

From *Howard Finster, Man of Visions* by J. F. Turner Collection of David Byrne

The Third Annual Oxford Conference For The Book

The University of Mississippi • Oxford, Mississippi March 31–April 2, 1995 collections representing the fields of archaeology, art, anthropology, decorative arts, history, science, and technology. Particularly outstanding are the David M. Robinson Collection of Greek and Roman antiquities, the Millington-Barnard Collection of 19th-century scientific instruments, and the Southern Folk Art Collection, centered on the paintings of Oxford artist Theora Hamblett. Open 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday and 1:00-4:00 p.m. Sunday. Closed Mondays and on University holidays. Telephone: 601-232-7073.

UNIVERSITY OF MISSISSIPPI LIBRARY DEPARTMENT OF ARCHIVES AND SPECIAL COLLECTIONS: Over 300 manuscript collections and over 20,000 volumes of Mississippiana are housed here. Among its permanent exhibits are William Faulkner's Nobel Prize and signed first editions and manuscripts. The Seymour Lawrence Room, a gift of the late publisher, contains signed first editions, manuscripts, photographs, correspondence, and memorabilia of the dozens of authors he published, including J. P. Donleavy, Barry Hannah, Jim Harrison, and Jayne Anne Phillips. Open 8:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Monday through Friday, except for University holidays. Telephone: 601-232-7408.

UNIVERSITY OF MISSISSIPPI BLUES ARCHIVE: This research collection on blues music contains books, periodicals, recordings, films, photographs, and posters. Of special interest are the B. B. King Collection, the Kenneth S. Goldstein Folklore Collection, and the Living Blues Archival Collection. Materials do not circulate. Open 8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday, except for University holidays. Telephone: 601-232-7753.

YOUNG AUTHORS FAIR: Mary Lyn Ray will participate in the 1995 Young Authors Fair sponsored by the Oxford Junior Auxiliary. The fair, held annually in the spring, provides opportunities for children's authors and illustrators to make presentations to third, fourth, and fifth graders in local schools. The children participating in the fair write books and illustrate them with the help of their teachers, parents, and members of Junior Auxiliary. The books are collected and displayed at the public library, which hosts a reception for the children and the guest authors and illustrators on fair day.

SOUTHERN LITERARY FESTIVAL

March 30-April 1, 1995 The University of Mississippi Oxford, Mississippi

Dan Williams, 1995 Southern Literary Festival President

The Southern Literary Festival Association was founded at Blue Mountain College in 1937, and membership consists of colleges and universities in the South. The purpose of the organization is to celebrate the writing of literature rather than scholarly analysis of it. An undergraduate literary competition is one of the organization's major programs. Member institutions conduct campus-wide contests and may then submit two entries in each of six literary categories—the short story, the one-act play, poetry, formal essay, informal essay, and student literary magazine. Awards are presented at the annual meeting.

May I offer my devout wish that the Southern Literary Festival continue and flourish.

Many, many young writers, including me, have prospered and been noticed first and given timely respect by this organization in the past, and it is truly one of the worthwhile gatherings of literary folks on Southern campuses.

—Barry Hannah

Larry Brown's

Dirty Work

on Stage in Oxford

Performances of the stage version of Larry Brown's novel *Dirty Work* are being presented at the Hoka Theatre in Oxford from March 30 through April 2, 1995, in conjunction with the third Oxford Conference for the Book. The stage production, written by Brown and Richard Corley, originally played at the Arena Stage in Washington in January 1994.

Production

| Scott McCoy | Director |
|---------------|--------------------|
| Bert Foregger | Technical Director |
| Rooth Varland | Costume Design |
| Andrew Heller | Stage Manager |
| | |

Cast

| Michael Cal Stewart | Braiden |
|---------------------|-------------|
| Christian Stolte | Walter |
| DeJon Mayes | Chief/Jesus |
| Gloria Winters | Diva |
| Valerie Wilson | Beth |
| Melva Boyd | Willie May |
| John McPhail | Randall |
| Brandon Morgan | Boy/Angel |
| | |

Evelyn H. NehlBuelah

Praise for Dirty Work

"A powerful, destructive voice propels this memorable novel. Braiden Chaney, an armless, legless Vietnam War vet confined to bed for 22 years, lies in a veteran's hospital in the South. Another Vietnam vet is moved onto the next bed: Walter James, an ex-Marine whose face is hideously disfigured, and who has a bullet in his skull that causes sporadic blackouts. Chaney, who is black, and James, white—both sons of Mississippi—talk freely about combat, movies, sex, old loves, their boyhoods, how it feels to kill a man, and why God allows wars to happen. The two men are emblematic of the senseless horror of war, yet they are also fully realized, specific characters."

