Thursday, March 3, 4 p.m., Kniznick Gallery

Insatiable: A Salon

A reading of work by women authors on the theme of insatiability

Women’s Studies Research Center

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Gallery Hours

Monday - Friday
9 a.m. - 5 p.m.
or by appointment

About the WSRC

The Brandeis University Women’s Studies Research Center Scholars Program mission is to be an innovative and mutually supportive community of scholars engaged in research and artistic activity.

Working in the arts, humanities, sciences and social sciences and their intersections, these researchers and artists focus on questions related to women’s lives and gender dynamics. Advancing the social justice mission of Brandeis University, scholars contribute intellectually to the university as well as to the broader local, national and international communities.

About the Kniznick Gallery

The Kniznick Gallery (Est. 2001) is committed to feminist exhibitions of artistic excellence that reflect the activities of the Women’s Studies Research Center Scholars and engage communities within and beyond Brandeis University. The art on display is a vehicle through which the Center seeks to promote dialogue about important issues and address the ever-changing challenges related to women and gender.
About this event

This salon is being held in conjunction with the exhibition “Insatiable: Our Rapacious Appetite for More,” on view at the Women’s Studies Research Center through March 15. As an extension of the exhibition, we issued a call for submissions of writing on the theme of insatiability. The writing you will hear read today was selected from those submissions and represents a variety of responses to the theme in terms of content, form and voice.

Today’s Readers
Each author will read her own piece, unless otherwise noted in the program.
* Indicates WSRC Scholar
Our MC for this event is Kristin Waters, WSRC Scholar.

Thanks to
The Natalie Marcus Endowment for the Arts, for their support of the “Insatiable” exhibition
Alexandra Borrie, for lending her voice
Kristin Waters, for running the show
Naomi Myrvaagnes, for envisioning and coordinating the event
The 42 artists in the exhibition, for their provocation and inspiration
All the writers who bravely submitted their work for consideration
The WSRC, for making this kind of event possible
Biographies

Melissa Apperson holds a B.A. from Wellesley College and an Ed.M. from Harvard University. At Lesley University, she studied with poet Nadia Herman Colburn. She has poems published or forthcoming in Barrow Street, Salamander, St. Ann’s Review, New York Quarterly, River Oak Review, Hampden-Sydney Poetry Review, and Sakura Review.

Nancer Ballard, a WSRC Scholar, has authored several books of nonfiction, Dead Reckoning, a volume of poetry, and numerous short works of poetry, fiction and nonfiction. She is also a co-author of a children’s supplementary textbook that teaches mathematics through folktale/storytelling. Ballard is an attorney specializing in environmental law, risk management, and sustainability and has received several awards for her work on women in the law. She is currently working on some creative nonfiction that incorporates elements of memoir, history, psychology, neurobiology, philosophy, and literature.

Ellen Bass’s poetry includes The Human Line and Mules of Love. She co-edited No More Masks!, the first anthology of women’s poetry in 1973 and is co-author of The Courage to Heal.

Alexandra Borrie celebrates 40 years as a professional actor-singer-dancer in New York. She has had a long and varied performance career on Broadway, in regional theatres and in television. She taught acting at the Tisch School, New York University and at Muhlenberg College. Borrie is now directing chamber opera works in Boston and serving as a private acting coach in Boston and New York using her technique, The Borrie Approach.

For many years, Marguerite Bouvard, a WSRC Scholar, was a professor of political science at Regis College and a director of poetry workshops. She has published 17 books and numerous articles in the fields of political science, psychology, literature and poetry. Both her poetry and essays have been widely anthologized. Bouvard has been awarded numerous fellowships and residencies through the US and Canada. Marguerite’s current research focuses on the post-traumatic stress disorder of veterans returning from Iraq and Afghanistan.

Ann W. Caldwell, a WSRC Scholar, is President Emerita of the MGH Institute of Health Professions, a degree-granting graduate school affiliated with Massachusetts General Hospital, where she served for ten years. She began her career as a newspaper reporter and was editor of the Harvard Graduate School of Education alumni magazine and research newsletter. She served as a Vice President at both Wheaton College and Brown University, where she was the first woman to be chief development officer in the Ivy League. She is currently working on a biography of Catherine Filene Shouse (1896-1994), daughter of the department store family who became a notable researcher and philanthropist and founded Wolf Trap Farm.

