

# Reading Matters

Vol. 18, No. 4

December 2003

## PUBLICATIONS

• **Elizabeth Dodd**, "Louise Gluck: The Ardent Understatement of Postconfessional Classicism." Reprinted in *Contemporary Literary Criticism*, Vol. 160: 13-37.

"Poison Control," "Phineas Gage," and "Substrate" (poems). *LitRag* 16 (2003): 6-8.

"Ethology" (poem). *Ascent* 28.1 (2003): 55-56.

"The Problem of Other Minds," "All Wounds" (poems). *Tar River Poetry* 43.1 (2003): 23-25.

• **Philip Nel**, "The Disneyfication of Dr. Seuss: Faithful to Profit, One Hundred Percent?" *Cultural Studies* 17.5 (Sept. 2003): 579-614.

## PRESENTATIONS

• **Don Hedrick**, "Art and Political Economy" (session chair). *Marxism and the World Stage Conference*. University of Massachusetts, Amherst. 7 November 2003.

"Is There Really No Business Like Show Business? The Origins of Entertainment Value in Affective Labor." *Marxism and the World Stage Conference*. University of Massachusetts, Amherst. 7 November 2003.

"Affective Labor and Entertainment/Value." *Midwest Modern Language Association*. Chicago, IL. 8 November 2003.

"Fantasy and Techne in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*." *South Atlantic Modern Language Association*. Atlanta, GA. 15 November 2003.

• **George Keiser**, "Innovative scribes and unstable texts: the challenges of editing Middle English texts." *Editing from Antiquity to the Enlightenment: A colloquium at the Ohio State University*. Center for Epigraphical and Palaeographical Studies, Columbus, OH. 26 October 2003.

• **Jim Machor**, "Aesthetic Receptions: Reading Melville in the 1840s and 1850s." *Midwest Modern Language Association Convention*. Chicago, IL. 9 November 2003.

• **Karin Westman**, "London Calling: English Identity in the Novels of Zadie Smith." *South Atlantic Modern Language Association*. Atlanta, GA. 15 November 2003.

## AWARDS

• **Tim Dayton's** *Muriel Rukeyser's The Book of the Dead* has been nominated for the Robert Penn Warren/Cleanth Brooks award.

## ALUMNI NEWS

**Jodie Blankenburg** (M.A. 1994) was the recipient of a 2003 Individual Artist Fellowship for Poetry from the Ohio Arts Council. She lives in Columbus, OH with her son Parken, daughter Mattes, and husband Peter Brown. [jodieblankenburg@yahoo.com](mailto:jodieblankenburg@yahoo.com).

**Mary E. Martin** (M.A. 1987) is an instructor at Winthrop University and the Director of nonprofit organization, For the Pleasure of Your Company, an arts and healing organization. [martinme@winthrop.edu](mailto:martinme@winthrop.edu)

**Marsha Maurer** (M.A. 1979) announces the publication of her latest book, *A Fragrant Fullness: The Spiritual Essence of Everyday Life*, by Ambassador Emerald, Int'l. Marsha's previous book, *In the Garden*, won the Georgia Author of the Year Award (2000) for inspirational nonfiction. Marsha teaches English at Augusta State University in Augusta, GA.

**John Merritt** (M.A. 1995) is a Marriage & Family Therapist in Junction City, KS. He lives with his wife Jennifer, step-daughter Shelbi, and new daughter, Kylie, born 01/14/03. [kansasbox@hotmail.com](mailto:kansasbox@hotmail.com).

**Diane Dufva Quantic** (B.A. 1962; M.A. 1966; Ph.D. 1971) is Graduate Coordinator and Coordinator of the Great Plains Studies Certificate program at Wichita State University. *A Great Plains Reader*, co-edited by Diane, was published in July 2003 by She has also published *The Nature of the Place: A Study of Great Plains Fiction*.

Her husband Bruce will retire from Friends University in May 2004. Her daughter Cathy is finishing a Ph.D. in conflict analysis and resolution and her son David is finishing an M.F.A. in film at UCLA in Los Angeles, CA.

"We welcome calls and visits from old and not so old friends who are in the area of Bailey and Conifer, Colorado in the summer and early fall. We are in the Bailey phone book. Call for directions."  
diane.quantica@wichita.edu

**Kevin Rabas** (M.A. 1998) works as a Professor at Johnson County Community College and the University of Kansas, and is finishing his Ph.D. in English. Recently he married Lisa Moritz (2002) and the two are celebrating the birth of their first child, Eliot James Rabas, born July 2002. Lisa is a singer/songwriter; Kevin accompanies her and groups such as local folk, jazz, and performance poetry groups.

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

• **Friday, Dec. 12, 6:00 - 10:00 p.m., Georgetown Apartment Club-house.** The English Department will be hosting its annual Holiday Reception. This year's event will also include a staged reading of selected scenes from Richard Sheridan's *The Rivals* (1775) by graduate students and faculty.

• **Friday, Feb. 20, 3:30 p.m., Hemisphere Room, Hale Library.** Julia Mickenberg will speak on Children's Literature and the Left. Mickenberg, Assistant Professor of American Studies at the University of Texas at Austin, is the author of *Learning from the Left: Children's Literature and Radical Politics in the United States* (Oxford UP, forthcoming in 2005).

• **Thursday, April 8, 7:30 p.m., K-State Student Union 212.** Poet B.H. Fairchild will give a reading of his work. Fairchild's most recent book is *Early Occult Memory Systems of the Lower Midwest* (W.W. Norton). He is winner of the Kingsley Tufts Award, the William Carlos Williams Award, and has been a finalist for the National Book Award.

• **Wednesday, April 21, 7:30 p.m., Beach Museum of Art, UMB Auditorium.** Merrill Gilfillan will give a reading of his work. Gilfillan is the author of short stories, poetry, and nonfiction, including *Burnt House to Paw Paw* and *Magpie Rising: Sketches of the Great Plains*, which won the PEN/Martha Albrand Award for nonfiction.

## REMINDERS

As you being to pack up your office and prepare for our impending move, please keep in the mind the following dates:

**Before 5:00 p.m. on January 4th. This is a DEADLINE!**

• Faculty must have all office stuff completely packed and all boxes labeled.

**January 5th through 12th**

• Denison Hall is closed to faculty and the general public  
• Main Office accessible by phone and email only.

**January 12th at 8:00 am**

• Lafene is officially open for business; English Department up and running.  
• Telephone, computer, mail, copier, and faculty offices all available

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*Reading Matters* is a monthly publication of the Department of English, Kansas State University, Manhattan, KS 66506-0701. Editors: Philip Nel and Sara Wege. The deadline for the next issue of *Reading Matters* is **January 5, 2004**. Please send your news to Philip Nel, care of the above address or via email at <philnel@ksu.edu>. Thank you.

*Reading Matters* is now on the web at <http://www.ksu.edu/english/reading>.

