

LITERATURE

KORE PRESS

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Open Your Minds & Your Hearts for V-Day 2010

Be Kore's Valentine At Amy Rude's Heartbeast Cabaret

**Arpine Konyalian Grenier on Persephone Speaks:
Becoming American, Armenianly**

Becoming American, Armenianly

Arpine Konyalian Grenier

This month's post on [Persephone Speaks](#) is a narrative by Arpine Konyalian Grenier as she travels to Turkey and Lebanon, pondering and tracing her ancestry (reblogged from [OTOLITHS](#)). Grenier's work has been described as "a mosaic of narrative that takes us out of our provincial concentration on American life to encompass broader social and geopolitical issues with a decidedly urban and postmodern sensibility." She is a published poet, a former scientist, musician, and financial analyst.



An excerpt from [Persephone Speaks](#):

"Forty some years after I voluntarily left Lebanon where I was born, I will be visiting my father's hometown wherefrom he barely made it alive way before he'd turned school age. In Turkey, I will be experiencing the culture of my ancestry as well as the culture I had run away from. Turkey and Lebanon, both Mediterranean, both left behind. I want to tend and befriend, accede to the full experience of the four noble feelings: glad, sad, bad, mad. So far, I've repressed some of them. No more fight, no more flight."

Kore Women Make Waves

[Caroline Bergvall](#)—international writer, poet, and text based artist—has a new book out, [Alyson Singes](#).

Bergvall recently participated in a collaborative exhibit at the Tate Modern entitled [Speaking Out: The Spoken Word in Artistic Practice](#). Her personal projects and research alternate between published poetic pieces and performances. Bergvall will be using her innovative expertise to edit an international collection of experimental language projects for Kore Press. Photo Credit: Christina Mcphee



An article by the well-versed [Judith Boyd](#), contributing author to [Powder: Writing by Women in the Ranks, From Vietnam to Iraq](#), will be included in *Celluloid Dreams: How Film Shapes America* by Chris Ramos, David Mayeda, and Chris Hallsted. Boyd's article, "No Longer Trapped in the War on Terror," a review of Harold and Kumar Escape from Guantanamo Bay, originally appeared in Homeland Security Affairs, Volume IV No. 3: October 2009.



Women of Georgia Continue to Impress Kore

First Book Award Winners of 2009 and 2010



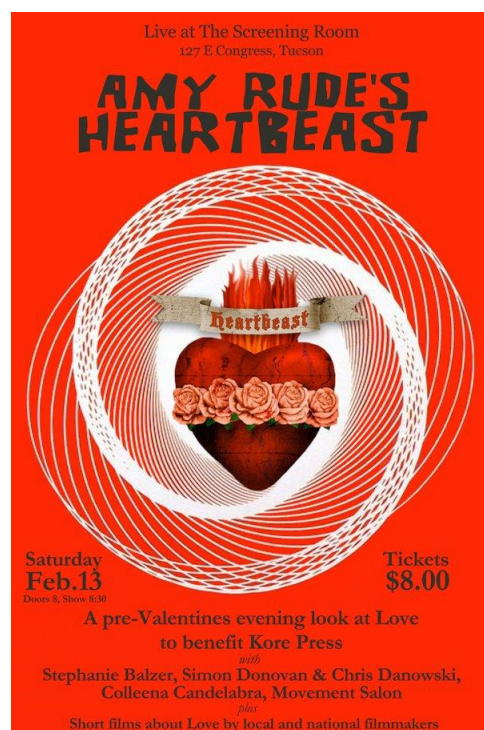
Kore is proud to announce the official release of 2009 winner, [Something in the Potato Room](#) by Georgia author [Heather Cousins](#), selected by Patricia Smith. In the dark alcove of the potato room, the unexpected blooms. To uncover the mysteries of the potato room yourself, visit the author's [website](#) and go to [Korepress.org](#) to purchase your copy today.

Congratulations to Laura Newbern, another Georgia author, winner of the 2010 First Book Award for *Love and the Eye*, selected by Claudia Rankine. Newbern, an Assistant Professor of English/Creative Writing at Georgia College & State University since 2005, teaches graduate and undergraduate poetry workshops, poetics, and other Creative Writing and literature courses. Laura is also the Poetry Editor of Arts & Letters.



Share the Love with Kore

Amy Rude's Heartbeast Benefit Cabaret



Join Kore Press for a look at love through music, poetry, improvisational movement, and film (a percentage of the proceeds from the event will benefit yours truly). As part of a monthly series of multi-media concerts at [The Screening Room](#), Carl Hanni and Amy Rude's Heartbeast Cabaret is brimming with talent.

Live music from [Amy Rude's Heartbeast](#), with sound artist [Vicki Brown of Coming in Hot](#), [Naim Amor](#), [Ryen Eggleston](#), and [Johnny O'Hallaran](#); a reading by [Kore Press poet Stephanie Balzer](#), author of *Revenant*; performances by [Colleena Hanke](#), [Simon Donovan](#), [Chris Danowski](#), and [Movement Salon](#); with short films about love by local and national filmmakers.

**The Screening Room
127 E. Congress, Tucson, AZ.
Doors open at 8pm and
the show kicks off at 8:30.
Tickets are \$8.**

Be our Valentine this year, we won't let you down!

