

MID-MANHATTAN LIBRARY  
PRESENTS

# Hard-boiled Mysteries

## KILLING WITH AN EDGE

From Hammett and Chandler to Parker and Paretsky, hard-boiled crime stories have, from the 1920s to today, offered glimpses into the gritty world of tough guys and femmes fatales. What makes hard-boiled fiction work? How has it evolved? What is its future? What is its relation to film noir? Our panelists will explore questions like these—and those from the audience—in a lively discussion about the mean streets and those who walk them.

### FEATURING

Mystery Writers of America / New York Chapter

- LEONARD CASSUTO (MODERATOR)
- IRA BERKOWITZ
- TOM COFFEY
- CHARLES SALZBERG
- JASON STARR



TUESDAY, MARCH 23<sup>RD</sup>, 2010  
6:30 P.M. ON THE 6<sup>TH</sup> FLOOR



Mid-Manhattan Library  
The New York Public Library  
40<sup>th</sup> Street and 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
New York, NY 10016  
212-340-0837

**LEONARD CASSUTO**, professor of English at Fordham University, is the author of *Hard-Boiled Sentimentality: The Secret History of American Crime Stories* (Columbia), named one of the year's Ten Best crime and mystery books of 2008 by the *LA Times* (the only nonfiction book so honored), and shortlisted for the Edgar and Macavity Awards. Mr. Cassuto writes widely about American crime fiction, and is also an award-winning journalist on subjects ranging from science to sports.

[www.lcassuto.com](http://www.lcassuto.com)



After bidding farewell to advertising, Brooklyn native **IRA BERKOWITZ** began writing crime novels set in Hell's Kitchen. The first book in the Jackson Steeg Mystery Series, *Family Matters*, won the Washington Irving Award for fiction. He repeated with *Old Flame. Sinners' Ball*, the third book in the series was published December 2009.

[www.iraberowitz.com](http://www.iraberowitz.com)

**TOM COFFEY** is the author of two widely praised hard-boiled novels: *The Serpent Club* (1999) and *Blood Alley* (2008). He has been an editor at the *New York Times* since 1997. He lives in Manhattan with his wife and daughter.

[www.bloodalleyenovel.com](http://www.bloodalleyenovel.com)

**CHARLES SALZBERG'S** work has appeared in *New York* magazine, *Esquire*, *GQ*, the *New York Times*, and elsewhere. He is the author of a number of non-fiction books, including *From Set Shot to Slam Dunk*, *An Oral History of the NBA*. His novel, *Swann's Last Song* was nominated for a Shamus Award for Best First PI Novel.

[www.Charlessalzberg.com](http://www.Charlessalzberg.com)

**JASON STARR** is the best-selling author of ten crime novels that are published in many languages. His latest books are *The Chill*, a graphic novel from DC Comics/Vertigo Crime, and the thrillers *The Follower* and *Panic Attack* from St. Martin's Press. He lives in New York City.

[www.jasonstarr.com](http://www.jasonstarr.com)



Elevators access the 6<sup>th</sup> floor after 6 p.m.  
All programs are **FREE** and subject to  
last minute change or cancellation.