



CityLit Project presents

### CityLit Studio VI: Writers on Craft, Creativity & Community with Leslie Pietrzyk & Cherie Jones Wednesday, October 20, 2021 7:00 - 9:00 pm (EDT)



Leslie Pietrzyk



Cherie Jones

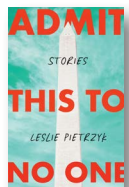
CityLit Studio VI: *Writers on Craft, Creativity, and Community*, presented as a part of Free Fall Baltimore, is a unique opportunity for writers to experience readings/lectures by two authors in different genres. Participants engage in deep-dive discussions on craft and the writing process.

LESLIE PIETRZYK:

#### “This Really Happened: Turning Fact Into Fiction”

(Short Story Collection: *Admit This to No One*)

While many writers bravely use their life experiences in their work, some of us (understandably!) are nervous about doing so. What benefits and drawbacks are there to “this really happened”? These tips and strategies will help you successfully navigate your life onto the page, in whatever your chosen genre is.



Leslie Pietrzyk's collection of linked stories set in DC, *Admit This to No One*, is forthcoming in November 2021 from Unnamed Press, the publisher of her 2018 novel *Silver Girl*, which received a starred review from Publishers Weekly. Her first collection of short stories, *This Angel on My Chest*, won the 2015 Drue Heinz Literature Prize and was published by University of Pittsburgh Press. Short fiction and essays have appeared in, among others, *Ploughshares*, *Story Magazine*, *The Hudson Review*, *Southern Review*, *Arts & Letters*, *Shenandoah*, *The Gettysburg Review*, *The Iowa Review*, *Washingtonian*, *The Sun*, *Salon*, and *The Washington Post Magazine*. Awards include a Pushcart Prize in 2020 and the 2020 Creative Arts Prize from the Polish American Historical Association.

Organizations awarding fellowships include the Bread Loaf Writers' Conference, the Sewanee Writers' Conference, the Hermitage Artist Retreat, Virginia Center for the Arts, and Hawthornden International Retreat at Hawthornden Castle in Scotland.

<http://www.lesliepietrzyk.com>

Twitter: @lesliepwriter

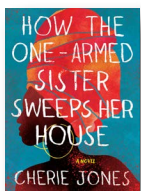
Instagram: @lesliepwriter

CHERIE JONES:

#### “Writing Violence - When It's Better Not To”

(Debut Novelist - *How the One-Armed Sister Sweeps Her House*)

Writing about violence can lend excitement to a narrative, but what are the alternatives to graphic depictions of gore? When should we use those alternatives, and why? In this session, Cherie shares her tips on writing violence responsibly, and why some things might be better left unsaid.



Cherie Jones is a Barbadian writer, mother, and lawyer. Her short fiction has variously been published in *PANK*, *Eclectica*, *Reflex Fiction*, and *The Feminist Wire* and broadcast on BBC Radio 4. Cherie is a graduate of the MA Writing programme at Sheffield Hallam University, where she was awarded the Archie Markham Award and the AM Heath Prize. She is also a past fellowship awardee of the Vermont Studio Centre. Her first novel *How the One-Armed Sister Sweeps Her House* was shortlisted for the Women's Prize for Fiction 2021.

Twitter: @csajthewriter

Instagram: @cheriejoneswrites



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Event bookseller: [Greedy Reads](http://Greedy Reads)

The Free Fall Baltimore program is made possible by the Baltimore Office of Promotion & The Arts (BOPA). Free Fall 2021 is presented by BGE with the generous support of Atapco Properties, the Maryland State Arts Council (MSAC), and Reyka Vodka.