The Department of Creative Writing is taking over the world—or at least Cedars Magazine. Featuring the literary prowess of Robert Anthony Siegel and MFA alums Eric Vithalani ('07), Lesley Parker Richardson ('03), Jarvis Slacks ('08), Kerry Headley ('13), Hannah Dela Cruz Abrams ('07), Jay Varner ('07), Meghan K. Barnes ('11), Teri Meadowcroft ('04), Jesse Waters ('02), and Daniel Nathan Terry ('10), the Summer 2013 issue can be read at http://www.cedarsmag.com/category/issue-4-summer-2013/. The Cedars Magazine editorial staff includes MFA alums Daren Dean ('03), Eli Hastings ('04), and Hoang-Anh Tran ('04).

MFA student Garrard Conley has sold his memoir, Signs and Wonders, “an account of the author’s experience as a patient at Love in Action, an ex-gay ministry sponsored by [the recently defunct] Exodus International, and an exploration of the impact ex-gay therapy has had on his life,” to Riverhead Books. –Publishers Marketplace: July 17, 2013

Congratulations, Garrard!

Karen Bender’s new novel, A Town of Empty Rooms was included on this year’s great Jewish books list by Library Journal. Read about it here: http://reviews.libraryjournal.com/2013/07/collection-development/fertile-ground-jewish-literature-july-2013/

Congratulations, Karen!

Robert Anthony Siegel walks us through that curiously beguiling subgenre, the unfinished novel, on Bookforum.com: http://www.bookforum.com/booklist/12007.

Congratulations, Robert!

Congratulations, Chrissy!

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*The Choice*, the third prequel to MFA alum (‘08) Jason Mott’s novel *The Returned*, is now available for free on Amazon Kindle.

Congratulations, Jason!

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Philip Gerard and his band, Whiskey Creek, are performing August 1st at Cameron Art Museum. [http://www.whatsonwilmington.com/event.php?id=12686](http://www.whatsonwilmington.com/event.php?id=12686)

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Virginia Holman writes the ‘Excursions’ column each month for Wilmington’s SALT magazine. Also featured are columnists Clyde Edgerton, Philip Gerard, and MFA alumna Dana Sachs (’00).

Phil Furia hosts the daily segment ‘The Great American Songbook’ on WHQR 1:30-2:00pm, and during the Morning Edition on Fridays at 6:00am.

Philip Gerard is a regular commentator on WHQR—listen to his broadcast segments every other Thursday at 7:35a, 8:50a, or 5:45p, or online in the WHQR Thursday Commentaries at http://www.whqr.org/people/philip-gerard.

Philip Gerard is featured this month in Our State magazine with his next installment of the series “The Civil War: Life in North Carolina.” This rich and complex story will continue monthly through May 2015 and can be read at ourstate.com/civil-war. Listen to an interview about the series here.

“The war magnified the best and the worst of the human spirit and bequeathed us a legacy that, a century and a half later, we still ponder.”