



TAKE ME TO THE RIVER

Constance Congdon

DRAMATURG'S BOOK

Thais Flaitt Giannocco

UNO – March 2013

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	Out on the Sherm's land NW Colorado	Mamie's home- by the pool – Scottsdale, AZ	Sherriff's office	Mamie's home	Nazarene Church Sanctuary	Roy's Bar	Outside by the River	Out on a prairie/ in the pickup	Inside the lobby of The Marriot	Outside near Sherm's house	Conference room at The Marriot	Out in the fields	Mom's old garden	A large public meeting	Sherm's land – water pump
Act/Scenes	1.1	1.2	1.3	1.4	1.5	1.6	1.7	1.8	1.9	1.10	2.1	2.2	2.3	2.4	2.5
Characters/Actors															
Sherm Campbell Paul Boesing	SC		SC		SC		SC			SC		SC	SC	SC	SC
Henry Fox	HF		HF		HF	HF							HF	HF	
Mamie Steinmetz Teresa Sindelar		MS		MS					MS	MS	MS		MS	MS	
Bodie Campbell Nick Zadina		BC (vo)	BC	BC (vo)	BC	BC			BC	BC		BC	BC	BC	BC
Theresa Montoya Amy Kunz			TM		TM		TM	TM			TM		TM	TM	TM
Hannah Jefferson Tammy Ra'					HJ	HJ		HJ			HJ			HJ	
Dale Leonard Ben Birkholtz					DL									DL	
Carl Mike Markey					C									C	
Roger MacDonald Jeff Bell						RM					RM				
Roberto, the Sheriff; Bar Employee; George Vega Moises Salgado			S			BE								GV	
Section															
# pages	1/2p	1p	9p	2p	19p	8 1/2p	5 1/2p	2p	7 1/2p	5p	9p	5p	9p	9p	3p
pages #	4	4-5	5-14	14-16	16-34	35-44	44-49	50-51	52-59	59-65	66-75	75-80	80-89	89-97	97-100

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	Sherm shoors HF Out on the Sherm's land NW/ CO	Bodie calls Mamie Mamie's home- by the pool Scottsdale, AZ	Sherriff's office	Rifle and Indians	Teresa comes in	Henry Fox does not press charges	Sherm insults Roberto	Things are gonna get worse	Talking to her realtor Mamie's home	Setting up the meeting Nazarene Church Sanctuary	Riparian zone dispute. Kansas is suing CO	The Indians' rights	Bodie and Hannah arguing People's rights	Carl's venting	Brother's talk Roy's Bar	Hannah comes in	The British Investor	Stubborn Sherm Outside by the River
Act/Scenes	1.1	1.2	1.3	1.3	1.3	1.3	1.3	1.3	1.4	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.6	1.6	1.6	1.7
Characters/Actors																		
Sherm Campbell Paul Boesing	SC		SC	SC	SC	SC	SC			SC	SC	SC						SC
Henry Fox	HF					HF						HF			HF	HF		
Mamie Steinmetz Teresa Sindelar		MS							MS									
Bodie Campbell Nick Zadina		BC	BC	BC	BC	BC	BC	BC	BC (vo)	BC	BC	BC	BC	BC	BC	BC	BC	
Theresa Montoya Amy Kunz					TM	TM					TM	TM						TM
Hannah Jefferson Tammy Ra'										HJ	HJ		HJ			HJ	HJ	
Dale Leonard Ben Birkholtz										DL	DL	DL						
Carl Mike Markey										C	C	C		C				
Roger MacDonald Jeff Bell																	RG	
Roberto, the Sheriff; Bar Employee; George Vega Moises Salgado			S		S	S	S	S								BE		
Section			A	B	C	D	E	F		A	B	C	D	E	A	B	C	
# pages	½p	1p		2p	3p	1p	1 ½p	2p	2p	4p	6p	6p	2p	½p	4½p	2p	2½p	5 ½p
pages #	4	4-5	5	5-7	7-10	10- 11	11- 13	13- 14p	14-16	16-19	20-26	26- 31	31-34	34	35-39	39-41	41-44	44-49

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	Theresa wants to be with the winners. Out on a prairie/ in the pickup	The drunk Bodie. Lobby of The Marriot	Sherm wakes up from a dream. Near the house in a lawn chair	The lonely Sherm	The presentation Conference room at The Marriot	The silent partners	Dad and son left behind. Out in the fields	Mamie is moving back Mom's old garden	Sherm and Theresa catch up	Bad news for The Campbells	Henry tries to teach Mamie a lesson.	Trying to keep the land A large public meeting	Sherm asks for help	Mamie gives her money to the robber-barons	Bodie and Sherm stay Sherm's land – water pump	Sherm goes through his vision
Act/Scenes	1.8	1.9	1.10	1.10	2.1	2.1	2.2	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.4	2.4		2.5	2.5
Characters/Actors																
Sherm Campbell Paul Boesing			SC	SC			SC	SC	SC	SC			SC	SC	SC	SC
Henry Fox											HF	HF*	HF	HF		
Mamie Steinmetz Teresa Sindelar		MS	MS			MS		MS		MS	MS			MS		
Bodie Campbell Nick Zadina		BC	BC 1 line				BC	BC		BC		BC	BC	BC	BC	BC
Theresa Montoya Amy Kunz	TM				TM	TM		TM	TM	TM		TM	TM	TM		TM
Hannah Jefferson Tammy Ra'	HJ				HJ	HJ						HJ*	HJ			
Dale Leonard Ben Birkholtz												DL	DL	DL*		
Carl Mike Markey												C	C	C*		
Roger MacDonald Jeff Bell					RM	RM										
Roberto, the Sheriff; Bar Employee; George Vega Moises Salgado												GV	GV	GV*		
Section			A	B	A	B		A	B	C	D	A	B	C	A	B
# pages	2p	7 ½p	5p	1p	6p	3p	5p	3p	2p	2p	3p	3p	4p	1 ½p	3p	½p
pages #	50-51	52-59	59-64	64-65	66-72	72-75	75-80	80-82	82-84	84-86	86-89	89-92	92-96	96-97	97-100	100

* no lines

6p

9p

10p

9p

Characters Description

SHERM CAMPBELL (played by Paul Boesing) - a lifetime farmer from a long line of farmers, age 78.

HENRY FOX (actor TBA) - a Native American man, Ute Nation, age 35, works for the Department of Natural Resources as a ditch rider, someone who checks water usage from canals. Henry grew up in the area and was married to Mamie Campbell, Sherman's only daughter. They are divorced, her idea.

MAMIE STEINMETZ (played by Theresa Sidelar) - 37, daughter of Sherm, recent widow of Lou Steinmetz, the mother of Simone, a neurotic little dog only heard or seen in her carrier, usually zapped on Valium, and Mooshie a bigger dog. Mamie was formerly married to Henry Fox.

BODIE CAMPBELL (played by Nick Zadina) - Sherm's youngest son, and since the oldest Campbell son, Bruce, was killed in the first Gulf war, Bodie is the only brother. Age 33.

THERESA MONTOYA (played by Amy Kinz) - the middle-aged (55+) daughter of the Campbell's long-time neighbor, Jose Montoya. The Montoya farm abuts part of the Campbell land. Theresa and her brother have tried to keep their place, a former cattle ranch, working. Theresa is a close family friend who, after Sherm's wife died ten years ago, became Sherm's lover.

HANNAH JEFFERSON (played by Tammy Ra') - African-American, 40 plus, born in a nearby city, she has spent two decades in the area, working in finance and real estate. Has a crush on Bodie and hopes it's visa versa.



DALE LEONARD (played by Ben Birkholtz) - age 40, a former hometown boy, went to the first Gulf War with Sherm's oldest son, Bruce, and two of Theresa's brothers but survived, came back and got a degree in environmental science and now works for the Colorado Department of Natural Resources. Lives in Denver.

