

Spotlight: *We're Pleased to Present...*

David Meltzer, John Brandi, and Michael Castro



LECTURE SERIES: "NEO BEAT ATTITUDES: A Convergence of Beat Poets"

on Thursday, January 18, 2007

**7 to 8:30 PM (please note extended time for this lecture)
at Barnes & Noble, 8871 Ladue Road, Ladue 63124**

Get [map and directions](#). For workshop details, visit our [Lectures](#) page.

This meeting is FREE to the SLWG members; \$5 charge for non-members may be fully credited toward dues within 30 days.

Note: Panelists have kindly agreed to autograph books!

Lecture Series Program Description:

On Thursday, January 18, from 7 to 8:30 pm, the St. Louis Writers Guild Lecture Series will present "**NEO BEAT ATTITUDES: A Convergence of Beat Poets**" featuring the reknowned and innovative poets, **David Meltzer** and **John Brandi**, both from California, and **Michael Castro** from St. Louis, all three have produced works noted for their non-conforming, "Beat" style, which has been called "the first fully American literary movement since the Transcendentalists," and which influenced virtually every art form

from the 1950s to the present. Books by the authors will be available for signing. All are welcome to attend. No charge. Please register for event.

Speaker Biographies

David Meltzer began his literary career during the beat heyday in San Francisco by reading poetry to jazz accompaniment at the famous Jazz Cellar. He was a cohort of the forerunners of the San Francisco Beat and later hippie artistic movement, which included Lawrence Ferlinghetti, Allen Ginsberg, Richard Brautigan, Michael McClure, and Stella Levy, among infamous others. Currently he is the editor and interviewer for San Francisco Beat: Talking With The Poets (City Lights, 2001). David teaches in the graduate Poetics program at New College of California, as well as in the College's undergraduate Humanities program. With Steve Dickison, he co-edits Shuffle Bojil, a magazine devoted to music in all its appearances and disappearances. David's publications include novels, short fiction, essays, poems, collections, and recordings. His book: Selected Poems was published in 2005 by Viking/Penguin.

John Brandi's dozens of publications include: poetry, travel vignettes, essays, modern American haiku, translations of contemporary Mexican poetry, hand-colored broadsides, and limited-edition letterpress books. Internationally published, he has given innumerable readings throughout the world and his solo exhibits include galleries in Houston, San Francisco, Rochester, Milwaukee, Albuquerque, and Santa Fe. Among his honors: a National Endowment for the Arts Fellowship for Poetry, a Witter Bynner Translation Award, a Djerassi Foundation Residency, the Just Buffalo Writers Award, the Portland State University Poetry Prize, and several N.E.A. awards to publish poetry, 1975-1988, as founder/editor of Tooth of Time Books. His books include: Heartbeat Geography: Selected and Uncollected Poems, 1966-1994; A Question of Journey; Visits to the City of Light; Weeding the Cosmos; and Reflections in the Lizard's Eye. He teaches poetry as a member of the summer faculty at Idyllwild Arts, California.

Michael Castro has a Ph.D. in American Literature from Washington University, is a Fullbright Scholar, and currently teaches at Lindenwood University. He has published six books of poems and his poems, essays, and translations have appeared in more than one hundred magazines and numerous anthologies. Recent works include the poetry books, The Man Who Looked Into Coltrane's Horn, and Human Rites. His translations of modern Hungarian poetry with Gabor G. Gyukics have resulted in the anthology Swimming in the Ground (2001) and two books forthcoming in 2006: Gypsy Drill: Poetry of Attila Balogh, and A Transparent Lion: Selected Poems of Attila Jozsef. In 1975 Castro co-founded the literary organization River Styx, which sponsors readings and mixed media events while publishing River Styx Magazine. He pioneered poetry radio, hosting the River Styx Poets Radio Show, the Ars Poetica Show, and Poetry Beat. He has been presented with two lifetime achievement awards: The Guardian Angel of St. Louis Poetry Award by River Styx, and the Warrior Poet award by Word In Motion.