Tuesday Talks

PRESENTS

Richard Aberle English Department

Speaking on

"Wallace Stevens and the Labors of Poetry"

The poet Wallace Stevens was one of the central figures in American literary modernism, and yet many of his readers would find common ground with his friend and fellow poet, Marianne Moore, who said, "Wallace Stevens is beyond fathoming." Stevens, a friend of avant-garde figures such as Marcel Duchamp, Francis Picabia, H.D., and Man Ray, was a conservative lawyer and insurance executive, heading the surety and fidelity bond division of the Hartford Insurance Company from 1916 to 1955, ultimately rising to the position of executive Vice President. My talk will focus on labor, Stevens's laboring in insurance and law and how we can look at his poetry through a lens that considers that labor, the labor he

devoted to writing poetry, and the labor his poetry demands from his readers.



If you wish to be a speaker on this lecturer series, pleases contact Kristin Short (School of Arts & Sciences), ext. 3150