



## **Query Roulette 2012**

**Tuesday, February 28, 6:30 – 8:30**

### **Participating Agents**

#### **Matthew Elblonk DeFiore and Company Author Services**

<http://www.defioreandco.com>

Matthew Elblonk, formerly an agent with Collins Literary and The Creative Culture, joined DeFiore and Company in 2010. He currently represents writers in the world of pop culture, music, young adult, narrative non-fiction, literary fiction and humor. Interests also include science and any authors with great ideas and an equally strong platform. He tends to have a soft spot for all Beatle related projects. He is currently not considering any poetry or genre fiction.

#### **Regina Brooks – Serendipity Literary Agency**

<http://www.serendipitylit.com>

Regina is the founder of the Serendipity Literary Agency, New York. Her agency has represented and established a diverse base of award-winning clients in adult and young adult fiction, nonfiction, and children's literature. Writer's Digest magazine named Serendipity Literary Agency as one of the top 25 literary agencies in 2004. Prior to opening her own agency, Ms. Brooks held senior editorial positions at John Wiley and Sons (where she was not only the youngest but also the first African-American editor in their college division) and McGraw-Hill. She is the author of *Essences Magazine's* quick pick children's book, *Never Finished! Never Done!* (Scholastic) and *WRITING GREAT BOOKS FOR YOUNG ADULTS* (Source Books) and is a well received blogger for the Huffington Post. Brooks is also on the faculty of the Harvard University publishing program. She has been highlighted in several national and international magazines and periodicals, including *Forbes*, *Media Bistro*, *Writers and Poets*, *Essence Magazine*, *Writers Digest Magazine*, *The Writer*, and *Sister2Sister magazine*. She is also the expert agent called upon for the Michael Baisden Radio Show. She is a regular speaker at writer's conferences.

Regina is interested in the areas of non-fiction and literary/commercial fiction for adults, young adults and children. She is drawn to subjects like science, politics, psychology and self-help, pop culture, health, women's issues, parenting, cooking, design crafts, alternative spirituality, business, technology, and always interested in new and emerging writers.

### **Linda Epstein – Jennifer DeChiara Literary Agency**

<http://www.jdlit.com>

Linda has just begun to build her client list at The Jennifer DeChiara Literary Agency. Before joining JDLA in 2011 she read manuscripts, book proposals, and queries at Folio Literary Management; was Submissions Manager at the McVeigh Agency; and interned at the Jean V. Nagggar Literary Agency and Meryl Zegarek Public Relations. She was Community Relations Manager at Barnes & Noble as well as a freelance writer and editor for small businesses.

Linda's areas of interest are literary fiction and quality upscale commercial fiction for adult, YA and MG readers. She likes things that are emotionally gripping, socially relevant and/or off-beat and quirky. She does not represent thrillers, horror or romance. Linda is particularly committed to representing books that include, are about, or are geared toward people in the LGBTQ community, for both adult and children's literature.

### **David Forrer – Inkwell Management**

<http://inkwellmanagement.com>

David began his career in publishing in 1997 after receiving a Masters in Creative Writing (fiction) from Boston University. He has been an agent with InkWell Management since it was created in 2004.

David's areas of interest range from literary, commercial, historical and crime fiction to suspense/thriller, humorous non-fiction and popular history.

### **Laura Langlie – Laura Langlie Agency**

Laura launched her own agency in March 2001, after spending thirteen years working in publishing. Her clients include Emily Arsenault, Mignon F. Ballard, Melanie Benjamin, Jessica Benson, Marissa Burt, Meg Cabot, Sarah Dooley, Jack El-Hai, Jerramy Fine, Peter Geye, Robin Hathaway, Lauren Lipton, Malinda Lo, Thomas Maltman, Leslie Margolis, Delia Ray, and Meg Tilly, among others.

Laura's areas of interest are commercial and literary fiction, young adult and middle-grade fiction, narrative nonfiction, biography, mysteries, thrillers, and some romance.

## **Anna Olswanger – Liza Dawson Associates**

<http://www.lizadawsonassociates.com>

Anna has been an agent at Liza Dawson Associates since 2005. She has sold to Balzer & Bray, Bloomsbury, Boyds Mills Press, Delacorte, F+W Media, Marshall Cavendish, Chronicle, Cinco Puntos, Dutton, Eerdmans, Greenwillow, Houghton Mifflin, McElderry, Pelican, Penguin Classics, Pomegranate, Random House, Sleeping Bear Press, Star Bright, and Wiley. Anna has a background in editing and worked with the author Mary Ann Schaffer on the adult novel *The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Society*, which became an international bestseller. In addition to being a literary agent, Anna is a book coach and author. Her children's book *Shlemiel Crooks* is a Sydney Taylor Honor Book and PJ Library Book. Her latest book is *Greenhorn*.

Anna's areas of interest are children's illustrated books and adult nonfiction, Judaica, and some middle grade and young adult fiction and nonfiction.

