

**Press Contact**

Liam Passmore  
Shave and a Haircut  
[liam@shaveandahaircut.biz](mailto:liam@shaveandahaircut.biz)

## Tom Waits to Pay Live Tribute to Lawrence Ferlinghetti at Litquake 2010



Tom Waits, credit James Minchin III; Lawrence Ferlinghetti

Singer, songwriter, composer and actor Tom Waits joins the lineup of artists and authors, including another new addition to the evening's roster, **Steve Earle**, who will pay tribute to the original paperback bohemian Lawrence Ferlinghetti when he and City Lights Booksellers and Publishers receive Litquake's 2010 Barbary Coast Award for their contribution to Bay Area letters on **Saturday October 2** at the Herbst Theater

Others to appear that evening include Patti Smith, Lenny Kaye, Winona Ryder, Michael McLure, *New Yorker* cartoonist Eric Drooker, Ishmael Reed, former SF Poet Laureates Jack Hirshman and devora major, Beth Lisick, Michelle Tea, Robert Scheer, emcee Marc Bamuthi Joseph and others, with music from the Marcus Shelby Quartet

**September 28, San Francisco** – Litquake, San Francisco's Literary Festival is pleased to announce that Tom Waits is joining their Barbary Coast Awards honoring Lawrence Ferlinghetti and City Lights Booksellers and Publishers on Saturday, October 2, 8pm at the Herbst Theater.

The material Waits has produced over the years has a direct connection to the bohemian nature espoused not only by Ferlinghetti himself, but also the literature to be found via City Lights Booksellers and Publishers.

In an era where a show like *Mad Men* has become so popular all across the board, it is easy to forget that for many, its nostalgic take gilds the era in a way that seems to be not quite complete or accurate.

In the shadow of these Madison Avenue *Mad Men* types, a new kind of American was emerging—one typified by Ferlinghetti—that was looser, that put a paper back book in his or her pocket and mulled the post World War 2 American dream/landscape and said "no thanks."

Whether it be *Frank's Wild Years*, the soundtrack to *One From the Heart* with an image of an "old broken bicycle out in the rain with playing cards pinned to its spokes," or even the channeling of a Richard Burton-sounding stevedore type in *Singapore* from the *Swordfish Trombones* album, Waits' songs epitomize the idiosyncratic man or woman who looks at life with the eye of a poet despite what their circumstances seem to dictate. And then for better or worse, acts accordingly.

The other new addition to the evening's lineup is singer-songwriter, author, actor, and political activist, Steve Earle, who still believes it is possible to create songs that could be "literature that you consume while driving in your car."

This is the fourth annual Barbary Coast Award. Prior recipients are Armistead Maupin, Tobias Wolff and Amy Tan

**What:** Litquake 2010 Barbary Coast Awards

**Where:** Herbst Theater

**When:** Saturday October 2 at 8pm

**Tickets:** \$25.00 in advance, \$30.00 at door, \$100.00 VIP

**Ticket Purchase:** <http://www.cityboxoffice.com/eventperformances.asp?evt=1552>

Complete lineup available here: [http://litquake.org/events/barbary-coast\\_ferlinghetti](http://litquake.org/events/barbary-coast_ferlinghetti)

### **About Tom Waits**

For more than 30 years songwriter/performer/actor Tom Waits has been creating music, releasing over 20 albums to date. He continues to inspire new generations of listeners who have their own story to tell and their own dark music to follow.

[www.tomwaits.com](http://www.tomwaits.com)

### **About the Barbary Coast Award**

Initiated in 2007, Litquake's Barbary Coast Award is given for literary achievement and in recognition of those who value the independent—and sometimes unruly—spirit of the Bay Area and keep it alive in their work. Its name is meant to evoke San Francisco's storied pirate and nonconformist beginnings as well as a nod to Armistead Maupin's quixotic characters who made their home on Barbary Lane.

### **About Litquake**

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](http://www.litquake.org)

Litquake is made possible in part due to the support of the following sponsors: Miner Anderson Family Foundation, Margaret and Will Hearst, California Academy of Sciences, The Bernard Osher Foundation, The San Francisco Convention and Visitors Bureau, Grants for the Arts, Craig, Scribd, Zellerbach Family Foundation, Chronicle Books, Ron Beller & Jennifer Moses, SF READS 2010, San Francisco Chronicle, KQED, KALW 91.7, BARTab, beNOW.tv, Hotel Rex, HarperOne, Kimpton Hotels & Restaurants, GRANTA, Stanford Humanities Center, California Institute of Integral Studies

###