

Stark Young. By Miguel Covarrubias, ©Maria Elena Rico Covarrubias

The Tenth
Oxford Conference for the Book
The University of Mississippi • Oxford, Mississippi
April 10-13, 2003



JOY WILSON will graduate in May with an M.F.A. in fiction from the University of Mississippi, where she is editor of the *Yalobusha Review*. She has worked with Barry Hannah, Tom Franklin, Shay Youngblood, David Galef, Michelle Richmond, and Cynthia Shearer on the

completion of her first novel, "Places Like Home," most of which she wrote in Oxford. Her fiction has appeared in *Quirk* and her poetry in *Zillah*.

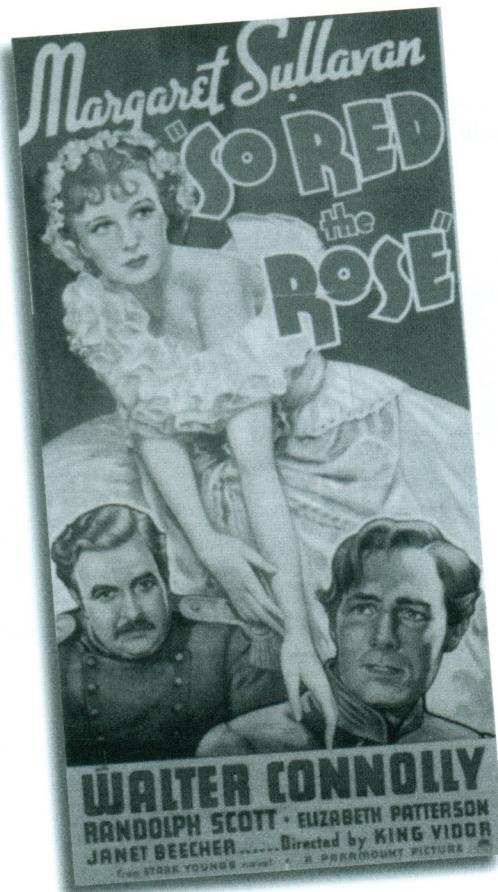
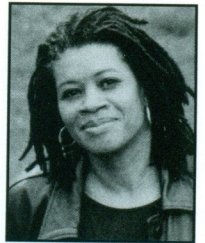
LAUREN F. WINNER, former book editor for Beliefnet.com, is a regular reviewer for *Publishers Weekly* and a contributing editor for *Christianity Today*. Her essays have appeared in the *New York Times Book Review*, the *Washington Post Book World*, and many other journals. She has degrees from Columbia and Cambridge Universities and is currently at work on her doctorate in the history of religion at Columbia. Algonquin Books recently published her memoir, *Girl Meets God: Searching for a Spiritual Identity*.



ETHEL YOUNG-MINOR is an assistant professor of English and Afro-American Studies at the University of Mississippi. She is coeditor of *Black Sermons*, a collection of African American sermons delivered from 1901 to 2000, and has published articles in the *College Language*

Association Journal and *Women Studies International*. Her current research focuses on African American women in performance.

SHAY YOUNGBLOOD is a poet, playwright, fiction writer, and screenwriter, author of *The Big Momma Stories*, the novels *Soul Kiss* and *Black Girl in Paris*, and *Shakin' the Mess Outta Misery*, which was optioned by Sidney Poitier for Columbia Pictures. Her other plays include *Amazing Grace*, *Talking Bones*, *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. A native of Columbus, Georgia, 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 is 2002-2003 Grisham Writer in Residence at the University of Mississippi.



Stark Young's 1934 novel *So Red the Rose* was an immediate publishing success, and in 1935 Paramount produced a film version that also was a great success. Two Southerners play the leading roles in this Civil War drama: Margaret Sullavan, as a plantation mistress, and Randolph Scott, as a Confederate officer. Maxwell Anderson, Edwin Justus Mayer, and Laurence Stallings collaborated on the screenplay.

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*.

