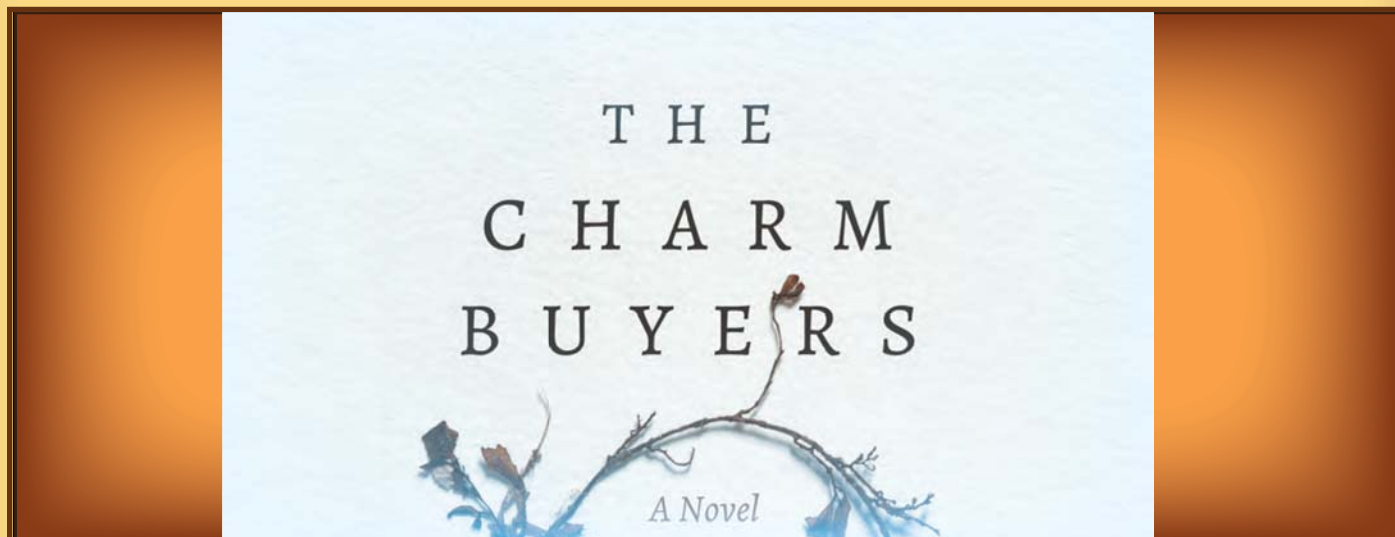


# Debut Book Launch!

## the Charm Buyers

Come join us for the book launch of Asian Pacific American author, Lillian Howan, who will read from her debut novel, *The Charm Buyers*, from University of Hawai'i Press. This book describes extraordinary beauty and turbulent change: Tahiti during the last years of French nuclear testing in the Pacific in the 1990s.



A supernatural, shamanic reality exists together with the traditions of the Hakka Chinese, set against the background of the French colonial past and the Ma'ohi struggle for independence. *The Charm Buyers* presents a world in transition and its people—black pearl cultivators, artists, taro farmers, politicians, smugglers, and shamans.

"*The Charm Buyers* is a thought-provoking insight into a time of cultural change. It captures an essence of existing between reality and surreality, dreaming and wakefulness, the past and the future."

—Foreword Reviews

Refreshments will be served!

15  
February  
5 - 6:30pm  
Maier Room,  
Fromm Hall