

A FESTIVAL OF OUR OWN Women Writers at Notre Dame

The Creative Writing Program and the Department of English are delighted to sponsor the first annual celebration of women writers at the University of Notre Dame: A Festival of Our Own. This year we are especially pleased to welcome Alice McDermott, Katherine Vaz, and Lily Hoang, three superb stylists who depict the lives of a broad array of Catholics with inventive and often surprising aesthetic approaches. We warmly invite our student writers and readers to all the readings, panels, receptions, and conversations. We are also pleased to welcome the larger community of readers and writers to this affirmation of vibrant and important fiction by and about women.

EVENTS

Tuesday April 15, 2008

6:00 pm. Reception open to all. McKenna Hall Atrium.

7:00 pm. Evening reading with the Alice McDermott. McKenna Hall Auditorium.

Question & answer session to follow.

Wednesday April 16, 2008

2:00 pm. Panel discussion with Lily Hoang, Alice McDermott, Katherine Vaz. 100 McKenna Hall.

7:30 pm. Reading with Lily Hoang and Katherine Vaz. Reception to follow. McKenna Hall Auditorium and Atrium.

THE WRITERS

Lily Hoang is the author of *Parabola* (Chiasmus Press, Fall 2007, winner of the Chiasmus Press First Book Contest) and *Changing* (Fairy Tale Review Press, forthcoming Fall 2008). Her writing has recently appeared in *Black Warrior Review*, *Quarter After Eight*, and *the Fairy Tale Review*. She received her MFA from the University of Notre Dame and has taught at Notre Dame, St. Mary's College, and IUSB.

Alice McDermott, winner of the National Book Award and the American Book Award (both for *Charming Billy*, 1998) and a Whiting Writers Award, is author of six novels and Richard A. Macksey Professor of English at Johns Hopkins University. She has been a finalist for the Pulitzer Prize, the *Los Angeles Times* Book Prize and the PEN/Faulkner award. Several of her novels have been *New York Times* "Notable Books of the Year" and a film version of *That Night* was

released in 1992. Her essays appear widely and all her novels have received broad critical acclaim. Her latest novel, *After This*, explores the challenges a traditional Catholic family face during the upheavals of the sexual revolution and Vietnam.

Katherine Vaz, a Briggs-Copeland lecturer in fiction at Harvard University and a former fellow of the Radcliffe Institute, is the author of two novels: *Saudade* (1994) and *Mariana* (1997), based on the true story of Mariana Alcoforado and set during Portugal's seventeenth-century revolt against Spain (Rilke, Stendahl, Matisse, Modigliani, and Braque have all made Mariana a romantic icon). *Mariana* was published in six languages and selected by the Library of Congress as one of the Top Thirty International Books of 1998. Vaz's collection *Our Lady of Artichokes & Other Portuguese American Stories* won the Prairie Schooner Prize in 2007 and *Fado & Other Stories* was awarded the 1997 Drue Heinz Literature Prize.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Please call the Creative Writing Program at 574.631-7526.

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The Creative Writing Program

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