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800 Vine Street
Cincinnati, Ohio
45202-2071

Richard L. Helmes
Phone•513•369•6959
Fax•513•369•4565
rick.helmes@cincinnati.library.org
or
Phyllis Hegner
Phone•513•369•4571
Fax•513•369•4565

March 18, 2003

CELEBRATE POETRY MONTH AT THE LIBRARY IN APRIL

Library of Congress Poet Laureate Consultant in Poetry Billy Collins featured April 23 in *Poetry in the Garden* series at Main Library

Renowned Library of Congress Poet Laureate Consultant Billy Collins, best known for his humor and the surprising twists in his writing, will be one of the featured poets in the **Fifth Annual Poetry in the Garden Series** sponsored by the Main Library every Wednesday evening in April. Each Wednesday at 7:00 p.m. poets will share their thoughts in prose and discuss their works. Mr. Collins will be the featured poet for the April 23 program, to be held at the Aronoff Center for the Arts to accommodate a larger audience. All of the other poets will appear at the Main Library, 800 Vine Street, in the Reading Garden near the Walnut Street entrance.

Collins' poetry has appeared in anthologies, textbooks, and a variety of periodicals including *Poetry*, *The American Poetry Review*, *The American Scholar*, *Harper's*, *The Paris Review*, and *The New Yorker*. One of his poems was selected for The Best American Poetry 1992 and another was included in The Best American Poetry 1993. He has also published seven books of poetry, the most recent *Sailing Alone Around the Room* by Random House.

The Library of Congress appointed him the 11th Poet Laureate Consultant in Poetry in 2001. Dr. James H. Billington, Librarian of Congress, said of Collins' work that his poetry "is widely accessible. He writes in an original way about all manner of ordinary things and situations with both humor and a surprising, contemplative twist."

Mr. Collins has received many honors including fellowships from the New York Foundation for the Arts, the National Endowment for the Arts, and the Guggenheim

Foundation. He has also been awarded the Oscar Blumenthal Prize, the Bess Hokin Prize, the Frederick Bock Prize, and the Levinson Prize—all by *Poetry Magazine*. A Distinguished Professor of English at Lehman College, City University of New York, he has taught for the past 30 years, and is also a writer-in-residence at Sarah Lawrence, and served as a Literary Lion of the New York Public Library.

BOOKS BY BILLY COLLINS:

- *Sailing Alone Around the Room* (Random House, 2001)
- *Picnic, Lightning* (University of Pittsburgh Press, 1998)
- *The Art of Drowning* (1995), Lenore Marshall Poetry Prize finalist
- *Questions About Angels* (1991), National Poetry Series selection by Edward Hirsch
- *The Apple That Astonished Paris* (1988)
- *Video Poems* (1980)
- *Pokerface* (1977)

NEUROLOGY

by Billy Collins

I never mind them
reminding us
that we use only a tiny fraction
of our brains,
a section the size of a small toad
according to some.

It is enough every day
to hear the soft commotion
of his tumbling
through the lawn within,
a lump of brown moving in the grass,

and every night,
to sense his stillness
as he sits on a dark, wet rock
hour after hour,
looking so imperial,
blinking into the rain.

*Mr. Collins will read at the Aronoff Center for the Arts – Jarson Kaplan Theater—to accommodate a large crowd. Call for free tickets: 369-6945

POETRY IN THE GARDEN FEATURES THESE ACCOMPLISHED POETS:

April 2: Norman Finkelstein and Kiril Merjanski & Holly Feldman Karapetkova

Norman Finkelstein (Professor of English at Xavier University)

Published Works & Bio:

- *Restless Messengers*
- *Track and Columns: Track, Volume II*
- *Powers*
- *Drones and Chant*” appears in *The Best American Poetry 2001*
- *Not One of Them in Place: Modern Poetry and Jewish American Identity* was a finalist for a Koret Jewish Book Award.

Holly Feldman Karapetkova (Pursuing her Ph.D. at the University of Cincinnati)

Published Works:

- *The Formalist*
- *Edge City Review*
- *Calyx*

Kiril Merjanski

Published Works & Bio:

- *Night Tide*
- *Selected Epitaphs from the Decline of the Roman Empire*
- *Land of Clouds*
- *The Myth of Odysseus-Contemporary Bucolic Poetry*
- Author of a number of plays and translations. His poems have been translated into German, French, Swedish, Greek, Russian, Finnish, Czech, Serbian, Bosnian, Macedonian, Croatian, and Hungarian, as well as English.

