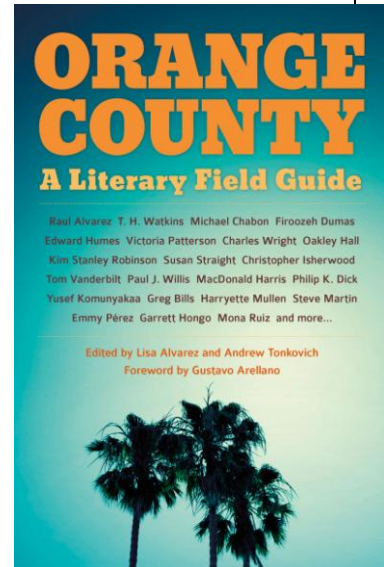


OC: A Literary Field Guide

The **Costa Mesa Historical Society** is pleased to have editors **Lisa Alvarez and Andrew Tonkovich** on **Sunday October 22, 2017** as they discuss their landmark anthology and read selections from the book, **Orange County: A Literary Field Guide**.

Even by California's standards, the County of Orange teems with abundance: in sweeping topography along the azure Pacific, in sprawling suburbs, in promises of prosperity, and in its self-perpetuated reputation as a citrus-lined paradise. But the acclaimed fertility of this corner of California is not just agricultural or economic, as this new anthology shows. In this literary field guide, more than sixty writers—some well known, others emerging—lead readers on a tour that begins at the coast and heads inland over the Santa Ana Mountains, through the canyons, and into the cities of Anaheim, Irvine, and Orange in search of vistas of truth. Luminaries including Michael Chabon, Philip K. Dick, Steve Martin, and Susan Straight explore the complexities and contradictions of the county, locating readers in a place made in equal measure by 950 square miles of land and the imagination. A foreword by Gustavo Arellano, author of *Orange County: A Personal History* and the syndicated column *¡Ask a Mexican!*, unravels the idealized past and paradoxical present of this much-mythologized locale.

www.facebook.com/Orange-County-A-Literary-Field-Guide-1709352889383705/



To quote from the Daily Pilot article of March 31, 2017:

When Lisa Alvarez would tell people that she was editing an anthology of poems, novels and short stories about Orange County, she often got puzzled looks. "The initial response is, 'There's nothing here,'" she said. "People think about the popular culture images of Orange County, the desperate 'Housewives,' the terrible Laguna Beach TV show, and they don't think of it as a place with a history. My project showed me that indeed there was a history." "Now anyone can get a glimpse into this history with 'Orange County: A Literary Field Guide,' edited by Alvarez, a professor of English at Irvine Valley College (and co-director of Writers Workshops), and her husband, Andrew Tonkovich, an English lecturer at UC Irvine (and host of KPFK show Bibliocracy Radio).

So come bring a friend and join us on a literary history of the OC!

Seating is limited, for RESERVATIONS call (949) 631-5918. Doors open at 2:00, program at 2:30. Free admission and refreshments. We are located at **1870 Anaheim Ave.** northwest corner of the Lions Park complex. Visit www.costamesahistory.org or go to **facebook/costa mesa historical society** for more information.

Note: Due to construction, entry to parking lot must be made off Anaheim Ave.

Promoting and preserving Costa Mesa's history is our mission.