

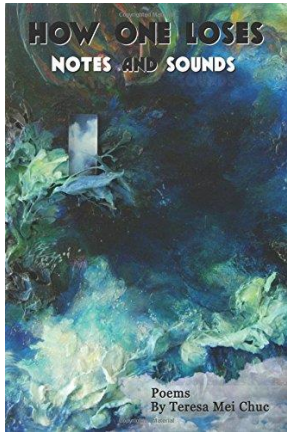


On Writing to Heal: *Reading & Panel*

moderated by **Vibiana Aparicio-Chamberlin** with poets:

Chanel Brenner **Teresa Mei Chuc**
Jawanza Dumisani **Nancy Shiffrin**

Sunday, November 6, 4 PM



TERESA MEI CHUC's *How One Loses Notes and Sounds* is an exploration in

poetry of her experiences as a Vietnamese refugee. Her images are always powerful, courageous and brutally honest. She was born in Saigon and immigrated to the U.S. under political asylum shortly after the Vietnam War. Teresa teaches literature and writing at a public high school. She has an MFA in Creative Writing from Goddard College, Vermont. Teresa is also the author of *Red Thread: Poems* (2012) and *Year of the Hare* (2013), a short story about her father's struggle with PTSD after the Vietnam War and his nine years in a "re-education" camp.



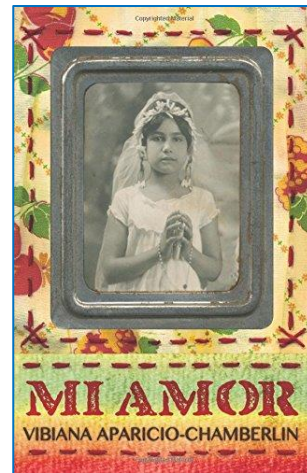
JAWANZA DUMISANI's

collection of poems *Black Raising Cane Over Red* celebrates the turbulent era of his native city of Detroit. From street wise game to dope house drama, his eloquent yet gritty style beautifully spins narratives that plunk you smack dab in the midst of Motown

gladness while sharing the intimacy of his family tree. Since joining The World Stage Anansi Writer's where he was Director of Literary Programming (2005-2011), Dumisani studied with Suzanne Lummis at UCLA, received THE PEN AWARD (2005) and was mentored by Chris Abani. He is currently Executive Director of Lady Between The Lines Art Agency.

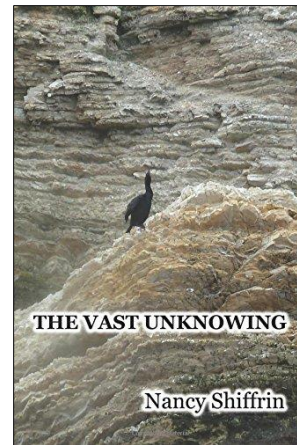
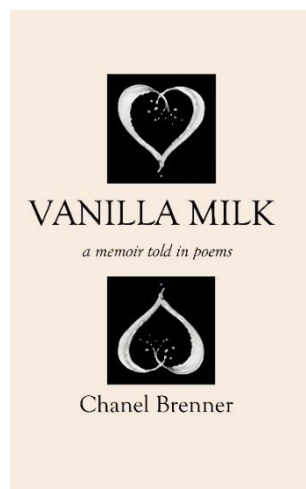


CHANEL BRENNER's *Vanilla Milk: a memoir told in poems* was a finalist for the 2016 Independent Book Awards and honorable mention in the 2014 Eric Hoffer awards. Her poem, "July 28th, 2012" won first prize in The Write Place At the Write Time's contest. In 2014, she was nominated for a Best of the Net award and a Pushcart Prize. *Vanilla Milk* focuses on Chanel's and her family's response to the sudden death of her six-year-old son. These elegies depict how a traumatic loss alters relationships, love, and parenting, and perceptions of danger, time, and life.



VIBIANA APARICIO-CHAMBERLIN

writes in visually rich poetry and prose about the struggles and beauty of the Mexican-American family, focusing on everyday life and exposing under layers of socio-political pathos. Her rich dreamlife is a source of much of her surrealistic poetry. *Mi Amor* is the recipient of a 2016 International Latino Book Award. Vibiana's writing and visual art has appeared in numerous publications. She directs poetry and art workshops and lectures and exhibits in art venues throughout southern California.



NANCY SHIFFRIN, poet, critic and teacher, earned her MA studying with Anais Nin and her PhD in Jewish American Literature. She has been honored by The Academy of American Poets, The Poetry Society of America, the Alice Jackson Foundations and the Dora Teitelbaum Foundation, and has written about poetry and literature for the Los Angeles Times, the Advocate, the Canadian Jewish Outlook, Women and Judaism and poetix.net. In her poetry collection *The Vast Unknown* she explores a number of sources of our identity, including family relationships, religion, and the stories we are told when we are young. "[It] will plunge you into despair, exhilarate you, shake you to the depths of your being...and leave you ...dizzy and delighted..." – *Poetica Magazine*