

## **Pushing Boundary: Trans and Genderqueer Poets Beyond the Page**

Five trans, genderqueer and non-binary identified poets will showcase how they work beyond the printed page. In addition to work that exists at the intersection of the body and text, these poets produce interdisciplinary work which creates embodied, living, and breathing works through the use of image, sound, dance, performance, recording, and video. The results are multi-disciplinary, often refractive, accumulating into fluid, rich, and multi-layered forms.

Working in parallel to gender identity, trans poets often push against the boundaries of genre, layering text-based work with other art practices and mediums. A radical trans-poetics does not restrict itself to text as an entrance to meaning. The intersection of body and text, although common to the work of many poets, finds a heightened necessity in the work of these trans poets, inducing them to create forms that more closely track the reality of their bodies, identities, and experience.

Event Category: Poetry Craft and Criticism, Performance

### **Participant Bios:**

Samuel Ace, poet and sound artist, is the author of *OUR WEATHER OUR SEA* (Black Radish), and *MEET ME THERE* (Belladonna\* Germinal Texts). He is a recipient of an Astraea Lesbian Writer's Award and a two-time finalist for a Lambda Literary Award in poetry. He teaches writing at Mt. Holyoke College.

Ching-In Chen is author of *The Heart's Traffic*, *recombinant*, and *to make black paper sing*, and co-editor of *The Revolution Starts at Home: Confronting Intimate Violence within Activist Communities*. They are part of Kundiman, Lambda, Watering Hole, Callaloo, Macondo and VONA communities.

Trish Salah is the author of the poetry books, *Wanting in Arabic*, a Lambda Literary Award Winner, and *Lyric Sexology*, Vol. 1. She is editor of a special issue of *TSQ: Transgender Studies Quarterly* and Associate Professor of Gender Studies at Queen's University. She organized *Writing Trans Genres*.

Duriel E. Harris is the author of the solo play *Thingification* and three books of poetry, including *Drag*, *Amnesiac*, and the prize winning *No Dictionary of a Living Tongue*. Editor of *Obsidian* and co-founder of the Black Took Collective, she is an associate professor of English at ISU in Normal, IL.

Andrea Abi-Karam is an arab-american genderqueer punk poet-performer cyborg. Their debut *EXTRATRANSMISSION* [Kelsey Street Press, 2019] is a poetic critique of the U.S. military's role in the War on Terror. Simone White selected their second assemblage, *Villainy* for forthcoming publication.