Rochester Arts & Lectures 1999/2000



Arts & Lectures

The 1999/2000 Series of Uncommon Voices

Sponsored by

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Dear Subscriber, Welcome to Rochester Arts & Lectures' 1999/2000 Series of Uncommon Voices! We are delighted to present this exciting line-up of speakers. We are grateful to our sponsors, underwriters, friends, patrons, and subscribers who enable us to continually offer such a high profile roster. We send all best wishes for a season filled with wonderful books and ideas.

Susan Herman and Susan Chekow Lusignan Producers

Frances Mayes

October 14, 1999

Underwritten by Lacy, Katzen, Ryen & Mittleman, LLP

Sensual and enchanting,

Frances Mayes' best-selling memoir Under the

Tuscan Sun and its companion volume, Bella Tuscany, offer an evocative celebration of life. Basking in "the spill of free days," and "the absolute sweet joy" of daily existence, Mayes savors her "first pleasures" in Italy and recounts them with poetic lyricism: revitalizing and improving her beloved home, restoring a neglected

landscape to an olive and grape farm, gardening, cooking, and exploring the countryside.



Elinor Lipman

November 4, 1999

Underwritten by Mann's Jewelers

Elinor Lipman is a masterful comic writer. She delivers old-fashioned screwball comedy along with thoughtful explorations of relationships,

dating and families, motherhood, and our tabloid-mad culture. Her popular books include the short story collection, *Into Love and Out Again*, and the novels *Then She Found Me*, *The Way Men Act, Isabel's Bed, The Inn at Lake Devine*, and, most recently, *The Ladies' Man*.

"If Jane Austen had been born two centuries later, gone to Smith, then palled around with Fran Lebowitz, chances are she'd have written like Elinor Lipman. Lipman is one of the last urbane romantics." (*Chicago Tribune*)

Russell Banks

December 2, 1999

Underwritten by

Friends of Rochester Arts & Lectures

Russell Banks is a rarity: a novelist popular among readers and recognized by critics as one

of America's most important writers. His dark, complex works include Cloudsplitter, The Sweet Hereafter, Affliction, Rule of the Bone, and Continental Drift (a Pulitzer Prize-finalist). Banks has been honored with a Guggenheim Fellowship, NEA grants, the O. Henry Award, and the Jon Dos Passos Award, among other prestigious prizes. He is a tenured Humanities Professor

at Princeton University.

"Like our living literary greats Toni Morrison and Thomas
Pynchon, Russell Banks is a great writer wrestling with the
hidden secrets and explosive realities of
this country." (Cornel West)



Arthur Golden

March 30, 2000

Underwritten by Parkleigh

Arthur Golden's debut novel, *Memoirs of a Geisha*, is a literary phenomenon: in its first year, more than 500,000 copies were sold in the

U.S. alone. The book has been translated into 23 languages, and Steven Spielberg is directing a film version. *Memoirs*, which offers an astonishingly intimate view of a shadowy subculture, was shaped by Golden's interviews with a 42-year-old retired Kyoto geisha. Golden himself is fluent in Japanese, and holds degrees in art history, Japanese art, and Japanese history from Harvard and Columbia.

"Memoirs of a Geisha is a breathtaking performance twice over: once by its bewitching central figure, and once by the masterful puppeteer who has given her life." (*The Washington Post*)

Daniel J. Boorstin

April 13, 2000

Underwritten by Eye Physicians and Surgeons of Western New York

"The most important words ever written on the maps of human knowledge are terra incognita -

unknown territory," says Pulitzer Prize-winning historian Daniel J. Boorstin. His twenty-two books include the award-winning series, *The Americans*, and his best-selling trilogy, *The Discoverers*, *The Creators*, and *The Seekers*. Boorstin "has slowly and carefully built a library of Alexandria open to the public." (*The New York Times Book Review*) Boorstin is Librarian of Congress Emeritus and University of Chicago Distinguished Professor Emeritus.



Witold Rybczynski

May 11, 2000

"Architecture is always a mirror in which, if we look carefully, we can catch glimpses of our own aspirations and beliefs," writes Witold Rybczynski. An architect, social historian, and

author, Rybczynski thoughtfully examines the historical and cultural origins of our ideas about domestic comfort, architectural beauty, and relatively modern concepts such as the need for private space.

