

34th Annual
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NEW ORLEANS
LITERARY
FESTIVAL



MARCH 25-29, 2020
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SAINTS & SINNERS LGBTQ LITERARY FESTIVAL

MARCH 27-29 at the Hotel Monteleone

Your TWfest VIP Pass, Combo Pass, or Literary Discussion Pass admits you to SASFest panels and readings, and you can purchase tickets to individual master classes and panels online at www.tennesseewilliams.net or in our box office.

A program of the Tennessee Williams/New Orleans Literary Festival, Saints and Sinners Literary Festival was founded in 2003 as an innovative way to reach the community with information about HIV/AIDS, particularly disseminating prevention messages via the writers, thinkers and spokes-people of the LGBTQ community.

It was also formed to bring the LGBTQ literary community together to celebrate the literary arts. The Festival has grown into an internationally-recognized event that brings together a who's who of LGBTQ publishers, writers, and readers from throughout the United States and beyond. The Festival, held the same weekend as TW/NOLF, features panel discussions and master classes around literary topics that provide a forum for authors, editors, and publishers to talk about their work for the benefit of emerging writers and the enjoyment of fans of LGBTQ literature.

Saints and Sinners Literary Festival is grateful for the support of our premier sponsor, the John Burton Harter Foundation, and funding support from The Greater New Orleans Foundation LGBT Fund.



For our 17th program cover, artist Timothy Cummings has provided SASFest with his original artwork.



SAINTS & SINNERS

**MARCH 27 - 29, 2020
17TH ANNUAL
NEW ORLEANS**

CURL UP INSIDE A GREAT STORY

The hotel that inspired the likes of Capote, Hemingway, and Tennessee Williams welcomes you to come find your own inspiration. Meet up at the Criollo Restaurant for an exquisite meal based on a true farm-to-table approach. After dinner, step over to the Carousel Bar & Lounge for live music and see where these authors spun their evening—and their stories. Then retreat for an historic night's sleep surrounded by contemporary style and amenities, right in the heart of the French Quarter. For upcoming events, visit hotelmonteleone.com/entertainment.



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ORIGINAL FESTIVAL LOGO

Arthur Nead



Photo by Ride Hamilton

telling of the spirit of this place.” His art has graced the covers of several program books for Saints + Sinners, and we were thrilled when he agreed to create an original portrait of Tennessee for our 2020 cover. Timothy began sending us photos of his work in progress in November. We loved the initial image, and we were fascinated to witness Timothy’s artistic process as he continued to add to the portrait until it fully captured what he wanted to portray. (see both below)

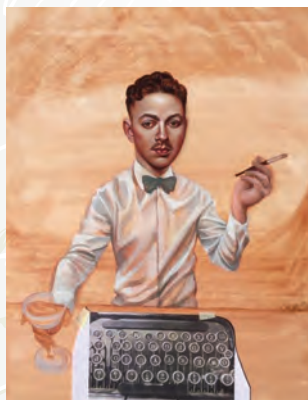
We explore a similar artistic process in our annual Tribute Reading this year, which features early works by Williams that interconnect and find their final form later in more fully fleshed out pieces. For example, images and characters in a 1939 poem he drafted during his first New Orleans visit titled “Vieux Carré” later appear in short stories, essays, one-acts, and finally his full-length play *Vieux Carré* from 1977, nearly forty years later.

Our Festival programming process is much like that of an artist or writer. We start with inspiration from contemporary writers who have new works coming out. We receive intriguing proposals from other writers, scholars, directors, actors, musicians, and culinary artists, and the program begins to take shape. By late fall, ideas and themes become actual events with confirmed speakers, and by January we’re sending it to the publisher. We’re excited to unveil the final product, and we hope it entertains you, enlightens you, and feeds your soul just what it is longing for.

Perhaps it will be the appearance of legendary actress Kathleen Turner, or our opening night spectacle set in NOLA and infused with the spirit of Tennessee Williams. Maybe it will be learning from an accomplished writer like Colm Tóibín or discovering a debut writer whose work fills a void in your reading life, being swept away by a theatrical performance, or discovering another hidden New Orleans gem. Whatever you long for this weekend, we hope you find it here.

All the best,

Paul J. Willis and Tracy Cunningham



note that during the Festival, many activities may be recorded for archival and/or commercial purposes. By attending Festival events, you hereby grant to The Tennessee Williams & New Orleans Literary Festival and others permission to photograph and record you visually and orally for various TV and/or film productions. You grant universal rights for any reproduction of your image, likeness, or voice, throughout the Festival weekend.

WELCOME TO THE FESTIVAL!

Dear Friends,

Our 34th annual Festival promises to be one of our most exciting and engaging literary affairs ever. We’re especially pleased to feature an original portrait of our patron saint, Tennessee Williams, by artist Timothy Cummings as the cover of our program book. Timothy’s art captured our attention in 2017, as he was completing a French Quarter artist residency through the My Good Judy Foundation for artists seeking to produce a body of work in New Orleans that addresses culture-making from an LGBTQ perspective.

Timothy was inspired by Tennessee Williams as he painted the people and cultures he encountered here, saying that Williams’ works offered “a magical

Important Reminders

The Tennessee Williams/ New Orleans Literary Festival is a 501(c)(3) non-profit, tax-exempt organization. Contributions are deductible according to the provision of current tax laws. Because of variations in attendance, the purchase of a Festival panel pass cannot guarantee seating for every panel discussion. Seating is on a first-come, first-served basis but is generally available. Please



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Available at the Hotel Monteleone

Books — Titles by Festival participants available in Queen Anne A Friday, Saturday, and Sunday.

Provided by: Garden District Book Shop

Britton Trice

2727 Prytania Street, New Orleans, LA 70130

504-895-2266 | www.gardendistrictbookshop.com

Festival Souvenirs

Posters, T-shirts, book bags, and other items created especially for the Festival available for purchase in our box office in the Orleans Room.



Cover design by Toan Nguyen

2020 original cover art created by artist Timothy Cummings: *The Young Playwright*, acrylic and collage on board, 2019. www.timothy-cummings.com

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2020 FESTIVAL Events



WEDNESDAY, MARCH 25

HOTEL MONTELEONE: QUEEN ANNE BALLROOM	HOTEL MONTELEONE: MEZZANINE
8p-9:15p Vieux Carré Baroque Circus 7:15 cash bar	11a-12:30p Cemetery Tour

THURSDAY, MARCH 26

BEAUBOURG THEATRE	THE HISTORIC NEW ORLEANS COLLECTION	HOTEL MONTELEONE: VARIOUS	VARIOUS LOCATIONS
11a-12:15p Em Dash, Ellipsis, Full Stop: Tennessee Williams and his Stylometric Arsenal	9a-10:15a Layering in the Past: Using Dialogue to Reveal Backstory	9a-10a The New Orleans Writing Marathon Orleans A	1p-3p NOLA Drag Tour Bar Tonique
1p-2:15p Tennessee Rising: The Dawn of Tennessee Williams	10:30a-11:45a Homecoming/Homegoing: Connecting Character and Setting	10a-12p Tennessee Williams Literary Walking Tour Queen Anne Parlor	6:30p-9p Tribute Reading: The Long and the Short of Tennessee Williams The New Orleans Jazz Museum
3p-4:15p Becoming Blanche	1p-2:15p Erica Spindler: Mastering the Art of Addictive Suspense	11a-12:30p Cemetery Tour Mezzanine	8p-10p Poetry Slam Café Istanbul
8p-9p The End of the Beginning	2:30p-3:45p Fact and Fiction with Colm Tóibín	11a-12:15p Master Class with Kathleen Turner Queen Anne Ballroom	8p-10:30p In the Bar of a Tokyo Hotel Lower Depths Theatre at Loyola University

COLOR KEYS

LITERARY DISCUSSION

WRITER'S CRAFT/MASTER CLASS

SPECIAL EVENTS

WALKING TOURS

THEATER EVENTS

34TH ANNUAL TENNESSEE WILLIAMS & NEW ORLEANS LITERARY FESTIVAL

Our BOX OFFICE is located in Queen Anne B on the Mezzanine Level of the Hotel Monteleone, where you can buy tickets, passes, memberships, and merchandise, or check in at WILL CALL to pick up VIP, Combo, or Literary Discussion Passes you bought online. Hours are Thursday through Saturday 9 AM - 4 PM, and Sunday 9 AM - 2 PM.

Our INFO DESK is located on the Mezzanine Level of the Hotel Monteleone and we're available to answer questions and provide directions Thursday through Saturday 9 AM - 4 PM and Sunday 9 AM - 2 PM.

Our BOOK FAIR is in Queen Anne A on the Mezzanine Level of the Hotel Monteleone and is hosted by Garden District Book Shop. Hours are Friday and Saturday 9 AM - 4 PM and Sunday 9 AM - 2 PM.

FRIDAY, MARCH 27

BEAUBOURG THEATRE	HOTEL MONTELEONE: QUEEN ANNE BALLROOM	HOTEL MONTELEONE: VARIOUS	THE HISTORIC NEW ORLEANS COLLECTION	WILLIAMS RESEARCH CENTER	VARIOUS LOCATIONS
10a-11:30a Audition Monologues: How to Get the Job Done	10a-11:15p The Captivating Women of the Crescent City	10a-12p Tennessee Williams Literary Walking Tour <i>Queen Anne Parlor</i>	9a-10:15a Andrei Codrescu - The Personal Voice	9a-4p 25th Annual Tennessee Williams Scholars Conference	1P-3P NOLA Drag Tour <i>Bar Tonique</i>
1p-2p Barle and Barbara: Two Cautionary Tales by Tennessee Williams	11:30a-12:45p Building on the Past: Saving Historic New Orleans	11:30a-12:45p Tennessee 101 <i>Iberville D</i>	10:30a-11:45a Edmund White: Autofiction or Autobiography	9a-9:15a Welcome	3:30p-4:30p 100 Years of Broussard's <i>Broussard's Restaurant</i>
2:30p-4:15p Two for Tennessee	1p-2:15p Creating a Novel of Action	2p-4p Tennessee Williams Literary Walking Tour <i>Queen Anne Parlor</i>	1p-2:15p Beth Ann Fennelly: The Power of Brevity	9:15a-10:30a Tennessee Williams in London: Recent Productions of <i>Summer & Smoke</i> , <i>Orpheus Descending</i> , & <i>Night of the Iguana</i>	8p-10:30p In the Bar of a Tokyo Hotel <i>Lower Depths Theatre at Loyola University</i>
7p-8:15p Tennessee Rising: The Dawn of Tennessee Williams	2:30p-3:45p The Craft of the Short Story	3:30p-5p LGBT+ French Quarter Tour <i>Mezzanine</i>	2:30p-3:45p On the Trail of a Serial Killer: From Article to Book to Screenplay	10:45a-12p Happy Birthday to the <i>Glass Menagerie</i>	
9p-10p The End of the Beginning	4p-5:15p Colm Tóibín in Conversation with Maureen Corrigan	3p-5p Historic Storyville Walking Tour <i>Mezzanine</i>		1:30p-2:45p New Staging from the Old World: German Perspectives on Tennessee Williams	
				3p-4:15p <i>Amor Peridido/ Lost Lover</i>	

COLOR KEYS

LITERARY DISCUSSION

WRITER'S CRAFT/MASTER CLASS

SPECIAL EVENTS

WALKING TOURS

THEATER EVENTS



2020 FESTIVAL

Events

SATURDAY, MARCH 28

BEAUBOURG THEATRE	HOTEL MONTELEONE: QUEEN ANNE BALLROOM	HOTEL MONTELEONE: RIVERVIEW ROOM	HOTEL MONTELEONE: MEZZANINE	MURIEL'S JACKSON SQUARE	WILLIAMS RESEARCH CENTER	VARIOUS LOCATIONS
10a-11:30a The Haunted: Writing Characters Consumed by Their Past	10a-11:15a Mississippi River Journeys	11:30a-12:45p Writing from the South Side of Lake Ponchartrain: New Work from the University of New Orleans Press	10a-12p Tennessee Williams Literary Walking Tour Queen Anne Parlor	8a-9:15a Books & Beignets	10a-11:15a Experimenting with Tennessee	9a-10a The New Orleans Writing Marathon Hotel Monteleone Orleans A
2p-3:15p Tennessee Rising: The Dawn of Tennessee Williams	11:30a-12:45p Lives and Letters	1p-2:15p LSU Press and The Southern Review: 85 Years and Going Strong	10a-12p Historic Storyville Walking Tour	10a-11:15a Speculative Fiction: Welcome to an Alternate Reality	11:30a-12:45p Williams on the World Stage	1p-2:15p The Evolution of Self-Publishing: Tips to Prepare, Publish, and Promote Your Book Hotel Monteleone, Lobby Level, Royal Salon D
4p-5p Barle and Barbara: Two Cautionary Tales by Tennessee Williams	1p-2:15p Getting to the Truth of Things	2:30p-3:45p Cries From the Streets of New Orleans: Agitprop Theatre	1p-2:30p LGBT+ French Quarter Tour	11:30a-12:45p Poetics of Social Engagement	1p-2:15p New Orleans Melody: Capturing the Musicality of NOLA in Plays	1p-3p NOLA Drag Tour Bar Tonique
8p-9p The End of the Beginning	2:30p-3:45p The Intricate Dance of Memoir		2p-4p Tennessee Williams Literary Walking Tour Queen Anne Parlor	1p-2:15p More Real than the Housewives	2:30p-3:45p Covering Louisiana with <i>64 Parishes Magazine</i>	4:30p-6p Cocktails with Corigan: A Boozy Book Conversation Belle Époque Absinthe Lounge
	4p-5:15p A Conversation With Sister Helen Prejean		3p-5p Historic Storyville Walking Tour			8p-10:30p In the Bar of a Tokyo Hotel Lower Depths Theatre at Loyola University

7:30p-8:45p
Taking the Lead: Stage and Screen Legend Kathleen Turner in Conversation

LITERARY DISCUSSION

WRITER'S CRAFT/MASTER CLASS

SPECIAL EVENTS

WALKING TOURS

THEATER EVENTS



TENNESSEE WILLIAMS & NEW ORLEANS LITERARY FESTIVAL

SUNDAY, MARCH 29

BEAUBOURG THEATRE	HOTEL MONTELEONE: ROYAL BALLROOM	HOTEL MONTELEONE: RIVERVIEW ROOM	HOTEL MONTELEONE: VARIOUS	VARIOUS LOCATIONS
11a-12:15p Staged Reading of One-Act Play Contest Winner	10a-11:15a How the Quality of Obsession Sustains a Novel	10a-11:15a Writing About What Matters	9a-10a The New Orleans Writing Marathon Orleans A	11a-1p Poppy's Pop Up Drag Brunch Dickie Brennan's Bourbon House
1p-2:15p Tennessee x Three	11:30a-12:45p New Orleans' Literary History	11:30a-12:45p Remember Your First Time: Debut Novelists	10a-12p Tennessee Williams Literary Walking Tour Queen Anne Parlor	11:30a-3:45p Raynel Shepard, Clive Wilson & Tom Sancton, Alexis & The Samurai Palm Court Jazz Café
2:30p-3:30p The End of the Beginning	1p-2:15p New Orleans in the 60s	1p-2:15p Garifuna Women's Contribution to the Arts	1:30p-2:45p Legendary Children: The First Decade of RuPaul's Drag Race and the Last century of Queer Life Vieux Carré Room	1p-3p NOLA Drag Tour Bar Tonique
	2:30p-3:45p Literary Luminaries of the Violet Quill	2:30p-3:45p Taboo Busting	2p-4p Tennessee Williams Literary Walking Tour Queen Anne Parlor	4:15p-5:30p Stella and Stanley Shouting Contest Jackson Square
			2:30p-4p Readings from the New Orleans Writing Marathon Orleans A	8p-10:30p In the Bar of a Tokyo Hotel Lower Depths Theatre at Loyola University

COLOR KEYS

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The Vieux Carré, New Orleans

This map of the Vieux Carré in New Orleans, Louisiana, illustrates the historic district's street layout and key landmarks. The map is oriented with North at the top, indicated by a compass rose. The Mississippi River is shown on the right side, with a steamboat labeled 'STEAMBOAT NATCHEZ' navigating its waters. The map features a grid of streets, with major thoroughfares like Esplanade Ave, Barracks St, Governor Nichols St, Ursulines Ave, St. Phillip St, Dumaine St, St. Ann St, Orleans St, St. Peter St, Toulouse St, St. Louis St, Conti St, Bienville St, Iberville St, Canal St, Poydras St, and others. Numbered locations 1 through 12 are marked, corresponding to the locations listed in the accompanying table. Key landmarks such as Jackson Square, French Market, and the Mississippi River are also depicted. The map is framed by a decorative border featuring a fleur-de-lis and a small illustration of a person in the bottom left corner.

Location	Address
1	Dumaine St.
2	Gravier St.
3	Bienville St.
4	Burgundy St.
5	Iberville St.
6	Exchange Pl.
7	Jackson Square
8	Madison Ave.
9	Esplanade Ave.
10	French Market Pl.
11	Toulouse St.
12	St. Louis St.

- ## EVENTS/VENUES OUTSIDE THE FRENCH QUARTER & CBD

Poetry Slam
Café Istanbul
2372 St Claude Avenue

Daily Schedule

34th Annual Tennessee Williams & New Orleans Literary Festival



WEDNESDAY, MARCH 25

Opening Night: VIEUX CARRÉ BAROQUE CIRCUS

7:15 PM Cash Bar and Mingling with Performers

8 – 9:15 PM Performance

Our opening night spectacular is a dazzling theatrical performance that transports us into Carnivals' past through the eyes of Tennessee Williams, featuring an eclectic entourage of the finest performing artists in the Crescent City. Our emcee, the legendary drag icon **Vinsantos**, will guide us through a journey of circus arts, stunts, vaudeville, and sideshow performances. Stories from the life of Tennessee Williams and a monologue from his rarely staged autobiographical play *Vieux Carré* will be woven into the performance to capture the hauntingly beautiful atmospherics of the French Quarter.

Sponsored by The History/A+E Networks.

Hotel Monteleone, Queen Anne Ballroom, \$45 or VIP Pass



Thursday & Friday

THURSDAY, MARCH 26

9 AM – 4 PM at the Hotel Monteleone

Box Office (Queen Anne B) at the Hotel Monteleone

See sections on Theater Offerings and Walking Tours. Use the schedule grids and map to plan your best day at the Festival.

9 AM—Special Event

THE NEW ORLEANS WRITING MARATHON

Jumpstart your writing with the New Orleans Writing Marathon! Hosted by Marathon founder **Richard Louth**, participants write their way across the French Quarter in cafes, pubs, bookstores, and anywhere a small group of writers can sit, write, and share their work. It's all about writing in the moment, writing for the joy of it, and finding inspiration in one's place. We start at the Hotel Monteleone before going out to explore the French Quarter as writers. For more information, visit www.writingmarathon.com and for questions, contact Richard Louth at rlouth@selu.edu.

Writing Marathons begin at 9 AM on Thursday, Saturday, and Sunday. Hotel Monteleone, Orleans A, Free and open to the public

9 – 10:15 AM—Writer's Craft Session

LAYERING IN THE PAST: USING DIALOGUE TO REVEAL BACKSTORY

Conventional wisdom dictates that we shouldn't use dialogue to spoon-feed readers, but we can learn from Tennessee Williams' plays to write strong, believable dialogue that reveals character and backstory. In a medium consisting almost entirely of dialogue, Williams created flesh and blood characters who are burdened, if not haunted, by their pasts. In fiction, however, a character can slip into a reverie for only so long before the momentum is broken. We explore how to reveal the past through conversation, where it can be hinted at, fought over, and revealed in bits and pieces, and we discuss strategies for introducing backstory without breaking a scene's rhythm. Bring pen and paper to work through a short scene-building exercise. Led by authors **Allison Alsup**, **Tom Andes**, and **Jessica Kinnison** from the New Orleans Writer's Workshop.

The Historic New Orleans Collection, \$25, Combo Pass, or VIP Pass

10:30 – 11:45 AM—Writer's Craft Session

HOMECOMING/HOMEGOING: CONNECTING CHARACTER AND SETTING

Tennessee Williams' vivid settings are inextricable from his characters—Southerners, through and through—and often defined by their relationships to "home" and all this tricky word entails. A clear sense of place is central to character-driven writing, yet setting is often treated as mere window dressing. This workshop asks writers to imagine their characters as inextricable from time and place as we examine strategies for revealing character by tunneling into that fraught word, "home." Bring pen and paper as we'll finish with a short writing exercise. Led by authors **Allison Alsup**, **Tom Andes**, and **Jessica Kinnison** from the New Orleans Writer's Workshop.

The Historic New Orleans Collection, \$25, Combo Pass, or VIP Pass



11 AM - 12:15 PM—Master Class HOW TO WORK WITH ACTORS: A MASTERCLASS FOR WRITERS WITH KATHLEEN TURNER

Legendary actress of stage and screen Kathleen Turner shares her experiences with screenwriters and film directors and how they collaborate with actors. Turner will focus on how an actor's job as storytelling aligns with and

complements the writer's work.

Hotel Monteleone, Queen Anne Ballroom, \$25 or VIP Pass

1 – 2:15 PM—Writer's Craft Session

ERICA SPINDLER: MASTERING THE ART OF ADDICTIVE SUSPENSE

Would you like to write a novel that readers just can't put down? Do you wonder what elements elevate a ho-hum read to an edge-of-your-seat, roller coaster ride? *New York Times*-bestselling author **Erica Spindler**, dubbed the Master of Addictive Suspense and Queen of the Romantic Thriller, will share her secrets for writing addictive page turners. Tips will cover character (hero and villain), plot, pacing, story structure, and more.