—Publishers Weekly

"Not only one of the best books about Vietnam but also one of the most powerful anti-war novels in American literature."

—Atlanta Journal Constitution

"Compelling, even inspiring . . . should go down as one of the classics of Vietnam fiction."

—Gannett News Service

"Dirty Work is an unforgettable, unshakable novel."

-Rick Bass, New York Times Book Review

"Translating a book from page to stage is an exhaustive collaborative effort. It has taken five years to convert Larry Brown's much-talked-about first novel, "Dirty Work," into the play at Arena Stage's Old Vat Theatre.

The process began when the Yocona, Miss., author received a fan letter from Richard Corley, a young and struggling New York City director."

—The Washington Times

A preview of

A New Musical

Adapted from the Doug Marlette comic strip by Jack Herrick, Doug Marlette, and Bland Simpson with music by The Red Clay Ramblers

Sunday, April 2, 1995 • The University of Mississippi • Education Auditorium

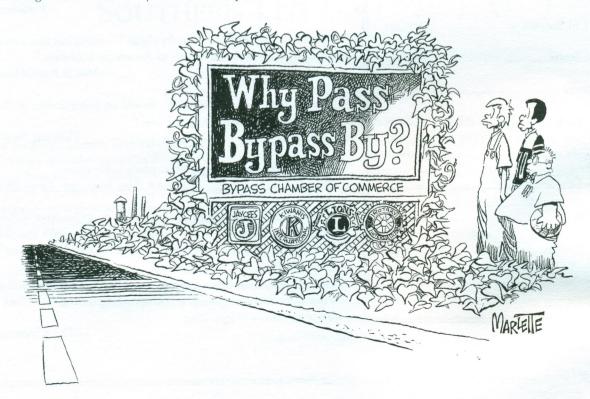
Kudzu Dubose is a small-town Southern boy who, like the vine he is named for, is trying to grow up. He lives in the tiny milltown of Bypass, which is experiencing growing pains of its own. Set on the fault-line dividing the Old Confederacy and the New South, Bypass, like the rest of America, struggles with that split between the past and present, what was and what's coming, the rustic and the sophisticated, how we like to think of ourselves and how we really are. This is the story of how Kudzu, his town, and his region grow and come to terms with who they are, where they've been, and where they are going.

Kudzu, an aspiring writer whose Daddy left when he was quite young, wants to escape his domineering mother and seeks guidance from his father surrogates, Reverend Will B. Dunn and Uncle Dub Dubose. He wants out from the stultification of Bypass's provinciality and longs to make his mark on the world and win the love of the town beauty, the profoundly self-absorbed Veranda Tadsworth.

Veranda's daddy, Big Bubba Tadsworth, has decided to sell Bypass to the Japanese and turn it into a New South nightmare of shopping malls, fast food franchises, octoplex theatres, and tanning salons. When he enlists Reverend Will B. Dunn to bless his Master Plan and persuade his flock to go along with it, they are thwarted by the ornery, stubborn independence of Kudzu's Uncle Dub.

In the middle of all this, love blossoms unexpectedly for Kudzu in the axle-greased, overalled form of Melanie Masters, an appealing Good Ol' Gal and ace auto mechanic who he discovers has been right there under his nose all along working in Dub's station.

Before the show is over, Kudzu learns something about his name, his father, his roots, and his heart, and Dub saves Bypass from the greed of Big Bubba Tadsworth. The Japanese fall in love with the town and decide not to buy it and change it, but to honor it by replicating it back home in Kyoto as a theme park.







