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28th Annual Literary Festival at ODU: October
3-7, 2005

Annual Literary Festival at ODU

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Brochure: 28th Annual Literary Festival, 2005: Crossings

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OLD DOMINION UNIVERSITY

DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH

CROSSINGS

28TH ANNUAL
LITERARY FESTIVAL
OCTOBER 3 - 7, 2005


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UNIVERSITY

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College of Arts and Letters
207 Batten Arts and Letters Building
Norfolk, VA 23529

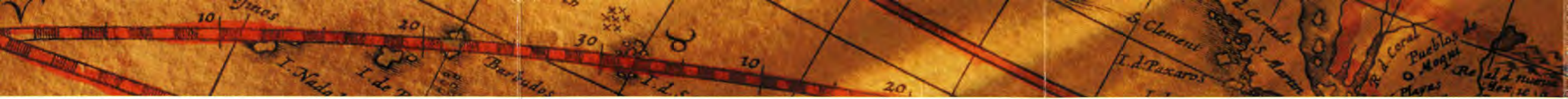
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The Old Dominion University Literary Festival is sponsored in part by the Virginia Commission for the Arts and the City of Norfolk Arts Commission.

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In its essence, literature is an experience that goes beyond definition. Provocative poems, plays, performance pieces, and works of nonfiction and fiction cross boundaries, shaping their own definitions in the process. We hope for this year's Literary Festival to be an experience in which you will be led into new territories, guided across genres, shown the shifting boundaries between forms. Great writers, artists and performers will be your guides – Art Spiegelman, who won the Pulitzer Prize for *Maus* and *Maus II*, will illustrate the thin line between comic strips, the graphic novel, and serious fiction; Tobias Wolff will illuminate the subtle relationships among the short story, novel, memoir and reportage; and the poet Miller Williams and his daughter, Grammy Award winner Lucinda Williams, will demonstrate how song is poetry and poetry is song. In crossing such ground with Susan Orlean, whose book *The Orchid Thief* was made into the film *Adaptation*, and Reno, the critically acclaimed performance artist, we will be compelled to ask new questions and perhaps arrive at a new definition of the literary act.

Michael Pearson and Brian Silberman

co-directors

Monday, October 3

5 p.m. - 6 p.m.

University Gallery, 350 W. 21st St.

Sponsored by Art Department

Reception Follows

Rudy VanderLans

8 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.

Chandler Hall

Diehn Fine and Performing Arts Center

Co-sponsored by Women's Studies

Program

Reno

Tuesday, October 4

2 p.m. - 3 p.m.

Webb Center, River Rooms

Sheri Reynolds

8 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.

Granby Theater

421 Granby St.

Co-sponsored by Art Department and

Jewish Studies Program

Art Spiegelman

Wednesday, October 5

2 p.m. - 3 p.m.

Webb Center, Newport News Room

Peter Meinke / Luisa Igloria

8 p.m. - 9 p.m.

Chandler Hall

Diehn Fine and Performing Arts Center

Susan Orlean

Thursday, October 6

2 p.m. - 3 p.m.

Webb Center, Newport News Room

Daphne Kalotay

7:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

Mills Godwin Jr. Life Sciences Building

Room 102

President's Lecture Series

Tobias Wolff

Friday, October 7

2 p.m. - 3 p.m.

Webb Center, Newport News Room

Tom Ellis

7 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

Granby Theater

421 Granby St.

Co-sponsored by Student Services

Lucinda Williams / Miller Williams*

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.

* This event benefits the ODU Writers-in-Community Program. Tickets are required, available at the door or in advance at the Arts and Letters box office located in the atrium of the Diehn Fine and Performing Arts Center or by calling 683-5305.

