The Creative Moment
ARTS REUNION II
September 30 - October 5, 2002
25th Annual Old Dominion University Literary Festival
Celebrating
CONTINUITY,
VARIETY,
COLLABORATION,
AND EXCELLENCE
IN THE
Literary Arts
n the Prologue to our first festival in 1978—titled Arts Reunion—we said, “No one has planned it, but possibly Tidewater is becoming a true regional center for the arts—a port in a different mold which encourages the development of theaters, concert halls, studios, fine arts centers, exhibition galleries and workshops. Perhaps, as in the Middle Ages and in the Free Republics of the Renaissance, the community, both its residents and artists, is accepting a very simple and universal idea: that every person is potentially an artist, subject to the inspiration of another artist at work, and therefore, subject to the birth of creative effort.”

Look around—the energy that inspired that perception has built the Virginia Stage Company, Harrison Opera House, and Virginia Waterfront International Arts Festival, as well as scores of smaller organizations, centers, and writers groups. Substantial support for the arts comes from corporations, foundations, universities, government agencies, school systems, and (God-bless-them) individual donors. Our area has, in fact, built a strong support network for creative endeavors. Individual artists, working collectively or alone, now know that there are expanding opportunities and audiences for their works.

This year we celebrate our past associations—with the Associated Writing Programs, President’s Lecture Series, community and university co-sponsors, directors of previous festivals, and individual performers. We also nurture an idea inherent in the first festival (and revisited again in the 15th)—that of the interrelationship of the arts. Creativity often takes from the old and makes it new, and the results of that transformation open even more possibilities for future renovations. So looking back, we see ahead. Today, our future is strengthened by partnerships with New Virginia Review Inc., Blackbird magazine, and Portland Weekly. With Verizon’s generous contribution, we are able, for the first time, to provide support for the efforts of the literary community in Hampton Roads.

Still, we know that the Festival is about the literary work and the audience. In that nexus, where dreams, failures, and aspirations meet, we hear and see what is deepest in others and ourselves. Each story, poem, play, and performance provides a fresh way for us to experience the world. Re-awakened, redefined—how could we not be struck that now is the time for us to make something new?

That moment of inspiration, rebellion, insight, when all walls are broken down and the flow of creative energy rushes through—like the initial Big Bang—is what we hope you encounter and engage.

Philip Raisor
Director of the Festival

Monday, September 30
2:00 - 3:30 p.m.
Mills Godwin 102

Writing Women’s Voices

In celebration of the 25th anniversary of the Women’s Studies program at Old Dominion University, Debra Bruce, a highly regarded poet, and Lenore Hart, whose recent first novel is a Barnes and Noble “Discover” title, read about the struggles and successes of women in our time.

8:00 - 9:30 p.m.
Diehn Fine and Performing Arts Center
Chandler Recital Hall

The Round Square: Readings in a Fluid Box
The Old Dominion University
Creative Writing Faculty

Writers on stage (Luisa Igloria, Michael Pearson, Janet Peery, Sheri Reynolds, Tim Seibles, and Brian Silberman) read and perform their own works. An evening rich in surprises.
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 1

12:30 - 2:00 p.m.
Webb Center South Wing

Poem as Community, Community as Poem
Universes — Gamel Abdel Chasten, Lemon, Flaco Navaja, Steven Sapp, Mildred Ruiz

A high-energy rendering of poetry, hip-hop, jazz, and blues by a New York group of performers who grew out of a community center in the Bronx. Disturbing stories about their lives and the world they live in are told in a variety of forms.

Co-sponsored by Multicultural Student Services, Office of Student Activities and Leadership, Student Services, and Verizon

8:00 - 9:30 p.m.
Diehn Fine and Performing Arts Center
Chandler Recital Hall

Readings Across the Color Lines

Two African-American writers reach deep into their personal experiences for often stark, and always moving, events. In a severely restricting world, breakthrough is the goal. One writer, Wanda Coleman, is an award-winning poet and the other, Gregory H. Williams, is president of the City College of New York.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 2

11:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
Mills Godwin 102

Creative Nonfiction: The Prismatic Genre

Including personal essays, memoirs, historical narratives, and literary journalism, creative nonfiction is, perhaps, the most diverse of literary genres. David Fenza, Philip Gerard, and Valerie Miner, all seasoned, award-winning writers, read from their own work and discuss the renaissance in nonfiction and the changes and challenges confronting writers of nonfiction.