Vagina Warriors Take Tucson By Storm

The Vagina Monologues Returns for Another Benefit Production



V-day is a global movement to end violence against women and girls that raises funds and awareness through benefit productions of Eve Ensler's *The Vagina Monologues*. For the second year running, V-day has chosen the Democratic Republic of Congo for their spotlight campaign. The post-war chaos in the DRC has left women and girls extremely vulnerable to gender based violence. V-day is currently working on opening the City of Joy, a facility for survivors of sexual violence in the DRC. All proceeds will be donated to the Oasis Center for Sexual Assault & Relationship Violence and the V-Day Spotlight Cause.

[The Vagina Warriors of the University of Arizona will present Tucson's benefit performance](#) of Eve Ensler's award winning play. Kaylene Torregrossa who worked on *Coming in Hot* for Kore, is the Director. **The production will run February 18th, 19th, and 20th at 7:30pm at the University of Arizona's Social Sciences 100. Tickets are \$10 in advance (sold on the U of A mail) and \$12 at the door.** Doors open at 7:00 but come early to explore educational lobby displays.

Huzzah! Women In Action Abroad and at Home

Playwright and activist **Eve Ensler's** new play, ["I am an Emotional Creature: The Secret Lives of Girls,"](#) premiered in November 2009, in Mumbai, India. In this innovative work, Ensler tackles the oppression faced by girls across the world. In what some critics are calling the play's most poignant



Making Border Issues Central

Margaret Regan

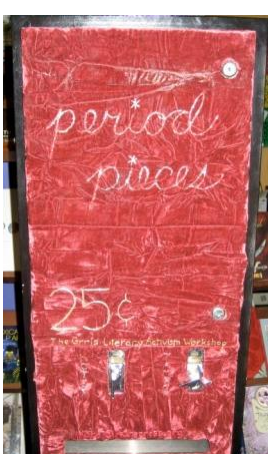


Margaret Regan, Tucson author of *The Death of Josseline*, *Immigration Stories from the Arizona-Mexico Borderlands* bring timely and tragic border issues to the forefront. Find her at the book launch and reading at [Antigone Books](#) 7 pm, Feb. 19; in an NPR interview with Neal Conan on [Talk of the Nation](#) 1pm, Feb. 22; on [Arizona Illustrated \(KUAT\)](#) 6:30 p.m., Feb. 23; at [Clues Unlimited](#) at 2 p.m., March 6; at the [Tucson Festival of Books](#) panel discussion at 1 p.m., March 13, in Room 120 of the ILC on the UA campus.

[Illustrated \(KUAT\)](#) 6:30 p.m., Feb. 23; at [Clues Unlimited](#) at 2 p.m., March 6; at the [Tucson Festival of Books](#) panel discussion at 1 p.m., March 13, in Room 120 of the ILC on the UA campus.

Grrls' Poetry Vended

Haikus for Women Travel Around Tucson



Haiku's written by students in the [Grrls Literary Activism Workshop](#) are ready to hit the road. Their vehicle? Tampons. These slices of verse, dubbed "period pieces," are wrapped around tampons and placed into a personalized Grrls tampon vending machine or in baskets. The first stop for these messages: the office of the girl scouts. Here's a sample of the work:

best

*New moons are the
Mainly die to the nature
Of the beast in full
- S.H.*

*Welcome. It's hot here
White Gucci loafers, black horns
Just this little dot
- H.S.*

[Keep your eyes peeled for more Grrls news.](#)



monologue, a survivor of rape in the Democratic Republic of Congo uses dark humor to describe a "Guide to Surviving Sex Slavery." Other monologues are of an Israeli girl who refuses the draft; a Kenyan girl who escapes genital mutilation; and a Chinese girl who makes Barbies in a factory. Read more about the debut in [this article from Women's enews.org.](#)

The Afghan Women's Writing Project is back again.



Read an in-depth profile of the project in [this article by Women's Enews.org](#). Through distance learning with US volunteers, the Afghan students write about life, love, and politics, often times anonymously to avoid persecution. While the United States has declared that women have been "free" since the war in Afghanistan,

project director Masha Hamilton started the work in part because she knows Afghan women who feel their rights are still in danger. . *Photo Credit: ShadoWalker Photograpy, Flickr Creative Commons.*

The Gals Behind Kore

Who are the women behind the scenes?



Visit the [Kore Staff Page](#) to meet the hard working writers behind the scenes. Kore Press, co-founded by Lisa Bowden, kicks off 2010 with new staff in a newly appointed office (same location). You can find all of our contact information and bios at [www.korepress.org](#).

- Lisa Bowden** - Publisher/Chief Executive
- Shannon Cain** - Fiction Editor
- Madeline Fearon** - Marketing & Publicity
- Patti Hadad** - Editorial Assistant
- Colleen Runyan** - Office Manager
- Jennica Smith** - Production & Design
- Nhu Tien Lu** - Grrls Workshop Coordinator
- Jeanmarie Simspon** - Special Projects

We will see you at AWP in Denver and the Tucson Festival of Books.

Save the Date! Saturday, April 24

Kore Press Spring fundraiser: A Little Art for the Heart Sale

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