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. The Department's Blues Archive is the leading research collection on blues music. It contains books, periodicals, recordings, films, photographs, and posters. Of special interest are the B. B. King Collection and the *Living Blues* Collection. The Southern Media Archive, also located in Special Collections, identifies, collects, preserves, and makes accessible the cultural expression of the South through a variety of forms of documentary media. Important visual collections include images of William Faulkner and Lafayette County by local studio photographer "Colonel" J. R. Cofield and his son Jack, the Lytle Film Collection documenting life on a Delta plantation in the 1930s and 1940s, and Martin J. Dain's photographs of William Faulkner taken in the early 1960s. Open 8:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Monday through Friday, except for University holidays. Telephone: 662-915-7408.

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. The house is closed for restoration until later in 2003. The grounds remain open for visitors from dawn until dusk.

THE LAFAYETTE COUNTRY LITERACY COUNCIL is a nonprofit organization whose mission is to promote literacy and adult education throughout the county by means of adult one-on-one tutoring, family literacy programs, and working with partner agencies. Services are free of charge. The Council depends on community support for volunteers and financial contributions. Telephone: 662-234-4234.

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.

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.

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 just over 12,000 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 seventh among all public universities in number of students chosen for this honor.

YOUNG AUTHORS FAIR: Joe Ella Lyon will participate in the 2003 Young Authors Fair sponsored by the Junior Auxiliary of Oxford. This year, in preparation for the fair, students in the fifth grade are reading Lyon'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 Lyon's comments on being an author, and attend a reception in her honor at the public library after school on April 14.

The Tenth Oxford Conference for the Book

The University of Mississippi • Oxford, Mississippi

Dedicated to Stark Young

Sponsored by the Center for the Study of Southern Culture, Department of English, Department of History, Department of Journalism, John Davis Williams Library, McDonnell-Barksdale Honors College, John and Renée Grisham Visiting Writers Fund, Barksdale Reading Institute, Sarah Isom Center for Women, University Museums, Junior Auxiliary of Oxford, Lafayette County Literacy Council, and Square Books. The 2003 conference is partially funded by the University of Mississippi and grants from the Mississippi Humanities Council, the Tribal-State Compact Fund, and the Yoknapatawpha Arts Council.

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. The Mississippi Humanities Council is celebrating 30 years of public humanities programming in Mississippi in 2002-2003, and this project has received a special 30th Anniversary Award designation.

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.

EIGHTH ANNUAL NATIONAL POETRY MONTH

APRIL 2003 • 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 (212-274-0343) or e-mail (academy@poets.org).



FOR TOURIST INFORMATION
CALL 800.758.9177

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 • email 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 Tenth Oxford Conference for the Book
is dedicated to

Stark Young (1881-1963)

in recognition of his contribution to American art and letters.

Stark Young, a versatile figure in the Southern Literary Renaissance, devoted his life entirely to the arts and achieved widespread recognition for his contributions as teacher, poet, playwright, director, drama critic, fiction writer, essayist, translator, and painter.

Young was born on October 11, 1881, in Como, Mississippi. After the death of his mother, his father, a physician and a Civil War veteran,



remarried and moved his family to Oxford in 1895. After receiving his education in the classics and languages at the University of Mississippi (B.A., 1901) and Columbia University (M.A., 1902), Young taught English literature at the University of Mississippi (1904-07), the University of Texas (1907-15), and Amherst College (1915-21). At the University of Texas he helped to found the Curtain Club, one of the first successful little theater groups in the United States, and established the *Texas Review*, a journal devoted to the arts and the humanities. In 1922, Young left teaching to become a freelance writer and moved to New York City, his home for the rest of his life.

Young became drama critic for the *New Republic* and a member of its editorial board as well as that of *Theatre Arts*. He also became associated with the Provincetown Players and the Theatre Guild. Between 1923 and 1927, he wrote a series of books on drama containing essays based largely upon his reviews of New York productions. Later he collected the best of his drama reviews in *Immortal Shadows* (1948). These volumes

established him as a leading drama critic in the country.

Between 1926 and 1934, Young published four highly successful novels: *Heaven Trees*, *The Torches Flare*, *River House*, and *So Red the Rose*. Perhaps the finest novel of the Civil War seen from the Southern point of view, *So Red the Rose* became a bestseller and a popular motion picture and has remained in print ever since its initial publication. In 1930,



The Young Home in Como, Mississippi.

