

A FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION OF



UCLA
Chicano Studies
Research Center
presents



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John Rechy's *City of Night* (1963)

FROM THE STREET, TO THE PARADE,
TO THE MOVEMENTS

Wednesday, October 23, 2013 • 4 p.m. – 7 p.m. • 306 Royce Hall, UCLA

When *City of Night* was first published in 1963, it was hailed as a landmark novel in American literature and paved the way for what would become gay literature. No other writer had traversed the streets of major U.S. cities of night as did John Rechy with his Mexican American character. In 1963, most readers were not aware that El Paso native Rechy was born Juan Francisco Flores Rechy, a child of Mexican immigrants. Through the 1960s and 1970s, Rechy advocated on behalf of the Chicano Movement as a member of two marginalized groups. His autoethnographic essay "El Paso del Norte" from 1958 and *City of Night* anticipated many of the themes that would define Chicana/o literature into the twenty-first century. In 2013, we celebrate John Rechy, the Mexican American writer, the gay writer, and the L.A. writer.

Co-sponsored by the UCLA César E. Chávez Department of Chicana/o Studies and the UCLA Department of Spanish and Portuguese

PARTICIPANTS

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