

# The Birchbark Books Reading Series

presents

John Medeiros  
Gwen Westerman  
Jay Thomas Bad Heart Bull

Wednesday, October 14, 2009  
7:00 p.m.

prix fixe menu available at Isles Deli, 6:15 pm

curated by Michael Kiesow Moore

*The Birchbark Books Reading Series will feature new, emerging, and established writers every month. Join us the 2nd Wednesday of the month, from September through May.*



John Medeiros is a writer living in Minneapolis. His work has appeared in several journals, including *Sport Literate*, *Water-Stone Review*, *Gulf Coast*, *Talking Stick*, *Willow Springs*, *Gents*, *Badboys and Barbarians*, *Evergreen Chronicles*, *Hot Metal Press*, *Big Toe Review*, *Swell*, and *Christopher Street*. Upcoming work will be featured in *Second Run* and *Text Wrestling*. He is the recipient of a Minnesota State Arts Board grant, a Jerome Foundation Grant for Emerging Writers, Gulf Coast's First Place Nonfiction Award, and the AWP Intro Journals Project Award. He received an MFA from Hamline University, and his work has been nominated for a Pushcart Prize, and as a Notable Essay in *Best American Essays of 2006*. He is the curator of Queer Voices: A GLBT Reading Series, a reading series for queer writers sponsored by Intermedia Arts and Hamline University.

Gwen Westerman lives in southern Minnesota, not far from the village sites of her ancestors, Yajopi, Ishtahba, and Mazamani. Her Dakota roots are deep in this landscape and reveal themselves in her artwork and her writing. She has worked as a proofreader, a waitress, an editor, a sandwich delivery driver, a technical writer, and a teacher. Her essays and poems have appeared in journals and books, and she has a forthcoming collection of poetry in Dakota and English, *Follow the Blackbirds*. Neither of her parents spoke English before they were sent away to boarding schools in Oklahoma and South Dakota, so she knows the importance of the role language plays in who we are.



Jay Thomas Bad Heart Bull is an American Indian man from Pine Ridge South Dakota and Standing Rock North Dakota. He is the son of a soldier and a nurse and has always lived in the Midwest. He has been writing poetry and short prose behind closed doors and has only just begun to venture into a more structured writing regimen. He was part of the Loft Literary Center's Native Inroads program during the summer of 2009 under the tutelage of Gwen Westerman.



Birchbark Books

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