

# NEWS RELEASE

## Wilfrid Laurier University



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### **Series' inaugural lecture to feature award-winning author on creativity**

**Waterloo, Ont. (Jan. 26)** — Award-winning author Janette Turner Hospital will speak on creativity for the inaugural Wilfrid and Marion Schweitzer Lecture at Wilfrid Laurier University on Monday, Feb. 6.

The series of public lectures has been established through the generosity of Marion Schweitzer and the estate of Wilfrid Schweitzer (class of 1928) to bring to campus speakers of international stature from the fields of English literature, history, political science, international relations, music, or religion.

Turner Hospital's lecture, scheduled to begin at 8 p.m. in the Maureen Forrester Recital Hall, is titled "The Lady and the Unicorn: On the Nature of Creativity."

Turner Hospital is the author of *The Ivory Swing*, which won Canada's Seal Award for best first novel; her subsequent books have consistently drawn critical praise. Her most recent novel, *The Last Magician* (1992), was shortlisted for the Commonwealth Prize.

Currently writer-in-residence at Queen's University's Herstmonceux Castle in England, Turner Hospital has been writer-in-residence at three other universities and taught at Boston University and La Trobe University in Australia.

In the January issue of *Canadian Living* magazine, she writes: "The act of artistic creation always sets up shop at the busy crossroad where our awareness of the onward rush of time meets our desire to make one particular moment last forever. It's as though in each act of creation we stop the clock for a moment, turn in back to the beginning, to the *original* beginning, to the invention of the world, to the origin of the concept of beauty, and we start over . . . ."

The Schweitzers have had a long association with the university, beginning when Wilfrid Schweitzer attended Waterloo College. Marion Schweitzer took courses in 1933 to obtain her qualifications for teaching.

"In the early 1960s we were living in the community, and we began attending lectures here and were very impressed," says Marion Schweitzer. "We got to hear people like Malcolm Muggeridge.

"These lectures were very good points in our lives and I hope that this series can be the same for others," she adds.

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