

Setauket Neighbourhood Literary Excursions

Creative Writing Workshops

WRITING FOR THE JOY OF IT

September 2017- July 2018

Every Thursday morning at 9:30-11:30 at the Setauket Neighborhood House

95 Main Street, East Setauket, NY 11733

First Thursday of each month: POETRY

Second Thursday of each month: MEMOIR

Third Thursday of each month: STORIES and NOVELS

Fourth Thursday of each month: CREATIVE NONFICTION

FEES: 50 dollars for each session and 2 dollars donation to the SNH

The Irish Nobel Prize poet Seamus Heaney believed that ‘The main thing is to write/ for the joy of it.’ ‘Now strike your note,’ he urges in his great poem ‘Station Island’. The Russian poet Osip Mandelstam composed some of the most beautiful poems in his career at the darkest time in his life, from exile in Siberia. In his poem ‘355’ he said, ‘The people need poetry that will be their own secret/ to keep them awake forever’. He talked about ‘the labour’s singing sweetness’. George Orwell intimated in his famous essay ‘Why I Write’ that one of the main reasons he pursued his career was: ‘Pleasure in the impact of one sound on another, in the firmness of good prose or the rhythm of a good story.’ In the following series of workshops—on poetry, memoir, stories, and creative nonfiction--we will share and practice writing as celebration and as something that brings joy and pleasure: the pleasure of images, words, sounds. We will explore the craft of writing as a process of discovery, healing, and preserving key memories in our lives and those of our time in history, to keep those moments ‘forever awake’.

For more information and to register, please contact Carmen Bugar at carmenbugan@gmail.com

Dr. Carmen Bugar, PhD, <https://carmenbugan.wordpress.com/> is an award winning writer and poet who has extensive experience teaching creating writing. She is the author of six books; her most recent collection of poems is *Releasing the Porcelain Birds* (Shearsman, 2016).