

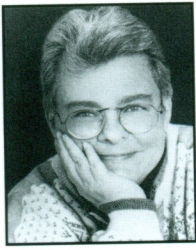


Tennessee Williams, Photography Collection, Harry Ransom Humanities Research Center
The University of Texas at Austin

The Ninth
Oxford Conference for the Book

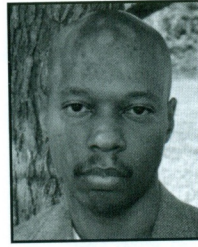
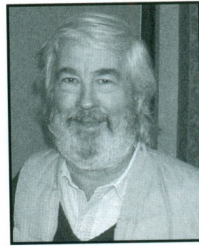
The University of Mississippi • Oxford, Mississippi

April 11-14, 2002



PAULA VOGEL won the 1998 Pulitzer Prize for Drama and numerous other awards for her play *How I Learned to Drive*. It and her newest play, *The Mineola Twins*, were recently published as the anthology *The Mammary Plays*. *The Baltimore Waltz*, winner of the Obie for Best Play in 1993, was published in a 1996 anthology with her plays *Hot and Throbbing*, *Desdemona*, *And Baby Makes Seven*, and *The Oldest Profession*. She is currently working on screenplays, the novel *Travels without Charley*, and a new play.

CURTIS WILKIE was a reporter for the *Clarksdale Press Register* in his home state of Mississippi during the 1960s and then served as a national and foreign correspondent for the *Boston Globe* for 26 years. He is coauthor, with Jim McDougal, of *Arkansas Mischief: The Birth of a National Scandal* and has written for many national magazines, including *Newsweek* and the *New Republic*. His book *Dixie: A Personal Odyssey through Events that Shaped the Modern South* recently appeared. He is a visiting professor of journalism at the University of Mississippi this semester.



CLAUDE WILKINSON, an accomplished literary critic and poet, is a recipient of the 2000 Whiting Writers' Award. His first poetry collection, *Reading the Earth*, was published by Michigan State University Press to national acclaim. He was 2000-2001 Grisham Writer in Residence at the University of Mississippi, his alma mater. He lives, writes, and paints in Nesbit, Mississippi.

STEVE YARBROUGH is the author of three story collections—*Family Men*, *Mississippi History*, and *Veneer*—and two novels, *The Oxygen Man* and *Visible Spirits*, published in 2001. He was Grisham Writer in Residence at the University of Mississippi in 1999-2000 and teaches at California State University, Fresno.



PHOTO BY DAVID McELAIN

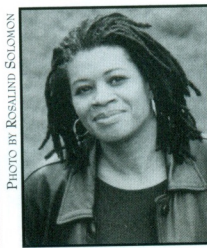
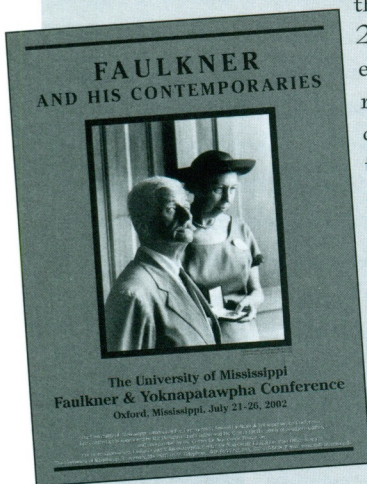


PHOTO BY ROSALIND SOLOMON

SHAY YOUNGBLOOD was born in Columbus, Georgia. She is the author of *The Big Momma Stories* and two novels, *Soul Kiss* and *Black Girl in Paris*. Her plays *Amazing Grace*, *Shakin' the Mess Outta Misery*, and *Talking Bones* have been widely produced. Her other plays include *Black Power Barbie* and *Communism Killed My Dog*. She is the recipient of an Astraea Writers Award and a Pushcart Prize for fiction, a Lorraine Hansberry Playwriting Award, several NAACP Theater Awards, and numerous other awards. She received a B.A. from Clark-Atlanta University and an M.F.A. from Brown University and teaches creative writing at New York University. She will be Grisham Writer at the University of Mississippi in 2002-2003.

"Faulkner and His Contemporaries," the 29th annual Faulkner and Yoknapatawpha Conference, will take place at the University of Mississippi July 21-16, 2002. The program will explore the literary and intellectual relations Faulkner shares with other writers as well as the extent to which his work is a reflection of, and a commentary on, theirs.

