



## Multicultural Poetry Reading at HSU Library

4:30 - 6pm, Monday, November 8, 2004  
Fishbowl Room, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor

### *Featured Poets*

**Jerry Martien    Shaunna Oteka McCovey    Mark Shikuma**  
**Barbara Brinson Curiel                      Marlon Sherman**  
**Daryl Ngee Chinn                              Richard Arlin Stull**

**Jerry Martien** has been a community poet and activist in the six or seven rivers region for 30 years. He has taught writing with the California Poets in the Schools program and as a lecturer at HSU for the past 8 years. He has a Ph.D from Rutgers University. He has published a collection of poetry, *PIECES IN PLACE*, and a nonfiction book, *SHELL GAME: A TRUE ACCOUNT OF BEADS AND MONEY IN NORTH AMERICA*. This book is an account of a tragic misunderstanding between colonists and Native Americans and the monumental repercussions that followed. Gary Snyder has said, "*Shell Game's* special contribution is a meditation on history, economy, and the human heart."

**Shaunna Oteka McCovey** started writing poetry at the age of six while growing up on the Yurok Reservation in Northern California. Her poems have appeared in *NEWS FROM NATIVE CALIFORNIA*, *THROUGH THE EYE OF THE DEER*, and *THE DIRT IS RED HERE*. Her Chapbook, *SWIM YOU EVERY RIVER*, was published in 2003. Her first full book of poetry, *THE SMOKEHOUSE BOYS*, will be published later this year. She is a graduate of HSU and holds a Master's Degree in social work from Arizona State. She has also earned both a Master's Degree in environmental law and a Juris Doctorate from Vermont Law School. She is currently teaching at HSU in the Dept. of Social Work.

**Mark Shikuma** was born in Tokyo, and raised in Watsonville. He is a son of a strawberry farmer, who was sent to the Japanese-American Internment camp, Poston, located in Arizona, and a mother who was raised and lived in Tokyo during the bombings of World War II. In 1985, he received his B.A. in English Literature and Journalism at the University of Southern California, studying under poet Carol Muske and novelist T. C. Boyle. He also earned an MFA in Creative Writing at the University of Memphis in 1994, studying with Pulitzer Prize winning poet Lucille Clifton. He has lived and worked for nine years in New York. Among other odd jobs there, he was recently a Director at the Lower East Side Tenement Museum. He will be teaching an Asian-American studies course at HSU next semester.

**Barbara Brinson Curiel** is Program Director of Ethnic Studies at HSU and a professor in English and Women's Studies. She is the author of *NOCTURNO*, *VOCABULARY OF THE DEAD*, and *SPEAK TO ME FROM DREAMS* (Third Woman Press). Her poems have been featured in numerous publications including *UNDER THE FIFTH SUN: LATINO LITERATURE FROM CALIFORNIA*. For the past few years, she has been laboring over a new book-length manuscript of poetry, *22<sup>nd</sup> STREET*.

**Marlon Sherman** earned a law degree from the University of Colorado and has extensive experience as a mediator and peacemaker. He also taught numerous courses in the past at HSU including Native American Poetry. He is currently teaching several Native American Studies courses, such as Environmental Justice and Federal Indian Law. He was awarded the 2003 First Book Award for Poetry by the Native Writers' Circle of the Americas. His poems and articles have appeared in *Conciliation Quarterly*, *Cream City Review*, *American Book Review*, *MANY VOICES, AN AMERICAN STUDIES ANTHOLOGY*, and have been translated into Hebrew in *TRIBAL POETS*. He says, "I am an Oglala of the Lakota Nation. My mother heard my first cries in the dark of a small log house outside Kyle, on the Pine Ridge Reservation in South Dakota. The red earth of the badlands is under my fingernails, the rich brown mud of the creek bottoms between my toes."

**Daryl Ngee Chinn** is a poet and poet-teacher for the California Poets in the Schools. He is also an active visiting poet-teacher for Artists in Residence programs in Nevada, South Dakota, and Alaska. The University of Florida Press published *SOFT PARTS OF THE BACK* in 1989. His poems have appeared in many journals including *The Florida Review*, *Pendulum*, *Center Stage* and the *Greenfield Review*. He has a Master's Degree from the Johns Hopkins University Writing Seminars. In addition to his teaching career, he has been a television cameraman, camera salesman, admissions counselor and Chinese cooking teacher. He speaks the old dialect of Chinese learned from his grandmother, which he passed on to his children.

**Richard Arlin Stull** is a published author of short stories and a spoken word artist having performed readings live on KMUD, KHUM as well as the Morris Graves Art Series, College of the Redwoods Visiting Writer's Series and venues all over Humboldt County. He was a featured poet in the 2003-2004 HSU Scholar's calendar. His new CD, a jazz-inspired spoken word show, *The Existential Professor: In Search of the Suburban Tao*, was recorded live at the Red Radish in Blue Lake. He will be publishing a Sport-eco novella entitled *MUHAMAD'S ROBE* later this year. He has a master's degree from HSU specializing in dance and martial arts and a doctorate from the University of Northern Colorado in Physical Education.

**This event is part of the HSU Campus Dialogue on Race: Nov. 1 - Nov. 10, 2004.**