
00:25:52 Julie R. Enszer: Welcome to the Sinister Wisdom’s Celebration of the Publication of Magnified by Minnie Bruce Pratt! The opening song is “Blue Moon” performed by Billie Holiday. We are so happy to have you all with us this evening!


00:26:37 Jami (she) & Wild (they): hello from London, UK!

00:26:49 Emma: Hello from Indiana, USA!

00:26:52 lahl: oh thank you all. breath …. thank you all for being here.

00:26:55 Jess St Louis: Hello from Greensboro, NC

00:26:56 keish & camara: We love you Minnie Bruce!!!

00:26:58 Julie R. Enszer: Hello everyone!

00:26:59 Rebecca McGowan (she/her): Hello from Cincinnati, OH!

00:27:02 Deirdre Sinnott: Hello all! Congratulations Minnie Bruce!

00:27:04 Chris: Hello from Syracuse, NY

00:27:15 June Thomas: Hello from Park Slope, Brooklyn!

00:27:22 Betsy Andrews: Hi from Brooklyn! Minnie Bruce, so excited about your new book!!!

00:27:25 lorrie sprecher: love from Syracuse! Hi, Minnie Bruce! Congratulations!

00:27:28 katie adams: Katie, Elizabeth and Gaelan here from Boone, NC!!!

00:27:31 Will Thomas: Hello Minnie Bruce! From Washington, DC :) 

00:27:31 Brynna Fish: Hello from Cleveland Hts, City of Dykes!

00:27:35 Diane (she/they): Hello from formerly Brooklyn, and currently Owego, NY!

00:27:39 Deborah Richards (she/her): Hello and thank you for this event from Western Mass. Thank you, Minnie Bruce.

00:27:41 Lorraine Fontana: Lorraine here from ATL, land stolen from the Muscogee/Creek people. Hello, Minnie Bruce!! So good to see you, even on a zoom. :-)

00:27:47 Becca (she, her ♥): hi from Camden, Maine. so excited to hear you read, Minnie Bruce! ♥


00:27:52 Anne Myles: Hello from Waterloo, Iowa -- LOVED the book.

00:28:03 Dianne Mathiowetz: This is so wonderful, Minnie Bruce. Watching from Atlanta.

00:28:05 Pam McMichael: Hello and love to you Minnie Bruce!

00:28:07 Hooper Schultz (he/him): Hi from Occoneechee land. Also known as Hillsborough, NC!

00:28:11 Aly (He/Him): Hi from Syracuse. Congrats Minnie Bruce! I
can only stay for the beginning but grateful for you.

00:28:13 Anne's iPad: Hi from Montpelier, VT
00:28:21 Julie R. Enszer: So great to see people here from all over!
00:28:22 LaShonda Mims: On the road in Tennessee. Hello to all and thank you, Minnie Bruce – and to Julie E.

00:28:36 iPhone: Hello from the Niagara Region in Ontario, Canada. Just across the border from Buffalo, NY
00:28:36 Clark Pomerleau (he/him/his): Hello from Washington State and hearty congratulations to Minnie Bruce Pratt on your 9th poetry book!
00:28:47 ben: Hi Minnie Bruce – so excited for this! Love from Southeast PA.
00:28:51 Steve Gillis (he/him/his): Solidarity from the Boston school bus drivers' union, USW Local 8751! Congratulations to our dear friend and honorary member, Minnie Bruce Pratt!
00:28:52 LeiLani Dowell: Hello from Durham, NC. So happy to be here, Minnie Bruce <3
00:28:55 Ruth Weaver: Hi from the Kent-Weavers in Mass.
00:29:04 Joe Kadi: Thanks to Sinister Wisdom and all the folks who made this happen. And Minnie Bruce, I can't wait to hear from the new book! Your poetry is so wonderful.
00:29:05 Kathy Weisfeld: Hi from Burnsville, NC, home of the Carolina Mountains Literary Festival.
00:29:26 Shannon: Hello from Kentucky ☝️
00:29:33 Joanna Raczynska: Hello from Baltimore, MD from Joanna (once a student of Minnie-Bruce’s at umcp)!!
00:29:38 Maureen F Curtin she/her/hers: Hey, Minnie Bruce! In your backyard here in Syracuse!
00:29:39 Kathy Weisfeld: Minnie Bruce was so important to me in my “early” years. Still is...
00:29:43 Emma: Just subscribed to Sinister Wisdom last month and got my first issues a couple weeks ago. Much love and many thanks!
00:29:50 Kris Kleindienst she/her: Hello from St. Louis and Left Bank Books!!
00:29:52 Deborah Richards (she/her): Minnie Bruce’s website: https://www.mbrpratt.org/
00:29:53 K Cox / Occaneechi Saponi Piedmont NC: Hi Minnie!! So glad to hear your read. <3
00:30:01 Julie R. Enszer: We will make the full chat available to Minnie Bruce so do make comments to her – she will see them all!
00:30:08 Sarah & Nora: Hi from Memphis!!
00:30:15 Deborah Richards (she/her): Subscribe to Sinister Wisdom http://www.sinisterwisdom.org/subscribe
00:30:20 Amalia G-L (she/hers): hello & so much love from chicago, IL
00:31:40 Ben Power (he/him): Hello from the Sexual Minorities
Archives and the Leslie Feinberg Library in Holyoke, Massachusetts!
www.sexualminoritiesarchives.org

