



The Twelfth Annual Virginia Festival of the Book ***March 22-26, 2006***

For program updates visit www.vabook.org, or call 434-924-6890

Fantasy, Graphic Novels, Science Fiction

Thursday, March 23

An Evening of Fiction: Mary Doria Russell

Mary Doria Russell (*A Thread of Grace*), author of science fiction bestsellers *The Sparrow* and *Children of God*, will read from and discuss her new historical fiction, set in Italy during World War II.

8 p.m. Culbreth Theatre

Friday, March 24

Strange Worlds: Exploring Fantasy and Horror

Paul Witcover (*Tumbling After*), Kevin Brockmeier (*Brief History of the Dead*), Brandon Massey (*Within the Shadows*), and River Jordan (*The Messenger of Magnolia Street*).

6 p.m.

McIntire Room, Central Library

Saturday, March 25

Little Nemo in Comicsland

Jeet Heer, editor of *Arguing Comics*, will present on the influence of early comic artist Winsor McCay--particularly on Art Spiegelman. A retrospective of Spiegelman's print work will be on display on the exhibit hall outside the auditorium. (*Virginia Quarterly Review*, UVa Harrison Institute)

10 a.m., UVa Harrison Institute / Small Special Collections Library Auditorium

Art Spiegelman: Comix 101

The Pulitzer Prize-winning author of the graphic novel *Maus* gives his own idiosyncratic history of the comic medium in the 20th century with a slide presentation of important artists and writers. A live interview with art critic Lawrence Weschler will follow. PLEASE NOTE: The speaker will be smoking at this event. (*Virginia Quarterly Review*)

8 p.m. , Culbreth Theatre

Note: The doors to the Culbreth will open at 7 p.m. and (free) tickets will be distributed. The auditorium will open at 7:30, and there are 596 seats. Additional parking is available at the Ivy Road parking garage.