

*Little you know the subtle
electric fire that for your
sake is playing within me*

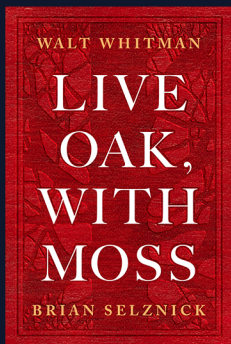
-Walt Whitman



WHITMANIA

UCLA **100** YEARS

Secret love poems, newly illustrated



Brian Selznick



Karen Karbiener

Tuesday, October 15

4 – 6 PM | UCLA POWELL LIBRARY, EAST ROTUNDA

As he was turning forty, Walt Whitman wrote twelve poems in a small handmade book that were intensely private reflections on his attraction to and affection for other men. Titled “Live Oak, With Moss,” the poems were his most adventurous explorations of same-sex love, composed decades before the word “homosexual” came into use. These revolutionary poems were never published by Whitman and have remained unknown to the general public—until now.

New York Times bestselling and Caldecott Award–winning illustrator Brian Selznick (*The Invention of Hugo Cabret*) offers a provocative visual narrative of “Live Oak, With Moss” while Whitman scholar, Dr. Karen Karbiener (New York University) reconstructs the story of the poems’ creation and destruction. Whitman’s reassembled, reinterpreted *Live Oak, With Moss* (Abrams, 2019) serves as a source of inspiration and a cause for celebration.

Free and open to the public. Talk followed by Q&A and book signing; refreshments served. This event is part of Whitmania, the west coast’s largest celebration of Walt Whitman’s bicentennial in 2019. Co-sponsors include UCLA Writing Programs, UCLA Library, and Center for the Art of Performance.

Learn more at whitmania.ucla.edu

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