

Sponsored by the Isabelle Kaplan Center for Languages and Cultures and Literature at Bennington

women writers

from convent to brothel



Dacia Maraini, novelist, playwright, essayist, and activist, is an important voice in Italy today, just as she has been for decades. She is the author of more than fifty books, including her international bestseller, *The Silent Duchess* (1990), which received one of Italy's highest literary honors, the Premio Campiello.

DACIA MARAINI

Monday • FEBRUARY 29 • 2016 • 7:00 pm
Tishman Auditorium • Bennington College

In Medieval and Early Modern Europe, writing was considered almost biologically incompatible with the bodies of women. The only women who had available to them the peace and the time for study were either those who dedicated their lives to God, or the courtesans (*le cortigiane*) who, having to amuse men, needed to have grace and wit, but also instruction, intelligence, and wisdom: things that were not expected of a housewife and mother.

Lecture is free and open to the public.

For more information visit bennington.edu