Rybczynski is the best-selling author of Home and City Life, as well as The Most Beautiful House in the World and Waiting for the Weekend. His most recent work, A Clearing in the Distance: Frederick Law Olmsted and America in the Nineteenth Century, illuminates Olmsted's role as a major cultural and historical figure. Rybczynski is a tenured Professor of Urbanism at the University of Pennsylvania.

"An Evening with Alice Walker"

April 27, 2000

Sponsored by the

Department of Multicultural Affairs of Nazareth College

Pulitzer Prize-winning novelist, poet, short story writer, essayist, biographer, and activist, Alice Walker is one of the most highly respected and beloved writers today. Her best-selling works (*The Color Purple*, By the Light of My Father's Smile,



The Temple of My Familiar, Possessing the Secret of Joy, In Search of Our Mother's Gardens, and Living by the Word) eloquently explore issues of race, gender, sexual orientation, family and society.

"An Evening with Alice Walker" will be held at Nazareth College Arts Center, 4245 East Avenue.



"Wesley-on-East applauds
Rochester Arts & Lectures for
bringing the best of the literary and
artistic world to our community.
Many of Wesley's residents are avid
readers who enjoy intellectual and
cultural pursuits. Co-sponsoring
the lecture series is yet another way
we help to preserve the quality of
a long life for our residents and
other Rochesterians."

Jon R. Zemans, President & CEO Wesley-on-East Sponsor of Rochester Arts & Lectures



"For 75 years, Nazareth College has offered our students and the Rochester community an educational foundation that inspires creativity, encourages the lively exchange of ideas, and leads to a lifetime of discovery. As a major Sponsor of Rochester Arts & Lectures, we are proud to support this season's outstanding series of Uncommon Voices, and to welcome Alice Walker to our Arts Center stage for an evening that will surely be among this year's highlights."

Dr. Robert A. Miller President, Nazareth College Sponsor of Rochester Arts & Lectures



"We appreciate excellence.
That's why we've Sponsored
Rochester Arts & Lectures since the
inaugural season eleven years ago.
World-class authors, artists,
historians, poets: Arts & Lectures
makes Rochester a richer home for
us all."

Jamie Columbus, President, and Judy Columbus, Chairman Judy Columbus inc. Real Estate and Relocation Founding Sponsor of Rochester Arts & Lectures

Series Tickets:

General Admission: \$102 (6 part series only); \$122 including "An Evening with Alice Walker"

Reserved Stage: \$132 (6 part series only); \$152 including "An Evening with Alice Walker"

Patron: \$212 (6 part series only); \$237 including "An Evening with Alice Walker"

Friends: \$550 and above: 2 Patron tickets to the 6 part series, plus 2 General Admission tickets and reception passes for "An Evening with Alice Walker"

*Please note: "An Evening with Alice Walker" will be General Admission. Series Patrons and Friends will receive General Admission tickets and passes to a post-lecture dessert reception with Alice Walker. (Single tickets for "An Evening with Alice Walker" are all General Admission, and are \$20.)

Single Tickets:

Single tickets for lectures in the six-part "Series of Uncommon Voices," if available, will go on sale to the general public on October 1st. Please call to confirm availability.

To order, send a check (payable to Rochester Arts & Lectures) to 2604 Elmwood Avenue, PMB 205, Rochester, NY 14618.

Please indicate the lecture and type of ticket(s) you are requesting. Or call us with your credit card order.

(Tickets purchased at the door must be paid for by cash or check).

General Admission: \$20 / Stage: \$25 / Patron: \$35 (includes reserved seating and post-lecture dessert receptions with the authors).

All single tickets for "An Evening with Alice Walker" are General Admission, and are \$20.

A limited number of standing-room only tickets are made available beginning at 6:45 p.m. on the evening of each lecture.

All lectures in the six-part "Series of Uncommon Voices" begin at 7:30 p.m. at the Downtown United Presbyterian Church, 121 North Fitzhugh Street.

Season Preview!

We have expanded our partnership with Barnes & Noble-Pittsford: join us for a Season Preview on Sunday, October 3, 1999 from 2pm-5pm at the store for a brief discussion of each series speaker and light refreshments. B&N will also host book discussions the week prior to each remaining lecture; at each of these events, including the Season Preview, all RA&L author titles will be on display (and discounted for subscribers) and 20% of all book sales at a designated register will be donated to Rochester Arts & Lectures.

We are grateful for the services provided by:

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