

Mountain Writers Series

JUDITH BARRINGTON

Reading

7:30 PM, Wednesday
October 5, 2011

23 Sandy Gallery
623 NE 23rd Avenue
Portland

Suggested Donation \$5



Writing Workshop

1 – 5 PM, Sunday
October 9 & 16, 2011

23 Sandy Gallery
623 NE 23rd Avenue
Portland

Workshop fee: \$150

The Heart of the Story: Memoirist as Explorer

This workshop will focus on getting to the heart of your story. This is what Grace Paley called finding “the story under the story,” and is the subject of Vivian Gornick’s book, *The Situation and the Story*. It’s not enough simply to recount the events; when we write memoir we must struggle to dig deeper, to unearth the elusive truth that can emerge from the story. We must push ourselves, using retrospection, to find out what we might not yet know. Sometimes it takes getting a new perspective or a different angle on the tale to discover what can make a memoir truly memorable for both writer and reader. This workshop is designed to encourage that process. Participants should read ahead of time both *Writing the Memoir: From Truth to Art* by Judith Barrington and *The Situation and the Story* by Vivian Gornick.

—Judith Barrington’s *Lifesaving: A Memoir* won the 2000 Lambda Book Award and was a finalist for the PEN/Martha Albrand Award for the Art of the Memoir. She has also published three books of poetry, most recently *Horses and the Human Soul*. Recent work includes two chapbooks: *Postcard from the Bottom of the Sea* and *Lost Lands* (winner of the Robin Becker Chapbook Award). Her best-selling text, *Writing the Memoir: From Truth to Art*, is widely used by universities and writing groups in the U. S., Germany, and Australia. She is a faculty member of the Univ. of Alaska, Anchorage’s MFA Program, where she teaches memoir.