The Historic New Orleans Collection, \$25, Combo Pass, or VIP Pass

2:30 – 3:45 PM—Writer's Craft Session

FACT AND FICTION WITH COLM TÓIBÍN

This session delves into how history, biography, journalism, an overheard remark, a story half told, or an experience can make their way into fiction, and how life can be completed using fictional methods. We'll pay special attention to Henry James' *The Turn of the Screw* and Thomas Mann's *Death in Venice*, as we have evidence (from James' Notebooks and Katia Mann's memoirs) about the origin of these stories. We'll learn how the authors made use of facts to create their fiction, and how their imagination was nourished by fact, by anecdote, and by experiences that were then transformed as the work progressed.

The Historic New Orleans Collection, \$25, Combo Pass, or VIP Pass

6:30 – 9 PM—Special Event

TRIBUTE READING: THE LONG AND THE SHORT OF TENNESSEE WILLIAMS

This year we feature a delightful and often moving selection of excerpts from Williams' poems, plays, one-acts, essays, stories, and screenplays that are interconnected. Williams never let go of a good idea, and this, combined with his strong and resilient work ethic, led to a constellation of fascinating connections that can be found in his shorter works and later in longer



March 26-27, 2020

works. Images and characters in a poem he drafted in 1939 during his first visit to New Orleans titled “Vieux Carré,” later appear in short stories, essays, one-acts, and finally his full-length play *Vieux Carré* from 1977, nearly forty years later. A couple of cartoonish “floozy” written for an early curtain raiser later appear as comical characters in *The Rose Tattoo*. The image of a mother saying a blessing with her children before a meal at the beginning of *The Glass Menagerie* in 1945 is the final image of his last full-length play, *A House Not Meant to Stand*, in 1982. These literary gems, some well-known and others downright rare, will be read by some of the 2020 Festival’s brightest literary and theatrical lights, including **Maureen Corrigan**, **Adeline Dieudonné**, **Jewelle Gomez**, **Saeed Jones**, **Jacob Storms**, **Colm Tóibín**, and **Kathleen Turner**. The reading is hosted by editor and scholar **Thomas Keith** and curated by Keith and Festival Director **Paul J. Willis**. Pre-party with light fare and a cash bar at 6:30. Performance at 7:30

Sponsored by a generous grant from the New Orleans Theatre Association.
New Orleans Jazz Museum at the Old U.S. Mint, \$35 or VIP Pass



8 – 10 PM—Special Event POETRY SLAM

Resident word maestro **Chuck Perkins** is back to host New Orleans’ finest performance poets in a fierce spoken word battle. You could be among the audience members called upon to judge the poetic proceedings and crown the 2020 Slam winner. No experience is necessary to be a judge, but a good ear and a willingness to be thrilled is essential. And, if you have some good rhymes to share and an appetite to compete, come early and sign up from 7:30-7:45. The evening will also feature live music by **Lolly Mariah and Yisrael**, and pianist **Dave Geare**.

Sponsored by Paige Royer and Kerry Clayton.

Café Istanbul, \$5 in advance, \$10 at the door, or VIP Pass.

FRIDAY, MARCH 27

9 AM – 4 PM

Box Office (Queen Anne B) and Book Fair (Queen Anne A) at the Hotel Monteleone.

Buy books by Festival authors prior to attending their sessions and find books about New Orleans and Tennessee Williams. Thanks to Garden District Book Shop for hosting our Book Fair.

See sections on Theater Offerings, Scholars Conference, and Walking Tours. Use the schedule grids and map to plan your best day at the Festival.

9 AM – 4 PM—Scholars Conference

25th Annual Tennessee Williams Scholars Conference directed by **Robert Bray**

See page 13

9 – 10:15 AM—Writer’s Craft Session

ANDREI CODRESCU—THE PERSONAL VOICE

Andrei Codrescu is one of America’s most versatile writers of poetry and prose, both fictional and nonfictional. In addition to his writing, he is also known to the millions who’ve listened to his commentary on NPR. In this session, Codrescu discusses how he developed his own personal voice that gave him an edge in both of these mediums and the importance of having such a unique and recognizable style. He’ll also discuss his most recent volume of poems, *No Time Like Now*, and his edited collection of 19th Century writer Lafcadio Hearn’s Japanese fairy tales. **Susan Larson** of WWNO’s *The Reading Life* will facilitate the discussion.

The Historic New Orleans Collection, \$25, Combo Pass, or VIP Pass

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10 – 11:15 AM—Literary Discussion

THE CAPTIVATING WOMEN OF THE CRESCENT CITY

New Orleans' mystique is due in large part to its population of talented, innovative, creative women. Photographer **Cheryl Gerber**'s beautiful new book, *Cherchez La Femme: New Orleans Women*, is a vibrant portrait of women's lives here, whether they are activists, Baby Dolls, musicians, businesswomen, Mardi Gras krewe members, Indian Queens, or spiritual leaders. Distinguished local writers on this panel join Gerber to provide their insights into the ways women make our city great, including **Constance Adler**, **Cherice Harrison-Nelson**, and **Katy Reckdahl**. Moderated by author **Anne Gisleson**.

Sponsored by the Confucius Institute at Xavier University of Louisiana. Special thanks to Dr. Yu Jiang, Director.

Hotel Monteleone, Queen Anne Ballroom, \$10 or Literary Discussion, Combo, or VIP Pass

10:30 – 11:45 AM—Writer's Craft Session

EDMUND WHITE: AUTOFICTION OR AUTOBIOGRAPHY

Prize-winning novelist and memoirist Edmund White discusses the advantages and drawbacks of writing about your life as a novel or autobiography. The contract with the reader is different in each case. The autobiographer is committed to writing the whole truth and nothing but the truth and can be severely criticized if she or he departs from the facts, whereas the novelist is free to rearrange chronology to make it more dramatic or easier to follow and describe in depth beyond the powers of recall. Autobiography possesses authority; autobiographical fiction, by contrast, is free and flexible.

This event is supported in part by Poets & Writers, thanks to a grant from the Hearst Foundations.

The Historic New Orleans Collection, \$25, Combo Pass, or VIP Pass

March 27, 2020

11:30 AM – 12:45 PM—Special Event TENNESSEE 101

Tennessee 101 is a fast-paced, fun, and informative introduction to Tennessee Williams! It's focused on Williams' unique relationship to New Orleans, as well as various bits of trivia and lore relating to the theatre offerings at the Festival this year. Whether you're new to the world of Williams or a long-time fan, come prepared to learn something. Bring your questions; there's a Q&A session at the end. Presented by **Augustin J. Corroero**, Co-Artistic Director of the Tennessee Williams Theatre Company of New Orleans.

Sponsored by Pelican Publishing.

Hotel Monteleone, Iberville D, \$15 or VIP Pass

11:30 AM – 12:45 PM—Literary Discussion BUILDING ON THE PAST: SAVING HISTORIC NEW ORLEANS

This panel takes its title from a book by the Preservation Resource Center and brings together preservation experts **Danielle del Sol**, **Ann Masson**, and architect **Peter Trapolin**, plus writer **John Pope** (who contributed fascinating obituaries for lost buildings to the book) to discuss New Orleans' unique architecture and challenges to its preservation. Moderated by *Preservation in Print* editor **Susan Langenhennig**. *Sponsored by the Selley Foundation.*

Hotel Monteleone, Queen Anne Ballroom, \$10 or Literary Discussion, Combo, or VIP Pass

1 – 2:15 PM—Writer's Craft Session BETH ANN FENNELLY: THE POWER OF BREVITY

Beth Ann Fennelly creates in many literary forms—novels, poetry, plays, and memoirs. In her recent book, *Heating and Cooling*, Fennelly presented her story in a series of micro-memoirs. In this master class, she will explore the power of short pieces, and the challenges of compressing experience into brief, unforgettable prose.

The Historic New Orleans Collection, \$25, Combo Pass, or VIP Pass

1 – 2:15 PM—Literary Discussion CREATING A NOVEL OF ACTION

One of the most exciting reading experiences is discovering a novel that takes us somewhere we've never been before. Whether an exotic land that most readers will only travel to in fiction, or a time in the past when the world was so different from the one we know today, these stories carry readers along on an adventure unlike any they could experience in their day-to-day lives. Panelists include novelists **Taylor Brown**, **Adeline Dieudonné**, **Alex Myers**, and **Rita Woods**, who discuss how they create stories with such intriguing settings and storylines. Moderated by author **George Bishop, Jr.**

Hotel Monteleone, Queen Anne Ballroom, \$10 or Literary Discussion, Combo, or VIP Pass



25TH ANNUAL TENNESSEE WILLIAMS Scholars Conference

Robert Bray, Director

Friday, March 27

9 - 9:15 AM

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Robert Bray, Middle Tennessee State University (emeritus)

9:15 - 10:30 AM

TENNESSEE WILLIAMS IN LONDON: RECENT PRODUCTIONS OF *SUMMER AND SMOKE*, *ORPHEUS DESCENDING*, AND *NIGHT OF THE IGUANA*

Williams scholars discuss revivals of three Williams plays and examine how recent British productions bring new life to old classics.

Michael Hooper, Independent Scholar

Anthoulis Demosthenes, Independent Scholar

Jef Hall-Flavin, Director, Tennessee Williams Provincetown Theater Festival

Stuart Noel (Moderator), Georgia State University

10:45 AM - 12 PM

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO *THE GLASS MENAGERIE*!

Join us for a conversation about the play's origins, film adaptations, and famous productions on its 75th anniversary.

Henry Schvey, Washington University

Eric Colleary, The Harry Ransom Humanities Research Center

Robert Bray, Middle Tennessee State University (emeritus)

Will Brantley (Moderator), Middle Tennessee State University

1:30 - 2:45 PM

NEW STAGING FROM THE OLD WORLD: GERMAN PERSPECTIVES ON TENNESSEE WILLIAMS

It's no secret that Tennessee Williams has been perennially popular in Europe. Scholars from home and abroad examine the playwright's status on the Continent, with a particular focus on Germany.

Kerstin Schmidt, Catholic University of Eichstaett-Ingolstadt

Basil Wiese, Catholic University of Eichstaett-Ingolstadt

Dirk Gindt, Stockholm University

Annette Saddik (Moderator), New York City College of Technology

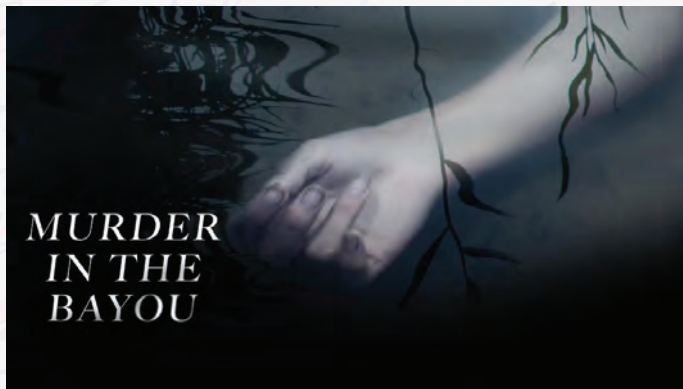
3:00 - 4:15 PM

AMOR PERDIDO/LOST LOVE presents four magical stories by Tennessee Williams: a sailor's brief encounter in port (*The Lost Girl*), a writer and his soulmate in the French Quarter (*Dear Irene*), a vagabond artist reaches the end of his rope in a Mexican plaza (*Amor Perdido*), and a solitary young woman who finds a lover aboard a mysterious ship (*Blue Roses and the Polar Star*). A company of actors under the direction of **Tom Mitchell** are accompanied by the songs of a street troubadour in this production from the University of Illinois and the Celebration Company of Urbana, Illinois.

 **The Historic
New Orleans
Collection**
MUSEUM • RESEARCH CENTER • PUBLISHER

WILLIAMS RESEARCH CENTER
410 Chartres St.
**\$10 each or \$20 full series, or VIP,
Combo, or Literary Discussion Pass.**

Friday & Saturday



2:30 – 3:45 PM—Writer's Craft Session

ON THE TRAIL OF A SERIAL KILLER: FROM ARTICLE TO BOOK TO SCREENPLAY

Ethan Brown discusses the nearly decade-long process of writing and reporting on the Jeff Davis 8 case that culminated in the 2019 Showtime documentary series *Murder in The Bayou*. Eight women from Jefferson Davis Parish, Louisiana, were murdered between 2005 and 2009 and disposed of in canals, dirt roads, and rural areas in the parish and neighboring Acadia Parish. Nearly 15 years after the first body was discovered in a canal, all of the homicides remain unsolved. Ethan's work on the case comprises a long-form investigative piece for *Medium/ Matter* in 2014, a book for Scribner/Simon and Schuster in 2016, and the Showtime series.

The Historic New Orleans Collection, \$25, Combo Pass, or VIP Pass

2:30 – 3:45 PM—Literary Discussion

THE CRAFT OF THE SHORT STORY

While lengthy novels and sprawling epics are enjoyable reading experiences, there is something uniquely different about short stories—and not just their length. Often, short stories can be weirder, stranger, or just more stylized than their longer counterparts. Many talented authors have used the concise nature of short fiction as an opportunity to showcase their true prowess as writers, with their personal styles emerging in this brief format. Short fiction writers **Michael Carroll, Jac Jemc, Leigh Camacho Rourks, and Maurice Carlos Ruffin** discuss the creation of their short stories and the development of their personal styles. Moderated by **Jewelle Gomez**, author of the ground-breaking *Gilda Stories*.

Hotel Monteleone, Queen Anne Ballroom, \$10 or Literary Discussion, Combo, or VIP Pass

3:30 – 4:30 PM—Special Event

100 YEARS OF BROUSSARD'S

Join author **Alexandra Kennon** for a lively discussion about the rich history of Broussard's Restaurant, which celebrates its centennial in 2020. Enjoy happy hour drinks and hors d'oeuvres while learning about the French Quarter's most contemporary "Grande Dame"—from tales of former owners to current ghosts, and how Chef Jimi Setchim puts contemporary twists on traditional menu items to keep this classic updated and fresh. Kennon will be signing copies of her book *Classic Restaurants of New Orleans*, which features thirteen of the Crescent City's most historic restaurants, po-boy shops, and

neighborhood staples, along with interviews and recipes following the event.

Broussard's Restaurant, \$15 or VIP Pass

4 – 5:15 PM—Literary Discussion

COLM TÓIBÍN IN CONVERSATION WITH MAUREEN CORRIGAN

Colm Tóibín is a master of many literary forms: the grand novel (*The Master, Nora Webster, Brooklyn*); essays (*Nine Ways to Kill Your Mother: Writers and Their Families* and *Mad, Bad, and Dangerous to Know: The Fathers of Wilde, Yeats, and Joyce*); and stories (*Mothers and Sons*). As a chronicler of Irish immigration to America, he is without parallel. Who better to talk with him about that than NPR's *Fresh Air* book critic, **Maureen Corrigan**, author of *Leave Me Alone, I'm Reading: Finding and Losing Myself in Books*, and *So We Read On: How The Great Gatsby Came to Be and Why It Endures*. Don't miss this thrilling meeting of the minds.

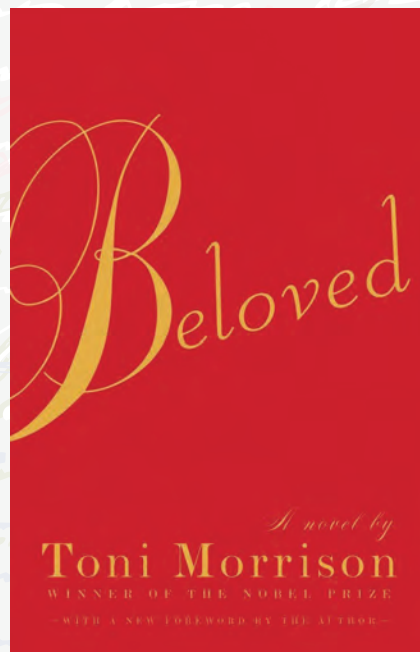
Hotel Monteleone, Queen Anne Ballroom, \$10 or Literary Discussion, Combo, or VIP Pass

SATURDAY, MARCH 28

9 AM – 4 PM

Box Office (Queen Anne B) and Book Fair (Queen Anne A) at the Hotel Monteleone.

See sections on Theater Offerings and Walking Tours. Use the schedule grids and map to plan your best day at the Festival.



8 – 9:15 AM—Special Event

BOOKS AND BEIGNETS

With the death of Toni Morrison in 2019, American literature lost one of its most gifted and influential writers. Our annual breakfast book club pays tribute to her by taking up her 1987 novel, *BeLoved*, which many scholars hold to be her most impressive work. Reimagining true events, the book focuses on a woman who escapes slavery but wrestles with its legacies and her

own decisions as she seeks healing and self-acceptance. Attendees are invited to read—or reread—this seminal work, with the suggested edition being the standard paperback (ISBN 978-1400033416). Muriel's Restaurant will serve coffee and beignets to accompany the discussion. Southern literary scholar **Gary Richards** again facilitates.

Muriel's Jackson Square Restaurant, \$25 or VIP Pass

March 27-28, 2020



**10 – 11:15 AM—Literary Discussion
MISSISSIPPI RIVER JOURNEYS**

Photographers and authors **Melody Golding** (*Life Between the Levees*) and **Randy Roussel** (*Alluvial*) discuss photographing the river and the people who make their lives and livelihoods along its length, along with Captain (retired) **Clarke “Doc” Hawley** and river pilot Captain **Joy Manthey** of New Orleans. Moderated by NOMA Publications Editor **David Johnson**.

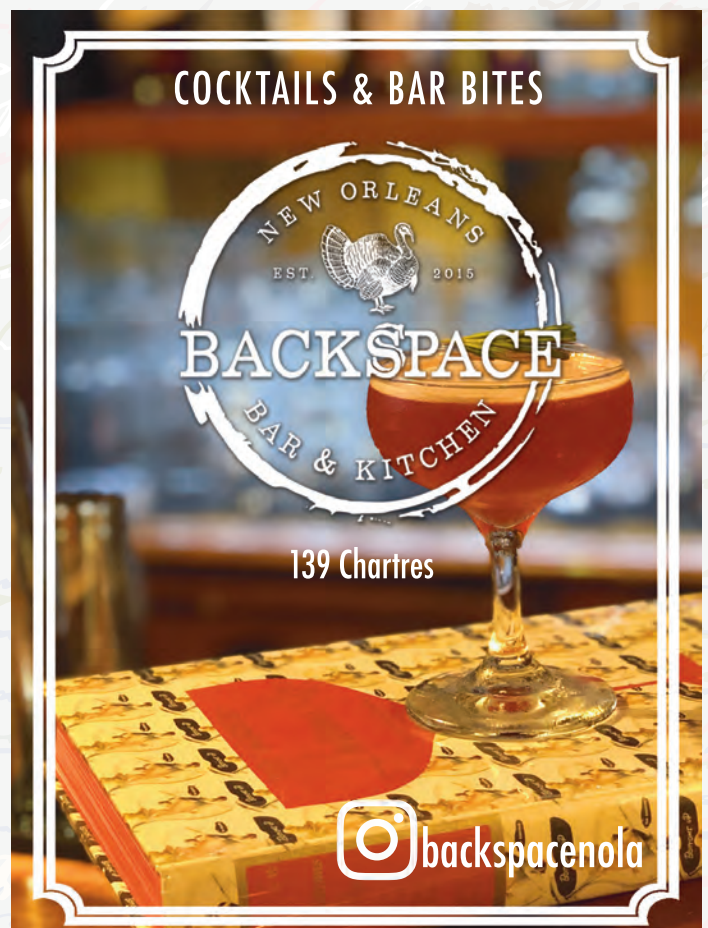
*Sponsored by the Confucius Institute at Xavier University of Louisiana.
Special thanks to Dr. Yu Jiang, Director.*

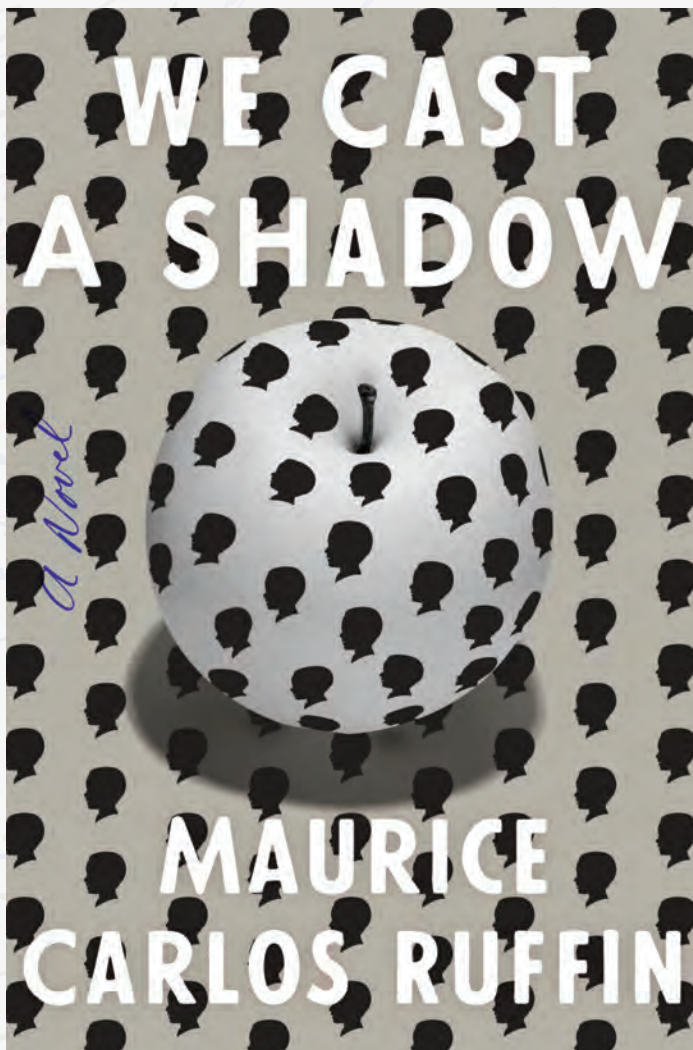
**Hotel Monteleone, Queen Anne Ballroom, \$10 or Literary
Discussion, Combo, or VIP Pass**

**10 – 11:15 AM—Literary Discussion
EXPERIMENTING WITH TENNESSEE**

What does it mean to experiment when staging the plays of Tennessee Williams? And why would you do it? With a canonized playwright whose work is still under copyright, you cannot change, cut, or rewrite the text, nor can you “alter the spirit of the play as written.” Yet, Williams remains so popular that—as with Shakespeare—directors and producers often want to try to tell his stories in new ways. This panel will investigate how and why directors experiment with Williams’ plays, and when this kind of experimentation illuminates the stories and when it fails them. As part of this discussion, panelists will also consider questions of nontraditional race and gender casting. Panelists include **Augustin J Corroero**, **Aimée Hayes**, **David Kaplan**, with moderator **Thomas Keith**.

