

Media Alert

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Litquake Goes Totally Gay For 2011 (well, in a manner of speaking ...)



Great Night Author Chris Adrian, Michelle Tea, Andrew Sean Greer and Daphne Gottlieb

From programming that spotlights Lesbian dilettantes, poignant/powerful memoirs, performative literary scenes on top of pool tables and readings from a retelling of *A Midsummer Night's Dream* set in Buena Vista Park to evenings featuring Lambda Fellows, poetry about faith and spirituality as well as tales that “Blame it on the a-a-a-Alcohol,” Litquake 2011 covers the gay/queer waterfront with 7 separate events

San Francisco's Literary Festival Litquake runs October 7-15 and will feature over 150 separate events over the 9 days of the festival and includes appearances by Chelsea Handler, Jeffrey Eugenides, James Ellroy, Cyra McFadden, Deepak Chopra, Karen Russell and others. Complete schedule at www.litquake.org

1. The Great Night in Buena Vista Park

When: Sunday, October 9, 2011, 4:00pm

Where: Buena Vista Park Summit, Buena Vista Park Haight St. and Buena Vista Ave.

Cost: FREE

Co-presented by Booksmith, Buena Vista Neighborhood Association, San Francisco Recreation & Park Department, and San Francisco Parks Alliance.

This picnic, party and readings celebrates Chris Adrian's novel *The Great Night*, a retelling of *A Midsummer Night's Dream* set in Buena Vista Park that captures the magic of that play, while also becoming a modern "Tale" of the City; Faeries, Faerie drag, maypoles, twinkle lights and more. Pack a basket, bring a blanket, and join Litquake and Booksmith for magic and revelry at the summit overlooking the city below.

Readings and performances by:

- **Chris Adrian**
- **Andrew Sean Greer**
- And emcee **Daniel Handler** (aka Lemony Snicket)
- Booksmith's **Literary Clown Foolery** troupe
- On-site **String Quartet**

Please note: Since this is a party en plein air; layered clothing and warm coats suggested, but given that it's October in San Francisco, it could very well be lovely and even ... mid-Summery.

2. Barbershop Reading: A Little Off the Top and Over the Top

When: Tuesday, October 11, 2011, 9:00 PM

Where: Joe's Barbershop, 2150 Market St., SF

Cost: Free; \$5-\$10 suggested donation

Joe's Barbershop in the Castro transforms into a nightclub featuring outstanding voices from the city's LGBT community.

Michael Alenyikov's *Ivan and Misha* won the 2011 Northern California Book Award. He's worked as a bookstore clerk, cab driver, and a psychologist. Raised in the outer reaches of New York's three Outer Boroughs, he lives in San Francisco.

Nick Krieger is author of the memoir *Nina Here Nor There: My Journey Beyond Gender*. A native of New York, Krieger realized at 21 that he'd been born on the wrong coast, prompting his transition to San Francisco.

Malinda Lo, a former entertainment reporter, is author of *Ash and Huntress*, two young adult fantasies. She lives in Northern California with her partner and their dog.

Michael McAllister has blogged at Dogpoet.com for ten years, and is founder of the Barbershop Reading Series. He holds an MFA from Columbia University, and is finishing his first book by a gay man whose parents both came out of the closet when he was a boy, and whose brother turned out straight. "We call him the black sheep."

Monica Nolan will read from her newest book, tentatively titled, *Maxie Mainwaring, Lesbian Dilettante*. Nolan's prior books include *The Big Book of Lesbian Horse Stories* (co-authored with Alisa Surkis); *Lois Lenz, Lesbian Secretary*; and *Bobby Blanchard, Lesbian Gym Teacher*. Her articles have appeared in the *San Francisco Chronicle*, *Bitch*, and *Release Print*.

Rob Rosen is author of the critically acclaimed novels *Sparkle: The Queerest Book You'll Ever Love*; *Divas Las Vegas*; *Hot Lava*. His short stories have appeared in more than 150 anthologies. Rob will read from his fourth novel *Southern Fried*, which comes out September 2011.

3. RADAR at the Luggage Store

When: Wednesday, October 12, 2011, 7:00 PM

Where: Luggage Store, 1007 Market St., SF

Cost: FREE

The monthly RADAR Reading Series lands at the Luggage Store Gallery for an evening of apocalyptic treats, romantic advice and literature, hosted by Michelle Tea.

Professional chef **Yasmin Golan** co-founded the gay pop-up restaurant Queer Food For Love and writes and illustrates original zines and minicomics about everything from Parisian apartment buildings to Michael Jackson's masculinity.

Myriam Gurba call herself "a short Mexican/Polack (Molack)" who wrote *Dahlia Season* (Manic D Press) and *Wish You Were Me* (Future Tense Press). She has read her work onstage with Sister Spit and to her parents in their living room. Both audiences cringed.

Playwright **Genny Lim** is the author of a bilingual children's book, *Wings of Lai Ho*, and co-author of *Island: Poetry and History of Chinese Immigrants on Angel Island*. She lives in San Francisco with her two daughters, Colette and Danielle.

