



LIVE- Carmen Boullosa + Mónica Ramón Ríos: The Book of Anna + Cars on Fire

Wednesday May 13 | 7:00PM - 8:00PM

This talk will be broadcast live via Zoom.
[Register to attend here.](#)

Join us for a conversation between Carmen Boullosa, author of *THE BOOK OF ANNA* (Coffee House Press), and Mónica Ramón Ríos, author of *CARS ON FIRE* (Open Letter).

About *THE BOOK OF ANNA*:

Saint Petersburg, 1905. Behind the gates of the Karenin Palace, Sergei, son of Anna Karenina, meets Tolstoy in his dreams and finds reminders of his mother everywhere: the vivid portrait that the tsar intends to acquire and the opium-infused manuscripts Anna wrote just before her death, which open a trapdoor to a wild feminist fairy tale. Across the city, Clementine, an anarchist seamstress, and Father Gapon, the charismatic leader of the proletariat, plan protests that embroil the downstairs members of the Karenin household in their plots and tip the country ever closer to revolution. Boullosa tells a polyphonic and subversive tale of the Russian revolution through the lens of Tolstoy's most beloved work.

About *CARS ON FIRE*:

Cars on Fire, Mónica Ramón Ríos's electric, uncompromising English-language debut, unfolds through a series of female characters—the writer, the patient, the immigrant, the professor, the student—whose identities are messy and ever-shifting. A speechwriter is employed writing for would-be dictators, but plays in a rock band as a means of protest. A failed Marxist cuts off her own head as a final poetic act. With incredible formal range, from the linear to the more free-wheeling, the real to the fantastical to the dystopic, Ríos offers striking, jarring glimpses into life as a woman and an immigrant. Set in New York City, New Jersey, and Chile's La Zona Central, the stories in *Cars on Fire* offer powerful remembrances to those lost to violence, and ultimately make the case for the power of art, love, and feminine