

David Bradley
Rita Dove
Reginald Gibbons
Michael S. Harper
Joyce Johnson
Carolyn Kizer
Richard Shelton
Mary Lee Settle
Gary Snyder

The Eighth Annual Old Dominion University LITERARY FESTIVAL

**Monday-Thursday
October 7-10, 1985**

Free and open to the public.
Sponsored by the Department of English, the Arts and Letters Public Service
Program of Old Dominion University, the Activities Programming Board, the
Virginia Commission for the Arts, the Norfolk Commission on the Arts and
Humanities, and the Associated Writing Programs.

Gary Snyder appears courtesy of ODU's Activities Programming Board.
For further information call Bruce Weigl, ODU Department of English, (804) 440-3991.



MARY LEE SETTLE

Writing for the *New York Times Book Review*, novelist E.L. Doctorow has said that Mary Lee Settle "has a grand passion for what she's doing. . . high drama. . . and the instinct of the novelist for panorama. . . ." Settle's prodigious writing career includes the publication of six highly acclaimed novels: *Blood Tie*, for which she was awarded the National Book Award for fiction in 1978, and *The Beulah Quintet* (*Prisons*, *O Beulah Land*, *Know Nothing*, *The Scapegoat* and *The Killing Ground*), hailed by critic Roger Shattuck as "an act of faith in the novel. . . a source of energies we can carry back to life itself."

In addition to her fiction, Ms. Settle has published articles in a variety of magazines and journals, including an essay in *Esquire* this year on Japan. Ms. Settle will open the festival with a reading from her fiction on Monday evening; on Tuesday she will lecture on "Researching a Worldwide Novel."



GARY SNYDER

"As a poet," Snyder tells us, "I hold the most archaic values on earth. They go back to the late Paleolithic; the fertility of the soil, the magic of animals, the power-vision in solitude, the terrifying initiation and rebirth; the love and ecstasy of the dance, the common work of the tribe."

Widely considered one of the most important poets of our time, Snyder is the author of eight collections of poetry, including *Turtle Island* which won the Pulitzer Prize in 1974, and five collections of prose. Snyder's interest in promoting peace, ecology, and social justice takes the form of working and teaching on the specifics of bioregionalism, deep ecology, and fourth world politics, as well as poetics and Buddhist meditation.

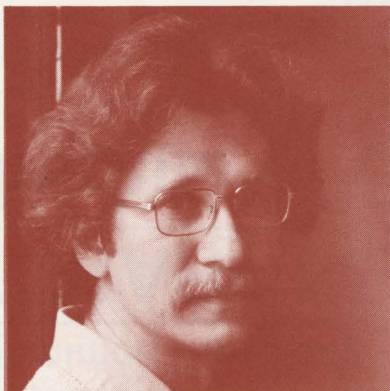
On Tuesday afternoon Snyder will speak on "Literature, Society and Politics in the New China," and on Tuesday evening he will read from his poetry.



MICHAEL S. HARPER

Writing in the *New York Times Book Review*, poet and critic David Ignatow has said that Michael Harper is a poet who is "passionately identified with the history of his people. . . . It is Harper's achievement to have projected his most difficult and complex insights and feelings through the epic manner, yet at the same time carried us along to identify with him."

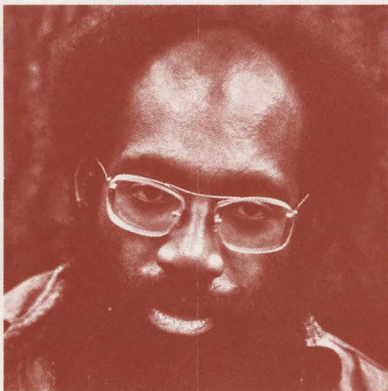
Michael S. Harper won the Poetry Society of America's Melville Crane award for his book *Images of Kin*. His other books—among them *Nightmare Begins Responsibility*, *History is Your Own Heartbeat*, *Debridement*, and *Dear John, Dear Coltrane*—have earned him two National Book Award nominations, as well as awards given by the National Institute of Arts and Letters and the Black Academy of Arts and Letters. A highly regarded performer of his work, Harper will give a lecture titled "Chants of Saints" on Wednesday and will close the Festival with a poetry reading on Thursday evening.