4th Oxford Conference for the Book April 12-14, 1996

21st Faulkner & Yoknapatawpha Conference Theme: "Faulkner in Cultural Context"

July 30-August 4, 1995





Sven Birketts: Photo by Lippmau Larry Brown: Photo by Bruce Newman Pat Conroy: Photo by Joyce Ravid

David Guterson: Photo by Jill Sabella

Barry Hannah: Photo by Bruce Newman

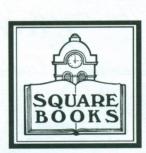
Ann Patchett: Photo by Chris Carroll

Mary Lyn Ray: Photo by Bill Finney

Mark Richard: Photo by Bill Hayward

Margaret Skinner: Photo by Rhonda Consentino

Nan Talese: Photo by Tom Victor Geoffrey Wolff: Photo by John Osgood



BOOKSIGNING

During Lunch Break

Participating Writers of the Oxford Conference for the Book

Square Books Saturday, April 1, 1995

Call 236-2262 for further information

he third Oxford Conference for the Book brings together book lovers from across the United States to discuss issues that affect readers, teachers, booksellers, librarians, writers, agents, publishers, and scholars. Drawing on some of the finest minds in American book culture today, the program includes a workshop for aspiring writers as well as lectures, panel discussions, and readings. Sessions begin Friday morning, March 31, with a writing workshop directed by author Barry Hannah. Lectures and panel discussions cover a variety of topics such as the impact of technology on readers and publishers, literacy issues, and censorship. Other activities include a preview of a musical based on Doug Marlette's Kudzu and performances of a stage version of Larry Brown's novel Dirty Work. The 58th annual meeting of the Southern Literary Festival Association overlaps with the book conference, and both groups will meet together for Pat Conroy's session on Friday evening.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

EDUCATION AUDITORIUM

EDUCATION AUDITORIUM

Readings

8:00 p.m.

| | TLE OF EVENTS or all sessions will be in Barnard Observatory. | |
|---------------------------|---|--|
| Thursday, Ma 8:00 p.m. | rch 30 Dirty Work: Stage Version of Larry Brown's Novel HOKA THEATRE | Scott McCoy, director |
| Friday, March Morning | Writing Workshop - Barry Hannah, director Yerby Center Auditorium | |
| 9:00 a.m. | How to Submit Manuscripts and Work with an Editor | Jennifer Allen Andrei Codrescu David R. Godine |
| 10:30 a.m. | From Author to Reader | Mark Richard Nan A. Talese Geoffrey Wolff |
| 2:00 p.m. | History of the Book in the South EDUCATION AUDITORIUM | Darden Asbury Pyron |
| 3:30 p.m. | The Endangered Species: Readers in the Year 2002 EDUCATION AUDITORIUM | Elaine H. Scott, moderator James Parins George D. Penick Mary Lyn Ray |
| 5:30 p.m. | Cocktail Buffet (Black Tie Optional) CITY GROCERY | 2,11111 |
| 8:00 p.m. | Readings and Remarks FULTON CHAPEL | Pat Conroy |
| Saturday, Apr | il 1 | |
| 9:00 a.m. | "Go, Little Book": Getting a Book to Readers EDUCATION AUDITORIUM | Julian Bach Don Conroy Pat Conroy Eugene Norris Marly Rusoff Nan A. Talese |
| 10:30 a.m | Books as Atoms, Books as Bytes EDUCATION AUDITORIUM | Len Vlahos |
| 11:00 a.m. | The Future of the Book? The Fate of Reading in an Electronic Age EDUCATION AUDITORIUM | Sven Birkerts |
| Noon | Lunch (On Your Own) | |
| 2:00 p.m. | Reading and Community: A View from the Tattered Cover EDUCATION AUDITORIUM | Joyce Meskis Harriette and Fred Beeson, respondents |
| 3:30 p.m. | Alternatives to Conglomerate Publishing | David R. Godine |

André Schiffrin

Ann Patchett

Geoffrey Wolff

Sunday, April 2

9:30 a.m. Reading Groups and Book Clubs

EDUCATION AUDITORIUM

Mary Gay Shipley, moderator

Michael McDonnell

William Pearson Marly Rusoff

11:00 a.m. Literature and Community: Comments and Readings

EDUCATION AUDITORIUM

nts and Readings David Guterson Margaret Skinner

Noon Brunch

UNION BALLROOM

2:00 p.m. Kudzu: Creating a Musical Based on a Comic Strip

EDUCATION AUDITORIUM

4:00 p.m. Reception

OFF SQUARE BOOKS

5:30 p.m. Jambalaya and Musical Finale (Blue Jeans Optional)

THE GIN

Doug Marlette, commentator

The Red Clay Ramblers, panelists and performers

R. L. Burnside and the Sound Machine

The Velvetones



The 1995 Oxford Conference for the Book is sponsored by the Center for the Study of Southern Culture with support from Bottletree Bakery, the Oxford Junior Auxiliary, and the Yoknapatawpha Arts Council. This project is partially funded through a grant by the Oxford Tourism Council.

