

LITERATURE

KORE PRESS

PUBLISHING WOMEN SINCE 1993



GRRLS Freedom of Choice Hits the Big Screen

Breaking the Silence: Resilient Congolese Women

All Sorts of Hunger, NEW RELEASE from Kore

Showcased *Souvenirs*

Holly Iglesias and Maureen Kavanaugh
on *Persephone Speaks*



Kore author [Holly Iglesias](#) is buzzing right now. Not only was she the recipient of an NEA fellowship this year, but she's also been popping up in the blogosphere. Maureen Kavanaugh, author of the blog [From "The Lou": All Things About St. Louis](#), recently featured pieces from Iglesias's [Souvenirs of a Shrunken World \(Kore Press 2008\)](#) - a collection of poetry that centers around the 1904 World's Fair in St. Louis, Missouri. See the full post this month on [Persephone Speaks](#):

...A slim volume, a mere seven inches by six, it fits the hand like a true souvenir of the period, easily stowed into a drawstring purse or overcoat pocket and is a delight for a contemporary reader to hold and peruse...The St. Louis Public Library catalogue lists ninety-

Kore Women Make Waves

Heather Brittain Bergstrom,
Holly Iglesias, & Niki Herd

***All Sorts of Hunger*, by [Heather Brittain Bergstrom](#), will be released for purchase this month!** Set in

eastern Washington, linked tales capture the dusty Interior West and its often wandering characters who no longer seek furs or gold or large parcels of land, though their desires, in some ways, are just as unattainable: sleep, warmth, food, forgiveness, family, and clarity. Click here to visit the Kore website or email us at kore@korepress.org to order your copy of the 2010 Short Fiction Award winner selected by Leslie Marmon-Silko.



[Holly Iglesias](#), winner of the 2008 Kore First Book Award for Poetry, was awarded a National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) grant. Iglesias won a NEA Creative Writing Fellowship in poetry and

was one of 42 winners selected from 1,063 applicants. "The NEA fellowship is a kiss, an embrace, a dare. While I've had support and encouragement from family, friends and

eight separate titles pertaining to the subject Louisiana Purchase Exposition alone but not one of them from the smallest and most erudite to the largest, most extensive photo collection captures the experience more succinctly, more personally or in a more thought-provoking way than Igleias' Souvenirs Of A Shrunken World, which places the Fair within the wider context of St. Louis, when it was the fourth city in the nation and struggling to address challenges remaining from the 19th century even as it plummeted into the 20th.

The Freedom to Choose

Marigold Hall Brings **GRRLS** to the Big Screen



Marigold Hall (pictured), a member of the [GRRLS](#) Literary Activism Project, created a two minute video PSA on her freedom to choose her own religion and way of thinking that will screen Saturday, December 4th at the Loft Theater in Tucson Arizona. The PSA will precede the 10AM screening of *Unborn in the USA: Inside the War on Abortion*, presented by Arizona List. Tickets are \$20. For tickets and more information please visit [arizonalist.org](#).

Inspiration, Adaptation & Evolution

An Interview with Margaret Atwood



Photo Credit: Gaurdian.co.uk

[Gaurdian.co.uk](#) recently published a fascinating interview with Canadian poet, novelist, literary critic, essayist, and environmental activist, Margaret Atwood. Writer and interviewer Robert McCrum delves into Atwood's past, present, and future while delivering anecdotes from the prolific author (she's published almost 50 books!) peppered with her signature wit and intelligence. Here's a brief teaser, but read the [full article](#) to learn more about Atwood's childhood in the woods, her new admiration for Twitter, and her musings on the fate of the world as we know it.

colleagues, this nod from the NEA is the great legitimizer-of my work and of prose poetry-and the mandate to keep writing," Iglesias says. Each winner \$25,000 and will be featured on the [NEA website](#) early next year. Iglesias published her debut collection of poetry, *Souvenirs of a Shrunken World*, with Kore Press in 2008 and has subsequently published *Angles of Approach* (White Pine Press 2010).

Don't miss this debut collection of poetry by Niki Herd, published poet and contributor to *Autumnal: A Collection of Elegies* (Kore Press).

The Language of Shedding Skin (Main Street Rag Press) will be released this month after finishing as a runner up in the 2010 Main Street Rag Poetry Book Award. Herd will participate

in a reading in Washington DC, December 19th, 4-6pm, [Langston Room - Busboys Poets](#), 2021 14th St. NW. And if you're living in Tucson, AZ, look for Herd at Casa Libre later this month.



Eve Ensler: No More Rape

Congolese Women and their Fight for Peace

More than 15,000 women have been raped in the Eastern Congo just this year. American playwright, performer, feminist, and activist powerhouse Eve Ensler is working to slash those numbers and calls attention to the courageous women of the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC). Aiding sexually and violently abused women of the DRC has been an issue close to Ensler's heart for some time now with [V-Day's City of Joy project](#). The City of Joy, set to open in February 2011 in Bukavu, DRC, "will support women survivors of sexual violence to heal and provide them with opportunities to develop



Photo Credit:
Huffington Post

their leadership through innovative programming ([source](#))."

Ensler visited Bukavu in November to meet with UN officials, activists, social workers, and other leaders to discuss the progress on the fight against rape. In an article published on the Huffington Post ("[No More Rape](#)"), Ensler describes her trip to Bukavu, detailing the good news, the bad news, and the amazing resilience of the Congolese women. While the tragic statistics of mass rapes and killings remain largely unchanged, Ensler noticed a "palpable change" in the women she encountered. "The women of Congo have broken the silence and are claiming their voices and vision. They are resilient and brilliant. They have huge dreams and ambitions

The trouble with politicians [at events like the Copenhagen summit of 2009] is that no one wants to go first, go skinny dipping and take the plunge. Oh, and then you have people arguing about fatuous things like the environment and human rights. Go three days without water and you don't have any human right. Why? Because you're dead. Physics and chemistry are things you just can't negotiate with. These," she concludes with a kind of grim relish, "these are the laws of the physical world..."

...The Handmaid's Tale is the embodiment of Atwood's aesthetic approach, in which she places "science" as much as "fiction" at the heart of an urgent creative matrix. In the first place, she does not make a fetish of literature. "Human creativity," she instructs, "is not confined to just a few areas of life. The techno-scientific world has some of the most creative people you'll ever meet. When I was growing up, I never saw a division..."

(even if they are often muted by the massive trauma and violence). They are outspoken leaders and visionaries and they could and should lead Congo out of her misery. They are indeed building a movement. "

Visit the HuffPo to [read more](#) about the Congolese women and Ensler's quest to end the violence.

Pushcart Prize Nominations

A round of applause goes out to this year's [Pushcart Prize](#) nominations from Kore



Press: [Caroline Forche](#) for her poem "What Comes"; [Laura Newbern](#) for her poem (from Love and The Eye) ³The Walking Stick²; [Heather Brittain Bergstrom](#) for her short story "All Sorts of Hunger"; [Teresa Stores](#) for her short story "Frost Heaves"; [Yasuko Claremont](#) for her translation of Tada Chimako's poem "Concealment"; [Becca Klaver](#) for her poem "The Mexico it Would Take" (From LA Liminal). Good luck gals!

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