**Williams Research Center, \$10 or Literary Discussion, Combo, or
VIP Pass**





10 – 11:15 AM—Literary Discussion
SPECULATIVE FICTION: WELCOME TO AN ALTERNATE REALITY

How does a writer create an alternate yet recognizable world? All of these writers have created brilliant alternate versions of their imaginative adaptations of New Orleans. **Alys Arden** began a bestselling supernatural saga with *The Casquette Girls*. **Bryan Camp** imagines underworld denizens who move between worlds in such novels as *Gather the Fortunes*, part of his Crescent City Novel series. **Daniel José Older** brings dinosaurs to the Crescent City in his Dactyl Hill Squad series for young readers and employs magical realism in his depiction of life after the Cuban revolution and in the New York City of the future. **Maurice Carlos Ruffin** delineates a racialized city of the future in *We Cast a Shadow*. Moderated by **Candice Huber**.

Sponsored by Backspace Bar & Kitchen.

Muriel's Jackson Square Restaurant, \$10 or Literary Discussion, Combo, or VIP Pass

11:30 AM – 12:45 PM—Literary Discussion
LIVES AND LETTERS

What is it about certain people that fills others with a passion to follow their lives, to research them, and, eventually, carefully document them?

The biographers on this panel discuss their research, their obsessions, and the resources they use to create the end result: an intriguing, fully fleshed-out version of someone else's life story. Panelists include **Andrew Feldman**, **Nigel Hamilton**, **Robert Mann**, **Miki Pfeffer**, and moderated **Anne Boyd Rioux**.

Sponsored by Kathleen and Edmund Schrenk.

Hotel Monteleone, Queen Anne Ballroom, \$10 or Literary Discussion, Combo, or VIP Pass

11:30 AM – 12:45 PM—Literary Discussion
WILLIAMS ON THE WORLD STAGE

Have you ever wondered how Tennessee Williams' plays are produced, reviewed, understood, and appreciated in Europe, South America, Asia, and Africa? Distinguished Williams scholars and directors share their experiences of seeing and directing international productions of Williams' plays and discuss how local cultural and political contexts change or enhance audiences' understanding of the plays, presenting interpretations we will likely never see in America. What is gained and what is lost in translation? This panel will explore how these very American, and sometimes very Southern, stories translate linguistically and artistically around the world. Panelists include **Anthoullis Demosthenos**, **Dirk Gindt**, **Annette Saddik**, with **David Kaplan** moderator.

Sponsored by Dramatists Play Service.

Williams Research Center, \$10 or Literary Discussion, Combo, or VIP Pass

11:30 AM – 12:45 PM—Literary Discussion
POETICS OF SOCIAL ENGAGEMENT

In the recently released *American Poets in the 21st Century: Poetics of Social Engagement*, edited by Claudia Rankine and Michael Dowdy, Michael Dowdy writes that the editors assembled the volume at "a critical juncture in the history of United States." Dowdy goes on to say that "the range of aesthetic practices and cultural commitments in this volume demonstrates some of the ways that contemporary poets have anticipated the 'new' era that was consolidated in the 2016 U.S. presidential election." This panel of four contemporary poets examines, through readings and commentary, what constitutes a "poetics of social engagement" and, more broadly, the role of the poet in our "new" era of polarization and extremely divisive politics. Poets include **Darrell Bourque**, **Beth Ann Fennelly**, **Jerika Marchan**, and **John Warner Smith** with moderator, poet and publisher **Bill Lavender**.

Sponsored by Scovern Law Firm.

Muriel's Jackson Square Restaurant, \$10 or Literary Discussion, Combo, or VIP Pass

11:30 AM – 12:45 PM—Literary Discussion
WRITING FROM THE SOUTH SIDE OF LAKE PONTCHARTRAIN: NEW WORK FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF NEW ORLEANS PRESS

Abram Himmelstein, editor-in-chief of the University of New Orleans Press, moderates a panel of writers whose works demonstrate the range and diversity of the publisher's new offerings. The panel features the soul-searching poetry of **Marian Moore** in *Louisiana Midrash*, the timely meditative consideration of **Mackie Blanton**'s poetry collected

March 28, 2020

in *The Casual Presence of Borders*, longtime creative writing program director **Rick Barton** discussing a definitive new edition of his novel, *With Extreme Prejudice*, and a new novel from **Mahyar A. Amouzegar**, *Dinner at 10:32*.

Hotel Monteleone, Riverview Room, \$10 or Literary Discussion, Combo, or VIP Pass

1 - 2:15 PM—Literary Discussion

**THE EVOLUTION OF SELF-PUBLISHING:
TIPS TO PREPARE, PUBLISH, AND PROMOTE YOUR BOOK**
Part of our Saints and Sinners Literary Event.

Sponsored by Kindle Direct Publishing.

Hotel Monteleone, Lobby Level, Royal Salon D, \$10 or Literary Discussion, Combo, or VIP Pass

1 - 2:15 PM—Literary Discussion

GETTING TO THE TRUTH OF THINGS

Four very different writers discuss writing about politics in these times when truth seems stranger than fiction. **Ethan Brown** talks about the consequences of writing *Who Killed the Jeff Davis 8?*, his work on a Louisiana serial killer. **Andrei Codrescu**, prolific writer whose latest book is a poetry collection, *No Time Like Now*, shares his views of current events, **Josh Levin** chronicles the origin story of the term “welfare queen” in *The Queen: The Forgotten Life Behind an American Myth* and **Nathan J. Robinson** makes his case in *Why You Should Be*

a Socialist. Moderated by journalist and political historian **Robert Mann**.

Hotel Monteleone, Queen Anne Ballroom, \$10 or Literary Discussion, Combo, or VIP Pass

1 - 2:15 PM—Literary Discussion

NEW ORLEANS MELODY: CAPTURING THE MUSICALITY OF NOLA IN PLAYS

Living in New Orleans means living amidst people who seem to sing their conversations. Stories that loop through time, circling back through scrumptious details. Greetings that drip with melody and percussion—*Where Y’at, Daaaawlin’?* Sometimes spoken against background music of the steamboat calliope. How do writers capture the unique rhythm and melody of New Orleans life in their plays, essays, and poetry? Join local legend **Ricky Graham**, a playwright who often performs in his own work; **John Biguenet**, an essayist and playwright; **Lisa D’Amour**, a playwright and interdisciplinary artist; and **Sunni Patterson**, a poet and performer, as they discuss how the musicality of New Orleans’ life shapes and inspires their work. The discussion will include brief readings by each writer. Moderated by Dramatists Play Service president, **Peter Hagan**.

Sponsored by Dramatists Play Service.

Williams Research Center, \$10 or Literary Discussion, Combo, or VIP Pass

LSU PRESS

Winner of the Louisiana Endowment for the Humanities' Champion of Culture Award

Join Our Director and Editors for a Literary Discussion

LSU PRESS AND THE SOUTHERN REVIEW:
85 YEARS AND GOING STRONG

Saturday, March 28th, 1-2:15 PM
Hotel Monteleone, Riverview Room

The advertisement features a central text box surrounded by a collage of various book covers published by LSU Press. The covers include titles such as 'Carnival in Louisiana', 'The New Orleans Jazz Scene 1915-1945', 'Louisiana Field Guide', 'The Sugar Masters', 'The Louisiana House of A. Hay's Town', 'Audubon in Louisiana', 'The Forgetting People', 'Faville Winans' Louisiana', 'Louisiana Aviation', 'Intimate Enemies', 'The Earl of Louisiana', 'From Chaos to Continuity', 'Ghost Stories of Old New Orleans', 'The Unsettling of New Acadia', 'Milliken's Bend', 'The Fighting Tigers 1993-2008', 'Best of LSU Fiction', 'Pistols and Politics', 'The Casual Presence of Borders', 'Who Killed the Jeff Davis 8?', 'No Time Like Now', 'The Queen: The Forgotten Life Behind an American Myth', 'Why You Should Be a Socialist', 'The Evolution of Self-Publishing', 'Tips to Prepare, Publish, and Promote Your Book', 'The Louisiana Endowment for the Humanities', 'The Louisiana Field Guide', 'The Sugar Masters', 'The Louisiana House of A. Hay's Town', 'Audubon in Louisiana', 'The Forgetting People', 'Faville Winans' Louisiana', 'Louisiana Aviation', 'Intimate Enemies', 'The Earl of Louisiana', 'From Chaos to Continuity', 'Ghost Stories of Old New Orleans', 'The Unsettling of New Acadia', 'Milliken's Bend', 'The Fighting Tigers 1993-2008', 'Best of LSU Fiction', 'Pistols and Politics', 'The Casual Presence of Borders', 'Who Killed the Jeff Davis 8?', 'No Time Like Now', 'The Queen: The Forgotten Life Behind an American Myth', 'Why You Should Be a Socialist', 'The Evolution of Self-Publishing', 'Tips to Prepare, Publish, and Promote Your Book'.

Saturday & Sunday

1 – 2:15 PM—Literary Discussion MORE REAL THAN THE HOUSEWIVES

The mystery genre has been blowing up the stereotype of the “good girl,” creating a new (and welcome) demand for books featuring women characters that are often described as “unlikable.” But what makes a woman unlikable? Is this simply code for “complex?” Join us for a lively discussion of complicated women characters, as well as some deconstruction of the good girl concept. Panelists include **Elizabeth Little**, **Laura Lippman**, and **Lori Rader-Day**, with author **Greg Herren** moderating.

Sponsored by The Diana Pinckley Prizes for Crime Fiction

Muriel's Jackson Square Restaurant, \$10 or Literary Discussion, Combo, or VIP Pass

1 – 2:15 PM—Literary Discussion LSU PRESS AND *THE SOUTHERN REVIEW*: 85 YEARS AND GOING STRONG

For 85 years, LSU Press and *The Southern Review* have served as cultural champions of Louisiana, bringing award-winning literature from the Pelican State to the rest of the world. LSU Press books have garnered four Pulitzer Prizes, among other awards. *The Southern Review* was lauded by *Time Magazine* as “superior to any other journal in the English language.” This discussion of the past, present, and future of the state's flagship scholarly press and the Deep South's most acclaimed literary journal is moderated by longtime LSU Press staffer **Margaret Lovecraft** and includes panelists **Alisa Plant**, director of LSU Press and publisher of *The Southern Review*; **James Long**, an LSU Press acquisitions editor; and *The Southern Review* co-editors **Jessica Faust** and **Sacha Idell**.

Hotel Monteleone, Riverview Room, \$10 or Literary Discussion, Combo, or VIP Pass



2:30 – 3:45 PM— Literary Discussion THE INTRICATE DANCE OF MEMOIR

Three memoirists talk about turning their life experiences into art. Award-winning author **Saeed Jones** (*How We Fight for Our Lives*), tells his story of growing up a young, black, gay man from the South. **Sheryl St. Germain's** *50 Miles* is a memoir reckoning with her son's addiction, and **Jason Hardy** (*The*

Second Chance Club), shares an account of his time as a parole officer in New Orleans. Moderated by writer **David Swatling**.

Hotel Monteleone, Queen Anne Ballroom, \$10 or Literary Discussion, Combo, or VIP Pass

2:30 – 3:45 PM—Literary Discussion COVERING LOUISIANA WITH *64 PARISHES* MAGAZINE

In fall 2018, the Louisiana Endowment for the Humanities (LEH) rebranded its nearly 30-year-old quarterly magazine, *Louisiana Cultural Vistas*, as *64 Parishes*. Join *64 Parishes* staff and contributors for a wide-ranging conversation about what it means to be a statewide publication whose mission is to showcase the history and culture of a place with deep, complicated, and sometimes contradictory roots. Panelists include *64 Parishes* managing editor/writer **Chris Turner-Neal**; Acadiana-based photographer **Paul Kieu**, whose coverage of the Abbeville Giant Omelette Festival graced the fall 2019 cover; LSU researcher **Hayley Johnson**, co-author of a summer 2019 feature on Japanese internment in Louisiana; and historian **Elizabeth Neidenbach**, whose work for *64 Parishes* includes book and digital media reviews. Moderated by *64 Parishes* editor-in-chief/historian, **Erin Greenwald**.

Sponsored by 64 Parishes, the quarterly magazine of the Louisiana Endowment for the Humanities.

Williams Research Center, \$10 or Literary Discussion, Combo, or VIP Pass

2:30 – 3:45 PM—Literary Discussion/Reading CRIES FROM THE STREETS OF NEW ORLEANS: AGITPROP THEATRE

This discussion and performance centers on two issue-oriented short plays targeting the school-to-prison pipeline and HIV/AIDS in New Orleans. *Ritual Murder* by Tom Dent follows the shattered dreams of a young African American man who murders his best friend in a moment of rage. *Tic Toc* by **Carolyn Nur Wistrand** intersects three stories of young people in New Orleans living with HIV. Students from Dillard University's Theatre and English Programs present the two plays in concert. **Nancy Dixon**, Coordinator of the English Program at Dillard University will lead this exciting panel.

Hotel Monteleone, Riverview Room, \$10 or Literary Discussion, Combo, or VIP Pass

4 – 5:15 PM—Special Event A CONVERSATION WITH SISTER HELEN PREJEAN

Sister Helen Prejean is known around the world for her tireless work against the death penalty, and she has been instrumental in sparking national dialogue on capital punishment. Her book, *Dead Man Walking: An Eyewitness Account of the Death Penalty in the United States*, ignited a national debate on capital punishment and inspired an Academy Award-winning movie, a play, and an opera. Tulane University professor and author **Zachary Lazar** (*Vengeance*, the 2019 One Book One New Orleans selection) talks with Sister Helen about her experiences working in Louisiana's state penitentiary, Angola Prison, and discusses her writing, particularly her new book, *River of Fire: My Spiritual Journey*.

Hotel Monteleone, Queen Anne Ballroom, \$10 or Literary Discussion, Combo, or VIP Pass

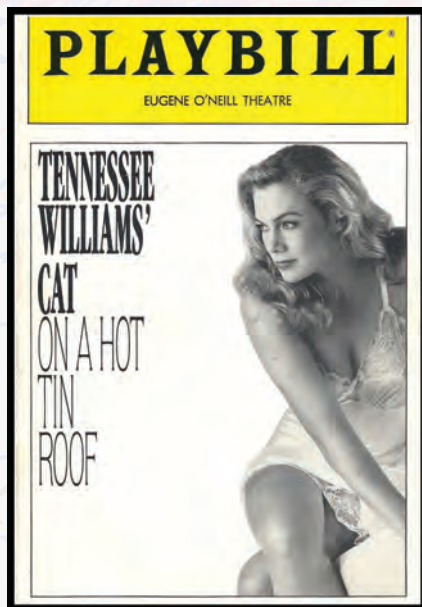
4:30 – 6 PM—Special Event COCKTAILS WITH CORRIGAN: A BOOZY BOOK CONVERSATION

Join **Maureen Corrigan**, book reviewer for NPR's *Fresh Air*, for an

March 28-29, 2020

intoxicating conversation with **Susan Larson**, host of *The Reading Life*. They'll share their favorite books in three rounds along with cocktail samples from Belle Époque. From the sweet to the bitter to the one that packs a punch, experience cocktails (and books) to match your literary desires. The last round is on you, as you share your favorite books with us at the mic. Bring your favorite book for an optional book swap at the end. Seating is limited for this intimate experience and advanced tickets are required.

Belle Époque Absinthe Lounge, \$20 or VIP Pass



**7:30 – 8:45 PM—
Special Event
TAKING THE LEAD:
STAGE AND SCREEN
LEGEND KATHLEEN
TURNER IN
CONVERSATION**

By any measure, **Kathleen Turner** has had an amazing life, and her passion, drive, and intelligence have guided her all the way. Known for leading roles in classic films such as *Body Heat*, *Peggy Sue Got Married* (Oscar® nomination), *Prizzi's Honor*, *Romancing the Stone*, and *The Accidental Tourist*,

Turner is originally a stage actress and will discuss her Tony-nominated performances as Maggie the Cat in *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof* and Martha in *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf*, as well as working with Festival favorite John Waters on the film *Serial Mom*. Turner's most recent book is *Kathleen Turner on Acting*, which also covers her life as an actress, role by role, her recent work as a director, her health challenges, her activism, and what she's learned about the entertainment industry. **Thomas Keith** speaks with Kathleen Turner about her insights into life as an actor, her relationship with Hollywood, and just a few of her remarkable co-stars, such as Michael Douglas, William Hurt, Jack Nicholson, Steve Martin, and Anthony Perkins.

Sponsored by Joy and Boysie Bollinger.

Hotel Monteleone, Queen Anne Ballroom, \$35 or VIP Pass

ALL DAY SATURDAY, 2 PM - 2 AM

Happy Hour Special on Tennessee's preferred cocktail, the Ramos Gin Fizz.
Bar Marilou, 544 Carondelet Street

SUNDAY, MARCH 29

9 AM – 4 PM

Box Office (Queen Anne B) and Book Fair (Queen Anne A) at the Hotel Monteleone.

See sections on Theater Offerings, Walking Tours, and Drummer and Smoke. Use the schedule grids and map to plan your best day at the Festival.

10 – 11:15 AM—Master Class

WRITING ABOUT WHAT MATTERS

Novelist and UNO creative writing professor **Fredrick (Rick) Barton** talks about the strategy of narrative topicality. Professor Barton discusses the way in which the narratives of stories, novels, plays, and screenplays that address contemporary or even historical issues of war, the environment, politics, and discrimination over race, ethnicity, gender, religion, class, and sexual orientation attract readers and viewers and can drive a wider public discussion without becoming merely polemical or sacrificing the pleasures of adroit storytelling. Barton will discuss pertinent examples in his own work and that of other writers.

Hotel Monteleone, Riverview, \$10, Literary Discussion Pass, Combo Pass, or VIP Pass

10 – 11:15 AM—Literary Discussion

HOW THE QUALITY OF OBSESSION SUSTAINS A NOVEL

Four novelists discuss their unforgettable new work: **Jami Attenberg** (*All This Could Be Yours*) describes how a family's obsession with the truth about a dying patriarch shapes their lives; **Minrose Gwin** (*The Accidentals*) shows us the attraction for obsession with ornithology, as well as a broken family; **Katy Simpson Smith** (*The Everlasting*) spans two Roman millennia and movingly demonstrates the struggle for faith; and **Michael Zapata** (*The Lost Book of Adana Moreau*), conjures a tale of a lost manuscript. Moderated by novelist **C. Morgan Babst**.

Hotel Monteleone, Royal Ballroom, \$10 or Literary Discussion, Combo, or VIP Pass



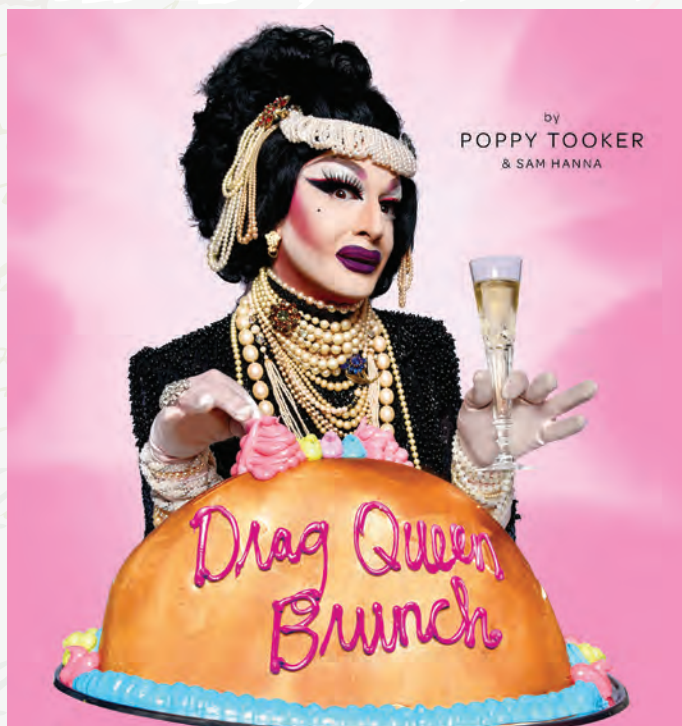


11 AM – 1 PM—Special Event POPPY'S POP-UP DRAG BRUNCH

Join New Orleans food celebrity and author **Poppy Tooker** for a wild, rollicking, drag brunch. With three delicious courses, bottomless mimosas, and four beautiful drag queens, it's guaranteed to be a once-in-a-lifetime experience. Poppy's latest book, *Drag Queen*

Brunch profiles 16 fascinating drag queens, the history of drag in New Orleans, and over 60 recipes, including some delectable dishes from Dickie Brennan's restaurants. Poppy will serve as ringmaster as four of the queens featured in the book perform.

