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# FAULKNER AND MYSTERY



Old Shipp Place, Lafayette County, Mississippi, ca. 1850  
Martin J. Dain Collection, Southern Media Archive,  
Special Collections, University of Mississippi Libraries

**The University of Mississippi  
Faulkner & Yoknapatawpha Conference  
Oxford, Mississippi, July 19–23, 2009**

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# Program

## SUNDAY, JULY 19

- 10:00 REGISTRATION  
Yerby Conference Center
- 1:00 RECEPTION FOR EXHIBITION  
Original Stone Lithographs and Etchings  
by Boyd Saunders of Faulkner's "The Bear"  
and *The Sound and the Fury*  
University Museum
- 1:00 RECEPTION FOR EXHIBITION  
*Mississippi Delta Photographs and Other  
Recent Work*  
Maude Schuyler Clay  
Gammill Gallery  
Barnard Observatory
- 2:30 FAULKNER'S PLOTS  
Michael Gorra  
Nutt Auditorium
- 4:00 THE BLACKNESS OF *ABSALOM, ABSALOM!*  
Donald M. Kartiganer  
Nutt Auditorium
- 5:30 Buffet Supper  
Howorth Home, 910 Old Taylor Road
- 7:30 WELCOME  
Richard Howorth, Owner of Square Books  
Ivo Kamps, Chairman, Department of  
English
- WILLIAM FAULKNER SOCIETY FELLOWS  
Donald M. Kartiganer
- PRESENTATION OF EUDORA WELTY  
AWARDS IN CREATIVE WRITING  
Ted Ownby
- THE STORY OF TEMPLE DRAKE*  
A Film of Faulkner's *Sanctuary*  
Nutt Auditorium

## MONDAY JULY 20

- 8:30 TEACHING FAULKNER I  
SOME MYSTERIES OF FAULKNER'S  
SHORT STORIES  
James B. Carothers and Theresa M. Towner  
Nutt Auditorium
- 10:30 "NICE BELIEVING": MYSTERIES AND  
MYSTERY IN *LIGHT IN AUGUST*  
Sean McCann  
Nutt Auditorium
- 12:00 COLLECTING FAULKNER  
Seth Berner  
Music Building Room 153  
(Box Lunch Available)
- 1:30 "AND YOU ARE —?": FAULKNER'S  
MYSTERIES OF RACE AND IDENTITY  
Philip Weinstein  
Nutt Auditorium
- 3:00 PANEL I  
Nutt Auditorium
- BLOWING "SMOKE": THE HYPNOTIC  
VOICE IN WILLIAM FAULKNER  
Kelley Hayden

"THE GRAY-HEADED BACHELOR": GAVIN  
STEVENS AND THE MYSTERY OF THE  
MATRIMONIAL IMPERATIVE  
Daniel Pecchenino

SHADOWS AND MYSTERIES: VISION AND  
DETECTION IN *LIGHT IN AUGUST*  
Randall S. Wilhelm

8:00 WRITING "CRIME" FICTION  
Ace Atkins  
Jere Hoar  
Daniel Woodrell  
Nutt Auditorium

10:00 FAULKNER ON THE FRINGE  
Open Mike at Southside Gallery  
Colby Kullman, Vickie M. Cook,  
and Wil Cook, hosts

## TUESDAY, JULY 21

- 8:30 TEACHING FAULKNER II  
  
AS I LAY MISSING: MYSTERIOUS  
DISAPPEARANCES FROM THE TEXTS  
Charles A. Peek and Terrell L. Tebbetts  
Nutt Auditorium
- 10:30 "THE LEG," "BEYOND," "MISTRAL":  
UNSOLVED, UNSOLVABLE  
Noel Polk  
Nutt Auditorium
- 1:30 READING "RED LEAVES"  
Richard Godden  
Nutt Auditorium
- 3:00 PANEL II  
Nutt Auditorium
- CELLS, CATACOMBS, AND COFFINS:  
CHARTING THE DESTINY OF RACE  
RELATIONS IN *INTRUDER IN THE DUST*  
Margaret Rayburn Kramar

CRITICAL INTRUDERS: NEGOTIATING  
RACE, CRIME, AND THE LAW IN  
*INTRUDER IN THE DUST*  
Esther Sanchez-Pardo

"TO SURVIVE WHAT LOOKED OUT":  
BODILY ENCOUNTERS AND THE  
FORENSIC TRAIL IN "THE BEAR"  
AND *INTRUDER IN THE DUST*  
Rachel Kathleen Watson

5:00 CLARK/ KULLMAN PARTY  
604 Tyler Place

FREE EVENING

## WEDNESDAY, JULY 22

- 9:00 REIMAGINING THE FEMME FATALE:  
*REQUIEM FOR A NUN* AND THE LESSONS  
OF FILM NOIR  
Susan V. Donaldson  
Nutt Auditorium
- 10:30 PANEL III  
Nutt Auditorium

