

# CAVE CANEM WRITERS CIRCUIT 2011

Engage world-class and prize-winning poets at the affordable fee of \$1,000, and benefit Cave Canem.



## FOUNDERS

### Toi Derricotte

**Poetry:** *The Undertaker's Daughter* (University of Pittsburgh Press, 2011); *Tender*, winner of the Paterson Poetry Prize; *Captivity*; *Natural Birth*; and *Empress of the Death House*. **Memoir:** *The Black Notebooks*, recipient of the Anisfield-Wolf Book Award for Non-Fiction.

### Cornelius Eady

**Poetry:** Eight collections, including *Hardheaded Weather* (Penguin, 2008); *Brutal Imagination*; *Victims of the Latest Dance Craze*, a Lamont Poetry Prize winner; and *The Gathering of My Name*, nominated for the Pulitzer Prize.

## FACULTY

### Cyrus Cassells

**Poetry:** Five collections, including *The Crossed-Out Swastika* (2012); *The Mud Actor*, a National Poetry Series selection; and *Soul Make a Path through Shouting*, recipient of the William Carlos Williams Award.

### Kwame Dawes

**Poetry:** Twelve collections, the most recent of which are *Gomer's Song* and *Impossible Flying*. His *Bob Marley: Lyrical Genius* is an authoritative study of the lyrics of Bob Marley.

### Thomas Sayers Ellis

**Poetry:** *The Maverick Room* (Graywolf Press, 2005), recipient of Mrs. Giles Whiting Writers' Award and the 2006 John C. Zacharis First Book Award, and *Skin, Inc.: Identity Repair Poems* (Graywolf Press, 2010).

### Nikky Finney

**Poetry:** Three collections, including *Head Off and Split* (Northwestern U. Press, 2011); and *Rice*, winner of a PEN America Open Book Award. **Fiction:** *Heartwood*, a collection of stories.

### Terrance Hayes

**Poetry:** Four collections, including *Lighthouse* (Penguin, 2010), winner of the 2010 National Book Award for Poetry; and *Hip Logic*, a National Poetry Series selection.

### Marilyn Nelson

**Poetry:** Over a dozen collections, including translations and books for young adults and children. Her *The Homeplace* won the 1992 Anisfield-Wolf Award and was a finalist for the 1991 National Book Award. *The Fields of Praise: New and Selected Poems* won the 1998 Poets' Prize and was a finalist for the 1997 National Book Award.

### Carl Phillips

**Poetry:** Numerous collections, most recently, *Double Shadow* (Farrar, 2011) and *Speak Low* (Farrar, 2009). His *The Rest of Love*, a finalist for the National Book Award, won the Theodore Roethke Memorial Foundation Poetry Prize and the Thom Gunn Award for Gay Male Poetry.

### Ed Roberson

**Poetry:** Eight books of poetry, including *Voices Cast Out to Talk Us In*, winner of the Iowa Poetry Prize; *The New Wing of the Labyrinth* (Singing Horse Press, 2010); *Atmosphere Conditions*, selected for the National Poetry Series and nominated for the Lenore Marshall Award from the Academy of American Poets; and *To See the Earth Before the End of the World* (Wesleyan University Press, 2010).

### Tim Seibles

**Poetry:** Four collections, including *Hammerlock*, *Body Moves*, *Hurdy-Gurdy*, *Buffalo Head Solos* (Cleveland State U. Poetry Center, 2008) and *Fast Animal*, forthcoming in 2012. Recipient of an Open Voice Award.

### Patricia Smith

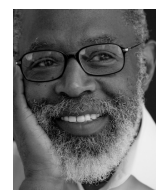
**Poetry:** Five collections, including *Blood Dazzler*, a finalist for 2008 National Book Award, and *Teahouse of the Almighty*, a National Poetry Series selection and winner of the first Hurston/Wright Award in Poetry.

### Natasha Trethewey

**Poetry:** Three collections, including *Native Guard*, recipient of the 2007 Pulitzer Prize, and *Domestic Work*, selected by Rita Dove for the inaugural Cave Canem Poetry Prize. **Creative Non-fiction:** *Beyond Katrina: A Meditation on the Mississippi Gulf Coast* (University of Georgia Press, 2010).

### Afaa Michael Weaver

**Poetry:** Eleven books, including *My Father's Geography* and *The Plum Flower Dance: Poems 1985-2005*, and his most recent collection, *Like the Wind*, a translation of selected and new poems into Arabic. 2008 Pushcart Prize for "American Income."



Continue to Page 2 to browse the rest of the roster & to learn how the Circuit works!

CAVE CANEM PRIZE WINNERS



**Kyle Dargan**

**Poetry:** *Logorrhea Dementia* (U. of Georgia Press, 2010); *Bouquet of Hungers* (U. of Georgia Press, 2007), recipient of the 2008 Hurston/Wright Award in Poetry; and *The Listening* (U. of Georgia Press), selected by Quincy Troupe for the 2003 Cave Canem Poetry Prize.