Dickie Brennan's Bourbon House, \$65 plus tax and tip. Not included in VIP Pass. For tickets, www.bourbonhouse.com/events/



11:30 AM – 12:45 PM—Literary Discussion NEW ORLEANS' LITERARY HISTORY

New Orleans' long and varied literary history has given rise to impressive recent scholarship. Hear what these scholars have to say about the best, the worst, the most unfairly overlooked works. **Robert Azzarello** looks at our literary heritage through the lens of decadence; **Nancy Dixon** has collected important works in her anthology, *N.O. Lit.* **Rien Fertel** is an expert on Creole literature, and **T. R. Johnson** is the editor of the wide-ranging essay collection, *New Orleans: A Literary History*. Moderated by author **John Biguenet**.

Sponsored by Tulane University.

Hotel Monteleone, Royal Ballroom, \$10 or Literary Discussion, Combo, or VIP Pass

11:30 AM – 12:45 PM—Literary Discussion REMEMBER YOUR FIRST TIME: DEBUT NOVELISTS

The Festival is proud to present debut novelists who are heading toward their second books. How do you make that first step to publication, find peer support, keep your writing momentum going? We'll hear from three extraordinarily successful writers—**Samantha Downing**, author of *My Lovely Wife*, to be followed by *He Started It* in April; **Michael Zapata**, author of *The Lost Book of Adana Moreau*; and

March 29, 2020

Iris Cohen, author of *The Little Clan*, and *Last Call on Decatur Street*, out in August; and Rita Woods, whose first novel is *Remembrance*. Moderated by *The Reading Life's* **Susan Larson**.

Hotel Monteleone, Riverview Room, \$10 or Literary Discussion, Combo, or VIP Pass

**1 – 2:15 PM—Literary Discussion
NEW ORLEANS IN THE 60s**

In New Orleans, as elsewhere, the '60s were a time of social change and upheaval, as well as a time of memorable cultural contributions. Panelists include **Steven Y. Landry**, who looks back to *Beatles Day in New Orleans*; **Laura Lane McNeal** remembers the time period that inspired her novel, *Dollbaby*. Culture mavens **Peggy Scott Laborde** and **Priscilla Lawrence** share their memories with publisher **Errol Laborde**, who will moderate this panel. Wear your tie-dye and flash your peace sign.

Sponsored by Pelican Publishing.

Hotel Monteleone, Royal Ballroom, \$10 or Literary Discussion, Combo, or VIP Pass

**1 – 2:15 PM—Literary Discussion
GARIFUNA WOMEN'S CONTRIBUTION TO THE ARTS**

The Garifuna, a diaspora population originating from Central America, bring a vibrant and deeply traditional culture to New

Orleans. **Reina David**, author *Patti's Compromising Positions*, discusses the importance of having a voice and the use of literature to project the inner voices that represent women's rights. **Sakinah Davis**, **Carmen Luz Cosme Puntiel**, **Shearon Roberts**, and **Susan Spillman** join this conversation that unites black women in the arts and social sciences to recognize the powerful women of the Garifuna Community in New Orleans.

Sponsored by Xavier University of Louisiana.

Hotel Monteleone, Riverview Room, \$10, Literary Discussion Pass, Combo Pass, or VIP Pass

**1:30 - 2:45—Literary Discussion
Legendary Children: The First Decade of RuPaul's Drag Race and the Last Century of Queer Life**

Tom Fitzgerald and **Lorenzo Marquez** deep-dive into queer history and culture with hit reality show *RuPaul's Drag Race* as a touchstone of influence on modern LGBTQ culture. The book and this discussion focus on the idea that not only is RuPaul's Drag Race the queerest show in the history of television, but that RuPaul and company devised a show that serves as an actual museum of queer cultural and social history, drawing on queer traditions and the work of legendary figures going back nearly a century.

Hotel Monteleone, Vieux Carré Room, \$10, Literary Discussion Pass, Combo Pass, or VIP Pass

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DRUMMER & SMOKE: MUSIC EVENTS AT THE PALM COURT JAZZ CAFÉ



1204 DECATUR STREET \$10 PER SESSION OR VIP PASS



11:30 AM - 12:45 PM

SPRING CAN REALLY HANG YOU UP THE MOST: *THE POETRY AND LYRICS OF FRAN LANDESMAN*

Jazz lyricist and poet Fran Landesman published five volumes of poetry and wrote lyrics for hundreds of songs throughout a career which began in the 50's. She rubbed shoulders with artists and poets from the Beat Generation: Jack Kerouac, Lenny Bruce, and Allen Ginsberg; dropped acid with Timothy Leary; collaborated with composers Steve Allen, Tommy Wolf, Dudley Moore, and Simon Wallace. Come enjoy the humorous, bittersweet, and sometimes irreverent songs and spoken poetry of this "Queen of the Bohemian Dream," Fran Landesman, revived by the incomparable vocalist, **Raynel Shepard**, accompanied by **Harry Mayronne**, **Ben Fox**, and **Michael Skinkus**.

Sponsored by the New Orleans Jazz National Historical Park



1 - 2:15 PM

THE CLIVE WILSON/TOM SANCTON LEGACY SERENADERS

Music makes memories and these musicians turned those memories into memoirs. Join the Clive Wilson/Tom Sancton Legacy Serenaders as Clive and Tom discuss their memoirs *Time Of My Life* and *Song For My Fathers* (respectively) and present traditional New Orleans jazz as they learned it back in the 1960s.

Sponsored by the New Orleans Jazz & Heritage Festival and Foundation Community Partnership Grant



2:30 - 3:45 PM

ALEXIS AND THE SAMURAI

With an Americana sound that put them on the New Orleans music scene map, the duo of Alexis Marceaux and Sam Craft has been consistently evolving into a genre-defying style that shows how eclectic New Orleans music can be. On any given song, you may find Sam playing a violin with one hand, a piano with the other, and drums with his feet, all the while Alexis plays guitar and drums--and both of them sing. Alexis & the Samurai have been featured on HBO's *Tremé*, NBC's *The Voice*, and *CSI New Orleans*.

Sponsored by the New Orleans Jazz & Heritage Festival and Foundation Community Partnership Grant

March 29, 2020

Todd d'Amour as Stanley and Beth Bartley as Blanche at "An Evening of Desire," 2018.
Photo credit Ride Hamilton.



2:30 – 3:45 PM—Literary Discussion
LITERARY LUMINARIES OF THE VIOLET QUILL

Andrew Holleran, Felice Picano, and Edmund White discuss their roles as the surviving members of the influential Violet Quill literary group, which also included Christopher Cox, Robert Ferro, Michael Grumley, and George Whitmore. This group, which met in 1980 and 1981, is responsible for some of the most important post-Stonewall writing in America and for chronicling the AIDS pandemic, as well as celebrating, critiquing, and advancing gay culture and liberation. Moderated by *The Reading Life* host, **Susan Larson**

Hotel Monteleone, Royal Ballroom, \$10 or Literary Discussion, Combo, or VIP Pass

2:30 – 3:45 PM—Literary Discussion
TABOO BUSTING

How do we talk about things that were once taboo? How do we reconcile with language that has become politically derisive? With Lafcadio Hearn (1850-1904) as its center point, this panel will examine the canons of 20th-century narrative and how institutional bias is viewed today. Professionally, Hearn was an internationally recognized journalist credited with putting New Orleans on the map as a tourist destination and introducing Japan to readers in the West. As a man, he pursued a transgressive, outsider existence, embracing and writing literature that crossed Reconstruction-era cultural taboos. Moderated by **Nancy Sharon Collins**, panelists include **Dr. Thomas Bonner, Jr., Marion Hill, and John Whittier Treat.**

Hotel Monteleone, Riverview Room, \$10, Literary Discussion Pass, Combo Pass, or VIP Pass

2:30 – 4 PM—Special Event
READINGS FROM THE NEW ORLEANS WRITING MARATHON

Writers from any of the three writing marathons held during the Festival are invited to share portions of the writing they produced on the marathon, and audience members are welcome. Included is a celebration of the New Orleans Writing Marathon's most recent publication of its work in *Louisiana Literature*, as well as a radio show produced by KSLU of Southeastern Louisiana University. Hosted by **Richard Louth.**

Hotel Monteleone, Orleans A, Free admission

4:15 – 5:30 PM—Special Event
STELLA AND STANLEY SHOUTING CONTEST

Contestants vie to rival Stanley Kowalski's shout for "STELLAAAAAA!!!" in the unforgettable scene from *A Streetcar Named Desire*. On the balcony this year as Stella and Stanley are **Beth Bartley** and **Todd d'Amour**, who met on stage in a Tennessee Williams production during the 2016 Festival and are now married. Sign up for the Shout begins at 3:15 and is open to the first 25 contestants.

Sponsored by The Times Picayune | New Orleans Advocate.

Jackson Square, Free and open to the public.

THEATER OFFERINGS

THE FESTIVAL WELCOMES SPECIAL GUEST: KATHLEEN TURNER



Since her breakout role as femme fatale extraordinaire Matty Walker in *Body Heat*, Kathleen Turner has delivered pitch-perfect performances that cut across genres on screen and stage. From playing dark comedy in *War of the Roses* to action/romance in *Romancing the Stone*, Turner has crafted a diverse filmography that has established her as a leading screen talent. Standout roles include Irene in *Prizzi's Honor* and the title role in *Peggy Sue Got Married*, for which she received a best actress Academy Award® nomination. Memorably, Turner lent her slinkiest voice to the animated *Who Framed Roger Rabbit?* as Jessica Rabbit. She also received Tony Award nominations for *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof* and *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?* (for which she also received an Evening Standard Theatre Award in the West End and Drama Desk Award nomination). She is also the recipient of two Grammy Award nominations, as well as two Golden Globes Awards. Her film credits include *The Man with Two Brains*, *Jewel of the Nile*, *The Accidental Tourist*, *The Virgin Suicides*, among many others.

On stage, Turner made her Broadway debut in 1978 in Albert Innaurato's *Gemini*, with Reed Birney. In 1990, breathing life into the role of Maggie, she delivered a striking performance in Tennessee Williams' *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof*, in which she starred opposite Charles Durning. In 1995, Turner portrayed Yvonne, a codependent mother to Michael, played by Jude Law, in *Indiscretions*, an adaptation of Cocteau's *Les Parents Terribles*.

Two plays of note traveled from Broadway to London's West End: In Terry Johnson's *The Graduate*, Turner played Mrs. Robinson, starring opposite Jason Biggs; and in Edward Albee's *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?*, Turner redefined the role of Martha, earning her highest marks to date. The onstage chemistry with co-star Bill Irwin was shattering and garnered rave reviews. As Ben Brantley wrote in *The New York Times*: "When [Turner]

sits at the center of the stage quietly reciting a litany of the reasons she loves her dearly despised husband, you feel she has peeled back each layer of her skin to reveal what George describes as the marrow of a person." Back on Broadway, in *High* (2010), Turner employed this same intensity to embody a foul-mouthed, alcoholic nun charged with trying to save a young addict (Evan Jonigkeit). In 2014, at the Duchess Theatre in London, she starred opposite Ian McDiarmid in Stephen Sachs' *Bakersfield Mist*.

Turner has relished opportunities to perform in illustrious regional theaters, notably as the title character in *Red Hot Patriot: The Kick-Ass Wit of Molly Ivins* at the Philadelphia Theatre Company, the Geffin in Los Angeles, and the Berkeley Repertory Theatre. At Arena Stage in Washington, D.C., she mesmerized audiences in Bertolt Brecht's *Mother Courage and her Children* and in Joan Didion's *The Year of Magical Thinking*.

In addition to her strong work on big screen and stage, Turner has left her mark on television, with memorable appearances on *Friends* as Chandler's cross-dressing father; in *Californication* as the sublimely lecherous Sue Collini; and in Hulu's *The Path*. She has also lent her inimitable voice to iconic animated series such as *The Simpsons* and *King of the Hill*. Most recently she guest starred on *The Kominsky Method* with Michael Douglas, *Mom* with Allison Janney and Anna Faris and Dolly Parton's *Heartstrings* on Netflix.

Also a best-selling author, she wrote the books *Send Yourself Roses: Thoughts on My Life, Love, and Leading Roles* and *Kathleen Turner on Acting*. Turner recently expanded her repertoire with the development of her first cabaret performance, *Finding My Voice*, which debuted in Philadelphia in the fall of 2017 and which will continue in selected cities across the country.

KATHLEEN TURNER WILL APPEAR IN:

HOW TO WORK WITH ACTORS: A MASTERCLASS FOR WRITERS WITH KATHLEEN TURNER

March 26, 11 AM

TENNESSEE WILLIAMS TRIBUTE READING

March 26, 6:30 PM

AND

TAKING THE LEAD: STAGE AND SCREEN LEGEND KATHLEEN TURNER IN CONVERSATION,

March 28, 7:30 PM

The Tennessee Williams Theatre Company of New Orleans presents
***IN THE BAR OF A TOKYO HOTEL* BY TENNESSEE WILLIAMS**

Miriam finds herself trapped in a crowded, futuristic Tokyo as her husband, Mark, works diligently in a separate hotel room on what he believes is the next breakthrough in modern art. She attempts to find solace in the chic bar of the hotel as she aggressively puts her Western views and her entire self upon those around her. Her fragility blooms as she fights to rid herself of the burden of her husband. The production will highlight the way in which love of self, love of another, and love of passion drives each of us across boundaries within the human experience. Directed by Torey Hayward.

**The Lower Depths Theatre at Loyola University,
6363 St. Charles Avenue**

Included in TWfest VIP Pass—must book in advance through TWfest. Otherwise, tickets on sale online at www.twtheatrenola.com

**March 25, 26, 27, 28, 29. All shows are from 8 – 10:30 PM
with one intermission**

Other dates include April 2, 3, 4, 5



A LITTLE PIECE OF ETERNITY DROPPED INTO YOUR HANDS

TENNESSEE WILLIAMS

On the occasion of the Tennessee Williams Literary Festival, Bar Marilou serves his favorite cocktail, the Ramos Gin Fizz, at our spirited sanctuary.

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for readers and drinkers in New Orleans.

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*The Festival welcomes the new **BEAUBOURG THEATRE** at 614 Gravier Street to our lineup. Beaubourg will feature Tennessee Williams content, special readings and performances, and a Free Workshop Series generously sponsored by The Helis Foundation.*

BEAUBOURG

The Beaubourg Theatre presents THE END OF THE BEGINNING

In his late career, Tennessee Williams wrote two one-acts that explore the human response to living in a future stripped of contemporary convenience and comfort. Eerily evocative of our current climate, "The Demolition Downtown" is a dark comedy centered on two upper-middle class couples grappling with the loss of privilege in an explosive world. It is paired with the brief play of survival, "The Chalky White Substance," which sees two men relying on each other in the aftermath of nuclear war. Directed by David Williams and Riot Mueller.

Baubourg Theatre, 614 Gravier Street, \$20 or VIP Pass

Thursday, March 26, 8 – 9 PM

Friday, March 27, 9 – 10 PM

Saturday, March 28, 8 – 9 PM

Sunday, March 29, 2:30 – 3:30 PM

ALSO AT BEAUBOURG THEATRE DURING THE FESTIVAL Free Theater Workshops Sponsored by The Helis Foundation

EM DASH, ELLIPSIS, FULL STOP: TENNESSEE WILLIAMS AND HIS STYLOMETRIC ARSENAL

Stylometry is an actor's greatest tool in uncovering a writer's intent, rhythm, and meaning. In this interactive workshop, we'll explore what punctuation means in Williams' work, experiment with monologues from *A Streetcar Named Desire* and *The Glass Menagerie*, and discover how to enhance our experience with Williams' texts. Theater makers, readers, and anyone who loves to immerse themselves into the stories of Tennessee Williams will find this workshop a valuable experience. Led by Producing Artistic Director of Southern Rep Theatre, **Aimee Hayes**.

Free workshop series sponsored by The Helis Foundation

Baubourg Theatre, free admission but need to reserve a seat

Thursday, March 26, 11 – 12:15 PM

AUDITION MONOLOGUES: HOW TO GET THE JOB DONE

This workshop by **Thomas Keith** will explore the practical aspects of an actor's job performing monologues for auditions, including choosing a piece, analysis, rehearsal, focus, character, and the audition experience. Everyone is welcome to attend, and we will need several actors who arrive prepared to perform a memorized 60-to-90-second monologue of any kind and work with the instructor. If you're interested in performing a monologue and taking adjustments, be sure to bring a printed copy of the text of your monologue.

Free workshop series sponsored by The Helis Foundation

Baubourg Theatre, free admission but need to reserve a seat
Friday, March 27, 10 – 11:30 AM

THE HAUNTED: WRITING CHARACTERS CONSUMED BY THEIR PAST

Blanche DuBois. Serafina Delle Rose. Maggie the Cat. Tennessee Williams created legendary characters haunted by their past choices and ancestral ghosts. In this workshop, we will examine some of Tennessee's "haunted" characters and discuss the strategies that make them dynamic, unforgettable characters. Then we will embark on a writing exercise to create haunted characters of our own. Led by Pulitzer Prize finalist, playwright **Lisa D'Amour**

Free workshop series sponsored by The Helis Foundation

Baubourg Theatre, free admission but need to reserve a seat

Saturday, March 28, 10 – 11:30 AM

THEATER EVENTS

TENNESSEE RISING: THE DAWN OF TENNESSEE WILLIAMS Written & Performed by Jacob Storms

What events led Tennessee Williams to become the most groundbreaking and misunderstood American playwright of the 20th Century? *Tennessee Rising: The Dawn of Tennessee Williams—A New Solo Play*, explores the formative six-year period from 1939 to 1945 that shaped a young unknown writer named Tom into the acclaimed playwright known as Tennessee. Recipient of the United Solo Award, *Tennessee Rising* brings these unexplored years center stage, and the audience becomes friend and confidant to young Williams as he experiences the unexpected highs and devastating lows of his early life, wherein his most enigmatic character develops, himself. Directed by Alan Cumming.

Baubourg Theatre, \$20 or VIP Pass

Thursday, March 26, 1 – 2:15 PM

Friday, March 27, 7 – 8:15 PM

Saturday, March 28, 2 – 3:15 PM





BECOMING BLANCHE

Experiments in Performing Tennessee's Legendary Tragic Heroine

The experiment: three actresses of three different generations performing Blanche DuBois at the same time, revealing the many layers of the character and the way Blanche performs her past, her present, and premonitions of her future. In this conversation and open rehearsal, **Beth Bartley**, **Janet Shea**, and **Aimée Hayes** will perform and converse about the experience and the gift of playing Blanche. Audience members will have the opportunity to ask questions after the performance and discussion. Directed by playwright **Lisa D'Amour**.

Beaubourg Theatre, \$20 or VIP Pass, Thursday, March 26, 3 – 4:15 PM

TWO FOR TENNESSEE

Presented by Second Star New Orleans

Original One Act Plays Inspired by the Life and Legacy of Tennessee Williams

Brick by Jon Broder features two old friends meeting for that most New Orleans of traditions: a long and booze-filled Friday lunch in the 200 block of Bourbon Street. Experiences and emotions are exposed, one cocktail at a time, and everyone you know is watching. **Wrists and Flowers** by James Bartelle is set in August of 2012, and Hurricane Isaac is bearing down on New Orleans. Two women have offered shelter from the storm to a couch-surfer on the run from her own memories. There is thunder in the air and in the memories of the three women stuck together for one fateful night.

Beaubourg Theatre, \$15 or VIP Pass, Friday, March 27, 2:30 – 4:15 PM

BARLE AND BARBARA: TWO CAUTIONARY TALES BY TENNESSEE WILLIAMS

Brenda Currin, an actress associated with writers Capote, Toole, Welty, and Williams, tells Williams' short story "Mother Yaws," first published in *Esquire* magazine in 1977. **David Kaplan**, curator and co-founder of the Tennessee Williams Festival in Provincetown, reads Williams' "Das Wasser Ist Kalt," first published in *Antaeus* magazine in 1982. It has been reported that when Blanche was led away at the end of *A Streetcar Named Desire*, Williams could be heard in the audience laughing. That same sense of humor lights up these two comic gothic tales Williams wrote in the '70s, finding the fun in thwarted desire, sour marriage, public humiliation, betrayal, aging, rejection, disease and death. Currin and Kaplan have been amusing each other (and audiences) in New Orleans since Dr. Kenneth Holditch invited their acclaimed fantasia and adaptation of the works of Eudora Welty, *Sister and Miss Lexie*, to play at the Festival in 1989.

Sponsored by Helen and George Ingram.

