



PRE-SHOW TALK
"Cat on a Hot Tin Roof"
Sunday, September 16, 2018
3:45 – 4:15 pm



featuring
Susan Russell
*John Adams Endowed Professor of Theatre Arts and
Chair of the Women, Gender and Sexuality Studies
program at Gettysburg College*

"Lies, and the Lying Liars Who Tell Them:
The Relevance of 'Cat on a Hot Tin Roof' for Today"



This play highlights many issues that were highly scandalous in Williams' day: sexuality, desire, marriage, and family. But above all, it focuses on "mendacity": the lies we tell others and the ones we tell ourselves. In this talk, I'll examine how Williams brilliantly sets up case studies in truth and lies in order to enlighten and interrogate his audiences.

Susan Russell is the inaugural John Adams Endowed Professor of Theatre Arts and Chair of the Women, Gender and Sexuality Studies program at Gettysburg College. She received her B.A. in English from Hendrix College. After studying as a Fulbright scholar in Germany, she earned her M.A. in Theatre at the University of Wisconsin, focusing on plays about the Holocaust, and her Ph.D. in Drama at the University of Washington, concentrating on representations of gender on the stages of Weimar Germany. She has also worked in the professional theatre as dramaturg, translator, actor, and assistant in new play development.