

## UPCOMING EVENTS AT REDCAT

April 22–26: Marc Bamuthi Joseph/The Living Word Project: *the break/s: a mixtape for stage*

May 11: Cheryl Dunye: *The Watermelon Woman*

May 14: Samuel Weber with Sande Cohen and James Wiltgen

## AN EVENING OF NEW NONFICTION: WAYNE KOESTENBAUM, SARAH THORNTON AND DAVID L. ULIN

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April 19, 2009

7:00 pm

presented by

REDCAT

Roy and Edna Disney/CalArts Theater

California Institute of the Arts

# AN EVENING OF NEW NONFICTION: WAYNE KOESTENBAUM, SARAH THORNTON AND DAVID L. ULIN

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This event is sponsored by the School of Critical Studies and the MFA Writing Program at CalArts, and has been organized by Maggie Nelson. Special thanks to President Steven Lavine for making this evening possible. Thanks also to this evening's readers, the MFA Writing faculty, Alecia Menzano, everyone at REDCAT, and the students of the MFA Writing Program, including Samantha Cohen and Brittany Goode, for their support and assistance.

## ABOUT THE ARTISTS

**Wayne Koestenbaum** is the author of several works of cultural criticism including *The Queen's Throat: Opera, Homosexuality, and the Mystery of Desire* (a National Book Critics Circle Award Finalist), *Cleavage: Essays on Sex, Stars, and Aesthetics*; the Penguin Lives biography of *Andy Warhol*; and *Jackie Under My Skin: Interpreting an Icon*. He is also the author of a novel, *Moira Orfei in Aigues-Mortes*, and five collections of poetry, *Best-selling Jewish Porn Films*, *Ode to Anna Moffo and Other Poems*, *Rhapsodies of a Repeat Offender*, *The Milk of Inquiry*, and *Model Homes*. Koestenbaum writes frequently for periodicals, including *The New York Times Magazine*, *Parnassus: Poetry in Review*, and the *London Review of Books*. He is also an art critic who has written many catalogue essays and who contributes regularly to *Artforum*. He is a tenured professor of English at the Graduate Center of the City University of New York, and a Visiting Professor in the Painting Department of the Yale School of Art.

**David L. Ulin** is the author of *The Myth of Solid Ground: Earthquakes, Prediction, and the Fault Line Between Reason and Faith*, published by Viking

in August 2004. He edited *Another City: Writing from Los Angeles* (City Lights), selected by the *Los Angeles Times Book Review* as a Best Book of 2001, and *Writing Los Angeles: A Literary Anthology* (Library of America), which received a California Book Award, and was selected by the *Los Angeles Times Book Review* as a Best of the Best for 2002. His essays and criticism have appeared in *The Atlantic Monthly*, *The Nation*, *The New York Times Book Review*, *LA Weekly*, the *Los Angeles Times*, and on National Public Radio's All Things Considered. He teaches in the MFA in Creative Writing Program at Antioch University Los Angeles, and has taught for us at CalArts this year.

**Sarah Thornton** writes about art, the art world, and the art market for many publications including *Artforum*, *The Economist*, and *The Art Newspaper*. She has written for *The New Yorker* and contributed to several BBC TV programs. Thornton is a Canadian who came to Britain on a Commonwealth Scholarship. Her PhD was published as *Club Cultures: Music, Media and Subcultural Capital*. She was co-editor of the first edition of *The Subcultures Reader*. Once a member of faculty at Sussex University where she ran the MA in Media Studies, Thornton then became a Visiting Research Fellow at Goldsmiths, University of London. She is now a freelance researcher who has given guest lectures at many universities, contributed to a wide range of conference panels, and conducted public interviews at events such as the Hay-on-Wye Festival. For one long year, Thornton did undercover ethnographic research by working full-time as a brand planner in a major transnational advertising agency. Her plan was to write a book about the experience but she settled on publishing an article and had two children instead. Since 2003, Thornton has been researching the inner workings of the international contemporary art world. Her book, *Seven Days in the Art World* -- based on in-depth interviews with over 250 people and hundreds of hours of participant observation -- was chosen as one of the best art books of 2008 by the *New York Times*, the *Sunday Times* (London), and *The Independent* (London). It is forthcoming in ten foreign language editions.