

Words and Film: CICFF Poetry Jury to Select Winner of 2009 Poetry Film Prize

CHICAGO, IL – AUGUST 2009 – In association with the Poetry Foundation, Facets Multi-Media will host an exclusive seven-member jury to select the winner of a \$10,000 Poetry Film Prize as part of the 26th Annual Chicago International Children's Film Festival, which will run October 23 – November 1, 2009.

The jury is a selection of the Midwest's finest literary, playwright, and publishing industry professionals.

Loft McKnight Award-winning poet **Jim Moore** has published short stories, essays, and poems in *The New Yorker*, *The Paris Review*, and *The Nation*. Moore is a past Visiting Professor of English at Colorado College and will be releasing his upcoming poetry collection in 2010, published by Graywolf Press.

Anne Halsey is the current Media Director for the Chicago-based Poetry Foundation, one of the world's largest literary organizations and publisher of the historic *Poetry* magazine. Founded in 1912, *Poetry* has been known for publishing the early works of classic American authors like T.S. Eliot, Wallace Stevens, and William Carlos Williams.

Dominique Raccah is the founder and CEO of Naperville-based Sourcebooks, Inc., a publisher of bestselling parenting and college guides as well as of poetry, children's literature, and multimedia titles. Named one of the Top 50 Women in Publishing, Raccah has built successful relationships with companies that include Forbes, The Travel Channel, and *U.S. News and World Report*.

One of the most central personalities in Chicago comedy theatre, **Bernie Sahlins** is the co-founder of the historic Second City comedy troupe. A graduate of the University of Chicago, Sahlins has overseen the beginnings of numerous prolific actors and writers, including John Belushi, Bill Murray, and Ed Asner. He is the recipient of the Sergel prize for playwriting and the University of Chicago Professional Achievement Award, among others.

Liam Callanan is an associate professor at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. In addition to recent publications *All Saints* (Delacorte, 2007) and *The Cloud Atlas* (Delacorte, 2004), Callanan's work can also be found in publications such as *The New York Times*, *The Washington Post*, and *Slate*. A graduate of Yale University, he received his MFA at George Mason University.

President of the Illinois State Poetry Society and current North Shore chapter facilitator of the ISPS **Susan T. Moss** is an accomplished poet whose work has seen publication in *The Vermont Literary Review* and *The Marlboro Mixer*, among others. A resident of Evanston and a graduate of Middlebury College, Moss' recent work includes a chapbook titled *Keep Moving 'til The Music Stops*, published by Lilypool Press.

Mary Burzynski's award-winning design services and position as co-founder (with Brian McMahon) of Prop Art, Ltd. make her a valuable asset to this year's Poetry Jury. Prop Art offers art direction and production design services to a variety of clients, which include restaurants, film and television studios, and commercial photographers.