

Reading Matters

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January & February 2006

PUBLICATIONS

- **Elizabeth Dodd**, "The Artists of La Grotte Chauvet" (essay). *Notre Dame Magazine* Winter 2005-06: 89-92.
- **Gregory Eiselein**, "Reform." *American History through Literature, 1820-70*, ed. Janet Gabler-Hover and Robert Sattelmeyer (Detroit: Charles Scribner's Sons, 2006): 957-65.
- **Philip Nel**, Review of Kenneth B. Kidd's *Making American Boys: Boyology and the Feral Tale*. *Men and Masculinities* 8.3 (2006): 369-371.
- **Susan Rodgers**, "This Day" (short story). *Glimmer Train* 57 (Winter 2006): 93-97.

PRESENTATIONS

- **Michele Janette**, "Tran Van Dinh's *No Passenger on the River: A Lost Foundation Text*," *Thirty Years After: Literature and Film of the Vietnam War* (Conference) Honolulu, HI. 10 Nov. 2005.
- **Jim Machor**, "(Re)Reading Catherine Sedgwick," *Modern Language Association Convention*, Washington, DC. 29 Dec. 2005.

"Historical Readers, Audience Engagement, and the Reception of American Women Novelists" (session chair), *Modern Language Association Convention*. 29 Dec. 2005.

- **Deborah Murray and Karin Westman**, "Two Roles in One: Best Practices for Teaching GTAs How to Teach." *Third Annual K-State Teaching Renewal Retreat*. Kansas State University. Manhattan, KS. 9 Jan. 2006.
- **Donna Potts**, "Wise Woman World: Aging as Empowerment in Margaret Atwood's *The Robber Bride*." *Modern Language Association Convention*, Washington DC. 28 Dec. 2005.
- **Karin Westman**, "Children's Literature and Modernism" (organizer and panel chair), *Modern Language Association*. Washington, DC. 30 Dec 2005.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Given that the E/CS building's **extremely fragile heating-and-cooling system** may burst at any moment (3 floods in 3 weeks!), your newsletter's editors would like to remind you that in the event of a water landing, your seat cushion may be used as a flotation device. Unfortunately, we are not sure whether or not it will float.

NEWS FROM ALUMNI

- **Beth L. Hewett** (M.A., 1980) is the co-editor, with James A. Inman, of *Technology and English Studies* (2006). With Christa Ehmann, she is co-author of *Preparing Educators for Online Writing* (2004). She is an

independent scholar and an NCTE Professional Development Consultant – see <www.ncte.org/profdev/onsite/consultants/hewett> for details. Her 22-year old son is in graduate school at UIUC, and her husband Paul works in Emergency Management. They live in Forest Hills, Maryland.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- **Wednesday, February 8, 7:00 p.m. Hemisphere Room, Hale Library**. The Irish poet Kevin Higgins will read from his work. His poetry has appeared in the anthologies *Short Fuse*, *Breaking The Skin: New Irish Poetry*, *100 Poets Against The War*, and *Irish Writers Against War*. He was a founding co-editor of *The Burning Bush* literary magazine and is the poetry critic of *The Galway Advertiser*. In 2003 he won the Poetry Grand Slam at the Cúirt International Festival of Literature, and went on to represent Ireland in the European Grand Slam in Paris. An accomplished performer of his work, he has read at literary festivals in Ireland, Britain, the United States & France. His book of poetry, *The Boy with No Face*, was published by Salmon Press in 2005.

- **Thursday, March 2 and Friday, March 3**. Steven Watt, Professor and Chair of the English Department at Indiana State University. Watt specializes in 20th-century Irish literature and in film, but much of his recent work (in collaboration with Cary

Nelson) focuses on the shape of graduate programs in English and the state of the profession. Time and location TBA.

• **Thursday, March 9 – Saturday, March 11.** Fifteenth Annual Cultural Studies Conference: PRIVACY (and secrecy). Keynote speakers will be Susan Hahn and George Chauncey (see following).

• **Thursday, March 9, 8:00 p.m., Tadtman Board Room, KSU Alumni Center.** Susan Hahn will read from her work. Hahn is a poet, playwright, and the editor of the *Triquarterly* literary journal. Winner of a Guggenheim Fellowship in 2003, Hahn has received numerous other awards, including a fellowship from the Illinois Arts Council, the George Kent Prize from *Poetry* magazine, and two Pushcart Prizes. She's the author of six books of poetry, including *Harriet Rubin's Mother's Wooden Hand* (1991), *Incontinence* (1993), *Confession* (1997), *Holiday* (2001), *Mother In Summer* (2002) and *Self/Pity* (2005).

• **Friday, March 10, 8:00 p.m., Kedzie 106.** George Chauncey will speak on "Why Come Out of the Closet?" A social and cultural historian, Chauncey is author of *Why Marriage? The History Shaping Today's Debate over Gay Equality* (2004) and *Gay New York: Gender, Urban Culture, and the Making of the Gay Male World, 1890-1940* (1994).

• **Thursday, April 6, 4:00 p.m., Union 212.** Michael Waters will read from his work. Waters is Professor of English at Salisbury University in Maryland and teaches in the New England College MFA Program in Poetry. His books of poetry include *Darling Vulgarity* (2006); *Parthenopi: New and Selected Poems* (2001), *Green Ash, Red*

Maple, Black Gum (1997), *Bountiful* (1992), *The Burden Lifters* (1989), and *Anniversary of the Air* (1985). He has co-edited *Contemporary American Poetry* (8th Edition, 2006) and *Perfect in Their Art: Poems on Boxing from Homer to Ali* (2003), and has edited *A. Poulin, Jr.: Selected Poems* (2001) and *Dissolve to Island: On the Poetry of John Logan* (1984). He has been the recipient of a Fellowship in Creative Writing from the National Endowment for the Arts, several Individual Artist Awards from the Maryland State Arts Council, and three Pushcart Prizes.

• **Thursday, April 20, 4:00 p.m., Union 212.** Margot Livesey will read from her work. Livesey was born and grew up on the edge of the Scottish Highlands. Her father taught a boys' private school and her earliest memories are of moors, sheep and many boys in uniform. After taking a BA in literature and philosophy at the University of York in England, she spent most of her twenties in Toronto writing, waitressing and finally managing a restaurant. Subsequently she moved to America and began teaching creative writing. Since then she has taught in numerous writing programs including the Iowa Writers' Workshop, Boston University and the University of California at Irvine. She teaches at Emerson College in Boston. Livesey is the author of a collection of stories and five novels, including *Criminals*, *The Missing World* and *Eva Moves the Furniture*.

• **Friday, April 28.** Daniel Breslauer, Emeritus Professor of religious studies, University of Kansas. His specialization is Jewish literature, history, and Rabbinical interpretation, on which he has published widely. Time and location TBA.

• **Early May.** Annual Awards Banquet.

Reading Matters is a monthly publication of the Department of English, English/Counseling Services Building, Kansas State University, Manhattan, KS 66506-6501. Editors: Philip Nel and Lisa Killer. The deadline for the next issue of *Reading Matters* is **February 27, 2006** at 5:00 p.m. Central time. Please send your news to Philip Nel, care of the above address or via email at <philnel@ksu.edu>. Thank you.

Reading Matters is on the web at <http://www.ksu.edu/english/reading>.