Young wrote the concluding essay, "Not in Memoriam, but in Defense," for the Southern agrarian manifesto *I'll Take My Stand*. In it he argued the case for the Southern way of life that he had already expressed in fiction.

Young also wrote and directed plays, translated Chekhov and Moliere, published poetry and an autobiography, painted flowers and landscapes, and had two critically acclaimed one-man exhibitions in New York. During the 1950s, he gave lectures on the theater, traveled abroad, and worked on his memoirs. Throughout his life, he corresponded with many friends in Oxford and often returned there for visits. He died in New York on January 6, 1963, and was buried with his parents in Como.

John Pilkington

Miguel Covarrubias

Illustrating 2003 Oxford Conference for the Book posters, printed programs, and T-shirts is a caricature of Stark Young by Miguel Covarrubias, drawn in 1934, the year Young's *So Red the Rose* "led the season's fiction." The drawing is reproduced by permission of Maria Elena Rico Covarrubias, who holds the copyright.

Miguel Covarrubias—artist, stage designer, author, ethnologist, anthropologist, and art collector—was born in Mexico City in 1904. He moved to New York City in 1923 and became a popular illustrator, known in particular for his *Vanity Fair* covers, *New Yorker* illustrations, and caricatures, which he also published in book form. He illustrated several book jackets for Alfred A. Knopf and a number of books, including Zora Neal Hurston's *Mules and Men*, Harriet Beecher Stowe's *Uncle Tom's Cabin*, and W. C. Handy's *Blues: An Anthology*. Covarrubias returned to Mexico in 1942 and died there in 1957.

The Tenth 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 10

5:30 p.m. Thacker Mountain Radio
Off Square Books
Percival Everett, Robert Stone

7:00 p.m. Dinner
Meet the Speakers
Isom Place
(Reservations Required)

FRIDAY, APRIL 11

9:00 a.m. Welcome
Richard Howorth, Mayor
Submitting Manuscripts/Working One's Way into Print
Barry Hannah, moderator
Jere Hoar, Beau Friedlander, Scott M. Morris,
Kathy Pories, George Singleton, Shay Youngblood

10:30 a.m. Finding a Voice/Reaching an Audience
Barry Hannah, moderator
Helene Atwan, John Evans, Percival Everett,
Marly Rusoff, Robert Stone, Crystal Wilkinson

Noon Lunch - On Your Own

2:00 p.m. Welcome
Robert C. Khayat, Chancellor

Algonquin Books: Discussion
Kathy Pories, Shannon Ravenel

Algonquin Authors: Readings
Marshall Boswell, Scott M. Morris, George Singleton

3:30 p.m. Race and Publishing in America
Helene Atwan, Percival Everett

5:00 p.m. Readings/Remarks
Joseph Urgo, moderator
Tom Franklin, Shay Youngblood

7:00 p.m. Cocktail Party
Off Square Books
(Reservations Required)

8:30 p.m. How to Get the Most from a Creative Writing Workshop
David Galef, moderator
D. Allan Mitchell, Joy Wilson

SATURDAY, APRIL 12

9:00 a.m. The Endangered Species: Readers Today and Tomorrow
Elaine H. Scott, moderator
Claiborne Barksdale, Priscilla Handy, George Ella Lyon

10:30 a.m. Writing Memoirs
Ted Ownby, moderator
Michael Mewshaw, Clifton Taulbert, Lauren F. Winner

Noon Stark Young Program
North Mississippi Storytellers Guild
Walton-Young Historic House
Fifth Street & University Avenue

2:00 p.m. Stark Young: A Southerner in the Arts
John Pilkington

3:00 p.m. Selections from Stark Young's Works
Robert Canon, Rebecca Moore Jernigan,
Christopher Schager
Theatre Oxford and the O'Connor Theatre Project

4:30 p.m. Third World Thrillers
Curtis Wilkie, moderator
Robert Stone, Michael Mewshaw