Beaubourg Theatre, \$15 or VIP Pass

Friday, March 27, 1 – 2 PM

Saturday, March 28, 4 – 5 PM

STAGED READING OF THE WINNING ONE-ACT PLAY

Twenty-Two by Erin Considine

The Festival is proud to showcase the winning play of this year's One-Act Play Contest in a dynamic staged reading of the script. The contest winner, **Erin Considine** received a \$1,500 cash prize. This reading is presented by the University of New Orleans Department of Film and Theatre under the direction of **David W. Hoover**. The Creative Writing Workshop (MFA Program) at the University of New Orleans administers and coordinates the competition and judging. This year's judge is **Peter Hagan**, president of the Dramatists Play Service.

Our one-act contest was sponsored by The Favrot-Van Horn Fund.

Beaubourg Theatre, \$10 or Literary Discussion, Combo, or VIP Pass

Sunday, March 29, 11 – 12:15 PM

TENNESSEE X THREE

A STAGED READING PRESENTED BY THE NOLA PROJECT

Co-written with Dorothy Shapiro, "**Cairo, Shanghai, Bombay!**" is an early Williams work which was his first to receive a full production in 1936. It concerns an unknown author who plans to leave America for Paris, where he believes he will find kindred spirits. In "**The Case of the Crushed Petunias**," Miss Dorothy Simple, proprietor of the Simple Notions Shop in Primanproper, Massachusetts, has barricaded her house and heart behind a double row of petunias. Today, however, she has awakened to find every petunia crushed. When a Young Man arrives to confess his crime, he comes on a mission to alert Miss Dorothy to the "miraculous accident of being alive." The third offering is "**Why Do You Smoke So Much, Lily?**" where we find Mrs. Yorke and her daughter in disagreement about how Lily spends her time (smoking and reading too much), while Lily believes her mother only wants her to marry and become part of high society. Once her mother leaves, we see it's more than smoking that Lily has a problem controlling.

Beaubourg Theatre, \$20 or VIP Pass

Sunday, March 29, 1 – 2:15 PM



TENNESSEE WILLIAMS LITERARY WALKING TOUR CREATED BY DR. KENNETH HOLDITCH

March 26, 27, 28, and 29

10 AM – 12 Noon and 2 – 4 PM

New Orleans, and especially the French Quarter, played a vital role in shaping Tennessee Williams. When he came here for the first time, he was Tom Williams. When he left here a couple of months later, he was known as Tennessee, having undergone a tremendous change in his personal life and his creativity. A man perpetually on the move, Tennessee considered this city his “spiritual home” and had at least eight residences in its famous neighborhoods. Visit the homes and hangouts where he lived and worked and returned to throughout his adult life, beloved spots that helped to make Tennessee America’s greatest playwright. Led by Heritage Tours and created by **Dr. Kenneth Holditch**, this was the first literary tour of the French Quarter.

Hotel Monteleone, Queen Anne Parlor, \$25 or VIP Pass.

CEMETERY TOUR

March 25 and 26

11 AM – 12:30 PM

This walking tour, led by historian **Frank Perez**, explores New Orleans’ oldest “City of the Dead.” Founded in 1789, St. Louis Cemetery #1, is a fascinating study in the city’s death and burial customs. Notable residents include Voodoo Queen Marie LaVeau, civil rights activist Homer Plessy, World Chess Champion Paul Morphy, famed architect Benjamin Latrobe, and statesman Bernard de Marigny. Essentially a walk through New Orleans history, this tour covers topics ranging from Voodoo, Free People of Color and race relations, immigration in New Orleans, civil rights, LGBTQ+ history, yellow fever, and slave revolts. 90 minutes.

Hotel Monteleone, Mezzanine outside Orleans B, \$25 or VIP Pass

LGBT+ FRENCH QUARTER TOUR

March 27, 3:30 – 5 PM

March 28, 1 – 2:30 PM

This leisurely stroll through the French Quarter focuses on New Orleans’ enchanting past with an emphasis on the neighborhood’s queer history and its rich literary heritage. See where writers lived and wrote, and learn about the incredible contributions lesbians and gay men have made to the

city over its 300-year-old history. Other highlights include Jackson Square, Free People of Color, the French Market, the birth of jazz, Voodoo, and a wide diversity of architecture. The tour is guided by long-time French Quarter resident **Frank Perez**, a local historian and professional tour guide who has written two books about French Quarter history. The Friday tour will include a private tour of “Grand Illusions: The History and Artistry of Gay Carnival,” a temporary exhibit by the Louisiana State Museum at the Presbytere on Jackson Square.

Hotel Monteleone, Mezzanine outside Orleans B, \$25 or VIP Pass

HISTORIC STORYVILLE WALKING TOUR

March 26 and 27, 3 – 5 PM

March 28, 10 AM – 12 noon and 3 – 5 PM

Join **Dianne “Gumbo Marie” Honoré** on this unique, intriguing walk through parts of what was once the most notorious red-light district in the country, Storyville. Hear stories of cribs, chippies, the Tango Belt, and the last madam, along with the mayhem each night brought forth. Louis Armstrong referred to his childhood neighborhood of Black Storyville as the “worst” area in the city during Jim Crow-era New Orleans. It was also home to the beginnings of Jazz, popular music joints, second lines, the birth of the baby dolls Mardi Gras tradition, and Jelly Roll Morton’s other profession. We stop along the way for a refreshing cocktail! Cocktail cost not included.

Hotel Monteleone, Mezzanine outside Orleans B, \$25 or VIP Pass

NOLA DRAG TOUR

March 26, 27, 28, and 29

1 – 3 PM

From drag queens to Storyville madams to the Ursuline nuns, **Quinn LaRoux** teaches the fascinating history of the rebellious and dangerous women who built New Orleans! Nola Drag Tours are hilarious, entertaining, and deeply committed to historical accuracy and social responsibility. Tours emphasize the contributions and stories of women, queer people, and people of color, and attendees can expect to learn much about the history of trans people, the sex industry, and famous LGBTQ figures. Total tour walking distance is just under 2 miles.

Bar Tonique, 820 N. Rampart Street, \$30 or VIP Pass

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2019-20 Members and Donors as of February 1, 2020

Blanche DeBois depended on the kindness of strangers, and the Festival depends on the kindness of Friends! You can become a Friend of Tennessee and enjoy membership level perks, become part of a literary arts community, and help us continue our mission of supporting artists and providing quality programming. You can join during the Festival in our Box Office or go online at www.tennesseewilliams.net.

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Fallon Young

SERAFINA DELLE ROSE

Newell "Suzy" Andry
Tiki Axelrod
Carole Boster
Julie Breitmeyer
Janis and Richard Britson
Barbara Jo Brothers
Kate Fagan Burgun
Pamela Carter
Daniel Clayton
Catherine Coleman
Susan Couvillon
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Nicholas Schneider
Cory Sparks
Elisa Speranza
Richard Stewart
Ruby and Jerry Tremont
Jule Van Sant
Catherine Whitney
Sara Woodard

GENTLEMAN CALLER

Elgart Aster and Paul Swerdlove
C. Morgan Babst
Carolyn Bain
Adelaide Benjamin
Eleanor Farnsworth
Lynn and Lura Harrison
Ellen Johnson and Ronnie Swartz
Arlene and Larry Manguno
Lee Meehan
Patricia Murphy
Nicholas Schneider
Terry Verigan and Kathy Higgins
Barbara Wingo

MAGGIE THE CAT

Mary Anderson
Margaret Dziedzic
Wendy Griswold
Susan Hoskins
Michele Kaminski
Amelia Koch
Ruth Koffman
Peggy and Errol Laborde
Janice Meer

BIG DADDY

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Paige Royer and Kerry Clayton
Kathy and Edmund Schrenk

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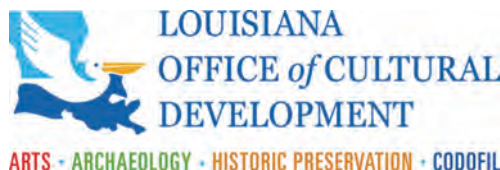
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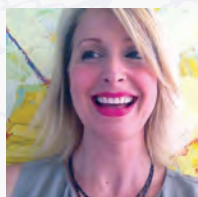
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2020 FESTIVAL PARTICIPANTS



Constance Adler is the author of the memoir *My Bayou, New Orleans Through*

the Eyes of a Lover. Her stories have appeared in numerous publications that include *Oxford American*, *Utne Reader*, *Spy Magazine*, and *Blackbird*. Her *Gambit Weekly* profile of Mardi Gras float designer Henri Schindler was honored by the Louisiana Press Association with a first place award in feature writing. She lives near Bayou Saint John in New Orleans.



Allison Alsup, co-founder of the New Orleans Writers Workshop, teaches and

coaches fiction writers of all levels. Her short stories have won multiple awards, including *A Room of Her Own Foundation*, *New Millennium Writings*, *Philadelphia Stories* and the Dana Awards. She was shortlisted for the 2019 Manchester Fiction Prize, England's largest short story competition. Her story, "Old Houses," first published in the *New Orleans Review*, was selected for inclusion in the 2014 O'Henry Prize Stories.



Mahyar A. Amouzegar is the author of three novels: *Dinner at 10:32*, *A Dark Sunny*

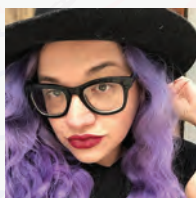
Afternoon and *Pisgah Road*. His short story "Tell Me More" appeared in the *Anthology of Short Stories* as part of The Reading Corner Series. Mahyar has been in love with literature since he was a child in Tehran and continued pursuing this passion when he moved to San Francisco as a teenager. He has lived and worked on four different continents and currently resides in New Orleans with his wife and two daughters.

Tom Andes is co-founder of the New Orleans Writers Workshop. His writing has appeared in *Best American*



Mystery Stories 2012, *Witness*, *Xavier Review*, and numerous other publications. He won the

2019 Gold Medal for Best Novel-in-Progress from the Pirate's Alley Faulkner Society. He has taught creative writing at San Francisco State University, ADVANCE Camp for Young Scholars, and elsewhere. He lives in New Orleans, where he works as a freelance writer and editor and moonlights as a country singer.



Alyis Arden is the bestselling author of *The Casquette Girls* series. She was

raised by street performers, tea leaf-readers, and glittering drag queens of the Vieux Carré. After graduating from the University of New Orleans, she lived in New York City and worked internationally, travelling the world. Her debut novel garnered over one million reads online before it was acquired by Skyscape. The fourth book in the series, *The Gates to Guinée*, is due for release in 2020. Her debut graphic novel, *Zatanna: The Jewel of Gravesend*, will be published by DC Comics in 2021.



Jami Attenberg is the New York Times best-selling author of seven books

of fiction, including *The Middlesteins* and *All Grown Up*. She has contributed essays to the *New York Times Magazine*, the *Wall Street Journal*, the *Sunday Times*, and *Longreads*, among other publications. She lives in New Orleans.



Robert Azzarello is an Associate Professor of English at Southern University

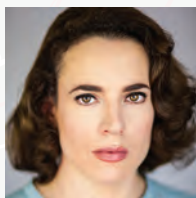
at New Orleans. He is the author

of *Queer Environmentalty: Ecology, Evolution, and Sexuality in American Literature* (2012) and *Three Hundred Years of Decadence: New Orleans Literature and the Transatlantic World* (2019).



C. Morgan Babst is a native of New Orleans. She studied writing at Yale and NYU,

and her essays and short fiction have appeared in *The Washington Post*, *Saveur*, *The Oxford American*, *Guernica*, *Garden and Gun*, the *Harvard Review*, *Lenny Letter*, and the *New Orleans Review*, among others. Her debut novel, *The Floating World*, was named one of the Best Books of 2017 by *Kirkus*, *Amazon*, *Southern Living*, and the *Dallas Morning News* and was a *New York Times* Editors' Pick.



Beth Bartley made her Broadway debut in the Tony-nominated play, *Fortune's*

Fool, directed by Arthur Penn. She can be seen in the upcoming Mike Mills film *C'mon C'mon*, with Joaquin Phoenix. In New Orleans, Beth played Sam in *When Lighting the Voids*, Blanche in *A Streetcar Named Desire*, Pauline in *Dividing the Estate*, Catherine in *Suddenly Last Summer*, and Carol Cutrere in *Orpheus Descending*. Beth is a graduate of The Juilliard School.



Fredrick Barton is the award-winning author or editor of ten books,

including the novels *The El Cholo Feeling Passes*, *Courting Pandemonium*, *With Extreme Prejudice*, and *A House Divided*, which won the William Faulkner Prize. His other books include the essay collection *Rowing to Sweden: Essays on Faith, Love, Politics and Movies*, the jazz opera libretto *Ash Wednesday*, the short fiction

anthology *Monday Nights*, and the novel *In the Wake of the Flagship*.



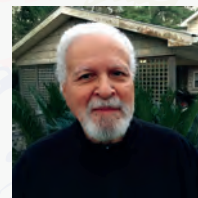
John Biguenet has published his short story collection, *The Torturer's Apprentice*:

Stories, his first novel, *Oyster*, and eight other books, including *Interviews from the Edge* (co-edited with Mark Yakich)..Biguenet has also written six plays that have been widely produced. His stories have been reprinted or cited in *Prize Stories: The O. Henry Awards*, and various other anthologies in the U.S. and abroad. He is the Robert Hunter Distinguished University Professor at Loyola University in New Orleans.



George Bishop, Jr., has lived and taught in Slovakia, Turkey, Indonesia,

Azerbaijan, India, and Japan. He's the author of the novels *Letter to My Daughter* (Random House, 2010) and *The Night of the Comet* (Random House, 2013), which was chosen by *Kirkus Reviews* as one of the year's "Best Books." He's currently finishing a novel set in Jackson, Louisiana, where he spent his childhood as the son of a psychiatrist on the grounds of the state mental hospital.



Mackie J.V. Blanton (M.S., Ph.D. in Linguistics at the Illinois Institute of Technology,

Chicago) has written essays on linguistics, poetics, scientific and technical discourse, Louisiana dialects, and Sufi and Hasidic sacred languages. His current research in Critical Theory Linguistics analyzes the nature and structure of thought as a Sacriture suggested by subtle, often subconscious thought experiments or contemplative thinking underlying the meditative practice of language in scientific discourse and literary expression. A

native of New Orleans, Blanton has traveled extensively in North Africa, East Africa, West Africa, Europe, and Asia Minor.



Thomas Bonner, Jr. is Professor Emeritus at Xavier University of Louisiana,

where he was formerly W.K. Kellogg Professor and Chair of English. He served twice as Distinguished Visiting Professor at The United States Air Force Academy. His books include *Parterre: New and Collected Prose and Poetry*, *Sherwood Anderson and Other Famous Creoles* (edited with Judith H. Bonner), *William Faulkner: The William B. Wisdom Collection*, and *The Kate Chopin Companion with Chopin's Translations from French Fiction*.



Darrell Bourque, former Louisiana Poet Laureate, recipient of the 2014

Louisiana Book Festival Writer Award, and the 2019 LEH Humanist of the Year is professor emeritus in English from ULL. A founding member of the Ernest J. Gaines Center, he has served as a board member since its opening. Among his works are *Megan's Guitar and Other Poems from Acadie*, *From the Other Side: Henriette Delille and migraré*.



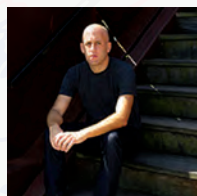
Will Brantley is a Professor of English at Middle Tennessee State University,

where he teaches southern literature, film studies, and professional writing. He is the author of *Feminine Sense in Southern Memoir: Smith, Glasgow, Welty, Hellman, Porter, and Hurston*, which received the Eudora Welty Award for an interpretive work of scholarship in modern letters (1993). He is the editor of *Conversations with Pauline Kael* (1996) and co-editor of *Conversations with Edmund White* (2017). His essay, "Carson and Tennessee: The Politics of a Literary Friendship," is forthcoming in a volume of essays to mark the Carson McCullers centennial.



Robert Bray has been involved with the Tennessee Williams Festival for over 25 years.

Bray is professor emeritus of English and editor emeritus of The Tennessee Williams Annual Review. He is the founding director of the Tennessee Williams Scholars Conference and the author/coauthor/coeditor of four books, including Hollywood's Tennessee (with R. Barton Palmer) and Modern American Drama on Screen, as well as dozens of articles on Williams. He has also been instrumental in locating, editing, and helping usher into performance several previously unpublished Williams works.



Ethan Brown is author of four books about crime and criminal justice policy: *Murder in the*

Bayou, *Queens Reigns Supreme*, *Snitch*, and *Shake the Devil Off*. Showtime premiered a TV adaption of *Murder in the Bayou* in 2019. Ethan also worked for nearly a decade as a mitigation specialist for attorneys representing indigent defendants facing the death penalty in the Deep South and elsewhere. Currently, he is Enterprise Editor of *The Appeal*, which produces original journalism about the most significant drivers of mass incarceration, state and local criminal justice systems.



Taylor Brown grew up on the Georgia coast. He is the author of a short story

collection, *In the Season of Blood and Gold*, and the novels *Fallen Land* (2016), *The River of Kings* (2017), *Gods of Howl Mountain* (2018), and *Pride of Eden* (2020). You can find his work in *The New York Times*, *The Rumpus*, *Garden & Gun*, and more. He is a recipient of the Montana Prize in Fiction and the founder of BikeBound.com. He lives in Savannah.



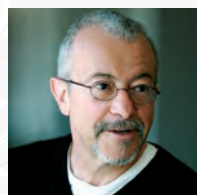
Bryan Camp is a graduate of the Clarion West Writers Workshop and the University of

New Orleans Low-Residency MFA program. Both novels in his Crescent City series have earned starred reviews in *Kirkus*, *Booklist*, *Library Journal*, and *Publisher's Weekly*. He lives in New Orleans with his wife and their three cats, one of whom is named after a superhero.



Michael Carroll's first book, *Little Reef and Other Stories*, won the 2015 Sue

Kaufman Prize for First Fiction from the American Academy of Arts and Letters. He is published in the *Yale Review*, *Southwest Review*, *Open City*, *The Harvard Review*, and *The New Penguin Book of Gay Short Stories*. His second collection is *Stella Maris and Other Key West Stories*. As a Peace Corps Volunteer, he taught in Yemen and the Czech Republic. He has also taught in the summer writing program at John Cabot University in Rome. Carroll is married and lives in New York.



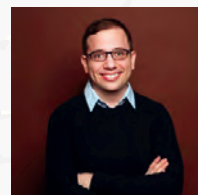
Andrei Codrescu was born in Transylvania, Romania and emigrated to the U.S.

in 1966. He founded *Exquisite Corpse: a Journal of Books & Ideas*, taught literature and poetry at Johns Hopkins University, University of Baltimore, and Louisiana State University (as MacCurdy Distinguished Professor of English), and has been a regular commentator on NPR's *All Things Considered*. He received a Peabody Award for writing and starring in the film *Road Scholar*. He also received the Ovidius Prize for Literature, the Heritage Award from the American Immigration Council, an ACLU Freedom of Speech Award, and was a Poetry Finalist for the National Book Award. A prolific writer of poetry, essays, fiction, and journalism, Codrescu's most recent book is *No Time Like Now*.



Iris Martin Cohen grew up in the French Quarter of New Orleans. She holds

an MFA from Columbia University and studied Creative Nonfiction at the Graduate Center of the City University of New York. Her work has appeared in *The New York Sun*, *The Austin Chronicle*, *Bookforum*, *64 Parishes*, *Lit Hub*, *Crime Reads* and others. She is the author of *The Little Clan* (2018). Her new novel, *Last Call on Decatur Street* is forthcoming from Park Row, August 2020. She lives in Brooklyn.



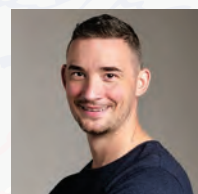
Eric Colleary is the Cline Curator of Theatre and Performing Arts at the Harry

Ransom Center, an internationally renowned humanities research library and museum at The University of Texas at Austin. He holds a doctorate in theatre historiography from the University of Minnesota and has curated exhibits on topics including Playwrights and Process, Shakespeare in Print & Performance, and Vaudeville.



Nancy Sharon Collins, in partnership with Antenna Gallery, produces

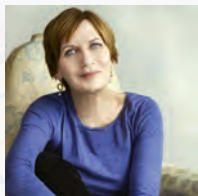
Letters Read, the ongoing series of live readings bringing historically important letters, which are vital pieces of various Louisiana times and cultures, to general audiences. The series was recently awarded a Louisiana Endowment for the Humanities and an LGBTQ+ Archives Project of Louisiana grant. CODEX, part of the Letters Read series, was recently featured on Susan Larson's "Thinking Outside the Book."



Augustin J. Correro is Co-Artistic Director of the Tennessee Williams Theatre

Company of New Orleans. Directing credits for TWTC include *The Glass*

Menagerie, Suddenly Last Summer, The Mutilated, One Arm, Not About Nightingales, Camino Real, The Milk Train Doesn't Stop Here Anymore, Dangerous Birds (If Agitated), The Rose Tattoo, Weird Tales, Small Craft Warnings, and Kingdom of Earth. He directed *Suddenly Last Summer* at the Columbus, MS and Provincetown TW Festivals. He earned an MFA in Theatre Pedagogy at Virginia Commonwealth University and a BA in Theatre at Mississippi University for Women.