For information about the conference, contact the Center for Non-Credit Education, P.O. Box 879, The University of Mississippi, University, MS 38677-1848; telephone 662-915-7282; fax 662-915-5138, e-mail noncred@olemiss.edu.



For on-line information consult www.olemiss.edu/depts/south/faulkner/index.htm.

For on-line registration consult www.ics.olemiss.edu/events/faulkner_yoknapatawpha_2001.html.

For information about participating in the conference through Elderhostel, call 877-426-8056 and refer to the program number 24225, or contact Carolyn Vance Smith by telephone (601-446-1208) or e-mail (carolyn.smith@colin.edu).

William Faulkner and Endora Welby, May 1962. © Budd Studios. Courtesy Sidney J. Waintrob

2002 Southern Foodways Symposium

The 2002 Southern Foodways Symposium will take place in Oxford, Mississippi, October 17-20. This year's theme is barbecue culture. For details about the symposium or the Southern Foodways Alliance, check the Web site (www.olemiss.edu/depts/south/foodways) or contact John T. Edge, SFA Director, by telephone (662-915-5993) or by e-mail (johnht@olemiss.edu).



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 12,000 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, Isom Place, built in 1838, and 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. Named by *USA Today* as one of the top six college towns in the United States, Oxford frequently is described, to the surprise of some of its residents, as a desirable place to live or visit, most recently by *Men's Journal* and *Conde Nast Traveler*.

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 11,873 on the main Oxford campus. The campus itself has expanded from 640 acres in 1848 to more than 2,500 acres. 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 Engineering (1900), School of Education (1903), School of Pharmacy (1908), School of Business Administration (1917), Graduate School (1927), School of Accountancy (1978), and School of Applied Sciences (2001). 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 24 Rhodes Scholars, Ole Miss ranks high 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 an 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 and the Southern Foodways Symposium in October. 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. Hours are 9:30 a.m.-4:30 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/UNIVERSITY OF MISSISSIPPI 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, Jim Harrison, and Jayne Anne Phillips. 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.

YOUNG AUTHORS FAIR: Gloria Jean Pinkney will participate in the 2002 Young Authors Fair sponsored by the Junior Auxiliary of Oxford. This year, in preparation for the fair, students in the fifth grade are reading Pinkney's books and have opportunities to write, illustrate, and bind a book to be displayed at the Oxford-Lafayette County Public Library the second week of April. Members of Junior Auxiliary are encouraging every fifth grader in the county to write a book for the fair, hear Pinkney's comments on being an author, and attend a reception in her honor at the public library after school on April 12.

The Ninth Oxford Conference for the Book

The University of Mississippi • Oxford, Mississippi

Dedicated to Tennessee Williams

Sponsored by the Center for the Study of Southern Culture, Department of English, Department of History, Department of Journalism, McConnell-Barksdale Honors College, John and Renée Grisham Visiting Writers Fund, Barksdale Reading Institute, Sarah Isom Center for Women, Junior Auxiliary of Oxford, and Square Books. The 2002 conference is partially funded by the University of Mississippi and grants from the Mississippi Humanities Council, the Yoknapatawpha Arts Council, and the Tribal-State Compact Fund.

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.

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 and Lafayette County.

TRIBAL-STATE COMPACT FUND

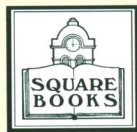
The Tribal-State Compact Fund is a cooperative grant program equally administered and funded by the Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians and the Mississippi Development Authority's Tourism Development Division. The Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians is located in Choctaw. The Mississippi Development Authority is located in Jackson.

SEVENTH ANNUAL NATIONAL POETRY MONTH APRIL 2002 • A NATIONWIDE CELEBRATION OF POETRY

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



For tourist information, contact:
Oxford Tourism Council
P.O. Box 965 • Oxford, MS 38655
telephone 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
telephone 800-468-4001, 662-236-2262
fax 662-234-9630

For more information concerning the conference, contact:

Center for the Study of Southern Culture

THE UNIVERSITY OF MISSISSIPPI

P.O. Box 1848, University, MS 38677-1848 • telephone 662-915-5993 • fax 662-915-5814 • e-mail cssc@olemiss.edu

Internet: <http://www.olemiss.edu/depts/south>



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 Ninth Oxford Conference for the Book is dedicated to Tennessee Williams (1911-1983) *in recognition of his contributions to American letters.*

Tennessee [Thomas Lanier] Williams, one of Mississippi's most notable writers, is widely regarded as the greatest American playwright of the twentieth century.

