

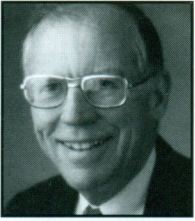
*Willie Morris* (2000), oil, 24" x 26", by Mildred Nungester Wolfe

The Seventh  
**Oxford Conference for the Book**  
The University of Mississippi • Oxford, Mississippi  
April 7-9, 2000



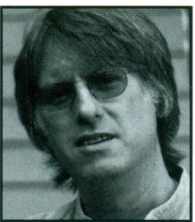
CHARLES REAGAN WILSON is director of the Center for the Study of Southern Culture and professor of history and Southern Studies at the University of

Mississippi. Among his publications are *Baptized in Blood: The Religion of the Lost Cause* and *Judgment and Grace in Dixie: Southern Faiths from Faulkner to Elvis*.



WILLIAM F. WINTER, Governor of Mississippi from 1980 to 1984, is a senior partner in the Jackson law firm Watkins Ludlam & Stennis.

He is a founding member of the Southern Literacy Forum, founding chairman of the Foundation for the Mid South, and chairman of the Commission on the Future of the South. He has served as chairman of the Southern Regional Education Board, Southern Growth Policies Board, and Appalachian Regional Commission, as well as president of the Mississippi Historical Society. He is the contributing author to three books—*History of Mississippi*, *Yesterday's Constitution Today*, and *Mississippi Heroes*—and has served as president of the Board of Trustees of the Mississippi Department of Archives and History since 1969.



STEVE YARBROUGH is the author of three story collections—*Family Men*, *Mississippi History*, and *Veneer*. His first novel, *The Oxygen Man*, was recently published by

MacMurray & Beck. He is currently John and Renée Grisham Writer in Residence at the University of Mississippi.

#### PHOTO CREDITS

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THE CITY OF OXFORD, originally part of the Chickasaw Cession, was incorporated by Legislative Act in 1837. The town was captured during the Civil War by Union troops, and most of its buildings were burned to the ground, although many historic structures remain. Oxford has always been known for its close relationship with the University of Mississippi, whose approximately 10,000 students make it roughly the same size as the town. Many people visit Oxford each year to see the University, Rowan Oak, and other classic Southern architecture, including the Lafayette County Courthouse, Barksdale Isom House, built in 1838, and other homes on the streets surrounding the town square. Visitors and residents alike appreciate the close and gentle beauty of the Lafayette County countryside, which includes National Forest land and such buildings as College Hill Church, where William and Estelle Faulkner were married in 1929. *USA Today* named Oxford one of the top six college towns in the United States. Oxford is also listed in *The 100 Best Small Towns in America*.

THE UNIVERSITY OF MISSISSIPPI, affectionately known as Ole Miss, is the state's oldest public institution of higher learning and has been a recognized leader in teaching, research, and public service since opening in 1848. In November of that year a faculty of four offered liberal arts instruction to 80 students. From those beginnings, the student body has increased to its current enrollment of 10,721 on the main Oxford campus. The campus itself has expanded from 640 acres in 1848 to more than 2,500, with an additional 23,000 acres of forest land in south Mississippi. The academic division of the Oxford campus is composed of the College of Liberal Arts (1848), School of Law, which is the fourth oldest state-supported law school in the nation (1854), School of Pharmacy (1908), School of Business Administration (1917), Graduate School (1927), and School of Accountancy (1978). The Schools of Medicine (1903), Nursing (1958), Health Related Professions (1972), and Dentistry (1973) are located at the Jackson campus. In all, the University offers more than 100 programs of study. Having graduated 23 Rhodes Scholars, Ole Miss ranks seventh among all public universities in number of students chosen for this honor.

THE CENTER FOR THE STUDY OF SOUTHERN CULTURE was established at the University of Mississippi in 1977. Since then, the Center has gained in international reputation for innovative education and scholarship on the American South. The Center administers B.A. and M.A. programs in Southern Studies, sponsors research and documentary projects on all aspects of Southern culture, and encourages public understanding of the South through publications, media productions, lectures, performances, and exhibitions. Among the programs the Center sponsors or cosponsors are the Oxford Conference for the Book in the spring, the Faulkner and Yoknapatawpha Conference in the summer, and a history symposium in October. The current exhibition in the Center's Barnard Observatory Gallery is *Photographs from McDade, Texas*, selections from a new book by David Wharton, who teaches and directs documentary projects at the Center. Open Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m., except for University holidays. Telephone: 662-915-5993.

