Legible Prescriptions: Mental Illness and Writing About Medication

What are our responsibilities in representing medicated voices and personae? How do we address pharmaceutical substances that seem to embody elements of metaphor, plot, character, and theme all at once? The poets and prose writers on this panel all have intimate experience with taking medication for mental illness and integrating it into our work. We’ll discuss the challenges, ambivalences, failures and humor we’ve encountered in representing the medicated self.

Category: Multiple Literary Genres Craft

Nicky Beer (organizer/moderator); Shira Erlichman; Mimi Khúc; Erika L. Sànchez.

Event time: 75 minutes total

- Welcome, announcements and participant introductions (0:00-5:00)
- Participants will read from their original work for 5 minutes, followed by 5 minutes of remarks/observations. (5:00-45:00)
  - Nicky Beer
  - Shira Erlichman
  - Mimi Khúc
  - Erika L. Sànchez

- Questions for panelists from moderator / conversation between panelists. Possible topics include direct questions about panelists’ published work, influences, and reading recommendations. (45:00-65:00)

- Q & A session with audience. (65:00-75:00)