

University of Rhode Island English Department

READ/WRITE

ANNUAL READING SERIES:

Fall 2006

Thursday, September 21, 2006 4-6 pm

Phillis Levin

Phillis Levin is the author of three poetry collections, *Temples and Fields* (1988), *The Afterimage* (1995), and *Mercury* (2001), and is the editor of *The Penguin Book of the Sonnet* (2001). She has completed a new volume of poems, *May Day*, and is now working on a book-length sequence, "Zeno in the Dark." The recipient of a Fulbright Fellowship to Slovenia, the Amy Lowell Poetry Traveling Scholarship, and a Guggenheim Fellowship, she lives in New York and teaches at Hofstra University.

Thursday, October 19, 2006, 4-6pm Mark Bibbins & Kathy Ossip

Mark Bibbins received a Lambda Literary Award for his first collection of poems, *Sky Lounge* (Graywolf Press, 2003). He co-founded *LIT*, the journal of the New School graduate writing program, where he is also faculty in the MFA Program. He is a recipient of a New York Foundation for the Arts fellowship in poetry. His work has appeared in the *Paris Review*, *Boston Review*, *Poetry*, and *Best American Poetry*

Kathleen Ossip's book *The Search Engine* was selected by Derek Walcott for the APR/Honickman First Book Prize. Poems have appeared in *Paris Review*, *Kenyon Review*, and the *Best American Poetry 2001*. She teaches poetry workshops at the New School

Thursday, November 16, 2006, 4-6pm Patricia Spears Jones & Matt Sharpe

African American poet and arts writer, **Patricia Spears Jones** is author of two poetry collections, *The Weather That Kills* from Coffee House Press, 1995, and *Femme du Monde* from Tia Chucha Press, 2006 in addition to the plays, *Mother* commissioned and produced by Mabou Mines and a new commission *Song for New York: What Women Do When Men are Knitting*, which will premiere in 2007.

Matt Sharpe is the author of the novels *The Sleeping Father* and *Nothing Is Terrible*, and the short-story collection *Stories From the Tube*. His new novel, *Jamestown*, about the first permanent British settlement in North America, will be published in March 2007. He teaches at Wesleyan University and lives in New York.

*****Special Event URI Faculty Colloquium
Thursday, November 2, 2006 , 4-6 pm Professor Martha
Elena Rojas**

Professor Rojas's ongoing intellectual interests include the problem of compromise in early America, pan-American cultural and political movements, maritime literature, and tales of rogues, tricksters, and go-betweens. Her current book manuscript "Diplomatic Letters: The Conduct and Culture of Foreign Affairs in the Early Republic" examines an array of cultural and literary materials: including diplomatic letters and gifts, treaties of peace and friendship, political pamphlets, private journals, and narratives of captivity. A section from this project, on the "Barbary" captivity of the American sailor, James Leander Cathcart, has appeared in *Early American Studies*. And another essay, "Diplomatic Exchanges: Gifts, Bribes and Tribute," is forthcoming in a volume titled *The Old World and the New: Exchanges Between America and Europe in the Age of Jefferson*.

All events are free, open to the public, and followed by a reception!

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