**Haiku North America 2015 (Union College/The Desmond)**

**Session Descriptions**

**Wednesday Oct.14**

9:00 a.m. Registration Desk Opens at The Desmond

9:30 a.m. *Leaf and Art Viewing Tour* departs from The Desmond (returns by 4:30 p.m.)

6:30 p.m. *The Desmond -* *Koi Pond Reception*

(Sponsored by *The Heron’s Nest)*

7:00 p.m. *Town Hall Opening Session*

to 9:00 p.m.

*Welcome*

John Stevenson

Michael Dylan Welch

Hilary Tann

*Read Around*

*“Realism Is Dead”*

Jim Kacian

“Realism is a way a way of representing the real

world in artistic terms, and nominally the underpinning

of haiku but the modern world has become

far too abstract to portray in traditional

ways. If haiku is no longer rooted in the real

world, what might ground it? Contemporary

haiku must be able to account for equity derivatives,

mass killing at a distance, the purchase of

political power within a democracy, the discovery

of the Higgs boson, internet dating and much

much more that, for all their lack of “real world”

causality, are essentially abstract transactions in

this context. Real cherry blossoms can be seen,

paradoxically, as a retreat from the world rather

than engagement with it.”

*Haiku Education Invocation*

John Stevenson

**Thursday Oct. 15**

**(10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Book Fair at Nott Memorial)**

8:15 a.m. Buses depart from The Desmond for Union College

(Coffee and muffins in Hale House)

9:00 a.m. UNION OLD CHAPEL

*Welcome to Union College from President Ainlay*

*William J. Higginson Memorial / Keynote Address*

Dr. Randy Brooks

*Haiku Educators - Panel Discussion*

Michael Dylan Welch, Moderator

Aubrey Cox Tom Painting

Rich Schnell Geoff VanKirk

11:00 a.m. UNION OLD CHAPEL

to 11:45 a.m. *Japanese Aesthetics and Junk Haiku*

Lee Gurga

“A presentation of the importance of the four Japanese

aesthetic principles of Ma, Kire, Kigo, and Kokoro in

haiku followed by an audience discussion that will reveal

their operation in some of today’s finest English-language

haiku.”

11:00 a.m. UNION EVEREST LOUNGE

to 11:45 a.m. *Beyond Surprise: Haiku and the Poetics of George Oppen*

Philip Rowland

“Few poets have shown as sincere and consistent a concern

for clarity as George Oppen. Like haiku, his poetry

adapts Imagist principles, often finding the “miraculous”

in the commonplace. But his search does not stop with the

“aha” moment; skepticism underlies his faith in clarity,

which must be “earned.” This paper arues for the

relevance of his poetics to the development of haiku,

beyond mere surprise or novelty.”

Noon to BUFFET LUNCH IN HALE HOUSE

1:45 p.m.

2:00 p.m. UNION OLD CHAPEL

to 2:45 p.m. *Why Haiku — A Personal Reflection*

Scott Mason

“This presentation is a personal paean to haiku — the

qualities, effects and potentialities that not only have

captivated me as a reader and writer but also have

enriched my life. My remarks will be illustrated by a

selection of other poets’ work from the newly released

volume *Nest Feathers: Selected Haiku from the First 15*

*Years of The Heron’s Nest.*”

2:00 p.m. UNION EVEREST LOUNGE

to 2:45 p.m. *Autumn Term: Haiku in Schools*

Dr. Shashi Angelee Deodhar

“My interest in this field sparked two years ago when I was

involved in compiling an anthology of haibun, *Journeys*

and again this year as I worked on J*ourneys 2015*. I noticed

that only older people are writing in this genre. I feel it is

imperative that we bring haibun into schools. Children

can be taught to write haibun as easily as haiku. They have

great powers of observation.”

2:00 p.m. UNION MILANO LOUNGE

to 2:45 p.m. *Brushed by the Autumn Wind: The Haiku Journey of Tagami Kikusha (1753 - 1836)*

Cheryl Crowley

“A talk introducing the life and work of Tagami Kikusha,

an 18th century Japanese female haikai poet, tea practitioner,

musician, painter, and traveler in the tradition of

Matsuo Basho.”

