



## PORTRAIT #1

JULY 1911

HERE, I AM TO LOOK CASUAL, EVEN  
FROWSY, THOUGH STILL QUEEN OF MY BOUDOIR.  
A MOMENT CAUGHT AS IF BY ACCIDENT —  
PICTURES CROOKED ON THE WALLS, NEWSPAPER  
SPRAWLED ON THE DRESSER, A BIT OF PALE SILK  
SPILLING FROM A DRAWER, AND MY SLIP PULLED  
BELOW MY WHITE SHOULDERS, DÉCOLLETÉ,  
BLACK STOCKINGS, LEGS CROSSED EASY AS A MAN'S.  
ALL OF IT CONTRIVED EXCEPT FOR THE WAY  
THE FLOWERED WALLS DOMINATE THE BACKDROP  
AND CLOSE IN ON ME AS I POSE, MY HAND  
AT REST ON MY KNEE, A SINGLE FINGER  
RAISED, ARCHING TOWARD THE CAMERA — A GESTURE  
BEFORE SPEECH, BEFORE THE FIRST WORD COMES OUT.

FROM "STORYVILLE DIARY," *BELLOCQ'S OPHELIA*

# NATASHA TRETHERWEY

IS THE SIXTH FLORIE GALE ARONS POET  
AT NEWCOMB COLLEGE CENTER FOR RESEARCH ON WOMEN

THE PUBLIC IS INVITED TO A READING AT 7:30 PM  
MONDAY 25 OCTOBER IN THE MYRA CLARE ROGERS  
CHAPEL, NEWCOMB COLLEGE, TULANE UNIVERSITY.

INFO: 504 865 5238  
NCCROW.TULANE.EDU

Natasha Trethewey's first book of poems, *Domestic Work* (Graywolf, 2000) was selected by Rita Dove for the 1999 Cave Canem Poetry Prize. *Domestic Work* also received the 2001 Lillian Smith Book Award and the 2001 Mississippi Institute of Arts and Letters Award. Her second volume, *Bellocq's Ophelia* (Graywolf, 2002) was a finalist for the Academy of American Poets' James Laughlin Prize. Trethewey's work has also garnered the Grolier Poetry Prize and a Pushcart Prize and has appeared in numerous anthologies, including *Best American Poetry 2000*. A native of Mississippi, Trethewey now lives in Decatur, Georgia, and teaches creative writing at Emory University.



*The daughters of Florie Gale Arons, N 1950, established the Poetry Forum in 1999 in honor of their mother's seventieth birthday.*

*In addition to delivering a reading to members of the greater University community, the Arons Poet offers a Sunday afternoon-long workshop for student and community poets, and meets with poetry classes in the Tulane Department of English. Please phone 504 865 5238 or e-mail [nccrow@tulane.edu](mailto:nccrow@tulane.edu) for more information, or if you are interested in signing up for the Sunday workshop at the Center for Research on Women. There is no charge for participating in the workshop or attending the reading.*