

鐵和絲

IRON & SILK Mark Salzman



Mark Salzman

Mark Salzman, author and cellist, is the author of the novels *The Laughing Sutra* and *The Soloist*, which was a finalist for the Los Angeles Times Book Prize for fiction. His most recent novel is *Lying Awake*, a provocative work about a Carmelite nun in a spiritual crisis.

Mark Salzman says that he really wanted to grow up to become a master of the Chinese martial art of Kung Fu. He was accepted at Yale at 16 because of his proficiency on the cello, but changed his majors to Chinese language and philosophy, which eventually took him to mainland China (Changsha in Hunan Province) where he spent two years teaching English and studying traditional martial arts at their source.

His first book, *Iron & Silk*, is a nonfiction account of his experiences living and working in China. It was a finalist for the Pulitzer Prize for nonfiction and received the Christopher Award.

His other nonfiction works include a memoir, *Lost in Place: Growing Up Absurd in Suburbia*, and his most recent book, *True Notebook*, an account of his experiences as a writing teacher at a maximum security prison for juvenile offenders.

Mark Salzman is currently at work on a novel involving pre-emptive and uninhibited warfare, divine authority, and escape, which is set in 13th century Mongolia.

Summer Reading

Committee

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