



R V BAILEY

JEMMA BORG

ALISON BRACKENBURY



KATE FOLEY

WENDY FRENCH

HANNAH LOWE



MYRA SCHNEIDER

Second Light Autumn Festival 2016

Thursday 17th & Friday 18th November

The Art Workers Guild, 6 Queen Square, London, WC1N 3AT
and, for Fri 7pm reading only, 5-10 mins walk:
Enitharmon Gallery, 10 Bury Place, London, WC1A 2JL

The Song of the Earth

WORKSHOPS

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**JEMMA BORG**

**KATE FOLEY**

**HANNAH LOWE**

**MYRA SCHNEIDER**

### **READINGS**

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RV BAILEY * ALISON BRACKENBURY

KATE FOLEY * WENDY FRENCH

MYRA SCHNEIDER

***Second Light Poetry Competition 2016, Adjudication:
Alison Brackenburg & 3 competition winners***

+ 2 OPEN MIC sessions with Guest Readers

Workshops are for women only

Men welcome at readings

Second Light Network of Women Poets

BOOKING FORM: www.seconlightlive.co.uk/downloads/aut16.pdf

The Song of the Earth

What does 'earthiness' say to us? Topics which may come up in the workshops are: our basic human nature without the trappings; the natural environment and the fate of our much abused planet; people working the earth as gardeners, allotment-holders, farmers, wherever this happens on the planet; all that it means to try get a yield from the earth without destroying the environment.

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**R V Bailey** has published five poetry collections and is co-editor of *A Speaking Silence: Contemporary Quaker Poetry* (Indigo Dreams) and *The Book of Love & Loss* (The Belgrave Press). She wrote the introduction to *Berowne's Book*, a collection of early work by U A Fanthorpe, out last year from Enitharmon Press.

**Alison Brackenbury's** work has received an Eric Gregory and a Cholmondeley Award. Her 9th collection, *Skies* (Carcanet, 2016), was featured on Radio 4 and in *The Guardian*, and was chosen as *The Observer's* Poetry Book of the Month. 'This brilliant new collection...' Penelope Shuttle.

**Jemma Borg** has worked as a science editor, research manager and environmental campaigner. Her first collection, *The Illuminated World* (Eyewear Publishing, 2014), won The 2016 Fledgling Award for best first collection by a poet over 40.

**Kate Foley's** latest of several collections is *Electric Psalms* (Shoestring Press, 2016), featuring early and recent new poetry. She lives in Amsterdam and Suffolk; performs, writes, edits, leads workshops and works with artists in other disciplines. In 2015 Arachne Press published *The Don't Touch Garden*.

**Wendy French** has recently completed a Poet Residency at the University College Hospital Macmillan Cancer Centre. Her resulting book, *Thinks Itself a Hawk*, is published by Hippocrates Poetry Press (2016). She is one of six poets included in a showcase anthology from Avalanche Books.

**Hannah Lowe's** first collection, *Chick* (Bloodaxe) won the Michael Murphy Memorial Prize for Poetry. She is one of the 3<sup>rd</sup> selection of 20 New Generation poets. Her second collection is *Chan* (Bloodaxe).

**Myra Schneider** has a new collection: *Persephone in Finsbury Park*, Second Light Publications (SLP). Recent books: *The Door to Colour*, Enitharmon Press 2014; *What Women Want* (SLP); and the resource, *Writing Your Self* (with John Killick). Myra is a Poetry School and Second Light regular tutor.  
[www.esch.dircon.co.uk](http://www.esch.dircon.co.uk)

## *The Song of the Earth*

### **Second Light Autumn Festival 17 & 18 November 2016**

**Workshops are for women only. Men are welcome at the readings.**

**Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> (at The Art Workers Guild)**

**10:30am – 1pm, Myra Schneider workshop:** *Song of the Earth*. After considering some poems which both celebrate the natural world and show concern for the planet's future we shall try out some very different ways to tackle writing about the earth and what is happening to it.

**2 – 4:30pm, Jemma Borg workshop:** The American poet Gary Snyder made a distinction between 'wildness' and 'wilderness'. We will look at this idea and the challenges it presents to us as contemporary writers. What is ecopoetry and what kind of approaches might we try in our own writing?

**5 - 6pm Guest Readers & Open Mic (women readers only)**

**Friday 18<sup>th</sup> (10:30 am to 6pm at The Art Workers Guild)**

**10:30 am – 1pm, Kate Foley workshop:** *'I hear those voices that will not be drowned...'* (Britten's Opera). We'll take a meditative look at the twins who shape our environment, Extinction and Evolution. We'll look at giving voice to the poignancy of some of our losses and the beauty that remains...

**1:45 – 4:15pm, Hannah Lowe workshop:** *Beaches, rivers, forests, fields*. We will consider how contemporary poets have written about the earth, focussing on how people and natural landscapes are intricately related, and use examples and exercises to stimulate our own writing about people and place/space.

**4:45 – 6pm Guest Readers & Open Mic (women readers only)**

**Move to Enitharmon Gallery for 7pm. White wine available at this event.**

**7pm Reception, Competition Adjudication and Readings**

**R V Bailey, Alison Brackenbury, Kate Foley, Wendy French, Myra Schneider, plus 3 Competition winners...**

**PRIORITY BOOKING FOR SECOND LIGHT MEMBERS**

**ALL EVENTS £87 (£62conc)**

**2 Workshops £47 (£34 conc) Single workshop £30 (£22conc)**

**Friday Main Reading £8 (£5conc)**

*Need help with travel costs?* [www.secondlightlive.co.uk/accesstopoetry.shtml](http://www.secondlightlive.co.uk/accesstopoetry.shtml)

The Art Workers Guild, 6 Queen Square, London, WC1 (Russell Sq tube)  
Enitharmon Gallery, 10 Bury Place, London, WC1A 2JL (5 – 10 mins walk)

[www.secondlightlive.co.uk](http://www.secondlightlive.co.uk)