Maureen Corrigan, book critic for NPR's *Fresh Air*, is the Nicky and Jamie

Grant Distinguished Professor of the Practice in Literary Criticism at Georgetown University. She is an associate editor of and contributor to *Mystery and Suspense Writers* and winner of the Edgar Award for Criticism (1999), presented by the Mystery Writers of America. In 2019, Corrigan was awarded the Nona Balakian Citation for Excellence in Reviewing by the National Book Critics Circle. In 2012, she served as a juror for the Pulitzer Prize in Fiction. She is the author of *So We Read On: How The Great Gatsby Came To Be and Why It Endures* and the literary memoir, *Leave Me Alone, I'm Reading!* Corrigan is also a reviewer and columnist for *The Washington Post's* Book World, serves on the advisory panel of *The American Heritage Dictionary*, and has chaired the Mystery and Suspense judges' panel of the *Los Angeles Times* Book Prize.



Brenda Currin received an Obie Award for *My Sister in This House* by

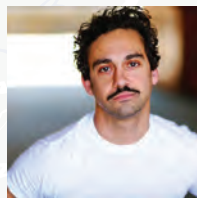
Wendy Kesselman and has worked extensively in the New York theater. Film credits include *In Cold Blood, The World According to Garp, Reds, Taps*, cult classic *C.H.U.D., Out of Blue* starring Patricia Clarkson, *Gossamer Folds, The Friend*, and the TV show *Claus*. Currin played Thelma Toole in TWFF's *A Confederacy of Dunces*. Also in New Orleans, she was in *Dividing the*

Estate, To Kill a Mockingbird, Orpheus Descending and *Suddenly Last Summer*. With David Kaplan, she has adapted Eudora Welty's stories *Sister and Miss Lexie* and *A Fire Was in My Head*. Brenda most recently adapted Welty's short story, "Moon Lake."



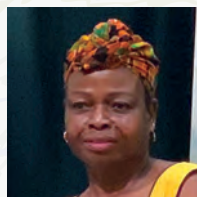
Lisa D'Amour is an OBIE-award winning playwright and co-

artistic director of PearlDamour, an interdisciplinary performance company. Her plays and performances have been performed on Broadway (Samuel J. Friedman Theater), Steppenwolf Theater, Southern Rep, and in many other adventurous spaces across the country, such as the 50-acre Meadow Garden at Longwood Botanical Gardens. She is a Pulitzer Prize finalist, a past winner of the Steinberg Playwright Award, and a proud resident of the Broadmoor neighborhood in New Orleans.



Todd d'Amour made his Broadway debut in 2015 in *Airline Highway*.

NYC credits include *Mr. Toole, Orpheus Descending*, and *Lie of the Mind*, STANLEY. N.O. credits include *Airline Highway, Venus in Fur, Orpheus Descending, Baby Doll, The Lily's Revenge* and *Pump Boys and Dinettes*. Regional credits: *Detroit, Airline Highway, Venus in Fur*, Stanley Kowalski in *A Streetcar Named Desire*, Charlie Chaplin in *Silent Lives* and George Bailey in *It's A Wonderful Life*. Todd starred in the feature film *Wendell and the Lemon*. Other TV/Film: *The Purge, The Preacher, Claws* (TNT), *Bigger* (Julianne Hough), *Cmon, Cmon* (Joaquin Phoenix), *The Heart Wants What It Wants*.



Reina David is an aspiring Garifuna author and talented artist from Santa Fe Colon,

Honduras. She currently resides in New Orleans. Her novel is titled *Patti's Compromising Positions*.



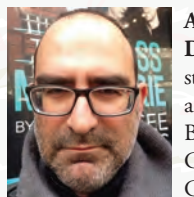
Sakinah A. Davis, DMA, is an Assistant Professor of Voice and

Director of Opera Workshop at Xavier University of Louisiana. She studied voice at DeKalb School of the Arts and Spelman College and earned masters and doctoral degrees in classical voice performance at the College-Conservatory of Music at the University of Cincinnati. She has sung with NANOWorks Opera, Opera Fusion: New Works, Americolor Opera and Atlanta Opera's "24-Hr Opera" workshop. Davis has been a voice instructor and lecturer at Spelman College and Clark Atlanta University and a choral teaching artist with the El Sistema-inspired Atlanta Music Project.



Danielle del Sol is the executive director of the Preservation Resource Center

of New Orleans. Before that, she served for seven years as the PRC's communications director, and as the editor of the center's monthly magazine, *Preservation in Print*. She is an adjunct lecturer in the Master of Preservation Studies program at Tulane University, her alma mater.



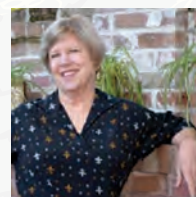
Anthoullis Demosthenous studied History and Archaeology, Byzantine Culture and Civilization,

and Humanities and Theater at the Universities of Athens and the Aegean (BA, MA, PhD, Post-Doc). He has published books and articles in academic journals, including "Saint Tennessee Williams on Stage," *Broken Gates: Directing Tennessee Williams' Night of the Iguana*, and "Finding Tennessee Williams." He is also a freelance director whose work includes *The Angel in the Alcove* for Provincetown TWFF, *The Night of the Iguana, Desire and the Black Masseur*, and *The Rose Tattoo*.



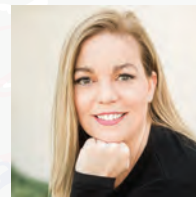
Adeline Dieudonné is a Belgian author who lives in Brussels. *Real Life*,

her debut novel, was published in France in 2018 and has since been awarded most of the major French literary prizes: the prestigious Prix du Roman FNAC, the Prix Rossel, the Prix Renaudot des Lycéens, the Prix Goncourt Le Choix de la Belgique, the Prix des Étoiles du Parisien, the Prix Première Plume, and the Prix Filigrane, a French prize for a work of high literary quality with wide appeal. Dieudonné also performs as a stand-up comedian.



Nancy Dixon is a scholar and writer of New Orleans literature. Her books include *Fortune and*

Misery: Sallie Rhett Roman of New Orleans (LSU Press, 1999), which won the 2000 LEH Humanities Book of the Year, *N.O. Lit: 200 Years of New Orleans Literature* (Lavender Ink 2013), and *New Orleans and the World* (LEH, 2018), the city's tricentennial book. Her most recent article, "The African Diaspora and the New Orleans Canary Islanders/ *Isleños*" is in the current issue of *La Creole: A Journal of Creole History & Genealogy*. Dr. Dixon is Associate Professor and Director of the English Program at Dillard University.



Samantha Downing, a Bay Area native, has written a dozen novels over the past

two decades despite never having formally studied writing. *My Lovely Wife* is the first manuscript she submitted. This domestic thriller was snapped up by Berkley and will be published on March 26, 2019. Downing lives in New Orleans and is wrapping up her next novel, *He Started It*, which will be published in April.



Jessica Faust is co-editor and poetry editor of *The Southern Review*. Born and raised in

southeast Louisiana, she studied in Wales and London before receiving her B.S. in English education, M.F.A. in creative writing (poetry), and Ph.D. in English (literature) from Louisiana State University. After teaching for many years, she joined *The Southern Review* as assistant editor in 2004. In 2011 she became the journal's poetry editor.



Andrew Feldman spent two years conducting research in residence

at the Hemingway Museum and Library in Havana, Cuba. He has taught at Tulane University, Dillard University, and the University of Maryland. He lives with his wife and daughter in New Orleans, Louisiana.



Beth Ann Fennelly, Poet Laureate of Mississippi, teaches in the MFA Program

at the University of Mississippi, where she was named Outstanding Teacher of the Year. She has won grants and awards from the N.E.A., the United States Artists, a Pushcart, and a Fulbright to Brazil. Fennelly has published three poetry books, including *Open House*, *Tender Hooks*, and *Unmentionables*, a book of nonfiction, *Great with Child*, and a novel, *The Tilted World*, co-authored with her husband, Tom Franklin. Her newest book is *Heating & Cooling: 52 Micro-Memoirs*. Fennelly and Franklin live in Oxford with their three children.



Rien Fertel writes, teaches, and lives in and about the South. His books include

Imagining the Creole City, *The One True Barbecue*, and, most recently, *Southern Rock Opera*.



Cheryl Gerber is a New Orleans native and documentary photographer. She has been a

regular contributor to the Associated Press, *The New York Times*, *New Orleans Magazine*, and *Gambit* for more than 25 years. Her book, *New Orleans: Life and Death in the Big Easy* by UL Press is in its second edition. Her new book, *Cherchez La Femme: New Orleans Women*, by the UPM, is forthcoming in January 2020.



Dirk Gindt is a Professor of Theatre Studies at Stockholm University. He is the

co-editor of the volume *Viral Dramaturgies: HIV and AIDS in Performance in the Twenty-First Century* (Palgrave Macmillan, 2018) and the author of the monograph *Tennessee Williams in Sweden and France 1945-1965* (Bloomsbury Methuen Drama, 2019), which unpacks the sexual anxieties and racial fantasies that the American playwright's works provoked in post-war Europe.



Anne Gisleson is the author of *The Futilitarians* (Little, Brown),

a book NPR called "a search for purpose and connection amid chaos ... a meditation on reading and a celebration of being." Her work has appeared in *The Atlantic*, *The Oxford American*, *The L.A. Times*, *The Believer*, *Ecotone*, and many other places. She teaches in the Creative Writing Program at the New Orleans Center for Creative Arts.



Melody Golding, documentary author, photographer, and folklorist, received

her BFA from Mississippi State University. Her work is included in the Smithsonian Institution's National Museum of American History Archives Center, displayed in the Congressional Hearing Room

of the Department of Homeland Security, and featured in solo exhibitions at the National Museum of Women in the Arts. Golding's work has been included in Johns Hopkins University Press *Journal of Women's Studies* and her three books are published by the University Press of Mississippi.



Jewelle Gomez, playwright, novelist, poet, and cultural worker, is the author

of eight books, including the first Black Lesbian vampire novel, *The Gilda Stories*. In print for more than 25 years, the novel will soon be a television mini-series. Jewelle's fiction, poetry, and essays have appeared in over 100 anthologies. She is playwright-in-residence at the New Conservatory Theatre Center in San Francisco, who commissioned her trilogy of plays about African American artists in the first half of the 20th century: *Waiting for Giovanni*, about James Baldwin; *Leaving the Blues*, about singer/songwriter Alberta Hunter; and *Unpacking in P'Town*, about vaudeville performers, which will premiere in 2021.



Ricky Graham has written *And The Ball And All* and *When Ya Smilin'* for The True

Brew Theatre, *The Pecan Cracker* for Southern Rep Theatre, as well as *Steel Poinsettias*, *Ditzlyland*, and *Gone Pecans* for The Rivertown Theaters. With Jefferson Turner and Sean Patterson, he has written *The Money Box*, based on Moliere's *The Miser*. With Jefferson, Jeff Roberson, and Yvette Hargis he has co-written *Scrooge In Rouge*, recently published by Dramatists Play Service.



Erin M. Greenwald, PhD, is Vice President of Content and Editor-in-Chief of *64*

Parishes magazine at the Louisiana Endowment for the Humanities. Prior to joining the LEH, she served as curator of programs at the New Orleans Museum of Art and as senior

curator and historian at the Historic New Orleans Collection, where she curated two exhibitions, *Purchased Lives: The American Slave Trade from 1808 to 1865* and *New Orleans, the Founding Era*.



Minrose Gwin is the author of three novels: *The Queen of Palmyra*, a Barnes

& Noble Discover Great New Writers pick and finalist for the John Gardner Fiction Book Award; *Promise*, which was shortlisted for the Willie Morris Award in Southern Literature; and *The Accidentals*. She is also the author of a memoir, *Wishing for Snow*, and *Remembering Medgar Evers: Writing the Long Civil Rights Movement*, and co-edited *The Literature of the American South*, a Norton Anthology. Minrose has taught at universities across the country, most recently the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Like the characters in *Promise*, she grew up in Tupelo, Mississippi.



Peter Hagan is the President of Dramatists Play Service. He began his career

at the William Morris Agency and subsequently worked at Writers and Artists, The Gersh Agency (where he was head of the Theatre Department) and at Abrams Artists Agency, representing writers, directors, and designers. His clients included writers Don DeLillo, Jules Feiffer, Horton Foote, and Romulus Linney, among many others. He is a graduate of the University of Virginia and lives in New York and New Orleans.



Jef Hall-Flavin directed the Provincetown Tennessee Williams Theater

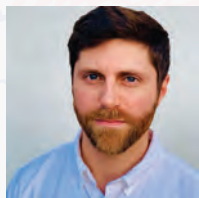
Festival from 2007–2018. There he staged 12 productions, including 3 world premiere Williams plays, and produced, toured, and presented dozens of productions from around the globe. Having served as associate director of the Shakespeare Theatre Company, Hall-Flavin's 20-year career spans 3 continents as a

director and educator. He is currently finishing a research degree at the Royal Central School of Speech and Drama in London.



Nigel Hamilton lives in New Orleans and Boston. His many biographies

have been translated into 16 languages, winning the Whitbread Prize and Templer Medal. His biography, *JFK: Reckless Youth*, was a *New York Times* bestseller, and was made into a TV miniseries starring Patrick Dempsey. *War and Peace*, the final volume of his *FDR at War* biography, was published in May 2019. *Forbes* magazine has listed the trilogy as one of its 8 Best Biographies of All Time.



Jason Hardy taught high school English before getting his MFA from Louisiana State

University. He later became a

probation and parole officer in New Orleans. He lives in New Orleans with his wife and is currently a special agent for the FBI. *The Second Chance Club* is his first book.



Cherice Harrison-Nelson is an educator, narrative visual and performance

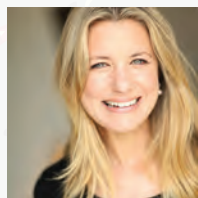
artist, and arts administrator. As co-founder/curator of the former Mardi Gras Indian Hall of Fame, she coedited 11 publications and coordinated numerous exhibitions and panel discussions focused on West African-inspired cultural expressions from New Orleans. She has produced a documentary, music CD, original plays, and the award-winning short film, "Keeper of the Flame." She has received a Fulbright Scholarship, Louisiana Endowment for the Humanities Teacher of the Year, Mayor's Arts Award, and 2016 United States Artist Fellowship.



Clarke "Doc"

Hawley has had a long river career as a riverboat captain. He

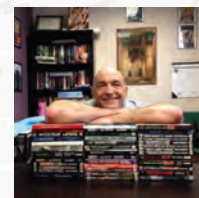
has served as master of three out of five remaining Mississippi River steamboats, including the steamboat *Natchez*—the last authentic steamboat on the Mississippi River. Although Captain Hawley retired in 1995, he continues to serve the steamboat *Natchez* as a substitute calliope player.



Aimée Hayes is Producing Artistic Director of Southern Rep Theatre, where

she has focused on new play development, producing and directing writers that include Christine Quintana, John Biguenet, Zayd Dohrn, Catherine Filloux, Tarell McCraney, Pamela Davis-Noland, and Steve Yockey. She has directed *Reykjavik*, *The Wolves*, *A Doll's House Part 2*, *Colossal*, *Airline*

Highway, *Detroit*, *Venus in Fur*, *Red*, *Speech & Debate*, *Grey Gardens*, *The Lily's Revenge*, and numerous works by Tennessee Williams. As an actor Hayes has played several of Tennessee Williams' leading ladies, including Blanche, Hannah, and Princess.



Greg Herren is an award-winning author and editor based in New Orleans.

He has won two Lambda Literary Awards, an Anthony Award, two Moonbeam Medals for excellence in young adult fiction, and was short-listed for the Macavity Award and the Shirley Jackson Award. His most recent short story collection, *Survivor's Guilt and Other Stories*, was released in March of 2019, and his novel, *Royal Street Reveillon*, was released in September 2019.



Marion Hill is a New Orleans based filmmaker and video director. Her

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direction of the camera serves as means to authentically center queer & POC sexuality, sensuality, and femme power across cultures.



Abram Shalom Himmelstein is the co-founder of the Neighborhood Story Project

and the editor-in-chief at the University of New Orleans Press. He has written for the *Daily Racing Form*, *The Houston Chronicle*, and *Next City*. He is the author of *What the Hell Am I Doing Here?* and co-author of *Tales of a Punk Rock Nothing*. At UNO he teaches English teachers, a Publishing Workshop, and Multicultural Education.



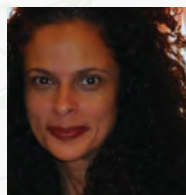
Kenneth Holditch's work revolves around Tennessee Williams scholarship,

including being editor of the *Tennessee Williams Journal* and co-editor, along with Mel Gussow, of the Library of America edition of Williams' writings. He is also a professor emeritus at the University of New Orleans. Holditch has collaborated with Richard Freeman Leavitt on *Tennessee Williams and the South and The World of Tennessee Williams*. He created the Tennessee Williams literary walking tours and knew the playwright.



Andrew Holleran is the author of three novels, a book of short stories, and a collection of

essays on AIDS. He recently retired from the MFA program at American University and now lives in Florida, where he is a regular contributor to the *Gay and Lesbian Review*.



Dianne Honoré is a New Orleans native and founder of the Black Storyville

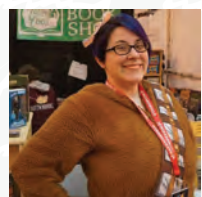
Baby Dolls, the Amazons Benevolent Society, and Unheard Voices of Louisiana. She has hosted a New Orleans history and current events

show and developed "Gumbo Marie," a rotating exhibit-store of curated Louisiana history exhibits. She won the 2013 Louisiana Creole Research Associations Recognition Award for contributions to the good of society through Truthful Historical Storytelling and the 2018 Mardi Gras Indian Hall of Fame "Capturing the Spirit Award" for work in the community and cultural preservation.



Michael S. D. Hooper, Ph.D., is an independent scholar and private tutor, as well as

the author of *Sexual Politics in the Work of Tennessee Williams: Desire over Protest* and several essays in the *Tennessee Williams Annual Review*. He edited the Methuen Student Edition of *A Streetcar Named Desire* and contributed to *A Student Handbook to the Plays of Tennessee Williams*, edited by Katherine Weiss. His work also appears in *Tennessee Williams in Europe: Intercultural Encounters, Transatlantic Exchanges*, edited by John S. Bak.



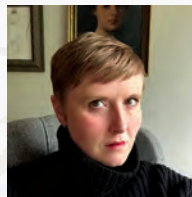
Candice Huber owns New Orleans' premier geeky bookstore, board gaming store, and

nerd mecca: Tubby & Co's Mid-City Book Shop, named after her grandparents. She is also a writer, blogger, and editor. Huber also hosts the *Game of Thrones* podcast *Winterfell and I Can't Get Up* with her mom, and *The Writers' Forum* on WRBH Reading Radio. She established TALES Publishing in 2018, which has thus far published three books.



Sacha Idell is co-editor and prose editor of *The Southern Review*. His original stories appear in

Ploughshares, *Electric Literature*, *Gulf Coast*, and elsewhere. His translations include work by the Japanese writers Kyūsaku Yumeno and Toshiro Sasaki. After a number of years spent shuffling between San Francisco, Osaka, New York, and Arkansas, he now lives in Baton Rouge.



Jac Jemc's story collection, *False Bingo*, will be released in October

2019, and her novel, *Total Work of Art*, is forthcoming in 2021, both from FSG. She is the author of *The Grip of It*, *My Only Wife*, and *A Different Bed Every Time*. Her stories have appeared or are forthcoming in *Guernica*, *LA Review of Books*, *Crazyhorse*, *The Southwest Review*, *Paper Darts*, *Puerto Del Sol*, and *StoryQuarterly*, among others.



David Johnson is Editor of Museum Publications at the New Orleans

Museum of Art. For twenty years he edited *Louisiana Cultural Vistas* magazine and later its companion website, KnowLA.org, The Digital Encyclopedia of Louisiana.



Hayley Johnson is the Head of Government Documents and Microforms

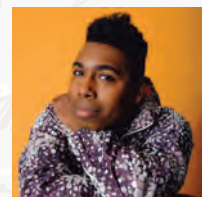
at Louisiana State University. Johnson has worked with government documents for the past eight years and works to highlight their importance and relevance to both historical and present day issues. She previously worked at the Louisiana House of Representatives. She is currently doing grant-funded research investigating Camp Livingston, Louisiana, which is a little-known site of Japanese American internment.



T. R. Johnson is a Professor of English and Weiss Presidential Fellow at

Tulane University, and is the editor of *New Orleans: A Literary History* (Cambridge University Press, 2019). He has also written books on Lacanian psychoanalysis and the teaching of writing. For the last two decades, he has lived near the Mississippi River in the 9th Ward of New Orleans and hosted a

contemporary jazz radio program at WWOZ 90.7 FM. He grew up in Louisville.



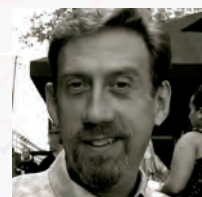
Saeed Jones is the author of the memoir *How We Fight for Our Lives*, winner of the

2019 Kirkus Prize for Nonfiction, and the poetry collection *Prelude to Bruise*, winner of the 2015 PEN/Joyce Osterweil Award for Poetry and the 2015 Stonewall Book Award/Barbara Gittings Literature Award. The poetry collection was also a finalist for the 2015 National Book Critics Circle Award, as well as awards from Lambda Literary and the Publishing Triangle in 2015. He lives in Columbus, Ohio and tweets @TheFerocity.



David Kaplan is the curator and cofounder of the Tennessee Williams Theater

Festival in Provincetown, Massachusetts, now in its fourteenth year. He wrote *Tennessee Williams in Provincetown* and edited *Tenn at One Hundred*, a centennial collection of biographical essays. He has staged plays by Williams in Hong Kong (*Eccentricities of a Nightingale*), in Uruguay and Ghana (*Ten Blocks on the Camino Real*), in Russia (*Suddenly Last Summer*), and in New Orleans (*The Hotel Plays*).



