



Media Contact: Grace Rajendran  
Marketing Manager  
grajendran@lectures.org  
206.621.2230 ext. 15

**SEATTLE ARTS & LECTURES ANNOUNCES 2022/23 SEASON  
FEATURING MASHA GESSEN, ABDULRAZAK GURNAH, AMOR  
TOWLES, ISABEL WILKERSON & MORE**

***New 4-part Encore Series and 3-part Community Curated Series with  
Sasha LaPointe Launches; In-Person & Online Subscriptions  
Available***

**Seattle, WA—JUNE 13, 2022:** Today, [Seattle Arts & Lectures](https://www.seattleartsandlectures.org/) (SAL) announced their 35<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Season at 10 a.m. (PT). **In-person and digital subscriptions are now on sale for SAL's 2022/23 Series**, including the Literary Arts Series, Sasha LaPointe Presents Series, Poetry Series, and a brand new Encore Series. More upcoming on sale dates include:

- **July 11, 2022:** SAL Presents single tickets, 4-part Create Your Own Series subscriptions, and 15-part Super SAL subscriptions go on sale at 10 a.m.
- **August 8, 2022:** Remaining single in-person tickets and digital passes go on sale at 10 a.m.

Seattle Arts & Lectures' 2022/23 Season is presented by the *Seattle Times*.

A few highlights of SAL's 35<sup>th</sup> Anniversary include:

- **Abdulrazak Gurnah** opens the Literary Arts Series on Sep 20, 2022, to discuss his Nobel Prize-winning book, *Afterlives*.
- **Celeste Ng**, author of *Little Fires Everywhere*, joins SAL Presents on Oct 17, 2022, to discuss her new novel, *Our Missing Hearts*.

- **Patti Smith**, punk-poet icon, returns to discuss her new book, *A Book of Days*, on Dec 2, 2022.
- **Amor Towles** opens the Encore Series with his new book, *The Lincoln Highway*, on Jan 31, 2023.
- **Isabel Wilkerson**, author of *Caste*, will join **Krista Tippett** in a live recording of the *On Being* podcast for the Literary Arts Series on Feb 15, 2023.
- **Ruth Ozeki**, novelist, filmmaker, and Zen Buddhist priest, joins the Encore Series on Mar 18, 2023.
- **Masha Gessen**, Russian American journalist and author of *The Future Is History*, joins the Literary Arts Series on Apr 17, 2023.
- **Louise Penny**, award-winning mystery writer, will join SAL on May 15, 2023, to talk about “Murder for a Living.”

SAL will present a full season of hybrid programming; all events include either in-person or digital options. As an economic justice initiative, SAL is offering a Pay What You Can subscription and \$10 ticket options across their season.

SAL’s Director of Events & Outreach and program co-curator, Alison Stagner, said, “This season, we’re aiming to meet our audiences where they’re at by curating a line-up of exciting authors and thinkers who will inspire, challenge, and connect us all year. With new accessible pricing, continued digital access, and more free community programming than ever before, we hope these expanded options nurture your curiosity, joy, and sense of belonging.”

Sasha LaPointe comments on SAL’s new Community Curated Series, Sasha LaPointe Presents: “I’m so thrilled for this opportunity. I get the chance to invite some of my favorite Native and BIPOC writers and artists to share space with me, and be in conversation with me about the things I love: poetry, stories, art, and what it looks like when we start to decolonize the literary landscape.”

The **Literary Arts Series** presents talks and conversations with the leading fiction and non-fiction writers of our time. Events will be held in-person at Town Hall Seattle and Benaroya Hall’s S. Mark Taper Foundation Auditorium, with an online streaming option for all events.

**Subscriber Benefit:** Literary Arts Series subscribers will receive a copy of

Jon Meacham's forthcoming book.

- **Abdulrazak Gurnah**  
Sep 20, 2022  
2021 Nobel Prize for Literature, new book—*Afterlives*
- **A Conversation with Maggie O'Farrell**  
Oct 11, 2022  
Author of *Hamnet*, new book—*The Marriage Portrait*
- **Jon Meacham**  
Oct 30, 2022  
Pulitzer Prize-winning biographer, new book—*And There Was Light*
- **On Being: Krista Tippett with Isabel Wilkerson**  
Feb 15, 2023  
A live recording of the *On Being* podcast with host Krista Tippett and guest speaker Isabel Wilkerson, author of *Caste*
- **A Conversation with Jason Reynolds**  
Mar 13, 2023  
#1 *New York Times* bestselling author of young adult fiction
- **Masha Gessen**  
Apr 17, 2023  
Russian American journalist, author of *The Future Is History* and *Surviving Autocracy*

**Sasha LaPointe Presents**, SAL's second annual Community Curated Series, is directed by Sasha LaPointe, author of *Red Paint: The Ancestral Autobiography of a Coast Salish Punk*. Events will be held in-person at Town Hall Seattle and streamed online.

- Three speakers to be announced soon!

The **Encore Series**, launched in celebration of SAL's 35th Anniversary, showcases favorite past SAL authors back by popular demand. Events will be held in-person at Town Hall Seattle and streamed online.

**Subscriber Benefit:** Encore Series subscriptions receive a copy of Ruth Ozeki's new book.

- **Amor Towles**  
Jan 31, 2023  
*Rules of Civility, A Gentleman in Moscow, and new book—The Lincoln Highway*
- **Ruth Ozeki**  
Mar 18, 2023  
Novelist & Zen Buddhist priest, new book—*The Book of Form and Emptiness*
- **Pico Iyer**  
May 2, 2023  
Celebrated travel writer, new book—*The Half Known Life*
- One more speaker to be announced soon!