READING BETWEEN THE LINES:  
FAULKNER'S "OTHER" DETECTIVE  
STORIES  
John Padgett

A MYSTERIOUS HEART: "PASSING" AND  
THE NARRATIVE ENIGMA IN *LIGHT IN  
AUGUST* AND *ABSALOM, ABSALOM!*  
Marta Puxan

READING FOR THE SHADOWS:  
REPETITION AND THE UNCANNY IN  
*ABSALOM, ABSALOM!* AND *GO DOWN,  
MOSES*  
Rachel Walsh

1:30 THE MYSTERIOUS CASE OF THE COLD  
WAR IMAGINARY: FAULKNER'S *INTRUDER  
IN THE DUST* AND PAUL BOWLES'S  
*THE SHELTERING SKY*  
Hosam Aboul-Ela  
Nutt Auditorium

3:00 PANEL IV  
Nutt Auditorium

OPEN SPACES, OPEN SECRETS:  
*SANCTUARY*'S MYSTERIOUS  
"SOMETHING"  
Lisa Hinrichsen

*UNVANQUISHED UNCERTAINTY*  
Sarah Mahurin Mutter

DRUNK AND DISORDERLY: ALCOHOL AND  
PROHIBITION IN *SANCTUARY*  
Conor Picken

5:00 WALK THROUGH BAILEY'S WOODS  
(Meet in University Museum Parking Lot)

5:30 PICNIC AT ROWAN OAK

8:00 TEACHING FAULKNER III  
James A. Carothers, Charles A. Peek,  
Terrell L. Tebbetts, Theresa M. Towner  
Nutt Auditorium

## THURSDAY, JULY 23

- 9:00 GUIDED TOURS OF NORTH MISSISSIPPI  
(Buses depart from Tad Smith Coliseum)
- OXFORD AND LAFAYETTE COUNTY I  
Donald M. Kartiganer (Overview)
- OXFORD AND LAFAYETTE COUNTY II  
Jack Mayfield (Architecture)
- HOLLY SPRINGS  
Ruth Kloha
- NEW ALBANY AND RIPLEY  
Tommy Covington and Jill N. Smith
- MEMPHIS  
(Including National Civil Rights Museum)  
Kendra Meyers
- MISSISSIPPI DELTA  
Thomas H. Freeland IV
- 5:00 CLOSING PARTY  
Off Square Books



# Program Participants

**Hosam Aboul-Ela** is associate professor of English at the University of Houston. He is the author of *Other South: Faulkner, Coloniality, and the Mariátegui Tradition* and a translation from the Arabic of the novel *Distant Train*, by Ibrahim Abdel Meguid.

**Ace Atkins** was nominated for a Pulitzer Prize in 2000 as crime reporter for the *Tampa Tribune*, taught journalism at the University of Mississippi, and now works full time writing crime noir fiction. He is the author of four Nick Travers novels—*Crossroad Blues*, *Leavin' Trunk Blues*, *Dark End of the Street*, and *Dirty South*—and the historical crime books *White Shadow*, *Wicked City*, and *Devil's Garden*. The Associated Press calls his prose, "at once muscular and lyrical. . . . If it weren't a commercial kiss of death in an age in which entertainment is valued over art, a reviewer would praise it as literature."

**Seth Berner** is a book dealer based in Portland, Maine. For many years he issued the world's largest, most comprehensive annual printed catalog of Faulkner materials for sale and now maintains a Faulkner catalog on the Internet.

**James B. Carothers**, professor of English at the University of Kansas, has published and lectured widely on Faulkner. He is the author of *William Faulkner's Short Stories* and coauthor, with Theresa M. Towner, of *Reading Faulkner: Collected Stories*, published by the University Press of Mississippi.

**Susan V. Donaldson** is the National Endowment for the Humanities Professor of English at the College of William and Mary. She is the author of *Competing Voices: The American Novel, 1865–1914*, coeditor of *Haunted Bodies: Gender and Southern Texts*, and the author of over fifty articles and book chapters, largely on writers of the South.

**Richard Godden** is professor of English Literature at the University of California, Irvine. He is the author of three critical studies, two of them on Faulkner: *Fictions of Labor: William Faulkner and the South's Long Revolution* and *William Faulkner: An Economy of Complex Words*.

**Michael Gorra** is Mary Augusta Jordan Professor of English at Smith College. He has published four books: *The English Novel at Mid-Century; After Empire: Scott, Naipaul, Rushdie; The Bells in Their Silence: Travels through Germany*; and *The Portable Conrad*. His Norton Critical Edition of Faulkner's *As I Lay Dying* will be published this fall.

