Algren, A Life
Mary Wisniewski

Tuesday, March 7, 2017
6 pm
The Newberry
60 W. Walton St., Chicago

Algren, A Life is the definitive biography of Nelson Algren, one of the best-known writers of mid-twentieth-century America. Chicago journalist Mary Wisniewski interviewed dozens of Algren’s inner circle, to craft an account as entertaining as it is meticulously researched. Algren reveals new details about the writer’s life, work, personality, and habits, digging beneath the street-crawling man’s man stereotype to show a funny, sensitive, and romantic but self-destructive artist. This fresh look at the man whose tough but humorous style and compassionate message enchanted readers and fellow writers and whose boyish charm seduced many women is indispensable to anyone interested in twentieth-century American literature.

After her talk, Ms. Wisniewski will sign copies of the book in the Newberry lobby. Algren, A Life will be available for purchase in the Newberry Bookstore. Your purchase helps to support the Newberry Library, and this program’s featured author.

Mary Wisniewski is a reporter at the Chicago Tribune and former Reuters investigative reporter covering Midwest crime and politics. Previously a columnist for the Chicago Sun-Times and a reporter for Chicago Lawyer, Ms. Wisniewski has won numerous awards for reporting. She also has taught creative writing and published literary reviews. She is an active participant in the Nelson Algren Committee, is past president of the Chicago Headline Club, and appears frequently on local television and radio.

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