CARL (played by Mike Markey) - a mouthy local farmer, fed up, has four sons with questionable futures.



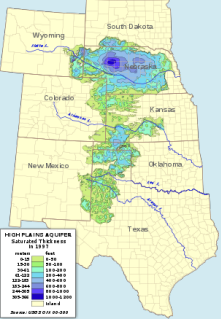
ROGER McDonald (played by Jeff Bell) - a British businessman, looking to invest in western land


OTHER CHARACTERS (played by Moises Salgado)



- SHERRIFF a small-town lawman, Hispanic, knows everyone, also a rancher—most people pronounce his name, Roberto, as “Roberdo,” making no effort to roll either of the “r”s or elongate the “e.”
- BAR EMPLOYEE, at Roy's bar.
- GEORGE VEGA, a government official from the DNR. Half Native American. Half Hispanic.

Page #	Term/Allusion	Meaning/Explanation	Pronunciation/Image
2	Ute Nation	The oldest continuous residents of Colorado. It is not known exactly when the Utes came from the north and west and inhabited the mountainous areas of the present-day states of Colorado, Utah (which name comes from the Ute people), and New Mexico.	
2	Ute	Land of the Sun	
2	Department of Natural Resources	The Colorado Department of Natural Resources is the department of the government of the U.S. State of Colorado that is responsible for the development, protection, and enhancement Colorado natural resources for the use and enjoyment of the state's present and future residents, as well as for visitors to the state.	
2	The First Gulf War	The Gulf War (2 August 1990 – 28 February 1991), codenamed Operation Desert Storm (17 January 1991 – 28 February 1991) was a war waged by a U.N.-authorized Coalition force from 34 nations led by the United States, against Iraq in response to Iraq's invasion and annexation of Kuwait.	
3	Environmental Science	is a multidisciplinary academic field that integrates physical and biological sciences, (including but not limited to	

		ecology, physics, chemistry, biology, soil science, geology, atmospheric science and geography) to the study of the environment, and the solution of environmental problems. Environmental science provides an integrated, quantitative, and interdisciplinary approach to the study of environmental systems.	
3	Northeastern Colorado	Northeastern Colorado consists of the geographical area bordered by the Rocky Mountains to the west and the Colorado Springs area to the south. The metropolitan areas of Denver, Fort Collins and Boulder are encompassed in this as well as the Cheyenne, Wyoming, area and other attractions directly across the region's northern border.	
3	Nazarene Church	The Church of the Nazarene is an evangelical Christian denomination that emerged from the 19th-century Holiness movement in North America. With its members colloquially referred to as Nazarenes, it is the largest Wesleyan-holiness denomination in the world	
3	Scottsdale, Az	is a city in the eastern part of Maricopa County, Arizona, United States, adjacent to Phoenix	


ACT 1			
Scene 1			
4	Rifle	is a firearm designed to be fired from the shoulder, with a barrel that has a helical groove or pattern of grooves ("rifling") cut into the barrel walls.	
Scene 3			
8	Virgin of Guadalupe	<i>Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe</i> is recognized as a symbol of all Catholic Mexicans. The peasant Juan Diego saw on the slopes of the Hill of Tepeyac a vision of a girl of fifteen or sixteen years of age, surrounded by light. Speaking to him in Nahuatl, the local language, she asked that a church be built at that site, in her honor; from her words, Juan Diego recognized the Lady as the Virgin Mary	
Scene 5			
16	Ogallalah Aquifer	The Ogallala Aquifer, part of the High Plains Aquifer System, is a vast yet shallow underground water table aquifer located beneath the Great Plains in the United States.	
16	Flyover States	Flyover Country and Flyover States are Americanisms describing the region of the United States between the East and the West Coasts. The terms, which are often used in a pejorative sense, refer to the	

		regions of the country passed over during transcontinental flights—e.g., flights between the nation's two largest cities, New York City and Los Angeles. Flyover country thus refers to the part of the country that many Americans only view by air and never actually see in person at ground level.	
18	Kumbayah	(Gullah, "Come By Here" — " Kum ba yah ") — is a spiritual song from the 1930s. It became a standard campfire song in Scouting and summer camps, and enjoyed broader popularity during the folk revival of the 1960s. The song was originally associated with human and spiritual unity, closeness and compassion, and it still is, but more recently it is also cited or alluded to in satirical or cynical ways which suggest false moralizing, hypocrisy, or naively optimistic views of the world and human nature.	Kum-bai-yah youtube: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1jicxFGEy_sE
19	Riparian Zone	is the interface between land and a river or stream.	
21	Scott City Lake	is located in the picturesque Ladder Creek Canyon. Listed in National Geographic Traveler as one of the top 50 state parks in the U.S, this oasis-like setting is very popular with campers and anglers.	



21	Riffle Beetle	Riffle beetle-is a tiny, seldom-seen insect that lives in the springs feeding into the lake. Because this beetle is found nowhere else in the world, it has been listed as a Kansas endangered species.	
22	Dust Bowl	was a period of severe dust storms causing major ecological and agricultural damage to American and Canadian prairie lands in the 1930s.	
23	Arkansas River	The Arkansas generally flows to the east and southeast as it traverses the US states of Colorado, Kansas, Oklahoma, and Arkansas. The river's initial basin starts in the Western United States in Colorado, specifically the Arkansas River Valley, where the headwaters derive from the snowpack in the Collegiate Peaks. Then it flows east into the Midwest via Kansas, and finally into the South through Oklahoma and Arkansas.	
Scene 6			
42	Yahoo	<p>Drink</p> <p>1 drop Rum, light (Bacardi)</p> <p>1 1/2 oz. Liqueur, melon (Midori)</p> <p>1 1/2 oz. Lime Cordial (Rose's)</p> <p>1 1/2 oz. Vodka (Styka)</p> <p>Fill with 7-up</p> <p>2 dashes Grenadine (Rose's)</p>	

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Glossary of Terms and Concepts




42	GlenCoe	Early in the morning of 13 February 1692, in the aftermath of the Glorious Revolution and the Jacobite uprising of 1689 led by John Graham of Claverhouse, a massacre took place in Glen Coe, in the Highlands of Scotland. This incident is referred to as the Massacre of Glencoe.	
Scene 7			
46	The Black Vomit Nut	Jatropha is a species of flowering plant in the genus Jatropha in spurge family, Euphorbiaceae that is native to the American tropics. When crushed and processed, the jatropha plant's seeds produce a sustainable, eco-friendly biofuel that can be used in standard diesel engines without modifications.	
Scene 8			
51	Cojones	is a vulgar Spanish word for testicles or, denoting courage when used in the phrase "tener cojones" (equivalent to English "have the balls to"). It is considered a curse word when used by itself as an expletive in Spanish. In English, as a loanword, it means courage, brazenness, "nerve", "guts", etc.	ko'xones
Scene 9			
56	Molybdenum (Mo)	A hard, silvery-white metallic element used to toughen alloy steels and soften tungsten alloy. An essential trace element in plant nutrition, it is used in fertilizers,	mə-ˈlɪb dɪ-nəm

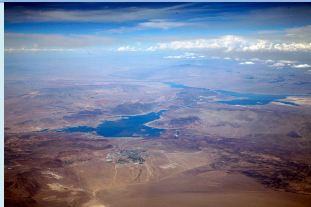

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		dyes, enamels, and reagents.	
Scene 10			
60	John Barleycorn	is a British folksong. The character of John Barleycorn in the song is a personification of the important cereal crop barley and of the alcoholic beverages made from it, beer and whisky. In the song, JB is represented as suffering attacks, death and indignities that correspond to the various stages of barley cultivation, such as reaping and malting.	
ACT 2			
Scene 1			
75	Pancho Villa	José Doroteo Arango Arámbula (5 June 1878 – 20 July 1923) – better known by his pseudonym Francisco Villa or his nickname Pancho Villa – was one of the most prominent Mexican Revolutionary generals.	
Scene 2			

