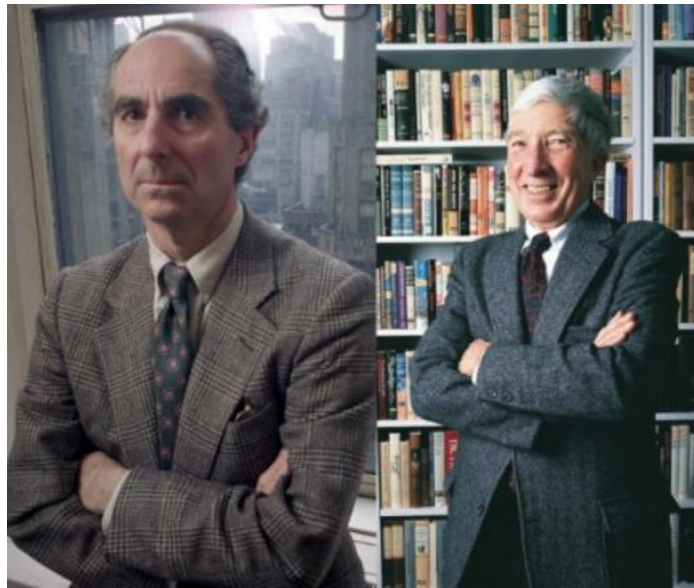


REGISTRATION FORM —FINAL CFP

ROTH — UPDIKE

A joint conference of the
Philip Roth and John Updike Societies
New York City, Oct. 19-22, 2025



Celebrating a literary friendship-rivalry
and publication anniversaries

Keynote Speakers: Taffy Brodesser-Akner & Adam Gopnik
Conference Directors: Aimee Pozorski & Adam Reid Sexton
Planning Committee: Andy Connolly, James Plath,
Aimee Pozorski, Adam Reid Sexton & Matthew Shipe

Conference Venue: Center for Jewish History
Conference Hotel: Walker Hotel Greenwich Village

CONFERENCE PARTICIPATION IS LIMITED TO 100

The Philip Roth Society and The John Updike Society are still accepting proposals for papers to be presented at a joint conference in New York City, October 19-22, 2025. The conference, to take place at the Center for Jewish History, will coincide with the centennial of *The New Yorker* magazine, to which both writers contributed.

Important: Because of venue and hotel limitations, the conference will be capped at 100 participants, including audience and significant others. Paper proposals and registrations will be on a first-come, first-served basis. Proposal decisions will therefore be rolling.

We welcome one-page proposals for 15-20 minute papers on all aspects of Roth's or Updike's life and work, but particularly seek proposals on the following:

—Works by either writer about, or set in, New York City

—Works celebrating a milestone anniversary in 2025:

Roth's *The Prague Orgy* (40th), *Sabbath's Theater* (30th), and *The Human Stain* (25th)

Updike's first "Talk of the Town" column (70th), *Of the Farm* (60th), *A Month of Sundays* (50th), *Rabbit Angstrom* (30th), *Gertrude and Claudius* (25th), and *Still Looking* (20th)

—and **especially** comparative essays on connections and correspondences between the work of the two writers, or between the writers themselves

Scholars who have recently published a book or are in the process of writing a book on Roth or Updike are especially encouraged to submit proposals for panel discussions.

Send your proposal and a brief one- or two-paragraph bio in a single document by MAY 30, 2025 to conference co-directors Aimee Pozorski and Adam Reid Sexton at rothupdike@gmail.com

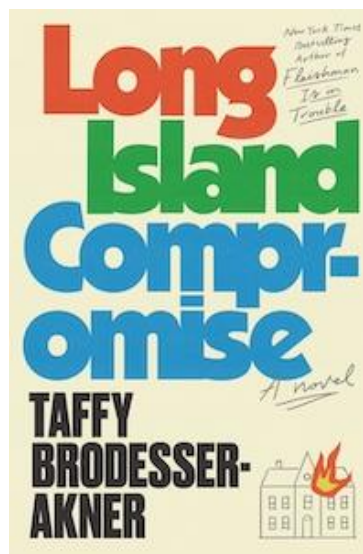
To present a paper or moderate a panel at the conference, participants must be members of either the Philip Roth Society or the John Updike Society and register for the conference. For membership information, see the respective Societies' websites at www.philiprothsociety.org/ or blogs.iwu.edu/johnupdikesociety/join. Those who have papers accepted can join when they register for the conference.

