

Hi everyone!

It's been a busy spring here at the *Mystery Scene* offices. First we took the train down to Washington for the Malice Domestic Conference. This gathering of cozy mystery fans is always a delight and this year it was especially nice to see our friend Doug Greene, Crippen & Landru's publisher, receive the Poirot Award for his many contributions to the genre.

Of course, there was also the New Authors Breakfast. This year over 30 authors introduced themselves and their books to a room full of interested readers. I know I made some notes! Our particular thanks to Cindy Silberblatt for organizing and moderating this event.

Right after Malice came the Mystery Writers of America's Edgar Banquet in New York. As you can see, Brian and I were very happy to receive the Ellery Queen Award for contributions to mystery publishing. Moments like this make us forget all about the computer glitch that ate half of an issue right before press time and the burst water pipe that caused the ceiling to cave in directly over my desk...

This issue will help prioritize your summer reading. You won't want to miss Jeffery Deaver's latest, *Cold Moon*, or his interest-

ing chat with Hank Wagner. And be sure to check out Jeff's ode to reading on page 22!

Mysteries are all about digging into the past and that's doubly so for archaeological mysteries. Sarah Wissemann, an archaeologist and mystery novelist herself, takes us on a literary excavation.

Linwood Barclay offers the hair-raising adventures of one man determined to escape the *Da Vinci Code* juggernaut.

"Those who can, do; those who can't, teach," goes the old saw. Six mystery writers with how-to books to their credit put the lie to that in Jon L. Breen's survey.

Susan Kandel has developed a devoted following with her Cece Caruso novels beginning with *I Dreamed I Married Perry Mason*. Now Cheryl Solimini gets the inside scoop as Kandel's biographer/sleuth takes on Dashiell Hammett and Hollywood in *Shamus in the Green Room*.

There are fashions in everything and Philo Vance was once the height of mystery chic. Michael Mallory takes a look at S.S. Van Dine's almost forgotten Golden Age sleuth.

In reaction to current events, Gayle Lynds has revamped the espionage thriller for our post-9/11 world. She discusses how her access to top secret information at a think tank informs her work in our interview.

We also take a look at Henry Kisor's novels set in Michigan's remote Upper Penin-



Brian and Kate with their Ellery Queen Award from the Mystery Writers of America.

Photo by Matt Peiron for Getty Images.

sula, and chat with Richard Matheson whose fascinating career has spanned 50 years of popular entertainment.

And, of course, our expert reviewers offer many more recommendations for you. Enjoy!

KATE STINE  
Editor-in-chief

## Mystery Scene

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