



NINA BAYM

(General Editor), Ph.D. Harvard, is Swanlund Endowed Chair and Center for Advanced Study Professor Emerita of English, and Jubilee Professor of Liberal Arts and Sciences at The University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. She is author of *The Shape of Hawthorne's Career*; *Woman's Fiction: A Guide to Novels by and About Women in America*; *Novels, Readers, and Reviewers: Responses to Fiction in Antebellum America*; *American Women Writers and the Work of History, 1790–1860*; and *American Women of Letters and the Nineteenth-Century Sciences*. Some of her essays are collected in *Feminism and American Literary History*; she has also edited and introduced many reissues of work by earlier American women writers, from Judith Sargent Murray through Kate Chopin. In 2000 she received the MLA's Hubbell medal for lifetime achievement in American literary studies.

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WAYNE FRANKLIN

(editor, *Beginnings to 1700*), Ph.D. University of Pittsburgh, is Professor of English and Director of American Studies at the University of Connecticut. He is editor, with Michael Steiner, of *Mapping American Culture* and author of *The New World of James Fenimore Cooper* and *Discoverers, Explorers, Settlers: The Diligent Writers of Early America*. He is also founding editor of the *American Land and Life* series and edited *American Voices*, *American Lives: A Documentary Reader*. The first volume of his definitive biography of James Fenimore Cooper is forthcoming from Yale University Press.



PHILIP F. GURA

(1700–1820), Ph.D. Harvard, is William S. Newman Distinguished Professor of American Literature and Culture and Adjunct Professor of Religious Studies at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. He is the author of seven books, including *The Wisdom of Words: Language, Theology, and Literature in the New England Renaissance*; *A Glimpse of Sion’s Glory: Puritan Radicalism in New England, 1620-1660*; and *Jonathan Edwards, America’s Evangelical*. For ten years he was editor of the journal *Early American Literature*. He is an elected member of the Massachusetts Historical Society, the American Antiquarian Society, and the Colonial Society of Massachusetts.

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ROBERT S. LEVINE (editor, *American Literature*, 1820–1865), Ph.D. Stanford, is Professor of English at the University of Maryland, College Park. He is the author of *Conspiracy and Romance: Studies in Brockden Brown, Cooper, Hawthorne, and Melville*; and *Martin Delany, Frederick Douglass, and the Politics of Representative Identity*. He has edited a number of books, including *The Cambridge Companion to Herman Melville*; *Martin R. Delany: A Documentary Reader*; and a Norton Critical Edition of Hawthorne's *The House of the Seven Gables*.



MARY LOEFFELHOLZ

(editor, 1914-1945), Ph.D. Yale, is Professor of English at Northeastern University. She is the author of *Dickinson and the Boundaries of Feminist Theory*; *Experimental Lives: Women and Literature, 1900-1945*; and, most recently, *From School to Salon: Reading Nineteenth-Century American Women's Poetry*. Her essays have appeared in such journals as *American Literary History*, *English Literary History*, *the Yale Journal of Criticism*, and *Modern Language Quarterly*. Since 1991 she has been the editor of *Studies in American Fiction*.

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JEANNE CAMPBELL REESMAN

(editor, 1865–1914), Ph.D.

University of Pennsylvania, is Ashbel Smith Professor of English at the University of Texas at San Antonio. She is author of *Houses of Pride: Jack London's Race Lives*, *Jack London: A Study of the Short Fiction*, and *American Designs: The Late Novels of James and Faulkner*, and editor of *Speaking the Other Self: American Women Writers*, and *Trickster Lives: Culture and Myth in American Fiction*. With Wilfred Guerin et al. she is co-author of *A Handbook of Critical Approaches to Literature* and with Earle Labor of *Jack London: Revised Edition*. With Kenneth Brandt she is co-editor of *MLA Approaches to Teaching Jack London*, with Leonard Cassuto *Rereading Jack London*, with Dale Walker *No Mentor but Myself: Jack London on Writing and Writers*, and with Sara S. Hodson *Jack London: One Hundred Years a Writer*. She and Noël Mauberret are co-editors of a series of 25 new Jack London editions in French published by Éditions Phébus of Paris. She is presently at work on two books: *Mark Twain Versus God: The Story of a Relationship*, and, with Sara S. Hodson, *The Photography of Jack London*. She is a member of the Executive Board of the American Literature Association and founder and Executive Coordinator of the Jack London Society.



