



EMBASSY OF THE UNITED STATES
SKOPJE • MACEDONIA



Merrilee Cunningham

bio

(WITS – Writers in the Schools) Writer

About the cultural envoy;

Merrilee Cunningham holds a B.A. degree in creative writing from Northwestern University where she studied under the poet Stephen Spender, and a PhD. in Renaissance literature from Vanderbilt University. She has won awards for both her poetry and teaching and is the only professor at University of Houston--Downtown to have won the university's teaching award twice.

Her poetic and scholarly works have been published in *On, Versus, Visions, The Ball State Review, Renaissance and Reformation, the South Central Bulletin of the Modern Language Association* and many other places. She edited *On Magazine*, a collection of poetry, while at Vanderbilt. After coming to University of Houston--Downtown, she edited *Humanities in the South* for seven years.

She wrote the original syllabi for the creative writing courses at UHD and teaches creative writing for Writers in the Schools. She also has an abiding interest in Balkan literature.

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Str. "Samoilova" Nr.21--1000 Skopje /Telephone (+389) – (2) 310-2000 , Fax (+389) – (2) 310-2499 E-mail: EmbSkoWebM@t-home.mk