## **Katherine Sands – Sarah Jane Freymann Literary Agency**

<http://sarahjanefreymann.com>

Katharine is actively building her list. She has worked with a varied list of authors who publish a diverse array of books. Highlights include *Dating the Devil* (producer: Vast Entertainment) by Lia Romeo; *XTC: SongStories*; *Chasing Zebras: THE Unofficial Guide to House, MD*; *Make Up, Don't Break Up* with Oprah guest Dr. Bonnie Eaker Weil; Playwright Robert Patrick's novel, *Temple Slave*; *The New Rules of Attraction* by Arden Leigh; *The Complete Book on International Adoption: A Step-by-Step Guide to Finding Your Child*; *Hands Off My Belly: The Pregnant Woman's Survival Guide to Myths, Mothers, and Moods*; *Under the Hula Moon*; *The Gay Vacation Guide*; *CityTripping: a Guide for Foodies, Fashionistas and the Generally Style-Obsessed*; *Writers on Directors*; *How to Create an Identity for a Brilliant Career Divorced, Beheaded, Died, Annulled, Beheaded, Survived: The Six Wives of Henry VIII* Ford model Helen Lee's *The Tao of Beauty*; *Elvis and You: Your Guide to the Pleasures of Being an Elvis Fan*; *New York: Songs of the City*; *Taxpertise: Dirty Little Secrets the IRS Doesn't Want You to Know*; *The SAT Word Slam*, *Divorce After 50*; *The Complete Book of Bone Health*; *The Safe and Sane Guide to Teenage Plastic Surgery*, to name a few. She is the agent provocateur of *Making the Perfect Pitch: How to Catch a Literary Agent's Eye*, a collection of pitching wisdom from leading literary agents.

Katherine's areas of interest are books that have a clear benefit for readers' lives in categories of food, travel, lifestyle, home arts, beauty, wisdom, relationships, parenting, and fresh looks, which might be at issues, life challenges or popular culture. When reading fiction she wants to be compelled and propelled by urgent storytelling, and hooked by characters. For memoir and femoir, she likes to be transported to a world rarely or newly observed.

## **Jesseca Salky – HSG Literary Agency**

<http://hsgagency.com>

Jesseca got her start at Random House and was an agent at Russell & Volkening for seven years. Jesseca represents New York Times bestselling and Pulitzer Prize winning author Anne Tyler, whose new book, *The Beginner's Goodbye*, will be out from Knopf in April 2012. Other highlights from her list include the New York Times bestseller *Hope's Boy* by Andrew Bridge (Hyperion, 2008); *Forbidden Lessons in a Kabul Guesthouse* by Suraya Sadeed and Damien Lewis (Voice/Hyperion, 2011); *Domestic Violets*, the debut novel from Matthew Norman (Harper Perennial, 2011); *Song of the Ape* by Andrew Halloran (St. Martin's, 2012) and *Poetry in Person: Twenty-five Years of Conversation with America's Poets*, edited by Alexander Neubauer (Knopf, 2010). At Russell & Volkening, she worked closely with such authors as Annie Dillard, Jim Lehrer, Garrett Graff, and Nadine Gordimer as well as the Estates of Eudora Welty, Bernard Malamud, George Plimpton, and Barbara Tuchman. Jesseca received her J.D. from Fordham Law School in May 2011 and has her B.A. from Northwestern University.

Jesseca's areas of interest are literary and commercial fiction that appeals to women and men (with a particular love of humor and family stories), and all types of non-fiction, with a particular interest in memoir and narrative non-fiction in the areas of science, pop-psychology, politics, current affairs, business, education, food and any other topic that is the vehicle for a great story.

For more information on Jesseca's most recent sales, please see her Publishers Marketplace profile.

## **Brooks Sherman – Fine Print Literary Agency**

<http://fineprintlit.com>

Brooks Sherman is on the lookout for adult fiction that runs the gamut from contemporary (with an eye toward multicultural or satirical) to speculative (particularly urban/contemporary fantasy, horror/dark fantasy, and slipstream). He also has a weakness for historical fiction and a burgeoning interest in crime fiction. On the children's side, he is looking to build a list of boy-focused Middle Grade novels (all subgenres, but particularly fantasy adventure and contemporary), and is open to YA fiction of all types except paranormal romance.

Brooks areas of interest are projects that balance strong voice with gripping plot lines; he particularly enjoys flawed (but sympathetic) protagonists and stories that organically blur the lines between genres. Stories that make him laugh earn extra points. Recent favorites include *Whiteman* by Tony D'Souza, *The Time Traveler's Wife* by Audrey Niffenegger, the *Monstrumologist* series by Rick Yancey, *The Thieves of Manhattan* by Adam Langer, and *Horns* by Joe Hill.

## **Meg Thompson – Einstein Thompson Agency**

<http://einsteinthompson.com>

Meg is Co-Director of Einstein Thompson Agency, (formerly LJK Literary Management). She started in publishing in 2002 working for President Bill Clinton in his Harlem office as a researcher and fact checker on his memoirs, *My Life*. Meg worked for President Clinton for two years and then assisted him on his worldwide book tour once his memoirs were completed and published. She then went to work for Charlie Rose as a writer and researcher at his legendary PBS show before joining LJK Literary Management, LLC, first as Larry Kirshbaum's editorial assistant and then quickly moving on to handle clients of her own, becoming a senior agent in just two years, and taking over the company with her partner, Susanna Einstein, in 2011. Her clients now include Chief of Neurosurgery at Emerson Hospital Dr. Robert Cantu, PBS Parents correspondent and food blogger Alice Currah, NY Times bestseller Ken Denmead (author of the *GeekDad* books), NY Times reporter Chris Dixon, blogger Kelle Hampton, Scientific American reporter Katherine Harmon, NY Times essayist Tim Kreider, style blogger Marisa Lynch, NY Times bestseller Jeremy Rifkin, Anita Hill, and MacArthur "Genius Award" winner Dr. Peter Pronovost.

Meg's areas of interest are memoir, narrative non-fiction, pop science and psychology, health, new media projects, cookbooks, and books on popular culture and humor.