



HAVEN'T WE ALL BEEN THERE? Harry Houdini in a scene from *The Man from Beyond*, 1921. That's Niagara Falls in the background. See Jon L. Breen's related review in this issue.

Hi everyone,

This issue covers a lot of territory, from Nevada Barr's Isle Royale National Park to Benjamin Black's post-WWII England to Jane Cleland's New Hampshire antique shops. Michael Mallory travels to the early years of the last century for his essay on the blind detective Max Carrados and Mary Welk surveys movers and shakers in today's thriving small press scene.

And just in time for the current campaign mania, Ed Gorman discusses his shady past as a political speechwriter which he put to good use in his new novel, *Sleeping Dogs*. And Kevin Burton Smith, a bemused Canadian, considers the political loyalties of various American detectives.

We're delighted to be sponsoring the New Authors Breakfast at the Malice Domestic

Convention again this year. For those of you who can't make it, visit our website for a handout of all the interesting new writers who participated.

It was with much sadness that we learned of Ed Hoch's death in January. The very first piece of mail that Brian and I received at *Mystery Scene* was a three-year renewal from Ed. His subscription wasn't expired—he just thought, correctly, that we might appreciate a vote of confidence in our new venture.

Just as Ed's many fine stories enrich the mystery genre, his even more numerous acts of kindness will continue to sustain our community. Be sure to read Jon L. Breen's tribute in this issue.

Best wishes,
KATE STINE
Editor-in-chief

Mystery Scene Online

In addition to our website, *Mystery Scene* is online at several places including MySpace and Crimespace. The *Mystery Scene* Blog offers news, events, reviews, and excerpts. Bookflings, "a blog for the promiscuous reader," is run by Brian Skupin. Please add your opinions and comments to the mix!

MYSTERY SCENE BLOG

www.mysteryscenemag.com/msblog/

BOOKFLINGS BLOG

www.mysteryscenemag.com/bookflings/

MYSAPCE

www.myspace.com/mysteryscene

CRIMESPACE

<http://crimespace.ning.com/profile/mysteryscene>

THE Docket

2008

May 22-25: Mayhem in the Midlands, Omaha, NE.
GOH: Alex Kava; Toastmaster: Jeff Abbott.
<www.omahapubliclibrary.org/mayhem/>

June 5-8: Crimefest 2008: Bristol, UK.
Featured: Karin Fossum, Jeff Lindsay, Ian Rankin. <www.crimefest.com>

June 6-7: Murder in the Grove, Boise, ID.
GOH: J.A. Jance. Class on Writing the Thriller by David Morrell. Workshops, panels.
<www.murderinthegrove.com>

June 6-8: Bloody Words VIII, Toronto, Canada.
GOH: Rosemary Aubert; International GOH: Carolyn Hart. <www.bloodywords.com>

June 12-22: International Mystery Writers Festival. Owensboro, KY. Premieres new mystery plays including Agatha Christie, Stuart Kaminsky and Ray Bradbury this year.
<www.newmysteries.org>

June 20-22: Deadly Ink Mystery Conference Parsippany, NY. GOH: Jane Cleland.
<www.deadlyink.com/conference.html>

July 9-12: ThrillerFest, New York, NY
GOH: Sandra Brown. <www.thrillerwriters.org>

Oct. 9-12: Bouchercon 2008: Baltimore, MD.
US GOH: Laura Lippman; Intl. GOH: John Harvey.
<www.charmedtodeath.com>

Oct. 19: NYC Collectable Paperback & Pulp Fiction Expo. Holiday Inn, 440 West 57th St., NYC.
<www.gryphonbooks.com>

Oct. 24-26: Magna cum Murder 2008: Muncie, IN. Sponsored by Ball State University. GOH: Louise Penny. <www.magnacummurder.com>

Oct. 31-Nov. 2: Great Manhattan Mystery Conclave. Manhattan, KS. GOH: Eve K. Sandstrom aka JoAnna Carl.
<www.manhattanmysteries.com>

2009

March 7-12: Left Coast Crime, Waikoloa, HI.
<www.leftcoastcrime.org>

Oct. 15-18: Bouchercon 2009, Indianapolis, IN.
GOH: Michael Connelly.
<www.bouchercon2009.com>