

A black and white photograph of a Harvard Book Store sign. The sign is circular with the text "Harvard Book Store" and "EST. 1932" visible. It is hanging from a building.

May 2011 Events

Tuesday, May 3 / 7:00pm

Ann Packer

Swim Back to Me

@ Harvard Book Store

Award-winning fiction writer Ann Packer reads from her newest collection of short stories.

"Packer doesn't rely much on dialogue. Her characters are revealed more by the glances they exchange, the comments they don't make, the silences. And because her subject matter is family and absence and loss, the fill-in-the-blanks technique works audaciously well.... Packer can compress a lifetime of hope and sorrow in a short story, and in a brief paragraph can suggest the unspoken language of marriage and family."

—*The Miami Herald*

Wednesday, May 4 / 7:00pm

PEN World Voices Tour
featuring **Jonas Hassen**
Khemiri, Elif Shafak, Daniel
Orozco, and Leila Aboulela

@ Harvard Book Store

Richard Hoffman, the Chair of PEN New England, moderates a panel discussion with four members of the international literary community about their recent work and the state of global literary culture.

The PEN World Voices Festival was started by Salman Rushdie in 2005 as a way to combat literary isolationism, to promote the reading of works in translation, and to encourage discourse between the U.S. and international communities. The PEN World Voices Tour was launched in 2010 to extend the conversation to cities around the United States.

Thursday, May 5 / 7:00pm

David Bezmozgis

The Free World

@ Harvard Book Store

David Bezmozgis, one of *The New Yorker's* 20 Under 40 fiction writers, reads from his first novel.

"*The Free World* is an episodic chronicle, delivered in an understated style which can accommodate serious subtexts as well as ironical humour—all of which provokes comparisons with the Jewish literary heavyweights Saul Bellow and Mordecai Richler.... There is no doubt that Bezmozgis remains a writer worth monitoring."

—*The Independent* (UK)

Thursday, May 5 / 7:00pm

Ralph Nader

"Can the Super Rich Save Us?"

@ First Parish Church | Corner of Church St. and Mass Ave.

Cambridge Forum

Ticket information at
cambridgeforum.org

Friday, May 6 / 7:00pm

Geraldine Brooks

Caleb's Crossing

@ Harvard Book Store

"Pulitzer Prize-winner Brooks delivers a splendid historical inspired by Caleb Cheeshahtemauck, the first Native American to graduate from Harvard. Brooks brings the 1660s to life with evocative period detail, intriguing characters, and a compelling story narrated by Bethia Mayfield, the outspoken daughter of a Calvinist preacher."

—*Publishers Weekly*

Tuesday, May 10 / 7:00pm

Abhijit V. Banerjee
and **Esther Duflo**

Poor Economics:
A Radical Rethinking of the Way
to Fight Global Poverty

@ Harvard Book Store

Billions of government dollars, and thousands of charitable organizations and NGOs, are dedicated to helping the world's poor. But much of their work is based on assumptions that are untested generalizations at best, harmful misperceptions at worst. MIT professors of economics Banerjee and Duflo have pioneered the use of randomized control trials in development economics. Work based on their principles is being carried out in dozens of countries, through the Poverty Action Lab.

Wednesday, May 11 / 7:00pm

Francine Prose

My New American Life

@ Harvard Book Store

"Early in her writing life, Prose developed an unmistakable voice: sharp, ironic, intelligent, uncompromising. Using this voice the way a miner uses a headlamp, she has crawled her way into the darkest corners of American life.... In her latest novel...Prose inhabits the mind of Lula, a 26-year-old woman from Albania. Lula is close to getting her green card after working for a time as a New York City waitress.... Prose succeeds in making us feel the power of the American dream...by transforming anxiety into compassion—it's a little lever that gets tripped when we truly imagine what another person feels." —*The New York Times*

Thursday, May 12 / 7:00pm

Adam Hochschild

To End All Wars:
A Story of Loyalty and Rebellion,
1914–1918

@ Harvard Book Store

World War I stands as one of history's most senseless spasms of carnage, defying rational explanation. Journalist Adam Hochschild focuses on the long-ignored moral drama of the war's critics, some of whom were intimately connected to the enemies they were fighting.

Friday, May 13 / 7:00pm

Martha C. Nussbaum

Creating Capabilities:
The Human Development Approach

@ Harvard Book Store

For the past twenty-five years, professor of law and philosophy Nussbaum has been working on a new model to assess human development: the Capabilities Approach. She and her colleagues begin with the simplest of questions: What is each person actually able to do and to be? What real opportunities are available to them?

Monday, May 16 / 7:00pm

Chris Adrian

The Great Night

@ Harvard Book Store

Novelist and short story writer, and one of *The New Yorker's* 20 Under 40 fiction writers, Chris Adrian reads from his newest novel. Set in a faerie-strewn version of San Francisco's Buena Vista Park, *The Great Night* is a modern retelling of Shakespeare's *Midsummer Night's Dream*.

May 2011 Events, *continued*

Tuesday, May 17 / 7:00pm

Clea Simon
Dogs Don't Lie

@ Harvard Book Store

Cambridge mystery maven Clea Simon reads from her newest book, *Dogs Don't Lie*, the first in a new "pet noir" series.

Pru Marlowe, animal behaviorist and psychic, just got mixed up with Lily, a rescue dog, and Charles, her person. Now Charles is dead, and Lily looks good for it. While the only creature she can totally trust is her tabby Wallis, Pru has to uncover the killer before the real beasts in the town savage her and those she has come to love.

