News from AGNI: For Immediate Release

Tuesday, May 18, 2011, at 7:00 p.m.
Boston Playwrights’ Theatre, 949 Comm Ave, Boston (Green Line B, Pleasant St.)

AGNI Magazine—which The Globe calls “among the nation’s best” and The Guardian (UK) says “keeps alive the ideal of the independent intellectual”—celebrates its 73rd issue with readings by

- David Ferry: One of America’s foremost poets and translators: winner of the 2011 Ruth Lilly Poetry Prize, and translator of Virgil, Horace, and the Gilgamesh epic.
- Kathleen Hill: Author of the novel Who Occupies This House, chosen as an Editor’s Choice by The New York Times.
- Peter Balakian: His new poetry collection Ziggurat reaches “a historical depth I have found nowhere else in American poetry in recent years” (Carolyn Forché).

AGNI hosts a reading and release party to launch AGNI 73, which includes poems by Donald Hall, Amy Beeder, Shane McCrae & Katie Ford, Patricia Lockwood, and Tom Sleigh; a David Ferry translation of Horace; three new Susan Bernofsky translations of Robert Walser; nonfiction by Nin Andrews, Kathleen Hill, and Matt Donovan; fiction by Josh Weil, Sigrid Nunez, Ret’sepile Makamane, and Mark Slouka; and the astonishing pencil drawings of Ethan Murrow.

David Ferry is the 2011 winner of “the world’s biggest poetry prize,” the Ruth Lilly. He has published three collections, most recently Of No Country I Know: New and Selected Poems (University of Chicago Press), and numerous translations, including Virgil’s Eclogues and Georgics, The Odes of Horace, The Epistles of Horace, and The Epic of Gilgamesh (all from Farrar, Straus, and Giroux).

Kathleen Hill’s new novel, Who Occupies This House (Northwestern University Press, 2010), was selected as an Editors’ Choice by The New York Times. An earlier novel, Still Waters in Niger, was named a notable book by The New York Times, The Los Angeles Times, and The Chicago Tribune, and nominated for the International IMPAC Dublin Literary Award. The French translation, Eaux tranquilles, was shortlisted for the Prix Femina Étranger. Her stories have appeared in The Best American Short Stories, Pushcart Prize XXV, and The Pushcart Book of Short Stories.

Peter Balakian is the author of Ziggurat, a new collection that wrestles with the aftermath of 9/11. Among his other books are June-tree: New and Selected Poems 1974–2000, the memoir Black Dog of Fate, which won the PEN/Albrand Prize, and The Burning Tigris: The Armenian Genocide and America’s Response, which won the 2005 Raphael Lemkin Prize.

Free and open to the public. For further information contact AGNI Senior Editor William Pierce at agni@bu.edu or (617) 353-7135 or visit AGNI Online at www.agnimagazine.org.