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"Wilderness and Wild Women" will be Mary Zeiss Stange's Moseley Lecture topic. <u>Story</u>



PearsonWidrig DanceTheater returns to campus for a Feb. 25 performance. Story



Work by textile artist Susie Brandt will be featured in a March 2 illustrated talk. <u>Story</u>

Welcome -- The Skidmore *Intercom* Faculty-Staff Newsletter is a production of the Office of College Relations. All members of the campus community are invited to submit story ideas or news items, using the contact information provided below. Department chairs and office directors are asked to please print a copy of this document to share with colleagues who do not have regular access to a computer.

We hope you enjoy this electronic newsletter and encourage you to share your impressions via email or telephone.

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Stange to Explore "Wilderness and Wild Women" in Moseley Lecture



"Wilderness, Real and Imagined, and Wild Women," is the title of this year's Edwin M. Moseley Faculty Research Lecture at Skidmore, to be presented Wednesday, Feb. 23, by Mary Zeiss Stange, associate professor of women's studies and religion.

Free and open to the public, the talk will begin at 8 p.m. in Gannett Auditorium of Palamountain Hall. A reception will follow. Each year the College's faculty chooses one of its own to deliver the Moseley Lecture. Selection as the Moseley Lecturer is the highest honor the Skidmore faculty can confer upon a colleague.

Stange's lecture will derive from her research over the years on female hunters and their relationship to a number of environmental and ethical issues. She is currently researching

a new book, tentatively titled *Sister Predator*, on what it means to be part of a predator species. Explained Stange, "I'm looking constructively at the role violence plays in the natural world. We're alive because other beings are dead - and we caused their deaths. What does it mean to think about our own wildness?" She is exploring the implications of humans as a predator species and about how this wildness (which women are taught to avoid) affects various social and cultural realities.

The issues are enduring ones for Stange, a self-described "eco-feminist" and hunter whose books, essays, and articles over the years have often focused on women who hunt. In her first book, *Woman the Hunter* (Boston: Beacon Press, 1997), she presented a cultural history of hunting, challenging fundamental assumptions about femininity, masculinity, and the relation of humans to the natural world. Stange said that the forthcoming book is something of a sequel to this earlier volume.

In 2000, Stange collaborated with psychologist Carol K. Oyster on *Gun Women: Firearms and Feminism in Contemporary America* (New York, New York University Press), which explored women's various positive relationships with firearms, including self-protection, hunting, and recreational and competitive shooting, as well as careers like law enforcement and the military.

Stange edited *Heart Shots: Women Write About Hunting* (Mechanicsburg, PA: Stackpole Books, 2003), a critical anthology of women's writing about hunting over the past hundred years or so. The volume contains reflections "on what it means to be a woman who hunts" by such writers as Annie Oakley, Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings, Grace Seton-Thompson, Beryl Markham, and Terry Tempest Williams.

As a graduate student at Syracuse University, Stange became fascinated with the goddess Artemis, whom she said "simultaneously represents the ecosystem, hunting, and childbirth, symbolizing a kind of freedom associated with being undomesticated." Artemis is an important figure in a new religion course on powerful females titled "Goddesses and Amazons" that she is teaching this semester at Skidmore.

While working on *Woman the Hunter,* Stange said she "became aware that I was part of a movement of a number of women who had taken up hunting as adults." Now totaling close to 3 million, female hunters account for about 10 percent of the hunting population. "No one was paying attention to this," asserts Stange, who has since become something of an expert on the subject. She moves between, and is equally at home in, two different worlds. In addition to publishing articles and reviews on feminist theory and cultural criticism in academic and scholarly journals, she writes essays and articles in national outdoor and general-interest publications on topics ranging from women, hunting, and environmental ethics to such issues as gun control and animal rights. Her essay, "Last Man Out of the Hunting Lodge, Please Turn Out the Lights," was awarded the Izaak Walton League's "Thinking Like a Mountain" prize for cutting-edge writing on environmental issues, following its publication in the spring 1999 issue of *Outdoor America*.