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Glossary of Terms and Concepts

77	Wyatt Earp	Wyatt Berry Stapp Earp (March 19, 1848 – Jan 13, 1929) was a city policeman ("assistant city marshal") in Wichita, Kansas and Dodge City, Kansas. Earp's modern-day reputation is that of the Old West's "toughest and deadliest gunman of his day."	
78	Clanton boys	a group of outlaw Cowboys that had ongoing conflicts with lawmen Wyatt, Virgil and Morgan Earp. The Clantons repeatedly threatened the Earps because they interfered with the Cowboys' illegal activities.	
Scene 3			
88	Mars	The fourth planet from the Sun and the second smallest planet in the Solar System.	
Scene 4			
90	EPA	Environmental Protection Agency (EPA or sometimes USEPA) is an agency of the United States federal government, which was created for the purpose of protecting human health and the environment by writing and enforcing regulations based on laws passed by Congress.	
91	Hoover Dam	is a concrete arch-gravity dam in the Black Canyon of the Colorado River, on the border between the US states of Arizona and Nevada. It was constructed	

		between 1931 and 1936 during the Great Depression and was dedicated on September 30, 1935, by President Franklin D. Roosevelt.	
91	Lake Mead	is the largest reservoir in the United States in maximum water capacity. It is located on the Colorado River about 24 mi (39 km) from the Strip southeast of Las Vegas, Nevada, in the states of Nevada and Arizona. Formed by the Hoover Dam, Lake Mead is 112 miles (180 km) long when the lake is full, has 550 miles (890 km) of shoreline, is around 500 feet at greatest depth, has 247 square miles (640 km ²) of surface, and when filled to capacity, 28 million acre-feet of water. However, the lake has not reached this capacity in more than a decade, due to increasing droughts.	
91	White Cliffs of Dover	The White Cliffs of Dover are cliffs which form part of the English coastline facing the Strait of Dover and France. The cliffs have great symbolic value in Britain because they face towards Continental Europe across the narrowest part of the English Channel, where invasions have historically threatened and against which the cliffs form a symbolic guard.	

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Glossary of Terms and Concepts

96	Patty Hearst	Patricia Campbell Hearst (born February 20, 1954), now known as Patricia Campbell Hearst Shaw, is an American newspaper heiress, socialite, actress, kidnap victim, and convicted bank robber.	
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Property List

Scene	p.	Prop	Qua	Character/ Description
	3	antique pump head with a handle above a well		SET???
Act 1				
1	4	rifle		
2	4	phone		Mamie
2	4	Pet carrier		Simone
2	5	cell phone		Bodie
3	11	piece of paper/pen		Sheriff -
4	15	cell phone		Mamie
5	16	visual aids (US map)		
5	15	table from a bar		SET???
5	17	piece of paper		Dale
5	31	handouts		Dale
6	35	shot glass		
6	35	napkins		
6	35	wallet		
6	35	money \$20s		
6	40	coke		(can/bottle/cup?)
6	42	draft of a prospectus		
6	42	cup drink		Roger – “Yahoo”
8	50	a pickup		SET? Chairs?
8	50	pickup headlights		SET?
9	55	coke		Mamie
9	55	coffee		from the vending machine
9	59	luggage cart		Marriot hotel
10	59	lawn chair		Sherm
10	64	cell phone		Sherm
Act 2				
1	66	prospectus		to the audience
1	66	a screen		??
1	71	cell phone		Hannah
1	72	water bottle		Mamie
1	72	Styrofoam coffee cup		
2	75	gear boxes		machinery
3	80	luggage		Mamie
3	80	glass with sweet tea		
3	80	lawn chairs		how many?
3	81	kennel box		Mooshie
3	82	make up case with stuff		Mamie
3	86	Simone is wrap in a shirt		
3	87	pill container		valium
4	89	piece of paper		Dale
4	95	cell phone		Henry Fox
5	99	coke	2	cans

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Settings:

- Exterior of the Campbell's farm – lawn chairs and antique pump head with a handle above a well
(Act 1 - Scene 1, 10 / Act 2 – Scene 2, 3 and 5)
- Mamie's house – by the pool in Scottsdale, AZ
(Act 1 – Scene 2 and 4)
- Sheriff's office
(Act 1 – Scene 3)
- Interior of the local Nazarene Church – old table from Roy's bar
(Act 1 – Scene 5)
- Roy's bar
(Act 1 – Scene 6)
- By the River
(Act 1 – Scene 7)
- In a pickup
(Act 1 – Scene 8)
- Lobby of the Marriot hotel
(Act 1 – Scene 9)
- Conference Room at the Marriot hotel
(Act 2 - Scene 1)
- Public Meeting – Where?
(Act 2 – Scene 4)

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Sound Plot

Scene	p.	Cue	Description	Notes
ACT 1				
1	4	Sherman enters and shoots the riffle	Riffle	
2	4	end of scene 1	Phone ring/dog barking	
2	4	Mamie: shut uppppp!	phone beep to go to voicemail	
2	4	Mamie: be quiet!	Simone's yips	
2	4	Mamie: Simone, always the last word	Mamie's voice on answering machine	
2	4	Mamie: ... no spaces dot org.	Bodie's voice on answering machine	needed??? Or live?
4	15	Mamie: ... place to stay in the meantime	Bodie's voice on answering machine	
4	16	Mamie: Lou! Why did you leave me?	Dogs barking	
8	52	Top of the scene	bad music	The hotel lobby
10	64	Sherm: ...or Theresa.	cell phone rings	Sherm
10	65	Sherm goes off stage	glass breaking	
ACT 2				
1	66	top of the Act	native American flute music / Ad	
1	71	Roger: that doesn't work for me	cell phone rings	Hannah
1	71	Roger: that doesn't work for me	dog barking (Simone)	
4	95	Dale:...actually make a profit.	dog barking/cell phones	Bodie/Sherm/Henry
5	98	Sherm: ...it's just you and me, son	sound of helicopters	
5	100	Bodie: Who?	sound of the word WATER	all languages

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Water in all the world languages
in brown: phonetical transcription

LANGUAGE	TRANSLATION
AFRIKAANS	water
ALBANIAN	uji
ALSATIAN	wàsser
APACHE	tū
ARABIC	el-ma / maa / mayya
ARMENIAN	djour
AZERI	su
BAMBARA	gui
BASQUE	ura
BELARUSIAN	Вада (vada)
BENGALI	jal
BERBER	amane
BOBO	zou
BOSNIAN	voda
BRETON	dour, deur
BULGARIAN	voda
BURMESE	yei
CATALAN	aigua
CHECHEN	hi
CHEROKEE	ama
CHINESE (MANDARIN)	水 (shuǐ)
CORSICAN	acqua
CROATIAN	voda
CZECH	voda
DANISH	vand
DUTCH	het water
ENGLISH	water
ESPERANTO	akvo
ESTONIAN	vesi
FAROESE	vatn
FINNISH	vesi
FRENCH	eau
FRISIAN	wetter
FRIULAN	aghe
GALICIAN	auga
GALLO	iò
GEORGIAN	tskhali
GERMAN	das Wasser
GREEK	nero
GUARANÍ	y
HAITIAN CREOLE	dlo

HAWAIIAN	wai
HEBREW	maim
HINDI	paani
HUNGARIAN	víz
ICELANDIC	vatn
INDONESIAN	air
IRISH GAELIC	uisce
ITALIAN	acqua
JAPANESE	mizu
KABYLIAN	amane
KANNADA	neeru
KHMER	thuk
KINYARWANDA	amazi
KOREAN	mool
KURDISH	av
LAO	nam
LATIN	aqua (ae, f)
LIGURIAN	ægoa
LINGALA	mayi
LITHUANIAN	vanduo
LOW SAXON	water
LUXEMBOURGEOIS	waasser
MACEDONIAN	voda
MALAGASY	rano
MALAY	air
MALAYALAM	vellam
MALTESE	ilma
MAORI	wai
MAPUCHE (MAPUDUNGUN)	ko
MARATHI	paani
MONGOLIAN	us (Ус)
MORÉ	kôm
NORWEGIAN	vann
OCCITAN	aiga
ORIYA	jala / paani
OSSETIAN	дон
PAPIAMENTU	awa
PERSIAN	âb
POLISH	woda
PORTUGUESE	água
ROMANI	pani
ROMANIAN	apă
RUSSIAN	voda
SARDINIAN	abba (logudorese) / acua (campidanese)
SCOTTISH GAELIC	uisge
SERBIAN	voda