Thomas Keith has edited the Tennessee Williams titles for New Directions

since 2002, including four volumes of unpublished or uncollected one-acts. Co-editor of *The Luck of Friendship: Selected Letters of Tennessee Williams and James Laughlin*, Keith also edited *Love, Christopher Street*, an anthology of LGBT essays about New York City by Jewelle Gomez, Ocean Vuong, Michele Karlsberg, Val McDermid, Felice Picano, Bob Smith, Martin Hyatt, and others. He has served as dramaturg for Sundance Theater Lab, reader for Yale Drama Prize, and currently teaches theater at Pace University.



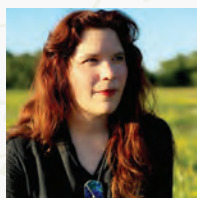
Alexandra Kennon attended Loyola University in New Orleans, and

the Crescent City's eccentricities and debauchery suited her so well, she has since proudly called it home. She is the author of *Classic Restaurants of New Orleans*, and her other work can be found in *Country Roads* and other publications. In addition to writing about Louisiana's rich history, cuisine, and culture, Alexandra leads tours of her beloved city and acts for the stage and screen—she has originated roles in two Tennessee Williams one-acts for the Tennessee Williams & New Orleans Literary Festival.



Paul Kieu is a documentary photographer based in downtown Lafayette focusing

on music, festivals, and everyday Louisiana life. As a native of Vermilion Parish, Paul has cultivated and documented his ever-growing appreciation for the people and moments that make Acadiana a magical and unique home. Paul is a regular contributor to *64 Parishes*, whose work has also been featured by national and regional outlets such as *Country Roads Magazine*, Associated Press, CNN, and the *Washington Post*.



Jessica Kinnison's

work has appeared or is forthcoming in *New South*, *Phoebe*, and

the *Southern Humanities Review*, among other publications, and has been nominated for a Pushcart Prize. She serves as Director of Programs at Project Lazarus, a nonprofit housing facility for People Living with HIV/AIDS. A 2018 *Kenyon Review* Peter Taylor Fellow, she is co-founder of the New Orleans Writers Workshop and hosts the Dogfish Reading Series in New Orleans, Louisiana.



Errol Laborde is executive vice president and editor-in-chief of

Renaissance Publishing Company. He has won over twenty New Orleans Press Club awards, including three Alex Waller Awards and the Lifetime Achievement Award in 2016. He was also the recipient of the 2013 City & Regional Magazine Association award for column writing. His books include *New Orleans: The First 300 Years*, *Mardi Gras: Chronicles of the New Orleans Carnival*, and *Krewe: The Early Carnival from Comus to Zulu*. Laborde holds a PhD in Political Science from the University of New Orleans. He is a founder of the Tennessee Williams & New Orleans Literary Festival and served as its first president.



Peggy Scott Laborde is an Emmy award-winning producer and the host/producer

of *Steppin' Out*, New Orleans' only weekly arts and entertainment discussion program. *Steppin' Out* is now in its 31st season on WYES-TV (PBS affiliate) in New Orleans. Laborde is a charter member of the Tennessee Williams & New Orleans Literary Festival. She served as its president for 14 years. She is also the co-author of five books.



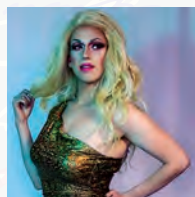
Steven Y. Landry grew up in Baton Rouge in the '60s listening to WNOE and WTIX

play rock and roll oldies by New Orleans artists. He graduated from LSU Law School and is a real estate attorney in Baton Rouge, where he lives with his wife, dog, cat, Cavern Club brick, and a piece of Abbey Road. Steve is the author of *Beatles Day in New Orleans*, the story of the Beatles stop in New Orleans during their first American tour in 1964. *Beatles Day* also traces the influence that New Orleans rhythm and blues had on the Fab Four.



Susan Langenhennig has been writing about New Orleans for more than 20 years. She is the director of communications for the Preservation Resource Center

of New Orleans and editor of its magazine, *Preservation in Print*. Prior to joining the PRC, Langenhennig was a writer and editor for *The Times-Picayune*, where she was a member of the team covering Hurricane Katrina's aftermath; this work won the newspaper two Pulitzer Prizes. A New Orleans native, she lives in a century-old Eastlake Victorian with her husband and two pugs.



Quinn Laroux fell in love with drag as an art form and started Nola Drag Tours,

using drag as a Trojan Horse to get incredible history into the hands of the people who need it the most. She is the producer of *Extra! A Political Drag Cabaret* and *Bent! A Trans and Nonbinary Variety Show*, and founding member of Make Up! Improv and Drag. She is a proud double major of both the New Orleans Drag Workshop and the New Orleans School of Burlesque. Her one woman show, *It's Fine*, first produced in 2018, is a tender dark comedy about her experience moving on from an abusive relationship.



Susan Larson is the host of *The Reading Life* on WWNO, New Orleans' NPR affiliate,

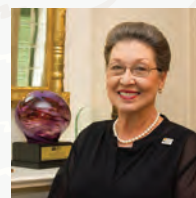
and the author of *The Booklover's Guide to New Orleans*, recently published in a second edition. She is the past president of the Women's National Book Association of New Orleans, which presents the Pinckley Prizes for Crime Fiction, and she is a former member of the boards of the Tennessee Williams & New Orleans Literary Festival and The New Orleans Public Library.



Bill Lavender is a poet, novelist, musician, and publisher living in New Orleans. *My*

ID, his eleventh book of poetry, was published by BlazeVOX in October of 2019. His novel trilogy—*Q*, *Little A*, and *The Private I*—is forthcoming. He is also the author of a verse memoir, *Memory Wing*, and a chapbook, *surrealism*. In 1995

he founded Lavender Ink, a small press devoted mainly to poetry, and in 2011 he founded Diálogos, an imprint devoted to cross-cultural literatures in translation. Lavender also co-founded the New Orleans Poetry Festival.



Priscilla Lawrence retired after 39 years at The Historic New Orleans Collection

museum, research center, and publisher. Under her direction as president/CEO for almost 20 years, THNOC increased its physical space with the acquisition, restoration, and renovation of several historic French Quarter properties. Recipient of many community awards and accolades, Lawrence has served on numerous boards and commissions, most notably co-chairing the 2018 Cultural and Historical Committee for the New Orleans' Tricentennial. Lawrence currently serves on the Vieux Carré Commission and the board of Longue Vue House and Gardens.



Zachary Lazar is the author of five books, including the novels *Sway*, *I Pity*

the Poor Immigrant (a *New York Times* Notable Book), and *Vengeance*, the 2019 selection of One Book One New Orleans. Honors include a Guggenheim Fellowship, a Hodder Fellowship from Princeton University, and the John Updike Award from the American Academy of Arts and Letters. His journalism has appeared in the *New York Times*, NPR's *All Things Considered*, the *Los Angeles Times*, and elsewhere. Lazar lives in New Orleans and is on the creative writing faculty at Tulane University. He serves on the advisory board of the PEN America Writing for Justice Fellowship and the selection committee for the National Book Foundation's Literature for Justice program.



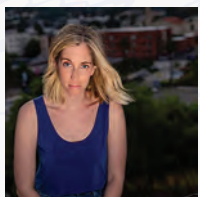
Josh Levin is the national editor at *Slate* and the host of the sports podcast *Hang Up*

and Listen. He previously worked at the *Washington City Paper* and has written for *Sports Illustrated*, the *Atlantic*, *GQ*, and *Play: The New York Times Sports Magazine*. He was born and raised in New Orleans and is a graduate of Brown University. He lives in Washington, D.C.



Laura Lippman is the New York Times bestselling author of acclaimed

stand-alone novels and the award-winning Tess Monaghan series. Her most recent novel was *Lady in the Lake* (July 2019) and her first essay collection, *My Life as a Villainess*, will be released in May 2020. She lives in Baltimore.



Elizabeth Little is the *Los Angeles Times* bestselling author of *Dear*

Daughter, *Pretty as a Picture*, and

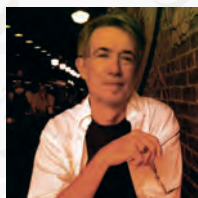
two works of nonfiction, *Biting the Wax Tadpole: Confessions of a Language Fanatic* and *Trip of the Tongue: Cross-Country Travels in Search of America's Languages*. Her writing has also appeared in the *New York Times*, *Wall Street Journal*, and *Los Angeles Review of Books*, among others. *Dear Daughter*, her debut thriller, was nominated for the Barry and Macavity Awards for Best First Novel, longlisted for the CWA John Creasey Dagger, and won the Strand Critics Award for Best First Novel. Her most recent novel is *Pretty as a Picture*.



James Long is an Acquisitions Editor with the LSU Press. He holds

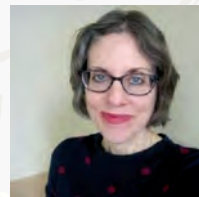
a B.A. in English from St. Mary's University and a Ph.D. in English from Louisiana State University. His dissertation won the Josephine A. Roberts Alumni Association Distinguished Dissertation Award in Arts, Humanities, & Social Sciences. He has published academic articles

on Joseph Conrad, James Fenimore Cooper, and Herman Melville, as well as journalism profiling arts and music events in Louisiana.



Richard Louth is a Professor of English at Southeastern Louisiana University,

where he teaches courses in Living Writers, Louisiana Literature, and Creative Writing, and received the university's award for Teaching Excellence. Founding Director of the Southeastern Louisiana Writing Project, he created the "New Orleans Writing Marathon" and has led Writing Marathons in cities across the U.S. for over fifteen years. He edited *The Writing Marathon: In Good Company Revealed*, and his fiction and essays have been published in *Louisiana in Words*, *Country Roads*, and *Louisiana Literature*. In 2017, he was awarded the Light Up for Literacy Award by the Louisiana Endowment for the Humanities.



Margaret Lovecraft began working at LSU Press in 1991. She has cycled

through the manuscript editorial department, the marketing department, and the acquisitions department; most recently she has come full circle and is back in the manuscript editorial department. Given her bad ideas for cover designs, it's a good thing she steered clear of the production department.



Robert Mann, journalist and political historian, holds the Manship

Chair at the Manship School of Mass Communication at Louisiana State University. He is the author of critically acclaimed political histories of the U.S. civil rights movement, the Vietnam War, American wartime dissent, and the 1964 presidential election. Mann served as a senior

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staffer to U.S. senators Russell Long and John Breaux, and Louisiana Governor Kathleen Blanco. The *Washington Post* named his book *Daisy Petals and Mushroom Clouds: LBJ, Barry Goldwater, and the Ad that Changed American Politics* among the best political books of 2011.



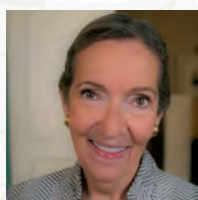
Joy Manthey has been a Captain on the Mississippi River for over 40 years.

Captain Joy became the first woman to hold a First Class Pilot's License from Mile 88 to 235 on the Lower Mississippi River. She later earned her license as Master of Unlimited Tonnage Upon Inland Waters. Captain Joy thoroughly enjoys working in the Brown water.



Jerika Marchan was born in Manila, Philippines and raised in the American

South. A graduate of Louisiana State University and the Iowa Writers' Workshop, she lives in New Orleans. Her debut collection *SWOLE* (Futurepoem, 2018) was the June 2018 poetry best seller on Small Press Distribution and was named a Must-Read Race and Culture Book of the Summer by *Colorlines* magazine.



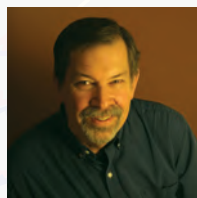
Ann Masson is a long-time resident of the Vieux Carré, and an architectural historian

who teaches, writes, and consults on preservation and the arts. A faculty member at Tulane's School of Architecture for nearly 20 years, her experience also includes extensive professional and volunteer work with historic houses, advocacy, tourism, and preservation groups. She has served as president of several organizations and has been honored by the Louisiana Landmarks Society and the Louisiana Association of Museums, among others.



Laura Lane McNeal has enjoyed a career as an advertising

and marketing executive, journalist, free-lance writer and magazine editor. The devastation of Hurricane Katrina spurred Laura to pursue her dream of becoming a fiction writer. Her bestselling debut novel *Dollbaby* (Pamela Dorman/Viking/Penguin 2014) was a 2015 Pat Conroy Fiction Award Finalist, 2014 Goodreads Awards Top Ten Finalist, and a BEA and New York Post Pick, among others. *Dollbaby* has been optioned for film by Gulfstream Productions, a division of Warner Brothers.



Tom Mitchell is Chair of Acting for the University of Illinois Department

of Theatre, where he has directed all of Tennessee Williams' early full-length plays. He and performers from Illinois have presented *Interior: Panic*, *St. Louis Stories*, and other works as part of the Scholars Conference in recent years. Mitchell's essay, "Tennessee Williams Wrestles with Race," is published in the 2019 *Tennessee Williams Annual Review*. Currently he is working on projects focused on Williams' short fiction.



Marian D. Moore converted a childhood love of science into a career in computing

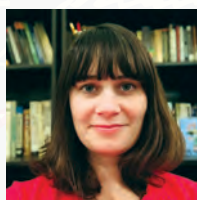
analysis. Her love of literature led her to writing poetry and science fiction, which has been published in periodicals ranging from *Bridges* to *Asimov's Science Fiction*. Although she did some writing while attending Louisiana State University, Moore sharpened her skills in George Alec Effinger's University of New Orleans workshop and then in NOMMO Literary Society, led by the New Orleans writer and activist Kalamu ya Salaam.



Alex Myers is a novelist, teacher, and transgender rights advocate. Born and

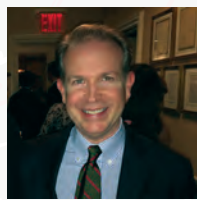
raised as a girl, Alex came out as transgender at age 16. He was the first openly transgender student at Phillips Exeter Academy and Harvard University. At Harvard, he became an

activist and advocate for transgender rights, working with schools around the world to be more gender inclusive. After earning degrees at Harvard and Brown, Alex studied Fiction Writing at Vermont College of Fine Arts, crafting his debut novel, *Revolutionary*, which tells the story of his ancestor who disguised herself as a man and fought in the American Revolutionary War. Alex teaches high school English in New Hampshire, where he lives with his wife.



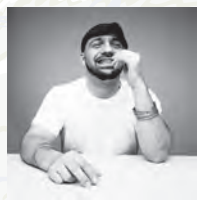
Elizabeth C. Neidenbach earned her PhD in American Studies from the

College of William and Mary. Prior to joining the staff of The Historic New Orleans Collection, where she is the visitor services trainer, she worked as a public historian for the National Park Service in Virginia and New Orleans. Her scholarship has been published in *Transatlantica*, the *Journal of Urban History*, and *64 Parishes*.



Stuart Noel is Professor of English and Film at Georgia State University in Atlanta.

He has lectured widely both here and abroad as a scholar of Tennessee Williams and Truman Capote. Dr. Noel founded and chairs the Truman Capote Literary Society. He is the recipient of the 2018 Scholar's Award at the Tennessee Williams Tribute in Columbus, Mississippi, the birthplace of Tennessee Williams.



Daniel José Older's most recent books are *Dactyl Hill Squad* (Scholastic, 2018), his

first middle grade book, and *Star Wars: Last Shot* (Del Ray, 2018). His *New York Times*-bestselling Young Adult novel, *Shadowshaper* (Scholastic), was a *New York Times* Best Book of the Year. His other books include the Bone Street Rumba novels, including *Midnight Taxi Tango* and *Half-Resurrection Blues* (Penguin). Winner of the International Latino Book Award, he has been nominated for the Kirkus

Prize, the Locus and World Fantasy Awards, and the Andre Norton Award.



Sunni Patterson is a New Orleans native and visionary, an internationally acclaimed

poet, performer, lecturer, workshop facilitator, and certified life coach. As a diligent student in the healing and spiritual arts, she uses art and culture to recognize, address, and eliminate all forms of oppression. Her artistry has allowed her to grace a plethora of stages and platforms. Sunni is a 2020 John O'Neal Cultural Arts Fellow, and she currently serves as a Resident Artist for both the City of New Orleans' Claiborne Corridor Cultural Initiative and Junebug Productions. She is also co-founder of environmental arts and public health organization, Breath is Lyfe.



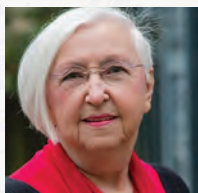
Frank Perez serves as President of the LGBT+ Archives Project of Louisiana. He

is the author of two books: *In Exile: The History and Lore Surrounding New Orleans Gay Culture and Its Oldest Gay Bar* (with Jeffrey Palmquist) and *Treasures of the Vieux Carré: Ten Self-Guided Walking Tours of the French Quarter*, and is the co-editor of the anthology, *My Gay New Orleans: 28 Personal Reminiscences on LGBT+ Life in New Orleans*. He also writes a column on gay New Orleans history for *Ambush Magazine*.



Chuck Perkins is an American spoken word poet, orator, narrator, and activist

who infuses the rhythms and vernacular from the Crescent City into his musical spoken word pieces. The New Orleans *Times-Picayune* says that he "recites poetry like a prize fighter...always going for a knock out." He has performed internationally at London's prestigious South Bank Centre with Amiri Baraka, as well as in Paris, Toulouse, Manchester, Liverpool, Cambridge, and Amsterdam.



Miki Pfeffer transcribes letters of writer Grace King for pleasure and publication.

Her current edition, *A New Orleans Author in Mark Twain's Court: Letters from Grace King's New England Sojourns*, grew out of doctoral research for her award-winning book, *Southern Ladies and Suffragists*. Recently, she wrote an afterword for a collection of critical essays on King's stories and urged the rejuvenated volume of selected works. A native of New Orleans, Miki lives serenely on Bayou Lafourche.



Felice Picano is the author of *The Lure, Like People in History* (Ferro-Grumley

Award for Best Gay Novel, 1966), *Nights at Rizzoli* (Dirk Vanden Award for Best Autobiography/Memoir, 2015), and numerous other short stories, essays, and poems. He has also had four of his plays produced. His latest book is *Justify My Sins: A Hollywood Novel in Three Acts*. Picano heads three writing workshops and lectures internationally on screenwriting and Vintage Hollywood. He has won a Violet Quill Life Achievement Award from the Tennessee Williams Festival, a Lifetime Achievement/Pioneer Award from Lambda Literary Foundation, and a Rainbow Key Achievement Award from the City of West Hollywood, where he lives.



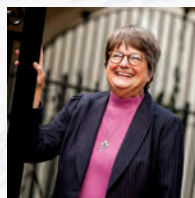
Alisa Plant is the director of LSU Press and publisher of *The Southern Review*. She

holds a B.A. in English from the University of Kansas and a Ph.D. in history from Yale University. She began freelancing for LSU Press in 1998 and joined the staff as a full-time acquisitions editor in 2005. In 2015, she was named editor-in-chief at the University of Nebraska Press, where she worked until returning to LSU Press as director in 2019.



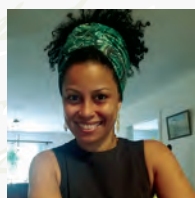
John Pope, a New Orleans reporter since 1973, was a member of *The Times-Picayune's*

team that won two Pulitzer Prizes for coverage of Hurricane Katrina and its aftermath. He graduated from the University of Texas. A contributing writer to *The Times-Picayune* | *The New Orleans Advocate*, Pope is the author of an anthology of obituaries and funeral stories titled *Getting Off at Elysian Fields*, and is a co-author of *Building on the Past: Saving Historic New Orleans*.



Sister Helen Prejean is known for her tireless work against the death penalty. After serving

as spiritual advisor to several death row inmates, she wrote the book *Dead Man Walking: An Eyewitness Account of the Death Penalty in the United States*, igniting a national debate on capital punishment and inspiring an Academy Award-winning movie, a play, and an opera. Sister Helen continues her work educating the public, campaigning against the death penalty, counseling individual death row prisoners, and working with murder victims' family members. Her most recent book is *River of Fire: My Spiritual Journey*, published in 2019.



Carmen Luz Cosme Puntiel, Ph.D., is an Assistant Professor in the Dept.

of Languages at Xavier University. Her Ph.D. is in Hispanic Literature and Linguistics from the University of Massachusetts Amherst. She is a co-editor of *Demando mi libertad: Mujeres negras y sus estrategias de resistencia en la Nueva Granada, Venezuela y Cuba, 1700-1800*. Her academic interests include Afro-Latin American and Caribbean Literature, the African Diaspora, Afro-Portuguese studies, Gender studies, translation/transcription of colonial archives, and Latin America's historiography.



Lori Rader-Day is the Edgar Award-nominated and Mary Higgins Clark Award-

winning author of *Under a Dark Sky*, *The Day I Died*, *Little Pretty Things*, and *The Black Hour*. She co-chairs the mystery conference Murder and Mayhem in Chicago and serves as the national president of Sisters in Crime. Her new book is *The Lucky One*, set in a true-crime amateur online sleuth community.



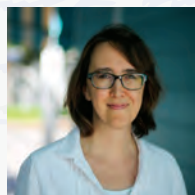
Katy Reckdahl is a New Orleans-based reporter, a frequent contributor

to the *New Orleans Advocate* | *Times-Picayune* and WDSU television, and a frequent writer for the *New York Times* and The Weather Channel. She has won dozens of first-place awards from the New Orleans Press Club and several national awards, including a James Aronson Award and a Casey Medal for Meritorious Journalism. Most recently, she received two Emmys for her work on news documentaries for WDSU.