ROWAN OAK, William Faulkner's Home, was built by a pioneer settler in 1844 and bought by Faulkner in 1930. This plantation-style house was his home until his death in 1962. Open 10:00 a.m.-noon and 2:00-4:00 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday and 2:00-4:00 p.m. Sunday. Closed on Mondays and on Easter Sunday, July 4, Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, New Year's Eve, and New Year's Day. Telephone: 662-234-3284.

UNIVERSITY MUSEUMS: The Mary Buie Museum (1939) and the adjoining Kate Skipwith Teaching Museum (1976) house collections representing the fields of archaeology, art, anthropology, decorative arts, history, science, and technology. Particularly outstanding are the David M. Robinson Collection of Greek and Roman antiquities, the Millington-Barnard Collection of 19th-century scientific instruments, and the Southern Folk Art Collection, centered on the paintings of Oxford artist Theora Hamblett. Open 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday and 1:00-4:00 p.m. Sunday. Closed Mondays and on University holidays. Telephone: 662-915-7073.

DEPARTMENT OF ARCHIVES AND SPECIAL COLLECTIONS/JOHN DAVIS WILLIAMS LIBRARY: Over 300 manuscript collections and over 30,000 volumes of Mississippiana are housed here. Among its permanent exhibits are William Faulkner's Nobel Prize and signed first editions and manuscripts. The Seymour Lawrence Room, a gift of the late publisher, contains signed first editions, manuscripts, photographs, correspondence, and memorabilia of the dozens of authors he published, including J. P. Donleavy, Barry Hannah, and Jim Harrison. Many Mississippi writers are on display in the adjacent Mississippi Hall of Writers. Open 8:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Monday through Friday, except for University holidays. Telephone: 662-915-7408.

UNIVERSITY OF MISSISSIPPI MUSIC LIBRARY'S BLUES ARCHIVE/FARLEY HALL: This research collection on blues music contains books, periodicals, recordings, films, photographs, and posters. Of special interest are the B. B. King Collection, the Kenneth S. Goldstein Folklore Collection, and the Living Blues Archival Collection. Materials do not circulate. Open 8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday, except for University holidays. Telephone: 662-915-7753.

SPECIAL LIBRARY HOURS FOR BOOK CONFERENCE: The John Davis Williams Library will be open Friday, April 7, until 11:00 p.m.; Saturday, April 8, from 10:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m.; Sunday, April 9, from 8:00 a.m. continuously until the next Friday at 11:00 p.m. The Department of Archives and Special Collections will be open on Friday, April 7, until 5:30 p.m.; Saturday, April 8, 11:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m., and Sunday, April 9, 8:00-10:00 a.m. The Blues Archive in Farley Hall will be open Friday, April 7, until 9:00 p.m.; Saturday, April 8, 10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.; Sunday, April 9, 1:00-9:00 p.m.

YOUNG AUTHORS FAIR: Alice Faye Duncan will participate in the 2000 Young Authors Fair, an annual event sponsored by the Junior Auxiliary of Oxford. This year, in preparation for the fair, students in the fifth grade are reading Duncan's *Everyday People* and have opportunities to write, illustrate, and bind a book to be displayed at the Oxford-Lafayette County Public Library the week of April 2. Members of the Junior Auxiliary are encouraging every fifth grader in the county to write a book for the fair, hear Duncan's comments on being an author, and attend a reception in her honor at the public library after school on April 6.

# The Seventh Oxford Conference for the Book

The University of Mississippi • Oxford, Mississippi

*Dedicated to the Memory of Willie Morris*

Sponsored by the Center for the Study of Southern Culture, Department of English, Department of History, Department of Journalism, McDonnell-Barksdale Honors College, John Davis Williams Library, Junior Auxiliary of Oxford, and Square Books.

Partially funded by the University of Mississippi and grants from the National Endowment for the Arts, the Mississippi Humanities Council, the Yoknapatawpha Arts Council, and the City of Oxford.



## NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE ARTS

The National Endowment for the Arts, an independent agency of the Federal Government, was created in 1965 to encourage and assist the nation's cultural resources. Dedicated to fostering the excellence, diversity, and vitality of the arts in the United States, the Endowment serves the public good by nurturing the expression of human creativity, supporting the cultivation of community spirit, and fostering the recognition and appreciation of the excellence and diversity of our nation's artistic accomplishments.

## MISSISSIPPI HUMANITIES COUNCIL

The Mississippi Humanities Council is funded by Congress through the National Endowment for the Humanities to provide public programs in traditional liberal arts disciplines to serve nonprofit groups in Mississippi.