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SESOTHO	metsi
SHIMAORE	magi
SHONA	mvura
SINDHI	panhi
SINHALA	vatura (spoken) / jalaya (formal)
SLOVAK	voda
SLOVENIAN	voda
SOBOTA	voda
SONINKÉ	dji
SPANISH	agua
SWAHILI	maji
SWEDISH	vatten
TAGALOG	tubig
TAHITIAN	pape
TAMIL	ta-neer
TATAR	su
TELUGU	neeru
THAI	nám
TURKISH	su
UDMURT	vu
UKRAINIAN	voda
URDU	pani
VIETNAMESE	nuoc
WALOON ("betchfessîs" spelling)	aiwe
WELSH	d^wr
WEST INDIAN CREOLE	dlo
XHOSA	amanzi
YIDDISH	vasser
YORUBA	omi
ZULU	amanzi

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About the Playwright

CONSTANCE CONGDON has been called "one of the best playwrights our country and our language has ever produced" by playwright Tony Kushner in Kushner's introduction to her collection *Tales of the Lost Formicans and Other Plays*. In addition to *Tales of the Lost Formicans*, which has had more than 200 productions, worldwide. Congdon's plays include: *Casanova*, *Dog Opera*, both produced at the Public Theatre, *No Mercy* (HumanaFestival), *Losing Father's Body* (Portland Stage (Maine), *Lips*, (Primary Stages), *Native American*, (Portland Stage(Maine), (Lyric Hammersmith Studio).

Her latest play, *Paradise Street*, was most recently workshopped at the JAW Festival at Portland Stage in Oregon. Three commissions from the American Conservatory Theater: *A Mother*, starring Olympia Dukakis, a new verse version of *The Misanthrope*, and a new adaptation of *The Imaginary Invalid*, were all produced by ACT and have gone on to other productions. Also at ACT: *Moontel Six*, a commission by the A.C.T. Young Conservatory and subsequently performed at London's National Theatre, followed by another production of the two-act version at San Francisco's Zeum and directed by Young Conservatory Director, Craig Slaughter. *The Automata Pietà*, another YC commission, received its world premiere at San Francisco's Magic Theatre in 2002; *Nightingales* went to the Theatre Royale Bath's Youth Theatre. Congdon's *No Mercy*, and its companion piece, *One Day Earlier*, were part of the 2000 season devoted to Congdon at the Profile Theatre.

She has also written a number of opera libretti and seven plays for the Children's Theatre Company of Minneapolis. *The Children of the Elvi*, Congdon's epic and NOT suitable for children, finally received its premiere at the Key City Public Theater in 2007. Congdon's plays have been produced throughout the world, including Cairo and Berlin. Her plays are published, mainly, by

Take Me to the River **by Constance Congdon**

Broadway Plays Publishing. Samuel French published *Dog Opera*. A collection of four of her plays has been published by TCG, Inc. Her new verse version of *Tartuffe* will be included in the next Norton Anthology of Drama, and is out in a single-volume Norton Critical edition. She's been writing a long time and can thank the NEA, the Rockefeller Foundation, the W. Alton Jones Foundation, the Guggenheim Foundation, the Arnold Weisberger Award, the Berilla Kerr Award, and, most recently, The Helen Merrill Award for making this more possible. She's an alum of New Dramatists, member of The Dramatists Guild and of PEN. Congdon has taught playwriting at the Yale School of Drama, but her home is as playwright-in-residence at Amherst College where she's been teaching for a couple of decades.

Published Plays:

BOARDERS - Three short plays about apartment dwellers, with an epilogue by their landlady.

MOTHER - is an exhilarating blend of one of Chekhov's dysfunctional provincial families run through the wringer of Joe Orton's iconoclastic comedy. It's also Maxim Gorky through and through, providing a canny look at Gorky as a dramatic bridge between Chekhov and Brecht. The play is adapted from Gorky's play *Vassa Zheleznova*. *Vassa*, a kind of proto-Mother Courage, is the head of a family one generation removed from serfdom and facing a crisis. The husband with whom she's built a fairly successful peat mining and tile-making business is dying upstairs. Without a will, all their possessions will pass to their two sons—the uselessly self-pitying Pavel and the slothful, self-indulgent Semyon, a man who can no longer fit into any of his clothes except pajamas.

Take Me to the River **by Constance Congdon**

NO MERCY - It begins in 1945 at the Jormada del Muerto area in New Mexico, where Robert Oppenheimer and other scientists were putting together the atom bomb, and it moves into the present through the life of a soldier, Ray, who was one of the witnesses to the first blast.

LIPS - President Joni, the first woman to be elected to that office, is a politician with heart who wants to bring the issue of gay rights to her party's political platform. She wants to confront and change the laws that discriminate against her gay and lesbian constituents.

DOG OPERA - Peter and Madeline have been friends since they were teenagers in Queens. They have Manhattan apartments and separate unsatisfactory sex lives. Though more loving than most couples and searching for partners, they are incompatible: he is gay. Maddie is overweight and drawn to men who treat her badly. He hides behind snappy retorts and skepticism. Maddie's alcoholic mother, Peter's father, lovers, pickups, and friends with AIDS move through their lives. A homeless teenager, a thief and a poet who would rather be called a whore than a hustler because he doesn't try that hard address the audience to throw everyone's problems into perspective.

UNDER LUBLANKA SQUARE - A young American tourist has a run in with a Russian street vendor. The two are lost in translation when a KGB member steps in and sways the girl in his favor.

LOSING FATHERS' BODY - Just days before the funeral Pauline and her two children loose her husband's body.

TALES OF THE LOST FORMICANS - Trapped in a planned community where nothing works as planned, the characters search for explanations in their dreams and in the artifacts around them--for even in Formica there may be a fleck of God. In Tales of the Lost Formicans, we finally meet the aliens, and they are us.

Drought hits Colorado in Constance Congdon's farm drama, Take Me to the River

GREEN FEBRUARY 24, 2009 BY: SUSANNA SPEIER [Subscribe](#)



photo of C. Congdon taken by S. Speier

I got a rare glimpse of one of Colorado's most controversial environmental conundrums –water rights– earlier this month at the Ricketson Theater when I went there to see a staged reading of Constance Congdon's, "Take me to the River." Congdon's farm drama, commissioned Denver Center's New Play program, explored the political and environmental implications of water rights in Colorado.

Though the issues are clearly meticulously researched, the ill fated, provincial Colorado family that the story revolves around is humanizing, accessible and not in the least, contrived. As the misfit members of this outspoken, funny, angry and lovable family fight one another, their neighbors and the state of Colorado for their most essential natural resource, water, the audience gets sucked in. The naturally resource we usually taken for granted –or lack of it– can destroy a family. It can also bring an entire civilization down.

The love, concern and understanding of the region emanates from the Congdon's personal connection to it. Her parents were both born on farms, her mother's father farmed dryland wheat outside Dodge City and has family living on working farms today. Congdon was, therefore, acutely aware of the issues faced by farmers as she was growing up in Colorado and Kansas. It is the authenticity of the characters and dialog that keep this incredibly complex and potentially top heavy subject matter buoyant and fast paced throughout the narrative.

