MURRAY STATE UNIVERSITY

January 2013

MFA Residency Reading Series

FEATURED VISITING WRITERS

Kazim Ali* – *poetry and fiction*

Sunday, January 6, 2013, at 7:30 p.m. in the Clara Eagle Gallery

Kazim Ali is a poet, essayist, fiction writer and translator. His books include several volumes of poetry, including *The Far Mosque* (Alice James Books), winner of Alice James Books' New England/New York Award; *The Fortieth Day* (BOA Editions, 2008); and the cross-genre text *Bright Felon: Autobiography and Cities* (Wesleyan University Press, 2009). His translations include of *Water's Footfall* by Sohrab Sepehri (Omnidawn Press, 2011). His novels include *Quinn's Passage* (blazeVox books), named one of "The Best Books of 2005" by Chronogram magazine, and *The Disappearance of Seth* (Etruscan Press, 2009). His books of essays include *Orange Alert: Essays on Poetry, Art and the Architecture of Silence* (University of Michigan Press, 2010), *Fasting for Ramadan* (Tupelo Press, 2011), and *Sky Ward* (Wesleyan University Press, 2013). He is an associate professor of Creative Writing and Comparative Literature at Oberlin College and teaches in the Master of Fine Arts program of the University of Southern Maine.

Beth Ann Fennelly* – *poetry and nonfiction*

Monday, January 7, 2013, at 7:30 p.m. in the Clara Eagle Gallery

Beth Ann Fennelly directs the MFA Program at Ole Miss where she was named the 2011 Outstanding Liberal Arts Teacher of the Year. She's won grants from the N.E.A., the MS Arts Commission, and United States Artists. Her work has three times been included in *The Best American Poetry* Series. Fennelly has published three full-length poetry collections. Her first, *Open House*, won The 2001 *Kenyon Review* Prize, the Great Lakes College Association New Writers Award, and was a Book Sense Top Ten Poetry Pick. It was reissued by W. W. Norton in 2009. Her second, *Tender Hooks*, and her third, *Unmentionables*, were published by W. W. Norton in 2004 and 2008. She has also published a book of nonfiction, *Great with Child* (Norton, 2006). Fennelly writes essays on travel, culture, and design for *Country Living, Southern Living, Oxford American*, and others. Currently, she is co-authoring a novel with her husband, Tom Franklin.

Tom Franklin* – *fiction*

Tuesday, January 8, 2013, at 7:30 p.m. in the Clara Eagle Gallery

Tom Franklin was born and raised in Dickinson, Alabama. As a struggling writer, he held a variety of jobs, including a heavy-equipment operator and a clerk in a hospital morgue. In 1997, he received his MFA from the University of Arkansas. His first book, *Poachers,* was named a Best First Book of Fiction by *Esquire,* and he received a 1999 Edgar Award for the title story. Franklin has published three novels: *Hell at the Breech* (2003), *Smonk* (2006) and *Crooked Letter, Crooked Letter* (2010), winner of the Los Angeles Times Book Award. The recipient of a 2001 Guggenheim Fellowship, Franklin now teaches in the University of Mississippi's MFA program and lives in Oxford, Mississippi, with his wife, the poet Beth Ann Fennelly, and their children. *- Photo by Maude Schuyler Clay*

FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

* **Reception and book signings immediately following at the Faculty Club. Books available for purchase on site.**

FOR MORE INFORMATION

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