

The Illinois State University Creative Writing Program and Department of English Present

noise @ Salon

Saturday, February 18, 2012
McLean County Arts Center
601 N. East St.
Downtown Bloomington
Noon–5pm

featured artists

Kristin White *lyric soprano*

Erin Malone *pianist*

Monica Hand *poet*

John Cassidy *visual artist*

Jin Lee *photographer*

Rhondal McKinney *photographer*

works-in-progress presentations

Jamison Lee *excerpts from "Bring the Noise to/o(:) Poetry (as Sound Design)"*

Lasantha Rodrigo *lyrical prose from "If Only My Body Could Speak"*



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THE ENGLISH DEPARTMENT'S
PUBLICATIONS UNIT

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events, and initiatives on local, national, and international levels. Please contact us to let us know how we can assist you or to find out how to get involved at lgbtq@ilstu.edu.

About the ISU Women's and Gender Studies Program

A strong and viable Women's and Gender Studies Program is essential to the University's mission to provide a high-quality liberal arts education. Our undergraduate minor and graduate certificate programs enhance any major and prepare students to think critically about gender as they become global citizens who value lifelong learning and social justice.

The Women's and Gender Studies Program is a multidisciplinary community of scholars committed to a transformative analysis of gender as it intersects with class, sexuality, race, ethnicity, ability, age, nationality, and transnationality. We are engaged in innovative and collaborative scholarship, teaching, and service that promote new knowledge and socially responsible activism.

About Liz Lerman's Critical Response Process

Liz Lerman's Critical Response Process is a widely recognized method that nurtures the development of artistic works-in-progress through a four-step method for facilitated group feedback that affords the artist an active role in the dialogue.

The Process engages participants in three roles:

The artist offers a work-in-progress for review and is prepared to question that work in a dialogue with others; responders, committed to the artist's intent to make excellent work, offer reactions to the work in a dialogue with the artist; and the facilitator initiates each step, keeps the process on track, and works to help the artist and responders use the Process to frame useful questions and responses.

After the presentation of artistic work, the facilitator leads the artist and responders through four steps:

1. Statements of Meaning
2. Artist as Questioner
3. Neutral Questions
4. Permissioned Opinions

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About @Salon

A theater of conversation and exchange akin to the literary salons of the 17th and 18th century, ISU's @Salon is a welcome space for artists and art enthusiasts from area colleges and universities, the larger Bloomington-Normal community and beyond. Providing an interdisciplinary showcase for the works of renowned local and regional artists, @Salon is a celebration of creativity and dialogue in action. As a highlight, @Salon features presentation and discussion of works-in-progress using Liz Lerman's Format for Critical Response. @Salon. Creativity. Live.

About the host

Duriel E. Harris is the author of *Drag* (Elixir Press, 2003), *Amnesiac: Poems* (Sheep Meadow Press, 2010), and *Speleology* (2011), a collaboration with artist Scott Rankin—a jury selection of the 2011 International Literary Film Festival. A recipient of grants from the Illinois Arts Council and post-doctoral residencies at UIC and the University of California, Santa Barbara, Harris's work has been featured and published internationally. A co-founder of the Black Took Collective and member of Douglas Ewart and Inventions free jazz ensemble, she is an assistant professor of English and teaches creative writing and poetics at Illinois State University.

About the ISU Department of English

The Department of English at Illinois State University is dedicated to providing an environment that facilitates the individual and communal work—creative, intellectual, administrative, and outreach—of our faculty, staff, and students. Our vision is guided by the University mission statement, Educating Illinois, and includes the following:

- Create a work environment that values all members as people and fosters positive morale and transparency where possible, acknowledges and honors the professionalism of all faculty, staff, and graduate assistants in our various roles, and recognizes the interdependence of our work through informal and formal discourse;
- Promote innovative and dynamic pedagogical research, scholarship, and practice in the classroom and the curriculum;
- Support—through reassigned time and co-teaching opportunities—interdisciplinary research and publication, while continuing to value the forms of research and publication that are appropriate to a particular field;
- Continue to articulate and revise a multi-dimensional understanding of English Studies that responds to the changing needs of our students, the field, and the world;
- Maintain our commitment to providing students with a learning environment and community that supports growth as a individual, professional, and citizen;
- Strengthen diversity in the composition of our faculty, students, and curricular and pedagogical approaches through individual, programmatic, and departmental action; and
- Secure the facilities and resources required to support excellence in scholarship, teaching, and research.

