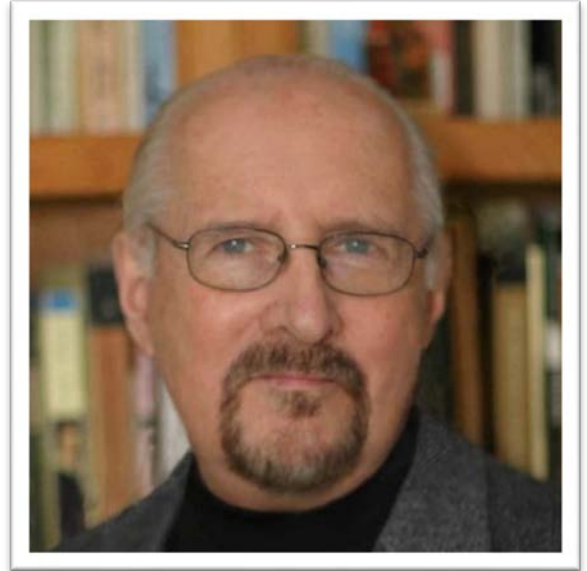


Published Writers of Rossmoor Featured Author for December 2015 - Richard Devlin

Barbara Kirbach, PWR Publicity Board Member and Featured Authors Coordinator

The published Writers of Rossmoor's (PWR) December 2015 featured writer is Richard Devlin. He is the author of an historical novel, "The Cult: A Novel of Two Norman Kingdoms." There will be displays in the Rossmoor Library during the month.



Set in England and Arab Norman Sicily during the late 12th century, the story follows the fates of three pupils of an English scholar who become caught in a web of deceit and threatened by an ancient Gnostic cult.

"The Cult" in the title is based on the writings of the early Christian heretic Basilides of Alexandria, Egypt, an actual historical figure of the second century. Basilides wrote of a mysterious figure called Abraxas, a power "greater than God and Satan." But, as the author points out the personal political and religious conflicts faced by his characters are strikingly similar to those of our own time.

Devlin moved to the Bay Area after retiring from his position as chairman of the Art Department at Carlow University in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, where he taught both studio art and art history. An artist and published writer on art, he has had 15 solo exhibitions of his paintings in Pennsylvania and California. He is currently a member of both PWR the Rossmoor Writing Group.

Published by Undercroft Books in April 2015, "The Cult" is available in paperback and as a Kindle e-book from Amazon.