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WHO WAS THAT LADY? Nominated for Malice Domestic's Agatha Award

Author Jeffrey Marks' biography of Craig Rice is nominee for 2001

Who Was That Lady? Craig Rice: The Queen of Screwball Mystery

By Jeffrey Marks

Delphi Books - ISBN 0966339711 – LCCN 00-191858 - \$21.95 US

February 20, 2002: **WASHINGTON, DC:** The Malice Domestic organization, which is dedicated to the soft-boiled or cozy mysteries, announced the nominees for the 2001 Agatha awards. The awards are named after Agatha Christie, the best-selling author of all time. Among the nominees for Best Non-Fictional Work was **Who Was That Lady?: Craig Rice: the Queen of Screwball Mystery** by Jeffrey Marks. Marks' biography of Rice took three years of research to come to fruition. The manic author of some twenty novels and untold short stories had lived life by the seat of the pants. Records and documentation of her life and loves was nearly impossible to come by.

This is the second nomination for Marks in two weeks. Last week, Marks received an Edgar nomination for **Who Was That Lady?** from the Mystery Writers of America. Both awards will be announced the first week of May in separate ceremonies.

The release of the biography has fueled a resurgence in Rice's reputation which has languished in recent years. A new collection of her short work, edited by Marks, is due out this month from Crippen and Landru. **Murder Mystery and Malone** will be the first new release of Rice's work in thirty-eight years.

Jeffrey Marks is the author of the US Grant mystery series that began with **The Ambush of My Name** and **A Good Soldier**. He is also the editor and a contributing author to **Magnolias and Mayhem** (Silver Dagger anthology) and the upcoming **Criminal Appetites** (Silver Dagger anthology). His work has been nominated for a Maxwell award (from the DWAA) and an Anthony award from the World Mystery Convention. He writes from his home in Cincinnati, Ohio.

“Every writer may deserve such a dedicated biographer, and Rice's life is interesting (especially for hardcore mystery fans . . .” Publishers Weekly 3/26/2001.