

Reading Matters

Vol. 18, No. 9

May 2004

PUBLICATIONS

• **Lee Behlman**, "Stoics, Epicureans, and Christians in Walter Pater's *Marius the Epicurean*." *Nineteenth-Century Prose* 31.1 (Spring 2004): 133-169.

• **Susan Rodgers**, *The Trouble with You Is and Other Stories*. Minneapolis: Mid-List Press, 2004.

PRESENTATIONS

• **Greg Eiselein**, "Course Portfolios and Teaching Improvement: American Literature at Kansas State University." *Making Learning Visible: Peer Review and the Scholarship of Teaching Conference*. University of Nebraska-Lincoln. 26 March 2004.

• **Phillip Marzluf**, "Evaluating the Online Composition Course." *Conference on College Composition and Communication*. San Antonio, TX. 26 March 2004.

• **Philip Nel**, "Dr. Seuss at 100: The Legacy of Theodor Seuss Geisel." Rotary Club, Manhattan, KS. 15 Apr. 2004.

• **Susan Rodgers** was Visiting Writer at Washburn University where she visited a creative writing class and gave a reading. 13 April 2004.

• **Karin E. Westman**, "Reviving Realism: Stitching and Patching the Solid in A. S. Byatt's *Frederica Quartet*." *Narrative: An International Conference*. Burlington, VT. 24 April 2004.

• **Naomi Wood**, "A Child's Garden of Decadence: Paterian Aesthetics, Pederasty, and Oscar Wilde's Fairy Tales." Charles University, Prague, Czech Republic. 17 March 2004.

"Learning the Art of Enchantment: Wizard Schools and Language in Le Guin, Rowling, and Jones." University of Southern Bohemia, Ceske Budejovice, Czech Republic. 24 March 2004.

AWARDS

• English majors **Jessica Barnes, Stacy Burns, Roxann Corcoran, Melissa Holmes, Jonathan Lamb, Joan Redmond, Leta Reppert**, and **Jennifer Sperfslage** will be inducted into Phi Beta Kappa this year. Please congratulate them!

• **Philip Nel** received the College of Arts and Sciences' William L. Stamey Teaching Award.

Nel also received a Sigmund Strochlitz Travel Grant from the Dodd Research Center, University of Connecticut, Storrs. He will conduct research there in July.

And he has been selected for appointment as a Smithsonian Postdoctoral Fellow at the National Portrait Gallery in Washington, DC. He will conduct research there in 2005.

• **Anne Phillips** received the "Teacher of the Year" award from the members of Kansas State University's chapter of Kappa Delta Pi, the Honor Society for the College of Education. The award acknowledges "high professional, intellectual, and personal standards and recognizes outstanding contributions to education."

• **Naomi Wood** has been selected to participate in the NEH Summer Seminar, "The Remaking of Charles Dickens: Crisis and Transformation, 1857-1861," UC Santa Cruz, July 2004. She is one of 15 participants.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

• **Philip Nel** has been elected to the Children's Literature Association's Article Award Committee. He will serve 2003-2006.

• **Anne Phillips** has been elected Vice President/President Elect of the Children's Literature Association. She will serve as President of the organization (which now has more than 800 members) in 2005-2006.

NEWS FROM ALUMNI

• **Darin Jensen** and his wife Sara are the parents of a new baby boy, Maxwell, born on March 30. 7 lbs, 2 oz, 20 inches long. All are healthy.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

• **Friday, April 30, 5 p.m., K-State Student Union 212.** Initiation honoring new student members elected to Phi Beta Kappa. Banquet is at 6:00 p.m. in the Flint Hills Room. Banquet speaker will be Peter Sherwood, Head of Chemistry Department. In honor of the thirtieth anniversary of the KSU chapter (installed February 1974), the banquet will recognize the efforts of founding members.

• **Sunday, May 9, 6:00 p.m., Cox Brothers BBQ**, 600 South 4th Street, English Department's Annual Awards Banquet .

• **Coming 2004-05 academic year:** In the Fall of 2004, our visiting creative writers will be

Antonya Nelson, fiction writer; and David Mason, poet. And in the Spring of 2005, we will have visits from Carloes Eire, historian and memoirist

Carlos Eire's *Waiting for Snow in Havana: Confessions of a Cuban Boy* is this year's winner of the National Book Award for Non-Fiction. This memoir tells of Eire's childhood in 1950s Havana, where he was the son of a prominent judge, and the later troubles he and his family faced after the Cuban Revolution. *The New Yorker* describes Eire's writing as "so urgent and so vividly personal...that his unsparing indictments of practically everyone concerned, including himself, seem all the more remarkable." Eire is the T. Lawrason Riggs Professor of History and Religious Studies at Yale University. He has authored four other books; he describes *Waiting for Snow in Havana* as his "first book without footnotes."

Antonya Nelson is the author of four short story collections (the most recent is titled *Female Trouble*) and three novels (*Talking in Bed*, *Nobody's Girl* and *Living to Tell*). Her work has appeared in many magazines including *The New Yorker*, *Harper's*, and *Esquire*, as well as in anthologies such as *The O. Henry Awards* and *Best American Short Stories*. She teaches creative writing at the University of Houston and New Mexico State University. Nelson is a native Kansan, and an alumna of KU.

David Mason is one of the American poets who might be identified with a poetry that used

to be called "The New Narrative," a mode identified with "Story Line Press." Previous collections of his have won prizes, such as the Alice Fay di Castagnola Prize and the Nicholas Roerich Poetry Prize. He is the editor, with Dana Gioia and Meg Schoerke of *Twentieth Century American Poetry* and *Twentieth Century American Poetics* (McGraw Hill, 2004). His most recent collection, *Arrivals*, was just published by Story Line Press. He teaches at The Colorado College.

Reading Matters is a monthly publication of the Department of English, English/Counseling Services Building, Kansas State University, Manhattan, KS 66506-6501. Editors: Philip Nel and Sara Wege. The deadline for the next issue of *Reading Matters* is **August 27, 2004**. Please send your news to Philip Nel, care of the above address or via email at <philnel@ksu.edu>. Thank you.

Since *Reading Matters* will be on hiatus during the summer, its editors will not be forwarding your news to *InView*. If you'd like your news to appear in *InView* during the summer months, then please send it to Michelle Hall <mhall@ksu.edu>, editor of *InView*. To ensure that the news appears in the next *Reading Matters*, please remember to copy Philip Nel <philnel@ksu.edu> on your email. Thank you.

Reading Matters
is on the web at
[http://www.ksu.edu/
english/reading](http://www.ksu.edu/english/reading).