"Take me to River" was commissioned by the Denver Center New Play Program and was partially funded by the Albert P. Sloan Foundation in its support of the commissioning and production of new plays about science and technology. It was read on Friday, February 13 at 11am and Saturday, February 14 at 3pm in the Ricketson Theatre and will hopefully be restaged in Denver soon.

Topical tale of farm troubles in Key City play



Massachusetts playwright Constance Congdon's "Take Me to the River" will be given a staged reading Monday at Port Townsend's Key City Playhouse.

By Diane Urbani de la Paz □ Peninsula Daily News

PORT TOWNSEND — The future of family farms, the arrival of developers and the water of life all converge in "Take Me to the River."

And though it's a play about two clans living along the Colorado River, "Take Me" is topical in any part of the country where farming, water rights and housing tracts add up to trouble.

Key City Public Theatre's WordPlay program will present a staged reading of "Take Me," written by Massachusetts playwright Constance Congdon, at 7 p.m. Monday at the Key City Playhouse, 419 Washington St.

Admission to this WordPlay reading is a suggested donation of \$10.

11 local actors

Eleven local actors will bring to life the story of the Campbell family and their friends the Montoyas, former migrant farm workers who now have their own land.

Trouble is, drought has dropped the river down. The state natural resources department has required some farmers to shut down their wells.

Housing developers come in. They want to build condominiums, which they say will be less of a drain on the area's water resources.

At the same time, a younger member of the Montoya family questions whether she wants to continue working the farm for the rest of her life, sunup till sundown.

Congdon, who teaches playwriting at Amherst College, came to Port Townsend earlier this year as the guest playwright at Key City Public Theatre's February Playwrights' Festival. Key City presented her play "Lips" in the spring.

Congdon's "Take Me" has been workshopped and given staged readings at the Denver Center Theatre and at the University of Massachusetts in Amherst.

The playwright hopes this story will inspire people to mull questions like: What will happen to small family farms? How will water rights be allocated for the farms and housing developments of the future?

"At the end, [the play] gets big. It gets global," Congdon said.

The patriarch of the Campbell family, in his 70s, begins to hallucinate. What he sees are people stealing from his well.

"It turns out," the playwright said, "that he's seeing the world."

The actors presenting "Take Me to the River" are Kristin Wolfram, Doug Taylor, David Hundhausen, Caleb Peacock, Pauline Morgan, David Baker, Amy Sousa, Henry Feldman, Michael Vicha and Patti Quintero, with Michelle Hensel providing the voice-over.

Tickets are available in advance by phoning 360-385-5278 (KCPT) or visiting www.KeyCityPublicTheatre.org.

Remaining tickets will be sold at the playhouse door Monday night.

Features Editor Diane Urbani de la Paz can be reached at 360-452-2345, ext. 5062, or at diane.urbani@peninsuladailynews.com.

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For 2012, WordPlay will present staged readings of two plays by our special Playwrights' Festival guest **Constance Congdon...**

Fall WordPlay:
"Take Me to the River" by Constance Congdon
 on Monday Nov 5 at 7:00 p.m.

Mon Nov 5 - 7:00 p.m. [\[Online Tix\]](#)



"Take Me to the River" reading Monday November 5



Water rights in Colorado is the subject of the next play to have a staged reading during Key City Public Theatre's WordPlay, as Constance Congdon's "Take Me to the River" is presented Monday November 5 at 7:00 p.m. at Key City Playhouse. Congdon is KCPT's 2012 featured guest playwright and this play becomes even more relevant in light of the severe drought in the Midwest this summer.

"Take Me to the River," the story of competing interests vying for the water of the Ogallala underground water aquifer, is based on true events, but with fictionalized characters. The central figures are a father, son and daughter from a farming community whose rights to take water from the aquifer are being challenged by large





KCPT is funded in part by generous grants from:

U.S. Bancorp Foundation



Target

urban areas. The government has agreed to close the wells in outlying farming communities to preserve the flow to the urban areas.



For the director Patricia Earnest, water and it's preciousness has long been an important subject as she lives on Marrowstone Island with a well. Marrowstone has had it's own water issues which has pitted neighbor against neighbor, some favoring the new piped-in water, some preferring to stay on wells. "This play is about money," Earnest said, "and what people are going to eat without water for farms."

KCPT's WordPlay Reading Series originally was just the reading of various plays, but over time has evolved to almost a full play with the actors using scripts. The plays are still read but the goal is for the audience to completely visualize what the playwright intended the audience to see. WordPlay - which happens only twice a year - now focuses on the work of KCPT's guest artist exclusively. In the Spring, Congdon's play "Lips" was presented.

The readers for "Take Me to the River" are Kristin Wolfram, Doug Baker, Amy Sousa, Henry Feldman, Michael Vicha, Patti Quintero and Michelle Hensel doing the voice over.

KCPT's season sponsors are Alchemy Bistro & Wine Bar and SOS Printing. "Take Me to the River" starts at 7 p.m. on Mon., Nov. 5 at the Key City Playhouse. Doors open at 6:00 p.m. Admission is a suggested donation of \$10. To purchase tickets in advance call 360-385-KCPT or visit our **online calendar**.



National Endowment for the Arts



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Jefferson County Community Foundation

2012 Spring WordPlay:
"Lips" by Constance Congdon
 June 4 & 5

The first woman President is caught in a web of scandal, corruption, blackmail and deceit.

Note that "Lips" includes adult language and sexual situations. It runs about 2:15 including intermission.

Directed by Judith Glass Collins

Mon June 4 - 7:00 p.m.
 Tue June 5 - 7:00 p.m.

WordPlay Archives
 2011

For 2011, WordPlay presented staged readings of two classic plays by our special Playwrights' Festival guest **Lee Blessing...**

"Eleemosynary"

Tribal History

Here we present a brief profile of the Ute Indian tribe, the people from the land of the sun for whom the state of Utah is named.



History

the Ute Indians; of the Shoshone Indian linguistic stock, were originally divided into seven nomadic, and forest-dwelling tribes which lived on vast territory in Colorado and parts of Utah and northern New Mexico prior to the arrival of the European settlers; they were the Capote, the Mouache, the Parianucs, the Tabeguache, the Uintah, the Weeminuche, and the Yampa.

Ute, which means "land of the sun" also gave the state of Utah its name. The Ute Indians lived in bark covered teepee-like huts called wickiups, these were bulkier and less easy to relocate than the teepee, which they later converted to for practical reasons. Ute clothing was made from deerskin and the fur of small animals such as minks and jackrabbits.

As it was with many of the American Indian aboriginals, the Ute's religious beliefs were based in nature, with animals serving as the central deities. The Ute believed they were closely related to the bear, and animal which features prominently in Ute mythos. Ute Shamans were believed to be very powerful, and in the Spring, the Ute would gather for the annual Beardance, also known as "Momaqui Mowat", followed in the Summer by the Sundance, which was their most important social and religious ceremony.

The Ute were very respectful of the environment, never overexploiting its resources, and they would not hunt for sport, but only for food and clothing. Ute land included hunting grounds, along with places of spiritual importance.

The Ute were polygamous, which means the men were allowed to have several wives, this is perhaps the only thing they had in common with the Mormon settlers, with whom the Ute were often in conflict.

Whilst not being sedentary and not growing crops, the Ute way of life was greatly influenced by outsiders such as the Spanish, who

introduced them to horses, which the Ute referred to as "Magic Dogs", and of course, the Mormon settlers who introduced them to agriculture. Soon, the Ute were raising livestock, exploiting land and most importantly, thanks to the added convenience being able to ride on horseback, hunting buffalo; which they practically wiped out of existence in Ute land. Eventually, the Ute became deft traders of both livestock and slaves, who were basically conquered enemies sold into labor.

However, things were not so with the Northern Ute or "Noochew" from Colorado, who were opposed to changing their lifestyle, and instead proceeded to raid Mormon settlers who were encroaching on Ute territory. Unfortunately, they were defeated by the colonists, and forced to relocate onto the Uintah Valley Reservation upon orders from US President Abraham Lincoln.

