



SOMARTS
cultural center

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**SOMARTS CULTURAL CENTER PRESENTS
FEAST OF WORDS: A LITERARY POTLUCK**

Monthly event features literary guest Thy Tran February 1st and a creative competition for literary and culinary prizes.

San Francisco, CA, January 19th, 2011 — SOMArts Cultural Center presents *Feast of Words: A Literary Potluck*, a monthly dinner party where writers and foodies come together to eat, write, and share. Join co-hosts Lex Leifheit & Irina Zadov the first Tuesday of each month to discover local chefs and writers, bring a dish on our monthly theme, and participate in our creative competition for edible and literary prizes!

February's theme is "Sensory Feast" and features literary guest Thy Tran as well as a Potluck Brigade of local cooks and writers creating dishes inspired by six senses. This month's event will also include a **creative competition** of on-the-spot writing inspired by the theme. House opens at 6:30pm on Tuesday, February 1st, 2011 and space is limited. Tickets are \$10 in advance, \$5 with a potluck dish, or \$12 at the door and include refreshments and delicious eats. (Cash bar). Tickets available at www.feastofwords.eventbrite.com

Literary Guest [Thy Tran](#) makes a happy living listening, teaching, writing, cooking, traveling and, most importantly, eating. She has fifteen years of food industry experience across a diversity of disciplines, from restaurants and test kitchens to magazines and newspapers.

Trained as a professional chef, she established [Wandering Spoon](#) to provide cooking classes, culinary consultation, and educational programming for culinary academies and nonprofit organizations throughout Northern California. Currently, she is a chef instructor at two respected culinary programs: the International Culinary Schools at the Art Institute of CA-SF and Tante Marie's. Thy is also the founder and director of the [Asian Culinary Forum](#), a nonprofit dedicated to educating the public about Asian food around the world.

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She co-authored *The Essentials of Asian Cooking*, *Taste of the World* and the award-winning guide, [Kitchen Companion](#). Her work has appeared in numerous other books, such as [Asia in the San Francisco Bay Area: A Cultural Travel Guide](#), and she has written for *The Washington Post*, *Los Angeles Times*, *San Francisco Chronicle*, *Saveur* and *Fine Cooking*.

She specializes in literary nonfiction about food, the rituals of the kitchen, and the many ways eating and cooking both connect and separate communities around the world.

Thy works on cookbooks by day, then creates literary chapbooks by night. An old letterpress and two cabinets filled with wood and lead type occupy a corner of Thy's writing studio, for she is as committed to the art and craft of bookmaking as she is to the power of words themselves.

February's **Potluck Brigade** is a group of dedicated cooks and writers who are creating and sharing dishes inspired by the month's theme, "Sensory Feast":

TASTE - Jason Wyman - the-s-kitchen.org

TOUCH - Patti Mangan - tangodiva.com

SIGHT - Ramona Soto

SMELL - Jenny Yap

SOUND - Claire Mosher - momsrising.org/

SIXTH SENSE - Kuukua Dzigbordi Yomekpe - ewurabasempe.wordpress.com

Lex Leifheit is the executive director of SOMArts Cultural Center. She co-founded the High Street Writers Collective in Connecticut and has organized readings online, on street corners, and in storefronts. She was most recently published in the December 2010 issue of *In Dance* magazine.

Irina Zadov is the Director of Experience and Programs at Zeum: San Francisco Children's Museum. She is a practicing artist with a passion for bringing people together through food, stories, and romps through the imagination.

About the SOMArts Studio Series

The SOMArts (South of Market Arts, Resources, Technology, and Services) Studio Series is an informal assemblage of arts classes and events designed to encourage the production of contemporary work by artists of all ages and skill levels in San Francisco.

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Listing Info:

What: Feast of Words: A Literary Potluck

Where: SOMArts Cultural Center (934 Brannan St, between 8th and 9th)

When: Tuesday, February 1, 2011. 7:00pm to 9:00pm, doors open at 6:30pm

What else: Tickets are \$10 advance, \$5 with a potluck dish and \$12 at the door. For more information visit

<http://feastofwords.eventbrite.com> or write feastofwords@somarts.org

About SOMArts Cultural Center

SOMArts (South of Market Arts, Resources, Technology, and Services) was founded in 1979 and operates the South of Market Cultural Center, one of four city-owned cultural facilities in San Francisco. SOMArts supports exhibitions, performances, classes and other collaborations that serve its mission: to promote and nurture art on the community level and foster an appreciation of and respect for all cultures.

For more information about upcoming events, space rentals and technical services, visit www.somarts.org or call 415-863-1414. SOMArts programs are supported by the San Francisco Arts Commission's Community Arts and Education Program, with funding from Grants for the Arts/San Francisco Hotel Tax Fund.

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