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Collection of short stories labeled 'enemy propaganda'

Former Cuban political prisoner finds freedom here

Cuban refugee Rafael Saumell is a staunch believer in freedom.

It was a burning desire for freedom of expression that led the Washington University doctoral candidate to write a book about the Cubans who fled to the United States in the Mariel boat lift of 1980.

It was this same desire for freedom that put him behind bars.

Cuba's political police called his book "enemy propaganda" and Saumell, a former television scriptwriter and director, went to prison for five years.

At 5 a.m. on Oct. 14, 1981, the police arrived at Saumell's home in Havana with warrant to search his property for his oldest son, Abdel, then six, before the war began.

Saumell spent five years in a cramped cell for writing a collection of short stories that was labeled "enemy propaganda." Today he is working toward a doctorate in Hispanic American literature at Washington University. Above, teaching assistant Saumell conducts a Spanish course.

As Saumell's trial, which lasted half an hour, the editors reiterated their change of "enemy propaganda" against his book. Saumell was found guilty by a jury of five judges, and the book was suppressed by the Cuban government.

Saumell says his political prisoners considered dissident by authorities, were taken to psychiatrists for "treatment" and some received electroshock therapy. He says a special ward for political prisoners is housed in a Havana psychiatric hospital.

Saumell says he was the victim of psychological torture while jailed. "Before my trial, the authorities wanted me to sign a declaration of confession saying I wrote my book against the Cuban Revolution. I refused to sign this declaration. They told me I could be shot, or sentenced to 50 years in prison, or never see my family again.

When I was imprisoned, I had my family as my last support. After the rule was revoked, he saw his children, Abdel and Michael, now 7, once a year for two hours.

During his incarceration, writing clandestinely helped him cope. "I wrote a book of poems about life in prison. How were we alone. My children. My wife. The suicide in prison. Writing and reading helped me survive."

He also became involved with the Cuban Committee for Human Rights, one of the loudest opponents to Cuban President Fidel Castro. The committee's research has drawn international attention to rights abuses in Cuba. The group is illegal but tolerated by Cuban authorities.

Saumell, a former vice chairman of the committee, met the group's founders in jail.

Saumell says, "In Cuba, there is no freedom of the press, freedom of religion or freedom to travel from your country to another and return to your own country."

After he was released in 1986, Saumell's wife, Maria, worked and supported the family because he was unable to find a job. In November 1987, he applied for entry into the United States under an agreement reached between Cuba and this country that called for Cuba to take back more than 2,000 "undesirables" who had traveled to the United States in the Mariel boat lift, according to the U.S. State Department. In turn, the United States would accept more than 3,000 Cuban political prisoners.

"I told my son that I was going to jail... because of my opinion, and that he be proud of that. I told him, 'Your father is not a criminal.'" - Rafael Saumell

"When you are in these conditions, the only thing you have is your life. You can accept humiliation or you can choose dignity. If the price for dignity is your life, then that's a good deal. Like most Cubans, I would prefer to die rather than live in humiliation."

Besides the psychological torture and constant feelings of isolation, loneliness and despair, Saumell's prison sentence meant living in a tiny cell, with two other inmates. During his imprisonment, he left his cramped compartment only to shower and to eat food he describes as "disgusting."

After seven years in prison, or never see his family again. When I was imprisoned, I had my family as my last support. After the rule was revoked, he saw his children, Abdel and Michael, now 7, once a year for two hours.

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Besides the psychological torture and constant feelings of isolation.
"Real World 101" offers students advice on career development, finances

The Career Center and the Student Alumni Relations Committee are hosting a five-program series Feb. 13-16 on career development designed primarily for Washington University seniors.

Titled "Real World 101," the series is free and open to the public. However, two sessions, "Clothes and Careers" and the finance seminar, are open only to seniors. Pre-registration for these sessions is required by Feb. 3.

The first session, which is on "Clothes and Careers," will be at 7 p.m. Monday, Feb. 13, in Neiman-Marcus, the seminar will include strategies for developing both men's and women's career wardrobes.