Wednesday, May 18 / 6:00pm

Gary Shteyngart
Super Sad True Love Story

@ Brattle Theatre | 40 Brattle St.

\$5 Tickets

Award-winning novelist, and one of *The New Yorker's* 20 Under 40 fiction writers, Shteyngart reads from his most recent book.

"It's a high-wire act, pulling off a novel that's simultaneously so biting and so compassionate, and in his earlier books Shteyngart, while unfailingly shrewd and funny, wasn't always this tender. *Super Sad True Love Story* is indeed a sadder, and also a better, book." —*Salon*

Wednesday, May 18 / 7:30pm

The Philosophy Café at Harvard Book Store
"What Are the Fundamental Limits of Artificial Intelligence?"

@ Harvard Book Store,
Lower Level

Thursday, May 19 / 7:00pm

Charles Sumner at 200
"The Tradition of Civil Rights in America"

@ First Parish Church | 3 Church St.
Cambridge Forum

Thursday, May 19 / 7:00pm

Michael Spence
*The Next Convergence:
The Future of Economic Growth
in a Multispeed World*

@ Harvard Book Store

Nobel Prize-winning economist Spence explains what happened in the last century to bring about a dramatic convergence between the developed and the developing worlds. The growth rates are extraordinary, and continuing them presents unprecedented challenges in governance, international coordination, and ecological sustainability. The implications are great but little understood.

Friday, May 20 / 7:00pm

Fifty Years of Protecting Human Rights
A Literary Celebration in Honor of Amnesty International's First Fifty Years

@ Harvard Book Store

Harvard Book Store and PEN New England host a celebration of the 50th anniversary of Amnesty International. The evening will include remarks and readings from several local authors and scholars, including Joshua Rubenstein, author and Northeast Regional Director of Amnesty International. Wine and refreshments will be served.

Monday, May 23 / 7:00pm

Emma Donoghue
Room

@ Harvard Book Store

Novelist Donoghue reads from her most recent book, *Room*, which was short-listed for the Man Booker Prize and won the Irish Book Award. "[Donoghue's] impressive feat of literary ventriloquism is transmuted into a powerfully empathetic work of art.... Once again, Donoghue fulfills the imperative that drives all her work: to honor stories that have not been told by finding the best way to tell them." —*Slate*

Tuesday, May 24 / 6:00pm

China Miéville
Embassytown

@ Brattle Theatre | 40 Brattle St.

\$5 Tickets

Arthur C. Clarke Award-winning fantasy fiction writer Miéville reads from his newest work. In the far future, humans have colonized a distant planet, home to the enigmatic Ariekei, sentient beings famed for a language unique in the universe, one that only a few altered human ambassadors can speak. Avice Benner Cho, a human colonist, has returned to Embassytown after years of deep-space adventure. She cannot speak the Ariekei tongue, but she is an indelible part of it, having long ago been made a figure of speech, a living simile.

Wednesday, May 25 / 6:00pm

Roméo Dallaire
*They Fight Like Soldiers, They Die Like Children:
The Global Quest to Eradicate
the Use of Child Soldiers*

@ Brattle Theatre | 40 Brattle St.

\$5 Tickets

Distinguished Canadian humanitarian and retired general Dallaire discusses his newest work, inspired partly by his role in the UN peacekeeping mission to Rwanda.

"*They Fight Like Soldiers* is a compelling, moving, and insightful book that exposes the problem of child soldiers in all its dimensions.... The book is emblematic of Dallaire's resolve, compassion, and abiding commitment to justice. His Orwell-like sensibility, in which 'all humans are human; not one of us is more human than any other,' is refreshingly sincere. As Dallaire reminds us, he has come face to face with the absolute worst of humanity; if he can still believe in our collective capacity for change, so can we." —*The Globe and Mail* (Canada)

Friday, May 27 / 3:00pm

Henry Louis Gates, Jr. and Jennifer Burton
*Call and Response: Key Debates
in African American Studies*

@ Harvard Book Store

Friday Forum

Harvard professor Gates and UC San Diego scholar Burton discuss their new edited volume. With voices ranging from Phillis Wheatley to Barack Obama, *Call and Response* presents multiple perspectives on controversies that probe the relationship between race and democracy.

Tuesday, May 31 / 7:00pm

The Harvard Square Book Circle
discusses Lorrie Moore's novel *Anagrams*

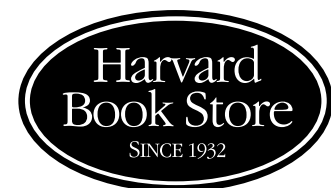
@ Harvard Book Store

Neighbors in the same building, Benna and Gerard share a wall and can hear each other's lives. Gerard loves Benna. And then Benna loves Gerard. *Anagrams* shows their relationship ebb and flow, in reality and imagination.

Tickets for events requiring them are available online at harvard.com/events; at Harvard Book Store; and over the phone with a credit card (617.661.1515). \$5 tickets may be redeemed for \$5 off a single item at the event or at Harvard Book Store. Unless otherwise noted, venues are in Cambridge.

Follow us on the web:

- harvard.com/googlecalendar
- twitter.com/harvardbooks
- facebook.com/harvardbookstore



1256 Massachusetts Avenue
Cambridge, MA 02138
617.661.1515
harvard.com