



# Departmental News Bulletin

Volume XLVI,

Number 20

February 13, 2009

## Nonfiction Specialist Ann Hagedorn to Deliver Simons Fellow Lecture

Author and journalist **Ann Hagedorn** will deliver the Hall Center's Simons Public Humanities Fellow Lecture for 2008-2009, "The Art of Narrative Nonfiction: How to Enliven Your Scholarship and Attract the General Reader," on Thursday, 19 February, 3:30 pm, in the Hall Center Seminar Room. Hagedorn is the author of *Wild Ride: The Rise and Fall of Calumet Farm, Inc.*, *Beyond the River: The Untold Tales of the Heroes of the Underground Railroad* and, most recently, *Savage Peace: Hope and Fear in America, 1919* (2007). Hagedorn is working on her fifth book while in residence this academic year as the Simons Fellow.

### Publications

#### Bergeron, David

"Creating Entertainments for Prince Henry's Creation (1610), *Comparative Drama* 42 (2008-09): 433-449.

#### Ellis, Iain

"Laughing Through the Tears: The Enduring Journey of Etta James," *PopMatters* (located at popmatters.com), 12 February.

#### Evans, Stephen F.

Excerpt (several pages) from "'Open Containers': Sherman Alexie's Drunken Indians." (*American Indian Quarterly* 25.1 [2001]: 46-72.) In "Taking a Critical Stance," by Heather E. Bruce. *Sherman Alexie in the Classroom: "This is not a silent movie. Our voices will save our lives."* By Bruce, Anna E. Baldwin, and Christabel Umphrey. Urbana, IL: NCTE, 2008. 103-06, 137.

### Accepted for Publication

#### Voeller, Carey

"'A man is a fool who prefers poor California beef to human flesh': Lewis Keseberg, William Eddy, and (Re)Definitions of Manhood in J. Quinn Thornton's *Oregon and California in 1848* and Other Donner Party Narratives," *Western American Literature*, forthcoming.

### KU and Regional Events

• **University Theatre** continues *Eurydice*, by Sarah Ruhl, 13, 16 February, 7:30 pm, 14 February, 5:00 pm, 15 February, 2:30 pm, Inge Theatre, Murphy Hall.

• **Nature & Culture Seminar**, "Landscapes of Power: Storm King, the Hudson River, and the Emergence of Environmental Law, 1960-1980," Robert Lifset, History, University of Houston, 13 February, 3:30-5:00 pm, Hall Center Seminar Room.

• **Philosophy & Literature Seminar**, "Philosophy of Nature in the Prose and Poetry of Varlam Shalamov," Gerald Mikkelson, Russian, Eastern European & Eurasian Studies, 16 February, 3:30-5:00 pm, Hall Center Seminar Room.

• **Jewish Studies Event**, "The Jewish-Pagan Dialogue," Azzan Yadin, Jewish Studies, Rutgers University, 16 February, 7:30 pm, Hall Center Conference Hall.

• **American Seminar**, "Agency and Structure in National, Panethnic and Racial Identity Formation: The Case of Latino/a Entrepreneurs," Zulema Valdez, Sociology, Texas A&M University, 18 February, 3:30-5:00 pm, Hall Center Seminar Room.

• **Public Presentation**, "Open Access Practices for Increasing Scholarly Contributions," John Willinsky, Education, Stanford University, 19 February, 9:30-11:00 am, Big 12 Room, Kansas Union; **Globalization(s) Seminar**, "Open Access to Knowledge: What Comes of the Right to Know in Kansas and Kumasi," John Willinsky, 19 February, 3:30-5:00 pm, Jayhawk Room, Kansas Union.

• **Performance & Culture Seminar**, "Rehearsing the 'Warrior Ethos': 'Theatre Immersion' and the Simulation of Iraq Theatres of War," Scott Magelssen, Theatre and Film, Bowling Green State University, 20 February, 1:30-3:00 pm, Hall Center Seminar Room.

• **Gender Seminar**, "Children's Views of Discrimination in Presidential Politics Before and After the 2008 Election," Meaghan M. Patterson, Psychology and Research in Education, 20 February, 3:30-5:00 pm, Hall Center Seminar Room.

### Calendar

**F 13 British Seminar**, "Performance, Parades, Publics: Queering Northern Irish Identities," **Kathryn Conrad**, English, 3:30-5:00 pm, Hall Center Conference Hall.

**M 16 CTE Lunch and Conversation**, "How to Incorporate Service Learning into Your Course," **Erica Dvorske** (M.A. 2000), United Way of Douglas County and four others, 12-1 pm, 135 Budig.

