



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Portland Arts & Lectures Presents Jonathan Lethem

Portland, Ore. – Portland Arts & Lectures is pleased to present **Jonathan Lethem** in the final event of the 2006-2007 Portland Arts & Lectures series. Lethem will appear on **Thursday, April 12, 2007**, at 7:30 p.m. at the **Arlene Schnitzer Concert Hall** (1037 SW Broadway). Tickets are \$26 at [www.literary-arts.org](http://www.literary-arts.org).

The author of 11 books, **Jonathan Lethem's** latest novel, ***You Don't Love Me Yet*** (2007), parodies the alternative band scene while examining the ups and downs of dating in Los Angeles. His previous book, ***The Fortress of Solitude*** (2003), follows two boys, one black and one white, through the politically charged streets of 1970s Brooklyn. A native of New York City's largest borough, Lethem's ***Motherless Brooklyn*** (1999) won the National Book Critics Circle Award and placed him "at his peak Nabokov-meets-Woody-Allen verbal frenzy" (*Bookforum*). His other recent works include the short-story collection ***Men and Cartoons*** (2004) and ***The Disappointment Artist*** (2005), which brings together his essays on writing, music and culture.

A recipient of a 2005 MacArthur "genius grant," Lethem was a founding editor of the cutting-edge magazine *Fence*. His articles have appeared in *Rolling Stone*, *The Believer* and *McSweeney's*. He lives in Brooklyn and Maine.

This evening with Jonathan Lethem is underwritten by **Hoffman Construction Co.** The 2006-2007 Portland Arts & Lectures series is sponsored by Gard & Gerber, Oregon Council for the Humanities, Powell's Books and Willamette University, with major support from *The Oregonian*.

Portland Arts & Lectures will present a special benefit event with David Sedaris on Sunday, April 22, 2007. Literary Arts will announce the 2007-2008 Portland Arts & Lectures series in July.

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**Portland Arts & Lectures** is a program of Literary Arts, a statewide, nonprofit organization that enriches the lives of Oregonians through language and literature. Other programs of Literary Arts are Oregon Book Awards, Oregon Literary Fellowships, Poetry Downtown, Poetry in Motion®, Writers in the Schools and Delve: Readers' Seminars. For more information about Literary Arts, please contact Barbara Verchot at 503.227.2583 or visit [www.literary-arts.org](http://www.literary-arts.org).