



LITERATURE

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Kore Moves into a New Era

Claudia Rankine Calls for Reflection: Race & Language at the AWP

**Make A Tumamoc Sandwich for Kore
Climb the Hill from the Ides of March to Tax Day**

Rankine's "Open Letter to Poets" on *Persephone Speaks*: Posing Questions About Race and Language to Fellow Writers



"Dear friends,
As many of you know I responded to Tony Hoagland's poem "The Change" at AWP. I also solicited from Tony a response to my response. Many informal conversations have been taking place online and elsewhere since my presentation of this dialogue.

This request is an attempt to move the conversation away from the he said-she said vibe toward a discussion about the creative imagination, creative writing and race.

If you have time in the next month please consider sharing some thoughts on writing about race (1-5 pages).

...

If you write back to me by March 11, 2011 with "OPEN

Women's Voices Reach Pentagon in Class Action Lawsuit Literary Activism Does Its Part

SWAN ([Service Women's Action Network](#)) is a consultant for Burke, PLLC on a [class action suit](#) on behalf of military and former military victims of Military Sexual Trauma (MST), including persons who were raped by their military colleagues.

We at Kore like to think we did our part to help create a groundswell. Over the past several years, both the play [Coming in Hot](#) and the book [Powder](#) have taken literary action to expose the injustices faced by many women in the military.

One audience member said after seeing the play:
"we have had a deaf ear to women's issues for way too long and still do not want to face the realities.

This play opens the doors slightly. . . and we need to bust it completely open."



Make your voice heard in the fight to end sexual violence in the U.S. Military. Sign SWAN's [Petition to End Military Rape, Sexual](#)

LETTER" in the subject heading I will post everything on the morning of the 15th of March. Feel free to pass this on to your friends. Please direct your thoughts to openletter@claudiarankine.com."

[Please click through to the blog to see the full letter.](#)

Tumamoc-Hill-a-thon is Back Walkers, Take Your Mark

We're making a Tumamoc sandwich this year and want all of you to join us. **Between the Ides of March and Tax Day**, athletes, students, council members, and community supporters will break a sweat climbing that great old hill west of downtown Tucson for Kore Press. **Summit as many times as you can in those 30 days solo or with a team.** If you can't walk, please consider sponsoring someone or building a team to help us reach our goal. A buck a climb, a mile, or perhaps a donation for the whole nine yards. We aiming high!



Topo map of Tumamoc Hill

2011 First Book Award Winner Michelle Chan Brown

[Michelle Chan Brown's](#) poetry collection *Double Agent* was selected out of over 300 as the winner of this year's Kore Press First Book Award.



Runner-Ups are:
Music for Birds by **Ali Lanzetta**

three stamens*seventeen syllables
by **Tamiko Beyer**
Nesting Papers by **Christine Choi**

Anti-Portrait at Flashpoint
by **Cori A. Winrock**

Grrls & the Old School Art of Printing Power of the Press is with the PressWoman!

[Assault and Sexual Harassment.](#)

A Floricanto on the Capitol Steps Protest Poets Call for Attention

Poets call for healing, tolerance, reflection, reconciliation, and peace on the Western Front of the US Capitol on Feb. 5, 2011 in the wake of the Arizona tragedy, passage of AZ SB 1070 & HB 2281, The Death of the Dream Act, and Deportation of Veterans.

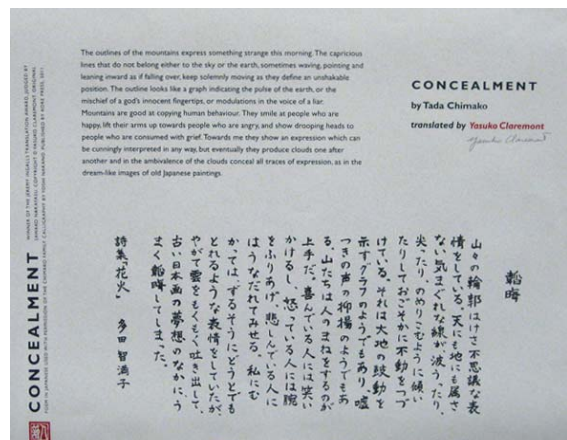


The roster of Poets present for this symbolic Floricanto (collective poetry reading) 1: Pam Uschuk, William Pitt Root, Andre Yang, Sarah Browning, Susana Sandoval, Nephtalí De León, Luis Rodríguez, Francisco X. Alarcón, Carmen Calatayud, Odilia Galván Rodríguez a, Abel Salas, and Hedy Treviño. Manuel and Valente Valenzuela, veterans who are facing deportation, also participated in this public event. [Poets Respond to SB1070 on fb, here.](#)

2011 AWP Highlights

Translation Winner Travels from Tokyo to DC to Read With Contest Judge

Jeremy Ingall's Translation Award winner [Yasuko Claremont](#) read at the [Woolly Mammoth](#) Theater in DC with Sawako Nakayasu, judge, along with fellow Kore writers and judges [Tayari Jones](#), [Laura Newbern](#) and [Teresa Stores](#).



["Concealment," 2-color silk-screened](#)



Dwight Metzger talks shop with Kore Grrls

The Grrls Civic Action Workshop pairs creative writing with activism to help young women and trans youth creatively use their voices--and words--to dialog with and create change in the community around them. Workshop facilitator [Kimi Eisele](#) led the field trip to Tucson's independent media and print center, the [Gloo Factory](#)/Pace Supplies. The fired-up group of young wordsmiths checked out various low-tech forms to use for sending their messages to the world: bumper stickers, decals, t-shirts, posters, magnets, patches, buttons, oh my!

Laura Newbern Heading Your Way
Come West, Young Poet

Georgia poet [Laura Newbern](#)---Rona Jaffe Award recipient and Kore 2010 First Book winner, selected by Claudia Rankine, called [Love and the Eye](#)---is heading west to read for us (*and, what a treat --not to be missed!*). **March 3, 7pm**, Changing Hands Books in Tempe, and **March 7, 7pm**, at Tucson's own [Casa Libre en la Solana](#).

[broadside in an edition of 100.](#)

Kore hit a six year high in AWP book fair sales, despite the incredible disadvantage of poor location! Thanks go out to all our our interns and volunteers, you were awesome. *Highlights:* a panel called "Black Out/White Ache: Poets Rewriting Race," the first Women's Caucus, Claudia Rankine's interventionist "reading," and seeing colleagues in the flesh. We're plotting panels and scheming about a more humane 2012 in Chicago. **Got ideas? contact lisa@korepress.org.**

Kore Press Moves

New Space, New Board, New Kick-Ass Era

After 18 years of standing by your words (see the chinese chop--right--with the character for "poetry" on the left, and "person" on the right), what sort of radical change can you make? Dig in, go deeper, retool, re-envision, recruit and rally forth!



Kore's new 411, 240A N Court, Tucson, . . . is sooo downtown, sharing the street with [El Charro Mexican](#) restaurant and [Tucson Museum of Art](#), smack dab in the center of it all, inside the walls of the historic, revitalized [Tucson's Women Commission](#) building.

New Power in the Kore House: introducing the talented and deeply experienced members of the Kore Board: Elizabeth Burden (Tucson), Carrie SooHoo (Hawaii), Adela C. Licon (Tucson), Jennifer Camano (Tucson), Nhu Tien Lu (Vietnam), Tracy Crouthamel (Tucson), Shannon Cain (Tucson), Geta LeSeur-Brown (Tucson).

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