

THE FLEUR COWLES

Flair
SYMPOSIUM 2008



The Harry Ransom Center presents
**CREATING A USABLE PAST:
WRITERS, ARCHIVES, & INSTITUTIONS**
November 13–15, 2008
Harry Ransom Center
The University of Texas at Austin

SPEAKERS INCLUDE

Lee Blessing, Denis Johnson, Tim O'Brien, Amy Tan, National Endowment for the Arts Chairman Dana Gioia, and library directors Stephen Enniss, Kris Kiesling, Breon Mitchell, Richard Ovenden, Ben Primer, Michael Ryan, Alice Schreyer, Thomas Staley, and Frank Turner.



HARRY RANSOM
CENTER

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN

The University of Texas at Austin
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The Harry Ransom Center presents the seventh biennial Fleur Cowles Flair Symposium

CREATING A USABLE PAST: WRITERS, ARCHIVES, AND INSTITUTIONS

November 13–15, 2008

In response to the ever-increasing global interest in the future of research libraries and archives, digitization, preservation, and the value of original materials, the Harry Ransom Center at The University of Texas at Austin will bring together leading figures in the field for its seventh biennial Fleur Cowles Flair Symposium, *Creating a Usable Past: Writers, Archives, and Institutions*.

The symposium will encourage writers, archivists, agents, library directors, and scholars to examine the ways in which they are both actively and passively engaged in creating a literary and personal past for future generations to study.

Writers Lee Blessing, Denis Johnson, Tim O'Brien, and Amy Tan will discuss the issues they confront as they create their own archives. Dana Gioia, Chairman of the National Endowment for the Arts, will provide the keynote address.

Research library directors, archivists, agents, and dealers, including Glenn Horowitz and Rick Gekoski, will examine the challenges involved with selling, donating, processing, and preserving archival materials.

The Flair Symposium, held biennially at the Ransom Center, honors the ideals set forth by Fleur Cowles and her landmark *Flair* magazine.

REGISTRATION

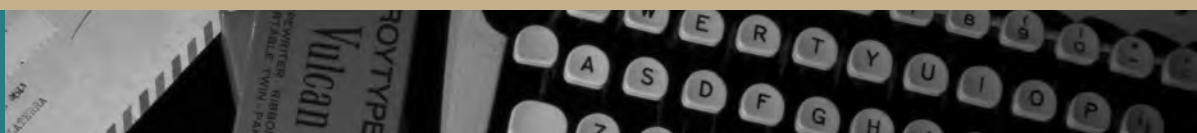
The \$100 registration fee includes access to all events on the schedule. There are a limited number of \$35 registrations available for students. Registration is limited and closes when available seats are filled or by November 1, 2008.

To register, visit www.hrc.utexas.edu/flair. For more information, call 512-232-3214 or email flair@hrc.utexas.edu.

THE MYSTIQUE OF THE ARCHIVE

September 2, 2008–January 4, 2009

This exhibition uses the lens of the Harry Ransom Center to explore both the archiving of our culture and the culture surrounding archives themselves. Drawing on the Center's extensive holdings of the imaginative creations of writers and artists, the exhibition illustrates the diverse nature of archives and their myriad uses. In the process, the exhibition traces the life of an archive in an institution, demonstrating how collections are acquired, accounted for, cataloged, preserved, and, most importantly, how they support the quest for knowledge and endlessly yield new discoveries.



SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Schedule is subject to change.

Thursday, November 13

All events take place at the Ransom Center unless otherwise noted.

5 p.m. **Registration and Reception**

7 p.m. **Writers on the Future of Reading**
AT&T Conference Center Ballroom

MODERATOR: Jim Magnuson, Michener Center for Writers, University of Texas at Austin
Lee Blessing, Writer
Denis Johnson, Writer
Tim O'Brien, Writer
Amy Tan, Writer

Friday, November 14

9 a.m. **Registration and Coffee**

10 a.m. **Welcome**
Thomas F. Staley, Harry Ransom Center, University of Texas at Austin

Introduction
Ben Primer, Department of Rare Books and Special Collections, Princeton University Library

Keynote Address
Dana Gioia, National Endowment for the Arts

10:45 a.m. **Building the Archive**
MODERATOR: Jim Magnuson, Michener Center for Writers, University of Texas at Austin
Lee Blessing, Writer
Denis Johnson, Writer
Tim O'Brien, Writer
Amy Tan, Writer

12:15 p.m. **Break for Lunch**

2 p.m. **The Archive on the Market**
MODERATOR: Thomas F. Staley, Harry Ransom Center, University of Texas at Austin
Rick Gekoski, Gekoski Booksellers
Glenn Horowitz, Glenn Horowitz Booksellers, Inc.
Breon Mitchell, Lilly Library, Indiana University

4 p.m. **Transforming the Archive**
MODERATOR: Michael Ryan, Rare Book & Manuscript Library, Columbia University
Chris Fletcher, Bodleian Library, University of Oxford
Steve Mielke, Harry Ransom Center, University of Texas at Austin
Stella Halkyard, John Rylands Library, Manchester University
William Stingone, New York Public Library

Saturday, November 15

9 a.m. **Coffee**

10 a.m. **The Changing Shape of Archives**
MODERATOR: Kris Kiesling, University of Minnesota
Peter Hirtle, Cornell University Library, Cornell University
Jeremy Leighton John, British Library
Matthew Kirschenbaum, Maryland Institute for Technology in the Humanities, University of Maryland
Naomi Nelson, Manuscript, Archives & Rare Book Library, Emory University
Susan Thomas, Bodleian Library, University of Oxford

Noon **Break for Lunch**

2 p.m. **Looking Forward to Preserve the Past**
MODERATOR: Alice Schreyer, University of Chicago Library, University of Chicago
Stephen Enniss, Manuscript, Archives & Rare Book Library, Emory University
Richard Ovenden, Bodleian Library, University of Oxford
Frank Turner, Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Yale University
Thomas F. Staley, Harry Ransom Center, University of Texas at Austin

4:15 p.m. **Conclusion**

5 p.m. **Reception**