

State of Louisiana



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CHRISTINE WILTZ NAMED 2013 LOUISIANA WRITER AWARD WINNER

Christine Wiltz, author of five novels and a biography as well as numerous articles, essays and screenplays, has been named recipient of the 2013 Louisiana Writer Award. The Louisiana Writer Award is chosen annually by a State Library-appointed committee to recognize outstanding contributions to Louisiana's literary and intellectual life.

Lt. Governor Jay Dardenne and State Librarian Rebecca Hamilton will present Wiltz the Louisiana Writer Award Nov. 2 in a ceremony kicking off the Louisiana Book Festival. Wiltz will also discuss her work, including her latest book *Shoot the Money*, in a festival program with Susan Larson, host of WWNO's *The Reading Life*.

Wiltz described *Shoot the Money* as "social commentary disguised as a dark-humor crime novel." It investigates women's ambition for money alongside themes of friendship and rivalry.

Wiltz's native New Orleans has inspired much of her work, including her first book, *The Killing Circle* (1981), which grew into a trilogy including *A Diamond Before You Die* (1987) and *The Emerald Lizard* (1991), about Irish Channel detective Neal Rafferty.

Glass House (1994) is about a police officer who was murdered near a violent New Orleans housing project. *The Last Madam: A Life in the New Orleans Underworld* (2000) is based on interviews with the operator of the last French Quarter parlor house.

For more information about Wiltz and the 2013 Louisiana Book Festival, visit www.LouisianaBookFestival.org. Also look for book festival updates on Facebook and Twitter.