## OXFORD TOURISM COUNCIL

The Oxford Tourism Council strives to enhance the quality of life and economic vitality of Oxford by promoting Oxford as a travel destination.

## YOKNAPATAWPHA ARTS COUNCIL

The Yoknapatawpha Arts Council is a nonprofit organization established in 1975 to access, celebrate, and promote the arts with all citizens of Oxford and Lafayette County, Mississippi. The Yoknapatawpha Arts Council is the official arts agency for the City of Oxford.

## FIFTH ANNUAL NATIONAL POETRY MONTH APRIL 2000 • A NATIONWIDE CELEBRATION OF POETRY

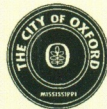
Inaugurated by the Academy of American Poets in April 1996, National Poetry Month brings together publishers bookstores, literary organizations, libraries, schools, and poets across the country to celebrate poetry and its vital place in American culture. For additional information, visit the web site of the Academy of American Poets ([www.poets.org](http://www.poets.org)) or inquire by telephone (212-174-0343) or email ([poets@artswire.org](mailto:poets@artswire.org)).

For more information concerning the conference, contact:

## Center for the Study of Southern Culture

THE UNIVERSITY OF MISSISSIPPI

University, MS 38677 • phone 662-915-5993 • fax 662-915-5814 • Email [cssc@olemiss.edu](mailto:cssc@olemiss.edu) • [www.olemiss.edu/depts/south](http://www.olemiss.edu/depts/south)



For tourist information, contact:

## Oxford Tourism Council

P.O. Box 965, Oxford, MS 38655

phone 800-758-9177,

662-234-4680 fax 662-234-0355



For information about books and authors, contact:

## Square Books

160 Courthouse Square, Oxford, MS 38655

phone 800-648-4001,

662-236-2262 fax 662-234-9630

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



*The*  
**University of Mississippi**

The University complies with all applicable laws regarding affirmative action and equal opportunity in all its activities and does not discriminate against anyone protected by law because of age, creed, color, national origin, race, religion, sex, handicap, veteran, or other status.

The Seventh Oxford Conference for the Book is dedicated to the late

## Willie Morris (1934-1999)

in recognition of his contributions to American letters.

Willie Morris left his home in Yazoo City, Mississippi, to attend the University of Texas, where he developed his skills as a journalist by editing the student newspaper, the *Daily Texan*, a post to which he was elected on the campaign slogan "Don't Be Silly—Vote for Willie." After becoming a Rhodes Scholar, he returned to Texas to edit the *Texas Observer*, work which in turn took him to New York as the youngest editor of *Harper's Magazine* in its long and distinguished history. At *Harper's* in the 1960s he marshalled some of the greatest writers of the day—Walker Percy, David Halberstam, and Norman Mailer among them—into contributing some of their most significant work. He became the youngest recipient of the Houghton Mifflin Literary Fellowship Award when his influential memoir, *North Toward Home*, candid with a critical and personal assessment of his beloved but racially plagued South, was published in 1967. When he left *Harper's*, he left behind magazine journalism but continued to write, as he would for the rest of his life. His second book, *Yazoo*, was pointedly focused on integration in a small Southern town—his own; *Good Old Boy*, which continues to be read and admired by young people today, revealed Willie and his place from the child's point of view; and *The Last of the Southern Girls* (1973) became his first novel.

His fascination and love for sports shone through such works as *Always Stand in Against the Curve*, *A Prayer for the Opening of Little League*, and, with his journalistic acumen, *The Courting of Marcus Dupree*, the first book he wrote after being lured to Oxford primarily by Dean and Larry Wells and their Yoknapatawpha Press, which brought several of Willie's books back to print and published anew *Terrains of the Heart and Other Essays On Home* (1981). While living in Oxford as a writer in residence with the University of Mississippi, he regaled students and visitors with his tales, antics, telephone pranks, and moonlit ventures into St. Peter's cemetery. His friends and comrades, including David Sansing and Masaru Inoue, came from all walks of life, sharing, or simply astonished by, his enormous—and, as he would say, *ineffable*—love for history, literature, life, and, always, the South, Mississippi particularly.

