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SEATTLE ARTS & LECTURES ANNOUNCES MAY AND JUNE EVENTS MOVED ONLINE

Events with Natalie Diaz, Rick Barot, Min Jin Lee, Luis Alberto Urrea, and Carol Anderson To Stream Online

Seattle, WA—APRIL 24, 2020: Seattle Arts & Lectures (SAL) announces their events for May and June have moved to online. Events will be streamed digitally on lectures.org, on the same date and time of each event. Events will also be available online for a week afterwards, so the event can be paused and returned to at one's leisure. They are also delighted to announce that the Q&As with several of their speakers will be free and open to the public; SAL's [newsletter](#) and [homepage](#) will offer updates on bonus content. Digital Passes are available for each event for \$10 at lectures.org.

Ruth Dickey, SAL's Executive Director, says that, "While we wish fervently that we could be together in person, we look forward to finding new ways to be together virtually. Though we cannot share the space of a room, we can still share the space of an idea, a poem, and the transformative moments that language makes possible. We can still be moved. We can still be challenged. We can still connect."

Online Events:

Poetry Series: Natalie Diaz

Thursday, May 7, 2020 at 7:30 PM (PT)

Natalie Diaz is the author of two poetry collections: *When My Brother Was an*

Aztec, which centers on her brother's addiction to crystal meth, and *Postcolonial Love Poem*, her most recent collection. The *New York Times* says about *Postcolonial Love Poem*, "This book asks us to read the world carefully, knowing that not everything will be translated for us, knowing that it is made up of pluralities... Diaz's collection is no doubt one of the most important poetry releases in years, one to applaud for its demonstration of skill, its resistance to dominant perspectives and its light wrought of desire." Adrian Matejka calls *When My Brother Was an Aztec* "a spacious, sophisticated collection, one that puts in work addressing the author's divergent experiences—whether it be family, skin politics, hoops, code switching, or government commodities." Q&A moderated by Laura Da', a poet and teacher. Her first book, *Tributaries*, won the American Book Award and her newest book is *Instruments of the True Measure*. Da' is Eastern Shawnee.

Poetry Series: Rick Barot

Friday, May 15, 2020 at 7:30 PM (PT)

Rick Barot is the award-winning author of *Chord, Want*, and *The Darker Fall*. His latest book of poems, *The Galleons* (2020), is in part about the centuries-long colonial structure that sustained Spanish control over Latin and South America, the Caribbean, and the Philippines. "*The Galleons* reckons with origins and histories, both personal and public, on a global scale... [it] sweeps the reader along in an unfolding narrative tide" (*The Rumpus*). Q&A moderated by Jane Wong, the author of *Overpour* and *How to Not Be Afraid of Everything*, which is forthcoming from Alice James Books. She is an Assistant Professor of Creative Writing at Western Washington University.

Literary Arts Series: Luis Alberto Urrea

Wednesday, May 20, 2020 at 7:30 PM (PT)

Author of *The House of Broken Angels* and hailed by NPR as a "master storyteller with a rock and roll heart," Luis Alberto Urrea is a prolific and acclaimed best-selling poet, novelist, and essayist who uses his dual-culture life experiences to explore greater themes of love, loss, and triumph. Born in Tijuana to a Mexican father and American mother and raised primarily in the United States, Urrea often felt like there was a border wall running through his family's San Diego apartment, the kitchen being the United States, the living room Mexico, one side struggling with all her might to make him an American boy, and the other side, with all of his might, trying to keep him Mexican. Often confused as a child by his own dual culture, a "super-American look" combined

with a “super-Mexican outlook and accent,” as an adult, Urrea realized that he could draw on his heritage in his work. Q&A moderated by Kristen Millares Young, an essayist, journalist, book critic, and the author of the novel, *Subduction*. Young is also the Prose Writer-in-Residence at Hugo House.

Literary Arts Series: Min Jin Lee

Monday, June 15, 2020 at 7:30 PM (PT)

Min Jin Lee is the author of *Pachinko*, a sweeping, four-generation epic celebrated as the first novel written for an adult audience in English that focuses on Japanese-Korean culture. A finalist for the 2017 National Book Award in fiction, *Pachinko* is “a beautifully crafted story of love, loss, determination, luck, and perseverance” (*Library Journal*). Q&A moderated by E.J. Koh, Seattle-based writer and author of the memoir, *The Magical Language of Others*.

Literary Arts Series: Carol Anderson

Sunday, June 21, 2020 at 7:30 PM (PT)

Carol Anderson is one of the premier scholars of black American history. Anderson’s viral op-ed for the *Washington Post* explored the concept of “white rage” after Ferguson, Missouri erupted in 2014. Her subsequent book, *White Rage: The Unspoken Truth of Our Racial Divide*, won the 2016 National Book Critics Circle Award for Criticism. Her latest book, *One Person, No Vote: How Voter Suppression is Destroying Our Democracy* (2018), is a history of voter suppression in America. Q&A moderated by Brian J. Carter, the Executive Director of 4Culture.

About Seattle Arts & Lectures: Founded in 1987, Seattle Arts & Lectures champions the literary arts by engaging and inspiring readers and writers of all generations in the Puget Sound region. SAL's programs include the Literary Arts Series, Poetry Series, Women You Need to Know (WYNK), Journalism Series, SAL Presents, Hinge, Local Voices, Summer Book Bingo, the Youth Poet Laureate (YPL) program, and Writers in the Schools (WITS). For more information about SAL, visit lectures.org.