For visitor information, contact: OXFORD TOURISM COUNCIL, P. O. Box 965, 115 South Lamar, Oxford, MS 38655. Telephone: 601-234-4680. FAX: 601-234-0355



The University of Mississippi began a four-year Sesquicentennial celebration February 24-25, 1994, with Charter Day academic convocations on the Oxford and Jackson campuses and a legislative reception. The Mississippi Legislature signed the charter to form the University in 1844, making it the first institution of higher learning in the state. Four years later in 1848, the University opened its doors to the first 80 students. This exciting observance—designed to showcase the University's academic offerings, research, and service to Mississippi and the nation—will climax November 6, 1998.

SPEAKERS

JENNIFER ALLEN is the author of a short story collection, *Better Get Your Angel On*, and a contributing writer for *The New Republic*. She has published articles in *Rolling Stone*, *Mirabella*, and *Buzz* and has been a writing instructor at a number of schools, including UCLA and Bennington College.





JULIAN BACH is a literary agent in New York City. He began his agency 36 years ago and has represented such authors as John Fowles, Theadore H. White, Norman Cousins, Hedrick Smith, and—since 1971—Pat Conroy. Author of *America's Germany* (1946), Bach has been an editor of *Life* magazine, executive editor of *True*, and editor in chief of *Today's Woman*.

HARRIETTE AND FRED BEESON are owners of Burke's Book Store in Memphis, Tennessee. Burke's, established in 1875, is one of the oldest bookstores in the United States. The Beesons have owned Burke's for 11 years. Harriette Beeson is a past president of the South Central Booksellers Association.







SVEN BIRKERTS is the author of *The Gutenberg Elegies: The Fate of Reading in an Electronic Age* and three books of criticism, most recently *American Energies: Essays on Fiction*. His essays and reviews have appeared in the *New York Times Book Review*, *The Atlantic, Harper's*, and *The New Republic*. Among his awards is the National Book Critics Circle Citation for Excellence in Reviewing.

LARRY BROWN is the author of two novels, *Dirty Work* (1989) and *Joe* (1992), and two short story collections, *Facing the Music* (1988) and *Big Bad Love* (1990). His latest book, *On Fire* (1994), is a nonfiction account of his experiences as a captain in the Oxford Fire Department. A dramatic version of *Dirty Work*, written with director Richard Corley, was first presented at the Arena Stage in Washington in 1994.





ANDREI CODRESCU is a professor of English at Louisiana State University and a regular commentator on NPR's *All Things Considered*. He has published over 20 books of poetry, fiction, autobiography, and essays. His memoir, *The Hole in the Flag*, was a *New York Times* Notable Book of 1991 and 1992. Codrescu lives in New Orleans, where he also edits a literary magazine, *Exquisite Corpse*.

DONALD CONROY is a retired colonel in the United States Marine Corps. His son Pat Conroy, on the dedication page of *The Great Santini*, described him as "the grandest of fathers and Marine aviators."





PAT CONROY is the author of several books, including *The Boo* (1970), *The Water Is Wide* (1972), *The Great Santini* (1976), *The Lords of Discipline* (1980), *The Prince of Tides* (1986), and *Beach Music* (forthcoming). The publication of *The Prince of Tides* brought recognition to Conroy as a master storyteller and a poetic and gifted prose stylist. The novel, with over 5 million copies in print, has attracted readers internationally. Four of Conroy's books have been made into movies, including *Conrack*, based on *The Water Is Wide*, and *The Prince of Tides*.

