

Allan K. Smith Visiting Scholars Series

## "THE PAST IS A FOREIGN COUNTRY": MARY HARRON ON ADAPTING HISTORY FOR THE SCREEN

AND

## 25TH ANNIVERSARY SCREENING OF AMERICAN PSYCHO FOLLOWED BY Q&A WITH MARY HARRON

Mary Harron on Adapting History for the Screen: Tuesday, January 28th @ 12:15pm Rittenberg Lounge, Mather Hall

followed by

Screening of American Psycho @ 4pm Cinestudio Co-sponsored by Trinity Institute for Interdisciplinary Studies, Women and Gender Studies, Philosophy, Sociology and Theater & Dance

For Mary Harron's full bio and additional information:



One of the most distinctive voices of the independent film movement of the last twenty-five years, Mary Harron's second film, in 2000, was American Psycho. The controversial Bret Easton Ellis novel (1991) was considered unfilmable because of the violent sexual fantasies of its first-person narrator Patrick Bateman, but Harron's film was widely hailed for handling the challenges with empathy and aesthetic precision, and for Christian Bale's complex and nuanced performance as Bateman. In addition to nailing the tectonic cultural shifts of the 1980's, American Psycho's status as a classic feminist cult film derives from its uncanny prescience with regard to contemporary manifestations of violent and toxic masculinity.