

## The Stone That the Builder Refused

## by Madison Smartt Bell

This year marks the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the creation of Haiti, the first free black republic in the western hemisphere. In honor of that epic event, Vanderbilt University is proud to host a special guest lecture by Madison Smartt Bell, Nashville native and a Professor of English and writer-in-residence at Goucher College.

Professor Bell is the author of nine novels and two collections of short stories. His novel All Souls' Rising, the first in a trilogy on the Haitian Revolution, won the Anisfeld-Wolf award for the best book of the year dealing with race and was a finalist for the 1995 National Book Award and the 1996 PEN/FAULKNER Award. The second in his Haitian trilogy was Master of the Crossroads published in 2001. The Stone That the Builder Refused is the newest and final work in Bell's trilogy and addresses the failed promises of the slave revolt of 1791. Bell's carefully researched works draw on his long acquaintance with the Parisian and Haitian archives and people, as well as his mastery of French and Creole.

Date: Thursday, December 2, 2004

Time: 4:10 P.M.

Place: Wilson Hall 126

Reception and book signing immediately following.

Professor Bell's talk is sponsored by:

The University Lectures Committee

The Department of English, Creative Writing Program

The Robert Penn Warren Center for the Humanities

The Department of History

The Center for Latin American & Iberian Studies