Stange teaches at Skidmore during the academic year, and ranches and hunts in Montana, where she and her husband, Doug, operate the Crazy Woman Bison Ranch on 4,000 acres near Ekalaka.

She is a magna cum laude, Phi Beta Kappa graduate of Syracuse University, where she earned a bachelor's degree in English literature, and master's and doctoral degrees in religion.

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Scholar to Use Mathematical Approach on Social Issues



Harvard University scholar Jonathan David Farley will visit the Skidmore campus next week for two speaking engagements, in which he considers mathematical solutions to pressing social issues. Cosponsored by the Department of Mathematics and Computer Science and the Multicultural Student Affairs office, his visit continues the College's observance of Black History Month.

On Monday, Feb. 21, Farley will discuss "Breaking Al-Qaeda Cells: A Mathematical Method for Analyzing the Effectiveness of Counterterrorism Operations." The talk will begin at 5:30 p.m. in Emerson Auditorium of Palamountain Hall. Refreshments will be served prior to the lecture.

At 7 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 22, Farley will give a lecture titled "Destiny's Child ("Soldier"): Deconstructing the Myth of Black America's Middle Class" in the Pohndorff Room (third floor) of Scribner Library. Admission to both events is free and open to the public.

A renowned mathematician and political activist, Farley is the 2004 recipient of the Harvard Foundation's distinguished Scientist of the Year Award, a medal presented in recognition of "outstanding achievements and contributions in the field of mathematics." He graduated summa cum laude in 1991 from Harvard, and earned a doctorate in mathematics in 1995 at Oxford University, where he received the university's highest mathematics awards, the Senior Mathematical Prize and the Johnson University Prize. He is currently based in the mathematics department at Harvard.

Farley's fields of interest are lattice theory and the theory of ordered sets. His recent mathematical accomplishments include the solution to a problem posed by an MIT professor that remained unsolved for 22 years, and a problem in "transversal theory" that remained unsolved for 33 years. Some of his previous mathematical accomplishments include the resolution of a conjecture posed by an MIT professor in 1975, and the solution to some problems in lattice theory that remained unsolved for 34 years.

His work applying order theory to counterterrorism, which will be the topic of his Monday lecture at Skidmore, has been extensively covered in professional and general-interest media.

Farley is chief scientist and co-founder of Phoenix Mathematical Systems Modeling, Inc., a company that develops mathematical approaches to homeland security issues, and co-founder of Hollywood Math and Science Film Consulting, which offers advice for movies that have a math or science element.

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PearsonWidrig DanceTheater to Perform Quirky New Work

Internationally acclaimed for its dramatic and often amusing contemporary dance works, PearsonWidrig DanceTheater will present its newest work, *Thaw,* at the Dance Theater at 8 p.m. Friday, Feb. 25. The performance represents the culmination of a three-week residency jointly sponsored by Skidmore and the Emma Willard School in Troy.

Tickets are \$10 for general admission and \$8 for senior citizens, and will be available at the Dance Theater box office (580-5392) 45 minutes prior to each performance. Reservations are not accepted. Seating is first-come, first-served.

Dancer/choreographers Sara Pearson and Patrik Widrig aim in their work to "transform the familiar into the mysterious, the absurd, and the intimate." Their style has been described by *The New York Times* as "impressive, virtuosic, amazing... imagistically rich." The Neue Zurcher Zeitung called the company "American dance theater at its funniest and most compelling."

Commissioned by New York City 's 92nd Street Y, *Thaw* is described by Pearson and Widrig as "an unlikely symphonic investigation of elemental encounters under increasingly curious circumstances." The hour-long work for five dancers (including Pearson and Widrig) will feature ice, snow, and historical video footage of the 1914 Antarctica expedition led by Ernest Shackleton, projected onto a waterfall created from dry ice. The musical accompaniment will range from recordings of ice cracking to Duke Ellington works like "In a Sentimental Mood." According to Pearson, *Thaw* is "guaranteed to be full of violent beauty and kinetic humor." The work will have its New York premiere March 16.

