



Workshop Sessions – April 6, 2023

Festival Check In 8:00-9:00 AM: Courtyard/ Fountain area

Opening Reading Sampler 9:00-10:00 AM: DuBow Theatre

Williams, Rivas, Kumari Upadhyaya, Kirby, Reingold, Craft, Rojas, Moniz

Session I 10:15-11:15 a.m.

Philyaw	Kirby	Craft	Rivas	Moniz
<i>Recital Hall (Bldg. 8 – 132)</i>	<i>CW Suite (Bldg. 6 – 54)</i>	<i>Screening Room (Bldg. 5)</i>	<i>Orchestra (Bldg. 7 – 178)</i>	<i>Courtyard</i>
Fiction	Poetry	Poetry	Publishing	Book Signing *Femme Fire will support for Moniz at 10:15-11:15

Workshop Descriptions:

- Philyaw: What's at stake for your characters?
 - If the stakes are low or unclear, readers are going to wonder, “So what?” And if we want readers to keep reading, we’d better have an answer to that question. So we raise the stakes for our characters. What do they have to lose? What are they trying to gain? What’s standing in the way between them and what they want? Is it interesting, unexpected, terrifying, nuanced, subversive, outrageous, disruptive, unusual, surprising, or unpredictable? Through generative writing exercises, attendees will raise stakes for characters from their work-in-progress or start something new.
- Kirby: "Think Small: The Tiniest Beginnings Lead to the Biggest Poems."
 - Did you know that you are living in a gold mine of possibilities? David Kirby will show you how to discover the riches at your feet and turn them into priceless poetry.
- Craft: The Persona Poem
 - The instructor will provide examples of persona poetry from contemporary poets like Patricia Smith, Ai, Frank Bidart, Alexa Doran, and others. Attendees will gain an entry point to the affordances and limitations of persona as they discuss the poems. A series of writing prompts will then help students select and inhabit, or challenge and subvert a persona in verse. Attendees will be encouraged to identify what is distinctive about their own poetic voice as they draft their persona poems, and what their unique experience might bring to a conversation with a persona.



- Rivas: Burrow Press Publishing Discussion
 - This class will involve a discussion of the larger literary publishing landscape, using the history of Burrow Press (an Orlando-based publisher established in 2010) to contextualize the importance of community-based initiatives and small, independent publishers within the larger publishing ecosystem. There will be ample time for a general Q&A open to any questions related to publishing.

Session II 11:30-12:30 p.m.

Sealey	Kirby	Reingold	Kumari Updadhya	Craft
<i>Recital Hall (Bldg. 8 – 132)</i>	<i>CW Suite (Bldg. 6 – 54)</i>	<i>Screening Room (Bldg. 5)</i>	<i>Orchestra (Bldg. 7 – 178)</i>	<i>Courtyard</i>
Poetry	Poetry	Playwriting / Screenwriting	Fiction	Book Signing

Workshop Descriptions:

- Sealey: Seeing is Believing: Drafting the Lasting Image.
 - In *The Poet's Companion*, Kim Addonizio and Dorianne Laux argue that images should “produce a bit of magic, a reality so real it is ‘like being alive twice.’” As we know, images are closely linked to memory. As poets, after mining our respective memories, how do we deepen a reader’s experience with the poem via the image? How does one draft a lasting image? This workshop seeks to focus the image at the poem’s center. This workshop will explore the image and its implications. To this end, participants will review poems with images that reverberate and re-imagine their own poems with images that idle.
- Kirby: "Think Small: The Tiniest Beginnings Lead to the Biggest Poems."
 - Did you know that you are living in a gold mine of possibilities? David Kirby will show you how to discover the riches at your feet and turn them into priceless poetry.
- Reingold: How to create your own series!
 - This TV writing workshop will start with craft elements unique to the form, and end with students pitching original series ideas. Questions to be discussed will include: What makes great television? How is TV writing different from other forms? What skills does a TV writer need? What components are in every good script? What elements are needed to create a successful original series? The workshop will mirror the dynamic of a professional writers room, where the showrunner is in charge, yet the writers are full participants. Discussions will be lively, interactive, and always supportive. Ideas will be shared. Writing will happen. Followed by more ideas. And more writing. Writers rooms are fun and creative, yet focused and disciplined. Bring your ideas about TV. What do you watch, not watch, and why? What kind of show do YOU want to create? Everyone will be encouraged to share, write, learn, collaborate. And create.