This pattern was quite common with many of the First peoples who were driven from their land by European settlers, and even though the conflicts were bloody, some sought other means with which to achieve peaceful co-existence, such as the great Ute Chief Ouray, who even went to Washington with his wife [Chipeta](#) to try and stop the relocation of his tribe. Ouray was fluent in several Native languages, and also spoke English and Spanish, his great skill at diplomacy led to the first successfully arranged treaty between the Ute and the US Government.

There are currently around 3500 Ute Indians living on the Uintah and Ouray Reservations in Utah, they own 1,300 000 acres of land on which they operate their own government, exploit their own resources, and continue to promote their heritage. Ceremonial dances are performed throughout the year on the major reservations, and an annual PowWow is held at the Tribal Headquarters in Fort Duchesne.

See our [resource](#) page for addresses and other important contact information.

Seals of the Ute Nations

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Mountain Ute



Northern Ute

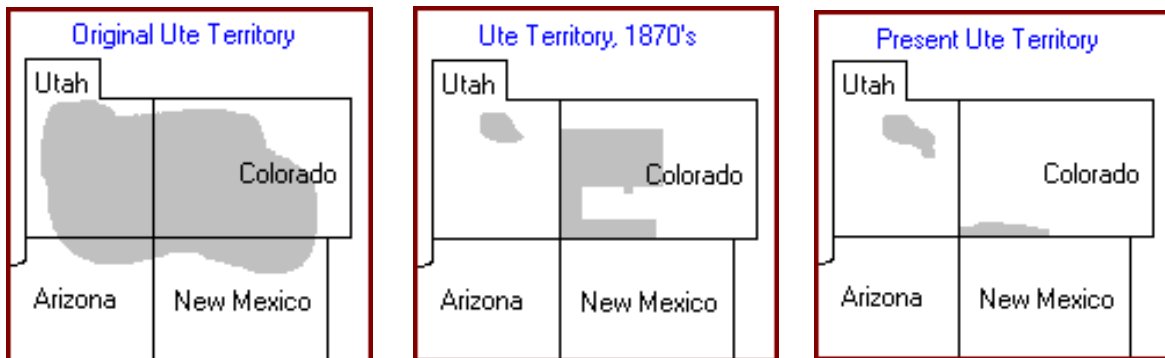


Southern Ute

Ute Mountain Ute Tribal History

Historically, the Ute Nation roamed throughout Colorado, Utah, and northern New Mexico in a hunter-gatherer society, moving with the seasons for the best hunting and harvesting. Their dealings with the government were not to their benefit and in the late 1800's, treaties with the United States forced the three bands of Southern Utes into southwestern Colorado.

The bands within the Ute Nation divided and today the homelands for the Weeminuche, or Ute Mountain Ute Tribe, total about 597,000 acres in southwestern Colorado, southeastern Utah, and northern New Mexico. The White Mesa community of the Tribe lives in Utah, where most of the housing is on tribal lands. The majority of lands there are allotted to tribal members and are laid out in a checkerboard design.



The tribal lands are on what's known as the Colorado Plateau, a high desert area with deep canyons carved through the mesas. This is a harsh land and there are no cities to provide services for the tribe. So the tribe must be self-sufficient by looking for other means of implementing progress and creating successful enterprises to serve the needs of the tribal members as well as create a healthy economy in which to live. The natural resources of the land provide the tribe

income. These resources include oil and gas, grazing land for herds of tribal members, and land and water for the new Farm & Ranch project south of the Sleeping Ute Mountain.



Chief Ouray in Washington, D.C.
(courtesy, Ute Mtn Ute Tribe)

After over 100 years of no water, the Colorado Ute Water Settlement Act of 1988 brought an end to years of legal battles for the tribe's water rights. Under that agreement, the Ute Mountain Ute Tribe brought the first piped drinking water to the reservation and irrigation water to the Farm & Ranch project. This project was mandated within the Dolores

Project (McPhee Dam).

Today the tribe employs over 900 people in its enterprises and departmental programs. These employees include tribal members, other Native Americans, and Anglos, thus making the tribe the second largest employer in the Four Corners area. The per capita enrollment for the Ute Mountain Ute Tribe is 1,968, as of January, 1999. The majority of the members live on the reservation in Towaoc with a smaller in the White Mesa community. The tribal census shows the largest part of the membership is in the twenties and younger age group.

Because the Ute tribe is so young, the members must be ready to take up the reins of leadership for the future of the tribe. As the tribal membership grows, the planning for the 21st century has to be done with care to enable the tribe to grow economically with the times, but retain and preserve the culture and ways of the Ute Mountain Ute Tribe. The achievements, goals, and objectives of the tribe for the future will be carried out by the strong wills of the future leaders.

History of Water Rights



Colorado holds the unique distinction of being the first state to provide for the distribution water by public officials. In 1879, the legislature created a part of the present administrative system. It provided for the division of the state into ten water districts, nine of which are in the South Platte valley, and one in the Arkansas drainage. In each district, the statute provided for a Water Commissioner to divide the water according to priorities of the various ditches within the district, in accordance with the Prior Appropriation Doctrine of first-in-time, first-in-right.

The priority of each ditch was determined by the district courts based upon the date the ditches were constructed and the water placed to beneficial use. The statute as passed by the legislature in 1879 did not provide for stream measurement.

The Office of the State Engineer was created in 1881. The primary responsibility of the State Engineer was to measure the water in each stream from which water was diverted for irrigation, starting with those mostly used for irrigation. Three water divisions were created, made up of water districts located within the South Platte, the Arkansas, and the Rio Grande basins. Within six years, each of the remaining four water divisions as they exist today were created. In 1887, the state created a Superintendent of irrigation - who is known today as the

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Division Engineer - to supervise Water Commissioners within each division.

By the beginning of the 1890's, many stream systems were over-appropriated. Ditch companies were actively constructing reservoirs to store winter flows and spring runoff. In addition, new sources of water were being pursued, which included transmountain diversions and pumping of ground water. Changes of water rights, exchanges, transfer of water rights and "loan statutes" were issues that had to be addressed by the office of the State Engineer by the turn of the century.



In 1899, the State Engineer was given the responsibility of approving all plans and specifications for dams designed over ten feet in height and covering more than twenty acres, or having a capacity of more than 1,721 acre-feet. In addition, the statutes required that the construction had to be approved by the State Engineer. That same year the State Engineer was given authority to have water levels lowered in any reservoirs that were deemed unsafe.

Prior to 1957, no permit was required to construct a well. Ground water was not managed or allocated by the State, even though some of the earliest State Engineers expressed concerns about the impact alluvial wells might have on surface water rights. The Colorado Ground

Water Law of 1957 required a permit from the State Engineer as a prerequisite to drilling a new well and required the registration of existing wells. It exempted certain stock watering,

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domestic, and artesian wells from these requirements.

The Colorado Ground Water Management Act of 1965 created the Ground Water Commission and the designated ground water basins. This act provided for the formation of management districts that were empowered to regulate the spacing of wells in designated ground water basins and set limits on production rates to minimize the lowering of water tables.

Also, statutes enacted as a result of this 1965 act directed the State Engineer to administer the laws of the state relative to the distribution of the surface waters to include underground waters tributary thereto, in accordance with the prior appropriation doctrine. Subsequent findings of the Colorado Supreme Court found that regulation of tributary wells - in order to protect senior surface water rights - was constitutional. In addition, the court directed the State Engineer to promulgate rules and regulations that would maximize the beneficial use of ground water while preventing injury to senior water rights.



In response to the Supreme Court's findings regarding tributary wells and surface water, the Water Rights Determination and Administration Act of 1969 was passed. Besides changing the name of the State Engineer's Office to the Division of Water Resources, the act required that surface and ground water rights be administered together. Ground water rights were required to be adjudicated in order to protect their priority. Plans for Augmentation were also allowed to mitigate material injury to senior vested water rights.