6:00 p.m. Booksigning
Off Square Books

8:30 p.m. Open Mike - Poetry & Fiction Jam
Lacey Galbraith, moderator

SUNDAY, APRIL 13

- 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. Appalachian Voices
Kathryn McKee, moderator
George Ella Lyon, Ron Rash, Crystal Wilkinson
- 10:30 a.m. Readings/Remarks
Ace Atkins, Jere Hoar
- Noon Lunch - On Your Own

- 1:30 p.m. Books on the Civil Rights Movement
Ethel Young-Minor, moderator
Constance Curry, Paul Hendrickson, Winson Hudson
- 3:00 p.m. Poetry: Readings and Remarks
Celebration of National Poetry Month
Blair Hobbs, moderator
Beth Ann Fennelly, Shara McCallum, Ron Rash
- 4:00 p.m. Readings/Remarks
Jamie Kornegay, moderator
Calvin Baker, Emily Bingham, Lewis Robinson
- 6:00 p.m. Country Dinner
Taylor, Mississippi
(Reservations Required)

NORTH MISSISSIPPI STORYTELLERS GUILD, under the direction of actress and storyteller Rebecca Moore Jernigan, will recreate characters from Oxford and Lafayette County during the daylong Victorian Good Times celebration at the Walton-Young Historic House operated by the University Museums. Conference participants are invited to a tour the house where Stark Young lived as a young man and see an actor give a presentation about his life and work. The celebration is set for on Saturday, April 12; the Stark Young tour and presentation will take place that day between noon and one o'clock. Friends of the University Museums will provide punch and a light lunch for conference participants attending the event.

THEATRE OXFORD AND THE O'CONNOR THEATRE PROJECT are collaborating in a revival of two short plays by Stark Young: *The Twilight Saint*, directed by Christopher Schager, and *Madretta*, directed by Rebecca Moore Jernigan. Following the plays Robert Canon will moderate a discussion of the revival process with the directors and casts. Selections from Young's poetry, drama criticism, and letters will also be read. The plays and readings will be presented during the conference session on Saturday, April 12, at 3:00 p.m.

THE WALTON-YOUNG HISTORIC HOUSE, a registered Mississippi Landmark, was built in 1880 by Horace H. Walton, who owned a hardware store on the Oxford Square. Walton and his wife, Lydia Laura Walton, lived in the home with their three children until his death in 1891.

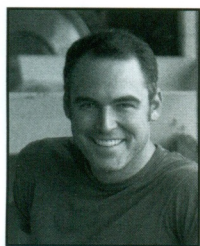
In 1895, Lydia Walton married Dr. Alfred Alexander Young, a country physician and widower from Como, Mississippi. Dr. Young moved into the house, bringing his son, Stark, and daughter, Julia. Stark Young, who became a well-known novelist, playwright, and drama critic, was the most famous resident of the house.

Dr. and Mrs. Young lived in the house until their deaths in 1925. The First Presbyterian Church of Oxford purchased the house for use as a parsonage. Four ministers' families occupied the house over the next 50 years.

The University purchased the property in 1974, and it housed the Center for the Study of Southern Culture and the Honors College. The house became a part of the University Museums in 1997.

The house is located at the corner of University Avenue and Fifth Street, adjacent to the University Museums. Tours are available on Friday 10:00 a.m.-noon and 2:00-4:00 p.m., or by appointment. For more information, call 662-915-7073 or e-mail museums@olemiss.edu.

The Speakers



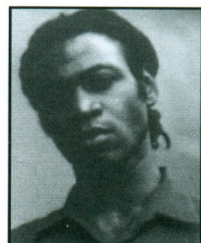
ACE ATKINS, former crime reporter for the *Tampa Tribune* and author of *Crossroad Blues*, *Leavin' Trunk Blues*, and *Dark End of the Street*, says he "writes about music and murder and whatever else he finds along Highway 61." He was nominated for a Pulitzer Prize in 2000 and the Livingston

Award for outstanding journalism in 1999 and 2000. He is currently teaching journalism classes at the University of Mississippi.