*New York Days* (1993) chronicled his life and times in "the cave," as he called it, and his moving tribute to Faulkner served as the text for accompanying photographs by William Eggleston in *Faulkner's Mississippi*. His love for animals, dogs especially, culminated in *My Dog Skip*, recently made into a popular motion picture, and he surprised his readers with an equally magnanimous view of felines with *My Cat Spit McGee*, a book he completed prior to his death on August 2, 1999. Willie Morris spoke at the inaugural Oxford Conference for the Book, and urged his friends William Styron and George Plimpton to do so as well. His decade in Oxford, 1980-1990, stimulated the lush growth of the Oxford literary community, which he left upon marrying JoAnne Prichard—from Yazoo City—and making Jackson, Mississippi, his new home.

Willie Morris left behind a treasure trove of words that reveal his knowledge and passion for a place, a time and people encountered there. Moreover, his personal legacy includes countless friends, acquaintances, and readers who remember the man with an unencumbered willingness to embrace truth and speak it, a sharp intelligence braced by a hunger for understanding, a restless, unflinching sense of humor, and an astonishing memory, but, perhaps more than anything, a human generosity that was open seven days a week, twenty four hours a day.

RICHARD HOWORTH

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## Mildred Nungester Wolfe

Flyers, programs, and posters for this year's Oxford Conference for the Book feature a portrait of Willie Morris by Mildred Nungester Wolfe. Her portrait of Eudora Welty was used to illustrate printed materials for the 1999 conference. The Welty portrait is in the collection of the National Portrait Gallery, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C. The Morris portrait is available for viewing at the Wolfe Studio, 4308 Old Canton Road, Jackson, Mississippi.

Mildred Nungester was born in Ohio and grew up in Alabama, where she attended college in Athens and Montevallo. She studied at the Art Students' League in New York and at the Art Institute of Chicago before earning an M.F.A. from the Colorado Springs Fine Arts Center. She married Mississippi artist Karl Wolfe in 1944 and established Wolfe Studios, where for the next 40 years, until his death in 1984, they painted and displayed their work. Since 1984, Elizabeth (Bebe) Wolfe has worked with her mother at the studio and gallery. Patti Carr Black, in *Art in Mississippi, 1720-1980*, describes Wolfe Studio "both an oasis and a Jackson landmark, a symbol of passion and stubborn values and the manifestation of a need to experience art as central to life."

# The Seventh Oxford Conference for the Book

The University of Mississippi • Oxford, Mississippi

All program sessions will be in the Education Auditorium, located on University Avenue.

## Schedule of Events

### FRIDAY, APRIL 9

- 9:00 a.m. Welcome  
Richard Howorth  
Submitting Manuscripts/Working One's Way into Print  
Barry Hannah, moderator  
Janice Daugharty, William Gay, Jeffrey Lent,  
Rosa Shand, Amy Williams
- 10:30 a.m. Finding a Voice/Reaching an Audience  
Barry Hannah, moderator  
Karl Ackerman, Robert Bly, Robert Olen Butler,  
Morgan Entrekin, Richard Flanagan
- 11:30 a.m. Independent Publishing Today  
Steve Yarbrough, moderator  
Caitlin Hamilton, Greg Michalson, Fred Ramey
- 1:30 p.m. Homage to Willie Morris's South  
Huck, Tom, and Willie  
Ted Ownby  
Comments: Masaru Inoue, JoAnne Prichard Morris,  
David Sansing
- 3:00 p.m. Poetry: Readings and Remarks  
Michael P. Dean, moderator  
Angela Ball  
Brooks Haxton  
Claude Wilkinson
- 4:30 p.m. Readings  
Karl Ackerman  
William Gay  
Jeffrey Lent  
Rosa Shand
- 6:00 p.m. Readings/Remarks  
Robert Bly
- 7:00 p.m. Cocktail Party  
Off Square Books (Reservations Required)

### SATURDAY, APRIL 8

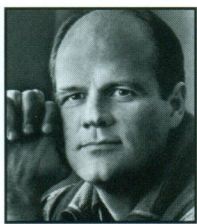
- 9:00 a.m. The Endangered Species: Readers Today and Tomorrow  
Elaine H. Scott, moderator  
Richard A. Boyd, Alice Faye Duncan
- 10:30 a.m. "Socks on a Rooster": Politics in the Modern South  
Curtis Wilkie, moderator  
Greg Iles, Elizabeth Mitchell, William F. Winter
- 11:30 a.m. Print Culture in the Early South  
Dan Williams, moderator  
David S. Shields
- Noon Lunch - On Your Own