Shannon O'Malley is author of the zine and blog *Apocalypse Cakes*, which gained notice after she posted recipes for Global Jihad Date Cake and Seismic Haitian Mud Cake.

K.M. Soehnlein is author of three novels including *The World of Normal Boys*— which won the Lambda Literary Award and has been optioned for film— *You Can Say You Knew Me When* and *Robin and Ruby*. He teaches creative writing at USF and lives in SoMa with his partner, Kevin Clarke.

Critic and fiction writer **Masha Tupitsyn** is author of *LACONIA: 1,200 Tweets on Film*, *Beauty Talk & Monsters*, and co-editor of the City Lights anthology *Life As We Show It: Writing on Film*.

Laurie Weeks is a New York City writer and performer. Her fiction and essays are published widely, and she was also a screenwriter on the film *Boys Don't Cry*. Her novel, *Zippermouth*, was published in fall 2011.

Lit Crawl

4. Blame it on the a a a a Alcohol: Tall tales of inebriated misadventures, hosted by BARTab Editor and fiction author Jim Provenzano

When: Saturday, October 15, 2011, 6-7pm

Where: Martuni's, 4 Valencia Street (at Market), SF

Cost: Free

Daphne Gottlieb stitches together the ivory tower and the gutter. She is the author of eight books and co-editor of *Dear Dawn: Aileen Wuornos in Her Own Words*.

Jon Ginoli is the singer, guitarist, and founder of the queer rock band Pansy Division, and author of *Deflowered: My Life In Pansy Division*.

Baruch Porras-Hernandez has featured throughout the Bay Area, D.C., New York and Canada as a performance poet. He co-hosts San Francisco's Queer Open Mic.

Brenda Knight is a twenty-year publishing veteran, starting at HarperCollins, and authored *Women of the Beat Generation*, *Rituals for Life*, and *Wild Women and Books*.

Simon Sheppard is the author of *Sodomy!* and four other books, editor of the Lambda-Award-winning *Homosex*, and cohost of the performance series Perverts Put Out!

5. Radar Reading Series' "Performative Literary Event"

When: Saturday, October 15, 2011, 7:15-8:15pm

Where: Atop the Pool Table at The Lexington Club, 3464 19th Street, SF

Cost: FREE

Queer-centric RADAR Productions presents a performative literary event atop a pool table in San Francisco's most beloved queer bar.

Rhiannon Argo is the author of the Lambda award-winning novel *The Creamsickle*. She is currently working on her second novel, *Electric Feel*.

Annie Danger is a fearsome hunter of the perfect hybrid. She is a trans woman performer and artist living in San Francisco.

Myriam Gurba wrote *Dahlia Season* (Manic D Press) and *Wish You Were Me* (Future Tense Press). She likes playing hide-and-seek with her pet rabbits.

Brontez Purcell is a zinester (Fag School), columnist (Maximum Rock N Roll), musician (The Younger Lovers), and dancer. He is writing his first novella.

6. Fabulocity and Fierceness: A Reading by Lambda Fellows

When: Saturday, October 15, 2011, 8:30-9:30pm

Where: Viracocha, 998 Valencia St., SF

Cost: FREE

C. Adán Cabrera is the queer son of Salvadoran refugees. To learn more about him, visit cadancabrera.com

Belo Cipriani is a Lambda Fellow, Literary Death Match Champion, and the author of *Blind: A Memoir*. blindamemoir.com

Meg Day is a Pushcart-nominated poet, nationally awarded spoken-word artist, and badass arts educator. megday.com

Cole Krawitz is a writer, teacher, and poet published in *Tidal Basin Review*, *Connotation Press*, *The Forward*, and more.

Oscar Raymundo is a San Francisco-based writer working on his first novel.

Dawn Robinson is a butch-fag-diva living and working the gender-blur in Oakland and is currently writing a novel.

July Westhale is a femmeshark/radical-archivist. She believes her story should be remembered, and yours should too.

7. Collective Brightness: LGBTIQ Poets on Faith, Religion, and Spirituality

When: Saturday, October 15, 2011, 8:30-9:30pm

Where: Doc's Clock, 2575 Mission St., SF

Cost: FREE

Dan Bellm, a poet and translator, lives in Berkeley. His most recent book, *Practice* (Sixteen Rivers), won a 2009 California Book Award in Poetry.

John (Jay) Frazier writes sonnets and has published in a variety of journals. He has been a MacDowell Fellow and was a founding member of Cave Canem.

Amir Rabiya lives in Oakland and has been published in numerous journals and anthologies, most recently in *Gender Outlaws: The Next Generation*.

Ruth L. Schwartz has published five books, including a National Poetry Series winner, and teaches retreats nationwide.

Chrissy Anderson-Zavala is a Xicana writer and educator from Salinas.

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 2800 author appearances for an audience of over 67,000 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. Dates: 10/7-15, 2011. www.litquake.org

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