Since 1987, PearsonWidrig DanceTheater has created more than 40 dance works and earned wide acclaim for a movement vocabulary the *Calcutta Times* of India called "extremely original." Their choreography is often augmented with such unexpected elements as 300 oranges, haystacks, rowboats on a Central Park lake, and the smashing of a 200-lb block of ice. The company's previous performance at Skidmore, in *The Return of Lot's Wife*, featured eerily beautiful swirling arcs of table salt.

Performing extensively across the U.S., Europe, Latin America, and Asia, the company tours between six and 10 months a year. In New York City, where the company is based, PearsonWidrig DanceTheater performs at major dance venues including the Joyce Theater, Dance Theater Workshop Central Park SummerStage, P.S. 122, and Lincoln Center, among others.

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"Global Environmental Challenges in 21st Century" Wilson Fellow Topic

William Ross, founder and president of Ross & Associates Environmental Consulting in Seattle, Wash., and former environmental commissioner for the state of Alaska , will discuss "Global Environmental Challenges in the 21st Century" at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 22, in Davis Auditorium of Palamountain Hall. Ross also will lead an open discussion on environmental matters from 2:30 to 4 p.m. Friday, Feb. 25, in the Somers classroom of the Tang Teaching Museum at the College. Both events are free and open to the public. He is a Woodrow Wilson Visiting Fellow at Skidmore from Feb. 21 to 25.

Ross is a nationally recognized expert on environmental issues related to risk and risk communication, pollution prevention, and campus environmental issues. His nearly 20 years of experience in the public policy arena include a decade of service in Alaska, where he was associate director of fisheries and the environment, as well as commissioner of the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation.

As Woodrow Wilson Visiting Fellow at Skidmore, Ross will work with students taking courses on the natural sciences, management and business, education, government, and sociology. He also will meet informally with them at club meetings, in the dining halls, and for career counseling.

The Woodrow Wilson Visiting Fellows program connects a liberal education with the world beyond the campus. The program arranges campus visits by practitioners in the fields of government, business, and journalism, as well as environmentalists and medical ethicists. They visit classes and participate in panels and public discussions, in addition to meeting informally with students in a variety of settings. More than 200 colleges have participated in the program since 1973.

Millhauser Story to Become Movie

"Eisenheim the Illusionist," a short story by Professor of English Steven Millhauser, will be made into a feature film, according to a mid-January story in *Variety*, the entertainment industry newspaper.

Variety reported that Edward Norton will play the lead in director Neil Burger's *The Illusionist*. The original story first appeared in *The Barnum Museum*, a 1990 Millhauser collection. Shooting will begin in Prague, Czech Republic, in April. Bull's Eye entertainment and Michael London Productions will produce the film.

Film Festival Upcoming

The third annual screening of the Banff Mountain film Festival World tour begins at 7 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 26, in Bernhard Theater.

The tour will feature films that capture a wide variety of mountain landscapes, outdoor adventures, sports and cultures. Films on the tour range form experimental shorts, high-adrenaline hurdles down big mountains, white water runs and mountain biking trails, along with human-interest documentaries.

Highlights of this year's program include the following:

Along Across Australia, winner of the People's Choice and Best Film on Mountain environment awards; *Hike, Hike, Winner of the Best Short Mountain Film Award*; and *Soul Purpose*, winner of a Special Jury Mention Award.

Advance-sale tickets are \$13 each; admission at the door is \$15 per person. Tickets are available from the Skidmore Outing Club and at all Eastern Mountain Sports stores. Proceeds from the festival will benefit the Skidmore Outing Club and the Adirondack 46R Conservation Trust.

Turner and Friends at Tang

Senior Artist-in-Residence Anne Turner headlines "A Valentine Encore," the latest in the Tang Museum 's "Music for a Sunday Afternoon" Series. The concert gets under way at 3 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 27, in the Tang's Payne Presentation Room. Admission is free.

