

NATIONAL LIBRARY WEEK

AT HUNTER



COLLEGE

TUESDAY, APRIL 8, 2008
3 P.M.

*Hunter
Library
Day*

BROWSERS' LOUNGE, WEXLER
LIBRARY, 3RD FLOOR

GUEST SPEAKER:

Peter Carey

Professor, Creative Writing Program

Reads from his new book - *His Illegal Self*

Order of events:

- ❑ Greetings from Hunter College President Jennifer J. Raab
- ❑ The 15th Annual Paul LeClerc Best Library Research Paper Awards presented by Hunter College Provost Vita Rabinowitz
- ❑ The Charlotte Katz Millenson Awards for Best Book Reviews presented by The Friends of Hunter College Library
- ❑ Guest Speaker: **Peter Carey**
- ❑ Dedication and Signing of Books by Hunter Faculty Authors

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Peter Carey

Peter Carey is currently executive director of the MFA program in Creative Writing at Hunter College & was recently named a CUNY Distinguished Professor. He is one of only two writers (after J.M. Coetzee) ever to win the prestigious Booker Prize award twice.

Born in Australia in 1943, he began his professional career in advertising. His early contact with the writers Barry Oakley and Morris Lurie turned him towards writing and advertising and he supported himself by writing advertising copy during the early part of his literary career (a trait he shares with Salman Rushdie).

Carey moved from Melbourne to London and then to back to Sydney, Australia, before taking up residence in New York in the late 1980's to teach creative writing at New York University and continue pursuing his writing. His first novel *Bliss* (1981) garnered acclaim from both British and American reviewers. His next work, *Illywacker*,

was shortlisted for the Booker Prize in 1985; *Oscar and Lucinda* won the award in 1988 and *The True History of the Kelly Gang* won it again in 2001.

Carey has also been successful on the prize front in Australia with *Bliss*, *Oscar and Lucinda* and *Jack Maggs*, (which also won him the Commonwealth Writers Prize in 1998), all winners of the Miles Franklin Award. Other works, *True History of the Kelly Gang* and *My Life as a Fake* were shortlisted for the Miles Franklin Award in 2001 & 2004 respectively. Other works include *The Tax Inspector* (1991), *Bliss* (1981), *Illywacker* (1985), *The Unusual Life of Tristan Smith* (1994), *The True Story of the Kelly Gang* (2000), *My life is a Fake* (2003) and *Theft: a Love Story* (2006). His most recent novel, *His Illegal Self* (2008), is about a child in distress and was described in the *New York Times* as "a book as psychologically taut as a Patricia Highsmith thriller and as starkly beautiful as Mulisch's modern classic."

He has received several literary awards including: the Booker Prize Award twice (1988 & 2001), the Miles Franklin Award (1981, 1989 & 1998), Age Book of the Year (1985, 1994 & 1997), The Commonwealth Writers Prize (1998 & 2001) and others.

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