

CHRISTOPHER NEWPORT



Special Edition Chronicle

April 4, 1994

Office of University Relations

Newport News, VA 23606-2998 Voice: (804) 594-7039 TDD: (804) 594-7155 FAX: (804) 594-7713

Commonwealth of Virginia



News Release

For Immediate Release
Contact: Kyle Humphrey 594-7331

March 4, 1994
CNU -- 174

Virginian Poet Jeannette Drake to speak at Virginia Humanities Conference

In conjunction with the Virginia Humanities Conference, the English department at Christopher Newport University and the Virginia Commission for the Arts will present a poetry reading by Newport News native Jeannette Drake on April 7 at 7:30 p.m. in Room 150 of the Campus Center. The poetry reading is free and open to the public.

A graduate of Hampton University and Virginia Commonwealth University, Drake studied with Dave Smith, a distinguished Virginian poet. Renowned for her inventive and powerful poetry, her works have been published in The New Virginia Review, The Southern Review and Southern Poetry Review. Drake lives in Richmond.

The theme for this year's Virginia Humanities Conference is "Southern Women in Communities: Traditions and Innovations." The conference runs April 7 to April 9. Those interested in attending should contact Dr. Roberta Rosenberg at (804) 594-7024. A \$25 registration fee is required to attend the entire three day event.

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Commonwealth of Virginia



News Release

For Immediate Release

March 31, 1994

Contact: Leanne P. Forbes (804) 594-7331

CNU 187

Virginian Native, Lee Smith, Keynote Speaker At Southern Women's Conference

The Dean William Parks Memorial Colloquia Series is sponsoring the keynote address, given by novelist Lee Smith, at the Virginia Humanities Conference. Smith will speak at noon, on Friday, April 8, 1994, in the Gaines Theatre. Hosted by Christopher Newport University, the Conference focuses on "Southern Women in Communities: Traditions and Innovations" and takes place April 7-9.

A native Virginian, Smith is described as "one of the greatest storytellers of our nation, one of the great artist," by her peers. Among her numerous writing awards, Smith has received two O. Henry Awards and the PEN/Faulkner Award. A professor at North Carolina State University, her novels include Fair and Tender Ladies, Oral History, Family Linen, and The Devil's Dream.

The address is free and open to the public. Anyone interested in attending the conference may contact Professor Roberta Rosenberg at 594-7024. A \$25 registration fee is required to attend the whole conference. Included with the fee are a copy of the conference Proceedings, a ticket to the Friday evening play, and

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Commonwealth of Virginia

Exchange

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all receptions.

The Virginia Humanities Conference is an interdisciplinary association of colleges and universities across the Commonwealth. Every year a different theme is presented for discussion.



News Release

For Immediate Release
Contact: Kyle Humphrey 594-7331

March 4, 1994
CNU -- 173

Novelist to deliver address at Virginia Humanities Conference

Novelist Lee Smith will deliver the keynote address at the Virginia Humanities Conference on April 8 at noon in the CNU Gaines Theatre. Hosted by Christopher Newport University, the conference focuses on "Southern Women in Communities: Traditions and Innovations" and takes place April 7-9.

A native Virginian, Smith is described as "one of the greatest storytellers of our nation; one of the great artists," by her peers. Among her numerous awards, Smith has received two O. Henry awards and the PEN/Faulkner award. An English professor at North Carolina State University, her novels include Fair and Tender Ladies, Oral History, and Family Linen.

Those interested in hearing the address, or attending the conference, should contact Dr. Roberta Rosenberg at (804) 594-7024. A \$25 registration fee is required to attend the entire three day event.

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News Release

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February 23, 1994

CNU -- 170

CNU presents "The Miss Firecracker Contest"

In conjunction with the Virginia Humanities Conference, the theatre department of Christopher Newport University will present Beth Henley's "The Miss Firecracker Contest" April 8 at 8 p.m. in the Gaines Theatre at CNU. Tickets are \$2.50 for students, faculty and staff with a current I.D., and \$5 for the general public.

The play, which takes place in Mississippi, revolves around a 24-year-old woman with a somewhat shadowy past. In an attempt to change her reputation as the town's tart, she joins the annual fourth of July beauty contest, but comes in last.

Tickets for the play go on sale April 4. For more information call the Drama Department at (804) 594-7089.

The theme for this year's Virginia Humanities Conference is "Southern Women in Communities: Traditions and Innovations." The conference runs April 7 to April 9. Those interested in attending should contact Dr. Roberta Rosenberg at (804) 594-7024. A \$25 registration fee is required to attend the entire three day event.

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February 23, 1994
CNU -- 169

CNU's faculty to star in "Why I live at the P.O."

As part of the Virginia Humanities Conference, members of Christopher Newport University's music, theatre and English departments will give an interpretation of Eudora Welty's amusing "Why I live at the P.O.," April 8 at 2:15 p.m. in Gosnold Commons at CNU. Welty is an internationally known Southern writer of novels, short stories and essays.