**Kelley Hayden** is an instructor in Core Humanities and Journalism at the University of Nevada at Reno. In addition to his teaching, he has been a freelance writer and editor, press secretary, and promotional writer. He is the author and editor of various newsletters, the *ACT Annual Report*, and *College Digest*.

**Lisa Hinrichsen** is assistant professor of English at the University of Arkansas, Fayetteville. She has published articles on Bobbie Ann Mason, Robert Frost, and Faulkner, and is currently working on a book-length study, "The Fantasy of Mastery: Southern Literature 1930 to the Present."

**Jere Hoar** is an emeritus professor of journalism at the University of Mississippi and an attorney. He is the author of the story collection *Body Parts*, which was a notable book of the year selection by the *New York Times*, *Booklist*, and *Bookman News*, and the critically acclaimed novel *The Hit*. Hoar has written three television scripts for public broadcasting and published more than forty articles, six monographs, and dozens of short stories.

**Donald M. Kartiganer** is Howry Professor of Faulkner Studies Emeritus at the University of Mississippi and

director of the Faulkner and Yoknapatawpha Conference. In addition to his work on Faulkner, he has published articles and book chapters on a number of modernist writers and theorists, including Conrad, T. S. Eliot, W. C. Williams, Kafka, Hemingway, Welty, Philip Roth, Freud, Kierkegaard, and the critic Murray Krieger.

**Margaret Rayburn Kramer** is a doctoral candidate in English at the University of Kansas, with emphases on autobiography, disability studies theory, and early twentieth-century American literature. She has been a newspaper editor and reporter as well as a civil rights investigator for the Kansas Human Right Commission.

**Sean McCann** is professor of English and director of the Center for Faculty Career Development at Wesleyan University. He is the author of *A Pinnacle of Feeling: American Literature and Presidential Government* and *Gumshoe America: Hard-Boiled Crime Fiction and the Rise and Fall of New Deal Liberalism*.

**Sarah Mahurin Mutter** is a doctoral candidate in English at Yale University. Her dissertation in progress is entitled "Novels 'Furious with Movement': Migration and Betweenness in the American Twentieth Century." She was a John W. Hunt Faulkner Scholar at the 2008 Faulkner and Yoknapatawpha Conference.

**John Padgett** is assistant professor of English at Brevard College and the creator of William Faulkner on the Web and The Mississippi Writers' Page. He has contributed articles on Faulkner to *The Encyclopedia of American Literature* and *The William Faulkner Encyclopedia*, as well as various conference presentations on Faulkner, Flannery O'Connor, and Larry Brown.

**Daniel Pecchenino** is a doctoral candidate in English at the University of California, Santa Barbara. He has published poetry and book and music reviews and presented conference papers on Faulkner and Art Spiegelman's comic book *Maus*.

**Charles A. Peek** is professor of English at the University of Nebraska at Kearney and was Fulbright Senior Lecturer at Northeast Normal University in Changchun, China. He has served as coeditor of *A Companion to Faulkner Studies* and coeditor of *A William Faulkner Encyclopedia* (both with Robert Hamblin).

**Conor Picken** is a doctoral candidate in English at Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge. He has presented a conference paper on "The Temperance Movement in Faulkner's *Sanctuary*." He has an MA in English from the University of Alabama and a BA in English and religion from Centre College.

**Marta Puxan** is associate professor in the Department of Humanities at the Universitat Pompeu Fabra in Barcelona, Spain. She has published an article on Faulkner's *Absalom, Absalom!* and is currently writing a dissertation entitled "Racial Stereotypes and Narrative Voice in the Modern Novel: Joseph Conrad's *Lord Jim* and William Faulkner's *Absalom, Absalom!*"

**Noel Polk** is professor emeritus of English at Mississippi State University and editor of the *Mississippi Quarterly*. He is the author or editor of over a dozen volumes, including *Outside the Southern Myth*, *Children of the Dark House*, *Eudora Welty: A Bibliography of Her Work*, and *Faulkner and Welty and the Southern Literary Tradition*, and he is coauthor of *Reading Faulkner: The Sound and the Fury*.

**Esther Sanchez-Pardo** is associate professor of English at Universidad Complutense de Madrid. She is the author, editor, and translator of a dozen books, including *Cultures of the Death Drive: Melanie Klein and Modernist Melancholia* and a forthcoming translation and critical edition of the poet Mina Loy, *Antologia Poetica*.

**Terrell L. Tebbetts** is W. C. Brown Jr. Professor of English at Lyon College. He has published over thirty articles in such journals as *Philological Review*, *New Orleans Review*, *Victorian Poetry*, *College Literature*, and the *Faulkner Journal*, and in books published by the University Press of Mississippi, Greenwood Press, and the Modern Language Association.

