

# A Michigan Author Homecoming

## Novels and Stories

### Richard Ford

*A Piece of My Heart* (1976)  
*The Ultimate Good Luck* (1981)  
*The Sportswriter* (1986)  
*Rock Springs* (1987)  
*Wildlife* (1990)  
*Independence Day* (1995)  
*Women With Men: Three Stories* (1997)  
*A Multitude of Sins* (2002)  
*The Lay of the Land* (2006)

### Jim Harrison

*Wolf* (1971)  
*A Good Day to Die* (1973)  
*Farmer* (1976)  
*Legends of the Fall* (1979)  
*Warlock* (1981)  
*Sundog* (1984)  
*Dalva* (1988)  
*The Woman Lit By Fireflies* (1990)  
*Julip* (1994)  
*The Road Home* (1998)  
*The Beast God Forgot to Invent* (2000)  
*True North* (2004)  
*The Summer He Didn't Die* (2005)  
*Returning to Earth* (2007)

### Thomas McGuane

*The Sporting Club* (1969)  
*The Bushwacked Piano* (1971)  
*Ninety-two in the Shade* (1973)  
*Panama* (1978)  
*An Outside Chance* (1980)  
*Nobody's Angel* (1981)  
*To Skin a Cat* (1987)  
*Nothing But Blue Skies* (1992)  
*Some Horses* (1999)  
*The Cadence of Grass* (2002)  
*Gallatin Canyon* (2006)

Presented by



**Michigan Humanities Council**

*Michigan People, Michigan Places  
Our Stories, Our Lives*

A Great Michigan Read Program



### Event Sponsors

Michigan State University Alumni Association, Michigan State University College of Arts and Letters, Michigan State University Libraries, Michigan State University Press, Residential College in the Arts and Humanities at Michigan State University, Goodrich's Shop-Rite.

### Program Sponsors

National Endowment for the Humanities, Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs, Herbert H. and Grace A. Dow Foundation, Meijer, Arnold & Gertrude Boutell Memorial Fund (Citizens Bank Wealth Management), The Steelcase Foundation, Frey Foundation, Harvey Randall Wickes Foundation, Rollin M. Gerstacker Foundation, Upper Peninsula Power Company through a grant from the Wisconsin Public Services Foundation, LaSalle Bank, Wickson-Link Memorial Foundation, We Energies through the Wisconsin Energy Corporation Foundation, DTE Energy, Clarke Historical Library at Central Michigan University, Michigan Hemingway Society, The Detroit Free Press and Detroit Media Partnership, Library of Michigan.



presents

# A Michigan Author Homecoming

A Great Michigan Read Program

■  
Pasant Theatre  
at the Wharton Center,  
Michigan State University

7:30 p.m.  
Thursday, July 10, 2008

**MICHIGAN STATE  
UNIVERSITY**

## Agenda

- 6:45 p.m. Doors Open
- 7:30 p.m. Welcome  
Lou Anna K. Simon  
*President, Michigan State University*
- 7:35 p.m. Introductions  
Judith A. Rapanos  
*Chair, Michigan Humanities Council*
- 7:40 p.m. Conversation  
Bill Castanier (*moderator*)  
Richard Ford (*speaker*)  
Jim Harrison (*speaker*)  
Thomas McGuane (*speaker*)
- 9:15 p.m. Conversation Ends
- 9:30 p.m. Book Signing
- 10:30 p.m. Event Concludes

The Michigan Writers Collection, located in the Special Collections Division of the Michigan State University Libraries, serves as a primary resource for the recognition, study, and appreciation of the literary tradition that exists and continues to evolve in Michigan. It is devoted to collecting and making accessible all the manuscripts and published works of selected writers with important ties to Michigan.



**Richard Ford** (MSU BA '66), raised in Jackson, Mississippi, broke into the literary world in 1976, with *A Piece of My Heart*. He is best known for his three novels featuring Frank Bascombe: *The Sportswriter* (1986), *Independence Day* (1995), and *The Lay of the Land* (2006). For many, Ford has captured the essence of Baby Boomer masculinity in his Bascombe character. The second Bascombe novel received the Pulitzer Prize and the PEN/Faulkner award. Ford's short stories, notably the *Rock Springs* collection, have also received wide acclaim. He now resides in Maine. The published works and papers of Richard Ford reside in the MSU Libraries as part of the Michigan Writers Collection.

**Jim Harrison** (MSU BA '60, MSU MA '66), raised in Grayling and Haslett, published poetry before his first novel, *Wolf*, which appeared in 1971. Soon after, his relationship with McGuane brought him to Hollywood, where Jack Nicholson would become a friend and patron. Nicholson's financial support allowed him to write his best-known work, the novella *Legends of the Fall*, published in 1979 (leading to a movie adaptation). Harrison's work includes fiction, screenplays, poetry, and essays. Much of his writing is set in Michigan. His next novel, *The English Major*, will reach shelves this October. Harrison spends most of his time in Montana. The published works of Jim Harrison are held in the MSU Libraries as part of the Michigan Writers Collection.

**Thomas McGuane** (MSU BA '62), raised in Grosse Ile, published his first novel, *The Sporting Club*, in 1969. After selling the film rights, he joined the Hollywood orbit, with original screenplays (*The Missouri Breaks*, *Rancho Deluxe*) and a directorial effort (*92 in the Shade*). He continued to write short stories and novels, eventually focusing on the American West (in particular, Montana) as his primary setting. His 2006 collection of short stories, *Gallatin Canyon*, received wide critical acclaim. McGuane currently lives in Montana. The published works and papers of Thomas McGuane reside in the MSU Libraries as part of the Michigan Writers Collection.

**Bill Castanier** (MSU BA '73) is a freelance writer and literary reviewer for the *Lansing City Pulse*. Castanier has spent more than 30 years in public relations, working on projects ranging from the Michigan Sesquicentennial Celebration to special gubernatorial assignments. He has written thousands of speeches and media releases, produced videos and ad campaigns, edited numerous publications, and – when necessary – donned bear and chicken costumes. He helped launch Lansing's first community read program, served on the 2007-08 Great Michigan Read selection committee, and continues to serve on the Michigan Notable Books selection committee.

