

# Alpine Artisans'



is hosting a

## Humanities Montana – Gather Round Event

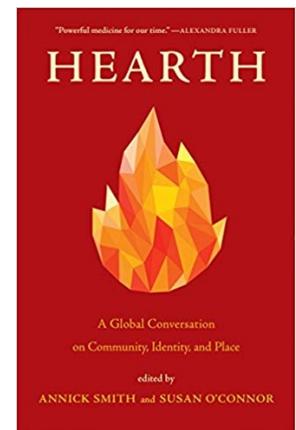
in Seeley Lake, on Thursday, May 16, 2019.

Seeley Lake is the second stop in Humanities Montana's state-wide conversation called Gather Round, based on the themes raised in *Hearth: A Global Conversation on Community, Identity and Place*, an anthology edited by Missoula authors Annick Smith and Susan O'Connor. Locally, that conversation will take place at The Lodges on Seeley Lake's new Conference Center Thursday, May 16, at 5 pm. The event will feature "a moveable feast of elegant hors d'oeuvres" followed by discussion around tables of 8 over dessert & coffee. Cash bar.

A limited amount of tickets are still available for \$40 by emailing [jenny@alpineartisans.org](mailto:jenny@alpineartisans.org).

Lodging is available at The Lodges on Seeley Lake.

The editors of *Hearth*, Annick Smith and Susan O'Connor, plus author Gretel Erlich will be leading the discussions here in Seeley Lake. As the editors tell us: "*A hearth is many things: a place for solitude; a source of identity; something we make and share with others; a history of ourselves and our homes. It is the fixed center we return to. It is just as intrinsically portable. It is, in short, the perfect metaphor for what we seek in these complex and contradictory times — set in flux by climate change, mass immigration, the refugee crisis, and the dislocating effects of technology.*"



Gretel Ehrlich is the author of fifteen books, including *The Solace of Open Spaces*, a record of her first years living on the Wyoming range, cowboying, and herding sheep; and *A Match to the Heart*, a memoir about being hit by lightning on her ranch. Her most recent book, *Facing the Wave*, received the PEN Award for Nonfiction and was nominated for the National Book Award. The recipient of a Guggenheim Fellowship, a Whiting Award, three National Geographic Expedition grants, and an award from the American Academy of Arts and Letters, Ehrlich has traveled by dogsled with subsistence Inuit hunters at the top of Greenland for twenty years, and as a result has written extensively about climate change.

## **Humanities Montana – Gather Round Event Details** *continued*

Co-Editor Susan O'Connor is an environmental and arts advocate. She has served on the boards of several art museums, including the Menil in Houston, Texas. She has also been a board member of the Orion Society and the American Prairie Reserve. She cofounded several nonprofits including Pacific Writers Connection, Ala Kukui: Hana Retreat, Ohana Makamae, and Families First both in Boston and Missoula. She is a coeditor, with Annick Smith, of *The Wide Open: Prose, Poetry, and Photographs of the Prairie*, which included such notable writers as Peter Matthiessen, Richard Ford, Gretel Ehrlich, and James Harrison with photographic portfolios by Lee Friedlander, Lois Conner, and Geoffrey James. She presently lives in Missoula, Montana with her husband Roy and three black Labradors.

Co-Editor Annick Smith is the author of *Homestead, In This We Are Native, Big Bluestem*, and *Crossing the Plains with Bruno*. She produced the prizewinning feature *Heartland*, and was a founding board member of Robert Redford's Sundance Institute. Her travel and nature writing, short stories, and essays have appeared in *Audubon, Outside, Islands, Travel + Leisure, Orion, The New York Times, Story*, and *National Geographic Traveler*, and have been widely anthologized. In 1989 she was coeditor with William Kittredge of *The Last Best Place: A Montana Anthology*. She was also coeditor with Susan O'Connor of *The Wide Open: Prose, Poetry and Photographs of the Prairie*. She lives on a homestead ranch in Montana's Blackfoot River Valley.

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