

A tradition of literary excellence...

Speaker highlights from past **Book & Author Luncheons**

- | | |
|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| John Berendt | Gail Carson Levine |
| A. Scott Berg | Anita Loos |
| Geraldine Brooks | Marian McPartland |
| Vincent Canby | Diane McWhorter |
| Robert A. Caro | Margaret Meade |
| Quentin Crisp | Edmund Morris |
| Nelson DeMille | David Nasaw |
| Linda Fairstein | Daniel Paisner |
| Thomas Flanagan | Santha Rama Rau |
| Thomas Fleming | William Safire |
| Brendan Gill | Budd Schulberg |
| Arthur Golden | Wilfrid Sheed |
| Brian Hall | Gail Sheehy |
| Alice Hoffman | Mimi Sheraton |
| Susan Isaacs | Russell Shorto |
| Roger Kahn | Dava Sobel |
| Allen Kurzweil | Judith Thurman |
| John Lahr | George Vecsey |
| Dennis Lehane | Hilma Wolitzer |



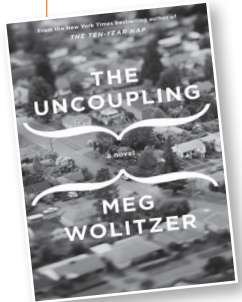
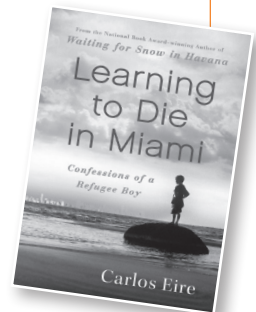
"eloquent and moving"
OSCAR HIJUELOS

"an engrossing Cuban-American story that will leave readers wanting more"
KIRKUS REVIEWS

"a heartfelt book..."
THE WASHINGTON POST

"those who remember the exuberant kid from Waiting for Snow in Havana... will be moved by the man he becomes"
THE NEW YORK TIMES

"...deeply affecting... coming-of-age story of a boy 'hellbent on becoming an American'"
THE SEATTLE TIMES



"... like a dreamy fairy tale with beautifully expressive and strangely enticing writing"
LIBRARY JOURNAL

"a smart author whose work both amuses and hits home"
KIRKUS REVIEWS

"hip, glib, impish scenario... illuminates the power of timeless literature"
BOOKLIST

"her observations... are startlingly sharp and right and perfectly phrased..."
GOODREADS

"... tackles an issue that has deep ramifications for women's lives, in a way that makes it funny, riveting and totally fresh"
BOOK-OF-THE-MONTH CLUB

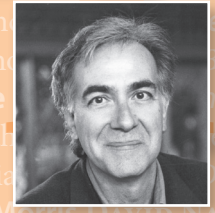
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RICHARD DODGE WHITTEMORE
42nd Annual Book & Author Luncheon



Carlos Eire
Prize-winning author of *Waiting for Snow in Havana* presents his continuing memoir

Learning to Die in Miami: Confessions of a Refugee Boy

Meg Wolitzer
Best-selling author of the groundbreaking *The Ten-Year Nap* presents her latest novel

The Uncoupling

Friday, May 13, 2011
11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

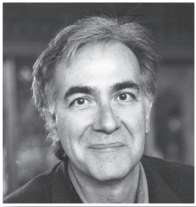
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Carlos Eire

*Learning to Die in Miami:
Confessions of a Refugee Boy*

Simon & Schuster



Waiting for Snow in Havana won a National Book Award for Carlos Eire in 2003. This winning memoir told of Dr. Eire's childhood and coming of age in a privileged Cuban family

before and during the Castro revolution. *Learning to Die in Miami: Confessions of a Refugee Boy* continues Dr. Eire's personal story. He and his brother were among 14,000 unaccompanied children airlifted from Cuba in 1962. He realized that for his new American self to emerge, his Cuban self must "die." With great enterprise and purpose, he began his journey.

Living in a series of foster homes in Florida and Illinois, Carlos struggled to master English, blend into American schools and balance the divide between his past and present lives. Cuba became a remote and vague idea in the back of his head, something that "had ceased to be part of the world." His constant movement between foster homes and the eventual realization that his parents were far away strengthened his awareness that his life had irrevocably changed. He was reunited with his mother in 1965 in Chicago but would never again see his beloved father, who died in Cuba.

Carlos earned his Ph.D. in 1979 at Yale University where he is now Riggs Professor of History and Religious Studies. He is an expert in the social, intellectual, religious and cultural history of medieval and early modern Europe. He lives in Guilford, Connecticut with his wife and three children.

Meg Wolitzer

The Uncoupling

Riverhead Books, Penguin Group



With *The Ten-Year Nap*, her best-selling 2008 novel, Meg Wolitzer focused on the "Opt Out" generation—women who voluntarily leave the work force and professional careers in favor of full-time motherhood—and provoked impassioned comments from both sides of the "Mommy Wars."

In her newest novel, *The Uncoupling*, a sparkling, slightly surreal, comedy of manners, Ms. Wolitzer invokes the ancient Greek play *Lysistrata* to focus upon the power of relationships. When a new bohemian drama teacher in a suburban high school decides to mount a production of *Lysistrata* (in which women go on a sex strike against men until a war ends), the women and girls of the school community find that they have been placed under a kind of "spell" and that their feelings toward the males in their lives have changed drastically. While *Lysistrata* rehearsals continue in school, the drama developing around town more than matches what is being prepared for the stage. When the school curtain at last goes up, a series of unexpected, hilarious and touching events brings both the play and Wolitzer's story to a cathartic and enlightening close.

Meg Wolitzer is a graduate of Brown University. She is the author of eight previous novels. She lives in New York with her husband and sons. Her mother, novelist Hilma Wolitzer, spoke at a Friends of the Library Book & Author Luncheon in 1989 on her novel, *Silver*.

For Your Information...

Book & Author Luncheon Reservations

The cost of the luncheon is \$60. Reservations are honored in the order received. No tickets are issued. A record of reservations will be at the door.

Become a Book & Author Sponsor!

The Book & Author Luncheon is the major fundraising event of the FOL. Sponsorship levels begin at \$250 and include complimentary tickets and special publicity. For sponsorship information, contact Ellen Zimmerman at (516) 883-3298 and ellengzimm@yahoo.com.

Contact Information

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(516) 883-4400 ext. 130

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