

Save the Date

University of Delaware Library Associates Wednesday, April 18, 2012



Photo credit: Peggy Siegal

2012 Annual Dinner with Jennet Conant

6:00 p.m. Hospitality hour

7:00 p.m. Dinner and program

Arsht Hall

University of Delaware, Wilmington

Bestselling author Jennet Conant will speak on *A Covert Affair: Julia Child and Paul Child in the OSS*, published on April 5, 2011, by Simon & Schuster.

Julia McWilliams, who became Julia Child, met Paul Child in the Far East as members of the Office of Strategic Services (OSS, the forerunner of the CIA). Their love affair is stunningly described in *A Covert Affair: Julia Child and Paul Child in the OSS*.

The eager, inexperienced, single, 6-foot 2-inch Julia, never having been farther abroad than Tijuana, met the much older and more sophisticated and colorful Paul Child in Kandy in Ceylon (now Sri Lanka) where they worked with Lord Mountbatten. Paul Child considered Julia McWilliams “a grown up little girl.” McWilliams assumed her crush on Child would go unrequited and for a long time it did. How that changed and how they changed each other is a rich story.

The New York Times described Jennet Conant as “a diligent researcher and gifted writer.” For her book she draws on recently unclassified OSS and FBI documents and previously unpublished letters and documents.

“The value of her anecdotal approach is not in what it reveals about the O.S.S. or the Red hunt but in its depiction of ordinary relationships in extraordinary circumstances—of the way friendships, feuds and romances develop in strange and secretive settings.”

--*The New York Times*

Jennet Conant is also the author of *The New York Times* bestseller *Tuxedo Park* (Simon & Schuster, 2002).

Mark your calendars! The printed invitation will be mailed in March, 2012. All members of the University of Delaware Library Associates will be sent the invitation. Other interested persons may send an email message to UDLA@udel.edu or call Library Administration at 302-831-2231 to request a printed invitation.



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