Students - \$7

Faculty/Staff - \$10

General Public - \$15



Thomas Sayers Ellis co-founded The Dark Room Collective; and received his M.F.A. from Brown University in 1995. His work has appeared in *The American Poetry Review*; AGNI; *Best American Poetry* (1997 and 2001); Boston Book Review; Boston Review; Callaloo; Fence; Grand Street; Hambone; Harvard Advocate; Harvard Review; the Kenyon Review;

Ploughshares; the Pushcart Prize 1998; the Southern Review and *The Garden Thrives: Twentieth-Century African-American Poetry*; *Tin House*; *Giant Steps: The New Generation of African American Writers*; *American Poetry: The Next Generation* and *Wax Poetics*. He has received fellowships from The Ohio Arts Council, The MacDowell Colony, The Fine Arts Work Center (in Provincetown) and YADDO; and in 1993 he co-edited *On the Verge: Emerging Poets and Artists*. Ellis is a contributing editor of *Callaloo* and his first collection *The Good Junk* (1996) was published in the Graywolf annual *Take Three*. He is also the author of a chapbook, *The Genuine Negro Hero* (Kent State University Press, 2001); and the forthcoming *The Maverick Room* (Graywolf 2005). An associate professor of English at Case Western Reserve University (Cleveland, Ohio) and a faculty member of the Lesley University low-residency M.F.A. program (Cambridge, Mass.), he is currently compiling and editing *Quotes Community: Notes for Black Poets*.



Luisa Igloria (previously published as Maria Luisa A. Carino) is the author of six books, four of which received the National Book Award from the Manila Critics' Circle: *Blood Sacrifice* (University of the Philippines Press, 1998); *Encanto* (Anvil, 1994); *Cartography* (Anvil, 1992); and *Cordillera Tales* (New Day, 1990). She is also the author of *In the Garden of the Three Islands* (Moyer

Bell/Asphodel, 1995), and the editor of *Not Home, But Here: Writing from the Filipino Diaspora* (Anvil, 2003). Her seventh and most recent book is *Trill & Mordent* (WordTech Editions, 2005), a runner-up for the 2004 Editions Prize. Igloria's work has appeared in numerous national and international journals; she has received prestigious honors that include the 2004 Fugue Poetry Award, Finalist for the 2004 Lary Levis Editors Prize for Poetry, and Finalist for the 2003 Dorset Prize (Tupelo Press). She has received fellowships from the Fulbright Foundation; the Hawthornden Castle in Scotland, and to the Summer Literary Seminars in St. Petersburg, Russia. Igloria is an associate professor on the faculty of ODU's Creative Writing Program.



Daphne Kalotay is the author of *Calamity and Other Stories* (Doubleday, 2005). Her short fiction has appeared in publications ranging from Missouri Review and Prairie Schooner to AGNI and Good Housekeeping and has won fellowships from the MacDowell Colony and the

Helene Wurlitzer Foundation. Kalotay lives in Brookline, Mass., and teaches literature and writing at Boston University, where she received her M.A. in creative writing and a Ph.D. in modern and contemporary literature.



Peter Meinke has published 13 books of poetry, six in the prestigious Pitt Poetry Series, including *Zinc Fingers* (2001), *Scars* (1996), and *Liquid Paper* (1991). His work has appeared in The New Yorker, The Atlantic, The New Republic, Poetry, and elsewhere. His collection of stories, *The Piano Tuner*, received the 1986 Flannery O'Connor Award, and *Zinc Fingers* the 2001

SEBA Award for Poetry (Southeast Booksellers Association). Most recently (2004), a collection of poems called *Maples and Oranges* has been translated and published in St. Petersburg, Russia. Meinke's poems have won many awards, including the Olivet and Paumanok Awards, and The Emily Dickinson, Gustav Davidson and Lucille Medwick prizes from the Poetry Society of America, as well as two NEA Fellowships in Poetry. He taught at Eckerd College for 27 years where he was director of the Writing Workshop, and has been writer-in-residence at numerous colleges and universities, including the University of Hawaii, Davidson College, Hamilton College, the University of South Florida, Converse College, and the University of North Carolina at Greensboro. Currently Meinke holds the Darden Chair in Creative Writing at Old Dominion University.