At 3:40 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 14, a panel discussion on internships, informational interviewing, making and using professional contacts, and using campus resources. Panels will be three recent Washington University graduates in accounting, an assistant librarian at the John M. Olin School of Business.

A second panel discussion will be held at 4:30 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 15.

High school art to be exhibited in Bixby

More than 100 works of art by high school juniors and seniors will be displayed in a juried exhibit Feb. 5-19 in Bixby Gallery, the arts center.

An opening reception, which is free and open to the public, will be held from 3-5 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 5, in Bixby Gallery.

The 11th annual art competition is sponsored by alumni of Washington University's School of Fine Arts and organized by the University. The competition was open to high school juniors and seniors in Washington with a 100-mile radius of St. Louis. A total of 506 students from approximately 35 area high schools submitted work.

The exhibit includes paintings, drawings, works on paper and photography. High school seniors were selected for the "portfolio" competition, which entailed submitting between eight and 12 slides of their work. Nine finalists were named in the open competition.

The finalists will be considered for full scholarships being offered by 10 participating art institutions. Those institutions are: The Center for Creative Diversity.

Diversity -- continued from p. 1

Mardi Gras party will be held in The Garpyle. All evening music is provided by the Murder City Players, is open to the Washington community.

As part of Cultural Celebration, the Washington University Filmboard will screen four documentary films Feb. 6-12. The films cost $2 and will be shown in Bixby Hall. This schedule follows: Feb. 6-7, "Lawrence of Arabia," 7 p.m.; Feb. 8-9, "Aparajito," 7 and 9 p.m.; Feb. 10 and 11 and 12, "The Last Emperor," 6 and 9 p.m.; Feb. 10-12, "Killing Fields," midnight Feb. 10-11, 9 p.m. on Feb. 12.

Cultural Celebration is sponsored by Campus Y. Office of Student Activities. Reservations Life and Stix International House. It is primarily funded by Student Union and the Congress of the Associated Students.

For more information on the lecture, call 889-5930. For more information on Cultural Celebration activities, call 889-5010.

The topic, "Getting to Yes," will include discussion of resume styles and content, questions interviewers ask, what you should know and ask, and negotiating starting salaries.

The panelists will be Karen Sanders, manager, Personnel Development, Manz Marketing Research, Ellen Kremer, manager, Executive Recruiting, City Department Stores; and Cynthia Meiners, vice president, director of Human Resources, Stifel Nicolaus & Co. Meiners is a 1982 graduate of Washington University.

Two panel discussions will be held Feb. 16. At 4:30 p.m. a session titled "In, Up, Around Or Out?" will cover evaluating job offers, understanding corporate cultures, changing careers and starting your own businesses.

Panellists will be three recent Washington University graduates.

At 7 p.m. in Simon Hall's Executive MBA classroom, a finance seminar will cover setting up a personal budget, employment compensation packages, developing credit, getting a loan, investment opportunities, and taxes. Five Washington University graduates working in the financial field will serve on the panel.

For information, call 889-5930.

Performance artist Meredith Monk and her Vocal Ensemble will present "Book of Days: A Music Concert With Film" at 8 p.m. Feb. 10 and 11 in Edison Theatre.

"Multitude of media"

Films on Holocaust, Ellis Island part of Meredith Monk's concert

Internationally acclaimed performance artist Meredith Monk and her Vocal Ensemble will present "Book of Days: A Music Concert With Film" at 8 p.m. Friday and Saturday, Feb. 10 and 11, in Edison Theatre.

A composer, singer, filmmaker and choreographer, Monk will answer questions about her work after each performance. The concert, which is part of Edison Theatre's Ovation series, is co-sponsored by Dance Louis.

Since the 1960s, Monk has created more than 60 innovative works that, according to Alan Kriegsman of The New York Times, "achieve together in one grand, mythical zone where a multitude of media come together and, in a single grand design," the end result is "an ontological experience." For this reason, Monk's work is often considered one of the most important developments in the "multitude of media" in the arts today.