JEROME KLINKOWITZ

(co-editor, *American Literature* since 1945), Ph.D. Wisconsin, is University Distinguished Scholar and Professor of English at the University of Northern Iowa. He is the author or editor of over forty books in postwar culture and literature, among them, *Structuring the Void: The Struggle for Subject in Contemporary American Fiction*; *Slaughterhouse Five: Reforming the Novel and the World*; *Literary Subversions: New American Fiction and the Practice of Criticism*; and *The Practice of Fiction in America: Writers from Hawthorne to the Present*.

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ARNOLD KRUPAT

(editor, Native American Literatures), Ph.D. Columbia, is Professor of Literature at Sarah Lawrence College. He is the author, among other books, of *Ethnocriticism: Ethnography, History, Literature, The Voice in the Margin: Native American Literature and the Canon, Red Matters*, and most recently, *All That Remains: Native Studies* (2007). He is the editor of a number of anthologies, including *Native American Autobiography: An Anthology and New Voices in Native American Literary Criticism*. With Brian Swann, he edited *Here First: Autobiographical Essays by Native American Writers*, which won the Wordcraft Circle of Native Writers and Storytellers Award for best book of nonfiction prose in 2001.



PATRICIA B. WALLACE

(co-editor, American Literature since 1945), Ph.D. Iowa, is Professor of English at Vassar College. She is a contributing editor of *The Columbia History of American Poetry*; her essays and poems have appeared in such journals as *The Kenyon Review*, *The Sewanee Review*, *MELUS* and *PEN America*. She has been a recipient of fellowships from the NEA, the Mellon Foundation, and the ACLS.

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BRUCE MICHELSON

(Course Guide and website author), Ph.D. University of Washington, is Professor of English at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, and Director of the Campus Honors Program. His books include *Printer's Devil: Mark Twain and the American Publishing Revolution*; *Literary Wit*; *Mark Twain on the Loose*; and *Wilbur's Poetry: Music in a Scattering Time*. He has also published scores of articles and book chapters on American writers from Hawthorne and Dickinson through Saul Bellow, Robert Lowell, and Garrison Keillor. He was a Fulbright Senior Lecturer in Belgium and is currently vice president of the Mark Twain Circle of America.

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Once I Pass'd through a Populous City

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Whoever You Are Holding Me Now in Hand

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As I Ebb'd with the Ocean of Life

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[Memorial of the Cherokee Citizens, December 18, 1829]

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39 [49] [I never lost as much but twice -]

112 [67] [Success is counted sweetest]

122 [130] [These are the days when Birds come back -]

123 [131] [Besides the Autumn poets sing]

124 [216] [Safe in their Alabaster Chambers -]

146 [148] [All overgrown by cunning moss]

194 [1072] [Title divine - is mine!]

202 [185] ["Faith" is a fine invention]

207 [214] [I taste a liquor never brewed -]

225 [199] [I'm "wife" - I've finished that -]

236 [324] [Some keep the Sabbath going to Church -]

256 [285] [The Robin's my Criterion for Tune -]

259 [287] [A Clock stopped -]

*260 [288] [I'm Nobody! Who are you?]

269 [249] [Wild Nights - Wild Nights!]

279 [664] [Of all the Souls that stand create -]

320 [258] [There's a certain Slant of light]

339 [241] [I like a look of Agony]

340 [280] [I felt a Funeral, in my Brain]

347 [348] [I dreaded that first Robin, so]

348 [505] [I would not paint - a picture -]

355 [510] [It was not Death, for I stood up]

359 [328] [A Bird came down the Walk -]

*365 [338] [I know that He exists]

372 [341] [After great pain, a formal feeling comes -]

373 [501] [This World is not conclusion]

381 [326] [I cannot dance upon my Toes -]

*395 [336] [The face I carry with me - last -]

*407 [670] [One need not be a Chamber - to be Haunted -]

409 [303] [The Soul selects her own Society -]

411 [528] [Mine - by the Right of the White Election!]

