

Media Alert

Litquake, San Francisco's Literary Festival
October 1-9, 2010

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Literary Seismic Activity Alert: Litquake 2010 Slated to Feature a Legendary Literary Figure, a Rock and Roll High Priestess/Poet from New Jersey, and a Former Heather Among Others



Lawrence Ferlinghetti to be presented with Barbary Coast Award for his incalculable contributions to Bay Area letters at Herbst Theater with Patti Smith and Wynona Ryder slated to appear alongside Ishmael Reed, New Yorker cartoonist Erik Drooker, Michael McClure, San Francisco Poet Laureate Diane di Prima, California Gold Medal Book Award winner Rebecca Solnit, and veteran journalist Robert Scheer

Reading as Spectator Sport!! -----> Festival runs October 1-9, 2010

June 29, San Francisco - Litquake, San Francisco's Literary Festival will award its fourth annual Barbary Coast Award to Lawrence Ferlinghetti, writer, poet and founder of legendary bookstore, City Lights. Now 93, he is being honored for his immense contributions to Bay Area letters in an evening scheduled to include Patti Smith and Wynona Ryder among other luminaries.

Prior recipients of the Barbary Coast include Armistead Maupin, Tobias Wolff and Amy Tan.

In addition to the readings as spectator sport the festival is well known for, 2010 offers some much anticipated additions, including importing writers from Ireland to take center stage at Porchlight as well as a pre-festival Lit Crawl in New York on 9/11 that will feature Sean Wilsey, Cintra Wilson, Ben Greenman who are Litquake SF veterans, as well as *New York Times* writer and author Bruce Weber.

Organizations and publications involved in the New York Lit Crawl include the *Paris Review*, Farrar Straus Giroux and *Granta*.

Also on deck for the festival proper, pulp fiction Tamil style, an evening of original short stories, the hugely anticipated co-presentation with MOMA of Rebecca Solnit's forthcoming *Infinite City: A San Francisco Atlas*, *The Daily Show*'s Kristen Schaal, and a host of other literary all-stars, artisans, journeymen and emerging voices.

The full schedule is being finalized and is expected to be announced August 1, but will feature:

Readings throughout the City * Film Screenings * Kidquake * Science * Historical Fiction * Memoir * Biography * Food * Comedy * Sports * Science Fiction * Teenquake * Music * Author Panels * Final Night's Lit Crawl through the Mission and much more

Litquake, San Francisco's annual literary festival, was founded by Bay Area writers in order to put on a week-long literary spectacle for book lovers, complete with cutting-edge panels, unique cross-media events, and hundreds of readings. Since its founding in 1999, the festival has presented more than 2300 author appearances for an audience of over 53,000 in its lively and inclusive celebration of San Francisco's thriving contemporary literary scene. Litquake seeks to foster interest in literature, perpetuate a sense of literary community, and provide a vibrant forum for Bay Area writing as a complement to the city's music, film, and cultural festivals. Dates: 10/1-9, 2010. www.litquake.org

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