

## 2007 Local Author Lifetime Achievement Award Recipient

# JEROME ROTHENBERG

Jerome Rothenberg is the 2007 recipient of the San Diego Public Library Local Author Lifetime Achievement award (LOLA). The LOLA Award is an annual award presented to a writer who has a distinguished writing career and whose work has provided significant enrichment to the San Diego community.

**JEROME ROTHENBERG** is the author of over seventy books of poetry including *Poems for the Game of Silence*, *Poland / 1931*, *A Seneca Journal*, *Vienna Blood*, *That Dada Strain*, *New Selected Poems 1970-1985*, *Khurbn*, *The Lorca Variations*, *Seedings & Other Poems*, *A Paradise of Poets*, and *A Book of Witness* (All from New Directions). He has translated from a wide range of poets (Lorca, Gomringer, Schwitters, Picasso, and Nezval, among others), and in the 1970s and 1980s he edited five major assemblages of traditional and contemporary poetry: *Technicians of the Sacred*, *Shaking the Pumpkin*, *American a Prophecy*, *Revolution of the Word*, and *A Big Jewish Book*. A two-volume global anthology of twentieth-century poetry, *Poems for the Millennium* (co-edited with Pierre Joris) was published in 1995 and 1998 by the University of California Press, and another large assemblage, *A Book of the Book*, appeared in 2001 from Granary Books in New York. Since the late 1950s, he has been involved with various aspects of poetry performance, including a theatrical version of his book, *Poland / 1931*, by Hanon Reznikov and the Living Theater, the Broadway adaptation of Rolf Hochhuth's 1964 play *The Deputy*, a theatrical staging of *That Dada Strain* by Luke Theodor Morrison and the Center for Theater Science and Research, San Diego, in the late 1980s; and a musical version of *Khurbn* (with composer Charlie Morrow and Japanese novelist Makoto Oda) produced for the Bread & Puppet Theater in 1995. With his anthologies and journals such as *Alcheringa* and *New Wilderness Letter*, Rothenberg has long been a central mover in the development of an ethnopoetics "as a necessary component of any truly innovative poetics." His first volume of selected poetry, *Poems for the Game of Silence*, has appeared in French, Spanish, Swedish and Flemish editions, and he has had six books in French, five in Spanish, and has been translated extensively into German, Dutch, Italian, Portuguese, Serbian, Polish, Japanese, Lithuanian, Chinese, and Finnish. His work in various areas has been recognized with a Guggenheim fellowship, a Wenner-Gren Foundation award for experimental ethnopoetic translation, several awards from the National Endowment for the Arts, two PEN Oakland Josephine Miles Awards for poetry, two PEN Center USA West Awards and the one PEN American Center award for translation, an Alfonso el Sabio Translation Award, and American Book Award for his selected writings on poetics, and an honorary doctorate from the State University of New York. He has lived in San Diego County since 1976 and until recently has been a professor of visual arts and literature at the University of California, San Diego. Rothenberg's most recent books include *A Book of Witness* (new poems from New Directions), *The Burial of the Count of Orgaz* (collected poems of Pablo Picasso from Exact Change), and *Writing Through* (Selected translations and related writings from Wesleyan University Press). His thirteenth book of poems from New Directions, *Triptych*, will appear in 2007, and he is currently working on a prequel to *Poems for the Millennium* — a large assemblage of nineteenth-century romanticism, postromanticism, and early modernism, scheduled for publication by the University of California Press. Kenneth Rexroth described him as "one of the truly contemporary American poets who has returned U.S. poetry to the mainstream of international modern literature. . . . No one writing poetry today has dug deeper into the roots of poetry." And Charles Bernstein more recently: "The significance of Jerome Rothenberg's animating spirit looms larger every year. . . . [He] is the ultimate 'hyphenated' poet: critic-anthropologist-editor-anthologist-performer-teacher-translator, to each of which he brings an unbridled exuberance and an innovator's insistence on transforming a given state of affairs."

Mr. Rothenberg resides in Encinitas, California.

## Titles by **JEROME ROTHENBERG** in the San Diego Public Library

### Non-Fiction

**002 Book**

*A Book of the Book: Some Works & Projections  
about the Book & Writing / edited by  
Jerome Rothenberg*

**296 Rothenberg**

*Big Jewish Book: Poems and Other Visions of  
the Jews from Tribal Times to the Present*

**398.2 Technicians**

*Technicians of the Sacred: A Range of Poetries  
from Africa, America, Asia, Europe and  
Oceania / edited with commentaries by  
Jerome Rothenberg.*

**CD 787.5 Turetzky**

*Compositions and Improvisations /  
Jerome Rothenberg, poet*

**808.81 Poems**

*Poems for the Millennium: The University of  
California Book of Modern & Postmodern  
Poetry / edited by Jerome Rothenberg*

**809.1 Rothenberg**

*Pre-Faces and Other Writings*

**809.1 Symposium**

*Symposium of the Whole: A Range of  
Discourse toward an Ethnopoetics edited  
with commentaries by Jerome Rothenberg*

**811 Rothenberg**

*Poems for the Game of Silence, 1960-1970*

*A Search of the library's database will lead you to articles written by and about Jerome Rothenberg in magazines.*

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**811 Rothenberg**

*Poems, 1964-1967*

**811 Rothenberg**

*A Seneca Journal*

**811.08 Rothenberg**

*Revolution of the Word: A New Gathering of  
American Avant Garde Poetry 1914-1945*

**811.54 Rothenberg**

*A Book of Witness: Spells & Gris-Gris*

**811.54 Rothenberg**

*A Paradise of Poets: New Poems and Translations*

**811.54 Rothenberg**

*Seedings & Other Poems*

**811.54 Rothenberg**

*That Dada Strain*

**811.54 Rothenberg**

*Vienna Blood and Other Poems*

**831 Gromringer**

*The Book of Hours, and Constellations: Being  
Poems of Eugen Gomringer / presented by  
Jerome Rothenberg*

**831.08 Rothenberg**

*New Young German Poets*

**897 Rothenberg**

*Shaking the Pumpkin: Traditional Poetry of the  
Indian North Americas*

### Biographical Information

**920 Who's**

*Who's Who in America 2006, Volume 2, p. 4044*

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