**Theresa M. Towner** is professor of Literary Studies in the School of Arts and Humanities at the University of Texas at Dallas. She is the author of *Faulkner on the Color Line: The Later Novels*, coauthor, with James Carothers, of *Reading Faulkner: Collected Short Stories*, and author of *The Cambridge Introduction to William Faulkner*.

**Rachel Kathleen Watson** is a doctoral candidate in English at the University of Chicago. She has an article forthcoming on the film *To Kill a Mockingbird* and has presented conference papers on Rudolph Fisher, Richard Wright, and Mark Twain. She is currently working on a dissertation, "Capturing the Individual: Race and the Forensics of Character in American Literature: 1896–1954."

**Rachel Walsh** is a doctoral candidate in English at Stony Brook University, Stony Brook, with an area of focus on twentieth-century American literature and Anglophone literature and film. She has published articles on Valerie Martin and Henry James and has presented papers on J. M. Coetzee and films of the work of Patrick Farber, Mike Leigh, and Tennessee Williams.

**Philip Weinstein** is Alexander Griswold Cummins Professor of English at Swarthmore College. He is the author of five critical studies, including *Faulkner's Subject: A Cosmos No One Owns, What Else But Love? The Ordeal of Race in Faulkner and Morrison*, and *Unknowing: The Work of Modernist Fiction*. His new book, *Becoming Faulkner*, will be published in 2010.

**Randall S. Wilhelm** is a lecturer in the department of English at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville. He is the editor of a forthcoming book, *Picturing Faulkner: The Visual World of William Faulkner*, and the author of several articles on Cormac McCarthy, Hemingway, and Faulkner.

**Daniel Woodrell**, an Ozark native, is the author of eight acclaimed novels, beginning with *Under the Bright Lights* in 1986. He called his fifth novel, *Give Us a Kiss*, a "country noir," a term since used to describe his writing. His second novel, *Woe to Live On*, was adapted for the 1999 film *Ride with the Devil*, directed by Ang Lee, and three of his novels—*Death of Sweet Mister*, *Give Us a Kiss*, and the latest, *Winter's Bone*, are under option for filming. His sixth novel, *Tomato Red*, won the 1999 PEN USA award for Fiction, and his short story "Uncle," originally published in *A Hell of a Woman: An Anthology of Female Noir*, was nominated for a 2008 Edgar Award.

## OTHER PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS

Tommy Covington

Thomas H. Freeland IV

Richard Howarth

Ivo Kamps

Ruth Kloha

Colby Kullman

Jack Mayfield

Kendra Meyers

Ted Ownby

Jill N. Smith



#### SPONSORS

The Faulkner and Yoknapatawpha Conference at the University of Mississippi is sponsored by the Department of English and the Center for the Study of Southern Culture and coordinated by the Division of Outreach and Continuing Education.

#### UNIVERSITY MUSEUM EXHIBITION

The University Museum is mounting an exhibition of Original Stone Lithographs and Etchings by Boyd Saunders of Faulkner's "The Bear" and *The Sound and the Fury*.

#### GAMMILL GALLERY EXHIBITION

*Mississippi Delta Photographs and Other Recent Work* by Maude Schuyler Clay is on exhibit at Barnard Observatory's Gammill Gallery through August 14.

#### ANNUAL DISPLAY OF UNIVERSITY PRESS BOOKS

Books published by members of the American Association of University Presses will be exhibited from Monday, July 20, through noon on Thursday, July 23, in Music Building Room 155. The AAUP book exhibit is sponsored by the University Press of Mississippi. A display of collectable Faulkner materials will be exhibited by Seth Berner Books.

#### FAULKNER DISPLAYS

The Department of Archives and Special Collections of the University's John Davis Williams Library exhibits William Faulkner portraits and his Nobel Prize medal and has mounted a display of materials on Faulkner and mysteries. Special Collections, located on the third floor of the Williams Library, is open Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., except for University holidays. For more information, please call Jennifer Ford at 662-915-7408.

#### GIFTS

Gifts from the William Faulkner Society and the *Faulkner Journal*, as well as donations in memory of John W. Hunt, Faulkner scholar and emeritus professor of literature at Lehigh University, have been made to support the William Faulkner Society Fellows at this year's conference.

#### SPECIAL THANKS

The conference organizers are grateful to all the individuals and organizations who support Faulkner and Yoknapatawpha annually and offer special thanks this year to Dr. Colby Kullman, Harold and Dinah Clark, Mr. and Mrs. William Lewis and the Downtown Grill, Square Books, Southside Gallery, the City of Oxford, and the Oxford Convention and Visitors Bureau.

For tourist information, contact:

Oxford Convention & Visitors Bureau  
102 Ed Perry Boulevard • Oxford, MS 38655  
Telephone: 800-758-9177, 662-234-4680  
Fax: 662-234-0355

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