Leslie Marmon Silko: I was born in Albuquerque in 1948 and grew up at Laguna Pueblo where my father and family still reside. For the past thirty years I’ve lived in the Tucson mountains with a number of parrots and dogs. Lately, when I’m not writing, I paint star maps or grasshopper beings in acrylics to aid me in the completion of the novel I call Blue Sevens. My novels include Ceremony, Almanac of the Dead, and Gardens in the Dunes. My other books include Storyteller, Sacred Water, Yellow Woman and a Beauty of the Spirit, and Laguna Woman. My letters were published with those of James A. Wright in A Delicacy and Strength of Lace. In 1980 with a National Endowment for the Humanities grant, I made the film, Arrowboy and the Witches. In 1981 I received a five-year fellowship from the John D. and Catherine T. McArthur Foundation. My memoir of walks in the hills, rattlesnakes, and rain clouds, titled Turquoise Ledge will be published by Penguin in the Fall of 2010. The novella, Ocean Story, and the novel, Blue Sevens will follow.

Free of charge and open to the public.

The Simon Ortiz and Labriola Center Lecture on Indigenous Land, Culture, and Community at Arizona State University brings notable scholars and speakers to Arizona for public lectures twice a year. These speakers address topics and issues across disciplines in the arts, humanities, sciences, and politics. Underscoring Indigenous American experiences and perspectives, this series seeks to create and celebrate knowledge that evolves from an Indigenous worldview that is inclusive and that is applicable to all walks of life.

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