During the mid-1980's, new legislation was enacted concerning non-tributary and not non-tributary ground water and the permitting requirements that the Division of Water Resources must utilize in managing these resources. Gravel pit legislation was also enacted which required owners of any gravel pit constructed after December 31, 1980, to obtain well permits

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by Constance Congdon

and a court approved Plan for Augmentation plan of Substitute Supply to replace the evaporation losses that resulted from exposure of ground water. The State Engineer was given authority to promulgate rules and regulations regarding water quality for well construction, exchanges and substitute water supply plans. These rules and regulations were established in 1992.

The Division of Water Resources and the State Engineers are finding administration of water rights to be ever increasing in its complexity. Basin of origin issues, reserved rights, wetlands, endangered species recovery and interstate water issues are all new pressures on an already limited water supply. The State Engineer and the Division of Water Resources of the 21st century are committed to efficiently meeting these challenges of the future.

Source: <http://water.state.co.us/SurfaceWater/SWRights/Pages/WRHistory.aspx>

Water Availability for the Western United States--Key Scientific Challenges

By Mark T. Anderson and Lloyd H. Woosley, Jr.

In the Western United States, the availability of water has become a serious concern for many communities and rural areas. Near population centers, surface-water supplies are fully appropriated, and many communities are dependent upon ground water drawn from storage, which is an unsustainable strategy. Water of acceptable quality is increasingly hard to find because local sources are allocated to prior uses, depleted by overpumping, or diminished by drought stress. Some of the inherent characteristics of the West add complexity to the task of securing water supplies. The Western States, including the arid Southwest, have the most rapid population growth in the United States. The climate varies widely in the West, but it is best known for its low precipitation, aridity, and drought. There is evidence that the climate is warming, which will have consequences for Western water supplies, such as increased minimum streamflow and earlier snowmelt events in snow-dominated basins. The potential for departures from average climatic conditions threatens to disrupt society and local to regional economies. The appropriative rights doctrine governs the management of water in most Western States, although some aspects of the riparian doctrine are being incorporated. The "use it or lose it" provisions of Western water law discourage conservation and make the reallocation of water to instream environmental uses more difficult. The hydrologic sciences have defined the interconnectedness of ground water and surface water, yet these resources are still administered separately by most States. The definition of water availability has been expanded to include sustaining riparian ecosystems and individual endangered species, which are disproportionately represented in the Western States. Federal reserved rights, common in the West because of the large amount of Federal land, exist with quite senior priority dates whether or not water is currently being used. A major challenge for water users in the West is that these reserved rights may supersede other existing users. The minimum amount of water required, however, to sustain native peoples, a riparian system, or an endangered species eventually will need to be known in order to manage the available water supply. Periodic inventory and assessment of the amounts and trends of water available in surface water and ground water are needed to support water management. There is a widespread perception that the amount of available water is diminishing with

Take Me to the River **by Constance Congdon**

time. This and other perceptions about water availability should be replaced by objective data and analysis. Some data are presented here for the major Western rivers that show that flows are not decreasing in most streams and rivers in the West. Systematic information is lacking to make broad assessments of ground-water availability, but available data for specific aquifers indicate that these aquifers are being depleted, especially near population centers.

The complexity added to the issue of Western water availability by these and other factors gives rise to a significant role of science. Science has played a role in support of Western water development from the beginning, and the role has evolved and changed over time as society's values have changed. In this report, the role of science is discussed in three phases: (1) development and construction, (2) consequences and environmental awareness, and (3) sustainability. The development and construction phase includes some historical accounting of water development in the West and shows how some precedents set in those early days are still applied today. Science has played an important role in the second phase by objectively pointing out the consequences of this development and construction phase, such as the effects from converting rivers to reservoirs, the effects of ground-water pumping on surface water in streams, land-surface subsidence, and the changes in water quality brought about by the disposal of wastewater and manmade chemicals into the Nation's waterways and aquifers. The sustainability phase reflects the present efforts of water managers and other natural-resource managers to sustain water supplies beyond the present generation. Sustainability, as presently interpreted, goes beyond mere water availability for water supply, and includes ecosystems and even individual species. Sustainability by this definition is superficially appealing, but is and will continue to be a significant challenge for science to translate into measurable water-management strategies. A sustainable water supply for a community ideally would provide enough water to support a growing population and economy, even during protracted periods of drought a tall order. There are many scientific challenges surrounding a sustainable use of water resources, but five key challenges are discussed in this report: (1) the determination of a sustainable level of ground-water use that meets identified management needs, (2) artificial recharge in the long-term, (3) selected water-use strategies such as desalination and water reuse, (4) sustaining valued ecosystems, and (5) sustaining individual endangered species. These key challenges will demand scientific attention in the coming decades and are examined here in detail, including the following case examples: (1) the Middle Rio Grande Basin, New Mexico; (2) artificial

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recharge in the Greater Los Angeles, California, area; (3) selected water-use strategies (no location); (4) San Pedro Riparian National Conservation area, Arizona; and (5) Upper Klamath Lake, Oregon. The case examples illustrate the technical and scientific complexity of the issues and explain the scientific approaches taken to address these issues, including the types and amounts of data collected. To support society's demand for sustainability, scientists, managers, policymakers and water users at large will need to develop, communicate, and use scientific information in more effective ways. New collaborative ways of conducting monitoring and research across disciplinary lines will be needed to develop quantitative habitat requirements for ecosystems and endangered species. The new role of science will be to support environmental decisionmaking to achieve some new level of sustainable use that will provide an assured supply of good-quality water for humans and for stream and riparian ecosystems.

Source: <http://pubs.usgs.gov/circ/2005/circ1261/>

Take Me to the River
by Constance Congdon

The Fresh Water Project

Produce a photographic documentation of 30 important freshwater environments from across the globe.



Te Waikoropupu Springs, New Zealand



© MICHEL ROGGO

Take Me to the River
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Pantanal, Brazil



Take Me to the River
by Constance Congdon



Gacka, Croatia



Take Me to the River
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Desert Waters, Wadi Wurayah and Wadi Shawka, United Arab Emirates



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Sava Dolinka, Slovenia



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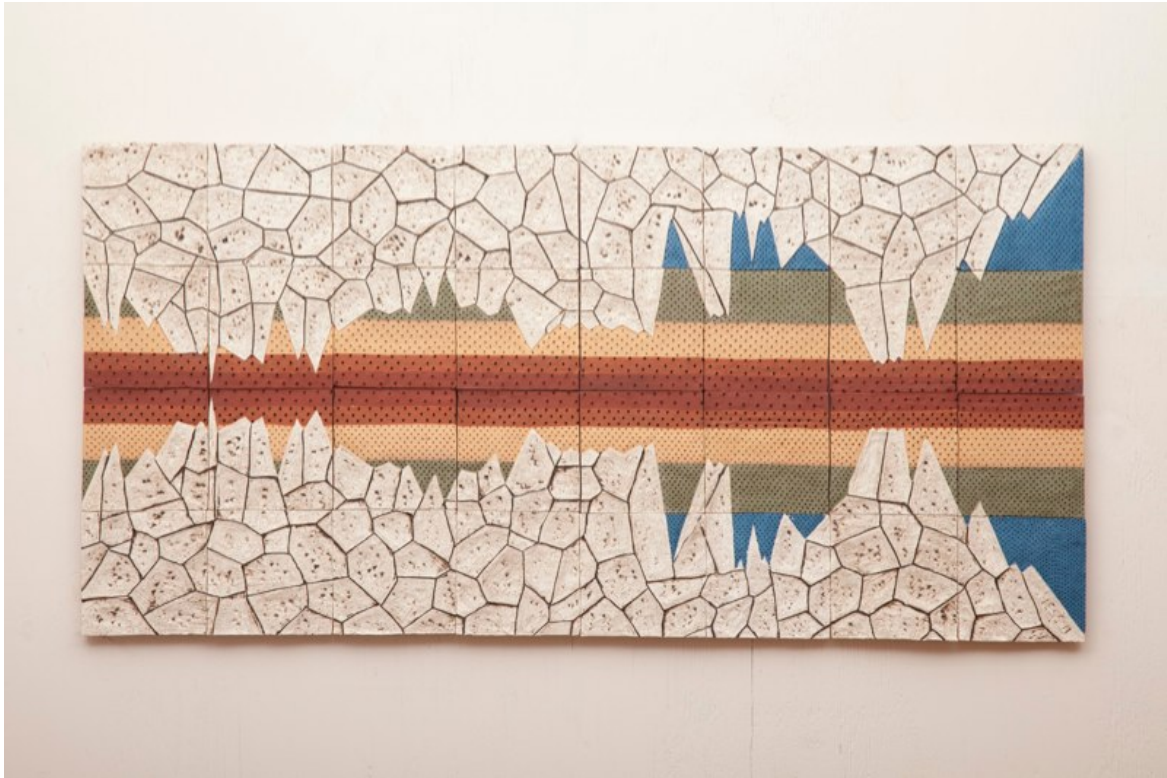
Floridan aquifer, Florida, USA



