

Slam Poet - Shane Koyczan is Coming

Award winning slam poet & OUC alumni Shane Koyczan (www.koyczan.com) will be performing at the Kalamalka Campus on Tuesday February 14 at 8 p.m.. Tickets are \$5 for OC students and \$10 for the general public. Call Margaret at 545-7291, local 2213 for more information. The following poem was written by Annette Sharkey, an Arts student enrolled in John Lent's creative writing course.

CORE

I sit on a point of perception.
Eyes closed, arms curled, chin resting on my knees.
Body rocking in a private rhythm of contemplation.

I am alone. Waiting. Hovering...
I am the only living organism in this world of possibilities.
I am the only one to appreciate the silence
of shadow meeting darkness,
breath meeting air,
body meeting earth.

I observe from above and below and to either side
the multitude of road signs that
spike in ragged succession from
the middle of my nowhere.

I see inside my mind and feel outside my skin
the end result of each direction.
These are my crossroads.
The hesitancy and spontaneity of a million almost moments,
as numerous as a lifetime of breathing
but as misleading as a wave.
Each crest
a creation and extinction
within the lifespan of a blink.

I feel the rise and fall of possibilities.
They slip in front, and behind,
and between who I am
and what I might become.
An infinite choice of lifetimes.

Yet here, breathing deeply,
I am unchanged
despite my potential to learn.

The circles of my creation
are reflected in the circles of my eyes
the cycles of my lungs, the very movement of my landscape.
In this moment I understand the inevitability of my life –

the beginning and the end
and everything in between.

I understand that I am, in essence,
unchangeable
in a realm of my own making.