- 1:30 p.m. Popular Music and Race  
Michael Bertrand, moderator  
W. T. Lhamon, James Salem, David Sanjek,  
Brian Ward, Craig Werner
- 3:00 p.m. Readings/Remarks  
Janice Daugharty  
Connie May Fowler  
Melinda Haynes  
Janisse Ray
- 4:30 p.m. Readings  
Robert Olen Butler  
Nathan Englander  
Richard Flanagan  
Darcey Steinke
- 6:00 p.m. Booksigning  
Square Books

### SUNDAY, APRIL 9

- 8:00 a.m. Early Bird Gets the Bookworm Breakfast  
Mississippi Hall of Writers  
John Davis Williams Library  
Hosted by John M. Meador  
Dean of University Libraries
- 9:00 a.m. Southern Autobiography  
Jay Watson, moderator  
Rick Bragg, Constance W. Curry,  
Endesha Ida Mae Holland, Lewis Nordan,  
Anthony Walton
- 10:30 a.m. Communities: A Place for Literature  
Charles Reagan Wilson, moderator  
Pete Daniel, Gay Gomez, David Wharton
- Noon Roundtable Lunch  
Memory House (Reservations Required)
- 1:30 p.m. Readings/Remarks  
Endesha Ida Mae Holland  
Anthony Walton  
Steve Yarbrough
- 2:30 p.m. Books and the Environment  
Robbie Ethridge, moderator  
John M. Barry, Connie May Fowler, Janisse Ray
- 4:00 p.m. Out with a Bang  
Lewis Nordan

## The Speakers



KARL ACKERMAN has worked in a variety of jobs in publishing, including bookseller, sales representative, editor, reviewer, and organizer for the Virginia Festival of the Book. His first novel, *The Patron Saint of Unmarried Women*, was a *New York Times* Notable Book of the Year and was optioned by Harpo Productions. His novel *Dear Will*, just published, was selected as one of the spring season's top 10 new books by the independent booksellers of Book Sense. He lives in Charlottesville, Virginia.



ANGELA BALL is the author of five collections of poetry: *Recombinant Lives*, *Kneeling Between Parked Cars*, *Quartet*, *Possession*, and *The Museum of the Revolution*. She teaches at the University of Southern Mississippi.



JOHN M. BARRY is the author of *Rising Tide: The Great Mississippi Flood of 1927 and How It Changed America*. As editor of *Dun's Review*, he covered national politics, and he has also written for the *New York Times Magazine*, *Esquire*, *Newsweek*, the *Washington Post*, and *Sports Illustrated*. He lives in New Orleans and Washington, D.C.



MICHAEL BERTRAND is visiting assistant professor of history and Southern Studies at the University of Mississippi. The University of Illinois Press will soon publish his dissertation, titled "Southern Youth in Dissent: Rock 'n' Roll, Race, and Elvis Presley, 1945-1960."



ROBERT BLY is the author of the bestseller *Iron John*, which launched the men's movement to national fame, as well as several collections of poetry. His latest book is *Eating the Honey of Words*. He lives in Minneapolis, Minnesota.



RICHARD A. BOYD is a professor of educational leadership and interim director of the Barksdale Reading Institute at the University of Mississippi. He has served as State Superintendent of Education for Mississippi and as superintendent of school districts in Ohio.



RICK BRAGG is a Pulitzer Prize-winning reporter for the *New York Times*. His bestselling memoir *All Over but the Shoutin'* details his life growing up in Alabama. *Somebody Told Me*, a collection of his newspaper stories, will be published this spring.



ROBERT OLEN BUTLER is the author of eight novels, including the newly published *Mr. Spaceman*, and two collections of stories. In addition to the Pulitzer Prize, he has received a Guggenheim Fellowship in fiction and an NEA grant, as well as an award from the American Academy of Arts and Letters. He lives in Lake Charles, Louisiana, and teaches creative writing at McNeese State University.

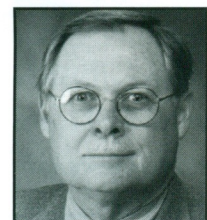


CONSTANCE W. CURRY, in her new book *Aaron Henry: The Fire Ever Burning*, assembled a memoir of one of Mississippi's major civil rights leaders, drawing on Henry's 1965 oral history of his life and on new material from her own interviews with his family, friends, and political associates. Curry is also the author of *Silver Rights*, winner of the Lillian Smith Book Award in 1996. She lives in Atlanta.

PETE DANIEL is a curator in the Division of the History of Technology at the National Museum of American History, Smithsonian Institution. His most recent book, *Lost Revolutions: The South in the 1950s*, chronicles the cultural history of the South from World War II to Freedom Summer.