Co-sponsored by the Associated Writing Programs

2:00 - 3:30 p.m.
Mills Godwin 102

An Association of Readers

Three writers, who are members of the Board of Directors of the Associated Writing Programs, bring to our Festival what they bring to the Board — individuality, diversity, and accomplishment. Allison Joseph, Pablo Medina, and Mark Winegardner read from their own works.

Co-sponsored by the Associated Writing Programs

8:00 - 9:30 p.m.
Diehn Fine and Performing Arts Center
Chandler Recital Hall

An Evening of Translation and Performance
W.D. Snodgrass and Friends

A Pulitzer Prize-winning poet gathers a group of dancers, musicians, translators, and singers to interpret works from around the world. Joining W. D. Snodgrass, who also won the Harold Morton Landon Award for Translation, are Steve Kelley, Frederick Lubich, Marilyn Marloff, Agnes Mobley-Wyne, Peter Schulman, Lee Teply, and others. Together, they weave a matrix of forms and languages into a colorful cloth.
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 3

11:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
Mills Godwin 102

Re-Reading the Literary Festival
The Directors' Event

Each director brings a vision to the ODU Literary Festival, and for 25 years that vision has changed about every two years. Four of those former directors, Evelina Galang, William B. Patrick, Peggy Shumaker, and Wayne Ude, show us, once again, their vision-making powers — this time through a reading of their own works.

2:00 - 3:30 p.m.
Mills Godwin 102

Forging the Individual Mind: A Reading by Mark Doty

Poet, memoirist, and teacher, Mark Doty persistently seeks the richness of individual complexity. Recently, he has said he wants to see the self among the many: “I, for one, am hungry to read poems of American life now, in all its messy complications, with its terrors and uncertainties and possible grounds for hope.” He will read new work as well as poems from his prize-winning collections.

Co-sponsored by the Associated Writing Programs Benefits Reading Series

ASSOCIATED WRITING PROGRAMS

The Associated Writing Programs (AWP) is a nonprofit literary and educational organization. AWP’s mission is to foster literary talent and achievement, to advance the art of writing as essential to a good education, and to serve the makers, teachers, students, and readers of contemporary writing. AWP now serves 21,000 writers, 325 college and university creative writing programs, and 60 writers’ conferences and centers, as well as literary magazines, small presses, and literary festivals.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 4

11:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
Mills Godwin 102

Given that the Painter is a Poet, the Poet a Painter...

Poetry and painting have long been viewed as sister arts. “The poet is like a painter,” said Plato. Horace coined the phrase u pictura poesis (“as a painting, so a poem”). Three contemporary artists, Mark Doty and W.D. Snodgrass (poets) and Donald Roller Wilson (painter) address the relationship of poetry and painting through their own experience. Linda McGreeyy is the moderator.

2:00 - 3:30 p.m.
Mills Godwin 102

Port Folio Weekly presents
Reinventing Nature: A Panel

From the days of Emerson and Thoreau to the present, nature writing has fascinated readers. The experience of being in forests, mountains, caves, swamps, or anywhere in nature evokes strong emotions, energizes the imagination, and requires expression. Award-winning writers — Barbara Hurd, Robert Richardson, and Marjorie Sandor — join moderator Tom Robotham on a journey into the craft and substance of nature writing.
Virginia Deep in the Bones

Four of Virginia's (and the nation's) most honored poets gather for an unprecedented reading. With roots and long histories in Virginia, R.H.W. Dillard, George Garrett, Henry Taylor, and Ellen Bryant Voigt host a clambake (a poem bake) in our own back yard.

Co-sponsored by New Virginia Review Inc. and Blackbird: an online journal of literature and the arts.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 5

8:00 - 8:30 p.m.
Diehn Fine and Performing Arts Center
Chandler Recital Hall

God Is Near

Donald Roller Wilson was born in Houston, Texas, on November 23, 1938, 10:55 a.m. His mother, a descendant of German-Dutch Jews who prospered during the Oklahoma land rush, had run off and married his father, an Episcopalian wildcatter who had been laying pipe in the Oklahoma plains. Roller’s paintings are in the collections of Jack Nicholson and Elizabeth Taylor, as well as the Contemporary Arts Museum in Houston, Smithsonian Institution, and many others.