Mona Graz party will be held in The Garpyle. All evening music is provided by the Murder City Players, is open to the Washington community.

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Edward Andrews, assistant professor of sculpture, accepted an invitation from the School of the Art Institute of Chicago to speak about his art work. This coincided with his showing titled "Hoods and Poppers III" at the N.A.M.E. Gallery in Chicago. The installation uses kinetics, social comment, and environmental impact.

Merton C. Bernstein, LL.B., Walter D. Goles Professor of Law, has been elected to the National Executive Board of the American Bar Foundation for a term of office running from 1990 to 1994. The American Bar Foundation is a private, non-profit research organization.

Seth Carlin, professor of music, has performed twice on the St. Louis Symphony Orchestra's Chamber Music Series. St. Louis Series. Carlin also has done a broadcast appearance on KLUO's "Live From the Studio," which has been taped and played for the St. Louis FM PM series.

John W. Clark, M.D., professor of law, delivered a resolution from the medical school library and professorship for the doctorate at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. The title of his thesis is "A Theory of Adversary Reference Points in Decision Making and Law." The thesis has been published by the University of Illinois Press.

Carolyn Sanford

John F. Garganigo, professor of music, performed twice on the St. Louis Symphony Orchestra's Chamber Music Series. St. Louis Series. Garganigo also has done a broadcast appearance on KLUO's "Live From the Studio," which has been taped and played for the St. Louis FM PM series.

Robert A. Thompson, J.D., professor of law, was invited to participate in a National Conference on "Women in Corporate Law." The conference was sponsored by the Columbia University Center for Law and Economic Studies. The conference included some 60 participants from law schools and the judiciary.

William P. Bottom, Ph.D., assistant professor of organizational behavior, has successfully defended his dissertation for the doctorate at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. The title of his thesis is "A Theory of Adversary Reference Points in Decision Making and Law." The thesis has been published by the University of Illinois Press.

Ernesto Cardenal for the Mid-America region of Romance languages and literature, professor of English, has delivered a resolution from the medical school library and professorship for the doctorate at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. The title of his thesis is "A Theory of Adversary Reference Points in Decision Making and Law." The thesis has been published by the University of Illinois Press.

Cleveland, Ohio State University. As chairperson, Strembicki will coordinate the activities of the Midwest region to promote philosophical research in the field of modern language education and methodology as a fine art form. The Midwest region includes 13 states and is the largest sub-region of the national organization.

Robert E. Thompson, J.D., professor of law, was invited to participate in a National Conference on "Women in Corporate Law." The conference was sponsored by the Columbia University Center for Law and Economic Studies. The conference included some 60 participants from law schools and the judiciary.

Shirley Sahrman, Ph.D., associate professor in physical therapy and neurology, was keynote speaker at the Dicentennial Year Conference of the American Association of University Physicians in Baltimore, Maryland. She was interviewed secretly by the Cuban Committee for Human Rights and the United Nations. In 1987 he was interviewed secretly by the Cuban Committee for Human Rights and the United Nations. In 1987 he was interviewed secretly by the Cuban Committee for Human Rights and the United Nations. In 1987 he was interviewed secretly by the Cuban Committee for Human Rights and the United Nations. In 1987 he was interviewed secretly by the Cuban Committee for Human Rights and the United Nations. In 1987 he was interviewed secretly by the Cuban Committee for Human Rights and the United Nations. In 1987 he was interviewed secretly by the Cuban Committee for Human Rights and the United Nations. In 1987 he was interviewed secretly by the Cuban Committee for Human Rights and the United Nations. In 1987 he was interviewed secretly by the Cuban Committee for Human Rights and the United Nations.
Thursday, Feb. 2


5 p.m. Dept. of Pathology Seminar. "Left Atrial Appendage Clot as a Source of Emboli," Walter J. Deaton, WU Pathol. 5010.

7 p.m. Filmboard Series, "Evidence of Mission." $2. Brown Hall. (Also Sat., Feb. 4, same time, and Sun., Feb. 5, at 7 p.m., Brown.)