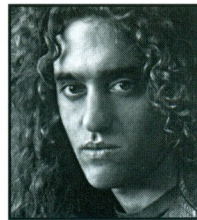
JANICE DAUGHARTY is the author of *Going Through the Change*, a collection of stories, and six novels: *Dark of the Moon*, *Necessary Lies*, *PawPaw Patch*, *Earl in the Yellow Shirt*, *Whistle*, and, most recently, *Like a Sister*. She lives in Southeast Georgia and is writer in residence in Valdosta State University.



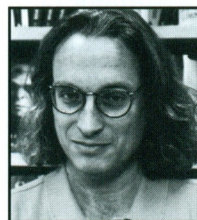
MICHAEL P. DEAN is associate dean of the College of Liberal Arts and associate professor of English at the University of Mississippi. He is primarily interested in 20th-century British and American literature, and he has published articles about T. S. Eliot, Robert Hayden, Ellen Douglas, and Larry Brown, among others.



ALICE FAYE DUNCAN, a librarian, teacher, and author, lives and works in Memphis, Tennessee. In addition to two books for children, *Willie Jerome* and *Miss Viola and Uncle Ed Lee*, she wrote *The National Civil Rights Museum Celebrates Everyday People*, a guide to the museum's exhibitions on the history of racial oppression and the civil rights movement.



NATHAN ENGLANDER grew up in New York and lives in Jerusalem. He is a graduate of the Iowa Writers' Workshop and a recent recipient of the Pushcart Prize. His first collection of short stories is *For the Relief of Unbearable Urges*.

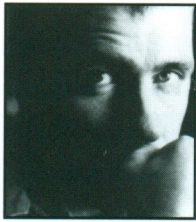


MORGAN ENTREKIN is president and publisher of Grove/Atlantic, Inc, which publishes 75 to 80 titles a year. Among the authors published by Grove/Atlantic are Kenzaburo Oe, Sherman Alexie, Will Self, Fay Weldon, and Charles Frazier.



ROBBIE ETHRIDGE is McMullan Assistant Professor of Southern Studies and assistant professor of anthropology at the University of Mississippi. Her areas of academic specialization include historical anthropology, Southeastern Indians, environmental history, environmental anthropology, and cultural anthropology.





RICHARD FLANAGAN is a novelist and filmmaker from Australia. His most recent novel is entitled *The Sound of One Hand Clapping*, and it was named the Australian Booksellers Book of the Year in 1999. Flanagan also directed a film based on the novel, which was released to awards and acclaim in Australia and Germany.



CONNIE MAY FOWLER is the author of the novels *River of Hidden Dreams*, *Sugar Cage*, *Before Women Had Wings*, and, most recently, *Remembering Blue*. Her essays and short fiction have appeared in the *New York Times Book Review*, *Allure*, *Southern Living*, and other publications. A native Floridian, she is heavily involved in the state's environmental issues.



WILLIAM GAY lives in Hohenwald, Tennessee. His first novel, *The Long Home*, was recently published by MacMurray & Beck. He is at work on another novel and a collection of short stories.



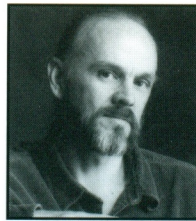
GAY GOMEZ is the author of *A Wetlands Biography*, a community study of the Chenier Plains in southwest Louisiana. A cultural geographer, she teaches at McNeese State University.



CAITLIN HAMILTON is the marketing director for MacMurray & Beck.



BARRY HANNAH is the author of ten works of fiction, including the landmark collection of short stories *Airships* and the novels *Geronimo Rex* and *Ray*. His latest collection is *High Lonesome*. He is writer in residence the University of Mississippi.



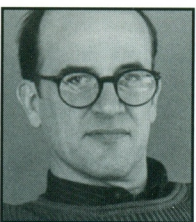
BROOKS HAXTON is the author of five collections of poetry, the most recent being *Dances for Flute and Thunder*. The son of novelist Ellen Douglas, he grew up in Greenville, Mississippi, and teaches at Syracuse University.



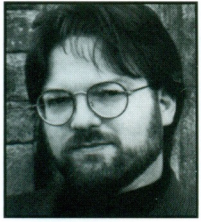
MELINDA HAYNES is a Mississippi native and currently a resident of Alabama. *Mother of Pearl*, her first novel, is a selection of Oprah's Book Club and a *New York Times* Bestseller.



