



Noon - 1:00 pm

Authors On The Map

Venice Rooms



Michelle Bacon



Paula Becker



Janie Chang



Susan DeFreitas



Sara Wilson Etienne

These authors may not yet be household names, but they're ready to break out and want to team up with you to make it happen. Invite them to your stores, handsell their books, and do your part to put these Northwest Authors on the Map! Enjoy a box lunch during the presentations, then meet the authors while they sign in the Rotunda of the Exhibit Hall following the event. Lunch tickets must be pre-purchased but are not required for attendance, with show badge.

Teens who like their fiction full of gritty realism will find much to love in *Life Before* (Sky Pony/Perseus), Seattle writer **Michele Bacon's** debut novel. All his life, Xander has hidden the truth about his family life from everyone. If he can just make it through graduation and one last summer, he'll go off to college with a clean slate—no risk, no drama, no fear. But graduation day brings terror, and Xander finds himself on the run with a fake ID and his greatest fear close on his heels. *VOYA Magazine* notes "Life Before's first-person narrative quickly captures the reader, delivering a just unpredictable enough roller coaster ride with successive runs of building tension and release as Xander's first experience of true independence comes with little preparation and sudden and unexpected urgency."

Looking for Betty MacDonald: The Egg, the Plague, Mrs. Piggle-Wiggle and I (Univ. of Washington Press) from historian **Paula Becker** is the first full biography of one of the Northwest's most enduring literary figures. MacDonald's Northwest classic *The Egg and I* was an immediate success on its publication in 1945, selling more than a million copies in its first year. With full access to MacDonald's archives, Becker revels the differences between the real Betty MacDonald and her literary persona. Paula Becker is coauthor of two previous books of Washington history, and is a staff historian at HistoryLink.org. She lives in Seattle.

British Columbia writer **Janie Chang** brings early 20th Century Shanghai to life in *Dragon Springs Road* (William Morrow/Harper), a story of friendship, heartbreak and history that follows a young Eurasian orphan's life-long search for the mother who abandoned her. Left without family protection, viewed with contempt by both Chinese and Europeans, Jialing relies on the guidance of Fox, an animal spirit who has lived on the estate for centuries, to see her through the tumult of charged allegiances, forbidden love, and political intrigue. Janie Chang is also the author of *Three Souls*, and is the founder and organizer of Authors for Indies, a national event to bring Canadian authors into independent bookstores for a day. *Dragon Springs Road* will be published in January, 2017.

Susan DeFreitas' debut novel *The Hot Season* (Harvard Square Editions) takes place in the high desert of Arizona, where three roommates—students at a college known for its radical politics—are looking for love, adventure, and the promise of a bigger life that led them West. But when the FBI comes to town in pursuit of an alum wanted for "politically motivated crimes of property," rumor has it that undercover agents have enrolled, making the college dating scene just a bit more sketchy than usual. According to Cari Luna, winner of Oregon Book Award "*Hot Season* ... explores the charged terrain where the youthful search for identity meets environmental activism and the romantic, illicit lure of direct action." Susan DeFreitas's fiction, nonfiction, and poetry has appeared in the *Utne Reader*, *Story Magazine*, and more than twenty other journals and anthologies. She lives in Portland.

Sara Wilson Etienne's *Lotus and Thorn* (Putnam/PRH) is a thrilling fantasy adventure perfect for fans of Tamora Pierce and Sarah Maas. Survival is hard on post-plague Gabriel, a former Earth colony and every scrap of scavenged material is critical to stay alive. Stealing is the greatest sin—and that's exactly what lands 17-year old Leica in deep trouble. Exiled into Gabriel's forbidding desert, Leica must find a way to survive on her own, until an unlikely ally offers her safety—or so it seems. Etienne's alien world is richly imagined and frighteningly real, and her hard-as-nails female lead will have teen readers rooting for her to come out on top. Sara Etienne is also the author of the young adult novel *Harbinger*. She lives in Seattle, where, she says, her "favorite days are spent disappearing into different universes..."

