



# NEWS RELEASE

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## ROPEWALK WRITERS RETREAT TO BE HELD IN JUNE

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The fifth annual RopeWalk Writers Retreat, to be held June 13-19 at historic New Harmony, Indiana, has been expanded in both program and number of participants. The 1993 retreat will open on Sunday, close on Saturday, providing an extra day in which participants will share the work and advice of five creative writing faculty members and performances by two guest artists. In the past, the program was limited to four faculty members.

RopeWalk is sponsored by the University of Southern Indiana and will feature the following faculty:

**Ann Beattie**, author of four novels: *Chilly Scenes of Winter*, *Falling in Place*, *Love Always*, and *Picturing Will*. She also wrote the story collections *Distortions*, *Secrets and Surprises*, *The Burning House*, *Where You'll Find Me*, and *What Was Mine*.

**Lynn Emanuel**, associate professor at the University of Pittsburg and award-winning author of *Hotel Fiesta* (Great Lakes Colleges Association's New Writers Award) and *The Dig* (National Poetry Series Award). She is a recipient of two National Endowment for the Arts Fellowships.

**Rust Hills**, fiction editor of *Esquire* magazine for 30 years. He is the author of *Writing in General and the Short Story in Particular*, a Houghton Mifflin trade paperback, while *How To Do Things Right: The Memoirs of a Fussy Man* was due out this spring from David R. Godine, Publisher, of Boston. The latter includes three of Hills' books that have been out of print.

**Andrew Hudgins**, author of three books of poetry -- *The Never-Ending: New Poems*, *After the Lost War: A Narrative*, and *Saints and Strangers*. He is professor of English at the University of Cincinnati and the recipient of a National Endowment for the Arts Award, an Ingram Merrill Foundation Grant, and The Poet's Prize.

**David St. John**, poetry editor of *The Antioch Review* and professor of English/creative writing at the University of Southern California. He is the author of four collections of poetry, *Hush*, *The Shore*, *No Heaven*, and *Terraces of Rain: An Italian Sketchbook*. He has received grants and fellowships from the Guggenheim Foundation, National Endowment for the Arts, Ingram Merrill Foundation, and American Academy and Institute of Arts and Letters.

Guest artists will be **David Broza**, international singer/songwriter best known for putting contemporary poetry to music, and **James Kimbrell**, Henry Hoyns Fellow in the M.F.A. program at the University of Virginia. Broza's first American album, "Away From Home," was released in 1989 and is available from EMI; he will perform at least one evening during RopeWalk. Kimbrell will read from his work on Friday, June 18; he has held fellowships from the Ford Foundation and was awarded the Ruth Lilly Poetry Fellowship at the 1992 National Collegiate Poetry Convocation.

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A gift from Mrs. Lilly has been the impetus behind the expanded program, which also is supported by Susan R. Enlow, the Indiana Arts Commission, the Blaffer Trust, the Witter-Bynner Foundation, the USI Society for the Arts and Humanities, and Historic New Harmony.

Retreat directors are Matthew Graham, USI associate professor of English/creative writing, and Thomas Wilhelmus, professor of English and associate dean of the USI School of Liberal Arts. Graham is the author of two volumes of poetry, *New World Architecture* and *1946*. Broza's 1989 album included six poems from Graham's first book. Wilhelmus' reviews of contemporary fiction appear frequently in *The Hudson Review*.

Deadlines for participating in the 1993 retreat come in May. Scholarships are available for eligible participants, to help offset the \$350 tuition; applications are due May 3. Manuscripts of poetry or fiction being submitted for critique are due by May 14. That also is the deadline to register for the retreat or make housing reservations, either at the New Harmony Inn or the Barn Abbey. Indiana residents will receive a 10 percent tuition discount.

Call 800/467-8600 or 812/464-1989 for retreat information.