Francine Prose & Anne Washburn

Francine Prose grew up in Brooklyn and graduated from Radcliffe College. She briefly attended Harvard to study medieval English literature but left to live in India for a year, where she began to write her first novel, Judah the Pious (Macmillan, 1986). Prose has written 14 novels, including Bigfoot Dreams (Owl Publishing, 1998), Primitive People (Harper Perennial, 2001), Household Saints (Harper Perennial, 2003), which was made into a 1993 film directed by Nancy Savoca, Blue Angel (Harper Perennial, 2006), which was a finalist for the National Book Award, A Changed Man (Harper Perennial, 2006) and Goldengrove (Harper, 2008). Her short story collections include Women and Children First (Harper Perennial, 2003) and The Peaceable Kingdom (Harper Perennial, 2005); she has written five books for children and two novels for young adults, After (HarperFer, 2004) and Bullyville (HarperFer, 2007). Her books of nonfiction include The Lives of the Muses: Nine Women and the Artists they Inspired (Harper Perennial, 2003), Caravaggio: Painter of Miracles (Harper Perennial, 2010), Gluttony (Oxford University Press, 2003), and Anne Frank: The Book, the Life, the Afterlife (Harper, 2009). Reading Like a Writer: A Guide for People Who Love Books and for Those Who Want to Write Them (Harper, 2006) was a New York Times Bestseller. Prose is the recipient of the Dayton Literary Peace Prize, the Edith Wharton Lifetime Achievement Award, a Guggenheim Fellowship, two NEA grants, two New York State Council on the Arts grants, a PEN Translation Prize, one Washington University International Medal in the Humanities, and two Jewish Book Council Prizes. She is currently a Distinguished Visiting Writer at Bard College and has taught at Harvard, the University of Arizona, the University of Utah, the Iowa Writers’ Workshop, and the Sewanee and Bread Loaf Writers’ Conferences.

Anne Washburn’s plays include The Internationalist, A Devil at Noon, Apparition, The Communist Dracula Pageant, I Have Loved Strangers, The Ladies, The Small, and a transadaptation of Euripides’ Orestes. Her work has been produced by 13P, Actors Theater of Louisville, American Repertory Theater, Cherry Lane Theater, Clubbed Thumb, The Civilians, Dixon Place, Ensemble Studio Theater, The Folger, London’s Gate Theater, NYC’s Soho Rep, DC’s Studio Theater, Two River Theater Company, and NYC’s Vineyard. Her new play, Mr. Burns, is a finalist for the 2011 Susan Smith Blackburn Award, and will premiere at Woolly Mammoth Theater in June. Washburn’s awards include a Guggenheim, a NYFA Fellowship, a Time Warner Fellowship, residencies at MacDowell and Yaddo, and an artslink travel grant to Hungary to work with the playwright Peter Karpafi. She is a member of 13P, an associated artist with The Civilians and New Georges, and an alumna of New Dramatists. Washburn is currently commissioned by MTC, Playwright Horizons, Soho Rep, and Yale Rep.

Wednesday, March 14, 2012
6:00 to 7:30 p.m.
Barker Room, 2315 Boylan Hall
Brooklyn College

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