

The English Reading Series — Fall 2021

Paisley Rekdal

September 10



Paisley Rekdal is the author of four books of nonfiction and six books of poetry, including *Nightingale* and *Appropriate: A Provocation*. Her work has received the Amy Lowell Poetry Traveling Fellowship, a Guggenheim Fellowship, an NEA Fellowship, Pushcart Prizes, a Fulbright Fellowship, and various state arts council awards. She teaches at the University of Utah and is Utah's Poet Laureate.

Edward Carey

October 29



Edward Carey is a writer and illustrator, as well as the author of the novels *Observatory Mansions* and *Alva and Irva: the Twins Who Saved a City*, and of the YA *Iremonger Trilogy*, which have all been translated into many different languages and all of which he illustrated. His novel *Little*, which took him a ridiculous fifteen years to finish, has been published in 20 countries. His most recent novel is *The Swallowed Man*, which is set inside the belly of an enormous sea beast.

Martine Leavitt

September 24



Martine Leavitt has published ten novels for young adults, most recently *Calvin*, which won the Governor General's Award of Canada. *My Book of Life by Angel* was a finalist for the Los Angeles Times Book Prize and winner of the Canadian Library Association Young Adult Book of the Year. Other titles by Leavitt include *Keturah and Lord Death*, a finalist for the National Book Award, *Tom FINDER*, winner of the Mr. Christie Award, and *Heck Superhero*, a finalist for the Governor General's Award. Her novels have been published in China, Japan, Korea, Denmark, Germany, Switzerland, Italy and the Netherlands. Currently she teaches creative writing at Vermont College of Fine Arts, a short-residency MFA program. She lives in High River, Alberta.

Paxman Student Reading

November 5

**Paxman
Student
Reading**

Three student readers will share their own creative work—one in fiction, poetry, and non-fiction.

If you're a graduate student interested in sharing your work, look out for application details from the English department mid-October.

Abraham Smith

October 1



Abraham Smith is the author of numerous poetry collections—most recently, the chapbook *Bear Lite Inn* (New Michigan Press, 2020), the full-length *Destruction of Man* (Third Man Books, 2018), and the forthcoming *Dear Weirdo* (Propeller Books, 2021). Away from his desk, he improvises poems inside songs with the Snarlin' Yarns; their debut record *Break Your Heart* was released on Dial Back Sound in Fall 2020. He lives in Ogden, Utah, where he is associate professor of English and co-director of Creative Writing at Weber State.

Derek Otsuji

November 19



Born on Oahu, Derek N. Otsuji is the author of *The Kitchen of Small Hours* (SIU Press 2021), which won the Crab Orchard Poetry Series Open Competition. He is a 2019 Tennessee Williams Scholar (Sewanee Writers' Conference) and has received awards from Bread Loaf and the Kenyon Review. His poems are widely published in local and national journals, including *Bamboo Ridge*, *The Beloit Poetry Journal*, *Bennington Review*, *Pleiades*, *Rattle*, *The Southern Review*, and *The Threepenny Review*. A 2000 graduate of BYU's Masters Program in English, he has studied with poets Leslie Norris, Susan Elizabeth Howe, and Lance Larsen.

Eric Freeze

October 8



Eric Freeze is an Associate Professor of English at Wabash College where he teaches writing fiction, creative nonfiction, screenwriting, and writing for video games. He is author of *Dominant Traits*, *Hemingway on a Bike*, and *Invisible Men*. He lives in Crawfordsville, Indiana and Nice, France with academic Rixa Freeze and their four bilingual soccer-crazed children.

Hasanthika Sirisena

December 3



Hasanthika Sirisena's work has been anthologized in *This is the Place* (Seal Press, 2017), in *Every Day People: The Color of Life* (Atria Books, 2018), and twice named a notable story by *Best American Short Stories*. She has received fellowships from the MacDowell Colony and Yaddo and is a Rona Jaffe Writers' Award recipient. She is currently faculty at the Vermont College of Fine Arts and Susquehanna University. Her books include the short story collection *The Other One* (University of Massachusetts Press, 2016) and the forthcoming essay collection *Dark Tourist* (Mad Creek Books/Ohio State University 2021).

Kevin Wilson

October 22



Kevin Wilson is the author of the New York Times bestselling novels *Nothing to See Here* and *The Family Fang*, as well as *Perfect Little World*, and two collections, *Tunneling to the Center of the Earth*, winner of the Shirley Jackson Award, and *Baby You're Gonna Be Mine*. He lives in Sewanee, TN, with his wife, the poet Leigh Anne Couch, and two sons, and teaches creative writing at the University of the South.

Fridays at 12:00 pm in the HBLL Auditorium

Go to ers.byu.edu to find out more about BYU's English Reading Series.