Soprano Turner, mezzo-soprano Lucille Beer, tenor Rand Reeves, and bass Keith Kibler will present the beloved "Liebeslieder (Lovesong) Waltzes" by Brahms and the dramatic and rarely heard "Spanish Lovesongs" by Robert Schumann. Pianists Mark Evans and Gareth Griffiths will provide the piano duet accompaniment for both works.

Beer has recently joined the Skidmore voice faculty. She and Turner have sung extensively as soloists in opera, oratorio, chamber music, and in recital.

Reeves, a frequent guest soloist in oratorio, is director of the Burnt Hills Oratorio Society, and is a well-known refurbisher of fine pianos and a piano technician. Kibler, who lives in Williamstown, is a sought-after voice teacher, a renowned soloist in oratorio and opera, and is well known to audiences in eastern New York state and throughout New England.

Griffiths is director of music at the First Unitarian Society of Schenectady, N.Y., and did graduate work at the Yale School of Church Music, and has held administrative posts with the Empire State Youth Orchestra and the Albany Symphony Orchestra. Evans teaches piano at Schenectady Community College, and has extensive experience as a soloist and collaborative pianist.

Though some of these musicians have performed with each other in the past, this concert marks the first collaboration of all six of them at one time.

Visiting Artist Lecture Announced

Susie Brandt will give an illustrated lecture at 6 p.m. Wednesday, March 2, in Emerson Auditorium of Palamountain Hall. Admission is free and open to the public.

Brandt grew up in Glens Falls and Queensbury, and spent much of her youth at West Mountain, which her family owned. Known for her textile work that prizes the scorned, even kitsch, she looks at this region with alarming clarity and humor. Susie and her sister Betsy Brandt are also known for their installations, especially *Adirondackland* in 1995 at Art in General in New York City. *White Noise* (2001-2002) at CEPA Gallery in Buffalo includes hundreds of prints of a brochure the Brandts produced based on Niagara Falls postcards and memorabilia. Joined together in a cascading, undulating curtain, the brochures fill a good-sized room and look eerily like the falls. Susie Brandt teaches at Maryland Institute College of Art in Baltimore.

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William Brown, professor emeritus of biology, and a former student, David Greenberg '92, were presenters at the Biology of the Rattlesnake Symposium Jan. 16-19 at Loma Linda University in California. Brown was invited to participate in a panel of emeritus scholars on the topic "Long-term ecology of Croatalus horridus: dens, survival, and longevity." Greenberg, who earned a Ph.D. degree at the University of California at Santa Barbara, presented "The effects of surface isolation on shelter site selection by Croatalus mitchellii and C. ruber."

Katharine A. Cartwright and Kyle Nichols, Department of Geosciences, represented Skidmore during the Sea Education Association's Colleagues' Cruise in January aboard the scientific research vessel, the Robert C. Seamans. The South Pacific cruise introduced faculty from many colleges and universities to the six-week sea component of the association's undergraduate program. Colleagues, like the students who enroll in the program, were responsible for all the ship's duties and for data collection and analysis. The Department of Geosciences will use this experience to conduct collaborative oceanographic research projects between Skidmore students and SEA.

Kathryn Davis, professor of English, gave a reading Feb. 2 at Western Michigan University, as part of the school's Gwen Frostic Reading Series. On Feb. 17, Davis will participate in the Writing Program's Spring Reading Series at Washington University in St. Louis. She is currently the visiting Fannie Hurst Professor of Creative Literature in Washington University's Department of English in Arts and Sciences.

A number of English Department faculty participated in the annual convention of the Modern Language Association Dec. 27-30 in Philadelphia, including the following:

