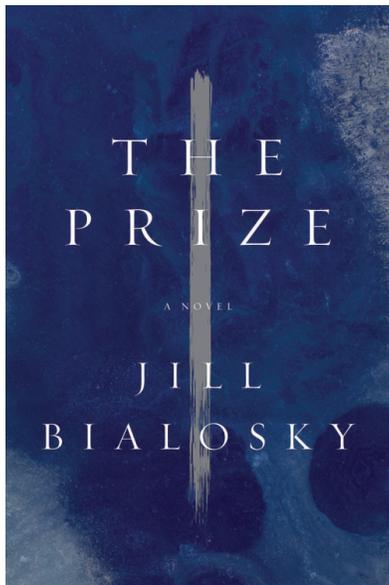


# Mana Contemporary Announces Mana Talks: A New Cross-Disciplinary Lecture Series

Select Thursdays at 3PM  
Free and open the public  
888 Newark Avenue  
Jersey City, NJ 07306



Left: Book cover for Jill Bialosky's latest novel *The Prize*. Right: Album cover for *Music for Egon Schiele*, released by Rachel's in 1996.

JERSEY CITY, NJ, January 18, 2016 — Mana Contemporary is pleased to announce the launch of Mana Talks, a curated series of public workshops, lectures, and conversations hosted by noteworthy artists across creative fields. The first season of talks will follow the theme of “The Muse,” in which artists discuss their sources of inspiration.

Open to the public, but also designed to engage Mana’s growing community of artists, the goal of Mana Talks is to share resources and information, foster dialogue, encourage interdisciplinary collaboration, and exchange ideas. Mana Talks will take place on selected Thursdays at 3PM in various locations at Mana Contemporary depending

on the nature of the workshop and the number of expected guests. To register for Mana Talks, RSVP to: [talks@manacontemporary.com](mailto:talks@manacontemporary.com). Mana Talks are free and open to the public.

#### Featured speakers will include:

Jill Bialosky, novelist  
Rachel Grimes, composer and pianist  
Monika Bravo, visual artist  
Robert Sadin, jazz musician, conductor and composer  
Nick Flynn, poet and memoirist

## Upcoming Mana Talks:

### January 28 at 3PM

#### Jill Bialosky

Writer Jill Bialosky performs a reading with commentary of her newest novel, *The Prize*. What do we prize the most? Are integrity and ambition mutually exclusive, as we seek a place in the world? How do we value, ultimately, a piece of art — or a life? These are the questions at the core of the evocative new novel. Bialosky will discuss how she draws inspiration from the art world.

Jill Bialosky is the author of the *New York Times* bestselling memoir, *History of a Suicide: My Sister's Unfinished Life*, as well as four collections of poetry: *The Players*, *Intruder*, *Subterranean*, and *The End of Desire*. Bialosky is also the author of the novels *House Under Snow* and *The Life Room*, and she is co-editor, with Helen Schulman, of the anthology *Wanting A Child*. Her poems and essays appear in *The New Yorker*, *O Magazine*, *Paris Review*, *The Nation*, *The New Republic*, *Kenyon Review*, and *American Poetry Review*, among other publications.

### February 11 at 3PM

#### Rachel Grimes

Rachel Grimes, formerly of the instrumental ensemble Rachel's, will discuss the compositional process behind the group's 1996 album, "Music for Egon Schiele" and will perform excerpts and themes from this suite for viola, cello, and piano.

Rachel Grimes is a pianist, composer, and arranger based in Kentucky. Widely known for her role in the ground-breaking chamber ensemble Rachel's, (six albums on Quarterstick/Touch and Go), she has since toured the US, Europe and Asia as a solo pianist, and as a collaborator with various artists and chamber ensembles. She has performed at many diverse festivals including Substrata, All Tomorrow's Parties, P Festival (Taiwan), CrossLinx (Netherlands), Approximation Festival (Germany) and Big Ears in Knoxville, TN. Releases include *The Clearing* (Temporary Residence), *Book of Leaves*, *Marion County 1938*, *Compound Leaves* and contributions to the albums of Watter, Christopher Tignor, Seluah, Nathan Salsburg, Joan Shelley, and the Frames. Collaborations include new work with SITI Company, Chris Wells, and Julia Kent with the artist Peter Liversidge. She is also a member of Louisville band King's Daughters & Sons (Chemikal Underground). She scores for film and multi-media installations and has

licensed music to numerous film and TV works internationally. Currently in development are commissions for the Borusan Quartet with Ferhan and Ferzan Önder, and orchestrations of *Book of Leaves* for the Louisville Orchestra.

#### About Mana Contemporary

Founded in 2011, Mana Contemporary is a leading arts destination dedicated to celebrating the creative process. Headquartered in a former tobacco warehouse in Jersey City, Mana unites artists' studios, exhibition spaces, and ancillary services in a single location, facilitating conversation and collaboration among its burgeoning creative community. Together with its sister campuses in Chicago and Miami, Mana serves as a lively center for all members of the art world. Mana Contemporary is home to the Richard Meier Model Museum, Ayn Foundation, the International Center of Photography, The Florence Academy of Art, Gary Lichtenstein Editions, Eileen S. Kaminsky Family Foundation, Armitage Gone! Dance, Keating Foundry, Shen Wei Dance Arts, Mana Urban Arts Project, and many others. For additional information, please visit [manacontemporary.com](http://manacontemporary.com).

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