Williams was born in Columbus and spent a great deal of his impressionable early childhood in Clarksdale, where his maternal grandfather, the Reverend Walter E. Dakin, was rector of St. George's Episcopal Church for 16 years (1917-1933). Tom, as he was then known, his sister Rose, and their mother, Edwina Dakin Williams, lived with his grandparents while his father traveled as a salesman. Later, when his parents moved to St. Louis, Williams returned to visit his grandparents in Clarksdale and, as an adult, always kept close ties with the Mississippi Delta. This area and New Orleans became the primary settings for his plays.

After graduating from high school, Williams studied at the University of Missouri, worked at the International Shoe Company in St. Louis, attended Washington University, and, in

1938, received a B.A. degree in English from the University of Iowa. For the next eight years, he worked at various jobs in New Orleans and other places, wrote screenplays at MGM Studios in Hollywood, and composed dramas that were produced in New York and Boston. From 1945, after his first success as a playwright, Williams continued to move from place to place, with New York, New Orleans, and Key West his primary residences.

Williams's plays include *The Glass Menagerie* (1944), *A Streetcar Named Desire* (1947), *Summer and Smoke* (1948), *Camino Real* (1953), *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof* (1955), *Orpheus Descending* (1957), *Sweet Bird of Youth* (1959), and *The Night of the Iguana* (1961). Many of his plays, as well as his novel *The Roman Spring of Mrs. Stone* (1950), were made into feature films. His work includes a second novel, short stories, poems, essays, and a memoir. Williams earned many honors for his writing, including two Pulitzer Prizes and four Drama Critics Awards.



Grisham Writers in Residency Program

John and Renée Grisham established the Grisham Writer in Residence Program at the University of Mississippi in 1993. The program is designed very specifically to identify and award a one-year residency to "an emerging Southern writer" of particular accomplishment. Each year, the faculty of the Department of English, in consultation with the department chair, the dean of the College of Liberal Arts, and a representative for John and Renée Grisham, select a person for the award. The residency carries a stipend and includes housing in Oxford, near Rowan Oak, the home of William Faulkner. Grisham Writers teach one course each semester, a workshop for undergraduates and graduate students. For the past decade, the Grisham Writer in Residence has been an integral part of the creative writing program at Ole Miss and the literary vitality of Oxford.


A special part of the 2002 Oxford Conference for the Book is a gathering of the fiction writers and poets who have served as John and Renée Grisham Southern Writer in Residence at the University of Mississippi. Tom Franklin, current Grisham Writer, and six of the eight former holders of the visiting position are participating in the conference: Tim Gautreaux, Mary

Hood, Randall Kenan, Darcey Steinke, Claude Wilkinson, and Steve Yarbrough. Next year's Grisham Writer, Shay Youngblood, will be introduced at the conference. The gathering will help celebrate the creation of the University's Master of Fine Arts Program in Creative Writing.

The new M.F.A. program builds on the University's long and fruitful ties with creative writers, beginning with William Faulkner and continuing, more recently, with Elizabeth Spencer, Evans Harrington, Ellen Douglas, Barry Hannah, Cynthia Shearer, Blair Hobbs, and Steve Bellin. The program benefits from the strong support of the Grishams, who fund a yearly writer in residence as well as a visiting writers series. Visiting writers have included fiction writer Madison Smartt Bell, U.S. poet laureates Robert Hass and Robert Pinsky, Pulitzer Prize winner Yusef Komunyakaa, Nobel Prize winner Czeslaw Milosz, and many others. Supporting the M.F.A. program is the literary magazine *Yalobusha Review*, a joint venture between the Departments of English and Art. Current faculty include program director Barry Hannah and David Galef for fiction and Ann Fisher-Wirth and Mairéad Byrne for poetry.

The Ninth Oxford Conference for the Book

The University of Mississippi • Oxford, Mississippi



All program sessions will be in Johnson Commons, unless otherwise noted.

Schedule of Events

THURSDAY, APRIL 11

- 5:30 p.m. *Thacker Mountain Radio*
Off Square Books
Beth Ann Fennelly, Richard Flanagan
Music by Duff & the Revelators
- 8:00 p.m. *Big Bad Love* by Larry Brown
Screening of Film Version of the Story Collection
Fulton Chapel

