

24TH ANNUAL LITERARY FESTIVAL

M A G I C

V I S I O N

&

T R A N S F O R M A T I O N

WWW.LIB.ODU.EDU/LITFEST

OCTOBER 1-5, 2001 OLD DOMINION UNIVERSITY

INTRODUCTION

The word is full of magic. The word is the wand. The word is a crystal ball. Look into the word and see your grandmother changed into a wolf. Look again, and you're floating down the Mississippi on a raft. Look a third time, and you're a cockroach or a queen. Abracadabra. What could be more powerful than the word?

The 24th Annual Literary Festival celebrates "Magic, Vision, and Transformation." Each writer participating in the week's events is a kind of magician, using words to expose the mystery of all that seems ordinary in life. Their words teach us to see beyond the obvious, and their words change us by helping us imagine new ways of seeing. Like pulling a rabbit from the top-hat, each writer creates meaning out of what seems like air. Through words, we see beyond the illusions of our lives, and for a moment, we can become and experience more than what we are.

PRESIDENT'S LECTURE SERIES



Thursday, October 4th, 2001: North Cafeteria, Webb Center

EDWARD ALBEE Long acclaimed by critics as "America's most important dramatist still writing," Edward Albee's award-winning plays are repeatedly produced in theatres throughout the world. Albee, who grew up in a famed theatrical family, started seeing plays at five and began writing at six -- first poetry, then fiction, including two unpublished novels. At 25, he stopped writing and did not resume until 30, when he produced *The Zoo Story*, *The Sandbox*, and *The American Dream*, among others. Then in 1962 came *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?*, bringing Albee towering dominance on the American Theatre scene and international fame. He is the recipient of three Pulitzer Prizes for his plays *A Delicate Balance*, *Seascape*, and *Three Tall Women*, as well as a 1996 National Medal of Arts.

SUNDAY



ROBERLY BELL, an Installation Artist, has been described as an artist with the mind of a poet. She seeks to "domesticate the gallery environment through the use of wallpaper, mundane vessels, and single word associations to their labors." She will be speaking about the role of text in art at the University Gallery in conjunction with her exhibit. Bell is the recipient of numerous awards and grants, including a Fulbright and an Individual Artists Grant from the New York Council on the Arts. Her exhibitions have been celebrated all over the country. "Roberly Bell will give a gallery talk on her work Sunday, September 30th at 2:30pm at the University Gallery."

MONDAY



TERRY PERREL is a MFA graduate of the Creative Writing Program at Old Dominion University and a recipient of fellowships from the Virginia Commission for the Arts and the Virginia Center for the Creative Arts. Some of her stories have appeared in *The Powhatan Review*, *Turnings: Writings on Women's Transformations*, and *64 Magazine*. Her worked has earned an honorable mention from Writers At Work and the W.S. and M.E. Brower Literary Prize. She is working on a novel.



TEMPLE WEST graduated with an MFA in Creative Writing from Old Dominion University in 1999. Her writing focuses primarily on creative nonfiction, although she also writes short stories and poetry. She teaches English at Old Dominion University and writes profiles and features for local publications such as *Port Folio Weekly*. West is currently working on several larger projects, among them, a collaboration on a narrative account of the story behind the authentic Wright Flyer reproductions and the man responsible for them, Ken Hyde.

MONDAY CONT.



TOM YUILL graduated from Old Dominion University with an MFA in Creative Writing. He was awarded a teaching fellowship at Boston University, where he studied under the poet Robert Pinsky. Since completing that Masters program, Yuill has given poetry readings and lectured on poetry at the University of Pennsylvania, Harvard University, the University of Iowa, Emerson College, and the Cambridge Center for Adult Education. He has work published or forthcoming in *Newsday*, *Agni*, and *Cross Connect*. Yuill is working on his first collection of poetry and is translating the poetry of the French poet Villon. He teaches English and Creative Writing at Boston University.



ROSEANN RUNTE is the new president of Old Dominion University. Her poetry received the prize from the Academie francaise in 1989. *Renga*, a multilingual interdisciplinary work involving poetry, music, dance, painting and photography, was read in Tokyo and performed in Toronto by Uno Man, a Japanese Bhuto dance troupe. Dr. Runte's poetry has been translated into English, Korean, Japanese, and Romanian.

She will read a combination of her latest, unpublished poetry, a selection of her published work in English, and, perhaps, a humorous short story. She will accompany her reading with original photos and some musical selections.

