

PRITZKER MILITARY LIBRARY

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

610 North Fairbanks Court, 2nd Floor
Chicago, Illinois 60611
Phone: 312-587-0234
Fax: 312-587-7311
pritzkermilitarylibrary.org

Contact:
Mark Heiden
External Affairs Coordinator
312-587-0234
mheiden@pritzkermilitarylibrary.net

A NEW VIEW OF ABRAHAM LINCOLN'S EARLY YEARS AT THE PRITZKER MILITARY LIBRARY

CHICAGO, IL – It is 1856 and the city of Springfield is gripped in scandal. A man lies dead in his office, murdered – so says the fever pitch of public opinion – by his adulterous wife, caught in the throes of an affair with the man's own nephew. The state's attorney is armed with gossip and aiming for indictment. The accused woman's prospects are grim – until a beardless, exceptionally tall young lawyer strides into the courtroom and joins the defense.

Ladies and gentlemen, Abraham Lincoln has come to the rescue.

The Pritzker Military Library is proud to welcome author Julie M. Fenster to discuss her new book, *The Case of Abraham Lincoln: A Story of Adultery, Murder and the Making of a Great President*, on Thursday, Nov. 8, 2007. This program 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. This event will be recorded for broadcast on WYCC Channel 20.

The Case of Abraham Lincoln finds the 16th President in his formative years, as a lawyer building a practice from difficult cases like debt collection and the dregs of the Springfield legal system. Over the course of nine months in 1856, the young Lincoln observes the birth of the fledgling Republican Party and travels the country on their behalf, speaking out against Southern threats of secession, and balancing the lure of politics with the lurid details of a law practice back home.

Finding a new angle to observe Lincoln is no easy task – he is, perhaps, the single most written-about figure in all of American history. Fenster, however, has mined journals, newspapers, memoirs, and Lincoln's collected legal papers to reach back into history and re-create the days and weeks in which a great leader began to find his voice.

Julie M. Fenster is the co-author (with Douglas Brinkley) of *The New York Times* bestseller *Parish Priest*. Her books include the award-winning *Ether Day* and *Race of the Century*. A regular contributor to *American Heritage*, Fenster has also written for *The New York Times* and the *Los Angeles Times*. She lives in Syracuse, New York.

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

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

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About the Pritzker Military Library

The Pritzker Military Library is a state-of-the-art private research library located at 610 North Fairbanks Court in the Streeterville neighborhood of Chicago, near the Magnificent Mile. 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 over 25,000 historical, reference, biographical and rare books on military subjects, over 800 original antique military posters and prints, and other military artifacts from private donors and the collection of COL (IL) James N. Pritzker, ARNG (Ret.). Since opening in October 2003, the Library has produced over 170 programs including author events, one-on-one interviews with Medal of Honor recipients, and Chicago's only monthly public affairs program on military issues, Front & Center with John Callaway. Evening programs in the Library's McHenry Atrium are presented free of charge in front of a live audience, broadcast live on the internet, and taped for broadcast on WYCC Channel 20, a PBS affiliate. Programs are also available in podcast format at iTunes and Yahoo!, and archived as part of the Library's collection. A complimentary wine and cheese reception for Associate Members precedes each evening program. Books are provided for purchase and signing by The Book Stall at Chestnut Court.

To learn more, please visit: www.pritzkermilitarylibrary.org

Contact:

Mark Heiden

External Affairs Coordinator

Pritzker Military Library

Library: 312.587.0234

E-Mail: mheiden@pritzkermilitarylibrary.net

Ed Tracy

Executive Producer

Direct: 312.251.3095

E-Mail: execdirector@pritzkermilitarylibrary.net