446 [448] [This was a Poet -]

448 [449] [I died for Beauty - but was scarce]

*466 [657] [I dwell in Possibility -]

475 [488] [Myself was formed - a Carpenter -]

477 [315] [He fumbles at your Soul]

479 [712] [Because I could not stop for Death -]

519 [441] [This is my letter to the World]

*521 [597] [It always felt to me - a wrong]

576 [305] [The difference between Despair]

588 [536] [The Heart asks Pleasure - first -]

591 [465] [I heard a Fly buzz - when I died -]

598 [632] [The Brain - is wider than the Sky -]

600 [312] [Her - "last Poems" -]

620 [435] [Much Madness is divinest Sense -]

627 [593] [I think I was enchanted]

648 [547] [I've seen a Dying Eye]

656 [520] [I started Early - Took my Dog -]

*675 [401] [What Soft - Cherubic Creatures -]
 760 [650] [Pain - has an Element of Blank -]
 764 [754] [My Life had stood - a Loaded Gun -]
 788 [709] [Publication - is the Auction]
 796 [824] [The Wind begun to knead the Grass -]
 817 [822] [This Consciousness that is aware]
 843 [978] [It bloomed and dropt, a Single Noon -]
 857 [732] [She rose to His Requirement - dropt]
 895 [1068] [Further in Summer than the Birds]
 935 [1540] [As imperceptibly as Grief]
 1096 [986] [A narrow Fellow in the Grass]
 1108 [1078] [The Bustle in a House]
 1163 [1138] [A Spider sewed at Night]
 1243 [1126] [Shall I take thee, the Poet said]
 1263 [1129] [Tell all the Truth but tell it slant -]
 *1353 [1247] [To pile like Thunder to it's close]
 1454 [1397] [It sounded as if the streets were
 running]
 1489 [1463] [A Route of Evanescence]
 1577 [1545] [The Bible is an antique Volume -]
 1593 [There came a Wind like a Bugle—]
 1665 [1581] [The farthest Thunder that I heard]
 1668 [1624] [Apparently with no surprise]
 1675 [1601] [Of God we ask one favor, that we may
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 1715 [1651] [A word made Flesh is seldom]
 1773 [1732] [My life closed twice before it's close]
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- Song of Myself (1881)

EMILY DICKINSON (1830–1886)

- 49 [39] [I never lost as much but twice]
- 112 [67] [Success is counted sweetest]
- 202 [185] [“Faith” is a fine invention]

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 Church -]
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 372 [341] [After great pain, a formal feeling
 comes -]
 409 [303] [The Soul selects her own Society -]
 448 [449] [I died for Beauty - but was scarce]
 479 [712] [Because I could not stop for Death -]
 519 [441] [This is my letter to the World]
 *585 [383] [I like to see it lap the miles]
 591 [465] [I heard a Fly buzz - when I died -]
 598 [632] [The Brain - is wider than the Sky -]
 620 [435] [Much Madness is divinest Sense -]
 *640 [706] [I cannot live with you]
 656 [520] [I started Early - Took my Dog -]
 764 [754] [My Life had stood - a loaded Gun -]
 1086 [986] [A narrow Fellow in the Grass]
 1263 [1129] [Tell all the Truth but tell it slant -]
 1624 [Apparently with no surprise]
 1773 [1732] [My life closed twice before its close;]

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*Chapter One

ARTHUR MILLER (1915–2005)

- Death of a Salesman

ROBERT LOWELL (1917–1977)

- Colloquy in Black Rock
- The Quaker Graveyard in Nantucket
- Mr. Edwards and the Spider
- My Last Afternoon with Uncle Devereux Winslow
- Memories of West Street and Lepke
- Skunk Hour
- Night Sweat
- For the Union Dead

GWENDOLYN BROOKS (1917–2000)

