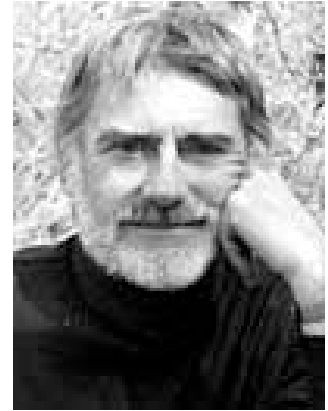


## Poetry Reading Review

This assignment asks you to attend a poetry reading and write a short review of the experience. Hearing poetry is a delicious pleasure; and hearing a poet read his or her own work is a real treat. Poetry readings tend to last 45 minutes to an hour or so; and in Manhattan you should be able to find several opportunities to *listen* to poetry. During the semester I will announce to the class all of the poetry readings that I hear about. If you know of one that I missed, please tell the rest of us.

The first step is to attend a poetry reading or two and find one that you'd like to write about. Compose a brief summary of the reading itself (who read? when? where? what kinds of poems were read?); describe some of the poems that were read; and give us some of your reflections on those poems (did you enjoy them? did any particular poem strike you as moving, brilliant, or clever? what was it like to hear, rather than read, poetry?). Give us your thoughtful opinion of the poems, the reading, and the whole experience.



Try to attend a reading as early in the semester as you can. If you procrastinate on this assignment, there is a possibility that none of the readings at the end of the semester (when we are all really busy) will be scheduled at a convenient time. Work not handed in is simply graded zero points.

This assignment will be worth five points: 5 is for one of the best reviews I ever read; 4 is for a detailed, specific, insightful review; 3 is the score I will award most often; 2 is for reviews that are kinda vague; and 1 is the score you will earn if I'm not sure you even attended the reading. As an additional incentive to encourage you to attend poetry readings (or lectures), you may hand in a second, a third, a fourth review worth up to five extra credit points each.

**Length:** one (typed, double-spaced) page or so

**Due Date:** You may turn in your review anytime before Dec 9, which is the last day I will accept a poetry reading review.

### Already Scheduled Poetry (or partially poetry) Readings

Department of English, Welcome Back Faculty Reading  
Friday, August 26, 3:30 p.m., Union 212

Gary Gildner (photo above): Fiction and Poetry Reading  
Thursday, September 15, 4:00 p.m., Union 212

Richard Thomas, Play on Words  
Thursday, October 20, 7:30 p.m., McCain [tickets will cost you \$15]

Ted Kooser (photo right), Poetry reading  
Friday, November 4, 7:00 p.m., Union Little Theater