FESTIVAL SCHEDULE

- 4 PM** graduates of our program: Webb Center
 1.) Terry Perrell
 2.) Temple West
 3.) Tom Yuill
- 8 PM** Roseann Runte: Chandler Hall (Diehn)

T U E S D A Y



AGYMAH KAMAU, originally from Barbados, moved to New York in 1977, where he worked as a senior economist for the state government until he moved to Virginia to study writing. He earned his MFA in English from Virginia Commonwealth University in 1992. His stories and essays have appeared in *Callaloo*, *Caribbean Vibes*, *InSyte Magazine*, and others. Kamau is the recipient of a number of distinctions, including a Virginia Commission for the Arts fellowship, a James Mitchener Fellowship, and a DeWitt Wallace/Readers Digest Fellowship for the MacDowell Colony. He has published two novels, *Flickering Shadows* and *Pictures of a Dying Man*, and is at work on a third.



SHERYL ST. GERMAIN studied literature and arts at The University of Texas at Dallas, taking both her Masters and PhD there. She is currently Associate Professor at Iowa State University, where she teaches poetry and creative non-fiction writing. Her work has received two NEA Fellowships, an NEH Fellowship, the Dobie-Paisano Fellowship, the Ki Davis Award from the Aspen Writers Foundation, and most recently, the William Faulkner award for the personal essay. Her poems and essays have appeared in numerous literary journals, including *North American Review* and *TriQuarterly Review*. Her books include *Going Home*, *The Mask of Medusa*, *Making Bread at Midnight*, *How Heavy the Breath of God*, and *The Journals of Scheherazade*. A collection of essays about growing up in New Orleans is forthcoming from University of Utah Press.



HOLLY HUGHES, author of *Clit Notes: A Sapphic Sampler*, is one of the most popular and controversial out-there-in-your-face writer/performers around. An "escape artist" who escaped her conservative upbringing in a part of the country "where silence was the first language," she has become an Obie award-winning performance artist and playwright, as well as a central figure in America's culture wars. In the late '80s and early '90s, Holly Hughes was the undisputed lesbian "bad girl" of publicly funded art. Her open, often raw depiction of sexuality, especially in her work at

TUESDAY CONT.

New York's feminist WOW cafe, rattled both ends of the political spectrum. By the end of the '80s, Hughes had moved toward a showdown with the Christian Right's perennial senatorial patriarch, Jesse Helms. Her body of work includes *Dress Suits for Hire* (a collaboration with Peggy Shaw and Lois Weaver), *No Trace of the Blonde*, *The Well of Horniness*, *Clit Notes*, and *Cat O'Nine Tales*.

FESTIVAL SCHEDULE

- 2 PM** Agymah Kamau: Webb Center
- 4 PM** Sheryl St. Germain: Webb Center
- 8 PM** Holly Hughes: Chandler Hall (Diehn)

WEDNESDAY

"The Zoo Story"
By Edward Albee
Directed by Christopher Hanna

"The Sandbox"
By Edward Albee
Directed by Gerald Schwartz

EDWARD ALBEE PRODUCTION

"The Sandbox," an absurdist comedy, provides a complete examination of American family life in 14 stage minutes. "The Zoo Story," a masterpiece of American drama, rivals "Who's Afraid of Virginia Wolfe" as Albee's most celebrated work. Although compressed into a single act and inhabited merely by two characters and a park bench, Albee's 1960 play explores the full complexity of human communication and foreshadows the violence and disconnection haunting society today. Presented by the Old Dominion University Theater program. Produced in conjunction with Elizabeth River Theatre Project and Old Dominion University Literary Festival. Other dates: September 28, 29, 30 and October 5, 6, 7



EUGENE GLORIA'S first collection of poems, *Drivers at the Short-Time Motel*, was selected by Yusef Komunyakaa for the 1999 National Poetry Series and published by Penguin Books. Gloria has received a Fulbright Fellowship, an artist grant from the San Francisco Art Commission, 96 Inc.'s Bruce P. Rossley Literary Award, and the Poetry Society of America's George Bogin Memorial Award. He has been a scholar at the Bread Loaf Writers' Conference and a resident at the Vermont Studio Center, the Mary Anderson Center for the Arts, the MacDowell Colony, and Fundacion Valparaiso in Mojacar, Spain. Gloria teaches English and Creative Writing at Depauw University.

WEDNESDAY CONT.



MARGORIE AGOSIN is an award-winning poet who was recently honored with a United Nations Leadership Award for Human Rights. A professor of Spanish at Wellesley College, she has written many books of poetry and fiction, and as an editor, she has introduced many Latin American writers, especially women, to English-speaking readers. Her works include *In the Absence of Shadows*, *Starry Night*, *Dear Anne Frank*, *Always From Somewhere Else*, *Celebration of Memory: Growing up Jewish in Latin America*, *The Alphabet in My Hands*, *A Cross and a Star: Memoirs of a Jewish Girl in Chile*.

