

# Reading Matters

Vol. 24, No. 2

October 2009

## PUBLICATIONS

• **Elizabeth Dodd**, Review of *Superdove: How the Pigeon Took Manhattan...and the World* by Courtney Humphries. LBJ: Avian Life, Literary Arts 1.2 (Summer 2009): 128-130.

• **Carol S. Franko**, "Disappearances of Utopia." Review of Peter Edgerly Firchow's *Modern Utopian Fictions from H. G. Wells to Iris Murdoch* (2007). *Contemporary Literature* 50.1 (Spring 2009): 207-214.

"The Density of Utopian Destiny in *Red Mars*." *Kim Stanley Robinson Maps the Unimaginable: Critical Essays*, ed. William J. Burling. Jefferson, NC and London: McFarland, 2009. 115-121. (Reprint)

• **Anne Longmuir**, "'Reader, perhaps you never were in Belgium?': Negotiating National Identity in Charlotte Brontë's *The Professor* and *Villette*." *Nineteenth-Century Literature* 64.2 (2009): 163-188.

• **Philip Nel**, "1957: Dr. Seuss." *A New Literary History of America*, ed. Greil Marcus and Werner Sollors. Cambridge, MA: Harvard UP, 2009. 876-880.

• **Karin E. Westman**, Introduction and Editor. *Children's Literature and War*. Special Issue. *Children's Literature Association Quarterly* 34.3 (2009).

## PRESENTATIONS

• **Jim Machor**, "Reading for Realism: Genre and the Reception of Late Nineteenth-Century American Fiction," *Reception Study Society Third Biennial Conference*, Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN, 11 September 2009. Machor also chaired two sessions and gave the introduction for the conference's keynote speaker, Stephen Zwicker of Washington University.

## NEWS FROM ALUMNI

• **Lamees A.K. Al-Athari** (M.A. 2008) is in the Ph.D. Program in English at the University of Waterloo (Ontario, Canada). She recently won first place in the Dorothy Shoemaker Literary Awards Contest for her poem "Roots."

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

• **Saturday, October 3, 2009, Union Little Theater / Hale Library / Alumni Center, 8:30 AM - 9:30 PM.** Recreating Oz: Annual Convention of the International Wizard of Oz Club.

• **Friday, October 9, 2009, ECS 121, 4:30 - 6:00 PM.** Cultural Studies Mini-Seminar II. Walter Benjamin.

• **Sunday, October 11, 2009, Hale Library Hemisphere Room, 3:00 - 4:30 PM.** Showing of Billy Collins documentary.

• **Wednesday, October 14, 2009, Union Ballroom, 11:00 AM - 3:00 PM.** Academic Majors Fair.

• **Wednesday, October 14, 2009, Union 213, 4:00 - 5:00 PM.** Department Colloquium.

• **October 15-17 & 21-24, Nichols Theatre, 7:30 PM.** Stephen Karam's *Speech and Debate*. Salem is in for another witch hunt when a scandal involving a teacher shakes the halls of a small Oregon high school, linking three students. Having never met previously, misfits Solomon, Diwata and Howie decideto form a speech

and debate team. Their search for the truth and journey to be heard uncovers secrets and connects them in unlikely ways. Playwright Stephen Karam also incorporates music into this new dark comedy. \$8-Students. \$11-Senior/Military. \$13-General Public.

• **Wednesday, October 21, 2009, K-State Alumni Center Ballroom, 5:30 PM.** Poetry reading by Billy Collins, former Poet Laureate of the United States.

• **Friday, November 6, 2009, ECS 121, 3:30 - 5:00 PM.** Cultural Studies Mini-Seminar III.

• **Thursday, November 19, 2009.** Author Robert Day will give a reading of his work at **4:00 PM** in the **Hale Library Hemisphere Room**. A reception and book signing will follow, **5:30-7:00 PM**, at the **Strecker-Nelson Gallery**, 406 1/2 Poyntz Avenue. Robert Day is perhaps best known for his novel *The Last Cattle Drive*, which was a Book-of-the-Month Club selection and has been re-printed in a 30th Anniversary Edition.

• **Wednesday, December 2, 2009, Union 213, 4:00 - 5:00 PM.** Department Colloquium

• **Friday, December 4, 2009, ECS 121, 3:30 - 5:00 PM.** Cultural Studies Mini-Seminar IV.

• **Friday, March 5, 2010, Union 212, 3:30 PM.** Fiction Reading by Ann Pancake.

• **Friday, April 2, 2010, Union 212, 3:30 PM.** Reading by Honor Moore.

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*Reading Matters* is a monthly publication of the Department of English, ECS Building, Kansas State University, Manhattan, KS 66506-6501. Editors: Philip Nel, Lisa Herpich, and Kelsi Hinz. The deadline for the next issue of *Reading Matters* is **October 26, 2009** at 5 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.

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