REGINALD GIBBONS

Reginald Gibbons has been described by one critic as a poet who "has the necessary finesse to enter into our consciousness without our knowledge, until at once we realize he is there and that his story is our story, and his innocence our own lost innocence, and his hard earned joy, the same joy we all long for. Gibbons' concerns as a poet are always humane and his expression of these concerns always finely crafted."

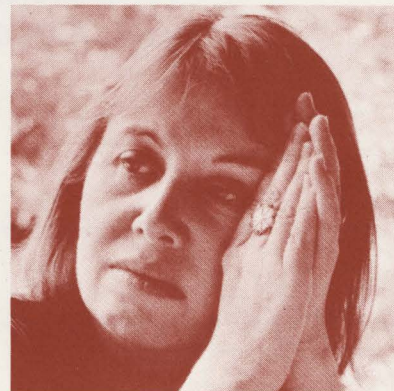
Gibbons' first book, *Roofs Voices Roads*, won a Quarterly Review of Literature Prize; his second, *The Ruined Motel*, was the 1981 winner of the Houghton Mifflin New Poetry Series, and his new book, *Saints*, will be published by Persea Books as one of the 1985 winners of the National Poetry Series. He has received poetry fellowships from the Guggenheim Foundation and the National Endowment for the Arts. In addition to his poetry, he has published works of translation, fiction and criticism. Gibbons will read with David Bradley on Wednesday afternoon.



DAVID BRADLEY

Called by the *San Francisco Examiner* "a fine effort of documentary resuscitation making years of detective work pay-off in a story that is loaded with the charge of authenticity. . . a very moving tale," Bradley's 1982 PEN/Faulkner award-winning novel, *The Chaneyville Incident*, has become a contemporary classic of American fiction.

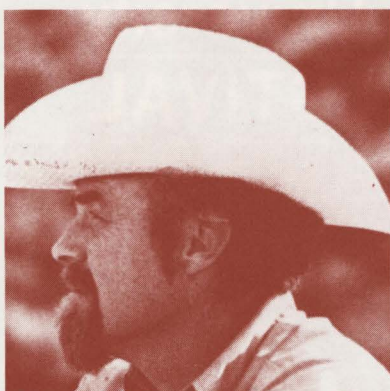
Bradley is also the author of one other novel, *South Street*, published in 1975, and of numerous articles and essays. Currently an associate professor of English at Temple University, Bradley has also been an editor and is on the Board of the Associated Writing Programs. Bradley will read with Reginald Gibbons on Wednesday afternoon.



JOYCE JOHNSON

Winner of the 1983 National Book Critics Award for best autobiography, Joyce Johnson's *Minor Characters*—a memoir of a young woman of the 1950's in the Beat orbit of Jack Kerouac—has been hailed as "a brilliantly written and glittering book about being young and brave and hungry for life and adventure. It is also a compelling remembrance of a time, a place, and the men and women who would become famous as the Beat Generation."

In addition to her autobiography, Johnson has also published two novels, *Come and Join the Dance* and *Bad Connections*, the latter described by E.L. Doctorow as a "sad, beautiful casebook of unrequited love, unrequited humanity." Equally well respected for her work as an editor, Johnson has worked in publishing since 1965 and is currently Senior Editor at The Atlantic Monthly Press. On Wednesday afternoon Johnson will speak on "The Role of the Editor in Book Publishing" and on Wednesday evening she will read from her own work.



