



Josh Maclvor-Andersen is a former Tennessee-state tree climbing champion, the author of the memoir *On Heights & Hunger*, and the editor of *Rooted*, *An Anthology of Arboreal Nonfiction*. His essays, reviews, and reportage have won numerous awards and nominations for the *Pushcart Prize*, and can be found in journals and magazines such as *Gulf Coast*, *Paris Review Daily*, *Fourth Genre*, *Arts and Letters*, *Sycamore Review*, *Sojourners*, *Geez*, *Ruminate*, *Rock and Sling*, *National Geographic/Glimpse*, *Diagram*, *The Drum*, *The Collagist*, *Garden and Gun*, *Memoir (and)*, *New Millennium Writings*, *Our State*, *Prism*, and *The Northwest Review*, among others.

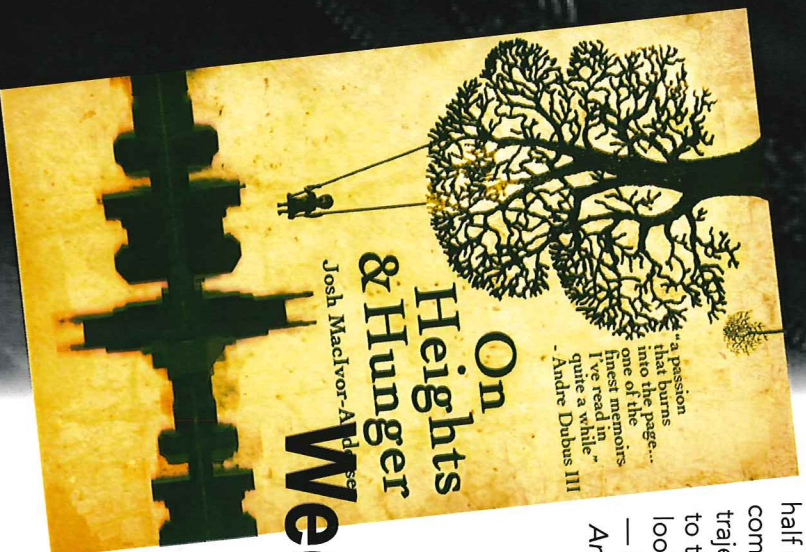
On Heights & Hunger is a memoir of two professional and competitive tree-climbing brothers, both hungry for transcendence and adventure, coming to terms with their relationship to the divine, the family that first provided a framework for faith, and their own obsessions, victories, and failures.

Advance praise for *On Heights & Hunger*

"Written with a passion that burns into the page, Josh Maclvor-Andersen straps the pieces of his own story to his back and takes us up into the canopy above, into a 'tree hunger' where he shaves and prunes and cuts until he arrives at the many shimmering truths of this beautifully told profession of love: for his brother, for physical labor, for the earth we have abused, for the search for God, for beauty, for the right woman, for the way to live this one life we are all given. This is one of the finest memoirs I've read in quite a while."
— Andre Dubus III

"Josh Maclvor-Andersen's debut memoir *On Heights and Hunger* somehow feels like an ancient tale, a myth of family and faith and trees that has been retold for a modern audience. There is wrestling in these pages--honest and painful wrestling with demons and doubt, and it is this essayistic reckoning through story that pulls me in and keeps me watching, almost hypnotized, as he dances through time and place with the same grace and skill with which Andersen and his brother danced through the trees of Nashville."
— Steven Church, author of *One with the Tiger: Sublime and Violent Encounters between Man and Animal* and a founding editor of *The Normal School*.

"I met the human gods of Maclvor-Andersen's gorgeous and big-hearted memoir once before, in William Blake's giants of inner conflict that everyone must embrace to be whole. In *On Heights & Hunger*, it's as though you'd stepped into the pages of Joseph Campbell's journeys, where the wounded hero is brother Aaron, maniacal in the trees, fearless and 'almost dying all the time.' There's a mighty lot of chainaws and testosterone in this tale of purely male energy in youth—and then, surprise, it ripens into deep tenderness for all sentient beings. Truly half out of their minds when young, Aaron and Josh grow into men of compassion and ineffable sweetness. Yet nothing's predictable here, so the trajectory isn't just toward a pilgrim's progress—for a journey dedicated to the life-force, it remains a piercing rumination on mortality, a death-trip looking back from beyond the vale."
— Diana Hume George, author of *The Lonely Other: A Woman Watching America*



Wednesday, November 2
University Art Gallery

5pm

Josh Maclvor-Andersen

a Fred Ewing Case and Lola Austin Case Visiting Writer
Sponsored by the Department of English

