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Seattle7Writers Present “The Novel: Live!” In Association with Richard Hugo House

Thirty-six Pacific Northwest authors write a 60,000-word novel in six days before your very eyes

October 11-16, 2010 at Richard Hugo House

SEATTLE – On October 11, 2010, thirty-six authors will begin one of the most stunning literary feats ever imagined—they will collaborate on a book-length piece of fiction in a marathon writing session over six days. This real-time performance, called “The Novel: Live!,” includes Seattle7Writers **Garth Stein** and **Jennie Shortridge** as well as bestselling authors **Jamie Ford**, **Elizabeth George**, **Erik Larson** and **Nancy Rawles**, among many others, and will occur at Richard Hugo House, a nonprofit center for writers and readers in Seattle, before both a live and virtual audience as part of Arts Crush, a month-long festival and celebration of the Seattle-area arts scene.

At 6 p.m. on Sunday, October 10, story elements for “The Novel: Live!,” including themes, characters and locations, will be drawn randomly at the kick-off party for Arts Crush Literary Week, and then beginning 10 a.m. on Monday, October 11, the first author will have a seat and begin typing at a computer stationed on Hugo House’s Cabaret stage. Every two hours until 10 p.m. each evening, a new, nationally published Northwest author will assume control of the computer—and of the story—until the novel is completed on the evening of October 16.

To assist the authors in this risky challenge, each will have three “lifelines,” which can be used to call fellow authors or their own agents and publishers, and the advice and encouragement of “TN:L!” official “spokes-librarian,” **Nancy Pearl**, famed Seattle librarian and author of “Book Lust.”

“Our mission with Seattle7Writers has been to energize the reading and writing communities of the Northwest,” says Garth Stein, “TN:L!” organizer and author “The Art of Racing in the Rain.” “‘The Novel: Live!’ is that mission, taken to an extreme. At first we all thought, ‘There’s no way; it’s too crazy!’ But then we realized we all feel the same way when we start a new book: ‘I can’t pull this off.’ But we do pull it off. And so we will pull off ‘TN:L!’”

Through screen projection at Hugo House, live streaming online at thenovellive.org and regular updates from authors on Facebook and Twitter, the novel will take shape before the eyes of its readers, who will have the chance to participate in the story too by offering

audience suggestions, online comments, submitting to the cover design contest, writing their own “fan fiction” and purchasing character naming rights.

“Every moment of ‘The Novel: Live!’ will be different from the one that preceded it and the one that comes after,” says Jennie Shortridge, “TN:L!” organizer and author of “When She Flew.” “Each author brings ideas and experiences and imagination into the mix that we can’t even fathom right now. The community will also be involved in the outcome of the story. It will truly be a Seattle novel.”

Upon completion of the novel on Saturday, October 16, it will be published and available for purchase as an e-book in all formats. Proceeds will be donated to Writers in the School via Seattle7Writers. The event has received the support and sponsorship of Amazon.com.

“The Novel: Live!” runs at Richard Hugo House 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. Monday-Saturday, October 11-16, 2010. The event is free and open to the public throughout each day. In the evenings from 5-7 and 9-10 p.m., Hugo House will host happy hours with drink specials, refreshments and snacks available at its bar/café.

Details at thenovellive.org and hugohouse.org.

A List of Participating Authors

Garth Stein

Jennie Shortridge

Carol Cassella

Mary Guterson

Erica Bauermeister

Kit Bakke

Susan Wiggs

Erik Larson

Jamie Ford

Kevin O’Brien

Maria Dahvana Headley

Matthew Amster-Burton

Suzanne Selfors

Ed Skoog

Sean Beaudoin

Robert Dugoni

Kathleen Alcalá

Karen Finneyfrock

Nancy Rawles

Craig Welch

Julia Quinn

Deb Caletti

Dave Boling

Peter Mountford

Kevin Emerson

William Dietrich

Elizabeth George

Clyde Ford

Stacey Levine

David Lasky

Greg Stump

Indu Sundaresan

Teri Hein

Jarret Middleton

Frances McCue

About Seattle7Writers

Seattle7Writers is a collective of Pacific Northwest authors whose mission is two-fold: to raise awareness of Northwest literature, and to give back to their community by doing good works for literacy causes. seattle7writers.org

About Richard Hugo House

Richard Hugo House is a home for writers and readers. Our mission is to provide writers of all ages and backgrounds with the resources they need, connect audiences with the world of writing, foster the creation of new work and promote the literary arts as a vital part of our culture. Richard Hugo House is located at 1634 11th Ave. in Seattle.

Calendar Listing

Seattle7Writers in association with Richard Hugo House presents “The Novel: Live!,” a real-time performance where thirty-six Pacific Northwest authors collaborate on a 60,000-word novel over six days, on October 11-16, 2010, 10 a.m.-10 p.m. at Richard Hugo House. Details at thenovellive.org.

Richard Hugo House receives funding from Amazon.com, the National Endowment for the Arts, PONCHO, the Washington State Arts Commission, the Hearst Foundation, Humanities Washington, Boeing, ArtsFund, the Boston Foundation’s Sara Delano Redmond Fund, Wells Fargo, The Paul G. Allen Family Foundation, 4Culture, the Seattle Foundation, the Hafer Family Foundation, the Norman Hirschfield Foundation, The Charles Engelhard Foundation, City of Seattle Office of Arts & Cultural Affairs, Charlotte Martin Foundation, the Roberts Family Foundation, the Fales Foundation, US Bank, the Capitol Hill Chamber of Commerce, Wissner-Slivka Foundation, Maurer Family Foundation, the Schiff Foundation, KUOW, KBCS and The Stranger.

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