FESTIVAL SCHEDULE

- 2 PM** Albee production: Stables Theatre
- 4 PM** Eugene Gloria: Webb Center
- 8 PM** Margorie Agosin: Mills Godwin

THURSDAY

FACULTY READING



EUGENE MCAVOY received his MFA in Creative Writing from Old Dominion University in 1999. His poetry has appeared in *PoeTalk*, *The Ebbing Tide* and *Our Own Community Press*. His nonfiction has appeared in *UpBeat Magazine*, *Spotlite Magazine*, *Homecoming Magazine* and *The Virginian-Pilot*. His fiction will appear this year in *Rebel Yell II: Stories by Contemporary Southern Gay Authors* and *The Harrington Gay Men's Fiction Quarterly*. He is currently an instructor in the English department at Old Dominion University. (Continued on back) →

We would like to thank the Office of the President and the President's Lecture Series, the Hugo A. Owens African-American Cultural Center, the College of Arts and Letters, the Department of English, the Department of Foreign Languages, the Institute for the Study of Race and Ethnicity, the Office of the Provost, and the Department of Women's Studies. This program is paid for in part by grants from The Norfolk Commission on the Arts and Humanities, and the Virginia Commission for the Arts.

Special Appreciation Old Dominion University thanks Mrs. Edie White for her longtime support of creative endeavors, in particular for establishing an endowment for the Literary Festival in memory of her husband, Dr. Forrest P. White.



AMY TUDOR received her MFA in Poetry and Nonfiction from Virginia Commonwealth University in 1994. She was a 1996 recipient of an Individual Artist Fellowship from the Virginia Commission for the Arts. Her first collection of poems, *The Land of Intention*, won the Devil's Millhopper Press' National Chapbook Contest, and was published by TDH Press in 1997. In addition to her poetry, Ms. Tudor has also published essays and photographs in national magazines, and is currently at work on two novels, *Formation* and *City of Light*, and a second collection of poems entitled *Message from Limbo*. She teaches at Old Dominion University.



JULIET CRICHTON, a native Virginian, teaches at Old Dominion University and at Tidewater Community College's Virginia Beach campus, where she also co-edits *BlackWater Review*. Her book-length manuscript of poems, *The Rain Shapes*, has been a finalist in the University of North Texas Press's Vassar Miller Prize in Poetry Series; in Western Michigan University's New Issues Press Poetry Series; and in Four Way Books' Levis Memorial Award as well as its Intro Series in Poetry. A two-time recipient of George Mason University's Klappert/Ai Poetry Prize and a semi-finalist in the "Discovery"/*The Nation* contest, her poetry has appeared in *Sequoia*, *Hayden's Ferry Review*, *Phoebe*, *Hampden-Sydney Poetry Review*, *Nightsun*, *Amaranth Review*, and elsewhere. She is a graduate of the University of Virginia, George Mason University, and American University, where she was an assistant editor of *Folio*.



MATILDA COX is Director of Advising for the College of Arts and Letters at Old Dominion University where she previously was an instructor in the English Department. She received an M.A. in Creative Writing/Poetry from Old Dominion in 1994. She continues to write poetry and has published in some small magazines.



RENEE OLANDER'S poems have appeared in *Verse and Universe (Milkweed)*, *13th Moon*, *Amelia*, *Rhino*, *Snake-Nation-Review*, *frisk*, *Sistersong*, *Artword Quarterly*, and other anthologies and journals; *Wild Fights*, a chapbook of poems, appeared in 2000. Her interviews with writers have appeared in *The Writers Chronicle* and *Conversations with John Edgar Wideman* (U. Miss. Press). With poet Luisa Igloria, she co-edited *Turnings: Writings on Women's Transformations*, published in 2000 by Friends of Women's Studies at Old Dominion University. Her honors include a Pushcart nomination, the Kate Smith Award for Poetry (*Amelia* magazine), and the Benn Award for Creative Writing from Mary Baldwin College.

Renee Olander teaches English and directs the Interdisciplinary Teacher Preparation program at Old Dominion University.



