



David Meltzer



Michael Rothenberg



Hans Plomp

## The Beat Thing: A Tribute to the Beats

On the evening of May 9, there will be a gala concert at St. John the Divine Church. San Francisco Beat poets **Michael Rothenberg** and **David Meltzer** will perform with Holland's **Hans Plomp, Jim Christy, Speakeasy** and music by **Light Sweet Crude**.

**David Meltzer** was born in Rochester, New York. Meltzer came to prominence with inclusion of his work in the anthology *The New American Poetry 1945-1960*. One of the key poets of the Beat generation, Meltzer is also a jazz guitarist and Cabalist scholar and the author of more than 50 books of poetry and prose. 2005 saw the publication of *David's Copy: The Selected Poems of David Meltzer*, which provides a current "overview" of Meltzer's work. Meltzer's *Beat Thing* (La Alameda Press) is his epic poem on the Beat generation. His other books include *No Eyes*, poems on Lester Young, and a book of interviews, *San Francisco Beat: Talking with the Poets* (City Lights Books). Meltzer teaches at the New College of California in the Poetics Program which was originally founded by Robert Duncan. He lives in the San Francisco Bay Area.

**Michael Rothenberg** is an American poet, songwriter, editor, and active environmentalist in the San Francisco Bay Area. Born in Miami Beach, Florida, he moved to California in 1976, where, in 1989, Rothenberg and artist Nancy Davis began Big Bridge Press, a fine print literary press, publishing works by Jim Harrison, Joanne Kyger, Allen Ginsberg, Philip Whalen and others. Rothenberg is editor of *Big Bridge*, a webzine of poetry. He is also co-editor and co-founder of *Jack Magazine* and editor for the Penguin Poet series. His books include *Unhurried Vision*, *Paris Journals*, *What The Fish Saw*, *Nightmare Of The Violins*, *Man/Woman*, a collaboration with Joanne Kyger, and *Favorite Songs*. His songs have appeared in the films *Shadowhunter* and *Black Day, Blue Night*.

**Hans Plomp** was born in Amsterdam in 1944. After his studies he became a teacher, but he gave up regular jobs for good when his first novel *De Ondertrouw* (*The Banns Are Up*) was successful. He took an active part in the playful Dutch Provo Revolution of the Sixties, which made Amsterdam one of the hippest places on the planet. Hans Plomp has traveled extensively, especially in India, where he spent some five years. In 1982 he toured the U.S. with a group of Dutch poets, performing with Anne Waldman, Diana di Prima, Allen Ginsberg, Gregory Corso, Amiri Baraka, Ira Cohen and many other kindred artists. He has published novels, short stories, poetry and essays. Some of his English poems were published in City Lights Pocket Poets Series #42: *Nine Dutch Poets*.

All Day Book Fair, May 9th, 10am-4pm, \$5.00 at the door.

Evening Beat Concert, May 9th, 7:00pm-10:00pm, \$5.00.

Church of St. John the Divine, 1611 Quadra Street, Victoria, B.C.

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