3:00 p.m. UNION OLD CHAPEL

to 3:40 p.m. *Branching Out: Groups within the haiku community*

Jennifer Sutherland

“An exploration of the various benefits of group participation

and workshopping within the haiku community.

Poets who are already part of a group or interested in

either joining or establishing a local haiku group should

benefit from the presentation and discussion”

3:00 p.m. UNION EVEREST LOUNGE

to 3:40 p.m. *A Path of Desire*

Peter Newton, Kathe L. Palka

“From July 2013 through August 2014, Perter Newton and

Kathe L. Palka wrote tan renga on a nearly daily basis via

mail. 75 of the over 100 written during this collaboration

are collected in their book titled *A Path of Desire*. A description

and reading will be followed by discussion.”

3:50 p.m. UNION OLD CHAPEL

to 4:40 p.m. *A Woman’s Desire: The Lost Letters of Chiyo-ni*

Terry Ann Carter, Marco Fraticelli

“The performance will begin with a brief history of

Chiyo-ni’s life and the place we feel that she deserves to

hold in haiku history. This will be followed by a reading

from ‘*A Thousand Years*.’ The reading of each of her

letters will be followed by a mime performance based on

an accompanying haiku by Chiyo-ni.”

3:50 p.m. UNION EVEREST LOUNGE

to 4:40 p.m. *HaikuWALL India*

Kala Ramesh

“Kala Ramesh has been instrumental in bringing school

kids and undergrads to haiku in India. Her latest

obsession is to paint city walls with haiku written by her

students, helping to weave a pause, a breather into hectic

lives. This session revolves around a short, crisp film

capturing haiku on WALLS.”

5:00 p.m. NOTT MEMORIAL

to 6:30 p.m. *Ion Codrescu - Haiga Painting*

Refreshments (Sponsored by The Haiku Foundation)

Welcome - Julie Lohnes

Artist Introduction - Jim Kacian

Address by Ion Codrescu

DINNER ON CAMPUS AT RECEPTION OR REAMER CAMPUS CENTER

7:30 p.m. UNION OLD CHAPEL

to 9:00 p.m. *The Search for Solitude: China’s Hermit Tradition*

Red Pine (Bill Porter)

A slide and lecture presentation describing the travels of

Red Pine (Bill Porter) in China in search of the Taoist/

Buddhist hermit tradition.

9:15 p.m. Buses Depart from Old Chapel to The Desmond

**Friday Oct. 16**

**(10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Book Fair at Nott Memorial)**

8:15 a.m. Buses depart from The Desmond for Union College

(Coffee and muffins in Hale House)

9:00 a.m. UNION EMERSON AUDITORIUM

to 9:40 a.m. *Memorial Reading and Reflections*

John Stevenson

*“Kilvert’s Hill”*

Hilary Tann - Composer

Andrew Barnhart – Cello

9:50 a.m. UNION EMERSON AUDITORIUM

to 10:20 a.m. *Haiku With Feathers*

Ruth Yarrow

“I will present my haiku about birds, very briefly describe

the birds’ habitats so the audience can imagine themselves

there, and whistle, hoot or trill the appropriate song.”

9:50 a.m. UNION EVEREST LOUNGE

to 10:20 a.m. *The Significance of Kukai in Elementary School*

Makoto Nakanishi

“Kukai is a haiku sharing circle where poets make, submit,

select and appreciate haiku together. Even though the

name of the poet receiving the most votes is revealed at

the end, the most interesting part of the kukai is the

anonymity and equality in selecting and appreciating

haiku throughout the process. I will focus on the

significance of haiku in education.”

