



Newspaper

Langston Hughes Library kicks off Literature season

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THE LANGSTON Hughes Community Library and Cultural Center/Queens Borough Public Library will present phatLiterature as it brings to the stage emerging and established names in the literary community who inspire, inform and educate with creativity and passion. Program dates are:

February 15, March 13, March 27, April 17 and May 1, phatLiterature is a literary series hosted by long-time Queens resident, poet, writer and publisher, Gabrielle David, and award-winning poet, playwright and writer, Nathalie Handal. Each program also features works by visual artists, which are integrated as part of phatLiterature's set design. Ten programs will be videotaped at the Library and will subsequently air on public access stations in the tri-state area (NY-NJ-CT) and in select key cities throughout the United States, reaching more than half-a-million viewers.

On Sunday, February 15, 2004, at 1:00 pm, phatLiterature's first episode will present invited guests Tony Medina, poet-activist and professor; with readings by Willie Perdomo and Sydnee Stewart, featuring visual artist Charles Lilly. At 3:00 pm, the second episode presents, "In Conversation with Dominican-American Novelist Nelly Rosario and Chilean Poet-Translator Idra Novey," featuring visual artist Roberta Berman. Rosario and Novey are invited to discuss their writing process, and the influence different languages and cultures has had on their work.

Writers who are invited to appear on future programs include John Watusi Branch, Mikhail Lossel, Josip Novakovich, Rana Kazkaz, Bridgit Evans, Bob Holman, Louis Reyes Rivera, Amiri Baraka, Amina Baraka, Eugene Redmond, Abiodun Oyewole, Anne Waldman, Meena Alexander, and Ram Prasad Devineni. phatLiterature is co-sponsored by the Langston Hughes Community Library & Cultural Center, with grants and funds received from the New York State Council on the Arts, New York State Education Department, New York City Department of Cultural Affairs, Queens Borough Public Library, Queens Borough President's Office, and the Library Action Committee of Corona-East Elmhurst, Inc., private donations and contributions. Additional funding for phatLiterature is provided by Queens Council on the Arts and with support through The JPMorgan Chase Arts and Culture Re-grants Program.

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