

CHELSEA HOUSE PUBLISHERS

PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CHELSEA HOUSE PUBLISHERS ANNOUNCES BLOOM'S LITERARY CRITICISM 20TH ANNIVERSARY COLLECTION

Northborough, MA, April 4, 2005 – Chelsea House Publishers, a leading nonfiction publisher of curriculum-oriented books for children and young adults and a unit of Hights Cross Communications, Inc., today announced the publication of its Bloom's Literary Criticism 20th Anniversary Collection. These six volumes, written and edited by Professor Harold Bloom, celebrate 20 years of collaboration between Chelsea House and Bloom, one of the world's most respected literary critics and teachers.

The six new volumes are:

- **Dramatists and Dramas**
- **The Epic**
- **Essayists and Prophets**
- **Novelists and Novels**
- **Poets and Poems**
- **Short Story Writers and Short Stories**

Collectively, volumes present Bloom's insightful introductions influenced by a lifetime of reading and learning from a host of other minds.

Bob Laronga, President and CEO of Chelsea House Publishers and Sundance/Newbridge Educational Publishers said: "We are delighted to mark this unparalleled publishing relationship. Over the past 20 years, Harold Bloom has worked with Chelsea House to publish nearly 1000 critical anthologies; and with over 500 of these volumes still in print, the Chelsea House literary criticism collection is a vast and varied resource for all students of literature. Professor Bloom has personally provided the guiding intelligence, set high editorial standards, and contributed his own unique insights to this wonderful body of work."

Reflecting on this 20-year endeavor with Chelsea House, Bloom said: "I have been more fully educated by this quest for comprehensiveness, which taught me how to write for a larger audience. Literary criticism is both an individual and communal mode.... Over a lifetime in reading and teaching, one learns so much from so many that no one can be certain of her or his intellectual debts. Hundreds of those I have reprinted I never will

meet, but they have helped enlighten me, insofar as I have been capable of learning from a host of other minds.”

Bloom also commented on the sometimes surprising reach of his Chelsea House titles: “Some of these books have surfaced in unlikely places: hotel rooms in Bologna and Valencia, Coimbra and Oslo; used-book stalls in Frankfurt and Nice; on the shelves of writers wherever I have gone. A batch were sent by me in answer to a request from a university library in Macedonia; and I have donated some of them, also by request, to a number of prisoners serving life sentences in American jails. A thousand books across a score of years can touch many shores and many lives; and at 74, I am a little bewildered at the strangeness of the endeavor, particularly now that it has leaped between centuries.”

Born in New York City and educated at Cornell and Yale Universities, Bloom has taught at Yale since 1955 and is its Sterling Professor of the Humanities. In addition to his editorship of and written contributions to Chelsea House’s Bloom’s Literary Criticism series, he is the author of over 20 major books and hundreds of articles and essays.

About Chelsea House Publishers:

Chelsea House Publishers, founded in 1966 and located in Northborough, MA, is a leading publisher of high-quality, nonfiction books for children and young adults on such topics as American history, multicultural studies, biographies, sports, science, and health. In addition, Chelsea House also offers literary criticism and reference books for older readers. Its books are broadly adopted worldwide by public and school libraries. For more information, visit www.chelseahouse.com.

About Hights Cross Communications:

Founded in 1997 and based in White Plains, NY, Hights Cross Communications is a premier educational and library publisher dedicated to creating the finest books, audio products, periodicals, software and online services, serving the following markets: K-12 supplemental education, public and school library publishing, audio books, and medical continuing education publishing. Hights Cross companies include: Sundance/Newbridge Educational Publishing (Northborough, MA), Triumph Learning (New York, NY), Buckle Down Publishing (Iowa City, IA), Options Publishing (Merrimack, NH), Oakstone Publishing (Birmingham, AL), Recorded Books (Prince Frederick, MD), and Chelsea House Publishers (Northborough, MA). For more information, visit www.hightscross.com.

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business or growth strategy, or an inability to execute our strategy due to changes in our industry or the economy generally, the emergence of new or growing competitors and various other competitive factors. In light of these risks and uncertainties, there can be no assurance that the events and circumstances described in forward-looking statements contained in this press release will in fact occur. You should read this press release completely and with the understanding that our actual results may be materially different from what we expect. We will not update these forward-looking statements, even though our situation may change in the future. We qualify all of our forward-looking statements by these cautionary statements.

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