HELENE ATWAN has been director of Beacon Press, the nation's oldest nonprofit independent, since 1995. She began her career in publishing at Alfred A. Knopf and has worked at Viking Press, Farrar, Straus & Giroux, and Simon & Schuster's Pocket Books. Her acquisitions at Beacon include Gayle Jones's *The Healing*, a National Book Award Finalist; Elaine Brown's *The Condemnation of Little B.*; Sindiwe Magona's *Mother to Mother*; Sudha Koul's *The Tiger Ladies*; Lillian Faderman's *I Begin My Life All Over*; and DeWitt Henry and James Alan McPherson's *Fathering Daughters*. She has served on the board of the National Coalition against Censorship and is currently chair of PEN-New England. Atwan has lectured on publishing at New York University and Radcliffe College.



CALVIN BAKER, born in Chicago and a graduate of Amherst College, has worked in theater and in journalism, as a newspaper reporter and a staff writer for *People Magazine*. His first novel, *Naming the New World*, was described by *Publishers Weekly* as a "brilliant debut." His newly published second novel, *Once Two Heroes*, examines the aftermath of World War II in America through the story of a black man who grew up in France and a white man from a genteel Mississippi family.



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.

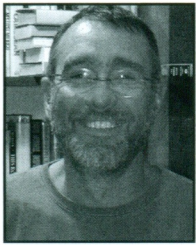
EMILY BINGHAM is an independent scholar living in Louisville, Kentucky. She recently published her first book, *Mordecai*, a multigenerational history of a Jewish family who settled in the South during America's first century. She also edited, with Thomas A. Underwood, *The Southern Agrarians and the New Deal: Essays after "I'll Take My Stand."*



MARSHALL BOSWELL grew up in Memphis and has moved back there to teach 20th-century literature and fiction writing at Rhodes College. He received his Ph.D. from Emory University and has published short stories in a range of magazines, from *Missouri Review* to *Playboy*. *Trouble with Girls*, a collection of linked stories recently published by Algonquin Books, is his first book.

CONSTANCE CURRY is an activist, attorney, and fellow in Women's Studies at Emory University. She has written or collaborated on several books about the civil rights movement, including *Deep in Our Hearts*, *Aaron Henry*, and *Silver Rights*, winner of the Lillian Smith Book Award in 1996. Most recently, she and Winson Hudson, of Leake County, Mississippi, collaborated on *Mississippi Harmony: Memoirs of a Freedom Fighter*.





JOHN EVANS opened Lemuria Bookstore in Jackson, Mississippi, in 1975. Regarded as one of the country's best independent bookstores, it has counted Eudora Welty, Willie Morris, Walker Percy, and Ellen Gilchrist among its regular customers.

PERCIVAL EVERETT is the author of 14 books of fiction, including *Glyph* (1999), *Frenzy* (1997), *Watershed* (1996), and *Suder* (1983). He created a storm with his 2001 novel *Erasure*, which *Publishers Weekly* calls "an over-the-top masterpiece" and *Booklist* describes as "a scathingly funny look at racism and the book business, editors, publishers, readers, and writers alike." Everett is a professor of English at the University of Southern California.

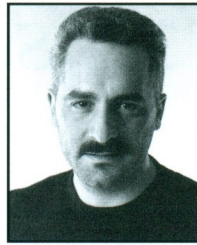


MAUDE SCHUYLER CLAY

BETH ANN FENNELLY received the 2001 *Kenyon Review* Prize in Poetry for a First Book for her collection *Open House*. Her new book, *Tender Hooks*, will be published by W. W. Norton in April 2004. 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*. She was recently awarded a 2003 Creative Writing Fellowship in Poetry from the National Endowment for the Arts. Fennelly is an English professor at the University of Mississippi.

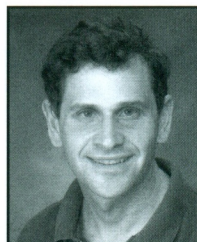
TOM FRANKLIN, 2001-2002 Grisham Writer in Residence at the University of Mississippi, is a widely published author of essays and stories. His first book, *Poachers*, is a collection of nine stories and a novella. The title story won the Edgar Award for Best Short Story and was selected for inclusion in several prestigious anthologies, including *The Best American Mystery Stories of the Century*. Franklin's new novel, *Hell at the Breach*, is due out in May from William Morrow. The recipient of a 2001 Guggenheim Fellowship, he is currently the Tennessee Williams Fellow in Fiction at the University of the South.



