

## WOMEN WRITING WOMEN'S LIVES

### MEMBERS' PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES 2014-15

CAROL ASCHER

My new novel, *A Call from Spooner Street*, was published in October by Mill City Press. Two articles on Martin Buber appeared in *Tikkun* and an article on forgiveness was published by *Hadassah Magazine*. In addition to my regular twelve-session writing workshop at the Hotchkiss Library in Sharon, Connecticut, I led a one-day workshop, "Transforming our Lives into Fiction and Memoir," in Sheffield, Massachusetts as part of the Berkshire Festival of Women Writers. I also spoke about my novel, *The Flood*, at Wuppertal University, and delivered a paper, "The Tongue in Exile," at a Conference on "Translated Memories: Transgenerational Perspectives in Literature on the Holocaust, in Essen, Germany in July.

EVELYN BARISH

I've just been asked by the *Encyclopedia Britannica* to write a new and expanded article for them on Paul de Man. When that's done I'll return to a narrative about a woman, still in it's early stages, which may turn out to be a memoir.

SALLIE BINGHAM

Participated in the SOMOS 2015 Winter Writers Series in Santa Fe, as well as the Literacy Volunteers of Santa Fe fundraising event, "Santa Fe READS"; presented several workshops on using family materials for memoir, at Western Kentucky University and prior to the 2015 Kentucky Book Fair; attended the Kentucky Writers Conference and the 2015 Kentucky Book Fair; interviewed by Carol Boss for "Women's Focus" on New Mexico Public Radio. My latest work, working title, "Doris Duke: The Invention of the New Woman" will be published by Farrar, Straus and Giroux in April 2016.

ELIZABETH BRUNAZZI

Three bilingual English-French e-books of poetry: *The Beginning Ends Here*, English texts and French translations, Elizabeth Brunazzi; *Baby Pictures of Famous Dictators*, English texts, Charles Simic, French translations, Elizabeth Brunazzi; *Out of the Waste Land*, English texts, Maja Herman-Sekulić, French translations, Elizabeth Brunazzi, March, April, July 2015, [www.recoursaupoemeediteurs.com](http://www.recoursaupoemeediteurs.com). Review article, Michel Winock, Les derniers feux de la belle époque, chronique culturelle d'une avant-guerre, 1913-1914, Seuil, l'Histoire, 199 pages, Les Cahiers Jean Guéhenno, n. 5, Fougères, France, 2015.

AVA CHIN

My memoir *Eating Wildly* (S&S) was published in 2014. It won 1st Prize in the M.F.K. Fisher Book Awards (2015) for Excellence in Culinary Writing, and was a

Library Journal "Best Books of 2014." I was named a New York Foundation for the Arts (NYFA) finalist in nonfiction literature, and a fellow at the New York Institute for the Humanities at NYU. I gave talks at Iowa State, Binghamton, and the New School, was a keynote at the U. of Northern Colorado, and was featured foraging and cooking on PBS' Victory Garden.

KATE CULKIN

Ralph Waldo Emerson Fellowship, Houghton Library, Harvard University.

RUTH FRANKLIN

My biography of Shirley Jackson is scheduled for publication in Sept 2016 (Norton/Liveright).

JOHANNA GARFIELD

Gave readings of "The Roosevelts of Sandisfield" at the Sandisfield Arts Center in Mass., on August 29, 2015; 20th year as Vice Chair of Literary Committee of National Arts Club. Organized many evenings with important writers to speak at the Club; ran Carole Klein Memorial Lecture series since 2001, when she died; established Johanna and Leslie Garfield Artistic Philanthropy Award at the New York Youth Symphony, including all arts.

LINDA GRASSO

I am presenting papers at the Society for the Study of American Women Writers Conference in Philadelphia and at the New York American Studies Conference in November.

DOROTHY O. HELLY

Commented on Wendy Faurey's *Bookmarked: Reading My Way from Hollywood to Brooklyn* at the Columbia Seminar on Women and Society, Sept. 21, 2015 - a chapter in which she compares herself to Jane Eyre and Becky Sharp!

MARJORIE JONES

Adjunct Professor of History for Villanova University at Graterford Prison (PA).

PATRICIA LAURENCE

Huntington Library Fellowship for Research on a Biography of Elizabeth Bowen, Sept. 2015. Article: "Shared Affinities: Katherine Mansfield, Ling Shuhua, and Virginia Woolf in *Chinoiserie and Modernism*, ed. Anne Witchard (Edinburgh: Edinburgh UP), spring 2015. Talk: "The Spring and Principle of her Art was Joy": The Friendship of Elizabeth Bowen and Virginia Woolf," Annual Virginia Woolf Conference, June 6, 2015, Bloomington U, Pa.

GAIL LEVIN

I am holding a Distinguished Fulbright Chair at the College of Fine Arts in Trivandrum, Kerala, India until January 30, 2016. My project is to study artistic and cultural exchange between Indian and American artists from the 1893

World's Columbian Exposition in Chicago to the present. Swami Vivekananda's visit in 1893 to the Congress of World Religions is the reason for beginning with that date. I have a major biographical/art historical essay on Sonia Delaunay about to be published in the British journal, *Modern Jewish Studies*. I interviewed and photographed her in Paris in 1975, when I was a young graduate student. Other book projects have been put on hold until I return from this journey to India. My Fulbright also intends for me to be a "roving lecturer." I will start in Trivandrum and then give some lectures in Mumbai at the end of the month. Love to hear from seminar members who have something to share or contacts in India.

EMILY ARNOLD MC CULLY

My *Ida M. Tarbell, the Woman Who Challenged Big Business and Won*, Clarion (HMH), was a finalist for the Young Adult Literary Services Best Nonfiction Book of the Year and was also on the Washington Post's Best Books List.

VICTORIA OLSEN

I gave a conference paper on Jane Avril at the Popular Culture Association meeting in April and am publishing two essays on her for *Open Letters Monthly* (October, November). I also published my biography of Julia Margaret Cameron as an ebook and will give a talk on Cameron at the V&A Museum in London, which is putting on an exhibit of her work for the 200th anniversary of her birth. The biography is being optioned by an independent film producer for a feature film with the BBC (fingers crossed!).

TERESE SVOBODA

*When The Next Big War Blows Down The Valley: Selected and New Poems 1985-2015* (Anhinga Press, November 2015)

JULIA VAN HAAFTEN

Publication: Aperture Masters of Photography: *Berenice Abbott* (NY: Aperture 2015) <http://aperture.org/shop/aperture-masters-of-photography-berenice-abbott>

FRANCES VIETA

"Love in the Land of Barefoot Soldiers," released Jan. 2015. I spoke about the historic background of the book at a fundraiser for Ethiopia at the U.N. in August. I'm giving another presentation about my involvement with Ethiopia on October 25<sup>th</sup>.

MICHELE ZACHEIM

*Last Train to Paris*, a novel, was commissioned by Vanessa Redgrave as a play. In 2015 it was performed at the Cherry Lane Theatre. Another performance is in the planning stage.