- A STREET IN BRONZEVILLE
 - kitchenette building
 - the mother
 - a song in the front yard
- The White Troops Had Their Orders But the Negroes Looked Like Men
- The Womanhood
- The Children of the Poor (II)
- We Real Cool
- The Bean Eaters
- A Bronzeville Mother Loiters in Mississippi.
 - Meanwhile a Mississippi Mother Burns Bacon
- The Last Quatrain of the Ballad of Emmett Till
- The Blackstone Rangers
- To the Diaspora

ROBERT DUNCAN (1919–1988)

- Often I Am Permitted to Return to a Meadow
- A Poem Beginning with a Line by Pindar
- Interrupted Forms

RICHARD WILBUR (b. 1921)

- The Beautiful Changes
- The Death of a Toad
- “A World without Objects Is a Sensible Emptiness”
- Love Calls Us to the Things of This World
- The Mind-Reader

*JACK KEROUAC (1922–1969)

- Big Sur
 - Chapter 8
 - Chapter 9
 - Chapter 10
 - Chapter 11
 - Chapter 12
 - Chapter 13
 - Chapter 14

KURT VONNEGUT (b. 1922)

- *Slaughterhouse-Five
- *Chapter One

GRACE PALEY (b. 1922)

- A Conversation with My Father

JAMES DICKEY (1923–1997)

- Drowning with Others
- The Heaven of Animals
- Falling

*POSTMODERN MANIFESTOS

- Ronald Sukenick: Innovative Fiction/Innovative Criteria
- William H. Gass: The Medium of Fiction
- Hunter S. Thompson: *from* Fear and Loathing in Las Vegas
- Charles Olson: *from* Projective Verse
- Frank O'Hara: *from* Personism: A Manifesto
- Elizabeth Bishop: *from* Letter to Robert Lowell, March 21, 1972
- A. R. Ammons: *from* A Poem Is a Walk
- Audre Lorde: *from* Poems Are Not Luxuries

DENISE LEVERTOV (1923–1997)

- To the Snake
- The Jacob's Ladder
- In Mind
- September 1961
- What Were They Like?
- Caedmon

JAMES BALDWIN (1924–1987)

- Going to Meet the Man

FLANNERY O'CONNOR (1925–1964)

- The Life You Save May Be Your Own
- Good Country People

A. R. AMMONS (1926–2001)

- So I Said I Am Ezra
- Corsons Inlet
- Easter Morning
- Singling & Doubling Together
- From* Garbage

JAMES MERRILL (1926–1995)

- An Urban Convalescence
- The Broken Home
- Family Week at Oracle Ranch
- *Dead Center

ROBERT CREELEY (1926–2005)

- Kore
- I Know a Man
- For Love
- The Messengers
- The Birds
- Fathers

ALLEN GINSBERG (1926–1997)

•Howl

*Footnote to Howl

A Supermarket in California

Sunflower Sutra

To Aunt Rose

On Burroughs' Work

Ego Confession

FRANK O'HARA (1926–1966)

To the Harbormaster

Why I Am Not a Painter

A Step Away from Them

The Day Lady Died

*A True Account of Talking to the Sun at

Fire Island

GALWAY KINNELL (b. 1927)

The Porcupine

Blackberry Eating

After Making Love We Hear Footsteps

Cemetery Angels

Neverland

JOHN ASHBERRY (b. 1927)

Illustration

Soonest Mended

Self-Portrait in a Convex Mirror

Myrtle

W. S. MERWIN (b. 1927)

The Drunk in the Furnace

For the Anniversary of My Death

For a Coming Extinction

Losing a Language

Lament for the Makers

Ceremony after an Amputation

JAMES WRIGHT (1927–1980)

Autumn Begins in Martins Ferry, Ohio

To the Evening Star: Central Minnesota

A Blessing

A Centenary Ode: Inscribed to Little Crow, Leader
of the Sioux Rebellion in Minnesota, 1862

With the Shell of a Hermit Crab

PHILIP LEVINE (b. 1928)

Animals Are Passing from Our Lives

Detroit Grease Shop Poem

Starlight

Fear and Fame

The Simple Truth

ANNE SEXTON (1928–1974)

The Truth the Dead Know

The Starry Night

Sylvia's Death

Little Girl, My String Bean, My Lovely Woman

The Death of the Fathers

2. How We Danced

3. The Boat

ADRIENNE RICH (b. 1929)

Snapshots of a Daughter-in-Law

"I Am in Danger—Sir—"

A Valediction Forbidding Mourning

Diving into the Wreck

Power

Transcendental Etude

*Shattered Head

URSULA K. LE GUIN

Schrödinger's Cat

She Unnames Them

GARY SNYDER (b. 1930)

Milton by Firelight

Riprap

August on Sourdough, A Visit from Dick Brewer

Beneath My Hand and Eye the Distant Hills.

