



HUMANITIES INSTITUTE

Challenge. Create. Connect.

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH FLORIDA

Spring 2013

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NELL IRVIN PAINTER AND JORIE GRAHAM: FIRST DISTINGUISHED FELLOWS-IN-RESIDENCE!

From the Director
Dr. Elizabeth Bird

As we begin the HI's 10th anniversary year in 2013, we're launching one of our most exciting initiatives yet — the Distinguished Fellow-in-Residence Program, generously funded through the USF Office of the Provost. This semester, we welcome two internationally-renowned scholar/artists, Nell Irvin Painter and Jorie Graham.

Nell Irvin Painter

Dr. Painter, the Edwards Professor of American History, Emerita, at Princeton University, is a prominent historian and award-winning scholar, who will be in residence Feb. 18 – March 1. Dr. Painter is the author of many books, including *The History of White People* (2010), *Creating Black Americans* (2006), and *Southern History*

Across the Color Line (2002), and she is a noted public intellectual, facing interviewers as diverse as Bill Moyers and Stephen Colbert.



She has served as president of the Organization of American Historians and the Southern Historical Association, and has held fellowships from the Guggenheim Foundation, the National Endowment for the Humanities, the American Council of Learned Societies, and the American Antiquarian Society. Most recently, she has reinvented herself as an artist, moving increasingly away from traditional scholar-

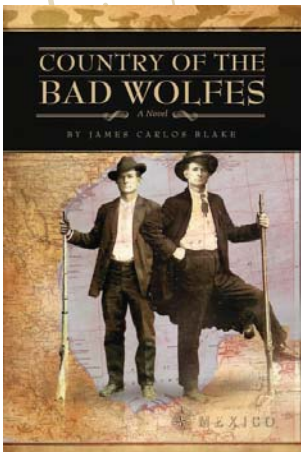
ship, and immersing herself in the creative arts. She will share both dimensions of her life and work while at USF.

Highlights of Dr. Painter's visit will be her two public talks. The first, on Tuesday, February 19th, is titled "What's it Like to Go from Scholarship to Visual Art?" and is scheduled in FAH 290 (College of the Arts), starting at 12 noon. She notes, "Ever since I left history and began formal art study at Rutgers in the fall of 2006, people have been asking me about my experience. What's it like to leave scholarship for painting? Have I always wanted to be an artist? Does my former life nourish my present occupation? I will answer these questions and show some of my work, old and new."

Continued on page 7...

"OUTLAW NOVELIST" JAMES CARLOS BLAKE TO RECEIVE HUMANITIES AWARD

Born in Mexico, raised in Texas, and earning his B.A. and M.A. in English from USF, author James Carlos Blake has been hailed as "one of the greatest chroniclers of the mythical American outlaw life" by



Entertainment Weekly.

The author of many acclaimed novels, essays, and short stories, Blake is returning to USF this January, when he will speak at a public event, and receive the USF Distinguished Graduate in the Humanities Award.

Blake claims Mexican, Irish, and English ancestors, including a British pirate who was executed in Mexico, and has worked as a snake-catcher, Volkswagen mechanic, swimming pool maintenance man – and college professor, including a

stint teaching at USF.

His first novel, *The Pistoleer* (1995) centers on the infamous Texas outlaw, John Wesley Hardin, and introduced some of the themes that have characterized his work ever since, such as violence, honor, and morality. His third novel, *In the Rogue Blood* (1997), which chronicles the misadventures of two brothers during the Mexican-American War, won the prestigious Los Angeles Times Book Prize for Fiction. Other novels include *The Friends*

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Humanities Institute

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HUSBAND & WIFE DUO TACKLE SCI-FI AND GENDER

Some of the most popular events at the Institute are those dealing with science fiction, the paranormal, and the weird. On March 26th and 27th we are pleased to welcome a husband and wife duo who literally wrote the book on weird. Jeff and Ann VanderMeer recently published the critically acclaimed anthology, *The Weird: A Compendium of Strange and Dark Stories and Best American Fantasy*.

