

# Conference Event Proposal

## AWP 2023 Conference & Bookfair

events@awpwriter.org

**Submitted:** 4:27 pm on Mon, 06.13.22

### Event Information

**Event Title:** The Internet and creativity: Fatal Distraction or Turbo charger?

**Type of Event:** Artistic & Professional Development

**Event Description:** Ever since Jonathan Franzen warned that the internet was such a murderer of creativity that he claimed he Krazy-glued the ethernet port on his laptop shut, debates have ranged from ascetics abstaining completely to publishers and agents claiming a modern writer's career is not viable without a "platform" of social media engagement. Three published writers and moderator discuss how the internet has helped make or break their careers.

**Event Agenda:** The moderator will begin by welcoming attendees, describing how the panel was formed and will do a short introduction of each panelist. Each panelist, including the moderator, will talk about their career trajectory, their particular niche on the internet and its involvement (or not) in the publishing process (eg securing an agent), and personal strategies for productive internet use, for ten minutes each. The panel will end with a fifteen-minute audience Q&A

**Statement of Value:** A new, pressing question for writers is how/why/if of the internet, including social media. Four prose writers, two of whom have run literary organizations—which need their own social media platforms—plus two writers creating viral writer-related content on social media explore issues of time management, distraction, research, inspiration. Varying in age, career, and neurodiversity/disability, this panel will help attendees assess for themselves the value (or not) of spending time on the web.

### Event Preference

**Event Preference:** in\_person

### Event Organizer

**First Name:** Marie Myung-Ok

**Last Name:** Lee

**Email Address:** mmil2189@columbia.edu

**Organization:** Columbia University

**Address Line 1:** 15 Claremont Ave #33

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**Professional Designation:** Adjunct Professor

**Gender:**

### Audio-Visual Requests

**AV Needs:**

**AV Statement of Need:**

## **Participants**

**Moderator:** Gabe Hudson (gabeghudson@gmail.com)

**Participant:** Julia Fierro (fierrojulia@gmail.com)

**Participant:** Rebecca Makkai (rebeccamakkai@gmail.com)

**Participant:** Marie Myung-Ok Lee (mml2189@columbia.edu)