

PRITZKER MILITARY LIBRARY

more than a library...it's an experience

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NOAH ANDRE TRUDEAU AND SHERMAN'S MARCH AT THE PRITZKER MILITARY LIBRARY

CHICAGO, IL – His name is cursed in Georgia, almost a century and a half after the famed march from the smoldering ruins of Atlanta to Savannah and the sea. It went exactly as Gen. William Tecumseh Sherman announced it would, in his proposal to Union command:

"I can make the march, and make Georgia howl."

On Thursday, September 11, Noah Andre Trudeau will appear at the Pritzker Military Library to discuss and sign his new Civil War history, *Southern Storm: Sherman's March to the Sea*. This event is free and open to the public. The presentation and live webcast will begin at 6:00 p.m., preceded by a reception for Library members at 5:00 p.m. It will also be recorded for later broadcast on WYCC-TV/Channel 20.

Sherman's March to the Sea spanned one month, three hundred miles, and \$100 million in destruction, a blow from which the Confederacy would never recover. It was a seemingly unstoppable campaign of "total war" in which private and commercial property were equally subject to destruction along with railroads and other Confederate infrastructure. Trudeau examines the movements and decisions made by Sherman and his subordinates, later to become legendary in the annals of battlefield strategy. But *Southern Storm* also includes personal letters and diaries written by soldiers who made the march, uncovering evocative details from the miserable weather to encounters with seething Confederate civilians and jubilant, newly-freed slaves.

In Trudeau's recounting, the man at the center of the march is filled with a holy fury at the "sin" of secession from a nation meant by God to flourish; he is not without compassion for families whose homes were destroyed, but he is resolved that "war, like the thunderbolt, follows its laws and turns not aside even if the beautiful, the virtuous and charitable stand in its path."

Noah Andre Trudeau is a former executive producer at National Public Radio and the author of six books, including *Gettysburg: A Testing of Courage*. He has won the Civil War Round Table of New York's Fletcher Pratt Award and the Jerry Coffey Memorial Book Prize for his work.

Seating for this event is limited, so reservations are recommended. Call 312.587.0234 or email events@pritzkermilitarylibrary.net.

Also on display: The 2008 Midwest Air Force Artists Exhibition will be showing at the Pritzker Military Library through the end of September. This exhibition showcases new, original work

created for the U.S. Air Force Art Program, drawn from the experiences and talents of 17 citizen soldiers. Admission is free during regular daytime hours (Monday to Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.).

For more information, please visit www.pritzkermilitarylibrary.org/events.

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About the Pritzker Military Library

The Pritzker Military Library is a non-partisan, non-profit research institution located at 610 North Fairbanks Court in the Streeterville neighborhood of Chicago, near the Magnificent Mile. Admission is free and open to the public, Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., and also for scheduled evening events.

The mission of the Pritzker Military Library is to acquire and maintain an accessible collection of materials and develop appropriate programs focusing on the Citizen Soldier in the preservation of democracy. The 5,000 sq. ft. facility features a collection of books and films on subjects covering the full spectrum of American military history, along with vintage posters, photographs, medals, uniforms, and other artifacts from private donors and the collection of the Library's founder, COL (IL) James N. Pritzker, ARNG (Ret.).

Since opening in October 2003, the Pritzker Military Library has produced over 200 programs including events with award-winning authors, interviews with Medal of Honor recipients, and panel discussions on military issues hosted by broadcast veteran John Callaway. All programs are presented free of charge in front of a live audience, webcast live and archived on the Internet, and recorded for later broadcast on WYCC-TV/Channel 20, a PBS affiliate. Programs are also available as audio podcasts on the Library website and at iTunes.

To learn more, please visit pritzkermilitarylibrary.org.

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