ENDESHA IDA MAE HOLLAND is a professor at the University of Southern California's School of Theater and its Gender Studies Program. A native Mississippian, she is the author of several plays, including the autobiographical *From the Mississippi Delta*. The play enjoyed a successful six-month Off-Broadway run, with Oprah Winfrey as a producer, in 1992 and has subsequently been staged to rave reviews at theaters throughout the nation and abroad.



RICHARD HOWORTH is proprietor of Square Books in Oxford, Mississippi, and current president of the American Booksellers Association. He is an organizer of the Oxford Conference for the Book.

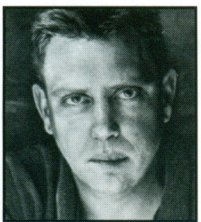


GREG ILES, a musician and an author, has published *Black Cross* and three other novels. His most recent, *The Quiet Game*, is set in Natchez, where he lives, and unravels the murder of a black civil rights worker in the 1960s.

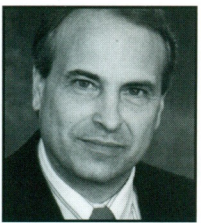


MASARU INOUE teaches literature at Ferris Women's College in Japan. He first came to Oxford in 1983 to study and research, and met Willie Morris, with whom he shared a close and lasting friendship. He has published articles in Japan on Morris and many other Southern writers, including Barry Hannah and Larry Brown.

W. T. LHAMON is the author of *Raising Cain: Blackface Performance from Jim Crow to Hip Hop* and *Deliberate Speed: The Origins of a Cultural Style in the American 1950s*. He teaches English at Florida State University.



JEFFREY LENT writes an epic of three generations of an American family in his first novel, *In the Fall*. The book, to be published in April, has been chosen as a Main Selection of the Book-of-the-Month Club.

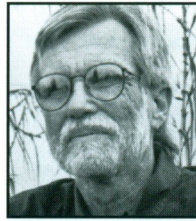


GREG MICHALSON is managing editor of the *Missouri Review* and was the general fiction editor at MacMurray & Beck. He edited William Gay's well-received first novel *The Long Home*.

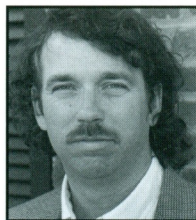


ELIZABETH MITCHELL, a former executive editor at *George* magazine, is causing waves with her top-rate journalistic endeavor, *W: Revenge of the Bush Dynasty*. Mitchell's even-handed account unravels an intricate family legacy and introduces us to a strong new voice in political journalism.

JOANNE PRICHARD MORRIS is the widow of Willie Morris. She has worked as an editor for the University Press of Mississippi and other publishers.



LEWIS NORDAN is the author of three novels—*Music of the Swamp*, *Wolf Whistle*, and *The Sharpshooter Blues*—and *Sugar among the Freaks*, selected stories from his collections *Welcome to the Arrow-Catcher Fair* and *The All-Girl Football Team*. The setting for his fiction is Arrow Catcher, a place similar to his hometown of Itta Bena in the Mississippi Delta. His most recent publication is *Boy with Loaded Gun*, a memoir. He teaches creative writing at the University of Pittsburgh.



TED OWNBY is the author of *Subduing Satan: Religion, Recreation, and Manhood in the Rural South, 1865-1920* and *American Dreams in Mississippi: Consumers, Poverty, and Culture, 1830-1998*. He teaches Southern Studies and history at the University of Mississippi.

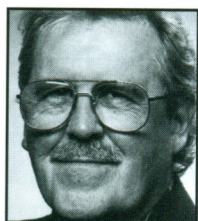
FRED RAMEY was publisher at MacMurray & Beck.



JANISSE RAY is the author of the memoir *Ecology of a Cracker Childhood*, winner of the recent Southeast Booksellers award for nonfiction. A naturalist and environmental activist, she lives in Baxley, Georgia, and is a nature commentator for Georgia Public Radio.



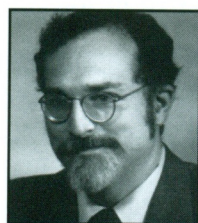
ELAINE H. SCOTT is former chair of the Arkansas State Board of Education, a member of the Education Commission of the States 1987-1997, and a leader in several organizations concerned with education, teacher training, libraries, and literacy. She has been involved with the Reading Is Fundamental program since 1974 and received the RIF Leader for Literacy Award in April 1994.