About the ISU Creative Writing Program

The Creative Writing Program at Illinois State University has earned respect and a national reputation as a place for the study of alternative forms of writing. Since participants will envision limitless alternatives to traditional forms, we begin, in our organization as a community, with the assumption that productive dissensus is an inevitable and necessary element of any individual's, and community's, development. It is our intention to operate by the consensus that will be the natural outcome of these differences, empowering ourselves and our field by means of those distinctions. Our program is a critical component of English Studies at large and, as such, a point of exigency in the efforts to (re)define and “overstand” the matters that contribute to higher or lifelong learning.

About the ISU LGBT/Queer Studies and Services Institute

Our mission is to promote equity and social justice for the LGBTQ community. This is critical to the University's mission to ensure a high-quality education for all students and a supportive and productive environment for all members of ISU's diverse community. This is achieved via its three main components: academic, campus student and personnel services, and community outreach. We serve our constituents by coordinating, publicizing, and supporting campus and community efforts related to LGBTQ people and their allies. We also link the campus community to relevant LGBTQ organizations,

About our featured artists

Originally from Peoria, Illinois, **John Cassidy** earned his BA and MA in English at Bradley University. During his graduate work in English, John began developing artwork relative to writing and poetry. He has lived and made his work in Bloomington for the past 17 years.

Monica Hand is an award-winning poet and book artist. She is the author of *me and Nina* (Alice James Books, 2012), and her poems have appeared in numerous publications including *Naugatuck River Review*, *The Sow's Ear*, and *Drunken Boat*. She holds a MFA in Poetry and Poetry in Translation from Drew University.

Jin Lee is Professor of Art at Illinois State University and currently serves as the MFA Graduate Coordinator. She earned her MFA from the School of the Art Institute of Chicago and BA from Wellesley College.

Pianist **Erin Malone**, BA, studied Piano Performance, Theory, and Accompanying at the Illinois Wesleyan Preparatory Department and at Illinois State University with Julian Dawson (Trinity College; U of Dublin; Royal Academy of Music; Royal College of Music). Malone has served as accompanist for vocal students, instrumentalists, and opera productions at ISU, and currently serves as accompanist for the studio of Kristin White.

Rhondal McKinney is Professor of Art at Illinois State University. He earned his BA and MFA from the University of Illinois.

Soprano **Kristin White** teaches voice at Illinois Central College. She holds a master's degree in vocal performance from Illinois State University, where she won the Concerto Competition three times. White has performed in the operas *The Merry Widow*, *Die Fledermaus*, *HMS Pinafore*, *Gianni Schicchi*, and *La Boheme*. She is a member of Opera Illinois and maintains a private studio for voice students in Bloomington.

About our works-in-progress presenters

Jamison Lee is a doctoral student at Illinois State University. He studies humor theory and poetry as sound design. His most recent work appears in *Touchstone Literary Journal* and *Cordite Poetry Review*. Lee lives in Normal, Illinois.

Lasantha Rodrigo is a third-year PhD student in the English Department, focusing in Creative Writing. His main area is creative nonfiction, and he draws from trauma theory, postcolonial theory, queer theory, and disability studies in his work.

About our special guest



Sharon Bridgforth, a resident playwright at New Dramatists since 2009, is a writer working in the Theatrical Jazz Aesthetic. Her piece *blood pudding* was produced in the 2010 New York SummerStage Festival. She is the 2010–2012 Visiting Multicultural Faculty member at The Theatre School at DePaul University. The 2009 Mellon Artist-in-Residence in the Department of Performance Studies at Northwestern University, Bridgforth is recipient of the 2008 Alpert/Hedgebrook Residency Prize. Her work has been presented nationally at venues including the Walker Art Center and Links Hall. Bridgforth’s work has received support from the National Endowment for the Arts Commissioning Program; the National Endowment for the Arts/Theatre Communications Group Playwright in Residence Program; the National Performance Network Commissioning Fund; the Paul Robeson Fund for Independent Media; and the Rockefeller Foundation Multi-Arts Production Fund Award. Bridgforth is the author of *love conjure/blues* and the Lambda Literary Award-winning *bull-jean stories*, published by RedBone Press. She is co-editor of *Experiments in a Jazz Aesthetic: Art, Activism, Academia, and the Austin Project* (University of Texas Press, 2010).

@Salon

Welcome

12.15pm Doug Johnson, McLean County Arts Center
Duriel E. Harris, ISU

I

Musical Selections

12.30p Kristin White, Erin Malone

II

Work in Progress: from “If Only My Body Could
Speak: A Meditation on Impairing Body Parts”
(lyrical prose)

12.45p Lasantha Rodrigo

Open Gallery

1.45p–2.45p

III

Musical Selections

2.45p Kristin White, Erin Malone

IV

Work in Progress: from “Bring the Noise to/o(:)
Poetry (as Sound Design)” (poetry)

3.15p Jamison Lee

V

Reading

4.15p Sharon Bridgforth