Friday, April 12

- 9:00 a.m. Welcome
Richard Howorth, Mayor
- Submitting Manuscripts/Working One's Way into Print
Barry Hannah, moderator
Tom Franklin, Amy Hundley, Sheri Joseph,
Carol Houck Smith, Nat Sobel, Brady Udall
- 10:30 a.m. Finding a Voice/Reaching an Audience
Barry Hannah, moderator
Steve Almond, Fiona McCrae, Rick Moody,
Aishah Rahman, Natasha Trethewey
- Noon Lunch - On Your Own
- 1:30 p.m. Welcome
Robert C. Khayat, Chancellor
- Grisham Writers in Residency Program
Joseph Urgo, moderator
- Readings/Remarks
Mary Hood, Steve Yarbrough
- 3:00 p.m. Readings/Remarks
Darcey Steinke, Claude Wilkinson, Shay Youngblood
- 4:30 p.m. Readings/Remarks
Tom Franklin, Tim Gautreaux, Randall Kenan
- 7:00 p.m. Dinner - Isom Place
(Reservations Required)

SATURDAY, APRIL 13

- 9:00 a.m. The Endangered Species: Readers Today and Tomorrow
Elaine H. Scott, moderator
Claiborne Barksdale, Pat Holt, Gloria Jean Pinkney
- 10:30 a.m. The Book Business
Neal Coonerty, moderator
Pat Holt, Tim Huggins, Fiona McCrae
- Noon Lunch - On Your Own
- 1:30 p.m. Covering Trouble
Curtis Wilkie, moderator
Jack Nelson, Thomas Oliphant
- 3:00 p.m. Poetry: Readings and Remarks
Celebration of National Poetry Month
Michael P. Dean, moderator
Beth Ann Fennelly, Natasha Trethewey,
William Trowbridge
- 4:00 p.m. Readings/Remarks
Steve Almond, Richard Flanagan, Rick Moody
- 5:00 p.m. Tennessee Williams Between the Lines
Paula Vogel
- 6:30 p.m. Cocktail Party - Off Square Books
(Reservations Required)

SUNDAY, APRIL 14

- 8:00 a.m. Continental Breakfast
Mississippi Hall of Writers
John Davis Williams Library
Hosted by John M. Meador
Dean of University Libraries
- 9:00 a.m. Readings
Ace Atkins, David Galef, Brady Udall
- 10:00 a.m. Readings
Sheri Joseph, Aishah Rahman

- 11:00 a.m. *The Gnadiges Fraulein*
One-Act Play by Tennessee Williams
Michele Cuomo, director
University of Mississippi Students
Colby Kullman, commentator
- Noon Lunch - TBA
(Reservations Required)
- 1:30 p.m. Southern Comfort: Tennessee Williams
and the Landscape of Childhood
W. Kenneth Holditch
- 2:30 p.m. Reflections on Tennessee Williams
Mel Gussow
- 3:30 p.m. Readings from Tennessee Williams's Plays
Erma Duricko, W. Kenneth Holditch

BOOKSIGNING SCHEDULE

Friday, April 12 Noon - Off Square Books

Tim Gautreaux
Mary Hood
Sheri Joseph
Randall Kenan
Aisha Rahman
Darcey Steinke
Brady Udall
Claude Wilkinson
Steve Yarbrough
Shay Youngblood

Saturday, April 13 Noon - Off Square Books

Ace Atkins
Larry Brown
Beth Ann Fennelly
Tom Franklin
David Galef
Barry Hannah
Curtis Wilkie

Saturday, April 13 6:00 p.m. - Square Books

Steve Almond
Beth Ann Fennelly
Richard Flanagan
Mel Gussow
W. Kenneth Holditch
Rick Moody
Jack Nelson
Gloria Pinkney
Natasha Trethewey
William Trowbridge
Paula Vogel

Special Collections Offers Tennessee Williams Exhibition

The University of Mississippi's Department of Archives and Special Collections is sponsoring a special exhibition on Tennessee Williams in conjunction with the 2002 Oxford Conference for the Book. The exhibition, featuring several cases devoted to Williams's life and career, runs from April 11 through the end of the year.

Among the unique items on display are a signed copy of the August 1928 issue of *Weird Tales Magazine*, which contains Thomas Lanier Williams's first published work, a short story, "The Vengeance of Nitocris"; a Williams poem printed in the 1932 University of Missouri yearbook; and the annotated typesetting draft for the screenplay of *Baby Doll*. Also in the exhibition will be several vintage movie posters based on Williams's work and other paper ephemera.

A number of rare Tennessee Williams items are also included in *Special Collections 1975-2000: A Silver Anniversary Exhibition*. Highlighting a quarter century of acquisitions, this exhibition includes literary rarities of William Faulkner, Eudora Welty, Larry Brown, and Richard Wright.

