



Carol B. Duncan, Associate Professor and Chair
Department of Religion and Culture
519-884-0710 ext. 3692 or cduncan@wlu.ca

Kevin Crowley, Director, Communications and Public Affairs
Wilfrid Laurier University
519-884-0710 ext. 3070 or kcrowley@wlu.ca

MAY 8, 2013 | 070-13

Laurier Professor Carol B. Duncan and author Lawrence Hill discuss race, censorship and free speech at the ROM

WATERLOO – Laurier Associate Professor of Religion and Culture Carol B. Duncan will discuss race, censorship and free speech with author Lawrence Hill Thursday, May 16 at the Royal Ontario Museum (ROM) in Toronto.

The talk, titled “Sir, I Intend to Burn Your Book,” is part of the *Ideas in Dialogue* series, run by PEN Canada in association with the ROM. Randy Boyagoda, professor of American studies at Ryerson University, is moderating the event.

Hill is the author of several novels and works of non-fiction, including the national bestseller *The Book of Negroes*, which won the overall Commonwealth Writers' Prize for Best Book, the Rogers Writers' Trust Fiction Prize, the Ontario Library Association's Evergreen Award and CBC Radio's Canada Reads Award. The book was a finalist for the Hurston/Wright LEGACY Award and long-listed for both the Giller Prize and the IMPAC Award. Hill is a recipient of an honorary doctor of letters degree from Laurier and was the university's writer-in-residence in 2010.

Duncan is chair of Laurier's Department of Religion and Culture. Her areas of research interest include Caribbean religions in transnational and diasporic contexts, the African Diaspora, and religion and popular culture. Duncan contributed to a documentary film project, *Seeking Salvation: A History of the Black Church in Canada*, for which Hill served as writer. She is the author of *This Spot of Ground: Spiritual Baptists in Toronto* and co-author of *Black Religious Studies: An Introduction*.

The event takes place from 7 p.m. to 8 p.m. on May 16 in the Signy and Cléopée Eaton Theatre at the ROM. Tickets are \$25 and can be purchased online at www.rom.on.ca. Email programs@rom.on.ca for more information.

- 30 -