

## Katherine Vaz



**Katherine Vaz**, a Briggs-Copeland Fellow in Fiction at Harvard University and a 2006-7 Fellow of the Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study, is the author of the critically acclaimed novel *Saudade* (St. Martin's Press, 1994), the first contemporary novel about Portuguese-Americans from a major New York publisher. It was optioned by Marlee Matlin/Solo One Productions and selected in the Barnes & Nobles Discover Great New Writers series.

Her second novel, *Mariana*, has been printed in six languages (English, German, Italian, Spanish, Portuguese, and Greek) and is a bestseller, in its fourth printing plus a new mass-market edition, in Portugal. Rizzoli Publishers (Italy) selected it as one of their top three books of 1998, and the U.S. Library of Congress picked it as one of the Top 30 International Books of 1998. Film rights were optioned by Anne Harrison, former Director of Development for Martin Scorsese.

Her collection *Fado & Other Stories* won the 1997 Drue Heinz Literature Prize, and her chapter on Baptism appeared in *Signatures of Grace* (Dutton, 2000). Her second collection, *Our Lady of the Artichokes and Other Portuguese-American Stories*, received the 2007 Prairie Schooner Book Prize in Fiction and will be published in 2008. Her short fiction has appeared in numerous literary magazines, including *Glimmer Train*, *BOMB Magazine*, *The Iowa Review*, *The Gettysburg Review*, *The Sun*, *Tin House*, *The Antioch Review*, *Triquarterly*, *The Malahat Review*, *the Provincetown Arts Journal*, and *Other Voices*, and she does occasional book reviews for *The Boston Globe*. Her children's stories have been included in the anthologies *A Wolf at the Door* (Simon & Schuster, 2000), *The Green Man* (Viking, 2002), *Swan Sister* (Simon & Schuster, 2003), and *The Faery Reel* (Viking, 2004).

Vaz is a recipient of a National Endowment for the Arts Fellowship and is the first Portuguese-American to have her work recorded for the Library of Congress, housed in the Hispanic Division. The Portuguese-American Women's Association (PAWA) named her 2002 Woman of the Year. She was appointed to the six-person U.S. Presidential Delegation to open the American Pavilion at the World's Fair/Expo 98 in Lisbon.