**T 17 CTE Lunch and Conversation**, "Taking Service Learning to the Next Level," **Cheryl Lester**, English/American Studies and three others, 12-1 pm, 135 Budig.

**Voting Department Meeting**, 4:00 pm, 4019 Wescoe. Agenda: 1) presentations by candidates for Chair of English; 2) vote to recommend one candidate for appointment.

**R 19 Simons Fellow Lecture**, "The Art of Narrative Nonfiction: How to Enliven Your Scholarship and Attract the General Reader," **Anne Hagedorn**, Simons Fellow, 3:30-5:00 pm, Hall Center Seminar Room.

• **Creative Campus Lecture Series**, “Connecting Bodies, Apples, and DNA through Dance,” Liz Lerman, Artistic Director, Liz Lerman Dance Exchange, 20 February, 4:30 pm, Spencer Museum of Art Auditorium.

• **TGIF**, 20 February, 4:00 pm, Adams Alumni Center.

• **Multicultural Theatre Initiative** presents *For Colored Girls Who Have Considered Suicide When the Rainbow is Enuf*, by Ntozake Shange, 20-21 February, 7:30 pm, 22 February, 2:30 pm, Lawrence Arts Center, 940 New Hampshire. \$5 suggested donation.

### ***Calls for Papers, Symposia, Conferences, Etc. (Posted)***

• **No Idle Fancy: The Many Worlds of the Fantastic**, 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Newman University Literary Festival, 4-5 April, Newman University, Wichita, KS. Deadline: 1 March.

• **The Postnational Fantasy: Nationalism, Cosmopolitics and Science Fiction**, anthology seeking chapter proposals. Deadline: 30 April.

### ***Fellowships, Scholarships, Awards, Contests, Etc. (Posted)***

• **Kansas Authors Club 2009 Writing Contest**, open to all writers, four prose and four poetry categories. Deadline: 31 March.

• **53<sup>rd</sup> Annual Snyder Book Collecting Contest**, graduate and undergraduate divisions, sponsored by KU Libraries. Deadline: 23 March.

• **Lilly Fellows Program Book Award**, nominations sought for biennial contest, any discipline, limited subject matter, big prize. Nomination deadline: 1 March.

### ***Other Opportunities***

• **Supportive Educational Services** is hiring tutors for Spring 2009. They have an immediate opening for tutors in English 209 and 211. All tutoring positions are salaried and tutors determine their own work schedules. Graduate and undergraduate students welcome to apply: 864-7267 or <roelsch@ku.edu>.

## **Spotlight on Research**

**Stuart Levine and Susan F. Levine, *Poe's Critical Theory/The Major Documents* (University of Illinois Press, 2009)**



Some years ago a friend showed Professor Emeritus of English Stuart Levine a *New York Times* article about all the fields in which there were experts named “Levine.” Flattered that he was included, Stuart was amused that the author had not discovered that the Levine who was the Poe scholar was the same guy as the Levine in Native American studies. In truth, he’s worn a lot of hats—earned his living as a symphony orchestra musician, was a broadcast commentator on network radio, published a textbook and a book in art history, founded and for thirty years edited a scholarly journal, founded and chaired a KU department (while continuing to teach classes for English as a voluntary overload), and won a literary prize for a book of original fiction.

A little booklet prepared in 2004 offers an account of what Levine calls “my inept efforts to escape Poe (they began in 1951!).” A note in his mail slot will get you a copy. He says that he would have gotten free

of the Poe game after *Edgar Poe/Seer and Craftsman* (1972) had it not been for his wife Susan, whose organizational skills and brilliance as a literary detective made *The Short Fiction of Edgar Allan Poe/An Annotated Edition* (1976--) possible. That book led to the other annotated editions and to a number of articles and book-chapters.

*Poe's Critical Theory* presents texts and variants of Poe’s main theoretical statements and puts them in context. **Lots** of context. Poe has been immensely influential: French Symbolism, Spanish and Latin American *modernismo*, art-for-art’s-sake movements and mid-20<sup>th</sup> century New Criticism are said to be strongly influenced by his pronouncements. *Poe's Critical Theory* is unusual in that besides establishing definitive texts (and explaining how Poe’s eccentric system of scansion was supposed to work—it is here printed as he designed it), it faces frankly Poe’s bigotry and the fact that Poe’s most telling critical dicta, powerful in their impact on world literature, are always contradicted by their author, often in the very pieces in which they appear.