Co-sponsored by the Old Dominion University Gallery

A Final Celebration: A Reading by Stephen Dunn

Last year, 2001, Stephen Dunn won the Pulitzer Prize for his collection of poems, Different Hours. This was one of many awards and prizes he has won over the past 30 years. Often called honest, wise, and an exceptionally gifted craftsman, Dunn is also an editor, essayist, and teacher. Of further note, he was a key player on the 1962 Hofstra University basketball team, generally regarded as the greatest team in the school’s history.
African-American Literature, Best American Poetry, Monster, which won the National Book Critics Circle Prize for criticism, Godot and has also directed plays in the United States and Virginia Quarterly Review, peculiar cult reputation! bronze-medal finalist in the National Book Awards 2001. Ms. Sontag has written and directed four feature-length films, and has also directed plays in the United States and most recently a production of Beckett's Waiting for Godot in besieged Sarajevo. From 1990 to 1995, she held a fellowship at the MacArthur Foundation. In 2001 she received the Jerusalem Prize for the body of her work.

Wanda Coleman’s poetry collections include Images, Heap Daughter Blues: Poems & Stories, A War of Eagles & Other Stories, Africa: Sleepwalking Stories: Poems & a novel, Naive in a Strange Land, Trials & Terrors, and a novel, Manbo Blips & Male Behers. Her work has appeared in over 70 anthologies, including Breaking In, The Norton Anthology of Postmodern American Poetry, and The Virginia Quarterly Review, and she has received grants in writing from the National Endowment for the Arts, the National Endowment for the Humanities, and the Illinois Arts Council. She is Associate Professor of English at Northeastern Illinois University.

Mark Doty is the only American poet to have won Britain's T.S. Eliot Prize for poetry. His six books of poems and three volumes of nonfiction have been honored by the National Book Critics Circle Award, the PEN/Martha Albrand Nonfiction Prize, the Los Angeles Times Book Prize, a Whiting Writer's Award, and a Lila Wallace/Reader's Digest Writers Award. His most recent books are Still Life with Oysters and Lemons, a prose meditation, and Source, a new book of poems. He teaches in the graduate writing program at the University of Houston.

Stephen Dunn has been honored with many awards and grants, including the 2001 Pulitzer Prize for Poetry. He has published 11 poetry collections, including Loosestrife; New and Selected Poems, 1973-1997; Landscape at the End of the Century; Between Angels; and most recently, Different Hours, which won the Pulitzer. In addition, he has been published in The Atlantic, The Nation, The New Republic, The New Yorker, and the American Poetry Review, among others. Dunn is a Trustee Fellow in the Arts and Professor of Creative Writing at Richard Stockton College of New Jersey. In 1995 he received an Academy Award in Literature from the American Academy of Arts and Letters. Among his other awards are the Levinson Award from Poetry magazine and fellowships from the National Endowment for the Arts and the Guggenheim Foundation.

David Feinberg is Executive Director of the Associated Writing Programs, a nonprofit organization of writers and creative writing programs. He has taught creative writing, literature, and composition at Johns Hopkins, Old Dominion University, Boston Community College, and Geucker College, and has served as editor for numerous literary magazines. He has served on the boards of the Galspee Press and Share Our Strength, a hunger relief organization. In 1985 he was awarded a Fellowship in Poetry from the National Endowment for the Arts. He is also editor of The Writer's Chronicle and author of a book-length poem, The Interview.

M. Evelina Galang is the author of Her Wild American Self, a collection of short fiction from Coffee House Press. She has been published in Quarterly West, American Short Fiction, Best American Fiction, and other anthologies. She is a recipient of the 1996 National Book Award for Poetry in the Philippines; and in the Garden of the Three Islands. Awards include 11 Carlos Palanca Awards for Literature. Her work has appeared in numerous anthologies and international and national journals of poetry.

Robert D. Richardson, Jr. has taught at Harvard University, University of Colorado and Wesleyan University and has been recipient of the Francis Parkman Prize for literary history. In 1978, he was the first recipient of the National Bar Association’s A. Leon Bloyd Award for Outstanding Contributions to the Preservation of Human and Civil Rights. Dr. Williams has authored articles and book reviews for The New York Times, The Los Angeles Times, and The Washington Post.

Mark Weinberger is the Bruner Professor of English and Director of the Creative Writing Program at Florida State University. His work includes the nonfiction books Elia Perley: Presumed and Prophet of the Sandhills, and the novels The German Blues and Crooked River Burning. His most recent book is a short story collection, That’s True of Everybody. He has published in GQ, Playboy, In these shares, Triquarterly, DoubleTake, The Oxford American, The Sporting News, Witness, Story Quarterly, and The New York Times Magazine. He is on the Board of Directors of the Associated Writing Programs.

Steve Kelley has twice won top honors in regional competitions for National Association of Teachers of Singing and has performed in numerous Metropolitan Opera auditions. Kelley currently sings as one of the principal soloists of the Virginia Symphony Chorus and with the Virginia Chorale. Recent appearances include the United Kingdom, Prague, and Vienna.

