The 2010-2011 Ian Fletcher Memorial Lecture features John Kucich, Professor of English at Rutgers University. Kucich is the author of four monographs on Victorian literature and culture: *Excess and Restraint in the Novels of Charles Dickens* (Georgia, 1981), *Repression in Victorian Fiction* (California, 1987), *The Power of Lies: Transgression in Victorian Fiction* (Cornell, 1994), and *Imperial Masochism: British Fiction, Fantasy, and Social Class* (Princeton, 2007). He has also edited, with Dianne F. Sadoff, *Victorian Afterlife: Postmodern Culture Rewrites the Nineteenth Century* (Minnesota, 2000), and he is the editor of *Fictions of Empire* (Houghton-Mifflin, 2002). He has written dozens of articles on Victorian literature and culture, which have appeared in the top journals in his field as well as in the most eminent generalist journals in literary studies; his essay “Psychoanalytic Historicism: Shadow Discourse and the Gender Politics of Masochism in Ellis, Schreiner, and Haggard” was published in the January 2011 *PMLA*. An essay on Rudyard Kipling was awarded the “Best Essay in Victorian Studies” prize for 2005 by the field’s flagship organization, the North American Victorian Studies Association. *Studies in English Literature* commissioned him to write their much-consulted annual review of nineteenth-century scholarship for 2008. He has also been appointed co-editor of the nineteenth-century volume in Oxford University Press’s landmark project, *The Oxford History of the Novel in English*, a twelve-volume series that is likely to be the standard reference work for decades. He sits on the advisory boards of the three top journals in his field (*Victorian Studies*, *Nineteenth-Century Literature*, and *Novel*). He has won major fellowships from the Guggenheim Foundation, the National Endowment for the Humanities, and the National Humanities Center.

The lecture is free of charge and open to the public. Refreshments will follow.

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