8 p.m. Filmboard Series. "The Killing Fields." $2. Brown Hall (Also Sat., Feb. 4, same time, and Sun., Feb. 5, at 5:30 p.m., Brown). On Fri. and Sat., both the 9 p.m. and midnight films can be seen for a double feature price of $3; both the Sun. films can be seen for $3.

Thursday, Feb. 3
4:30 p.m. Filmboard Series. "Midnight Filmboard Series." Featuring the Willie Aikens Jazz Quartet. Expect a double feature price of $3; both Sun. films can be seen for $3.

Friday, Feb. 3
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Saturday, Feb. 4


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8 p.m. Gallery of Art Lecture. "It Figures: The Human Form Photographic," Max Rothenberg, photography critic. For more info., call 889-5574.

Sunday, Feb. 5
7:30 p.m. Musical Presentations University City Symphony, conducted by William Schuller, will perform in the Wickman Music Hall. Sponsored by the School of Fine Arts alumni. For more info., call 889-5574.

Sunday, Feb. 5
5:15-6:45 p.m. Campus Y Classes for Fun, "Aikido." Seven Mondays. Lee Dormitory, 5-6:30 p.m. For more info., call 889-5010.

Sunday, Feb. 5
6-7:30 p.m. Campus Y Classes for Fun, "Zamajazz." Seven-week course, held on Mon. and Weds. Wohl Center, Greenstuffs Auditorium. For more info., call 889-5010.

Sunday, Feb. 5
7:30 p.m. Men's Basketball, WU vs. Johns Hopkins. Messenger Field House. For more info., call 889-4523.

Thursday, Feb. 9
2:30-4:30 p.m. Cultural Festival, featuring items to purchase, such as foods, books, clothes and jewelry. Mallinckrodt Center Gallery. For more info., call 889-5010.

Saturday, Feb. 11
11 a.m.-2 p.m. Cultural Celebration Dinner, featuring performances by Greek, Lebanese, German, and Italian dancers and will be served. The Gargoyle, Mallinckrodt. For more info., call 889-5010.

Saturday, Feb. 11
1-2:30 p.m. University College Short Course, "Women in the Workplace." Women's Bulld. Lounge. For more info., call 889-5010.

Wednesday, Feb. 8

Thursday, Feb. 9
2:30-4:30 p.m. Cultural Festival, featuring items to purchase, such as foods, books, clothes and jewelry. Mallinckrodt Center Gallery. For more info., call 889-5010.

Friday, Feb. 9
7 p.m. Filmboard Series. "The Last Embassy." $2. Brown Hall (Also Fri., Feb. 9, same time, and Sun., Feb. 11, at 7 p.m., Brown). On Fri. and Sat., both the 9 p.m. and midnight films can be seen for a double feature price of $3; both the Sun. films can be seen for $3.

Friday, Feb. 9

Saturday, Feb. 11
7 p.m. Filmboard Series, "Basic Data Analysis." Seven Tuesdays. Campus Y, U.S. Gym. For more info., call 889-5010.

Monday, Feb. 6
4:30-6:30 p.m. Campus Y Classes for Fun, "Theatre." $2. Brown Hall. (Also Sat., Feb. 4, same time, and Sun., Feb. 5, at 7 p.m., Brown.)

Tuesday, Feb. 7
6-8 p.m. Campus Y Classes for Fun, "Fundamentals of French." $2. Brown Hall. For more info., call 889-5010.

Tuesday, Feb. 7
6-8 p.m. Campus Y Classes for Fun, "Tai Chi." Eight Tuesdays. Umrath Lounge. $30 for students; $38 for non-students. For more info., call 889-5010.

Wednesday, Feb. 8
3 p.m. Lunchtime Discussion, "Current Concepts of Transmitter Action Through All Workshops (Pharmacol- Ogic Receptors)," Clarence Ramakrishnan, WU Dept. of Pharmacology. McDonnell, Cori Aud.

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