Frederick A. Lubich has worked as a supporting role and language consultant on the documentary Daping Courser: Tsumektse the Baskul假日 for Discovery Channel, and his poetry has been published in various literary journals and anthologies, staged as cabaret, and set to music. He has translated film scripts for German-French-American co-productions as well as Yao One’s rock musical New York Opera for its German premiere.

Marilyn Marloff, associate professor and director of the Academic Dance Program, has been with ODU since 1987. She has performed and choreographed for dance companies in New York and throughout the United States. Her video work has received awards in Europe, Canada, the United States, and South America. Ms. Marloff is the artistic director of University Dance Theatre and teaches all levels of modern technique, beginning ballet, anatomy, and kinesiology for dance, teaching principles, dance composition, dance appreciation, and improvisation.

Agnes Mobley-Wyne serves on the voice faculty at Old Dominion University as well as the Governor’s School for the Arts. She is a member of the vocal quartet at Old Stone Temple in Norfolk and has been a featured soloist with the Virginia Symphony Orchestra, Verismo and Chorus, Cantata Chorus, Norfolk Chamber Consort, Virginia Opera and the Continental Army Band, with whom she has recorded two compact discs.

Lee Teply holds degrees in opera performance, music theory, and literature from Oberlin College, Conservatory and Eastern School of Music. In addition to serving as Director of Music at Norfolk’s First Lutheran Church, he teaches courses in music theory and history at Old Dominion University, where he also directs the ODU Madrigal Singers and ODU College Musician. Dr. Teply is a freelance music critic for The Virginian-Pilot and is the director of Schola Cantorum.

Universes is a five-member performance group that merges poetry, music, and theater. The image, which came together three years ago, recently joined with director Jo Bonney and is expanding beyond its home base to a world ready for a fresh approach to spoken word. The quintet aims to find new ways to structure verbal poetry. What the members end up with is consolidated spoken word, theater, jazz, hip-hop, politics, blues and more. The members tailor their shows to envelop their audiences and, as well as the ever-changing nature of the full work itself, there’s always room for each individual to experiment and play.

Linda McGreavy teaches in the Art Department at Old Dominion University and has written contemporary art criticism for over 20 years. Her most recently published book is Aller Ainsip: Otto Dix and the Great War, and she is currently researching a biography of Edith Kowitsch.

Donald Roller Wilson has paintings hanging in the collections of Jack Nicholson, Steve Martin, Dan Ackroyd, Robin Williams, Holly Solomon, Meryl Streep, and Elizabeth Taylor, among others. Carrie Fisher wrote that “his paintings tell stories with pictures and he tells the stories through the innocence of images created from a seemingly pointless combination of various dressed up animals, objects — even vegetables — assembled for just one last family portrait. The surface effect is whimsy.”
The Old Dominion University Department of English and the College of Arts and Letters have sponsored the Literary Festival for 25 years. In addition, the Office of the President and the President's Lecture Series, the Office of the Provost, the MFA in Creative Writing faculty and students, and the Associated Writing Programs have long been sustaining contributors.

This year's festival is co-sponsored by the Office of Student Activities and Leadership, Student Services, Multicultural Student Services, the Development Office, Women's Studies Program, the Departments of Art, Communication and Theatre Arts, Foreign Languages and Literatures, Music, the University Gallery, the College of Education's Reading Center, and all those faculty, student, and staff volunteers who give introductions, escort writers, distribute flyers, and fulfill other tasks necessary to continue this event.

Over the years partnerships with community organizations and individuals have increased. The Festival is particularly indebted to the Norfolk Commission on the Arts and Humanities, Virginia Commission for the Arts, Port Folio Weekly, New Virginia Review Inc., Blackbird: an online journal of literature and the arts, and Edie White, who established an endowment for the Literary Festival in memory of her husband, Dr. Forrest P. White.

This year, with the generous support of Verizon, the Festival joins with literacy providers in Hampton Roads and Virginia to expand the reach of literacy information that brings awareness and understanding to this critical issue. According to the National Adult Literacy Survey, 92 million adults in the U.S. - almost 48 percent of the population - have very low or low literacy skills. Help a child or an adult learn to read! Go online to www.odu.edu/educ/reading_ctr for local opportunities or to www.verizonreads.com for national opportunities.

Festival events are free and open to the public. Seating is limited, so please arrive early. For more information, contact the Department of English at (757) 683-3991. http://www.lib.odu.edu/litfest