JAMES SALEM is chair of the American Studies Department at the University of Alabama. Among his numerous publications are *The Late Great Johnny Ace* and *The Transition from R&B to Rock 'n' Roll*.



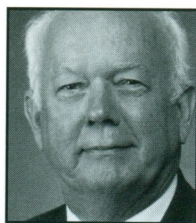
ROSA SHAND teaches at Converse College in Spartanburg, South Carolina. Her first novel, *The Gravity of Sunlight*, will be published in May.



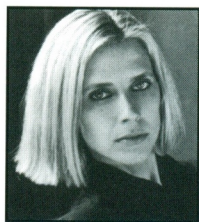
DAVID SANJEK is director of BMI Archives and U.S. chair of the International Association for the Study of Popular Music. He is the author, with Richard Sanjek, of two books on the American popular music business in the 20th century.



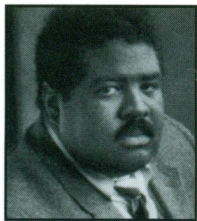
DAVID SHIELDS is a scholar on American literature and book culture. He is president of the Society of Early Americanists, editor of *Early American Literature*, and author of *Civil Tongues and Polite Letters in British America* and many other works, among them the section "18th-Century Literary Culture" in *The History of the Book in America*. He teaches at the Citadel in Charleston, South Carolina.



DAVID SANSING is professor of history emeritus at the University of Mississippi.



DARCEY STEINKE is the author of *Suicide Blonde* and two other novels, each of which was listed as a *New York Times* Notable Book: *Up Through the Water* and *Jesus Saves*. Her journalism has appeared in *Spin*, *George*, *Artforum*, and the *Village Voice*. She was Renée and John Grisham Southern Writer in Residence at the University of Mississippi in 1998-99.



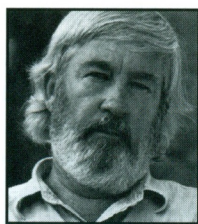
ANTHONY WALTON is a poet, memoirist, and journalist. His book *Mississippi: An American Journey* describes his travels through the state where his parents came—and escaped—from. He grew up in Aurora, Illinois, studied at Notre Dame and Brown University, and currently lives in Brunswick, Maine.



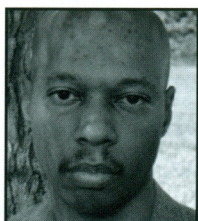
DAVID WHARTON is the author of *The Soul of a Small Texas Town: Photographs, Memories, and History from McDade*. He is assistant professor of Southern Studies and director of Documentary Projects at the University of Mississippi's Center for the Study of Southern Culture.



BRIAN WARD teaches American history at the University of Newcastle Upon Tyne. He is the author of *The Making of Martin Luther King and the Civil Rights Movement*, *Just My Soul Responding: Rhythm and Blues, Black Consciousness, and Race Relations*, and the forthcoming *You Can't Segregate the Airwaves: Black Radio and the Freedom Struggle, 1923-1975*.



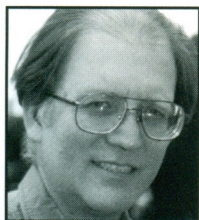
CURTIS WILKIE is a reporter for the *Boston Globe* and coauthor of *Arkansas Mischief: The Birth of a National Scandal* with Jim McDougal.



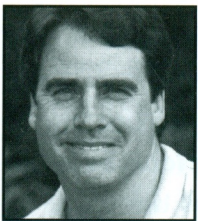
CLAUDE WILKINSON is a poet whose first poetry collection, *Reading the Earth*, was recently published by Michigan State University Press. He lives in Nesbit, Mississippi, and teaches at LeMoyne-Owen College in Memphis.

JAY WATSON is associate professor of English at the University of Mississippi, where he specializes in 20th-century Southern literature. He is the author of *Forensic Fictions: The Lawyer Figure in Faulkner* and scholarly articles on Southern literature, psychoanalytic theory, and law and literature. He is also the coeditor of *Journal x: A Journal in Culture & Criticism*.

AMY WILLIAMS is a literary agent with the Gernert Agency. She represents a number of notable new authors, including William Gay.



CRAIG WERNER, professor of Afro-American Studies at the University of Wisconsin, is the author of *A Change Is Gonna Come: Music, Race, and the Soul of America* and *Playing the Changes: From Afro-Modernism to the Jazz Impulse*.



DAN WILLIAMS, a scholar in the field of Colonial American literature, is the author of *Pillars of Salt*. He teaches in the English Department at the University of Mississippi.