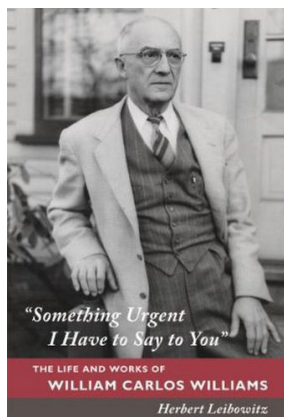
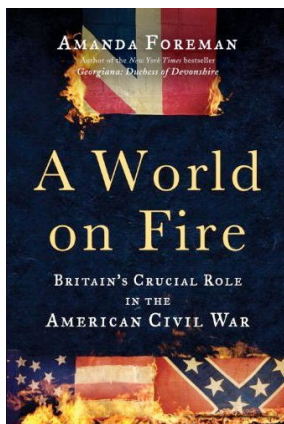
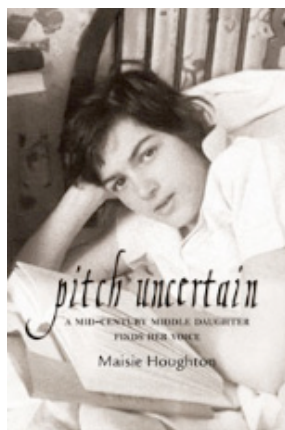
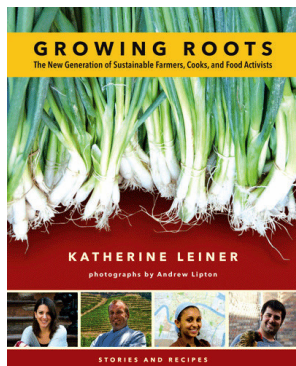




# EVENTS

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## Michael Lasser and Musicians

### Come On and Hear!:

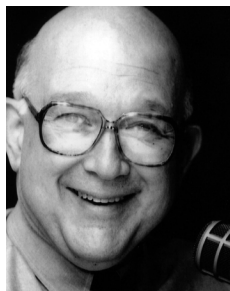
#### The 100th Anniversary of "Alexander's Ragtime Band"

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 30, 3:00 PM, MEMBERS' ROOM

\$20 WITH ADVANCE REGISTRATION/

\$25 AT THE DOOR

Music historian Michael Lasser will present the history and context of one of the most popular songs in the history of American music, with voice and piano performances.




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## Elizabeth Barlow Rogers

### *Writing the Garden:*

#### *A Literary Conversation Across Two Centuries*

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 6:30 PM, MEMBERS' ROOM

\$10 WITH ADVANCE REGISTRATION/\$15 AT THE DOOR

A lecture and book release. The author and principal founder of the Central Park Conservancy brings together a diverse array of gardeners' words about the art of gardening. This new book is published by the Library and the Foundation for Landscape Studies in association with David R. Godine, Publisher, to coincide with the Library's current exhibition.




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## Reading Groups and Seminars

The following reading groups and seminars continue as listed in the September-October newsletter. All are fully registered; to join a waitlist or for more information, contact the Events Office.

TEA AND TROLLOPE WITH BLANCHE SIEGAL

DANTE'S *PURGATORIO* AND *PARADISO* WITH DONALD MCDONOUGH

THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE NARRATOR

IN PROUST'S *À LA RECHERCHE DU TEMPS PERDU*

WITH JEFFREY JOHNSON

THE FICTION OF E.M. FORSTER WITH JAMES KRAFT

## Madeleine Kristoffersson and John Ray

### *The Nightingale*

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 4, 3:00 PM, MEMBERS' ROOM

\$20 WITH ADVANCE REGISTRATION/\$25 AT THE DOOR

When "The Swedish Nightingale," opera star Jenny Lind, sailed into New York Harbor in September 1850, an enthusiastic crowd of more than 30,000 greeted her ship, even though no one on this continent had ever seen or heard her. Who could cause this great effect? Only the Prince of Humbugs himself, Phineas Taylor Barnum, born 200 years ago in 1810. In this afternoon of song and story, contemporary Swedish opera star Madeleine Kristoffersson and actor John Ray recreate the music and the drama of Jenny Lind's landmark American tour under Barnum's management.

**Madeleine Kristoffersson** is an acclaimed international artist. She has performed at opera houses and festivals across Europe, Mexico, and the United States, as Salome, Brunnhilde, Donna Anna, Elektra, Leonore, and Tosca, among others. Her performances have been featured twice on *Good Morning America* and on national television in Europe, as well as at Carnegie Hall, Bechstein Hall and the United Nations Assembly Hall. She has given several command performances for the King and Queen of Sweden.