Gary Richards is Professor of English and Chair of the Department of English,

Linguistics, and Communication at the University of Mary Washington. He is the author of *Lovers and Beloveds: Sexual Otherness in Southern Fiction, 1936-1961* as well as numerous essays on southern literature and culture including, most recently, "Tennessee Williams and the Burden of Southern Sexuality Studies" and "Queering Welter's Male Bodies in the Undergraduate Classroom."



Anne Boyd Rioux is the author or editor of six books about American women

writers, including the Indie bestseller *Meg, Jo, Beth, Amy: The Story of Little Women and Why It Still Matters*, and one of the *Chicago Tribune's*

ten best books of 2016, *Constance Fenimore Woolson: Portrait of a Lady Novelist*. She is a professor of English in New Orleans and the recipient of two National Endowment for the Humanities fellowships, one for public scholarship. Her work has been featured in the *New York Times*, *The New Yorker*, and elsewhere.



Shearon Roberts, Ph.D., is an assistant professor of Mass Communication and African

American and Diaspora Studies at Xavier University of Louisiana. She teaches courses in converged media and researches media discourse of communities of color. She is co-author of *Oil and Water: Media Lessons from Hurricane Katrina and the Deepwater Horizon Disaster* (2014, University Press of Mississippi) and co-editor of HBO's *Treme and Post-Katrina Catharsis: The Mediated Rebirth of New Orleans* (2017, Lexington Books).



Nathan J. Robinson is a leading voice of millennial left politics. He is the editor

of *Current Affairs*, a print magazine of political and cultural analysis. His work has appeared in *The New York Times*, *The Washington Post*, *The Guardian*, *The New Republic*, *The Nation*, and elsewhere. A graduate of Yale Law School, he is a Ph.D. student in Sociology and Social Policy at Harvard University, where his work focuses on the U.S. criminal justice system. Robinson is the author of *Why You Should Be a Socialist*.



Leigh Camacho Rourks, a Cuban-American author who lives and

works in Central Florida, is an Assistant Professor of English and Humanities at Beacon College. Her short story collection, *Moon Trees and Other Orphans*, is forthcoming in October 2019. She is the recipient of the St. Lawrence Book Award, the Glenna Luschei Prairie Schooner Award, and the Robert Watson Literary Review Prize. Her work has appeared in a number of journals,

including *Kenyon Review*, *Prairie Schooner*, *RHINO*, *TriQuarterly*, *December Magazine*, and *Greensboro Review*.



Randy P. Roussel is a practicing attorney and a life-long resident of the coastal lands

between New Orleans and Baton Rouge. His short stories are inspired by the history of these coastal lands, and his photography captures their vibrant landscapes. His books of photography and essays include *Views Along the Meander*, *Meandering Through the Red Stick Region*, *Heavy Air & Sweet Cane*, and *Alluvial*.



Maurice Carlos Ruffin has been a recipient of an *Iowa Review* Award in fiction and

a winner of the William Faulkner–William Wisdom Creative Writing Competition for Novel-in-Progress. His work has appeared in *Virginia Quarterly Review*, *AGNI*, *The Kenyon Review*, *The Massachusetts Review*, and *Unfathomable City: A New Orleans Atlas*. A native of New Orleans, Ruffin is a graduate of the University of New Orleans Creative Writing Workshop and a member of the Peauxdunque Writers Alliance.



Annette Saddik, Ph.D., is Professor of English and Theatre at the City

University of New York. She has published four books, most recently *Tennessee Williams and the Theatre of Excess: The Strange, The Crazy, The Queer* (Cambridge University Press, 2015), and *Tennessee Williams: The Traveling Companion and Other Plays* (New Directions, 2008). She sits on the board of several academic journals and serves as a judge for the Lucille Lortel Theater Awards in New York.



Tom Sancton is a New Orleans native and former Paris bureau chief for *TIME*

magazine. He is the author of *Song For My Fathers* (2006), an acclaimed memoir of his jazz apprenticeship in 1960's New Orleans. His most recent book, *The Bettencourt Affair* (2017), recounts the real-life story of the world's richest woman, L'Oréal heiress Liliane Bettencourt, and the younger man she showered with hundreds of millions until her jealous daughter took him to court for elder abuse. The story was recently optioned as a TV mini-series.



Kerstin Schmidt is Professor of English and Chair of American

Studies at the Catholic University of Eichstaett-Ingolstadt/Germany. In over 10 monographs/edited volumes and over 30 essays, she has written on 19th and 20th-century American literature and culture, focusing on American drama and theater, race and diaspora studies, theories of space/place as well as on media theory and documentary photography. Together with colleagues from France and the US, she is the editor of the interdisciplinary review journal *Kritikon Litterarum*.



Henry I. Schvey is a professor of drama and comparative literature at Washington

University in St. Louis. He is a director, playwright, and memoirist, as well as a scholar of modern drama. Schvey has published extensively on Williams, including essays on D.H. Lawrence and Tennessee Williams (*Tennessee Williams Annual Review*, 2018), and on Tennessee Williams in New Orleans, in *New Orleans: The Literary History*. His new book on Tennessee Williams and his relationship to St. Louis will appear later in 2020.



Janet Shea has played Blanche, Princess, Amanda, Flo Goforth, and Mrs.

Holly in Williams' plays, and has also performed in "Thank You Kind Spirit" and "The Lady of Larkspur Lotion" at Moscow University.

She has received multiple Big Easy Awards, Storer Boone Awards, and Marquee Awards, including two Lifetime Achievement Awards. Shea performs in classical dramas, comedies, and musicals, and has enjoyed a long, rewarding teaching career. Her students have made her proud with their successful pursuits in the arts. She is also a busy dialect coach and is currently teaching Voice and Movement at Loyola University.



Raynel Shepard has deep family roots in New Orleans. Her repertoire includes jazz

standards, show tunes, and cabaret. She divides her time between New Orleans and Boston. In New Orleans, she has appeared at Little Gem Saloon, Cafe Istanbul, Hammond Cultural Arts Center, Old Point Bar, and Buffa's Backroom. When in Boston, she performs at Ryles, Third Life Studio, The Lilypad, Chianti, and New School. She is thrilled to bring her Fran Landesman tribute to the Festival this year.



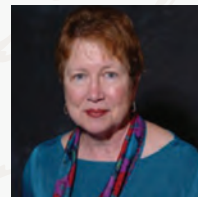
John Warner Smith is the current Louisiana State Poet Laureate. Smith has

published four collections of poetry: *Muhammad's Mountain*, *Spirits of the Gods*, *Soul Be A Witness*, and *A Mandala of Hands*. His fifth collection, *Our Shut Eyes*, is forthcoming in 2020. Smith was the winner of the 2019 Linda Hodge Bromberg Literary Award. A Cave Canem Fellow, he earned his MFA at the University of New Orleans. He lives in Baton Rouge.



Katy Simpson Smith was born and raised in Jackson, Mississippi.

She is the author of *We Have Raised All of You: Motherhood in the South, 1750-1835*, and the novels *The Story of Land and Sea* and *Free Men*. Her novel *The Everlasting* will be published in March 2020. She currently serves as the Eudora Welty Chair for Southern Literature at Millsaps College.



Susan Fitch Spillman, Ph.D., is a graduate of Tulane University and is the

William Arceneaux Endowed Professor of French at Xavier University of Louisiana. She is the author of *Vive la Louisiane, un état pas comme tous les autres*, and *Compère Lapin, Voyageur*, a three-act play published by the *Editions Tintamarre*. She received a National Endowment for the Humanities grant to develop a multimedia community study, *The Garifuna: A Vibrant Culture Speaks*, documenting an Afro-Hispanic cultural group in New Orleans.



Erica Spindler is the New York Times and International Chart bestselling

author of 35 novels and three eNovellas. Known across the globe as "The Master of Addictive Suspense" and "Queen of the romantic thriller," she has won a Kiss of Death award, the Daphne du Maurier award of excellence, and is a four-time Rita Award finalist. Erica lives just outside of New Orleans with her husband and the constant companionship of Molly, the dynamic doodle. Her latest novel is *The Look-Alike*, and she is putting the finishing touches on her next novel, tentatively titled *The Good Daughter*.



Sheryl St. Germain has published six poetry books, three essay collections, and co-edited

two anthologies. Her latest memoir, *Fifty Miles*, appeared in January 2020 with Etruscan Press. Originally from New Orleans, she lives in Pittsburgh where she is co-founder of the Words Without Walls Program. In addition to numerous awards for her work, she was the recipient of the 2018 Louisiana Writer Award, presented annually by the Louisiana Center for the Book.



Jacob Storms received the United Solo Award for his original one-man

play, *Tennessee Rising: The Dawn of Tennessee Williams*. He is best known for his recurring role (Serge) on Steven Soderbergh's Amazon Original Series, *Red Oaks*. Since debuting *Tennessee Rising* at The United Solo Festival in New York, Storms has gone on to perform at The St. Louis Williams Festival, NY Live Arts, and Club Cumming. This is his New Orleans debut!



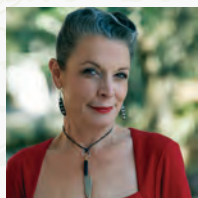
David Swatling was a 2015 Lambda Literary Award finalist for his debut

novel *Calvin's Head*. He grew up in New York, studied theatre, and escaped to Amsterdam in 1985. He produced arts and culture documentaries for Radio Netherlands and is a three-time winner of the NLGJA Excellence in Journalism Award, among other international honors. His short story *Poets' Walk* appeared in the UK magazine *Chase the Moon*. He has contributed to online publications such as *Chelsea Station* and *The Big Thrill*.



Colm Tóibín is an Irish novelist, short story writer, essayist, playwright, journalist,

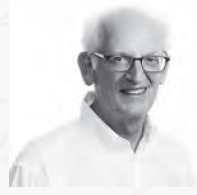
critic, and poet. He is currently the Irene and Sidney B. Silverman Professor of the Humanities at Columbia University. Tóibín's novels include *The South*, *The Heather Blazing*, *The Story of the Night*, and *The Blackwater Lightship* (1999). His fifth novel, *The Master*, is a fictional account of author Henry James. Tóibín is also the author of two non-fiction books and two short story collections, one of which was shortlisted for the 2011 Frank O'Connor International Short Story Award.



Poppy Tooker, food personality, teacher, and author, champions the food ways

of New Orleans and the world in her award winning, NPR-affiliated radio show, *Louisiana Eats!* Poppy provides restaurant and food news weekly on the PBS show, *Steppin' Out* on WYES TV. Recognized internationally and

across the U.S. as one of New Orleans' food ambassadors, her writing reflects a deep knowledge of Louisiana's food and its people. Tooker's sixth book is *Drag Queen Brunch*.



Peter Trapolin, a native New Orleanian, is the founding principal of Trapolin-Peer

Architects and has dedicated nearly four decades of professional experience to the city he calls home. Peter's dedication to historic preservation and detailing has saved many local historic buildings and helped repair the urban fabric in and around New Orleans' historic districts. Today, he continues to be renowned for both innovative and contextual new buildings as well as environmentally sensitive yet appropriate renovations and restorations.



John Whittier Treat is a Seattle writer whose novel, *The Rise and Fall of the*

Yellow House, was a finalist for 2016 Lambda Literary Foundation award for best gay male fiction. His short story "The Pond" won the Christopher Hewitt Prize in 2018, and his 2019 short story "Good Humor" has been nominated for a Pushcart Prize. His novel about a stutterer who saves the world, *First Consonants*, is forthcoming. Treat's 1991 *Great Mirrors Shattered: Homosexuality, Orientalism, and Japan* will be discussed in the Taboo Busting panel discussion.



Chris Turner-Neal, managing editor of *64 Parishes*, holds a BA in history

from Tulane University and an MA in history from Villanova University. He has previously worked as a freelance writer and editor, writing tutor, history teacher, and as Arts and Entertainment Editor for *Country Roads Magazine*.



Vinsantos is an Avante Queer Cabaret artist who works with

live music, storytelling, comedy, and visual arts to create a unique and intimate atmosphere with his audience. He is also the Head Mister-ess of the New Orleans Drag Workshop, a ten-week boot camp for aspiring Drag artists and an OOAK art doll maker. Find out what makes him tick at galerieinsantos.com.



Edmund White is a novelist, memoirist, and essayist whose books include *The*

Joy of Gay Sex, *A Boy's Own Story*, *The Beautiful Room Is Empty*, and *The Farewell Symphony*, as well as his biography of Jean Genet. The American/Russian novelist Vladimir Nabokov called his debut novel, *Forgetting Elena*, "a marvelous book." From 1980 to 1981, White was a member of a gay writers' group, The Violet Quill, which included Andrew Holleran and Felice Picano. White also published critically acclaimed memoirs, including *Our Paris: Sketches from Memory*, *My Lives*, *Inside a Pearl: My Years in Paris*, and *The Unpunished Vice: A Life of Reading*.



Basil Wiese is a Ph.D. student and research assistant at the professorship

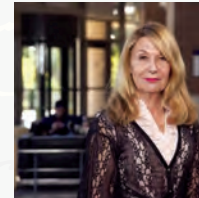
for process-oriented sociology at the Catholic University of Eichstätt-Ingolstadt, Germany. His focus lies in ethnomethodology, practice theory, and qualitative methods. Recent publications include a co-edited volume on moods and atmospheres and a review of the concept of affective practice. His current research interests deal with the relationship between situation and affect, deconstructions of presence in contemporary practices, and performativity of the imaginary.



Clive Wilson, originally from England, arrived in New Orleans in 1964 and

studied trumpet with legends like Kid Howard, DeDe Pierce, Punch Miller, and Alvin Alcorn, and was a member of the Young Tuxedo Brass Band and Papa French's orchestra.

Wilson formed the Original Camellia Jazz Band in 1979 and toured and recorded with clarinetist Herb Hall and pianist Jeanette Kimball. In 2001, he formed the New Orleans Serenaders with pianist Butch Thompson to celebrate the centennial of Louis Armstrong's birth. Following their success at the New Orleans Jazz & Heritage Festival, this band has toured Britain and played jazz festivals in Switzerland.



Carolyn Nur Wistrand's plays include *Magdalena's Crossing* (2019 Jane Chambers

Honoree); *She Danced with A Red Fish* (Inkslinger National Award); *Rising* (Mario Fratti-Fred Newman Political Playwriting); *When Marie Took the Power* (Savannah Black Heritage Festival); *Tahirih* (International Baha'i Youth Conference). Her plays are published with Brooklyn Publishers, Africa World Press, One Act Play Depot, and Coachella Review. Carolyn is a member of the Dramatists Guild and an Assistant Professor of English at Dillard University.



Rita Woods is a family doctor and the director of a wellness center. When she's

not busy working or writing, Dr. Woods spends time with her family or at the Homer Glen library where she serves on the Board of Trustees. *Remembrance* is her debut novel.



Michael Zapata is the author of *The Lost Book of Adana Moreau*. He is a founding

editor of the award-winning *MAKE* Literary Magazine. He is the recipient of an Illinois Arts Council Award for Fiction and the City of Chicago DCASE Individual Artist Program award. As an educator, he taught English in high schools servicing drop out students. He has lived in New Orleans, Italy, and Ecuador. He currently lives in Chicago with his family.

2020 Writing Contest Winners

ONE-ACT PLAY

Sponsored by *The Favrot-Van Horn Fund*
Erin Considine, Lawrenceville, GA
for the play "Twenty-Two"

FICTION

Dana R. Glass, Portland, ME
for the story "I'm Only Here to Keep You Warm"

VERY SHORT FICTION

Kristian O'Hare, San Francisco, CA
for the story "Hard Swallow"

POETRY

Sponsored by *Scovern Law*
Connor Yeck, Cincinnati, OH
for the poems "B-Reel"

BE IN THAT NUMBER! TAKE OUR SURVEY!

We're depending on your help with a BRIEF economic impact survey at the Festival this year. Volunteers will be at most venues throughout the Festival and will ask patrons to take the quick survey. The results will provide us with data we can use to increase our support from grants, foundations, and corporations.

Our target is 650 patrons, so please plan to be in that number and take the survey!

The survey will be processed and analyzed by the University of New Orleans Hospitality Research Center.

Many thanks to the Greater New Orleans Foundation Mission Acceleration Grants Fund for their support of this project.

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ONE-ACT PLAY

Play should run no more than one hour and must not have been professionally produced, published, or performed

Deadline: October 1, 2020

Grand Prize

- \$1,500

- Professional Staged Reading at the Festival
- VIP All-Access Festival Pass (\$600 value)
- Publication in *Bayou Magazine*

FICTION

One original, unpublished short story, written in English, up to 7,000 words

Deadline: October 1, 2020

Grand Prize

- \$1,500

- Airfare (up to \$500) and 3 nights hotel to attend the Festival in New Orleans
- VIP All-Access Festival Pass (\$600 value)
- Public reading at the next Festival
- Publication in *Louisiana Literature*

VERY SHORT FICTION

One original short story, written in English, up to 1,000 words

Deadline: October 15, 2020

Grand Prize

- \$500

- VIP All-Access Festival Pass (\$600 value)
- Public reading at the Festival
- Publication in *New Orleans Review* Web Features

POETRY

2-4 original, unpublished poems of any style or theme, written in English, with a combined length of up to 400 lines

Deadline: October 15, 2020

Grand Prize

- \$1,000

- VIP All-Access Pass (\$600 value) for the Festival
- Publication in *Antenna::Signals* magazine
- Public reading at the Festival



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“One morning . . . someone arrived at the door and asked to see me. It was a round-faced, sunburned young man in a big floppy sombrero and a striped sailor sweater, who said his name was Tennessee Williams, that he was a playwright . . .”

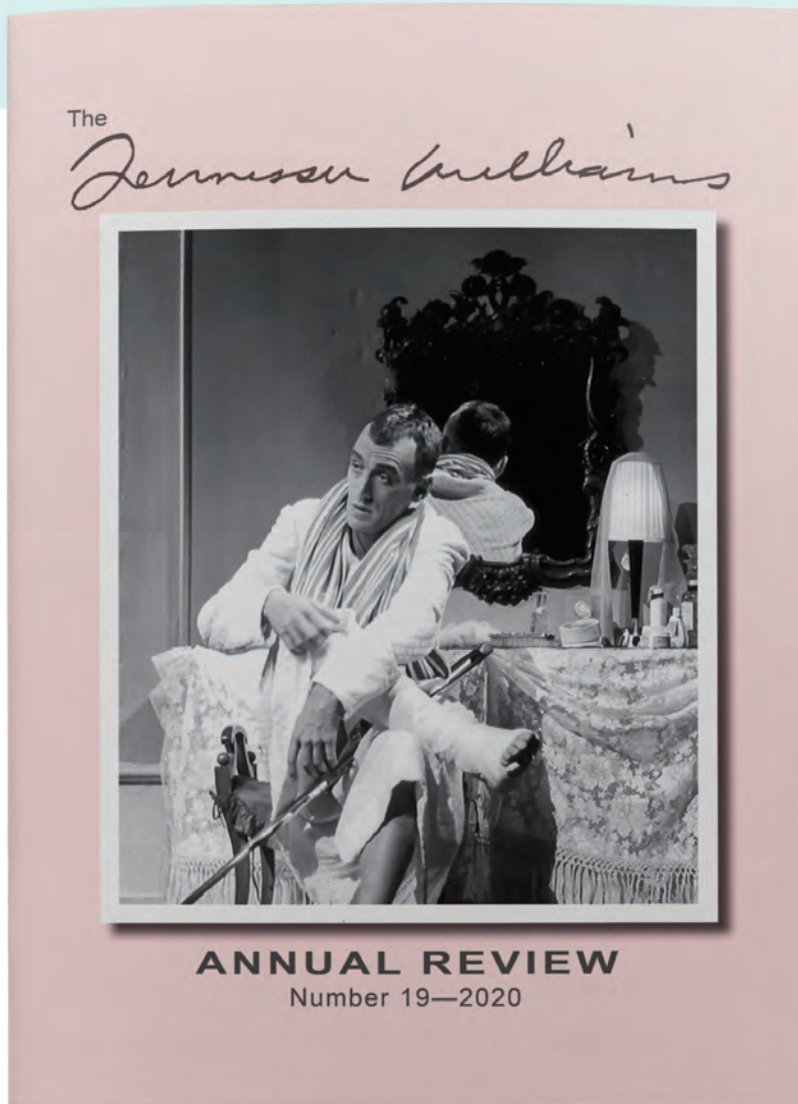
—Paul Bowles, author and composer

Tennessee Williams Annual Review

Volume 19 (2020)
edited by R. Barton Palmer

The 2020 issue of the *Tennessee Williams Annual Review* unearths archival treasures: a reconstruction of Paul Bowles’s long-lost musical soundscape for *Sweet Bird of Youth*; rare images of Ingmar Bergman’s 1950s staging of *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof*; and moving fan letters written to Williams during his lifetime. Making its print debut is Williams’s tense short story “*Why Did Desdemona Love the Moor?*,” previously accessible only in archived fragments.

Founded in 1998, the *Tennessee Williams Annual Review* remains the only regularly published journal devoted to Williams’s works, influence, and cultural context. Many issues showcase a previously unpublished work by Williams. Submission guidelines and back issues are available at tennesseewilliamsstudies.org.



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Cover image: Max von Sydow in *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof*; photo by Alice Strid;
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