The Department of Archives and Special Collections is located on the third floor of the J. D. Williams Library. Hours are 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Monday through Friday, except for University holidays. For more information, call 662-915-7408.

Big Bad Love

Big Bad Love is a feature film based on the short story collection by Oxford, Mississippi, writer Larry Brown. Filmed in and around Oxford, it marks the directorial debut of actor Arliss Howard (*Full Metal Jacket*, *The Lost World*) and long-awaited return to the screen by his wife, Debra Winger. In addition to directing, Howard plays the lead role of Leon Barlow, a Vietnam veteran who struggles to realize his dream of becoming a writer. The cast includes Paul Le Mat, Rosanna Arquette, Angie Dickinson, and Michael Parks, along with a handful of locals. The screenplay was adapted by the director's brother, James Howard.

The Speakers

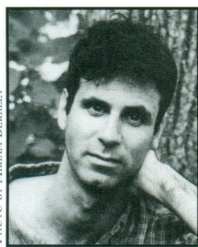


PHOTO BY MIRIAM BEKLEY

STEVE ALMOND has published fiction in *Missouri Review*, *New England Review*, *Playboy*, *Ploughshares*, *Southern Review*, *Zoetrope*, and other periodicals. His debut collection of stories, *My Life in Heavy Metal*, has just been published by Grove/Atlantic. He lives in Boston, where

he teaches creative writing at Boston College and Emerson College.

ACE ATKINS, former crime reporter for the *Tampa Tribune* and author of *Crossroad Blues* and *Leavin' Trunk Blues*, says he "writes about music and murder and whatever else he finds along Highway 61."

He was nominated for a Pulitzer Prize in 2000 and the Livingston Award for outstanding journalism in 1999 and 2000. He is currently teaching journalism classes at the University of Mississippi. His new book, *Dark End of the Street*, is forthcoming.

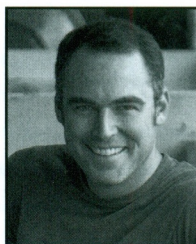


PHOTO BY JANE NOLAN



CLAIBORNE BARKSDALE is executive director of the Barksdale Reading Institute at the University of Mississippi. After earning B.A. and J.D. degrees from Ole Miss, he practiced law in Jackson for five years, was legislative coordinator for Senator Thad Cochran for four years, spent a year

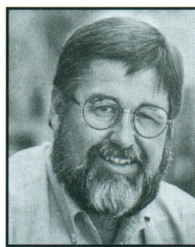
as a clerk for the Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals, and has served as counsel for communications companies since 1983.

Barksdale moved to Oxford in July 2000 with his wife and three children.

LARRY BROWN, former captain of the Oxford Fire Department, is the author of eight books, most recently *Billy Ray's Farm*. His story collection *Big Bad Love* is the basis for a new film starring Arliss Howard and Debra Winger.

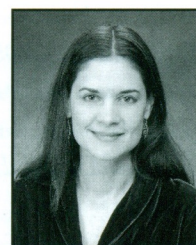


PHOTO BY TOM RAVEN



NEAL COONERTY, president of the American Booksellers Association, has owned Bookshop Santa Cruz since 1973. For three years after the store was destroyed in California's Loma Prieta earthquake of 1989, he operated as Booktent Santa Cruz in a 5,000 square foot tent. He has served on the city council and as mayor of Santa Cruz.

MICHELE CUOMO is an assistant professor of Theatre Arts at the University of Mississippi. She has performed, directed, and produced theatre across the country and in Europe. She most recently revived her one woman performance *Witch Dance* in London and has acted and directed with Miss Elsie Productions, Oxford's newest theatre company of which she is associate director.



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.

ERMA DURICKO has directed off and off-off Broadway in New York City and at theatres all across the country. A member of the Society of Stage Directors/Choreographers for over 20 years, she is the founder and artistic director of Blue Roses Productions, Inc., a national production company dedicated to presenting the works of Tennessee Williams and nurturing and producing works by new American playwrights. An acting and directing teacher, she has taught at the University of Scranton, among others, and has given master classes on Tennessee Williams throughout the United States.





BETH ANN FENNELLY received the 2001 *Kenyon Review* Prize in Poetry for a First Book for her collection *Open House*. Her poems have been anthologized in *Poets of the New Century*, *The Penguin Book of the Sonnet*, *The Best American Poetry 1996*, and the *Pushcart Prize 2001*.