The role of the narrator will be read by CNU's Chaplain Rev. Cheryl Harrison-Davidson. Professors Ruth Winters, Dan Gordon, Lissa Graham and Douglas Gordon will read the roles of the narrator's bickering family. George Hallow from the theatre department will direct.

The theme for this year's Virginia Humanities Conference is "Southern Women in Communities: Traditions and Innovations." The conference runs April 7 to April 9. Those interested in attending should contact Dr. Roberta Rosenberg at (804) 594-7024. A \$25 registration fee is required to attend the entire three day event.

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February 23, 1994
CNU -- 168

Falk Art Gallery to hold Virginia Women Artists Exhibit

In conjunction with the Virginia Humanities Conference, the Falk Art Gallery will open the exhibit, "Virginia Women Artists: A Sense of Community" April 7 at 6 p.m. in Gosnold Hall at Christopher Newport University.

Fifteen professional artists will display and discuss their works at the opening reception. The creations will range from traditional paintings, sculptures and prints, to craft arts, including quilts and weavings, to religious art, and primitive-folk art. The exhibit, which is one part of the Virginia Humanities Conference, will run from April 7 through April 28.

The theme for this year's Virginia Humanities Conference is "Southern Women in Communities: Traditions and Innovations." The conference runs from April 7 to April 9. Those interested in attending should contact Dr. Roberta Rosenberg at (804) 594-7024. A \$25 registration fee is required to attend the entire three day event.

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News Release

For Immediate Release
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February 15, 1994
CNU -- 160

Off-Broadway's "Ivy Rowe" comes to CNU

Barbara Bates Smith will perform a condensed version of the off-broadway play "Ivy Rowe" at Christopher Newport University, April 9 at noon. Directed by Mark Hunter, the New York production has received rave reviews.

The performance is part of the Virginia Humanities Conference, which CNU is hosting April 7-9. The theme is "Southern Women in Communities: Traditions and Innovations." The three day conference will include more than 100 presentations, a theatre production, a dance performance, a gallery exhibit and a musical show. To register, contact Dr. Roberta Rosenberg at (804) 594-7024. A \$25 registration fee is required.

The play, "Ivy Rowe," is based upon the Lee Smith novel Fair and Tender Ladies, and was adapted for the stage by Barbara Bates Smith and Mark Hunter. Underscored with Appalachian music, the play recounts the passionate life of a spunky heroine with a sensuous nature and an appetite for a good story.

Ms. Smith has appeared in numerous regional theatre productions, including the world premiere of Horton Foote's "Talking Pictures" at Florida's Asolo Theatre. Some of her other leading roles include "Woman in Mind," "The Road to Mecca," "Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?" and "Sister Mary Ignatius."

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"Ivy Rowe"

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Prize-winning novelist Lee Smith (no relation to the actress) has written eight novels, including Oral History and Family Linen, and the recently published The Devil's Dream, as well as two collections of short stories. She received two major awards for Fair and Tender Ladies, the John Dos Passos award and the Robert Penn Warren prize for fiction.

News Release

For Immediate Release
Contact: Kyle Humphrey 594-7331

February 15, 1994
CNU -- 159

Southern Women and their Communities Conference

Christopher Newport University will host the 1994 Virginia Humanities Conference April 7-9. The theme this year is "Southern Women in Communities: Traditions and Innovations." The focus will be on the images and roles of Southern women as they are viewed in literature, music, art, history, dance and theatre.

The three day conference will offer more than 100 presentations, a theatre production, a dance performance, a gallery exhibit and a musical show. Professors and guest speakers from across the country will be on hand to offer their perspectives, make presentations and lead discussions concerning this popular genre. Topics of discussion will include: Race; class and ethnicity in Southern women's literature and history; homeplace; Southern women and the land; the Civil War and Civil Rights; female communities in war and peace; and communities of Southern women artists.

People interested in attending the conference should contact Dr. Roberta Rosenberg at (804) 594-7024. A \$25 registration fee is required, which includes a copy of the conference Proceedings, a ticket to the Friday evening play, and all receptions.

A copy of selected scheduled events is attached.

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Commonwealth of Virginia

Southern Womens Conference

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Schedule of Events:

Thursday, April 7:

6 p.m. Gallery Exhibit on "Virginia Women Artists."

7:30 p.m. Poetry reading by Jeannette Drake.

Film screening: Forgiven, a film by Jennifer Willis.

Friday, April 8:

Noon Keynote address by novelist, Lee Smith.

2:15 p.m. Interpretive performance of Eudora Welty's "Why I live at the P.O." by George Hallow and Company.

8 p.m. Performance of Beth Henley's **The Miss Firecracker Contest**.

Saturday, April 9:

8:30 a.m. The Menagerie Dance Company

Noon Barbara Bates Smith in a one-woman performance of "Ivy Rowe."