BEAU FRIEDLANDER is publisher and editor in chief of Context Books. Previously, he worked for Pantheon and Alfred A. Knopf. Also a poet and art critic, he has written for artist catalogs and published both poems and translations in various magazines. Friedlander was educated at

Bennington College, Oxford University, and Columbia University.

LACEY GALBRAITH grew up in Nashville and is completing her M.F.A. degree at the University of Mississippi. Her work has appeared in the *Mississippi Review Online Journal*, *Yalobusha Review*, and *Nashville Scene*.



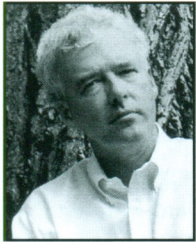
DAVID GALEF is professor of English and M.F.A. program coordinator at the University of Mississippi. Among his publications are two novels, two children's books, more than 60 short stories, translations of Japanese proverbs, and articles on Joyce, Woolf, Conrad, Forster, T. S. Eliot, psychoanalysis and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

PRISCILLA HANDY received a Ph.D. in sociology from the University of Illinois and currently works at the Oxford WIN Job Center as performance coordinator for the Workforce Investment ACT (WIA). An employee of Northwest Community College since December 2001 and resident of Lafayette County soon after, she joined the Lafayette County Literacy Council in July 2002 and currently serves as its vice president.



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

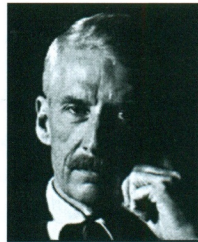
contemporary classic. His latest novel is *Yonder Stands Your Orphan*. He is writer in residence and director of the M.F.A. program in creative writing at the University of Mississippi.



PAUL HENDRICKSON, a prize-winning feature writer for the *Washington Post* for more than 20 years, now teaches nonfiction writing at the University of Pennsylvania. He is the author of *The Living and the Dead: Robert McNamara and Five Lives of a Lost War*, a finalist for the National Book

Award in 1997. He explores the civil rights era in his new book, *Sons of Mississippi: A Story of Race and Its Legacy*, published this spring.

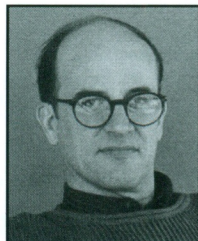
JERE HOAR is an emeritus professor of journalism at the University of Mississippi and an attorney. He is the author of the critically acclaimed story collection *Body Parts*, published by the University Press of Mississippi. Context Books recently published his first novel, *The Hit*, the story of a Vietnam veteran who is a mental patient at a VA hospital in Mississippi.



BLAIR HOBBS holds an M.A. degree from Hollins College and an M.F.A. from the University of Michigan. Her poetry has been published in the *Georgia Review* and the *Laurel Review*, among other journals. Hobbs also works as a visual artist, and her collage works have been widely exhibited.

She is instructor of English at the University of Mississippi.

RICHARD HOWORTH was elected mayor of Oxford in 2001. He is founder of Square Books in Oxford, Mississippi, and past president of the American Booksellers Association.



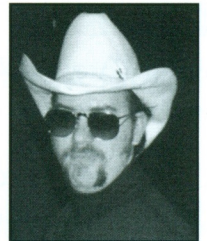
WINSON HUDSON was born in 1916 and is a lifelong resident of the rural, all-black community of Harmony, in Leake County, Mississippi. She helped establish the county NAACP chapter in 1961, served as its president for 38 years, and has devoted her life to

combating discrimination. Her many honors include the NAACP's Freedom Award for Outstanding Community Service and inclusion in Brian Lanker's photography book on black women who changed America, *I Dream a World*. Her story is told in *Mississippi Harmony: Memoirs of a Freedom Fighter*.



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

JAMIE KORNEGAY is a bookseller at Square Books, editor of the store's *Dear Reader* newsletter, and *Thacker Mountain Radio* producer. He lives in Water Valley, Mississippi.



