



Final EAT Full Production



English Alternative Theatre will present MFA student **Benjamin Smith's** original full-length play, *What Really Happened*, on Saturday, 21 November, at 7:30 pm and Sunday, 22 November, at 2:30 pm. Both performances will take place at the Lawrence Arts Center. After 21 years as a fixture in the English Department, this will be EAT's last full production. EAT Artistic Director **Paul Stephen Lim** calls the play a "psychological drama." The cast includes several veteran EAT performers as well as current English Ph.D student, **Margaret Kramar**, who has heroically stepped in

at the last moment to replace an actor who could not continue in her part.

Chris Abani Lecture

Nigerian author **Chris Abani** will address "Stories of Struggle, Stories of Hope: Art, Politics, and Human Rights" as part of the **Humanities Lecture Series** on Tuesday, 17 November, 7:30 pm, in Woodruff Auditorium, Kansas Union. He will also be the featured guest at "A Conversation with Chris Abani" the next morning at 10:00 am in the Hall Center Conference Hall. Abani was imprisoned by the Nigerian government as a teenager for his first novel, then tortured and placed on death row for subsequent work critical of the regime. His bestselling novel, *Graceland*, won the Hemingway/PEN Prize. His other works of fiction include *The Virgin of Flames*, *Becoming Abigail*, and *Song for Night*. He is also the author of five poetry collections – and a saxophonist. He is currently Associate Professor of Creative Writing at University of California, Riverside.



Chris Abani

Mortar Board to Rowland

The Torch Chapter of **Mortar Board National Honor Society** has selected Associate Professor of English **Ann Wierda Rowland** as one of five KU faculty members to receive their annual **Outstanding Educator Award**. Rowland and her fellow recipients will be recognized at the KU-Hofstra men's basketball game on Friday, 13 November. There will also be a reception honoring the Mortar Board award-ees on Sunday, 15 November, 1:30 pm, in the Malott Room of the Kansas Union. Since Ann



Ann Rowland

is currently an Honors Faculty Fellow housed in Nunemaker Hall, we see comparatively little of her in Wescoe for now. Consider sending her a note of congratulation – like this one. Congratulations, Ann!

Presentations

Martinez, Ann

"*Beowulf*: The Monsters and the Movies," Mid-Atlantic Popular/American Culture Association Conference, Boston, MA, 7 November.

Calendar

- N 15** **Writers' Reading**, non-fiction, 7:00 pm, Jackpot Saloon (10th & Massachusetts).
- M 16** **Advisory Committee Meeting**, 3:30 pm, 3001A Wescoe. Agenda: New Klemmer fund for GRASHips.

Philosophy & Literature Seminar, "Sigmund's Freud-iaid" **Jerry Masinton**, Emeritus, English; Respondent, **Doreen Fowler**, English. 3:30-5:00 pm, Hall Center Seminar Room.
- T 17** **Humanities Lecture Series**, "Stories of Struggle, Stories of Hope: Art, Politics, and Human Rights," **Chris Abani**, novelist, 7:30 pm, Woodruff Auditorium, Kansas Union.
- W 18** **Humanities Lecture Series**, "A Conversation with Chris Abani," 10:00-11:30 am, Hall Center Conference Hall.

Reading from *The Sky Begins at Your Feet* and *Landed*, **Caryn Mirriam-Goldberg** (Ph.D. 1996), poet laureate of Kansas, 1:00-2:00 pm, Oread Books, Kansas Union. Book signing to follow.

Reading and Discussion, "White-Skin Deer: Hoopa Stories," **Elizabeth Schultz**, Emeritus, English, 7:00 pm, Haskell Indian Nations University Cultural Center & Museum (24th & Barker).
- F 20** **Chris Dick, Ph.D. Defense**, 12:00 pm, 2131 Wescoe (Barnard, Carothers, *Hartman*, Sharistianian, Baron)

Jessica Jessee, Ph.D. Comprehensive Exam, 1:00 pm, 3001A Wescoe (Harris, Irby, *Mielke*, Neill, Chappell)
- S 21** **EAT Full Production**, "What Really Happened," by **Benjamin Smith**, English, 7:30 pm, Lawrence Arts Center, 940 New Hampshire. **Also Sunday, 2:30 pm.**
- N 22** **Lecture**, "Poe in Context," **Stuart Levine**, Emeritus, English, 2:30-3:30 pm, Wichita Central Public Library, Wichita, KS. Part of "The Big Read," sponsored by the National Endowment for the Arts.

