

LITERATURE

KORE PRESS

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Congratulations Nobel winner Herta Müller

"Coming in Hot" again

Kore Women Make Waves

the controversial new play from Kore Press

Coming in Hot



Jeanmarie Simpson (photo by Krista Niles)

Did you miss the September opening of [Coming In Hot](#)? Don't fret, we've got you covered! The ladies of Kore Press are pleased to announce a salon performance:

Friday, October 30th, 7pm @ The Tucson Friend's Meeting House.

2009 Nobel Prize for Literature

The Passport,
by Herta Müller.
Congratulations to the 12th woman to win the Nobel Prize for Literature since 1901. Müller's winning narrative takes place in a German-speaking Romanian village and follows the life of a village miller attempting to emigrate to West Germany.

Her book was published in its original German translation, entitled "[Der Fuchs war damals schon der Jäger](#)," in the UK by Serpent's Tail. Northwestern University Press (the distributor of Kore Press) distributes two of Müller's other titles in the US.



First Annual Jeremy Ingalls Poetry in Translation Award

For tickets (by donation--seating is limited), visit www.korepress.org or give us a ring at (520) 327-2127. In the meantime, check out this rave review from former NY Times, Pulitzer prize-winning writer Ford Burkhart at [Tucson Stage:](#)

"Coming in Hot is Thoughtful Anti-War Theater"

This unheralded event shows once again what surprises emerge from the theater circles of Southern Arizona. It delivered at least two unexpected rewards...[read more](#)

**Uh-oh:
Coming in Hot too hot to touch?**



photo by Kista Niles

The writers and director of the controversial new play by Kore Press recognized they had a hot-potato in their hands early on in the creative process. They wanted very much to avoid propagandist rhetoric and held in mind the notion that what art can do is to simply reveal, to allow a view through another's veil. The idea was that the power of revealing would open authentic dialogue among diverse and often polarized communities, as well as among individuals.

Although the general response so far has been a thumbs up, the attempt at a sincere exploration of highly sensitive material has invariably alienated us from some of the very groups we as a Press wished to engage: decision-makers in the Peace Movement criticized the lack of a clear stance against the military-industrial complex, a point that many second-wave feminists agree with. Then there is a question about whether or not a single actor should play 14 different characters from various backgrounds and ethnicities (but what of [Anna Deveare Smith](#)?). And, perhaps if the play were a little more detailed in its rendering of military life, service members might not see it as too radically liberal to attend?

"I came to this play expecting propaganda, but instead found truth," says one veteran in attendance, Jamie Jansen. "As a veteran who has been to both theatres of operation, it was not an easy transition back into normalcy. In part, this is because we will never be "normal" again. It changes you in very profound ways. I don't speak much about my experiences. They are tucked away in a box, and every attempt is made to keep them there. This play gave a voice to all of the experiences and feelings in that box. It is a true gift."

Controversy is a good thing--it gets people all riled up and talking--so perhaps we should not apologize after all for refusing to offer pat answers and just continue to raise the existential



the judge, [Sawako Nakayasu](#).

The First Annual [Jeremy Ingalls Poetry in Translation Award](#) is the newest submission competition from Kore Press. This competition is open to all women writers for a translation of a poem by a Japanese woman into English, regardless of the translator's nationality. The winning submission will be awarded \$1,000 and publication of a single poem in Japanese and English. Permission to translate the poem submitted is the translator's responsibility. Please read over contest [guidelines](#) carefully. **Deadline for submissions is November 15th, 2009.**

Go get your translation on!

Huzzah Abroad and at Home!



A library in Mumbai, India provides more than paperback archives to women in the northern town of Mumbai. This library is the site of a [women's book club](#), developed solely for women to meet, learn, discuss, socialize, and, of course, read. Many of the members were illiterate before joining the club and have found the center to be both intellectually and emotionally liberating. One woman deems it the perfect (and only) way to break "the cloistered domestic routine."

