UMassD Center for Portuguese Studies and Culture | Tagus Press proudly presents

The Person Behind Pessoa
An Evening with Biographer Richard Zenith

Tuesday March 22nd, 2022 | 6pm
Library Grand Reading Room
Claire T. Carney Library
Parking Lot 13

Zenith’s Pessoa: A Biography, one of the New York Times Critics’ Top Books of 2021, has received rave reviews both in the US and the UK, where it was published as Pessoa: An Experimental Life. In conversation with Grace Holleran, translator and PhD student in Luso-Afro-Brazilian Studies & Theory at UMass Dartmouth, Zenith will discuss Pessoa’s experiments in literature, politics, sexuality, and spirituality. He will talk as well about his method for drawing a portrait of the shy office worker lurking behind the many personae he called heteronyms.

Richard Zenith, American by birth but a long-time resident of Portugal, is responsible for many editions of poetry and prose by Fernando Pessoa, including Livro do Desassossego (The Book of Disquiet). His translations from Pessoa’s work include Fernando Pessoa & Co. — Selected Poems (winner of a PEN Award for Poetry in Translation), A Little Larger Than the Entire Universe: Selected Poems and The Book of Disquiet. He has also translated poetry by Luís de Camões, Sophia de Mello Breyner, Carlos Drummond de Andrade, and many living poets. He spent more than ten years researching and writing Pessoa: A Biography.

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