

State of the ARTS

From the desk of Vice Provost Libby Morris

The 2012-13 academic year sped by even faster than usual, it seems. Of course one of the highlights of the year was the inaugural Spotlight on the Arts festival, which took place over the course of nine days in November.

The units that comprise the UGA Arts Council presented more than 50 wonderful events for members of the UGA and local community to enjoy. In addition, student performers staged impromptu events at locations around campus, much to the surprise and delight of those passing by!

The festival was such a



success that when the Arts Council met in January, the first topic of discussion was choosing the dates for the 2013 festival. So please mark your calendars for Nov. 7-15! We'll be announcing the festival line-up later, but we can promise it will be just as enjoyable as last year's.

We certainly hope that faculty – particularly those teaching First-Year Odyssey seminars in the fall – will think about ways to encourage students to

CONTINUED ON PAGE 3

2013 Spotlight on the Arts

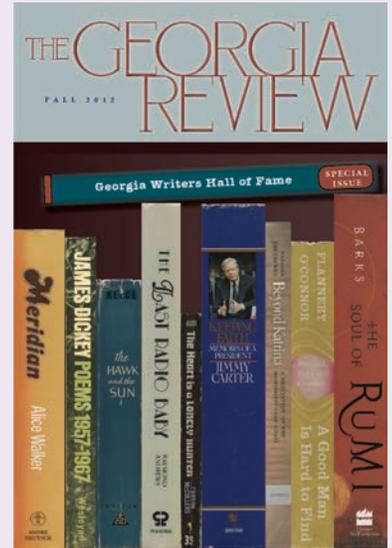
Members of the UGA Arts Council have chosen Nov. 7-15 as the dates for the 2013 Spotlight on the Arts festival. This year's festival will follow the pattern of the inaugural Spotlight festival held last fall that attracted some 15,000 attendees to more than 50 events scheduled over a nine-day period.



while the Special Collections Libraries will host events in connection with the Georgia Writers Hall of Fame, which is administered by the libraries. Film festivals, readings, a "dirty book sale" and other activities to be variously hosted by *The Georgia Review*, the UGA Press and the Willson Center for Humanities and Arts are in the planning stages.

Details of specific events to be held this year will be announced later, but the festival will again include an event at The Classic Center Theatre in downtown Athens jointly sponsored by the Performing Arts Center and The Classic Center, several performances by students and faculty in the Hugh Hodgson School of Music, a special main stage production by University Theatre, and scheduled and impromptu dance performances by students in the dance department of the Franklin College of Arts and Sciences.

The Georgia Museum of Art and the Lamar Dodd School of Art will host exhibitions and open houses,



Arts at UGA flourished during 2012-13

The performing, visual and literary arts at UGA flourished during the 2012-13 academic year. Highlighted by the inaugural Spotlight on the Arts festival held in November, the year was filled with special programs and events presented by Arts Council units. Here's a brief recap:

The Performing Arts Center showcased some of the finest performers from around the world during its 2012-13 season, including a very special appearance by renowned violinist Itzhak Perlman in December. To the delight of the audience, Perlman wore a Georgia sweatshirt for the second half of his sold-out concert. The PAC continued its partnership with the Classic Center by presenting Blue Man Group and the Boston Pops

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2



ARTS AT UGA FLOURISHING

CONT'D FROM PAGE 1

Orchestra; the Boston Pops event was especially noteworthy for Maestro Keith Lockhart since it was his 1500th concert as conductor of the Pops. The PAC's season also included a live taping of public radio's popular program, *From the Top*, as well as a memorable concert by Sir James Galway on his Legacy Tour. Béla Fleck, the world's premier banjo player, made two appearances in Hodgson Hall during the season, the second of which featured a performance of his new Banjo Concerto with the UGA Symphony Orchestra.

The Hugh Hodgson School of Music had a robust presence at the inaugural Spotlight on the Arts festival. In addition to numerous student recitals and large ensemble performances, the festival also featured the Georgia Woodwind Quintet in "A Southern Wind Serenade," as well as the pièce de résistance: the UGA Symphony Orchestra's sold-

out performance of Carl Orff's *Carmina Burana*, which brought the UGASO together with the entire choral department for a total of over 300 students on stage. In the spring, the School of Music presented its second annual "UGA in Atlanta" concert at Spivey Hall. The performance featured the Bulldog Brass Society, the Southern Wind Quintet and the Hodgson String Quartet.