World Fantasy Award winner Jeff VanderMeer's fiction has been published in over twenty countries. He recently signed a three-book agreement with Farrar, Straus & Giroux (New York). Junot Diaz described his last collection, *The Third Bear*, as "cunningly crafted stories full of wonder and intelligence, proving again why VanderMeer is so essential." Ann VanderMeer, a publisher and editor, is only the second female editor of the venerable horror magazine, *Weird Tales*. She is the founder of Buzzcity Press and she and her husband are currently compiling an anthology on feminist speculative fiction. Both have won numerous pres-

tigious awards for their original fiction and anthologies.

After visiting classes on March



26th, the VanderMeers will give a public reading at 6:00pm in XXXXXROOM.

On March 27th they will be joined by Dr. Nancy White (Anthropology) and Dr. Ednie Garrison (Women's & Gender Studies) to discuss various forms of sci-fi media and how they address issues of gender and otherness. The discussion panel will be moderated by Rick Wilber (Mass Communication) and begins at 1:00pm in XXXXXROOM. This event is co-sponsored by the School of Mass Communication and organized with the help of Rick Wilber.

A NEW SEMESTER, A NEW CROP OF HOMEGROWN TALENT

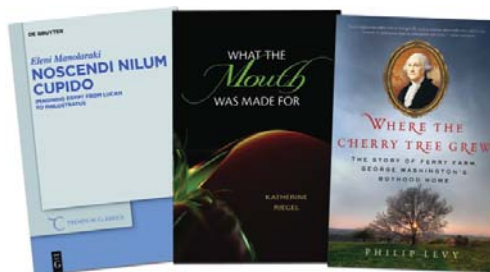
Last semester we launched a faculty book series designed to celebrate scholarly and creative contributions to the humanities by USF faculty. Our *Homegrown Humanities* series continues this semester with presentations by three innovative faculty members with newly published books. These late afternoon talks are a great way to learn about our local talents; presentations are often less formal, providing ample opportunity for discussion. Refreshments are served at 3:30pm in the Grace Allen Room (4th floor of the Library) and all talks begin at 4:00pm.

Wednesday, Feb. 6

Dr. Eleni Manolaraki (World Languages) *Noscendi Nilum Cupido: Imagining Egypt from Lucan to Philostratus*.

The river Nile has been the subject of numerous scientific, literary, and artistic creations from antiquity to the

present day. This lecture outlines continuities and transformations in Nilotic iconography—textual and visual—over a



millennium, from Classical Greece to the early Middle Ages (fifth century BCE to fifth century CE). Throughout history, dominant political and cultural powers appropriate the symbolic capital of the Nile as a means of self-definition, empowerment, and ideology. Among the historical dynamics shaping the constant transformation of Egypt's river are Egyptian

fertility and religion, the Greek fascination with Egypt's Pharaonic antiquity and wisdom, the Roman conquest of Egypt, and the rapid Christianization of the eastern Mediterranean.

Wednesday, Mar. 6

Dr. Philip Levy (History) *Where the Cherry Tree Grew: The Story of Ferry Farm, George Washington's Boyhood Home*.

In 2002, Philip Levy began an archeological excavation of Ferry Farm, the eight hundred acre plot of land that George Washington called home from age six until early adulthood. Six years later, Levy and his team announced their remarkable findings to the world: They had found more than Washington family objects like wig curlers, wine bottles and a tea set. They found objects that told deeper stories about family life: a pipe with Masonic markings, a carefully

placed set of oyster shells suggesting that someone in the household was practicing folk magic. More importantly, they had identified Washington's home itself—a modest structure in line with lower gentry taste that was neither as grand as some had believed nor as rustic as nineteenth century art depicted it.

Wednesday, Apr. 10

Katherine Riegel (English) *What the Mouth Was Made For*

Katherine Riegel's second book, *What the Mouth Was Made For*, is filled with poems that seek to fill up the spaces created by loss and desire with images of open fields, of green, of kisses. What does it mean to be in this world, to eat, to

laugh, to speak? Her poems are filled with vivid images and even bolder emotions. Tim Seibles calls these poems "fresh food for the head and heart," saying, "Get this book. Get full." Her book will be fresh off the press and ready for an audience. This reading is part of National Poetry Month at USF 2013.

HI Hosts INTERNATIONAL EXPERT ON THE ARAB SPRING

Signature Theme: Global Identities

From its beginnings at the end of 2010, the "Arab Spring" has inspired both hopes and fears about dramatic social change throughout the Middle East. This January, the Humanities Institute is delighted to host one of the nation's foremost experts, Dr. Tamara Sonn, speaking on "The Arab Spring: Democracy's Difficult Birth in the Middle East."

