The John Fowles Center for Creative Writing promotes and advances the discipline of creative writing in all its aspects: fiction, poetry, drama, creative non-fiction and film. The Center offers students and non-students alike an opportunity to gain a greater appreciation for the “written word” and those who write it. Each year a distinguished group of national and international writers is invited to Chapman University, making access to those writers available not only to the Chapman community, but to the Orange County and, by extension, the Southern California community as well.

Now into its second decade, The John Fowles Center for Creative Writing has invited such inter/national writers to Chapman as: Salman Rushdie, Luisa Valenzuela, Lawrence Ferlinghetti, Gioconda Belli, Alicia Partnoy, Raymond Federman, Steve Katz, Ronald Sukenick, Raúl Zurita, Elizabeth George, Ralph Berry, David Matlin, Charles Bernstein, Larry McCaffery, Alicia Kozameh, Fanny Howe, David Antin, and Willis Barnstone just to name a few.

All Readings begin at 7:00 p.m.
Admission is FREE and open to the public

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Office of the Chancellor • Wilkinson College of Humanities and Social Sciences • Department of English
John Fowles Center for Creative Writing • Paul & Marybelle Musco Professorship in Italian Studies • Citrus City Grille

For information on Landmark Trust’s preservation of John Fowles’ Belmont House estate in Lyme Regis, go to www.landmarktrust.org.uk
Dacia Maraini was born in Florence. Together with several other young people, she founded a literary magazine called Tempo di letteratura, published by Pironti in Naples, and began contributing to magazines including Nuovi Argomenti and Mondo. During the sixties she published her first novels and also began to turn her attention to the theatre. Together with a group of writers, she founded the Teatro del Porcospino, a theatre devoted exclusively to staging new Italian works by the likes of Parrain, Gadda, Tornabuoni and Moravia. In 1973, she contributed to the foundation of the Teatro della Maddalena, run solely by women. Five years later, this theatre put on her play Dialogo di una prostituta con un suo cliente (Dialogue of a Prostitute and her Client), which was translated into English and French and staged in twelve different countries. Among the books she has written include: La vacanza (The holiday); L’età del malessere (The age of discontent); Memorie di una ladraas (Memories of a female thief); Bagheria; and Voci (Voices). Awards include the Formentor Prize, the Premio Fregene, the Premio Campiello and the Premio Strega. She lives in Rome.

Giorgio Pressburger was born in Budapest and has been living in Italy since 1965. He graduated from the Academy of Dramatic Arts in Rome as a director and then studied biology at the University of Bologna from 1967 to 1971. From 1967 to 1988 he worked as a director in the radio and television where he adapted the works of several hundred renowned authors. He received several prizes for this work, including the Italy Prize in 1972, 1975 and 1988, and was awarded a musical prize in Hungary in 1975. He also worked extensively in prose theatre, wrote several play-scripts and directed numerous plays throughout Italy. His several decade-long works in the theatre was recognized in 1962 by a prize awarded by the Italian Drama Institute, by the Pirandello Prize in 1974, the Flaiano Prize in 1995 and the Riccione Prize for the Theatre in 2001 for staging the “Venetian Rabbi.” He was awarded the Randone Prize for his life-work in 2007. In 2007 he established the Castle Theatre Festival in Trieste, and the programs organized by the theatre mobilized every theatrical institution in the region and even in Slovenia. From 1968 to 1976 he taught directing and performing art at the National Artistic Academy in Rome, gave courses on ancient drama in Lecce, then taught dramaturgy at the University of Szeged between 2000 and 2002. He received a honoris causa degree in humanities from the University of Szeged in 2004 and was appointed visiting professor at the University of Cambridge. His prose includes: the highly acclaimed, The Law of White Spaces; Teeth and Spies; Homage to the Eighth District: Tales from Budapest; and Snow and Guilt. At present he teaches the history of theatrical scenery and writes radio scripts at the University of Udine.

Pasquale Verdicchio is a Canadian poet, critic and translator who has made important contributions to the whole discourse on ethnic minority writing and culture. Born in Naples, Italy, in 1954, he moved with his family to Canada and grew up in Vancouver, B.C. His first degree is for the University of Victoria, his M.A. from the University of Alberta and his Ph.D. from the University of California. He has been teaching in California for a number of years in the areas of Italian, film and creative writing. Among Verdicchio’s many books his works of poetry are significant for their originality with language and structure. They include: Moving Landscape, Ipsissima Verba, Nomadic Trajectory, Approaches to Absence and The House is Past. His most important critical work is Devis in Paradise: Writing on Post-Enigrant Culture, Bound by Distance: Rethinking Nationalism Through the Italian Diaspora, and The Southern Question, a translation of the essay by Antonio Gramsci. He has also translated many Italian writers into English. He currently teaches at the University of California, San Diego.