RICHARD SHELTON

Writing in *The Saturday Review*, critic Alastair Reid has said that Richard Shelton's work ". . . stands out in its stark, understated ironies. Shelton is a poet of the Southwest and his language is as dry and bony as his desert landscape. . . the sharp economy of his line, his beautiful equilibrium of manner and matter, already make him an important poet."

Shelton's first book, *The Tattooed Desert*, won the International Poetry Forum's United States Award in 1970 and his fourth collection, *The Bus to Veracruz*, was nominated for the Pulitzer Prize and the National Book Award. In all, Shelton has published twelve books or chapbooks of poetry, and his poetry and prose have appeared in more than 100 magazines and journals.

Shelton, who will read with Rita Dove on Thursday afternoon, appears courtesy of the Associated Writing Programs.



RITA DOVE

Described as "one of the most original and exciting young poets writing in America today," Rita Dove is the author of two volumes of poetry, *The Yellow House on the Corner* and *Museum*; her third full-length collection, *Thomas and Beulah*, is forthcoming from Carnegie-Mellon in 1986.

In addition to her poetry, Dove has published fiction and essays in numerous magazines, journals and anthologies, including the highly acclaimed *Morrow Anthology of Younger American Poets*. Her poetry has won for her a Fulbright/Hays Fellowship, as well as fellowships from the National Endowment for the Arts and the Guggenheim Foundation. She is a member of the editorial board of *National Forum* and a contributing and advisory editor of *Callaloo: A Black South Journal of Arts and Letters*. Ms. Dove will read with Richard Shelton on Thursday afternoon.



CAROLYN KIZER

Winner of the Pulitzer Prize for poetry in 1985 for her book *Yin*, Carolyn Kizer is one of America's most widely read and critically acclaimed poets. Writing for *The Boston Herald*, critic John L'Heureaux has said that "Kizer is intensely feminine, uncompromisingly individual. But her femininity is supported by a frame of steel and her individuality by a mind which takes the world for horizon. . . she is a first rate poet; the Greeks would have built her a temple."

Kizer's books include *The Ungrateful Garden*, *Knock Upon Silence*, *Midnight Was My Cry*, *Mermaids in the Basement*, and *Yin: New Poems*. Her distinguished career as a teacher and poet includes positions at Columbia University, Bucknell University, the University of Iowa, and the University of Maryland. She founded *Poetry Northwest* and served as the first director of the Literature Program of the National Endowment for the Arts. Newly elected to the Board of the Associated Writing Programs, Kizer will read from her poetry on Thursday afternoon.

LITERARY FESTIVAL

Schedule of Events

Schedule of Events for the 8th Annual Old Dominion University Literary Festival,
Monday-Thursday, October 7-10, Old Dominion University

Monday, October 7

8 p.m. A READING by Mary Lee Settle
(BAL Auditorium)

Tuesday, October 8

12:30 p.m. LITERATURE, SOCIETY & POLITICS IN
THE NEW CHINA
by Gary Snyder
(148-150 Webb Center)

2:00 p.m. RESEARCHING A WORLD WIDE
NOVEL
by Mary Lee Settle
(148-150 Webb Center)

8 p.m. A READING by Gary Snyder
(BAL Auditorium)

Wednesday, October 9

11:00 a.m. CHANTS OF SAINTS
by Michael S. Harper
(148-150 Webb Center)

12:30 p.m. A READING
by Reginald Gibbons & David Bradley
(148-150 Webb Center)

2:00 p.m. THE ROLE OF THE EDITOR IN BOOK
PUBLISHING
by Joyce Johnson
(148-150 Webb Center)

8:00 p.m. A READING by Joyce Johnson
(BAL Auditorium)

Thursday, October 10

12:30 p.m. A READING
by Richard Shelton & Rita Dove
(148-150 Webb Center)

2:00 p.m. A READING by Carolyn Kizer
(148-150 Webb Center)

8:00 p.m. A READING
by Michael S. Harper
(BAL Auditorium)