Sonn, the Kenan Professor of Religion and Professor of Humanities at the College of William and Mary, has carried out recent research in Libya, Egypt, Jordan, and Palestine, following years of research in Pakistan and elsewhere. She notes that understanding the revolutions in North Africa and the Middle East can be a daunting task; "This presentation will

place the revolutions in historic con-



text, demonstrating that the uprisings are only the most recent wave in struggles for good governance that have been ongoing for well over a century. Yet each country has a unique profile." Her talk will guide the audience through the political, religious, and socio-economic challenges that shape Arab struggles for stable, representative governments.

This event marks a homecoming for Sonn, who taught in Religious Studies at USF from 1995-2000. Her research focuses on Islamic intellectual history and Islam in the contemporary world, and her books include (among others): *Islam: A Brief History* (2010); *The Sage Handbook of Islamic Studies* (2010); *The Religion Toolkit: A Complete Guide to Religious Studies* (with J. Morreall 2011); *Interpreting Islam: Bandali Jawzi's Islamic Intellectual History* (1996), and *Judaism and Islam in Practice* (with J. Neusner and J. Brockopp 2000). She has published many articles and book chapters, and her work has been funded by United States

Institute of Peace and the American Council of Learned Societies.

Past-president of the American Council for the Study of Islamic Societies, Professor

Sonn is a member of the academic advisory council for the Center for Muslim-Christian Understanding at Georgetown University, a member



of the board of directors of the Center for the Study of Islam and Democracy; and a member of the editorial boards for *Muslim World*, *American Journal for Islamic Social Science*, and several other journals.

Sonn will speak at 6:00pm., Wed. Jan. 30 in the auditorium at the Patel Center for Global Solutions (CGS), with a reception and book signing to follow. The talk is co-sponsored by the USF Department of Religious Studies.

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of *Pancho Villa*, *Red Grass River*, which focuses on a notorious criminal gang in early 20th century Florida, and *The Killings of Stanley Ketchel*, set in the early days



of prize-fighting. In addition to the Los Angeles Book Prize, Blake's awards include the 1999 Southwest Book Award for *Borderlands*, the 1999

Chautauqua South Book Award for *Red Grass River*, and the 2007 Falcon Award for *Under the Skin*.

While at USF, Blake will give a public talk/reading, titled "History and Crime: the Lifeblood of Fiction," using "a free-form approach in which I present a general theme of history and crime as long-established sources of much of our greatest literature, and then discuss the salient characteristics of both historical and crime fiction, using classic works and my own for examples." The event will in-

clude readings from his most recent book, *Country of the Bad Wolfes* (2011), and from his upcoming novel, *The Rules of Wolfe*.

In addition to his public event, Blake will also speak to a graduate class in creative writing.

The event and award presentation will be in ISA 7th Floor View Room, on Wed., Jan. 23, starting at 6:00pm, with a reception to follow. James Carlos Blake's visit is co-sponsored by the Department of English, the Alumni Association, and Research One.



NATIONAL POETRY MONTH 2013

Signature Theme: The Power of the Poetic



Poetry has always been a primary focus of the Humanities Institute. Our founding Director, Dr. Bill Scheuerle, had wonderful passion for poetry, bringing in a number of incredible talents. Dr. Silvio Gaggi continued that tradition by focusing poetry events in April to coincide with National Poetry Month, and now the Institute is expanding the reach of these programs even further. NPM@USF 2013 will have some recognizable features—great readings by inspiring writers. It will also have some new elements, like a poetry contest and interdisciplinary lectures. Once again, this year's programs are possible thanks to partial funding from the Florida Humanities Council and the tireless efforts of Dr. Jay Hopler, from the USF Department of English.

We kickoff NPM@USF with a week-long visit from Dr. Jorie Graham. One of the most celebrated poets of our time, Graham has received a Pulitzer Prize, MacArthur Fellowship, and the Morton Dauwen Zabel Award. She served as a Chancellor of The Academy of American Poets from 1997 – 2003 and is currently the Boylston Professor of Rhetoric and Oratory at Harvard University.

