

**THE POET'S VOICE:
THEODORE ROETHKE, DENISE LEVERTOV, SEAMUS HEANEY**

HARRY MARTEN, Edward E. Hale, Jr., Professor of English Emeritus at Union College

Tuesdays: November 7, 14, 21, 28, December 5

9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m., Hale House

In the 1850s Mrs. Herman Melville wrote to her mother: "Herman has taken to writing poetry. You need not tell anyone, for you know how such things get around." Alas, poor Herman. Things haven't changed much since then it seems -- poetry still gets a bad rap.

This is an active discussion class for lovers of poetry, those curious about it, those fearful of it. No previous experience required! We will read – often aloud so as to hear and feel the music fully - from the work of three extraordinary modern and contemporary writers: **Theodore Roethke** (American, 1908-1963), **Denise Levertov** (claimed by both England and America, 1923-1997), and **Seamus Heaney** (Irish, 1939-2013). Together we'll discover and explore their poetical voices: sometimes deeply personal, sometimes sharply political, occasionally polemical, always meaningful. We'll encounter stories well told, love songs of great beauty and sometimes anger and sadness, explorations of memory and everyday experience, portraits of places and people, self and society, riddles that will tease us into thought and feeling. These are poets whose complex and shifting voices offer us truths of outrage and truths of possibility.

To register, please contact the UCALL office at UCALL@union.edu or 518-388-6072. In order to allow for an active discussion, registration will be limited to 25 UCALL members. A list of poems to be read and their sources will be provided to registrants in advance of the class.

Coordinated by Linda Doyle.