**John Ray, Esq.** has been a well-known practicing attorney in the greater New York area for over 27 years. Several of his high-profile cases have been covered on Court TV, and he has appeared there and on national television as an advocate, legal expert, and guest commentator. He enjoys a parallel career as an actor and reenactor, portraying Barnum, Benjamin Franklin, and multiple roles in Dickens's *A Christmas Carol*.



THIS EVENT IS GENEROUSLY SUPPORTED BY THE ESTATE OF MARIAN O. NAUMBURG.

## Katherine Leiner

with Andrew Lipton and Andrew Coté

### *Growing Roots:*

*The New Generation of Sustainable Farmers, Cooks,  
and Food Activists*

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 6:30 PM, MEMBERS' ROOM

\$10 WITH ADVANCE REGISTRATION/\$15 AT THE DOOR

*Growing Roots* is about a new revolution in food involving people living sustainable lives that revolve around healthy, natural food. The book introduces farmers and beekeepers, fishermen and chefs, food activists and cheesemongers, and many more across the nation. Also included are filmmakers, writers, and artists who are changing the way society eats and looks at food production. *Library Journal* calls it "inspirational and entertaining reading." In this event, author Katherine Leiner will discuss meeting and profiling the diversity of participants, and photographer Andrew Lipton will display his stunning images of farms, food, and people. In addition, Andrew Coté will add his perspective on beekeeping and teaching others to improve their lives with bees.

**Katherine Leiner** has been writing since she was a child. She has published many award-winning books for children and young adults and, more recently her first novel for adults, *Digging Out*, published by Penguin. She is working on another novel due out in 2012.

Alongside his photography, **Andrew Lipton** is a lawyer specializing in environmental and chemical exposure litigation.

**Andrew Coté** is a founder of the international poverty-alleviation organization Bees Without Borders: [www.beeswithoutborders.org](http://www.beeswithoutborders.org)



## Diana Altman Hollywood East

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 6:30 PM, MEMBERS' ROOM

\$10 WITH ADVANCE REGISTRATION/\$15 AT THE DOOR

Diana Altman's father, the late Al Altman, was the MGM talent scout who discovered James Stewart, Joan Crawford, Ava Gardner, and dozens of other unknown actors who became stars. Their screen tests were shot in a newsreel studio, now a condo, on 54th Street and Tenth Avenue. In this event, Ms. Altman will combine screenings of this extremely rare footage with a discussion of the studio system and the days when New York controlled Hollywood.

Until the early 1960s Hollywood was the pretty face of the movie industry, with New York the heart and lungs: Clark Gable's check was signed at 1540 Broadway. Ms. Altman will describe how the studio system evolved, how it vanished, and the role of her father's job in it all. Her 1992 book *Hollywood East: Louis B. Mayer and the Origins of the Studio System* tells the definitive story of this era in film history, and her 2010 novel *In Theda Bara's Tent* revisits the subject and the period.

Actors spotted in the screen tests include not only Crawford and Gardner, but also Bob Hope, John Forsythe, Henry Fonda, Franchot Tone, Celeste Holm, and Dinah Shore, among others. Each test is a silent mini-movie with sets and costumes, attesting to the creativity of the fledgling art of films and to the centrality of New York City in its foundation.

**Diana Altman** is an independent film historian and fiction writer with degrees from Connecticut College and Harvard University. In addition to her two books, her work has appeared in the *New York Times*, *Forbes*, *Woman*, *American Heritage*, *StoryQuarterly* and many other places. She is a former President of the Boston chapter of the Women's National Book Association, a member of the Central Park Conservancy, and a Trustee of the Sebago Long Lake Music Festival in Maine.





**Maisie Houghton*****Pitch Uncertain:******A Mid-Century Middle Daughter Finds Her Voice***

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 6:30 PM, MEMBERS' ROOM

\$10 WITH ADVANCE REGISTRATION/\$15 AT THE DOOR

*Pitch Uncertain* is a touching and incisive account of Maisie Houghton's struggle to find her own voice as the middle child of two parents whose marriage and lives she slowly decoded as she came of age in the 1950s. Growing up in the gentle ambience of Cambridge, Massachusetts, spending full summers in Dark Harbor, Maine, and regularly visiting her relatives in the socially polished reaches of greater New York, Maisie and her two sisters had the makings of an ideal childhood, except for the enigma of their parents. Their mother, Sybil Jay, was the "gentle doe" of an accomplished New York family with a resilient matriarchy. Charming and independent, Maisie's father, Frankie Kinnicutt, was the handsome, fun-loving son of stolid New Yorkers whose emotional reserve and perfectly decorated residences were a stiff contrast to the liveliness of the Jay household. As parents, Sybil was diligent, caring and attentive—an anchor for the family, while Frankie was independent, playful, curious and remote—more sail than anchor. With a novelist's sense of moment, Houghton explores her individually appealing parents and their estranged but oddly loyal relationship in the context of their era and genteel culture.