Your Body

Straight-Creek—Great Burn

Ripples on the Surface

*Falling from a Height, Holding Hands

DONALD BARTHELME (1931–1989)

The Balloon

TONI MORRISON (b. 1931)

Recitatif

SYLVIA PLATH (1932–1963)

Morning Song

Lady Lazarus

Ariel

Daddy

Words

Blackberrying

Purdah

The Applicant

Child

JOHN UPDIKE (b. 1932)

Separating

PHILIP ROTH (b. 1933)

Defender of the Faith

AMIRI BARAKA (LEROI JONES) (b. 1934)

•Dutchman
An Agony. As Now.
A Poem for Willie Best
Will They Cry When You're Gone, You Bet

N. SCOTT MOMADAY (b. 1934)

The Way to Rainy Mountain
Headwaters
Introduction
IV
XIII
XVII
XXIV
Epilogue
Rainy Mountain Cemetery

GERALD VIZENOR (b. 1934)

Almost Browne

AUDRE LORDE (1934–1992)

Coal
The Woman Thing
Black Mother Woman

CHARLES WRIGHT (b. 1935)

Him
Two Stories
A Journal of the Year of the Ox
12 December 1985
Poem Half in the Manner of Li Ho
Star Turn II
North American Bear

MARY OLIVER (b. 1935)

The Black Snake
In Blackwater Woods
A Visitor
Poppies
Hummingbird Pauses at the Trumpet Vine
Alligator Poem

*LUCILLE CLIFTON (b. 1936)

miss rosie
the lost baby poem
homage to my hips
wild blessings
wishes for sons
blessing the boats
final note to clark
note, passed to superman
the mississippi river enters into the gulf
moonchild
the gift

RUDOLFO A. ANAYA (b. 1937)

*Bless Me, Ultima
*Dos

THOMAS PYNCHON (b. 1937)

Entropy

RAYMOND CARVER (1938–1988)

Cathedral

ISHMAEL REED (b. 1938)

The Last Days of Louisiana Red
Chapter 36 [Mary Dalton's Dream]
Neo-HooDoo Manifesto

CHARLES SIMIC (b. 1938)

Fork
Prodigy
The Devils
A Book Full of Pictures
Arriving Celebrities
In the Street
*Late September

MICHAEL S. HARPER (b. 1938)

Dear John, Dear Coltrane
American History
Deathwatch
Martin's Blues
"Bird Lives": Charles Parker in St. Louis
Nightmare Begins Responsibility

TONI CADE BAMBARA (1939–1995)

Medley

MAXINE HONG KINGSTON (b. 1940)

Tripmaster Monkey
1. Trippers and Askers

*FANNY HOWE (b. 1940)

[I'd speak if I wasn't afraid of inhaling]
The Nursery
[The baby / was made in a cell]
Robeson Street
[A blight was on the oaks]
O'Clock
[After the girl was grown]
My Broken Heart
One Crossed Out
[Nobody wants crossed out girls around]
We vowed to be happy
When I was a child
Some Day
[Come back]
From Bewilderment

