

# Winter Series

# Columbia

# Writers



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## About Paisley Rekdal

Paisley Rekdal is the author of four books of nonfiction and seven books of poetry. Her most recent collection of poems, "West: A Translation," was a commissioned project to commemorate the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the completion of the transcontinental railroad. It was longlisted for the National Book Award. The collection is both a book and an online multimedia project, *West: A Translation*, which she will share at the event.

Her newest works of nonfiction include a book-length essay, *The Broken Country: On Trauma, a Crime, and the Continuing Legacy of Vietnam* and *Appropriate: A Provocation*. She guest edited *Best American Poetry 2020*. A pedagogy book is forthcoming: *Real Toads: Imaginary Gardens: On Reading and Writing Poetry Forensically* (W.W. Norton).

Her work has received a Guggenheim Fellowship, the Amy Lowell Poetry Traveling Fellowship, a Fulbright Fellowship, a Civitella Ranieri Residency, a National Endowment for the Arts Fellowship, Pushcart Prizes (2009, 2013), *Narrative's* Poetry

Prize, the AWP Creative Nonfiction Prize, and various state arts council awards. Her poems and essays have been published in *The New Yorker*, *The New York Times Magazine*, *American Poetry Review*, *The Kenyon Review*, *Poetry*, *The New Republic*, *Tin House*, the *Best American Poetry* series (2012, 2013, 2017, 2018, 2019), and on National Public Radio, among others.

She is a Distinguished Professor at the University of Utah, where she teaches in the Creative Writing Program and directs the American West Center. She is also the creator and editor of *West: A Translation*, as well as the community web projects, Mapping Literary Utah and Mapping Salt Lake City. She has been a Distinguished Visiting Professor at both Stanford and the Iowa Nonfiction Writing Program. Between 2017-2022, she served as Utah's Poet Laureate, receiving a 2019 Academy of American Poets Laureate Fellowship. She currently serves as poetry editor for *High Country News*, and as co-chair of PEN America's Utah Chapter.

Learn more here.

## **Next Up:**

### **Spring Columbia Writers Series: Chelsea Bieker: May 29 at 10:00 a.m., PUB 258A-C**

Chelsea Bieker is the author of three books, most recently the nationally bestselling novel, *Madwoman*, a Book of the Month club pick *The New York Times* calls "brilliant in its depiction of the long shadows cast by domestic violence." Her first novel, *Godshot*, was longlisted for The Center for Fiction's First Novel Prize and named a Barnes & Noble Pick of the Month. Her story collection, *Heartbroke* won the California Book Award and was a *New York Times* "Best California Book of 2022." Her writing has appeared in *The Paris Review*, *Marie Claire UK*, *People*, *The Cut*, *Wall Street Journal*, and others. She is the recipient of a Rona Jaffe Writers' Award, as well

as residencies from MacDowell and Tin House. Raised in Hawai'i and California, she lives in Portland, Oregon with her husband and two children.

## **Fourth Annual Clark College Spring Writing Workshop: Saturday, May 31, PUB**

The Clark College Writing Workshop is an annual creative writing festival. It is comprised of author readings and writing workshops and invites Clark students and the Vancouver and surrounding communities to come together to celebrate writing and practice craft. Workshop facilitators include renowned writers as well as Clark faculty.

## **About the Columbia Writers Series**

The Columbia Writers Series has been a part of Clark College since 1988, bringing local, national and international authors to the college throughout the year. Writers who have visited Clark College through the series include Ursula Le Guin, Donald Justice, Sherman Alexie, Marvin Bell, William Stafford, Jamaica Kincaid, Gerald Stern, Carolyn Forché, Natalie Diaz, Karen Russell, Jess Walter, Dana Spiotta, Mitchell Jackson, and many others.

**Learn more at**  
<https://www.clark.edu/campus-life/arts-events/cws/> or email [creativewriting@clark.edu](mailto:creativewriting@clark.edu)