

In case you'd like to spend an evening with two brilliant world-class authors, stop by SPC on Monday, October 11, when **Christopher Mlalazi and Ron Slate** share the same stage. Emmanuel Sigauke hosts. 7:30 pm at 1719 25th Street. Free.



Zimbabwean writer Christopher Mlalazi's two books, *Dancing with Life*, a collection of short stories, and *Many Rivers*, a novel, deal with the social and political disintegration of his native Zimbabwe. In 2008 Mlalazi was co-awarded the OXFAM NOVIP PEN Freedom of Expression Award at the Hague, which he received with Raisedon Baya for their play *The Crocodile of Zambezi*. *The Crocodile of Zambezi* (2008), a satire of the Mugabe regime, was banned and members of its cast and crew were harassed and beaten by state agents. Mlalazi's work has received numerous honors and awards, including the '2009 Best First Published Creative Work, National Arts Merit Award in Zimbabwe' for *Dancing with Life: Tales from the Township*, which also received the NOMA Award Honorable Mention(UK) in 2009; *Many Rivers* was shortlisted for the 2010 National Merit Award for Most Outstanding Book of Fiction. He has also published poetry in several international anthologies. Mr. Mlalazi has recently completed a new novel.



Ron Slate was born in Quincy, Massachusetts in 1950. He earned his Masters degree in creative writing from Stanford University in 1973 and did his doctoral work in American literature at the University of Wisconsin, Madison. He started a poetry magazine, *The Chowder Review*, in 1973 which was published through 1988. In 1978, he left academia and was hired as a corporate speechwriter, beginning his business career in communications and marketing. From 1994-2001 he was vice president of global communications for EMC Corporation. More recently he was chief operating officer of a biotech/life sciences start-up and co-founded a social network for family caregivers. He lives in Milton, Massachusetts.

The Incentive of the Maggot, his first book of poems, was published by Houghton Mifflin in 2005. The collection was nominated for the National Book Critics Circle poetry prize and the Lenore Marshall Prize of the Academy of American Poets. The collection won the Bakeless Poetry Prize and the Larry Levis Reading Prize of Virginia Commonwealth University.

The Great Wave, his second book, was published by Houghton in April 2009.