- Kumari Upadhyaya: Exploring the Haunted House in Fiction: A Generative Horror Workshop
 - Using brief readings, discussions, and prompts, students will explore the classic horror and gothic literature trope of the HAUNTED HOUSE as a tool for developing characters, relationships, pacing, tension, place writing, and stakes in fiction. Horror can often act as a mirror for social issues, and we'll look at how to use horror to untangle complex emotions, identity, and social contexts. This is a generative workshop, so we'll be writing together throughout.

Lunch 12:30-1:20 p.m. Courtyard/ Fountain area
Food Trucks

Interview 1:30 -2:30 p.m. DuBow Theatre
Nicole Sealey and Deesha Philyaw,
Nikesha Williams, interviewer

Session III 2:45-3:45 p.m.

Moniz	Rojas	Craft	Kumari Upadhyaya	Reingold
<i>Recital Hall (Bldg. 8 – 132)</i>	<i>CW Suite (Bldg. 6 – 54)</i>	<i>Screening Room (Bldg. 5)</i>	<i>Orchestra (Bldg. 7 – 178)</i>	<i>Courtyard</i>
Fiction	Poetry	Poetry	Fiction	Author Signing

Workshop Descriptions:

- Moniz: Revision:
 - Clichés are clichés for a reason—they're phrases or descriptions that were once fresh and innovative but have become so ingrained in our daily lexicon that we no longer have to think about them; they no longer spark us to make a surprising connection between the phrase and our understanding of what the phrase is meant to illuminate. The same can be said for the types of stereotypical characters we come across every day in our film, media, and literature. This generative workshop is intended to allow participants to go beyond the first or even second image or idea they come up against while drafting creative work and bring freshness and surprise to the material in a revisional writing exercise.
- Rojas: "Writing the one- and two- act poem."
 - We will explore the haiku form and how it inspired the Imagists in the early 1910s and therefore the Modernist movement beginning during WW I. We will generate two short, terse, visual poems (a one-act and a two-act poem) based on the work of the Imagists.



- Craft: The Persona Poem
 - The instructor will provide examples of persona poetry from contemporary poets like Patricia Smith, Ai, Frank Bidart, Alexa Doran, and others. Attendees will gain an entry point to the affordances and limitations of persona as they discuss the poems. A series of writing prompts will then help students select and inhabit, or challenge and subvert a persona in verse. Attendees will be encouraged to identify what is distinctive about their own poetic voice as they draft their persona poems, and what their unique experience might bring to a conversation with a persona.

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Session IV 4-5 p.m.

Moniz	Rojas	Reingold	Williams
<i>Recital Hall (Bldg. 8 – 132)</i>	<i>CW Suite (Bldg. 6 – 54)</i>	<i>Screening Room (Bldg. 5)</i>	<i>Orchestra (Bldg. 7 – 178)</i>
Fiction	Poetry	Playwriting / Screenwriting	Fiction

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- Reingold: How to create your own series!
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- Williams: Crafting Complex Characters Workshop
 - What's a story without characters? A descriptive essay very few will read. In Crafting Complex Characters, award winning author Nikesha Elise Williams will help you make your characters more compelling by digging beyond the surface of common tropes to give your characters depth that will make them feel like real people who are flawed, insecure, and blind to their own behavior.

Evening Reading & Book Signing 7:00-8:00 PM

DuBow Theatre

Nicole Sealey and Deesha Philyaw

**Femme Fire Books will be selling a limited supply of books by our headliners on site.

**Book signing will immediately follow the reading from 8:00 – 8:30 p.m.