In Elaine Showalter's newest book, [A Jury of HerPeers](#), she investigates the foundations of a female canon in the U.S. by following the historical, structural, and cultural development of women's



questions: Why is it that the country cannot stomach seeing women in power, at war, and find it so hard to bear witness to all of what happens there?--Staff writers

(send us your thoughts: kore@korepress.org or cominginhotplay.blogspot.com)

News From Kore Authors



Sally Ashton reads from *Her Name is Jaunita*

Sally Ashton is on the move with her latest prose poetry book, *Her Name is Juanita*, (September '09). The October 1st Seattle reading where Ashton was one of three authors was called "So a Magician, a Donkey, and a Blonde Walk Into a Bar," co-sponsored by Richard Hugo House. Look for Sally's enchanting prose when she guest-blogs at Best American Poetry Blog November 1-7.

Stephanie Balzer will be reading from "Revenant," due in November, at a benefit for Chax Press and VOICES, Inc, (of which she is Executive Director), on October 30th. [Find out more.](#)

2010 Short Fiction Award Deadline October 31st



Marmon Silko.

The winning submission will receive \$1,000 and chapbook publication. Read contest guidelines [here](#) and [submit](#) your stories now!

This year's judge, Leslie

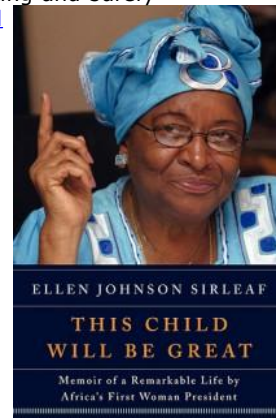


writings in all genres. Showalter says she wrote her 586-page book, "to bring forgotten writers into the light and to inspire a vigorous, fearless debate on their merits as writers, their cultural significance and their relationship to the American literary tradition at large."

Katie Roiphe in the [NY Time Book Review](#) objects, saying saving women's writing from neglect is a project of 70s feminism. Is it false prestige or true merit that gives lesser writers the same space on the page as Elizabeth Bishop? Roiphe asks "a vexed and knotty question."

Looking for your next read?

Liberian President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf's memoir is groundbreaking and surely fascinating. "[This Child Will Be Great: Memoir of a Remarkable Life by Africa's First Women President](#)," begins with tales of President Sirleaf's early life moves through her rise to power. The memoir focuses on Sirleaf's devotion to peace and social justice in a post civil war Liberia.

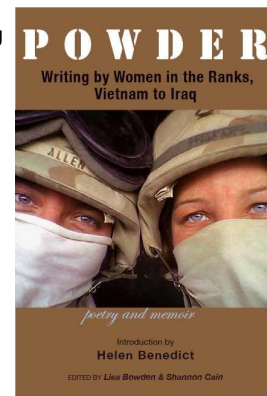


All you young women & girls out there who want to be president, take note!

Send Powder to Afghanistan

Contribute to a care package

Kore Press supporter **Susan Denis** is putting together a care package for her US women soldier friends in Afghanistan and Kore wants to help! Among the other goodies and necessities, we'd like to add 10 copies of [Powder](#) to the package. Would you like to send a book overseas? \$20 bucks adds one copy to the box & helps with mailing costs.



Please contact us at kore@korepress.org or (520) 327-2127 if you want to send a copy of *Powder* to a soldier currently serving in Afghanistan.

WILPF International Office Extends Support

for "Coming in Hot"

Dear Friends,

This play offer[s] an incredible opportunity to engage in discussions with individuals who may not currently share WILPF's vision of a world without war. The play [& DVD] provides an opportunity to make connections between military and peace communities, setting the stage for enlightening dialogue. [This] can serve WILPF members as a great educational tool--local showings will likely draw new individuals to see it, and will offer an opportunity to engage with them on issues of WILPF's concern [...] and should also demonstrate the fact that WILPF women do not shy away from hard conversations.

I wish that I could have been at the live presentation of the play. I'll have to settle for the DVD, and I look forward to seeing it when it reaches me in Geneva.

Best wishes,

Susi Snyder
Geneva, Switzerland
Secretary General
[Women's International League for Peace and Freedom](#)



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