GEORGE ELLA LYON was born and raised in Harlan County, Kentucky, and received a B.A. from Centre College, an M.A. from the University of Arkansas, and a Ph.D. in English from the University of Indiana. A popular writer of contemporary Appalachian children's literature, she has published 20 picture books and four novels for young readers. She is also the author of two collections of poems and an adult novel, *With a Hammer for My Heart*.

SHARA MCCALLUM is the author of *The Water between Us*, winner of the 1998 Agnes Lynch Starrett Prize, and *Song of Thieves*. Her poems and essays have been published in numerous journals and anthologies, including *Beyond the Frontier: African American Poetry for the 21st Century*. Among her awards are an Academy of American Poets Prize and a Tennessee Individual Artist Fellowship. She teaches in the M.F.A. program at the University of Memphis.



STEVE SCHWARZER



KATHRYN MCKEE is McMullan assistant professor of Southern Studies and assistant professor of English at the University of Mississippi. She has published essays and lectured on Ellen Glasgow, Kaye Gibbons, Bobbie Ann Mason, and other authors.

DAVID WHEATON



MICHAEL MEWSHAW is the author of eight critically acclaimed novels, including *Year of the Gun*, which became a John Frankenheimer film starring Sharon Stone, and half a dozen successful books of nonfiction. He has two new books: the novel *Shelter from the Storm*, a thriller set in

Central Asia, and *Do I Owe You Something?: A Memoir of the Literary Life*.

D. ALLAN MITCHELL, a native of Jackson and a graduate of the University of Virginia, is a first-year student in the M.F.A. poetry program at the University of Mississippi. He writes for the campus newspaper and hosts *Highway 61*, a weekly blues program, on Public Radio in Mississippi.

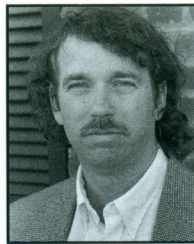


SCOTT M. MORRIS is originally from Florida and now lives in Oxford, Mississippi, where he teaches English at the University of Mississippi. He is the author of two novels, *The Total View of Taftly* (2000) and *Waiting for April*, recently published by Algonquin Books. He has served as an editor at the *Weekly Standard* and is a reviewer for the *Washington Post* and other publications.



JEREMY GARRETT

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.



DAVID WHARTON

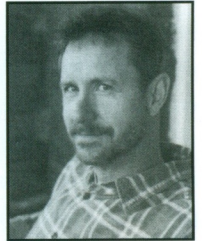


JOHN PILKINGTON is Distinguished Professor Emeritus of English at the University of Mississippi. He has published numerous works about American literature, including a biography of Stark Young and the two-volume *Stark Young, A Life in the Arts: Letters, 1900-1962*.



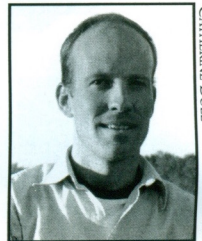
KATHY PORIES is a senior editor at Algonquin Books of Chapel Hill, where she has worked with authors such as Daniel Wallace, author of *Big Fish* (slated for release from Columbia Pictures this Christmas), Silas House, award-winning author of *Clay's Quilt* and *A Parchment of Leaves*, and Scott Morris, author of *Waiting for April*. She also serves as editor of Algonquin's in-house magazine, *The Algonkian*. She received her Ph.D. from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

RON RASH is the author of three books of poems, *Eureka Mill*, *Believers*, and *Raising the Dead*. He is also the author of two collections of stories, *The Night the New Jesus Fell to Earth* and *Casualties*. His first published novel, *One Foot in Eden*, won the 2002 Novello Literary Award. Among his other awards are an American Academy of Poets Prize and an NEA Poetry Fellowship. Rash is on the faculty at Tri-County Technical College in Pendleton, South Carolina, and teaches poetry in the M.F.A. program at Queens College in Charlotte, North Carolina.