00:31:47 Jess St Louis: Minnie’s work has been so important to me as a femme lesbian of trans experience committed to building power against racial capitalism. Identity: Skin, Blood, Heart as an essay and the collection s/he are two of my favorite pieces of writing ever. <3 Thank you Minnie.

00:32:22 comet they/them: <3

00:38:42 Rebecca McGowan (she/her): that was beautiful <3

00:43:02 Jess St Louis: mmm. <3 that poem is so powerful!

00:43:33 PJ DiPietro (they, them, their): love it

00:44:39 Sandy Yannone she/they: LOVE this poem so much.

00:44:53 Marty P, Maine: What this beauty makes of us

00:47:52 Joanna Raczynska: ❤️

00:48:38 Sandy Yannone she/they: WOW

00:49:03 Betsy Andrews: “the poem as the locked room”

00:50:10 Melody Berning: Compelling as ever.

00:50:23 PJ DiPietro (they, them, their): sigh... ensouled words

00:50:52 Sandy Yannone she/they: so amazing... “The History of the World”

00:51:25 shannon: Thank you for sharing your soul with us. Your poetry is so powerful. Leslie will be carried in all of us❤️

00:52:17 Marty P, Maine: ‘I am not done’

00:52:53 Jess St Louis (she/her): yes. This discussion of history makes me think of Joan Nestle’s saying that if the personal is political, the erotic/more personal is historical. <3

00:53:12 Kathy Weisfeld: My partner of 31 years, died. You capture all that that is!

00:53:19 Rebecca: 'you took away the person I was with you'

00:53:24 Clark Pomerleau (he/him/his): Wow, powerful about losing the self that was with someone--if only we were still alive.

00:53:57 sarajordeno: Rebecca – that is the sentence that stay with me.

00:54:02 Diane (she/they): so much love for you, Minnie-Bruce

00:54:07 Pam McMichael: so moving and powerful, Minnie Bruce... all of it

00:54:11 sarajordeno: Thank you so much

00:54:17 Betsy Andrews: “what’s the use of poetry? not one word comes back to take away pain”

00:54:19 Terry McGovern’s iPhone: Beautiful, beautiful, old friend. Thank you

00:54:20 Julie R. Enszer: Order Magnified from Charis to receive a signed copy! https://www.charisbooksandmore.com/book/9780819580061

00:54:26 Jess St Louis (she/her): Thank you Minnie Bruce!

00:54:30 keish & camara: Applause and tears
June Thomas: Amazing. Thank you!
Chris: !!!
Deborah Meadows: Thank you. The moving poems of loss, grieving, so tender.
Kris Kleindienst she/her: So much applause! Love, love, love.
Hooper Schultz (he/him): Just order Magnified from Charis! Was so easy online!
Karen L (she/her): Thank you thank you thank you
sarajordeno: Applauds here in my zoom silence
Randy: Amazing, Thank you Minnie Bruce!!
Sandy Yannone she/they: Whew... that was so, so moving, beautiful, transcendent...with immense gratitude... love, love, love!
Deirdre Sinnott: Devastating. Beautiful. Leslie, Presente!
joe kadi: That was so beautiful, Minnie Bruce. What a treat to hear you. Thank you. Powerful words.
Jen Margulies (she/her/hers): So beautiful and deeply true. Thank you <3
Clare Coss: Clare Coss - thank you - so profound and illuminating-"If only we were still alive"
Jess Weinberg (he/they): It is wonderful to hear you read, Minnie Bruce. I think it's been decades since I've heard your voice.
Ruth Weaver: This is Katie saying thank you, so so fierce and beautiful.
Tanya Olson: So much love, respect, and admiration for you Minnie Bruce from here in Silver Spring MD. Your work always moves me.
Brynna Fish: Wow! Hearing you read YOUR words, your world with Leslie, sharing your soul. thank you so so much.
Sandy Yannone she/they: Yes, profoundly vulnerable
Helen-Renee Brawner: Having the book in my hand & your voice in my mind & heart whenever reading the print is a priceless gift, Minnie Bruce!
Becca (she, her ❤️): thinking of Leslie too and revolutionaries, art, change, fight, love.
Sandy Yannone she/they: One of the most striking couples ever... was always amazing to be in their presence...
A Whitham: I have a question about grief and the creative process, if you don’t mind sharing. I so resonated with your line “what’s the use of poetry? not one word comes back to take away pain” After Leslie died, did you write immediately? Did it take time to come back?
Simon Kent: Thanks for your reading Minnie Bruce!
PJ DiPietro (they, them, their): thank you for your honesty, Minnie-Bruce
Chris Schwertman: Minnie Bruce, your poetry has been such an inspiration to me over the years. I have been teaching your poetry and Leslie’s Stone Butch Blues for the past 25 years with my students at Nassau Community College, NY. I still cherish the time you came to our college and spoke with the LGBT students in our PRIDE club. I have grieved with you for the loss of Leslie Feinberg. Your book of poems Magnified, is profoundly moving. Thank you for sharing
such intimate feelings of your struggle with loss. I will always remember and honor Leslie for zir’s warrior spirit. I look forward to future work by you. Congratulations on Magnified.