**Maisie Houghton** was born in New York City and graduated from Radcliffe College in 1962. She has lived in Corning, New York, for over forty years. *Pitch Uncertain* is her first book.



Porter Gifford

**Amanda Foreman*****A World on Fire:******Britain's Crucial Role in the American Civil War***

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 30 , 6:30 PM, MEMBERS' ROOM

\$10 WITH ADVANCE REGISTRATION/\$15 AT THE DOOR

Acclaimed historian Amanda Foreman follows the phenomenal success of her New York Times bestseller *Georgiana: Duchess of Devonshire* with her long-awaited second work of nonfiction: the fascinating story of the American Civil War and the major role played by Britain and its citizens in that epic struggle.

Even before the first rumblings of secession shook the halls of Congress, British involvement in the coming schism was inevitable. Britain was dependent on the South for cotton, and in turn the Confederacy relied almost exclusively on Britain for guns, bullets, and ships. The Union sought to block any diplomacy between the two and consistently teetered on the brink of war with Britain. Between 1861 and 1865, thousands of British citizens volunteered for service on both sides of the Civil War. Through personal letters, diaries, and journals, Foreman has woven together their experiences to form a panoramic yet intimate view of the war. In the drawing rooms of London and the offices of Washington, on muddy fields and aboard packed ships, Foreman reveals the decisions made, the beliefs held and contested, and the personal triumphs and sacrifices that ultimately led to the reunification of America.

**Amanda Foreman** is a Visiting Research Fellow at Queen Mary, University of London. She won the Whitbread Prize for *Georgiana: Duchess of Devonshire*, which was adapted for the screen as *The Duchess*. Educated as an undergraduate at Sarah Lawrence College and with master's and doctorate degrees in history from Oxford University, she now lives in New York.



**Herbert Leibowitz*****“Something Urgent I Have to Say to You”:  
The Life and Works of William Carlos Williams***

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 6, 6:30 PM, MEMBERS' ROOM

\$10 WITH ADVANCE REGISTRATION/\$15 AT THE DOOR

Herbert Leibowitz's *“Something Urgent I Have to Say to You”* provides a new perspective on the life and poetry of the doctor poet William Carlos Williams, a key American writer who led one of the more eventful literary lives of the twentieth century. Friends with most of the contemporary innovators of his era—Ezra Pound, James Joyce, Ford Madox Ford, and Louis Zukofsky, among others—Williams made a radical break with the modernist tradition by seeking to invent an entirely fresh and singularly American poetic, whose subject matter derived from the everyday lives of the citizens and poor immigrant communities of northern New Jersey. His poems mirrored both the conflicts of his own life and the convulsions that afflicted American society—two world wars, a ram-paging flu pandemic, and the Great Depression. Leibowitz's biography offers a compelling description of the work that inspired a seminal, controversial movement in American verse, as well as a rounded portrait of a complicated man: pugnacious and kindly, ambitious and insecure, self-critical and imaginative.

**Herbert Leibowitz** is the founder, publisher and editor of *Parnassus: Poetry in Review*, one of the important review venues for poetry. A Professor Emeritus at the City University of New York Graduate Center, he served as President of the National Book Critics Circle from 1992 to 1994 and is a member of PEN. His published works include *The Poetry of Hart Crane: An Introduction*, *Fabricating Lives: Explorations in American Autobiography*, and, as editor, a collection of love poems by Williams and *Parnassus: Twenty Years of Poetry in Review*.





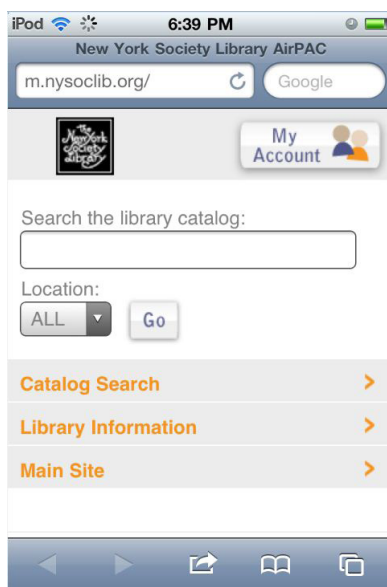
# TECHNOLOGY ANNOUNCEMENT

## Library Catalog Now Available on Smartphones

The Library is pleased to announce the addition of AirPAC to our Library catalog.