KEYNOTE: Taffy Brodesser-Akner



Credit: Emil Cohen

Taffy Brodesser-Akner Taffy Brodesser-Akner is a staff writer at *The New York Times Magazine* and the author of two novels: *Fleishman Is in Trouble* (2019, Random House), which she adapted into an Emmy-nominated limited series for FX in 2022; and *Long Island Compromise* (2024, also Random House). She lives in New York City.





KEYNOTE: Adam Gopnik

Adam Gopnik has been writing for *The New Yorker* since 1986. During his five decades at the magazine, he has published more than a million words, in hundreds of essays, from personal memoirs to reviews and profiles, along with much reporting from abroad as well as fiction, humor and art criticism. His books, ranging from essay collections about Paris and food to children's novels, include *Paris to the Moon*, *The King in the Window*, *A Thousand Small Sanities: The Moral Adventure of Liberalism* and, most recently, *The Real Work*. He has written essays on and introductions to new editions of works by Moliere, Balzac, Maupassant, Proust and Victor Hugo, and is the editor of both the Richard Wilbur/Moliere and S.J. Perelman volumes in the Library of America. His work in the musical theater includes the libretto and lyrics for the musical comedy "Our Table" with David Shire, and for the oratorio "Sentences" with Nico Muhly.

Gopnik has won the National Magazine Award for Essays and for Criticism three times, as well as the George Polk Award for Magazine Reporting. In January of 2021, he was created an officer of the Legion d'honneur, France's highest civilian or military decoration. He had previously, in March 2013, been named a Chevalier of the Order of Arts and Letters. He has also received a *honoris causa* from his Alma mater, McGill University, and an honorary doctorate from the Rhode Island School of Design. He lives in New York with his wife, Martha Parker, and their two children, varyingly present, Luke Auden and Olivia Esme Claire. Gopnik knew Updike as "a long-distance mentor" and Roth as "a constant presence at our table."



Venue (top): Center for Jewish History, 15 West 16th Street
Hotel: Walker Hotel Greenwich Village, 52 West 13th Street
Both located near Union Square Station in a highly walkable area



CONFERENCE REGISTRATION—Deadline, Sept. 1

There are two ways to register for the Oct. 19-22 conference (sessions begin the morning of Oct. 19 and end by noon on Oct. 22):

MAIL this form and a check drawn on a U.S. bank to:

The Philip Roth Society
c/o Matthew Shipe
Washington Univ. in St. Louis
Campus Box 1122, One Brookings Drive
St. Louis, MO 63130-4899

EMAIL this form to Matthew Shipe (mashipe@wustl.edu)

and copy/paste this link to pay via credit card: <https://square.link/u/eTchW6l3> OR send payment to mashipe1977@gmail.com using PayPal. NOTE: Membership and Social Registration cannot be paid via the Square link.

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zipcode _____

Country _____

Email _____ Phone _____

Current Member (check all that apply) Roth Society _____ Updike Society _____

_____ Registration—\$175/person. Includes all academic sessions, both keynote sessions, and two receptions.

_____ One-year membership in society of choice (check one--required, if not already a member): Updike Society (\$30) _____ Roth Society (\$30/electronic copy of journal) _____ Roth Society (\$60/print copy of journal) _____

_____ Social Registration—\$70/person. For significant others who accompany registered members. Allows them to attend 2 keynotes and receptions, *not* other sessions.

Social registrant name _____

TOTAL PAID _____

HOTEL REGISTRATION—Deadline, Sept. 1

Walker Hotel Greenwich Village is the conference hotel. Reservations must be made by this deadline in order to receive the conference rate (\$385/night—hotel rates in NYC are sky high right now). After Sept. 1, all unreserved rooms will be released for general sale and the price will go up. Keep in mind that there are only 50 rooms available at this small hotel. Don't wait to make your reservations, as we can't guarantee that every conference attendee will be able to book at the Walker. Below is the reservation link:

[Roth Updike Room Block Oct 2025](#)