Thonus, Terese

"The Writing Center as a Site for L2 Writing Research" and "Rules on the Fly: Writing Center Tutors as 'Grammar' Instructors," Symposium on Second Language Writing, Tempe, AZ. 13 November.

Announcements, Notes, & News

• **Emeriti Bonanza!** Please note that this week's "Calendar" features lectures and readings by three KU English emeriti: **Jerry Masinton**, **Beth Schultz**, and **Stuart Levine**. Masinton will speak on Freud at the Hall Center's Philosophy & Literature Seminar, Schultz will read from her work and lead a discussion at HINU, and Levine will speak as part of the NEA's "Big Read" program in Wichita (see also below).

• **The Bard Goes Electronic:** Last year KU Continuing Education contracted full-time lecturer **Steve Evans** to write its first-ever online English 332: Shakespeare course. In August Steve completed the project, which he describes as "at once daunting, exciting, and always challenging," turning in a 250-page typescript for the new course, which is in preparation now. Fuller information on Steve's work will be given in a "Spotlight on Research" feature in a future issue of the *DNB*.

• As part of the NEA's "Big Read" program, Professor Emeritus of English **Stuart Levine** will deliver a lecture entitled "Poe in Context" on 22 November at the Wichita Central Public Library in Wichita, KS (see "Calendar"). Stuart's advance press release states, "People say that Poe is our most influential critic, the American author with the greatest impact on world literature. His poems have served to introduce generations of school kids to the elements of his poetry. But Poe is not the mad genius of the popular imagination. Since 1941 we have known that many of the wild things we used to think were true were invented by a rival who did not like him. "Poe in Context" will review what we now know about Poe's output . . . and what we don't know about his life."

• Six poems from **Brian Daldorph's** new book of poetry, *Jail Time*, have been nominated for a Pushcart Prize: "Glass of Water," "Creation," "Visitation," "The Conductor," "Flood," "Bones."

• Former KU English lecturer and current Associate Director of the Center for the Study of Science Fiction, **Kij Johnson**, won the Best Short Story Award at this year's World Fantasy Convention. This is one of the most prestigious awards in the field. "26 Monkeys, Also the Abyss" can be read in full on Kij's website: <http://www.kijjohnson.com/26_monkeys.htm>.

KU and Regional Events

- **Town & Gown Forum**, "Andy Warhol, Celebrity Culture & the 1980s," 13 November, 10-11:30 am, Spencer Museum of Art, Fourth-floor galleries.
- **Nature & Culture Seminar**, "In the Mind's Eye: Western Images of an Imagined Nature," Dan Flores, History, Montana State University, 13 November, 3:30-5:00 pm, Hall Center Seminar Room.
- **University Theatre** presents *The Glass Menagerie*, by Tennessee Williams, 14, 19-21 November at 7:30 pm, 15, 22 November, 2:30 pm, Crafton-Preyer Theatre, Murphy Hall.
- **TGIF**, 4-5:30 pm, Adams Alumni Center.
- **Open Access Implementation Task Force**, open meeting and brown bag lunch, 17 November, 11:30-12:50 pm., Alcove A, Kansas Union. (Remember, an optional Voting Department meeting will be held to discuss this matter on 24 November.)
- **American Seminar**, "Barrio Metaxis: Ambivalent Iconicities in Mexican American Lowriders," Ben Chappell, American Studies, 3:30-5:00 pm, Hall Center Seminar Room.

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

- **Space, Place, and Travel in Literature**, 5th Annual University of Tulsa English Graduate Student Conference, 26-28 March 2010. Deadline: 31 January.

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

- **Waasmode Short Fiction Prize** and **Just Desserts Short-Short Fiction Prize**, sponsored by *Passages North*, Northern Michigan University. Deadline: 15 February.