

Best selling novelist to deliver Dekaban Lecture

The lecture by best selling Polish American novelist Suzanne Strempek Shea, originally scheduled by the Piast Institute on June 4, 2006, has been moved due to scheduling conflicts. The lecture will be presented as part of the Institute's fall lecture series on a date to be determined. Mr. Strempek Shea's lecture will be titled "Writing Polish American Lives".

The presentation will be the fourth in the Piast Institute's Dekaban Lecture Series named in honor of Dr. Anatol and Pamela Dekaban who endowed unique ongoing faculty exchange programs between the universities of British Columbia, Michigan and Glasgow and counterpart universities in Warsaw. The Piast Institute oversees these programs on behalf of the Dekaban

Foundation.

Ms. Strempek Shea's novels of Polish American life have been consistently on the New York Times bestseller lists. They include *Selling the Lite of Heaven*, *Hoopi Shoopie Donna*, *Lily of the Valley*, *Becoming Finola*. All were published by Washington Square Press, winner of the 2000 New England Book Award which recognizes a literary body of works'

contribution to the region. She has also written two memoirs: *Songs from a Leadlined Room: Notes - High and Low - From My Journey Through Breast Cancer and Radiation* and *Shelf Life: Romance, Mystery, Drama and other Page Turning Adventures From a Year in a Bookstore*.

She has also freelanced for publications including *Yankee Magazine*, *The Boston Globe Magazine*, *The Philadelphia Inquirer*, *Organic Style*, *The Bark* and the former *New England Monthly*.

Suzanne is a member of the faculty at the University of Southern Maine's Stonecoast MFA program in creative writing. She has also taught fiction and memoir in the MFA program at Emerson College in Boston. A native of western Massachusetts, she still lives there in the village of Bondsville.

Ms. Strempek Shea's books will be available for purchase at the lecture. She will autograph copies for purchasers. For more information, call Mr. Virginia Skrzyaniarz at 313-664-0321.