

# Monday Night at the Master

July 9, 2018 7:00 pm

Riverside Lobby

## *A Reading from Jamie's Muse, by Bonnie Lee Black*



Bonnie Lee Black, a twenty-year resident of The Master Apartments and a Columbia U. alum, who left New York to join the Peace Corps in 1996, now lives in San Miguel de Allende, Mexico, by way of Taos, New Mexico.

Bonnie has written three creative nonfiction books, about:

- her experience in Rhodesia, now Zimbabwe, southern Africa, in her twenties,
- her Peace Corps experience in Gabon, Central Africa (the first book published by the Peace Corps Writers imprint), in her fifties,
- and her economic development work for three years in Mali, West Africa, afterward.

In between books, Bonnie writes a blog entitled "The WOW Factor" – Words of Wisdom from Wise Older Women  
([www.bonnieleeblack.com/blog](http://www.bonnieleeblack.com/blog))

In this, her first novel, Bonnie turns her attention to late-nineteenth century Scotland and South Africa, in a dramatic story that grows out of her family's history.

The designation "Unknown," written on her grandfather's death certificate where his mother's name belonged, sent the author on a quest to discover her mysterious Scottish great-grandmother, Helen Reid David Black of Kirriemuir, Scotland.

With little to go on, beyond a sure grasp of place and history, Bonnie imagines Helen's dramatic short life and how it intertwined with the early life of Kirriemuir's most famous son, novelist and dramatist James Barrie, author of *Peter Pan*.