Graham will be the second Distinguished Scholar in Residence this spring and will visit classes, meet with students and faculty, and hold two public events. The first will be a poetry reading on April 2nd at 6:00pm in the Patel Center Auditorium. The second event will be a lecture, “Sea Change: Poetry & The Environment” also at 6:00pm in the Marshall Student Center, room 2708.

As usual, we have far too many incredible poets reading this year to give them the print space they deserve in the newsletter. However, the NPM@USF website contains a complete list of events, author bios, photos, and links to their websites:

www.humanities-institute.usf.edu/poetry. Here's what you have to look forward to:

Katherine Riegel, author of *Castaway* and *What the Mouth Was Made For*. April 10, 4:00pm in the Grace Allen Room (4th floor of the USF Library).

Jennifer Key, winner of the 2012 Tampa Review Prize for her book, *The Old Dominion*. April 11, 6:00pm in the USF Graphicstudio (behind the Embassy Suites on Spectrum Blvd.). Co-sponsored by the Florida Literary Arts Council and the USF Dept. of English.

John Lysaker, Professor of Philosophy at Emory University. “Renewing the Ancient

Quarrel Between Philosophy and Poetry: A Philosophy for Art.” April 12, 2:00pm in the Grace Allen Room (4th floor of the USF Library). Part of the Dept. of Philosophy's Colloquia Series.

Staged Reading of Jorge Zalamea's *The Dream from the Steps*. Hosted by USF graduate student, Gloria Muñoz. April 15, 6:00pm in the Marshall Student Center, room 3707.

Carolyn Hembree, author of *Skinny*. April 17, 6:00pm in the USF Graphicstudio (behind the Embassy Suites on Spectrum Blvd.).

Ira Sukrungruang, winner of the Tampa Press Anita Claire Schraf Award for *In Thailand It is Night*. April 19, 6:00pm in the Marshall Student Center, room 2707.

Poetry & The Visual Arts featuring poet, Terri Witek, and visual artist, Cyriaco Lopes. April 22, 6:00pm in the Marshall Student Center, room 4200.

Stephen Kampa, winner of the Florida Book Award Gold Medal for, *Cracks in the Invisible*. April 24, 6:00pm in the USF Graphicstudio (behind the Embassy Suites on Spectrum Blvd.).



Unleash your inner poet!

This year we're excited to be sponsoring our first poetry competition as part of NPM@USF. Our “Florida 2013” competition is, in part, inspired by the 500th anniversary of the naming of “La Florida” and is divided into two categories: High School Poets and USF Poets.

- Poets are encouraged to write about anything inspired by Florida—images, locations, people, etc.
- High school poets should be enrolled in either public or private high school (or home school equivalent) in Hillsborough, Pinellas, Pasco, or Manatee Counties.
- USF poets must be a student, staff/faculty member (including part time, adjunct, OPS, etc.) or alumnus/a, affiliated with any institution in the USF system.

Visit the NPM@USF website to read all the rules, download the cover sheet, and learn how to submit your poem. Entries must be received by Feb. 15th. We will award first, second, and third place in both categories and winners will receive their awards at the April 2nd poetry reading with Jorie Graham. Other finalists will be featured daily on the NPM@USF website throughout the month of April.

SPRING 2013 Co-SPONSORED EVENTS

Jonathan D. Sarna to Deliver Spring Baumgardner Gelbart Lecture

The College of Arts and Sciences in cooperation with the Humanities Institute, the Departments of Religious Studies and History, and the Tampa Jewish Book Festival will present the fourth June Baumgardner Gelbart Lecture in Jewish Studies. “When General Grant Expelled the Jews” will be presented by Jonathan D. Sarna, the Joseph H. & Belle R. Braun Professor of American Jewish History at Brandeis University.

On December 17, 1862, as the Civil War entered its second winter, General Ulysses S. Grant issued a sweeping order, General Orders #11, expelling “Jews as a class” from his war zone. It remains the most notorious anti-Jewish official

order in American history. The order came back to haunt Grant in 1868 when he ran for president. Never before had Jews been so widely noticed in a presidential contest, and never before had they been confronted so publicly with the question of how to balance their “American” and “Jewish” interests. During his two terms in the White House, the memory of the “obnoxious order” shaped Grant’s relationship with the American Jewish community. Surprisingly, he did more for Jews than any other president to his time. How this happened, and why, sheds new light on one of our most enigmatic presidents, on the Jews of his day, and on America itself.

