

Published June 12th, 2019

Hedgebrook Writing Retreat offered at SMC June 15

Submitted by Mike McAlpin



Bestselling novelist, poet, and essayist Elizabeth Rosner Photo provided

The MFA Creative Writing Program at Saint Mary's College and Hedgebrook, the prestigious women's writing organization, are collaborating again on Bridging: A One-Day Hedgebrook Writing Retreat for woman-identified, non-binary and genderqueer writers. Held on the Saint Mary's campus on Saturday, June 15 the fourth annual retreat is rooted in the student-centered immersive writing approach of Hedgebrook and will feature a free keynote address by bestselling novelist, poet, and essayist Elizabeth Rosner.

Rosner's first book of non-fiction, "Survivor Café: The Legacy of Trauma and the Labyrinth of Memory," published in September 2017, was featured on National Public Radio's "All Things Considered" and in The New York Times. It was a finalist for a National Jewish Book Award and named one of the best books of 2017 by the San Francisco Chronicle. Her third novel, "Electric City," was included among the best books of 2014 by National Public Radio. Her poetry collection, "GRAVITY," was also published in 2014. "The Speed Of Light," Rosner's acclaimed debut novel in 2001, was translated into nine languages. Short-listed for the prestigious Prix Femina, the book won several literary prizes in both the U.S. and Europe, including the Prix France Bleu Gironde; the Great Lakes Colleges Award for New Fiction; and Hadassah Magazine's Ribalow Prize, judged by Elie Wiesel. "Blue Nude," her second novel, was selected as

one of the best books of 2006 by the SF Chronicle. Rosner's essays and poems have appeared in the NY Times Magazine, Elle, the Forward, and numerous anthologies.

During the retreat, attendees can benefit from the insights of accomplished writers in a panel on publishing and participate in workshops on topics such as Bridging Character and Plot: Finding Connection; Building Worlds When We Write; and Yoga for Desk-Dwellers: A Movement Class. The retreat will be from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m., with Rosner's keynote speech scheduled at 7:30 p.m. Cost: \$180 - Includes keynote by Elizabeth Rosner, choice of two of four writing workshops, happy hour reception (non-alcoholic options available), three meals with evening cake and coffee (vegan and gluten-free options available), and networking opportunities. Limited scholarships available.

For more details visit Bridging online at stmarys-ca.edu/hedgebrookretreat or contact retreat coordinators Ani Tascian at atascian@gmail.com or Mary Volmer at mvolmer@stmarys-ca.edu or at (925) 899-5117.

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