

Murray State University  
MFA PROGRAM IN CREATIVE WRITING  
SUMMER READING SERIES

All readings are free and open to the public



**ROBERT MORGAN\***

*(fiction, nonfiction, poetry)*

**Friday, July 7 at 7:30pm**

**CURRIS CENTER THEATER**

**ROBERT MORGAN** is the author of fourteen books of poetry, most recently *Terroir*, 2011, and *Dark Energy*, published in 2015. He has also published twelve volumes of fiction, including *Gap Creek*, a *New York Times* bestseller. A sequel to *Gap Creek*, *The Road From Gap Creek*, was published in 2013 and received the 2014 Thomas Wolfe Memorial Literary Award. A new novel, *Chasing the North Star*, was published in 2016. *As Rain Turns to Snow and Other Stories* was published in 2017. In addition he is the author of three nonfiction books, *Good Measure: Essays, Interviews, and Notes on Poetry*; *Boone: A Biography*; and *Lions of the West: Heroes and Villains of the Westward Expansion*, 2011. A nonfiction book on women of the western frontier will be published in 2018. He has been awarded the James G. Hanes Poetry Prize by the Fellowship of Southern Writers, and the Academy Award in Literature by the American Academy of Arts and Letters. In 2013 he received the History Award Medal from the DAR. His first play “Homemade Yankees” was awarded the East Tennessee Civil War Alliance John Cul-lum Drama Prize. Recipient of fellowships from the Guggenheim and Rockefeller foundations, the National Endowment for the Arts, and the New York State Arts Council, he has served as visiting writer at Davidson College, Furman, Duke, Appalachian State, and East Carolina universities. A member of the Fellowship of Southern Writers, he was inducted into the North Carolina Literary Hall of Fame in 2010. Born in Hendersonville, North Carolina in 1944, he has taught since 1971 at Cornell University, where he is Kappa Alpha Professor of English.

*\*Robert Morgan is the inaugural recipient of the Clinton and Mary Opal Moore Appalachian Writer’s Residency, made possible by gifts from the children of Clinton and Mary Opal Moore.*

**CHRISTINA STODDARD & JUSTIN QUARRY**  
(poetry) (fiction)

**Sunday, July 9 at 4:30pm**

**CLARA M. EAGLE ART GALLERY**



**CHRISTINA STODDARD** is the author of *Hive*, which was selected by Lucia Perillo for the 2015 Brittingham Prize in Poetry (University of Wisconsin Press). Christina's poems have appeared in various journals including *storySouth*, *DIAGRAM*, and *Spoon River Poetry Review*. Originally from Tacoma, WA, Christina received her MFA from the University of North Carolina at Greensboro, where she was the Fred Chappell Fellow. Christina is an Associate Editor at *Tupelo Quarterly* and a Contributing Editor at *Cave Wall*. She currently lives in Nashville, TN where she is the Managing Editor of a scholarly journal in economics and decision theory.



**JUSTIN QUARRY** is a Senior Lecturer in English and Program Coordinator of Undergraduate Creative Writing at Vanderbilt University. He holds a B.A. from Vanderbilt, where he received high honors in English, and an M.F.A. from the University of Virginia, where he was a Henry Hoyns Fellow. His fiction has appeared in a number of publications, including *TriQuarterly*, *The Southern Review*, *New England Review*, *Alaska Quarterly Review*, and *The Normal School*, which awarded him its Normal Prize in Fiction. He is also the recipient of the Robert Olen Butler Short Fiction Prize, an Individual Artist Fellowship from the Arkansas Arts Council, and a grant from the Elizabeth George Foundation, among other honors. In addition to teaching at Vanderbilt, Quarry also serves on the faculty of the Sewanee Young Writers' Conference at the University of the South.



## T.J. JARRETT

(poetry)

Monday, July 10

at 7:30pm

CLARA M. EAGLE ART GALLERY

**TJ JARRETT** is a writer and software developer in Nashville, Tennessee. Her recent work has been published in *Poetry Magazine*, *African American Review*, *Boston Review*, *Beloit Poetry Journal*, *Callaloo*, *VQR* and others. She has been anthologized in *Language Lessons* by Third Man Books and *Best American Non-Required Reading 2015* from Houghton-Mifflin. Her debut collection *Ain't No Grave* was published with New Issues Press (2013) and her second collection *Zion* (winner of the Crab Orchard Open Competition 2013) was published by Southern Illinois University Press.



## SARAH EINSTEIN

(creative nonfiction)

Wednesday, July 12

at 7:30pm

CLARA M. EAGLE ART GALLERY

**SARAH EINSTEIN** is the author of *Mot: A Memoir* (University of Georgia Press 2015), and *Remnants of Passion* (Shebooks 2014). Her essays and short stories have appeared in *The Sun*, *Ninth Letter*, *PANK* and other journals. Her work has been awarded a Pushcart Prize, a Best of the Net, and the AWP Prize in Creative Nonfiction. Prose editor for *Stirring: A Literary Collective* and special projects editor for *Brevity Magazine*, Sarah currently lives in Chattanooga, TN, where she is a professor of Creative Writing at the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga.

# LYNN PRUETT & JEFF SKINNER

(MFA faculty, fiction)

(MFA faculty, poetry)

Thursday, July 13 at 3:00pm

## POGUE LIBRARY



**LYNN PRUETT** is the author of the novel *Ruby River*. Her stories and essays have appeared in the *Michigan Quarterly Review*, *Border Crossing*, *scissors and spackle*, *Louisville Review*, *Arts and Letters*, *American Voice*, *Southern Exposure*, and *Black Warrior Review*. She has earned fellowships from Yaddo, Sewanee, Squaw Valley, and the Kentucky Arts Council, and has led fiction and creative nonfiction workshops at Vanderbilt University, the University of Kentucky, the University of Alabama, and North Carolina State University. She teaches at the Carnegie Center for Literacy and Learning in Lexington, Kentucky, and raises sheep in Salvisa.

Her mother's family has lived in Calloway County, Kentucky, since the Jackson Purchase.



**JEFF SKINNER**'s most recent collections of poetry include *I Offer This Container: New and Selected Poems* (Salmon Poetry, 2017), and *Chance Divine*, winner of the 2016 Field Poetry Prize. Other of his seven published volumes of poetry have been winners in the Crab Orchard Open Poetry Award and the National Poetry Series. For more than forty years his poems have been appearing in such journals as *The New Yorker*, *The Atlantic*, *Poetry*, and *The Yale Review* and the *Paris Review*. His awards include a Guggenheim Fellowship in poetry, an American Academy of Arts & Letters Award, and two National Endowment for the Arts Fellowships in poetry. Also a playwright, Skinner's

plays have been produced in New York, Chicago, Philadelphia, and elsewhere. He lives in Louisville, Kentucky, where he teaches at the University of Louisville, and helps run Sarabande Books, a literary press he co-founded with his wife, the poet Sarah Gorham.