Sarna’s many publications include: *When General Grant Expelled the Jews* (2012),

A Time to Every Season: Letters to a Young Jew, *American Judaism: A History*, and numerous edited and co-edited volumes on American Judaism. His lecture will be held at 7:00pm, Wed. Feb. 20th in Traditions Hall, The Gibbons Alumni Center.

Stampede of Culture

The Humanities and Cultural Studies Organization, a student-run club, will host *Stampede of Culture* on Mar. 25th from 11:00am – 3:00pm in the Marshall Student Center Amphitheater. The event will feature food, music, visual art, dance, and displays from different campus organizations. It’s a great opportunity to explore the cultural diversity at USF while enjoying some beautiful spring weather.

DARWIN DAY

Signature Theme: Science, Medicine, and Culture

Ground squirrels stand on their hind legs and squeal to warn others of predators, even though it puts them at risk. Humans risk their own lives and safety for the good of others. Such altruistic behaviors have long fascinated scientists like our renowned Darwin Day speaker, Lee Dugatkin.

For three days in February, we continue our partnership with the Departments of Integrative Biology, Philosophy and Anthropology, USF’s ResearchOne and the Coalition for Science Literacy in celebrating Charles Darwin’s birthday, featuring Dugatkin, Professor and Distinguished University Scholar in the Department of Biology at The University of Louisville.

Indeed, Dugatkin will offer not one but three talks focused around Darwin Day. The first, on Thursday afternoon, Feb. 14th, is “The Interaction of Genes and Culture: Mate Choice in Guppies and Humans.” While directed toward students and faculty in IB, it is also open to the public.

That same evening, Dugatkin speaks on “The Evolution of Altruism: From Darwin to Today.” He asks, “In a world supposedly governed by ruthless survival of the fittest, why do we see acts

of goodness? Darwin worried that this goodness could be the Achilles heel of his theory.” Dugatkin will trace the history of the debate, which has taken on major political and cultural overtones, from Darwin to today.

And on Friday, in collaboration with the Department of History, Dugatkin will present “Mr. Jefferson and the Giant Moose: When Natural History and History Collide,” based on his book of the same name. After independence, the new America was viewed by many Europeans as a degenerate backwater, with French naturalists arguing that American life-forms, including humans, were inferior. Thomas Jefferson spent years countering this, and as part of this defense, he shipped a seven-foot moose to Paris. “The legend of the moose is a fascinating tale about Jefferson’s passion to build American prestige.”

Dugatkin is the author of over 150 articles on evolution and behavior in such journals as *Nature*, and *The Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*. He has published three academic books, as well as two text books and his latest trade book, *The Prince of Evolution* (2011). He has spoken at more than 70 universities around

the world, from Harvard to Oxford, and is a contributing author to major publications such as *Scientific American*, *Slate*, *The New Scientist*, *Newsday*, and *The Wilson Quarterly*.

In addition to the three public



talks, Dugatkin will participate in two closed workshops that enrich the teaching of evolutionary biology. The first brings high school students to USF, facilitated by graduate students from Integrative Biology, Anthropology, and Philosophy. The second provides evolutionary content for high school teachers through lectures and activities at the Museum of Science and Industry. Both are organized in collaboration with Larry Plank, Director of K-12 S.T.E.M. Education for Hillsborough County Public Schools.

SPRING 2013 CALENDAR

January 23

USF Distinguished Graduate in the Humanities Award. James Carlos Blake: *History and Crime: The Lifeblood of Fiction*
ISA 7th Floor View Room, 6:00pm, reception to follow

January 30

Tamara Sonn: *The Arab Spring: Democracy's Difficult Birth in the Middle East.* Patel Center Auditorium, 6:00pm, reception to follow

February 6

Homegrown Humanities Faculty Book Series

Eleni Manolaraki: *Noscendi Nilum Cupido: Imagining Egypt from Lucan to Philostratus*

Grace Allen Room (Library). Refreshments, 3:30pm. Talk, 4:00pm

February 14 - 16: Darwin Day 2013 with Lee Dugatkin

Feb. 14: *Darwin, Genes, and Culture: Mate Choice in Guppies and Humans* MSC 2100A, 3:30pm