AirPAC, a catalog-access app designed for wireless devices, allows Library patrons to search the catalog on Internet-enabled mobile phones and PDAs. AirPAC includes full search capabilities, item information display, patron record display, and renewal and request capabilities.

To use AirPAC, point your mobile web browser to *library.nysoclib.org*. You'll be automatically redirected to the Library's mobile interface at *m.nysoclib.org*. If you prefer the original catalog, click on the Main Site link at the bottom of the screen to return to the traditional layout. Happy searching!



# THE WRITING LIFE

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

## Open Mic Night

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 6:00 PM, MEMBERS' ROOM

\$10 WITH ADVANCE REGISTRATION/\$15 AT THE DOOR

Sit back, relax, have some food and drink, and enjoy an evening of readings by the Library's own member writers. Expect fiction, memoir, poetry, plays, and criticism to remember.

This event is open to both readers and listeners.

**To register to read:** You must contact Carolyn Waters at *cwaters@nysoclib.org*. Please register early, as spaces are limited. Readers must be current Library members. Selections are limited to five minutes or less and may be material in progress or newly published work.



THE WRITING LIFE EVENTS IN 2011 ARE GENEROUSLY UNDERWRITTEN BY JENNY LAWRENCE.

# THE WRITING LIFE DAYTIME TALK SERIES

FOR MEMBERS ONLY

## Giving and Receiving Critiques with Lorraine Bodger

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 10:00 AM, WHITRIDGE ROOM  
FREE OF CHARGE; REGISTRATION REQUIRED

Thoughtful, constructive critiques help writers improve their work. Inappropriate attacks or comments based on personal preference do not. Through lecture, discussion, and on-the-spot exercises, writer and editor Lorraine Bodger will share her secrets for giving crits that are respectful, supportive, and focused on the writer's intentions and the quality of the writing. You'll also learn how to listen to difficult critiques, evaluate them, and make them work for you.

Lorraine Bodger has been a private editor for more than fifteen years, critiquing and editing literary fiction, mysteries, memoirs, biography, and other nonfiction. Though fiction is her first love, Lorraine has published more than thirty nonfiction books about food, cooking, crafts, relationships, and friendship. She knows what it's like to be edited—and that has made her a better editor.



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## Organizing Your Notes

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 13, 10:00 AM, WHITRIDGE ROOM  
FREE OF CHARGE; REGISTRATION REQUIRED

Are your notes and references in hopeless disarray? Are you constantly looking for the right literal and digital file folder? In this moderated discussion forum, meet other member writers to talk about strategies for managing volumes of collected notes and references. Bring your own tips and tricks to share.

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## Ongoing Writers' Groups

The Library hosts monthly writing groups for fiction, nonfiction, memoir, poetry, and children's/young adult writers. Interested Library members must contact Carolyn Waters at [cwaters@nysoclib.org](mailto:cwaters@nysoclib.org) for space availability and other information.



## Young Writers' Workshop with Carol Weston Keeping a Journal

FOR GRADES THREE TO SIX  
FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 3:30 PM,  
WHITRIDGE ROOM  
FREE OF CHARGE;  
REGISTRATION REQUIRED

In this workshop, bestselling children's author Carol Weston will help participants find ways to tell their own stories in personal journals and other forms.

Carol Weston has authored 12 books, including the popular *Melanie Martin* series and *Girltalk: All the Stuff Your Sister Never Told You*. She advises aspiring young writers to "keep writing, keep journals, and don't get discouraged...Focus [on] observing people, developing an ear for dialogue, and telling stories with well-chosen words."



## BOOK SALE

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

### Book Sale

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 3, 9:00 AM-2:00 PM, REFERENCE ROOM

Hidden treasures, beautiful display volumes, fun reads and gifts, including many craft and knitting books, can be found at the Library's holiday book sale. The Library offers withdrawn duplicate titles and donation copies at very reasonable prices. Members and their guests are encouraged to bring a bag and come to browse and buy.

No registration or entry fee is required. For any questions, please call 212-288-6900 and speak to Head of Circulation Patrick Rayner or Circulation Assistant Marie Honan.



# CALENDAR AND REGISTRATION

## REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED FOR ALL EVENTS.

For any event listed without a blank for the number of spaces, please see individual listings for details on registering. Further registration details are on the following page.

