Poet Rachel Hadas will read from her recent book *

**STRANGE RELATION:**
*A Memoir of Marriage, Dementia, and Poetry*

and join in conversation with Rita Charon, MD, PhD, Director, Program in Narrative Medicine, Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons.

In 2004, after nearly 30 years of marriage, Rachel Hadas’s husband, George Edwards, a 61-year-old composer and professor of music, was diagnosed with early-onset dementia. *Strange Relation* is her account of the difficult years of “losing” George—a time when reading and writing were essential parts of what kept her going, as she “tried to keep track … to tell the truth.” The writer and physician Danielle Ofri has called the book a “poignant memoir of love, creativity and human vulnerability. Rachel Hadas brings a poet’s incisive eye to the labyrinth of dementia.”

**September 22, 6:30 PM**
The Roosevelt House Public Policy Institute at Hunter College
47-49 East 65th Street, New York, NY

Seating is limited and RSVPs are essential. Please respond as soon as possible:**chmp@hunter.cuny.edu**

Rachel Hadas, PhD, MA, is Board of Governors Professor of English at Rutgers University in Newark. She is the author of books of poems, essays, and translations, including *The Ache of Appetite, The River of Forgetfulness, Laws, Indelible, and Halfway Down the Hall: New & Selected Poems*, and co-editor of *The Greek Poets: Homer to the Present*. Her honors include a Guggenheim Fellowship, an Ingram Merrill Foundation grant, and an award in literature from the American Academy and Institute of Arts and Letters.

Rita Charon, MD, PhD, is Professor of Clinical Medicine at the Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons. A general internist in primary care, Dr. Charon took a Ph.D. in English when she realized how central is the telling and hearing of stories to the work of doctors and patients. She is the author of *Narrative Medicine: Honoring the Stories of Illness* and a co-editor of *Psychoanalysis and Narrative Medicine* and of *Stories Matter: The Role of Narrative in Medical Ethics*.

**Co-Sponsors:**
 THE CENTER FOR HEALTH, MEDIA & POLICY (CHMP) at Hunter College is an interdisciplinary initiative for advancing the health of the public and healthy public policies. CHMP is a catalyst for shaping crucial conversations about health and health care through media, research, education, and public forums. [http://centerforhealthmediapolicy.com](http://centerforhealthmediapolicy.com)

THE WRITING CENTER, new to Hunter College and directed by Lewis Burke Frumkes, encourages creative writing and learning across the cultural spectrum. To that end the Center offers workshops taught by professional writers and presents speaking events with world-class figures that are open to students, faculty, and the public without charge. [www.hunter.cuny.edu/cc](http://www.hunter.cuny.edu/cc)

ARTS ACROSS THE CURRICULUM: This summer Hunter College received a planning grant from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation to pilot a new initiative that will capitalize on the College’s renowned arts programs, faculty, and facilities during this academic year. A variety of approaches will introduce the arts throughout the curriculum and expose more Hunter undergraduates to the rich cultural resources of New York City.

THE ROOSEVELT HOUSE PUBLIC POLICY INSTITUTE AT HUNTER COLLEGE: [http://www.roosevelthouse.hunter.cuny.edu](http://www.roosevelthouse.hunter.cuny.edu)