Feb. 14: *The Evolution of Altruism: From Darwin to Today* TECO Room (Education Building), 6:00pm, reception to follow

Feb. 15: *Mr. Jefferson and the Giant Moose: When History and Natural History Collide* MSC 3707, 1:00pm

Feb. 16: *Hillsborough County Teacher Workshops*

February 18 - March 1: Nell Irvin Painter: Distinguished Scholar in Residence

Feb. 19: *What's it Like to Go from Scholarship to Visual Art?* FAH 290 (College of the Arts), 12:00pm

Feb. 26: *Can a Black Scholar Write About White People?* Patel Center Auditorium, 6:00pm, reception to follow

February 20

Jonathan D. Sarna : *When General Grant Expelled the Jews* Traditions Hall, The Gibbons Alumni Center., 7:00pm

March 6

Homegrown Humanities Faculty Book Series

Philip Levy: *Where the Cherry Tree Grew: The Story of Ferry Farm, George Washington's Boyhood Home*

Grace Allen Room (Library). Refreshments, 3:30pm. Talk, 4:00pm

March 25

Humanities & Cultural Studies Organization: *Stampede of Culture* MSC Amphitheater, 11:00am - 3:00pm

March 26 - 27: Science Fiction & Feminism with Jeff and Ann VanderMeer

Mar 26: *Fiction Reading and Q&A*

Mar. 27: *Feminist Representations in Science Fiction Panel Discussion*

National Poetry Month at USF: April 2013

April 1 - 6: Jorie Graham: Distinguished Scholar in Residence

Apr. 2: *Poetry Reading* Patel Center Auditorium, 6:00pm, reception to follow

Apr. 4: *Sea Change: Poetry & the Environment* MSC 2708, 6:00pm, reception to follow

Apr. 10: Homegrown Humanities Faculty Book Series

Katherine Riegel: *What the Mouth Was Made For* Grace Allen Room (Library). Refreshments, 3:30pm. Talk, 4:00pm

Apr. 11: Jennifer Key: *Poetry Reading* USF Graphicstudio, 6:00pm

Apr. 12: John Lysaker: *Renewing the Ancient Quarrel Between Philosophy and Poetry: A Philosophy for Art* Grace Allen Room, 2:00pm

Apr. 15: *The Dream from the Steps* hosted by Gloria Muñoz MSC 3707, 6:00pm

Apr. 17: Carolyn Hembree: *Poetry Reading* USF Graphicstudio, 6:00pm

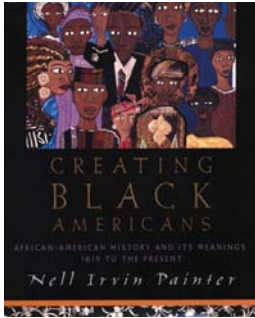
Apr. 19: Ira Sukrungruang: *Poetry Reading* MSC 2707, 6:00pm

Apr. 22: *Poetry & Visual Art* MSC 4200, 6:30pm

Apr. 24: Stephan Kampa: *Poetry Reading* USF Graphicstudio, 6:00pm

DISTINGUISHED SCHOLARS (CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

The second talk, “Can A Black Scholar Write About White People?” draws on her recent book, *The History of White People*, which was dubbed “monumental” in a *New York Times* review. Dr. Painter will talk about the intellectual issues that arise when one works across conventional lines of inquiry and unquestioned assumptions, such as that only non-white people have race. The event will be on Wed., February 26, in the Patel Center for Global Solutions (CGS) at 6:00pm, followed by a reception and book signing.



During her stay, Dr. Painter will have an office in the Humanities Institute (CPR 474B), and from there she will make visits to six classes in four departments, including History, Philosophy, Africana Studies, and English, in which students will have read her work, and be prepared for lively discussion. In addition, she will teach a one-credit “master class” for graduate students, *Writing History across the Color Line*, based around her work on the history of race. The intensive seminar

class is limited to 10 students; contact Dr. Brian Connolly (History) for more information.