Susan Orlean became a staff writer for The New Yorker in 1992. She had been contributing both signed articles and "Talk of the Town" pieces since 1987. Prior to joining The New Yorker, Orlean was a contributing editor at Rolling Stone and also at Vogue, where she wrote on numerous figures in both the music and fashion industries. Previously, she had been a columnist, first for the

Boston Phoenix, and then for the Boston Globe Sunday Magazine. She has also written for The New York Times Magazine, Spy, Esquire, and Outside. Orlean has written several books, including *The Bullfighter Checks Her Makeup: My Encounters with Ordinary People*, a collection of stories which was released in January 2001; *Red Sox and Blue Fish* (1989), a compilation of columns she wrote for the Globe Sunday Magazine; *Saturday Night* (1990), a journal of essays which chronicle the Saturday nights she spent in communities across the country; *The Orchid Thief* (1999), a narrative about orchid poachers in Florida. *The Orchid Thief* has been made into the movie *Adaptation*, written by Charlie Kaufman and directed by Spike Jonze.

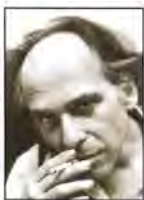


Reno started performing at such haunts in New York City's East Village as Dixon Place, St Mark's Poetry Project, WOW and P.S. 122. Her first full-length show, "Reno in Rage and Rehab," began at P.S. 122, and was done off-Broadway, later adapted into an ACE Award-nominated HBO comedy hour. Other full-length shows done off-Broadway and toured extensively include "Reno Once Removed" and "Citizen Reno." In 2001, her non-fiction sitcom television series, also called "Citizen Reno," premiered on Bravo. Lily Tomlin and Jane Wagner exec-produced that as well as the film she made with Lydia Pilcher for HBO, *Reno Finds Her Mom*, co-starring Mary Tyler Moore and Tomlin. "Rebel Without A Pause," her critically acclaimed, Drama Desk Award-nominated personal/political rant show about the events of September 11, 2001, that opened October 4, 2001, in Nicky Paraiso's club at LaMaMa ETC and closed Off Broadway at the end of summer 2002. Acting roles include: Tony Kushner's *A Bright Room Called Day* (The Public); Edith Ann's shrink in ABC's "Edith Ann" (by Jane Wagner). Films include *Kinsey*, *Manchurian Candidate*, *24-Hour Woman* (by Nancy Savoca, with Rosie Perez). Reno's Web site is www.citizenreno.com.



Sheri Reynolds is an associate professor and the Ruth and Perry Morgan Chair of Southern Literature at ODU. Her published novels include *Bitterroot Landing*, *The Rapture of Canaan* (an Oprah bookclub selection and New York Times bestseller) and *A Gracious Plenty*. Her play *Orabelle's Wheelbarrow* won the 2005 Women Playwrights' Initiative playwriting competition.

Her fourth novel, *The Firefly Cloak*, is scheduled to be released in 2006.



Art Spiegelman was born in Stockholm, Sweden, and immigrated to the United States with his parents in his early childhood, growing up in Queens, N.Y. He started drawing professionally at age 16 and despite his parents wanting him to become a dentist, he majored in art and philosophy in college. He later taught the history and aesthetics of comics at the School

for the Visual Arts in New York and became a regular contributor to various underground publications. Under a variety of pseudonyms like Joe Cutrate, Skeeter Grant and Al Flooglebuckle, he drew creations such as Ace Hole, Midget Detective and Nervous Rex. In 1975, he and Bill Griffith co-founded *Scene*, an influential comix revue with artists like Robert Crumb, S. Clay Wilson and Justin Green. In 1980, he started the magazine *Raw* with his wife, Françoise Mouly. His graphic novels *Maus: A Survivor's Tale* and *Maus II: From Mauschwitz to the Catskills* were based on the experiences of his parents as concentration-camp survivors, with the Jews presented as mice and the

Germans as cats (the Katzies). They collectively received the Pulitzer Prize in 1992. In the wake of the disaster of September 11, 2001, Spiegelman has made a Sunday page format story about the terrorist assault on the World Trade Center in New York, called "In the Shadow of No Towers." The book version, published in 2004, was a New York Times bestseller and selected as one of the 100 Notable Books of 2004.



