

The University of Tampa MFA January 2019 Lectores Series

All readings begin at 7:30pm

Otessa Moshfegh | January 3, Vaughn Center Crescent Club

Otessa Moshfegh has been heralded as one of the boldest voices in fiction since the publication of her debut novella, *McGlue*, a work of historical fiction released shortly after she earned her MFA from Brown University. *McGlue* was the inaugural winner of the Fence Modern Prize for Prose, received the Believer Book Award, and was optioned for film by *Vice* with a screenplay adaptation written by Moshfegh. Her second novel, *Eileen*, was named a book of the year by *The Washington Post* and *The San Francisco Chronicle*, nominated for a National Book Critics Circle Award, short-listed for the Man Booker Prize, and won the PEN/Hemingway Award for debut fiction. Her short story collection, *Homesick for Another World*, received numerous accolades, including being named a *New York Times* Notable Book of 2017 as well as being named a finalist for the prestigious Story Prize. *Homesick for Another World* was again highlighted in *The New York Times* in 2018 as one of the best books written by a female author in the 21st Century. Her new novel, *My Year of Rest and Relaxation*, was released summer of 2018.



Sarah Perry | January 4, Sykes Chapel



Sarah Perry is the author of the memoir *After the Eclipse*, which was named a *New York Times Book Review* Editors' Choice, a *Poets & Writers* Notable Nonfiction Debut, and a Barnes and Noble Discover Great New Writers pick. Perry is the recipient of the 2018 Betty Berzon Emerging Writer Award and a fellowship from the Edward F. Albee Foundation. She holds an M.F.A. in nonfiction from Columbia University and will serve as the 2019 McGee Distinguished Professor of Creative Writing at Davidson College.

Ira Sukrungruang | January 5, Sykes Chapel

Ira Sukrungruang is the author of the memoirs *Southside Buddhist* and *Talk Thai: The Adventures of Buddhist Boy*, the short story collection *The Melting Season*, and the poetry collection *In Thailand It Is Night*. He is the coeditor of two anthologies on the topic of obesity: *What Are You Looking At? The First Fat Fiction Anthology* and *Scout Over, Skinny: The Fat Nonfiction Anthology*. He is the recipient of the 2015 American Book Award, New York Foundation for the Arts Fellowship in Nonfiction Literature, an Arts and Letters Fellowship, and the Emerging Writer Fellowship. His work has appeared in many literary journals, including *Post Road*, *The Sun*, and *Creative Nonfiction*. He is one of the founding editors of *Sweet: A Literary Confection*, and teaches in the MFA program at University of South Florida.



Sandra Beasley & Erica Dawson | January 6, Vaughn Center Crescent Club



Sandra Beasley is the author of *I Was the Jukebox*, winner of the Barnard Women Poets Prize, and *Theories of Falling*, winner of the New Issues Poetry Prize, and *Don't Kill the Birthday Girl: Tales from an Allergic Life*, a memoir and cultural history of food allergy. Her third collection of poetry, *Count the Waves*, was published by W. W. Norton in 2015. Recent honors for her work include two D.C. Commission on the Arts and Humanities Fellowships and the Maureen Egen Exchange Award from Poets & Writers.

Erica Dawson is the author of three books of poetry: *When Rap Spoke Straight to God* (Tin House, 2018), *The Small Blades Hurt* (Measure Press, 2014), winner of the 2016 Poets' Prize, and *Big-Eyed Afraid* (Waywiser Press, 2007), winner of the

2006 Anthony Hecht Prize. Her poems have appeared in numerous journals and anthologies, including three editions of *Best American Poetry*, *Harvard Review*, *The Believer*, and *Virginia Quarterly Review*. She is an associate professor of English and Writing at UT, and Director of the low-residency MFA program.



Meg Day | January 8, Vaughn Center Crescent Club

Meg Day is the author of *Last Psalm at Sea Level* (Barrow Street, 2014), winner of the Barrow Street Press Poetry Prize and The Publishing Triangle's 2015 Audre Lorde Award, and a finalist for the 2016 Kate Tufts Discovery Award from Claremont Graduate University, a 2015 Lambda Literary Award in Poetry, and Jacar Press' Julie Suk Award. Day is the author of two chapbooks: *When All You Have Is a Hammer* (winner of the 2012 Gertrude Press Chapbook Contest), and *We Can't Read This* (winner of the 2013 Gazing Grain Chapbook Contest). Day's poems appear or are forthcoming in *Prairie Schooner*, *AGNI*, *Beloit Poetry Journal*, *cream city review*, *Drunken Boat*, and *Vinyl*, among other journals, and in recent anthologies, including *Best New Poets of 2013*, *Wingbeats II: Exercises & Practice in Poetry*, *We Will Be Shelter: Poems for Survival* edited by Andrea Gibson, and *Troubling the Line: Trans & Genderqueer Poetry & Poetics*.



Kate Christensen | January 9, Vaughn Center Crescent Club



Kate Christensen is the author of seven novels, including *The Great Man*, which won the 2008 PEN/Faulkner Award for fiction, and, most recently, *The Last Cruise*. She is also the author of two culinary memoirs, *Blue Plate Special* and *How to Cook a Moose*, which won the 2016 Maine Literary Award for Memoir. Her short works have appeared in many periodicals, including *Tin House*, *the New York Times*, *the Wall Street Journal*, *Vogue*, *Elle*, *Bookforum*, and *Food and Wine*. She lives with her husband and dog in Portland, Maine.

Kevin Moffett | January 10, Sykes Chapel

Kevin Moffett is the author of two books, *Permanent Visitors*, which won the John Simmons Short Fiction Award, and *Further Interpretations of Real-Life Events*. He is a frequent contributor to *McSweeney's*; and, his stories and essays have appeared in *Tin House*, *American Short Fiction*, *The Believer*, *A Public Space*, *The Best American Short Stories*, and elsewhere. He has received the National Magazine Award, the Nelson Algren Award, the Pushcart Prize, and a literature fellowship from the National Endowment of the Arts. *The Silent History*, a collaborative multi-part narrative he co-wrote with Matt Derby and Eli Horowitz, was released as an app for mobile devices in 2012, and as a novel in 2014. It is currently in development at AMC.