JOSEPH SKIBELL teaches at Emory University. He has worked as a bread baker, copy editor, journalist, screenwriter, and bartender. His stories have appeared in such literary journals as *Story* magazine, and many of his plays have been produced nationally. In the past 15 years, he has received numerous literary honors, including a Helene Wurlitzer Foundation grant, and New Mexico Creative Arts Division/NEA grant, a James A. Michener Fellowship, and the Jay C. and Ruth Hall Fellowship for Fiction. He is the author of the novel *A Blessing on the Moon*.

EDWARD ALBEE
PRESIDENT'S LECTURE SERIES
FEATURED ARTIST

FESTIVAL SCHEDULE

- 2 PM** Faculty Reading (Eugene McAvoy, Amy Tudor, Juliet Crichton, Matilda Cox, and Renee Olander): Webb Center
- 4 PM** Joseph Skibell: Webb Center
- 8 PM** Edward Albee: Webb Center



GREG BOTTOMS is the author of the memoir *Angelhead*, which was named one of the best five works of nonfiction of 2000 by Esquire magazine. His second book, *Sentimental, Heartbroken Rednecks: Tales*, will be released in August 2001 by Context Books. His stories and essays have appeared in a number of magazines and literary journals, and anthologies, including *The Beacon Best of 1999*, *Creative Nonfiction*, and *Esquire*. He is currently the Teaching and Writing Fellow at Sweet Briar College.



KAREN MCELMURRAY is Writer-in-Residence at Berry College in Mount Berry, Georgia. Her first book was a novel entitled *Strange Birds in the Tree of Heaven* (October, 1999, Hill Street Press) and her memoir, forthcoming in March from Hill Street, is *Mother of the Disappeared: An Appalachian Birth Mother's Journey*. McElmurray has received grants from the NEA and the Kentucky Foundation for Women. This summer she received the Lillie Chaffin Award for Appalachian Writing.



DOROTHY ALLISON is the author of *Bastard Out of Carolina*, a finalist for the 1992 National Book Award; *Cavedweller* (Dutton, 1998), a national bestseller and a New York Times Notable Book of the Year; as well as the memoir *Two or Three Things I know for Sure* (Dutton, 1995). Her poetry *The Women Who Hate Me* (1990), short fiction *Trash*, (1989), and essays *Skin: Talking About Sex, Class and Literature* (1995) are available in small press editions from Firebrand Books. Ms Allison's first novel, *Bastard Out of Carolina* was made into a highly acclaimed film, directed by Angelica Huston. *Two or Three Things I know for Sure* was translated into a short documentary that took prizes at the Aspen and Toronto film festivals, and was an Emmy-nominated feature on PBS's POV.

FESTIVAL SCHEDULE

- 2 PM** Greg Bottoms: Chandler Hall (Diehn)
- 4 PM** Karen McElmurray: Chandler Hall (Diehn)
- 8 PM** Dorothy Allison: Chandler Hall (Diehn)

CAMPUS MAP

CAMPUS MAP

Parking for all events is available in Lot 27, which is adjacent to the Health and Physical Education Building and across the street from the Diehn Fine and Performing Arts Center.



FESTIVAL SCHEDULE

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 30TH

2:30 PM Literary Festival Preview
Roberley Bell
University Gallery, 350 W. 21st Street, Norfolk

MONDAY, OCTOBER 1ST

4 PM Graduates of Old Dominion University's
MFA program
(Webb center: Hampton/Newport News Room)

8 PM Roseann Runte
(Diehn Fine and Performing Arts Center/Chandler Recital Hall)

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 2ND

2 PM Agymah Kamau
(Webb Center: Hampton/Newport News Room)

4 PM Sheryl St. Germain
(Webb Center: Hampton/Newport News Room)

8 PM Holly Hughes
(Diehn Fine and Performing Arts Center/Chandler Recital Hall)

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 3RD

2 PM Albee Production by the Theatre
Department (Stables Theatre)

4 PM Eugene Gloria
(Webb Center: Hampton/Newport News Room)

8 PM Margorie Agosin
(Mills Godwin, Jr. Life Sciences Building, Auditorium)

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 4TH

2 PM Faculty Reading
(Webb Center: Hampton/Newport News Room)

4 PM Joseph Skibell
(Webb Center: Hampton/Newport News Room)

8 PM Edward Albee (President's Lecture Series)
(Webb Center: Hampton/Newport News Room)

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 5TH

2 PM Greg Bottoms
(Diehn Fine and Performing Arts Center/
Chandler Recital Hall)

4 PM Karen McElmurray
(Diehn Fine and Performing Arts Center/
Chandler Recital Hall)

8 PM Dorothy Allison
(Diehn Fine and Performing Arts Center/Chandler Recital Hall)

SEATING IS LIMITED. COME EARLY!