DAVID R. GODINE is regarded as one of the finest independent book publishers in America. Now celebrating its 25th anniversary, his firm has published the work of William Maxwell, Mary Robison, William Gass, Stanley Elkin, and Donald Hall, among others. David R. Godine, Publisher, currently produces 30 or 40 books a year, maintaining high standards for quality materials, elegant printing, and an eclectic presentation of literature at an affordable price. The firm has received numerous awards, including the Carey-Thomas Award for Excellence in Publishing and the Boston Globe's Literary Press Award.





DAVID GUTERSON is a contributing editor to *Harper's* magazine and the author of a collection of short stories, *The Country Ahead of Us, the Country Behind* (1989), and of *Family Matters: Why Homeschooling Makes Sense* (1992). His first novel, *Snow Falling on Cedars*, is one of 10 nominees for the 1995 American Booksellers Book of the Year (ABBY) Award, given annually by booksellers as the book they most enjoyed handselling over the previous year.

BARRY HANNAH received the William Faulkner Prize for his first novel, *Geronimo Rex* (1972) and the Arnold Gingrich Short Fiction Award for *Airships* (1978), a collection of stories. His achievement in fiction has been honored by the American Academy of Arts and Letters. Among his other publications are the novels *Ray* (1980), *The Tennis Handsome* (1983), and *Never Die* (1991) and, most recently, the story collection *Bats Out of Hell* (1993). He is writer in residence at the University of Mississippi.





RICHARD HOWORTH owns Square Books in Oxford, Mississippi. He serves on the Board of Directors of the American Booksellers Association. In 1986 he received the Charles S. Haslam Award for Excellence in Bookselling.

SCOTT MCCOY is associate professor of theatre arts and producing director of the Festival of Southern Theatre at the University of Mississippi. Previously a professional director and actor in the Minneapolis/St. Paul area, he served as artistic director for Eastside Theatre and founded Chimera Theatre.



MICHAEL MCDONNELL is president of West Union Corporation in Memphis, Tennessee. A graduate of Yale with a major in history, he is a founding member of the Wolf River Book Club, which has met monthly for more than two decades. Shelby Foote is one of the seven members of the club.

DOUG MARLETTE became editorial cartoonist for the Charlotte Observer in 1972 and joined the Atlanta Constitution in 1987 and New York Newsday in 1989, a year after receiving a Pulitzer Prize. He is the first and only cartoonist to be awarded a Nieman Fellowship at Harvard University. His work has been collected in 15 books, most recently Faux Bubba: Bill and Hillary Go to Washington and Gone with the Kudzu. He wrote, with novelist Pat Conroy, the screenplay Ex. He is now working, with the Red Clay Ramblers, on a musical based on his popular comic strip Kudzu, syndicated in over 300 newspapers worldwide.





JOYCE MESKIS is owner of the Tattered Cover Book Store in Denver, Colorado, one of the largest and most beloved bookstores in the country. A former president of the American Booksellers Association, she currently serves on the Board of the American Booksellers Foundation for Freedom of Expression. Among the many awards she has received are an Honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters from the University of Denver and the Women's National Book Association's Book Woman, recognizing her as one of 70 who have made a difference in the world of books 1917-87.

EUGENE NORRIS was an English teacher at the high school in Beaufort, South Carolina, in 1960 when 15-year-old Pat Conroy enrolled in his class. Norris recognized the youth's potential as a writer and encouraged him to develop his talent. Since then, the two have maintained a fast friendship.

JAMES PARINS is a professor of English at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock and founder of the Student Literacy Corps, a program that gives college credit to undergraduates who tutor in local high schools. With a colleague he compiled a definitive bibliography of American Indian periodicals.

ANN PATCHETT is the author of two critically acclaimed novels, *The Patron Saint of Liars* (1992) and *Taft* (1994). Her short fiction has appeared in the anthologies 20 *Under 30* and *The Best of the Henfield Prize Winners*. She was named a Bunting Institute Fellow at Radcliffe College in 1993.





WILLIAM PEARSON is a semi-retired cotton farmer in Sumner, Mississippi. He studied English at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and since 1973 has been a member of the Wolf River Book Club in Memphis, Tennessee.



GEORGE PENICK earned a doctorate from the Harvard Graduate School of Education and became president of the Foundation for the Mid South in 1990. He has served in numerous leadership roles in philanthropy and is currently on the board of directors of the Council on Foundations.