University Theatre's 80th anniversary season was one of its most successful. It began with the sold-out run of *In the Next Room (or the vibrator play)*, followed by Chekhov's classic *Three Sisters* and *The Darker Face of the Earth* by former poet laureate Rita Dove, who attended the opening night performance. 2013 began with the delightful musical *The Fantasticks* and the world premiere play *Must Go On*, followed by the profoundly moving avant-garde *Under Construction*. Shakespeare's *Macbeth* closed

CORE Concert Dance Company annual concert



the season with spectacular innovations in digital technology and a towering, multilevel set designed by visiting artist Rick Clark of Entertainment Design Group of Atlanta.

The department of dance hosted a three-day residency of the Ririe-Woodbury Dance Company. Master classes and lecture-demonstrations were open to all students, and the residency included a public performance. The company set choreography on the members of CORE Concert Dance Com-

pany. Grants for more than \$40,000 were awarded to dance faculty for guest artists, performance projects and research. UGA dance majors performed with the Joe Goode Performance Group at the Ferst Center for Performing Arts in Atlanta and at the UGA Fine Arts Center. The department also hosted a 10-day residency by Marcus Bugler, the Wilson Center's Guest Artist in residency and a former principal dancer with Metropolitan Opera Ballet and ballet master for Cirque de Soleil in Las Vegas.

The Lamar Dodd School of Art celebrated student work with the school's 4th Juried Student Exhibition in October. Juror Lloyd Benjamin of Get This! Gallery in Atlanta selected undergraduate and graduate works across all areas of concentration. The LDSOA hosted a celebration of UGA arts units with Artapalooza in January featuring performances by student musicians, actors and dancers, student artwork and a drawing class workshop. The 2013 MFA Exit Show returned to the Georgia Museum of Art for the first time in five years. The Dodd Chair Exhibition

featured the work of jeweler Lola Brooks, in residence at LDSOA for 2012-13.

The Georgia Museum of Art celebrated its reaccreditation by the American Alliance of Museums – an honor given to less than five percent of museums. The museum furthered important collaborative research between the arts and the sciences through hosting the Orpheus Relief Project, which involved chemical and spectroscopic analysis of a work of art. In February, the museum's annual Black History Month dinner honored the late Rudolph Byrd and the sculptor Harold Rittenberry. Throughout the academic year, GMOA continued to collect awards and organize exhibitions, including the School of Art's MFA exit show, which returned to the museum's galleries in March.

The Georgia Review dedicated its oversize Fall 2012 issue to the Georgia Writers Hall of Fame and released it in time for the GWHF grand celebration in September. The Winter 2012 issue offered a literary tour of three continents and six centuries, while the Spring 2013 issue show-

More than 300 School of Music students performed *Carmina Burana*.



Follow UGA arts on Facebook and Twitter

Want to keep up with – and share – information on arts programs and activities at UGA? Follow UGA Arts on Facebook and @UGA_Arts on Twitter. The Georgia Museum of Art, Performing Arts Center and several other UGA arts units also have Facebook pages and Twitter accounts.



cased noted Georgia fiction writer Mary Hood. *The Review* presented readings in Athens by poets and fiction writers and participated in the 2012 Georgia Literary Festival at Jekyll Island in the fall and the 2013 Association of Writers and Writing Programs conference in Boston in March. *The Review's* fifth annual Earth Day celebration at the State Botanical Garden of Georgia featured award-winning essayist

and conservationist Scott Russell Sanders.

The UGA Press is celebrating two important anniversaries. The year 2013 marks the 75th anniversary of the Press, which was founded on July 1, 1938. In honor of the anniversary, local artist Philip Juras has loaned three of his landscape paintings to the Press, which will be exhibited in the Press's lobby in the Main Library through June. The Press also celebrated the 30th anniversary of its Flannery O'Connor Award for Short Fiction by featuring "30 Days of the Flannery O'Connor Award" on its blog through the month of March. The Press has released two new anthologies that span the history of the award and are available exclusively as ebooks.

The Special Collections Libraries presented "Ready, Steady, Vote!" in the fall, a program series focused on getting citizens in the mood for the 2012 election season

From the desk of the vice provost

CONT'D FROM PAGE 1

explore arts opportunities at UGA. As was true last year, many of the festival events will be free and those requiring tickets generally offer special rates for students.

To keep up with the latest news about the arts at UGA, visit the website that was launched last fall (arts.uga.edu) or follow UGA Arts on Facebook or Twitter. Have a great summer and save those fall dates!



Museum implements Adopt-a-Bus program

The Georgia Museum of Art has recently developed and implemented Adopt-a-Bus, a program that allows students attending schools within driving distance to visit the official state museum of art.

The program recruits donors to help supplement the limited funding of schools that wish to send their students to the museum. It was inspired by the museum's program bringing every fifth-grader in Athens-Clarke County

to its building, which is funded every year by a private donor. Adopt-a-Bus is available for grades K-12. It includes both an interactive gallery tour and an art-making activity, which last approximately two hours.