01:03:54 Mary Alford: Vignettes connected to the deeper ideas.... Thank you from NYC.

01:04:16 Terry McGovern’s iPhone: Sending so much love.

01:04:27 Karen Light (she/her): Reading S/he has healed my femme heart by giving me a reflection of myself. Minnie, yours and Leslie’s love for one another gives me hope that the love I seek in my own life is possible. I can’t tell you how much your stunningly beautiful writing means to me, its archetypal femme voice. Thank you for all your work, your deep heart, your activism, your life.

01:05:08 Jess St Louis (she/her): YEP, thank you Minnie for naming the role of anti-trans discrimination/harm as life and death issues in this moment of massive anti-trans bills. And what that means for those of us who are lesbian and trans and see themselves as part of butch/femme legacies. <3

01:06:21 Jen Margulies (she/her/hers): So grateful that you’ve found a way to stay connected to your creative process. Thank you for your lifelong commitment to showing how life is, how life can be.

01:07:13 Diane (she/they): I have been rereading “Strange Flesh” in Walking Back Up Depot Street. I think your poems change over the years in their variegations of the exquisite. Thank you, Minnie-Bruce. I will always remember when you and Leslie visited with the Binghamton Pride Coalition. The poem you wrote called “Thaw” has been on my refrigerator from your SU reading at Bird Library. My copy of S/he is in Cuse, where I haven’t been since a year ago... Thank you for being with so many of us, all of our Dyke lives. Me included.

01:07:16 Karen Light (she/her): The poems you read tonight carried the echoes of seeing death, your grief and loss, and even the ephemeral beauty of dissolution.

01:10:18 Judith McDaniel: Minnie Bruce, that “walking yourself into a poem” sounds like a way I might be able to get started writing again. Thanks.

01:11:07 K Cox / Occoneechi Saponi Piedmont NC: you keep leslie alive in your work, and for all of us and that's life after death in the most gracious and special other-worldy reality. thank you.

01:11:23 Terry McGovern’s iPhone: Yes.

01:11:39 Sandy Yannone she/they: This is such an amazing opportunity, and if you’d like to see and support Minnie Bruce again, beyond her launch, she will be participating in Cultivating Voices LIVE Poetry’s 2nd annual Poetry PRIDE Parade on June 27th, 3pm Eastern. I’m the host. And she will be reading in our New Books Showcase on Sunday, August 22nd, 3pm Eastern, reading with Hilda Raz, Jehanne Dubrow, and Elana Bell. Here’s the link to our Facebook Group page. And my email for more information. All welcome!

01:11:51 Terry McGovern’s iPhone: For sure.

01:11:57 Sandy Yannone she/they: We are always making the future in the present... MBP

01:12:05 Katie Cumiskey: ...the definition of a lesbian afterlife?...
01:12:23 Melody Berning: What a tremendous testament to past eras, writing process, and deep abiding presence, as yourself, and your close bond with Leslie. I am thankful you continue to write your poems.

01:12:47 Jim Schley: “We are always making another world with what we say and what we do.” Always, and in all ways. Thank you from Jim in Vermont.

01:13:04 Jess St Louis (she/her): Question: What’s the relationship between the erotic/longing, grief, and the aliveness of generating a new world?

01:14:10 Jess St Louis (she/her): Oof, MBP, I felt that about being alone.

