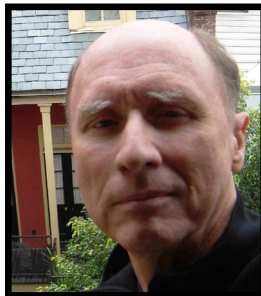


# Featured Participants



**TONINO BENACQUISTA** is one of French literature's most versatile talents. His work in cinema as a script-writer led to his winning *Césars* (the European equivalents of Oscars) for the screenplays of *Sur mes lèvres* (*Read My Lips*) (2001) and *De battre mon cœur s'est arrêté* (*The Beat That My Heart Skipped*) (2006). He began his career as a writer with a series of well-received mystery novels that he researched in part while working on the French railroads. His most recent novels, *Malavita* (*Songs of a Life of Crime*) (2004) and *Malvita encore* (2008), explore what would happen if an American Mafia family were squirreled away in Normandy as part of a witness protection program. During his stay at Florida State, Tonino Benacquista will offer a master class on American influences on French cinema. There will also be a screening of *Read My Lips*, after which he will respond to questions from the audience. Along with Daniel Pennac, he will participate in a discussion of the best-selling text they wrote for the Lucky Luke comic book series.



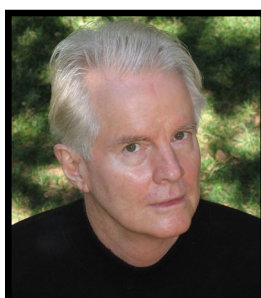
**ROBERT OLEN BUTLER** is the author of twelve novels and six collections of short stories. In addition to a Pulitzer Prize in 1993 and two National Magazine Awards, he has received a Guggenheim Fellowship in fiction and an NEA grant, as well as the Richard and Hinda Rosenthal Award from the American Academy of Arts and Letters. His stories have appeared in *The New Yorker*, *Esquire*, *The Paris Review*, *The Sewanee Review*, *Best American Short Stories*, *New Stories from the South*, and many other journals. He holds a distinguished Frances Eppes Professorship at Florida State University and has published a volume of his lectures on the creative process, *From Where You Dream*, edited, with an introduction by Janet Burroway. During the symposium he will read a short story he co-wrote with French author Camille Laurens and answer questions on the collaborative writing process.



**ALICE CLARK** is an associate professor of literature at the Université de Nantes in France. Her work on Shakespeare and French theatre, *Le Théâtre romantique en crise, Shakespeare et Nerval*, Paris: Harmattan, 2005, was short-listed for a research prize. She is the author of a collection of poems in French and English (*Imaginaires*, University of Nantes, 1997) and critical articles in French literary reviews. She has co-authored a book on the Anglo-Saxon short story (*La nouvelle anglo-saxonne, une étude psychanalytique* (Paris: Hachette, 1998)). Born in Atlanta, Georgia, she now lives near Paris.



**BARBARA HAMBY** is Distinguished University Scholar and Writer in Residence at Florida State University. In 2010 she received a Guggenheim fellowship, and her book of stories, *Lester Higata's 20th Century*, won the Iowa Short Fiction Prize. The stories are set in Hawaii where she was raised. She is also the author of four books of poetry, most recently *All-Night Lingo Tango* (2009) and *Babel* (2004), both from the University of Pittsburgh Press. She is also the co-editor with David Kirby of an anthology of poetry *Seriously Funny* (Georgia, 2010). Her work has appeared in many journals, including *The Paris Review*, *Harvard Review*, *American Poetry Review*, and *Yale Review*.



**DAVID KIRBY** is the Robert O. Lawton Distinguished Professor of English at Florida State University. He has received many honors for his work, including fellowships from the Guggenheim Foundation and the National Endowment for the Arts, and his work appears frequently in the Best American Poetry and Pushcart Prize volumes. Kirby is the author of numerous books, including *The House on Boulevard St.: New and Selected Poems*, which was a finalist for the 2007 National Book Award in poetry. His *Little Richard: The Birth of Rock 'n' Roll* was named one of *Booklist's* Top 10 Black History Non-Fiction Books of 2010, and the *Times Literary Supplement* called it "a hymn of praise to the emancipatory power of nonsense." Kirby's latest poetry collection is *Talking About Movies With Jesus*.



**VÉRONIQUE M. LE NORMAND** writes children's books, novels, short stories and poetry. Born in Brittany and a former journalist with *Marie-Claire* magazine, she lives in Paris with her husband Daniel Pennac. For *Le Roman de Noémie* (2006) she was nominated for the Prix Goncourt des lycéens allemands. Her album *J'aime* (2006), illustrated by Natali Fortier, was selected for the Bologna Children's Book Fair and has been translated into numerous languages around the world. Her web-site is at [www.minne.me](http://www.minne.me) and she is on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/pages/Véronique-M-Le-Normand-Minne/298843867643](http://www.facebook.com/pages/Véronique-M-Le-Normand-Minne/298843867643).



**DANIEL PENNAC** has redesigned the literary geography of Paris. In the northeastern part of the city is a section called Belleville, a sprawling, multi-ethnic neighborhood which Daniel Pennac claims to be the only truly integrated part of the nation's capital. Until recently Belleville was such an insular space in the city that it really did not even seem like Paris. But then the Malaussène family arrived via Daniel Pennac's imagination. The family or rather tribe has numerous offspring, several adopted siblings and a very smart dog. Their (mis)adventures, over a series of novels, have made Belleville (at least the imaginary one) Paris's literary center, and brought Daniel Pennac great acclaim. Yet in the midst of his Malaussène celebrity, Daniel Pennac found time to write *Comme un roman* (*Better Than Life/Reads Like a Novel*) (1992), an extraordinary, and extraordinarily low-key tribute to the joy of reading. In 2007 he published his much acclaimed *Chagrin d'école* (*School Blues*), which recounts his transition from an inept student to a caring teacher. At Florida State he will give the American premiere of *Bartleby*, his adaptation for the stage of Herman Melville's story, and participate with Tonino Benacquista in a conversation on their scenario for the Lucky Luke series.



**JEAN-PHILIPPE POSTEL** may already have been encountered by students of contemporary French literature in the pages of *The French Review* where he has occasionally contributed always insightful comments on the novel in France today. However, a much larger audience will recognize him as the author, along with Eric Duchâtel of two very rich and funny novels, *Pandore et l'ouvre-boîte* (1999) and *Grenouillages* (2002). The richness of both these works stems from the wealth of literary allusions, word games, and parodies that figure so discreetly in these novels that a reader could enjoy the stories just for themselves. Jean-Philippe Postel has also written short stories, one of which appeared in the collection *Pages de gardes* (2002). For his visit to Florida State he will be lecturing on *Remembering Franco-American Crossings*.



**CATHERINE SAUVAT** is the author of numerous books on European writers, painters and musicians. Tri-lingual in German, French and English, she has published extensively on the cultural life of European cities ranging from Vienna, Prague and Berlin to Amsterdam, Bruges and Venice. She has authored biographies of Stefan Zweig, Arthur Schnitzler and Louis Moreau Gottschalk, written stage adaptations of works by Jacob Wassermann and Jean Cocteau and recently completed work on a television documentary on Gustav Mahler to be broadcast on the Franco-German channel Arte.



**GERALDINE VINE** has taught English as a foreign language extensively in both the public and private sectors in France, most recently at the Université de Franche-Comté. Born in Belfast, Northern Ireland, and of Franco-British citizenship, she studied at the Université de la Sorbonne Nouvelle and now lives in Paris. Specialist linguistic areas in which she has worked include aeronautics and medicine.