10:30 a.m. UNION EMERSON AUDITORIUM

to 11:30 p.m. *Haiku Chronicles: Learning Through Multimedia and the Podcast*

Donna Beaver, Alan Pizzarelli

“Haiku Chronicles producers and hosts, Donna Beaver

and Alan Pizzarelli share their podcast ventures and how

their podcasts are used as a tool for informal learning and

sharing of haiku and related poetic forms. They will offer a

brief history of podcasting, describe their own discover of

podcasting, and explain how and why they do it. ”

10:30 a.m. UNION EVEREST LOUNGE

to 11:30 p.m. *Understanding the Seasons: From a Five-Element Chinese Perspective*

Alexis Rotella

“The seasons impact our physical, emotional, and spiritual

bodies. Every season has a wisdom that can be felt in

the pulses, on the faces and in the voice of every person. A

deeper understanding of the Five Elements from a

Chinese perspective can not only add depth to our writing

but help us understand each other better. Bring your

autumn haiku for sharing. ”

11:45 a.m. to BUFFET LUNCH IN HALE HOUSE

1:45 p.m.

1:50 p.m. UNION EMERSON AUDITORIUM

to 2:50 p.m. *A Rengay Workshop*

Garry Gay

“This workshop will introduce you to the collaborative

linking form called “rengay.” It will be taught by its

creator, Garry Gay. This one hour workshop will give you

a brief introduction to its history and how to write a two

or three person rengay. It’s an enjoyable experience and

we will be writing together. If you can write haiku, you

can write rengay.”

1:50 p.m. UNION EVEREST LOUNGE

to 2:50 p.m. *Only Connect: Linking Haiku and Prose to Create Haibun*

Melissa Allen

“Haibun is a linked form, requiring a subtle and sometimes

difficult-to-achieve connection between prose and

haiku. In this workshop we’ll first examine some haibun

and discuss different kinds of linking. Then we’ll do a

free-writing exercise to limber up our associative powers

and finally try our hand at writing some prose linked to an

existing haiku. Please bring a haiku that you have

previously written (even five minutes previously!).”

3:05 p.m. UNION OLD CHAPEL

to 4:05 p.m. *Our Frogpond Term: Searching for LIFE in Haiku Submissions*

Francine Banwarth, Michele Root-Bernstein

“Banwarth and Root-Bernstein reflect on F*rogpond’s*

remit under their leadership: to provide a forum for the

best work and the best promise in contemporary haiku

from seasoned, novice and pioneering poets alike; to

select haiku with LIFE—the language, image, form and

elusiveness that deliver freshness; to enable poetic

transition from personal meaning to public contribution.

Participants will have an opportunity to submit poems

beforehand, some of which will be selected for feedback

and reflection.”

3:05 p.m. UNION EVEREST LOUNGE

to 4:05 p.m. *Understanding the Larger Pond: Haiku in the Mainstream Poetry Community*

Deborah P. Kolodji

“Haiku has been appearing more frequently in the

mainstream, from President Obama’s ‘haiku’ to the

‘Japanese Forms’ issue of *Rattle*. How is haiku

perceived outside of the haiku community? What

can we do to change it?”

4:15 p.m. UNION OLD CHAPEL

to 5:15 p.m. *Appropriating Nature*

Paul M.

“There is a tension in traditional haiku between the desire

to write of things just as they are and the reality of poetry

in which objects are manipulated for effect. Using ideas

from ecocriticism this talk will investigate the intersection

of nature and haiku poetics. This paper will look at nonnatural

nature (kigo system), emotional painting (haiku’s

two part structure), and nature as product (activism,

nostalgia).”

4:15 p.m. HISTORIC STOCKADE DISTRICT

**through** *Ginko*

**Dinner** David Giacalone

**Break**

“A ginko walk through the Historic Stockade

Neighborhood. Led by David Giacalone, the ginko

will leave from Old Chapel at 4:15 p.m. for a half-mile

stroll to the Stockade District, and then a walk around

the neighborhood and its tranquil Riverside Park.

A residential neighborhood since the 1690s, the

Stockade has the highest concentration of historic

period homes in the country. Three centuries of history,

cemeteries, and lore will give us much to write about

when we arrive at Arthur’s Market cafe for haiku and

victuals. Learn more at http://tinyurl.com/HNA Stockade.”

EXPLORE DINNER OPTIONS IN SCHENECTADY (suggested)

7:00 p.m. UNION OLD CHAPEL

to 8:00 p.m. *Editors’ Panel*

Susan Antolin (*Acorn*)

Francine Banwarth (*Frogpond*)

Stanford M. Forrester (*Bottle Rockets*)

Paul M. (*Modern Haiku*)

Scott Mason (*The Heron’s Nest*)

7:00 p.m. UNION EMERSON AUDITORIUM

to 8:00 p.m. *Beijing Opera*

The New York Chinese Opera Society presents

“The Emperor and The Barmaid” with live music.

