

# 2015 CREATIVE WRITING 2016 LECTURE SERIES

Talks on literary craft



## OCTOBER 8 Jesse Ball

Jesse Ball was born in New York and is the absurdist author of more than a dozen books of prose and verse.



## NOVEMBER 5 Rebecca Curtis

Rebecca Curtis received a B.A. from Pomona College, an M.A. in English from New York University, and an M.F.A from Syracuse University. Her first book, *Twenty Grand and Other Tales of Love & Money* (2007), was a *New York Times* Notable Book of 2007, a *San Francisco Chronicle* Notable Book of 2007, and an *L.A. Times* Best Book of 2007. It was also a finalist for the PEN/Hemingway Award and the *Los Angeles Times* Art Seidenbaum Award for Best First Fiction. Curtis's fiction and essays have appeared in *The New Yorker*, *Harper's*, *Esquire*, *Harper's Bazaar*, *The Huffington Post*, *McSweeney's*, *N+1* and elsewhere.



## DECEMBER 10 Mat Johnson

Mat Johnson is the author of the novels *Loving Day*, *Pym*, *Drop*, and *Hunting in Harlem*; the nonfiction novella *The Great Negro Plot*; and the comic books *Incognegro* and *Dark Rain*. He is a recipient of the United States Artist James Baldwin Fellowship, The Hurston/Wright Legacy Award, a Barnes & Noble Discover Great New Writers selection, and the John Dos Passos Prize for Literature. He is a Professor at the University of Houston Creative Writing Program.



## FEBRUARY 3 Jenny Offill

Jenny Offill is the author of the novels *Dept. of Speculation* (2014) and *Last Things* (2000). *Dept. of Speculation* was a finalist for the PEN/Faulkner Award and the *L.A. Times* Book Award. It was also shortlisted for this year's Folio Prize. *The New York Times* chose it as one of the 10 Best Books of 2014. She teaches in the low-residency writing program at Queens University.



## FEBRUARY 24 Saïd Sayrafiezadeh

Saïd Sayrafiezadeh is the author of *Brief Encounters with the Enemy*, which was shortlisted for the 2014 PEN/Robert W. Bingham Fiction Prize, and the critically acclaimed memoir *When Skateboards Will Be Free*. His work has appeared in *The New Yorker*, *The Paris Review*, *Granta*, *McSweeney's*, *The New York Times* and *The Best American Nonrequired Reading*, among other publications. He is the recipient of a 2010 Whiting Writers' Award for nonfiction and a 2012 fiction fellowship from the Cullman Center for Scholars and Writers. He lives in New York City and teaches creative writing at Hunter College and New York University.