DARDEN ASBURY PYRON is professor of history at Florida International University and the author of Southern Daughter: The Life of Margaret Mitchell. He edited the book Recasting: "Gone with the Wind" in American Culture. His essays and reviews have appeared in numerous journals, magazines, and newspapers.





MARY LYN RAY is the author of several books for children, including *Pumpkins*, A *Rumbly Tumbly Glittery Gritty Place*, *Pianna*, *Alvah and Arvilla*, and *Shaker Boy*. She grew up in Little Rock, Arkansas, studied at Smith College and at the University of Delaware as a fellow at the Winterthur Museum, and now lives on a farm in South Danbury, New Hampshire. A scholar who has studied Shaker life for many years, she tries to bring to her stories the simplicity and economy of line she has learned from the Shakers.

MARK RICHARD is the author of a collection of stories, *The Ice at the Bottom of the World*, winner of the 1990 PEN/Ernest Hemingway Foundation Award for the best first published book of fiction. His acclaimed first novel, *Fishboy:* A Ghost Story, appeared in 1993. He is teaching at the University of Mississippi in 1994-95, thanks to a visiting writers program funded by John and Renee Grisham.





MARLY RUSOFF, for 12 years an independent bookseller in Minneapolis, in 1974 founded The Loft, a literary center that has become one of the largest educational organizations in support of writing in America. She moved to New York in 1980 and for the past five years has been vice president and associate publisher at Doubleday. Her creation of a "Book Group Companion to Margaret Atwood's *The Robber Bride*" initiated a trend among publishers to produce materials supporting book groups in America.

ANDRE SCHIFFRIN'S colorful life in publishing has been centered at Pantheon Books, where for 28 years he was both operational and editorial director, publishing many of the most important books of the 20th century, including the work of Gunnar Myrdal, Eric Hobsbawm, Studs Terkel, Simone de Beauvoir, Marguerite Duras, Michel Foucault, Anita Brookner, and many more great writers. He has written for many magazines and journals, served on various boards and advisory committees for the arts and humanities, taught and consulted in numerous foreign countries, and taught or advised in positions at Princeton, Wesleyan, and his alma mater, Yale. As a postgraduate student at Cambridge, he was the first American to edit the University's literary magazine, *Granta*. He established the New Press in 1990.

MUSICIANS

THE RED CLAY RAMBLERS, a North Carolina string band, has roots in old-time mountain music, as well as country, rock, Dixieland, bluegrass, and gospel. In 1974, two years after forming in Chapel Hill, the group released its first album and created Diamond Studs, a musical about Jesse James. The Ramblers appeared in the musical's eight-month off-Broadway run, in the pre-Broadway run of Big River, in plays and movies by Sam Shepard, and in productions of Fool Moon on Broadway and in Austria and Germany. The Ramblers have often been guests on A Prairie Home Companion and have toured extensively in North America and in Europe. They are completing a musical based on Doug Marlette's cartoon strip Kudzu. Ramblers pianist Bland Simpson teaches creative writing at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and is the author of The

Great Dismal: A Carolinian's Swamp Memoir and Heart of the Country, a novel of Southern music. Also, with Jim Wann, he wrote King Mackerel and the Blues Are Running: Songs and Stories of the Carolina Coast, a musical that recently had an extended run in New York. Other members of the band are Clay

Buckner, Chris Frank, Jack Herrick, Robb Ladd, and Mark Roberts.



R. L. BURNSIDE, who was born just outside of Oxford, Mississippi in 1926, is known around the world as the primary living exponent of the hypnotic blues style of the north Mississippi "hill country." He also performs more modern blues with the Burnside family band, the Sound Machine.

THE VELVETONES are Oxford's newest toe-tapping, hip-shaking, heinie-wiggling indigenous sound, consisting of vocalist C. C. McGee and her "Velvettes," Becky and Sandy Hilliard; Jonny Miles on harp and guitar; Wendell Haag on guitar; Keith Perler on bass; Avery Dunn on percussion; Blaine Pitzer, keyboard; and the "Velvelips," Jeff Calloway and Jerry Williams, on horn. The Velvetones play a mix of gospel-tinged soul and rhythm & blues.