01:14:34 Joe Kadi: Does anyone have the link to the Weekly World newspaper?

01:14:45 Loan Tran – Durham – they/them: You can find it here: www.workers.org

01:14:54 Joe Kadi: Great, thanks.

01:15:27 Loan Tran – Durham – they/them: Leslie’s Lavender & Red series that Minnie Bruce mentioned earlier is there as well.

01:15:35 PJ DiPietro (they, them, their): Thursdays are a gem just because of your weekly poem, Minnie-Bruce.

01:15:47 Sandy Yannone she/they: “We are always making the future in the present.” Eavan Boland speaks eloquently about the past being different than history. As a history maker, how do you reconcile the past and history as an activist/writer?

01:16:31 Terry McGovern’s iPhone: Yes

01:16:49 Brynna Fish: Poetry and Music, which is putting poetry to music.

01:16:59 Pam McMichael: Yes...“poetry helps us stay alive”... MPB

01:17:05 Jeanine DrJazz Normand: poetry can save the world, especially lesbian poetry.

01:17:23 Betsy Andrews: Yes, poetry helps us stay alive. thank you!

01:17:27 Jess St Louis (she/her): Yes – both this realness about the distinction of between poetry and political action – AND that they’re both worthy.

01:17:37 Sandy Yannone she/they: I underhand this so much. i’ve experienced and witnessed this each week in the readings i’ve attended and hosted all year long. Never more grateful for poetry than in this year.

01:17:58 Sandy Yannone she/they: It is the essence of Rukeyser’s THE LIFE OF POETRY


01:18:34 Liza Rankow: yes, All of it!

01:18:43 K Cox / Occaneechi Saponi PiEdmont NC: <3

01:18:52 Melody Berning: So much YES! to writing poetry to keep alive. Many of us need the vital reminders.

The animated Minnie Bruce Pratt thrives on.