Jorie Graham

Starting April 1, and leading off National Poetry Month, we will host poet and scholar Jorie Graham for a week. Described by the U.S. Poetry Foundation as “perhaps the most celebrated poet of the American post-war generation,” she is the Boylston Professor of Poetry at Harvard. The author of numerous books of poetry, including the new and critically-acclaimed



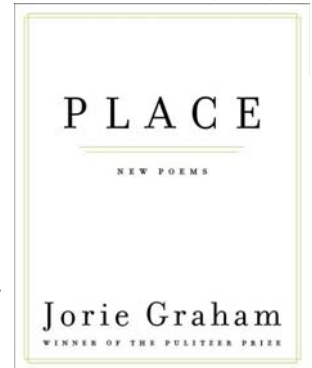
PLACE (2012), her numerous awards include the Pulitzer Prize, MacArthur Fellowship, Lavan Award from the Academy of American Poets, and

the Morton Dauwen Zabel Award from the American Academy and Institute of Arts and Letters. Most recently, Graham became the first American woman to win one of the major poetry prizes in Britain, the 2012 Forward Prize for poetry, for *PLACE*, a collection, according to one of

the judges, “needed to be urgently read, by as many people as possible.”

While in residence, Prof. Graham will visit various classes, and will headline two major public events. At the first, on Tuesday, April 2 at 6:00pm., she will read from her work, and will also present prizes to the winners of our first ever HI Poetry Competition (see details on p. 4), in the Patel Center for Global Solutions (CGS).

Her second event will be a talk, “Sea Change: Poetry and the Environment,” presented in MSC 2708 at 6:00pm. Receptions and book signings will follow each event.



The Residence program will offer USF students and faculty, as well as the public, an opportunity to interact with humanities scholar-artists whose work has made a profound difference in the lives of people around the world. We’re excited to launch this program, and hope to see our venues packed!

Nov. 7-9, 2013: A Special Relationship? Critical Explorations after 200 years of Peace.

A Conference Sponsored by the Humanities Institute, University of South Florida, Tampa

CALL FOR PROPOSALS

The War of 1812, sometimes known as the Anglo-American War, ran from 1812-1815, and was the last time the United States and United Kingdom found themselves on opposite sides in combat. Two hundred years after that war, the USF Humanities Institute marks the “special relationship” between the two nations, through an interdisciplinary celebration, reflection, and critical exploration of all aspects of that relationship. There will be a particular emphasis on historical and cultural ties, but politics, economics, and other issues will be addressed.

Conference sessions will not be simply “an American talking about Britain,” or vice versa. Rather, the focus will be on exploring the nature of the relationship

itself. Is it real? How is it expressed? Can it (should it) survive in an increasingly globalized world?

Proposals are invited that address any aspect of the conference theme, and might include issues related to (among others): Popular culture; music; history; sports; race/ethnicity; gender; globalization; population demographics; security; politics; the US/UK relationship in Florida.

Confirmed Keynote Speakers:

Kathleen Burk, Professor Emerita of History, University College, London, author of *Old World, New World: The Story of Britain and America*. London: Little, Brown, 2007.

Caryl Phillips, Professor of English, Yale

University; playwright, novelist, and essayist.

Additional invited speakers will be featured. We now invite contributions from scholars and artists from across the disciplines, and addressing any period in history. We hope to develop an edited volume drawn from conference presentations. To be considered, please email a title and 250-word abstract to: Dr. Elizabeth Bird: ebird@usf.edu

- Proposals for one-hour sessions, roundtables, or other formats are also encouraged
- Deadline: May 1, 2013
- Decision notification: No later than July 1, 2013. Upon acceptance, a conference fee of \$50 will be required – waived for USF faculty and students.

University of South Florida

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FALL 2012 HIGHLIGHTS

Last semester featured lectures, readings, art installations, and hands-on activities both on and off campus.



Dr. Pablo Brescia reads at a Home-grown Humanities event.



Ben Radford discusses the paranormal and critical thinking with a large audience.



Dr. Thomas Hylland Eriksen addresses "The Three Crises of Globalization."



Photos from *The Hillsborough River: Human Connections* (L to R): Participants board their canoes for a guided river paddle; Guests enjoy a digital display of historic photos following a lecture at the Patel Center; Kids get hands-on experience at the Florida Public Archaeology Day at MacDill Riverfront Park. Visit www.hillsborough-river-connection.org for more photos, videos, and literature about these events.