The Velvetones band includes (left to right) Jonny Miles, Blaine Pitzer, Keith Perler, C. C. Magee, and Wendell Haag.

THE CITY OF OXFORD, originally part of the Chickasaw Cession, was incorporated by Legislative Act in 1837. The town was captured during the Civil War by Union troops and most of its buildings were burned to the ground, although many historic structures remain. Oxford has always been known for its close relationship with the University of Mississippi, whose approximately 10,000 students make it roughly the same size as the town. Many people visit Oxford each year to see the University, Rowan Oak, and other classic Southern architecture, including the Lafayette County Courthouse, Isom Place, built in 1838, and other homes on the streets surrounding the town square. Visitors and residents alike appreciate the close and gentle beauty of the Lafayette County countryside, which includes National Forest land and such buildings as College Hill Church, where William and Estelle Faulkner were married in 1929. USA Today named Oxford one of the top six college towns in the United States. Oxford is also listed in *The 100 Best Small Towns in America*.

THE UNIVERSITY OF MISSISSIPPI, affectionately known as Ole Miss, is the state's oldest public institution of higher learning and has been a recognized leader in teaching, research, and public service since opening in 1848. In November of that year a faculty of four offered liberal arts instruction to 80 students. From those beginnings, the student body has increased to its current enrollment of 10,350 on the main Oxford campus. The campus itself has expanded from 640 acres in 1848 to more than 2,500, with an additional 23,000 acres of forest land in south Mississippi. The academic division of the Oxford campus is composed of the College of Liberal Arts (1848), School of Law, which is the fourth oldest state-supported law school in the nation (1854), School of Pharmacy (1908), School of Business Administration (1917), Graduate School (1927), and School of Accountancy (1978). The Schools of Medicine (1903), Nursing (1958), Health Related Professions (1972), and Dentistry (1973) are located at the Jackson campus. In all, the University offers more than 100 programs of study. Having graduated 23 Rhodes Scholars, Ole Miss ranks seventh among all public universities in number of students chosen for this honor.

THE CENTER FOR THE STUDY OF SOUTHERN CULTURE was established at the University of Mississippi in 1977. Since then, the Center has become a focal point for innovative education and research by promoting scholarship on every aspect of Southern culture and encouraging public understanding of the South through publications, media productions, lectures, performances, and exhibitions. Among its notable publications are the *Encyclopedia of Southern Culture, The South: A Treasury of Art and Literature*, Mississippi Writers: Reflections of Childhood and Youth, Cultural Perspectives on the American South, The Blues: A Bibliographical Guide, and two magazines, Living Blues, and Reckon. The Center has also sponsored or cosponsored important programs that draw national recognition, among them three annual events: the Oxford Conference for the Book in April, the Faulkner and Yoknapatawpha Conference in August, and a history symposium in October. Open Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m., except for University holidays. Telephone: 601-232-5993.

FRIENDS OF THE CENTER FOR THE STUDY OF SOUTHERN CULTURE was founded in 1984 to provide support for the Center's teaching, research, and outreach programs on the American South. All Friends of the Center receive its quarterly newsletter *Southern Register*, the *Southern Culture Catalog*, discounts on Center conferences and programs, and reduced prices on Center posters, books, recordings, and other items. Contributions to Friends are tax deductible. Telephone: 601-232-5993.

ROWAN OAK, WILLIAM FAULKNER'S HOME, was built by a pioneer settler in 1844 and bought by Faulkner in 1930. This plantation-style house was his home until his death in 1962. Open 10:00 a.m.-noon and 2:00-4:00 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday and 2:00-4:00 p.m. Sunday. Closed on Mondays and on Easter Sunday, July 4, Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, New Year's Eve, and New Year's Day. Telephone: 601-234-3284. UNIVERSITY MUSEUMS: The Mary Buie Museum (1939) and the adjoining Kate Skipwith Teaching Museum (1976) house



The painting Raining Books of Knowledge by noted Georgia artist Howard Finster appears in this publication courtesy of the owner, David Byrne, and J. F. Turner, author of Howard Finster, Man of Visions: The Life and Work of a Self-Taught Artist. Reverend Finster's often divinely inspired visions have been featured in Life magazine and are sought by museums and collectors alike. His two-acre Paradise Garden is one of the state of Georgia's significant tourist attractions.