"Nothing can replace seeing an original work of art. It's important for kids to come to the museum so they can remember the experience and realize it's a place for them," said Carissa DiCindio, curator of education at the museum.

The museum hosted the Hawkinsville High School Art Club as its first participant in Adopt-a-Bus in November 2012.

Schools interested in taking advantage of the program should contact the museum at 706/542-GMOA (4662). Donors can call the same number or see georgia-museum.org/learn/outreach to learn more or give online. Gifts of \$250 underwrite one or more bus trips to the museum and are tax deductible.

with a combination of film screenings, community forums, debate watch events, stump speeches, and an art opening. During the Spotlight on the Arts festival, the Libraries held a reception to celebrate the completion of Art Rosenbaum's mural in the gallery of the Russell Library, and literary society members recited stump speeches from the Russell collections on Election Day. Georgia's literary history has been on display in the Georgia Writers Hall of Fame's first exhibit in its new home at the Special Collections Libraries. Established in 2000 as part of the Hargrett Rare Book and Manuscript Library, the Georgia Writers Hall

of Fame honors Georgia's most influential writers.

The Willson Center for Humanities and Arts

introduced a variety of new programming initiatives during the academic year that showcased the richness, diversity and reach of the university, particularly in the context of the arts. The Willson Center's main event during the Spotlight on the Arts festival was the Athens premiere of the 2006 feature film *Somebodies*, written and directed by UGA alumnus Hadji and shot entirely in Athens. Another highlight of the year was the launching of the Willson Center's Global Georgia Initiative

that included talks by longtime R.E.M. adviser Bertis Downs and South African journalist, publisher and DJ Ntone Edjabe, who spun vinyl at Athens' legendary 40 Watt Club as part of his visit. The center also organized Songs @ Cine, a musical showcase supporting the downtown art cinema's digital conversion campaign that featured a rare solo appearance by R.E.M.'s Mike Mills. Antje Ascheid, the center's new associate academic director for arts and public programs, arranged visits by Peter Murray, founding director of the U.K.'s Yorkshire Sculpture Park, and Richard Allen, chair of cinema studies at New York University.

c/o Vice Provost Libby Morris

Office of the Senior Vice President
for Academic Affairs and Provost

Administration Building
University of Georgia
Athens, GA 30602



New director of First-Year Odyssey



Melissa Harshman, an associate professor in the Lamar Dodd School of Art, has been named faculty director of UGA's First-Year Odyssey Seminar program, which provides students with an introduction to life at UGA by engaging them with faculty and other first-year students in a small-class environment.

Harshman has been a faculty member at UGA since 1993. She served for two years as the graduate coordinator for the art school and has been chair of the printmaking and book arts department for 12 years. For the last two years, she has taught the FYO course "The Fine Art of Printmaking."

Morris to serve as interim provost

UGA President-elect Jere Morehead has named Libby V. Morris as interim provost, effective July 1. Morris has served as vice provost for academic affairs since 2010. In that role, she works closely with the UGA Arts Council, the Georgia Museum of Art, the Performing Arts Center and the Office of Faculty Affairs. Morris has been a faculty member in the university's Institute of Higher Education since 1989 and has served as its director since 2006. She also is an adjunct professor in the College of Public Health and a member of the UGA Teaching Academy.

She earned her master's and doctoral degrees from the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill and her bachelor's degree from UGA.

UGA Arts Council directory

The UGA Arts Council was convened in October 2011 by Vice Provost Libby Morris. Current members are listed below. For more information on any of these units, please see their web sites.

Libby Morris, vice provost
Office of the Provost
provost.uga.edu

Nicholas Allen, director
Willson Center for Humanities and Arts
willson.uga.edu

Linda Bachman, assistant dean
Franklin College of Arts and Sciences
www.franklin.uga.edu

Lisa Bayer, director
University of Georgia Press
www.ugapress.org

Stephen Corey, editor
The Georgia Review
garev.uga.edu

William Eiland, director
Georgia Museum of Art
georgiamuseum.org

George Foreman, director
Performing Arts Center
pac.uga.edu

Lisa Fusillo, department head
Department of Dance
www.dance.uga.edu

Toby Graham, deputy University Librarian
Special Collections Libraries
www.libs.uga.edu/scl

Dale Monson, director
Hugh Hodgson School of Music
www.music.uga.edu

David Saltz, department head
Department of Theatre and Film Studies
www.drama.uga.edu

Gene Wright, interim director
Lamar Dodd School of Art
art.uga.edu

State of the Arts is a publication of the UGA Arts Council
Editor: Sharron Hannon
Designer: Kris Barratt