

**BETSY SOUTH BEACH TO FEATURE "THREE GENERATIONS OF POETRY"**

*Closing Event for National Poetry Month part of homage to Betsy’s poetry muse, Hyam Plutzik*

Betsy Hotel South Beach is proud to present **THREE POETS/THREE GENERATIONS** on **Sunday**, **April 29, 2012** at **7 pm.** The event, which marks the close of National Poetry Month, will feature readings by award-winning poet and president and publisher of Ecco Press/HarperCollins, Daniel Halpern; MacArthur Genius Grant winner, poet Campbell McGrath; and O, Miami founder, poet P. Scott Cunningham. The evening’s program also includes a special screening of a movie short by Oscar-nominated directors Christine Choy and Ku Ling Siegel, showcasing iconic American poet Stanley Kunitz reading Hyam Plutzik’s poem, *Sprig of Lilac*. This was Kunitz’s last public interview before his death at age 99. This year marks the centennial of Hyam Plutzik, who was the father of Betsy owner Jonathan Plutzik and a muse for The Betsy South Beach. The **Betsy’s Second Annual Poetry Party on the Roof Deck** will follow the readings at

**9 pm**. ***The event is free and open to the public***.

The evening invites a look at the connections between poets and their teachers. The featured poets share an intergenerational connection; Daniel Halpern was a student of Stanley Kunitz; Campbell McGrath was Halpern’s student, and Cunningham studied with McGrath. Les Standiford, the director of the Florida International University Creative Writing Program will lead a Q&A session at the conclusion of the program.

The Betsy has been the epicenter of National Poetry Month in Miami this year, in association with O, Miami, Books and Books, FIU’s Creative Writing Program and the University of Wynwood, featuring poets in residence, public readings, and community service. Two-time U.S. Poet Laureate Billy Collins was Betsy’s first visiting poet for National Poetry Month on April 1. Other visiting artists included emerging poets Melissa Broder, R. Dwayne Betts, Malachi Black, and Ariana Reines, who enjoyed residencies in the Betsy’s new Writer’s Room.

The Betsy South Beach is located at **1440 Ocean Drive** in Miami Beach. For more information on cultural arts programming, call **305-760-6902** or go to [www.thebetsyhotel.com](http://www.thebetsyhotel.com).

**Media contact**:

Karen Barofsky

**Brustman Carrino Public Relations**

[karen@brustmancarrinopr.com](mailto:karen@brustmancarrinopr.com)

**305-573-0658**

**ABOUT THE BETSY:** Dramatically poised alongside its Art Deco neighbors, The Betsy is a distinguished boutique hotel on Ocean Drive. The Betsy’s 62 rooms and suites are private, beachside havens where sensory details, imaginative amenities, and inspirational design coalesce to produce an unparalleled experience in South Beach. Elegant, but relaxed tropical interiors and an intimate courtyard pool, maintain an aura that is passionately low-key. The Deck at The Betsy, an expansive rooftop with sweeping views of the Atlantic, offers a Wellness Garden with a range of spa treatments, therapies, and yoga. Specialty cocktails and light fare are offered at the exquisite lobby bar, or one may prefer fine dining at Laurent Tourondel's new take on the modern American steakhouse - BLT Steak.

**ABOUT THE WRITER’S ROOM:** The Writer’s Room, at The Betsy, is a new working studio space for visiting writers on Ocean Drive. The project was created as part of Betsy’s continuing effort to link past and present through the arts, and to pay homage to the many 'writing rooms', that existed in pre-war hotels, where guests would record memories and link to home. Visiting writers will use a desk donated to the Betsy by the Hyam Plutzik Centennial Committee to commemorate the poet’s sojourn as a solider in Florida during the 1940’s on his way to war. Born 100 years ago, and a Pulitzer Prize finalist before his death, Hyam Plutzik is the father of Betsy owner Jonathan Plutzik, and is a muse for many of Betsy’s literary programs, such as poems on pillows, room libraries, and a lobby-based poetry collection that is 'open to the public'.