

Reading Matters

Vol. 22, No. 5-6

Jan. - Feb. 2008

PUBLICATIONS

• **Tanya González.** "The (Gothic) Gift of Death in Cherríe Moraga's *The Hungry Woman: A Mexican Medea* (2001)." *Chicana/Latina Studies*. 7.1 (Fall 2007): 44-77.

• **Donna Potts,** "Water from Stone: The Spirit of Place in Moya Cannon's Poetry." *An Sionnach: A Journal of Literature, Arts, and Culture* 3.2 (Fall 2007): 46-54.

• **Karin Westman,** editor and introduction. *Children's Literature and Modernism*. Special Issue. *Children's Literature Association Quarterly* 34.4 (2007).

PRESENTATIONS

• **Gregory Eiselein,** "Emma Lazarus and Jewish Poetry." *Modern Language Association Convention*. Chicago, IL. 29 Dec. 2007.

• **Erica Hateley,** "From Jindabyne to *Jindabyne: Immigrant and Indigenous Specters*," *Modern Language Association Convention*, Chicago, IL. 30 Dec. 2007.

• **Michele Janette,** "Colloquium: Vietnamese and American Cross-Cultural Perceptions." Vietnam National University, Hanoi, Vietnam. 22 Nov. 2007.

"Student Engagement and Active Learning," Vietnam National University - University of Social Sciences and Humanities, Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam. 28 Nov. 2007

"Vietnamese American Literature," Vietnam National University - International University, Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam. 29 Nov. 2007.

"Vietnamese American Literature," University of Can Tho, Can Tho, Vietnam. 30 Nov. 2007.

• **Philip Nel,** "The Cat in the Hat at Fifty" (panel chair), *Modern Language Association Convention*, Chicago, IL. 28 Dec. 2007.

AWARDS

• **Elizabeth Dodd** is winner of the Kansas Arts Commission Master Fellowship in the Literary Arts/Poetry category. She will receive \$5,000. A reception for

the winners will be held in Topeka on Monday, March 10.

She is also winner of the McGinnis Ritchie Award for her essay, "Cañonicity," which appeared in the *Southwest Review* 92.3 (2007): 383-406. The McGinnis-Ritchie Award is given annually to the best works of fiction and nonfiction published in the journal.

• **Susan Rodgers** is winner of the Kansas Arts Commission Master Fellowship in the Literary Arts/Fiction category. She will receive \$5,000. A reception for the winners will be held in Topeka on Monday, March 10.

• **Han Yu** received a University Small Research Grant to fund her project *Understanding Technical Communication in China: Demands, Current Practices, and Future Development*. She will undertake research in China this summer.

NEWS FROM ALUMNI

• **Dennis Etzel, Jr.** (MA 2006) and **Kevin Rabas** (MA 1998) have organized the Top City Poetry Reading Series at Lola's Cafe, 10th and Gage. The first event of 2008 is a joint reading

by the founders, Dennis and Kevin. The reading starts at 7:03 pm, February 9. For more information, visit their blog at <http://topcitypoetry.blogspot.com/>

• **Julie Hensley** (MA 1998) and **Bob Johnson** (MA 1997) are the proud parents of Boyd Pádraig Hensley-Johnson (born August 5, 2007, 6:29 pm). Photos are on the “Boyd” section of Bob’s website: <http://www.copywriterbob.com/boyd>.

• On Christmas Eve, **Colleen Mather** (MA 2007) gave birth to Colton David Mather. Mother, father (David Mather), and son are all “healthy and very happy.”

• **John Merritt** (MA 1995, MS 2003) recently opened a private practice in Marriage and Family Therapy in downtown Manhattan, KS. The practice is devoted to serving local residents in need of help with personal, marital or family problems. Merritt takes a narrative approach with many clients and uses his creative writing skills every time a court report is called for. He can be reached at jsmbx@hotmail.com.

• “An Elegy,” a poem by **Tulora Roeckers** (MA 2007), was published in *Watershed: Brown and RISD’s Journal of Environment and Culture* 1.4 (Spring & Summer 2007), p. 41. This issue will eventually appear online at www.watershedjournal.org. In January 2008, she is beginning a low-residency MFA at Warren Wilson College, NC.

• **Mary Jo (Marcellus) Wyse** (MA 2000) graduated with an MFA in Fiction Writing from Vermont College in January 2006. For 2007, she and her husband lived and worked in Fairbanks, Alaska, where she taught English at North Pole High School. Their son, Aidan John, was born at Fairbanks Memorial Hospital on July 3, 2007. He weighed 8 lbs. 4 oz. and was 21 inches long. They are now living in Medford, Massachusetts.

• **Crystal L. Stamps-Etheredge** (MA 1989) was the Director of Libraries at Belhaven College in Jackson, MS until July 2007, when she accepted the position Eastern Sales Representative for Blackwell Book Services.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Thursday, January 31, 7:00 p.m. Manhattan Public Library. Naomi Wood and Han Yu will speak on Jane Austen and cultural contexts.

Wednesday, February 20, 4:00 p.m. Union 213. English Dept. Colloquium: Dave Smit, “Here’s Looking at You, Kid’: Acting, Stardom, and Ingrid Bergman.”

Friday, February 29, 4:00 p.m. Union 212. Bryan Penberthy, poet, selected as an Associated Writing Programs Intro Journals Project award winner for the poem, “Utah Before Stars.”

Thursday, March 6 – Saturday March 8. 17th Annual Cultural Studies Conference: Extremism and the Excluded Middle.

Wednesday, March 12, 4:00 p.m. Union 212. English Dept. Colloquium: Donna Potts, “The Wearin’ o’ the Deep Green: Contemporary Irish Poetry and the Environmental Movement.”

Friday, March 28, 3:30 p.m. Hale Library Hemisphere Room. Dunya Mikhail, poet, *The Psalms of Absence*, *Almost Music*, and *The War Works Hard*.

Friday, April 4, 3:30 p.m. Union Little Theater. Allison Wallace, creative non-fiction, author of *A Keeper of Bees: Notes on Hive and Home*.

Friday, April 25, 4:00 p.m. Union Little Theater. Anthony Doerr, fiction writer, author of *The Shell Collector*, *About Grace*, and *Four Seasons in Rome*.

Friday, May 9, 3:30 p.m. Union 212. Master’s of the Universe, graduate students read excerpts from their final M.A. projects.

Reading Matters is a monthly publication of the Department of English, ECS Building, Kansas State University, Manhattan, KS 66506-6501. Editors: Philip Nel, Lisa Killer, and Kelsi Hinz. The deadline for the next issue of *Reading Matters* is **February 23, 2008** at 5 p.m. Central time. Please send your news to Philip Nel, care of the above address or via email at philnel@ksu.edu. Thank you.

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