RICHARD FLANAGAN is a novelist and filmmaker from Tasmania. He is the author of *The Sound of One Hand Clapping*, which won the Australian Booksellers Book of the Year Award and the Vance Palmer Prize for Fiction, and which he adapted and directed as a film. His novel *Death of a River Guide*, winner of the 1995 Victorian Premier's Literary Award for First Fiction and the South Australian Premier's Literary Award, made its American debut last year. Grove/Atlantic is publishing his novel *Gould's Book of Fish* this spring.

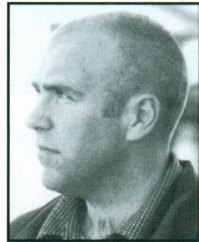
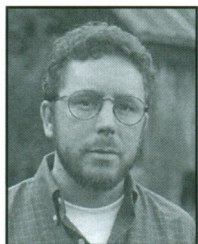


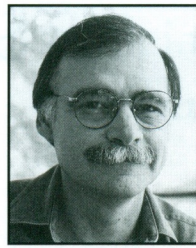
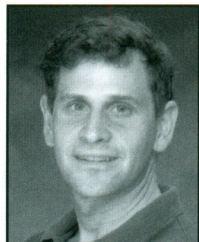
PHOTO BY THE MERCURY (AUSTRALIA)



TOM FRANKLIN, currently Grisham Writer in Residence at the University of Mississippi, is a widely published author of essays and stories. His first book, *Poachers*, is a collection of nine stories and a novella. The title story won the Edgar Award for Best Short Story and was selected for

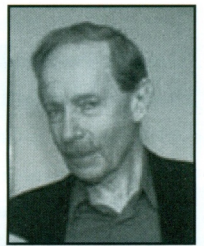
inclusion in several prestigious anthologies.

DAVID GALEF is professor of English at the University of Mississippi. Among his publications are two novels, two children's books, more than 60 short stories, translations of Japanese proverbs, and articles on Joyce, Woolf, Conrad, Forster, T. S. Eliot, psychoanalysis and feminism, and postcolonialism. His latest book is *Laugh Track*, a collection of short stories recently published by the University Press of Mississippi.



TIM GAUTREAUX is the author of the collection *Same Place, Same Things* and the novel *The Next Step in the Dance*. The *New York Times* included his book of short stories, *Welding with Children*, in the list of notable books for 1999. He has won a National Magazine award for his fiction, and his stories have appeared repeatedly in such journals as *Atlantic*, *Harper's*, and *GQ*, as well as in anthologies such as *Best American Short Stories*, *New Stories from the South*, and *O. Henry Prize Stories*. He holds a doctorate in English from the University of South Carolina and has taught fiction at Southeastern Louisiana University for 30 years. He was Grisham Writer in Residence at the University of Mississippi in 1995-96.

MEL GUSSOW, acclaimed theater critic for the *New York Times*, has written over a thousand reviews and seen the debuts of the major theatrical works of recent decades. He is the author of several books, including the recent *Edward Albee: A Singular Journey* and *Theatre on Edge: New Visions, New Voices*.



He coedited the Library of America's two-volume collection of the works of Tennessee Williams. He is the recipient of a Guggenheim Fellowship and the George Jean Nathan Award for dramatic criticism.



BARRY HANNAH is the author of ten works of fiction, including his first novel, *Geronimo Rex*, which was awarded the William Faulkner Prize and nominated for the National Book Award; *Ray*, nominated for the American Book Award; and *Airships*, a collection of stories widely regarded as a contemporary classic. His new novel is *Yonder Stands Your Orphan*. He is writer in residence and director of the new M.F.A. program in creative writing at the University of Mississippi.



PHOTO BY SIDNEY BYRD

W. KENNETH HOLDITCH, a prominent literary scholar who is professor emeritus at the University of New Orleans, has written short stories, poems, and essays on major Southern writers, including Tennessee Williams. He has edited the *Tennessee Williams Journal* since 1989 and coedited the Library of America's

recent two-volume edition of the works of Tennessee Williams. His most recent book, *Tennessee Williams and the South*, was published this spring by the University Press of Mississippi.

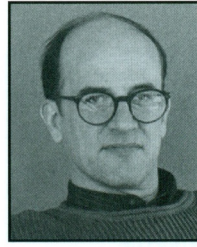
PAT HOLT was book editor at the *San Francisco Chronicle* for 16 years (1982-1998) before resigning to create and operate *Holt Uncensored*, an e-mail book column that grew out of her concern about the plight of independent bookstores in their struggle to survive chain bookstores, price clubs, discounters, and Internet suppliers. As a board member of the Center for the Book at the Library of Congress, she proposed that 1987 be declared "The Year of the Reader" and 1989 as "The Year of the Young Reader"; both proposals were approved by Congress and enacted as public laws. In 1990 she became the first nonlibrarian in 40 years to receive the American Library Association's prestigious Grolier Foundation Award.



