



What Jane Read: Austen's Gothic Inheritance in Northanger Abbey

Speaker: Susan Allen Ford

Saturday, September 14, 2019

**General Society of Mechanics & Tradesmen of The City of New York
20 W 44th St, New York, NY 10036**

2:00 PM – 5:00 PM

Professor Ford will explore with us Jane Austen's lifelong engagement with the gothic as well as the specific gothic reading list that Northanger Abbey suggests. What should the characters and readers of Northanger Abbey learn from the pleasurable terrors of the gothic?

In advance of Susan Allen Ford's talk you may wish to explore some of the seven horrid novels that Isabella Thorpe recommended to Catherine Morland in Northanger Abbey. Valancourt Books has republished these wonderful and scarce Gothic novels in new editions (for more details visit: <https://bit.ly/319nlhj>)

Susan Allen Ford, Professor Emeritus at Delta State University, earned a bachelor's degree from Kenyon College, Gambier, Ohio, and the M.A. and Ph.D. in English from the University of Michigan. She and her late husband, John R. Ford, began teaching at Delta State in 1983 where she taught courses at both the undergraduate and graduate levels, particularly in composition and British literature, and worked with writers in Delta State's Writing Center.

Since 2006, Susan has served as editor of JASNA's *Persuasions* and *Persuasions On-Line*. She also represents Delta State on the Board of the University Press of Mississippi.

In addition to the Kossman Award, Prof. Ford received the *Woman of Achievement Award* from the Mississippi division of the American Association of University Women. She was awarded visiting fellowships at Chawton House Library (England) in 2009 and 2010, and the DSU Foundation's *Faculty Prize for Excellence in Research* in 2005. Four times between 2001 and 2003, she was recognized by the Jane Austen Society of North America as mentor of winners in their student essay contest. She is a member of Phi Beta Kappa.

The author of many articles on Jane Austen and her contemporaries, the Gothic, detective fiction, and Shakespeare, Prof. Ford's most recent publication is the introduction to an edition of James Fordyce's Sermons to Young Women (Chawton House Press). She is at work on a book on what Austen's characters are reading.

Light refreshments will be served.

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To register please fill out the below form and mail it, along with a check payable to **JASNA-NY**, to our Treasurer: **Christina Feicht, 150 E 69th St, Apt 7H, New York, NY 10021.**

Name _____ Tel. _____

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Please reserve **member** _____ place(s) @ \$40 \$ _____

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