

Ladies of Intrigue Panels, 2018

Maddie Margarita - Moderator

Janelle Brown

Ivy Pochoda

Amy Stewart

Maddie Margarita

When not working on a sequel to her humorous suspense novel and writing a not-so-urban fantasy, Maddie Margarita serves on the Board of Directors for the Southern California Writers Association, happily belongs to Sisters in Crime, produces and hosts Lit Up! OC – a monthly author showcase. Her short stories can be found in IT'S ALL IN THE STORY – an anthology of short fiction edited by D.P. Lyle.

[Janelle Brown](#) is the New York Times bestselling author of Watch Me Disappear. Dubbed a "master of the page-turner," her previous novels include All We Ever Wanted Was Everything and This Is Where We Live. Her journalism has appeared in The New York Times, Vogue, Elle, Wired, Self, Salon, The Los Angeles Times, and numerous other publications.

Ivy Pochoda is the author of the he critically acclaimed novels Wonder Valley and Visitation Street. Wonder Valley won the 2018 Strand Critics Award for Best Novel and was a finalist Los Angeles Times Book Prize, as well as being chosen as an NPR and Los Angeles Times Book of the Year. Visitation Street was chosen as an Amazon Best Book of 2013, and a Barnes & Noble Discover Great New Writers selection. Her writing has appeared in The New York Times, The Wall Street Journal, The Los Angeles Times & The Los Angeles Review of Books. Her first novel The Art of Disappearing, was published by St. Martin's Press in 2009. She teaches creative writing at the Lamp Arts Studio in Skid Row.

Amy Stewart is the New York Times best-selling author of ten books, including Girl Waits with Gun and the rest of the Kopp Sisters series, which are based on the true story of one of America's first female deputy sheriffs. Her popular nonfiction titles include The Drunken Botanist, Wicked Plants, and Flower Confidential. She lives in Portland, OR.

Daryl Wood Gerber - Moderator
Ellen Byron
Hannah Dennison
Wendall Thomas

Agatha Award-winning **Daryl Wood Gerber** writes the French Bistro Mysteries as well as the nationally bestselling Cookbook Nook Mysteries. As Avery Aames, she pens the popular Cheese Shop Mysteries. Daryl also writes stand-alone suspense which include the Agatha Award-winning Daryl Wood Gerber writes the French Bistro Mysteries as well as the nationally bestselling Cookbook Nook Mysteries. As Avery Aames, she pens the popular Cheese Shop Mysteries. Daryl also writes stand-alone suspense which include the titles DAY OF SECRETS and GIRL ON THE RUN. Fun tidbit: as an actress, Daryl appeared in "Murder, She Wrote." She loves to cook, and she has a frisky Goldendoodle named Sparky who keeps her in line!

Ellen Byron authors the Cajun Country Mystery series. A Cajun Christmas Killing and Body on the Bayou won Lefty Awards and Agatha award nominations. Plantation Shudders was nominated for Agatha, Lefty, and Daphne awards. Mardi Gras Murder was deemed "a winner" by Publishers Weekly. TV credits include Wings, Just Shoot Me, and Fairly OddParents. Fun fact: she worked as a cater-waiter for Martha Stewart.

Hannah Dennison writes The Vicky Hill mysteries and the Honeychurch Hall Mysteries (Constable Crime), both set in the wilds of the Devonshire countryside. British born, Hannah has been an obituary reporter, antique dealer, private jet flight attendant and Hollywood story analyst. Hannah has served on numerous judging committees for Mystery Writers of America and is serving on the MWA board for 2016-2018.

Wendall Thomas teaches in the Graduate Film School at UCLA, lectures internationally on screenwriting, and has worked as an entertainment reporter, script consultant, and film and television writer. Her novel, Lost Luggage, was nominated for both a Lefty and Macavity Award for Best Debut Mystery of 2017 and her short fiction has appeared in the crime anthologies Ladies Night (2015) Last Resort (2017).

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Anne Cleeland - Moderator
Lisa Brackmann
Rachel Howzell Hall
Naomi Hirahara

Anne Cleeland is a lifelong Southern California resident, and currently makes her home in Newport Beach. An attorney by trade, she's been reading mystery stories since her Nancy Drew days, and especially loves Agatha Christie and the other Golden Age British mystery writers. Her Acton & Doyle mystery series features two Scotland Yard detectives, and if you are a fan of Masterpiece Mystery, you may enjoy this series.

Anne also writes a historical series set in 1814 because she loves historicals, too. Being a romantic at heart, all her stories have a strong romantic element. She has four grown children, and one nutty dog.
www.annecleeland.com @annecleeland

Lisa Brackmann is the NYT best-selling author of the Ellie McEnroe trilogy (Rock Paper Tiger), and suspense novels Getaway, Go-Between and Black Swan Rising. Her work has also appeared in The Wall Street Journal, Salon, Travel+Leisure, LARB and CNET. She lives in San Diego with a cat, too many books and a bass ukulele. You can find her online at www.lisabrackmann.com

RACHEL HOWZELL HALL is the author of seven novels, including The Good Sister, co-written with James Patterson, and the Elouise Norton series. The New York Times called Lou Norton "a formidable fighter—someone you want on your side." Featured on NPR's 'Crime in the City' and the NEA weekly podcast, Rachel is on the board of Mystery Writers of America.

NAOMI HIRAHARA is the Edgar Award-winning author of two mystery series set in Los Angeles. Her Mas Arai series, which features a Hiroshima survivor and gardener, has been translated into Japanese, Korean and French. The first, SUMMER OF THE BIG BACHI, is being developed into an independent film. Her Officer Ellie Rush Bicycle Cop series received the 2014 T. Jefferson Parker Mystery Award. She has also published noir short stories, middle-grade fiction and nonfiction books. For more information, go to www.naomihirahara.com