PHOTO BY ALLEN PHILLIPS JR.

MARY HOOD is the author of a novel, *Familiar Heat*, and three collections of stories: *How Far She Went*, *And Venus Is Blue*, and *Survival, Evasion, Escape*. Her work has appeared in *Harper's*, *Art & Antiques*, *Gettysburg Review*, *North American Review*, *Best American Short Stories*, *Best*

American Essays, and other journals and collections. A recipient of the LSU/*Southern Review* Short Fiction Award, the Townsend Prize, a Columbia University National Magazine Award, and a Whiting Award, she was Grisham Writer in Residence at the University of Mississippi in 1996. She lives on Cabin Creek in Jackson County, Georgia.



RICHARD HOWORTH is the mayor of Oxford. He is the founder of Square Books and past president of the American Booksellers Association.

TIMOTHY HUGGINS is the proprietor of Newtonville Books in Newton, Massachusetts. Before earning an M.B.A. from Boston University and opening his bookstore in 1998, he worked at Lemuria Bookstore in Jackson, Mississippi, and at the University Press of Mississippi. He is a member of the advisory council for the American Booksellers Association and the New England Booksellers Association.

AMY HUNDLEY has been an editor at Grove/Atlantic for six years. She works with authors including Barry Hannah, Jim Harrison, Darcey Steinke, Anne Enright, and Tristan Egolf.

SHERI JOSEPH, a National Magazine Award finalist, has a Ph.D. in English and creative writing from the University of Georgia and is an assistant professor of fiction writing at Kentucky's Morehead State University. Her debut, *Bear Me Safely Over*, published by Atlantic Monthly Press, is set in urban and rural Georgia and explores the interior lives of two families soon to be linked by marriage.



PHOTO BY MIRIAM BERKELEY

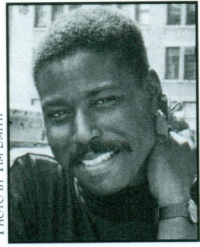


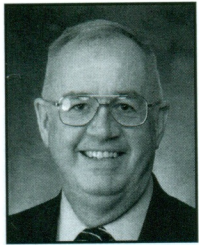
PHOTO BY TIM SMITH

RANDALL KENAN is the author of *A Visitation of Spirits*, *Let the Dead Bury Their Dead and Other Stories*, and *Walking on Water: Black America on the Eve of the 21st Century*. Among his awards are the Mary Francis Hobson Medal for Arts and Letters, a Whiting Writers' Award, and the

American Academy of Arts and Letters' Prix de Rome. He was Grisham Writer in Residence at the University of Mississippi in 1997-98 and now teaches at the University of Memphis.



ROBERT C. KHAYAT, an avid reader, has been chancellor of the University of Mississippi since 1995.

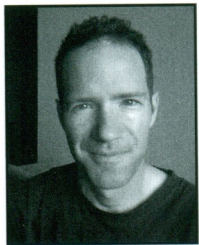


COLBY KULLMAN is professor of English at the University of Mississippi, where he has twice been named Teacher of the Year. In addition to writing many articles on Tennessee Williams and other modern dramatists, he has also served as editor in chief of the two-volume reference work

Theatre Companies of the Contemporary American Playwrights and coeditor of *Speaking on Stage and Studies in American Drama: 1945-Present*.



FIONA MCCRAE became the director of Graywolf Press in 1994. She has recently published work by Natasha Trethewey, W. D. Snodgrass, and Debra Spark.



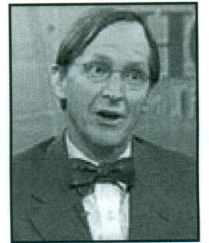
RICK MOODY is the author of the novels *Purple America*, *The Ice Storm*, and *Garden State*, along with two story collections, *The Brightest Ring of Angels around Heaven* and *Demonology*. He is a past recipient of the Addison Metcalf Award from the American Academy of Arts and Letters and, in 2000,

won a Guggenheim Fellowship. His acclaimed fiction and essays have appeared in the *New Yorker*, *Esquire*, *Paris Review*, *Harper's*, *Grand Street*, *Details*, and the *New York Times*. He lives in New York.