- Terence Diggory, professor and chair of the department, was a respondent in the session "Modernist Versions of Pastoral: The 'Degenerate' Farmer and Social Transformations of American Agriculture."
- Susan Kress, professor, helped organize a forum titled "Feminist Activism Inside and Outside the Academy: The Legacy of Carolyn G. Heilbrun," and two workshops: "The Life and Work of Amanda Cross" and "Aging, Death, and Feminism." During the Amanda Cross workshop, she presented a paper titled "The Mysterious Life of Kate Fansler." Kress also served as a job counselor for the Association of Departments of English.
- Murray Levith, professor, responded to four papers during the "Shakespeare in China" session and gave his own paper, "Who Is Shakespeare? What Is He?"
- Jennifer Mason, visiting assistant professor, presented "Civilized Creatures: Sentimentality, Animal Politics, and Mark Twain's 'Dog's Tale'," in the session on "Animal Voices: Nature and Narration in 19th-Century American Literature."
- Susannah Mintz, associate professor, presented " 'A Girl Has to Have Sex Sometimes': The Erotics of Women's Disability Narrative," in the session on "Sex and Disability."
- Mason Stokes, associate professor, presented "There Is Heterosexuality" in the session on "Making Exceptions: Whiteness, Heterosexuality, and the 'Normal' in America, 1915-25."

Giuseppe Faustini, professor of Italian, delivered a paper on "Pirandello in America and America in Pirandello" at the annual Pirandello Society meeting and the MLA annual Conference Dec. 27-30 in Philadelphia.

Pat Fehling, associate professor of exercise science, presented a paper titled "Exercise and Bone Health: A Pediatric Perspective," at the Mid-Atlantic College of Sport Medicine annual meeting in November. She also was elected to a three-year term as secretary-treasurer on the organization's executive committee. In addition, she presented "Side-to-Side Differences in Bone Strength in a Chronic Stroke Populations: a pQCT Study" at the annual meeting of the American Society of Bone and Mineral Research Oct. 1-5 in Seattle. The paper was the result of her collaboration with colleagues at the University of British Columbia and Vancouver General Hospital in British Columbia,

Catherine Golden, professor of English, accepted an invitation to speak at the Academy for Learning and Retirement last September. She gave at talk titled "Women's Reading in the Victorian Parlor: A Trans-Atlantic Debate."

Ken Johnson, professor emeritus of geosciences, has received the Meritorious Contributions Award from the American Association of Petroleum Geologists' Division of Environmental Geosciences (DEG), "for his insightful and significant contributions in the application of depositional systems modeling in environmental geosciences and his dedicated service to the DEG."

Susan Kress, professor of English, was the keynote speaker at a symposium in honor of Judith Fetterley titled "The Resisting Reader, Then and Now," held in November at the University at Albany, State University of New York. In addition, she was one of three consultants who conducted a review of the Colorado College English Department in October.

Sue Layden, director, and Monica Minor, associate director, Higher Education Opportunity Program, attended the American Association of Colleges and Universities annual meeting Jan. 24-28 in San Francisco, where they led a roundtable discussion titled "Earning Our A's: Access and Achievement in Higher Education." Their presentation looked at the national picture, detailing the achievement gap, and then described the Skidmore opportunity programs, including their compelling outcomes data, as a model for narrowing or perhaps eliminating the achievement gap.

Stanley McGaughey, academic advisor, University Without Walls, accepted an invitation from the United Methodist church of Saratoga Springs to arrange a Duke Ellington hymn, "Come Sunday," for choir and accompaniment. The arrangement, performed Feb. 13, was for conga, woodblock, bass guitar, rhythm guitar, electric piano, tenor sax, and soprano, alto, and baritone choir.

Robert Shorb, director, Student Aid and Family Finance, led a financial aid workshop Jan. 10 at the Saratoga Springs High School. He presented a similar program Jan. 5 at Mechanicville High School.

Publications, Performances & Exhibitions

Regis Brodie, professor of art, curated the exhibit "Trial by Fire -- Raku and Saggar-Fired Ceramics" on display through Feb. 25 at Aimie's Lobby Gallery, 190-194 Glen St., in Glens Falls. The show features contemporary ceramics from a Skidmore Continuing Education Program course taught by Jill Fishon-Kovachick '81.

Jordana Dym, assistant professor of history, has published two new articles: " 'More Calculated to Mislead than Inform': Travel Writers and the Mapping of Central America, 1921-1945," in the Journal of Historical Geography, 30, 2004; and "The Familiar and the Strange: Western Travelers' Maps of Europe and Asia, ca. 1600-1800," in Philosophy and Geography, Vol. 7, No. 2, 2004.

