



## Teton County Library News Release

Tuesday, September 24, 2013

### Press Contacts:

Beth Loffreda, UW Associate Professor, [loffreda@uwyo.edu](mailto:loffreda@uwyo.edu), 307-766-4355

Julia Hysell, Communications Manager, 307-733-2164 ext. 112 (M-Th)

Rebecca Huntington, Communications & Digital Media Specialist, 307-733-2164 ext. 210, 413-2643

## Library, UW Present New, Award-Winning Literary Voices

Jackson, WY – Teton County Library and the University of Wyoming bring new literary voices to Jackson audiences in October with back-to-back readings by author [Rattawut Lapcharoensap](#), winner of the National Book Foundation's "5 Under 35," followed by Navajo poet [Sherwin Bitsui](#). Both programs are free and open to the community with support from donations, large and small, to the Teton County Library Foundation.

### Writers at the Library



#### **Rattawut Lapcharoensap**

**Monday, Oct. 7, 7-8 p.m.**

#### **Ordway Auditorium**

Born in Chicago and raised in Bangkok, [Lapcharoensap](#) is the author of the short story collection "Sightseeing" and an Eminent Writer in Residence at the University of Wyoming MFA Program in Creative Writing. He will read from a new short story published in this summer's issue of [Granta](#) magazine, which named him a Best Young American Novelist.

Lapcharoensap has won a major, five-year European literary grant from the Abraham Woursell Foundation and a 2010 Whiting Writers' Award for his work. The Whiting judges wrote: "Lapcharoensap writes with a depth of emotion, of tenderness really, and fluent descriptive detail. We like the access he provides to a world we know nothing about."



#### **Sherwin Bitsui**

**Tuesday, Oct. 8, 7-8 p.m.**

#### **Ordway Auditorium A**

Navajo poet and Eminent Writer in Residence at UW, [Bitsui](#) will read from his award-winning poetry collections "Flood Song" and "Shapeshift," as

well as new work from his forthcoming collection. Raised on the Navajo Indian Reservation, he attended the Institute of American Indian Arts in Santa Fe, N.M., and the University of Arizona in Tucson. In a recent interview in “This Week from Indian Country Today,” he explained his attraction to poetry: “I grew up in a traditional family, and I always knew that language is powerful, that it can enact things, and change things and transform them. But, when I saw contemporary forms of poetry, in books, anthologies, the way poets (expressed themselves) was very familiar.”

The UW [MFA Eminent Writer in Residence Program](#) is funded by the Excellence in Higher Education Endowment, created in 2006 by the Wyoming Legislature. The Endowment brings acclaimed scholars, artists and educators to Wyoming and awarded funding to both the MFA Program in Creative Writing and the American Indian Studies Program to support Bitsui’s residency.

Find [Teton County Library](#) online, call us at 307.733.2164 or visit us at 125 Virginian Lane, Jackson WY, 83001.

###

*Teton County Library is the community's open door to a world of opportunity and fulfillment through resources, programs and services that connect, inspire and educate.*