

# VISITING WRITERS SERIES

## MAAZA MENGISTE



THURSDAY  
MARCH 1, 2012  
4:30PM  
ALTON AUDITORIUM

Maaza Mengiste was born in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia and graduated with an MFA in Creative Writing from New York University, where she teaches. Her work has appeared in *The New York Times*, *Granta*, *The Granta Anthology of the African Short Story*, and *Lettre International*, to name a few. She is a Fulbright Scholar who has also received fellowships from the Emily Harvey Foundation, the Virginia Center for the Creative Arts, the Prague Summer Program, and Yaddo. Her debut novel, the critically acclaimed *Beneath the Lion's Gaze*, has been translated into several languages and appeared on several "Best of 2010" lists, including *Publishers Weekly*, *Christian Science Monitor* and *Barnes and Noble*. She was a Runner-up for the 2011 Dayton Literary Peace Prize, as well as a finalist for a Flaherty-Dunnán First Novel Prize, an NAACP Image Award, and an Indies Choice Book of the Year Award in Adult Debut. She currently lives in New York City.

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