1) event title: The Unsung Masters Reading

2) event description: Each year, the Unsung Masters Series publishes a book devoted to the life and work of a great but little-known author. Volumes include large selections of the author's work printed alongside interviews, articles, drafts, photographs, and ephemera. This reading brings together the editors of four recent volumes who will read from the work of poets Shreela Ray, Tom Postell, Bert Meyers, and Laura Hershey. This event should lead to great discoveries for those who attend. Because this is primarily a reading of the work of lost poets, each reader will focus on that, though they will be encouraged also to say something about the the poets' lives, their work, why they were forgotten, and what their rediscovery has meant to American poetry. The moderator will simply introduce each reader quickly so listeners can focus on the poetry.

3) event category: Poetry Reading

4) event organizer: Kevin Prufer & The Unsung Masters Series

5) event moderator: Kevin Prufer

6) event participants and short biographies

Kevin Prufer's ninth book of poetry is The Fears (Copper Canyon, 2023). His first novel, Sleepaway, will be published by Acre Books in 2024. He is Professor of English in the Creative Writing Program at the University of Houston and also teaches in the Lesley University Low Residency MFA Program.

Niki Herd is the author of the chapbook don't you weep and two poetry collections: The Language of Shedding Skin and The Stuff of Hollywood, which is forthcoming. Herd coedited Laura Hershey: On the Life & Work of an American Master. She lives in St. Louis and teaches at Washington University.

Michael C. Peterson serves as Curator of the Elliston Poetry Room and Archive at the University of Cincinnati. He's a poet, the recipient of fellowships from Yaddo, MacDowell, and Vermont Studio Center, and is an editor of Tom Postell: On the Life and Work of an Unsung Master (Pleiades, 2024).

Kazim Ali's most recent books are Sukun: New and Selected Poems (Wesleyan), and a novel Indian Winter (Coach House). He is Professor of Literary Arts and Chair of the
Department of Literature at the University of California, San Diego. He is the founding editor of Nightboat Books.