8:15 p.m. UNION OLD CHAPEL

to 9:00 p.m. *HNA Anthology Reading*

Michael Dylan Welch

9:15 p.m. Buses Depart from Old Chapel to The Desmond

**Saturday Oct. 17**

**(10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Book Fair at Nott Memorial)**

8:15 a.m. Buses depart from The Desmond for Union College

(Coffee and muffins in Hale House)

9:00 a.m. UNION OLD CHAPEL

to 9:45 a.m. *Panel Discussion - Haiga*

Jim Kacian - Moderator

Ion Codrescu Garry Gay

Alexis Rotella

10:00 a.m. UNION OLD CHAPEL

to 10:30 a.m. *The Aesthetic Value of Understatement in Haiku*

Susan Antolin

“Making a case for moving away from a reliance on

Japanese vocabulary in discussing haiku aesthetics, this

paper focuses on one aesthetic value, the art of understatement,

as an indispensable quality to both traditional

and contemporary haiku.”

10:00 a.m. UNION EVEREST LOUNGE

to 10:30 a.m. *The Yuki Teikei Haiku Society - A Unique Introduction of Haiku to North America*

Patrick Gallagher

“The knowledge of the art of haiku poetry has traveled

many paths to North America. Forty years ago a unique

introduction of haiku was fostered by a Japanese

immigrant couple who wanted to teach their American

friends the joy of the haiku life. Through its origin with

strong emphasis on Japanese haiku traditions and through

continual interchange with Japanese haiku poets the

Society they founded continues to emphasize and enjoy

classical haiku principles and celebrations.”

10:45 a.m. UNION OLD CHAPEL

to 11:15 a.m. *The Cicada’s Voice: How the Wabi-Sabi Aesthetic Can Teach Us How to Live*

Mary Stevens

“Wabi sabi, found in a variety of Japanese art forms, refers

to the lonely beauty of incomplete, imperfect, or impermanent

things. Come hear traditional Japanese and modern

English-language haiku and tanka from the 9th to 21st

centuries and view artworks capturing this aesthetic,

including photographs by Tom Clausen.”

10:45 a.m. UNION EVEREST LOUNGE

to 11:15 a.m. *Renku for Fun*

John Stevenson

“One of the best pieces of advice I ever received about

leading a renku session came from Masahisa (Shinku)

Fukuda. He said, ‘First, it has to be fun.’ The collaboration

between poets that is the heart of renku can be extremely

complex and challenging. There are a lot of rules and

traditions. Poets first encountering renku can easily

become overwhelmed and discouraged. But it doesn’t

have to be that way. While all are invited to this session,

a special invitation is extended to those who are new

or relatively new to renku.”

11:30 a.m. UNION OLD CHAPEL

to Noon *Pay It Forward*

Roberta Beary

“In 1916 Lily Hardy Hammond wrote, ‘You don’t pay love

back; you pay it forward.’ (Hammond, Lily Hardy (1916).

*In the Garden of Delight*. New York: Thomas Y. Crowell

Co. p. 209) Roberta Beary’s presentation / reading from

her recent book *Deflection* will show how haiku and

related forms (haibun, haiku sequences) pay it forward.”

11:30 a.m. UNION EVEREST LOUNGE

to Noon *The Vertical Axis in Haibun*

Beverly Acuff Momoi

“Why do some haibun stay with you long after reading

them? What gives a haibun resonance over time, culture

and geographical distance? What can today’s writers bring

to the form that builds on the foundation of Basho in

distinctively 21st century ways? This presentation will

examine how successful contemporary haibun operate on

two axes, as Haruo Shirane suggested, and will discuss

strategies for writing haibun that have a strong and deep

vertical axis.”

12:15 to BUFFET LUNCH IN HALE HOUSE

1:45 p.m.

2:00 p.m. UNION OLD CHAPEL

to 2:30 p.m. *From Free Verse to Haibun*

Penny Harter

“Penny Harter will read a number of new haibun that she

recast/revised from fifteen original free-verse poems,

along with selected haibun written this year.”