- ROBERT PINSKY (b. 1940)
 The Figured Wheel
 The Street
 The Want Bone
 Shirt
 At Pleasure Bay
- SIMON J. ORTIZ (b. 1941)
 Passing through Little Rock
 Earth and Rain, the Plants & Sun
 Vision Shadows
 Poems from the Veterans Hospital
 Travelling
From From Sand Creek
- BILLY COLLINS (b. 1941)
 Forgetfulness
 Osso Buco
 Tuesday, June 4, 1991
 I Chop Some Parsley While Listening to Art Blakey's
 Version of "Three Blind Mice"
 The Night House
 *Litany
- *MAX APPLE (b. 1941)
 Bridging
- GLORIA ANZALDÚA (1942–2004)
La conciencia de la Mestiza/Towards a New
 Consciousness
 How to Tame a Wild Tongue
 El sonavabitché
- *SAM SHEPARD (b. 1943)
 •True West
- LOUISE GLÜCK (b. 1943)
 The Drowned Children
 Descending Figure
 2 The Sick Child
 3 For My Sister
 Appearances
 Vespers
 **From* October
 II
 V
 VI
- ALICE WALKER (b. 1944)
 Everyday Use
- ANNIE DILLARD (b. 1945)
 *Pilgrim at Tinker Creek
 Seeing
- ANN BEATTIE (b. 1947)
 Weekend
- DAVID MAMET (b. 1947)
 •Glengarry Glen Ross
- *YUSEF KOMUNYAKAA (b. 1947)
 Facing It
 My Father's Love Letters
 Slam, Dunk, & Hook
From Song for My Father
 [Sometimes you could be]
 Nude Interrogation
 When Dusk Weighs Daybreak
 Jasmine
 Nude Study
- LESLIE MARMON SILKO (b. 1948) 2542
 Lullaby
- *ART SPIEGELMAN (b. 1948)
From Maus
- *JULIA ALVAREZ (b. 1950)
 ¡Yo!
 The Mother
- JORIE GRAHAM (b. 1950)
 The Geese
 At Luca Signorelli's Resurrection of the Body
 The Dream of the Unified Field
- JOY HARJO (b. 1951)
 Call It Fear
 White Bear
 Summer Night
 The Flood
 *When the World As We Knew It Ended
- RITA DOVE (b. 1952)
 Geometry
 Adolescence—I
 Adolescence—II
 Adolescence—III
 Banneker
 Parsley
 THOMAS AND BEULAH
 The Event
 Straw Hat
 The Zeppelin Factory
 Dusting
 Poem in Which I Refuse Contemplation
 Missing
 Rosa
 *Fox Trot Fridays

ALBERTO RÍOS (b. 1952)

Madre Sofia

Wet Camp

Taking Away the Name of a Nephew

Seniors

*Refugio's Hair

*AMY TAN (b. 1952)

The Joy Luck Club

Two Kinds

SANDRA CISNEROS (b. 1954)

*Woman Hollering Creek

LOUISE ERDRICH (b. 1954)

*Dear John Wayne

*I Was Sleeping Where the Black Oaks Move

*Grief

Fleur

LORNA DEE CERVANTES (b. 1954)

Uncle's First Rabbit

For Virginia Chavez

Visions of Mexico While at a Writing Symposium in

Port Townsend, Washington

The Body as Braille

CATHY SONG (b. 1955)

The White Porch

Beauty and Sadness

Lost Sister

Heaven

LI-YOUNG LEE (b. 1957)

The Gift

Persimmons

Eating Alone

Eating Together

Mnemonic

This Room and Everything in It

*WRITING IN A TIME OF TERROR:

SEPTEMBER 11, 2001

From The 9/11 Commission Report

John Updike: [Comment] from *The New Yorker*

Kimiko Hahn: Her Very Eyes

Pattiann Rogers: Grief

Brendan Galvin: Fragments #1 and #3

David Ray: Six Months After

Naomi Shihab Nye: Shoulders

C. D. Wright: On the Eve of Our Mutually Assured

Destruction

D. Nurkse: The Reunification Center

RICHARD POWERS (b. 1957)

*The Seventh Event

*WILLIAM T. VOLLMANN (b. 1959)

Red Hands

*SHERMAN ALEXIE (b. 1966)

At Navajo Monument Valley Tribal School

Pawn Shop

Sister Fire, Brother Smoke

Tourists

3. Marilyn Monroe

The Exaggeration of Despair

Crow Testament

Do Not Go Gentle

*JHUMPA LAHIRI (b. 1967)

Sexy