01:19:06 Katie Adams: Thank you so much Minnie Bruce...
01:19:11 Jeanine DrJazz Normand: 👍🌈❤
01:19:12 keish & camara: Crying Minnie Bruce crying
01:19:22 Angela A (North Carolina): the dew in the tulip's eye...beautiful
01:21:18 Sandy Yannone she/they: History is the thing to challenge...
01:21:36 Melody Berning: Thank you to Minnie Bruce Pratt and Sinister Wisdom and everyone showing up here.
01:21:52 Casey Moore (she/her/hers): http://www.sinisterwisdom.org/sw119
01:22:06 Diane McNaron: "Remember me as a revolutionary communist." ~Leslie Feinberg. But this is about M B Pratt. Not a Lesbian poet; not a woman poet; one of the great American poets who will attain more and more recognition as this epoch draws to an end.
01:22:10 Casey Moore (she/her/hers): http://www.sinisterwisdom.org/events
01:22:24 Casey Moore (she/her/hers): http://sinisterwisdom.org/crimeagainstnature
http://www.sinisterwisdom.org/sw120
01:22:49 Ruth Weaver: Kent-Weavers send their love— and I (Ruth) am so lucky to hear such wonderful work and words from you <3
01:23:08 Ben Power (he/him): Thank you, MBP!
01:23:15 Hooper Schultz (he/him): Thank you, MBP!
01:23:25 Rebecca: thank you. this was gift!
01:23:35 Jen Margulies (she/her/hers): Jax and I are sending love, Minnie Bruce <3
01:23:53 Steven Reigns: Greetings from West Hollywood. So thrilled to hear this reading from the new book!!! What a wonderful event. Thank you!!!
01:23:57 liza rankow: Much love to you, Minnie Bruce! <3
01:24:00 Chris Schwertman: Thank you, thank you Minnie Bruce!! Such a joy to share this evening with you. What a gift to all of us!
01:24:05 charles flowers’s iPhone: Love you and your work MBP!!!
01:24:11 Caitlin: Thank you so much for sharing this work with us
01:24:17 Lise Weil: an amazing reading so look forward to having the book in my hands
01:24:17 PJ DiPietro (they, them, their): you and Leslie are always in my heart, Minnie-Bruce. Last week, we read Leslie's Stone Butch Blues. hugs!
01:24:20 Diane McNaron: BTW. you look absolutely wonderful!
01:24:28 Sarah & Nora: <3<3<3
01:24:31 Shannon: Thank you so much!!
01:24:31 Katie Adams: So true....
01:24:34 Jeanine DrJazz Normand: I first met you ages ago at WomonWrites,a
01:24:35 Lorrie Sprecher: yay for syracuse! hahahaha!
01:24:36 Ruth Weaver: lots of love <3 <3 <3 <3 <3
01:24:41 Kali Lightfoot: Thank you, Minnie Bruce! So much heart.
01:24:42 Julie R. Enszer: http://sinisterwisdom.org/crimeagainstnature
01:24:44 Karen Light (she/her): Yes, she does. Minnie, you are so beautiful.
01:24:48 sarajordeno: Your work has had tremendous importance to me, in understanding myself, my relationship with my children, my relationship to the world. Thank you.
01:24:54 Maureen F Curtin she/her/hers: Thank you for the distinction you drew between poetry and politics as structural, material transformation. It's not an easy claim to make in some settings.
01:24:57 Freesia McKee (she/her): Thanks, Minnie Bruce. Your and Leslie's activism and writing, apart and together, has meant so much to me.
01:25:07 lorrie sprecher: it is comforting to me that you live here in Syracuse.
01:25:07 Julie R. Enszer: http://www.sinisterwisdom.org/sw120
01:25:09 Leslie Lopez: Thank you, Minnie. I have read your work for years and have always looked forward to your new work. Thanks, Julie, for inviting Minnie to read. A great evening. Leslie Lopez
01:25:14 Julie R. Enszer: http://www.sinisterwisdom.org/events
01:25:14 Jess St Louis (she/her): So, so so grateful for you Minnie Bruce. <3
01:25:32 Jeanine DrJazz Normand: and also at Charis Books & More several times you are such an inspiration
01:25:33 Julie R. Enszer: Video will be posted here tomorrow or Thursday: http://www.sinisterwisdom.org/sw119
01:25:36 comet they/them: feeling hugged by your poetry
01:25:39 Lorraine Fontana: Thanks, sister Minnie Bruce, for all life's work for social justice and to help create that new world that IS possible! Love & Hugs from ATL. :-)
01:25:47 Thamires Zabotto: Greetings from Brazil! I've read a few of your work online and can't wait to have your book in my hands. I wish you much happiness and hope to hear you speak more often! Beijos
01:26:05 Pam McMichael: what I miss in zoom and the chat is the audible moan....I had so many during your reading.... thank you and so much love
01:26:07 michael: Thanks for all of it, Minnie-Bruce. Lots of love
01:26:12 Laura Jaffee: Thank you, Minnie Bruce! This was lovely; so grateful for your words. Sending much love
01:26:13 Maureen F Curtin she/her/hers: "The forward"! Thank you, Minnie-Bruce.
01:26:14 Jessica M Bucciarelli: Thank you, Minnie Bruce!
01:26:14 Ruth Weaver: applause!!!! big love!!!
01:26:15 sarajordeno: Thank you
01:26:19 ben: Thank you Minnie Bruce!
01:26:23 Jess St Louis (she/her): *claps*
01:26:28 Ilan Cosmas: thank you, that was wonderful ❤
01:26:29 Sarah & Nora: So much gratitude!!
01:26:31 keish & camara: Thank you so much Minnie Bruce. Much love from keish and camara
01:26:34 comet they/them: <3
01:26:36 Beth Levine (she/her): Thanks and thanks, such a wonderful sharing.
01:26:38 Suzanne Gardinier: so beautiful, poet, thank you for the medicine—big love from NYC
01:26:38 Julie R. Enszer: “The L Word” by Yer Girlfriend
01:26:41 Donna Calacone: Thank you from Western Mass.
01:27:04 LeiLani Dowell: love you and miss you, Minnie Bruce. thank you so much!
01:27:07 Hasmik Djoulakian: Thank you, Minnie Bruce <3
01:27:10 katie adams: Thank you Minnie Bruce.
01:27:27 Becca (she, her 💗): 💗💗💗 thank you. so great to see you and inspiring. heartache. the forward. “we almost can’t get up, but we do.”
01:27:40 ellen sturtz: Much thanks from the California central coast... tears of gratitude.
01:28:19 jennifer abod: SO good to hear you speak about your process, walking, surviving, and not able to write after Leslie died. Congratulations on your book. Yes, if we didn’t have zoom, I wouldn’t have been able to be at the event, no doubt. Best to you and your work and words, Jennifer
01:29:22 Sandy Yannone she/they: So good to be with you tonight... I will see you again soon. Much love and solitary! <3 And thanks to Sinister Wisdom... beautiful job, Julie!
01:29:58 Julie R. Enszer: Thank you all for coming tonight!
01:30:05 Patrick B: So grateful to be here, Minnie Bruce. A moving evening...
01:30:10 Jess St Louis (she/her): Have a good night y’all <3
01:30:32 Julie R. Enszer: So Wonderful to be with you all!