

ART *and* COMMITMENT

DECEMBER 2, 3, 4, & 5

A CONVERSATION BETWEEN THE ARTS ABOUT THEIR ROLE IN CONTEMPORARY SOCIETY



WEST BANK ARTS QUARTER

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

College of Liberal Arts

Poetry Riot A Slam Plus (& Minus!)

Hosted by Bob Holman + Maria Damon

Date: Saturday December 04

Time: noon - 2:00

Place: Regis Center for Art Atrium

4-person teams MUST have a group poem and will "compete" in a special category!

Big Prizes!!!!

To pre-register contact damon001@umn.edu. At least One Lucky Poet will be drawn from a hat the day of, and if there are other spaces available they too will be hat-drawn.

Teams from writing communities across the Twin Cities will "compete"/perform in a special genre, the slam, which arose out of a meeting of the populist conviction that poetry is everywhere with aesthetic sensibilities from the gamut: high lyric, hip-hop, grassroots political public poetry, New York school in-the-moment fly-by-night piquancy, inspired lunacy, etc --all spun into a mock contest designed to put these poetries and poets in relation to each other rather than simply a serial presentation of one after the other, the "open reading" format. A slam forces relationship, creating unexpected juxtapositions that re-energize art through a commitment to the performative, the communitarian, the carnivalesque.

Participants will include local poets from communities such as the Loft, SASE, Minnesota Spoken Word Association, U of M's Creative Writing Program, as well as mavericks and independent operators. A good time will be had by all.