April 9: Pauletta Hansel & Jerry Roscoe

Pauletta Hansel (President/Managing Director of the Women Writing for (a) Change Foundation)

Published Works & Bio:

- First full-length collection of poems, *Divining*, was published in 2002
- *Wind, Mountain Review, Adena, Pine Mountain Sand and Gravel, Appalachian Journal*, and anthologized in *A Gathering at the Forks* and *Old Wounds, New Words*.
- Premiered her one-woman performance of poetry and monologue, *Sitting with Terry* (1998)
- 2002 Ohio Poet of the Year by the Ohio Poetry Day Association

Jerry Roscoe

Published Works & Bio:

- *Mirror Lake*, contained in *Two Midwest Voices*
- Winner of the Ohioana Book Award in Poetry for 2002
- Recipient of two Individual Artist Fellowships from the Ohio Arts Council
- Poetry reviewer and columnist for the Columbus *Dispatch* from 1987-1997
- His work has appeared in such journals as *Ohio Review*, *New England Review*, and *South Carolina Review*, among others.
- Member of the workshop/ performance troupe House of Toast

April 16

Jennifer Bosveld & Jeffrey Hillard

Jennifer Bosveld (heads up Pudding House Publications, the largest small press in America, at Pudding House Writers Innovation Center in Johnstown, Ohio.

Published Works & Bio:

- Received the Pioneer Award from the National Association for Poetry Therapy
- Individual Artist Fellowship in Poetry from the Ohio Arts Council.
- Her poems have appeared in *Nebraska Review*, *Heaven Bone*, *The Chiron Review*, *Negative Capability*, *The Christian Science Monitor*, *Pig Iron*, and hundreds of other literary journals and magazines.
- Her new book, *The Magic Fish: Poems on an Edward Boccia Sketchbook*, has been adopted by some college Creative Writing Programs.

Jeffrey Hillard (Associate Professor of English at the College of Mount St. Joseph)

Published Works & Bio:

- Award-winning journalist, short story writer, essayist, screenwriter, poet, and former editor of *Cincinnati Poetry Review*,
- Author of three books of poetry: *The Shadow Family*, *River Dwellers: Poems of the Settling of the Ohio River* (first runner-up for the 1993 Ohioana Book Award for Poetry) and *Pieces of Fernald: Poems and Images of a Place* (with photographer Jon Hughes)
- *Havana Riffs: Poems on Cuba*
- Received the Post-Corbett Award for Literary Artist
- Received two Individual Artist grants from the Ohio Arts Council
- Writer-in-Residence at the Fine Arts Work Center in Provincetown, Massachusetts (2000)
- Sister Adelle Clifford Award for Excellence in Teaching (1998)

April 23**Billy Collins**

*Mr. Collins will read at the Aronoff Center for the Arts – Jarson Kaplan Theater.
Call for free tickets: 369-6945

April 30

Richard Taylor & David Sanders

Richard Taylor (Professor of English at Kentucky State University in Frankfort; He and his wife Lizz own Poor Richard's books in historic downtown Frankfort)

Published Works & Bio:

- Girty (Gnomon Press)
- Four collections of poems (the most recent of which is *Stone Eye*)
- *Three Kentucky Tragedies*
- Text for *Palisades of the Kentucky River*
- Served as Kentucky's Poet Laureate (1999-2001).

David Saunders (The former bookstore owner has been the director of the Ohio University Press and Swallow Press since 1996)

Published Works & Bio:

- Received his BFA in Creative Writing from Bowling Green and his MFA from the University of Arkansas, where he also did post-graduate work in translation
- Poetry has been collected in two chapbooks/fine editions, *Time in Transit* and *Nearer to Town*

OTHER POETRY MONTH EVENTS, April 2003

Programs for Teens

SATURDAY 5

Westwood, 3345 Epworth Avenue, 369-4474

Poetry For the Fun of It! A Creative Writing Workshop for Teens with Richard Hague,
2:00 p.m., Ages 11-18 FPL

MONDAY 7

Bond Hill, 1703 Dale Road, 369-4445

Poetry Slam: Celebrate National Poetry Month with emcee Obalaye Macharia.
4:00 p.m., Ages 13-18 FPL

TUESDAY 8

Madisonville, 4830 Whetsel Avenue, 369-6029

Poetry Slam: Celebrate National Poetry Month with emcee Obalaye Macharia.
2:30 p.m., Ages 13-18 FPL

