

2007 Roundtable Speaker



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Nan A. Talese is publisher and editorial director of Nan A. Talese/Doubleday, a trade book publishing imprint known for its literary excellence and the quality of the production of its books. Established in 1990, Nan A. Talese/Doubleday is distinguished both by new authors of fiction and nonfiction, as well as by the authors Talese has published for many years, writers who have been staunchly supported by independent booksellers (and more recently Barnes & Noble and Borders) and reviewers.

Among Talese/Doubleday's many acclaimed writers are Thomas Keneally, Alex Kotlowitz, Thomas Keneally, Peter Ackroyd, Margaret Atwood, Pinckney Benedict, Thomas Cahill, Kevin Canty, Lorene Cary, Pat Conroy, Jennifer Egan, Mia Farrow, Antonia Fraser, David Grand, Nicola Griffith, Aleksandar Hemon, Robert MacNeil, Ian McEwan, Gita Mehta, George Plimpton, Edvard Radzinsky, Mark Richard, Nicholas Shakespeare, Barry Unsworth, and Gus Van Sant. Talese is also a senior vice president of Doubleday. She began her publishing career at Random House and later joined Simon & Schuster as an editor. That began her long editorial relationships with authors such as Margaret Atwood, Ian McEwan, Barry Unsworth and Thomas Keneally, all winners of the prestigious Booker Prize. Later, Talese joined Houghton Mifflin and eventually became editor-in-chief and publisher. She joined Doubleday as senior vice president in 1988 and two years later introduced her imprint dedicated to the publication of a select list of quality fiction and nonfiction.

The critically acclaimed and bestselling titles Talese/Doubleday has published include *There Are No Children Here* by Alex Kotlotwitz; *Beach Music* and *My Losing Season* by Pat Conroy; *Alias Grace*, *The Blind Assassin*, and *Oryx and Crake* by Margaret Atwood; *Amsterdam*, *Atonement*, and *Saturday* by Ian McEwan; *How the Irish Saved Civilization*, *The Gifts of the Jews*, *Desire of the Everlasting Hills*, and *Sailing the Wine Dark Sea* by Thomas Cahill; *Songs of the Kings* by Barry Unsworth; *Marie Antoinette* by Antonia Fraser; *Shakespeare: The Biography* by Peter Ackroyd, as well as the works of George Plimpton, Mark Richard, Robert MacNeil, Peter Ackroyd, Kevin Canty, Jennifer Egan, and Adam Haslett, among others. In 2006 she is publishing *31 Days* by Barry Werth, a book about the first 31 days of the Ford Administration after Nixon's resignation, as well as novels by Peter Ackroyd, Marti Leimbach and Yasmina Khadra. Talese is married to author Gay Talese, whose new book, *A Writer's Life*, was published by Knopf last April. They have two daughters: Pamela, a painter, and Catherine, a photographer.