Michael C. Ennis-McMillan, associate professor of anthropology, has a chapter titled "La Vida del Pueblo: Women and Household Water Management in the Valley of Mexico" published in Opposing Currents: The Politics of Water and Gender in Latin America, edited by Vivienne Bennett, Sonia Dávila-Poblete, and María Nieves Rico (University of Pittsburgh Press, 2005).

of a paper titled "Little effect of extra-pair paternity on the opportunity for sexual selection in Savannah sparrows," accepted for publication by Evolution. His co-authors are Sarah States '04, Katie Meiklejohn '03, Suzannah Sollecito, and Nathaniel Wheelwright, Bowdoin College.

Corey Freeman-Gallant, Class of 1964 Professor for Leadership in the Sciences, is the author

Wall-Paper: A Sourcebook and Critical Edition, Routledge, 2004. Her entry on "Frederick Warne" appeared in the new Oxford Dictionary of National Biography, Oxford, 2004.

Catherine Golden, professor of English, has published Charlotte Perkins Gilman's The Yellow

Deb Hall, assistant professor of art, has digital work on exhibit in *Memoirs* through Feb. 26 at the Saratoga County Arts Council gallery on Broadway. Her work also was recently shown at McIntosh College, in the Galleria at the Academy of Design and Technology in an exhibit titled *True Colors*: Mastering the Art of Printmaking; and at the 2004 Regional Exhibition at the Perella Gallery at Fulton Montgomery Community College.

Susan Kress, professor of English, contributed a response to the last essay published by Carolyn G. Heilbrun, "From Rereading to Reading" in PMLA, March 2004. She also published an essay, "Once and Twice Upon a Time...Making, Unmaking, and Remaking Stories of Women in the Academy," in the fall 2004 issue of Phoebe: Journal of Gender and Cultural Critiques.

Kyle K. Nichols, assistant professor of geosciences, is the lead author of an article tilted "Cosmogenically enabled sediment budgeting," published in the February 2005 edition of Geology, the journal of the Geological Society of America.

Jay Rogoff, lecturer in English, has recently published the following poems: "Death's Move" in North American Review, Vol. 289, No. 5 (September-October 2004); "Translated" and "Chaconne" in The Southern Review, Vol. 40, No. 4 (Autumn 2004); "Aspirations" and "Bar Mitzvah in Prague" in Hotel Amerika, Vol. 3, No. 1 (Fall 2004); "Death and the 7 Year-Old Pilot" in Margie, Vol. 3 (2004); and "Courtship at Isenheim" in The Journal, Vol. 29, No. 2 (Autumn/Winter 2004). His extended essay-review, "First Fruits," on eight titles issued by the new literary imprint Handsel Books, appeared in The Southern Review, Vol. 40, No. 3 (Summer 2004). The Southern Review has accepted another essay-review, "Pushing and Pulling," on new books of poetry by Beth Ann Fennelly,

Jesse Lee Kercheval, Jeanne Murray Walker, Mary Oliver, and Rachel Hadas. Rogoff's most recent book of poetry, How We Came to Stand on That Shore, received a favorable review in Crab Orchard Review, Vol. 9, No. 2 (Summer/Fall 2004).

Jeffrey O. Segrave, professor of exercise science, contributed several encyclopedia entries to Sport in American Culture: From Ali to X-Games, ABC-CLIO: Santa Barbara, CA., 2004 (edited by Joyce D. Duncan), including "Arete," (pp. 20-21); "Coubertin, Baron Pierre de (1863-1937)," (pp. 94-96); "International Olympic Committee," (pp. 181-183); "Olympic Games," (pp. 273-276); "Olympic Boycotts: 1976, 1980, and 1984," (pp. 271-273); "Women Sportscasters," (pp. 395-396),

and with **Patricia C. Fehling**, associate professor of exercise science, "Steroids," (pp. 354-355).