MEMBERSHIP NAME

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E-MAIL

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# OF SPACES

- \_\_\_\_\_ Performance: Michael Lasser and musicians, Come On and Hear:  
"Alexander's Ragtime Band," Sunday, October 30, 3:00 pm, \$20
- \_\_\_\_\_ Lecture: Elizabeth Barlow Rogers, *Writing the Garden*, Tuesday, November 1, 6:30 pm, \$10
- \_\_\_\_\_ Children's Technology Workshop: Digital Classics grades 3-5, Friday, November 4, 3:30 pm
- \_\_\_\_\_ Lecture: Katherine Leiner et al, *Growing Roots*, Thursday, November 3, 6:30 pm, \$10
- \_\_\_\_\_ Writing Life Daytime: Giving and Receiving Critiques, Tuesday, November 8, 10:00 am,  
free of charge
- \_\_\_\_\_ Writing Life: Open Mic Night, Tuesday, November 8, 6:00 pm, \$10
- \_\_\_\_\_ Lecture: Diana Altman, Hollywood East, Wednesday, November 9, 6:30 pm, \$10
- \_\_\_\_\_ Young Writers Workshop: Carol Weston, Keeping a Journal, Friday, November 11, 3:30 pm
- \_\_\_\_\_ Lecture: Maisie Houghton, *Pitch Uncertain*, Tuesday, November 15, 6:30 pm, \$10
- \_\_\_\_\_ Lecture: Amanda Foreman, *A World on Fire*, Wednesday, November 30, 6:30 pm, \$10
- \_\_\_\_\_ Book Sale, Saturday, December 3, 9:00 am-2:00 pm
- \_\_\_\_\_ Performance: *The Nightingale*, Sunday, December 4, 3:00 pm, \$20
- \_\_\_\_\_ Lecture: Herbert Leibowitz, William Carlos Williams, Tuesday, December 6, 6:30 pm, \$10
- \_\_\_\_\_ The Writing Life Daytime: Organizing Your Notes, Tuesday, December 13, 10:00 am,  
free of charge

TOTAL COST

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\_\_\_\_\_ MY CHECK IS ENCLOSED

\_\_\_\_\_ PLEASE CHARGE MY CREDIT CARD

CREDIT CARD NUMBER

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EXPIRATION DATE

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## ABOUT THE LIBRARY

Founded in 1754, we are the city's oldest library and one of only sixteen membership libraries in the country. We are open to all for reading, reference, and selected events, with circulation and other services by subscription. Full information on the Library's history, building, services, and policies is available at the reference desk on the first floor or on our website.

Library Main Page.....[www.nysoclib.org](http://www.nysoclib.org)

NYSL Writers Blog.....[www.tinyurl.com/nysliblog](http://www.tinyurl.com/nysliblog)

The Library on Facebook.....[www.facebook.com/nysoclib](http://www.facebook.com/nysoclib)

The Library on Twitter.....[www.twitter.com/nysoclib](http://www.twitter.com/nysoclib)

**News by E-Mail:** The Library's monthly electronic newsletter complements this publication with current news, features, event reminders, and new ways to participate in the Library community. Both members and nonmembers can receive the e-news. To add an e-mail address to the mailing list, drop a line to [events@nysoclib.org](mailto:events@nysoclib.org). The Library never sells or trades your information.

## REGISTRATION INSTRUCTIONS

**For All Children's Events:** Call the Children's Library at 212-288-6900 x234 or e-mail [children@nysoclib.org](mailto:children@nysoclib.org).

**For Adult Events:**

**Online for Members With a Barcode\*:** Go to [www.nysoclib.org/events\\_registration.html](http://www.nysoclib.org/events_registration.html) and follow the onscreen instructions.

\*To obtain your barcode, email [systems@nysoclib.org](mailto:systems@nysoclib.org).

**Online for Anyone Without a Barcode:** Go to [www.eventbrite.com](http://www.eventbrite.com), search for the event of your interest, and follow the onscreen instructions. This covers only events that are open to the public.

**By Mail:** Complete the order form with your membership name (for members) or full name (for nonmembers) and charge information, or enclose a check payable to The New York Society Library. Mail the order form and payment to Events, The New York Society Library, 53 East 79<sup>th</sup> Street, New York, NY 10075, or fax to 212-744-5832.

**By Phone:** Call the Events Office at 212-288-6900 x230. Payment in advance using a credit card is recommended; you may also pay at the door.

**PLEASE NOTE:** No refunds are given, unless the event is canceled or no space becomes available for a waitlisted reservation.

The house opens for each event thirty minutes before the stated start time. Registrants are asked not to arrive for check-in prior to that time.

A seat cannot be guaranteed after an event has begun.

For help, call 212-288-6900 x230 or e-mail [events@nysoclib.org](mailto:events@nysoclib.org).