few anthologies and collaborations. He is a past Fellow with the Givens Foundation for African-America Literature and a past-winner of the Loft Mentor Series in Poetry. His work has been supported by the Jerome Foundation and the Minnesota State Arts Board. Michael lives in Saint Paul with his wife, Karen, and their 16-year-old daughter.

Luis Lopez grew up in the Rio Grande Valley of South Texas. He has made his home in the Twin Cities for nearly a decade. He recently graduated with a degree in Creative Writing from Metropolitan State University and is considering pursuing a Master of Fine Arts.

Christine Stark is an award-winning writer, visual artist, and speaker of European, Anishinaabe & Cherokee ancestry. Her first novel, *Nickels: A Tale of Dissociation*, was a Lambda Literary Finalist. Her writing has appeared in *University of Pennsylvania Law Review*; *Florida Review*; *The Chalk Circle: Intercultural Prize Winning Essays*; *When We Become Weavers: Queer Female Poets on the Midwest Experience*; and many others. Her poem, "Momma's Song", was recorded by Fred Ho and the Afro Asian Music Ensemble. For more information: www.christinestark.com



2115 West 21st Street, Minneapolis, MN 55405

(612) 374-4023

<http://birchbarkbooks.com>

The Reading Series is sponsored by Birchbark Books

Bockley Gallery



Gallery Hours:

Wednesday through Saturday, Noon to 5 pm

Bockley Gallery

2123 W 21st Street

(west of Lake of the Isles, near Franklin)

Minneapolis

612 377 4669

information@bockleygallery.com

www.bockleygallery.com

Bockley Gallery opened in the Minneapolis warehouse district in the Fall of 1985 showing local, national, and international artists. In 2005 the gallery opened in its current location.