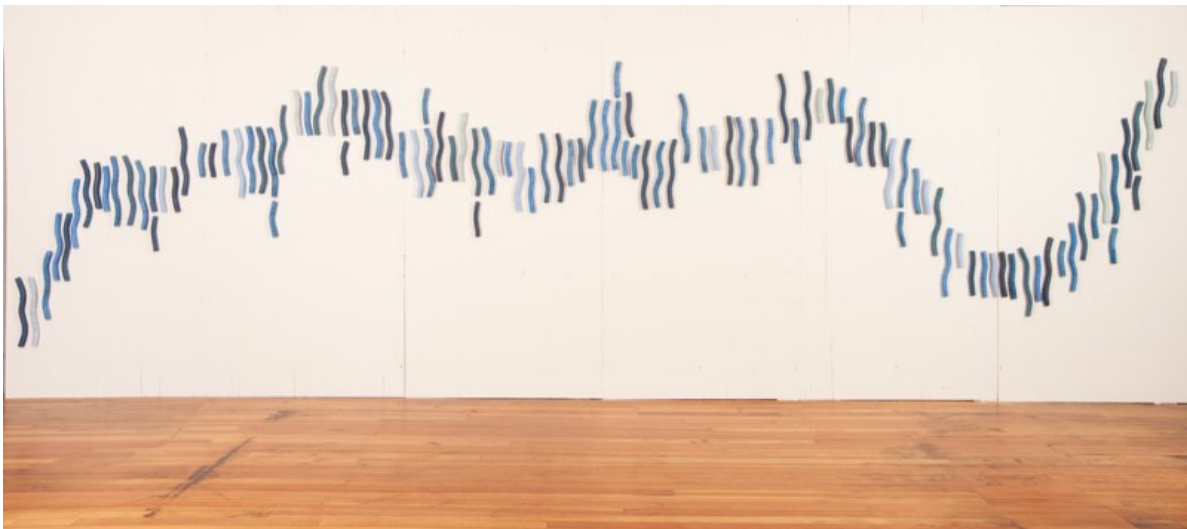
Take Me to the River **by Constance Congdon**

Jess Benjamin – ceramic artist

The Watercolor series focuses on water usage in the Great Plains area: a regional concern that is related to the phenomenon of global drought.



Reflecting on the Missouri River

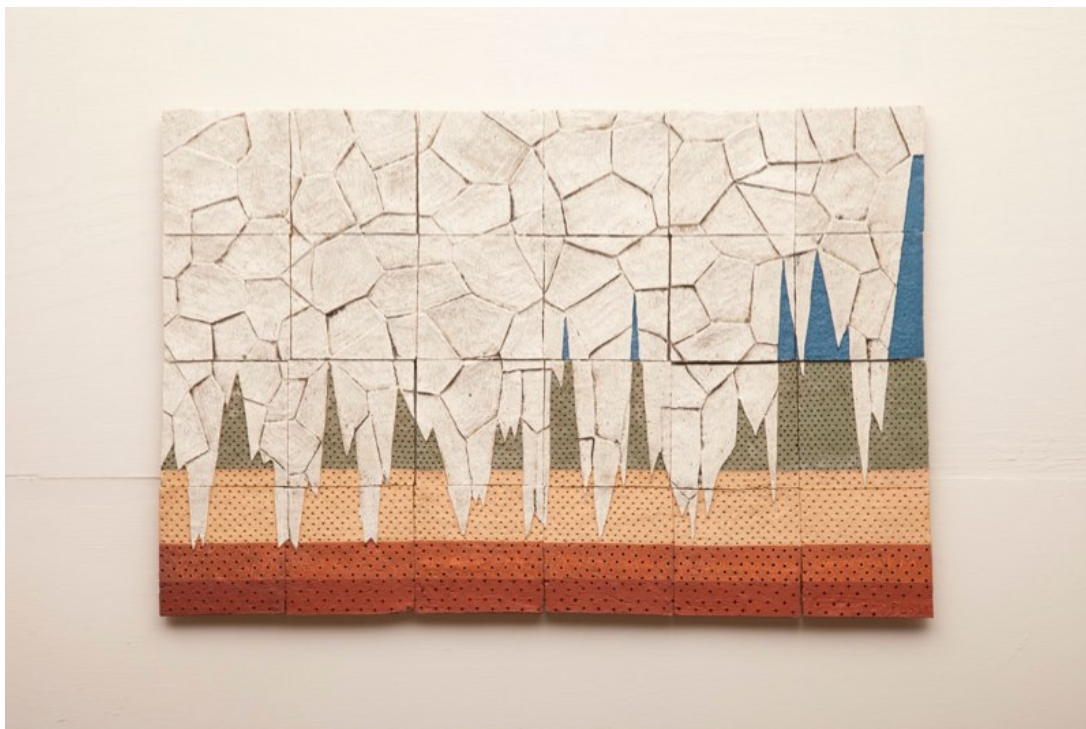


Rise and Decline of Lake Mac

Take Me to the River
by Constance Congdon



Rise and Decline of Lake Mead



The Rise of the Missouri River

Take Me to the River **by Constance Congdon**

Internet Resources

About the play:

- 2009 Colorado New Play Summit

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QU3tP0fFd14>

The Ute Nation:

<http://www.utetribes.com>

<http://www.mountainstudies.org/databank/history/Towns/UteMountainUtes.htm>

About the water:

- Colorado Department of Natural Resources

<http://dnr.state.co.us/Pages/DNRDefault.aspx>

- The Freshwater Project

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BKew8vTYncw&fmt=18>

<http://www.roggo.ch/thefreshwaterproject/>

- Protecting our water - The Cycle of Insanity: The Real Story of Water

<http://vimeo.com/10328536>

<http://www.ecoevaluator.com/environment/water-quality/protecting-our-waters.html>

- One Drop

<http://www.onedrop.org/en/default.aspx>

Water is Essential to Life

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=83PCqmKEJrw&feature=player_embedded

Take Me to the River **by Constance Congdon**

Access to Water is a Fundamental Human Right

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=83PCqmKEJrw&feature=player_embedded

Water and Food Security

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fGouYMkN9MA&feature=player_embedded

Water and Women

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ja4ZnFGeyKw&feature=player_embedded

Over-consumption

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=if5ww5xgEUQ&feature=player_embedded

Water and Pollution

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EuWh3Mc6XTg&feature=player_embedded

Water and Solidarity

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ToGPcVfo75w&feature=player_embedded

- Water in Art

<http://witcombe.sbc.edu/water/artwaterlifeyouth.html>

- Jess Benjamin – ceramic artist

http://www.jessbenjamin.com/Jess_Benjamin's_Website/Home.html