

AUTOBIOGRAPHY AND THE CREATIVE PROCESS:

The case of JM Coetzee's Waiting for the Barbarians

Professor David Attwell, University of York

Date: Thursday 23 July

Time: 18.00-19.00

Venue: LT3 Kramer Building, Middle Campus

Cost*: R80 (full fee); R40 (staff)

RSVP: 021 650 2888 or ems@uct.ac.za.

J.M.Coetzee's third novel *Waiting for the Barbarians* earned the novelist his international reputation. The novel's most notable and discussed feature is its setting in an unspecified time and place, on the outskirts of an entirely fictional empire. However, *Waiting for the Barbarians* began as a

novel about Cape Town at the end of a revolutionary war, with Robben Island as an embarkation point for whites fleeing the country. How did Coetzee transform this material into the novel that speaks powerfully to so many times and places? Drawing on his research into previously un-

seen manuscript material housed at the Ransom Centre of the University of Texas at Austin, Professor David Attwell will trace the genesis and development of a novel that emerged from a South Africa riven apart by the revelations of the Steve Biko inquest.

As a partially self-funding entity, we are obliged to charge a small fee for extension lectures. These are fixed at Summer School rates.

Reduced rates can be applied for at the door.



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