Friday Authors On The Map

Tracy Manaster's second novel *The Done Thing* (Tyrus Books/Perseus) is a finely drawn story of a not always likable character, a woman who finds that the lust for revenge is hard to deny. Peter Mountford, author of *A Young Man's Guide to Late Capitalism*, writes that "*The Done Thing* is a wonderfully engrossing novel—the unnerving and vividly-imagined tale of Lida Stearl, a charming widow who maintains her polite exterior although she's quietly riven by grief and righteous fury. ... a novel that beguiles with its characters and its gripping story, but it also provides a rich investigation into what happens when we give space to our terrible little impulses, how these tiny monstrosities can grow and spread beyond our control." Manaster, who lives in Portland, is also the author of the novel *You Could Be Home By Now*.

The Burning World (Atria/S&S) is author **Isaac Marion's** much-anticipated sequel to *Warm Bodies*, his *New York Times* bestselling novel of zombie romance. In *The Burning World*, reluctant zombie R's recent recovery from death has him learning how to be human again and hoping for a future with the woman he loves. R's transformation is leading to a stirring of life among the undead—and not every one is happy about it. Order must be restored, even if that means that the strong will go on eating the weak. Marion has also published *The New Hunger*, a prequel to *Warm Bodies*. In addition to writing zombie novels, Isaac Marion is a musician with a 2007 solo album, *Dead Children*, which he considers a companion piece to *Warm Bodies*. He lives in Seattle with his cat and a beloved cactus. *The Burning World* will be released in February, 2017, just in time for Valentine's Day.

In 1998, young reporter **Claudia Rowe** was working as a stringer for the *New York Times* in Poughkeepsie, New York, when local police discovered the bodies of eight women stashed in the attic and basement of the home that Kendall Francois, a painfully polite twenty-seven-year-old community college student, shared with his parents and sister. *The Spider and the Fly: A Reporter, a Serial Killer and the Meaning of Murder* (Harper) draws from Rowe's four-year correspondence with Francois after his conviction, an examination of the mind of a killer and the nature of evil, as well as the mutual exploitation between interviewer and subject. This is literary true crime in the tradition of *In Cold Blood*, thought-provoking and chilling at the same time. Claudia Rowe is a staff writer at *The Seattle Times* and has twice been nominated for the Pulitzer Prize. Her work has been published in numerous outlets, including *The New York Times*, *Mother Jones*, *Huffington Post*, and *The Stranger*. *The Spider and the Fly* will be published in January, 2017.

In 1963, bigger-than-life Northwest mountaineer Jim Whittaker became the first American to stand atop Mount Everest. In *My Old Man and the Mountain* (Mountaineers), Jim's youngest son **Lief Whittaker** tells what it was like to grow up in a family of climbers, and how he sought to stand apart from his father's legacy with accomplishments of his own. After graduating from college, he tried his hand at lots of things, but it was the opportunity to ascend Everest, just like his father had, that showed him the purpose he was seeking. Lief Whittaker, himself a seasoned climber, reached his first major peak at 15 and has since climbed many of the world's tallest mountains. He is a talented writer and photographer whose work has appeared in various media worldwide, including *Powder*, *Backcountry* and *The Ski Journal*. He lives in Bellingham and works as a seasonal USGS climbing ranger on Mt. Baker.

At the age of only 14, **Carolyn Wood** won a gold medal as a member of the U. S. swimming team at the 1960 Rome Olympics. *Tough Girl: An Olympian's Journey* (White Pine Press/Perseus) is Wood's memoir about the grit and determination it took to get that young girl on the Olympic podium, and about how, decades later, she made a pilgrimage on El Camino del Santiago to try and reclaim that "tough girl" of her youth in order to accept the end of her marriage. Her ultimate message is simple: we all get through life one stroke, one step, one page at a time. Carolyn Wood, born and raised in Portland, Oregon, still lives in her family home. She is a retired English teacher who spent over thirty years encouraging students to write, and is now taking her own advice.



Tracy Manaster



Isaac Marion



Claudia Rowe



Lief Whittaker



Carolyn Wood