Rudy VanderLans is a founder and principal of Émigré, one of the most controversial and influential design groups of the past two decades. Founded in 1984, it has transformed type design, magazine layout, and the critical discussion of design, primarily through its quarterly journal, Émigré magazine. Émigré's designs have won the most distinguished awards in the field, including the AIGA (American Institute of Graphic Arts) Gold Medal, the Publish Magazine Impact Award, and the Chrysler Award for Innovation in Design. Originally intended as a cultural journal featuring the work of emigrants to the U.S., the first issue of Émigré was published in 1984, eventually becoming a full-fledged graphic design journal in 1988. Émigré magazine concentrated on work neglected by mainstream design publications, either because it did not adhere to traditional canons or was still in its formative stages. The issues, each built around a theme, explored new territories on design and its relation to culture. Through 69 issues, Émigré altered its format to reflect changes in design and VanderLans' own formal and intellectual interests. VanderLans' work also includes Émigré Music, an independent label, and various books featuring his photography and texts. VanderLans was born in The Hague, Holland, and attended the Royal Academy of Fine Art. He received a graduate degree in photography from University of California Berkeley.



Lucinda Williams, Grammy Award-winning singer/songwriter, was born in Lake Charles, La. Inspired by the blues and Bob Dylan, Williams began playing guitar at age 12, and by her early 20s she was performing in public. After struggling in the Austin and Houston folk scenes, Williams journeyed to Jackson, Miss., where she recorded her 1979 debut album *Ramblin' on My Mind*, an assortment of blues and country standards. The following year she released *Happy Woman Blues*. She relocated to Los Angeles and signed to Rough Trade, where she recorded a 1988 self-titled album that blended country, blues and folk. Though recruited by RCA, Williams left the label without releasing a record, preferring the creative control offered by the indie label Chameleon, which issued the album *Sweet Old World*, in 1992. Her 1998 album *Car Wheels on a Gravel Road* was both a commercial and critical success, netting Williams a Grammy for the Best Contemporary Folk Album. In 2001 Williams released *Essence* and her latest album, *World Without Tears*, was released this year.



Miller Williams, born in the Arkansas hills, is the author of 30 books of poetry, criticism and history and was the inaugural poet for the second inauguration of William Jefferson Clinton. His stories, translations, poems and critical essays have appeared in most of the seminal journals in English and his poems have been translated into several languages. His work has been recognized

by the Henry Bellaman Poetry Prize, the Amy Lowell Award in Poetry from Harvard University, the New York Arts Fund Award for Significant Contribution to American Letters, the Prix de Rome for Literature and the Academy Award for Literature, both from the American Academy of Arts and Letters. He holds honorary doctorates from Lander College and Hendrix College, received the Poets' Prize, the Charity Randall Citation for Contribution to Poetry as a Spoken Art from the International Poetry Forum, and the John William Corrington Award for Literary Excellence. In 1999 the multinational editorial board of *Voices International* named him one of the best 20 poets in the world now writing in English, and he was selected by a board of teachers, librarians and writers as one of the 500 most important poets of all languages in the 20th century. Among his many books are *Patterns of Poetry: An Encyclopedia of Forms*, *Points of Departure*, *The Ways We Touch*, and *Some Jazz a While: Collected Poems* (all from the University of Illinois Press). In 2002 the University of Georgia Press published *The Lives of Kelvin Fletcher: Stories Mostly Short*. *Poems of Miller Williams* is available on cassette from Spoken Arts, and the University of Missouri Press has published a collection of essays by 13 scholars and poets, edited by Michael Burns, under the title *Miller Williams and the Poetry of the Particular*.



Tobias Wolff was born in Alabama and grew up in the Skagit River Valley of Washington state. He spent four years in the U.S. Army and worked briefly at the Washington Post as a police reporter. He won the 1985 PEN/Faulkner Award for his novella *The Barracks Thief*. He has also won the 1989 Rea Award for the Short Story, the Esquire/Volvo/Waterstone's Non-Fiction Prize and three O. Henry Prizes. His short stories have appeared frequently on both sides of the Atlantic in journals such as *Esquire*, *Atlantic Monthly*, *Encounter*, *Vanity Fair*, *The New Yorker*, and *Fiction* magazine. His 1989 memoir *This Boy's Life* was adapted as a movie starring Ellen Barkin, Robert de Niro, and Leonardo DiCaprio. In 1994, *In Pharaoh's Army: Memories of the Lost War*, Wolff's account of his time in Vietnam, was a finalist for the National Book Award. *Old School*, published in 2004, is Tobias Wolff's seventh book. Wolff teaches at Stanford University.