

# WATCHING GOD AND READING HURSTON

AN INTERNATIONAL INTERDISCIPLINARY ACADEMIC CONFERENCE

SEPTEMBER 19 – 22, 2012

CLEVELAND STATE UNIVERSITY, STUDENT CENTER (SC)\*

EUCLID AVENUE AT EAST 22<sup>ND</sup> STREET

*\*Unless otherwise noted.*

## PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

*Revised September 5, 2012 – Program Subject to Change*

For updates, please visit <http://engagedscholarship.csuohio.edu/hurston/>.

### Tuesday, September 18<sup>th</sup>

12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.

*\*Special Pre-Conference Event: Live Interview with Dr. Cheryl A. Wall  
“Around Noon” with Dee Perry, 90.3 FM WCPN ideastream®*

### Wednesday, September 19<sup>th</sup>

8:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

**On-Site Registration; Information Fair, SC Ballroom A**

8:45 a.m.

**Continental Breakfast, SC Ballroom A**

9:45 a.m. - 10:50 a.m.

**Conference Papers, SC 313**

“Wonderfully and Fearfully Made: Sacred/Secular Portraits of the Preacher in Zora Neale Hurston’s *Jonah’s Gourd Vine* and King Vidor’s *Hallelujah*”

Dr. Leslie Wingard, Assistant Professor, College of Wooster

"Zora, Sigmund and Me: (Re)Reading Black American Modernism"

Dr. Adrienne Gosselin, Associate Professor, Cleveland State University

11:00 a.m. - 12:05 p.m.

**Information Fair and Book-Signing, SC Ballroom A**

12:15 p.m. - 1:20 p.m.

**Public Keynote Lecture, SC Ballroom D**

“‘Spirit Work’ in *Their Eyes Were Watching God*”

Dr. Cheryl A. Wall, Rutgers University

The Board of Governors Zora Neale Hurston Professor of English

1:30 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.

**Luncheon and Networking, SC – Viking Marketplace**

### EXCURSION\*

2:40 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Travel by Tour Bus to Cleveland Museum of Art (CMA)

3:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.

CMA Gallery Tour Highlighting Works by African Americans Artists

5:00 p.m. - 6:24 p.m.

Documentary Video: “Zora Neale Hurston: Jump at the Sun” (84 minutes)

6:30 p.m. - 6:40 p.m.

Board Bus for Travel to Case Western Reserve University (CWRU)

6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

Public Reception, Book-Signing, and Book Talk Featuring Dr. Cheryl A. Wall  
CWRU, Wolstein Research Building, 2103 Cornell Road

Dr. Marilyn Mobley, Host

Vice President for Inclusion, Diversity & Equal Opportunity

8:40 p.m.—9:00 p.m.

Return Trip to CSU

## Thursday, September 20<sup>th</sup>

8:30 a.m.—2:00 p.m.

**Registration Continues; Information Fair, *SC Ballroom A***

8:45 a.m.

**Continental Breakfast, *SC Ballroom A***

9:00 a.m.— 9:55 a.m.

**Documentary Film: “A Heart with Room for Every Joy,” *SC Ballroom C***

10:00 a.m. ---11:00 a.m.

**Conference Papers, *SC 315***

“Zora Neale Hurston and Caribbean-U.S. Crosscurrents in Literature and Culture”

Dr. Jeff Karem, Professor, Cleveland State University

"Hoodoo in Zora Neale Hurston's Fiction and Folklore."

Dr. Pearlie Mae Peters, Professor, Rider University

11:00 a.m.—12: 05 p.m.

**Information Fair and Book-Signing, *SC Ballroom A***

12:15 p.m. — 1:45 p.m.

**Conference Papers, *SC 313***

“Voodoo and the Black Vernacular as Weapons of Resistance: Liberation Strategies in *Their Eyes Were Watching God*”

Dr. Babacar M’Baye, Associate Professor, Kent State University

“Love and Marriage in *Their Eyes Were Watching God* and *Tell My Horse*”

Dr. Jennifer Freeman Marshall, Assistant Professor, Purdue University

1:45 p.m. — 2:35 p.m.

**Luncheon and Networking, *SC - Viking Marketplace***

2:45 p.m. — 3:45 p.m.

**Special Faculty Lecture, *SC 313***

“Zora Neale Hurston and African American Religion in New Orleans”

Dr. Kathy Curnow, Associate Professor, Cleveland State University

**Break**

6:00 p.m.—8:00 p.m.

**Public Reception and Performing Arts, *Trinity Cathedral \****

“In the Tradition of Zora Neale Hurston: African American Folktales”  
Presented by the Cleveland Association of Black Storytellers

Anita Peeples, Pianist

Cleveland State University, Graduate Student

Clarence Tate, Pianist

Cleveland State University Undergraduate Student

## Friday, September 21<sup>st</sup>

8:30 a.m.—2:00 p.m.

**Registration Continues; Information Fair, *SC Ballroom A***

8:45 a.m.

**Continental Breakfast, *SC Ballroom A***

9:45 a.m.—10: 50 a.m.

**Conference Papers, *SC 313***

“Zora Neale Hurston and Afro-Caribbean Religion: Scholarly Curiosity or Spiritual Identity?”

Dr. Betty L. Hart, Professor, University of Southern Indiana

Dr. Cheryl Anne Nelson, Assistant Professor, Community College of Philadelphia

**Friday, September 21<sup>st</sup> (Continued)**

11 a.m. – 12:05 p.m.

**Conference Paper, SC 315**

“From Zora Neale to Missionary Mary: Aesthetics of Faith and Freedom in Black Folk Art Folklore, and Literature”

Dr. Ada McKenzie, Assistant Professor, College of the Bahamas

12:15 p.m. – 1:20 p.m.

**Conference Paper, SC 313**

“Zora Neale Hurston and Ishmael Reed: Syncretizing Moses with ‘Sympathetic’ Rhetoric”

Dr. Gillian Johns, Associate Professor, Oberlin College

1:30 p.m.—2:35 p.m.

**Luncheon and Networking, SC – Viking Marketplace**

2:45 p.m. –4:00 p.m.

**Screening of Documentary Film: “Zora Is My Name,” SC Ballroom C**

**Break**

6:00 p.m.—9:00 p.m.

**Reception, Art Exhibit, and Performing Arts, MU G15 (large pyramid)**

Special Guests: Hue People Vocal Ensemble and

The Cleveland Association of Black Storytellers

Nina Kidd, pianist

**Saturday, September 22<sup>nd</sup>**

11:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

**A Choral Music Workshop**

Free Admission, Advance Registration Required

“The Music of the African American Church”

BYOH! (Bring Your Own Hymnal!)

Ms. Beverly J. Brown, Program Director, Rainey Institute

**\*Martin Luther King, Jr. Branch, Cleveland Public Library**

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**POST-CONFERENCE PROGRAM**

**Saturday, September 29<sup>th</sup>**

6:00 p.m. - 8 p.m.

**The Spiritual Gifts Choir in Concert at Mount Zion of Oakwood Village**

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**RELATED COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES**

- Hurston Book Displays at Cleveland Public Library Branches
- Hurston Book Discussions and Storytelling at Community Venues
- Harvest Time 2012 Choral Music Workshop Sessions, September 10, 17, and 24, Trinity Cathedral, 5:30 p.m.
- Book Discussion, Warrensville Heights Branch of the Cuyahoga County Public Library on September 29<sup>th</sup>, Noon
- Read-In and Teach-In Activities for the Global Community
- Teacher Workshop in October 2012, sponsored by ideastream® and John Carroll University