Northside, 4209 Hamilton Avenue, 369-4449

Poetry For the Fun of It! A Creative Writing Workshop for Teens with Richard Hague,
4:00 p.m., Ages 11-18 FPL

WEDNESDAY 9

Groesbeck, 2994 West Galbraith Road, 369-4454

Teen Poetry Night, 3:30-5:30 p.m., Ages 11-17* FPL

THURSDAY 10

Mariemont, 3810 Pocahontas Avenue, 369-4467

Teen Poetry Café: Come share your poetry with other teens at the second annual poetry cafe! 6:30 p.m., Grades 9-12* FPL

SATURDAY 12

Harrison, 10398 New Haven Road, 369-4442

Poetry Reading: Dave Campbell reads his original poetry and invites teens to write their own poetry on our poetry wall in the teen area. noon, Grades 6 & up*

Harrison, 10398 New Haven Road, 369-4442

Spoken Word Poet: Steve Hayes will recite, sing and invite the audience to create poetry, 1:00 p.m., Grades 6 & up* FPL

Harrison, 10398 New Haven Road, 369-4442

Poetry Slam: We invite all teens up to the open microphone to express their creativity through poetry, 2:00 p.m., Grades 6 & up

Harrison, 10398 New Haven Road, 369-4442

The Sisterhood of the Talking Pen: Teen Girls' Writing Club welcomes special guest teen poet, 3:00 p.m., Grades 6 & up*

MONDAY 14

Price Hill, 3215 Warsaw Avenue, 369-4490

Poetry Slam: Celebrate National Poetry Month with emcee Obalaye Macharia. 6:30 p.m., Ages 13-18 FPL

TUESDAY 15

Corryville, 2802 Vine Street, 369-6034

Poetry Slam: Celebrate National Poetry Month with emcee Obalaye Macharia. 4:00 p.m., Ages 13-18 FPL

SATURDAY 19

Reading, 9001 Reading Road, 369-4465

Poetry Slam: Celebrate National Poetry Month with emcee Obalaye Macharia. 2:00 p.m., Ages 13-18 FPL

TUESDAY 22

Avondale, 3566 Reading Road, 369-4440

Poetry Slam: Celebrate National Poetry Month with emcee Obalaye Macharia. 4:30 p.m., Ages 13-18 FPL

THURSDAY 24

Green Township, 6525 Bridgetown Road, 369-6095

3rd Annual Poetry Competition, 7:00 p.m., Grades 6-12

Hyde Park, 2747 Erie Avenue, 369-4456

Poetry For the Fun of It! A Creative Writing Workshop for Teens with Richard Hague,
6:30 p.m., Ages 11-18 FPL

FRIDAY 25

West End, 805 Ezzard Charles Drive, 369-6026

Poetry Slam: Celebrate National Poetry Month with emcee Obalaye Macharia.
4:00 p.m., Ages 13-18 FPL

TUESDAY 29

Main Library, 800 Vine Street, 369-6918

Poetry Slam: Celebrate National Poetry Month with emcee Obalaye Macharia.
7:00 p.m., Ages 13-18 FPL

Special Children's Programs

THURSDAY 10

Cheviot, 3711 Robb Avenue, 369-6015

Afterschool Adventures: Spring Fling! Celebrate Spring with Stories, Poems & a Butterfly Clothespin Magnet Craft! 4:00 p.m., Ages 5 & up* FPL

St. Bernard, 4803 Tower Avenue, 369-4462

Poetry Party! Poetry, popcorn and word games, 3:30 p.m., Ages 6-12*

SATURDAY 12

Deer Park, 3936 East Galbraith Road (Dillonvale Shopping Center), 369-4450

Baseball, Popcorn & Poetry in celebration of National Library Week.

2:00 p.m., All Ages

Main Library, 800 Vine Street, 369-6922

Super Saturday: "I" Poetry for Healthy Self-Esteem presented by Discover Health

2:00 p.m., Ages 6-12 FPL

THURSDAY 17

Avondale, 3566 Reading Reading Road, 369-4440

Poetry, Poetry, Poetry! Come one, come all poets and write, share and enjoy poetry with Ms. G. 3:00 p.m., Ages 5-12

SATURDAY 26

Main Library

Super Saturday: Share a Poem, Pass a Smile, Create poems on the spot with Sheenah Melson! 2:00 p.m., Ages 6-12 FPL

✓ **Information about the Main Library and 41 branch libraries is available on the Internet site: www.CincinnatiLibrary.org.**