



Monday, October 14, 2002

Popular author, poet to read at OU

One of America's most popular writers will visit OU Friday, Oct. 18. Marge Piercy, award winning author and poet, will read from her poetry at 4 p.m. in 201 Dodge Hall.

Piercy will sign books following the poetry reading, sponsored by OU's **Department of English**. The event is free and open to the public.

A Detroit native, Piercy is the author of more than 35 books of fiction and poetry, including "Woman on the Edge of Time," "What Are Big Girls Made Of?" and her recent memoir, "Sleeping with Cats." She has earned the Golden Rose Poetry Prize, May Sarton Award, Arthur C. Clarke Award, Carolyn Kizer Poetry Prize and the National Endowment of the Arts Award.

"She's a strikingly personal writer," said Professor Bruce Mann, chair of the English Department. "But her concerns are representative of others, especially other women."

Piercy's poetry is clearly expressed, direct and conversational. As in her novels, she often finds the political dimension of personal lives. Her recent collection of poems, "What Are Big Girls Made Of?" consists of moving and even humorous observations on such topics as love, technology, the difficulties women face, talk radio, aging and cats.

"We are proud to have Marge Piercy at OU," Mann said. "It's an important part of our mission for students and community members. Every time we see and hear gifted writers, we come away inspired by their commitment to their art."

Piercy also will address OU's Annual Writers' Conference on Saturday, Oct. 19, as the keynote speaker.

For more information about Piercy's reading, call the **Department of English** at (248) 370-2250.

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