**Vieeve Francis**

**Poetry:** *Blue-Tail Fly* (Wayne State U. Press, 2006) and *Horse in the Dark* (Northwestern U. Press, Spring 2011), winner of the 2010 Cave Canem Northwestern U. Press Poetry Prize.



**Gary Jackson**

**Poetry:** *Missing You, Metropolis* (Graywolf Press, 2010), selected by Yusef Komunyakaa for the 2009 Cave Canem Poetry Prize.



**Dawn Lundy Martin**

**Poetry:** *A Gathering of Matter/A Matter of Gathering* (U. of Georgia Press, 2007), selected by Carl Phillips for the 2006 Cave Canem Poetry Prize; and two chapbooks, *The Undress* (belladonna books, 2006) and *The Morning Hour* (Poetry Society of America, 2003), recipient of the Poetry Society of America Chapbook Fellowship.



**Indigo Moor**

**Poetry:** *Tap-Root* (Main Street Rag's Editor's Select Poetry Series, 2006) and *Through the Stonecutter's Window* (Northwestern U. Press, 2010), winner of the 2009 Cave Canem Northwestern U. Press Poetry Prize.



**Iain Haley Pollock**

**Poetry:** *Spit Back a Boy* (U. of Georgia Press, June 2011), selected by Elizabeth Alexander for the 2010 Cave Canem Poetry Prize.



**Lyrae Van Clief-Stefanon**

**Poetry:** *Open Interval* (U. of Pittsburgh Press, 2009), 2009 National Book Award Finalist; *Black Swan* (U. of Pittsburgh Press, 2002), selected by Marilyn Nelson for the 2001 Cave Canem Poetry Prize; and *Poems in Conversation and a Conversation*, a chapbook in collaboration with Elizabeth Alexander.



**Ronaldo V. Wilson**

**Poetry:** *Poems of the Black Object* (Futurepoem Books, 2009) and *Narrative of the Life of the Brown Boy and the White Man* (U. of Pittsburgh Press, 2008), selected by Claudia Rankine for the Cave Canem Poetry Prize.

Cave Canem is a home for the many voices of African American poetry and is committed to cultivating the artistic & professional growth of African American poets.

20 Jay Street, Suite 310-A, Brooklyn, NY 11201  
[www.cavecanempoets.org](http://www.cavecanempoets.org)

DIRECTORS & HONORARY DIRECTORS



**Jacqueline Jones LaMon**

**Poetry:** *Last Seen* (U. of Wisconsin Press, 2011), winner of the Felix Pollak Prize in Poetry; and *Gravity, U.S.A.*, recipient of the Quercus Review Press Poetry Series Book Award. **Novel:** *In the Arms of One Who Loves Me* (One World/ Ballantine Books). Serves on Cave Canem's Board of Directors.



**Ethelbert Miller**

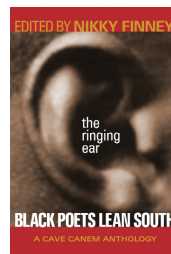
**Poetry:** Numerous books of poetry, most recently, *How We Sleep On The Nights We Don't Make Love* (Curbstone Press/Northwestern U. Press, 2004). **Memoir:** *Fathering Words: The Making of an African American Writer* (St. Martins, 2001) and *The 5th Inning* (PM Press, 2009). Member of Cave Canem's Honorary Board.

How the Circuit Works

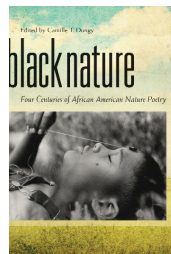
- Cave Canem Circuit writers each have agreed to donate one reading in 2011 to benefit Cave Canem. Their generosity helps sustain the organization.
- In lieu of honorarium, the host pays a \$1,000 program fee to Cave Canem.
- Host pays for writer's travel, meals & accommodations.
- Cave Canem staff executes contracts, as appropriate, & assists with logistics & promotion.

**Booking & Inquiries:** [poetrycircuit@ccpoets.org](mailto:poetrycircuit@ccpoets.org) or 718.858.0000.

*Inquire about Cave Canem's themed readings.*



**The Ringing Ear: Black Poets Lean South**, edited by Nikky Finney (U. of Georgia Press, 2007), collects the work of 103 established and emerging African American poets. It is the first anthology of its kind focusing on what Marilyn Hacker has called " 'the magnetic South,' vexed and compelling as it is in the Black American imagination." Kwame Dawes has written, "This is a distinctly southern book, a distinctly Black book, a distinctly American book—it is all these things and more."



**Black Nature: Four Centuries of African American Nature Poetry** (U. of Georgia Press, 2009) edited by Camille Dungy, is " . . . a major contribution to twenty-first century Black Studies. (Karla F.C. Holloway)



**Gathering Ground: A Reader Celebrating Cave Canem's First Decade** (U. of Michigan Press, 2006) edited by Toi Derricotte & Cornelius Eady, assembles in one place the most innovative voices in contemporary African American poetry and boldly attests to the important position it holds in verse making today. "This publication. . . displays the dazzling diversity of our black rainbow. CC writers, see what we have done!" (Harryette Mullen)