

From previous participants in Allegra Huston's Memoir Writing Workshop

"Allegra has the rare ability to help your writing at two different levels: rational, by analyzing the elements and structure of your memoir, and emotional, by using her capacity to read between the lines, to recognize and empathize with the yelling or whispering of your heart. I learned a lot in her workshop: her lessons were easy to understand and remember but deep and specific on the points where I needed to improve—and delivered with kindness and joy."

— **Jamil Mahuad, ex-president of Ecuador and fellow at the Program of Negotiation, Harvard Law School**

"The workshop was a unique experience. Compelled to write spontaneously, I discovered writing skills that I never thought I had. Allegra tapped into memories I thought were forgotten, experiences that returned fresh to my mind, and right into my writing. It has enriched my ability to write my memoir in ways that I did not know I could. It has converted my writing into something fun to do, as I unearth memories and feelings almost as fresh as when they were originally experienced, and it has enriched my autumn years with a new perspective of my life past. Allegra made this magic happen!"

— **Ronald MacLean-Abaroa, four-time mayor of La Paz, Bolivia, visiting lecturer at Harvard University's Kennedy School of Government, and formerly Lead Specialist of Governance and Anti-Corruption at the World Bank**

"In the manner of a world-class chef, Allegra combines the ingredients of experience, empathy, and encouragement with the discipline of ten-minute exercises so that even the most shy and reticent of us came away with technical tools for our trade. Plus we had her two excellent handbooks on writing and reading our work aloud to keep us writing at home. Allegra's is a joyous course in writing, expertly taught, and in heavenly surroundings."

— **Carinthia West, photographer, UK**

"Allegra's gifts for teaching come from her history as an editor, and her first-hand experience setting out to write her own memoir. Her skill is being able to pluck the gems from your writing and map out the trajectory of a storyline. She elicits the best from your creative mind with fun prompts, squelching the critic that can kill the whole project."

— **Tiffany Jama, myofascial therapist, New Mexico, USA**

"I had been a participant in small group experiences in the past and never before have I had such a uniformly positive experience . . . Thank you, Allegra, for sharing your wisdom and your humanness so generously. I feel that I learned so much from you and I am ever grateful for this."

— **Tracey Laszloffy, therapist, Connecticut, USA**

"I was struck by the quality of Allegra's teaching. It bestowed a touch of magic. The leader, the people, the setting, the entire workshop was truly gorgeous in every detail."

— **Kate O'Toole, actor, Dublin, Ireland**

"The workshop has opened a whole new world of seeing through the written word for me; Allegra's knowledge and generosity kept all of us in awe during this unique atelier. The location added to the enchantment of the mind as well as the senses. Unforgettable."

— **Hemant Sagar, fashion designer, New Delhi, India**

"Allegra the Humble Alchemist - Thank you for showing us what was possible... I loved what you shared about storylines and screenplays on the last day, and it has changed how I view the world forever!"

— **Mandeep Rai, journalist, London, UK**

"I could have continued coming to Deia for a whole month to work with you and the group . . . You were able to touch our inner with such a delicate care and activate a deep source of writing that comes from the heart."

— **Johannes Beckmann Borja, doctor, Palma de Mallorca, Spain**

"The group sessions were both inspiring and creative."

— **Louise Davis, marketing executive, Mallorca, Spain**

"This proved to be a profoundly moving experience in an unexpected way, a view shared I think by all of us who attended the course. For me, Allegra's personal style and use of writing exercises brought a new way of looking at not only my own project, but at life in general. . . . She created an environment that provided a sense of well-being and 'safety' that was essential in fostering the open-hearted revelations that were produced by the writing exercises."

— **Emma Ellis, writer, Palma de Mallorca, Spain**

"Thank you, Allegra, for your profound teaching, delivered with a delicate touch."

— **Jane Bateman, therapist, Cheshire, UK**

"Many thanks for your superb professional guidance, your warm & generous inspiration & your delicate surgical precision with a manuscript . . . I emerged with an entirely new concept for a published work which has me on fire to get started on it!"

— **Diana Rowan Rockefeller, philanthropist, Boston, USA**

