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Litquake Presents *Less Than Zero: An Homage to '80s Lit, Big Hair & Distressed Denim*



The Bay Area Literary Festival turns back the pages to an era when Dynasty ruled the airwaves, leg warmers, fingerless gloves and scrunchies were everywhere, and Prince managed to drench an entire nation in Purple Rain, with an evening featuring local writers Michelle Tea, Joshua Mohr, Alia Volz, Hollie Hardy, Andrew Dugas and others performing readings of the works of Bret Easton Ellis (*Less Than Zero*), Tama Janowitz (*Slaves of New York*), Jay McInerney (*Bright Lights Big City*), Lisa Birnbach (*The Official Preppy Handbook*), Tom Wolfe (*Bonfire of the Vanities*), and Carrie Fisher (*Postcards from the Edge*); also on deck: a full-service New Wave/Dynasty makeup bar, Sparkle Motion interpreting the Solid Gold dancers, an 80s fashion show and dress-up box and tunes from the MTV decade

Thursday, July 24, Verdi Club 8pm; Tickets 15.00 advance, [\\$20.00 at the door](#); dressing encouraged, shoulder pads optional; all proceeds go toward funding the Lit Crawl, which closes the 9-day Litquake festival coming this Fall

July 1 2014, San Francisco – Litquake has a tradition of summer fundraisers that celebrate the literature of bygone eras, including but limited to the Beats of the 50s and the American expats of 1920's Paris. For 2014 they turn back the pages to a time when Dynasty ruled the airwaves, leg warmers, fingerless gloves and scrunchies were everywhere, and Prince managed to drench an entire nation in Purple Rain with *Less Than Zero: An Homage to 80's Lit, Big Hair and Distressed Denim*.

The evening sees the pairing of local writers with a sampling of iconic works of the era:

- Michelle Tea reading *The Official Preppy Handbook* by Lisa Birnbach
- Joshua Mohr reading from *Less Than Zero* by Bret Easton Ellis
- Andrew Dugas reading from *Bright Lights Big City* by Jay McInerney
- Alia Volz reading from *Slaves From New York* by Tama Janowitz
- Hollie Hardy reading from Carrie Fisher's *Postcards from the Edge*

- Tom Wolfe's *Bonfire of the Vanities*

In addition there will be:

- A full-service New Wave/Dynasty makeup bar
- SF dance group Sparkle Motion channeling the Solid Gold Dancers
- Vintage films
- Funky 80s fashion show by Trash Resources
- Tunes from the MTV Generation – bring your dancing shoes

All proceeds go toward staging Litquake's Lit Crawl, the closing night of the 9 day festival in the Fall.

Dressing '80s-style encouraged; shoulder pads optional.

What: *Litquake Presents Less Than Zero: An Homage to '80s Lit, Big Hair & Distressed Denim*

When: Thursday, July 24 at 8pm

Where: Verdi Club, 2424 Mariposa St

Tickets: Litquake.org

About Litquake

Litquake, San Francisco's annual literary festival, was founded by Bay Area writers in order to put on a week-long literary spectacle for book lovers, complete with cutting-edge panels, unique cross-media events, and hundreds of readings. Since its founding in 1999, the festival has presented more than 5,350 author appearances for an audience of over 115,000 in its lively and inclusive celebration of San Francisco's thriving contemporary literary scene. Litquake seeks to foster interest in literature, perpetuate a sense of literary community, and provide a vibrant forum for Bay Area writing as a complement to the city's music, film, and cultural festivals. **2014 Dates:** 10/10-18. www.litquake.org

Litquake is made possible in part due to the support of the following sponsors: The Miner Anderson Family Foundation, San Francisco Arts Commission, San Francisco Grants for the Arts, Craig Connects, Pante Rhea Foundation, Black Balloon Publishing, California Institute of Integral Studies, Chronicle Books, HarperOne, Stanford Humanities Center and the Human Experience at Stanford University, Stanford Continuing Studies, The UC Berkeley Extension Writing Program, UC Press, SF Travel, The Consulate-General of Mexico in San Francisco, The Book Club of California, The Museum of African Diaspora, News from Native California, Native Arts and Cultures Foundation and The Hotel Rex. **Media Sponsors:** 7x7 magazine, KQED, KALW 91.7, The San Francisco Bay Guardian, The Bold Italic and Johnny Funcheap. **Media Partners:** KPOO 89.5, BARTab, Stitcher.