2:00 p.m. UNION EVEREST LOUNGE

to 2:30 p.m. *Haiku in Education: Literary Haibun*

Claudia Coutu Radmore

“We will discover a new form by using the traditional

form of haibun, with an emphasis on how to create the

prose part of the haibun from someone else’s writing,

and how to make the haiku part interesting as well as

unpredictable. We’ll learn how writing haibun from such

sources can enrich the experience of the original work

both for the haibun writer and for readers. Participants

can write and perhaps share a ‘little literary haibun’ of

their own.”

2:45 p.m. UNION OLD CHAPEL

to 3:30 p.m. *Translating Shiki*

Charles Trumbull

“Of the classic Japanese haiku masters, Masaoka Shiki is

the least translated-and, it might be argued-the least well

translated. Through a careful examination and comparison

of the approximately 1,950 translations into

English and other Western languages of Shiki’s 29,000

haiku, we will suggest some reasons why the poetic work

of Shiki, perhaps the most influential theoretician of

haiku, is so poorly represented in the West.”

2:45 p.m. UNION EVEREST LOUNGE

to 3:30 p.m. *Midwest Haiku Path*

Julie Warther

“This slideshow presentation will illustrate the creation

and grand opening of the Midwest Haiku Path in

Millburg, Ohio; a joint venture of the Haiku Society of

America and The Inn at Honey Run. Julie Warther, Midwest

Regional Coordinator for the Haiku Society of

America, will discuss the how-to aspects of its creation

and its possible future applications for increasing haiku

awareness and education.”

3:45 p.m. NOTT MEMORIAL

*HNA 2015 Group Photograph*

We will gather on one of the sets of steps

leading to the Nott Memorial. Photographer

Garry Gay will determine which offers the

best lighting.

4:00 p.m. *“Colors of Japan”*

Featuring Zakuro-Daiko, The Union College

Japanese Drumming Ensemble, Directed by

Prof. Matsue

4:30 p.m. *Farewell to Union and Thanks to All Union Supporters*

Hilary Tann

5:00 p.m. Buses Depart from Old Chapel to The Desmond

6:30 p.m. THE DESMOND - KOI POND

to 7:00 p.m. *Reception (Sponsored by Modern Haiku)*

7:00 p.m. THE DESMOND - FORT ORANGE BALLROOM

to 10:00 p.m. ***The Haiku North America 2015 Banquet***

An appearance by Haiku Elvis

Remarks from Red Pine (Bill Porter)

Announcement of the Next HNA Venue

Results of the Silent Auction

**Sunday Oct. 18**

9:00 a.m. THE DESMOND - TOWN HALL

to 10:00 a.m. *Spiritual Freedom: Haiku Lessons from Wassily Kandinsky*

Michael Dylan Welch

“Kandinsky’s seminal book on modern art,

*Concerning the Spiritual in Art*, provides

guidance for haiku poets without ever once

mentioning haiku. My paper explores the role

of the spiritual in haiku, without needing to

discuss Zen, raising intriguing questions about

various ways to approach and receive haiku in

spiritual ways.”

9:00 a.m. THE DESMOND - THE LODGE

to 10:00 a.m. *Dream Haiku Workshop*

Kathabela Wilson

“This is a workshop I recently tested at our SO CA

Haiku Study Group. It is an hour long focus on

the expanse of time—when we sleep, rest, nap—

and how it can be used for haiku. It includes two

‘napping’ (rest, relaxing) sessions. Rick (Wilson)

plays soft shakuhachi or desert flute accompaniments,

that move into writing sessions. Poems to be shared

as time permits and poets are willing.”

10:15 a.m. THE DESMOND - TOWN HALL

to 11:30 a.m. *Organizing Effective Haiku Events and Workshops*

Deborah P. Kolodji

“The presentation / workshop will illustrate ways of

energizing locial haiku workshops, offer suggestions

for unique haiku events, and discuss various strategies

for planning. Part of the session will include sample

workshop exercises.”

A Reading of “Conference Haiku”

Reflections and Closing