JACK NELSON, chief Washington correspondent for the *Los Angeles Times*, is the recipient of the 1999 Robert F. Kennedy Journalism Award for Lifetime Achievement. He worked for the *Biloxi (Mississippi) Daily Herald* and the *Atlanta Constitution* before moving to the *Los*

Angeles Times. He served as chief of its Washington bureau for more than two decades. His books include *Beyond Reagan: The Politics of Upheaval* and *Terror in the Night: The Klan's Campaign Against the Jews*. He was national chairman of Covering the South: A Symposium on the Media and the Civil Rights Movement, held at the University of Mississippi in April 1987 and broadcast live over C-SPAN.



THOMAS OLIPHANT is Washington correspondent for the *Boston Globe* and a nationally syndicated columnist. A noted political commentator, he is a frequent guest on *The News Hour* with Jim Lehrer.



GLORIA JEAN PINKNEY was born in Lumberton, North Carolina, where she set her first book, *Back Home*, which received an American Library Association notable book award and rave reviews. She is also the author of *The Sunday Outing* and *In the Forest of Your Remembrance*. Her husband,

illustrator Jerry Pinkney, illustrated these books. Their sons, illustrators Brian and Myles Pinkney, also contributed to *In the Forest*, and author Clifton L. Taulbert wrote the introduction.



PHOTO BY ANA ZOSBANI BERK

AISHAH RAHMAN teaches creative writing at Brown University. Her recent works include a play, *Chiaroscuro: A Light (and Dark) Comedy*, a story collection, *If Only We Knew*, and an acclaimed memoir, *Chewed Water*.



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. She is editor of the Ledbetter Monograph Series at the Center for Arkansas Studies at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock.



CAROL HOUCK SMITH is an editor at W. W. Norton. She has edited the works of Andrea Barrett and Brady Udall, among others.



NAT SOBEL founded Sobel Weber Associates, a literary agency, in 1970. He is a former bookseller, publisher's sales representative, marketing director, and subsidiary rights agent. He holds a B.A. in English from City College of New York.

Among his clients are Tom Franklin, James Ellroy, Robert Jordan, and Richard Russo.

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*. She has edited a collection of essays, *Joyful Noise: The New Testament Revisited*, and her journalism has appeared in *Spin*, *George*, *Artforum*, and the *Village Voice*. She was Grisham Writer in Residence at the University of Mississippi in 1998-99.

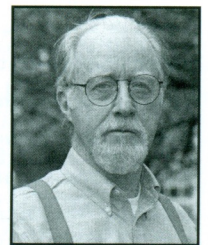


PHOTOS BY MAURICE SCHULTER/CLAY

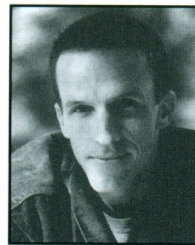


NATASHA TRETTHEWEY received the Grolier Poetry Prize and the Margaret Walker Award for Poetry for her poem "Storyville Diary." Her first poetry collection, *Domestic Work*, published by Graywolf Press, received the 1999 Cave Canem Poetry Prize, the 2001 Lillian Smith Book Award for Poetry, and a

2001 Mississippi Institute of Arts and Letters Award. Her second collection, *Belloq's Ophelia*, is forthcoming from Graywolf Press this spring. A native of Gulfport, Mississippi, she earned an M.A. in poetry from Hollins University and an M.F.A. in poetry from the University of Massachusetts. She is a member of the creative writing faculty at Emory University.



WILLIAM TROWBRIDGE is Distinguished University Professor at Northwest Missouri State in Maryville, Missouri, where he lives with his wife, Sue. His poems have appeared in *Poetry*, the *Georgia Review*, and many other publications. He is the author of several collections of poetry, including *The Book of Kong*, *Enter Dark Stranger*, and *O Paradise*. His latest is *Flickers*. He is coeditor of the *Laurel Review*, one of the Midwest's leading literary journals, and currently serves as an editor of the *Georgia Review*.



BRADY UDALL is the author of the much-acclaimed story collection *Letting Lose the Hounds*. His first novel, *The Miracle Life of Edgar Mint*, was met with critical acclaim after its release in 2001. Born and raised in Arizona, he is a graduate of the Iowa Writer's Workshop, a James Michener

Fellow, and a winner of the Playboy fiction contest. His stories have been published in *GQ*, *Story*, and the *Paris Review*, among others. He lives in Illinois with his wife and two sons.

JOSEPH URGO chairs the English Department at the University of Mississippi. Among his publications are *Willa Cather and the Myth of American Migration*, *Faulkner's Apocrypha: A Fable, Snopes, and the Spirit of Human Rebellion*, and *In the Age of Distraction*.

