

Reading Matters

Vol. 24, No. 1

September 2009

PUBLICATIONS

• **Michele Janette**, "Tran Van Dinh's *No Passenger on the River: A Lost Foundation Text*." *Thirty Years After: New Essays on Vietnam War Literature, Film, and Art*. Ed. Mark Heberle. Newcastle upon Tyne, England: Cambridge Scholars Press. 224-240.

• **Phillip P. Marzluf**, "Writing Home-Schooled Students into the Academy." *Composition Studies* 37.1 (2009): 49-66.

• **Philip Nel**, "Home Away from Home: One U.S. Reader's Response to *Home Words*." Review of *Home Words: Discourses of Children's Literature in Canada*, edited by Mavis Reimer. *Jeunesse: Young People, Texts, Cultures* 1.1 (Summer 2009): 105-111.

"Seussism." *Wildlife Art Journal* 18 Aug. 2009 <<http://wildlifeartjournal.com/articles/wildlife-art-journal-premium-content/fall-2009/76/seussism.html>>. (Adapted from *Dr. Seuss: American Icon*)

"Final Word: Gaiman and Grimly's *Dangerous Alphabet* — Diverting, Deranged, De-Lovely." *First Opinions — Second Reactions* 2.1 (May

•2009): 48-52. <<http://docs.lib.purdue.edu/fost/vol2/iss1/>>.

Review of Leonard S. Marcus's *Minders of Make-Believe: Idealists, Entrepreneurs, and the Shaping of American Children's Literature*. *Children's Literature Association Quarterly* 34.2 (Summer 2009): 193-196.

• **Naomi Wood**, ed., *A Giant's Garden: Special "Fairy Tales" Issue*. Special issue. *OSCHOLARS* (Spring 2009). <<http://www.oscholars.com/TO/Specials/Tales/ToC.htm>>.

PRESENTATIONS

• **Elizabeth Dodd** attended the *Society for the Study of Midwestern Literature* and made three presentations: "Reaching the Point" (creative nonfiction reading, 8 May 2009); "The Wild Rising" (poetry reading, 9 May); and "A Word or Two for Nature: Rereading Scott Russell Sanders' *Wilderness Plots*" (critical paper, 8 May).

• **Wendy Matlock**, "The Gendering of a Craftsman's Tools in *The Debate of the Carpenter's Tools*" *44th Annual Medieval Congress on*

Medieval Studies. Kalamazoo, Michigan. 10 May 2009.

• **Philip Nel**, "The Obamafication of Children's Literature: Representing the 44th U.S. President." *19th Biennial Conference of the International Research Society for Children's Literature*. Frankfurt, Germany. 12 Aug. 2009.

"'A Person's a Person': The Politics of Dr. Seuss" (invited talk). National Museum of Wildlife Art. Jackson Hole, WY. 9 July 2009.

"From the Bank Street School to the New York School: The Poetry of Ruth Krauss." *Annual Conference of the Children's Literature Association*. Charlotte, NC. 11 June 2009.

• **Donna Potts**, "The Wearing of the Deep Green: Moya Cannon's Environmental Poetry," *American Conference for Irish Studies*. National University of Ireland. Galway, June 6, 2009

Poetry Reading, Sheridan's Wine Bar, Galway, June 6, 2009.

• **Megan Von Bergen**, "These Fragments I Have Shored

Against My Ruins: Postwar Society in Willa Cather's One of Ours." *12th International Cather Seminar*. Chicago. 26 Jun. 2009.

• **Zach Wellhouse**, "Venturestein Unbound: *Frankenstein* and *The Venture Brothers*." *Wiscon 33*. Madison, WI. 24 May 2009.

• **Karin Westman**, "Vocational Education: Re-Imagining the School Story in Noel Streatfeild's *Ballet Shoes* and J. K. Rowling's *Harry Potter*." *Annual Conference of the Children's Literature Association*. Charlotte, NC. 11 June 2009.

"Career Advice: Re-Imagining the School Story." *LeakyCon 2009*. Boston, MA. 23 May 2009.

• **Naomi Wood**, "The Humorous Numinous in Diana Wynne Jones and Jonathan Stroud." *Diana Wynne Jones Conference*. Bristol, UK. 4 July 2009.

