

What Is the Geneva Writers' Group?

Started in 1993, the Geneva Writers' Group brings together over 120 English-language writers from 25 countries. Its objective is to encourage all forms of creative writing in English.

The GWG is a non-profit group with links to International PEN, the International Writers' Residence at the Château de Lavigny, the Paris Writers' Workshop, and the International Women's Writing Guild.

Membership is open to all who wish to develop their creative writing skills. To be eligible, members must attend three workshops each year. Support and encouragement are given to both beginning and published writers.

Meetings are held monthly, from September to June at the Geneva Press Club, with a program of writing workshops, critiquing sessions and master classes.

Since 1998 the group has held the biennial Geneva Writers' Conferences, at Webster University, Bellevue/Geneva, welcoming 180 writers from around the world. The 6th Geneva Writers' Conference was held February 2-3, 2008.

The GWG publishes *Offshoots, Writing from Geneva*, a biennial collection of prose & poetry. Volume 10 will appear in fall 2009.

Other activities include a mentoring service for GWG members with instructors in Europe and the USA, public readings and writing contests on the local radio station.

SWISS CACHET

THE GENEVA WRITERS' CONFERENCE

The shores of Switzerland's famous Lake Geneva and the snow-capped Alps beyond, provide the backdrop for a unique gathering of writers; the Geneva Writers' Conference, held biennially on the last weekend in January.

Judged by scenery alone, this conference wins the gold medal every time, but its literary merits far outweigh the venue's natural beauty. The Geneva Conference is one of the very few professionally-oriented writing workshops operating in Europe.

A forum for published writers and beginners, working in English, the conference brings together participants and instructors from across Europe, and from as far away as North America, New Zealand, Egypt, Vietnam, and Israel. Many of the participants are active as translators; many also write in more than one language.

This cosmopolitan milieu is only enhanced by the spirit of Geneva itself, with its history as a center of international dialogue. For the more than 175 writers and faculty who assemble for the Geneva Conference every two years, the accent is on the sharing of ideas and resources...

from *POETS & WRITERS*, March-April 2004
(Linda Lappin, Rome)

Geneva Writers' Group



DESIGN AND LAYOUT BY ALISTAIR SCOTT

Monthly Workshops 2008 - 2009

(Usually the 3rd Saturday of the month
unless marked with an asterisk.)

SEPTEMBER 20 – **JOURNAL ENTRY TO PERSONAL ESSAY**

OCTOBER 18 – **OPINION AND TRAVEL ESSAYS**

NOVEMBER 15 – **POETRY WORKSHOP**
Guest Instructor: Myra Shapiro

NOVEMBER 16 – **MASTER CLASS: Poetry**

DECEMBER 13* – **SHORT SHORTS AND FLASH FICTION**

JANUARY 17 – **TO BE ANNOUNCED**

FEBRUARY 20 – **SCRIPT WRITING WORKSHOP**
Guest Instructor: TBA

FEBRUARY 21 – **MASTER CLASS: Script writing**

MARCH 21 – **POETIC PROSE**
Prose Poetry

APRIL 18* – **FICTION WORKSHOP**
Guest Instructor: TBA

APRIL 19 – **MASTER CLASS: Fiction**

MAY 16 – **WRITING MEMOIR AS MOSAIC**
ANNUAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JUNE 13* – **TO BE ANNOUNCED**

JUNE 13* – **ANNUAL EVENING OF READINGS**
at the Geneva Press Club

Workshop Programme

10:00 - 12:30 Morning Workshop
12:30 - 14:00 Lunch
14:00 - 16:30 Afternoon Workshop

MORNING WORKSHOPS:

Instruction, guided writing exercises, hand-outs,
marketing.

AFTERNOON WORKSHOPS:

Critiquing manuscripts (1,400 words maximum or 3
poems). Limited to 8 readers who are asked to sign
up in advance and to bring 20 copies of their work.
Other participants welcome.

FEES:

Morning Workshop CHF30 (20 for students)
Afternoon Workshop CHF20 (10 if not reading)
Both Workshops CHF40 (35 if not reading)

INSTRUCTOR:

Susan Tiberghien: writer, teacher, editor. Author of
*Looking for Gold, Circling to the Center, Footsteps – A
European Album, and One Year to a Writing Life*
Guest instructors for Master Classes.

PLACE: Geneva Press Club,
106 route de Ferney.
(Take bus #5 to Hotel Intercontinental)

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION:

www.genevawritersgroup.org

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What They Say ...

About the Saturday Workshops

I felt very isolated as a writer until I found the GWG. I now
have many wonderful and supportive friends around the
world who also write. I owe much of this to the confidence
I gained from the warm welcome of the GWG.

Petina Gappah, Zimbabwe

After joining the GWG, I moved from being a writer to a
published writer (*Slovenia 1945*)—a result of the inspired
teaching and the creative energies generated by the group.
The mixture of examples from great writers and bursts of
our own writing works well to broaden the scope.

Marcus Ferrar, UK

The GWG workshops helped me to get past my journalistic
way of writing and weave more poetry and imagery into
my work. Kudos for the terrific organization, including the
master classes.

Pamela Taylor, USA

About *Offshoots*

Offshoots—a splendid showcase for writing from the
international community in Geneva—is a worthy inheritor of
the tradition of expatriate writing, proving it's as vibrant and
vital as ever"

Peter Ho Davies

The Ugliest House in the World, Equal Love

Members of the Geneva Writers' Group gather rather like
Chaucer's pilgrims. . . They bring their threads of the world
together and weave them into rich tapestries—magic carpets.

Ken Steven

Iona, Wild Horses, Columba

Offshoots is an original, astonishing array of daring and
intelligent voices. It is a joy to read!

Fred Leebron

In the Middle of All this, Six Figures, Out West