SHANNON RAVENEL, a native of Charleston, South Carolina, was series editor of *The Best American Short Stories* for 14 years before she inaugurated the *New Stories from the South* series, now in its 17th year. She serves as director of Shannon Ravenel Books, an Algonquin imprint, and lives in Chapel Hill, North Carolina.

LEWIS ROBINSON is the author of the debut collection *Officer Friendly and Other Stories*. He attended Middlebury College and the Iowa Writers' Workshop, where he was a teaching-writing fellow and winner of the Glenn Schaeffer Award. He has written for *Sports Illustrated* and the *Boston Globe*. He lives in Portland, Maine.



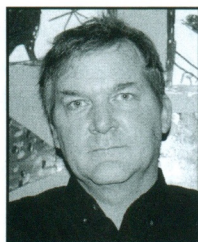
CATHERINE DOLE

MARLY RUSOFF is a former bookseller and publishing executive. She held VP positions at Houghton Mifflin, Doubleday, and William Morrow before opening her agency, Marly Rusoff & Associates, Inc., in New York. Her list of clients includes Pat Conroy, Cassandra King, and Ron Rash.

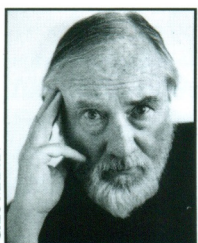


ELAINE H. SCOTT is former chair of the Arkansas State Board of Education, a member of the Education Commission of the States 1987-1997, and a leader in several organizations concerned with education, teacher training, libraries, and literacy. She has been involved with the Reading Is Fundamental program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

GEORGE SINGLETON is the author of two collections of short stories, *The Half-Mammals of Dixie* and *These People Are Us*. Both are published by Algonquin Books of Chapel Hill. He received his M.F.A. from the University of North Carolina at Greensboro and now teaches writing at the South Carolina Governor's School for the Arts and Humanities. He lives in Dacusville, South Carolina.

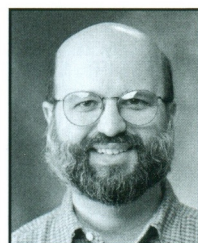
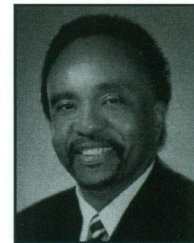


ROBERT STONE has received most of the accolades and awards possible for a contemporary novelist, and his books have enjoyed commercial success as well as critical acclaim. He won the Faulkner Foundation prize for his first novel, *A Hall of Mirrors* (1967), which was followed by *Dog Soldiers* (1974), *A Flag for Sunrise* (1981), *Children of Light* (1986), *Outerbridge Reach* (1992), and *Damascus Gate* (1998). His seventh novel, *Bay of Souls*, scheduled for publication in April 2003, has been described by *Kirkus Reviews* as "a small masterpiece," one distinguished by "Faulknerian intensity and a narrative economy reminiscent of Hemingway."



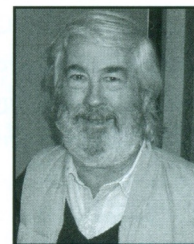
GREG MARTIN

CLIFTON TAULBERT is the author of eight books, including the autobiographical *Once upon a Time When We Were Colored*, *The Last Train North*, *Watching Our Crops Come In*, and *The Journey Home*. Raised in Glen Allen, Mississippi, Taulbert writes and lectures about the segregated South. He currently lives in Tulsa, Oklahoma, and was inducted into the Oklahoma Writers Hall of Fame in 2000.



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*.

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 has written for many national magazines, including *Newsweek* and the *New Republic*. He is coauthor, with Jim McDougal, of *Arkansas Mischief: The Birth of a National Scandal* and author of *Dixie: A Personal Odyssey through Events that Shaped the Modern South*. Wilkie has been a visiting professor of journalism at the University of Mississippi and is teaching at Louisiana State University this semester.



CRYSTAL WILKINSON is the author of two books, *Blackberries*, *Blackberries* (2000) and *Water Street* (2002). Her work has appeared in various literary journals and in several anthologies, including *Confronting Appalachian Stereotypes: Back Talk from an American Region* and *Gumbo: Stories by Black Writers*. She is currently writer in residence at Eastern Kentucky University.