• **Han Yu**, "A Contextual Understanding of 'Excellence' in the Globalized Communication Network." *International Professional Communication Conference*. Honolulu, Hawaii. 21 July 2009

"Infuse Humanities Contents into China's English for Specific Purposes Education." *7th International Conference on New Directions in the Humanities*. Beijing, China. 5 June 2009

AWARDS

• **Elizabeth Dodd's** latest book, *In the Mind's Eye: Essays Across the Animate World* won the Association for the Study of Literature and Environment's Best Creative Book Award in May, 2009.

• **Michael Mlekoday** represented the city of St. Paul at the 20th annual National Poetry Slam, 3-8 Aug 2009, and won the championship. 68 teams from the United States, Canada, and Europe competed in the tournament which was held in West Palm Beach, Florida. This was the first time since 2002 that a team from the Midwest even made it to the Finals Stage.

NEWS FROM ALUMNI

• **Khristan Doyle** (M.A. 2004) has a poem — "Un-mending" — in the Summer 2009 issue of *ISLE: Interdisciplinary Studies in Literature and Environment*. Khristan is an organic farmer in southern Oregon.

• **Laura Loveall** (M.A. 1998), is now employed at Elsevier, a medical book publishing company in St. Louis. As Project Manager, she is in charge of a team of copy editors, proofreaders, and indexers. Laura's daughter Julia (born while Laura was in Manhattan) is 12.

• **Taylor Mali** (M.A. 1993) has a new book: *The Last Time As We Are*, published by Write Bloody Press.

• **Carla Reimer** (M.A. 2005) is now executive director of the Federation of BC Writers (www.bcwriters.com), an organization that supports emerging and established writers.

• **Kate Sweeney** (M.A. 2006) won the 2008 YellowJacket Press Chapbook Contest for Florida Poets, and her chapbook of poems, *Better Accidents*, appeared in the spring of 2009. Kate currently teaches writing at the University of Tampa.

• **Beth Wendland** (M.A. 2006) recently accepted a position as an Instructional Designer at the University of Michigan.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

• **Friday, September 4, 2009, ECS 121, 3:30 PM.** Cultural Studies Mini-Seminar: Walter Benjamin.

• **Wednesday, September 23, 2009, 4:00 pm, Union 213.** Department Colloquium: Cara Northway.

• **Saturday, October 3, 2009, Union Little Theater / Hale Library / Alumni Center, 8:30 AM - 9:30 PM.** Recreating Oz: Annual Convention of the International Wizard of Oz Club.

• **Friday, October 9, 2009, ECS 121, 4:30 -6:00 PM.** Cultural Studies Mini-Seminar II. Walter Benjamin.

- **Sunday, October 11, 2009, Hale Library Hemisphere Room, 3:00 - 4:30 PM.** Showing of Billy Collins documentary.

- **Wednesday, October 14, 2009, Union Ballroom, 11:00 AM - 3:00 PM.** Academic Majors Fair.

- **Wednesday, October 14, 2009, Union 213, 4:00 - 5:00 PM.** Department Colloquium.

- **Wednesday, October 21, 2009, K-State Alumni Center Ballroom, 5:30 PM.** Poetry reading by Billy Collins.

- **Friday, November 6, 2009, ECS 121, 3:30 - 5:00 PM.** Cultural Studies Mini-Seminar III.

- **Wednesday, December 2, 2009, Union 213, 4:00 - 5:00 PM.** Department Colloquium

- **Friday, December 4, 2009, ECS 121, 3:30 - 5:00 PM.** Cultural Studies Mini-Seminar IV.

- **Friday, March 5, 2010, Union 212, 3:30 PM.** Fiction Reading by Ann Pancake.

- **Friday, April 2, 2010, Union 212, 3:30 PM.** Reading by Honor Moore.

Reading Matters is a monthly publication of the Department of English, ECS Building, Kansas State University, Manhattan, KS 66506-6501. Editors: Philip Nel, Lisa Herpich, and Kelsi Hinz. The deadline for the next issue of *Reading Matters* is **September 28, 2009** 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>