



MEDIA ADVISORY

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Contact: Rachel Brichta

[Weiser Center for Europe and Eurasia](http://www.weisercenter.umich.edu)

University of Michigan

Phone: 734.764.0351

E-mail: weisercenter@umich.edu

Andrei Codrescu to Deliver Politics of Writing Lecture

Renowned poet, essayist, and novelist to address University of Michigan community on the topic of communist Romania's collapse and what followed

On Wednesday, December 9 at 7:00 pm, Andrei Codrescu will deliver a public lecture titled “How to Make a Revolution: A Guide to Romania’s Fin-de-Siècle Media Spectacle as Performed by a Dying Regime, a Willing Populace, and the International Press Corps.”

Andrei Codrescu’s career spans four decades as novelist, poet, journalist, filmmaker, commentator, and educator. His work has been distinguished with numerous awards, including the Peabody Award and the Pushcart Prize. He was MacCurdy Distinguished Professor of English at Louisiana State University from 1984 until 2009, and continues to edit *Exquisite Corpse: A Journal of Life and Letters*, an online journal he founded at LSU in 1983. His most recent book is *The Posthuman Dada Guide: tzara and lenin play chess* (Princeton 2009).

About his upcoming lecture Codrescu states, “I covered the events in Romania in 1989-1990 for NPR and ABC News, and I documented the return to my native country in *The Hole in the Flag: an Exile’s Story of Return & Revolution* (Morrow 1991, Avon 1992). I have returned numerous times since and I started writing in Romanian again, picking up the thread severed at age 19 in 1965. Now, twenty years after the coup, or “revolution” that ended in the execution of Nicolae and Elena Ceaușescu, Romania is a different country, a member of the European Union, and an ardent convert to capitalism. My talk will focus on reality and appearances in Romania, and the role of the media, of which I am a part, in shaping the images of the “revolution” and those of the new Romania.”

Andrei Codrescu will speak for 45 minutes, and welcomes questions after the talk. He will be introduced

by Andrei Markovits, Arthur F. Thurnau Professor and Karl W. Deutsch Collegiate Professor of Comparative Politics and German Studies at the University of Michigan.

LOCATION: Rackham Auditorium, 915 E. Washington, Ann Arbor

SPONSORS: The lecture is sponsored by the Center for Russian and East European Studies, Avant Garde Interest Group, Center for European Studies-European Union Center, Department of English, Department of Germanic Languages and Literatures, International Institute, MFA in Creative Writing Program, and Michigan Public Radio. Codrescu's visit is a sponsored project in the Weiser Center for Europe and Eurasia's fall series, "The Nines: Brinks, Cusps, and Perceptions of Possibility—from 1789-2009." The lecture also is among several lectures, programs, and performances presented by the Weiser Center for Europe and Eurasia in the Fall 2009 "Focus: Romania" series, which is co-sponsored in part by the American Romanian Festival.

WEB LINKS: www.ii.umich.edu/wcee

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