

Media Contacts:

Camille Rankine, Manager, External Relations & National Programs
Cave Canem Foundation: 718.858.0000; camillerankine@ccpoets.org

Maria Sticco, Publicist

University of Pittsburgh Press: 412.383.2493; mes5@pitt.edu



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

PATRICIA SMITH SELECTS NICOLE TEREZ DUTTON FOR CAVE CANEM POETRY PRIZE

University of Pittsburgh Press to Publish If One of Us Should Fall

BROOKLYN, NY (September 20, 2011) — Cave Canem Foundation, Inc., North America’s premier “home for black poetry,” is pleased to announce that **Nicole Terez Dutton** has received the 2011 **Cave Canem Poetry Prize** for her manuscript *If One of Us Should Fall*, selected by **Patricia Smith**. University of Pittsburgh Press will publish the collection in fall 2012. Additionally, Ms. Dutton will receive \$1,000 and a feature reading. An Honorable Mention was awarded **Lauren K. Alleyne** for her manuscript *What Kept Us*. Established in 1999 with Rita Dove’s selection of Pulitzer Prize-winning poet Natasha Trethewey’s *Domestic Work* (Graywolf Press, 2000), the Cave Canem Poetry Prize is first-book award given annually for an exceptional manuscript by an African American poet.

POETS

Nicole Terez Dutton earned an M.F.A. from Brown University. Her work has appeared in *Callaloo*, *Ploughshares*, *Indiana Review* and *Salt Hill Journal*. She has received fellowships from Cave Canem, The Fine Arts Work Center in Provincetown and The Virginia Center for the Creative Arts. She currently lives in Boston, Massachusetts.

Cave Canem fellow **Lauren Kizi-Ann Alleyne’s** work has been awarded an International Publication Prize from *The Atlanta Review* and received honorable mentions in the 2009 Reginald Shepherd Memorial Poetry Prize and the 2003 Gival Press Tri-Language Poetry Contest. Her chapbook *Dawn in the Kaatskills* was published in 2008 by Longshore Press. She is Assistant Professor of English at the University of Dubuque.

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CAVE CANEM FOUNDATION, INC. * 20 Jay Street, Suite 310-A, Brooklyn, NY 11201*
www.cavecanempoets.org / 718.858.0000

JUDGE

Patricia Smith is the author of five books of poetry, including *Blood Dazzler*, a finalist for the 2008 National Book Award, and *Teahouse of the Almighty*, a National Poetry Series selection and winner of the first Hurston/Wright Award in Poetry. A four-time National Poetry Slam individual champion, she has received a Pushcart Prize and the Carl Sandburg Award; was a featured poet on HBO's *Def Poetry Jam*; and in 2006, was inducted into the National Literary Hall of Fame for Writers of African Descent. In addition to her poetic works, she is the author of *Africans in America*, a companion volume to the groundbreaking PBS documentary, and penned the children's book *Janna and the Kings*, which won Lee & Low Books' New Voices Award. She teaches in the Stonecoast MFA program at the University of Southern Maine and is a professor of creative writing at the City University of New York - College of Staten Island.

Founded in 1996 by poets **Toi Derricotte** and **Cornelius Eady** to remedy the under-representation of African American poets in writing workshops and MFA programs, **Cave Canem** is a home for the many voices of African American poetry and is committed to cultivating the artistic and professional growth of African American poets. Cave Canem has grown from an initial gathering of 26 poets to become an influential movement with a renowned faculty and a high-achieving fellowship of over 300. Its programs include an annual writing retreat, first and second book prizes, Legacy Conversations with such poets as Nobel Laureate Derek Walcott, Poets on Craft talks, community-based workshops, publications and national readings. To date, the organization has published *Gathering Ground: A Reader Celebrating Cave Canem's First Decade* (University of Michigan Press, 2006) and *The Ringing Ear: Black Poets Lean South* (The University of Georgia Press, 2007). For more information, go to cavecanempoets.org.

Founded in 1936, the **University of Pittsburgh Press** is a scholarly publisher with distinguished books in several academic areas and in poetry and short fiction, as well as books about Pittsburgh and western Pennsylvania for general readers, scholars, and students. Since its inception in 1967, the *Pitt Poetry Series* (Ed Ochester, Editor) has been a vehicle for America's finest contemporary poets. The series' list includes Poet Laureate Billy Collins, Toi Derricotte, Denise Duhamel, Lynn Emanuel,

—more—

Bob Hicok, Ted Kooser, Larry Levis, Sharon Olds, Alicia Suskin Ostriker, Virgil Suárez, Afaa Michael Weaver, David Wojahn, Dean Young and many others. Throughout its history, the *Pitt Poetry Series* has provided a voice for the diversity that is American poetry, representing poets from many backgrounds without allegiance to any one school or style. For more information about the press, go to www.upress.pitt.edu/upressIndex.aspx.

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