Writing as Activism

What is the role of the writer and intellectual in moments of crisis? Could writing and art cultivate change? This master class will focus on the work of the Palestinian-Israeli writer Sayed Kashua and the possible ways his writing corresponds to complex questions regarding Israeli, Palestinian, and Israeli-Palestinian identities.

Sayed Kashua is a prominent author and journalist, born in Tira, Israel. Writing in Hebrew and identifying as a Palestinian citizen of Israel, Kashua is known for his books and humorous columns in the Israeli newspaper Ha’aretz. He is the author of three novels: Dancing Arabs, Let it Be Morning, and Second Person Singular (all published in English by Grove Atlantic). Kashua is the winner of the prestigious Bernstein Prize. In a humorous, tongue-in-cheek style, Kashua addresses the problems faced by Arabs in Israel, caught between two worlds. He is the writer and creator of the hit Israeli TV shows "Arab Labor" and "The Writer." In 2004, Kashua was awarded the Prime Minister’s Prize in Literature. His novel Dancing Arabs has been adapted into the feature film, "A Borrowed Identity," which premiered in 2014 at the Telluride Film Festival.

Guests are welcome to bring lunch to the lecture and discussion.