The insights into WSRC Scholar Diana Durham’s own psyche while living in intentional community during the 1980s grew into the nonfiction book The Return of King Arthur: Finishing the Quest for Wholeness, Inner Strength and Self-knowledge. Since its publication in 2004, Durham has presented the stories of King Arthur and the Grail Quest to business executives, healing professionals, young people and women’s groups. She is also the author of two volumes of poetry, Sea of Glass and To the End of the Night. Her poetry has appeared in numerous journals, both in the UK and USA, and she was a member of the renowned poetry performance group Angels of Fire.

Nina B. Lichtenstein holds a Ph.D. in Francophone literature, an M.A. in French and a B.A. in Jewish Studies and French from the University of Connecticut. She has taught languages, literature and Jewish Studies in the US and in Norway at the high school and college levels, and she lectures and does research on various topics including Sephardic Women’s Writing, Memory and Identity, and Film and Holocaust Studies. While a Hadassah Brandeis Institute Research Scholar at the Women’s Studies Research Center, Lichtenstein worked on developing her dissertation titled “Maghrebian Memories: Exodus and Marginality in Sephardic Women’s Writing” into a book manuscript, as well as exploring opportunities for a project translating francophone Sephardic women’s novels into English.

Louise Levesque Lopman, a WSRC Scholar, is Professor Emerita of Sociology at Regis College where she taught and chaired the Department of Sociology, and established and was Director of the Women’s Studies Program. She was...
Biographies

awarded several faculty and research grants, one of which supported her sabbatical research in El Salvador where she was also an International Observer in the Salvadoran presidential elections. Lopman was a Visiting Research Scholar at the Wellesley College Center for Research on Women and a Visiting Professor of Sociology at Brandeis University. Most of Lopman’s current research and scholarship intersect with feminist phenomenological sociology and the qualitative study of women’s subjective experience in the context of gender and corporate globalization. Her work-in-progress focuses on the impact of “free” trade agreements, trade liberalization, and privatization on women maquila (“sweatshop”) workers in Free Trade Zones in El Salvador.

Naomi Myrvaagnes, a WSRC Scholar, is working on a novel about a rabbi and her congregation, set in the early 1990s. She has written poetry, essays, and short stories, which have appeared in online and print journals and newspapers. Her first published story, “No Place for Me, My Love,” was awarded Special Mention in the Pushcart Prize XXV anthology. Myrvaagnes is also an insatiable chamber music player.

Alice Neiley has a B.A. from the University of Vermont. Neiley first came to the area five years ago for a writing internship at the Provincetown Fine Arts Work Center, and now calls Provincetown home. She working in retail and teaches yoga during the busy summer months so that she can make time to write in the off-season. Neiley is currently working on a creative nonfiction book about the body: fullness, emptiness, her struggles with anorexia, and the endless process of recovery.

Dorothy Stone is a retired English teacher delighted to have time for her own writing and membership in poetry workshops. Stone’s work has been published in anthologies, journals and a chapbook.

Kristin Waters is currently the chair of the Philosophy Department at Worcester State College, where she has served as director of the Women’s Studies Program. She is currently researching and writing “Concepts of Freedom and Equality in Women’s Intellectual Movements,” focusing on race, class, and gender in Euro-American theories of the modern period, and exploring the intellectual productions of women writers. Waters is also working on a play, Aphra Behn: A Woman’s Comedy, about a 17th century playwright, poet, and early advocate for women’s personal and professional equality.

Program

Artists Insatiable
by Naomi Myrvaagnes*

The Grail Myth & The Psychic Roots of Over-Consumption
by Diana Durham* ◊ read by Michele L’Heureux

Kentucky Burgoo: A Feast for Thousands
by Ann W. Caldwell*

Eating the Bones
by Ellen Bass, from The Human Line ◊ read by Alexandra Borrie*

Carnivore Pancakes
by Melissa Apperson ◊ read by Alexandra Borrie*

A Nutritional Meal Should Not Be an Unattainable Luxury
by Louise Levesque Lopman*

My Husband’s Mouth
by Dorothy Stone

Just in Case You Don’t Understand Anorexia
by Alice Neiley ◊ read by Alexandra Borrie*

My new MORE: In Three Acts
by Nina B. Lichtenstein

Invading the Mountain in Combloux
by Marguerite Bouvard ◊ read by Alexandra Borrie

In Pursuit of Enough
by Nancer Ballard*