The **Poetry Series** presents established and emerging poets for readings, talks, and conversations. The 2022/23 Poetry Series will take place at Hugo House and Rainier Arts Center, with an online streaming option for all events.

- **The James Welch Prize, featuring judge Elise Paschen and winners Halee Kirkwood and Melanie Merle**  
Nov 3, 2022  
Reading presented in collaboration with *Poetry Northwest* and Hugo House
- **Kate Baer**  
Mar 2, 2023  
#1 New York Times bestseller of *What Kind of Woman*, new book—*And Yet*
- **Chris Abani**  
Apr 3, 2023  
International voice on humanitarianism, art, ethics, and our shared political responsibility, new book—*Smoking the Bible*

- One more speaker to be announced soon!

**SAL Presents** includes authors, artists, and prominent thinkers discussing their latest works, and other exciting literary surprises. Venues and pricing varies. SAL Presents single tickets will go on sale July 11.

- **Celeste Ng**  
Oct 17, 2022  
Town Hall Seattle & Online  
*Everything I Never Told You* and *Little Fires Everywhere*, new book—*Our Missing Hearts*, included with most tickets
- **John Irving**  
Oct 26, 2022  
Town Hall Seattle & Online  
*Cider House Rules*, new book—*The Last Chairlift*, included with most tickets
- **Rick Steves**  
Nov 10, 2022  
Town Hall Seattle & Online  
*Europe Through the Backdoor*, lecture—“Travel as a Political Act”
- **Nigella Lawson**  
Nov 13, 2022  
Town Hall Seattle & Online  
Renowned food writer and TV cook, new book—*Cook, Eat, Repeat*
- **Patti Smith**  
Dec 2, 2022  
Town Hall Seattle & Online  
Punk poet laureate, new book—*A Book of Days*, included with most tickets
- **Reginald Dwayne Betts**  
Feb 9, 2023  
Town Hall Seattle & Online

Poet & prison reform advocate, solo performance—*Felon: An American Washi Tale*

- **Connie Walker**  
May 8, 2023  
Town Hall Seattle & Online  
Journalist and host of podcast *Stolen: The Search for Jermain*, bringing awareness to cases of missing and murdered Indigenous women and girls
- **Louise Penny**  
May 15, 2023  
Benaroya Hall & Online  
Author of the award-winning Armand Gamache mystery series
- **The Moth Mainstage**  
Benaroya Hall & Online  
May 25, 2023  
Simple, old-fashioned storytelling by five wildly divergent raconteurs; theme & storytellers to be announced Spring 2023.
- More SAL Presents special events will be added throughout the year!

### **Free Community Programming**

- **Summer Book Bingo**  
Online-Only  
May 18—Sep 6, 2022  
Summer Book Bingo is a free reading program of summer fun for adults and kids, co-presented by The Seattle Public Library
- **Maribel Morey, Khalil Gibran Muhammad, and Megan Ming Francis**  
Online-Only  
Sep 12, 2022  
A conversation about white philanthropy's role in shaping our ideas of equality
- **Alice Wong**

Online-Only  
Sep 15, 2022

Founder and director of the Disability Visibility Project, new book—*Year of the Tiger*, co-presented by The Seattle Public Library

- More free community events to be announced soon!

### **Subscription Information:**

- The 2022/23 Literary Arts Series, Sasha LaPointe Presents, Encore Series, and Poetry Series are **on sale now**.
- Subscribers are invited to select between **in-person or digital** subscriptions.
- 4-part Create Your Own Series subscriptions, 15-part Super SAL subscriptions, and SAL Presents single tickets go on sale **July 11**.
- Single in-person tickets for all remaining events will go on sale **as space allows** on August 8, as will digital passes.
- All series subscriptions now include a **“Pay What You Can”** price. Associated books are included with this subscription level.

**6-part Literary Arts Series subscriptions** are available at Grand Patron, Patron, General, and Pay What You Can levels. All Literary Arts Series subscriptions include a copy of *And There Was Light* by Jon Meacham, mailed to the subscriber’s address.

- Grand Patron: \$529
- Patron: \$429
- General: \$279
- Pay What You Can: \$119
- Digital-Only: \$279

**3-part Community Curated Series: Sasha LaPointe Presents subscriptions** available at Grand Patron, Patron, General, and Pay What You Can levels.

- Grand Patron: \$249
- Patron: \$189
- General: \$109
- Pay What You Can: \$39

- Digital-Only: \$109

**4-part Encore Series subscriptions** are available at Grand Patron, Patron, General, and Pay What You Can levels. All Encore Series subscriptions include a copy of *The Book of Form and Emptiness* by Ruth Ozeki, mailed to the subscriber's address.

- Grand Patron: \$329
- Patron: \$249
- General: \$149
- Pay What You Can: \$49
- Digital-Only: \$149

**4-part Poetry Series subscriptions** are available at Grand Patron, Patron, General, and Pay What You Can levels.

- Grand Patron: \$329
- Patron: \$249
- General: \$119
- Pay What You Can: \$49
- Digital-Only: \$119

Subscriptions are available online at [lectures.org](http://lectures.org) or by phone at 206.621.2230 x10.

**About Seattle Arts & Lectures:** Founded in 1987, Seattle Arts & Lectures cultivates transformative experiences through story and language with readers and writers of all generations. SAL's programs include the Literary Arts Series, Encore Series, Sasha LaPointe Presents, Poetry Series, SAL Presents, Local Voices, Summer Book Bingo, the Youth Poet Laureate (YPL) program, and Writers in the Schools (WITS). For more information about SAL, visit [lectures.org](http://lectures.org).

Speaker photos available upon request.

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